

11.027 City to City

Session 9 Notes

Field Trip: Green Line Extension

1. Somerville Transportation Equity Partnership
 - a. Green Line Controversy
 - b. Extending the Green Line to Somerville/Medford
 - i. Somerville is the densest city in New England
 - ii. Only one subway stop in Somerville
 - c. Documentary: "Off Track"
 - i. Green Line scheduled for Union Square in 1991 to reduce traffic and improve air pollution
 - ii. Cut bus travel time, reduce traffic to Union Square by 10,000 vehicles daily
 - iii. Most excess lung cancer/heart attack deaths per square mile of any other city in Massachusetts
 - iv. Post-Big Dig, state strapped for cash to complete its transit commitments
 1. State floated idea of replace Green Line plan with bus systems
 2. Conservation Law Foundation threatened law suit
 3. Doug Foy, Secretary of Commonwealth Development, announced reaffirmed plans for bringing the Green Line to Somerville and Medford.
 - d. Medford opponents:
 - i. Would bring more traffic
 1. People drive to Medford to take the train
 - ii. Would bring air-quality problems