

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

\*This meeting is the 30<sup>th</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), Nicole Morell (City of Medford City Council), 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 deliver a presentation as follows:

- Safety Moment – Review of COVID-19 procedures for construction
  - GLX construction continues on all fronts during pandemic
  - Notable areas of concern include potential interruptions with Concrete Suppliers, Union Labor, Steel rebar manufacturers
- Bridge Closure Snapshot
  - School St. resequencing expected to produce earlier open date (to be announced)
  - Lechmere Viaduct on track for May 24 closure
  - Washington Street Bridge permanent reopening on track for May 31
  - Broadway Bridge single lane opening scheduled for July 15

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

- Union Square Station Area
  - Foundation construction continues

- Retaining walls progressing
- Lechmere Area
  - Demolition of viaduct slated for late May 2020
  - Steel placement continues
- Boston Engine Terminal Area
  - Deck construction, power traction substation and community path advancing
- Vehicle Maintenance Facility Area
  - Framework of Transportation Building emerging
  - Posts installed for gantry
- East Somerville Station Area
  - Station platform, drainage, and Washington Street Bridge abutments continue to develop
  - Underpass to open by end of May 2020
- Retaining Wall Construction
  - Work continues at Cross St. and McGrath Hwy
  - Earth ramp at Chester Ave in place
- Medford St. Bridge Modification
  - Foundation drilling for new abutment underway
  - Reinforcement of existing abutment that will become a center pier
- Gilman Square Area
  - Wall drilling continues near pedestrian bridge
  - Removing soils that support drilling operation
  - Traction Power Substation work continues
- School Street Bridge Modification
  - Drilling for new abutment planned later this month
  - Resequenced schedule to be announced with earlier than planned opening
- Retaining Wall Construction (2)
  - Wall work continues School St. to Sycamore St.
  - Community Path to be on top of wall behind homes on Montrose St.
- Retaining Wall Construction (Cont.)
  - Wall work continues at Maxwell's Green
  - Foundation drilling to start on west side in April
- Ball Square Station Area
  - Steel across both spans of Broadway Bridge with deck construction underway
  - Track shift between Lowell/Cedar to Harvard St. planned for May
  - Drainage work continues
  - Traction Power Substation progressing
- Medford / Tufts Station Area
  - Foundation Drilling for retaining wall along Boston Ave continues
- Outreach – Hotline Responses
  - 1251 inquiries to date
  - 1133 actions closed out
- Landscape in MBTA Right-of-Way
  - T. McCarthy mentioned there will be Native Grass that is low-growth and easy to maintain in certain areas near station entrances and along the community path

Similar to the last meeting, a very limited discussion followed the presentation (a few minutes at most) concerning rough timelines for the opening and closing of bridges in Somerville. Those timelines continue to follow publicly stated schedule estimates.

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

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MAY 5, 8:30 – 10:00 AM: Via Video Conference.

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