



Lake Cochituate Path

Design Public Hearing

Natick, MA | October 30, 2023

Project File Number: 610680



Public meeting notes and procedures

Notification of video recording

- This Design Public Hearing will be recorded. The Massachusetts Department of Transportation may choose to retain and distribute the video, images, or audio.
- All parts of this hearing are considered public record.
- By continuing attendance, 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 hearings, 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!

Presentation Participants

- **MassDOT**
 - David Shedd, Project Manager
 - Stephen Risotti, MassDOT District 3
 - Glenda Rossetti MassDOT Right-of-Way Liaison
- **Town of Natick:**
 - Joshua Ostroff, Cochituate Rail Trail Advisory Committee Chair
 - Claire Rundelli, Planner/ Conservation Agent
- **HNTB**
 - Jonathan Kapust, Project Manager
 - Patrick Marvin, Public Involvement

Public Meeting Notifications

- Newspaper Ads
- MassDOT Website
 - Flyer posted online
- Email Blasts
 - Distributed to local stakeholder groups
- MassDOT Social Media
 - Facebook
 - Twitter
 - Instagram





Lake Cochituate Path

What is happening?

A Design Public Hearing will be held by MassDOT in Natick to present an overview of the proposed Lake Cochituate Path Project in Natick. MassDOT invites you to attend the Design Public Hearing to learn more about the need for the Project, work to be performed, schedule, potential impacts to the public (including vehicular and pedestrian/ bicyclists), and next steps. All views and comments will be considered to the maximum extent possible.

How will this affect you?

This Project will include constructing an approximate 0.4-mile segment of shared-use path along Route 9, from Archer Drive to Cochituate Rail Trail. A secure right-of-way is necessary for this Project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private or public lands. MassDOT's policy concerning land acquisitions will be presented in the hearing.

When	Where
October 30 th , 2023 6:30 pm EST	Natick Town Hall Dlott Meeting Room, 2 nd Floor 13 E Central Street Natick, MA, 01760



Visit www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events for more information.



To ensure its meetings are accessible, MassDOT reasonably provides: translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, and auxiliary aids and services. To request such services, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer at 857-368-8580 or MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us. For adequate time to process such request, please make them as early as possible, ideally 10-15 days prior to the event.

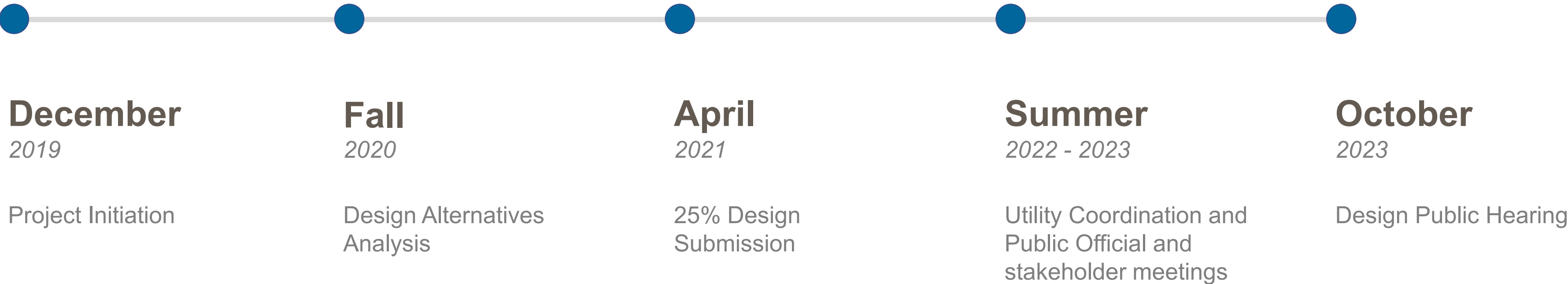
Project inquiries may also be emailed to MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us. Please submit any written statements regarding the proposed undertaking to: **Carrie A. Lavallee, P.E., Chief Engineer, MassDOT, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: PROJECT MANAGEMENT, PROJECT FILE NO. [FILE NO.]**

Agenda

- 01** Project Initiation
- 02** Project Area & Purpose
- 03** Existing Conditions
- 04** Introduction to Design
- 05** Property Impacts
- 06** Environmental Impacts
- 07** Construction Process & Funding
- 08** Next Steps
- 09** Questions & Answers



How did we get here?





**What do we
want to
accomplish?**

Project Purpose

The purpose of Lake Cochituate Path is to provide a direct and safe connection for bicycle and pedestrian access to the Cochituate Rail Trail from Hartford Street and Speen Street



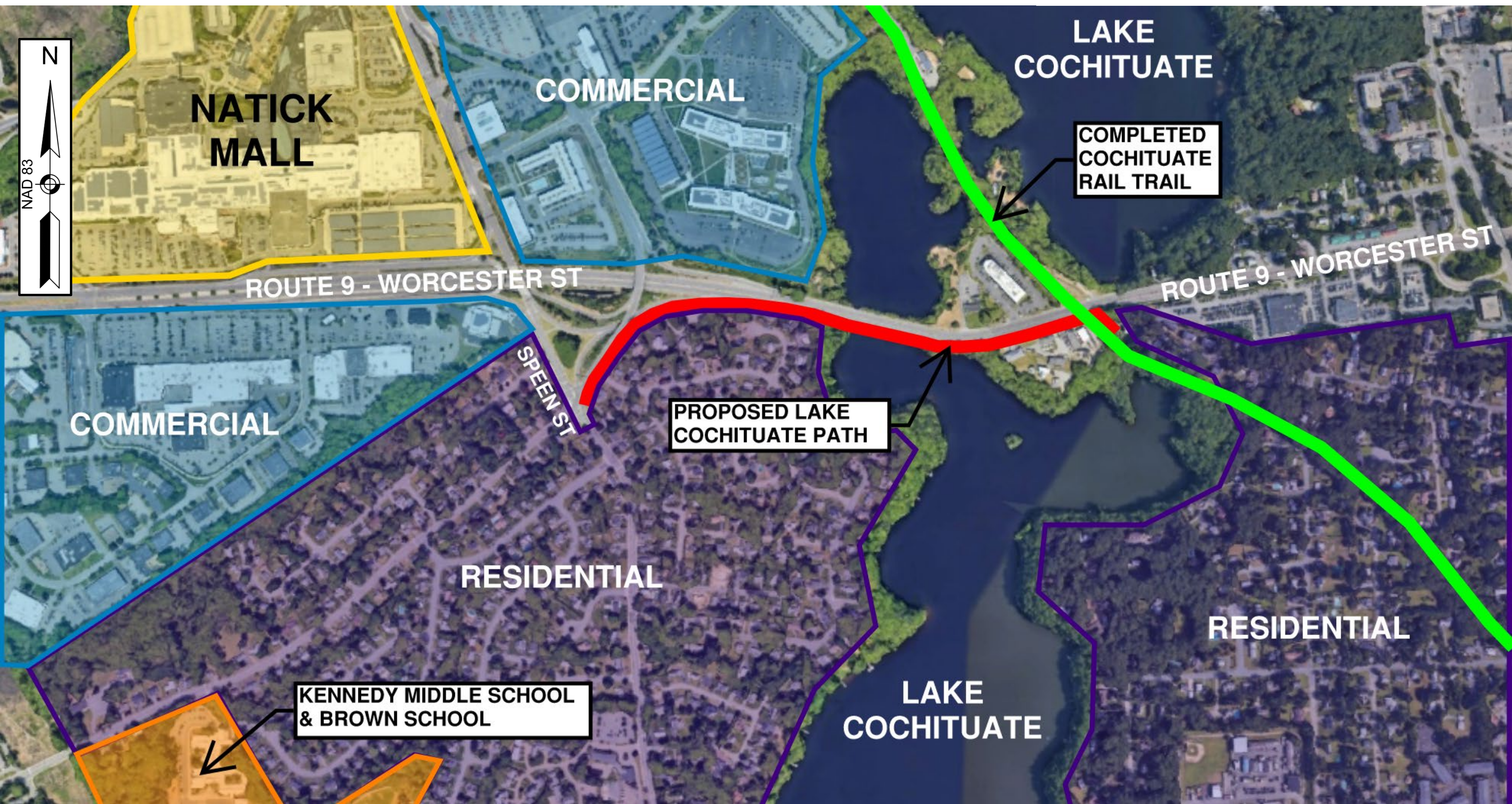
PROJECT AREA

- EDUCATION

COMMERCIAL
- RESIDENTIAL

NATICK MALL
- COCHITUATE RAIL TRAIL

LAKE COCHITUATE PATH





Existing Conditions

Existing Conditions



Hartford Street looking to Speen Street

Existing Conditions



Back of Archer Drive on Route 9



Route 9 Eastbound approaching Bridge

Existing Conditions



Route 9 Eastbound over Lake Cochituate

Existing Conditions



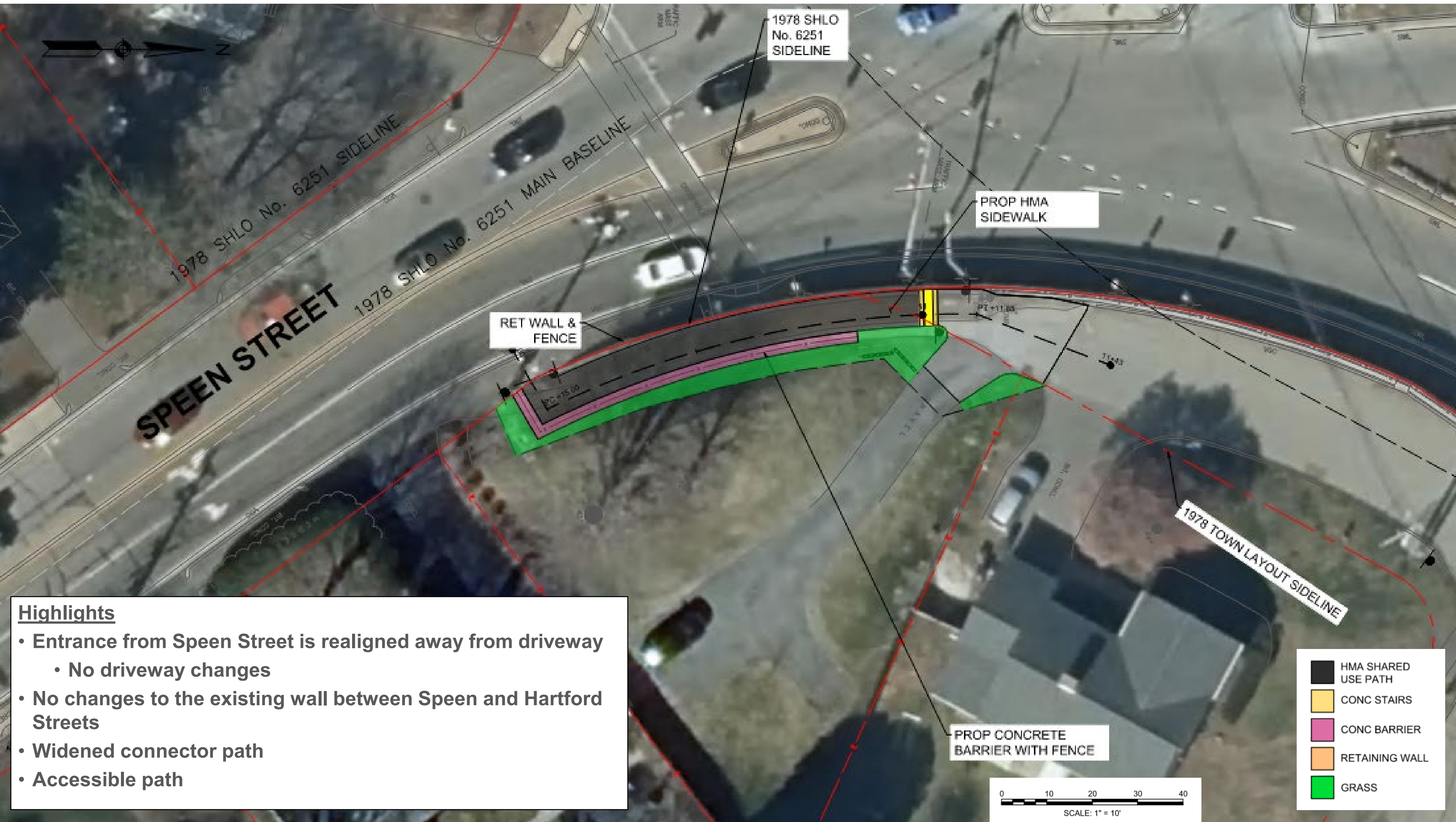
Route 9 Eastbound East of Bridge



Route 9 Eastbound at Water Treatment Plant



Proposed Design



- Highlights**
- Entrance from Speen Street is realigned away from driveway
 - No driveway changes
 - No changes to the existing wall between Speen and Hartford Streets
 - Widened connector path
 - Accessible path

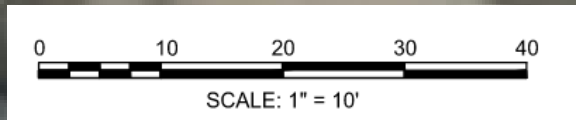
	HMA SHARED USE PATH
	CONC STAIRS
	CONC BARRIER
	RETAINING WALL
	GRASS

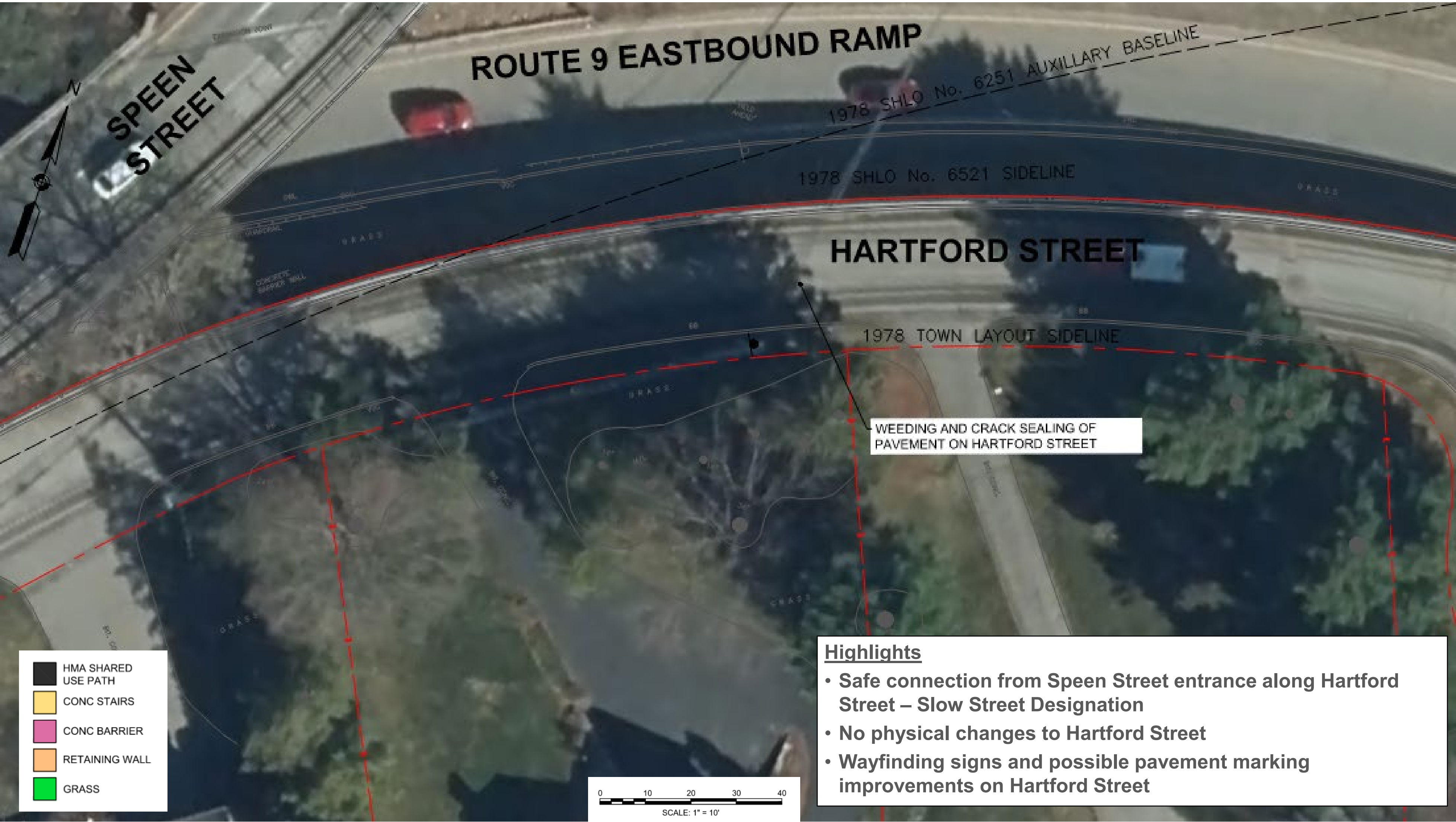


Highlights

- Safe connection from Speen Street entrance along Hartford Street – Slow Street Designation
- No physical changes to Hartford Street
- Wayfinding signs and possible pavement marking improvements on Hartford Street

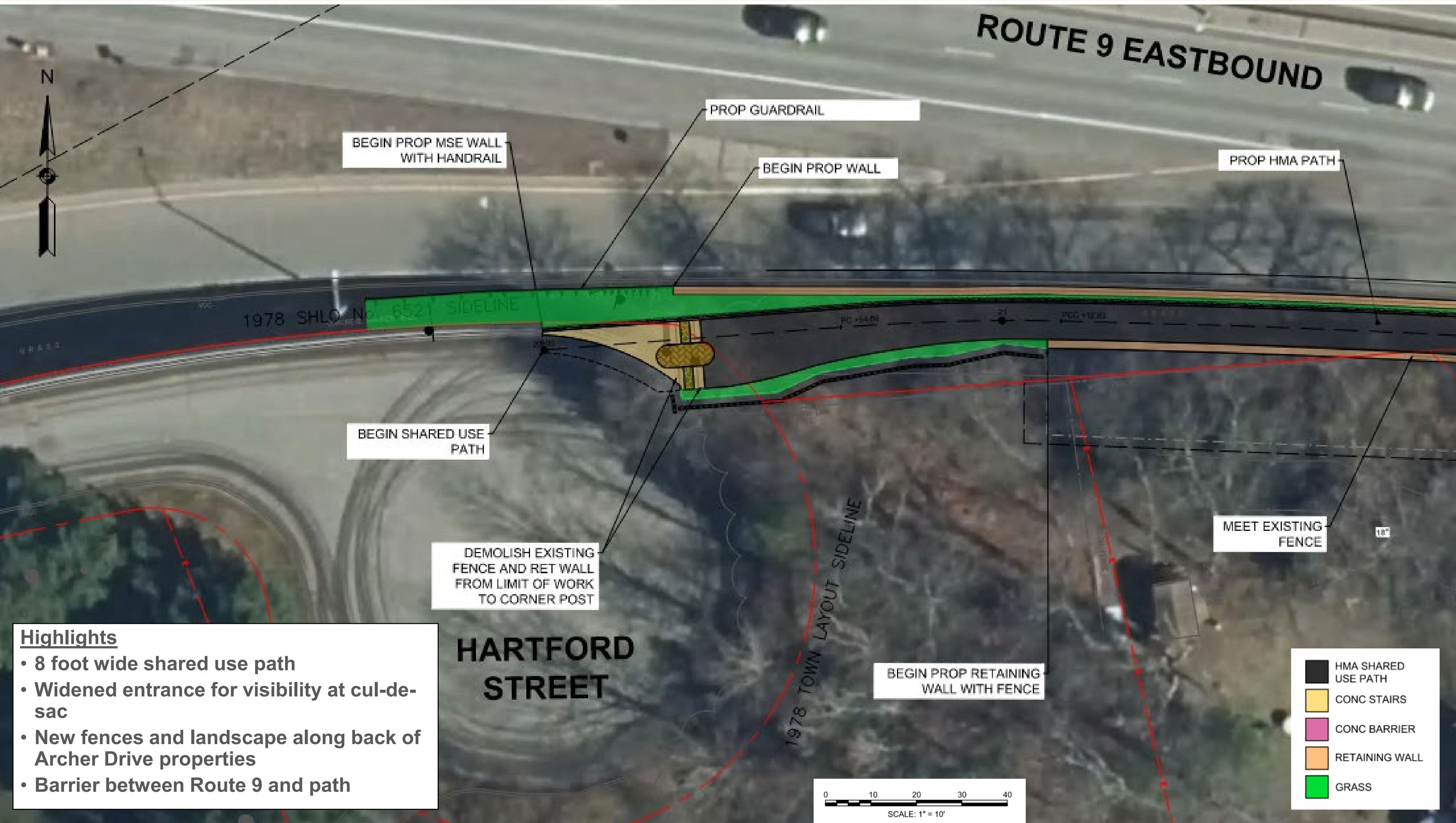
	HMA SHARED USE PATH
	CONC STAIRS
	CONC BARRIER
	RETAINING WALL
	GRASS

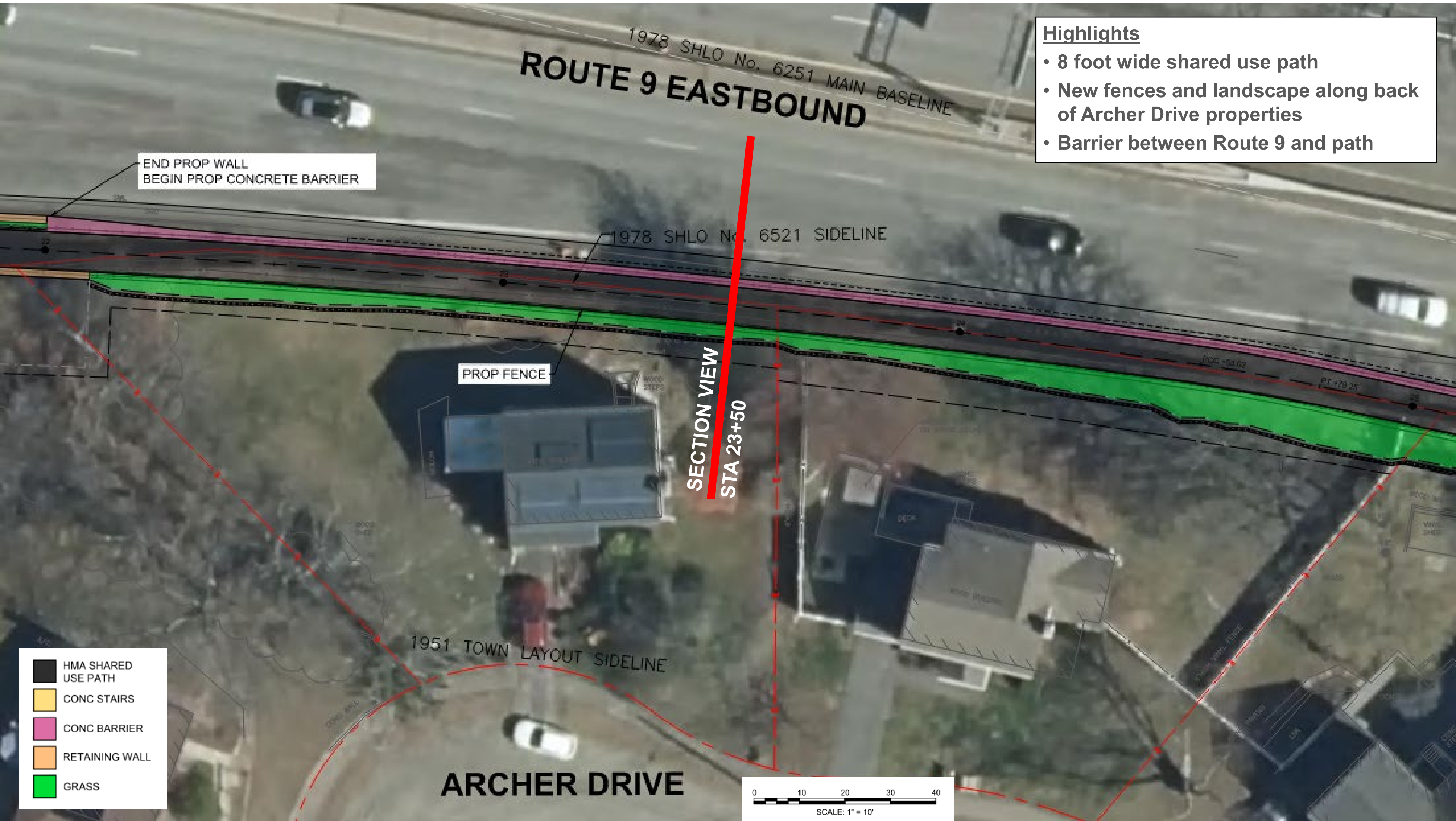









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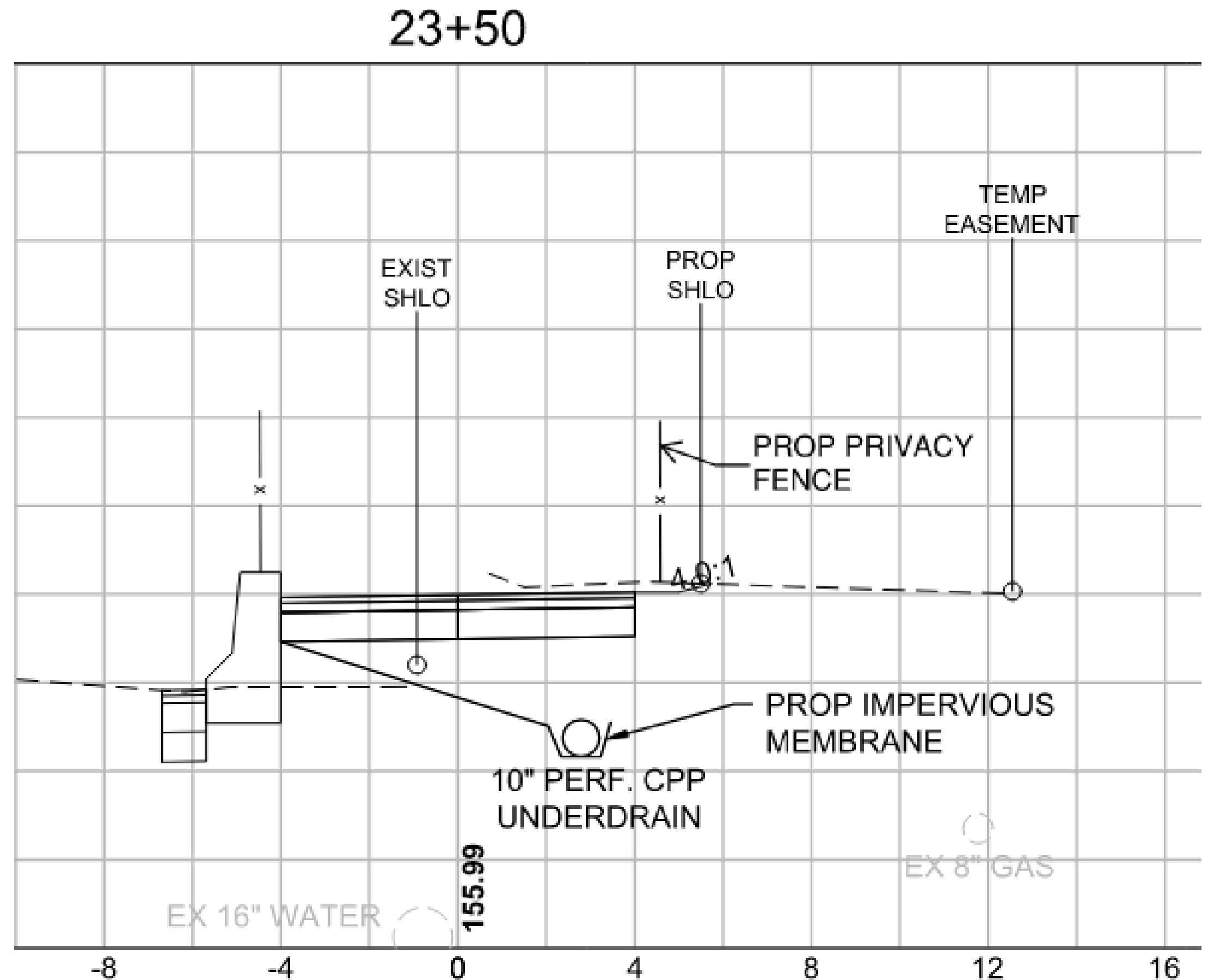


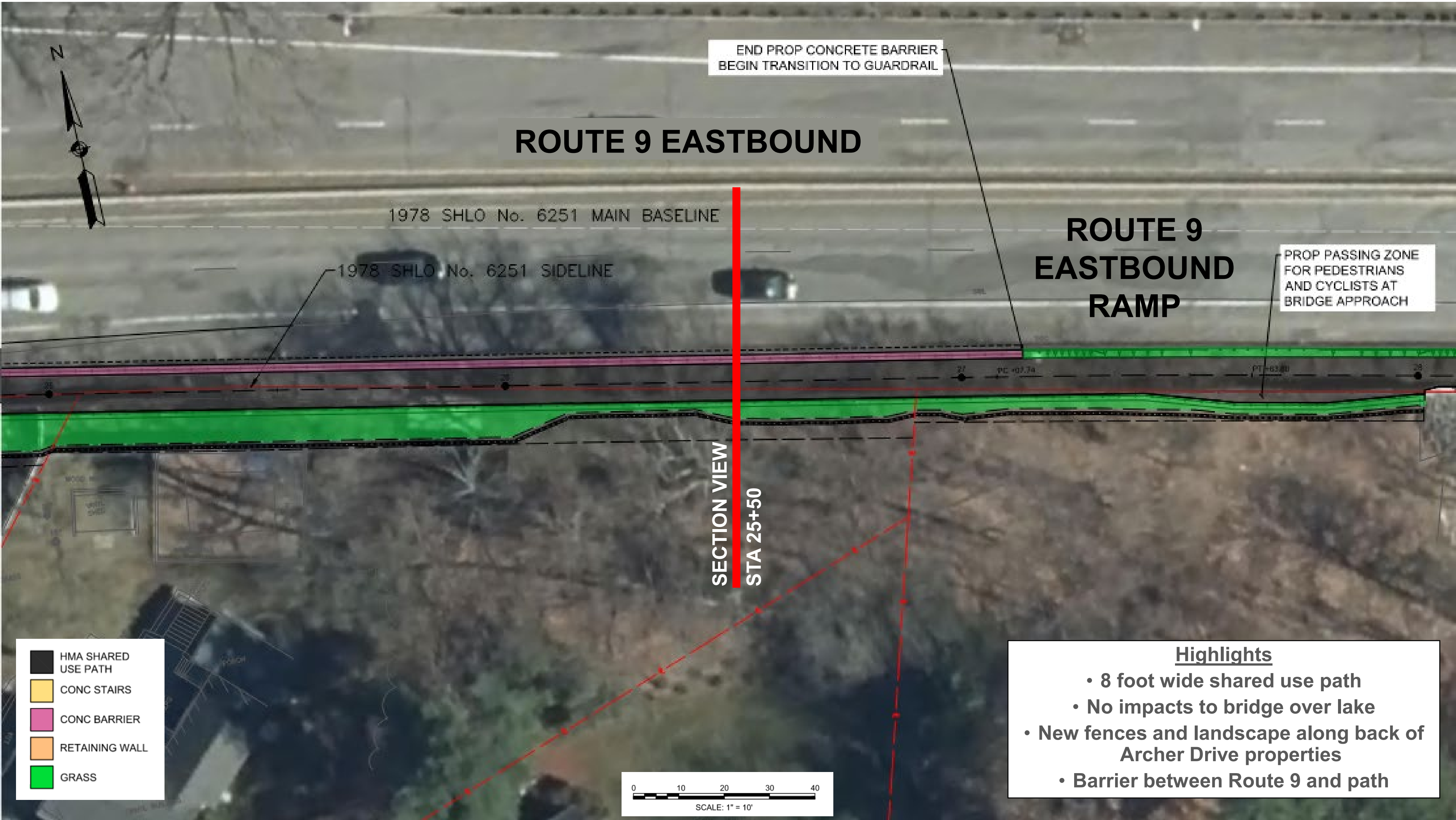
- Highlights**
- 8 foot wide shared use path
 - New fences and landscape along back of Archer Drive properties
 - Barrier between Route 9 and path

	HMA SHARED USE PATH
	CONC STAIRS
	CONC BARRIER
	RETAINING WALL
	GRASS

Project Refinements

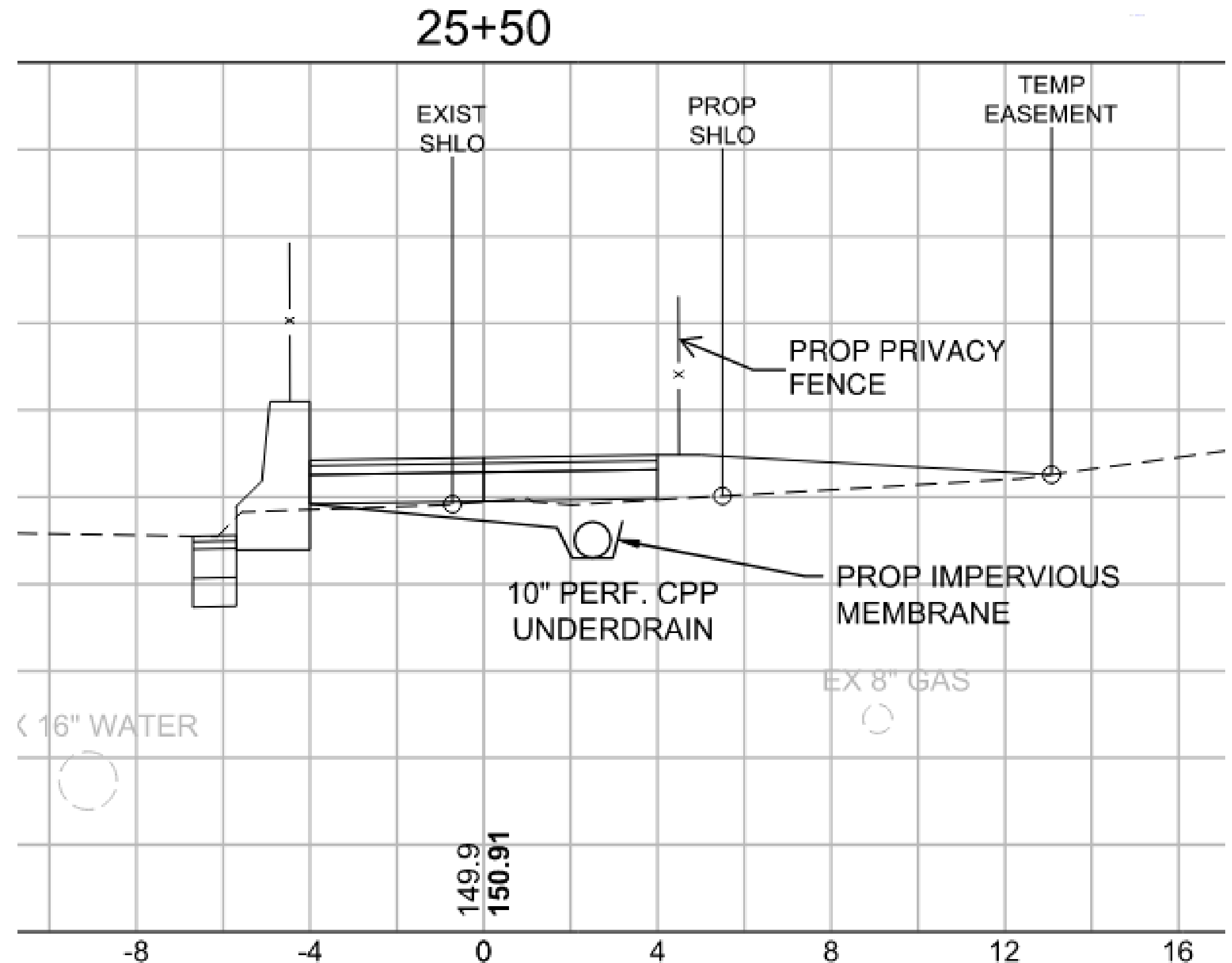
- Design has minimized the impact to properties
- Does not impact the Speen Street on-ramp to Route 9
- Existing privacy fences impacted will be replaced
- Security and lighting will be evaluated with final design

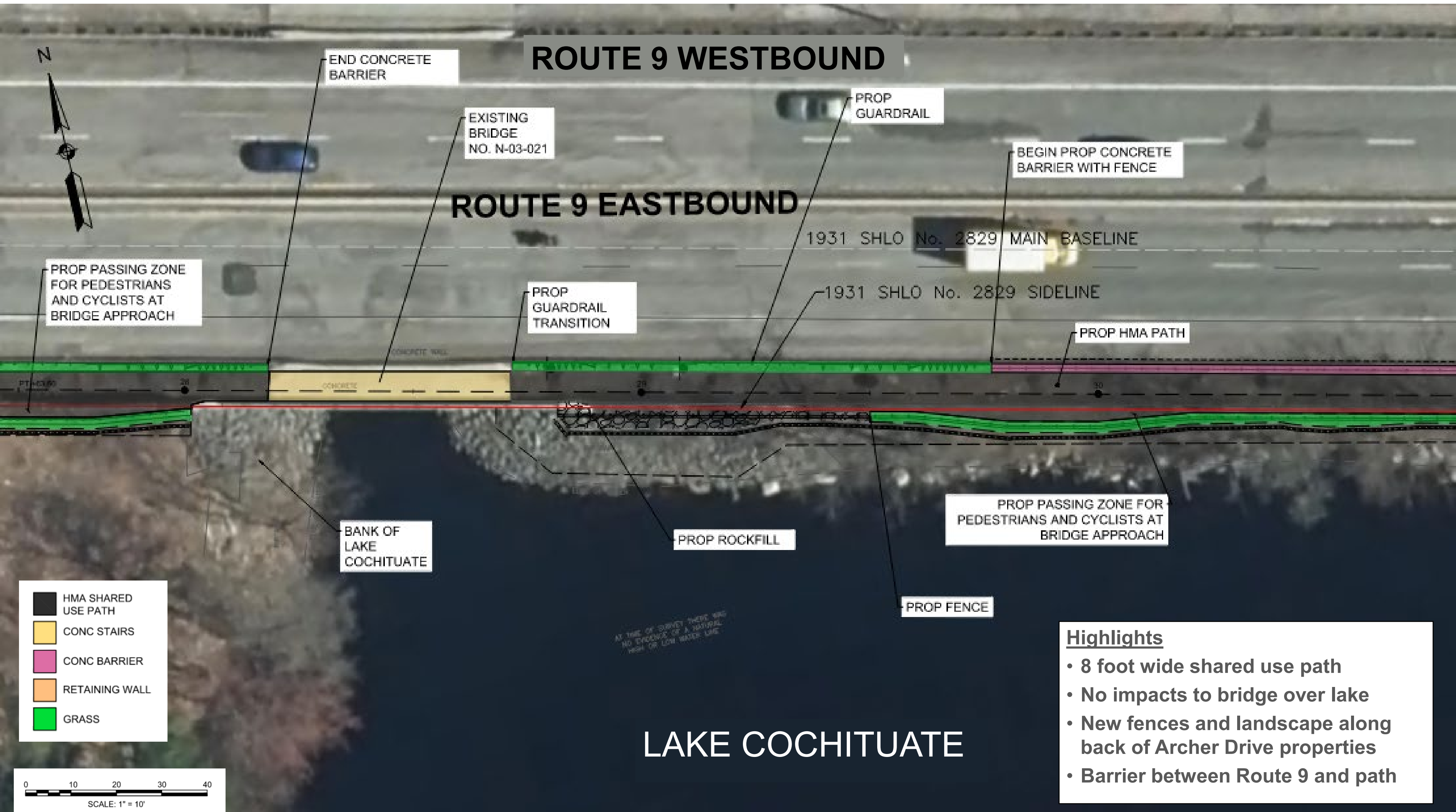


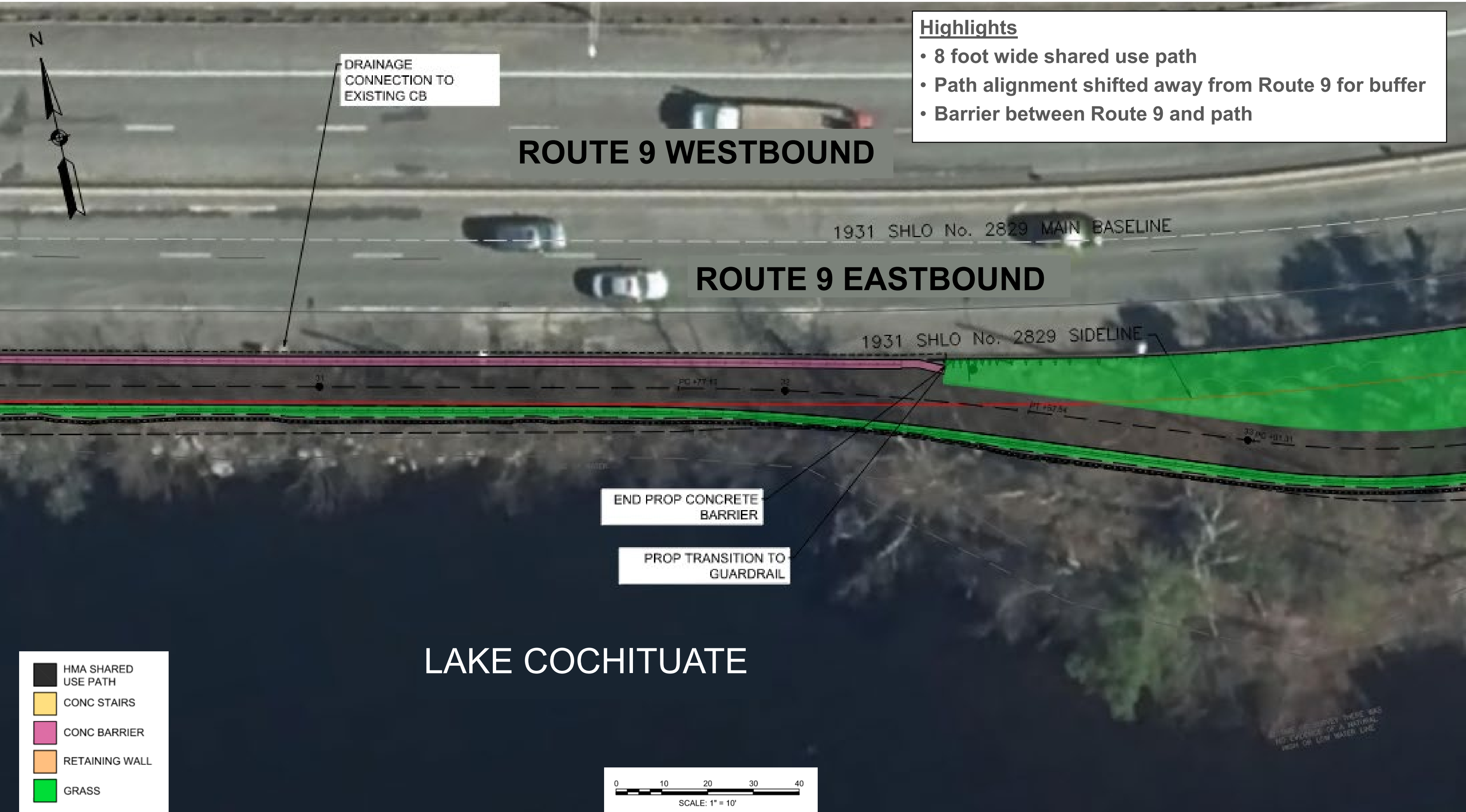


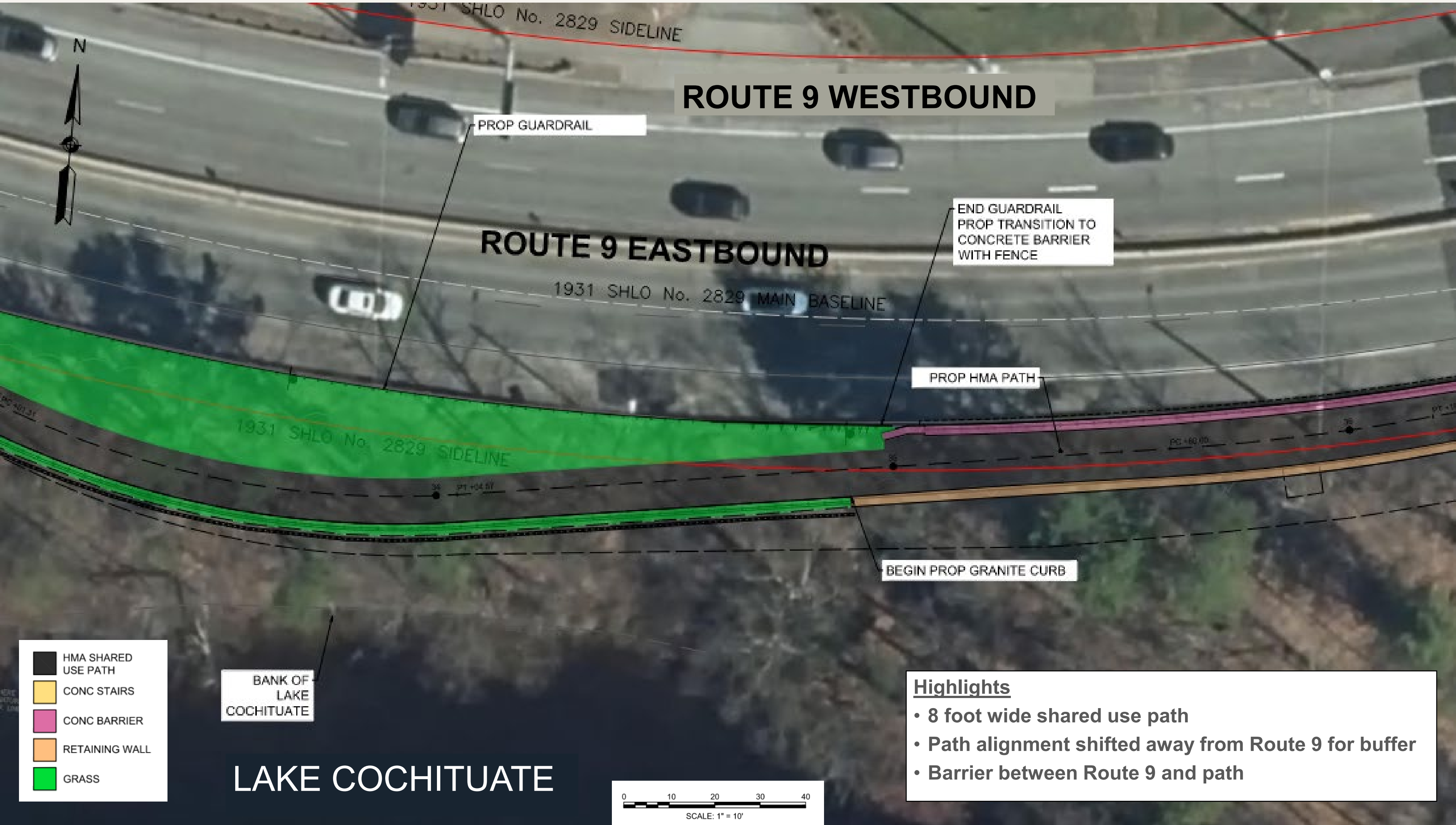
Project Refinements

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ROUTE 9 WESTBOUND

ROUTE 9 EASTBOUND

PROP GUARDRAIL

END GUARDRAIL
PROP TRANSITION TO
CONCRETE BARRIER
WITH FENCE

PROP HMA PATH

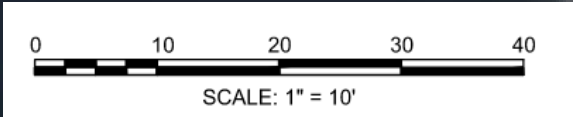
BEGIN PROP GRANITE CURB

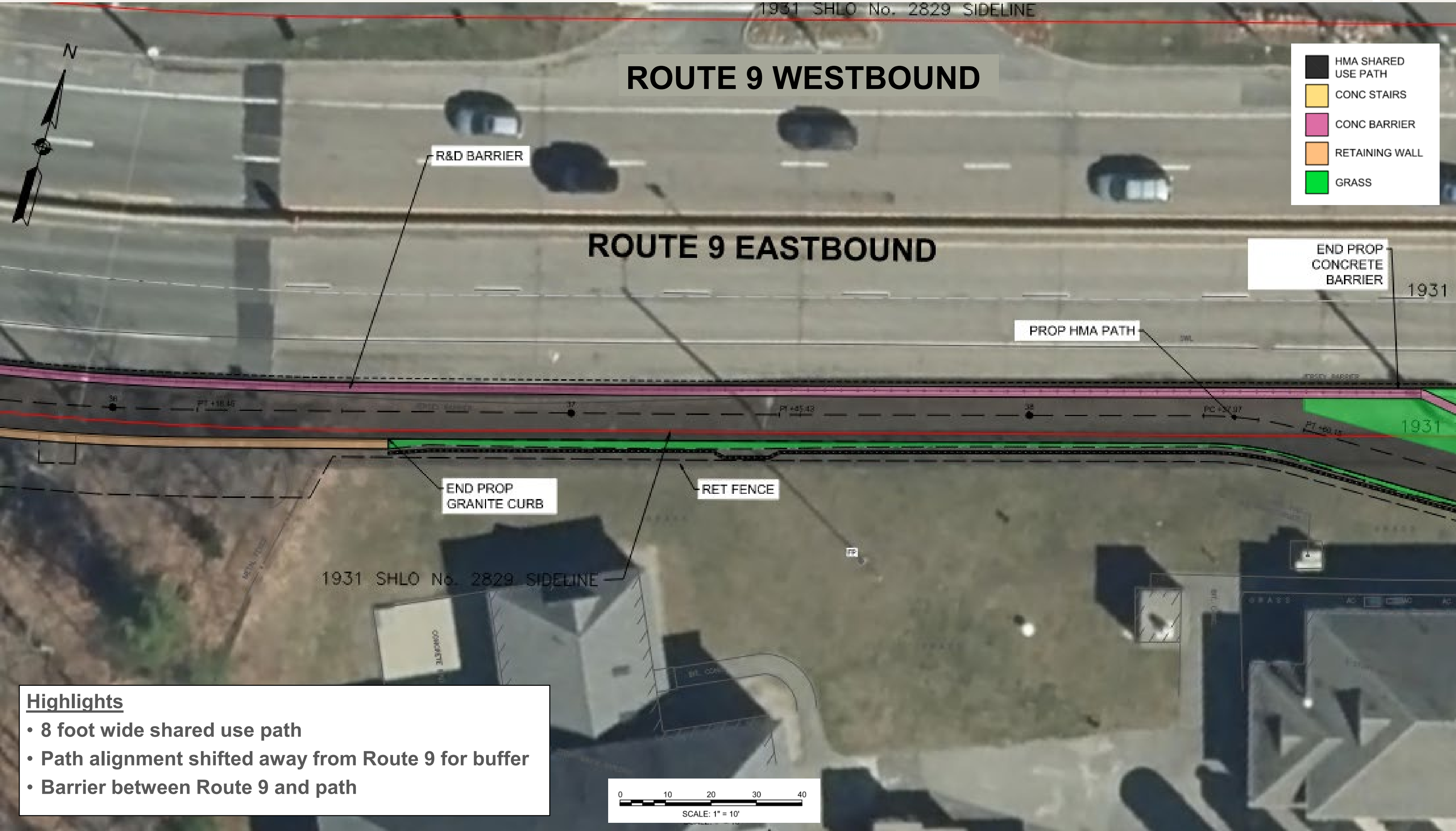
BANK OF
LAKE
COCHITUATE

LAKE COCHITUATE

- HMA SHARED
USE PATH
- CONC STAIRS
- CONC BARRIER
- RETAINING WALL
- GRASS

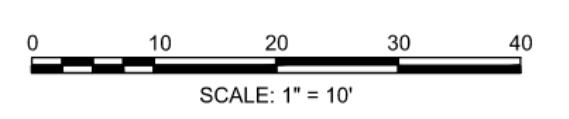
- Highlights**
- 8 foot wide shared use path
 - Path alignment shifted away from Route 9 for buffer
 - Barrier between Route 9 and path

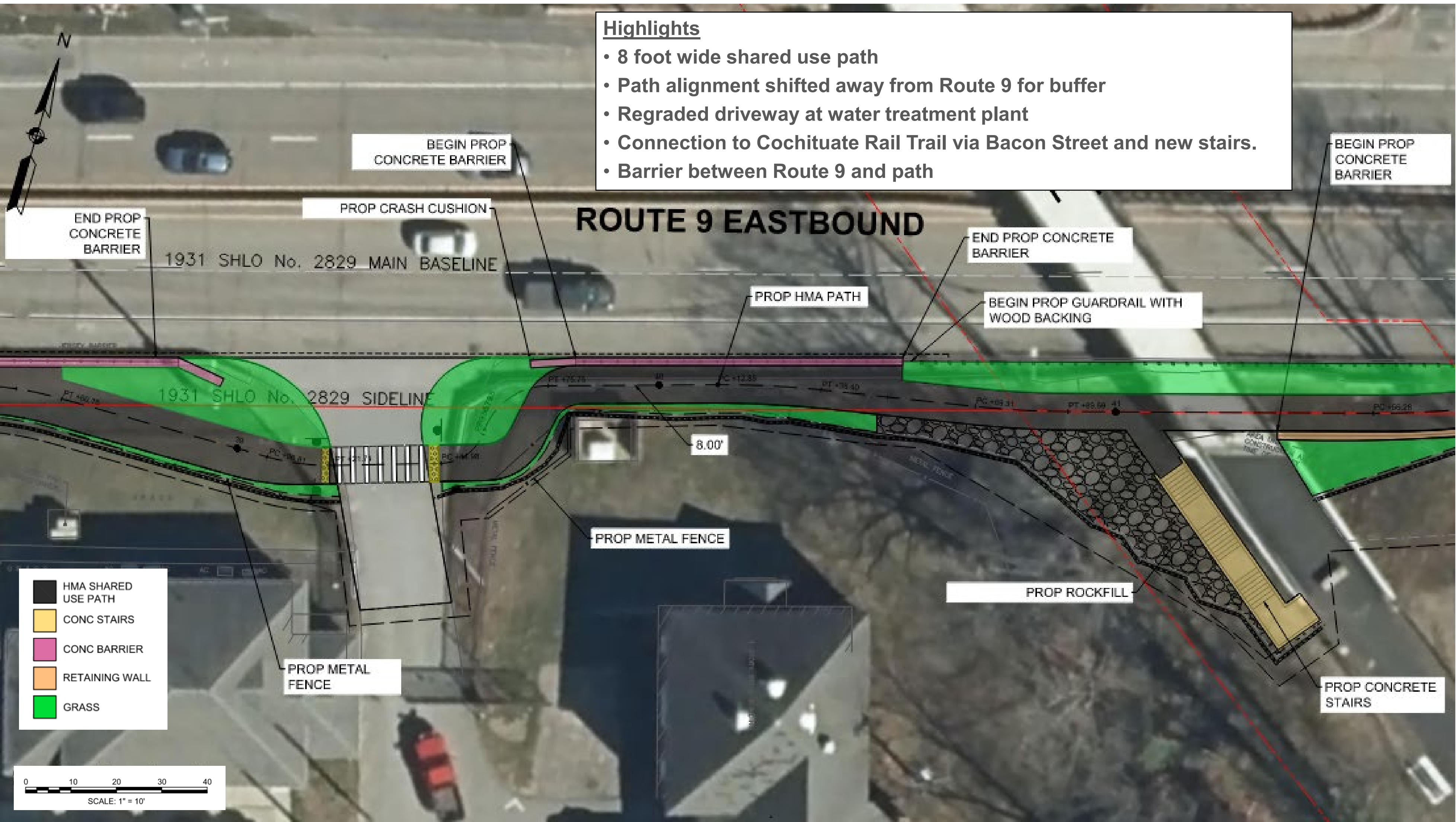




Highlights

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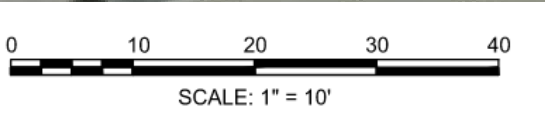
- Highlights**
- 8 foot wide shared use path
 - Path alignment shifted away from Route 9 for buffer
 - Regraded driveway at water treatment plant
 - Connection to Cochituate Rail Trail via Bacon Street and new stairs.
 - Barrier between Route 9 and path

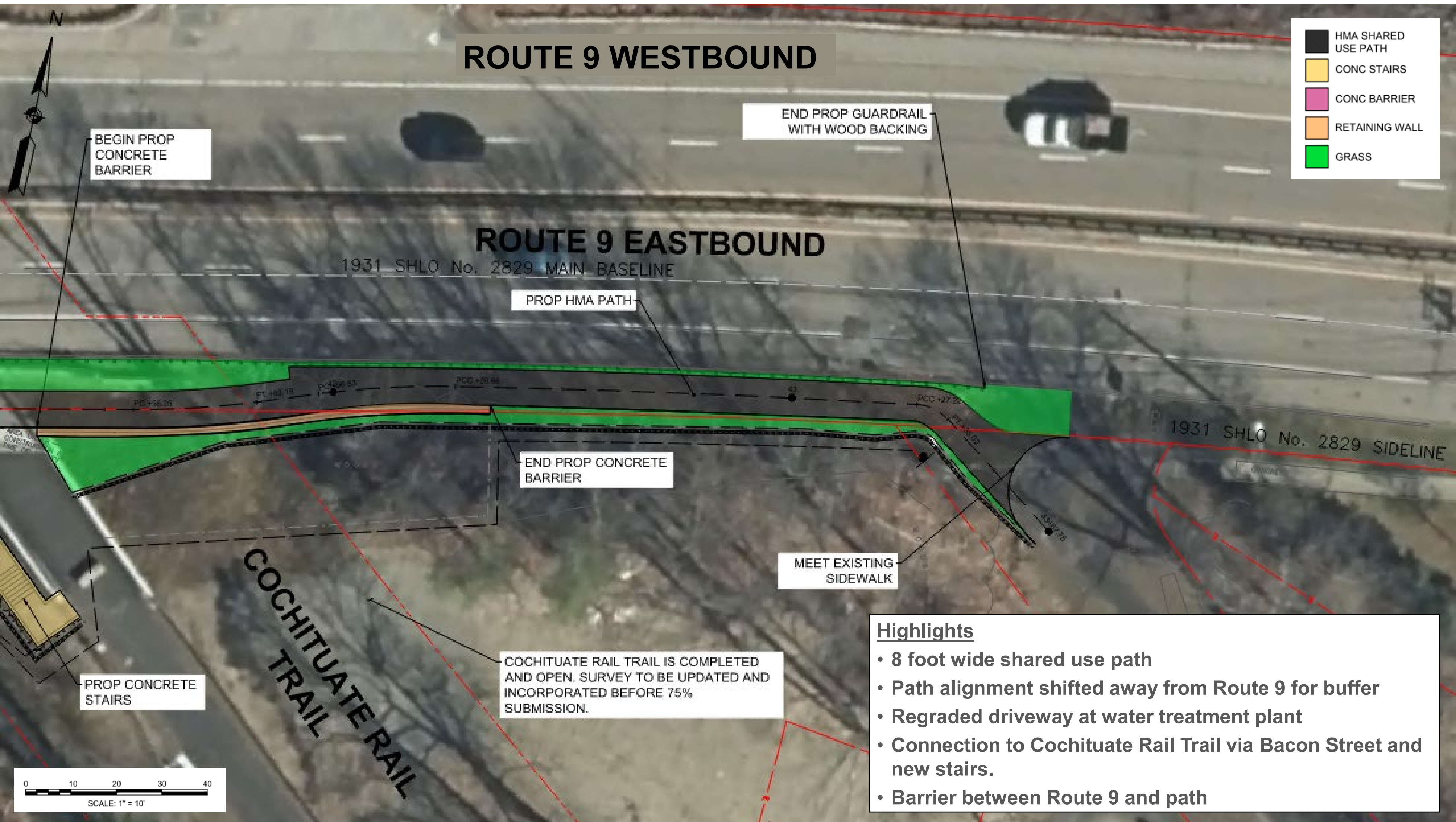
ROUTE 9 EASTBOUND

1931 SHLO No. 2829 MAIN BASELINE

1931 SHLO No. 2829 SIDELINE

- HMA SHARED USE PATH
- CONC STAIRS
- CONC BARRIER
- RETAINING WALL
- GRASS





Highlights

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**How will your
property be
impacted?**

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

- The Right of Way Bureau 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 Right of Way Bureau or consultants representing the Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division.
- The procedures used must comply with state and federal regulations governing the acquisition process.
- The current design plan indicates that fee takings and permanent easements may/will be required. Other areas will require temporary construction easements.
- Affected property owners rights are protected under our Massachusetts General Laws, primarily Chapter 79. If a project is receiving federal funds, the property owners' rights are further defined under Title III of the Real Property Acts of 1970, as amended.

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
impacts?**

Environmental Impacts

- Work along Lake Cochituate does not impact bank – no in water permits.
- Notice of intent to be filed with 75% design in Spring 2024.
- Article 97 and Section 4(f) (Open space land impacts)
 - Path is partially on DCR land
 - Design continues during legislative process



**What is the
construction
approach?**

Construction Process

- Construction staging will occur on Hartford Street and Route 9
- Construction work will take place during the daytime (8 AM to 3:30 PM).
- There will be no construction staging through properties – no large temporary easements for staging in people's backyards.
- Project advertisement: **Spring 2025 (anticipated)**



Next Steps



75% Design
Begins November 2023



100% Design
Spring 2024



Final Design
Finishing Fall 2024



Project Advertisement
Spring 2025



Construction
Begins Spring 2026



**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 E. Lavallee, P.E., Chief Engineer
MassDOT
Suite 7550, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116
Attention: Project Management, **Project File No. 610680**

or Email:

MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us





**Questions and
discussion**



Thank You

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Immediate Abutters Map

