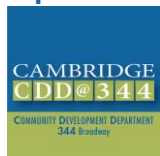

City of Cambridge Community Development Department Transit Advisory Committee

April 2024





Welcome

Purpose

Get feedback from appointed members of the TAC, the City's "community experts"

Outcomes

TAC members know about a recent report by Transit Matters and updates from the City on various projects

Process

TAC to 'raise hand' during presentations and discussions

Public to type in questions in zoom Q&A or speak verbal comments during public comment period



TAC, City, and MBTA Updates

Andy Reker, City of Cambridge



Updates: Transit Advisory Committee



Upcoming Meetings

- Next Transit Advisory Committee meeting
 - Thursday, May 2, 2024
- Options for formats for upcoming meetings
 - Online with virtual participation only
 - Hybrid with virtual and in-person participation – likely only at 344 Broadway
 - In-person only participation – potentially at Citywide Senior Center
- Scheduled joint meetings of Transit Advisory, Bicycle, Pedestrian Committees
 - Wednesday, May 15, 2023

Working on the following topics

Scheduled presentations

- May - Updates from MBTA Bus Electrification / North Cambridge Carhouse
- May – Bus Network Redesign Update
- Working to schedule presentations on
 - Alewife bridges – zoning changes, infrastructure
 - MBTA AFC 2.0
 - MBTA wayfinding and eInk signage



MBTA project rendering showing an overhead, angled view of North Cambridge Carhouse after completion of retrofit project

Selected City projects

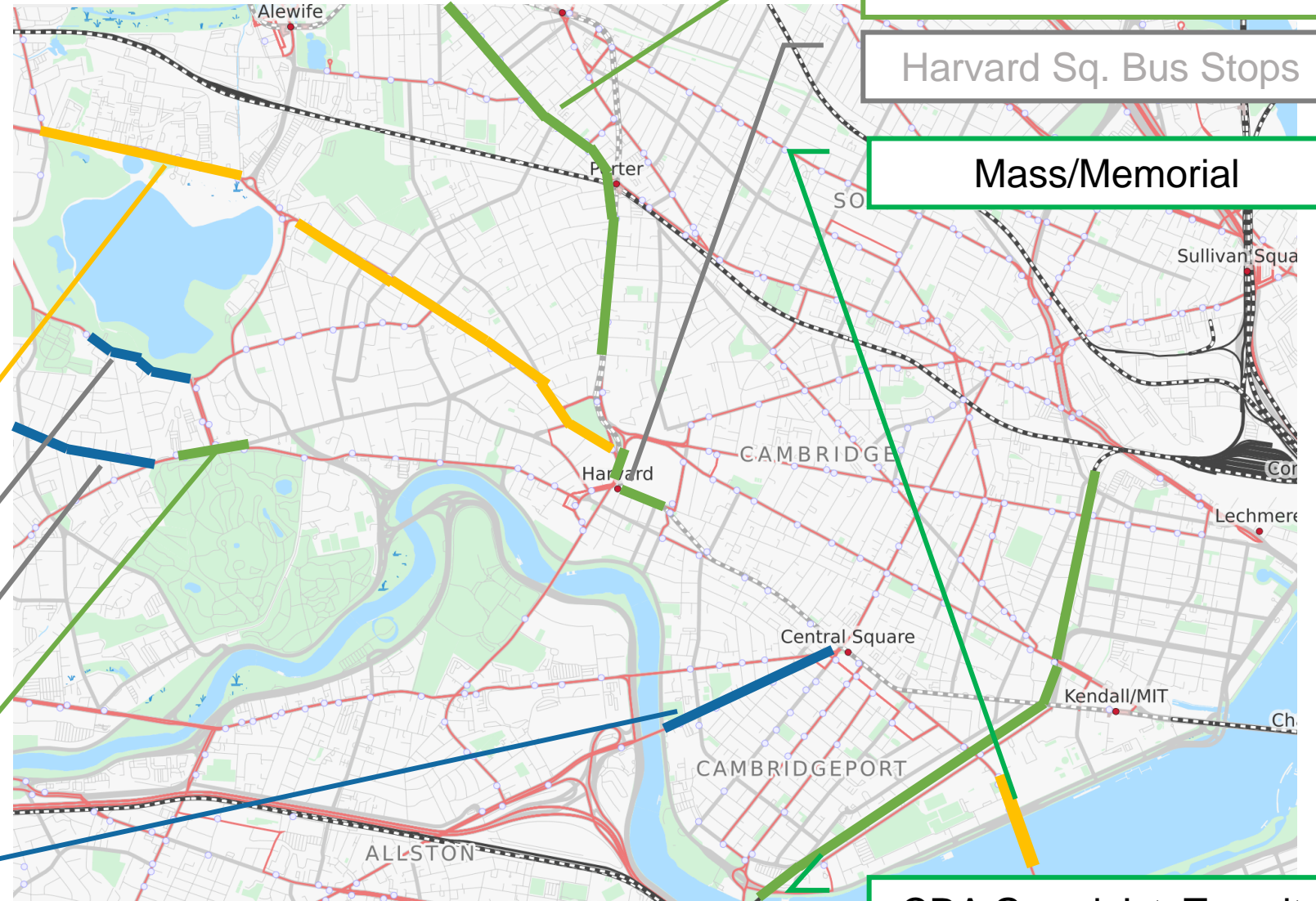
Concord Transit Signal Priority

Huron Ave Reconstr.

Belmont Street Reconstr.

Mt Auburn/Aberdeen Improvements

River Street Reconstr.



Mass Ave Partial Const.

Harvard Sq. Bus Stops

Mass/Memorial

CRA Grand Jct. Transit.



Mass Ave Partial Construction

Timeline

- Upcoming meetings for Porter Square area
- Designs for Waterhouse to Linnaean
- Developing designs – ongoing
 - Northern section (Rindge and to north)

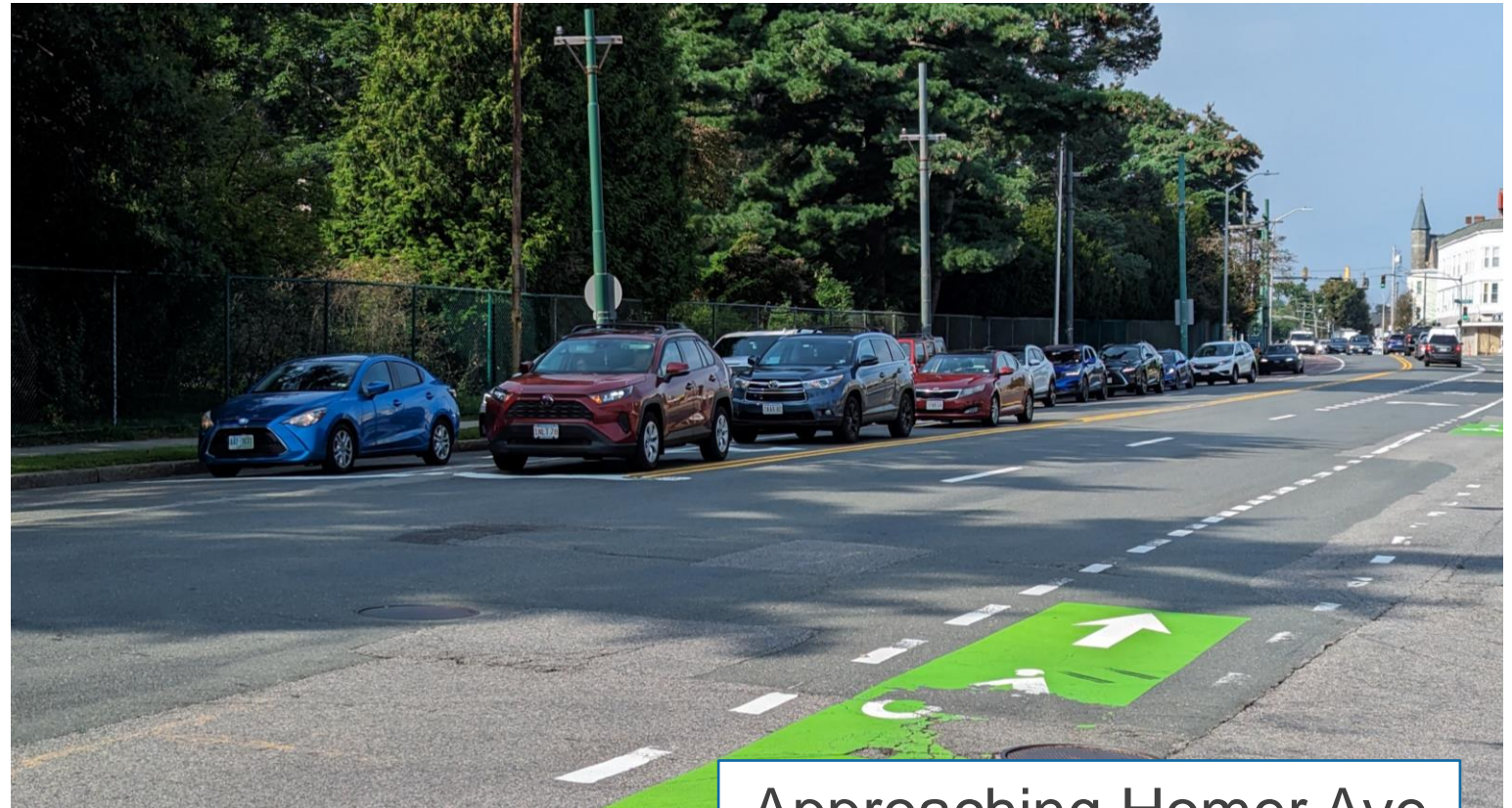
Working Group
Tentatively in April
Joint Meeting
Potentially May
Public engagement
TBD

Mount Auburn at Aberdeen Avenue

Signal work
mostly complete

Extension of bus lane
and additional changes
to bike lanes on Mount
Auburn Street

Work beginning +
street layout changes
coming soon



Approaching Homer Ave

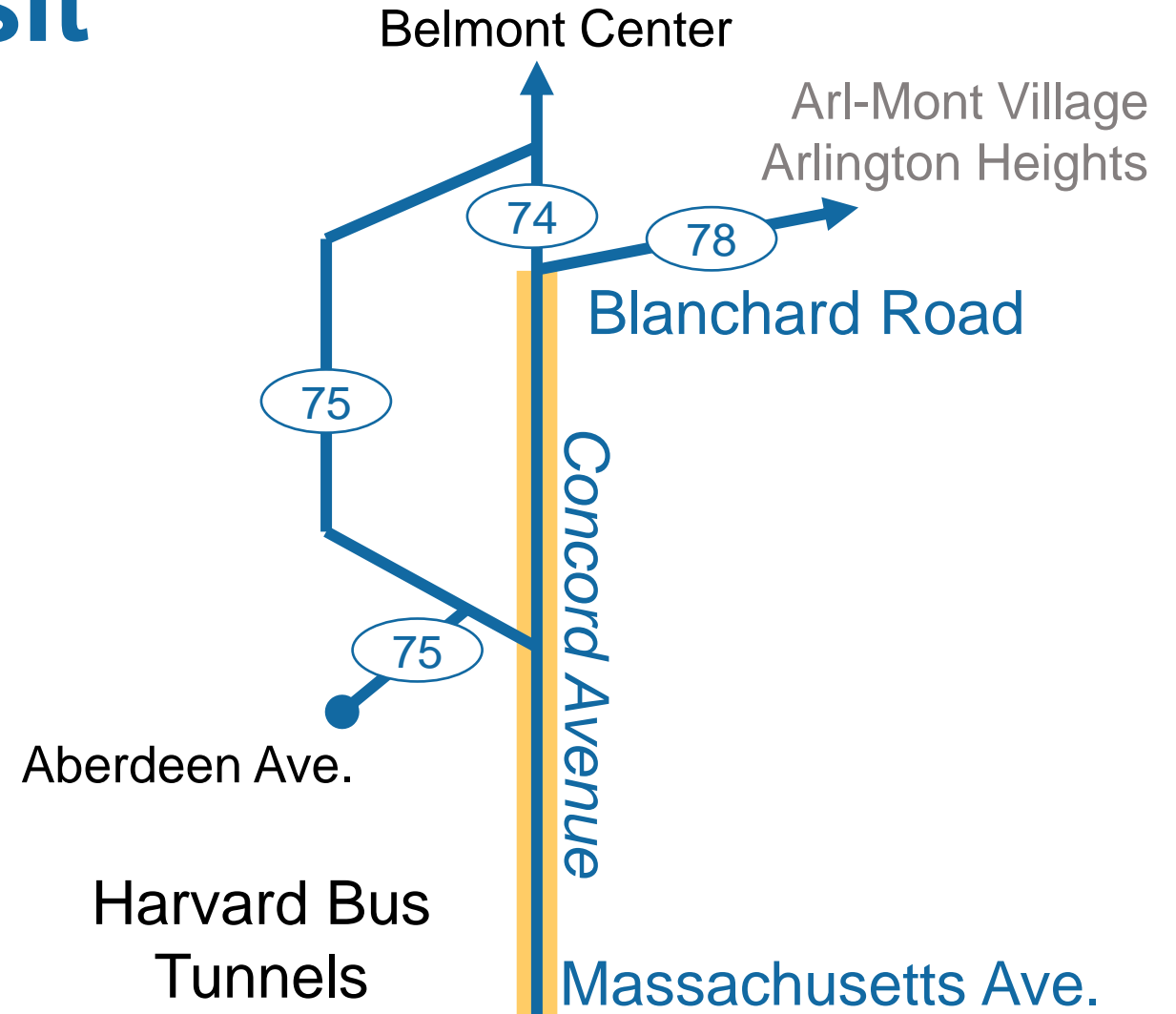
Concord Ave Transit Signal Priority

Grant funded with MBTA as implementing agency

MBTA to award contract to:

- Install wirelessly-connected TSP request generator
- Upgrade signal controllers at two locations
- Develop programming and signal controller logic for TSP

Preparatory work began in October



Huron Avenue + Cushing Plaza

Ongoing work – two-way separated bike lane, rebuilt and new bus stops

Rebuilt bus stop locations:

- **Golf Course**
- Fountain Terrace

New bus stop

- Opposite Fountain Terrace



Huron Avenue Cushing Plaza

Ongoing work – two-way separated bike lane, rebuilt and new bus stops

Rebuilt bus stop locations:

- Golf Course
- Opposite Golf Course
- Fountain Terrace

New bus stop

- **Opposite Fountain Terrace**



Huron Avenue + Cushing Plaza



Belmont Street Reconstruction

Ongoing work – full reconstruction of Belmont Street

- Most major work is complete – some final items – markings, signage, bike parking, etc.
- Added buffered bike lanes – to separate cyclists from buses
- New bus stop design –
 - Shared cycle track and bus boarding curb





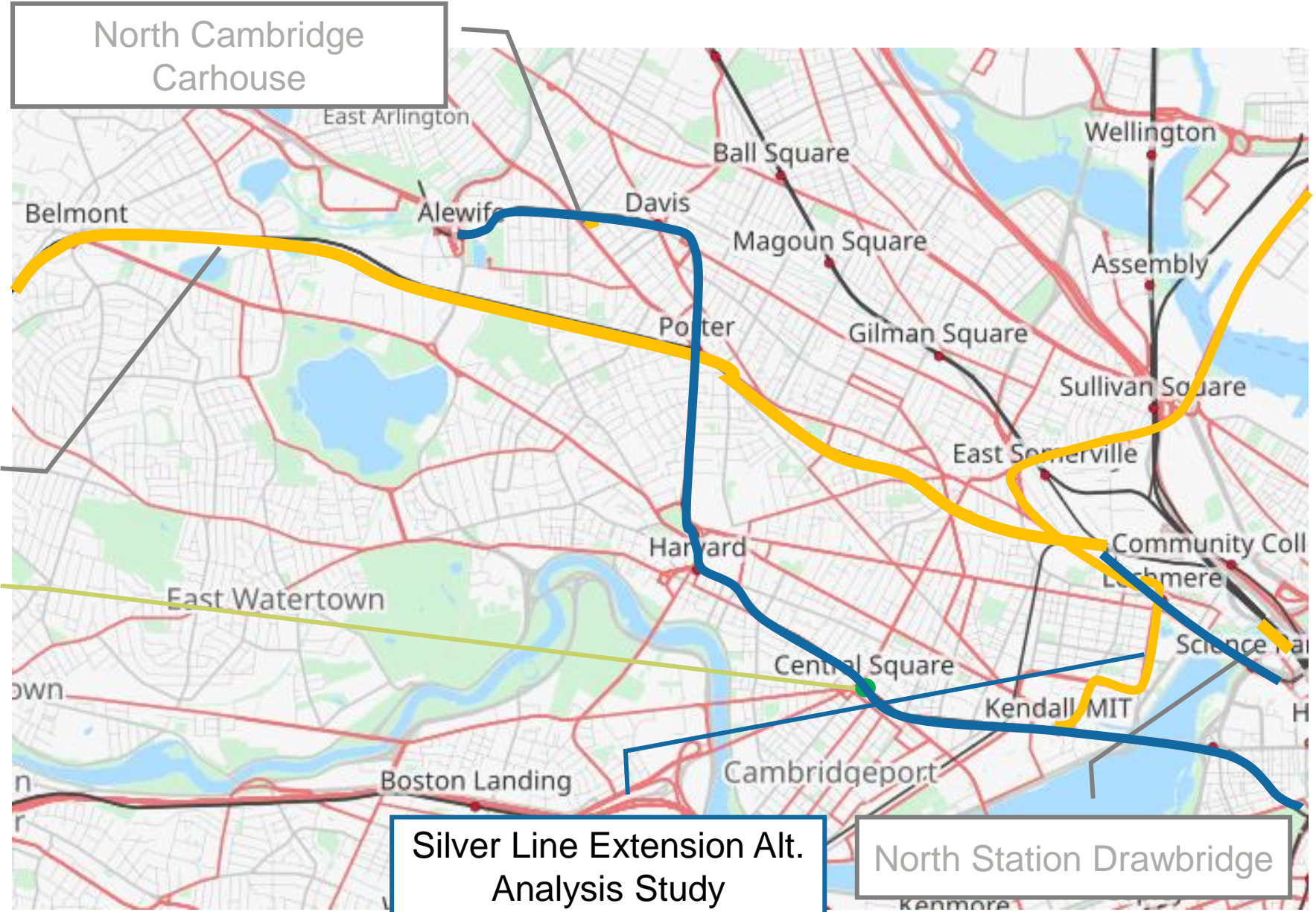
Real Time Transit Screens

- City staff requested proposals for up to 10 locations
 - Existing city owned bus shelters with no advertising panels
- City staff are reviewing proposals in order to sign an agreement with winning bidder
- Funded by Participatory Budgeting grant and bus stop improvement capital funds

Target locations

Focused on neighborhood centers: Inman Square, Porter Square, Riverside/Cambridgeport Neighborhoods

Selected MBTA projects



Fitchburg Line CIP project

Central Square Accessibility Improvements.

2024 Track Improvement Program

Silver Line Extension Alt. Analysis Study

North Station Drawbridge

Silver Line Extension Alternatives Analysis

MBTA announced a selection of a preferred alternative

- Silver Line 3 to extend to Sullivan Square via Everett Square

MBTA also announced that further study will be required for Silver Line 6

- Everett to Kendall via McGrath
- Everett to Kendall via Rutherford
- Chelsea to Kendall via McGrath
- Everett to Haymarket via Rutherford

**Rapid Transit
Track Program
Website**

[MBTA.com/
TrackProgram](https://www.mbta.com/TrackProgram)



2024 Track Improvement Program

- MBTA will rebuild subway tracks to:
 - Increase train speed
 - Reduce delay & disruptions
 - Improve safety
 - Delivery timely, reliable, consistent trips

**Rapid Transit
Track Program
Website**

**MBTA.com/
TrackProgram**



Bus shuttles will be required

Red Line closures are planned in 2024 for:

- Alewife to Kendall – July 8 to 23
- Kendall/MIT to Broadway – October 15 to 20
- Harvard to Park – December 14 to 19

Red Line closures outside of Cambridge are:

- Park to JFK/Umass – May 1 to 8
- JFK/Umass to Braintree – September 3 to 1

**Rapid Transit
Track Program
Website**

[MBTA.com/
TrackProgram](https://www.mbta.com/TrackProgram)

Bus shuttles have impacts to travelling in Cambridge

City staff are working with the MBTA to plan for shuttle operations and evaluate mitigations

- **On-street mitigations** – dedicated shuttle stops, advanced minor repairs (potholes, cracked sidewalks)
- **Off-street mitigations** – free or reduced fares for alternate service on Commuter Rail
- **Communications** to constituents

Do you have other ideas and suggestions?



We are working to identify mitigations

City staff are working with the MBTA to plan for shuttle operations and evaluate mitigations

- **On-street mitigations** – dedicated shuttle stops, supportive temporary infrastructure, advanced minor repairs (potholes, cracked sidewalks)
- **Off-street mitigations** – free or reduced fares for alternate service on Commuter Rail
- **Communications** to constituents

Do you have other ideas and suggestions?

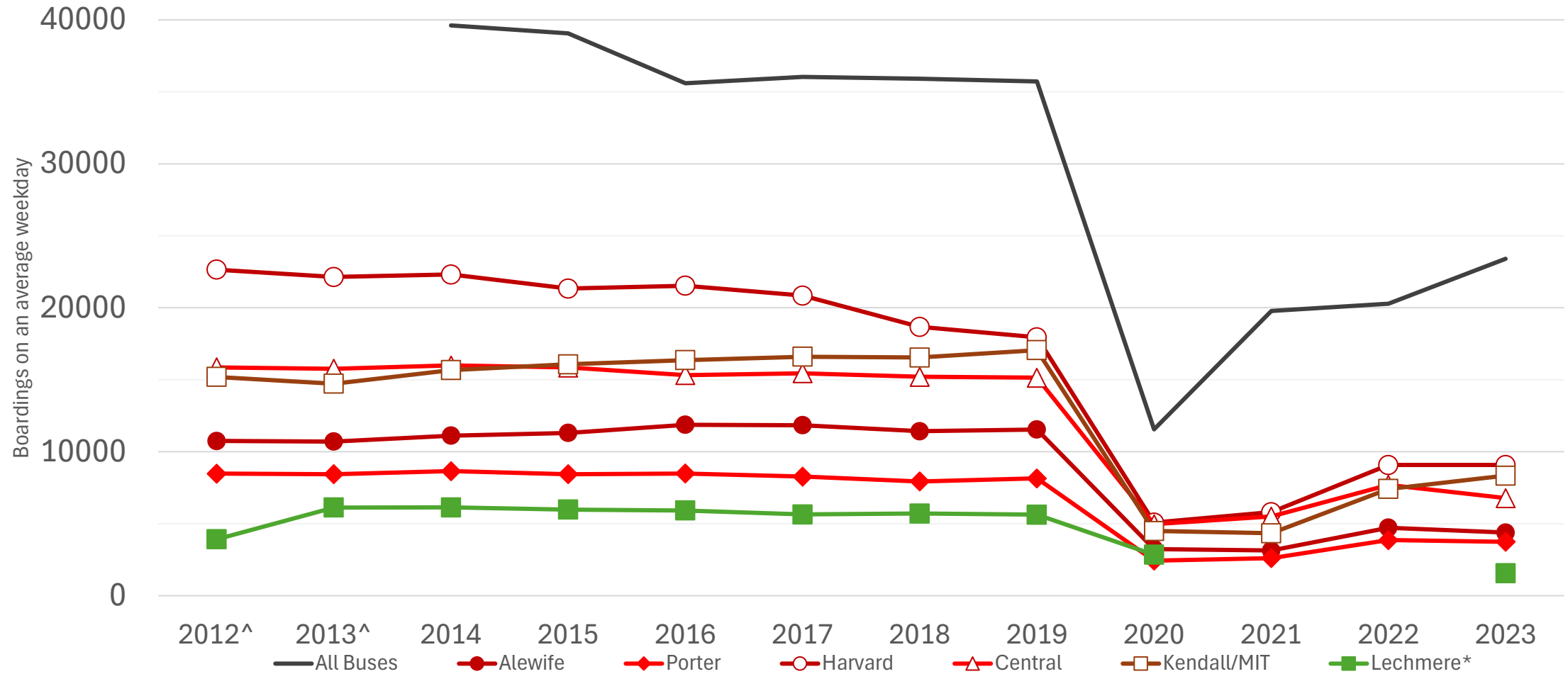


Feedback we heard

- City channels provided more information and specific details than MBTA
- Shuttle operations were slow
 - Also more complicated than originally communicated and changed day to day
- Employees, at larger businesses especially, did not get notifications or actionable information for alternatives
- Alternatives
 - More bus riders on Routes 77 and 83
 - 600 more weekday trips from Porter to North Station
- Results: Ten track speed restrictions removed

**Do you have
other feedback/
suggestions?**

Ridership recovery continues to be slow



* = Lechmere closed from March 2020-March 2022, full service did not resume until end of 2022.

^ = 2012 and 2013 bus data is incomplete for Cambridge

Thank you for participating in this Transit Advisory Committee meeting.

Stay healthy, keep safe, and warm

Thank You