

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management) and Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) implementing regulations at Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 9, FEMA hereby provides final notice of its decision to provide Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program funding for an action located in a floodplain. Funding would be provided through Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency to the MBTA for the Blue Line Airport Station Tunnel Portal flood doors project.

The proposed action is located in East Boston, MA. The project would install 13-foot-wide by 17-foot-high flood doors at the Blue Line tunnel portal on both directions of the tracks. Additionally, the project would include upgrades to pump rooms and pumps which would remove backed-up flood water once the doors are closed. Construction would be implemented through weekend closures substituted with shuttle bus services to minimize impacts to riders. Staging and construction access would occur in the existing right-of-way.

The project is within a mapped special flood hazard area (100-year floodplain). The project location has been impacted by flood damage to the Blue Line tunnel operations, causing delays and service shutdowns. The project would protect the tunnel and ensure continuity of operations during future flood events by minimizing damage to the Blue Line from flood waters. A map of the area is available upon request.

The project must be in a floodplain because of the location of the Blue Line subway system. Alternatives considered and dismissed include a deployable flood curtain and extended concrete wall barrier closer to the Airport Station and no action. The grant would be conditioned for compliance with state and local floodplain protection standards, including coordination with local floodplain administrators.

Map requests and comments about this project and potential floodplain impacts should be submitted within 15 days of the date of this publication to:

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