

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, January 23, 2025, at 9:00 A.M.

By Remote Participation Via Zoom

This meeting was held remotely in accordance with Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023 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. Crown Castle request to withdraw petition #184670 and petition #184672 as requested in their letter dated November 22, 2024.

Summary: These relate to small cell petitions which had been subject of Tolling Agreements.

Decision: Acknowledged.

2. New petition (1145441) - Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127, for the following: Mellen Street - Comcast proposes to excavate +/- 99 feet northwesterly from utility pole #479/7 on Mellen Street to the private property line of 11-13 Mellen Street, installing (1) 4-inch PVC conduit. This is for a new underground service connection.

Present: Shane Flewelling.

Summary: This is for a new service connection – conduit for new home. It relates to Eversource petition #290334.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, and additional condition to remove old pole, if it is replaced, before any new attachments.

[Note: Matters #3 & 4 as listed on the agenda were called/considered together.]

3. **New petition (1147383) - Comcast**, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127, for the following: Third Street - Starting at existing Comcast manhole in the sidewalk on Third Street, trench +/-70 feet westerly to Athenaeum Street, installing (2) 4-inch PVC conduits to connect to stubbed conduits left at the construction gate for the new building at 585 Third Street. This is Comcast's petition in response to the Crown Castle's common trench notification.

Present: Shane Flewelling, Comcast; and Brandi Spezzano and Sarah Feely, Crown Castle.

Summary: Crown Castle and Comcast have similar paths and may share some of the trench but not all. However, since they are digging up the same street and installing to connect to the new building it is being considered together. There was discussion as to whether the new building's address was 330 Third Street or 585 Third Street. Petitioners confirmed the address is 585 Third Street. Crown Castle is doing a 50 foot dig to connect the communication conduit from the manhole into the private property which is being built to the lot. Connecting to the new building – there is a temporary connection but not 100% sure what it is connected to currently. Crown Castle is installing fiber. Comcast is coming across the street and Crown Castle is going parallel.

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

4. **New petition (1146871) - Crown Castle**, 4545 East River Road, Henrietta, NY, 14586, for the following: Third Street - Crown Castle is proposing 50 feet of (1) 4-inch schedule 40 PVC communication conduit from telephone MH #26/533 to stubbed out private conduit at property line.

Present: Brandi Spezzano and Sarah Feely, Crown Castle. Shane Flewelling, Comcast.

Summary: Crown Castle and Comcast have similar paths and may share some of the trench but not all. However, since they are digging up the same street and installing to connect to the new building it is being considered together. There was discussion as to whether the new building's address was 330 Third Street or 585 Third Street. Petitioners confirmed the address is 585 Third Street. Crown Castle is doing a 50 foot dig to connect the communication conduit from the manhole into the private property which is being built to the lot. Connecting to the new building – there is a temporary connection but not 100% sure what it is connected to currently. Crown Castle is installing fiber. Comcast is coming across the street and Crown Castle is going parallel.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, and additional conditions of permanent sidewalk repair, and must install a City conduit (4 inch).

5. **New petition (1144988) - Zayo Group**, 1805 29th Street, Boulder, CO 80301, for the following: Broadway and Binney Street - Starting at Verizon MH #26/543 on Broadway, trench and install (2) 4-inch PVC conduits +/- 243 feet southeasterly on Broadway and intercept existing conduits that service 290 Binney Street.

Present: Chris Cremers; and Bill Conway.

Summary: Connection from existing Verizon manhole to reach existing building for diverse entrance for the new tenant. There were issues raised with the petition. First, the proposed work would not happen within the next 18 months and a grant of location is only valid for six months. Then there was the issue of existing conduit on each side of the driveway. The petitioner will need to do a conduit survey to confirm whether they can use the existing conduit.

Decision: Denied because the work would not comply with the Grant of Location period and there may be existing conduit that could be used.

6. **New petition (1145384) - Cablevision Lightpath**, 100 Quannapowitt Pkwy, Wakefield, MA 01880, for the following: Cambridge Street - Excavate and install (1) 4-INCH DIA. SCH40 PVC communications conduit (Lightpath) from existing 12"X24" customer owned handhole to existing Level 3 Communications MH #0515-0007.

Present: Herb Bertoni.

Summary: Cablevision was previously known as CNS. This is for a communications conduit to a private handhold to serve a new tenant in the building. There will be an upcoming bike lane project which will affect the repair conditions.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, and additional condition of project permanent trench and sidewalk repair.

7. **New petition (1144992) - Eversource Energy**, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Avon Hill Street - Northeasterly from pole 39/16, southeast of Wyman Street, to private property at #82 Avon Hill Street, install approximately 30 feet of conduit.

Present: Phyllis Galloway.

Summary: This is to provide an upgrade at the request of the client at 82 Avon Hill Street. The customer is just removing the overhead service.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

8. **New petition (1145751) - Eversource Energy**, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Linnaean Street and Hurlbut Street - Northerly from pole 385/7, approximately 110 feet southeast of Linnaean Street, to private property at #12 Linnaean Street, install approximately 15 feet of conduit.

Present: Phyllis Galloway.

Summary: This is a service upgrade from 200 amp to 400 amp service – single family home. This is for the EV charger in the residence. The customer is going to install in the sidewalk to pull all proper permits.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

9. **New petition (1145908) - Verizon New England**, 125 Lundquist Drive Braintree, MA 02184, for the following: Concord Avenue - Verizon to place 10 feet of new conduit from existing MH369 to private driveway off of Concord Avenue.

Present: Bryna Simons.

Summary: Going from manhole 369 right in front of the private driveway for new service and also have a note that Cambridge will place conduit.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, and additional conditions of permanent trench and sidewalk repair.

10. **Consideration of Meeting Minutes** - November 21, 2024.

Decision: Approved.

NMF______

Minutes Approved: February 27, 2025

MM___MM/

Minutes Posted: February 27, 2025

TJS___TJS/