

**Green Line Extension (GLX) Community Working Group (CWG) Meeting**  
**June 2, 2020**  
**4:00 PM to 5:30 PM**  
**Via Webinar**

\*This meeting is the 31<sup>st</sup> consecutive, monthly GLX Community Working Group meeting.

**ATTENDEES:**

CWG Members: Viola Augustin (Somerville), Joseph Barr (Cambridge), Ryan Dunn (Magoun Square), Jim McGinnis (Union Square advocate), Andrew Reker (City of Cambridge), Jim Silva (Medford - Ball Square), Laurel Ruma (City of Medford), Justin Moeling (Gilman Square), Jennifer Dorsen (Ball Square)

MassDOT/MBTA: Terry McCarthy (MBTA Deputy Program Manager of Stakeholder Engagement), Horace Cooper, MBTA Green Line Transformation

GLX Project Team: Martin Nee (GLX-MBTA), Erin Reed (GLXC), Amanda Smith (GLX-MBTA)

**PURPOSE:** The GLX Community Working Group (CWG) was formed to help engage and foster communication with the communities along the GLX corridor by meeting with representative members (both residents and officials) of Cambridge, Somerville, and Medford.

**BACKGROUND:** The Green Line Extension (GLX) Project is an initiative of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), in coordination with the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA). The project intent is to extend existing MBTA Green Line service from Lechmere Station through the northwest corridor communities of Cambridge, Somerville, and Medford. The goals of the project are to increase mobility; encourage public transit usage; improve regional air quality; ensure a more equitable distribution of transit services; and support opportunities for sustainable development.

T. McCarthy welcomed everyone for attending and thanked them for taking the time out to attend the meeting.

T. McCarthy proceeded to provide a Safety Moment – He review of COVID-19 procedures for construction.

T. McCarthy proceeded to provide an overview of recent GLX project milestones:

- Lechmere Viaduct Demolition and Replacement
  - Bus service began May 24 & Viaduct demo started in May
- Washington Street Bridge / Underpass
  - Single lane & bike/ped access opened on May 31
- Broadway Bridge
  - Single lane opening first week of June \*
- \* Schedule subject to change due to potential COVID-19 related impacts

Jeff Wagner (GLXC) presented a project-wide update on GLX construction as follows:

- Safety: COVID-19

- In April, GLX Constructors donated 120 N95 respirators to the Cambridge Health Alliance
- Union Square Station Area
  - Foundation construction continues
  - Retaining walls progressing
- Lechmere Area
  - Trolley Service Discontinued
  - Demolition preparations underway
  - Tracks removed
  - Demo to start at the Gilmore Bridge
  - Steel placement overhead continues on new viaduct
  - Viaduct deck advancing near future station
  - Viaduct substructure work continues next to O'Brien Highway
- Boston Engine Terminal Area
  - Deck construction, power traction substation and community path foundation work progressing over the Boston Engine Terminal tracks
- Vehicle Maintenance Facility Area
  - Significant amount of Catenary work underway
  - Retaining wall construction continues while moment slabs being poured to additionally secure wall panels
  - Roughly half the VMF framework is in place
  - Largest number of construction workers in this area
- East Somerville Station Area
  - Station platform and drainage work continues
  - Washington Street Bridge overhead work continues while traffic is running underneath bridge
  - Final surface restoration of roadway and pedestrian sidewalks advancing
- Medford St. Bridge Modification
  - Retaining walls and H-piles in place south of the Medford Street Bridge
  - Foundation drilling for the bridge extension complete. Abutment construction continues
  - Center pier reinforcement continues at track level
  - Temporary bridge deck support has been added for stability
- Gilman Square Area
  - Drainage, wall work, and Traction Power Substation construction continues
  - Station construction to commence this month
- School Street Bridge Modification
  - Drilling for new abutment is now underway
- Retaining Wall Construction
  - Wall foundation drilling between School St. and Sycamore St. underway
  - Concrete panels being placed behind Richdale Ave
  - H-Piles in place south of Central St. for retaining wall in that location
  - Concrete retaining wall panels place at wall near Roger's Foam
  - Retaining wall behind DPW building in final stage
  - Significant wall work behind Drain Dr. and Shields Gas Station was completed in advance of recent track shift
- Commuter Line Track Shift
  - Commuter rail track shifted to permanent location on east/north side of alignment in May
  - Unobstructed work zone is now open on the west/south side of the alignment

- Ball Square Station Area
  - Broadway Bridge to open in the next week
  - Traction Power Substation foundation, walls, and utilities continue to advance
- Medford / Tufts Station Area
  - Foundation Drilling for retaining wall along Boston Ave continues
  - Awaiting noise wall panels along east/north side of MBTA right of way
- Outreach – Hotline Responses
  - 1315 inquiries to date
  - 1185 actions closed out
- Community Connection Team
  - Continues to support Somerville Homeless Coalition

Questions/Comments

- Q. Will buses return to Broadway Bridge when it opens
  - A. Yes, as soon as it opens
- Q. Has tufts building delay affect GLX?
  - A. It has not.
- Q. When with School St. / Medford St. Bridges reopen?
  - A. School St. date to be announced. Likely spring of 2021\*
  - A. Medford St. scheduled to reopen late fall 2020\*
  - \*These dates subject to change based on COVID-19 impacts, weather, and other factors
- Q. When will Central St. parking lot reopen to public?
  - A. Reopening scheduled to coincide with end of project (Dec. 2021)
- Comments:
  - Please remove detour signage quickly when bridge opens

T. McCarthy thanked everyone for coming and for taking the time to attend this month’s community working group meeting.

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR July 7, 8:30 – 10:00 AM: Via Video Conference.

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