

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ERIN MURPHY, FLAHERTY, ARROYO, BAKER, BOK, BREADON, COLETTA, FERNANDES ANDERSON, LOUIJEUNE, LARA, WORREL AND FLYNN



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS THE STRATEGY TO PREPARE RESIDENTS FOR A MONTH-LONG SHUTDOWN OF THE MBTA

- WHEREAS,** The MBTA's announcement that it will shut down the Orange Line and a portion of the Green Line for 30 days at the end of the summer forces many of our BPS students, colleges students, city workers, and residents to shift the way they get to school, work, and around the city; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The Orange Line will shut down from August 19th through September 18th, and the Green Line will be shut down from Government Center station to the newly opened Union Square station from August 22nd through September 18th; *and*
- WHEREAS,** According to the *Boston Globe*, in 2021, before ridership dipped in the wake of service cuts in the summer of 2022, the Orange Line saw 104,000 average weekday trips, the second most among the MBTA's rail service; *and*
- WHEREAS,** This shutdown will affect all residents, but especially the neighborhoods of Charlestown, the North End, the West End, Downtown, Chinatown, the South End, Jamaica Plain, and Roxbury; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The shutdown coincides with the first day of school for Boston Public Schools on September 1st and will last until the third week of school; *and*
- WHEREAS,** As Boston Public Schools Superintendent Mary Skipper stated, "the first few days and weeks of school is where [students and teachers] all build a community, build a classroom and set the tone and the climate for a successful learning year"; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Boston Public Schools are not the only concern, with two community colleges and Tufts Medical School also served by the MBTA. Thousands of students attend Roxbury Community College and Bunker Hill Community College, both of which sit on the Orange Line, and as commuter students, many require the services of the MBTA to get to school; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Many City departments must coordinate together to support our residents, help the MBTA succeed, and mitigate disruption for our students, working families, immigrant neighbors, seniors, and communities of color; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to discuss the strategy to prepare our residents for a month-long shutdown of the MBTA, including community outreach and transportation alternatives. Representatives from the MBTA, the Administration, the Boston Transportation Department, Boston Public Schools, the Boston Police Department, the MBTA Transit Police Department, youth leaders, members of the public, and any other interested parties shall be invited and are encouraged to attend.

Filed on: August 10, 2022