

Green Line Extension. The current GLX Green Line Extension (GLX) project plan for six new stations and the relocation of Lechmere Station includes designs for at-grade boardings and open-air stations with canopies and benches of the type currently used at other outdoor Green Line stops. All stations will have bike storage and be ADA-compliant. The project includes building the Community Path Extension (see below), the procurement of 24 new light rail vehicles, and the building of a vehicle maintenance facility. Ridership at the seven stations is projected to be approximately 45,000 – 49,000 per day.

Construction is underway at all station sites except for the Union Square site, which is undergoing site prep while the site is still under design. By necessity, some construction takes place at night and on weekends. To facilitate the addition of two GLX tracks, three bridges in Somerville are currently closed: the Broadway Bridge in Ball Square, the Washington St. rail bridge and underpass in east Somerville, and the Medford St. Bridge at Gilman Square. Construction of the GLX is slated to be complete in spring 2021 followed by several months of testing.

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has granted \$996 million to partially fund the \$2.3 billion project. Also funding the project are municipal contributions required by MassDOT: \$50 million from Somerville and \$25 million from Cambridge. The GLX is scheduled to be operational in December 2021.

Community Path. MassDOT/MBTA is designing and constructing the full multi-use Community Path extension along the west/south side of the GLX corridor, connecting four stations from Magoun Square station to Cambridge Crossing, (previously known as NorthPoint) and Lechmere Station. The fully off-road Path extension will connect the Minuteman and Charles River paths, linking a network of approximately 48 miles of continuous bike/pedestrian path, connecting 11 Boston area cities and towns, and creating the eastern six miles of the 104-mile Mass Central Rail Trail. The Path extension is expected to be completed in late 2021 with the GLX project.

Draw Seven Park Ped/Bike Paths. Two projects are underway along the Mystic River in Somerville to build missing pedestrian/bike connections:

A pedestrian/bike bridge across the Mystic River. The bridge, proposed by DCR and slated to be funded at least in part by the Encore Boston Harbor casino, would connect Somerville and Charlestown at Draw Seven Park with Everett at the site of the casino. The \$32 million bridge would connect the casino directly to the Assembly Orange Line station. In Everett, the bridge would also be a key connection to Boston for bike paths to Lynn and the North Shore. If Encore Boston Harbor is successful in procuring permits and approvals necessary to construct the project, construction could be initiated in early 2020 in coordination with the DCR, and completed within 18 months.

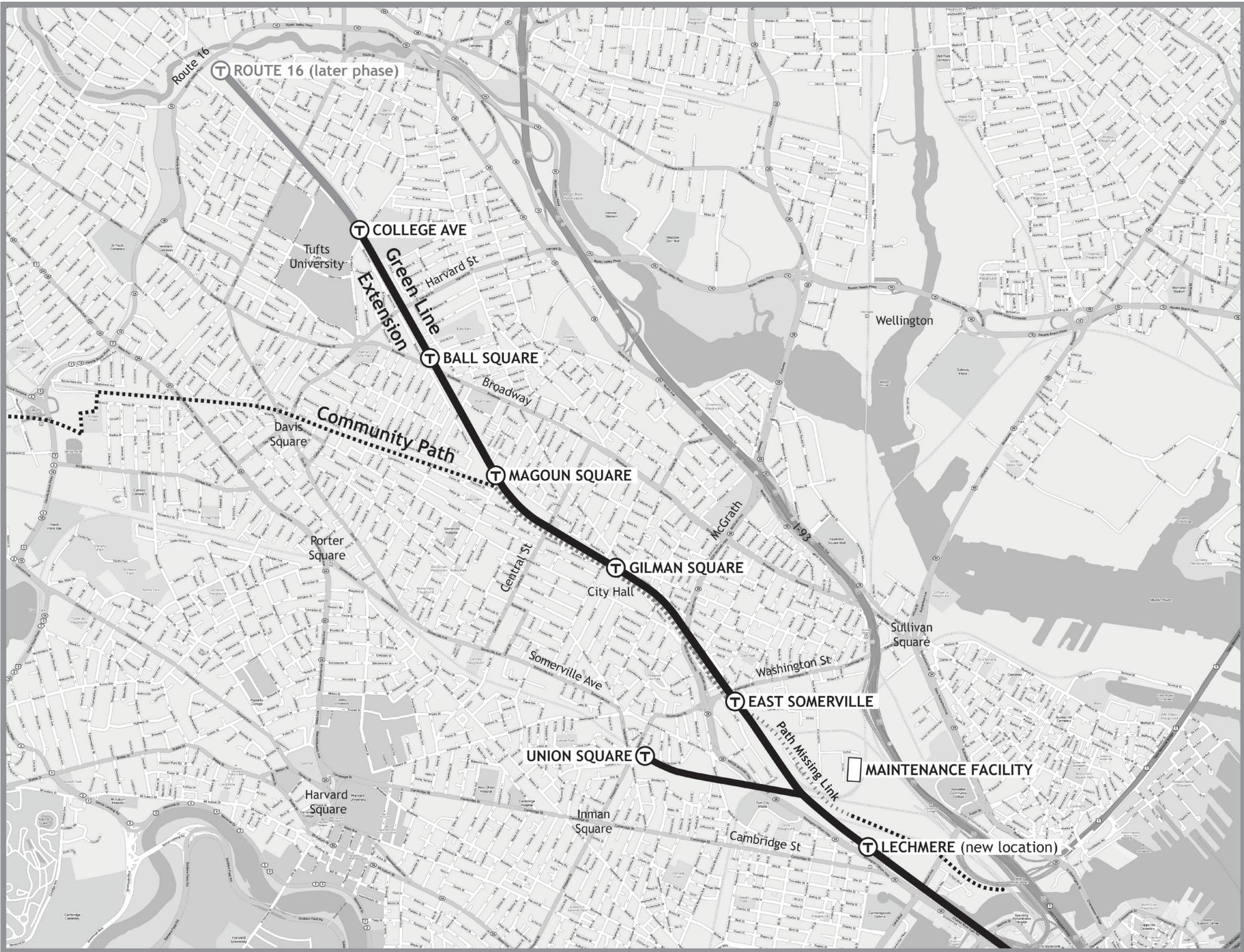
Draw Seven Park Pathway Extension. The 1,900 foot-long DCR multi-use pathway is currently under construction with, and on, the new resiliency embankment of the MBTA's Charlestown Bus Maintenance Facility. The Pathway begins at Alford Street in Charlestown and extends northwest along the Mystic River to Draw Seven Park; there it will connect with the existing DCR pathway network (and eventually with the abovementioned ped/bike bridge) and provide critical linkage between Assembly and Sullivan Squares. With construction continuing as planned, the Pathway will likely open in 2020.

McGrath Boulevard. Plans to remove the McCarthy Overpass on Route 28 (McGrath Highway over Washington St.) and turn McGrath into a street-level multi-modal boulevard will connect Union Square with East Somerville and Inner Belt, and will make the route safer and more accessible for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers. The current concept, designed by the McGrath Boulevard Project Development team in coordination with project's working group, is at a preliminary stage; it provides a multi-modal boulevard with bike/ped networks and a primarily 4-lane vehicle cross section with 6 lanes at key intersections. The project funding is on the state's Long Range Transportation Plan, with work slated to start in 2026.



Current News About Transportation Projects in Somerville

SOMERVILLE
TRANSPORTATION EQUITY
PARTNERSHIP



ROUTE 16 (later phase)

COLLEGE AVE

Green Line Extension

BALL SQUARE

Community Path

MAGOUN SQUARE

GILMAN SQUARE

EAST SOMERVILLE

UNION SQUARE

MAINTENANCE FACILITY

LECHMERE (new location)