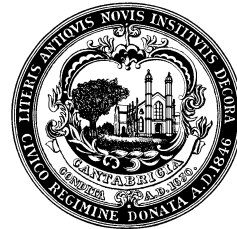


City of Cambridge

Commission for Persons with Disabilities

51 Inman Street · Cambridge, MA · 02139-1732

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Philibert Kongtcheu
Chair

Gary Dmytryk
Secretary

Loring Brinckerhoff
Avril de Pagter
Mary Devlin
Jerry Friedman
Stelios Gragoudas
Valerie Hammond
Nicole Horton-Stimpson
Jackie Jones
Daniel Stubbs

Rachel Tanenhaus
Executive Director/
ADA Coordinator

Kate Thurman
Project Coordinator

**The next meeting of the Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities
will be held online via Zoom on Thursday, December 10, 2020 at 5:30 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. | |
| <i>If needed, alternates named</i> | | |
| 2. DPW's Annual Snow Presentation | 45 min. | John Nardone & TJ Shea |
| <i>See presentation on page 4 in this agenda packet</i> | | |
| 3. Approval of November 12 Minutes | 2 min. | CCPD Board |
| 4. Announcements | 3 min. | CCPD staff / Board |
| 5. Chair's Report | 5 min. | Phil Kongtcheu |
| 6. Covid Data & Trends | 10 min. | Gary Dmytryk |
| <i>See "Covid-19 case info for Cambridge" on p.22 in this packet</i> | | |
| 7. Public Works Update | 5 min. | Jerry Friedman |
| 8. Executive Director's Report | 5 min. | Rachel Tanenhaus |
| 9. Project Coordinator's Report | 5 min. | Kate Thurman |
| 10. Public Input | 3 min. | general public |
| <i>See following pages for instructions on providing public comment</i> | | |
| 11. Old Business | 2 min. | CCPD Board |
| 12. New Business | 2 min. | CCPD Board |

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 <http://bit.ly/CCPDCART>
(captions will not appear until the meeting has started)

The City of Cambridge, Commission for Persons with Disabilities, does not discriminate 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 online on Thursday, January 14

Due to the pandemic, CCPD is not meeting in person for the foreseeable future.

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

Draft

Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities

Minutes for Thursday, December 12, 2020

Online via Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm

Present

Members: Loring Brinckerhoff, Avril de Pagter, Mary Devlin, Gary Dmytryk, Jerry Friedman, Stelios Gragoudas, Valerie Hammond, Nicole Horton-Simpson, Jackie Jones, Philibert Kongtcheu, and Daniel Stubbs

Staff: Rachel Tanenhaus and Kate Thurman

Guest Speaker: John Nardone and TJ Shea, Department of Public Works

Documents/Materials Used:

- Agenda
- Minutes from the November 12, 2020 Meeting
- City of Cambridge Winter Operations
- COVID Case Info for Cambridge

Minutes:

A motion to accept the November 12 minutes was seconded and unanimously passed.

DPW's Annual Snow Presentation:

John Nardone, DPW's Deputy Commission, and TJ Shea, Superintendent of Streets, gave DPW's annual presentation on snow operations, reviewing years past and discussing plans for the winter of 2020/2021. See attached presentation, City of Cambridge Winter Operations.

Highlights included:

- When it comes to clearing snow, DPW's first priority is ensuring that emergency vehicles can access City streets. If after plowing any given street, emergency vehicles still cannot get down it, the Traffic, Parking & Transportation Department (TPT) will declare a parking ban.
- DPW works in close coordination with several City departments during snow emergencies, including Human Services, the City Manager's Office, Police & Fire Departments, Emergency Communications, Water Department, School Department, etc.
- Residents are required to clear snow and ice from their sidewalks within 12 hours if snow stops falling during the daytime and by 1:00 PM if it snowed during the night.
 - The Council on Aging maintains an exemption list for residents with disabilities who are unable to shovel snow and who meet income eligibility guidelines.
 - Danehy Park staff clear the snow and ice from sidewalks abutting these residents' homes.
- DPW clears sidewalks and their curb cuts abutting City buildings and property, which is approximately 25 miles. They also clear disability parking spaces abutting City property.
 - DPW does not have the capacity to clear other disability parking spaces around the City
- DPW, in coordination with CCPD, has identified high priority bus stops over the last fifteen years or so and clears those, as well as the nearby curb cuts and crosswalks. This program has grown significantly over this time period.
- Space savers are not permitted

- Bikes lanes present unique challenges and have required the purchase of additional equipment for removing snow. 20 additional miles of bike lanes are being added in the next year. Specialty equipment is required if regular sized trucks cannot get down them.
- DPW started using brine, a saltwater mixture, in 2018. This has significantly reduced the amount of salt the city has used, reducing the environmental impact. Additionally, brine can be put down on streets up to 3 days before a storm hits.
- Restaurants that have been approved for street set-ups have the option of maintain their set-up through the winter and until one month after the pandemic is declared over. There are about 17 restaurants who plan to keep their outdoor seating open.

Chair's Report:

- Phil said that he would send members a survey to get input on how members feel the board has been doing and on what can be improved. He'd like to know what members are passionate about and what they would like to work on.

COVID Data and Trends:

- Gary spoke about how to access COVID data and trends online through the City's COVID website (<https://www.cambridgema.gov/covid19>)
- See the attached "COVID Case Info for Cambridge"

Executive Director's Report:

- Rachel said that the design team for the City's universal design playground will present on their progress and plans at next month's meeting
- In the past, the board had the following sub-committees:
 - Community outreach
 - Disability Reframed Film Series
 - Media & Technology
 - Advocacy & Access

Members can discuss going forward if they would like to form sub-committees in their interest areas.

Project Coordinator's Report:

- Kate has been asked to join the City's new Language Justice Working Group, which will meet for the first time in mid-December. The goal of the group is to create policy around City communications with the hope of making them more accessible to all residents, including those with disabilities, as well as those for whom English is not their native language.
- The City has a new dedicated budget for communication access realtime translation (CART), which has provided communication access for many additional meetings.
- The City continues to work on transitioning from CART to closed captioning for City Council meetings. Comcast is in the early stages of running tests with new equipment that will eventually allow for the transmission of the captioning signal. Once closed captioning is in place, residents will be able to access it when watching meetings both online and via CityView 22.
- She asked if board members would be interested in a virtual board retreat. Given the interest expressed, she and Rachel will speak with Ellen Semonoff about the possibility of working with a consultant to hold one.

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kate Thurman



City of Cambridge Winter Operations

Agenda

- 
- ▶ Historic data
 - ▶ Storm Coordination
 - ▶ Safety/Accessibility
 - Parking bans
 - Public Safety/School Accessibility
 - Public Transportation
 - Bike Lanes
 - Snow Hauling
 - ▶ Challenges
 - Continuity of Services
 - Dead Ends
 - One-way Streets
 - Handicap Parking
 - Space savers
 - Future snow removal
 - ▶ Outreach
 - ▶ Winter Outlook
 - ▶ Questions

Historical Data

Year	Snowfall (inches)	Salt Tons	Number of Parking Bans
2000	25		
2001	46		
2002	15		
2003	68	6027	
2004	35	4744	
*2005	87	8004	
2006	40	5180	
2007	17	3162	
2008	51	8623	
2009	66	10,000	6
2010	36	5,140	2
*2011	81	7,889	3
2012	9	1,774	0
*2013	63	5,197	1
2014	59	9,075	4
*2015	110	9,081	4
2016	27	4,756	2
2017	45	7,241	3
*2018	67	6,500	2
2019	41	5,500	2
2020	22	6,500	0
AVERAGE	48	6,355	2.4



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

A photograph of a white Cambridge Police car parked on a street. The car has "CAMBRIDGE" and "POLICE" written on its side. In the background, there is a brick building with a sign that says "MoneyGram".

Storm Coordination

- ▶ Public Works
- ▶ City Managers Office
- ▶ Traffic Parking & Transportation
- ▶ Police
- ▶ School Department
- ▶ Human Services
- ▶ Water
- ▶ Fire/Emergency Management
- ▶ Electrical
- ▶ Inspectional Services
- ▶ Emergency Communications

Parking Ban

- Notification
- Tow Truck Supervision/Coordination
- Follow up
- Lifting the Ban





Snow Emergency Parking Locations

Access to Public Transportation

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



Bus Stops/Ramps

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

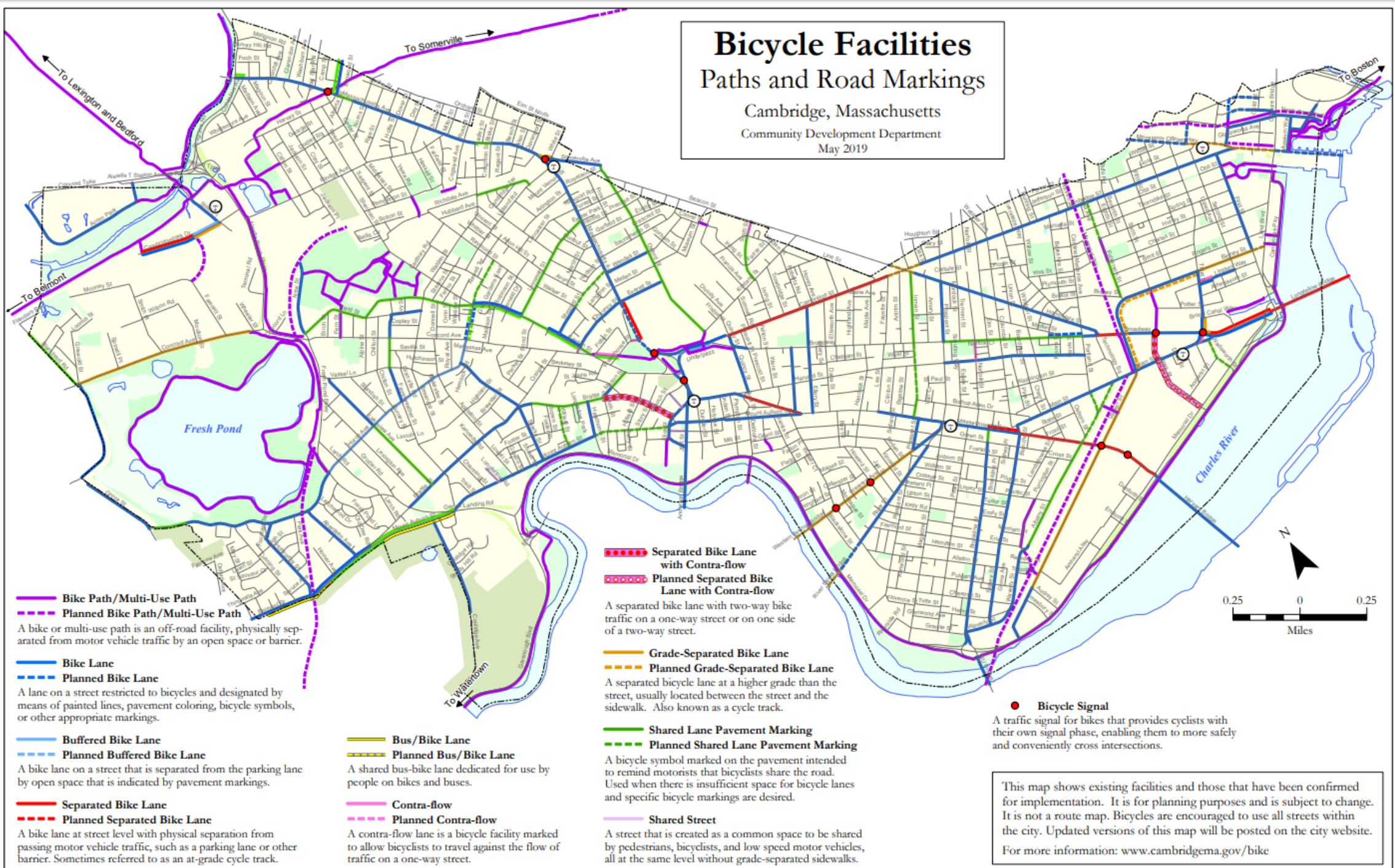


School/Public Safety Access



Bicycle Facilities Paths and Road Markings

Cambridge, Massachusetts
Community Development Department
May 2019



This map shows existing facilities and those that have been confirmed for implementation. It is for planning purposes and is subject to change. It is not a route map. Bicycles are encouraged to use all streets within the city. Updated versions of this map will be posted on the city website.

For more information: www.cambridgema.gov/bike

Protected and Raised Bike Lanes

- ▶ Challenges
- ▶ Timing
- ▶ Messaging
- ▶ Responsibility



Snow Hauling



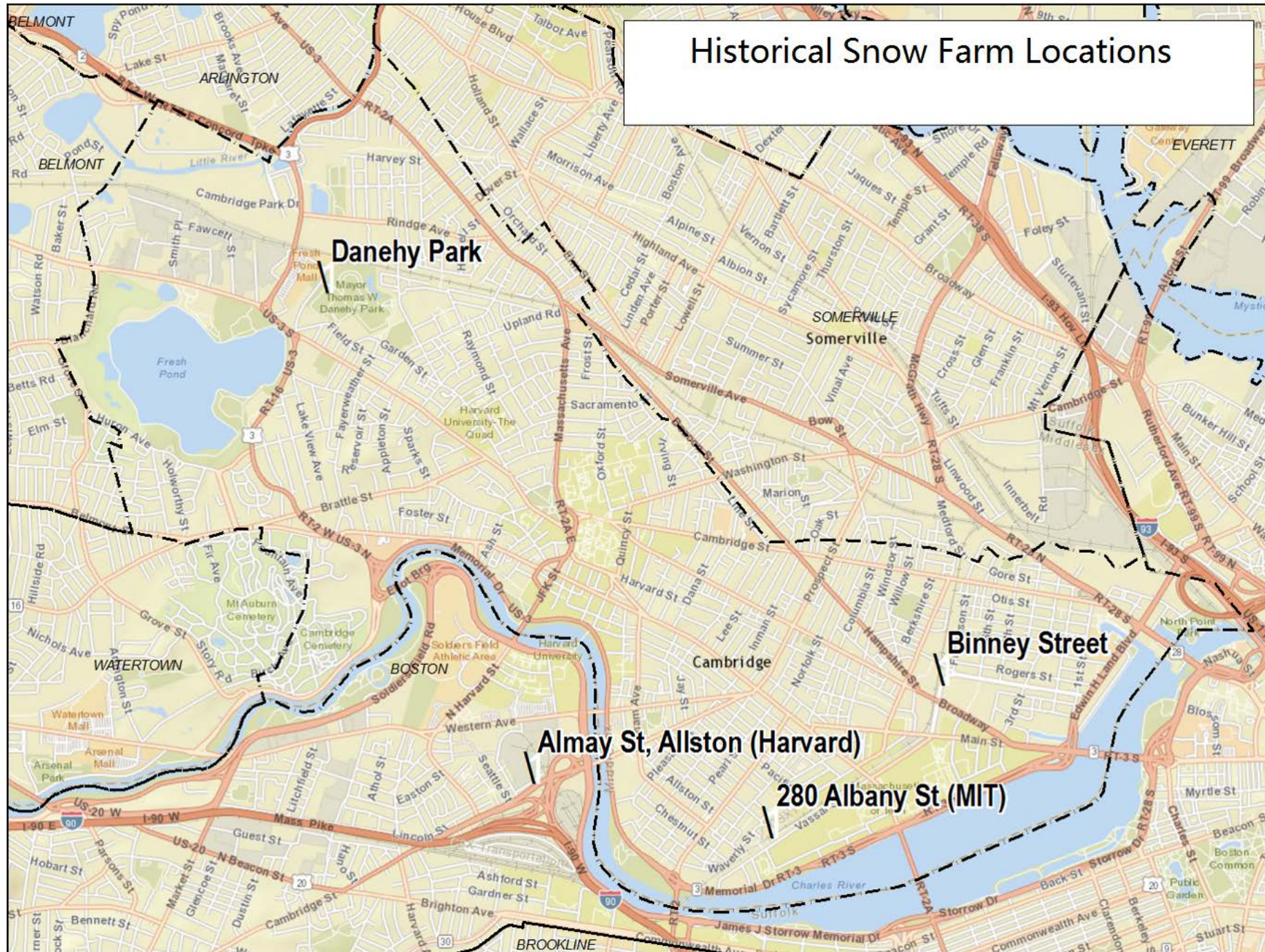
BEFORE



AFTER



Historical Snow Farm Locations





Challenges

- Continuity of Services
- Dead Ends
- One-way Streets
- Handicapped Parking
- Space Savers
- Future Snow Removal



The newest tool in our toolbox.....Brine

It's not just for Turkeys!

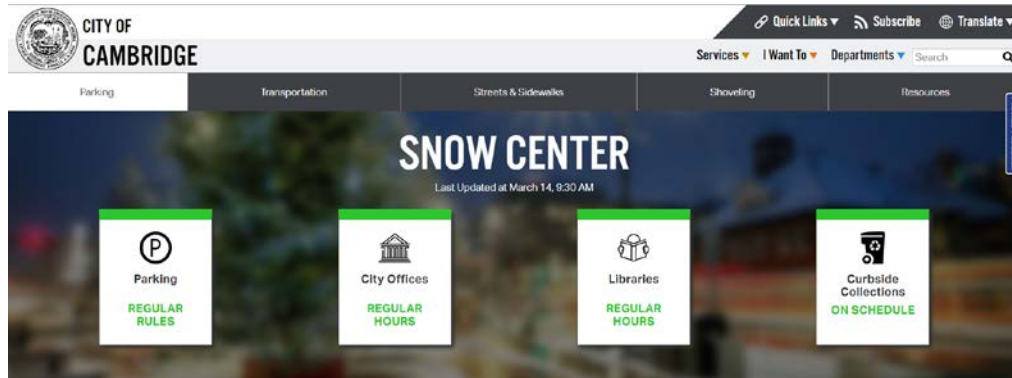
Brine Farm



Truck application



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.



Winter Outlook 2020/2021

- ▶ Sloppy, have lots of ice melt on hand!!!
- ▶ Chances of different types of precipitation during a storm or during a week looks higher than normal.
- ▶ Temperatures will average higher than normal through the winter. Snowfall will be below normal southern New England coast. Near to below normal central New England and above normal across northern New England.
- ▶ Some cold possible in December but it looks like the coldest month(s) could be from late February through March and into April. Could be the type of year where we see some snow in December, not much in January and into February and then it turns snowy late February through March and into early April.





Questions?

Covid-19 case info for Cambridge
Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities
December 10, 2020

We have all heard lately that Covid rates are rising everywhere. But what exactly is our local situation in Cambridge? Where can we find the public health data? Fortunately for us, the City of Cambridge has collected, analyzed, and presented the data on the City website, if you know how to find it.

The City website is very informative and, for the most part, easy to navigate. The purpose of this little paper is to walk you through it to find the relevant Covid case data, and to make this process clear enough so that you could explain it to others.

First, go to the City homepage at <https://www.cambridgema.gov/> and notice the red stripe with “Informational Alert | Coronavirus Updates” at the top of the page. Clicking on it takes you to the Covid-19 Information homepage.
<https://www.cambridgema.gov/covid19>

There is all kinds of information here, from Face Covering Orders to Testing Services, News Updates, and City Programs. Since my focus is case count data, click on the white box labeled “Case Count,” which takes you to the Case Count Reporting in Cambridge page with links to the data.
<https://www.cambridgema.gov/covid19/casecount>

This page has links to Cambridge data, State data, and University data from Harvard and MIT, which by the way have been incorporated into the Cambridge city numbers. Clicking on the red box labeled “View Cambridge Data,” or any of the links just above it, will take you to the Cambridge Covid-19 Data Center.
<https://cityofcambridge.shinyapps.io/COVID19/>

See the sidebar menu for all the different categories of data and analysis you can view. There is so much info, a link is provided to a User Guide to the Data Center in the upper right corner. I hope some of you feel inspired to spend some of your time exploring the different topics, though I would just like to mention the New Cases data, which is what I check most frequently. Remember the spring when the situation was critical before stabilizing in the summer? Rates averaged below 5 cases per day from June until early October, when rates slowly began rising. Suddenly in November cases spiked, and ten days in the past three weeks have seen rates of 30 cases per day or more.

This recent surge is quite alarming, and we can all hope that it levels off soon. However, looking at the Trend Data category and the State and National Comparison data, we can see that Cambridge is still seeing fewer cases than most places, thanks to the vigilance of our neighbors, and local businesses and government.

Gary Dmytryk

Let's look at the State data available by leaving the Cambridge Data Center and returning to the Case Count Reporting page. Clicking on the red box labeled "View State Data" brings you to the mass.gov website, which is more confusing to me than the City website. <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting> We are looking for the "Daily Dashboard," and we will eventually get there by clicking on the appropriately labeled links. The Daily Dashboard is a long, 20-something page pdf with data and visualizations of lots of different public health indicators. It is very informative if one has the patience and interest to read through it.

There are many other sources of Covid public health data on the internet that Board Members may have been using to keep informed during this crisis. I just wanted to walk folks through the information on the City website. What sources of information do you use? Please share your discoveries during our meeting.