

Blue Hill Avenue: Mattapan Square Transportation Action Plan!

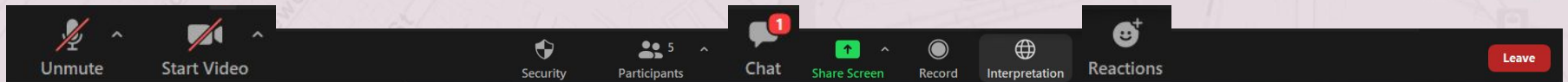
Community Meeting
June 20, 2023



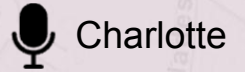
Welcome! ¡Bienvenidos! Bonjour!



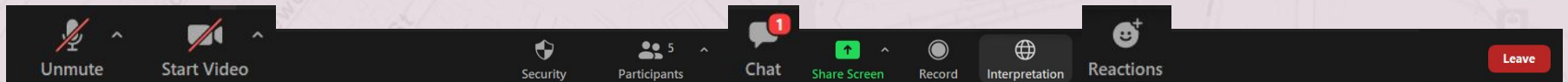
- This meeting **will be recorded**.
 - Esta reunión será grabada.
 - *Reyinyon sa a ap anrejistre.*
- Update your name in Zoom to include your preferred name and your pronouns.
 - Actualiza tu nombre en Zoom con tu nombre preferido y tus pronombres.
 - *Aktyalize non w sou Zoom pou w mete non prefere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



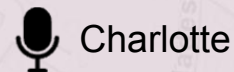
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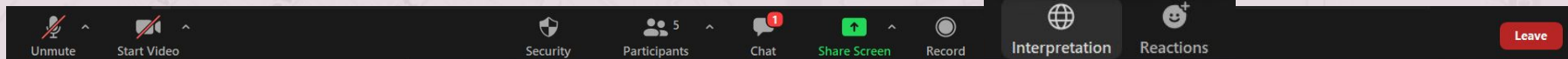
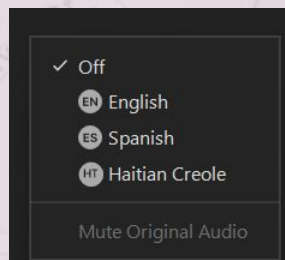
- Your microphones are turned off to start. You will need to unmute to speak. Joining via phone? Press ***6** to unmute.
 - Tu micrófono está apagado al empezar. Tendrás que reactivarlo para hablar. ¿Participando por teléfono? Presiona *6 para reactivar el micrófono.
 - *Mikwo w fèmen pou kòmanse. Ou 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 June 20, 2023



Mattapan Line Transformation Public Meeting Summary

- Trolley refurbishment
- Ridership update
- MLT timeline
- Planning and design update
- Inline station concepts
- Ashmont and Mattapan update
- Early actions
- Public involvement



617-222-3030



trolley@mbta.com



tinyurl.com/mltcomment



www.mbta.com/mlt

Mattapan

Capen Street

Valley Road

Central Avenue

Milton

Butler

Cedar Grove

Ashmont





Chavella

Group Norms

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.**



Chavella

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)



Chavella

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

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)

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

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



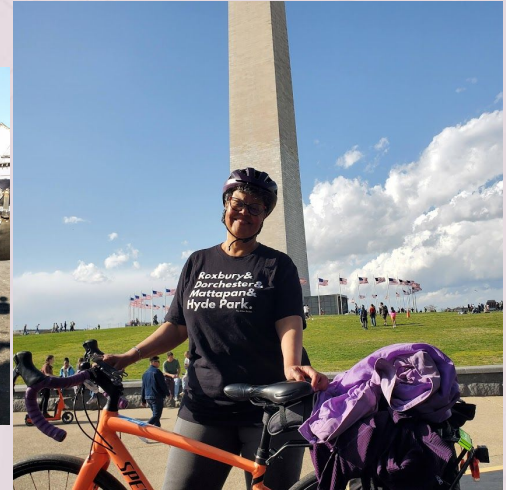
A community engagement firm dedicated to making planning the future of our neighborhood an enjoyable and accessible experience for all. When we design for everyone and from a place of joy, we can create a world that works for everyone!



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: Ground ourselves in the purpose of the project and a shared understanding of the facts

Goal 2: Deeper dive into the design options for Mattapan Square

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

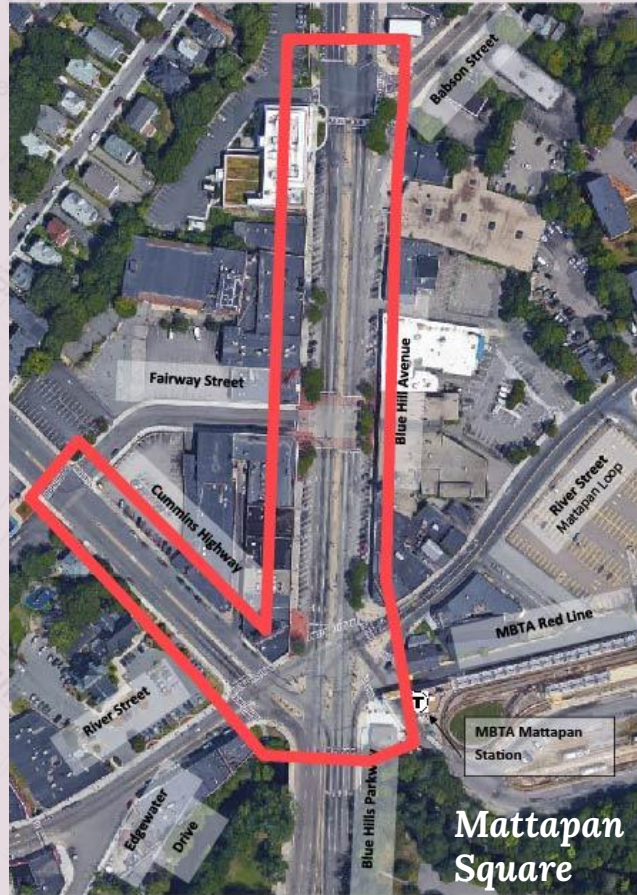
1. **Mattapan Square Project Background**
2. **Blue Hill Avenue Transportation Action Plan Scope + Goals**
3. **Deep Dive into Mattapan Square Design Options**
4. **Q&A + How to Get Involved**



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

Blue Hill Avenue: Mattapan Square

The Broader Blue Hill Avenue Transportation Action Plan





Charlotte

Blue Hill Ave Project Goals

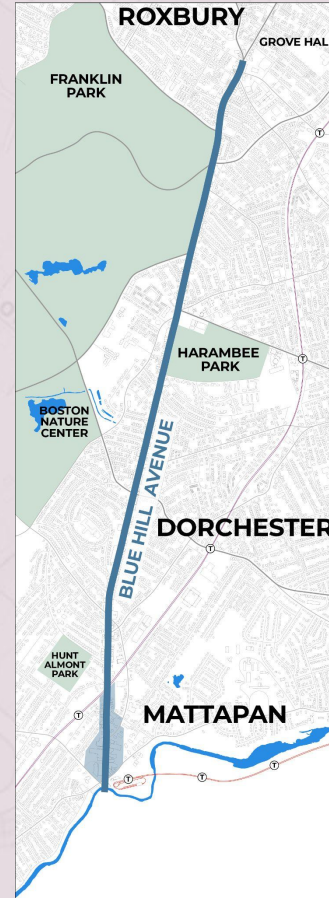
- Goal 1:** Improve pedestrian safety along Blue Hill Ave
- Goal 2:** Expand transportation options and reliability
- Goal 3:** Connect infrastructure investments to the work of other City departments and State agencies





Charlotte

Blue Hill Avenue Transportation Action Plan





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

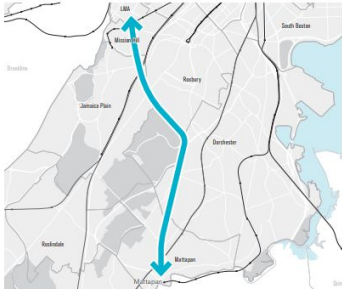
Faster transit connections to the medical district from southern Boston

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 cost separate
Potential Funding Sources: City capital budget for

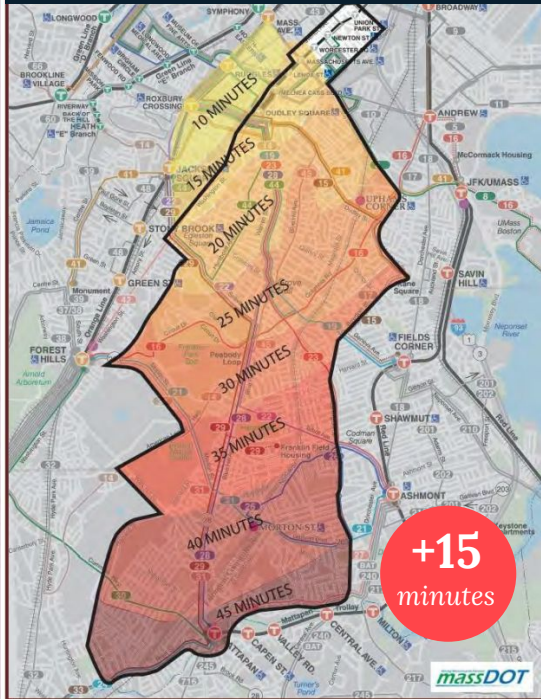
Benefits and Issues Addressed

This investment will support economic opportunity along a corridor with heavy bike 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 density of bus routes in the area. Future service could also provide a more direct route to the medical district with a high-quality rider.

Go Boston 2030 Goals:

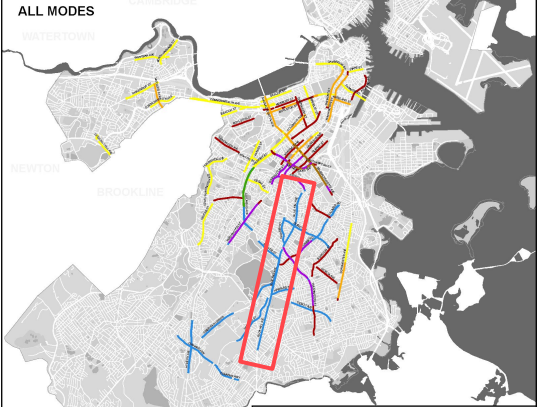
- Expand access
- Improve reliability
- Enhance safety

Travel Time Inequities



Safety Concerns

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



Boston High Crash Network

- Pedestrian
- Bicycle
- Motor Vehicle
- All Modes
- Pedestrian and Bicycle
- Pedestrian and Motor Vehicle
- Bicycle and Motor Vehicle

This map shows city-owned streets that have the highest density of injury crashes for the three-year period indicated. About twenty-five miles of streets are included for each mode, representing the top 3% of streets for each mode. Because some modal high crash network segments overlap, the combined high crash network shown in this map includes about sixty miles (about 7%) of streets.

Source: Vision Zero Boston
 boston.gov/vision-zero-crash-map

0 0.5 1 2 Miles DRAFT 1/22/19



Charlotte

50 People...



on a bus



on bikes



in cars

www.cyclingpromotion.com.au



Charlotte

Why Talk About Bus Priority?

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

DID YOU KNOW?

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



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.

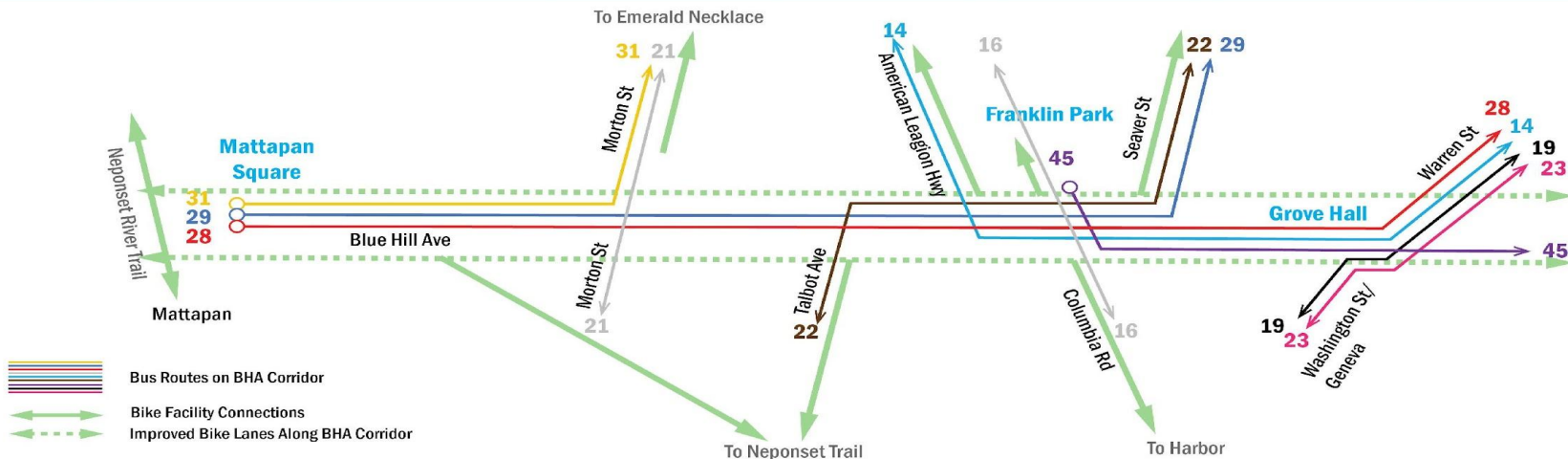


Charlotte

Bus Riders on Blue Hill Avenue

Blue Hill Avenue serves 10 different bus routes. Of these bus riders:

- **56%** are from low-income households
- **85%** consider themselves a racial or ethnic minority
- **52%** do not have access to a car
- **96%** walk or bike to reach the bus

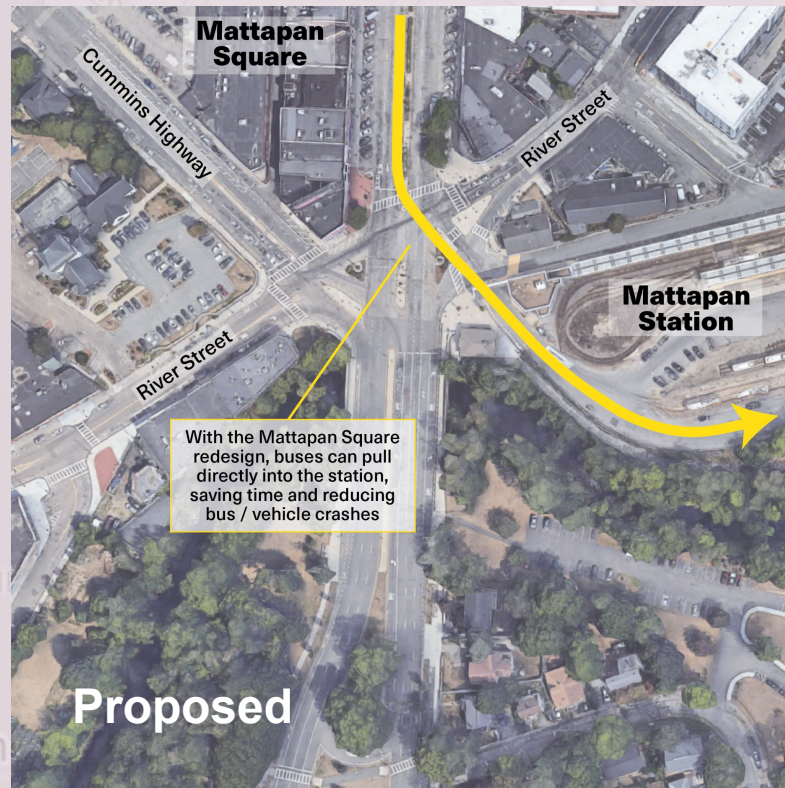
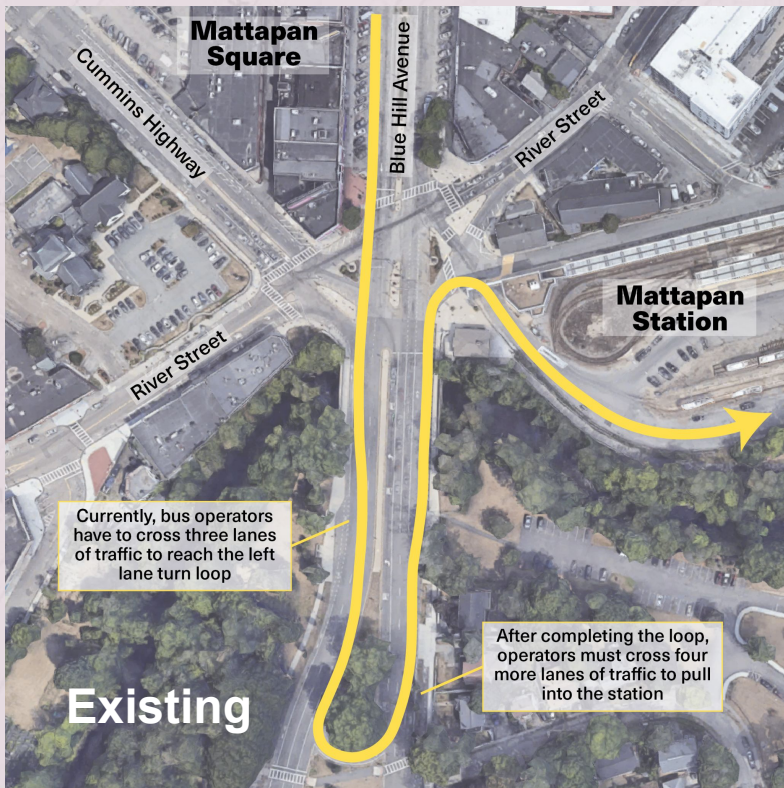




Charlotte

Goal: Give Time Back to Bus Riders

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





Charlotte

Blue Hill Avenue: Mattapan Square

Deep Dive into Mattapan Square Design Options



Draft

**Existing: No Bus Lane
with Angled Parking**





The bus gets stuck in traffic; not all of the stops are accessible

I don't feel safe crossing the street

It's hot with all that asphalt! Need more shade trees

It doesn't feel safe to ride a bike next to angled parking

Pulling out of angled parking is stressful

Draft

Alt 1: Bus Lane with Angled Parking



Alt 1: Bus Lane with Angled Parking

It doesn't feel safe to ride a bike next to angled parking

It's hot with all that asphalt! Need more shade trees

Pulling out of angled parking is stressful



Draft

**Alt 2: Bus Lane with
Parallel Parking**



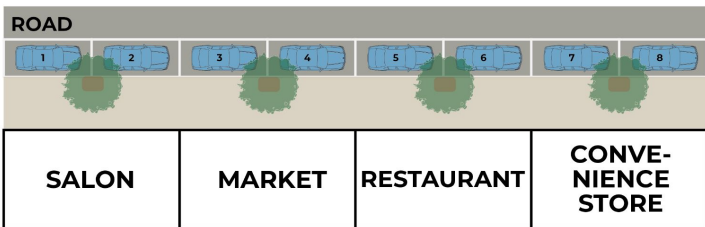
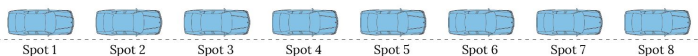
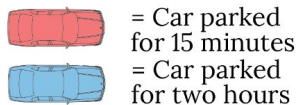
	Existing <i>Angled parking No bus lane</i>	To Code <i>Angled parking No bus lane</i>	Alt. 1 <i>Angled parking Bus lane</i>	Alt. 2 <i>Parallel parking Bus lane Bike lane More street trees</i>
More reliable bus service and accessible boarding	✗	✗	✓	✓
Pedestrians cross fewer lanes of general traffic and have more protection	✗	✗	✓	✓
More sidewalk space for street trees	✗	✗	✗	✓
Protected space for cyclists	✗	✗	✗	✓
Number of on-street parking spaces	91	~70	~77	~47

Q: What is the plan for parking?

Parking availability = (Number of spaces) x (Number of people who can use each space per day)

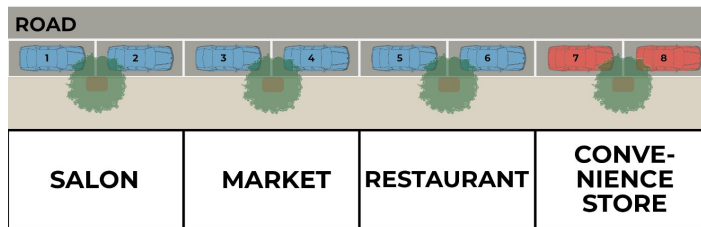
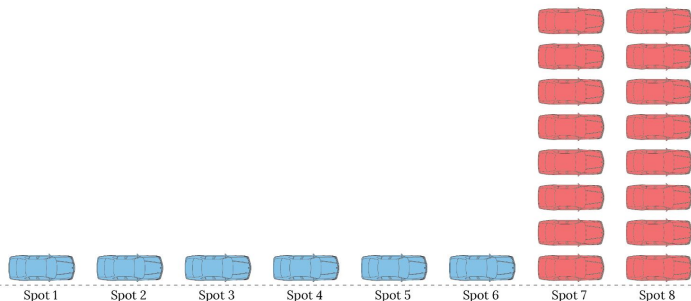
Flat Rate Parking Regulations

48 cars can use spots 1 to 8 from 9am-9pm



Strategically Timed Parking Regulations

36 cars can use spots 1 to 6 from 9am-9pm
96 cars can use spots 7 and 8 from 9am-9pm



Match parking limits to business needs

Off Street Parking

~420 spaces:

- 145 in public lots
- 281 in private lots



Comparison: Pedestrian Safety



Comparison: Pedestrian Safety



Comparison: Sidewalks



Mattapan

MBTA-Mattapan

MBTA-Capen S

Draft

Existing: No Bus Lane
with Angled Parking



Draft

Alt 1: Bus Lane with
Angled Parking



Draft

Alt 2: Bus Lane with
Parallel Parking





Chavella

Blue Hill Avenue: Mattapan Square

Q + A Discussion





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

How to Get Involved





Chavella

Upcoming In-Person Engagement

Tomorrow!

June 21, 5-8 PM

**Sportsman's Tennis & Enrichment Center
(950 Blue Hill Avenue)**

Blue Hill Ave Transportation Action Plan

COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE

WHEN: Wednesday, June 21st, 5:00 – 7:30pm
WHERE: Sportsman's Tennis & Enrichment Center
(950 Blue Hill Ave, Dorchester, MA 02124)

The Blue Hill Avenue Transportation Action Plan seeks to enhance and support the experiences of everyone along the Avenue. **We want to gather feedback on design approaches and answer questions about the future of Blue Hill Ave.**

Project Goals

1. Improve pedestrian safety on Blue Hill Ave.
2. Connect infrastructure investments to the work of other City and State agencies.
3. Expand transportation options/reliability.

Get Involved

Visit boston.gov/blue-hill-avenue or scan the code to learn more!

Map

Have questions or comments?
bluehillave@boston.gov or 617-635-3944

CITY of BOSTON



Chavella

Upcoming In-Person Engagement

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 with “Real Talk” in the subject line!

Guide the City's investments along Blue Hill Ave

Blue Hill Ave



Transportation Action Plan!

The Blue Hill Avenue Transportation Action Plan seeks to enhance and support the experiences of everyone along the Avenue, no matter their mode of transportation. **We want to hear from the people who live, work, play and pray along Blue Hill Avenue about how the Plan can best meet your needs and vision for the future.**

Real Talk Conversations

Real Talk is a small group conversation format focused on sharing personal stories and identifying connections which relate to how folks travel and live along Blue Hill Ave. **You will be compensated \$40 for your time.**



Since the City has not yet decided on a design strategy, conversations like these will directly inform the decision-making process.



Interested in participating in and leading a Real Talk conversation? Scan the QR code to the right or type bit.ly/bha-real-talk into your browser.



Have questions or comments?
Email bluehillave@boston.gov or call 617-635-3944

CITY of BOSTON



Charlotte

Ongoing Engagement Opportunities

- Monthly Blue Hill Ave meetings, sign up at bit.ly/bha-tap
Next Meeting: June 27, 6:30 pm
Topic: Design approaches
- Monthly Blue Hill Ave: Mattapan Square meetings, sign up at bit.ly/bluehillmattapan
Next Meeting: July 18, 6:30 pm

If you have questions, please email bluehillave@boston.gov

Other Opportunities for Engagement



**City of Boston's
FREE Learn-to-Ride Classes**
for Women & Gender-Diverse People
Bikes & helmets provided!
www.boston.gov/women-bike



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

**MONDAY NIGHT
BIKE RIDES**

Sign up: mondaynightrides.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 or (617) 514-2617
Follow @That Bike Lady on Instagram & Facebook

Ongoing (?)!
Weekly Evening Bike Ride
along the Neponset Trail
Bluebikes available upon request
thatbikelady@gmail.com



Kirstie

How to Stay Connected

City of Boston

(617) 635-3944

bluehillave@boston.gov

Recordings of past meetings &
project materials:

boston.gov/blue-hill-avenue

What other questions do you have?

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



Consult LeLa

Website: consultlela.com

Email: consultlela@gmail.com

That Bike Lady aka Vivian Ortiz

Text/Call: (617) 541-2617

Email: thatbikelady@gmail.com