Cambridge Pedestrian Committee
Meeting Notes 11/15/2018

Attendance
Members: Andrea Duchesneau, Debby Galef, Sean Peirce, Johanna Pittman, Olivia Turner
Staff: Cara Seiderman (CDD), Brian McLane (DPW)

I. Agenda Review / Minutes
   a. Minutes from the October meeting were distributed

II. Elections
   a. Debby Galef was elected as chair and Johanna Pittman as secretary, both by unanimous vote
   b. Position of vice-chair will be left open for now
   c. New terms start in January

III. DPW Update / Snow
   a. We are approaching the end of the construction season; expect little to no paving work until late March or early April
   b. Brian McLane provided an overview of DPW’s snow clearance plan for this winter, along with historical data on snowfall and operations.
      i. First snow operations are tonight (light snowfall expected)
      ii. City clears 23 miles of sidewalk in priority areas around schools, parks, bus stops, etc., plus 2-3 miles of dedicated bike facilities
      iii. Pilot program this year in a portion of North Cambridge with brine pre-treatment on sidewalks, which prevents snow from bonding to pavement and may reduce costs and salt use
      iv. Danehy Park parking lot and a Harvard property in Allston are snow “farms” where snow can be removed overnight, but this is resource-intensive
      v. DPW communicates with the public on social media and the SeeClickFix app.
      vi. DPW purchases a variety of weather forecasting products to help calibrate storm responses. This winter’s long-term forecast calls for greater likelihood of large temperature swings and intense storms.
      vii. Property owners who do not shovel their sidewalks in compliance with city’s snow clearance ordinance receive a warning on first offense, then fines of $50/day. There is also a “best shoveled block” competition.
IV. Updates
   a. Sean Peirce provided an update on Vision Zero, which met the previous day and discussed two recent truck-involved pedestrian fatalities, as well as the planned extension of 20 mph speed limits to residential zones.
   b. Debby Galef reported on the urban freight forum that was held earlier today, which covered safety initiatives from London; new vehicle technology such as mirrors, sensors, and cameras; and changes to vehicle design.
   c. Cara, Olivia, and Debby shared recent experiences with the South Mass. Ave. project, which is nearly complete. One additional element of the project is a “geofenced” designated pickup area for Uber and Lyft at 77 Mass. Ave., which is designed to improve safety and the use of curb space.

V. Next Meeting / Announcements
   a. The December meeting will be a joint meeting with the Bicycle and Transit committees. Date and time are still TBD. Each committee will present their top 5 goals, and there will be a round-robin discussion.
   b. Cara mentioned that the Envision Cambridge process has issued recommendations, a number of which are mobility-related. One of the items is an update to the city’s Pedestrian Plan. These are all still just proposals at this point.
   c. Olivia will be our liaison to the River Street project.
   d. Johanna will work with Jen Lawrence on an article for the next issue of Getting Around Cambridge, possibly focusing on public art on foot or the new Cambridge-Watertown ped-bike trail.