

MINUTES

Agenda Review – Cara added one thing

Minutes Approval

Stand-in minute taker: Liza

In attendance: Cara Seiderman (CDD), Jodie Cohen-Tanugi, Sean Peirce, Debby Galef, Liza Cohen, Andrea Yoder, Joseph Rose, Elizabeth Bierer

Bike Committee: John Goodman, Mike Proscia, Sean McDonnell, Jonathan Adams

Guests: Mark Boswell, Pete Stidman (HSH), Hanna Brockhaus (HSH)

II. Infrastructure Projects (90 min)

Mount Auburn Corridor Study – Presentation by Consultant

Comments due Dec 28

Liza to draft letter on behalf of 2 committees – send to Cara to distribute to (1) City of Cambridge and (2) Project Team

- Question of crossing on west side of Mt Auburn/Gerry's Landing (short-term idea)
- NOTE: Dark green in slides is green space, light green is bicycle accommodations
- Design should show bike lanes on Eliot Bridge (even though outside of scope) to encourage that connection.
- On Greenough – shift road link to accommodate pedestrians AND people on bikes along Belmont. Need to prioritize bikes, not cars
- 2-way bike path on Gerry's Landing – riding against traffic after dark is not great
- Do you need slip lane going R from Gerry's landing to Mount Auburn?
 - o Can that intersection be raised?
- Any way to do shorter pedestrian crossing on West side of Fresh Pond/Mt Auburn
 - o Also – any way to have protected bike follow this?
- Bike lane between 2 travel lanes does not meet Cambridge bicycle level of comfort standards
- Is there room to add bike boxes at Mount Auburn / Fresh Pond Parkway?
- Request to add crosswalk by Lowell Park – could look into doing ramps to accommodate ADA needs
- The committee much prefers Option A (no merge) for Brattle @ Aberdeen
- Request for bike box at Brattle going west on Aberdeen
- Ownership: Brattle Street = Cambridge + Fresh Pond = DCR
- No bike facility on Mt Auburn is unsafe. People drive fast.
 - o Brattle could be a safer alternative? No bike lanes Mt Auburn to FPP.
 - o Could bus lane be a bus/bike lane?
- Fresh Pond @ Aberdeen -> people ignore left turn only and drive straight in that lane, which is dangerous

- Overall, this seems like a design that strives to accommodate cars
- Project team has considered more aggressive removal of car lanes, but traffic queues seem daunting. However, stakeholder group is very concerned about auto level of service. Comments should propose solutions whenever possible.
- Committee should write a letter urging plan for non-motorized transit traffic.
- Committees DO appreciate what DCR is doing
- It would be nice to have slide numbers

Binney Street @ Galileo Study Update

O'Connell Library Plans

Debby to write letter – send to Cara

- Sidewalk will be greatly narrowed by green plantings
- Crossing the street is not the answer – sometimes people like to walk in the shade, sometimes in the sun, and going out of one's way is not desirable
- Maintenance of green space could be an issue
- Plantings may work on the curb extensions – keep the trees
- Remove the green space
- Focus on Sixth Street as key corridor
- What about accessibility?
- Need more space to walk side by side, never mind with a stroller, or people passing.

East Cambridge Parks

- People want to give a whole park to dogs
 - o For park along Grand Junction, this is a particular issue – too much conflict with users
- Questions about hill design for Roger Street park – what is the experience of walking alongside a hill on the street?
- Request presentation to the Pedestrian Committee
- Click [HERE](#) for information (see November 3 presentation materials)

III. Development Project Reviews

Cambridgepark Drive

- Committee would like to see the following changes investigated:
 - o Get rid of cut-in
 - o Do trees/landscaping block sidewalk access and require circuitous routes? Walking route should be unencumbered.
 - o Create intentional pedestrian link to MBTA Alewife Station

IV. Announcements and Next Meetings

- Next meeting will be with Ped/Transit and Bicycle Committees
- Frame the discussion around some ideas for brainstorming
- City Liaisons may be able to come up with a few agenda items
- Anyone know of any good committee projects/committee best practice examples?
- 12/14 at 6:00 pm – joint meeting