



# Shrewsbury Route 20 Corridor Improvements

*Thank you for joining us.*

*This meeting will be recorded  
and will begin shortly.*





# Shrewsbury Route 20 Corridor Improvements

## *Design Public Hearing*

Virtual Meeting | Thursday, May 23, 2024 | 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Project No. 610825



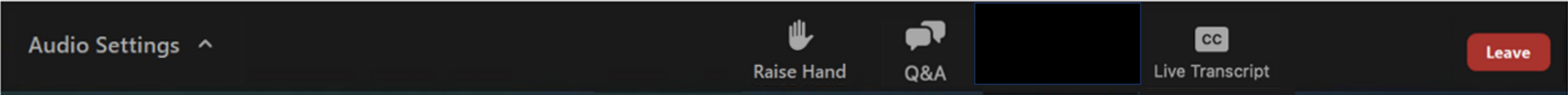
# Zoom Hearing Controls

- If you are unable to access the internet or are having technical problems, please call into the meeting at [1-301-715-8592], Webinar ID: [899 3050 2162]
- Closed captioning automatically generated by Zoom
- 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

## Notification of Recording

- This virtual public hearing **will be** recorded. The Massachusetts Department of Transportation may choose to retain and distribute the video, still images, audio, and/or transcript. All parts of this hearing are considered public record.
- By continuing attendance with this virtual public hearing, you consent to participate in a recorded event.
- If you are not comfortable being recorded, please keep your microphone muted or excuse yourself from the hearing.

## Other Important Notes

- Your microphone and webcam are automatically disabled upon entering this hearing.
- The hearing will be open to questions and answers at the end of the formal presentation.
- Please take time to respond to our survey! Your feedback is important.

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MassDOT  
Communications  
Department**

# 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.

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

# Presentation Participants

- **MassDOT**

- Project Manager: Muazzez G. Reardon
- District 3: Ann Sullivan, Joseph Frawley
- Right Of Way: Michael Ruderman
- Highway Liaison: Dan Racicot
- Producers: Leah Grodstein, Kayla Sousa

- **Shrewsbury**

- Town Manager: Kevin Mizikar



- **HNTB**

- Project Manager: Colin T. White
- Highway Lead: Brett Fiocchi



# Advertisements

- Telegram & Gazette
  - May 9, 2024
  - May 16, 2024
- Community Advocate
  - May 9, 2024
  - May 16, 2024
- MassDOT Website
  - Notice and flyer posted on April 2, 2024
- MassDOT Social Media
  - MassDOT Twitter / X
  - MassDOT Facebook



### VIRTUAL DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

#### Route 20 Corridor Improvements

#### Shrewsbury, MA

**What is happening?**

A live virtual public meeting will be hosted on the MassDOT website to present the preferred design alternative for the Route 20 Corridor Improvement project in Shrewsbury, MA.

**How will this affect you?**


The proposed project between Route 9 and the South Street/Green Street intersection consists of the addition of an eastbound travel lane, left-turn lanes, two roundabouts and a median separating Route 20 eastbound and westbound directions between the two roundabouts. The project will also address the lack of multi-modal transportation options with the addition of sidewalks and shared use paths in the project area.

**When**


Thursday, May 23, 2024  
7:00PM to 8:00PM

**Attend**

[www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events](http://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events)



Visit <https://www.mass.gov/shrewsbury-route-20-corridor-improvement-project> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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. [610825]**

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION  
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING  
Project File No. 610825

A Live Virtual Design Public Hearing will be hosted on the MassDOT website below to present the design for the proposed Route 20 Corridor Improvements project in Shrewsbury, MA.

WHEN: 7:00PM, Thursday, May 23, 2024

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Route 20 Corridor Improvements project. All views and comments submitted in response to the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

**PROPOSAL:** The proposed project between Route 9 and the South Street/Green Street intersection, consists of the addition of an eastbound travel lane, left-turn lanes, two roundabouts and a median separating Route 20 eastbound and westbound directions between the two roundabouts. The project will also address the lack of multi-modal transportation options with the addition of 5' sidewalks and 10' shared use paths with grass buffers throughout the project area.

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.

Project inquiries, written statements and other exhibits regarding the proposed undertaking may be submitted to Carrie E. Lavallee, P.E., Chief Engineer, via e-mail to [MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us) or via US Mail to Suite 7550, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: Project Management, Project File No. 610825. Statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the hearing transcript must be emailed or postmarked no later than ten (10) business days (14 calendar days) after the hearing is hosted.

This hearing is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (e.g interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, live captioning, videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats), as available. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer by phone (857-368-8580), TTD/TTY at (857) 266-0603, fax (857) 368-0602 or by email ([MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us)). Requests should be made as soon as possible and prior to the hearing, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten business days before the hearing.

This hearing will be hosted, or a cancellation announcement posted, on the internet at <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events>.

JONATHAN GULLIVER  
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

CARRIE E. LAVALLEE, P.E.  
CHIEF ENGINEER

# Project Handout

- <https://www.mass.gov/event/shrewsbury-route-20-corridor-improvements-2024-05-23t190000-0400-2024-05-23t203000-0400>





# Funding

- Total estimated cost is \$30M
- Cost does not include any Right-Of-Way acquisition costs
- Project programmed in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) in 2026 Federal Fiscal Year
- Funding Sources:
  - Federal Aid (80%)
  - State Funds (20%)





# Agenda

- 01** Project History
- 02** Project Goals
- 03** Project Design
- 04** Project Impacts
- 05** Timeline
- 06** Next Steps
- 07** Discussion





# Project Area



- Route 20 from Green Street to Valente Drive
- 1 mile project length
- Intersection improvements at 6 locations
- Wetland area divides Western and Eastern portions of project



# How did we get here?







**Why was this  
project  
initiated?**



# Existing Issues

- High crash locations
  - Walnut Street
  - Valente Drive
- High potential for fatal and injury crash severities
- High travel speeds
- Increased roadway congestion from anticipated business developments
- Roadway deficiencies contribute to issues
  - Sub standard shoulder widths
  - Lack of turn lanes
  - Sight distance issues
  - No bike or pedestrian accommodations





# Existing Issues

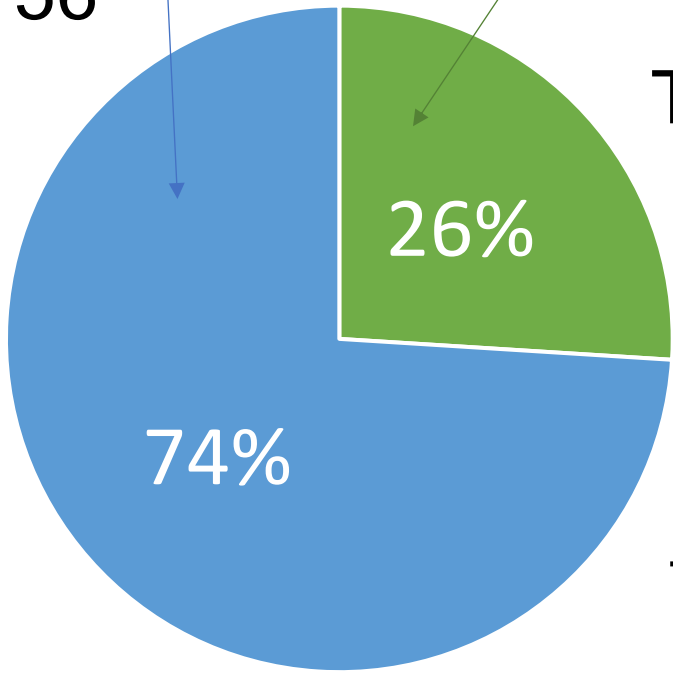
- Most crashes in eastern portion due to left turns
- Crashes in western portion due to traffic signal, congestion and left turns onto Route 20

Eastern Portion Crashes

Causes:

Turning left into or out of a side street or driveway

Total Crashes: 56



Causes:

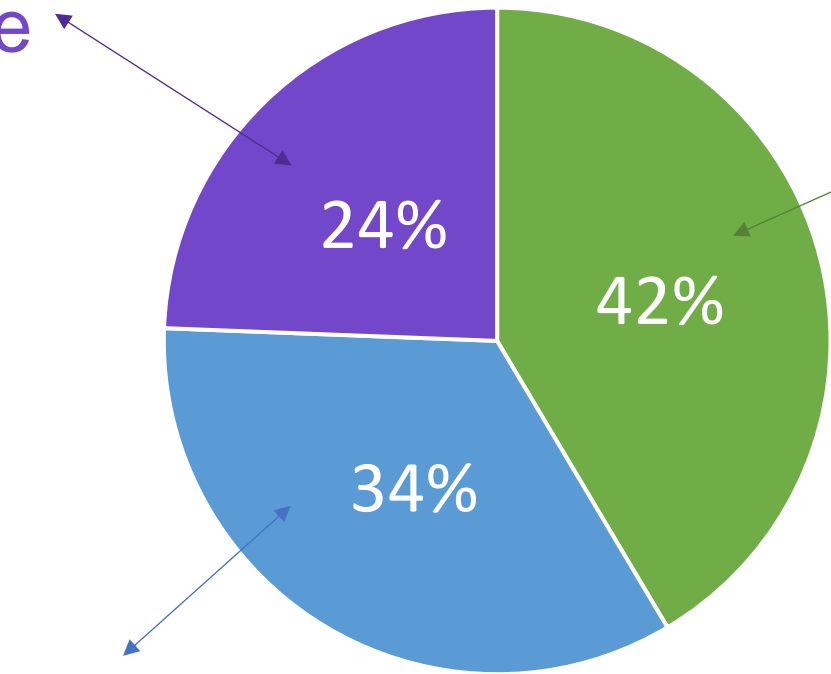
Single Vehicle  
Sideswipe  
Miscellaneous

Total Crashes: 20

from 2016 through 2021

Western Portion Crashes

Single Vehicle  
Sideswipe  
Head On



Rear End

Angle

from 2016 through 2018



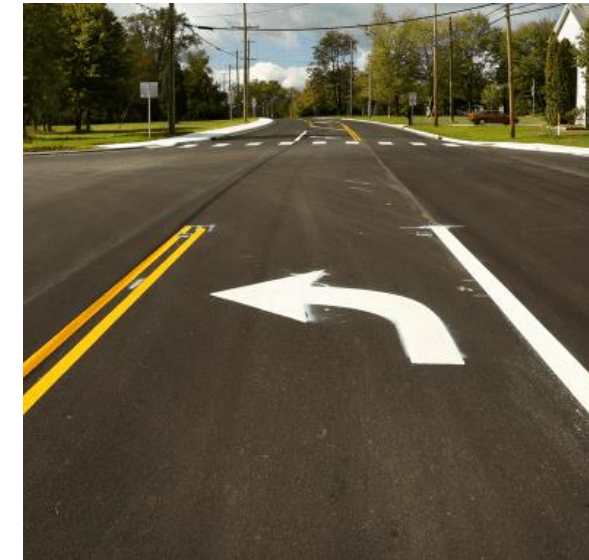


**What do we  
want to  
accomplish?**



# Project Purpose

- Improve traffic safety for all road users including non motorists along Route 20 from Green Street / South Street to Valente Drive
- Reduce high travel speeds
- Accommodate future traffic conditions with respect to the planned developments along Route 20
- Improve congestion issues within the project area



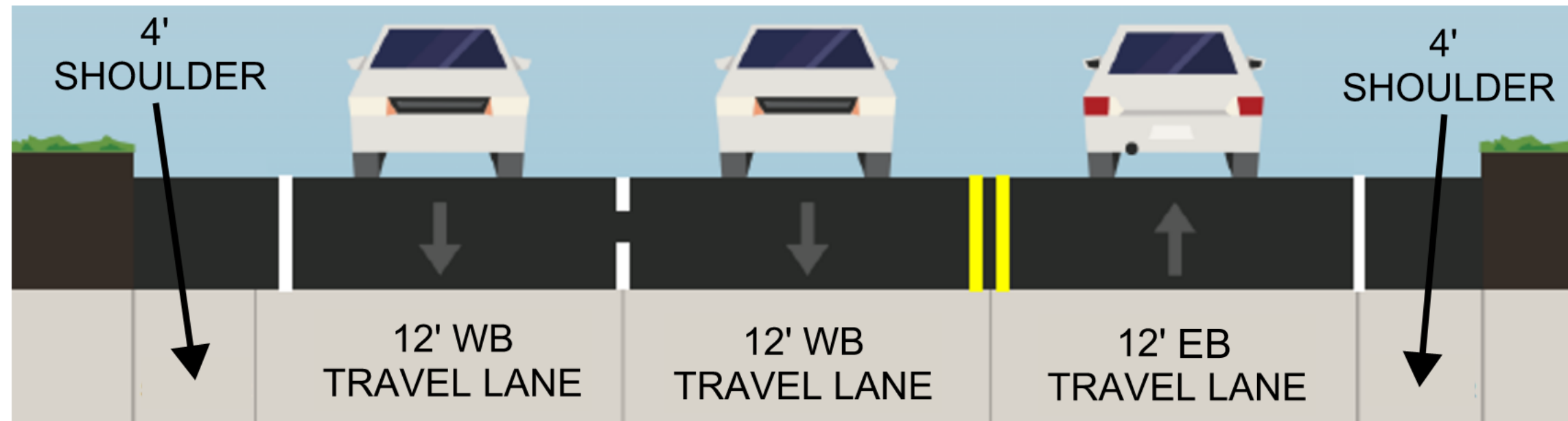




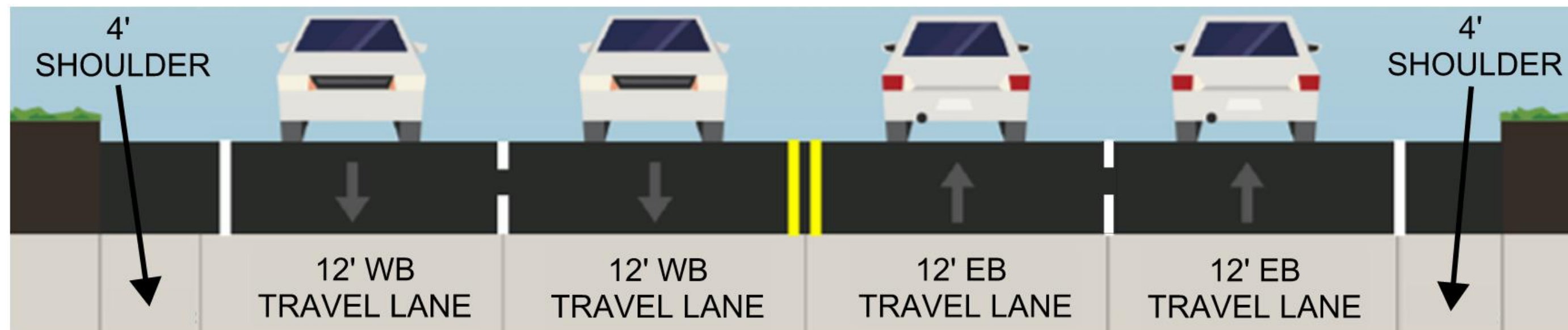
**What  
alternatives  
were  
considered?**



## Existing Roadway



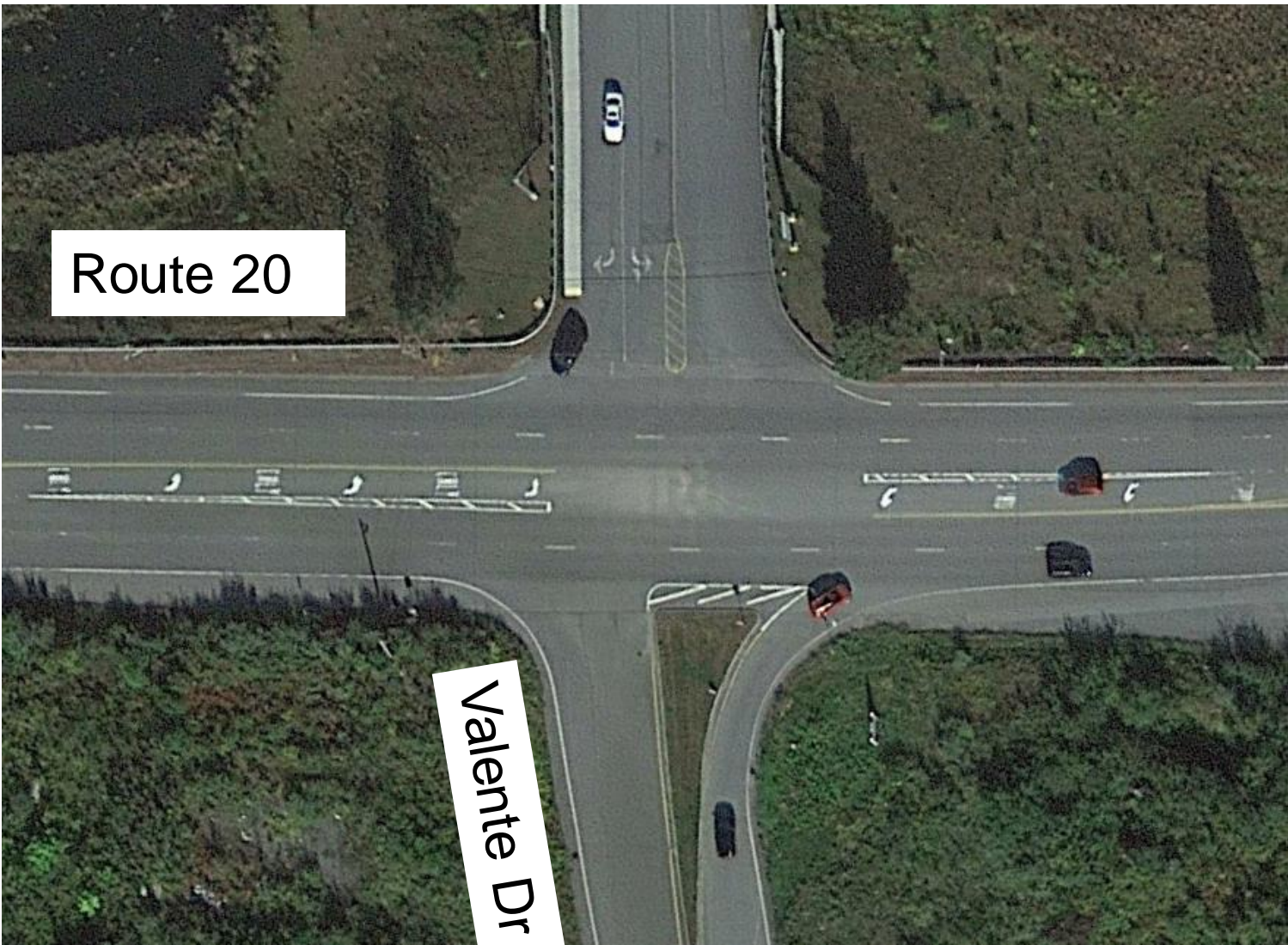
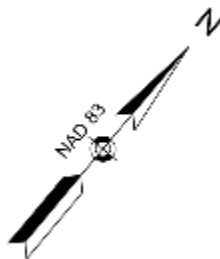
- 3 Lanes in western portion
  - 2 westbound, 1 eastbound
- Traffic signal at South and Green



- 4 Lanes in eastern portion
- 2 lanes in each direction



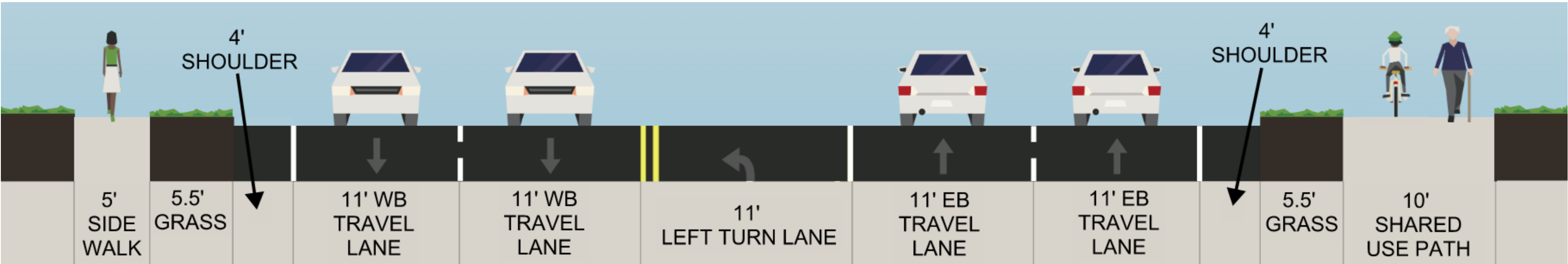
# Existing Roadway



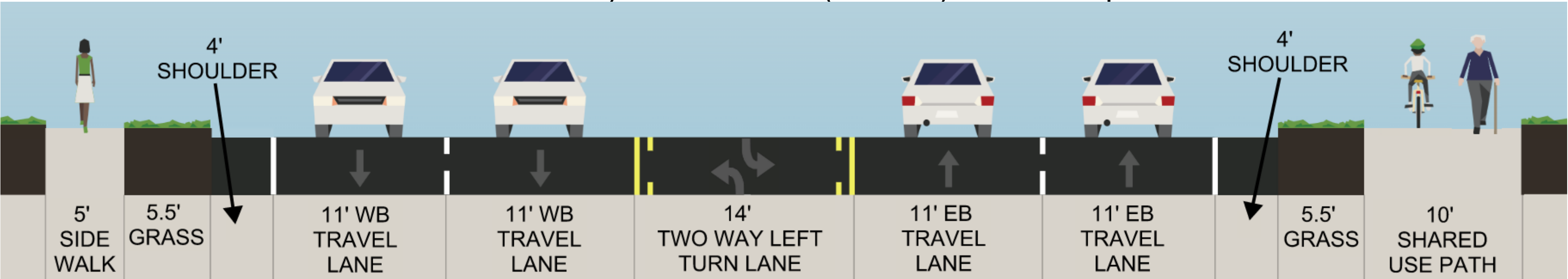


# Alternative 1 (Master Plan)

- Shared use path on south side (right side)
- Sidewalk on north side (left side)



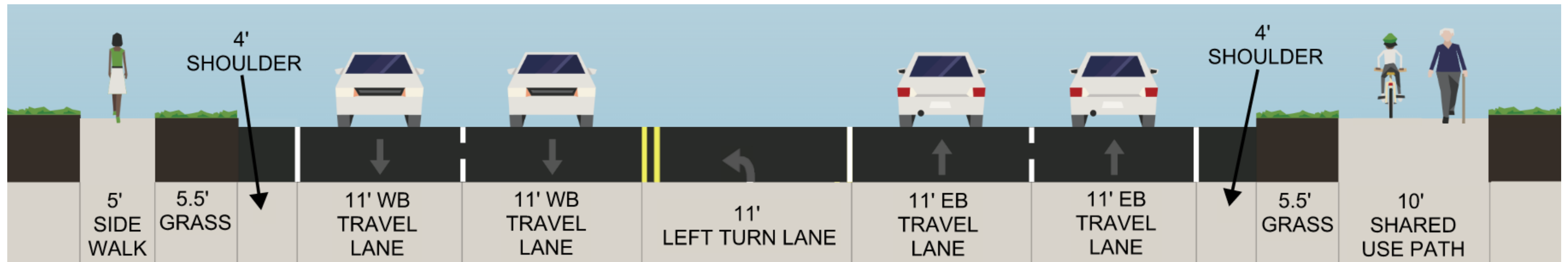
- New signal at Valente Drive
- Two-way-left-turn-lane (TWLTL) in eastern portion





## Alternative 2 (Raised Median/ Roundabouts)

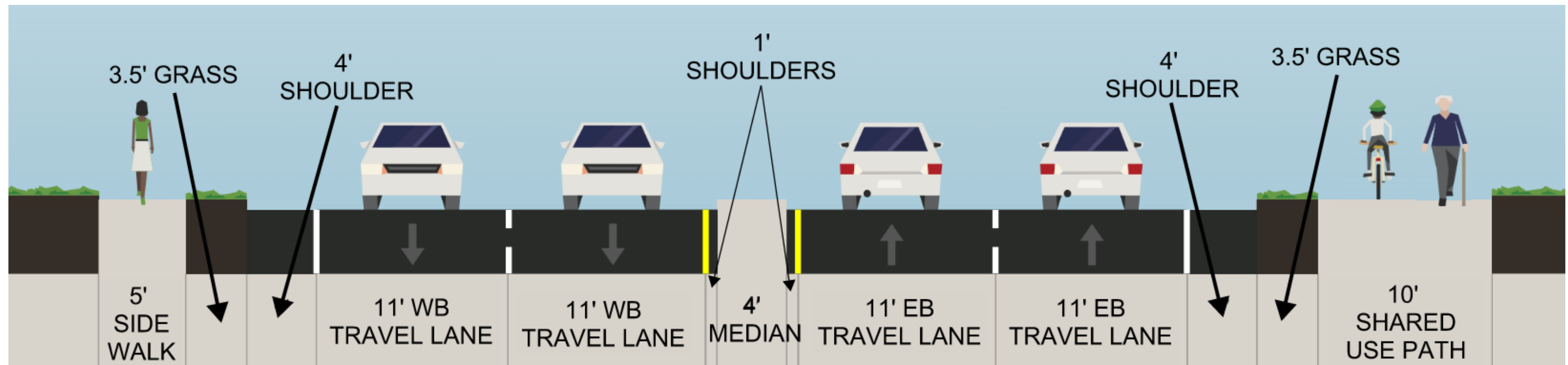
- Shared use path on south side (right side)
- Sidewalk on north side (left side)
- Signal improvements at South Street / Green Street
- Left turn lanes in western portion





## Alternative 2 (Raised Median/ Roundabouts)

- Two roundabouts: Valente Drive, Lumber Liquidators Drive
- Raised median in eastern portion between roundabouts





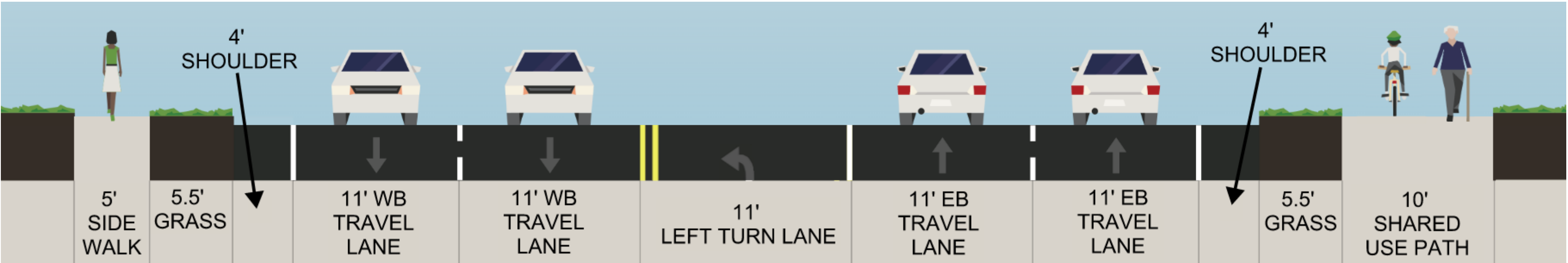
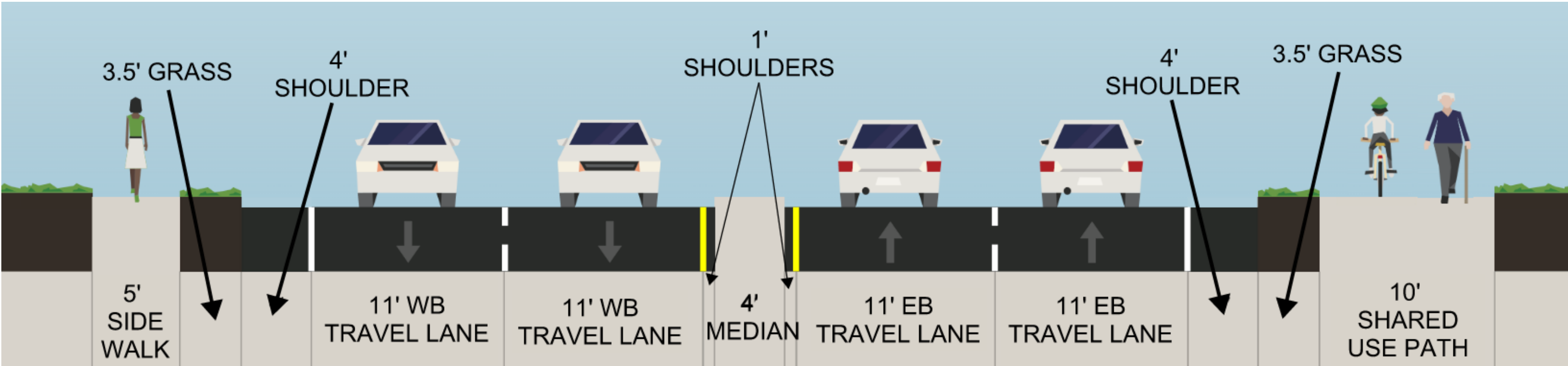


**What is the  
preferred  
alternative?**



# Preferred Alternative: Alternative 2 (Raised Median/Roundabout)

1 of 6

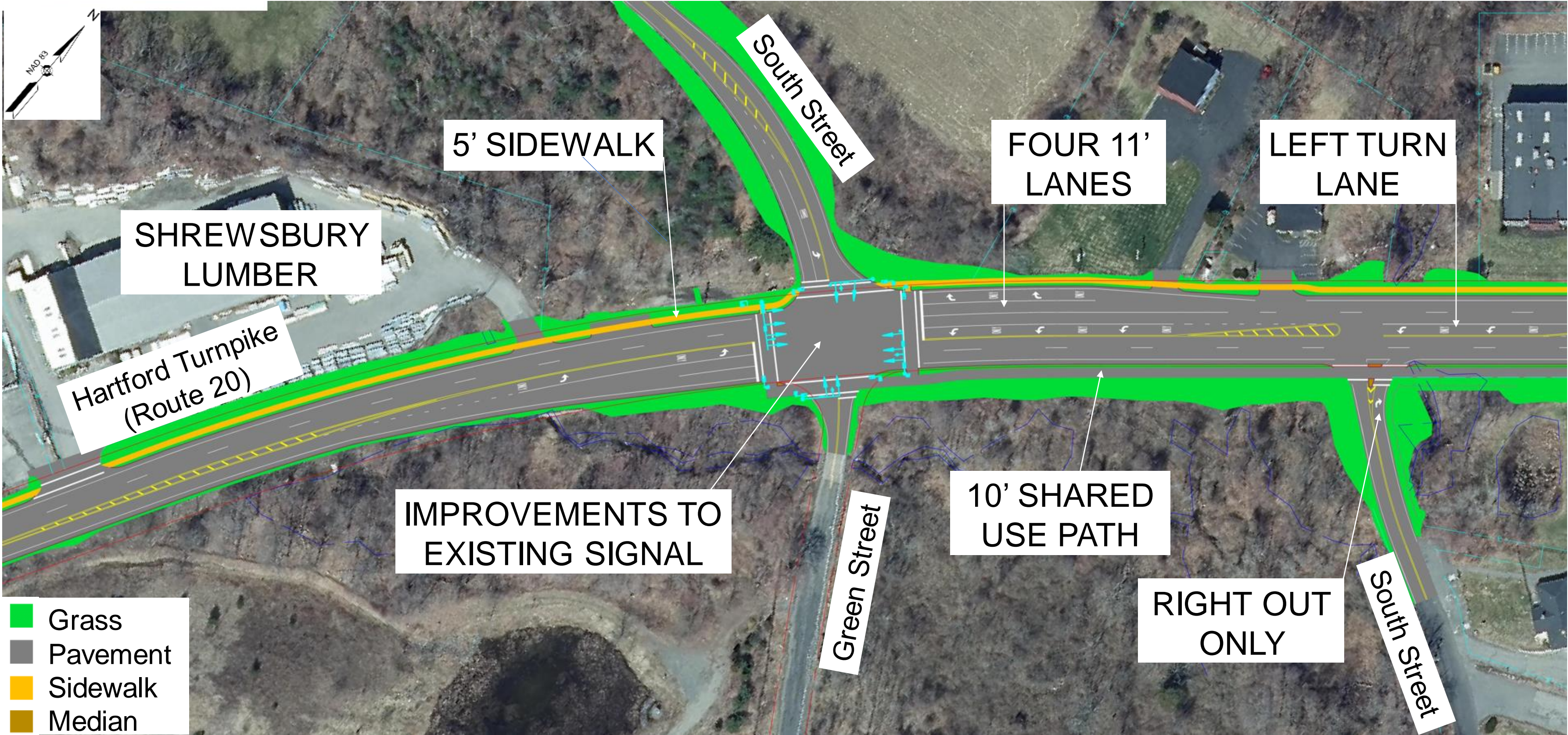




# Preferred Alternative Concept View

## South Street / Green Street

2 of 6

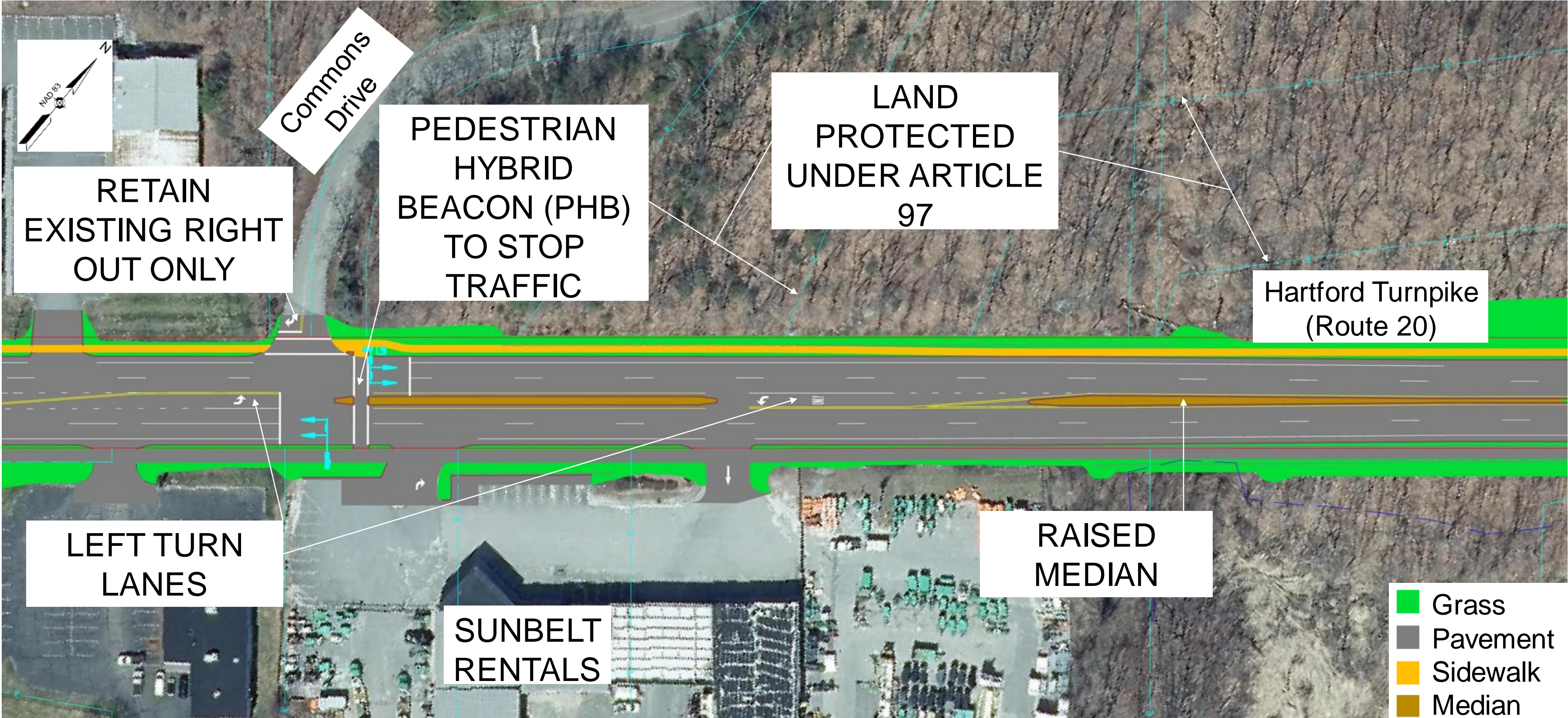




# Preferred Alternative Concept View

## Commons Drive

3 of 6

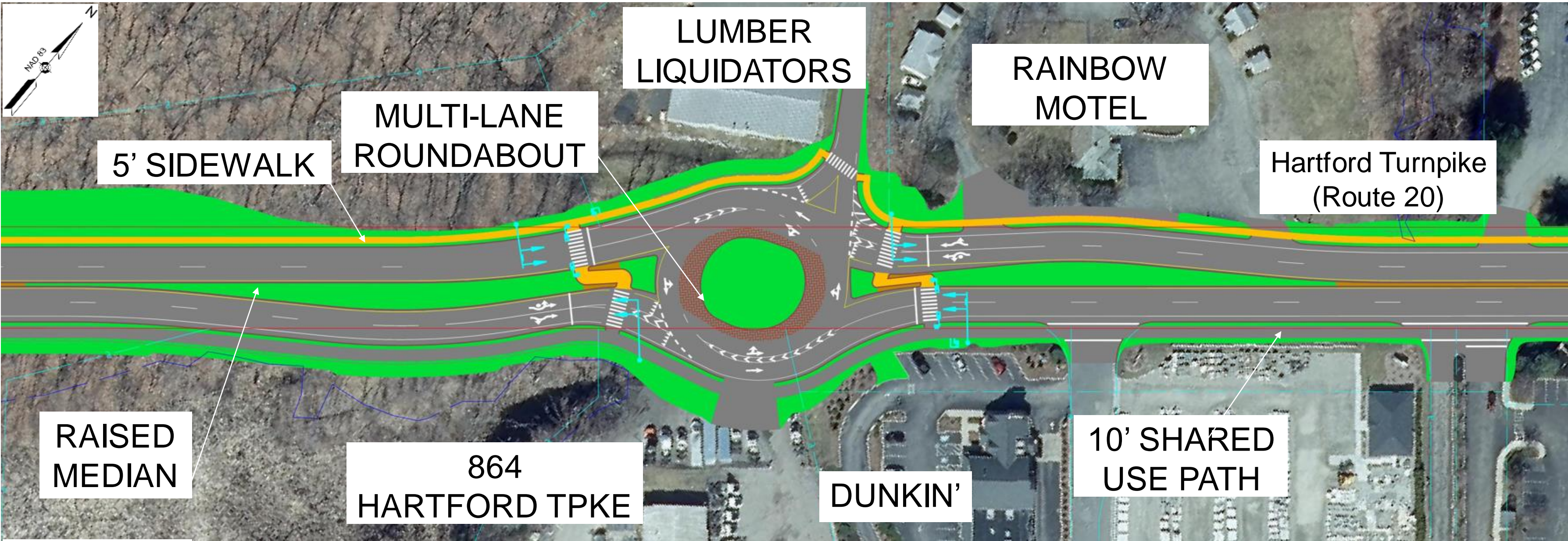




# Preferred Alternative Concept View

## Middle Roundabout

4 of 6



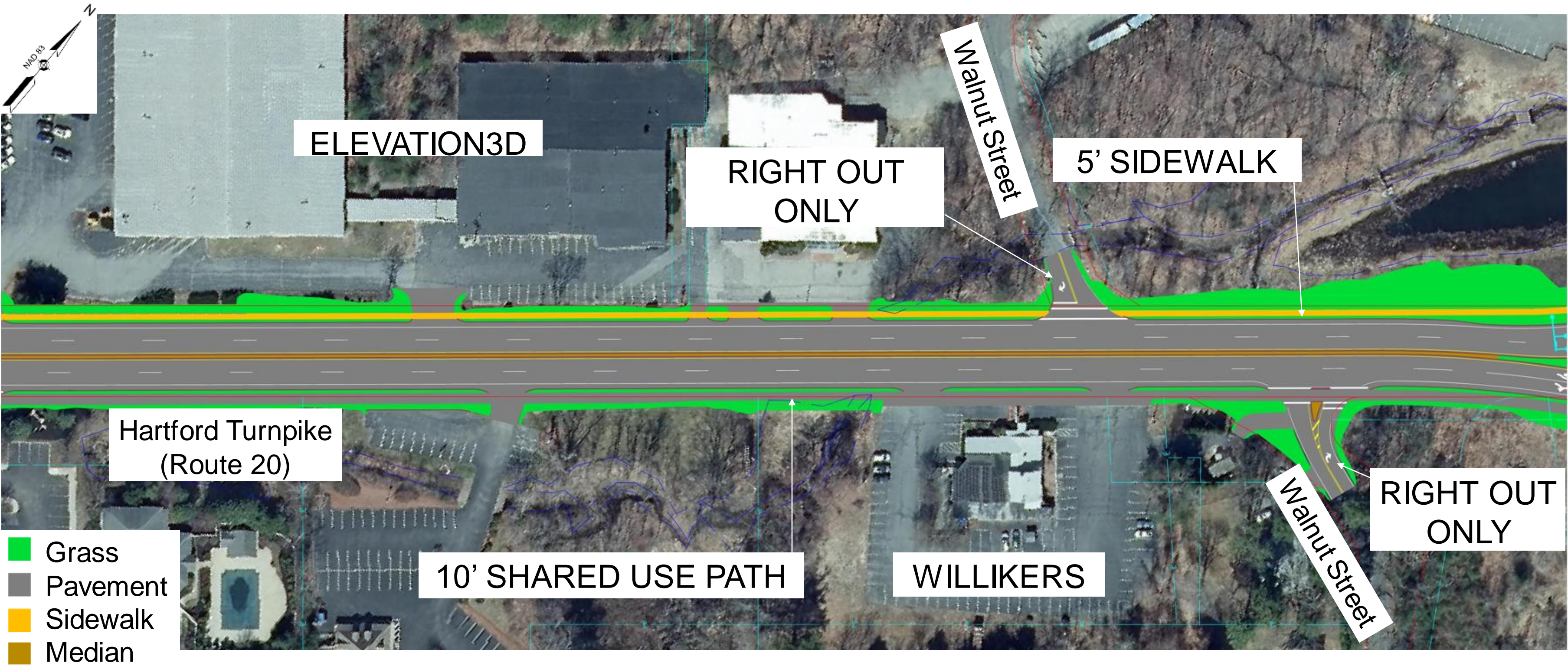
- Grass
- Pavement
- Sidewalk
- Median



# Preferred Alternative Concept View

## Walnut Street

5 of 6

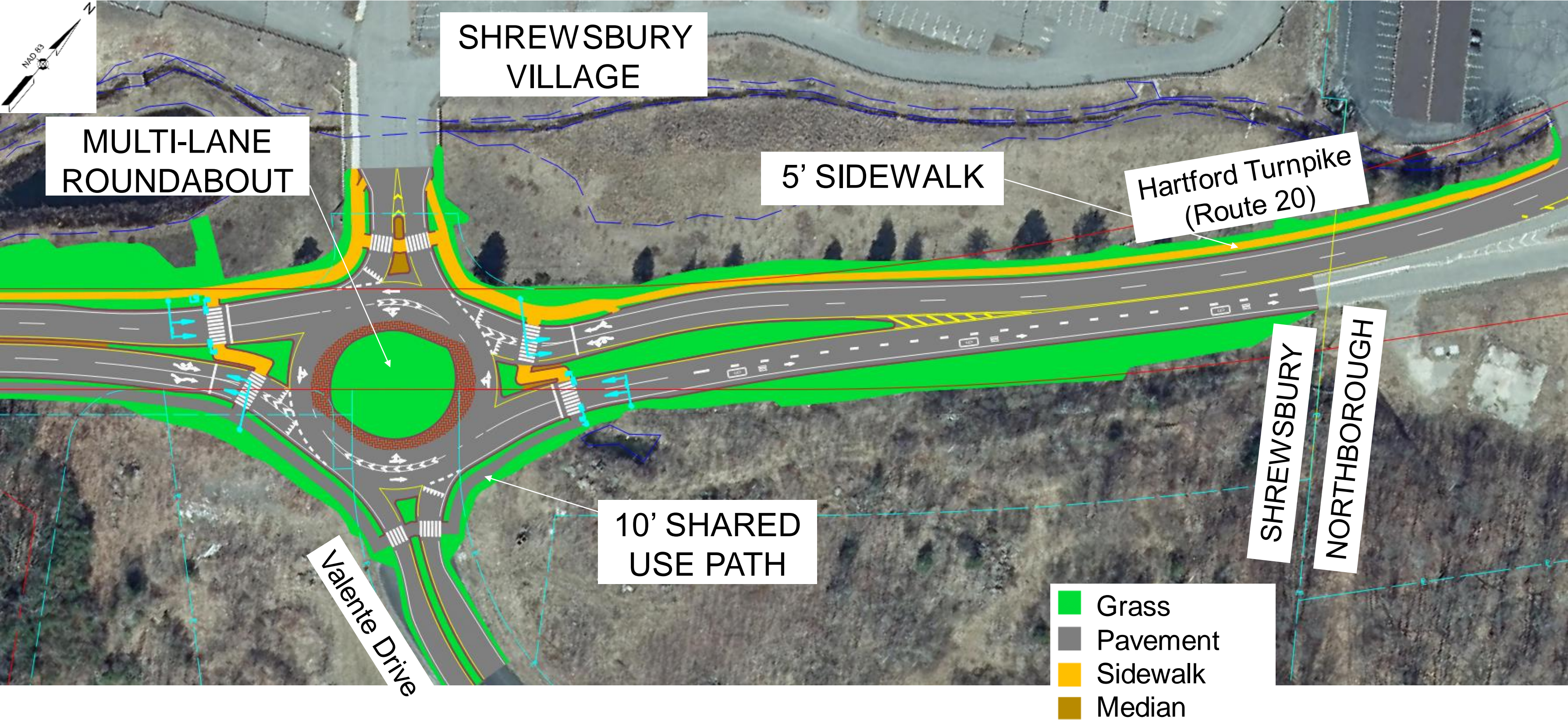




# Preferred Alternative Concept View

## Valente Drive / Shrewsbury Village Drive

6 of 6



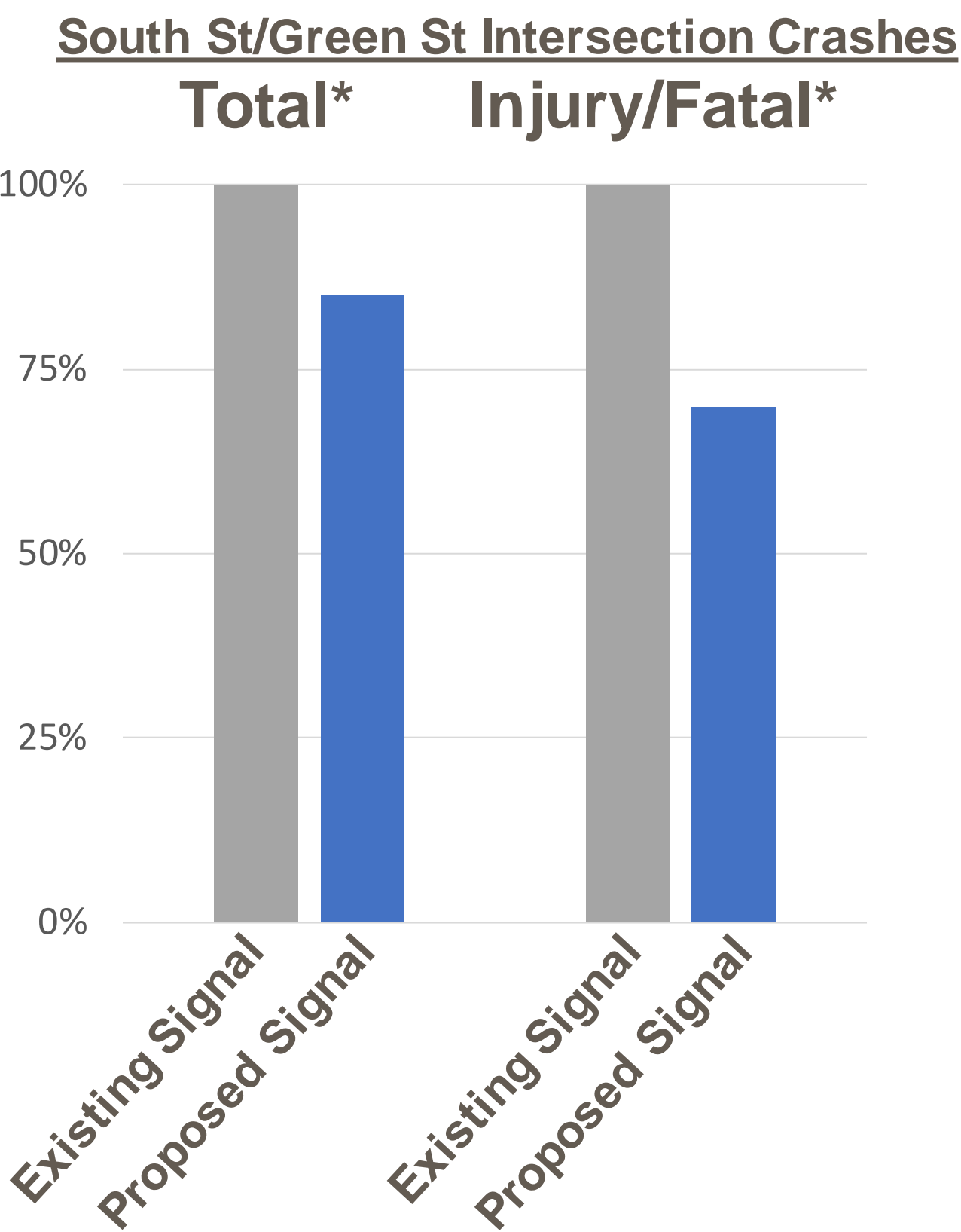
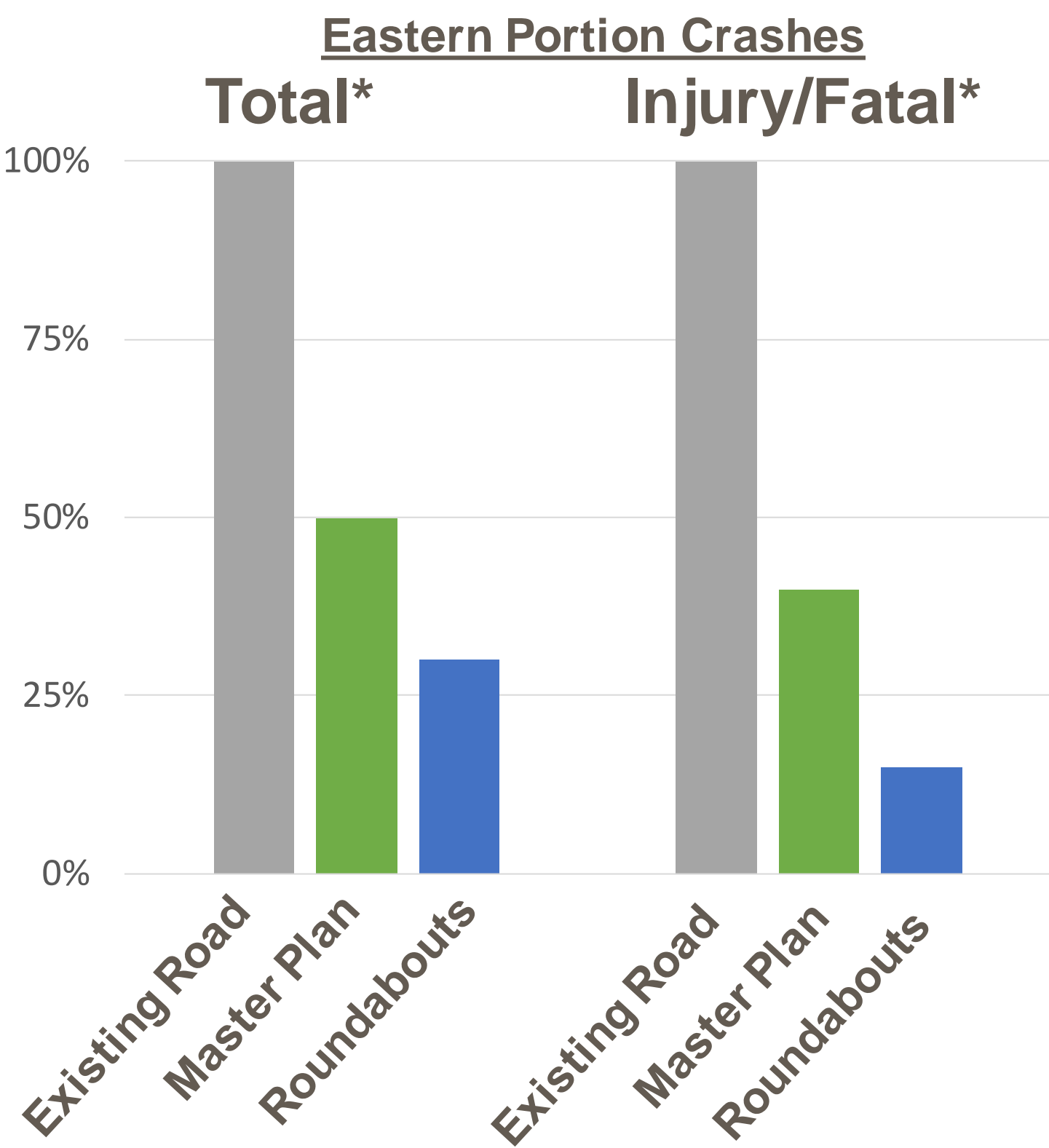


# Benefits of Preferred Alternative

- **Access Management**
  - Roundabouts and raised median provide opportunities for abutting properties to have safe access
- **Slower Speeds**
  - Roundabouts promote slower speeds
- **Pedestrian/Bicycle Crossing Route 20**
  - Roundabouts provide crossing locations along the corridor where traffic speeds will be at or less than 30 mph
- **Vehicle Safety**
  - Significant reduction in crashes



# Predicted Reductions in Crashes: Preferred Alternative



\*Based on Crash Modification Factors (CMF, which predict future crashes) for multiple types of geometric improvements  
The use of CMF's are supported by Federal Highway and are widely used and accepted in the transportation industry







**How will your  
property be  
impacted?**



## Right of Way

The Right of Way Bureau is responsible for acquiring all the necessary rights, in private and public lands, for the design, construction, and implementation of this project.

Affected property owners will be contacted by personnel from the Right of Way Bureau or consultants representing MassDOT Highway.

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, or will be, required. Other areas will also 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.





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



# Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements

- Shared use path
- Sidewalks
- Roadway shoulders, curbs, and grass buffers separate pedestrians and bicycles from vehicles
- Slower Speeds
  - Roundabouts promote slower speeds
- Crosswalks across Route 20 at
  - Valente Drive
  - Middle Roundabout
  - Commons Drive
  - Intersection of South Street / Green Street







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



# Environmental Impact Evaluation

- **Wetland and Biological Resources**
  - Less than 5,000 square feet of bordering vegetated wetland impacts
- **Historic Resources and Protected Open Space**
  - No impacts to historic resources
  - Permanent impacts to Shrewsbury Commons Conservation Restriction parcels not anticipated
- **Community Impacts**
  - Environmental Justice (EJ) Communities within project area
  - Detailed project analysis will be completed to identify benefits and potential impacts to EJ populations
  - Minimization and mitigation measures will be implemented for any unavoidable impacts such that adverse impacts to EJ populations are not anticipated





**What is the  
construction  
approach?**

**How will road  
users be  
affected?**



## Construction Impacts and Traffic Staging

- Minimize impacts to road users
- Most construction will occur off the existing road
- Roundabout construction will follow MassDOT guidance
- At least one lane in each direction of Route 20 maintained at all times





# Our next steps



Design Public  
Hearing



75% Design  
Submission  
Summer '24



Final Design  
Submission  
Summer '25



Project Advertisement  
Anticipated Summer '26



Begin Construction  
Fall '26 / Spring '27







**How will we  
keep you  
informed?**



## How to reach us

- Visit the project website at:  
<https://www.mass.gov/shrewsbury-route-20-corridor-improvement-project>  
or use the QR code:



- Submit email comments to the email below or use the QR code:  
[MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us)  
Subject: MassDOT Project File No. 610825  
Shrewsbury Route 20 Corridor Improvements



- Submit written comments to:  
Carrie Lavalley, P.E., Chief Engineer  
MassDOT  
10 Park Plaza  
Boston, MA 02116  
Attention: [PROJECT MANAGEMENT], PROJECT FILE NO. 610825





**Questions and  
discussion**



# Questions and Answers

- “Raise your hand” to be unmuted for verbal questions; \*9 for attendees calling into the meeting



- 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



- Submit your questions and comments using the Q&A button (Alt + H)



- Please state your name before your question

1

- Please share only 1 question or comment at a time, limited to 2 minutes, to allow others to participate



- Please take a few minutes to complete the survey after the meeting to let us know how your experience was with this virtual meeting

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







# ***Thank You***

## *Shrewsbury Route 20 Corridor Improvements*

Virtual Meeting | Thursday, May 23, 2024 | 7:00 PM

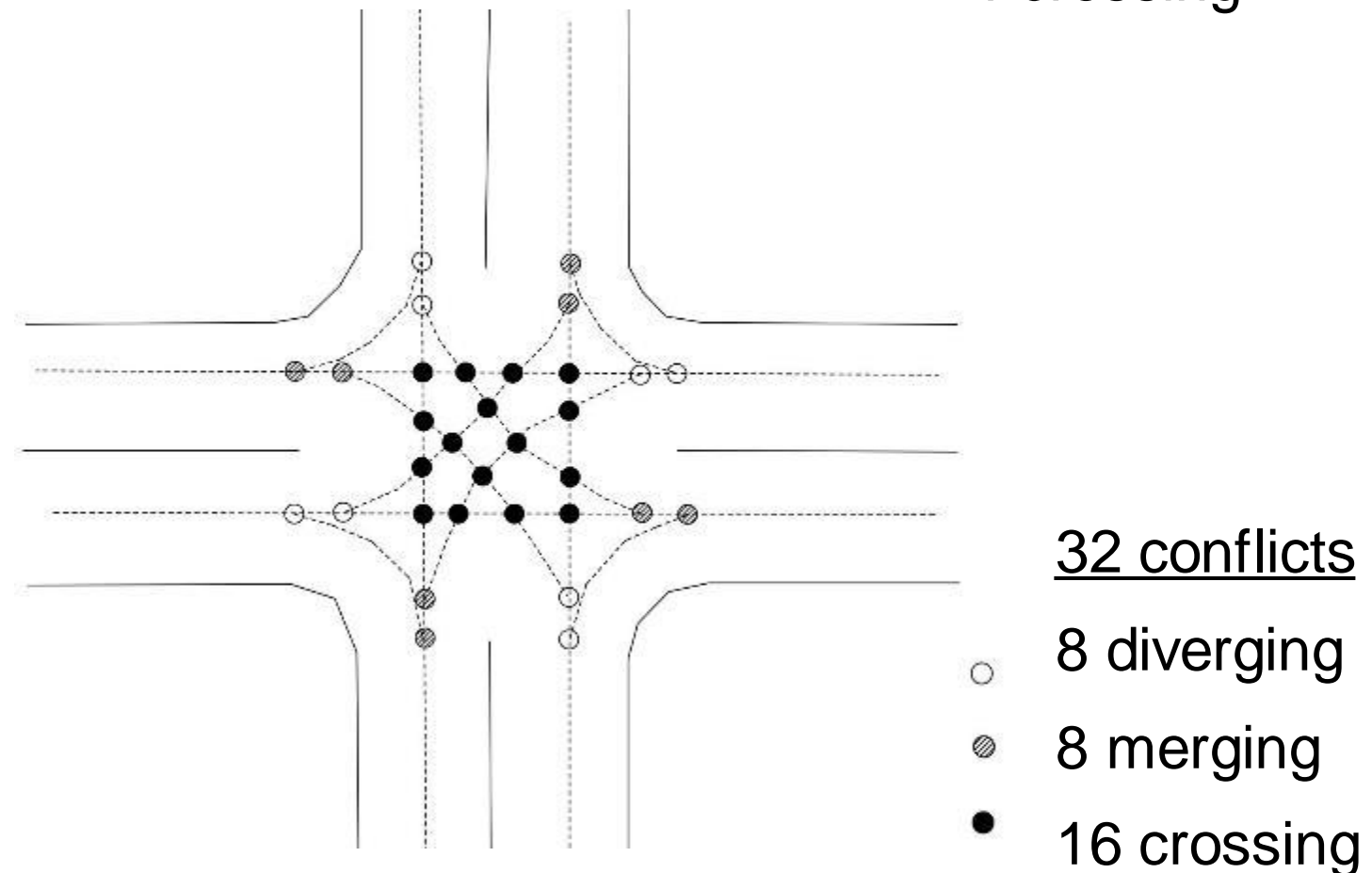
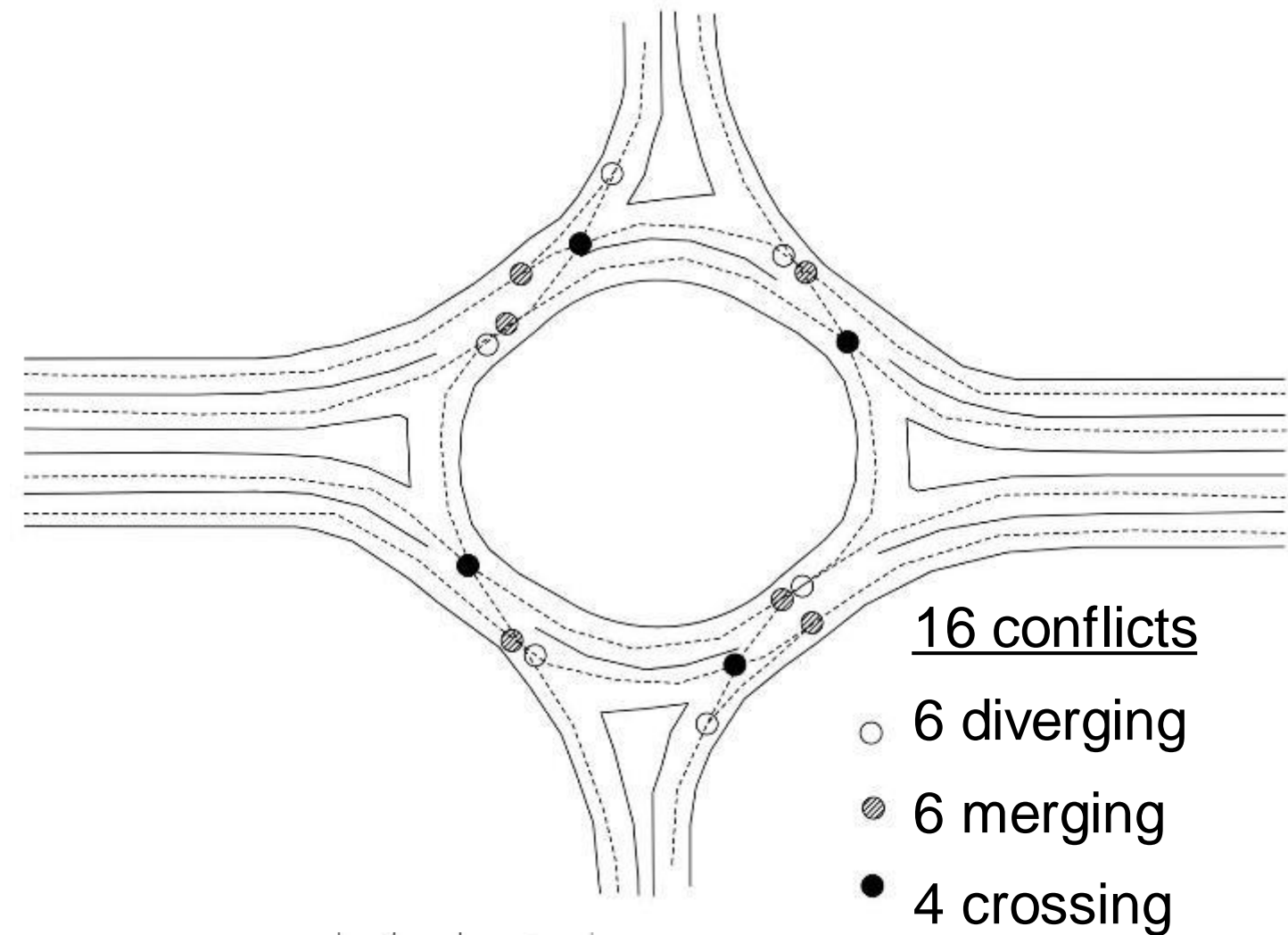
Project No. 610825

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



## Roundabout Benefits

- Fewer and less severe crashes
- Fewer conflict points
- Lower vehicle speeds
- Less vehicle pollution
- Lower maintenance costs compared to a signal
- Increased landscaping opportunities





## Examples of Two-Lane Roundabouts

State	City/Town	Location	Year Opened	Daily Traffic	Posted Speed
<u>Route 20, Shrewsbury – Project Location</u>				<u>23,000</u>	<u>45</u>
MA	Worcester	Washington Square	2008	21,200	
MA	Worcester	Kelley Square	2021	30,000	
MA	Northampton	Route 9 / I-91 Off-Ramp / Damon Road	2021	22,000	
NY	Niskayuna	Route 146 / Aqueduct Road	2017	25,700	45
NY	Bethlehem	Route 85 (4)	2007	23,800	45
NY	Clifton Park	Route 146 / Route 146A / Vischer Ferry Road	2019	20,600	45
NY	Malta	Route 67 (5, including I-87 Ramps)	2006	19,800	
NY	Malta	Route 9 / Stonebreak Road	2011		45
NY	Round Lake	Route 9 / Route 67 / Round Lake Bypass	2009		55
NY	East Greenbush	Route 4 / Route 151	2012	24,000	45



# Examples of Two-Lane Roundabouts

Route 20, Shrewsbury – Project Location – 23,000 Daily Traffic, 45mph Speed Limit

Route 146 @ Aqueduct Rd  
Niskayuna, NY



Daily Traffic: 25,700  
Speed Limit: 45mph

Route 4 @ Route 151, E Greenbush, NY



Daily Traffic: 24,000  
Speed Limit: 45mph