

The Cambridge Pedestrian Committee presents:

North Point: A Hidden Gem

Saturday, June 20, 2015
11:00 am – 12:30 pm

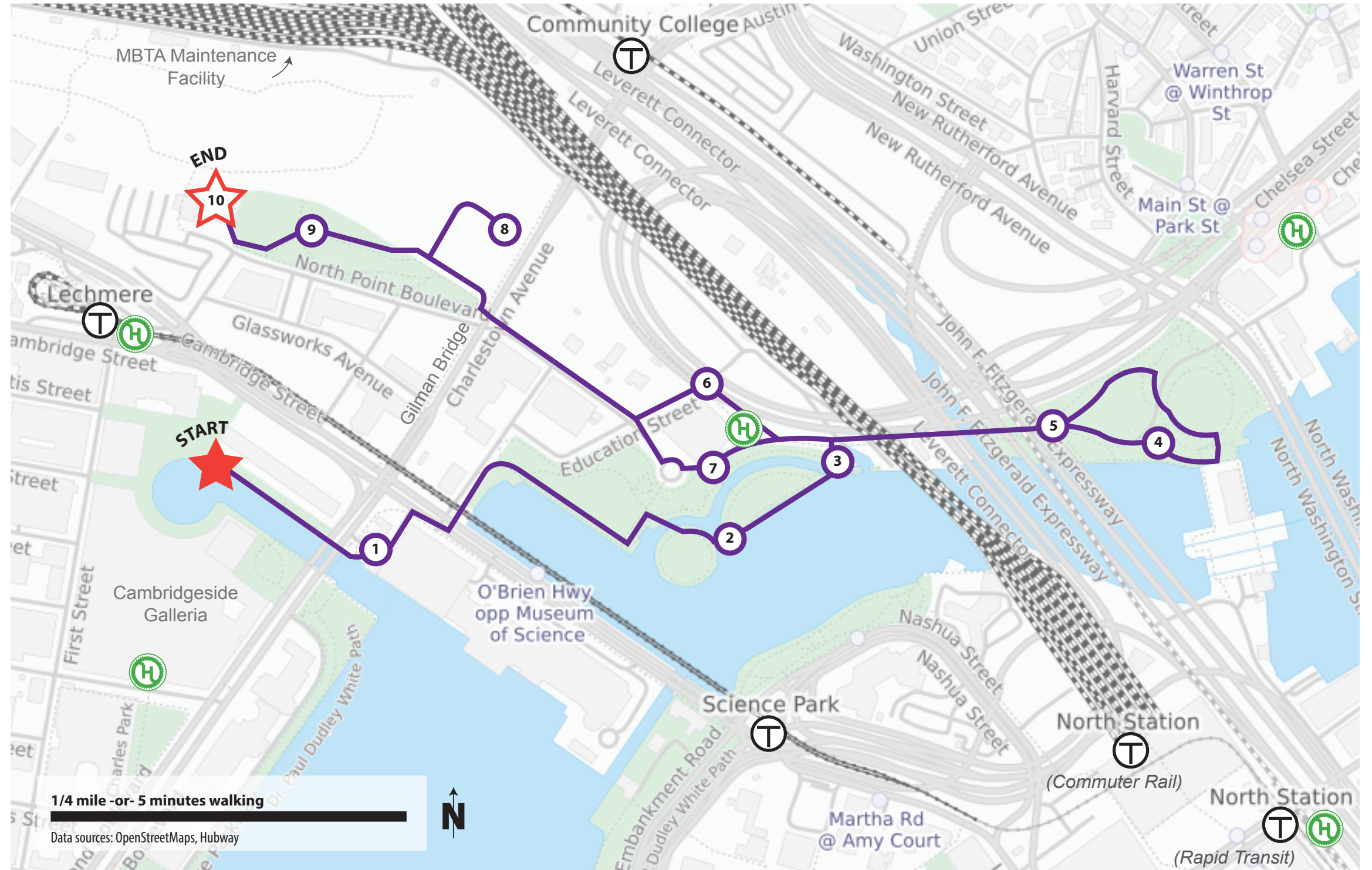
Start: 11:00 am
Lechmere Canal Park, at the gazebo behind the mall

End: 12:30 pm, 24 East Street
(Off Monsignor O'Brien Hwy)

Sponsored by:



North Point Tour Map:



1. Lechmere Canal



Constructed in 1895 and named after an early local family, the canal was part of an active seaport until the Charles River Dam Bridge was built in 1910. Lechmere Canal Park is the centerpiece of the East Cambridge riverfront plan developed in 1978 by the City of Cambridge. On the same site is the CambridgeSide Galleria, completed in 1990 as an urban center with over 120 shops and restaurants. CambridgeSide supports many community events, promoting healthy activities for children.

2. North Point Park



Built as mitigation for the Big Dig on what was once called the “lost half mile” of the Charles, due to its former concentration on heavy industry, this wonderful park on the riverbank with a view of the Zakim Bridge contains playgrounds, paths and and fields.

3. North Bank Bridge



Opened in 2012 and also part of Big Dig mitigation, the North Bank Bridge is the first of three proposed bridges in the basin. It connects North Point Park in Cambridge with Paul Revere Park in Charlestown, gracefully rising over the Miller’s River and rail lines leading out from North Station.

4. Paul Revere Park



Located at the mouth of the Charles River and next to a set of locks (which one can walk across to reach North Station), Paul Revere Park in Charlestown lies along Boston’s Harborwalk. It too was once part of the “lost half mile.”

5. Miller’s River



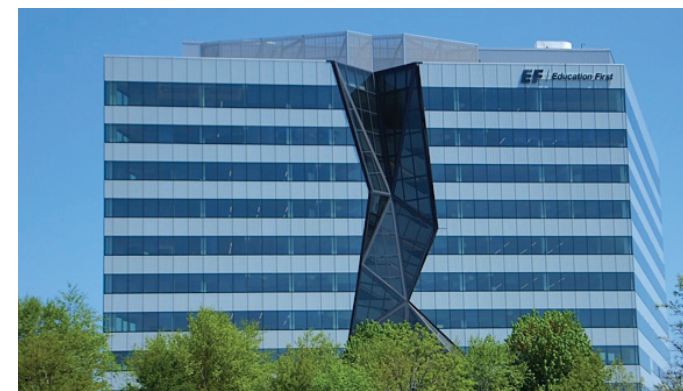
Once a tidal estuary and considerably longer than it is today, the Miller’s River began being filled in to create land for railroad and industrial purposes during the 19th century. Today all that remains is the short, polluted water visible under the North Bank Bridge; underground portions are believed responsible for flooding in Somerville and East Cambridge.

6. Lynch Family Skate Park



For more than a decade, the Charles River Conservancy has worked with DCR and supporters toward the creation of an urban skatepark. Ground was broken in April of this year on this former brownfield. Once the soil is sufficiently settled and stable and the drainage system is completed, the foundation for the bowls and streetscape can be built.

7. EF Education First



EF’s new building, its second at North Point, opened in October 2014. In addition to workspace for its employees, this building contains the Lingo restaurant and public restrooms. The 50-year-old international company provides educational tours, exchanges and English language courses.

8. Twenty|20



Developer HYM and Canyon-Johnson’s new residential building at NorthPoint. Attached to the north side of the building is the newly completed Brian P. Murphy Memorial Staircase, a pedestrian and bike connection to the adjacent Gilmore Bridge, providing a fast and convenient route to the Orange Line’s Community College station.

9. NorthPoint Common



A new linear park with grassy knolls, benches, small ponds and WiFi. The multi use path running alongside it is a link in the long sought bicycle network connecting the Minuteman Bikeway and Somerville’s Community Path to downtown Boston.

10. 24 East Street



This temporary building near the site of the new Lechmere T station houses a 3-D model of NorthPoint at full build out, including the reconstruction of O’Brien Highway into a boulevard with cycle tracks and future plans for the site of the current station.