

Silver Line Gateway Bus Route and Shared-Use Path

What is the Silver Line Gateway Project?

This project extends Silver Line bus rapid transit (BRT) service from South Station and the Seaport District of Boston to the Airport Blue Line Station in East Boston and to neighborhoods in Chelsea and constructs a Chelsea shared-use path from downtown Chelsea to Eastern Avenue.

The bus route and shared-use path will connect residents and workers to housing, job, and recreational opportunities in Chelsea, Boston, and areas north of Boston. This project advances Massachusetts Department of Transportation priorities to **encourage use of public transportation**, to **improve air quality**, and to **increase access to jobs**.



Image credits: MAPC

Planning and Construction Timeline

Busway and shared-use path development is taking place in three phases.

Phase 1: Washington Avenue bridge replacement, busway construction, shared-use path construction, identification of neighborhood connections to the shared-use path, and construction of three bus stations. This work began in April 2015.

Phase 2: Relocation of the Chelsea Commuter Rail Station, construction of the new Commuter Rail station adjacent to Market Basket, conversion of existing Commuter Rail station to the Downtown Chelsea Silver Line station. This work will begin in Fall 2016.

Phase 3: Gateway additions for the bus stations and shared-use path entrances. This work will begin in 2017.

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Bus Route and Station Locations

Bus route planning is complete and construction began in April 2015. Service will include all SL1 station stops in South Boston: Courthouse, World Trade Center, and Silver Line Way. Bus service will continue through the Williams Tunnel to East Boston, stopping at the Airport Blue Line Station, and making stops at the following locations in Chelsea:

- Eastern Avenue Station
- Box District Station
- Downtown Chelsea Station
- Mystic Mall Station
- Chelsea Commuter Rail Station (relocated)



Improvements to accommodate the busway and shared-use path include:

- Construction in the former Grand Railroad Junction right-of-way
- Changes to the Chelsea Street Bridge, and Airport Blue Line Station
- Relocation of the Chelsea Commuter Rail Station in order to create a modern station that meets federal and state accessibility guidelines

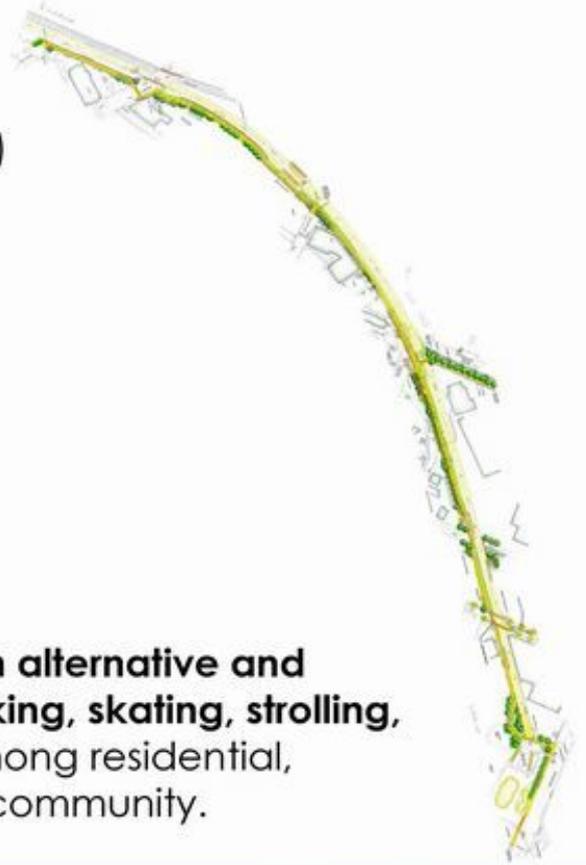
Renderings of Station Area Designs



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Chelsea Shared-Use Path

The City of Chelsea and the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (through the Gateway Cities Parks Program) worked with MassDOT to incorporate a shared-use path adjacent to the proposed busway. The path will extend from the Chelsea River waterfront to downtown Chelsea and will include on-road shared-use portion and off-road segments making use of the former Grand Railroad Junction right-of-way. Construction of the path will be complete by June 2016.



The shared-use path will be a transportation alternative and recreational facility for biking, running, walking, skating, strolling, etc. The path will enhance connections among residential, commercial and recreational areas in the community.

Shared-Use Path Design Concepts - DRAFT

