



# Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority

Deval L. Patrick  
Governor

Timothy P. Murray  
Lt. Governor

Bernard Cohen  
Secretary and MBTA Chairman

Daniel A. Grabauskas  
General Manager

August 13, 2008

Mr. Robert W. Healy  
City Manager  
City Hall  
795 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mr. Healy:

Thank you for your recent inquiry on behalf of the Cambridge City Council regarding the status of MBTA Lechmere station plans.

As you know, the NorthPoint proposed development has long presented an opportunity for construction of a modern, fully accessible station at Lechmere that could serve both the existing East Cambridge community and the new development envisioned for the east side of the O'Brien Highway.

Despite the best efforts of the City, the MBTA and state agencies, progress at NorthPoint has been stalled by the ongoing dispute between the NorthPoint development partners. We have long hoped that there could be timely resolution of this dispute and that the terms of station development agreement could be fulfilled. As time has elapsed, the opportunity for leveraging developer participation in Lechmere construction appears diminished.

As you are also aware, the Executive Office of Transportation and Public Works is spearheading the planning effort to advance the Commonwealth's commitment to extend the Green Line to Medford and Somerville and is acting under state required implementation deadlines that must be met.

It is our understanding that EOTPW is acting on contingency plans to include Lechmere Station relocation within plans and federal funding requests for the Green Line extension project. Discussion with EOTPW should be the most helpful to you in anticipating the projects needs.

Obviously planning for future land uses in the Lechmere/NorthPoint area will be impacted by decisions taken in conjunction with the Green Line Extension. This planning will require coordination among the City, EOTPW and the MBTA. We look forward to working with you and Cambridge officials on this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Daniel A. Grabauskas  
General Manager

**Driven by Customer Service**

Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, Ten Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116-3974

RECEIVED  
2008 AUG 13 AM 11:06  
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER