

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE  
TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING NOTES

Date, Time & Place:  
February 1, 2017, 5:30-7:30  
MIT building E25, room 117

#### Attendance

##### *Committee Members*

John Attanucci, Joseph Beggan, Devin Chausse, Karen Dumaine, Robert Fitzgerald, Katherine Rafferty, Robert Ricchi, and Saul Tannenbaum

##### *City of Cambridge*

Tegin Bennett and Cleo Stoughton (Community Development); Adam Shulman (Traffic, Parking, and Transportation)

##### *Presenters, official entities, and members of the public*

One member of the public was present. Philip Groth (MBTA) was present.

#### Committee Introductions, Administrative Business, and Updates

The January notes were not approved because quorum was not met.

#### Public Comment

There were no comments at this time.

#### Inman Square Intersection Improvements

Staff presented the project details and design options, and then committee members discussed and provided feedback. Visit the [project website](#) for more information (see the Documents tab). There was a public meeting for this project on January 24 and a repeat meeting will be held February 7; there are also drop in hours scheduled at 344 Broadway.

##### *Discussion:*

- At this stage in the project, there are four preliminary design options for discussion: “Bend Cambridge,” “Bend Hampshire,” “Bend Northside,” and “Roundabout.”
- To some extent, some elements of the four plans (e.g., bus stop designs) can be mixed and matched with other design options.
- The committee requested more information about how the “MBTA bus route efficiency” measure (on the design options summary matrix) is calculated.
- The committee discussed queue jump lanes, nearside/farside stop treatments, and floating bus stop designs. A queue jump lane on Cambridge St eastbound approaching Inman would be beneficial as the Cambridge Service Analysis (2014) found that buses experienced a lot of delay and unreliability at this approach.
- The committee was concerned about yielding behavior in the roundabout design.
- The committee discussed adding/moving stops on Prospect to better serve users boarding, alighting, and transferring to other bus routes. There was discussion about whether buses heading east/south should turn right on Prospect at Cambridge Street or Hampshire Street. The right turn onto Hampshire may be easier for buses due to the intersection geometry. There should be further discussion about bus stop locations near Inman as the design progresses.
- In general, the designs in which traffic flows best should be best for buses as well.

#### Follow-up on Bus Routing Ideas and Five-Year Street and Sidewalk Reconstruction Plan Discussion

Committee members discussed follow-up on these initiatives. Staff presented a draft of higher priority implementation items, based on the 2015 Transit Strategic Plan, previous discussions with the committee, and input from the committee’s chair. The items were grouped into six categories that roughly match most of the goals in the strategic plan. With this input, staff will work to create an implementation plan.

##### *Discussion:*

- The chair of the committee noted that there are two categories of implementation items: items that require action of some kind from the state (e.g., Red Line capacity upgrades) and items that can be implemented without relying on the state (e.g., bus priority on Cambridge streets).

#### Final Public Comment

There were no further comments.

### Announcements, Events, and Updates

- *Green Line Extension*: on January 31, a notice of project change was filed with the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. The committee asked whether the state had provided mitigation appropriate for the delay on the project.
- *Kendall Square Transit Enhancement Program*: the KSTEP working group will likely be formed this summer or fall.
- *Envision Cambridge*: the Mass Ave visioning process is moving forward. The working groups (e.g., mobility) should be announced soon.
- *Mass+Main development project*: the project will contribute \$60,000 to the city towards the development of transit improvements in Central Square, as well as study the feasibility of widening the Red Line station entrance stairs on the north/east side of Central.

*Adjourned at 7:30 pm*