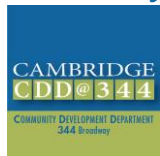

City of Cambridge Community Development Department Transit Advisory Committee

January 2023





Welcome

Purpose

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

Outcomes

TAC to provide input to city staff on Silver Line Extension alternatives
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



TAC and City Updates

Andy Reker, City of Cambridge



Review: Updates to TAC- endorsed Implementation Plan

Andrew Reker, City of Cambridge



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



Interrelated plans and documents



Transit Strategic Plan

- Identifies broad direction, goals
- Identifies objectives and strategies

Implementation Plan

- Identifies and prioritizes specific initiatives
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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

Your recommended actions relate to strategic goals

Strategic goal	December 2022	January 2023
Goal 1: Serve all trips	2	2
Goal 2: Prioritize funding	3	4
Goal 3: Improve efficiency and reliability of services	27	27
Goal 4: Expand service	8	8
Goal 5: Improve usability, access, and service	9	16
Goal 6: Improve outreach and participation	0	1
Goal 7: Resiliency and adaptation to climate change	2	1
Other	7	9



Discussion

Some next steps could be:

MBTA project subcommittee

- Grand Junction transit service
- Review of bus network redesign map
- North Cambridge carhouse conversion
- Review of existing bus lanes, Harvard Bridge bus lanes, Alewife area bus lane concepts
- Trip to Columbus Ave. Boston bus lanes

City project subcommittee

- MassAve4 Harvard Square
- MassAve4
- Central Square
- Transit analysis in neighborhood plans
- Bus stop design review

Other

- “Equity” bridge – Fitchburg Main Line



Updates: Transit Advisory Committee



Upcoming Meetings

- Next Transit Advisory Committee meeting
 - Thursday, February 2, 2023
 - Potential topics:
 - Bus Network Redesign implementation
 - Transit Signal Priority implementations
 - Grand Junction transit design
 - Thursday, March 2, 2023
- Scheduled joint meetings of Transit Advisory, Bicycle, Pedestrian Committees
 - Wednesday, January 18, 2023
 - Wednesday, February 15, 2023



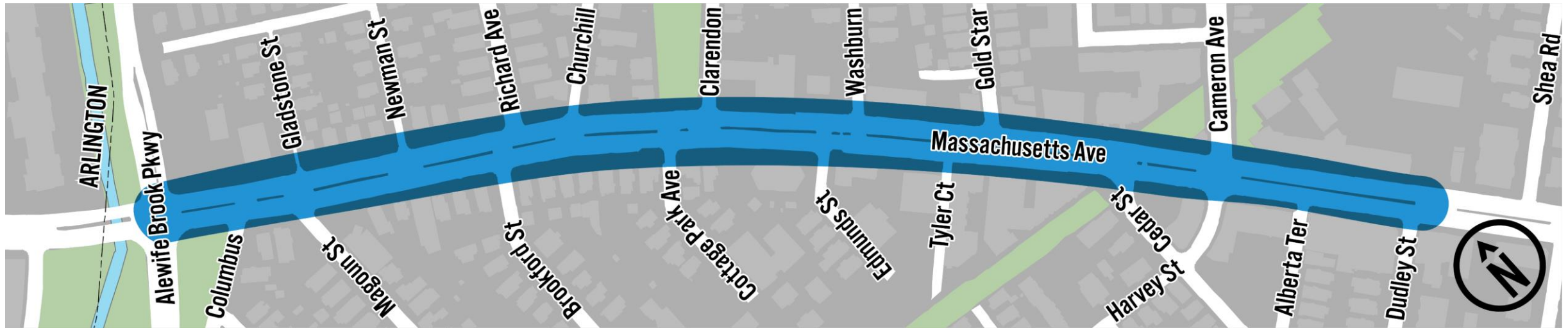
Seeking a chair and vice chair

- Chair
- Vice-chair



Evaluation of changes to Mass Ave | Dudley to Alewife Brook

We changed the design of Mass Ave between Dudley and Alewife Brook Parkway





We changed the design of Mass Ave between Dudley and Alewife Brook Parkway

What changed for bus riders

- Harvard-bound bus and right-turn lane in a.m. rush hour
- Arlington-bound bus and right-turn lane 24/7
- Bus stop moved from near-side to far-side at Cameron

What changed for motorists

- Left-turn banned at Cameron, replaced with a jug-handle turn
- Parking and loading moved to side streets or time-restricted
- One general travel lane

What changed for everyone

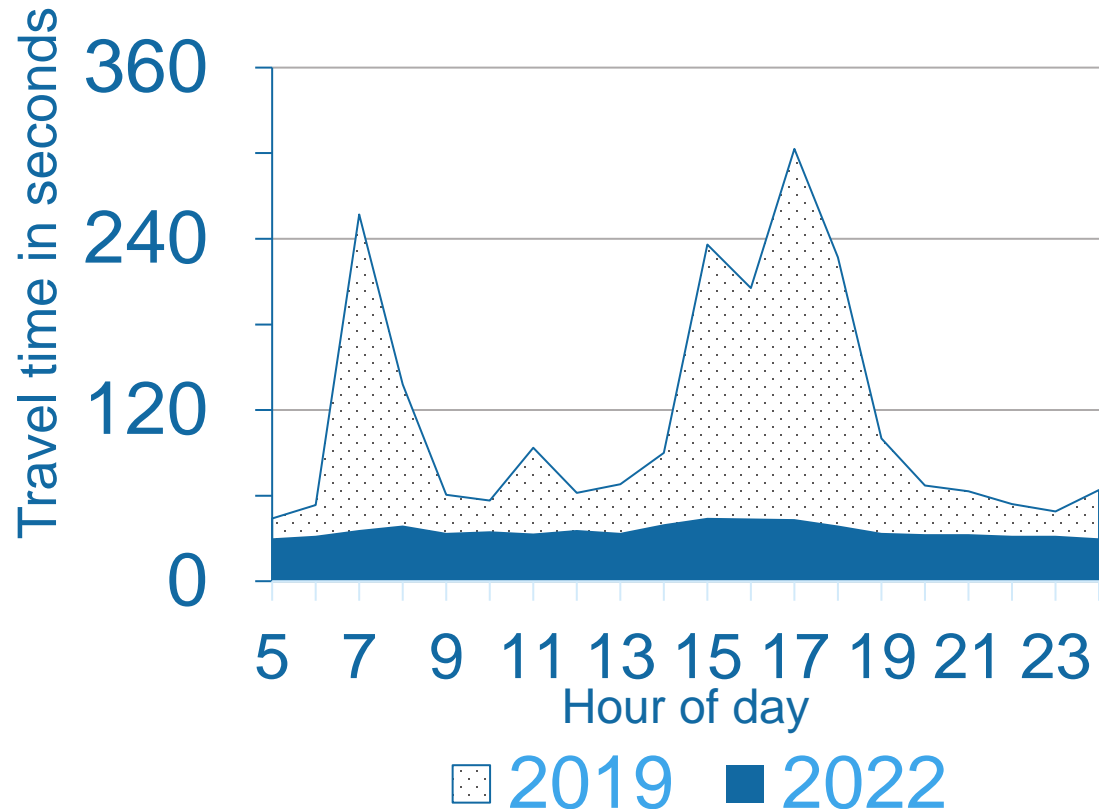
- Signal timings modified

Bus riders had faster, more reliable trips in bus lanes

Travel times

- Harvard-bound 31% faster on average
- Arlington-bound 40% faster on average
- Cameron to Churchill dramatically improved
 - During PM rush hour, typical trip took 4 to 5 minutes in 2019
 - During PM rush hour, typical trip took 45 seconds in 2022

Typical travel times from Cameron to Churchill improved

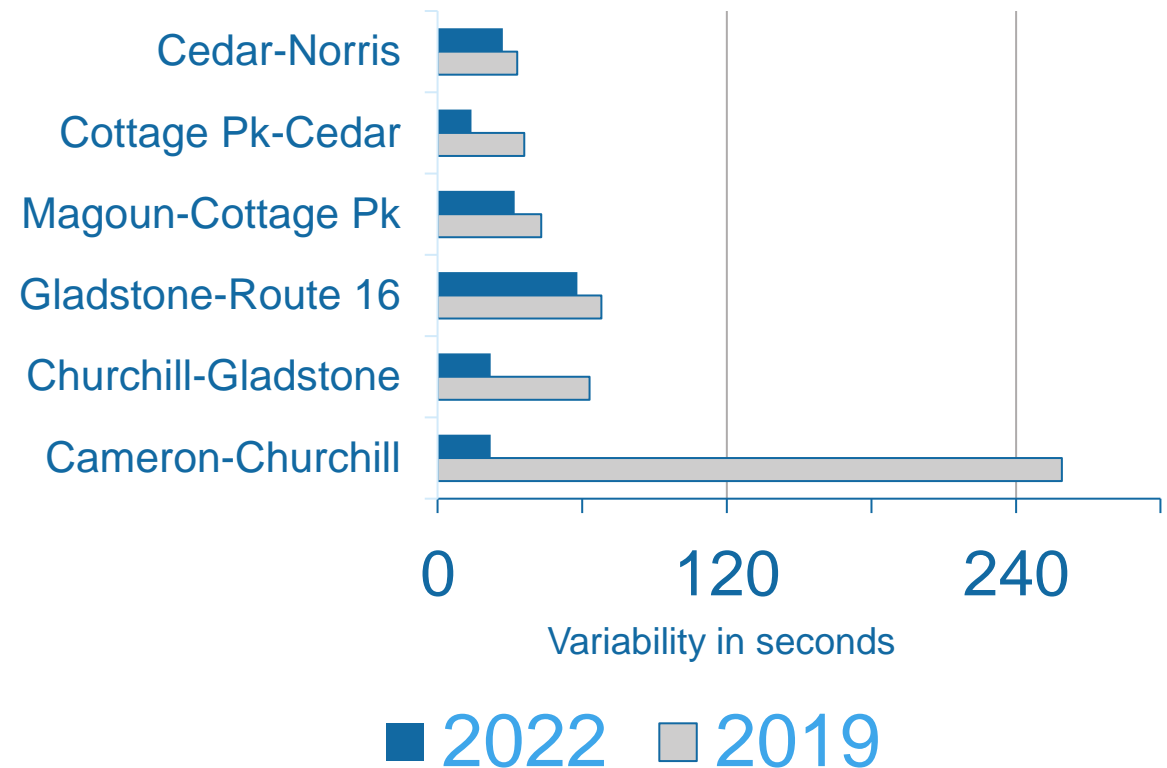


Bus riders had faster, more reliable trips in bus lanes

Travel time variability

- Calculated from worst and best typical travel times
 - How many seconds difference between best typical and worst typical travel time
- Variability reduced in every stop-to-stop segment
- Most noticeable outbound from Cameron to Churchill with variability decreasing to 22 seconds

Variability of bus travel time improved





Motorists experienced some, but minimal negative travel time impacts

Travel time for vehicles

- Installation in November to December 2021
- Travel times for motorists were longer by less than a minute, often less than 30 seconds comparing November with December
- Travel time for motorists were generally lower than compared with 2019 except p.m. rush hours where travel times were longer by 6 to 12 seconds, on average
- Permanent count station is helping city staff monitor after this analysis



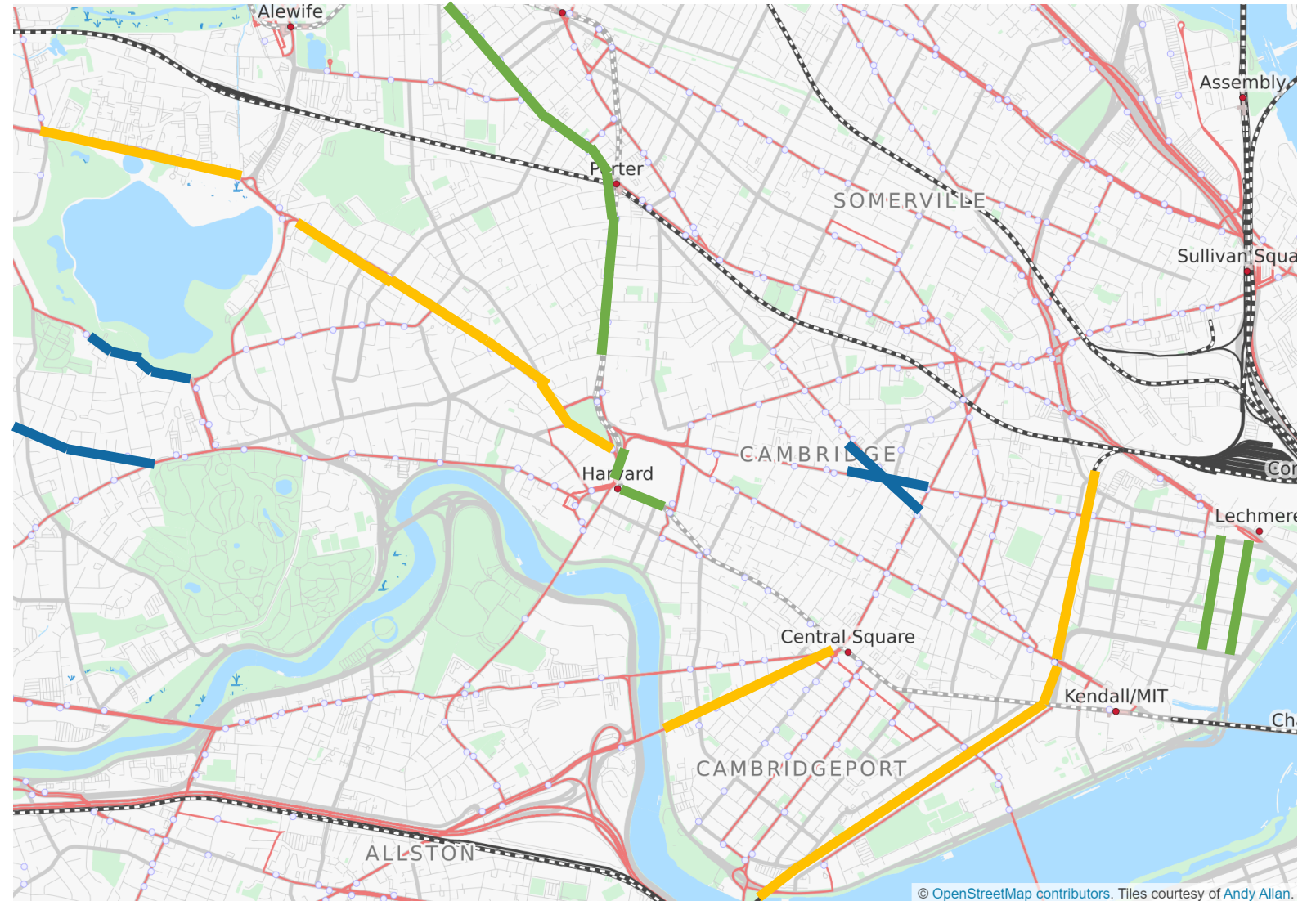
Analysis of travel impacts

Report with travel impact analysis will be posted online later in January 2023.



City Updates

Selected street projects





Project information is listed in order

We have shown projects in order:

- Finished construction or recently installed
- Currently in construction or installation
- Creating a design plan
- Studying

Information is highlighted when there is:

- Shifted from one category to another – highlighted in green
- Updated information – highlighted in yellow



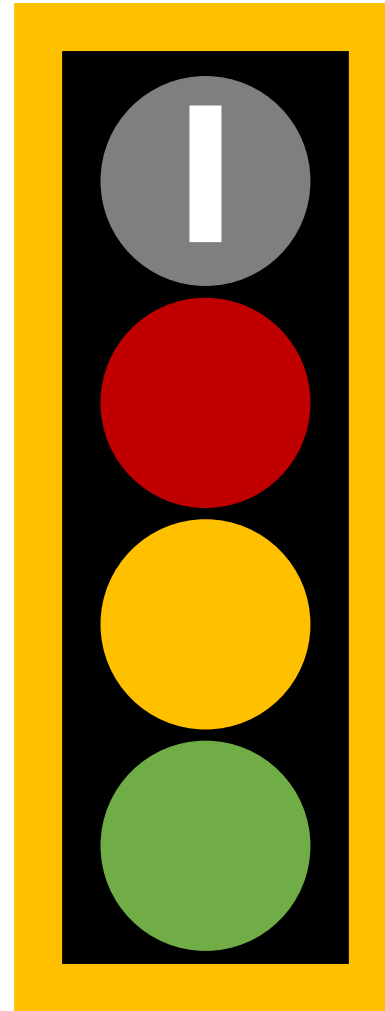
Inman Square

Intersection of Cambridge Street, Hampshire Street, Inman Street, Springfield Street, and Antrim Street

Street design changes

- Separated bike lanes through intersection
- “Floating” bus stops
- Peak-hour queue jump on eastbound Cambridge Street – working on implementation with MBTA and remaining construction work

Transit signal on Cambridge Street



**Transit-only
signal**

Provides a bus
“head start”
from 7 to 10
a.m. when
buses enter the
intersection on
red

Bus stops and shelters



Hampshire Street

Route 83 | Rindge Ave – Central Square



Cambridge Street

Route 69 | Lechmere - Harvard



Implementation soon

Project	Update	Next public event
Brattle Street CSO	Phase 1: Implemented	TBA
Belmont Street Project	Construction company brought on	No events scheduled
Huron Avenue – Glacken Field Project	Construction company brought on	No events scheduled
River Street Reconstruction Project	Pre-construction meeting held; construction beginning	No events scheduled



In planning and design

Project	Update	Next public event
Grand Junction MUP Project	Continuing to work on final design plans	Public meeting expected in the winter (TBA)
Concord Ave – Transit Signal Priority Project	Working with MBTA on procurement	No events scheduled
Real-time Transit Signage (PB 2017)	Working with MBTA on procurement	TBD



In planning and design

Project	Update	Next public event
Transit signal priority (PB 2016)	Working with MBTA on procurement for Mass Ave signal priority upgrades	TBA



Under study

Project	Update	Next public event
Harvard Square Area (MassAve4 Harvard Bus Stops)	Ground survey ongoing; 50% design nearing completion	TBA
MassAve4 (Harvard to Alewife Brook)	City staff to begin data collection, survey	None scheduled



In Study

Project	Update	Next public event
Broadway/Main/Third (CRA-led) Study	Completed	No events scheduled
Transportation Impact Study Update Study	Ongoing	No events scheduled



MBTA and State Updates

Harvard Bridge/Massachusetts Ave

In November-December, the state modified the street design of Harvard Bridge.

- One travel lane in each direction and a dedicated “approach” bus lane on either side of the bridge.
- Additional work to come – red lane markings, etc.



Green Line Extension Open

The MBTA opened the Green Line to Medford-Tufts station on December 12.

The Green Line now has two branches which serve Lechmere station:

D branch – Union Square to Riverside

E branch – Medford-Tufts to Heath St/VA

Trains arrive every 6 to 12 minutes all week.

“Punch list” work remains, including:

- Somerville Community Path extension
- Slow travel times on East Cambridge viaduct

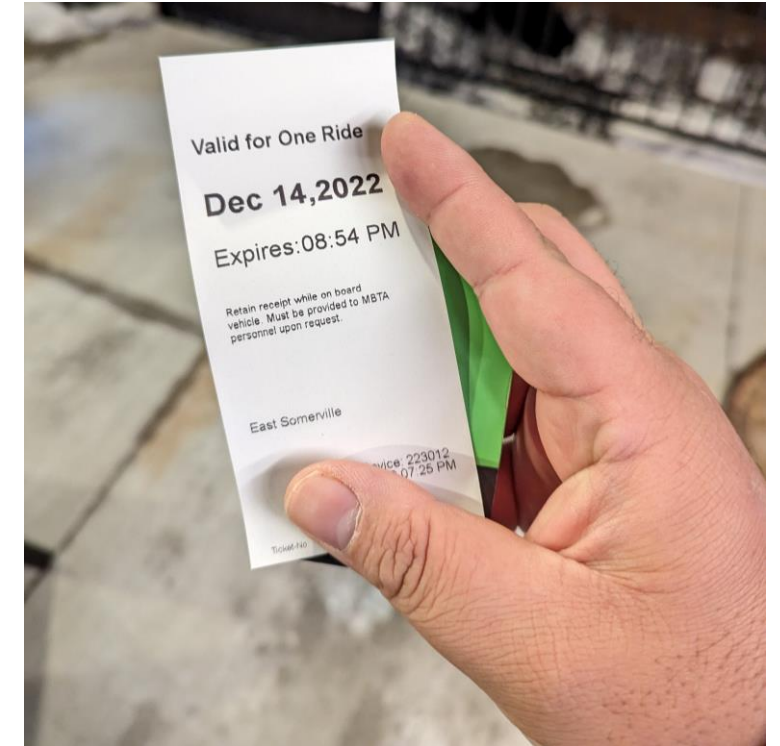
GL riders at Lechmere must validate their fare or pass and keep the proof-of-payment receipt

Green Line Extension Open



Lechmere | Water Street Bus Loop

Ongoing “punchlist” construction



Validation receipt



Upcoming subway diversions

Because of MBTA maintenance work, developer construction, and infrastructure work by public agencies, the MBTA will have subway-replacement shuttles on:

- Saturday January 7 and 8 (2 days)
 - Red Line | Broadway-Ashmont
 - Red Line | Broadway-North Quincy
 - Green and Orange Lines | Skipping Haymarket
- Sunday January 8 (1 day)
 - Green Line | East Somerville-Medford

**Subway-
replacement
shuttles**

**Weekends in
January**



Upcoming subway diversions

Because of MBTA maintenance work, developer construction, and infrastructure work by public agencies, the MBTA will have subway-replacement shuttles on:

- Saturday January 14 and 15 on:
 - Green Line | Government Center-North Station
 - Orange Line | Back Bay – North Station
- Saturday January 21 and 22 on:
 - Green and Orange Lines | Skipping Haymarket

**Subway-
replacement
shuttles**

**Weekends in
January**



Subway service reductions

Since June 2022, the MBTA has increased the time between trains on all subway lines because of insufficient staffing at the operations center. Operations center staff are critical to safe and smooth subway operations. The MBTA has not announced how long this schedule will last.

Previous regular weekday schedules were:

- Red Line – Every 5 to 6 minutes
- Green Line – Every 6 to 9 minutes

**In Cambridge,
Somerville, and
Downtown
Boston, Red
Line trains
arrive**

**Every 8 to 9
minutes**



Service reductions

The MBTA changed schedules for bus routes in late December.

The MBTA **reduced how often buses come** on these routes:

- Key Bus Routes 1, 66, 77
- Local Bus Routes 78, 80, 91

The MBTA **changed trip times** on routes: CT2, 47, 62/76, 78, 87, 88, and 350.

The MBTA has not announced when service restorations will begin.



Bus Network Redesign

The MBTA voted to approved the Bus Network Redesign proposal in November. In December, they approved a service equity analysis.

City Manager, Mayor, and Superintendent requested MBTA respond to concerns on:

- Reduction of Route 68
- Modifications to Routes T109 and 86
- Consideration of route from Kendall-Chelsea via Tobin and Gilmore
- AM high school transportation on Routes 72/75
- Evaluation of frequency on 69, 78, and 83



Bus Network Redesign

The MBTA voted to approved the Bus Network Redesign proposal in November. In December, they approved a service equity analysis.

TAC submitted a letter in July. The MBTA did not include the following TAC suggestions in their final proposal:

- Extension of Route 68 to Danehy/Fresh Pond
- Maintaining all-day service on Route 68
- Extend Routes T109 to Allston/future West Station



Red Line modernization

The MBTA has been modernizing several parts of the Red Line. In Cambridge, this includes:

- New crossover at Alewife
- Modernized signal system
- New Red Line trains

Modernization work will require weekend and evening shuttles and some weekday interruptions.

**This will
result in**

Red Line trains
arriving every
3 to 4 minutes
on weekday
rush hours

More capacity
Smoother rides

Thank you for participating in this Transit
Advisory Committee meeting.

Stay healthy and well.

Thank You