

OPERATING BUDGET OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Minutes

Thursday, May 29, 2025

- A. Call to Order:** Chair Debra Roberts (Stoughton) called the committee to order at 10:02 AM via Zoom.
- B. Minutes:** The Chair requested a motion to approve the 5/22/25 meeting minutes. Frank Tramontozzi (Quincy) made the motion and Alan Castaline (Brockton) seconded. The committee approved the minutes unanimously.
- C. Discussion of Draft Budget Recommendations:** Brian Kane (Executive Director) presented the MBTA's FY26 Operating Budget Oversight Report draft for the committee's review.
- a** A. Castaline asked for a brief description of the purpose of the report. Duncan Allen (Needham) commented on his research into occupancy on bus routes as compared to headcount increases and service hours. He questioned if there are more bus hours without a corresponding return in ridership. Additionally, he and B. Kane questioned where the ridership and increases are appearing across modes. A. Castaline also questioned if there is any increase in fare revenue corresponding to increase in bus operator headcount. D. Roberts asked how the recommendations of the



report are structured and B. Kane answered that the committee will identify the most important ones, but with no set structure. A. Castaline identified consultant management as an important area to cover. D. Roberts asked if there is public data on customer satisfaction ratings that might be included.

D. Next Steps: B. Kane asked committee members to continue adding comments and suggestions as the draft comes together. The committee will next meet to review the report on June 5.

E. Adjourn: Chair D. Roberts called for the meeting to adjourn which F. Tramontozzi made and A. Castaline seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 11 AM.

Note: These minutes were approved by vote of the committee at their June 5, 2025 meeting.

MBTA Advisory Board

Alan Castaline	Brockton
Morgan Griffiths	Natick
Duncan Allen	Needham
Frank Tramontozzi	Quincy
Debra Roberts (Chair)	Stoughton



MBTA Advisory Board Staff

Brian Kane

Executive Director

Hanna Switekowski

Deputy Director

Isabella MacKinnon

Budget & Policy Analyst