

**Pedestrian Committee Meeting/Site Walk**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**June 22, 2023**

Present: Cara Seiderman (CDD); Mike Mantello (CDD); Robin Bonner; Sandy Goldberg; Sean Peirce; Jenny Turner-Trauring; Debby Galeg

May Minutes were approved

**Site Walk: Mass. Ave., starting at Porter Square**

- Wayfinding: what happened to the wayfinding signs that used to be present?
- Beech Street Intersection
  - There used to be a wayfinding sign here (to Davis Sq)
  - There should be a longer LPI
  - Crossing Beech Street for peds and bike should be unconflicted
  - Cars turning right from Mass Ave NB turn fast and often do not yield
  - We observed motorists illegally turning when light was red
- Note that the stretch of Mass Ave from Beech to Walden was the most uncomfortable for people bicycling; the bike lane merge is very uncomfortable and drivers do not yield to people bicycling. Some scary moments were observed as the group was standing in this location.
- Walden street intersection
  - Bike lane should continue
  - Shifting lanes: drivers run into cyclists
  - Section of extra-wide sidewalk – can this be repurposed?
  - Can there be crosswalks on both sides?
  - Bicyclists continue through on a red signal (northbound) b/c they do not perceive a conflict but then motorists turning left from Walden and then right onto Russell may not expect them
- Blake/Creighton
  - Lighting is too dark
  - Motorists do not yield
  - Very uncomfortable crossing
  - Crosswalk is long, unprotected (except for flashing yellow nearby at fire station)
  - Traffic sometimes backs up from Walden and blocks the crosswalk
  - Motorists speed up to make the green light
  - Motorists turn into gas station without looking for people walking or biking
  - Could expand median for crossing island, and/or add crossing beacon
- Rindge Ave.
  - The two turn lanes from Rindge onto Mass Ave is a big improvement

- How does someone bicycling turn left from Mass to Rindge?
  - Jughandle?
  - It was noted that bike boxes are not long enough for longer/larger bikes like cargo bikes
- Driveway at Pemberton
  - Major conflict with motorists turning across sidewalk, particularly from left into the parking lot, they do not look for people walking or biking
- Dover
  - Motorists turn on red light where the peds cross
  - Poor signal compliance, complicated phasing

### **Linear Park**

The Committee walked along Linear Park from Mass Ave to Alewife and discussed the Redesign plans.

- Strong support for the City plans.
- Very important to widen the path to ensure that the path can accommodate the every-increasing number of people using it. More people will be using it now that the Community Path Extension to North Point is open. Tons of people using the path were observed.
- The connection to Westley should be included. It would be an excellent connection for people walking in the neighborhood. It is a public street not a private one.
- Committee will send a letter of support to the City.

### **Announcements**

- Next meeting is July 27 and will be a remote meeting on Zoom.