



City of Cambridge Department of Public Works

Owen O'Riordan, Commissioner

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Notice - Lakeview Avenue Advisory Bicycle Lane Markings Observations 10/19/16

Upon completion of the reconstruction and paving of Lakeview Avenue between Huron Ave and Brattle St in 2015, the City implemented "Advisory Bicycle Lane Markings" to enhance the multi-modal nature of the street and improve roadway safety without removing any existing parking.

What are Advisory Bicycle Lanes?

Illustrated in the visual below, Advisory Bicycle Lane markings are used on streets that are too narrow for dedicated bicycle lanes. They bring greater awareness to the roadway as a shared space and can improve the multi-modal nature of the street. The dashed line indicates to drivers that they may drive in the bike space when a bicyclist is not present. The street functions similarly to how it functioned before construction, with two-way traffic and two sides of parking. See also <http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/Transportation/bikesincambridge/biketoolbox> for additional information.



Why Lakeview Avenue?

Lakeview Ave is part of the signed bike route between the Minuteman Bikeway, Fresh Pond and the Charles River path system. Lakeview Ave between Huron Ave and Vassal Lane has a bike lane. Unfortunately, Lakeview Ave between Brattle St and Huron Ave is not wide enough for conventional bicycle lanes without impacting a significant amount of parking. Lakeview Avenue was therefore identified by the City as a very

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good candidate to test Advisory Bicycle Lane markings, which could potentially be implemented in other locations as well.

Assessment Process

As of October 2016, the Advisory Bicycle Lane markings have been in place on Lakeview Avenue for over a year, giving residents and other users of the street time to become adjusted to them. The City is now conducting an evaluation in order to determine whether the markings are being used as intended, and their effectiveness.

During one weekday and one Saturday period beginning on or about October 20, staff from the City and their engineering consultant will be present on the street video recording vehicular and bicycle traffic and interactions. The field and video observations will allow us to see how and where vehicles and cyclists operate when they are alone on the street; when they encounter each other moving in the same direction; when they encounter each other moving in the opposite direction; and other important behaviors. Video recording will only be in place during the hours of study.

We also plan to try and (quickly) speak with motorists and bicyclists when they are stopped at the ends of the street, to determine whether they understood the Advisory Bicycle Lane markings and whether the markings decreased the stress of using the street, particularly for cyclists.

Following the completion of our assessment, the results will be made available to residents and others via the project website at www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/HuronA.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at cwoodbury@cambridgema.gov / 617-349-4818.

Sincerely,

C. Daly Woodbury

Catherine Daly Woodbury
Project Manager

