



**Governor**  
Charlie Baker

**MassDOT April Board Meeting**

**April 15**  
**Transportation Building**  
**10 Park Plaza**  
**Suite 3830**  
**Boston, MA 02150**

[Full Meeting Schedule](#)

**On the MassDOT Blog**

**Longfellow Bridge: "Salt and Pepper" Towers Work**



MassDOT has begun preparing to dismantle the downstream "salt and pepper" towers as part of the Longfellow Bridge Restoration Project.

MassDOT's contractor, White-Skanska-Consigli JV (WSC), coordinated with the cities of Cambridge and Boston as well as the MBTA to begin dismantling the downstream towers this spring.

To learn about the Longfellow Bridge Rehabilitation Project and construction process, [view this animation](#).

View the entire [Salt And Pepper Towers Work](#) blog post.



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**April 3, 2015**

**Employers Honored for Excellence in Commuter Options**



The efforts of more than 170 Massachusetts businesses, colleges, and universities, who promote active, healthy, and sustainable commute options, were celebrated for helping Massachusetts to reduce traffic congestion, to promote healthy lifestyles, and benefit the environment. The Massachusetts Excellence in Commuter Options (ECO) Awards ceremony took place at historic Fenway Park and brought together businesses from across the state that provide innovative programs and resources to encourage employees to travel by public transit, carpools, vanpools, bicycling or walking.

"The Massachusetts employers recognized today are helping the Commonwealth by encouraging more environmentally friendly commuting options that will enhance our communities by providing a healthier and cleaner environment," said MassDOT Secretary and CEO, Stephanie Pollack. "Within the past calendar year, Massachusetts employers saw an increase of over 7,000 commuters participating in commuter options programs, resulting in a reduction of over 11,000 tons of emissions from entering our air."

Massachusetts is regarded nationally as an innovator in promoting shared use of infrastructure on roadways across the Commonwealth. MassDOT has established numerous policies that emphasize consideration for all modes of travel when designing roadways. These policies include a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions throughout the transportation sector.

MassDOT hosted the ECO Awards in collaboration with MassRIDES, the statewide travel options program and MassCommute, the Massachusetts Council of Transportation Management Associations. MassRIDES and MassCommute actively support employers across the Commonwealth in their work to reduce drive-alone trips to work sites while encouraging employees to travel by public transit, carpools, vanpools, bicycling, and walking – or avoid commuting altogether by encouraging telework opportunities. Together, MassRIDES and MassCommute have over 700 employer partners and member organizations that support green and healthy transportation options.

The awards ceremony at Fenway Park celebrated the efforts of over 170 MassRIDES partners and MassCommute members. Nine employers were recognized for outstanding accomplishments, including:

**Leadership in Commuter Options**

- ▶ University of Massachusetts Lowell: Bicycle
- ▶ Takeda: Walk
- ▶ Harvard University: Transit
- ▶ MassMutual Financial Life Insurance Company: Vanpool
- ▶ Staples: Carpool

**Leadership in Commuter Engagement**

- ▶ Boston Children's Hospital: Employer Transportation Coordinator

**Rising Star**

- ▶ Converse
- ▶ Hanscom Air Force Base

**Leadership in Innovation**

- ▶ Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

The ECO Awards Ceremony is presented with sponsorships from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, Eastern Bank, Edenred, vRide, NuRide, AECOM, Enterprise, Tufts Health Plan, TransAction Associates, 128 Business Council, and the Charles River Transportation Management Association. The generous support of these sponsors allows for greater recognition of sustainable transportation efforts throughout the Commonwealth.

Check the [full list of ECO Award winners](#).



## Central Artery Ramp Parcel Study Public Meeting

MassDOT and The Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA) invite you to attend the 5th public meeting on the Central Artery Ramp Parcel Study.

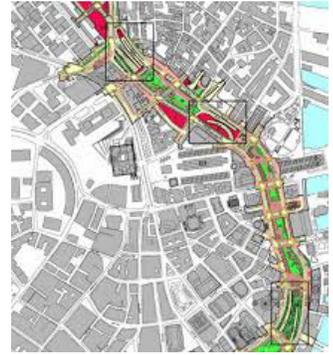
**The next public meeting will be held on  
Wednesday, April 15, 2015  
6:00-8:00 P.M. in the BRA Board Room (9th Floor)  
Boston City Hall.**

MassDOT is required to consider options for covering the open ramp portions of Central Artery/Tunnel Parcels 6, 12 and 18 along the Rose Kennedy Greenway, resulting from environmental commitments made as part of the Central Artery/Tunnel project.

MassDOT and BRA officials are continuing to study options to define potential cover alternatives for the ramp portals. At the April 15 public meeting, staff from MassDOT and the BRA, along with their consultant team will present refined ramp parcel cover concepts that have been developed based on feedback received from prior public meetings including formal comments received after the January 8th public meeting. We would like to invite interested parties to attend for a study update and a discussion on the next steps in the process.

The Central Artery Ramp Parcel Study will review the current conditions of Central Artery/Tunnel Parcels 6, 12, and 18 along the Rose Kennedy Greenway as part of the State's requirement to cover the ramps, and provide recommendations for each parcel's permanent configuration.

Updates and materials are available on the [Central Artery Ramp Parcel Study](#) website.



## MBTA: Fitchburg Line Weekend Service Suspension



**The MBTA has issued a Service Alert:**

**No Weekend Service on the commuter rail  
Fitchburg Main Line for the period from  
April 25th, 2015 through November 22nd, 2015.**

The suspension of weekend service will allow construction of major improvements on the Fitchburg Main Line to continue through the 2015 construction season. This 3rd year of the Commuter Rail Improvement Project will continue improvements to track, signal, bridges, and stations to reduce trip times and increase service reliability on the line. Substitute busing will not be provided.

Normal Weekend (Sunday) service will operate on the Memorial Day, the Fourth of July, Labor Day, and Thanksgiving weekends.

Prior to the extended weekend shutdown program for 2015 there will be two (2) weekends where bus service between Littleton Station and Concord Station will be employed on the line to allow for Track and Signal improvements to support the upcoming bridge and track work schedule for 2015.

**Busing between Littleton Station and Concord Station will support existing weekend service on the weekends of March 28th-29th and April 11th-12th, 2015.**

Commuters seeking additional information should [check the project website](#) for updates. Please refer to MBTA service updates for additional information on train schedules.

We apologize for any inconvenience these service suspensions may cause. Customers can look forward to significant service improvements once this improvement project is completed.

Questions may be directed to the MBTA Fitchburg Project Email at [FitchburgProject@MBTA.com](mailto:FitchburgProject@MBTA.com) and MBTA Fitchburg Project Hotline: 617-721-7506.