



# February 2025 SBAC Meeting: City Updates

# Upcoming Events

- Council on Aging Board Meeting, 2/7/25

## PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

- **Maffa Way/Mystic Avenue bridge replacements meeting - 2/26/25**

Wednesday, February 26 at 6:00 p.m.

Posted: January 31, 2025 2:47 p.m.

### Address

Somerville Central Public  
Library, 79 Highland Avenue,  
Somerville, MA 02143

[Directions →](#)

# Legal Questions

## Conflict of Interest Law

- Applies to All Municipal Employees: As a municipal employee, both you and members of the board or committee above, even if unpaid and serving solely in an advisory capacity, are considered a municipal employee and are covered by the conflict of interest law, G.L. c. 268A.
- Online Resource: State Ethics Commission Conflict of Interest Law for Municipal Employees  
<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/summary-of-the-conflict-of-interest-law-formunicipal-employees>

## Open Meeting Law

- A meeting is “**a deliberation by a public body with respect to any matter within the body’s jurisdiction.**”
- **Deliberation** is “an oral or written communication through any medium, including electronic mail, between or among a quorum of a public body on any public business within its jurisdiction.”
- Distribution of a meeting agenda, scheduling or procedural information, or reports or documents that may be discussed at a meeting to board or committee members **will generally not**

**constitute deliberation**, provided that no member expresses an opinion.

- **E-mail exchanges** between or among a quorum of the members of a public body discussing matters within that body’s jurisdiction may constitute deliberation.
- A **quorum** is usually a simple majority of the members of a public body.
- **Minutes:** Public bodies are required to create and maintain accurate minutes of all meetings, including executive sessions. Minutes must state: the date, time and place of the meeting, a list of the members present or absent, a summary of discussion of each topic, and the decisions made and actions taken including a record of all votes. Minutes must be created and approved in a timely manner.
- Online Resource: MA Attorney General’s Open Meeting Law Website  
<http://www.mass.gov/ago/government-resources/open-meeting-law/>

# FAQs

- **What is quorum for SBAC?**

- The current quorum is 9. There are 16 active members on SBAC, including ex-officio members. A public SBAC meeting cannot be held without quorum.

- **Who can participate in sub-committee meetings?**

- Only SBAC members can participate in sub-committee meetings. Sub-committee meetings must have fewer members than quorum in attendance (fewer than 9 currently), otherwise they must be public meetings and posted according to City policies.

- **When should I use Bcc on an email?**

- Use Bcc if the number of members on the email is equal to quorum or greater. Emails of this size should be sent only for sharing information and not for discussion.

- **How do I request an item for a meeting agenda?**

- Send agenda item requests to the SBAC officers and staff liaisons.

# 2024 KPI – Key Performance Indicators

- Annual progress report that includes
  - Trends for transit ridership, pedestrian, bike, and motor vehicle traffic
  - Collected speed data, Bluebike ridership, reported crash data
- The entire report can be found [here](#).



## Mobility & Safety in Somerville: 2024 Key Performance Indicators



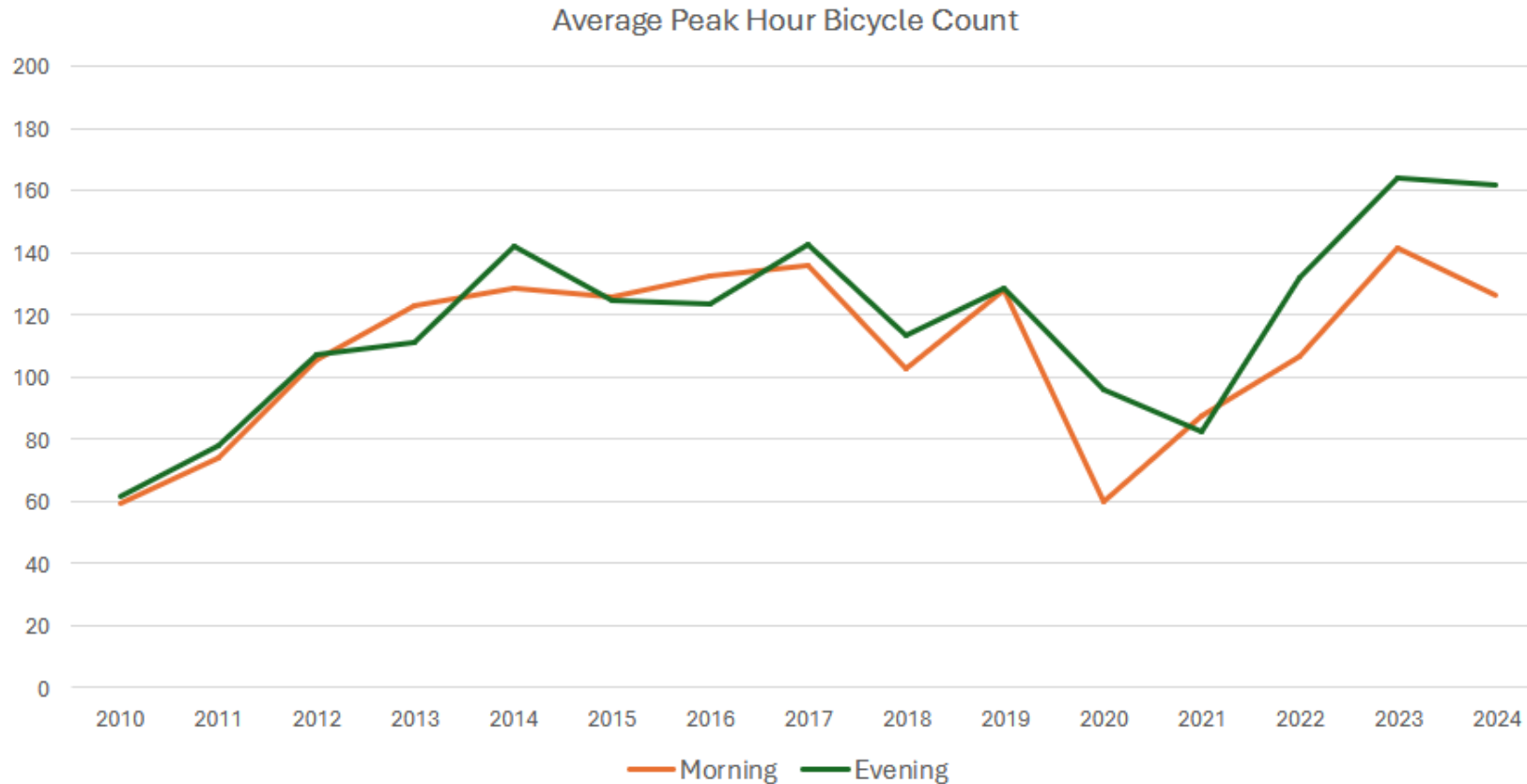
MAYOR KATJANA BALLANTYNE  
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING &  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Transportation@somervillema.gov  
[www.somervillema.gov/visionzero](http://www.somervillema.gov/visionzero)

# 2024 KPI – Travel Patterns - Bicycling

Somerville's annual bike count program continued in 2024;  
**average counts were lower than 2023 but higher than 2022**

Source: City of Somerville annual pedestrian count program at 42 locations

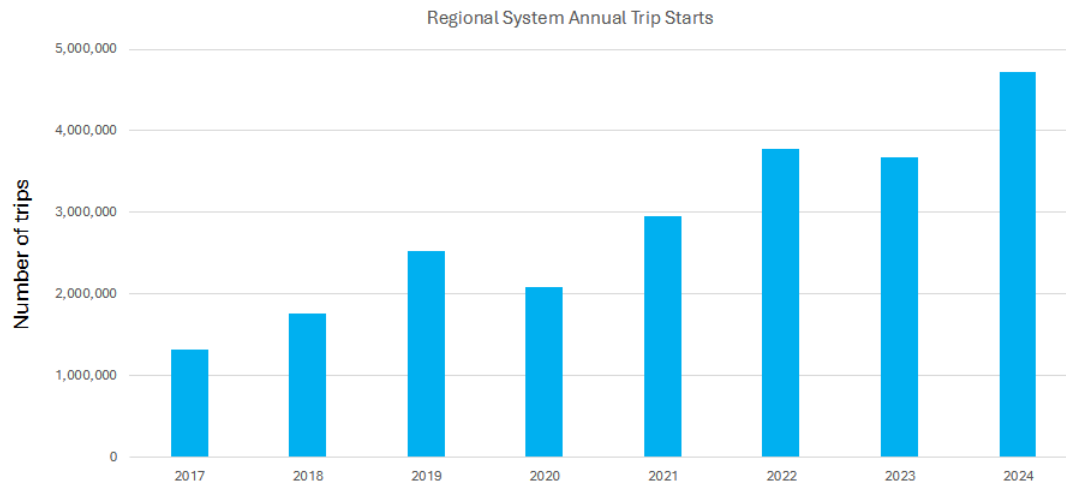




# 2024 KPI – Travel Patterns - Bicycling

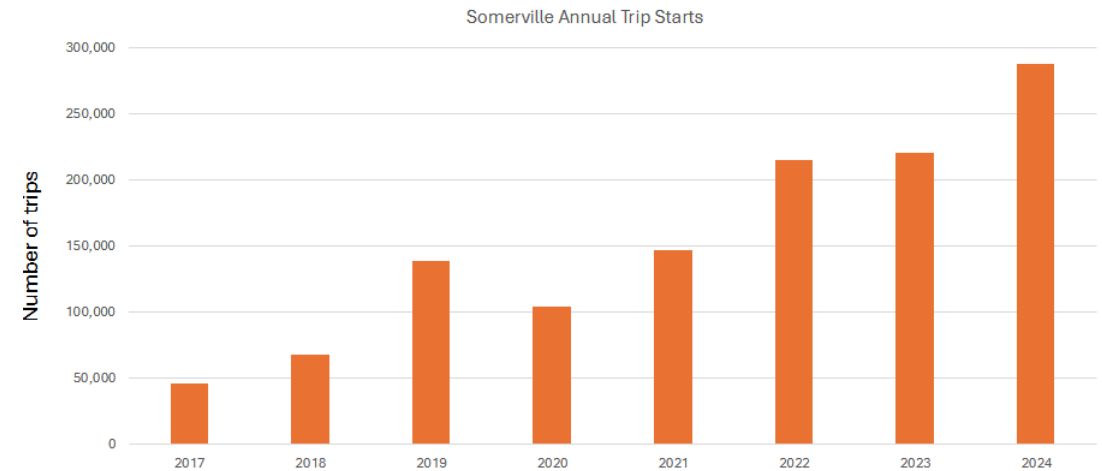
Public bikeshare continued to set records in 2024;  
**our Bluebikes system reported more than 4.5 million trips**

Source: Public Bluebikes ridership database



Public bikeshare continued to set records in 2024;  
**more than 250,000 Bluebikes trips began in Somerville**

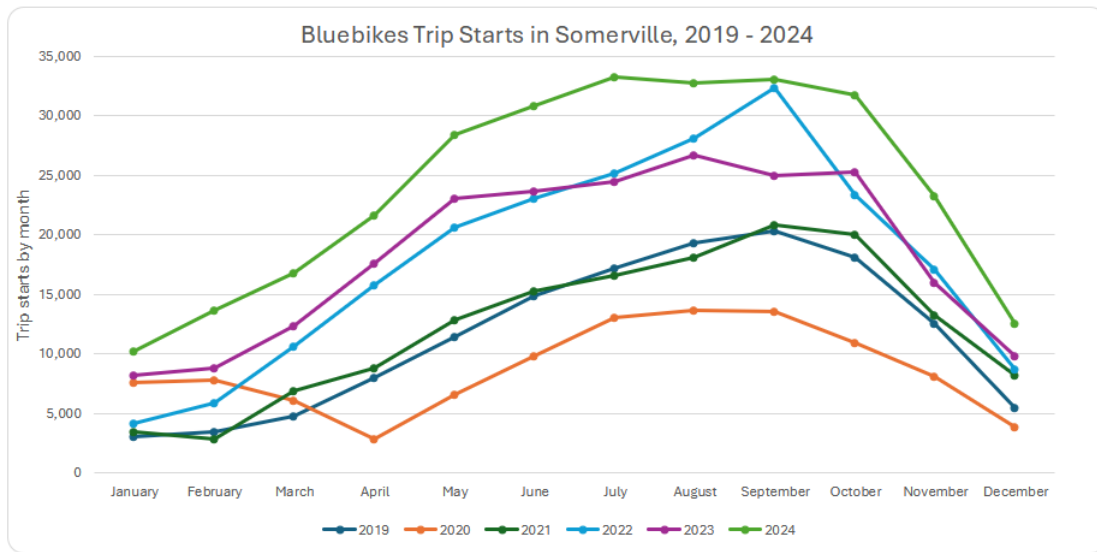
Source: Public Bluebikes ridership database



# 2024 KPI – Travel Patterns - Bicycling

Public bikeshare is well-used all year round;  
**Somerville set new records for each month of the year**

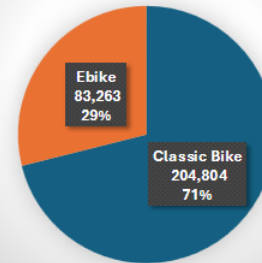
Source: Public Bluebikes ridership database



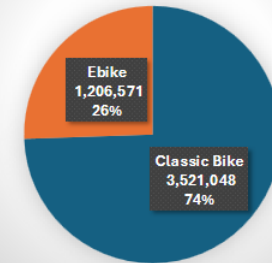
E-bikes are a popular addition to the Bluebikes system;  
**more than 25% of trips were on E-bikes in 2024**

Source: Public Bluebikes ridership database

2024 Blubikes trip starts in  
Somerville by bike type



2024 Blubikes trip starts  
systemwide by bike type

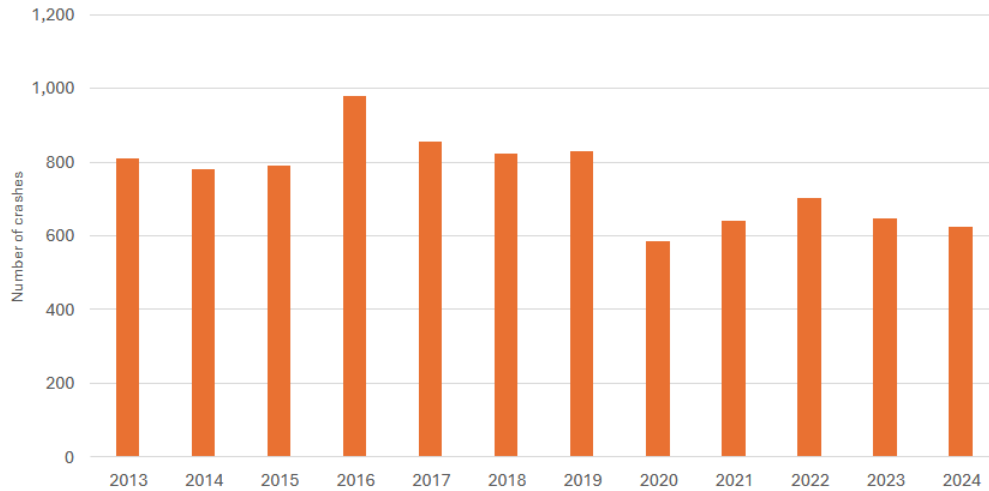




# 2024 KPI – Safety Trends - Crashes

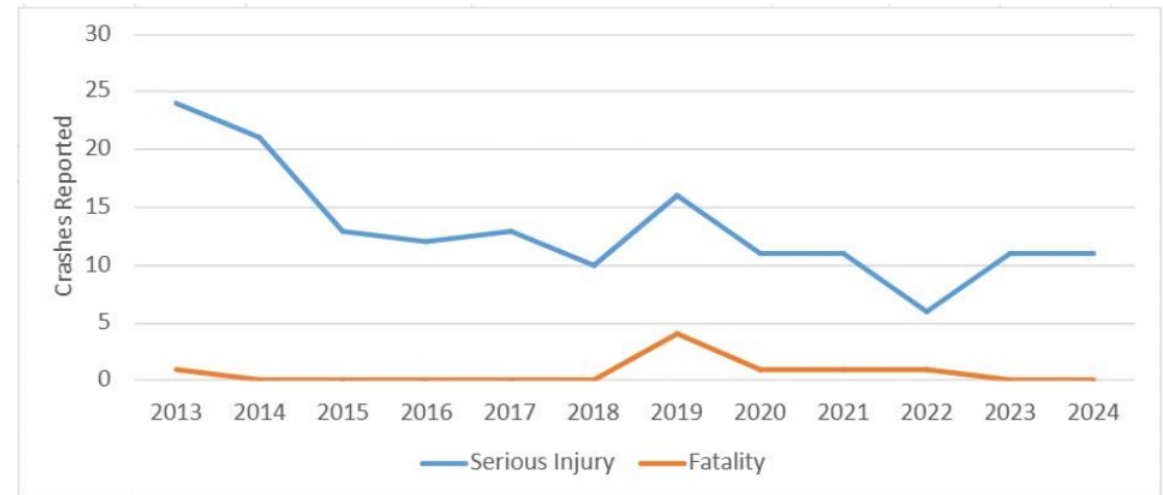
Reported crashes in Somerville continued to decrease in 2024;  
**with 623 total crashes reported for the year**

Source: MassDOT IMPACT crash data portal; retrieved 1/21/25



In 2024 Somerville experienced 11 severe injury crashes,  
**but had no fatal crashes for the second year in a row**

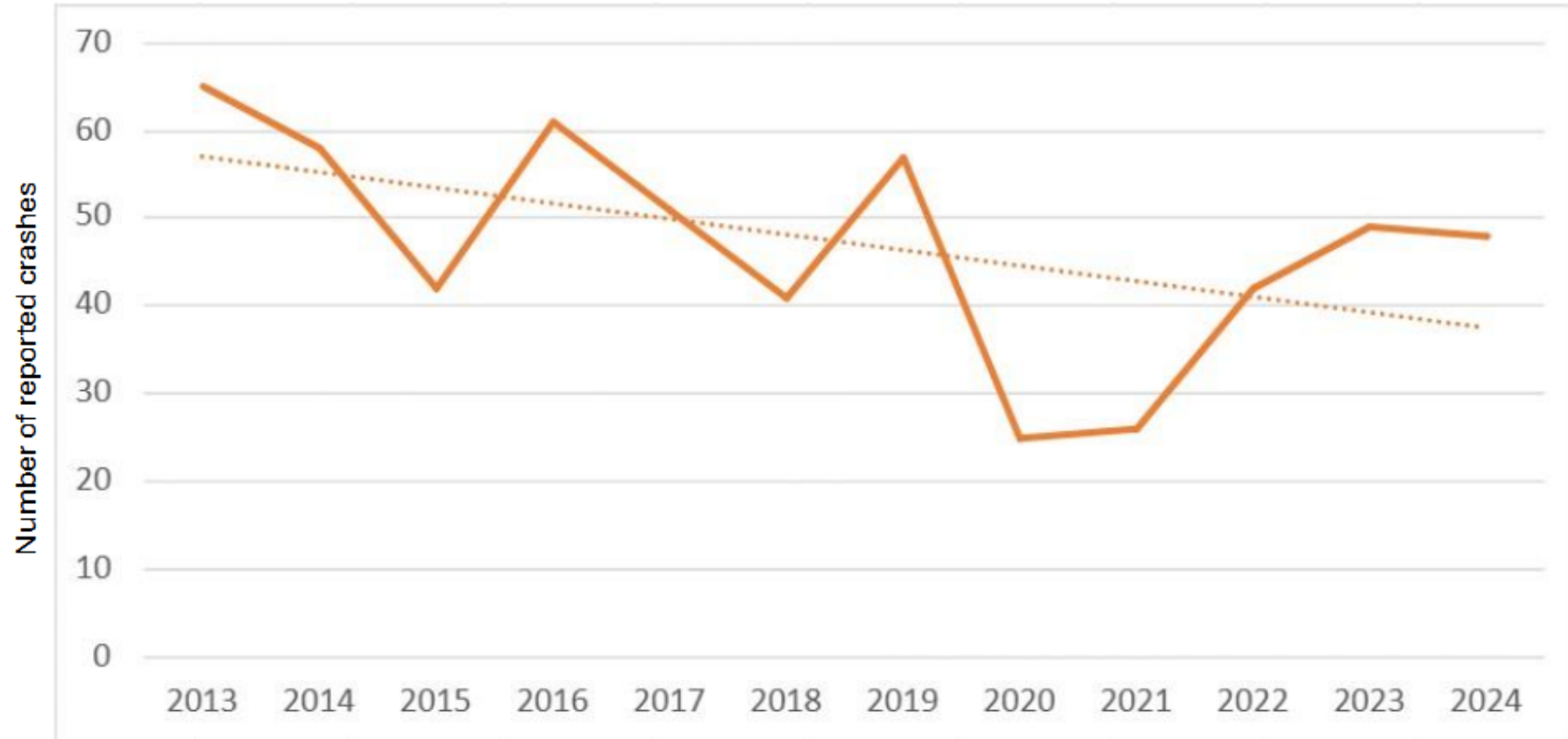
Source: MassDOT IMPACT crash data portal; retrieved 1/21/25



# 2024 KPI – Safety Trends - Crashes

Bicycle crashes reported in Somerville decreased in 2024,  
**and our overall trend is downward**

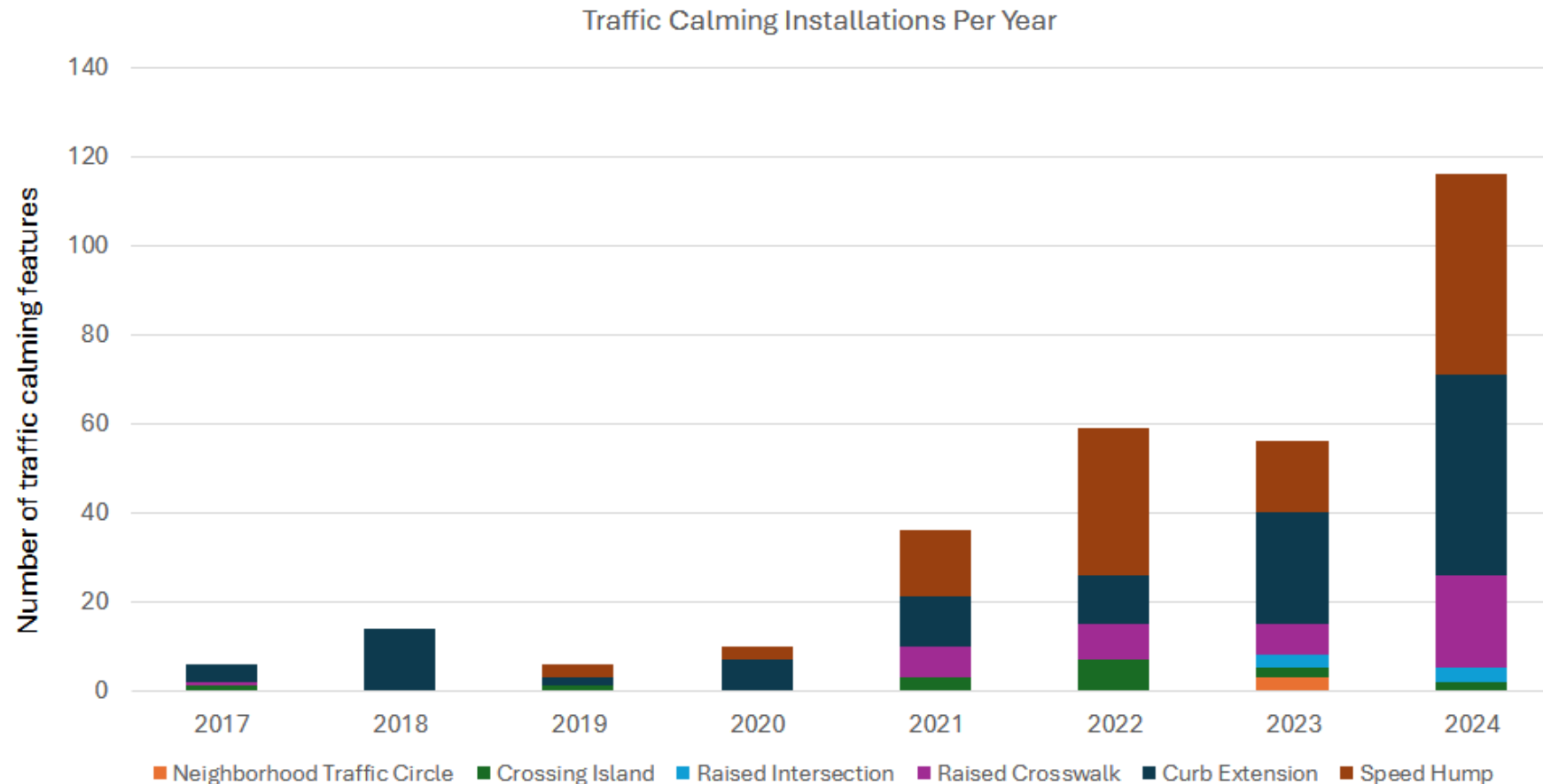
Source: MassDOT IMPACT crash data portal; retrieved 1/21/25



# 2024 KPI – Strategies - Traffic Calming

In order to improve safety and respond to resident demand,  
**Somerville built more than 100 traffic calming features in 2024**

Source: City of Somerville traffic calming database



# 2024 KPI – Strategies – Streets and Sidewalks

In 2024 we expanded our pavement markings program;  
**we prioritized crosswalks, clear corners, and bike lanes**

Source: Engineering Division pavement markings database

- Crosswalks
  - Refreshed **254** faded crosswalks
  - Added **46** new crosswalks, 7 of which were raised
- Clear Corners
  - Refreshed faded markings at **27** intersections along Broadway
  - Added new markings or otherwise improved visibility at **70** intersections
- “SCHOOL” markings
  - Refreshed **11** faded markings
  - Added **17** new markings
- Bike Lanes
  - Refreshed **2.5 miles** of faded bike lane markings on 8 different streets
  - Added green paint to **1600 feet** of existing bike lanes on Park St, Medford St, and Cutter Ave



New crosswalk on Browning Road  
at Sycamore Street



New clear corners markings on  
Meacham Street at the Healey School



New SCHOOL marking on Summer  
Street at Spring Street

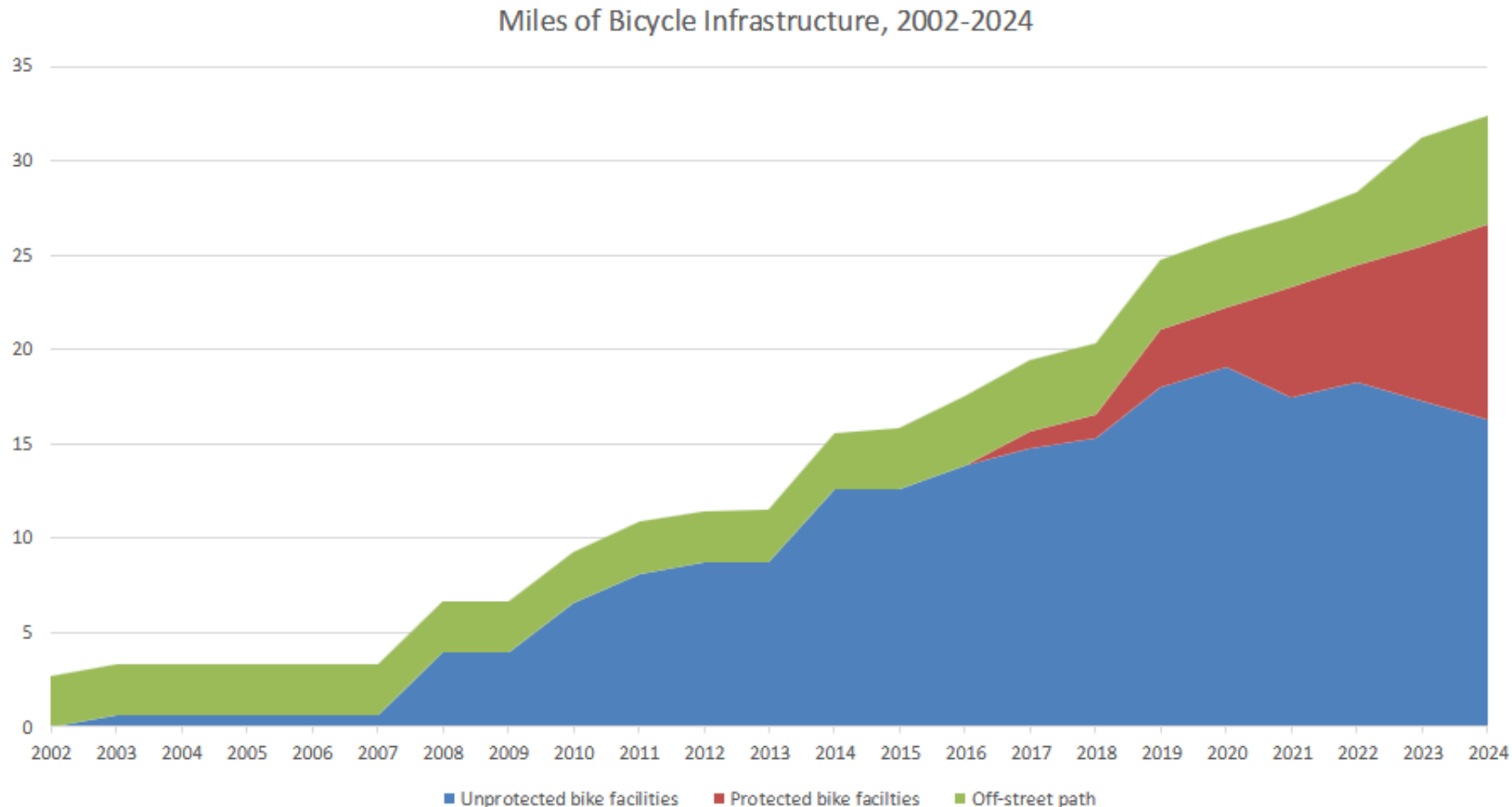


New green bike lane markings  
on Park Street

# 2024 KPI – Strategies – Bicycle Network

Somerville continues to grow our bicycle network,  
**we installed 2.2 miles of protected bike lanes in 2024**

Source: City of Somerville bicycle facilities database

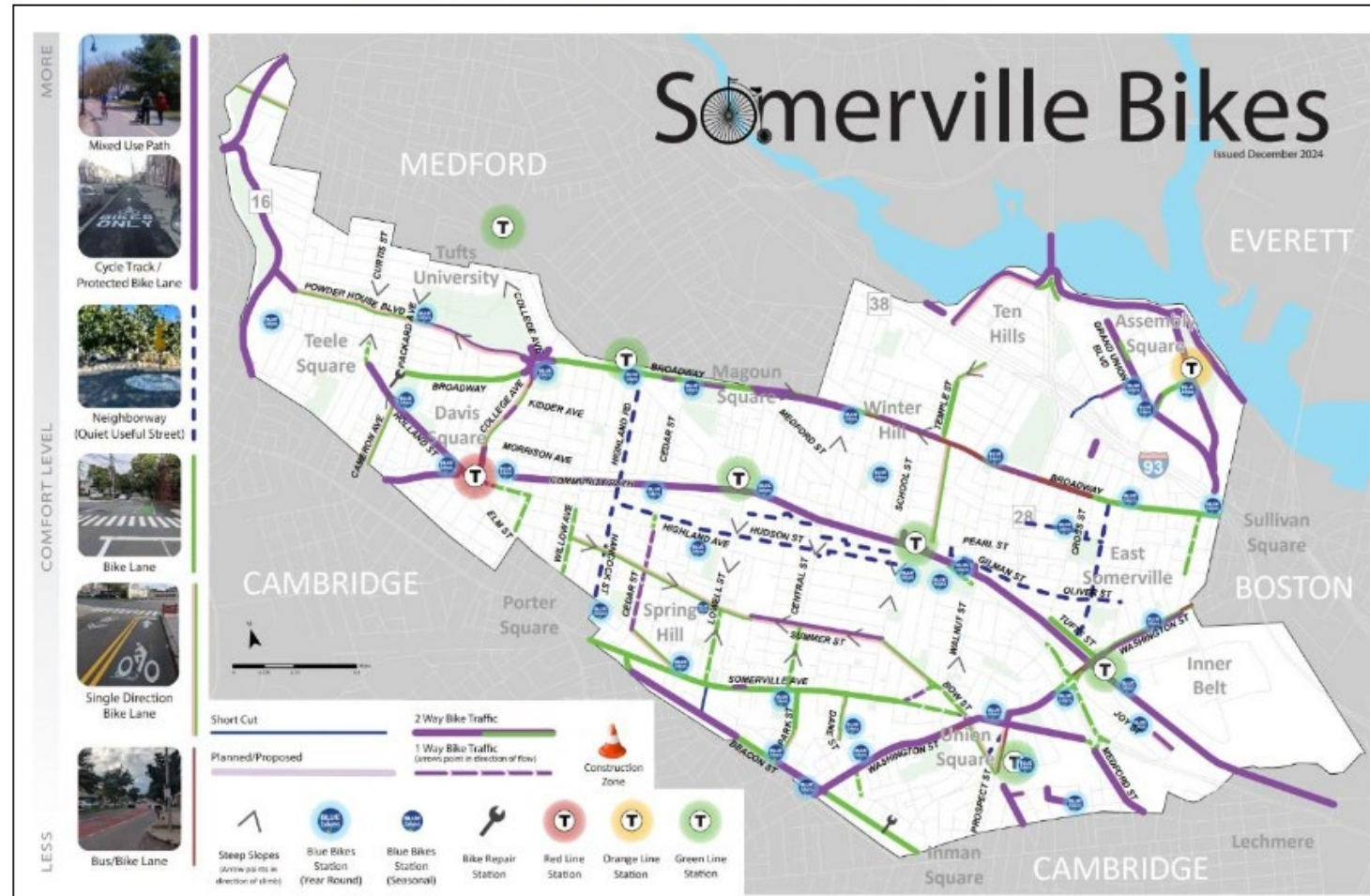




# 2024 KPI – Strategies – Bicycle Network

Somerville continues to grow our bicycle network,  
**in 2024 we completed a major project on Washington Street**

Source: City of Somerville bicycle facilities database

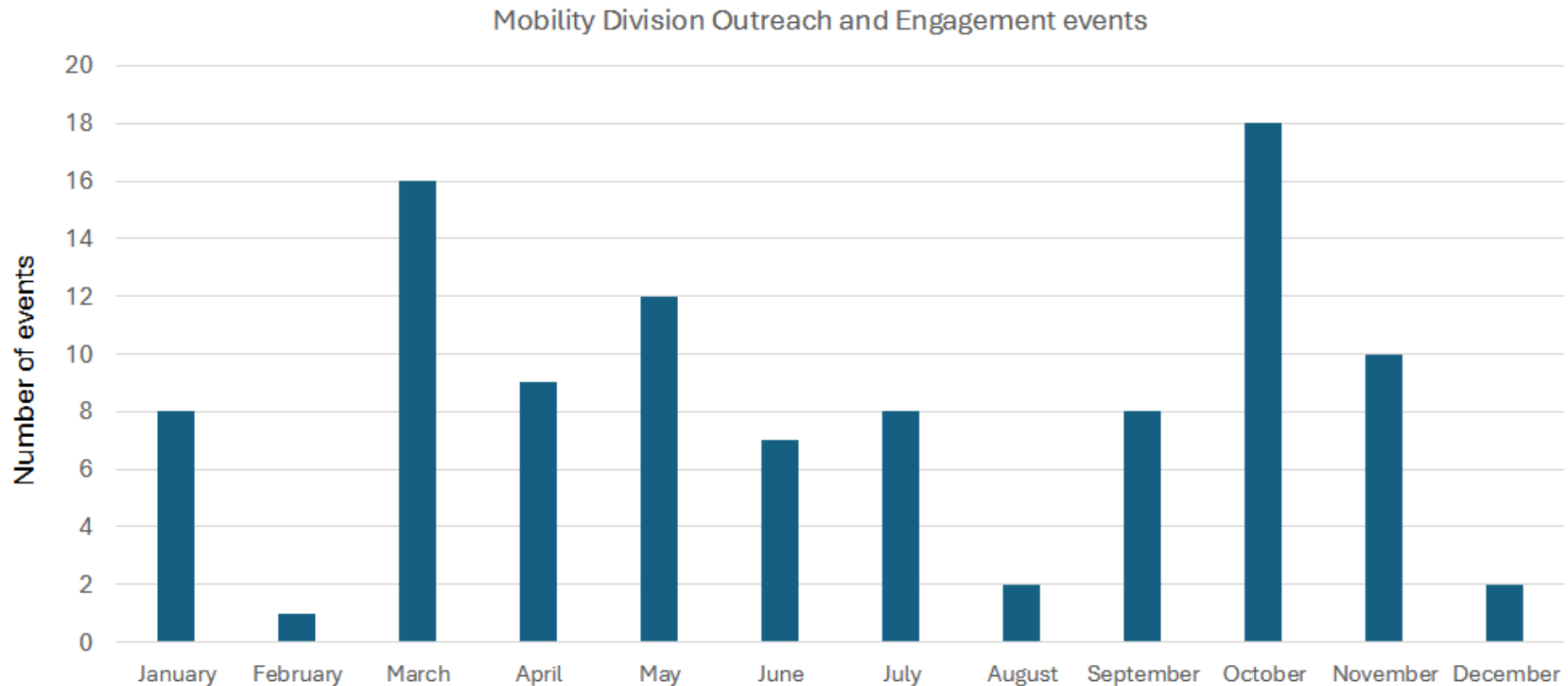




# 2024 KPI – Strategies – Public Engagement

Mobility continues to invest in community outreach,  
**we engaged community members at 101 events in 2024**

Source: Mobility Division event tracker



# Street Projects Update

## Complete Streets Projects

- **West Broadway - Design**
  - Final plans expected early 2025
- **Tufts St - Bidding**
  - Currently out to BID (seeking contractor)
- **Western Pearl - Design**
  - 25% Design in progress

## Quick-Build Projects

- **Elm/Beacon – Design**
  - Public meeting anticipated in late winter/early spring to introduce concept design