

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 [AMENDED]¹ MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 9:00 A.M.

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 (present), 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: 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. Cornerstone Energy Inc., on behalf of Eversource Energy, requesting an extension to complete the work related to the Greater Cambridge Energy Program on the following sites/grants of location #288443 Third Street, #288441 Vassar Street, #288448 Cambridge Street, #288439 Ames Street and #288446 Broadway and Third Street.

Present: Rick Branca. Heather Hoffman, resident.

Summary: Greater Cambridge Energy Program is expected to last another six years, and they need further access to the streets. Therefore, they are requesting an extension for the remainder of the project – six years. The Commission discussed how that is not possible due to other considerations, such as road paving and access. The work has been coordinated with the Department of Public Works. Hoffman wanted to know the impact, particularly on Third Street since it had gotten very inconvenient for pedestrians and now it is better. Branca explained the transmission lines have on Third Street, which is what made the pedestrian zig zag pattern, has been completed and there should not be any further pedestrian impact on that section.

¹ Amended to correct Chair Murati Ferrer was present, and all votes were 3-0, unless otherwise stated.

Decision: Granted a one (1) year extension.

2. Consideration of revocation of grants of location for **ExteNet**'s following sites/petitions #263244 First Street, #252850 Cambridge Street, #244858 Windsor Street and #252857 Washington Street.

Present: Liz Kelleher.

Summary: They explained the only extension they need is for Washington Street as they have heard from the customer that they no longer want to pursue the other locations. The Commission raised the issue of how difficult it is to obtain responses from ExteNet and how even the information they provide is contradictory to the reality. For example, ExteNet stated that the Washington Street installation was completed, but the Commission confirmed the only thing that has been installed is a meter cabinet, which is not allowed per Commission policy. In addition, the Commission explained frustration on how these petitions seem to be a work around the "no saving space" prohibition of the Small Cell Policy. Kelleher stated they would get more information and expressed understanding at the Commission's frustration with the manner in which they have been operating. Commission staff explained that there are two Verizon petitions linked to the First and Cambridge locations and Kelleher noted they did not even know the petitions had proceeded as far as they had. Kelleher agreed a one month extension as to the Washington location was reasonable.

Decision: Revoked: Petition #263244 First Street, including the corresponding Verizon Petition #258904; Petition #252850 Cambridge Street, including the corresponding Verizon Petition #258918; and Petition #244858 Windsor Street. Granted a one (1) month extension for Petition #252857, with the condition that the meter must be removed and small cell installed within this period, otherwise the Petition will be revoked.

3. **Eversource** request for an extension to complete the work on the following site/grants of location #1151706 and #183837 - Western Avenue.

Present: Phyllis Galloway and Jeffrey Evans-Mongeon.

Summary: Evans-Mongeon expressed they have had contractor and vendor issues at this location which is why the work has not been completed. They further explained the vendor dispute is related to a different project and it had not been released but now everything seems to be resolved. They seek electric service to cabinet (15 feet of conduit). It is expected that the project completed by end of October.

Decision: Granted extension through November 2, 2026.

4. **Continuation from January 22, 2026 to get more information as to why the requested number of conduits (1190746) - Verizon New England**, 125 Lundquist Drive Braintree, MA 02184, for the following: Broadway - Verizon to place 80 feet of conduit from existing manhole, MH26/84, to the property line at 75 Broadway.

Summary/Decision: Moved to April meeting.

5. **New petition (1200054) - Comcast**, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127, for the following: Camp Street - On the northwest side of Camp Street, +/- 148 feet from Fair Oaks Street, mount (1) new 36.8" x 24.3" x 16" Comcast power supply unit to utility pole #4 to enhance existing Comcast equipment. This is essential to the Comcast network to avoid customer outages and maintain a fluid network as it expands throughout Cambridge.

Present: Shane Flewelling.

Summary: New Comcast power supply due to the increasing power needed on equipment upgrade around the City. The cabinets are compliant in terms of size with the dimensions of those on the Small Cell Policy.

Decision: Granted with the conditions that the cabinet is to be painted the same color of the pole and the emergency contact information should be on the cabinet.

6. **Consideration of Meeting Minutes** - March 5, 2026.

Decision: Approved.

NMF ___  ___

Original Minutes Approved: April 16, 2026

MM ___ MM/ 

Original Minutes Posted: April 16, 2026

TJS ___ TJS/ 

Amended Minutes Approved: June 18, 2026

Amended Minutes Posted: June 18, 2026