

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 15, 2022, at 10:00 A.M.

By Remote Participation Via Zoom

This meeting was held remotely in accordance with Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022 signed into law on July 16, 2022.

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

License Commission Staff Present: Dana Clarke, Administrative Assistant.

Advisor: Stephen Lenkauskas, Retired City Electrician.

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 (192451) Department of Public Works, 147 Hampshire Street, Cambridge, MA 02139, for the following: 114 Pemberton Street - Installation of 2" conduit in sidewalk to power electric vehicle charging station. One sidewalk panel to be removed and replaced.

Present: Penny Antonoglou.

Summary: Proposing to install an electric vehicle charging station at the baseball field. Need conduit to power the charging station.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, sidewalk restoration and electrical vehicle charging station conditions:

- 1) Permanent sidewalk/public way restoration required within area where charging station is installed. Restoration must be ADA compliant.
- 2) Installation must be compliant with the National Electrical Code.

- 3) Must obtain Electrical Department Utility Permit, Department of Public Works Permit, and Electrical Permit from Inspectional Services Department, comply with any provisions therein, and be subject to a wiring inspection.
- 4) Must pay sidewalk preservation off-set fee.
- 5) Must coordinate site visit with DPW.
- 6) Must commence work within sixty (60) days of the grant and complete within six (6) months of the date of the approval.
- 7) Must comply with any amendment City agencies make to the issued permits after the Acceptance Without Reservations is filed.

2. New Petition (192729) Department of Public Works, 147 Hampshire Street, Cambridge, MA 02139, for the following: 225 Upland Road - Installation of approximately 6 feet of 2" conduit in sidewalk to power electric vehicle charging station. One sidewalk panel to be removed and replaced.

Present: Penny Antonoglou

Summary: Proposing to install conduit to power an electrical vehicle charging station. Need conduit to power the electrical vehicle charging station

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, sidewalk restoration and electrical vehicle charging station conditions:

- 1) Permanent sidewalk/public way restoration required within area where charging station is installed. Restoration must be ADA compliant.
- 2) Installation must be compliant with the National Electrical Code.
- 3) Must obtain Electrical Department Utility Permit, Department of Public Works Permit, and Electrical Permit from Inspectional Services Department, comply with any provisions therein, and be subject to a wiring inspection.
- 4) Must pay sidewalk preservation off-set fee.
- 5) Must coordinate site visit with DPW.
- 6) Must commence work within sixty (60) days of the grant and complete within six (6) months of the date of the approval.
- 7) Must comply with any amendment City agencies make to the issued permits after the Acceptance Without Reservations is filed.

3. New Petition (193727) Department of Public Works, 147 Hampshire Street, Cambridge, MA 02139, for the following: 105 Broadway - Install +/- 200 LF of (1) 2" conduit from the proposed building constructed at 121 Broadway to a sewer manhole within Broadway related to power and communications for a sewer sensor, required by Cambridge DPW.

Present: John Moser.

Summary: The conduit would allow the City to connect a sanitary holding tank to the sewer system. The holding tank would turn on if the sewer system gets to capacity.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

4. Continuation from August 18, 2022 (188620) for common trench Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127, for the following: Cottage Street - Starting at pole #176/17 on Cottage Street, trench northeasterly 5' to the private property line of 43 Cottage Street, installing (1) 1.5" PVC conduit. The conduit has already been installed by the contractor/property owner. This goes with Eversource petition #183842 that was continued at the July 28, 2022, hearing.
Tied to #11 on agenda (heard together)

Present: Anthony Vatalaro, Comcast. For Eversource Susan Barroso and Phyllis Galloway.

Summary: This was continued to allow enough time for the common trench letter responses. The customer is installing conduit from pole to handhold to provide service to the two-family house. Initially the wrong size conduit was installed but that matter has been addressed. The work will require full restoration of the sidewalk.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and additional conditions that there must be full restoration of sidewalk.

5. New Petition (193381) Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127, for the following: Prospect Street - From existing utility pole #2 on Prospect Street, install (1) 24"x36" sidewalk vault over existing Comcast conduit from newly placed sidewalk vault, trench westerly 9', then northerly 72', then 9' easterly to the property line of 66-70 Prospect Street, installing (1) 3" PVC conduit. The proposed work is needed because the property owner at 64R Prospect Street is requesting the aerial trespass that currently services 66-70 Prospect Street be removed.

Present: Anthony Vatalaro.

Summary: Work needed to alleviate aerial trespass and the sidewalk vault is needed so there will be no need to have to rise another conduit on that telephone pole (as it is already at its max conduit capacity).

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and additional conditions that Prospect Street needs to be milled and overlay to the extent requested by DPW and coordination with City arborist.

6. Continuation from August 18, 2022 (188982) for common trench. (188982) Cambridge Network Solutions, 35 McGrath Highway, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Main Street - Install (2) 4in conduits 101' from the new private property telecom manhole on the property of 600 Main Street to Level 3 manhole 0515-2702 on Albany Street through the asphalt roadway and concrete sidewalk.

Present: Jeff Harrington.

Summary: Petition to install conduit from existing Level 3 manhole - where they already have facilities - to the private property system being installed by the building. If in the future anyone wants to

come down that conduit, there will be no need to dig up the street. The petition was originally heard by Comcast joint trench.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and an additional condition that the second conduit has to be for the City.

[Petitions listed as #7-9 on the agenda were all considered together.]

7. New Petition (193114) Crown Castle NG East, 1800 West Park Drive, Marlborough, MA 01581, for the following: 1341 Massachusetts Avenue - The proposed modifications would be upgrading the current equipment cabinet to a 50.1"h x 29.7"w x 27.2"d cabinet, and the addition of a (3) by 19.4"h x 9.6"w x 6.9"d antenna array.

7-9 considered together.

8. New Petition (193116) Crown Castle NG East, 1800 West Park Drive, Marlborough, MA 01581, for the following: 95 Dunster Street - The proposed modifications would be upgrading the current equipment cabinet to a 50.1"h x 29.7"w x 27.2"d cabinet, and the addition of a (2) by 19.4"h x 9.6"w x 6.9"d antenna array.

9. New Petition (193118) Crown Castle NG East, 1800 West Park Drive, Marlborough, MA 01581, for the following: 6 Appian Way - The proposed modifications would be upgrading the current equipment cabinet to a 50.1"h x 29.7"w x 27.2"d cabinet, and the addition of a (3) by 19.4"h x 9.6"w x 6.9"d antenna array.

Present: Bryn Thornburgh and Eli Elbaum.

Summary: All petitions are requesting a waiver of the aesthetic requirements of the Small Cell Policy. All are requesting sizes larger than what is allowed by the policy. The Commission continues to work internally with other departments and legal to determine whether changes to the Policy will be made. No waivers will be allowed.

Decision: Entered into Tolling Agreement.

10. Continuation from July 15, 2022 (181012) for test pits. Verizon New England, 385 Myles Standish Boulevard, Taunton, MA 02780, for the following: to confirm corridor Main Street. Verizon to trench roadway 762 feet from MH26/19 to MH26/20 to MH26/21 on Main Street to place and splice new conduit.

Present: Ross Bilodeau.

Summary: This had been continued to conduct test pits, but they have not yet been conducted. There are issues in terms of the plan submitted as it is missing many factors, such as the other utilities that are on Main Street. There will need to be a survey as far as the main conduits located to get an idea where the breaks are. There should also be consideration as to whether they can utilize any of the existing conduits or repair the ones that are there but are damaged. Petitioner informed the

Commission that there are multiple breaks that they are aware are unrepairable. There are at least 12 conduits running down either full of cable or spare ones which are crushed.

On an unrelated note, Verizon has not communicated with the City as to existing double poles. Although multiple requests have been made by Electrical, Verizon has ignored the request for information and has not done anything about removing the double poles.

Decision: Continue for test pits, possible updated engineer plan to show other utilities on Main Street, and survey as far as main conduits. In addition, Verizon is ordered to provide by 9/22/22 the name, number and email of the contact person for double pole issues.

11. Continuation from July 15, 2022 (183842) for common trench. Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Cottage Street - Westerly from pole P176/17, approximately 187 feet west of Magazine Street, to private property at #43 Cottage Street, install approximately 29 feet of conduit.

Present: Susan Barroso and Phyllis Galloway.

Summary: No issues, common trench sent, no responses received.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and additional conditions that there must be full restoration of sidewalk.

12. Continuation from August 18, 2022 (188411) for common trench. Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Willow Street - Southerly from pole 734/21, approximately 359 feet north of Cambridge Street, to private property at #145 Willow Street, install approximately 76 feet of conduit.

Present: Susan Barroso and Phyllis Galloway.

Summary: Work necessary to provide electric service to a two-family home. This petition was a continuation to give enough time to get a response to the common trench letter that was sent out. Questions were raised as to how the customer would know who to contact.

Decision: Continued.

13. New Petition (192377) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Binney Street - Easterly from manhole MHC133, at the intersection of Fulkerson Street and Binney Street, to manhole MHC3060, install approximately 901 feet of conduit.

Present: Susan Barroso and Phyllis Galloway.

Summary: Install conduit to relocate the duct bank for the new office building at the North Garage. This is a massive dig so this needs to be looked at wholistically even on the other side. It also

needs test pits for corridor. Developer wants all circuits out within three weeks and by the end of the year.

Decision: Continued.

14. New Petition (192259) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Huron Avenue - Westerly from manhole MH3270, at the intersection of Huron Avenue and Fresh Pond Parkway, install approximately 56 feet of conduit.


Present: Susan Barroso and Phyllis Galloway.

Summary: The work proposed is necessary to service the Telemetry cabinet of the existing gas regulation station at Huron Ave.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and additional conditions that there must be coordination with the Water Department, that there needs to be a DCR permit and that the ramps of the parkway on the northwest corner will be reconstructed per ADA regulations.

15. Consideration of Meeting Minutes August 18, 2022.

Decision: No vote.

NMF _____ 

Minutes Approved: November 17, 2022

MM _____ MM/ 

Minutes Posted: November 17, 2022

TJS _____ TJS/ 