

City of Cambridge South Mass. Avenue Corridor Safety Improvements Guide Fall 2018

Lafayette Square to the Charles River (from Sidney Street to Memorial Drive)



POLICIES & GOALS

In 2016 the Cambridge City Council adopted a [Vision Zero](#) policy, with a goal of eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries, as well as a [Complete Streets Policy](#), committing to enabling people of all ages and abilities to travel safely and comfortably by sustainable transportation modes. Aligned with these commitments, the City is undertaking this project to improve safety and support active and sustainable transportation. Project goals are to:

- ✓ Address safety issues and reduce crashes - Vision Zero
- ✓ Reduce transit delays
- ✓ Enable/encourage people of all ages and abilities to choose sustainable transportation

COMMUNITY PROCESS

The South Mass. Avenue Improvement project has undergone an extensive community process including four stakeholder advisory committee meetings, three community meetings, several tabling/street team events at various community locations, including the Cambridge Senior Center/senior housing and at public events, and individual outreach to corridor businesses and other stakeholders.

PROJECT ELEMENTS

The project will be accomplished mostly through “quick build” methods, utilizing pavements markings, signs, traffic signal changes, and flexible delineators. Design elements include:

- New crosswalk on Mass. Ave. at Windsor St. with Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon
- Transit priority lanes toward Memorial Dr.
- Separate turn lanes for vehicles
- Protected signal phases for cyclists and pedestrians
- New Loading zones and ADA-designated parking spaces
- Separated bicycle lanes
- New pick up-/drop off zones at MIT

PROJECT BENEFITS



PEOPLE WALKING

- ✓ Additional crosswalk in corridor with Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB)
- ✓ Pedestrian safety improved through:
 - Turn Lanes
 - Crossings without vehicle conflicts
- ✓ People less likely to use sidewalks for bicycling



PEOPLE BIKING

- ✓ Bicyclist safety improved through:
 - Separated lanes
 - Separated turning movements
 - Bicycle Signals
- ✓ Level of comfort increased
 - Supports all ages and abilities goal



PEOPLE DRIVING

- ✓ Separate turn lanes to wait in
- ✓ Additional loading zones
- ✓ New drop-off/pick-up locations
- ✓ Accessible parking spaces improved
- ✓ On-street parking maintained near retail



PEOPLE RIDING TRANSIT/BUSES

- ✓ Bus priority lanes in south/east direction
- ✓ Serves all bus transit, including MBTA buses and shuttle services
- ✓ Bus stop consolidation at one location

OTHER BENEFITS

- ✓ Tour bus parking location off Mass. Ave
- ✓ Food truck location maintained

Contact Information

If you have questions about this project, please contact:

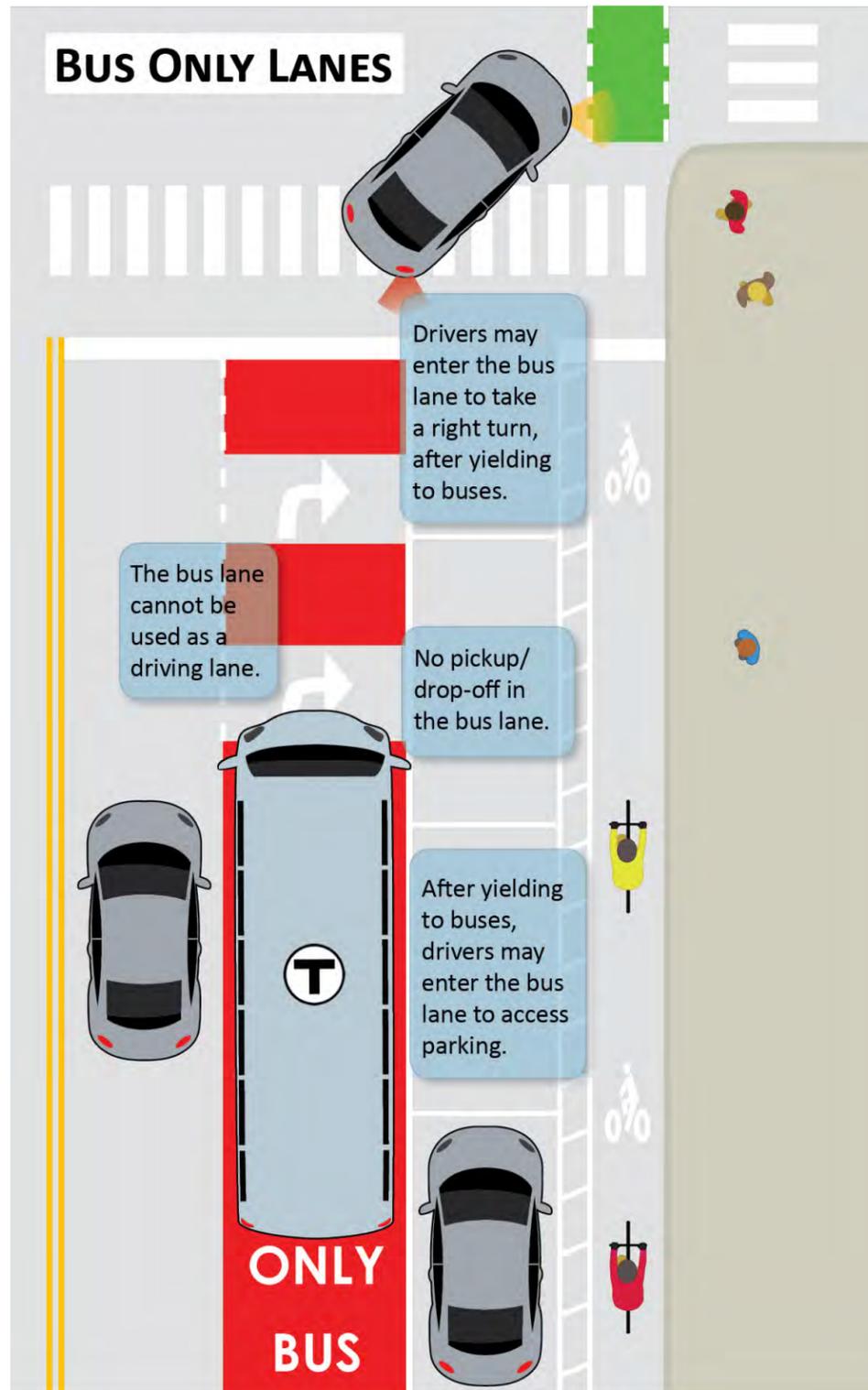
Bill Deignan, Community Development, at 617.349.4632, wdeignan@cambridgema.gov, or **Chris Balerna, Project Manager** at 617.498.4710, community.cambridge@kleinfelder.com.

Project Website:

<http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/Projects/Transportation/southmassavecorridorsafetyimprovementsproject>



User's Guide



PEOPLE WALKING

- Be mindful of the flow of traffic and, where available, use the crosswalk and wait for the pedestrian signal.
- Look for cyclists before stepping into the separated bike lane to cross the street.



PEOPLE BIKING

- Look for and yield to pedestrians at crossings.
- Be respectful of slower cyclists; don't make dangerous passes.
- Watch for turning vehicles at intersections.
- Bikes and buses must share bus stop zones. Watch for buses pulling over to the curb, and do not pass buses on the right side.



PEOPLE USING PUBLIC TRANSIT

- There will be new segments of red bus only lanes on the corridor.
- Cyclists will now be biking against the curb. Stand back from the curb while waiting for the bus.
- Buses will still pull all the way to the curb at stops.



PEOPLE DRIVING

- Do not drive in the red bus only lanes. Drivers may enter the bus lane at intersections to turn right, after yielding to oncoming buses.
- When turning, yield to cyclists in the separated bike lane and pedestrians in the crosswalk.
- Street parking in most locations has been moved out from the curb. Do not park in the separated bike lane or bus lane. If parking is located across the bus lane, yield to oncoming buses before entering the bus lane to park.

