

DRAFT Cambridge Pedestrian Committee minutes 10/24

Attendance

Committee Members: Robin Bonner, Debby Galef, Sandy Goldberg, Ian Henneberger, Elka Kuhlman, Magda McCormick, Pam McLemore, Sean Peirce, Helen Rose, Erica Seidel, Wade Smith, Erik Tillman, Theresa Tobin, Olivia Turner, Jenine Turner-Trauring, Milan Vit, Alanna Williams

Staff: Cara Seiderman (CDD), Dana Benjamin (TP&T), Brian McLane (DPW)

(1) Agenda review, minutes, introductions

Reminder: we need a note taker for the November meeting.

If you are going to miss a meeting, contact Cara and Greg. If you have to miss more than three meetings in a row, you are expected to have extenuating circumstances.

September's meeting minutes were approved.

(2) Department of Public Works Five-Year Sidewalk & Street Reconstruction Plan - Brian McLane

Link here:

<https://www.cambridgema.gov/Departments/publicworks/Initiatives/fiveyearplanforsidewalkandstreetreconstruction>

The priority of sidewalk repair will depend on the location and how often the location is traveled.

Grind & overlay: take off 2 inches of asphalt, replace 2 inches of asphalt Full depth

reconstruction: with a poor sub-base (e.g. clay). Road has a new 50 year lifespan

Construction season: March to October 31. When roads are constructed. Some years

construction doesn't start until May, other years it has to end earlier than the end of

October. The temperature has to get & stay above freezing.

Chapter 90 funding: state-provided funding.

Flexi-Pave: lives a hard life in Central Square (has lasted longer in other areas of the city).

(3) Snow!

City gets multiple forecasts in an attempt to plan for the winter.

Cambridge has been reducing the amount of salt used in recent years. Priority in clearing

streets to make them accessible to emergency vehicles. Brine Farm: capacity to spray 50

miles of city 2-3 days prior to snow storm. Significant decrease in salt use.

Requirements for property owners: sidewalks must be cleared within 12 hours after

the end of snowfall if it falls during the day; if it falls at night, snow must be cleared

by 1:00 PM the following afternoon. Officers do ticket (especially for habitual offenders):

\$50/day. 36" clear path required, down to pavement (or close to it). Report scofflaws via

[See Click Fix](#).

DPW will clear street corners on priority routes.

When city staff work all night, they still have to work their daytime duties. Difficult to do all

of the clearing required.

City is restricted on where they can put snow.

(4) Projects - Quick Updates

Hyperlinks in agenda with updates

River St: public meeting November 19. Will present design of corridor, not including Carl Barron Plaza. No charrette scheduled yet for Carl Barron Plaza. There will be a three committee meeting (Pedestrian/Bike/Transit) to discuss the plans. Consensus seems to be coming together about the corridor Grand Junction: public meeting in December. Vision Zero: 20 mph postings: Throughout the city 20 mph safety zones will be put into place on neighborhood streets. 700+ signs, anticipated starting before the end of 2019, will take 3-4 months. Informational signs in multiple languages will be posted around the city.

(5) Planning for upcoming meetings, committee work plan.

Ongoing list of "hot spot" intersections, on google docs, will be explained and presented at November meetings.

For acute problems such as a light out or pothole, report via See Click Fix.

Further discussion in November

Opportunity for committee to write something about walking for Getting Around Cambridge Magazine. Council on aging interested in doing something around people getting out & walking. Angie and Erica volunteered to help. Articles have photos.

December meeting, the three committees (Pedestrian/Bike/Transit) tend to get together in an informal way to talk among ourselves, brainstorming. It's a potluck. Typically the second Wednesday of the month (as the fourth Thursday of December is inconvenient) - December 11. Time TBD.

Outpouring of people around looking for company to walk on Nextdoor. How to help these people? Discuss in November.

April meeting conflicts with school vacation week. Can we reschedule? (look for doodle poll)

Contact details for Brian & Dana in committee member packets.