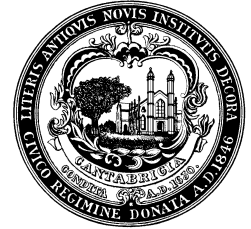


City of Cambridge

Commission for Persons with Disabilities

51 Inman Street · Cambridge, MA · 02139-1732

617-349-4692 voice · Relay via 711 · 617-349-4766 fax



Avril dePagter
Chair

Mary Devlin
Secretary

Loring Brinckerhoff
Keisha Greaves
Valerie Hammond
Nicole Horton-Stimpson
Danielle Jones-McLaughlin
Melissa Miguel
Deepti Nijhawan
Daniel Stubbs

Rachel Tanenhaus
Executive Director/
ADA Coordinator

Kate Thurman
Project Coordinator

The Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities is holding an abbreviated meeting online via Zoom on Thursday, February 8, 2024 from 5:30 – 7:00 PM

PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO JOIN BY 5:30 PM

AGENDA

Please keep your microphone muted when you are not speaking

1. Introductions 2 min.
If needed, alternates named
2. Announcements 2 min. CCPD staff / Board
3. Approval of December & January 2 min. CCPD Board
Minutes
See page 4 of this agenda packet
4. Presentation on the Five Year 45 min. Public Works Staff
Sidewalk & Street Reconstruction Plan
5. Chair's Report 10 min. Avril dePagter
Time for additional member feedback on CCPD meeting format & agenda items
6. Public Works Update 10 min. Melissa Miguel
7. Staff Report 10 min. Rachel Tanenhaus
Developing Strategy for CCPD Office Responsibilities & Initiatives
8. Public Input 3 min. general public
See pages 2&3 of this agenda packet for instructions on providing public comment

CART/closed captioning will be provided for this meeting

Captions can be turned on within the Zoom platform. Additionally, you may stream CART in a separate URL at

<https://www.streamtext.net/player?event=CCPDMEETING>

(captions will not appear until the meeting has started)

The City of Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities, does not discriminate, including on the basis of disability. The Commission for Persons with Disabilities will provide auxiliary aids and services, written materials in alternative formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures to persons with disabilities upon request.

The next CCPD meeting will be held on Thursday, March 14 from 5:30-7:00 PM

Members of the public: See instructions on pages 2 & 3 on how to watch the CCPD meeting and provide public comment via Zoom

Instructions for Joining the February 8, 2024 CCPD Meeting as a Member of the Public

Join Online:

Registration is required in order to view the meeting or to participate in public comment.

Register online at

https://cambridgema.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7yLek_JISDS4xL3NX1i1bg

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. For more information regarding Zoom technology visit:

<https://www.cambridgema.gov/Departments/citycouncil/zoomonlinemeetinginstructions>

Join by Phone:

If you do not have access to the internet, you may also call into the meeting using a phone by dialing any of the following numbers and entering the Webinar ID (registration is not required). For higher quality, dial a number based on your current location:

+1 309 205 3325

+1 312 626 6799

+1 646 931 3860

+1 929 436 2866

+1 301 715 8592

+1 669 900 6833

+1 719 359 4580

+1 253 215 8782

+1 346 248 7799

+1 386 347 5053

+1 564 217 2000

+1 669 444 9171

When prompted, enter the webinar ID: **884 8606 1464**

NOTE: your microphone will be automatically muted until you are called on to speak during the public comment period of the meeting. See instructions on the following page for how to “raise your hand” in order to indicate that you would like to speak during the public comment period on the agenda.

Instructions for Providing Public Comment During CCPD Meetings via Zoom

Anyone wishing to address the Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD) during the Public Comment section of the agenda may indicate that by "raising their hand" virtually within the Zoom platform. The host (CCPD staff) will call on members of the public to speak in the order in which their hands were raised. Please note that while you may raise your hand at any point during the meeting, you will not be called on to speak until the Public Comment period of the meeting.

To raise your hand:

- On a Mac or PC:
 - Click "raise hand" in the webinar control panel
 - Alternatively, you may use the keyboard shortcut to raise and lower your hand:
 - Windows: press "Alt+Y"
 - Mac: press "Option+Y"
 - When you are called on by the host to speak, you will be prompted to unmute your microphone (you must unmute yourself, as the host does not have the ability to unmute individuals).
 - After you have spoken or once your 3 minutes are up, your microphone will be muted by the host

- If you are calling in by phone:
 - Press *9 to raise and lower your hand
 - When you are called on to speak during the public comment period, you will need to press *6 to unmute yourself (press it again to mute yourself)
 - Note: your phone number will be visible to only the host of the meeting (CCPD staff). Because your name will not be displayed, we will call on you when it's your turn to comment by using the last four (4) numbers of your phone number to identify you. For example, "The person calling in from the number ending in ####, you may now provide public comment."
 - After you have spoken or once your 3 minutes are up, your microphone will be muted by the host

Once they have the floor, members of the public are asked to identify themselves, and each speaker is limited to not more than three (3) minutes. Although the public comments should, whenever possible, address one or more items on the agenda for that particular meeting, if time permits, the Chair may allow a speaker to comment on matters that may not directly address an item on the agenda, but do concern the Commission.

Thank you for your patience as we work together to make virtual meetings accessible for everyone!

Draft

Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD)

Minutes for Thursday, December 14, 2023 CCPD Meeting

Online via Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 6:44 PM

Present:

Members: Avril dePagter (Chair), Mary Devlin (Secretary), Keisha Greaves, Valerie Hammond, Danielle Jones-McLaughlin, Melissa Miguel

Absent: Loring Brinckerhoff, Nicole Horton-Stimpson, Deepti Nijhawan, Dan Stubbs

Staff: Rachel Tanenhaus and Kate Thurman

Guest Speakers: TJ Shea and Brian McLane, Department of Public Works

Announcements:

- This may be Valerie's last meeting as a CCPD Board member, since her second term is up at the end of the month. Valerie is welcome to remain on the Board until her successor is appointed. Thank you, Valerie, for six years of fantastic work!

Minutes

- A motion to approve the October minutes was seconded and passed unanimously.

Snow Report

- TJ Shea from the Department of Public Works (DPW) presented DPW's annual snow report
- Last year, Cambridge had only 13.6" of snow all season
- Cambridge purchased over 3,000 tons of salt last year. The city usually purchases 6,000 tons in a year.
- The city had 13 salting events, but didn't require any snow plowing at all
- The average snowfall in Cambridge is between 45-50" per season
- There were no parking bans last winter
- Summer of 2023 was the 2nd rainiest season on record with over 40" of rain. There have been more climate extremes with climate change
- Snow removal is a multi-city department operation, not just DPW – it also involves the City Manager's Office; the Police Department; the Fire Department; Cambridge Public Schools; the Department of Human Service Programs (DHSP); Traffic, Parking, and Transportation (TPT); the Water Department; the Electrical Department; Inspectional Services (ISD);, and Emergency Communications
 - The Water Department provides labor and equipment
 - TPT helps plow city-owned lots and bike lanes
 - Electrical maintains the fire pull boxes and any downed wires
 - ISD only involved in serious snow events like the ones that occurred in 2015
 - Emergency Communications monitors for emergencies
- Parking bans have several components
 - Notification
 - Towing operations

- Street assessment to determine when bans can be lifted
 - Notification of ban lifts
- Residents can park in several lots during snow emergencies
- DPW clears 23 miles of sidewalks adjacent to public buildings and parks
- In storms of 6" or more, they clear priority bus stops
- School/public access
 - The Superintendent decides school closures
 - The Fire Department drives through city streets to provide feedback on safety issues and shovel out hydrants
- Bike lanes
 - Clearing bike lanes is a whole separate operation
 - DPW is trying to get the message out to people not to put snow in the bike lanes
 - There are new bike lanes this year: Brattle St, Hampshire St
 - Looking at Cambridge St. for next season
 - Every bike lane has its own unique needs
 - Snow removal in bike lanes is a shared responsibility
 - DPW
 - DHSP – bike lanes around Danehy
 - TPT
 - Private developments
 - MIT & Harvard
- Snow hauling
 - Happens after a storm of 6" or more or when back-to-back storms occur. The city brings in private contractors, city staff, etc. to clear intersections, bus stops, pedestrian ramps, and widen roadways and clear the squares. They try to take as much snow as possible
 - Take snow to designated snow farms
- Special equipment
 - DPW is trying to standardize, but the city has lots of bike lanes that are different widths, etc. which creates problems for equipment
- Sidewalk shoveling compliance
 - Snow must be removed within 12 hours after the snow has fallen during the day or by 1PM if it snowed overnight
 - The city gets a lot of SeeClickFix complaints about icy sidewalks
 - Last year, DPW got 200 complaints and 83 citations were issued. They get a lot of duplicate complaints
- Challenges
 - Continuity of services – trash pick-up, etc. The city uses the same staff to plow, pick up trash, fill potholes, etc. Staffing is always an issue
 - Private ways – DPW gets lots of complaints for not plowing or salting private ways. That is sometimes done for emergency vehicle access, but it is the responsibility of the abutting property owners
 - The city only has capacity to plow disability parking adjacent to city buildings
 - Dead ends
 - Space savers
- Anti-icing and de-icing
 - Anti-icing is treating surfaces before snow falls
 - De-icing is treating surfaces while snow is falling and after snow fall
 - Anti-icing is done with brine – salt percentage of 23.3%. it's a salt-water solution, and it works like spraying the skillet before frying
 - The city's brine farms have the capacity to hold 20,000 gallons of brine
 - De-icing is done with treated rock salt. They spray the salt with brine. Brine helps salt stay on the road

- The city is broken down into five snow sections: North, Mid-Cambridge, West, East, and Cambridgeport. City staff handle 3 out of the 5 snow sections
- DPW tries to get all snow complaints to go through SeeClickFix
- Snow information is available at www.cambridgema.gov/snow - IT and community relations update as needed
- Accessible spaces are only plowed when they are adjacent to city buildings. The city relies on businesses and property owners to help clear other accessible spaces. Avril asked how property owners know about this requirement? DPW sends compliance officers out to enforce the snow clearance rules.
- Corner property owners are responsible for shoveling out curb cuts
- DPW has added contracts for clearing and hauling snow since 2015. The city is divided into two parts for two large contractors that will go around at night and clear intersections, bus stops, squares, schools, parking lots
- Mary asked if there is a way to do targeted mailing to corner property owners. Mary is a corner property owner and she also has a fire hydrant in front of her house, so she shovels that out, etc. But the new neighbors across the street didn't know about the rules and didn't clear those areas.
- Avril pointed out that people can sign up on the city webpage to adopt a fire hydrant, which helps the Fire Department. She asked if it be possible to do this for accessible parking spots.
- Snow violations are issued per day, not per location, so the city can give violations every day that a property owner isn't shoveling
- Valerie asked if shoveling could be a community service project for middle and high school students
- The Red Line is closing from Alewife to Harvard Red Line from Feb. 5-13; there needs to be collaboration with the MBTA for snow clearing around bus stops
- From July 8-23, the Red Line will also be closed from Alewife to Kendall
- Avril asked how the impact of bike lanes might affect accessibility especially since a number of parking spaces have been taken away

Cycling Ordinance Update:

- Mary is the CCPD representative on the Cycling Safety Ordinance (CSO) Advisory Group, which advises the city on outreach and engagement rather than on project design. However, the group has been able to make some changes, including changing the ramps on Hampshire Street
- Mary has been focused on updating the language that is being used; they were using old language to refer to people with disabilities
- They will be including data tracking; they will start tracking crashes that involve people using mobility devices
- The city is also going to take counts of the number of people who use wheelchairs who are using the bike lanes to avoid sidewalk traffic
- The group meets once a month, and their focus has been mostly on businesses sharing their concerns about losing parking and access to their businesses
- Valerie asked how we define "mobility device"?
Mary said that the group is using a number of different definitions because there are people who use e-bikes, scooters, (micro-mobility devices), etc. Now the group is going to look at the use of wheelchairs and walkers in terms of accessibility
- There are no protocols on whether wheelchair users can use bike lanes, but visibility is a concern because cyclists sit higher than wheelchair users
- The meetings are open to the public; they're posted on the City website. It's the CSO Advisory Group

Public Works Update:

- Melissa Miguel
 - She and Jerry presented to the Joint Transit Committee last night
 - The Huron Ave bike lane and crossing improvements are pretty much wrapped up between Glacken Field and Aberdeen. Belmont St. is wrapping up, doing pavement markings

- Melissa met with Kate and Rachel about detectable warning panels on Belmont St.
- Construction in Carl Barron Plaza in Central Square will be starting soon, under Jerry's purview
- The city is wrapping up the design on Complete Streets Contract 25 (chapter 90), which is the reconstruction of Green St. from Pearl to Landsdowne; Maple Ave. from Broadway to Cambridge St.; Center St. from Dana to Hancock; and Montgomery St. from Harvard to Rindge
- The city is starting community meetings about these projects early next year; the first round will be on-site meetings. The city will hold hands-on redesign and walk-through meetings. In these meetings, Juan, the traffic calming program manager walks through the streets with engineers and residents who can share their lived experiences
- The Binney Street project is working on landscape installations, and is slated for completion in late spring or early summer 2024
- For the Harvard Square Plaza and kiosk, the city is finalizing an agreement with the MBTA, hoping to start construction in the next 3-6 months. The project will include accessibility upgrades, change in grade, improved drainage, seating, and tree plantings

Staff Report:

- Kate noted that CCPD has limited capacity in the office and that she and Rachel are working with City leadership on taking a step back to look at the big picture, strategizing, increasing capacity, etc. She and Rachel will report more on this in the new year
- Rachel reported on her work on the Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning team, addressing the fact that with climate change there are more natural disasters. The planning team wrote a plan and presented it in front of the Health and Environmental Subcommittee for City Council. Afterwards, the Council approved the plan at this past City Council meeting. The city will now send it to the state and federal governments. It's a living document; the planning team wants more input and has expressed interest in presenting at a CCPD meeting. Lots of community organizations were involved in creating the plan
- The Cambridge Public Health Department may have gotten a grant for assessing our public health programs and services and systems for inclusion and accessibility. The grant team will create an inclusive environment for the process. They will be doing community engagement, coming to CCPD, etc.
- There have been a few variance requests that have gone through the MAAB. Rachel can provide more detail at the next meeting.

Rachel, Kate, and CCPD Advisory Board members thanked Valerie for her six years of service as a CCPD member.

Meeting adjourned at 6:26 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Thurman



City of Cambridge Winter Operations





Agenda

- 03** 2022-2023 Summary
- 04** Historical Data
- 06** Weather Outlook
- 07** Storm Coordination
- 08** Parking Bans
- 10** Accessibility
- 18** Specialty Equipment
- 22** Anti-Icing/De-Icing

2022-23 Season Event Summary

- ▶ 13.6" of snow
- ▶ 3147 tons of salt

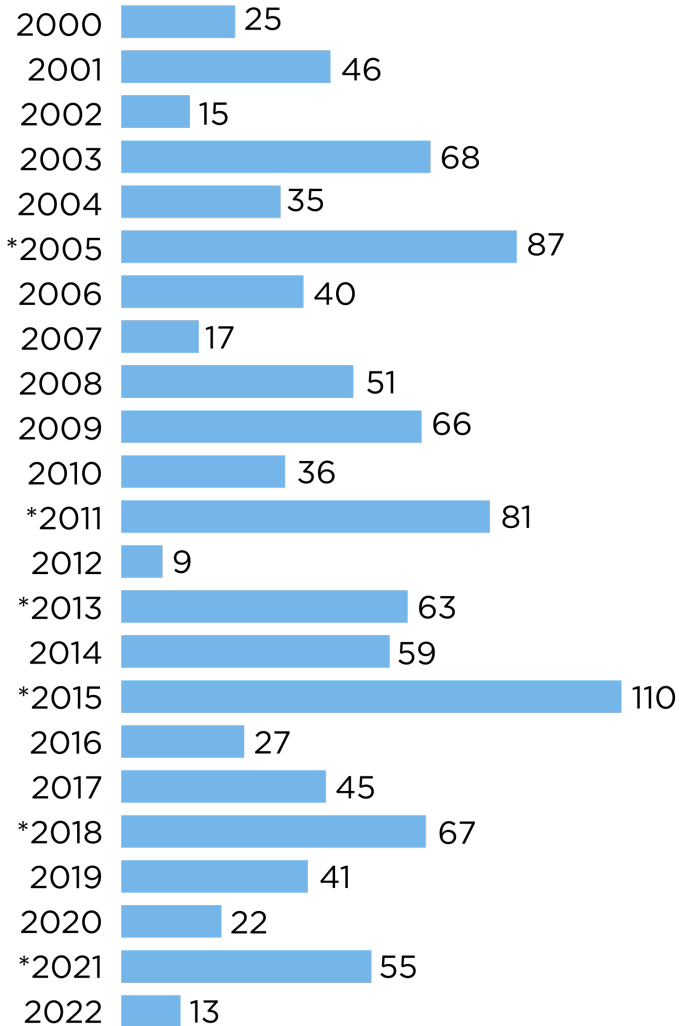
- ▶ 13 salting events
- ▶ 2 plow events
- ▶ 0 hauling events



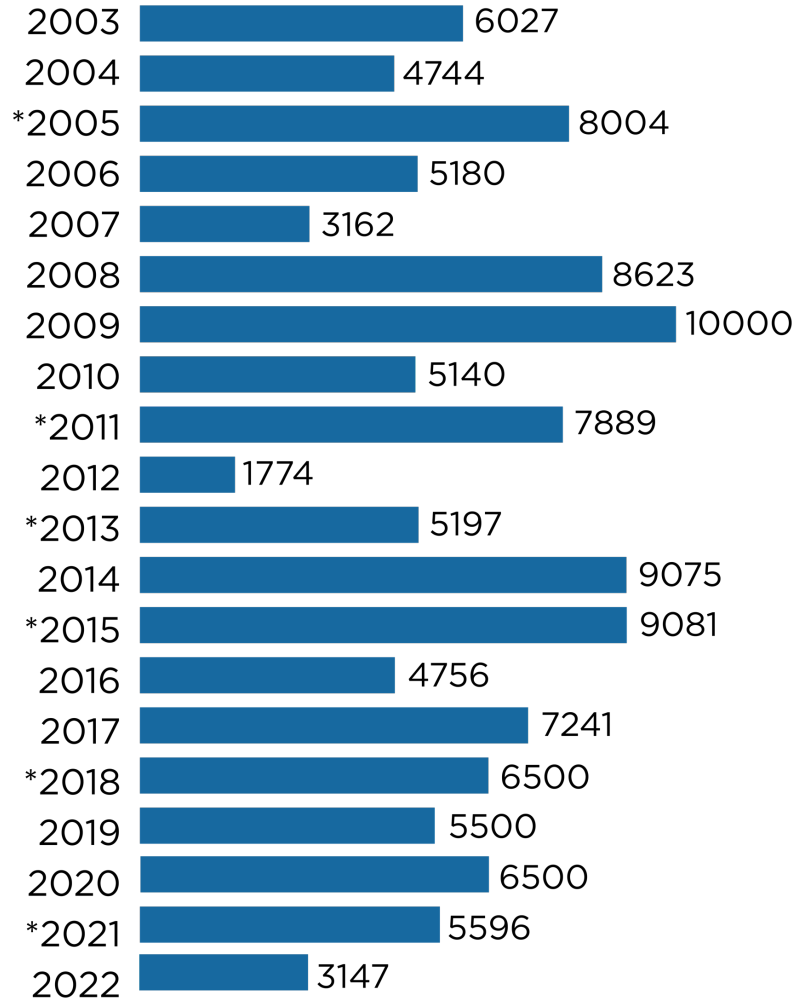
Historical Data

* Indicates a year where we have had at least one blizzard

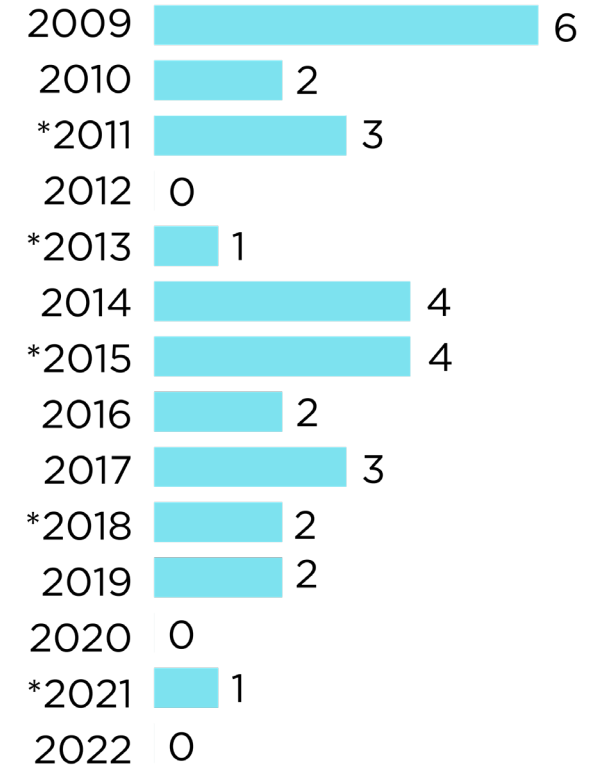
Snowfall (Inches)



Salt Tons



Number of Parking Bans



Averages

Snowfall: 47 inches

Salt Tons: 6157

Preparing for Winter Weather Outlook

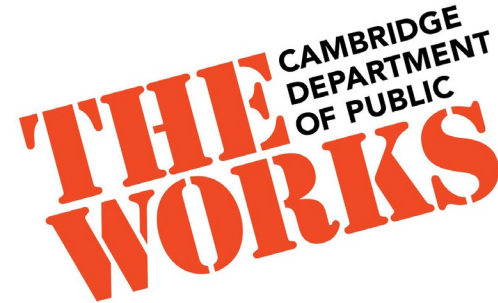


Precipitation Outlook

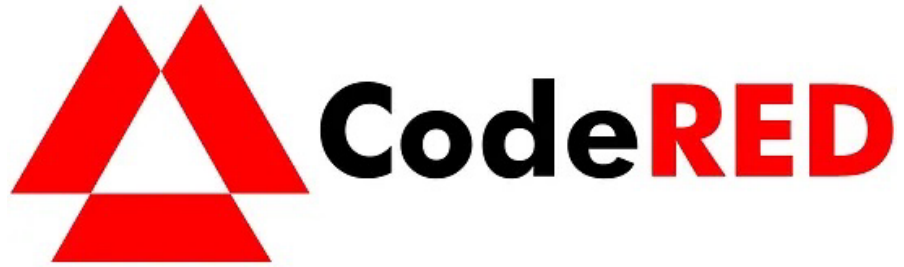
- ▶ Summer of 2023 has been the 2nd rainiest season on record with over 40”
- ▶ Scientists say the pattern of heavy rainfall experienced in the Northeast this summer has the fingerprints of climate change all over it.
- ▶ It's been a summer of [climate extremes](#). Heatwaves, wildfires, record-breaking ocean temperatures — and here in the Northeast, a whole lot of rain.

Citywide Storm Coordination

- DPW
- City Managers Office
- Police Department
- Fire Department
- Cambridge Public Schools
- Dept of Human Services
- Traffic Parking & Transportation
- Water Department
- Electrical
- Inspectional Services
- Emergency Communications



Department of
Human Service Programs



Parking Ban

- Declaring the ban
 - Notification and Communication
 - Snow Center
 - CodeRED
 - Social Media
- Towing Operations
 - Supervision
 - Coordination
- Street assessment
 - Traffic and DPW
- Lifting the Ban

Snow Emergency Parking Lot

52 Oxford St
(Harvard)

65 Waverly St
(MIT)

First St Garage
(City)

Green St Garage
(City)

**Cambridge
Galleria** *(Private)*

**One Kendall
Square Garage**
(Private)



Public Transportation Accessibility

Bus Stops/Ramps

- ▶ Cambridge Street
- ▶ Massachusetts Avenue
- ▶ Concord Avenue
- ▶ Mount Auburn Street
- ▶ Western Avenue
- ▶ River Street
- ▶ Huron Avenue
- ▶ Rindge Avenue
- ▶ Broadway
- ▶ Prospect Street
- ▶ Pearl Street
- ▶ Brookline Street
- ▶ Green Street
- ▶ Granite Street
- ▶ Aberdeen Ave
- ▶ Magazine Street
- ▶ Putnam Ave – Western to Brookline
- ▶ Bigelow Street
- ▶ Inman Street
- ▶ Webster Street
- ▶ Windsor Street
- ▶ Garden Street
- ▶ Main Street
- ▶ Kirkland Street
- ▶ Quincy Street
- ▶ Columbia Street
- ▶ Hampshire Street



Pedestrian Operations



23 miles of City-Cleared Sidewalks/ Curb Ramps



Abutting schools, public buildings, public open space



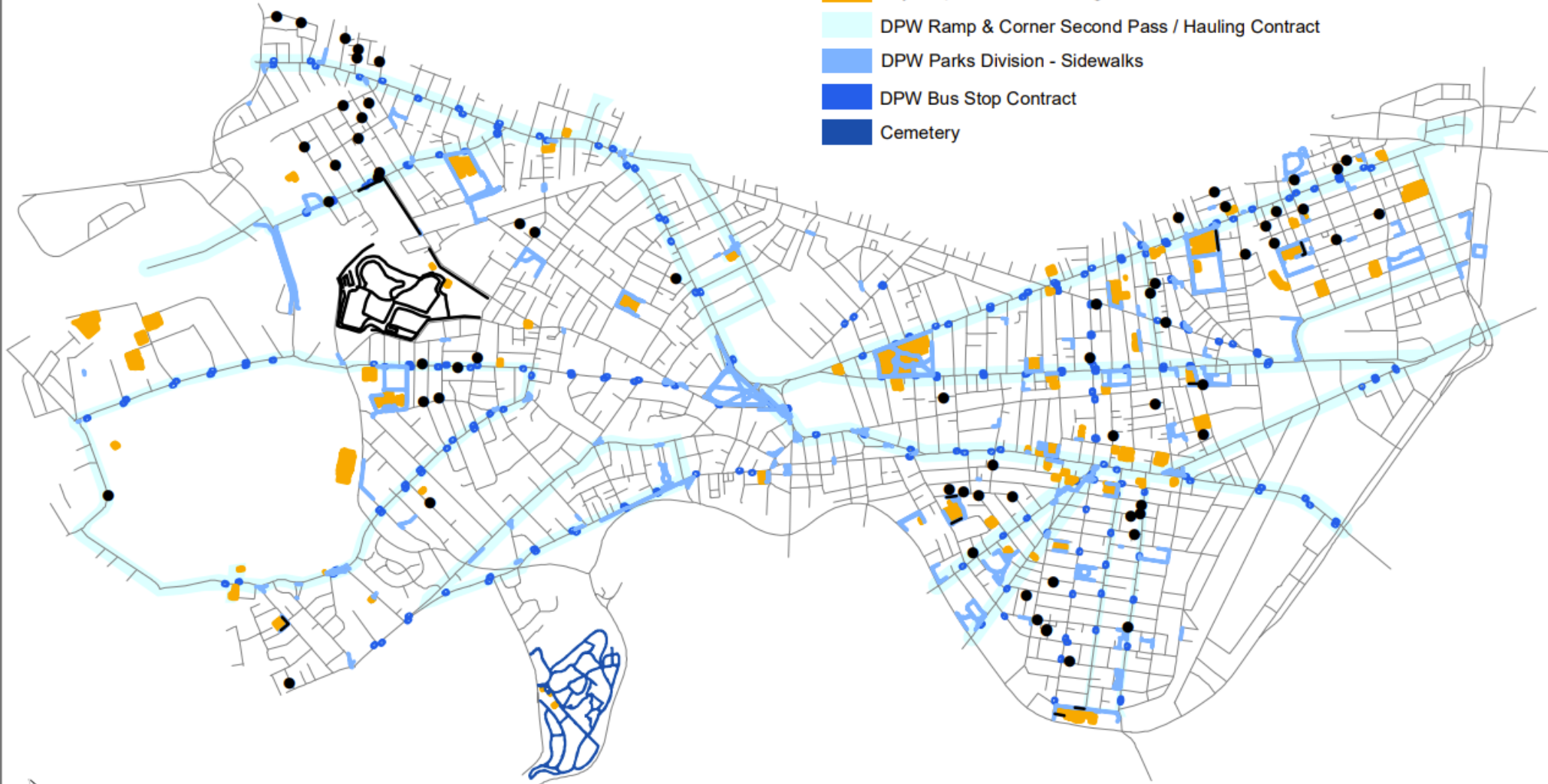
City-owned parking lots and garages



Residential exemption program

SIDEWALK SNOW REMOVAL 12/2023

- Exemption List (Old Data) 66 Locations
- Recreation Dept (Old Data)
- City Properties - All Frontages and Bike Racks
- DPW Ramp & Corner Second Pass / Hauling Contract
- DPW Parks Division - Sidewalks
- DPW Bus Stop Contract
- Cemetery



School/Public Safety Access



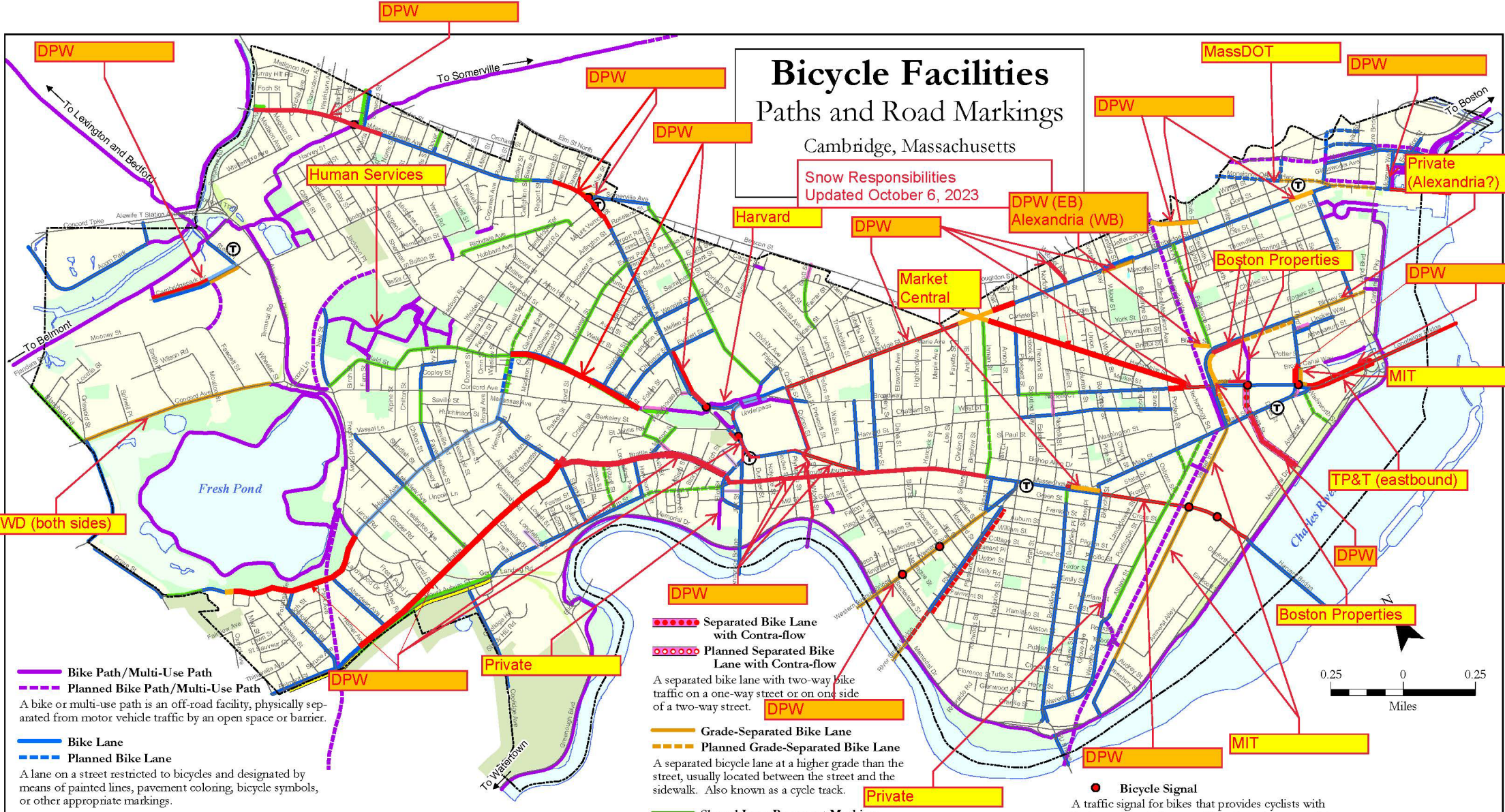
Protected and Raised Bike Lanes

- Challenging
- Timing
- Messaging
- Responsibility



Bike Facilities and Snow Removal

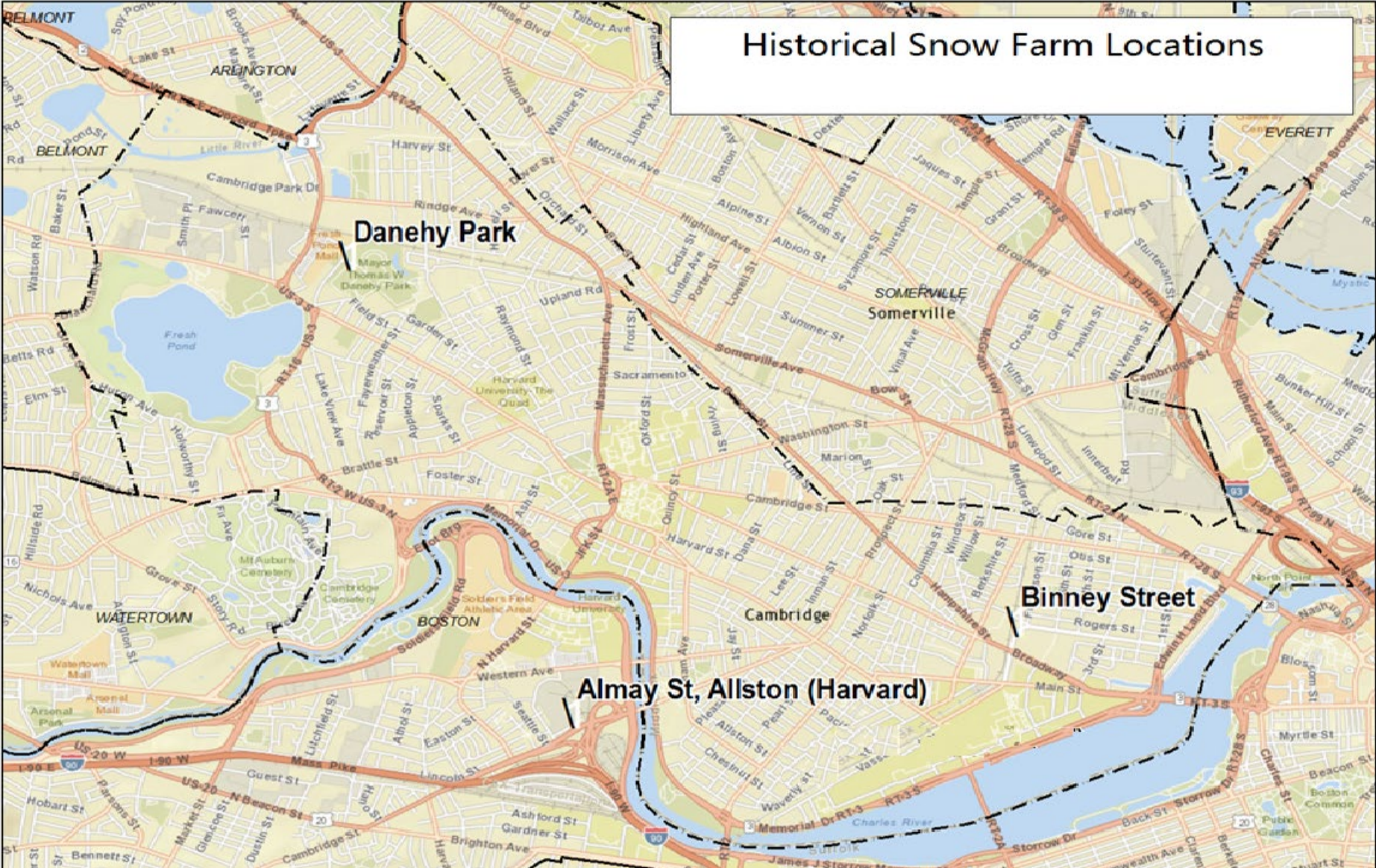
- The number of bike facilities are increasing every year
 - Newest bike lanes on Brattle, Hampshire, Cambridge, Broadway
- Each has different needs in terms of snow removal
- In some cases, these facilities are part of “quick build” projects and present challenges in terms of maintenance during snow season
- Snow removal in bike facilities is a shared responsibility between
 - DPW
 - DHSP
 - TP&T
 - Private Developments
 - Universities



Snow Hauling



Historical Snow Farm Locations





Specialty Equipment

Sidewalk/Bike Lanes



- Holder sidewalk tractor
- Wacker Neuson sidewalk tractor
- Multihog tractor
- Bobcat skid steer



Ticketing/Fines

Snow Season	# of Complaints Received
2016-2017	1068
2017-2018	933
2018-2019	591
2019-2020	695
2020-2021	758
2021-2022	970
2022-2023	223
Total:	5238

Snow Season	# of Citations Issued
2016-2017	546
2017-2018	166
2018-2019	210
2019-2020	326
2020-2021	223
2021-2022	274
2022-2023	83
Total:	1828

Payments made on tickets within 6 months of issuance is approximately 50%



Challenges

- Continuity of Services
- Dead Ends
- One-way Streets
- Handicap Parking
- Space savers





Anti-Icing & De-Icing





Anti-Icing with Brine

The brine solution is applied in liquid form to the roadway before anticipated snow or ice and prevents snow and ice from bonding with the street surfaces. Unlike granular salts which can bounce off roadways or get stuck on top of snow and ice, brine begins working immediately once it comes into contact with precipitation.





LOW CLEARANCE
NO PARKING
SEE SIGN

Public Storage

MURAL IN PROGRESS

Local artist Melissa Arlow has been commissioned by the City of Cambridge to beautify the new brick tanks with a future gallery mural.

Snap a pic and tag us!
@CAMBRIDGEARTS
@PROVINCETOWN



Cambridge MA

De-Icing

During and after a storm, we work to de-ice the roads. We remove the ice and snow from the surface of the road by plowing and applying additional materials to the surface of the roads. This helps to loosen the ice and snow from the pavement, while also lowering the freezing point of water.

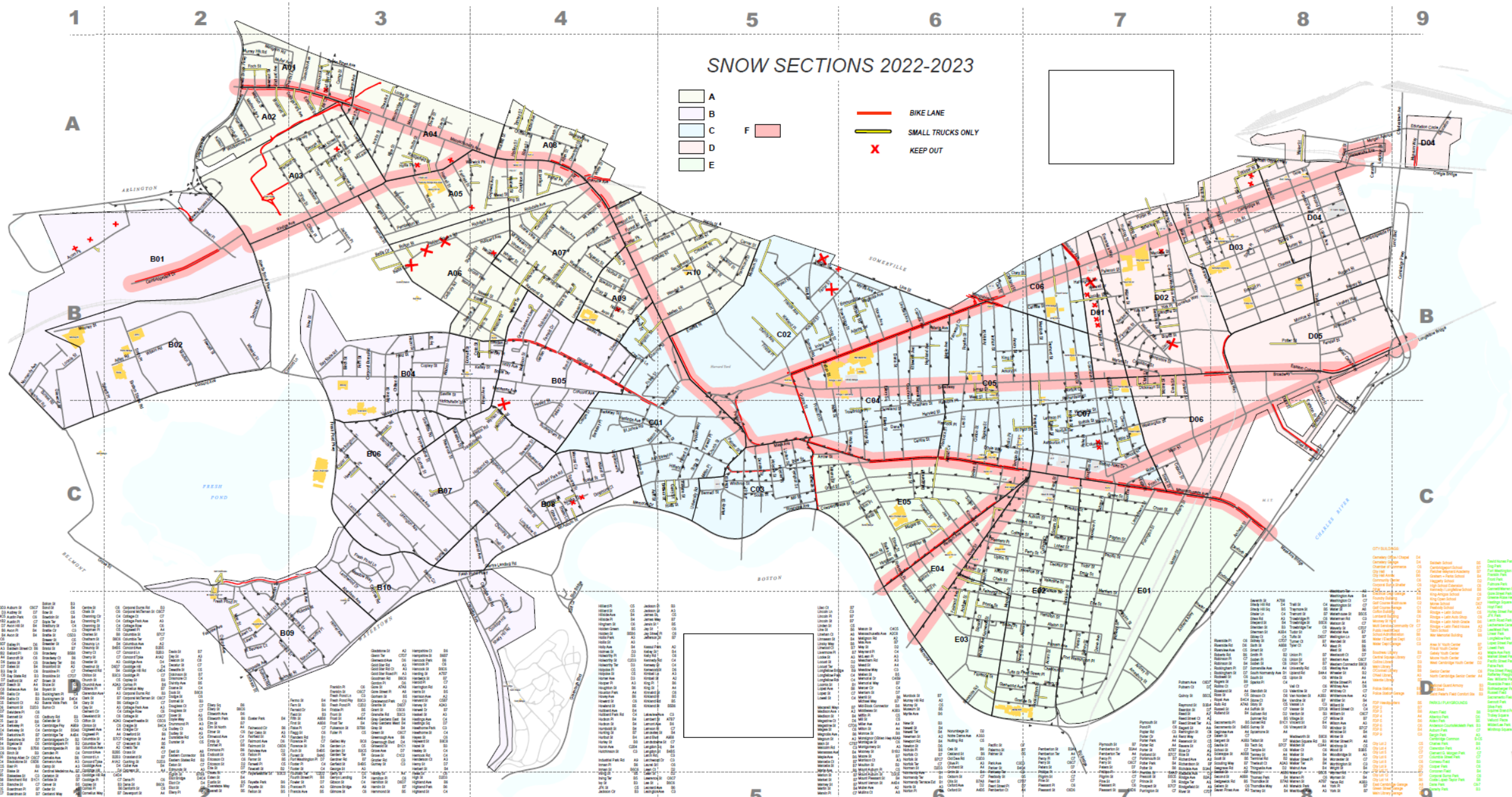


Materials Used

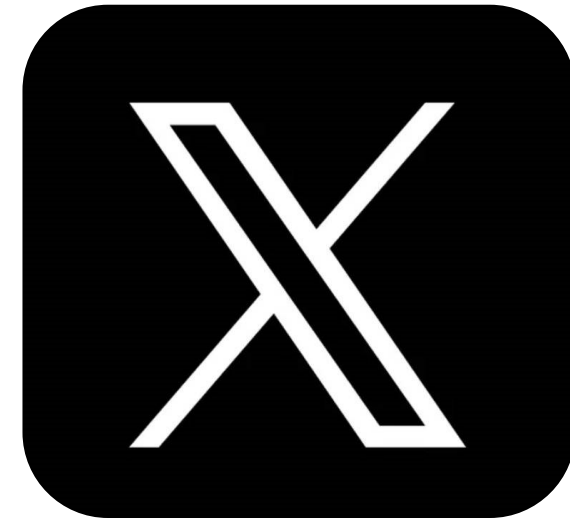
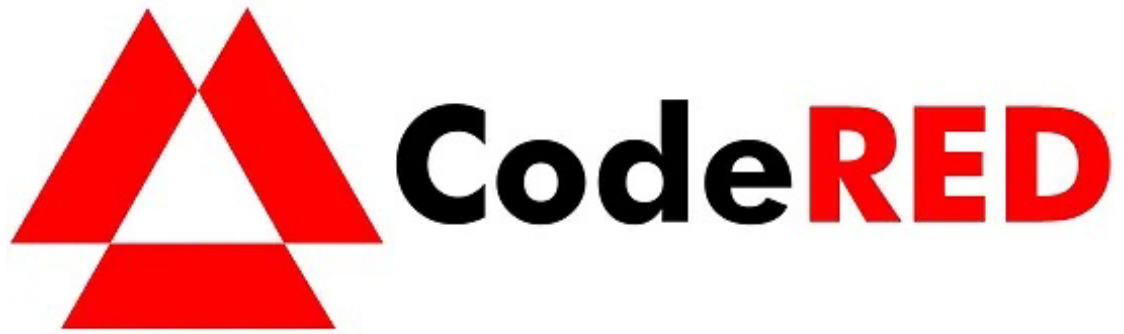
- Rocksalt
- Magnesium Chloride
- Pre-mix

SNOW SECTIONS 2022-2023

- A
- B
- C
- D
- E
- F
- BIKE LANE
- SMALL TRUCKS ONLY
- X KEEP OUT



Abner St	CC3 Adams St	CC17 Adams St	CC18 Adams St	CC19 Adams St	CC20 Adams St	CC21 Adams St	CC22 Adams St	CC23 Adams St	CC24 Adams St	CC25 Adams St	CC26 Adams St	CC27 Adams St	CC28 Adams St	CC29 Adams St	CC30 Adams St	CC31 Adams St	CC32 Adams St	CC33 Adams St	CC34 Adams St	CC35 Adams St	CC36 Adams St	CC37 Adams St	CC38 Adams St	CC39 Adams St	CC40 Adams St	CC41 Adams St	CC42 Adams St	CC43 Adams St	CC44 Adams St	CC45 Adams St	CC46 Adams St	CC47 Adams St	CC48 Adams St	CC49 Adams St	CC50 Adams St	CC51 Adams St	CC52 Adams St	CC53 Adams St	CC54 Adams St	CC55 Adams St	CC56 Adams St	CC57 Adams St	CC58 Adams St	CC59 Adams St	CC60 Adams St	CC61 Adams St	CC62 Adams St	CC63 Adams St	CC64 Adams St	CC65 Adams St	CC66 Adams St	CC67 Adams St	CC68 Adams St	CC69 Adams St	CC70 Adams St	CC71 Adams St	CC72 Adams St	CC73 Adams St	CC74 Adams St	CC75 Adams St	CC76 Adams St	CC77 Adams St	CC78 Adams St	CC79 Adams St	CC80 Adams St	CC81 Adams St	CC82 Adams St	CC83 Adams St	CC84 Adams St	CC85 Adams St	CC86 Adams St	CC87 Adams St	CC88 Adams St	CC89 Adams St	CC90 Adams St	CC91 Adams St	CC92 Adams St	CC93 Adams St	CC94 Adams St	CC95 Adams St	CC96 Adams St	CC97 Adams St	CC98 Adams St	CC99 Adams St	CC100 Adams St
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Visit Cambridge Snow Center for More Updates

www.cambridgema.gov/snow



Questions?



Draft

Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD)

Minutes for Thursday, January 11, 2024 CCPD Meeting

Online via Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 6:44 PM

Present:

Members: Loring Brinckerhoff, Avril dePagter (Chair), Keisha Greaves, Valerie Hammond, Nicole Horton-Stimpson, Melissa Miguel, Deepti Nijhawan

Absent: Mary Devlin (Secretary), Danielle Jones-McLaughlin, and Dan Stubbs

Staff: Kate Thurman

Announcements:

- Valerie alerted members to an interesting article on dyslexia in the *Boston Globe* article

Chair's Report:

Avril asked members how the format of CCPD meetings is working for them and to share any feedback they have

- Nicole has been reviewing the bylaws and would like to see what can be removed from the monthly meeting agenda and instead reported on quarterly, for example.
- Nicole would also like to increase CCPD's community outreach and figure out how to fold in youth representation. She recently met with the Director of DHSP's STEAM Initiative, who is putting together a working group on creating employment and internship opportunities for teenagers; maybe CCPD could be involved in some way.
- Nicole suggested advisory board involvement in providing disability awareness trainings. Members and staff could provide training for internship sites, for example.
- She noted that the Inclusion Initiative has a hard time filling part-time positions that support kids with disabilities in DHSP's out of school time (OST) programs. She works with the Office on Workforce Development to recruit applicants but said they have been averaging 1-2 staff members quitting their jobs each day. Many of the inclusion aides have their own disability-related needs. DHSP has been very supportive in placing more staff at sites than is required; some aides bring tremendous value to the team but are unable to work alone with children. Nicole said that DHSP has been very intentional in hiring and supporting inclusion aides with disabilities.
- DHSP has a working group that wants to create internships for young people coming out of high school or the Threshold Program and Lesley who have significant disability-related needs. They're looking at how to best support employees and interns in helping them understand their rights, how to request reasonable accommodation, etc. There are young adults who attended out of school time programs with support from the Inclusion Initiative who would like to return as staff.
- It was noted that there was discussion at the member retreat with a broad perspective of CCPD working groups, but it maybe helpful to narrow the scope of each group
- Valerie said that her son had a few internships through the Academy for Physical and Social Development in Newton, which strives to set children with disabilities up for success. She also mentioned The Academy in Stoneham
- Nicole mentioned the idea of piloting an internship program within DHSP for youth and young adults with disabilities. It's important to consider what valuable employment looks like.

- Deepti suggested having higher cutoff ages for some employment programs, noting that some people with disabilities need additional support later in life.
- Nicole noted that the Inclusion Initiative accepts applications from and works with adults of any age in the OST programs, but that they are struggling with the capacity to provide proper supports in order to ensure success. There's also a need for more training and supports for supervisors in how to best support staff who may have varying levels of ability.
- The STEAM Initiative is looking at creating an internship program modeled after the Mayor's Youth Summer Employment Program, working primarily with CRLS students.
- Deepti mentioned that when the casino Encore was opening, they said they would give preference to Cambridge, Somerville, and Everett job applicants, but every job they listed included a requirement that the applicant be able to lift a certain number of pounds. She suggested creating a portal of information and resources for employers who are interested in hiring PwD.
- Keisha said that Partners for Youth with Disabilities (PYD) could be a good partner in creating internships for disabled youth. Valerie suggested the Perkins School for the Blind as another potential partner.
- Some members expressed confusion over what they're able to do in small working groups outside of public meetings.
 - If members come across articles of interest or have ideas they would like to bring up at a meeting, email Kate and Rachel. We cannot have any kind of discussion, including via email, involving a quorum of members outside of public meetings. However, Kate and Rachel can forward along articles, etc. of interest, blind copying CCPD members to avoid any inadvertent deliberation.

Public Works Update:

Melissa Miguel reported on ongoing construction:

- Port Infrastructure Project- Harvard St.
 - Utility work at Harvard/Windsor intersection 1 -2 weeks in January
 - Utility work between Portland and Davis Street - January through mid-March
- River Street:
 - Utility work continues throughout the winter along the corridor
 - Carl Barron Plaza trees removed, and demolition started at the end of December 2023. Demolition and test pits to continue in this area throughout January.
- Willard Street - Drainage structure installation continues up Willard Street
- Binney Street Park
 - Continued work on landscaping, installation of pervious multi-use path (which is a section of Grand Junction Path)
 - Estimated construction completion: late spring/early summer 2024.
- Harvard Sq. Plaza
 - Includes pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements at Mass Ave., Dunster St, JFK St and Brattle St.
 - Work has been on hold pending coordination with the MBTA
 - There is potential to start the project late Spring 2024
 - The Community Development Department (CDD) has contracted with Culture House and Lesley College to run the Harvard Square kiosk, but the Lesley position and department was eliminated by the college, so now just working with Culture House. CDD will also be collaborating with the Cambridge Office for Tourism. Culture House will do activity planning, art displays, etc. There will be community space with different pop-up events. They're trying to limit food sales so it doesn't compete with Harvard Sq businesses. The kiosk will have big doors where the bookcases used to be that will slide open so the building will feel like a part of the plaza
 - There will be tiered seating behind the Harvard Sq MBTA head house for music, community events, etc.

- Construction is expected to take 18-24 months to complete once it breaks ground because it has to be done in phases to maintain access to the T. There are load restrictions on the plaza because of the station underground, so they have to limit work that can be done per square foot at any given time.
- The plaza will be redone in ADA compliant brick, and the running and cross slopes of the plaza will be leveled out to reach ADA compliance. Because of the slopes, they do have to put in stairs on one side of the kiosk building, so there will also be a pedestrian ramp.
- Melissa noted that this project has been underway for many years, with lots of delays with utility companies and the MBTA
- Chapter 90, Contract 24
 - Huron Avenue – Glacken Field to Aberdeen is complete. Aberdeen to Fresh Pond Parkway will be completed in 2024 construction season
 - Chestnut Street - water main installation continues with completion expected this winter.
- Upcoming projects
 - Port Infrastructure Project: utility work at Harvard and Windsor
 - Mass Ave4 improvements
 - Still digesting comments from their December Open House for the Linnaean-Waterhouse segment.
 - Continuing concept development for segments north of Linnaean to Alewife Brook Parkway.
 - Chapter 90, Contract 25- Contract will be released for bids February 8, 2024. Construction anticipated to start late spring/early summer 2024.
 - Green St- Pearl to Landsdowne
 - Maple Avenue- Broadway to Cambridge
 - Centre St – Dana to Hancock
 - Montgomery St – Harvey to Rindge
 - Sciarappa St- Charles to O’Brien Hwy
 - Chapter 90, Contract 26 - Design and Community process will begin late January/early February 2024. Construction start anticipated late 2024/early 2025.
 - Chetwyn Road – Newell St to End
 - Gray Street – Martin to Linnaean
 - Haskell – Rindge to Mass Ave
 - Norfolk – Broadway to Somerville City Line
 - Shepard – Garden to Mass Ave
- Deepti asked what’s happening in Harvard Sq with the movie theater, which has been shuttered for many years. Melissa will reach out to Denise Jillson of the Harvard Square Business Association to ask and will let Kate know of any updates so she can share

Staff Report:

Kate reported the following:

- Kate said that it’s a very exciting time in the City, with lots of transformation happening under Yi-An Huang, who started as our new City Manager (CM) about a year and a half ago.
- There is a new Strategy Division, which is housed in the CM’s office. Kate and Rachel are working with Caroline LeMay of that division to bring more structure to CCPD staff work and to address capacity shortages. They are in the very early stages of this work, but it will include over the coming months:
 - Clearly defining the scope of CCPD office work
 - Revising mission statement accordingly
 - Identifying CCPD’s constituent groups, the disability-related concerns each of those groups has, and ways to address those concerns
 - Adding tools and resources to create more efficient workflows (case & project management software, etc.)
 - Looking into the possibility of adding another staff position

- Kate and Rachel will provide updates on this work at CCPD meetings and will be asking for feedback

Meeting adjourned at 6:26 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Thurman