







## **City of Cambridge Community Development Department**

# Transit Advisory Committee

December 2022



## Welcome

#### **Purpose**

Get feedback from appointed members of the TAC, the City's "community experts"

#### **Outcomes**

TAC to provide input on what items the TAC wants to encourage TAC to know the most recent information on City and MBTA projects

#### **Process**

TAC to 'raise hand' during presentations and discussions Public to type in questions in zoom Q&A or speak verbal comments during public comment period

# Discussion: TAC-endorsed Implementation Plan

Andrew Reker, City of Cambridge

## Review of Purpose, Objectives, and Process

#### **Purpose**

- Review an updated version of the implementation plan and discuss additions, deletions and modifications.
- TAC-endorsed implementation plan helps city staff organize upcoming meeting topics and materials

#### **Objective**

 The TAC and City staff are aware of current status of endorsed items and new, modified, or deleted implementation plan items

#### **Process**

 City staff will highlight updates and new items that have come up since December 2021. TAC will discuss additions or modifications.

## Interrelated plans and documents

## Transit Strategic Plan

- Identifies broad direction, goals
- Identifies objectives and strategies

## Implementation Plan

- Identifies and prioritizes specific initiatives
- Limited by available resources

#### Project Work Plan

- Highlights actions, partnerships, timelines, etc.
- Addresses actions taken to implement objective or strategy

## Goals of Transit Strategic Plan

#1 Serve all trips

#2 Expand funding

#3 Improve service efficiency

#4 Expand Service

#5 Improve usability, access, safety

#6 Improve outreach and participation

#7 Resiliency and adaption to climate change

#### **#1 Serve all trips**

- Identify gaps in the transit network
- Prioritize strategies that would fill gaps, focusing on people that depend on transit for their travel
- Prioritize strategies that increase access to community amenities and resources (i.e. not only work-commute trips)

#### **#2 Expand funding**

- Advocate for more funding for public transit from all stakeholders developers, private business, government
- Use available municipal funding for transit improvements bus stops, bus lanes, transit signals
- Support the development of Transportation Management Associations

#### **#3 Improve service efficiency**

- Coordinate and advocate for improvements to Red Line capacity, efficiency, and reliability
- Advocate for additional supplementary local transit service (potentially parallel to existing Red and Green Line)
- Prioritize transit improvements that improve travel time and reliability when doing city projects
- Coordinate with MBTA and private shuttles for better connectivity and
- Support improvements in fare payment policy, strategy, and technology

#### **#4 Expand Service**

- Support and advocate for the MBTA to provide:
  - New routes (ones that connect "crosstown" and connect with underserved neighborhoods)
  - Better frequencies
  - Longer service hours (especially evenings and weekends)
- Support and advocate for new routes provided by TMAs

#### #5 Improve usability, access, safety

- Improve transfers between bus-rail, commuter rail-bus, commuter railrail, etc. to minimize walking times.
- Improve wayfinding and transit information on city streets
- Improve access to transit by sustainable transportation (walk, bike, other transit/shuttles)
- Improve bus stop amenities, street lighting and winter maintenance

#### #6 Improve outreach and participation

- Maintain the TAC to advise the City on transit issues and prioritizing improvements
- Increase outreach using multiple channels
- Modify outreach to be positive, effective, innovative and attentiongetting
- Communicate openly and frequently with businesses, other agencies, organizations to promote transit use and improvements

#### #7 Resiliency and adaption to climate change

- Advocate for modifications that reduce the GHG impact from public transit
- Coordinate and fund initiatives to improve climate resilience for cityowned assets (like streets) from the impact of excessive heat and flooding
- Improve amenities to address and mitigate climate change-related impacts like extreme weather and excessive heat
- Increase green space and shade cover to mitigate impacts of heat on transit riders

## Interrelated plans and documents

## Transit Strategic Plan

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## **Implementation Plan**

- Identifies and prioritizes specific initiatives
- Limited by available resources

#### Project Work Plan

- Highlights actions, partnerships, timelines, etc.
- Addresses actions taken to implement objective or strategy

## TAC provides advice by recommending specific actions

#### **Moving forward (Category A)**

Actions that have funding and resources available

#### Resources not yet identified (Category B)

Actions that need to have funding or other resources identified

#### Not yet started (Category C)

Actions that do not have a funding or resource plan

#### **Revisit (Category D)**

Actions that may have funding or resources but have not had an update

#### Ongoing/Advocacy (Category E)

Ongoing advocacy items for TAC or City

## Your recommended actions relate to strategic goals

Table of strategic goals and implementation items	Count of implementation items
Goal 1: Serve all trips	2 items
Goal 2: Prioritize funding	3 items
Goal 3: Improve efficiency and reliability of services	27 items
Goal 4: Expand service	8 items
Goal 5: Improve usability, access, and service	9 items
Goal 6: Improve outreach and participation	0 items
Goal 7: Resiliency and adaptation to climate change	2 items
Other	7 items

## **Updates since December 2021**

#### **Moving forward (Category A)**

- New items: Bus priority First/Second, Part 2; "MassAve4";
  "MassAve4 Harvard Square"; Harvard Bridge; Mass Ave Central Square
- Moved from Category D Fare-free pilot
- Removed: Bus priority Mass Ave Dudley to Alewife (Completed);
  Amenities 500 Main St Shelter; MBTA Mass Ave initiative; Bus priority Broadway/Main/Third study; Bus Priority First/Second (Phase 1); Bus Priority Mass Ave Porter Square

## **Updates since December 2021**

#### Resources not yet identified (Category B)

 New item: Transit Strategic Plan Implementation Plan Update; Update of transit delay/unreliability studies; Expansion – Bus Network Redesign network implementation

#### Not yet started (Category C)

No changes

## **Discussion**

Did we miss any thing that you think the city should be studying? Do you need clarification or input?

We can also go through and identify any (1) additions, (2) removals, and (3) changes in priority for the advisory committee

### **New ideas**

- Bridges over the Fitchburg Main Line
- Trolley poles and electrification
- North Cambridge carhouse electrification project
- Wayfinding and signage and Bus Network Redesign
- Digital alternates to wayfinding signage or service information Transit apps who is this for? -
- Realtime information buildings with transit screens, etc.
- Maintenance of stations and also pilot initiatives
- "Station brightening" updates
- Station condition assessments Downtown transfer stations DTX/Park "Charliecard store" transactions Cambridge location?

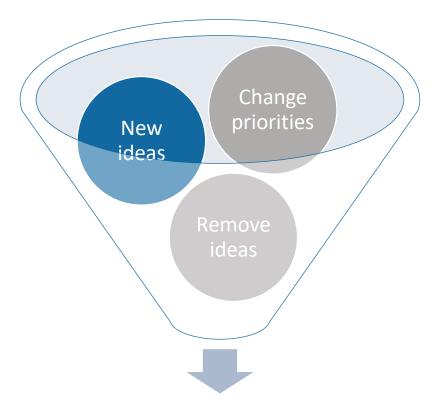
## **Modifications**

AFC Fare update – contactless / project update

Development require transit passes – Alewife 2 months free to all that move in

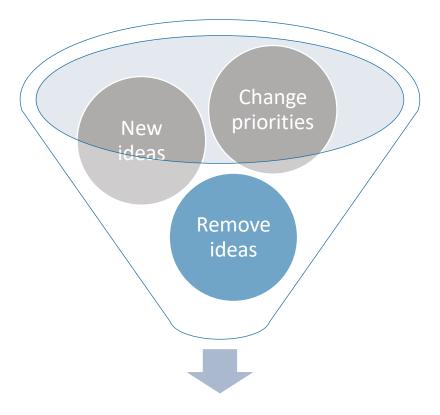
Neighborhood plans include analysis of transit barriers

## Implementation Plan



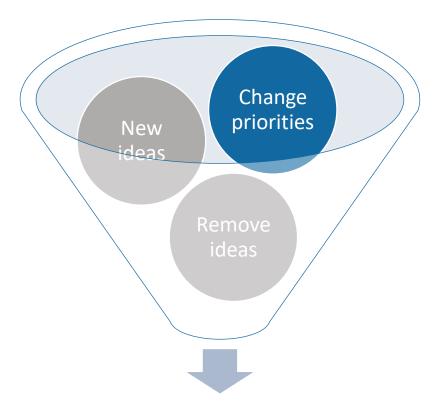
Implementation Plan Update

## Implementation Plan



Implementation Plan Update

## Implementation Plan



Implementation Plan Update

Thank you for participating in this Transit Advisory Committee meeting.

Stay healthy and well.

### Thank You