



HIGH-PRIORITY CORRIDORS

March 11, 2006, Visioning Session Summary

Workshop participants considered the major vehicular corridors in Allston and Brighton and commented on those they thought should be targeted for improvements. The streets identified were considered important connector streets and the nodes, including “Allston Village,” Harvard Avenue, Oak Square, Packards Corner, Cleveland Circle, Union Square, and Brighton Center were singled out because they are important commercial corridors.

1. Washington Street, St. Elizabeth’s to Oak Street (5)
2. Harvard Avenue (3)
3. Brighton Avenue (2)
4. Market Street (2)
5. Cambridge (1)
6. Western Avenue
7. North Harvard Street – Consider no parking & bus lane (4)
8. Peak hour bus lanes
9. “Priority” buses and corridors
10. Lincoln Street – Consider changing the one-way portion near Market Street to two-way for all vehicles or buses only. (8)
11. Brighton Center – (Washington Street to Oak Square) (2)
 - Parking off street
 - Poor turnover
 - Enforcement & more money for fine
12. Harvard Avenue – poor turnover
13. North Allston “isolation”
14. Tremont Street (1)
15. “Allston Village” (4)
16. Oak Square
17. Union Square
18. Packards Corner (5)
19. Cleveland Circle

Other: Streetscape – London plane trees on Washington Street are dying. More appropriate trees should be used on corridors like this.

NOTE: (#) denotes the number of “votes” at the visioning sessions.



GROWTH/DEVELOPMENT

March 11, 2006, Visioning Session Summary

Workshop participants considered how new development could be accommodated and proposed actions and policies that could ensure development is appropriate in terms of transportation impacts.

1. Are there locations where new development should NOT be encouraged?
3. Are there locations where new development SHOULD be encouraged?
3. What policies, program, incentives, and other actions would help minimize traffic impacts and discourage driving?
 1. Developments need to include off-street parking
 2. Create incentives for public transit use: no student parking at universities, discount T-passes
 3. Traffic volumes will increase on corridors with new development: need to invest in roads and public transit to mitigate impact
 4. Urban ring (1)
 5. Commuter rail stop: at Depot and /or at New Balance Site (1)
 6. Prioritize public transit as cities such as London do (7)
 7. If your building has parking, you should not be able to get a resident parking sticker
 8. Private shuttle buses
 9. Public parking garage across from depot
 10. Metered parking in commercial districts
 11. City should publicize snow emergency parking sites
 12. Green corridor between BC and River/also connect BU to River (3)
 13. Run ferries/water taxis between Harvard and Longwood (Kenmore) (1)
 14. Riverwalk along Charles River
 15. Transit linkage fees (5)

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TRANSIT

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Workshop participants considered how transit service could be improved to attract and retain riders.

1. Add articulated buses to busy bus routes: 57, 66, 501 (2)
2. Add new cross-town train routes (1)
3. Elevated/Buried B-Line (1)
4. Fare collection machines that take dollar bills
5. Better communication between buses when buses cluster (1)
6. Customer service representatives to check payment
7. Increase service frequency MBTA (6)
8. Wider/safer platforms on B-Line
9. Shovel/snow removal needs to be improved
10. Better Harvard Square/Allston connection (1)
11. Increased weekend service on buses (1)
12. Bus to train transfers
13. Target the B-Line to improve service with better fare-collection methods
14. MBTA and city could encourage higher monthly pass use
15. MBTA should run 3-car trains on the B-Line
16. MBTA should increase the number of stops with Show 'N' Go
17. Better Roxbury/Dorchester connections
18. Use GPS to provide customer information next bus (2)
19. Better signage/information online and at bus stops
20. Additional three-car service on Green Line
21. Add/remove stops on Green Line (between Kenmore & Packards Corner) (2)
22. Improve persons with disabilities accessibility on Green Line (2)
23. Improve fare collection on Green Line to speed boarding (pre-pay before boarding, fare inspectors) (8)
24. New Commuter Rail stop (on Framingham Line) (3)
25. Signal prioritization for the B-Line (on Commonwealth Avenue) (5)
26. Improve service on key Bus Routes: 57, 66, 501 (4)

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PEDESTRIANS

March 11, 2006, Visioning Session Summary

Workshop participants were asked to consider ways to improve pedestrian safety and the attractiveness of walking as a transportation mode.

1. Traffic calming (7)
2. "No turn on red" signs
3. Enforcement of traffic violations (3)
4. Parking at corners (1)
5. Parking at curbs
6. Neckdowns
7. Speed bumps (see Brookline)
8. Traffic signals improved for pedestrians (4)
9. Crosswalks painted (2)
10. Crosswalks different material (2)
11. Safety/access to parks (1)

BIKES

March 11, 2006, Visioning Session Summary

Workshop participants were asked to consider the statement, "Allston-Brighton could be a model neighborhood for cycling if..." and suggest ways to make significant improvements that would encourage cycling.

1. Bike paths access to Charles River (7)
2. Dedicated bike lanes (use different paving) (2)
3. Highlight selected streets suggested by bicyclists
4. Car lanes on Commonwealth Avenue made into bike lanes (1)
5. Improved bike parking at key locations (2)
6. Share the road signs (2)
7. Traffic calming measures (bikes & pedestrians) (6)
8. Increase education about the need to use hand signals, obey the rules, and use lights
9. Lighting on Charles River bike path (1)
10. The high student population in AB lends itself to becoming a model neighborhood for promoting bicycling
11. Public school education and youth bicycle safety training
12. Target colleges and universities and hospitals to get them to increase bicycling to work/school

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PARKING

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Workshop participants were asked to consider what policies and actions could improve the parking situation in Allston and Brighton.

1. Enforcement of parking on streets & parking lots (3)
2. Enforcement of parking at bus stops (3)
3. Lack of parking in business districts (6)
4. Street cleaning issues & parking (2)
5. Promote shared parking lots (5)
6. Enforce law against front yard parking (3)
7. Screening parking lots or underground parking
8. Return to one-year resident permits
9. Limit the number of permits per household
10. Work with universities to discourage student cars
11. Prohibit residents with off-street parking in their building from getting a resident sticker

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