

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER

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March 6, 2025

Secretary Matthew Gorzkowicz Executive Office for Administration and Finance State House, Room 373 Boston, MA 02133

Secretary Monica G. Tibbits-Nutt Massachusetts Department of Transportation 10 Park Plaza, Room 3170 Boston, MA 02116

RE: March 2025 Certification of MBTA Dedicated Sales Tax Revenues for Fiscal Year 2026

Dear Secretary Gorzkowicz and Secretary Tibbits-Nutt:

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 10, § 35T, this letter certifies for Fiscal Year 2026 the MBTA Dedicated Sales Tax Revenue. This certification was done in consultation with the Department of Revenue. The details of the two calculations are shown on the accompanying attachment.

<u>Dedicated Sales Tax Revenues (projected)</u>: The projected dedicated sales tax revenue is the amount of "monies received by the Commonwealth equal to 1 per cent of the gross receipts of a sale as defined in chapter 64H and 1 per cent of the sales price of a purchase as defined by chapter 64I from that portion of the taxes imposed under said chapters 64H and 64I as excises upon the sale and use at retail of tangible property or services, and upon the storage, use or other consumption of tangible property or of services, including interest thereon or penalties plus commencing in fiscal year 2015, the amount of \$160,000,000 in each fiscal year thereafter but not including any portion of the taxes imposed on the sale of meals as defined in paragraph (h) of section 6 of said chapter 64H." Based on the most recent Fiscal Year 2026 consensus revenue estimate of \$43.614 billion, the dedicated sales tax revenue amount for Fiscal Year 2026 is projected to be \$1.425 billion, as calculated in the attachment.

Pursuant to the July 1, 2000 Memorandum of Understanding between the MBTA and state agencies including the Office of the Comptroller and M.G.L. c. 10, § 35T(b), the MBTA is to receive the greater of the dedicated sales tax or the base revenue amount. Based on the attached calculations, the Fiscal Year 2026 dedicated sales tax revenue is projected to exceed the base revenue amount in this certification by \$192,163,982.

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If you have any questions on the calculation of these amounts, please feel free to contact Chief Financial Reporting Officer Pauline Lieu at Pauline.Lieu@mass.gov or (617) 352-8239 or me at William.McNamara@mass.gov or (617) 973-2315.

Fiscal Year 2026 MBTA Calculation - Dedicated Sales Tax Revenue:

Calculation - Dedicated Sales Tax Revenue:

Projected sales and use tax collections, exclusive of meals tax	\$ 7,908,000,000
Percentage due to the MBTA*	16.000%
16.000% of FY2026 sales and use tax collections, exclusive of meals tax	1,265,280,000
Plus \$160 million per M.G.L. Chapter 10, Section 35T	160,000,000
FY2026 projected dedicated sales tax revenue	1,425,280,000
FY2026 base revenue as certified on March 1, 2025	1,233,116,018
Difference, FY2026 dedicated minus base revenue	\$ 192,163,982

^{*} The sales tax rate is currently 6.25% for both regular sales and motor vehicles. Based on this tax rate, the MBTA dedicated percentage is 16.00% (1 cent of the 6.25 cents per dollar).

Sincerely yours,

-DocuSigned by:

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William McNamara

Comptroller of the Commonwealth

Attachment: Calculation of Fiscal Year 2026 Projected Dedicated Sales Tax Revenue

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cc: Senator Michael Rodrigues, Chair, Senate Ways and Means Committee
Representative Aaron Michlewitz, Chair, House Ways and Means Committee
Christopher Czepiel, Budget Director, Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Brian Donahue, Budget Director, House Committee on Ways and Means
Deborah B. Goldberg, Treasurer and Receiver General, Office of the Treasurer
Geoffrey Snyder, Commissioner, Department of Revenue
Joe Pagliuca, Controller, Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority
Mary Ann O'Hara, Chief Financial Officer, Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority
Danielle Cerny, Chief of Staff, Executive Office for Administration and Finance
Martha Kwasnik, General Counsel, Executive Office for Administration and Finance
Brian Melanson, Director of Operations, Executive Office for Administration and
Finance

Christopher Marino, Assistant Secretary for Budget, Executive Office for Administration and Finance

Thomas Smith-Vaughan., Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Comptroller Amy Nable, General Counsel, Office of the Comptroller Pauline Lieu, Assistant Comptroller & Chief Financial Reporting Officer, Office of the Comptroller

Tamia Buckingham, Deputy Financial Reporting Officer, Office of the Comptroller