

DRAFT Notes 3/8/23 Bicycle Committee Meeting

Present: Eitan Normand; Mark A. Boswell; Randy Stern; Alison Harris; Diane Gray; Amy Flax; Carola Voelker; Scott Kilcoyne; Jim Wilcox (DPW); Andreas Wolfe (TP&T); Cara Seiderman (CDD)

Visitors: Luke; Joseph Hajjar; Nahid Chowdhury; David Allen

Minutes of prior meeting approved

Winter Bike Ride - Bike to Bites

- This Saturday, meet at 9:45 AM at Brattle Square, start at 10:00, end at Smith Center with food from HSBA.
- lots of interest, everybody should come if they can
- 5 or 6 committee people said they can come, Cara and/or Miguel to lead, Randy at front too. Eitan, Carola, Alison to marshall; Guido to sweep with Tenzin

Spring Ride

- Theme “network + neural network” - “New ride” network
- Bike bots ride?
- Plug into the network?
- Needs more thought – look for a subcommittee meeting to plan the ride

Hampshire Street TP&T update - Andreas Wolfe

- Inman to Bway, plus 1 block of Bway from Hampshire to Portland
- Improvements for peds - remove parking near crosswalks, add painted ped crossing islands between bike lane and travel lane (maybe good to have them extend a bit beyond the crosswalk as well), add chicanes to slow drivers
- Improvements for cyclists. Separated bike lanes. More people bike than drive during rush hours. Want to reduce right/left hooks, and dooring.
- Improvements for transit. Fewer bus stops to improve end to end transit time. Bus stops moved to far side of intersections.
- Design will have parking on only one side of the street, 6 ft bike lanes plus buffers, and 10.5 ft travel lanes. Parking locations will vary block by block based on community feedback, except a few blocks with many driveways where parking should be opposite.
- From a cycling perspective, options with straighter bike lanes and disability spots on side streets are more attractive.
- With bump outs for disability spots, the bike lane feels safer if parking is on the same side of the street, so the unprotected section of lane is in the “shadow” of the parking lane (e.g., from Prospect to Norfolk section)
- Hope to follow up with contraflow bike lane on Windsor St north, at some point
- Sections with more space will have wider buffers, not wider bike lanes (people drive in wide bike lanes...)
- TP&T plans to NOT put car charging stations on streets that require more separation as part of the bike network
- Change at Bway and Hampshire to limit southbound traffic to left turn onto Bway only - no right turn, no straight movement - all for cyclist safety since almost all car and bike traffic turns left today.

Other projects

- Main St - community meeting on 3/16. Will be discussed at joint bike/ped/trans meeting on 3/15, also Hampshire St again.

DPW (Jim Wilcox)

- MXD development, continuing utility work at Bway and Binney through spring
- Inman Sq - final paving and markings spring 2023
- Gore St mixed use path will be finished spring 2023
- Harvard Sq plaza work in full construction soon
- River St - 30 months of work
- Binney St park and small part of Grand Junction path - work through early 2024
- Mass Ave 4 - Harvard Square bus stops in design - Advisory working group to be announced soon.

Other

- Some Volpe projects may be coming to the planning board soon
- Lechmere Canal Park, details updated on planning board site - now proposing integrated color bituminous concrete for the path, which is good for cycling, walking and full accessibility, and also aesthetically pleasing
- First St - still awaiting MBTA silver line analysis