



# Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority

William F. Weld  
Governor

Argeo Paul Cellucci  
Lieutenant Governor

James J. Kerasiotes  
Secretary and MBTA Chairman

Patrick J. Moynihan  
General Manager

June 16th, 1997

The Honorable Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.  
Chairman, Committee on Public Service  
State House, Room 39  
Boston, Mass 02133-1053

Dear Chairman Toomey:

I wish to thank you very much for your recent visit to the Boston Engine Terminal and your interest in the noise reduction. We at MBTA Commuter Rail Operations are working closely with the concerned citizens on the noise mitigation measures at the terminal.

As you observed, the construction of the new terminal is in full progress and we expect to commence the use of the new terminal building in the fall, which will allow us to service the train sets inside the building causing major noise reduction. Also as of August 1, 1997 the sets waiting outside in the rail yard will be plugged into the newly installed electrical system and this provision will allow locomotives to run in low idle thus will reduce the noise level further. Amtrak which operates the service has put out the necessary directives to implement this policy as of May 29, 1997 and we shall make sure that the policy will be followed completely in the field operations. I have personally directed our operating staff to follow up on the procedures as we wish to remain good neighbors. This policy also helps Commuter Rail to save fuel used in the service of public transportation.

The MBTA is also acquiring newer locomotives which are less noisy than the older locomotives. We are also looking at other technological applications which could help further noise reduction at the terminals not only in Boston but also at other locations on the Commuter Rail System.

I very much appreciate you spending your valuable time with us and understand your concerns and wish to thank you, your staff and concerned neighbors for their continued support of our service which is growing in the Commonwealth. I shall keep you informed regarding any new developments in this matter.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Moynihan  
General Manager

RECEIVED BY  
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK  
97 JUN 19 AM 10 47  
CAMBRIDGE MA.

A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a letter from Councillor Timothy J. Toomey, Jr., transmitting a copy of a letter from the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, regarding the noise reduction at the Boston Engine Terminal.

In City Council June 23, 1997

Placed on file  
on motion of  
Councillor Toomey