



OFFERED BY CITY COUNCILOR

ANNISSA ESSAIBI-GEORGE

Edwards Baker Ciommo Flaherty Flynn Garrison Janey O'Malley Wu Zakim  
Campbell

CITY OF BOSTON  
IN CITY COUNCIL

*ORDER FOR A HEARING ON THE PROPOSED  
NORTH-SOUTH RAIL LINK*

**WHEREAS,** Massachusetts ranks 47th in the nation for longest commute times and 42nd in the nation for transportation infrastructure quality; and

**WHEREAS,** Boston area drivers lose an average of 164 hours each year sitting in traffic, the most in the nation; and

**WHEREAS,** The Massachusetts Commuter Rail system is effectively split between the North and South of Boston, preventing statewide connectivity and mobility; and

**WHEREAS,** A fragmented region squanders the potential of Massachusetts' existing transportation infrastructure and hobbles the regional economy; and

**WHEREAS,** Boston is the single gap in continuous service between Amtrak's Northeast Corridor, which runs from Washington D.C. to Boston, and Amtrak's Downeaster, which runs from Brunswick, Maine to Boston; and

**WHEREAS,** Connecting North and South Station in Boston, a project known as the North-South Rail Link, would unify Massachusetts' regional rail system and provide the much-needed connectivity for the region, state, and the Northeast as a whole; and

**WHEREAS,** Every member of the Boston City Council has endorsed and are members of the North-South Rail Link Working Group; and

**WHEREAS,** A MassDOT hearing on November 19, 2018, regarding the North-South Rail Link project, saw strong support of the project from the public, rail and transit activists, and elected officials. **THEREFORE BE IT**

**ORDERED,** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine the benefits and cost analysis of the North-South Rail Link project for improvement of transportation in the Greater Boston area.

**Filed in City Council: June 3, 2019**