



BOSTON STREET RAILWAY ASSOCIATION, INC.
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2021 Annual Fund Drive for The 5706 Fund and The General Fund

The remaining half of 2021 will show major accomplishments for the Association and the restoration of our Boston Type 5 car, No. 5706. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, we are progressing toward our new book on the Green Line from 1964 to date in the *Streetcar Lines of the Hub* series, and anticipating significant progress on 5706. Your generous donations in the past have allowed us to move ahead on all our programs and we look forward to your continued support.

Type Five 5706

The big news on 5706 is that it has been moved from the old Rail Technical Services shop in Guilford, Connecticut to our contractor's new shop site in Palmyra, Virginia. As mentioned earlier, Keith Bray our contractor, is finishing up the shop this summer. Our car has been completely encapsulated in "boat" wrap, a low-density heavy polyethylene, which



Above: 5706 nears the end of the line on the Dedham Line route, October 5, 1952. *Kevin T. Farrell Collection*

Right: 5706 leaves for Virginia, making a sharp left turn on local streets in Guilford. *Bradley H. Clarke Photo*



protected it well during the move on June 7 and 8. Encapsulation is also a recent trend in the transit industry, but it is unusual for protecting historic cars such as 5706.

We plan to focus first on completion of the car interior. At this stage of restoration, the car steel, roof and floor are complete. Most interior parts including seats, windows, doors, wiring, and lighting are on hand, either fully restored or new, and ready for installation. We will begin by installing control power, heating and lighting wiring and fixtures, headlights, and the roof monitor lights. Major wiring will occupy a trough on one side of the floor. On the other side is a

trough for the air brake and door piping. Final interior work will include two urethane paint topcoats before the new window sash and new doors, both purchased earlier, are set in place.

We will rebuild the trucks next, and install our rebuilt motors. Underbody piping and wiring, the brake rigging and brake cylinder, and our new air tanks, all of which are on hand, will follow. The remainder of the carbody will then receive at least two urethane paint topcoats. Operational testing will finalize the project.

We have raised \$424,789 as of May 31, 2021, for the 5706 restoration project. Included in this total are two grants of \$1,000 and \$2,000, both from the Mass. Bay RRE Railroad Preservation Fund, awarded respectively in April 2020, and May 2021. We are also anticipating the balance of a large bequest, which your board has

voted to allocate to the 5706 Fund. Between April 1, 2020, and May 31, 2021, 262 cash donors have contributed \$52,284 to the 5706 Fund, 97 of whom gave more than once. In the following list, asterisks acknowledge donors who have contributed to this fund more than once during this time period. As we move closer to the day when the car will run on its own, your contributions will speed this work on its way. Thank you all very much for your donations and continued support!

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The General Fund

The General Fund received strong contributions over the past year, and your Association deeply appreciates it. As a result, we have been able to fully fund a new computer for the Treasurer's Office, an essential office in any non-profit and vital for the volunteer who handles the enormous amount of record keeping that the organization demands. Federal and state record reporting continues to grow, and our seven year old computer acquired in 2014 just was not up to the task. It is purchases like this, which dues alone cannot support, that donations to the General Fund make possible.

Your contributions to the General Fund also allow us to meet the rent for our library holdings and for publication inventory storage, the purchase of office supplies and postage, and internet-related expenses — especially in the past year with our Zoom-based meetings and electronic outreach through *RollSign* and our eBulletins. Other functions supported by your General Fund donations allow us to enhance and produce *RollSign*, work on new books, and reply to historical and technical inquiries from the public and the media.

We would like someday to acquire a dedicated office space and a library area to make our historical collection easily accessible. General Fund donations may eventually help us reach these goals, and others as well.

From April 1, 2020, to May 31, 2021, we received General Fund cash contributions totaling \$15,384 from 250 donors, 81 of whom gave more than once. In the following list, asterisks acknowledge donors who have contributed to this fund more than once during this time period. Thank you all very much!

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As part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, new charitable giving incentives for tax year 2020 have been extended to 2021. Even if you don't itemize, you can take a deduction of up to \$300 in charitable donations. For those who do itemize deductions, the limitation for cash contributions, formerly set at 60%, has now been raised to 100% of an individual's adjusted gross income.

Thank you for your past contributions over the years and for your future help as well. Unpaid volunteers maintain the Association and our income is entirely devoted to restoring Type 5 No. 5706, *RollSign*, rented space, running expenses, and ongoing efforts on new publications, all recurring costs. Your past generosity has made this Annual Fund Drive a great success, and we would appreciate your continued support in furthering the goals of the Boston Street Railway Association!

Enclosed is a self-addressed envelope. You may also give online, making your contributions by credit card or by PayPal on our website, thebsra.org/donate. Donations to the BSRA are also eligible for many employer matching gift programs and if your employer has such a program, please ask if they match gifts to community historical organizations.

Thanks for your support. Your Association appreciates your contributions!

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We will acknowledge all donations by official receipt or by letter as required by Federal IRS Regulations.

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6/15/2021