

North Mass Ave Fact Sheet

Street trees

Approx. 60 street trees have been planted along the Avenue in existing empty tree wells over the past 2 planting seasons, based on a tree planting plan developed by CDD and DPW. It usually takes five to ten years before noticeable impacts of trees are felt on the street (shade etc.).

Curb cuts

Curb cuts are a property right granted or eliminated only by an act of the City Council. An existing curb cut can only be modified or eliminated when a property owner agrees to it.

Sidewalk and Roadway Work

Recently completed projects:

- *Arlington line to Churchill Avenue* sidewalk reconstructed (Churchill ramp to be completed this construction season)

Upcoming projects:

- *New Linear Park crossing* – Mass Highway funded and designed new Linear Park crossing of Mass Ave. anticipated construction in 2010.
- Plans for a raised device across *Cameron Avenue*, anticipated construction in 2010.
- *Clarendon Ave to Gold Star Road*, north side of Mass Ave. – State funded (Chapter 90) sidewalk improvements are designed and funded, anticipated construction in 2010.
- Plans for a raised device across *Churchill Avenue*, anticipated construction in 2010.
- *Whittemore Ave, Seagrave Rd, Magoun St, Harrison Ave, Columbus Ave., Kimball St, Kassul Park, and parts of Mass Ave and Alewife Brook Parkway* – Sewer separation work started spring 2010, road surface restoration in summer 2011.
- *Shea Rd/Meecham Rd/Locke St* - Anticipated state funded (Chapter 90) sidewalk and ramp improvements, anticipated construction in FY 2012.

Signal timing

The signals on Mass Ave. between Alewife Brook Parkway and Porter Square are coordinated during the peak hour in the peak direction to allow vehicles traveling at approximately 25 mph to get a green signal. Traffic, Parking and Transportation staff evaluate traffic signals on an ongoing basis.

(over)

U-turns

In the past U-turns were prohibited at every median opening between Porter Square and the Arlington line. This was re-evaluated approximately 2 years ago. U-turns were made legal and the 'no U-turn' signs were removed at the following intersections:

- *Gold Star Mothers Road* – both directions
- *Clarendon Avenue* – both directions
- *Washburn Avenue* – both directions
- *Columbus Avenue* – both directions
- *Dudley Street* – inbound only
- *Norris Street* – outbound only
- *Rice Street* – inbound only

Disability Parking

Under State Law, cars with disability plate or placard are not subject to time limits or payment at parking meters. Requests for a designated disability parking space at a particular location may be submitted to the Traffic, Parking and Transportation department and are evaluated based on the following criteria: availability of off-street parking, frequency of use, and hazard to motorists and pedestrians.

Airplane Noise

Recent increase in airplane flights over Cambridge is a result of an unannounced change implemented by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in how runways are used for departures from Logan Airport. The City is working to address the noise issue through staff participation on the Logan Airport Noise Study Citizens Advisory Committee. Residents are encouraged to register noise complaints via Massport's website and by telephone, which helps to document directly to Massport and the FAA that the change in flight patterns has created noise impacts in Cambridge. Massport's Noise Complaint Line is (617) 561-3333 and website is:

www.massport.com/logan/airpo_noise_compl.html.