



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

SENATOR KAREN E. SPILKA  
PRESIDENT

*Second Middlesex and Norfolk District*

STATE HOUSE, ROOM 332  
BOSTON, MA 02133-1053

(617) 722-1500

KAREN.SPILKA@MASENATE.GOV  
WWW.MASENATE.GOV

July 30, 2019

Mr. Michael O'Dowd  
I-90 Allston Multimodal Project Manager  
Massachusetts Department of Transportation  
Ten Park Plaza  
Boston, MA 02116

Dear Mike:

Thank you for requesting the list of questions that I posed at the July 18 public meeting on the I-90 Allston Multimodal Project, held in Framingham. I appreciate your offer to compose answers to these questions and make them available to the meeting attendees and general public. Your efforts to include the public in this critical discussion is already yielding thoughtful input from many voices, including commuters, business-owners, and residents with very real concerns about the impact on their quality of life both during construction and after the project's completion.

The list of questions appears below:

- Most importantly, when can we expect to see the state's full plan to **mitigate** the impacts on MetroWest? Can we ensure that MassDOT will invest the same effort into the mitigation plan as it has spent on the design and engineering of the construction itself?
- How can we ensure an ongoing and close dialogue between the residents of MetroWest and MassDOT on the impacts of the I-90 Allston Multimodal project on our region?
- How will our region benefit from the Allston project?
- How – and for how long – will our commutes be impacted?
- What will be the impact on traffic and congestion on the Mass Pike?
- Have you studied the impact on traffic and congestion on the alternative routes that commuters will use, especially Route 9?
- What will be our toll discount while we deal with the inconvenience from this project?
- How many buses are you going to put on the road to ensure employees can make it to and from work?

- What will the impact be on our commuter rail service? During construction, will it be able to accommodate more riders or fewer?
- How many more commuter rail trains will you run to ensure we make it to work on time – and home in time to have dinner with our families?
- How will these impacts be compounded by the second “air rights” Mass Pike project scheduled to begin this summer, and is it wise for these projects to be scheduled at the same time?
- How will you use technology to make this project go smoothly?
- How much will this cost and who will pay for it?
- How much will the private entities, who are benefiting from this project, contribute?

Your series of informational meetings is critical to ensuring the best possible plan for this decade-long project that has tremendous import for residents of Massachusetts, especially those whom I serve in our MetroWest region. We look forward to a continued public dialogue characterized by openness, boldness, and a shared concern for the long-term future of the Commonwealth and its citizens.

Thank you for your efforts, and those of your staff, on this complex project.

Sincerely,



Karen E. Spilka  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Middlesex and Norfolk*

CC: Rep. Carolyn Dykema  
Rep. Maria Duaine Robinson  
Dan Fielding, MassDOT