



Friends of the Community Path
112 Belmont Street, Somerville, MA 02143
617.776.7769 friendspath@yahoo.com
facebook.com/FriendsoftheCommunityPath
twitter.com/pathfriends

MEETING MINUTES

January 13, 2014

1. Attendees: Jonah Petri (taking Minutes), Lynn Weissman, Rachael Burkhardt, Max Morrow, Katharyn Hurd, Alan Moore
2. Next Meeting: Date TBD, 7-9 PM at The VNA, 259 Lowell St., Somerville
3. GLX Noise and retaining Walls Meetings
 - January 8 GLX Inner Belt Walls - Debrief (Lynn)
 - Presentation included a cool 3D rendering flythrough of the route.
 - Lechmere to Washington St viaduct segment had 2' concrete walls flanking the path section. Lynn wanted to see something more like the North Bank Bridge, and is trying to learn more from the DCR about plowing issues/strategies for that section.
 - Presentation slides:
http://greenlineextension.eot.state.ma.us/documents/PubMtg/WallsBarriers/walls_Presentation_010814.pdf
 - Hard to tell exactly how the walls on the path are being designed. Some concern about how hemmed-in the path users will feel, and whether plowing will be possible.
 - Tuesday, January 14, 2014 6:00 – 8:00 PM: Washington Street to Medford Street (includes Washington Street Station) Holiday Inn, 30 Washington Street in Somerville.
 - Wednesday, January 15, 2014 6:00 – 8:00 PM: Medford Street to Lowell Street (includes Gilman Square Station): Center for the Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland Avenue in Somerville.
 - Wednesday, January 22, 2014 6:00 – 8:00 PM: Lowell Street to Broadway (includes Lowell St. and Ball Square Stations): Center for the Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland Avenue in Somerville.
 - Tuesday, February 4, 2014 6:00 – 8:00 PM: Glass Factory Condominiums Area (includes Lechmere Station): Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41 Second Street in East Cambridge.

Served by MBTA Green Line (Lechmere) and Bus Routes 68, 69, 80, 85, 87, 88, and CT2.

 - **THIS IS THE ONLY MEETING ABOUT GLX SEGMENTS NOT ABUTTING THE FUTURE CPX ROUTE**

Wednesday, February 5, 2014 6:00 – 8:00 PM: Broadway to Winthrop Street (includes College Avenue Station): St. Clement School, 579 Boston Avenue in Medford
4. Misc CPX Related Meetings
 - Jan 17 letter deadline on DCR's Charles River basin project funding priorities
 - Alan has all the info to prepare the letter. **Alan to draft the letter and edit with Lynn.**

- 01-18 Public Meeting on development of 231-235 Lowell St.
 - This development is very close to the Lowell St CPX crossing.
 - We could attend and possibly discuss how the developer could help us get the path segment built.
 - **Lynn and Alan to discuss with city on the 1/29**
 - Thurs. 1/23 6-8pm “Cites for People: bike/ped Systems”
 - Part of “Overhaul,” an expansive series of design exhibitions, lectures, and other programs, Boston Society of Architect, BSA Space, 290 Congress Street, Boston (near South Station and Court Street Station)
 - <http://www.architects.org/programs-and-events/overhaul-2013-2014-transportation-series>
 - Upcoming Public Meetings on the State's 5-Year Capital Investment Plan (CIP) for Transportation
 - Boston meeting: Wednesday, January 29, 6:00-8:00pm, State Transportation Building, 2nd Floor, 10 Park Plaza, Boston
 - **Need people on the 1/29 to represent the CPX, bike/ped/ADA, and transit!**
 - <http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/main/tabid/1075/ctl/detail/mid/2937/itemid/386/Patrick-Administration-Releases-Historic-Five-Year-Transportation-Capital-Investment-Plan.aspx>
 - MassDOT will host six public meetings across the Commonwealth to receive feedback on the draft Capital Investment plan, which is expected to be delivered to the MassDOT Board of Directors for consideration in February.
 - MassDOT CIP: GLX to College Ave only, bike/pedestrian spending, South Coast rail, additional diesel trains thru Cambridge and Somerville, etc.
 - \$130,000,000 for 5-year plan: Significantly less than below
 - Transportation Bond Bill (10 year):
 - \$429,755,000 shall be expended for the design, construction and repair of, or improvement to pedestrian, bicycle and multi-use pathways;” not “only”
 - South Coast Rail still being funded
 - Boston MPO LTRP/TIP funding: GLX to Route 16
 - **Alan to look for whether we can write a letter & inform Lynn**
 - South Coast Rail project. We should ensure that project is not competing with GLX.
 - 1/8 submitted McGrath Highway Letter
 - River-to-river plan is needed, 4-lanes is sufficient, cycletracks/sidewalks needed
 - Gilman Street Bridge - Our bike/ped recommendations to MassDOT for cycletracks, etc. not included. **Alex Epstein/Alan drafting response letter.**
5. Strategic Planning
- Debrief
 - 10/27 Review of GLX Plans: **Alan to poll Lynn, Rachel, Jonah about a follow-up meeting to review plans again with the GLX Design Team at their Boston office.**
 - Tues 12/10 Young Professionals in Transportation ‘Lunch and Learn’ meeting on the CPX and MAPC Metrics Report
 - <https://my.yprtransportation.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=37>
 - This was the best-attended MAPC lunch meeting ever

- Pete Sutton (Bike Coordinator, filling in temporarily for Josh Lehman) was there.
 - Cross St Bridge (Lynn)
 - MassDOT made the bridge higher at each side to accommodate both Commuter Rail and future GLX. Concern about the raising of the sidewalks (approx 1 foot, per Lynn). Probably not ADA-compliant at this point. Maybe issues with meeting up with CPX there later in an ADA-friendly way.
 - Grand Junction Path (GJP) 1/8 ZBA meeting - 9 & 39 Medford Street
 - Residential development proposed for the refrigerator building site near Twin City Plaza, on the Somerville section of the Grand Junction Path, approaching future CPX route
 - Friends of the GJP are encouraging the developer to build part of the GJP behind the development within the Twin Cities Plaza.
6. Other Upcoming
- Consider a Spring 2014 Somerville to Northampton MCRT bike ride? Alan to check with other group on interest.
 - No update from Alan, probably not happening due to time constraints.
 - John Sanzone of Friends of the GJP to organize stakeholders meeting for GJP especially Somerville section
7. 1/29 Meeting with City about CPX
- Cedar to Lowell
 - Maxwells Green – for sale. FCP and City need to ensure that all bike/ped tasks get done
 - CPX Construction contract goes through July 2014, but we've heard that contractor may apply for extension through September 2012. Response: email sent by Alan to MassDOT asking that extension not be granted
8. Treasury/Accounting
- Last invoice (?) submitted for GNI and MAPC grants
 - Lynn and Alan to submit invoices; Lynn will write to Alan about this.
 - Seek new funding for our advocacy: Bikes Belong grants?
 - Max (Treasurer) will shift \$700 in funds from Paypal donations into our bank acct.