

Blue Hill Ave Final Board Layouts

June Open House

COVER SLIDE NOT FOR PRINTING

Project Overview

The MBTA and City of Boston are partnering on the

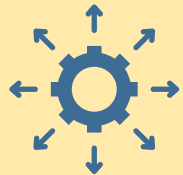
Blue Hill Avenue Transportation Action Plan

Together, we are redesigning the street between **Warren St (Grove Hall)** and **River St (Mattapan Sq)**. This redesign will include center running bus lanes to improve transit travel and reliability, significant pedestrian safety improvements, and new trees and public realm benefits to create a safer and more vibrant corridor.

Project Goals



Improve pedestrian safety



Expand transportation options and reliability



Connect infrastructure investments

Project Features



Center-running bus lanes with raised platforms



Reconstructed roadway and sidewalks



Upgraded traffic signals



Improved pedestrian safety features



Enhanced street lighting



New and enhanced bus shelters



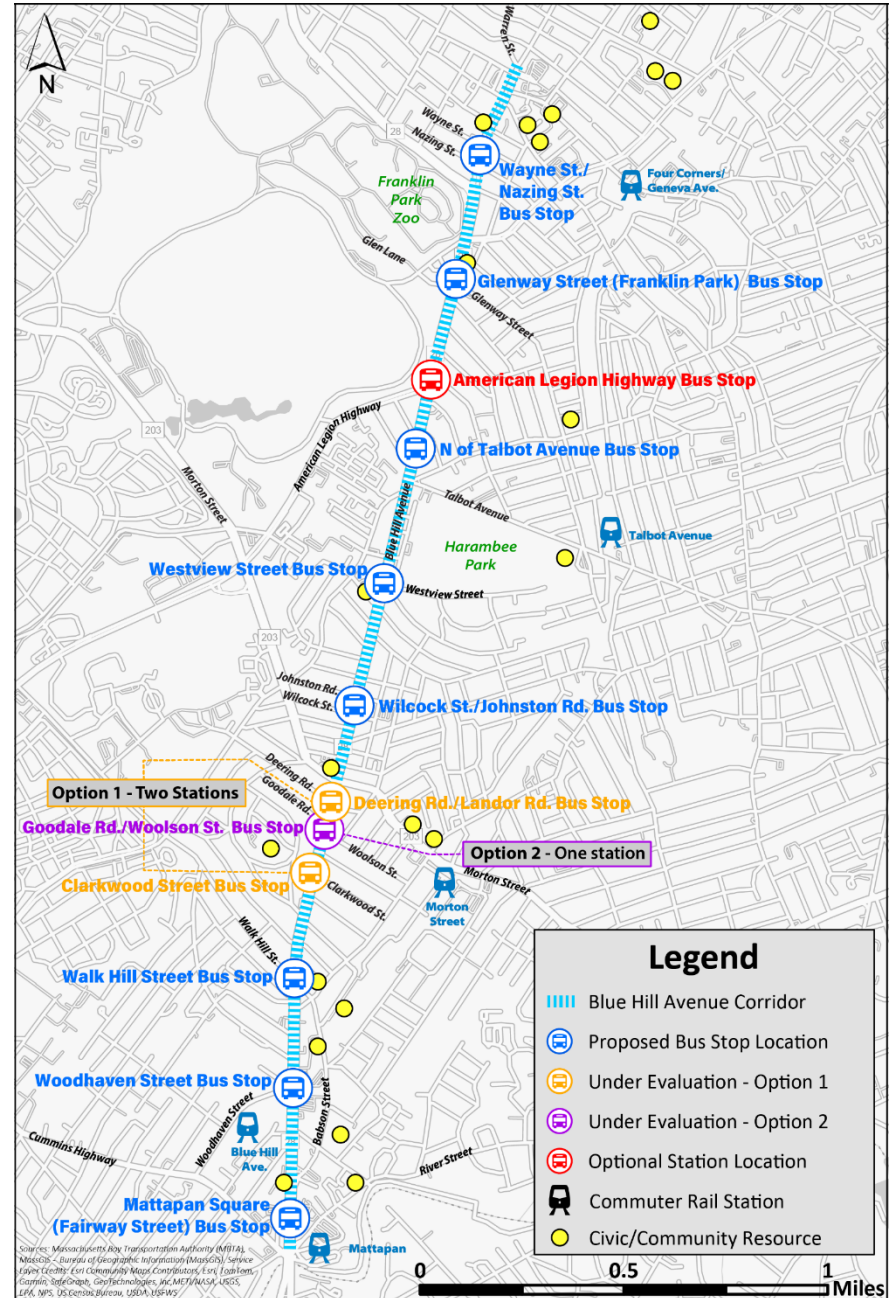
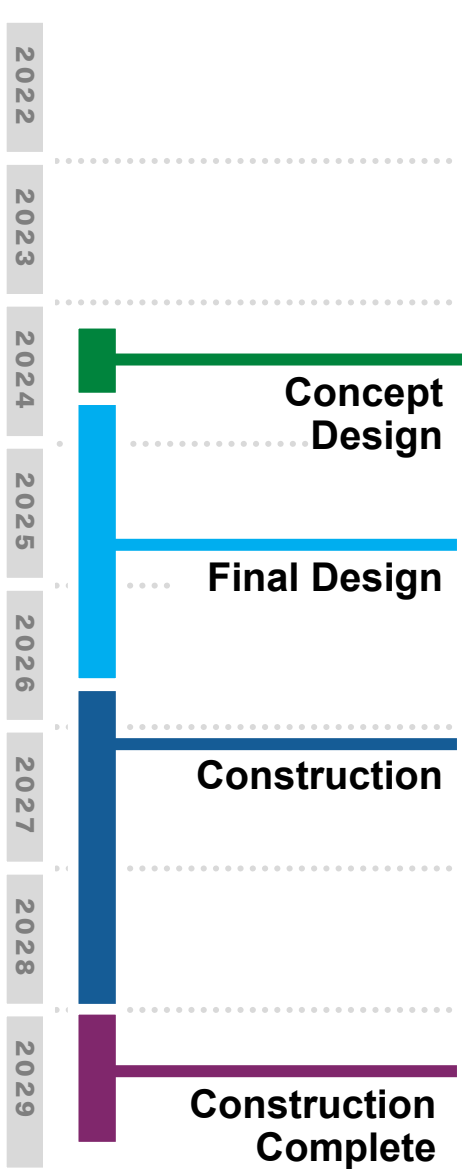
New trees and other green infrastructure

Timeline and Map

Timeline

Engagement Milestones

Ongoing
Community
Engagement



Public Engagement To-Date

Results



Community members reached through passive & direct outreach



Recorded comments



Local & State agencies



Months of continuous engagement



People directly engaged



Engagement Types



Targeted Surveys & Data Collection



Workshops & Meetings



Real Talk Focus Groups



In-Person Community Events



Media Campaigns



What We've Heard



Current Challenges

Traffic safety

Double parking

Neglect, lack of maintenance

Crowded, infrequent buses

Bus travel times

Pedestrian and bicycle safety

Insufficient lighting

Lack of parking



Hopes for the Future

More reliable and frequent buses

More welcoming public spaces

Greenery and trees

Safer streets for all

Less stressful driving

Road repaving

Better sidewalks

More crosswalks

“Blue Hill Ave needs a major change. I’m frustrated by the long wait times at bus stops, and the buses are normally very crowded.”
January 2023, project inbox

“Blue Hill Ave is not a highway and should not look like one—or feel like one but it does.”
February 2023, Bus operator interviews

“Every operator has had a bad experience on Blue Hill Ave.”
April 2023, Grove Hall drop-in hours

Transit Needs & Priority Benefits

Needs



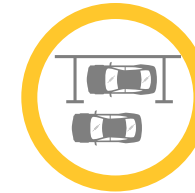
Over 40,000 riders on routes that travel along Blue Hill Avenue.



Over 3,000 person-hours per weekday lost for bus riders due to traffic and delays



Black bus riders spend 64 more hours per year on MBTA compared to white passengers*



Double parking frequently blocks bus from reaching curb

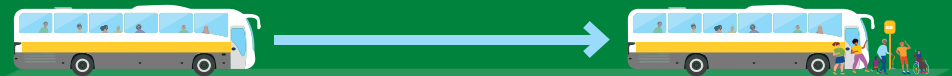
**Source: LivableStreets Alliance / MAPC*

Benefits



Transit priority investments improve reliability

Increased frequency, more bus trips, and less wait time between trips



Improved travel time

I don't have to transfer buses!



New one-seat rides from Blue Hill Ave to the LMA, Fenway, and Kenmore Square

Center Running Bus Lanes

Center running bus lanes operate in the middle of a roadway in dedicated space away from general purpose travel lanes.



Key Highlights



Improves speed and reliability for transit riders



Accommodates higher volumes and frequencies of buses



Improves safety by reducing conflicts between buses and other travel modes



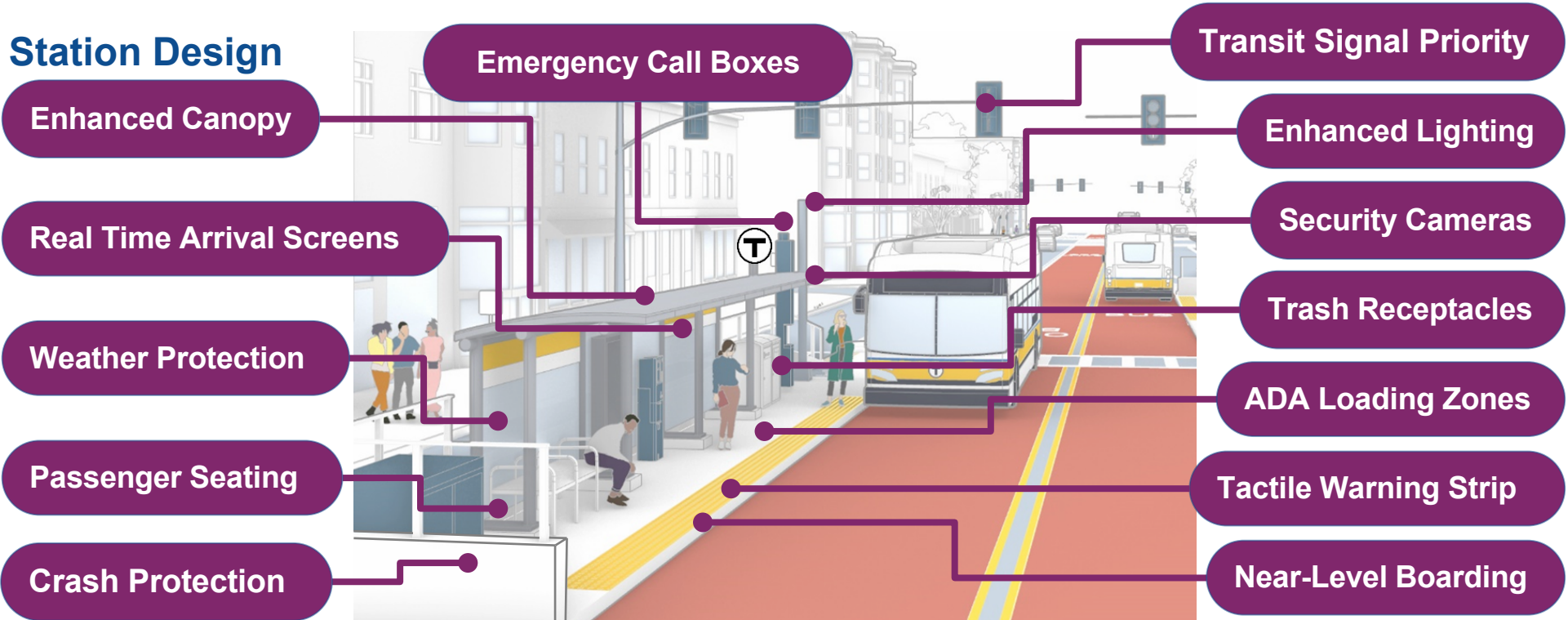
Enhances curbside access



Increases number of signaled crossings

Center Running Bus Platforms

Station Design



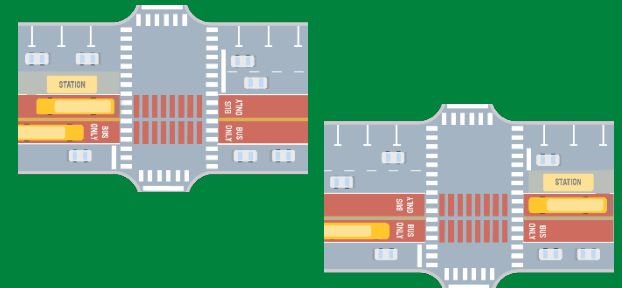
Station Location Considerations



Station Spacing



Proximity to Community Connections



Platform Far-Side or Near-Side

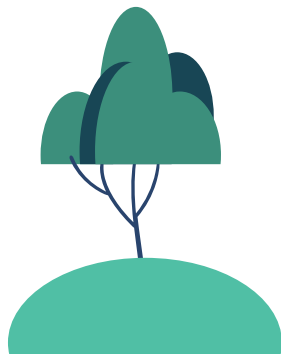
Green Infrastructure

We are committed to making every effort to preserve healthy, mature trees along Blue Hill Avenue in our design. We are also committed to expanding the overall tree canopy on Blue Hill Avenue.



Needs

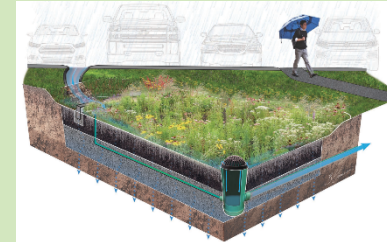
- Medians with mature trees in areas south of Harambee Park and near Grove Hall will be retained



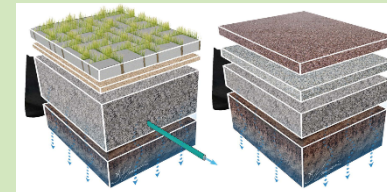
- Fill empty tree pits throughout the corridor
- Expand tree canopy

Green Infrastructure Tool Kit

The City and MBTA will identify opportunities to implement green infrastructure along Blue Hill Avenue.



Rain Gardens



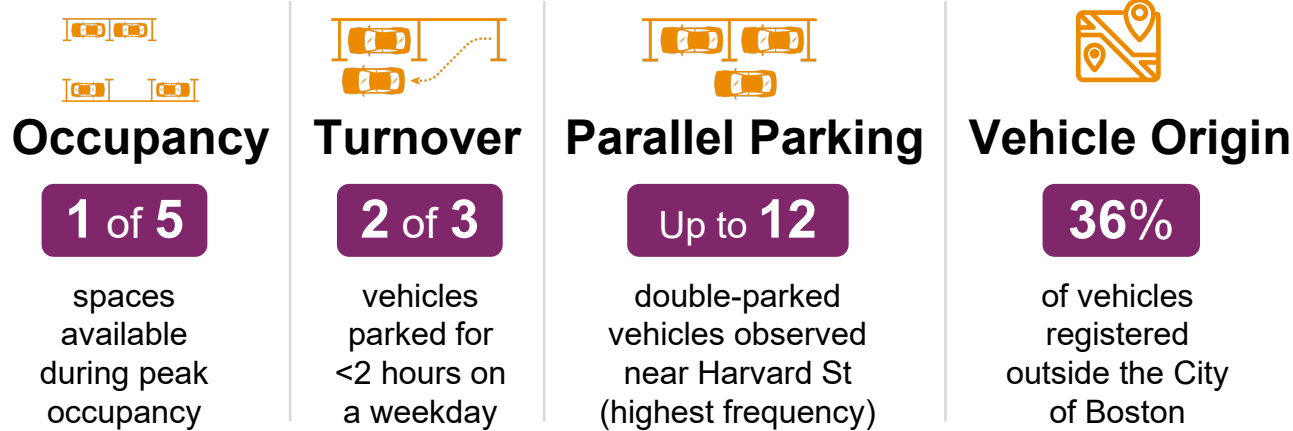
Porous Paving Materials



ROW Bioswale

Curbside Management

Parking Analysis Summary

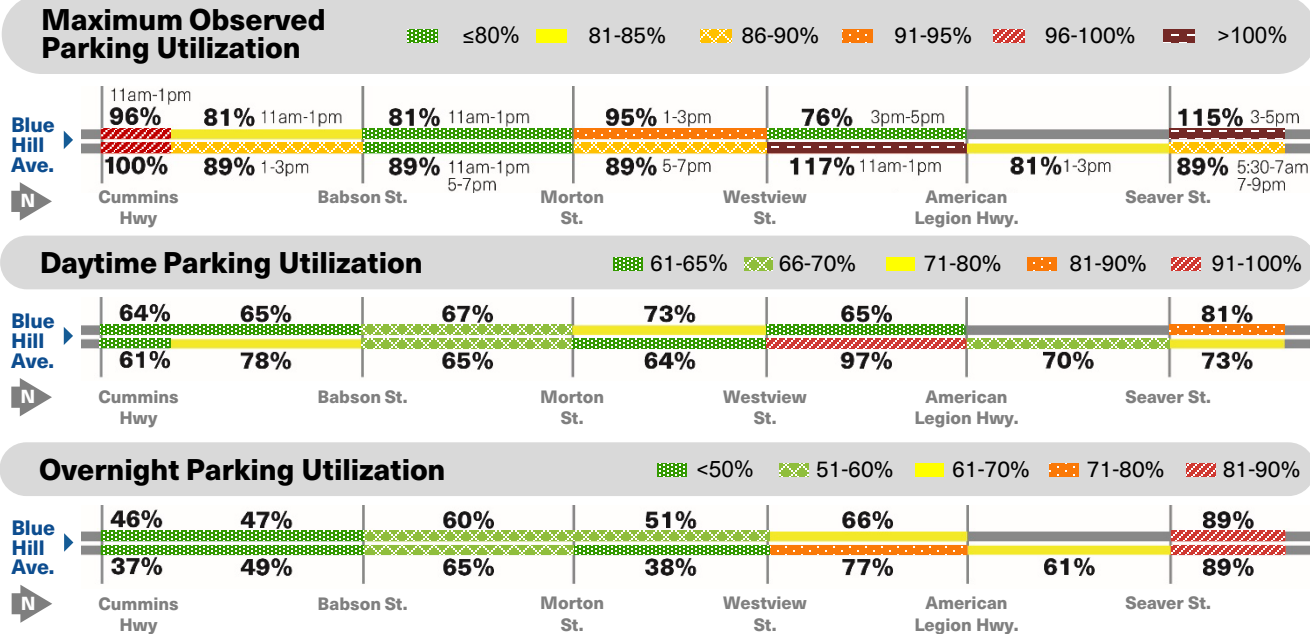


Curbside Change Toolkit

Pick Up/Drop Off Zones



Parking Space Utilization on Blue Hill Avenue



Longer Term Parking



Pedestrian Safety Toolkit



**Daylighting
Intersections**



**Improved
Crosswalks**



**Shorter
Crossings**



**Pedestrian
Crossing
Refuges**



**Tactile
Warning Strip**



**Improved
Accessibility**



**Repaired
Sidewalks**



**Increased
Shade**



Walkability

Short-Term Improvements

The City of Boston is making a series of short-term improvements to improve safety, accessibility, and resiliency on Blue Hill Avenue.



Refreshing crosswalks and pavement markings



Repaving damaged sections of roadway



Pothole maintenance



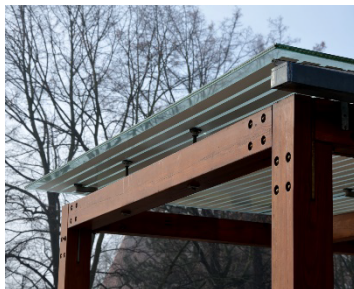
Sidewalk repairs



Reinstalling the RISE Gateway statue



Installing speed humps on neighborhood streets



Installing bus-shelter green roofs



Improving street lighting



Increased crossing times for pedestrians to reduce conflicts with vehicles

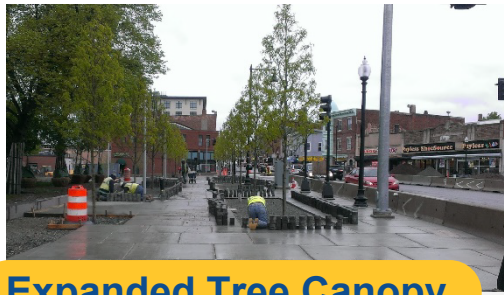
Public Realm

The Blue Hill Avenue Transportation Action Plan will explore potential opportunities to improve the public realm along Blue Hill Avenue. **Using the stickers provided, please place dots under each of the potential public realm items you would like to see built along Blue Hill Avenue.**



New Public Space

PLACE DOT HERE



Expanded Tree Canopy

PLACE DOT HERE



Expanded Sidewalks

PLACE DOT HERE



Benches

PLACE DOT HERE



Public Art

PLACE DOT HERE

Let us know how you feel about the current public spaces along Blue Hill Avenue and what you would like to see in the future by emailing betterbusproject@mbta.com and/or bluehillave@boston.gov

Help Us Shape the Project

Public comments provided during the development of the Blue Hill Avenue Transportation Action Plan helped shape the overall vision for Blue Hill Avenue. **The Blue Hill Avenue Multimodal Corridor Project will build upon prior public feedback to develop a project that aligns with action plan goals, values, and recommendations.**

Share
Your Ideas:

 www.mbta.com/bluehillave



Scan the QR code to
visit our website!

How Can I Participate in the Project?



Share your ideas

Provide comments tonight or submit online.



Contact us

Reach out with questions or comments about the project:
betterbusproject@mbta.com
bluehillave@boston.gov



Learn more

Visit the project webpage to stay informed on the latest and greatest project information.



Subscribe to the email list

Visit the City's Blue Hill Avenue Transportation Action Plan website:
www.boston.gov/bluehillave



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Attend a future event

Visit the project webpage to view upcoming participation opportunities.