

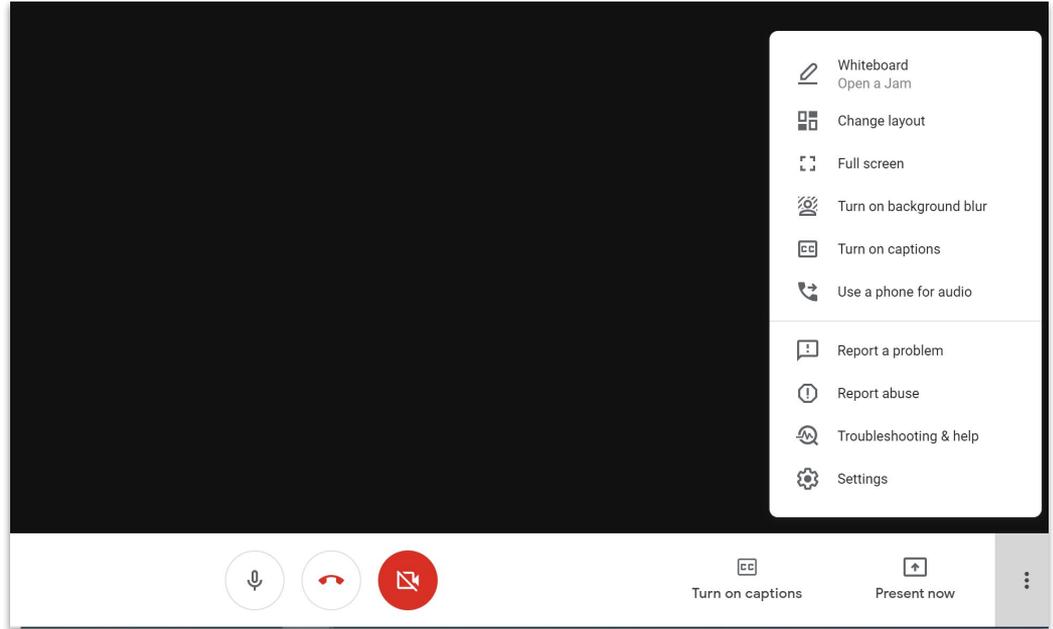
LOWER ROXBURY TRANSPORTATION STUDY

*Outreach Advisory Group
September 21, 2023*

CITY *of* **BOSTON**

TECH CHECK-IN

- ▶ Is your Google Meet working properly?
 - Can you hear and see?
 -  Can you mute and unmute?
 -  Can you turn your video on and off?
- ▶ You can also join by phone:
470-310-0905
PIN: 194 312 316#
- ▶ Having trouble? Call Ashley (she'll put her number in the chat)



TIP: the options bar is at the bottom of your screen

TODAY'S CONVENING

OUTCOMES

- ▶ Recap next steps for the project and outreach strategy
- ▶ Hear about current programs and upcoming events

AGENDA

- 11:00 ▶ Suggest any revisions to desired outcomes and/or agenda
- 11:05 ▶ Introductions
- 11:10 ▶ Recap next steps for the project
- 11:15 ▶ Learn about City of Boston programs to support walking and biking
- 11:45 ▶ Hear about upcoming events of interest - to share back with your communities :)
- 11:55 ▶ Agree to next steps for the group and evaluate meeting

INTRODUCTIONS

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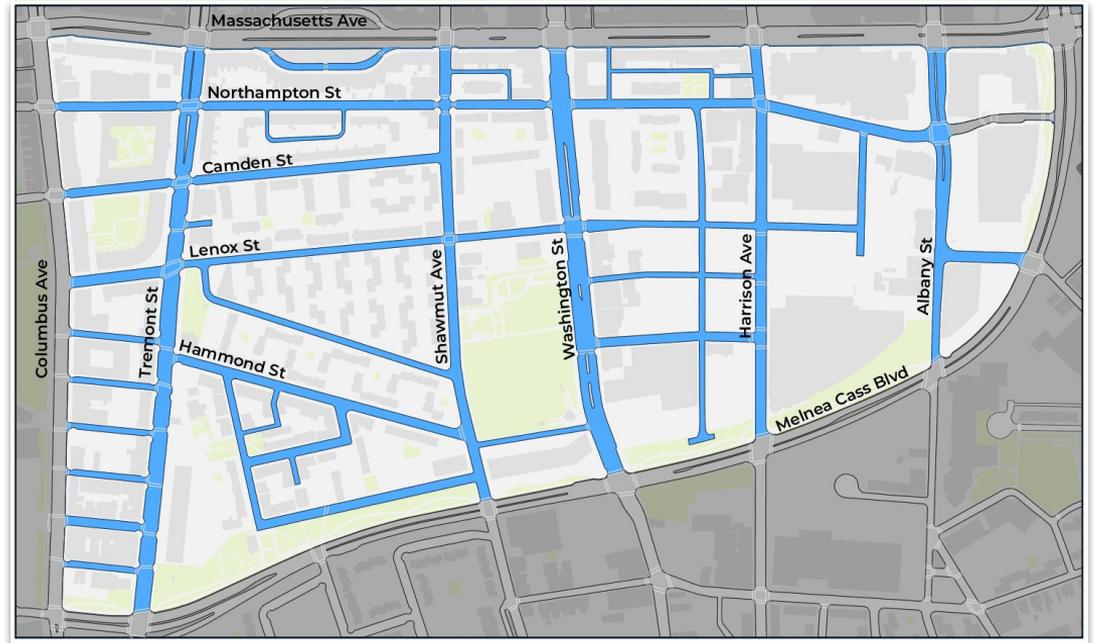
- ▶ Your name
- ▶ Your pronouns, if you feel comfortable sharing (for example: *she/her/hers*, *he/him/his*, *they/them/theirs*, *ze/hir/hir*, etc)
- ▶ How you're connected to communities in Lower Roxbury
- ▶ A story of a time when you changed how you get around (your travel mode, your route, etc), what prompted the change, and anything that was helpful to you in the transition

REFRESHER

PROJECT GOAL

Build a collaborative process with community members to:

- ▶ Highlight **neighborhood assets**
- ▶ Create **positive changes** to your streets in Lower Roxbury



The project area is bounded by, **but does not include** Columbus, Mass Ave., and Melnea Cass.

OUTREACH ADVISORY GROUP

Help us communicate and collaborate with the communities in Lower Roxbury right now.

** This is not the place where decisions about outcomes will be made*

EXPECTATIONS FOR BTD

Jen, Louisa, and BTD will:

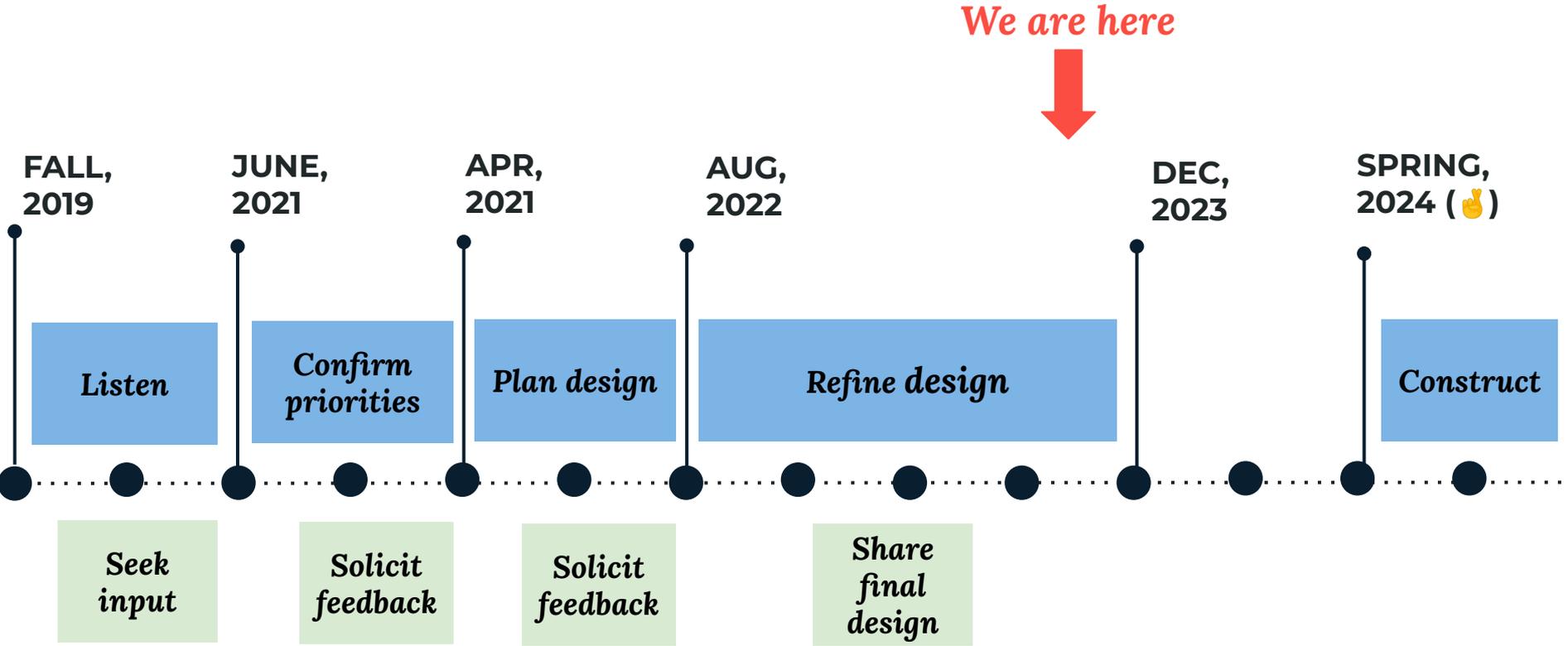
- ▶ Host outreach advisory group meetings quarterly, with ample notice.
- ▶ Be accountable to you with regular communication.
- ▶ Respectfully engage with the outreach advisory group and community members.
- ▶ Incorporate your advice and recommendations about outreach, as best as we are able.
- ▶ Make decisions transparently.

GROUP EXPECTATIONS

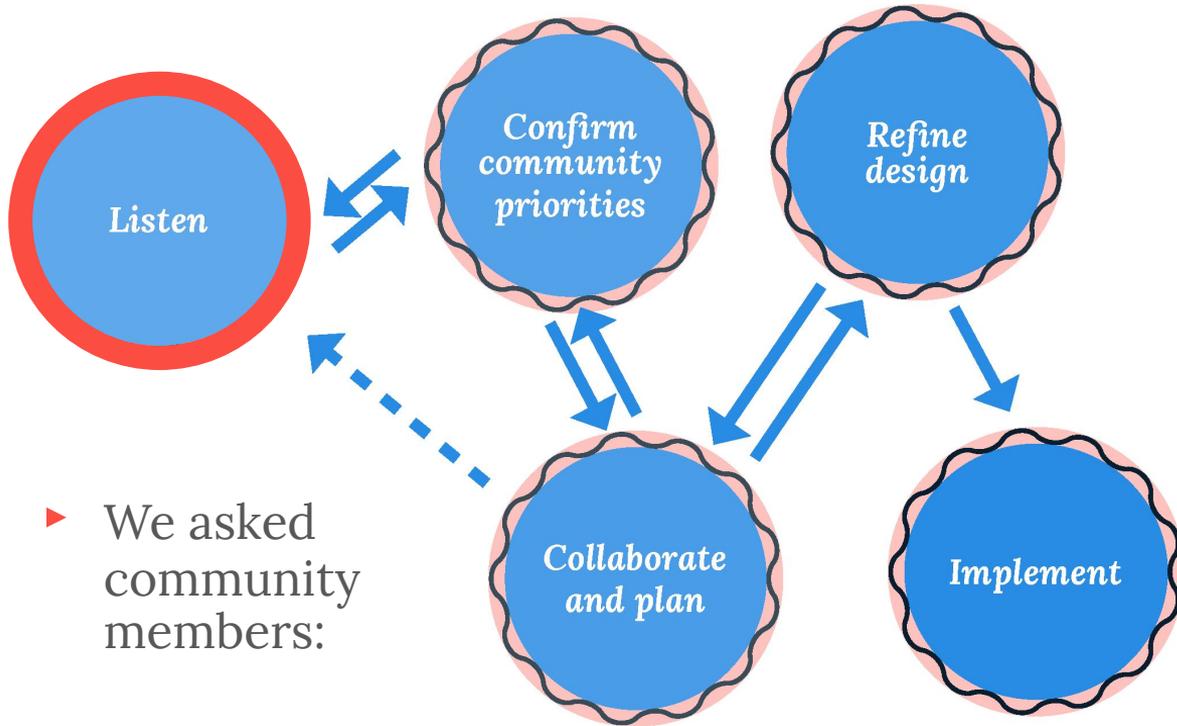
Members of the Outreach Advisory Group will:

- ▶ Make a good faith effort to attend outreach advisory group meetings.
- ▶ Engage respectfully with one other, with the project team, with community members.
- ▶ Share your knowledge and experience.
- ▶ Share back to your communities about the project.

PROJECT TIMELINE



Fall 2019 through 2020



► We asked community members:

- Where do you find joy in the neighborhood?
- What would you change about the streets?

What do you *love* about Lower Roxbury?

Take a moment to share your joy.

Where do you find joy?

Place one dot on the map. Place the matching one here →

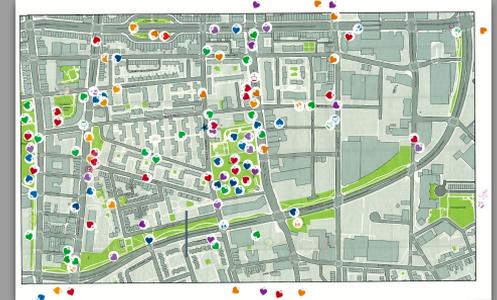


Write the name of the place here. _____

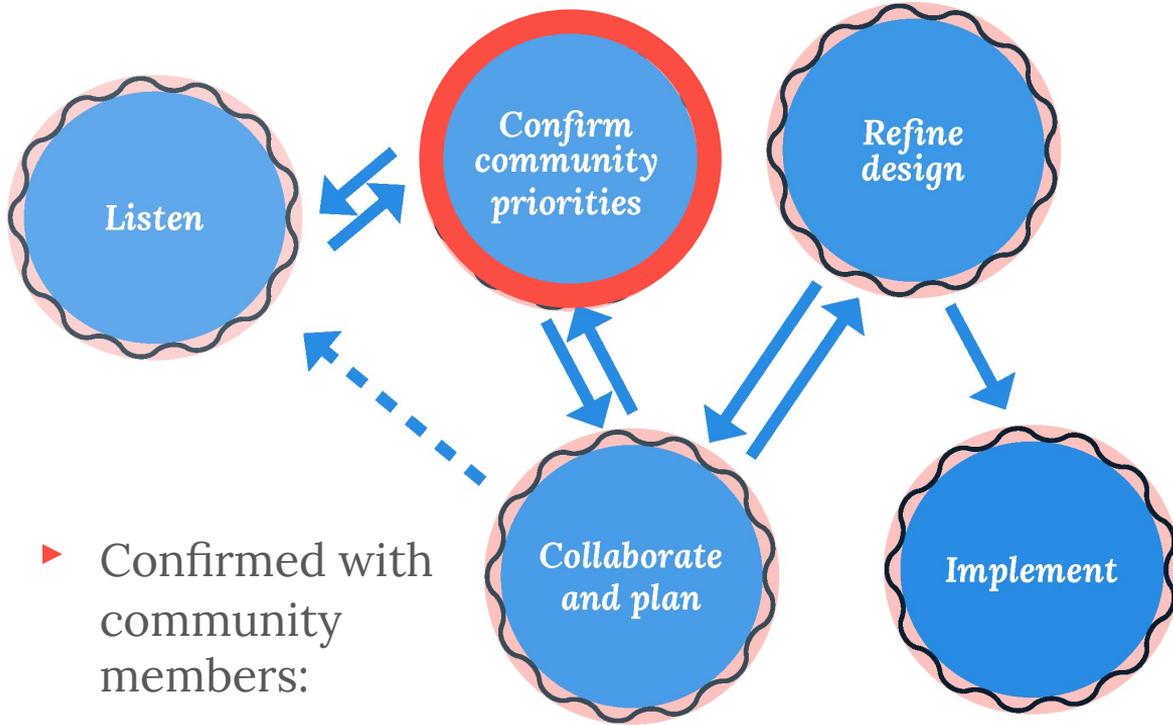
Tell us more about it.

Shops, peaceful, friends

 BOSTON TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
Greg Rooney, Acting Commissioner

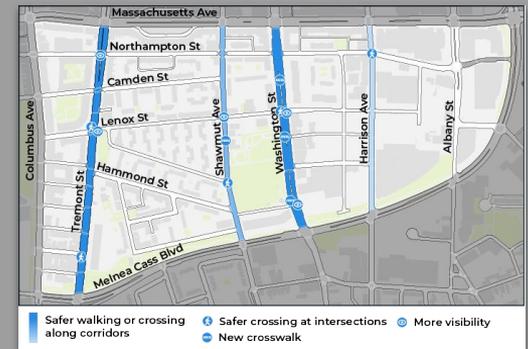


2021



► Confirmed with community members:

- Which locations rose to the top as priorities
- Information about the tools we could use to make changes on the streets.



PROJECT GOAL

You asked us to:

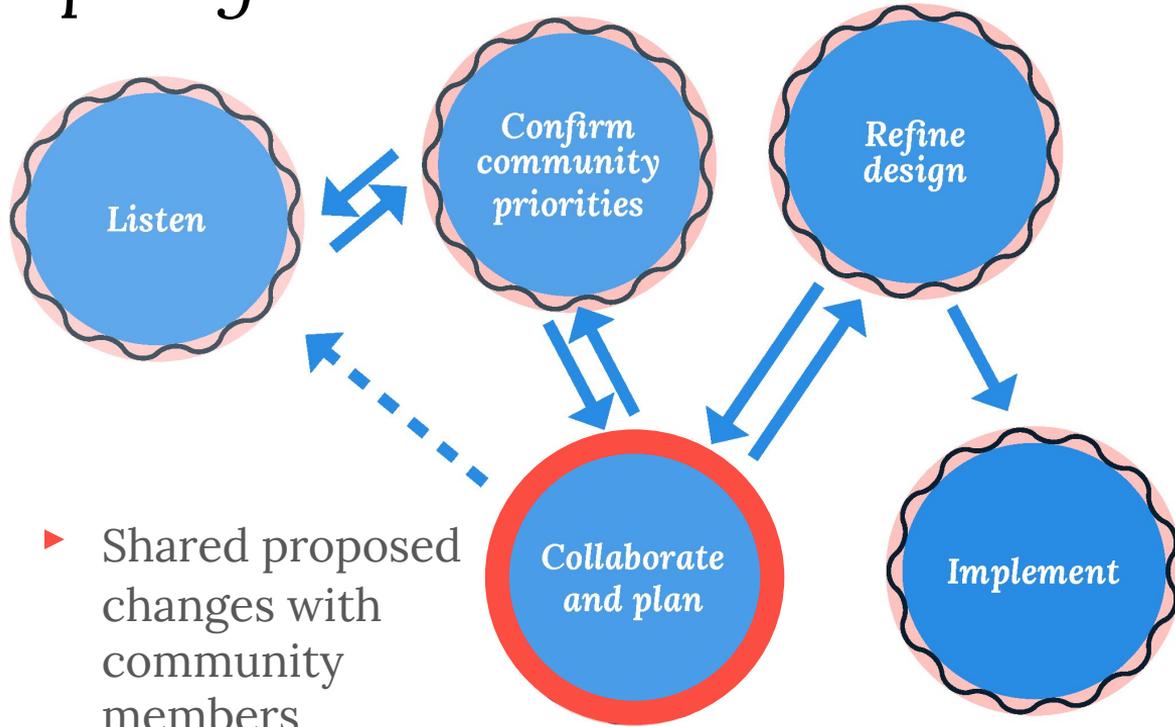
- Take a **broad look** at Lower Roxbury
- Listen to what the **people who live here** want for their community
- Help realize goals related to **transportation and safety**

We aim to build a collaborative process with community members to:

- Highlight **neighborhood assets**
- Create **positive changes** to your streets in Lower Roxbury

The project area is bounded by, but does not include Columbus, Mass Ave., and Melnea Cass.

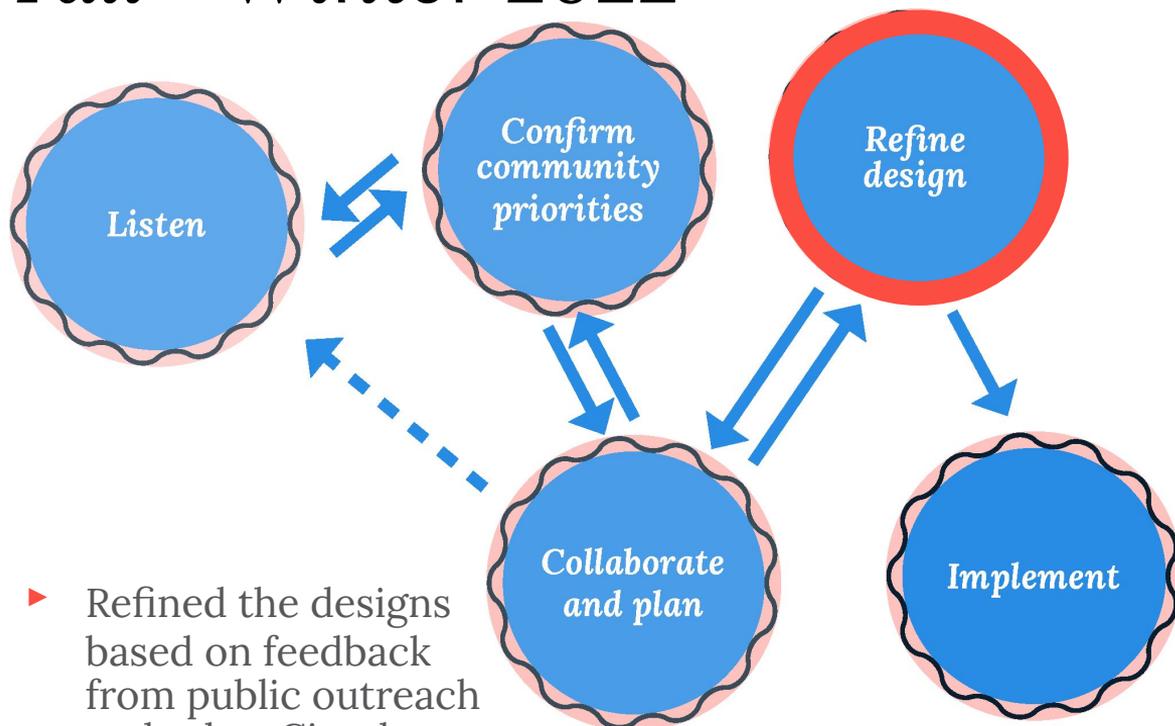
Spring - Summer 2022



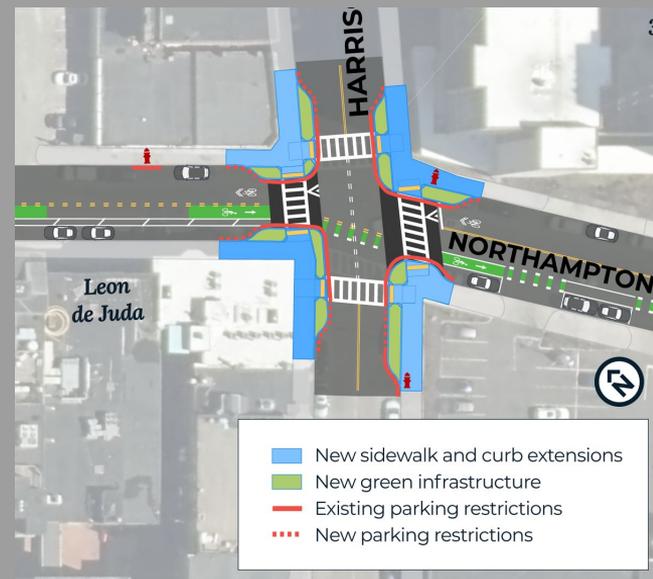
- ▶ Shared proposed changes with community members
- ▶ Heard what residents liked, had questions about, and how they felt about any trade-offs



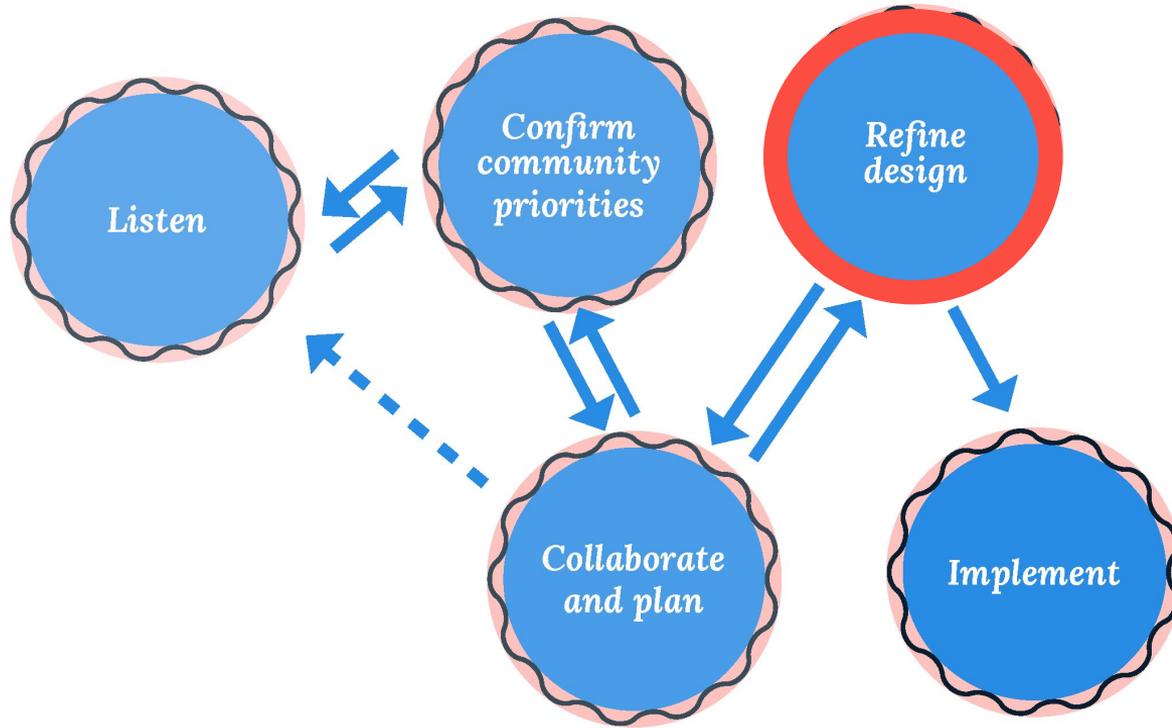
Fall - Winter 2022



- ▶ Refined the designs based on feedback from public outreach and other City departments
- ▶ Shared the final designs with community members
- ▶ Heard what residents liked and where they had questions

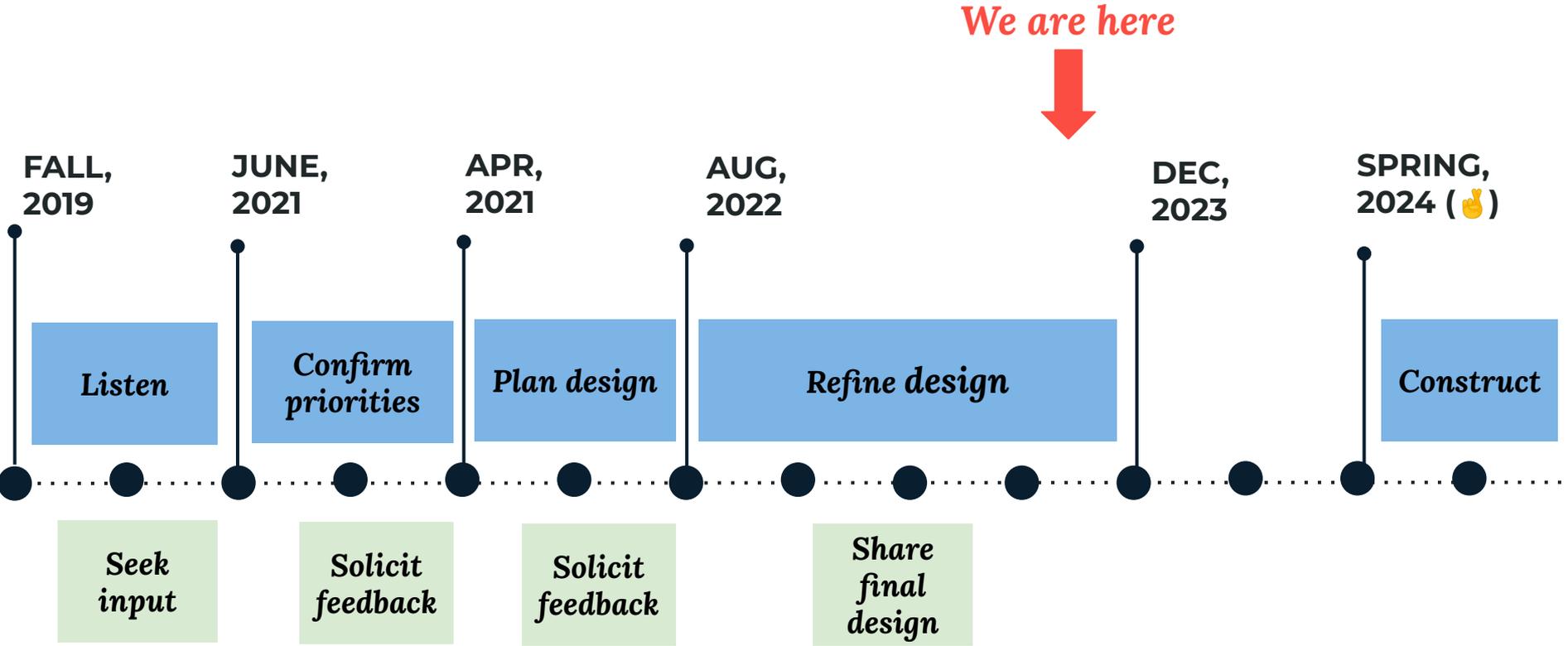


Summer 2023 - Spring 2024



- ▶ Brought plans to the Public Improvement Commission (PIC)
- ▶ Preparing to put the project out to bid (late winter)
- ▶ Keep up awareness of the project (ongoing)

PROJECT TIMELINE



We are here



CITY TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

GOALS AND TOOLS

Everyone should feel safe and comfortable on their neighborhood streets.

- ▶ Infrastructure and design
- ▶ Policy
- ▶ Programs



SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

- ▶ Promote walking and biking to school
 - Support and rally neighborhoods and the community as a whole to work toward making walking to school safe, popular, and fun
 - Improve safety near schools
- ▶ Safe Routes to School Planner who is working with many schools in Roxbury this year
- ▶ Partnership across many agencies: BTM, BPS, BPD, BPHC, Mass SRTS program

[Link to Boston Safe Routes to School webpage](#)



LEARN-TO-RIDE WORKSHOPS

- ▶ Free Learn-to-Ride classes offered April through September
 - Held at many locations throughout Boston
 - Bikes and helmets provided
- ▶ Three levels
 - Basic Skills
 - Road Readiness
 - On-Street Skills
- ▶ Teach 200 adults each year

boston.gov/boston-bikes



UPCOMING LEARN-TO-RIDE WORKSHOPS

Sunday, September 24
*Boston Water and Sewer
Commision, 980 Harrison Ave*

- ▶ 10am - 12pm Basic Skills for all adults
- ▶ 12pm - 2pm Basic Skills for women

Saturday, September 30
Mattahunt School, 100 Hebron St

- ▶ 10am - 12pm Basic Skills for women



SUMMER SPORTS CENTER FOR CHILDREN

- ▶ This summer, we [launched a partnership](#) between Boston Bikes, the Success Link Summer Jobs Program, and Parks
- ▶ Boston Bikes staff trained youth hired through the summer jobs program to teach young children the basics of riding, bike safety, and mechanics
- ▶ Sites at Almont Park, East Boston Stadium, White Stadium, and Moakley Park
- ▶ 300 kids this summer, with the goal of serving 500 kids annually



BIKE REPAIR WORKSHOPS

- ▶ Hands-on free workshops
- ▶ All ages welcome
- ▶ Learn basic skills
- ▶ Fix your bike
- ▶ Libraries and BCYF centers, indoors and outdoors

boston.gov/boston-bikes



BLUEBIKES

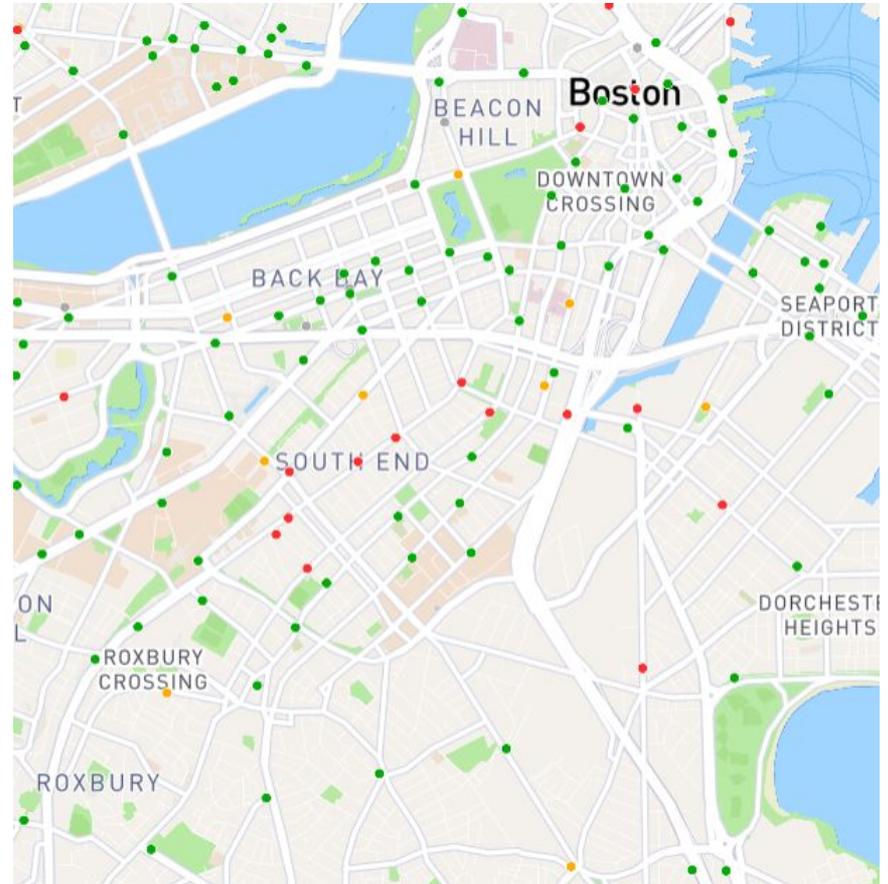
- ▶ Publicly-owned bike share system
- ▶ We launched with 60 stations and 600 bikes in summer 2011
- ▶ Today, we own 250 stations and around 2,500 bikes
- ▶ With our municipal partners, our publicly-owned bike share system offers more than 400 stations and 4,000 bikes

boston.gov/bluebikes



BLUEBIKES STATION EXPANSION

- ▶ Working to grow our public bike share by 40%, adding more than 100 new stations in the next year
- ▶ Aiming to add capacity to downtown and fill in gaps in neighborhoods



BOSTON BIKES PASS

- ▶ Long-time income-eligible pass options:
 - \$50/year or \$5/month
- ▶ New discounts for Boston residents launching soon!
 - \$5/year for income-eligible residents
 - \$60/year for new members (have not had an annual membership in the last three years)

boston.gov/discounted-bluebikes

CITY of BOSTON

Hey Boston residents!

**RIDE BLUEBIKES FOR
JUST \$60/YEAR!***

If you have an income that qualifies you for MassHealth, SNAP, or similar programs you are eligible for a membership for just \$5 per year!

APPLY: [BOSTON.GOV/DISCOUNTED-BLUEBIKES](https://boston.gov/discounted-bluebikes)



*This option is available to Boston residents who have not had an annual membership in the last three years.

BIKE RACKS

- ▶ We install and repair roughly 160 bike racks on City of Boston sidewalks each year.
- ▶ High-quality bike parking in the right locations encourages more individuals to bike regularly and helps them feel safe doing so.

[boston.gov/park-your-bike](https://www.boston.gov/park-your-bike)



MOBILITY HUBS PILOT

- ▶ Neighborhood mobility hubs combine transportation options, information, and place-making elements
 - Bikeshare, carshare, bus stops
 - Seating, lighting, and street art
 - Information kiosks
- ▶ Piloting GoHubs! In East Boston with the goal of expanding to more neighborhoods



boston.gov/gohubs

BOSTON BRAKES CAMPAIGN

- ▶ Outreach and education campaign created by the Mayor's Commission for Persons with Disabilities.
- ▶ Raise awareness of, and increase safety for, pedestrians with disabilities on Boston's public rights of way.

boston.gov/boston-brakes



TIPS FOR RIDING YOUR BIKE SAFELY

The City of Boston. A diverse city filled with people on the move. Riding your bike is a great way to get around, but it's important to remember to share the space with pedestrians. This includes people with disabilities, who face unique challenges when navigating our city. Let's take a look at some of the common safety rules we should all follow.

WHITE CANE LAW

When you see a pedestrian walking with a white cane this indicates that the user is blind or visually impaired. You must come to a complete stop to allow them to safely cross the street. Let's be mindful and aware of white cane users in our city to avoid causing unnecessary injuries.

BIKE PARKING

When parking your bike, leave at least four feet for pedestrians. Never block sidewalks, curb ramps, crosswalks or accessible parking spaces. Poles that designate accessible parking spaces may not be used to lock your bike. Your bike should always be parked parallel to the path of travel and never block the sidewalk.

AVOID RIDING ON SIDEWALKS

Only ride on sidewalks when necessary for safety and always use bike lanes when they're available. This will prevent unnecessary conflict with pedestrians.

SLOW DOWN

Educational videos

- ▶ [Street Design Tools for Pedestrian Safety](#)
 - raised crosswalks and curb extensions
- ▶ [What the Tech?](#) - crosswalk buttons
- ▶ [What is Green Infrastructure?](#)



What the Tech: Episode 5- Crosswalk Buttons

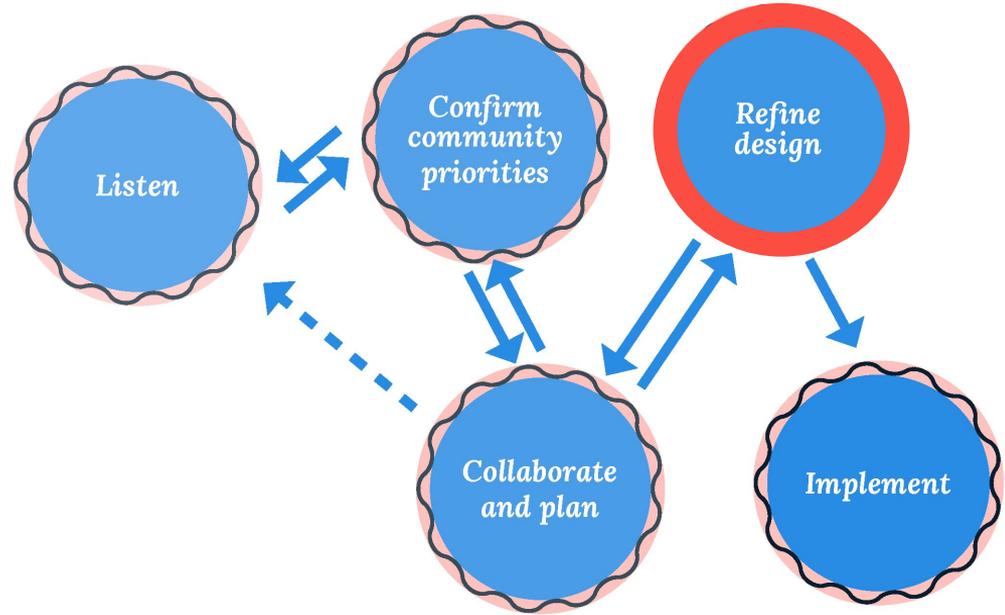
Discussion

- ▶ *Do you see gaps in these programs? Are there barriers that we're not addressing?*
- ▶ *Do you have ideas for how we can get the word out about these programs?*



NEXT STEPS FOR THIS GROUP

- ▶ Meet again:
 - *Jan 11th at 11:00 am*
- ▶ Email to you re: today's meeting notes
- ▶ Keep you posted!



MEETING EVALUATION

OUTCOMES

- ▶ Debrief recent outreach activities
- ▶ Review next steps for the project
- ▶ Discuss outreach strategy in the context of next steps

QUESTIONS

- ▶ *How did we do as a group at achieving our desired outcomes for the meeting?*
- ▶ *How did the project team do at guiding the process?*
- ▶ *Any recommendations for the next meeting?*

CONCLUSION
