

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE  
TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING NOTES

Date, Time & Place:  
April 5, 2017, 5:30-7:30  
MIT building E25, room 117

#### Attendance

##### *Committee Members*

John Attanucci, Devin Chausse, Jim Gascoigne, Andrew McFarland, Robert Ricchi, Simon Shapiro, Arthur Strang, and Alex Taylor

##### *City of Cambridge*

Tegin Bennett and Cleo Stoughton (Community Development); Adam Shulman (Traffic, Parking, and Transportation)

##### *Presenters, official entities, and members of the public*

One member of the public was present.

#### Committee Introductions, Administrative Business, and Updates

The March notes were approved.

#### Public Comment

There were no comments at this time.

#### Transit Strategic Plan Implementation Plan

Committee members discussed draft implementation plan items for the Transit Strategic Plan.

##### *Discussion:*

- *Real-time transit displays:* How many will be installed? Are there opportunities for public-private partnerships? Is it possible to do a large-format display (e.g., in a busy square)?
- *North Mass Ave bus priority concept:* What is the scope of this project and are there opportunities to expand it?
- *Mt Auburn Street bus priority:* The discussion around this project is moving forward in multiple directions currently.
- *Inman Square:* As the design for the square moves forward, transit issues (e.g., delay to the Route 69) are being taken into consideration. The next public meeting for the project will be taking place soon.
- *Cambridge Street Demonstration Project:* The next public meeting for this project will be taking place soon.
- The committee emphasized that public outreach (and generating energy around projects) as well as evaluation are vital components.
- The idea of providing transit passes to neighbors near transit-related projects was discussed.
- *Alewife:* The committee discussed transit improvements in Alewife as addressing local vs. regional concerns. The committee also discussed the importance of better access to transit and other services around Alewife, including by improving connections across the rail tracks.
- *EZRide:* Jim Gascoigne spoke briefly about harnessing opportunities for new and expanded service and may give a longer update at the June meeting.
- *Bus priority on Mass Ave:* In addition to areas discussed previously, there are other segments (e.g., in Central Square and near MIT) that need to be addressed as well.
- *Service planning ideas:* The committee has worked to date developing a set of service planning ideas that should continue to be developed further.

The committee voted in support of generally moving forward with this set of implementation items to be included in a Transit Strategic Plan update.

#### Update on Proposed MBTA Route 72/74/75/78 Changes

Committee chair John Attanucci presented an analysis on combined routing for MBTA Routes 72/74/75/78. The concept proposes improving service by evening out headways and eliminating routing deviations that have low boardings and add travel time to the routes. The analysis finds that there will be less crowding and higher ridership on these routes with the proposed changes. The combined route likely requires the addition of one bus to the combined schedules. The MBTA will be evaluating the proposal further.

### Update on Development Projects

Staff provided a summary of topics discussed at the March meeting and will be sending along additional materials. Staff also presented a list of recent development projects' mitigation commitments for transit studies.

### Final Public Comment

There were no further comments.

### Announcements, Events, and Updates

- The MBTA FMCB continues to discuss possible cuts to Commuter Rail and the RIDE service, including at the upcoming April 10 meeting.
- Cambridge is discussing cosponsoring a late-night MBTA pilot service.
- Park(ing) Day will take place on September 15, 2017 and Transit Committee members are encouraged to think about participating.
- The NACTO Transit Program Accelerator Roadshow will take place May 22-23 with events for the public, including a LivableStreets Alliance event.
- The final meeting of the Kendall Square Mobility Task Force is tomorrow, April 6.
- There have been recent meetings about Focus40, Go Boston 2030, and I-90/West Station, and Transit Committee members are encouraged to stay engaged.
- The committee was in favor of canceling the July 5 meeting.

*Adjourned at 7:30 pm*