

Joint Bike/Ped/Transit Committees meeting 3/16/22
Notes

Attendance

Bike Committee:

Present (9): Mark Boswell, Pamela Yang, Carola Voelker, Thomas Randall, John P. Ellersick, Scott Kilcoyne, Eitan Normand, Conor Henrie, Randy Stern, Julia Somerdin, Anna Frebel

Absent (10): Alison Harris, Amy Flax, Brennan Biemann, Diane Gray, Guido Cuperus, Rahi Patel, Silvia Del Carmen Castanos, Thomas Randall, Todd Robinson

Pedestrian Committee:

Present (7): Sandy Goldberg, Elizabeth Paden, Debby Galef, Robin Bonner, Sarah B Willis, Ray Hayhurst, Brooke Williams, Jeannine Powers

Absent (6): Arnav Mulrudihar, Brooke Williams, Jenine Turner-Trauring, Morgan Pinney, Sean Peirce

Transit Advisory Committee:

Present (3): Peter Septoff, Makayla Comas, Saul Tannenbaum

Absent (13): Arthur Strang, Bill McAvinney, Carl Rothenhaus, Casey Berg, Devin Chausee, Jackson Moore-Otto, Jim Gascoigne, John Attanucci, Katherine Rafferty, Kelley Brown, Kristiana Lachiusa, Matthew Coogan, Melissa Zampitella, Sylvia Parsons

City Staff (3): Cara Seiderman, Andy Reker (CDD); Kathy Watkins (DPW)

Other (6): Josh Weiland (MBTA), 5 members of the public

DPW 5 Year Sidewalk and Street Reconstruction Plan

See [2021 plan on-line](#).

- Upcoming large projects -River St, Huron Ave FPP to Glacken, Central Sq, Harvard St, Kirkland St, MassAve4, Linear Park, New Danehy path connection, Grand Junction
- Increased “spot funding” for bike/transit improvements - \$200K
- Questions and Answers
 - What is a “non-equity area?” e.g., Brattle St. is in that denotation? A – on the map certain areas count towards “equity,” and the “non-equity areas” are those that don’t have those metrics.
 - Priority - bike lanes vs trees in current parking areas? A - high level goals in the bike plan and tree canopy plan; specific design plans are needed on a case-by-case basis
 - New St (FPP to Danehy) and Linear Path status - planning happening, web site soon, outreach not started yet
 - No lighting on Watertown Path. A - Not approved when built but conduit is in place for future.
 - Bicycle priority streets - low speed, low volume, e.g., Harvard Street. Can we have meaningful changes such as choke points, curb extensions, speed humps, signage? A – Designs are done when the streets are being reconstructed so will look at those details during the design process.

- More raised crossings would be helpful. How do you request them? A - typically don't do them as stand-alone projects. Usually with other projects. Cost \$100-200K.
- Who should we contact if there are specific streets with problematic sidewalks or pavements? I'm thinking about Garfield Street. – A - See Click Fix is good. We may be able to use some of our street paving contract or miscellaneous sidewalk contract to make minor repairs.
- Have you considered non-salt solutions for managing ice during winter? A - City began a pilot in North Cambridge using a non-salt brine. We have been using it in more places.
- Access to Morse School on Granite St is poor - poor sidewalks, no bus parking, poor bike access from the East, not accessible sidewalks
- Access to Graham and Parks School poor - bad sidewalks, cars park on Walker St sidewalks, tree conflicts - A - Can email Kathy Watkins about specific issues such as a tree making a sidewalk noncompliant, illegal parking blocking the sidewalk, call police non-emergency number 617-349-3300 or Traffic & Parking, 617-349-4700.
- Public question: Was that the 5 year plan, is the slide show on-line? A - Yes it was the 2021 5 year plan, which is available <http://cambridgema.gov//the-works/fiveyearplan>

MBTA Updates

- New CharlieCard distribution sites at city facilities
 - City webpage (HTML): <https://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/Transportation/gettingaroundcambridge/bytransit/CharlieCards>
- New Fare Vending Machines that dispense CharlieCards and “tappable” CharlieTickets
 - Webpage (HTML) : <https://www.mbta.com/fares/upgrades-fare-vending-machines>
 - Informational video on YouTube : <https://youtu.be/lvNBpkeZ-1c>
- Green Line Extension opening Monday, March 21, 2022
 - MBTA alerts webpage (HTML): <https://www.mbta.com/schedules/Green#:~:text=The%20Green%20Line%20Extension%20will%20open%20to%20Union%20Square%20on%20Mon%2C%20Mar%202021>
 - “Sneak peek” preview video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GFtNnIVhb7Q>
- Spring bus service changes and restorations
 - MBTA informational webpage (HTML): <https://www.mbta.com/service-changes/spring-2022-service-changes>