

MassDOT Board Meetings

Transportation Building
10 Park Plaza
Suite 3830
Boston, MA 02150

[Full Meeting Schedule](#)

On the MassDOT Blog

Turnpike Air Rights
Parcel 13, Hynes Station
Developer Selected



MassDOT and the MBTA have selected The Peebles Corporation as the developer for Turnpike Air Rights Parcel 13 at the corner of Boylston Street and Massachusetts Avenue in the Back Bay and the adjacent Hynes Convention Center Station on the Green Line. The Peebles proposal calls for a 373,000-square-foot development to include 85 rental and 88 condominium residential units, a 156-key hotel, 26,000 square feet of retail space, and 138 accessory parking spaces. The conceptual project design proposes a single, serpentine building mass with a maximum height of 11-stories, within the height limits established by City zoning.

As required by the RFP, the project also will house new, state-of-the-art, fully accessible entrances to Hynes Station on Massachusetts Avenue and Boylston Street, as well as making accessibility and other improvements throughout the station and replacing aging Green Line electrical equipment. To ensure the full coordination of the air rights project and station improvements, the RFP required a single, integrated development team that includes not only the Parcel 13 developer but also the designer for the Hynes Station improvements. The Peebles team includes HDR, Inc., an architecture and engineering firm, as the station designer.

January 9, 2015

Green Line Extension: Major Federal Funding Commitment



Governor Deval Patrick Monday joined U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx to announce a \$996 million federal grant agreement to extend the MBTA Green Line light rail service from East Cambridge to Somerville and Medford.

The [Green Line Extension \(GLX\)](#) will provide faster and more efficient travel downtown Boston and will serve some of the region's most densely populated communities. Secretary Foxx and Acting Federal Transit Administrator Therese McMillan participated in a ceremony to commit the funds with Governor Patrick, Senator Elizabeth Warren, Congressman Michael Capuano, MassDOT Acting Secretary Frank DePaola, MBTA General Manager Dr. Beverly Scott and other federal, state and local officials.

"Today's funding commitment brings the GLX another step closer to reality," said Governor Patrick. "With the extension, residents of Somerville, Cambridge and Medford will have more options for how they get to work, school and play and, in turn, experience sustainable, smart growth in the local economies. I thank USDOT, the Obama Administration and our Congressional delegation for their

commitment to this project."

"Bringing light rail to Somerville and Medford will connect residents to work, education and other opportunities while making it easier than ever to access downtown Boston," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "We are proud to support projects like this-and recognize the need to do more. We are committed to working with Congress to find bipartisan solutions that will help the Boston region and communities across the U.S. continue to invest in and enhance their transportation systems in the years ahead."

The U.S. Department of Transportation will contribute approximately \$996 million in Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Capital Investment Grant Program (New Starts) funding over the course of the \$2.3 billion project with funds from the Commonwealth covering the remainder.

The project will be constructed in four overlapping phases from 2013 to 2020. Phase I work began in January 2013 to widen two rail bridges that will carry the new Green Line tracks. Construction on the new Lechmere, East Somerville and Union Square stations will begin this spring. Once completed, trains will operate every five to six minutes in the peak period, providing fast and efficient service to Boston, and resulting in an estimated 37,900 transit trips per day.

The project will include construction of six new stations, purchase of 24 new light rail vehicles, construction of a new vehicle maintenance facility, construction of a community bicycle and pedestrian path, and relocation of some existing commuter rail track.

The MassWIN (Massachusetts Workforce Initiative Now) program is an effort to build sustainable communities through local participation and collaborative partnerships in transportation projects focused on workforce investment, education achievement, business development and city improvement. The goals of the program are to train residents to meet the hiring requirements for local transportation and construction jobs; place trained community members in transportation and construction career paths; grow the local workforce and economic base; and support sustainable communities by expanding the local workforce, businesses and neighborhoods.

The 4.7-mile light rail extension will extend existing MBTA Green Line service from a relocated Lechmere Station in East Cambridge to Union Square in Somerville and College Avenue in Medford. The project will serve some of the region's most densely populated areas not currently served by rail transit - where 26 percent of residents do not own or have access to cars.

RMV, AAA Public Private Partnership Expands

MassDOT Acting Secretary & CEO Frank DePaola, Registrar of Motor Vehicles Celia J. Blue and executives from AAA Southern New England (AAA SNE) gathered in Rockland to announce the latest AAA Registry Services location to begin providing [RMV](#) license and registration renewal services to members.

"Improving service delivery in a cost-effective manner is at the core of this public-private partnership with AAA," said Secretary DePaola. "Essentially doubling the Registry transactions offered and doubling the locations greatly increases our reach to our thousands of mutual customers."

View the entire [Parcel 13](#) blog post.



- ▶ [Renew Your Driver's License](#)
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"Our model for delivering extraordinary customer service relies on meeting our customers where they are," said Registrar Blue. "AAA is a well-known and trusted organization; our partnership will save time for all customers as AAA members take advantage of these new services."

"The expansion of the AAA/RMV partnership into six additional AAA offices provides added convenience and choice for Massachusetts' motorists," according to AAA Southern New England President and CEO Mark A. Shaw. "Launching the service in our Westwood, Rockland, Newburyport, Burlington, Somerset and Newton offices should be beneficial to all RMV customers across the Commonwealth", he added.

AAA members may renew or get a duplicate license or ID card, register their passenger vehicles or commercial vehicle under 55,000 pounds. New AAA services include the commercial renewals, as well as registration amendments and transfers, and duplicate titles. For a complete list of transactions, visit www.aaa.com/registry. AAA offers its members the only in-person,

RMV services available on the weekend, Saturday mornings from 9am -1pm

RMV services are now available at AAA SNE locations in Framingham, Rockland, Saugus, South Dennis, Westwood and Worcester. Transactions at the Boston AAA location are no longer available.

Expansion locations were selected based upon customer volume and proximity to existing RMV branches; the following AAA SNE locations will be performing Registry transactions by early 2015: Burlington, Newton, Newburyport, and Somerset.

The expansion of public-private partnerships is included in the RMV's recently released [10 Point Customer Promise](#). The customer promise comprises current, ongoing and future initiatives that the RMV has in development to better the Registry experience. At the core of the promise is the effort to diversify our service delivery channels and provide extraordinary customer service. Point six focuses on meeting customers where they are through the continued pursuit and expansion of public-private partnerships with industry partners like AAA, dealerships, driving schools, health care providers and insurance agents.

Cape Cod Canal Transportation Study Meeting Set

MassDOT has scheduled a Public Information Meeting for the Cape Cod Canal Area Transportation Study as follows:

Thursday, January 15th, 7:00 PM
Admirals Hall
Massachusetts Maritime Academy Campus
101 Academy Drive, Bourne

The purpose of the meeting, the first in a series, will be to introduce the recently initiated conceptual planning study, and to solicit input from the general public on the study's goals and framework.



The Sagamore and Bourne Bridges, as well as the moveable rail bridge across the Cape Cod Canal, are the primary means of access to and from the mainland for the 15 towns and 215,000 people who live on Cape Cod. While in previous years off-season mobility over the bridges was unimpeded, the two functionally obsolete highway bridges are 80 years old and have required increased maintenance activities by the U.S Army Corps of Engineers. This maintenance requires lane closures and resulting delays and will continue with increasing frequency over the coming years. This will have a significant impact on emergency access and safety, community connectivity, and impacts to the economic activity of the Cape Cod communities.

The Cape Cod Canal Area Transportation Study effort will examine existing and future multimodal transportation deficiencies and needs around the Cape Cod Canal area in Bourne and Sandwich. The study will also entail the development and analysis of a full range of transportation alternatives including highway, interchange, and non-highway improvements, as well as options and design elements that improve access for all modes. The alternatives considered will also include the evaluation of potential alignments for an additional crossing over the Cape Cod Canal.

The overall study will deliver short, medium, and long-term recommendations for improvements and is expected to be completed by the end of 2015.

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