

Union Square Utility and Streetscape Improvements Study and Design

Public Meeting #1- Monday November 18th, 2013

Board	Comment	Category
Study Area Map	Preserve historic American Tube Works building around cemetery	Business Commercial
Study Area Map	Safe route to Argenziano School from Prospect Hill	Pedestrian
Study Area Map	Long, thin strips of car lane dividers should not count as "new open space."	Public Open Space
Study Area Map	Tabulation of small businesses that currently operate in Union Square: Who's here, Who's Thriving, Who's on the verge of getting pushed out?	Business Commercial
Study Area Map	Keep concept of wunerf (shared access)	Other
Study Area Map	Consider two rotaries to allow slow but steady traffic. Allow enough to allow pedestrians to cross anytime. No lights. [Drawing shows roundabouts at Bow, Somerville, Washington and Webster and Somerville, Prospect, and Washington]	Auto Traffic
Study Area Map	Make Webster and Prospect two way traffic and close or limit traffic through the square	Auto Traffic
Study Area Map	Close Newton St near Dunkin Donuts (no access to Prospect St)	Auto Traffic
Study Area Map	Why so many cars/parking at this gateway [Washington St]? Are all these approach lanes from Washington St needed? Move left turns to Somerville Ave then NB McGrath traffic can use overpass over Washington St	Auto Traffic
Study Area Map	Use takings power to create pedestrian route from Union Square T to Webster/Som. Ave/Bow./Wash. Intersection	T Station
Study Area Map	Playgrounds for the little ones	Public Open Space
Study Area Map	Pedestrian link to Boynton Yards	Pedestrian
Study Area Map	Bus transfer point and less circuitous bus routing	MBTA Bus/Train
Study Area Map	Very difficult and dangerous for bikes at this intersection [Prospect and Som.]	Bicycles
Study Area Map	Our "walk" and "don't walk" signs lie to us. When Prospect St traffic has a red light the "walk" light to cross Prospect should always be on!	Utilities
Study Area Map	Proper sidewalks on Washington St	Pedestrian
Study Area Map	I agree with the comments concerning cyclists and pedestrians on Webster- particularly for cyclists entering Union Sq via Prospect. It is a dangerous spot for a cyclist to change lanes to turn left into Union Sq. A painted green bike lane indicating a way for cyclists to change lanes would be helpful as would additional signage cautioning drivers.	Bicycles
Study Area Map	To direct people to Union Sq departing the new Green Line stops. I'd love to see colorfully painted murals that could also help block the Nstar electrical spot- pointing folks to Union Square. The murals on the underpass directing pedestrians to Assembly Sq in East Somerville look wonderful as does the city sign for E Somerville (for a prototype)	Streetscape
Study Area Map	Ensure easy and frequent bus connectivity from Union T up Somerville Ave to Porter (for red line/green line transitions as well as local residents)	MBTA Bus/Train
Study Area Map	Promote integration with Inman few track crossings east of Union so make this one count.	MBTA Bus/Train
Study Area Map	Impossible to cross east side of Webster/Prospect intersection	Pedestrian
Study Area Map	Cars are illegally parked on Webster Ave every morning and are never ticketed. Start ticketing these people tomorrow.	Parking
Study Area Map	Webster Ave should have a bike lane	Bicycles
Study Area Map	Put counter flow bike lanes on Webster or make them two ways.	Bicycles
Study Area Map	Bikes have a very hard time turning left from Prospect to Som Ave	Bicycles
Study Area Map	Is the SCATV Building sacrosanct? Or can it go?	Streetscape
Study Area Map	Make the main square a "woonerf" and route main traffic to Prospect/Webster/Newton?	Other
Study Area Map	Use of space in front of restaurants for outdoor dining is really nice - would be great to preserve/expand.	Business Commercial
Photo Board 1	More zipcars	Business Commercial
Photo Board 1	Keep Ricky's in Union Sq	Business Commercial

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Photo Board 1	Maintain visual diverse streetscapes	Streetscape
Photo Board 1	Small parking lot is awkward/hard to get out of. Plaza would be better somewhat buffered from traffic	Parking
Photo Board 1	What are all the pictures conveying? This poster needs more context.	Other
Photo Board 1	New buildings: diverse; should connect to the stree/not flat; Bring city street into building; Bring building into street	Streetscape
Photo Board 1	Keep and enhance what works	Other
Photo Board 2	Have bikers observe the rules of the road. How do you do that?	Bicycles
Photo Board 2	More street trees!	Streetscape
Photo Board 2	Parking- how will that be handled? Give streets around the Sq resident parking for residents only.	Parking
Photo Board 2	Pocket parks and playgrounds	Public Open Space
Photo Board 2	Expand plaza- whole area needs to be greener	Public Open Space
Photo Board 2	Maintain plaza for street activation	Public Open Space
Photo Board 2	Have more traffic laypeople for school time with all the changes	Other
Photo Board 2	Plenty of crosswalks but distances are sometimes too great and lights are too short	Pedestrian
Regional Connectivity	Does this orange line exist now? Confused.	MBTA Bus/Train
Regional Connectivity	Webster and Prospect street widening include bridges	Auto Traffic
Regional Connectivity	Safer bike route on Prospect St	Bicycles
Regional Connectivity	Union Sq needs a car rental agency now that usave is gone. This is important to allow people to live without owning a car.	Business Commercial
Regional Connectivity	Prospect and Webster to become two way streets avoiding some through traffic as discussed at previous meeting.	Auto Traffic
Regional Connectivity	Reduce Prospect Hill cut through traffic	Auto Traffic
Regional Connectivity	Bike connection to Cambridge and Boston	Bicycles
Regional Connectivity	Better bike accomodations everywhere	Bicycles
Regional Connectivity	Milke Row creative zone proliferation of overall art spaces beyond Artisans' Asylum	Streetscape
Regional Connectivity	More support for immigrant owned businesses on Bow Street we don't want them all to disappear	Business Commercial
Regional Connectivity	Biking through Union Sq is scary but it shouldn't be. Bike racks/corrals are used so there are plenty of bicyclists	Bicycles
Photo Board 1	historic sights unique architecture	Streetscape
Photo Board 1	Business windows that open to sidewalks	Streetscape
Photo Board 1	Keep Ricky's flower market in Union Sq	Business Commercial
Photo Board 1	More trees	Streetscape
Photo Board 1	Preserve independent business culture	Business Commercial
Photo Board 1	Reuse historic buildings well	Streetscape
Photo Board 1	Wider sidewalks	Streetscape
Photo Board 1	No parking mins	Parking
Photo Board 1	Bike parking that keeps sidewalks open	Streetscape
Photo Board 1	Office space in the sq to add to daytime foot traffic - Restaurant use	Business Commercial
Photo Board 2	Less truck traffic	Trucks
Photo Board 2	Somerville Ave crosswalk between Square and other side	Pedestrian
Photo Board 2	improved bike flow in the square	Bicycles
Photo Board 2	exiting neighborhood side streets can be difficult during traffic. Traffic should not block intersection	Auto Traffic
Photo Board 2	More community space. Less communter space.	Public Open Space
Photo Board 2	I like public seating performance space.	Public Open Space
Photo Board 2	Make Prospect and Webster two way.	Auto Traffic

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Photo Board 2	Squares/spaces that support festivals and markets	Public Open Space
Photo Board 2	Yes to good restaurants especially affordable local options	Business Commercial
Photo Board 2	Preserve large open square for events	Public Open Space
Photo Board 2	Love the common space as used for the farmer's market and public events (think shows), craft fair, sam dog	Public Open Space
Photo Board 2	Event/public art infrastructure	Public Open Space
Photo Board 2	What was done about the sinkhole here? [Dunkin]	Other
Photo Board 2	More open public space usable for: markets, events, shows, concerts	Public Open Space
Photo Board 2	improved walkability, longer crossing times	Pedestrian
Photo Board 2	Good ped crossings	Pedestrian
Photo Board 2	Maintain shared space for things like Farmers Market, Fluff Fest	Public Open Space
Photo Board 2	Very concerned about Eminent Domain is the city going to take private property for a developer to build condos?	Business Commercial
Photo Board 2	Increase connecting over and on the bridges over the railroad	Auto Traffic
Photo Board 2	Work to reduce flow through sq. optimize conditions for unavoidable traffic so it can get through and out	Auto Traffic
Photo Board 2	Make the square a shared space/roadway w slow traffic and mixing with pedestrians	Auto Traffic
Regional Connectivity	Less traffic in the heart of the square	Auto Traffic
Regional Connectivity	Great pedestrian wayfinding to/from GLX station	T Station
Regional Connectivity	Bus stops more integrated with station	MBTA Bus/Train
Regional Connectivity	Better design of common are fixtures, benches, lighting etc. Local art is great but sometimes looks really amateur	Streetscape
Regional Connectivity	Move the design route over if possible (red line)	MBTA Bus/Train
Regional Connectivity	Extend study area to allow for analysis and traffic beyond existing boundary	Other
Regional Connectivity	Where will the funding come from to implement any changes that go forward? What is the budget we are working with? Private developers? City funding? Any state funding possibilities?	Other
Regional Connectivity	Better coordination with Cambridge at City line to maximize and build on improvements	Other
Regional Connectivity	Minimize appeal for trucks and mass traffic flow while building defined bike lanes and improved pedestrian access . Allow egress from the neighborhood through the square i.e. painted "blocked box" intersections to break traffic flow	Auto Traffic
Study Area Map	Would like more pedestrian bridges over the train tracks e.g. between Dane and Elmer and by Miriam St	Pedestrian
Study Area Map	Very hard to cross Washington St at Miriam by Police Station	Pedestrian
Study Area Map	Biking is scary here- please help [Washington St]	Bicycles
Study Area Map	Islands should have permanent greenscape (not just planters)	Streetscape
Study Area Map	More trees	Streetscape
Study Area Map	Larger cross signals	Utilities
Study Area Map	Crosswalks on Bow St by Block Capone's and on Central Roadway from Ebi slat building/plaza area	Pedestrian
Study Area Map	attractive signage on storefronts (less plastic and neon)	Streetscape
Study Area Map	a large car-free public area	Public Open Space
Study Area Map	Crossing signal buttons that work	Pedestrian
Study Area Map	Keep old building, improve if necessary	Streetscape
Study Area Map	Increase biking ease and ped pace	Bicycles
Study Area Map	Lots of trees. A large tree in a central locale?	Public Open Space
Study Area Map	Less parking more public space w no auto access	Parking
Study Area Map	Lots of art? Local sculptures	Streetscape
Study Area Map	More brick (maybe crosswalks?)	Streetscape

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Study Area Map	Reduced traffic speed	Auto Traffic
Study Area Map	local businesses take precedent!	Business Commercial
Study Area Map	No chain stores (unless small and locally owned)	Business Commercial
Study Area Map	Keep Ricky's and Gulf station	Business Commercial
Study Area Map	Keep traffic from using Greenville St as a short cut between 28 and Square	Auto Traffic
Study Area Map	Barriers of some type between plaza/public space and traffic so kids can move around CYCLE TRACKS- connecting community path to Union Square Center (Washington ST) and beyond	Public Open Space Bicycles
Study Area Map	Better Ped Access	Pedestrian
Study Area Map	I don't feel safe biking here	Bicycles
Study Area Map	Keep and expand public plaza	Public Open Space
Study Area Map	Preserve and declutter the central plaza. Do not cut through it with Washington St	Auto Traffic
Study Area Map	Preservation of the square	Public Open Space
Study Area Map	Make Prospect and Webster two way to reduce traffic load	Auto Traffic
Study Area Map	Get rid of the trucks	Trucks
Study Area Map	Crosswalks on Bow St at Walnut	Pedestrian
Study Area Map	Make open space in the public realm	Public Open Space
Study Area Map	Not enough time to cross Washington St by foot	Pedestrian
Study Area Map	Enhance ped access to T stop along Webster ave	T Station
Study Area Map	Play elements for kids in public plazas/spaces	Public Open Space
Study Area Map	Somerville Ave 2 way	Auto Traffic
Study Area Map	Make Union Sq non driveable only pedestrian and bike. Block car access	Auto Traffic
Study Area Map	Cycle tracks connecting schools, parks, and playgrounds	Bicycles
Study Area Map	Poynton, turn off the stop lights. (Why not at least try it for a day?) ericfellingner@gmail.com Reconfigure the Somerville Ave/Bow St/ Washington St/Webster St intersection. Eliminate duel left turn move. Push stop lines back, look to inman square for ideas ericfellingner@gmail.com	Auto Traffic
Study Area Map	Crosswalk by Walnut St by Hub Comics	Pedestrian
Study Area Map	Keep Historic Fabric	Streetscape
Study Area Map	Food growing green roof atop Market Basket	Business Commercial
Study Area Map	Anything to cut downn cut through traffic Drop a lane from the central roadway WB from Plaza to Bow St. Sharp turns onto Stone and Bow during AM peak the thru move to Washington is most popular in PM peak it is rarely made and right turn is huge so the extra lane does nothing for traffic flow. Use space for more sidewalk and bus pull out ericfellingner@gmail.com	Auto Traffic
Study Area Map	Concurrent pedestrian Phasing wherever possible	Pedestrian
Study Area Map	more speed tables! Like Oxford st	Auto Traffic
Study Area Map	Reduced turning radii, bulbouts traffic calming to make it a more ped and bike friendly area.	Auto Traffic
Study Area Map	Fill in intersections or reduce footprints.	Auto Traffic