# Bicycle Committee Meeting on April 9, 2025

## **Meeting Notes**

#### **Attendees**

- Members in attendance: Richard Freierman (Chair), Gregory Carey-Medlock (Vice Chair), Randy Stern (Secretary), Martha Birnbaum, Mark A. Boswell, Michael Burke, Guido Cuperus, Amy Flax, Alison Harris, Denise Haynes, Camille Jonlin, Scott Kilcoyne, Eitan Normand, Vanessa Nwankwo, Leah Pickett, Carola Voelker, Ling Zeng
- Members absent: John P. Ellersick, Muna El Taha, Diane Gray
- City staff: Nick Schmidt (DOT), Quinn Murphy (DOT), Jerry Friedman (DPW), Steven Magalhaes (CPD)
- Visitors: None

#### **Minutes**

• March 12, 2025, draft meeting minutes approved

#### **Project Updates**

- From Jerry Friedman on behalf of the Department of Public Works (DPW):
  - No major changes since last month
  - Harvard Square Kiosk continues
  - o River Street: major work to start this spring near Mass Ave
  - o Mass Ave Partial Reconstruction
    - Open house held March 26
    - Mid 2026 for first separated bike lane installations
  - o Port Infrastructure Improvements Project continues
  - Broadway construction in Kendall continues
  - Question: Any more on Garden Street repaving? (This is in reference to its current condition, not the future changes reintroducing two-way motor vehicle circulation.)
    - Answer: DPW working with Eversource but no update right now
  - Question: Broadway extended to Third Street has a median. What will the detour be?
    - Answer: Similar to existing detour, two-way bike lane on south side. At least another year. Jerry uncertain this median will be removed. Need streets to be done before buildings complete in 2032.
- From Nick Schmidt on behalf of the **Department of Transportation (DOT):** 
  - Official new department as of April 1
  - Boston Bike to Work Day coming up May 16. They are seeking rider leaders for Cambridge routes. Click the link to sign up.
  - Resident Bike lottery applications complete, received nearly 300 applicants

- o Grand Junction Connector
  - Website launched
  - Public Site Walk proposed for May 1, but TBD
  - 100% design estimated by Spring 2026, but TBD
- Lots of upcoming meetings
  - Main Street
  - Broadway
  - Grand Junction Connector
  - Planning Board
  - Joint Meeting of Transportation Committees (April 16)
  - Next Bicycle Committee Meeting is May 7
- Project Updates
  - Broadway Safety Improvement Project (Portland Street to Quincy Street)
    - Community meeting May 1
  - Aberdeen Avenue Safety Improvement Project
    - Repave and markings spring 2025
  - Cambridge Street Safety Improvement Project
    - Oak Street to Prospect Street to be installed this month
  - Main Street Safety Improvement Project
    - Open houses happening this month
  - Garden Street Safety Improvement Project
    - Discussion postponed until next meeting when Stephen Meuse can join
- From Richard Freierman, as Bicycle Committee Chair:
  - o Garden Street vote in City Council
    - Jeff Parenti was unable to attend the meeting, as Nick Schmidt erroneously did not provide the invite link. Stephen Meuse will provide a Garden Street update next month.
    - The Committee would like to know what, if any, design options are available with Option 4
    - Nick noted that two-way separated bike lanes may be as narrow as 8 feet for the travel way and 2 feet for a buffer (3 feet minimum if next to on-street parking) in highly constrained areas, but that's subject to the design process.
  - o Streetwise at Aeronaut
    - Running speaker series on bicycle issues
    - Next meeting (April 16) conflicts with Joint Meeting

#### Bicycle Committee Work Plan (Richard Freierman, Chair)

- Existing work plan ideas and notes
- Notes are in the "Notes" column of the project spreadsheet
- Bicycle Committee bylaws require that all Committee Members must sign up for at least one subcommittee project. Everyone should review the projects and add their names or

add new projects. Richard will consolidate subcommittee projects into a smaller number. We will nail this down at our next meeting on May 7.

#### **Related Topics**

- There is a Cambridge Police Department representative for the Bicycle Committee (Steven Magalhaes).
  - o Would be great to get crash reports, or problem areas for crashes at each meeting
- Comment from Guido: UMass Boston has a person tracking cycling infrastructure and effects.
- Nick offered to present on the draft citywide bicycle counts as well as in-progress work for the Bicycling in Cambridge Data Report at the May 7 meeting. Consultant team is working on the data report through June 30.

#### 2025 Spring Bicycle Ride (Nick Schmidt, DOT)

- Confirmed theme: Dog Parks of Cambridge and Other Animals of Cambridge (turkeys, rabbits, dogs)
- Confirmed date and time: Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 10:00
- Confirmed subcommittee: Diane, Greg, Martha, and Randy
- Route must be advertised in the April 25 Active Transportation Newsletter
- Confirm and test route by April 22:
  - o By April 15, subcommittee to send draft, tested route to Nick Schmidt
    - Greg will circulate tonight, Randy will review
  - By April 18, Nick / City to confirm route with CPD and send proposed revisions to subcommittee
  - o By April 22, subcommittee to review / approve final route
  - o By April 25, City to create final map for Active Transportation Report

### **Public Comment**

None