



Welcome to the Cambridge Bicycle Committee

**CITY OF
CAMBRIDGE**

Department of
Transportation

May 7, 2025, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Today's Agenda

May 7,
2025

5:30 PM

Agenda, welcome, Zoom, minutes (4/9, 4/30)

5:35

City and Committee project updates

- Department of Transportation, Transportation Planning (Nick Schmidt)
- Department of Transportation, Streets Management (Stephen Meuse)
- Department of Public Works (Jerry Friedman)
- Bicycle Committee (Richard Freierman)

6:05

Bicycle Committee 2025 work plan

6:55

2024 citywide bicycle counts

7:10

Spring Bike Ride preparation (May 17)

7:25

Public comment

Why We're Here

“The Bicycle Committee works to improve conditions for bicycling in the City of Cambridge, to promote bicycling as a means of transportation, and to improve safety conditions for bicyclists.”

Bicycle Committee Bylaws, Updated 2009

The Bicycle Committee meets monthly.

- The **purpose** is to get feedback from appointed members of the Committee, the City’s “community experts” on bicycle transportation issues
- The **outcome** is an understanding by City staff of the Committee’s consensus on priorities and reactions to street projects and development proposals
- The **process** to achieve that outcome includes presentations by Committee members and City staff, discussion following presentations, and a public comment period

Who We Are

Citizen Representatives

- Richard Freierman, *Chair*
- Gregory Carey-Medlock, *Vice Chair*
- Randy Stern, *Secretary*
- Martha Birnbaum
- Mark A. Boswell
- Michael Burke
- Guido Cuperus
- John P. Ellersick
- Muna El Taha
- Amy Flax
- Diane Gray
- Alison Harris
- Denise Haynes
- Camille Jonlin
- Scott Kilcoyne
- Eitan Normand
- Vanessa Nwankwo
- Leah Pickett
- Carola Voelker
- Ling Zeng

Dept. Representatives

- Nick Schmidt, *Transportation, Facilitator*
- Quinn Murphy, *Transportation*
- Stephen Meuse, *Transportation*
- Jerry Friedman, *Public Works*
- Steven Magalhaes, *Police*

Minutes

April 9, 2025, regular meeting

April 30, 2025, supplemental meeting

Transportation Meetings and Announcements

Upcoming Committee Meetings (by date)

- Pedestrian Committee – May 22
- Transit Advisory Committee – June 5
- Bicycle Committee – June 11

Upcoming Public Meetings (by date)

- [Vassar Street Safety Improvement Project](#) (CDOT)
 - May 8, 4:30-6:00 PM – [Open house](#) (Graduate Junction Residence Hall, 299 Vassar St)
- [Mystic River Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge](#) (MassDOT)
 - May 12, 7:00 PM – [Informational meeting](#) (Mass General Brigham, 399 Revolution Dr)
- [Avon Hill Street and Hillside Street Reconstruction Project](#) (DPW)
 - May 13, 4:00-6:00 PM – [Public site walk](#) (Avon Hill Street and Hillside Ave)
- [Spring Bike Ride: “Cambridge Critters Cruise”](#) (CDOT)
 - May 17, 10:00 AM (Joan Lorentz Park / Main Library, Broadway and Trowbridge St)
- [Broadway Safety Improvement Project](#) (CDOT)
 - May 20, 5:00-8:00 PM - [Working Group meeting](#) (City Hall Annex, Second Floor, 399 Broadway)
- [Grand Junction Connector](#) (CDOT)
 - May 21, 5:00 PM – Community meeting & public site walk (Millers River Apartments, 15 Lambert St)

Announcements

- The Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) is [seeking proposals from qualified respondents](#) to operate Bluebikes on behalf of municipal owners (Boston, Cambridge, Somerville, and Brookline).
 - Current contract with Lyft / Motivate expires in 2026
 - Next contract term of 2026-2031, with up to two 2-year renewal options (through 2035)
 - Cambridge anticipates adding at least 41 stations by 2031
- Cambridge Public Health Department and MAPC launched a Physical Activity Assessment to make physical activity more accessible.
 - [Click here to complete a short survey](#)
- Final call: Boston Bike-to-Work Day Festival (May 16) ride leaders needed!
 - [Routes and sign-ups available here](#)

Cambridge Department of Transportation Project Updates

Transportation Planning Division Projects

- Bicycle Count Program
 - 2024 [bicycle count data](#) will be posted soon (we will review preliminary results later tonight)
 - 2025 Bicycling in Cambridge Data Report ([2023 report](#))
- Bicycle Planning
 - Tasks through this fiscal year (ending June 30) tasks to support the development of a holistic, citywide multimodal transportation plan for Cambridge:
 - Updating the citywide Bicycle Level of Comfort scores
 - Updating planning and design guidance for Bicycle Priority Streets
 - Assessing the feasibility of for offering bike and e-bike repair and maintenance training as part of Rindge School of Technical Arts
- Linear Park Redesign
 - Anticipating construction activities beginning in July

Street Management Division Projects

1. **Broadway (Portland St to Quincy St)**

- [Paving work begins this week on Section A](#)
- Next Project Working Group meeting (May 20) focusing on Sections B and C (Columbia to Quincy)

2. **Aberdeen Ave**

- [Paving work begins next week](#); installation late May

3. **Cambridge St (Oak St to Second St)**

- Oak St to Prospect St installed; awaiting some markings
- Prospect St to Willow St open house TBD

4. **Main St (Central Sq to Portland St, Tech Sq to Albany St)**

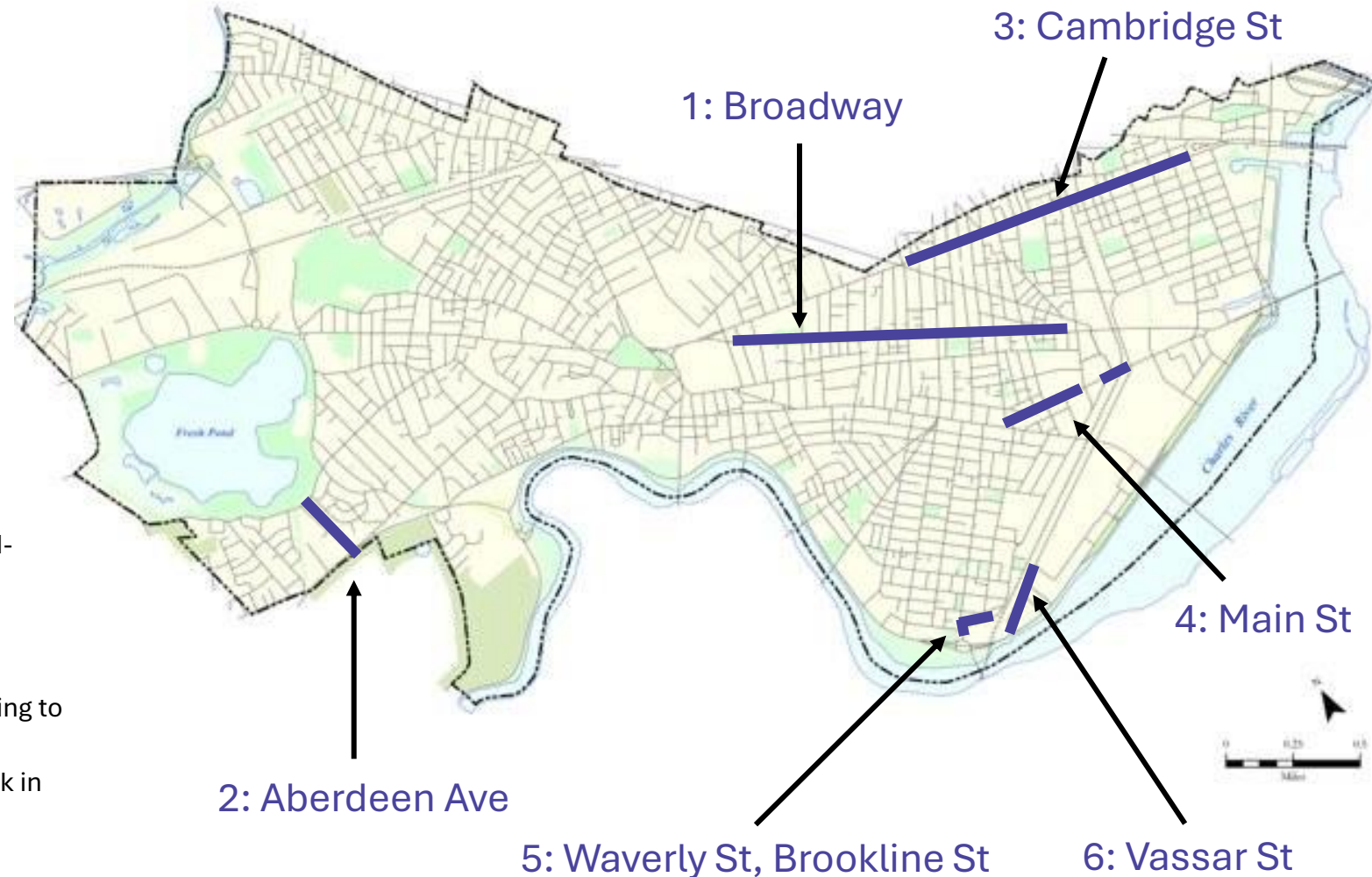
- [Paving work begins this week](#)
- Final community meeting and open houses took place mid-to-late April. Materials posted to the website.
- Installation to follow paving, early June

5. **Waverly St, Brookline St**

- Adding buffers and flex posts to sections of the street leading to and from BU Rotary. [Click here for final plans.](#)
- [Paving work begins this week.](#) Ties into recent/ongoing work in rotary by DCR.

6. **Vassar St (Memorial Drive to Amherst Alley)**

- Installation late summer 2025



Map of all upcoming Cycling Safety Ordinance projects at
www.cambridgema.gov/cyclingsafetyordinance

Cambridge Department of Public Works Project Updates

Public Works Projects

1. Harvard Square Kiosk and Plaza

- Ongoing plaza work through November 2026

2. River St (Memorial Dr to Mass Ave)

- Ongoing utility work
- Full-depth roadway reconstruction begins June:
 - River St: Mass Ave to Franklin St
 - Green St: River St to Pearl St
 - Magazine St: Green St to Franklin St
- Carl Barron Plaza: installation of subsurface tree irrigation and aeration continues

3. Mass Ave Partial Construction

- Linnaean-Waterhouse median removal begins this spring (contractor has begun tree protection and mobilization)



Public Works Projects. cont.

4. Chapter 90 Contracts 24 & 25

- [Elm Street](#) (Webster-Hampshire) final paving this spring
- [Dodge Street](#) – final paving week of 5/7
- [Chestnut St](#) – curb and sidewalk work
- [Maple Ave](#) – curb and sidewalk work
- [Dana St](#) – water main work

5. Chapter 90 Contract 26

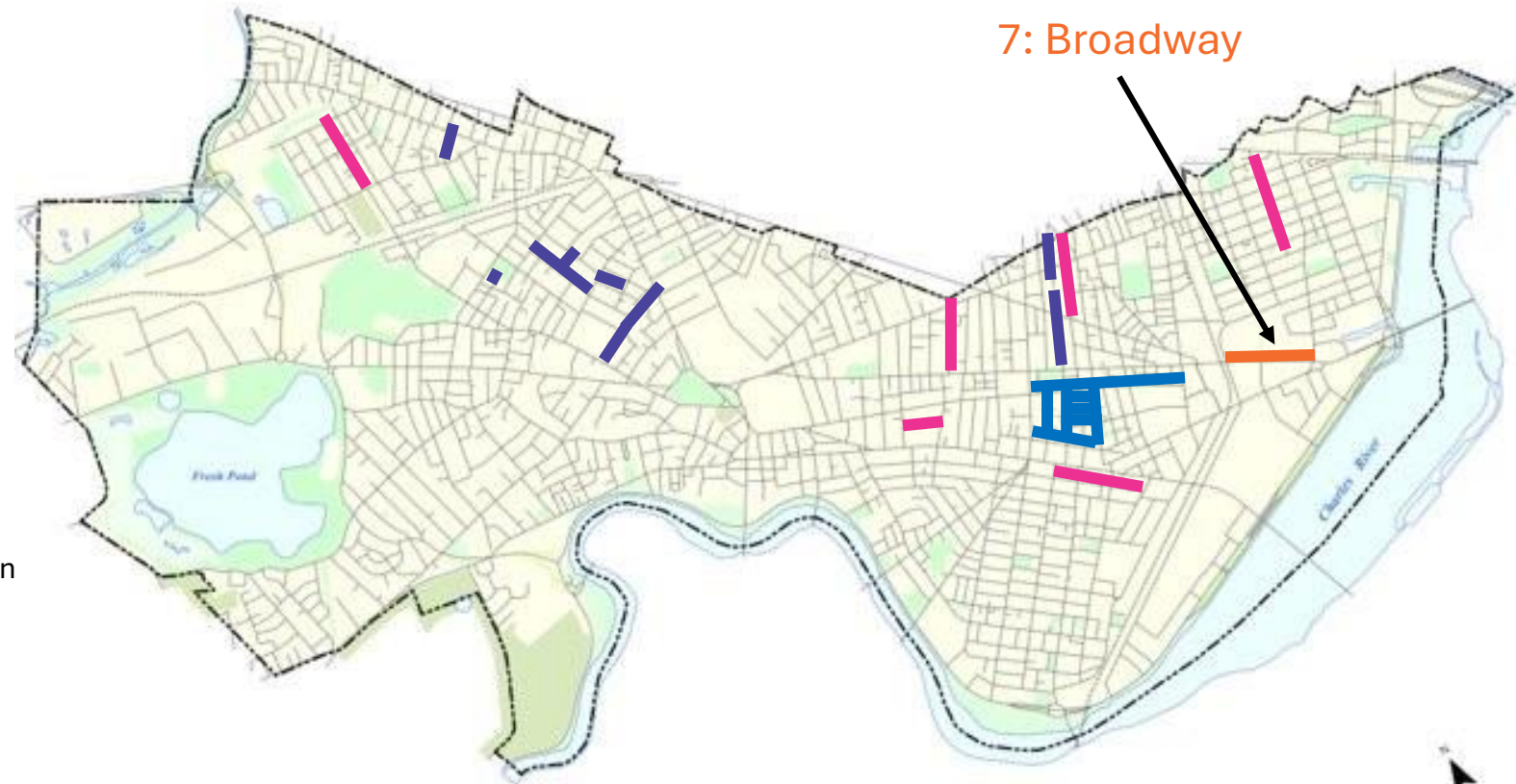
- [Shepard St](#) May 8 community meeting postponed

6. Port Infrastructure Improvements

- No major update

7. Broadway (Galileo Galilei to Third St)

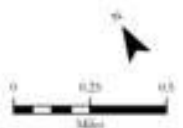
- Ongoing utility work requiring two-way separated bike lan continue through 2026



4: Ch. 90
Contracts 24/25
(magenta streets)

5: Ch. 90
Contract 26
(purple streets)

6: Port
Infrastructure
– Phase 1
(blue streets)



Bicycle Committee Project Updates

Bicycle Committee

2025 Work Plan

6:05-6:55 PM

2024 Citywide Bicycle Counts

6:55-7:10 PM

About the Citywide Bicycle Count Program

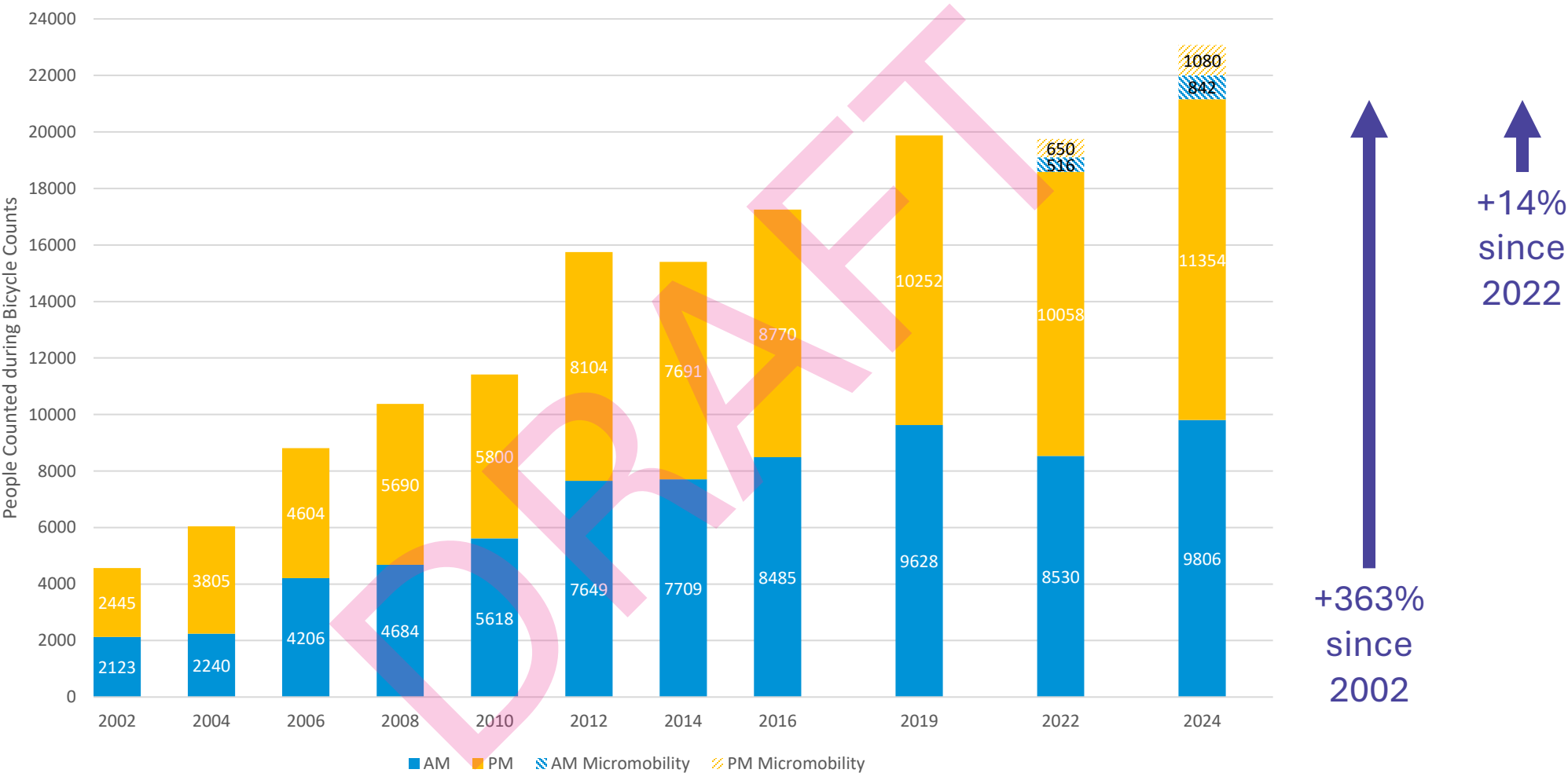
- What do we count?
 - People bicycling (2002 to 2024)
 - Children bicycling themselves or as passengers (2014, 2022 to 2024)
 - People using scooters and other micromobility devices (2022 to 2024)
- When do we count?
 - Every two years (generally)
 - Peak-periods (7:30-9:30 AM & 4:30-6:30 PM)
 - Data collected September 2024
- Where do we count?
 - 16 count locations since 2002
 - 2 additional locations with different starts:
 - Mass / Vassar since 2010
 - O'Brien / Cambridge / First since 2024
- When will 2024 data be available?
 - 2024 [bicycle count data](#) will be posted this spring
 - 2025 Bicycling in Cambridge Data Report will be published this summer ([2023 report](#))



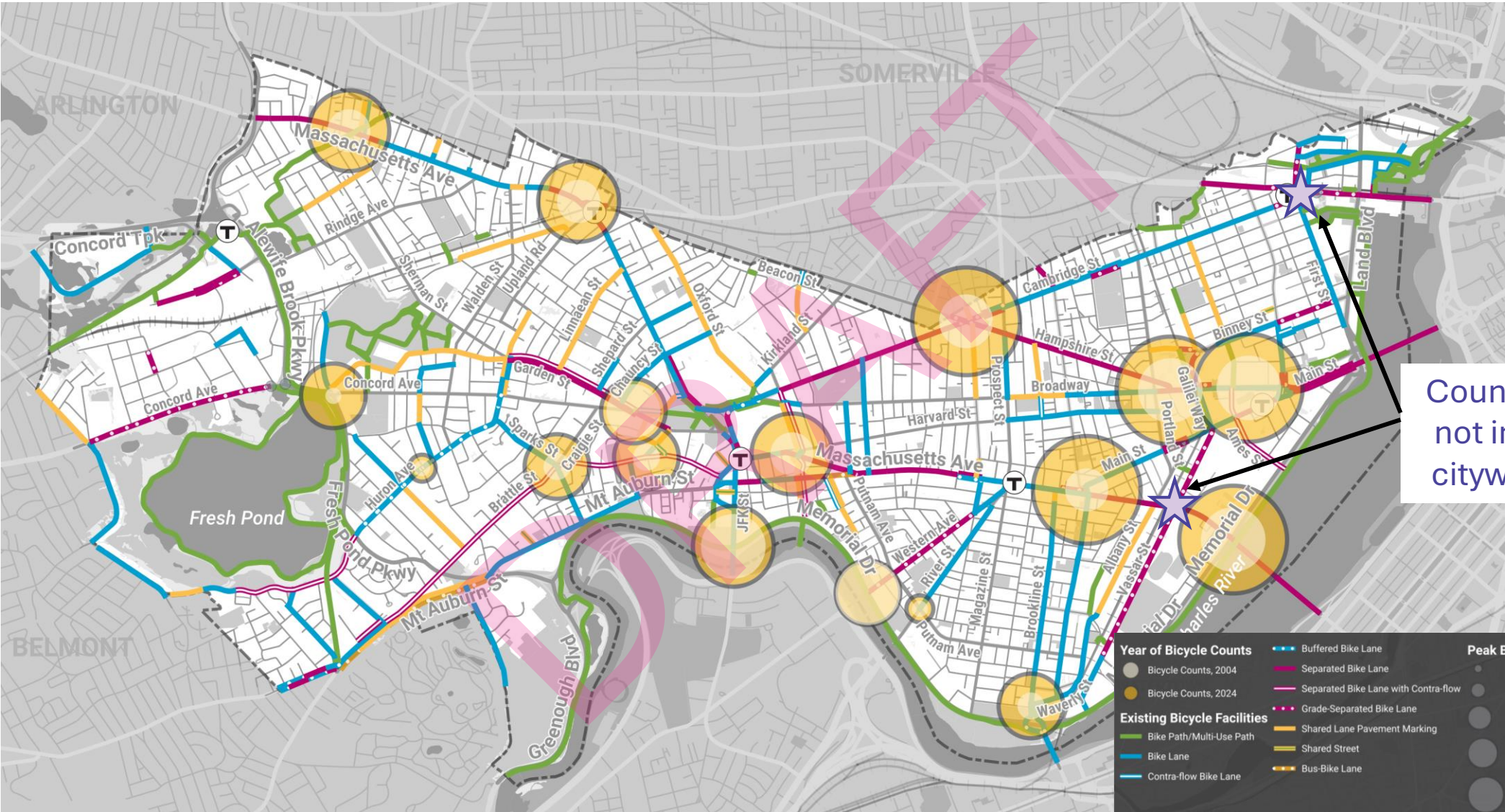
Draft Takeaways from 2024 Bicycle Count Data

- High-level takeaway: **More people are biking and riding micromobility**
 - Bicycling has increased at our count locations:
 - +363% since 2002
 - +14% since 2022
 - Micromobility use has increased:
 - +65% since 2022
 - Bluebikes ridership has increased:
 - 263,780 trips starting or ending in Cambridge in September 2024
 - 3 busiest stations are in Cambridge: MIT (Mass/Amherst), Central Sq, Harvard Sq (Mass/Dunster)
- We're still analyzing and evaluating before completing the Data Report:
 - Child cyclist distribution
 - Micromobility distribution
 - Safety, including crash rates
 - Short-term results at project locations
 - Etc.

Total Bicyclists (2002-2024)

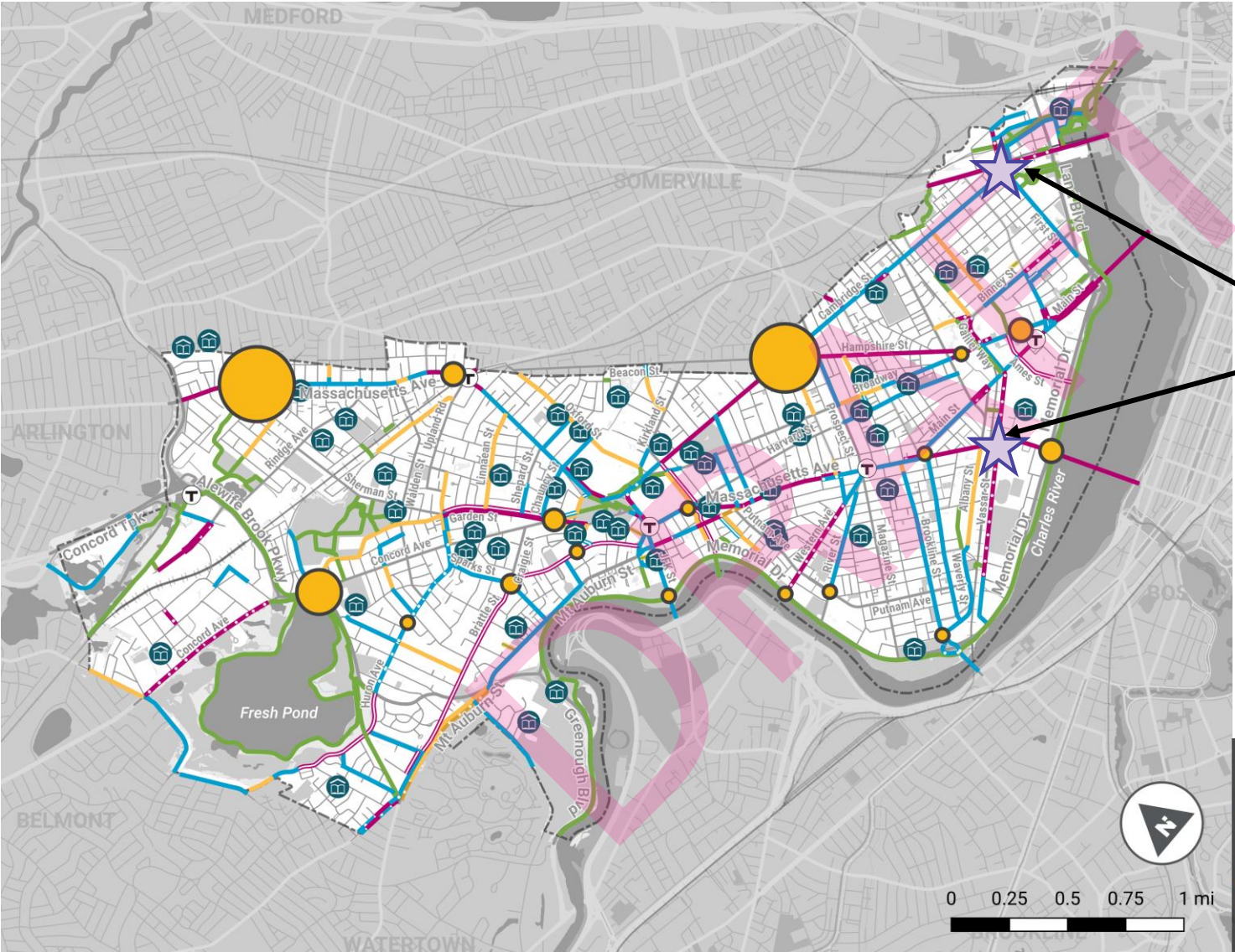


Change & Distribution of Bicyclists (2004-2024)



Count locations
not included in
citywide trends

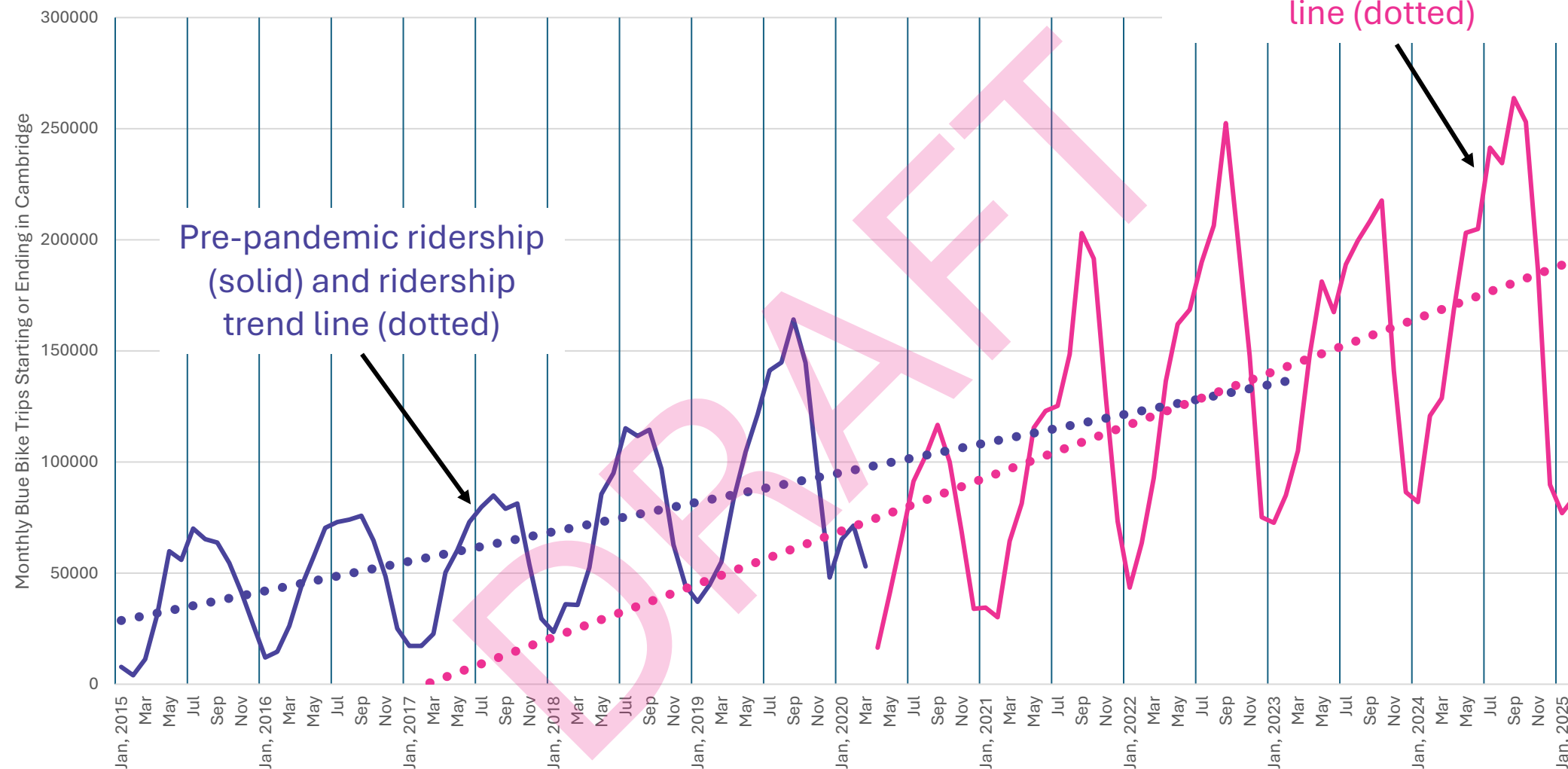
Distribution of Child Bicyclists (2024)



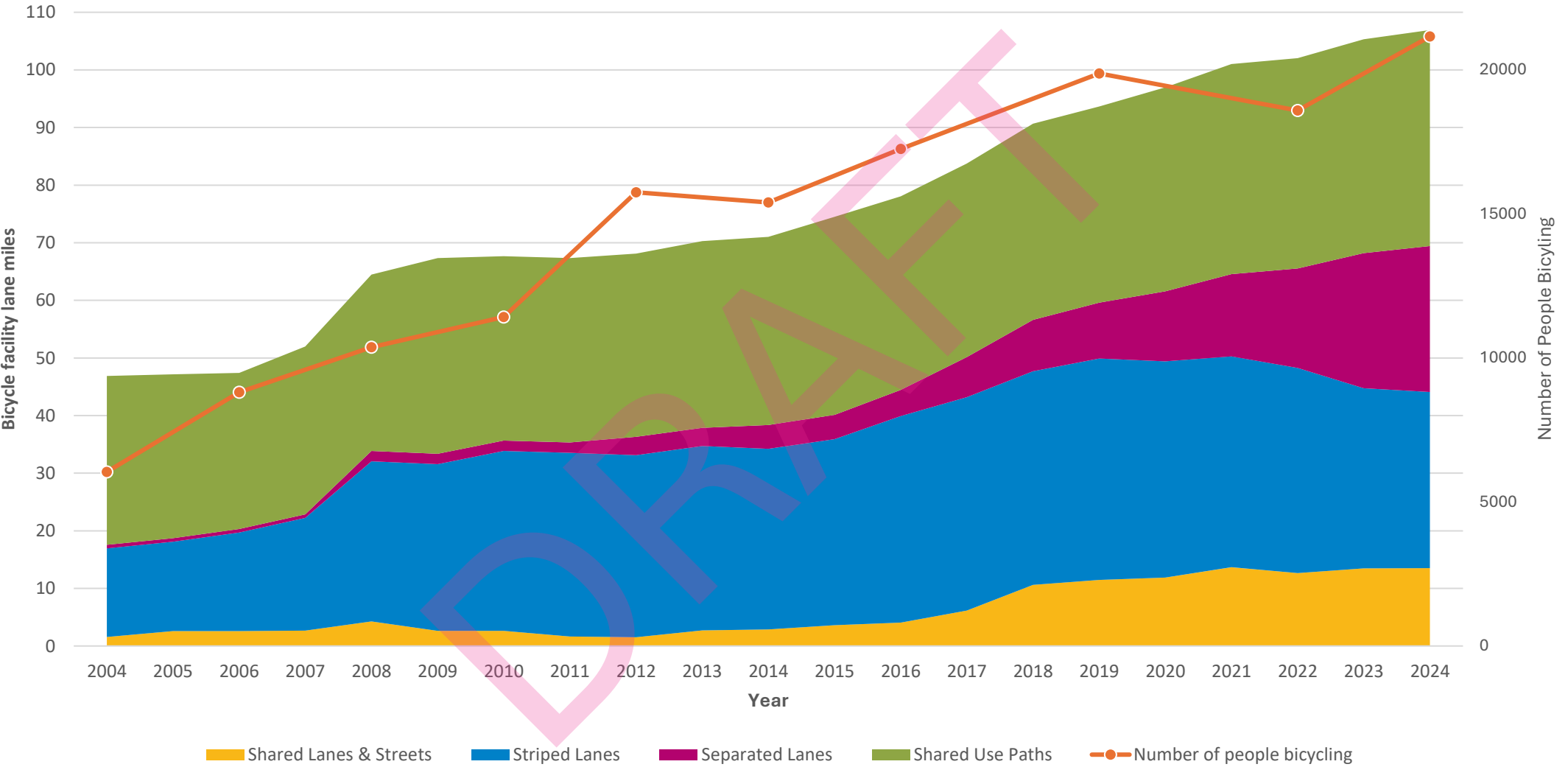
Count locations
not included in
citywide trends



Bluebikes Ridership (2015-2024)



Total Bicyclists (2004-2024)



Spring Bicycle Ride Preparation

7:10-7:25 PM

Spring Bicycle Ride Recap

- Confirmed:
 - Date: Saturday, May 17
 - Time: Ride starts at 10:00 a.m. (arrive by 9:30 a.m.)
 - Route and points of interest
 - Speaker at Fresh Pond
 - CPD support, food, mechanics, materials, etc.
- Advertisement
 - Advertised in the Active Transportation Report and Cambridge Bike Rides email lists
 - Posted to City calendar and Cambridge Bike Ride website
 - Flyer will be posted online this week

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Join the Annual Spring Bicycle Ride!

Say hello to our animal neighbors on the "Cambridge Critters Cruise," hosted by the Cambridge Bicycle Committee and Department of Transportation!

May 17 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
 Location: Joan Lorentz Park / Main Library
 Broadway and Trowbridge Street

Join us on this relaxed, family-friendly ride on mostly level terrain. We will tour Cambridge's off-leash dog areas, including a mid-ride stop at Fresh Pond for a guest speaker from the Cambridge Water Department on the City's biggest dog and wildlife hotspot!

We will begin and end at Joan Lorentz Park / Main Library near the intersection of Broadway and Trowbridge Street. The ride will begin at 10:00 a.m. Water and restrooms are available at Fresh Pond.

This is a rain-or-shine event. However, the ride will be canceled in the event of inclement weather.

9:30 a.m.
 We will provide pre-ride light refreshments. Simple bike checks with on-site mechanics will be available.

10:00 a.m.
 Ride departs promptly

~12:00 p.m.
 Stay for sandwiches, including vegetarian and vegan options, and treats.

No bike? No problem!
 Request a free Bluebikes pass by Thursday, May 15:
 ✉ bluebikes@cambridgema.gov

Please Volunteer for a Role!

- Ride leads: Richard, Randy (maybe), Greg (maybe)
- Sweeps: Martha, Greg (maybe), Nick
- Ride marshals: Carola, Alison
- Bike counter: Mark
- Photographer: Amy, Nick
- Tabling during ride: Amy, Mark
- Help with Bluebikes: Tenzin
- Set up: Nick, Richard, Mark, Diane
- Announcements: Tenzin, Nick
- Speaker coordinator: Randy

Public Comment

7:25-7:30 PM