

SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION ANDREW H. CARD, JR.
ANNOUNCEMENT OF OLD COLONY RECORD OF DECISION
JUNE 12, 1992
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

- It's great to be back in my home state with Lieutenant Governor Cellucci to make this important announcement.
- A very significant part of President Bush's effort to get our economy moving again is to build as quickly as possible a seamless transportation system.
 - Intermodal transportation -- mass transit where mass transit fits the local need, highways where highways are needed to make our economy more efficient and productive. That's what I mean by seamless transportation.
- Nothing revitalizes a city, or gives new birth to an entire region, as much as transportation. It creates jobs in construction and related industries. It supports the total regional economy -- 2,000 new jobs in the case of the Old Colony project.
- Transportation has a long term impact on jobs and productivity. In the case of the Old Colony project, it will reduce congestion on the Southeast Expressway and eliminate over 1,000 peak period automobile trips from heavily traveled roads each morning and each evening.

- This project is an environmental project as well. It will make possible a cleaner environment while at the same time creating jobs -- not losing them.
- This project will contribute to clean air objectives for the Boston region. And it shows that Massachusetts is delivering on the commitments made at the time of the Central Artery improvements decision. Those commitments were to proceed with an ambitious transit improvement program for the region.
 - This is the kind of progress that will make Massachusetts even more attractive to industry, and lead to more economic growth and more jobs.
- As a native of Massachusetts, I know personally the importance of mass transportation.
- Our forefathers recognized it when they built extensive passenger railroad service in Southeastern Massachusetts in the mid-19th century.
 - In 1945, rail service spread along all three of what became the Old Colony lines. When the Southeast Expressway opened in 1959, Old Colony was closed.

- In transportation, this is a new day and we have a new way.
 - That new way is to move people and goods in the most economical, safest and efficient way possible. That clearly means revival of the Old Colony Railroad.
- It is well known that the Old Colony project is among Governor Weld's and Paul Cellucci's highest priorities, and I'm delighted you have chosen to move forward with it.
- I'm here today to announce a Federal Transit Administration "Record of Decision" to participate in the Old Colony Rail restoration.
- This opens the pipeline for federal funds to begin flowing to cover part of the \$478 million cost of the project.
- Let me say in that regard: the MBTA has done its homework. It has meticulously worked the environmental and other pre-construction issues. It has presented a project I am proud to support.
- The project will make my trips between my hometown of Holbrook and Boston a lot easier.

- So, I am happy to announce this record of decision. This gives a green light to the Old Colony Rail Restoration and the people of the 26 Southeastern Massachusetts communities it will serve.
- Thank you very much. And good luck.

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