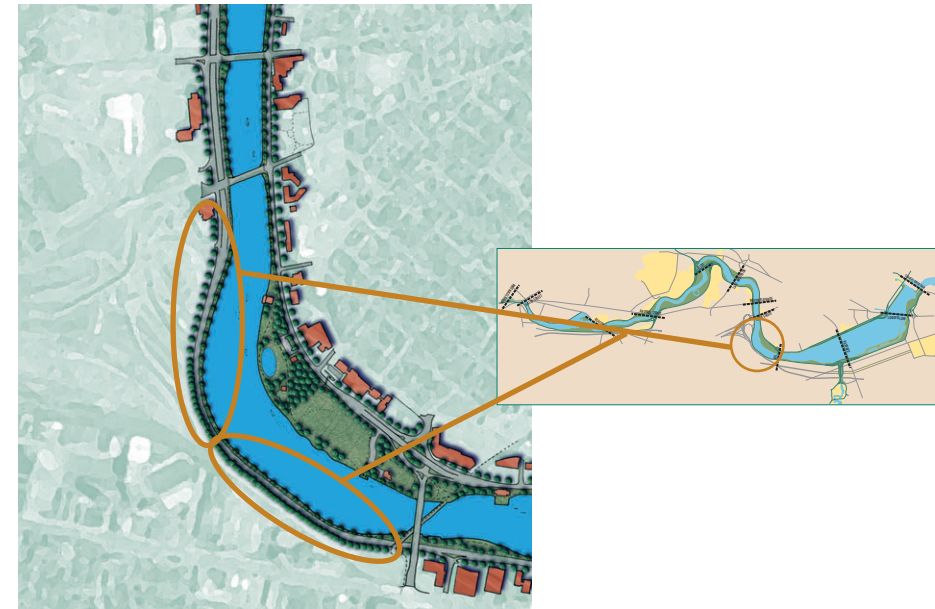


- Create additional optional program elements, including a food concession at the pool building, or a small pull-off with power and light for concession trucks.
- Plant additional trees along the parkway in front of the pool and near the oaks in front of the pedestrian bridge.
- Frame river views by adding copses of trees along the edge of the athletic fields. This will also soften the view of the Turnpike.
- Mark the intersection of the Boston University Bridge and the Reid Overpass with perennial ornamental plants.
- Accent the wall of the granite overlook with distinctive plantings.
- Regrade the steep slope along the river edge of the pool, remove the parking lot, and substitute a greater variety of plant materials for the arborvitae.
- Redesign existing lots to break up the parking and insure a minimum fifty-foot setback from the shore. Provide signage indicating that public parking in Morse School parking lot is available during off-peak hours, acknowledging the agreement reached with Cambridge when the school was renovated.
- Realign the entry drive to the MWRA facility to blend better with the park landscape.
- Signalize Pleasant Street and include a pedestrian phase.



ALLSTON LANDING (4S)

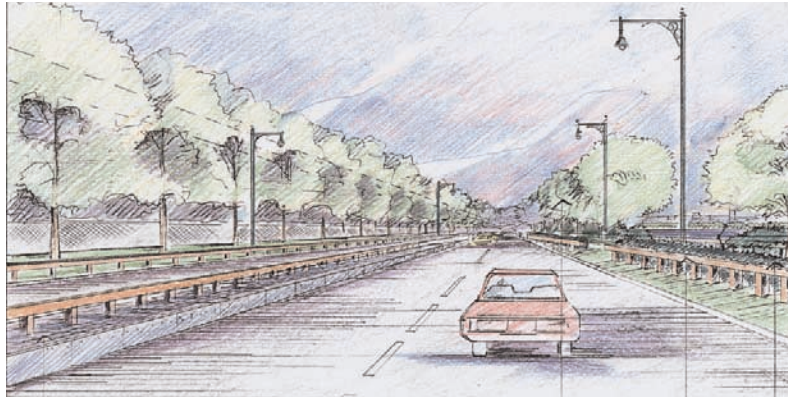
Soldiers Field Road between BU Bridge and River Street Bridge

KEY RESOURCES

- *River Street Bridge (1926)*
- *Soldiers Field Road (1930)*
- *Massachusetts Turnpike (1965)*
- *Dr. Paul Dudley White bicycle path extension (1970s)*



SOLDIERS FIELD ROAD
AND THE ELEVATED
TURNPIKE JUST EAST
OF ALLSTON LANDING.



INTRODUCTION AND HISTORY

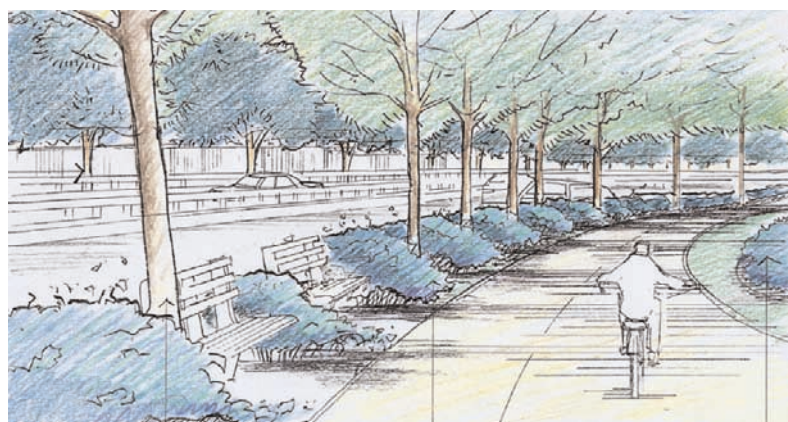
The reconstruction of Soldiers Field Road in the 1970s allowed for the critical extension of the Dr. Paul Dudley White bicycle path and

the addition of new landscaping on both sides of parkway. This project represented the first narrowing of a Basin parkway for the benefit of pedestrians and bicyclists and represents an important precedent for the recommendations within this master plan.

EXISTING CONDITIONS AND ISSUES

Despite efforts to accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists, the noise and fumes of the Massachusetts Turnpike, rail yards, and parkway combine to make this narrow, 4,000-foot-long stretch unpleasant for all users. The

RECOMMENDED CHANGES INCLUDE PLANTING A NEW ROW OF TREES TO SCREEN THE CONRAIL TRACKS ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF STORROW; REPLACEMENT OF THE ASH TREES ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE DRIVE WITH A SPECIES BETTER SUITED TO THE HIGH-TRAFFIC SITE; INCREASED SCREENING OF STORROW DRIVE FROM THE PATH; AND THE OPENING OF MORE RIVER VIEWS ALONG THE BANK.



green ash trees between the parkway and path provide users little buffer against the rush of traffic. Trees on the opposite side of the parkway do little to screen the Turnpike from view. Views of the river could compensate for these shortcomings, but vegeta-

tion along the narrow bank has blocked views. The path approach to the River Street Bridge runs along the top of a seawall, is too narrow, and forces pedestrians too close to speeding vehicles on the off ramp from Soldiers Field Road.

GOALS

- **Provide a better buffer between traffic and pedestrians.**
- **Reinforce the parkway character of Soldiers Field Road.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Gradually replace the green ash trees** with a better-performing street tree (see Appendix E).
- **Plant additional trees, including evergreens, against the Turnpike to help reinforce the parkway character of Soldiers Field Road.**
- **Clear additional vistas along the bank,** possibly in conjunction with providing access to the water's edge, to relieve the monotony of this long stretch.
- **Widen the path approach to the River Street Bridge by means of a cantilevered structure, if necessary,** and provide smooth continuous pavement.
- **Restore and relight the River Street Bridge.**



THE RIVER STREET BRIDGE, ABOVE, THE WESTERN AVENUE BRIDGE, AND THE ARSENAL STREET BRIDGE RESULTED FROM A DESIGN COMPETITION HELD IN 1923. COMPETITION CRITERIA STIPULATED THAT THE DESIGNS CHOSEN BE "WORTHY EXPRESSIONS OF THE BEST THAT A CULTURED COMMUNITY CAN CREATE."