## **Tremont/Columbus Avenue PHASE 2 Bus Lanes Project**

# Better; Bus Project

## Why are we doing this?

The Columbus Avenue bus lane project has improved and aims to continue to improve transit times along some of our busiest bus routes. The bus lanes are being improved in two phases.

**Phase 1** was completed in October 2021. The MBTA and the City added center-running bus lanes and boarding platforms along Columbus Avenue, serving Routes 22, 29, and 44.

Phase 2 is in the concept design stage and will build upon Phase 1 by providing multimodal transportation and safety improvements on the 1-mile segment of Columbus Avenue and Tremont Street between Jackson Square Station and Ruggles Station. It will include improvements to bus stops and shelters, along with pedestrian and public realm improvements along Columbus Avenue and Tremont Street, and will serve Routes 15, 22, 23, 28, and 66, among others.

## A Collaborative Partnership Between the City of Boston and the MBTA

The MBTA and City of Boston, working together and with the community, have refined a draft concept design for the Tremont Columbus Phase 2 Bus Lanes project. The proposed concept would extend the existing center-running bus lanes on Columbus Avenue north from Jackson Square to Ruggles Station.

The design includes center platforms with shelters and real-time arrival information, redesigned circulation to reduce bus travel times throughout the corridor, improvements to pedestrian crossings, and added green infrastructure to make the area more welcoming for the residents, students and workers who live, study, and travel along the corridor.

While we have made significant progress analyzing and evaluating a variety of design alternatives, we are still seeking your feedback on some key elements.

Columbus Avenue is just one place where we are building new bus lanes. We're partnering with communities to develop more bus lanes to give riders faster, more reliable trips, and implement other transit priority features like queue jumps and signal priority.



#### PROPOSED SOUTHERN SEGMENT: BETWEEN JACKSON SQUARE AND CEDAR STREET

The new corridor improvements begin in the south at Jackson Square, with the following features:

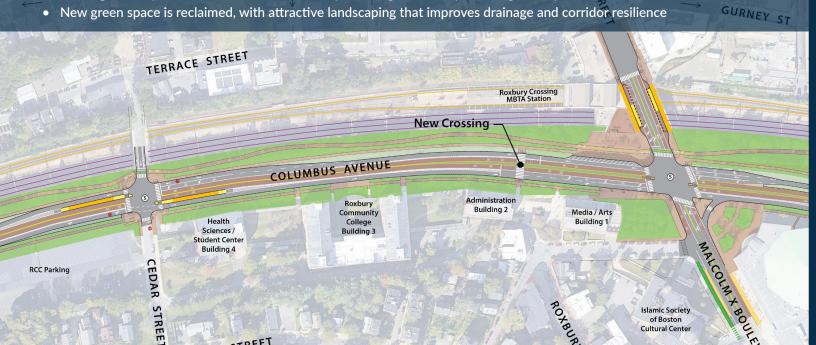
- ARKER STREET At Jackson Square, a reconfigured two-way busway provides faster, more direct connections through the station
- New bus lanes begin north of the busway intersection with Columbus Avenue
- Pedestrian crossings of Columbus Avenue at Heath Street are shortened, and the Southwest Corridor path crossing at Heath Street is enhanced
- Opportunities for green infrastructure along Columbus St north of Heath St are created



#### PROPOSED CENTER SEGMENT: BETWEEN CEDAR STREET AND ROXBURY CROSSING

In the center segment, dedicated bus lanes and new green space provide an improved corridor past critical neighborhood institutions that include Roxbury Community College, the Reggie Lewis Center, and Madison Park High School. Cedar St. becomes a one-way, eastbound street:

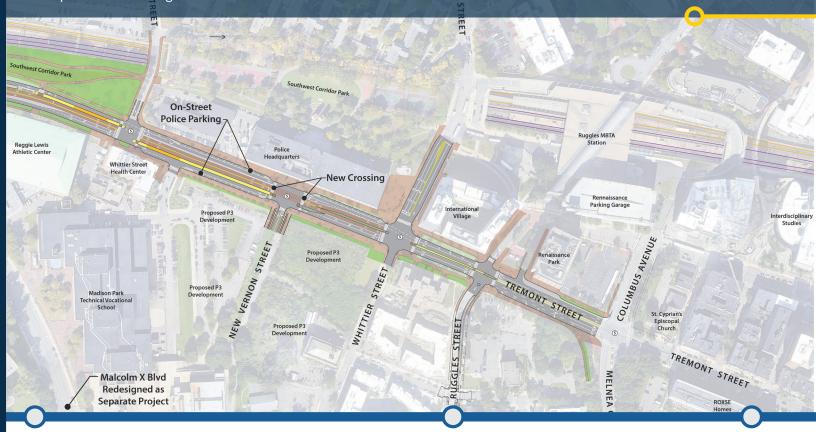
- At the Columbus Avenue/Cedar Street intersection, center median bus platforms provide amenities that include high-quality shelters, video display with real-time traveler information, benches, lighting, and other amenities
- Pedestrian and bicycle access are enhanced all around the Roxbury Crossing Station with an improved Southwest Corridor path crossing and a new crosswalk across Columbus Avenue just south of the intersection to provide a more direct walking route to the RCC campus
- Dedicated bus lanes provide faster, uncongested connections through this critical intersection
- Existing bus stops on Tremont Street at Roxbury Crossing at Roxbury Crossing are improved
- New green space is reclaimed, with attractive landscaping that improves drainage and corridor resilience



#### PROPOSED NORTHERN SEGMENT: BETWEEN ROXBURY CROSSING AND MELNEA CASS BOULEVARD

The proposed corridor improvements continue northward, with bus lanes, multimodal improvements, and enhanced green space to Ruggles Station.

- A new pedestrian crossing provides improved access in the long block between Roxbury Crossing and Prentiss Street
- Prentiss Street becomes one-way leading away from the corridor, and a pair of bus platforms provide transit access for the Whittier Street Health Center and the Boston Police Headquarters
- Center median bus lanes provide fast, uncongested access to Ruggles Station, and facilitate the retention of curbside parking
- A new intersection is created at Vernon Street (as part of the Parcel 3 development) with enhanced landscaping and a new pedestrian crossing

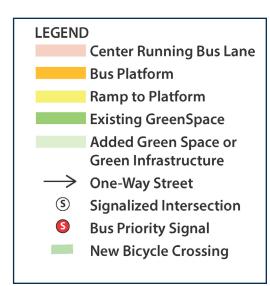


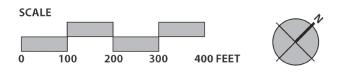
#### **OVERVIEW**

The Tremont/Columbus Avenue Phase 2 Bus Lanes project proposes to reconfigure Columbus Avenue and Tremont Street between Jackson Square and Ruggles Station as a people-focused corridor with faster and more reliable bus service, better rider accommodations, safer access for all travelers, especially pedestrians and bicyclists, and green space and public realm enhancements to create an improved public realm.

There are a number of proposed changes as part of this concept:

- Traffic calming measures are included, allowing more space for green infrastructure and the public realm
- Pedestrian crosswalks are shortened and crossings for the Southwest Corridor path are improved
- Dedicated lanes provide fast bus service and new bus platforms provide high-quality rider amenities







### What's Next?

To help refine the concept, we are looking for feedback from those who live, work, learn, and travel in the corridor.

Your thoughts, opinions, and feedback will be used to inform the design and additional meetings and events will be held to share project updates. Visit the project website to learn more about these upcoming events.

## We Want to Hear From You!



Fill out our online feedback form: mbta.com/TremontColumbusFeedback



Visit the project website: <a href="mbta.com/tremontcolumbus">mbta.com/tremontcolumbus</a>
Learn more about the project and sign up for email updates.





Have more questions?

Email us at betterbusproject@MBTA.com



