

January 27, 2022 Pedestrian Committee Meeting

DRAFT Minutes

Staff and Committee Members: Evan Killion, Cara Seiderman (CDD), Dana Benjamin (TP&T), Sean Peirce, Emily Gruber, Brooke Williams, Debby Galef, Jeannine Powers, Sandy Goldberg, Robin Bonner, Arnav Murulidhar, Ray Hayhurst, Elizabeth Paden, Jenny Turner-Trauring, Sarah B Willis

Attendees: Amy Flax

1. Approved minutes from last month
2. All about signals with Dana Benjamin (dbenjamin@cambridgema.gov)
 - Discussed the types of signals and locations for some of the new ones and recent changes
 - Shared an example of a timing plan for signals, with an example of Mass Ave and Churchill Ave
 - Discussed pedestrian signal phasing types, accessible pedestrian signals and RRFBs
 - Question: How are signal/sign changes communicated? Answer: area was flyered, several public meetings, some signs
 - Question: Who to contact for signal issues with DCR? Answer: can contact directly or if sent to Dana or city will be forwarded on
 - Question: how do we communicate when buttons need to be pushed for getting a pedestrian signal? Answer: there's a standard sign. All intersections where you need to do that should have the correct sign now
 - Question: are bicycle LPIs possible? Answer: there are some, e.g., on Western Ave
 - Brief discussion of scramble pedestrian phases (with diagonal crosswalks) which Cambridge doesn't have (crossing times would be too long, and there are issues with accessibility ramps)
3. DPW Updates
 - [Projects are linked from the website](#)
4. [Memorial Drive Phase III](#)
 - Project was originally planned for Eliot Bridge to BU Bridge but this next phase will just be Elliot Bridge to Anderson Bridge (at JFK Street)
 - Road diet: 4 lanes to 2
 - 10 foot shared use path (currently it's around 6), 5 foot running path and 5 foot sidewalk on the other side
 - Additional crossings
 - Questions and comments around raised pedestrian crossings, how vehicular and pedestrian traffic will be rerouted during construction, that there was a pedestrian committee walk along Memorial Drive a few summers ago, concerns around the short feedback period, snow removal and leaf/debris removal, lighting

- City is requesting additional process for conversations about the design.
 - Committee discussed inviting them to present to us
5. Committee work ideas
- Walk around the Binney Street area, possibly earlier than the summer
 - Historical commission or Historical Society walk in Neighborhood 9/Avon hill?
 - Walk around along the Danehy Park's planned path extension and universal design playground
 - Danehy Park can be confusing. Maybe better wayfinding would be good
 - Talk to woman who walked all the streets in Cambridge?
<https://www.boston.com/culture/lifestyle/2021/03/04/walking-every-street-cambridge-sophie-crafts/>
 - There's also a google doc of pedestrian committee ideas