



# Improvements at George Englesby Elementary School

*Dracut – Safe Routes to  
School*

488 Pleasant St | October 23, 2025 | 6:00PM

Project File No. 609510





# Public Hearing 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 audio and/or transcript.
- All parts of this hearing are considered public record.
- By continuing attendance with this public hearing or meeting, you are consenting to participate in a recorded event.
- If you are not comfortable being recorded, you may choose to excuse yourself from the hearing.

## Important notes

- The hearing will be open to questions and answers at the end of the formal presentation.

**All questions and comments are welcome and appreciated, however we do request that you refrain from any disrespectful comments.**

# 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!**

## Publication of Hearing Notice

- The Lowell Sun  
October 9, 2025  
October 16, 2025
- The Valley Patriot  
October 9, 2025  
October 16, 2025
- MassDOT Social Media  
Facebook – MassDOT  
X – @MassDOT  
YouTube – @youmovemass

# THE SUN





# Agenda

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# Public Hearing Panelists

## MassDOT

- *Project Management*
  - Joe Yoo, Project Manager
- *District 4*
  - Daniel Fleury, Assistant Project Development Engineer
- *Municipal ROW Bureau*
  - Rosemary Scrivens, ROW Agent

## Apex Companies

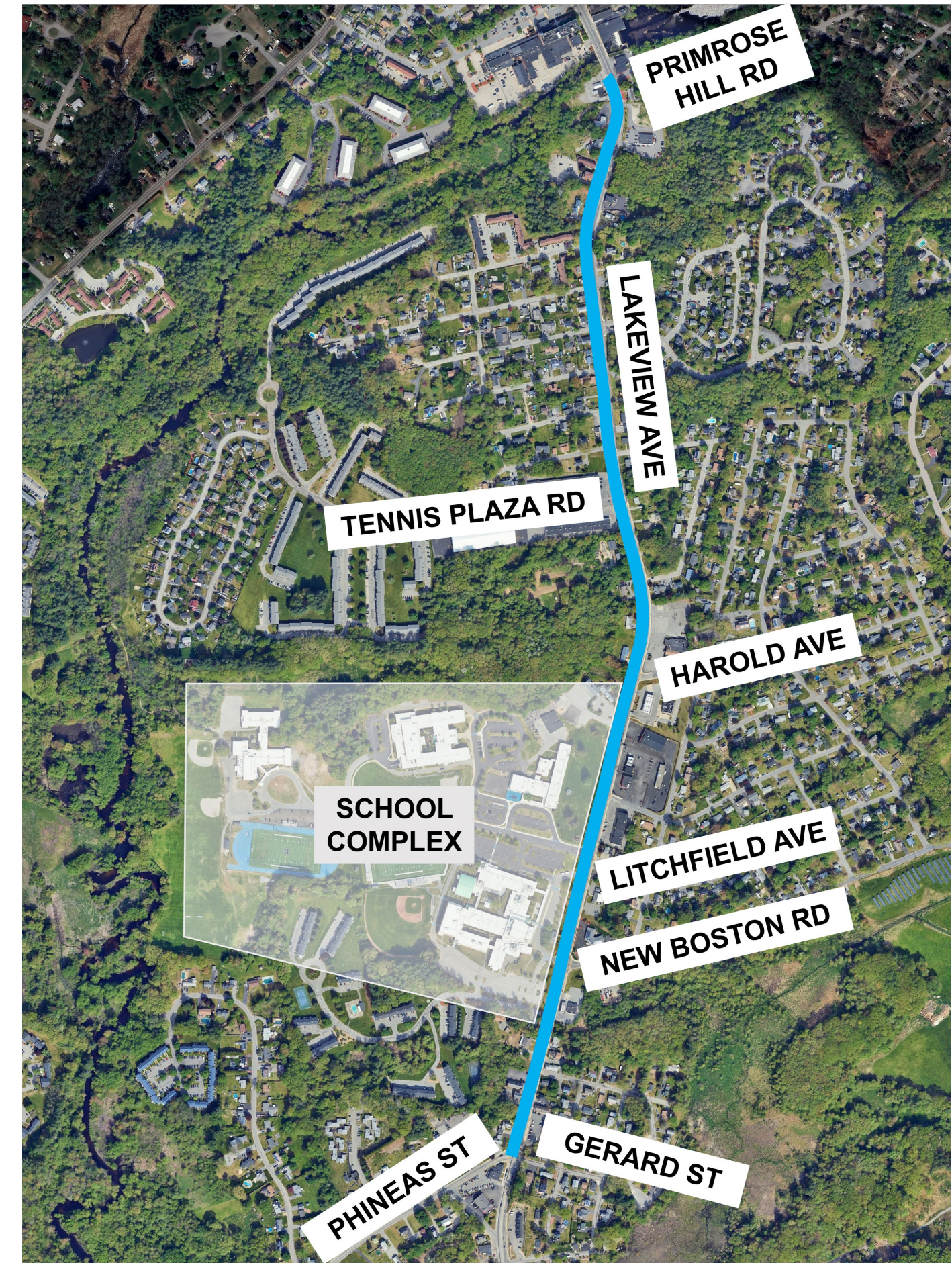
- *Project Design*
  - Benny Hung, P.E.; Senior Project Manager
  - Jason Mai, Project Engineer

## Town of Dracut

- *Department of Public Works*
  - Edward Patenaude, Director
  - Russell Tedford, Town Engineer
  - Alison Manugian, Assistant Town Manager

## Stenographer

- *Advanced Court Reporting*
  - Melissa Lupo



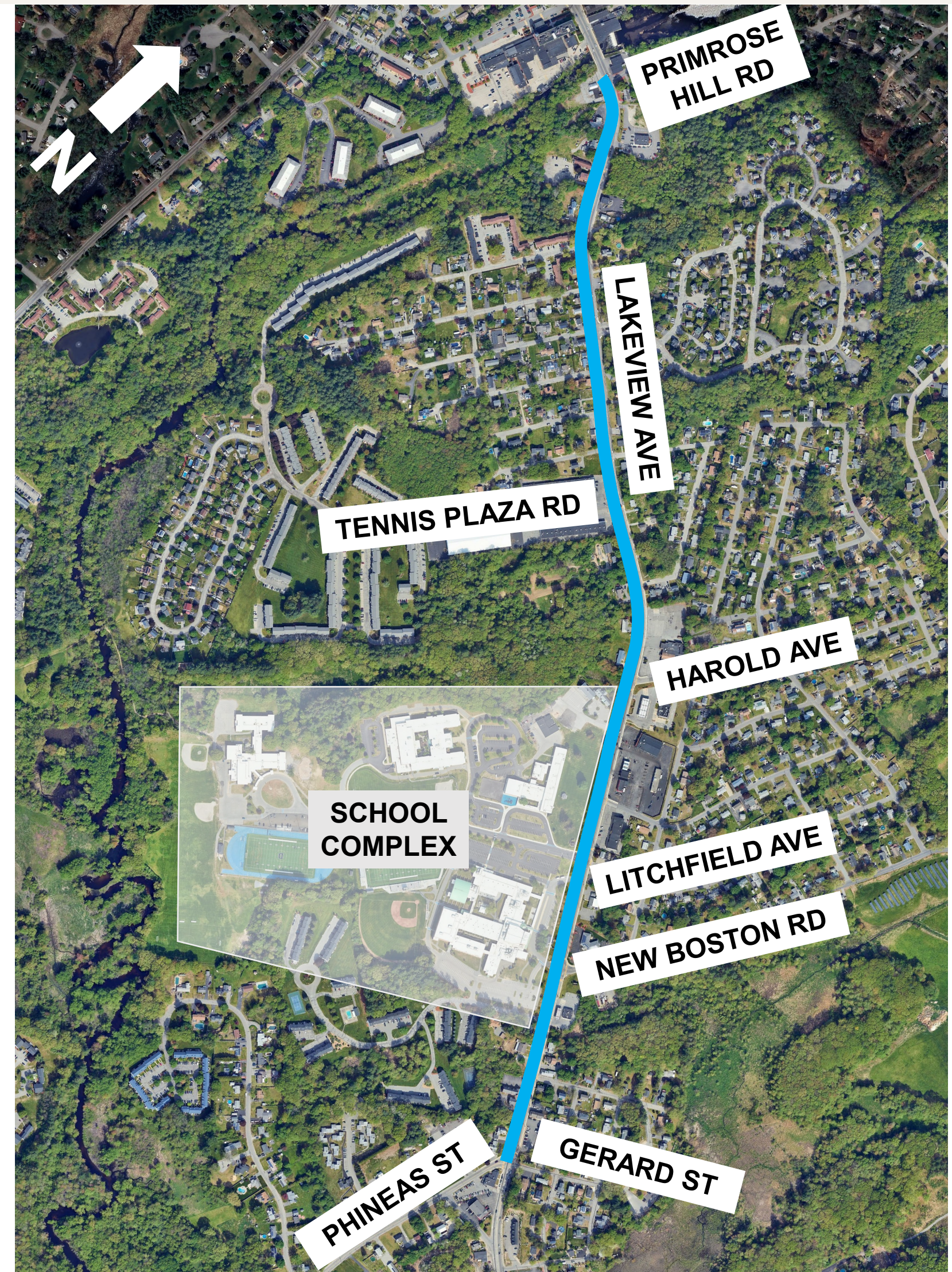


## Project Area

Lakeview Avenue from Primrose Hill Road to Gerard Street/Phineas Street (approximately 6,000 feet)

School Complex includes:

- Dracut High School
- Richardson Middle School
- Englesby Elementary School
- Brookside Elementary School





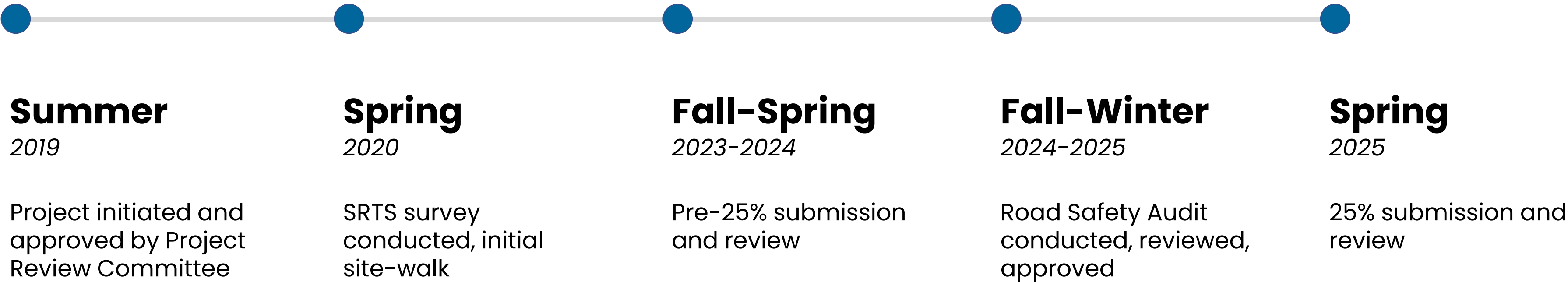
# Project Funding

- Total current estimate is \$4,465,215.00
  - materials (bid items)
  - police details
  - utility relocation (as needed)
- Project must be programmed in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) in the appropriate Federal Fiscal Year
- Funding breakdown –
  - 80% federal, 20% state
- Does not include ROW acquisition costs





# Project Milestones







**Why was this  
project  
initiated?**



# Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program

- SRTS is a federally funded program administered by MassDOT that works to increase
- Provides improvements free to schools and communities
- Safe walking, biking, and rolling among public elementary, middle, and high school students
- Collaborative, community-focused approach to bridge the gap between health and transportation
- Infrastructure projects like 609510 – Dracut aim to create conditions that allow students to safely enjoy an active commute to school





## Project Needs and Goals – Sidewalks

- Existing Conditions:
  - Poor sidewalk condition
  - Gaps in sidewalk connectivity
  - Missing curb ramps at crosswalk
  - Non-ADA compliant sidewalks and curb ramps (steep slope or missing detectable warning panel)
- Improvements:
  - **Reconstruct sidewalks and curb ramps to be compliant with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG) requirements**
  - **Construct new sidewalk to complete network**





## Project Needs and Goals – Pedestrian Crossings

- Existing Conditions:
  - Missing crosswalks along desire lines
  - Inconsistent crosswalk treatments
  - Long pedestrian crossings
- Improvements:
  - **Restripe crosswalks with a high-visibility style for added pedestrian crossing safety**
  - **Add midblock crossings with Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs)**
  - **Add median islands at select locations for pedestrian refuge**





# Project Needs and Goals – Intersections

## Primrose Hill Road

- Existing Conditions:
  - Large radius on the northeast corner
    - Promotes high-speed right-turns
  - No sidewalk connectivity
- Improvements:
  - **Tighten intersection corners**
  - **Add sidewalk, curb ramps, and crosswalk across Primrose Hill Road**





# Project Needs and Goals – Intersections

## Signalized Intersections on Lakeview Avenue

- Tennis Plaza Road
- Litchfield Avenue/School Complex Driveway
- New Boston Road/High School Driveway
- Gerard Street/Phineas Street

### Existing Conditions:

- Missing one leg of crosswalk across Lakeview Ave at Tennis Plaza Road intersection and Litchfield Ave/School Complex Driveway intersection.
- Existing pedestrian signals are outdated and some are not functioning

### Improvements:

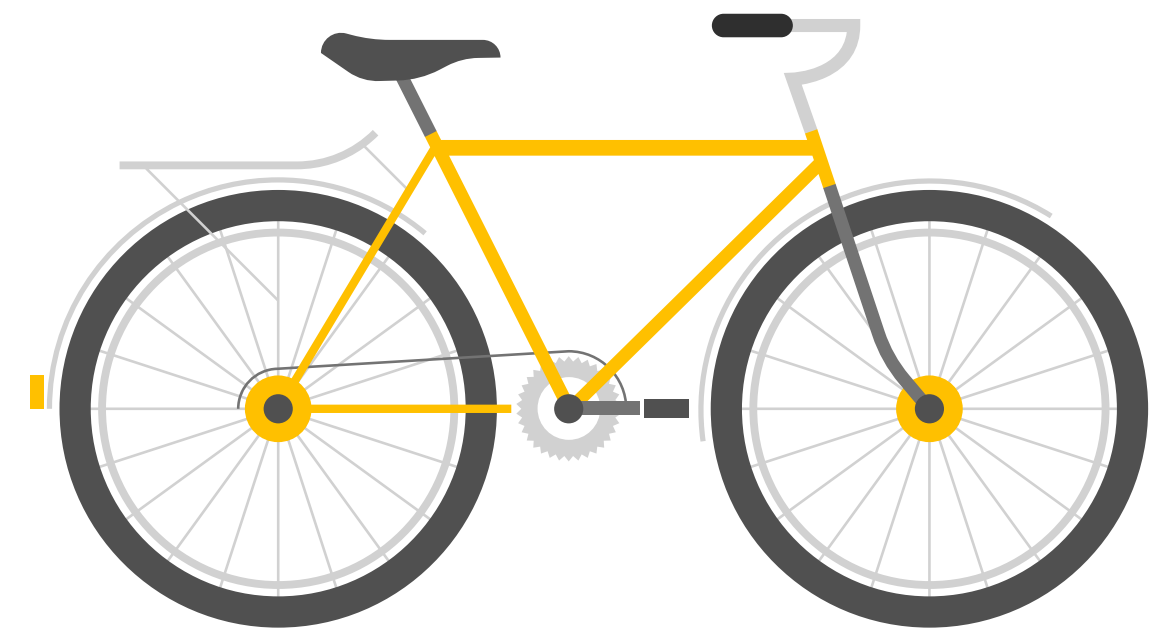
- **Add new crosswalks**
- **Upgrade to Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS)**
- **Optimize signal timing**



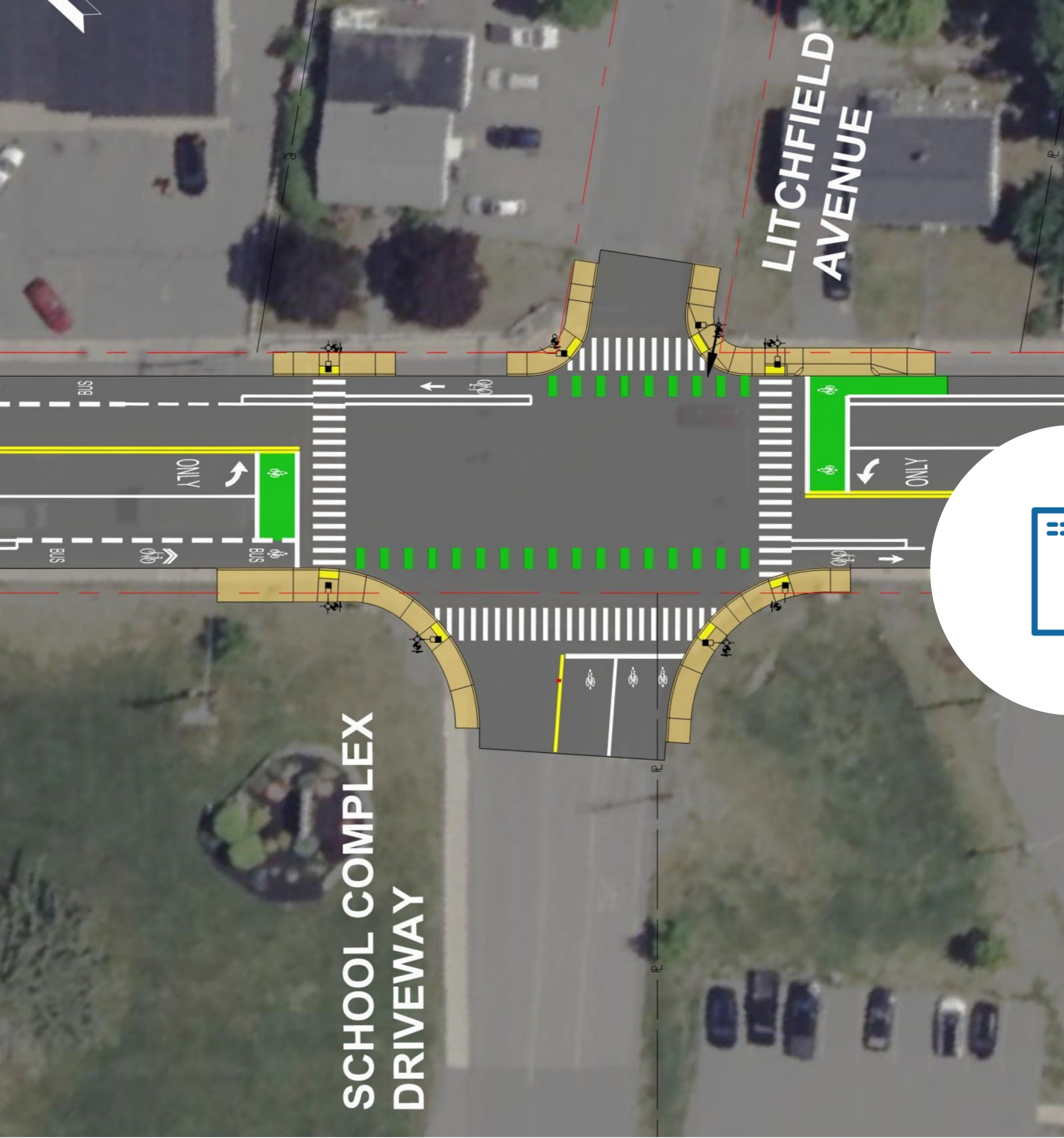


# Project Needs and Goals – Bicycle Accommodations

- Existing Conditions:
  - Limited to buffered bicycle lanes between Elm Street and Tennis Plaza Road (approx. 1,000 feet)
  - No bicycle detection at signalized intersections
- Improvements:
  - **Continuous buffered bicycle lanes throughout study corridor (approx. 6,000 feet)**
  - **Green bicycle crossing markings and turning boxes at all signalized intersections**







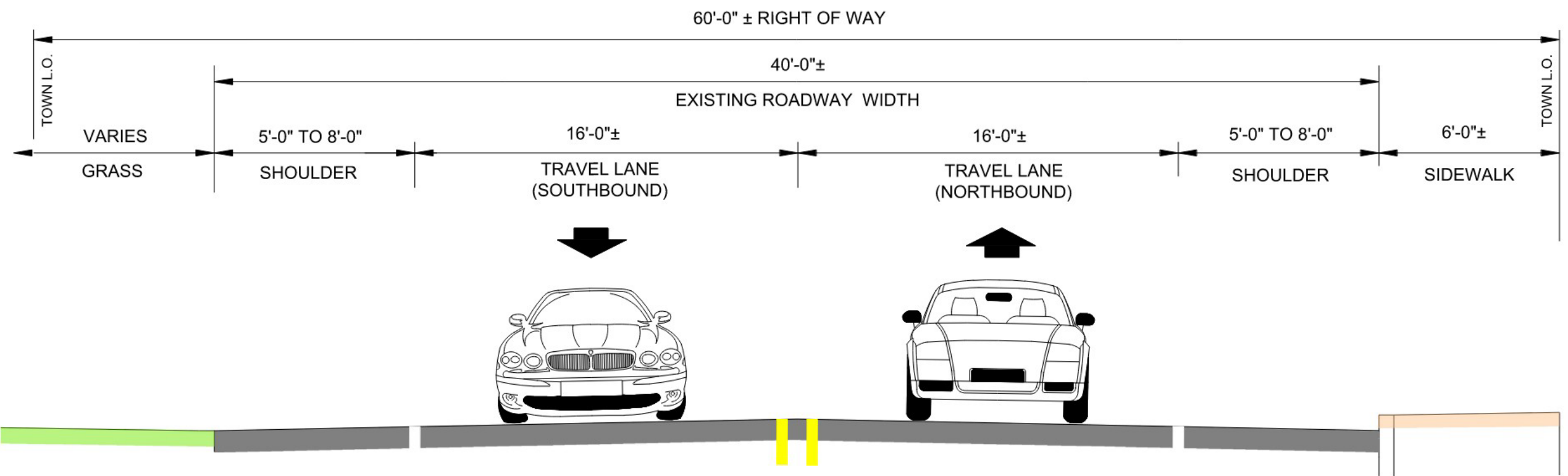
**What do we  
want to  
accomplish?**



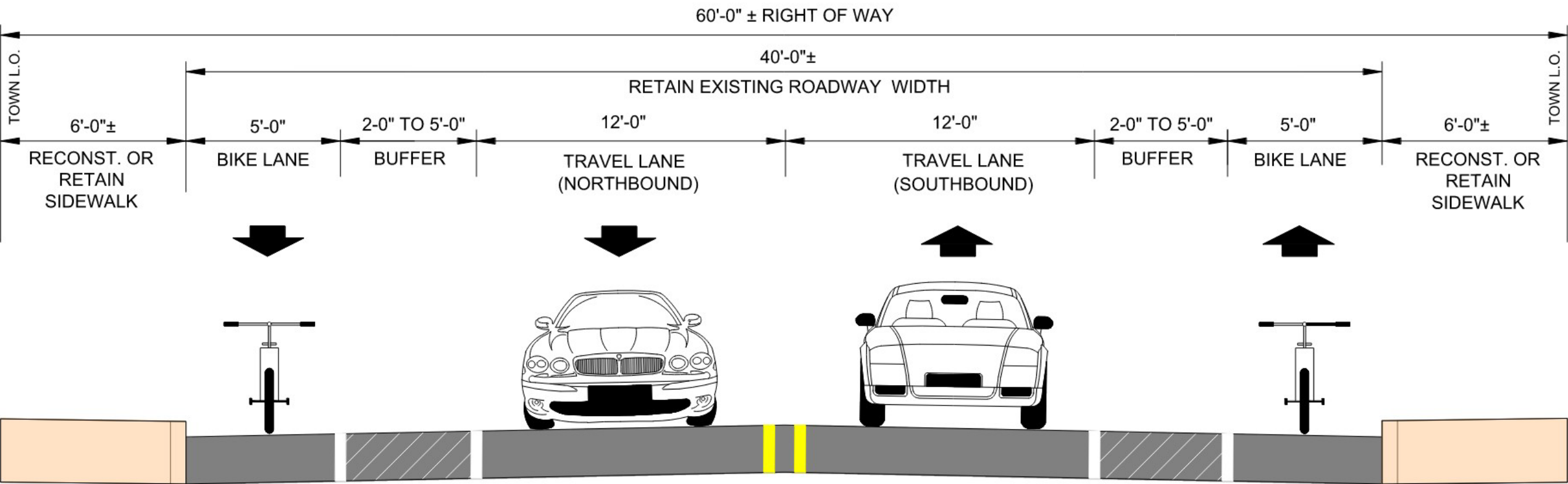
# Project Improvements

## Primrose Hill Road to Tennis Plaza Road

Existing

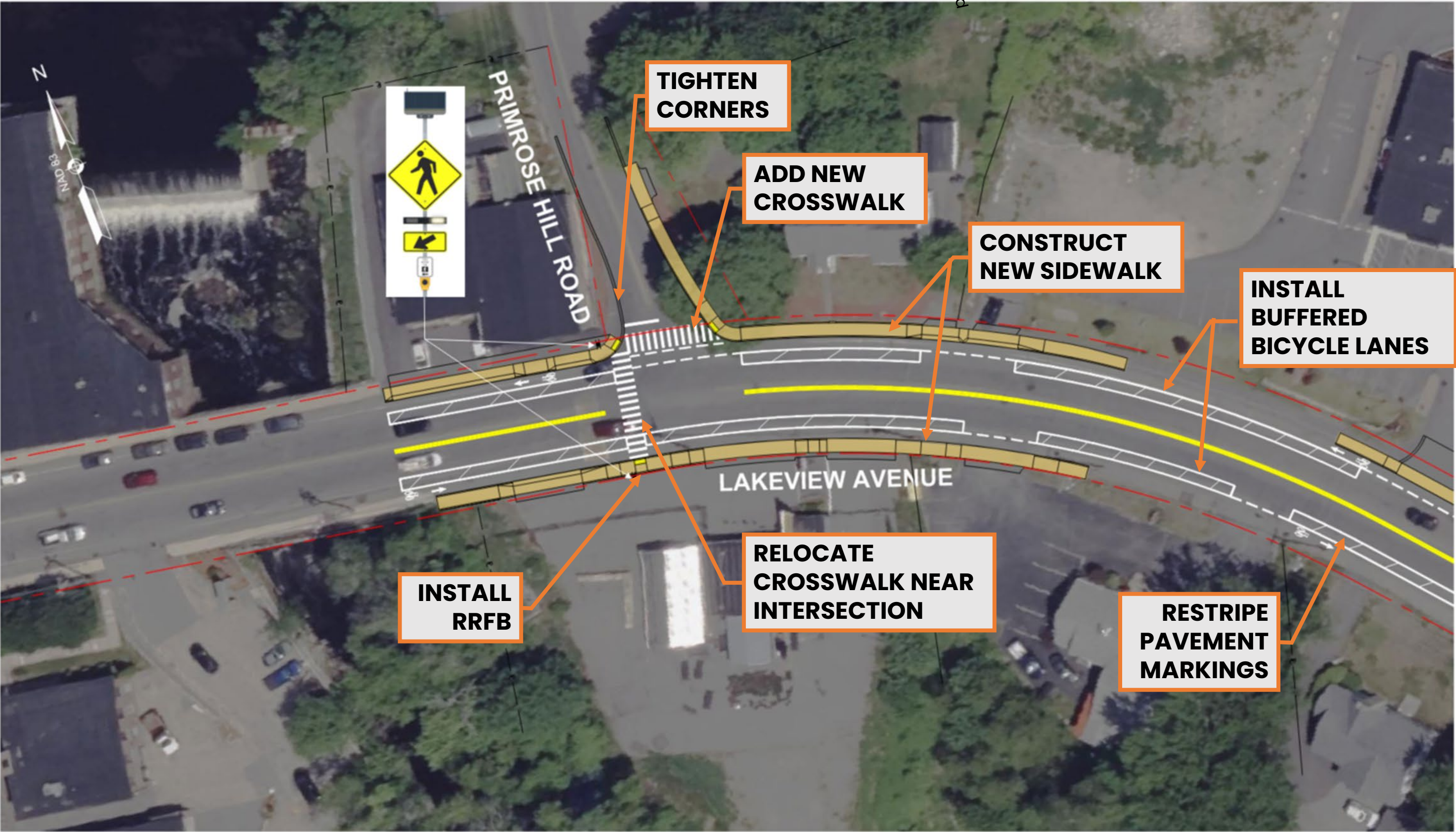
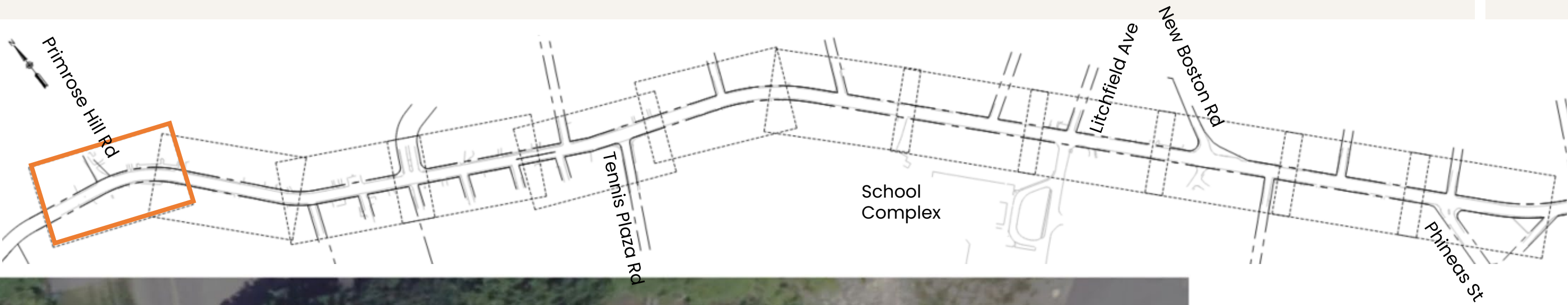


Proposed



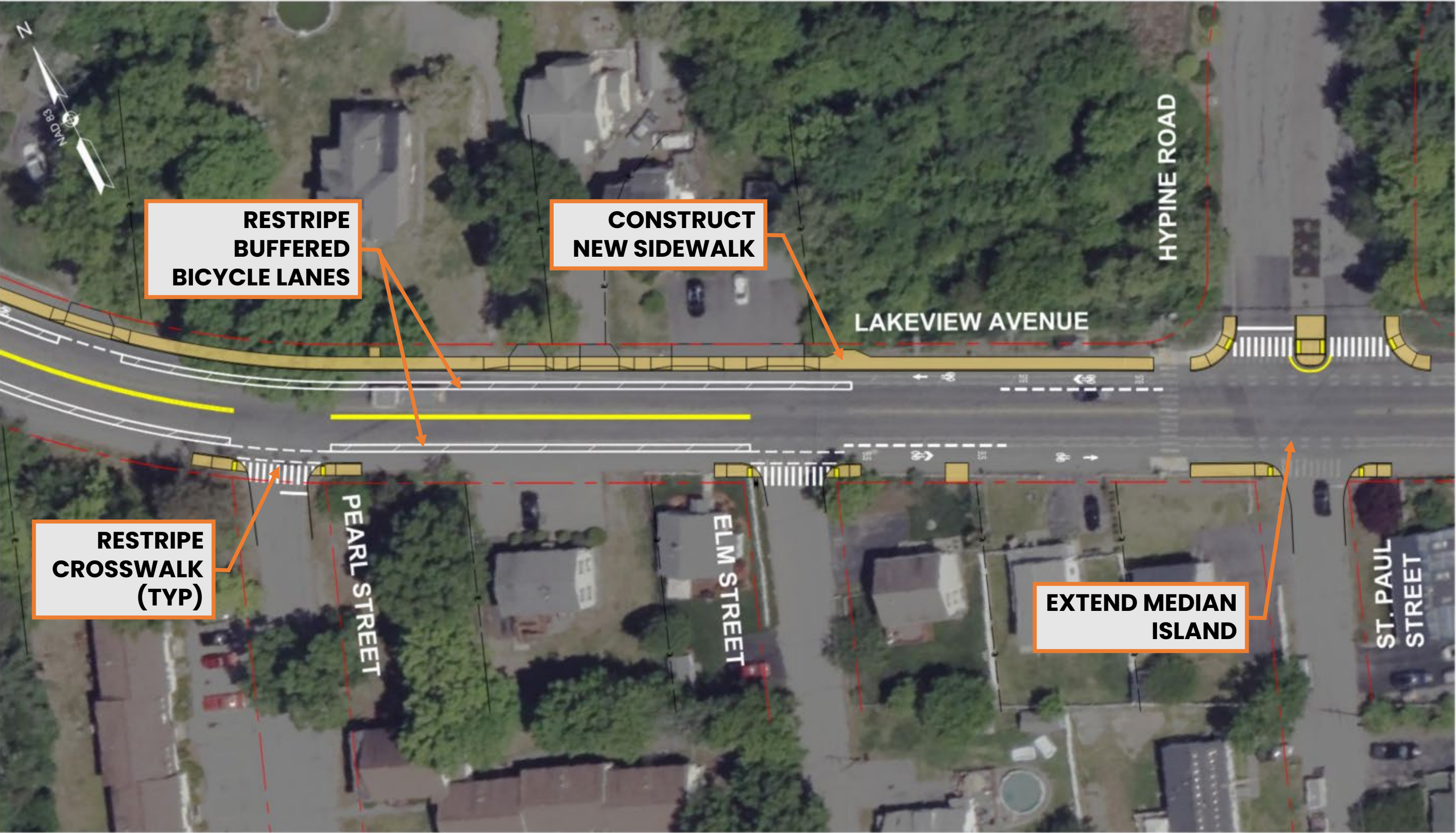
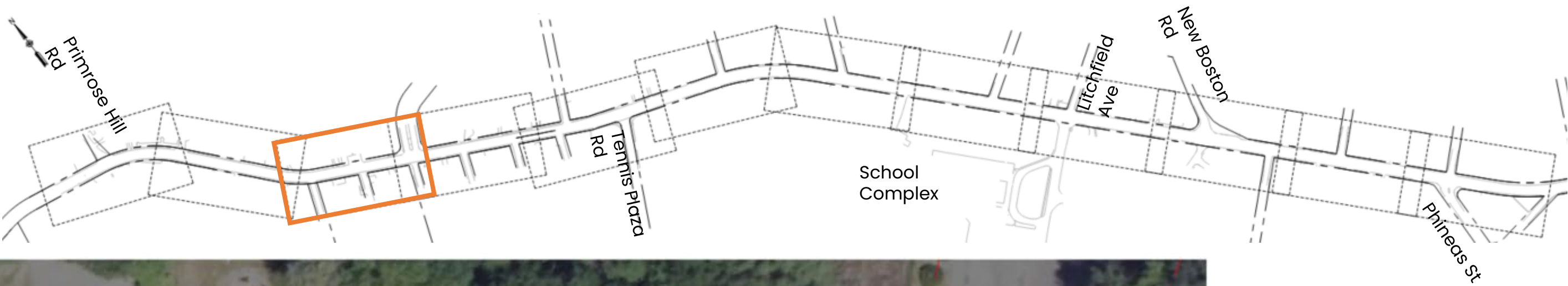


# Project Details





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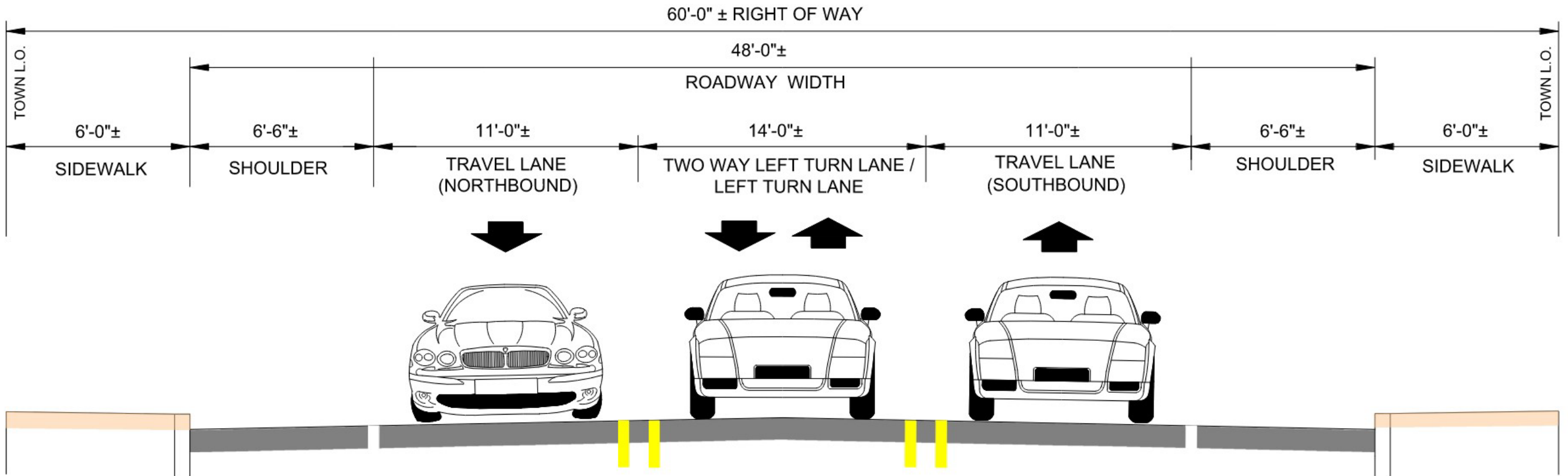




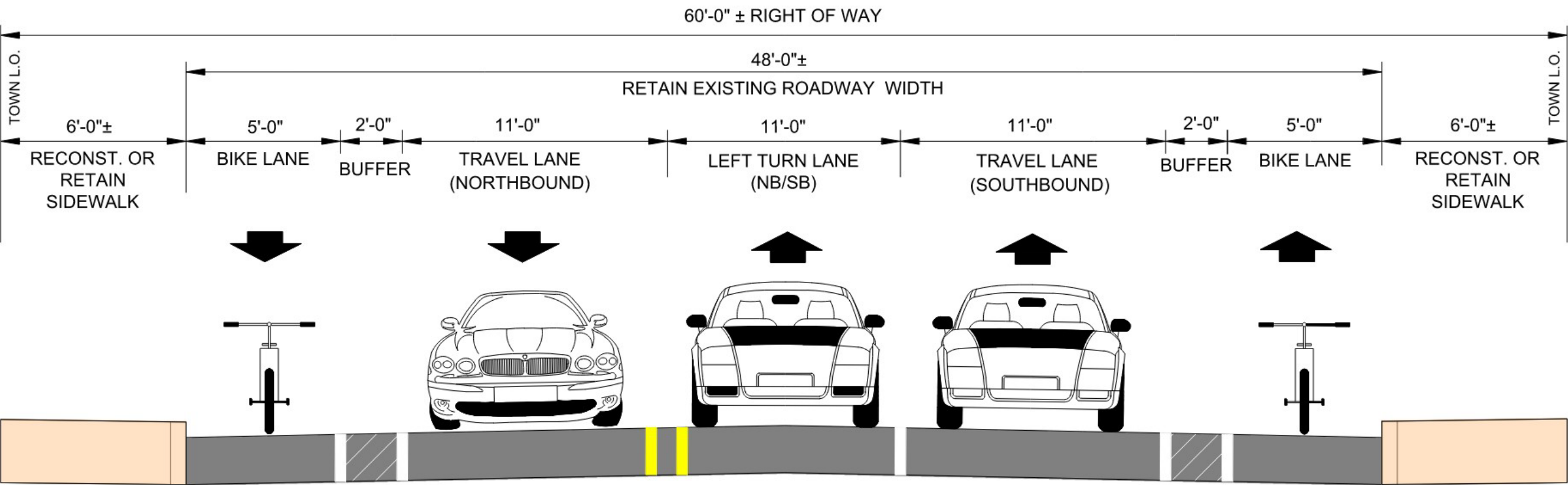
# Project Improvements

## Tennis Plaza Road to Phineas Street

Existing

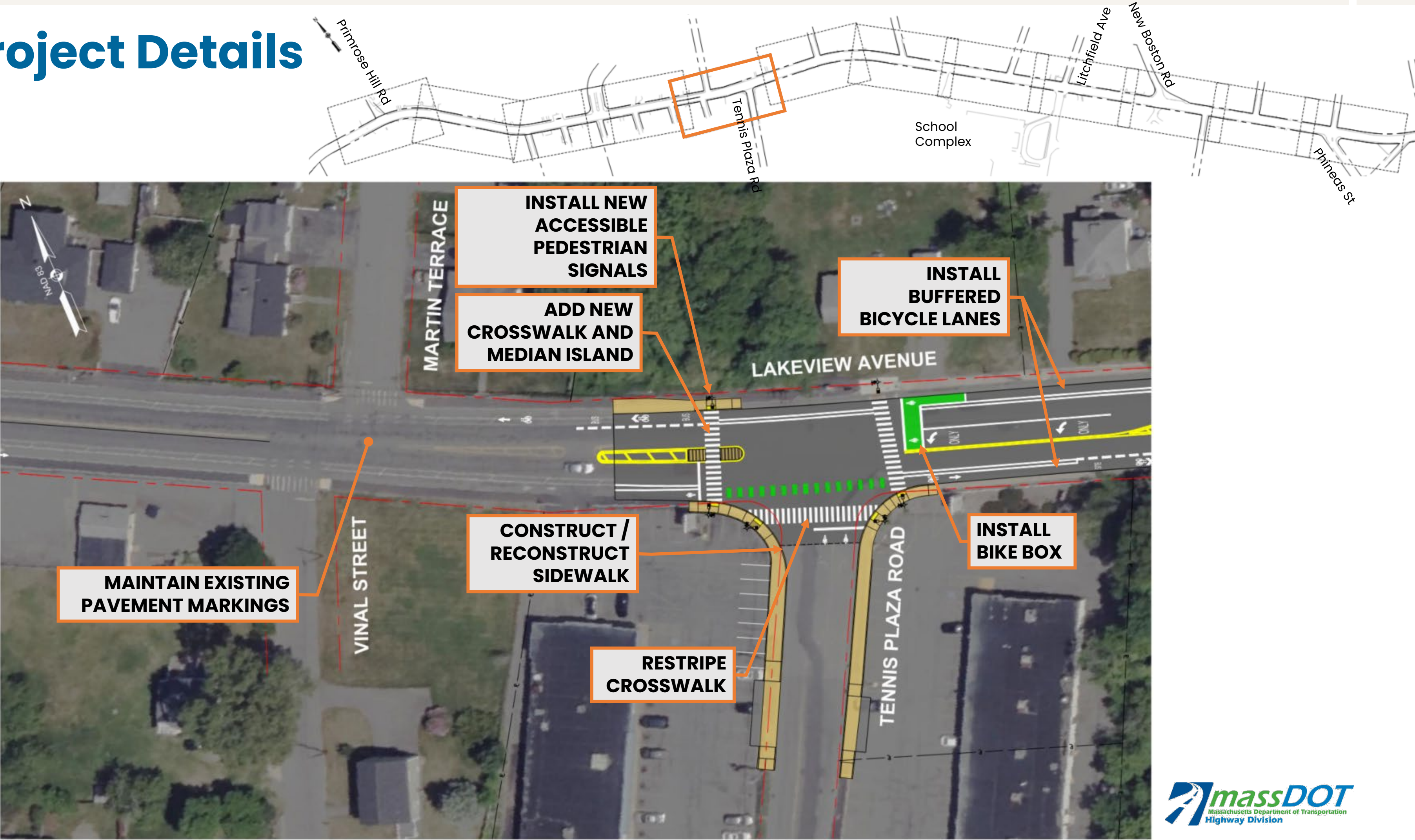


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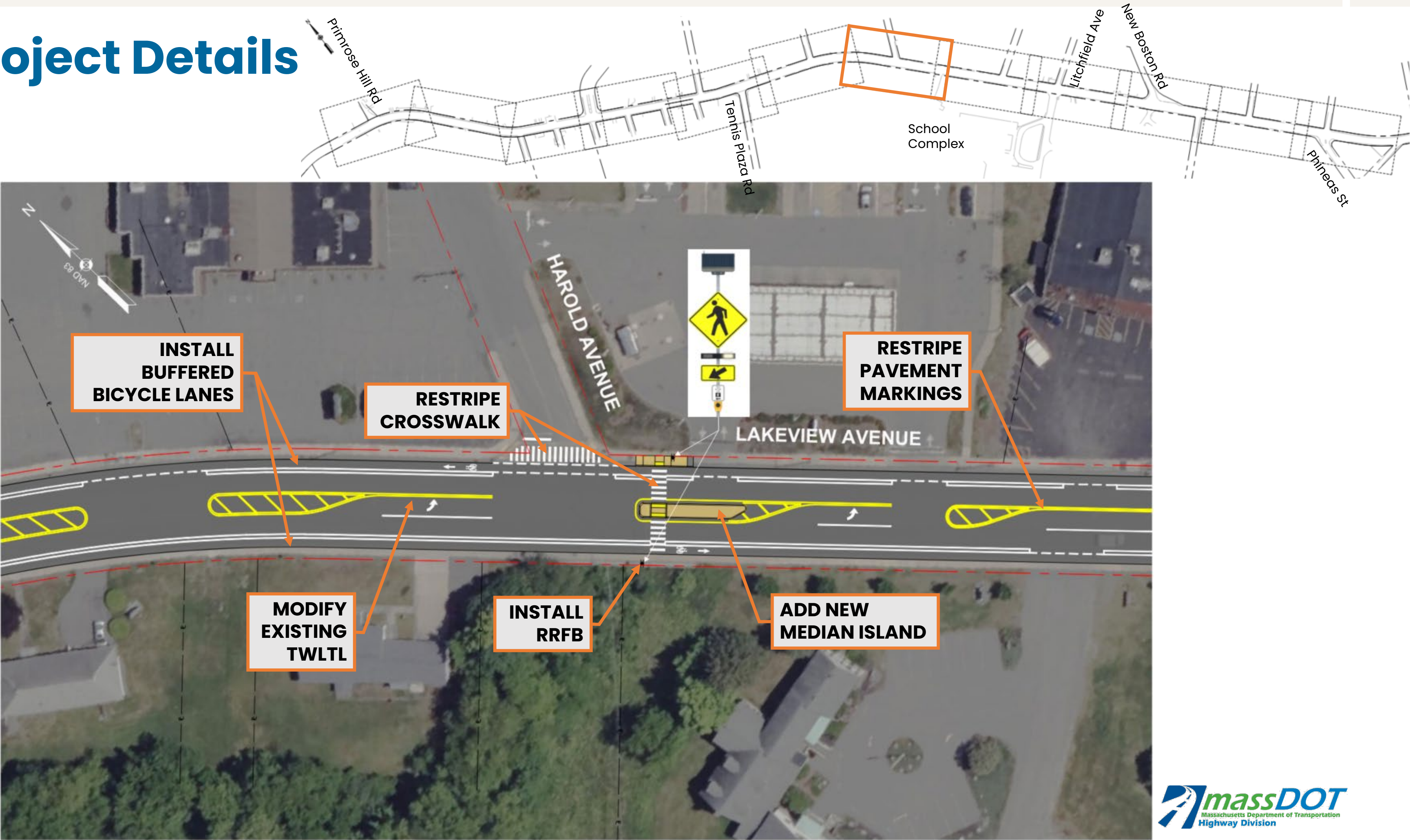


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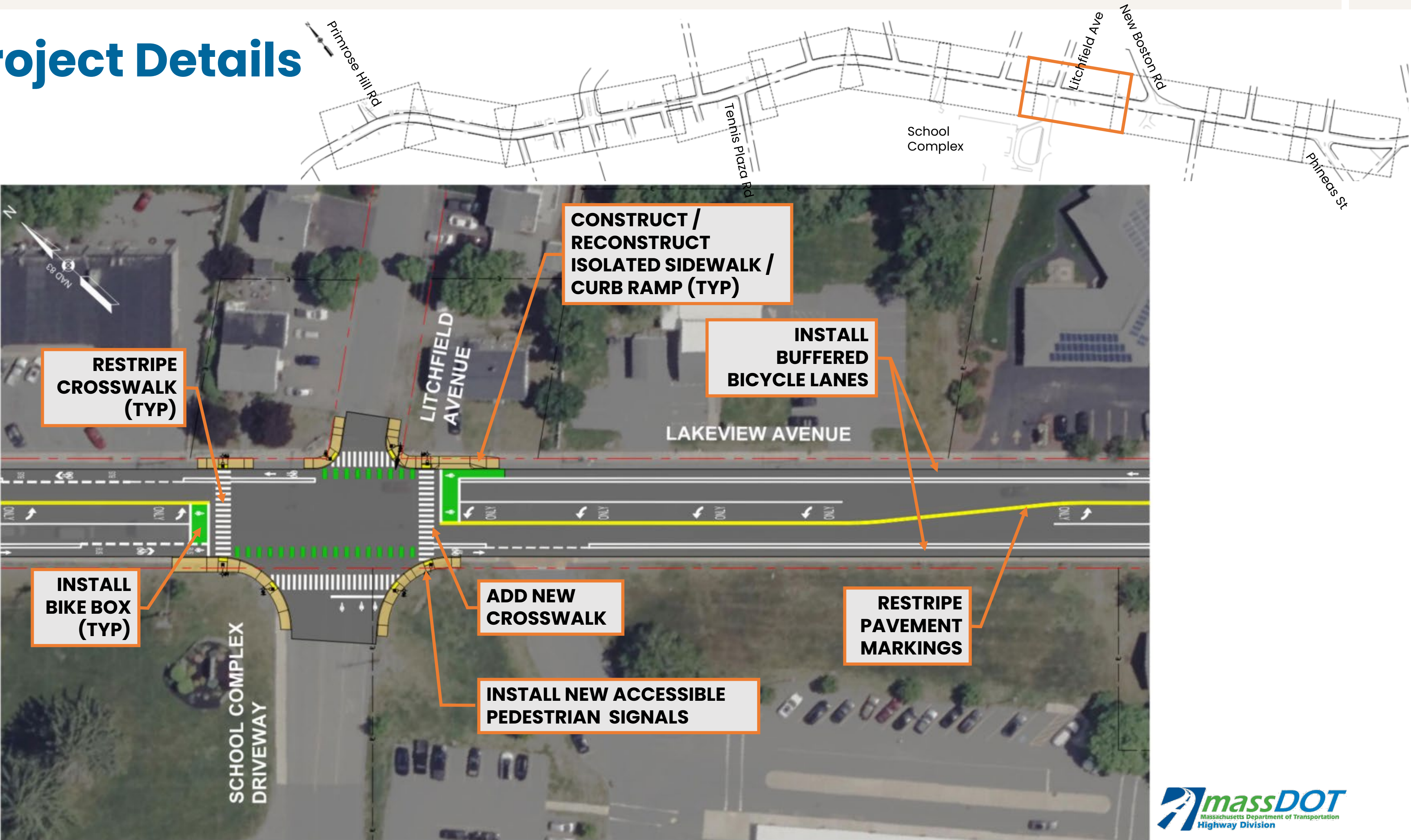


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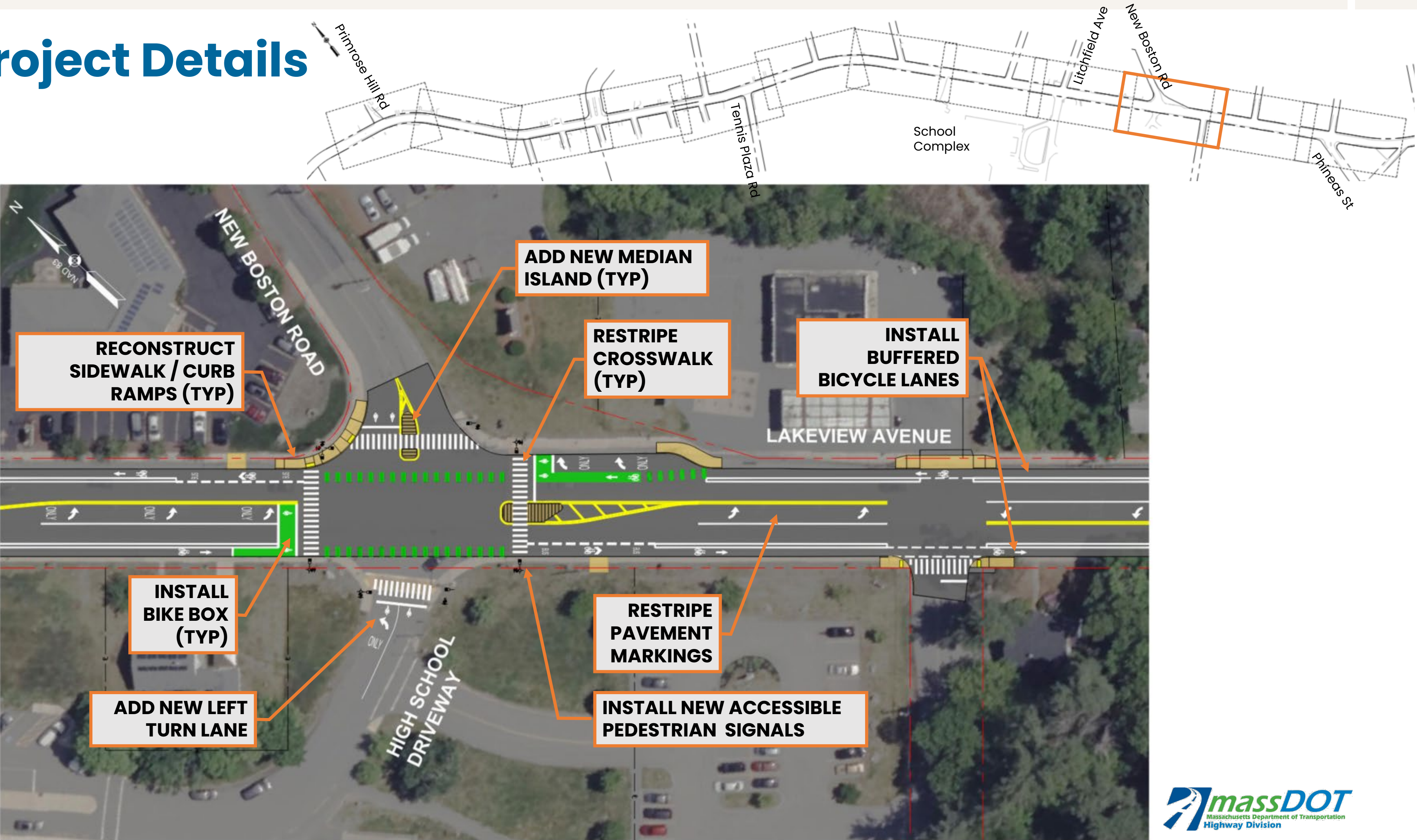


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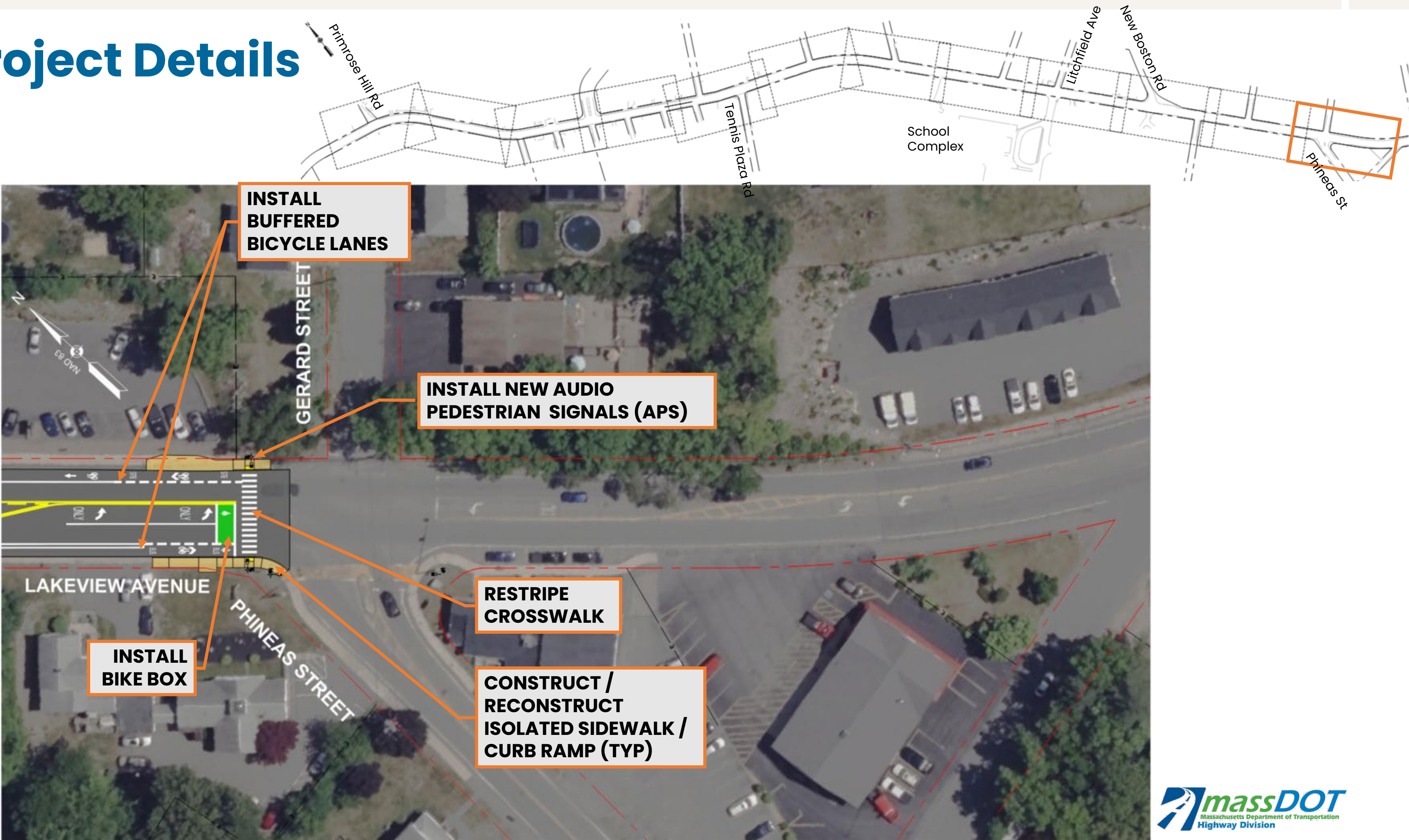


# Project Details





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**How will your  
property be  
impacted?**



## Preliminary Right of Way (ROW) Discussion

- The Town of Dracut is responsible for acquiring all necessary rights in public land for design, construction, and implementation of this project.
- Affected property owners will be contacted by personnel from the Municipality ROW Bureau or consultants representing the responsible agency.
  - 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.
- Preliminary ROW drawings will be available at Town Hall – Engineering Department for public review and comment.

**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.**



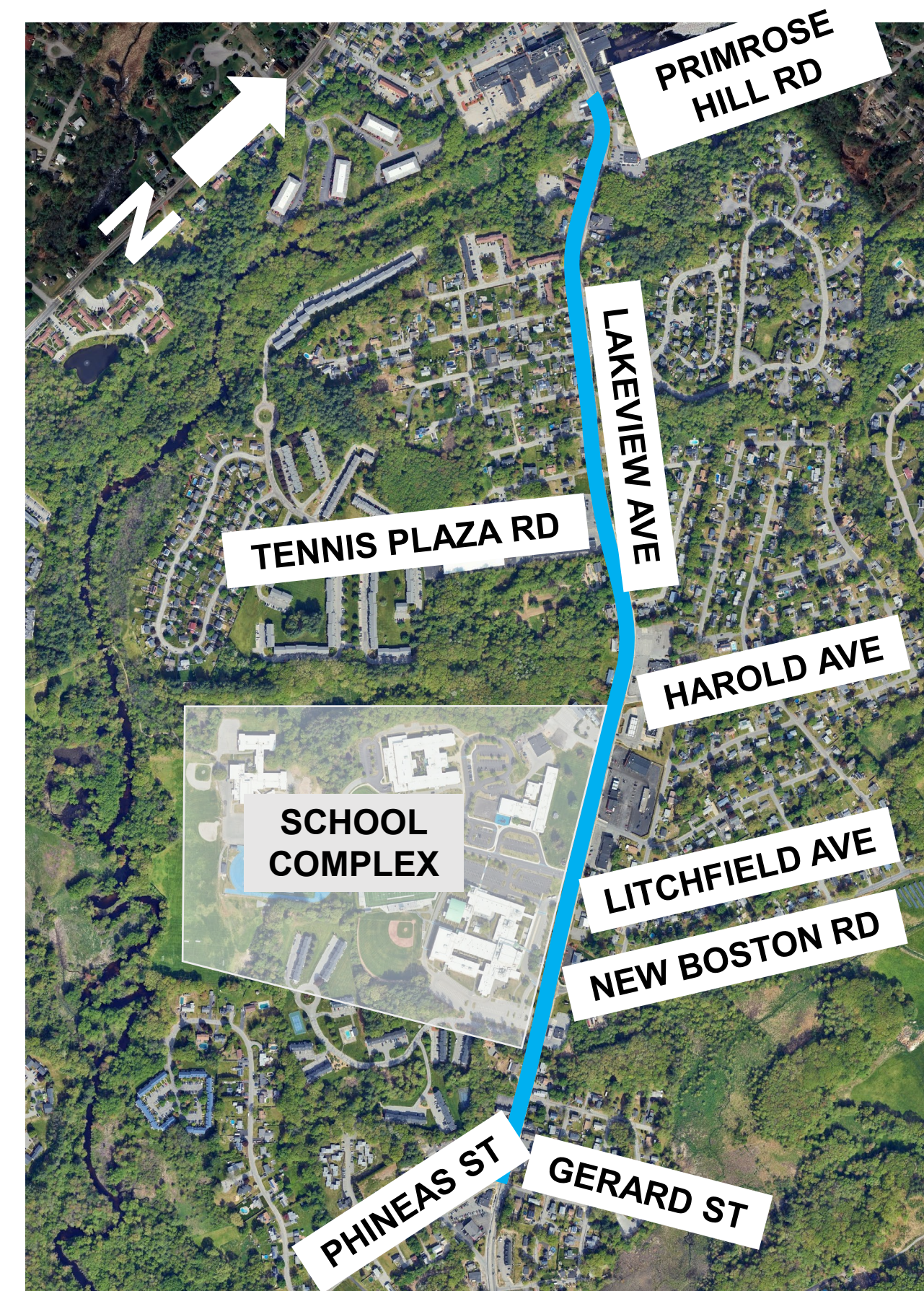


**What are the  
environmental,  
cultural  
resource, and  
community  
impacts?**



# Environmental Permitting

- Very limited environmental permitting needed
- Construction work within wetland buffer zone
- No wetland impacts anticipated
- No historic and/or cultural impacts anticipated
- Minimal increase in impervious area  
(primarily reconstructing existing sidewalk)







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



## Construction Impacts

- Construction to take place over 1-year period
- Potential lane closures during construction activities
- No closures or detours anticipated
- Abutter access will be maintained throughout construction
- Close coordination with District 4 Construction, construction contractor, and Town of Dracut
- Intersections
  - Primrose Hill Road
  - Tennis Plaza Road
  - Lichfield Avenue
  - New Boston Road
  - Gerard Street/Phineas Street





# Anticipated Next Steps



Fall 2025  
DPH Comments and Responses – close out 25% stage



Winter 2025  
Prepare and submit 75% submission



Spring-Summer 2026  
Prepare and submit final design



Fall 2026  
Prepare for project advertisement



Spring 2027  
Construction begin

As the project is in preliminary stages, milestone dates may be subject to change





**How will we  
keep you  
informed?**



## How to Reach Us

- Submit email comments to:  
[MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us](mailto: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. 609510







# Questions and answers



## Questions and answers



- 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

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





# Thank You

## *Improvements at George Englesby Elementary School*

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Project File No. 609510

[MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us)

