

CNA Meeting

June 6, 2019, LBJ Common Room

Welcome – Cathie Zusy

BU Bridge update - Jay Livingstone

Temp repainting/re-signage not done. DCR/city working on a striping plan. Repainting waiting on period of no rain or Red Sox traffic.

Comment: Continuing lack of traffic enforcement.

Public meeting June 26 6:30 MLK school, DCR will present long term plan

Magazine Beach update

\$50k earmark for Magazine Beach under negotiation for state budget.

Improvement work will be happening at the park

Treasurer report – Julia Halprin

Fundraising for St. Augustine going well \$28K+ collected

\$100 in our account

St. Augustine update – Gabe Cira

Bids for work in process, work should begin this summer.

June 22 fundraising block party

St A listed on Tufts African American History Trail

Committee reports

Mobility – Brian. Desires: better public transit, fewer cars (except handicapped parking), smoother sidewalks, better notification about

Local business – Rebecca. More local biz needed, restaurants and coffee shops. Investigating requirements and restrictions. Kimco Plaza a possible location for a vented kitchen, and thus a restaurant.

Zoning – Cathie. Will meet with MIT on 6/14

Housing – Julia. Asking what CNA can do with other organizations? Meeting on Sunday

Library update – Monday will be vote on BID, hope this will result in improvements

Graphic designer engaged to make “wayfinding” for both entrances

June 12 meeting with Mayor, Cathie has details

Eversource update. (Dirk) Next summer expected to breach available power. Temporary solution will be expansion at Putnam pending E Cambridge. Distribution line will run to Kendall. Four month delay in final decision secured with zoning board. (Sept 12) Meeting planned 6/27 will respond to community questions 165 Pleasant St.

Discussion of mobility

Steve Miller:

Livable Streets Alliance co-founder. Distributed maps of E. Mass region. Regional vision for non-motorized transit. Needs mass transit as well.

Small vehicle classifications will be proliferating. Need alternative infrastructure. Car congestion will otherwise get worse.

Good for exercise and public health. Parks, playgrounds, restaurants and meeting areas can grow around these greenways.

Other map has inner core, the “emerald network.” Connect existing walk/run/bike paths into a network. 31 miles added or to be added to these pathways.

Green intrusions on roads where there are gaps in the paths.

Q: What to do about fast bicycles? Make paths wide or have separate lanes for slow/fast..

Randy Stern:

Bike nut. Camb. Bicycle Committee (gov't). Cambridge Bicycle Safety.

Handouts. Cambridge Bicycle Plan and Bicycle Priority Network.

City collected data showing desire for separate bike lanes for safety. Lack of safe bike lanes inhibits people who would otherwise like to bike. City has identified candidate streets for this.

Network map shows this plan. Ordinance mandates bike lanes for designated streets under DPW rebuilding. Need for quick-build lanes (DPW builds cost too much money and time).

Q. How can pedestrian avoid getting hit by college students on bicycles?
Need for bicycle safety education, some universities have such programs.

Bob Sloane:

Walk Boston. Regional: Paths being redesigned to separate fast and slow. Two paths along the River. Local: Accidents involving pedestrians on the rise. Most at night or in the dark. Solutions – lighting, such as armbands. Illuminated crosswalks with focused lower height lights, bollards.. Light the pedestrian from the side makes him safer. No right turns on red? Crosswalks at bus stops. Trim shrubs so they don't force people off the sidewalk onto the street.

Q: Old brick sidewalks in bad condition.
City putting asphalt under the bricks on new sidewalks. See, click, fix.

Q: Smoke and other dangers drive people onto the street

Q: Turn right and walk sign at the same time?
Leading pedestrian interval. Full walk no green

C: Car safety shouldn't be determined by bicycles slowing traffic down.

Q: Resistance

Racism behind rail to trails opposition.

Congestion complaint misplaced – we're too dependent on cars.

Q: What things could there be under a broken street (e.g. gas line, sewer, water line)?

Q: Which paths are already available? Emerald network website will tell you