

To: Public Disclosure  
From: Engineering Division, Public Works Department  
Date: June 16, 2021  
Subject: Cummins Highway Phase II Temporary Trial Survey Comment Distribution

---

The purpose of this memo is to summarize the public feedback that we received on the Cummins Highway Reconstruction Project – Temporary Lane Reduction Trial that began on July 24, 2020. Feedback was received via an online survey (SurveyMonkey), emails to Public Works staff, and the City of Boston Constituent Relationship Management (CRM) system – a.k.a. 311 calls.

The survey comments below reflect responses submitted for Phase 2 improvements, between November 11, 2020 and March 11, 2021.

### **TRAFFIC ON SIDE STREET COMMENTS – PHASE 2**

1. *Additionally residents in the neighborhood get no prior warning that sections of Cummins may be closed until you enter the road. Other communities post alternate route signs further inside neighborhoods.*  
- Trial Survey Comments, 11/22/2020
2. *As you know, my parents live off of Cummins Hwy on Favre Street in Mattapan. Yesterday, my father let me know that there is a serious issue of trucks coming down Favre Street, beginning as early as 5 am in the morning. The access management of vehicles traveling and parking on the side streets seems to have increased. Can this activity be monitored?*  
- Trial Survey Comments, 12/14/2020
3. *Thank you for you respond also I am glad to see the work that is being done on Cummins Hgwy but there seem to be problems arising for Stonecrest Road. Examples: More cars & trucks cutting through, (it take longer to get in & out of your own driveway, everybody is in a hurry). Peoples are driving much to fast Group of motor cyclers cutting through late night Please be mindful when school start back, all buses and delivery trucks cutting through. If possible please help out with speed bumps, your help will be grately appreciated.*  
-Trial Survey Comments, 12/9/2020

### **RESPONSE**

The utility work being performed by National Grid (and their contractor Feeney Bros.) along with construction of the permanent improvements to Cummins Highway will create the need for short-term traffic detours at specific locations. Although the City of Boston works to minimize disturbances caused by our construction work, we understand and apologize for any inconveniences this may cause. Prior to construction on Cummins Highway, we will notify the neighborhood at least 2 weeks in advance. For the



### **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Boston City Hall • 1 City Hall Sq Rm 714 • Boston MA 02201-2024  
The Office of the Streets, Transportation, and Sanitation  
Phone (617) 635-2854 • Fax (617) 635-7499

duration of the construction, we ask that you please have patience with us as we work to implement these much needed safety improvements along this corridor. Once complete, the improvements to Cummins Highway will improve access for all modes of travel along Cummins Highway thereby reducing the amount of cut-thru traffic. Please note, although construction related detours are sometimes unavoidable, they will only be used during daytime hours.

## **ENTERING / EXITING CUMMINS HIGHWAY COMMENTS – PHASE 2**

1. *Coming from a side street you can't even turn onto Cummins. And the traffic is much worse.*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/5/2021
2. *It is extremely difficult for drivers to turn onto the road in either direction (East or West)*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 1/13/2021
3. *Vehicles park on either side of his driveway making it difficult to see as well as maneuver to get out onto Cummins*  
- Virtual Office Hour Comments, 3/17/2021
4. *Expressed that it is difficult to turn on and off of Seminole Street. Stated that there is rarely a break in traffic during peak hours and drivers rarely allow you to pass. It is even more difficult trying to turn left off of Seminole Street to travel westbound on Cummins Highway. The offset parking causes visibility issues.*  
- Virtual Office Hour Comments, 3/31/2021

## **RESPONSE**

As part of the Phase 2 pilot improvements, to address residents' concerns regarding entering and exiting side streets, pavement markings and flex posts were placed to restrict vehicles from parking too close to side streets to allow better visibility of oncoming traffic. In the permanent design, removing the center median island and eliminating the flex posts entirely will create even better visibility. We understand that since traffic has been consolidated to one lane, during peak hours the flow of traffic may sometimes remain steady. The intent of the final design will be to allow traffic to flow efficiently but slower. With the permanent improvements constructed, overall vehicle speeds will be slower creating a safer and more comfortable ride along Cummins Highway. What we're seeing with these temporary improvements is that some aggressive drivers try to bypass the temporary traffic configuration with errant behaviors. We've been in contact with the BPD to encourage and not enforce drivers to travel more safely. Unfortunately, until the final design is constructed, where the road geometry and traffic calming elements will require drivers to travel more slowly and safely, we may continue to see errant driver behavior. For more information regarding the Phase 2 pilot, please view the [Temporary Redesign of Cummins Highway Storymap](#).



### **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Boston City Hall • 1 City Hall Sq Rm 714 • Boston MA 02201-2024  
The Office of the Streets, Transportation, and Sanitation  
Phone (617) 635-2854 • Fax (617) 635-7499

**POST PANDEMIC / TRAFFIC CONGESTION COMMENTS – PHASE 2**

1. *Even with the reduced traffic due to Covid, the congestion along the corridor is still notable.*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/9/2021
2. *I am concerned about the time when everyone gets back to normal and back to work what is going to happen with the traffic then it takes 15 minutes now to get all the way to 128 what will it look like with more cars and traffic*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 2/22/2021
3. *The major point is that this is all being done during a pandemic when less people are commuting. What happens when Boston public schools open and the amount of school buses, people commuting to work and pedestrians increase. The problem will only become bigger*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 1/4/2021
4. *What will it be like after Covid-19, when people are driving to work, school buses on the road?*  
- Trial Survey Comments 11/20/2020
5. *As a homeowner who lives off of Cummins Highway in Mattapan, I have experienced what traffic was like on a “regular” weekday afternoon pre covid. I have also seen the evolution of what the traffic has been like during this pandemic through the different phases of the bike lane and single driving lane. If this is what traffic is like now, I can only imagine what will happen when things are back to “normal” and there are more vehicles on the road.*  
- Trial Survey Comments 12/15/2020

**RESPONSE**

Over recent months, traffic volumes throughout the city have started to increase as pandemic restrictions are lifted and as people have returned to pre-covid work/school patterns. We will continue to collect data and monitor traffic volumes as the travel volumes change over time. The final design includes improvements to various intersections that include adding turn lanes and updating signal timing and phasing that we believe will improve overall traffic conditions and safety for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers. Also, please note that the initial data we analyzed and modeled for Cummins Highway was taken pre-Covid. We understand residents’ concerns and continue to collect additional data, as recent as May ’21 and June ’21. This data is not yet available but for more information regarding our previous data please click on the following link: [Cummins Data Collection Overview and Findings.](#)

**TRAFFIC CONGESTION COMMENTS – PHASE 2**

1. *cars get backed up all the time due to turning vehicles onto side streets having to wait longer and due to buses- as there’s only one lane now in each direction*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 1/13/2021



**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Boston City Hall • 1 City Hall Sq Rm 714 • Boston MA 02201-2024  
The Office of the Streets, Transportation, and Sanitation  
Phone (617) 635-2854 • Fax (617) 635-7499

2. Resident expressed his opposition to the Cummins Highway redesign and cited traffic congestion issues he's observed. discussed how the pilot is not an accurate representation of the final design however, Resident did not agree that the traffic volumes on Cummins Highway could not efficiently flow through the corridor.  
- Virtual Office Hour Comments, 3/31/2020
3. The congestion on Cummins Highway (the entire corridor of the trial) is outrageous.  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 1/13/2021

## RESPONSE

In response to several complaints we've received regarding the congestion along Cummins Highway, we had the Boston Transportation Department Traffic Management Division take another look at the traffic signals along the corridor. What they found was that the traffic signals between Wood Avenue and Fairway Street were not functioning to provide the most efficient traffic flow. The major goal of this project is to improve safety for all users on Cummins Highway, however, we want to maintain efficient traffic flow throughout the corridor. As of May 12<sup>th</sup>, the Transportation Department repaired two traffic signals that were not working properly on Cummins Highway at the intersections with Rockdale Road and Itasca Street. BTM Traffic Management also made modifications to the traffic signal timing and phasing for all the traffic signals within the pilot, to improve traffic flow. With the removal of the center median in the final design, we will further see a reduction in vehicle speeds and an improvement in traffic flow with the addition of left-turn lanes throughout the corridor. With this pilot, we're unfortunately unable to see all the major benefits of this design as the pilot it is not a 100% accurate representation of the final design.

## EMERGENCY VEHICLE COMMENTS – PHASE 2

1. Right now, if an emergency vehicle had to get by, they would be stuck in traffic or take another route which could slow down their response time. If an emergency is on the street and cars are parked, they will be forced to stop unsafely and potentially bottle neck traffic.  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/9/2021
2. How will emergency vehicles or a disabled vehicle issues be addressed along a road with no options.  
- Trial Survey Comments, 11//2020
3. The second issue pertains to the white bicycle posts that have been placed along a significant stretch (both sides) of roadway along Cummings Highway. I think there is a very serious public safety issue involved which needs to be addressed as soon as possible. The posts only allow for one lane of traffic in either direction. They are spaced so closely together, that there is absolutely no room if an emergency vehicle (fire truck, ambulance, police car) had to get by the traffic. The cars have no where to pull over.  
- Trial Survey Comments, 12/10/2020



### PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Boston City Hall • 1 City Hall Sq Rm 714 • Boston MA 02201-2024  
The Office of the Streets, Transportation, and Sanitation  
Phone (617) 635-2854 • Fax (617) 635-7499

4. Ever since the reconstruction was done on Cummins Highway, traffic is back up, it has brought Cummins Highway down to one lane which makes it impossible for vehicles to pull to the right for emergency vehicles because that lane is now a parking spot.  
- Trial Survey Comments, 4/3/2021

## **RESPONSE**

The final design will remove the center median island making it easier for emergency vehicles to travel through traffic along Cummins Highway. As removal of the center median requires major construction, due to the existing street lighting infrastructure, we're unable to provide this additional access for emergency vehicles and other drivers during the pilot.

## **PARKING COMMENTS – PHASE 2**

1. My neighbors who live on Cummins highway are more afraid of leaving their cars parked on the street every night.  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/5/2021
2. I don't think anyone considered the visual acuity of driving in a more confined space. It changes everything. To have cars parked in what is typically a driving lane obstructs your view of pedestrians. You don't know when someone is going to open a car door.  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/5/2021
3. when turning most cars have difficulty making turns because the street is too narrow and because cars are parked to the edge of the corner  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 2/24/2021
4. The city did clean the bike lanes but the barriers in place don't allow enough space for a vehicle to park close enough to the sidewalk to avoid being in the street.  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 1/4/2021
5. Apartment complex next door (Soma) only allows for one car on property so many park on street here all the time  
- Virtual Office Hour Comments, 3/17/2021
6. Friends of resident afraid to park on Cummins as they feel they are parking in the middle of the street, cars still go by fast, feel like they might get hit  
- Virtual Office Hour Comments, 3/17/2021
7. The parking spaces for vehicles are not wide enough. But this will get fixed once the median is removed?  
- Trial Survey Comments, 12/7/2020



## **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Boston City Hall • 1 City Hall Sq Rm 714 • Boston MA 02201-2024  
The Office of the Streets, Transportation, and Sanitation  
Phone (617) 635-2854 • Fax (617) 635-7499

## **RESPONSE**

No parking was removed during the duration of this trial. The parking space was moved away from the curb to create a protected space for cycling and walking. This space provides safe connectivity to green spaces such as the Neponset River Trail and Franklin Park. Parking counts taken before the temporary trial and most recently on April 15, 2021 have shown that only about 25-30% of the available parking spaces along Cummins Highway are used throughout the entire day. We understand that residents have concerns regarding the new temporary location of the parking, but we ask that you please have patience with us as we're trying to provide safety improvements for all modes of transportation on Cummins Highway. In the final design, parking is proposed to return curbside and will be widened to 8 FT from the current 7 FT, but in the meantime, please view the following videos to learn more about parking next to [Parking-Protected Bike Lanes](#) and how to safely [Get In & Out of Your Car](#). The temporary trial also includes wider travel lanes than existed prior to the trial to avoid conflicts between open doors and passing vehicles. The parallel parking configuration on Cummins Highway is similar to many other streets within the City of Boston and with slower vehicle speeds expected upon completion of the final design, parking will be easier to access.

## **BIKE LANE COMMENTS – PHASE 2**

1. *The amount of people from the mattapan community who use bikes as a primary method of transport is tiny.*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/5/2021
2. *Why are we prioritizing bike lanes if it's not the primary method of transport in Boston?*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/5/2021
3. *The bike lane experiment is a FAIL!! I've, LITERALLY, seen NOBODY use it since it's inception, and I travel Cummins on a daily basis because I live on Rexford St., right off of Cummins.*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/5/2021
4. *The bike line has been blocked by cars and construction vehicles*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 1/4/2021
5. *No one uses the bike lane (especially in the winter)*  
- Virtual Office Hour Comments, 3/17/2021
6. *Resident expressed his opposition to the installation of bike lanes/cycle tracks/bicycle accommodations in neighborhoods such as Cummins Highway/Mattapan. Resident cited that he is familiar with transportation planning but did not approve of the City's transportation initiatives. Resident stated that he has not seen people riding bikes on Cummins Highway.*  
- Virtual Office Hour Comments, 3/31/2021
7. *I have traveled that road every day for 30 years, I know that highway. I've never seen any bike riders!*



### **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Boston City Hall • 1 City Hall Sq Rm 714 • Boston MA 02201-2024  
The Office of the Streets, Transportation, and Sanitation  
Phone (617) 635-2854 • Fax (617) 635-7499



- Trial Survey Comments, 11/22/2020
- 8. *I think the paint job of the bike lanes and the safety barriers look very tacky in my neighborhood.*
  - Trial Survey Comments, 12/7/2020
- 9. *During this entire transition phase I have seen two people using the bike lane and it occurred on the same day.*
  - Trial Survey Comments, 12/15/2020
- 10. *I don't see these poles in other communities. And, as to bicycles, in the twenty-five years that I have been using that road, I have NEVER EVER SEEN ONE BICYCLIST!*
  - Trial Survey Comments, 12/10/2020
- 11. *Interestingly, in the eastbound side there was a lot of construction that I suspect would have made riding a bike in that direction quite difficult, but I didn't check to see whether there was any attempt to safely route the bike traffic around the construction. If not, it would be a good idea (i.e. close the parking in that stretch, and temporarily route the bike lane out into the parking spaces).*
  - Trial Survey Comments, 3/4/2021
- 12. *The bike lane was added is not being utilized which makes the bike lane inutile.*
  - Trial Survey Comments, 4/3/2021
- 13. *I am reaching out to ask that someone please survey the protective bike lane hardware that has been recently installed? From Hallowell Street on up to Mattapan Square, headed south the protective hardware was installed at the edge of the painted protective lines and not inside as it has been. This has caused several close calls because when the street opens up to two lanes again at certain points in the road it is difficult for two cars to pass at the same time without running over the hardware. This is the case on both sides of the road. I think this is something that should be looked at so I am sharing this with you.*
  - Trial Survey Comments, 4/5/2021

## **RESPONSE**

Before the trial (as noted in many comments) biking on Cummins Highway seemed unsafe due to the volume and speed of vehicles. For all design projects on major corridors, we always look for ways to improve mobility and safety for all modes of transportation. We look at our transportation network and the connectivity, and propose these improvements where they can be accommodated.

During the public meeting on February 27, 2020 concerns were raised about the preferred concept design in regards to traffic delays and congestion due to the lane reduction. We decided to try the concept by implementing a lane reduction trial. The temporary redesign that was installed also addresses issues of speeding and safety on the corridor to prevent deaths like that of the gentleman who was riding his bicycle in 2020 and was hit by a vehicle at the intersection of Cummins and Richmere Road. The parking protected



### **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Boston City Hall • 1 City Hall Sq Rm 714 • Boston MA 02201-2024  
The Office of the Streets, Transportation, and Sanitation  
Phone (617) 635-2854 • Fax (617) 635-7499

bike lanes create additional space for physical activity and better connections to open space and parks, connecting Franklin Park, via American Legion and Cummins to the Neponset River Trail. They also improve connectivity to food markets, such as the American Food Basket and Stop & Shop.

Throughout the pilot we will be working with PWD Operations and BTM Traffic Enforcement to ensure that the bike lanes remain free of debris and not blocked by illegally parked vehicles. We know that there continues to be issues with both of these matters, but we are currently working to resolve them. In the final design, safety will be further enhanced by creating a separate space for both bicyclists and pedestrians, elevated from the roadway. This strategy of creating separated / protected bike lanes is happening in neighborhoods throughout Boston and is the safest way to provide access for those who may walk or bike. In the City, providing a safe bicycle facility is not generally determined by the volume of cyclists but rather the responsibility we have as transportation officials to improve safety for everyone who uses the public right of way. In regard to Cummins Highway, we're only able to provide a safe bicycle facility as a result of the lane reductions to reduce speeds and improve safety. The proposal of bike lanes was not the catalyst for these proposed changes, but only as a result.

## **TRAFFIC BARRIER COMMENTS – PHASE 2**

1. *It's also scary with the barriers and fear of hitting them, being so tight and fear of side swiping a parked car.*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 12/18/2020
2. *Are the safety barriers we have installed now, permanent?*  
- Trial Survey Comments, 12/7/2020
3. *If flex posts are going to be made permanent, please consider allowing more room at intersections where turns are made.*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 1/4/2021

## **RESPONSE**

The orange and white water-filled barriers from the Phase 1 pilot have been removed and replaced with flex posts and pavement markings to improve visibility. The purpose of the flex posts is to provide sufficient separation between parked vehicles and cyclist in the bike lane. They're also used to provide daylighting at intersections, to prevent vehicles from parking too close to corners and limiting visibility. They also assist in slowing down traffic. That being said, the flex posts that have been installed on Cummins Highway are only temporary. They will not be needed in the final design, where other more aesthetically visual design elements will be used to slow down traffic and increase visibility. For more information on the temporary redesign and the final design, please take a look at our [Temporary Redesign of Cummins Highway Storymap](#).



### **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Boston City Hall • 1 City Hall Sq Rm 714 • Boston MA 02201-2024  
The Office of the Streets, Transportation, and Sanitation  
Phone (617) 635-2854 • Fax (617) 635-7499



## **SCHOOL BUS AND MBTA COMMENTS – PHASE 2**

1. *Cummins Highway has two funeral homes within a quarter of a mile from one another and on route to multiple cemeteries, never mind MBTA buses, school buses, delivery trucks, constant utility construction, funeral processions, etc.*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/5/2021
2. *School buses not in the mix currently will also make stops but if there are no plans to mitigate the reoccurring congestion there will be madness out there.*  
- Trial Survey Comments, 11/22/2020

## **RESPONSE**

As part of the Phase 1 and 2 pilots, we made sure to implement places for buses to pull out of traffic. The redesign provides space for bus drivers to pull over to the curb. People can get on or off buses safely and drivers can continue past MBTA buses. People biking can pause behind the bus or use the general travel lane to pass. However, in regard to BPS school buses, you must stop if a bus is stopped, no matter which lane you are in. State law requires that traffic in both directions stop and allow children to cross the street without conflict or delay. Traffic shall not start until the school bus red lights stop flashing. The effect that school bus operation has on traffic along Cummins Highway will remain the same with or without the proposed improvements to Cummins Highway. That being said, we are working with BPS to monitor school bus operations, and have included them in our initial analysis of the traffic along the corridor. More information can be found in the [Temporary Redesign of Cummins Highway Storymap](#).

## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COMMENTS – PHASE 2**

1. *We need the two lanes in each direction again!!! ALL RESIDENTS ARE COMPLAINING AT ALL NEIGHBORHOOD/COMMUNITY MEETINGS!!!*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 1/13/2021
2. *Resident also expressed that we need to do a better job at informing and keeping the community updated on our progress. Until resident received the mailings that went out last month, she was unaware if the project was moving forward or if the pilot was the final proposed improvements.*  
- Virtual Office Hour Comments, 3/31/2021
3. *Resident expressed that this project was not about equity and that these improvements are not for the current residents who live in Mattapan.*  
- Virtual Office Hour Comments, 3/31/2021
4. *Will there be additional meetings to discuss the design of the Mattapan side of Cummings Highway?*  
- Trial Survey Comments, 12/7/2020



### **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Boston City Hall • 1 City Hall Sq Rm 714 • Boston MA 02201-2024

The Office of the Streets, Transportation, and Sanitation

Phone (617) 635-2854 • Fax (617) 635-7499

5. As you heard, many directly-impacted residents - just like the majority with whom I have communicated - are disgruntled or outright upset about the proposal and pilot to reduce the lanes. Further, many feel as though the City/DPW decision-makers are not listening to them.  
- Trial Survey Comments, 3/24/2021

## **RESPONSE**

Although the Public Works Department has made an effort to reach out to the Mattapan community using our standard channels of notification, we understand that a large number of residents have not been aware of this community design process. Over the past year and a half, the City has held three “in-person” public meetings (April 11, 2019, October 29, 2019, and February 27, 2020), two outdoor Pop-Up presentations at the Mattapan Farmers Market (October 3, 2020 and October 10, 2020), sent out over 1000 direct mail flyers to residents along Cummins Highway and nearby side streets. Public Works currently maintains a web page dedicated to the Cummins Highway project at [boston.gov/cummins-highway](https://boston.gov/cummins-highway). On the website, we’ve provided links to online surveys for resident feedback and online videos explaining project process and design. The City will continue to reach out to residents through attendance at neighborhood association meetings, informational signs and flyers distributed along Cummins Highway, and other online and social media. That being said, Public Works along with the Transportation Department, are fully engaged in community outreach. Over the past few months our mailing list has grown to almost 4,000 addresses and we will be sending regular mail. We are currently hosting virtual office hours with the project team every other Wednesday from 3PM-7PM, and have a number of community engagement opportunities lined up for the summer & fall. If you would like to join our emailing list, please visit the Cummins Highway page at [boston.gov/cummins-highway](https://boston.gov/cummins-highway) to sign up or leave a comment at 617-635-4968.

## **TRASH PICKUP COMMENTS – PHASE 2**

1. I want to inquire about the plans to address the increasingly growing back ups and unexpected delays along Cummins Hwy. Friday at noon garbage collection occurred. Traffic on one side at Blake was backed up to Wood Ave as the truck made many stops. Are there plans to change collections hours to before 6am to avoid delays.  
- Trial Survey Comments, 11/22/2020

## **RESPONSE**

The City is working with the contractor that collects trash along Cummins Highway to encourage their drivers to pull over into the parking lane when possible, to allow traffic to pass without delay while trash is being collected. There will be instances along the corridor where parked vehicles make it impossible for the trash truck to pull out of the way. In the final design, the center median island will be removed which will provide more room for vehicles to pass around the trash truck, and the final design proposes a 3’ buffer, adjacent to the curb, that can be used to store bins on trash day.



### **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Boston City Hall • 1 City Hall Sq Rm 714 • Boston MA 02201-2024  
The Office of the Streets, Transportation, and Sanitation  
Phone (617) 635-2854 • Fax (617) 635-7499

**BPD COMMENTS – PHASE 2**

1. *This is the worst idea to deal with “speedy” drivers. I believe that’s the police job not for someone to try solve from their desk at work*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/5/2021
2. *Resident also stated that the speeding issue could be resolved with traffic enforcement from the BPD along Cummins Highway.*  
- Virtual Office Hour Comments, 3/31/2021

**RESPONSE**

The Boston Police Department does not have the capacity to dedicate officers to speed enforcement assignments in the City. Periodically residents do requests traffic enforcement from BPD at intersections to try to curb speeding. What studies have found is that people slow down temporarily and then speed back up when the police leave. In transportation, we’ve discovered that the only way to slow down drivers is to do it through design and curb geometric changes. Reducing the number of travel lanes on Cummins Highway is the only and best way to slow down drivers on this corridor.

**PEDESTRIAN COMMENTS – PHASE 2**

1. *The only think I wanted to ensure is that the project would include a cross walk with a stop button you can press at the corner of Cummings and Hollingsworth by the funeral home because for people driving towards Mattapan sq, they tend to drive so fast coming around the corner after the lights on the bridge and it’s very scary and dangerous. There are apts being constructed and a commuter rail station there so it’s very high traffic area for pedestrians at certain times of the day and the cars are going to fast.*  
- Trial Survey Comments, 4/4/2021

**RESPONSE**

The design team will evaluate if a crosswalk at the Hollingsworth / Cummins Highway intersection directly in front of the Cote Ford apartment development is appropriate.

**MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS – PHASE 2**

4. *My worry is that it’s more dangerous for drivers, pedestrians and bikers to maneuver the shared space.*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/9/2021



**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Boston City Hall • 1 City Hall Sq Rm 714 • Boston MA 02201-2024  
The Office of the Streets, Transportation, and Sanitation  
Phone (617) 635-2854 • Fax (617) 635-7499

5. *We need the old American Legion Highway back. There's not enough lanes for cars to travel and it cause a lot of traffic*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/7/2021
6. *I think spending money on this trail was a waste. During the winter storm more dangerous for the plows and the pylon are getting removed by the plowing and construction work being done and getting destroyed.*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/5/2021
7. *Why do vehicle owners tax payer money is being allocated to making their driving experience worst instead of better? There is nothing worst than taking longer to get home from work because of traffic, or having to go home a complete different way because of traffic on Cummins highway.*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/5/2021
8. *Those cones look absolutely horrible. I'd rather see resources go towards simple traffic enforcement.*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/5/2021
9. *One driving lane just isn't practical. Traffic is slowed with stop signs, lights and speed bumps.*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/5/2021
10. *I think the flex posts create a less appealing look for Cummins Highway. I think more greenery (trees, middle flower beds, electrical run underground, etc) it would give that main corridor a better look.*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 2/24/2021
11. *While I recognize the focus is on Cummins Highway traffic, light times for side streets (Itasca) are too long and should be adjusted.*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 2/23/2021
12. *You need to resurface the whole thing and prevent people from double parking.*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 2/22/2021
13. *Traffic conditions have become worse. Drivers are making unsafe choices on the road trying to avoid the traffic, especially at the traffic lights.*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 1/4/2021
14. *With the last snow storm the road was more narrow especially in areas that have cars parked along the road.*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 1/4/2021
15. *Winter plowing - Plows in the street used to just create one mound of snow in front of driveway, now there are two, one from the roadway plow and another from the bike lane plow*  
- Virtual Office Hour Comments, 3/17/2021



**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Boston City Hall • 1 City Hall Sq Rm 714 • Boston MA 02201-2024

The Office of the Streets, Transportation, and Sanitation

Phone (617) 635-2854 • Fax (617) 635-7499

16. Resident called in to request an update on the reconstruction of Weybosset Street, as this location is in PWD's queue for our reconstruction program. Has requested that we roll in improvements to Weybosset Street as part of Cummins Highway reconstruction.  
- Virtual Office Hour Comments, 3/31/2021
17. People turning off the highway slow traffic now  
- Trial Survey Comments, 11/17/2020
18. Please inform me of any traffic data collected during the study that has implications for this project.  
- Trial Survey Comments, 11/22/2020
19. This new plan has traffic backed-up, where there wasn't any. A driver may sit at two lights (Amer. Legion Hwy and Harvard), now its six. Even worse is trying to merge onto American Legion Highway. You literally have to put the nose of your vehicle out to get into the "single" lane.  
- Trial Survey Comments, 11/20/2020
20. Initially, when this project kicked off there were designs shared with the community regarding enhancing crosswalks as well. When the bike lanes were installed I thought that meant the project was moving forward. When you have a moment can you please clarify? What is the plan to repave the road or touch up the crosswalks? I know there is construction happening at the moment and winter is approaching when will the construction kick-off to beautify the street? Should I assume model 4 is the proposed design style? Can we get additional signs posted informing vehicles that they are approaching a crosswalk? Why can't we get the right lane to open up sooner than it does if you are driving from Mattapan trying to make a right on Wood Ave?  
- Trial Survey Comments, 12/7/2020
21. The traffic on Cummins highway going towards Roslindale can be backed up from Harvard St down to Itsaca st and beyond.  
- Trial Survey Comments, 12/15/2020
22. There are two issues that I would like to bring to his attention in hopes that with his imprimatur the appropriate city departments would take action. The first issue is a traffic light timing issue for the left hand turn signal directing traffic onto Cummings Highway from Blue Hill Avenue at the entry into Mattapan Square. All that is needed to resolve this is an adjustment in the timing mechanism of the left turn light to extend it for 15 to 20 more seconds!  
- Trial Survey Comments, 12/10/2020
23. As a follow-up to your visit and overview of the Cummins Highway Project at the Rosebery-Ruskindale Road Neighborhood Association meeting in August, 2020, I am inquiring of the collected data you have received that is driving the decision-making for the changes. Please provide this information (traffic monitoring results, gathered data and feedback) to us, at your earliest convenience.  
- Trial Survey Comments, 1/13/2021



**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Boston City Hall • 1 City Hall Sq Rm 714 • Boston MA 02201-2024

The Office of the Streets, Transportation, and Sanitation

Phone (617) 635-2854 • Fax (617) 635-7499



24. *There were more than 20 dead flex posts and flexpost bases along the way. This was on the westbound side, and I expect that there's a similar count on the eastbound side. Most are still laying around, but some are just plain missing. They send the signal that the city doesn't really care about the lane, which I know is not true. If we wait each year until there's absolutely no danger of more snow, it means that the lane looks uncared for 4-5 months a year. (I realize that when the final plan is implemented, this will be less of an issue, since the lane will be part of the constructed environment rather than set out in paint and plastic - do we know when construction will begin?).*  
- Trial Survey Comments, 3/4/2021
25. *To that concern, I look forward to receiving the raw data for the community/resident feedback that you have collected regarding this project, along with such data you referenced around residents wanting a bike lane, etc. Additionally, please provide the raw data for the statistics and information in your presentation, accompanied by the presentation itself.*  
- Trial Survey Comments, 3/24/2021
26. *At last nights Cummins Highway I asked who made the regulations regarding Traffic Signals. Your comment was quick but too fast to write down. In the chat I asked again for the information and you gave me MUTCD as an answer. I would appreciate if you would give me the actual title and any State regulatory agency. As I added pedestrians are also have a problem crossing the street and this may be another way to slow down the traffic. Crossing the street is an essential quality of life living in Mattapan and in the City of Boston.*  
- Trial Survey Comments, 3/24/2021
27. *The most awful thing done!*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/6/2021
28. *Fix American Legion Hey back*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/5/2021
29. *The configuration slows down traffic. Drivers side in the cancelled lane, making it dangerous when they decide to force a merge. Why in God's name would you make that change and there was no warning, no visible presence to assist motorists. This was done in a manner that appears as dirty, underhanded, and selfish. Besides, I thought the state banded bikes on the highway.*  
- Trial Traffic Comments, 3/5/2021
30. *Difficult to make U-Turn at Brockton St to head toward ALH with cars parked*  
- Virtual Office Hour Comments, 3/17/2021
31. *Delays occur depending on time of day. Sees backups at the Woodhaven intersection as well as at Harvard/Wood intersection.*  
- Virtual Office Hour Comments, 3/17/2021
32. *I live on Cummins hwy and it was a race track , lots of speeding and lots of accidents. With this trial*



**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Boston City Hall • 1 City Hall Sq Rm 714 • Boston MA 02201-2024

The Office of the Streets, Transportation, and Sanitation

Phone (617) 635-2854 • Fax (617) 635-7499



less accidents and the speeding has slowed down. There has been a replacement of the street light in front of front of my house about 5 times. The trial post do not look that great but it has slowed the speeding down.

- Trial Traffic Comments, 2/23/2021

33. Stated that resident is in support of the safety improvements along Cummins Highway and is excited about the implementation of a roundabout at the Greenfield Road, Weybosset Street, and Alabama Street intersection.

- Virtual Office Hour Comments, 3/31/2021

34. Coming back from Dorchester three of us rode yesterday westbound along Cummins from Mattapan to Roslindale, maybe around 2 or 3 pm, and I have some observations: Parking compliance on that stretch was surprisingly good - we saw only one car parked in a bus/bike area. As in my past emails, I still want to applaud your and PWD's commitment to this project - it will make a difference both for people in the neighborhood once they have the confidence that it provides a safe way to bike, as well as to people like myself who use the corridor for transportation to points beyond (such as the Neponset Trail, Mattapan and lower Dorchester, or Milton).

- Trial Survey Comments, 3/4/2021

## **RESPONSE**

We appreciate all the comments we have received. Your feedback has been essential for us to make adjustments to the temporary redesign and to potential design improvements to make Cummins Highway safer for all modes of transportation.



## **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Boston City Hall • 1 City Hall Sq Rm 714 • Boston MA 02201-2024

The Office of the Streets, Transportation, and Sanitation

Phone (617) 635-2854 • Fax (617) 635-7499