

MBTA DEPARTMENT OF SYSTEM-WIDE ACCESSIBILITY FIXED ROUTE REPORT – February 23, 2011

MBTA EXPANDS SNOW REMOVAL ACTIVITIES

Between December 27th and February 2nd, the MBTA transit region experienced four major storm events, sub-zero temperatures, and ever piling up snow along rights of way, yards, parking lots, stations and bus stops. MBTA General Manager Richard A. Davey has announced several efforts to help prevent both employee and customer injuries and make the MBTA a leader in transit safety:

- A Snow Safety Field Team Program that assists in station safety, fire life safety and snow removal safety
- The Authority has reversed its policy on leaving bus stop cleaning to cities and towns. The MBTA cleared over 100 bus stops that were previously left to melt and is preparing a new standard operating procedure to prioritize cleaning high ridership and key route bus stops, working with MassDOT and municipalities

NEW DIESEL-ELECTRIC COMMUTER RAIL LOCOMOTIVES

On February 7th MBTA customers joined Lt. Governor Timothy Murray, MassDOT Secretary Jeffrey Mullan and MBTA General Manager Richard A. Davey on the inaugural ride of one of two new commuter rail coaches. The Worcester to Boston trip aboard the state-of-the-art diesel-electric locomotive marks the first time in over two decades that new locomotives have joined the MBTA's commuter rail fleet. The locomotives employ new technology that makes them more fuel efficient with an annual cost savings of approximately \$78,000 per vehicle. The two new locomotives will be joined in 2013 by an additional 20 locomotives that will replace the oldest and least reliable units in the fleet.

ACCESSIBILITY PROJECTS UNDERWAY

State Street (Orange/Blue):

Major, multi-year renovation project; elevator access anticipated late March/early April 2011

Science Park (Green):

Station accessibility project with new elevators, raised low platforms, mini-high platforms, wayfinding improvements, detectable warning platform edges, etc. Ongoing intermittent evening station closures; full closure anticipated April-October 2011 with accessible bus shuttle.

MBTA/BCIL Redundant /Replacement Elevator Project:

- Harvard (Red): 2nd elevator from street to station being installed. 60% complete
- Park (Green/Red): Temporary stairway closings over next 4 months in conjunction with installation of new elevator from street to westbound Green Line platforms
- Porter (Red):
Phase 1 - Existing Red Line elevators being replaced with closure anticipated March 2011 – March 2012; accessible bus shuttle.

KEY BUS ROUTE IMPROVEMENTS CONTINUE

A series of community workshops/public meetings is under way to involve MBTA customers, community representatives and municipalities in the effort to improve the overall quality of service for customers on key MBTA bus routes. The next public meeting will be March 2, 6:30 – 8:30 pm at the Agassiz School, 20 Child Street, Jamaica Plain, to discuss improvements to Bus Route 39. Future public meetings can be found at www.mbta.com.

MBTA BUS OPERATIONS RECERTIFICATION TRAINING

Bus Operations continues to hold monthly recertification training classes at the Charlestown Bus Garage for Operators and other Bus personnel. The training classes include modules and videos illustrating the MBTA's policies on assisting customers with disabilities, service animals, use of ramps and lifts, and other accessibility-related topics. The next class will be on Tuesday, March 8. Please contact Robin Howard in the MBTA's System-Wide Accessibility Department at 617-222-1666 voice; 617-222-5045 TTY; rhoward@mbta.com, if you would like to attend this or future classes.