

Operations Winter Preparedness

Fiscal and Management Control Board November 18, 2019 Todd Johnson

Overview

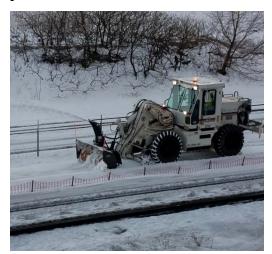
- Review of Winter of 2018/2019
- Always Evolving: New Initiatives This Year
 - Infrastructure
 - Vehicles
 - Management
- Winter 2019/2020 Communications Strategy

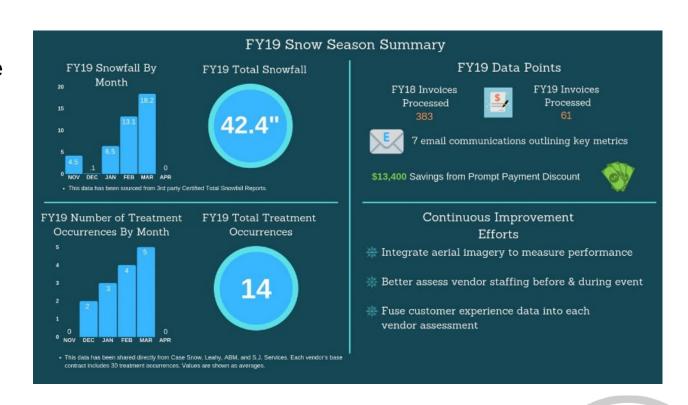




Winter 2018/2019 Recap

- 42.4 total inches of snow (~43% fell in the month of March)
- Challenging post storm freezing conditions in the month of January and February
- First year of global snow contracting
- 14 treatment occurrences
- Pre-deployment of snow fighting equipment (Braintree, Ashmont, Forest Hills, and Mattapan)
- No full system shutdowns or closures





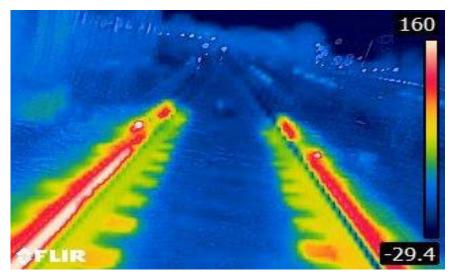
Always Evolving: Infrastructure





- System-wide Tree
 Management Program
 - Tree trimming continued Commuter Rail, Red, Orange, Green, and Blue right-of-ways
- Full adoption of the Railroad Operations Emergency Operations Center
- Preparing to address potential impacts from new railroad safety system

Always Evolving: Infrastructure







- Continued successful implementation of remote interlocking monitoring of switch heaters, third rail heaters, and trip heaters
- Weather station pilot to selfregulate heater activation
- Lessons learned from specific locations prone to commercial power outages: generator predeployment

Always Evolving: Vehicles

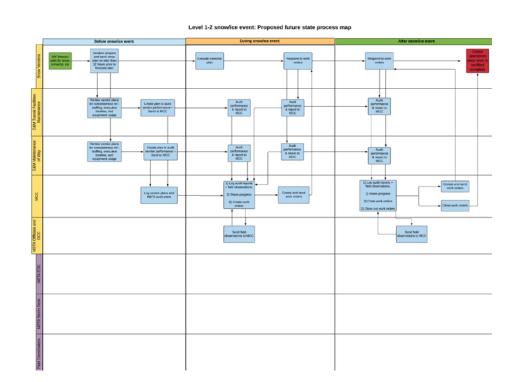


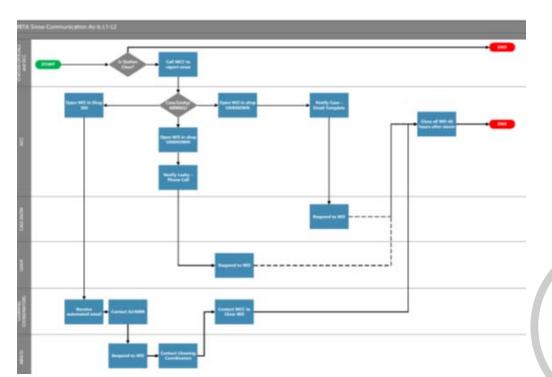
- Replacement of two snow fighters & added two Unimogs with snow attachments
- MPI locomotive fleet continues to undergo field modifications to resolve moisture intrusion



Always Evolving: Management

- Improvement efforts underway from FY19 lessons learned
- Focus to improve response to Level 1 and 2 storm events
- Increase MCC role in storm management
- Assigning one lead for E&M storm-related activities

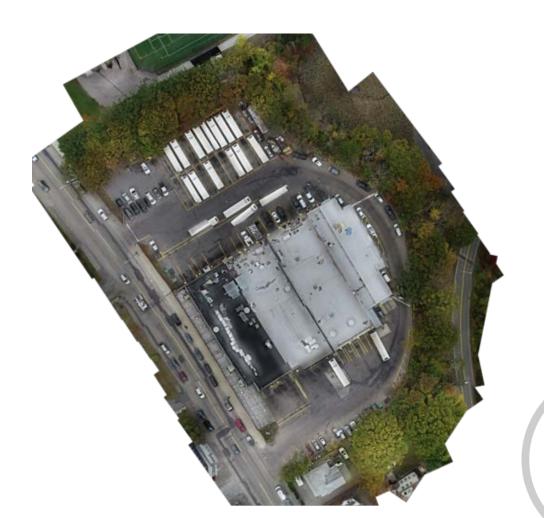




Always Evolving: Management

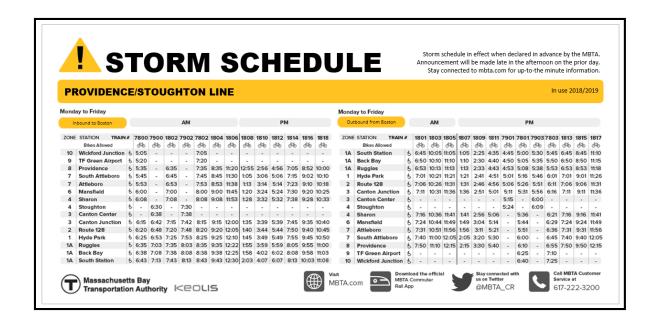
- Conducted E&M's <u>first</u> dry run exercise to prep for the upcoming FY20 snow season
- Built a more robust digital ecosystem to search for and find responsibilities by location and to support near real time reporting
- Continue pilot work with MassDOT drone team to operationalize post-storm flights to assess if (select) MBTA facility locations are appropriately cleared for operations

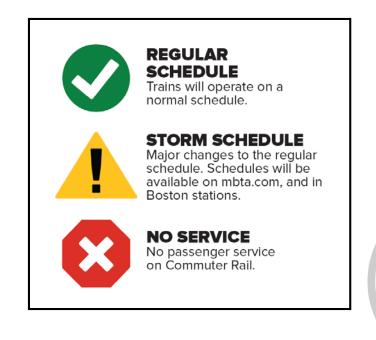
Drone footage from Quincy bus garage taken during
Oct 22 dry run exercise



Always Evolving: Management

- New reduced storm schedules for Green Line
- New internal communication plan for operators during reduced schedules
- Revised Winter 2019/2020 Snow and Ice Plan
- Table Top and full system-wide winter drill planned for December 6





Public Information Strategy

General Awareness: the MBTA has a plan and is ready for winter

- Awareness campaign
 - Goal: give customers and other stakeholders confidence that we are prepared, familiarize commuter rail customers with reduced schedule
 - Tactics: Digital screens, social media, in-vehicle ads, mbta.com/winter update, printed commuter rail schedules, press
- T-Alerts campaign
 - Goal: get more customers signed up for T-Alerts now that we're on a new system
 - Tactics: Digital screens, social media, printed ads

Actionable Information: before, during, and after storms, get customers the information that is relevant to them when they need it

- Omni-channel messaging
 - PA systems, T-Alerts, public data feed, social media, digital screens, website, in-station personnel, call center, press
 - System-wide overview on broadcast channels like website, digital screens, social media
 - Tailored to customers' usage on push channels like T-Alerts
- Before: What service we're planning to run during the storm
- During and after: any delays or disruptions that occur, next day's planned service





Features for Winter 2019/2020

Updated Winter Webpage

- Modeled after successful curated content for visitors
- On non-storm days, the page tells customers what to expect during winter weather
- If a storm is on the way, the page becomes an overview of our service plan and impacts for that storm



Direct Access to Digital Ad Screens

- Will have ability to take over all content on all screens in the event of a severe emergency or system shutdown
- Can push emergency content to digital ad screens

