

MEPA Analyst: *Bill GA96*

Phone: 617-626-*1025*

NPC

Notice of Project Change

The information requested on this form must be completed to begin MEPA Review of a NPC in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act and its implementing regulations (see 301 CMR 11.10(1)).

Project Name: MBTA Silver Line Phase III		EOEA #: 6826/11707
Street: Essex, Boylston, Charles, and Tremont Streets		
Municipality: Boston	Watershed: Boston Harbor	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 4690960N, 329961E	Latitude: 42°21.15' N Longitude: 71°3.88' W	
Status of project construction: <input type="checkbox"/> %complete for Silver Line Phase III		
Proponent: Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA)		
Street: Ten Park Plaza		
Municipality: Boston	State: MA	Zip Code: 02116
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this NPC May Be Obtained: Mr. Andrew D. Brennan, Director of Environmental Affairs		
Firm/Agency: MBTA	Street: Ten Park Plaza, Room 6720	
Municipality: Boston	State: MA	Zip Code: 02116
Phone: 617 222-3126	Fax: 617 222-1557	E-mail: abrennan@mbta.com

The project change involves modification of the Silver Line Phase III alignment in response to comments on the May 2005 SDEIS/DEIR. The Core Tunnel Segment (CTS) alignment along Essex and Boylston Streets as identified in the SDEIS/EIR remains the same. A new alignment (identified as the Charles Street Modified alignment) extending in a tunnel from the CTS turn-around loop along Charles Street to a portal within a revised Tremont Street layout between Jefferson and Church Streets has been proposed. Bus-only contraflow lanes would be constructed on Marginal Road and Herald Street to provide access to Washington Street and the connection to Silver Line Phase I service. Alternate entry/egress locations for the Silver Line Boylston Station are also proposed. See Attachment 1 for a more detailed project change description.

Date of ENF filing or publication in the Environmental Monitor: 11/87 (#6826) and 7/15/98
Washington Street /Silver Line Transit Service (#6823/11707)

Was an EIR required? Yes No; if yes,

was a Draft EIR filed? Yes (Date: DEIR - 1989) No
SDEIR - 1992, SDEIR/DEIS - May 2005

was a Final EIR filed? Yes (Date: 12/15/93) No

was a Single EIR filed? Yes (Date:) No

Have other NPCs been filed? Yes (Date(s):) No

NPC for Transitway Initial Vehicle Technology and Connector Road - 2/98

NPC for the Washington Street/Silver Line Transit Service and Roadway Improvements - 5/99

NPC for the Silver Line Maintenance Facility on Southampton Street - 4/01

If this is a NPC solely for lapse of time (see 301 CMR 11.10(2)) proceed directly to “ATTACHMENTS & SIGNATURES” on page 4.

PERMITS / FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE / LAND TRANSFER

List or describe all new or modified state permits, financial assistance, or land transfers not previously reviewed:

Are you requesting a finding that this project change is insignificant? (see 301 CMR 11.10(6))
 Yes No; if yes, attach justification.

Are you requesting that a Scope in a previously issued Certificate be rescinded?
 Yes No; if yes, attach the Certificate

Are you requesting a change to a Scope in a previously issued Certificate? Yes No; if yes, attach Certificate and describe the change you are requesting:

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Previously reviewed (1)	Net Change (2)	Currently Proposed
LAND			
Total site acreage	Project is almost entirely underground, surface impacts to be discussed in the SFEIR.		
Acres of land altered	Project is almost entirely underground, impacts from surface structures to be discussed in the SFEIR		
Acres of impervious area	Project is in an urban area with little impervious cover. Any changes to be documented in the SFEIR.		
Square feet of bordering vegetated wetlands alteration	0	0	0
Square feet of other wetland alteration	0	0	0
Acres of non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways	0	0	0
STRUCTURES			
Gross square footage	n/a	n/a	n/a
Number of housing units	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maximum height (in feet)	n/a	n/a	n/a
TRANSPORTATION			
Vehicle trips per day	Project overall will reduce vehicle trips by encouraging transit use. Reduction in vehicle trips to be represented in the SFEIR.		
Parking spaces	0	0	0
WATER/WASTEWATER			
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	0	0	0

1. Information refers to Silver Line Phase III only (South Station to Washington Street)
 2. Net change varies with alternatives and will be discussed in the SFEIR.

GPD water withdrawal	0	0	0
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	0	0	0
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	0	0	0

Does the project change involve any new or modified:

1. conversion of public parkland or other Article 97 public natural resources to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97? Yes No
2. release of any conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction, or watershed preservation restriction? Yes No
3. impacts on Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools, Priority Sites of Rare Species, or Exemplary Natural Communities? Yes No
4. impact on any structure, site or district listed in the State Register of Historic Place or the inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth?
Yes No; if yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources? Yes No
5. impact upon an Area of Critical Environmental Concern? Yes No

If you answered 'Yes' to any of these 5 questions, explain below:

#4 – The Charles Street Modified alignment corridor is located in proximity to a number of historic and archeological resources, which will be discussed in detail in the SFEIS/FEIR. The MBTA will seek to amend the existing 1993 Process Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the core tunnel segment and the selected portal alignment.

PROJECT CHANGE DESCRIPTION (attach additional pages as necessary). The project change description should include:

- (a) a brief description of the project as most recently reviewed
- (b) a description of material changes to the project as previously reviewed,
- (c) the significance of the proposed changes, with specific reference to the factors listed 301 CMR 11.10(6), and
- (d) measures that the project is taking to avoid damage to the environment or to minimize and mitigate unavoidable environmental impacts. If the change will involve modification of any previously issued Section 61 Finding, include a proposed modification of the Section 61 Finding (or it will be required in a Supplemental EIR).

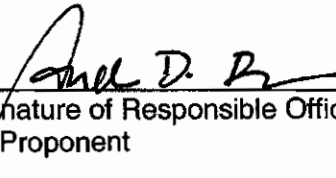
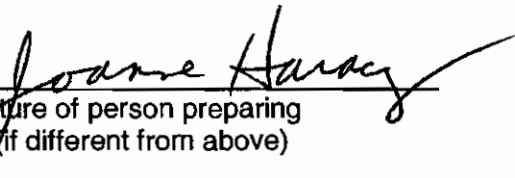
See Attachment 1 for the Project Change Description.

ATTACHMENTS & SIGNATURES

Attachments:

1. Secretary's most recent Certificate on this project
2. Plan showing most recent previously-reviewed proposed build condition
3. Plan showing currently proposed build condition
4. Original U.S.G.S. map or good quality color copy (8-1/2 x 11 inches or larger) indicating the project location and boundaries
5. List of all agencies and persons to whom the proponent circulated the NPC, in accordance with 301 CMR 11.10(7)

Signatures:

10/2/06		10/2/06	
Date	Signature of Responsible Officer or Proponent	Date	Signature of person preparing NPC (if different from above)

Andrew D. Brennan	Joanne Haracz, AICP
Name (print or type)	Name (print or type)

Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority	URS/DMJM+HARRIS JV
Firm/Agency	Firm/Agency

10 Park Plaza, RM 6720	66 Long Wharf
Street	Street

Boston, MA 02116	Boston, MA 02110
Municipality/State/Zip	Municipality/State/Zip

617-222-3126	617-371-4495
Phone	Phone