



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Cambridge Resident Runs the Rails**

*As "GM4ADAY," Richard Cobbe fills the shoes of MBCR's General Manager*

**(Boston, MA)** –Massachusetts Bay Commuter Railroad Company (MBCR) recently hosted Cambridge resident Richard Cobbe, winner of the inaugural General Manager for a Day contest. Cobbe spent a day reviewing commuter rail operations, learning about the intricacies of the 650-mile system, providing suggestions to improve commuter rail service, and discovering what it takes to manage fifth largest commuter rail network in the nation.

Following his shift as General Manager, Cobbe commented that it was extremely beneficial as a rider to learn the mechanics that go into running a successful railroad. After his behind-the-scenes look at the commuter rail, Cobbe also advocated for keeping customers better informed about the challenges facing the commuter rail as an effort to maintain a better dialogue about public transit.

Cobbe is a 33-year-old software developer who reverse commutes from Cambridge to Natick on the Worcester/Framingham line. A self-proclaimed train enthusiast, Cobbe submitted a 150-word essay explaining why he wanted to be General Manager for a day and was selected as the lucky winner out of nearly 100 entries.

His stint as General Manager for a Day included breakfast with MBCR General Manager Richard Davey, a tour of the Commuter Rail Mechanical Facility where he had the opportunity to oversee coach maintenance, a front seat ride on the Fairmount train to Readville, and meetings about safety, engineering and service reviews with top MBCR officials.

### About MBCR

The Massachusetts Bay Commuter Railroad Company, LLC (MBCR) is a partnership of Veolia Transportation, one of Europe's largest passenger transportation companies; Bombardier Transportation, the world's leader in the manufacture and maintenance of passenger rail vehicles; and Alternate Concepts, a Boston-based transportation operations and consulting firm with expertise in the design, operation and maintenance of rail transit systems. MBCR operates and maintains the fifth largest

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commuter rail network in the United States under a contract with the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority. MBCR provides service to 40 million passengers a year in nearly 80 cities and towns in Massachusetts, as well as Providence, RI.

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