



**Massachusetts Bay
Transportation Authority**

Report from the General Manager

Fiscal and Management Control Board

October 19, 2020

Fall Commuter Rail Schedule Changes

- Changes will level out service consistently over the course of the day.
 - Increase service on two pilot lines (Middleboro and Newburyport/ Rockport Routes) where bus ridership is high (Brockton and Lynn)
 - Increase weekday train count from **505** in Fall 2019 to **544** in Fall 2020
 - 32 of the 39 new trains (82%) serve either Fairmount, Brockton, or Lynn
 - Utilizes same number of train sets and crews as October 2019
- The cost-neutral proposal will go into effect on **Monday, November 2.**



October 7 Severe Thunderstorm (Derecho Event) Service Impacts

Blue Line

- Shuttle train ran between Orient Heights and Airport due to a downed tree between Wood Island that was blocking westbound service. Service resumed at 11:50pm.

Red Line

- A downed tree near Quincy Center blocked southbound service, resulting in a 20-minute delay.

Green Line

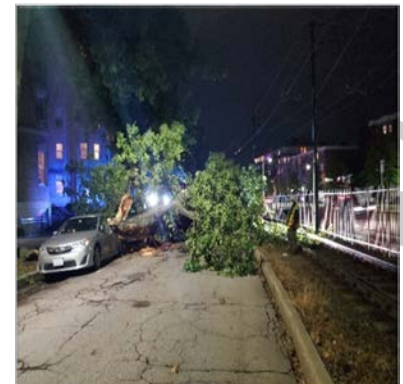
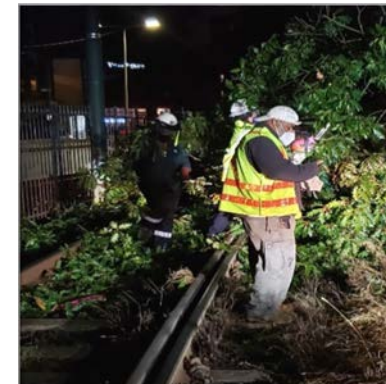
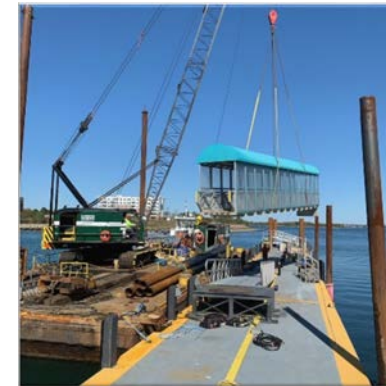
- *Mattapan Line*: Downed trees near Butler required shutdown of the line. A trolley struck a tree at Cedar Grove, resulting in minor injuries to two passengers and the trolley operator and damage to the trolley mirror. 5 buses shuttled passengers while trees were removed and wire damage was repaired. Service resumed the next morning at 6:40am.
- *B branch*: A downed tree near Griggs St. blocked eastbound and westbound service between Washington Street and Babcock. 5 buses shuttled passengers while tree was removed. Service resumed at 8:00pm.
- *C branch*: A downed tree near Washington Square blocked eastbound and westbound service. Service resumed after a 30-minute delay.
- *D branch*: 30 buses shuttled passengers between Riverside and Kenmore due to numerous trees down at Fenway, Brookline Hills, Beaconsfield, and Newton Highlands. Service resumed the next morning.

Commuter Rail

- 40 trees blocked the tracks across the Commuter Rail system, resulting in delays across each line as crews responded and cleared trees. Service resumed on all lines prior to the end of service, and normal service ran as scheduled in the morning.

Ferry

- Due to rough seas and high winds, the Hingham Dock sustained damage to the gangway. Ferry service to Hingham was suspended, and service resumed on October 16.



Under 5 Minutes of Speed Restrictions

- The monthly Speed Restrictions Impact Report has shown a significant decrease since a peak in Feb 2018, **reducing the impact by 42:30 system wide.**
- Capital construction often has short-duration impacts on travel time as a safety precaution, however **2020 continues to see long-standing restrictions removed:**
 - GL Surges Beacon Street and Huntington Avenue
 - BL Surge Maverick to Airport
- Daily track work by the Maintenance of Way Department to address defects is further increasing travel time 5 minutes in October alone:
 - RL Central Pit Ties and Ballast (1:15)
 - OL Back Bay to Tufts Cologne Egg Fasteners (2:17)
 - GL Boylston Rail Replacement (0:09)
 - OL Wellington Switch 4-3B Frog Replacement (1:25)

