

MBTA DEPARTMENT OF SYSTEM-WIDE ACCESSIBILITY FIXED ROUTE REPORT – October 26, 2011

Accessibility at the T Public Meeting in December

Judge Patrick King will be holding a public meeting to update meeting attendees on the status of the MBTA/BCIL Settlement Agreement. The meeting will take place on December 12, from 1pm to 3pm, at the State Transportation Building (10 Park Plaza) on the 2nd floor in rooms 2 and 3. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Reminder: Science Park Station to Re-Open in November

The newly-renovated Science Park station will open in November. The station will feature accessibility enhancements such as new elevators, raised platforms, mini-high platforms, accessible faregates, way-finding signs, and for the first time in MBTA history, tactile braille signs that provide way-finding information to customers with visual impairments. As an added feature, an accessible path of travel will be available at the north end of the platform where customers can cross the tracks to reach the opposite platform. This accessible path will allow customers who require the use of an elevator to cross to the opposite platform to use the elevator if the elevator on their side of the platform is not working. Science Park station is between North Station and Lechmere station and is served by the Green Line (E branch).

Accessibility Enhancements at Lechmere Station

With the opening of the Science Park station, Green Line service will be restored to both Science Park and Lechmere stations. And with the opening of rail service to Lechmere station, we would like to make customers aware of accessibility enhancements to Lechmere station. A 2nd mobile lift has been added to the inbound/to Boston side of the station. This will ensure that customers who do not board using the stairs, including customers who use wheeled mobility, can access the train from any location on the platform. Also, customers using wheeled mobility will be able to access the first train leaving the station at all times, unless all waiting customers are unable to enter

the train because the train is too crowded.

MBTA Staff Attend Watertown Disability Commission Meeting (10/19/2011)

MBTA staff, including staff from the Department of System-Wide Accessibility (SWA), attended a meeting held by the Watertown Commission for People with Disabilities. During this meeting, SWA staff answered questions about the MBTA's accessible fixed-route network, reduced fare media, and other accessibility-related inquiries.

Reduced Fare Charlie Card Outreach Event Held in Watertown

On Wednesday, October 19, an outreach event was held in Watertown where seniors (65+), people with disabilities who were approved for the Transportation Access Pass (TAP), and individuals who were eligible for the Commission for the Blind ID were able to have their photos taken to receive their respective reduced fare CharlieCards and learn how the MBTA is working to improve the customer experience for all customers.

MBTA Operations Training Programs – Bus

The Bus Training School has two ongoing classes for operators and other bus personnel at the Charlestown Garage training facility. Contact Robin Howard in the MBTA's System-Wide Accessibility Department, at least one week in advance, to attend either program at 617-222-1666 voice; 617-222-5045 TTY; rhoward@mbta.com

Phase 1 Bus Recertification: 8-hour monthly class with modules and videos on assisting customers with disabilities, service animals, use of ramps and lifts, and other accessibility-related topics. Classroom and hands-on instruction onboard the bus.

Next class: Tuesday, November 29.

Phase 2 Bus Recertification Training: 2-hour ADA Refresher Training Module with both classroom and hands-on instruction onboard the bus. Includes state-of-the-art bus simulator. Due to space restrictions maximum class size 6 students; 1 observer (and Personal Care Assistant, if applicable).

Mon – Fri (days vary; no holidays), approx. 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm.