

ABAC Meeting Presentation

12-15-21

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Development



Items in this Presentation

1. Minuteman Bikeway Planning Project update
2. MassTrails Grant – Mystic River to Minuteman Bikeway Feasibility Study
3. Bluebikes Winter Storage schedule relocations
4. Moving Together Conference
5. Other Projects or News of interest





- Over 1,650 responses to the Bikeway survey
- Public meeting took place November 3. Can find recording of the meeting on the ABAC web page:
<https://www.arlingtonma.gov/ABAC>
- Next steps: Staff finished review of Kittelson existing conditions memo
- Development of Vision and Goals for Bikeway
- Next public meeting purpose and date TBD, but may focus on wayside areas

Minuteman Bikeway Planning Project – Draft Vision & Goals

VISION FOR THE MINUTEMAN

Based on the received community input and the project need as described by the Town of Arlington, the vision for the Minuteman Bikeway in Arlington is an overarching statement of success:

The Minuteman Bikeway in Arlington will be a safe, pleasant, and low-stress corridor for active transportation and recreation that is accessible and comfortable for all ages and abilities.

SUPPORTING GOALS

The following goals support the shared vision by outlining metrics of success that can be assessed to guide future design, maintenance, and policy decisions.

Safety

The bikeway will increase safety by reducing potential for and severity of conflicts between path users and vehicles at intersections, and among path users along the bikeway and at access points.

Comfort

The bikeway will be a low-stress facility that is comfortable for all ages and abilities, open to a suite of modes of active transportation, and available at all times of day and year.

Connectivity

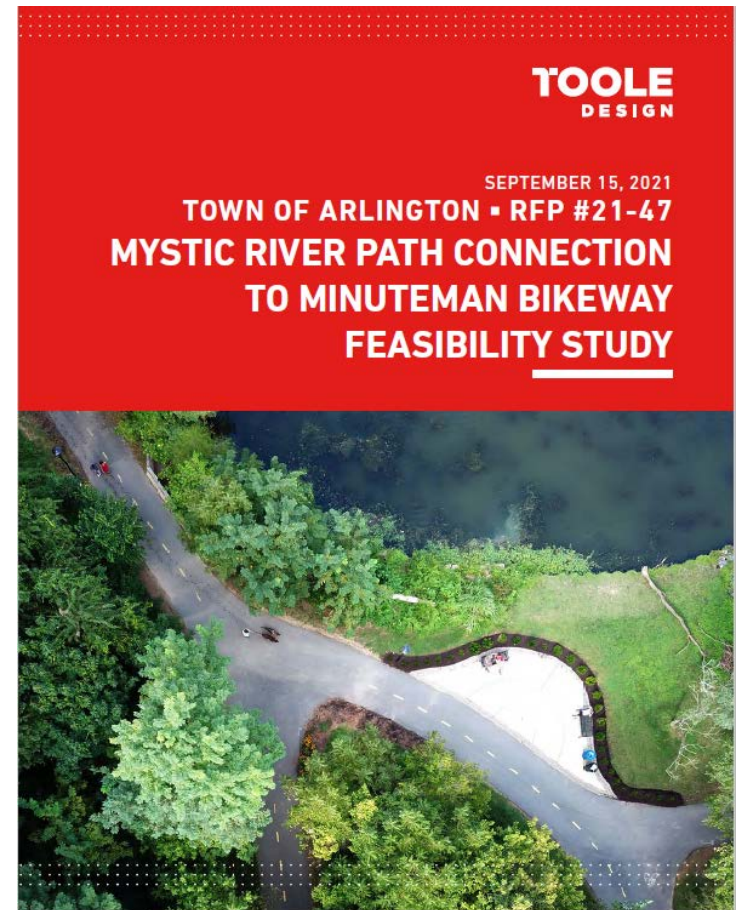
The bikeway will be a safe and direct off-road connection between neighborhoods, other recreational facilities, and neighboring cities and towns and will facilitate additional local and regional connections as part of a larger walking and biking network.

Character

The bikeway will provide an aesthetically pleasing user experience by providing access to and enhancing the character of natural open spaces and by fostering a sense of place.

Mystic River to Bikeway Project

- Contracting with Toole Design Group
- Project will create plan for creating trail connection and review alternatives for route alignment and intersection crossings
- Will start public engagement in January/February
- Project must be completed by June 30, 2022



Bluebikes Winter Operations

- On-street stations picked up a couple weeks ago
- Off-street locations can operate year-round
 - Bikeway @ Magnolia/Thorndike
 - Bikeway @ Linwood
 - Bikeway @ Railroad Lot
 - Note: RR Lot station to be moved to an alternate location (again) in coordination with DPW



Image credit: Phil Goff



2021 Virtual Moving Together Conference

- Attend workshops and panels that highlight current pedestrian, bicyclist and public transportation topics
- Network with colleagues representing diverse interests from the public, academic and private sectors
- All new site visits and mobile workshops led by engineers and bicyclist/pedestrian advocates.

Thank you to all of the attendees, presenters, moderators, sponsors and exhibitors for making this year's conference a huge success!

Learn about the latest pedestrian, bicyclist, and public transportation topics with transportation professionals from across Massachusetts, the United States, and Canada including:



Jamey Tesler
Secretary and CEO at the
Massachusetts Department
of Transportation



Jonathan Gulliver
Highway Administrator at the
Massachusetts Department
of Transportation



Dr. Jennifer Dill
Director of the Transportation
Research and Education Center
(TREC) at Portland State University



Jeff Speck
EAICP, FCNU, LEED-AP,
Honorary ASLA
Principal, Speck & Associates



Todd Litman
Founder and Executive
Director of the Victoria
Transport Policy Institute



Sara Studdard
Director of Local Innovation
PeopleForBikes

Other Projects and News of Interest

- Stratton Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Project
(<https://www.arlingtonma.gov/departments/planning-community-development/transportation-planning>)
- Park Ave & Wachusett Ave bus stop changes proposed by MBTA – public meeting held on Monday, survey is open until December 24 at 5 pm:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ParkAveBusStops>

Other Projects and News of Interest

New Environmental Planner/Conservation Agent Starts with the Arlington Department of Planning and Community Development

David Morgan began work on November 8

Post Date: 11/16/2021 12:47 PM

The Arlington Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD) is pleased to announce that David Morgan has joined the staff as the Environmental Planner/ Conservation Agent. Mr. Morgan will assist with coordination of a range of sustainability and environmental planning and policy efforts in town and assist the Conservation Commission in its administration and enforcement of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, the Arlington Bylaw for Wetlands Protection, and management of property under Conservation Commission management or control.

Mr. Morgan comes to the Town of Arlington with several years of experience in environmental research, planning, and policy. Originally from Maine, he completed his Master's degree in Urban Planning from Tufts University. Mr. Morgan previously worked as an Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) Research Fellow for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, where he investigated ecosystem-based climate change adaptation and policy, especially concerning New England's wetlands and coastal ecosystems. Prior to his graduate study, he developed small, worker-owned businesses and led economic justice policy initiatives. Mr. Morgan received his Bachelor's degree from Hampshire College in Amherst, Massachusetts.



Other Projects and News of Interest

MassDOT Announces Bicycle Safety Pilot on the Massachusetts Avenue Bridge Over the Charles River (Harvard Bridge)

The separated bike lane will be installed and in place by 5 a.m. on Monday, November 22



A rendering of a proposed Mystic River bike and pedestrian bridge, which could connect the Northern Strand multi-use path in the City of Everett to the Assembly Orange Line Station in Somerville. Rendering by AECOM, courtesy of the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Baker-Polito Administration Advances Mystic River Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge Project

Everett – Governor Charlie Baker today announced that the Baker-Polito Administration has committed to completing the design, permitting, and construction of the Mystic River Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge. The bridge project, once constructed, will provide a connection from Draw Seven Park near the MBTA Assembly Station in the City of Somerville to the City of Everett next to the Encore Boston Harbor Resort, enhancing mobility and access for residents while linking communities within the Northern Strand and Mystic River trail network. The announcement was made by Governor Baker, Energy, and Environmental Affairs Secretary Kathleen Theoharides, Transportation Secretary Jamey Tesler, Gaming Commission Chair Cathy Judd Stein, and state and local officials in the Cities of Everett and Somerville.