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MBTA restores summertime weekend service on Quincy-Logan commuter boat line

Posted by Matt Rocheleau June 4, 2013 11:58 AM

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

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The MBTA has restored summertime weekend service to the commuter boat line that runs between Quincy and Boston via Logan Airport, reversing a decision last year to eliminate the service year round.

The F2 route, also known as Harbor Express, is scheduled to run ferries on weekends from Memorial Day through Columbus Day for at least the next three years, T spokesman Joe Pesaturo said in an e-mail.

The summertime weekend service is part of a newly-signed contract between the T and a private contractor that operates the boats, he said. The contract is scheduled to expire on March 31, 2017.

The weekend service resumed this past weekend for the first time since around Columbus Day last October when the T halted the service as part of a package of cuts that, coupled with fare increases, were approved last spring to close a \$161-million budget deficit.

Pesaturo said weekend service on the F2 will run at the same levels as it had in past years.

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On Saturdays, service on the F2 will make 18 roundtrips between Fore River Shipyard in Quincy and Long Wharf in Boston, which will include 11 stops at Logan, the T's website says. On Sundays, 14 roundtrips will be made, including 10 Logan stops. To see a list of fare prices, [click here](#).

Pesaturo said the public transit agency made the decision last year to restore summertime weekend service on the F2 because of the season's high demand.

"Given that summer is the busiest time of the year for commuter boats, this weekend service makes sense," he said.

The T this month also made some time adjustments to off-peak weekday service on the F2 route, according to the agency's website.

The new schedule can be seen [here](#).

Last month, the T awarded a contract to Boston Harbor Cruises to run the F2 and F2H lines. The company submitted the lowest bid, beating out Boston's Best Cruises which had operated the two ferry routes for more than a decade.

E-mail Matt Rocheleau at mjrochele@gmail.com.

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