Discussion: TAC-endorsed Implementation Plan

Andrew Reker, City of Cambridge
Review of Purpose, Objectives, and Process

Purpose
• Review an updated version of the implementation plan and discuss additions, deletions and modifications.

Objective
• The TAC and City staff are aware of current status of endorsed items and new, modified, or deleted implementation plan items

Process
• City staff will highlight updates and new items that have come up since March 2021. TAC will discuss additions or modifications. TAC will not have to vote on these changes
Interrelated plans and documents

Transit Strategic Plan
• Identifies broad direction, goals
• Identifies objectives and strategies

Implementation Plan
• Identifies and prioritizes specific initiatives
• Limited by available resources

Project Work Plan
• Highlights actions, partnerships, timelines, etc.
• Addresses actions taken to implement objective or strategy
Goals of Transit Strategic Plan

1. Serve all trips
2. Expand funding
3. Improve service efficiency
4. Expand Service
5. Improve usability, access, safety
6. Improve outreach and participation
7. Resiliency and adaptation to climate change
More Detail

#1 Serve all trips
• Identify gaps in the transit network
• Prioritize strategies that would fill gaps, focusing on people that depend on transit for their travel
• Prioritize strategies that increase access to community amenities and resources (i.e. not only work-commute trips)

#2 Expand funding
• Advocate for more funding for public transit from all stakeholders – developers, private business, government
• Use available municipal funding for transit improvements – bus stops, bus lanes, transit signals
• Support the development of Transportation Management Associations
More Detail

#3 Improve service efficiency

- Coordinate and advocate for improvements to Red Line capacity, efficiency, and reliability
- Advocate for additional supplementary local transit service (potentially parallel to existing Red and Green Line)
- Prioritize transit improvements that improve travel time and reliability when doing city projects
- Coordinate with MBTA and private shuttles for better connectivity and
- Support improvements in fare payment policy, strategy, and technology
#4 Expand Service

- Support and advocate for the MBTA to provide:
  - New routes (ones that connect “crosstown” and connect with underserved neighborhoods)
  - Better frequencies
  - Longer service hours (especially evenings and weekends)
- Support and advocate for new routes provided by TMAs
More Detail

#5 Improve usability, access, safety

• Improve transfers between bus-rail, commuter rail-bus, commuter rail-rail, etc. to minimize walking times.
• Improve wayfinding and transit information on city streets
• Improve access to transit by sustainable transportation (walk, bike, other transit/shuttles)
• Improve bus stop amenities, street lighting and winter maintenance

#6 Improve outreach and participation

#7 Resiliency and adaption to climate change
#6 Improve outreach and participation

- Maintain the TAC to advise the City on transit issues and prioritizing improvements
- Increase outreach using multiple channels
- Modify outreach to be positive, effective, innovative and attention-getting
- Communicate openly and frequently with businesses, other agencies, organizations to promote transit use and improvements
More Detail

#7 Resiliency and adaption to climate change

• Advocate for modifications that reduce the GHG impact from public transit

• Coordinate and fund initiatives to improve climate resilience for city-owned assets (like streets) from the impact of excessive heat and flooding

• Improve amenities to address and mitigate climate change-related impacts like extreme weather and excessive heat

• Increase green space and shade cover to mitigate impacts of heat on transit riders
Interrelated plans and documents

Transit Strategic Plan
• Identifies broad direction, goals
• Identifies objectives and strategies

Implementation Plan
• Identifies and prioritizes specific initiatives
• Limited by available resources

Project Work Plan
• Highlights actions, partnerships, timelines, etc.
• Addresses actions taken to implement objective or strategy
TAC provides advice by recommending specific actions

Moving forward (Category A)
• Actions that have funding and resources available

Resources not yet identified (Category B)
• Actions that need to have funding or other resources identified

Not yet started (Category C)
• Actions that do not have a funding or resource plan

Revisit (Category D)
• Actions that may have funding or resources but have not had an update

Ongoing/Advocacy (Category E)
• Ongoing advocacy items for TAC or City
Updates since 3/2021 review

Moving forward (Category A)
• New items: Bus priority on Mass Ave (Dudley to Alewife Brook), TIS Guidelines Update

Resources not yet identified (Category B)
• New item: Transit Strategic Plan Implementation Plan
• Update: Bus Priority on Mass Ave (Porter Square)

Not yet started (Category C)
• Update: Bus Priority at Alewife (Advocacy) – Moved from Revisit (D)
Implementation Plan Update