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ALLSTON BRIGHTON, NEWTON, ON BIKING

## Bike lanes to be installed along Commonwealth Ave. between Brighton-Newton border and Allston

Posted by Matt Rocheleau September 5, 2013 10:00 AM

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Boston officials plan to soon install bike lanes on a nearly two-mile stretch of Commonwealth Avenue, between the Brighton-Newton border and the intersection of Commonwealth Ave., Warren and Kelton streets in Allston.

“Commonwealth Avenue has some of the highest rates of on-road cycling in the city as well as a high cyclist crash rate,” said a statement from the city’s Boston Bikes program. “The bike lanes are aimed to improve conditions for cyclists and all users and are consistent with recommendations in the Boston Bike Network Plan. The plan envisions safe and inviting road conditions for all road users.”

No parking or travel lanes will be removed and traffic will not be impacted by the project, city officials said.

The work will be done sometime this fall and such projects typically take between one and three days to complete, officials said.

The city said it plans to install pavement markings to designate lanes for exclusive use by cyclists as well as markings that designate parts of the road as being for shared use between bikes and vehicles.

Along the eastbound side of Commonwealth Ave, markings will be installed to indicate that bikes and vehicles should share the right-hand traffic lane from the Boston-Newton line to Chestnut Hill Avenue, according to a copy of the plans.

Continuing east past Chestnut Hill Avenue is a one-way carriage lane, which runs separate from, but parallel to, the two main eastbound lanes of Commonwealth Ave. Markings will be installed to indicate that bikes and vehicles should share the carriage lane between there and Kelton St.

Along the westbound side of Commonwealth Ave., between the Warren-Kelton streets intersection and Washington Street, is a two-way carriage lane, which runs separate from, but parallel to, the two main westbound lanes of Commonwealth Ave. Markings will be installed to indicate that bikes and vehicles should share both sides of that stretch of the carriage lane, the plans show.

Continuing west past Washington St., the carriage lane converts to a one-way that can only be accessed by westbound traffic. Markings will be installed to create a lane exclusively for bike use along the left-hand side of the carriage lane from Washington St. to Wallingford Road, where the carriage lane ends.

Continuing west from Wallingford Road to Chestnut Hill Ave., markings will indicate that bikes and vehicles should share the right-hand lane of Commonwealth Avenue.

Continuing west past Chestnut Hill Ave, markings will be installed to create a lane exclusively for bike use along the right-hand side of Commonwealth Ave. The bike lane will end just before Lake Street and will turn into a shared bike lane from there to the Boston-Newton border, according to the plans.

The announcement said the new markings will improve safety by: designating safe riding zones for cyclists; encouraging motorists to drive slower; encouraging cyclists to ride and motorists to drive more “respectfully and predictably” and make pedestrians and drivers more aware of cyclists.

*E-mail Matt Rocheleau at [mjrochele@gmail.com](mailto:mjrochele@gmail.com).*

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