

Cuts to bus service in Malden

In one of the scenarios designed to close the transit authority's budget shortfall— "scenario 2" —the MBTA would cut 101 weekday bus routes, 69 Saturday routes and 50 Sunday bus routes.

As part of that proposal, the MBTA would make cuts and reductions to at least twelve bus routes that serve Malden:

Bus 97: Services Malden Center to Wellington Station. Under "scenario 2," this service would be eliminated.

Bus 99: Services Boston Regional Medical Center to Wellington Station. Under "scenario 2," this service would be eliminated.

Bus 105: Services Malden Station to Sullivan Station via Main Street. Under "scenario 2," this service would be eliminated.

Bus 106: Services Franklin Sq. or Lebanon Street Loop to Wellington Station. Under "scenario 2," this service would be eliminated.

Bus 108: Services Linden Square to Wellington Station. Under "scenario 2," this service would be eliminated.

Bus 131: Services the Melrose Highlands to Malden Station. Under "scenario 2," weekday service would be eliminated.

Bus 132: Services the Redstone Shopping Center to Malden Station. Under "scenario 2," Saturday and weekday services would be eliminated.

Bus 134: Services North Woburn to Wellington Station. Under "scenario 2," services would be less frequent (though just how infrequent is not specified in the report).

Bus 136: Services Reading Depot to Malden Station. Under "scenario 1," weekend services would be eliminated. Under "scenario 2," all services would be eliminated.

Bus 137: Services Reading Depot to Malden Station via North Ave. Under "scenario 2," all services would be eliminated.

Bus 411: Services Malden Station to Revere/Jack Satter House. Under "scenario 2," weekend services would be eliminated.

Bus 430: Services Saugus to Malden Station. Under "scenario 2," this service would only run on Sundays.

While the MBTA would not make significant cuts to local subway service, it calls for the elimination of weekend service on the Green Line's E branch and on the Red Line's Mattapan High-Speed Line.

Fare increases

One thing is certain: Passengers will have to pay more to ride the T in the upcoming year. Fare increases are part of both scenarios proposed by the MBTA.

At the moment, it costs \$1.50 to ride a bus and \$2 to ride the subway with a Charlie Ticket, designed for infrequent users of the T. For those with Charlie Card, designed for those who ride the T regularly, it costs \$1.25 to ride the bus and \$1.70 to ride the subway.

A monthly bus pass costs \$40, and a Link Pass, which allows holders to ride the bus and subway, costs \$59.

Fares under the MBTA's "scenario 1" would be as follows:

- Bus: \$2.25 with Charlie Ticket, \$1.75 with Charlie Card
- Subway: \$3 with Charlie Ticket, \$2.40 with Charlie Card
- Bus pass: \$55
- Link Pass: \$80

Fares under the MBTA's "scenario 2" would be as follows:

- Bus: \$2 with Charlie Ticket, \$1.50 with Charlie Card
- Subway: \$3 with Charlie Ticket, \$2.25 with Charlie Card
- Bus pass: \$48
- Link Pass: \$78

Seniors and students

In addition, fares for seniors and students also increase under both proposals. Monthly passes for students and seniors would be \$40 under "scenario 1" and \$39 under "scenario 2." They're currently \$20.

For seniors, riding the bus currently costs \$0.40. Under "scenario 1," that price would jump to \$1.10, and under "scenario 2" it would cost \$0.75. The cost of the subway is currently \$0.60 for seniors. It would be \$1.50 under "scenario 1" and \$1.10 under "scenario 2."

Students currently pay \$0.60 to ride the bus and \$0.85 for the subway. Under "scenario 1," those numbers would be \$1.10 and \$1.50, respectively.

Under "scenario 2," the costs would be \$0.75 and \$1.10.

Public meeting

The MBTA is seeking feedback on its proposals. In Malden, a public meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 16 at 6 p.m. in the council chambers at Government Center's 200 Pleasant St. location.