

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 MINUTES

Thursday, July 20, 2023, at 9:00 A.M.

By Remote Participation Via Zoom

This meeting was held remotely in accordance with Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023 adopted by Massachusetts General Court and approved by the Governor.

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

License Commission Staff Present: Cristina Casilli, Administrative Assistant.

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, unless otherwise indicated. 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 (231271) - Cambridge Electrical Department, 250 Fresh Pond Parkway Cambridge MA 02138, for the following: Binney Street - As mitigation for the site development at 325 Binney Street, roadway reconstruction will be performed along Binney Street between Grand Junction Railroad and Fulkerson Street. The existing cobra head streetlights will be replaced with a combination of City standard "1907" and "Selux Saturn" streetlights.

Beginning at the southwest corner of the intersection of Binney Street at Galileo Galilei Way and Fulkerson Street, approximately 318 feet of (1) 4-inch PVC conduit concrete encased duct bank will be installed on the south side of Binney Street connecting 5 pull boxes.

A temporary service connection will be provided at an existing street lighting handhole on the south side of Binney Street. A 2-inch PVC conduit will connect each new light pole to the proposed pull boxes. Existing cobra head streetlights on the north side of Binney Street will be replaced in conjunction with the site work for 325 Binney Street under Pole and Conduit Permit #207070.

Present: Robert Cahoon.

Summary: As part of the mitigation for site work at 325 Binney Street and Fulkerson (being reconstructed) it will include sidewalk and curb reconstruction to include bike lane. As a result, the lanes will be shifted. Roadway fully reconstructed for the shift and assignment and new lights will be

installed and updated for style and content. There will need to be continued coordination with Electrical to ensure no interruption of electrical service for pedestrian and vehicular safety.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and additional condition of continued coordination with Electrical Department.

2. New Petition (231272) - Cambridge Traffic, Parking and Transportation Department, 344 Broadway Cambridge MA 02139, for the following: Binney Street - Install a pair of Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacons (RRFBs) at the proposed Grand Junction Path Crossing on Binney Street. Beginning at an electrical manhole on the south side of Binney Street approximately 58 feet east of Grand Junction Railroad Crossing, approximately 70 feet of 3-inch schedule 80, type NM traffic signal conduit will be installed beneath the southerly sidewalk and across Binney Street to provide electrical service to the RRFB system. Sections of traffic signal conduit within the roadway shall be encased in concrete. At the intersection of Binney Street, Fulkerson Street and Galileo Galilei Way, minor traffic signal modifications are required to accommodate the shift of Binney Street to the north to provide sidewalk level bike lanes. At the northwest corner of the intersection, approximately 32 feet of 3-inch schedule 80, type NM traffic signal conduit are required to relocate a post mounted traffic/pedestrian signal to accommodate a corner rounding to facilitate turning movements and install (2) new 8-foot traffic signal posts. At the northeast corner of the intersection, approximately 5 feet of 3-inch schedule 80, type NM traffic signal conduit will be installed from an existing traffic signal pull box to a new 10-foot traffic signal post. Traffic signal conduit located within the roadway shall be encased in concrete.

Present: Robert Cahoon.

Summary: In conjunction with the previous petition for reconstruction of Binney Path and Grand Junction railroad. The geometric changes require the traffic signal improvements; this portion will be on hold until other work is completed. On Binney Street with new crosswalk and tracks, the Eversource workorder would be coordinated by the contractor. The work order needs to be provided, so that the handhold being proposed is the one that they should use. The meter socket would be on the post. It is not a utility post so it can be a meter socket (although there was information that it may be a flat rate).

Decision: Continue until an Eversource work order is provided.

3. New petition (229793) - Cambridge Network Solutions, 100 Quannapowitt Pkwy, Wakefield, MA 01880, for the following: Memorial Drive - Cambridge Network Solutions requests to complete a manhole breakout from Eversource structure 1309 on Blackstone Street located in the sidewalk and install approximately 62 feet of (1) 4-inch PVC conduit to 840 Memorial Drive and install proposed 3'X3' CNS manhole. Install approximately 60 feet of (1) 4-inch PVC conduit from proposed CNS MH to the point of entry at rear of 840 Memorial Drive. CNS also requests permission to lease an inch and a quarter space within the existing Eversource underground power conduit from MH 1226 on Pacific Street along Brookline-Allston-Pleasant-Putnam-River and Blackstone Street.

Present: Jeff Harrington.

Summary: Proposing this to feed a new customer at 40 Memorial Drive. They intent is to use as much existing conduit as possible, which is what they have proposed but need new one too. MWRA

sewer line is there so 8M permit is required. Permanent sidewalk restoration to the driveway. Excavating behind a street tree, need to coordinate with the City arborist. Existing space in the Crown Castle conduit but they will not license it. The property is asking to use the handhold. Potentially want to upgrade it.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, and additional conditions that: 8M permit is required; permanent sidewalk restoration to the driveway; and coordination with City arborist.

4. New petition (225219) - Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127, for the following: Thorndike Street - Starting at existing Comcast manhole on Second Street at the intersection with Thorndike Street, trench southerly 23 feet, then westerly 59 feet, then southerly 27 feet to the private property line of 40 Thorndike Street, installing (2) 4-inch PVC conduits.

Present: Anthony Vatalaro and Bill Conway, Comcast. Jeff Harrington, CNS.

Summary: For 40 Thorndike, building is being renovated. Place one 4 inch for Comcast, one for the City shadow. CNS needs to do another section of work. They could take space from the City shadow. Time is of the essence in preparation of the paving. CNS is working to get the petition ready so it can be heard next month since they do not want to delay the project. When Comcast submitted petition they informed the Commission that CNS wanted to join in on the trench.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

5. New petition (231089) - Crown Castle, 1800 West Park Drive, Westborough, MA 01581, for the following: Binney Street - Crown Caste is proposing to place cable, approximately 557 feet of 4-inch conduit on Fulkerson Street. One section - at the Fulkerson Street and Bent Street intersection from Level 3 manhole #0515-003 to private telephone manhole #2, to 325 Binney Street and second section - on Fulkerson Street going into Galileo Galilei Way, from Level 3 manhole #0515-2900 to private telephone manhole #1 to 325 Binney Street.

Present: Ana Semashka.

Summary: No digging involved it is just cable placement, as part of a joint petition for Level 3 a few years ago.

Decision: Granted.

6. New petition (231091) - Crown Castle, 1800 West Park Drive, Westborough, MA 01581, for the following: Main Street - New conduit and cable placement from Crown Castle's existing HH on the rear of 600 Main Street to 600 Main Street, approximately 46 feet.

Present: Ana Semashka.

Summary: Contractor scope for project for Mass General Hospital. The work will happen inside an existing site. There was no alternative route. The common trench was sent and have received no responses.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

7. New petition (227737) - Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Pearl Street - Westerly from pole 538/38, approximately 100 feet northeast of Hamilton Street to private property, install approximately 38 feet of conduit.

Present: Phyllis Galloway.

Summary: Necessary electric new service for 205 Pearl Street. Developer owes sidewalk restoration. No common trench response.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

8. New petition (229351) - Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Rindge Avenue and Massachusetts Avenue
Rindge Avenue - Easterly at the intersection of Alewife Brook Parkway, install approximately 1054 feet of conduit from MHC2828 to MHC2833 via MHC2829, MHC2830, MHC2831 and MHC2832.
Rindge Avenue - Easterly at Sherman Street, install approximately 1126 feet of conduit from MHC3323 to MHC3704 via MHC3324, MHC3325, MHC3405 and MHC3404.
Massachusetts Avenue - Southeasterly, thence turning and running northeasterly from MHC3577, approximately 100 feet southeast of Alberta Terrace, install approximately 190 feet of conduit to property line.

Present: Phyllis Galloway.

Summary: Electric service for MBTA battery bus project. First time the City has been shown this and the scope is significant. Need more time to review. Need to consider Jackson Place project, and considerations will need to be made.

Decision: Continued to allow additional time to review and also have Eversource review the plans in consideration of the Jackson Place project and determine whether modifications need to be made to this petition.

9. Consideration of Meeting Minutes June 15, 2023.

Decision: Approved.

NMF ___  ___

Minutes Approved: August 24, 2023

MM ___ MM/ 

Minutes Posted: August 24, 2023

TJS ___ TJS/ 