

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, September 17, 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 (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 (1227884) - Cambridge Public Health Department**, 119 Windsor Street, Cambridge, MA 02139, for the following: Rindge Avenue - Installation of an air quality monitor with solar panel.

Summary/Decision: No vote, moved to next agenda.

2. **New petition (1228983) - Zayo Group**, 1805 29th Street, Boulder, CO 80301, for the following: Bent Street - Starting at existing level 3 MH #0515-0020 on Bent Street, place +/-305 feet of fiber optic cable in existing conduit to level 3 MH #0515-0001 on Bent Street. The cable will terminate inside the building at 300 Bent Street.

Present: Christopher Cremers.

Summary: Place cable from 300 Bent to an existing manhole.

Decision: Granted.

3. **New petition (1226611) - Eversource Energy**, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Fairmont Street - Northwesterly, thence turning and running northeasterly, approximately

228 feet northwest of Magazine Street, install approximately 34 feet of conduit from pole 247/5 to private property at #15 Fairmont Street.

Present: Phyllis Galloway.

Summary: Customer at #15 Fairmont Street requesting new service for a new 4 story building with 9 condominiums; the existing structure was demolished.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

4. **New petition (1227855) - Eversource Energy**, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Griswold Street - Easterly side, approximately 97 feet northeast of Concord Avenue, install one (1) new pole (317/2).

Present: Phyllis Galloway.

Summary: This is for the installation of one new pole to provide electric service. There will be 1 to 4 overhead line extensions. This is for a new residential redevelopment for 4 units. There is no excavation.

Decision: Granted with the condition that the pole installation must comply with ADA regulations.

5. **New petition (1227029) - Eversource Energy**, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Blanchard Road - Easterly, approximately 1260 feet south of Concord Avenue, install approximately 2 feet of conduit from pole 78/17 to private property at #7 Blanchard Road.

Present: Phyllis Galloway.

Summary: This is to provide new service to #7 Blanchard. It is a new construction of a 3,000 sq. ft. home.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and the additional condition of permanent sidewalk repair.

6. **New petition (1228119) - Eversource Energy**, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Mount Auburn Street - Southeasterly, opposite Lowell Street, install approximately 10 feet of conduit from MHC2273 to control cabinet via new handhole. Install one (1) new handhole.

Summary/Decision: No vote, moved to next agenda.

[Note: Items listed in 7-12 were called together in pairs.]

7. **New petition (1227904) - Arium Networks**, 2000 Corporate Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317, for the following: Columbia Street - Proposing to install one new 13" x 24" x 24" communications handhole and stub out two 4-inch PVC conduits about 1 foot from the handhole to the curb on Columbia Street. Verizon Wireless will place conduit for their connections under their petition 1215149. These

conduits will feed the existing small cell equipment that is attached to the streetlight pole approved under GOL 258864.

Present: Lauren Berg and Erica Sweers, Arium Networks; and Alexander Marrero, Verizon.

Summary: The Arium handhold will house communications cables. They will be stubbing out two PVC conduits and the power connection will be fed through the existing manhole. They are leaving a spare coming out to the manhole that will end at curb.

Verizon will be taking it from the stub and about 5 feet to curb. They will tie to the duct bank by exposing one and splitting it to meet the stub coming out of the new manhole. In this case they are only placing one 4 inch conduit. The other conduit will remain stubbed and as spared for any future connection.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and additional condition of permanent street and sidewalk repairs.

8. **New petition (1215149) - Verizon New England**, 125 Lundquist Drive Braintree, MA 02184, for the following: Columbia Street - Verizon to place five (5') feet of conduit from existing conduit to a future conduit stub on Columbia Street, at the side of 401 Massachusetts Avenue.

Present: Lauren Berg and Erica Sweers, Arium Networks; and Alexander Marrero, Verizon.

Summary: The Arium handhold will house communications cables. They will be stubbing out two PVC conduits and the power connection will be fed through the existing manhole. They are leaving a spare coming out to the manhole that will end at curb.

Verizon will be taking it from the stub and about 5 feet to curb. They will tie to the duct bank by exposing one and splitting it to meet the stub coming out of the new manhole. In this case they are only placing one 4 inch conduit. The other conduit will remain stubbed and as spared for any future connection.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and additional condition of permanent street and sidewalk repairs.

9. **New petition (1228057) - Arium Networks**, 2000 Corporate Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317, for the following: Everett Street - Proposing to install a new 13" x 24" x 24" communications handhole, connecting to the existing Crown Castle handhole with 1 LF of 1-1/2" PVC conduit, and install dual 4-inch PVC stub conduits to the curb on Everett Street. Verizon Wireless will place conduit for their connections under their petition 1215138.

Present: Lauren Berg and Erica Sweers, Arium Networks; and Alexander Marrero, Verizon.

Summary: There is an existing handhold and Arium is proposing to install a new one separating out the communication cables. There will be one foot of linear fiber and at least 2 PVC stub conduits.

Verizon would connect from the stub and towards Pole 13. In this case, they will be placing the two conduits and the new proposed pathway is between the street and sidewalk (on the dirt so do not expect any disturbance to the sidewalk or the road). Verizon confirmed they did a survey for Pole 13 and found only one electric riser on the field side of the pole and no existing communications risers at that pole. However, Commissioner Melo noted there were three electric conduits on the Pole and one City. Two additional conduits would be too much and will encroach on the 25% clearance that must remain on poles. A possible solution could be that Verizon place a handhold, which may resolve the issue and share depth.

Decision: Continued to allow Verizon to investigate alternate options of connection.

- 10. New petition (1215138) - Verizon New England**, 125 Lundquist Drive Braintree, MA 02184, for the following: Everett Street - Verizon to place sixty (60') feet of conduit from existing pole, P244/13, to a future conduit stub at the side of 11-19 Oxford Street, on Everett Street.

Present: Lauren Berg and Erica Sweers, Arium Networks; and Alexander Marrero, Verizon.

Summary: There is an existing handhold and Arium is proposing to install a new one separating out the communication cables. There will be one foot of linear fiber and at least 2 PVC stub conduits.

Verizon would connect from the stub and towards Pole 13. In this case, they will be placing the two conduits and the new proposed pathway is between the street and sidewalk (on the dirt so do not expect any disturbance to the sidewalk or the road). Verizon confirmed they did a survey for Pole 13 and found only one electric riser on the field side of the pole and no existing communications risers at that pole. However, Commissioner Melo noted there were three electric conduits on the Pole and one City. Two additional conduits would be too much and will encroach on the 25% clearance that must remain on poles. A possible solution could be that Verizon place a handhold, which may resolve the issue and share depth.

Decision: Continued to allow Verizon to investigate alternate options of connection.

- 11. New petition (1228056) - Arium Networks**, 2000 Corporate Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317, for the following: Amherst Street - Proposing a replacement of existing handhole with a new 24" x 36" shared handhole and installation of 6 LF of (2) 4-inch PVC stub conduits to the curb, including sidewalk excavation and restoration on Amherst Street. Verizon Wireless will place conduit for their connections under their petition 1215129. These conduits will feed the existing small cell equipment that is attached to the streetlight pole approved under GOL 273661.

Present: Lauren Berg and Erica Sweers, Arium Networks; and Alexander Marrero, Verizon.

Summary: Arium wants to place a larger handhold so that it will support communications and electric. They would have 6 linear feet of two PVC conduits to make connections.

Verizon would connect to the new stubs and run approximately 14 feet of two PVC conduits that will go to the existing manhole.

The Commission raised the issued that the pole on Wadsworth Street (on the Main Street end) still has an Arium base on it with cones for an installation that had to be removed and relocated due to non-compliance. In addition, the restoration of that installation has not been completed.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and additional conditions of street and sidewalk restoration, and the base and cones on the Wadsworth Street pole must be removed and the restoration completed.

- 12. New petition (1215129) - Verizon New England**, 125 Lundquist Drive Braintree, MA 02184, for the following: Amherst Street - Verizon to place fourteen (14') feet of conduit from existing manhole, MH26/535, to a future conduit stub at the corner of Amherst Street and Wadsworth Street.

Present: Lauren Berg and Erica Sweers, Arium Networks; and Alexander Marrero, Verizon.

Summary: Arium wants to place a larger handhold so that it will support communications and electric. They would have 6 linear feet of two PVC conduits to make connections.

Verizon would connect to the new stubs and run approximately 14 feet of two PVC conduits that will go to the existing manhole.

The Commission raised the issued that the pole on Wadsworth Street (on the Main Street end) still has an Arium base on it with cones for an installation that had to be removed and relocated due to non-compliance. In addition, the restoration of that installation has not been completed.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and the additional condition of street and sidewalk restoration.

- 13. Consideration of Meeting Minutes** - August 20, 2026.

Decision: Approved.

Additional Matters Considered – Not Previously Posted on the Agenda

- 14. Continuation from August 20, 2026 - Tolling Agreement entered while Arium Networks confirms there is existing conduit and fiber to feed the installation (1224223) - Arium Networks LLC**, 2000 Corporate Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317, for the following: Tremont Street - Proposing to install a new small cell wireless telecommunications facility on an existing utility pole. Work will include attaching a cannister antenna (24" x 14.6") mounted approximately at 24'-10" AGL and attaching the shroud cabinet (70" x 22" x 23") mounted approximately at 15'-10".

Present: Lauren Berg and Erica Sweers, Arium Networks.

Summary: Confirmed Arium has existing fiber that can feed the installation and no additional connections are required. The installation complies with the Small Cell Policy and there is no excavation.

Decision: Granted.

NMF 

Minutes Approved: October 15, 2026

MM MM/ 

Minutes Posted: October 15, 2026

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