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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Monday, March 11, 2019

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**Boston City Councilor Michelle Wu Releases Statement Following MBTA Vote on Fare Increases**

*Prior to today’s vote, Councilor Wu presented an updated petition opposing the fare increases signed by 3,200 elected officials, community organizations, and commuters.*

BOSTON – Today Boston City Councilor At-Large Michelle Wu released a statement following a vote by the MBTA’s Fiscal Management and Control Board to move forward with an amended fare increase proposal:

“It’s disappointing and frustrating to see short-sighted MBTA fare hikes approved. But the carve-outs shielding students, youth, seniors, and bus riders are important changes resulting from public pressure and weeks of community organizing by a coalition of commuters, advocacy groups, and elected officials. We remain focused on the urgent goal to make public transportation accessible and reliable for all as we face worsening traffic throughout the region and the increasingly destructive impacts of climate change. We also continue to call for immediate steps to remove barriers to transit and boost ridership, particularly urging a commitment to implementing a low-income fare, fare-capping, fare-free student and senior passes, and designated fare-free bus routes through underserved communities. Today City Councilor Kim Janey and I filed a hearing order at the Boston City Council to discuss fare elimination for the MBTA 28 Bus route, which runs from Mattapan Square to Ruggles Station in Roxbury and represents an important economic opportunity corridor. Together we’re building a movement for equity and access, and we’re not done.”

*To learn more about Councilor At-Large Michelle Wu visit* [*http://michelleforboston.com*](http://michelleforboston.com/) *or connect with her on* [*Facebook*](https://www.facebook.com/michelleforboston/)*,* [*Twitter*](https://twitter.com/wutrain)*, or* [*Instagram*](https://www.instagram.com/wutrain/)*.*