WATERTOWN-CAMBRIDGE GREENWAY PROJECT

DCR Public Meeting – 75% Design

Thursday, June 2, 2016
Russell Youth Community Center,
680 Huron Avenue, Cambridge
To protect, promote and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural and recreational resources for the well being of all
Tonight’s Meeting - Purpose

• Present the public with an update on the design process (75% design stage)

• To obtain public input.
Watertown - Cambridge Greenway Vision

- Creation of a multi-use greenway, using the former B&M railroad right-of-way extending from Concord Avenue in Cambridge, through the Fresh Pond Reservation, under Huron Avenue and Mount Auburn Street and into Watertown.

- Completion of an important regional connection linking the Charles River path system, the Minuteman Bikeway, the Alewife Greenway and the Mystic River Reservation into an interconnected off-road pathway network.
Regional Bicycle Map
• Corridor Acquired (May 2013)
• Cost:
  – Cambridge - $200,000, DCR - $1,600,000
Segment 2 Design Funding  
(Total = $224,000)

Partnership Contributions (Total = $90,000)
- Lawrence and Lillian Solomon Foundation
- The Arsenal Project
- Watertown Community Foundation
- Athenahealth
- Anonymous donor

DCR
- DCR Partnership Matching Funds Program (Total = $90,000)
- DCR Capital Funding ($44,000)
Project Background

• DCR completes construction of Segment 1 - 2011 (School St to Arlington St)

• DCR & Cambridge acquire Segment 2 (Arlington St to Fresh Pond Parkway) – May 2013

• Public Meetings
  – June 17, 2015 - Presentation of Conceptual Design & Public Input
  – Nov 30, 2015 – 25% Design
Design Team

- VHB – Greenway Survey & Design
- CRJA – Landscape Design & Planting
- BR+A – Mt Auburn St Tunnel Lighting
Project Design Elements

- 16 foot wide path (12 feet paved, with two-foot shoulders)
- Multi-use path, ADA compliant
- 3 feet clear width from vertical obstructions
- Grass drainage swales
- Selective vegetation removal, planting, Landscape and interpretive elements (tbd at 75% design)
- Underpass lighting at Mount Auburn Bridge
Project Design Elements

TYPICAL SECTION - WATERTOWN/CAMBRIDGE GREENWAY

TYPICAL SECTION WITH DRAINAGE SWALE - WATERTOWN/CAMBRIDGE GREENWAY
Project Design Elements
Segment 2 Entrances
Arlington Street
Cottage Street
Cottage Street
Holworthy Street
Holworthy Street
Water Purification Facility Entrance
Water Purification Facility Entrance
Typical Plantings

- **Deciduous Trees**
  - *Nyssa sylvatica* – Tupelo or Blackgum
  - *Quercus bicolor* – Swamp White Oak
  - *Quercus palustris* – Pin Oak
  - *Ostrya virginiana* – Hophornbeam
  - *Betula nigra* – River Birch
Typical Plantings

- **Evergreen Trees**
  - *Pinus rigida* – Pitch Pine
  - *Pinus strobus* – Eastern White Pine
  - *Juniperus virginiana* – Eastern Red Cedar
  - *Picea glauca* - White Spruce
Typical Plantings

- **Shrubs**
  - *Cornus amomum* – Silky Dogwood
  - *Cornus racemosa* – Grey Dogwood
  - *Cornus sericea* – Redosier Dogwood
  - *Fothergilla major* – Large Fothergilla
  - *Hamamelis virginiana* – Common Witchhazel
  - *Rhus aromatica* ‘Grow Low’ - Grow Low Sumac
Project Design Elements – Typical Planting Plan - Holworthy St.
Project Design Elements – Typical Planting Plan - Huron Ave
Slope Stabilization and Stormwater Management
Greenway Amenities

- Review by: Cambridge & Watertown Bicycle Committees & Cambridge Pedestrian Committee
- Review and Approval by Watertown through Watertown Planning Department
- Review and Approval by Cambridge Water Board
- Review and Approval by Cambridge Conservation Commission.
- Abutter meeting
Design & Construction Schedule

- State Highway Access permit for Bridges – Summer 2016
- Design scheduled to be completed by Summer 2016
- Construction to begin 2017 (pending funding availability – preliminary cost for construction = $2,100,000)
Additional Information

For more information:  

If you have comments or suggestions on this project: 
Submit online:  
Write:  Department of Conservation and Recreation  
   Office of Public Outreach  
   251 Causeway Street, Suite 600  
   Boston, MA 02114

Deadline:  Monday, June 20, 2016  
Note: Public comments submitted to DCR may be posted on the DCR website in their entirety.

If you have questions or concerns or wish to subscribe to a DCR general information or project-related listserv:  contact DCR’s Office of Community Relations at 617-626-4973 or Mass.Parks@state.ma.us.