



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Transit
Administration**

Headquarters

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

SENT VIA EMAIL

October 26, 2022

Mr. Steve Poftak
General Manager
Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116

Subject: Closeout of Immediate Action Letter from July 28, 2022

Dear Mr. Poftak,

Thank you and your team at the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) for the actions taken to address the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Immediate Action Letter of July 28, 2022. FTA issued this letter in response to a runaway train at Braintree Station on July 25, 2022, MBTA's third such event since May 28, 2022. FTA directed MBTA to take specific actions to enhance MBTA's requirements for both the inspection of rail transit vehicles prior to movement in the rail yard or carhouse and employee understanding of these new requirements and lessons learned from previous events.

In response to FTA's Immediate Action Letter MBTA has taken the following actions:

- conducted Safety Standdown Training with Rail Transportation and Vehicle Maintenance employees in July and August;
- developed and implemented checklists for pre-trip inspections, circle check inspections and special inspections in timeframes specified by FTA in August;
- developed a Training Action Plan in September to manage the fewer than one (1) percent of affected employees who were unable to complete the Safety Standdown Training; and
- incorporated the new pre-trip, circle check and special inspection checklists into resubmitted corrective action plans in August and September in response to FTA's Special Directive 22-5, Vehicle Securement.

Because MBTA has completed the actions noted in the Immediate Action Letter, FTA closes out this letter. MBTA may complete its Training Action Plan without further reporting to FTA.

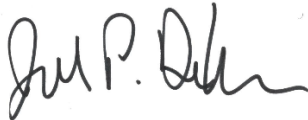
Please be advised that FTA will continue to monitor MBTA's activities regarding the safe movement of rail transit vehicles into and out of carhouses and in rail yards through on-going evaluation of MBTA's implementation of corrective actions established for Special Directive 22-5, Vehicle Securement.

We look forward to observing your continued progress both in conducting these inspections and enhancing the visual inspection of MBTA's rail transit vehicle fleet.

Conclusion

We appreciate your efforts to enhance MBTA's safety performance. Please contact our SMI Coordinator, Erin Powell, by phone at (771) 200-8016 or by email at Erin.Powell@dot.gov with any questions.

Sincerely,



Joe DeLorenzo
Associate Administrator and
Chief Safety Officer
Office of Transit Safety and Oversight

cc: Peter Butler, Regional Administrator, FTA Region 1
Jeffrey Gonneville, Deputy General Manager, MBTA
Erik Stoothoff, Acting Chief Operating Officer, MBTA
Steve Hicks, Chief Mechanical Officer
Ron Ester, Chief Safety Officer, MBTA
Katie Choe, Chief of Quality, Compliance and Oversight, MBTA
Elizabeth Cellucci, Director, Transportation Oversight Division, Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities