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JAMAICA PLAIN

State begins project to improve bike, pedestrian safety at Kelley Cricle in Jamaica Plain

Posted by Matt Rocheleau September 24, 2012 02:09 PM

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

The state has begun a construction project that aims to improve travel and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists while calming vehicular traffic at the William F. Kelley Circle in Jamaica Plain.

The work at Kelley Circle, where the Arborway and Jamaicaway connect, will include reconfiguring an island at the end of Parkman Drive to shorten pedestrian crossing distances and taking steps to optimize how drivers can see other activity, signage and markings within the circle.

Plans also call for relocating curbing and drainage structures, resurfacing roadways and installing new traffic signs and pavement markings, according to the state's Department of Conservation and Recreation, which is leading the project.

The project is expected to be completed by the beginning of October.

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“This circle connecting the Jamaicaway and the Arborway is a critical junction for cars and has become a difficult crossing for the increased numbers of pedestrians and cyclists,” the department’s Commissioner Ed Lambert, said in a statement. “DCR is continuing its commitment to these pedestrians in this next phase of the project.”

The project at Kelley Circle is a continuation of [other work](#) done last year by the department along another section of Jamaica Pond, following a public-private planning process,

That work included installing a signalized double crosswalk at the intersection of the Jamaicaway and Eliot Street. That project was estimated to cost around \$170,000.

The project at Parkman Drive at Kelley Circle along with a proposed project for Parkman Drive at the Parkman Memorial have been projected to cost another \$200,000 combined.

“The improvements to Parkman Drive at Kelly Circle are a sign of the Commonwealth’s continued efforts to increase safety for the pedestrians and bicyclists who enjoy Jamaica Pond,” Rep. Jeffrey Sánchez said in a statement.

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