



SOMERVILLE BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

Community Representatives:

(x) Ken Carlson, Chair
(x) Tom Lamar, Vice Chair
(x) Katie Pierce, Secretary
Alex Anderson
Emily Balkam

(x) Mark Vollinger
(x) Lena Webb
(x) Ian Woloschin
(x) Michael Weber

(x) Alex Epstein
(x) Ted Feldman
(x) Alex Frieden
Ted Lester

Ex Officio:

Skye Stewart, Office of the Mayor
(x) Katjana Ballantyne, City Council
Commissioner Stan Koty, Dept. of Public Works
Adam Polinski, Office of Strategic Planning and Community Dev
(x) Deputy Chief Steve Carrabino, Police Department

Thursday May 2, 2019, 6:30-8:00 PM, Somerville Public Safety Building Academy Room, 220 Washington St

Procedural, General Business & Updates (25 Minutes)

1. Guest introductions and sign-in sheet
2. Acting Secretary: Ted Feldman
3. VOTE: Approve April Minutes
Motion: Lena, 2nded: Ted Feldman
Motion Passed
4. Elections for Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary – Ken
 - a. Announced last month, decided to delay to today
 - b. Ken proposed slate of candidates: Tom L (chair) Katie Pierce (vice), Ted L (secretary)
 - c. Motion to vote for slate of candidates
 - d. Motion to elect candidates passed
 - e. New slate of officers passed unanimously: Tom L (chair) Katie Pierce (vice), Ted L (secretary)
5. Webster Ave in Cambridge
 - a. Tom introduced the issue that the City of Cambridge does not plan to finish the last few hundred feet of Webster Ave from the Cambridge City Line to the intersection at Cambridge St
 - b. Ian asked if is there anything we could do better [for future projects]?
 - c. Adam responded that this is primarily Brad's [Rawlston, head of OSPCD] job. Ian responded that this could be considered a rhetorical question
 - d. Alex Epstein mentioned that discussions were had between cities
 - e. It was added that local advocacy groups in CBS are currently working on it.
6. Letter advocating for wider Community Path Extension – Alan
 - a. Feel path should be widened from 10ft design to 14 feet
 - b. Tom and Ken drafting letter to Gov. Baker as Sec. Pollock has said no changes
 - c. Councillor Katjana Ballantyne explained that the project was budgeted at 1.3 Billion dollars and the winning bid: was 1.0 Billion. There was some question as to how the cost differences were then allocated?
 - d. Ted F asked about the additional problem of the lack of ramp to finish the path connections
 - e. Alan mentioned that there is some possibility the hotel developer may be willing to co-sponsor this upgrade
7. Other upcoming events – presented by Tom Lamar
 - a. A reminder that the Ward 7 Resistat meeting was held on Wednesday, May 8th

City Update (35 min) - Adam

1. Striping timing – HSIP (Park St, Temple St, Washington St, Broadway), Beacon St, Webster Ave, Central Broadway, Powder House Blvd, Lower Medford – See matrix in slides, changes are in red. Waiting for crew for adding green thermoplastic
 - a. Beacon: Newport will be working on inbound sidewalks, then shift to outbound. Delayed by utilities, moving telephone poles six inches. Issues with construction management. Temporary striping MassDOT less willing until all width dimensions
 - b. Union Sq: The space between barrels will be adjusted to improve clearance around accessible space. Mark added

that traffic around Bow street improved when traffic was limited to one lane.

- c. Dane St: option in new year to look at better alternative
 - d. The city Experiment with alternatives: come up with list of bike facilities where planters or alternatives might be appropriate
 - e. Webster Ave will not change turn configurations at present.
 - f. Powder House
 - i. Paving will likely happen in August
 - ii. New signage and markings installation is slated for Sept/Oct
 - iii. Lower Medford (Somerville Ave by target to down by tracks)
 1. Cambridge is planning two-way cycletrack (13 ft – wide sidewalk) design transition to lower Medford side.
 2. Resurfacing contract is in the process of being awarded and the timeline still needs to be established to be established
 3. Ken pointed out that there is a dangerous intersection at Medford and Somerville Ave that requires consideration.
 4. Some new possibilities for last ditch effort
 5. Upper Medford: Engineering and Eval look at centerline bike lanes
 - g. Cameron Ave – need to assess state of road
 - h. Broadway
 - i. Teele Square to Ball Square
 - ii. Extending Webster Ave PBLs to Prospect St (already covered)
2. Update on Holland St Bus Lane pilot
 - a. MAPC schedule, counts in May, data in July, committee will still need volunteers for midnight counts.
 3. Timing for restriping existing bike lanes
 - a. Bike Lanes to be painted in FY 2019:
 - i. Somerville Ave – Porter Sq to Union
 - ii. Somerville Ave by Somerville Car Wash: was intentionally blank until paint fades to improve adhesion
 4. Replacing downed flex-posts on Webster and around the City
 - a. Add new 311 line item for down posts (in progress)
 - b. Low retention – standing and retained
 - c. Work better post turn
 5. Can we deploy flex-posts on Park St and other curbside bike lanes?
 6. Improving plans for Powder House Circle
 - a. SBAC Engineering proposal for PBLs around circle
 - b. Consultant and City haven't considered bike lanes
 - c. City will pass Committee's Design
 - d. Need to wait to new fiscal year
 7. Improving detour around Washington St to avoid McGrath

SBAC Education/Encouragement Team (10 min)

1. Bike Month Kick-off event recap – Michael/Arah
2. 2019 Priorities:
 - a. Pick a few goals and do well
 - b. Institutionalize partnerships
 - c. Bike PSAs- short videos
 - i. Adam is rolling out signage for neighborways
 - d. Events: Bike talk, rides
 - i. Katjana: Move events (April – June competes with spring sports if you want to get families)
 - e. Equity
 - i. Katjana: need help connecting with Latino and Brazilian communities
 - f. Other projects
 - i. New infrastructure ribbon cuttings
 - ii. Public bike repair stations
 - iii. Bike friendly businesses
3. Tour de Somerville Planning
4. This year 3 rides:
 - a. Historic Somerville (May/Sept)
 - b. Tour de Somerville (June)
 - c. Illuminations Ride (Dec)

SBAC High Priority Project Updates (20 min)

1. Powder House Boulevard
 - a. Unidirectional PBLs vs two-way PBL – Tom

- i. Adam: how do
- b. Advocacy update - Lena