

City of Cambridge
Community Development Department

Pedestrian Committee

March 27, 2025





Welcome

Purpose

Get feedback from appointed members of the Pedestrian Committee, the City's "community experts" on pedestrian issues

Objective

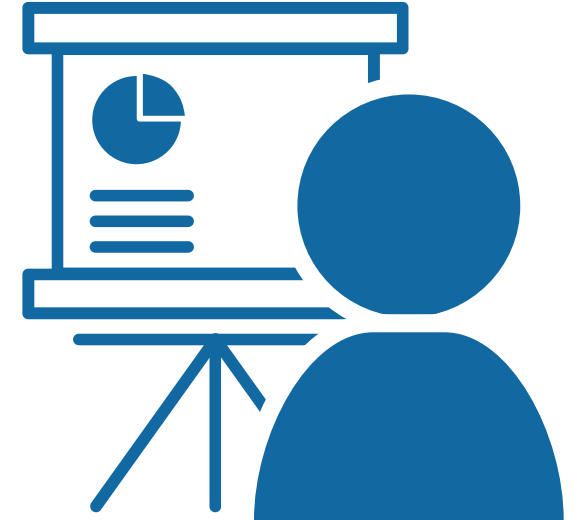
City staff to understand the committees' consensus on priorities and reactions to city projects and development proposals

Process

Presentation from City staff followed by discussion – questions from committee members, public to type in questions in Zoom Q&A, comments during public comment period


Meeting Agenda

1. **Agenda Review, Zoom Protocol, Minutes** (5 minutes)
2. **Assign Notetakers** (10 minutes) (Sandy Goldberg, Chair)
3. **Project Updates** (20 minutes)
 1. Traffic, Parking, & Transportation (Mohamed Hammad, TPT)
 2. Public Works (Melissa Miguel, DPW)
 3. Community Development (Nick Schmidt, CDD)
4. **Pedestrian Committee Work Plan** (80 minutes) (Sandy Goldberg, Chair)
5. **Public Comment** (5 minutes)
 1. Public comments on topics on the Agenda





Volunteer Notetakers



2025 Meeting Date	Notetaker
January 30	<i>Alex Hallowell</i>
February 27	<i>Janet</i>
March 27	Debby
April 24	<i>Likely will cancel, per 2/27 meeting</i>
May 22	Maryann
June 26	Thomas
July 31	Volunteer needed
August 28	Volunteer needed
September 25	Jenny
October 30	Sean
November 20	Volunteer needed
December 18	Volunteer needed



TPT Updates

Traffic, Parking, + Transportation Department – Project Updates

These projects are managed by TPT staff

1. Broadway (Portland St to Quincy St)

- Section A (Portland to Columbia) first
- Working Group underway.
- Recording is available: Community Meeting 1 on January 28th, Zoom
- Open Houses February 4th and 6th was a success

2. Aberdeen Ave

- Design and outreach complete.
- Installation to begin in Spring 2025.

3. Cambridge St (Oak St to Second St)

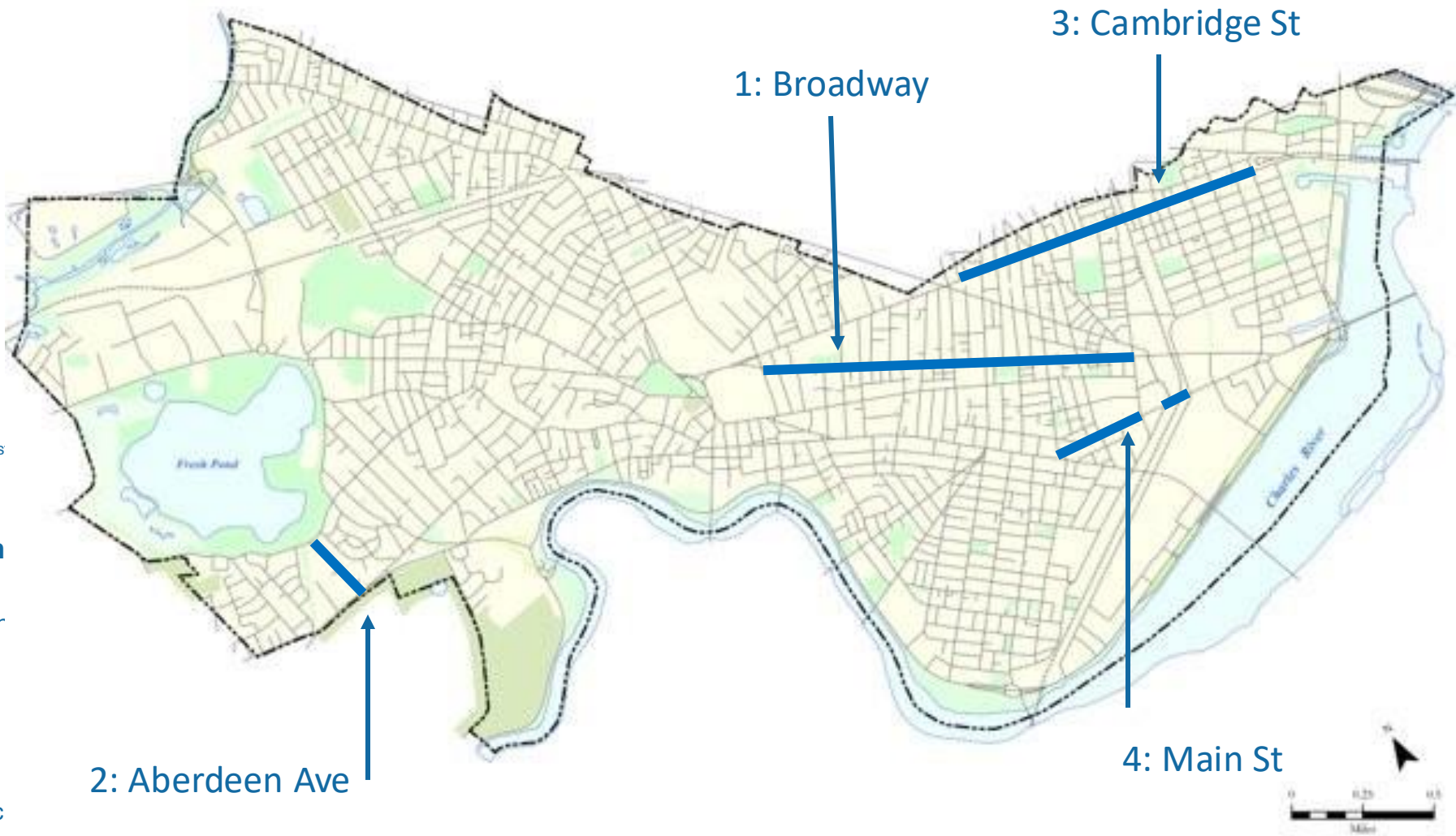
- Section A (Oak to Willow) first
 - Feedback survey closed on January 31^s
 - Planning for Spring 2025 Open House

4. Main St (Central Sq to Portland St, Tech to Albany St)

- Working on final design and public engagemer opportunities for Spring 2025
- Installation to begin Spring/Summer 2025

5. Citywide

- Map of all upcoming CSO projects at www.cambridgema.gov/cyclingsafetyordinanc





DPW Updates



CDD Updates



Announcements

- Cambridge Department of Transportation beginning April 1:
 - Traffic, Parking, and Transportation Department expands to become Cambridge Department of Transportation (DOT)
 - The Transportation Planning Division at Community Development will move to the Department of Transportation (DOT) as a division alongside the existing Street Management and Parking Management Divisions
 - Transportation committees will move over, too. More information will be sent soon to the transportation committees.
- CDD Shared-use Path Projects:
 - Linear Park Redesign bids anticipated in April
 - Grand Junction Path to Community Path Design Study starting this spring



Development Projects

- 745 Concord Avenue ([Special Permit PB407](#))
 - April 15, 6:30 p.m. – Planning Board Meeting
 - April 11 – Deadline to provide feedback to the Planning Board at planningboardcomment@cambridgema.gov



Upcoming Community Meetings

- Urban Design Guidelines
 - March 25 through April 9 (In Person, Main Library) – Exhibition



Upcoming CSO Community Meetings

- Broadway
 - April 1, 5:30-7:30 PM – Working Group Meeting #2 (City Hall Annex)
 - April 29, 5:00-7:00 PM – Community Meeting (Virtual)
- Main Street
 - April 15, 5:30-6:30 PM – Informational Meeting (Virtual)
 - April 17, 5:30-6:00 PM – Open House #1 (Location TBD)
 - April 22, 4:30-6:00 PM – Open House #2 (Location TBD)



Upcoming Committee Meetings

- Transit Advisory Committee – April 3
- Bicycle Committee – April 9
- Tentative Joint Meeting of Committees – April 16 (Zoning 101)
- Cancelled Pedestrian Committee – April 24



Pedestrian Committee Work Plan



Proposed Work Planning Process

1. Create a universe of project ideas
2. Select 1-2 projects
3. Identify purpose, outcome, and process
4. Create subcommittees
5. Vote on April 24, 2025, Pedestrian Committee meeting



List and Select Project Ideas

- Reviewing and identifying priorities from the Net Zero Transportation Plan draft actions
- Safety “study the city”(identify dangerous intersections, missing crosswalks, tripping hazards, etc.)
- Camberville Open Streets (new streets, inventory of existing events, etc.)

Identify Purpose, Outcome, & Process

Project Improving accessible paths of travel [EXAMPLE PROJECT]		
Purpose <i>Why this topic?</i>	Outcome <i>What is the end goal / deliverable?</i>	Process <i>How will the Committee get there?</i>
Detectable warning surfaces (bumpy panels) at curb ramps give a visual and tactile warning for people crossing the street. But sidewalks lack visual and/or tactile cues to first direct people to curb ramps and crossings.	Updated sidewalk design standards that better guide blind or low-vision pedestrians to crosswalks	Research and recommend tools to direct people to curb ramps and crossings (e.g. contrasting materials, directional indicators, etc.) Identify up to three locations in Cambridge to apply and test recommendations Help shape and participate in an evaluation process after installation

Identify Purpose, Outcome, & Process

Project Safety Study the City		
Purpose <i>Why this topic?</i>	Outcome <i>What is the end goal / deliverable?</i>	Process <i>How will the Committee get there?</i>
Walking in Cambridge is generally good, but many walks are negatively affected by a particular trouble spot	An inventory of trouble spots to share with City staff to improve safety and efficiency of walking in the city	Solicit input from committee members on locations and challenges Systematic review and improvement of trouble spots Flag locations and challenges with City staff Track outcomes

Identify Purpose, Outcome, & Process

Project Support Net Zero Transportation Plan		
Purpose <i>Why this topic?</i>	Outcome <i>What is the end goal / deliverable?</i>	Process <i>How will the Committee get there?</i>
Combining forces on shared priorities stemming from the Net Zero Transportation Plan	Letter from the Pedestrian Committee to the City Council in support specific actions / goals / objectives within the Net Zero Transportation Plan	Nick to coordinate with Stephanie to identify latest actions / goals/ objectives for subcommittee, understand her perspective on how to be most helpful Review and prioritize actions / goals / objectives



Create Subcommittees

- Safety Study the City
 - Maryann
 - Jenny
 - Debby
 - Sean
 - Thomas
- Support Net Zero Transportation Plan
 - Janet
 - Sandy
- Camberville Open Streets
 - Sandy
 - Janet



Vote on April 24, 2025, Pedestrian Committee meeting

- Committee confirmed to cancel the April 24 meeting and focus that time on subcommittee assignments
- Next Pedestrian Committee meeting is May 22, 2025



Public Comment

Thank You