

MBTA DEPARTMENT OF SYSTEM-WIDE ACCESSIBILITY FIXED ROUTE REPORT – August 25, 2010

ELEVATOR MAINTENANCE PROJECTS UNDERWAY

Projects to replace/upgrade elevator and escalator parts will be ongoing for the next several months at various MBTA Subway stations. During August and September the work is being done at Braintree, Quincy, Quincy Adams, North Quincy, Wollaston, JFK/UMASS, Andrew and Broadway on the Red Line; and Forest Hills, Ruggles, Stoneybrook, Malden, and Oak Grove stations on the Orange Line.

The projects include the replacement of parts, where appropriate, such as escalator step chains, steps, and handrails; and elevator cab floors, car and hoistway doors, door sills, emergency lights, and alarm bells. The elevator/escalator outages, and details on the corresponding shuttle bus service, are listed at www.MBTA.com, and publicized via station signage and announcements.

FAIRMOUNT LINE EXPANSION CONTINUES

As part of the ongoing expansion of the MBTA's Fairmount Commuter Rail Line the state issued a request for proposals last week for Newmarket Station to be built at the South Bay Shopping Center in Roxbury. The \$12 million project is one of four new stops on the line that connects Hyde Park, Dorchester, Mattapan and Roxbury to downtown Boston. In July a groundbreaking was held for the \$17.7 million Four Corners/ Geneva station project, and earlier this month a contract was awarded for construction of the \$15.9 million Talbot Avenue station. Negotiations are ongoing on a fourth new station proposed for Blue Hill Avenue.

MBTA RECEIVES MCB CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

On August 11, the MBTA joined other area agencies and businesses at an event sponsored by the MA Commission for the Blind (MCB): "A Celebration of Success for Interns & Employers." The event honored both employers and interns who participated in MCB's 2010 Internship Program. System-Wide Accessibility's Back Bay Reduced Fare CharlieCard Program office hosted one MCB intern this summer, who assisted with many aspects of the production of CharlieCards for seniors and persons with disabilities.

SWA-BACK BAY CHARLIECARD OUTREACH PROGRAM

Staff from the Department of System-Wide Accessibility at Back Bay are visiting area Senior Centers and other facilities an average of twice per month to issue Senior, Transportation Access Pass (TAP) and Blind Access CharlieCards to eligible MBTA customers. Outreach events are scheduled for Cambridge/August 26; Weymouth/ September 17; Malden/ September 24; and Everett/September 29. More information about the events is available at www.mbta.com, or by calling the MBTA Customer Support Services Center at 617-222-3200 voice; 617-222-5146 TTY.

MBTA BUS OPERATIONS RECERTIFICATION TRAINING

Bus Operations continues to hold monthly recertification training classes at the Charlestown Bus Garage for Operators and other Bus personnel. The training classes include modules and videos illustrating the MBTA's policies on assisting customers with disabilities, service animals, use of ramps and lifts, and other accessibility-related topics. The next class will be on Wednesday, September 15, 2010. Please contact Laura Brelsford in the MBTA's System-Wide Accessibility Department at 617-222-1688 voice; 617-222-5045 TTY; lbrelsford@mbta.com, if you are interested in attending this or future classes.