

**Hanscom Area Towns Committee (HATS)  
DRAFT Meeting Minutes  
April 28, 2016**

**HATS Members:** Steven Ng, Chair HATS and Concord Select Board member; Peter Braun, Lincoln Selectman; Mike Rosenberg, Bedford Selectman; Joe Pato, Lexington Selectman.

**Other HATS Representatives:** Maggie Debbie, Bedford.

**Others in attendance:** Paul Regan, Executive Director MBTA Advisory Board; Amber Goodspeed, MassPort; Andy Friedlich, Lexington TM; Chris Shewokis, Retrix; Mustapich, Bedford Planning

### **Introductions and Announcements**

Mr. Ng opened the meeting at the Lincoln Town Offices at 7:30 p.m. and welcomed Paul Regan, Executive Director of the MBTA Advisory Board.

Paul Regan, Executive Director of the MBTA Advisory Board

- Thanked the Committee for invitation to speak at the meeting
- Shared with the group some MBTA facts:
  - Advisory Board formed in 1964 – 176 cities and towns served by the MBTA
  - Fiscal Management Control Board
    - Advisory Board makes recommendations to this Board related to issues such as hours of operation and weekend service.
- Capital Projects
  - Green Line extension into Somerville
  - Purchase of new Red and Orange Line cars
  - Possible Expansion into Chelsea
  - Expansion vs. Maintaining/Fixing current service
  - \$700MM 5-year Capital Plan (incorporates all spending)
    - Public meetings are held for discussion and public comment.
  - Greenbush Line: \$500MM project with low ridership
  - THE RIDE: fully funded, \$47MM budget
  - Capital Plan 1 – Maintain State of good repair (heavy rail)
  - Capital Plan 2 – Program for Mass Transportation 2040
  - MBTA staff has less than 200 non-unionized employees
- Budget issues
  - MBTA is off of Commonwealth books – has better credit rating than State.
  - \$242mm deficit – balancing act to determine fare increase % (9.2 % fare increase).
    - Impacts to HATS: Commuter Rail affected with highest increase, commuter rail is 10% of ridership
  - \$5B backlog in repairs with \$7B in debt

- 2015-2016 Commuter Rail schedule
  - Schedule was issued to the public with receiving or notifying Fiscal Management Control Board.
  - Overwhelming public and political protest retracted schedule.

#### **Air Force Base/Massport CAC, HFAC**

- Mr. Braun informed the meeting of his attendance to the Innovation Forum and spoke with Senator Tsongas.

#### **Regional transportation and related concerns**

- Mr. Braun updated the meeting on the status of the Route 2 project. Currently completing punch list items and planned completion in Fall 2016.

#### **Future Meetings and Main Agenda Items:**

- Mr. Braun updated the group on possible dates to have Transportation Secretary join us at HATS. Possible for July or September meetings.
- Mr. Braun suggested to schedule the incoming Hanscom AFB commander, Colonel Hunt after the change in command July 26 later in the year.
- 7/28/16 meeting to be scheduled for RoundTable discussion of Regional Transportation issues. Mr. Ng to invite last year's participants and HATS town representatives to participate.
- Mr. Braun suggested for 9/28/16 meeting to have discussion on how HATS communities deal with traffic management issues, such as traffic congestion mitigation, speed limits, etc.
- Mr. Braun suggested scheduling Task Force Director Anne Marie Dowd to join us to provide an update as a possible future meeting

#### **Meeting Minutes:**

- HATS Board agreed to notify meeting minutes' clerk, Andrea, that her services will be no longer necessary upon submission of the February 2016 meeting minutes.

#### **Adjourn**

Motion: Mr. Rosenberg moved to adjourn

Second: Mr. Braun seconded

Vote: Unanimous

Meeting was adjourned at 9:13pm