Western Avenue Reconstruction Advisory Committee meeting #3

Welcome
Susanne Rasmussen, Director
Environmental & Transportation Planning
Community Development Department

Agenda
- Debrief 3/31 community meeting & community walks
- Presentation: parking study; crash data; review key points on existing conditions
- Street Design 101
- Committee input session
- Public comment period
- Wrap-up, next steps

Existing Conditions (continued)
- Parking study
- Crash information

Vehicle (18 crashes per year)

Bicycle (1.6 crashes per year)
Existing Conditions Summary

- Roadway and sidewalk in poor condition
- Pedestrian safety a main concern
- Significant transit hub at Central Square
- Lots of peds, >500 during peak hour
- 1 cyclist per minute during peak hour
- Afternoon peak worst time for traffic, travel time 6 to 8 minutes (3 min usually)
- Parking: upper and lower have high resident parking demand but not exceeding supply; metered parking is inadequate

Street Design 101

1. Experience objectives
2. Design goals
3. What’s in our toolbox

Experience objectives

- Safe
- Efficient
- Pleasant

Design goals

- Safe
- Efficient
- Pleasant

Mobility on Western Avenue

- Transit riders
- People on foot
- Bicyclists
- Drivers
- Truckers
Design goals

- Safe
- Efficient
- Pleasant
Design goals

- Safe
- Efficient
- Pleasant
Focus for today

- Focus on Advisory Committee goals with major effects on conceptual design
  - Appropriate vehicle speed
  - Improve pedestrian safety when crossing
  - Improve bicycle accommodation
  - Improve transit experience
  - Address parking needs
  - Reduce impact on water quality

The toolbox
Brookline Street Reconstruction Project
Final Plan Highlights

- Bicycle lane will be added from Henry Street to Green Street; resident and metered parking will be moved to the left side of the street.
- East sidewalk will be widened, brick accent strip will be added.
- Street trees will be added.
- Curb extensions and new crosswalks will be added at many locations.
- Raised intersection to be added at Erie Street.
- Safety improvements at Putnam: traffic signal will be replaced with all-way stop.

Mass. Ave. 1996
BEFORE

Lafayette Square, 2008
AFTER
Water quality

- Reduce paved surface
- Permeable surface
- Rain gardens

Next meetings

Advisory Committee Meetings:
- Meeting #4: Tuesday April 27 (6-8 pm)
- Meeting #5:
- Meeting #6:
  (All meetings at the Citywide Senior Center)

Neighborhood walk:
- Monday April 26 @ 6pm (Meet @ Andala)
Adjourn

Website: http://westernavenue.info