

An Update on Nearby Construction Projects

1. MBTA Bus Tunnel Repair

Status: Tunnel drainage replacements, tunnel ceiling rehabilitation and catenary system replacement have been completed. The upper and lower busways re-opened on December 21, 2020. Due to the excessive amount of concrete repairs and additional work required for the ductbank relocation, the concrete overlay work was not completed and

deferred until June 2021. There will be a final diversion from June 20, 2021, through August 28, 2021, to complete the remaining work.

Contact: Lonny Fidalgo, MBTA | lfidalgo@mbta.com

2. 1-23 JFK Street

Status: Concrete column placement ongoing. Interior renovation of existing building. Utility connections being reinstated, with multiple trenches for new utility connections. Sidewalks around building will have overhead staging. Jersey barriers being placed along work zones. Partial lane closures for project duration.

Duration: 18-24 months

Contact: Richard DeAguila,
Shawmut Design and Construction | 617-756-5313

3. 57 JFK Street

Status: Internal demolition complete. Eversource Electric to provide power from Eliot Street. Sidewalks around building will have overhead staging and will be closed for periods of time. Utility work on Winthrop Street to begin in two to three weeks.

Duration: Est. Completion Fall 2021

Contact: Michael Burke, Nauset Construction |
mburke@nauset.com

4. Harvard Square Plaza Renovation

Status: Anticipated summer/fall 2021 bid date. Future newsletters will include updates.

Contact: Melissa Miguel, P.E., Public Works |
617-349-9351, mmiguel@cambridgema.gov

5. 10 Church Street

Status: Existing building demolished; new commercial building to be constructed. Sidewalks along building will be closed for most of construction. Project will also need to occupy a portion of the roadway.

Duration: 24 months; no confirmed start date

Contact: TBD

6. 63 Mount Auburn Street

Status: Currently in first of three-phase renovation of three Harvard University residential buildings. Second phase requires parking and vehicular traffic modifications during renovation of Randolph House on Bow Street. Project fence line and work zone extended into Plympton Street sidewalk and parking lane. Shared travel lane open to vehicles and bicycles; pedestrians detoured to street side opposite of

Randolph House. Pedestrian and traffic management plans presented to the City.

Duration: First phase finishing Spring 2021

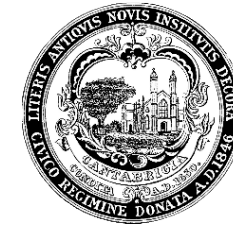
Contact: Ann Davis, CSL Consulting |
adavis@csl-consulting.com

7. Malkin Athletic Center (MAC)

Status: Harvard is conducting a renovation project on the third floor of the MAC. For the duration, Winthrop Street, between Dunster Street and Holyoke Street, is closed to traffic during project work hours on Mondays through Fridays.

Completion: May 2021

Contact: Ann Davis, CSL Consulting |
adavis@csl-consulting.com



HARVARD SQUARE AREA CONSTRUCTION UPDATE MAY 2021

Dear Harvard Square Neighbor,

The City is pleased to provide this first **Construction Update** for the Harvard Square Kiosk project. Throughout the duration of the Historic Out of Town News Kiosk Renovation Project, we will transmit occasional high-level project **Updates**, such as this one, as well as more frequent **Notices** that will detail specific short-term construction operations impacting various portions of Harvard Square.

We know that living, working, operating a business, and traveling through an active construction project is challenging. We truly appreciate all the efforts that the Harvard Square community and local businesses have put forth so far during the planning, design and initial construction activities of the project. We join you in looking forward to a successful project, which will renovate the historic Out of Town News Kiosk and improve safety for people walking, biking and driving in and around Harvard Square as part of our **Complete Streets** and **Vision Zero** initiatives.

The Out of Town News Kiosk is a historic building and any modification must be historically consistent. The project involves carefully restoring architectural details and adapting the building for future use.

During the project, the scrim on the construction fence around the Kiosk will be designed by Patricia Thaxton, a mixed media collage artist, fashion designer and educator based in Stoughton, whose work stood out to the Artist Selection Committee for its welcoming, diverse, and calming features. You can see her artwork on the fence around the Kiosk when construction begins.

The City will coordinate the Historic Out of Town News Kiosk Renovation with the other projects listed on Page 4, including the Plaza Renovation Project that will follow.

We encourage you to reach out to us with any questions, concerns, or suggestions about construction, and visit the project website. The City is committed to working with the Harvard Square community and local businesses throughout the Project.

Sincerely,

Katherine Watkins, P.E.
City Engineer



Out of Town News Kiosk.



An example of artwork by Patricia Thaxton, who will design the art on the construction barrier.

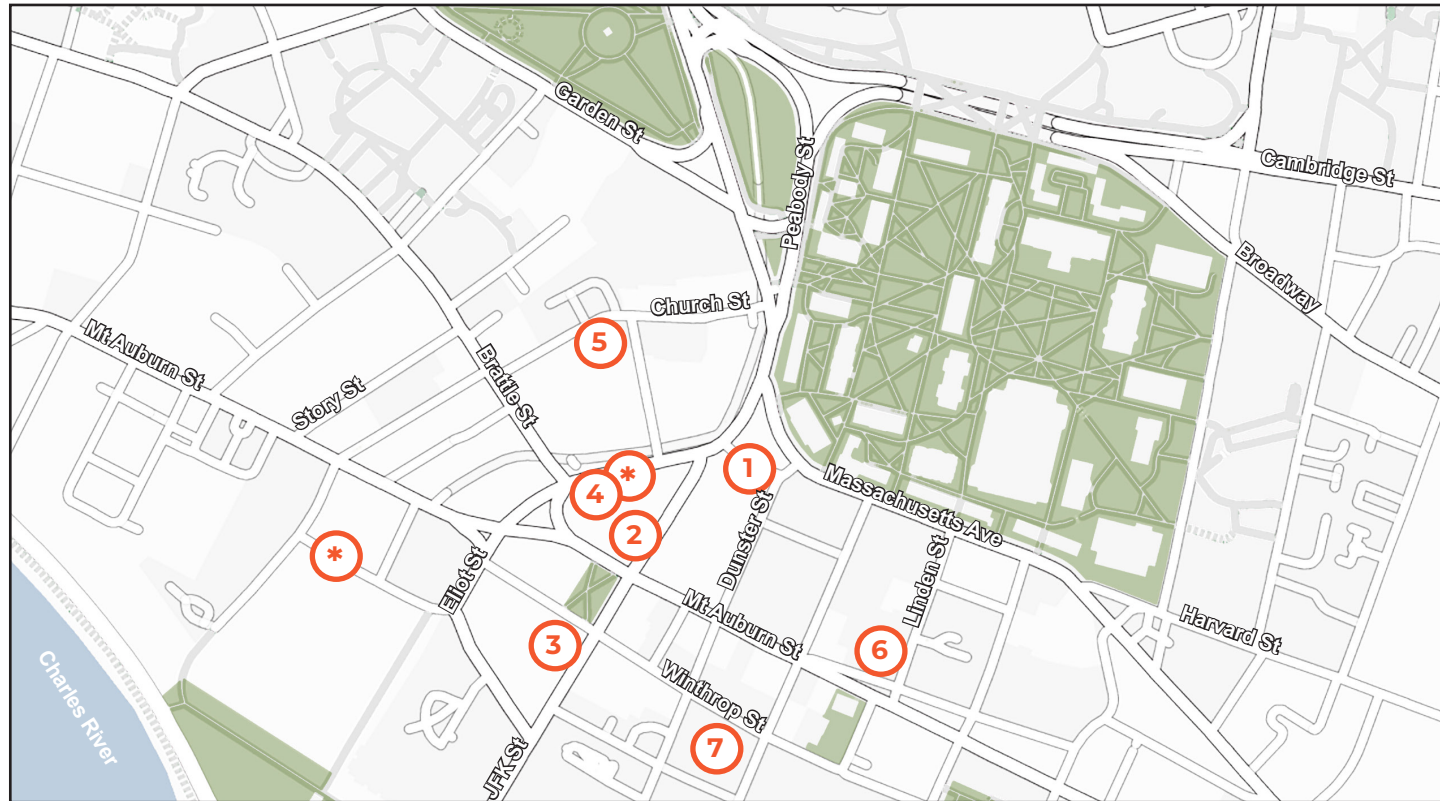


Questions?

Kate Riley
Community Relations
kriley@cambridgema.gov
617-349-4870

Melissa Miguel, P.E.
Supervising Engineer
mmiguel@cambridgema.gov
617-349-9351

Pardis Saffari
Small Business Liaison
psaffari@cambridgema.gov
617-349-4654



* Represents City of Cambridge projects, described on Page 3. For more details about projects 1-7, see Page 4.

Community Outreach and Construction Mitigation

The City is committed to maintaining clear communications and minimizing impacts to residential and commercial abutters throughout the construction phase. Ongoing outreach and mitigation activities include:

Business Mitigation: DPW and Community Development’s Economic Development Division are collaborating with the Harvard Square business community, including the Harvard Square Business Association (HSBA) on a business mitigation plan. The plan includes:

- Ongoing electronic and printed **communications** and periodic **surveys** of individual businesses to learn about critical operations issues
- “Preparing Your Business for Construction” **tools** and **workshop** (workshop held in February 2019)
- Individual **meetings** with business owners on construction questions
- A “Shop Local” customer loyalty **program**
- **Installations** of banners, planters, tree lights
- Wayfinding and promotional **signage** and distribution of promotional **materials**
- Temporary **changes** to area parking regulations to accommodate new spaces

Contact:
Pardis Saffari
 Small Business Liaison
 psaffari@cambridgema.gov
 617-349-4654

Updates and Notices: DPW is disseminating electronic and written communications throughout the duration of the project. These include periodic general “Updates” (such as this); and more specific “Notices” that alert the community to imminent operations in the field and related impacts to roadways, crosswalks, sidewalks, and parking. Updates and Notices are posted on the project website: www.cambridgema.gov/cdd/projects/parks/hsquarepublicspace and are emailed to those on the Project contact list. Visit the website to be added to this contact list. In addition, hard-copies of Updates and Notices are distributed to residents and businesses as appropriate.



Historic Out of Town News Kiosk Renovation

This project features the re-use of the historic Out of Town News Kiosk. In 2017, the City established a Harvard Square Kiosk and Plaza Working Group that worked with the City throughout the design process.

Start date: June 2021

Design Team/Architect: HDR/Halvorson/Touloukian Touloukian Inc.

Contractor: WES Construction Corp.

Contact: Melissa Miguel, P.E., Public Works
 617-349-9351, mmiguel@cambridgema.gov



To learn more about the project, visit: Cambridgema.gov/theworks/HarvardKioskandPlaza



Eliot Street Reconstruction

This sidewalk and roadway reconstruction project is complete. The project spanned Bennett Street to JFK Street.

Completed: Winter 2021

Contractor: Newport Construction Corp.

Contact: Melissa Miguel, P.E., Public Works
 617-349-9351, mmiguel@cambridgema.gov

To learn more about this project, visit: www.cambridgema.gov/Departments/publicworks/cityprojects/2018/elliottstreetreconstructionproject

Putting Your Safety First



The State issued the second amended temporary construction order on Nov. 6, 2020, which requires the wearing of masks or cloth face coverings in all public places, businesses, and common areas of residential buildings. The City construction sites are following City and State guidelines for safety standards to help keep our staff and you safe.