



# City of Cambridge Cycling Safety Ordinance Advisory Committee

Meeting 1: March 10, 2023

# Agenda



- 10 AM Welcome and Overview
- 10:35 Background Information: Short Term and Long Term Goals of the CSO
- 11:00 CBI Assessment Report
- 11:15 Review Draft Group Charter, Workplan, and Develop Group Norms and Protocols
- 11:40 Next Steps
- 11:50 Public Comment
- 12 PM Adjourn

# Introductions



Please introduce yourself:

- Name
- Affiliation
- One hope or question about the CSO Advisory Group Process

# Background



- **Today:** we'll give a brief background on the Cycling Safety Ordinance, Cambridge Bicycle Plan, and separated bike lanes.
- **In future meetings:** we'll dig deeper into these topics and more. Let us know what you want us to cover in the future.

# Creating a Safe and Sustainable Cambridge



- Universal access to safe, reliable, efficient, and sustainable transportation is key to building an inclusive economy, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving public health, and creating a high quality of life for all people in Cambridge.
- We are committed to eliminating transportation-related deaths and serious injuries while increasing healthy, equitable mobility for all.
- Creating a safe, comfortable bike network is key to achieving these goals.
- The Cycling Safety Ordinance is the legal framework that the City Council adopted to help us get there.

# Cambridge's Cycling Safety Ordinance

## 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

Amendments add requirements for the City to install 25 miles of separated bike lanes on a faster timeline – about 5 to 7 years.

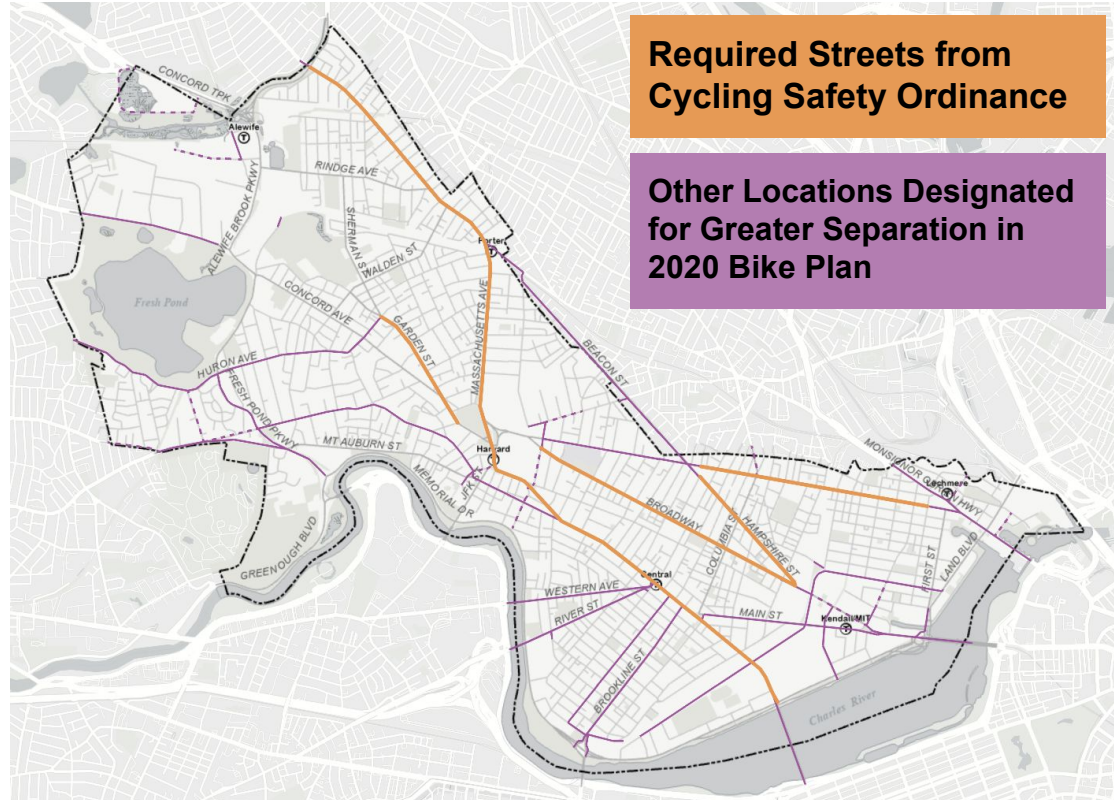
### Five-Year Plan for Streets and Sidewalks

Lays out a five-year timeline for reconstructing streets and sidewalks. "Reconstruction" is more than just repaving - it includes redesigning the full street, including sidewalks, and inspecting and upgrading utilities.

# Cambridge's Cycling Safety Ordinance

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





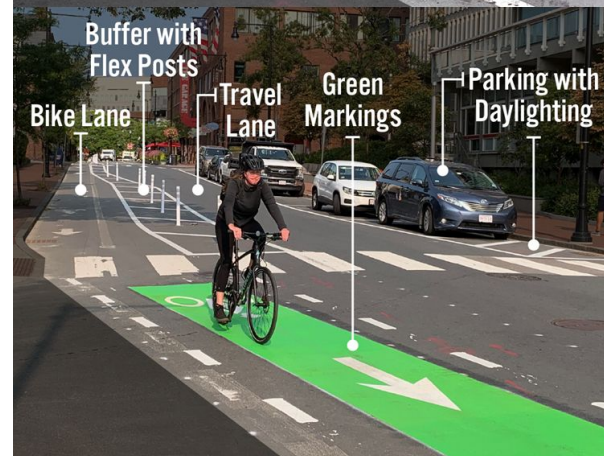
# Separated Bike Lanes

What does a separated bike lane provide?

- People biking and driving each have dedicated travel space
- The bike lane has physical separation from the vehicle lane with a barrier

Benefits include:

- Increases comfort & access for people of all ages and abilities
- Reduces crash and injury risk
- Eliminate threat of "dooring" from parked vehicles
- Reduces potential conflicts between vehicles and people biking
- Encourages slower traffic speeds by visually narrowing the roadway width





# Creating a Network

**The City's 2020 Bike Plan outlines how to achieve a network of bike lanes throughout Cambridge.**

When we design Cambridge's bike network, we're thinking about all types of people of all ages, abilities, and identities; and for different types of bikes.

## Creating a Network

When biking is or feels unsafe or inaccessible, fewer people bike. A safe, comfortable network that connects important destinations throughout the city helps more people make the choice to bike.



# Building the Network

## 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



# Future Topics



- Deeper dive on the Cycling Safety Ordinance: timelines, quick-build versus construction, design requirements, and more
- Deeper dive on the Bicycle Plan, Vision Zero, and Cambridge's other transportation and climate goals, plans, and policies.
- Past, present, and future Cycling Safety Ordinance projects
- Current engagement practices for CSO projects

What else do you want to know? Tell us during the Q&A so we can provide you with the information you need!

# AG member interviews and situation assessment



- ❖ Overview
  - 12 interviews with CSO AG members
  - Feedback on CSO Process + Engagement
- ❖ Member Perspectives on Impacts of CSO
  - Cyclist and Pedestrian Safety
  - Small Businesses
  - Socially Vulnerable Populations
  - Traffic and Car Usage
- ❖ Goals and Concerns for CSO AG Process
- ❖ Roll of AG: Input on Community Engagement

Is there anything important missing here from our conversations with you?

# Draft Charter



1. Why the City created this group
2. Group purpose **Is this clear?**
3. Roles and responsibilities **Is anything missing to help frame and support this group's work?**
4. How will we work together?
5. AG Meetings **Any suggested edits?**
6. Guiding principles for working together

# Guiding principles for working together



- Respect all participants (members, staff, public)
- Bring as much eagerness to listen deeply for understanding as to speak
- Talk about the topics, not people
- Be curious about and open to different perspectives and sources of information
- Keep the focus on what we can create together

What else should we include?

# Next Steps



- **Next Meeting**
  - Option to run a hybrid meeting?
  - Scheduling poll forthcoming - please reply!
- **Meeting Summary Process**
- **Public Participation**



# 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)