

**Cambridge Joint Transportation Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 17, 2023**

Attended by

City staff: Walter Goldberg (CDD), Jim Wilcox (DPW), Adam Shulman (TP&T)

Committee Members: Bill McAvinney (Transit), Debby Galef (Pedestrian), Robin Bonner (Pedestrian), Brooke Williams (Pedestrian), Randy Stern (Bicycle), Carl Rothenhaus (Transit), Mark Boswell (Bicycle), Arthur Strang (Transit), Thomas Randall (Bicycle)

Public attendees: Linda Missouri, Carl Winsome, Marc Levy

There was an announcement about Spring Community Bike Ride on 20 May 2023 at 9:00.

Jim Wilcox presented the DPW's Five Year Sidewalk and Street Reconstruction Plan. He explained the rationale behind prioritization of projects and streets. There are multiple factors, such as Pavement Condition Index. Goal is to prevent index falling to poor category. Other factors are community equity, transit facilities, accessibility, bicycle plan, and street trees.

Some of the questions asked by Committee members included:

- Is it the City's goal to have sidewalks on every street? Jim answered in the affirmative.
- How dense is the gravel layer of a road when reconstructed. Jim stated it's 18 inches.
- What do the street colors on the map mean in terms of the project's timeline? Jim explained that the color represents the year the project will start, not when it will finish.
- What is the role of sidewalk bump outs? Jim stated the benefits of curb extensions or bump outs is they improve the visibility of pedestrians and shorten the crossing distance.
- Is it standard for the city to raise bike lanes to sidewalk level? Jim answered in the affirmative.
- Several people spoke positively about the usefulness and clarity of the Five-Year Street and Sidewalk Reconstruction Plan.
- Committee members also posed questions about Port Infrastructure, catenary wires, cycle tracks, brick sidewalks.
- When asked about First Street, Jim explained the connection to North First Street connection will be completed in 2023.
- Members asked about the process for requesting additional traffic calming. A request can be made through SeeClickFix.

Public comment included questions about the availability of the Five-Year Plan on the city's website. Jim stated that the Five-Year Plan is usually posted in May after the budget is approved and expects it to be posted this month. There was also a public comment that raised concerns about bike facilities on North Mass Avenue, the lack of adequate public process in that project, and the removal of disability parking spaces.

[NB: For the Mass Ave - Dudley St to Alewife Brook Pkwy project, no disability parking spaces were removed; rather, four (4) were added in the project area.]