

# Draft Cambridge Focus 40 Input

Presentation to Transit Advisory Committee

September 5, 2018

# Previously Advocated Initiatives

- Green Line Extension and multi-use path from Route 16 to Lechmere
- Improved capacity on the Red Line and renovations to Kendall portal
- West Station with strong transit, bicycle, and pedestrian connections
- Grand Junction passenger transit service
- New Commuter Rail station in Alewife
- Bus priority facilities on city and state roadways
- Expanded/new bus service (e.g. from Sullivan to Kendall to Boston)
- Inner Belt Bridge (pedestrian, bicycle, transit only)
- System-wide program for climate adaptation and resiliency
- Electrification of the bus fleet

# Supported in Current Document/Approach

- Consideration of multiple possible future scenarios
- Highlighting importance of collaborative initiatives with municipalities
- Explicit goal to electrify the bus fleet
- Acknowledgment of opportunity for infill stations in Cambridge
- Commitment to West Station
- Inclusion of Alewife garage as early action case priority to systemwide analysis for System Access Improvements

# Overarching Challenge: Transparency/Clarity

- No link of goals (reliability, robustness, and resilience); scenarios; and data directly to projects/initiatives selected
- Need clarification on category descriptions and process for assigning ideas
- Prioritization statements are sometimes contradictory
  - If low cost IS the primary driver, costs should be discussed in report
- Some initiatives under “We’re Imagining” have no description
- Missing universe of ideas submitted and which ideas were excluded
  - What about a project universe, past PMTs with additional projects?

# Overarching Comments

- Transit Action Plans need to be better defined, and seems to bias against other city-state collaborations
- Document needs some assessment of the benefits AND costs
- Projects should link concretely back to goals, scenarios through clearly stated criteria
- How can we incorporate discussion of alternative funding schemes?
- Minor editorial comment(s)

# Cambridge Planned Projects not included in Focus40

- Bus priority into and out of Alewife (Envision and past CTPS studies)
- Improved bus service on Concord Avenue toward Alewife and Belmont (Envision)
- Inner Belt Bridge to carry transit, bicyclists, and pedestrians between Somerville and Cambridge (Urban Ring, CT4 planning)
- New “CT4” express bus service between Sullivan (or beyond to Everett) to Kendall to Boston (KSMTF)
- Grand Junction passenger rail service (KSMTF)

# Program Specific Comments – Red Line Additions

- We're Doing
  - MIT renovation of south headhouse
  - Short-term Alewife garage improvements and long-term visioning
  - Resiliency/vulnerability assessment for Red Line (especially for Alewife)
- We're Planning
  - Improved access to Alewife through bike/ped connections, bus priority
  - Alewife resiliency improvements and garage renovations/re-development
  - Kendall portal improvements
- We're Imagining
  - Extension of Red Line beyond Alewife
  - Enhancing crowded Red Line platforms

# Program Specific Comments – Bus/Silver Line Additions

- We're Doing
  - More information about bus technology being procured and plan to reach zero-emission fleet
  - City-MBTA-State partnerships: Mt. Auburn Street bus priority, South Mass Ave bus priority
  - Alewife bus priority and additional service
- We're Planning
  - New service, like CT4, and KSMTF recommendations generally
  - Public-private partnerships



# Program Specific Comments – Commuter Rail and Place-Based Additions

- Additional Place-Based locations: Alewife and North Point
- We're Planning (CR)
  - Station at Alewife on Fitchburg Line
- We're Imagining (CR)
  - Use underutilized rail ROWs such as Grand Junction for future urban rail passenger transit service