

# Cambridge Common and Flagstaff Park Project

## 25% Design Hearing Fact Sheet

### June 9, 2011

#### About the Project

The Cambridge Common and Flagstaff Park project aims to rehabilitate all aspects of the Common as well as improve conditions for all users of these parks and those travelling along this section of Mass. Avenue, from Garden Street to Cambridge Street. It also seeks to unify the historic landscape of the Common by simplifying the vocabulary of the design. The planning of the project has been underway for many years, along with securing funding for the nearly \$4m project. The project will replace all pathway surfaces on the Common to meet access codes with bituminous paving with a brick edge, replace and upgrade all benches and trash cans, plant over 100 trees and remove older under-story plantings, improve drainage and turf surfaces, and rehabilitate the lighting system to extend its life and add lighting to pathways where it is missing.

Across the street, along the Mass. Avenue side of Flagstaff Park, the curbs will be moved out and a two-way multi-use path constructed with crossings at each end to create better bicycle and pedestrians connections between Harvard Square and Mass. Avenue northbound.

#### Schedule

- July 2011 - address comments from public hearing
- August – November 2011 complete final design documents
- Construction funding currently programmed in FY14 but could happen sooner if federal funds are made available.

#### Budget

- Current construction estimate is approximately \$3.9m
- \$2m funded with federal funds, \$857,000 funded with Community Preservation Act funds and remainder funded with City funds

#### Project Elements

##### Common Pathways

- Rebuild paths to existing/consistent widths
- Paving will be bituminous with brick edging
- Cobble paving replaced with accessible brick paving
- Cobbles re-used as maintenance strip between the fence and curbing
- Central path re-aligned to historic alignment

For further information see the project website at [www.cambridgema.gov/common](http://www.cambridgema.gov/common) or contact Bill Deignan by e-mail at [wdeignan@cambridgema.gov](mailto:wdeignan@cambridgema.gov) or by phone at 671-349-4632.

- Excess paving removed in places - 4,100 SF cumulative greenspace addition

#### Flagstaff Pathway

- 10,000 SF of new park area created from roadway, consisting of 5,000 SF of greenspace and 5,000 SF of pathway

#### Common Lighting

- Replace missing and damaged components
- Re-lamp fixtures
- Re-paint poles and fixtures
- Single Head - 65 total, 43 to remain in current locations
- 22 new locations (incl. 7 removed and relocated; and 15 created from existing doubles on new poles)

#### Flagstaff Lighting

- Retain Washington Post lights— 8 total (2 of which will be relocated)
- Re-paint poles and fixtures

#### Trees

##### Common

- Plant 95 new trees
- Remove approximately 20 trees

##### Flagstaff

- Plant 6 new trees
- Remove no trees

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