



Reconstruction of Route 9 in Spencer

25% Virtual Design Public Hearing

January 5, 2023 | 6:30 - 7:30 PM


Project File No. 608814

MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us



Advertisements

- The Telegram & Gazette
 - December 22, 2022
 - December 29, 2022
- Stonebridge Press
 - December 23, 2022
 - December 30, 2022
- MassDOT Website
 - Notice and Flyer posted on December 12, 2022
- MassDOT Social Media
 - MassDOT Facebook
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VIRTUAL DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

Resurfacing and Related Work on Route 9

Spencer, MA

What is happening?

A Live Virtual Design Public Hearing will be hosted on the MassDOT website below to present the proposed Resurfacing and Related work on Route 9 project in Spencer, MA

How will this affect you?


The proposed project includes approximately one mile of roadway improvements on Route 9 in Spencer, from east of Route 49 to west of the Sumner Street / Water Street intersection. The project will rehabilitate the roadway, upgrade the drainage system, improve signal capacity, and increase accessibility for pedestrians and bicyclists.

When

Thursday, January 5, 2023
6:30 PM to 7:30 PM


Attend

www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings



Please note this meeting will be transcribed by a stenographer.

Visit www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings for more information.



This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities and those with limited English proficiency. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request, as appropriate. To request accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer by phone (857) 368-8580, fax (857) 368-0602, relay 7-1-1, or by email to MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us. Requests should be made as soon as possible prior to the meeting, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten (10) business days before the meeting.

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. 608814

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
Project File No. 608814

A Live Virtual Design Public Hearing will be hosted on the MassDOT website below to present the design for the proposed Resurfacing and Related work on Route 9 project in Spencer, MA.

WHEN: 6:30PM, Thursday, January 5, 2023

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Resurfacing and Related work on Route 9 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 includes roadway improvements on Route 9 in Spencer from just east of Route 49 to just west of the intersection of Route 9 at Sumner Street and Water Street, a distance of approximately 1 mile. The project includes pavement rehabilitation, drainage system upgrades, signal capacity improvements, sidewalks, and bicycle lanes.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The MassDOT 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 or via US Mail to Suite 7550, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: **Project Management, Project File No. 608814**. Statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the public hearing transcript must be emailed or postmarked no later than ten (10) business days (14 calendar days) after the hearing is hosted on the MassDOT website listed below.

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). 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 Live Virtual Design Public Hearing or a cancellation announcement will be hosted on the internet at www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings.

JONATHAN GULLIVER
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

CARRIE E. LAVALLEE, P.E.
CHIEF ENGINEER

Project Handout for Spencer MA

<https://www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings>



Funding

- Total estimated construction cost: \$10.0 Million
- Cost does not include any right-of-way acquisition costs
- Project programmed in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) in the appropriate Federal Fiscal Year
- Funding Sources:
 - Federal Aid (80%)
 - State Funds (20%)



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

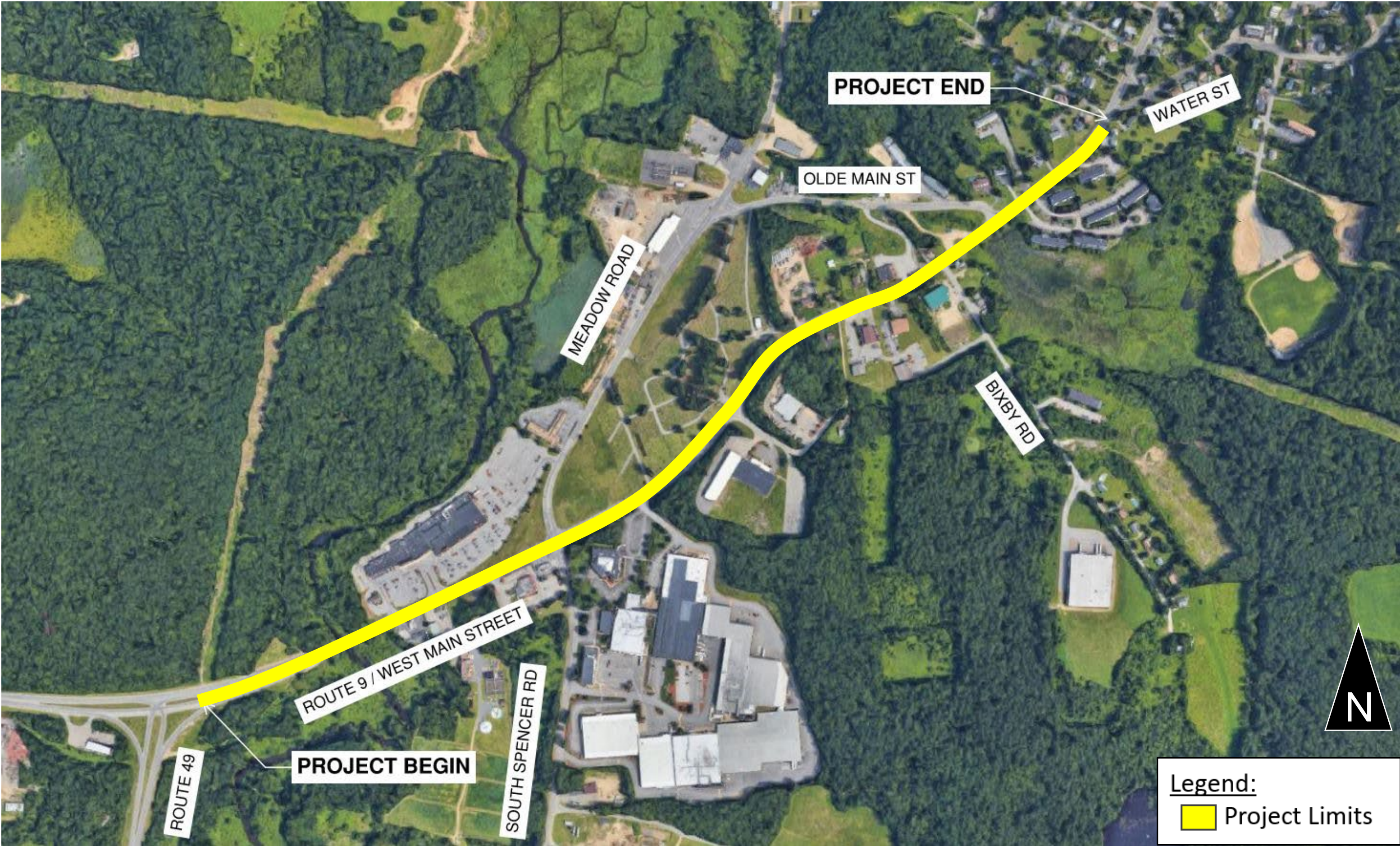


Project Overview

- 01 Project Area
- 02 Project History
- 03 Existing Conditions
- 04 Project Goals
- 05 Design Alternatives
- 06 Proposed Improvements
- 07 Right of Way Impacts
- 08 Environmental Permitting
- 09 Construction/Traffic Impacts
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- 11 Next Steps
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- 13 Questions & Answers



Project Locus



How did we get here?





**Why was this
project
initiated?**

Existing Condition Deficiencies

- Poor pavement condition
- Lack of ADA compliant pedestrian facilities and connections
- Lack of bicycle accommodations
- Faded pavement markings
- Aging traffic signal infrastructure
- Structural repairs needed on Seven Mile River Bridge



Existing Conditions

Poor Pavement Conditions



Older Signal Equipment



Existing Conditions

Poor ADA Accessibility Compliance



Lack of Bicycle Accommodations





**What do we
want to
accomplish?**

Project Goals

- Enhance vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycle safety, mobility, and operations
- Pavement rehabilitation and curb upgrades
- Drainage system upgrades
- Signal improvements
- Pavement marking and signage updates
- Upgrades to Seven Mile River Bridge
- Guardrail upgrades
- Water line upgrades (by Town)

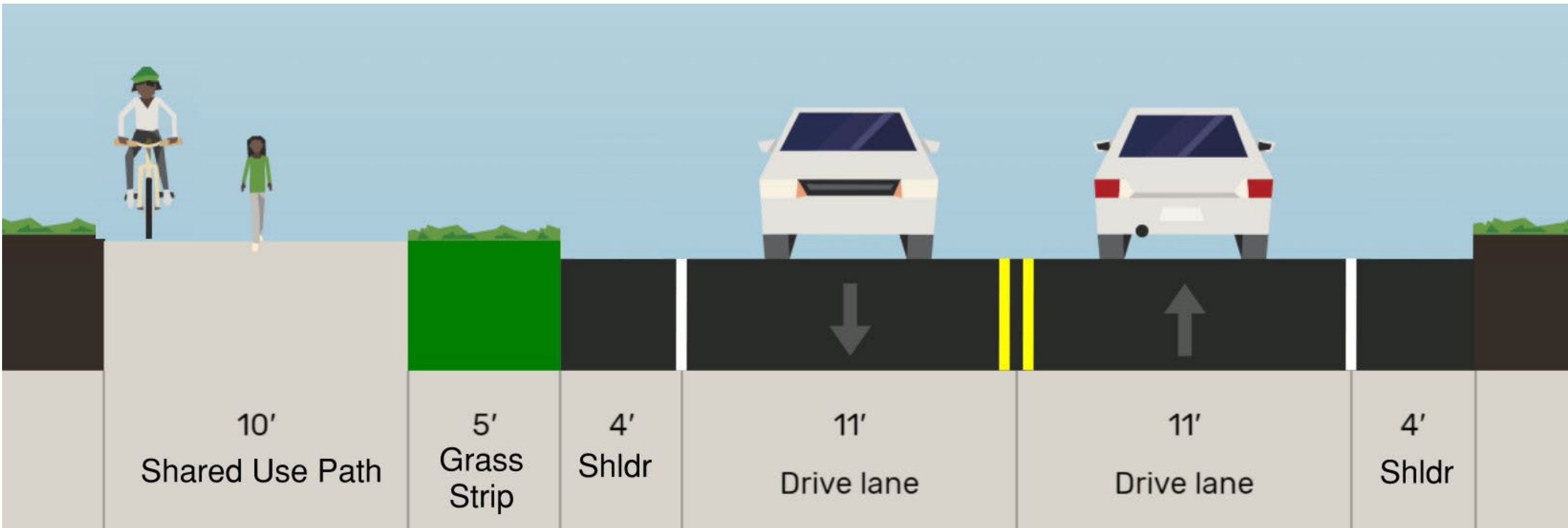




**What
alternatives
were
considered?**

Alternatives Considered

Alternative 1

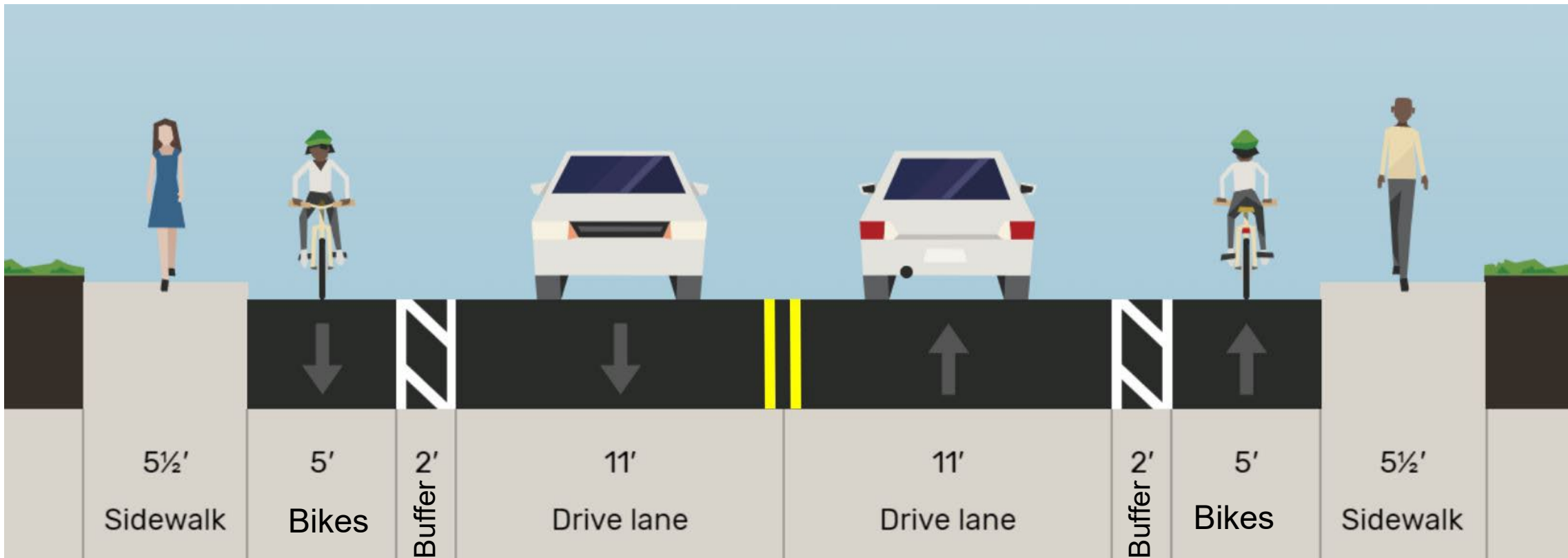


Alternatives Considered

Alternative 2



Alternative 3

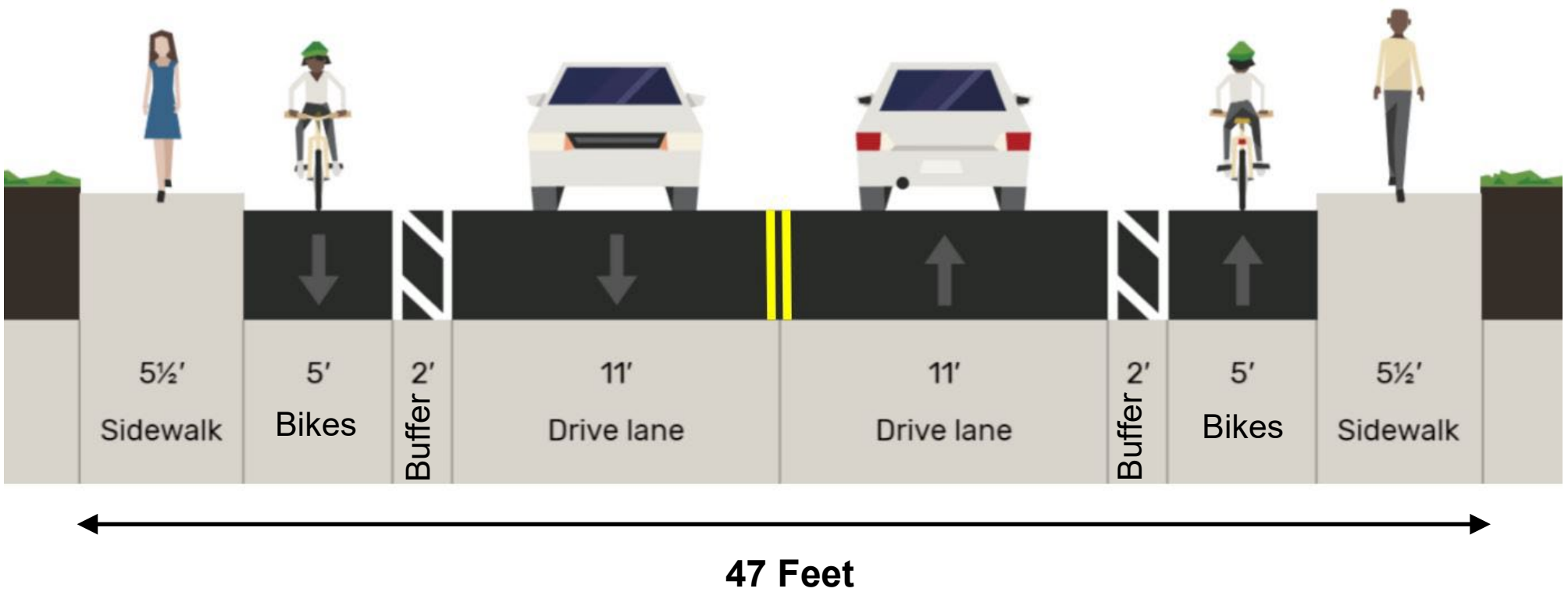




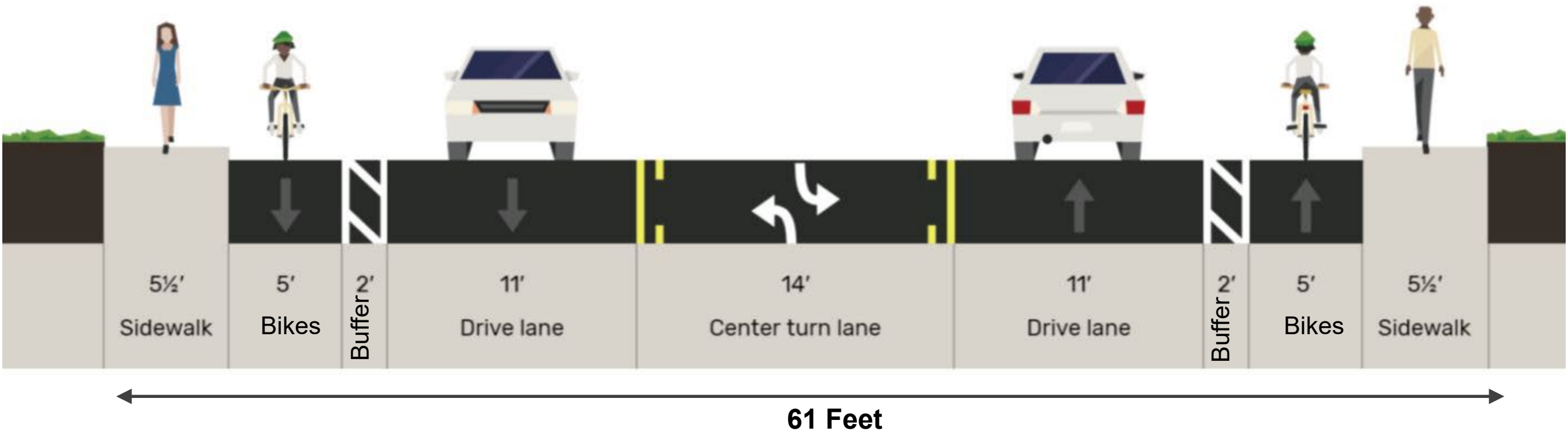
**What is the
preferred
alternative?**

Proposed Cross Section – Alternative 3

- Proposed roadway width of 36 ft
 - 11 ft travel lanes
 - 5 ft bicycle lanes with 2 ft buffers
 - 5.5 ft sidewalks on each side

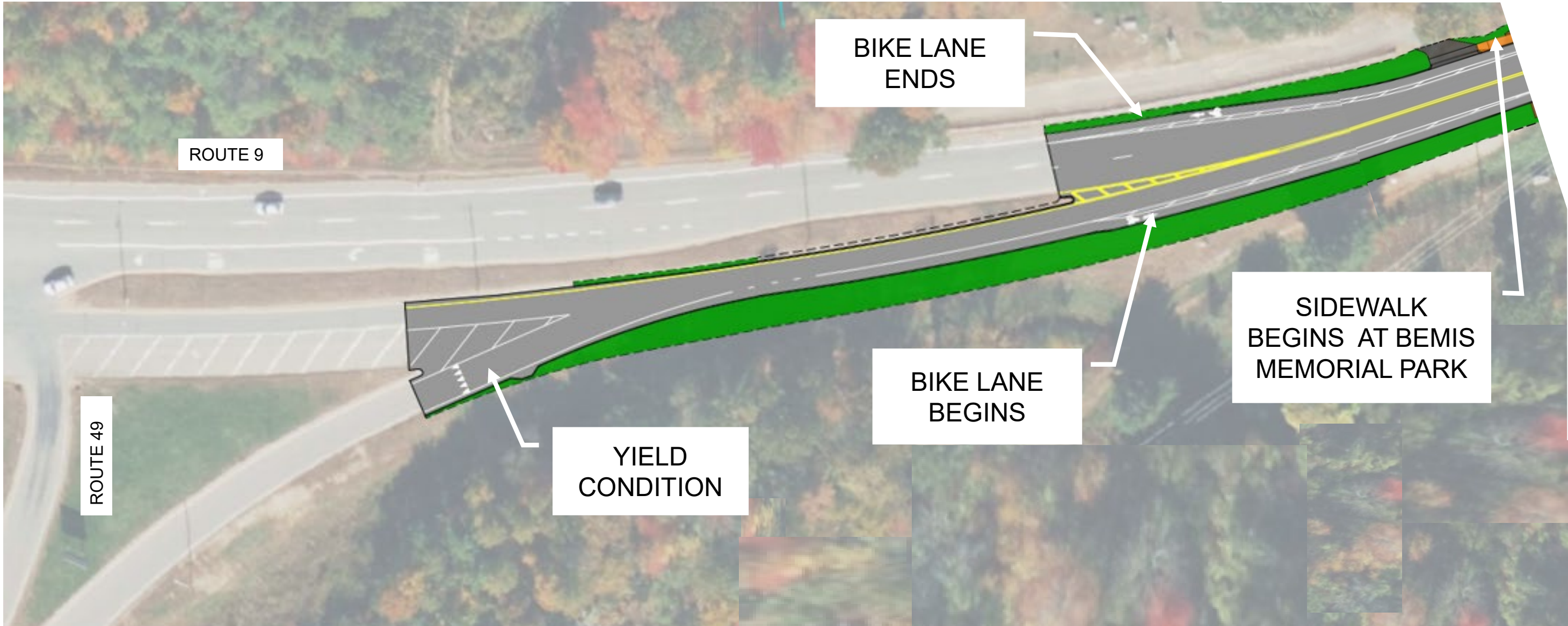


- 14 ft two-way-left-turn-lane at Plaza



Proposed Improvements

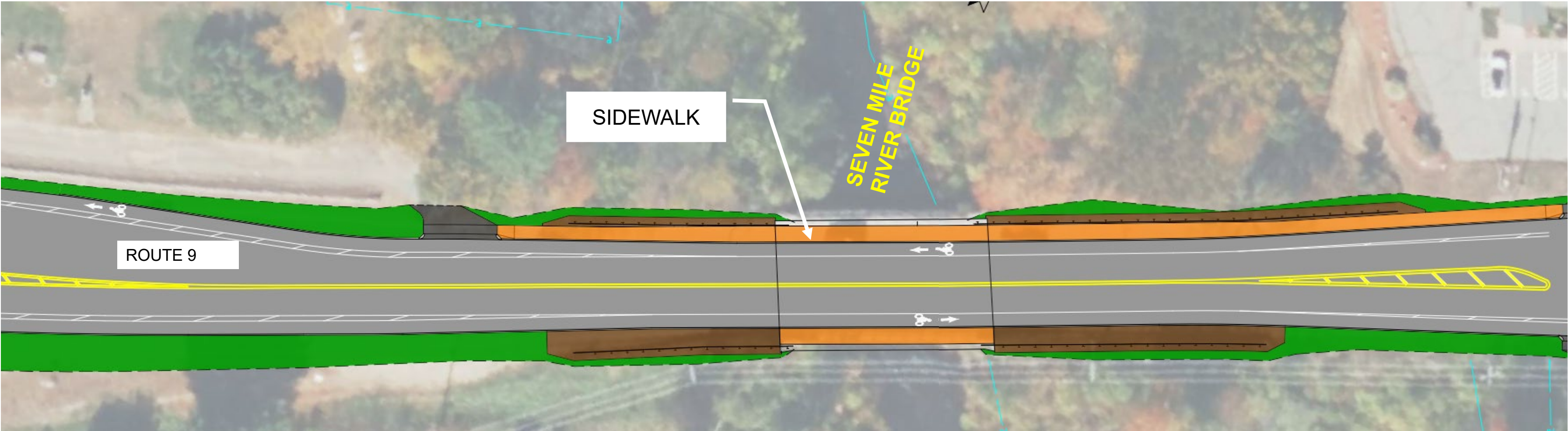
Route 9 Project Starts at Route 49



- Legend:
- Road
 - Driveway
 - Sidewalk
 - Bicycle paint
 - Grass
 - Mulch

Proposed Improvements

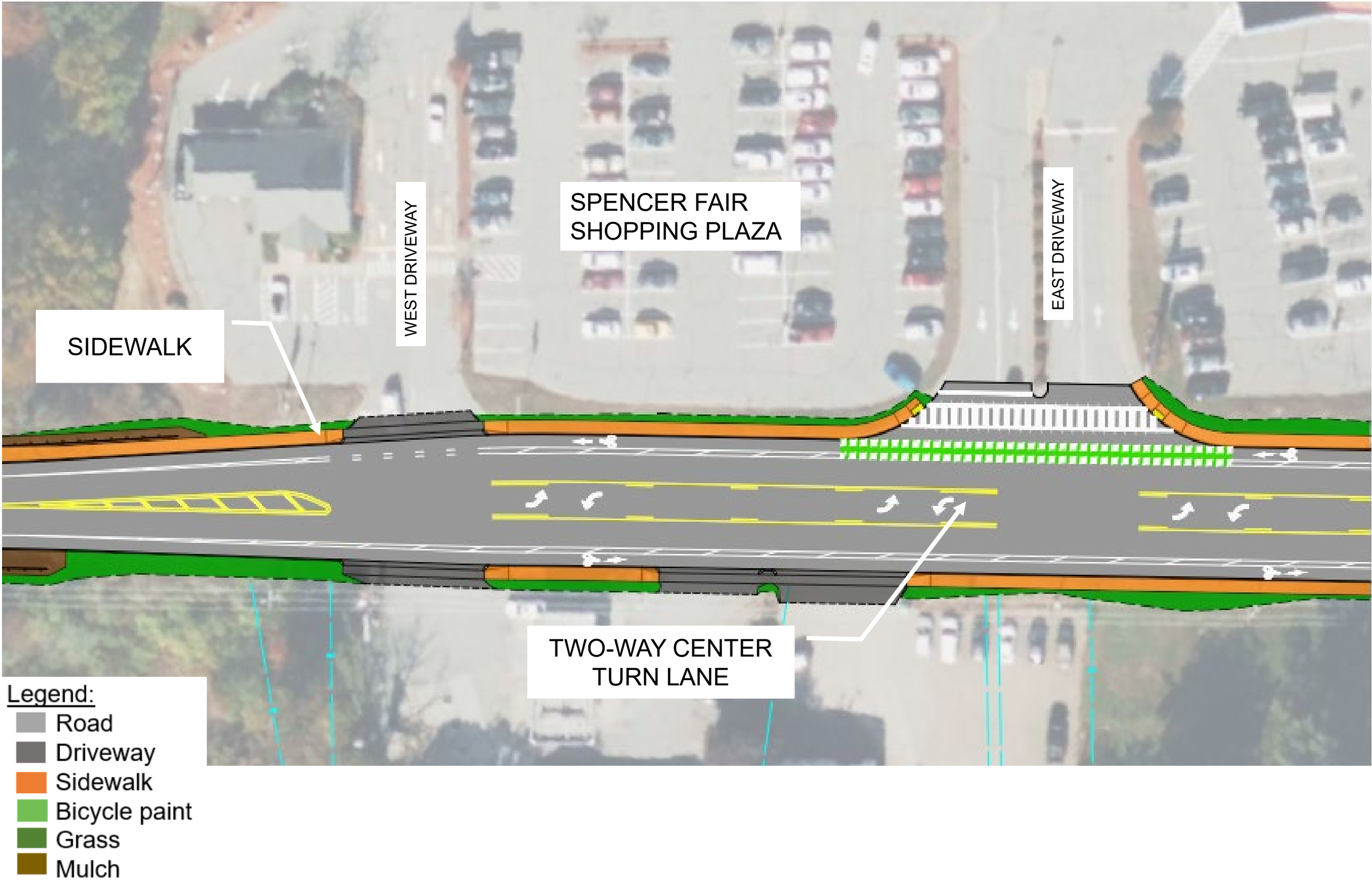
Route 9 at Seven Mile River Bridge



- Legend:
- Road
 - Driveway
 - Sidewalk
 - Bicycle paint
 - Grass
 - Mulch

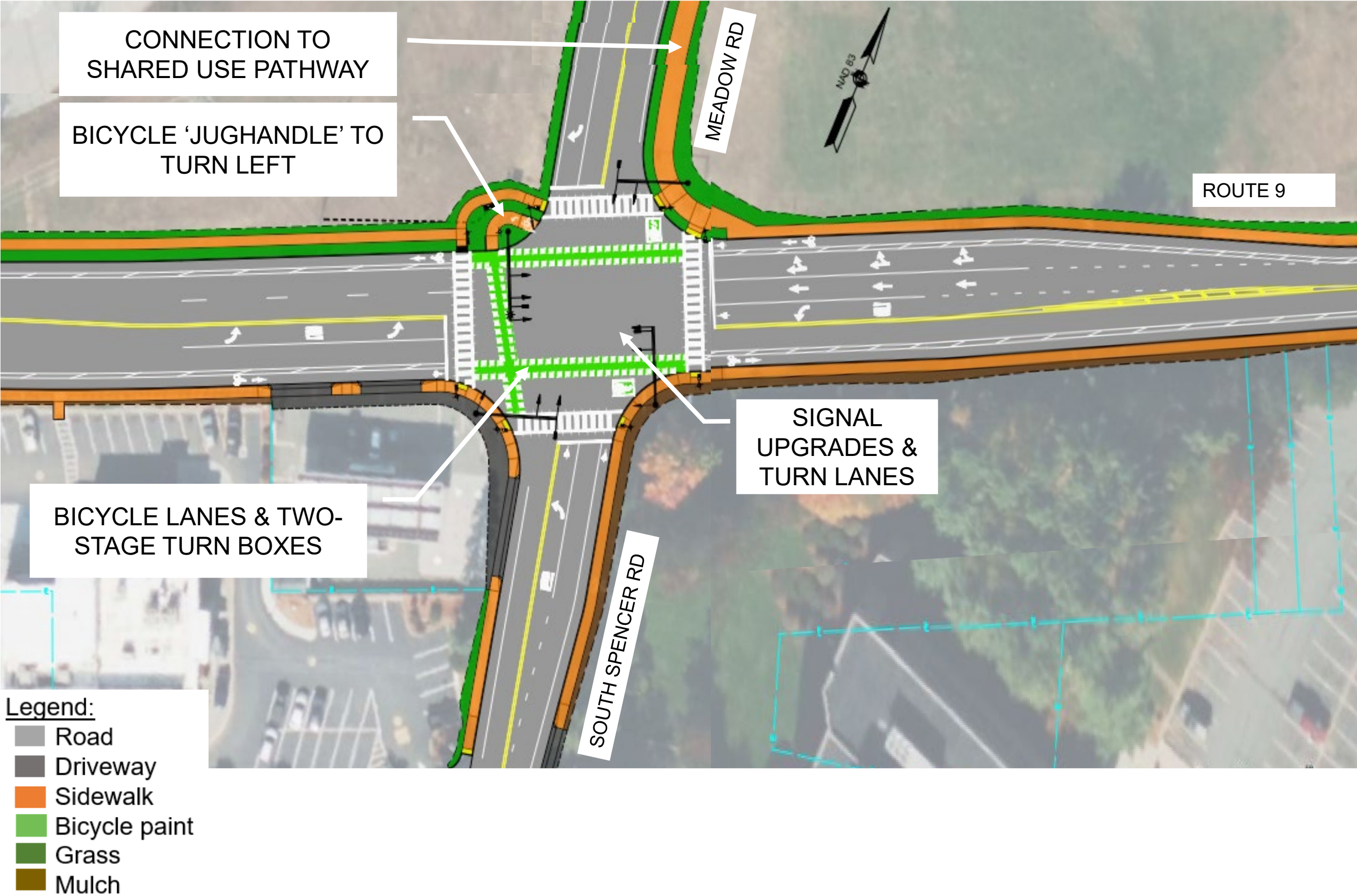
Proposed Improvements

Route 9 at Plaza



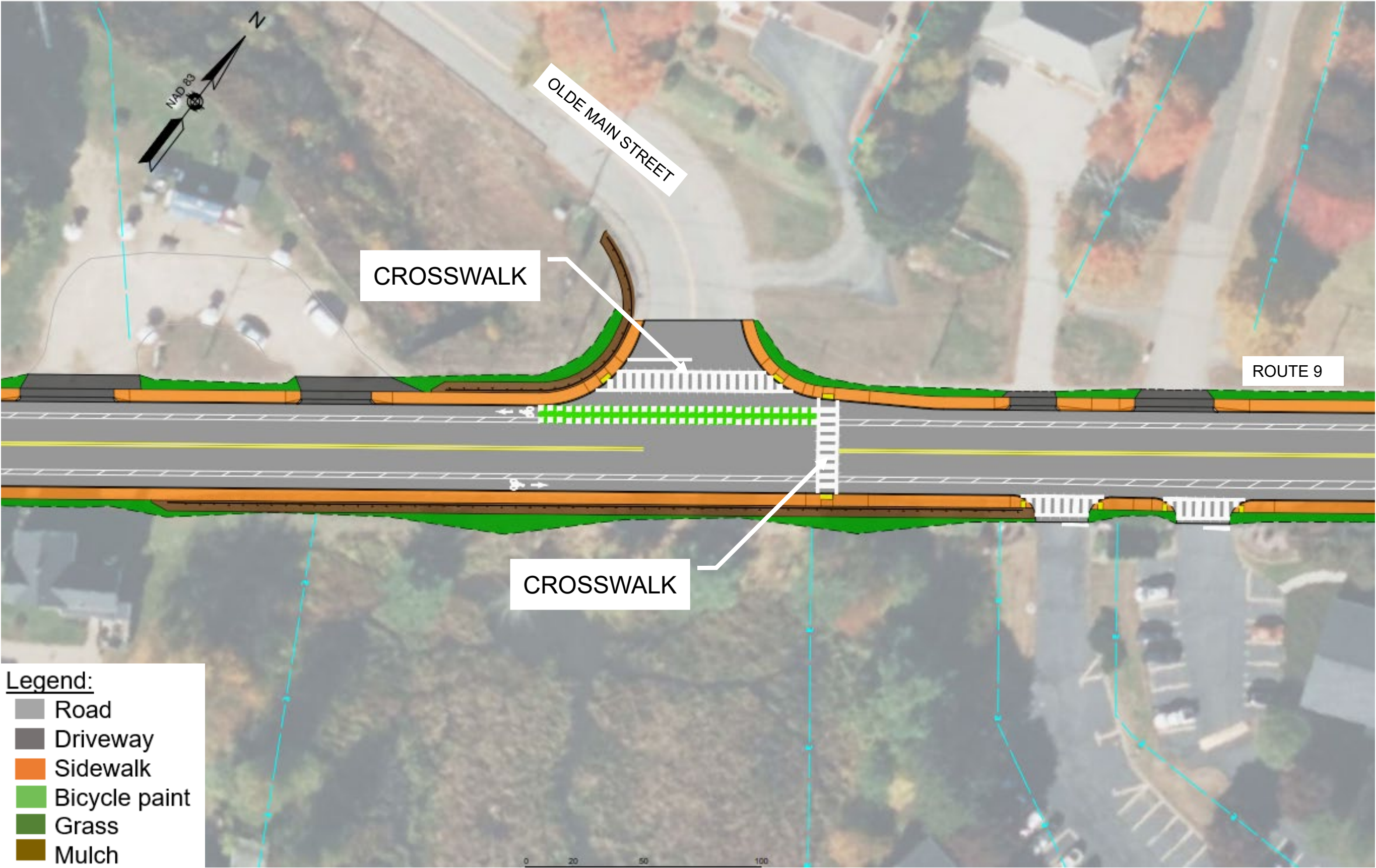
Proposed Improvements

Route 9 at Meadow Rd/South Spencer Road



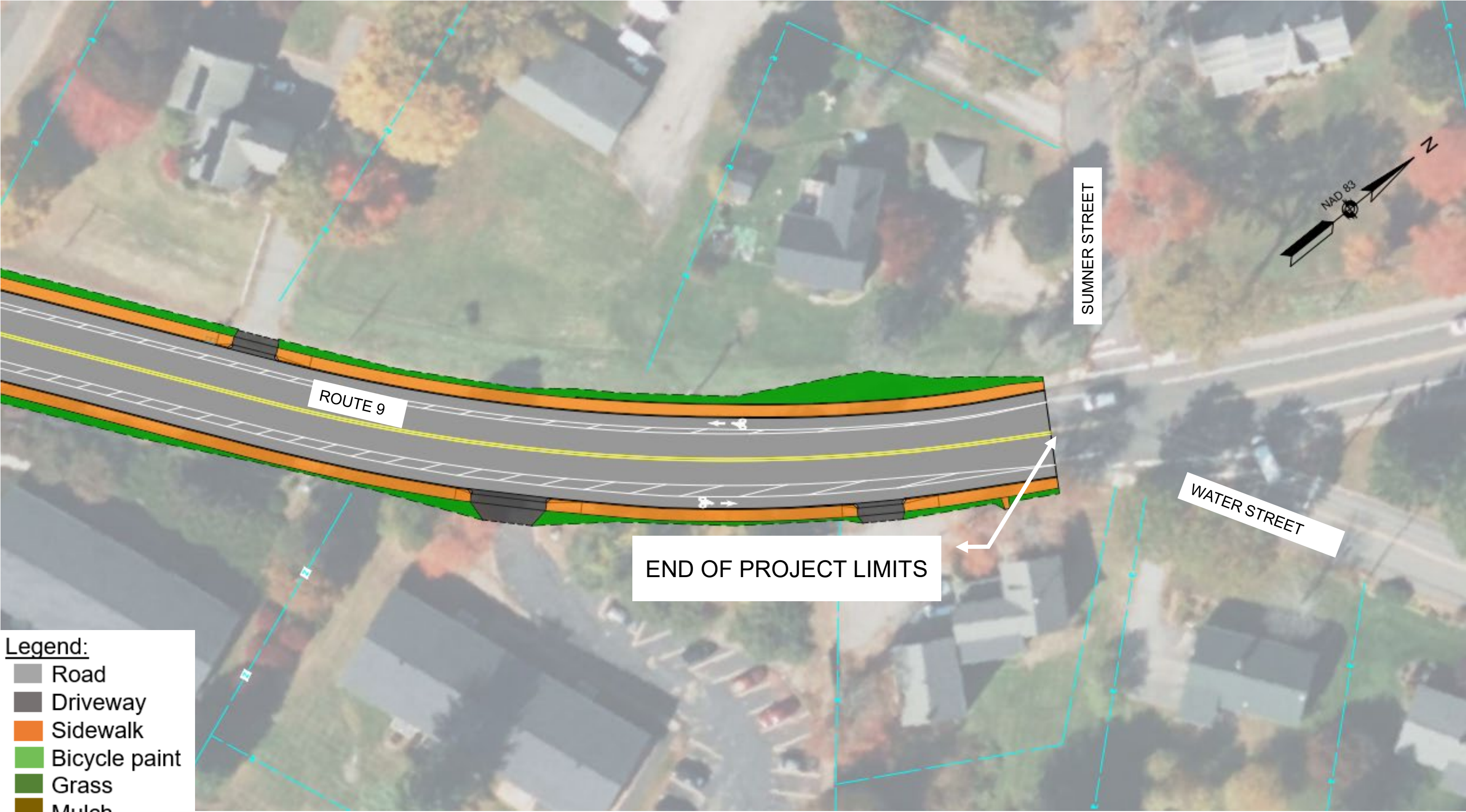
Proposed Improvements

Route 9 at Olde Main Street



Proposed Improvements

Route 9 Project Ends at Water Street





**How will your
property be
impacted?**

Preliminary Right of Way (ROW) discussion

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- The Right to Way Bureau is responsible for acquiring all of 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 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.

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.

Preliminary Right of Way (ROW) discussion

25% Design Public Hearing

- 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.



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

Pedestrian & Bicycle Improvements

- ADA compliant sidewalks on both sides of the roadway
- Bicycle lanes
- Shared use path connection on Meadow Road





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

Environmental Permitting

- Work within buffer zone of Bordering Vegetated Wetlands. Project will be filed for review under Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (WPA) Regulations
- No direct impacts to resource areas
- No significant impacts to cultural and historical resources
- Project will enhance:
 - Accessibility to Bemis Memorial Park, Holy Rosary Cemetery
 - Water quality



Seven Mile River south of Route 9



**What is the
construction
approach?**

Proposed Construction Approach

- Access to businesses and residences will be maintained at all times
- Minor lane closures during workday non-peak hours
- Maintain 2 lanes of traffic at most times
- No detours anticipated



Our next steps



Step 1 – 25% Design
Public Hearing



Step 2 – 75% Design



Step 3 – File
Environmental Permits



Step 4 - Complete
Final Design and
Secure ROW



Step 5 - Advertise for
Construction
Summer/Fall 2024





**How will we
keep you
informed?**

How to reach us?

- Submit written comments to:
Carrie Lavalley, P.E. Chief Engineer
MassDOT
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116
Attention: Highway Design, PROJECT FILE NO. 608814
- Submit email comments to:
MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us
- For project information visit the MassDOT Design Public Hearing web site at:
<https://www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings>
or use the QR Code:

