



SOMERVILLE BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE November 2024 MEETING AGENDA

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne

Community Representatives

*Tom Lamar, Chair
*Lena Webb, Vice Chair
*Ted Feldman, Secretary
*Adrienne Agarwal
Kathryne Benesh
Gregory Ely

*Alex Frieden
*Katharine Lange
*Paul Morgan
*Amanda Rychel
Maria Salim
Ian Woloschin

Ex Officio

*Willie Burnley, Jr., City Council
*Viola Augustin, OSPCD
Mobility
*Greg Hanafin, OSPCD Mobility
Eric Weisman, DPW

Thursday, November 7th 2024, 6:30-8:00PM

Note: Meeting will be hybrid

In-person meeting location: Central Library Auditorium, 79 Highland Ave

Zoom link for computers, tablets, and smartphones:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89122233741?pwd=J9acmmw0VSLUaLnYzagbQwNX5r0k8w.1>

Dial-in number: +1 646 558 8656, or find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89122233741>

Webinar ID: 891 2223 3741

Passcode: 274625

Procedural, General Business & Updates (25 minutes)

- Roll call and meeting logistics
- Acting Secretary: Tom
- Approval of meeting minutes: approved October
- 2025 Acting Secretary List
- Changes needed: replace Sari, move Maria later, confirm with Greg, otherwise makes sense.
 - Upcoming outreach events
 - Alex mentioned the upcoming Illuminations tour.
 - Katharine mentioned Somerville Bike Kitchen's Cranksgiving alley-cat race event

Focus: Feedback on projects accepting public comment (30 minutes)

- Feedback regarding proposed projects accepting public comment/in planning phases: Elm-Beacon Connector, Western Pearl, West Broadway
- Elm /Beacon Connector:
- Elm: please narrow the intersection with Beech St as much as possible
 - We reiterate our interest in contraflow on Elm St
 - Traffic flow from mall parking lot can be confusing, we suggest working with the owner to clarify traffic flow
 - Regarding which side parking is on, we suggest preserving parking next to the school
 - Somerville Ave:
 - This section is extremely hot due to limited tree cover, we suggest opportunities to add shade, or benches

- At the intersection of with Mossland, we suggest leaving a wide gap in the bollards for bikes turning left from Mossland.
- We applaud that the current signal provides ample time to cross.
- Beacon St:
 - We're very enthusiastic about this overall
 - We're concerned about the conflict at Oxford. We ask the City narrow this intersection as much as possible.
 - If there is parking on the west side, it should be stopped well before the intersection.
 - We ask the city consider potentially major changes near Oxford, such as a mini-roundabout.
- Mossland:
 - We were previously concerned about the traffic volumes for an Neighborway, and appreciate that the city is strongly considering options to significantly reduce the volume.
 - We prefer the dead-end, as the most effective way to reduce volume
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- Other: We suggest any painting be inspired by the fun artwork on the fish store.

Western Pearl St:

- Alex: Strongly suggest Option 2
- Amanda: Excited about Medford St bridge closure, concerned about anything that would limit that
- Tom: Protected bike lanes west of Skilton are very important so the Gilman neighborway can connect.
- Councilor Burnley: Suggest prioritizing whichever design is safest, even with parking tradeoffs

West Broadway:

- Lena: Enthusiastic support for the project overall. Would like a project to address Teele Square itself.
- Tom: Appreciate the project being extended to meet Holland bike lane.
- Councilor Burnley: Would like to include Teele Square in the future.
- Overall statement: We express our enthusiastic support for this project. We encourage the city to follow up with a project to address Teele Square itself.

The committee voted to endorse the statements regarding Elm/Beacon and West Broadway on behalf of the committee.

Focus: Subteam Organization and Brainstorming Feedback (20 minutes)

- Postponed

City Updates (15 minutes)

- City Update

Mobility suggested an email protocol for members to BCC each other.