

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, November 20, 2025

By Remote Participation Via Zoom

*This meeting was held remotely in accordance with Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025 adopted by Massachusetts General Court and approved by the Governor.*

**Commission Members:** Nicole Murati Ferrer (absent), Mark Melo (present), and Terrence James Shea (present).

**License Commission Staff Present:** Cristina Casilli, Administrative Assistant; and Kris Foster, Executive Officer.

**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 2-0, 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. Crown Castle** requesting an extension to complete the work on the following sites/grants of location #1156110 (Bristol Street, Charles Street, Flag Street, Essex Street)

**Present:** Sarah Feely.

**Summary:** [second call] This extension was requested because Crown Castle has been having trouble receiving equipment from its manufacturer. They will likely be able to get all projects completed by the end of March, but none of the projects have been started or finished yet. The work will include equipment upgrades, antenna changes, and adding small converter boxes.

The Commission discussed Crown Castle's request for four months, when the Commission usually only grants 90-day extensions. Crown Castle explained that they cannot guarantee all equipment will be received from their manufacturers within that time frame. The Commission agreed to grant a four-month extension.

**Decision:** Granted.

**2. Reconsideration of the 6-month extension to complete the work on the following sites/grants of location #256377 (Otis Street) for ExteNet Systems, LLC**

**Present:** Liz Kelleher.

**Summary:** ExteNet Systems apologized for not responding to Commission staff as they were waiting on confirmation on the site from the customer; the customer decided not to proceed with the Otis Street location. The grant of location was issued and will be revoked. ExteNet will need to remove the equipment that is currently in place and will restore the location back to its original condition. The Commission informed ExteNet they will need a Department of Public Works (“DPW”) excavation permit. Verizon has started the restoration work and will work with DPW.

The application will be closed in the online portal.

**Decision:** Grant of location revoked.

**3. New petition (1187423) Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston MA 02127, for the following: Mellen Street – Comcast proposed to excavate +/- 55 feet southerly in the public way from existing utility pole #4 on Mellen Street to the property line of 4 Mellen Street, installing (1) 4-inch conduit. This is for a new service connection.**

**Present:** Shane Flewelling.

**Summary:** This application will install one four-inch conduit for a new building being constructed, going 55 feet from an existing utility pole to 4 Mellen Street.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

**4. Continuation from October 23, 2025, to investigate whether to investigate whether excavation is necessary or whether existing conduit can be used, and to address the issue of the poles’ safety (1184338) – FirstLight Fiber Inc., 12 Metro Park Road, Albany NY 12205, for the following: Concord Avenue at Moulton Street – Starting at existing utility pole #4 on Moulton Street, trench +/- 644 feet southerly to existing Verizon MH #26/566 on Concord Avenue, installing (1) 4-inch PVC conduits and (2) 3’x3’ FirstLight manholes on Moulton Street.**

**Present:** Ryan Kunst.

**Summary:** The applicant has submitted a revised drawing. They have revised and shortened the distance to the first pole in line. They looked into digging the pole, but the pole is littered with existing risers so there is no space to add to that pole.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions and additional conditions of: sidewalk restoration; mill and overlay half of Moulton Street; and permanent trench restoration on Concord Avenue.

**5. Continuation from October 23, 2025, to have petitioner submit design plan (1184651) – Eversource Energy**, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville MA 02143, for the following: Brattle Street – Southwesterly from manhole (MH2143), approximately 83 feet southwest of Kenney Road, to private property at #165 Brattle Street, install approximately 130 feet of conduit.

**Present:** Phyllis Galloway.

**Summary:** This application is to provide electric service to 165 Brattle Street. It is a service upgrade at the customer's request. DPW requests mill and overlay.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions and additional condition of mill and overlay within bike lane in disturbed areas.

**6. New petition (1186307) Eversource Energy**, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville MA 02143, for the following – Hayes Street – Westerly from Pole #377/22, at Hayes Street and Howard Street, to private property at #54 Hayes Street, install approximately 104 feet of conduit.

**Present:** Phyllis Galloway.

**Summary:** This application would provide new electric service at customer request to a new nine-unit condominium building.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

**7. New petition (1189121) Eversource Energy**, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville MA 02143, for the following – Matignon Road – Northerly from manhole (MHC2815), northeast Muller Avenue to private property at #39 Matignon Road, install approximately 236 feet of conduit.

**Present:** Phyllis Galloway.

**Summary:** This application will provide electric service to 1 Matignon Road, a school, for new service at the customer's request.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions and additional condition of mill and overlay on Churchill Street and Matignon Road.

**8. Consideration of Meeting Minutes – October 23, 2025**

**Decision:** Minutes not prepared; no vote.

**Matters Considered at Meeting – Not Previously Posted on the Agenda**

*Unless otherwise indicated, the below listed matter was considered and voted upon by the Commission without public testimony. The summary of what is considered is the identifying information of the matter as listed herein.*

**9. Commission Discussion.** The Commission discussed double-poles and that Comcast, Eversource, Verizon, and Crown Castle are working together to remove double poles.

**Summary:** Eversource will be setting all poles in the city and will help the Commission to get double poles down. Verizon will still replace poles if they're the only ones on them; otherwise, Eversource is responsible.

**Decision:** No vote.

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**Minutes Approved:** January 22, 2026

MM \_\_\_ MM/ 

**Minutes Posted:** January 22, 2026

TJS \_\_\_ TJS/ 