



Rendering of Proposed Design of the Broadway Safety Improvement Project

**CITY OF
CAMBRIDGE**

TPT

Traffic,
Parking, and
Transportation

Welcome! Broadway Safety Improvement Project *Working Group Meeting #1*

February 27, 2025, 5 pm to 7:30 pm

Remote Participation Instructions

Working Group members:

- You will be promoted to "panelist".
- Please turn on your video.
- Raise your hand to join the queue.

Members of the public:

- There will be an opportunity to share public comment at ~7:10 PM.
- At that time, you can raise your hand to join the queue.

Agenda

5:00 PM	Settling in, refreshments and pizza
5:10	Welcome & introductions
5:35	Relevant Policies & Plans
6:00	Introduction to Broadway Safety Improvement Project
6:25	<i>Break</i>
6:35	Q&A on pre-recorded CSO quick-build project design and decision-making
6:45	Working Group: Situation Assessment, Roles, Work Plan
7:10	Public Comment
7:20	Next Steps
7:30	<i>Adjourn</i>

Project Team

Project Manager

Andreas Wolfe, *Street Design Project Manager | Traffic, Parking, + Transportation Dept.*
617-349-9531 | awolfe@cambridgema.gov

Traffic, Parking, + Transportation Department (TPT)

- Brooke McKenna, Transportation Commissioner
- Jeff Parenti, Asst. Commissioner for Street Management
- Andreas Wolfe, Street Design Project Manager
- Stephen Meuse, Supervising Engineer
- Jackie McLaughlin, Communications Manager
- Chaimaa Medhat, Community Relations Project Administrator

Community Development Department (CDD)

- Andy Reker, Transit Program Manager
- Nick Schmidt, Transportation Program Manager

Department of Public Works (DPW)

- Jerry Friedman, Supervising Engineer
- Melissa Miguel, Supervising Engineer

Consensus Building Institute (CBI)

- Abby Fullem
- Anika Reynar
- Elizabeth Cooper

Design Consultants

- Scott Curry, Kittelson & Associates
- Meredyth Sanders, Kittelson & Associates
- Alyssa Peck, WSE

Introductions

Please share your:

- Name (*Preferred name*)
- Pronouns (*Optional*)
- Relevant affiliations
- Hope for or question about the Working Group

Introductions (Continued)

In groups of four, share:

- Name
- Favorite recipe of late
- Favorite thing to do on Broadway

01. Relevant Policies & Plans

Sustainable Transportation

Sustainable transportation options allow people to get around in ways that reduce emissions and congestion, such as walking, biking, and public transit.

The City supports this through many policies, plans, and ordinances, including:

- Vehicle Trip Reduction Ordinance (1992)
- Parking & Transportation Demand Ordinance (1998)
- Climate Protection Plan (2002)
- School Wellness Policy (2017)
- Envision Cambridge (2019)

▶ Complete Streets (2016)



▶ Vision Zero (2018)



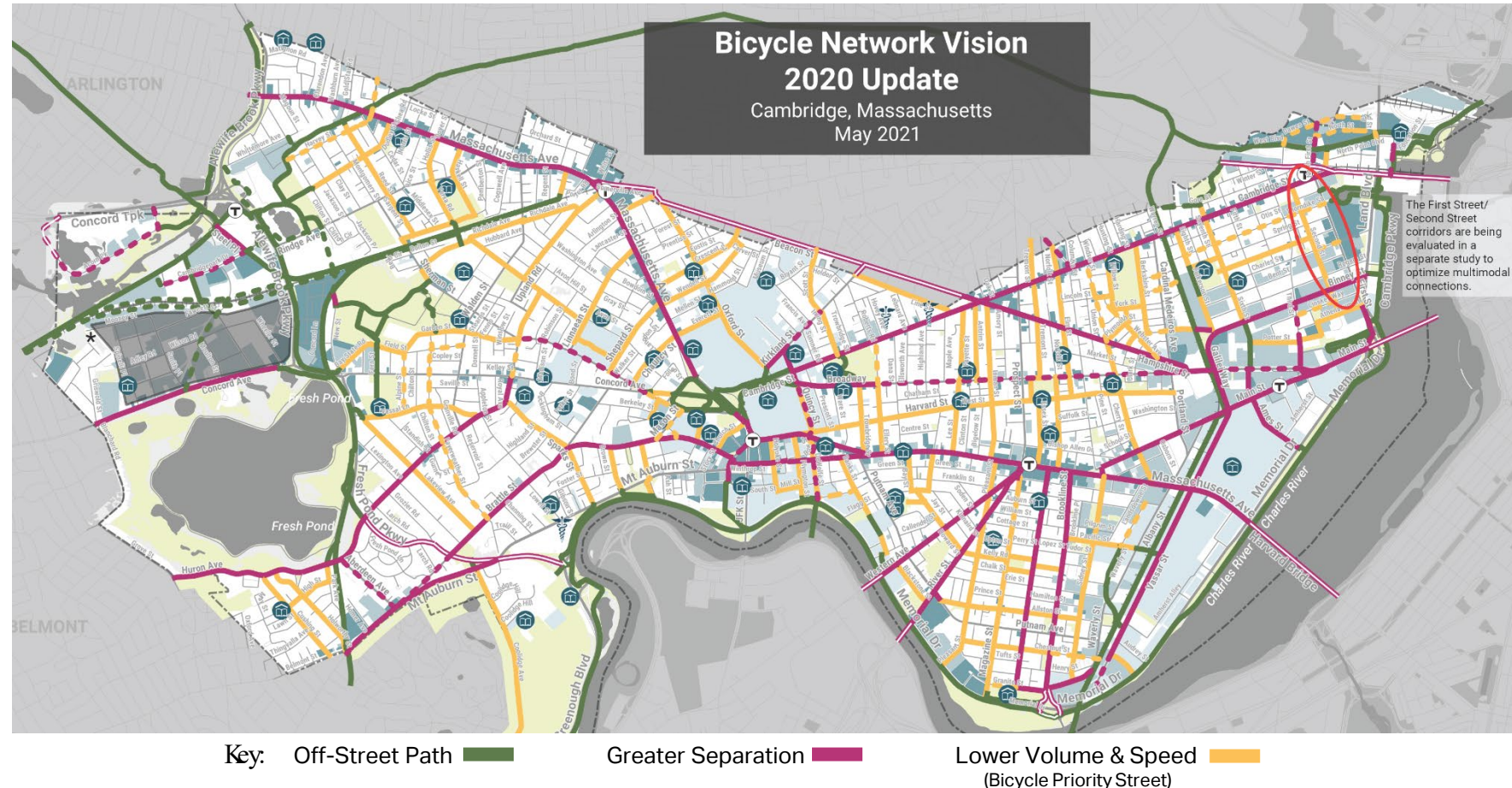
▶ Cycling Safety Ordinance (2019)



The Bicycle Network Vision

We are creating a network for biking that is safe, comfortable, connected, and people-centered.

A safe, comfortable network that connects important destinations throughout the City helps more people choose to bike if they would like to.



Learn more: cambridgema.gov/2020bikeplanupdate

Bicycle-Related Crashes

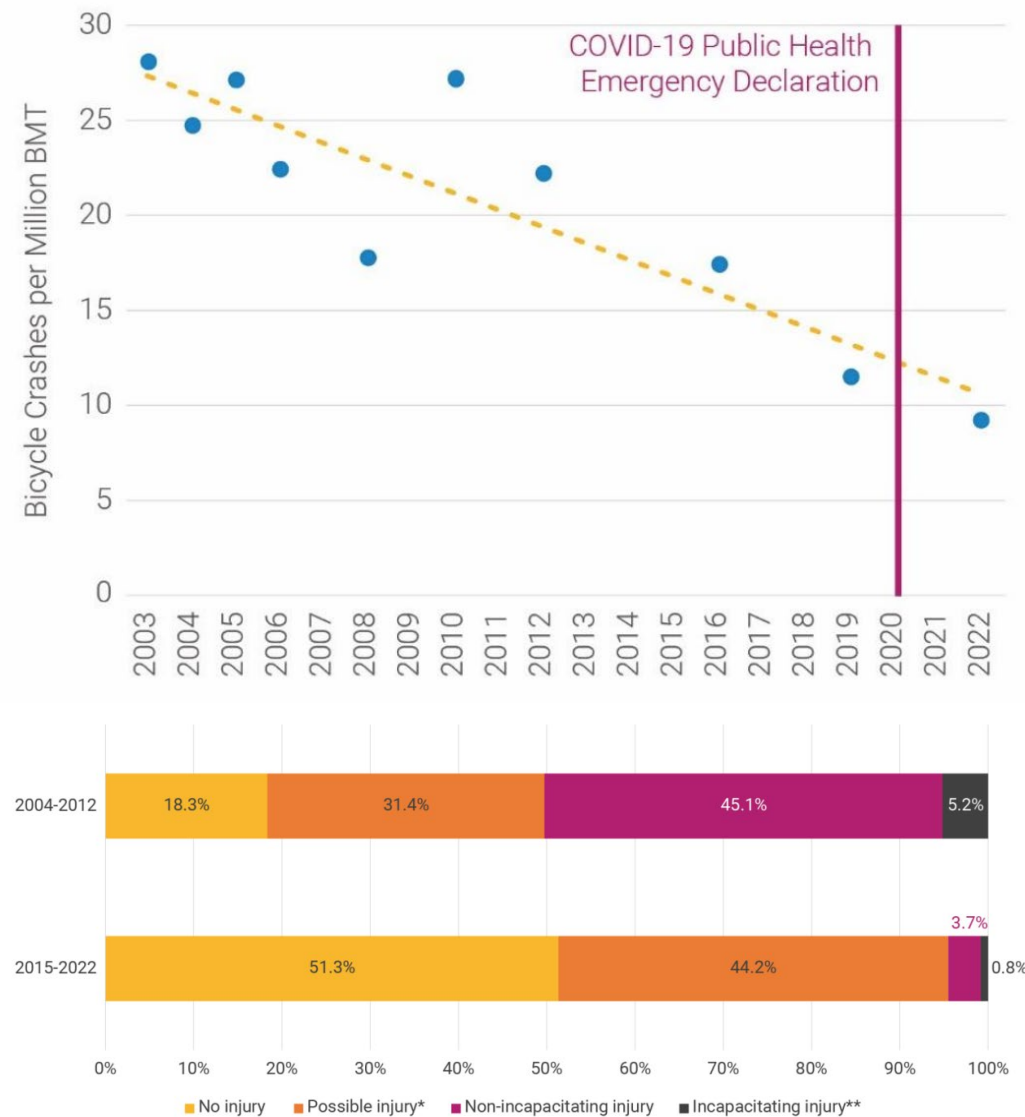
- Implementing the Cambridge Bicycle Plan has made biking safer in Cambridge.

Crash Rate

- The crash rate—number of crashes per million bicycle miles traveled (BMT)—has steadily decreased since 2003, with 2022 the lowest rate to date.
- The likelihood of a crash for someone biking continues to decline.

Crash Severity

- Of the crashes that do occur, more than 50% of bicycle-related crashes have become non-injury (from 18.3%), city-wide.
- Incapacitating injury crashes have declined from 5.2% to 0.8%, a decrease of 84%.



Source: Bicycling in Cambridge, Data Report 2023

Cycling Safety Ordinance (CSO)

2019

Cambridge City Council passes the Cycling Safety Ordinance

When streets are being reconstructed as a part of the City's **Five-Year Plan for Streets and Sidewalks**, the Ordinance requires the City to construct separated bike lanes if the street has been designated for "Greater Separation" in the **Bicycle Network Vision**.

2020

Cambridge City Council passes amendments to the Cycling Safety Ordinance

Requirement for the City to install about 25 miles of separated bike lanes by April 30, 2026, including quick-build projects not on the Five-Year Plan.

2024

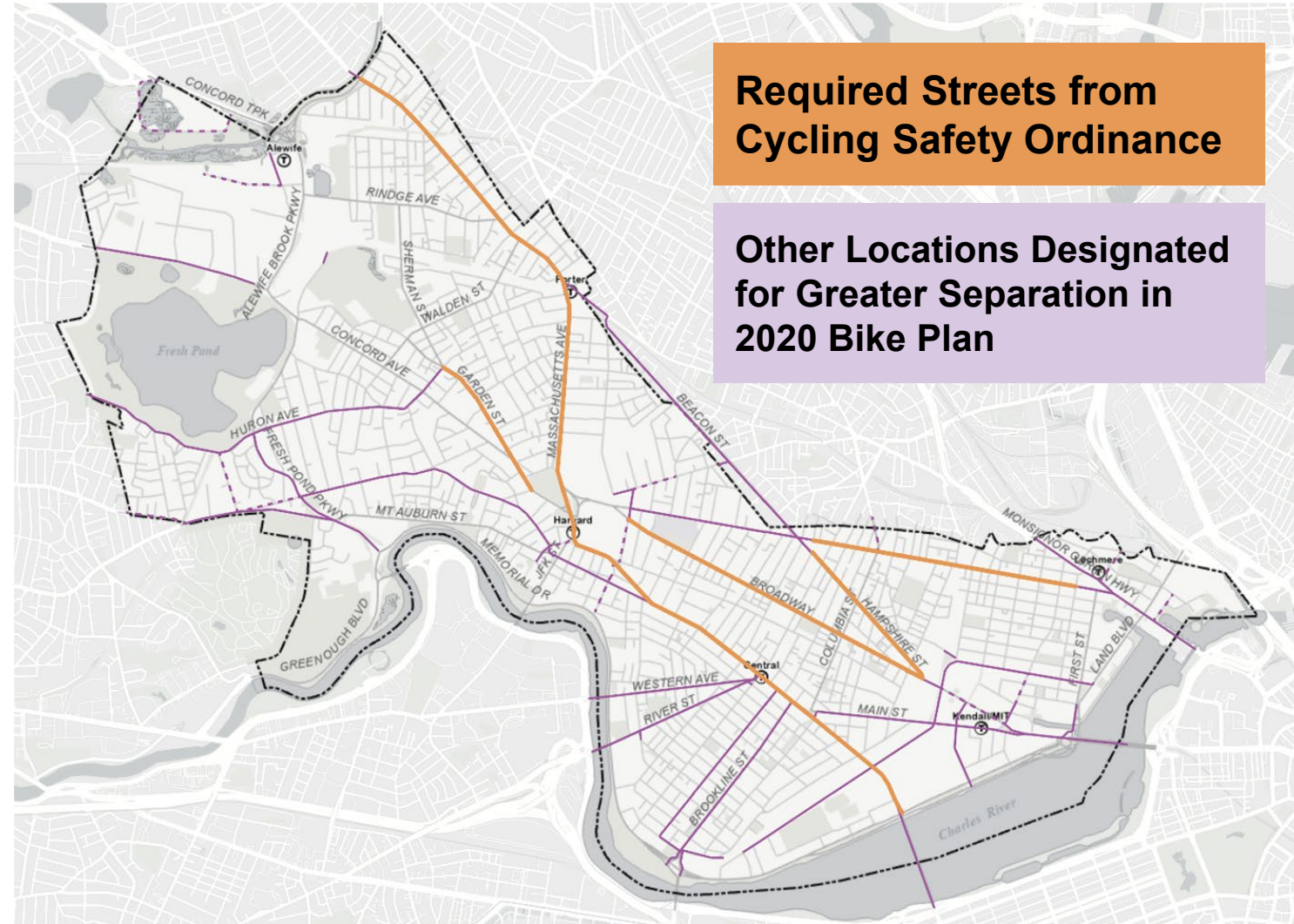
City Council sets new deadline of November 1, 2026



CSO Continued

The 2020 amendments require that the City install 25 miles of separated bike lanes within five to seven years on:

- All of **Massachusetts Avenue**
- **Broadway** from Quincy Street to Hampshire Street
- **Cambridge Street** from Oak Street to Second Street
- **Hampshire Street** from Amory Street to Broadway
- **Garden Street** from Huron Avenue to Berkeley/Mason Street
- **11.6 miles** of separated bike lanes in other locations from the 2020 Bicycle Plan's Network Vision



Cycling Safety Ordinance

Types of Separated Bike Lanes

Quick Build

We don't dig into the ground or make changes to the width and shape of the road. This allows us to make changes quickly.

- Methods: paint, stencils, flex-posts or concrete curbs, new signage, and adjustments to traffic signals and signs.
- Examples: Brattle Street, Garden Street, Mid Mass Ave

Construction

Involves more extensive changes, including moving curbs, removing medians, and changing the shape of the road. Work becomes more complex (and longer!) any time we dig into the ground.

- Examples: Inman Square, Western Avenue

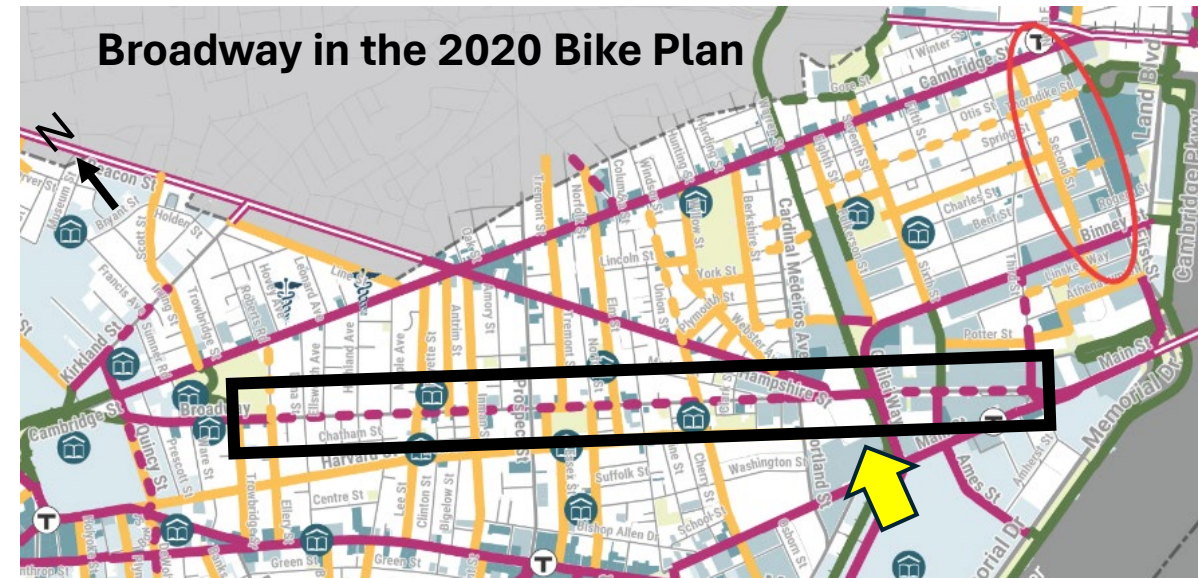
On Broadway, we're doing a quick-build project



Why Broadway?

Broadway was added to the 2020 Bike Plan as a street in need of "greater separation" because:

- Broadway serves as a **main connection to important destinations** (e.g., Cambridge Ring and Latin, Cambridge Public Library main branch, Fletcher Maynard School)
- Regional bicycle connections are most direct with Broadway on east and west ends
- During 2020 Bike Plan, many people highlighted the **lack of available bike facilities and cyclist comfort** on Broadway



Key: Off-Street Path █ Greater Separation █ Lower Volume & Speed (Bicycle Priority Street) █



Image: Existing Cambridge Street bike lane blocked by illegal stopping/parking.

02. Introduction to Broadway Safety Improvement Project

Quincy Street to Portland Street

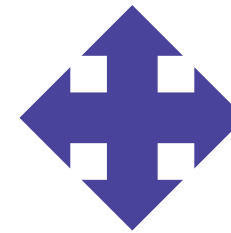
Project Goals



1. Reduce driver speeds and improve safety for all users



2. Expand the bicycle network, increase bicycle ridership, and reduce bicycle-related crashes



3. Address safety and reduce crashes at intersections

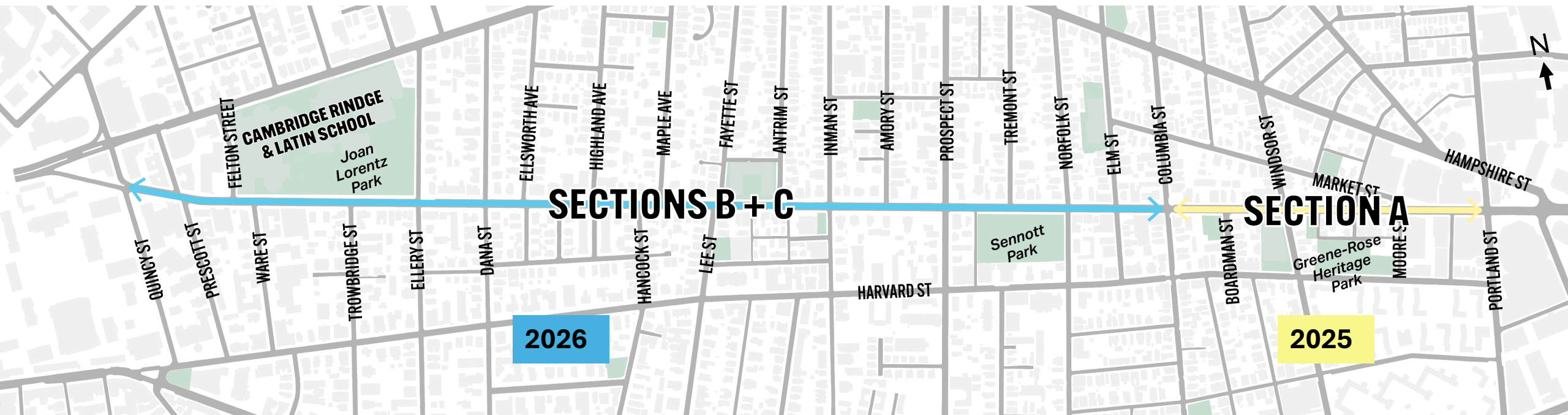
Project Area

Broadway: Between Quincy St and Portland St



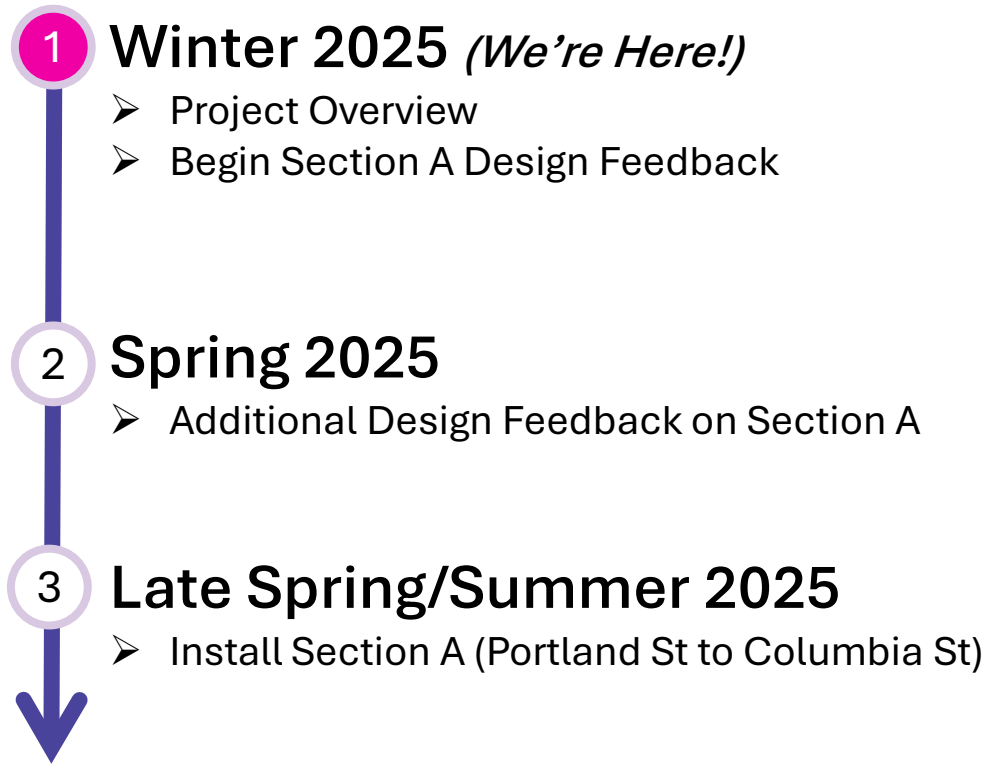
Project Sections

- Section A: Portland St to Columbia St. Installation 2025.
- Sections B+C: Columbia St to Quincy St. Installation 2026.



Project Timeline

SECTION A



SECTIONS B+C



Engagement Efforts

- More than 7,000 postcards were sent to Broadway (and abutting neighborhood) residents and business owners and **50+ posters** posted along Broadway in January.
- Virtual Community Meeting and two in-person Open Houses in January and February 2025.
- Section A Design Survey launched to gather feedback on the drafted design plans.
- We're always collecting feedback! Visit the project website, www.CambridgeMA.gov/BroadwaySafety to take the survey, share feedback, and more.



Above: Postcard sent to 7,000+ households



Above: Participants share feedback at February 6 Open House

Outreach Plan: Share your input!

We need your help expanding our engagement efforts!

Have an organization, business, or someone you think should be in the loop?
Are there community boards or other central communications forums we should share information with?

Please share your suggestions by March 6 via:

- Online survey (to be shared via email)
- Email (jmclaughlin@cambridgema.gov), or
- One-on-one conversation. Email Jackie to schedule.

03. Q&A on CSO Quick-build Project Design Process & Decision-making

04. Broadway SIP Working Group

Working Group Interviews and Situation Assessment

- 13 interviews
- What we heard about:
 - Who you are
 - What you want for our Working Group conversations
 - Your vision of Cambridge Street after the SIP

Working Group Interviews and Situation Assessment

Who you are:

- All are multimodal
- All spend lots of time on Broadway
- All are interested in Broadway as a neighborhood not just a thoroughfare
- Range of time living in Cambridge
- Range of civic engagement experiences, range of experience with the CSO
- Impacted by accidents
- All are thinking about other people, neighbors, user groups

Working Group Interviews and Situation Assessment

What you want for our Working Group conversations:

- Representation and consideration of a broad spectrum of people
- To work on solutions
- Conversations that are productive and human-centered
- Transparency from the City
- Respectful conversations
- Pull from what works well elsewhere
- Facilitation, materials in advance, documentation

Vision of Broadway Post-SIP

- Safety for all users
- Design that works for all users
- Design that makes it easy to do the right thing (predictability, consistency)
- Parking options where most needed
- Vibrant businesses: functional and safe loading and delivery
- More of a neighborhood: slower street, more green space
- Well-maintained

Draft Charter

- Why the City created this Working Group
- Working Group Purpose
- Roles and responsibilities
- Working Group meetings
- How will we work together?

Is this clear?

**Is anything missing to help frame
and support this group's work?**

Guiding Principles for Working Together

- Respect all participants (Working Group members, City staff, facilitation team, members of the public).
- Listen actively and with empathy.
- Talk about the topics, not people.
- Be curious about and open to different perspectives and sources of information.
- Speak for yourself from your own perspective.
- Focus our work on actionable recommendations related to design, implementation, engagement, and outreach related to the Broadway SIP.

What else should we include?

Working Group Work Plan

Meeting 2: April 1, 2025

- Broadway Section A: design overview + feedback
- Outreach plan overview

Meeting 2 – 8 (or 10)

- Broadway Section B: Design overview + feedback
- Broadway Section C: Design overview + feedback
- Implementation updates + feedback
- Ongoing outreach needs

What other information do you need to engage and provide feedback?

05. Public Comment

Public Comment

Public Comments Welcome

- Share thoughts in Q&A or verbally
- To comment verbally, raise virtual “hand” or signal interest in Q&A window
- Limit comments to 2 minutes; may need to adjust if many speakers

Please keep all comments...

- On-point
- Respectful
- Focused on issues (not individuals)

Next Steps

All:

- Review draft charter and share feedback with CBI by **Thursday, March 6.**
- Share Outreach Plan suggestions by **Thursday, March 6.**

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 1 from 5:00 to 7:30 PM

Meeting summary process

- Draft summary, Working Group review, finalized and posted on website