

Construction Updates for October 7

Tree Clearing and Other Work on Fall River Secondary Main Line

This week and next, the contractor continues with tree clearing, erosion control, and survey work occurring along the Fall River Secondary Line right-of-way. Tree clearing is anticipated to begin next week at the Fall River Depot site.

To ensure safe and unobstructed service, the MBTA needs a cleared right-of-way. Because the Phase 1 tracks have seen very limited use, overgrowth has occurred. Tree cutting along the railroad corridor will be necessary for construction. To maintain the safety and efficiency of the railway, trees and heavy brush obstructing the right-of-way will not be replaced.

• Location of work:

- Weaver's Cove Layover Facility location in Fall River.
- Freetown Station site at 161 South Main Street, Assonet
- Fall River Secondary Line between Adams Lane in Berkley and Beechwood Road in Assonet
- Fall River Depot site, 825 Davol Street, Fall River
- Dates/hours of work:
 - Current week: Monday, Oct. 5 through Friday, Oct. 9, 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM.
 - Next week: Tuesday, Oct. 13 through Friday, Oct. 16, 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM (no work Monday, Oct. 12 due to holiday).

Ongoing MBTA work may be disruptive to local residents, but no significant impacts to local traffic, businesses or properties are anticipated. Crews will be using various pieces of heavy equipment and trucks along the railroad right-of-way. While the project will seek to minimize construction-related impacts to communities, low to moderate noise levels and vibrations will be generated.

Building Demolitions

Demolition of 61 Pearce Street in Fall River is anticipated to be completed this week.

• Location of work:

- o 61 Pearce St., Fall River
- Dates/hours of work:
 - o Current week: Monday, Oct. 5 through Friday, Oct. 9, 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Bridge Replacements and Associated Track Work

Punch list work and final inspections will continue for the bridge replacements and related track work at the North and South Cotley railroad bridges in Berkley, the Cedar Swamp railroad bridge in Lakeville, and the Fall Brook railroad bridge in Freetown between 7:00 AM and 3:00 PM on weekdays.

Culverts

Punch list work and final inspections will continue intermittently for the 46 culvert replacements and related track work, wetland reconstruction, and Tarkiln Hill Road grade crossing improvements along the South Coast Rail Phase 1 Corridor on the New Bedford Main Line, Fall River Secondary, and Middleborough Secondary in the communities of Berkley, Fall River, Freetown, Lakeville, Middleborough, New Bedford, Raynham, and Taunton between 7:00 AM and 4:00 PM on weekdays. The remaining work is not expected to be disruptive to local residents or to impact access to local businesses or properties.

Please note that although the South Coast Rail Early Action work at the Tarkiln Hill Road Grade Crossing is largely complete, the City of New Bedford is also carrying out work in the Tarkiln Hill Road location for MassDOT Project #606709 (King's Highway Reconstruction). For more details and contact information for this project, please see the <u>Roadwork Schedule page</u> on the City of New Bedford's website.

Please be advised that effective March 25, 2020, MassDOT, MBTA, and their consultants and contractors must maintain full compliance with the Commonwealth's <u>COVID-19 Guidelines and Procedures for All Construction Sites</u> and <u>Workers at All Public Works Sites</u> until further notice.

If you would like to report a noise issue on the South Coast Rail project, please call the hotline at (774) 762-7000. The noise hotline is for the reporting of construction-related noise issues. It will be answered Monday-Friday, between the hours of 7:00 AM and 3:30 PM (except holidays). All voicemails left outside of these hours will be received the following 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM weekday shift. We will respond to all noise complaints.

For more information:

- Visit the project websites, <u>www.mbta.com/projects/south-coast-rail</u> and <u>www.mass.gov/southcoastrail</u>
- If you have questions, please email the project team: <u>SouthCoastRail@dot.state.ma.us</u>
- Encourage family and neighbors to sign up for informational emails on the website
- Follow <u>@MBTA</u>, <u>@MassDOT</u> and the <u>#SouthCoastRail</u> hashtag on Twitter

If you own or manage a rental property, please share construction information with your tenants. We can also provide this information in alternate languages.

The schedule for this infrastructure project is weather dependent and subject to change without notice.

The South Coast Rail team appreciates the patience and understanding of residential abutters and others affected by construction as the team continues to make strides in delivering Commuter Rail service to the region on schedule. The MBTA also thanks its city partners, municipal leaders, and stakeholder groups for their continued collaboration and support of the project.

Thank you for your continued interest in South Coast Rail,

Jean Fox, Director of Community Engagement Kim Dobosz, Director of Construction