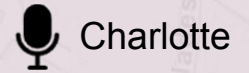


# Blue Hill Avenue: Mattapan Square Transportation Action Plan!

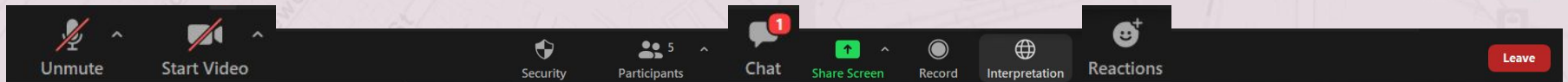
Community Meeting  
April 18, 2023



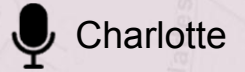
# Welcome! ¡Bienvenidos! Bonjour!



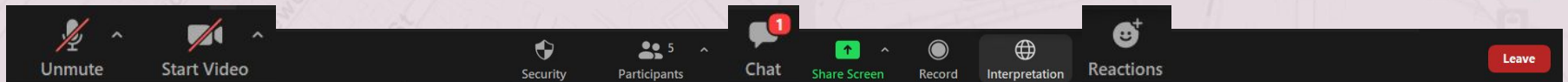
- This meeting **will be recorded**.
  - Esta reunión será grabada.
  - *Reyinyon sa a ap anrejistre.*
- Update your name in Zoom to include your preferred name and your pronouns.
  - Actualiza tu nombre en Zoom con tu nombre preferido y tus pronombres.
  - *Aktyalize non w sou Zoom pou w mete non prefere w ak pwonon w.*



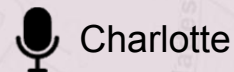
# Welcome! ¡Bienvenidos! Bonjour!



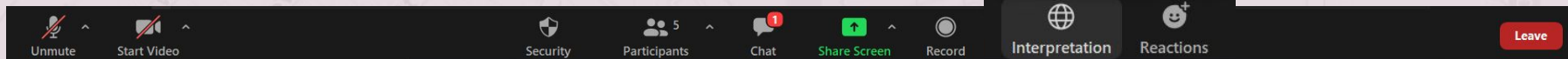
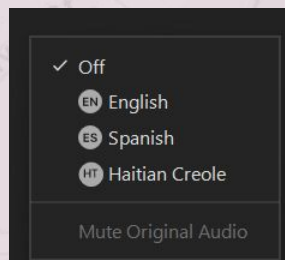
- Your microphones are turned off to start. You will need to unmute to speak. Joining via phone? Press **\*6** to unmute.
  - Tu micrófono está apagado al empezar. Tendrás que reactivarlo para hablar. ¿Participando por teléfono? Presiona \*6 para reactivar el micrófono.
  - *Mikwo w fèmen pou kòmanse. Ou pral bezwen ouvri mikwo a pou w pale. W ap konekte pa telefòn? Peze \*6 pou ouvri mikwo a.*
- You can use non-verbal feedback options. Raise your hand or leave a message in the chat box if you have a question. If you called into the meeting, use **\*9** to raise your hand.
  - Puedes utilizar las opciones de reacción no verbales. O dejar un mensaje en el chat si tienes alguna pregunta. Si estás llamando por teléfono usa \*9 para levantar la mano.
  - *Ou gendwa sèvi ak opsyon fidbak non-vèbal. Leve men w oswa kite yon mesaj nan bwat tchat la si w genyen yon kesyon. Si w konekte nan reyinyon an, sèvi ak \*9 pou leve men w.*



# Welcome! ¡Bienvenidos! Bonjour!



- Si hablas español y prefieres escuchar la reunión en esta lengua utiliza el botón de “Interpretation” (Interpretación) para acceder al canal de audio en español.
- *Si w pale Kreyòl Ayisyen e w prefere tande reyinyon an nan lang sa a tanpri sèvi ak bouton "Interpretation" (Entèpretation) pou w jwenn aksè ak chèn odyo pou Kreyòl Ayisyen an.*





Charlotte

# Welcome!

## Blue Hill Avenue: Mattapan Square Transportation Action Plan

### Community Meeting April 18, 2023





Shavel'le

# Ground Rules

1. **Maintain respect for others in this space (*consultants, community members, and municipal agencies*).**
2. **Use “I” statements. If you are representing a neighborhood association or group, please share when speaking.**
3. **Step up and step back.**
4. **There will be a good amount of time for reaction and discussion at the end, please try to limit your questions until then.**



Shavel'le

# INTRO POLL

1. **What is your main way of traveling through Mattapan Square? (walk, bike, car, public transit, other)**
2. **Why is this your primary way to get around?**
3. **What is your home zip code?**

**(If you can't get the poll to work, feel free to use the Chat)**



Shavel'le

# Blue Hill Avenue: Mattapan Square

## Meet the Team







Charlotte

# Public Sector Team

## BOSTON TRANSPORTATION DEPT



**Charlotte Fleetwood**  
Project Manager,  
Mattapan Square



**Maya Mudgal**  
Transit Planner



**Kirstie Hostetter**  
Project Manager,  
BHA TAP

## OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS

- Office of Housing
- Office of Economic Opportunity & Inclusion
- Boston Planning & Development Agency
- Office of Neighborhood Services
- Office of New Urban Mechanics
- Office of Arts and Culture
- Disabilities Commission
- Age Strong Commission



**Kenya Beaman**  
Community  
Engagement Manager  
BPDA

## MassDOT/MBTA

**Erik Scheier**  
MBTA Capital Delivery

**Andrew McFarland**  
MBTA Transit Priority

**AJ Tanner**  
Mattapan Line Transformation

**Benjamin Muller**  
MassDOT District 6  
(Blue Hill Ave/Boston)

## DCR

**Stella Lensing**  
Planner, Project Manager



# Engagement Team

## ENGAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

### Consult LeLa



Shavel'le  
Olivier



Chavella  
Lee-Pacheco



Ishmael D.  
Hazelwood

### Powerful Pathways



Allentza Michel



Zani'ah Brown

### That Bike Lady



Vivian Ortiz

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Greater Mattapan Neighborhood Council  
Mattapan Square Main Streets





Chavella

# Engagement Team: Consult LeLa



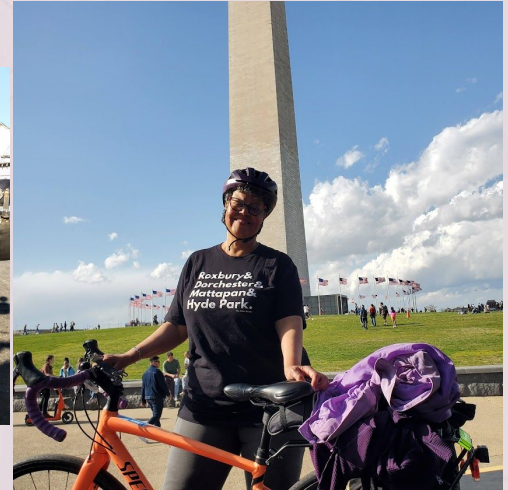
*A community engagement firm dedicated to making planning the future of our neighborhood an enjoyable and accessible experience for all. When we design for everyone and from a place of joy, we can create a world that works for everyone!*



Vivian

## Engagement Team: Vivian Ortiz, That Bike Lady

*Mattapan resident focused on reaching out to individuals who are often not invited to participate in the public process. They may not be familiar with planning efforts, including those that may benefit them.*





Vivian

# Meeting Goals

- Goal 1:** Restart a large group conversation about Mattapan Square, while also uplifting perspectives heard in one-on-one conversations
- Goal 2:** Introduce the Mattapan Square community engagement team
- Goal 3:** Expand opportunities for participants to express what they would like to see, and promote dialogue between different users of the Square
- Goal 4:** Continue strengthening the relationship between the City and the Mattapan community



Vivian

# Tonight's Agenda

1. **Blue Hill Avenue Transportation Action Plan Scope + Goals**
2. **Mattapan Square Project Background**
3. **Mattapan Square Design Options**
4. **Engagement Approach + Summary**
5. **Q&A + How to Get Involved**



Kirstie

# Blue Hill Avenue: Mattapan Square

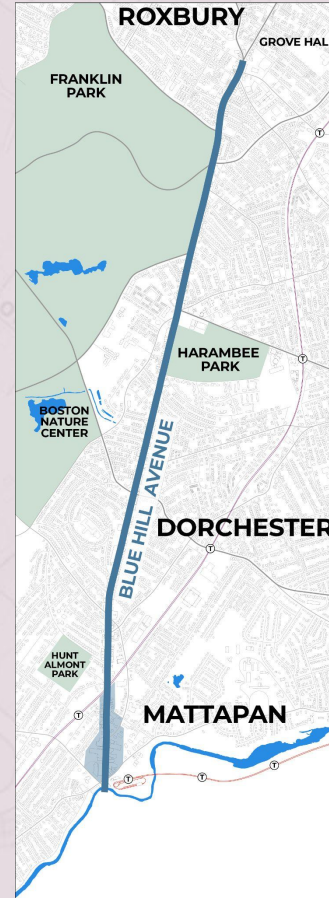
## The Broader Blue Hill Avenue Transportation Action Plan





Kirstie

# Blue Hill Avenue Transportation Action Plan







Kirstie

# Blue Hill Ave Project Goals

## Community Priority

VISION People's Voice I Boston Today Goals and Targets ACTION PLAN People's Voice II Boston in 2030 Projects and Policies

### Crosstown

## Mattapan to LMA Rapid Bus

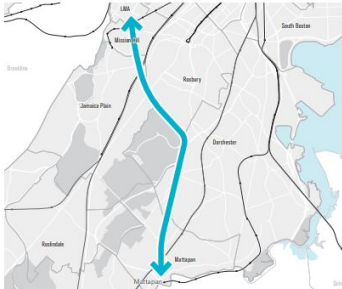
Faster transit connections to the medical district from southern Boston

### Project Score

- Access 1
  - Access 2
  - Safety 1
  - Safety 2
  - Reliability
  - Affordability
  - Sustainability/Resiliency 1
  - Sustainability/Resiliency 2
  - Governance
- #19 in weighted Boston-only public voting

### Project Description

A new transit line with high-quality stops, signal priority, all-door boarding, and some exclusive lanes will create direct transit connections for residents of Mattapan and southwest Dorchester to jobs and medical care in Roxbury, Mission Hill, and the Longwood Medical and Academic Area. This involves a rail-like bus service operating where excess roadway width exists today on one of several potential corridors that will be determined in consultation with the community. Service would be high capacity and high frequency and could interfere with the JFKUMass to LMA rapid bus corridor (p176) and even the West Station to LMA connection (p203), connecting together southern Boston, the LMA, and Beacon Yards. Future upgrades could see tracks and streetcar service initiated as ridership grows.



### Implementation

Approximate Cost: \$15 million for design and construction with vehicle capital equipment. Potential Funding Sources: City capital budget for

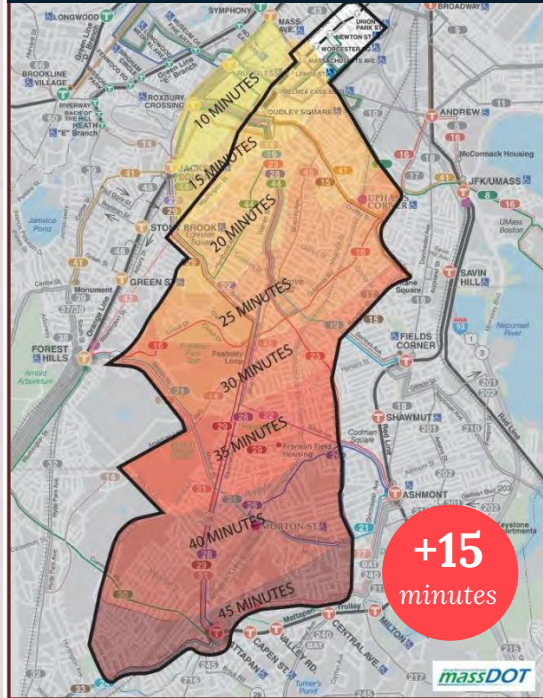
### Benefits and Issues Addressed

This investment will support economic opportunity along a corridor with heavy bus ridership but unreliable service, while—depending on the alignment—potentially improving other connections that lead into Dudley Square and Downtown as well. Crosstown connections from this part of the city are in high demand, as shown by the high ridership on the Blue Line. Future service could also improve transit reliability. Future service could also improve transit reliability. Future service could also improve transit reliability.

## Go Boston 2030 Goals:

- Expand access
- Improve reliability
- Enhance safety

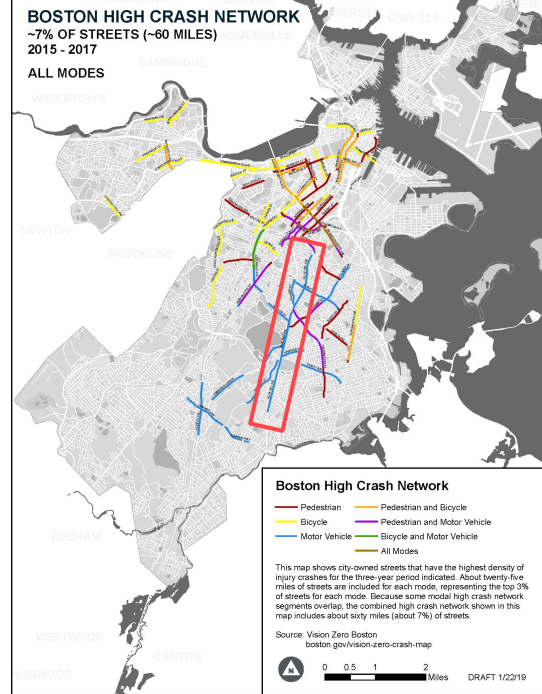
## Travel Time Inequities



## Safety Concerns

BOSTON HIGH CRASH NETWORK  
~7% OF STREETS (~60 MILES)  
2015 - 2017

ALL MODES





Kirstie

# Blue Hill Ave Project Goals

**Goal 1: Improve pedestrian safety along Blue Hill Ave**

**Goal 2: Expand transportation options and reliability**

**Goal 3: Connect infrastructure investments to the work of other City departments and State agencies (*including housing and development, business and economic development, green infrastructure, environmental resilience, and public realm improvements*)**



Kirstie

# Investing in the Corridor

**Electeds deliver \$15 million federal RAISE grant  
for Blue Hill Ave (2021)**

“Transit justice is racial and economic justice, which is why I’ve fought hard to support projects that address the inequities in our transportation systems and create healthier, safer, and more connected communities”

- **Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley**

**The City of Boston and MBTA will  
provide additional funds.**

For more info on the broader project visit:

[boston.gov/blue-hill-avenue](https://boston.gov/blue-hill-avenue).





Kirstie

# Why Talk About Bus Priority?

This project centers giving **everyone** the opportunity to connect to family, friends, jobs, resources, and their broader community.



A bus will travel down Blue Hill Avenue between Morton Street and Mattapan Station **every 3.8 minutes during rush hour** after MBTA's bus network redesign.



Bus riders boarding in Mattapan are on buses an **extra 176 hours per weekday** due to delays. Along the whole Blue Hill corridor, it is **3,056 hours per weekday**.



Over **12,000 riders get on and off buses** each weekday on Blue Hill Ave south of Morton St. Each rider is a potential business customer.

## *DID YOU KNOW?*

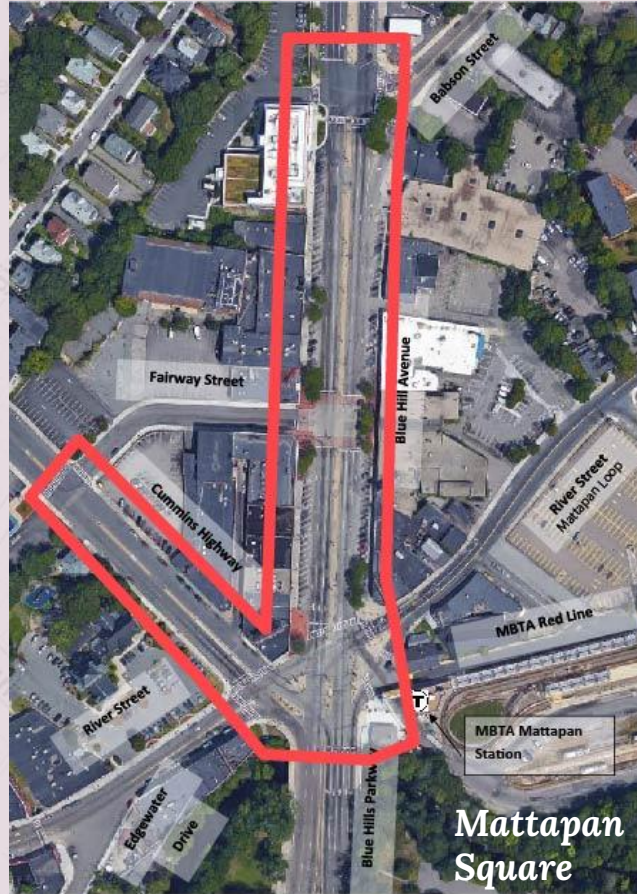
Over half of the people on Blue Hill Avenue during rush hour are on buses



Charlotte

# Blue Hill Avenue: Mattapan Square

## Project Background





Charlotte

# How Did It Get Started?

Age Friendly Walking: Older adults from ABCD in conversation with Age Strong, WalkBoston, Mattapan Food and Fitness Coalition (2017)



## Themes:

- **Pedestrian safety:** slower speeds, better signal timing, well-marked crosswalks
- **Accessibility:** Aligned ramps, smooth sidewalks, good lighting
- **Wayfinding:** Signs to popular destinations to encourage walking and biking
- **Attractive, comfortable public realm:** Benches, places to gather, shade trees, public art, sense of place

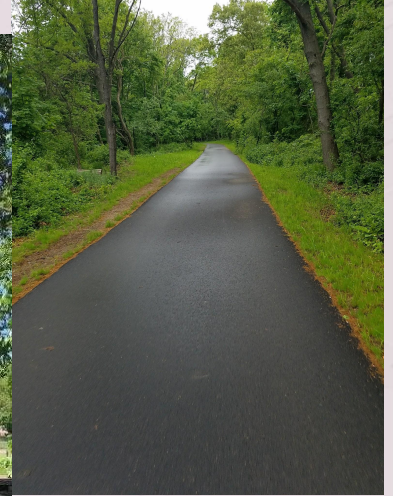




Charlotte

# New Access to Green Space

DCR Extended the Neponset Greenway to Mattapan Square (2017)

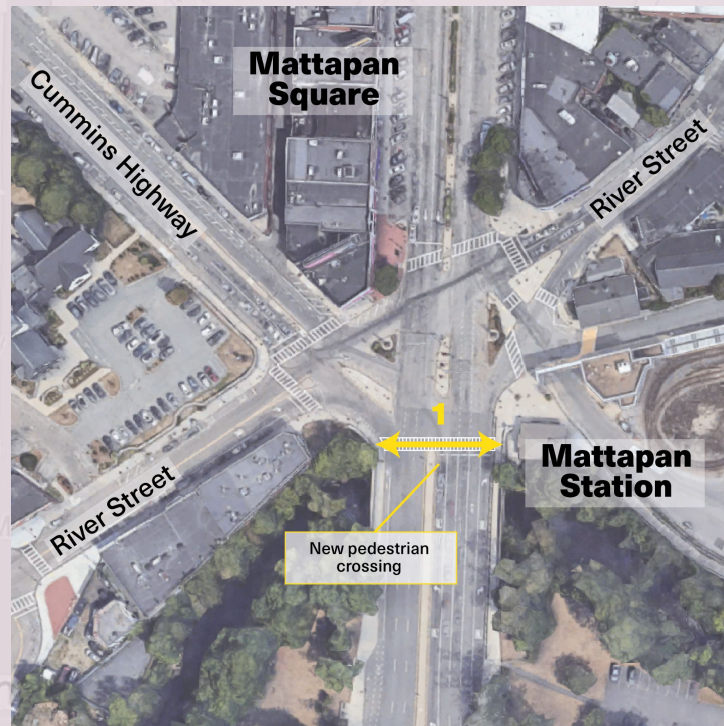
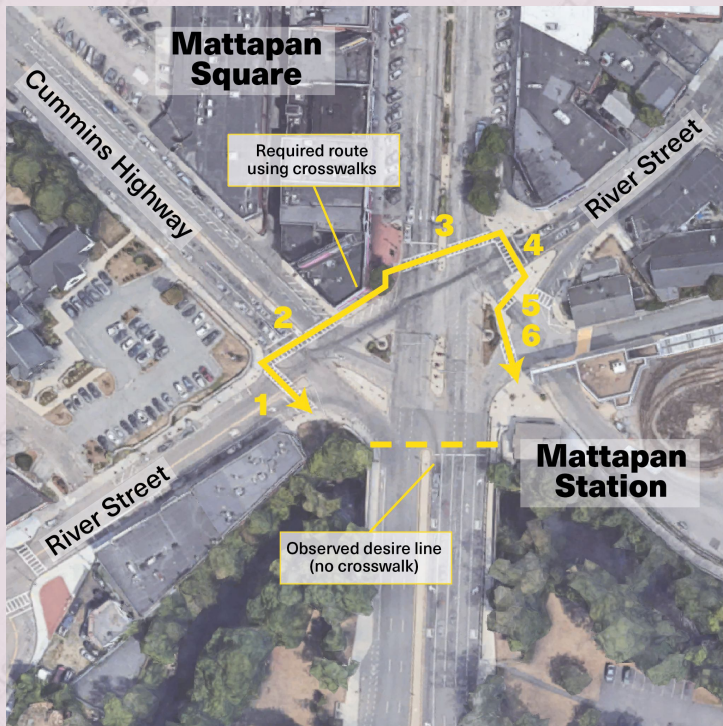




Charlotte

# Goals: Improve Pedestrian Safety & Give Time Back to People Walking

A direct crossing to the station and the Neponset Greenway would reduce exposure to traffic and save each pedestrian 3+ minutes



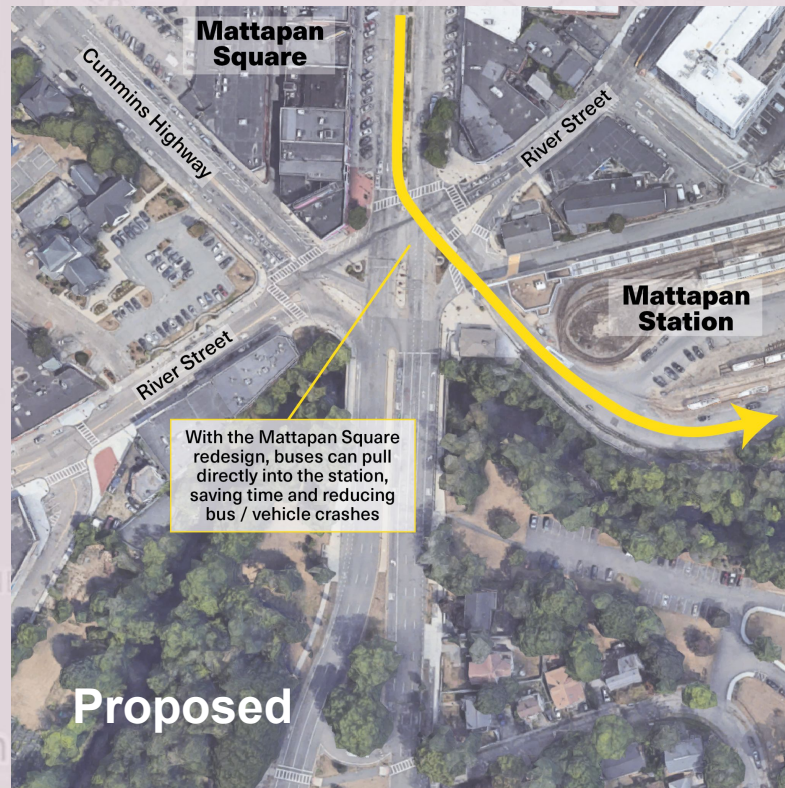
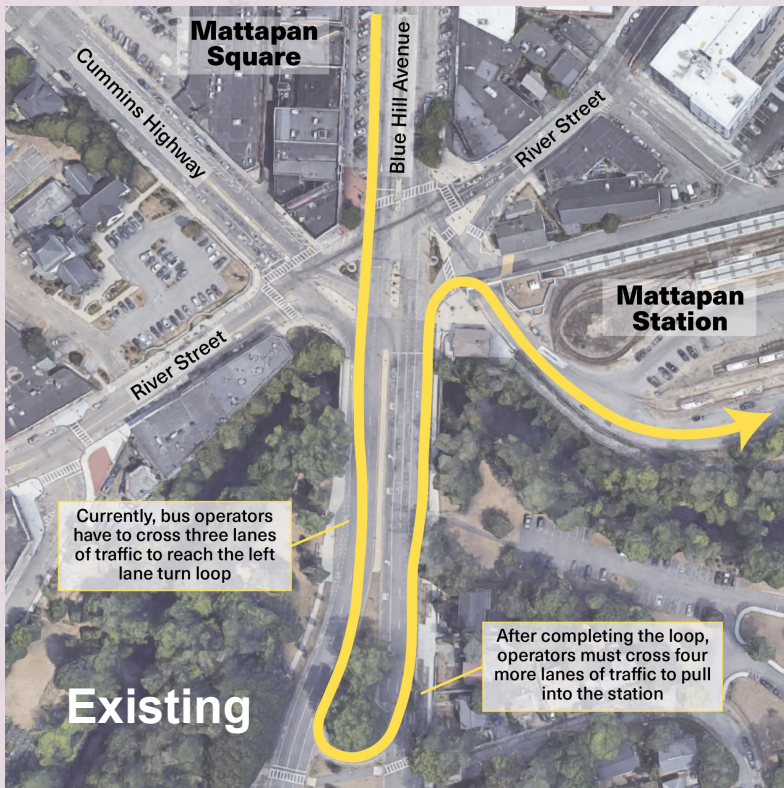




Charlotte

# Goal: Give Time Back to Bus Riders

A direct, signalized left turn into the station would save each bus rider 4+ minutes



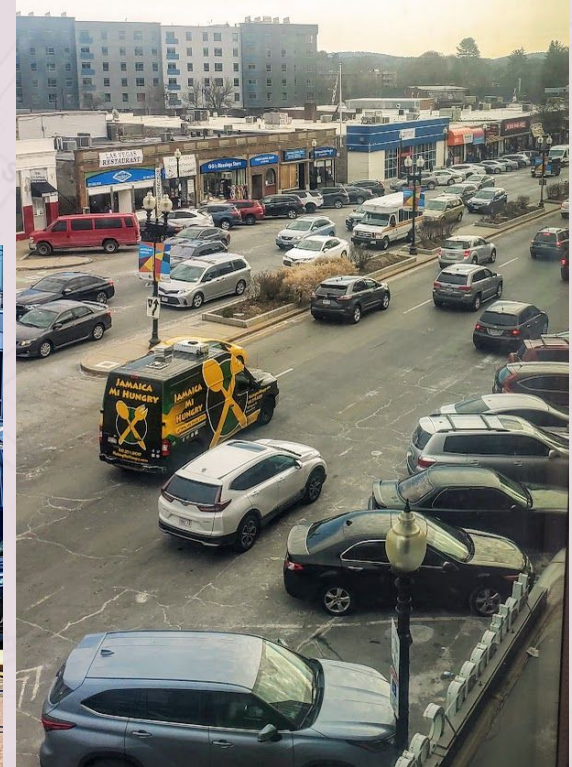


Charlotte

# Mattapan Square, North of the Intersection

Existing:

- 3 travel lanes each direction
- No bus lanes
- No bike lanes
- No street trees next to the angle parking











Chavella

# Blue Hill Avenue: Mattapan Square

## Engagement Approach + Summary



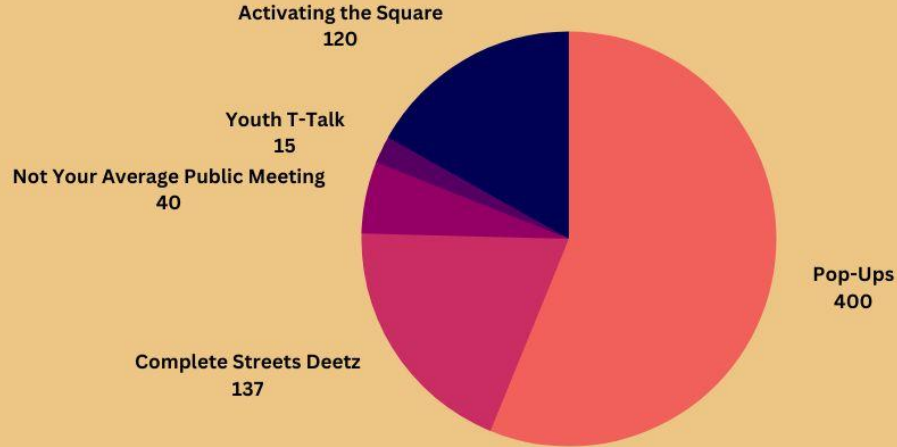


Chavella

# Community Engagement:

From 2021 to now we have engaged

## 750 people





Chavella

# Community Engagement: Youth Engagement (9-17 yrs old)

1. Complete Streets Deetz for youth
2. Youth Transportation Talk
3. Summer 2022 Youth Engagement Committee (YEC)
4. Youth-led Walk Audit
5. Winter 2023 Youth Engagement Committee (YEC)





Chavella

# Community Engagement: Activating the Square

## Art Mural

Amber Torres



1. Allow people to decorate cut-outs
2. Create the mural/collage background
3. Take inventory of what was "said"
4. Place artwork onto collage

Cut-outs of:

Buses

Cars

Bikes

People

Flowers + Trees

Construction Paper for free-hand



SATURDAY, MARCH 25TH, 2023 | 12PM - 3PM

# ACTIVATING THE SQUARE

Imagining the Future of Mattapan Square, Together

**FREE FOOD!**  
**TALENT SHOWCASE**  
**CHESS TOURNAMENT**  
**FREE-PLAY GAMES**  
**ART MAKING**  
**WALK AUDITS**

INFORMATION FROM CITY AND STATE ABOUT MATTAPAN

882 CUMMINS HIGHWAY,  
 MATTAPAN, MA 02126



SCAN ME





Shavel'le

# Community Engagement: Pop Ups





Shavel'le

# Community Engagement: Youth Engagement (18 -35 yrs old)



MATTAPAN SQUARE & BLUE HILL AVENUE ARE BEING REDESIGNED,  
COME TALK ABOUT IT OVER COCKTAILS

DATE: THURSDAY, JULY 28, 2022 TIME: 6PM-8PM

**COCKTAILS  
MOCKTAILS  
& COMMUNITY**

*- with -*  
*Consult LeLa*

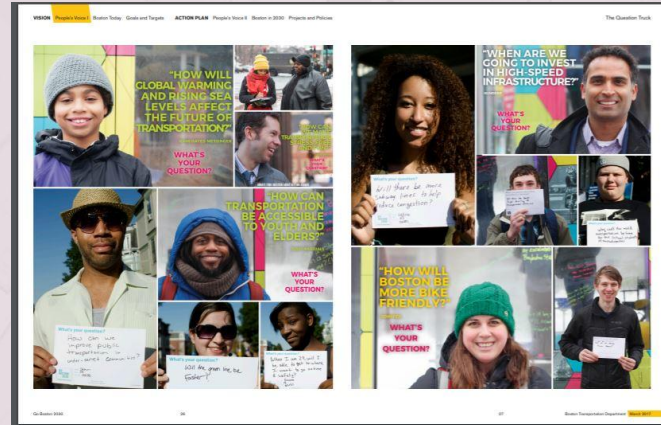
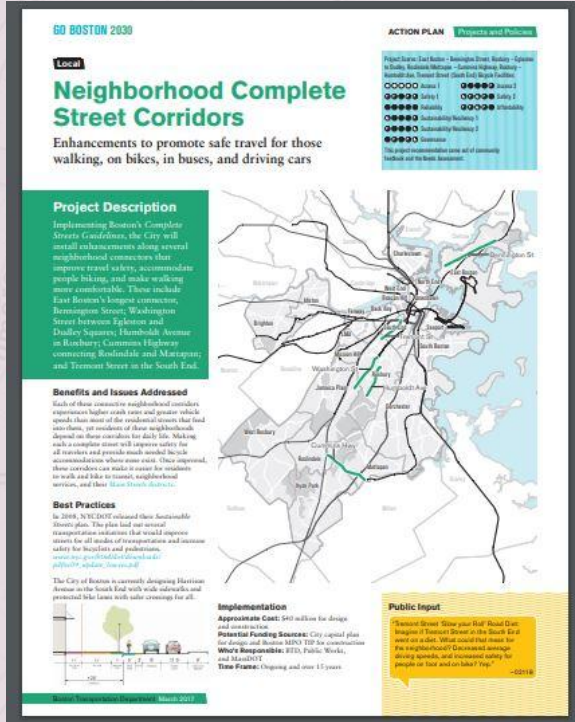
**KAY'S OASIS FUNCTION HALL**  
1125 BLUE HILL AVE, DORCHESTER CENTER, MA 02124

RSVP: [bit.ly/cmewithlela](https://bit.ly/cmewithlela)

VIBE WITH DJ WHYSHAM | EATS MADE BY ZAZ RESTAURANT  
**CASH BAR**

**SPARK**  
BOSTON'S FUTURE

# Community Engagement: How It Started





Vivian

# Community Engagement Done Differently



# Community Engagement: Businesses + Drop-in Hours



*“This is perfect. I’d like to take the bus here, I know the #30 bus. I drive around to find a space.”*

- Hyde Park resident who works in Mattapan Square



Shavel'le

# It's Survey Time!

**Please take the parking survey shared in the chat.  
It will take you 5 - 7 minutes!**



Shavel'le

# Blue Hill Avenue: Mattapan Square

## Q + A Discussion







Shavel'le

# Blue Hill Avenue

## How to Get Involved





Chavella

# Upcoming In-Person Engagement

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023 | 6PM-8PM | CASH BAR

**NOT YOUR AVERAGE**  
**PUBLIC MEETING:**  
**MATTAPAN SQUARE**

Mattapan Square + Blue Hill Ave are being redesigned.  
Let's talk about it!

Free food from  
Everybody Gotta Eat

Vibe with  
DJ WhySham

**SPARK**  
BOSTON'S FUTURE

**KAY'S OASIS FUNCTION HALL**  
1125 Blue Hill Ave,  
Dorchester Center, MA 02124  
FMI: <https://qrco.de/NYAPMMS>

## Not Your Average Public Meeting: Mattapan Square

- Thursday, April 27th 6-8pm
- Kay's Oasis: 117 Blue Hill Avenue

If you would like more information,  
please visit [consultlela.com](https://consultlela.com) or email  
[consultlela@gmail.com](mailto:consultlela@gmail.com)



Charlotte

# Ongoing Engagement Opportunities

- Monthly Blue Hill Ave meetings, sign up at [bit.ly/bha-tap](https://bit.ly/bha-tap)  
**Next Meeting:** April 24, 6:30 pm  
**Topic:** Green Infrastructure
- Monthly Blue Hill Ave: Mattapan Square meetings, sign up at [bit.ly/bluehillmattapan](https://bit.ly/bluehillmattapan)  
**Next Meeting:** May 30, 6:30 pm
- Blue Hill Ave Exhibit: Grove Hall Library, Open during library hours

## Real Talk for Change

- These are 1-hour facilitated conversations between 4-8 community members
- Community members are paid for their time
- If you would like to participate, please email [bluehillave@boston.gov](mailto:bluehillave@boston.gov) with “Real Talk” in the subject line!

If you have questions, please email [bluehillave@boston.gov](mailto:bluehillave@boston.gov)

# Other Opportunities for Engagement



**Starting Saturday, 4/29!**

**City of Boston's**

**FREE Learn-to-Ride Classes**

**for Women & Gender-Diverse People**

**Bikes & helmets provided!**

[www.boston.gov/women-bike](http://www.boston.gov/women-bike)

## HELP CREATE THE VIBE OF MATTAPAN SQUARE

Join Mattapan Square Main Streets to share your vision for Mattapan Square and be a part of making that vision come true.



Mattapan Square  
main streets



RSVP

### WHEN

(choose the time that works for you)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 6 PM - 8 PM

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2 PM - 4 PM

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 10 AM - 12 PM

### LOCATION

COTE VILLAGE COMMUNITY ROOM,  
820 CUMMINS HIGHWAY

QUESTIONS CONTACT MATTAPAN SQ. MAIN STREETS AT  
ADMIN@MATTAPANMAINSTREETS.ORG OR  
(617) 322-3061



#MOREBUTTSONBIKES

casual, gently-paced rides along the  
Neponset River Greenway Trail



## MONDAY NIGHT BIKE RIDES

Sign up: [mondaynightrides/eventbrite.com](http://mondaynightrides/eventbrite.com)



Meet at the bench near 1472 Blue Hill Ave at

**MATTAPAN STATION**

**GATHER AT 5:30, ROLL AT 5:45 PM**



**Need a bike for the ride?**

Contact Vivian **NO LATER THAN** 4:30 pm on Monday  
for a FREE pass for a Bluebike\*

[thatbikelady@gmail.com](mailto:thatbikelady@gmail.com) or (617) 514-2617



Follow @That Bike Lady on Instagram & Facebook

**Starting Monday, 5/8!**

**Weekly Evening Bike Ride  
along the Neponset Trail**

**Bluebikes available upon request**

[thatbikelady@gmail.com](mailto:thatbikelady@gmail.com)



Shavel'le

# Community Announcement

## Seeking Community Perspectives on Biking and Transportation in Mattapan!



### Eligibility

- ▶ Must be 18 years old or older
- ▶ Mattapan Resident

### Purpose

Mattapan Food and Fitness Coalition and a team of UMass Boston researchers would like to know what you think about biking and other modes of transportation in Mattapan. Your perspectives will help MFFC advocate for healthy and safe modes of transportation in Mattapan.

Please scan the QR code below or visit:

<https://bit.ly/MattapanMoves> to take a 5 - 10 minute survey on your experiences and thoughts on biking and getting around as a Mattapan community member.



Participants will be entered into a raffle with the chance to receive one of three \$50 Visa Gift Cards. We appreciate your time and look forward to learning from you!

## Perspectives on Biking + Transportation in Mattapan

- Exploring residents' views about biking and other modes of transportation
- Scan the QR code or visit [bit.ly/MattapanMoves](https://bit.ly/MattapanMoves) to take a short survey! Win one of three \$50 Visa gift cards.

If you would like more information, please visit email [info@mattapanfoodandfit.org](mailto:info@mattapanfoodandfit.org)



Kirstie

# How to Stay Connected

## City of Boston

(617) 635-3944

[bluehillave@boston.gov](mailto:bluehillave@boston.gov)

Recordings of past meetings &  
project materials:

[boston.gov/blue-hill-avenue](https://boston.gov/blue-hill-avenue)

What other questions do you have?

[Let us know using this form!](#)



## Consult LeLa

Website: [consultlela.com](https://consultlela.com)

Email: [consultlela@gmail.com](mailto:consultlela@gmail.com)

## That Bike Lady aka Vivian Ortiz

Text/Call: (617) 541-2617

Email: [thatbikelady@gmail.com](mailto:thatbikelady@gmail.com)



Charlotte

**Recordings of past monthly Zoom meetings and other project materials can be found here:**

**[boston.gov/blue-hill-avenue](https://boston.gov/blue-hill-avenue)**