



**Massachusetts Bay
Transportation Authority**

GM's Report to the Board

Phil Eng, MBTA General Manager and CEO

February 26, 2026

Choose Transit: Full  Ahead



Continuing to Tackle the Challenges of an Aging Infrastructure



23+ inches, followed by sub-freezing temperatures



17+ - 37 inches, Blizzard of 2026



Streetsblog

MBTA ran service throughout both key snow events



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“Kudos to the MBTA workers out in the blizzard clearing the switches outside Reservoir”



Courtesy Reddit



With Gratitude from Our Riders



All Aboard the (J) Train! Car-Lite by choice!

@thetrainmon

Credit where due: had cheerful bus drivers on the 222 and 109 this morning--I think they were just happy they picked up ANYBODY to make it worth their while! 😄 We fellow "essential employees" appreciate your efforts! @carmensunion589 @mbta. #WinterStorm #Blizzard2026 #Boston

10:57 AM · Feb 23, 2026 · 83 Views



Thomas G

@ThomasGd1ef

@MBTA just wanted to say thank you to whoever drives 0860. Driver was amazing. He drove safely and was pleasant. Route 39 if that helps

8:21 AM · Feb 23, 2026 · 49 Views



vhart5 · 1d ago

I love trains

Thank God for these lovely people! ❤️🙏



18



Reply



Award



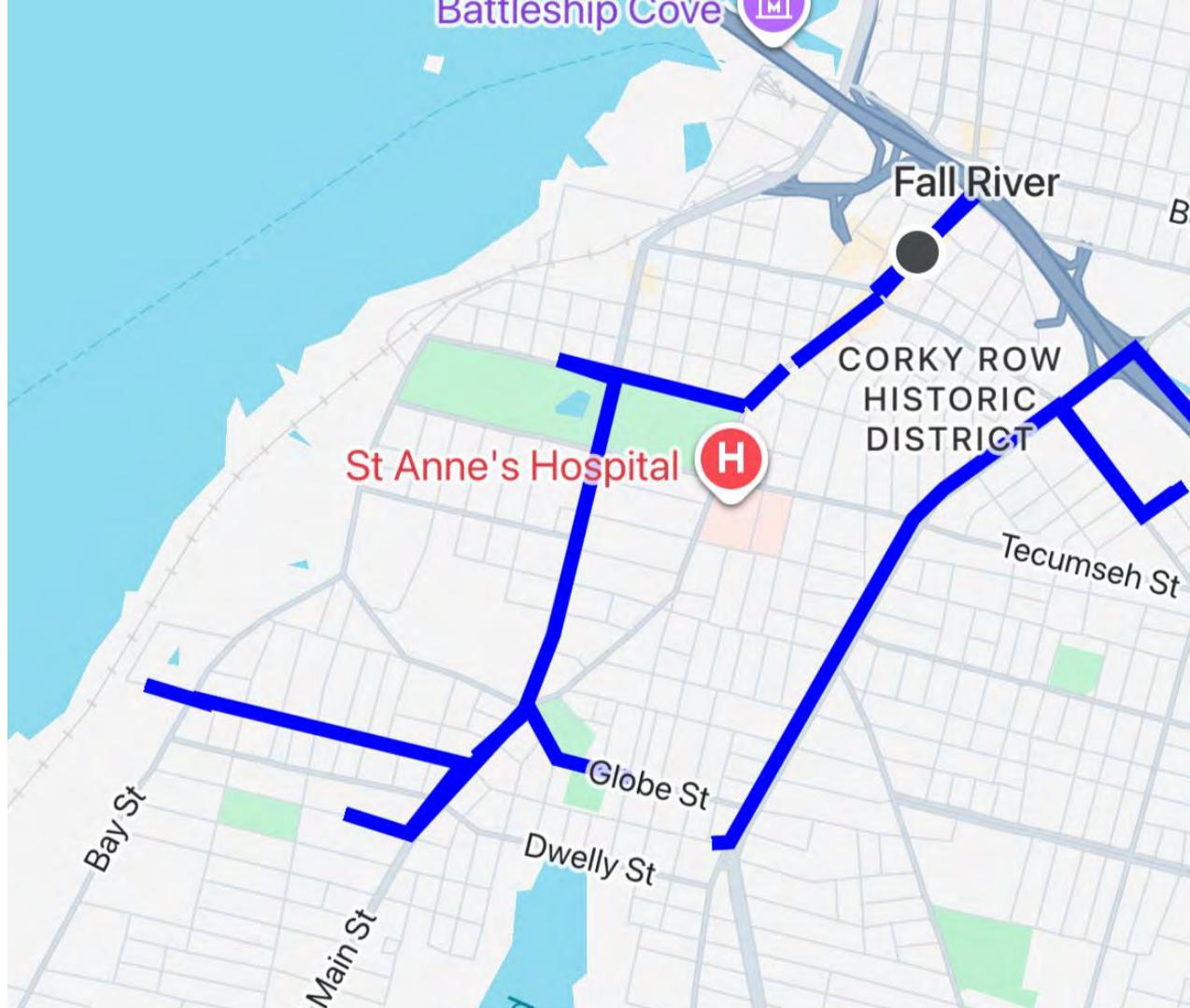
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With Gratitude for MEMA & The National Guard as We Dig Out





The MBTA Also Helped Other Communities Dig Out!

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FY 2027 Budget Filing: \$8 Billion over the course of 10 Years

Historic Investments in Transportation

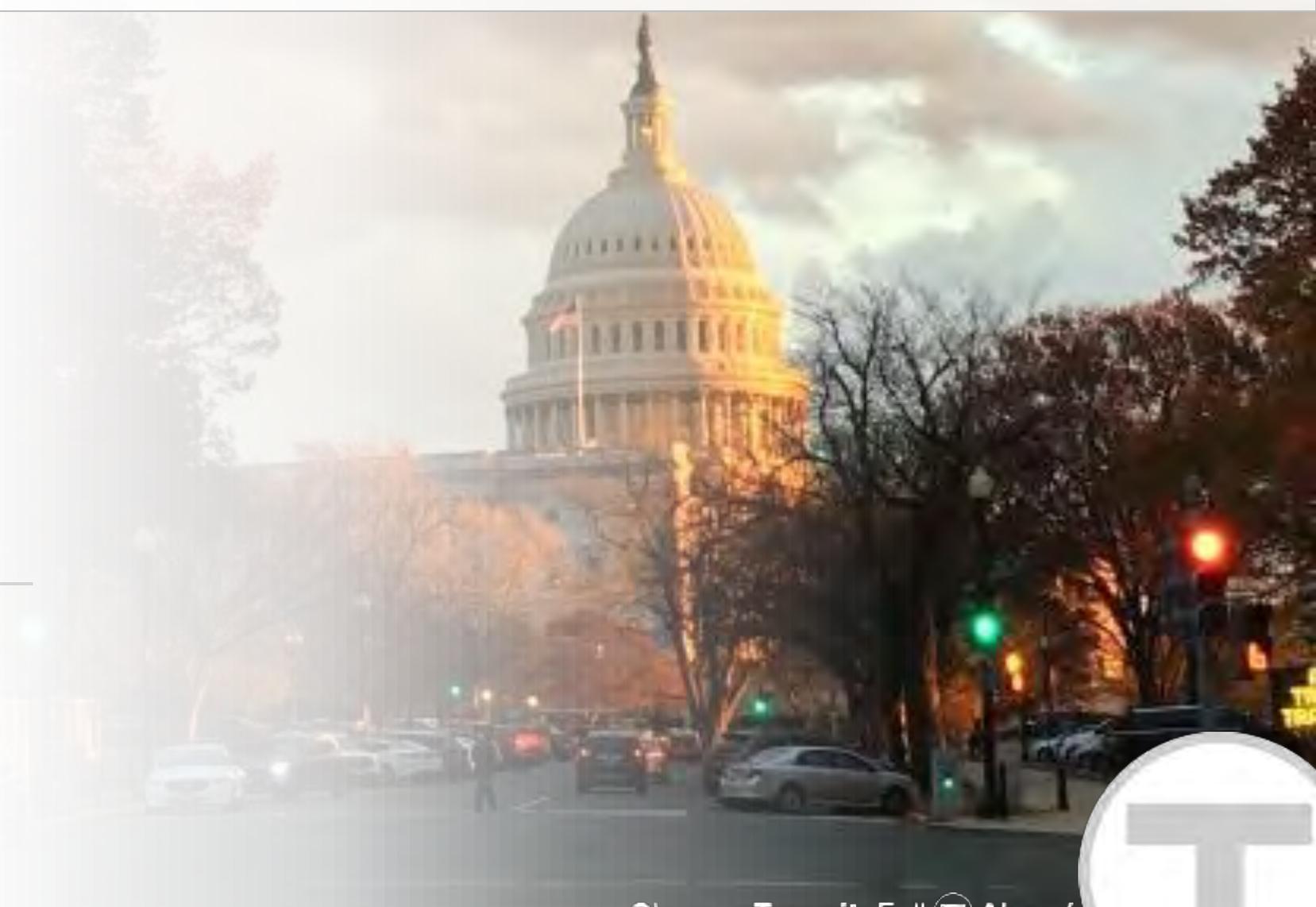
Modernizing MBTA infrastructure and delivering a safer, more reliable service

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Continuing to Pursue Funds & Work with Our Federal Partners

FY26 Transportation-
Housing and Urban
Development
Appropriations Act



Columbia Junction | Improved Reliability & Operational Flexibility



Restoring Operational Flexibility Red Line Columbia Junction Interlocking

Deirdre Habershaw, Deputy Chief Operating Officer



Red Line Derailment, June 11, 2019



- Damaged 200ft of tracks and third rail, 29 signals, 19 track switches.
- Destroyed 3 Signal Bungalows consisting of hundreds of circuits and relays.
- Required 3 months of repairs.
- Caused customer delays across the entire red line system.
- Implemented labor-intensive Manual Block for safe operation of train movements.
- Resulted in 4 switches remaining clamped straight, significantly reducing full functionality of the junction.

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Red Line & Orange Line Signals Project

- New digital infrastructure will fully replace the outdated analog system.
- Significant progress in the last two years has allowed us to advance the timeline.
- Project will cut over to the new system and finally fully restore full functionality.
- To be completed in early June.



Benefits the System and Our Riders

- Improved ability to quickly reroute trains around disabled equipment.
- Faster train turnarounds during planned and unplanned service disruptions.
- Improved control to minimize work zones while maintaining service elsewhere under Roadway Worker Protection (RWP)
- Reduced time waiting for routes to be established.
- Lowered risk of conflicting train movements.
- Faster recovery following incidents.



Expedited Work & Reduced Rider Impact

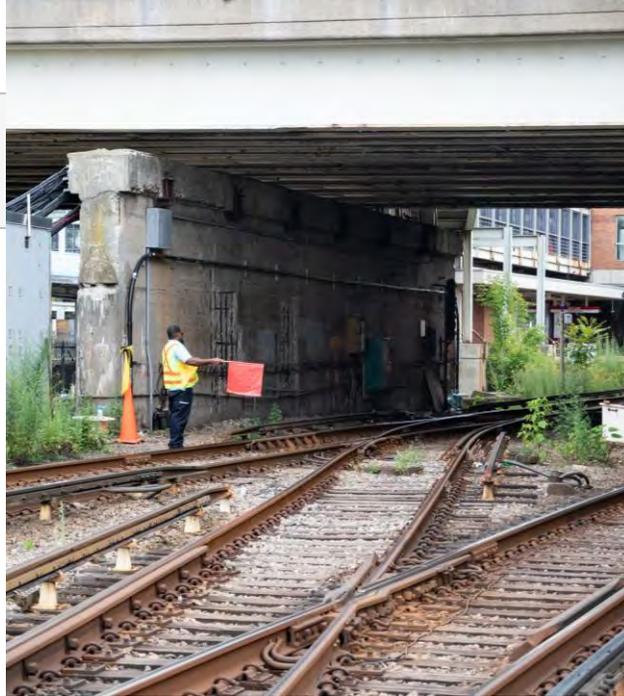
Original Approach

- 45-day Outage from Broadway to Ashmont and North Quincy.
- Requiring over 100 shuttle buses during peak hours.
- Adding to rider travel time of nearly 1 hour.
- More than \$30M in Shuttle Costs alone.

Improved Approach – Manual Block

- 12 weeks of targeted manual block procedures adding approx. 10-15min of additional travel time for customers **after 8pm**
- Three 3-day weekends in May & June
 - Broadway to Quincy Center
 - Broadway to Ashmont
 - Broadway to Ashmont & Quincy Center





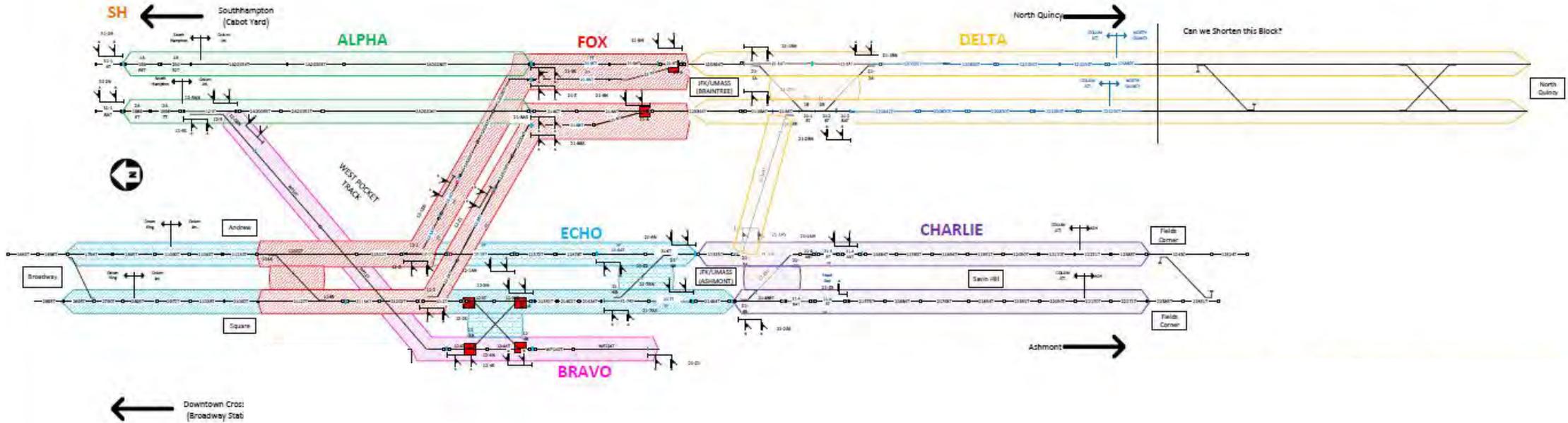
What is a Manual Block?

Method of railroad safety and traffic control where human operators, rather than automated track circuits, manage the movement of trains between designated points (blocks) to ensure only one train occupies a specific segment of track at a time.



Columbia Junction Signals Project

Manual Block Operations Diagram



10-15min
additional
travel time
after 8pm

Section	Customer Impact	Status
ALPHA	None	Complete
BRAVO	None	Complete
DELTA	10mph from Tenean Beach to JFK	Begins 2/28
CHARLIE	10mph from Fields Corner to JFK	Begins approx. 3/15*
ECHO	Braintree Riders switch at JFK, 10mph from JFK to Broadway	Begins approx. 3/29
FOX	Ashmont Riders switch at JFK, 10mph from JFK to Broadway	Begins approx. 4/12*

*Normal Operations will take place on St. Patrick's Day Parade Day and Marathon Monday



Messaging to Customers

- T-Alerts will be posted and display upcoming and real time updates
- Digital signs will be updated with messaging of longer travel times
- In-station signage will direct passengers when changing platforms is necessary
- Onboard announcements will be made by Operators
- Additional in-station personnel will be present at JFK to assist customers
- Dedicated web page: <https://www.mbta.com/projects/columbia-junction-signal-modernization>.



Cross Departmental Coordination

- Heavy Rail Transportation
- Red Line Signals Capital Project Team
- Construction Logistics
- Operations Control Center
- MBTA Safety Division



End. Columbia Junction Topic.



Accelerating Signal Modernization



Improved reliability. Reduced travel times. Greater operational flexibility



The Important Considerations to Improve Symphony Station



... and make it accessible for all riders





Rail Modernization

**Decarbonization plus Improved Frequency,
Reliability & Accessibility**



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Samantha Silverberg

MassDOT Undersecretary of Transportation Policy

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Thank You. Questions?

