

Harvard Square Station Busway Improvements

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) is completing the final design of improvements for the Harvard Square Station Busway to enhance the level of service, performance, and passenger safety.

Located within Harvard Square Station, the busway connects 10 bus routes serving Cambridge and the surrounding communities with the MBTA Red Line. The busway is the third busiest bus stop on the MBTA, and averages 16,000 passengers per weekday.

WHERE IS THE TUNNEL?

The tunnel extends from Mass. Ave. near Cambridge Street, underneath Harvard Square and Brattle Square, onto Mount Auburn Street. The 1,380-foot long tunnel includes an upper (northbound) and a lower (southbound) tunnel.

WHY ARE IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED?

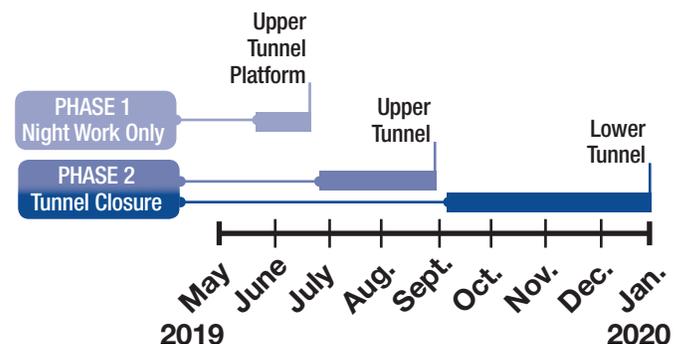
Originally constructed in 1912, Harvard Square Station was last renovated in the 1980s and improvements are now needed to address aging infrastructure. Inspections of the busway structure and systems in 2015 and 2017 identified deterioration of the structure, such as leaks and cracks in the walls and roof slabs, rutting of the roadway surface, and flooding of the platform.

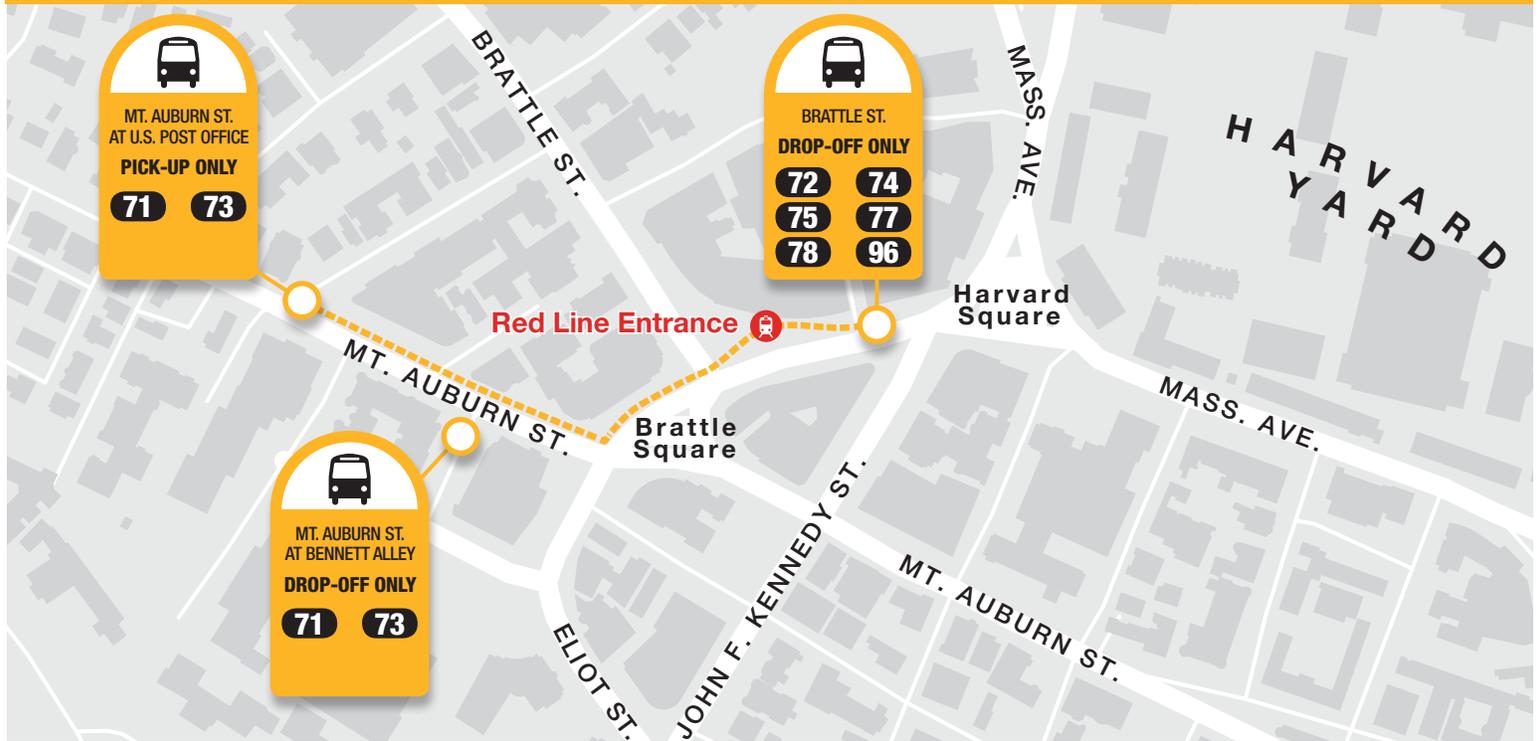
WHAT'S GOING TO CHANGE?

The planned improvements will upgrade, replace or repair the road surface, drainage system, electrical and life safety components, overhead catenary system, mechanical systems, and the tunnel structure. Improvements are also planned for station lighting, signage, architectural finishes, and ADA and code compliance.

PLANNED BUSWAY IMPROVEMENTS

- High performance concrete roadway
- Redundant pumps for improved drainage and resiliency
- Structural repairs to joints to prevent infiltration of ground water and extend tunnel's service life
- Fiberglass catenary wire supports to improve functionality
- Platform and tunnel lighting and signage
- Electrical and security system
- Accessibility improvements





BEGINNING JUNE 23



Temporary Bus Service & Stop Changes during Harvard Busway Improvements

Construction will be phased to maintain bus service during construction with one tunnel remaining open at all times. The planned construction will require closure of one tunnel at a time for a six-month period. Bus service will be as follows:

72 74 | Outbound Mass. Ave. and Concord Ave. buses will board passengers
75 77 | in the open tunnel while inbound buses will drop off passengers at a
78 96 | temporary bus stop on Brattle Street.

86 | to Sullivan Square will continue to use the open tunnel.
 to Reservoir will continue to travel at street level.

71 73 | will drop-off and board passengers on Mt. Auburn Street
 and *will not enter the tunnel.*

RED LINE | Signs at the **Brattle Street** and **Mt. Auburn Street** stops will direct passengers connecting to the Red Line to the nearest station stairway and elevator entrances on Brattle Street. These entrances will remain open providing an accessible path to the Red Line throughout tunnel reconstruction.

The MBTA is working with the City of Cambridge Traffic, Parking & Transportation Department, Department of Public Works, Police and Harvard University to coordinate traffic patterns and minimize impacts to the public.

Learn more at MBTA.com/harvardbus