



Welcome

River Street Bridge Replacement

This Meeting Will Begin Shortly

Virtual Public Hearing| May 3, 2023 | 6:00PM

Project File Number: 606901





Welcome

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25% Design Public Hearing

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Zoom Hearing Controls



- Haitian Creole, Spanish



- Ask a question or share a comment



- Drop down menu to check microphone and speakers



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



- If you cannot access the internet or have technical problems, please call into the meeting at (646) 876-9923 , Webinar ID: 875 1836 3936



- Closed Captioning Automatically Generated by Zoom

Live Transcript



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



If you have trouble with the meeting technology during the presentation, please call:
[1-888-799-9666]



Public Hearing Notes and Procedures

Public record

- A stenographer is present and will be making a verbatim transcript of this hearing.
- While this virtual public hearing is not being recorded, MassDOT may choose to retain and distribute the images, audio and the Q&A transcript from this meeting.
- 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 Mass.gov website.

Important notes

- Your microphone and webcam are automatically disabled upon entering the meeting.
- 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!

Presentation Speakers:

- **MassDOT Project Manager**
 - Kathy Dougherty
- **MassDOT Producer**
 - Leah Grodstein
 - Janathan Moore
- **MassDOT Staff**
 - Dan Fielding
 - Joseph Doucette
 - Glenda Rosetti
- **Presenter**
 - Nathaniel Cabral-Curtis, WSP
- **Engineering Team**
 - Tom Daley, Gannett-Fleming
 - Preston Huckabee, Gill Engineering

Language Translation Speakers

- **Haitian Creole**
 - Gina Miranda
 - Steeve Rubens
- **Spanish**
 - Camilla Veraarias
 - Laura Lozano

Design Public Hearing - Advertisement

MassDOT Email Burst

- Save-the-Date mass e-mail – 4/14
- Reminder mass e-mail – 4/28

Mass Media

- *Bulletin Newspapers* – 4/13 and 4/27
- *El Mundo* (Spanish) – 4/13 and 4/27
- Boston City TV – 4/17 to 5/3
- Boston Neighborhood Network (BNN) – 4/17 to 5/3

Social Media

- Facebook
- Twitter
- <https://www.infohaiti.net> (Haitian Creole)



**WATCH BOSTON
CITY TV**



Design Public Hearing – Flyer Drops and Staffed Tables

Staffed Tables:

- Boston Public Library Hyde Park Branch
- Shaw's Market on Hyde Park Avenue

Flyer Drops:

- BCYF Hyde Park
- Blake Estates
- Cleary Square barbershops/salons
- Hyde Park Cooperative Bank
- Hyde Park Main Streets
- Malone Apartments
- Rockland Trust
- Thomas M. Menino YMCA
- True Value Hardware
- U.S. Post Office on Hyde Park Avenue



Thank You To Those Who Shared Our Flyers

State and Municipal:

- State Delegation for Hyde Park
- Boston Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- Registry of Motor Vehicles
- Office of Mayor Michelle Wu
- Boston City Council
- Age Strong
- Disability Commission
- Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services
- Office of Immigrant Advancement
- Boston Center for Independent Living

20 community organizations supplied by Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services

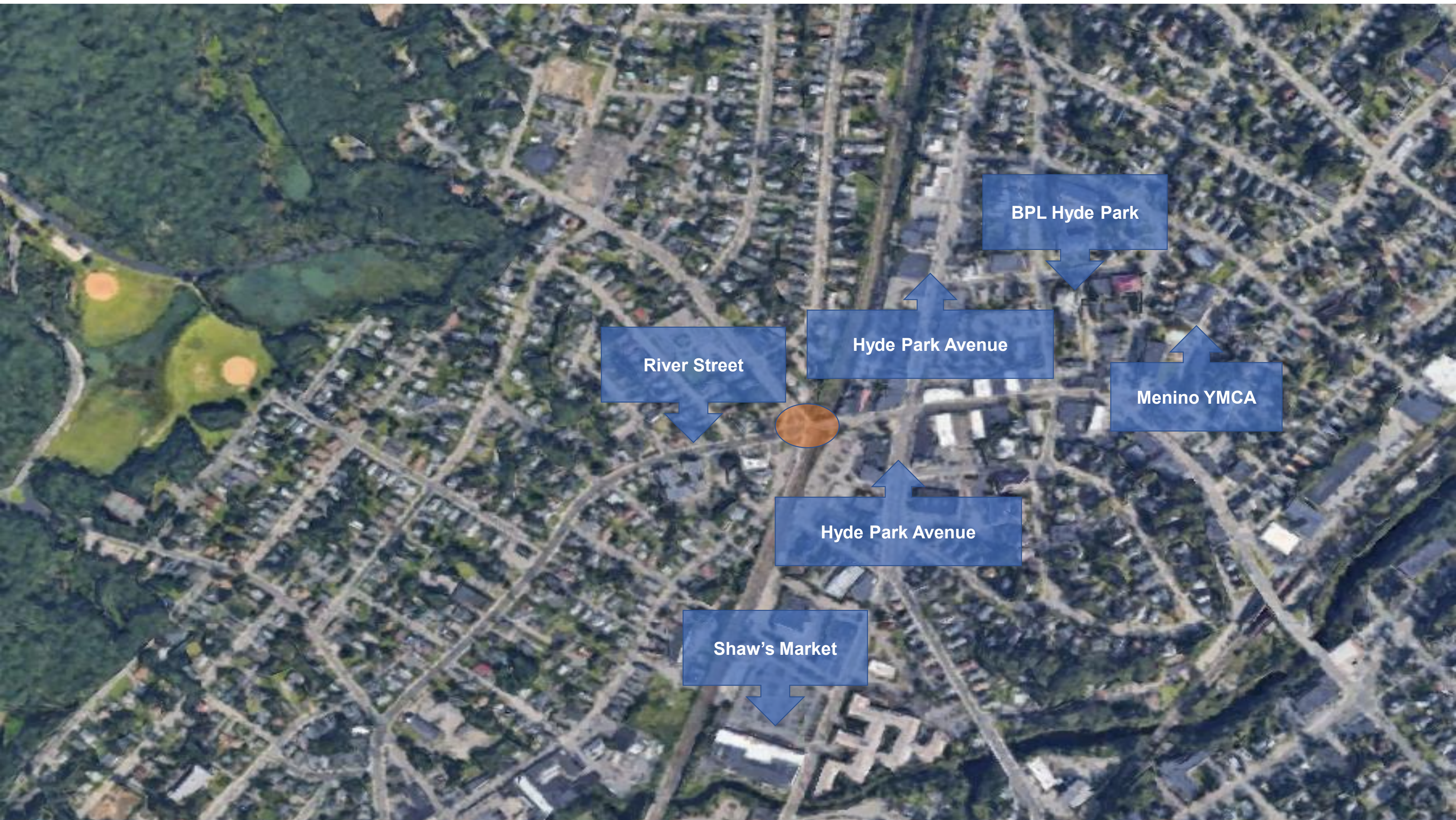
4 local public schools

Area E-18 Community Relations Officer Paul Broderick

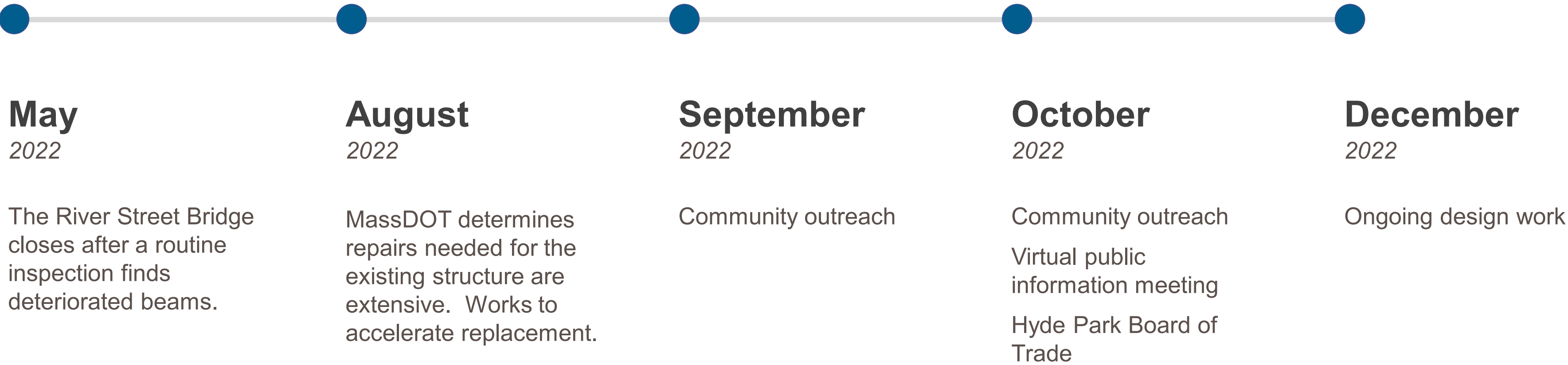
Agenda

1. Why was this project initiated?
2. What do we want to accomplish?
3. What is the preferred alternative?
4. How will cyclists and pedestrians be accommodated?
5. How will roadway users be affected?
6. Our next steps
7. How will we keep you informed
8. Question & Discussion





How did we get here?



How did we get here? - Continued





**Why was this
project
initiated**

The River Street Bridge: a Multimodal Connection

- One lane of traffic in each direction with sidewalks
- Carries MBTA bus routes
- Carries four major utilities
- Supports Amtrak electrified wires (catenary) and protective barrier
- Inspection and repairs have been an ongoing challenge
- Design for a replacement bridge launched *prior* to May 2022 public safety closure





A Closed Bridge: a Community Concern

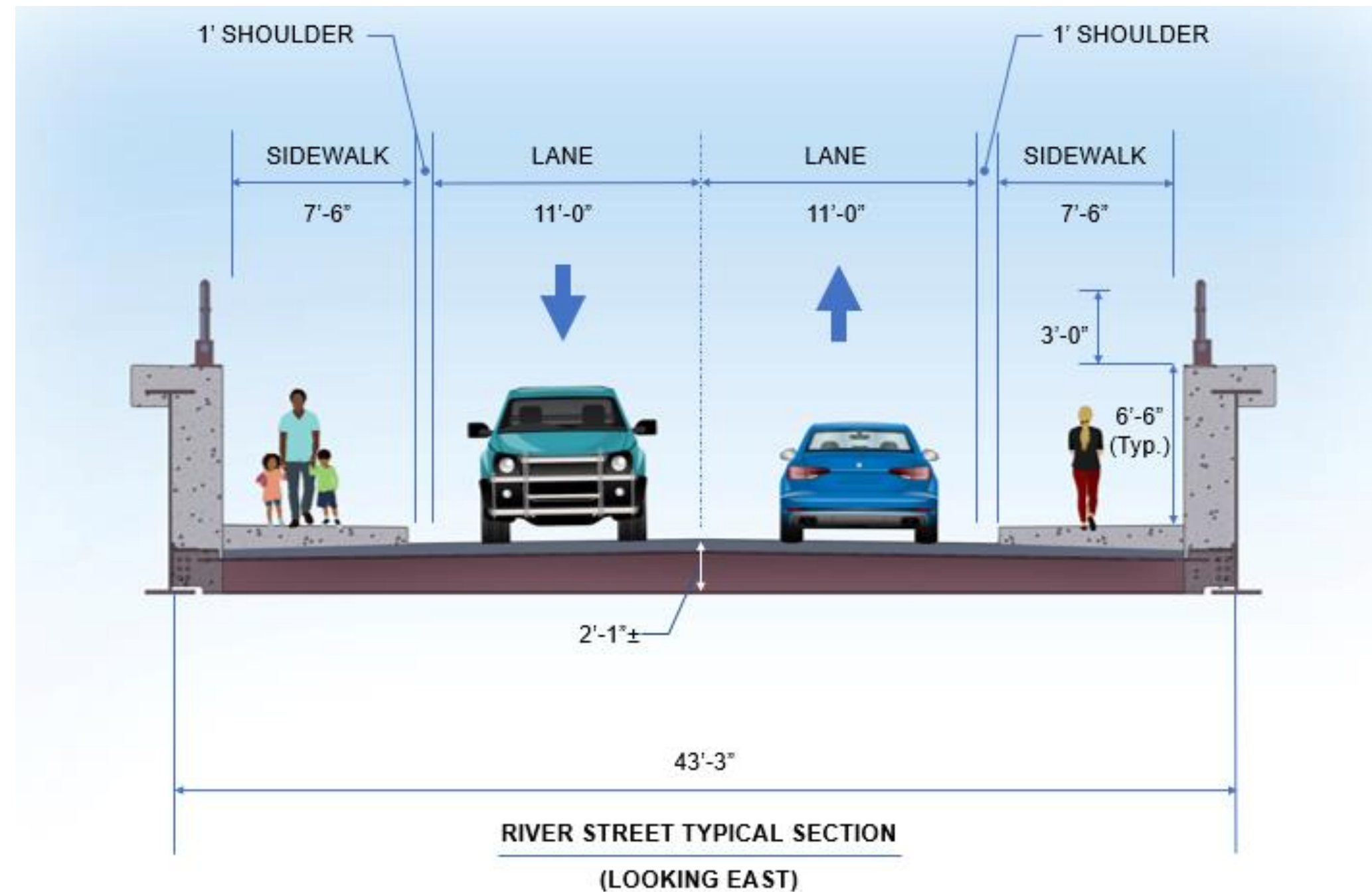
- May 2022 bridge closed for public safety and detours in place
- Traffic congestion issues:
 - Austin Street
 - Gordon Avenue
 - Business Street
 - Summer Street
- Adjustments to MBTA Bus Routes



**What do we
want to
accomplish?**

Fully Replace the River Street Bridge

- Provide a reliable connection for all modes
- Provide a modern structure:
 - Easy to inspect
 - Easy to maintain
- 75–100-year design life





Relocate utilities to
their own bridge

Relocate utilities to
their own bridge

Relocate catenary wires
to their own supports

Relocate catenary wires
to their own supports

Relocate utilities to
their own bridge

- Why?
 - Shortens construction duration
 - Eases future inspections
 - Eases future maintenance
 - A more reliable bridge overall

Address Safety & Operational Issues at River Street/Business Street



Older signal equipment
and substandard
accessibility ramps

Older style
intersection geometry



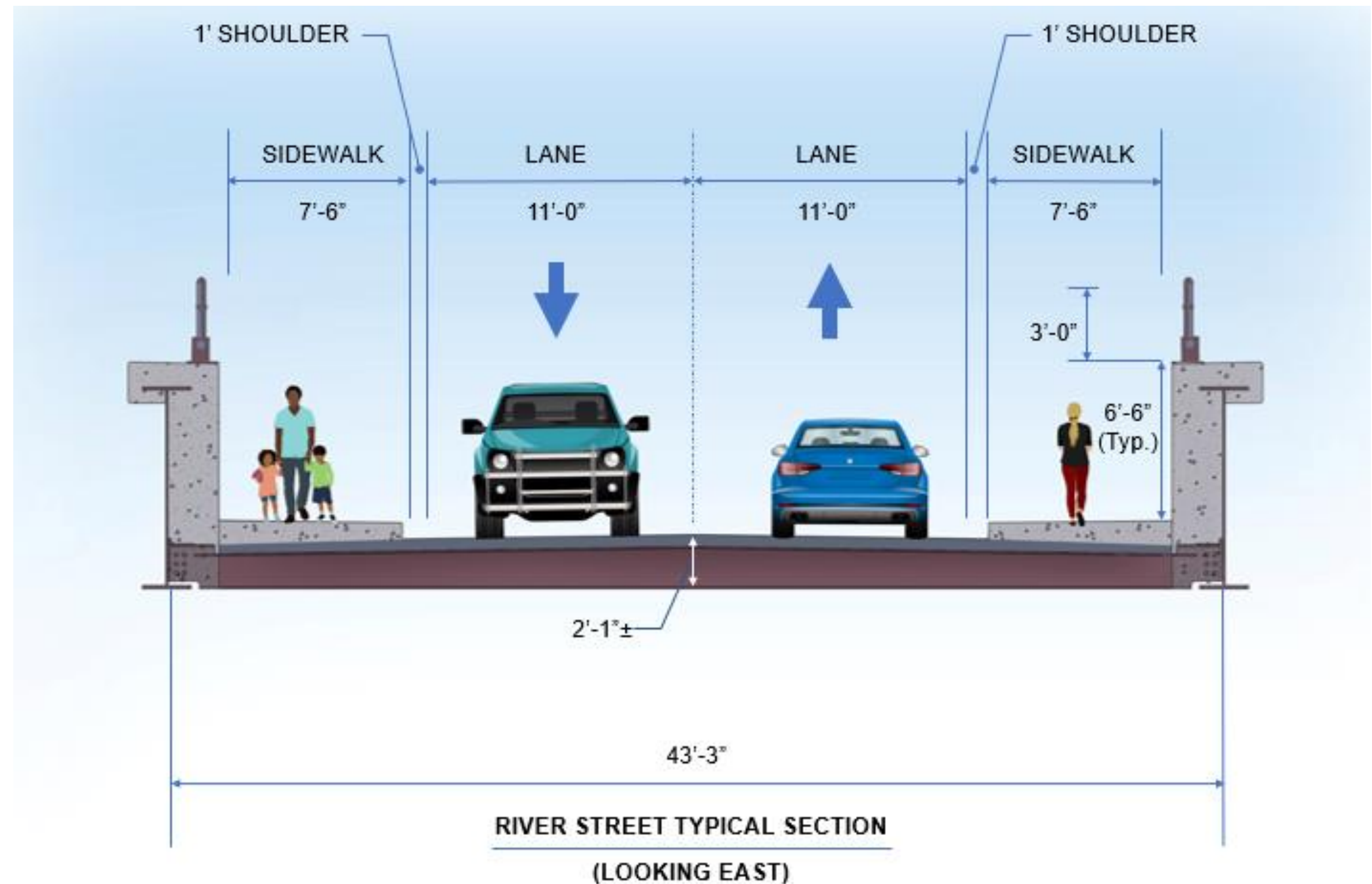
What is the preferred alternative?

Dismissed Alternatives

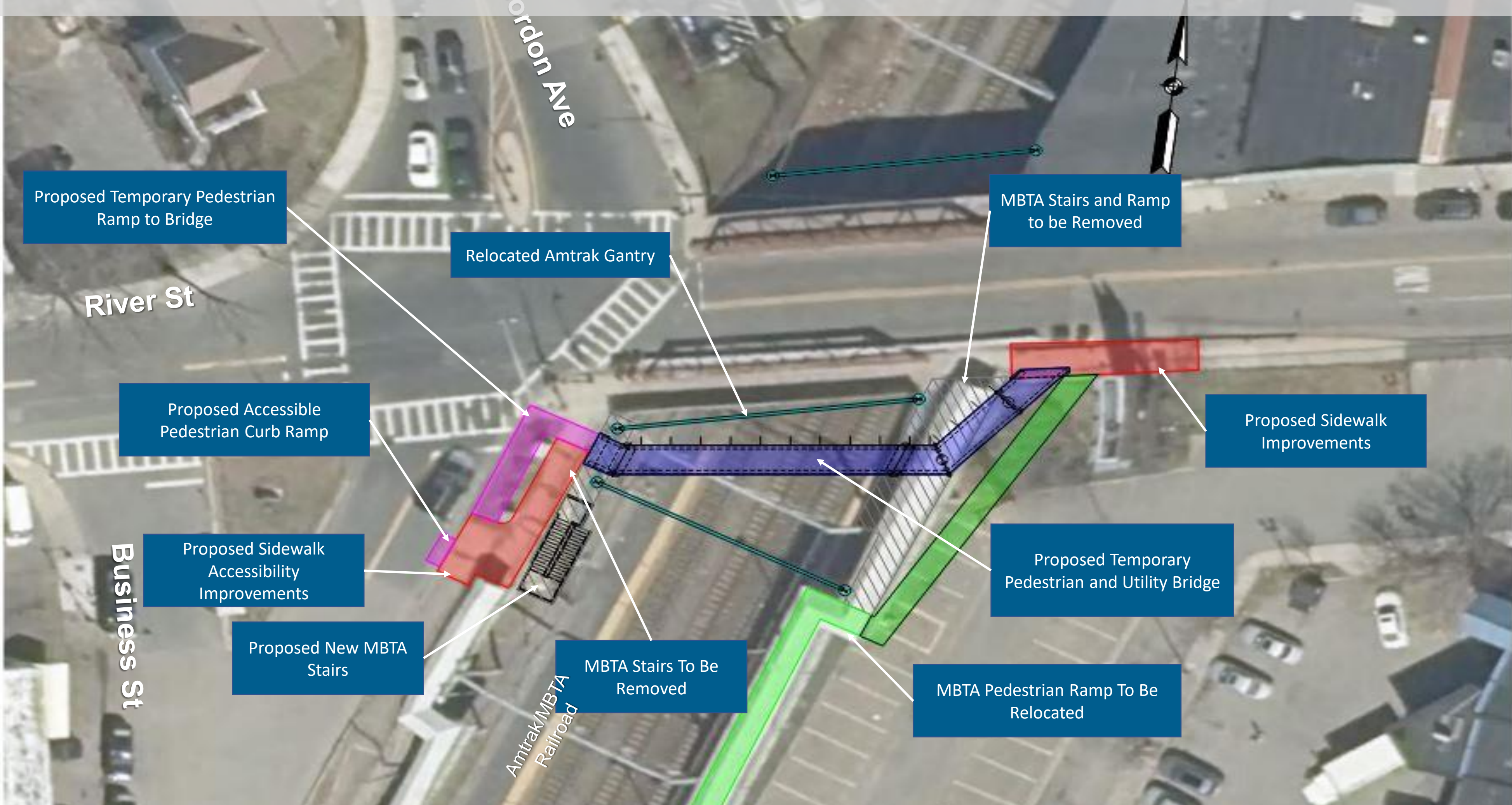
Alternative	Reason for Dismissal
Repairs only to the existing structure	Does not address long-term reliability Does not address inspection/maintenance challenges
Installing a crossing of the Northeast Corridor elsewhere	Does not align to the existing street network Could draw traffic onto residential streets
Use of a prefabricated bridge to speed up construction	Depth-of-structure on prefabricated bridges does not provide adequate clearance over the catenary
Increase in number of lanes on/width of the River Street Bridge	Impacts to abutting properties Does not match abutting sections of River Street

Proposed Replacement Bridge – Typical Section

- One lane in each direction
- One sidewalk on both sides
- One, 1-foot shoulder on both sides
- Concrete deck on steel beams



Proposed Permanent Utility/Construction Phase Pedestrian/Cycle Bridge



Proposed Temporary Pedestrian Ramp to Bridge

Relocated Amtrak Gantry

MBTA Stairs and Ramp to be Removed

River St

Proposed Accessible Pedestrian Curb Ramp

Proposed Sidewalk Improvements

Proposed Sidewalk Accessibility Improvements

Proposed Temporary Pedestrian and Utility Bridge

Business St

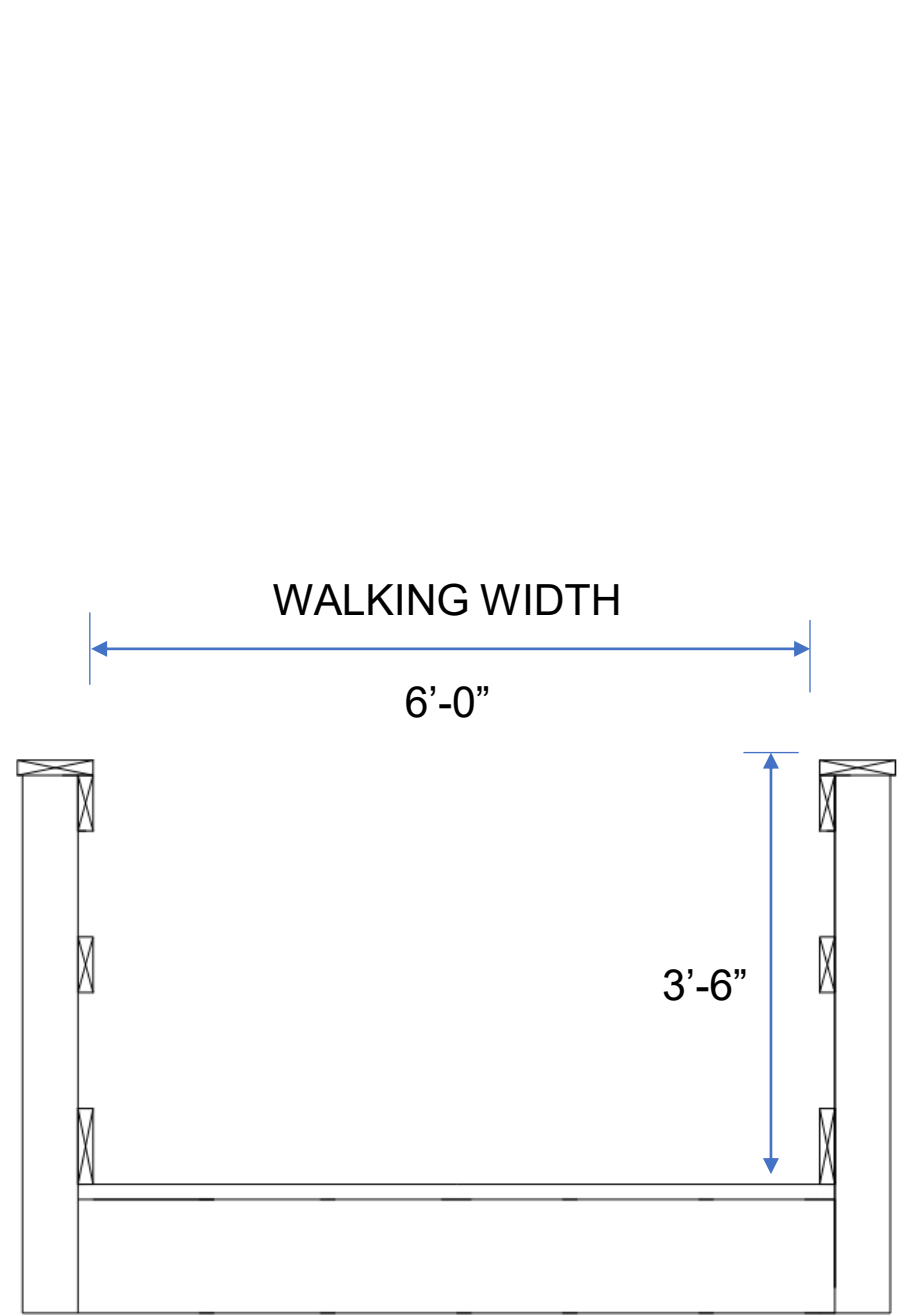
Proposed New MBTA Stairs

MBTA Stairs To Be Removed

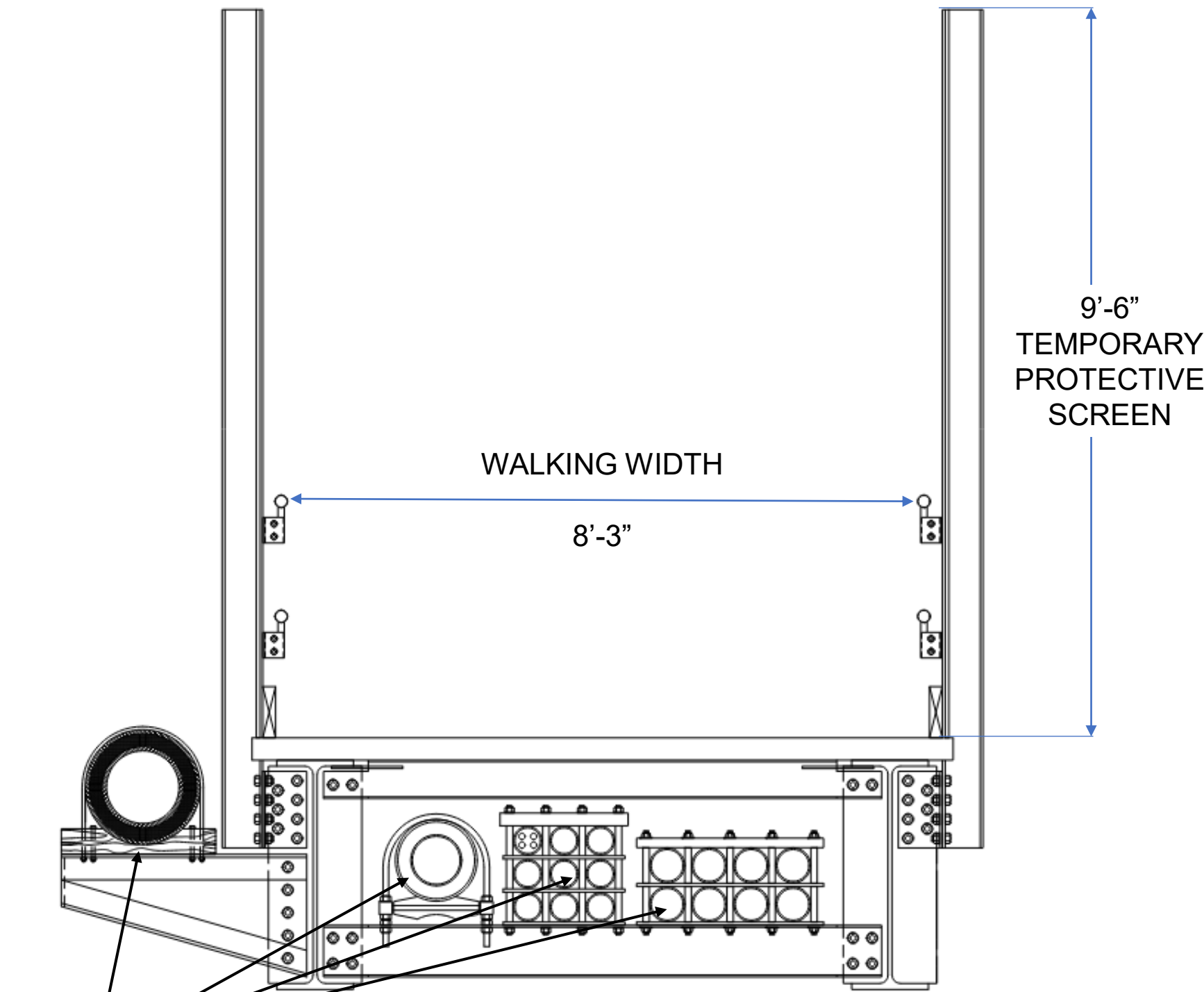
MBTA Pedestrian Ramp To Be Relocated

Amtrak/MBTA Railroad

Proposed Typical Sections of River Street Utility Bridge



RIVER STREET PEDESTRIAN RAMP TYPICAL SECTION
(LOOKING NORTH)

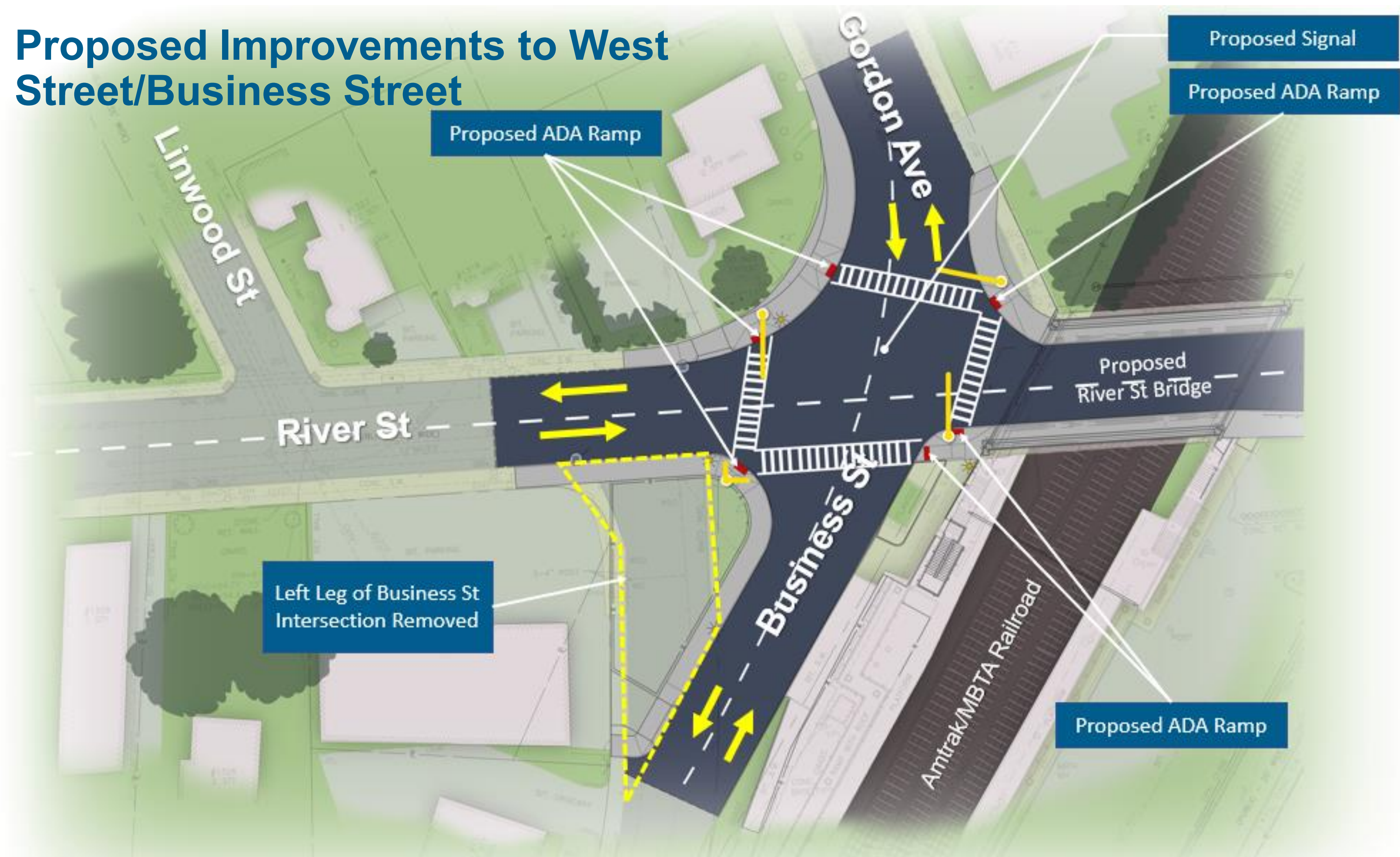


RIVER STREET PEDESTRIAN/UTILITY BRIDGE
TYPICAL SECTION
(LOOKING EAST)

Similar Pedestrian Bridge over Electrified Railroad



Proposed Improvements to West Street/Business Street



Anticipated Construction Schedule

Night = 1.5-hour restricted access (work shifts)



Advertise project for bids
Spring 2024



Issue notice to proceed to
winning contractor
Fall 2024



Major construction operations
begin - Spring 2025
Day/night



Demolition of existing River
Street Bridge begins
All Traffic Detoured
Winter 2025-2026
Night



Construction of new
River Street Bridge
Spring/summer 2026
Day/night



Solid platform over RR in
place allows standard
shifts
Fall 2026
Day



Vehicle traffic placed on the
new bridge
Winter 2026-2027

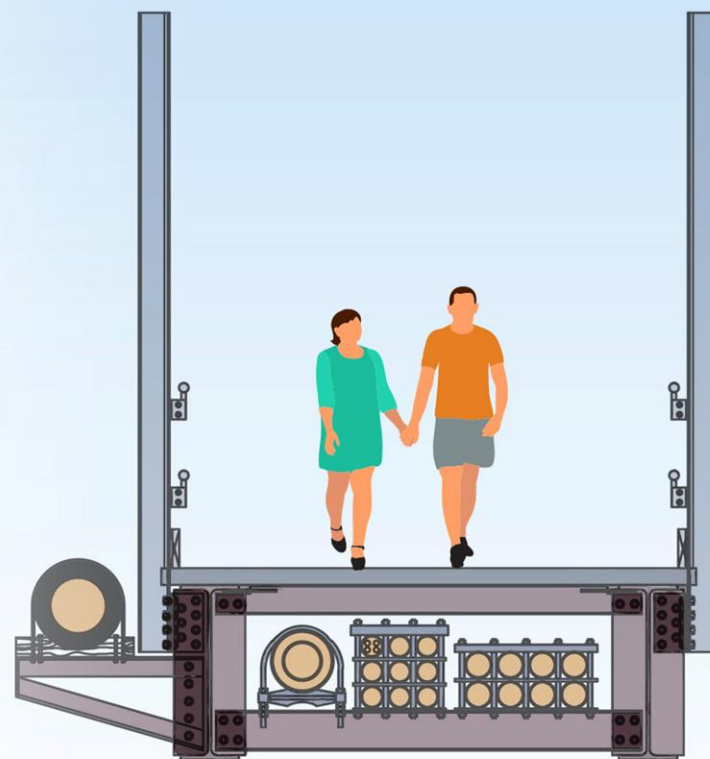


Sidewalks open on the new
bridge – project complete
Spring 2027



**How will
bicyclists and
pedestrians
be impacted?**

A Consistent Connection for Cyclists and Pedestrians



- A direct path will be maintained throughout construction:
 - On the existing bridge from now to winter 2025/26
 - On the utility bridge from winter 2025/26 to spring 2027
 - On the new structure after spring 2027



**How are the
road users
affected?**

Full Vehicle Detour from Winter 2025/26 to Winter 2026/27



LEGEND

Westbound Traffic Detour

Eastbound Traffic Detour

All Traffic Detour

Road Closed

Amtrak/MBTA line

N

Detour Monitoring



- During construction:
 - Regular communication with area community groups, elected officials etc.
 - Replacement of damaged detour signs as needed
 - Placement of additional signs as appropriate
 - Routine checks of changeable message signs to ensure correct operation/alignment to traffic.



**How will we
keep you
informed?**

Construction Phase Outreach

- Mirrors repair phase
- Email with questions and concerns:
hydeparkriverstbridge@dot.state.ma.us
- Dedicated project website:
www.mass.gov/hyde-park-river-street-bridge-replacement-project
- Progress updates every two weeks by web and email blast



How to reach us?

- Submit written comments to:
Carrie Lavallee, P.E. Chief Engineer
MassDOT
10 Park Plaza – 7th FLR
Boston, MA 02116
Attention: Project Management, Project File No. 606901
- Submit email comments to:
hydeparkriverstbridge@dot.state.ma.us





Questions and discussion

Share Your Questions and Comments



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



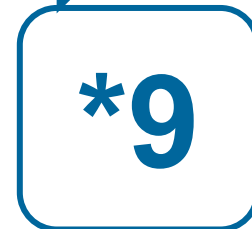
- “Raise your hand” to be unmuted for verbal questions, (Alt + Y to raise your hand)



- 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 moment to complete our survey at the end of the Meeting

Please be advised that all Q&A and comments are subject to disclosure for public records, therefore use these functions for project-related business only.



Thank You

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Virtual Design Public Hearing | March 7, 2023| 6:00PM

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