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Government Center Station will close in March

By **Matt Rocheleau** | GLOBE STAFF FEBRUARY 13, 2014

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The MBTA announced Wednesday that March 22 will mark the start date for the planned two-year closure of Government Center Station — part of a \$90 million project to rebuild the busy station at City Hall Plaza.

MBTA personnel began posting signs Wednesday at Government Center and other stations to alert riders, spokesman Joe Pesaturo said. The T has also posted details online — including recommendations for navigating the system during the construction.

A transfer point for the Green and Blue lines, Government Center Station is the 13th-busiest in the system and the third-oldest, according to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority. On average, 11,315 people enter the station on weekdays.

Work on the project began in the fall while the station remained opened. The authority had planned to shut the station in September but decided to delay the closing until after the Callahan Tunnel reopens. It is also being renovated.

Trains will still run through Government Center but will not stop at the station.

The MBTA has said it will try to reduce the effect of the closing by running a bus that will stop at the Government Center, Haymarket, and State stations. Bowdoin Station on the Blue Line, normally closed on weekends and after 6:30 p.m. on weekdays, will be kept open later seven days a week.

Government Center Station is scheduled to reopen in spring 2016.

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