



Harwich Elementary School

Safe Routes to School Project

Design Public Hearing

June 12, 2024 | 6:00 PM

Harwich Community Center

Project File No. 610670



Public meeting notes and procedures

Notification of video recording

- This public meeting will be recorded. The Massachusetts Department of Transportation may choose to retain and distribute the video, images, or audio.
- All parts of this meeting are considered public record.
- A transcript will be prepared and also made part of the public record.
- By continuing attendance with this public 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 meeting.

Important notes

- The meeting 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!

Introduction

- **Town of Harwich** – Lincoln Hooper, Director of Highways and Maintenance
- **MassDOT**
 - Project Manager** – Jon Freeman & Lawrence Cash
 - District 5** – Richard Bilski, Project Development Engineer & Suren Parajuly
 - ROW** – Craig Sheehan
 - Legislative Affairs** – Gareth Saunders
- **Design Consultant** – Pare Corporation, Amy Archer, P.E. & Kyle Stanley, P.E.
- **PIMA Outreach Consultant** – HNTB, William Parent & Emily Wood
- **Stenographer** – Melissa Lupo



TOWN OF
HARWICH MASSACHUSETTS



Thank You for Your Support

MassDOT Facebook and X (formerly Twitter)

Cape Cod Times

Cape Cod Chronicle

Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce

Cape Cod Commission

Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority

Southeast Regional Planning & Economic Development

Local Schools and Congregations

Project Budget

- Total Federal Participating Construction Cost (TFPCC) = \$2,417,460.30
 - materials (bid items)
 - police details
 - utility relocation (as needed)
- TFPCC is 80% Federally Funded and 20% MassDOT Funded
- Does not include ROW acquisition cost

Estimated Project Schedule



**25% Design
Public Hearing**

June 2024



**Final Design
Complete**

Fall 2024



**Scheduled
Advertisement Date**

Summer 2025



Spring 2026

Anticipated Construction Completion: Spring 2027

Preliminary Right of Way (ROW) discussion – 25% Design

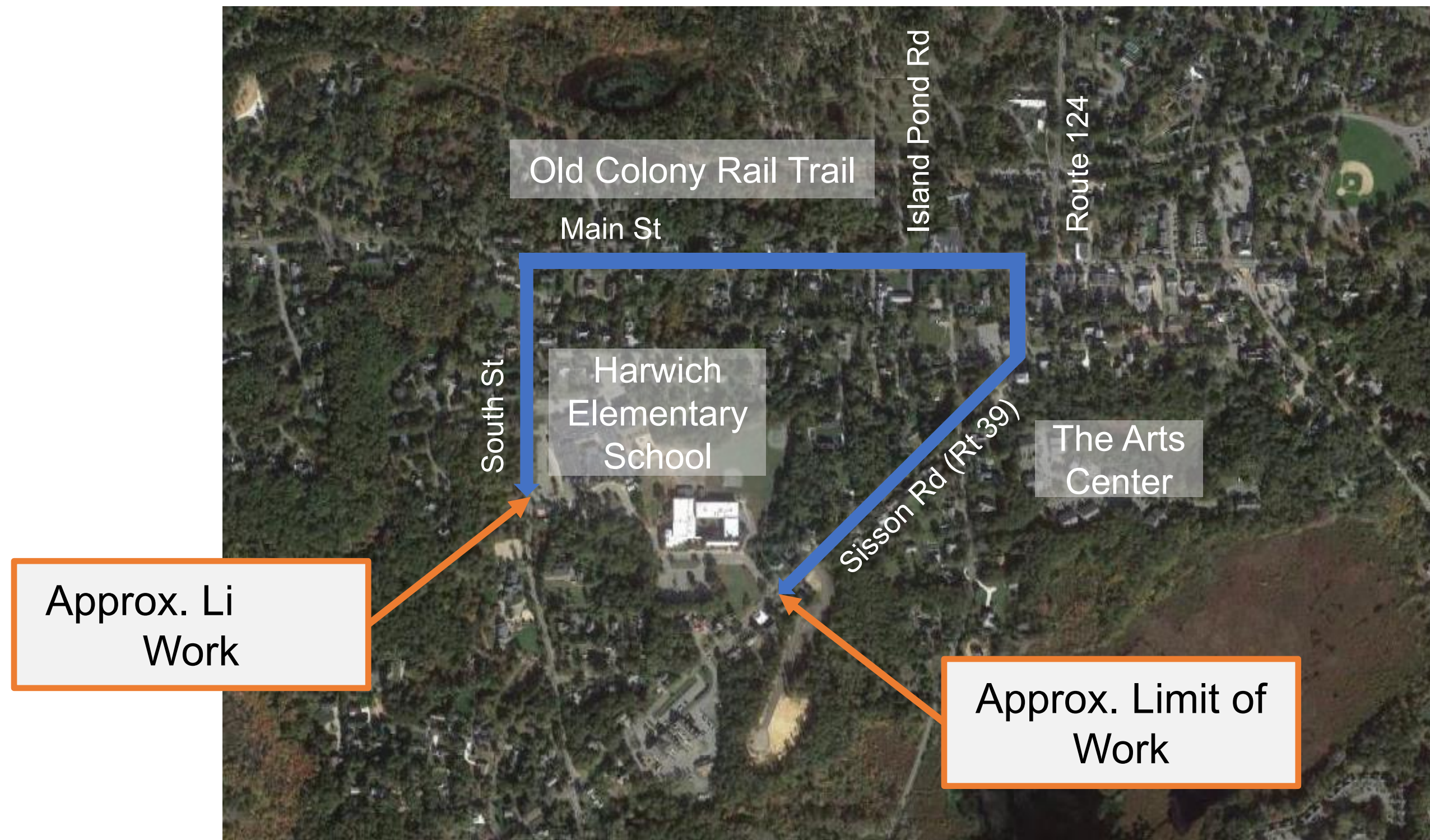
- The Town of Harwich is responsible for acquiring all necessary rights in public land for design, construction, and implementation of the project.
- Affected property owners will be contacted by personnel from the Town.
- Procedures must comply with state and federal regulations governing the acquisition 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.
- For review of the plans, they will be made available at Town Hall.

Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Project Area
3. Project Needs & Goals
4. Design Alternatives
5. Project Details
6. Right-of-Way (ROW)
7. Environmental Permitting
8. Traffic Impacts
9. Next Steps
10. Questions/Comments

Project Area

- 1,000' along South Street from School House Drive to the Main Street
- 2,100' along Main Street from South Street to Sisson Road
- 1,900' along Sisson Road from Main Street to School House Drive





**Why was this
project
initiated?**

Project Needs and Goals- Improve Sidewalks/Access

- Various narrow sections
- Missing detectable warning panels
- Sections with steep grades
- Incomplete sidewalk loop from/to School House Drive



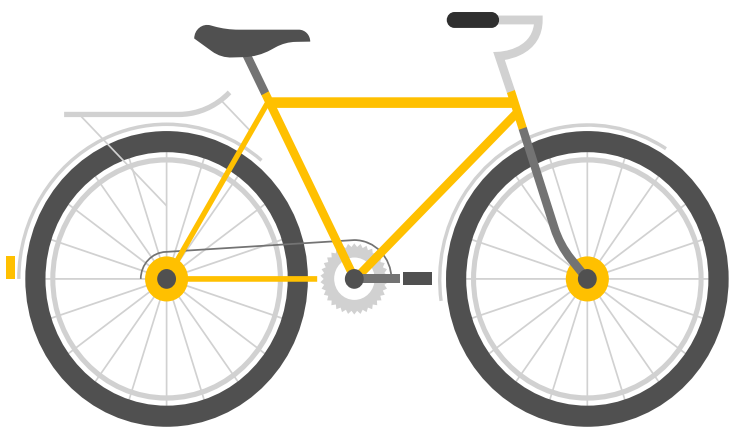
Project Needs and Goals – Safer Pedestrian Crossings

- Crosswalks do not meet desire lines
- Sight line issues
- Many missing crosswalks and ramps



Project Needs and Goals – Bicycle Infrastructure

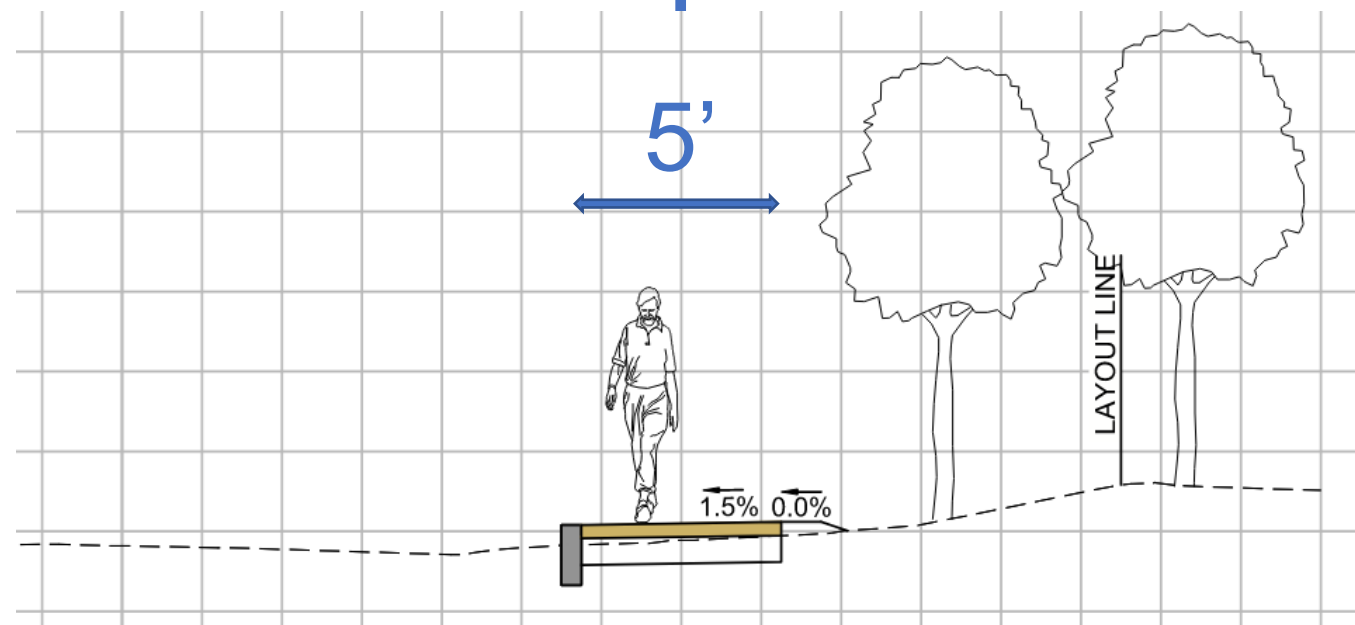
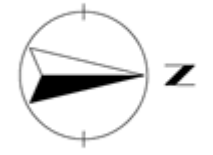
- Old Colony Rail Trail located just north of project limits, parallel to Main Street



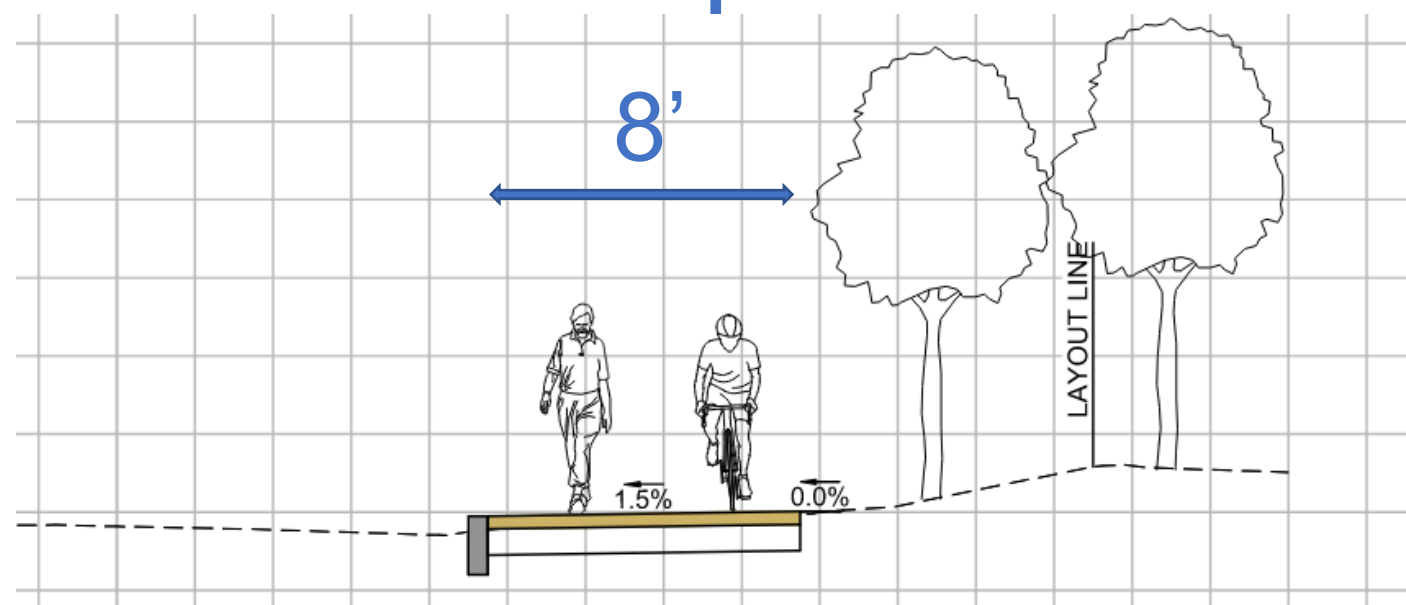
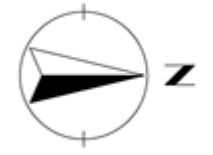


**What
alternatives
were
considered?**

South Street – Alternative 1



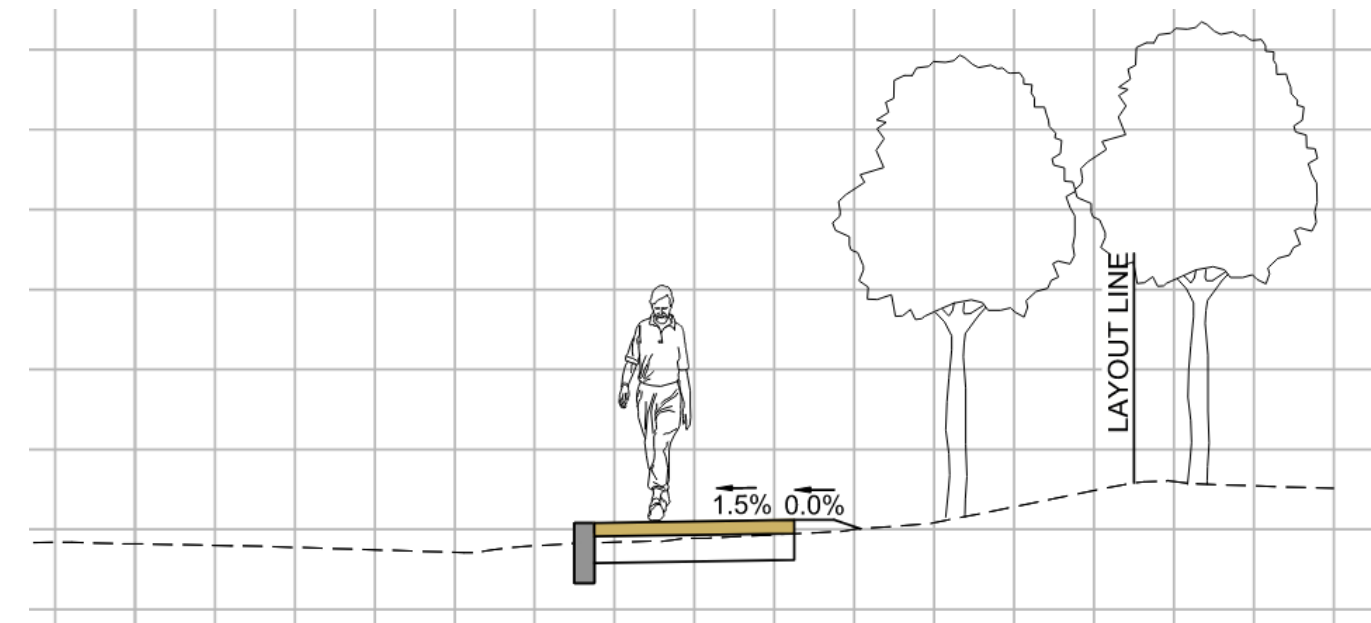
South Street – Alternative 2



South Street – Alternatives Comparison

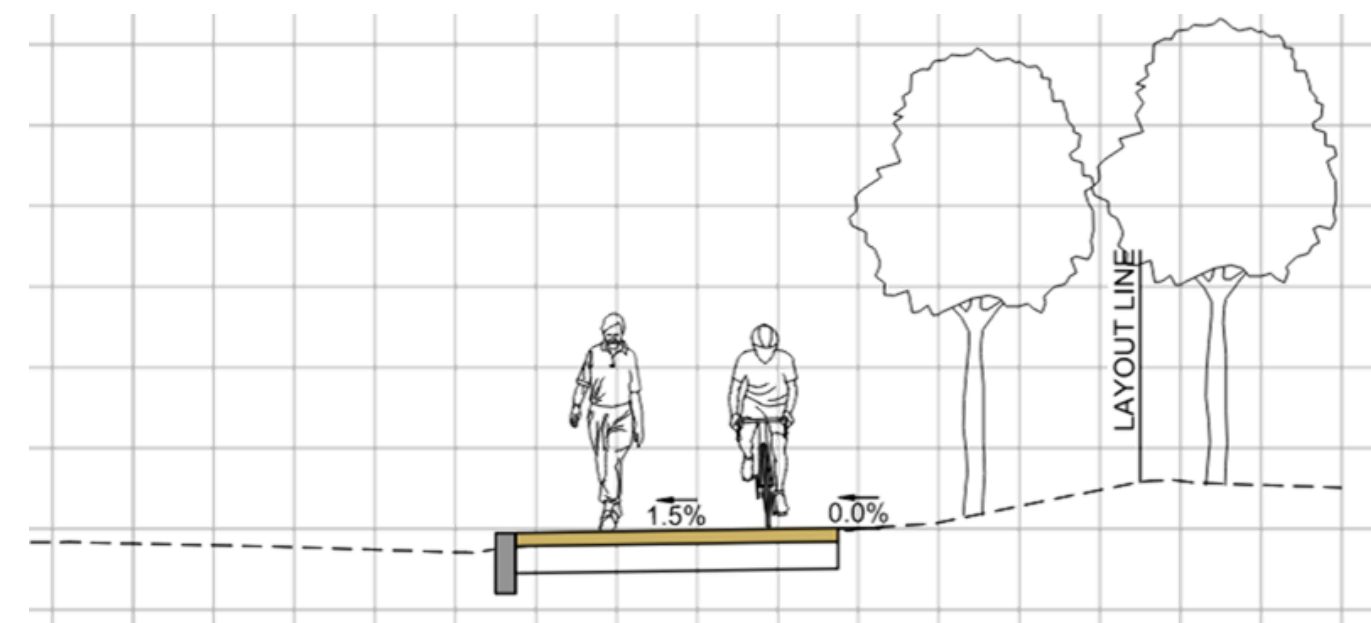
Alternative 1:

- Includes widening for 2-foot shoulder
- Granite curb
- 5-foot HMA sidewalk
- Substantial distance to ROW



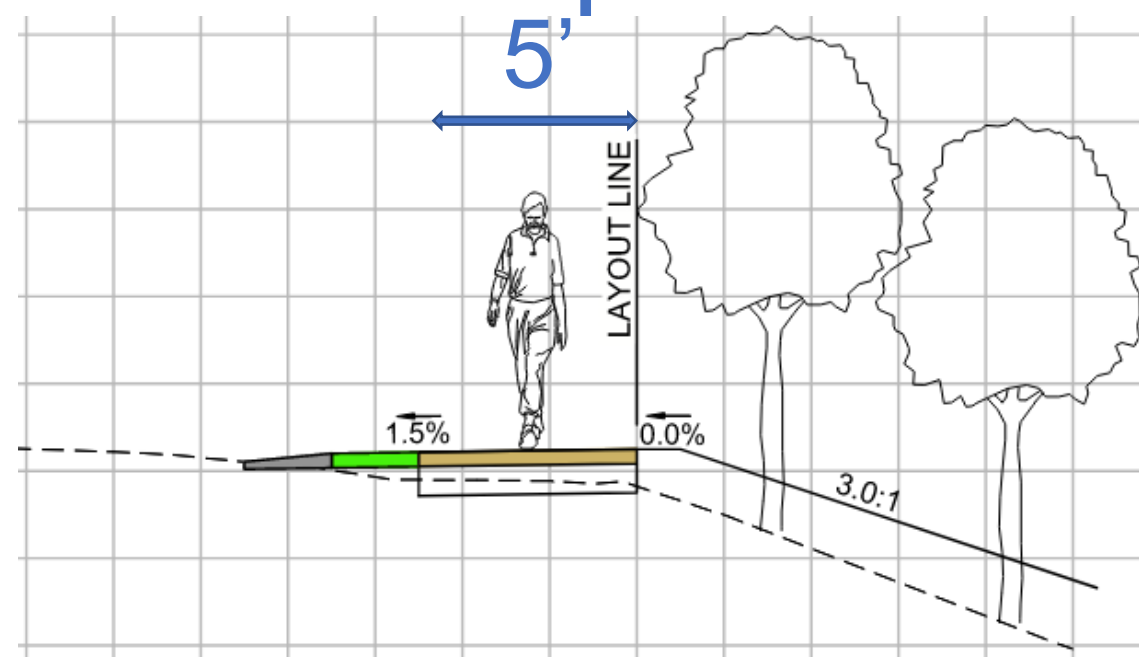
Alternative 2:

- No widening
- Granite curb
- 8-foot HMA sidewalk
- Substantial distance to ROW

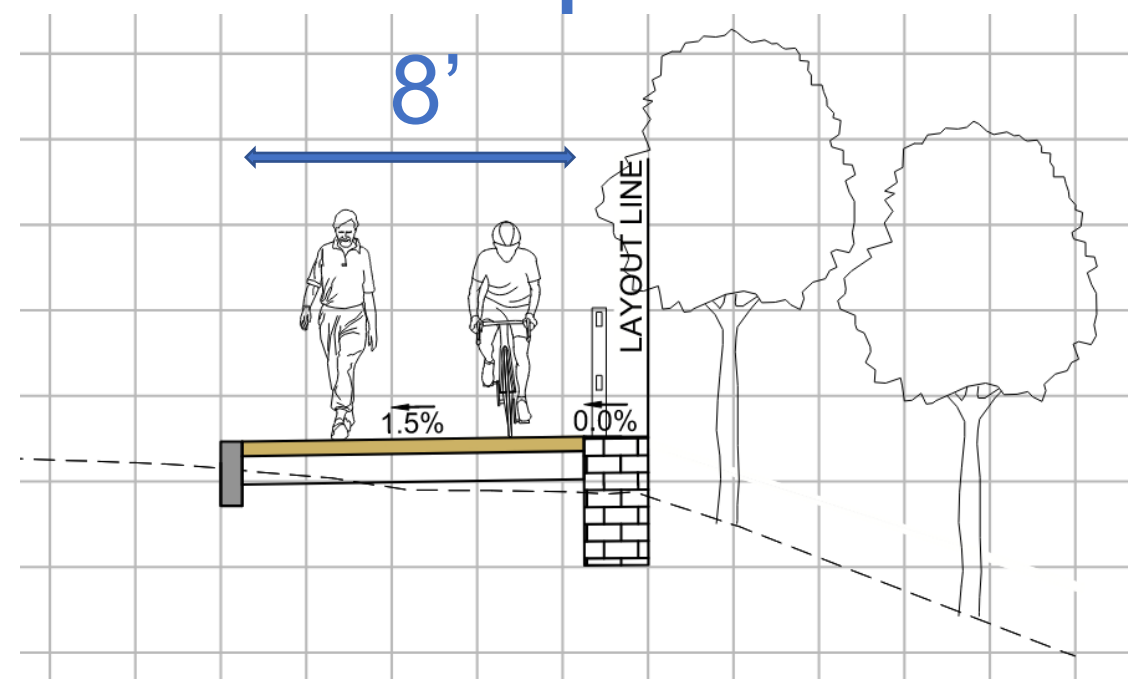


Similar slope limits and no anticipated ROW impacts

Main Street – Alternative 1



Main Street – Alternative 2



Main Street – Alternatives Comparison

Alternative 1:

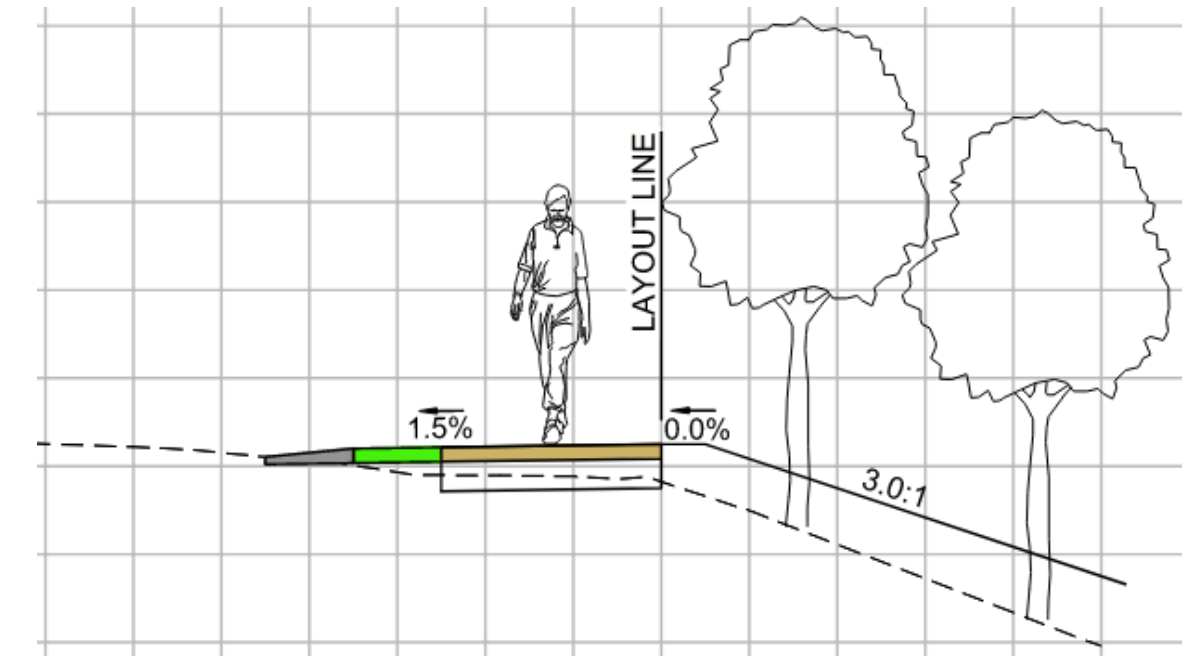
Includes widening for 2-foot shoulder

Bituminous berm

Grass buffer

5-foot HMA sidewalk

Abuts ROW and may require short permanent easements (PEs) and wetland impacts



Alternative 2:

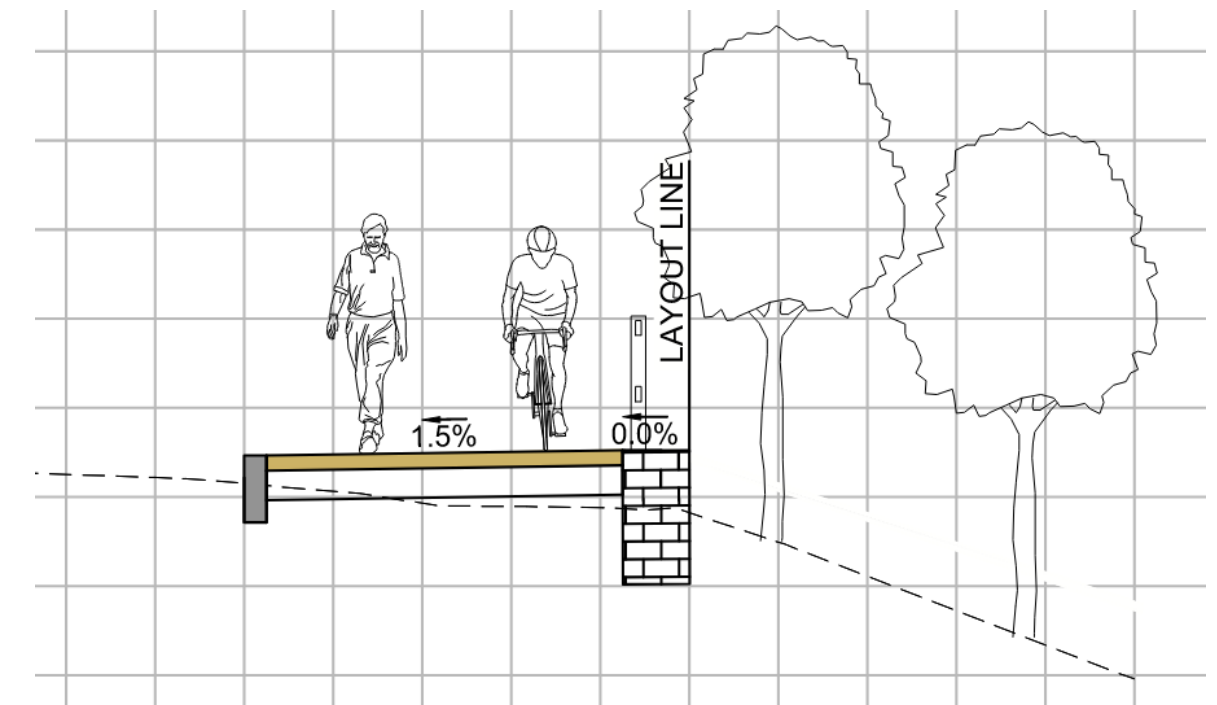
No widening

Granite curb

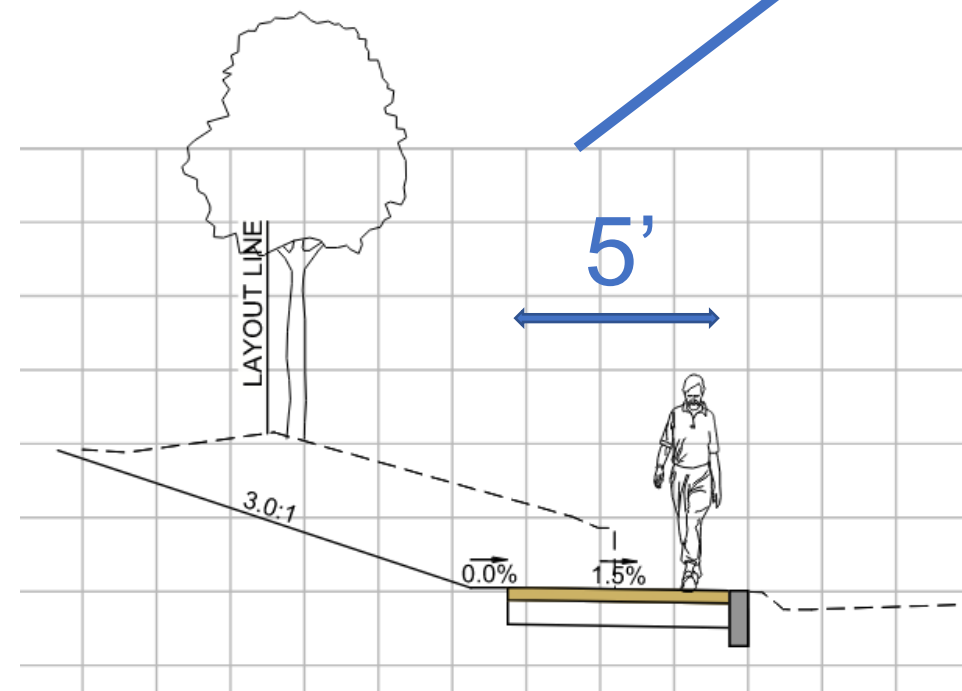
8-foot HMA sidewalk

Requires relay of gas line and R&R some UPs

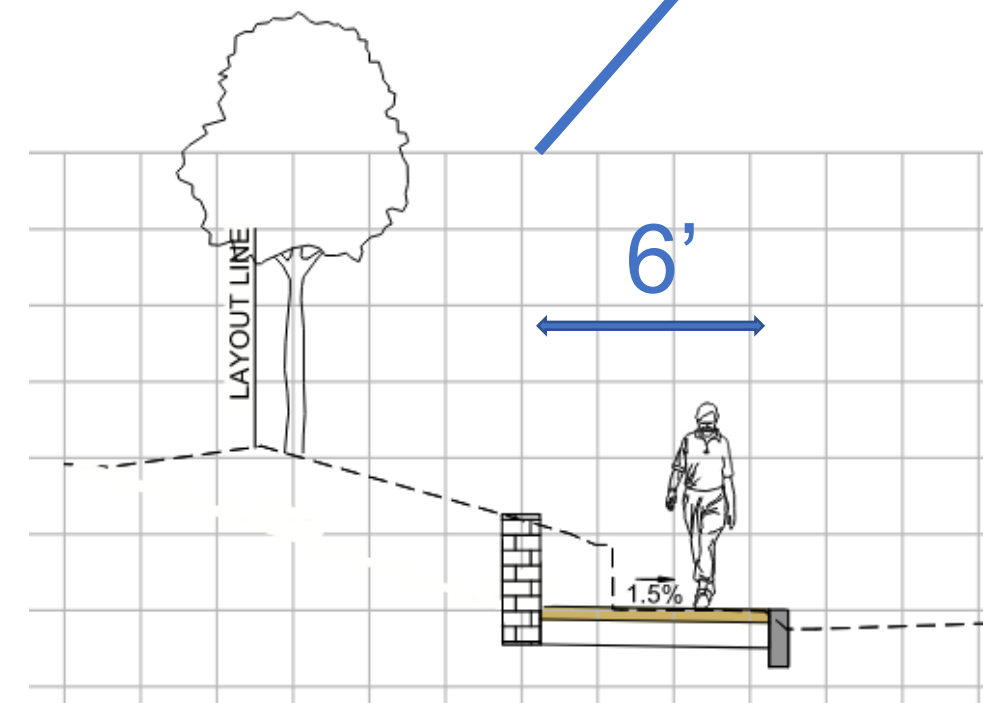
Requires installation of short wall segments to minimize PEs



Sisson Road – Alternative 1



Sisson Road – Alternative 2



Sisson Road – Alternatives Comparison

Alternative 1a:

- Includes widening for 2-foot shoulder
- Granite curb
- 5-foot HMA sidewalk
- Slope to grade

Alternative 1b:

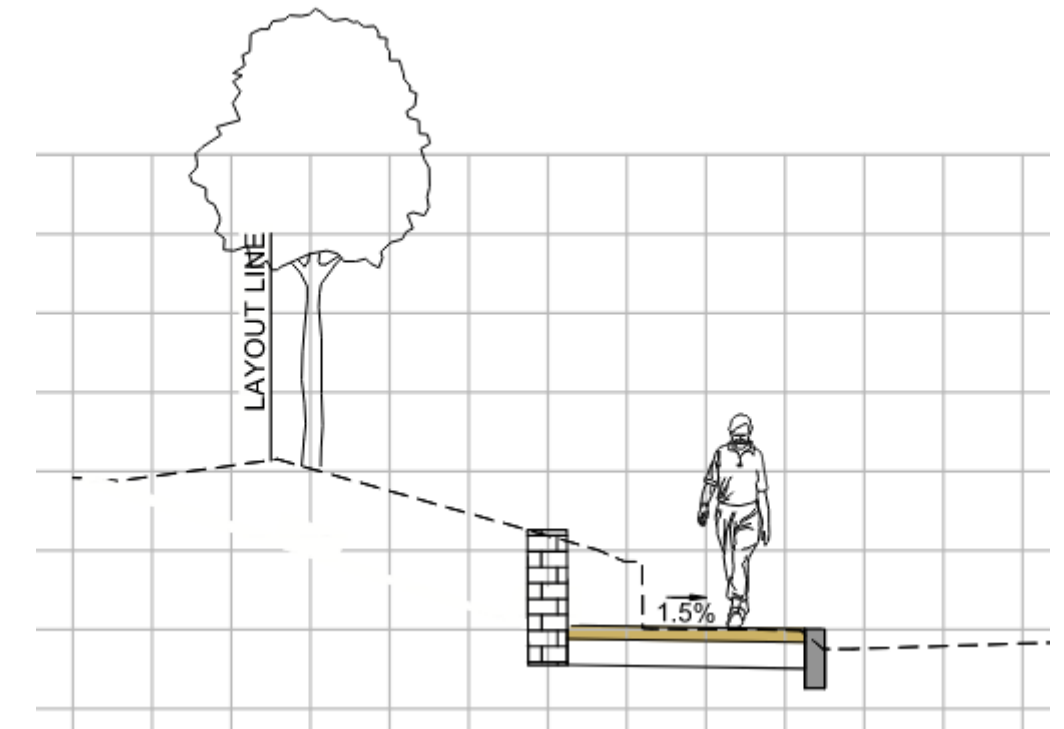
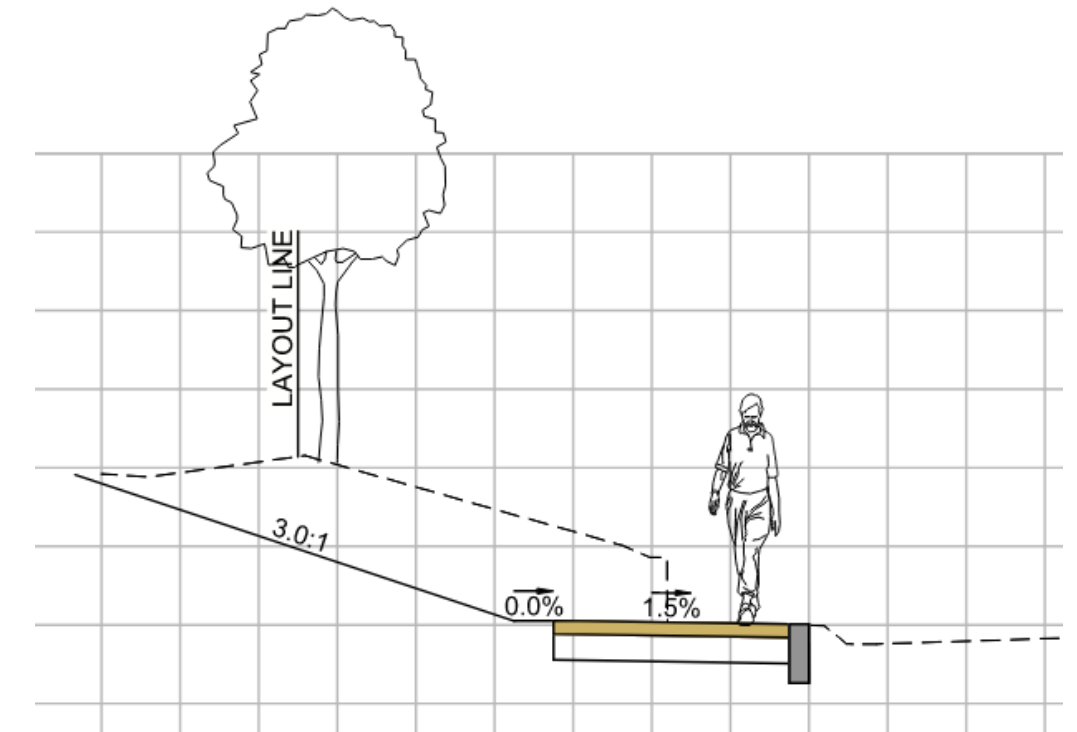
- Includes widening for 2-foot shoulder
- Granite curb
- 5-foot HMA sidewalk
- Retaining wall

Alternative 2a:

- No widening
- Granite curb
- 6-foot HMA sidewalk
- Slope to grade

Alternative 2b:

- No widening
- Granite curb
- 6-foot HMA sidewalk
- Retaining wall



Either alternative could grade towards trees or install short wall segments to minimize tree and ROW impacts.



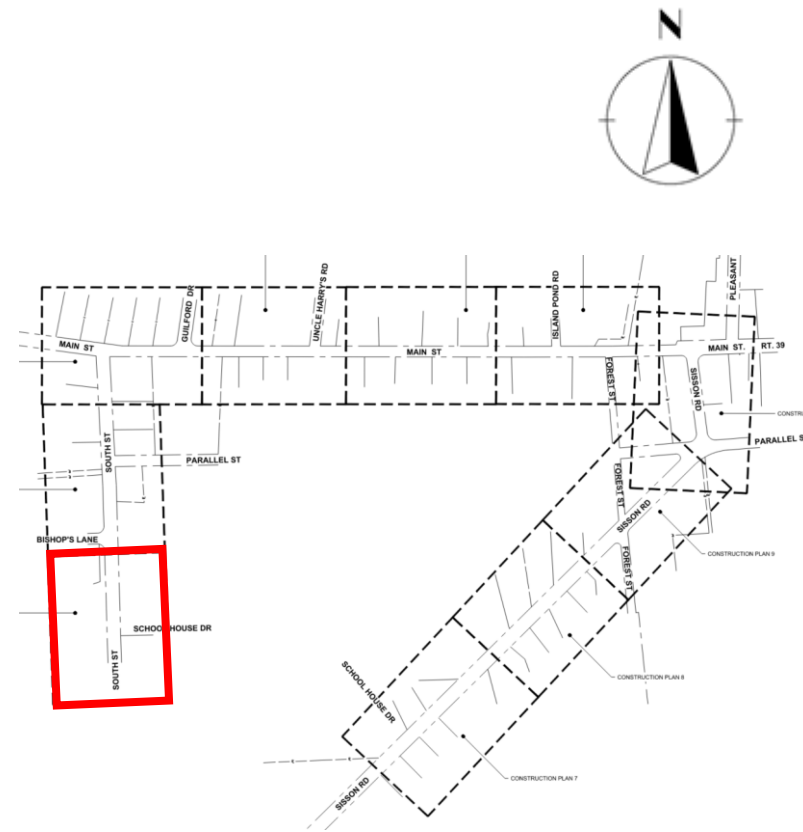
What is the proposed design?

Project Details

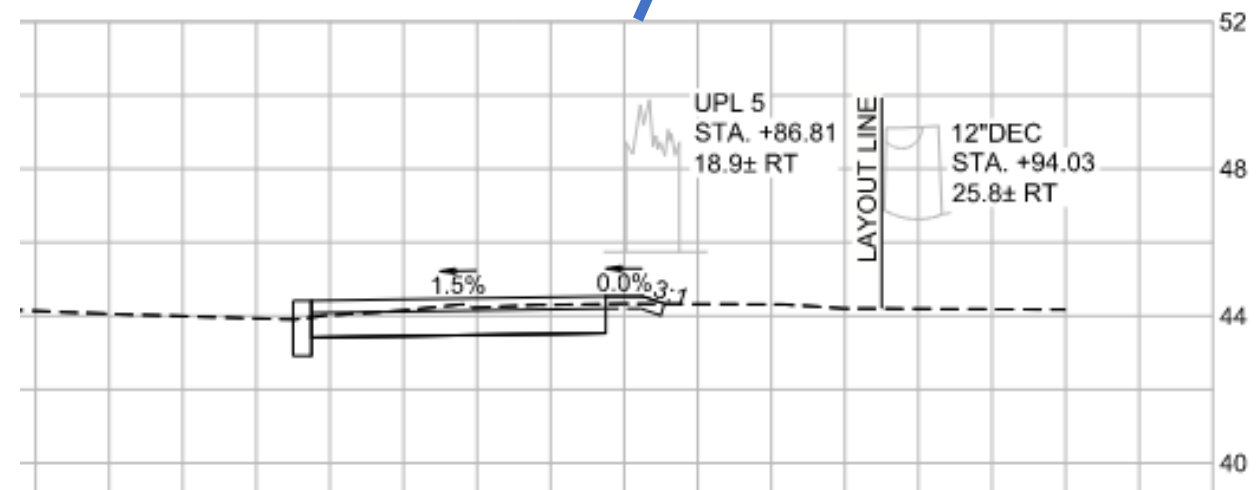


8-foot sidewalk proposed along east side

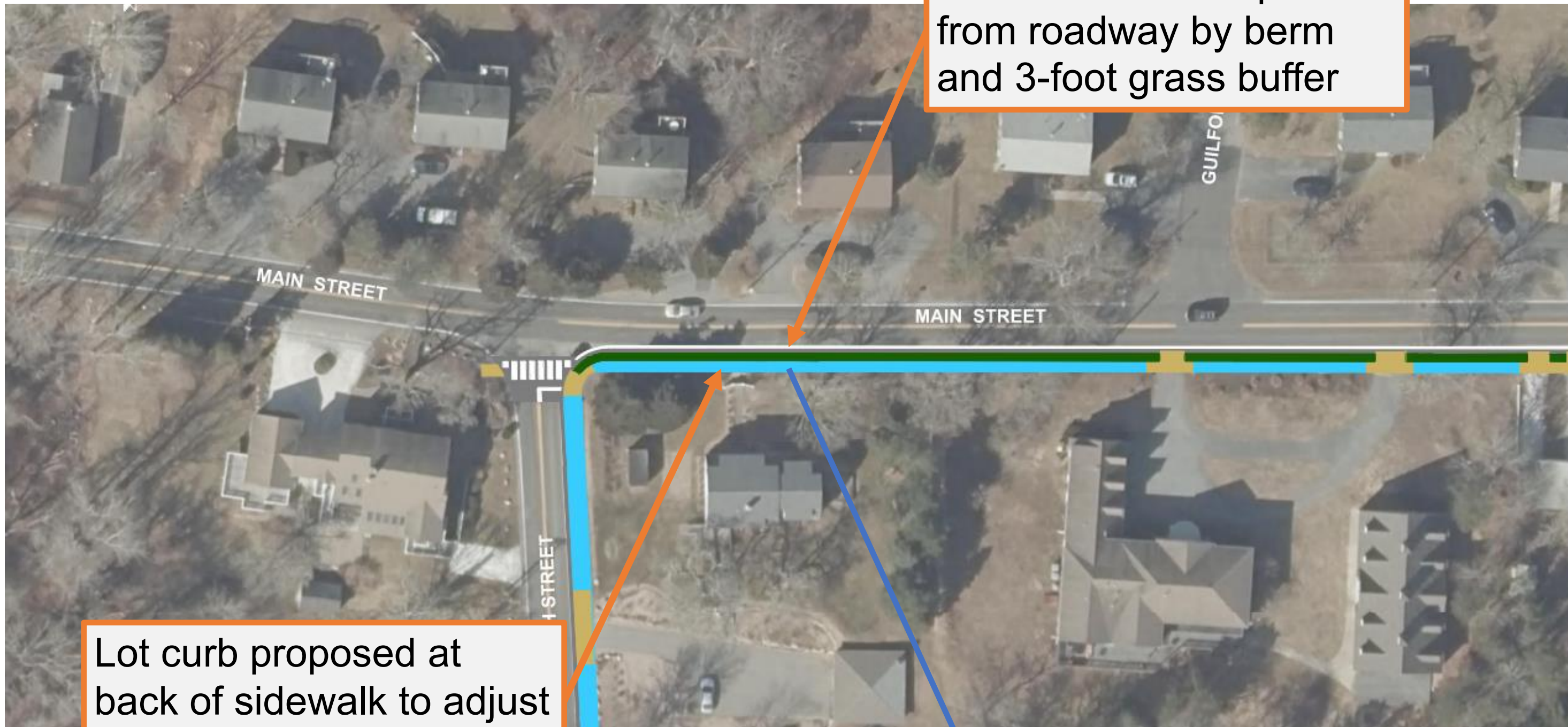
Driveway turning radii to be adjusted



- LEGEND:**
- = CEMENT CONCRETE SIDEWALK/DRIVEWAY
 - = BIT SIDEWALK
 - = BIT PAVEMENT

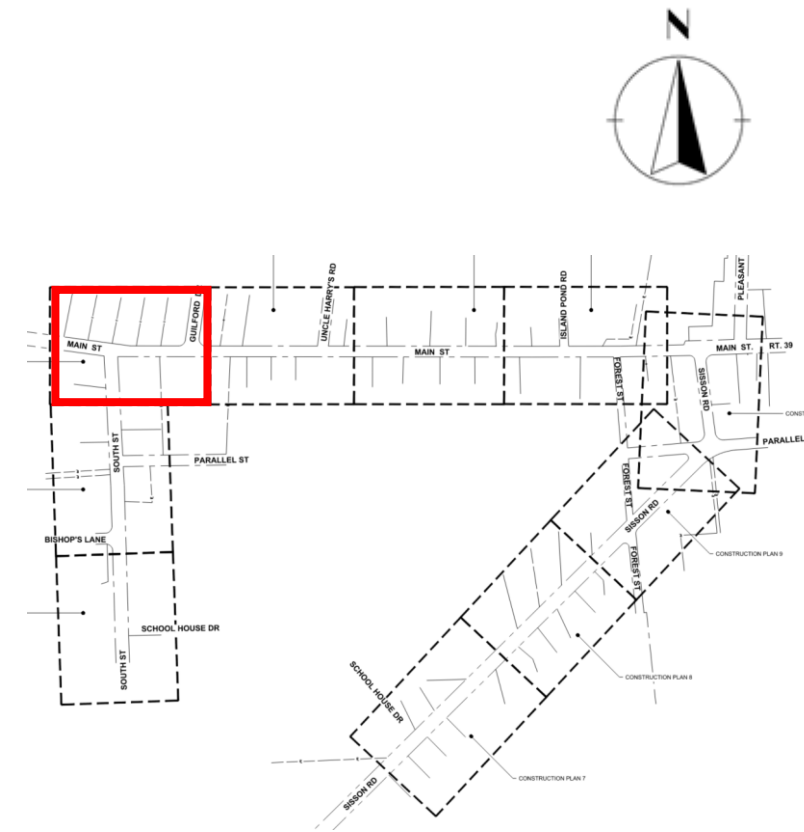


Project Details



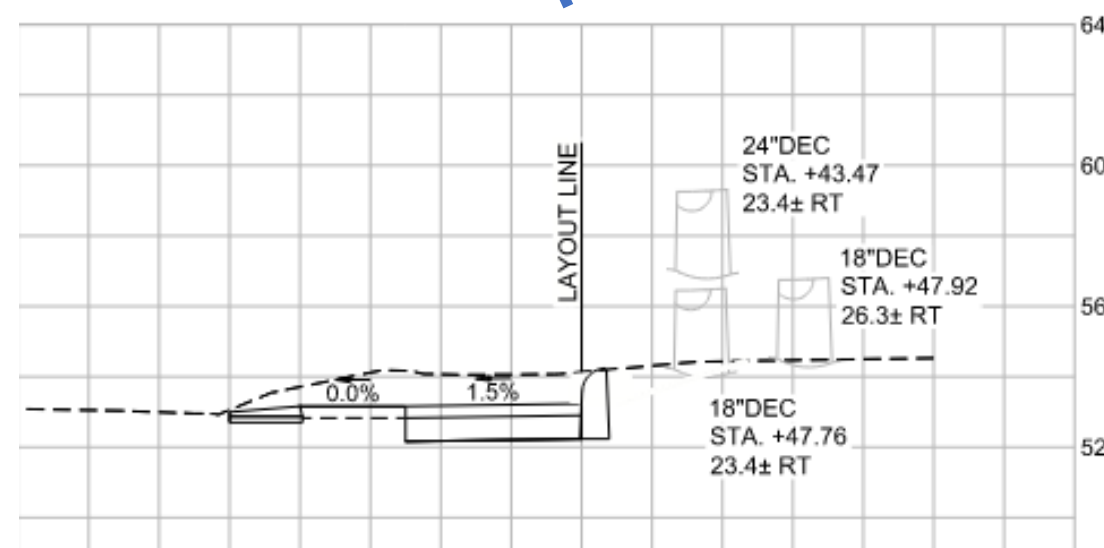
5-foot sidewalk separated from roadway by berm and 3-foot grass buffer

Lot curb proposed at back of sidewalk to adjust for existing steep grade

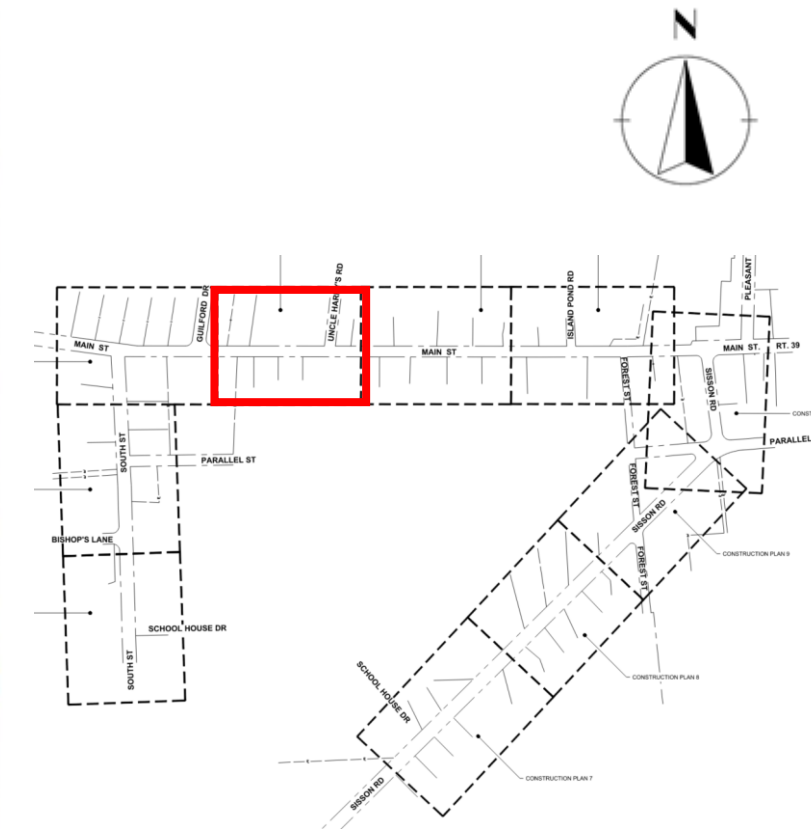
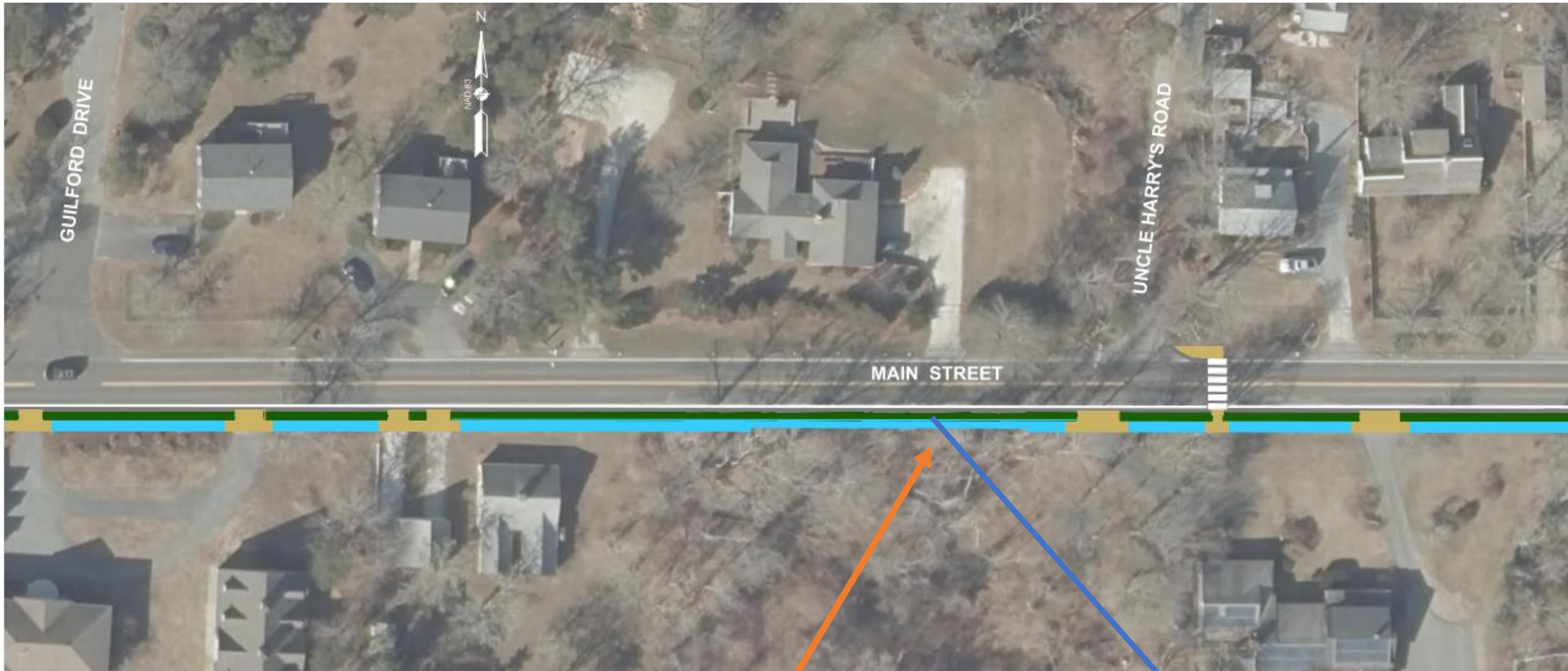


LEGEND:

- = CEMENT CONCRETE SIDEWALK/DRIVEWAY
- = BIT SIDEWALK
- = BIT PAVEMENT
- = GRASS BUFFER



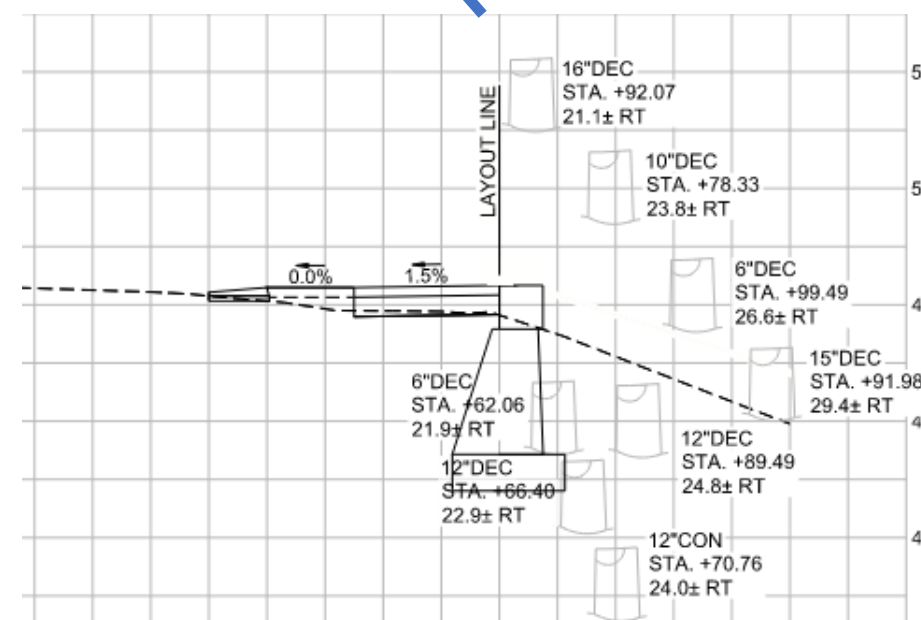
Project Details



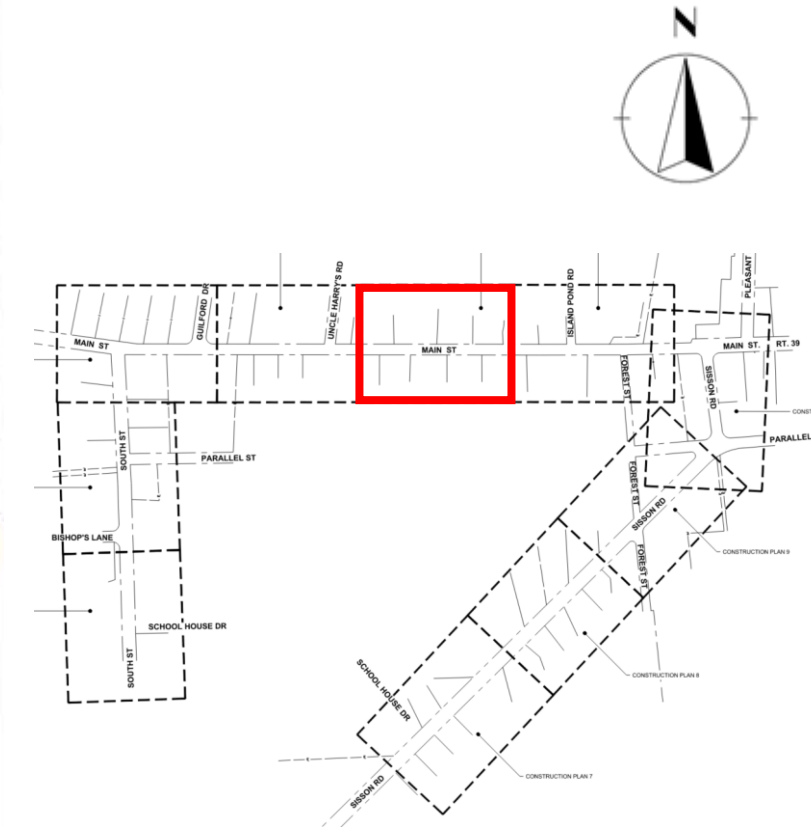
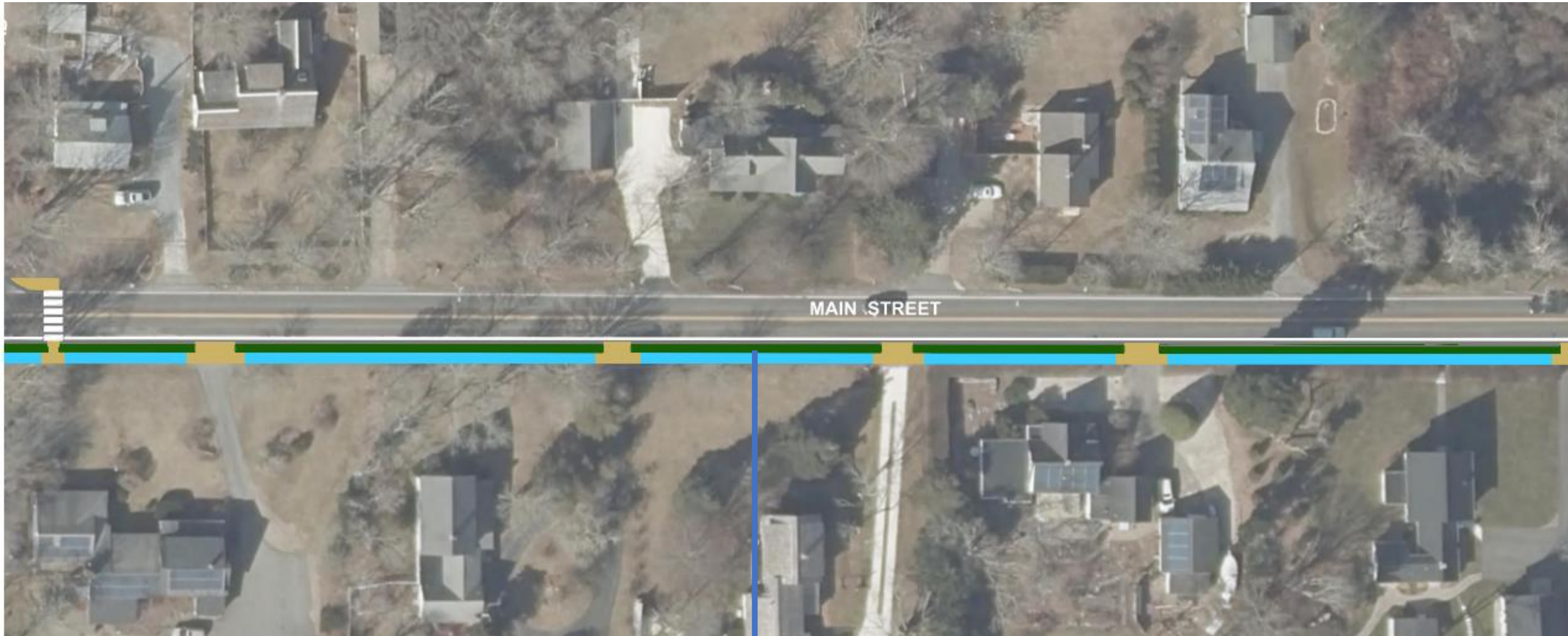
LEGEND:

- = CEMENT CONCRETE SIDEWALK/DRIVEWAY
- = BIT SIDEWALK
- = BIT PAVEMENT
- = GRASS BUFFER

Proposed retaining wall will save several trees and avoid impacts to wetlands

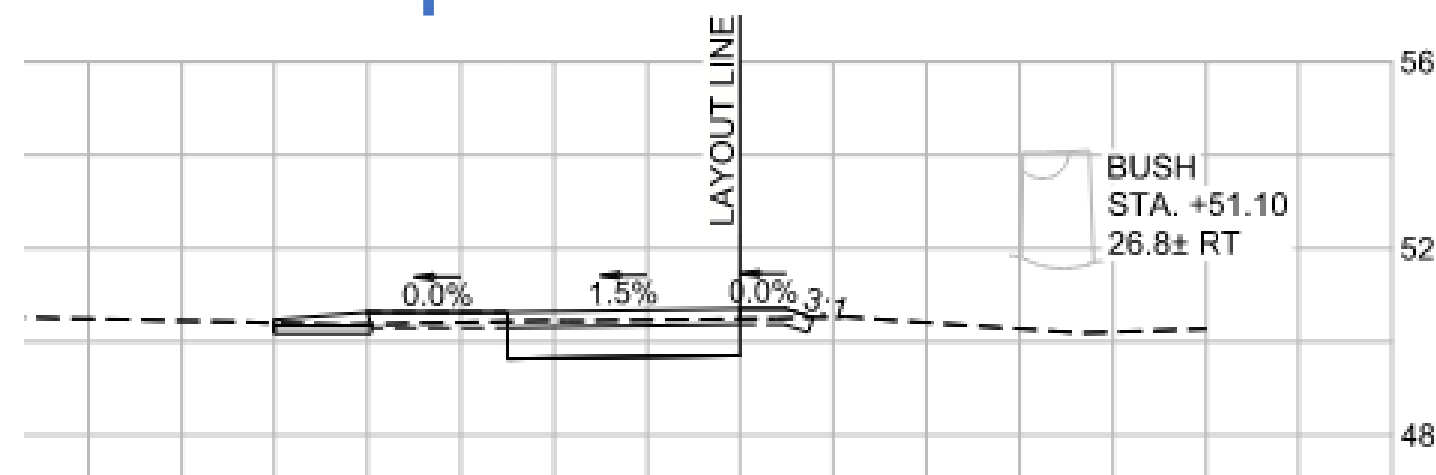


Project Details



LEGEND:

- = CEMENT CONCRETE SIDEWALK/DRIVEWAY
- = BIT SIDEWALK
- = BIT PAVEMENT
- = GRASS BUFFER

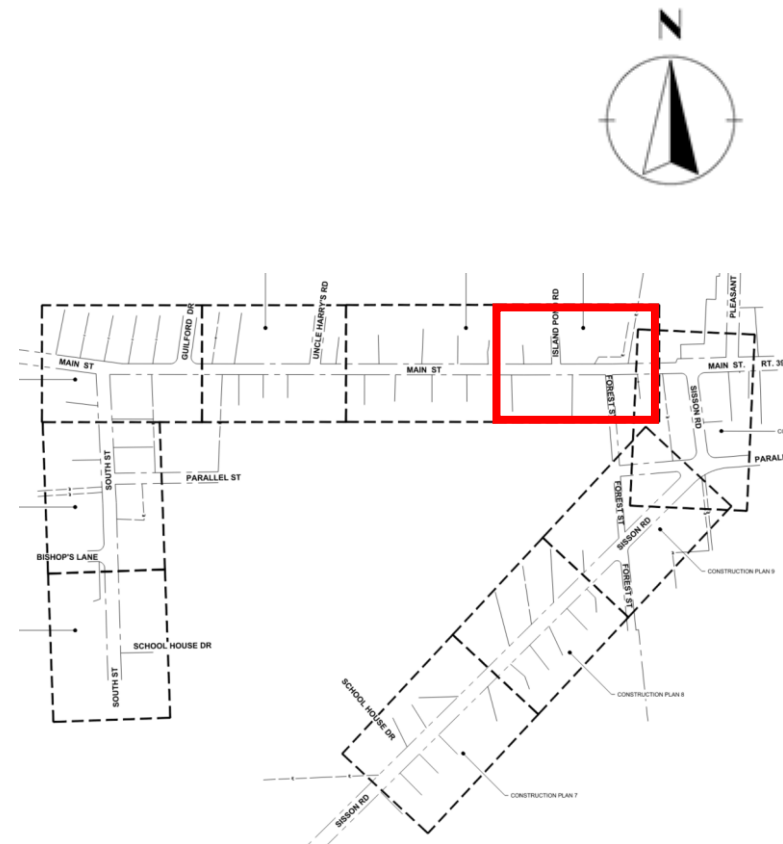
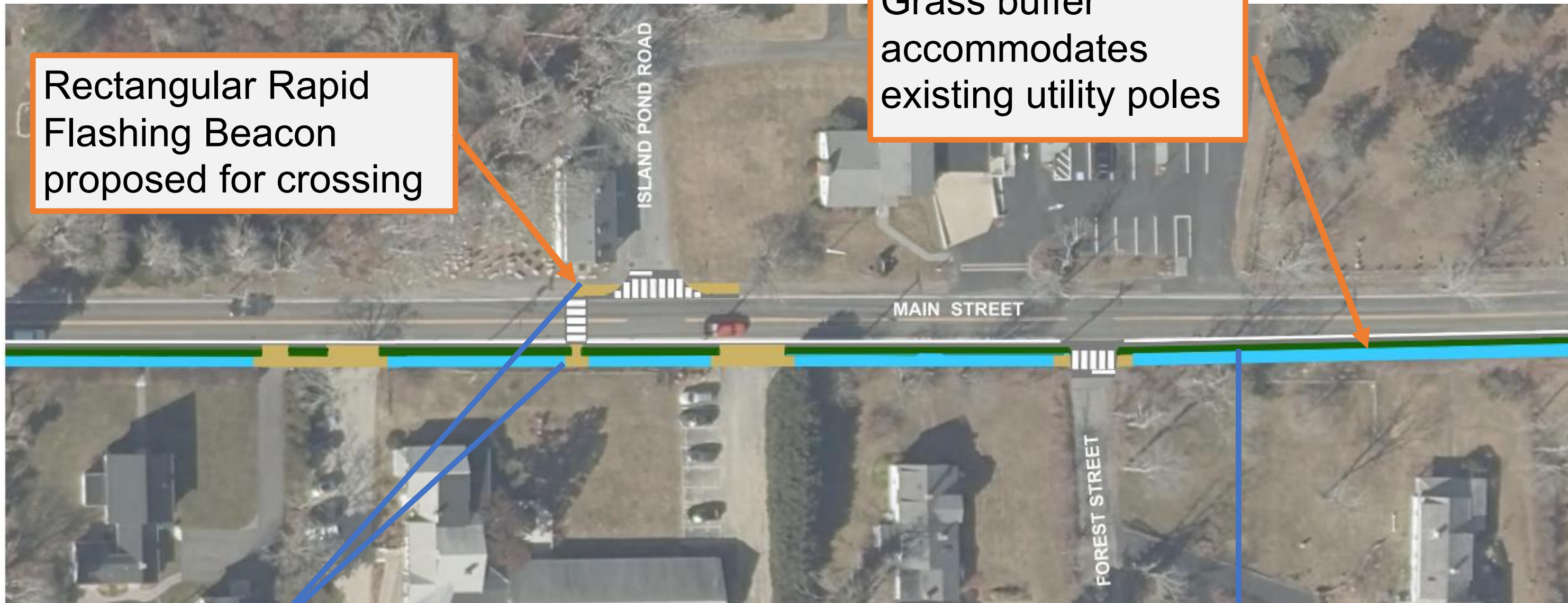


Project Details

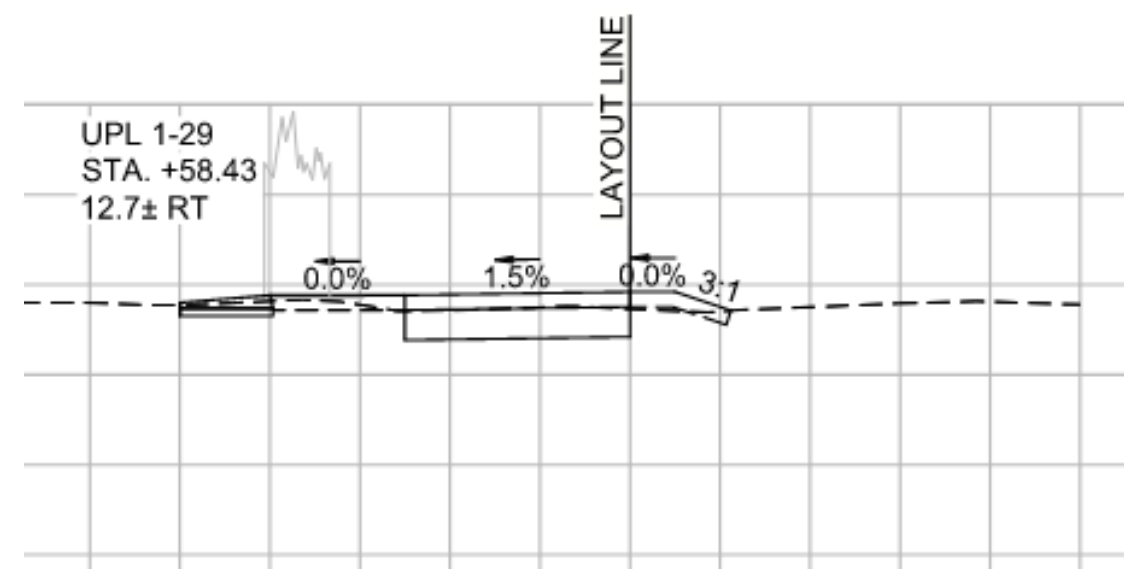


Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon proposed for crossing

Grass buffer accommodates existing utility poles



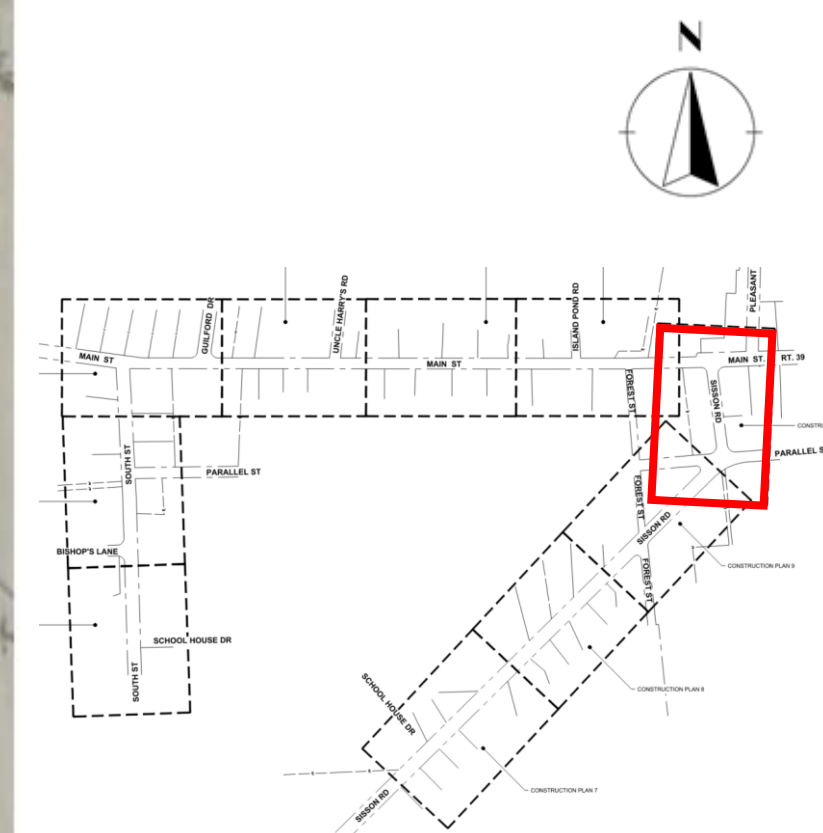
- LEGEND:**
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 - = BIT PAVEMENT
 - = GRASS BUFFER







Project Details

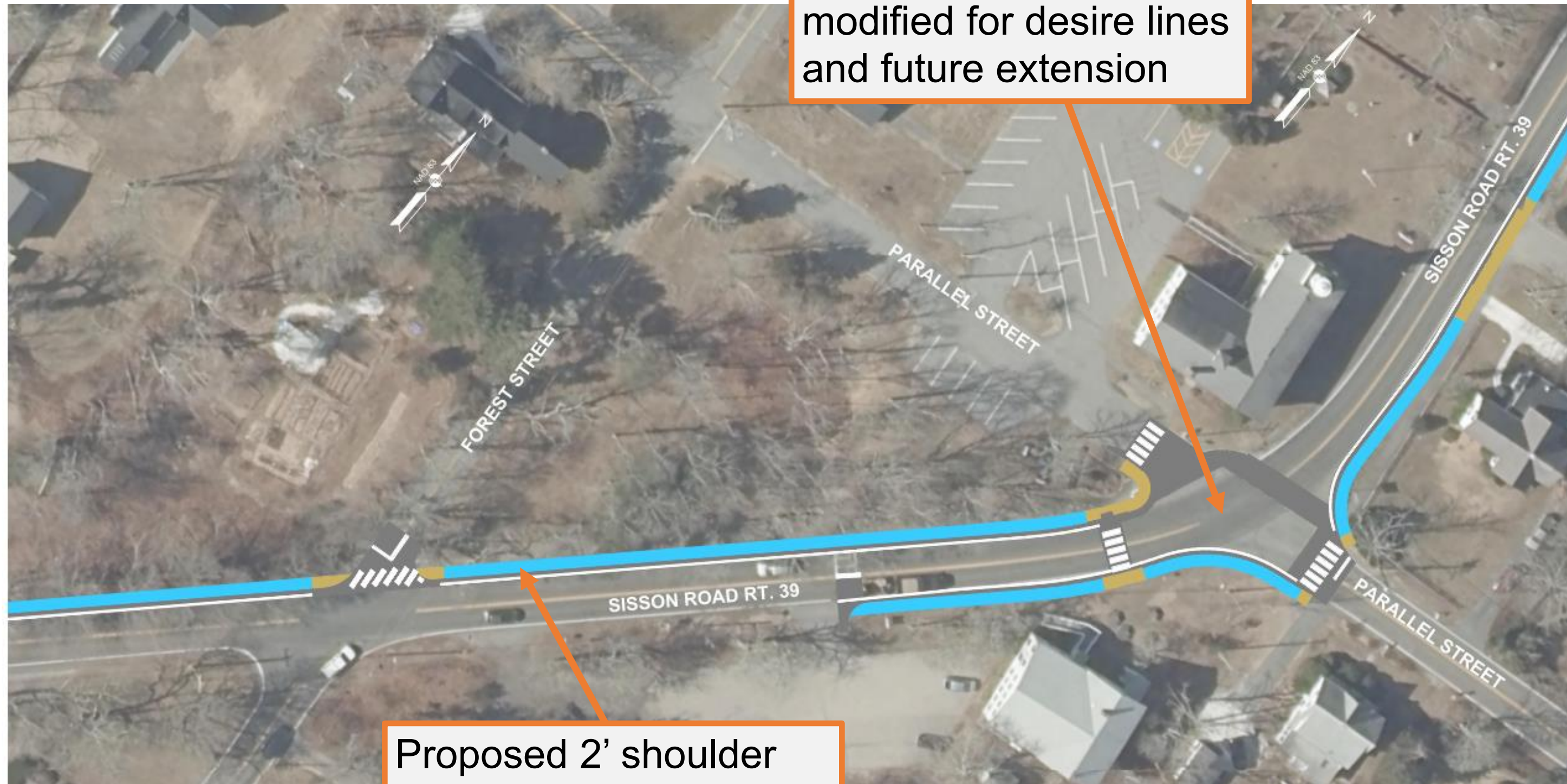


Sidewalk proposed on east side of Sisson increases connections to Town amenities



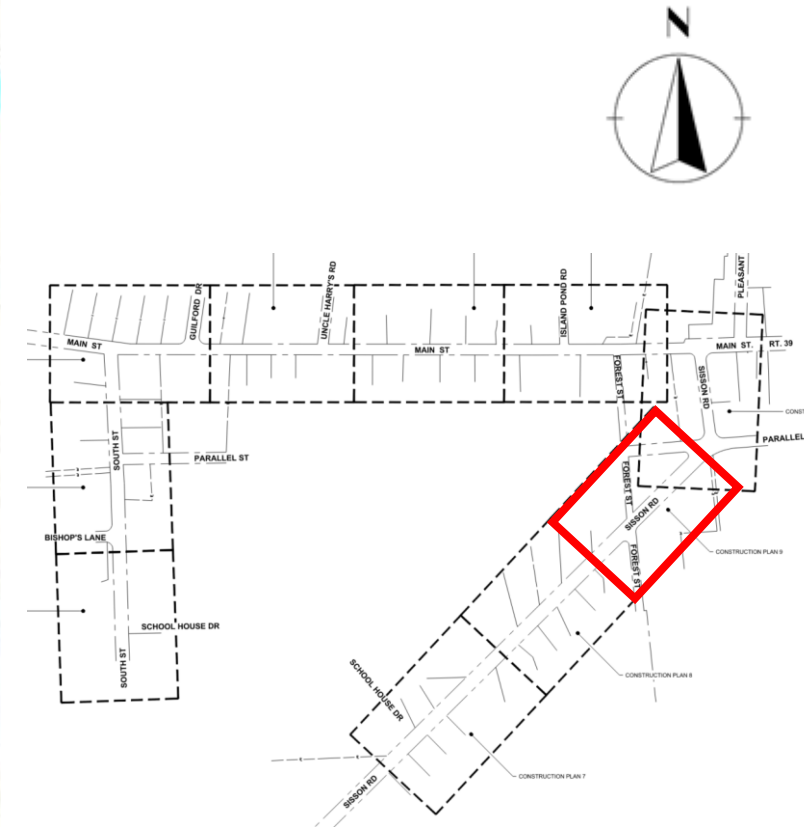
- LEGEND:**
-  = CEMENT CONCRETE SIDEWALK/DRIVEWAY
 -  = BIT SIDEWALK
 -  = BIT PAVEMENT
 -  = GRASS BUFFER




Project Details



Crosswalk locations modified for desire lines and future extension

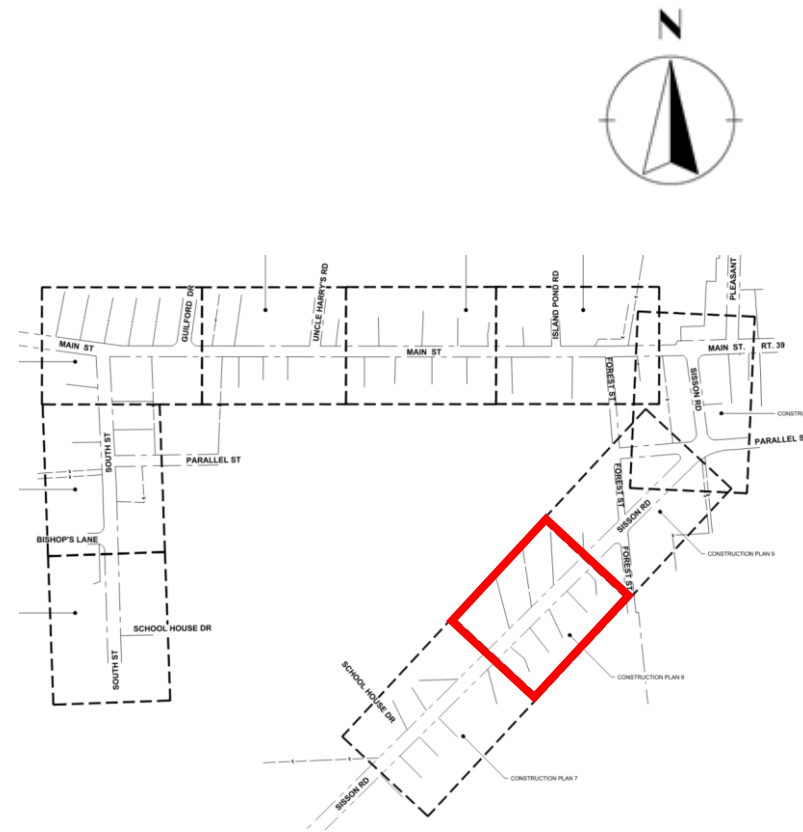
Proposed 2' shoulder adjacent to granite curb and 5-foot sidewalk



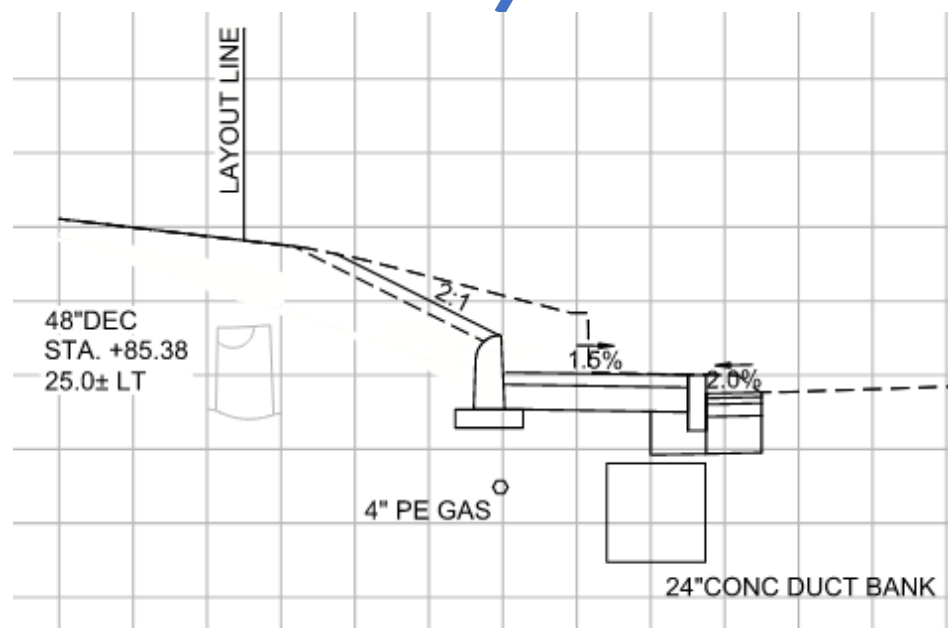
- LEGEND:**
-  = CEMENT CONCRETE SIDEWALK/DRIVEWAY
 -  = BIT SIDEWALK
 -  = BIT PAVEMENT

Project Details

Granite curb and lot curb combination expected to eliminate need for walls



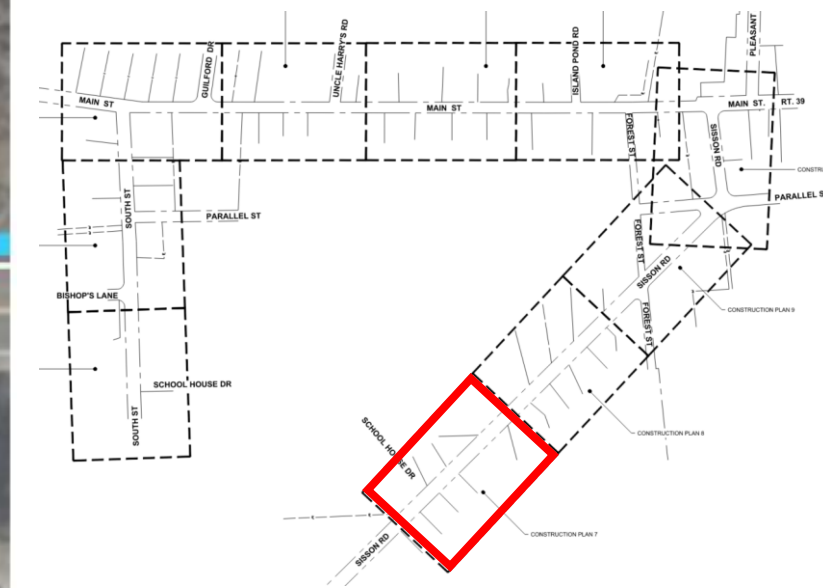
LEGEND:
[Yellow bar] =
[Blue bar] =
[Grey bar] =



Project Details

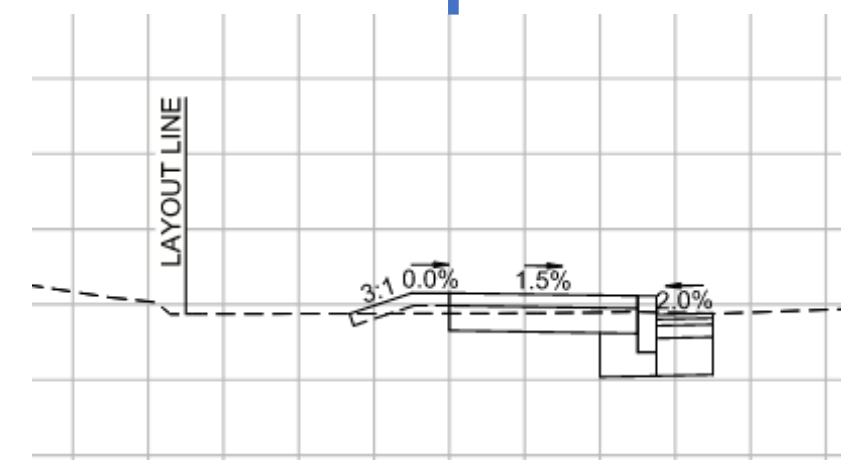


Proposed sidewalk reconstruction connects to existing network south of School House Drive



LEGEND:

- [Yellow bar] =
- [Blue bar] =
- [Grey bar] =





**How will your
property be
impacted?**

Right of Way (ROW) impacts – based on 25% Design

- Impacts to private property include temporary easements and a few permanent easements
- No alterations to the Town layout are anticipated
- Easements are needed for the construction staging and limits of regrading.

PROJECT TOTALS			
AFFECTED PROPERTIES	FEE TAKINGS	PERMANENT EASEMENTS	TEMPORARY EASEMENTS
24	0	3	26

* Based on 25% Design



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

Environmental Permitting

- A retaining wall is proposed to avoid wetland impacts on the south side of Main Street
- MEPA review anticipated
 - Will provide additional opportunity for public involvement
- No Historic and Cultural impacts anticipated
- Increase in impervious area due primarily to increased facility width



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

Traffic Impacts

- Work zones in or directly adjacent to roadway
- Lane shifts to be utilized where possible
- Short-term alternating one-way traffic setups may be needed in more confined areas
- Variable message signs placed two-weeks prior to inform public
- Officers/flaggers on site during construction can provide information



**How will we
keep you
informed?**

Contact Information

EMAIL (preferred): Submit comments to:

MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us

Subject: MassDOT Project File No. 610670

MAIL: Submit comments to:

Carrie E. Lavallee, P.E.

Deputy Administrator and Chief Engineer

MassDOT – Highway Division

10 Park Plaza, Suite 7550

Boston, MA 02116

Attention: Project Management, Project File No. 610670



Statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the public hearing transcript must be emailed or postmarked no later than ten (10) business days after the hearing is posted to the MassDOT website: www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings



Questions and discussion



Thank You

Harwich Elementary School SRTS Project

Design Public Hearing
June 12, 2024 | 6:00 PM
Harwich Community Center
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