



Friends of the Community Path  
[www.pathfriends.org/scp/](http://www.pathfriends.org/scp/)

Thursday, December 5th, 2011  
Minutes by Jonah Petri

**Next meeting: Monday, 1/9/2012, 7:00 PM, at The VNA, 259 Lowell Street, Somerville**

**1. Attendees**

- Jonah Petri, Alan Moore, Alex Feldman, Andy Hinterman, Rachel Burkhardt, Lynn Weissman, Rebecca Schrumm, Heather van Aelst

**2. Upcoming events and who can attend/participate?**

- Thursday, December 8, 6:30pm-8:00pm - Grand Junction Commuter Rail Feasibility Study, hosted by MassDOT
  - RJ will be there, but in another official capacity
  - The Grand Junction Trail (GJT, which is a proposed bike/ped trail alongside the existing Grand Junction rail route) may be impacted.
  - If they maintain the amount of track, then the GJT could still fit, but if the amount of track was increased it might preclude the GJT.
  - What is the FCP position? Support GJT trail, and if appropriate, comment about other impacts of diesel rail in some way.
  - **Rebecca will attend**
  - Kennedy-Longfellow School – Auditorium  
158 Spring Street, Cambridge  
<http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/EventCalendar/tabid/409/ModuleID/1140/ItemID/1019/mctl/EventDetails/Default.aspx>
- **12/7 Wed. GLX Design Working Group Mtg.**
  - Alan would normally attend, but can't go. **Rebecca will try to attend if possible.**
- **Mon 12/12 Public Hearings on 2013 State Transportation Budget**
  - Secretary Richard Davey and Division Administrators look forward to discussing budget priorities, challenges and solutions.
  - It would be good to have the public attending to make sure GLX and CPX are still on track for funding.
  - *Comments to Secretary Richard Davey due 12/22*
    - Monday, Dec. 5-7 p.m., Worcester Public Library, 3 Salem Square, Worcester
    - Monday, Dec. 12, 3-5 p.m. in Boston (TBD)
    - Thursday, Dec. 15, 2-4 p.m. in Springfield (TBD)
  - <http://transportation.blog.state.ma.us/blog/2011/12/massdot-public-hearings-fiscal-2013-budget.html>
- **Tues 12/13 Sec Davey Tour, 9:00-10:30 am**
  - **Alan/Lynn**

- **Wed 12/14 6:00pm-8:00pm. GLX: Lechmere Station Public Hearing**
  - Kennedy/Longfellow School Auditorium
  - 158 Spring Street in Cambridge
  - **Jonah will attend**
- **Mon 12/19 MAAB Hearing - Time/Location?**
  - **Lynn will ask Sarah about MAAB time & location, perhaps add to Sarah/Hayes email.**
- **Mon 12/19 STEP Meeting**
  - **Lynn will attend**
- **Interactive Somerville is running a design competition** for the area around the proposed Gilman Square station via their website. All are welcome to participate.  
<http://interactivesomerville.org/pages/green-line-challenge/>
- **Ward 5 ResiStat Meeting is Tuesday, Dec. 6 @ VNA, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m**
  - Community Path is on the agenda
  - **Alex will attend**
  -

### 3. Debriefings

- **11/14 Assembly Sq Meeting (100% design)**
  - City confirms that the path is still in the design
- **11/14 STEP meeting (Jonah)**
  - Wig mentioned an email he sent this morning with a WHO tool for estimating walk & bike health impacts. <http://www.heatwalkingcycling.org/> We could check it out to help us build our case. He also mentioned a Health Impact Assessment which might be useful for us to reference about the economic benefits of walk/bike.  
<http://ehp03.niehs.nih.gov/home.action>
  - **Alan/Lynn: send HEAT info to MAPC**
- **11/17 Congressman Capuano's Telephone Community Meetings (Lynn, Alex)**
  - Lynn and Alex called in and both made comments pro-path and GLX.
  - Capuano was pro-path and pro-GLX; urged GLX phased approach to start the project
- **11/21 VNA Cedar-to-Lowell 25% Design Hearing and follow-up**
  - MAAB letter
    - MBTA felt that they could not build the west stairs without a parallel ADA-compliant ramp. However, there is a parallel route in the MaxWell's Green ramp property throughway.
  - Letter to Hayes and Sarah at Somerville City re: Cedar/Lowell issues
    - Encroachment was a hot issue at the meeting, and we gave our opinions on it.
    - Also mentioned Community Gardens, Dog Park, Public meeting best practices, and soil testing and environmental liability.
  - Friends 12/5 comment letter to MassDOT (with MAAB letter appended)
- **11/30 ECPT Meeting: NorthPoint Update**
  - Alan attended, and the new NorthPoint developer presented many new concepts for discussion.
  - The developers are enthusaistic about the path, and are willing to meet with us about path issues.
  - Northpoint Blog <http://www.northpointcambridge.com/blog/>, a community blog, we should contact them to work on path networking.

- **Alan/Lynn will find out the status of the path route through the 22 Water St property.**
- **12/5 Sustainable Communities grant meeting (Somerville organizations, including Friends): : MAPC Tech Assistance portion**
  - Tech assistance is to help with making our case using statistics, modelling, mapping, and identify funding sources and key decision points
  - **Lynn will forward to Jonah the conversation with MAPC to determine what formats would be most helpful**
- 15 Minute piece on SCAT with Ellin Reisner (STEP) Alex Epstein (SBC), and Lynn Weissman (Friends of the Community Path)
  - <http://talkingaboutsomerville.blogspot.com/2011/11/transportation.html>
- **Heather reported on the online version Mayor's Proposed GLX Phasing, from Ward 2 Resistat Presentation; we don't know if this is a proposal or a negotiated plan with the state**
  - Summer 2013 Start building first phase of stations at Union Sq, Washington St and Lechmere
  - Early 2014 Start remaining stations
  - 2016 Open first phase stations
  - Winter 2017 Open Maintenance facility
  - June 2018 Complete all stations