

Allston Brighton

home news events discussions search

[< Back to front page](#)

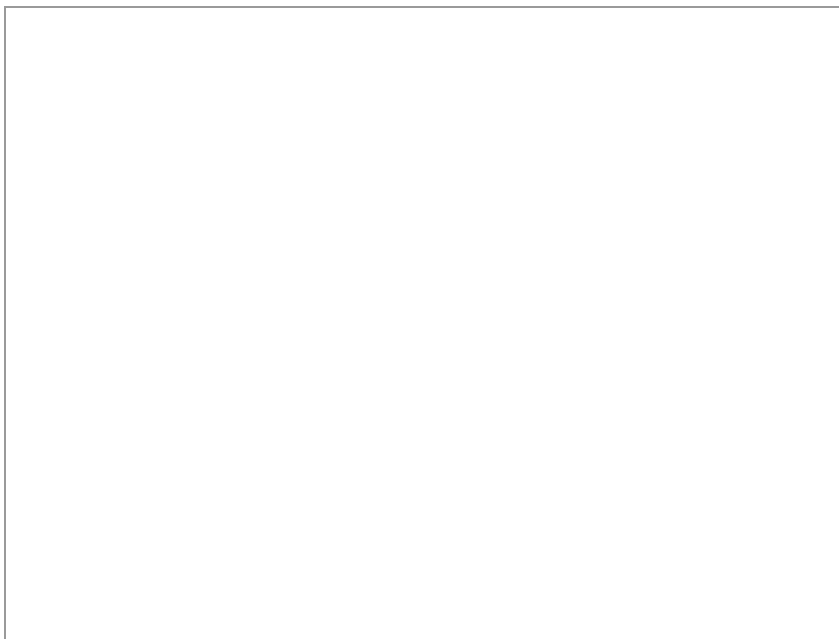
Text size - +

ALLSTON BRIGHTON, BACK BAY, BEACON HILL, CHARLESTOWN, DORCHESTER, DOWNTOWN, EAST BOSTON, FENWAY-KENMORE, HYDE PARK, JAMAICA PLAIN, MATTAPAN, NORTH END, ROSLINDALE, ROXBURY, SOUTH BOSTON, SOUTH END, WEST ROXBURY

Boston launches online roadwork database, plans mail notices

Posted by Matt Rocheleau April 28, 2011 07:08 PM

[E-mail](#) | [Print](#) | [Comments \(\)](#)



(David L. Ryan/ Globe Staff)

Boston's Public Works Department aims to repave 33 miles, and reconstruct another three miles, of city streets this year.

By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

As Boston's road-repair campaign kicks into full gear, the city says it will for the first time begin notifying residents of planned roadwork by [listing every project online](#) and mailing letters to each household along a street shortly before construction begins there.

Boston's Public Works department began its annual "Road Renewal" program last week to repave and, in some cases completely reconstruct, damaged roadways before winter returns to yet again test streets' cold-weather tolerance.

Through a \$20-million program budget, the department plans to repave 33

Connect to Your Town Allston Brighton on Facebook



You like **Your Town Allston-Brighton**. [Admin](#)
[Page](#) · [Insights](#) · **Error**

ADVERTISEMENT

ALLSTON-BRIGHTON REAL ESTATE »

86

Homes for sale

160

Rentals available

6

Open houses this week

0

New listings this week

SPECIAL ADVERTISING DIRECTORY

CAMP GUIDE »

A camp for every kid!

Adventure, sports, theater, music, arts or technology—find the perfect camp for your child at boston.com/campguide.



ADVERTISEMENT

miles, and reconstruct another three miles, of city streets this year. That scheduled roadwork, over a combined area that represents around 4.5 percent of the Hub's 803 miles of thoroughfare, is consistent with what the city has annually performed in recent years, said Public Works chief of staff Matthew Mayrl.

Mailing households and hosting an online database about planned roadwork are aimed at keeping residents more informed. The notifications will also allow time for residents to plan utility upgrades to be performed before the city does its road renewal work, he said. Utility upgrades can sometimes require patches of roadway to be dug up.

"We hope this new outreach effort will further reduce any unnecessary cuts to newly resurfaced roads," the public works spokesman said.

In the past residents were only forewarned by signs posted along the roadways, as well as via communication outreach through local community groups, said Mayrl.

The city posted a [comprehensive online list](#) – sort-able by neighborhood and street – of planned roadwork that describes which portions of each roadway will be fixed, along with estimated start dates and construction durations for each.

Mayrl said the city plans to keep the web page, which went live this week, updated as the changes are made to each project's timing, which can be sensitive to several factors including Mother Nature.

Written letters will be mailed a couple of weeks in advance of scheduled construction during the new notification system's infancy, he said. The city hopes that as the initiative progresses this summer, it can increase the amount of advanced notice to one to two months prior to when work will begin.

The city will also launch a pilot program to repair large cracks in roads five to 10 years old. The city says the crack-fixing methods will involve newer crack treatment technologies, including micro-resurfacing, that can repair streets in such a way to extend their lifetime by over seven years.

"The preventative maintenance program will be used in all neighborhoods and could potentially save the city millions of dollars in road repair in the very near future," the city said in a recent announcement.

The city also plans to reinstall faded and damaged roadway markings.

The Transportation Department's "Mark It" program will repair crosswalks, double yellow lines, lane lines, school zone symbols, traffic turn arrows and other markings.

Over 600 crosswalks citywide will be replaced, and the city said it expects the program to reinstall markings at one in every four intersections in Boston using "highly-reflective" thermoplastic materials.

The program "will place a heavy emphasis" on reinstalling crosswalks near parks, senior centers, schools and community centers. Street marking upgrade requests can be made [here](#). Requests for new markings can be made [here](#).

"After such a harsh winter, I'm dedicated to ensuring all Bostonians have a safe commute through our city," Mayor Thomas M. Menino said in the announcement. "The 'Mark It' and 'Road Renewal' programs will make sure that our roads and sidewalks are back to 100% so we can all enjoy the exciting

Allston Brighton Headlines »

- [Cheap Eats: At Kelly's, roast beef sandwiches rule \(5/18\)](#)
- [Propeller Theatre Company makes Boston debut this week \(5/14\)](#)
- [Honored BC student aims for a life in public service \(5/14\)](#)
- [BC ordered to give up oral history tapes on IRA \(5/13\)](#)

Also From Allston-Brighton

NIGHTLIFE



[A turbulent year for Allston businesses](#)

WATERWORKS MUSEUM

[A look inside the new museum](#)

PHOTOS

[Tailgating at the Harvard-Yale game](#)

TRENDS



[They kick it in Allston like no place else](#)

Local advertising by PaperG

[Allston Brighton On Twitter »](#)

warm weather that summer has to offer.”

E-mail Matt Rocheleau at mjrochele@gmail.com.



◀ Previous entry

Next entry ▶

MORE FROM BOSTON.COM

[Orgy was the reward for sales](#) *(Business)*

[Girl's virginity put up for sale, police say](#) *(National news)*

[Woman seriously injured by rolling vehicle on Beacon Hill](#) *(Your Town)*

[Sox are who we thought they were](#) *(Chad Finn's Touching All The Bases)*

[Grumpy grandparents](#) *(Lifestyle)*

[Terry Francona and wife Jacquie go to bat for Brookline Center](#) *(Your Town)*

MORE FROM THE WEB

[5 Signs a Caregiver Is Stealing From You](#) *(Caring.com)*

[Let's lose the "use it or lose it" rhetoric](#) *(ExxonMobil's Perspectives)*

[Best Buy Employee Loses Job After Thwarting Shoplifter](#) *(AOL Jobs)*

[Miss Wisconsin Dropped Out of the Miss USA Pageant Because...](#) *(Madame Noire)*

[Restaurant Manager Awarded Compensation for Punching Customer](#) *(AOL Jobs)*

[5 Types Of Women Men Avoid](#) *(iVillage)*

[Sponsored links]



READER COMMENTS »

[View reader comments \(\)](#) » [Comment on this story](#) »

At the new Cradles to Crayons' Giving Factory in Brighton, @Digitas volunteer work aided 3,700 kids @c2cboston - <http://bo.st/mbRtsG> 1 day ago

Running tips from Girls on the Run and Brighton-based @NewBalance shoe makers - <http://bo.st/l5j8Gg> 2 days ago

New farmers' market coming to Allston-Brighton in July. - <http://bo.st/jU15y2> 2 days ago

Hey, there's a new farmers market coming to Allston Brighton in July. We have the details. - <http://bo.st/jU15y2> 2 days ago

[Follow other Boston.com Tweets](#) | [What is Twitter?](#)

[Home](#) | [News](#) | [Events](#) | [Schools](#) | [Sports](#) | [Discussions](#) | [Marketplace](#)

[Contact Us](#) | [Contact Boston.com](#) | [Contact The Boston Globe](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Your Ad Choices](#) | [Help](#) | [Advertise](#) | © 2011 NY Times Co.

