Central Square Advisory Committee Update 1/29/20
River St Reconstruction Project Area

Hoyt Field

Riverside Park
Side Streets Included in River Street Project Construction
Consider planning for greater electricity, natural gas, and telecom needs?

Upgrade soil conditions for trees and plantings

Preserve gas transmission lines

Update and separate portions of sewer & drainage and mitigate flooding risks with improved stormwater management

Replace gas distribution lines (to start in 2020)

Replace and upsize water main

Subsurface Work
Other outreach...

- Two Public Meetings
- River Street pre-construction survey (83 respondents so far)
- Cambridge Winter Farmers Market (3/23/19)
- Mobility Walk (5/14/19)
- River Festival (6/1/19)
- Urban Design Walk (6/11/19)
- Parking Day (9/20/19)
- Eight working group meetings
- Business focus groups (8/27/19 and 10/16/19)
- Ongoing coordination with Department of Human Service Programs and Cambridge Police Department
- Carl Barron outreach (full exploration of Carl Barron outreach scheduled for next Public Meeting)
What we heard (highlights):

• Improve safety / lower speeds
• Reduce noise by slowing traffic
• Improve accessibility
• Enhance public space
• Add more greenery
• Expand and activate open space
• Support businesses

• Make transportation / movement of people more efficient
• Add separated bikeways
• Reduce bus delay
• Improve bus stops, add amenities, and alleviate crowding
• Create shorter, safer, and more visible crossings
• Improve visibility on turns
• Create long lasting, smooth surfaces
• Provide amenities for the unhoused community (water fountain, public restrooms, etc.)

• Widen sidewalk near Star Variety store
Guidance for Our Designers: Shared Design Goals

• Safe
• Inclusive
• Human Scale
• Ecological
• Multimodal
• Activated
• Resilient
Givens

- Address flooding & drainage capacity
- Upgrade and/or protect public and private utilities
- Preserve healthy trees
- Maximize additional trees & improve growing conditions
- Access for emergency vehicles (18-20 feet)
- Accommodate routine maintenance and operations (snow, trash, etc.)
- Include separated bicycle facility
- Regulate parking to allow us to use curbside space more efficiently
- Maintain regional truck route
- Raise crossings on side streets
- Improve intersections
Concept Walkthrough
River Street Today
River Street Concept
Extending the Neighborhood Feel

New planting areas/BlueBikes locations
Coast Café Area

Opportunity to provide flexible parking (resident and/or commercial?)

Roadway shift can help reduce speeding

Crosswalk moved to allow for sidewalk cafe

Cycle track bends out at intersections for raised ped & bike crossings
## Flexible Curbside Space

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Examples of Uses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access for commerce</td>
<td>Goods and services reach their customers</td>
<td>Commercial vehicle loading, truck loading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access for People</td>
<td>Arrivals, transfers between modes</td>
<td>Bus stops, bike parking, curb extensions, pick up/drop off, short-term parking, taxi zones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activation</td>
<td>Offers vibrant social spaces</td>
<td>Food truck parking, seating, parklets, public art, street festivals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greening</td>
<td>Enhances aesthetics and environmental health</td>
<td>Plantings, rain gardens, bio-swales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobility</td>
<td>Moves People &amp; Goods</td>
<td>Sidewalks, bus lanes, bike lanes, travel lanes, turning lanes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking/storage</td>
<td>Provides storage for vehicles and equipment</td>
<td>Bus layover, vehicle parking, reserved spaces (police/fire), construction needs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“Flatiron” Building Area Today
Flatiron Area Concept
Kinnaird Street Closure
Carl Barron Plaza
Re-design
The Circle hosts a wide diversity of people, including regulars and others, however it has a lower proportion of women and young children compared to other public spaces in Central Square.
Regulars sometimes congregate in larger numbers in The Circle (aka the area inside the two large planters at Carl Barron Plaza).
Observed uses of the plaza (simplified)
Butterfly Approach Overview

- New signals at Franklin Street for one-way changes
- New bus layover locations
- New plaza near Star Variety
- Maintains existing # of vehicle lanes
- Optional One-way on Magazine St.
- Optional Two-way on Franklin Street
- Optional bus only lane on this short section of Green Street (see blue callouts for related changes)
Routes 83/91 bus waiting area & stop

Route 47 bus waiting area
Bus Routes with New Plaza at Green Street

- Proposed new dedicated bus waiting area for Routes 83/91
- Move 64 route onto River Street
- Created extra space for pedestrians and transit riders
- Proposed Route 47 bus waiting area & stop

Legend:
- Layover
- First Pick-up
- Route 1
- Route 47
- Route 64
- Route 70
- Route 83/91
Potential uses of plaza w/o busway
Potential uses of plaza w/o busway
Butterfly Design Approach

Bicycle lane behind bus stop waiting area

More discussion about separation and treatment needed

Bicycle lane behind bus stop waiting area

More discussion about separation and treatment needed
Separation between uses with benches, planters and trees.
NOTE: Street layout shown is MBTA’s adaptation of existing conditions. Does not reflect changes to be developed by City of Cambridge with future community process!
MATERIALS

- **Central Square Station**
- **Central Station Outbound**
- **Picket Articulation**
- **Metal Tube as Columns**
- **Colored Glass Inspired from Existing Elements**
- **Glazing at Escalator Headhouse**
- **Typical Existing Headhouse Base**
- **Escalator Headhouse Roof**
THANK YOU!

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