massDOT
Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Highway Division

Medford: Main Street Intersection Improvements

Thank you for joining us.

This meeting will begin shortly.

Medford: Main Street Intersection Improvements

Design Public Hearing I City Hall
Howard Alden Memorial Chambers

April 23, 2025 I 6:00 PM

Project File No. 611974

Public Meeting Notes and Procedures

Notification of Recording

This public hearing will be recorded. The Massachusetts Department of Transportation may choose to retain and distribute the video, still images, audio, and/or transcript. All parts of this hearing are considered public record.

By continuing to attend this public hearing, you consent to participate in a recorded event.

Notice of MassDOT's policy on diversity and civil rights

- All MassDOT activities, including public meetings, are free of discrimination.
- MassDOT complies with all federal and state civil rights requirements preventing discrimination based on sex, race, color, ancestry, national origin (limited English proficiency), religion, creed, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or veteran's status.
- We welcome the diversity from across our entire service area. If you have any questions or concerns, please visit https://www.mass.gov/nondiscrimination-in-transportation-program to reach the Office of Diversity and Civil Rights.

Thank you for joining our meeting. We appreciate your participation!

Agenda

01 Project Location

02 Project Timeline

03 Project Initiation

04 Existing Conditions

05 Project Goals/Scope

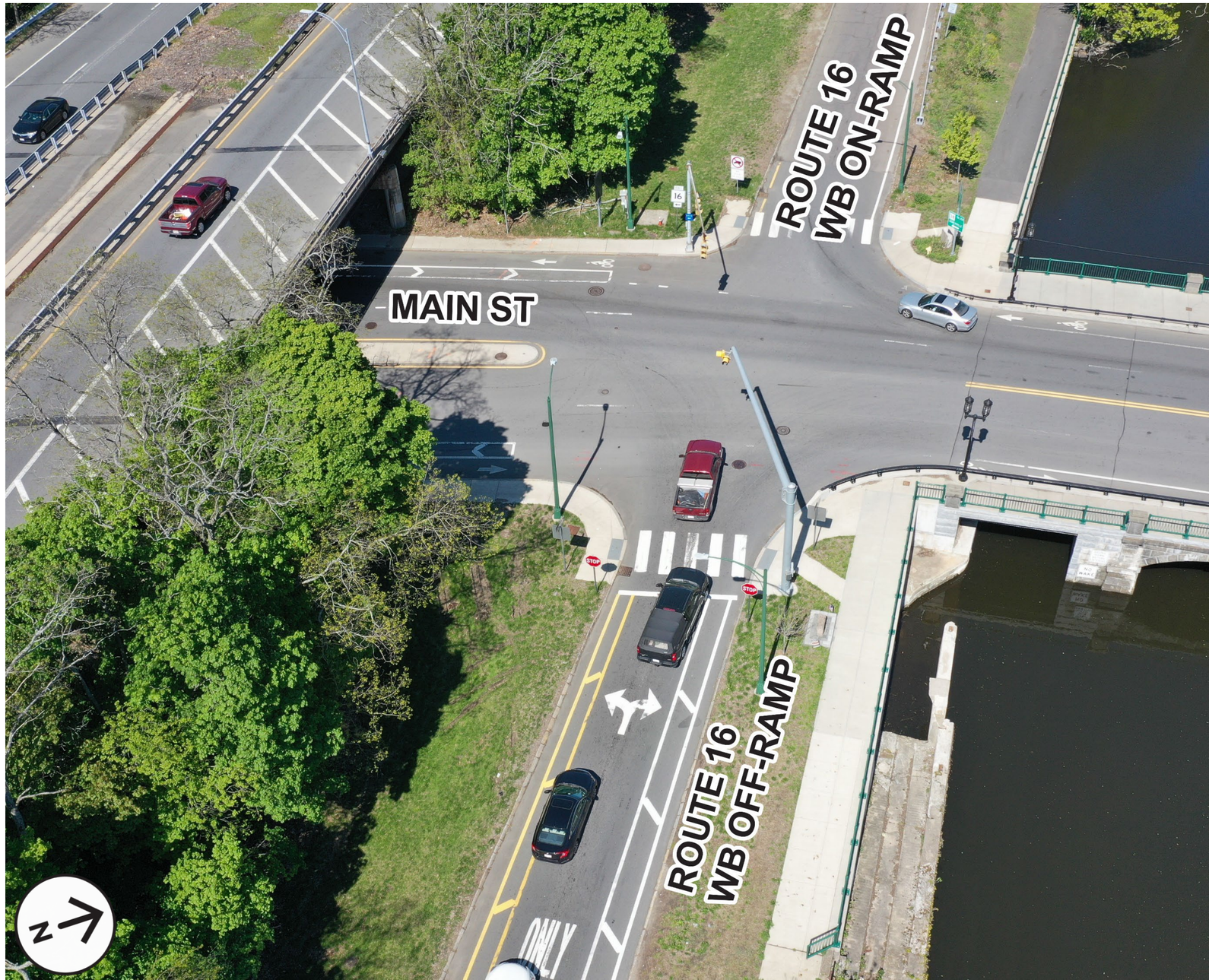
06 Proposed Design

07 Right-of-Way & Environmental

08 Construction Approach

09 Next Steps

10 Questions & Discussion



Presentation Participants

- **MassDOT Project Manager**
  - Greg Frazier
- **MassDOT ROW Agent:**
  - Rosemary Scrivens, Municipal ROW
  - Amylia Soden, State ROW
- **MassDOT District 4 Staff**
  - Brian Fallon, Projects Development Engineer
- **MassDOT Complete Streets**
  - Zachary Veaner
- **Municipal Liaison**
  - Todd Blake, Director of Traffic & Transportation
- **Designer**
  - Grady Granville, Howard Stein Hudson
  - Emma Enteado, Howard Stein Hudson
- **Stenographer**
  - Advanced Court Reporting

Project Location

How did we get here?

March
2024

Pre-25%
Conceptual Design

May
2024

Public Information
Meeting

September
2024

25% Design
Submission

October
2024

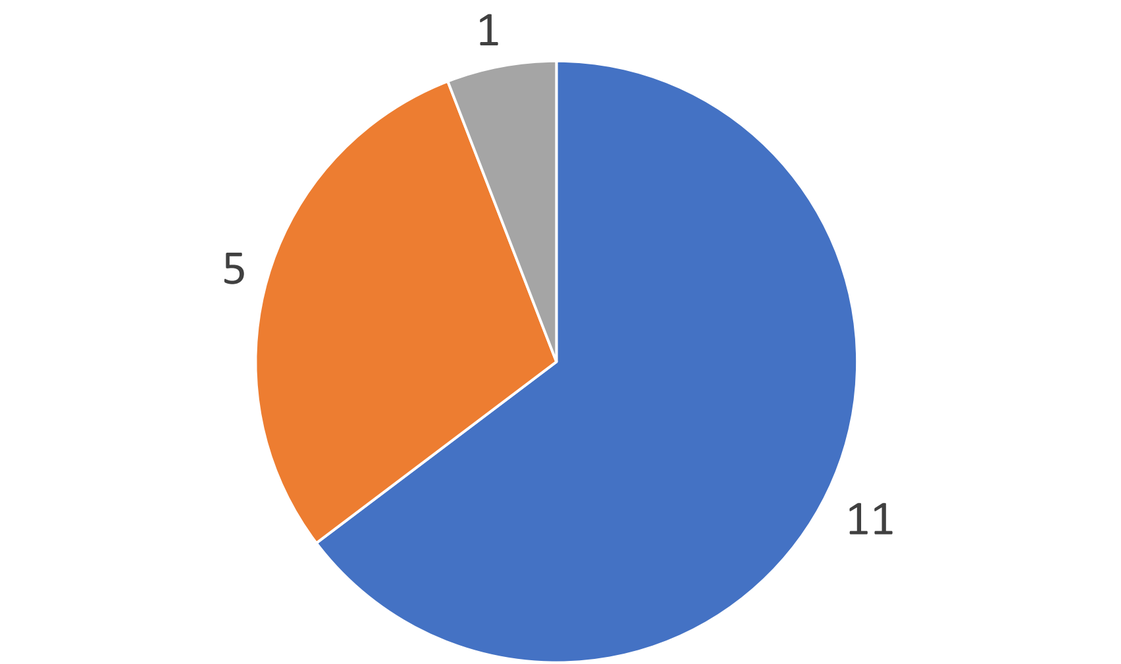
Bicycle Advisory
Commission Meeting

April
2025

Design Public Hearing

Why was this project initiated?

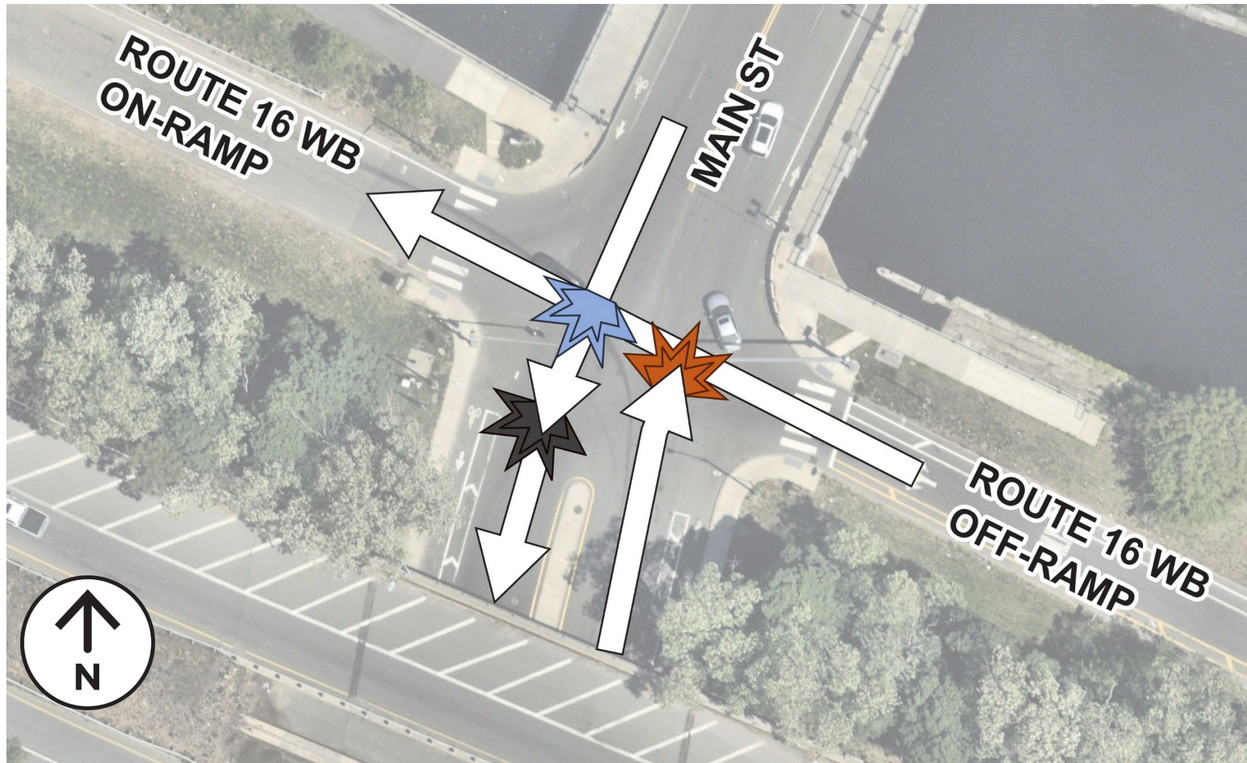
High Crash Location
Main Street at Route 16 WB Ramps



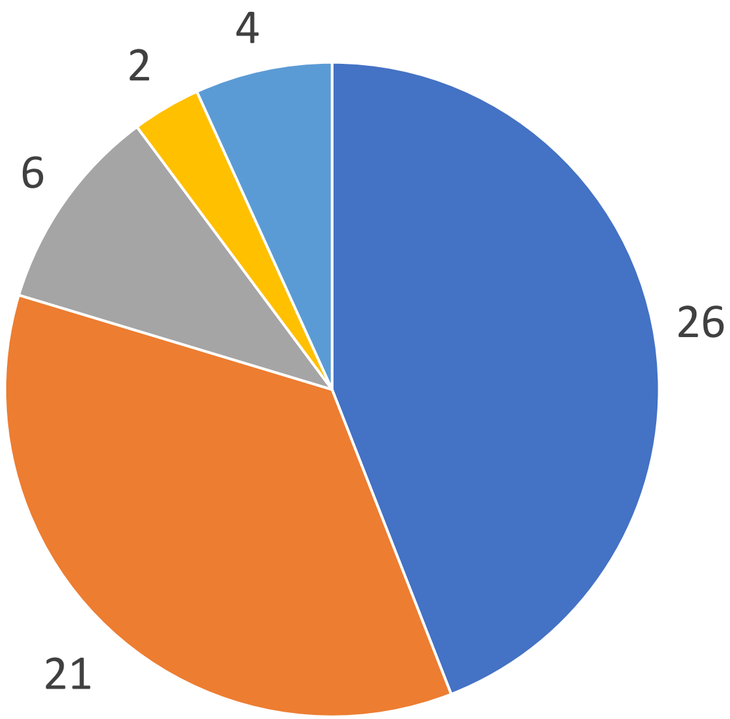
- 11 Crashes - Rte16 WB off-ramp & Main Street SB
- 5 Crashes - Rte16 WB off-ramp & Main Street NB
- 1 Crash - Main Street SB Rear-End

From 2017-2019, 21 collisions were recorded:

- 81% of collisions were angle crashes
- 29% of collisions resulted in personal injury



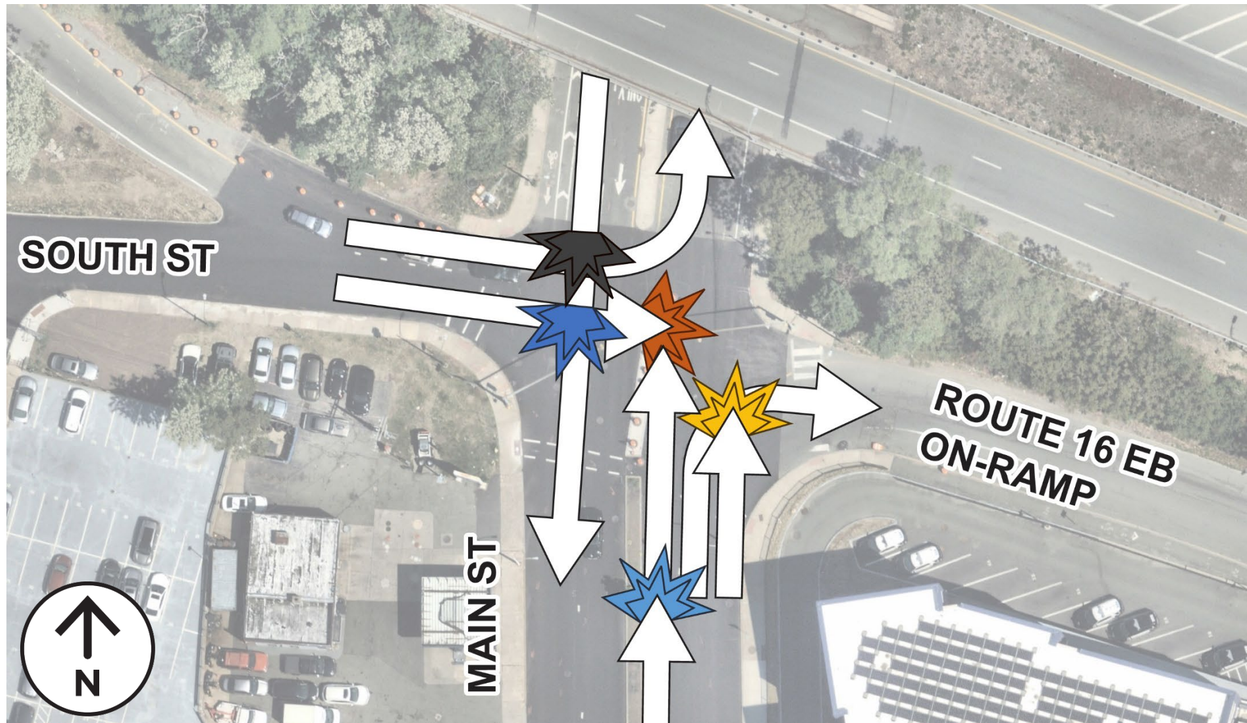
High Crash Location
Main Street at Route 16 EB Ramps/ South Street



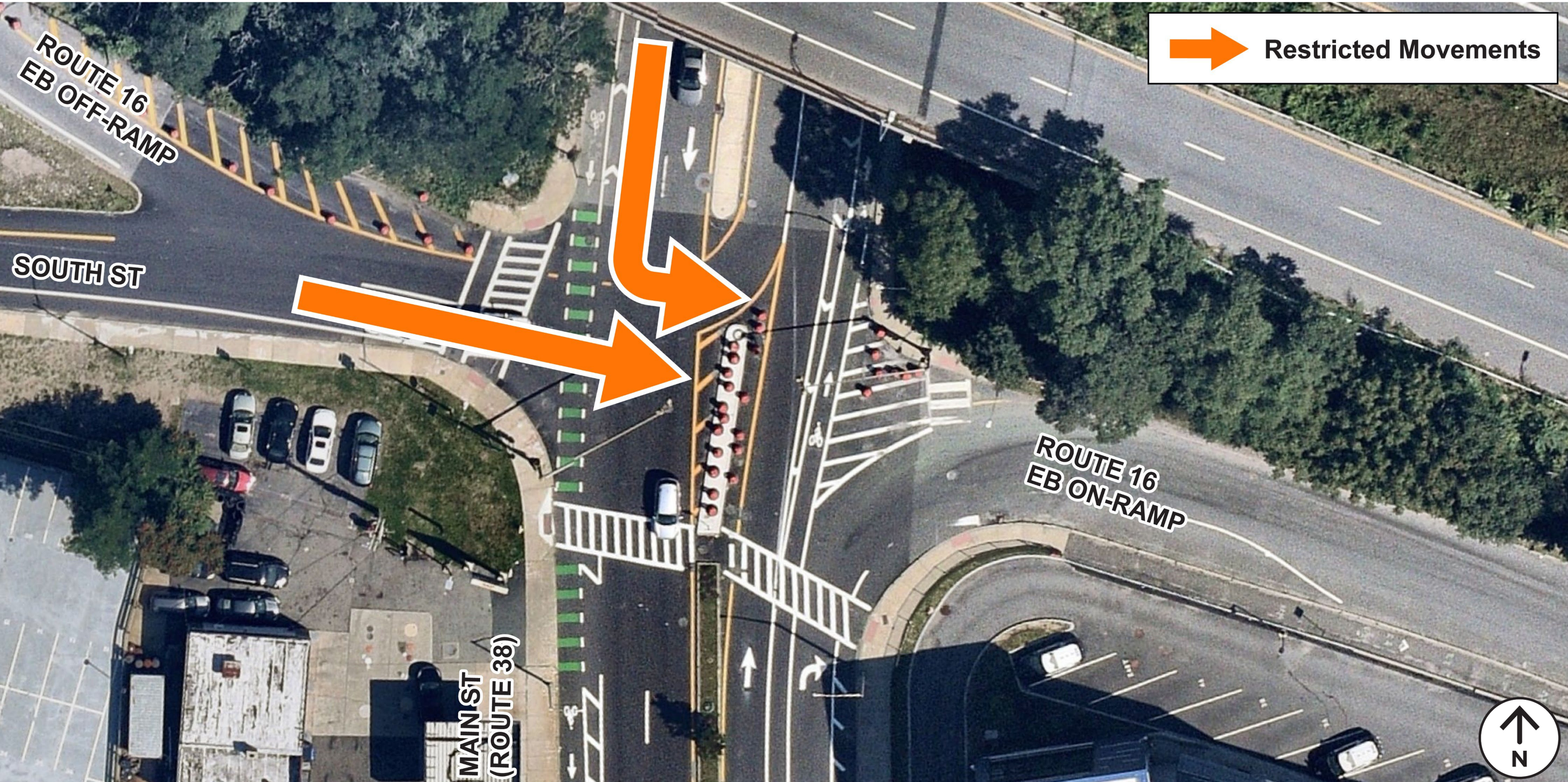
- 26 Crashes - South Street EB & Main Street NB
- 21 Crashes - South Street EB & Main Street SB
- 6 Crashes - South Street left turns & Main Street NB
- 2 Crashes - Main Street right turns & Bikes NB
- 4 Crashes - Main Street NB Rear-Ends

From 2017-2019:

- 78 reported collisions
- 68% of collisions were angle collisions
- 4% of collisions involved a pedestrian or bicyclist
- 22% of collisions resulted in personal injury



Interim Improvements – Main Street at South Street



Main Street at Mystic Avenue/Emerson Street

Main Street at Mystic Avenue:

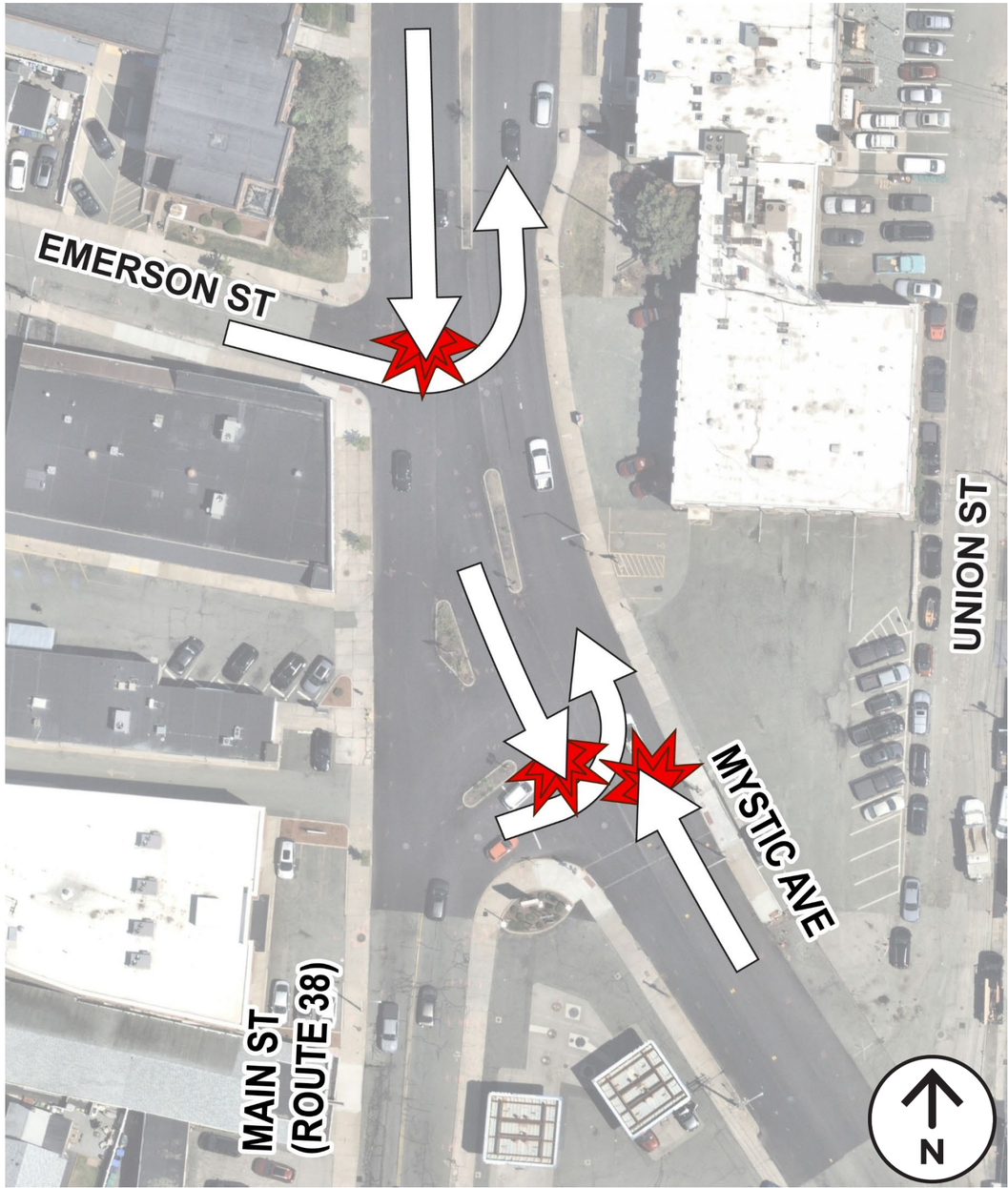
From 2017-2019, 17 collisions were recorded:

- 41% of collisions involved a left-turning vehicle from Main Street stop-controlled approach

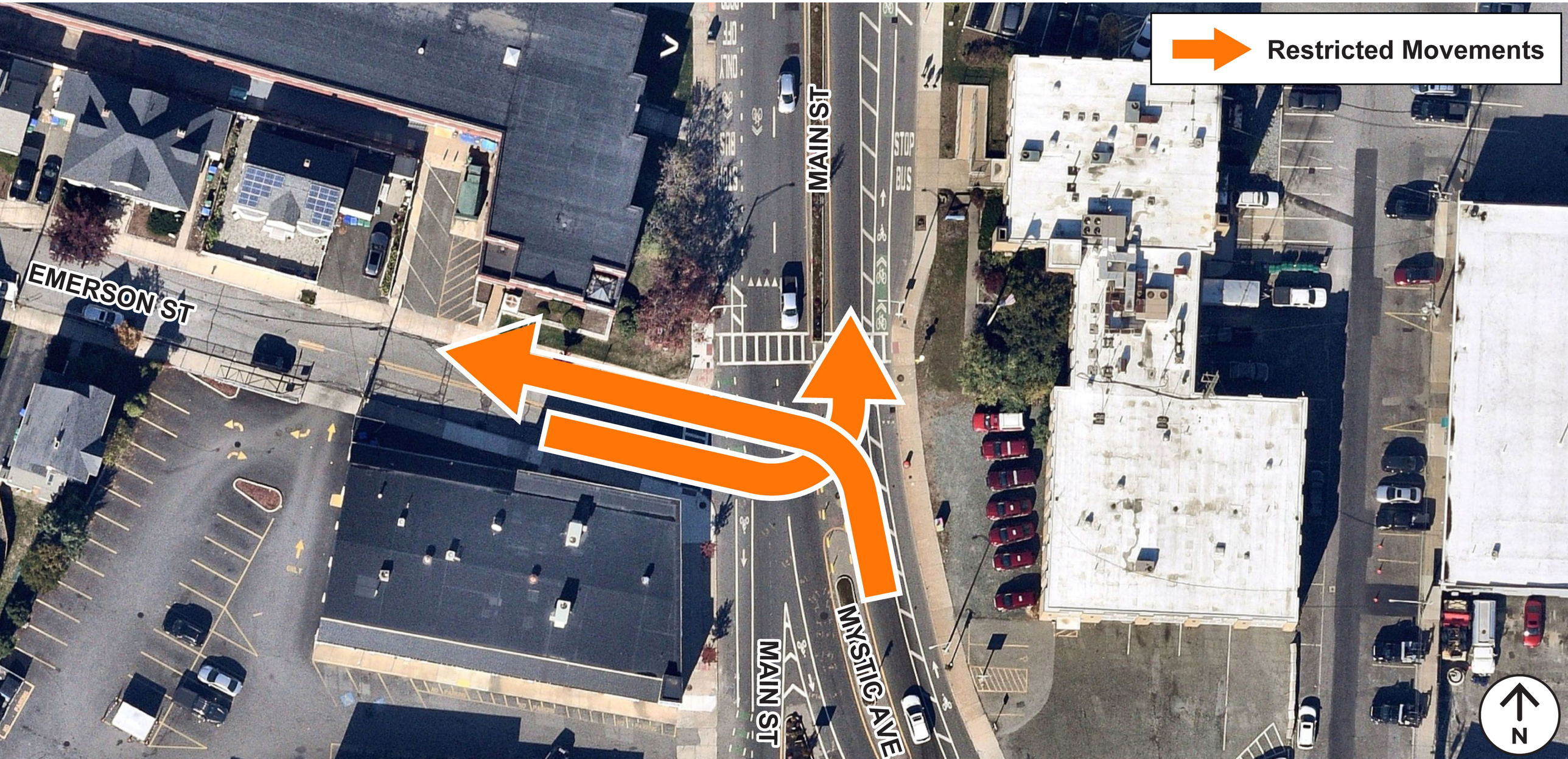
Main Street at Emerson Street:

From 2017-2019, 14 collisions were recorded:

- 79% crashes occurred between southbound vehicles on Main Street and left-turning vehicles from Emerson Street
- 1 crash involved a pedestrian crossing Main Street on the crosswalk



Interim Improvements – Main Street at Emerson Street



Bike Network

What do we want to accomplish?

Project Goals

- Improve safety for people walking, biking, and driving through project area
- Improve intersection connections for people walking and biking
- Maintain acceptable traffic operations

Project Considerations

- South Medford Connector Project (MassDOT Project #612499)
- Medford Square, City of Medford Project
- Coordination with Medford Police and Fire Departments
- MassDOT Statewide Pedestrian and Bicycle Plans; City of Medford Complete Streets Policy
- MassDOT Healthy Transportation Policy Directives

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Project Scope

- Reconstruct the intersections of:
  - Main Street/Route 16 Westbound Ramps
  - Main Street/South Street/Route 16 Eastbound Ramps
  - Main Street/Mystic Avenue/Emerson Street
- Roadway realignment to encourage safe speeds/improve ped-bike visibility
- Roadway resurfacing and restriping
- Pedestrian sidewalk and curb ramp reconstruction
- Buffered bike lane and separated bike lane construction

Route 16 Off-Ramp Removal Feasibility Study

- Traffic Volume Re-routing:
  - All vehicles on Route 16 off-ramp to South Street assumed to re-route southbound on Winthrop Street to South Street
- Feasibility determined with Level of Service (LOS) and intersection queueing results from traffic analysis

Findings/ Recommendations

- Off-ramp closure is feasible in terms of operations and safety
- No degradation in LOS at any intersections
- Improves pedestrian/bicycle connection on South Street, with removal of the crossing at the Off-ramp
- Pursuit will delay the project and the corrective measures for intersection safety
- Grounding of overpass will require larger impact study for the network

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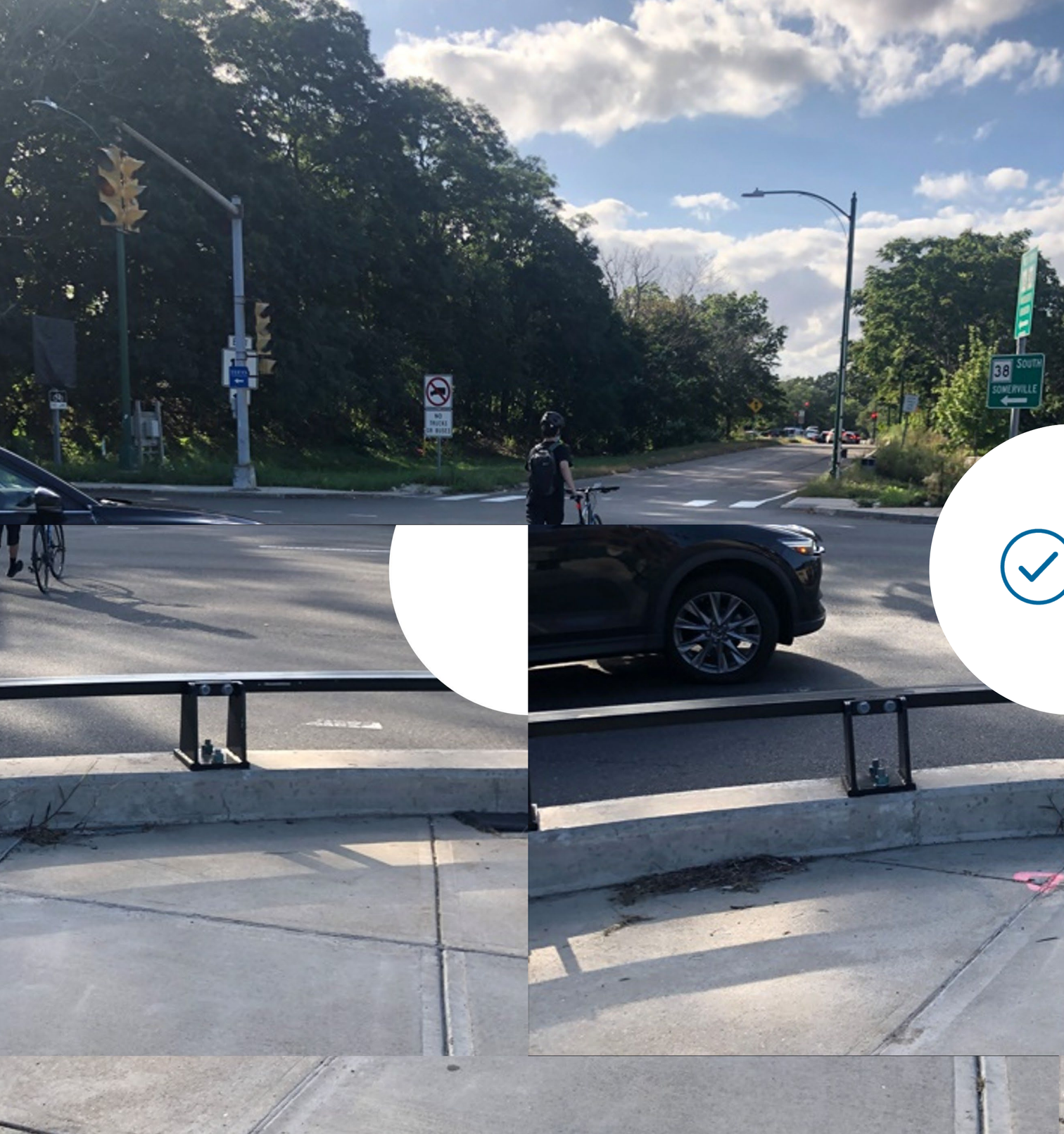
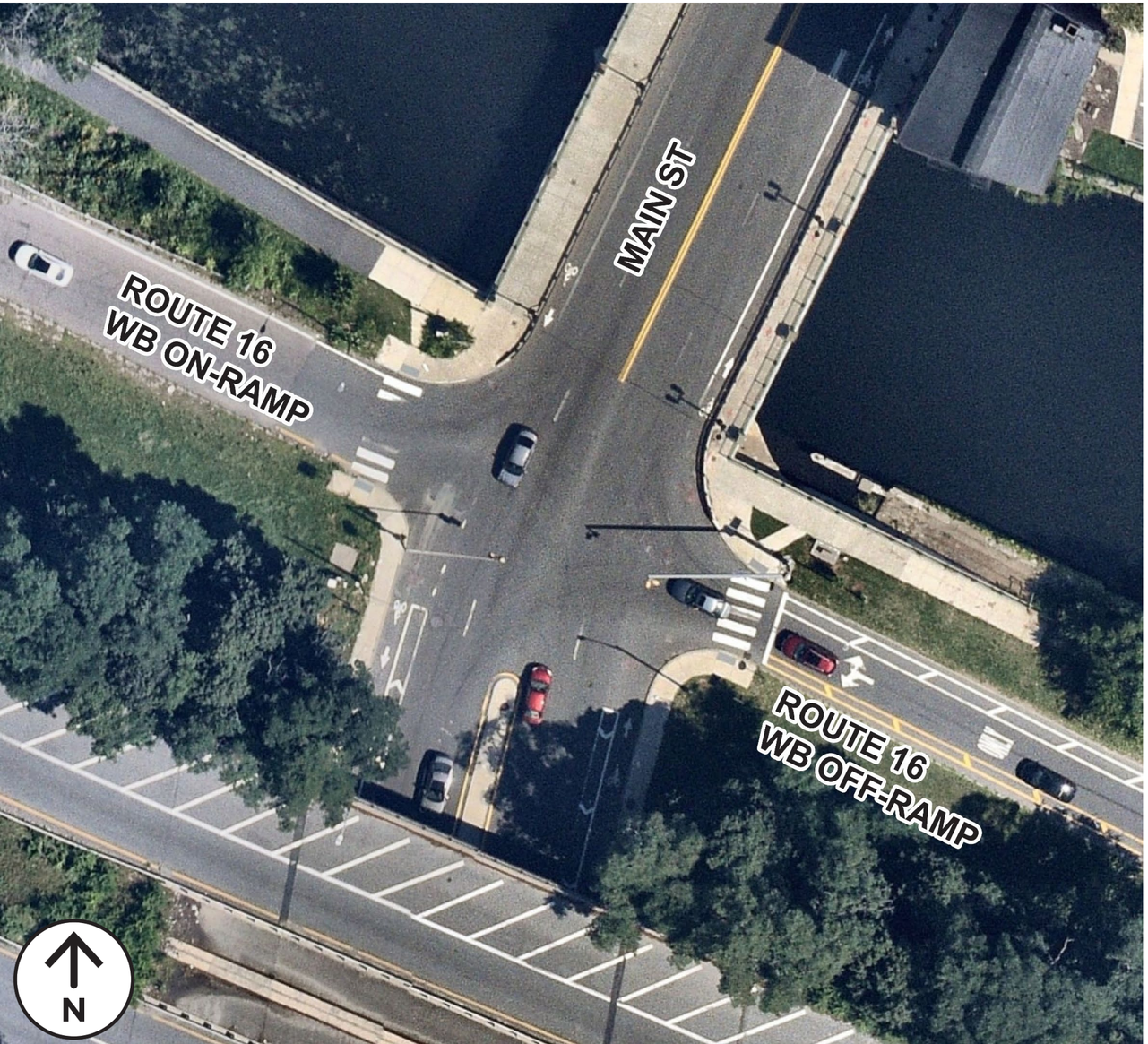
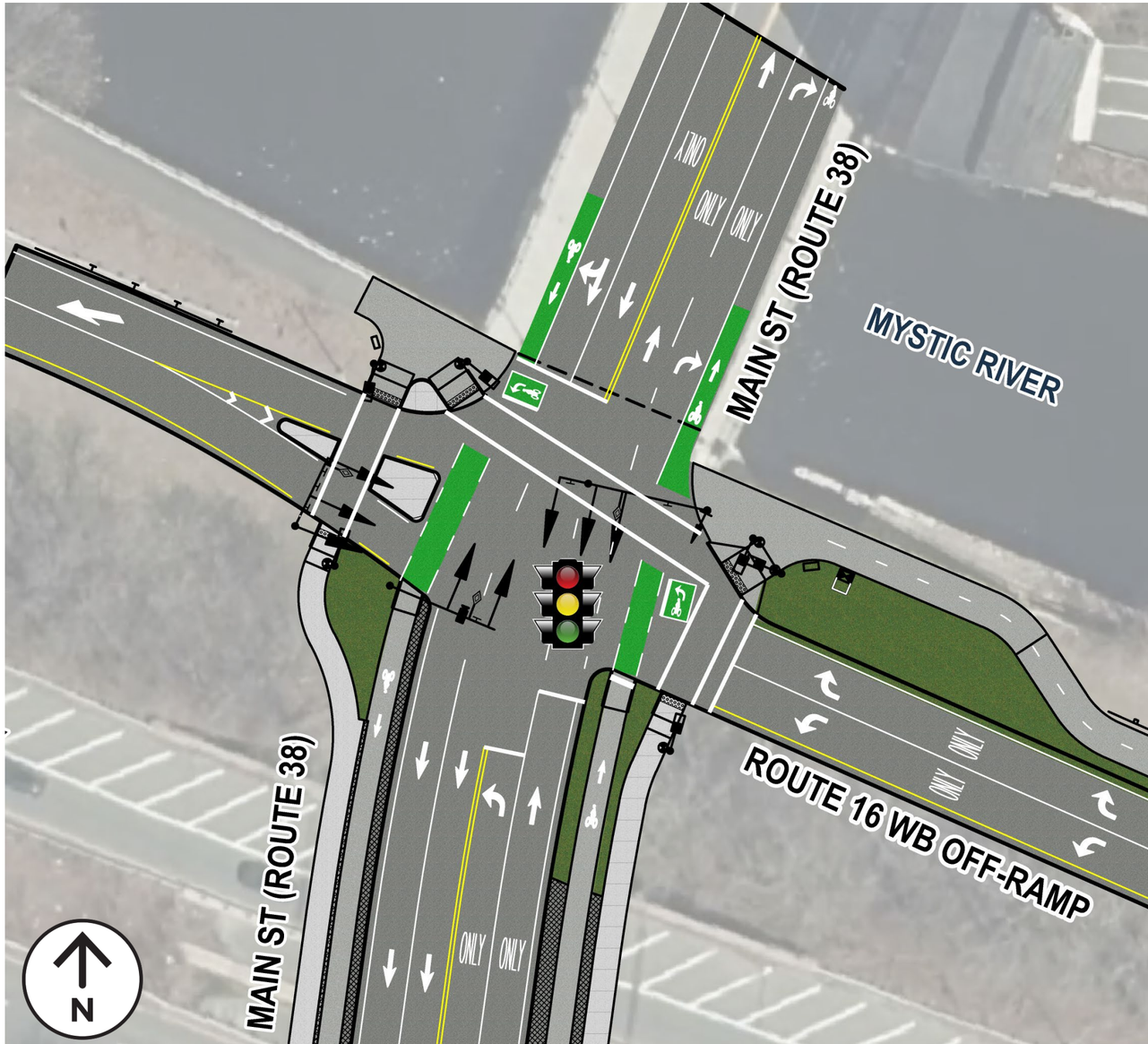


What is the proposed design?

Main Street at Route 16 Westbound Ramps





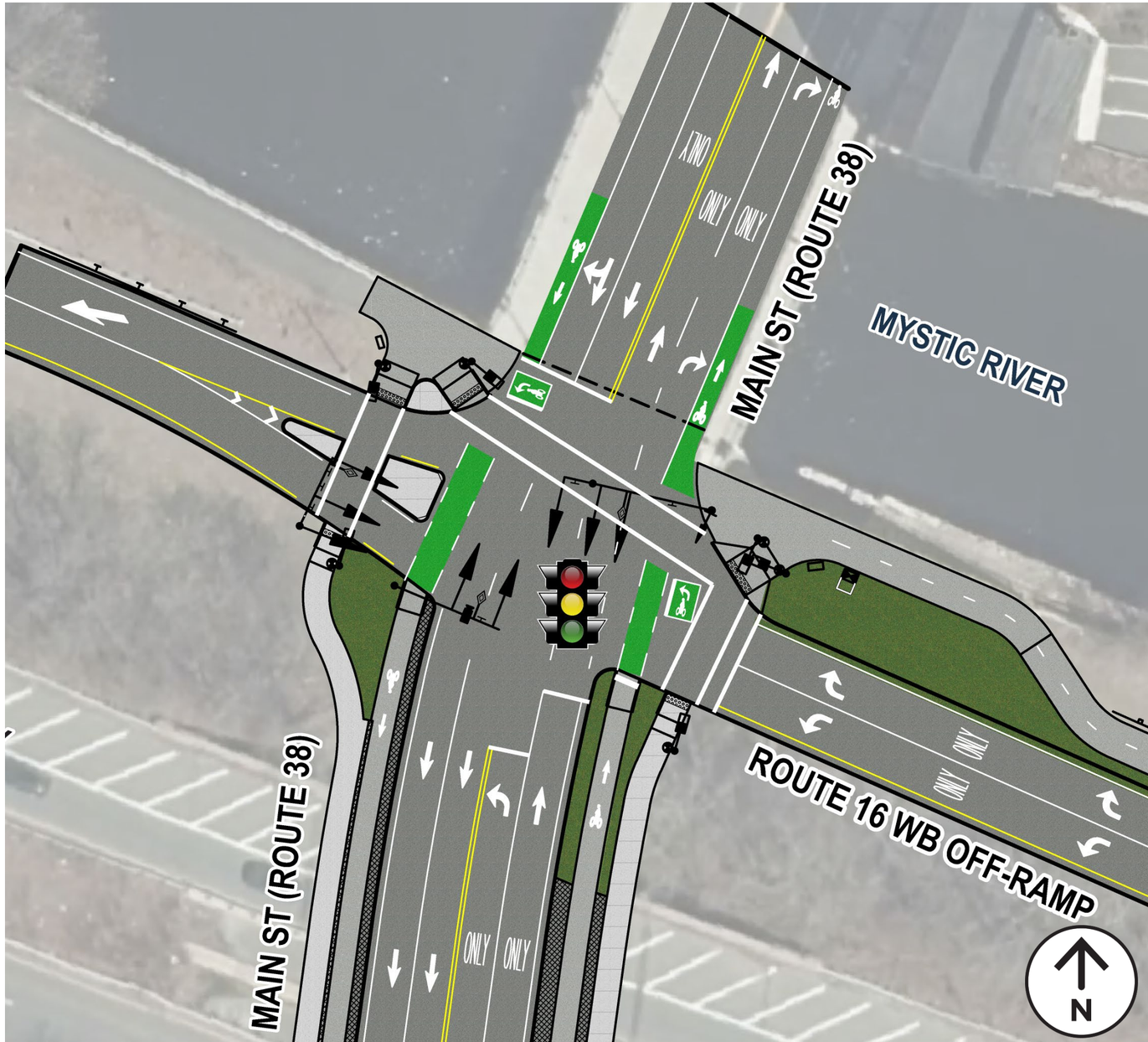
Main Street at Route 16 Westbound Ramps

Intersection Control:

- Signalized intersection

Pedestrian/Bike Facilities:

- Pedestrian sidewalks
- North/south separated bike lanes
- East/west shared use path connection with South Medford Connector project
- New crosswalk across Main Street
- New westbound left-turn lane



Design Updates

Previous Design

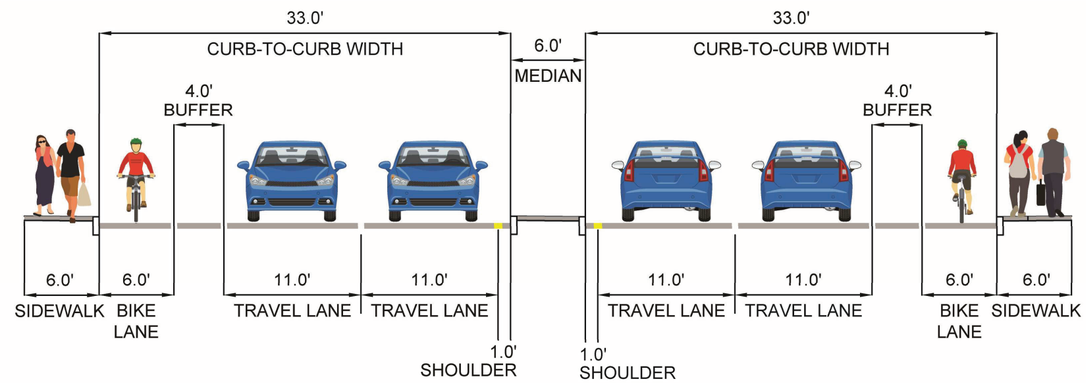
- 5 lane roadway cross section under the MVP Overpass
- 11-foot travel lanes
- Shared-use paths on both sides of the roadway
- At-grade bike lanes

After Public Feedback

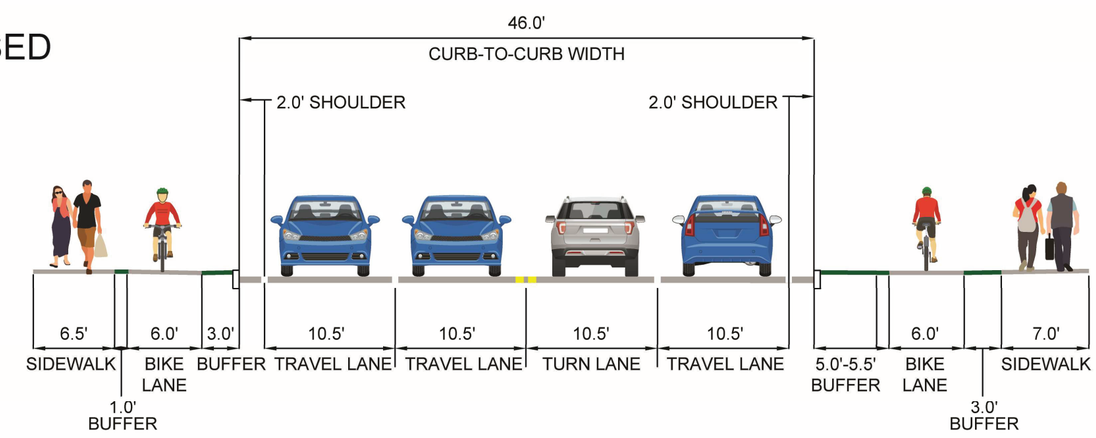
- 4 lane roadway cross section under the MVP Overpass
- 10.5-foot travel lanes
- Separate pedestrian sidewalks and bike lanes
- Raised bike lanes

Main Street: Under Route 16 Overpass

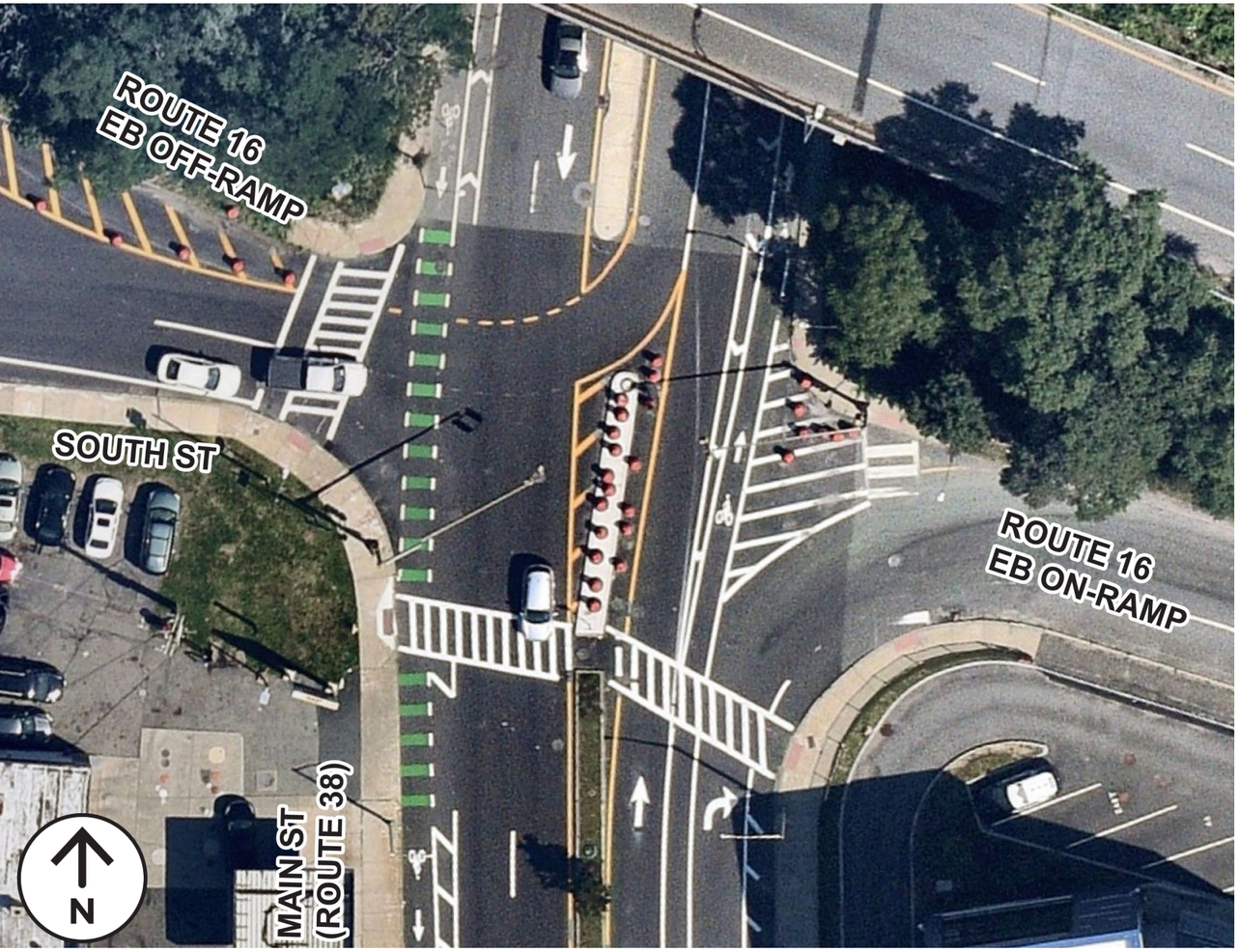
EXISTING

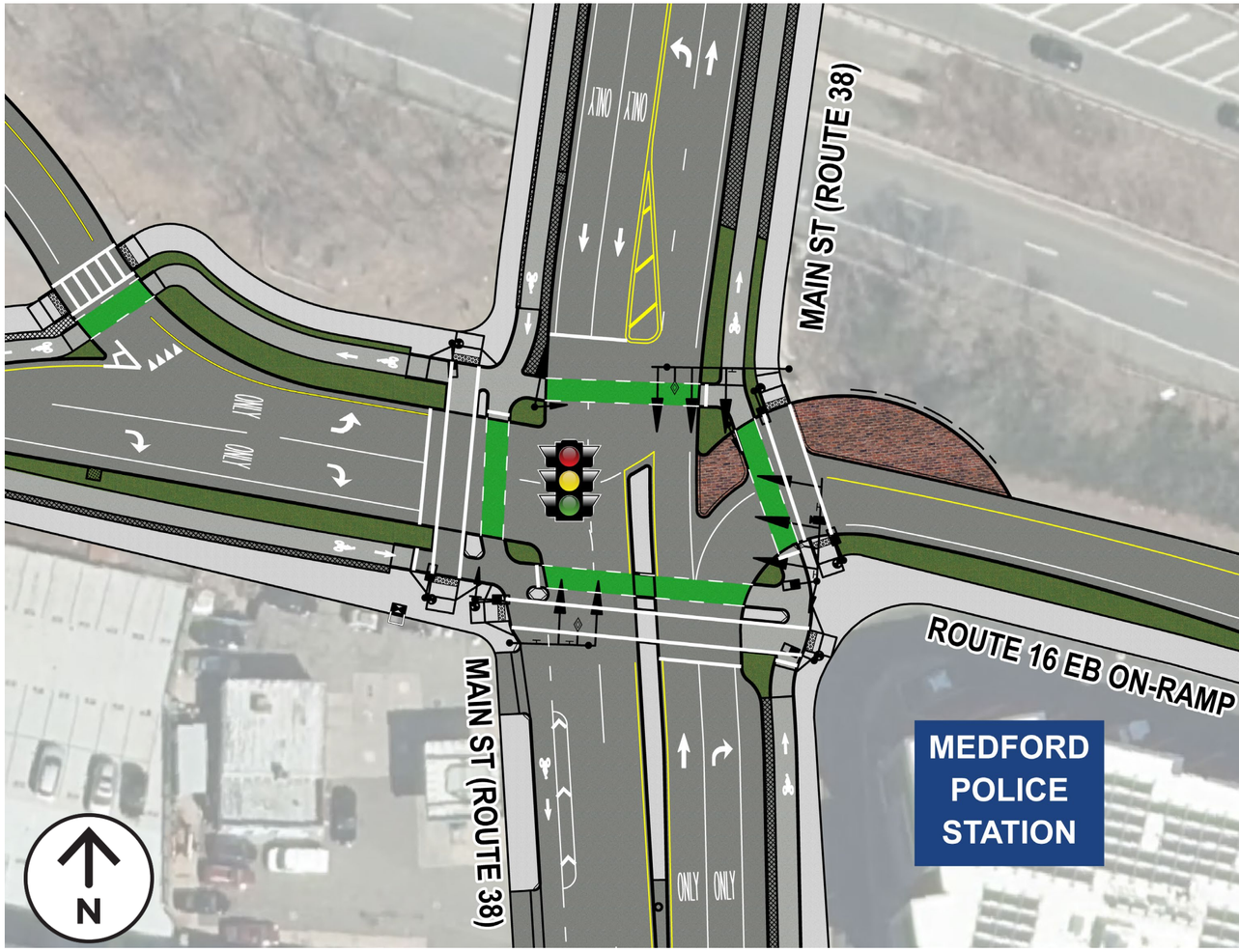


PROPOSED



Main Street at South Street/Route 16 Eastbound Ramps





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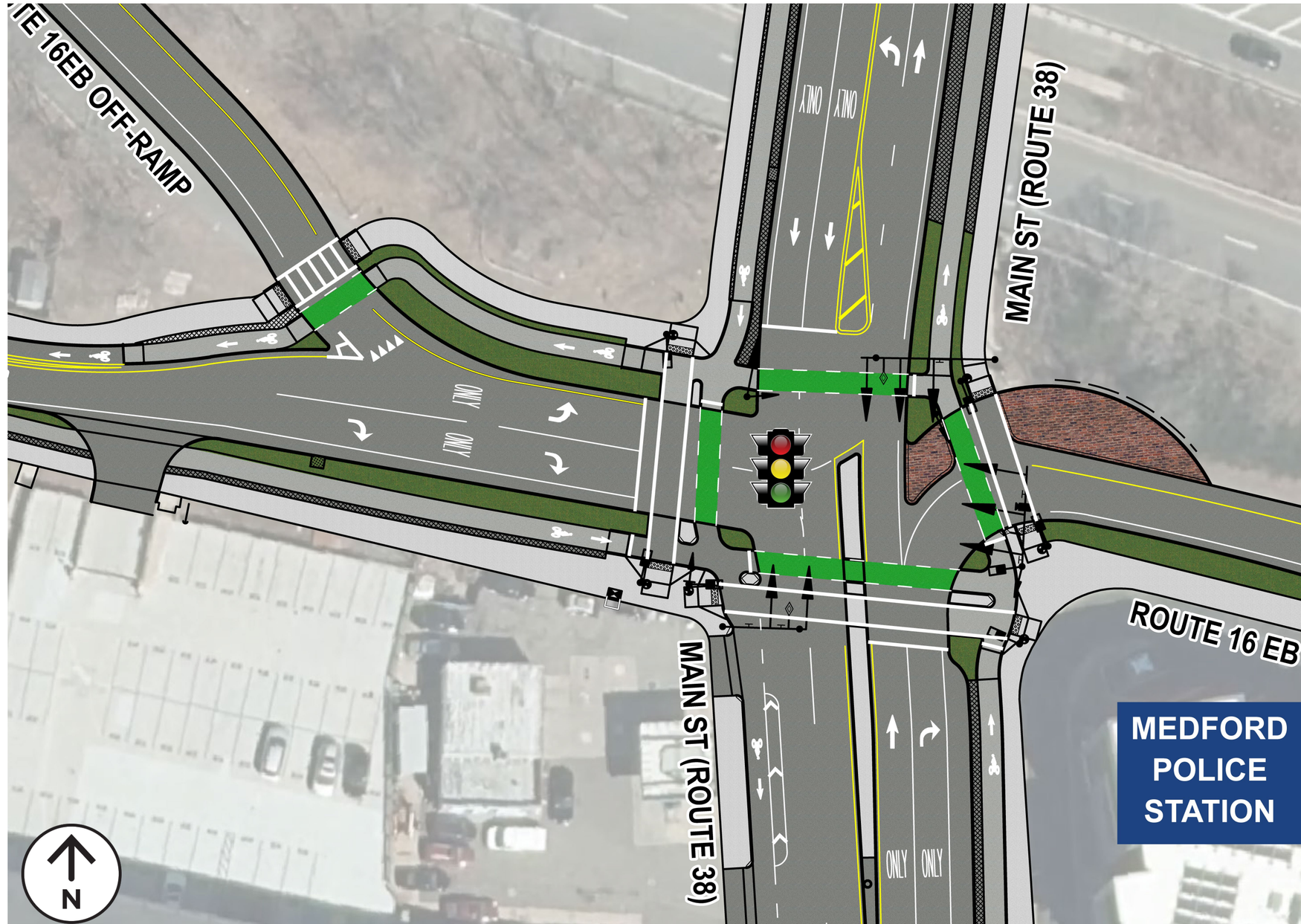
Main Street at South Street/Route 16 Eastbound Ramps

Intersection Control:

- Signalized intersection
- Maintains eastbound thru vehicle restriction

Pedestrian/Bike Facilities:

- Separate bike and pedestrian facilities
- Raised bike paths
- New sidewalk and contraflow bike lane along EB off-ramp



Design Updates

Previous Design

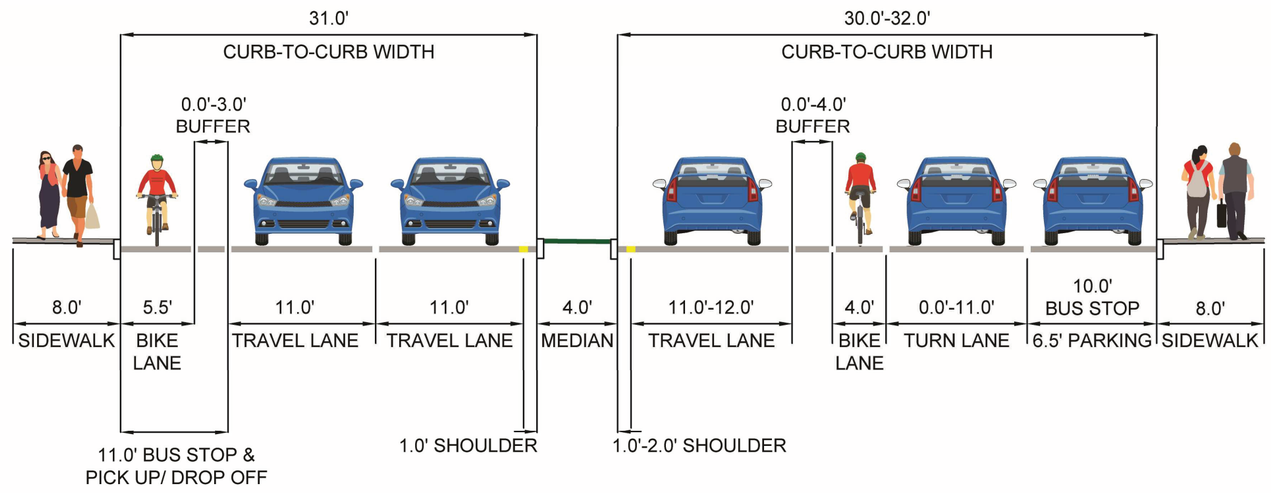
- Green-Tee signalized intersection
- Shared-use paths on both sides of the roadway
- Multiple stages of crosswalks across Main Street
- Provides center island pedestrian refuge

After Public Feedback

- Full 3-way signalized intersection
- Separate pedestrian sidewalks and bicycle lanes
- Direct crosswalks across Main Street
- Maintains center island pedestrian refuge

Main Street- Between Route 16 EB Ramps and Mystic Avenue

EXISTING



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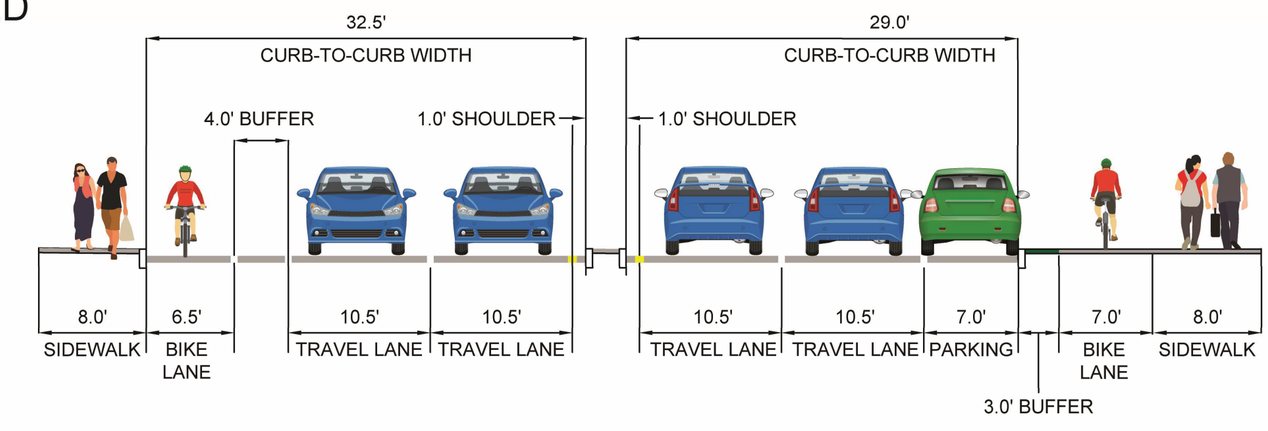
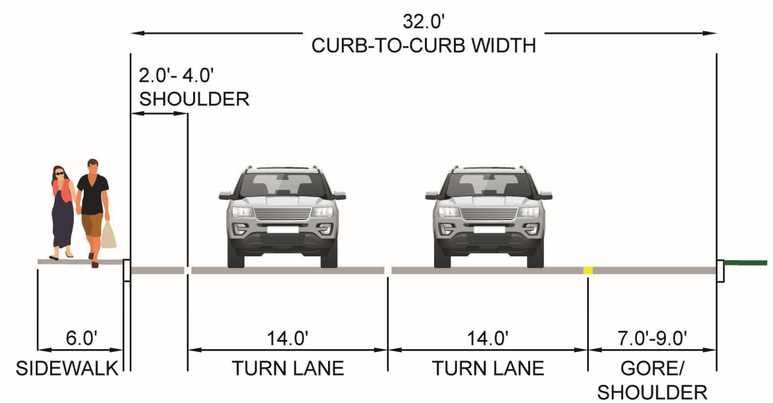


South Street

SOUTH STREET BETWEEN ROUTE 16 EB OFF RAMP AND MAIN STREET

EXISTING



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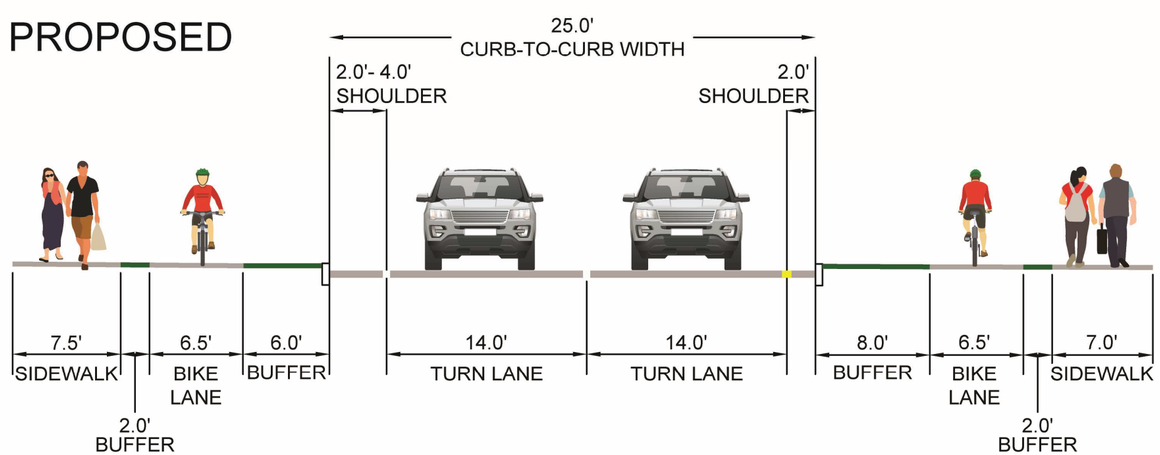


Main Street at Mystic Avenue and Emerson Street

Main Street at Mystic Avenue and Emerson Street

Intersection Control:

- Signalized intersection

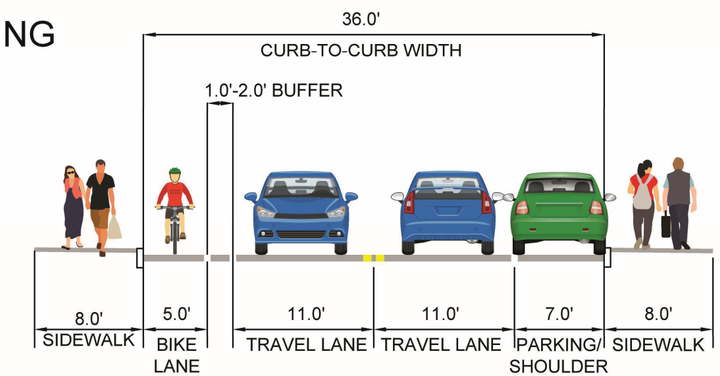
Pedestrian/Bike Facilities:

- Buffered bike lanes
- New crosswalk and widened sidewalks
- New left-turn lane on Mystic Avenue northbound
- New refuge island on Union Street

Main Street and Mystic Avenue

MAIN STREET BETWEEN MYSTIC AVENUE AND THOMAS STREET

EXISTING



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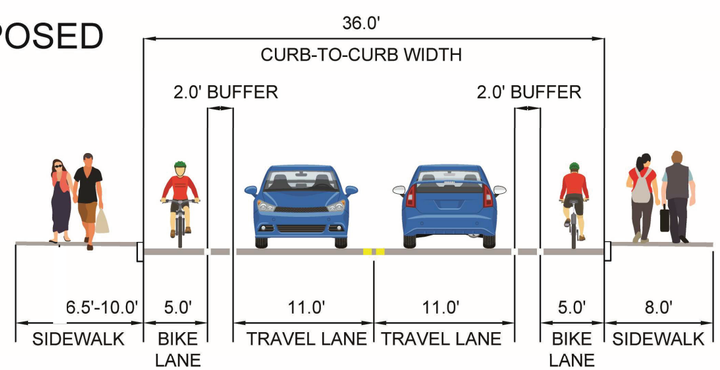
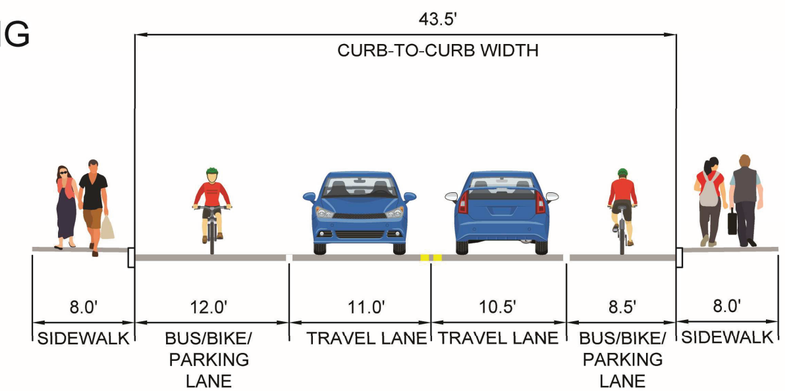


MYSTIC AVENUE BETWEEN MAIN STREET AND UNION STREET

EXISTING



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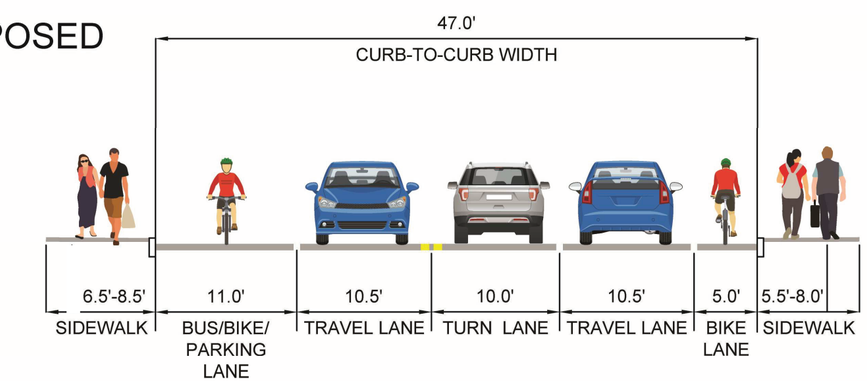
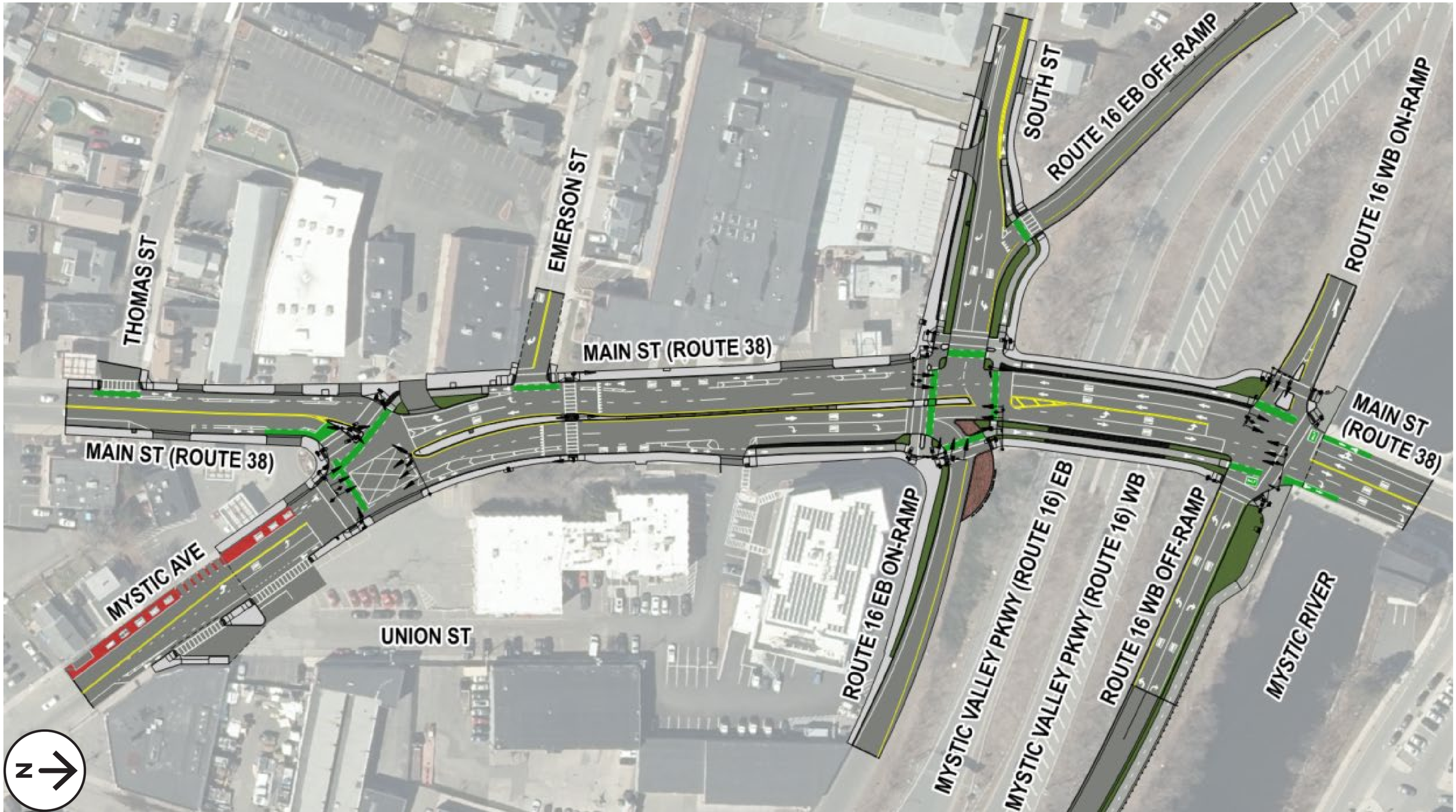


Proposed Design



How will your property be impacted?

Preliminary Right of Way (ROW) discussion 25% Design Public Hearing

- Responsible for acquiring all necessary rights in public land for design, construction, and implementation of a project.
- Affected property owners will be contacted by either the City of Medford or MassDOT Right of Way.
- Procedures must comply with state and federal regulations governing the acquisition process.
  - Property owners are protected under Massachusetts General Laws, primarily Chapter 79.
  - If project receives federal funds, property owners are further protected under Title III of the Real Property Act of 1970, as amended.
- Fee takings, permanent easements and/or temporary construction easements may be required.

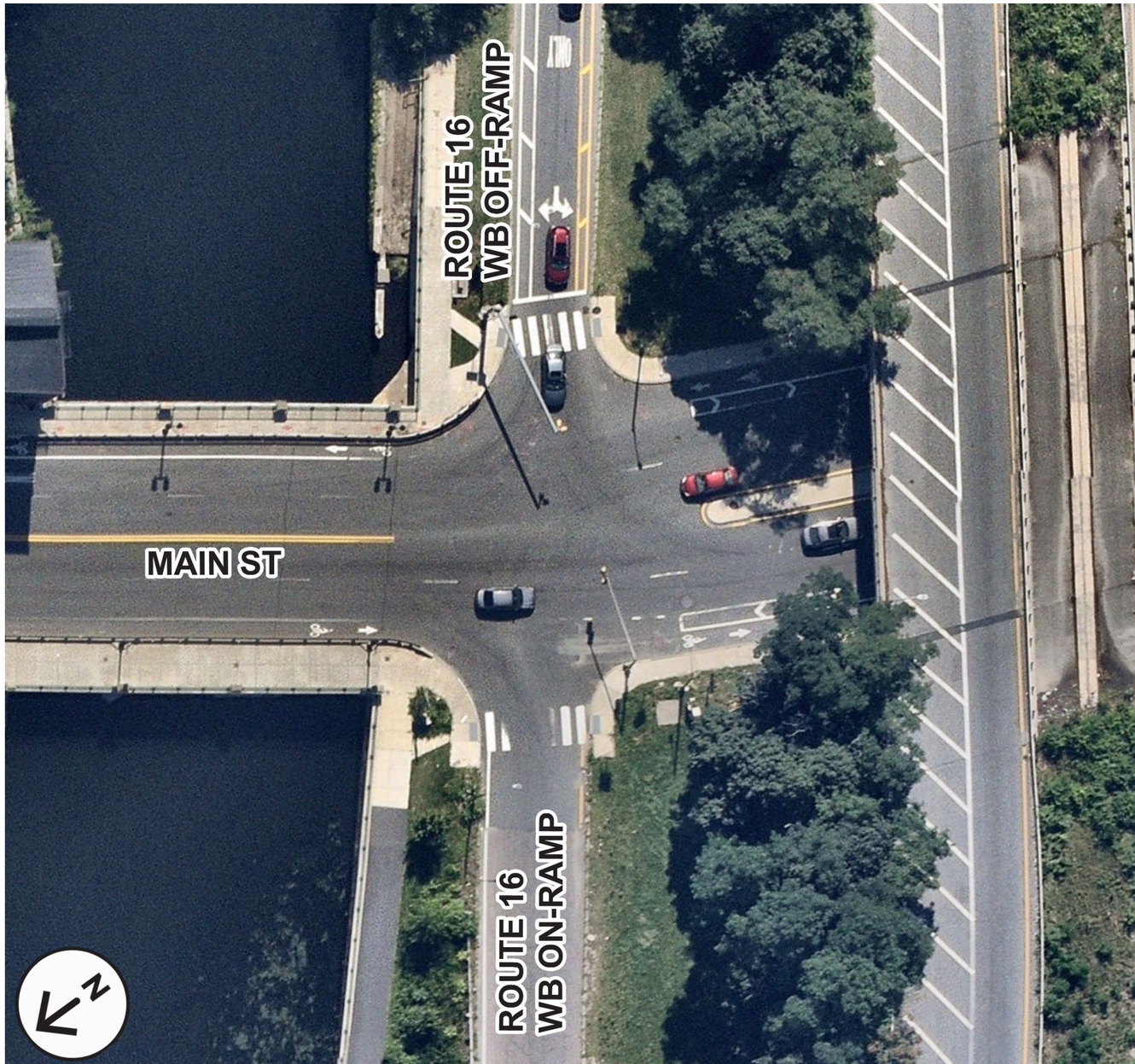
At this stage of design, the Right of Way process has not been finalized. This meeting is an opportunity for the public to comment on any impacts to properties.

What are the environmental, cultural resource, and community impacts?

Environmental, Cultural Resource, and Community Impacts

Project will evaluate/perform:

- Stormwater best management practices
- Water Quality Data Form
- Coordination with the Medford Conservation Commission
- Wetlands protection Notice-of-Intent
- Historic resources/potential hazmat sources
- Changes in impervious areas



What is the construction approach?

Construction Phases

- Administered by MassDOT
- Operations will be coordinated with MassDOT and City Officials
- Access will be maintained to abutting homes and businesses
- Pedestrian and bicycle access will be maintained
- Temporary traffic control signage will be provided

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What are our next steps?

Our next steps

1

Design Public Hearing

April 2025

2

Local Traffic Commission Meeting

Early Summer 2025

3

75% Design

Summer 2025

4

100% Design

Fall 2025

5

Project Advertisement

Late Spring 2026

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How will we keep you informed?

How to reach us

- Submit email comments to:
  MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us

- For project information visit the MassDOT Upcoming Events for Highway Division web site at
  http://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events or used the QR Code:

- Submit written comments to:
  Carrie Lavallee, P.E., Chief Engineer
  MassDOT
  10 Park Plaza
  Boston, MA 02116
  Attention: PROJECT MANAGEMENT, PROJECT FILE NO. 611974

Questions and answers

Thank You for Your Support

City of Medford

Metropolitan Planning Organization

Boston Regional Metropolitan Planning Organization

Community Organizations and Others

Medford Bicycle Advisory Commission

Community Action Agency of Somerville

Partners for Youth and Disabilities

Registry of Motor Vehicles

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Thank You

Main Street and South Street, Mystic Valley Parkway Ramps, and Mystic Avenue

City Hall Chambers | April 23, 2025 | 6:00 P.M.

Project File No. 611974

MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us