Joint Bike/Ped/Transit Committees meeting 3/16/22

Notes

Attendance

**Bike Committee:**
**Present (9):** Mark Boswell, Pamela Yang, Carola Voelker, Thomas Randall, John P. Ellersick, Scott Kilcoyne, Elian Normand, Conor Henrie, Randy Stern, Julia Somerdin, Anna Frebel

**Absent (10):** Alison Harris, Amy Flax, Brennan Biemann, Diane Gray, Guido Cuperus, Rahi Patel, Silvia Del Carmen Castanos, Thomas Randall, Todd Robinson

**Pedestrian Committee:**
**Present (7):** Sandy Goldberg, Elizabeth Paden, Debby Galef, Robin Bonner, Sarah B Willis, Ray Hayhurst, Brooke Williams, Jeannine Powers

**Absent (6):** Arnav Mulrudihar, Brooke Williams, Jenine Turner-Trauring, Morgan Pinney, Sean Peirce

**Transit Advisory Committee:**
**Present (3):** Peter Septoff, Makayla Comas, Saul Tannenbaum

**Absent (13):** Arthur Strang, Bill McAvinney, Carl Rothenhaus, Casey Berg, Devin Chausee, Jackson Moore-Otto, Jim Gascoigne, John Attanucci, Katherine Rafferty, Kelley Brown, Kristiana Lachiusa, Matthew Coogan, Melissa Zampitella, Sylvia Parsons

**City Staff (3):** Cara Seiderman, Andy Reker (CDD); Kathy Watkins (DPW)

**Other (6):** Josh Weiland (MBTA), 5 members of the public

DPW 5 Year Sidewalk and Street Reconstruction Plan
See 2021 plan on-line.

- Upcoming large projects - River St, Huron Ave FPP to Glacken, Central Sq, Harvard St, Kirkland St, MassAve4, Linear Park, New Danehy path connection, Grand Junction
- Increased “spot funding” for bike/transit improvements - $200K
- Questions and Answers
  - What is a “non-equity area”? e.g., Brattle St. is in that denotation? A – on the map certain areas count towards “equity,” and the “non-equity areas” are those that don’t have those metrics.
  - Priority - bike lanes vs trees in current parking areas? A - high level goals in the bike plan and tree canopy plan; specific design plans are needed on a case-by-case basis
  - New St (FPP to Danehy) and Linear Path status - planning happening, web site soon, outreach not started yet
  - No lighting on Watertown Path. A - Not approved when built but conduit is in place for future.
  - Bicycle priority streets - low speed, low volume, e.g., Harvard Street. Can we have meaningful changes such as choke points, curb extensions, speed humps, signage? A – Designs are done when the streets are being reconstructed so will look at those details during the design process.
More raised crossings would be helpful. How do you request them? A - typically don't do them as stand-alone projects. Usually with other projects. Cost $100-200K.

Who should we contact if there are specific streets with problematic sidewalks or pavements? I'm thinking about Garfield Street. – A - See Click Fix is good. We may be able to use some of our street paving contract or miscellaneous sidewalk contract to make minor repairs.

Have you considered non-salt solutions for managing ice during winter? A - City began a pilot in North Cambridge using a non-salt brine. We have been using it in more places.

Access to Morse School on Granite St is poor - poor sidewalks, no bus parking, poor bike access from the East, not accessible sidewalks

Access to Graham and Parks School poor - bad sidewalks, cars park on Walker St sidewalks, tree conflicts - A - Can email Kathy Watkins about specific issues such as a tree making a sidewalk noncompliant, illegal parking blocking the sidewalk, call police non-emergency number 617-349-3300 or Traffic & Parking, 617-349-4700.

Public question: Was that the 5 year plan, is the slide show on-line? A - Yes it was the 2021 5 year plan, which is available http://cambridgema.gov/the works/fiveyearplan

MBTA Updates

- New CharlieCard distribution sites at city facilities
  - City webpage (HTML): https://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/Transportation/gettingaroundcambridge/bystr ansit/CharlieCards

- New Fare Vending Machines that dispense CharlieCards and “tappable” CharlieTickets
  - Webpage (HTML) : https://www.mbta.com/fares/upgrades-fare-vending-machines
  - Informational video on YouTube : https://youtu.be/lvNBpkeZ-1c

- Green Line Extension opening Monday, March 21, 2022
  - MBTA alerts webpage (HTML): https://www.mbta.com/schedules/Green#:~:text=The%20Green%20Line%20Exte nsion%20will%20open%20to%20Union%20Square%20on%20Mon%2C%20Mar %202021
  - “Sneak peek” preview video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GFtNnlVhb7Q

- Spring bus service changes and restorations