

# This Lane is Our Lane:

## How Buses & Bikes Can Share the Road Safely

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# Share your answers to these questions in the chat

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1. How often do you ride the bus (either now or pre-pandemic)?
2. Do you ever make combined bus and bike trips?

# Agenda

- Shared bus-bike lanes; how it's going
- MBTA bus driver training
- What should you know about how to safely ride near buses?
- Get involved!

# Shared bus-bike lanes; how it's going



# Shared bus-bike lanes; how it's going



# Shared bus-bike lanes; how it's going



Painted bike lane, no buffer



No previous infrastructure



Sharrows

Note:

\* this question was not included in this survey

\*\* this value includes feedback from all users of the street: people walking, driving, taking the bus, and riding their bikes

+ survey conducted online due to extended period of inclement weather conditions

**LivableStreets**

Connecting People + Places

## Bike Rider Perceptions of Shared Bus-Bike Lanes

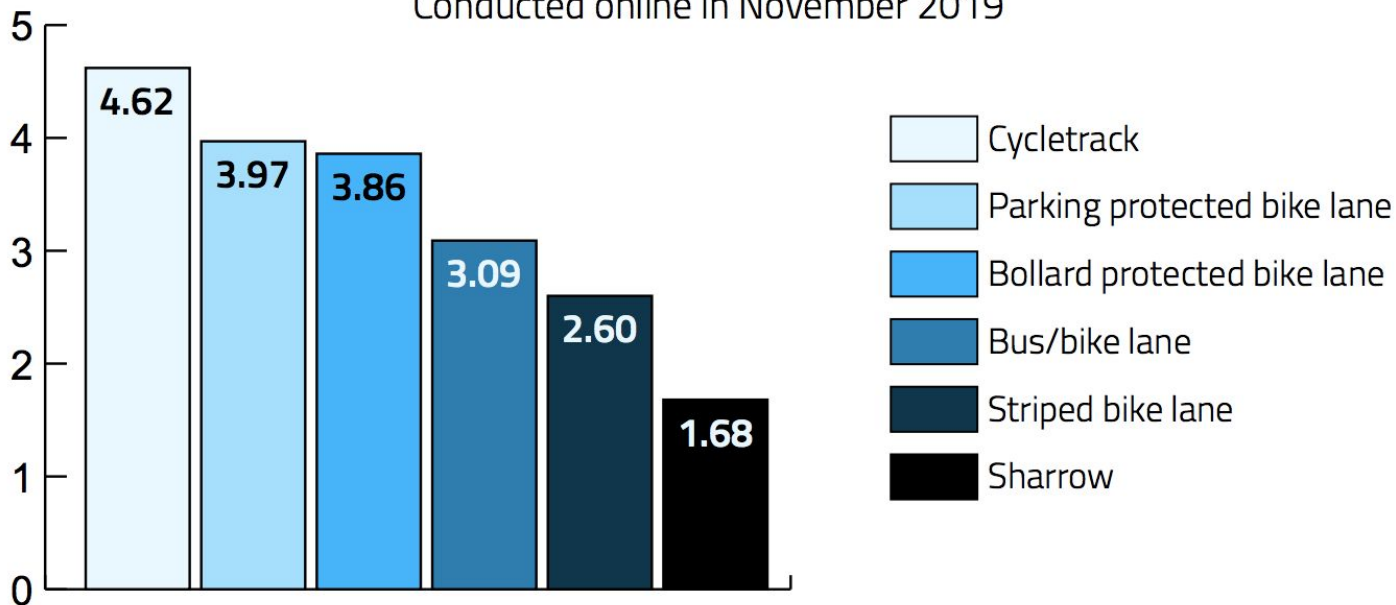
<i>Corridor Name</i>	<i>Date Project Implemented</i>	<i>Previous Bike Infrastructure</i>	<i>Percent of Bike Riders Who:</i>	
			<i>Were Satisfied</i>	<i>Felt Safer</i>
Washington St, Roslindale	May 2018		89%	89%
N. Mass Ave, Cambridge <i>PARKing Day</i>	September 2018		83%	*
Mass Ave, Arlington	October 2018		67%**	*
Mt. Auburn St, Cambridge	October 2018		82%	*
Brighton Ave, Boston	July 2019		94%	93%
N. Mass Ave, Cambridge <i>PARKing Day</i>	September 2019		82%	90%
Broadway, Somerville	September 2019		86%+	93%+



# Shared bus-bike lanes; how it's going

## *Bike Infrastructure Comparison Findings*

Conducted online in November 2019



# Shared bus-bike lanes; how it's going

## Bus Benefits of Shared Bus-Bike Lanes

<i>Corridor Name</i>	<i>Date Project Implemented</i>	<i>Time Savings for Bus Trips</i>	
		<i>Perceived</i>	<i>Actual</i>
Washington St, Roslindale	May 2018	92% reported faster trips	Reduced travel times from 20-25% during peak congestion <sup>12</sup>
Mt. Auburn St, Cambridge	October 2018	95% reported faster trips	Reduced travel times 8-12% during peak congestion
Brighton Ave, Boston	July 2019	53% reported faster trips	--
Broadway, Somerville	September 2019	*	Reduced travel times 23% during rush hour <sup>13</sup>



# Poll Question!

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# Share your answer to this question in the chat

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What makes it most difficult for you when riding near people driving buses?

# MBTA Bus Driver Training

Top 3 concerns we heard from people riding bikes:

1. Passing distance
2. Passing timing
3. Pulling into/out of bus stops

# MBTA Bus Driver Training

Top 3 things bus drivers want you to know:

1. Where my blindspots are located
2. Bus drivers are multitasking (keeping an eye on passengers, navigating the streets, etc.)
3. How people riding bikes should pass buses

# MBTA Bus Driver Training

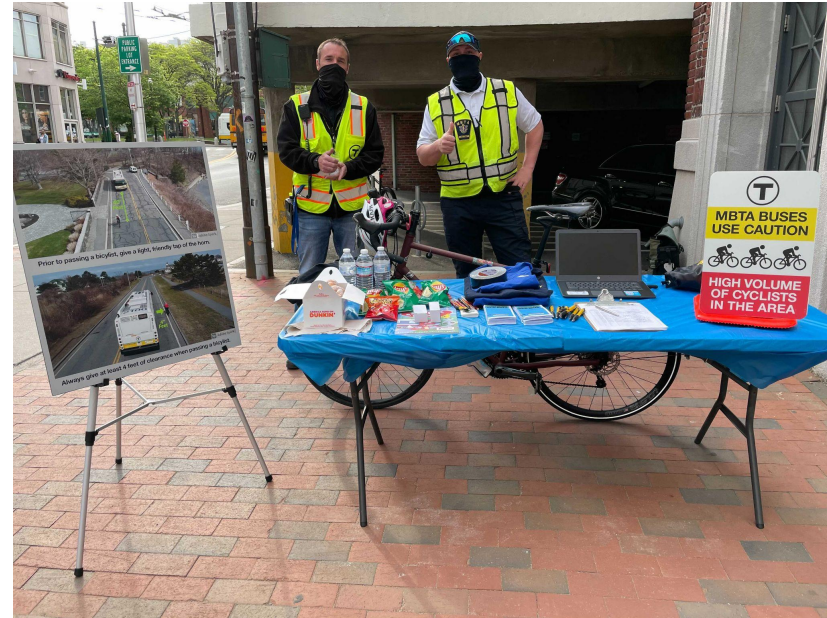
What is included:

- Full-day training including: viewing training video + presentation, bus simulator, ride along, and open dialogue with advocates



# MBTA Bus Driver Training

- Defensive driving (people who have been reported for infractions)
- Ongoing trainings at bus garages
- Regional impact: entire MBTA system



# Poll Question!

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# What should you know about how to safely ride near buses?

1. Empathy and understanding
2. Predictability and visibility
3. Patience and space
4. Anticipation



# Empathy & understanding

- Point of view of both modes
  - Bike: It's scary and can be dangerous to ride around large vehicles
  - Bus: Limitations of visibility (blindspots); driving, interacting with passengers, answering questions, ensuring fares are paid, etc; stress; operators are human
  - [Blindspots video](#)



# Predictability & visibility

Help drivers see you! Don't be a bike ninja.  
#LightsBrigade



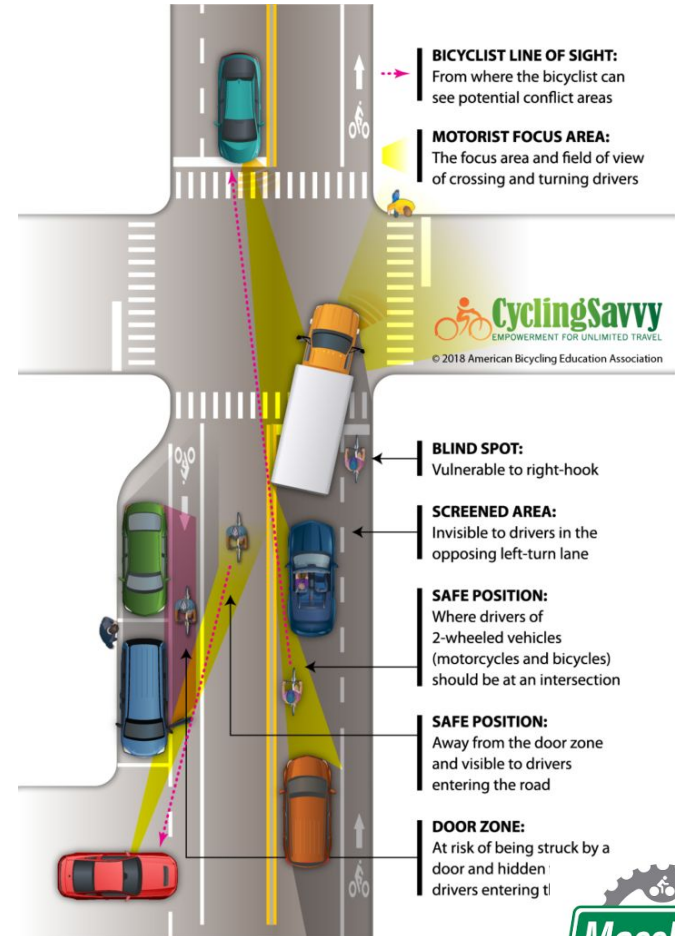
# Patience & space

- Buses and bikes are right side of the road partners!
- Give space to help reduce conflicts
- It takes buses 1.5 bus lengths to stop, so keep far ahead or far behind.
- If you keep leapfrogging -- wait 30 secs to let the bus get ahead



# Anticipation

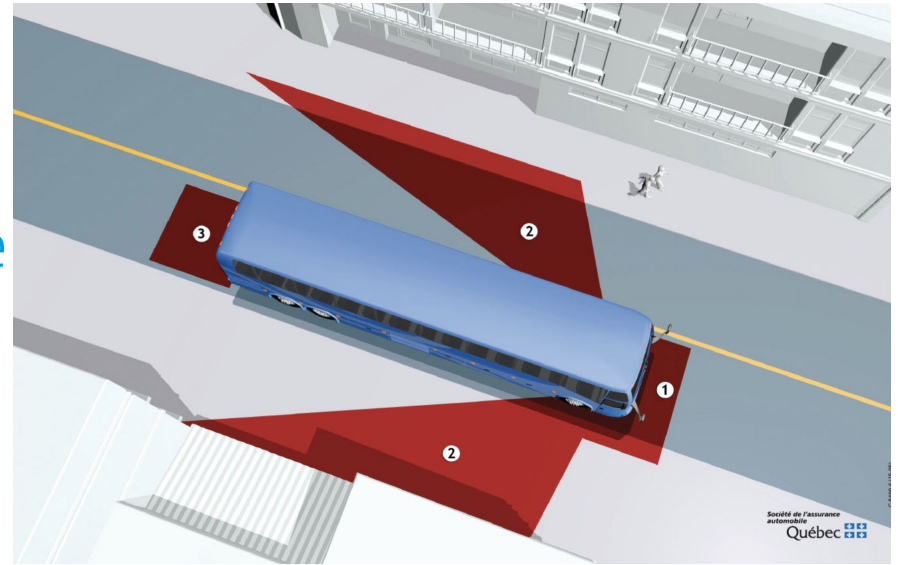
- Think ahead at intersections
  - Be wary of right turning bus drivers
  - The only way to never get in a right hook situation is to never be parallel with a bus approaching the intersection



# Anticipation

- Right mirror is positioned to view the right rear wheel -- meaning you may not be visible to bus drivers

[Video of blindspots when turning](#)



# Loading your bike onto a bus rack

The Bikenista shows us how to use the bike rack:





# Get Involved!

- Volunteer or donate to MassBike + LivableStreets
- Attend safe cycling courses: <https://cyclingsavvy.org>
- Report unsafe drivers + give kudos to excellent MBTA drivers
  - Call: 617-222-3200
  - Report online: <https://www.mbta.com/customer-support>
  - Tweet: @MBTA

# Thank you!

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