



**Massachusetts Bay  
Transportation Authority**

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**State of the Line Report:  
Mattapan High Speed Line**

**Fiscal & Management Control Board**

**February 27, 2017**



## Overview

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- ① 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
- ① The Authority will also invest \$1.1 million to review operations, track, bridges, vehicles, other infrastructure including peer PCC system benchmarking
- ① Future vehicle options to be studied:
  - ① Light Rail (PCC, Replica trolleys, LRVs)
  - ① Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)
  - ① Alternative propulsion technologies





## Mattapan High Speed Line and PCC Car History

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- ① Mattapan High Speed Line opened in 1929, converting a former steam railroad to a rapid transit line
- ① 346 wartime Pullman-Standard Presidential Conference Committee cars (PCCs) entered service in 1945–1946
- ① PCCs have operated on the Mattapan High Speed Line since 1955

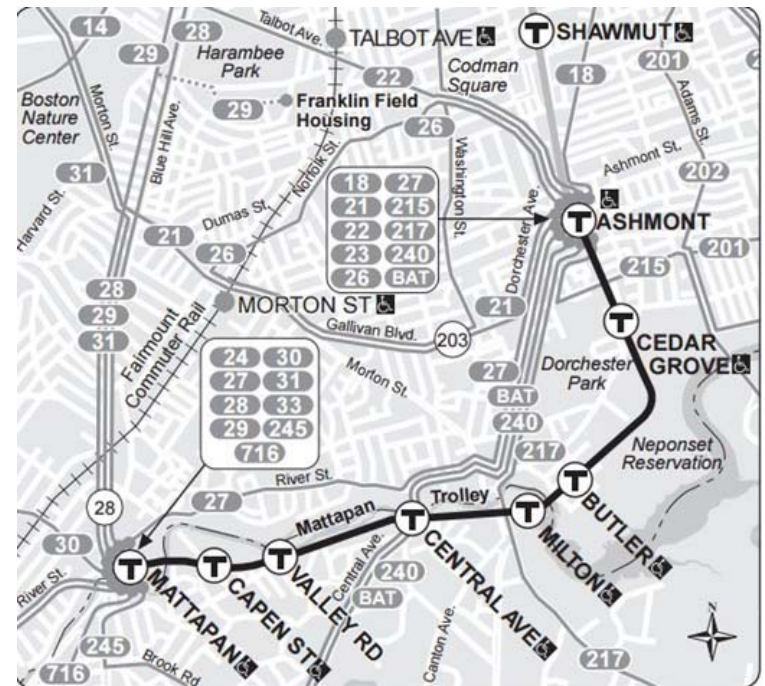


Photo credit: City of Boston Archives



## 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<sup>1</sup>
- Ⓣ 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



1. MBTA Blue Book (2014): average weekday, unlinked.



## PCC Car Overview

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- ① 10 car fleet, of which 7 are in revenue service
- ① Daily maintenance at Mattapan car house in Boston
- ① 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

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### 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

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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

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Contract awarded to CH2M Hill Ltd.

- Ⓣ Dec. 2016: Notice to proceed granted.
- Ⓣ Fall 2017: Existing conditions technical review expected.
- Ⓣ Winter 2017/2018: Options for future vehicles and infrastructure review expected.







## Public Involvement Strategy

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Planned community meetings:

- ① April 3: Mattapan Public Library
- ① April 13: Milton High School
- ① April 24: Lower Mills Public Library
  
- ① Elected officials from Boston and Milton have been briefed.
  
- ① Presentations and reports to be posted on [MBTA.com/MattapanHSL](https://www.mbta.com/MattapanHSL)

