



May 6, 2016

MassDOT Launches "Go-Time" Real-Time Traffic Information

MassDOT announced the first activation of the Commonwealth's Real-Time Traffic Information System (Go-Time) set to expand statewide by the end of the year.

Three new Real-Time Traffic displays were launched in the area of Rt. 140 in Taunton. These displays include travel times from Rt. 140 to Interstate 195, Rt. 140 to Interstate 195, and Rt. 140 to Rt. 6. The signs will provide drivers with information about how long their commute will be and will assist drivers in making informed travel decisions.

Several other travel time displays are pending on Route 140. Display panels currently under construction will have an orange covering over the time display or display the word "test."

MassDOT activated similar travel time signs in April 2014 on Rt. 6 on Cape Cod, and in 2013 activated a temporary sign system on portions of I-90, I-93 and Rt. 3.



Installation of the Taunton-area signs marks the first "light-up" of a plan to deploy these signs across the Commonwealth. When complete, the full system will cover over 700 miles of highway statewide and will have 137 signs displaying travel times to over 300 destinations. MassDOT estimates more than 2.2 million motorists will be able to view the travel time signs on a daily basis. This information will also be available on a mobile app by the end of the year.

The travel time system will be rolled out across the state on a corridor by corridor basis. By the end of the summer signs are scheduled to be installed along I-95 and I-495. By the end of the fall the Real-Time signs will be activated along Rt. 1, and by the end of 2016, the signs are scheduled to be installed along I-90 and I-91.

MassDOT May Board Meeting

May 9
Transportation Building
10 Park Plaza
Suite 3830
Boston, MA 02150

[Full Meeting Schedule](#)

On the MassDOT Blog

MassDOT, MAPFRE Insurance Mark Global Youth Traffic Safety Month



MAPFRE Insurance recognizes that Massachusetts teen drivers are often inexperienced behind the wheel and are in need of extra support and guidance being new drivers on the road. May is Global Youth Traffic Safety Month – the perfect opportunity to take an additional step toward raising awareness about the importance of teen driver safety initiatives. This campaign launched by our friends at the National Organizations for Youth Safety coalition, is held annually to bring awareness to the concerning fact that summer can be a dangerous time for young drivers nationally, as well as here in The Bay State.

View the entire [Global Youth Traffic Safety Month](#) blog post.

Natick: MassDOT Breaks Ground on Marion Street Bridge

MassDOT broke ground on a new bridge that will carry Marion Street over railroad tracks in Natick.

The new bridge will feature a single superstructure with steel beams, concrete deck with asphalt surface on existing abutments, and a 6-foot wide sidewalk.

Pedestrian access will be maintained during construction. Motorists can use North Avenue, Washington Street and East Central Street as detours.

"Transportation infrastructure serves a vital role for the 5 million travelers who use our system day in and day out, and when a bridge is closed that impact is felt in a very real way. It is an honor for MassDOT to work with local and elected officials and of course the residents of Natick and of MetroWest on this project, and we look forward to its completion," said MassDOT Highway Administrator Thomas J. Tinlin.



The original bridge was constructed in 1896 and rehabilitated five times between 1941 and 2003. The bridge was closed in September 2012 due to a structural deficiency in its deck.

The project is anticipated to be completed in the fall of 2017. MAS Building & Bridge was awarded a \$3.2 million contract for the project.



MassDOT Capital Investment Plan Public Meetings Continue

MassDOT will continue a series of meetings throughout the state to solicit public input on its draft five-

- ▶ [Renew Your Driver's License](#)
- ▶ [Renew Your Registration](#)
- ▶ [Branch Locator](#)

year, multi-billion dollar [Capital Investment Plan \(CIP\)](#) for long-term highway, aeronautics, rail and transit investments.

The meetings run through the month of May. This program makes long-term, multi-modal investments that cover all MassDOT highway and municipal projects, municipal and regional airports, rail and transit, including the MBTA and Regional Transit Authorities, as well as the Registry of Motor Vehicles.



You are invited to review the [CIP presentation](#). Public comments may be submitted via email: masscip@state.ma.us

Follow Us On...



Check the remaining Public meeting schedule:

- ▶ Monday, May 9, 6:30 p.m., Mansfield, Qualters Middle School, Auditorium, 240 East Street
- ▶ Tuesday, May 10, 6:30 p.m., Worcester, Union Station, 2 Washington Street
- ▶ Tuesday, May 10, 6 p.m., Westfield, City Hall Council Chamber, 59 Court Street
- ▶ Wednesday, May 11, 6 p.m., Andover, Public Safety Center, 32 North Main Street
- ▶ Thursday, May 12, 6 p.m., Chelsea, City Hall Council Chamber, 500 Broadway Street.

MBTA Projects 12.8% Reduction in Energy Costs

The [MBTA](#) projects a 12.8 percent reduction in energy costs for the 2017 Fiscal Year, and expects to see additional savings during the next three years, according to a presentation made recently to the MBTA's Fiscal and Management Control Board.

The cost savings are the result of increased energy efficiency, utility contract management, and implementation of an enterprise energy management system.



The T's energy management strategy has three key elements: use less; buy it and use it more efficiently; and produce it from renewable sources or recapture spent energy.

Methods for achieving cost savings include using more energy efficient systems at over 80 facilities, benefitting from renewable energy generated by wind turbines at sites in Kingston and one coming on-line at Bridgewater, and upcoming solar power purchase agreements at MBTA parking lots.

"The MBTA has increased its focus on energy management, with a specific eye toward energy conservation as well as developing new renewable energy projects," said MBTA General Manager Frank DePaola. "We understand the important role the T plays in the Commonwealth's energy management and conservation efforts."

In January 2012, the MBTA commissioned its first wind turbine generator at the Kingston Layover Facility. The Kingston Commuter Rail Layover Facility wind turbine project will produce electrical output from a 100 kW turbine, an effective match for this facility's estimated annual electric load of 255,000 kilowatt hours per year. The 750 kilowatt turbine to be built along the commuter rail right of way in Bridgewater will generate power that, unlike Kingston, will not be used on site but will be sold back to the regional electrical grid.

The MBTA utility budget for FY16 is \$48.4 million, and covers six types of utilities: electricity; natural gas; heating oil; Steam; jet fuel; water. But the majority - \$42.5 million - of this budget is for electricity.

From Fiscal Year 2012 to 2014, the MBTA spent between \$28 million and \$31 million per year on its wholesale energy costs. In FY15, that amount dropped to \$26 million. The forecast for FY16 is \$22 million, while the forecasts for FY17 and FY18 are just \$19 million.

Additional power costs for transmission charges, other ancillary charges, and capacity costs will bring the T's total forecasts for FY16 through FY18 to between \$33 million and \$42 million annually. Through improved management of utility contracts, the T expects to achieve \$25 million in savings over five years on its wholesale electricity contract.