

Pedestrian Committee
October 26, 2023
Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Mike Mantello (CDD), TJ Shea (DPW), Brian McClane (DPW), Jenny Turner-Trauring, Robin Bonner, Brooke Williams, Sean Peirce (note-taker)

September minutes (from an Inman Square site visit) were approved. Brooke noted that this is her last meeting as she has moved outside the city.

DPW presented on snow/ice operations and plans for the coming season. *PowerPoint slides available.*

Q&A

- Q: Any research into options for having the city clear additional sidewalks, instead of relying on property owner? A: Not really, very difficult to write cost-effective contracts for this due to variation in snowfall levels; sidewalk configuration also makes it harder to use equipment
- Q: Is brine becoming more common? A: Yes, makes it easier to pre-treat areas and makes future snow removal easier, with less salt usage. Cambridge is one of the few that uses brine for sidewalks and bike facilities.

Other DPW Updates

- Many projects being completed near the end of the construction season. Inman Square is nearly done. Huron Ave bike facility and some smaller side streets.
- ADA compliance work – over 200 locations this summer, repairing small sections of sidewalk.
- Pedestrians can use SeeClickFix to note trip hazards and other issues. Q: What about areas that border another city/town or DCR? A: Send them in anyway, they will coordinate with the other entity (though this may take time).
- New this year: all-natural spray to rejuvenate asphalt, reduces cracking. However, it is slick for first 24 hours so not using it on bike facilities.

Upcoming Meetings

- Joint transportation committee meeting 11/15 at 17:30
- Tentative date for next Ped Cmte is 11/30 at 18:00
- Future meetings may include a hybrid option

Other Topics

- Linear Park – plans for resurfacing, widening, new benches, etc. near Harvey Street are on hold due to some neighborhood concerns (trees, safety). Has been referred to city committee(s).
- Approved by unanimous consent: Jenny will write a letter to city council expressing sense of the committee that plans should move forward, as these are meaningful improvements for pedestrians. She will coordinate with Cara.