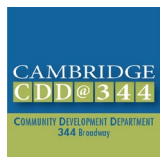


City of Cambridge
Community Development Department

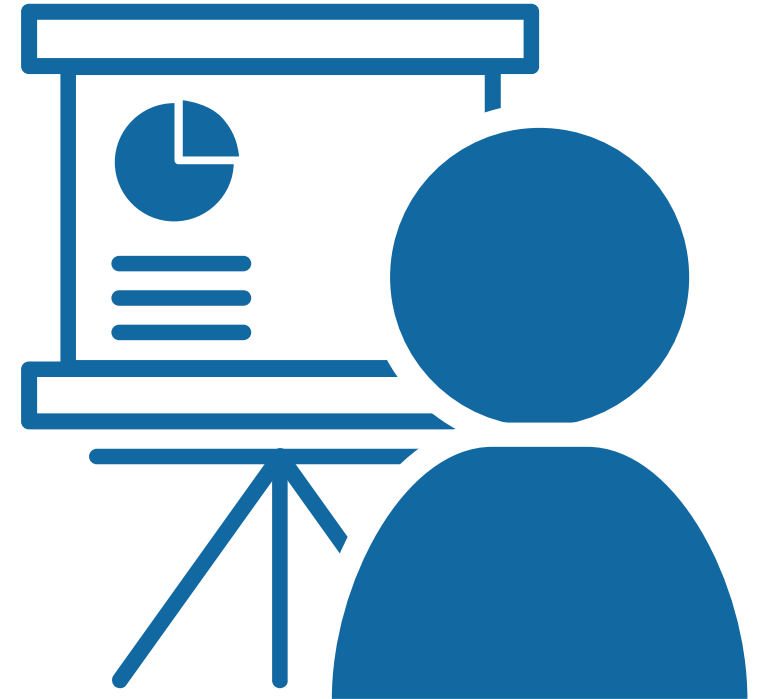
Transit Advisory Committee

March 2021



Meeting agenda

1. Welcome
2. Introductions
3. Presentation: City project updates
4. Discussion: Transit Advisory Committee Implementation Plan
5. Presentation: City development review updates
6. Public comment

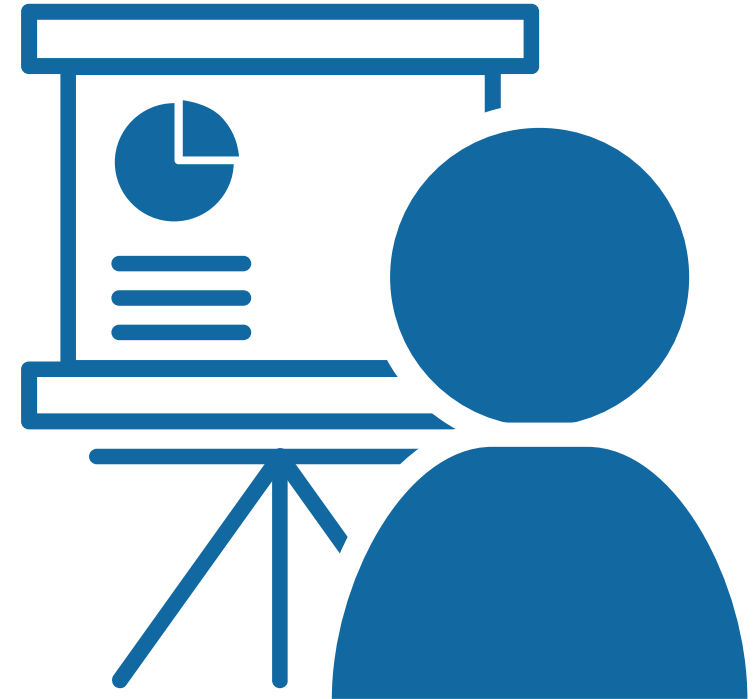




Presentation: City Projects + MBTA Initiatives

Project Updates

1. Street Projects
2. Bus Priority Projects
3. MBTA initiatives





City Streets Projects



Belmont Street

- Current shared bus-bike facility becomes a dedicated bus-only lane with buffered bike lane
- New bus stop configurations - shared bus stop with separated bike lane
- Upcoming meetings: Soon - pre-construction meeting



Huron Avenue

- Glacken Field
 - Add a sidewalk to Huron Ave on Fresh Pond Reservation
 - Add 2 bus stops on Westbound Huron Avenue
 - Construct two-way separated bike lane
- TAC desire for reserving space potential for peak-period-only bus priority lane for eastbound bus



River Street

- Street reconstruction project
 - General layout: 1 GP and 1 bus-only lane with right turns at intersections, separated bike lane, sidewalks, and some curb extensions
 - Carl Barron Plaza enhanced with amenities for transit riders and creating more public plaza space
 - Shelter installations for bus stops on Green Street at River and River at Green
- Upcoming public engagements:
 - Working group meeting and public/community meeting



Inman Square

- In construction
 - Queue-jump lane in AM Peak 7A to 9A – Eastbound from Lafayette to Antrim
 - Floating bus stops with shelters on Cambridge Street and on Hampshire Street
- No planned upcoming meetings



Massachusetts Avenue – Mid-Mass Ave. Corridor Safety Improvements

- In design – “quick-build” project
 - This quick-build project will improve safety for people biking and walking along Massachusetts Avenue between Trowbridge Street to Inman Street
 - Quick build project toolbox includes pavement markings, signs, and flex posts
- Goal: Install separated bike lanes as required by Cambridge Cycling Safety Ordinance
 - Additionally: Look for opportunities to enhance pedestrian safety at existing sidewalks and improve markings and signage at bus stops
- Visit CambridgeMA.gov/mid-mass-ave to share your feedback on current conditions



Massachusetts Avenue – Cycling Safety Ordinance

- Cycling Safety Ordinance requires the following action by city staff for Mass Ave.
- Analysis of quick-build cycling facilities by 4/30/2021
 - Harvard – Plympton to Dunster
 - Harvard to Porter – Waterhouse to Roseland
 - North Mass Ave – Beech to Dudley
- Construction of separated bike lanes by 4/30/2022
 - Porter Square – Beech to Roseland
- Design process to kick-off by end of 2022
 - Central Square – Inman to Sydney



Other Streets– Cycling Safety Ordinance

- Cycling Safety Ordinance requires the following action by city staff for Mass Ave.
- Installation of SBL by 4/30/2026
 - Broadway – Quincy to Hampshire
 - Cambridge St – Oak to Second
 - Hampshire St – Amory to Broadway
 - Garden Street- Huron Ave to Berkeley or Mason St.
 - Porter Square – Beech to Roseland
- Additional 11.5 miles of SBL in construction or implemented by 4/30/2022

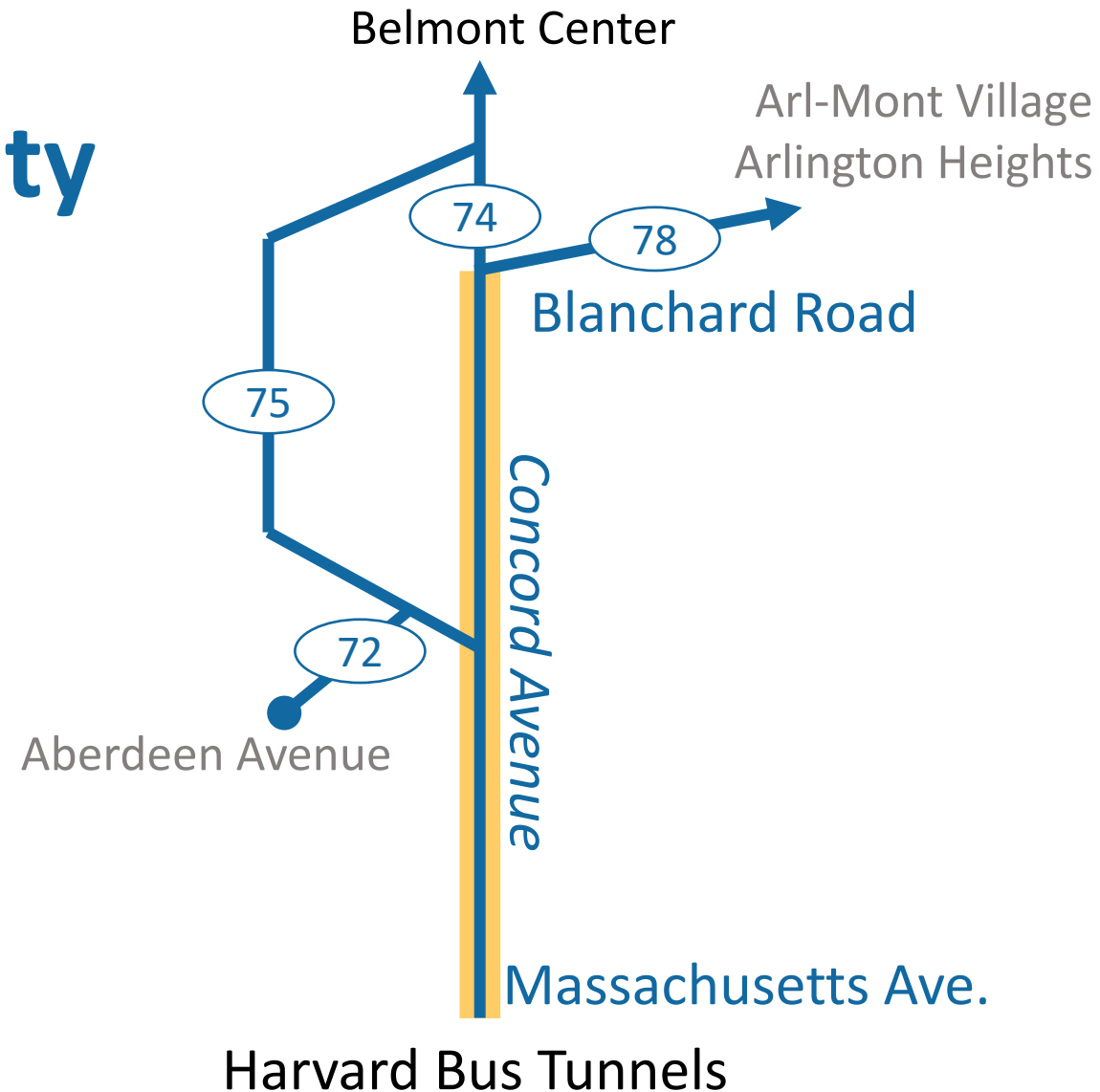


Bus Priority – Mass Ave Central to Mem.

- MBTA and Cambridge joint initiative
- Investigating the extension of bus lanes and signal priority – considering alternative bus lane configurations, curb access
- Planned public engagement activities: none, yet

Concord Ave. Signal Priority

- Upgrade signal equipment at 11 locations – equipment and cabinet only
- City to engage consultant for signal plans, coordinating with MBTA for procurement





MBTA & Commonwealth Updates



MBTA Forging Ahead

- MBTA to implement schedule changes on March 14 and ~June 2021
- **Service suspensions** – Routes 68, 80 (after GLX), 72, 79
- **Route consolidations** – 62 & 76 (Lexington to Alewife/Harvard), 84&78 (Arlmont to Alewife/Harvard), 88&90 (Clarendon Hill/Davis to Sullivan/Lechmere)



MBTA Forging Ahead

- **Essential service - transit “critical” and high ridership**
 - 1 – Midday addition, peak hour reduction
 - 47 to LMA - **~50% peak hour reduction**
 - 64 – Minor reductions all day
 - 66 – Midday addition, peak hour reduction
 - 69 – Midday addition, peak hour reduction
 - 83 – minor reductions all day
 - 85 – **Midday suspension**
 - 86– minor reductions all day
 - 91– minor reductions all day

- **Non essential** – Major reduction while managing midday ridership
 - 70 (Western Ave and Arsenal St)
 - 71 (Mount Auburn St)
 - 73 (Mount Auburn and Belmont Sts)
 - 74 (Concord Ave)
 - 75 (Concord Ave & Huron Ave)
 - 77 (Mass Ave to Arlington)
 - 87 (Clarendon Hill to Lechmere)
 - 96 (Harvard to Medford via Davis)



MBTA Green Line Extension

- Union Square station access from Cambridge will not be finished until 2022 as a result of US2 developer delays in constructing elevator
- Lechmere station trending to reopen summer 2021
 - Route 80 to be consolidated with Route 88 and diverted to serve Sullivan
 - Routes 69 (to Harvard) and 87 (to Arlington Center via Davis and Union Squares) would remain
 - EZRide to serve station area
- GLX team provided an update at Community Working Group with photos of recent construction



MBTA Bus Network Redesign

- **The Bus Network Redesign** is a complete re-imagining of the MBTA's bus network to reflect the travel needs of the region and create a more competitive bus service for current and future bus riders.
- **Goals**
 - Simplify a complicated network
 - Modernize system
 - Create a more equitable network
 - Make transit competitive to driving
- **Process (upcoming)**
 - Identify high priority corridors
 - Identify local corridors
 - Propose new network
 - Implement over several years



MBTA Silver Line Extension Alt. Analysis.

- The MBTA is studying the feasibility, benefits, and cost of extending Silver Line service to Everett and to Somerville, Cambridge, and Boston.
- **Process (upcoming)**
 - Establish goals and objectives with stakeholder group
 - Examine existing conditions, potential future conditions
 - Develop and analyze several BRT alternatives
 - Recommend a final alternative to move forward into environmental permitting and design



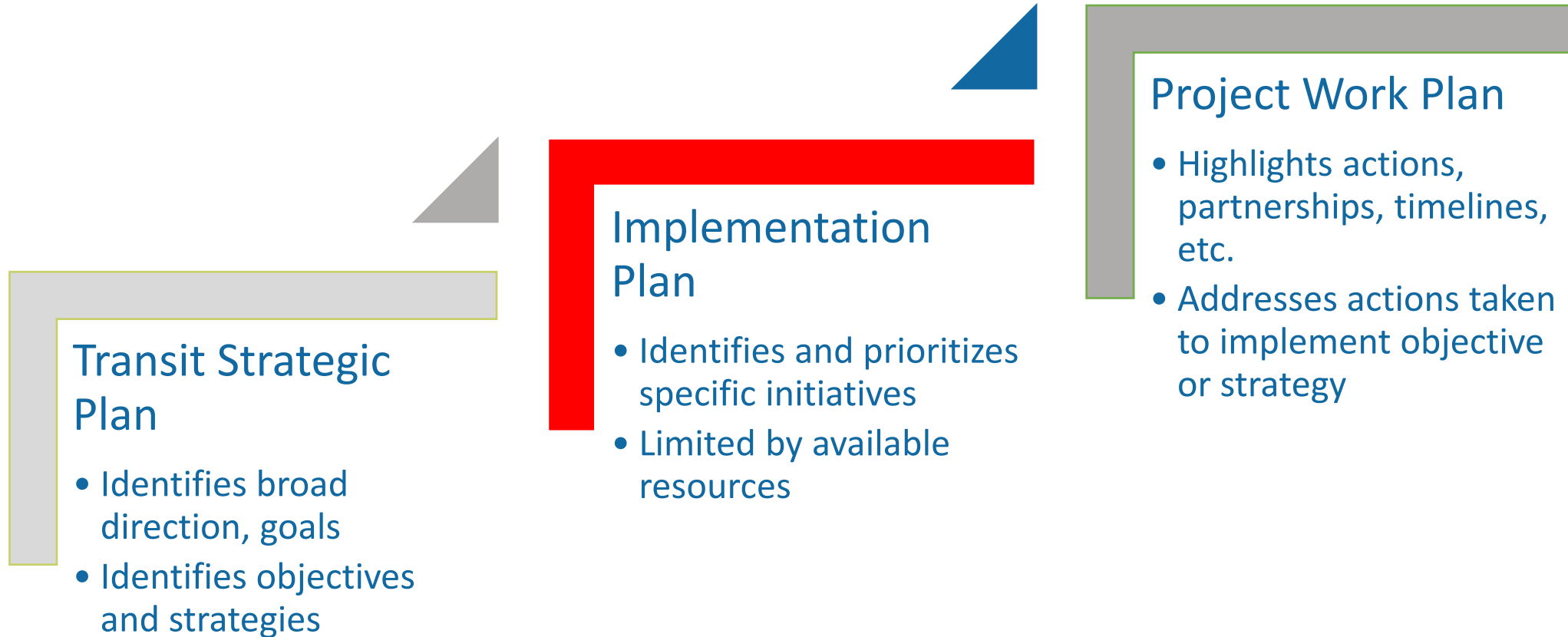
MBTA Fare Transformation (f/k/a AFC 2.0)

- To simplify fare payment so our riders can get where they're going faster.
- Our goal is to deliver a system that works, and doesn't limit what we're able to do for our customers in the future.
- Progress
 - Community conversations about fare enforcement, off-board payment on buses
 - Testing fare "touch" pads on buses now through spring 2021
- Upcoming process
 - Commuter Rail terminal gates
 - Contactless payment systems
 - Rear door boarding on Bus and Green Line
 - CharlieCard Retail network expansion
 - Account-based, web-based systems



Discussion: TAC Implementation Plan

Interrelated plans and documents



Goals of Transit Strategic Plan

G1 Serve all trips

G2 Expand funding

G3 Improve service efficiency

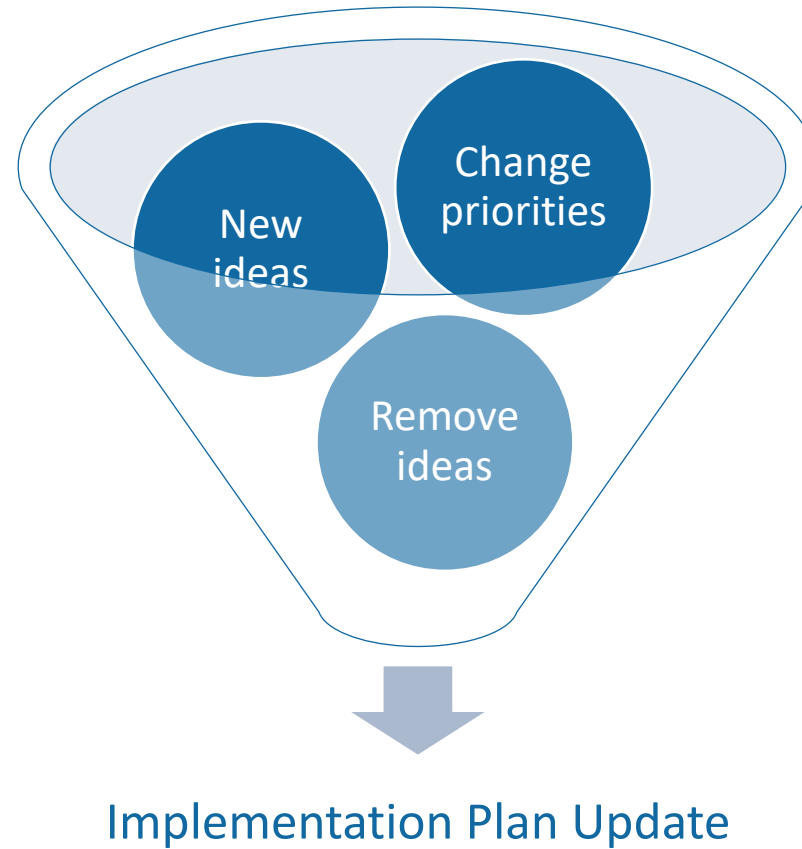
G4 Expand Service

G5 Improve usability, access, safety

G6 Improve outreach and participation

G7 Resiliency and adaption to climate change

Implementation Plan





Other Updates



Next TAC and Joint meeting of TAC/BC/PC

Upcoming TAC Meetings

- Wednesday, April 7, 2021
 - Potential: MBTA/MassDOT Silver Line Extension Alternatives Analysis
 - Potential: Outreach Exercises with Livable Streets Alliance

Planned Joint meetings with Bicycle and Pedestrian committees

- Wednesday, March 17, 2021
 - Review of Volpe Site
 - Review of Mid-Mass Ave
- Wednesday, April 21, 2021
 - Review of DPW 5-year Plan



Public comment

Members of the public will have up to 3 minutes to make a comment

Thank you for participating in this Transit Advisory Committee meeting with remote participation.

Be safe, warm, and well!

Thank You