



# March 2026 SBAC Meeting: City Updates

# Snow Season

## Roles & Responsibilities

- Mobility:
  - Maintain updated data on bike facilities, traffic calming locations, flexpost inventory
  - Provide mapping support for DPW operations planning
- Department of Public Works (DPW)
  - Review new bike facilities, traffic calming locations and customize operational routes for various snow clearance equipment / personnel (both in-house and contract)
  - Manage snow clearance operations during storm events
  - Transition to snow removal operations if/when conditions and resources permit
- Inspectional Services Division (ISD)
  - Perform enforcement activities
    - Reactive, complaint-based
    - Proactive, corridor-based



*Snow plow clearing bike lanes on Holland Street, January 2026*

# Upcoming Events

- 2nd Grade Pedestrian Safety Trainings, 3/2 - 3/13
- Traffic safety informational session with seniors, Council on Aging, Holland Street Senior Center, 3/20, 10 – 11am
- Virtual Spanish Mobility Workshop, Thursday 4/23, 5 – 6:30pm



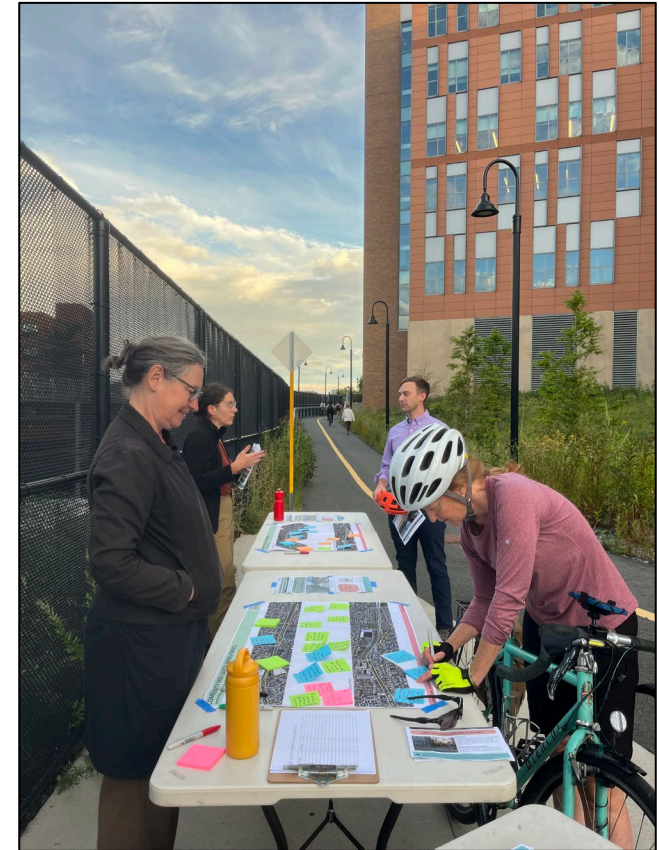
*High School students from the Center for Career and Technical Education program who assisted with pedestrian safety trainings, March 2025*

# Quick-Build Projects

*Faster-implementation projects that use flexible materials and minimal or no construction*

## Design

- **Elm-Beacon Connector ([project page](#))**
  - We have been working closely with other departments in the City, as well as with the City of Cambridge and the MBTA to ensure that we develop the safest and most effective design for this quick-build project.
  - At the same time, we've been exploring ways to increase the scope to meet more of the needs and feedback we heard from community members.
  - Final design expected April 2026
  - Installation planned between summer-fall 2026
- **Somerville Avenue ([project page](#))**
  - Phase 1 Community Engagement Report [published](#)
  - Initial design development anticipated to take place through winter
- **Community Path Safety Improvements ([project page](#))**
  - Community Engagement Report [published](#)
  - Design Strategy to be shared in early 2026



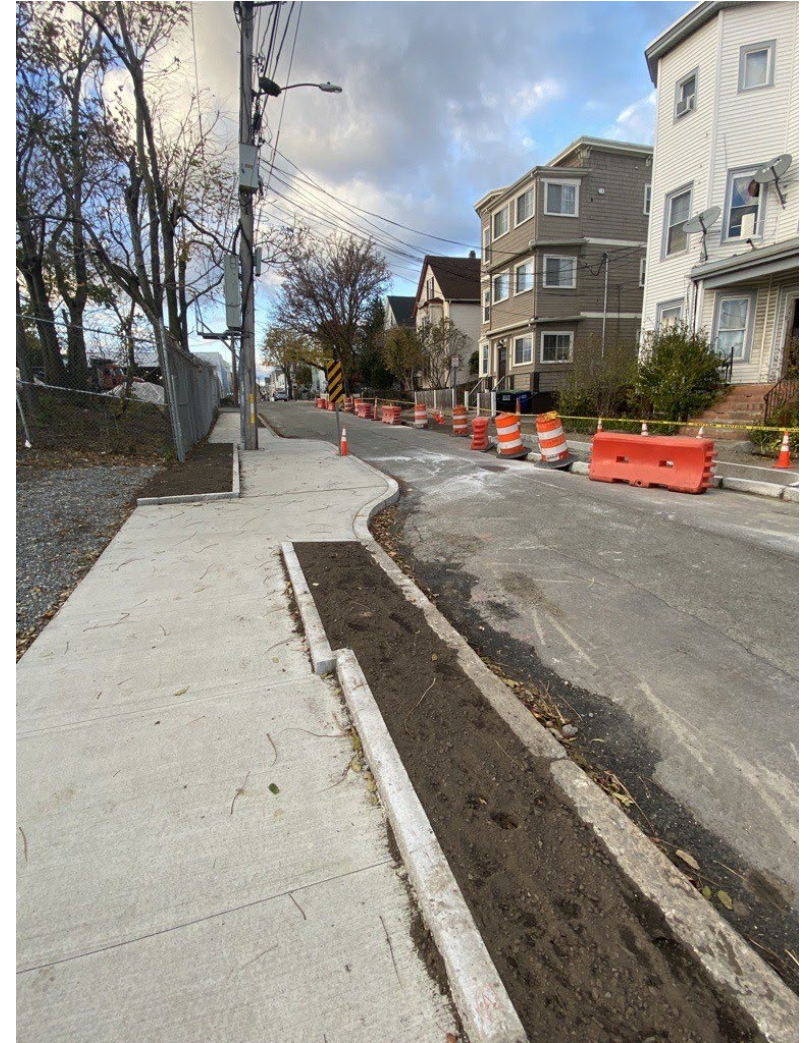
*Community Path Safety Pop-up, Gilman Square MBTA Station, September 2025*

# Complete Streets Projects

*Projects that do not typically include substantial utility/bridge/signal work; typically using construction contracts that bundle multiple streets together*

## Construction

- **Tufts Street ([project page](#))**
  - Remaining sidewalks, other streetscape improvements, and repaving of the roadway will occur in spring/summer of 2026
- **West Broadway ([project page](#))**
  - Streetscape reconstruction anticipated to begin in spring 2026



*Tufts Street, November 2025*

# Complete Streets Projects

Projects that do not typically include substantial utility/bridge/signal work; typically using construction contracts that bundle multiple streets together

## Design

- **Western Pearl Street Reconstruction Project ([project page](#))**
  - Final design materials available on project webpage
    - [Illustrative plan](#)
    - [Sign and pavement markings plan](#)
    - [Bike circulation diagram](#)
    - [Project overview and proposed parking changes](#)
  - Construction anticipated to start in 2026 and completed by November 2027
- **Broadway Magoun Reconstruction Project ([project page](#))**
  - Pre-Concept Design Community Engagement Report [published](#)
  - Initial design anticipated spring 2026



Broadway Magoun Reconstruction Project pre-concept design engagement timeline

# Major Infrastructure Projects

Projects that include substantial utility/bridge/signal work as well as streetscape work; typically using standalone construction contracts

## State Managed

- **McGrath Boulevard ([project page](#))**
  - Conceptual Design materials
    - [Conceptual design overview](#)
    - [Major intersections conceptual designs](#)
    - [Flyover rendering of conceptual design](#)
    - [12/4/25 Open House poster boards](#)
    - 12/9/25 Public Hearing [slide deck](#) and [recording](#)
  - 75% design anticipated in 2026
- **Mystic/Maffa bridges ([project page](#))**
  - Anticipate construction substantial completion in summer 2026
- **Route 38/Route 28 Intersection ([project page](#))**
  - Construction will re-start for the season when weather permits
- **Mystic River Bike/Ped Bridge ([project page](#))**
  - [Slides](#) and [recording](#) of October 2025 meeting available online.

**McGrath Boulevard Project**  
Transforming McGrath Highway into a street-level multimodal boulevard

**What This Project Will Do**

- Remove the elevated overpass on McGrath Highway (Route 28) over Washington Street and replace it with a ground-level road
- Make travel safer for everyone - those driving, walking, biking, and taking transit
- Add green space and support local business

**Timeline**

- 2011-2018 Planning
  - McCarthy Overpass identified as aging and needing replacement
  - Extensive public engagement and formation of a Working Group
  - Removing viaduct and building Boulevard determined as preferred solution
- 2021-2023 Project Development
  - Conduct survey and utility investigation, perform environmental studies, and prepare refined concept design (10%)
- 2024-2027 Design Development
  - Preliminary Design (25%)
  - Design Public Hearing
  - Environmental Permitting
  - Detailed Design (75%, 100%, Final)
  - Right of Way acquisitions
  - Bid package
- 2027-2032 Construction
  - Advertise project for bid
  - Select contractor and issue Notice to Proceed
  - Construct boulevard through phased construction approach

Many design options were evaluated including potential cross-sections and intersection configurations. Through a consensus-driven design process, the preliminary design here was selected as the "preferred alternative."

McGrath Boulevard project extends roughly 1.5 miles from the intersection with Broadway in Somerville to Third Street in Cambridge.

McGrath Boulevard Project open house poster, December 2025