



**Massachusetts Bay  
Transportation Authority**

# Public-Access Naloxone at Red Line Stations

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MBTA Board Meeting  
July 25, 2024

Rachel E. Morse, Sr Director of Transit Policy

# FY24 Budget Directive to Install Naloxone on Red Line

\$95,000 was earmarked in the Massachusetts FY24 budget for the placement of naloxone (i.e. Narcan) at all MBTA Red Line stations, as follows:

- Each red line station shall have 3 freestanding unalarmed naloxone boxes containing 2 units of 4 milligram intranasal naloxone spray;
- The boxes shall be checked daily to replace used naloxone and to create a record of naloxone used each day;
- Flyers shall be mounted around the boxes with instructions on how to use naloxone in the event of an emergency.

The program was inspired by a group of students at Harvard, the Harvard College Overdose Prevention and Education Students (HCOPES) through an article published in June 2023, “*Designing a public access naloxone program for public transportation stations*”. The budget amendment was sponsored by State Sen. John Keenan, Norfolk and Plymouth District.



# 5 Pilot Stations Launching in July 2024

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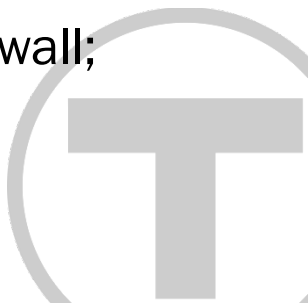
- Boxes will be installed in phases, beginning in July 2024.
- Phase 1 (Pilot) will include 5 stations: **Quincy Center, Ashmont, Andrew, South Station, and Harvard.**
- Pilot stations selected based on overdose-related data at or near stations in combination with presence or short response time for TPD in the event of an emergency.
- Pilot phase will last 3-6 months with close monitoring of uptake rate, 911/EMS call data, and oversight by MBTA Safety Department, after which the remaining Red Line rollout will be determined.



# Program Design

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- **Location of Cabinets/Naloxone:** Unpaid and paid lobby areas, as well as in or near publicly accessible restrooms. Cabinets will not be placed on platforms.
- **Signage:** Flyers in English, Spanish, and Chinese will be posted next to each cabinet indicating:
  - How to identify an overdose and how to use naloxone
  - Warning to stand back after administering naloxone
  - How to report an empty cabinet
  - Warning that MBTA staff are not trained to provide medical assistance
  - QR code linking to state harm reduction program locator and how to obtain training
- **Daily Checks and Naloxone Replacement:** RL Inspectors will check the cabinets, replacing any used, opened, or expired naloxone, and recording every replacement in their station daily report. A small supply of extra naloxone will be stored inside the Inspector's booth at stations where storage is possible.
- **Cabinets meet accessibility requirements,** including not protruding more than 4 inches from wall; hung with appropriate ranges for clear floor space.



# Public Access

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- **Program is meant for public access.**
  - No new requirement or expectation that MBTA staff will be trained to administer naloxone.
  - However, Transit Police officers do carry Narcan and are trained to administer it.
- Aim of the program is to make life-saving medication publicly available either for immediate use or for people to carry with them.
- Program design is similar to City of Cambridge's public access program: naloxone is made available in public buildings for anyone to use in case of emergency. Staff are not required to be trained but may choose to take a training offered by the state.



# Program Evaluation and Oversight

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- MBTA Safety Department has conducted Safety Risk Management (SRM) review; will monitor closely for first 90 days and then hold a second SRM.
- Data collection will include: naloxone replacement rates; 911/EMS calls; TPD and OCC responses; reports of empty or damaged cabinets; reports of overdoses reversed on site; and any known adverse safety incidents related to the program.
- Safety Department will be involved in the continuous review of data and reports to identify trends and patterns of concern.



# Appendix



# Phase 1 (Pilot)

Quincy Center, Ashmont, Andrew, South Station, Harvard





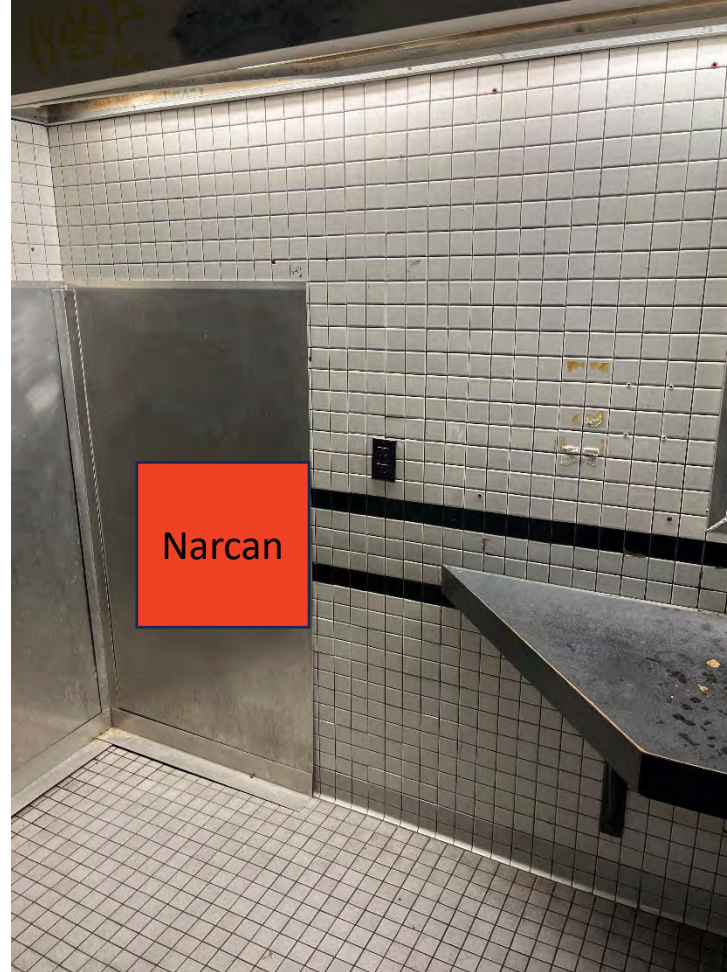
# Quincy Center

#1: Unpaid area, right of fare gates



Right pamphlet shelf will be removed

#2: Inside public restroom



#3: Paid area, left of fare gates





# Ashmont

#1: Unpaid area, north entrance



#2: Unpaid area, south entrance



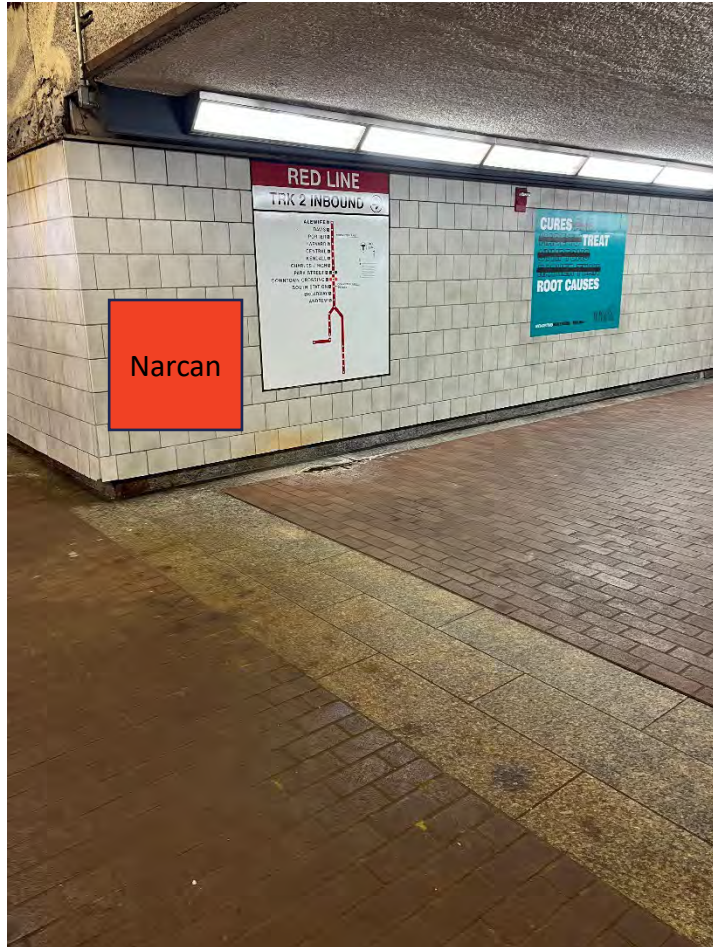
#3: Unpaid area, inside public restroom





# Andrew Square

#1: Paid area, toward inbound trk



#2: Paid area, outside corner of restrooms



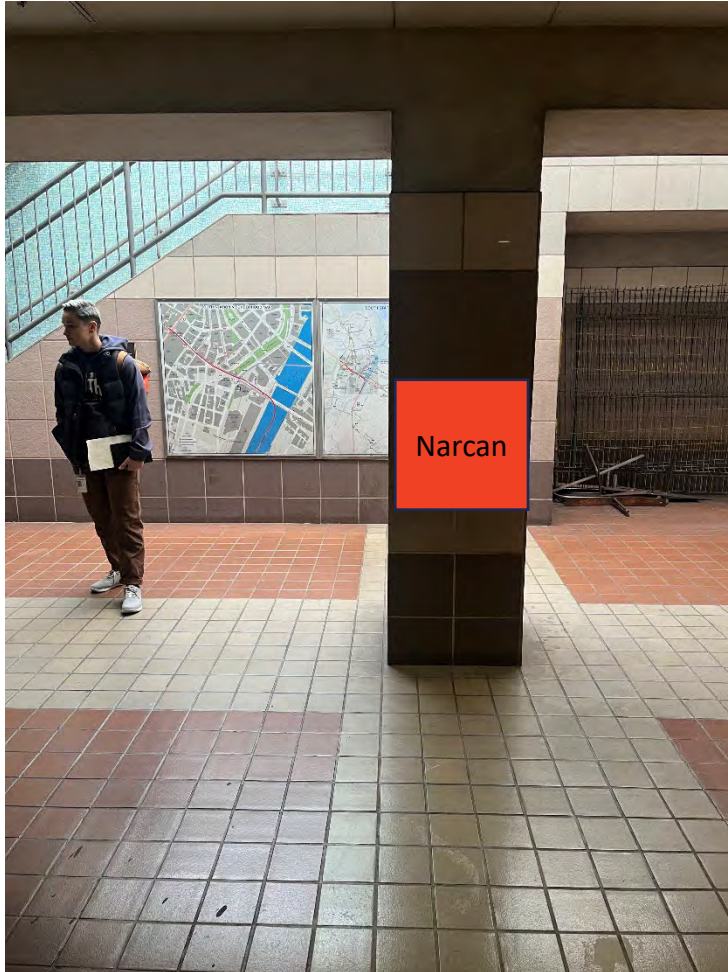
#3: Unpaid area, between bus stairwells



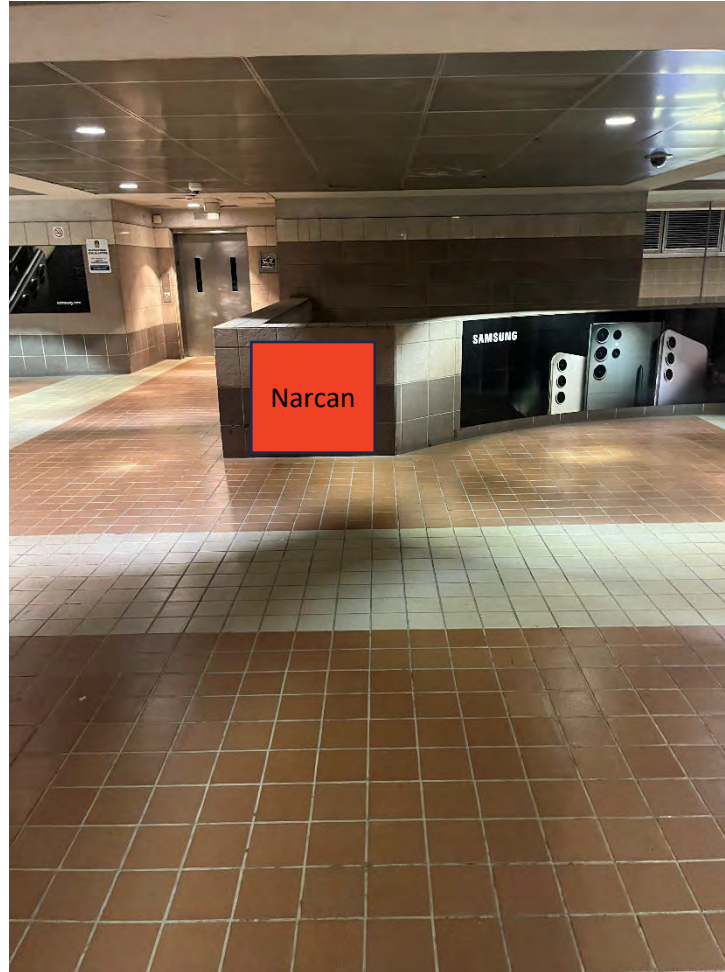


# South Station

#1: Unpaid area, RL entrance



#2: Paid area, near SL stairs



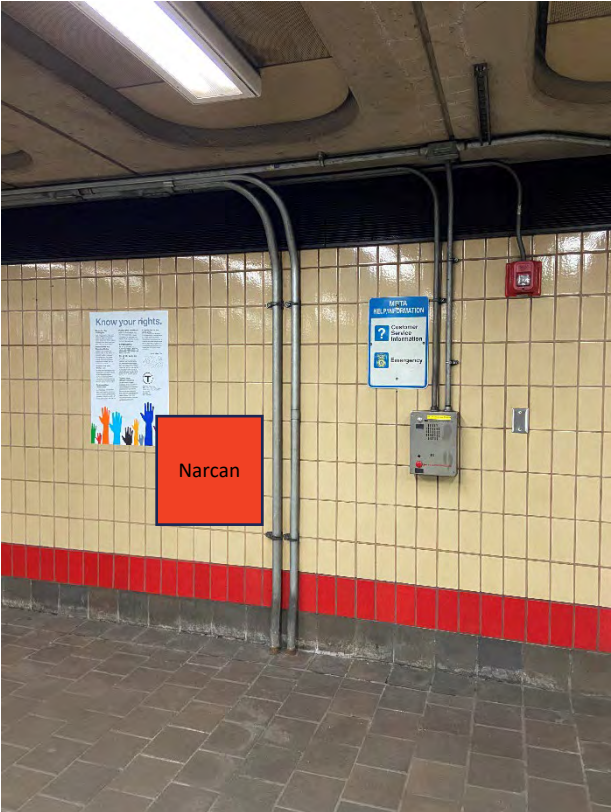
#1: Paid area, near fare gates





# Harvard Square

#1: Paid area (main entrance), left of fare gates when entering



#2: Unpaid area (secondary entrance/busway), outside restrooms



#3: Unpaid area (main entrance), left of FVMs



# Cabinet and Signage

- Cabinet: 13" x 13" x 4"
- Opioid overdose poster: 16" x 20"
- 3D wall sign: 7.5" x 6" x 3"
- MBTA sign: 1.75" x 12"





# Program Costs

| <u>Box &amp; Naloxone Quantities</u>                          |                              |            |             |
|---|------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Stations  | 22                           |            |             |
| Boxes/Naloxone per station                                    | 3                            |            |             |
| 1 more at Kendall and Central                                 | 2                            |            |             |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>68</b>                    |            |             |
| <u>Cost of Metal Cabinet</u>                                  |                              |            |             |
| Cost per box  | \$309.00                     |            |             |
| # of boxes + extra for storage                                | 90                           |            |             |
| Shipping  | \$950.00                     |            |             |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>\$28,760.00</b>           |            |             |
| <u>Cost of Naloxone</u>                                       |                              |            |             |
| Cost per dose (\$38 for 2 doses)                              | \$19.00                      |            |             |
| Min # of doses (136) + 20 extra for storage at stations (440) | 576                          |            |             |
| Shipping  | unknown                      |            |             |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>\$10,944.00</b>           |            |             |
| <u>TFM Labor - Carpenter</u>                                  |                              |            |             |
|   | Estimate (Low- Medium- High) |            |             |
| Estimated # hours of work per station + travel time           | 1                            | 1.5        | 2           |
| Avg hourly rate (x2 staff)                                    | \$180.38                     | \$270.57   | \$360.77    |
| Avg overtime rate (x2 staff)                                  | \$112.36                     | \$168.54   | \$224.72    |
| Total labor cost - avg hourly rate (x2 staff)                 | \$3,968.36                   | \$8,928.81 | \$15,873.88 |
| Total labor cost - avg overtime rate (x2 staff)               | \$2,471.92                   | \$5,561.82 | \$9,887.68  |
| <b>ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COST</b>                          | <b>\$49,591.68</b>           |            |             |
| <b>+ 15% Contingency</b>                                      | <b>\$7,438.75</b>            |            |             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$57,030.43</b>           |            |             |

| <u>Annual Ongoing Costs</u>                      |                                     |                   |                    |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| <u>Naloxone replacement</u>                      | <u>Estimate (Low- Medium- High)</u> |                   |                    |
| Uses per year                                    | 100                                 | 150               | 200                |
|  | \$1,900.00                          | \$2,850.00        | \$3,800.00         |
| <u>Cabinet replacement</u>                       |                                     |                   |                    |
| Per year   | 5                                   | 10                | 15                 |
|  | \$1,545.00                          | \$3,090.00        | \$4,635.00         |
| <u>TFM labor for cabinet replacements</u>        |                                     |                   |                    |
| # of hours of work per replacement + travel time | 1                                   | 1.5               | 2                  |
| Total labor cost - avg hourly rate (x2 staff)    | \$901.90                            | \$4,058.55        | \$10,823.10        |
| Total labor cost - avg overtime rate (x2 staff)  | \$561.80                            | \$2,528.10        | \$6,741.60         |
|  |                                     |                   |                    |
| <b>ESTIMATED ANNUAL ONGOING COSTS</b>            | <b>\$4,006.80</b>                   | <b>\$8,468.10</b> | <b>\$15,176.60</b> |

