

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, March 17, 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.

Commission Members (All 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. Continuation from February 17, 2022, for further coordination and review. (162020) Crown Castle NG East, 1800 West Park Drive, Marlborough, MA 01581, for the following: **Brattle Street -** Crown Castle Fiber LLC is proposing to install a small cell installation (HSQ-001) at an existing Cambridge light pole location. The existing light pole will be replaced, and an antenna and equipment cabinet will be installed on the pole. Crown Castle is also proposing to install 2' of PVC to a proposed new hand hole from the existing pole location. Then from that proposed hand hole, Crown Castle is proposing to install 24' of PVC to EMH #C520.

Present: Paul Costa – City wanted to look at streetscaping.

Summary: There have been discussions with DPW on this project and engineering. It has also gone through Historical Commission review and approval.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

2. Continuation from February 17, 2022, for clarification and further review. (162121) Verizon New England, 385 Myles Standish Boulevard, Taunton, MA 02780, for the following: **Florence Street** - Verizon to replace 218' of defective conduit, from MH264 on **Magazine Street**, to Pole 2 on **Florence Street**.

Present: Ross Billodeau.

Summary: This was continued to update manhole location and poles which were listed on the wrong side. They want to go on the opposite side of the street – they want to rise on the pole that they are showing, not sure if to abandon the other conduit. However, it seems like the petition is to replace a defective conduit, although representative could not confirm one way or another at the hearing. There is no 8M permit uploaded (MWRA permit required to be able to excavate near their sewer). Verizon services are on opposite side of the street. There is also no information how they intend to feed other customers.

Decision: Continued – for further clarification from petitioner and/or its representatives.

3. Continuation from October 21, 2021, to review pole capacity and joint trench coordination. (145484) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Tremont Street** - Northwesterly from Pole 672/15, approximately 191 feet south of **Hampshire Street**, to private property at **41 Tremont Street**, install approximately 37 feet of conduit (WO# 4375178).

Present: Susan Barroso, Hannah Cooper, and Kelly Ann Correia.

Summary: Will request Verizon to replace this pole so there is more room. The common trench requirement in this case would be resolved by notifying only current attachees rather than the whole list. Petitioner understands coordination is needed with the attachees.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, and the additional condition that at least the current attachees are notified through common trench letter.

4. Continuation from October 21, 2021, for common trench coordination. (145487) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Florence Street** – Northeasterly from Pole 267/4, approximately 245 southeast of **Pleasant Street**, to private property at **19 Florence Street**, install approximately 39 feet of conduit (WO#6381259).

Present: Susan Barroso, Hannah Cooper, and Kelly Ann Correia.

Summary: Install conduit – also common trench coordination. This is a unique situation in residential areas, through legal they are working on as to the common trench, could give them grant of location with the same condition. Trying to minimize the issue.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, and the additional condition that at least the current attachees are notified through common trench letter.

5. Continuation from October 21, 2021, to review issues at Pole #11 and for proper abutter notification. (145664) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Elmwood Street** – Westerly thence northwesterly from Cambridge/Somerville Town Line, to private property at **95-99 Elmwood Street**, install 72 feet of conduit (WO#2336617).

Summary/Decision: Matter not heard as abutters were not notified.

6. Continuation from January 20, 2022, for clarification with Patrick Baxter of Traffic, Parking & Transportation. (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: Susan Barroso, Hannah Cooper, and Kelly Ann Correia.

Summary: Petitioners asked to continue or remove from agenda because First Street is going through highway. Traffic, Parking and Transportation is not ready for this project yet.

Decision: Denied.

7. Continuation from January 20, 2022, to see if existing conduit can be used. (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).

Summary/Decision: Withdrawn because Petitioner is able to use the existing conduit.

8. Continuation from January 20, 2022, for common trench letter to be sent to allow other utilities to join in the trench. (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: Susan Barroso, Hannah Cooper, and Kelly Ann Correia.

Summary: This will include the installation of 8 feet of conduit – same situation regarding the current attachees and need for common trench notification.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, and the additional condition that at least the current attachees are notified through common trench letter.

9. Continuation from January 20, 2022, for common trench letter to be sent to allow other utilities to join in the trench. (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: Susan Barroso, Hannah Cooper, and Kelly Ann Correia.

Summary: Same situation regarding the current attachees and need for common trench notification.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, and the additional condition that at least the current attachees are notified through common trench letter.

10. Continuation from February 17, 2022, for revised design/plan. (161266) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Hampshire Street** - Westerly from manhole MHC2499, on **Hampshire Street at Cambridge Street**, to private property at **#1407 Cambridge Street**, install approximately 11 feet of conduit.

Present: Susan Barroso, Hannah Cooper, and Kelly Ann Correia.

Summary: Updated plan uploaded showing one 3-inch conduit.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

11. Continuation from February 17, 2022, for further review. (161279) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Creighton Street** - Northeasterly from pole P183/12, approximately 620 feet southeast of **Massachusetts Avenue**, to private property at **#56 Creighton Street**, install approximately 6 feet of conduit (WO#7288102).

Present: Susan Barroso, Hannah Cooper, and Kelly Ann Correia.

Summary: Requesting Verizon to replace the pole as it is condemned. Same issue in terms of the common trench notification. No new attachments without old pole being removed.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, and the additional conditions that at least the current attachees are notified through common trench letter and no new attachments allowed without old pole being removed.

12. Continuation from February 17, 2022, for further explanation/detail. (161285) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Fulkerson Street** - Easterly from pole P509/18, approximately 100 feet north of **Charles Street**, to private property at **#259 Charles Street**, install approximately 10 feet of conduit (WO#7553909).

Present: Susan Barroso, Hannah Cooper, and Kelly Ann Correia. Robert Harris.

Summary: Spoke to Robert Harris, PADC construction (the gas trench in Kendall Square area); has had discussions with Jim Wilcox in DPW – the cabinet is going into the City green space – the City has no knowledge of the gas cabinet station. There is confusion and need further investigation. In addition, there is a need for a license/easement for the City property which is done through the City Solicitor's Office.

Decision: Continue – for further investigation and get information regarding the license/easement with the City.

13. Continuation from February 17, 2022, for more clarification. (161993) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Albany Street** - Southwesterly from manhole MHC24, approximately 560 feet southwest of **Main Street**, to private property at **#624 Main Street**, install approximately 91 feet of conduit.

Present: Susan Barroso, Hannah Cooper, and Kelly Ann Correia.

Summary: This is for Crown Castle for an antenna that is being relocated and petitioner is seeking to get approval for its conduit too.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and the additional condition that further coordination be continued with Crown Castle.

14. New Petition (164218) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Webster Avenue** - Easterly from pole P717/6, approximately 5 feet north of **Clark Street**, to private property at **#45 Webster Avenue**, install approximately 58 feet of conduit (WO#6536459).

Present: Susan Barroso, Hannah Cooper, and Kelly Ann Correia.

Summary: Eversource will request Verizon to replace the pole. Required to grind and overlay the trench and do sidewalk repair.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, and the additional condition that at least the current attachees are notified through common trench letter, and to grind and overlay the trench and do sidewalk repair.

15. New Petition (164694) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Cambridge Street** - Easterly from manhole MHC2440, approximately 70 feet north of **Dana Street**, to private property at **#1573 Cambridge Street**, install approximately 12 feet of conduit (WO#4274252).

Present: Susan Barroso, Hannah Cooper, and Kelly Ann Correia.

Summary: Installing new conduit. Permanent sidewalk repair must take place.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and additional condition that permanent sidewalk repair must take place.

16. New Petition (164695) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Walden Street** - Westerly thence northerly from pole P697/28, approximately 70 feet east of **Whittier Street**, to private property at **#121 Walden Street**, install approximately 90 feet of conduit (WO#6512469).

Present: Susan Barroso, Hannah Cooper, and Kelly Ann Correia.

Summary: Install conduit – new service. No construction permits. 3004 – manhole can that be utilized for new service rather than going through the pole. The manhole is full of water. If they can use the existing conduit they will.

Decision: Continue petition – there is no building permit and petitioner needs to figure out whether they can use existing conduits.

17. New Petition (164850) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Tremont Street** - Westerly from pole P672/9, approximately 111 feet south of **Gardner Road**, to private property at **#25 Tremont Street**, install approximately 39 feet of conduit (WO#6718817).

Present: Susan Barroso, Hannah Cooper, and Kelly Ann Correia.

Summary: This is for the two new buildings to supply both buildings, will ask Verizon to replace pole.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, and the additional conditions that at least the current attachees are notified through common trench letter and no new attachments without old pole being removed.

18. Eversource Energy - Greater Cambridge Energy Project Presentation

Present: Liz Toner, and Matt Watkins.

Summary: Presentation provided is attached hereto and made a part hereof. It is for a new underground substation in Kendall Square and to interconnect with other substations in Somerville and Allston. The attached shows the 2-year plan review (where we are now). If all proceeds as planned, it would be construction starting in 2024 and not completed until 2028. They are doing test pits throughout to figure out capability. GCEP result for interim solutions while this new project takes effect. The intent is to supply service that is commensurate with the daily growth within the City.

Decision: No vote necessary/taken.

19. Continuation from January 20, 2022, for further coordination and review. (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: Liz Toner. Resident Sanjiv Shah.

Summary: This is part of the greater structural allocation with the energy growth in the area. Moving forward happy to set up additional meetings to set up. This distribution is necessary. Concern – digging the street once to come back in a couple of years but the way that the distribution is done cannot use the same line for the types of service. A lot of outreach and routes looked at but has not seen any since. There are restoration requirement conditions for each street.

There has to be coordination with this project and other projects – Port infrastructure project. Where the streets are being restored curb to curb – similar to common trench to notify all utilities in the roadway to include it within the same time before the street are restored. Putnam Ave – had the same issue there. Expected Harvard Square work be proceeded by city water replacement scheduled for summer of 2022.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, the additional condition that common trench letters be sent prior to restoring of streets or sidewalks, and the additional repair conditions as follows:

- **Portland Street**- full curb to curb mill and overlay of road for limit of duct bank work.
- **Harvard Street from Portland Street to Windsor Street**- full curb to curb mill and overlay of road; full sidewalk replacement on the south side; spot sidewalk replacement on north side.
- **Harvard Street from Windsor Street to Prospect Street**- permanent trench patch per DPW specification for road; repair of any sidewalks affected by duct bank work.
- **Prospect Street from Harvard Street to Somerville line** - full curb to curb mill and overlay of road; spot sidewalk replacement on east and west sides.

DPW will review details with Eversource at the time of excavation permit application for duct bank.

20. Denial of Extenet Tolled Petitions (54618), (54620), (54621), (54622), (54623), (53817), (53880), (53891), (53900), (53794), (55533), (55531), (55530), (55515), (55510), (55492), (55489), (55486), (55466), (55428), (55425).


Present: No one appeared.

Summary: Applications not completed in accordance with the Commission’s policies.


Decision: Denied.

21. Approval of Meeting Minutes February 17, 2022.

Decision: Approved (2-0, Chair Murati Ferrer took no vote on the matter).

NMF 

Minutes Approved: May 19, 2022

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Minutes Posted: May 19, 2022

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