

DRAFT

Date:

To:

Paul Hadley, MBTA Director of Commuter Rail Projects – North
William Lally, MBTA Director of Maintenance of Way

Subject:

Dear Mr. Hadley and Mr. Lally,

As the Fitchburg Line Improvement Project nears completion, the Town of Acton would like to thank you and the MBTA for your efforts in addressing the Town's concerns throughout the process. Feedback from commuters and neighbors has been very positive. The new station is a great asset for the Town and the MBTA.

There is one small issue remaining, which we are hoping can be addressed before the project reaches completion. The lighting at the Maple Street entrance is excessively bright, and leaks into houses across the street, which has generated complaints from neighbors. The light is so bright that their houses cast shadows into their back yards, and the residents can navigate the interior of their houses at night without additional lighting.

We understand that the lights were built to specifications, but the tall poles throw the bright light quite a distance. The ideal solution would be to make the light poles at the Maple Street entrance half-height, and the lights half-wattage, which would result in the same amount of light at the ground. This would be similar to the lights on the platform, which are not causing problems for neighbors.

There may be other solutions, which are less expensive, such as adding shielding and removing a couple of fixtures. Any solution, which would prevent the light from leaking across the street would be fine. And, to make sure that it's dark after hours, we request that the entrance lights be shut off between 1:15am and 5:15am.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Peter Berry, chair
Acton Board of Selectman

cc.

Sen. Jaime Eldridge

Rep. Jennifer Benson

Rep. Corey Atkins

Joe Nolan, Public Outreach Coordinator - Fitchburg Line Improvement Project

Steven Ledoux, Acton Town Manager

Acton Board of Selectman

South Acton Train Station Advisory Committee