

Joint Meeting of Passenger/Regional Rail Committee and Rapid Transit & Bus Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

- A. Call to Order:** Rapid Transit & Bus Committee Co-Chair Mayor Jen Grigoraitis (Melrose) and Passenger/Regional Rail Committee Chair Rob Scherer (Ashland) called the committee to order at 2:01 PM via Zoom.
- B. Parking at MBTA Facilities Presentation:** Bruno Lopes, MBTA Senior Director of Advertising, Parking and Station Access, delivered a presentation on system background and basics, revenue & utilization trends, and future visions.
- a On behalf of the Passenger/Regional Rail committee and their previous discussions, R. Scherer asked about the transition to solar panels, maintenance of electric charging stations, capacity expansions at stations like Littleton, and observations of overnight lighting at stations. B. Lopes answered that the MBTA has previously explored a rollout of solar canopies at commuter parking facilities, however the analysis showed challenges to that goal. There are 4 solar canopies that were installed and are operated by a third party and the MBTA is exploring additional opportunities for renewable energy sources. Regarding electric vehicle

- charges, some new chargers have recently been installed and the MBTA are looking for new ways to provide sustainable EV charging options for commuters. Regarding parking supply, the MBTA is actively looking at ways to expand parking supply at many stations like Littleton.
- b Bruce Leicher (Harvard) added that the parking constraints at Littleton are becoming more urgent as ridership returns, and asked for an update on expansion plans. Additionally, he asked who is responsible for maintaining the EV charging stations at commuter parking lots. B. Lopes answered that the existing EV chargers are at the end of their useful life and there is not currently staff capacity to address their maintenance. He said he would be happy to return with a more comprehensive update on EV charging as the implementation and operation of this amenity is challenging.
 - c Len Diggins (Arlington) asked how long the average “last mile” travel is for commuters in parking lots. B. Lopes answered that most commuters are driving 3-5 miles to stations.
 - d Cathy Bilotta (Manchester-By-the-Sea) asked if the MBTA partners with towns to allow for commuter parking lots to be used by municipalities to generate revenue when they are not used by riders. B. Lopes says the MBTA is open to such partnerships and has a licensing process to facilitate them.
 - e Steve Olanoff (Westwood) commented that maintenance of parking garages is a persistent problem and asked if regular maintenance would

- be added as a budget line item. B. Lopes answered that the MBTA has made any recent investments in maintenance of parking garages and lots to improve state of good repair and avoid larger future costs of disrepair.
- f Alan Castaline (Brockton) asked how the monthly billing pricing option works. B. Lopes answered that the monthly invoices sent to registered owners that don't use PaybyPhone has a \$1 surcharge. A. Castaline also asked for data on the parking utilization at new stations on South Coast Rail. Mike Muller (MBTA) answered that there are about 2,000 round-trip riders a day from the five new South Coast Rail stations—a 40% increase on the line.
- g Sheila Page commented that West Natick experiences similar parking capacity issues as Littleton.
- h B. Lopes shared his contact information for further questions and discussion. Co-Chair J. Grigoraitis thanked him for joining the committees.
- C. Keolis/MBTA Updates:** Executive Staff (Mike Muller, Mike Rooks, John Killeen, Alana Westwater, Paula Fallon) joined for a commuter rail update on performance, ridership and fare gates.
- a Morgan Griffiths (Natick) asked why on-time performance might have been lower in June. John Killeen (Keolis) answered that South Coast Rail launch impacted on-time performance on the south side.
- b Matthew Petersen (Boston) asked if there was a plan for the Commuter Rail's role in subway and rapid transit diversions, particularly regarding

- fare gate operation. J. Killeen answered that there are plans in place for potential diversion impacts.
- c A. Castaline asked for a briefing on service plans for the FIFA World Cup vents in June. M. Muller answered that the MBTA plans to carry upwards of 20,000 passengers a day for each of the 7 match days via special event trains from South Station to Foxborough. Additionally, the MBTA is planning for how the large influx of international visitors will impact the core system outside of match times.
- D. Next Meeting Dates:** January 13th Rapid Transit, January 14th Passenger Rail (TENTATIVE)
- E. Adjourn:** Chair R. Scherer adjourned the meeting at 3:02.

These minutes were approved by vote at the Rapid Transit & Bus Committee's meeting on 2/10/26 and the Passenger/Regional Rail Committee's meeting on 2/11/26.



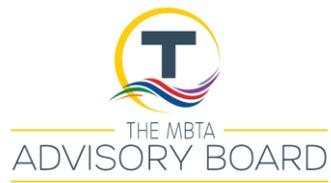
Attendees:

Rapid Transit & Bus Committee:

Arlington	Len Diggins
Boston	Matthew Petersen
Brockton	Alan Castaline
Cambridge	Andy Reker
Chelsea	John DePriest
Lexington	Susan Barrett
Medford	Todd Blake
Melrose	Hon. Jen Grigoraitis
Newton	David Koses
Quincy	Frank Tramontozzi
Westwood	Steve Olanoff

Passenger/Regional Rail Committee Members:

Ashland	Rob Scherer
Boston	Matthew Petersen
Brockton	Alan Castaline
Cambridge	Andy Reker
Fall River	Dan Aguiar
Harvard	Bruce Leicher
Manchester-by-the-Sea	Cathy Bilotta
Natick	Morgan Griffiths
Wellesley	Sheila Page
Westwood	Steve Olanoff
Quincy	Frank Tramontozzi



MBTA Advisory Board Staff:

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