Green Line Extension to Hyde Square

Continue service on the E Line for a mile beyond Heath Street

Project Description

The existing Green Line beyond Brigham Circle would be upgraded and extended beyond Heath Street to Hyde Square, creating an improved transit connection between the Longwood Medical Area and Jamaica Plain. The existing protected rail median on Huntington Avenue would be extended to South Huntington by moving on-street parking to side streets converted to one-way pairs. In-street operations south of Huntington could continue, with the final alignment to serve Hyde Square determined through a separate process.

Benefits and Issues Addressed

Huntington Avenue is a heavily-traveled corridor that greatly interferes with Green Line operations west of Brigham Circle, where a protected transit median has not yet been built. More efficient operations increase transit access to the LMA in both directions, while a southerly extension to Hyde Square connects thousands of residents with rail transit and connects the Centre Street Main Street district in Jamaica Plain to the rest of the city on rail, further helping to reduce reliance on driving in this congested part of the city.

Implementation

Approximate Cost: $40 million for design and construction
Potential Funding Sources: City capital plan, MBTA, and FTA
Who’s responsible: MBTA
Time Frame: 15+ years

Best Practices

In Los Angeles, CA, the most recent Gold Line light rail extension opened in 2016. Ridership is already well above expected levels, with 66% of new riders coming from private vehicle commutes.

Public Input

“Extend the Green Line to Hyde Square.”

“The Green Line should be extended 6/8 of a mile to Hyde Square, where there is great residential and commercial activity, and therefore serve the needs of hundreds more residents and bring thousands of people to the commercial and cultural hub of Boston’s Latin Quarter. This is more crucial now that the South Huntington Avenue corridor is in the midst of important development, with at least 200 new units along the avenue.”

“Green Line to Hyde Square would be a ‘game changer’—serve people where they are.”

– Roslindale roundtable