Pedestrian Committee Meeting on March 27, 2025

Meeting Minutes

Attendance

- Members in attendance: Sandy Goldberg (Chair), Debby Galef, Thomas Marsh, Xander Mitchell, Sean Peirce, Maryann Quinn, Janet Stein, Jenine Turner-Trauring
- Members not in attendance: Robin Bonner (Vice Chair), Alexandra Hallowell, Michael McGowan, Bernhard Nickel, Jeannine Powers, Logan Read, John Leo, Kevin Leckey
- City staff: Nick Schmidt (CDD), Quinn Murphy (CDD), Moe Hammad (TPT), Melissa Miguel (DPW)
- Visitors: Catiana JP, Nahid Chowdhury, Kasey Owen, Harrison Gill

Announcements

• Minutes from February 27 Pedestrian Committee discussed for addition information. Janet will update February 27 minutes.

Project Updates:

- From Moe Hammad on behalf of the Traffic, Parking, & Transportation (TPT) Department:
 - Broadway Section A separated bike lanes, Portland Street to Quincy Street adding back a few parking spaces, which would have been lost
- From Melissa Miguel on behalf of the **Department of Public Works (DPW):**
 - o River Street: ongoing construction, detours around Carl Barron Plaza
 - Harvard Square Plaza: 10 years in the works regrading of plaza, new utilities, estimated completion November 2026
 - Kiosk almost done, CDD will eventually take over and program activities
 - Various Chapter 90 projects including on <u>Huron Avenue</u>, <u>Park Avenue Chestnut</u>
 Street, <u>Elm Street</u>, <u>Webster Avenue</u>, and <u>Dodge Street</u>
 - Lots of work will be starting up as of April 7th with new season of construction starting
 - o The Port Infrastructure Improvements Project to begin in late summer
 - Mass Ave project contract awarded to Newport Construction will begin this spring, median to be removed, allowing for more space in the roadway to accommodate protected bike lanes
- From Nick Schmidt on behalf of the Community Development Department (CDD):
 - Traffic, Parking, & Transportation renamed the Cambridge Department of Transportation (DOT). CDD's Transportation Planning Division, which includes all three transportation committees, will be moving to the DOT.
 - o <u>Linear Park</u> redesign bids anticipated in April
 - o Grand Junction Connector design study beginning this spring

- o 745 Concord Ave (<u>PB-407</u>) developer seeking special permit, going before the Planning Board on April 15. Proposed streetscape includes wider sidewalks, new plantings, new public realm, separated bike lanes, and a floating bus stop.
- o Maybe Pedestrian Committee should have a development review subcommittee?
- Motor vehicles obstructing Green Street sidewalks behind Senior Center and in front of the Post Office parking lot
- o Citywide Urban Design Guidelines exhibit on view in the Main Library through April 9

Pedestrian Committee Work Planning

- Three committees established, members can be involved in one or more
 - <u>"Study the City"</u> Identify and inventory sidewalk/walking issues in the city. Could include more crosswalks where we think they're needed – situations beyond what can easily be reported via SeeClickFix
 - Open Streets other cities have them, why can't we? Start by inventorying
 "Camberville" events that close streets to motor vehicles
- Committee participated in an exercise to identify purpose of project, outcome, and process. This will help bring clarity to subcommittee tasks, process, and deliverables.

Public Comment

None