



## FERRY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

December 11, 2024 10:00 AM

- A. Call to order:** Hon. Jared Nicholson (Lynn), Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:06 AM via Zoom.
- B. Ferry Update:** David Perry, Director of Ferry Operations at the MBTA, provided an update on 2024 Ferry operations with a preview for 2025. The update included a description of the ferry's Active Threat Drill, a report on ferry ridership, seasonal schedule changes, and updates on the Hingham Ferry Dock Replacement and Water Transportation Study.
- a. Corey Evans (Cohasset) said the ridership numbers have looked great this year, and they might anticipate higher ridership next year with return-to-work policies taking effect. C. Evans also mentioned that the biggest request they receive from families on the South Shore is more consistent weekend service during the winter. He applauded the targeted, event related, ferry service that had served Salem during October, and expressed that his community appreciated it. D. Perry answered that this service was not sponsored by the MBTA, it was run by Boston Harbor City Cruises,



but the MBTA offered use of their dock and thought it was an excellent service to offer.

- b. Yem Lip P.E. (Malden) asked if D. Perry had access to the F4 Charlestown schedule for 2025 and D. Perry provided it.
- c. Brian Kane (Executive Director) asked if there are any conversations about inter-operability between the various ferry services in the Seaport. D. Perry showed a map of the routes offered and answered that the TMA ferries are subsidized by the companies that they serve. There is currently no connection between the schedules or fare collection of these ferries and the MBTA. They have had a number of discussions about how to integrate the systems, but no discussions with the convention center. D. Perry expressed that it would benefit the harbor to have an integrated system. J. Nicholson asked what can be done to start those conversations. D. Perry answered that some internal conversations need to take place. J. Nicholson asked if it would make sense for the Advisory Board to advocate for this issue and D. Perry said it would. J. Nicholson asked if B. Kane and the Advisory Board could help draft a letter, which B. Kane said they would. Other committee members agreed with this pursuit.
- d. B. Kane and C. Evans thanked D. Perry for his presentation and for his work for the ferry service.



e. J. Nicholson asked if there has been any collaboration between the T's modes when discussing service changes. D. Perry answered that they have weekly meetings with the leadership of each mode, and he is confident that his seat at that table allows the ferry to remain a key player.

**C. Minutes:** J. Nicholson requested a motion to approve the draft minutes of the May 8, 2024 committee meeting. Frank Tramontozzi (Quincy) made such a motion, which C. Evans seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

**D. Adjourn:** With all business transacted, C. Evans motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by F. Tramontozzi. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 10:54 AM.

*Note: These minutes were approved by vote of the committee at its 3/25/25 meeting.*



## **Attendees**

### **Committee**

|                        |          |
|------------------------|----------|
| Corey Evans            | Cohasset |
| Katie Goldrick         | Holbrook |
| Hon. Jared Nicholson   | Lynn     |
| Yem Lip P.E.           | Malden   |
| Frank Tramontozzi P.E. | Quincy   |

### **Other**

|             |      |
|-------------|------|
| David Perry | MBTA |
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### **MBTA AB**

|            |                    |
|------------|--------------------|
| Brian Kane | Executive Director |
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## **Appendix**

December 16, 2024

The Honorable Monica Tibbits-Nutt  
Secretary & CEO  
Massachusetts Department of Transportation  
10 Park Plaza  
Boston, MA 02111



Madame Secretary:

On behalf of the MBTA Advisory Board's Ferry Committee, and the cities and towns that comprise it, I write to urge MassDOT and the MBTA to better coordinate ferry service in Boston's inner harbor. As you know, both the MBTA, Seaport Transportation Management Association (TMA), and Massachusetts Convention Center Authority (MCCA) operate separate and non-coordinated ferry services in Boston's inner harbor. Seaport ferry services are subsidized by area employers, and are not currently coordinated with MBTA schedules. The Fan Pier is the only ferry boat docking at the Seaport, a major employment hub for the region.

The MBTA Advisory Board's Ferry Committee urges MassDOT, MBTA, Seaport TMA, and MCCA to work together to create pass and ticket interoperability across all ferries, synchronize schedules, and allow more MBTA boats access to Fan Pier. The public's interest is best served through a more and better coordinated public ferry service, rather than by individual public entities. The Ferry Committee offers its assistance where practical in advancing these efforts.

Please contact Brian Kane, MBTA Advisory Board Executive Director at [bkane@mbtaadvisoryboard.gov](mailto:bkane@mbtaadvisoryboard.gov) if we can help.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Jared C. Nicholson', is positioned to the left of the printed name. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jared C. Nicholson  
Mayor of Lynn  
Chair, MBTA Advisory Board Ferry Committee

Cc:

Thomas McGee, Chair MBTA Board of Directors

Thomas Koch, MBTA Advisory Board Chair and designee to MBTA Board of Directors

Brian Kane, Executive Director, MBTA Advisory Board

Philip Eng, MBTA General Manager

Ryan Coholan, MBTA Chief Operating Officer

David Perry, MBTA Director of Ferry Operations

Marcel Vernon, Sr., Executive Director, Massachusetts Convention Center Authority

Chuck Pappalardo, Vice President, Global Operations and Real Estate, Vertex Pharmaceuticals and Chair Seaport TMA

Patrick Sullivan, Executive Director, Seaport TMA