

City of Cambridge

Commission for Persons with Disabilities

51 Inman Street · Cambridge, MA · 02139-1732

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Nicole Horton-Stimpson
Chair

Debbie Cheng
Elizabeth Dean-Clower
Gary Dmytryk
Sandy Durmaskin
Maria Fontellio
Zahra Kanji
Bet MacArthur
Alicia Zeh-Dean

Michael Muehe
*Executive Director/
ADA Coordinator*

Kate Thurman
Project Coordinator

Katie Ashwill
Pro Bono Associate

The next meeting of the Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities will be held in the 2nd Floor Conference Room at 51 Inman Street on Thursday, May 12, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ARRIVE BY 5:30 PM

AGENDA

Please turn OFF your cell phones before the meeting begins. Thank you.

NOTE: CCPD meetings may be audio recorded for the purpose of taking minutes.

- | | | |
|--|---------|------------------------------|
| 1. Introductions | 2 min. | |
| 2. Approval of April 14 Minutes | 2 min. | |
| 3. Announcements | 2 min. | CCPD staff / board |
| 4. Chair's Report | 20 min. | Nicole Horton-Stimpson |
| <i>Nominations for Chair & Secretary</i> | | |
| <i>Filling Board Vacancies</i> | | |
| <i>Summer Schedule</i> | | |
| <i>October Employment Event</i> | | |
| 5. Elections for Chair & Secretary | 5 min. | CCPD Board |
| 6. Public Works Update | 5 min. | Kathy Watkins & Debbie Cheng |
| <i>Five Year Plan</i> | | |
| 7. Police Community Liaison | 5 min. | Jack Albert |
| 8. Disability Reframed Film Series | 5 min. | Bet MacArthur |
| 9. Executive Director's Report | 5 min. | Michael Muehe |
| 10. Public Input | 3 min. | general public |
| 11. Old Business | 2 min. | |
| 12. New Business | 2 min. | |

This is a scent-free meeting. In consideration of individuals with environmental illness and/or multiple chemical sensitivity, please refrain from wearing perfume, after-shave or any other scented products to our meetings. Thank you for your consideration.

The City of Cambridge, Commission for Persons with Disabilities, does not discriminate on the basis of disability. The Commission for Persons with Disabilities will provide auxiliary aids and services, written materials in alternative formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures to persons with disabilities upon request.



Approved June 9, 2016

Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD)

Minutes for Thursday, May 12, 2016

51 Inman Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Cambridge, MA 02139

Meeting was called to order at 5:38 pm

Present

Members:

Present: Debbie Cheng, Elizabeth Dean-Clower, Gary Dmytryk, Sandy Durmaskin (remote participation via telephone), Maria Fontellio, Nicole Horton-Stimpson, Zahra Kanji, and Alicia Zeh-Dean

Absent: Bet MacArthur

Staff: Michael Muehe

Guests: Donald Summerfield, Community Member & Alternate; Naeem Ahmed, Community Member; and Carmelle Madhere, Community Member.

Documents/Materials Used:

- Agenda
- Minutes from April 14
- Five Year Sidewalk and Street Reconstruction Plan
- Disability Parking, Ramp, Bus Stop, and Crosswalk Violations: First Quarter CY 2016

Minutes:

A motion to approve the April 14, 2016 minutes was seconded and passed unanimously.

One correction: Elizabeth requested the minutes be amended to reflect she was present (in person), not present (phone participation).

Chair's Report: Nicole Horton-Stimpson

- Officer Nominations. Existing nominations are: for Chair – Gary Dmytryk and for Secretary – Nicole Horton-Stimpson. No additional nominations were made at this meeting.
- Vacancy postings have been sent to City Hall; members and attendees were asked to circulate to anyone they know who may be a good fit. Please feel free to offer a meeting with Nicole to discuss what is like to be part of the Commission. You can also offer for them to attend one or two CCPD meetings (or more) to get a feeling for the experience.
- River Festival – Sign-up sheet went around for Saturday, June 4th, 12-6 pm.
- Summer Schedule – The Commission voted to take August off from meeting and we will reconvene in September (we'll still meet on June 9th and July 14th).
- October Employment event – Committee was formed and will be led by Nicole Horton-Stimpson and members Maria Fontellio and Alicia Zeh-Dean volunteered to be on it. Nicole will reach out and set up a meeting with them to begin planning.
- The Commission was asked to do some homework between now and the next meeting. The Commission was asked to come up with 3 directions/priorities that they would like to see the Commission focus on.

Examples are advocating for voter registration in the community, creating a vision statement for the Commission, reviewing AAB variances, and in-office hours. The hope is that through this we will help to create a sense of cohesiveness in our work by outlining priorities in order to better understand the direction of the Commission and how it fits into the greater world of disability advocacy.

Officer Elections: Votes for Chair – Gary 7 (unanimous) and for Nicole 7 (unanimous).

Public Works Update: Kathy Watkins presented the City’s updated Five Year Sidewalk and Street Reconstruction Plan. Please see attached presentation for details.

- Curb bump outs
 - Allow for a better sight line for pedestrians
 - To prevent illegal parking
 - Reduce call volume to the police station reporting illegal parking
- State funding (Chapter 90) was discussed and how it is distributed proportionately to cities and towns by a formula, looking at the relation between the population and the lane miles.
- Cambridge Commits to Vision Zero and Adopts a Complete Streets policy. See <http://bit.ly/1PI1qME> for details

Police Community Liaison: Deputy Superintendent Jack Albert

- Michael and Kate will be attending a meeting at the police station with Cathy Pemberton who is part of the Social Service Group. She will also be coming to our June meeting to give a presentation.

Disability Reframed: Bet MacArthur – was not present for report

Executive Director’s Report: Michael Muehe reported that

- City Manager Rich Rossi will be attending our next CCPD meeting on June 9th.
- CCPD Board members needed to advocate for the MAAB bill (S. 1323) at State House on Tue. May 17 at 11am, State House, Chairman Brian Dempsey of House Ways and Means office.

New Business:

- Superintendent Christopher Burke (and former CCPD Police Liaison) has been appointed as Acting Commissioner of the Police Department for the next two years.

The meeting adjourned at 7:02PM

Respectfully submitted by Nicole Horton-Stimpson

CAMBRIDGE
DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC
**THE
WORKS**

City of Cambridge
Department of Public Works

Five Year **Sidewalk and Street** Reconstruction Plan

5.1.2016

5 YEAR PLAN | TABLE OF CONTENTS

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INTRODUCTION | COMPLETE STREETS

Complete Streets are **streets for everyone**. They are designed and operated to enable **safe access for all users**. Pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and public transportation users of all ages and abilities are able to safely move along and across a complete street. Complete Streets make it easy to cross the street, walk to shops, and bicycle to work. They help buses to run on time and make it safe for people to walk to and from train stations.

More sidewalks and bicycle facilities are included, which provides for **increased accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists**.

During design and construction of complete streets, our goal is to communicate projects with neighborhoods and facilitate an integrated design process; minimize disruption to community life; and provide reasonable access for all users during reconstruction.

This is intended to be a living document that will be updated regularly as conditions change.

PRIORITIES | CONSTRAINTS / UNCERTAINTIES

- Based on budget predictions that are uncertain.
- Based on sewer separation / storm water management project schedules that are uncertain.
- Based on future street condition assessments that are subject to change.
- Does not consider utility failure / repair / replacement which is unpredictable.
- Severe winter conditions can lead to higher than expected levels of deterioration on streets.



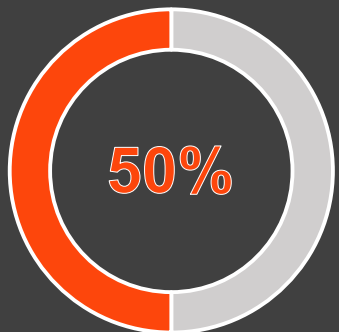
DPW will review the Plan on an annual basis. The uncertainties are significant and thus the annual revisions may also need to be significant.

PRIORITIES | SCHEDULING

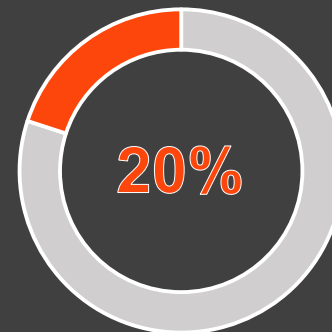


Reconstruct sidewalks and streets in poor condition in **high priority areas**:

- Areas within a 150 ft. buffer of parks, major squares, libraries, schools, youth centers, elderly housing, and senior centers.
- Areas within a 40 ft. buffer of bus routes.
- Major thoroughfares to maintain the structural integrity of streets under heavy traffic.
- Commission for Persons with Disabilities' priorities.
- Areas with non-existent or inadequate bicycle facilities, particularly where reconstruction could improve connectivity and route continuity for cyclists.

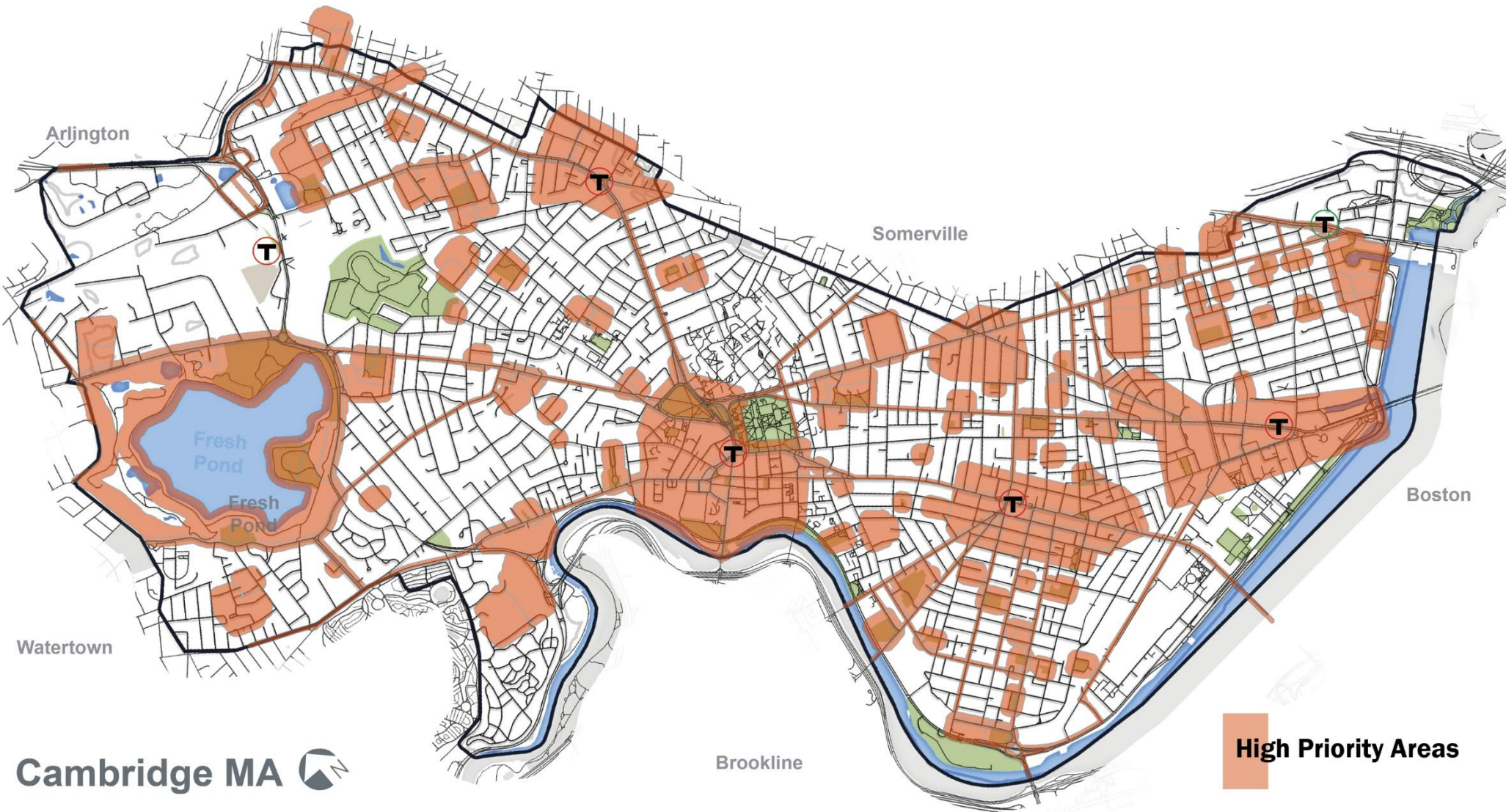


Just over 50% of city sidewalks and streets are located outside of high priority areas. These corridors serve residential connections and need to be maintained, to the extent funding allows.

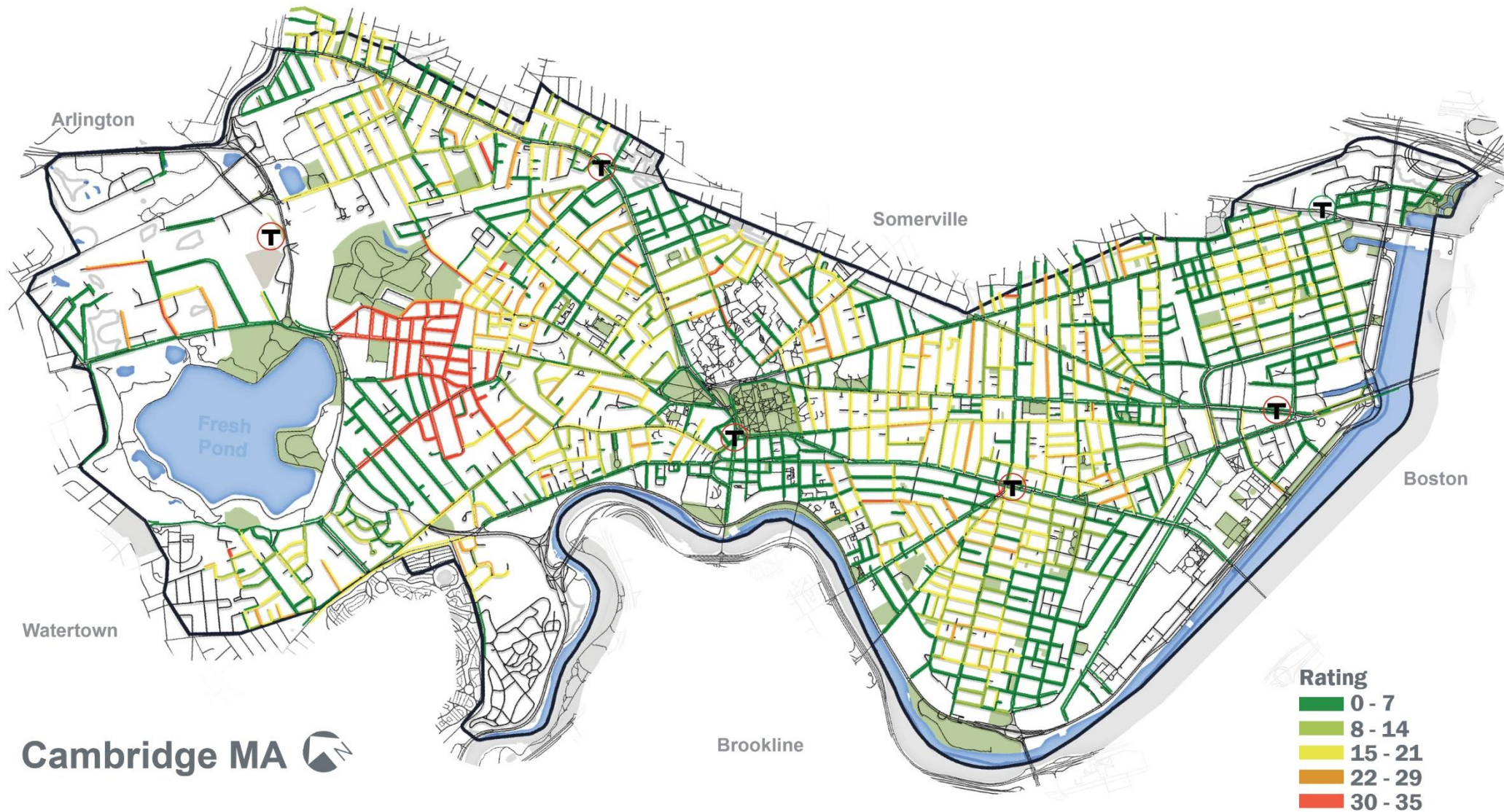


Approximately 20% of street and sidewalk funding will be reserved for these locations.

PRIORITIES | FOCUS AREAS



PRIORITIES | SIDEWALK CONDITIONS



Based on the criteria below, each block of sidewalk received a rating between 0 (excellent) and 35 (poor)

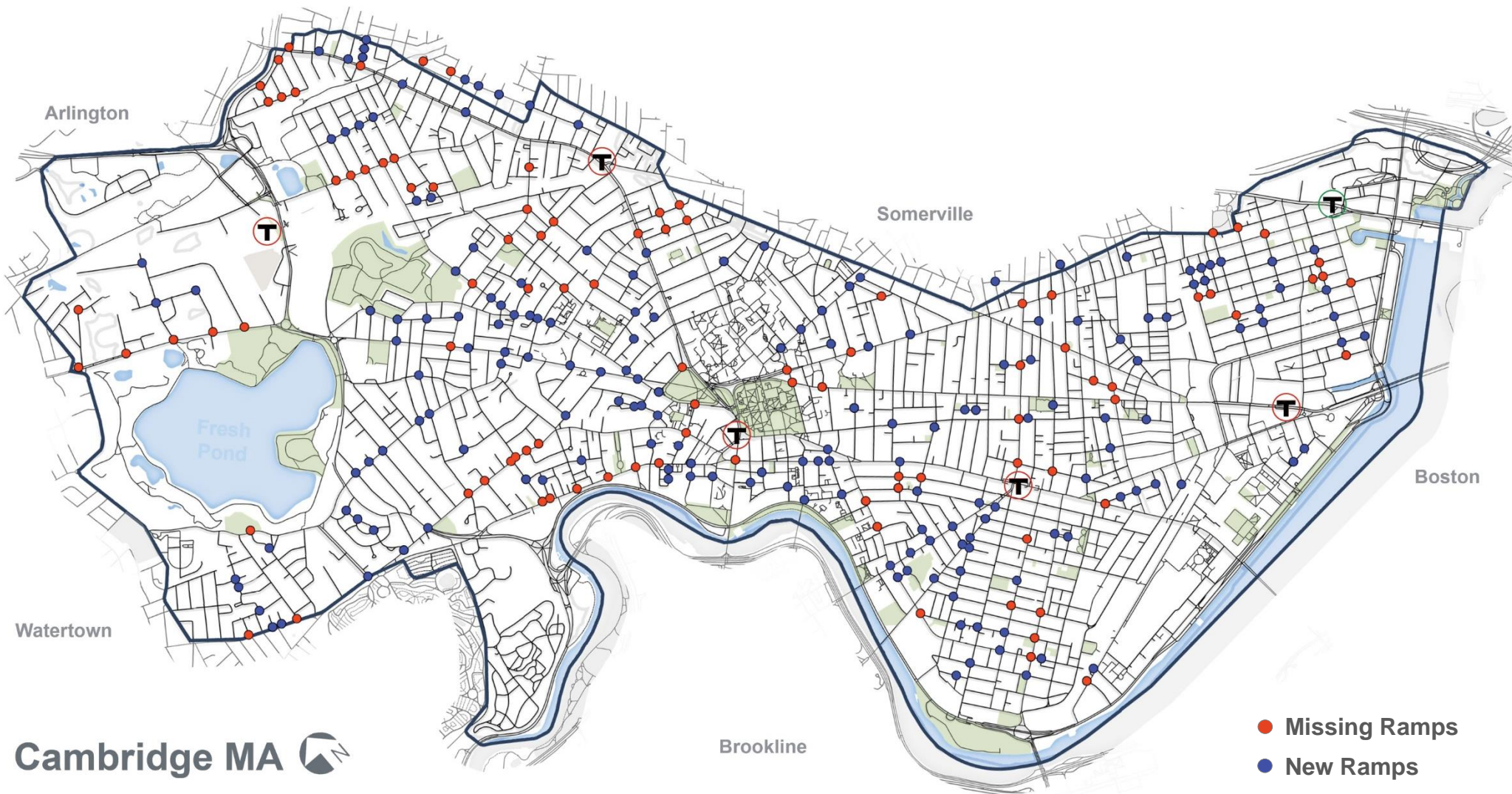
- Driveway conditions
- Cross-slope
- Trees or other obstructions
- Overall structural condition

PRIORITIES | PAVEMENT CONDITIONS



New street condition assessments are completed every three years and the plan is updated accordingly.

PRIORITIES | RAMPS



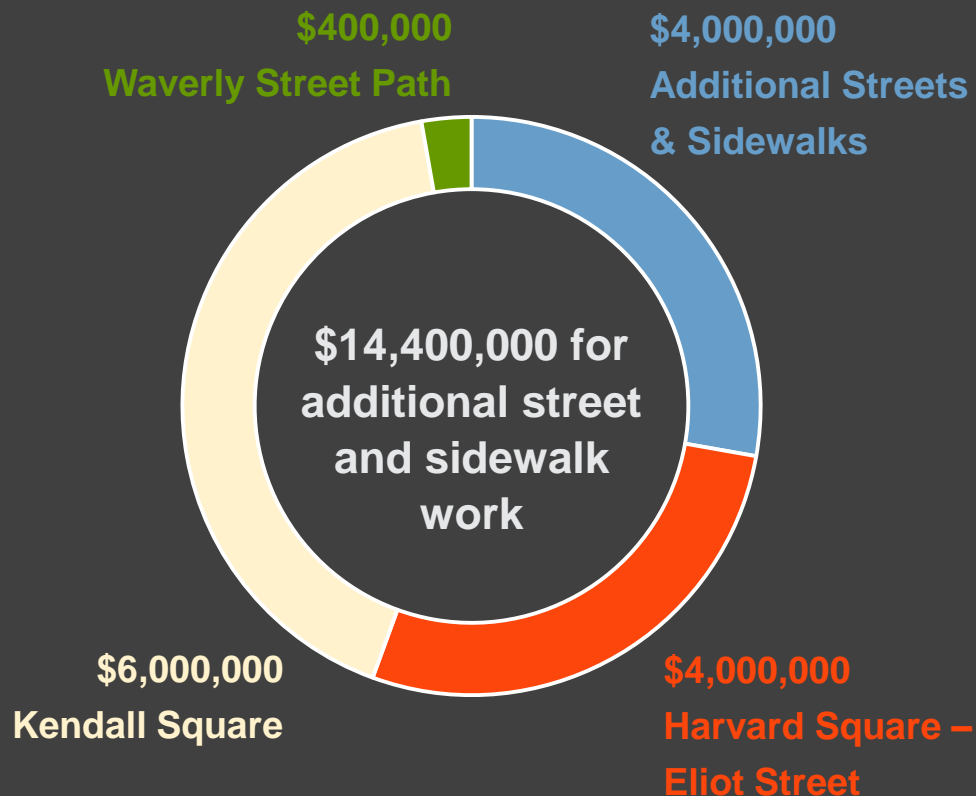
2009 to 2012 - Constructed 220 previously missing ramps

The City of Cambridge will continue to prioritize missing ramps on major arterials: Concord Ave, Huron Ave, Mass. Ave, and Western Ave

PRIORITIES | FUNDING

This plan assumes \$4.5 million per year for street and sidewalk reconstruction. Additional funds are occasionally allocated for additional enhancement projects or for other street and sidewalk restoration projects. The sewer separation and stormwater management program is funded at \$25M - \$30M per year and funds streets and sidewalks (see pages 14-16).

Over the last three years, the City also appropriated the following:



5 YEAR PLAN | SCOPE OF WORK

Our approach emphasizes **streets designed and operated for everyone** – pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and public transportation users of all ages and abilities will be able to safely move along and across **complete streets**.



Any crossing islands or medians shall be built or retrofitted to accommodate accessible pedestrian crossings.



To improve bicycle accommodation, streets are evaluated for appropriate bicycle facilities such as bicycle lanes, cycle tracks, contra-flow lanes, shared lane markings and bicycle parking (see page 24).



Utility work in the public right of way will meet accessibility requirements and professional engineering standards (see page 23).

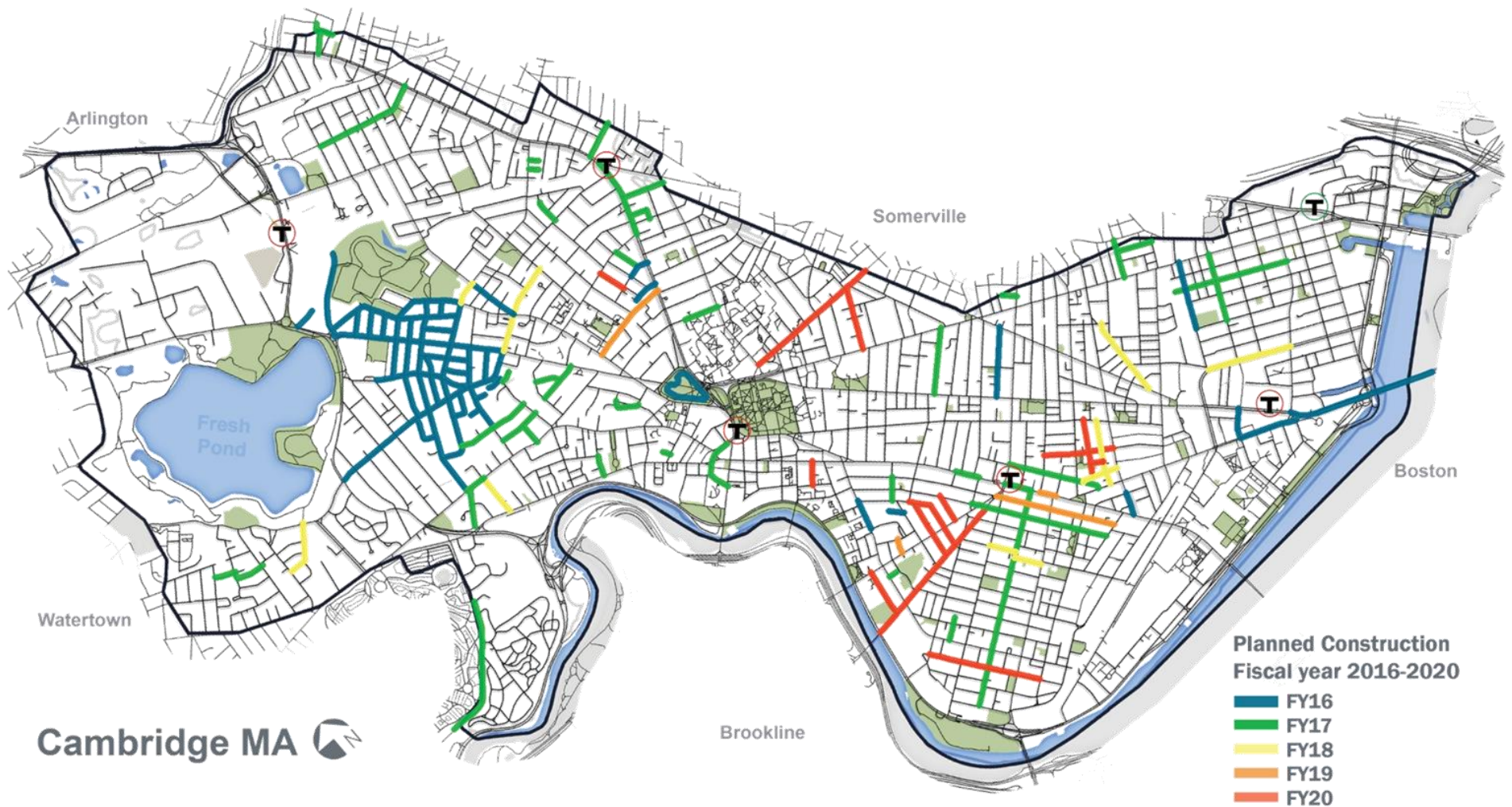


Projects will include planting additional street trees (see page 25).



To improve access, all pedestrian ramps will be reconstructed.

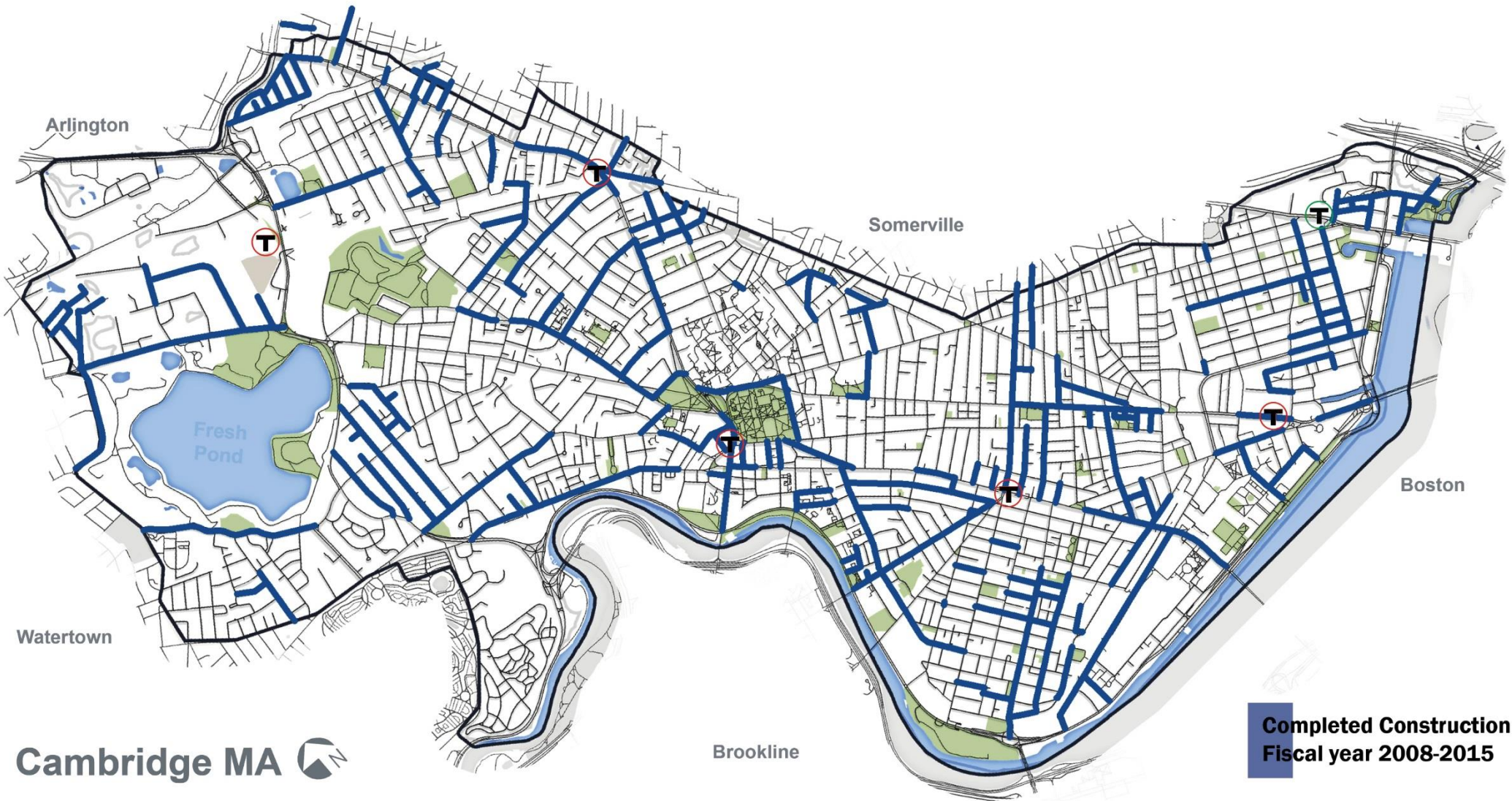
5 YEAR PLAN | **PLANNED CONSTRUCTION**



The below link provides an **interactive construction map**, identifying street segments where construction is scheduled over the next five years, as well as recently completed projects. The degree of uncertainty concerning, locations, scope and schedule increases in the later years of the plan.

www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/constructionmap

5 YEAR PLAN | COMPLETED STREETS

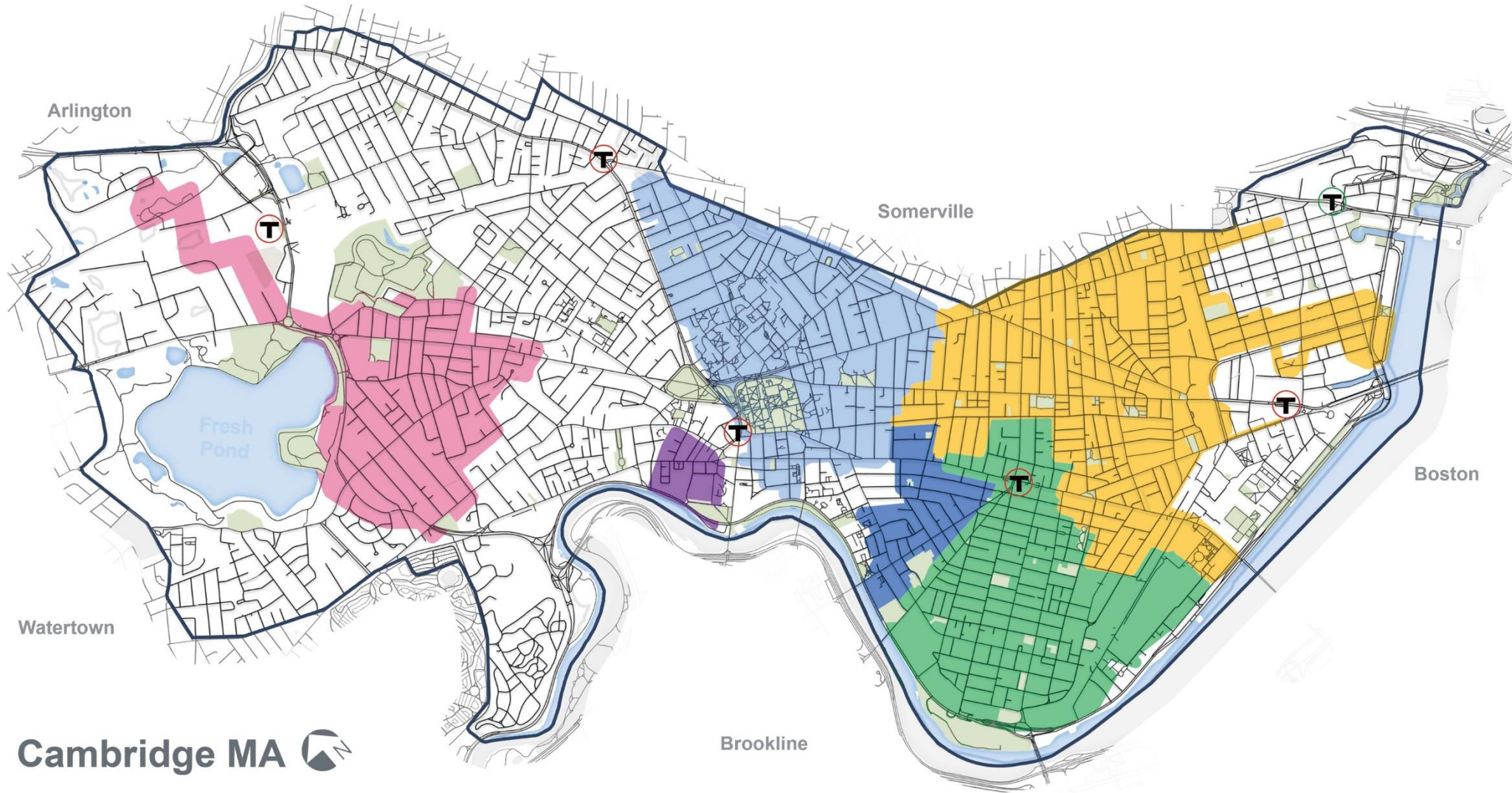


PROGRAMS | SEWER SEPARATION & STORMWATER

The City has an ongoing 5-Year Capital Program for sewer separation, stormwater management and infrastructure renewal throughout the city. The City is committed to **restoring and enhancing streets, sidewalks and bicycle facilities** as an integral part of these projects. These projects are subject to change in schedule due to financial, legal, environmental and level of service considerations.



PROGRAMS | SEWER SEPARATION & STORMWATER



 Alewife / Fresh Pond Area

 Harvard Square

 Western Avenue

 Cambridgeport Area

 The Port / East Cambridge Area

 Agassiz / Mid Cambridge Area

PROGRAMS | SEWER SEPARATION & STORMWATER

Since the 1800's thousands of hours of engineering and millions of dollars of construction have been allocated to realize a more efficient and environmentally-friendly system.



BROADWAY AND DANA STREET, DECEMBER 1, 1931



- Sewer separation continues today and the city's collection system currently includes approximately 104 miles of sanitary sewer, 88 miles of stormwater drains, and 29 miles of combined sewer.
- Approximately 30% of the collection system owned and maintained by Cambridge has been separated—much work remains.
- Projects involve intense construction and typically include rebuilding roadways and sidewalks.

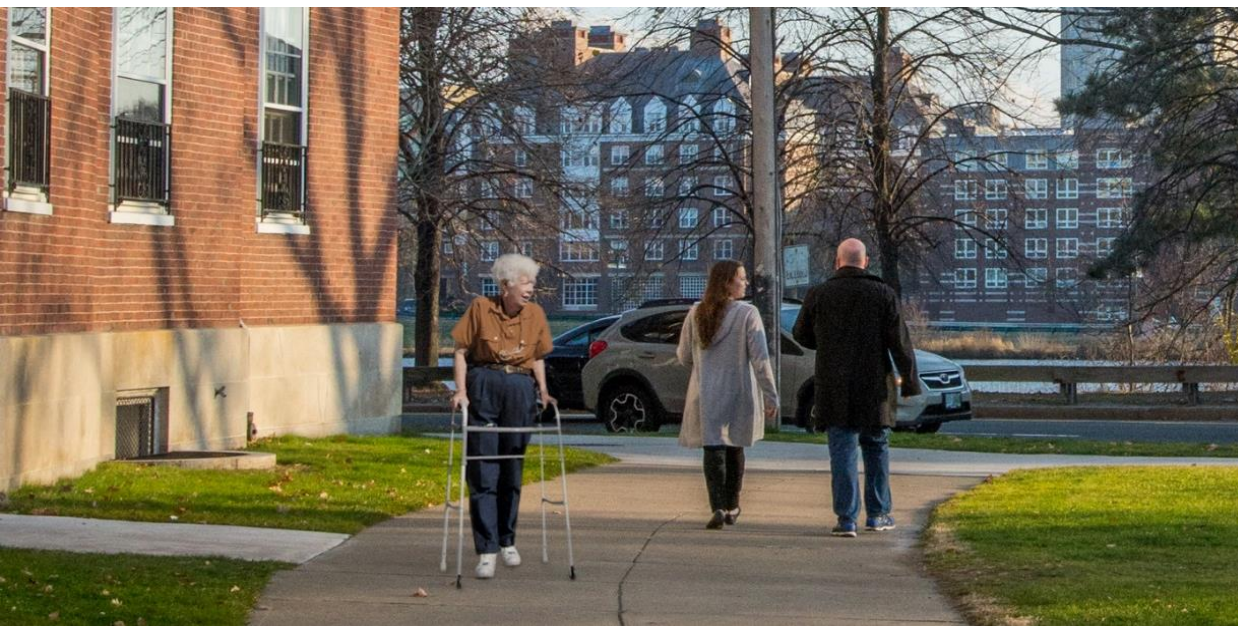
PROGRAMS | MISCELLANEOUS SIDEWALK

Program Highlights

- Budget: \$500,000 per year
- This program is used to address discrete sections of sidewalk throughout the city.
- Repairs are typically a block in length, but can be as small as one panel.
- Priority is given to sidewalks and curb cuts in High Priority Areas.

Accessibility

A portion of the Miscellaneous Sidewalk Program funding will be reserved for **sidewalks and curb cuts** where access is of acute importance, as identified by the **Commission for Persons with Disabilities** and DPW. If you know of a location that is a critical access issue and is not addressed in the 5 Year Plan, please contact the Commission.



Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities

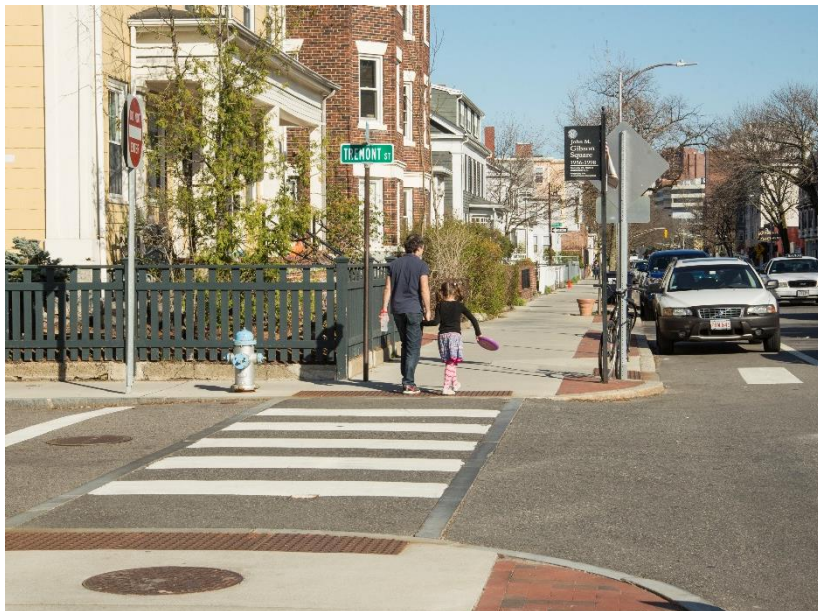
Michael Muehe, Executive Director
Kate Thurman, Disability Project Coordinator
51 Inman Street, second floor
Cambridge, MA 02139
ccpd@cambridgema.gov
Voice: 617-349-4692 / TTY: 617-492-0235
Fax: 617-349-4766
www.cambridgema.gov/disabilities

DESIGN | PEDESTRIAN RAMPS



Pedestrian ramps are a critical element of the **accessible sidewalk**. The details of the design and construction have a significant impact on their usability.

- All new pedestrian ramps, including landing areas, will be concrete and include truncated domes.
- All slopes will meet ADA / AAB requirements.
- All new pedestrian ramps will be designed to:
 - Minimize ponding.
 - Locate ramps as close to the intersection as possible.



The best design for pedestrian crossings, particularly on narrow side streets, may be a modified raised crosswalk that:

- Allows pedestrians to cross the street without having to ramp down.
- Reduces the risk of ponding.
- Keeps the crossing more in line with the sidewalk.

CONSTRUCTION | PEDESTRIAN ACCESS



4-WAY INTERSECTIONS

Unless site conditions warrant a different treatment, 4 crosswalks and 8 pedestrian ramps should be provided.



MID-BLOCK CROSSINGS

Are generally not used, unless the blocks are especially long or there is an especially large pedestrian flow.



“T” INTERSECTIONS

At least 1 crosswalk and 2 pedestrian ramps are required for accessible path of travel along the main corridor. Site conditions are considered to determine if crosswalks should be provided.



DESIGN | SIDEWALK MATERIALS

Pedestrian Ramps

All new pedestrian ramps, including landing areas, will be concrete, and include truncated domes.

Sidewalk Materials

Concrete and wire cut brick without beveled edges, placed on a smooth asphalt base, will be utilized as the sidewalk materials of choice throughout the City. Concrete is the material most frequently used in the city (~70%) and provides a relatively inexpensive, durable and easy to maintain accessible sidewalk.

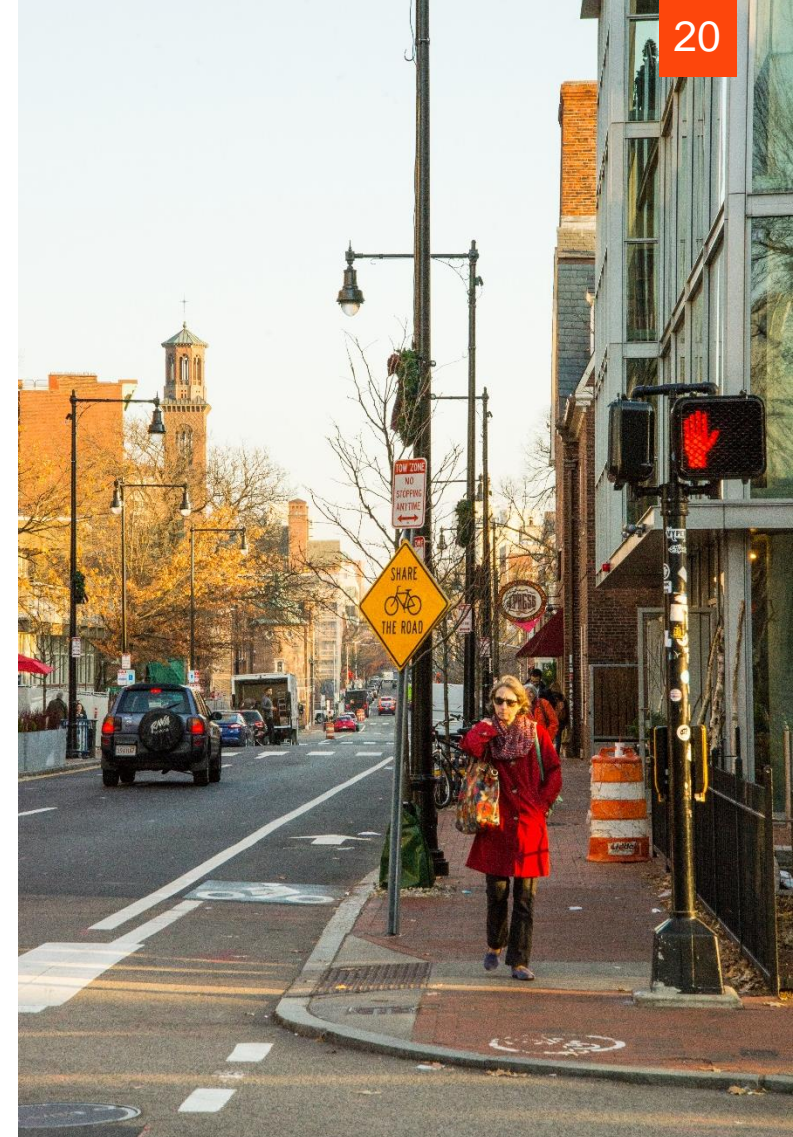
The City policy is to replace existing sidewalks with the same material at no cost to the property owner. However, during construction, property owners are contacted and may choose to change the sidewalk material. On larger projects, a more unified approach to sidewalk materials has been implemented as part of a community process.

Historic Districts

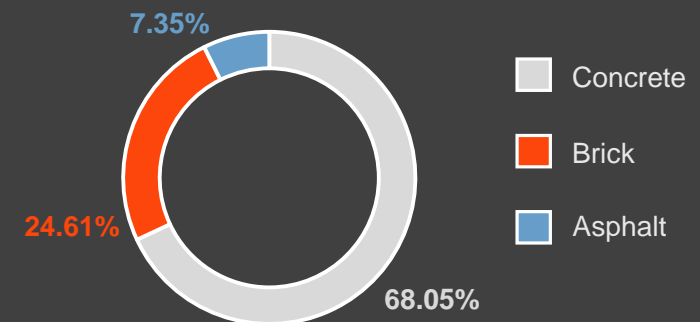
DPW works collaboratively with the Historic Commission to ensure that sidewalk reconstruction work is appropriate and not incongruous to the district.

Standard Details

cambridgema.gov/theworks/ourservices/engineering/Resources/standarddetails



Sidewalk Materials

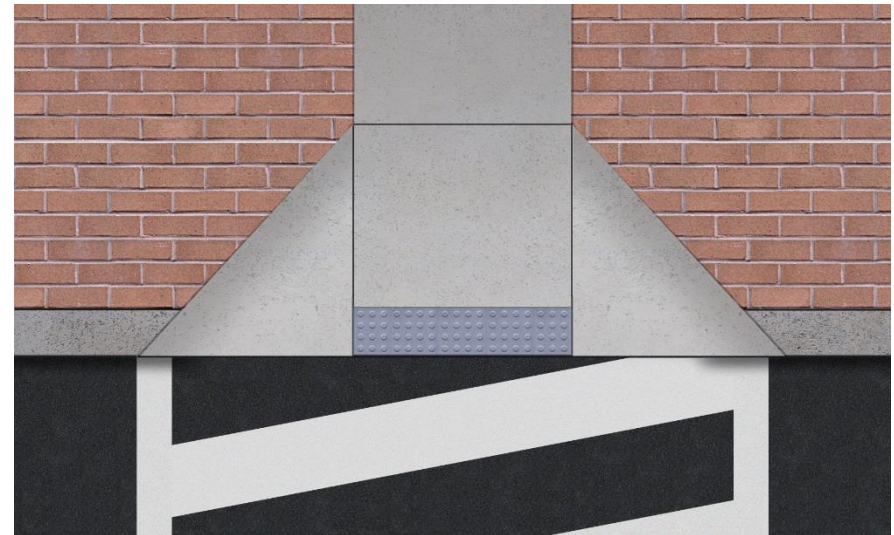


SCOPE | NEW CONSTRUCTION

City Projects

Below are the requirements specific to all City of Cambridge construction projects in the Public Right of Way. The goals of these requirements are to meet state and federal regulations, maximize **accessibility improvements** and minimize the extent to which work has to be reconstructed in the future.

- New sidewalks (concrete or brick) will meet ADA / AAB requirements.
- Roadway paving that abuts pedestrian ramps will include the reconstruction of abutting non-compliant pedestrian ramps.
- 15' Rule: To minimize the need for non-compliant transition segments between old and new sidewalks, if a compliant segment within 15 ft. of the end of proposed new work is identified, work will be extended to the compliant segment.
- If a significant portion of sidewalk on a given side of a block is reconstructed, the entire sidewalk on that side should be compliant.



SCOPE | NEW CONSTRUCTION



Private Entities

Requirements specific to street and sidewalk reconstruction projects constructed by private entities within the City of Cambridge Public Right of Way will adhere to the same requirements as City projects in addition to the below requirements:

- If a full block of sidewalk is being reconstructed, a PE stamped design will be required and a PE certification of compliance will be required after construction.
- If more than 30 ft. of sidewalk, a curb cut, or a driveway is being constructed, a survey and design will generally be required. Survey and design requirements will be determined by DPW based on the specific location.

SCOPE | NEW CONSTRUCTION

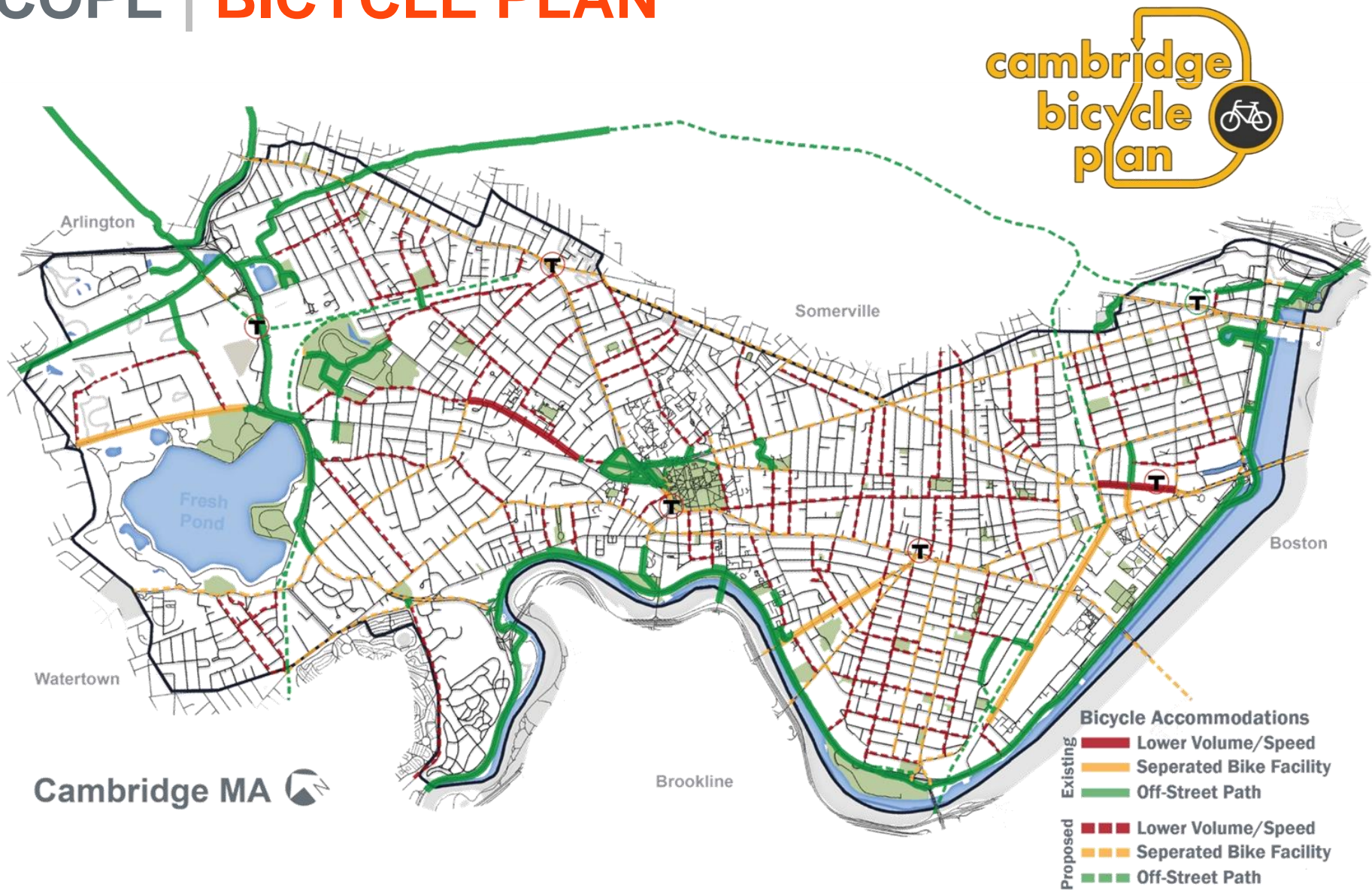
Private Utilities

Below are the requirements specific to all street and sidewalk reconstruction projects constructed by private utilities within the City of Cambridge Public Right of Way.



- Sidewalk construction subsequent to utility work will meet ADA / AAB requirements.
- Roadway paving, subsequent to utility work, that abuts pedestrian ramps, will include the reconstruction of abutting non-compliant pedestrian ramps.
- If a full block of sidewalk is being reconstructed, due to utility work, a PE stamped design will be required and a PE certification of compliance will be required after construction.
- If more than 30 ft. of contiguous sidewalk, a curb cut, or a driveway is being constructed, due to utility work, a survey and design will generally be required. Survey and design requirements will be determined by DPW based on the specific location.
- In lieu of final restoration payments (Street Preservation Offset Fees), made by utility companies, will include the complete cost of the necessary sidewalk restoration required.

SCOPE | BICYCLE PLAN



Streets and projects are evaluated in coordination with the **Cambridge Bicycle Plan** to identify streets with non-existent or inadequate bicycle facilities, particularly where reconstruction could improve connectivity and route continuity for cyclists.

www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/Transportation/bikesincambridge/bicyclenetworkplan

SCOPE | STREET TREES

New Tree Plantings

The City Arborist will review each street and sidewalk project to determine tree planting opportunities; evaluating the location of overhead and underground utilities, proximity to intersections, site lines, building setbacks, locations of entrances, etc. The Arborist will also work with residents interested in back of sidewalk tree plantings.

<http://www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/ourservices/urbanforestry.aspx>

- On **narrow sidewalks** (less than 8' wide), a minimum of 4' of sidewalk width will be retained adjacent to new trees.
- On **wider sidewalks** (8' wide or greater), a minimum of ½ of the overall sidewalk width will be retained for pedestrians.

Existing Street Trees

Existing street trees will be protected during construction and the sidewalks will be carefully evaluated to ensure adequate accessible routes through the neighborhood.



GOALS

- **Protect existing** street trees during construction.
- Increase the number of street trees and maintain **accessible sidewalks**.

SCOPE | TRAFFIC SIGNALS

Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS)

APS work in conjunction with visual pedestrian signals to provide additional information to pedestrians, including pedestrians who are blind or visually impaired. APS typically use a combination of auditory and vibrotactile information to alert pedestrians as to when they should cross the street.

The City is implementing APS at new and existing signalized intersections. The Traffic Department consults with the Disabilities Commission to prioritize location.

Signal Control Cabinets

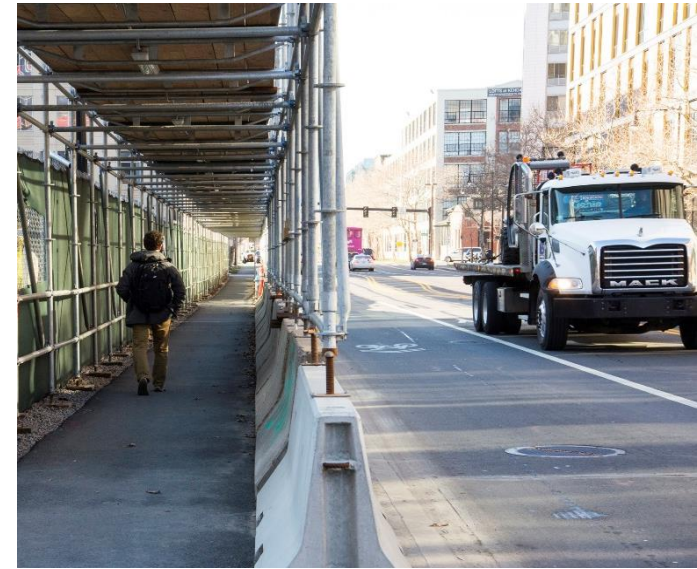
Traffic signal control cabinets mounted on poles are under consideration for relocation by the Traffic Department. In coordination with adjacent construction projects, and at high priority locations, control cabinets will be moved to ground mounted locations.



CONSTRUCTION | PEDESTRIAN ACCESS



Where pedestrian routes are closed, alternate pedestrian routes shall be provided.



The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, (MUTCD), published by the US DOT / Federal Highway Administration, includes specific requirements for pedestrian access in work zones.



Whenever possible, work should be done in a manner that does not create a need to detour pedestrians from existing routes or crossings.

CONSTRUCTION | BICYCLE ACCESS

- Maintain bicycle access through construction sites. Where maintaining bike lanes is not possible:
 - Ensure adequate space for bicycles in travel lane.
 - Post “Bicycles May Use Full Lane” signs.
- Road signs of any type should not be placed in bicycle lanes.
- Asphalt is the preferred temporary surface option.
- Surfaces should be smooth, and edges should be uniform.
- When steel plates are required, provide advance notice and a smooth transition.
- Where raised castings are exposed, spray paint them pink and post caution signs.



Follow City of Cambridge Bicycle Accommodation During Construction Guidelines at:
<http://www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/ourservices/engineering/Resources/contractorresources.aspx>

NEXT STEPS | CONCLUSION



The 5 Year Plan is a living document that will be updated regularly. As part of that process, DPW will:

- Review plan annually with the Commission for Persons with Disabilities and Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Transit Committees.
- Update the pavement condition and sidewalk condition data and corresponding maps.
- Annually update the 5 Year Plan to account for the changing conditions of our streets and sidewalks.

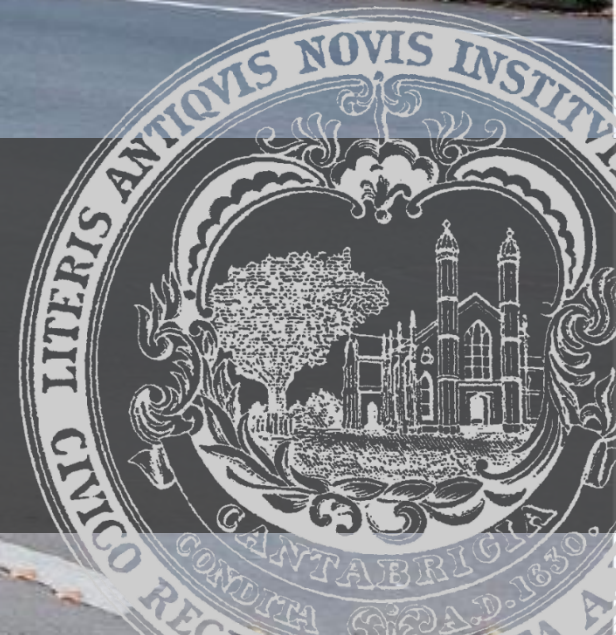
Send questions or comments to:
Katherine Watkins
Department of Public Works
kwatkins@cambridgema.gov or
617-349-4751



For more information:

Katherine F. Watkins,
City Engineer
Department of Public Works
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Cambridge, MA 02139
617-349-4751 kwatkins@cambridgema.gov
www.cambridgema.gov/theworks

Photos & Graphics by Kleinfelder



Traffic Parking & Transportation

Violations	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>	TOTALS
E19 Bus Stop	41	32	20		93
F3 Crosswalk	20	18	30		68
G3 HP/DV Parking Only	97	77	109		283
G4 Disability Ramp	9	11	25		<u>45</u>
					489

Cambridge Police Department

Violations	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>	TOTALS
E19 Bus Stop	15	7	7		29
F3 Crosswalk	5	9	7		21
G3 HP/DV Parking Only	30	19	35		84
G4 Disability Ramp	4	5	6		<u>15</u>
					149

Traffic Parking & Transportation/ CPD

Violations	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>	TOTALS
E19 Bus Stop	56	39	27		122
F3 Crosswalk	25	27	37		89
G3 HP/DV Parking Only	127	96	144		367
G4 Disability Ramp	13	16	31		<u>60</u>
					638