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CONTROLLING COSTS AND IMPROVING SERVICE IN TRANSPORTATION AND MAINTENANCE

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Massachusetts Bay

Transportation Authority

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FEBRUARY 2017



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Core operations: A call to action

MBTA bus transportation and maintenance MBTA Red / Orange line maintenance

MBTA customer service agents









The MBTA's core goals



- To provide reliable service for customers
- To provide safe modes of transport for our communities
- To operate in a financially sustainable manner (the legislation creating the FMCB mandates a balanced budget throughout FY17-21)
- To deliver every passenger trip as cost effectively as possible

What percent of customers highly rate the MBTA's performance?



Customer satisfaction with current MBTA performance



Efforts to date have resulted in a 49% reduction in forecast operating deficit, but there still is a \$86M projected deficit remaining





1 FY16 projected deficit as of July 2015 creation of the FMCB

2 Doesn't include additional state assistance of \$156M for operations and \$31M into pay-go-capital account

3 Current effort underway: submission of parking RFP

Source: MBTA data

Recent efforts have focused on controlling operating costs and reducing non-operating costs



Focus of document



Three areas in core operations identified for further exploration and action in FY18



		<u>Ot</u>	perating	cost base	Potential FY21
Area and rationale		FY	/16	FY21	savings
	 Bus Transportation and Maintenance Large ridership, with performance current the MBTA's standards Large and growing cost base and net trip Multiple options exist to improve the sincluding a viable external market 	subsidy per	\$329M	\$384M	Up to \$140M
	 Red and Orange line car maintenance Introduction of new fleet presents opp innovate Firms in the market, including rail car manufacturers, could perform this work 	ortunity to	\$46M	\$71M	Up to \$14M
Robury crossing www.mbta.com	 Customer service agents (CSAs) Potential to improve customer service satisfaction Potential to also reduce costs 	and	\$17M	\$20M	Up to \$11M
	int	achieve these s ternal reforms, e ontracts, or some	engageme	ent in 3 rd -party	y performance
SOURCE: MBTA data		Pi	RE-DECISION	AL – PROPRIETARY	AND CONFIDENTIAL 7

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Core operations: A call to action



MBTA bus transportation and maintenance

Red / Orange line maintenance



MBTA

MBTA customer service agents



Main messages in this discussion of bus service

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Baseline

- MBTA-operated bus service plays a critical role in the region, providing 113M passenger trips annually. The MBTA's 2,525 bus personnel work hard daily to deliver service to our communities
- Service performance remains a major issue for the MBTA's riders; roughly 65% of buses arrive on time, and 30% are crowded at peak times
- Bus operations and maintenance costs, excluding fuel, have been rising at 5% per year¹ driven largely by headcount and wage increases
- Last year's net subsidy to operate bus service was \$224M (\$329M less \$105M in revenue), which is projected to grow to \$262M by FY21
- Certain transit authorities and agencies (e.g., Denver, Orange County, Los Angeles, Long-Island, Las Vegas) have used 3rd parties to provide bus operations and maintenance activities
- In situations where authorities have contracted substantial amounts of their bus service, the contracted portions have been up to 30-40% less expensive per hour of service than the internally-provisioned portions

Questions

- What alternative bus operating models could the MBTA consider?
- If the model changes, what are the potential effects on the system's performance and required financial subsidy?

1 FY13-FY16 cost grew at 4% annually, since fuel costs decreased at 9% annually Source: MBTA data

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Current performance of the MBTA bus system What have other agencies experienced when contracting for bus service?

What contracted operating models could the MBTA consider for bus?

How does the MBTA bus service perform?

Bus on-time performance is 65% on average, below the goal of 75%^{1,2}



A number of bus routes fail service tests on a regular basis

DASHBOARD BUS - OCTOBER 2016 Bus 65% VIEW TRENDS	Poor reliability ¹	87% of routes with reliability below target in Spring 2016
Conter Bus 59% VIEW TRENDS	Crowding	30% of routes had peak loads over 140% seating capacity in Spring 2016
Silver Line 80% VIEW TRENDS		

- 1 MBTA bus on-time performance is defined as "within 3 mins of scheduled departure time" (for core service, and 6 mins for non-core service)
- 2 Comparisons to other systems are difficult because systems have different definitions of on-time performance, and do not measure on-time performance at the same places
- Note: OCTA contracting on-time performance standard of 85% (departure within 5 minutes of scheduled time), Las Vegas RTC contracting on-time performance standard of 95% (departure within 2 minutes of scheduled time), NICE contracting on-time performance standard of 70% (departure within 1 prior to and 5 minutes late vs. scheduled departure time)
- Source: MBTA Office of Performance Management and Innovation

What are some of the concerns customers are currently raising about MBTA bus service?



Route:

111

Park Ave. - Haymarket

"I normally take the 111 bus seven days a week...sometimes I have to wait for 2 or 3 to pass."



Watertown-Haymarket (via Comm. Ave.)

"I am always left behind by the buses because they are too crowded."



City Point - South Station

"I sometime have to wait 3 to 4 buses before I can get on [the bus]."



Harvard Square-Dudley Station

"The 66 ruins my morning, every morning."

Bus costs have grown at 5% per year, outpacing revenue and increasing the net subsidy per trip





1 Includes single trips, weekly and monthly passes

2 Based on external review, estimated unaccrued retiree health cost of ~\$35,000/employee across the MBTA

3 Maintenance cost includes cost of repairing damage to vehicles, but does not include general liability insurance, which is managed centrally for the overall MBTA (2016 bus claims of \$5.4M or ~\$2/revenue hour)

4 Bus cost minus bus fare revenue, divided by total number of trips of 113M in FY16, 115M in FY13

Source: MBTA data

How are MBTA bus costs and net subsidy expected to grow by FY21, the end of the original FMCB legislation period?





- At current course and speed, the net subsidy needed for the bus system is expected to grow to \$262M by FY21
- To increase customer satisfaction and respond to stakeholder requests, the MBTA could consider increasing service levels in certain capacity-constrained corridors
- However, under the current operating model, every 10% of new service hours added would likely:
 - Increase operating costs by \$35-40M
 - Require capital for new facilities and fleet

1 Costs assuming driver headcount remains flat; wages grow at 2.5%; fringe increases to ~52% to account for increasing pension/healthcare costs; Energy Information Administration forecasted growth rates for compressed natural gas and diesel accounting for fuel and efficiency and shift in fleet; and average growth FY13-FY16 in all other costs (with a \$5M material spend decrease in 2018 from new fleet)

2 Net 0.1% growth in ridership including elasticity effect of fare increases of 7% every other year starting in 2018

3 Bus operating cost minus bus fare revenue

Source: MBTA internal data, EIA

What paths are currently under consideration to reduce bus transportation and maintenance costs?

Two paths to reducing costs currently under consideration

Current operating model

With changes to service planning, delivery, and employee salaries, as well as pension reform

Or...



Contracted service

Potential contracted service models for all or some bus service

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Current performance of the MBTA bus system What have other agencies experienced when contracting for bus service?

What contracted operating models could the MBTA consider for bus?

What alternative operating models have other transit authorities implemented?



	Description	Example authorities
Contract select bus routes	 Use contracts for certain routes, often outside core service areas 	TRANSIT TRANSIT TRANSIT TRANSIT TRANSIT TRANSIT TRANSIT TRANSIT TRANSIT
Contract a substantial portion of bus operations	 Within the same network, use contracts alongside public operations, usually from different facilities 	Denver RTTD Metropolitan Transit System San Diego
Contract bus operations entirely	 Use one or more vendors to provide all bus transportation and maintenance Also occurs internationally MTR Transport for London 	Image: With the second seco

How has the mix of public vs. contracted bus service provision changed in the US?



1 Annual revenue miles for all bus modes reported in National Transit Database (Motor Bus, Commuter Bus, Rapid Bus, Trolley Bus) Source: National Transit Database

Why do transit authorities contract bus transportation and maintenance?





1 Government Accountability Office GAO-13-782: *Transit Agencies' Use* of Contracting to Provide Service. Survey in April 2013

NICE (Long Island Bus) has improved performance and lowered cost by contracting its entire bus service





1 NICE defines on-time as departure within 1 minute prior to and 5 minutes late vs. scheduled departure time Source National Transit Database, expert interviews

Las Vegas has contracted its entire fixed-route bus service to competing providers





Performance



- 85-90% OTP¹ on all routes
- Service contracted to two providers in order to increase competition and drive performance
- Survey of customers across routes reveals that 40% are highly satisfied, compared to industry average of 12%²



- Cost of ~\$100/revenue hour in 2014
 - Public authority determines routes and fares, and owns facilities and vehicles

1 RTC of Southern Nevada defines on-time as departure within 2 minutes of scheduled time

2 A "highly satisfied" customer is one who ranks the transit system as 8-10 (on a scale of 1-10, 10=highest rating)

Source National Transit Database, expert interviews, public contracts

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How do authorities that have substantial in-house and contracted bus operations perform?



Example systems		work size enue miles	Bus service cost 2014 \$ per revenue hour ¹	Reliability OTP ²	
RID	21M	Public authority	\$114/hr	84%	
Denver	15M	First Transit and TransDev	\$67/hr -40%	87%	
Λ	14M	Public authority	\$106/hr	86%	
Orange Co	5M	First Transit	\$70/hr -34%	85%	
M	68M	Public authority	\$114/hr	73%	
Los Angeles Co.	6M	MV, TransDev and Southland	\$65/hr -43%	79%	
			MBTA FY14 cost for \$131 per revenue ho		

1 Total 2014 cost of bus vehicle operations, bus vehicle maintenance, and bus non-vehicle maintenance reported by NTD – excluding G&A 2 On-time performance, which is often measured differently across different transit authorities

Source: National Transit Database, transit authority operating profiles, industry publications, and procurement contracts PRE-DECISIONAL – PROPRIETARY AND CONFIDENTIAL

How much does contracted bus service cost in the Northeast?





1 Bus service miles for EZRide and Winthrop are as of 2015

2 Includes vehicle depreciation

3 Includes vehicle depreciation of ~\$9/revenue hour

Source: MBTA data

What is the typical business model adopted when bus service is contracted?



SERVICE	Scope of service contracted	 All bus transportation and maintenance services, with some exceptions (e.g. OCTA's Anaheim base contracts transportation only)
	Asset ownership	 Authorities provide vehicles due to lower cost of capital and practical need to retain ownership Contractors typically run and maintain authority owned facilities
	Contract terms and oversight	 Performance monitoring processes to ensure performance complies with contractual terms Payment is often on a per-revenue hour basis, although fixed-cost and per-trip arrangements also exist Duration usually 3-5 years with optional extension(s)
	Labor practices	 Most private vendors have unionized workforces and bring in their own management Benefit rates usually lower from less expensive health plans and retirement plans Private operators can generally operate with a leaner headcount due to increased productivity and lower absenteeism

Source: Government Accountability Office, assessment of existing contracts, expert interviews

What could a private-sector contractor do to improve performance and cost of the bus system?



Lean and efficient management structures (e.g., NICE reduced the Modernized. cost-effective number of inspectors by eliminating facilities with outside storage the pick process) Improved vehicle reliability (e.g., Denver RTD has experienced 67% less repeat incidents per unit, and Improved service quality increased mean miles between from dispatch technology and failures in their private provision) schedules that better match run times (e.g., Denver RTD Vehicle/service innovation and Nassau county increased OTP in years following (e.g., Nassau county improved schedule efficiency by matching contract) vehicle size to route demand, utilizing smaller vehicles) **Competitive wages** and benefits (e.g., Nassau county realized savings in Increased labor productivity and shorter vehicle downtime (e.g., Nassau labor costs via more county implemented look-ahead planning, closely tracked parts inventory, and flexible work- rules improved standardization to reduce time-on-task) and private benefits)

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Current performance of the MBTA bus system What have other agencies experienced when contracting for bus service?

What contracted operating models could the MBTA consider for bus?

What contracting principles could maximize likelihood of high service quality?

- Select a vendor on performance potential as well as low cost
- Structure contract with several addressable and specific key performance indicators, e.g.:
 - Required OTP targets with a fine schedule
 - Miles between road-call standards for all vehicles
 - Target spare ratios
- Realistically asses asset condition, and specify a quality / modernization standard for new facilities
- Hold structured and constructive labor negotiations with the goal of retaining and transitioning MBTA employees to private workforce

Can be met through:

- Enhanced scheduling technology
- Supply-chain management
- Standardized operating procedures and preventative maintenance scheduling
- Look-ahead maintenance planning





1 Arborway, Fellsway, Quincy, and Lynn; identified by MassDOT "Focus40 investment plan for the MBTA" as needing full rehabilitation or replacement 2 Buses to replace rail service during construction

3 Included within "All bus garages" savings of \$100-130M; \$2M included in "Four Focus 40 bus garages" savings of \$30-45M

Source: MBTA data

A By how much could a phased-in performance contract reduce operating costs at the four "Focus40" garages?



Four "Focus40" garages¹: Cost growth and potential savings from performance contracts²



- 4 Assuming contract cost growth of 2% annually (versus 3% annual MBTA cost growth)
- 5 Labor grows at 2.5% annually, fringe rate increases to ~52% due to increasing pension and healthcare contributions. Material & services growth at historical rate of 6.5%, with spend base reduced in 2018 for new fleet delivery. Fuel grows in line with EIA projections
- 6 Excluding the cost of vehicle depreciation
- Source: MBTA Data, expert interviews

A Four garages were identified in the MassDOT Focus40 plan as needing major rehabilitation or replacements







 Major floor and structural disrepair

Allocation of **MBTA capital funds** could be required to rehabilitate or replace these facilities

Source: MassDOT "Focus40 investment plan for the MBTA"; "CH2MHill MBTA Bus Maintenance Efficiency Study", Images from MBTA

Temporary floor jacks replace failed supports

What are the potential uses of the cost savings from contracted service?



У К Л К

Reduce operating deficit per FMCB mandate

Potential **\$30-45M** of operating cost savings from contracting

Reinvest savings for ~15%^{1,2} more revenue hours of service

1 Assumes additional revenue hours are purchased from outside provider at \$111/revenue hour in FY21

2 Requires additional capital investment in buses and facilities

Source: MBTA data, expert interviews

A What are the potential paths for the existing workforce at these 4 garages if transportation and maintenance are both contracted?



Employee category	Current Focus40 garages headcount ^{1,2}	
Bus operators	577	
Inspectors	54	1-
Machinists	96	
Fuelers	24	
Other ³	38	
Total	789	

Potential pathways for current employees ...

Some or all employees moving to the contractor

Employees moving into positions at other bus garages as they become available

~672^{2,4} employees are expected to attrite from the bus system over the next four years, including retirement, voluntary, and involuntary separations

Employees moving into positions elsewhere in the MBTA as they become available

Expected 4-year attrition for the operators, machinists, inspectors, and fuelers for the entire MBTA is $\sim 1,000^5$ (for all positions it is $\sim 2,000$)

1 Fellsway transportation headcount allocated from Charlestown district by total hours

- 2 Including both full-time and part-time employees
- 3 Includes garage administrative staff, supervisors, etc.
- 4 Assuming annual attrition of 97 bus operators, 8 inspectors, 30 machinists, 4 fuelers, and 29 "other" in line with 10-year historic averages voluntary and involuntary attrition and movement to non-bus MBTA positions
- 5 Assuming placement into non-management positions outside the bus system

Source: MBTA data

B Could the MBTA rapidly expand capital delivery by increasing bus diversion support through a performance contract?





² Based on Winthrop bus route cost, assuming MBTA owns buses, excluding vehicle depreciation of ~\$9/revenue hour, assumes total operators based on MBTA total operator : total vehicle hour ratio

Source: MBTA data, expert interviews

C What has been the impact on maintenance cost when new fleets are introduced?





1 Division of growth periods allows for 2 years' lag in the potential impact of new buses on maintenance cost per mile 2 Fully loaded maintenance cost per mile including total labor and fringe bill

Source: National Transit Database

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C Could performance contracts for heavy maintenance activities reduce costs?

Bus heavy maintenance cost at Everett

Total	\$19M	Vendor prices MBTA
		Cost of select powertrain activities ¹
Powertrain	\$12M	Detroit Diesel engine rebuild\$26kCosts for these activities 10-20% above vendor prices
		Cummins\$24kIf scalable, total FY16engine rebuild\$28ksavings from moving
		GEN4 transmission rebuild
		Cost of select jobs (labor only) ² Body and paint costs are 15% to
Body and Paint	\$7M	Average paint \$62k 20% above market \$86k
	φr m	Basic dent repair \$94k If scalable, FY16 savings on body \$1-1.5M

1 Estimates based on local vendor pricing

2 Vendor pricing based on competitive wage rates in the Boston area and profit margin for similar work

Source: MBTA data on Everett costs versus vendor pricing; MBTA payroll data

and Bureau of Labor Statistics Boston Metro wages

If the policy decision is made to expand MBTA bus service by 25-50%, what would be the likely required funding?



1 Depending on garage size and service level added

2 Assuming current space/bus and maintenance bays/bus at Fellsway (outdoor storage garage) is required; WRTA new facility cost of ~\$650/sqft

3 Assuming contracting labor efficiency

4 Assuming ~0.6M - 1.2M hours of service added at either internal MBTA cost of \$164/revenue hour vs. contracted cost of \$111/revenue hour Source: Analysis of existing MBTA staffing levels and asset base


In conclusion...

- The MBTA bus system is a critical service that is currently facing the challenge of aging capital assets, low on-time performance, and a growing cost base
- Other authorities' experience with contracting and the MBTA's experience locally – indicate contracting could be a viable solution
- The MBTA can explore contracting for:
 - All transportation and maintenance activities currently performed from four garages needing major rehabilitation or replacement
 - All bus diversions service
 - Heavy maintenance activity currently performed at Everett
 - All new bus service added in the future

The MBTA could test the market to answer these questions:

- What innovations and technology could a contractor bring to improve operations and customer service?
- To what extent could costs and the required taxpayer subsidy be reduced through contracting?
- Could a contractor cost-effectively provide modern facilities to replace the MBTA's worst-condition ones?
- How much flexibility to expand service would contracting give the MBTA?

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Main messages in this discussion of rail car maintenance



Baseline

- In FY2016 the MBTA spent approximately \$58M in operating costs on rail car maintenance, including \$19M of heavy maintenance spend in Everett¹
 - Maintenance spend on the Red and Orange lines is driven by the age of the fleets, ~36 years old. Unit maintenance costs could be reduced by the delivery of new fleets (by CRRC in 2022), and management actions to adjust headcount accordingly
 - The Blue line fleet is relatively new with higher spend due to a Reliability Centered Maintenance program (RCM) which is expected to reduce heavy maintenance/overhaul costs on this fleet in the future
 - At current course and speed, rail car maintenance costs on the Red and Orange line are expected to grow at ~9% annually (5% excluding added service) and add more than \$25M to the T's cost base
 - A range of contracting models are used by other transit authorities in order to reduce maintenance costs
 - Chicago, Atlanta, and Washington D.C. all use flexible contracts for rebuilds (e.g., quarter, mid-life, and / or three-quarter overhauls)

Questions • How are similar public transit authorities approaching rail car maintenance?

- What are the various rail car maintenance contracting options?
- What is the potential impact of contracting rail car maintenance?

1 Excluding ~\$10M of rail car operating maintenance spend associated with the Green line

Rail car maintenance costs are budgeted to rise 7% from 2015 to 2017



40

Blue, Orange, and Red line shop and heavy rail car maintenance, excluding Green line, operating costs¹



1 Includes allocation for Everett but excludes Green Line (Cabot and Wellington railcar maintenance shops and Everett rail heavy maintenance share) Source: MBTA data PRE-DECISIONAL – PROPRIETARY AND CONFIDENTIAL



MBTA fleet plan, being spent in support of the RCM on the new Blue line fleet Source: MBTA data

How do the operating maintenance costs per mile compare by line?



FY16 rail car m	aintenance per-mi	le operating co	osts	Notes
Blue Line	\$1.95/mile	\$0.83/mile \$	Everett costs ¹	 Reliability Centered Maintenance (RCM) program raises shop-level expenses but could avoid need for overhauls
				 Everett costs are lower due to RCM and newer fleet
Orange Line	\$1.62/mile	\$1.36/mile	\$2.98/mile	 High level of Everett support due to age of fleet and continuing need for repairs Does not include capital costs for overhauls
				 Does not include capital costs
Red Line	\$1.56/mile \$0.51/mile \$2.07/mile		for overhauls	

1 Excludes spend / headcount devoted to Green Line (based on hours of activities devoted to each line, with indirect allocated proportionally) Source: MBTA data

Under current plans, the Red and Orange fleets are expected to be replaced by 2022 and the fleets are planned to grow by 82 cars



	Sub-fleet car count	ts	Plans
	No 1	74	Replaced by CRRC
	No 2	58	Corporation base
Red Line	No 3	86	Replaced by additional CRRC
	Expansion	50	procurement (December 2016)
	Total - 2022		268
Orange Line	No 12	120	Replaced and augmented by
	Expansion	32	base CRRC Corporation order
	Total - 2022	152	

The introduction of a new and potentially uniform fleet for the T's two highest-capacity subway lines can create an opportunity to re-examine how the T delivers maintenance



2 Assumes that percent growth in fleet translates to same percent growth in service miles

Source: MBTA Data, expert interviews, National Transit Database

What are the models for providing rail service?

PRELIMINARY DRAFT





What examples are there of using flexible contracts for rail car maintenance (assuming operations remain in-house)?



		Description	Example authorities
	Contract overhauls	Use flexible contracts for rebuilds (e.g., quarter, mid-life, and / or three-quarter overhauls)	metro Trans.
A	Contract overhauls <u>and</u> heavy maintenance	Overhauls and heavy maintenance of major components (e.g., traction motors, trucks, HVAC, etc.)	DART
B	Contract overhauls, heavy maintenance <u>and</u> light maintenance	Overhauls, heavy maintenance, and running repairs (e.g., doors, brakes, lighting, etc.)	Transport Sydney Trains



The strategy would be to employ a flexible contract for the new Red and Orange cars, which could comprise 100% of their respective fleets by 2022¹

1 Depends on activation of option to replace Red Line No 3, and assumes addition of 50 new Red Line cars (OEM TBD) Source: MBTA Data, expert interviews, National Transit Database

How could contracts for rail car maintenance be structured?



	Vendor pro	Vendor provides heavy components for installation			
Evenett veil	Approach	Approach Discrete component rebuilds are conducted by vendor, which utilize skilled assembly-line staff			
A Crange and Red line	Market	OEMs may be able to provide this service, but would require bidding and direct negotiations to test	\$4M		
activity FY21	Savings levers and				
cost \$18M ¹	amounts	Materials & services (spend and waste): \$1M	FY21 Savings		
	Vendor per	forms day-to-day maintenance at shops			
	Approach	Technicians from vendors to maintain vehicles on a day- to-day basis within rail shops	\$11M		
B Cabot and Wellington shops	Market	Existing liquid market does not appear to exist in U.S., as approach has not been utilized at other metros			
FY21 cost	Savings levers and amounts	Labor (wages, benefits, and efficiency): \$10M Materials & services (spend and waste): \$1M			

amounts Materials & services (spend and waste): \$1M

> FY21 Savings

1 Includes total cost of labor and materials Source: MBTA Data, expert interviews, National Transit Database

\$56M¹

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Baseline

- The current Customer Service Agent (CSA) role provides support for basic customer needs within the subway system, and includes no specialized customer service or safety training
- The MBTA currently employs 202 customer service agents (CSAs) at an average wage of \$27 per hour (excluding fringe); total cost of CSAs was ~\$17M in FY2016
- Customer satisfaction with the subway system has been average at 4.7 out of 7.0, and remained relatively flat over the first half of 2016
- Two primary contracted customer service options exist
 - Basic coverage, contracted "eyes and ears", with current transit authorities such as Denver RTD currently using this approach
 - Advanced coverage, customer service orientation with safety training specific to the role, larger rail networks such as Eurostar currently utilize this service

Questions

- Are there ways to improve the customer experience through the CSA roles?
- What are alternative models for customer support?
- What is the potential impact if an alternative approach is used?

What is the role of the CSAs and what are the associated costs?





Source: Public research on wages from job postings

How is customer satisfaction on the subway system?





What are some other ways to approach the CSA role, and what are the benefits from each model?



	Approach	Providers	Example clients	
Basic coverage	Limited to no customer service training or experience Serve as basic 'eyes and ears' to report safety issues to police	<image/> <image/> <image/>	<image/> <image/> <image/> <image/> <image/> <image/>	Regardless of the approach, coverage for CSA services could be included in the bid and contract for a new
Advanced coverage	Customer service orientation, with focus on fare issues and customer wayfinding Training in safety and rail operations	<image/>	NetworkRail	Automated Fare Collection system

Case Study: Airlines and airports have increasingly moved to flexible contracts for front-desk positions to reduce costs



Contracted airport ground operations

In the past 5 years, many airlines have moved to contracting

The primary goal has been to reduce costs and allow for flexibility in staffing

- Ability to ramp up / down quickly based on travel patterns
- Staff are generally cross trained (e.g., check in customers, handle baggage, etc.)

Performance / customer satisfaction have generally been positive

Some airlines have had lower performance during transition

Staff hold security-sensitive positions

Airline and airport customers









Providers of contracted services







What are the potential savings of contracting the customer service agent role?



Customer Service Agents: Cost growth and potential savings from performance contracts



1 Assumes wage growth of 2.5% and fringe escalation from 48.7% to ~52% due to increasing pension and healthcare costs

2 Based on public research / job descriptions and estimates of benefits

Source: MBTA data, expert interviews

Appendix





What could a private-sector contractor do to improve performance and cost of the bus system?



Lean and efficient management structures (e.g., NICE reduced the Modernized. cost-effective number of inspectors by eliminating facilities with outside storage the pick process) Improved vehicle reliability (e.g., Denver RTD has experienced 67% less repeat incidents per unit, and Improved service quality increased mean miles between from dispatch technology and failures in their private provision) schedules that better match run times (e.g., Denver RTD Vehicle/service innovation and Nassau county increased OTP in years following (e.g., Nassau county improved schedule efficiency by matching contract) vehicle size to route demand, utilizing smaller vehicles) **Competitive wages** and benefits (e.g., Nassau county realized savings in Increased labor productivity and shorter vehicle downtime (e.g., Nassau labor costs via more county implemented look-ahead planning, closely tracked parts inventory, and flexible work- rules improved standardization to reduce time-on-task) and private benefits)

Definition of hours and of cost per hour, per MBTA and per NTD

Used as standard metric throughout presentation



MBTA FY16¹ **Annual hours** Source and definition of vehicle hours by type \$/hour "In-service"-Scheduled hours allocated for passenger (\mathbf{T}) loading/unloading and running/moving time for vehicle trips In-service 1.9M \$179 hours NTD National Transit Not reported "Layover"-Scheduled recovery time between adjacent trips for a (\mathbf{T}) vehicle at a particular terminus location Layover 0.5M NTD National Transit Not reported "Revenue hours"—In-service hours + layovers (definitions above) (\mathbf{T}) Revenue 2.4M \$140 hours "Actual Revenue hours"—The hours that passenger cars travel NTD while in revenue service, includes: revenue service, passenger loading time and layover/recover time Dead head + 0.2M (\mathbf{T}) "Deadhead & Pull"—Out-of-service travel time between trips Pull when the start and end location of adjacent trips are at different locations. Travel time and miles from the garage/yard/depot to the start of the first trip and returning from last trip. Training, maintenance. Ø "Deadhead"—The hours that a vehicle travels when out of NTD charter, etc National Trans Database revenue service, including leaving/returning to the garage/yard, changing routes and when there is no expectation of carrying revenue passengers Total vehicle \$128 2.6M hours Not included in either the MBTA or NTD database definition of total hours

1 Adjusted as of November 2016 for actual FY16 fringe rate, and adjusted annual vehicle revenue hours Source: National Transit Database, MBTA PRE-DECISIONAL – PROPRIETARY AND CONFIDENTIAL 58

A The MBTA Focus40 plan identified four bus facilities in need of near-term replacement



Facility	Assessment per MassDOT Focus40	FY16 cost ²	Headcount	# of buses
Fellsway (Built 1925)	"Very poor condition."	\$13M	Maintenance Transportation 30 89 119	76
Lynn (Built 1936)	"Not suitable for maintenance of modern vehicles. Prior assessment recommended converting to storage and operations only and relocating maintenance"	\$24M	34 166 200	89
Quincy (Built 1930)	"Built in 1930. In poor condition and not suitable for modern maintenance needs and practices. Needs to be rebuilt or replaced"	\$20M	37 127 164	86
Arborway Built 2003 ¹)	"Temporary facility built in 2003. Some facilities in trailers, and only six repair bays for 119 buses."	\$35M	50 256 306	120
Total		\$111M ³	151 638 789	371

1 Built in 2003 as a temporary facility

2 Total transportation and maintenance cost associated with this facility, not including any allocation of Everett heavy repair facility or corporate overhead 3 Includes ~\$19M of Everett and Admin allocation

Source: MBTA Focus40 investment plan

A How do the MBTA's bus service wage rates compare to benchmarks?



Transportation wage rates Maintenance wage rates Bus drivers' average hourly wage Bus machinists' average hourly wage \$33/hr \$38/hr Operator FY16 top Machinist FY16 top 25% 25% wage rate \$35.86 wage rate \$39.52 \$29/hr \$25/hr \$27/hr \$25/hr \$21/hr \$21/hr -35% -36% MBTA¹ First MBTA¹ Boston Peter First Boston Peter area³ area² Pan Transit Pan Transit in CT in CT

City of Boston fleet mechanics:

- Reach top pay (\$36.30/hr) after 9 years of service
- Starting pay for an entry level position, \$21-25/hr

MBTA bus garage mechanics:

- Reach top pay of ~\$40/hr after 2 years of service
- Also receive defined benefit pension

~\$37-53 million and ~\$13-18 million annual savings respectively if MBTA's bus drivers and machinists were paid at Boston area or Peter Pan average hourly wage

Note: Peer systems (Chicago, New York City, and Washington D.C.) top wage rates are ~10% lower on average than the MBTA top rates

- 1 Average hourly wage of MBTA's drivers and machinists in 2016 September payroll
- 2 Hourly mean wage of bus drivers transit and intercity in Boston-Cambridge-Newton region in May 2015
- 3 Hourly mean wage of bus and truck mechanics and diesel engine specialists in Boston-Cambridge-Newton region in May 2015

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), MBTA payroll in Sep 2016, interview with Peter Pan

and CT Transit salaries in Connecticut from indeed.com

How does the MBTA maintenance cost per mile and bus reliability compare to peers?





Source: MBTA bus maintenance audit (CH2MHill, conducted Spring 2016)

B What share of total operator hours are represented by diversions?¹



Non-diversion hours (regular and OT)

Diversion hours² ¹ Top 3 diversion garages (by hours)

Total FY16 operator hours¹

000's



1 1 Total operator hours includes regular pay hours and OT hours (excluding non-work pay, e.g. vacation, sick time, etc.)

2 Top three diversion projects split by garage account for 85% of all planned diversion hours in FY16; remaining 15% included in total

Source: MBTA data

How is the mix of private vs. public bus service provision changing in the US?





1 NTD reporting modes (Motor Bus, Commuter Bus, Rapid Bus, Trolley Bus) Source: National Transit Database