

MBTA Announces Public Meetings for Beverly Commuter Rail Bridge and Positive Train Control Projects

PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

Gloucester

April 26, 2017 – 6:30 pm

Gloucester City Hall
Kyrouz Auditorium
9 Dale Avenue

Newburyport

May 1, 2017 – 6:30 pm

City Hall Auditorium
60 Pleasant Street

Beverly

May 2, 2017 – 6:30 pm

City Hall Council Chambers
191 Cabot Street

Beginning on Saturday, July 8th, the MBTA will shut down commuter rail service on weekends for the entire Newburyport / Rockport Commuter Rail Line and **weekend shut downs will continue through September 30th**. The MBTA will begin installing the necessary equipment to support Positive Train Control (PTC) systems federally mandated under the Federal Railroad Administration Rail Safety Improvement Act. PTC is designed to improve safety by preventing train-to-train collisions, over speed derailments and unexpected movement of trains through “open” switches.

A second project on the line, replacement of the Beverly Swing Bridge will also take place during this time period. The Swing Bridge replacement project will require a **complete shutdown of the rail line north of the Salem Commuter Rail Station for 28 days**. The 28 day shutdown north of Salem is planned for **July 17th through August 13th**. Three public meetings will be held to provide project details, timelines and recommended alternative transportation options.

All locations are accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (including but not limited to interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, open or closed captioning for videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats, such as audio tapes, Braille and large print), as available. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact Jason Johnson by phone (857-368-8914), or by email at Jason.b.johnson@dot.state.ma.us.

Requests should be made as soon as possible prior to the meeting, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten (10) business days before the meeting. In case of inclement weather, meeting cancellation announcements will be posted on the internet at <http://www.mbta.com>