



May 2021 PTAC Meeting: City Update

Agenda

- MassDOT Project Updates
- NACTO Training and Workshop
- Parking Study Update
- Development Review
- Project Updates

MassDOT Project Update

DISCUSSION DRAFT 5-5-21

SAFETY / ACCESSIBILITY PROJECTS ON MASSDOT ROADS IN SOMERVILLE

Current Project Schedules (draft, subject to change)

Key * indicates site is part of a larger Route 38/28 project and might be feasible as "Early Action" standalone construction project

** indicates site is a desired safety improvement not yet in design phase

| | 2021 | | | | 2022 | | | | 2023 | | | | 2024 | | | | 2025 | | | | 2026 | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|-------|------|---------|---------|-------|------|---------|---------|-------|------|---------|---------|-------|------|---------|---------|-------|------|---------|---------|-------|------|---------|
| | JANUARY | APRIL | JULY | OCTOBER | JANUARY | APRIL | JULY | OCTOBER | JANUARY | APRIL | JULY | OCTOBER | JANUARY | APRIL | JULY | OCTOBER | JANUARY | APRIL | JULY | OCTOBER | JANUARY | APRIL | JULY | OCTOBER |
| LARGE PROJECTS (> \$5m) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| McGrath Resurfacing / Road Diet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Design | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Construction | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Interstate 93 Viaduct | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Design | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Construction | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Route 38 / Route 28 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Design | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Construction | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| McGrath Boulevard | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Design | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Construction | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MEDIUM PROJECTS (> \$100k) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mystic Avenue @ Shore Drive | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Design | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Construction | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Blakely Avenue Crossing* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Design | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Construction | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Kensington Connector* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Design | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Construction | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mystic @ Moreland** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Design | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Construction | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SMALL PROJECTS (paint / posts) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wellington Bridge Bike Lanes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Design | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Construction | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mystic Avenue Bus Lane | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Design | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Construction | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Washington @ McGrath Bus Lanes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Design | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Construction | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Broadway @ McGrath Bus Lanes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Design | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Construction | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

NACTO Training Workshop with City Staff

- Mid-year budget approval for NACTO support
 - Examine current organization of transportation-related roles and responsibilities in the City
 - Forum to discuss current processes; what's working well and what needs improvement
- Interdepartmental workshops on 4/29 and 4/30
 - Included Finance, Planning & Zoning, PSUF, Parking, DPW, IAM-Engineering
 - Focus on the transportation project delivery process from end to end
- Initial takeaways and next steps
 - Establish and document clear processes and workflows
 - Consistent community engagement
 - Internal kick-off meetings
 - Analysis of existing conditions and project evaluation framework
 - Standardize internal feedback loop

USDOT MUTCD Reform Advocacy

nacto.org/program/modernizing-federal-standards/

City of Somerville P...

NACTO National Association of City Transportation Officials

About Programs & Initiatives Guides & Publications Events & Trainings

Modernizing Federal Standards: Making the MUTCD Work for Cities

Did you know that one federal document dictates what nearly every street looks like in the US?

It's called the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (AKA,

Cities and organizations that support an MUTCD overhaul

NACTO's Detailed Comments to Restructure the MUTCD as a Proactive Safety Regulation (5/14/2021, pdf)

NACTO's Comments and Recommended Changes to the 11th Edition of the MUTCD (3/1/2021, pdf)

| Cities and organizations that support an MUTCD overhaul : Sheet1 | | |
|--|--|---|
| King County Metro | People+orBikes | Mid-Region Metropolitan Planning Organization |
| LA Metro | Sidewalk Labs | Mode Shift Omaha |
| Madison, WI | Toole Design | Neighborhood Design Center |
| Miami-Dade County | TransitCenter | New Paltz Village/Town Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee |
| Minneapolis | Transportation for America | Oregon Metro (MPO) |
| Montgomery County, MD | | Oregon Walks |
| New Haven, CT | | Ozarks Transportation Commission |
| New Orleans | | Palmetto Cycling Coalition |
| Oakland, CA | | Pennsylvania Downtown Center, Inc. |
| Philadelphia | | People Friendly Stamford |
| Pittsburgh | | Safe Routes to School Harrisonburg (VA) |
| Pittsburgh City Council | | Safe Shared Streets |
| Portland, OR | | Somerville Alliance for Safe Streets |
| Providence, RI | | Southern Environmental Law Center |
| San Francisco | | Streetsmart |
| San Luis Obispo, CA | | The Art and Walkability Project |
| Seattle | | Walk Bike Berkeley |
| SEPTA | | Walk Bike Shaler |
| Somerville, MA | | Walk Bike Tampa |
| Vancouver, BC | | Walk San Francisco |
| Washington State DOT | | WalkBikeSpringfield |
| WMATA | | |

<https://nacto.org/program/modernizing-federal-standards/>

Parking Study Update

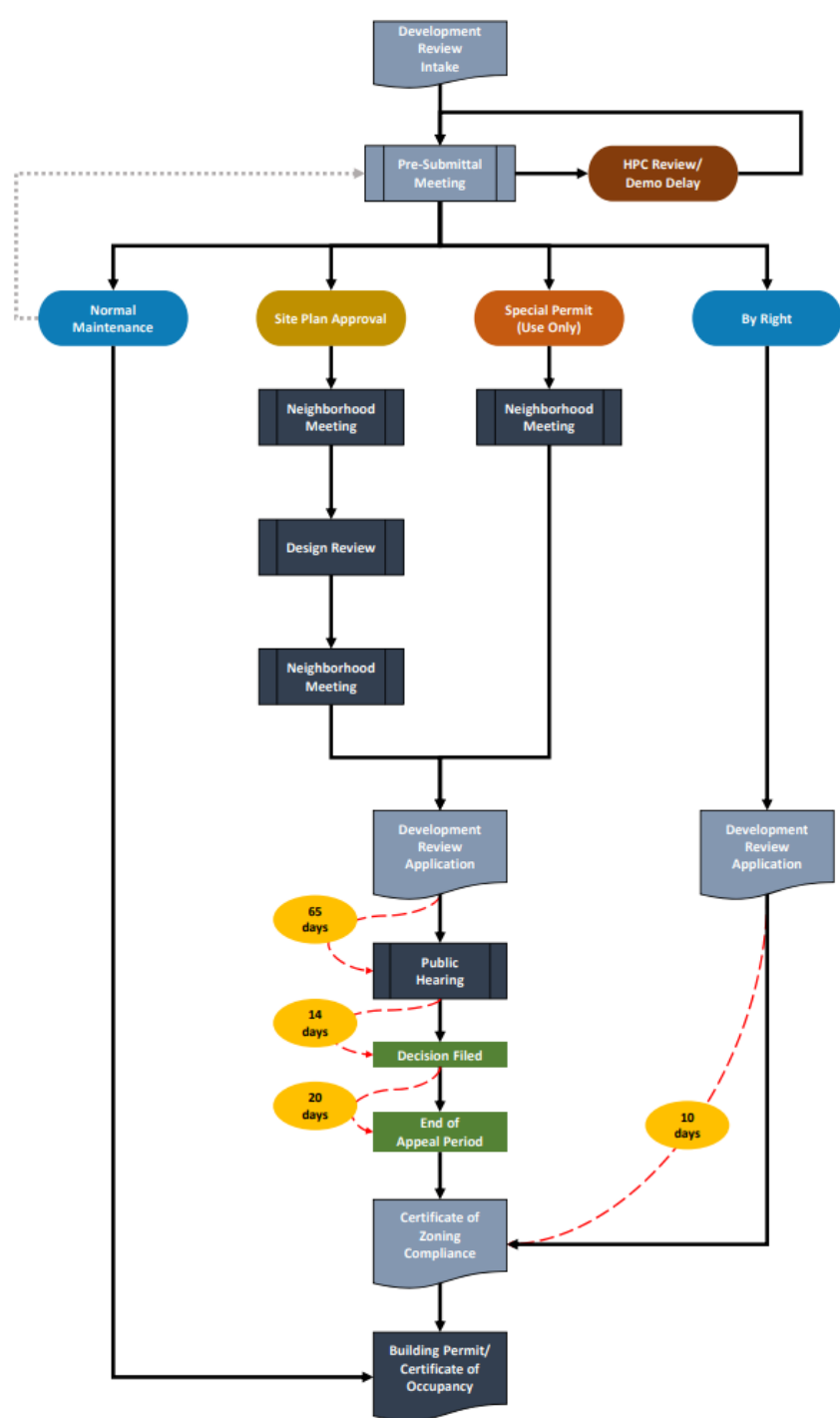


Mobility Division Development Review

- What is Development Review?
 - Planning and Zoning Development Review website: [Development Review – Somerville Zoning Ordinance](#)
 - Development Review Application: [Microsoft Word - DRSR - Development Review Submittal Requirements.docx \(netdna-ssl.com\)](#)
- How does Mobility factor in?
 - Mobility Management Plans
 - Transportation Impact Studies
 - Transportation Access Plans
 - More info.:
 - Development Review tab on [OSPCD - Mobility Division | City of Somerville \(somervillema.gov\)](#)
- What types of developments do we review and what do we require?

Mobility Division Development Review

- How does Mobility factor in?
 - Mobility Management Plans
 - WHAT: focused on transportation demand management, mode shift, changing commuting behavior
 - WHO:
 - 20 or more units
 - 50,000 sf or more of commercial space
 - Hotels, commercial parking, non-residential with 50 or more employees
 - Transportation Impact Studies
 - WHAT:
 - Analyze the **projected impacts of the proposed development** on surrounding intersections and roadways
 - Analyze **existing conditions of pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure**; important source of data and focuses mitigation on pedestrian infrastructure, transit access, and bike infrastructure improvements
 - WHO:
 - 20 or more units
 - Greater than 50,000 sf of gross floor area
 - Greater than 25,000 sf or more of commercial space
 - Specific uses defined in Development Review Application requirements
 - Thresholds for exemptions to encourage the construction of less parking
 - Transportation Access Plans
 - WHAT: Pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular access and circulation at a development
 - WHO: Any development requiring Site Plan Approval – proposing changes to curbs, sidewalks, on-street parking, pavement markings, street ROW



Pre-submittal, initial neighborhood meetings and design development

- Submit Mobility Management Plan for review and approval by Mobility
- Transportation Impact Study Scope

Staff report, recommended conditions, Planning Board Review, and decision

- Submit approval of Mobility Management Plan
- Submit Transportation Impact Study
- Submit Transportation Access Plan

Mobility Division Development Review

What types of developments do we review and what do we require?

Smallish (~20-30 unit) residential developments

- One month MBTA pass for new residents (up to 2/household)
- One month Blue Bikes memberships for new residents (up to 2/household)
- Real time transit information

Specific uses (cannabis retailers)

- Long and short-term bike parking with wayfinding signage
- Annual monitoring and reporting of employee and customer mode of travel

Large developments (lab, retail, office space) (100,000 – 500,000 sqft)

- Parking spaces for EV charging
- Parking spaces for carpool
- Sponsorship of Blue Bikes station
- Membership in a Transportation Management Agency



Other Quick Project Updates

- Lower Medford Street
 - Repaving completed on May 12
 - Pavement markings and flex post installation expected over the next few weeks, weather permitting
- Somerville Avenue
 - Raised crosswalks under construction this week Linden Street to Rossmore Street
 - Final streetscape work continues on south side (pavers, planters, irrigation, trees)
 - Prep work for final paving West of Prospect St (paving expected later in June)
- College Avenue
 - Startup work is underway, and includes drainage work at Morrison Avenue and Francesca Avenue
 - Sidewalk work to begin mid June starting at Powder House Circle and working toward Davis Square
- MassDOT Shared Streets Grant Projects
 - Mystic Ave. Bus Lane – pavement markings planned for 5/24
 - Wellington Br. Bike Lanes – pavement markings planned for early June
- Powder House Circle
 - Work planned to start in July/August
 - **PTAC opportunity: help with outreach and education; messaging around removal of signals**



Other Quick Project Updates

- Spring pavement markings priorities
 - Broadway bike lanes green; Central Broadway legends
 - Neighborways and red-backed crosswalks
 - Bow St. refresh; Elm St refresh
- Western Washington
 - Project evaluation to be completed soon; can present at June PTAC
 - Getting some pushback on parking removal; protected bike lanes
- Pearl Street
 - Working towards 25% design now, **sooner is better for input on conceptual design – ideally before next PTAC meeting**
 - Type of input needed: Recommendations on traffic calming locations and treatment type priorities, feedback on direction of conceptual design
- Piloting using the resurfacing program for dispersed intersection treatments – based on intersection scoring analysis
 - Transitioning tactical interventions to permanent safety improvements at intersections on Neighborways
 - Gilman St at Walnut St
 - Gilman St at Cross St
 - Oliver St at Glen St
 - Oliver St at Franklin St
 - Other higher priority intersections
 - Temple at Heath/Sewall
 - Cross et Everett
- Piloting corridor level ‘light construction’ traffic calming on streets identified as high speed or with multiple high scoring intersections
 - Including speed humps/tables on
 - Jaques St
 - Fellsway W
 - Franklin St
 - Cross St
 - Contract specs/docs in process for a CDBG funded project

Recent/Upcoming Meetings

Upcoming:

- 5/22; 9am – 3pm: Kensington Connector Art Installation
- 5/26; 6pm: SASS Highway Justice Walk/Rally
- 6/3; 6:30 - 8pm: Bike Committee (first Thursday of every month)
- 6/8; 6:30 - 8pm: Commission for Persons with Disabilities (second Tuesday of every month)