

Head of the Charles Regatta

Strategic Plan Public Meeting #1

May 22, 2024





Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Governor

Maura Healy

Lieutenant Governor

Kim Driscoll

Energy and Environmental Secretary

Rebecca Tepper

Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner

Brian Arrigo

DCR MISSION

To protect, promote and enhance our
commonwealth of natural, cultural
and recreational resources
for the well-being of all.

Meeting Logistics

- Please provide feedback after the presentation
 - You will find information on how to give feedback at the end of the presentation
- Chat function is open for comments during the presentation
- Cameras + microphones
 - Your camera is on/off
 - We will enable your microphone only when you are speaking after the presentation

Please note that this public meeting will be recorded, and the recording will be posted online shortly after.

Meeting Logistics



- We will take comments in the order hands are raised
 - If calling in, dial *9 to raise your hand and *6 to unmute
- Additional comments can be made using the Q+A function and/or the chat function
- In order to allow everyone to speak, please try to limit your time to 1 minute
- Approximately every 15 minutes, we will provide responses to Q/A and chat
- The meeting is scheduled to end at 8:00 PM



Welcome!

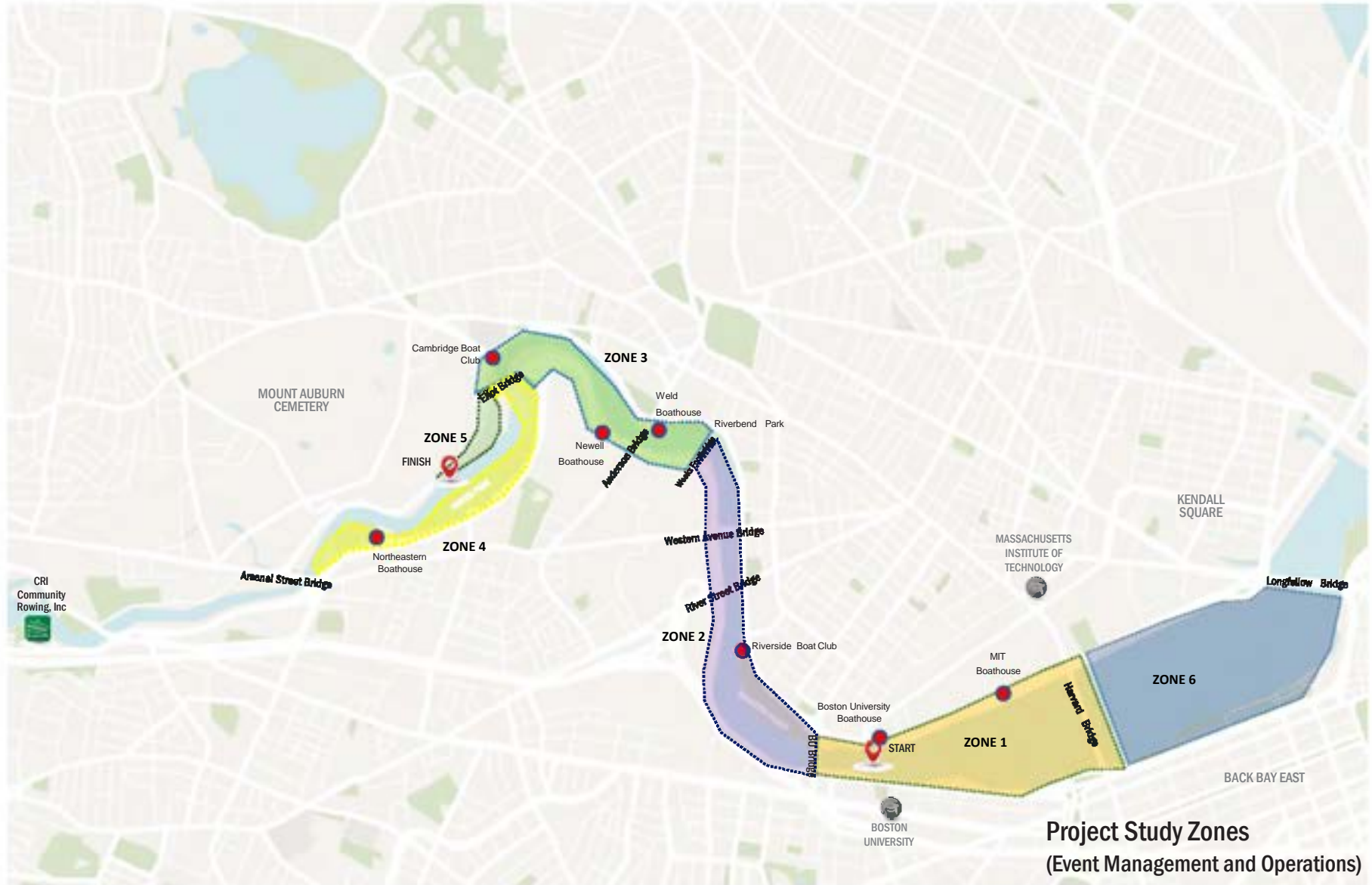
Agenda

6:30 - 6:35	Meeting Logistics
6:35 - 7:05	Welcome and Project Overview
7:05 - 7:10	Polling Questions
7:10 – 7:50	Discussion
	Focus Area A: <i>Northeastern Boathouse to Newell Boathouse (Finish Line and Herter Park)</i>
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7:55 – 8:00	Schedule / Next Steps

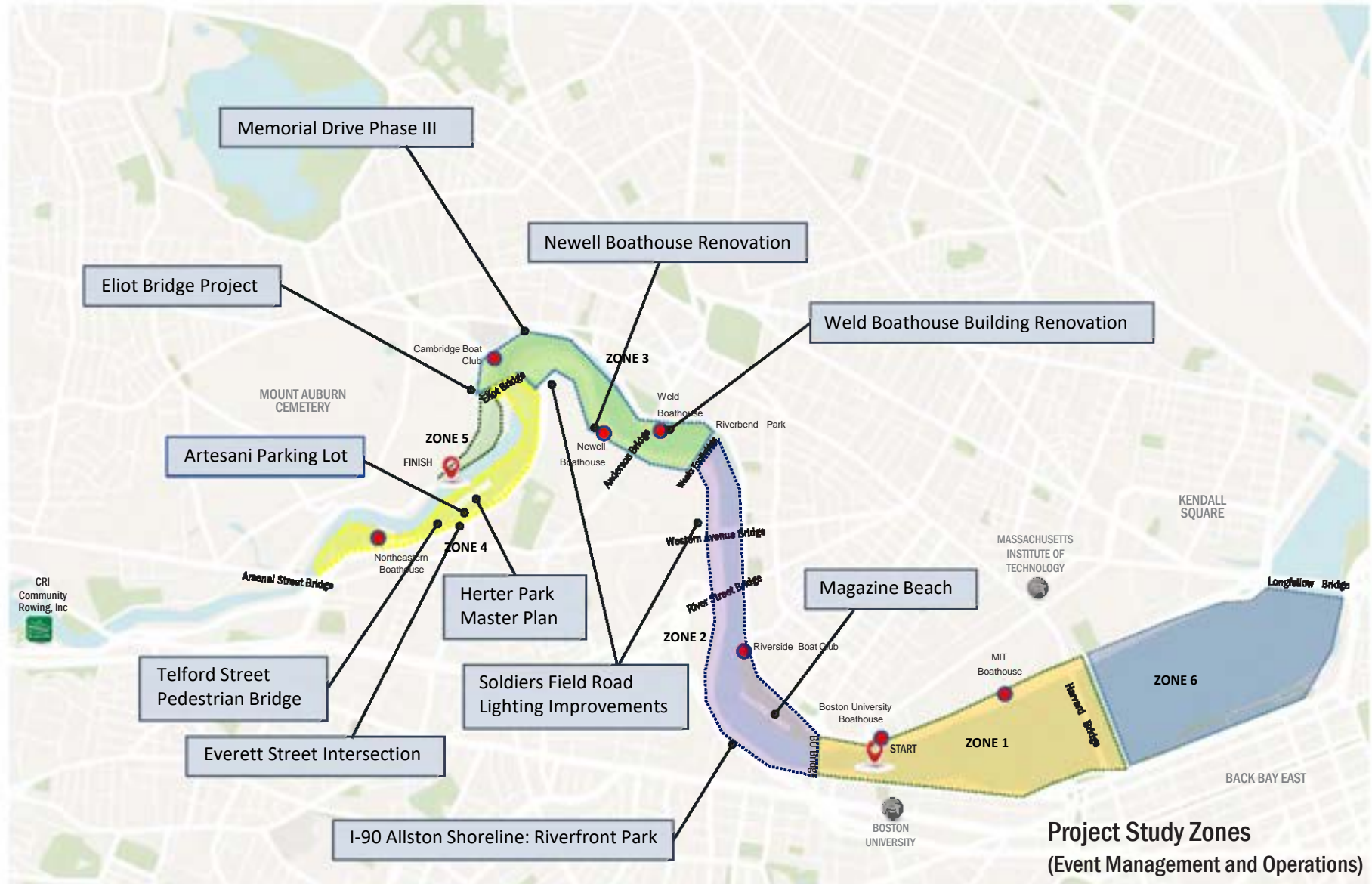
Project Goals:

- Enhances the experience of the event through improvements that will benefit athletes, sponsors, spectators, institutions, and the year-round visitors and regular park users.
- Identifies and promotes stewardship opportunities.
- Develops existing and new partnerships with municipalities, organizations, and institutions.
- Significantly reduces and mitigates event impacts on the parkland.
- Establishes clear, safe, and convenient pedestrian access and mobility during the event.
- Advances stormwater and vegetation management to improve the quality of the landscape and river.
- Develops a comprehensive plan to address short and long-term recommendations.

Study Area and Zones



Pipeline Projects





HOCO

HEAD OF THE CHARLES REGATTA

Overview

HOCR Mission: The Head Of The Charles Regatta is a world-class rowing competition that inspires, engages, and advances athletes of all ages, abilities, and identities. The organization seeks to be a leader in our sport and its development, as well as an engaged and supportive member of the local, national, and international communities.

- The HOCR has worked in partnership with the DCR since 1965
- World's largest 3-day rowing competition
- 2024 marks the 59th race
- 12,000 athletes from 25 countries, aged 12-90+
- 2,400 volunteers
- 3 miles of venues open to the public

HEAD OF THE CHARLES REGATTA

Destination Boston

- Major economic impact: \$88 million per year to local restaurants, hotels and local businesses
- Over 250,000 spectators over 3 days. More than 50% of spectators live within 5-mile radius of Boston.
- Destination event: 87% of competitors travel 100+ miles to compete in the Regatta
- Official Charity Program raised \$125,132 in 2023 for partners Community Rowing Inc, Cambridge Community Foundation and the West End House Boys and Girls Club
- The Charity Program has raised over \$1.8 million since its inception to local community charities, highlighted by over 20 years of support to Community Rowing, Inc.'s outreach programming and Cambridge Community Foundation.
- The HOOCR x Gold Cup Grant program has issued \$400,000 in grants supporting rowing programs that serve under-resourced communities within the United States and help support their diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts.

HEAD OF THE CHARLES REGATTA

The Race

- 12,000 competitors in 73 racing events covering the 4,702m course
- Friday 7:45am - 10:26am, Saturday 7:45am - 3:54pm, Sunday 7:45am - 3:54pm
- Start Line at Boston University Boathouse
- Finish Line is at Herter Park across from WBZ-TV
- Permit with the DCR currently provides for
 - 10 days for setup
 - 3 racing days
 - 3 days for post-event breakdown
- 2024 Regatta Dates: October 18, 19 & 20.

Initial Observations

Pre-Event Observations

- Permitting
- Staging
- Riverbank
- Docks and Structures

Event Observations

- Localized Drainage
- Landscape and Resources
- Observation Areas
- Pedestrian Traffic and Flow
- Event Space Layout
- Event Management (Support)
- Transportation & Circulation
- Partners
- Waterfront Infrastructure & Facilities
- Annual Resources

Projects

- Pilot Projects
- Long term Actions / Vision
- Projects in the Pipeline



"The best part of the HOCR is the immense wave of sound from the spectators as you come up on Eliot Bridge. Hearing the cheers and seeing the banks of everyone watching and supporting you is what sets this race apart from every other one we compete in. This is the one race where you get fueled up by the crowds and you don't need to rely on your inner voice to push you through."

—Lizbeth Stover

"This way it is now, we see people hanging off of benches, sunbathing their way to viewing spots, and cheering following people out of that way to keep up with their crews."

—Lizbeth Stover







Event Space Layout



Event Space Layout



Event Space Layout



Permitting



Staging



Riverbank



Dock + Structures



Localized Drainage



Landscape + Resources



Observation Areas



Pedestrian Traffic + Flow



Event Management



Transportation + Circulation



Partners



Waterfront Infrastructure + Facilities



Post Event



Annual Resources

Proposed Plan with Park Areas



Park Concepts: Enlarged Plans
Christian A. Herter Park Master Plan

West Area



Park Concepts: Enlarged Plans
Christian A. Herter Park Master Plan

Central Area



1. *Realigned Dr. Paul Dudley White Greenway*
2. *New Park Entry and Crosswalks*
3. *New Bridge Landing*
4. *Reconfigured Parking Lot*
5. *Expanded Special Event Picnic Lawn*
6. *View Terraces*
7. *New Lifeguard Station*
8. *Amphitheater Area Improvements*
9. *Moat Landscape Restoration*

Park Concepts: Enlarged Plans
Christian A. Herter Park Master Plan

East Area: East Lawn



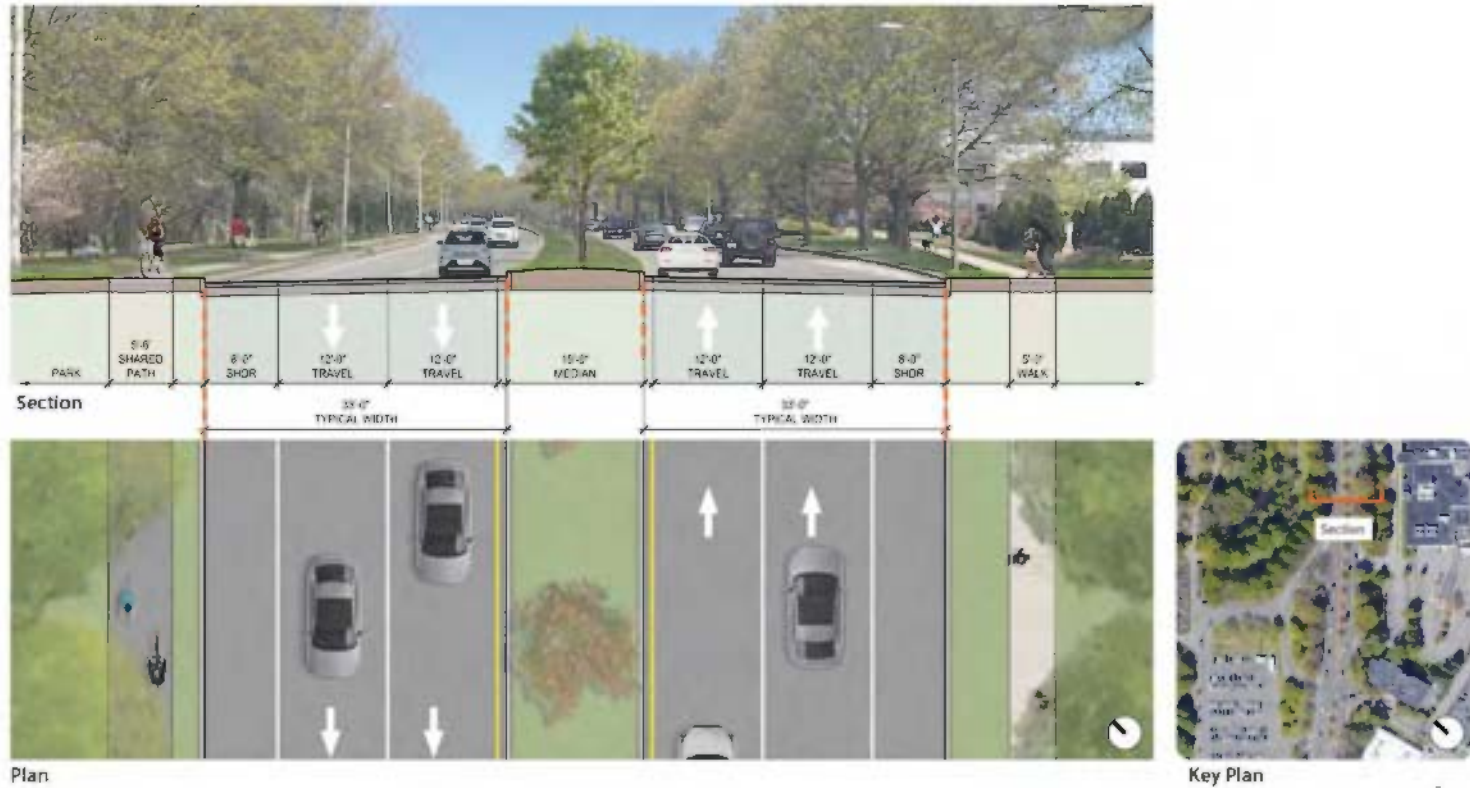
Park Concepts: Enlarged Plans
Christian A. Herter Park Master Plan

East Area: East Meadow



Park Concepts: Enlarged Plans
Christian A. Herter Park Master Plan

Soldiers Field Road: Existing Conditions



Vehicular Circulation
Christian A. Herter Park Master Plan

Soldiers Field Road: Road Diet Concept



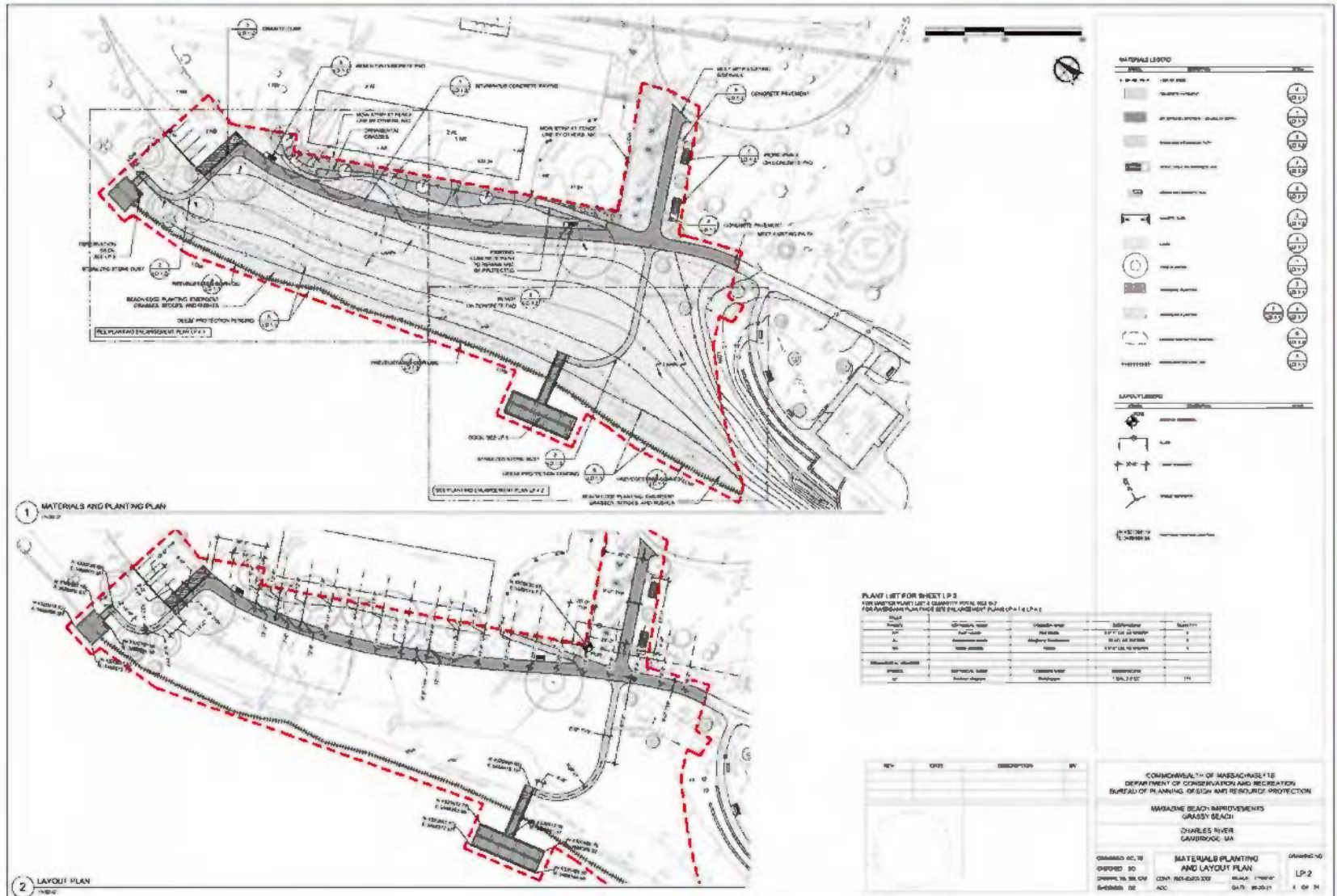
Vehicular Circulation
Christian A. Herter Park Master Plan

Herter Center Site Plan Concepts: Alternatives 1 and 2



Herter Center Adaptive Reuse: High School Rowing
Christian A. Herter Park Master Plan

Magazine Beach



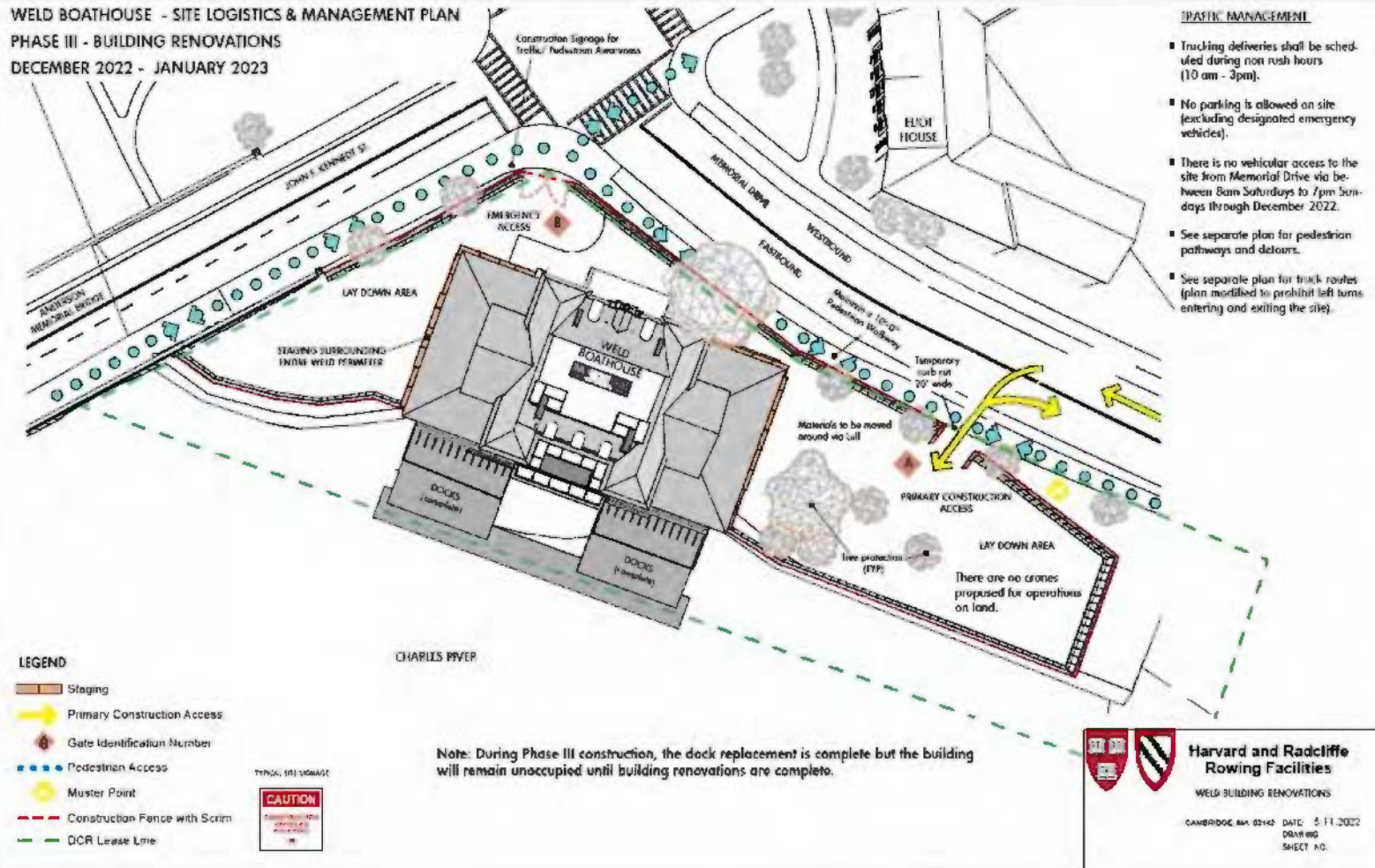
Pipeline Projects

Weld Boathouse Building Renovations

WELD BOATHOUSE - SITE LOGISTICS & MANAGEMENT PLAN

PHASE III - BUILDING RENOVATIONS

DECEMBER 2022 - JANUARY 2023



Newell Boathouse Renovation



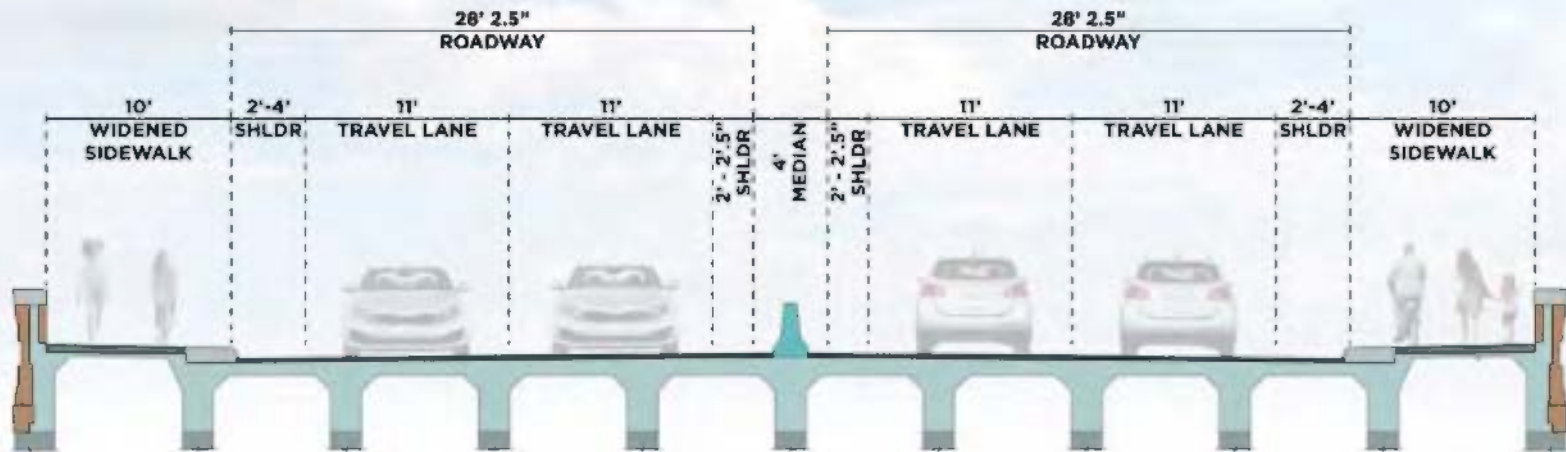
Pipeline Projects

Eliot Bridge Project

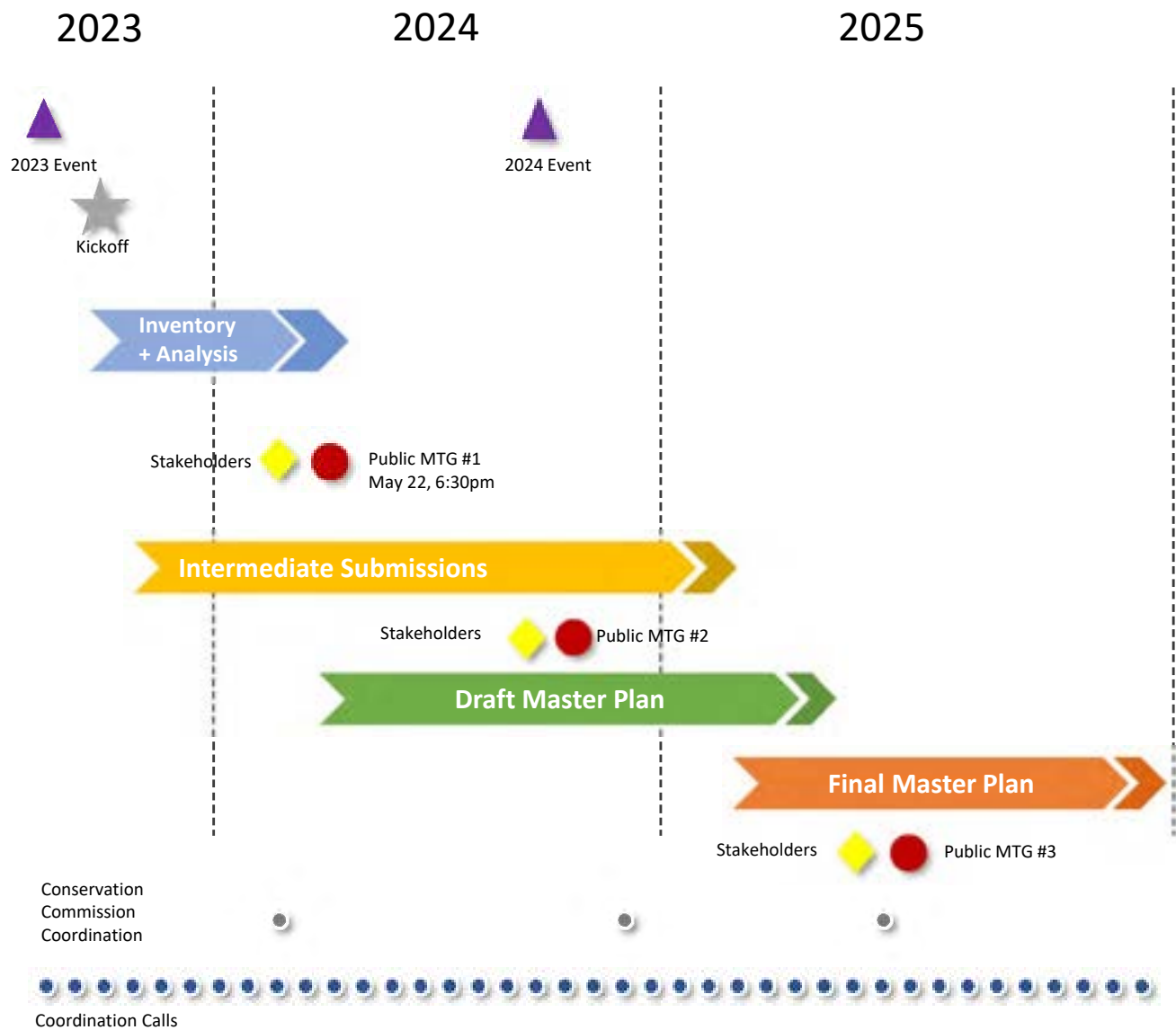
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

21

Completed Repairs



Schedule and Timeline



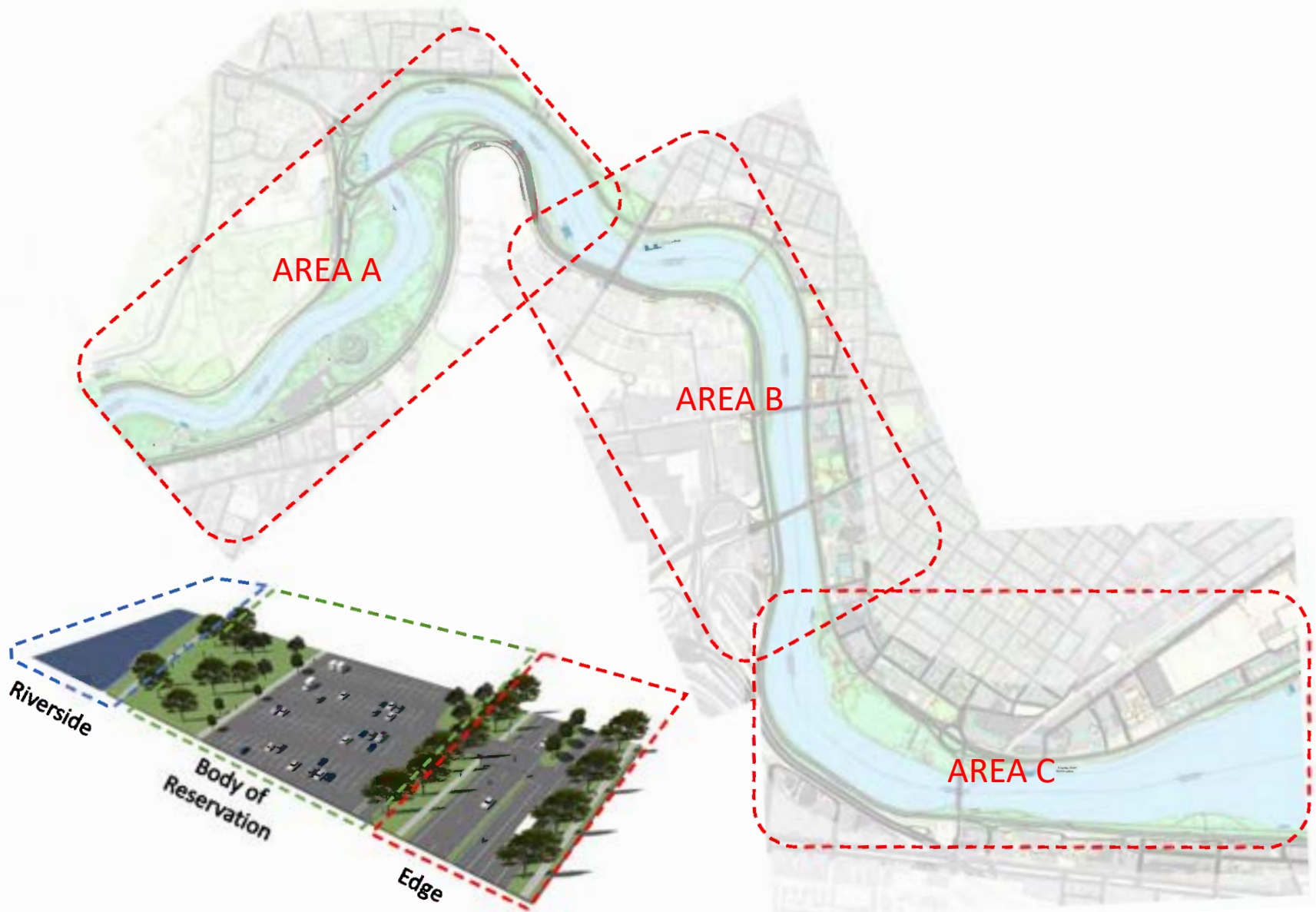
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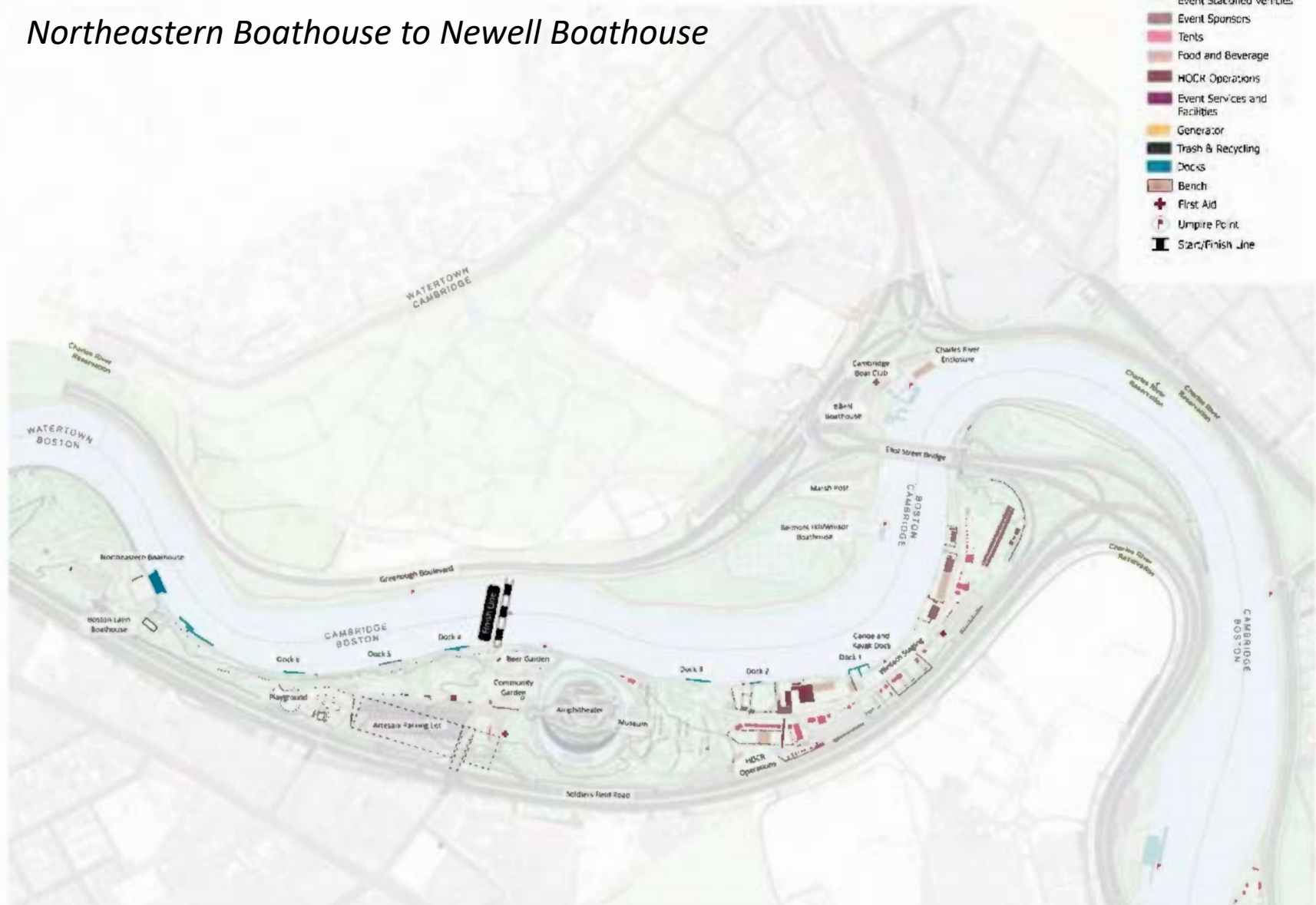
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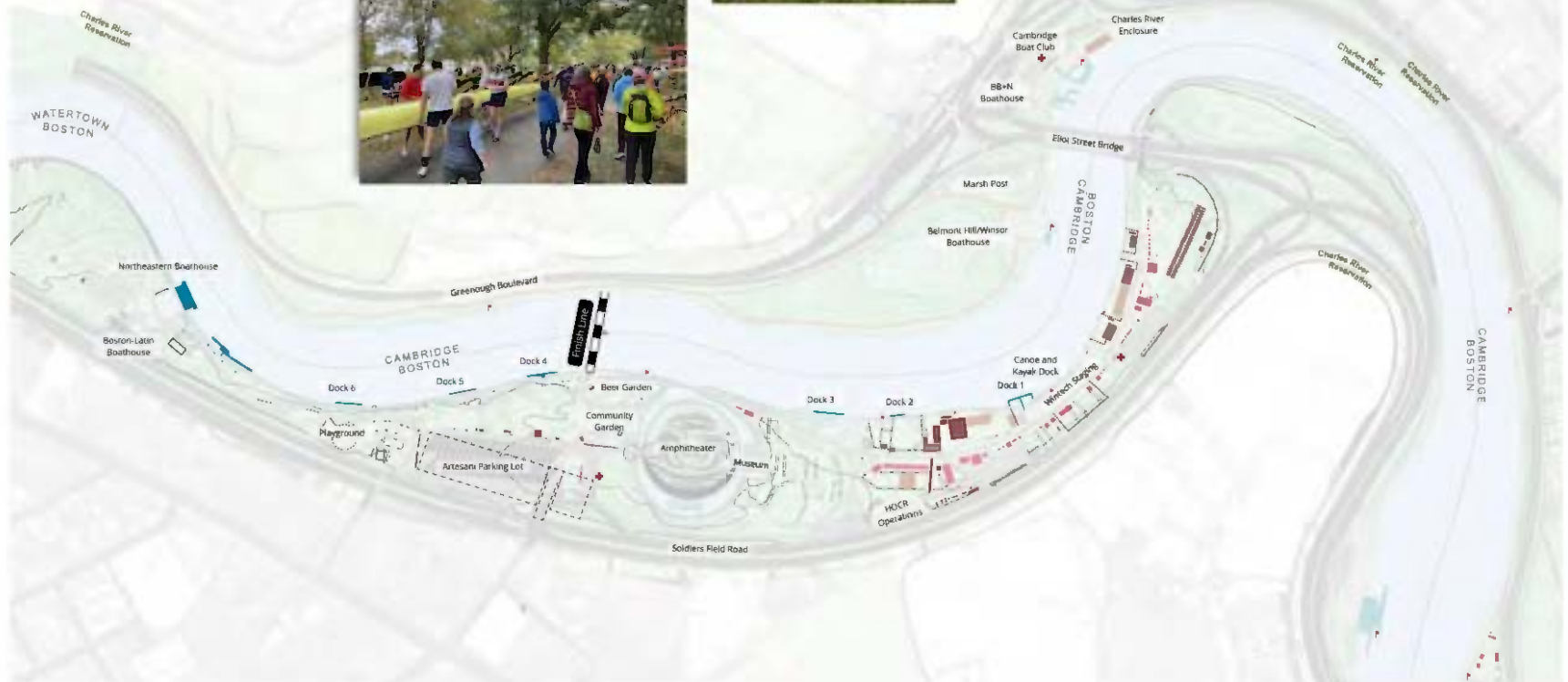
HOCR: Focus Areas



HOCR: Focus Area A

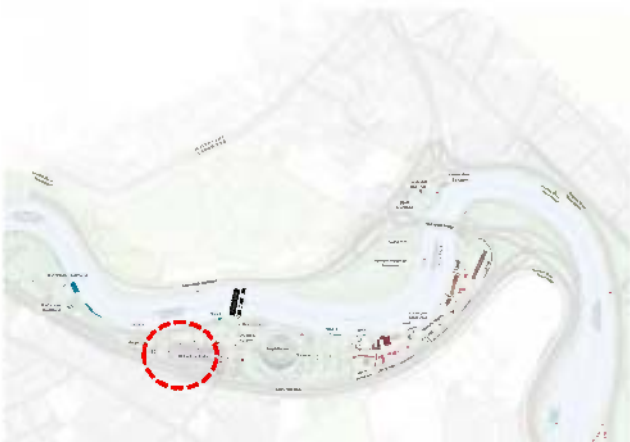
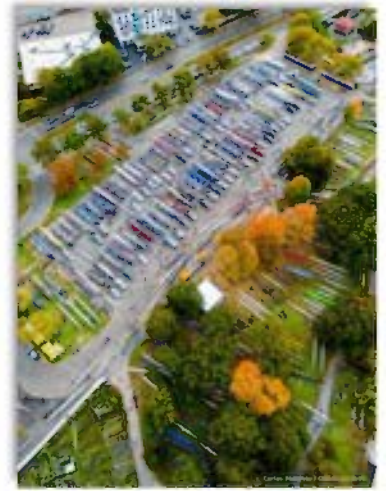
Northeastern Boathouse to Newell Boathouse





HOCR: Focus Area A

Northeastern Boathouse to Newell Boathouse



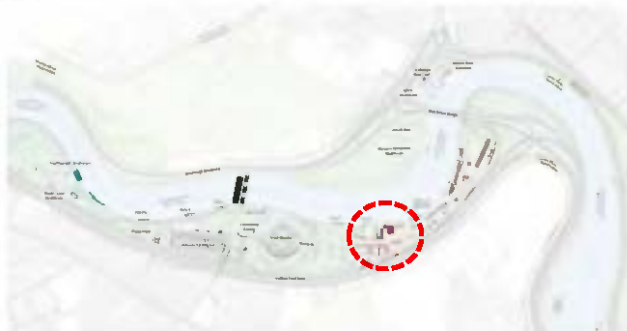
Artesani Parking Lot Area

HOCR: Focus Area A

Northeastern Boathouse to Newell Boathouse

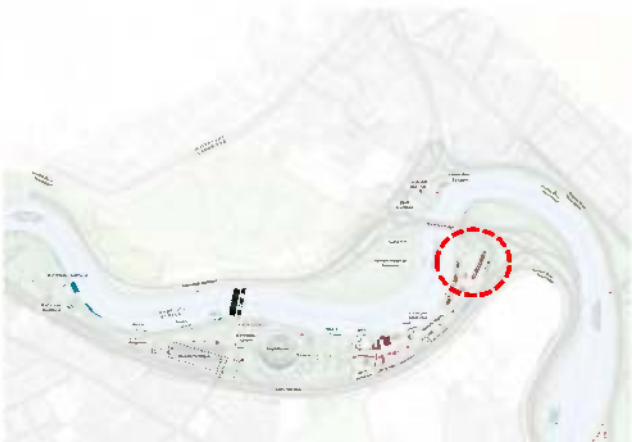


Herter Park Area



HOCR: Focus Area A

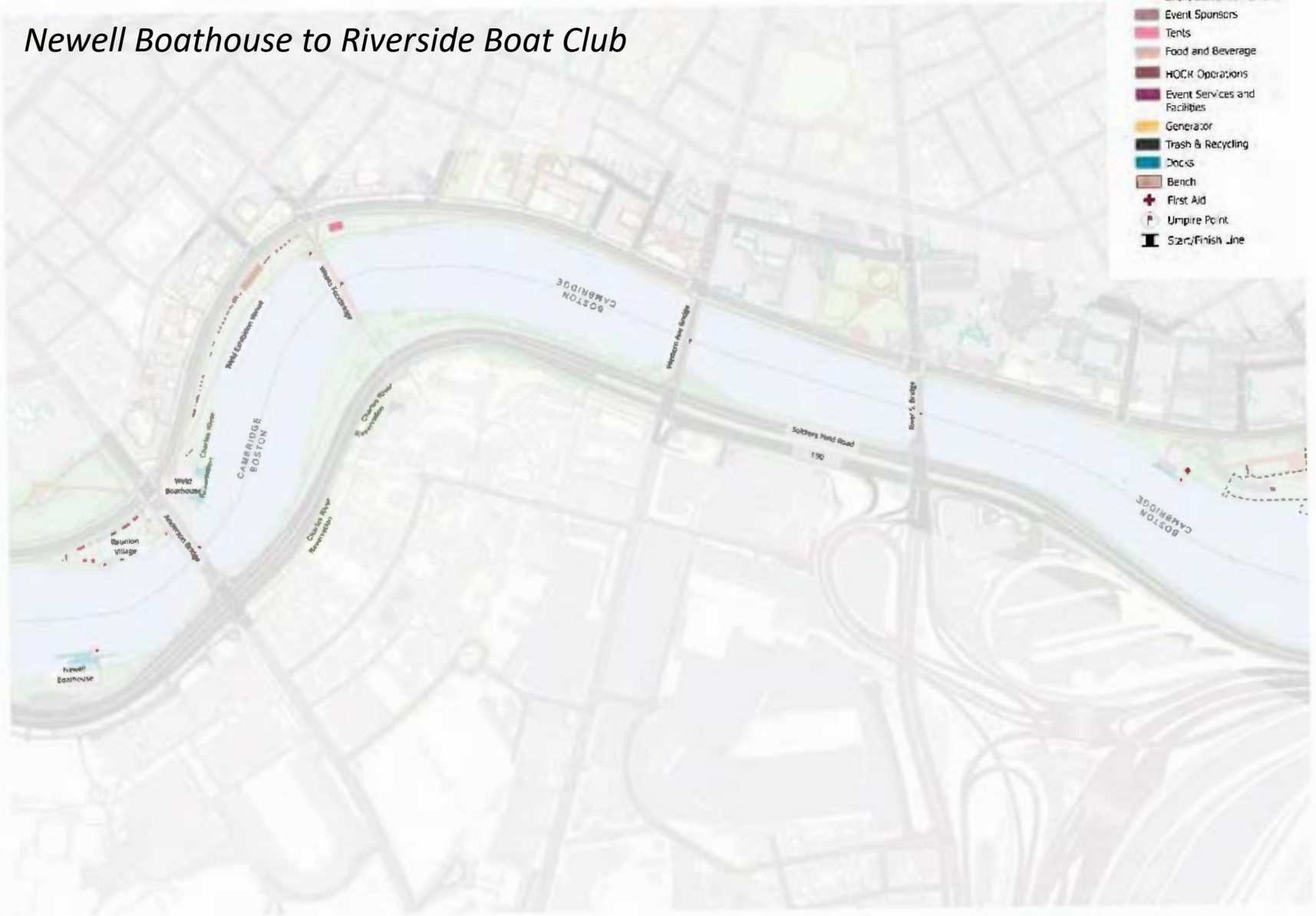
Northeastern Boathouse to Newell Boathouse



Elliot Bridge Area

HOCR: Focus Area B

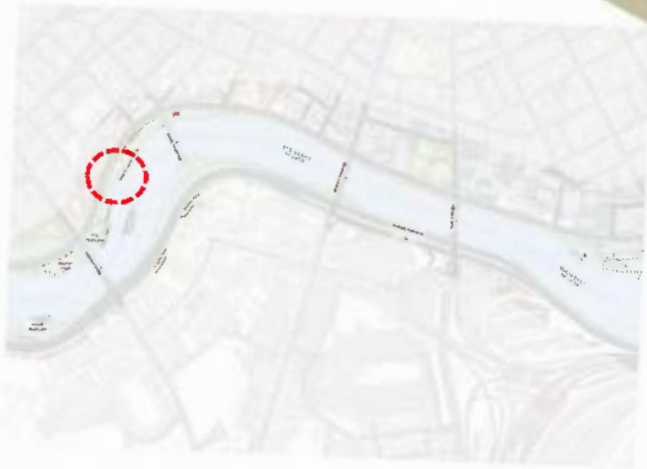
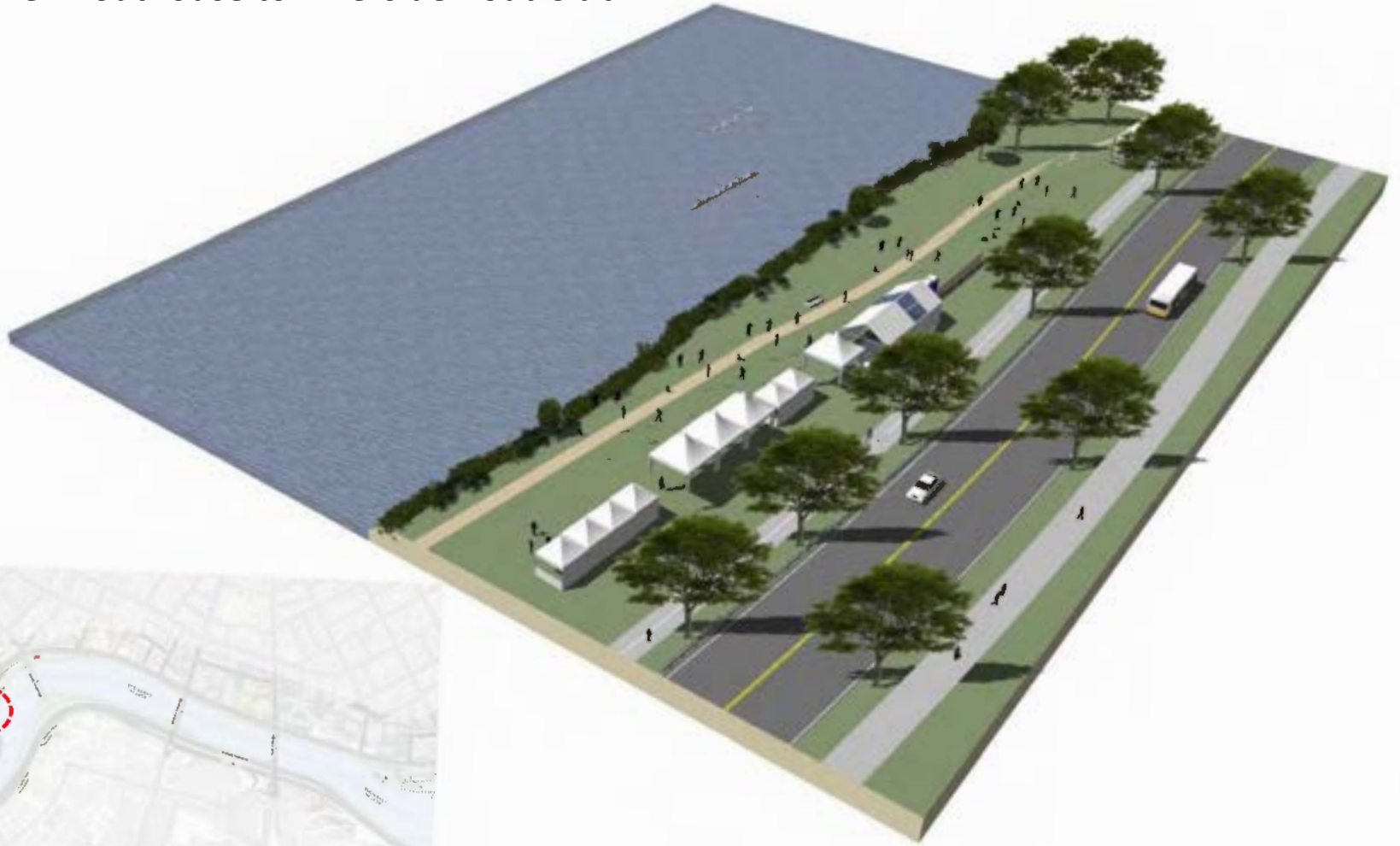
Newell Boathouse to Riverside Boat Club





HOCR: Focus Area B

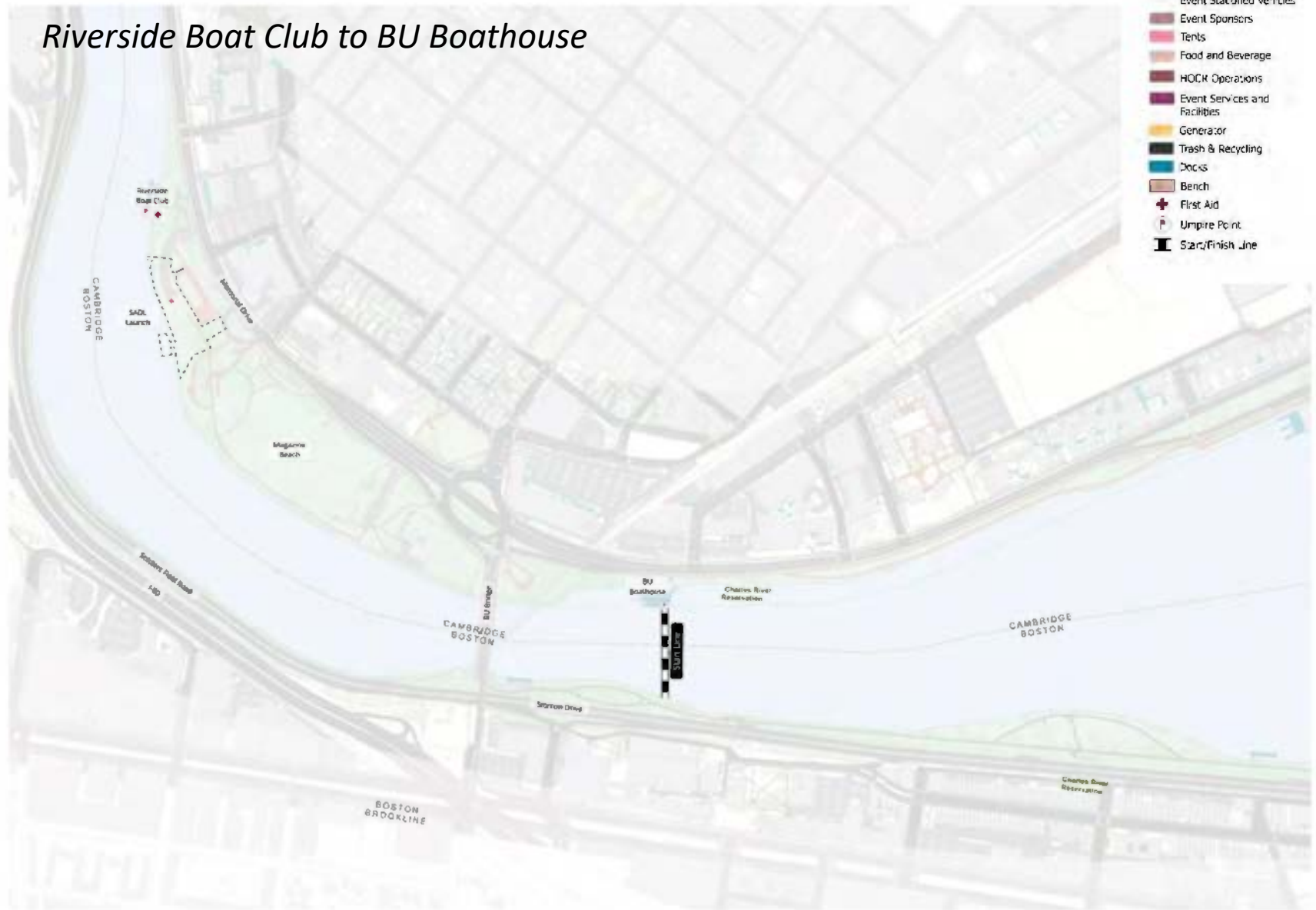
Newell Boathouse to Riverside Boat Club



Weld Area

HOCR: Focus Area C

Riverside Boat Club to BU Boathouse





HOCR: Focus Area C

Riverside Boat Club to BU Boathouse



Magazine Beach Area

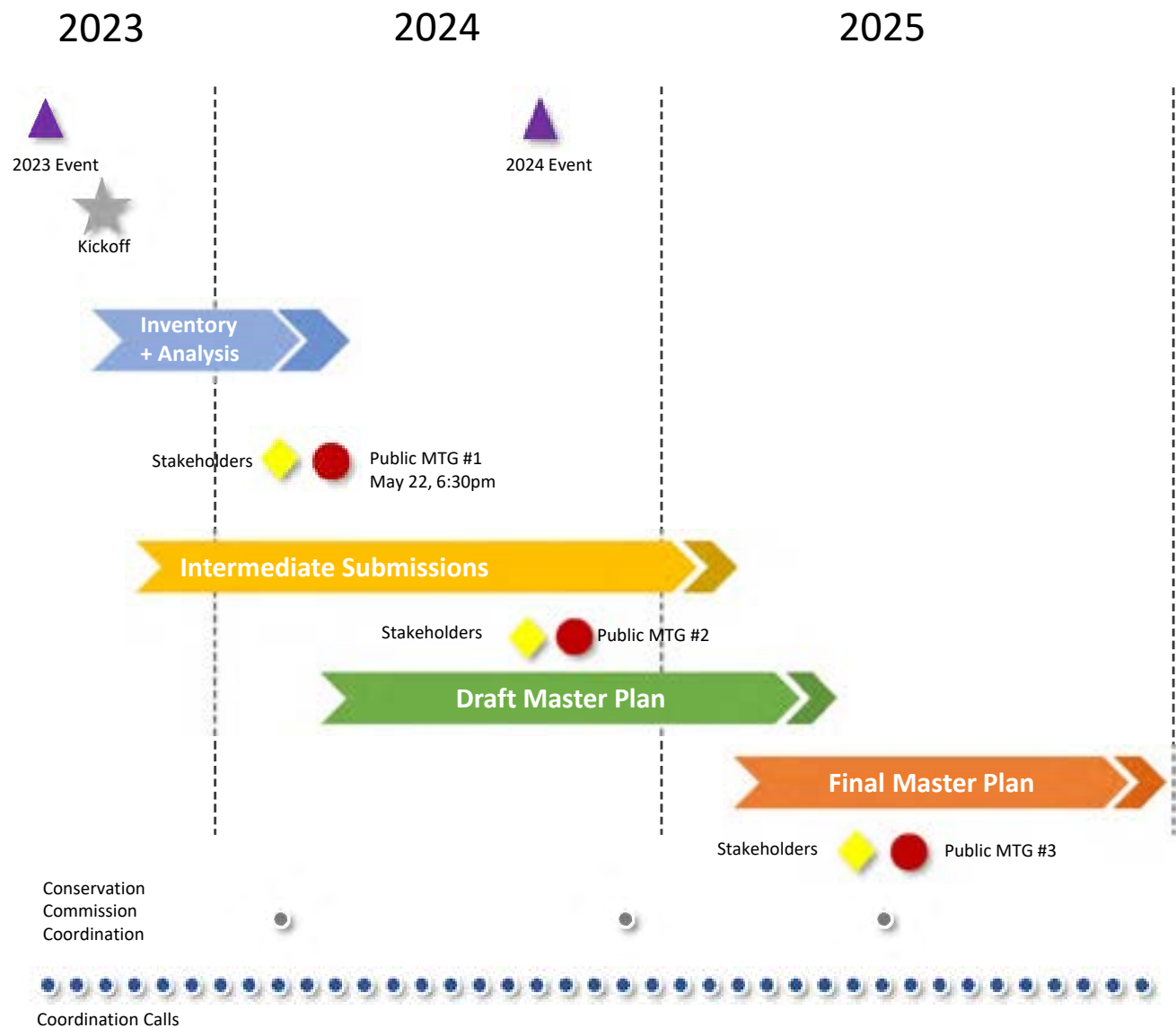
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Schedule and Timeline



Additional Information

- Recording and slide deck will be available at:
www.mass.gov/dcr/past-public-meetings
- If you have comments on this project, please use the link below. The public comment period will end on June 5th:

Submit online: www.mass.gov/dcr/public-comment

Please note: the contents of comments submitted to DCR, including your name, town and zip code, will be posted on DCR's website. Additional contact information provided, notably email address, will only be used for outreach on future updates to the subject project or property.

- If you wish to subscribe to a DCR general information or project-related listserv: contact DCR's Office of Community Relations via email at mass.parks@mass.gov

Head of the Charles Regatta

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***THANK
YOU!!!***

