

Statements Supporting the Anderson Memorial Bridge Underpass

August 21, 2014

REPRESENTATIVE JAY LIVINGSTONE:

"I'm pleased that MassDOT is taking this important step to add an underpass to the Anderson Bridge, which will improve safety and access for pedestrians, bicyclists, and runners. I hope it serves as a model for similar underpasses at the Western and River Street Bridges so there can be a continuous path from downtown Boston to Watertown."

BOSTON MAYOR MARTY WALSH

"I commend MassDOT for taking action to begin the necessary permitting process which, if successful, will be the first step toward the construction of an underpass at the Anderson Memorial Bridge. This is an opportunity to improve public safety and promote active healthy transportation."

CAMBRIDGE MAYOR DAVID MAHER

"My colleagues and I are delighted with Secretary Davey's decision to support the Charles River underpass project". Maher went on to say, "The City of Cambridge and the Administration share a common vision for the Charles that promotes safe travel for all those who enjoy the river including pedestrians, runners and cyclists."

SENATOR SAL DIDOMENICO

"I am proud to have supported the construction of a pedestrian underpass on the Boston side of the Anderson Bridge, as it will help to incorporate all modes of transportation and will provide increased safety for pedestrians and cyclists enjoying the waterfront parklands," said Senator Sal DiDomenico. "I have been working hard on advancing this proposal at the State House, and I am so pleased that MassDOT has committed to making it a reality. By constructing these underpasses, we continue to promote healthy living and safer travel options for everyone in the community."

MASSBIKE:

"MassBike applauds MassDOT's endorsement of an underpass along the Charles River at the Anderson Bridge," said MassBike Executive Director David Watson. "This decision demonstrates MassDOT's commitment to healthy transportation and the goal of tripling the share of biking, walking and transit trips. We look forward to a continuing collaboration with MassDOT and others to achieve a safer and more efficient bicycling network."

BOSTON CYCLISTS UNION

"We are delighted to hear of the commitment by Secretary Davey and Governor Patrick to support the bridge underpasses for the Charles River Pathway network. We look forward to a continuous, pleasant, safe, and comfortable path along one of our most precious natural resources. This path will allow bikers of all ages and abilities to enjoy their parkland!"

THE LIVABLESTREETS ALLIANCE:

"The Livable Streets Alliance is elated that these underpasses will be constructed as part of MassDOT's program to restore the Anderson, Western Avenue and River Street bridges and improve surface-level crossings for pedestrians and cyclists. The underpasses are an important component of making these intersections safer for everyone. The uninterrupted continuity of the Paul Dudley White Path along the Charles River will delight an increasing multitude of users."

GABRIELA ROMANOW:

"I want to thank Governor Patrick and Secretary Davey for this gift to residents and visitors alike," said Gabriela Romanow, an environmental activist and Cambridge resident living next to the Charles River who had joined with the groups to meet with Secretary Davey. "As the improved river path will enhance our quality of life today and for generations to come."

JON PUZ, CAMBRIDGE RUNNING CLUB:

"As daily runner and driver of the river-paths, I am thrilled that MassDOT has committed to deliver the safer, less congested intersections the underpasses will provide," said Jon Paz of the Cambridge Running Club. "With the discussion around fitness and public health, these underpasses are a win-win opportunity for the state and the city to improve our infrastructure for the safety and enjoyment of drivers, runners, cyclists, and families!" he said.

RON AXELROD, CHARLES RIVER CONSERVANCY:

"Creating a continuous bicycle and pedestrian pathway will provide proved safety, access to the River's Edge and green-use priority. The Anderson Bridge underpass is the first step towards completing this goal along the Paul Dudley White Bike Path," said Charles River Conservancy Board Member Ron Axelrod, whose organization has advocated for underpass construction. "Secretary Davey has set a great example in his support of underpasses and we are pleased to be taking the next step."

RENATA VON TSCHARNER, CHARLES RIVER CONSERVANCY:

"We applaud Secretary Davey's decision to add underpasses to the Anderson project plan," said Charles River Conservancy President Renata von Tscharnier. "This will greatly improve the enjoyment and safety of river-path users."

JACK WOFFORD, ADVOCATE:

"These underpasses will greatly improve our experience as we pass under the bridges without having to cross dangerous intersections, and they will expedite the traffic of cars and others going over the bridges," said Jack Wofford, mediator and former transportation official in the Sargent and Dukakis administrations who was among the group meeting with Davey.