



MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

# WATERTOWN-CAMBRIDGE GREENWAY PROJECT



## DCR Public Meeting

**Tuesday, June 9, 2015**  
**Russell Youth Center**  
**680 Huron Avenue, Cambridge, MA**



# Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Governor

**Charles D. Baker**

Lieutenant Governor

**Karyn Polito**

Energy and Environmental Secretary

**Matthew A. Beaton**

Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner

**Carol I. Sanchez**



## **DCR Mission Statement**

*To protect, promote and enhance our common  
wealth of natural, cultural and recreational  
resources for the well being of all*

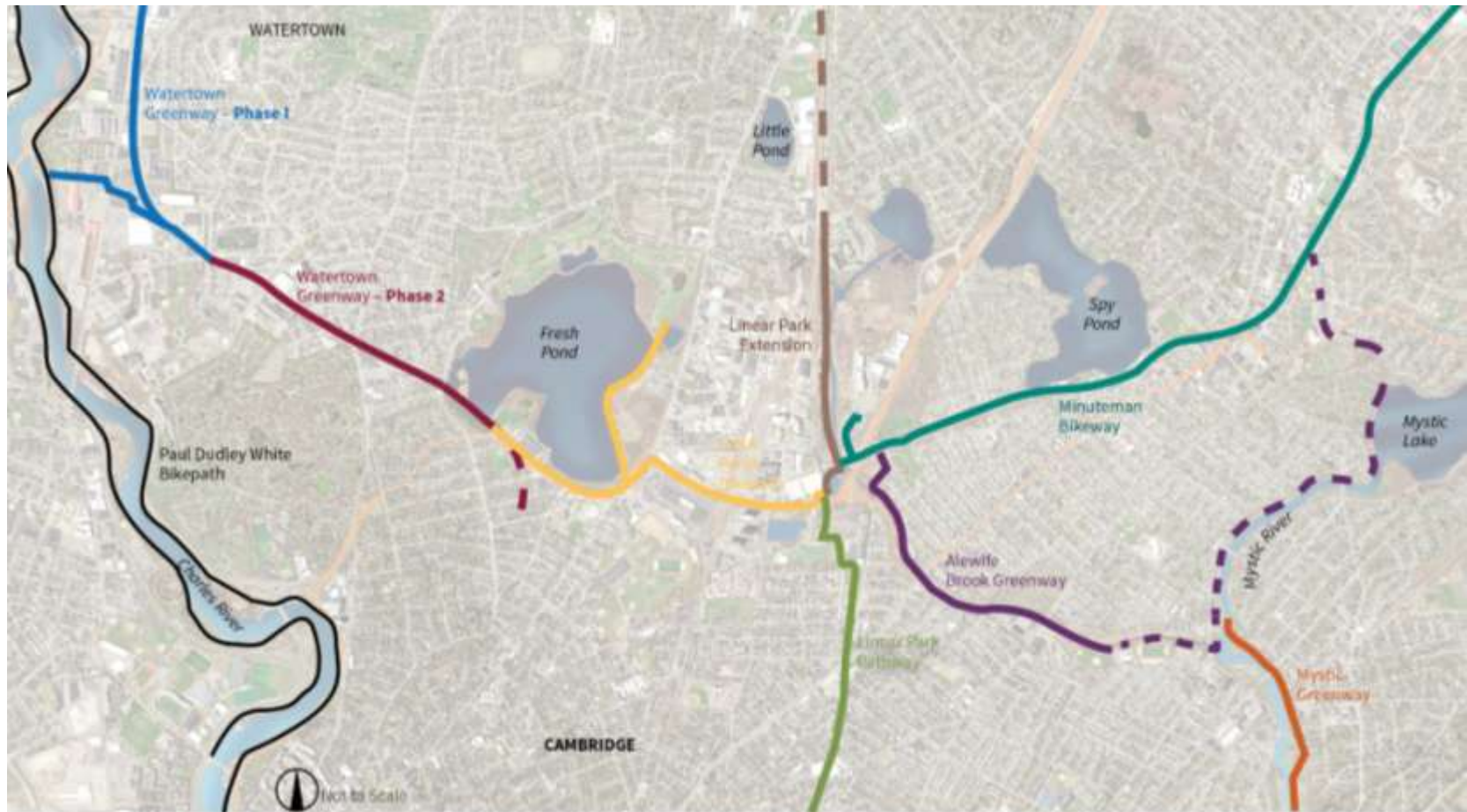
## Purpose of Meeting

- To provide background information about the Watertown-Cambridge Greenway Project, now at a conceptual stage of design
- To obtain public input.

# Watertown - Cambridge Greenway Vision

- Creation of a multi-use greenway, using the former B&M railroad right-of-way extending from Concord Avenue in Cambridge, through the Fresh Pond Reservation, under Huron Avenue and Mount Auburn Street and into Watertown.
- Completion of an important regional connection linking the Charles River path system, the Minuteman Bikeway, the Alewife Greenway and the Mystic River Reservation into an interconnected off-road pathway network.

# Regional Bicycle Map



# Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Background

- MAPC *Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan* was completed early in 1997
- Massachusetts *Statewide Bicycle Transportation Plan* in 1998
- Boston MPO & MAPC completed an updated Regional Bicycle Plan in 2007
- Broad public support and advocacy from local bicycle & pedestrian committees for the past 20 years.



# Segment 1



- DCR acquired the land from School Street to Grove Street in November 2000.
- Segment 1 was constructed 2010 and 2011 from School Street to Arlington Street, including spur to Arsenal Street.



# Before & After Segment 1

## At School Street



# **Before & After Segment 1 Between School Street and Birch Street (looking west)**



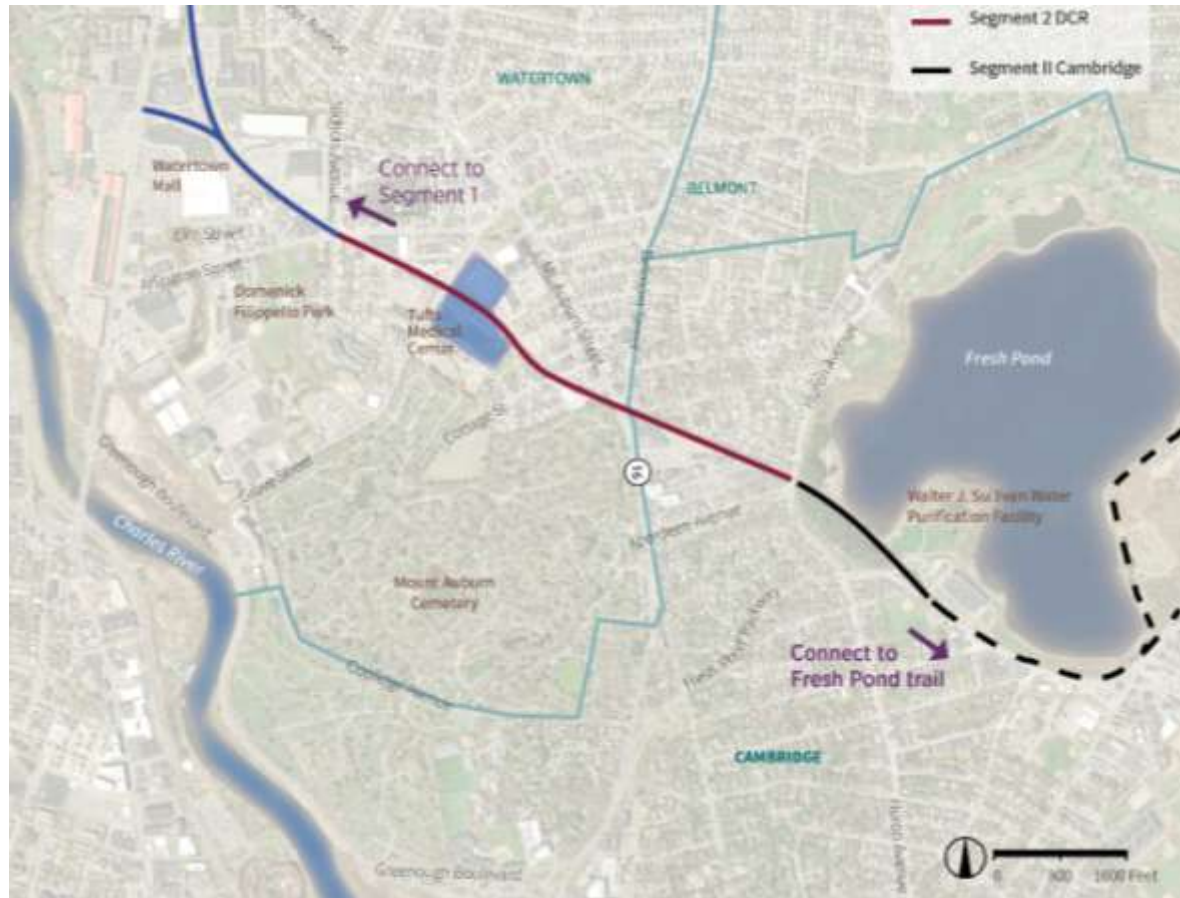
# Before & After Segment 1

## Birch Street





## Segment 2



- DCR and the City of Cambridge acquired the land for Segment 2 in May 2013.



## **Segment 2 Design Funding (Total = \$180,000)**

### Partnership Contributions (Total = \$90,000)

- Lawrence and Lillian Solomon Foundation
- The Arsenal Project
- Watertown Community Foundation
- Athenahealth
- Anonymous donor

### DCR Partnership Matching Funds Program (Total= \$90,000)

# Design Team



VHB – Greenway Survey & Design



CRJA – Landscape Design & Planting



BR+A – Mt Auburn St  
Tunnel Lighting



## Possible Access Points for Segment 2

- Arlington Street
- Cottage Street
- Holworthy Street
- Holworthy Place  
(parking also)
- Water Purification  
Facility Entrance



# Segment 2



# Arlington Street





# Cottage Street



# Holworthy Place



# Water Purification Facility Entrance





# Water Purification Facility Entrance



## **Bridges/Underpasses**

- Grove Street
- Mount Auburn Street
- Huron Avenue
- Kingsley Park Exit

# Grove Street Bridge



# Mount Auburn Street Bridge





# Huron Avenue Bridge



# Kingsley Park Exit Driveway





## Project Design Elements

- 14 to 16 foot wide path (10 to 12 feet paved, with two-foot shoulders)
- Multi-use path, ADA compliant
- 3 feet clear width from vertical obstructions
- Grass drainage swales
- Landscape and interpretive elements
- Underpass lighting at Mount Auburn Bridge

# Project Design Elements



# **Cambridge Review Process for Design – Summer/Fall 2015**

- Staff Interdepartmental Working Group Review
- Review by: Fresh Pond Master Plan Advisory Committee, Bicycle Committee, Pedestrian Committee
- Review and Approval by Water Board
- Review and Approval by Conservation Commission.

# Design & Construction Schedule

- Survey to be completed in June 2015
- Greenway design started – June 2015
- Next Public Meeting (at 25% Design) – Fall 2015
- Environmental permitting: Cambridge Conservation Commission Hearing – Fall/Winter 2015
- State Highway Access permit for Bridges – Fall 2015
- Design scheduled to be completed by Spring 2016
- Construction to begin Summer 2016 (pending funding availability.)



# Additional Information

## For more information:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/public-outreach/public-meetings/>

## If you have comments or suggestions:

**E-mail:** dcr.updates@state.ma.us

*Please note "Watertown-Cambridge Greenway"  
in the subject line*

**Write:** Department of Conservation and Recreation  
Office of Public Outreach  
251 Causeway Street, Suite 600  
Boston, MA 02114

**Deadline: Friday June 26, 2015**

***Note: Public comments submitted to DCR by email or letter may be posted on the DCR website in their entirety, and no content, including personal contact information, will be redacted.***