

Nicole Murati Ferrer  
Chairperson

Mark Melo  
City Electrician

Terrence James Shea  
Superintendent of Streets

# CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

## POLE AND CONDUIT COMMISSION

831 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139



### POLE AND CONDUIT COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, January 20, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

By Remote Participation

***This meeting was held remotely in accordance with Section 20 of Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, signed into law on June 16, 2021.***

***All Commission Members Present:*** Nicole Murati Ferrer, Mark Melo, and Terrence James Shea.

***License Commission Staff Present:*** Dana Clarke, Administrative Assistant.

***Advisor:*** Stephen Lenkauskas, Retired City Electrician.

***Documents considered by the Board:*** As to all petitions, the Commission considered the application submitted to it and all documents attached thereto.

***Decisions:*** All votes, unless otherwise stated, were taken by roll call vote and were 3-0. When matters are granted with "typical conditions," those are:

- (1) Must obtain Electrical Department Utility Permit and Department of Public Works ("DPW") Permits and comply with the provisions therein.
- (2) Must pay sidewalk preservation off-set fee.
- (3) Must coordinate site visit with DPW.
- (4) Must commence work within sixty (60) days of the grant and complete within six (6) months of the date of the approval.
- (5) Must comply with any amendment City agencies make to the issued permits after the Acceptance Without Reservations is filed.

1. **New Petition (157575) Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127**, for the following: **Green Street** - Starting at Utility Pole #311/33 install 76'+/- of fiber optic cable to existing Crown Castle handhole. From the handhole, continue 10' +/- to the building located at **362 Green Street**. The conduit was recently placed and part of a joint trench with Crown Castle. Crown Castle petition #151015 was approved at the November 18, 2021 Pole & Conduit Hearing.

**Present:** Anthony Vatalaro and Bill Conway.

**Summary:** Part of the one approved in November where the Commission stated that all subsequent ones would be approved administratively. Although the applicant uploaded the affidavit of notice to abutters, there is no attachment showing when the letters were mailed, and the letter sent is also not there. The applicant needs to upload these to the record for the application to be complete.

**Decision:** Granted pending submission of proof of mailing, and subject to typical conditions.

2. **New Petition (159400) Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127**, for the following: **11 Florence Street** - Comcast proposes to mount a new 36.8"x 24.3" x 16" power supply box to utility pole #67/3 on

**Florence Street.** This is essential to the Comcast network to avoid customer outages and to maintain a fluid network within Cambridge.

**Present:** Anthony Vatalaro and Bill Conway.

**Summary:** There is no trenching, just attaching the cabinet to the pole. Although the applicant uploaded the affidavit of notice to abutters, there is no attachment showing when the letters were mailed, and the letter sent is also not there. The applicant needs to upload these to the record for the application to be complete.

**Decision:** Granted, pending submission of proof of mailing, and subject to typical conditions.

- 3. New Petition (154138) Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127,** for the following: **19 Florence Street** - Common Trench with Eversource app 145487 from Pole 267/4 trench Northerly 39' to the PP line of **19 Florence Street** - installing 1-2" PVC conduit.

**Present:** Anthony Vatalaro and Bill Conway.

**Summary:** This is new service for the building under construction at this site. Although the applicant uploaded the affidavit of notice to abutters, there is no attachment showing when the letters were mailed, and the letter sent is also not there. The applicant needs to upload these to the record for the application to be complete.

The corresponding Eversource application (#145487) cannot be voted upon because Eversource has failed to notify abutters. Comcast will need to wait until the Eversource approval comes in so that they can coordinate and do the work simultaneously.

**Decision:** Granted, pending submission of proof of mailing, and subject to typical conditions.

- 4. New Petition (159415) Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127,** for the following: **Carver Street** - Comcast proposes to mount a new 36.8" x 24.3" x 16" power supply box to utility pole #122/8 on **Carver Street**. This is essential to the Comcast network to avoid customer outages and maintain a fluid network within Cambridge.

**Summary/Decision:** Withdrawn by applicant – looking at different poles/options.

- 5. New Petition (159454) Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127,** for the following: **Elmwood Street** - Starting at utility pole #116/7 on **Cameron Avenue**, install (1) .625 coax cable and (1) 1.25" metal stand cable lashed together 140' +/- southwesterly to utility pole #117/3, continue 223' +/- easterly on trolley sq to utility pole # 117/3-b. Service to the building at **95 Elmwood Street** will continue underground via a 10' private property trench.

**Present:** Anthony Vatalaro and Bill Conway.

**Summary:** Looking to bring service to the building via the pole line – 3 poles. Fully restore the bike path area with any excavation that is required there. Kevin Yearwood, resident wanted to know the

timeline. Comcast will email. Although the applicant uploaded the affidavit of notice to abutters, there is no attachment showing when the letters were mailed, and the letter sent is also not there. The applicant needs to upload these to the record for the application to be complete.

**Decision:** Granted, pending submission of proof of mailing, and subject to typical conditions.

6. **New Petition (156574) Crown Castle NG East, 1800 West Park Drive, Marlborough, MA 01581**, for the following: **Essex Street** - Starting at Utility Pole # 241/15 on **Essex Street**, install (10 fiber optic cable 222' +/- northeasterly on the existing utility poles on **Essex Street** and make an aerial attachment to the building located at **54 Essex Street**. There is no excavation work required.

**Present:** Bob Walls and Bill Conway.

**Summary:** Just one fiber optic cable – aerial attachment. Although the applicant uploaded the affidavit of notice to abutters, there is no attachment showing when the letters were mailed, and the letter sent is also not there. The applicant needs to upload these to the record for the application to be complete.

**Decision:** Granted for one fiber optic cable, pending submission of proof of mailing.

7. **New Petition (156586) Crown Castle NG East, 1800 West Park Drive, Marlborough, MA 01581**, for the following: **Main Street** - Starting at Utility Pole #651/9 on **State Street**, install (1) fiber optic cable 132' +/- easterly on **State Street** to Utility Pole #651/10 and continue 159' +/- northerly on **Windsor Street** and make an aerial attachment to the building located at **792 Main Street**.

**Present:** Bob Walls and Bill Conway.

**Summary:** This is for two poles and aerial attachment, no excavation – this is for MIT. Pole 11 is a temporary pole, you cannot attach to it as it was temporary service and Eversource needs to remove it. Although the applicant uploaded the affidavit of notice to abutters, there is no attachment showing when the letters were mailed, and the letter sent is also not there. The applicant needs to upload these to the record for the application to be complete.

**Decision:** Granted pending submission of proof of mailing, with the amendment that no attachment is allowed as to Pole 11.

8. **Continuation from September 23, 2021. Tolling agreement for Main Street and Wadsworth Street. (140548) Crown Castle NG East, 1800 West Park Drive, Marlborough, MA 01581**, for the following: **238 Main Street/Corner of Main Street and Wadsworth Street, 238 Main Street/Corner of Wadsworth Street and Amherst Street** - Crown Castle has two existing small cell facilities attached to one wood utility pole and one guide pole along Wadsworth Street. MIT has redesigned the street scape and installed 1907 Tear Drop streetlights. The foundations are existing at the site. Crown will install the new 1907 Tear Drop pole and equipment onto the pole. The equipment at each site will consist of 24" x 14" antenna and a 36" x 18" x 12" shroud attached to the pole at 15 feet.

**Present:** Paul Costa.

**Summary:** This was originally continued to look at structural analysis for the foundation and was submitted showing it was sufficient to sustain the weight.

**Decision:** Granted.

9. **New Petition (157766) Crown Castle NG East, 1800 West Park Drive, Marlborough, MA 01581**, for the following: **Portland Street** - Crown Castle is proposing to install (1) Amphenol Antenna, (1) Apelio RCEN enclosure, and (2) Commscope Ion-ML radios to an existing 1907 pole location near **1 Portland Street**. The Amphenol Antenna will be either 24 inches or 48 inches based on the approval of the Pole and Conduit Commission. More details on the size of the antennas can be seen in Exhibit (1) in the attached documents. The shroud will be at a 12' elevation above the sidewalk, and the antenna will be at 28'3". Crown Castle is then proposing to trench 4' along the sidewalk in **Portland Street**, install a new shared 24"x36" handhole, and then trench with communications and power conduit to point "A" outlined on the P-Plans (exhibit 3). Then Crown proposed to trench across Portland Street towards **Albany Street** for approximately 73' to electric manhole #24. More specifics on distances and conduit to be installed can be seen on Exhibit (3).

**Present:** Paul Costa.

**Summary:** Have a node on Albany and improving this – technically we have a site in the area just moving it to a new location, larger antenna is also being requested. Have the 48-inch antenna and asking to keep it as is because if going to 24 will hurt the coverage. It is about 100 feet away from original one which is all going underground.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

10. **New Petition (159161) Crown Castle NG East, 1800 West Park Drive, Marlborough, MA 01581**, for the following: **8 Museum Way** - Crown Castle is proposing to set a new 33"x33" HH "A" on existing Power Conduit near EMH#2841 to HH B. For the dig Crown Castle will place 169' of (1)-2" SCH 40 PVC for power feed and (1)-3" SCH 40 PVC for City of Cambridge from existing EMH #2840 to proposed handhole "A". The contractor will ensure trench runs with the bike lane along the northwest side of **Museum Way**.

**Present:** Paul Costa.

**Summary:** Extension of another petition digging along Museum Way – full power to the original, now dig further down Museum. Had to move down to get the power from it. Addressing does not seem to match as 17 Museum Way-was the correct notification sent to abutters. Insufficient survey from cell site already there from previous petition. Real issue here as Crown Castle paid for the paving, excavate and mill and overlay from center line to the curb line. Although the applicant uploaded the affidavit of notice to abutters, there is no attachment showing when the letters were mailed, and the letter sent is also not there. The applicant needs to upload these to the record for the application to be complete.

**Decision:** Continued to get a better survey and see if they can use any existing conduits, and also pending submission of proof of mailing.

- 11. Continuation from October 21, 2021 for coordination with Kara Failese, DPW Engineer, and for proper abutter notification. (146426) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Gore Street** – Southeasterly from Cambridge/Somerville City Line, to new traffic light control box, install approximately 94 feet of conduit (WO# 6044423).**

**Present:** Jaqueline “Jackie” Duffy, Susan Barroso and Hannah Cooper.

**Summary:** Plans changed, and going to the newly installed Eversource pole #3.

**Decision:** Granted with amendments as stated on the new plan and typical conditions.

- 12. New Petition (152325) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Lambert** - Southerly and westerly from MHC2818, approximately 152 feet south of **Gore Street**, to private property at **#3 Lambert Street**, install approximately 30 feet of conduit (WO# 5443861).**

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso.

**Summary:** For Cambridge Housing, they want to be energized by March 15.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

- 13. New Petition (152327) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Cambridge Street** - Northerly from MHC531, at First Street to private property at #124 Cambridge Street, install approximately 53 feet of conduit (WO# 6279594).**

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso.

**Summary:** This is for a traffic light control box. There is an existing conduit which has not been surveyed to see if it can be used.

**Decision:** Continue for further information and review and see if current conduit can be used.

- 14. New Petition (152332) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Broadway** - Northwesterly from MHC2718, near the intersection of **Broadway Terrace**, to install approximately 33 feet of conduit (WO# 2405801).**

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso.

**Summary:** New 200 amp service to feed 362 Broadway.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions and the additional condition that there must be full permanent sidewalk restoration.

- 15. New Petition (155829) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Western Avenue** – Southeasterly from manhole MH5, at **Western Ave and Howard Street**, to private property at **#210-212 Western Avenue**, install approximately 31 feet of conduit (WO#6572382).

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso.

**Summary:** This is for a restaurant with 4 residential units on top.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

- 16. New Petition (155837) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **First Street** – Northerly from manhole MHC727, East of **Spring Street**, to private property at **#60-68 First Street**, install approximately 37 feet of conduit (WO#4990607).

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso.

**Summary:** This is for the old Sears building which will now be a new lab, may be able to use existing conduit if not they will install a new conduit but within the same path.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

- 17. New Petition (155841) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Brattle Street** – Easterly from manhole MHC720, at **Fayerweather Street**, to customer handhole at **#179 Brattle Street**, install approximately 108 feet of conduit (WO#5108761).

**Present:** Jackie Duffy, Susan Barroso and Liz Toner.

**Summary:** Going to power telemetry cabinet provide service to new gas regulating station at Brattle. This is for the gas work, a new cabinet, regulating station, this will help it get powered. There will have to be coordination as there is an intent to replace the sewer line and need to coordinate with Jim Wilcox. There is an existing 3 inch conduit next to this that may be viable for use. Street light traffic control cabinet overhead feed, it needs to get repaired during this project too.

**Decision:** Continue for further coordination with DPW, allow petitioner to look at whether it can use existing conduit, and fix street light traffic control issue.

- 18. New Petition (155869) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **JFK Street** – Southwesterly from manhole MHC2804, approximately 173 feet southwest of **Massachusetts Avenue**, to private property at **#28 JFK Street**, install approximately 57 feet of conduit (WO#5518374).

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso.

**Summary:** New 1,600 amp service remodeling the building. JFK street is very dense and do not want the electrical to go over sewer main, therefore, test pits will need to be performed. An 8M permit is also required.

**Decision:** Continue to have test pits conducted and provided to DPW, and submission of 8M permit.

- 19. New Petition (155991) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Jacobs Street** – Northwesterly of manhole MH30065, southeast of **Child Street**, to private property at **#122R-32R Charlestown Avenue**, install approximately 153 feet of conduit (WO#PP02390855).

**Summary/Decision:** Matter withdrawn, private streets.

- 20. New Petition (156644) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Pine Street** – Westerly from Pole 548/2, approximately 95 feet north of **School Street**, install approximately 8 feet of conduit (WO#6848465).

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso.

**Summary:** New 200 amp service. Eversource has not contacted other utilities regarding joint trench.

**Decision:** Continue as common trench letter required.

- 21. New Petition (156645) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **River Street** – Southwesterly from MHC1726 at the intersection of **Jay Street**, to private property at **#170 River Street**, install approximately 135 feet of conduit and new manhole MHC1431 (WO#6859486).

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso. Jerry Friedman, DPW.

**Summary:** Submitted updated plans so that it is no longer in front of the Fire Dept. Jerry Friedman, DPW, if the conduits can be placed one over one, if possible and as far on the sidewalk. Part of River Street project, stacked over one and pushed as far on the sidewalk as possible. Eversource intends to do it that way –either on top or on the side of the conduits. DPW also has to be informed when the work is about to be done.

**Decision:** Granted as amended on the updated plans and with typical conditions and the additional condition that the conduits have to be stacked over one another and pushed as far on the sidewalk as possible.

- 22. New Petition (157365) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Otis Street** – Approximately 80 feet west of **Sciarappa Street**, westerly from manhole MHC1494, to manhole MHC603, install approximately 119 feet of conduit (WO#5912773).

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso.

**Summary:** Service upgrade for 99 Otis requested by the customer.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions and the additional conditions that there has to be permanent trench repair and meeting with City arborist prior to excavation.

- 23. New Petition (157367) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Third Street** – North of **Binney Street**, southerly from manhole MH2766, to manhole MH138, install approximately 15 feet of conduit (WO#6802883).

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso.

**Summary:** Fiber to 4KB station – new conduits.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

- 24. New Petition (157638) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Hamilton Street** – Approximately 245 feet northwest of **Brookline Street**, northwesterly from pole P320/10, to private property at **#143-147 Hamilton Street**, install approximately 55 feet of conduit (WO#6201910).

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso. Joy Somogyi, resident.

**Summary:** Overhead to underground a lot of windows being installed so the overhead would be an issue. DPW – has spoken to the general contractor who has stated that there is no utility work at this project, and need to have an agreement with restoration until further coordinate with the contractor. There also has not been a common trench notification. Joy Somogyi, resident, will be informed as to when the work will be performed even though there is no foreseen service disruption.

**Granted:** Continue to allow further coordination with General Contractor of project and to allow petitioner to send a common trench letter/notification.

- 25. New Petition (158939) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Prospect Street** – Southerly from the Cambridge/Somerville town line, to **Harvard Street**, install approximately 2465 feet of conduit and 7 new manholes: MHC31338, MHC31339, MHC31340, MHC31341, MHC31342, MHC31343, MHC31344.

**Harvard Street** – Easterly from **Prospect Street**, to **Portland Street**, install approximately 2774 feet of conduit and 8 new manholes: MHC31345, MHC31346, MHC31347, MHC31348, MHC31349, MHC31350, MHC31351, MHC31352.

**Portland Street** – Northerly from **Harvard Street**, to manhole MH2345 located south of Broadway, install approximately 333 feet of conduit (WO#4692306).

**Present:** Jackie Duffy, Susan Barroso, Henry Cobb, and Liz Toner. Residents: Jennifer Hogue; Jerry Friedman; Sanjiv Shah; and Jennifer.

**Summary:** This is part of mitigation project for East Cambridge area to support growth. Test pits information has not been provided and it is necessary. Residents inquired the extent of the work,




disruption, and questioned the necessity. The utility envisions trenching about 30-50 feet a day, the manhole installation about one week and there would be trenching in between. It is a large job so they would reach out via letter and phone calls when slated to start to get the community together. There has to be more review to ensure water main remains intact and further coordination with DPW.

**Decision:** Continue to perform test pits, and further coordination with DPW.


**26. Consideration of Meeting Minutes**      November 18, 2021.

**Decision:** Granted.

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NMF \_\_\_  \_\_\_

**Minutes Approved:** May 19, 2022

MM \_\_\_ MM/ 

**Minutes Posted:** May 19, 2022

TJS \_\_\_ TJS/ 