

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION

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JAMES A. ALOISI JR.
SECRETARY

July 8, 2009

Ellin Reisner, Ph.D.
Somerville Transportation Equity Partnership
51 Mount Vernon Street
Somerville, MA 02143-2128

Dear Ms. Reisner:

On behalf of Secretary Aloisi, thank you for your recent letter regarding the proposed vehicle support facility for the Green Line Extension to Somerville and Medford. The Green Line Extension is one of the top transportation priorities of the Commonwealth, as it offers significant mobility improvements and lays the foundation for new economic growth in a vital corridor of metropolitan Boston. For these reasons, Secretary Aloisi is grateful for the passionate public interest in this project, and for public efforts to make it as successful and beneficial as possible.

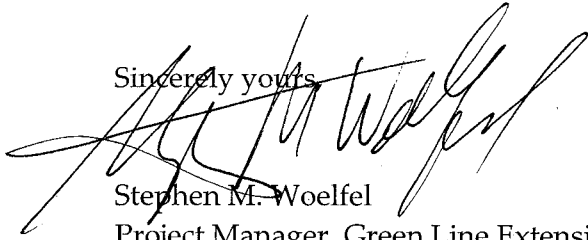
We appreciate the analysis that the Somerville Transportation Equity Partnership has done of the 'Yard 8' location proposed for the Green Line support facility that will be a component of the overall Green Line Extension project. We have proposed Yard 8 as our recommended location for the facility because we believe Yard 8 to be – on balance – the best location available to us for this purpose. We understand that there are limitations to it, as there would be to almost any location in a dense urban environment, but we also believe that the proximity of the site to the Green Line Extension tracks, the long-time railroad character of the site, and its overall configuration make it the optimal option. We will nevertheless be refining the design as we move through the engineering phases of the project, and we will welcome any input that STEP or Mr. Kaiser may have at that point for making the facility and its attendant storage tracks function as well as possible. I believe that we are united in our desire for a Green Line Extension that operates safely, efficiently, and well, all in the name of bringing the best possible new public transit to Somerville and Medford.

In closing, I would also like to reassure you that the Green Line Extension project team has

worked extremely diligently to analyze every option for locating the support facility. Given our extensive work, we believe that Yard 8 remains the best of the available options, and we believe that any negatives associated with it can be managed and will be outweighed by the great benefits to derive from the enormous public investment represented by the Green Line Extension.

Thank you again for your correspondence and your concern.

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen M. Woelfel', written over the typed name below.

Stephen M. Woelfel
Project Manager, Green Line Extension