

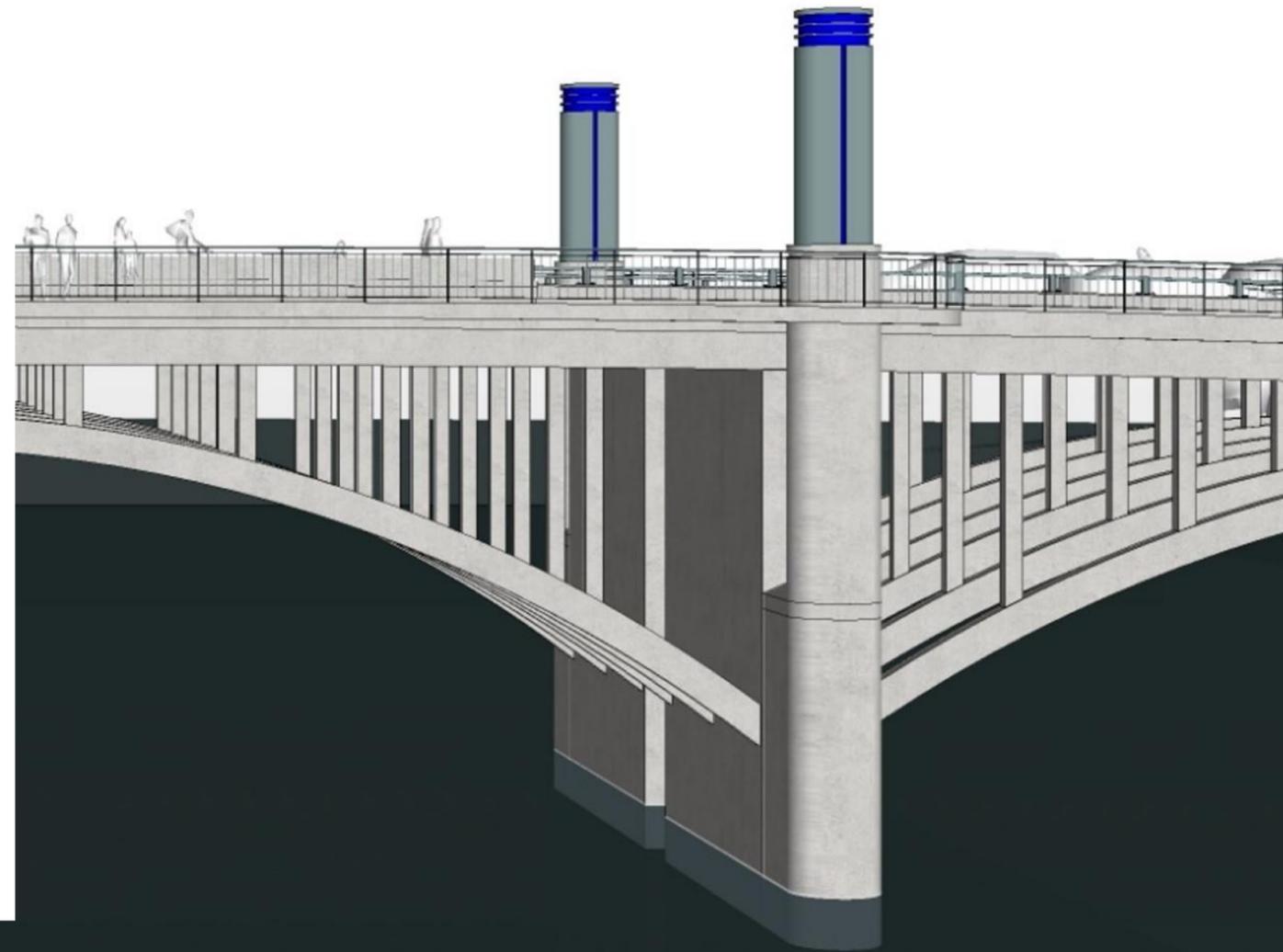


# PFC Ralph T. Basiliere Bridge Replacement

*Design Public Hearing*

Haverhill | May 29, 2024 | 6:00 PM

Project File No. 605304



# Agenda

1. Welcome & Overview
2. Why was this project initiated?
3. How has our design progressed?
4. What is our preferred alternative?
5. What is our construction approach?
6. Right of Way
7. How will we keep you informed?
8. Questions & Discussion



# Welcome and Meeting Overview:

- MassDOT
  - Eamon Kernan, Project Manager
  - Michael Ruderman, District 4 Right-of-Way
  
- Consultant Team
  - Rich Lenox, Project Management/Bridge Engineering, WSP
  - Erik Maki, Traffic, WSP
  - ETTY Padmodipoetro, Urban Idea Lab, Bridge Architecture
  - Nathaniel Cabral-Curtis, Communications and Public Involvement
  
- Stenography
  - Melissa Lupo

## Language Translation Services

- Spanish
- Portuguese



## Notice of MassDOT / MBTA Policy Diversity and Civil Rights

All MassDOT / MBTA activities, including public meetings, are free of discrimination. The MassDOT / MBTA complies with all federal and state civil rights requirements, preventing discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, limited English proficiency, and additional protected characteristics. We welcome the diversity from across our entire service area. If you have any questions or concerns, please visit:

[www.mass.gov/nondiscrimination-in-transportation-program](http://www.mass.gov/nondiscrimination-in-transportation-program) / [www.mbta.com/titlevi](http://www.mbta.com/titlevi) to reach the Office of Diversity and Civil Rights.

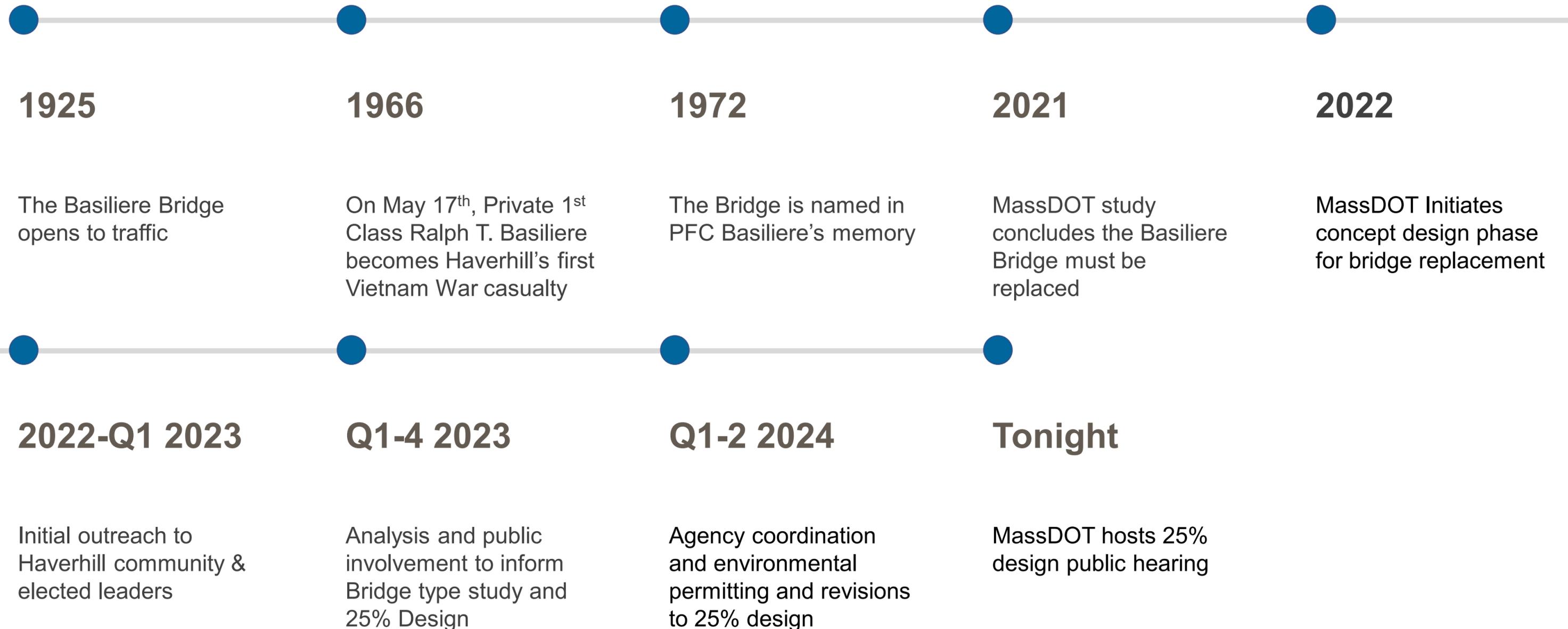
*All questions and comments are welcome and appreciated.*

*Please refrain from any disrespectful comments.*

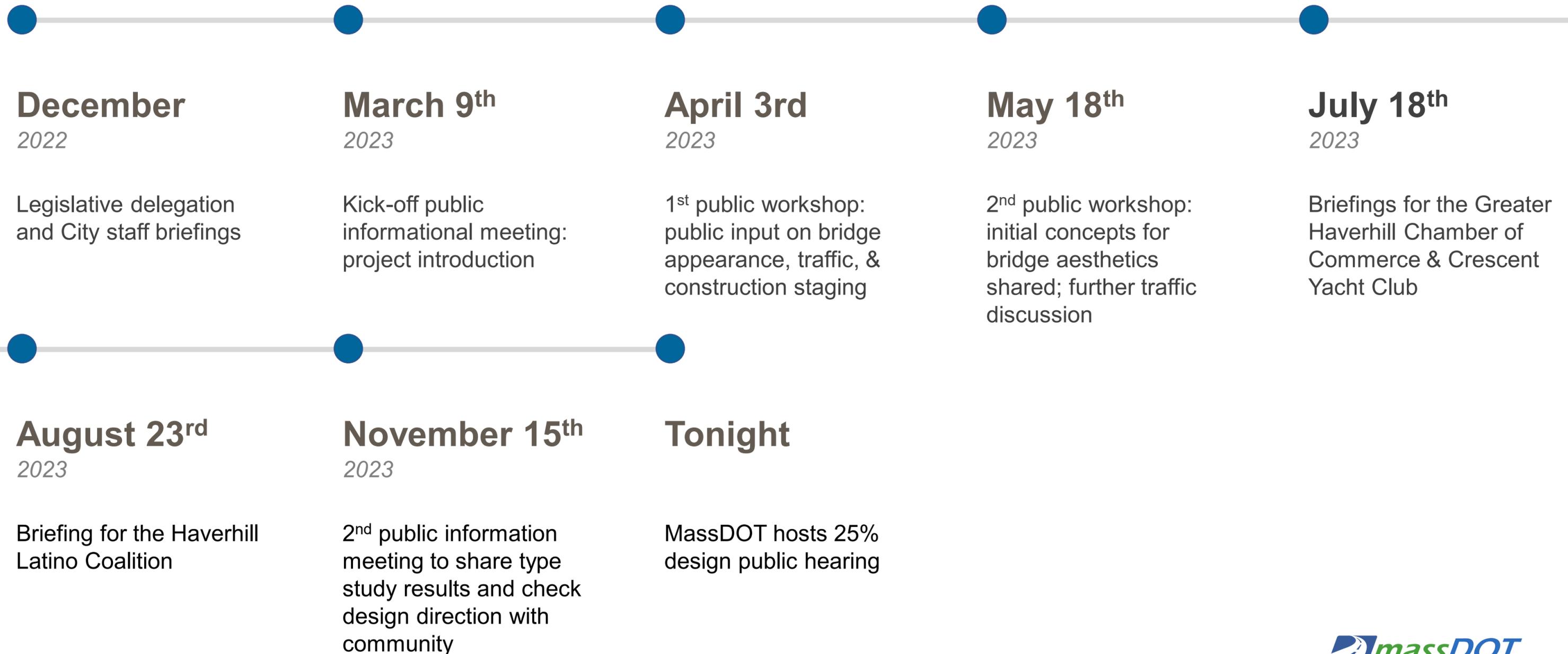
## How to Participate

- Listen and view the 30-minute presentation
- Ask questions to project team during question-and-answer period
- Submit a comment
  - At the comment box at the sign-in table
  - By postal mail: comment sheets are self-addressed
  - By email: [haverhillbasilierebridge@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:haverhillbasilierebridge@dot.state.ma.us)
  - *Comments must be submitted in 10 days to be included in the transcript*
- Representatives of the media can direct media inquiries to [Jacquelyn.Goddard@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:Jacquelyn.Goddard@dot.state.ma.us)

# How did we get here?



# Robust Public Involvement



# Design Public Hearing - Advertisement

## MassDOT Email Burst

- Mass email to stakeholder database – 5/10/24, 5/15/24, 5/22/24, and 5/28/24

## Mass Media

- *Haverhill Gazette* – 5/16/24
- *Lawrence Eagle Tribune* – 5/15/24 and 5/22/24
- *Rumbo (Spanish)* – 5/14/24 and 5/21/24
- *Semaphore* – 5/10/24
- HCTV – Weeks of 5/13/24, 5/20/24, and 5/27/24
- WHAV – Weeks of 5/20 and 5/27

## Social Media

- Facebook
- Twitter



# Design Public Hearing – Flyer Drops and Staffed Tables

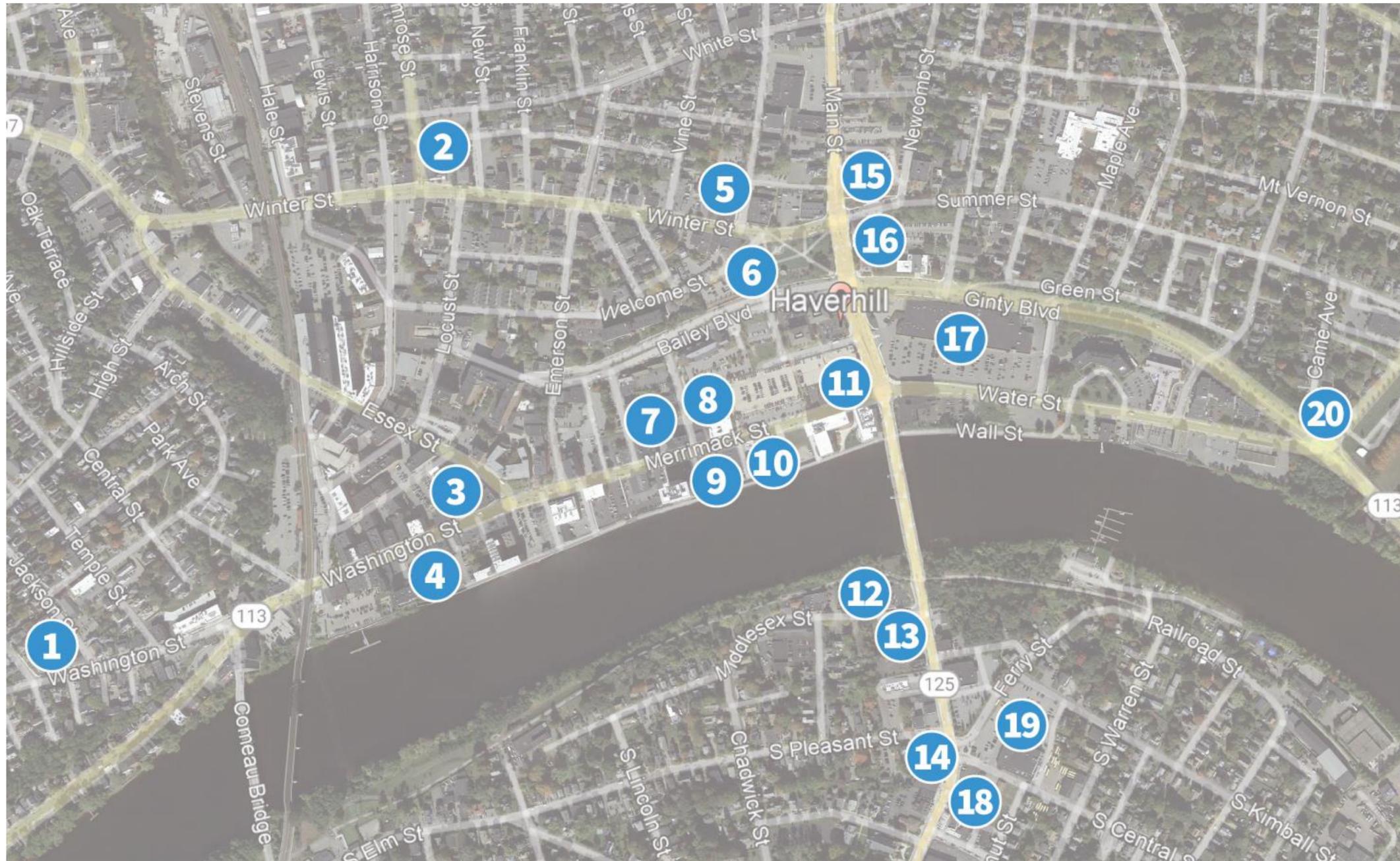
## Staffed Tables:

- Haverhill Public Library
- Water Street Market Basket

Flyer Drops at 20 locations in downtown and Bradford



# Flyer Drop Locations



1. Makelt Haverhill
2. Saint James Parish
3. Battle Grounds Coffee Co.
4. MVRTA Washington Square
5. Haverhill YMCA
6. Haverhill Citizen Center
7. TD Bank
8. La Pizza di Forno
9. Salvation Army Thrift Store
10. A-1 Deli
11. Pentucket Bank
12. Dunkin Donuts
13. Wendy's
14. A Sweet Affair
15. Haverhill City Hall
16. Haverhill Public Library
17. Market Basket
18. Nouria Shell Station
19. The Fix 2 (barbershop)
20. Riverside Cycle

# Thank You To Those Who Shared Our Flyers

## State and Municipal:

- State Delegation for Haverhill
- Office of Mayor Melinda E. Barrett
- Haverhill City Council
- Council on Aging
- Disability Commission
- Planning & Economic Development via 5/16/24 “News You Can Use”

Local community organizations, medical providers, schools, and social service providers



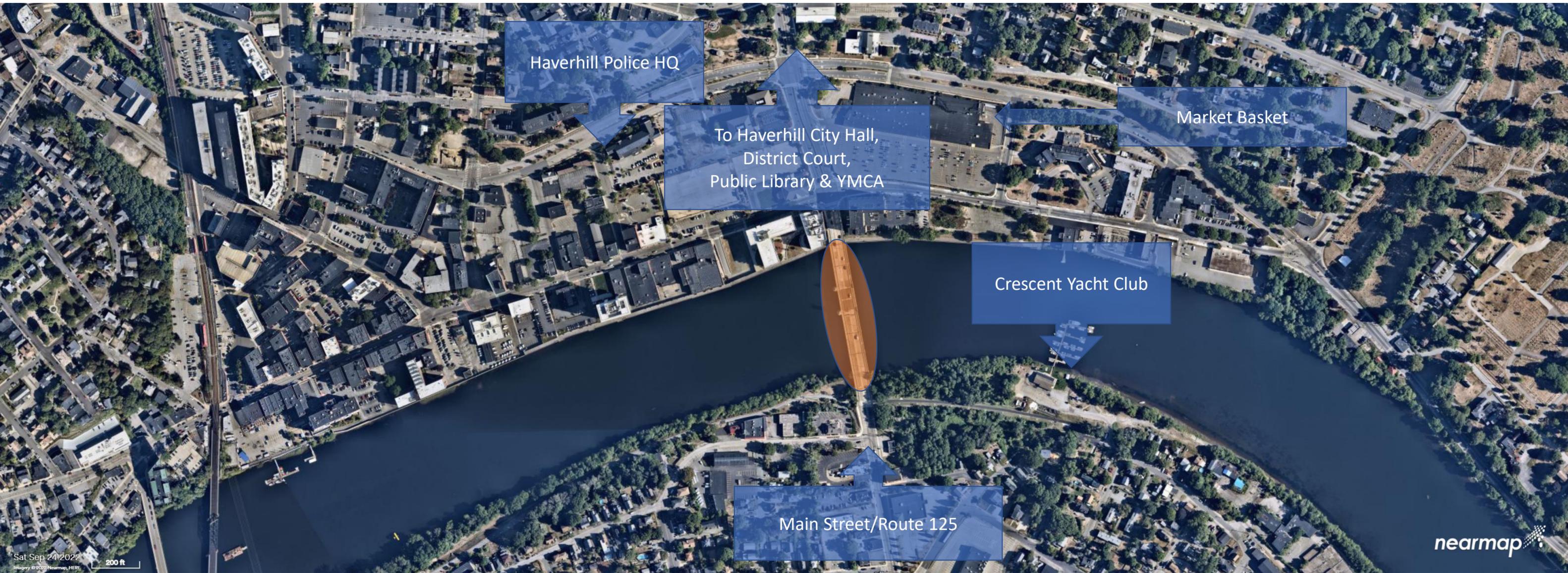
**Why was this project initiated?**

## PFC Ralph T. Basiliere Bridge: Key Facts

- The existing bridge opened 1925 and replaced an older crossing.
- The Basiliere is technically two bridges with elements of the pre-1925 structure mixed into today's bridge
- Total length – roughly 800 feet
- Bridge width – roughly 68 feet
- Carries 20,000+ vehicles per day
  - 4% heavy vehicles including MEVA buses
- At the end of its useful lifespan with general deterioration including foundations
- ***Remains safe for all users***

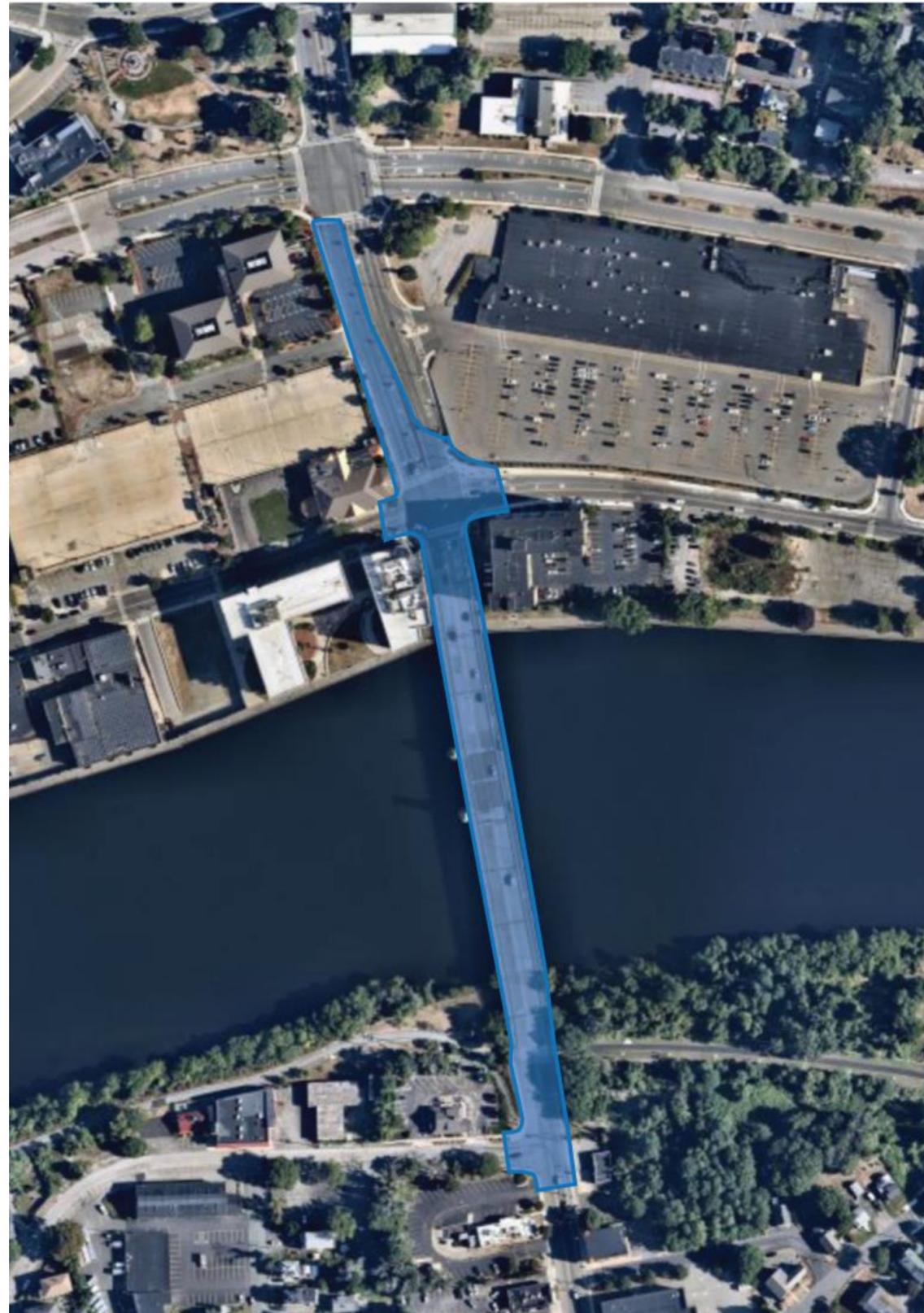


# A Haverhill Landmark & Connector Since 1925



## Current Limits of Work

- In the north:
  - The Main Street/Water Street/Merrimack Street intersection
  - A portion of Main Street as far north as Bailey Boulevard
- In the south:
  - Just past the S. Main Street/Middlesex Street intersection
- Includes short stretches of intersection approaches



THE HAVERHILL BRIDGE TO BRADFORD MASS

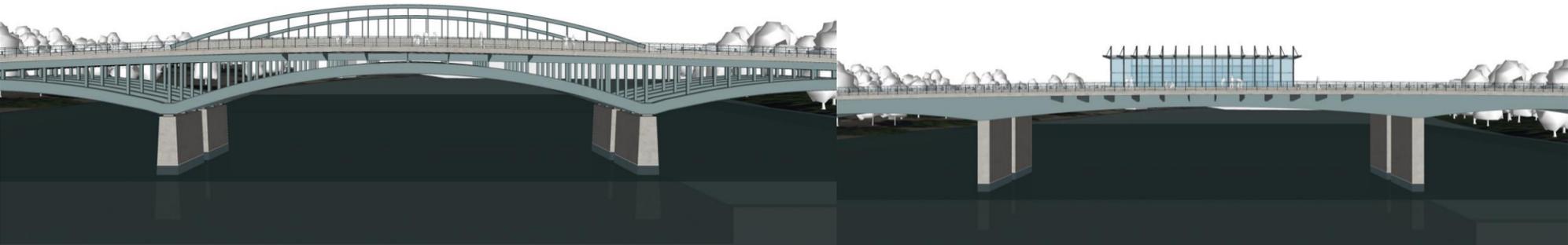


**How has our  
design  
progressed?**

# Consistent Community Input in a Robust Public Process

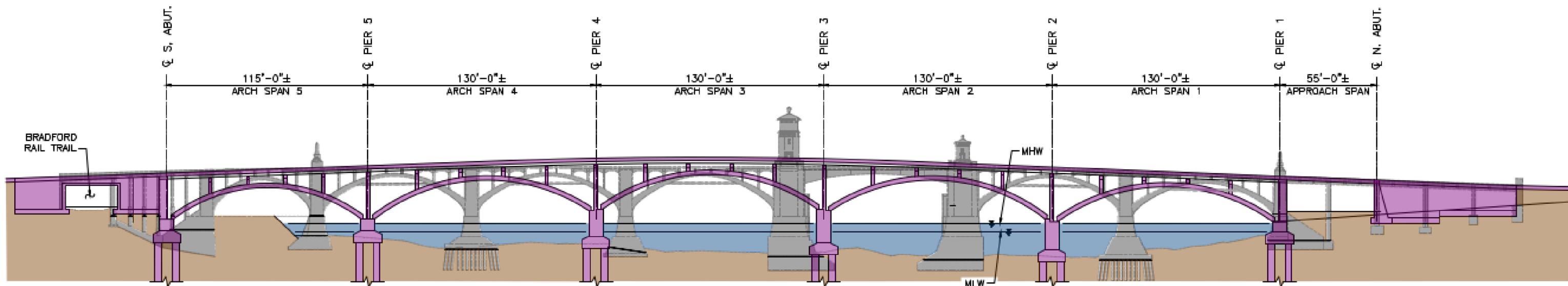
Key Question		Community Input
What will the new bridge look like?		The new bridge should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid being a modern copy of what exists today</li> <li>• Maintain an arched appearance, even as arches become longer/shallower with fewer spans</li> <li>• Connect the modern look of downtown Haverhill and the more traditional appearance of Bradford</li> <li>• Offer opportunities for distinctive lighting</li> <li>• Provide vertical elements above the deck to add character</li> <li>• Provide places to rest and enjoy the view</li> </ul>
What will the lane configuration be on the new bridge?		Four, formalized lanes preferred: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addresses emergency response concerns from Haverhill 1<sup>st</sup> responders and community members</li> <li>• Provides reserve capacity for projected traffic associated with planned development</li> </ul>
How will the new bridge accommodate cyclists and pedestrians?		The new bridge should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physically separate motorized &amp; non-motorized users</li> <li>• Have comfortable sidewalks for pedestrians young and old, using mobility aids, towing grocery carts</li> <li>• Provide directional facilities to avoid confusion at the intersections</li> <li>• Recognize that confident “sport” cyclists may opt to remain with mixed traffic</li> </ul>
How will the new bridge provide connections to Bradford Rail Trail and Dempsey Board Walk		The new bridge should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have an easier connection to the Bradford Rail Trail</li> <li>• Not preclude a future connection between the Dempsey Boardwalk and Wall Street</li> <li>• Open up views to the Merrimack</li> </ul>

# Preliminary Design Evolution



# Precast Open Spandrel Arch

- Noted by the public as “best reflecting the history and significance of the existing Basiliere Bridge.”
- Reduces number of piers in the waterway and sufficient navigation opening
- Not without technical challenges as compared to other types considered:
  - Constructability
  - Ease of accommodating and concealing utilities
  - Partial submerging of support members during flood events

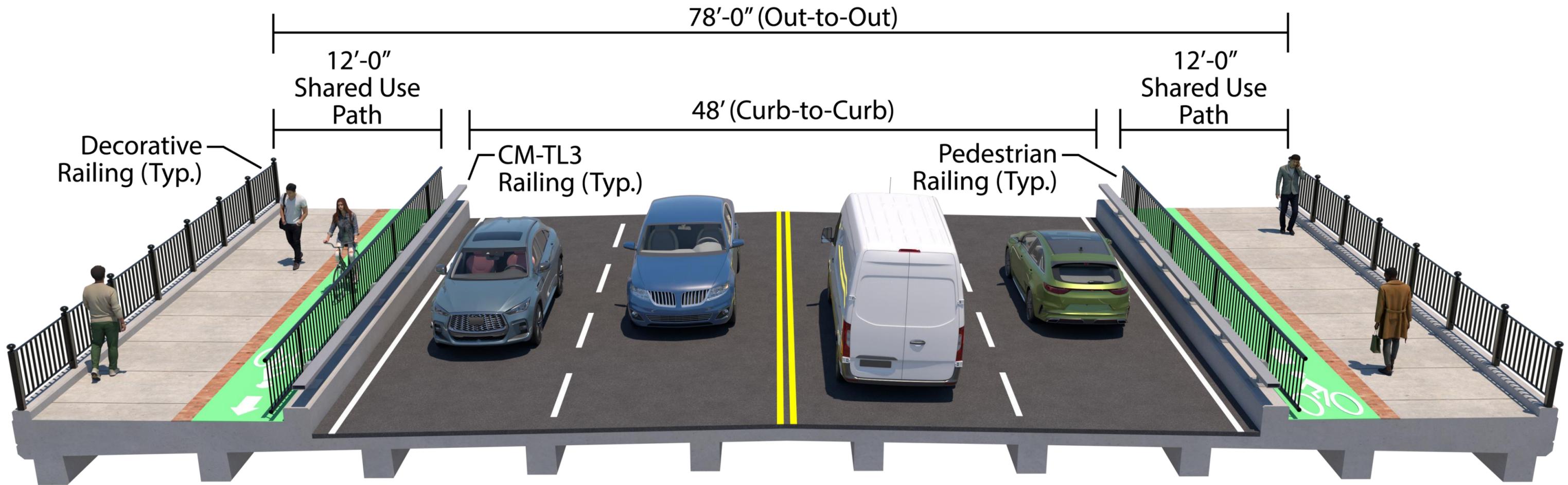


*erhill, Mass.*



**What is our preferred alternative?**

# Proposed Cross-Section











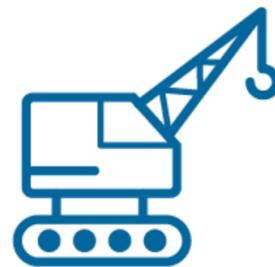












**What is the  
construction  
approach?**

## Proposed construction approach: Design-Build

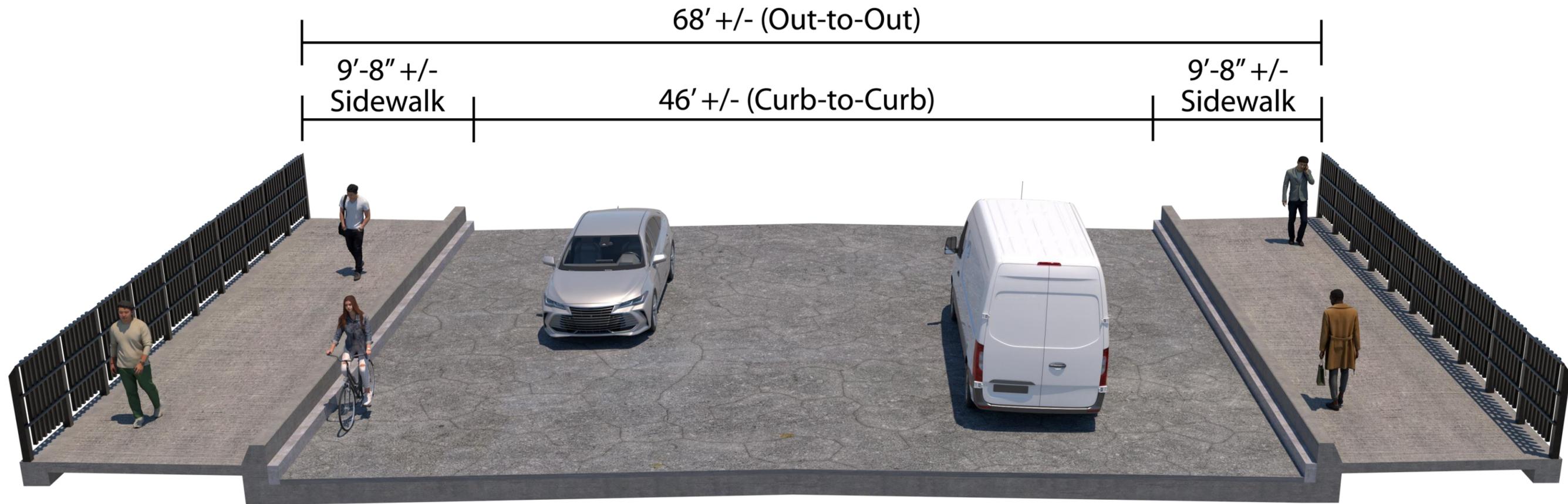
- Tonight's team has developed a 25% design and base technical concept (BTC) for bid by Design-Builders (DB)
- DB Best Value procurement
  - Short-List Best Qualified Teams
  - Shortens project duration
  - Promotes innovation by teaming the engineer and the general contractor
  - Allows for accelerated bridge construction (ABC) techniques if applicable
- MassDOT's contract with the Design Builder will stipulate requirements for traffic management while also providing them with flexibility to develop their own approach to staging.
- Incentive/disincentives under consideration for this contract

# Maintenance of Access During Construction

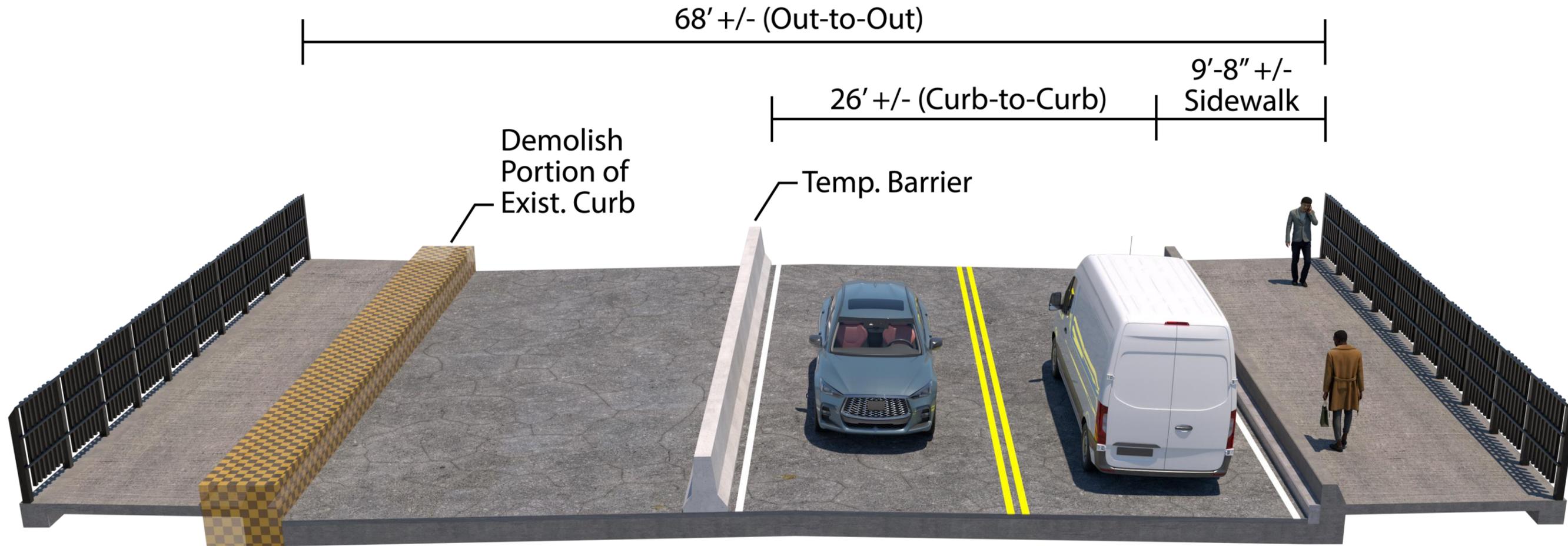
- **The bridge will remain open during construction**
- Throughout construction there will be:
  - One northbound lane
  - One southbound lane
  - One sidewalk
- The existing bridge will be demolished and rebuilt one half at a time



# Existing Conditions



# Stage 1 Cross Section



- Key activities:
  - Prepare bridge's upstream side for two-way traffic
  - Construct temporary river access

## Stage 1 – Bridge Street/Middlesex Street



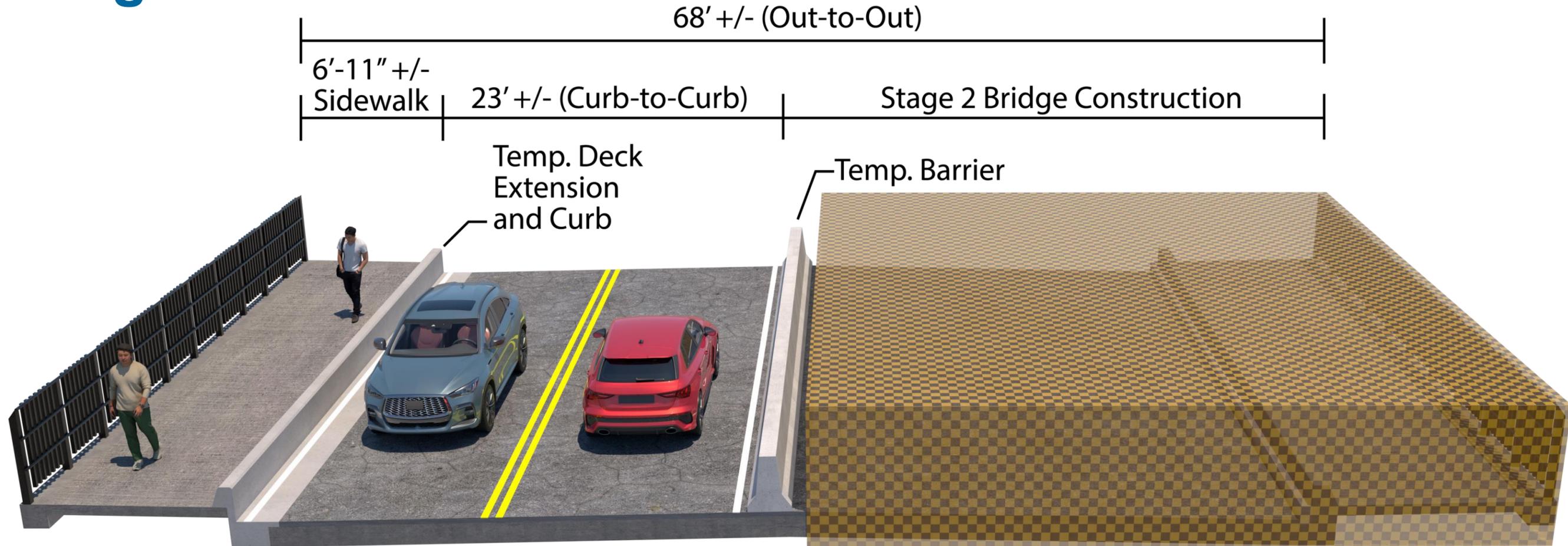
- Traffic movements as normal
- Access to rail trail maintained
- Sidewalk on downstream side of the bridge

## Stage 1 – Bridge Street/Merrimack Street/Water Street



- Minor traffic movement adjustment
- No turn restrictions
- Sidewalk on downstream side of the bridge
- Access to Dempsey Boardwalk as normal

# Stage 2 Cross Section



- Key activities:
  - Relocate utilities
  - Demolish bridge's downstream side
    - Includes foundations

- Construct new bridge's downstream side and ready for use

## Stage 2 – Bridge Street/Middlesex Street



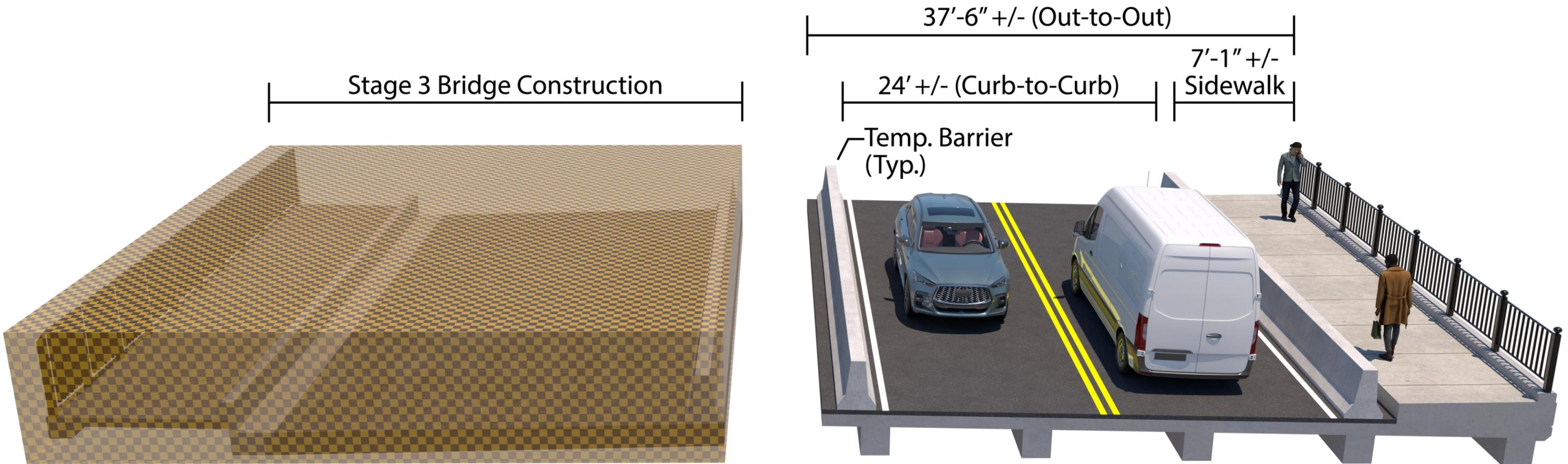
- Southbound (to Bradford) traffic operates from a shared through/right turn lane
- Access to rail trail maintained
  - Temporary bypass used as-needed for safety
- Sidewalk on upstream side of the bridge

## Stage 2 – Bridge Street/Merrimack Street/Water Street



- Northbound (to Haverhill) traffic operates from a shared through/right-turn lane
- Left turn to Merrimack Street restricted
- Detour via Bailey Boulevard and Emerson Street
- Sidewalk on upstream side of the bridge
- Access to Dempsey Boardwalk as normal

# Stage 3 Cross Section



- Key activities:
  - Relocate vehicles and pedestrians to new bridge's downstream half
  - Demolish remaining old bridge

- Construct new bridge's upstream half

## Stage 3 – Bridge Street/Middlesex Street



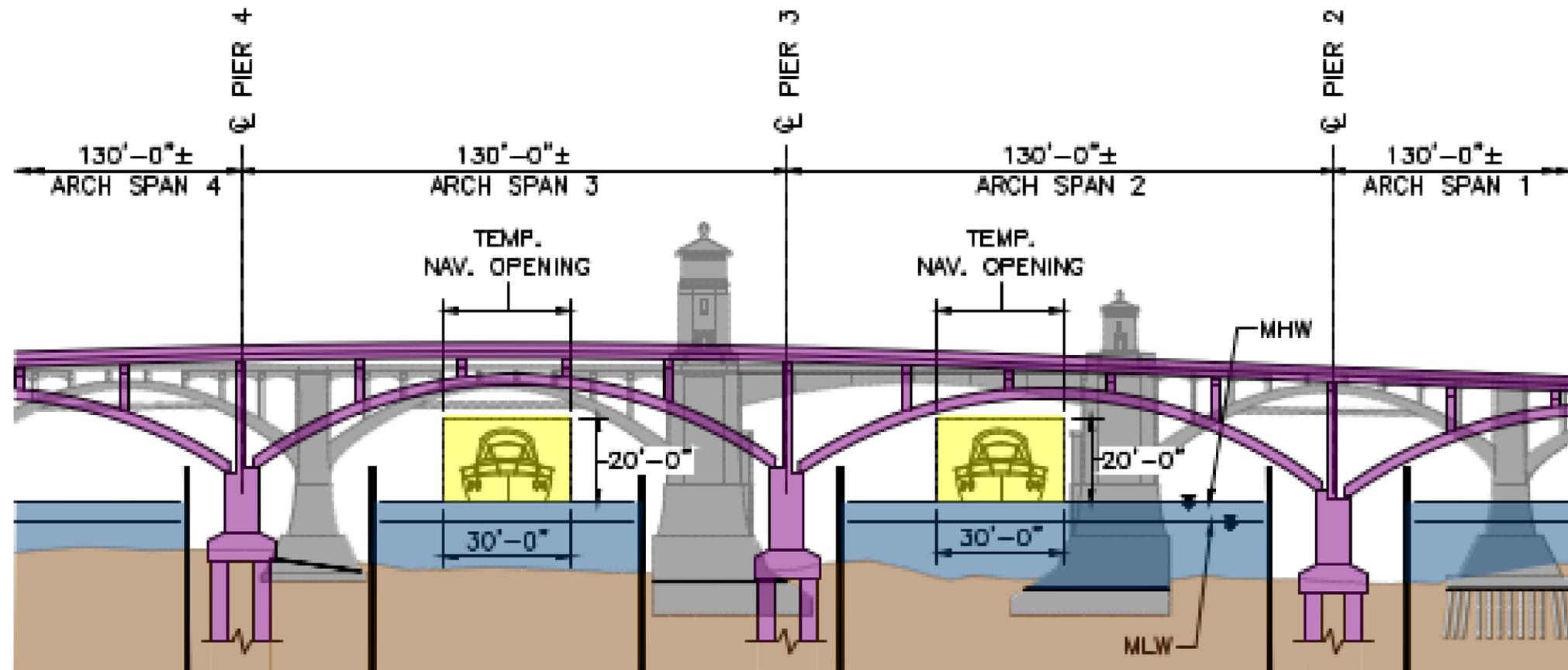
- Southbound (to Bradford) traffic operates from a shared through/right turn lane
- Access to rail trail maintained
  - Temporary bypass used as-needed for safety
- Sidewalk on downstream side of the bridge

## Stage 3 – Bridge Street/Merrimack Street/Water Street



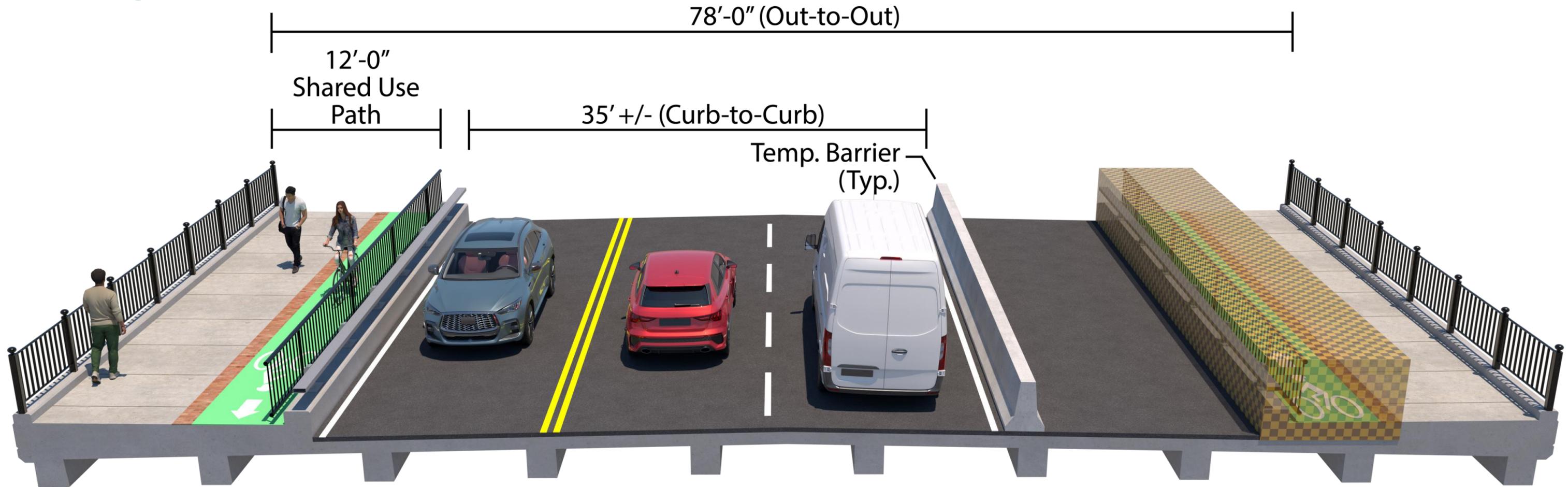
- Left turn to Merrimack Street restricted
- Short right-turn lane established
- Detour via Bailey Boulevard and Emerson Street
- Sidewalk on downstream side of the bridge
- Access to Dempsey Boardwalk as normal

# Stage 2 & 3 Boating Conditions



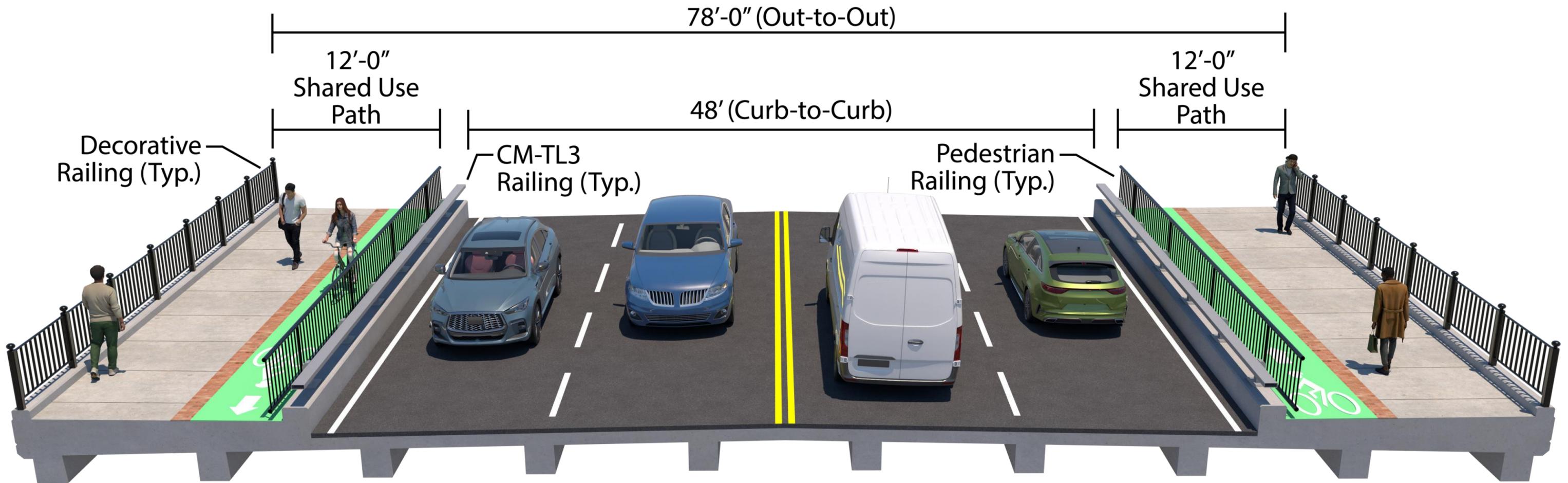
- EXISTING BRIDGE
- RIVER BED
- MERRIMACK RIVER
- PROPOSED NAVIGATIONAL OPENING
- PROPOSED BRIDGE

# Stage 4 Cross Section

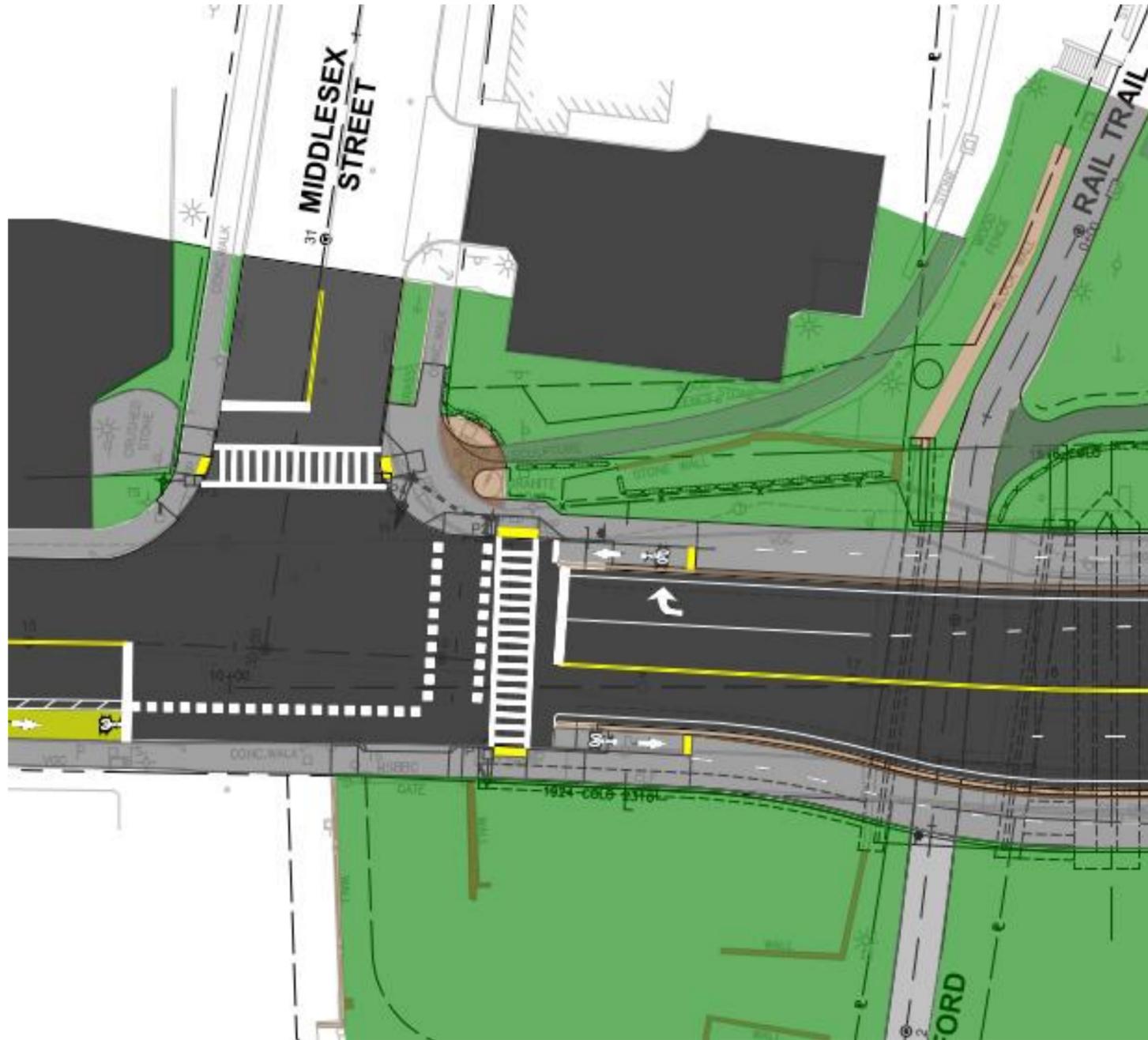


- Key activities:
  - Complete downstream side bicycle/pedestrian facilities
  - Remove temporary river access
- Complete intersection modifications

# Completed Project

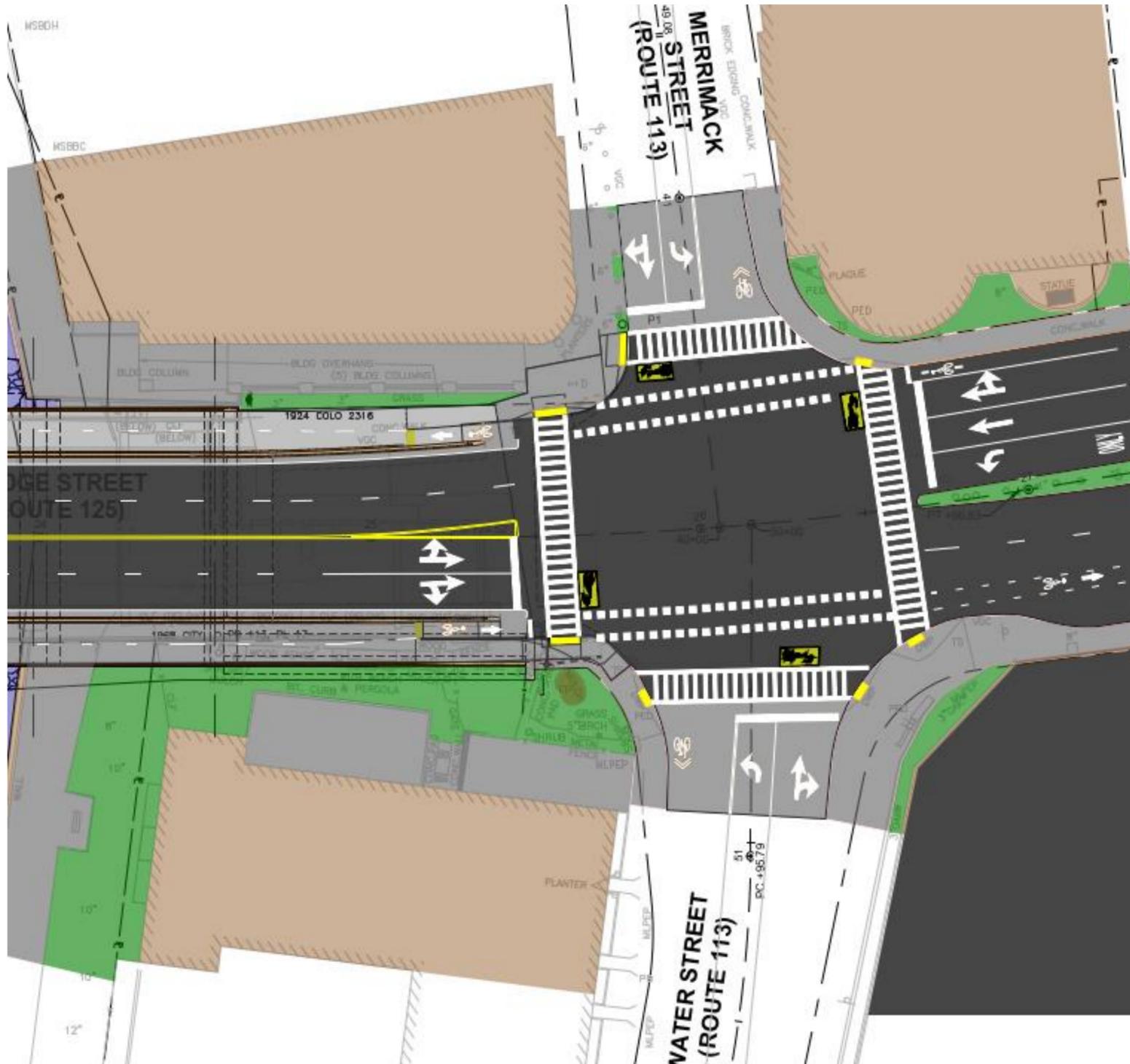


## Completed Project – Bridge Street/Middlesex Street



- Southbound (to Bradford) traffic operates from dedicated lanes:
  - Through
  - Right
- Sidewalks and bicycle facilities established on both sides of the bridge
- Access to rail trail maintained

## Completed Project – Bridge Street/Merrimack Street/Water Street



- All movements accommodated
- Sidewalks and bicycle facilities established on both sides of the bridge
- Intersection equipped with complete streets features
- Access to Dempsey Boardwalk as normal



CITY OF HAVERHILL



BRADFORD  
RAIL TRAIL

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**Right of Way**

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

- MassDOT is responsible for acquiring all necessary rights in public land for design, construction, and implementation of this project.
  - Fee takings, permanent easements and/or temporary construction easements may be required.
- Affected property owners will be contacted by personnel from the MassDOT ROW Bureau or consultants representing the responsible agency.
  - Property owners are protected under Massachusetts General Laws, primarily Chapter 79.
- Preliminary ROW drawings will be available at Haverhill City Hall 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.**

# Our next steps



Respond to 25%  
design comments  
Spring/Summer



Issue design/build package  
for bids  
Fall



Select design/build  
team  
Spring 2025



**Begin construction**  
**Late 2025/Early 2026**



Approximately 5  
years construction



**How will we  
keep you  
informed?**

## Upcoming public outreach

- Summer 2024
  - Respond to public comments on 25% design
  - Revise project website to reflect post 25% design status
- Construction period outreach
  - Revision of website to support construction
  - Use of email alerts for progress reporting
  - Introductory public meeting
  - Two-way communication
  - See I-495 Andover-Lawrence as an example



## How to reach us?

- Submit written comments to:  
Carrie Lavallee, P.E., Chief Engineer  
MassDOT  
10 Park Plaza  
Boston, MA 02116  
Attention: MAJOR PROJECTS, PROJECT FILE NO. 605304
- Submit email comments to:  
[haverhillbasilierebridge@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:haverhillbasilierebridge@dot.state.ma.us)
- Visit the project website at:  
[www.mass.gov/basiliere-bridge-project-haverhill](http://www.mass.gov/basiliere-bridge-project-haverhill)



# Questions and discussion



# *Thank You*

*PFC Ralph T. Basiliere*

*Bridge Replacement*

*Design Public Hearing*

Haverhill | May 29 2024 | 6:00PM

Project File No. 605304

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



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- Visit the project website at:  
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