



Intersection Improvements at Hancock Street and Chestnut Street

25% Design Public Hearing

Abington Town Hall | September 13, 2023 | 7:00 PM

Project File No. 609440



Public meeting notes and procedures

Notification of video recording

This public hearing will be recorded. The Massachusetts Department of Transportation may choose to retain and distribute the video, images, and/or audio.

All parts of this hearing are considered public record.

By continuing attendance with this public hearing, you are consenting to participate in a recorded event. If you are not comfortable being recorded, you may choose to excuse yourself from the meeting.

Important notes

The hearing will be open to questions and answers at the end of the formal presentation. Please state your name prior to asking a question or commenting.

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

- Project Location
- Q&A Panelists
- Project Initiation
- Project Goals
- Preferred Alternative
- Project Impacts
- Construction Approach
- Design Progress
- Project Inform
- Q&A

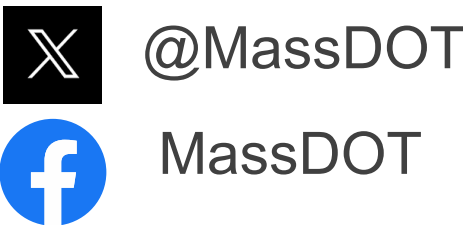


Thank You for Your Support

Local Newspaper Advertisement:

Abington Mariner
Patriot Ledger

MassDOT Facebook and Twitter:



@MassDOT
MassDOT

Municipal Organizations:

Town of Abington
Abington Library

Community Organizations:

Old Colony Planning Council
Plymouth County Chamber of Commerce
Pre-school Playmates
Registry of Motor Vehicles

WICKEDLOCAL.com
The Patriot Ledger



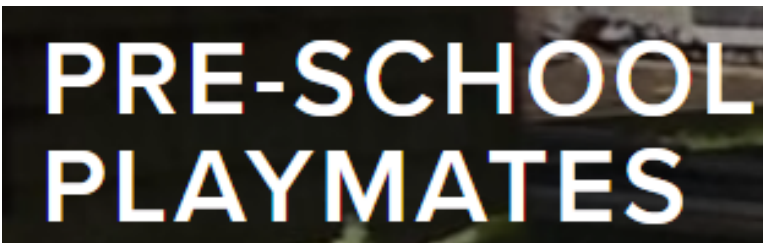
OLD COLONY
PLANNING COUNCIL



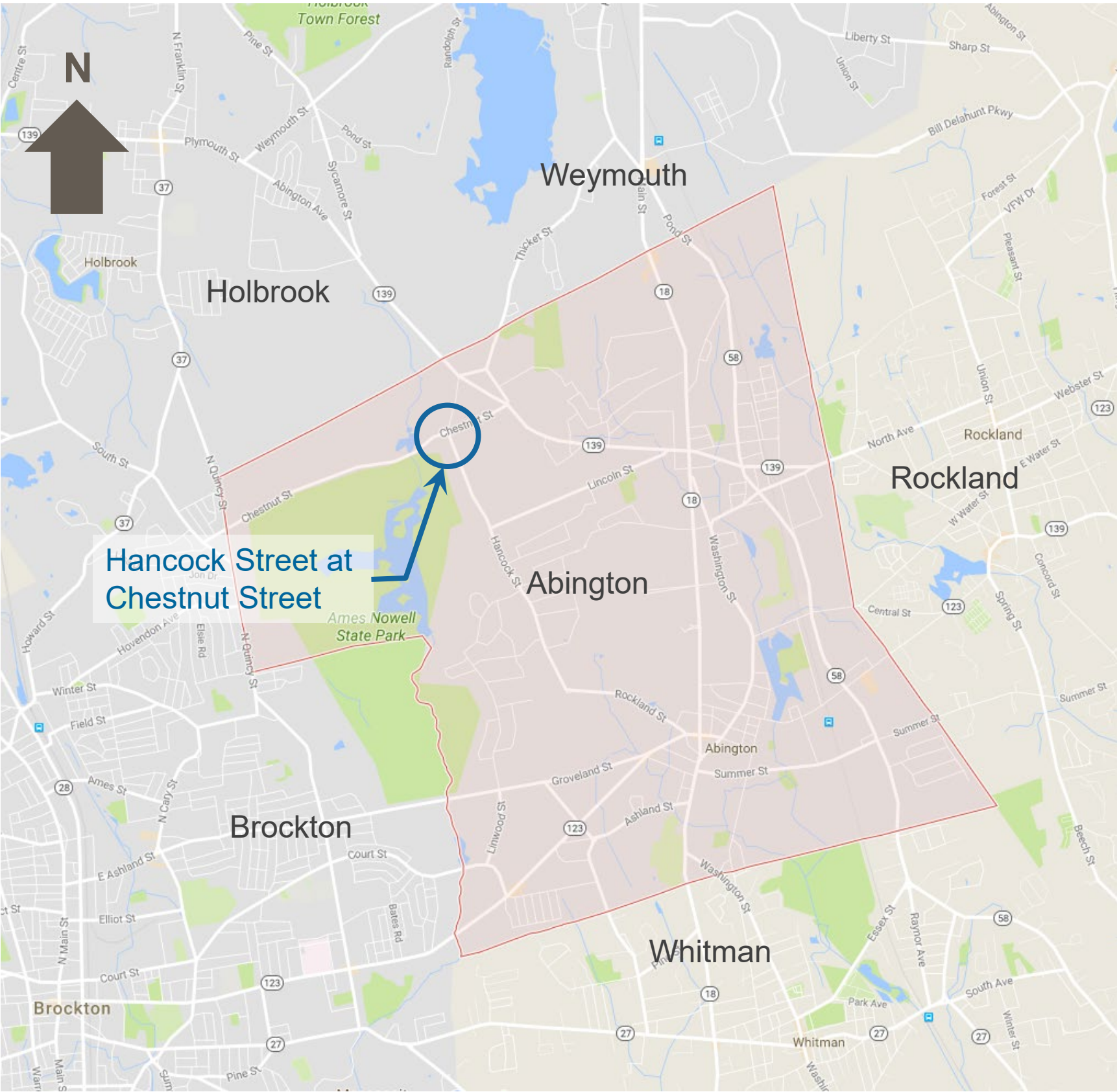
The Plymouth Area
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
LEARN • CONNECT • SUCCEED



REGISTRY OF MOTOR VEHICLES



Project Location



Project Location



Looking North of Hancock Street

Project Location



Looking South of Hancock Street

Project Location



Looking West of Chestnut Street

Project Location



Looking East of Chestnut Street

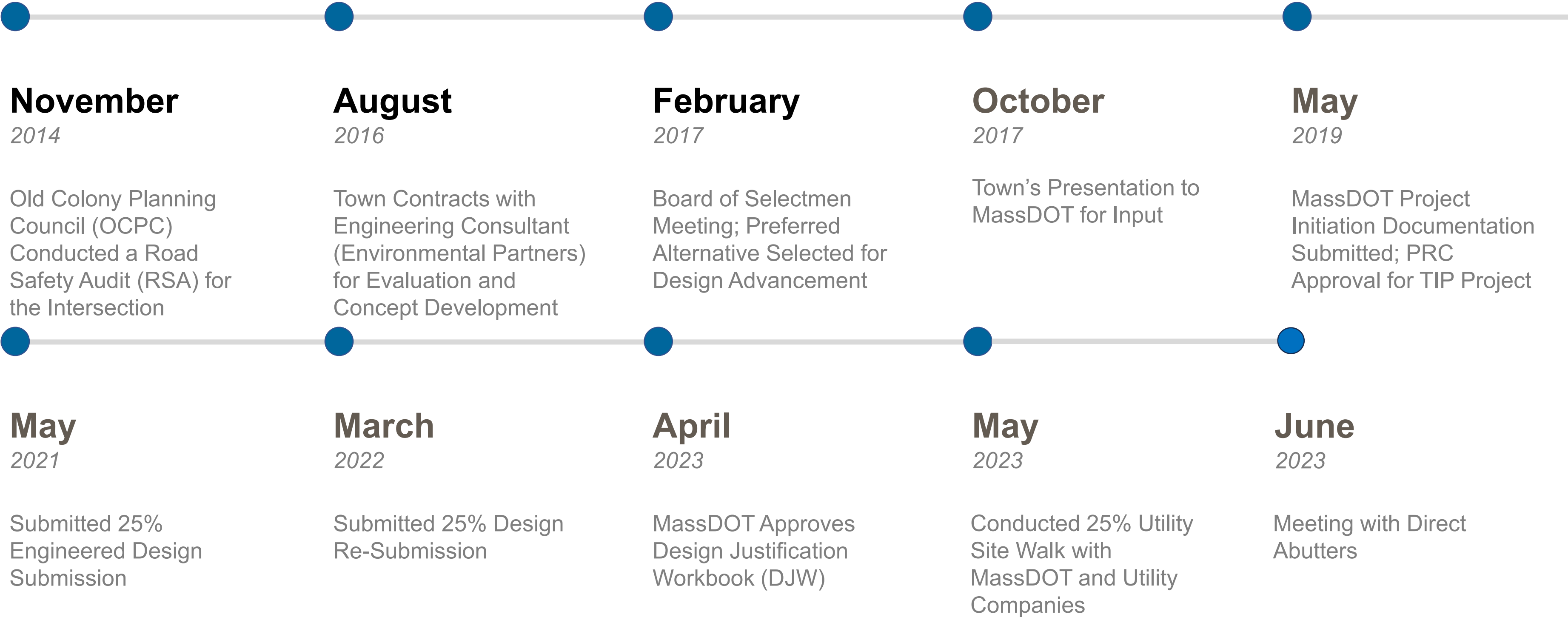
Project Location

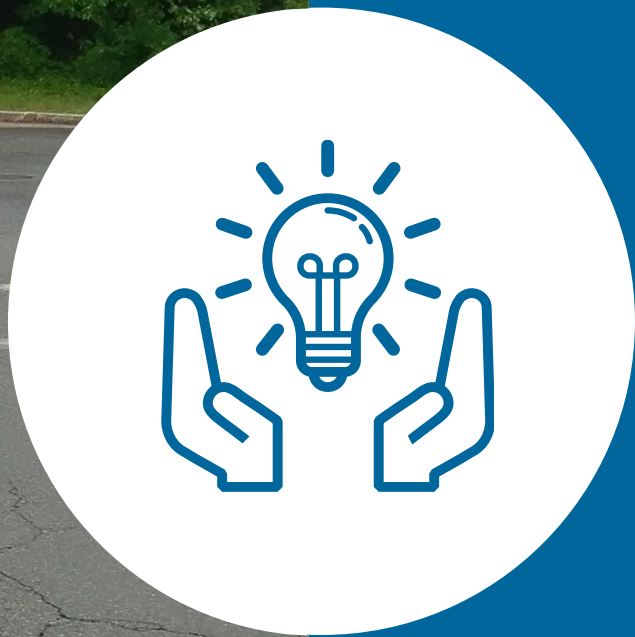


Q&A Panelists

- **MassDOT**
 - Stephanie Upson, Project Manager
 - Craig Sheehan, ROW Agent
 - Jason Walters, District 5
- **Town of Abington (Municipality)**
 - John F. Stone, DPW Director
 - Jeanne White, DPW Executive Assistant/Office Manager
- **Environmental Partners (Consultant)**
 - James D. Fitzgerald, P.E., LEED AP, Director of Transportation
 - Benny L. Hung, P.E., Project Manager
 - Ryan P. Hayden, Project Engineer

How did we get here?

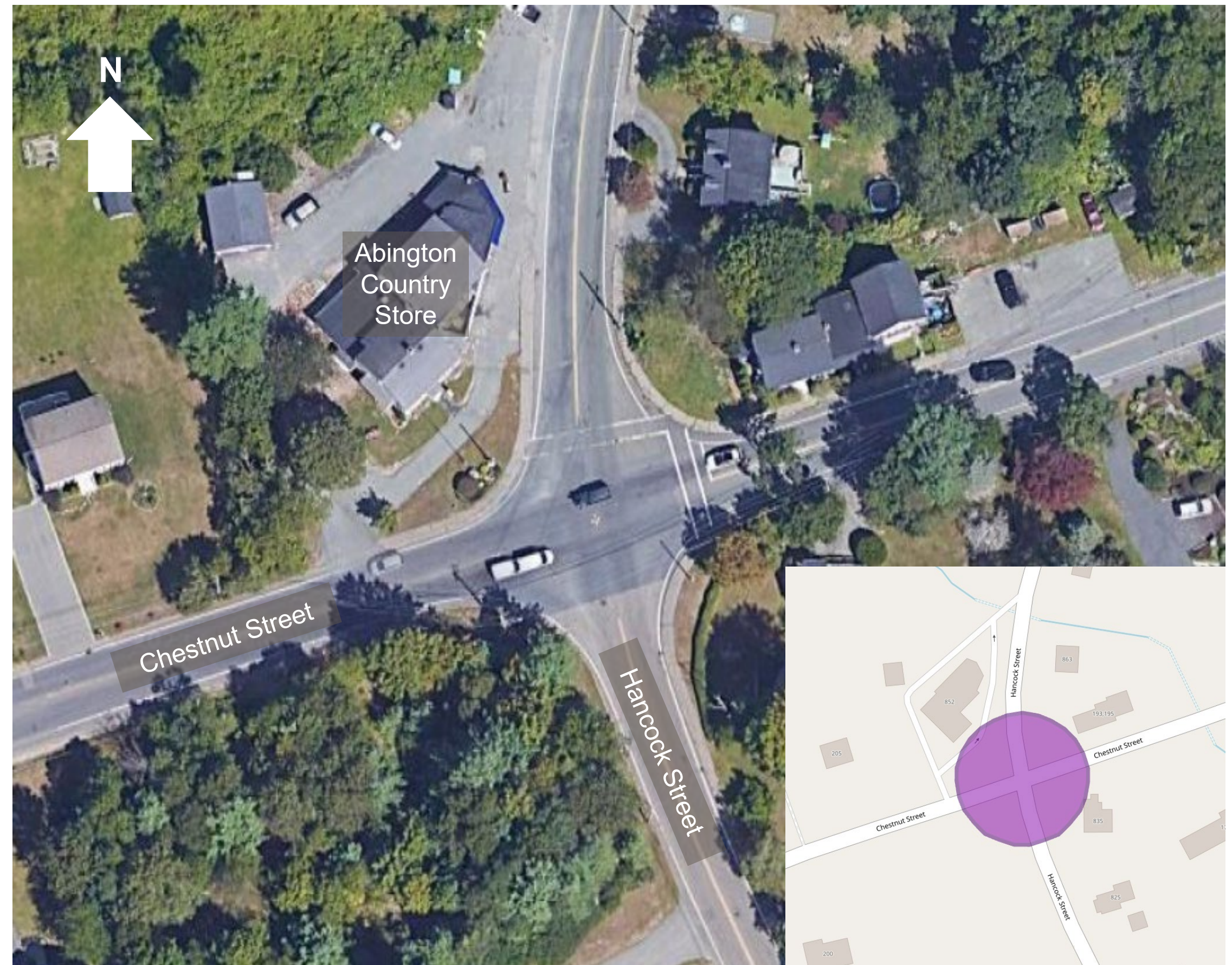




**Why was this
project
initiated?**

Safety & Operations

- Crash history
 - Ranks within the Top 5% Intersection Crash Clusters (2017-2020)
- Expansive pavement
- Steep topography
- Limited sight distance
- High travel speeds
- Long pedestrian crossings
- No bicycle accommodations
- Poor operations for motorists





**What do we
want to
accomplish?**

Project Goals

- Improve safety
 - Address crash frequency and severity
 - Slow travel speeds
 - Shorten pedestrian crossings
 - Add bicycle accommodations
 - Improve sight distance
 - Improve topography
- Improve operations for motorists





**What
alternatives
were
considered?**

Design Considerations:

- Topography
- Site Constraints Limited sight distance
- Right-of-Way

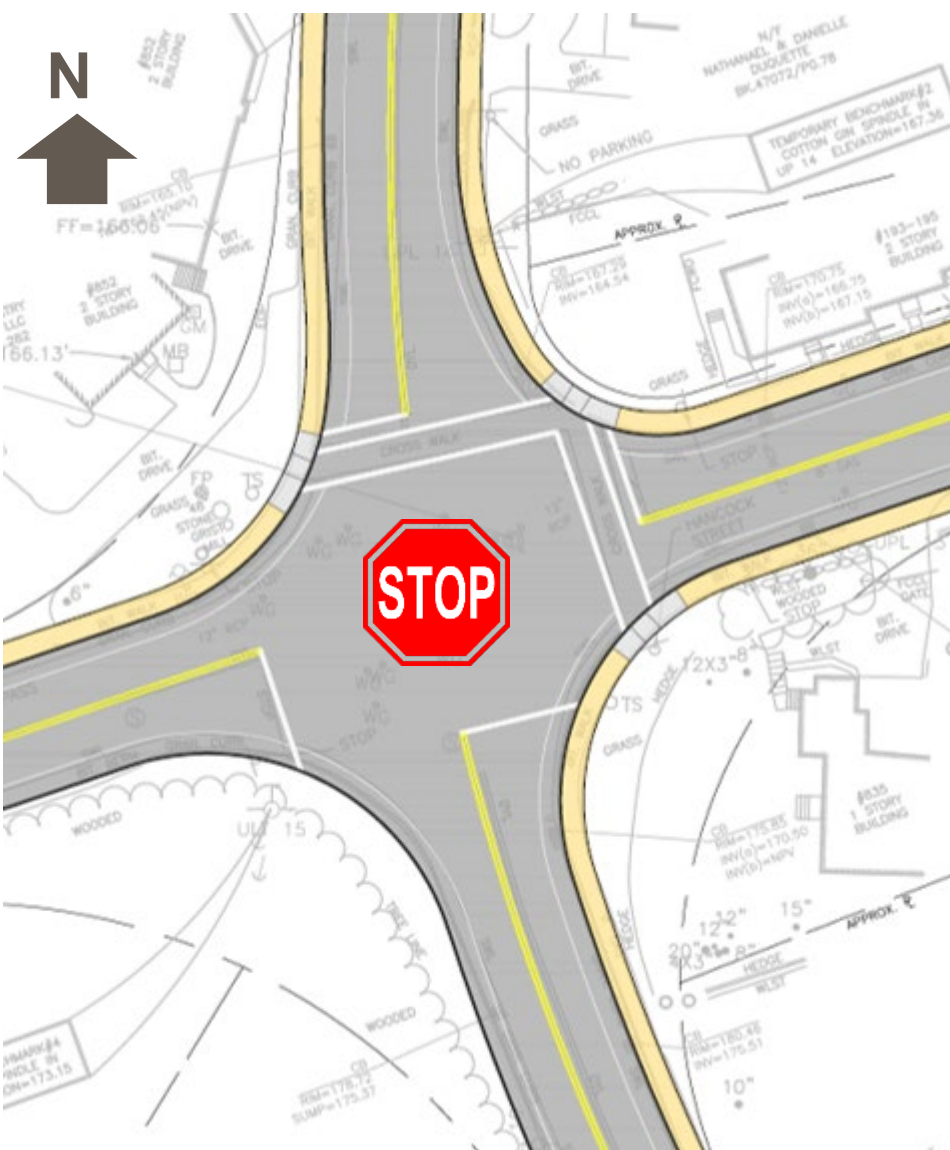


Hancock St. Looking South

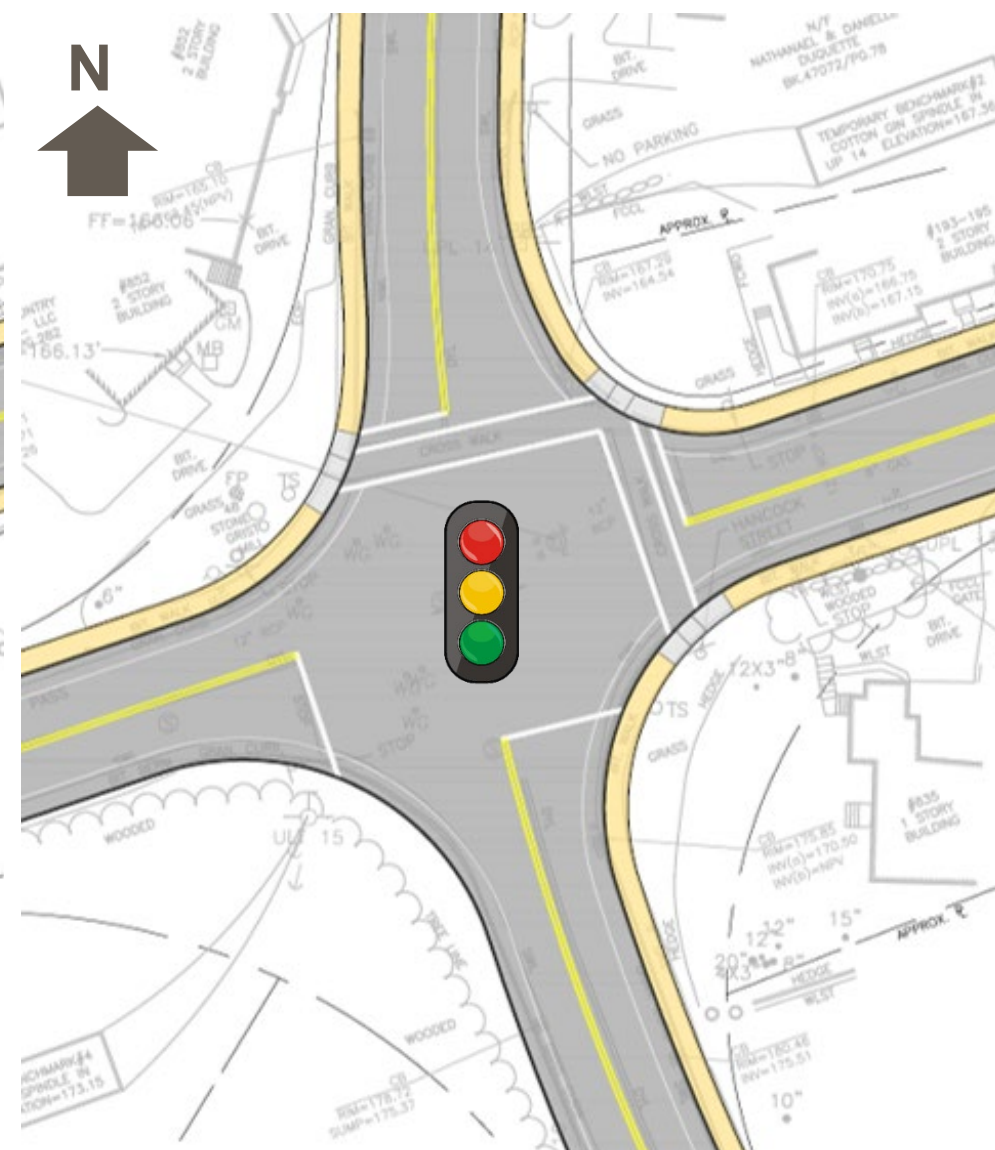


Alternatives:

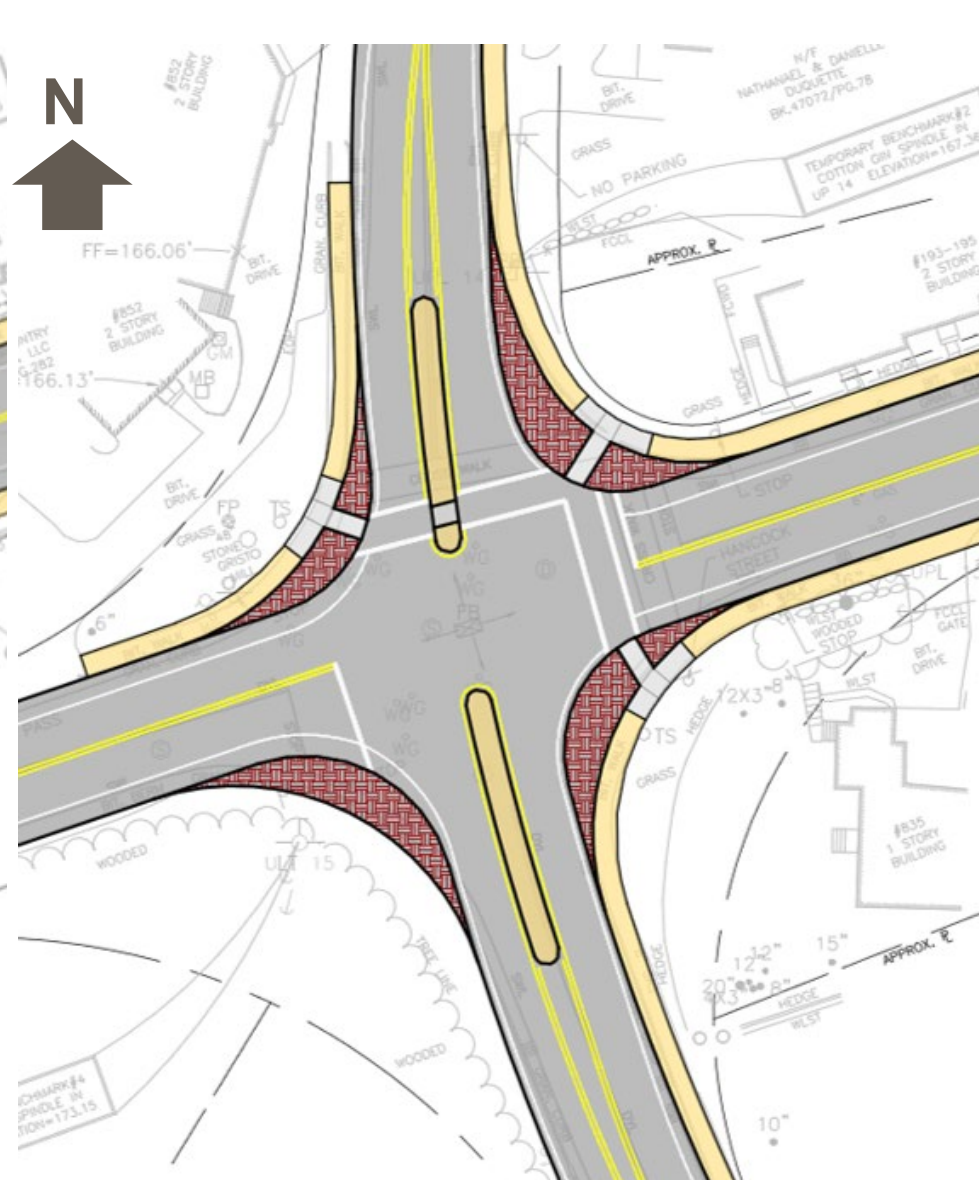
Unsignalized
4-Way Stop



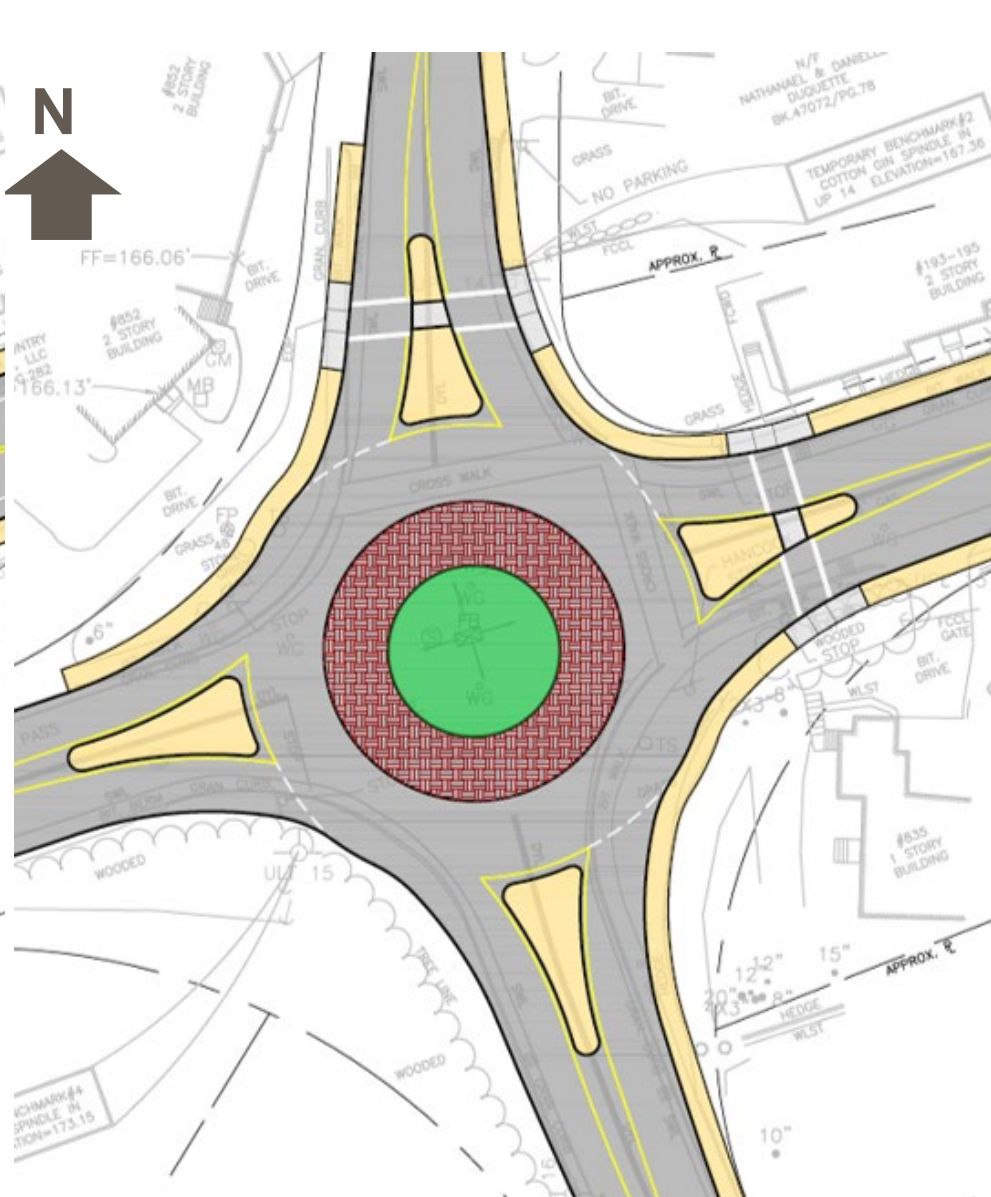
Signalization



Unsignalized with
Geometric Treatments



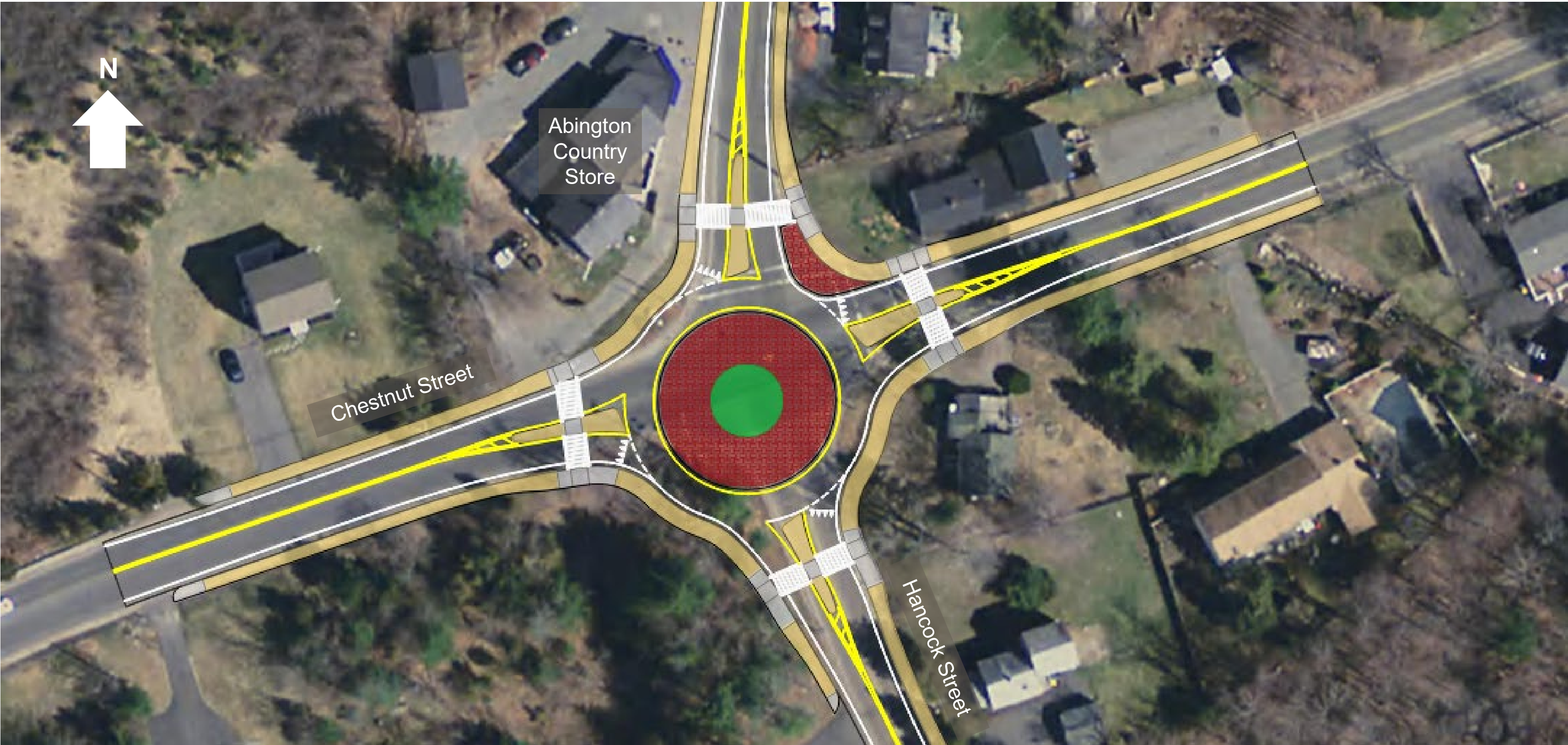
Roundabout





**What is the
preferred
alternative?**

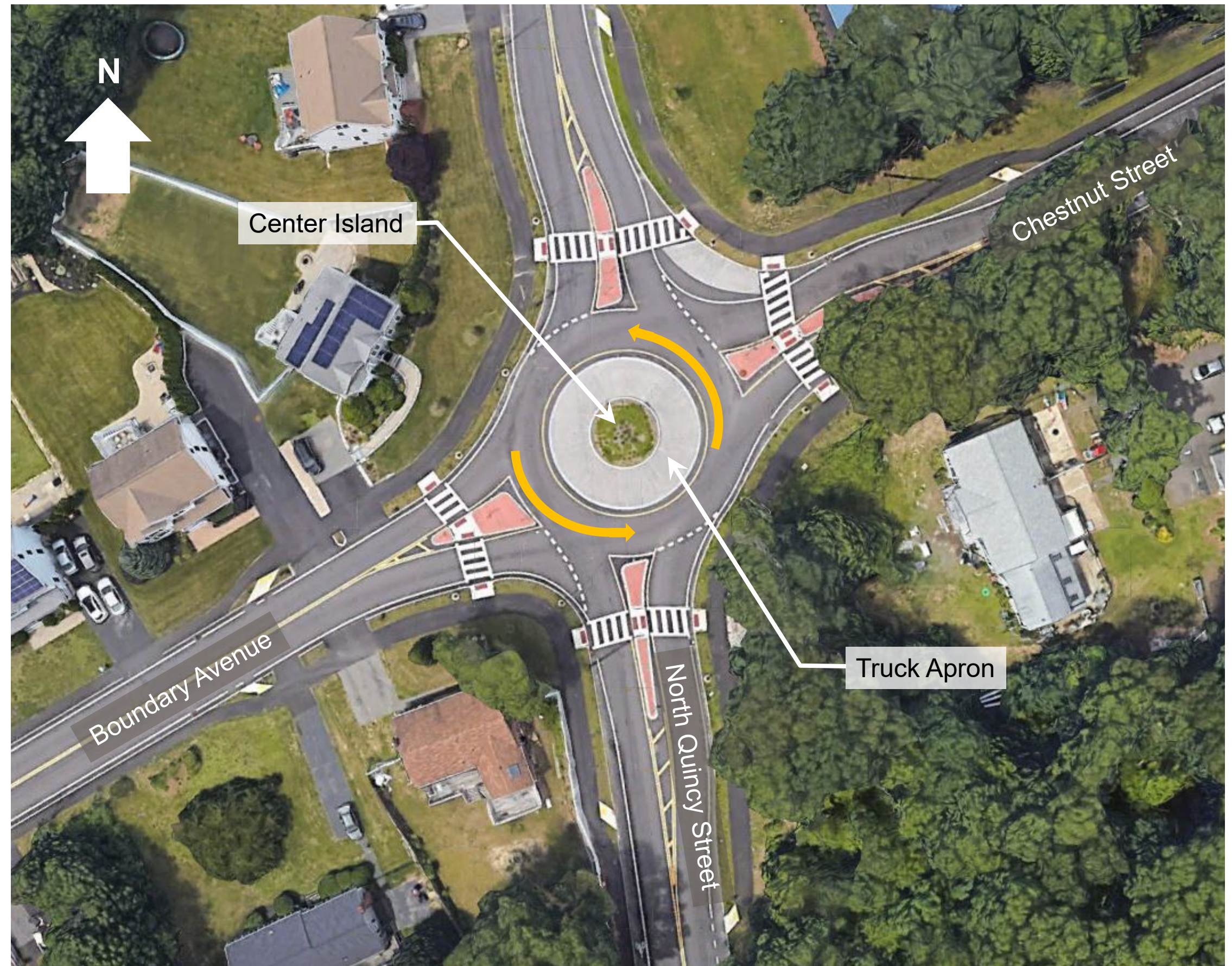
Preferred Alternative: Roundabout



What is a roundabout?

- A compact circular intersection
- Counter-clockwise travel around the center island
- Truck apron to accommodate larger vehicles (trucks)

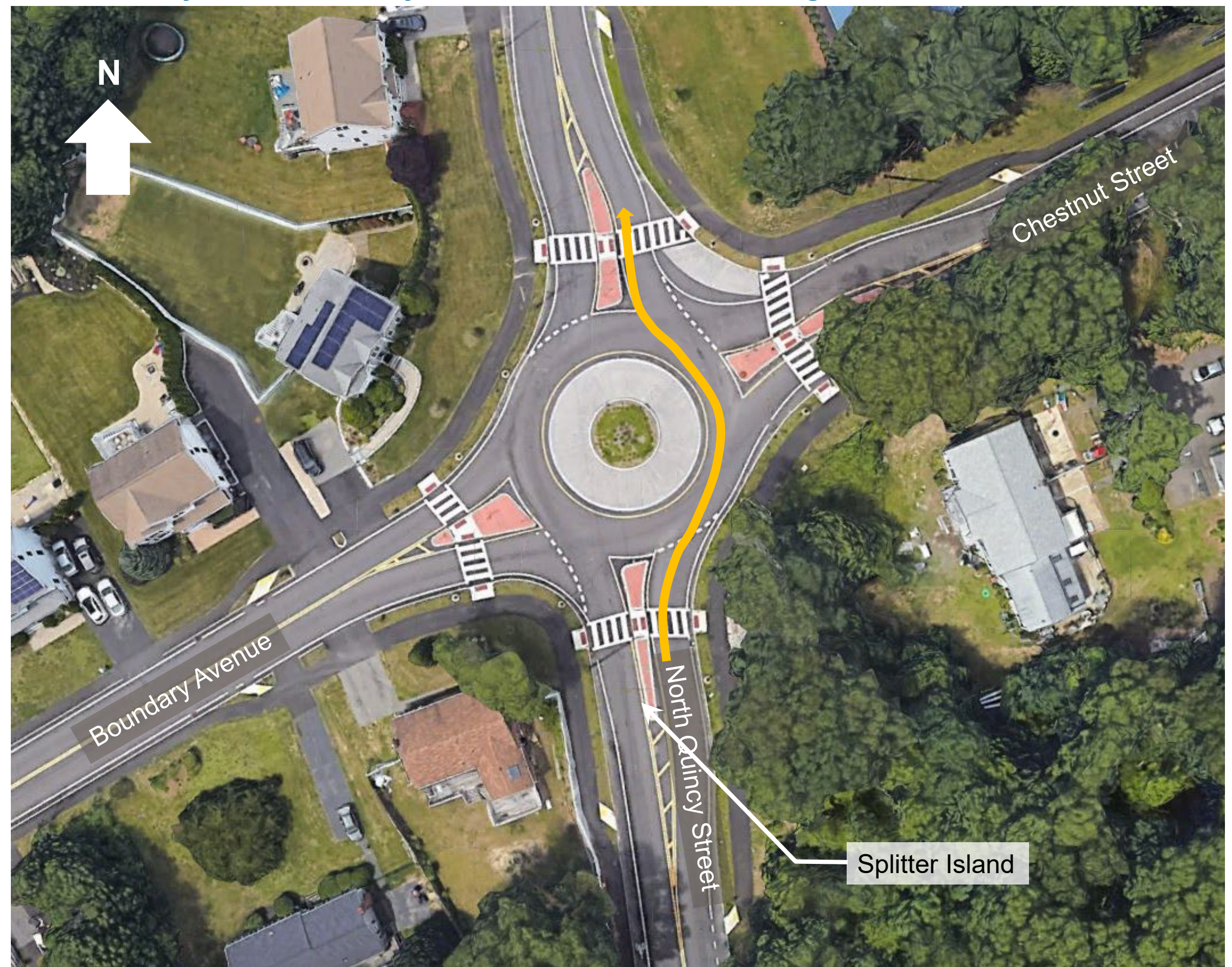
Roundabout Example:
North Quincy St. at Boundary Ave. and Chestnut St., Abington/Brockton



What is a roundabout?

- A compact circular intersection
- Counter-clockwise travel around the center island
- Truck apron to accommodate larger vehicles (trucks)
- Entering traffic yields to the circulating traffic
- Approaches are channelized and deflected to calm traffic
- Not to be confused with a rotary

Roundabout Example:
North Quincy St. at Boundary Ave. and Chestnut St., Abington/Brockton



Rotary

versus

Roundabout



Route 6 at Route 6A, Orleans/Eastham



North Quincy St. at Boundary Ave. and Chestnut St., Abington/Brockton

Subject Project:
Chestnut St. at Hancock St., Abington



Benefits of roundabouts

- Efficient operations



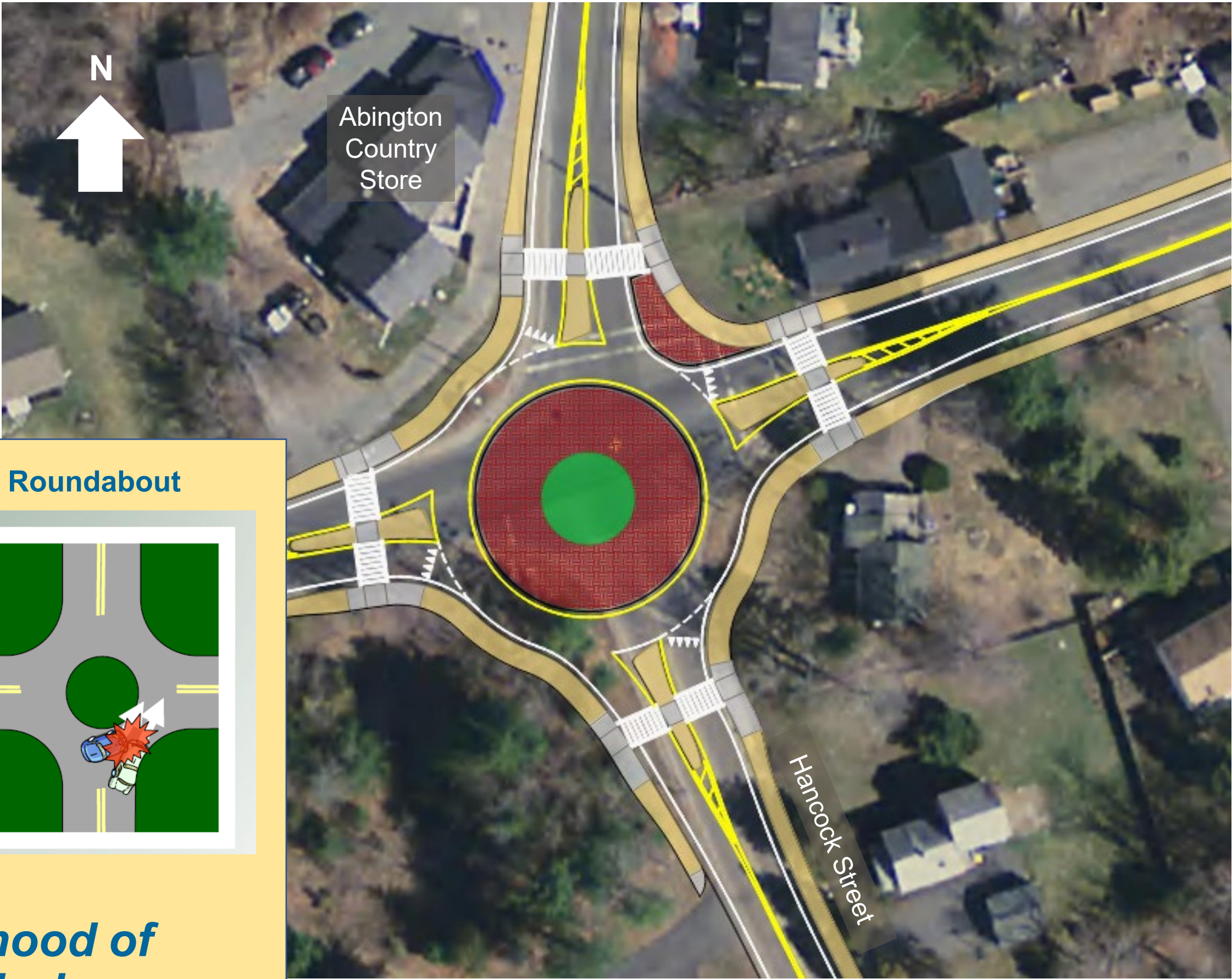
Subject Project:
Chestnut St. at Hancock St., Abington



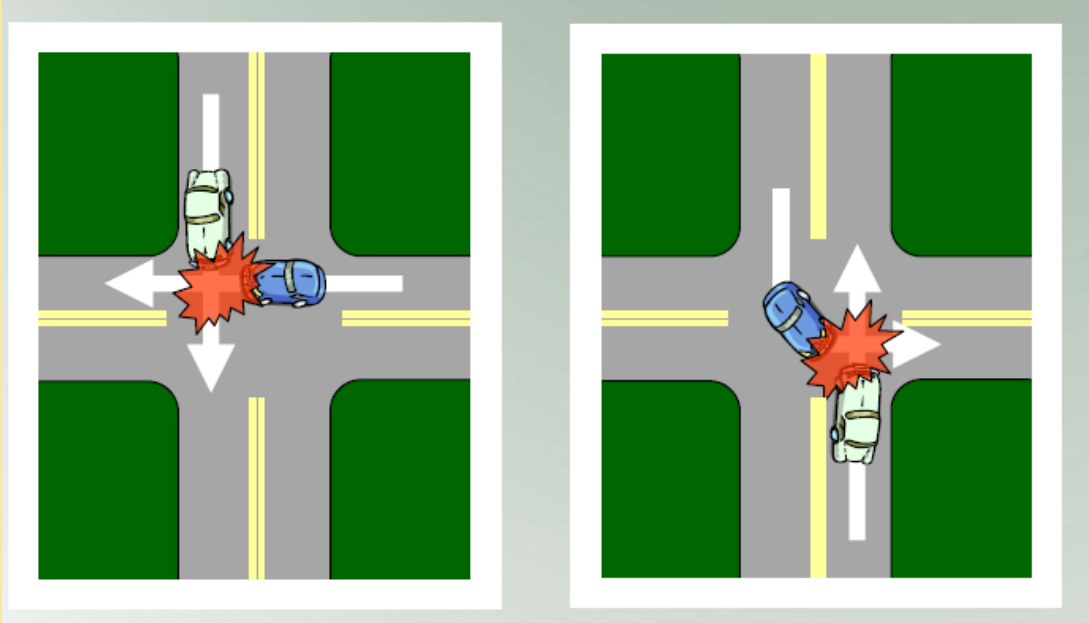
Benefits of roundabouts

- Efficient operations
- Traffic calming
- Reduction in vehicle conflict points
- Improved crash rates and injury rates

Subject Project:
Chestnut St. at Hancock St., Abington

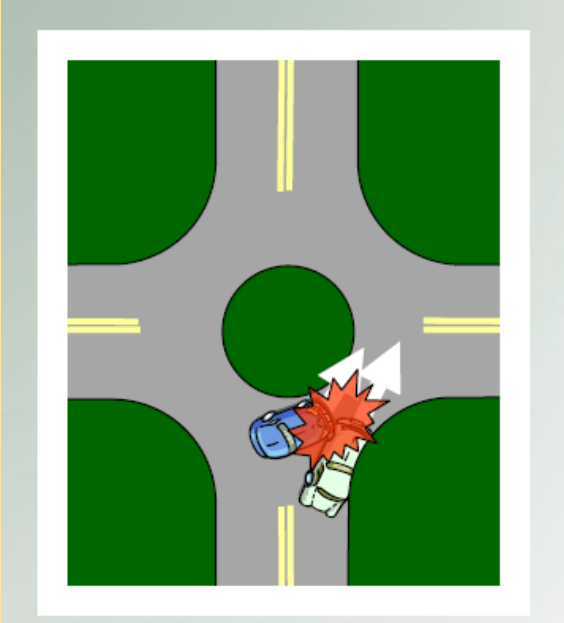


4-Legged Intersection



VS

Roundabout



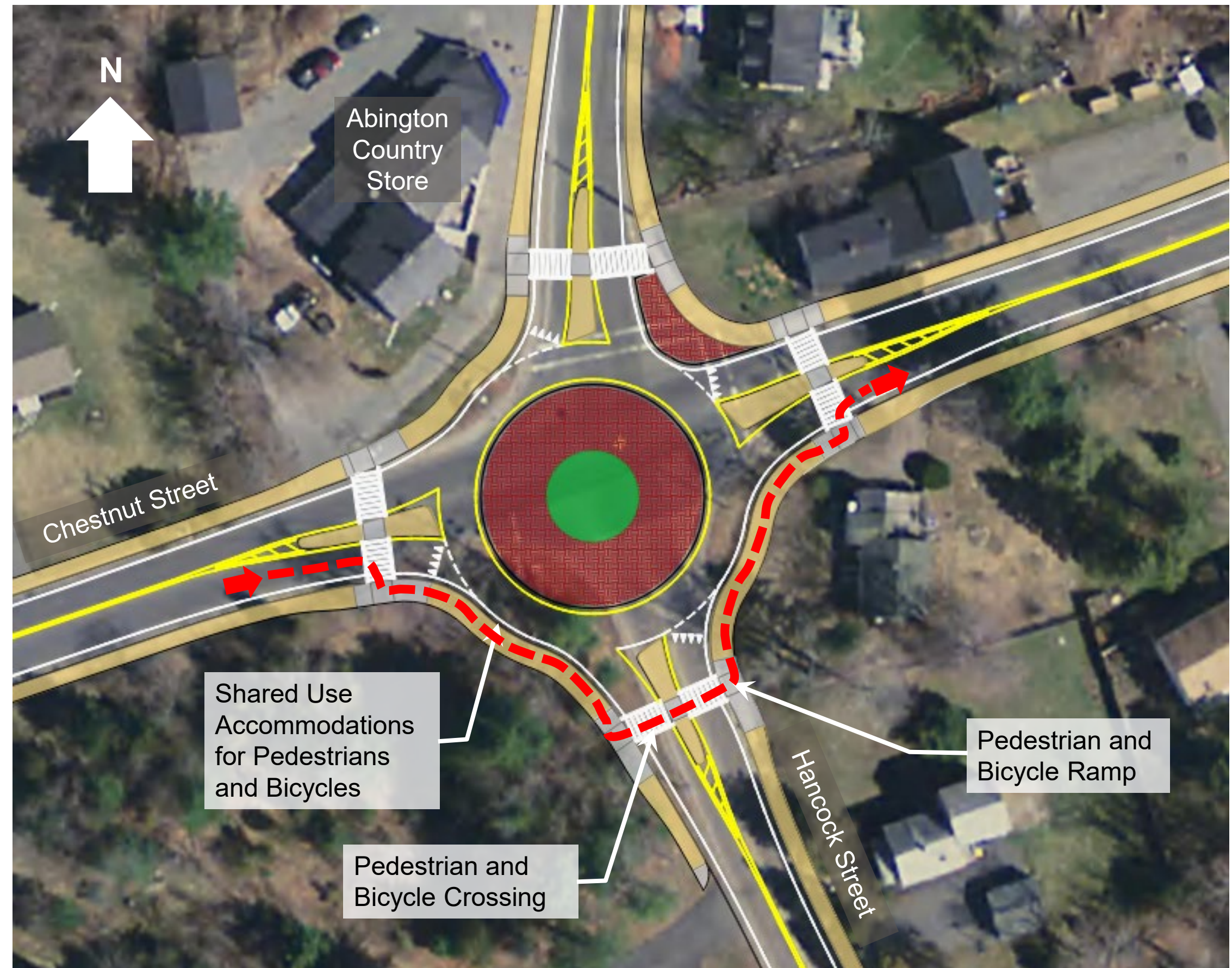
Slower Speeds = Lower Likelihood of Fatalities/Injuries

Benefits of roundabouts

- Efficient operations
- Traffic calming
- Reduction in vehicle conflict points
- Improved crash rates and injury rates
- Improved pedestrian crossing safety
 - Pedestrians cross one direction of traffic at a time
 - Pedestrian refuge area within each approach
 - Reduced vehicle speeds with higher likelihood of yielding to pedestrians
- Off-road bicycle facilities and crossings at the intersection



Subject Project:
Chestnut St. at Hancock St., Abington



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Chestnut St. at Hancock St., Abington

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- Off-road bicycle facilities and crossings at the intersection
- Aesthetic improvements





**How will your
property be
impacted?**

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

- Town of Abington is responsible for acquiring all necessary rights in public land for design, construction, and implementation of this project.
 - Current design plans show 7 permanent easements and 17 temporary construction easements
 - The ROW status may change as the design progresses
- Affected property owners will be contacted by personnel from the Town of Abington
 - Property owners are protected under Massachusetts General Laws, primarily Chapter 79.
- Preliminary ROW plans will be available for public review and comment at:

Abington Department of Public Works

350 Summer Street,

Abington, MA

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?**

Preliminary Environmental Review, Permitting, and Cultural Resources

Cultural Resources

- Relocating the “Cobb, Captain Edward Grist Mill Stones” memorial plaque at the northwest corner
- Tree removal for sight distance improvements

Environmental Permitting

- No impacts to wetlands
- Work within the wetlands buffer
- Improving stormwater conditions
- Permitting to be generally completed during the 75% Design phase

Community Impacts

- No impact to buildings
- Grade alterations are anticipated to transition surrounding topography to improved roadway profile





**What is the
construction
approach?**

Construction

- Construction funded by Federal and State Grant
- MassDOT will administer the construction
- Full-time MassDOT representative on site
- Advanced notices regarding construction
- Access to abutters (both residential and businesses) maintained during construction
- Temporary short-term roadway and pedestrian detours





**How will the
design
progress?**

Our next steps



September 13, 2023
25% Design Public
Hearing



2024
Complete 75%
Design

File Environmental
Permit



2025
Final Design
and ROW Process



2026
Advertising



2026
Construction
Begins



**How will we
keep you
informed?**

How to reach 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
Project Management Section – Project File No. 609440
- Email comments to:
Project Management at MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us





**Questions and
answers**



Thank You

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Stephanie Upson

