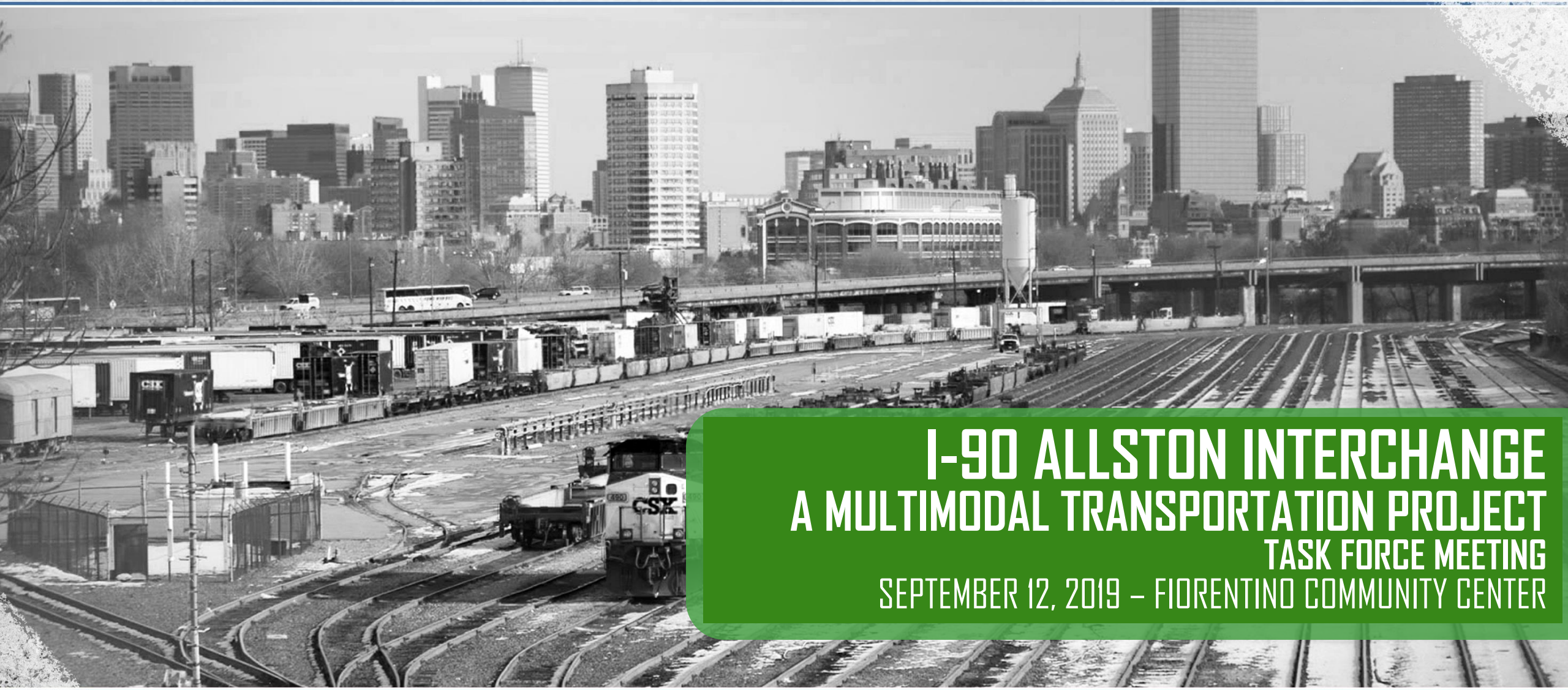


I-90 ALLSTON INTERCHANGE
A MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECT
TASK FORCE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2019 – FIORENTINO COMMUNITY CENTER

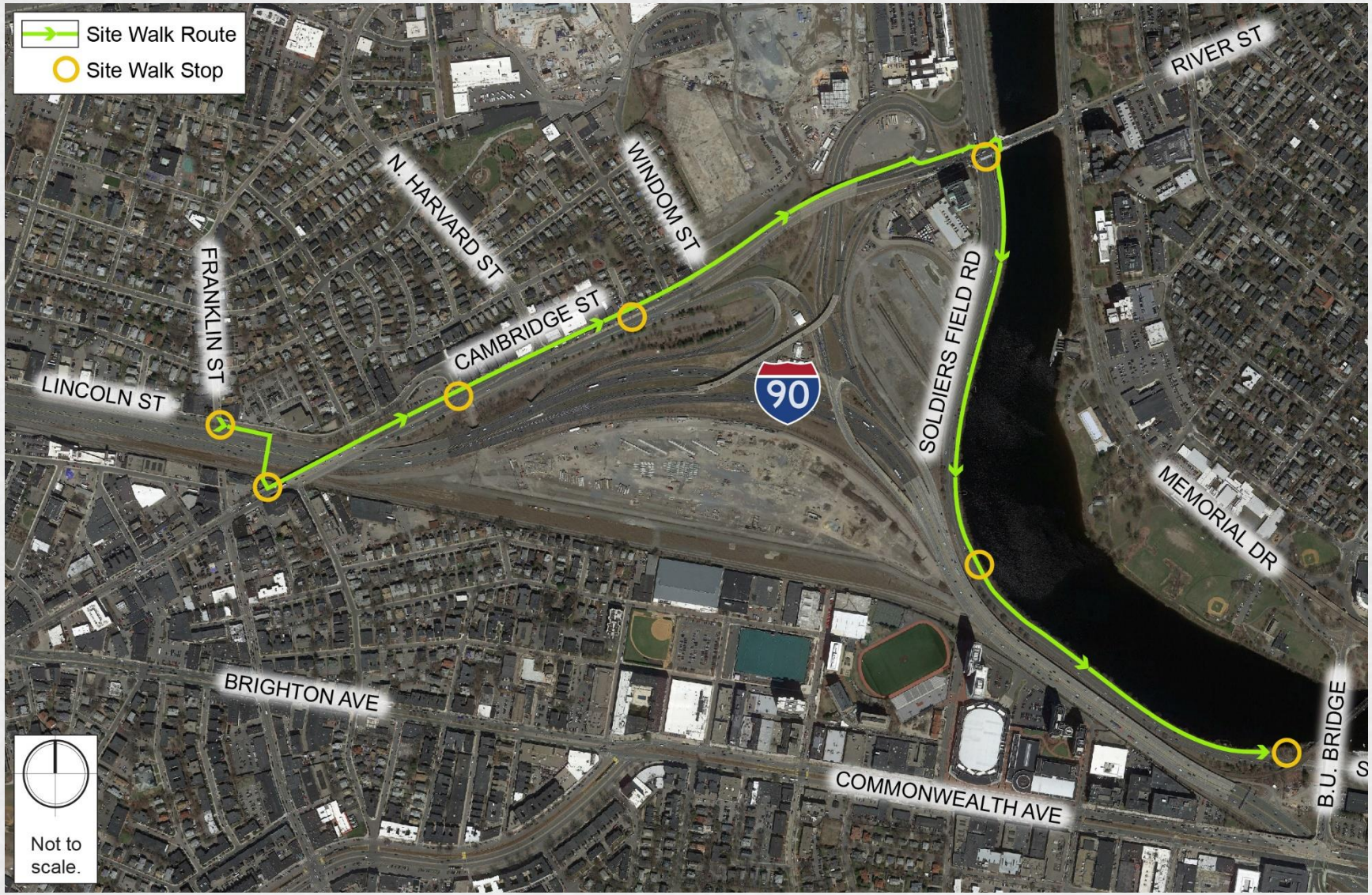
Meeting Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Public Meetings and Site Walk Update
- NEPA and Agency Coordination Update
- Charles River Bank/Park Treatment
- Discussion

Meeting Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Public Meetings and Site Walk Update

Task Force Site Walk – July 30



- From Franklin Street
- To the BU Bridge
- Via:
  - Cambridge Street
  - Paul Dudley White Path

Task Force Site Walk – July 30 – Highlights of Discussion I

- Franklin Street footbridge is an important, neighborhood connector
  - Early replacement remains a MassDOT goal
  - Columns must be placed to avoid impacts to needed I-90 and rail shifts during construction
- Cambridge Street at Linden Street and Lincoln Street
  - Project team is studying how to construct a safe bicycle/pedestrian crossing here
  - Project will reconstruct Lincoln Street pedestrian switchback with accessible grades
- Cambridge Street at Seattle Street
  - West Station to be approximately 800' south (towards Brookline) of this intersection
  - Cambridge Street to be reconstructed with:
    - Separated bicycle/pedestrian facilities on both sides
    - Protected intersections
    - A triple row of street trees
  - Protecting streets like Seattle from cut-through traffic remains an important project goal

Task Force Site Walk – July 30 – Highlights of Discussion II

- Along the Dudley White Path
  - Concept 3L includes a single lane right turn to Cambridge via River Street from SFR
  - Still allows for relief of "the narrows" and expansion of parkland
  - Proposed temporary trestle to run from Salt Creek outfall to the BU Bridge
- At the BU Bridge
  - Riverbank restoration will be:
    - Built into the project
    - Likely to look similar to DCR Memorial Drive Phase II work in Cambridge
  - Proposed SFR viaduct will allow for capture/treatment of stormwater before discharge

Summer Public Information Meetings

- Framingham – July 18
- Worcester – August 14
- Strong attendance at both events
- Focus on mobility during and after construction
  - *"How will this benefit us in MetroWest?"*
  - Commuter rail
  - Express buses
  - Ensuring that the public is kept informed during construction
- Request for ongoing dialog with MetroWest/Worcester

Meeting Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Public Meetings and Site Walk Update
- NEPA and Agency Coordination Update

NEPA and Agency Coordination Update

- Agency Coordination to Date
  - July 16th and August 27th Coordination Meetings
  - Introduced agencies to the project including: proposed purpose & need, schedule, alternatives including the Throat options, constructability of the SFR Hybrid option
- Anticipated NOI publication by the end of October
  - NOI is a public notice that FHWA will be preparing an Environmental Impact Statement for the project.
  - Kicks off the scoping process and starts the 2 year clock on the NEPA process – two year timeline from publication of the NOI to publication of the FEIS/ROD (Record of Decision).

NEPA and Agency Coordination Update

- Scoping
  - Public's first opportunity to comment on the project during the NEPA process
  - Scoping Report to be published for public comment after publication of the NOI
  - Under 23 U.S.C. 139(g)(2), the public comment period for Scoping will be 30 days
  - Scoping Report includes:
    - Public Involvement Plan
    - Purpose & Need
    - Preliminary Alternatives for the project
    - Methods of evaluating environmental impacts
- MEPA
  - Anticipated Notice of Project Change (NPC) early 2020

Permitting

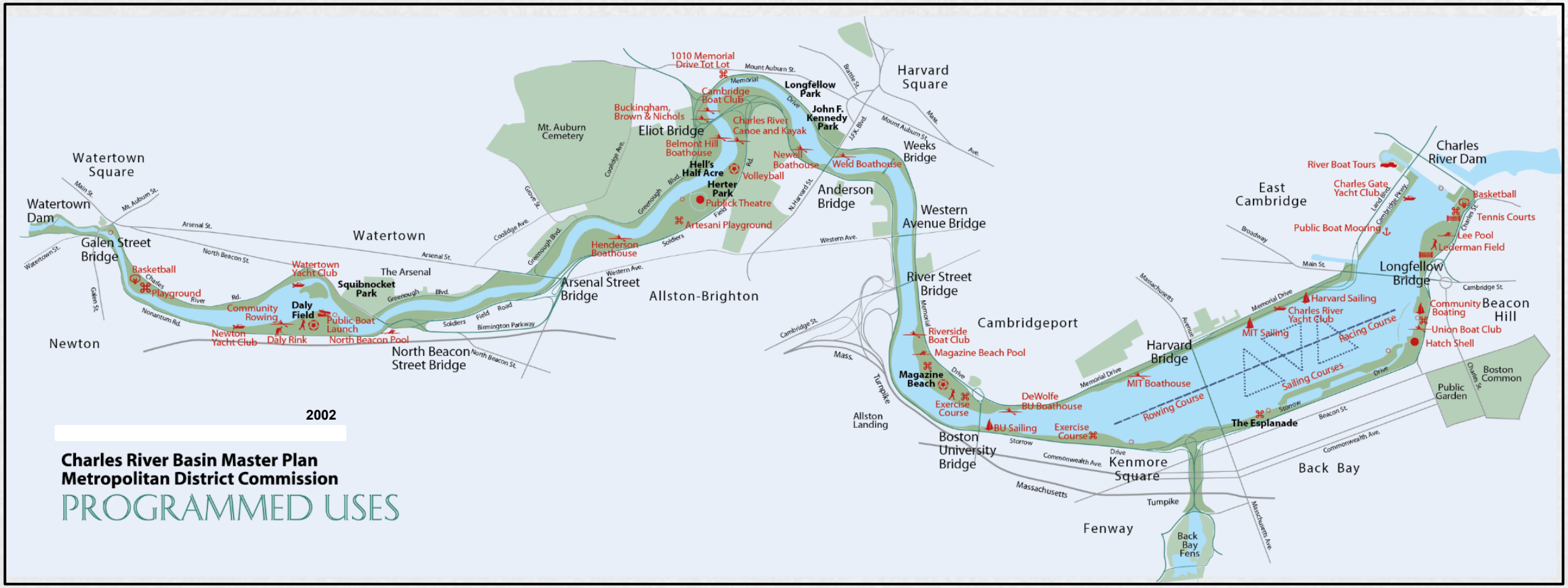
- USCG
  - Navigation Impact Report
- USACE and Coast Guard
  - Coordination Meeting on August 28th
- DEP Wetlands & Waterways
  - ANRAD
  - Permitting Coordination Meeting on August 8th

Meeting Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
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- NEPA and Agency Coordination Update
- Charles River Bank/Park Treatment

Programmed Uses

2002 Charles River Basin Master Plan



I-90 Allston Interchange Project Placemaking Study

Component Concepts:

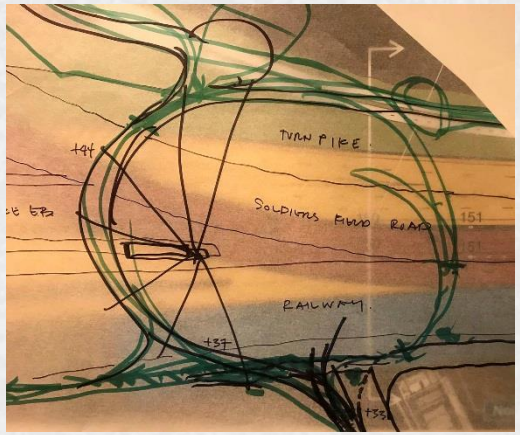
- Provide space for a park that will be a node along the riverfront and become an easily accessed open space resource for the district and nearby neighborhoods.
- Provide an open space resource for informal recreation, gatherings, events, celebrations and enjoyment of the views of the city, activities on the Charles, and the riverside landscape.
- Provide space for a park that can become a destination with features like other comparable segments of the Charles River Reservation.
- Do not create vehicle overpasses that shade the park.
- Use new parkland along the river and within the district to mitigate potential flood conditions and contribute to resiliency. The design response can raise grades and use other methods to help protect flood-prone infrastructure and adjacent areas

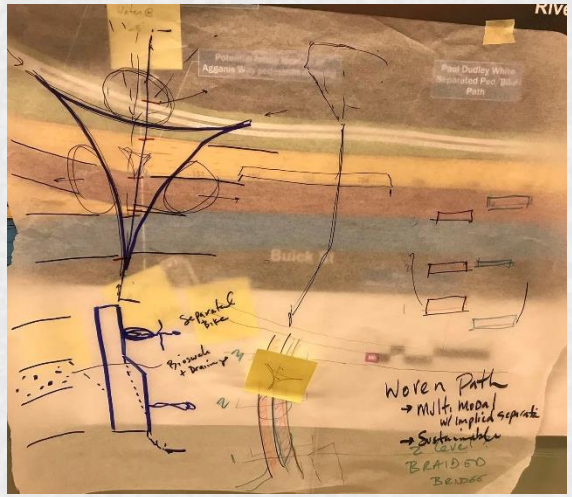


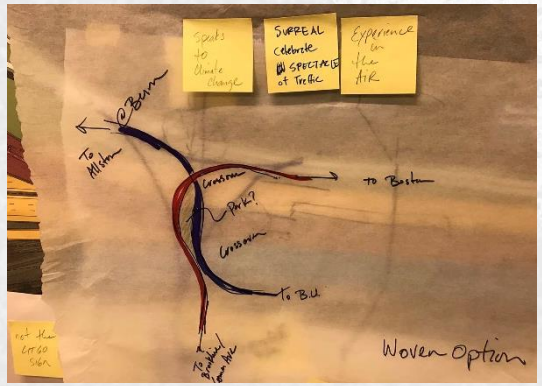
April 2019 BSA Charette

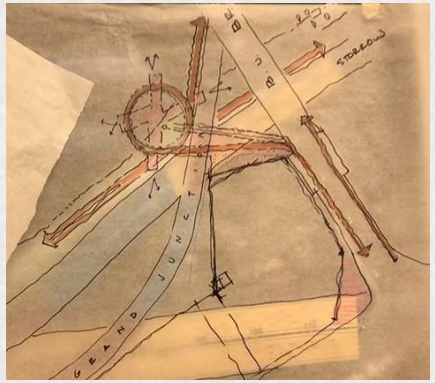
Focus Group Topics

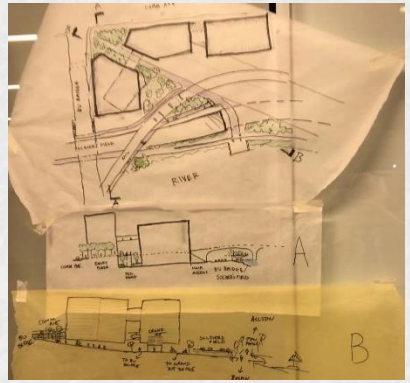
- Agannis Way Crossover
  - Very desirable
  - Opportunities for vistas
  - Connections in both directions
  - Sculptural
- BU & Grand Junction Bridges/Soldiers Field Road/Commonwealth Ave Nexus
  - Very desirable
  - Connections to BU Bridge, street, and Grand Junction
  - Could be integrated with new development
- Allston Throat Esplanade
  - Highway buffer
  - Expand park towards river to provide separation from the highway (floating wetlands)
  - Separate bicyclists from walking/park experience

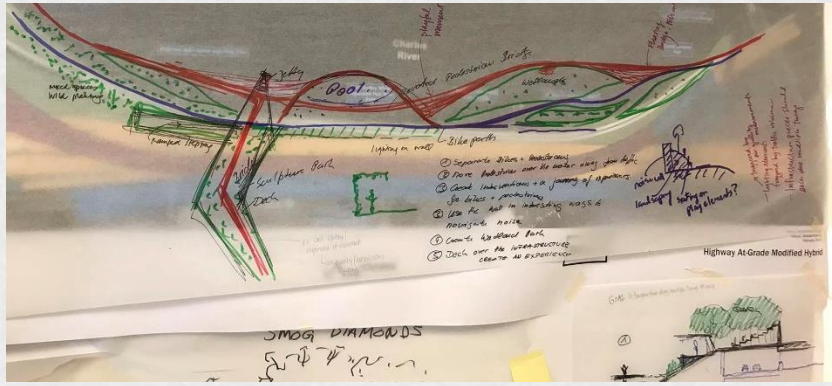


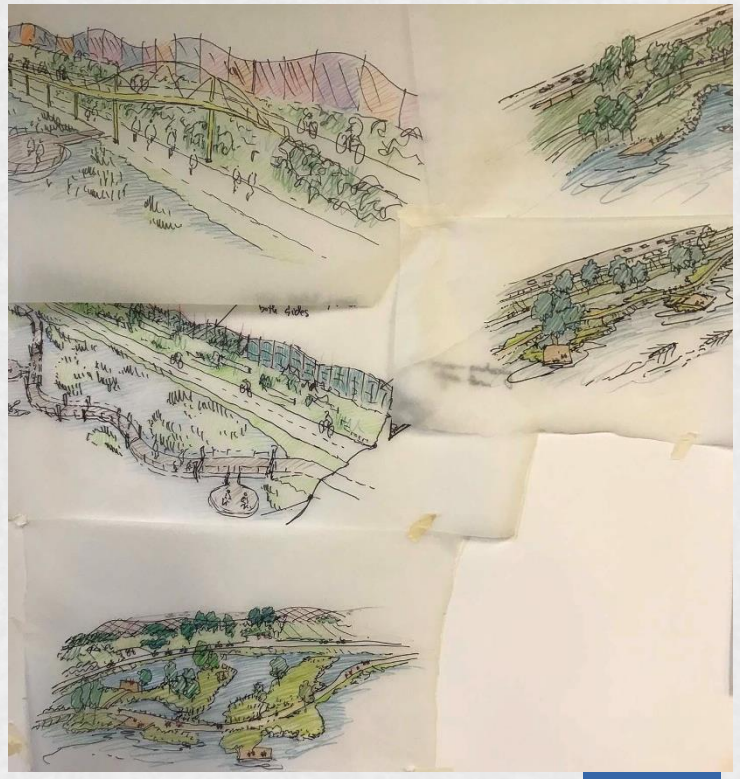






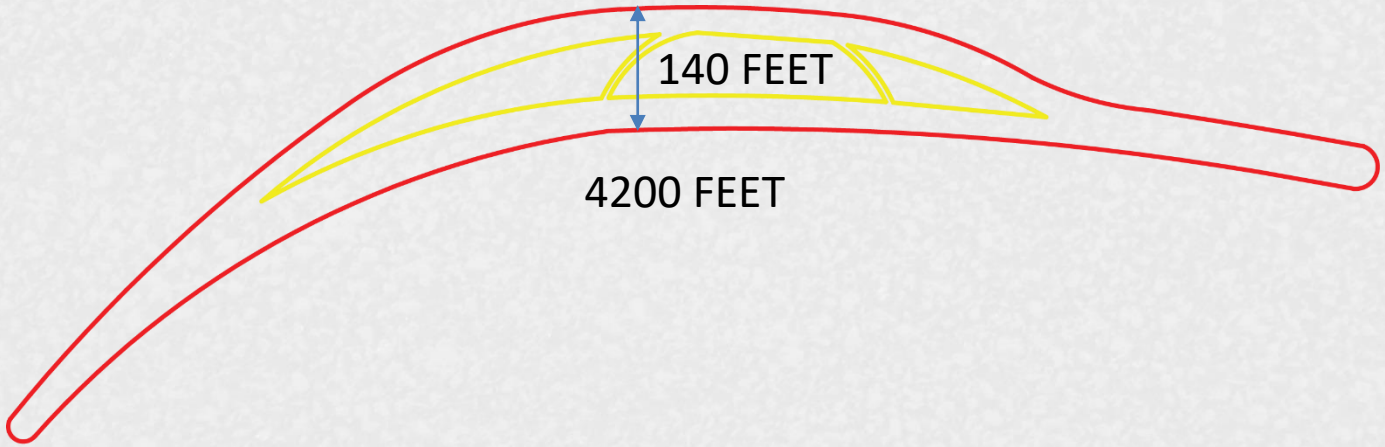






River Parkland Scalar Studies

River Parkland Site Dimensions



River Parkland Scalar Studies

Charles River Esplanade – West End of Lagoon near Boston University Housing

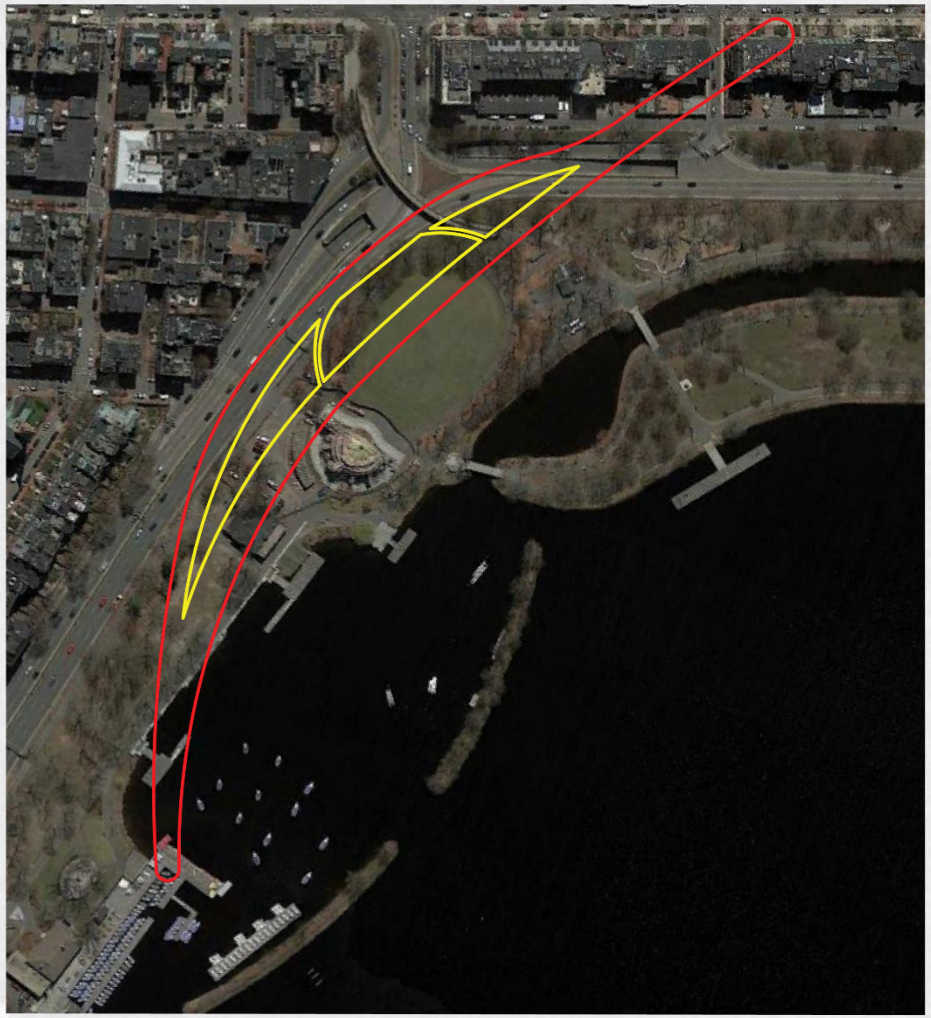


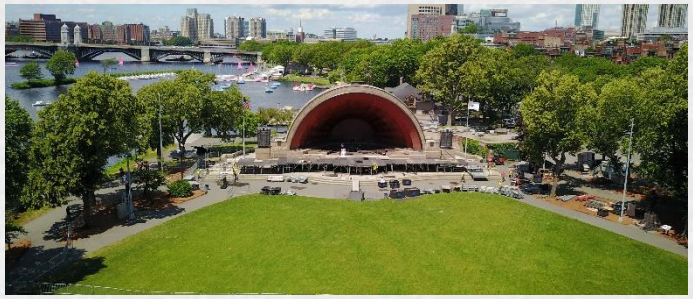




River Parkland Scalar Studies

Hatch Shell Lawn at the Charles River Esplanade









River Parkland Scalar Studies

Magazine Beach











River Parkland Scalar Studies

North Riverbank at Harvard









River Parkland Scalar Studies

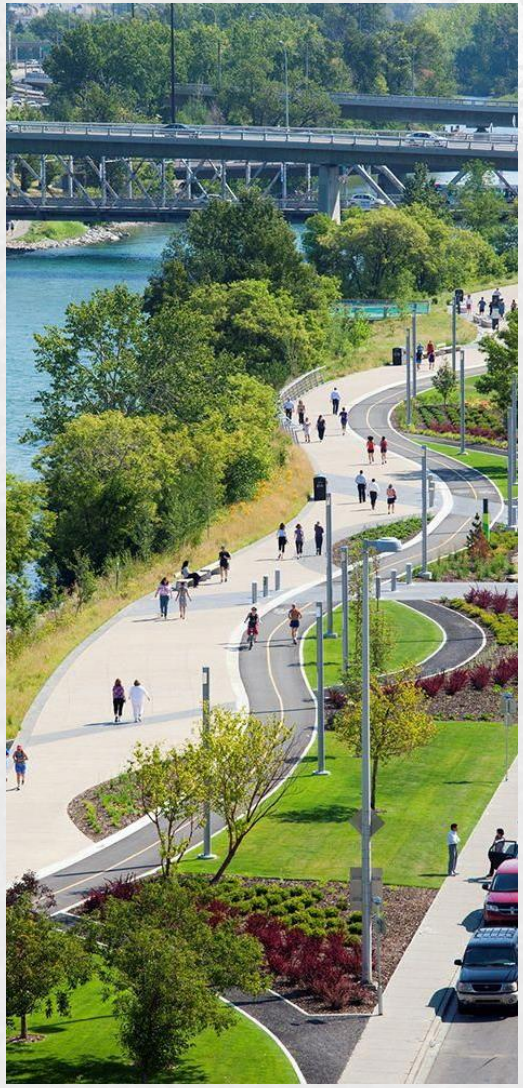
Bow River Walk – Calgary, AB Canada









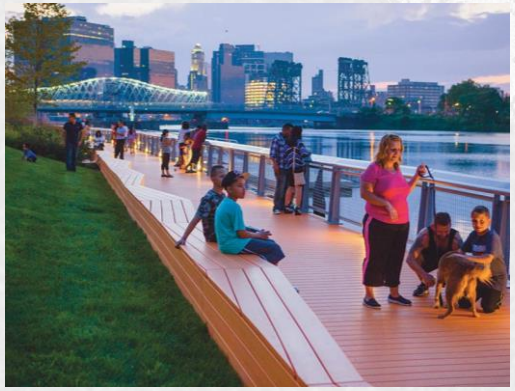


River Parkland Scalar Studies

Passaic Riverfront Park – Newark, New Jersey





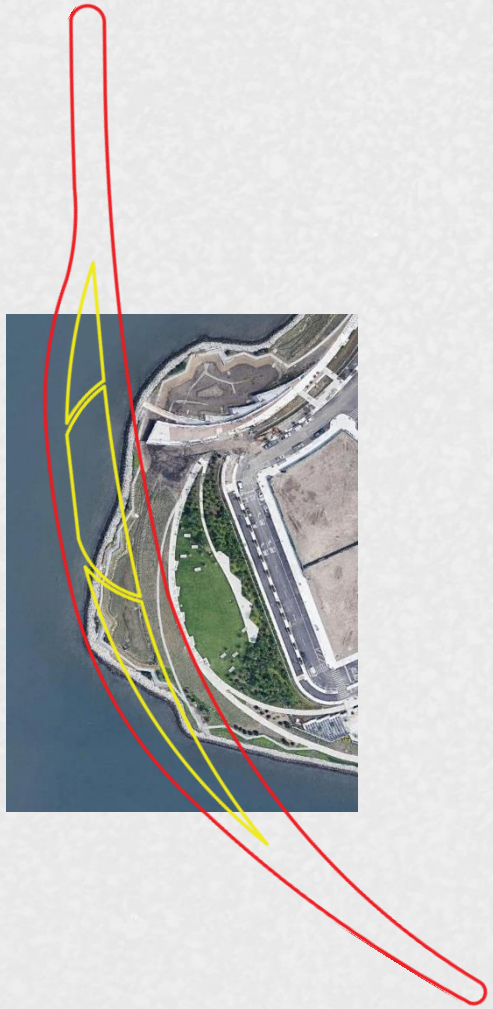






River Parkland Scalar Studies

Hunter's Point South - New York, New York



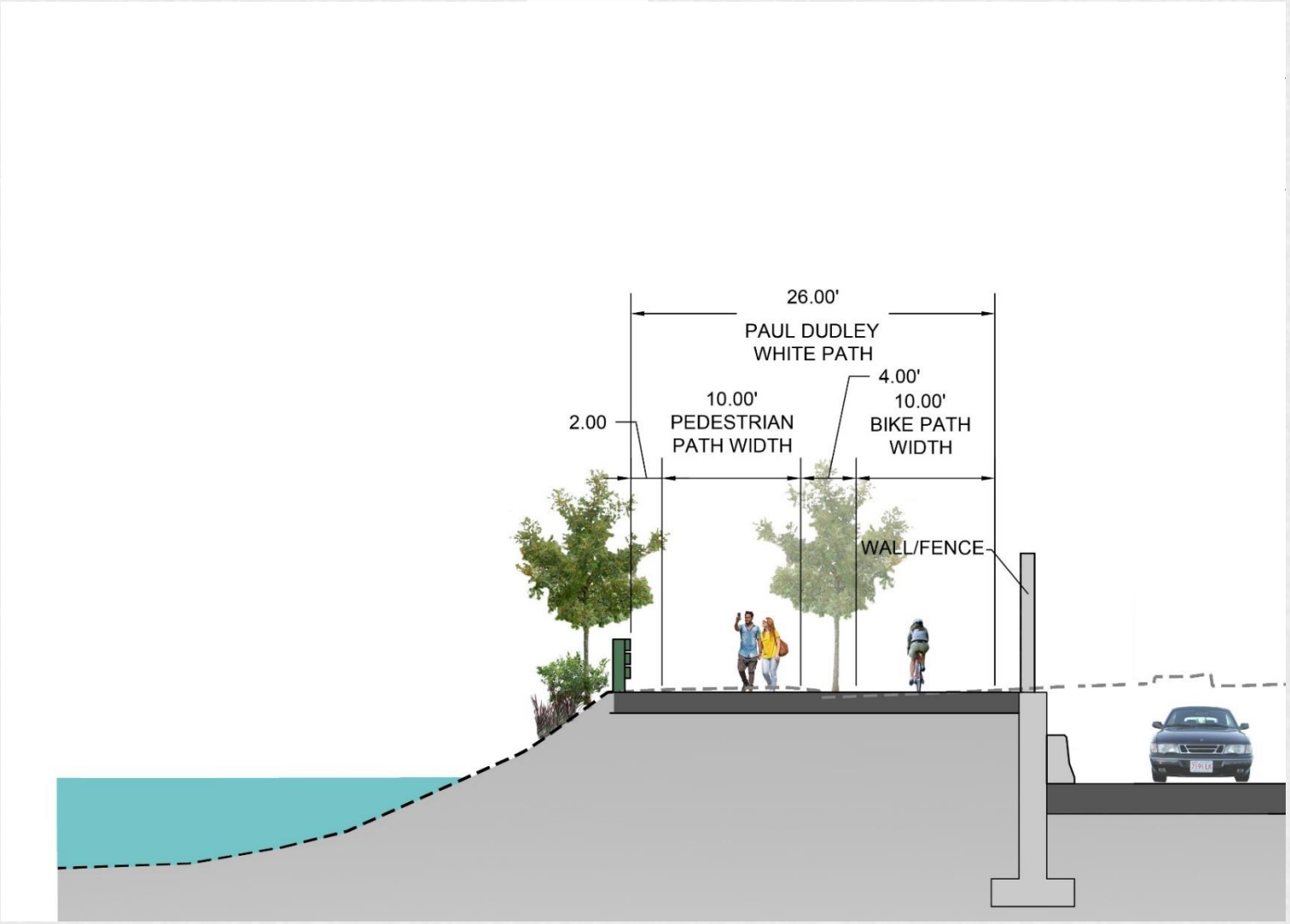






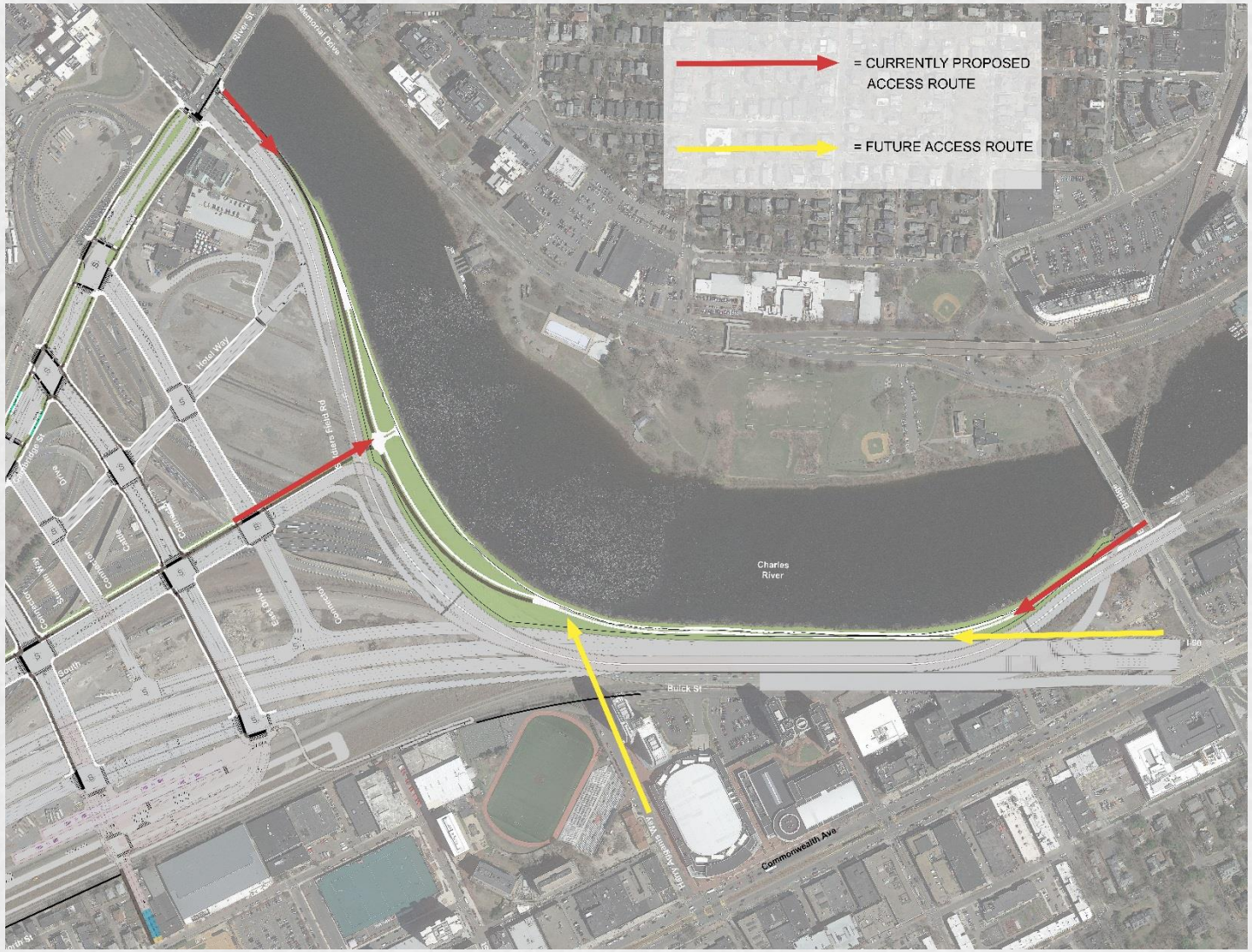
Allston River Parklands and River Edge

Paul Dudley White Bike Path/Pedestrian Way – Section at Most Narrow Point



Allston River Parklands and River Edge

Access Points



Allston River Parklands and River Edge

Access Points



Allston River Parklands and River Edge

Access Points from Future Development (Cambridge Street South)



Allston River Parklands and River Edge

Access Points – Future Access Precedent Photo



Allston River Parklands and River Edge

Back Edge Condition – Walls and Fencing



Allston River Parklands and River Edge

Back Edge Condition - Precedents







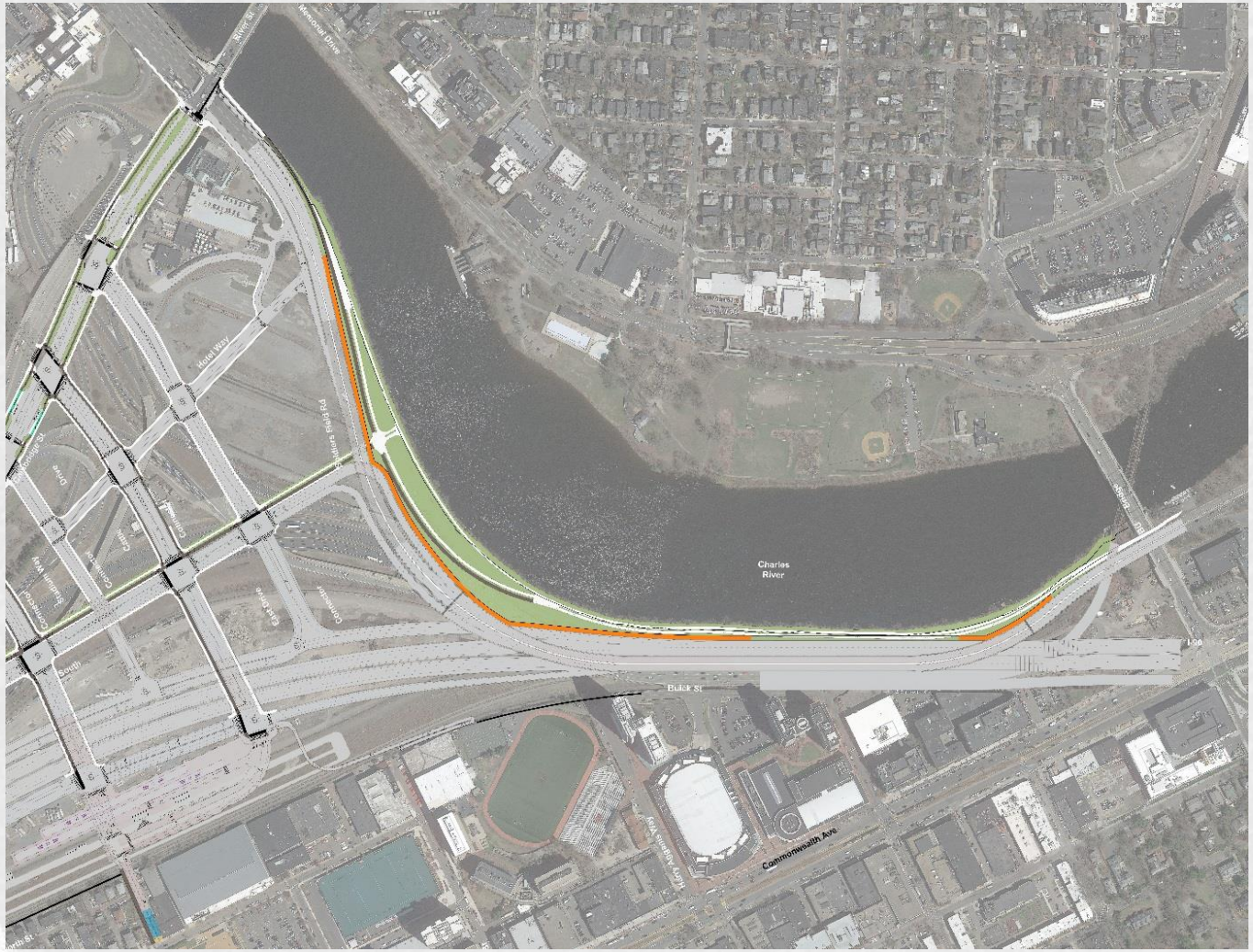






Allston River Parklands and River Edge

Back Edge Condition



- Orange zone indicates 15ft offset from highway wall

Allston River Parklands and River Edge

Back Edge Condition



Allston River Parklands and River Edge

Back Edge Condition



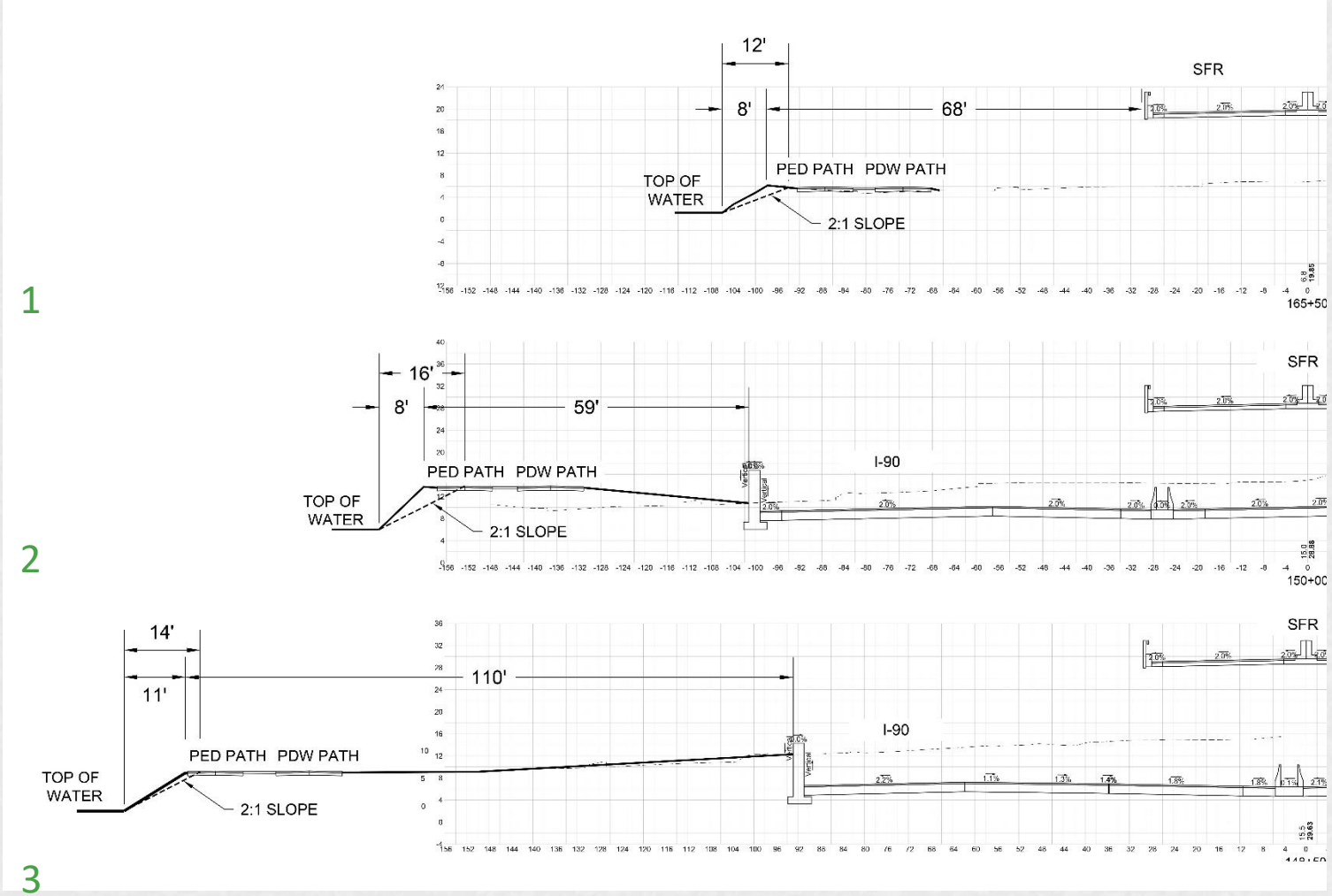
Allston River Parklands and River Edge

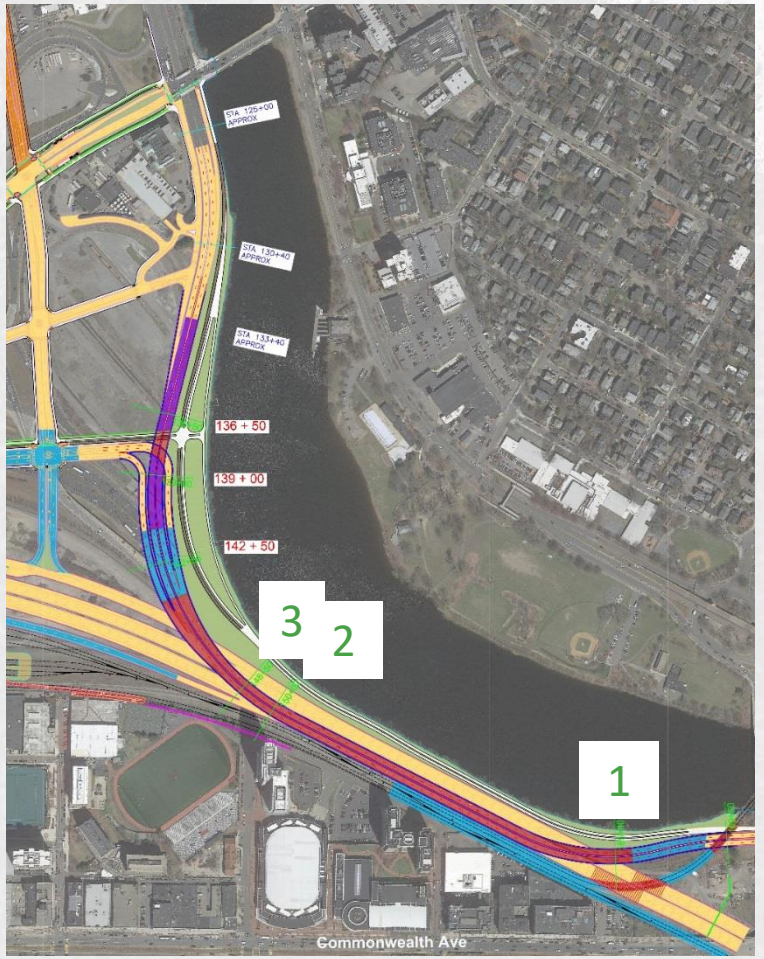
River Edge Considerations

- Extent of Reconstruction
- Relationship of Park Users to Water
- Biodiversity / Width of Planted Bank
- Erosion / Slope
- Outfalls

Allston River Parklands and River Edge

River Edge – Slope in Reconstructed Areas





Allston River Parklands and River Edge

River Edge Objectives – DCR Charles River Basin Vegetation Management Plan



G TYPE G: RIPARIAN WOODED BANKS WITH UNDERSTORY

4.7 Type G: Riparian Wooded Banks with Understory

4.7.1 Existing Conditions

Predominant Plant Community: Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*), Oaks (*Quercus* spp.), Beech (*Fagus* spp.), Ash (*Fraxinus* spp.), White Pine (*Pinus strobus*), Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), and Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*) make up the overstory layer. The understory is composed of invasive species - Buckthorn (*Rhus typhina*), Barberry (*Berberis* spp.), Multiflora Rose (*Rosa multiflora*) with native and non-native shade-tolerant woody understory species - Poison Ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*), Bittersweet (*Solanum dulcamara*).

Riparian Wooded Banks with Understory are comprised of shoreline with intermittent to dense tree canopy, herbaceous and shrubby vegetation, and natural shoreline conditions. Shrubs and herbaceous plants in this community are shade tolerant. These areas have not been historically cut, which is why trees are prevalent. Passive recreation activities and impervious shared-use paths are commonly found.

Riparian wooded banks are frequently the most stable of existing shoreline conditions in the study area, especially when the slope is average and adequate width exists between the river edge and upland developed settings. Exceptions include areas where trees have collapsed into the river, creating an unstable edge. These areas also tend to have a good number of native trees in the canopy; however, thick stands of buckthorn dominate the understory in most areas.



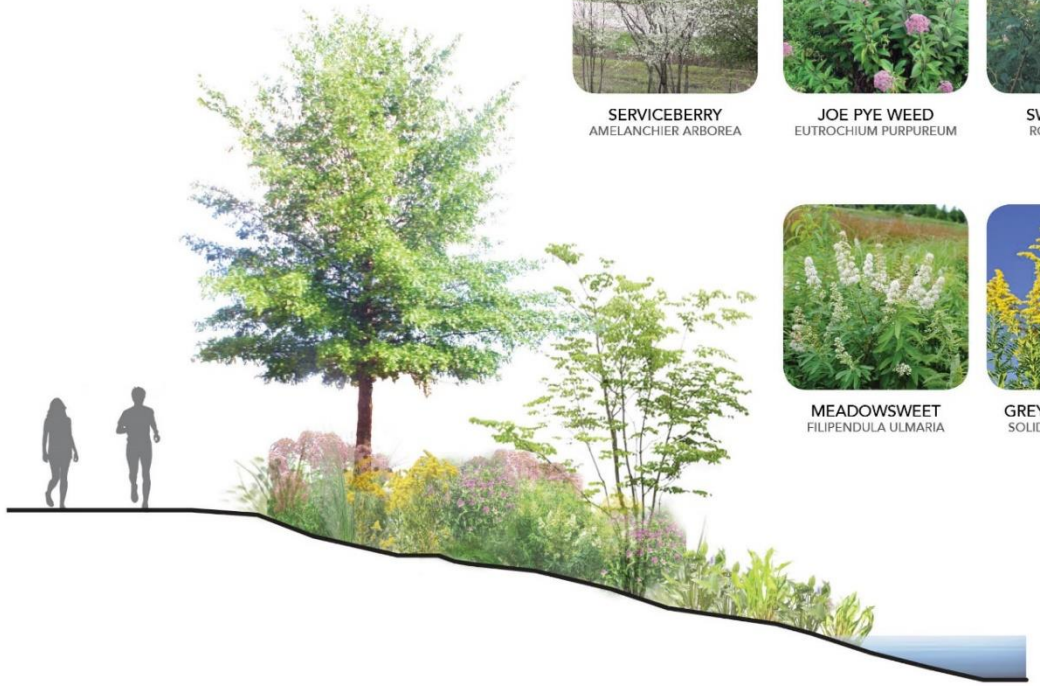
Figure 41. Riparian Wooded Banks with Understory

4.7.2 Proposed Objectives

- Shift ecological/botanical community composition to promote biodiversity and native understory shrubs
- Stabilize eroded shorelines – correct undercut river edge conditions
- Limit/Formalize public access to reduce the possibility of compaction/damage to tree roots
- Shade/Cool the river, provide erosion control, improve water quality, shift toward layered native plant communities
- Perforate with mid-story vistas for recreation resources. Increase ratio of native to non-native species in overstory and shrub layer by replacing non-native plants with native shade trees and shrubs

Allston River Parklands and River Edge

River Edge – Increased Biodiversity



SELECTED PLANTS FROM CHARLES RIVER VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN



SERVICEBERRY
AMELANCHIER ARBOREA



JOE PYE WEED
EUTROCHIUM PURPUREUM



SWAMP ROSE
ROSA PALUSTRIS



NANNYBERRY
VIBURNUM LENTAGO



WINTERBERRY
ILEX VERTICILLATA

MEADOWSWEET
FILIPENDULA ULMARIA



GREY GOLDENROD
SOLIDAGO NEMORALIS



WILD BERGAMOT
MONARDA FISTULOSA



AMERICAN
WATER-WILLOW
JUSTICIA AMERICANA



PICKERELWEED
PONTEDERIA CORDATA



BLUE FLAG IRIS
IRIS VERSICOLOR

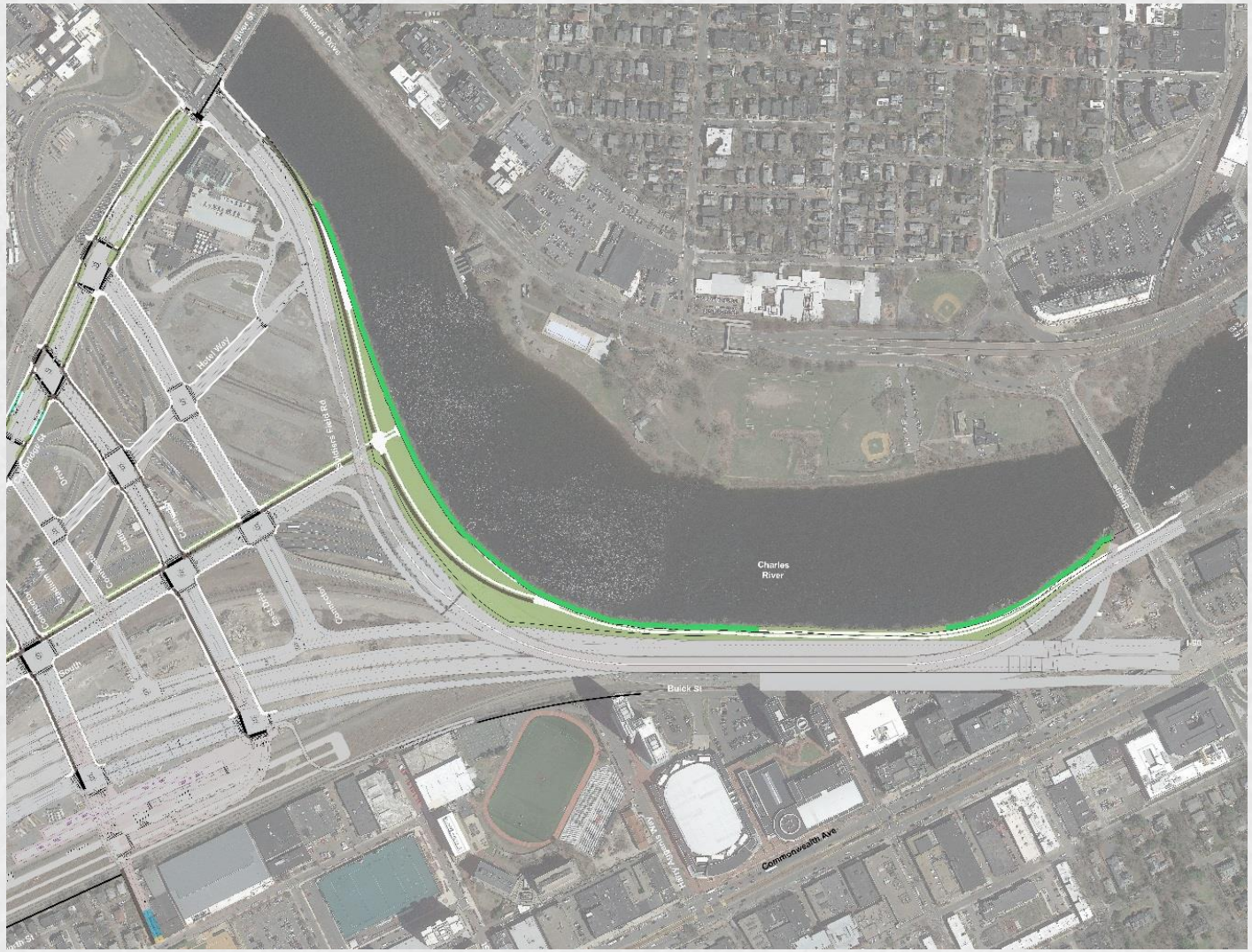
DETAIL SECTION

Allston River Park

Naturalized riparian edge- Canopy Trees, Woody shrubs, perennials, and emergent plants

Allston River Parklands and River Edge

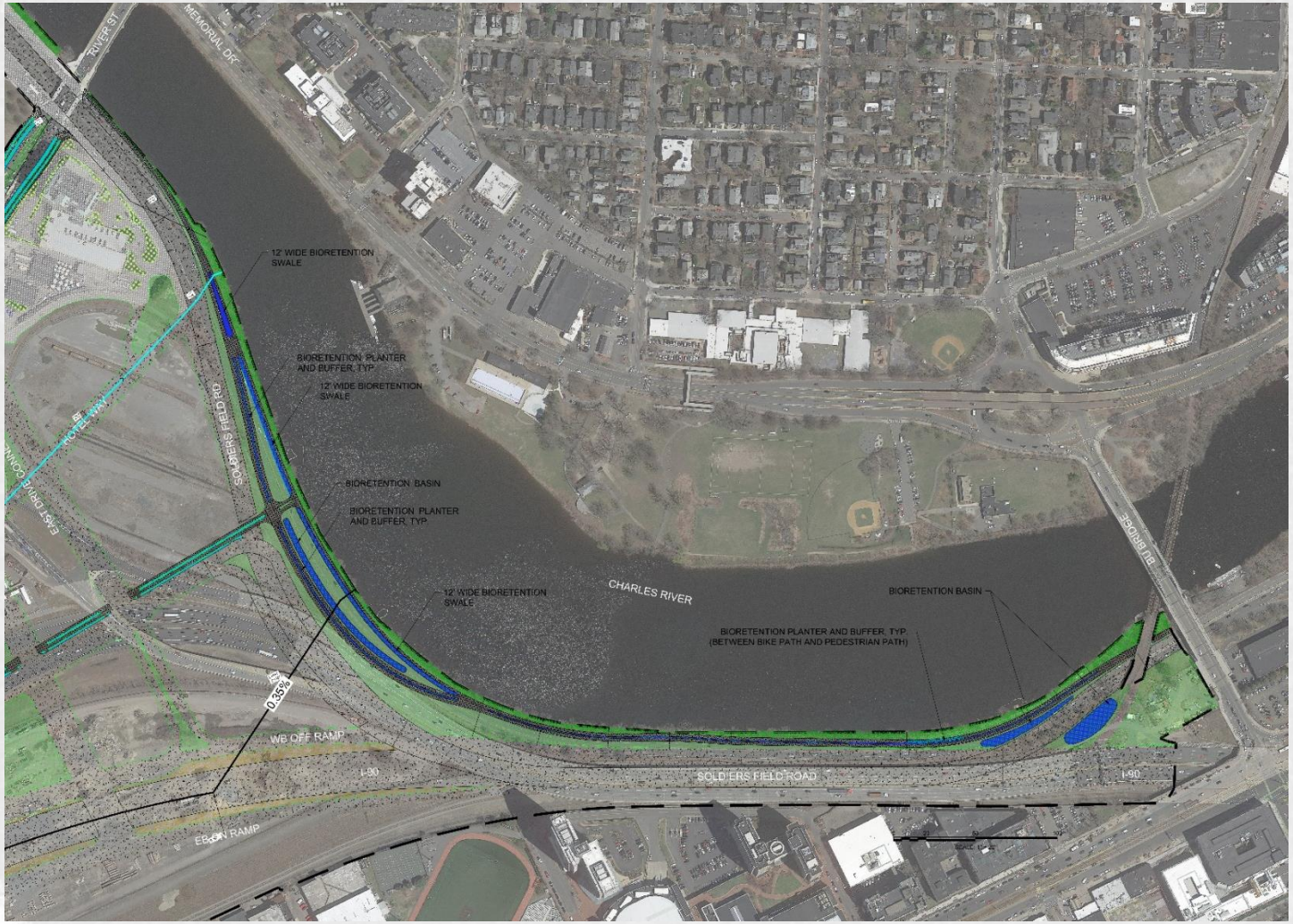
River Edge – Increased Bank Plantings



- Green zone indicates 20ft offset from water's edge
- In throat area, space is limited to either bank planting more buffer on backside of path

Allston River Parklands and River Edge

River Parklands – Stormwater Basins and Outfalls



Bioretention buffer, swale or basin (approx. size and location)

Outfall locations to be determined



Allston River Parklands and River Edge

River Parklands – Outfall and Stormwater Basin Precedents







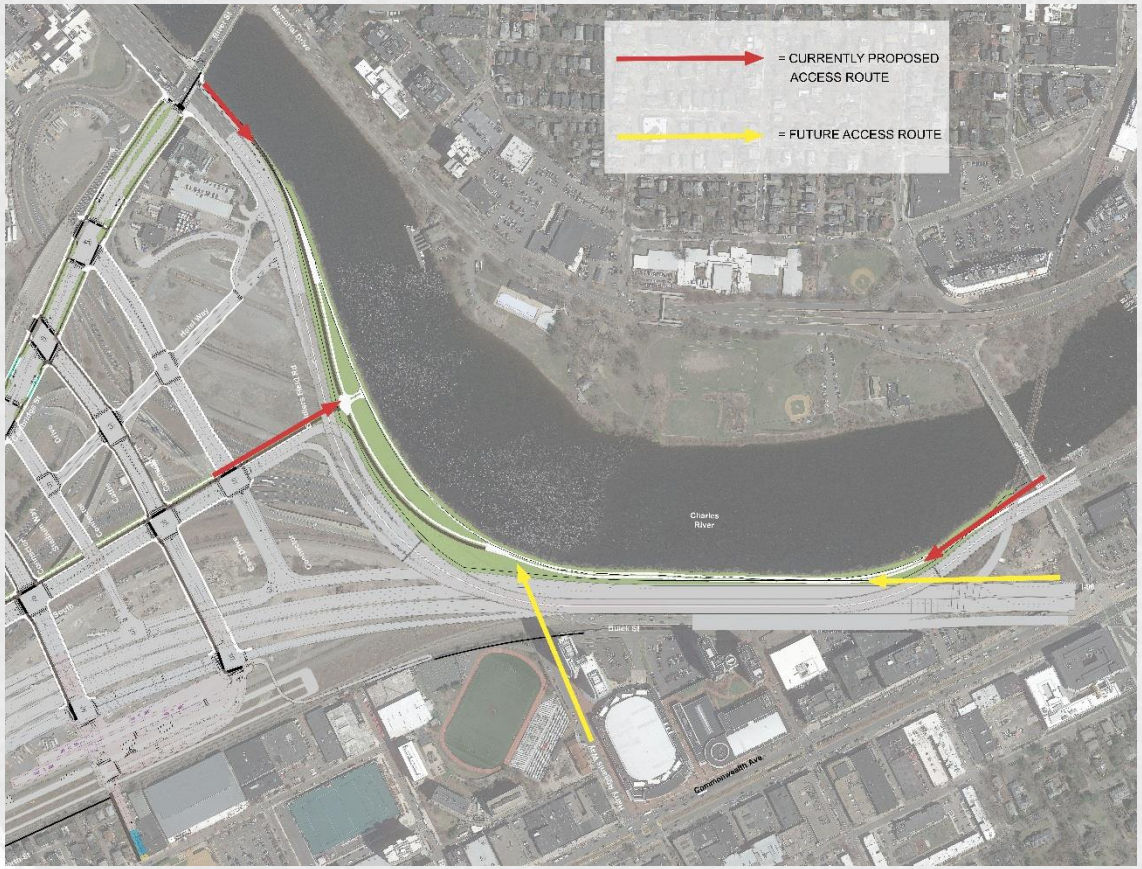






Allston River Parklands and River Edge

River Parklands –
Relationship of Park Users to Water











Meeting Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
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