

Better
Bus
Project

Making transit
better together

Bus Network Redesign (BNR) Phase One Launch

MBTA Board of Directors
November 21, 2024



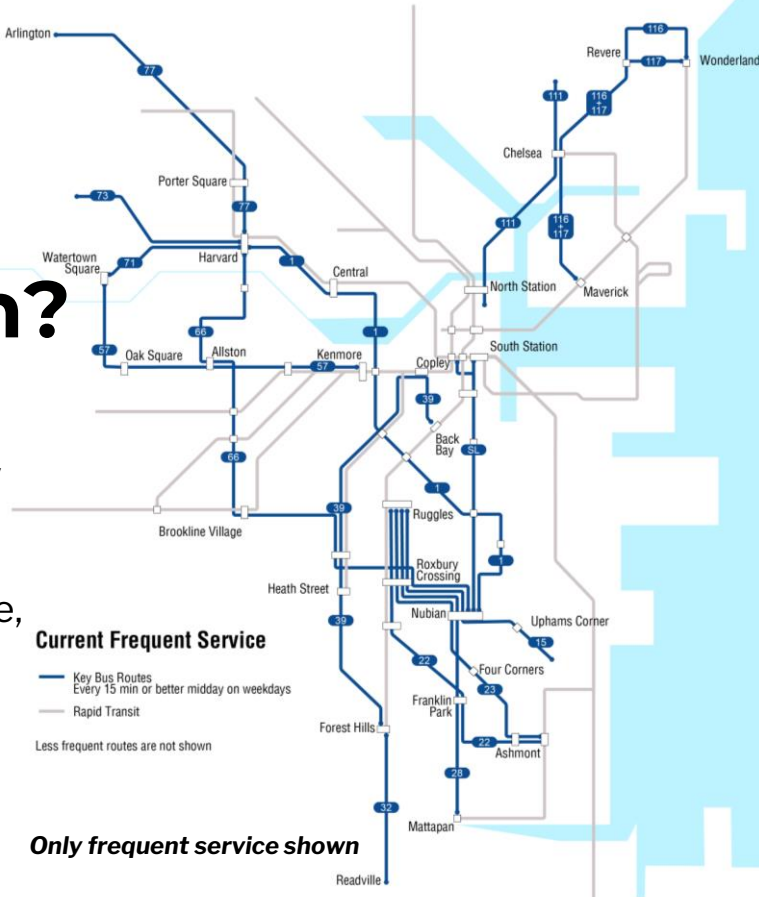
CURRENT HIGH FREQUENCY NETWORK

What Is Bus Network Redesign?

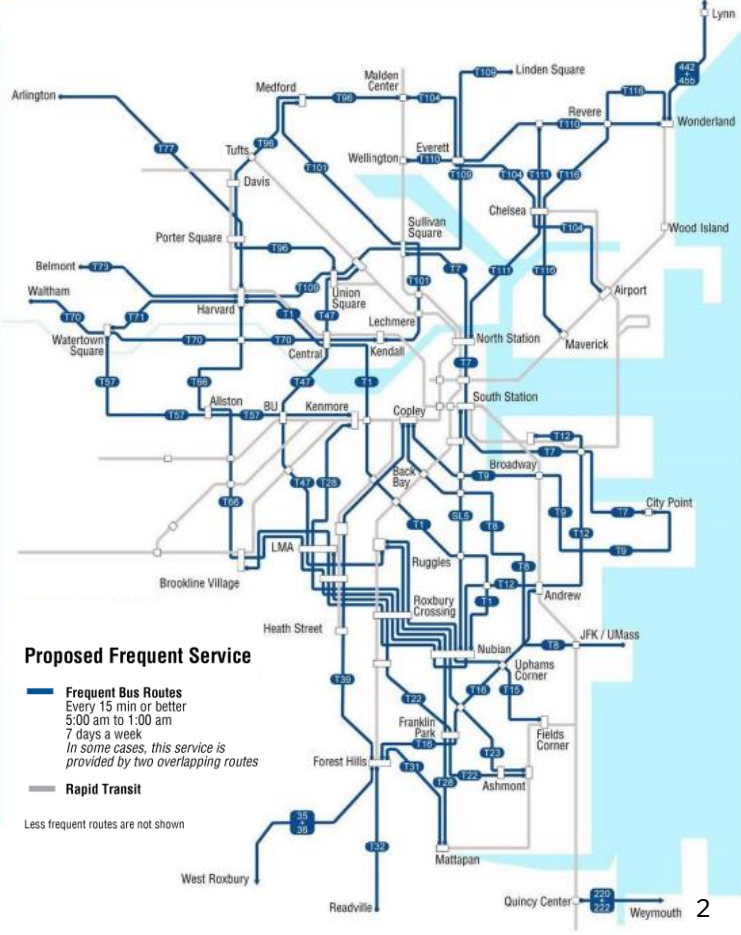
Plan to **restore** and **grow** bus service by 25%

Creates more simple, Frequent Routes

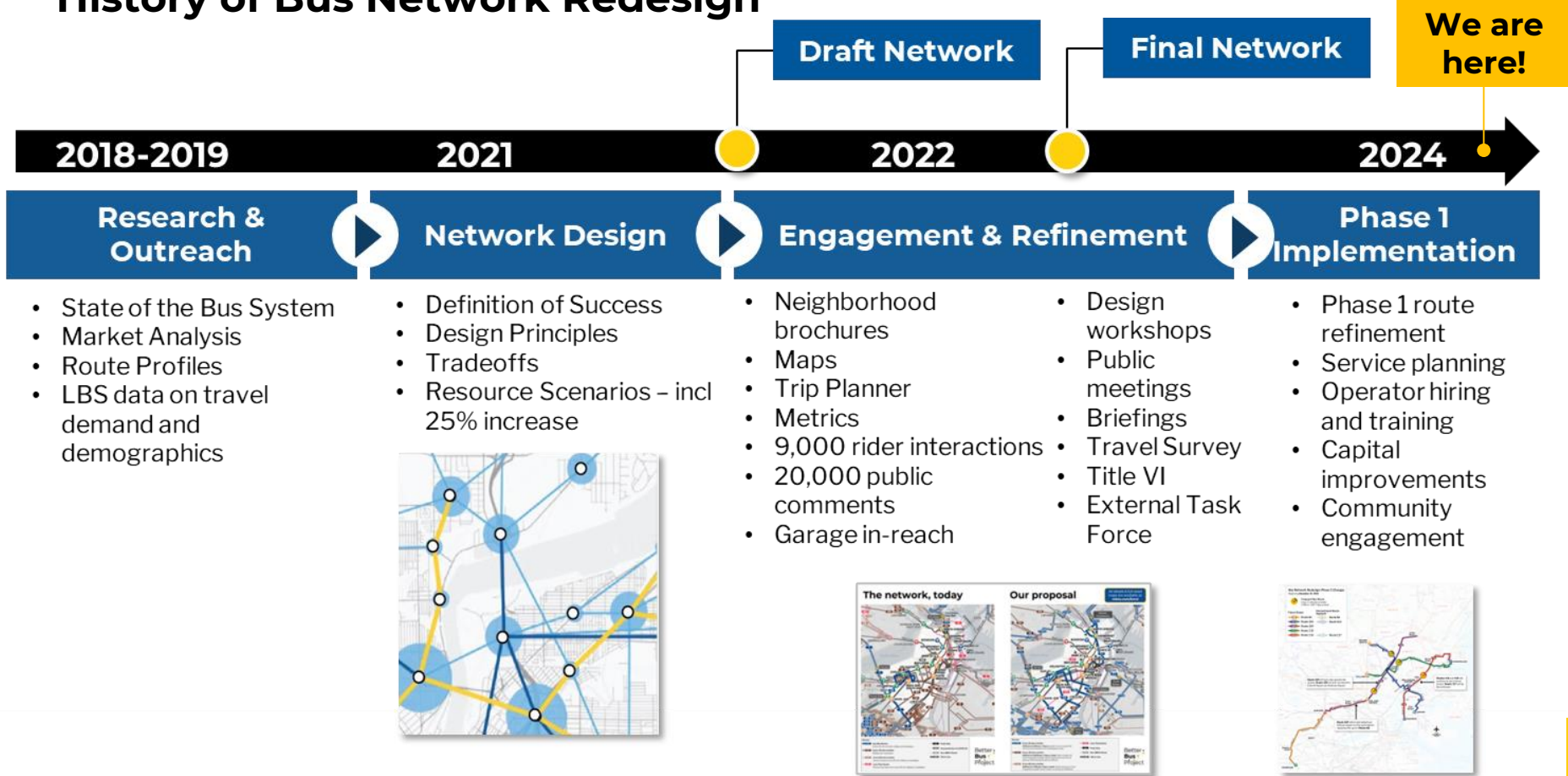
Equity first



NEW HIGH FREQUENCY NETWORK



History of Bus Network Redesign



Bus Operations: Recent Snapshot

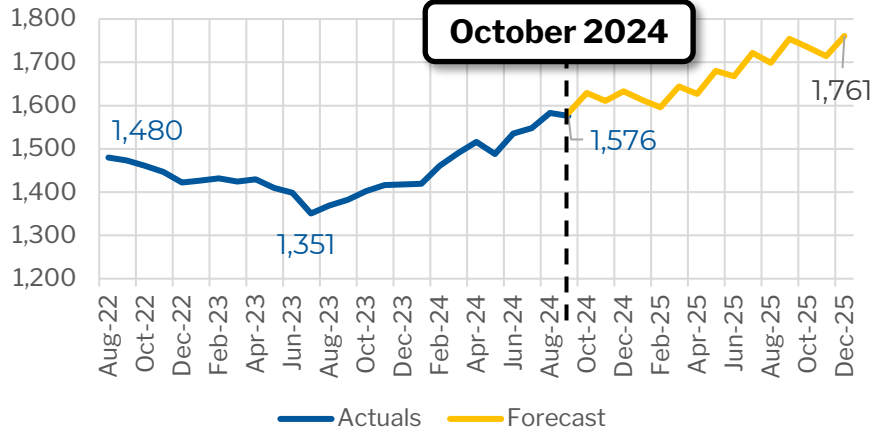
With **rising Operator headcount**, thanks to new CBA and training programs...



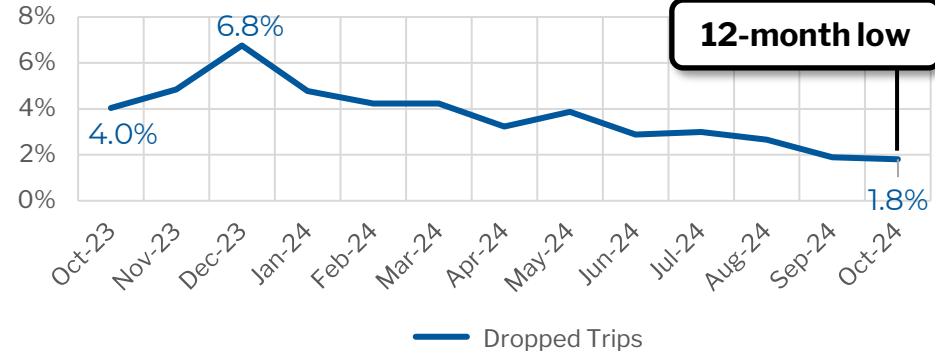
...we are now **operating 99%+** of all* scheduled bus service

*Key and non-key routes

Active MBTA Bus Operators



% Scheduled Trips That Were Dropped (Key Bus Routes only)



...and we can now **restore and grow** our service again with BNR

BNR Phase 1 Begins December 15, 2024

✓ 4 new Frequent routes, all day, every day

✓ 60% increase in service on five routes

✓ 22-26% increase in access to good frequent bus service in Everett, Malden, and Revere

✓ Everett and Malden get frequent bus access to Logan, Harvard, Red and Green line

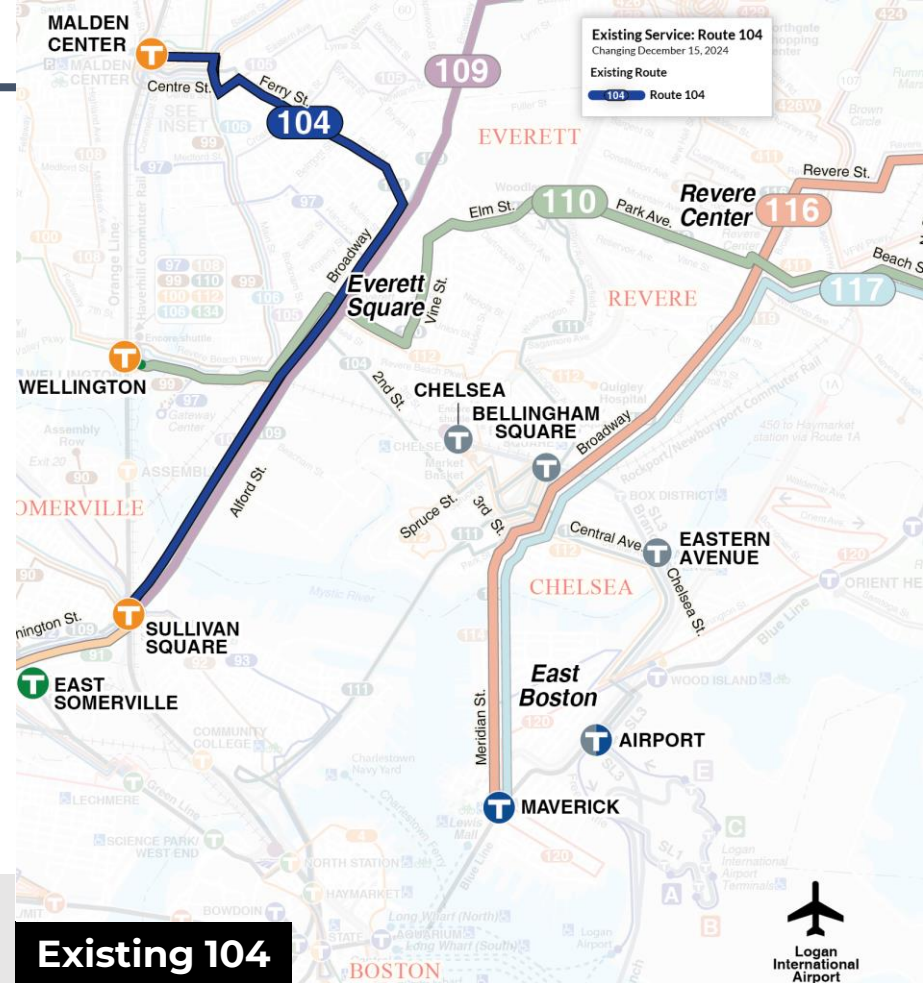
✓ Support from municipal staff, community leaders, elected officials and MassPort

% of Residents that Can Walk to Frequent Bus Service			
Community	Now	After BNR Phase 1	Pct Pt. Change
Cambridge	79%	81%	+2%
Charlestown	33%	40%	+7%
Chelsea	98%	99%	+1%
East Boston	74%	84%	+10%
Everett	67%	90%	+23%
Malden	30%	51%	+21%
Medford	23%	26%	+3%
Revere	45%	73%	+28%
Somerville	78%	85%	+7%

Route 104

Key Changes

- **Routing change and new connections:**
Instead of going to Sullivan, will head east after Everett Square and go to Airport Station via Bellingham Square
- Becoming a **Frequent Bus Route**
(service every 15 min or better all day, every day)



Learn more in our upcoming rider booklets!

Existing 104



Logan International Airport

Route 109

Key Changes

- **Routing change and new connections:** Extended past Sullivan through Union Square to Harvard, creating a new connection from Malden and Everett to the Green Line and Red Line
- Replaces Route 86 between Sullivan and Harvard
- Becoming a **Frequent Bus Route** (service every 15 min or better all day, every day)



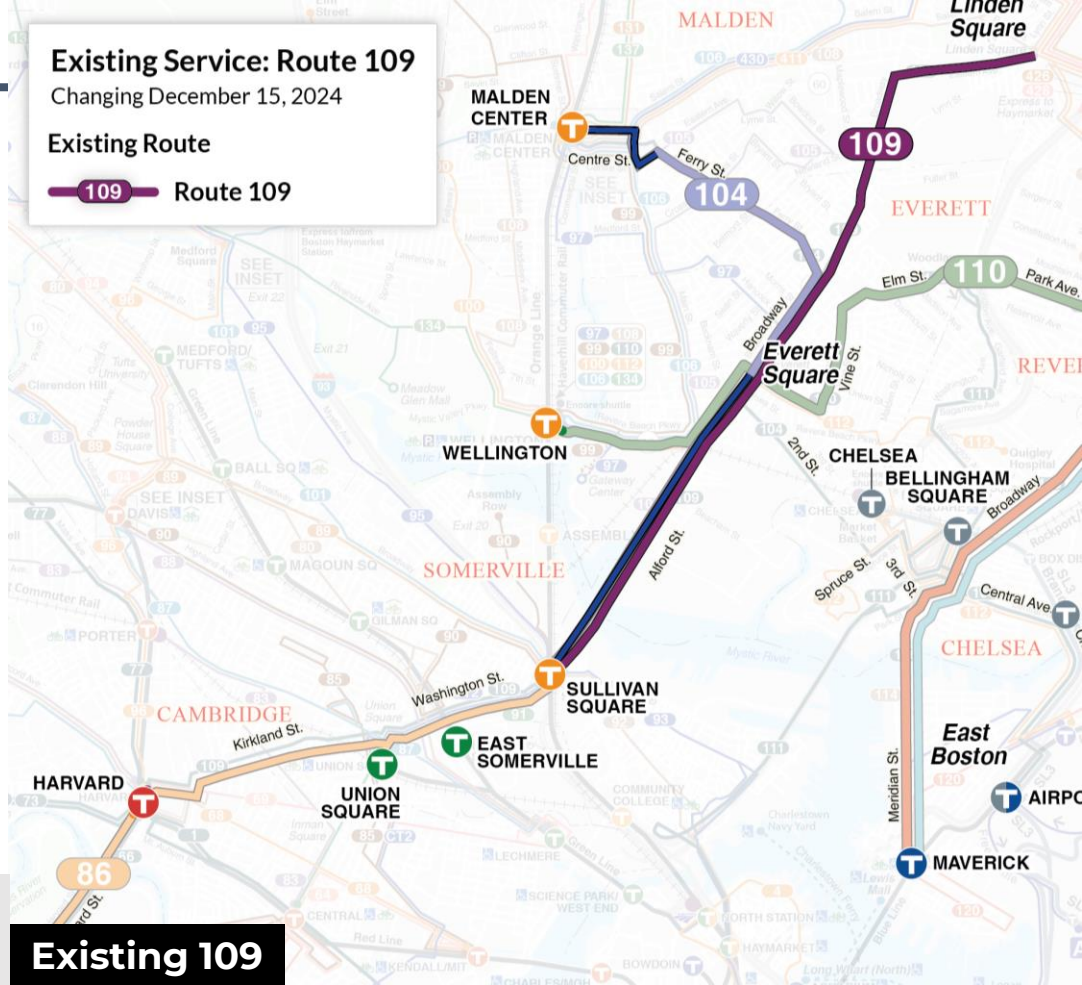
Learn more in our upcoming rider booklets!

Existing Service: Route 109

Changing December 15, 2024

Existing Route

 Route 109



Existing 109

Route 86

Key Changes

- **Routing change:** Shortened to run between Reservoir and Harvard
- The new Frequent Bus Route 109 will replace service between Harvard and Sullivan
- More frequent service during midday, evenings, and weekends
- Longer service hours on Sundays



Learn more in our upcoming rider booklets!

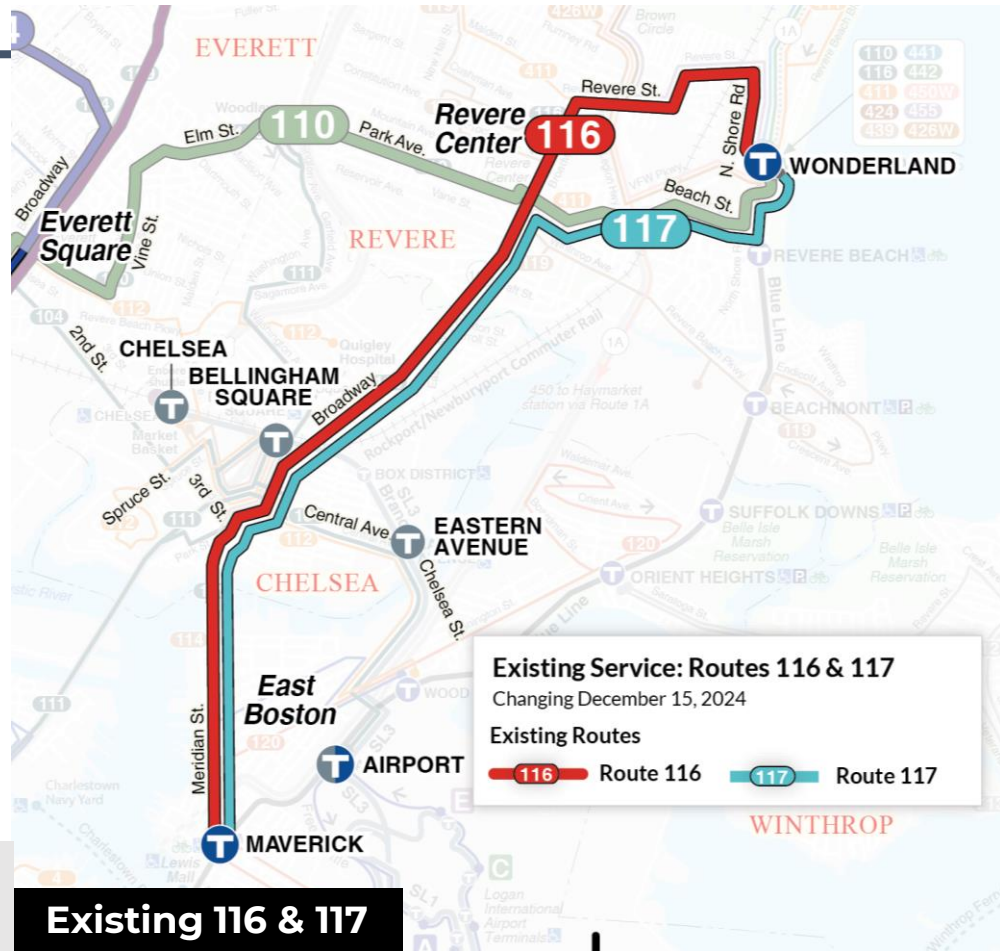


Existing 86

Route 116 & 117

Key Changes

- Combining into single Route 116, which will become a **Frequent Bus Route** (service every 15 min or better all day, every day). Route 116 will continue to operate the existing alignment
- Route 117 will no longer operate
- Riders on Beach Street and Central Avenue can still take Route 110 and transfer to Route 116, both of which provide service every 15 minutes or better



Learn more in our upcoming rider booklets!

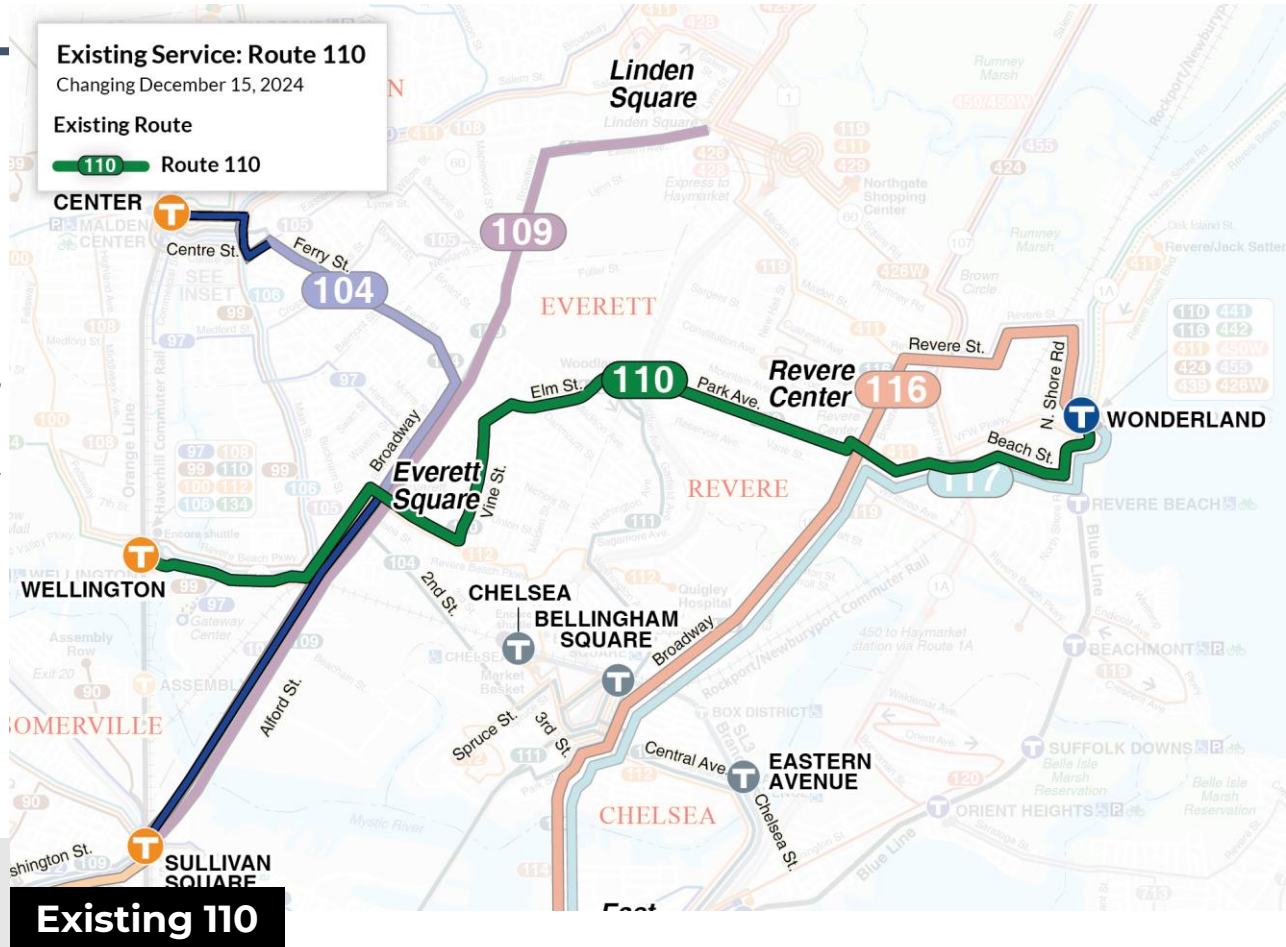
Route 110

Key Changes

- Becoming a **Frequent Bus Route** (service every 15 min or better all day, every day)
- Longer service hours on Sundays
- No routing changes

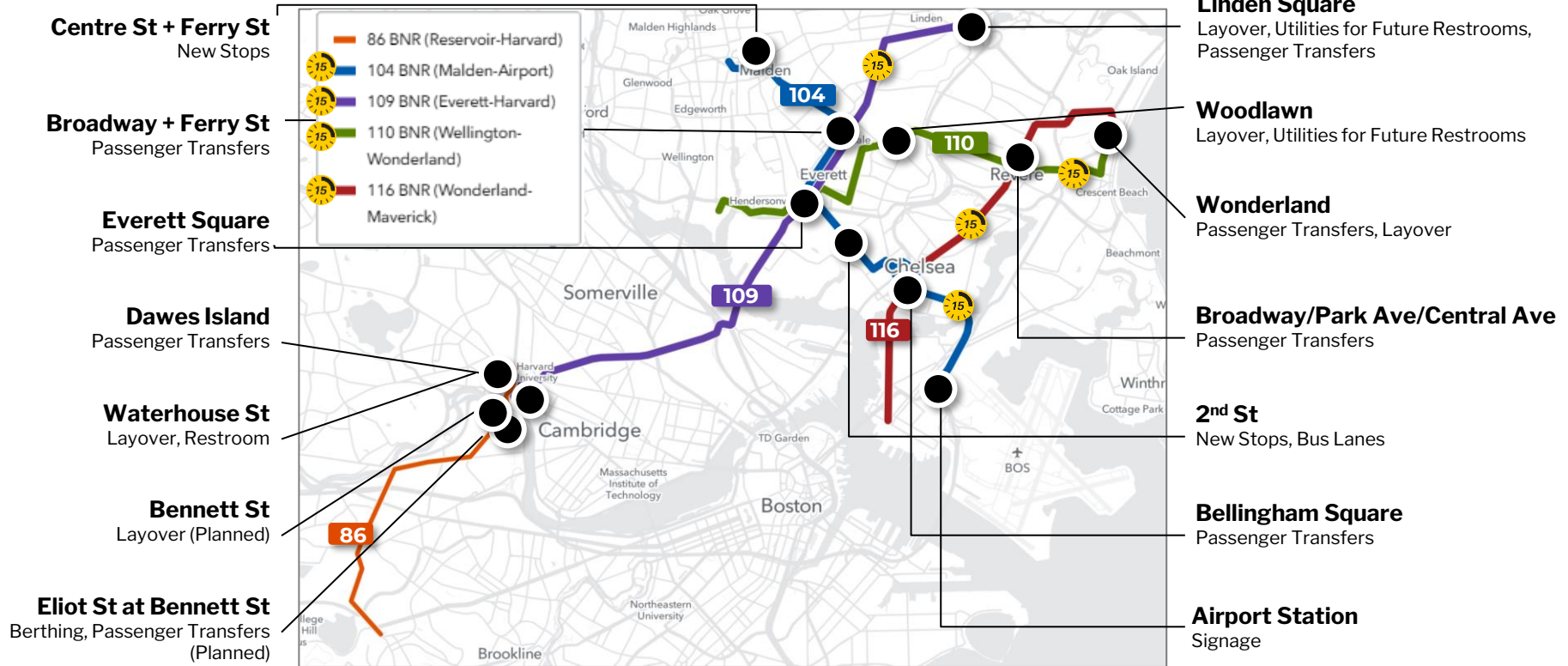


Learn more in our upcoming rider booklets!



Existing 110

Collaborating with Municipalities to Enhance Stops and Stations



Implementation Underway



New stop and layover
for Route 109, Linden
Sq (Malden)



**New stop, shelter,
and bus lane,**
Centre St (Malden)



New bus stop
Second and
Spring St (Everett)



Training Bus for
the Route 104

Transit Priority Underway



**Intersection Changes
and New Bus Stops**
(Broadway, Revere)



**Second Street
Bus Lane**
(Everett, Chelsea)



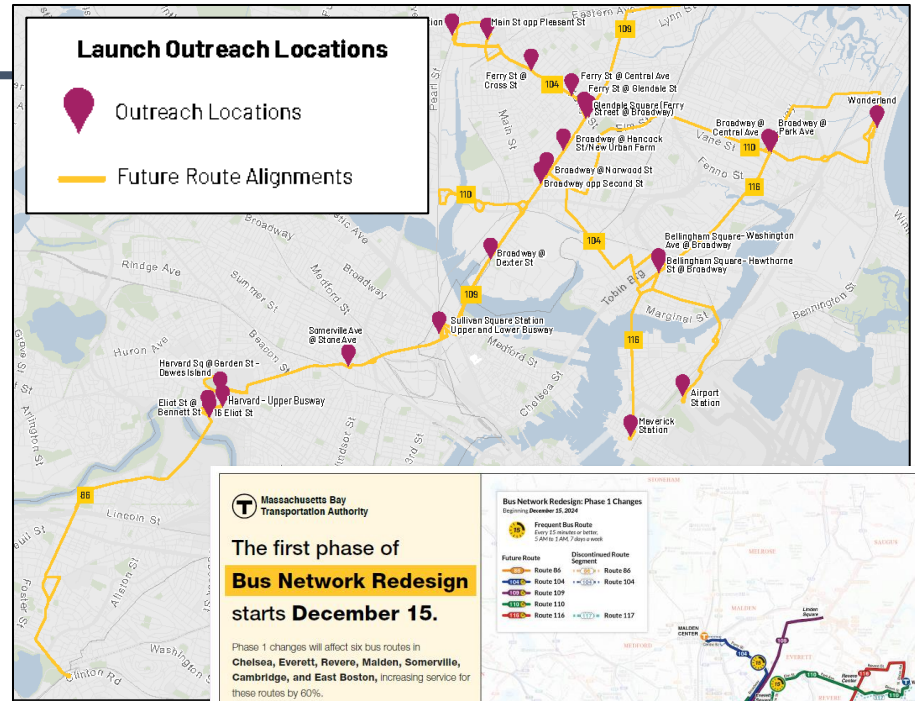
How Are We Telling the Public?

- Toolkit for Community-Based Organizations
- 330+ Bus stop sign updates
- 1,000+ Service Advisories at 300+ bus stops
- On-Street teams at 50+ bus stops
- On-vehicle and in-station announcements
- Prepare Call Center, Transit Navigation Crew, and Block-by-Block with BNR info
- Ads at rail and bus stations
- Advertising (print and digital)
- T-Alerts
- Eblasts to Better Bus Project listserv
- MBTA.com and social media
- Press releases and press briefings
- External Task Force Meeting

Multilingual Flyer
 English | Spanish |
 Chinese | Haitian
 Creole | Arabic |
 Russian

Launch Outreach Locations

- Outreach Locations
- Future Route Alignments



Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority

The first phase of **Bus Network Redesign** starts **December 15**.

Phase 1 changes will affect six bus routes in **Chelsea, Everett, Revere, Malden, Somerville, Cambridge, and East Boston**, increasing service for these routes by 60%.

Future Route	Discontinued Route Segment
Route 86	Route 86
Route 104	Route 104
Route 109	Route 109
Route 110	Route 110
Route 116	Route 116
Route 117	Route 117

Route 86 will be shortened to run between Reservoir and Harvard. Route 109 will replace service between Harvard and Sullivan.

Instead of going to Sullivan, Route 104 will head east after Everett Square and go to Logan Airport via Bellingham Square. It will become a Frequent Bus Route.

Route 109 will extend past Sullivan to Harvard. It will become a Frequent Bus Route.

Route 110 will become a Frequent Bus Route. The routing will not change.

Service will combine into single Route 116, which will be a Frequent Bus Route. Riders on Beach Street and Central Avenue can still take Route 110 and transfer to Route 116.

Route 104 will run east toward the airport. Route 109 will still run between Everett Square and Sullivan Square.

Route 116 and 110 will be combined to create three services. Route 117 will be discontinued.

Route 109 will be extended from Sullivan Square to Harvard Station, replacing this part of Route 86.

Learn more at MBTA.com/BNRPhase1
 Contact us at BetterBusProject@MBTA.com

Changing and Replacing Maps for Phase 1



Rapid Transit Map

- 12 stations ~600 rail vehicles
- 75% complete on all Heavy Rail cars



Bus Connection Maps

- 9 stations impacted by route stations



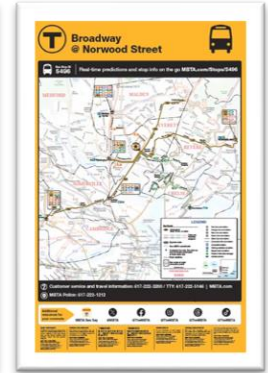
Neighborhood Maps

- 9 stations



Berth Maps

- 9 stations



System Maps in Bus Shelters

- ~70 bus stops with shelters where service is changing

New Bus Stop Signs



← Wider sign(14")

← Double-sided

← Extended bus route pill to connect with frequency symbol

← Larger, easier-to-read text size (2")

← New symbol for Frequent bus routes



New signs being installed and bagged



Bags show **current service** information, will be removed **12/15/2024**



SCHEDULED EVERY 15 MINUTES OR BETTER, 5am-1am

New Signs and Service Advisories

Temporary service advisories on bus stop poles, in multiple languages (Washington St, Somerville)



New signs at bus “berths” at busways (Malden Center)

Community Engagement



Appendix

Future Route

-  Route 86
-  Route 104
-  Route 109
-  Route 110
-  Route 116

Discontinued Route Segment

-  Route 86
-  Route 104
-  Route 117

Route 104 will turn east toward the airport. **Route 109** will still run between Everett Square and Sullivan Square.

Route 109 will be extended from Sullivan Square to Harvard Station, replacing this part of **Route 86**.

Routes 116 and 110 will continue to serve these streets. **Route 117** will be discontinued.

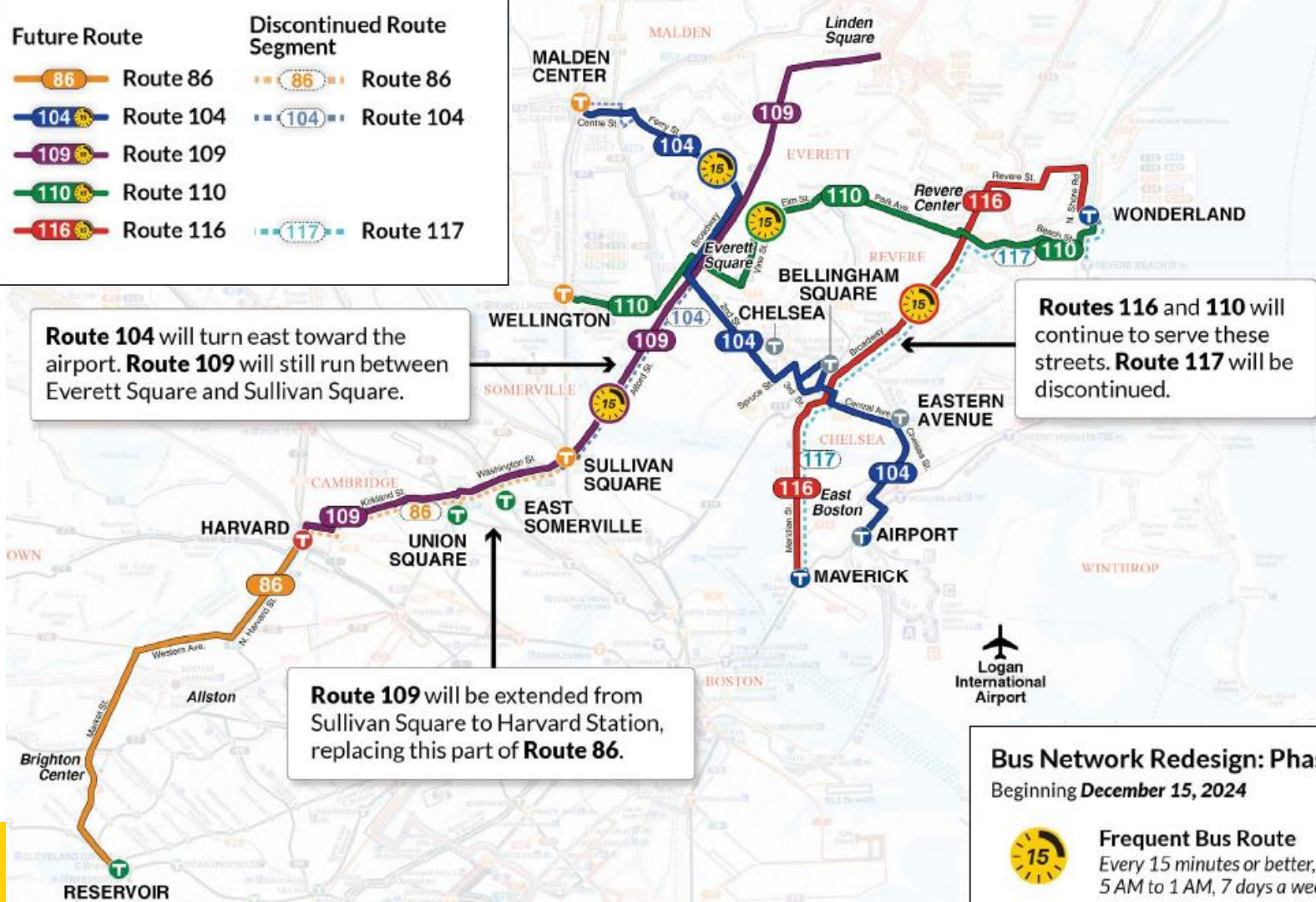


Bus Network Redesign: Phase 1 Changes

Beginning **December 15, 2024**



Frequent Bus Route
Every 15 minutes or better,
5 AM to 1 AM, 7 days a week



Chelsea, Everett, Malden and Revere Support These Changes



CITY OF CHELSEA, MA Executive Department

City Hall, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA 02150
Phone: 617-466-6100 Fax: 617-466-6179



Fidel Maltz
City Manager
fmaltr@chelseama.gov

March 26, 2024

Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority
Board of Directors
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116

RE: Better Bus Network Redesign

Dear Members of the MBTA Board,

On behalf of the City of Chelsea, I am submitting this letter of support for the MBTA's plans to expand and enhance bus service to Chelsea as part of the Better Bus Network Redesign initial phases.



CITY OF REVERE PATRICK M. KEEFFE JR. Mayor

March 27, 2024

VIA EMAIL

MassDOT Board of Directors and/or MBTA Board of Directors
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116

Dear Board of Directors:

The City of Revere is in full support of the MBTA's Phase 1 Improvements for the Better Bus Network Redesign planned for Revere in December of 2024. The city's planning department has been collaborating with the staff in the MBTA's Transit Priority and Bus Transformation Offices regarding improvements to the 110 and 116 bus routes that will offer our residents with all day high frequency service and better transfer.



Gary Christenson, Mayor
Stephen Winslow, City Council President

April 2, 2024

Phillip Eng, MBTA General Manager (peng@mbta.com)
10 Park Plaza, Suite 5610
Boston MA 02116

Re: **Bus Network Redesign – Phase I**

Dear General Manager Eng,

On behalf of the residents and employers of the City of Malden we express the City's whole-hearted support for the MBTA's Bus Network Redesign (BNRD) Phase I. For Malden, Phase I of BNRD will help advance implementation of Malden's Transit Action Plan that we completed as the MBTA undertook the BNRD planning in 2022-2023.



CITY OF EVERETT - OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
484 Broadway Everett, Massachusetts 02149
617-394-2270
mayorcarlo.demaria@ci.everett.ma.us
CARLO DEMARIA
MAYOR

March 27, 2024

Dear Secretary Tibbits-Nutt and Members of the MBTA Board,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the MBTA's proposed bus network redesign in the City of Everett. The city values the partnership it has developed with the MBTA in the past few years and we value the focus and attention that the Bus Network Redesign project has placed on the City of Everett and recognizing the need for improved transit service to our residents, current and future.