



# Fitchburg Commuter Rail Line Improvement Project

*Project Update*

April, 2015



# Program Definition/Goals

## One Program/Multiple Projects:

\$172M Small Starts/Rt 62 Bridge (FTA/State)

\$ 10M CPF-43 Interlocking (ARRA)

\$ 43M Double Tracking (ARRA/EOHED)

\$ 74M Wachusett Extension (TIGER/State)

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

**\$306M Investment**

**Improve  
Performance**



Increase Reliability/Access.  
Decrease Travel Time  
Extend Service



# Program Construction Schedule

- **CPF-43**

Complete

- **Double Track**

Complete

- **Small Starts/Rt.62**

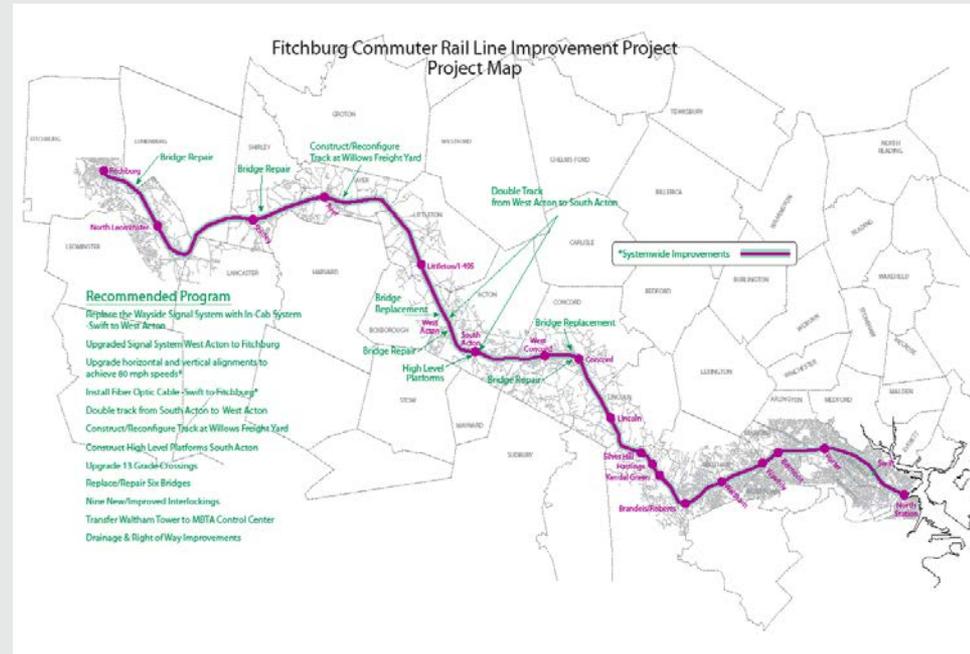
Jan 2012 – Dec 2015

- **N. Leominster Parking Garage**

Complete

- **Wachusett Extension**

Fall 2011 - 2016





# 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 second track South Acton to West Acton
- Reconfigure track in Ayer freight area
- High level platforms at South Acton Station
- Upgrade 30 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 – started July 2013
  - Bridges – started Dec 2012
  - South Acton – started Dec 2012
- Project is on schedule
- Complete by Dec 31, 2015





# South Acton Station





# Station - Construction Status

- Foundations complete; platform panels installed
- Work delayed due to subcontractor issue
- Expect new high-level platforms to open in 2015



# South Acton

## Foundations for new headhouse & overpass





# South Acton

## New inbound platform and Headhouse Foundation





# South Acton Platform Foundations





# South Acton Inbound Platform





# Bridges





# Bridges - Construction Status

- Slope work complete at 2 locations
- Bridge repairs complete at 2 locations
- West Acton bridge complete
- Clematis Brook culvert complete
- Sudbury River bridge Phase 1 repairs complete
- Assabett River bridge Phase 1 underway
- Route 62 bridge Phase 1 work underway
- Route 62 bridge roll-in August 2015



# West Acton Bridge





# Baker's Brook Bridge





# Sudbury River Bridge





# Mill Pond Bridge





# Route 62 Bridge





# Track and Signal





# Track/Signal - Constr. Status

- Track replaced at 8 grade crossings
- New Crossovers installed in Lincoln (CP-18) and Ayer/Devens (CP-37)
- Installation of new signal equipment underway
- New signal system Lincoln to Acton activated 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



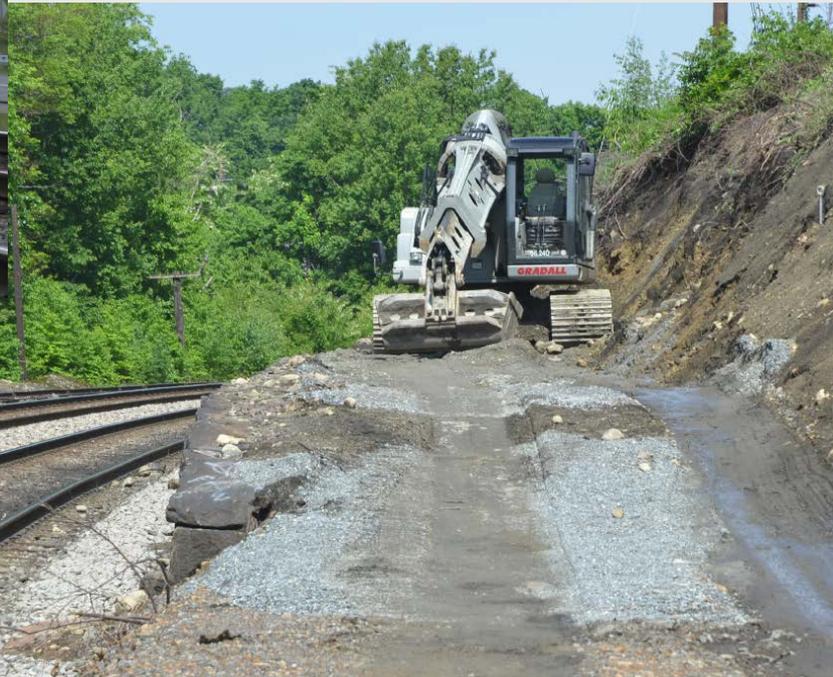


# Grade Crossing Replacement – Tower Rd, Lincoln





# Curve Modifications to Increase Speed



# Curve Work





# New CP-37 Crossovers





# Construction Impact on Service

- Weekend service suspensions starting Fall 2013 have successfully facilitated the work
- Starting August 2014 - single track for Concord bridge work required adjustments to weekday train schedule
- *Bonus: Additional Service to Littleton-495*
- *Speed increases starting in January 2015*



# CP-37 Friday Evening





# CP-37 Monday Morning





# 2015 Weekend Service

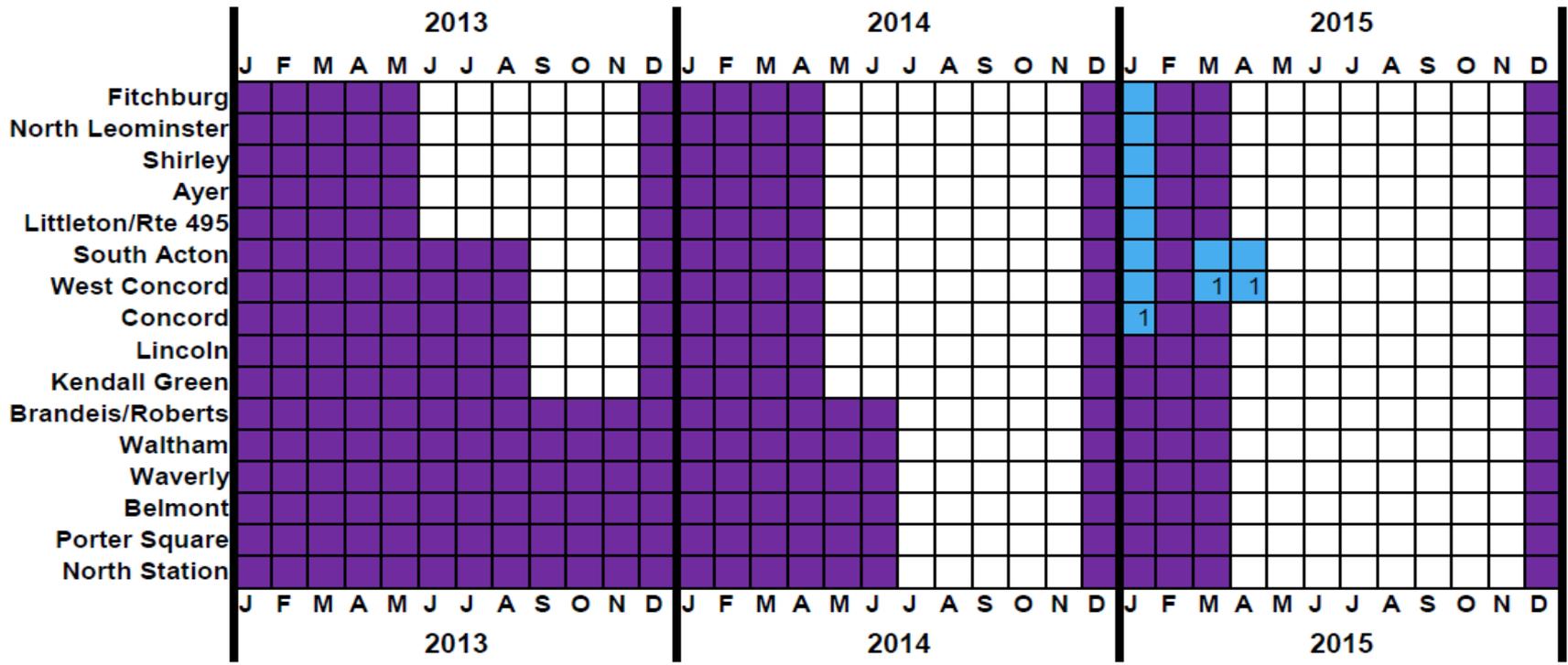
- Partial busing of the Line on the weekends of: January 24, March 28/29, April 11/12
- April 25 through Nov 22:
  - No Weekend Service
- Normal service on Holiday Weekends
  - Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day



# Weekend Service Summary

## MBTA Fitchburg Line

### Weekend Service Outage Plan for Construction



= WEEKEND TRAIN SERVICE OPERATING
  = NO WEEKEND SERVICE  
1 = Weekend busing/work location (# weekends)

rev. 03-17-2015

**Note:** Service to operate Boston-Fitchburg on Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day wknds  
**Note:** Limits of busing are subject to change.



# Wachusett Extension





# Wachusett Extension - Status

- Design and permitting complete
- Four construction packages
  - Station/layover site prep – Complete
  - Station/layover construction – Underway
  - Bridge repairs – Start Spring 2014
  - Pan Am track/signal work – Start Spring 2015
- Service to start Fall 2016



# Wachusett Layover Status





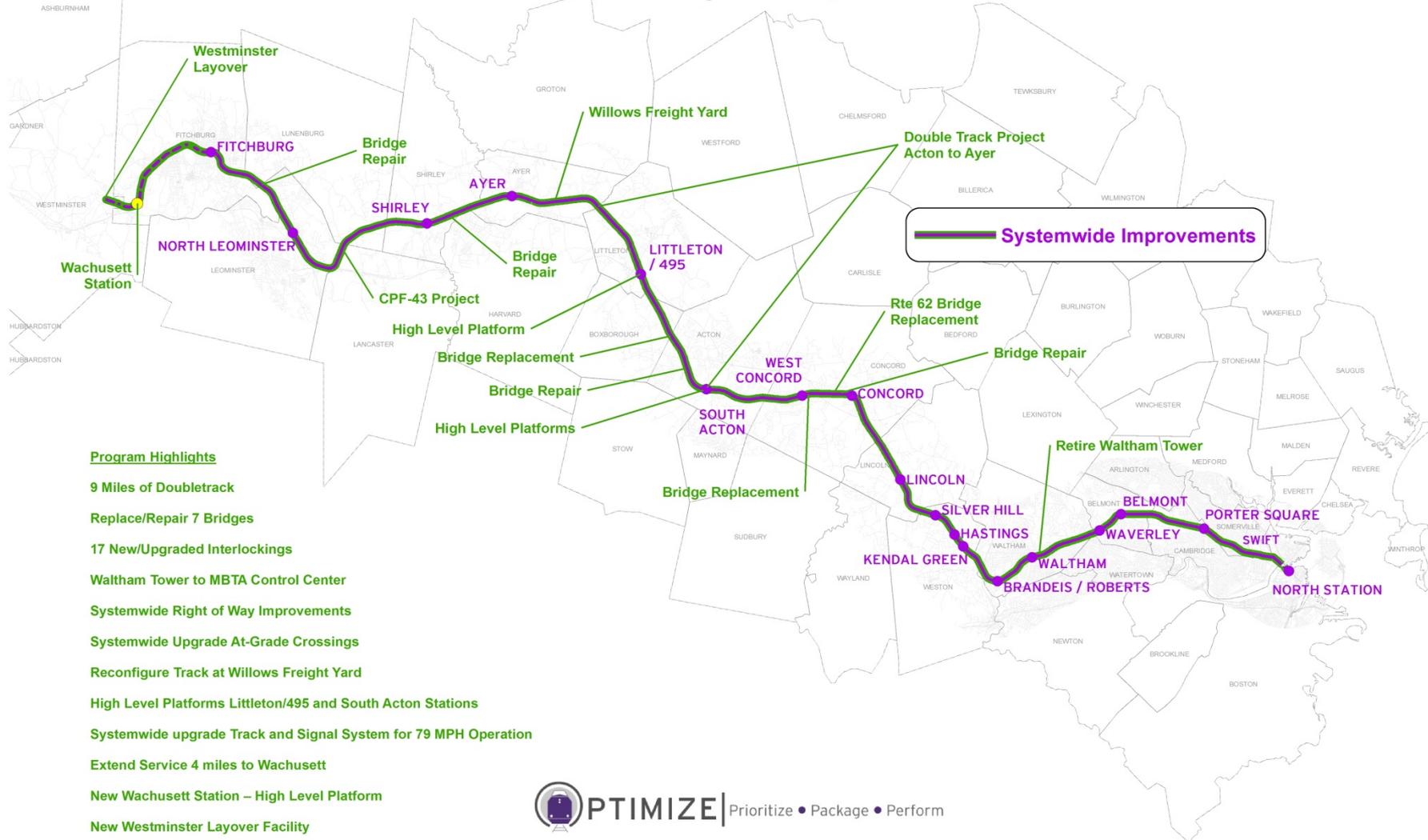
# Wachusett Station Status





# 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 Wachusett
- New Wachusett Station – High Level Platform
- New Westminister Layover Facility