



A MESSAGE FROM THE MBTA TRANSIT UNION WORKERS

Thanks for sticking with the MBTA



To Our MBTA Riders and Friends,

On Monday, September 5 we will celebrate Labor Day, recognizing the contributions all workers and the labor movement have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country. But as we celebrate, we are mindful that quality jobs are at stake as the MBTA faces ongoing threats of privatization. Privatization is not a magic wand. There is no magic wand to cure the lack of investment and benign neglect of management over the past 20-plus years.

The Boston Carmen's Union represents the men and women who drive and maintain the MBTA buses, trains, trolleys, and tracks. We stand with the MBTA in our shared belief that riders come first. Our workers share riders' frustration and anger when the system breaks down. We try our hardest to keep things moving, but we can't cure infrastructure failures and the malfunctions of a 100-year-old system that suffer from a lack of investment.

But we keep working. The average shift of a Carmen's Union member is 10-12 hours a day, often while getting paid for 8 hours of work. Whether it is a weekday, weekend or holiday.

24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, there is always a member of the Carmen's Union hard at work.

We all deserve a modern transit system. Investments need to be made in track maintenance, purchasing of new vehicles, new technology, and infrastructure improvements to help turn around the MBTA and ensure an improved system for riders.

As the MBTA continues to explore its options, we continue to make efforts to work with leadership and the Baker Administration, and the Legislature to help improve our system and move forward. We have demonstrated our commitment to being part of the solution.

In June, we presented a cost savings plan that could amount to over \$190 million in savings over the next two decades to MBTA Management and the MBTA Fiscal and Management Control Board. This plan provides crucial cost savings at a time when it is needed. As riders, you were asked recently to do your part to invest in the system with fare hikes, and we believe that it is only fair that as MBTA employees, we do our part as well, and that's what this plan represents.

We made this offering in an effort to work with MBTA leadership because we believe that the MBTA – and our riders – are best served when we work together and we hope that MBTA leadership will give it the consideration it deserves. We want our riders to know that the Boston Carmen's Union will continue working hard, every day, to do everything we can to get you where you need to go.

Thank you,

Members of the Boston Carmen's Union, Local 589
Moving Massachusetts since 1912

#RidersFirst