

CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Jake Wilson, Chair, Finance Committee  
From: Catherine Lester Salchert, Acting Special Counsel  
Re: Update on Community Path Lease Agreement  
Date: February 7, 2023

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The City and the MBTA attorneys and staff met last month to discuss final details on the signing of the Lease and the steps to be taken to open the Community Path to the public. The Parties mutually agreed to execute the Lease first so that the City has the right to occupy the Leased Premises and so that insurance applicable to the Community Path will be in place prior to continuing the work needed before the public can safely use the Path.

The Parties expect to agree on the final lease language in time to submit to the Finance Committee for the February 21 meeting. As soon as the Lease is approved for submission to the City Council for approval, the City and the MTBA will schedule a site walk with their representatives to plan the installation of additional lighting on areas that have been (and/or will be) identified by the parties. The parties will also be inspecting the Community Path to ensure that all safety rails and signage elements are completed.

Once the Lease is signed by both parties (Mayor and MBTA) and approved by the City Council the City can take possession and install temporary and/or permanent lighting and, once completed, the parties will work to set the date to officially open the Community Path. The parties have mutually agreed to strive for opening the Path in the Spring, 2023. After the Path is opened, the parties will have an additional two (2) years from the date the Path is opened to observe conditions and address issues related to operations, maintenance and enhancements as mutually and expeditiously agreed to by the parties.

Please let me know if you have any questions

Thank you.

Cc: Members of the Finance Committee  
Aneesh Sahni, Director Intergovernmental Affairs  
Hannah Carrillo, Legislative Liaison  
Brad Rawson, OSPCD Director of Mobility  
Jill Lathan, DPW Commissioner  
Brian Postlewaite, IAM Director of Engineering