

Working Together for Cambridge



We are excited about the plans for the spring pilot projects and wanted to offer a few thoughts on how we believe their effectiveness could be maximized for livability, safety and convenience by connecting to each other and key destinations.

- **Pilot a range of barriers:** Test a wide variety of barriers, including planters to pre-cast curbs. One of the most exciting outcomes of protected lanes can be the creative barriers, placemaking, and other features that enhance the livability of a street or neighborhood.
- **Brattle St enhancement:**
 - Install a two-way, not a one-way, protected lane on the section of Brattle Street being addressed. This would provide the first safe, protected route in and out of Harvard Sq for people. Since a full (currently under-used) travel lane will be removed, there is plenty of space for a two-way protected bike lane. If the lane isn't officially marked as two-way, it will surely be used for two-way movement anyway. We feel that contraflow movement on this section of Brattle St might be even more important than the with-traffic movement, since the alternative is circuitous and involves more traffic exposure.
 - Consider adding at least one if not more additional crosswalks to improve pedestrian safety.
- **Cambridge St enhancement:**
 - Consider extending the Cambridge St protected lane westbound under the tunnel to connect fully to the Harvard Law School pilot project. Based on information from Cambridge CityViewer, it looks like the curb-to-curb width under the bridge is 34', which allows for a 4' left-hand shoulder, two 11' MV lanes, and an 8' protected bike lane by simply repainting and installing a barrier. Currently the tunnel is extremely scary for cyclists and many avoid it.
- **Mass Ave enhancement:**
 - Consider installing a two-way protected lane on the section of Mass Ave being addressed and explore extending it further past Quincy into Harvard Square. This provides a two-way connection from Harvard Yard and Harvard Square toward Central Sq.
- **Add Quincy to scope:**
 - Explore installing a parking protected lane on Quincy from Broadway to Harvard to ease connection between Cambridge and Mass Ave projects. If a contraflow lane is added to the section from Cambridge to Broadway a true connection

could be made between the two pilot projects. This would be a relatively easy, low-hanging fruit opportunity to start building a network.