About the MBTA Bus Service Network

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About the MBTA Bus Service Network

- More than a third of all MBTA trips are taken on buses.
- The MBTA’s bus network consists of 175 routes.
- Nearly 450,000 trips are taken on MBTA buses in a single weekday.
- Serving 50 communities, the bus network provides critical connections.
- Overall On Time Performance for the bus network is 65%, well below the target of 75%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of bus routes</th>
<th>% of Routes</th>
<th>% of Bus Ridership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Key bus routes (longer span, higher frequency)</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local bus routes (full weekday service)</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commuter bus routes (limited peak-direction trips, express bus routes)</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### What we have heard through the Better Bus Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Audience</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FMCB</td>
<td>• Make the highest impact, as quickly as possible to routes that would create the bus network backbone</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| General Public    | • More reliable service  
                     • More frequent service                                                                                                               |
| Operations        | • Schedules that can be met  
                     • Better spacing of stops                                                                                                               |
| Consultant Review | • Service is too complex  
                     • There are too few frequent routes  
                     • Service is slow and getting slower  
                     • Service is unreliable  
                     • Schedules are irregular  
                     • Many buses are overcrowded  
                     • Many routes start too late  
                     • Many routes end service too early  
                     • Many routes operate too infrequently |
Better Bus Project Service Improvement Process Map

Quarterly Changes - Ongoing

- Within the allocated FY operating and capital budget.
- No Board Vote is required
- Changes need to be implemented

Tier 1: Budget Neutral Opportunities

- No additional resources beyond FY19. Goal is to simplify routes, adjust schedules, and improve efficiency along routes.
- Board needs to provide guidance
- Public Comment
- Board needs to Vote on recommendations
- Recommendations need to be implemented

Tier 2 – Tier 5: Investment Opportunities

- Need additional resources dependent on tier investment selection. Goal is to achieve Key Bus Route Standards and/or Service Delivery Policy Standards to create a high frequency core network.
- Board needs to provide guidance
- Public Comment
- Board needs to Vote on recommendations
- Budget in FY20 to implement
- Recommendations need to be implemented
Quarterly Changes to the Bus Network

Spring 2018 (April)
✓ Early Morning Service Expansion Pilot
✓ Chelsea Gateway Silver Line Service

Fall 2018 (September)
✓ 83 changes; 49 routes
✓ 158,571 Passenger Trips
✓ 38% of Trips/Weekday
✓ Route 111 – 5 additional operators added to improve reliability
✓ Late Night Service Expansion Pilot

Winter 2018-19 (December)
• 43 changes; 29 Routes
• 568,146 Passenger Trips (Weekly Trips)
• Changes to 24% Passenger Trips
• Cabot Garage – 5 additional operators added to improve reliability
  • Routes 1, 47 and 66
• Additional inbound trip during the AM peak on Route 111

Quarterly Changes Ongoing

• No addition resource requests beyond FY19 operating budget.
• No Board Vote is Required
• Changes need to be implemented through quarterly updates.
### Optimization of the Bus Network – Fall 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Bus Transit Priority Project Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept 21</td>
<td><strong>Cambridge Parking Day</strong>&lt;br&gt;• 4 Bus lanes for one day only&lt;br&gt;• Mass Ave and Main St&lt;br&gt;• Many routes benefit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 9</td>
<td><strong>Arlington bus lane on Mass Ave (1 month)</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Mix of bus lane, queue jump, and TSP&lt;br&gt;• Routes 77, 79, 350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 26 (Likely)</td>
<td><strong>Cambridge Mt. Auburn St. bus lanes</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Painted, all-day bus lane, pre-empted queue jumps, TSP&lt;br&gt;• Routes 71, 73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall/Winter (Likely)</td>
<td><strong>Cambridge South Mass Ave</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Painted, all-day bus lane, TSP evaluation, coordinating with DCR and MassDOT for transit improvements on bridge&lt;br&gt;• Routes 1, CT1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Next Steps – Tier 1, Budget Neutral Opportunities

• Meet with Board Members
  • Late September 2018

• Hold Public Meetings to share recommendations and receive feedback
  • January 2019

• Board Vote on Proposals to Adopt
  • April 2019

• Implement Adopted Proposals
  • Fall 2019 (Based on timeline for planning, scheduling and picking)