



# Fitchburg

## Commuter Rail

Line Improvement Project

*Project Update*

May, 2014



# Program Definition/Goals

## One Program/Multiple Projects:

\$159M Small Starts/Rt 62 Bridge (FTA/State)

\$ 10M CPF 43 (ARRA)

\$ 42M Double Tracking (ARRA/EOHED)

\$ 59M Wachusett Extension (TIGER)

\$ 7M N. Leominster Parking (FTA/State)

**\$277M Investment**

**Improve  
Performance**



Increase Reliability/Access.  
Decrease Travel Time  
Extend Service



# Program Construction Schedule

- **CPF 43**

Complete

- **Double Track**

Complete

- **Small Starts/Rt.62**

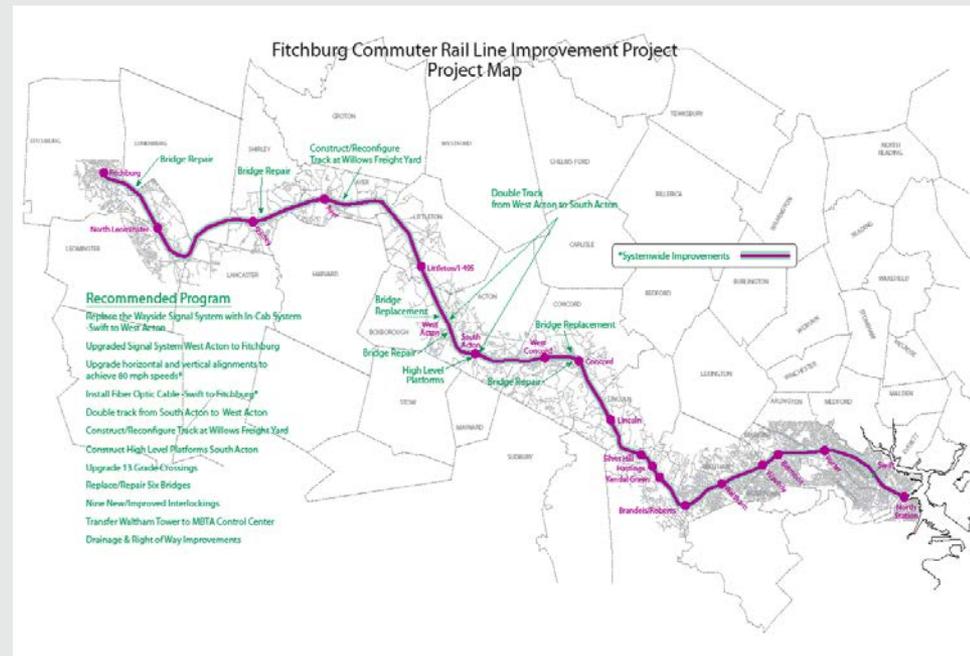
Jan 2012 – Dec 2015

- **N. Leominster Parking Garage**

Complete

- **Wachusett Extension**

Fall 2011- Dec 2014





# Double Track

## 8 Mi. of Double Track/New Littleton-495 Station

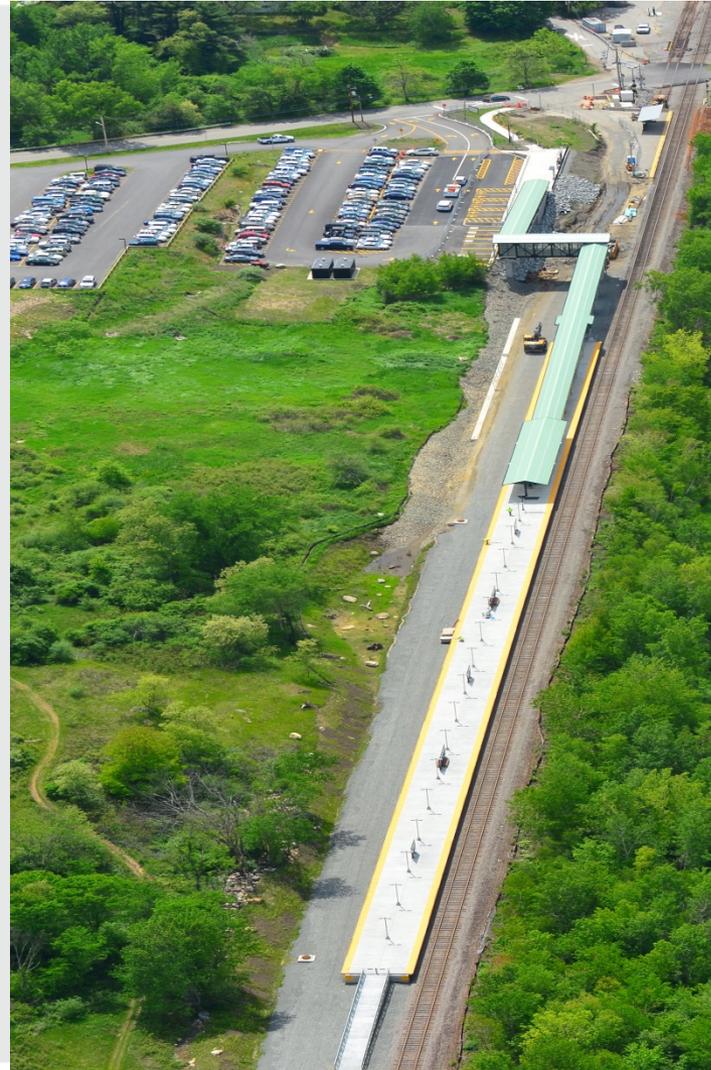
- Force Account Construction – MBCR
  - Track and Signal work complete
- Littleton Station Construction
  - Station and Parking complete





# Double Track – Littleton Station

**May 2013**  
**Aerial Photo**  
(Courtesy of R.  
Coughlin)





# Small Starts Project

- New Signal System - Boston to Acton
- Upgrade track alignments to achieve 79 MPH
- 1 mi double track South Acton to West Acton
- Reconfigure track in Ayer freight area
- High level platforms at South Acton Station
- Upgrade 30 at-grade crossing warning systems
- Repair or replace seven (7) bridges
- Nine (9) new or modified interlockings
- Transfer Waltham Tower to MBTA Control Center



# Small Starts Update

- Three Construction Packages
  - Track & Signal – NTP July 2013
  - Bridges – NTP Dec 2012
  - South Acton – NTP Dec 2012
- Project is on schedule
- Complete by Dec 31, 2015





# South Acton Station





# Station - Construction Status

- Headhouse and inbound platform foundations complete
- Work delayed due to subcontractor issue
- Expect inbound high-level platform to open by end of 2014
- Outbound platform to open in 2015



# South Acton

## Foundations for new headhouse & overpass





# South Acton Foundations for new inbound platform





# Bridges





# Bridges - Construction Status

- Slope work complete at 2 locations
- Bridge repairs complete at 2 locations
- Phase 1 of West Acton bridge complete
- Phase 2 of West Acton bridge nearing completion
- Sudbury River bridge repairs underway
- Clematis Brook culvert work in summer 2014
- Start Assabett River bridge in May 2014
- Start Route 62 bridge work in May 2014
- Route 62 bridge roll-in August 2015



# West Acton Bridge





# Baker's Brook Bridge





# Track and Signal





# Track/Signal - Constr. Status

- 8 Crossing track replacements complete
- New Crossovers installed in Lincoln (CP-18)
- Installation of new signal equipment underway from Weston to Acton and in Shirley
- New signal system Lincoln to Acton to be in service by August 2014
- Freight improvements to reduce congestion in Ayer – new crossover installed and vertical clearance improved at East Main St bridge
- Second track installed in West Acton

# Second Track in W. Acton





# New crossover in Ayer





# East Main St bridge Ayer – Lowering Track to improve freight clearance





# Installing new Signal in Concord



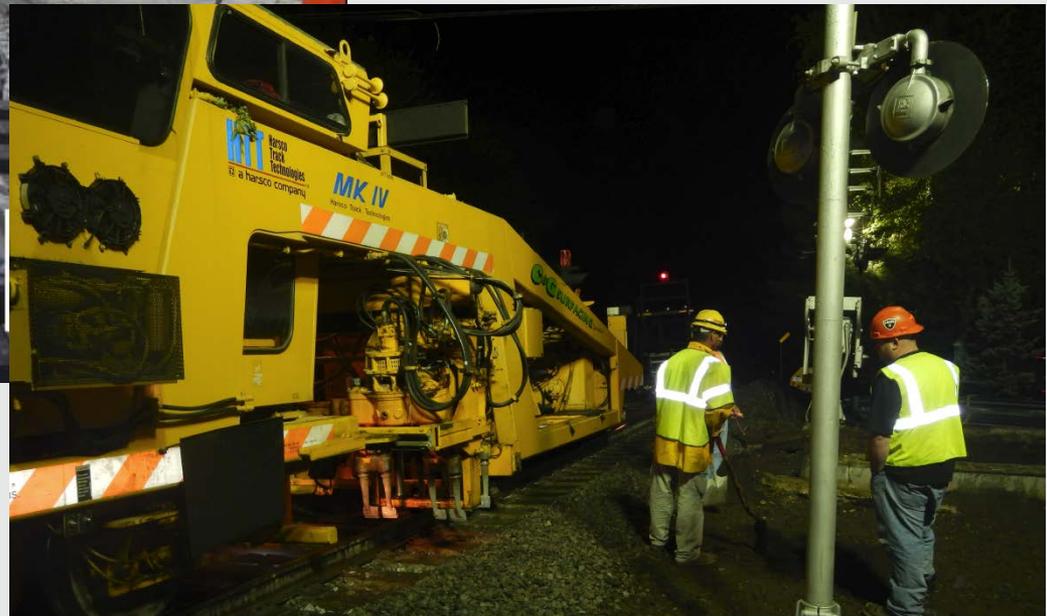


# New signal and signal house in Lincoln



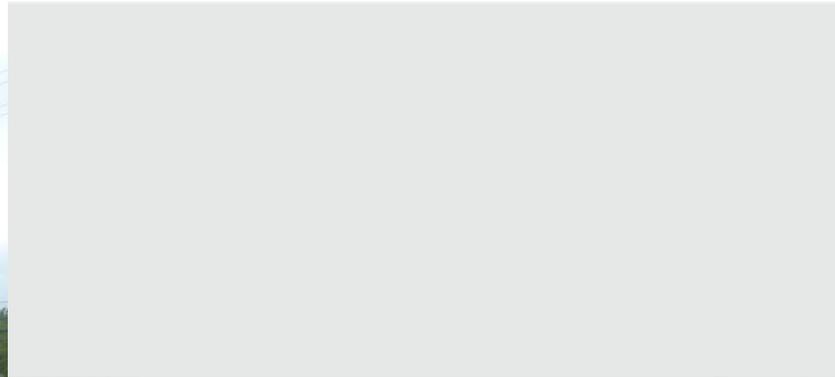


# Grade Crossing Replacement – Tower Rd, Lincoln





# Curve Modifications to Increase Speed





# Construction Impact on Service

- Weekend service suspensions September to November 2013 successfully facilitated the work
- 2014 weekend service suspensions end of April through November (except holidays)
- Starting August 2014 - single track for Concord bridge work will require adjustments to weekday train schedule



# 2014 Weekend Service

- April 26 through Jun 29<sup>th</sup>:
  - North Station to Brandeis only
- July 12<sup>th</sup> through Oct 11<sup>th</sup>:
  - No Weekend Service
- Oct 18<sup>th</sup> through Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>:
  - North Station to Brandeis only
- Normal service on Holiday Weekends
  - Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day





# Wachusett Extension





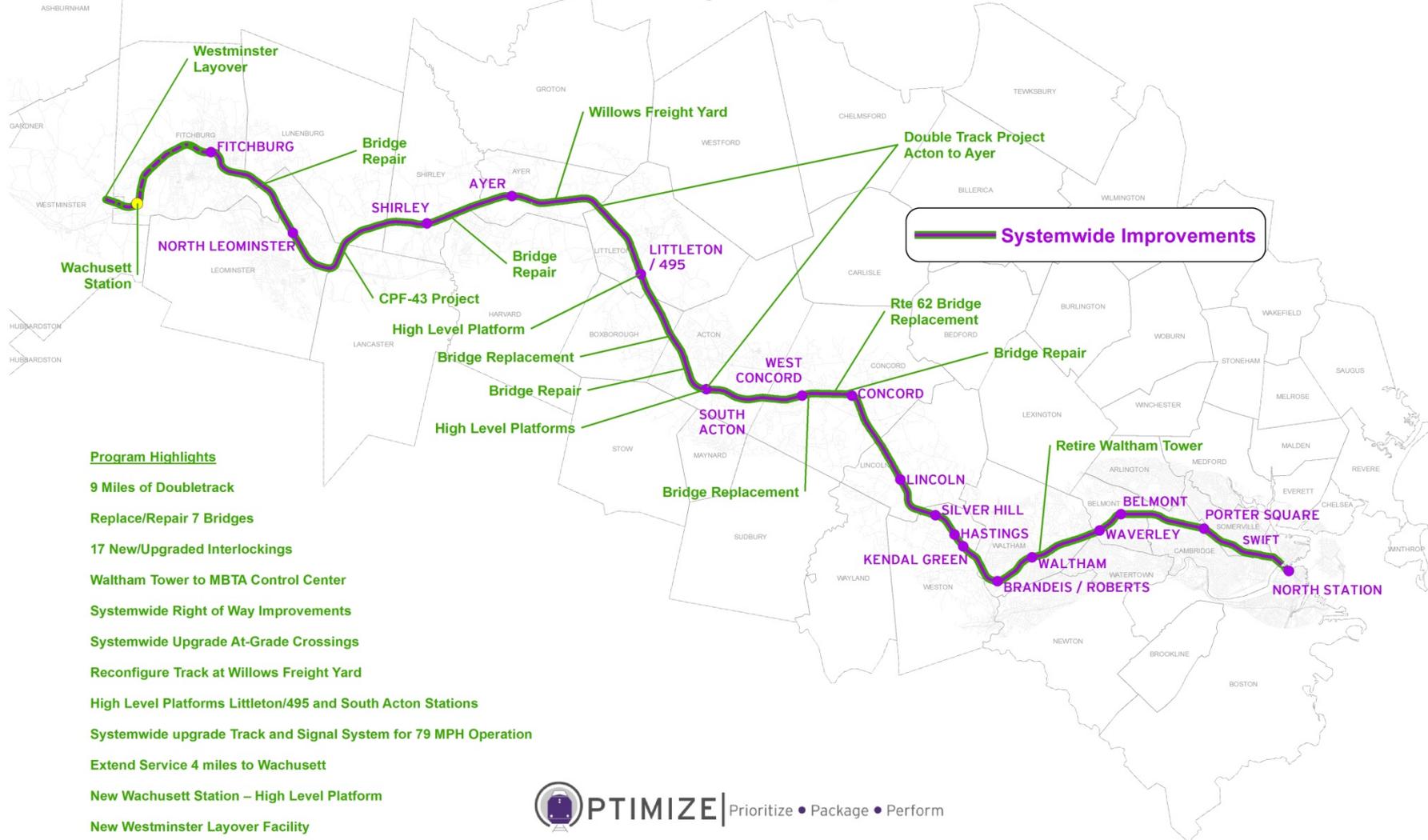
# Wachusett Extension - Status

- Design and permitting complete
- Four construction packages
  - Station/layover site prep – Complete
  - Station/layover construction – Underway
  - Bridge repairs – Contract awarded
  - Pan Am track and signal work
    - Completing negotiation of construction agreement
    - Material procurement underway
- Initial service to start early 2015



# Project Map

## Fitchburg Commuter Rail Line Improvement Program Project Map



### Program Highlights

- 9 Miles of Doubletrack
- Replace/Repair 7 Bridges
- 17 New/Upgraded Interlockings
- Waltham Tower to MBTA Control Center
- Systemwide Right of Way Improvements
- Systemwide Upgrade At-Grade Crossings
- Reconfigure Track at Willows Freight Yard
- High Level Platforms Littleton/495 and South Acton Stations
- Systemwide upgrade Track and Signal System for 79 MPH Operation
- Extend Service 4 miles to Wachuset
- New Wachuset Station – High Level Platform
- New Westminister Layover Facility