



MBTA ADVISORY BOARD

FULL BOARD MINUTES (DRAFT)

June 9, 2026
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

- A. Call to Order:** Debra Roberts (Stoughton), called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM via Zoom.

- B. FY27 Operating Budget Oversight Report presentation and consideration:** D. Roberts introduced the committee's report and Brian Kane (Executive Director) presented an overview of the report's findings. Followed by discussion and action to accept the FY27 MBTA Operating Budget Oversight Report from the Operating Budget Oversight Committee. This report fulfils the charge of the full MBTA Advisory Board at its May 26, 2026 meeting.
 - a** Rob Scherer (Ashland) asked about the growth of Fair Share amendment revenue. B. Kane answered that the revenue is the main driver of the MBTA's current fiscal solvency. The Forward Funding structure has been unsuccessful in its goal to independently fund the MBTA's operations, and, since 2009, the MBTA has received appropriated funds from the legislature to supplement the sales tax allocation. The House and Senate have recently released a supplemental budget from the Fair Share revenue for FY27 and are in conference for the remaining contract assistance and legislative support that

the MBTA will receive. The Fair Share revenue has protected the MBTA from having to enact any service cuts or layoffs.

- b** Bruce Leicher (Harvard) thanked staff for a thorough report. B. Leicher asked about the risk around the MBTA's interest payments as they are a significant line item in the budget. B. Kane answered that he is confident in the MBTA's high rating and that the MBTA is a responsible organization in terms of debt management. B. Leicher expressed concerns about rising interest rates impacting the budget. B. Kane answered that while most of the MBTA's interest rates are locked in, the biggest risk of shock is fuel prices.
- c** Lenard Diggins (Arlington) reported a very engaging and successful MBTA participation in Boston's Pride For The People parade. Additionally, he expressed support for the Oversight report, particularly around its messages on austerity and supporting in-house talent. He emphasized the importance of communicating these messages to the legislature.
- d** Joe Fisher (Higham) asked if the MBTA provided a debt breakdown between principal and interest for FY2027 which B. Kane said the MBTA did not answer the Advisory Board's request for. J. Fisher commented that the amount paid in interest has grown steadily over the years and now the ratio with principal payments is nearly 1:1. B. Kane agreed that the size of the MBTA's debt payments is not sustainable and the MBTA has forecasted this cycle of

borrowing significantly and repaying it from the operating budget in perpetuity.

- e Alex Vispoli (Andover) asked if the World Cup costs are offset by ticket prices. B. Kane responded that both upgrades to Foxboro station and additional operating costs will total \$70 million in cost to the MBTA. They expect to receive a maximum potential revenue of \$11 million from ticket prices with additional funding from the state and federal government. The MBTA expects a loss of around \$30 million from World Cup costs.
- f Gus Murby (Medfield) provided a copy edit for the conclusion.

C. FY27 Operating Budget Oversight Report transmittal: Discussion and action to authorize the Executive Director to transmit, in the name of, and on behalf of the MBTA Advisory Board, the FY27 MBTA Operating Budget Oversight Report to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority Board of Directors in accordance with MGL c. 161A, § 20.

- a D. Roberts requested a motion to authorize the report's transmittal which F. Tramontozzi made and John DePriest (Chelsea) seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 15, 2026, 10AM via Zoom.

E. Adjourn: With all business discussed, D. Roberts requested a motion to adjourn which A. Vispoli made and F. Tramontozzi seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Attendees

Abington		Lowell		Tyngsborough	
Acton		Lunenburg		Upton	
Amesbury		Lynn		Wakefield	
Andover	Alex Vispoli	Lynnfield		Walpole	
Arlington	Lenard Diggins	Malden	Yem Lip	Waltham	
Ashburnham		Manchester	Cathy Bilotta	Wareham	
Ashby		Mansfield		Watertown	
Ashland	Rob Scherer	Marblehead		Wayland	
Attleboro		Marlborough		Wellesley	
Auburn		Marshfield		Wenham	
Ayer		Maynard		West Boylston	
Bedford		Medfield	Gus Murby	West Bridgewater	
Bellingham		Medford	Todd Blake	West Newbury	
Belmont		Medway		Westborough	
Berkley		Melrose		Westford	
Beverly		Merrimac		Westminster	
Billerica		Methuen		Weston	
Boston	Matt Moran	Middleborough		Westwood	
Bourne		Middleton		Weymouth	
Boxborough		Millbury		Whitman	
Boxford		Millis		Wilmington	
Braintree		Milton		Winchester	

Bridgewater		Nahant		Winthrop	
Brockton	Lisa Crowley	Natick		Woburn	Casey Hagerty
Brookline		Needham	Duncan Allen	Worcester	Todd Kirrane
Burlington		New Bedford	Jennifer Carloni	Wrentham	
Cambridge		Newbury			

Canton		Newburyport	Hon. Sean Reardon		
Carlisle		Newton	Jenn Martin		
Carver		Norfolk			
Chelmsford		North Andover			
Chelsea	John DePriest	N. Attleborough			
Cohasset		North Reading	Lillian Hartman		
Concord		Northborough			
Danvers		Northbridge			
Dedham		Norton		MBTA Advisory Board	Brian Kane
Dover		Norwell		MBTA Advisory Board	Hanna Switekowski
Dracut		Norwood	Joe Collins	MBTA Advisory Board	Isabella MacKinnon
Duxbury	Brian Glennon	Paxton			
E. Bridgewater		Peabody			
Easton		Pembroke			
Essex		Plymouth			
Everett		Plympton			
Fall River		Princeton			
Fitchburg		Quincy	Frank Tramontozzi		
Foxborough		Randolph			
Framingham		Raynham			

Franklin		Reading			
Freetown		Rehoboth			
Georgetown		Revere			
Gloucester	Hon. Paul Lundberg	Rochester			
Grafton		Rockland			
Groton		Rockport			
Groveland		Rowley			
Halifax		Salem			
Hamilton		Salisbury			
Hanover		Saugus			
Hanson		Scituate			
Harvard	Bruce Leicher	Seekonk			
Haverhill	Christine Lindberg	Sharon	Sam Liao		
Hingham	Joseph Fisher	Sherborn			
Holbrook		Shirley			
Holden		Shrewsbury			
Holliston		Somerville	Brad Rawson		
Hopkinton		Southborough			
Hull		Sterling			
Ipswich		Stoneham			
Kingston		Stoughton	Debra Roberts		
Lakeville		Stow			
Lancaster		Sudbury			
Lawrence		Sutton			
Leicester		Swampscott			
Leominster		Taunton			
Lexington		Tewksbury			
Lincoln		Topsfield			
Littleton		Townsend			

