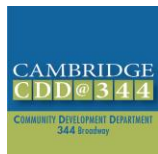




City of Cambridge Community Development Department

Notes

November 2021





Notes

- This document has updates on various MBTA and city projects since the last meeting
- TAC members can provide suggestions for topics that you'd like to monitor by sending an e-mail to Andy Reker (areker@cambridgema.gov).



MBTA Updates



MBTA Better Bus Project

- MBTA held a virtual open house about the following projects
 - Silver Line extension
 - Bus electrification + facility modernization
 - Bus network redesign
 - Transit priority
 - Stop accessibility improvements
 - Stop elnk signs
 - Operations management
- Presentation materials can be seen at the event page. URL: <https://www.mbta.com/events/2021-08-26/public-meeting-better-bus-project-open-house-virtual>



MBTA Service Restorations

- A schedule change took effect on Sunday, August 29, 2021
- The next planned schedule change is in December 2021



MBTA Service Restoration - Buses

- MBTA restored additional bus service on August 29
 - **Restored**
 - Route 67 – Midday service to resume
 - Route 72 – New trips will be part of Route 75
 - Route 351 – New peak-hour local for Burlington to North Burlington
 - **Restored separated routes** – None
 - **Increased frequencies**
 - Subway
 - **Route diversions for the Harvard Bus Tunnel closure ended**
 - Other routes have minor changes to trips

MBTA Service Restorations – Suspended

Route	Status	Hub	Terminal	Destination/Notes
67	Restored – 8.29.2021	Alewife	Turkey Hill	Arlington Heights; Midday service suspended
72	Restored – 8.29.2021	Harvard	Aberdeen Ave.	AM toward Harvard only PM toward Aberdeen only
79	Suspended - 3.14.2021	Alewife	Arlington Heights	(Alternate to Route 77)
351	Restored – 8.29.2021	Burl. Mall	N. Burlington/Rte 3	Local – Timed to meet Route 350 at Burlington Mall

MBTA Service Restorations – Combined/Reduced Frequencies

Route	Status	Hub	Terminal	Destination/Notes
62	Combined w/76 since 8.31.2020	Alewife	Bedford/VA Hospital	Hanscom Airport, Lex. Center
76	Combined w/62 since 8.31.2020	Alewife	Lincoln Lab	Hanscom Airport, Lex. Center
78	Combined w/84 - since 3.17.2020	Harvard	Arlmont Village	Cambridge Highlands
84	Combined w/78 - since 3.17.2020	Alewife	Arlmont Village	[Peak-only] via Route 2
CT2	Reduced Frequency Since 8/2020	Ruggles	Sullivan	Union Sq., Wellington-Harrington, Kendall Sq., Longwood Medical Area

MBTA Service Restorations – Fewer Trips

Route	Status	Hub	Terminal	Destination/Notes
69	Reduced frequency since 8.31.2020	Lechmere	Harvard	Inman Square, East Cambridge, Cambridge Hospital, CRLS
71/73	Reduced frequency since 8.31.2020	Harvard	Watertown Square Waverley/Belmont	Mount Auburn Hospital
77	Reduced frequency since 8.31.2020	Harvard	Arlington Heights	Porter Square, North Cambridge, Arlington Center
85	No midday service since 8.31.2020	Kendall	Spring Hill	
88	Reduced frequency since 8.31.2020	Lechmere	Clarendon Hill	Somerville City Hall, Davis Sq.
96	Reduced frequency since 3.2021	Harvard	Medford Square	Porter Square

MBTA Service Restorations - Restored

Route	Status	Hub	Terminal	Destination/Notes
64	Restored – 8.2020	Kendall	Oak Square	Cambridgeport, Allston
68	Restored – 6.2021	Kendall	Harvard	CRLS; The Port
74	Restored – 8.2020	Harvard	Belmont Center	Via Concord Ave
75	Restored – 8.2020	Harvard	Belmont Center	Via Huron Ave
87	Restored – 8.29.2021	Lechmere	Arlington Center Clarendon Hill	Union Sq., Porter Sq., Davis Sq., Clarendon Hill – East Arlington

MBTA Service Restorations – More trips

Route	Status	Hub	Terminal	Destination/Notes
1	Additional trips 3/2021	Harvard	Nubian	Via Mass Ave
47	Additional trips 6/2021	Central	Broadway	Longwood Medical Area, Boston Medical Center (City Hospital)
66	Additional trips 8/2020	Harvard	Nubian	Via Brookline Center
70	Additional trips 6/2020	Central Sq.	Waltham	Allston, Watertown
80	Additional trips 8/2020	Lechmere	Arlington Center	East Somerville, Magoun Sq., Tufts
86	Additional trips 8/2020	Sullivan	Reservoir	Harvard, Allston, Brighton, Cleveland Circle
91	Additional trips 6/2021	Central	Sullivan	Inman Square
350	Additional trips 8/2020	Alewife	Burlington	Arlington Center



MBTA Green Line Extension

- Project is an estimated ~70~75% complete
- Partial opening planned for **March 2022**
 - Reopening with service to Lechmere and Union
 - No fare gate line at GLX stations, including Lechmere; stations will have a “fare paid” area
 - Fare vending machines to also serve as fare validation machines
 - Rail-replacement shuttles to remain until service to Lechmere begins
- Service to Medford/Tufts is planned to open in May 2022
- Elevator access for Union station delayed until mid 2022
- 24 new trolleys purchased to accommodate increased ridership



MBTA “Building Back” – In progress

- Many new construction projects through December will involve route/line, busway, and station closures resulting in alternate bus stop locations, bus shuttling, or alternate travel.
- Through December: **Fitchburg Line *weekend* closures** for safety systems – rail-replacement bus shuttle service
- **Upcoming: Red Line weekend closures** for signals, tunnel repairs, floating slabs – bus shuttles



In progress

Project	Update	Next public event
Red Line Transformation	Red line signal upgrades, new trains, Alewife crossover Oct/Nov shuttles replacing line on the weekend	TBA
Fare Transformation (AFC 2.0)	Sales Network Public Input Survey open	TBA



In progress

Project	Update	Next public event
Alewife Garage Repairs	Significant acceleration of the repair work during pandemic. Scheduled completion Fall 2023	None planned
Lechmere Viaduct Rehabilitation (Green Line Transformation)	Work to rehabilitate viaduct 98% complete. Expect completion in December 2021	None planned



In design

Project	Update	Next public event
Route 2 Alewife Off-ramp	MassDOT Highway Division completing bridge rehabilitation – new striping, including bus lane, expected in Fall	None scheduled

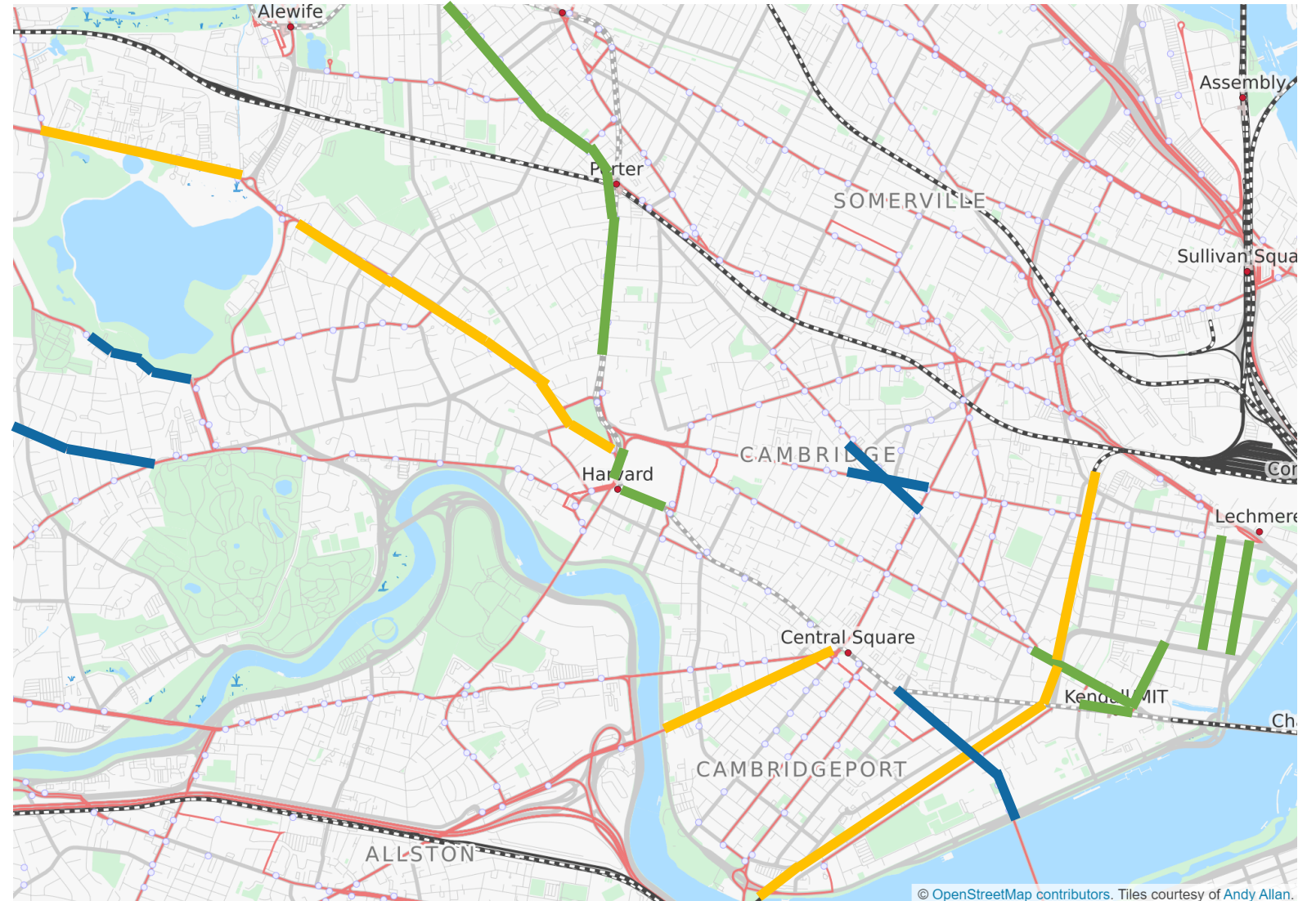
Under study

Project	Update	Next public event
Bus Network Redesign	Public meeting took place 10/27 to discuss approach + principals	TBA
Silver Line Extensions Alternative analysis	Draft alternatives under review	TBA
Facility modernization & Bus electrification	North Cambridge Carhouse – Conversion to BEB facility (Potentially FY2023-24)	TBA



Notes: City Updates

Selected street projects





In Progress

Project	Update	Next public event
Inman Square	Installing curbs, new sidewalks, signal mast arms and equipment Transitioned to Cambridge St in October	E-mail updates sent out as construction work zones change, about every 2 weeks

Implementation soon

Project	Update	Next public event
Belmont Street	On hold pending coordination with MBTA. Potential start Spring 2022	None planned
Huron Avenue – Glacken Field	Traffic analysis complete Continuing with existing design	TBA
South Mass Ave Transit Priority Follow-up	Designs are finalized. Implementation soon	TBA

In Planning and Design

Project	Update	Next public event
River Street Reconstruction	Updating plaza designs	November (?)
Grand Junction MUP	Ongoing review with state agencies	Working Group Meeting #7 on Nov. 9
Concord Ave – Transit Signal Priority	Working with MBTA on procurement	None scheduled



In Study

Project	Update	Next public event
Porter Square Corridor Safety Improvements	Ongoing study CSO-related project	TBA
North Mass. Ave (Dudley to Alewife Brook Parkway) Corridor Safety Improvements	Public Meeting held Oct. 28 to discuss plans	TBA

In Study

Project	Update	Next public event
First Street & Second Street Corridor	Comment period closed	None currently scheduled
Broadway/Main/Third (CRA-led)	Ongoing study of bus queue jump facility and signal priority on Broadway and Third	None currently scheduled
Transportation Impact Study Update Study	Study has begun	None currently scheduled
MassAve4 Outreach	Updated technical analysis + outreach	Open house in Nov.