



BOXBOROUGH- BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

ROUTE 111 OVER I-495

Virtual Design Public Hearing | April 4, 2023 | 7:00p – 8:00p

Project File Number 608009

Project Manager: Mustafa Sadeq

Zoom Hearing Controls



- Ask a question and share comments



- Raise your hand - *9 for users dialing in and Alt + Y to raise your hand



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- Closed captioning automatically generated by Zoom



- Use the View button in the upper right-hand corner to adjust the meeting view settings to your preference



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Raise Hand



Q&A



Live Transcript

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- All parts of this hearing are considered public record.
- If you are not comfortable being recorded, please refrain from using the Q&A feature or you may choose to excuse yourself from the hearing. Information from this hearing will be posted on the Mass.gov website.

Important notes

- Your microphone and webcam are automatically disabled upon entering the hearing.
- This hearing will be open to questions and answers at the end of the presentation.
- Please take time to respond to our survey at the end of the presentation. Your feedback is important.

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!

Introduction

- **MassDOT Project Manager:** Mustafa Sadeq
- **MassDOT District Staff:** Michael Splaine
- **MassDOT Right of Way:** Michael Ruderman and Amylia Soden
- **VPH Producer/Facilitator:** Leah Grodstein and Foster Earl
- **Stenographer:** Melissa Lupo
- **Design Consultant Project Manager:** Brian Gargan
- **Town of Boxborough:** Alexander Wade

Thank You for Your Support

Local Newspaper Advertisement:
The Action Unlimited Boxborough
The Boxborough Bee
The Lowell Sun


MassDOT Facebook and Twitter
facebook.com/massdotinfo/
twitter.com/MassDOT

Municipal Partner: Town of Boxborough

THE *Action* since 1970
unlimited



Bee Group Newspapers

THE  SUN



Town of
BOXBOROUGH
Massachusetts

massDOT
Massachusetts Department of Transportation



Thank You for Your Support

Community Organizations:

MPO: Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

Northeast Independent Living Center

Middlesex West Chamber of Commerce

RMV (Leominster)



*Peer2Peer Resources for
People with Disabilities*



Middlesex West
Chamber of Commerce

Agenda

01 Introduction

02 Background

03 Project Scope

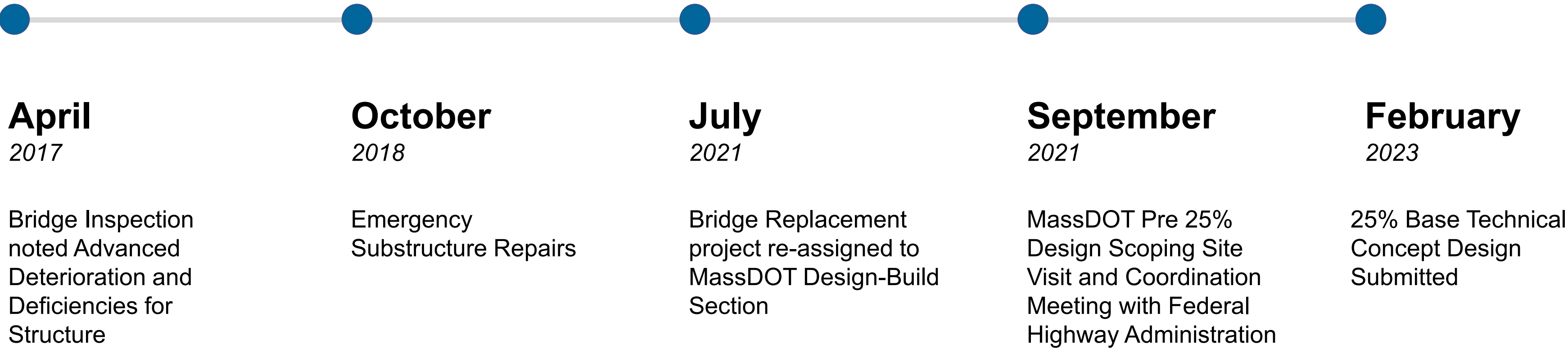
04 Proposed Alternative

05 Project Impacts and Schedule

06 Q & A



How did we get here?





**Why was this
project
initiated?**

Project Area



Project Background

- Structure has reached 60 years of service life: current condition = Structurally Deficient
- Deck in Serious Condition; Emergency Repairs to Substructure in 2018
- Substandard vertical clearance (less than 16'-6" minimum)
- Lack of pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- 2017 Alternatives Analysis Report to evaluate:
 - Cross-section requirements
 - Rte. 111 capacity and current/future operations
 - Bicycle/pedestrian connectivity
- Overall GOAL = Route 111 Improvements
 - Step 1 – replace bridge ← **this project**
 - Step 2 – roadway improvements at approaches to bridge (future project)

Existing Cross-Section: Route 111



Existing Cross-Section: I-495



Existing Condition: Bridge Deterioration



Existing Condition: Bridge Deterioration



Existing Condition: Bridge Deterioration



Existing Condition: Bridge Deterioration



Existing Ramp Termini: I-495 SB On/Off Ramp



Existing Ramp Termini: I-495 NB On/Off Ramp

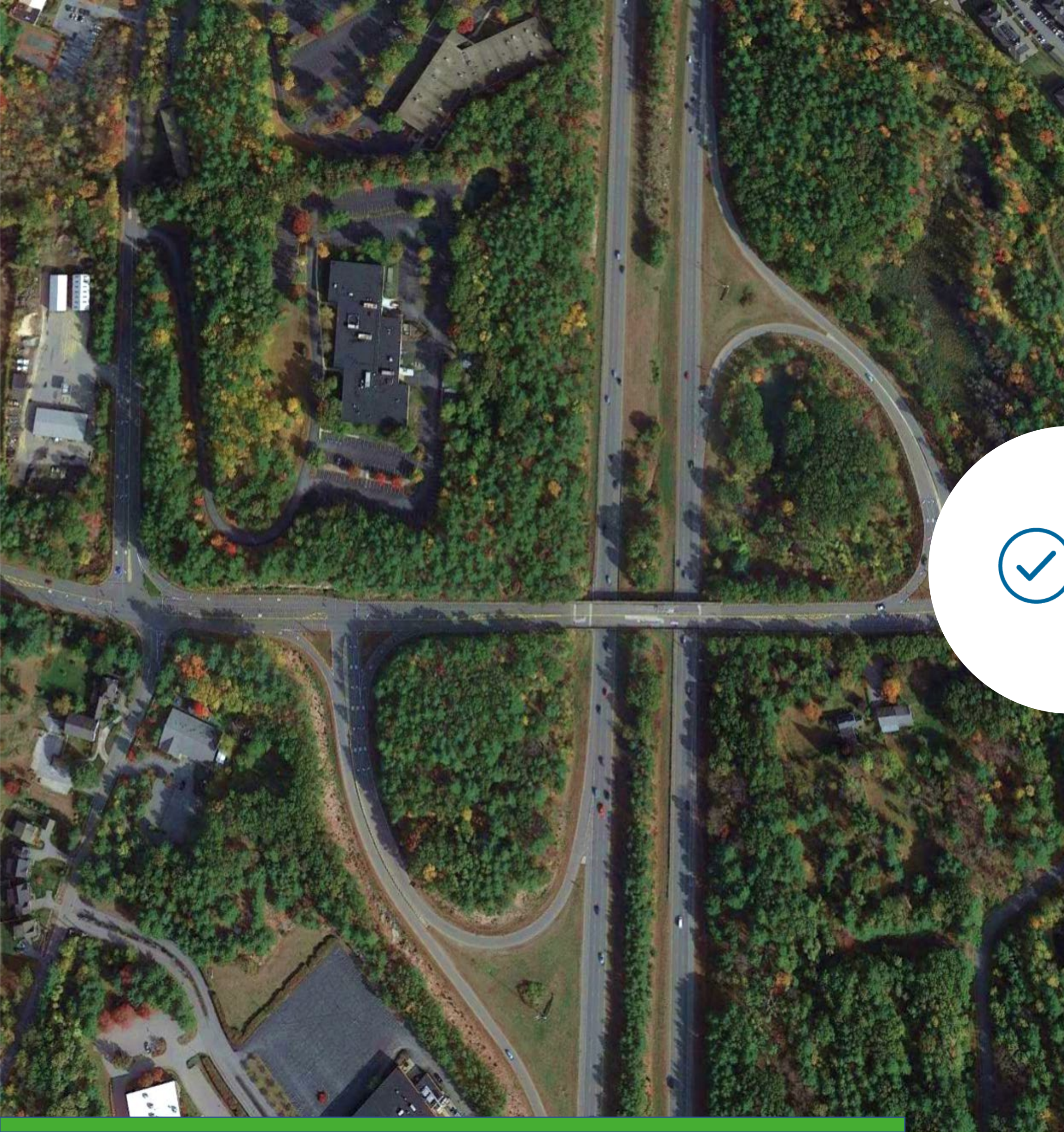




**What do we
want to
accomplish?**

Project Goals

- **Structurally Deficient Bridge | Replace Bridge**
- **Geometry Enhancements | Improve Vertical and Horizontal Clearances**
 - Improved horizontal clearance
 - ✓ Allow for future widening of I-495
 - ✓ Improve substandard pier protection
 - Improved vertical clearance
 - ✓ Satisfy MIN clearance requirements
- **Complete Streets Accommodations | Provide facilities for Pedestrians and Cyclists**
 - Future roadway improvements will connect to facilities on bridge
 - ✓ Improve safety and connectivity for cyclists and pedestrians
 - ✓ Per Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) - Provide ADA compliant facilities



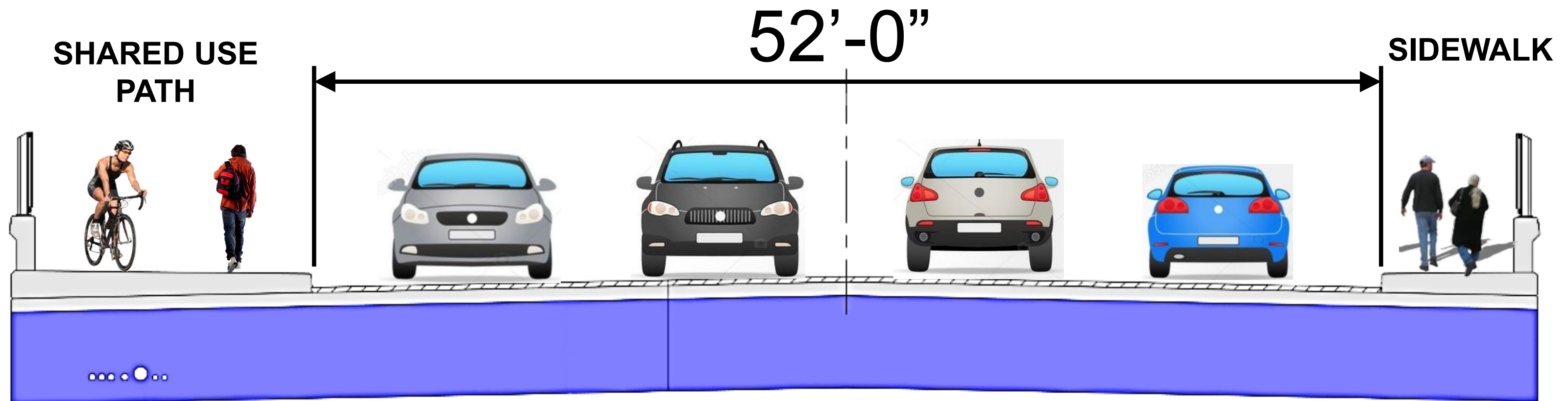
**What is the
Proposed
Alternative?**

Proposed Alternative Overview

- Replace 5-span structure with 2-span structure
 - 75-year Design Life
 - Larger opening for future widening and improvements along I-495
- Structure width
 - Accommodate 2 lanes of traffic in each direction for Route 111
 - Add shared use path and sidewalk for cyclists/pedestrians
- Maintain signalized intersections
 - Proposed work will match-up with existing conditions
- Future Route 111 roadway improvement project
 - Extend shared use path and sidewalk along Route 111 at approaches to bridge
 - Provide improved mobility and connectivity for all users throughout area

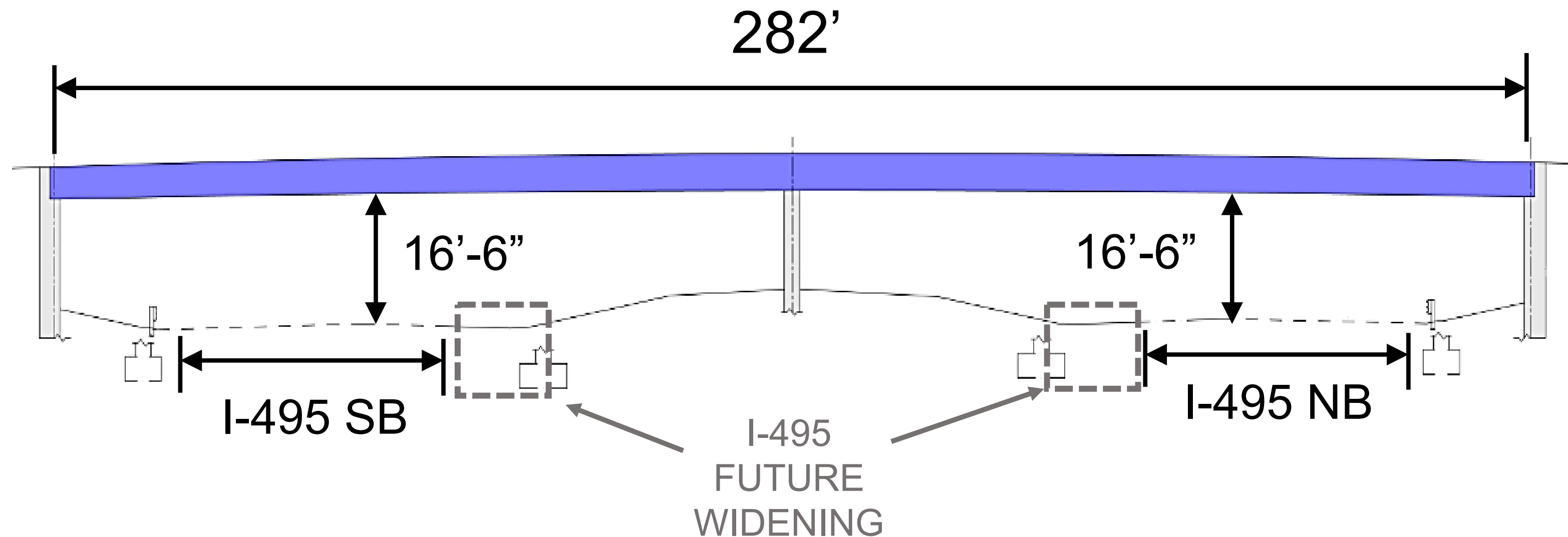
Proposed Alternative – Bridge Replacement

- Full bridge replacement
- 75-year Design Life
- Add shared use path and sidewalk
- 2 lanes of travel in each direction



Proposed Alternative – Bridge Replacement

- 2-span structure
- Improved span configuration
- Improved Horizontal Clearances
- Improved Vertical Clearances



Proposed Delivery Method: Design Build

- Design-Build Best Value procurement
 - Short-List Best Qualified Teams
 - Shorten project duration
 - Promote innovation
- MassDOT's contract with the Design Builder will stipulate requirements for traffic management while also providing the Design Builder flexibility to develop their own approach to staging



**How will your
property be
impacted?**

Right of Way (ROW) discussion – 25% Design

- Responsible for acquiring all necessary rights in public land for design, construction, and implementation of a project.
- Affected property owners will be contacted by personnel from the ROW Bureau or consultants representing MassDOT.
- 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.



**What are the
utility impacts?**

Utility Relocations and Impacts

- Existing overhead wires along south side of Route 111
 - Bridge area → utility poles/overhead wires relocated further to the south
 - Approaches to bridge → remain in existing alignment
- Utilities carried by bridge (gas, fiber-optic, telephone, lighting)
 - Existing utilities are along south side of existing bridge
 - Final condition → relocate utilities to north side of proposed bridge structure
- Maintain CCTV camera and lights for I-495 during construction and final condition.
 - Provide power to CCTV camera from temporary utility pole
 - Provide power to light poles on I-495

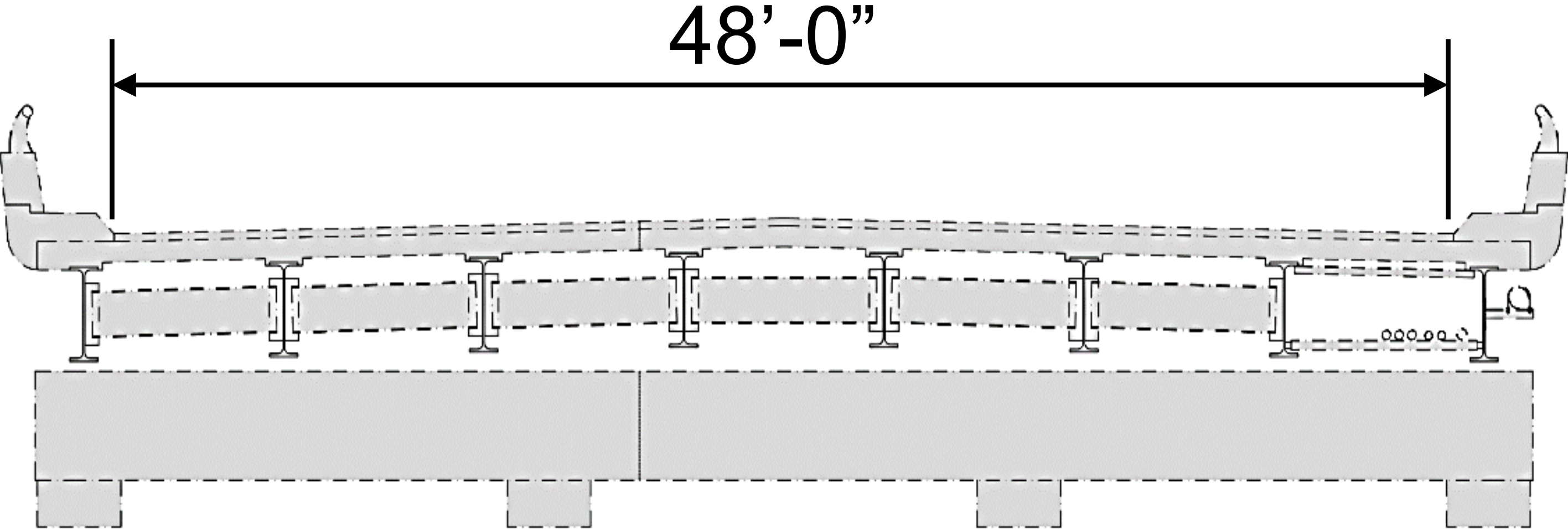


**How will the
road user be
affected?**

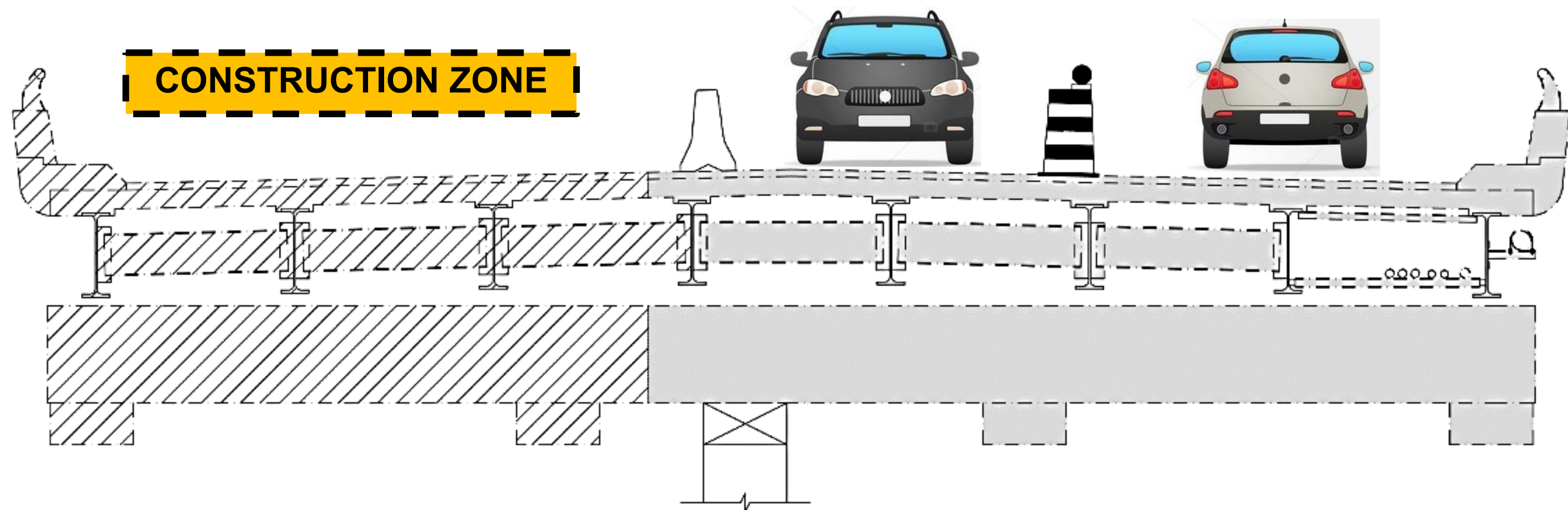
Construction Impacts

- **Staged Construction (3 Stages)**
 - No detours required
- **Travel Lane Impacts**
 - Travel lanes realigned with lane reductions during construction
- **Ramp Impacts**
 - Ramp access maintained during all stages -- on/off traffic operations unchanged
 - No diversion of regional traffic onto local streets
 - All work can be completed within State ROW

Existing Condition

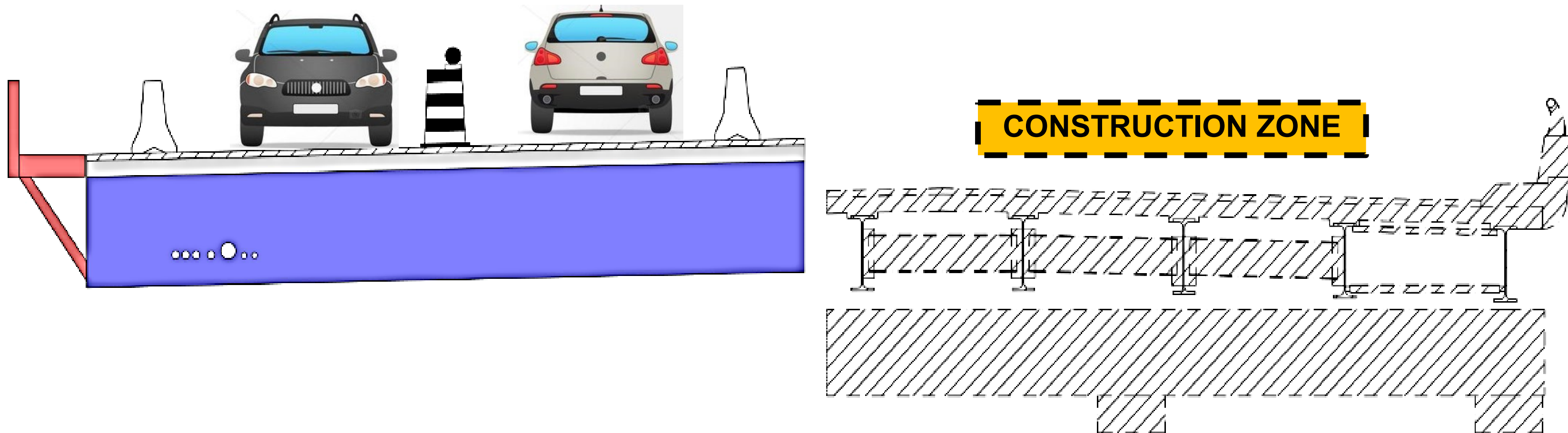


Stage 1 Construction



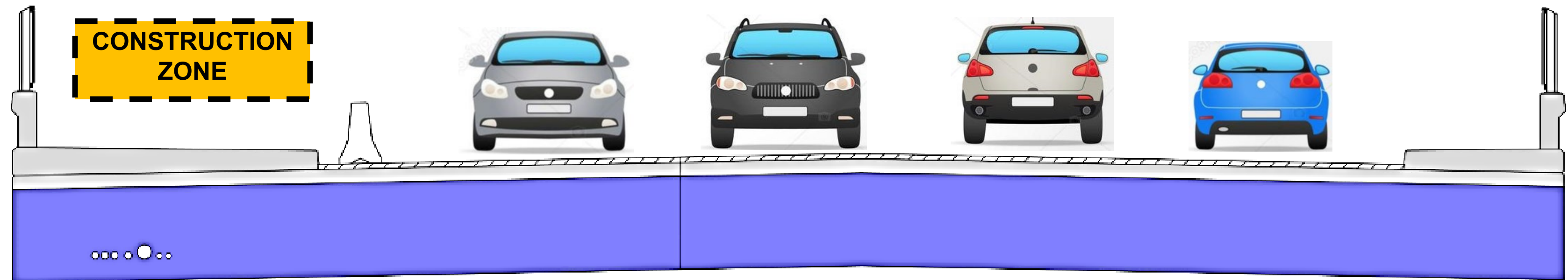
- **DEMOLISH PORTION OF EXISTING STRUCTURE**
- **CONSTRUCT NORTHERN PORTION OF NEW STRUCTURE AND APPROACH ROADWAY WORK**

Stage 2 Construction



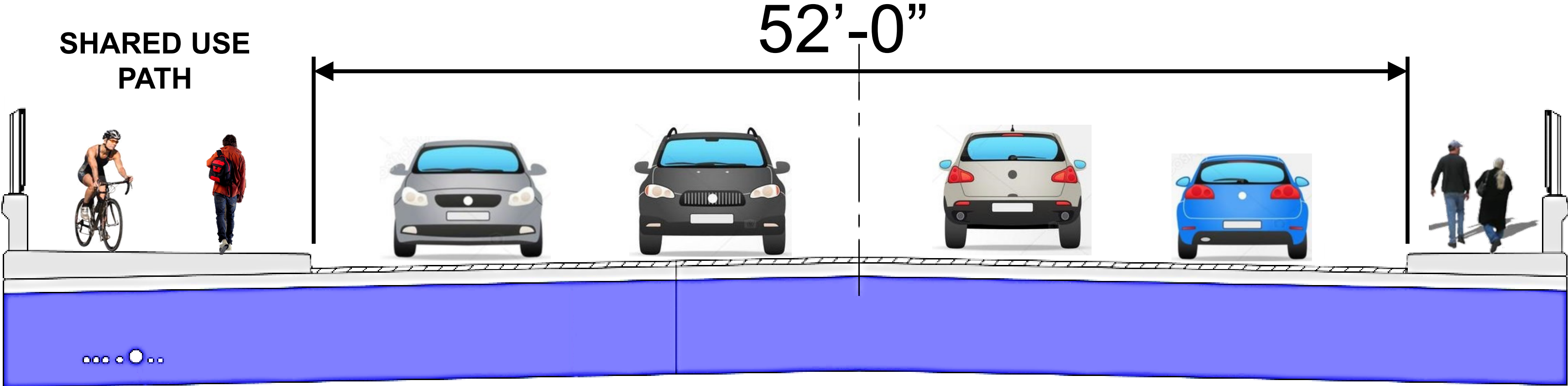
- **DEMOLISH PORTION OF EXISTING STRUCTURE**
- **CONSTRUCT SOUTHERN PORTION OF NEW STRUCTURE AND APPROACH ROADWAY WORK**

Stage 3 Construction



- **CONSTRUCT SHARED USE PATH**

Proposed Condition





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

Environmental Permitting

- MassDOT Checklist - Early Environmental Coordination Checklist (EECC) – Required
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) - Categorical Exclusion (CE) – Required
- Wetlands Protection Act (WPA) – No Notice of Intent (NOI) Required
 - MassDOT Bridge Exemptions Apply
- Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) – No Environmental Notification Form (ENF) Required
 - MassDOT Bridge Exemptions Apply
- United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) - General Permit and Water Quality Certificate (WQC) not required based on proposed work and limits

Anticipated Project Schedule



Request for Letters of
Interest (RFLOI)
April 2023



Request for Proposals
(RFP)
September 2023



Construction Notice To
Proceed (NTP)
March 2024



Construction Start
Summer 2024



Construction
Completion
Summer 2026



**How will we
keep you
informed?**

How to reach us?

- Submit written comments to:
Carrie Lavalley, P.E. Chief Engineer
MassDOT
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116
Attention: Highway Design, PROJECT FILE NO. 608009
- Submit email comments to:
MassDOTMajorProjects@dot.state.ma.us
- For project information visit the MassDOT Design Public Hearing web site at:
<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events> or use the QR Code:





Questions and discussion

Questions and Answers



- “Raise your hand” to be unmuted for verbal questions (Alt + Y if using a phone)



- Submit your questions and comments using the Q&A button



- Please state your name before your question



- Please share only 1 question or comment at a time, limited to 2 minutes, to allow others to participate



- To ask a question via phone, dial *9 and the moderator will call out the last 4-digits of your phone number and unmute your audio when it is your turn



- Please take a few minutes to complete the survey after the meeting to let us know how your experience was with this virtual meeting

All questions and comments are subject to disclosure for public records. Please use these functions for project related business only.



THANK YOU

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