



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION

EOT

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BERNARD COHEN
SECRETARY

September 4, 2007

Arleen O'Donnell
Acting Commissioner
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
One Winter Street
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Commissioner O'Donnell:

I am writing this letter to update the report on the annual status of the transit commitments required under the State Implementation Plan that was previously submitted to you by the Executive Office of Transportation and Public Works on July 2, 2007. In particular, the revision relates to the timeline for the Green Line Extension to Medford Hills and Union Square. Specifically, a decision was made subsequent to our July 2nd letter and as part of the Commonwealth's FY 2008 - 2012 Five Year Capital Investment Plan, to seek federal funding assistance for this project. This decision was based on the fiscal realities facing the Commonwealth, in combination with an internal analysis that indicated that the Green Line Extension will be strongly competitive within the New Starts funding program managed by the Federal Transit Administration.

Due to the complexity and requirements of the New Starts process, it is possible that the Green Line Extension will not be completed by the December 31st, 2014 deadline currently listed in the SIP regulation. We are, however, continuing to make every effort to accelerate the planning, design and environmental review and permitting of the project in order to work towards the 2014 completion date.

EOTPW is committed to the Green Line Extension, a project with significant benefits - for mobility, air quality, economic growth, and quality of life - both regional and local. I can assure you that the decision to seek federal support for the project was not made lightly. We look forward to working with DEP as we advance the project through the New Starts application process, balancing our responsibility to maximize all available sources of funding with our obligation to provide efficient and equitable transportation services.

I will be contacting you to arrange an opportunity to discuss this matter in person. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me at (617) 973-7844 or david.mohler@eot.state.ma.us.

Sincerely,

David J. Mohler

David J. Mohler

Acting Deputy Secretary for Planning