Route 47 Routing

MBTA presentation to Cambridge Transit Advisory Committee
July 7, 2021



Overview of project and results

Developing data

Routing options









Customer experience measures

Subtitle

Walking time

- Changes affect those who transfer between the 47 and other transit at Central Square.
- Estimated at 1,205 people on a typical 2019 weekday.

Travel time

- Changes affect those who travel to or from Central Square.
- Estimated at 2,020 people on a typical 2019 weekday.

Waiting time

- Changes affect those who ride the 47.
- Estimated at 5,565 people on a typical 2019 weekday.



Customers who are travelling to and transferring at Central Square benefit using the Mass Ave alternative

		Walking Time	Travel Time	Additional Waiting Time	Total
59 feet per minute	Mass Ave	0:02:21	0:03:30 (+0:00:16)	0:00:26 (+0:00:26)	0:06:17
	Green St	0:06:06 (+0:03:45)	0:03:14	0	0:09:20 (+0:03:03)
264 feet per minute	Mass Ave	0:00:46	0:03:30 (+0:00:16)	0:00:26 (+0:00:26)	0:04:42
	Green St	0:01:44 (+0:00:58)	0:03:14	0	0:04:58 (+0:00:16)

- NACTO: "people who walk with assistance—in form of canes, walkers, or other devices are limited to speeds of 0.3 m/s–0.5 m/s"* or 59 feet per minute to 98 feet per minute.
- Five-minute quarter mile: 264 feet minute.



Customers overall benefit using the Green St alternative

		Walking Time	Travel Time	Additional Waiting Time	Total
	Passengers	1,205	2,020	5,565	
Time per Passenger	Mass Ave	0:00:57	0:03:30 (+0:00:16)		
	Green St	0:02:14 (+0:01:17)	0:03:14	0	
Time Total	Mass Ave	19:03:36	117:49:32 (+9:14:10)	40:12:23 (+40:12:23)	177:05:31 (+23:32:03)
	Green St	44:58:06 (+25:54:30)	108:35:21	0	153:33:28



Customer experience measures: weighting

Subtitle

- Walking and waiting for a bus is perceived as taking more time than riding a bus.
- As part of the Bus Network
 Redesign, our colleagues at OTP are
 using a multiplier of 2 for this, so we
 did as well.
- This is referred to below as "weighted delay".



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Customers overall benefit using the Green St alternative

		Walking Time	Travel Time	Additional Waiting Time	Total
	Passengers	1,205	2,020	5,565	
Time per Passenger	Mass Ave	0:00:57	0:03:30 (+0:00:16)	0:00:26 (+0:00:26)	
	Green St	0:02:14 (+0:01:17)	0:03:14	0	
Time Total	Mass Ave	19:03:36	117:49:32 (+9:14:10)	40:12:23 (+40:12:23)	177:05:31 (+23:32:03)
	Green St	44:58:06 (+25:54:30)	108:35:21	0	153:33:28
Time per Passenger (weighted)	Mass Ave	0:01:54	0:03:30 (+0:00:16)	0:00:52 (+0:00:52)	
	Green St	0:04:29 (+0:02:35)	0:03:14	0	
Time Total (weighted)	Mass Ave	38:07:12	117:49:32 (+9:14:10)	80:24:46 (+80:24:46)	236:21:30 (+37:49:56)
	Green St	89:56:13 (+51:49:00)	108:35:21	0	198:31:34



Summary

Subtitle

- We compared the total time impact of the Mass Ave and Green St alternatives.
- The Mass Ave alternative created time savings only for those alighting/boarding at Central Square.
- The Green Street alternative created much larger time savings when all riders are considered, including the majority of route 47 riders who do not go to Central Square.
- These conclusions are true if a 2x weight is added to walking and waiting time.
- Therefore, the MBTA Service Planning recommendation is to pursue the Green Street alternative.



Developing Data

Developing data: Overview

For each alternate routing (Massachusetts Avenue and Green Street) we calculated:

Walk Time

WHAT:

Time to walk between each proposed stop and nearest Red Line entrance at various walking speeds

SOURCES (distance/time):
Google Maps measuring tool
Average waiting time to cross
Mass Ave from the City
NACTO walking speeds

SOURCES (customers): MBTA Ridership (2019) and Transfer (2017) data

CALCULATE:

(Distance x walking speed) + Applicable Waiting Time to Cross

Travel time

WHAT:

Time it would take the bus to travel the proposed route

SOURCE (travel time):
Streetlight Data, a service that
compiles travel time
information using cell phone,
vehicle data

SOURCE (customers): MBTA Ridership (2019) data

CALCULATE:

Measure the average time it takes to travel the road segments in a motor vehicle at different times of the day.

Wait time

WHAT:

Additional wait time passengers experience with longer headways due to longer route travel time

SOURCE (travel time): Streetlight Data

SOURCE: (customers): MBTA Ridership (2019) data

CALCULATE:

(Additional travel time)/2
We divide by 2 assuming
passengers arrive at stops at a
continuous basis.

Total

(Walk Time) x (Number of impacted passengers)

+

(Travel Time) x (Number of impacted passengers)

+

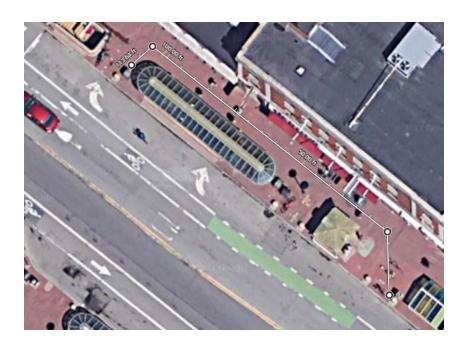
(Wait Time) x (Number of impacted passengers)



Distance, speed, and time

Walk Time

Walk distance to nearest Red Line entrance



Average waiting time to cross Mass Ave



Speed

It is important to look at range of experiences

- Five-minute quarter mile: 264 ft/min
- NACTO: "People who walk with assistance—in form of canes, walkers, or other devices—are limited to speeds of 0.3 m/s–0.5 m/s" or 59 ft/min to 98 ft/min.



Distance, speed, and time

Walk Time

Crossing Mass Ave adds on average 37.5 seconds.

About 77% of transfers were 47 Outbound to Redline Outbound or Redline Inbound to 47 Inbound, which favors the Mass Ave proposal.

	Transfer	Cross Mass Ave?	Transfer	Cross Mass Ave?
Mass Ave	47 OB to RL OB	N	RL IB to 47 IB	N
Mass Ave	47 OB to RL IB	Υ	RL OB to 47 IB	Υ
Green St	47 OB to RL OB	Υ	RL IB to 47 IB	N
Green St	47 OB to RL IB	N	RL OB to 47 IB	Υ



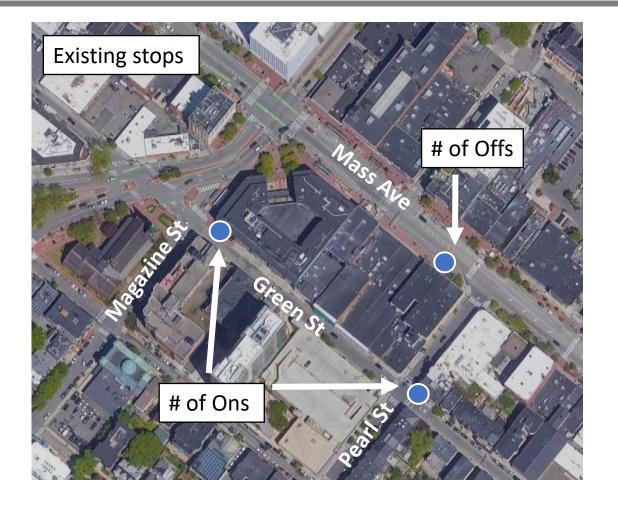


Passengers Affected

Walk Time

2,020 Route 47
passengers impacted at
the three existing stops
on the map ->

Data source: MBTA Ridership by Stop data from Fall 2019





Passengers Affected

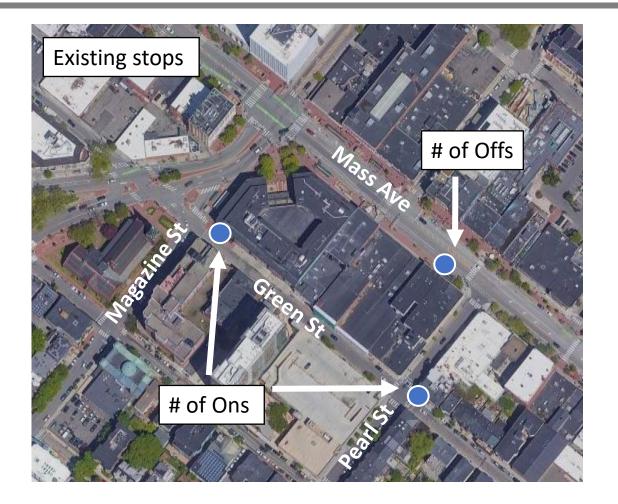
Walk Time

2,020 Route 47
passengers impacted at
the three existing stops
on the map →

Data source: MBTA Ridership by Stop data from Fall 2019

60% transfer to transit (78% of those transfer to/from the Red Line)

Data source: MBTA Origin-Destination-Transfer model (ODX) data from 2017 (latest)





Passengers Affected

Walk Time

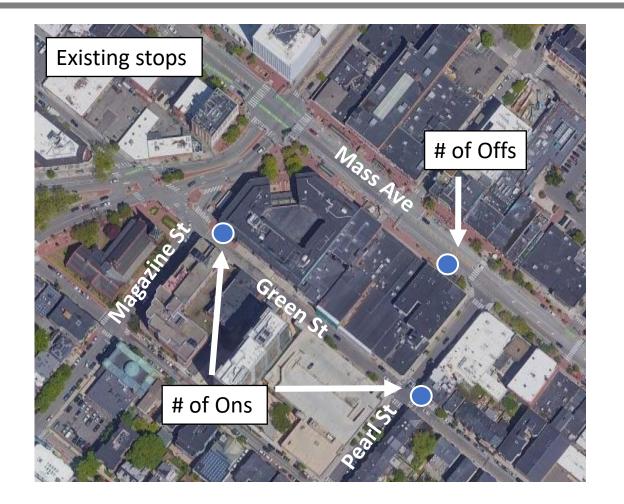
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Therefore, 1,205 Route 47 passengers are affected by Walking Time.





Passengers Affected

Walk Time

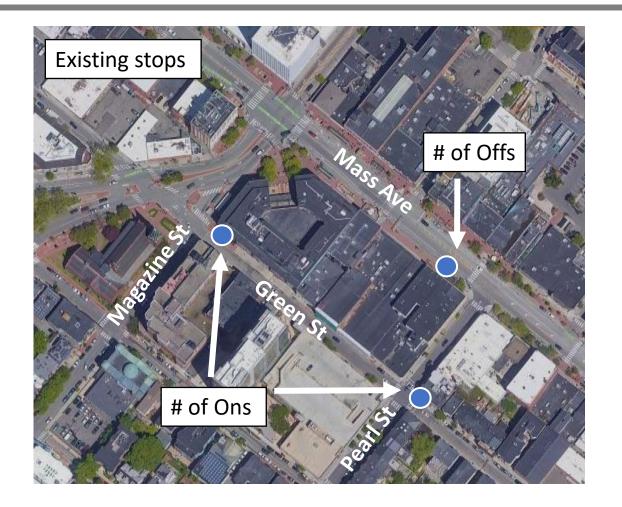
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Data source: MBTA Origin-Destination-Transfer model (ODX) data from 2017 (latest)

Therefore, 1,205 Route 47 passengers are affected by Walking Time.



Total Walking Time = (Walk time per passenger) x (# of affected passengers)



Developing data: Travel Time

Sources and Methodology

Travel time

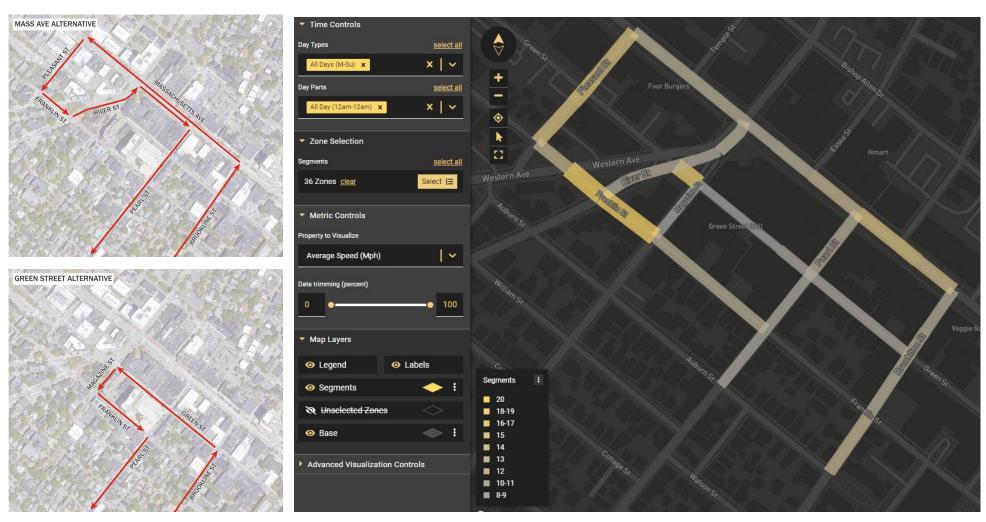




Developing data: Travel Time

Sources and Methodology

Travel time



This does not account for buses running slower than cars, and does not account for the time to turn, therefore minimizing the impact of travel time, favoring Mass Ave proposal.

Developing data: Travel Time

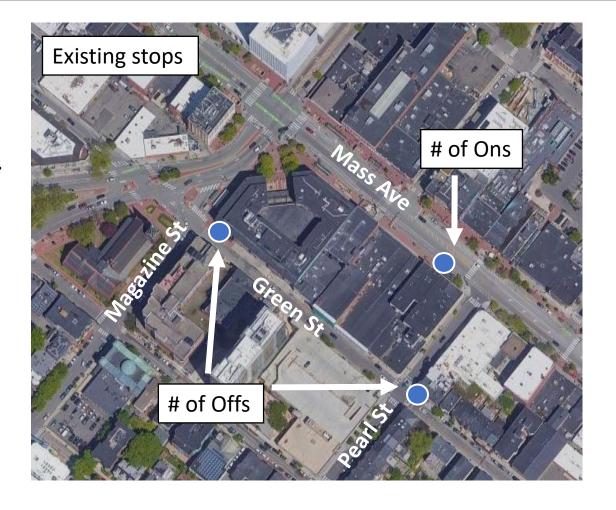
Passengers Affected

Travel time

2,020 Route 47 passengers impacted at the three stops on the map ->

Data source: MBTA Ridership by Stop data from Fall 2019, broken down by time of day.

Therefore, 2,200 Route 47 passengers are affected by Travel Time

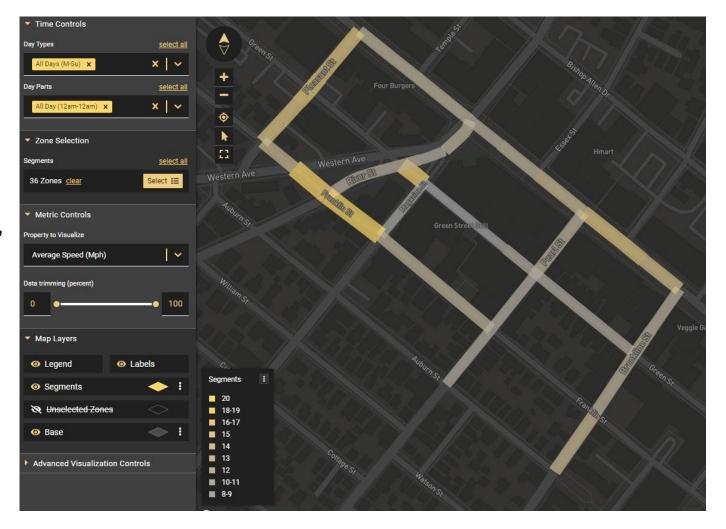




Sources and Methodology

Wait time

- If you have the same number of buses, and it takes longer to run the route, the buses come less frequently.
- Streetlight data was used to understand the full run time, including deadhead, for each proposal at different times of day.
- Customers arrive at stop at different times, so we do not assign entire waiting period to each. Rather averaged to half the waiting time per passenger.



Passengers Affected

Wait time

On average, 5,565 passengers ride the Route 47 daily

Data source: MBTA Ridership by Stop data from Fall 2019, broken down by time of day.

Assumes 100% of Route 47 passengers are impacted by longer travel times.

Therefore, 5,565 Route 47 passengers are affected by Travel Time

Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority									
Route 47									
Weekday - Inbound									
Fall 2019									
(Urban Transportation Associates)									
	06:45	06:45 (47.8)(B287) [62] {FA19}			07:00 (47.8)(B288) [69] {FA19}			07:15 (47.8)(B28 {FA19}	
Seq - StopID - Stop Name	On	Off	Load	On	Off	Load	On	Off	
1 - 72 - MASSACHUSETTS AVE @ PEARL ST	25	0	25.2	27.3	0	27.7	33.7	(
2 - 1817 - PEARL ST @ FRANKLIN ST	0.6	0.1	25.7	0.6	0.2	28.1	1.1	(
3 - 1764 - PEARL ST @ COTTAGE ST	2.3	0	27.9	2.5	0	40.6	2.4	0.	
4 - 1766 - PEARL ST @ ERIE ST	1.9	0.7	29	2.6	0.4	42.8	2.5	0.	
5 - 11767 - PEARL ST @ PUTNAM AVE	2.6	0.2	31.5	3.1	0.2	45.7	3.6	0.3	
6 - 1771 - GRANITE ST @ PEARL ST	1.5	0.4	32.5	1.1	0.4	46.4	1.9	0.4	
7 - 1772 - GRANITE ST @ BROOKLINE ST	0.4	8.0	32.1	0.3	0.7	46	1.2	0.4	
8 - 1773 - MOUNTFORT ST @ LENOX ST	0.2	0.7	31.6	0.4	1	45.4	0.6	2.4	
9 - 1775 - PARK DR @ BEACON ST	0.3	0.5	31.4	0.6	1.1	45	1.9	0.0	
10 - 9434 - PARK DR @ FENWAY STA	0.2	1.5	30.1	0.7	3.1	42.6	1.1	3.	
11 - 1777 - BROOKLINE AVE @ PILGRIM RD	0.1	0.2	30	0.1	0.7	42	0.5	1.4	
12 - 1778 - BROOKLINE AVE @ SHORT ST	0.3	6.4	23.9	0.8	5.8	37.1	1	6.	
13 - 1779 - LONGWOOD AVE @ BROOKLINE AVE	0.6	14.5	10.1	2.2	19.3	19.9	2.3	14.3	
14 - 1780 - LONGWOOD AVE @ BLACKFAN ST	0.5	2.8	7.8	0.9	6.4	14.4	2.2	8.5	
15 - 11780 - AVE LOUIS PASTEUR @ LONGWOOD	0.1	2.3	5.7	0.4	3.2	11.6	0.3	1.7	
16 - 11781 - AVE LOUIS PASTEUR @ THE FENWA	0.2	0.4	5.5	0.7	1.2	11.1	0.3	1.4	

Total Waiting Time = (Wait time per passenger) x (# of affected passengers)



Thank you

