

MBTA Rider Oversight Committee

May 28, 2026

Boston Region MPO Board
10 Park Plaza, Suite 2150
Boston, MA 02116

Re: Draft Federal Fiscal Year 2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Dear Members of the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Board, The MBTA Rider Oversight Committee (ROC) is pleased to offer our very brief comments on the Draft Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for FFY 2027.

As always, we support the discrete studies you have selected. Whereas we continue to wish for more money to fund more studies, whether you do one study or several studies, based on your long history of great research, we are confident that the resulting data and conclusions will be of the highest quality. We have been and we expect that we will continue to be impressed by intellectual rigor of your research which provide a solid foundation for the conclusions you draw.

Again, instead of discussing our thoughts regarding various programs and specific discrete studies, this time we express our continued and strong support for the reorientation of the Transit Working Group from a forum-based group to a project-based group. Indeed, becoming a project-oriented group doesn't preclude having forums from time to time. We recognize that \$6,120 is a small amount of funding, so we have calibrated our expectations accordingly. Nonetheless we offer strong encouragement to pursue which ever projects are in your means and to even try to stretch beyond what you think is possible. We are very much willing to work with you in any way we can to foster better transit not only on the MBTA system but across the region.

Sincerely,
The MBTA Rider Oversight Committee
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