

Transit Advisory Committee

January 2025

Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Members

Present (7) Arthur Strang, Bill McAvinney, Devin Chausse, Jackson Moore-Otto, Jim Gascoigne, Katherine Rafferty, Matt Martin

Absent (5) Carl Rothenhaus, Peter Septoff, Melissa Zampitella, Makayla Comas, Maha Aslam

City staff (3)

Andrew Reker, Nika Lea Tomicic

Others (21)

Tara Kamal Ahmadi, 20 members of the public (19 virtual, 1 in person).

Meeting notes

The meeting was mostly a discussion on the TAC Implementation Plan. Notes were taken but unable to be found. The attendance information is being posted for transparency.

Attached are city staff notes for how the TAC-endorsed implementation plan should be modified and they are included below.

Additions

- Bridge from Alewife Triangle to Quadrangle – Advocate for the bridge’s design and construction
 - Specified information in item D6 - City staff can prepare a review for presentation
- Fitchburg Line – modifications, modernizations, new stations (Alewife infill)
 - Modified bridge (D6) to include reference to station
- Integrated planning (Commuter rail + bus + subway) – Briefing from Rail Transformation office
 - C4 New item
- Alewife area bus priority-bus lanes/signal priority
- “Surge” Diversions – Being informed about the status of the track improvement project (Red Line, Green Line)
- Cambridge Street – Cycling safety ordinance project – Being informed/monitor the design development / floating bus stops (ped/rider – bike conflicts)
- McGrath Highway – MassDOT design development – Being informed

Modifications

- Fare-free pilot – Request presentation from MBTA on their positions re: fare-free routes, general fare structure presentation, interaction between proposed fare-free routes/BNR/low-income fare program,
- AFC 2.0/New Fare System – Request presentation from MBTA on the MyCharlie/back-of-house technology changes
- Consider modifying PTDM or development items to consolidate
- Consider consolidating the bus signal priority items
- Participatory Budgeting – report
- Bus Network Redesign – Request presentation from MBTA (A12) (AR: Move to Category D)

Removals

- Bus priority – Inman Square (A9), River Street (A8), Huron Avenue (A11)
- Consolidate/remove for RL – into one category (E3, E4)
- Ask for an update – Climate vulnerability assessment (E5)
- Verify that parking minimums was removed
 - Verified

Other changes

- Consolidated Transit signal priority items into one line, except for specific longer-extent projects

Version Information

Draft: July 23, 2025 AR