

# Western Ave Project Update

Dear Neighbor,

Please review this notice regarding important information for residents/business owners in and around the Western Avenue Reconstruction Project.

### Western Avenue Paving

On *Tuesday, October 8*<sup>th</sup> (weather permitting), the City's contractor, D'Allessandro Corporation, will be *paving Western Avenue from Putnam Avenue to Gilmore Street.* This work will be performed during general work hours (7am-4pm) and when work occurs directly in front of driveways or entryways, the contractor will coordinate access directly with residents. "No Parking" signs will be posted at least 24 hours in advance of construction. Please be sure to check posted signs for exact date and times. Due to the paving operations, traffic on the avenue (between Gilmore Street and Putnam Avenue) will be reduced to one lane. We encourage motorists to seek alternate routes and modes.

### **Dust Control Efforts**

Over the past few weeks, residents have voiced concerns regarding dust control associated with the Western Avenue Reconstruction Project. City staff has worked closely with the contractor, D'Allessandro Corporation, to improve the management of dust. The contractor has increased attention to actively monitoring and managing dust, placing calcium chloride on the roadway, sweeping the area daily with a sweeper equipped with water, and making arrangement to monitor dust control over the weekends. The City of Cambridge has also made a commitment to increase evening and weekend inspections to ensure that the dust is managed during non-work hours.



### Western Avenue Surface Work

With the substantial completion of utility work between Memorial Dr and Gilmore St, the contractor has begun the roadway and sidewalk reconstruction. There is still significant construction remaining, but it is exciting to see the progress.



#### **Resident Access to Harvard University Parking Garage**

Harvard University has offered to provide some alternative parking that residents can use on evenings and weekends to help mitigate some of the impacts of construction. Harvard will reserve 20 spaces in their Peabody Terrace Garage (entrance on Elmer Street) for residents to use weekday evenings (5 pm to 8 am) and weekends. Residents interested in taking advantage of the parking should *call the Harvard Parking Office* (617-496-7825) to speak with a representative about parking arrangements. Residents that wish to take advantage of this offer will be required to complete the Harvard University Parking form. Once the form is complete, residents will need to visit the Harvard University Parking Office, which is located in the Holyoke Center (1350 Massachusetts Avenue) 8th floor to submit their form and to receive a transponder that will allow access to the parking garage.

## **Project Staff Seeking Neighborhood Representatives**

Project Staff from the Western Avenue Reconstruction Project are currently seeking residents and business owners in the Western Avenue area to represent their neighborhood as a community **"Block Captain"** for the construction project. "Block Captains" will meet with project staff on a monthly basis to address any issues or concerns in the community. The next "Block Captain" meetings will be held at **8am on the following dates: October 23, 2013; November 20, 2013; December 18, 2013.** If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a "Block Captain", please contact Chris Neil, Community Relations Manager, at 617-349-4825 or by email at <u>cneil@cambridgema.gov</u>.

#### For Information and Assistance During Construction

If you have any questions about the construction work or need assistance, including if you have any special needs or disabilities that require special accommodations, please contact Chris Neil at (617) 349-4825 or cneil@cambridgema.gov. More information about the project can be found at <u>http://www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/cityprojects</u>. In case of emergency, please call the Cambridge Public Works Department at 617-349-4800.

Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding during this construction. We hope you enjoy these improvements once they are completed.

Thanks,

Chris Neil Community Relations Manager City of Cambridge Department of Public Works