

Wellington Circle Study

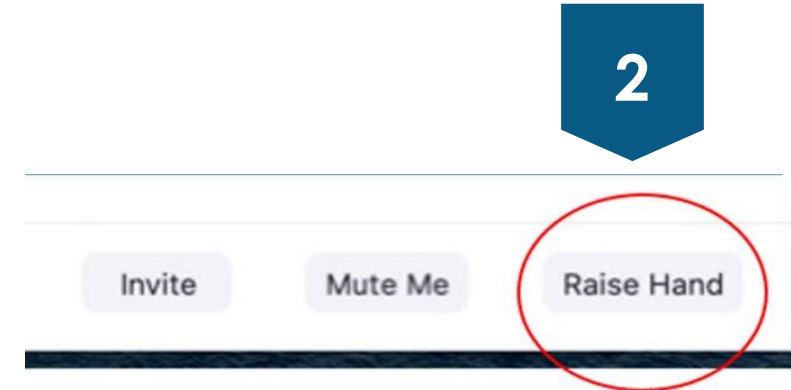
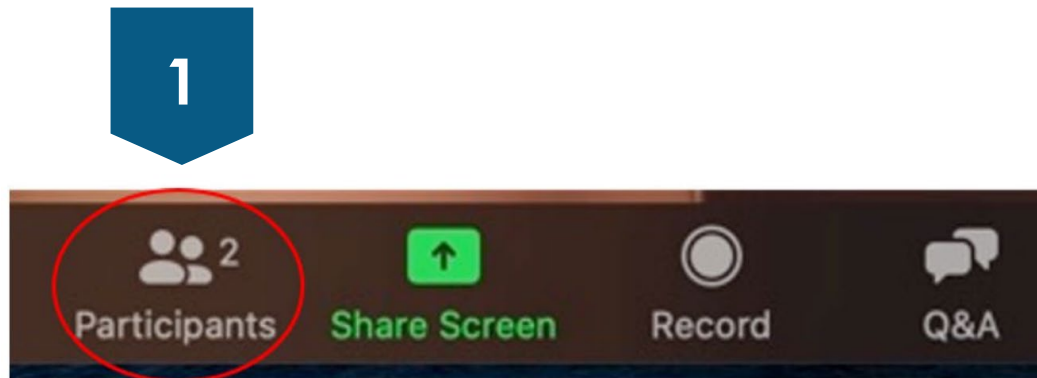


Working Group Meeting #6
March 2, 2023

Ground Rules

- This meeting is being recorded
- Technical Support: Sara Stoja, sstoja@hntb.com
 - Zoom Support: 888-799-9666
- Working Group Members
 - Use "Raise Hand" button during clarification/discussion periods

Bottom Panel of
Zoom Screen



Agenda

- Study Process
- Draft Study Findings
 - Alternatives Review
 - Evaluation & Recommendations
- Draft Implementation Plan
 - MassDOT Project Development Process
 - Potential Funding Sources
- Working Group Discussion
- Next Steps



STUDY PROCESS

Study Overview

- Conceptual planning study to evaluate existing and future multimodal transportation conditions at Wellington Circle
- Examine ways to redesign Wellington Circle to provide better connectivity and improve multimodal mobility throughout the area of the City of Medford and surrounding region
- Develop short-, medium-, and long-term recommendations that will be included in a Final Report

Study Process



Project Goals & Objectives Inform Alternatives Development

Study Process

Safety

- Reduce speeds
- Reduce conflict points between modes
- Dedicate space for pedestrians & bicyclists

Connectivity

- Promote active transportation
- Reduce travel delays
- Improve access and circulation

Mobility/Access

- Provide facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit
- Improve connectivity to Wellington Station
- Mitigate traffic congestion

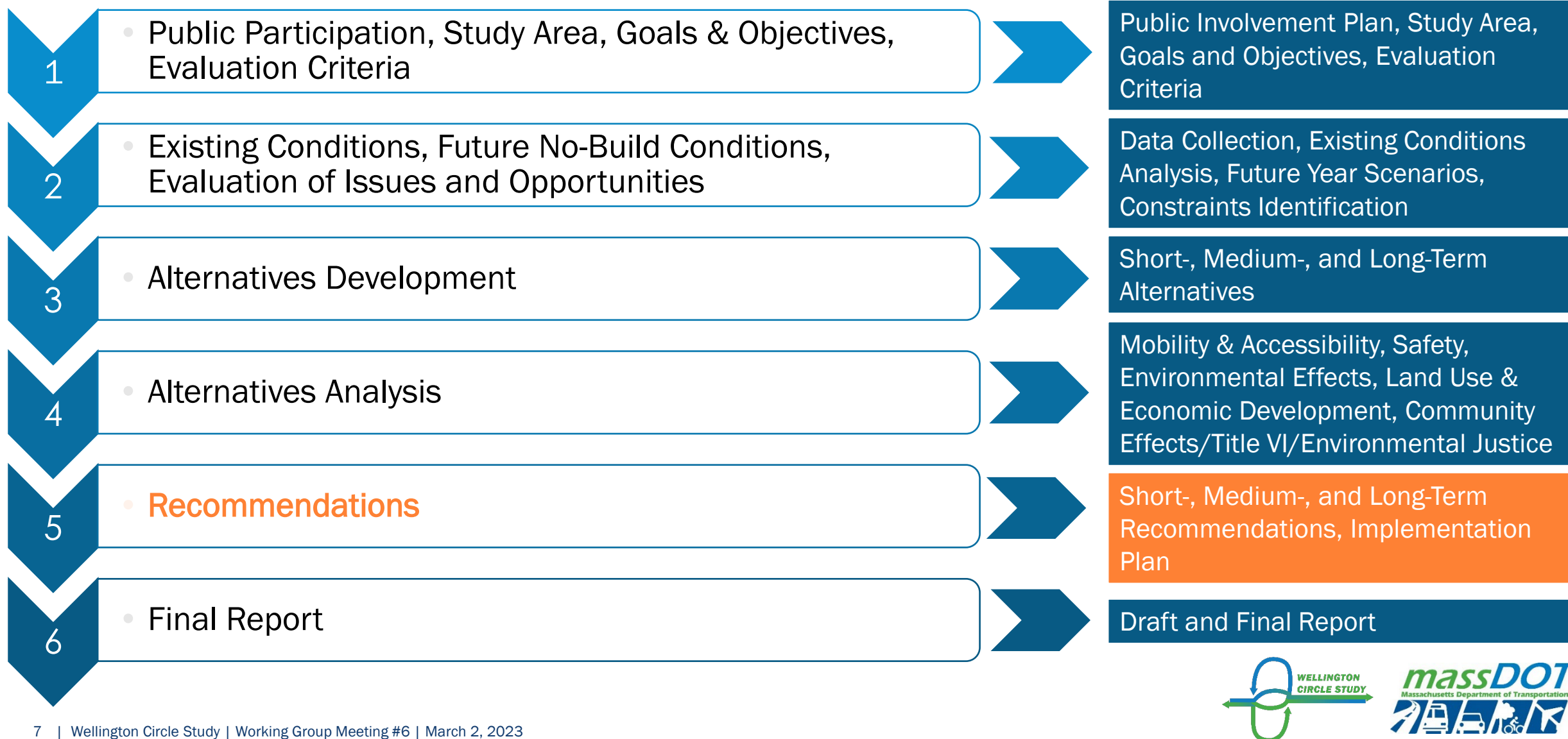
Quality of Life

- Enhance attractiveness
- Minimize public health & environmental impacts
- Provide fair and equitable treatment for environmental justice populations



Study Process

Study Process





DRAFT STUDY FINDINGS

Alternatives Review



Short/Medium-Term Alternative Option A

Draft Study Findings

- Removes right turn channelization
- Relocates Middlesex Avenue
- Prohibits eastbound left turns
- Impacts:
 - Minor improvements to bicycle and pedestrian access and connectivity
 - Increases open space
 - Degrades right turn operations

Cost: \$6.2 M



Short/Medium-Term Alternative Option B

Draft Study Findings

- Maintains channelized right turns for the EB and WB directions to accommodate right turn volumes
- Signalizes right turn lane crosswalks
- Impacts:
 - Small improvements to bicycle and pedestrian access and connectivity
 - Increases open space

Cost: \$6.2 M



At-Grade Alternative: Dual Quadrant

Draft Study Findings



“Square”
Concept

Cost: \$36.7 M



At-Grade Alternative: Dual Quadrant

Draft Study Findings



“Triangle”
Concept

Cost: \$36.7 M



At-Grade Alternative: Dual Quadrant

Draft Study Findings



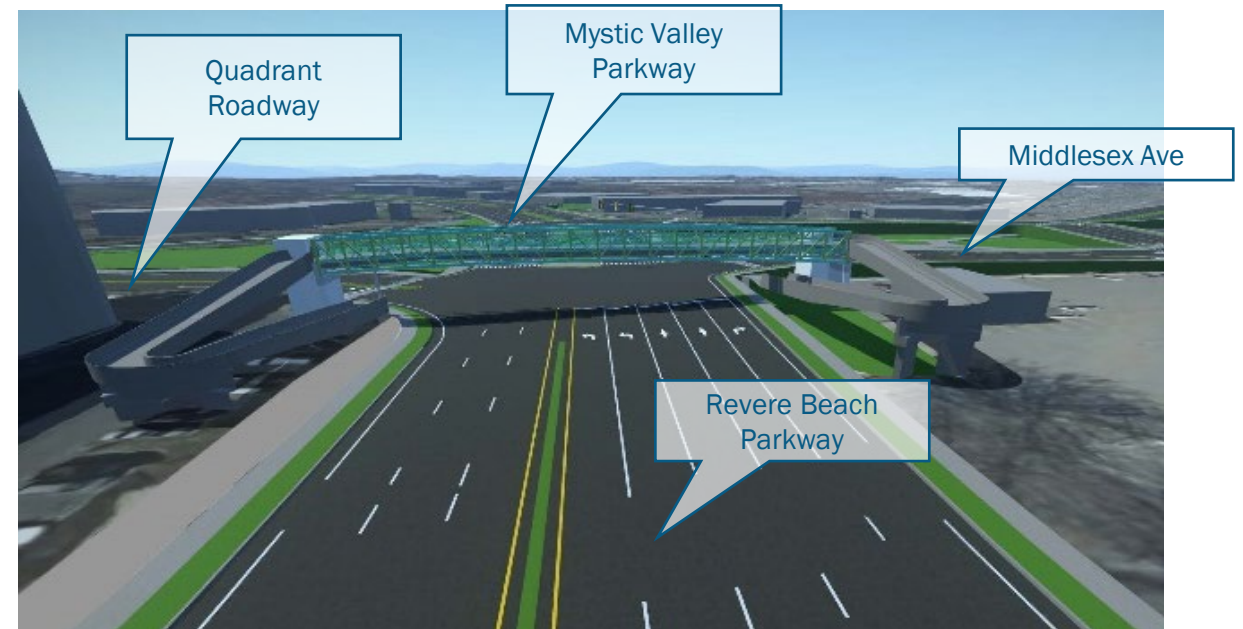
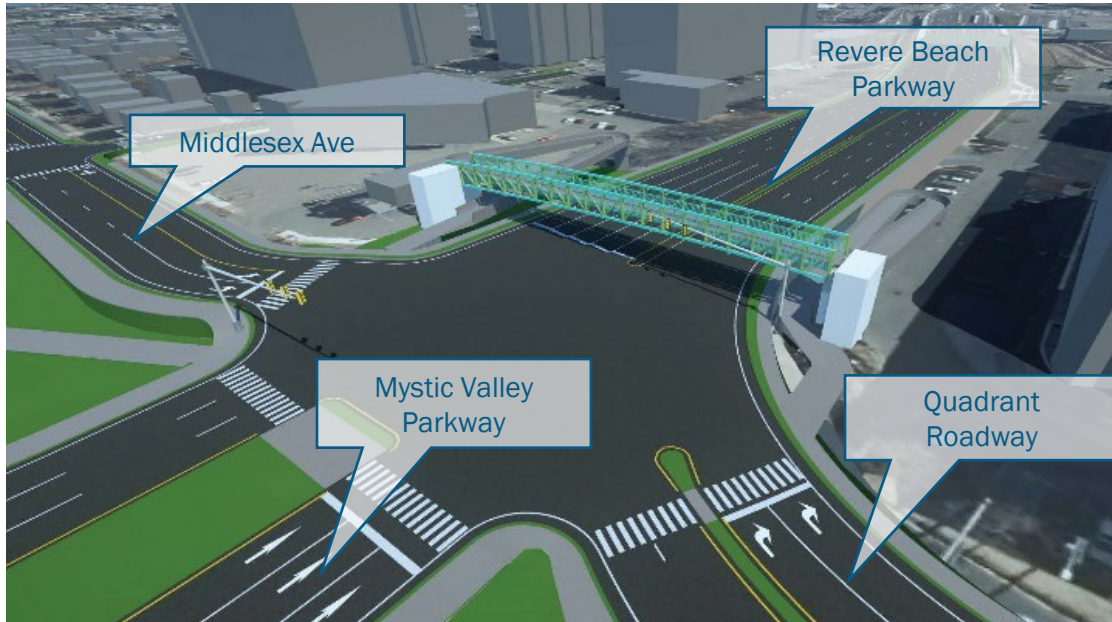
“Transit
Enhanced”
Concept

Cost: \$38.3 M



At-Grade Option: Pedestrian Bridge

Draft Study Findings



Could be added to any at-grade alternative

Cost: \$35.7 M

Grade-Separated Single Quadrant

Draft Study Findings



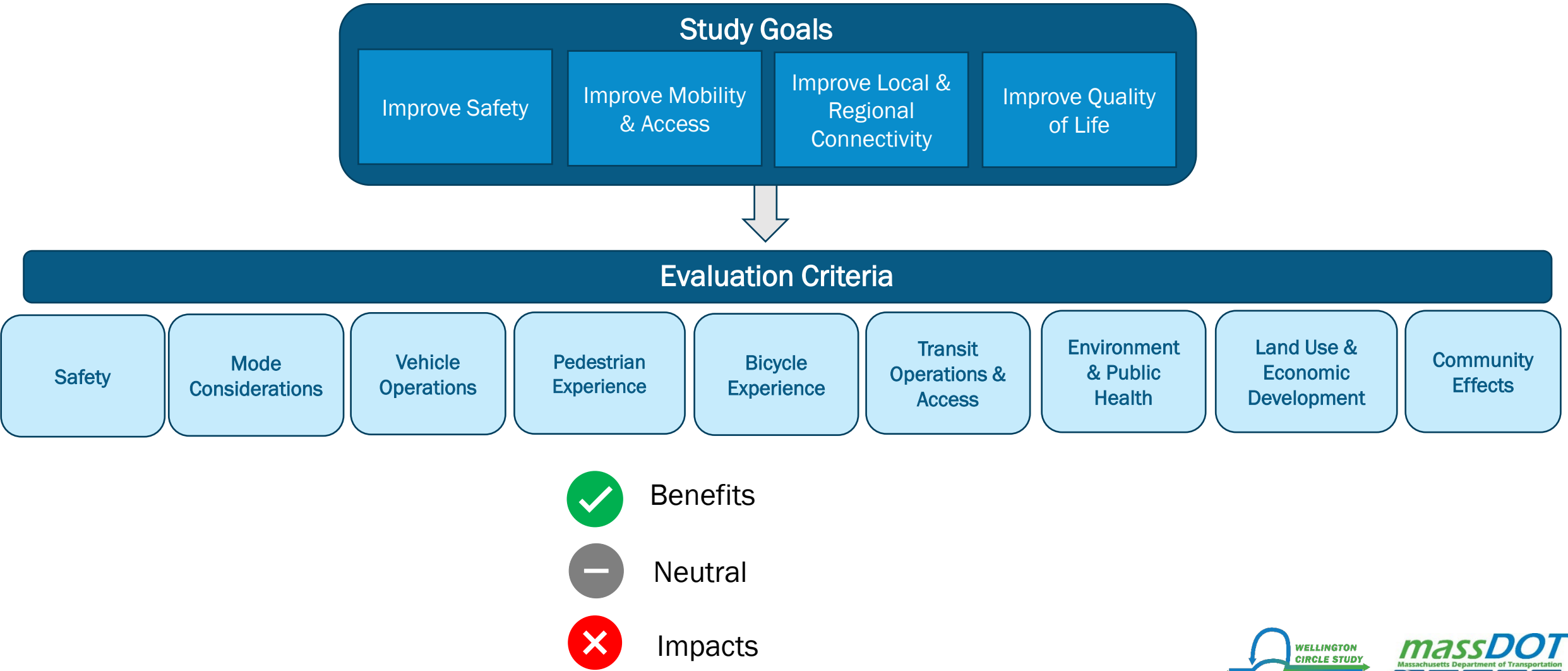
Cost: \$176.9 M



Evaluation & Recommendation



Evaluation Criteria Framework



Alternatives Analysis Summary

Recommended
Alternative

Draft Study Findings

Evaluation Criteria	Short/Medium Term	Long-Term At-Grade	Long-Term At-Grade Transit Enhanced	Long-Term Grade-Separated
Safety	✓	✓	✓	✓
Vehicle Operations	✗	✗	✗	✓
Pedestrian Experience		✓	✓	—
Bicycle Experience		✓	✓	✓
Transit Operations & Access		—	✓	—
Environment & Public Health		✓	✓	✗
Land Use & Economic Development		✓	✓	—
Community Cohesion		✓	✓	—
Environmental Justice		✓	✓	✓
Cost Estimate		\$36.7 M	\$38.3 M	\$176.9 M

✓ Benefits

— Neutral

✗ Impacts

Recommendation Summary

Draft Study Findings

Same benefits as the other
Long-Term At-Grade Alternatives:

- ✓ Safety
- ✓ Pedestrian Experience
- ✓ Bicycle Experience
- ✓ Environmental & Public Health
- ✓ Land Use & Economic Development
- ✓ Community Cohesion
- ✓ Environmental Justice



Recommendation:

Long-Term
At-Grade Alternative –
Triangle/Transit Enhanced

Additional benefits:

- ✓ Transit Operations
& Access

Recommendation Summary

Draft Study Findings

Recommendation:

Long-Term
At-Grade Alternative –
Triangle/Transit Enhanced

Key elements:

- Dedicated transit lanes to accommodate MBTA bus routes 100, 108, and 134
- Dedicated bus phase signals
- Floating bus stops



Recommendation Summary

Draft Study Findings



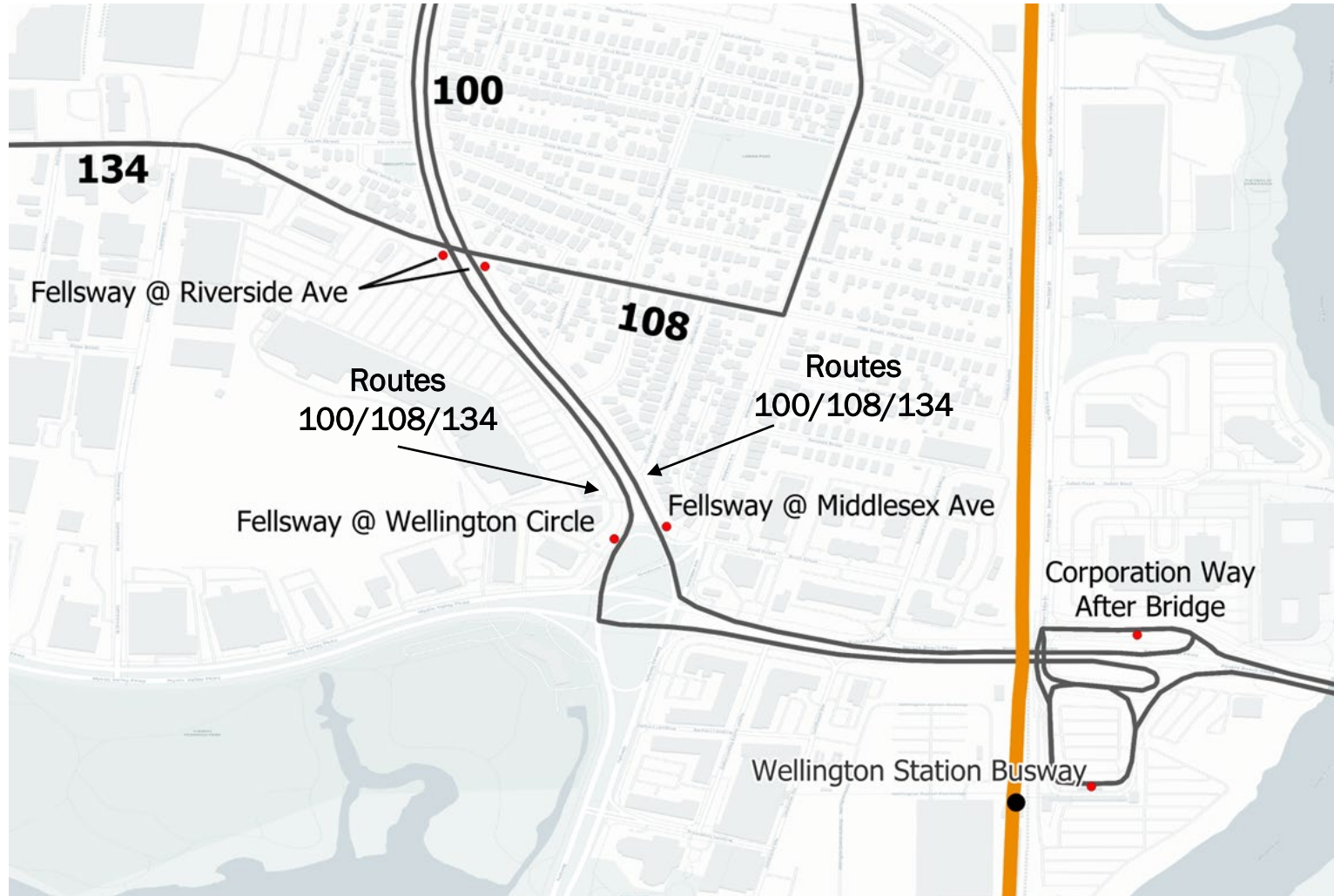
Next Steps:

- Initiate Project Development, where additional elements may include:
 - Completing survey
 - Evaluating feasibility of crossing or pedestrian bridge option on Revere Beach Parkway
 - Integrating bus lanes on Mystic Valley Parkway

Transit Enhanced Benefits

Draft Study Findings

Affected Bus Routes – Existing Routing



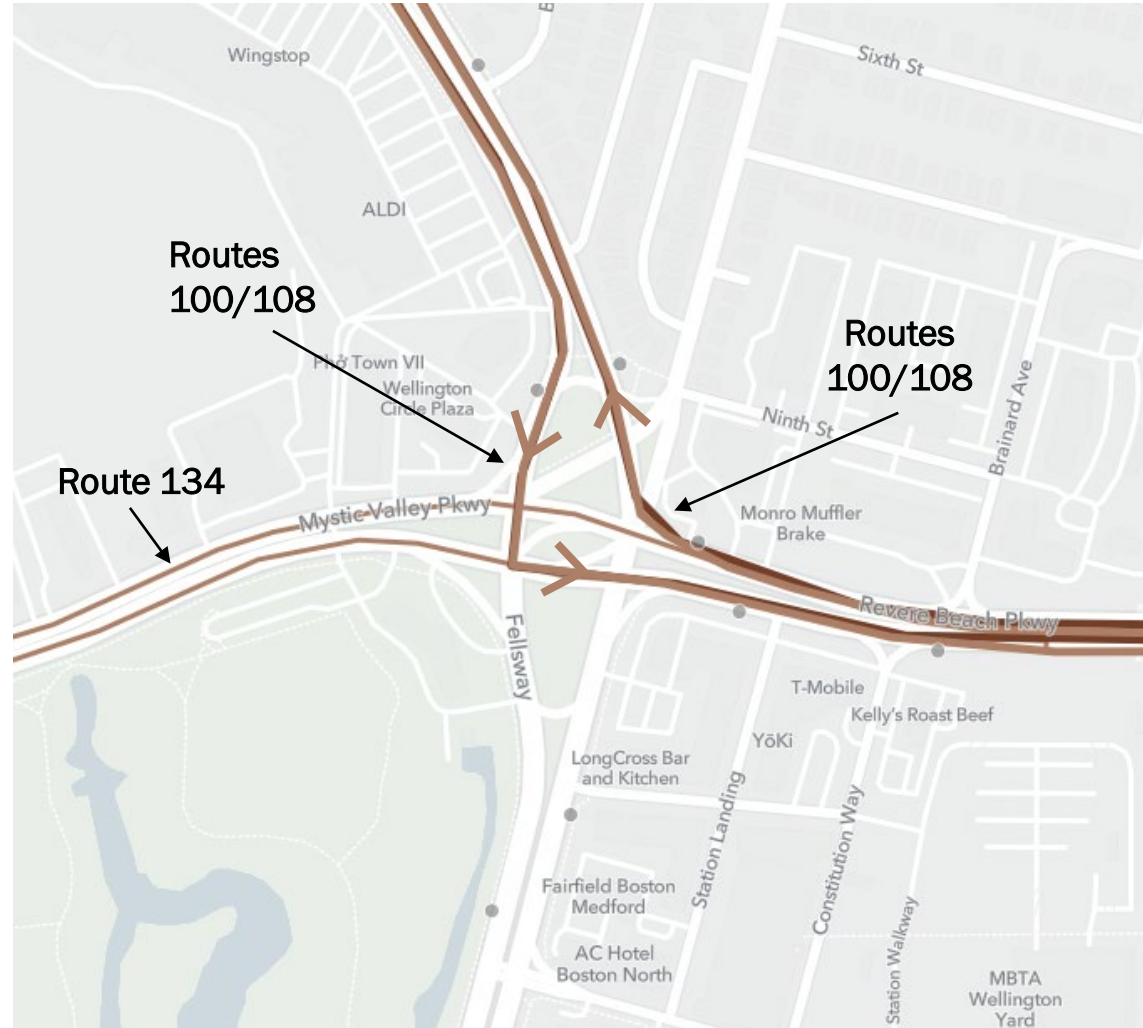
Key benefits:

- ✓ Substantial transit travel time savings compared to other alternatives
- ✓ Superior transit travel time quality of service (QOS) compared to other alternatives

MBTA Bus Network Redesign (BNRD)

Draft Study Findings

Affected Bus Routes – Proposed Routing



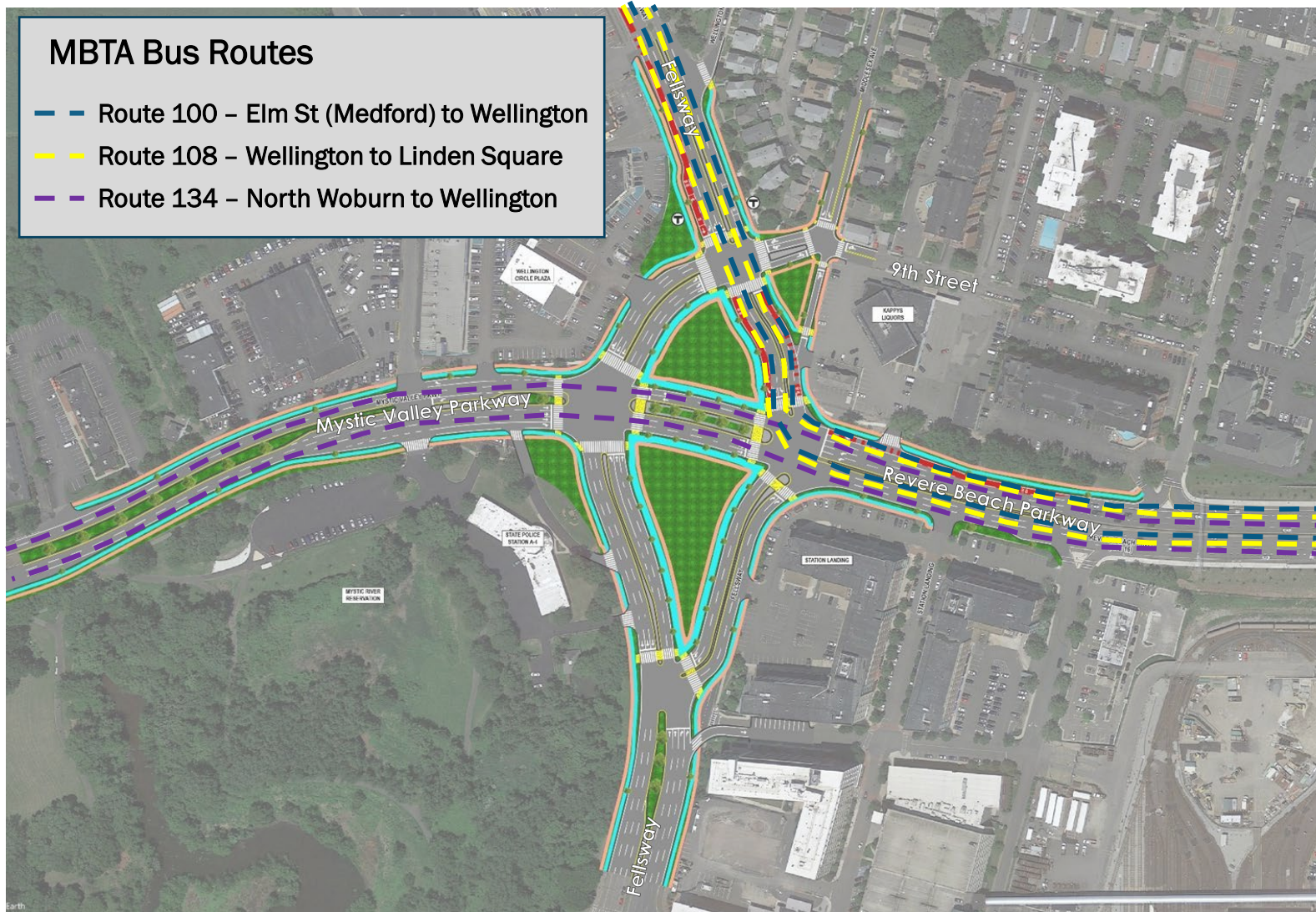
- Increased frequency on Routes 100, 108, 134
- Implementation starting Summer 2023 over several phases

MBTA Bus Network Redesign - Revised Network Map
Fall 2022



MBTA Bus Network Redesign (BNRD)

Draft Study Findings

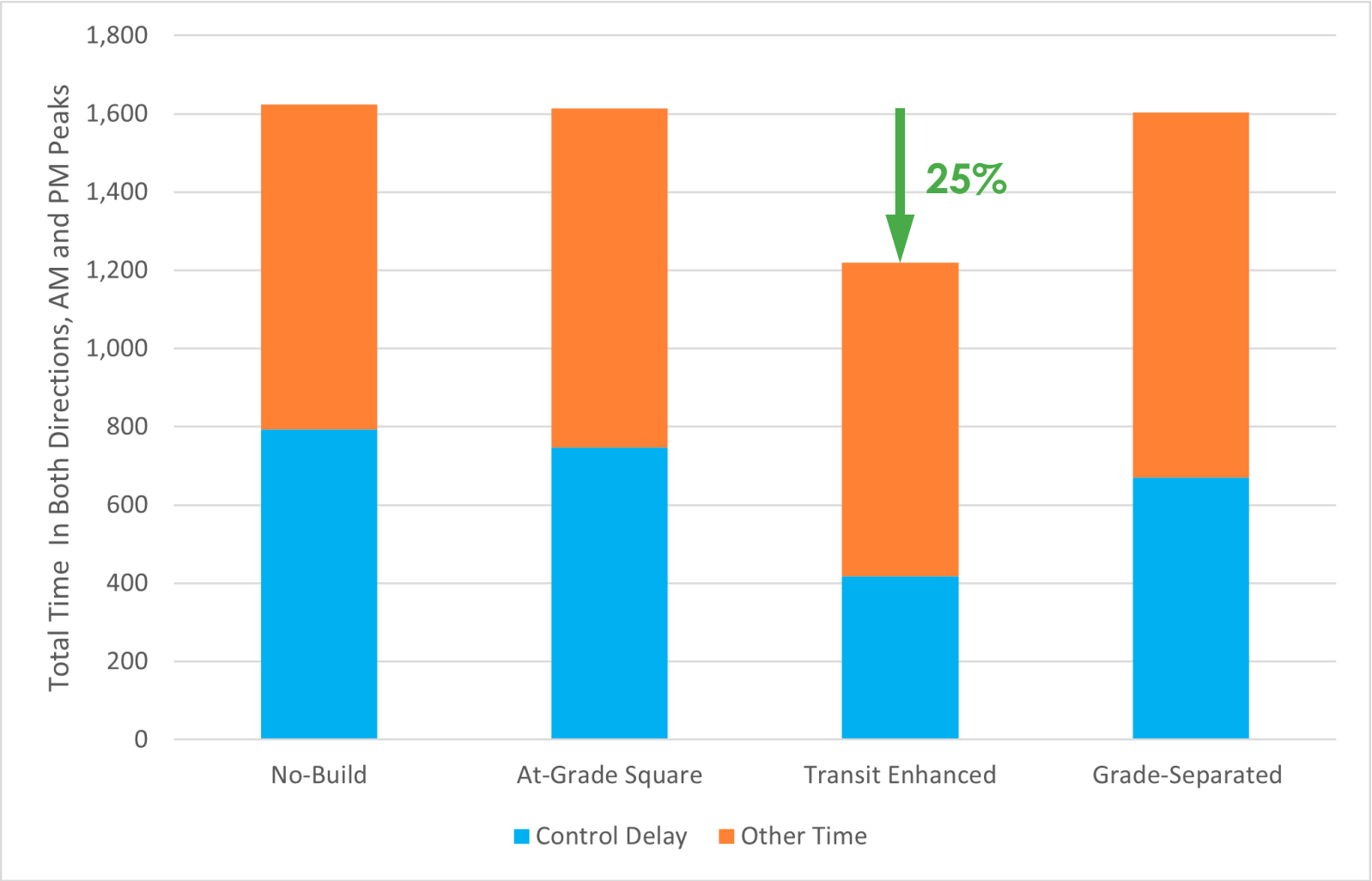


- More direct route for Routes 100/108 inbound to Wellington Station with new roadway configuration
- Recommended bus priority measures capitalize on proposed BNRD frequency improvements

Transit Enhanced Benefits

Draft Study Findings

Transit Travel Time



Total bus travel time is **reduced** by approximately **25%** from the No-Build 2040

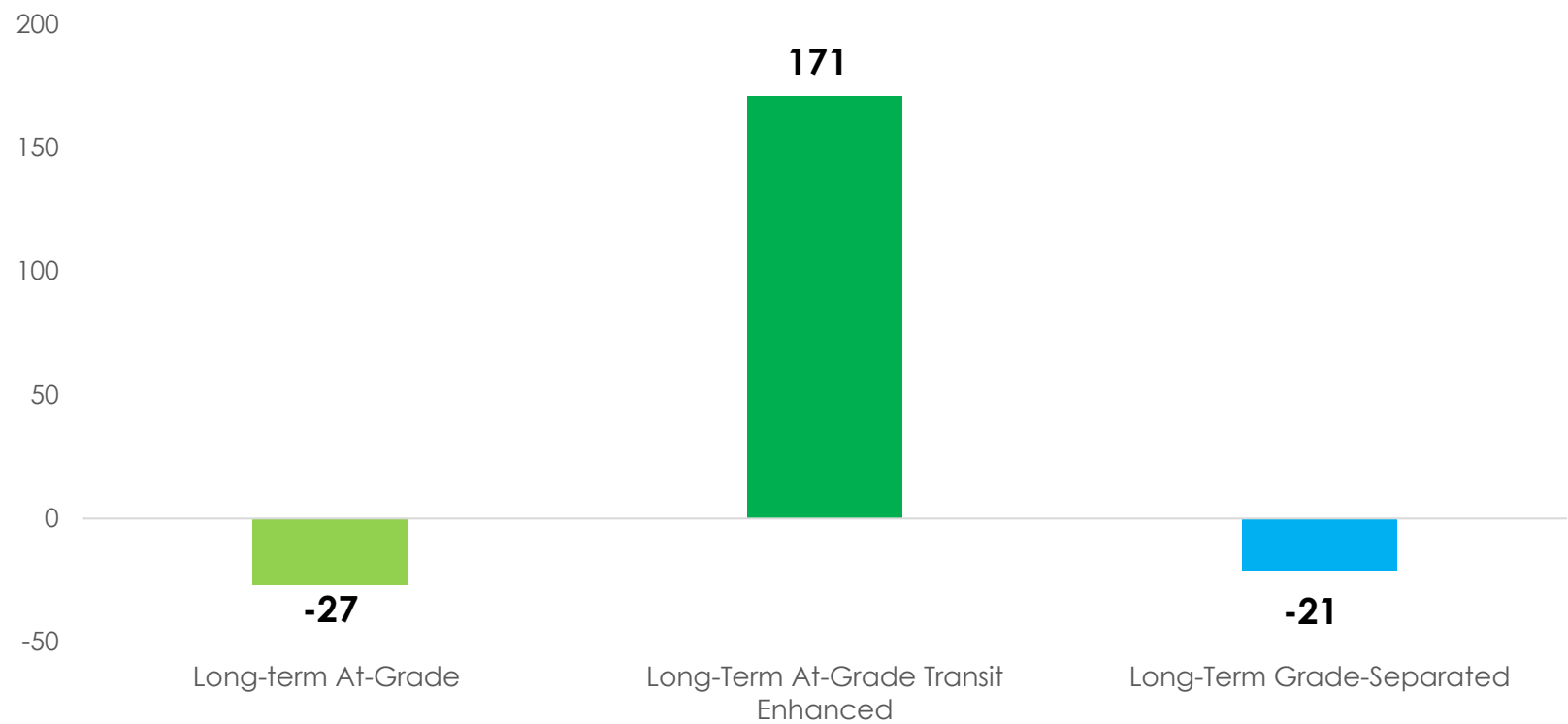


Transit Enhanced Benefits

Transit Travel Time

Draft Study Findings

Estimated Savings in Round Trip Transit Time to and from Wellington Station (in seconds)



*Time savings apply to points north and west of the intersection of Fellsway with Riverside Avenue



Transit travel time savings for long-term transit-enhanced alternative



No transit travel time savings for other alternatives

Travel time savings are more significant in the inbound direction towards Wellington station, where buses make a left turn between Fellsway and Mystic Valley Parkway





DRAFT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

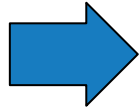
MassDOT Project Development Process

Draft
Implementation Plan

We Are Here

1. Project Need Identification

- Need identified by MassDOT & Community
- Complex Issues Require Planning Study



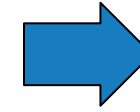
2. Planning

- Define Context
- Public Outreach
- Project Definition and Refinement
- Recommendations

3. Project Initiation

- Define project scope, costs, timeline, impacts and responsibilities
- Score assigned based on eight evaluation criteria
- Approval by MassDOT Project Review Committee
- Project Manager Assigned

4. Design, Environmental, and Right-of-Way



MassDOT Project Development Process

Draft
Implementation Plan

25% Design

- Obtain Ground Survey
- Develop Preliminary Design
- Local Agency Coordination
- Determine MEPA/NEPA Project Category
- Complete Preliminary Right-of-Way Plans

75% Design

- Develop More Detailed Plans (Alignment, Bridges, Drainage)
- Develop Traffic Management Plan
- Interagency Coordination
- File with NEPA/MEPA and Obtain Permits
- Right-of-Way Plans filed with Director

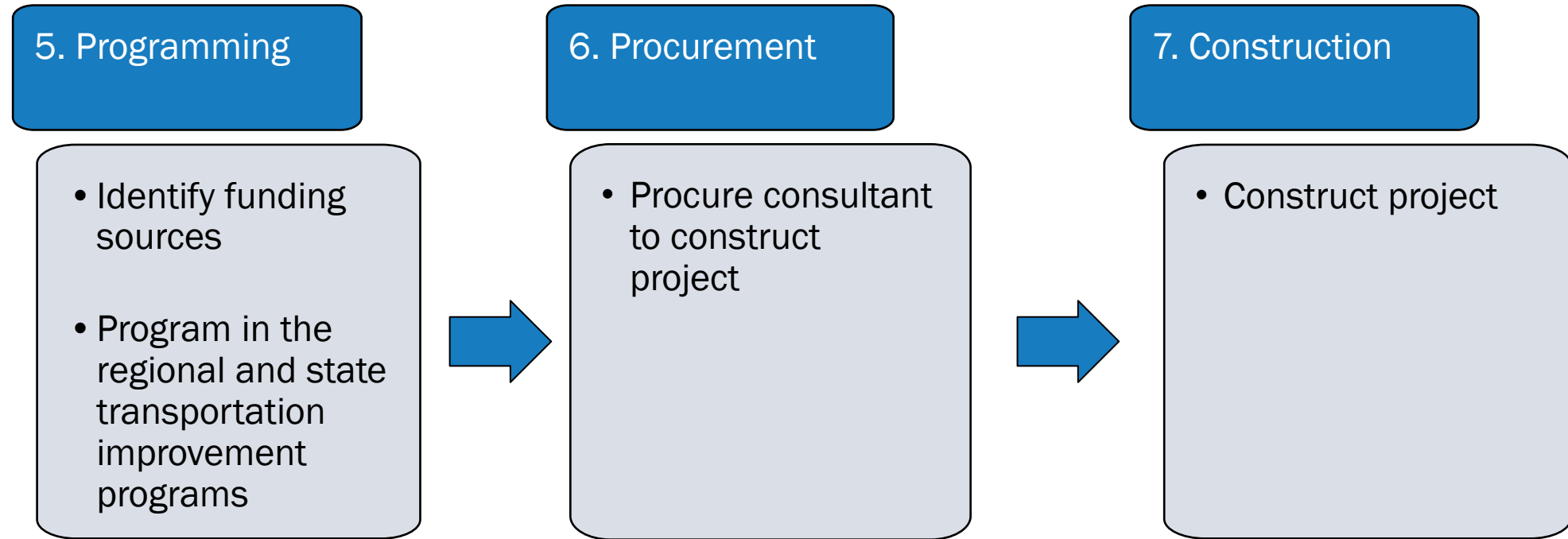
100% Design

- Complete Constructability Review & Finalize Construction Plans
- Develop Traffic Control Agreement with Municipality (if required)
- Final Cost Estimates
- Finalize Special Provisions

↑
Public Outreach
↓

MassDOT Project Development Process

Draft
Implementation Plan



Potential Funding Sources

Draft
Implementation Plan

- **Encore Section 61 Finding**
 - Funding for concept design
- **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**
 - Managed by Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- **Federal Discretionary Funds***
 - RAISE Grant Program
 - Carbon Reduction Program
 - Reconnecting Communities Program
 - Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program



*Project eligibility and potential funding subject to change



WORKING GROUP DISCUSSION

Discussion

Working Group
Discussion



Recommendation:

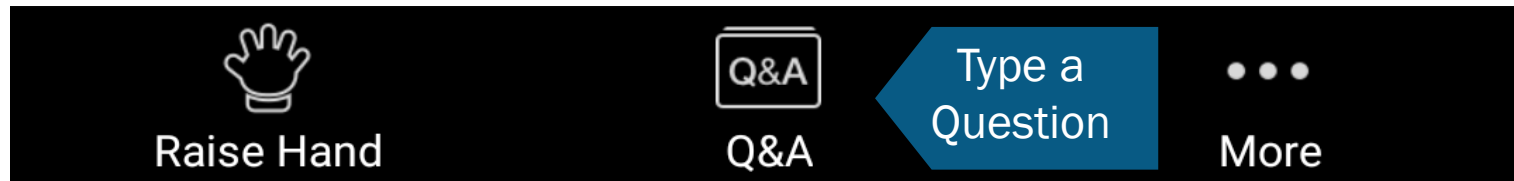
Long-Term
At-Grade Alternative –
Triangle/Transit Enhanced

Public Comment

Working Group
Discussion

- Use Q&A to submit questions/comments in writing
- Press the “Raise Hand” button to share a question/comment verbally

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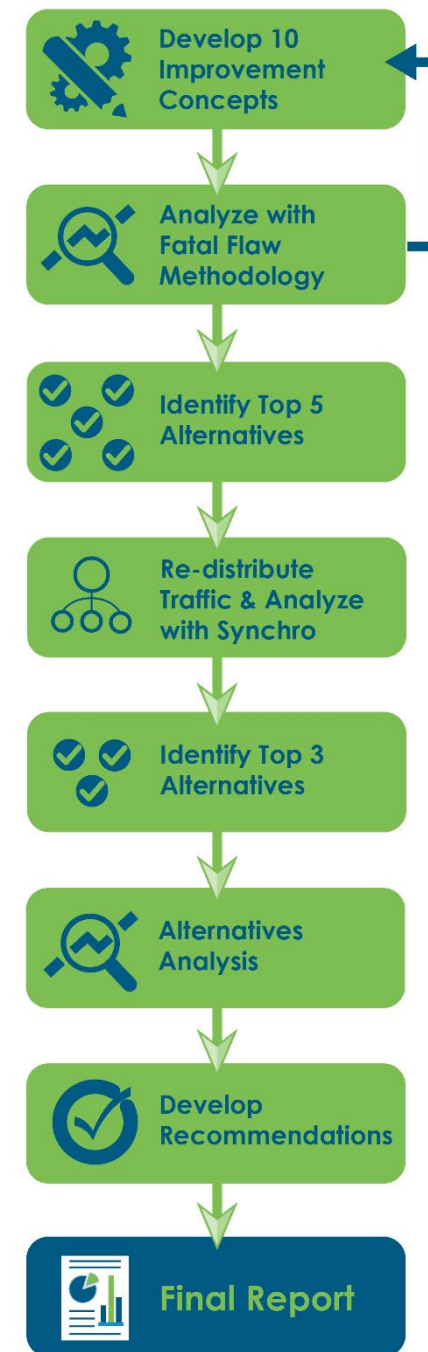
- If you are participating by phone only, you can press the star button then nine (*9) to raise your hand
- Comments may also be shared throughout the process via the [study comment form](#)



NEXT STEPS

Next Steps

- Finalize Recommendations
- Draft Final Report – April 2023
- Public Comment Period
- Public Meeting – April 2023
- Final Report – May 2023



Next Steps

Next Steps

Next Steps

- Next Public Meeting: April 2023
 - Present draft study findings and recommendations
- Draft Final Report

More Information:

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Project Website: <https://www.mass.gov/wellington-circle-study>

