

Charles D. Baker, Governor Karyn E. Polito, Lieutenant Governor Jamey Tesler, Acting MassDOT Secretary & CEO Steve Poftak, General Manager



Date: May 24, 2021

- To: MassDOT Board of Directors & Fiscal and Management Control Board
- From: Jennifer Tabakin, Program Manager South Coast Rail
- Re: South Coast Rail Quarterly Update

# SCOPE

South Coast Rail Phase One will extend the Middleborough/Lakeville Commuter Rail to Taunton, Fall River and, New Bedford by late 2023. Work includes the construction of both new and rebuilt track, within 24 miles along the existing Middleborough Secondary and New Bedford Main Lines and 12.1 miles along the Fall River Secondary Line; the construction of six commuter passenger stations – East Taunton, Freetown, Fall River Depot, Middleborough, Church Street, and New Bedford – as well as, the construction of two layovers at Weaver's Cove in Fall River and Wamsutta in New Bedford.

# **QUARTERLY UPDATE – MAY 2021**

- Major construction is underway on both SCR phase one contracts, with work progressing on schedule and within budget with over 105 construction employees working at multiple locations.
- Since the last report to FMCB in February, SCR has advanced from 13% complete on the Fall River Secondary contract, to 20% complete; and from 3% complete on the Middleborough Secondary/New Bedford contract, to 5%.
- Delivery of (60) 1,600 foot sections of rail material arrived on Wednesday, May 19, 2021, meeting a key milestone for the MBSEC contract.
- <u>New award</u>: Route 24 bridge widening work for SCR was awarded to Cardi Corporation, within the Route 140/Route 24 interchange project. The SCR budget for this contract is \$27.2M.
- Signal and PTC design work have commenced; along with the kick-off meetings for testing, commissioning, and rail activation.

As we reach the end of FY21, we are on track for exceeding our original CIP goal of \$132,869,781; with our current projection of \$135,381,184. Our current FY21 actuals are \$93.3, at the end of April. Our FY22, CIP plan proposed \$294,765,533, reflecting the key year for construction activity.

## **CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

<u>Middleborough Secondary/New Bedford Mainline (K78CN04) SCR Constructors (Middlesex/Tudor</u> <u>Perini)</u> \$403.5M budget; 5% complete; the contractor continues installation of drainage and water systems at Middleborough Station/Pilgrim Junction, excavating and grading at Middleborough and East Taunton Stations is underway, sheet piles have been installed, track work has been completed and cable plowing completed.

<u>Signals and Communication / Positive Train Control (K78CN04)</u>. Signal design submittals are in the final review, long-lead signal hardware is approved, with work on schedule to meet the July 2021 preliminary design milestone.

<u>Fall River Secondary Contract (K78CN03) Skanska/DW White:</u> \$159 million budget; 20% complete with 752 engineering submittals in review or with approved status. Fabrication and delivery of rail materials are progressing; tree clearing, pile driving for retaining wall work has commenced, and underground utility work continues. Station activities and track replacement along the Right-of-Way has commenced.

In the past month and upcoming month active work is occurring at:

- 1. Freetown Station retaining walls/track work
- 2. Weaver's Cove in Fall River electrical work
- 3. Fall River Depot Station concrete placements
- 4. Pearce Street in Fall River bridge replacement
- 5. Farm Road Bridge in Freetown, north area walls
- 6. Assonet River Bridge soldier pile work (upcoming outage)
- 7. Adam's Lane in Freetown Grade Crossing
- 8. Campanili Drive storage and staging
- 9. Middleboro Station, Pilgrim Junction and Middleborough Yard
- 10. East Taunton Station excavation and grading
- 11. Wamsutta Yard in New Bedford receiving soil

<u>Rolling Stock</u>: SCR is funding the procurement of 16 new bi-level coaches for SCR. In February, the first pilot coaches were outfitted, with delivery planned for Spring 2022. All sub-vendor material deliveries are on schedule to meet pilot and production manufacturing needs. Also, SCR will also fund the overhaul of two GP40 locomotives, to be done at the MBTA's Rochester facility, to add to the fleet to cover SCR operations.

## **DESIGN PHASE**

- Design work for the New Bedford pedestrian bridge is progressing to meet the award in the winter of 2022.
- Design work for the off-site traffic mitigation work is proceeding, with Middleborough and East Taunton designs under review by MassDOT and the MBTA, respectively, with procurement expected in fall of 2021.
- Off site traffic mitigation work for Freetown, Fall River, and New Bedford is at 25% design completion, with procurement expected in fall of 2021.

- SCR Full Build conceptual design will begin 2022, to connect the Stoughton Line to the phase one South Coast Rail lines.
- Within the Middleborough Secondary contract, the signal and communication work is proceeding with purchase and delivery of equipment and design plans for location, integration and testing of the system.
- As referenced in the last report, \$27.2M of construction work was awarded for Route 24 bridge and traffic signals to Cardi B, to be done by Mass DOT.

## SCR PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

The MBTA SCR filled the Senior Project Manager position this month. Interviews and appointment are underway for the Senior Director of Administration, the SCR Safety Director, SCR Budget Analysis and Design Project Manager. <u>Program Management</u> is going well – the team has established a dispute resolution board as a claims-avoidance.

#### BUDGET

- Authorized funding for the SCR Program is \$1.14B, of which \$986.4M is for MBTA SCR work and \$156.2M is for MassDOT SCR work. Of this, \$174M is expended through FY20.
- The FY21 capital improvement plan includes a total of \$137.1M of which \$118.8M is MBTA and \$18.3M is MassDOT. Of this, \$96.4M has been expended to date. The program is on target to meet spending goals, with \$30.9M spent on the Fall River contract and 15.8M sept on the New Bedford contract in FY21 to date.
- The proposed FY22 CIP includes \$288 million for MBTA work, including \$152.5M for the Middleborough Secondary/New Bedford Mainline and \$62.7M for the Fall River Secondary contract.
- Cost Curve for Fall River Secondary shows that our total baseline cost projection of \$158.9M by the end of CY22, with \$23.4M (15%) in spending through May 2021.
- Cost curve for MSNMB, show the baseline and the forecast is trending upward, reflecting the increased activity in the field and a schedule that adjusted for the real time delivery of materials. The forecast is firm for the completion date. By the end of the winter, the forecast will exceed the projected baseline.

#### SCHEDULE

On the Fall River Secondary contract, the next key milestone is to complete track replacement and reconstruction work from Myricks Junction to Adams Lane, in July 2021. On the Middleborough and New Bedford contract, there are no upcoming milestones in the next quarter.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

This quarter, the SCR distributed thirteen weekly construction updates and held seven municipal/community meetings; briefing for elected officials and established a monthly meeting with regional public safety officials. Additionally, SCR participated in coordination meetings with MassDOT on conceptual plans for Route 18 in New Bedford and design of Route 79 in Fall River. SCR maintains a hotline and website to respond to questions and concerns.

#### LOOKAHEAD

This spring and continuing through the summer there will be an increase in construction activity along the Fall River, Middleborough, and New Bedford lines.