

South Boston Piers Transitway - Phase I

Boston, Massachusetts

(November 2002)

Description

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) is constructing an underground bus rapid transitway connecting the MBTA's existing transit system with the South Boston Piers area. The initial phase is a one-mile tunnel segment with three stations (South Station, Federal Courthouse/Fan Pier, and the World Trade Center). The project also includes the procurement of 32 dual-mode hybrid diesel-electric buses. Daily ridership for the transitway in 2010 is estimated to range from 22,000 trips in the lower-growth scenario to 34,100 trips in the higher growth scenario.

The total project cost under the existing Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) is \$413.40 million, with a Section 5309 New Starts funding share of \$330.73 million.

Status

The MBTA completed the Alternatives Analysis process and selected a Locally Preferred Alternative in February 1993. The Final Environmental Impact Statement was published in December 1993. Preliminary Engineering was completed on October 31, 2000. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) approved the project entry into Final Design in June 1993. In November 1994, FTA signed an FFGA with the MBTA with a Revenue Operations Date scheduled for December 31, 2000. In June 1999, MBTA provided a revised cost update to address cost escalation and project schedule delays. FTA has requested MBTA to submit a revised FFGA. MBTA has prepared and submitted to FTA a Recovery Plan to amend the original FFGA. The current estimated project cost is \$601 million reflecting an increase of \$187 million over the original total project cost.

The project is 74 percent complete with a projected revenue operations date of December 2004. However, MBTA plans to commence interim revenue services in December 2003 with electric trolley buses.

Through FY 2002, Congress has appropriated \$330.05 million in Section 5309 New Starts funds for the South Boston Piers Transitway. The revised FFGA is under development.

Reported in Year of Expenditure Dollars		
<u>Source of Funds</u>	<u>Total Funding (million)</u>	<u>Appropriations to Date</u>
Federal:		
Section 5309 New Starts FFGA Commitment	\$330.73	\$330.05 million appropriated through FY 2002
Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Funds	\$150.07	
State:		
Bond Funds	\$120.20	
TOTAL	\$601.00	

NOTE: Total may not add due to rounding.

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