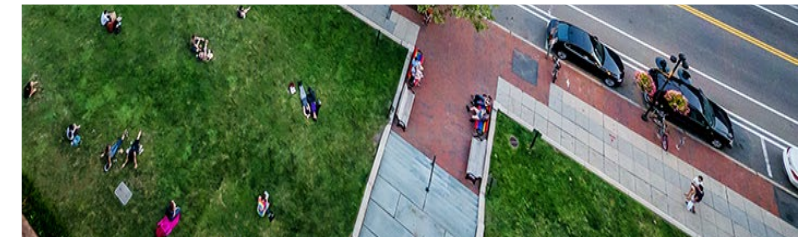
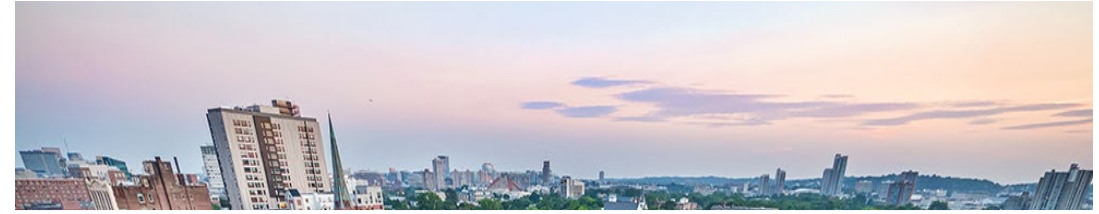
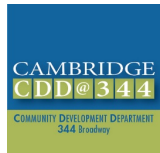


City of Cambridge
Community Development Department

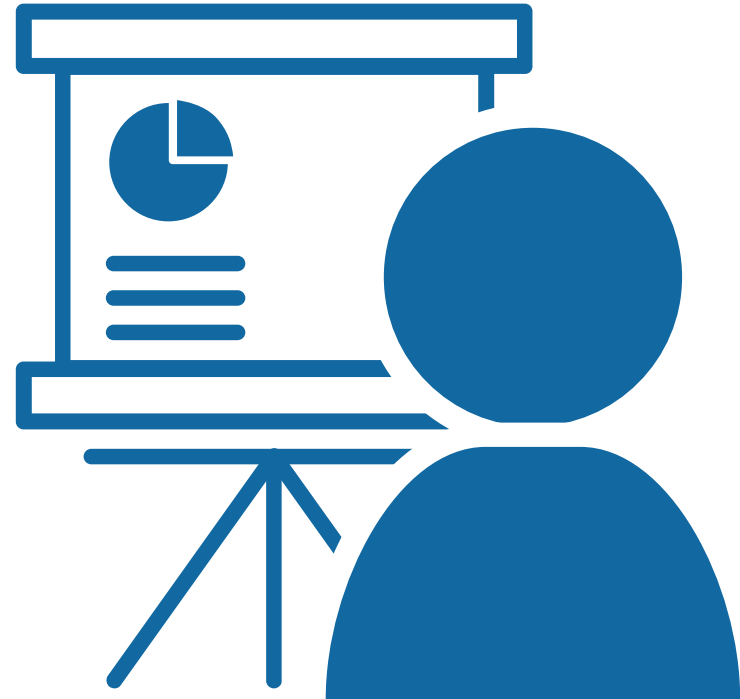
Pedestrian Committee Orientation

December 16, 2021



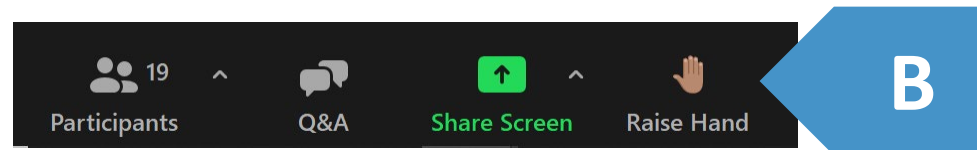
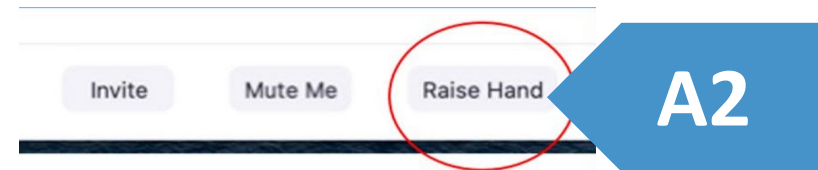
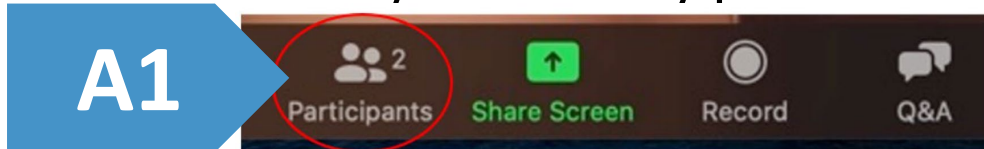
Meeting Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Review of Agenda
3. Context of Committees (City goals and policies)
4. City Government Structure, State Government, Role of the Committee
5. Committee Logistics (communication, bylaws, ground rules, protocols, etc.)
6. Major Categories of Work
7. Major Projects in Progress
8. Committee Work Plan
9. Questions



Committee Member Instructions

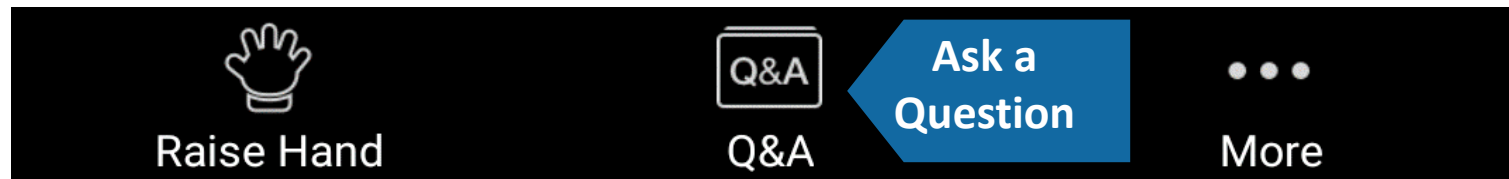
- Committee members may speak and show webcam video
 - Please show video when speaking
- Use "Raise Hand" button to help manage discussion
 - Located at the bottom of the Participants panel (See A1-2 below) OR at the bottom of the screen (see B below)
 - *9 to Raise Hand by phone
- Please stay muted unless speaking
 - *6 to mute/unmute by phone



Public Comment Instructions

- Members of the public are muted and cannot show webcam video
- Public can write questions or ask for assistance in Q&A window at any time
 - Questions may be submitted at any time and will be addressed as time allows, during discussion/comment periods
- During the Public Comment period, use the "Raise Hand" button to signal you have a question/comment. A staff member will then enable you to unmute yourself.
 - *9 to Raise Hand by phone
 - *6 to Mute/Unmute by phone
- Please be respectful! Participants will be removed for inappropriate behavior

Bottom Panel of
Zoom Screen





Introductions!

Brooke



Emily

Jeannine

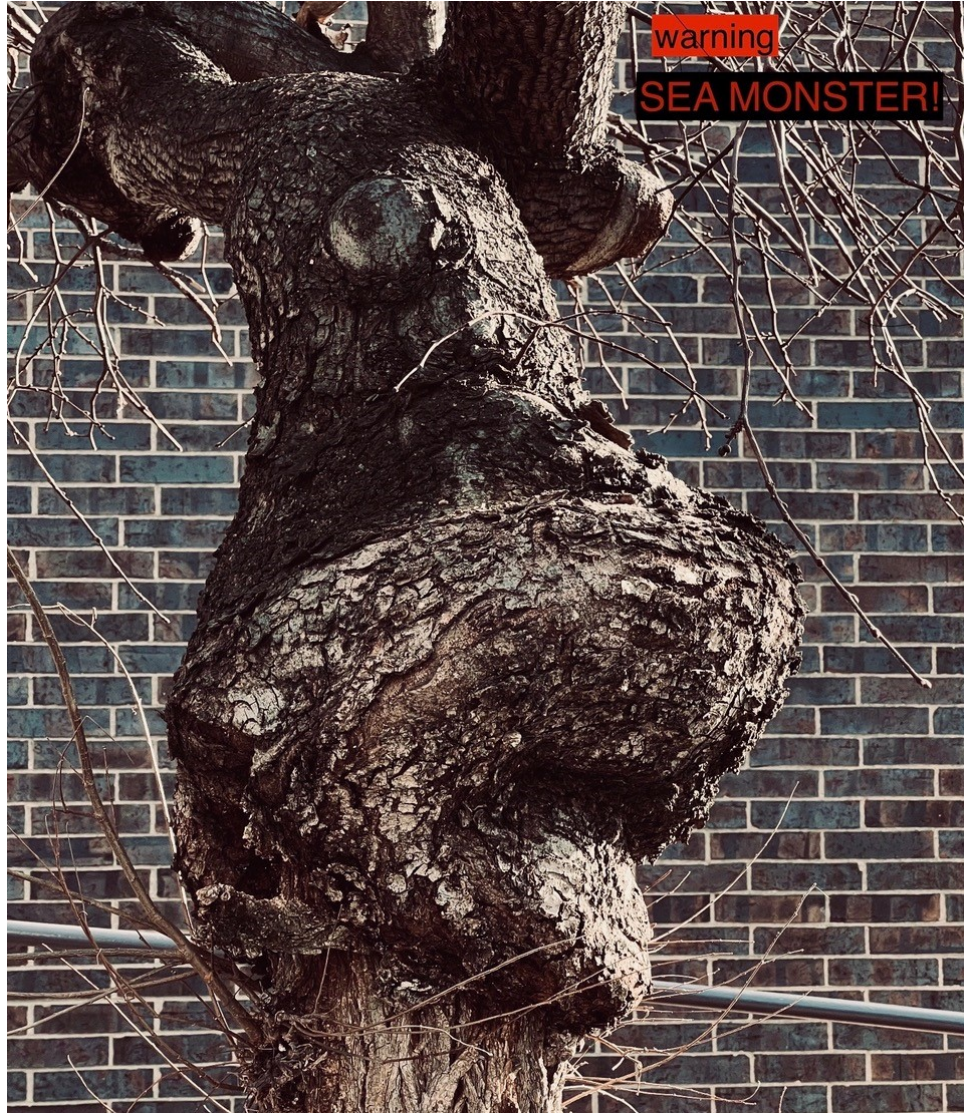


Jenny

Raymond



Sandy



Sarah



Review of Agenda



Review of Agenda

- I. Brief Introductions
- II. Context of Committees
 - I. City Goals, Policies, and Ordinances
 - I. [VTRO](#), [Climate Protection](#), [Vision Zero](#), Complete Streets, [Envision Cambridge](#), [Cycling Safety Ordinance](#)
 - II. [Pedestrian Plan](#) and other City Plans
- III. City Government Structure, State Government, and Role of the Committee
 - I. State Ethics Requirements, [State Open Meeting Laws](#)
- IV. Committee Logistics
 - I. Communications and emails
 - II. Meetings, agendas, by-laws, ground rules, etc.
 - III. Protocols for communicating



Review of Agenda

V. Major Categories of Work

- V. Infrastructure Projects: how projects and improvements are scheduled, reviews and community processes, [5-Year Sidewalk and Street Plan \(DPW\)](#), [traffic calming](#), [Cycling Safety Ordinance](#)
- VI. Development/private projects: [zoning requirements](#), [Planning Board permits](#), project review and comment
- VII. Outreach, promotional, and educational activities
 - V. E.g. [Community bike rides](#), [Safe Routes to School](#), community outreach events (bike light giveaways, winter rides), reaching Cambridge's diverse communities

VI. Major Projects in Process

- V. [River Street Reconstruction/Carl Barron Plaza \(construction starting 2022\)](#)
- VI. [Grand Junction Multi-Use Path](#)
- VII. [Mass4](#)
- VIII. [Linear Park and Danehy Connector Path](#)

VII. [Committee Work Plan](#)

VIII. Questions



Context of Committee



Context of Committee

City Goals, Policies and Ordinances

- VTRO
 - Vehicle Trip Reduction Ordinance, Cambridge commits to increasing the use of commuting alternatives and reducing trips in single-occupancy vehicles
- Climate Protection
 - Promote energy efficiency, Cambridge Energy Alliance, goal of 80% emissions reduction by 2050
- Vision Zero
 - City Policy (also a national and international initiative) focused on strategies to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries
- Complete Streets
 - Streets that provide safe and accessible options for all modes – walking, biking, transit, personal vehicles, etc.
 - City Policy that guides projects in Cambridge




Context of Committee

City Goals, Policies and Ordinances (cont'd.)

- Envision Cambridge
 - Current citywide plan
 - Published after three-year planning and public engagement process
 - Provides a blueprint for the city's growth and change through 2030

2000 Pedestrian Plan

- Four major goals:
 - Provide policies and guidelines for improved walking facilities
 - Provide design standards for physical improvements
 - Outline steps to encourage walking
 - Provide an action plan to create an economical and efficient non-automobile transportation network
- Guides evolution of pedestrian facilities in the City



**City Government Structure, State
Government, and Role of the
Committee**



City Government Structure, State Government, and Role of the Committee

- City Boards and Commissions: role of advisory committees
- Committees subject to Open Meeting Laws and State Ethics requirements
- Key City departments
 - Community Development Dept. (CDD)
 - Traffic, Parking & Transportation (TP&T)
 - Public Works (DPW)
 - Health Department
- Key state agencies: MassDOT, DCR (Department of Conservation and Recreation), MBTA



Committee Logistics



Committee Logistics

- Communications and emails → required reading
- Meetings → please arrive to committee meetings ahead of 6:00 so we can start on time
 - Agendas will be sent out with weekly email the week before the meeting
 - Minutes from prior meeting will be sent out at this time as well
 - Bylaws and Ground Rules
- Protocols for communicating
 - Internal communications (open meeting laws)
 - Communicating with others/in processes
 - May only represent the committee if an official position has been stated, otherwise may not imply you are speaking on behalf of the committee



Major Categories of Work



Major Categories of Work

- Infrastructure Projects
 - The committee forms an important part of the community engagement process for many projects
 - Provide feedback to City staff on specific projects and programs
- Development and private projects
 - The committee will sometimes perform reviews of ongoing development and private projects in Cambridge to evaluate how they line up with City goals and zoning requirements and City goals around walkability
 - Committee will sometimes write to the Planning Board with comments or suggestions



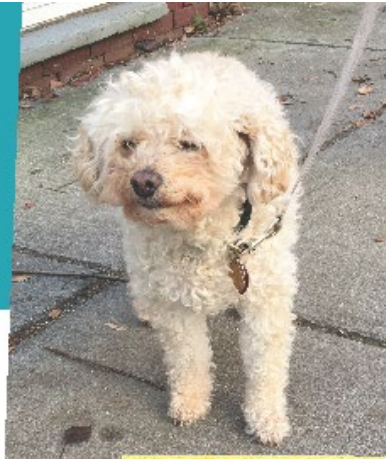
Major Categories of Work

- Outreach, promotional, and educational activities
 - Community Outreach
 - Plan and carry out Community walking tours
 - Writing articles, e.g., for Getting Around Cambridge magazine
 - Safe Routes to School
 - Reaching Cambridge's diverse communities

The Inside Scoop: Advice from the Dogs of Central Square

INTERVIEWS AND PHOTOS BY SANDY GOLDBERG,
CAMBRIDGE PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE MEMBER

Dogs in Cambridge know quite a bit about walking routes in our city, so we asked them their favorite ways to get around Central Square. Read on and see if you agree with their recommendations!



JEZZIE

I'm 14½ years old, and I've lived in the Central Square neighborhood my whole life. My current favorite spot is the grassy area in front of City Hall. The grass is soft and people there are very friendly. If you're even half as cute as I am, you'll be able to get lots of attention and petting. From there, I like to head down Mass Ave. to the grass in Harvard Yard. Even at my age I still have the energy to try to chase squirrels.

COCO

For me, a good walk is all about the smells, and I'm a connoisseur because my nose is low to the ground. My favorite smells near Central Square are in Franklin Street Park. After coming out of the park, I like to turn left and head up the hill on Hancock Street, because near the corner of Hancock and Mass Ave. there's a store that gives out free dog biscuits. See if you can sniff it out. Just put your nose up to the glass door and wag your tail and they will invite you in for a treat.

LOUIE

I like to walk in the rain because I'm shy, and there are fewer dogs out when it's raining. On sunnier days my human sometimes takes me to the dog park on Sidney Street in University Park. I do recommend it for other dogs, even though I prefer alone time with my person. If you see me there, I'll probably be staying quietly by the fence. If you approach me gently, though, I'll play with you!



North Point: A Hidden Gem

Follow in the footsteps of the 2015 **Cambridge Pedestrian Committee** walk to explore the North Point area.

Distance: ~2.5 miles

1 Lechmere Canal Park

2 North Point Park

3 North Bank Bridge

4 Paul Revere Park

5 Miller's River

6 Lynch Family S



Major Projects in Progress



Major Projects in Progress

- River Street/Carl Barron Plaza
 - River Street is slated for a comprehensive reconstruction and redesign as part of the 5-Year Plan
 - Complete Streets project, aims to meet needs of all users
 - Also involves reconstruction of Carl Barron Plaza → public art, fixed and movable seating, upgrades to accessibility and transit and bike infrastructure
- Grand Junction Multi-Use Path
 - Multi-use pathway along the Grand Junction right of way from BU Bridge to Lechmere



Major Projects in Progress

- Mass4
 - Upgrading segments of Mass Ave between Dudley St and Porter Sq and between Porter Sq and Harvard Sq to comply with Cycling Safety Ordinance
 - Separated bike lanes required on Mass Ave, additional changes relating to pedestrians and transit
 - Some challenges with implementation
 - TriCommittee meeting to review February 16
- Linear Park and Danehy Connector (New Street)
 - New development on New Street on the edge of Danehy park
 - Project includes the development of new connections between site and Danehy Park, as well as between Danehy Park and the existing Linear Park
 - Improved Connection to Somerville Community Path



Committee Work Plan



Questions

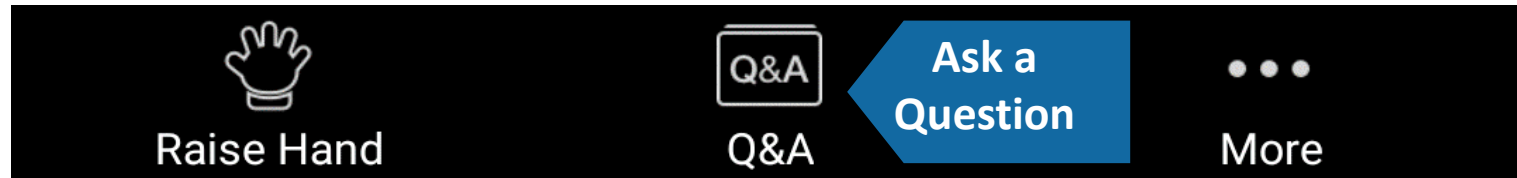


Public comment

Public Comment Instructions

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- Questions can also be submitted using the Q&A button.

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Zoom Screen





Select Upcoming Meetings and Events

Bike Light Giveaways

- Monday, December 20: Porter Square near the Target
- Friday, January 7: Cambridge Street near Lechmere
- Sunday, January 16: Mass Ave near Arlington town line
- Friday, January 28: Harvard near Graduate School of Design

Planning Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 21, 2021 6:30 PM

A regular tri-monthly meeting of the Planning Board. The board will be hearing and discussing two petitions to amend the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance.



Other Announcements



Thank You