Agenda

Existing conditions (20 mins)

Open space goals (10 mins)

Draft recommendations to citywide open space network (30 mins)

Discussion (40 mins)

Next steps (10 mins)
Recent studies and proposals

**Cambridge:**
- Healthy Parks and Playgrounds Task Force Report, 2009
- Open Space and Recreation Plan, City of Cambridge, 2009-2016
- Cambridge Riverfront Plan, Cambridge CDD, 2011
- Connect Kendall Square Framework Plan, RBA, 2015
- Cambridge Open Space surveys

**Regional:**
- Emerald Network, Livable Streets Alliance, ongoing
- Malden River Greenway, Mystic River Watershed Association, 2017
- GreenLinks Boston, Boston Transportation Department, 2015
- LandLine, MAPC, ongoing
- East Coast Greenway, East Coast Greenway Alliance, 1991
Citywide open space
Citywide public open space
Existing Bicycle Level of Comfort (BLC 1 and BLC 2 routes)

**BLC 1 routes:**
Places where only people on bicycles or foot are allowed, like off-street paths or separated bicycle facilities; quiet neighborhood streets with only occasional vehicular traffic travelling at low speeds.

**BLC 2 routes:**
Neighborhood streets with some traffic, not travelling too fast; bike lanes against the curb; wide bike lanes on streets without much traffic that make travel predictable for people in cars and on bikes.

*Source: City of Cambridge Bicycle Vision Plan, 2015.*
Bike Vision Plan

Figure 5.14: Existing Network, Planned Projects, Proposed Off-Street Paths + Proposed Separation

- Off-street path
- Separated bike facility
- Low volume and/or speed
- Existing facility not in priority bicycle network

Areas underserved by open space

Acres of public open space per 1000 persons

Draft Goals

• Connect all residents and workers to significant open space resources including Danehy Park, Fresh Pond, Alewife Reservation, and the Charles River.
• Create safe walking and biking connections from Cambridge's neighborhoods to open spaces.
• Improve comfort and wayfinding on biking and walking routes along existing parts of the open space network.
• Create connections to integrate Alewife Square into the citywide open space network.
• Prioritize the planning and implementation of routes connecting citywide open spaces to regional paths and trails.
Cambridge’s open space circuit – Existing but incomplete
Alewife proposed open space
Alewife proposed open space

* For the purposes of this presentation, the Alewife Districtwide Plan is considered adopted.
Cambridge’s open space circuit – Planned and proposed links

- Somerville Community Path*
- Emerald Necklace
- Watertown Greenway
- Fresh Pond to Danehy Park connections*
- To Minuteman Path
- To Mass Central Trail
- Paul Dudley White Bike Path
- Existing
- Planned / Proposed
- Multi-use paths and linear parks
- On-street connections

* Top Priority Recommendations for Park Trails per the Green Ribbon Report, 2000
Cambridge’s open space circuit – Links to neighborhoods, corridors

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Cambridge’s open space circuit – Links to neighborhoods, corridors

* Top Priority Recommendations for Park Trails per the Green Ribbon Report, 2000
Cambridge’s open space circuit – Pedestrian friendly routes

* Top Priority Recommendations for Park Trails per the Green Ribbon Report, 2000
Connections to neighborhoods with a greater density of children

*Top Priority Recommendations for Park Trails per the Green Ribbon Report, 2000*
Safe routes to open space resources at schools

* Top Priority Recommendations for Park Trails per the Green Ribbon Report, 2000
Expanding access to areas underserved by open space

Acres of public open space per 1000 persons

- 0
- 0 – 1
- 1 – 2
- 2 – 4
- 4 – 10
- 10 and up

Proposed priority connections

Cambridge’s open space circuit

* Top Priority Recommendations for Park Trails per the Green Ribbon Report, 2000
Draft recommendation: Museum of Science connection

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Charles River Dam and park, 1913

Pedestrian and Bicycle Connectivity Study, MassDOT and DCR, 2014
**Draft recommendation: Connect Kendall**

*Top Priority Recommendations for Park Trails per the Green Ribbon Report, 2000*
Draft recommendation: Garden Street

* Top Priority Recommendations for Park Trails per the Green Ribbon Report, 2000
Draft recommendation: Garden Street

Garden St at Walden St

Garden St at Linnaean Street
Draft recommendation: Lakeview Avenue-Coolidge Avenue

* Top Priority Recommendations for Park Trails per the Green Ribbon Report, 2000
Draft recommendation: Lakeview Avenue
Draft recommendation: Coolidge Avenue, Willow Avenue
Precedent: Riverview Cemetery Paths, Portland OR
Gaps in the Lakeview Avenue-Coolidge Avenue Connection

- Sherman Street (At-grade crossing with tracks)
- Fresh Pond Pkwy (At-grade crossing)
- Willow Ave (Gated entry into Cambridge Cemetery)
- Greenough Blvd (Cemetery fence, grade change)
- To Minuteman Path
- To Mass Central Trail
- Existing Connections
- Planned / proposed
- Multi-use paths and linear parks
- On-street connections
- At-grade crossings
Regional Open Space Network

Charles Eliot, *Metropolitan Park Reservations, 1902*
Discussion

• Which of these connections would you use to walk, jog, or bike to an open space?

• Which connections do you think are most important for completing Cambridge's open space circuit?

• Are there any connections that we missed?