



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Governor Baker Delivers Storm Update from MEMA

FRAMINGHAM – This morning from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), Governor Charlie Baker and Lt. Governor Karyn Polito joined MEMA officials to deliver an update on the ongoing winter storm. The Baker Administration closed state offices today, asking all non-emergency personnel not to report to work to ensure safety, allow efficient road cleanup and the use of reduced MBTA capacity. The MBTA is operating but with limited service, with T closures reported on the Red Line Braintree branch from JFK South and cancellations on the commuter rail. MassPort is operating with numerous cancellations already announced at Logan International Airport.

“We are waking up this morning to more snowfall in many parts of the state, with snow forecasted to keep accumulating throughout the day that will require a serious cleanup effort,” **said Governor Baker**. “State offices are closed for non-emergency personnel and all businesses have been urged to allow employees to work from home or not to report to work due to the cumulative impacts of this storm. While the Mass DOT and local road crews work hard to clear roadways, we ask everyone to stay home and off the roads, respect parking bans, help shovel out driveways, sidewalks and fire hydrants, and assist neighbors. We will also be checking in with local officials throughout the day to make sure they have the resources they need to appropriately respond to the storm. I am disappointed to hear that the MBTA and commuter rail are currently struggling to provide service due to weather conditions, with closures reported on the Red Line Braintree branch and significant cancellations on the commuter rail. The MBTA’s condition and performance is concerning, reinforcing the need for riders to stay home as the MBTA works to get trains running and tracks cleared. If possible, please seek professional help to safely remove snow from roofs accumulating heavy snow and clear heating vents near your home.”

“While the recent storms have posed many challenges for our cities and towns throughout the Commonwealth over the past two weeks, we urge the people of Massachusetts to be safe and patient today while cleanup efforts continue,” **said Lt. Governor Polito**. “Please stay off the roads if you do not need to travel, respect parking bans, take time to dig out sidewalks and driveways in your communities, especially for the elderly or those needing an extra hand.”

The people of Massachusetts are encouraged to visit www.mass.gov/mema for updates. General questions can be directed to the 24-hour citizen information telephone line by dialing 2-1-1.

Governor Baker and Lt. Governor Polito will deliver another storm update today at 1:00 PM from the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Depot in Dorchester.

The Administration has made the following announcements due to winter weather:

State Offices Closed (Monday, February 9th): Governor Baker has directed that non-emergency state employees working in Executive Branch agencies should not report to their workplace today due to weather conditions. State offices are scheduled to be open on Tuesday, February 10th. Employees should continue to check Mass.gov or call 211 for additional updates and cold weather safety tips.

MBTA (Monday, February 9th): The MBTA is operating at limited service levels this morning, with reports that the Red Line Braintree branch is already closed from JFK South and there are many delays on the T. There are many cancellations on the commuter rail and limit transit services available due to weather conditions. Passengers that must travel are urged to plan ahead, be patient, and check mbta.com/winter for updates.

MassPort (Monday, February 9th): MassPort is operating but many flights have already been cancelled at Logan International Airport. Travelers are encouraged to check with their airlines before arriving at Logan International Airport.

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