



INVESTING IN BLUE HILL AVENUE

Design Updates 2026



CITY OF BOSTON

- Project Background
- Design Updates & Examples
- Getting the Details Right
- Timeline and Next Steps
- Discussion and Q&A

Mayor Michelle Wu



Investment In Blue Hill Ave Communities



B



**Grove Hall
Community Center**
\$65M budgeted

**Fare Free Bus
Program**
Free service on routes
23, 28, 29



Cummins Highway
\$32M invested

Fairlawn Apartments
\$10M invested
347 families stabilized



Harambee Park
\$13.8M investment

**Madison Park High
School**
\$719M commitment



**Fairmount Line
Electrification**
\$835M over 15 years

**SPACE Grants/Small
Business**
\$1.55M in aid
48 businesses and
institutions supported



Interim Secretary & General Manager Eng



Design Updates



From A Bus Lane to a Boulevard



6 Miles of Rebuilt New Sidewalks

Nearly 200 New Street Trees

New Sidewalk-Level Bike Path to Franklin Park

All New Street Lights

More Parking Spaces than Today

Restored General Travel Lanes

Fully Reconstructed Road

Bus Lanes that Benefit 40,000 Riders



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We are ensuring that 75% of the corridor will have at least two travel lanes in each direction, to provide enough room for those travelling by car.



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We heard that you want more fast, reliable transit access.

We are retaining the center-running bus lanes, which will greatly improve bus service, with route 28 trips from Mattapan to Grove Hall reducing by 10-15 minutes.

Center-Running Bus Lanes Add Parking

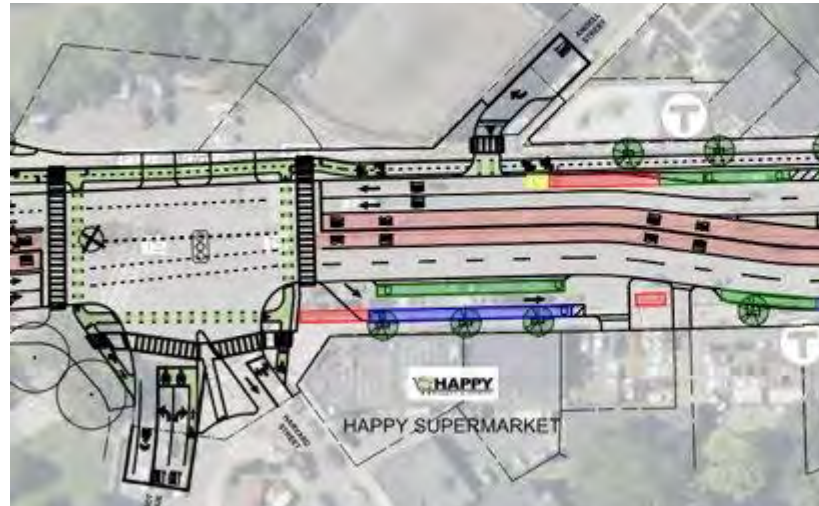


Center-running bus lanes were selected based on improvements to parking, accessibility, and transit

- **Adds parking** - moving buses to the center allows former bus stops to be reused as curbside parking
- **Reduces conflicts at the curb** - keeps buses away from parking and loading activities
- **Faster, more reliable service for 40,000 riders on 10 different routes**- including better priority for left-turning bus routes
- **Improves safety and accessibility** by ensuring buses are able to pull adjacent to curb



Side-running concept required **removing nearly all of the existing parking** from area near Harvard St-Talbot Ave



Updated center-running design **creates net +5 parking spaces** for the area near Harvard St-Talbot Ave

Ideas for Blue Hill Avenue



“Enhanced Existing Conditions”

- Address roadway conditions and state of good repair
- Doesn't address major safety or accessibility issues
- Limited options for funding

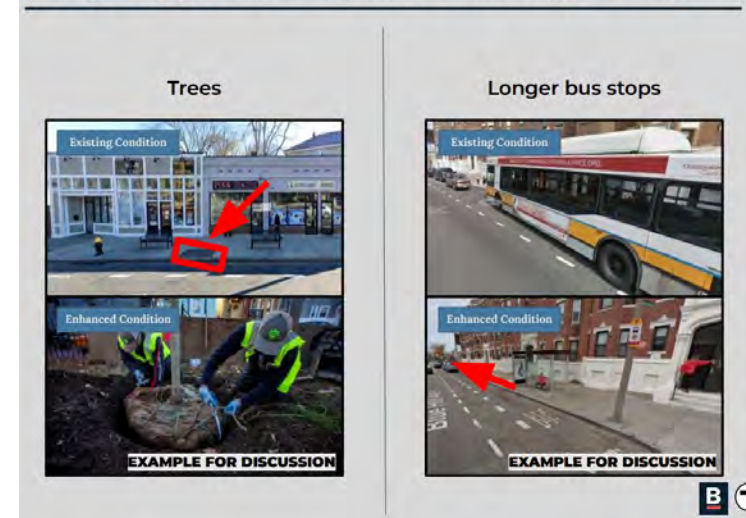
Side-Running Bus Lanes

- Moderate improvements to transit delay
- Major impacts to curb access
- Major parking loss, doesn't address double parking, safety or accessibility

Potential Future Rail on Blue Hill Ave

- Not in conflict with near-term bus improvements
- Will require planning and engineering before implementation is possible

Design Approach: Enhanced Existing Conditions



Examples of “Enhanced Existing Conditions” improvements considered as an alternative in 2023 but did not move forward

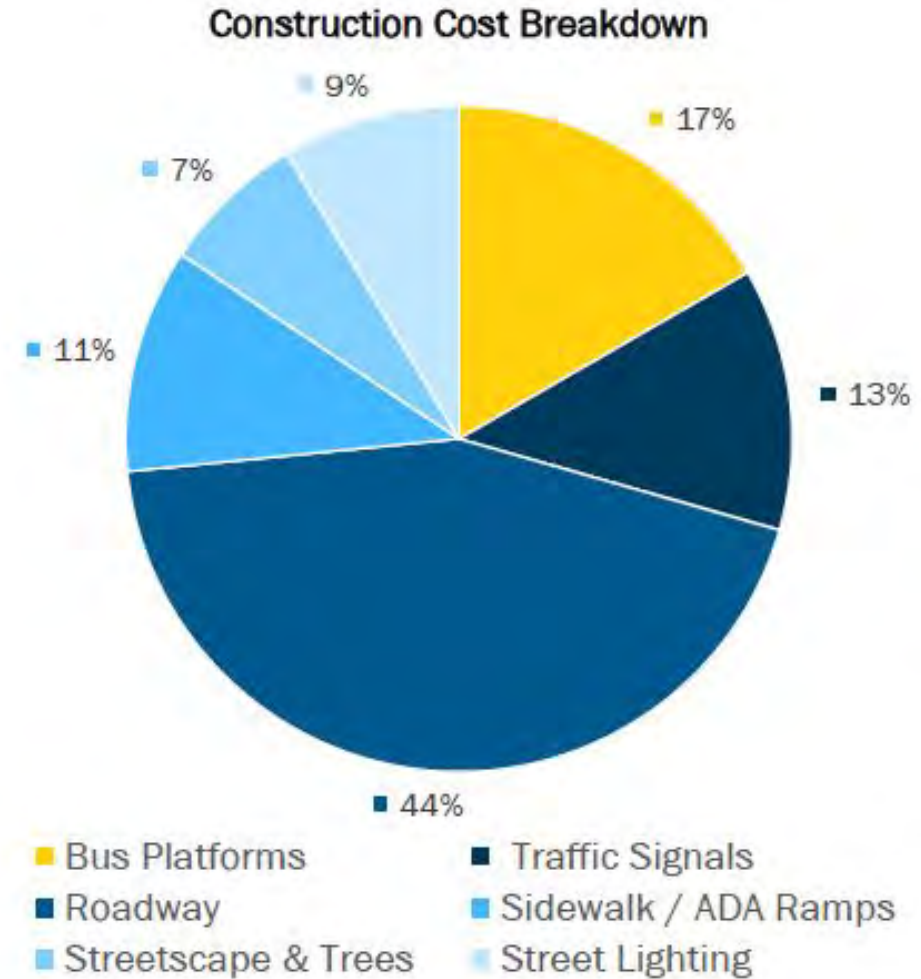


Side-running concept considered as an alternative in 2019-20 but did not move forward

Generational Investment

Today's Funding Plan for Blue Hill Avenue

Roadway	\$59 million
Traffic Signals	\$17 million
Sidewalk / ADA Ramps	\$15 million
Street Lighting	\$12 million
Streetscape & Trees	\$9 million
Bus Platforms	\$22 million



Local Examples



Mattapan Square (existing)



3 travel lanes across
50-ft of pavement
adjacent to vibrant
business and cultural
district

Buses often block traffic,
and 2,500 daily bus
boardings in Mattapan
Square cause sidewalk
congestion

Older street lighting

Poor sidewalk and
roadway condition



Mattapan Square (proposed)



Two travel lanes and angled parking in each direction

Rebuilt sidewalk and roadway

Refuge and new stations for bus riders to safely wait for the bus



New streetlights to increase safety and pedestrian comfort

Buses in center of the road, not blocking traffic

Morning Star Baptist Church (existing)



U-turn opportunity at
Clarkwood Street

Wide median with event
parking

Limited tree coverage

Buses in center of the
road, not blocking traffic

Wide crossing on one-way
street

Long 110-ft unsignalized
crosswalk with no refuge

Morning Star Baptist Church (proposed)



Median area
repurposed for bus
lanes

U-turns shifted to
Wellington Hill St

Two northbound travel
lanes approaching
Morton St

200 trees added
throughout project area

Shorter, raised crosswalk

Crossing reduced from
110- to 70-ft with refuge
island and traffic signal

Bus shifted to center,
increasing curbside
parking



Morning Star Baptist Church (proposed Sunday)



Median provides 37
additional parking spaces
on Sundays

Shorter, raised crosswalk



Crossing reduced from
110- to 70-ft with refuge
island and traffic signal

Bus shifted to center,
increasing curbside
parking

Happy Supermarket (existing)



Bike lane is often blocked

High ridership bus stop often blocked by double-parked cars

Bus shifted to center, increasing curbside parking

Triple parking reduces northbound Blue Hill Ave to one lane and makes turning maneuvers unsafe

Happy Supermarket (proposed)



Carriageway provides increased parking without interrupting traffic flow through center lane

Parking regulations to encourage frequent turnover for local businesses

Buses and bus stop not blocked by double parking

Expanded pedestrian plaza area and shorter crosswalk

Bike lane shifted to west side and at sidewalk level

Grove Hall (existing)



Larger tree median
north of Castlegate St

Expanded pedestrian
plaza area and shorter
crosswalk

Grove Hall (proposed)



Shifting buses to the center lane opens curbside for parking and increased tree coverage

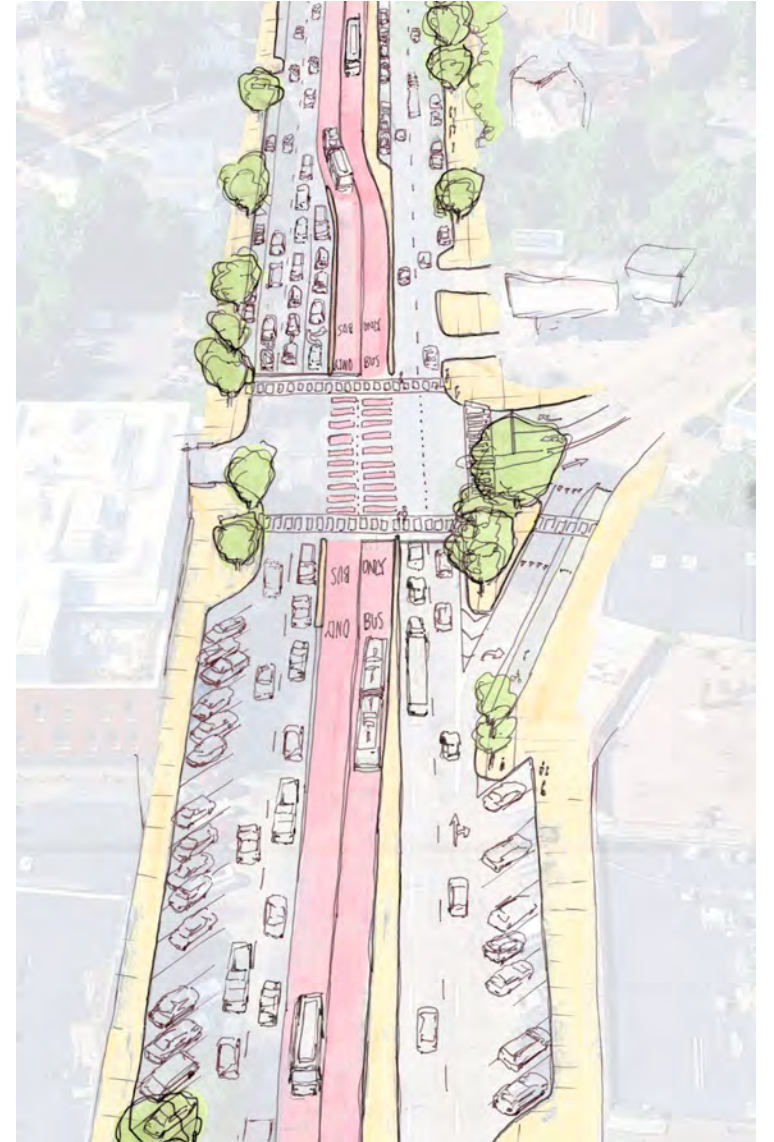
Tree median is retained north of Castlegate Rd

“Flex space” between parking and travel lane for safe school pick-up and drop-off

Getting the Details Right: Design



- **Parking Regulations**
- **Traffic Flow**
- **Bus Stop Design**
- **Crosswalk Details**
- **Streetscape Improvements**
- **Bike Network Design**
- **Neighborhood Investments**



- **Streamlined Communication**
- **Customer Access & Parking**
- **Construction Management**
- **Local Commerce Campaigns**
- **Access to Support & Resources**
- **Actions Before, During & After Construction**



Upcoming Public Meetings



Town Hall in Mattapan

Date: Thursday, September 10, 6:30 PM

Location: Morning Star Baptist Church

Open House in Dorchester

Date: Monday, September 14, 6:00-7:30 PM

Location: BCYF Perkins Community Center

Open House in Mattapan

Date: Tuesday, September 22, 6:00-7:30 PM

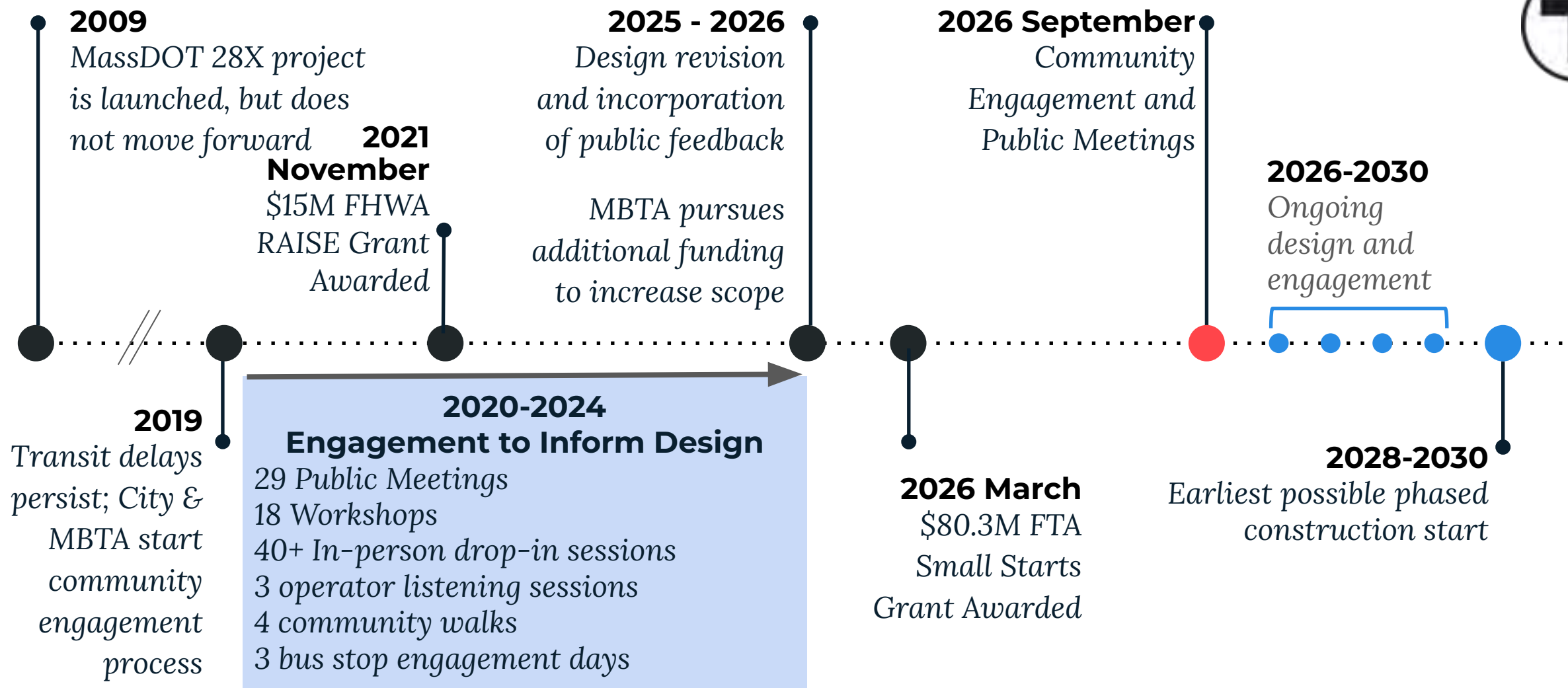
Location: Mattapan Branch Library

Town Hall in Dorchester

Date: Wednesday, September 30, 6:30 PM

Location: Albert D. Holland School of Technology

From Bus Priority to Full Boulevard Investment



- Ground Rules for Q&A
- 1 Minute Per Person
- Project Page:
[MBTA.com/BlueHillAve](https://www.mbta.com/BlueHillAve)



Scan the QR code above to fill out our
online feedback form or visit:

[MBTA.com/BlueHillAveSurvey](https://www.mbta.com/BlueHillAveSurvey)

¡Gracias!
Mèsi!
Obrigada!
Thank You!

