

BROADWAY (Prospect St to Portland St) *Sidewalk/ roadway reconstruction begins the week of July 9*

Dear Broadway Neighbor:

The City has awarded a contract for the reconstruction of Broadway from Prospect Street to Portland Street to the D'Allesandro Corporation. ***Work is scheduled to begin the week of July 9th and will take 18 months to complete.***

OVERALL PROJECT SCOPE / GOALS

- Reconstruct deteriorating roadway and sidewalk infrastructure.
- Enhance the area for all users – residents, pedestrians, cyclists and motorists.
- Provide a new crosswalk with a curb extension at Tremont Street to improve the safety of pedestrians going to and from Sennott Park.
- Construct curb extensions at Elm Street, Clark Street and Moore Street to enhance pedestrian safety.
- Install shared lane markings for cyclists.
- Plant new street trees.
- Improve drainage to reduce ponding on the roadway.

SIDEWALK MATERIALS

Broadway is a major pedestrian corridor serving residents, an elementary school, three city parks and an MBTA bus route. The existing mix of sidewalk materials, 75% concrete and 25% brick, does not provide a consistent look or identity to the street. As part of the community outreach efforts, staff explored alternatives to simply replacing existing materials and developed an alternative sidewalk design: ***concrete sidewalk with brick edging.*** This approach is similar to what has recently been constructed on Cambridge St, Mass. Ave. and Brookline St.

A community meeting was held in January 2012, where staff reviewed the possible alternatives for either keeping the same sidewalk materials or constructing a concrete sidewalk with brick edging. These alternatives were also reviewed by the City's Commission for Persons with Disabilities and Pedestrian Committee. In March 2012, a postcard survey was sent to 250 residents and property owners, and staff conducted door-to-door surveys of residents to get additional feedback.

Over 80% of residents and property owners surveyed and both the Pedestrian Committee and the Commission for Persons with Disabilities supported the construction of a ***concrete sidewalk with brick edging.***



This alternative ties the corridor together visually and improves the walking surface for pedestrians, particularly people using a stroller, wheelchair or other mobility aid. It will be constructed at no cost to property owners, and provides an easy-to-maintain surface.

Schedule

The entirety of this project will take 18 months to complete, with drainage and sidewalk being completed first and final paving planned for fall 2013.

During the week of **July 9**, crews will start sidewalk reconstruction on Broadway between Windsor and Boardman streets (in order to complete this section before school resumes).

Sidewalk construction on this first section of the project will take 6-8 weeks to complete, and will require the removal of old sidewalk, resetting of curb, placement of new concrete and placement of the brick feature.

Starting in mid-late August, the sidewalk reconstruction will move to the Portland Street end of Broadway, and crews will work their way toward Prospect Street to complete remaining sections.

In addition, during the next two months, a second crew will be working on drainage improvements (primarily the installation of catch basins) at locations along Broadway.

What to expect during construction

General work hours will be 7AM to 4 PM, Monday-Friday. "No Parking" signs will be posted at least 24 hours in advance of construction; please be sure to check posted signs for exact dates and times. When work occurs directly in front of driveways or entryways, the contractor will coordinate access directly with residents and businesses.

Information and Assistance

Please contact Rebecca Fuentes, Assistant Commissioner for Administration, at rfuentes@cambridgema.gov or at 617.349.6948 to:

- ✓ Sign up to receive e-mail updates as the project moves forward.
- ✓ Arrange an accommodation or continuation of special services for anyone with a **disability** or **special need**.
- ✓ Learn how you can help street trees along the street, either by "adopting" a recently planted tree on your block (especially watering during dry weather), or by signing up for the "back-of-sidewalk" tree planting program, through which a tree can be planted on private property within 20 feet of the public sidewalk at *no cost to the owner*.

Dan Vallee, the City's Construction Project Manager, will also be available throughout the project to assist the community. Dan can be reached at dvallee@cambridgema.gov or at 617.349.4813.

In case of an emergency after hours or on weekends, please call the 24-Hour line at 617-349-4800.

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

