



# Welcome to the Cambridge Pedestrian Committee

**CITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE**

Department of  
Transportation

November 20, 2025, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

# Today's Agenda

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>6:00 PM</b> | Welcome and meeting summary approval                          |
| <b>6:05</b>    | Q&A: Meetings, announcements, and project updates             |
| <b>6:25</b>    | Discussion: Preparing for 2026-2027 Pedestrian Committee term |
| <b>7:55</b>    | Public comment  |

# Why We're Here

“The Committee is organized to work to improve conditions for walking in the City of Cambridge, to promote walking as a means of transportation, and to improve safety conditions for pedestrians.”

*Pedestrian Committee Bylaws, updated 2021*

## The Pedestrian Committee meets monthly.

- The **purpose** is to get feedback from appointed members of the Committee, the City’s “community experts” on pedestrian transportation issues
- The **outcome** is an understanding by City staff of the Committee’s consensus on priorities and reactions to street projects and development proposals
- The **process** to achieve that outcome includes presentations by Committee members and City staff, discussion following presentations, and a public comment period

# Who We Are

## Citizen Representatives

- *Chair (vacant)*
- Robin Bonner, *Vice Chair*
- *Secretary (vacant)*
- Debby Galef
- Janet Stein
- Shannon Hasenfratz
- Jenine Turner-Trauring
- Kevin Leckey
- Logan Read
- Maryann Quinn
- Michael McGowan
- Sean Peirce
- Xander Mitchell

## Dept. Representatives

- Nick Schmidt, *Transportation, Facilitator*
- Quinn Murphy, *Transportation*
- Mohamed Hammad, *Transportation*
- Jerry Friedman, *Public Works (interim)*
- Steven Magalhaes, *Police*

# Taking Notes

The Pedestrian Committee lacks a Secretary. Thank you, Committee members, for volunteering to take notes.

2025 Meeting Date	Notetaker
November 20	Jenny Turner-Trauring
December 18	Volunteer needed

2026 Meeting Date	Notetaker
January 29	Volunteer needed
February 26	Volunteer needed

# **Pedestrian Committee Minutes**

November 5, 2025

# **Joint Meeting Minutes**

Notice of future agenda item

# **Q&A: Meetings, Announcements, and Project Updates**

6:05-6:25 PM



# Upcoming Committee Meetings (by date)

- Transit Advisory Committee – December 4
- Bicycle Committee – December 10
- Pedestrian Committee – December 18

# Upcoming Public Meetings (by date)

- [Outer Huron Safety Improvement Project](#) (CamDOT)
  - December 2, 5:00 PM – [Community Meeting](#) (Virtual)
  - December 9, 6:00 PM – Open House #1 (Russell Youth Community Center)
  - December 16, 5:00 PM – Open House #2 (Parkside Place Community Room)
- [Rules of the Road](#) (CamDOT)
  - December 3, 6:00 PM – Bicycle Workshop (Valente Branch)
- [McGrath Boulevard Project](#) (MassDOT)
  - December 4, 6:30 PM – [Open House](#) (Somerville High School, Lower Cafeteria)
  - December 9, 6:30 PM – [Design Public Hearing](#) (Virtual)

# Announcements

- Pedestrian Committee member terms:
  - Current 2-year member terms end February 26, 2026
  - Application process will begin soon
  - We will discuss application process at today's meeting
- On October 21, Harvard University transitioned its Pedestrian Committee representative:
  - Jeannine Powers, Harvard University Planning and Design (HUPAD), stepping down
  - Shannon Hasenfratz, HUPAD, joining the Committee

***Thank you, Jeannine!***

***Welcome, Shannon!***

# Transportation Planning Division Projects

- [Speed hump pilot program](#) starting this fall:
  - Dover Street – 1 speed hump between City Line and Mass Ave
  - Lakeview Avenue – 2 speed humps between Malcolm Rd and Worthington St
  - Field Street and Garden Street (near Universal Playground) – 2 speed humps on Field St between Fern St and Alpine St and 1 speed hump on Garden Street near Alpine Street
  - Reservoir Street – 1 speed hump between Huron Ave and Vassal Lane
  - Walden Street – 2 speed humps between Vassal Lane and Concord Ave
  - [Click here to request speed humps](#)
- [Linear Park Reconstruction Project](#):
  - Linear Park closed October 27, 2025, for preliminary work (supply delivery, tree protection, construction fencing, Red Line emergency egress paths, and other preparatory work).
  - Next round of information will follow in early 2026.
    - Follow updates on the [new Public Works project webpage](#)
    - For more information, reach out to Kristen Kelleher, Community Relations Manager (kkelleher@cambridgema.gov)

# Street Management Division Projects

## 1. Broadway (Portland St to Quincy St)

- Working Group Meeting #5 on Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm at City Hall Annex
- Section C (Quincy St to Ellery St) Open House on Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School

## 2. Aberdeen Ave

- Substantially complete
- Some bike symbols, green, and flex posts remain
- Working on signal timing adjustments at Mt Auburn/Aberdeen intersection

## 3. Cambridge St (Prospect St to Second St)

- Utility and pavement assessment ongoing to inform design
- Section A (Prospect St to Willow St) to begin in Spring 2026 with open houses Winter 2026

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

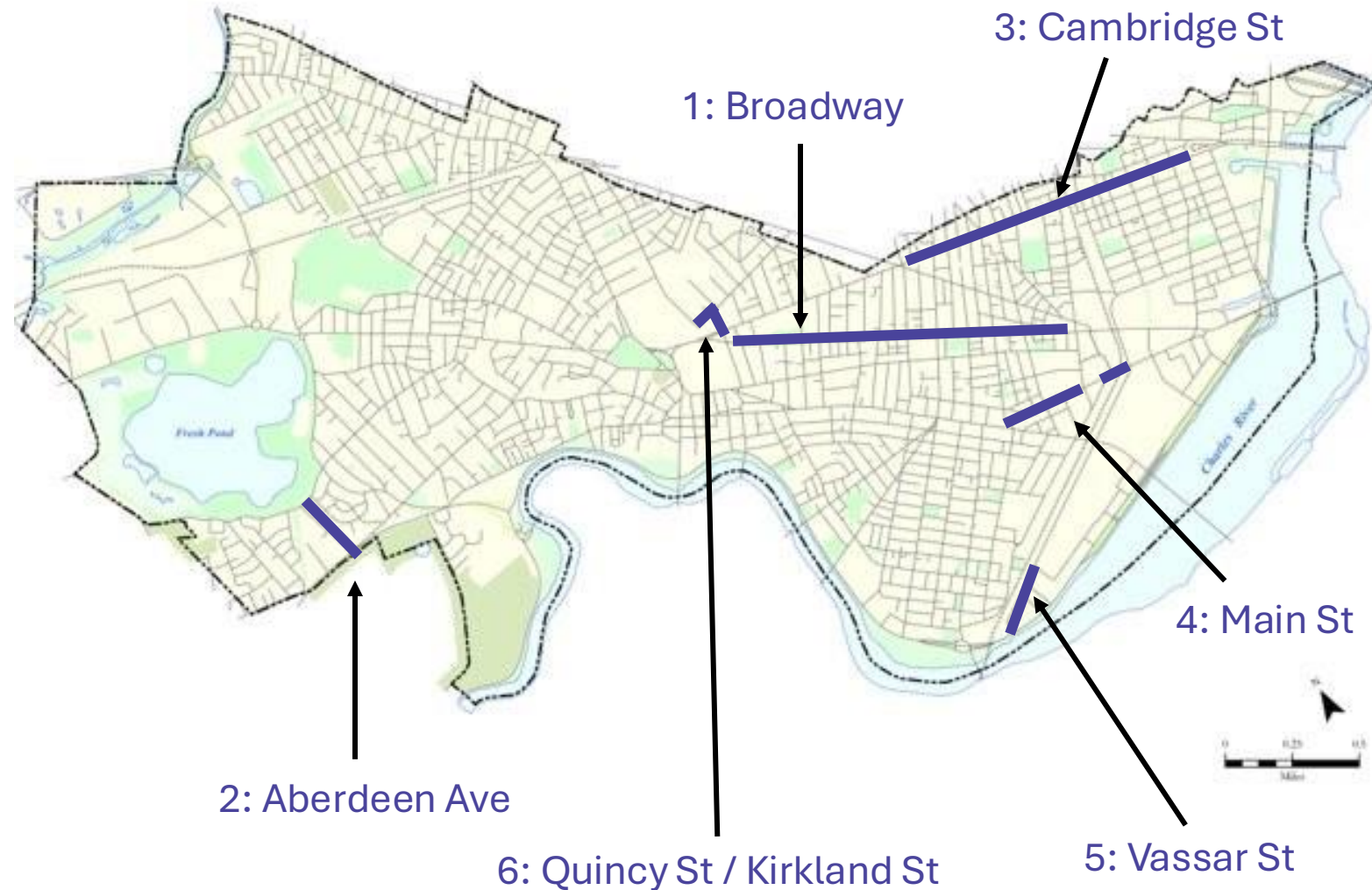
- Substantially complete. Working on punch list

## 5. Vassar St (Memorial Drive to Amherst Alley)

- Substantially complete
- Some signs and markings remain
- Note ongoing exploratory work for upcoming Eversource project

## 6. Quincy St / Kirkland St (west end)

- New project! More on next few slides.



Map of all upcoming Cycling Safety Ordinance projects at  
[www.cambridgema.gov/cyclingsafetyordinance](http://www.cambridgema.gov/cyclingsafetyordinance)



# Street Management Division Projects (cont.)

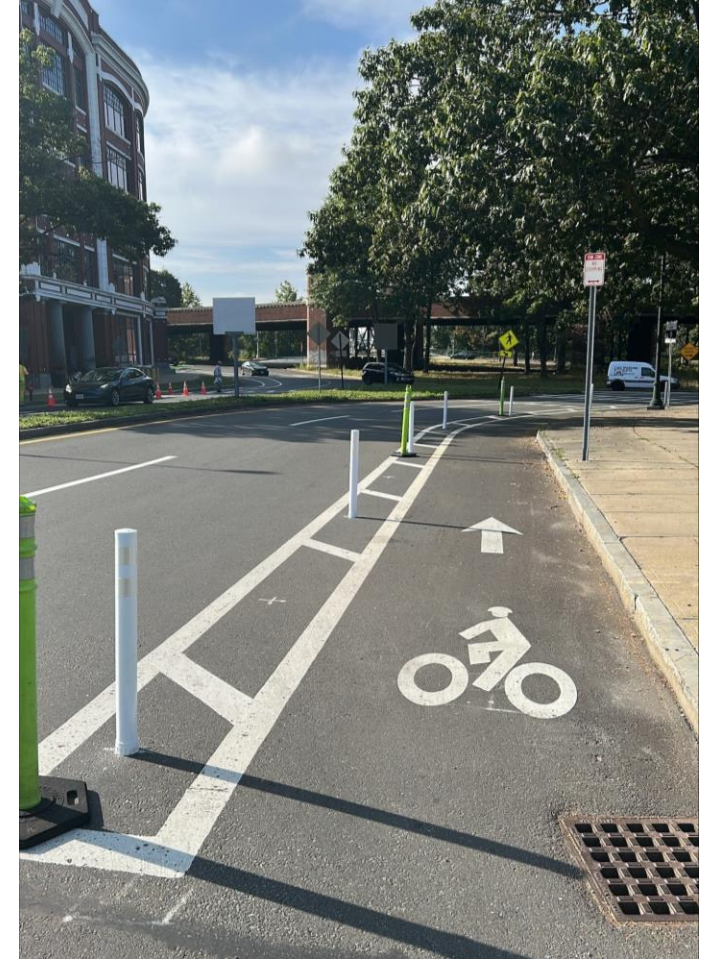
Aberdeen Ave



Aberdeen Ave



Brookline St



# Street Management Division Projects (cont.)

## Quincy - Kirkland Safety Improvement Project

New project!

This project includes Quincy St between Kirkland St and Cambridge St and Kirkland St between Quincy St and Oxford St.

We will add separated bike lanes where possible to align with the Cycling Safety Ordinance.

- **Quincy St:** This section can be installed as early as this year.
- **Kirkland St:** This section will begin the outreach and feedback phase soon.
  - This section is not designed yet

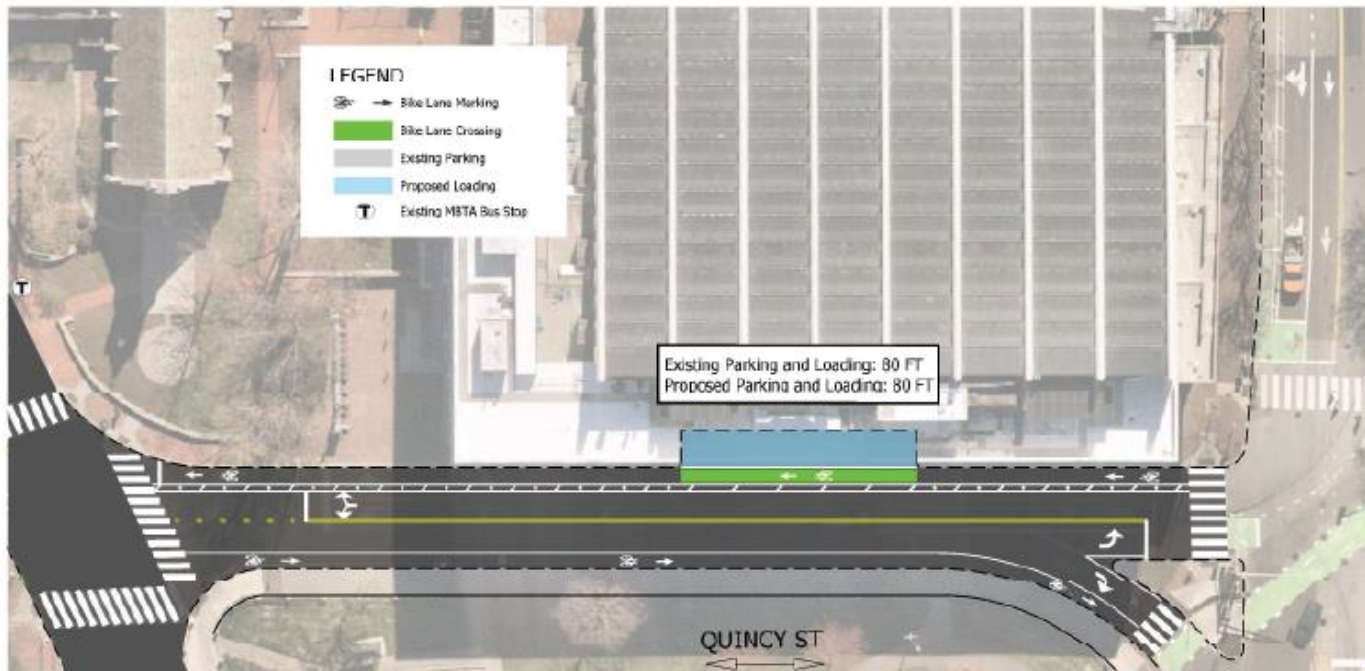


Project webpage: [camb.ma/quincykirkland](https://camb.ma/quincykirkland)



# Street Management Division Projects (cont.)

## Quincy - Kirkland Safety Improvement Project



### Quincy St: Kirkland St to Cambridge St

**Timeline:** Tentative Fall 2025

- **Sidewalk Repairs:** The City will work with Eversource Gas to restore a sidewalk that was partially removed to allow for utility work.
- **Modify the Roadway Layout:** A lane reduction on Quincy St, which was installed temporarily during construction, will be made permanent.
- **Improve Bicycle Facilities and Connections:** Project plans include a combination of separated, buffered, and conventional marked lanes, an improvement from today.

Project webpage: [camb.ma/quincykirkland](https://camb.ma/quincykirkland)



# Public Works Projects

## 1. Harvard Square Kiosk and Plaza

- No major update

## 2. River St (Memorial Dr to Mass Ave)

- Binder paved Kinnaird to Mass Ave in September
- New signal equipment at Mass / Prospect – November 12

## 3. Mass Ave Partial Construction

- Anticipate public process re-start before end of 2025



# Public Works Projects (cont.)

## 4. Chapter 90 Contracts 24 & 25

- Projects are wrapping up

## 5. Chapter 90 Contract 26

- No major update

## 6. Port Infrastructure Improvements

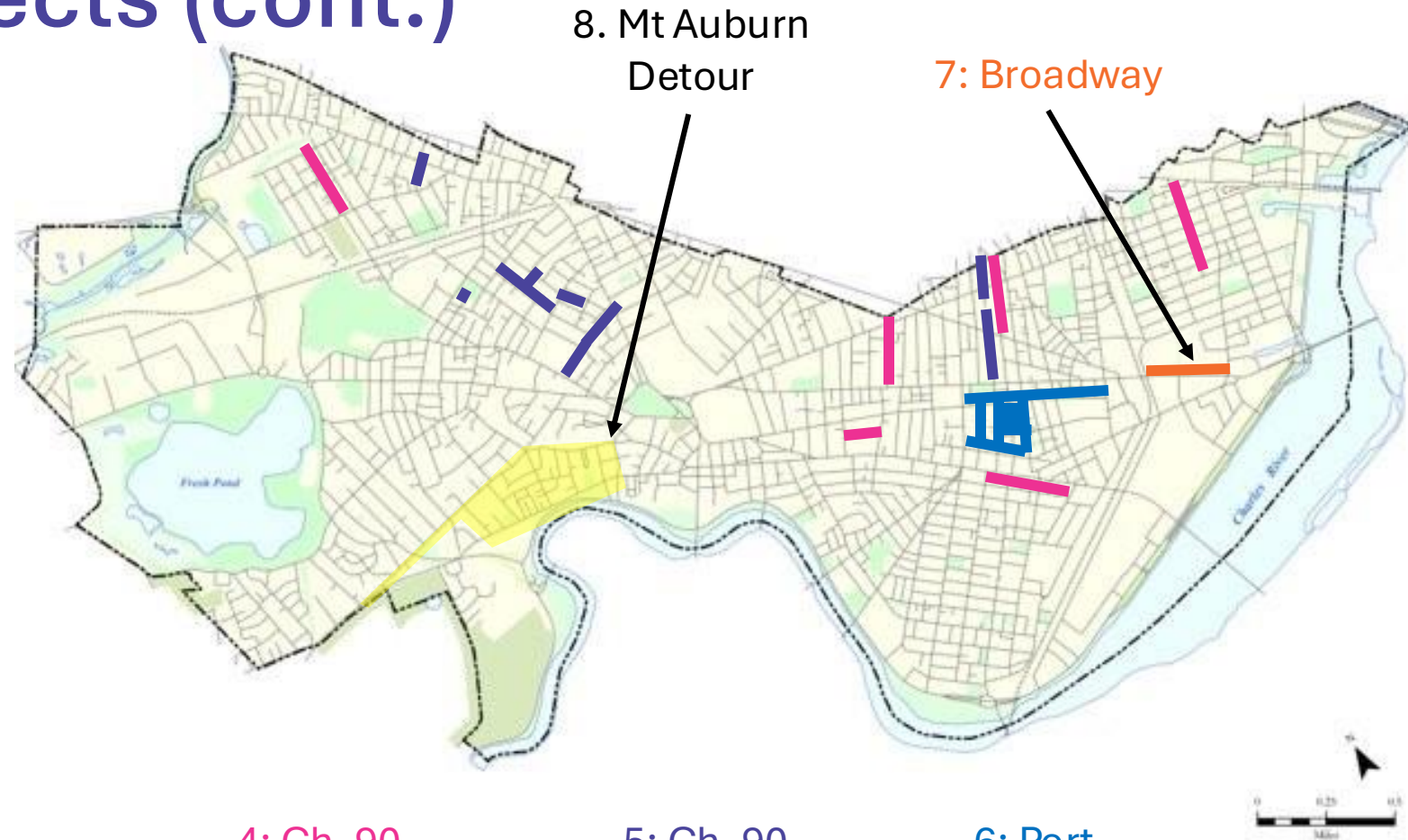
- Clement Morgan Park - Bids due November 20

## 7. **Broadway (Galileo Galilei to Third St)**

- No major update

## 8. 221 Mt. Auburn St Detours

- Demolition begins in December



4: Ch. 90  
Contracts 24/25  
(magenta streets)

5: Ch. 90  
Contract 26  
(purple streets)

6: Port  
Infrastructure  
– Phase 1  
(blue streets)

# **Discussion: Preparing for 2026- 2027 Pedestrian Committee term**

6:25-7:55 PM

# Discussion: How to improve the 2026-2027 Pedestrian Committee term?

- Why have this conversation now?
- How to encourage participation?
- What does the 2026-2027 application process look like?
- What are the 2026-2027 term next steps?

# Why have this conversation now?

- Current term (2024-2025) closes soon:
  - Natural time to pause and reflect
- New term (2026-2027) starts soon:
  - New term will bring on new members who need to be onboarded and integrated into Committee processes and work
  - Opportune time to collect feedback and refine or revamp Committee processes and work
- Noticing a concerning trend:
  - General trend of declining interest and participation (e.g., resigning members, low attendance, lacking quorum, unfilled officer roles) that is unique to the Pedestrian Committee

How can the Committee increase and sustain participation and interest in the 2026-2027 term? Your input is invaluable. We want to hear from you!

# How to encourage participation?

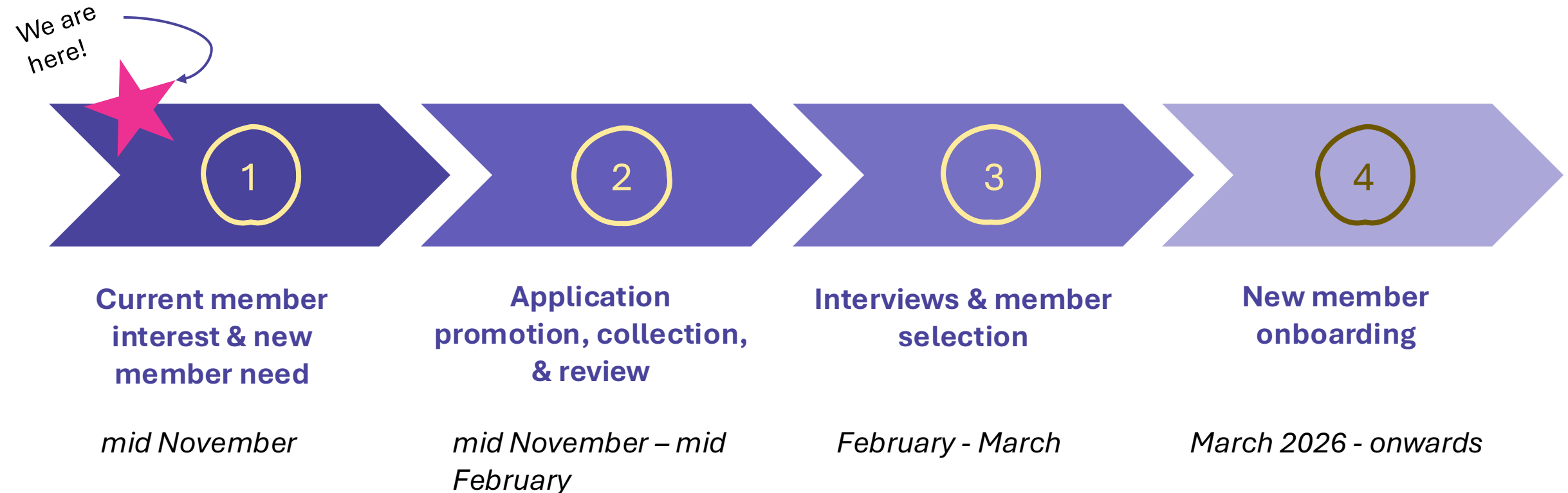
- Let's spend a few moments reflecting on big questions:
  - What initially excited members about joining the Committee?
  - What do members want the Committee to accomplish?
  - What works well? What doesn't?
- Let's spend most of the time discussing what, if anything, should change?

## Example topics include:

- Onboarding, training
- Meeting frequency, length, start time, venue
- Communications, information
- Bylaws, for example:
  - Member responsibilities, including “substantive work” requirement
  - Officer roles, including what to do without officers
  - Votes and quorum

# What does the 2026-2027 application process look like?

- Current terms expire February 26, 2026 ([appointed February 26, 2024](#))
- First meeting of next term: March 26, 2026



# What are the 2026-2027 term next steps?

- First, determine the need for a call for new members:
  - Who is eligible?
    - Any existing member who has not served 5 consecutive 2-year terms (10 years)
  - What other considerations?
    - Regular attendance is required to maintain membership
    - Members must have an approved leave of absence if absent more than three consecutive meetings
  - **Are any current members interested in another term? Let Nick know at this meeting or email Nick / Quinn with your response by December 3**
- Second, seek new member applications, if needed:
  - Open to anyone with an active interest in pedestrian issues in Cambridge and must live or work in Cambridge
  - CamDOT staff work with Community Engagement Team to encourage applications. We strive for a diverse committee by demographics and home or workplace geography



**Public comment**

7:55-7:30 PM

# Appendix

# Analysis of 2025 activity

- Attendance:
  - Of 18 members, 7 resigned in 2025 (39% of initial 2025 committee)
  - Of remaining 11 members, 5 have missed 3 or more meetings in a row (45% of remaining 2025 committee)
  - No quorum 6/26, 8/7, or 11/5 (43% of 2025 meetings)
- Officers and representatives:
  - No Chair or Secretary
  - No Public Works representative (City is actively identifying new representative)
- Work program:
  - Of remaining 11 members, 6 have not volunteered for a task/project (55% of remaining 2025 committee)
  - Safety Study of the City: On-hold, awaiting new Public Works representative
  - Supporting Net Zero Transportation Plan: Coordinating with City staff and community members

# Analysis of 2025 participation

Member	Role	Status	2025 Meeting Date						
			1/30/2025	2/6/2025	3/27/2025	5/22/2025	6/26/2025	8/7/2025	11/5/2025
Sandy Goldberg	Chair	Resigned April 25, 2025							
Robin Bonner	Vice Chair	Active							
Jesus Armenta		Resigned March 27, 2025							
Debby Galef		Active							
Alexandra Hallowell		Resigned October 31, 2025							
Shannon Hasenfratz	Harvard	Assigned October 21, 2025							
Evan Killion		Resigned March 6, 2025							
Kevin Leckey		Active							
John Leo		Resigned May 5, 2025							
Thomas Marsh		Resigned June 25, 2025							
Michael McGowan		Active							
Xander Mitchell		Active							
Bernhard Nickel		Resigned August 20, 2025							
Sean Peirce		Active							
Jeannine Powers	Harvard	Stepped down October 21, 2025							
Maryann Quinn		Active							
Logan Read		Active							
Janet Stein		Active							
Jenine Turner-Trauring		Active							
Quorum reached?			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No

# Subcommittee status (from June 2025)

- Brainstormed “Safety Study of the City” next steps:
  - Compile a list of issues and opportunities by location:
    - Large scale changes that require projects
    - Small scale changes that can be completed under “Miscellaneous Sidewalk Requests
  - Align list with [City’s Five-Year Plan](#); separate projects into short-, medium-, and long-term projects
  - Meet with City staff
- Brainstormed “Support [Net Zero Transportation Plan](#)” next steps:
  - Meet with Stephanie Groll, Project Manager
  - Additional members are desired for this subcommittee

# “Safety Study the City” (from June 2025)

<b>Purpose</b> <i>Why this topic?</i>	Walking in Cambridge is generally good, but many walks are negatively affected by a particular trouble spot
<b>Outcome</b> <i>What is the end goal / deliverable?</i>	An inventory of trouble spots to share with City staff to improve safety and efficiency of walking in the city
<b>Process</b> <i>How will the subcommittee get there?</i>	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.
<b>Volunteers</b>	Maryann Quinn, Jenny Turner-Trauring, Debby Galef, Sean Peirce, and Janet Stein

# “Support Net Zero Transportation Plan” (from June 2025)

<b>Purpose</b> <i>Why this topic?</i>	Combining forces on shared priorities stemming from the Net Zero Transportation Plan
<b>Outcome</b> <i>What is the end goal / deliverable?</i>	Letter from the Pedestrian Committee to the City Council in support specific actions / goals / objectives within the Net Zero Transportation Plan
<b>Process</b> <i>How will the subcommittee get there?</i>	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.
<b>Volunteers</b>	Janet Stein