State of the Line Report:
Mattapan High Speed Line

Fiscal & Management Control Board

February 27, 2017
Overview

The MBTA will invest $7.9 million to preserve and operate existing PCC cars on the Mattapan High Speed Line in revenue service for the near future.

The Authority will also invest $1.1 million to review operations, track, bridges, vehicles, other infrastructure including peer PCC system benchmarking.

Future vehicle options to be studied:
- Light Rail (PCC, Replica trolleys, LRVs)
- Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)
- Alternative propulsion technologies
Mattapan High Speed Line and PCC Car History

- Mattapan High Speed Line opened in 1929, converting a former steam railroad to a rapid transit line.


- PCCs have operated on the Mattapan High Speed Line since 1955.

Photo credit: City of Boston Archives
Mattapan High Speed Line Summary

- 2.6 mile route with 2 grade-crossings
- 8 stations in Dorchester, Milton, and Mattapan. 12 minute one-way trip
- 4,637 average daily weekday boardings
- 7-day per week service with 5 minute peak headways
- $2.25 CharlieCard fare. Free transfer to Red Line or bus with CharlieCard
- 2 bridges over Neponset River and Gallivan Boulevard

PCC Car Overview

- 10 car fleet, of which 7 are in revenue service

- Daily maintenance at Mattapan car house in Boston

- Many parts are no longer available on the market and are manufactured by MBTA employees at the Everett Shops

Mattapan car house, Boston
PCC Cars – Investment Strategy

Truck replacement project

- $7.9m funded capital project for necessary repairs to sustain revenue service.
- Completion expected in late 2018

Due diligence & future vehicle review

- $1.1m study underway
Planning for Future Service

Due Diligence Study to include:

- Fleet: operations & maintenance
- Bridges and structures
- Peer PCC systems benchmarking

Future vehicles and infrastructure review to consider:

- Rail: light rail vehicles, replica trolleys, continued PCC use
- Bus Rapid Transit using existing and expanded routing
- Alternative vehicle technologies such as all-electric
Due diligence and future needs assessment

Contract awarded to CH2M Hill Ltd.

- Fall 2017: Existing conditions technical review expected.
Public Involvement Strategy

Planned community meetings:

- April 3: Mattapan Public Library
- April 13: Milton High School
- April 24: Lower Mills Public Library

- Elected officials from Boston and Milton have been briefed.

- Presentations and reports to be posted on MBTA.com/MattapanHSL