

# River St./Western Ave. Bridge Reconstruction

## public meeting

MA Dept. of Transportaion (MassDOT)  
Wednesday, February 3, 2010 @ 6 p.m.  
Allston-Honan Library, 300 N. Harvard St.

### Q: What's happening?

The River St and Western Ave Bridge over the Charles River are being reconstructed and MassDOT wants your input..

### Q: Why attend this meeting?

In addition to carrying motor vehicles, the bridge also need to serve bicyclists, transit riders and pedestrians. These bridges will not be reconstructed again for over 50 years, so getting it right is important.

### Q: What are the options?

Improving conditions for bicycling and walking is a must. Status quo is not acceptable. The public must insist that space be reallocated to allow room for bicycle lanes and wider sidewalks.

### Q: What else needs to be addressed?

The intersections at the bridge approaches need to be addressed as part of this redesign, particularly on the Boston side. Also, MassDOT should explore having the Charles River Paths go under the bridges in addition to crossing them at grade.

**Be sure to thank MassDOT for taking the time to consider your input and considering these suggestions to make our cities healthier, safer, and better connected.**

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**LivableStreets** Rethinking urban transportation

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Citizen Information Handout prepared by  
LivableStreets Alliance, 70 Pacific St., Cambridge MA 02139  
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**MORE DETAILS >>**

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# Key Points

to make at the meeting

**Improving conditions for bicycling, walking and transit is a must. Encourage these and auto tie-ups will lessen. The status quo is not acceptable. The public must insist that space be reallocated to allow room for bicycle lanes and wider sidewalks. The city needs "Complete Streets" that are accessible for all users.**

## **Make safety and traffic flow improvements**

- Create eastbound bike lane on River St. Bridge
- Create westbound bike lane on Western Ave. Bridge
- Change WALK signals to concurrent with LPI so pedestrians have advanced green before drivers make right hand turn.
- consider bus queue jump lanes and/or signal prioritization

## **Simplify Mass Pike off-ramp/Soldiers Field Rd area**

- Widen sidewalks, add crosswalks and ped signals
- Create solid and dashed bicycle lanes on Cambridge St. through the intersection to River St Bridge
- Clarify lane configurations, add striping, and retime signals to work better for all users
- Add crosswalks and signage across all Mass Pike on/off-ramps.

## **Improve Charles River path access**

- Restripe crosswalks, adjust ped signals as needed
- Add crosswalk and pedestrian signal at River St Bridge/Boston path crossing
- Create bicycle connection from eastbound Western Ave. to Charles River Paths

**Thank MassDOT for listening and considering these key suggestions to make Boston a more connected, livable city.**

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**COME EXPRESS YOUR VIEWS!**

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