



SOMERVILLE BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE May 2020 MEETING AGENDA

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

Community Representatives:

Tom Lamar, Chair

Katie Pierce, Vice Chair

Ted Lester, Secretary

Ken Carlson

Gregory Ely

Ted Feldman

Alex Frieden

Kevin McGrath

Alan Moore

(bolded=present)

Mark Vollinger

Lena Webb

Ian Woloschin

Michael Weber

Ex Officio:

Katjana Ballantyne, City Council

Adam Polinski, OSPCD Mobility

Deputy Chief Steve Carrabino, Police Department

Thursday, May 7th, 2020, 6:30-8:00PM

GoToMeeting link for computers, tablets, and smartphones:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/412932853>

GoToMeeting dial in number: +1 (646) 749-3112; Access code: 412-932-853

Procedural, General Business & Updates (20 Minutes)

- Guest introductions and logistics
 - Leigh Meunier
 - Arah Schuur
 - Ellyn Thompson
 - Alex Epstein
 - Nate Kauffman
 - Mark Chase
- Acting Secretary: Kevin M
- VOTE: Approve April Minutes
 - Ted motions, Alex seconds - APPROVED
- Annual report for 2019
 - Tom and Kevin to connect offline to go through round of edits in next week
 - Tom, Katie, and Ken to complete retrospective and look-ahead
- MPO draft TIP comments - Tom
 - There's an open comments period that could be used to give feedback regarding McGrath highway
 - Next step: write a letter from the committee emphasizing the importance of McGrath Highway and resignaling along McGrath and Mystic
 - Ted to volunteer to write a draft of the letter
 - Katie Motions, Tom seconds, Committee votes to approve Ted writing a letter/TIP comment
- Upcoming events and calls for volunteers
 - May bike talk Dave Read (5/13/2020)

- Exploring options for virtual rides
 - Send Michael an email if you have ideas on how to promote rides!

Focus: COVID Mitigation (30 min)

- Inspiration from other cities
- Best practices from NACTO Network:
 - Hands Free Ped Signals
 - New signage installed in Davis Sq
 - Traffic Calming / Crosswalk Enhancements
 - green light to do some basic traffic calming work to be scaled up in next week or two
 - Paint crews have been painting bump outs, strengthening curbs, and shortening cross distances
 - Curbside and Sidewalk Management
 - Using tactical materials (cones, tape, etc.) to widen sidewalks
 - creating short term pick-up/drop-off zones
 - priorities are addressing high-traffic areas where queues are forming
 - Shared Streets for Physical Distancing
 - Want to target areas where thru traffic is restricted and residents have safe alternative route to essential destinations
- The city is still doing data collection during this time to evaluate how residents are behaving given new guidelines, concerns, etc.
- Timeline for converting more signals to hands-free or dealing with sidewalk management
 - Hoping to add signage next few days (Weather and ops team availability pending)
 - Sidewalk pilot options are coming up in next week or two
 - Some streets (like Prospect Hill) have been designated 20mph
- City has to prioritize state-wide order to reduce non-essential travel

City Update (40 min) – Adam

- Status of resurfacing projects
 - Current, planned, and future projects are on hold while city Evaluates required site safety plans
 - Continuing design and outreach around Holland/College
 - Intends to being design and outreach process around Washington/Pearl later this year
- Status of the Green Line Extension
 - Washington St bridge reopening
 - set for End of May
 - Broadway Bridge reopening
 - Soft reopening mid-July
 - Open to peds, bicycles, and partial (2-lane) opening, with occasional single lane traffic
 - School St bridge detour
 - Closed until early 2021
 - Detour includes contraflow on Sycamore St
 - Limited to Richdale - Montrose
 - Community Path Extension crossings
 - email or call Viola with any additional questions regarding crossings
- Status of Powder House Circle

- Additional feedback from key stakeholders (MBTA PTAC, IAM), design is being finalized
 - One outstanding issue: bus stop relocations that may require changes to curb regulations
 - Possible parking removal or changes
 - Adam doesn't anticipate this being an issue
 - Financial due diligence is underway to determine implementation budget and timeline
- Beacon St mountable curb issues
 - COVID response has put pressure on SPD
 - Kevin to connect with Deputy Chief Carrabino and Captain Donovan and report back to the committee
 - Bluebikes ridership:
 - Increased during COVID crisis
 - Improved frequency of cleaning protocols
 - Gilman Square Design Recommendation:
 - Two concepts floated: Bend Pearl (B) and Close Medford St Bridge ©
 - Will be sending along designs for the Engineering and Evaluation sub-team review
 - More details here: <https://somervoicesomervillema.gov/gilman-square-plan-implementation>
 - Katie, Mark V., Ted and Alex E. voiced some preference for option C
 - Vote to initially express preference and have Eng/Eval provide more detailed review
 - Ted motions, Tom seconds - motion passes
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