Community Generated Green Line Extension Station Designs Submitted to MassDOT and Available for Public Review

Community Corridor Planning Group delivers results of three-day community design workshop in final report outlining design options, ideas and guidelines for all seven proposed Green Line Extension Stations.

Somerville, MA, August 20, 2010 --(PR.com)-- The Community Corridor Planning (CCP) Advisory Team announced today that its Green Station design report, outlining community developed Green Line Extension station design ideas, recommendations and guidelines, was presented to the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) and is generally available to the public.

The CCP Station Design report was developed by 120 Somerville, Medford and Cambridge residents during the CCP Community Design Workshop. The workshop and final report was sponsored by a Federal Environmental Protection Agency Technical assistance grant.

“It is our goal that this report serves as a reference guide for the development of stations for the Green Line Extension that truly benefits the neighborhoods they serve,” said Peter Marquez, a CCP Advisory Team Member.

Designs were created for each of the seven new Green Line Extension stations by residents from the respective neighborhoods during a three day workshop. Teams were organized around each station to evaluate the preliminary MassDOT designs, articulate the relationship between the station and the surrounding community, and make recommendations to improve both the stations and the surrounding neighborhoods.

"The people who live and work in these neighborhoods have so much to offer," says CCP Advisory Team member, Claudia Rabino. "The goal of the workshop was not just to influence the MassDOT final plans, but to prepare community members to participate in the state’s formal public design process by helping them visualize, articulate and document their ideas. By that measure, the CCP station design workshop was a great success."

CCP hosted the design sessions, which were facilitated by Von Grossman and Associates, a local urban design firm, with volunteer local design experts and other residents leading small group sessions. Von Grossman and Associates compiled the final report.

A number of themes and clear priorities emerged through this process with community members. These include:
* Station designs integrated into fabric of existing communities
* A strong need for multi-directional walking, biking, transit and spatial connections between the stations and the surrounding neighborhoods
* Visible stations that function as community symbols and iconic landmarks
* Stations that serve as community meeting places that provide real neighborhood amenities
* Station access as means to leverage business and job opportunities in surrounding neighborhood
* Incorporation of sustainable and environmentally friendly design and materials
* Encouragement of development that supports and enables the long-term economic health of the community.

The report can be found on the websites of CCP coalition partners: Groundwork Somerville (GWS), Somerville Community Corporation (SCC), Somerville Transportation Equity Partnership (STEP).

http://www.groundworksomerville.org/
http://www.somervillestep.org/files/CCPStationWorkshops_0610.pdf

About CCP
Community Corridor Planning (CCP) is a grassroots participatory planning initiative led by a 16 resident Advisory Team and a coalition made up of Groundwork Somerville (GWS), Somerville Community Corporation (SCC), Somerville Transportation Equity Partnership (STEP), and Somerville Community Health Agenda. CCP aims to engage community residents in the land use and station design planning of the Green Line Corridor. Our overarching goal for CCP is to create an action agenda that encourages long term affordability, environmental sustainability, public health and economic development that will benefit Somerville's diverse population. In the last two years, over 800 people have taken part in CCP activities, events, and action steps.

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