

Question Report

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Topic

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Northern Ave Bridge 861-6164-2315

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Question Details

#	Question	Asker Name
1	Love the design. Wondering about the height of the lower level above sea level. I'm assuming that it is above any potential future flood levels, but there was no information about it in the presentation. Can you address?	Seth Jaffe
2	Hi, Would the city consider a bridge that was only for pedestrians, bikers, (and emergency vehicles)? I don't see the need for any regular vehicular traffic on this bridge. Thank you for considering. Best regards, Adam	Adam
3	Q from Twitter. "Why are we spending \$140m on a bridge to handle shuttle buses that essentially go nowhere? We can save a lot of money by just making a pedestrian/bike bridge."	Jona
4	Hi Chris, Why do we need to have transit vehicles and shuttles on this bridge? This bridge will not be safe if there's any type of vehicular traffic. Thanks. Adam	Adam
5	Where is the city getting the money to build this bridge at this time? Doesn't the city have a lot of more important priorities at this time? Thanks. Adam	Adam
6	Will the meeting recording be posted on the bridge website for those who might not be able to attend?	Sara McCammond
7	How will you address the dangerous pedestrian situation having vehicles on this bridge will create on the Atlantic Ave side? It will be very dangerous for pedestrians walking past Hook lobster towards the Harbor Hotel if they have to dodge cars here. Thanks you. Adam	Adam
8	Hi Joe, Why did the city allow the bridge to fall into such disrepair from 1997 until 2014? This is something I would love to know. Thanks. Adam	Adam
9	What happened to the 2016 request to have the bridge removed on an emergency basis? Why did the bridge not get moved? Thanks. Adam	Adam

10	Hi Chris and Joe and Para, Why do you define transit as private shuttles not open to the public? I think that you should define transit to mean public transit? Thanks. Adam	Adam
11	why do you not show the tower planned for the Hook lobster property?	neil farrow
12	If the bridge is open to shuttles, buses, and emergency vehicles, why isn't that reflected in the renderings?	Paul Swartz
13	Hi Joe, In this picture where are the shuttles? Thanks. Adam	Adam
14	Why does the lower recreational deck area, below the lanes above, vary in this rendering from the prior one?	Steve Hollinger
15	If it rains, won't the vehicles splash water down onto the pedestrians underneath?	Paul Swartz
16	Hi Chris and Joe and Para, On the bike side, is the bike lane protected from the shuttles? ON this picture I do not see any such separation? Thank you. Adam	Adam
17	How high is the promenade above the 2070 100-year flood?	Eric Bender
18	Is the complete middle of the bridge wheelchair accessible?	Leslie
19	Cancel that question.... I see the question answered in the video.	Steve Hollinger
20	Why is bicycle traffic not physically separated from vehicles in this design?	Jim Schley
21	The Municipal Harbor plan anticipates a 300 foot building on the Hook Lobster site. It might be appropriate to consider how that impacts on the feel of the downtown side of the bridge. It's obviously not shown in your video.	Seth Jaffe
22	Why is the front of the barking crab totally obscured here?	Adam
23	This design has more space for cars than pedestrians, and the roadway blocks views & sunlight from pedestrians (not to mention the surrounding noise and fumes). Can we re-think this design? Would the panel consider a true pedestrian bridge? If not, could pedestrians walk "above" traffic rather than below?	Travis Chapman
24	Steve Vilkas from the NorthEndWaterfront.com. Thanks for taking my question. Seeking clarification on the shuttle traffic issue. Several folks have noticed that shuttle traffic can't be seen on BTD's renderings. I'm wondering why that is and, as a follow-up, what kind of impacts the overhead traffic will have on the pedestrian experience on the promenade?	Steve Vilkas
25	it's beautiful!	Angela Lou

26	i'm so glad it's people, bike, and transit-focused. thank you.	Angela Lou
27	Are you doing this project with the approval of the Barking Crab? The video shows the whole front of the restaurant building totally obscured? This can't be right? Thank you. Adam	Adam
28	And will there be the presentation and video separately provided? Thank you.	Sara McCammond
29	I am really concerned about the ends where the ped path and the bus path come together. Will there be any separation? The video seems to show people walking right next to the bus lane, which is dangerous.	arlenemeisner
30	Hi Chris and Para and Joe, I see an MBTA bus on the bridge. Does this mean that the #4 bus will be using the bridge? Currently it does not use this route? THanks. Adam	Adam
31	Could you tell me the total square footage provided to pedestrians versus the total square footage provided exclusively to bicyclists? Design issues have changed and we now need to be providing wide spaces for bicyclists to travel due to Covid related issues. Thank you, Anne Lusk, Ph.D.	anl152
32	You guys nailed it! Congratulations and thank you.	Dan Kenary
33	The left side of the bridge (standing on Atlantic Ave) shows only pedestrians and does not have a red stripped bus only lane like the other side. Is the intention on this side to make it pedestrian only? Or are you leaving the door open for vehicular access and/or bus only access?	Deanna Moran
34	No need to cover 1st question. Joe covered it.	Seth Jaffe
35	I have a question about the VR reconstruction of the bridge. Have you considered using Drone photogrammetry instead of Lidar? I believe you can get better looking textures that way.	Mukafa
36	How wide are the 2 upper ribbons? Also, in the video rendering it looks like there is no physical separation between the HOV lane, the bike lane and the walking space. Is that true?	Boston Cyclists Union
37	Is it possible to share these drawings? They're difficult to see on the screen for the viewers.	Ambar Johnson
38	No question, just a comment that I like the bold design and am thrilled that there will be no cars or private vehicles on the bridge.	Jared Fijalkowski

39	Where do emergency and transportation vehicles travel?	christine vaillancourt
40	At the ends of the bridge, can steel members be added to both sides to continue the slope of the superstructure to grade? This will make the superstructure look complete, and mimic the old bridge.	Keith Martin
41	I hope we will be able to use some of the Percent for Art for illumination of the nighttime icon to highlight the excellent reference to the old trusses	Todd Lee
42	Can you go into detail of the red and green lanes on the right hand side?	Ambar Johnson
43	Why is the pedestrian-only half on top so wide?	Paul Swartz
44	A video of the bridge opening and closing will be a good addition to the archive. We used to find out when it would be opening to go watch the extraordinary transfer of beam to cantilever and the majesty of its swing.	Todd Lee
45	What is the size of the usable space on the promenade in sq. ft.?	arlenemeisner
46	Can you please show the virtual view of Old Sleeper Street and the ramp to the harborwalk on the South side of the bridge	Tom Ready
47	can the idge be used for private vehicular traffic in the case of accident or maintenance on the Moakley?	gq05
48	What bus route do you anticipate using the bridge? I assume it will only be one way from Seaport to downtown.	Mark Weber
49	How will security and safety be addressed (in addition to the lighting features demonstrated)? The Seaport Blvd. bridge is unsafe to walk under at night.	Marina Noreck
50	What are the next steps on the public art process? It would be terrific if a representative from the Fort Point Arts Community could participate in the group crafting the RFP and the artist selection process, particularly as the bridge is steps from our community arts space in the Envoy Hotel.	Jen
51	Why are there any vehicles allowed on the bridge? From what I understand, the MBTA does not plan to use it. How does allowing vehicles of any kind make it "people first"?	Aaron Greiner
52	What is the overall width of the bridge at its widest point? How does that compare to the existing bridge?	Mike Hluchyj
53	What's the budget for the bridge and how is it going to be paid for?	George Golabek

54	What is the expected cost of the bridge?	Mike Hluchyj
55	How about electric buses that the T is looking into?	Mark Weber
56	I love this new bridge too! Bravo! Aside from the red paving, are there concerns about pedestrians wandering unknowingly into the transit lane? Perhaps a change in paving texture? Bollards?	Rachel Winokur
57	How will you ensure that the proposed vehicle lane will be closed off to general traffic, especially when the Moakley Bridge is due for an upgrade in the near future?	tsikha01
58	I agree with the issue of the diesel buses.	Mike Hluchyj
59	The pedestrian walk is too wide and open. Is this because it must be symmetrical with the other side which is too wide in order to accommodate buses (which were not discussed at all including how they integrate with bikes.	Paul Farrell
60	Thanks for the time and well done. Are there any concerns for the shadows that would fall on the lower, central area at all hours of the day, except for when the sun is directly overhead? At night the area looks well-lit, but in daytime the shadows may be large. Also are there protections for the folks on the lower, central area from any splashed water that may fall on them due to buses running through puddles on the upper level?	Edward Connolly
61	Will there be any commercial entities on the bridge (restaurants, vendors, etc	Mark Weber
62	What is the preliminary budget estimate of the total construction cost of the bridge as it was shown?	joe.mcgarry
63	First, Thank you for this presentation: Q. In the narrow entry locations either side, Do you anticipate traffic controls where the 3 modes interact. Pavement design seems to have a visual control but will there be any other needed control as you see it.	Paul Lombardo
64	Looks great. Couple of minor observations / questions: Please consider anti skateboard features. As the weater improves, the area has recently been targeted by skateboarders - damaging walls and some other property in the area. Second, I also hope that the under decking doesn't allow for homeless emcampments such as has occurred under the Seaport side of the Moakley Bridge. Finally - to Flaherty's question - where does financing stand?	greg

65	Hi. Is it possible to virtually show us the walk from the bridge to the Barking Crab side (opposite of the courthouse)? Thank you.	Alex
66	what is projectd price of project and how much does federal government constirubute?	christine vaillancourt
67	Can you show us the south side of the bridge. What is that experience like?	Alice Brown
68	Can you comment on what the total cost of the project is as well as the annual maintenance cost?	T. Ying
69	Could you give us some background on the design team 1 %. What have they done before on a level such as this? Thanks	Ewa Kuligowska
70	6730	Barbara Millen
71	How will you stop cars and ubers from going over the bridge? Thanks you Adam	Adam
72	Also, can you go into more detail about the approaches?	Ambar Johnson
73	Given that fuel fumes sink, it seems problematic that the pedestrian/sitting area is below the bus way. Can you address?	TeiS
74	I remember how strong the wind used to be when walking across the old bridge. Has any consideration been given to blocking the wind in the pedestrian areas?	Michael
75	Q. How does the height of the promanade level of the new structure compare with the Seaport Ave bridge elevation at the crest of that vehicular bridge	Paul Lombardo
76	Do you have any updated estimates of cost, and likely potential sources of funding.	timlogan1@yahoo.com
77	As a very long time resident of Sleeper Street, I'm thrilled with the design and glad that the sea level rise has been taken into account. My only concern is the budget. I assumed that the money had been set aside. Please advise so that the neighborhood can be sure if the project will move forward.	paula
78	Do the traffic studies support the need for a bus lane?	Mike Hluchyj

79	<p>Hello my name is Joe Cook a life long south Boston resident -</p> <p>1 - I would like to see that the bridge named after vets who passed away from PTSD</p> <p>2 - I would like the refurbished members galvanized</p> <p>3- I would like all stainless steel hand rails and finish steel</p> <p>4 - I would like all the structural steel or the main sub structure made of tub type design as in the big dig bridges</p> <p>I would like this built 100 % union using local 7 Ironworkers and fabrication</p>	cookie_joe7@hotmail.com
80	<p>Could you tell me the total square footage for pedestrians versus the total square footage dedicated for bicyclists. With Covid, we need to be providing wide bicycle exclusive spaces for bicyclists.</p> <p>Anne Lusk, Ph.D.</p>	anl152
81	<p>In the rendering there looks to be no separation between buses, bikes, and pedestrians besides paint. Is this true? That seems dangerous especially in the tight areas at the either end of the bridge.</p>	Brian MacKenzie
82	<p>Appreciating that some of the "columns" are going to be reused, was consideration made for also framing the outer ribbons within the steel framework so the overall 3-dimensional presence is similarly scaled to the original bridge? As proposed, it appears very narrow and therefore more of a mimickery.</p>	Peter Edwards
83	<p>Why are my questions not showing? How much space is for pedestrians versus bicyclists.</p>	anl152
84	<p>By the Coast Guard building is there only a long ramp that goes to the bridge or also stairs?</p> <p>Secondly, I missed view from space between Barking Crab and Envoy Hotel. Are there broad stairs down from the bridge to that "plaza" space like there are on the court house side?</p> <p>Thank you, Dan Kenary</p>	Dan Kenary
85	<p>Is the transit portion only one way out of the Seaport? What about incoming transit?</p>	George Golabek
86	<p>Has the MBTA been contacted about using the bridge?</p>	Matt W
87	<p>The renderings show a raised ramp along the length of Old Sleeper street walling off The Barking Crab. Is the design in this area still in flux?</p>	Connor

88	You've listened well and come up with a wonderful creative solution! Thank you. Keep working on the segregation of peds and bikes from the bus lane. Bud Ris	Bud Ris
89	Will there be food vendors or Farmers' Market on the bridge?	Davida
90	How will you make sure that personal vehicles will not have access to the bridge?	Robin
91	How about the Barking Crab? The Envoy Hotel? Elevation for both business which you have conveniently excluded from all presentations.	Matt White
92	Given the impact of COVID on state and municipal revenues, shouldn't a less-expensive re-design be on the table? It seems somewhat fiscally irresponsible to greenlight this project when a much more affordable bridge for only people walking and cycling is feasible.	Sam Burgess
93	The conceptual plan is excellent, but pedestrian deck looks too wide, Is this to match the other side that is wide to accommodate buses. The structure above the deck is weak, not bold, especially with a cable at the top instead of a beam. If the structures were over the side lanes instead of the center it would be more reminiscent of the old bridge.	Paul Farrell
94	I've been urging more abstract reinterpretation of the truss.... It has potential as rendered,... BUT, the tapered piers are in conflict aesthetically... why is the reconfiguration so literal??... Something more contemporary, like leaning the vertical post inward to reflect and extend the angled profile of the new piers up into the space? These are key nuances that need closer attention, imo.	michael tyrrell
95	It looks like you have made a beautiful design, but then ran a vehicle lane through it. I'm afraid that it will end up like downtown crossing is now.	Brian MacKenzie
96	Wait!... One more question!... :)	michael tyrrell
97	Is the transit lane configured to allow future light rail?	Drew

98	On the whole, considering the amount of conditions that needed to be met here, height limitations, accessible design, the overall experience, historical significance, etc. I believe the design team has done a tremendous job. I can well imagine this to be a grand destination point as well as an efficient trip to traverse the bridge back and forth. The presentation was very successful in depicting this.Thank you!	Paul Lombardo
99	for the unanswered questions, perhaps you could direct an email to the individual with an answer	Tom Ready
100	Does the City have an updated cost estimate for this design? Please explain the discrepancy between the proposed streets budget and the previous cost estimate for the no-shuttle	Joel Anders
101	Why is so much concrete ?	Ewa Kuligowska
102	How will security and safety be addressed (in addition to the lighting features demonstrated)? The Seaport Blvd. bridge is unsafe to walk under at night.	Marina Noreck
103	With Covid, can we now have as part of the team academics who study the science of the built environment and public health?	anl152
104	Exactly what public transit option is being served by this design ? the only MBTA bus that currently moves along this corridor is the #4 to North Station. That route is going to be redesigned via Better Bus and is not intended to use Atlantic Avenue.	Tom Ready
105	What a joke	Matt White
106	I really like the design. It is beautiful! It seems like a main concern raised is regarding the large buses mixing with pedestrians and bicyclists. Could the bridge be built to handle a possible future retrofit of the bus lane to small light rail or similar low impact transport?	Ben Wetherill
107	Why are we planning for a bus lane without planning for what buses would use it?	Brian MacKenzie
108	Kate, For the people whose questions you don't get too, can you email them answers later? I believe you have people's email from sign on.	Sara McCammond
109	Following up on that question, what are the funding sources? And how much would a ped/bike only bridge cost vs design presented today?	Stephanie

110	The MBTA has plans for a Transit Priority corridor along Summer St. Why does the MBTA also need this lane a block away? Explain why the new bridge/corridor would be a better routing choice for bus passengers given that its further away from South Station.	Joel Anders
111	In your response to what percentage of the space is reserved for transit you said that there is a scenario where you open up the bridge to general traffic when the Moakley bridge is redone. The Moakley bridge was created about ten years ago why would it need to be redone so quickly? Also generally once roads are opened up to general traffic there is not public opinion behind closing the roads to general traffic again (example: South Boston Bypass road.) What is your plan to keep this bridge “people focused” and not just another car bridge that clogs up our downtown and make it unfriendly to pedestrians?	John Branagan
112	thank you very much.	Angela Lou
113	Well done- best of luck as you move forward.	Tim McCarthy
114	Thank you, so far I love it.	christine vaillancourt
115	Can the outer ribbons be any narrower? Why 24' wide each?	Peter Edwards
116	how many question remain?	Joe Rogers
117	Next community engagement?	Sara McCammond
118	why not extend the meeting ?	Joe Rogers