

Cambridge Pedestrian Committee
DRAFT Minutes
January 23, 2020

Attendance

Committee Members: Robin Bonner, Debby Galef, Sandy Goldberg, Ian Henneberger, Elka Kuhlman, Magda McCormick, Angie Meltsner, Sean Peirce, Helen Rose, Erica Seidel, Wade Smith, Erik Tillman, Theresa Tobin, Olivia Turner, Jenny Turner-Trauring
Staff: Cara Seiderman (CDD), Greg Hanafin (CDD), Adi Philson (CDD)

Introductions

- Introduced to Adi Philson, the mobility education coordinator (pedestrian and cyclist education) She works with all the 2nd graders through the Safe Routes to School program (pedestrian safety units)
 - There are 4 lessons for 2nd graders. The PE teachers teach the first lesson, 2nd and 3rd are outdoor lessons that Adi helps with. The 2nd lesson is crosswalk and parking lot safety, the 3rd lesson is a walking field trip. The 4th lesson is a bike safety and helmet fitting class. **Safe Routes to School is looking for volunteers for the 3rd class** (the walking field trip).
 - Other ways to volunteer: there are walk to school days. If you have connections to schools, looking for volunteers to promote the walking events with those schools
 - February 5th is the winter walk to school day

Conflict of interest forms were passed out for those that haven't done them yet

November 2019 minutes were approved

Subcommittee breakout groups

- General plan is to have subcommittee meetings outside of committee meetings. Can put in a request for a meeting room in the city hall annex. Have to let everyone know about the meeting. If there's a substantive decision that will be made, meeting has to be publicized in advance (72 business hours (i.e., weekends do not count)).
- Considering consolidating certain subcommittee groups
 - Consolidate community walks with community walking maps
 - See click fix removed as a separate group and added to both the crosswalks and data subcommittees
 - Add Safe Routes to School to outreach work subcommittee
 - Move walking for health to either community walks or outreach work
 - Move outreach to homeless as a subtopic for outreach subcommittee if there are events
- Community walks subcommittee updates
 - Talked about a website with aggregated walks of different types (for exercise, for scenery, etc)
 - Brainstormed walks and put it on the subcommittee online folder
 - Combining with walking for health: could tag walks for exercise
 - Adding walks to the list either from the committee or from community members
 - Talked about having a fall community walk
- Crosswalks and traffic signal timing for pedestrians + snow + wayfinding
 - Set up an email list for members and come up with a good meeting time

- Focus on policies on signal timing, policies on snow, problem intersections, more crosswalks, midblock crossings, opportunities for super LPI, sidewalk conditions, wayfinding priorities, anything to do with the DCR
- Communications
 - Action items: themes for informational posts on twitter: pictures of confusing and idiosyncratic signs, sharing ideas from other places, other articles. The city needs to curate it. Elka and Sandy have a meeting with Jen to discuss whether it would work to have people submit internal posts and have one point person responsible for posting publicly
- Data analysis and visualization
 - Interest in storytelling as well as analysis
 - Interest in pedestrian rates over time as development occurs
 - Various data sources
 - Pedestrian crash data
 - Pedestrian counts
 - Eventual video counts from miovision
 - See click fix data
 - Possible collaboration with bike data analytics subcommittee

General updates

- DCR is holding a meeting on Feb 4th about proposed changes to intersection of Mt Auburn and Fresh Pond Parkway
- River Street meeting: discussed plan for Carl Barron Plaza. Presentation is on the website
- Tobin school meeting: they are still at a high level and don't yet have a detailed design. The biggest thing that's going to come up: the land parcel is a park. The parcel is a ped/bike connection and depending on where you site the building you may need to reroute the path, which may affect sight lines
- Reviewed 75-109 Smith place plan
 - There are concerns around sidewalks near the development area (although sidewalks are planned for this site itself)
 - The committee will send memo to the Planning Board suggesting that they consider opportunities for the developer to contribute to the pedestrian access bridge and/or full sidewalk access to Concord Ave
- Reviewed hotel proposal at 34-40 Hampshire St
 - Comments to be submitted by the committee
 - Questions about TNC drop off locations
 - Concerns about the width of the sidewalk on Portland