

Minutes

Boylston Street Corridor Study Committee

November 8, 2021 12:00PM

Held remotely via Zoom

Committee members (in attendance noted by Y/N):

John VanScoyoc, Chair	Y	Wendy Friedman	Y	Tom Nally*	Y
Rachna Balakrishna	Y	Joe Gaudino	Y	Carlos Ridruejo	Y
Deborah Brown	Y	Wendy Machmuller*	Y	Mark Zarrillo	Y

**Wendy Machmuller joined at 12:21, Tom Nally joined at 12:59*

Staff & consultants present: Kara Brewton, Sophie Robison

Meeting materials included: agenda; draft memo, 7/12/21 BSCSC meeting minutes, 10/25/21 BSCSC meeting minutes

Guests included: Katha Seidman, Christine Lau, Jennifer Sullivan, Paul Saner, Matt Hyatt, Tad Champion, Linda Pehlke, Jennifer Dopazo Gilbert, Luke Laverty, Marianne Lee, Fred Perry, Bill Reyelt, Brian Kane, Susan Kaplan

Kara Brewton opened the meeting, noting that it was being held remotely on the Zoom platform due to COVID, and after checking that all participants' audio/video were working well, and Kara announced that the meeting was being recorded.

John VanScoyoc explained that today's meeting would focus on a letter from the Committee to MassDOT.

Meeting Minutes

BSCSC approved the following meeting minutes.

- BSCSC moved to approve the 7/12/21 minutes by roll call vote (RB, DB, WF, JG, WM, TN, CR, MZ, JVS).
- BSCSC moved to approve the 10/25/21 minutes by roll call vote (RB, DB, WF, WM, TN, CR, MZ, JVS). Joe Gaudino abstained.

Conversation with the Committee: Review of draft of memo to SB about memo to MassDOT

Wendy Friedman walked the Committee through a series of edits, including:

- GreenDOT's sustainable initiative's goals incorporated
- Addition of committee mandate language from Select Board charge, including identification of a streetscape concept
- Improvements reflect themes that have emerged from community engagement
 - *Add a goal around housing equity, balanced commercial development*

- Various edits of incorporate language specific to housing equity (and it's relation to the larger Housing Production Plan and the Government Alliance on Race and Equity work), as well as a stated intention to create balanced commercial development.

Committee discussion included ask to add goal around housing equity and balanced commercial development. Some Committee members expressed that they were happy to see references to climate change. There was discussion of how this memo responds to the work of MassDOT and the Governor's office, especially in recent months. The suggestions was made to add language similar to the following: *"We believe this proposal is consistent with the State administration's goals with respect to advancing multi-family housing supply near transit and climate resilience."*

Conversation with the Public included:

- Jennifer Sullivan: Question about role of MassDOT in implementation of this project. Kara responded that MassDOT has identified that Boylston Street needs to be repaved and wants Brookline's input on what the re-paved street should look like. Shared additional thoughts on how to integrate state goals into this language, and suggested being more general and making it clear that Brookline wants denser development.

General consensus that the memo should highlight Concept B as the chosen approach. Tasked Toole Design to do birds eye rendering of this Concept. Discussion of presentation of various Concepts.

Next Steps

- Ensure that anything included is within scope of influence of Committee (ex. Traffic study analysis/interventions)
- BSCSC moved to approve the Memo, with some outstanding collaborative editing with Chair VanScoyoc, by roll call vote (CR, WF, WM, RB, JG, TN, MZ, DB, JVS).
- Next meeting is in two weeks, Monday 11/22 (confirmed quorum)
- Update on Audi Dealership ruling at Planning Board, upcoming ruling from Zoning Board

Closing

The next meeting is on November 22nd, 2021. Kara will share the document with additional edits via email.

**Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:03 pm.