Columbia Road Gender and Mobility Initiative

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CONTEXT & BACKGROUND

Riverway I

Columbia Road is a 2.4-mile arterial road with a large width, high traffic, and sparse landscaping. It is home to several historic landmarks and adjacent to many community centers and schools that serve a large number of youth and older adults. It is bordered by several distinct neighborhoods and bookended by two large parks, Franklin Park and Moakley Park.

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Columbia Road was widened in the 1950s to host a major streetcar route before becoming the four-lane road it is today. After several planning studies and community engagement efforts since 2013, residents of Columbia Road continue to face design challenges that impact their mobility. Residents continue to voice a need for an improved experience moving along the corridor. If done properly, Columbia Road could become a community-driven street that is safe and comfortable for all community members.

Carson Beach

SOUTH

BOSTON

We hope this initiative will remove mobility limitations that stem from gender inequities through gender-specific participatory processes that elevate the perceptions of women



THE FLUIDITY OF GENDER & MOBILITY



Urban planning has intended to address a neutral person. However, we all have different identities and are perceived differently. Every person's mobility experience is unique.



Gender identity refers to someone's sense of themselves in the context of society, their

How would YOU like to see this space? Streetcars No Markings Safe Uneven rossing Paving Zone 2 63

experience, and their internal sense of self: man, women, both, neither, or other in between.

Sex refers to the biological (chromosomal) traits that people are born with: *male, female, intersex*.



INCLUSIVE PROCESS & ENGAGEMENT



Gather existing knowledge and data regarding the corridor, gender identities, and transportation modes across the study area.

Utilize various outreach methods to include members historically left out of engagement processes.

Community members and partners use feedback to define project goals, vision, and needs to ensure Columbia Road is safe, equitable, and inclusive.

Community co-creates summary of interventions to improve gendered mobility to be used by the City and community members.

Future Corridor

Interventions, including mobility for all identities, are implemented! City stays in contact with residents for future improvements.

