



GMNC Public Services Committee Meeting
August 4, 2020
5:30-6:30pm
Zoom Meeting

Minutes

1. Covid-19 Check-in
 - i. Seems like for the most part people are doing well.
 - ii. Huge soccer games at Almont Park, not a lot of people wearing masks, 200-250 people, police on site, but no enforcement of social distancing (photos coming), is the use of the fields at Almont Park permit only?
 - iii. Dr. Shiva is running for the US Senate and holding big rallies with no masks (photos coming)
2. Trash/Recycling Bins Issue (David Holness)
 - i. Workers leaving the hinged bins open – problems with rain snow, video proof, otherwise mistreating the bins, throwing them across the street and damaging them, putting the bins in the incorrect locations, trash being left on the ground
 - ii. PWD is the group that handles these issues
 - iii. There's a new company with the contract now, and they're not performing to the same level
 - iv. David is proposing that he drafts a letter that the PSC could endorse
3. AARP Walkability program
 - i. Vivian is going to lead the Walk Audit effort!
4. Cummins Highway Pilot Project thoughts?

- i. Caridad says - Far fewer cars on the road right now, and there's still some congestion at times. Also, it seems like this stops short, why not take the project all the way into Roslindale?
- ii. David says - Hate the barriers – Feeney Brothers also doing a lot of construction which doesn't help. Left turns are really hard, feels like you need to get out into opposing traffic a little – bad at Itasca, but even worse where there's no signals
- iii. Barbara says - Glad it's just a pilot, not permanent – we either need to say we want them or they don't, but we need to make our voices heard.
- iv. Caridad - Can we have the survey results shared with us?
- v. Dennis - What about the roundabout? We thought the whole thing was about slowing the traffic down, but we're not seeing the roundabout.
- vi. Kenya - There's been work on Fairway that's causing traffic confusion and some backup. Other construction work is probably adding to the confusion and making it harder to assess.
- vii. Caridad - Really hard to make a left turn. Traffic on Cummins Highway is already slow, we don't need any additional congestion.
- viii. Vivian - We asked for this years ago, primary mode of transportation is bicycling, this concept is good. When the bicyclist was killed in June, it had a big impact. Vivian is not hearing any honking while she's out there.
- ix. Caridad - There does need to be change, it's not safe today, there are a ton of crashes. Again, how do we extend the project limits?
- x. Kenya - BPDA did a walkthrough around Cummins Highway with 12-15 residents and also heard the concerns about safety. The project needs to do better with outreach. Working on putting flyers up, sending emails to neighborhood associations, it's a really hard job.

- xi. Jessie's a pedestrian primarily, does not own a car, supports the project. You can't make the street safer on a 4 lane road.
- xii. Fatima – when it comes to distributing information – we used to get a lot more info distributed. Mattapan is the center of the City. So much of the problems in this whole area start at Mattapan Square. No direct way to get across River Street. If you want to do traffic calming, take it all the way up to Roslindale. Bicycle lanes should be at the same level as sidewalks. The whole project should look beautiful, lots of trees to help lower the heat index. Important to design for 8 to 80! Use normal standards for design. We need to hold people accountable during this process. When something happens, there needs to be a concrete mechanism that forces somebody to do something. We want to the people building the road to be from the community.
- xiii. Irene – there have been several crashes even in the last month in the Itasca neighborhood. Serious crashes.
- xiv. David - The way the barriers are set up now – is that accurate to how it's going to be eventually implemented? We think more or less yes.
- xv. David – wants to see the median stay – worried about people trying to overtake the buses at stops and cause head on collisions.

5. PLAN Mattapan Corridors Meeting

6. Blue Hill Ave Project Grant Application Update

7. Find a permit review

- i. <https://data.boston.gov/dataset/approved-building-permits/resource/6ddcd912-32a0-43df-9908-63574f8c7e77>

Ongoing Items Tabled until Future notice:

- 1. Emergency Services Event
- 2. Colorado/Itasca Streets Slow Streets Application (42 Almont crosswalk)
- 3. Liquor license discussion recap