

11/22/10 (7)



Deval L. Patrick, Governor
Timothy P. Murray, Lt. Governor
Jeffrey B. Mullin, MassDOT Secretary & CEO
Richard A. Davey, General Manager
and Rail & Transit Administrator



November 16, 2010

Mr. Steven Ledoux
Town Manager
Town of Acton
472 Main Street
Acton, MA 01720

Re: Fitchburg Commuter Rail Line Improvement Project
South Acton Train Station

Dear Mr. Ledoux,

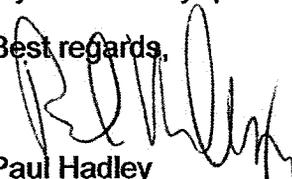
The MBTA Fitchburg Commuter Rail Line project team is committed to continue to work with the Town of Acton to provide effective solutions that address the concerns of community while keeping the project within budget and schedule. Historically the project team has been transparent and forthcoming with the town and has worked to address previous concerns brought to our attention. This is clearly evident by the changes that have occurred from the initial station design.

The MBTA is finalizing the grant application to the Federal Transit Administration to secure the federal portion of the project funding. Without this funding the Fitchburg Commuter Rail Line Improvements Project in its entirety cannot progress to construction. Recent concerns raised by the Acton Historic District Commission (AHDC) to the Massachusetts Historical Commission have had an adverse impact on this time sensitive application process. The MBTA is concerned that this matter could delay or potentially diminish the MBTA's ability to secure the funds necessary to commence with the project.

The project team will take into consideration the issues raised by the AHDC as the design process continues. In the meantime, a reaffirmation from the Town of Acton in support for the proposed design would assist the MBTA in proceeding with the grant application in a timely manner.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me @ phadley@mbta.com.

Best regards,



Paul Hadley
MBTA Project Manager

Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority
Ten Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116
www.mbta.com



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Attached: 6/2/10 Acton support letter

Cc:

Francis DePaola, MBTA
Andrew Brennan, MBTA
Jamie Jackson, MBTA
Holly Palmgren, MBTA
SATSAC
AHDC
Lauren Rosenzweig, Acton
Peter Berry, Acton
Laurie Fucini-Joy, FTA
Phil Brake, HNTB
Senator Jamie Eldridge



TOWN OF ACTON
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Lauren Rosenzweig Morton, Chair
Board of Selectmen

June 2, 2010

FILE COPY

Mr. Paul Hadley,
MBTA Project Manager
500 Arborway
Jamaica Plain, Ma 02130

Dear Mr. Hadley:

Thank you for providing the Town of Acton and the South Acton Train Station Advisory committee with the opportunity to review the revised 15% design plans for the South Acton Station at the meeting on May 28, 2010. The Town of Acton concurs that this new design approach meets the objectives of the Town in providing for a dual, side platform design that improves accessibility for all commuters and enhances the overall aesthetics of our community. The Town of Acton supports the proposed design and overall Fitchburg Commuter Rail Improvement project.

The modifications from the earlier design approach will benefit both the community and the MBTA. With improved multi-modal access to the station and a user-friendly dual platform system we anticipate that the station will attract new ridership, and reduce impacts to the local roadway network by providing easy access to the platforms from both the northerly and southerly sides of the station. Multi-modal accessibility will enable pedestrians, cyclists, and transit/shuttle services to access the station safely.

The Town of Acton appreciates the responsiveness of the MBTA and its design team in listening to our concerns and providing an effective solution. The enhanced transit time and increased safety and reliability of the service will be complemented by development of a new South Acton Station that reflects the needs and values and historic character of the community.

We look forward to working with the MBTA in a collaborative manner as the project advances.

Very truly yours,

Lauren Rosenzweig Morton
Lauren Rosenzweig Morton, Chair
Acton Board of Selectmen

Cc: South Acton Train Station Advisory Committee