



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

Headquarters

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

SENT VIA EMAIL

October 4, 2024

Mr. Phillip Eng
General Manager
Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116

Subject: Approval – Due Date Extension Request Approval for Special Directive 23-10: CAP 4, Action Item 18

Dear Mr. Eng,

On August 27, 2024, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) received a request from the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) to extend the due date for Action Item 18 - Train Investigators on Lessons Learned of MBTA's Corrective Action Plan (CAP) by approximately six months. This Action Item requires MBTA to schedule and complete training for Safety Investigators on strengths, gaps, and areas for improvement identified through quality control checklist reviews. This CAP addresses Finding 4: MBTA's safety investigations and safety assurance activities do not consistently collect and analyze information on precursor factors (FTA-22-MBTA-CAT2-4).

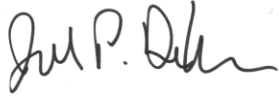
Approval of Due Date Extension Request for SD 23-10, CAP 4, Actionable Item 18

We understand MBTA's explanation regarding the need for a time extension to align with the Department of Public Utilities' 2023 Triennial Safety Audit findings, identifying procedural updates that will require training to refine the current processes and revising the root cause analysis (RCA) methodology that uses the improved causal factors. FTA agrees that this relief will allow for additional training for Safety Leads and result in improvement in the quality of investigations, mitigations, and reports.

Accordingly, FTA approves MBTA's request to amend the due date for this actionable item, provided that **MBTA submits an interim submission 30 days from the date of this letter**. This interim submission must include a plan with steps of how the MBTA will satisfy this deliverable including the Department of Public Utilities' 2023 Triennial Safety Audit findings and associated Corrective Actions Plans (CAPs) that will align with this action item. In addition, **FTA requires that MBTA provide monthly updates on the status of the deliverable during each monthly SD 23-10 meeting**.

Should you have any questions or require additional clarification, please do not hesitate to contact our Safety Management Inspection Coordinator, Christian Hernandez, at (Christian.hernandez@dot.gov) or (213) 552-3494.

Sincerely,



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

cc: Peter Butler, Regional Administrator, FTA Region 1
Ryan Coholan, Chief Operating Officer, MBTA
Tim Lesniak, Chief Safety Officer, MBTA
Meredith Sandberg, Chief of Quality, Compliance, and Oversight, MBTA
Pat Lavin, Chief Safety Officer, Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Jamie Van Nostrand, Chair, Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU)
Robert Hanson, Rail Safety Director, DPU