

DAVIS SQUARE - ELM STREET PEDESTRIANIZED & INTERSECTION SIMPLIFIED

DavisNow.org

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CONCEPT

Opening up Elm Street to outdoor dining was hugely successful in 2020. That success can be advanced in the future by rethinking how Elm Street could be permanently modified to support pedestrian uses and expand business potential instead of just serving vehicular traffic and parking.

The time is now to consider if and how Elm Street could be modified. The DavisNow Concept Plan for Elm Street and the Davis Square Intersection illustrates how this would work.

ELM STREET

- Davis Square gains a stronger identity by putting pedestrians and outdoor public space first.
- Businesses benefit from heightened pedestrian activity and outdoor presence.
- A creatively designed streetscape will assure a memorable, iconic sense of place .
- A Pedestrian Elm Street will enhance Davis Square's identity as a cultural center .
- Somerville's reputation as a regional magnet and destination is amplified.
- Where the Cutter Street end of Elm Street widens out there is space for an outdoor year-round open market pavilion.
- Service vehicles still have access to shops and restaurants along Elm Street during off-hours.

DAVIS INTERSECTION

- Vastly simplifies the main Davis Square intersection
- Configuration is similar to a typical 4-way intersection (College, Highland and Holland each have 2 lanes entering, 1 exiting, which allows for dedicated left turns; Day Street is one way with 2 lanes entering)
- Traffic calming and pedestrian safety are improved
- Day street connects directly to the other three streets, eliminating the current required loop around the square to access College Ave and Holland Street
- Bus services can continue to operate
- Impacts of making Highland and Cutter 2-way streets will need study

IF THESE PLACES CAN DO IT, SO CAN WE



Downtown Crossing, Boston



Quincy Market, Boston



NYC Streets Program



Essex Street Mall, Salem



Ste Catherine, Montreal



Amsterdam - everywhere



Bridge Street, Copenhagen



Buchanan Street, Glasgow



NYC Seasonal Streets



Rue Daguerre, Paris



La Rambla, Barcelona



Lincoln Road Mall, Miami Beach