COMMUNITY PRESENTATION #1

DANEHY-NEW STREET CONNECTOR PATH

LINEAR PARK REDESIGN
AGENDA

Welcome!

1. Project elements & schedule
2. Existing conditions
3. Public process update
4. DRAFT project goals & visions
5. Questions & feedback
PROJECT SCOPE

Linear Park Redesign

1. Renovation of Linear Park including the pathway from Russell Field to Somerville-Cambridge line
2. New planting/trees
3. Update lighting, stormwater drainage, furniture and path amenities
4. Public art & placemaking
PROJECT SCOPE
Danehy-New St Connector Path

1. Create of a new multi-use path corridor from Concord Ave to Danehy Park
2. Install path lighting, stormwater drainage/green elements
3. Selectively preserve trees and add new plantings
4. Public art & placemaking
Danehy-New St Connector Path

Feasibility study of pedestrian and bike crossing over-or-under the commuter rail between Sherman St and Alewife Brook Parkway.
SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MILESTONE</th>
<th>TIMELINE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public engagement process</td>
<td>Spring &gt; Summer &gt; Fall 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conceptual design</td>
<td>Fall 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final design</td>
<td>Spring 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertise &amp; begin construction</td>
<td>Fall 2023 &gt; 2024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EXISTING CONDITIONS

Linear Park
Project Givens

- Defined Right of Way / 12’ – 14’ paved path
- Keep existing trees & install new plantings
- Existing crossing of Mass Ave remains the same
- New lighting, furniture, drainage
Existing Conditions:
Linear Park
- Between Russell Field & Alewife Station
- Known conflict point
Existing Conditions:

Linear Park

- Curving towards Harvey Street
- Path feels narrow at curve
- Emergency call boxes
Existing Conditions:

Linear Park

- MBTA tunnel emergency exit (white dashed outline)
- Example of fixed element that can’t be moved
Existing Conditions:
Linear Park

- Between Harvey St and Cedar St
- Wider areas along the path represent opportunities for additional park amenities
Existing Conditions:

Linear Park

- Drainage at Cedar Street entrance will be addressed
Existing Conditions:

Linear Park

- Pinch point behind Mass Ave bus yard
- Elmwood Street development includes upgraded access point
Existing Conditions:

Linear Park

- Border between Cambridge and Somerville
DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES: LINEAR PARK

- Upgrade to Harvey Street entrance
- Consider place making opportunities
- Maintain neighborhood connection
- Approved Aisle Park development
- Improved crossing raised crosswalk
- Exist MBTA red line tunnel
- Consider open space opportunity
- Improve circulation and wayfinding signage
DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES: LINEAR PARK

- Consider open space opportunity
- Maintain neighborhood connections
- Opportunity to improve fencing and screening along the perimeter of the site
- Trolley square includes seating/tables, and playful elements
- Consider alternative gateway
- Review landscaping opportunities at park
- Retain bike share station
- Opportunity to improve underutilized open space
EXISTING CONDITIONS

Danehy-New Street Project Givens

- Create a safe, accessible, 12’ – 14’ paved and lit path
- Connections to New Street and Danehy Park
- Create a safe and comfortable crossing at New Street
- Examine crossing location of Concord Avenue
Existing Conditions:
Danehy-New St

- Between Sunoco gas station and Adams Fireplace Shop
Existing Conditions:

Danehy-New St

- Between Hi-Tech auto body and Fresh Pond Mall
- Ahead to the right is 77 New Street
Existing Conditions:

Danehy-New St

- Corridor width is inconsistent between Concord Ave and 77 New Street
- Some narrower sections may leave little space for plantings or other amenities
Existing Conditions:

Danehy-New St

- Former rail tracks crossing New Street
Existing Conditions:

- Danehy-New St
- Former rail tracks visible
- Section between Danehy Park and the Fitchburg Commuter Rail Line
DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES: DANEHY–NEW STREET

- Evaluate future pedestrian/cyclist connection through MBTA right-of-way
- Evaluate connection to Sherman Street
- Upgrade New Street crossing
- Potential Danehy Park connections

MBTA Fitchburg Line
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Community Walks

- Thursday, May 5th + Saturday, June 4th
- Walk both path locations
- Listening session
- Answer questions
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

May 5th Site Walk ~50 attendees

DANEHY / NEW STREET

LINEAR PARK
## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>FORMAT</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday June 11</td>
<td>Danehy Park Lemonade Party</td>
<td>9am – 1pm, Danehy Park-New Street entrance. Activities for kids. Idea boards, paper surveys, other engaging elements for adults.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAIN DATE: Sun June 12th</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday June 18</td>
<td>Linear Park – Paint the Path</td>
<td>10am – 2pm, Linear Park at Harvey Street crossing. Activities for kids. Idea boards, paper surveys, other engaging elements for adults.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RAIN DATE: Sun June 19th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multiple dates</td>
<td>Multiple sites</td>
<td>Intercept surveys at path sites</td>
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<tr>
<td>September (date TBD)</td>
<td>Community Meeting</td>
<td>Present conceptual designs</td>
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<tr>
<td>October (date TBD)</td>
<td>Path pop-up events</td>
<td>Conceptual design plans available for comments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early 2023</td>
<td>Community Meeting</td>
<td>Advanced design meeting</td>
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PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Survey

- Public input on six project themes
- Inform both the vision and goals of the projects

1. Site History + Interpretive Signage
2. Art + Creativity
3. Ecology + Resiliency
4. Path Identity + Landscape Character
5. Multi-Generational Play
6. Social Spaces + Seating

www.surveymonkey.com/r/DanehyLinearSurvey
Draft Project Goals

- Reimagine Linear Park as a destination - program under-utilized spaces
- Widen to 14’ where possible to allow space for users traveling at different speeds
- Design beautiful gateways / access points
- Create useful wayfinding & interpretive signage
- Preserve what works, and fix problem areas
Draft Project Goals

- Preserve and create tree canopy and shade
- Plant resilient landscaping and buffer areas
- Connect path through to Sherman Street
- Path design and landscaping will work with potential bike and pedestrian crossing of commuter rail
Draft Vision

- The Vision of each project will be informed by feedback and input on, and how we prioritize the six project themes
Feedback

- Survey
  - www.surveymonkey.com/r/DanehyLinearSurvey

- Please visit the project websites to submit comments, sign up for the newsletter, and see upcoming events
  - Camb.ma/LinearPark
  - Camb.ma/DanehyConnector

- Use the Q&A button in the bottom center of the Zoom window
THANK YOU

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