

## ALEWIFE SEWER SEPARATION PROJECT CONSTRUCTION UPDATE MARCH/APRIL 2017

Dear Cambridge Neighbor,

With spring construction quickly upon us, I wanted to update you on what to expect in the final year of extensive construction; express my appreciation for your continued support of this project; and invite you to attend our **Spring Construction Kick-off Meeting, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 6pm-8pm at the Tobin School.** I know living and working in an active construction project is challenging, particularly one this large and complex. I truly appreciate all of the efforts that residents and business owners have committed to the success of these projects - from attending numerous design meetings, to participating in neighborhood tree walks, to attending Coffee Talks, to dealing with the daily disruption and inconvenience associated with the construction. In this newsletter you will find a summary of the project improvements, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), and construction updates.

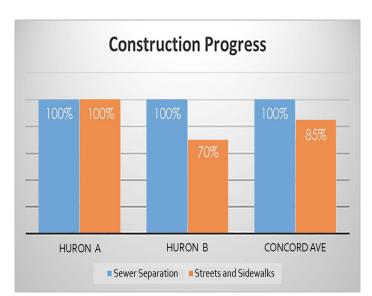
### Project Improvements:

- Newly paved streets.
- 15 miles of accessible sidewalks.
- Over 150 pedestrian ramps.
- A new artist designed bike and pedestrian path connecting Danehy Park and the Tobin School along Fern Street.
- Buffered bike lanes on Huron Avenue.
- Over 300 additional street trees.
- 31,300 linear feet (almost 6 miles!) of new natural gas mains.
- Over 33,000 linear feet of new water mains.
- No combined sewer overflows from the neighborhood to the Alewife Brook.

This next year of construction is going to be challenging, as we complete the reconstruction of Huron Avenue and the final paving of Concord Avenue. Please reach out to us with any questions, concerns, or suggestions about construction; visit the project websites; and attend the upcoming community events. We are committed to the successful completion of these improvements and to working with you throughout the process.

Sincerely,

Katherine F. Watkins, P.E. City Engineer / Assistant Commissioner for Engineering







Curbing and roadway work along Huron Ave.



Porous pavement installation.



Raised intersections on Garden Street

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

### When will the three projects be completed?

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A: Construction is scheduled to be substantially complete by the end of 2017. Tree plantings and weather sensitive punchlist items will continue into 2018, but the extensive construction in the neighborhood is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2017.

### How can I navigate around the construction?

A: During construction, many of your streets are impacted simultaneously, which can be very frustrating. Try the free WAZE app to help you navigate around construction. WAZE is a mobile app and website (waze.com), gathering real time traffic data from users and government partners to identify the best traffic routing for a specific trip. Check it out!

### What is the design of Huron Avenue?

A: The design of Huron Ave was developed through a comprehensive community process, and includes:

- Buffered bike lanes, with 3' buffers between parked cars and the bike lane.
- Enlarged plaza at Vassal Lane, including a new Hubway bike station.
- Crossing islands, curb extensions and raised side street crossings to improve pedestrian sight lines and safety.
- Additional pedestrian crossings.
- Consolidated bus stops to improve operations.
- Curb extension bus stops to facilitate loading/ unloading and to provide additional space for people waiting for the bus.
- New street trees and planting areas.

Why does the contractor dig up the same location multiple times?

A: Private Utilities (gas, cable) are typically replaced in advance of City Utilities (Water, Drain and Sewer). Contractors replace the mainline of each utility, often separately, along a street, working deepest to shallowest backfilling the trench as they go, and then follow up with a crew to reconnect the services lines from each house to the newly installed main. Work must be sequenced to maintain access and utility connections to each home, resulting in multiple excavations along a roadway in the same location.

### How is dust control handled during construction?

A: On major streets, such as Huron Ave, we minimize dust by keeping vehicles off the unpaved areas. Non-toxic calcium chloride, which acts as a clumping agent to minimize dust, is also used.

# Q.

Q.

### Why is City street sweeping still happening?

A: Regular street sweeping is very important because it removes sediment and debris from catch basins to keep our system flowing, and prevents this material from entering our wetland/rivers.



### Why is there asphalt behind my tree?

A: Sidewalks adjacent to trees with projecting roots will receive a permeable and flexible material called Flexi-Pave, which provides a walkable surface and allows water to infiltrate. The asphalt placed is a temporary condition until the Flexi-Pave is installed.

## Build Cambridge, Buy Local!

Please join us in supporting the Huron Village and Observatory Hill businesses, as we continue our "Build Cambridge, Buy Local" campaign. Construction is unpredictable, with parking limitations and inconveniences that impact business owners and their potential customers. With your help and commitment to frequent these stores, we can support our independent, local, and vibrant community and keep our local economy strong during this construction period and beyond.





# huron village cambridge

## Street Sweeping Begins in April!

Public Works mechanically sweeps each street in Cambridge once per month, April through December (weather permitting). Signs are posted on each residential street indicating when they will be swept. Street sweeping in Section J (odd side) begins on Tuesday, April 25th.

Regular street sweeping is very important, especially during construction, because it removes sediment, debris, and combustion particles from the roadway surfaces preventing this material from entering the drainage system and flowing to the Alewife Wetland.

### For a full sweeping schedule, and to sign up for street cleaning alerts, go to:

www.streetcleaningalert.org

INFORMATION

ENTS

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### Spring Construction Kick-off!

We invite you to learn more about project overview information and spring construction activities at the Tobin School (197 Vassal) on



### Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 6-8pm

- 6-8pm Open House (Cafeteria)
- 6:30-7pm Presentation (Auditorium)



# Come to Coffee Talk!

We want to hear from you! Please drop in to join our project team at Sarah's Market (200 Concord Ave)

# Every 1st Thursday, 7-11am:

• April 6 • May 4 • June 1 • July 6 • August 3

### **Alewife Stormwater Wetland Tour!**

Ever wonder where your stormwater drains to? Please join the wetland team members (meet near 200 Cambridge Park Drive) for a auided walking tour on



### Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 10am



# **ALEWIFE SEWER SEPARATION PROJECT** MARCH/APRIL 2017

## **HURON A**

www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/HuronA

Project Completed

DPW Project Manager: Catherine Daly Woodbury (617) 349-4818 / cwoodbury@cambridgema.gov Contractor: P. Gioioso & Sons, Inc.





## HURON B

www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/HuronB

Upcoming Activity:

- Full-depth roadway reconstruction on Huron Ave (Lakeview to Reservoir) to begin in March 2017.
- Curb installation on Huron Ave (Fresh Pond Parkway to Lakeview), and sidewalk installation (Reservoir to Concord) to begin in March 2017.
- Project wide raised crosswalks to begin in March 2017.
- Final top course paving on Appleton, Fayerweather, Reservoir, and Walden Streets to begin in April 2017.
- Project wide plantings to begin in April 2017.
- Paver installation on Huron at Fayerweather/Vassal to begin in April 2017.
- Porous pavement work to resume in May 2017.

DPW Project Manager: Jim Wilcox (617) 349-6426 / jwilcox@cambridgema.gov Contractor: Barletta Heavy Division

# **CONCORD AVENUE**

www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/ConcordArea Upcoming Activity:

- Project wide installation of planting areas, tree plantings, biobasin, trench drain at library, and bike rings scheduled to begin in March 2017.
- Sign installation project wide to begin March 2017.
- Sidewalk and crosswalk work to resume March 2017.
- Installation of artscape and multi-use path on Fern Street to begin in April 2017 and continue through May 2017.
- Final paving and pavement markings on Concord Ave and remaining side streets beginning in May 2017 and continue through June 2017.
- Porous pavement installation in June 2017.

DPW Project Manager: Catherine Daly Woodbury (617) 349-4818 / cwoodbury@cambridgema.gov Contractor: P. Gioioso & Sons, Inc.

### Visit our Project Websites





www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/HuronA www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/HuronB

ww.cambridgema.gov/theworks/ConcordArea

For general project information or assistance, please contact KyAnn Anderson, Community Relations Manager, Kleinfelder, at (617) 498-4708 / kanderson@kleinfelder.com