

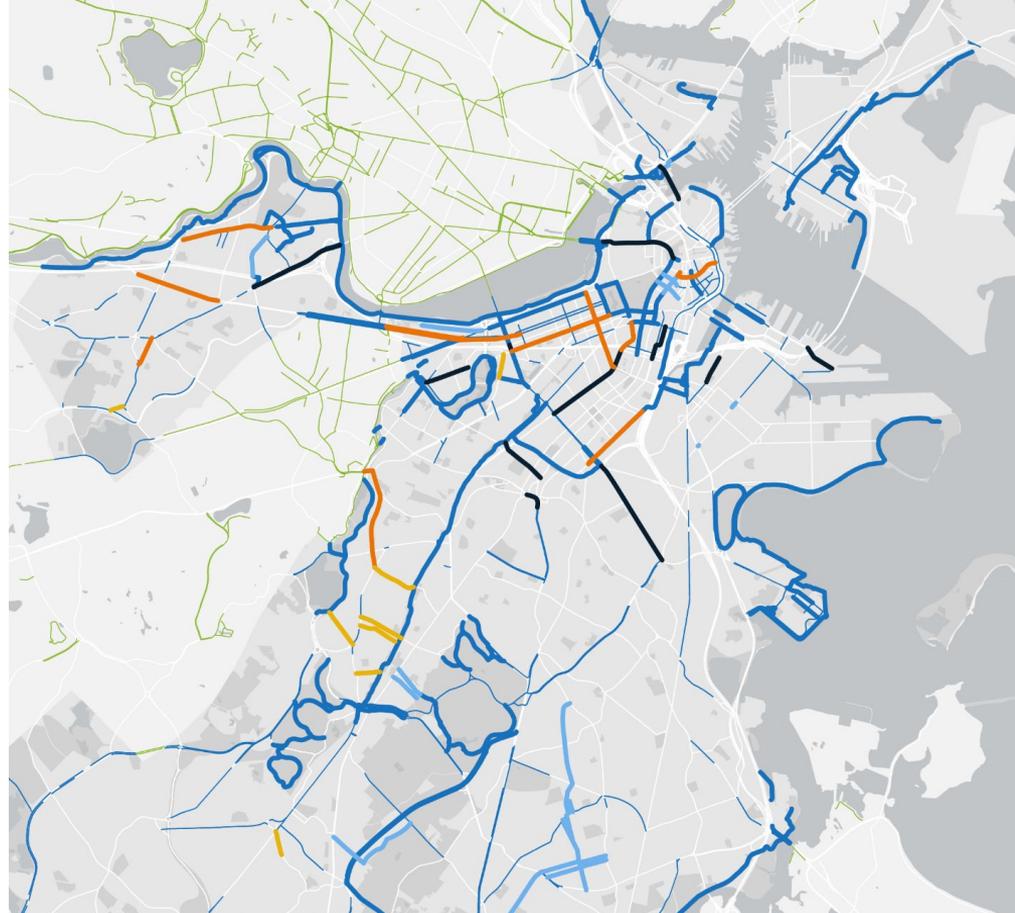
Poplar Street

Contraflow bike lane and speed humps

West Village Neighborhood Association
May 25, 2023

We're connecting our bike network

- ▶ While we have made progress in building a bike network, too many segments are not connected.
- ▶ This limits the potential for safe, comfortable biking.



Work completed to date

- ▶ Data collection (October 2022)
- ▶ Concept design development
- ▶ Coordination with ONS and District 5 councilor office
- ▶ Postcards (469) (Feb 2023)
- ▶ Door-to-door flyering (Feb 2023 and April 2023)
- ▶ One-on-one interaction with constituents and stakeholders
- ▶ Community walk on 5/6



Why Poplar Street?

- ▶ A contraflow lane on Poplar Street was suggested by a Roslindale resident. In evaluating the idea, we found that it could work.
- ▶ Poplar Street provides a direct connection to Roslindale Square that avoids steep hills nearby. The street serves daily destinations and is a helpful last-mile connection for commuters.
- ▶ Vehicle volumes are moderate. We can make the street safer and more comfortable for everyone by adding speed humps.



Proposed changes

- ▶ Washington Street to Sycamore Street
 - Contraflow bike lane in the northbound direction (towards Roslindale Square)
 - Shared travel lane with traffic (towards Sycamore street)
 - We'll continue talking with you about the configuration of the bike lane and parking.



Proposed changes

- ▶ Sycamore Street to Canterbury Street
 - Add speed humps
 - Keep two-way travel for motor vehicles
 - Keep parking on both sides
 - Add crosswalks



What are contraflow bike lanes?

One-way streets help manage the flow of vehicles, particularly on neighborhood residential streets.

In Boston, we look at allowing people to bike in both directions on one-way streets that:

- ▶ Provide access to a major destination, park, or trail access point, and/or,
- ▶ Help bicyclists avoid an obstacle, like a major hill or busy street with less comfortable biking conditions.



How we design them

- ▶ We evaluate traffic volumes and speeds to be sure of the right design.
- ▶ On streets like Poplar Street, we can add contraflow bike lanes with paint and signage.
- ▶ The lane is positioned so that bicyclists ride on the right side of the street in the direction they are traveling, just like on two-way streets.
- ▶ “With flow” bicyclists share the general travel lane.



Contraflow bike lanes are a well-established design tool

- ▶ They have seen decades of use around the U.S., the Boston area, and globally.
- ▶ There are already contraflow bike lanes in Roslindale on [Mount Hope Street](#) and [Paine Street](#).



Cross section options



Poplar Street looking north towards Washington Street. We can keep the parking on the east side of Poplar Street (left), or we could move it to the west side (right)

We also propose speed humps on Poplar Street

- ▶ We hope to place speed humps on Poplar between Washington and Canterbury
- ▶ We will be coordinating with the firehouse on Canterbury/American Legion/Cummins



Speed humps are not speed bumps



YES! Gradual taper up and down, 12 to 14 feet long



NO! Abrupt, hard bump, 3 to 4 feet long

We can add crosswalks to Poplar Street

- ▶ We can design crosswalks and accessible ramps to be installed next year.
- ▶ Do you have suggestions for locations?
 - Any locations will be evaluated by engineers for sight lines and safety.
 - We will share viable locations with you.



What we're still working on

- ▶ Looking closely at the block between Washington Street and Florence Street. We want to:
 - Create the best possible design for the contraflow bike lane as it approaches Washington Street.
 - Change curb regulations to help manage the demand for short-term parking and loading.
 - Coordinate with the On-Street Accessible Parking program about the location of an accessible parking space.
- ▶ Working with you to identify potential new crosswalk locations on Poplar Street.
- ▶ Determining the locations for speed humps on Poplar Street in coordination with emergency responders.

Upcoming engagement events

Chat one-on-one with the project team at a convenient time for you.

- ▶ Every other Wednesday, 3-7 p.m. by phone or virtual meeting: bit.ly/bbb-appt
- ▶ In-person at the Roslindale Public Library:
 - Thursday, June 22, 4 - 7 p.m.
 - Thursday, July 20, 4 - 7 p.m.
 - Thursday, August 10, 4 - 7 p.m.

**boston.gov/poplar-street
better-bike-lanes@boston.gov
617-635-4574**

