



# Eliot Bridge Preservation Project

## *Public Information Meeting*

Fiorentino Center, 123 Antwerp St, Allston, MA

September 21, 2023

Project File No. 608762





# Agenda

- Welcome
- Background
- Purpose & Need
- Construction Impacts
- Project Contacts
- Questions & Answers





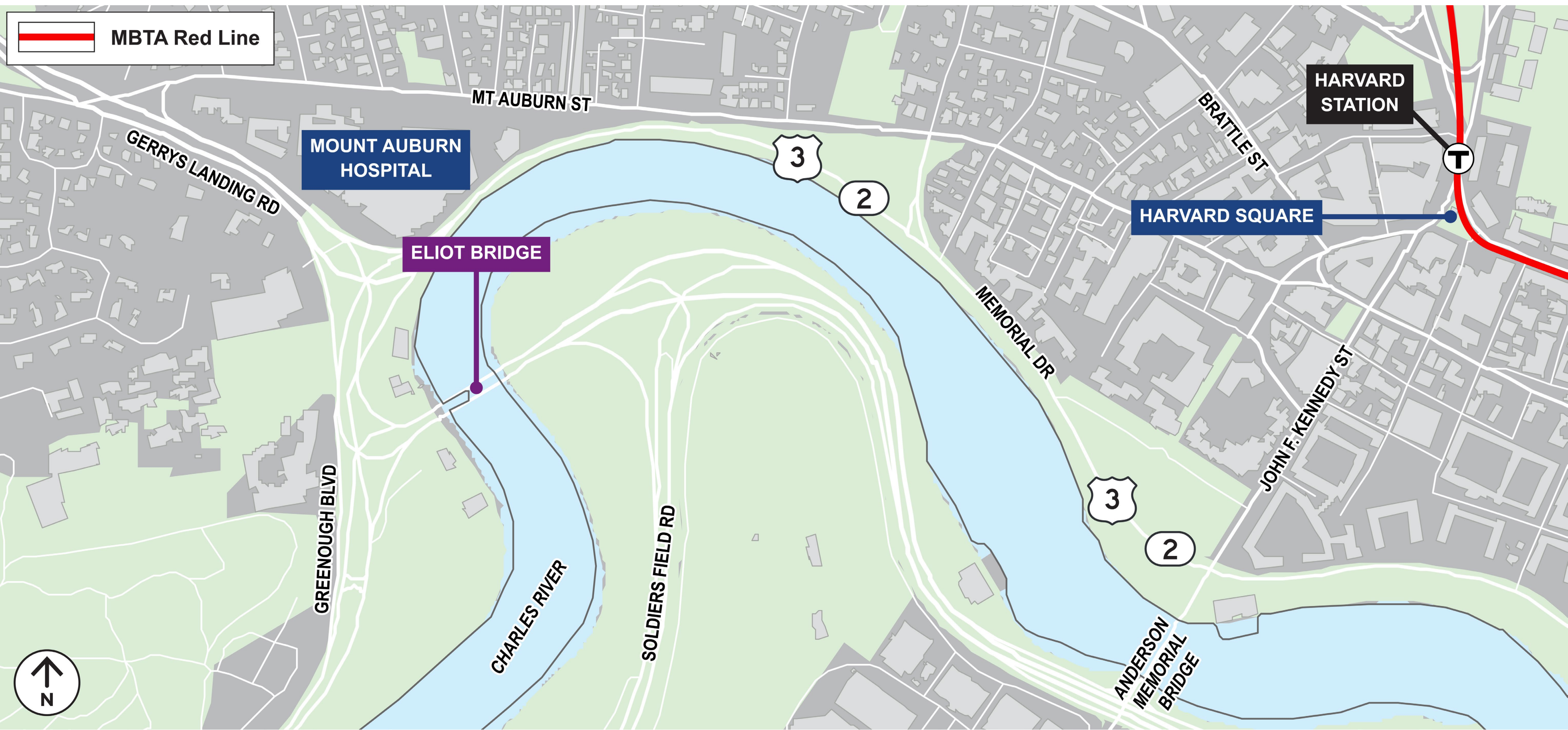
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- We welcome the diversity from across our entire service area. If you have any questions or concerns, please visit <https://www.mass.gov/nondiscrimination-in-transportation-program> to reach the Office of Diversity and Civil Rights.

**Thank you for joining our meeting. We appreciate your participation!**

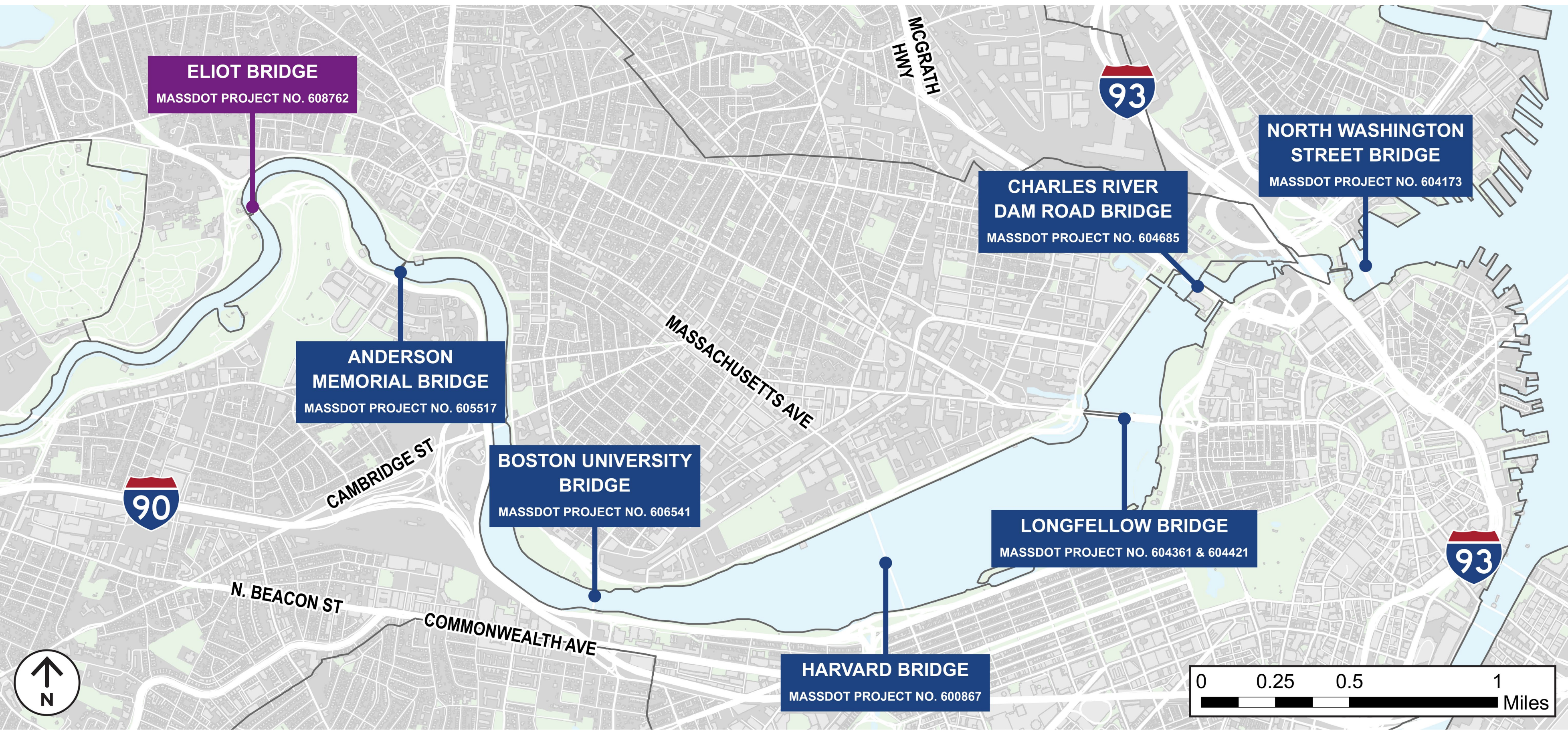


# Project Area



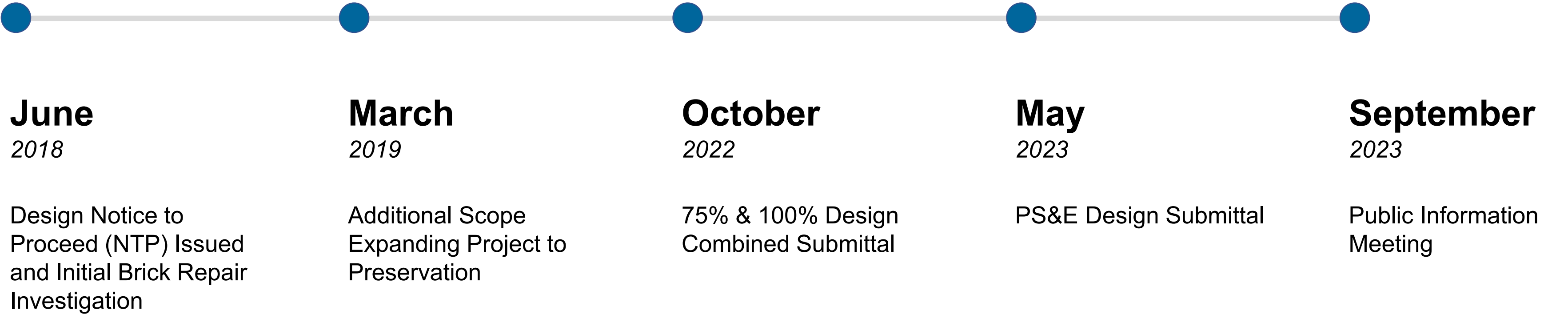


# Completed Work in the Charles River Basin





# How did we get here?







THIS BRIDGE COMMEMORATES



CHARLES WILLIAM ELIOT

1834 — 1926

PRESIDENT OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
RESOLUTE AND TRUSTED LEADER IN THE L  
COLLEGE COMMUNITY AND COMMONWEAL

AND HIS SON

CHARLES ELIOT

1859 — 1897

PERSUASIVE ADVOCATE AND DESIGNER OF THE  
METROPOLITAN PARK SYSTEM  
LOVER OF BEAUTY AND FAR SIGHTED SERVANT  
OF THE COMMON GOOD



Why was this  
project  
initiated?



## Existing Bridge Conditions

- The Bridge was recently inspected in August 2023 and earned an overall condition rating of Fair
- The deck and trusses exhibit large spalled areas with loose concrete over the river
- The brick work, parapets, façade and sidewalks have several non-structural defects that must be repaired
- Roadway expansion joints at the piers in Fair condition and need to be replaced



# Existing Conditions





# Existing Conditions (cont.)







**What do we  
want to  
accomplish?**



## Project Goals

- Preserve the historic Eliot Bridge and extend its lifespan for another 10 to 20 years
- Maintain vehicle, pedestrian, cyclist, and boat access throughout construction
- Enhancing existing multimodal access by widening the sidewalks for cyclists and pedestrians
- Accommodate events during construction
- Complete the repairs safely and as efficiently as possible to reduce impacts to all bridge users



## Project Scope – Bridge Improvements

- Full depth concrete deck repairs
- Beam and truss concrete encasement repairs
- Bridge joint replacement at the piers
- Removal and resetting of loose brick along the bridge parapets and façade
- Permanent concrete filling of all scuppers (drainage structure) on bridge, which have been paved over or filled



## Project Scope – Roadway & Pedestrian Improvements

- Partial depth concrete repair of sidewalk to repair existing deterioration and produce a uniform appearance
- Sidewalk widening from 8'4" to 10'-0" width with "shaped curb detail" incorporated
- Reconstruction of the median with concrete barrier
- Installation of guardrail end treatment to improve safety
- Milling, paving and revised pavement striping (travel lane widths reduced from 12' to 11')



## Project Scope – Lighting Improvements

- Replacement of the median lighting with standard DCR light pole for continuity on the parkway
- Replacement of marine navigation lighting in center bridge span (navigable channel)
- Replacement of pedestrian underpass lighting for improved safety





**What is the  
construction  
approach?**

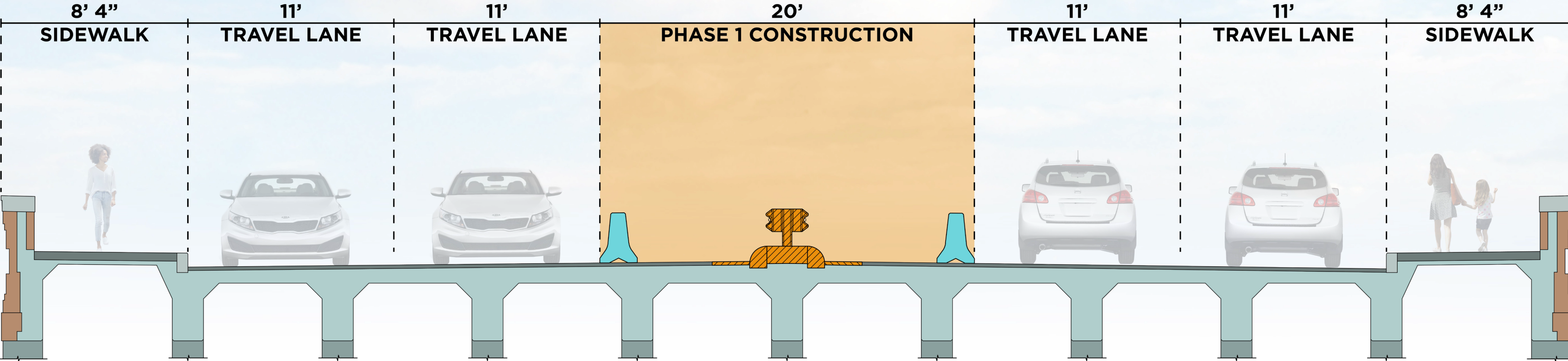


## Traffic and Pedestrian Impacts

- Permanent lane shifts during construction to allow for reconstruction of the median and sidewalks
  - Two lanes will remain open during construction in both directions on the bridge
- Temporary single lane closures (one work shift) for isolated deck repairs may be required
  - During off-peak hours
- Pedestrian detours at both sidewalks to allow for sidewalk repairs
  - One sidewalk will remain open during construction at all times
- Detours of marine traffic for underside repairs
  - Charles River will remain navigable during construction, work limited to one span at a time
- All planned traffic closures will be posted to the project website

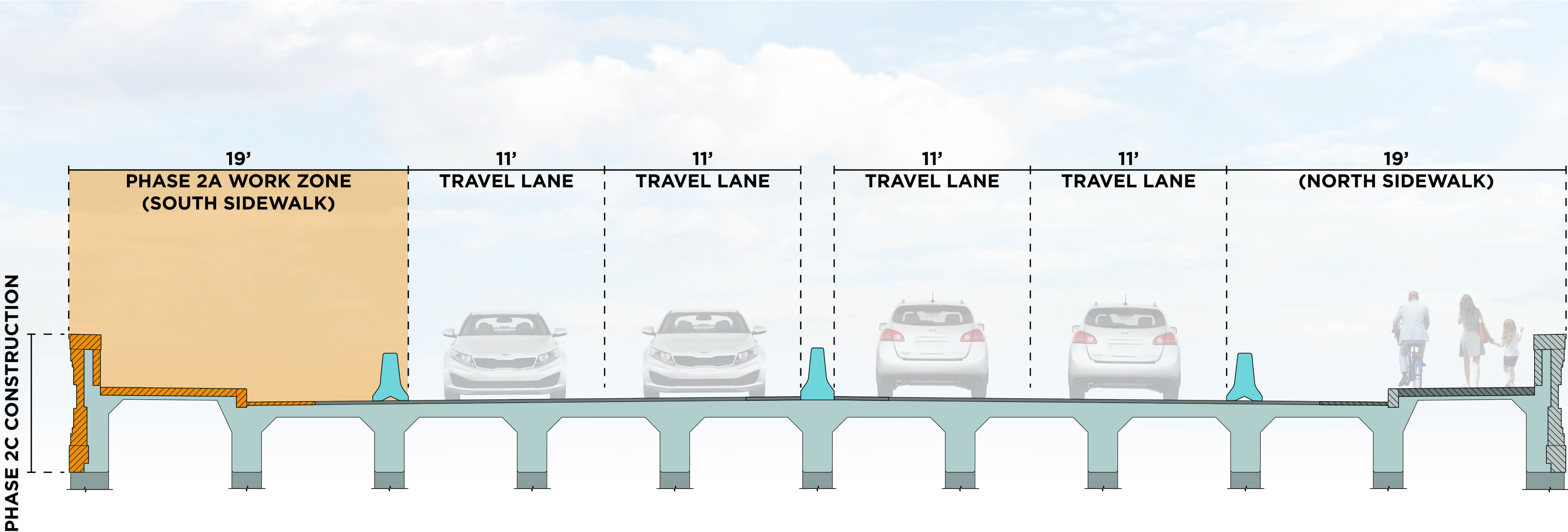


# Phase 1 Construction Work Zone



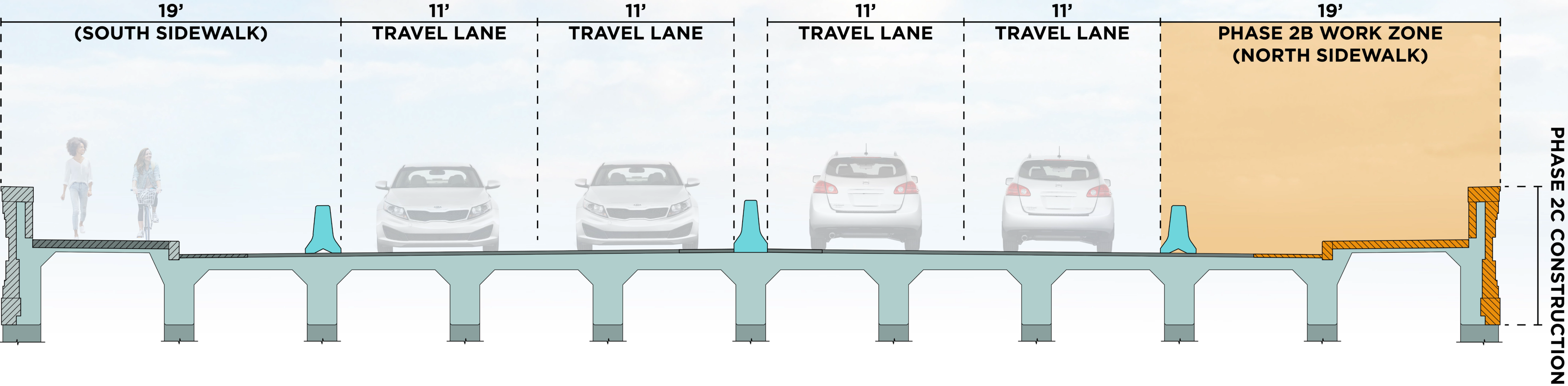


# Phase 2A Construction Work Zone



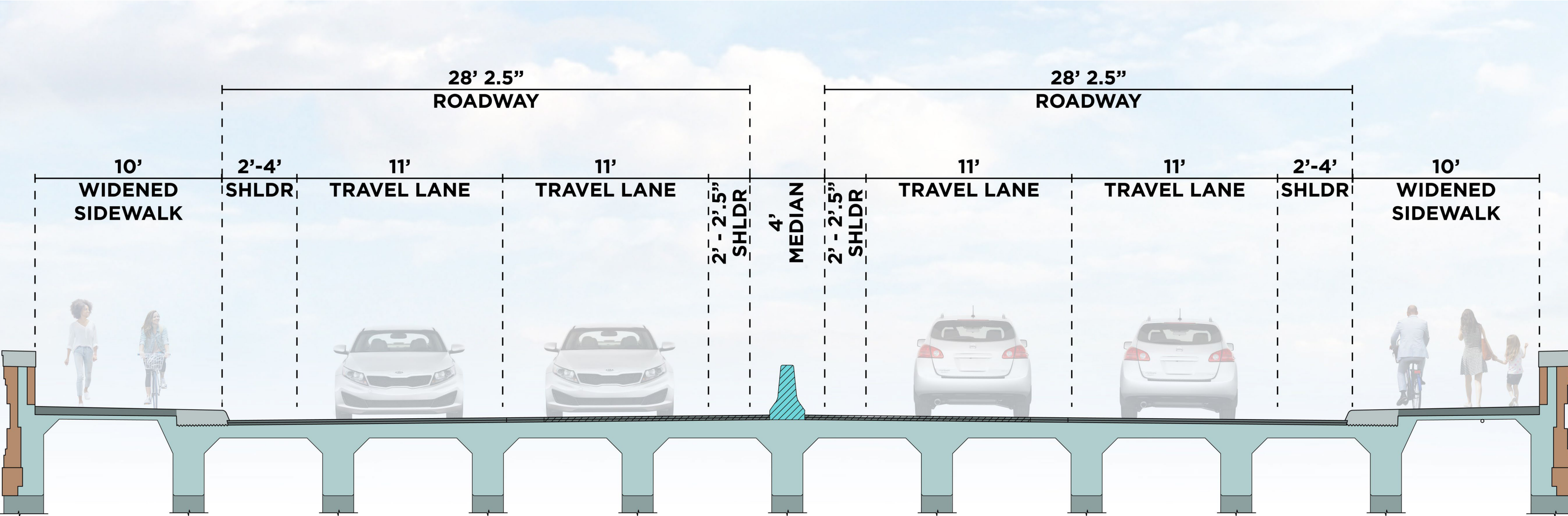


# Phase 2B Construction Work Zone





# Completed Repairs



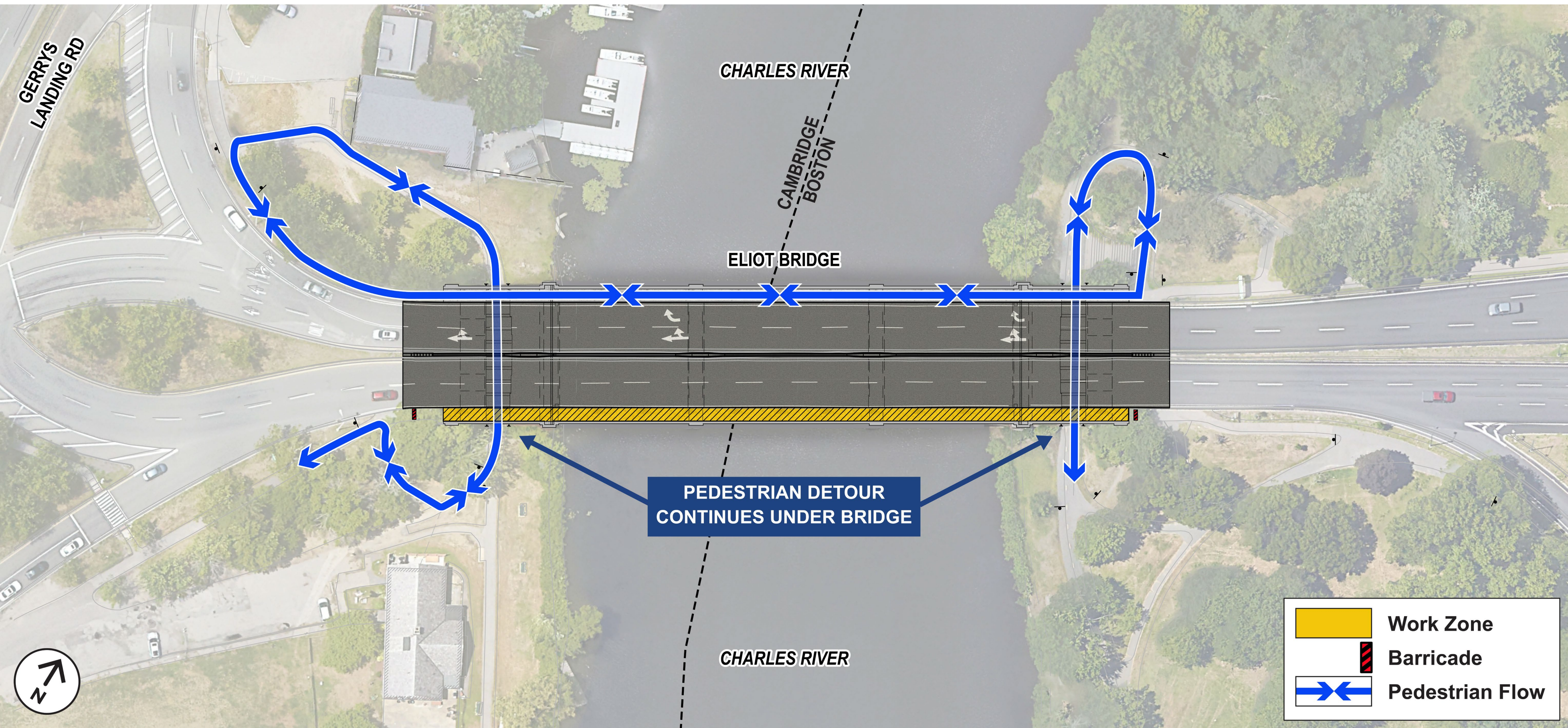




**How will  
bicyclists and  
pedestrians  
be impacted?**

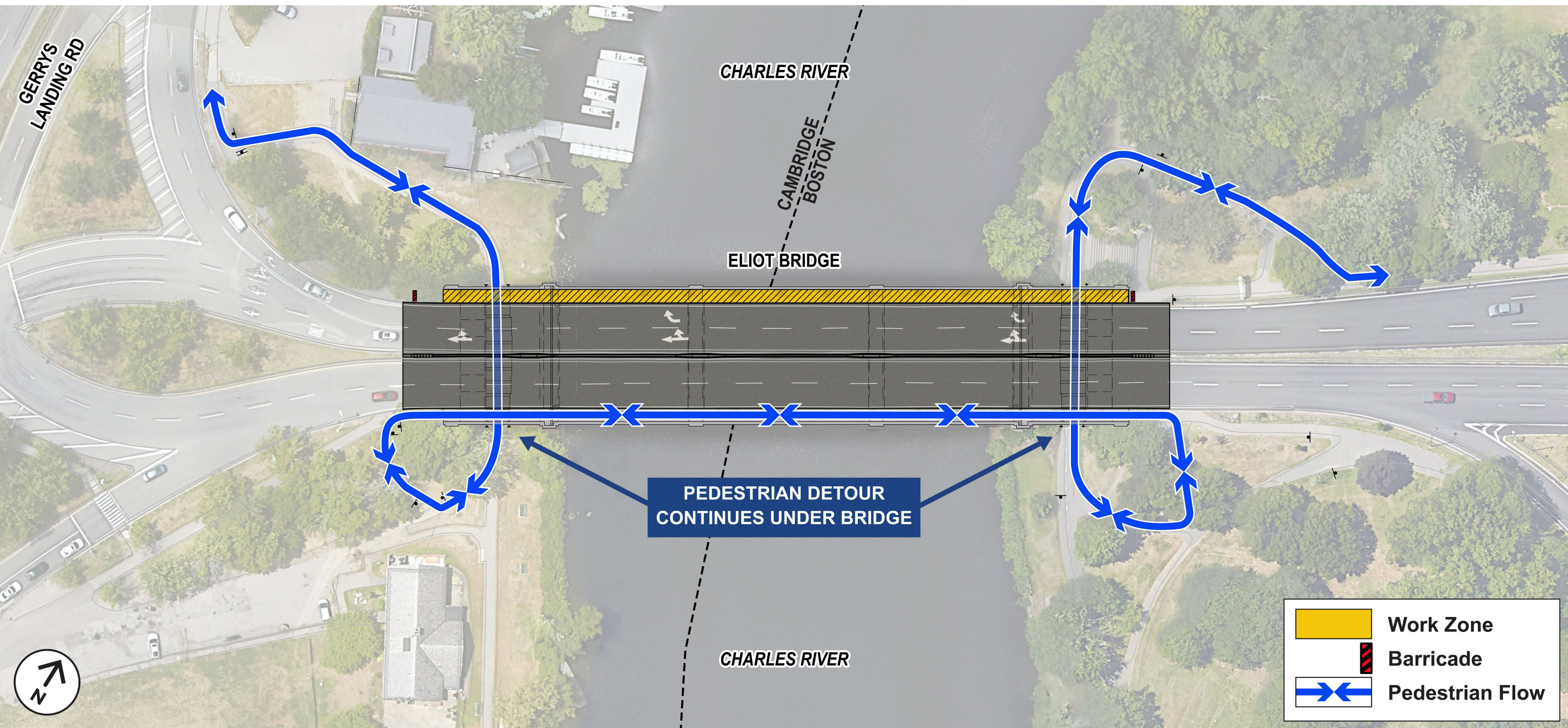


# Phase 2A Pedestrian & Bicyclist Detour through Existing Underpasses





# Phase 2B Pedestrian & Bicyclist Detour through Existing Underpasses







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





## Community Impacts

- Approved Work Hours: Eight-hour days, five days a week with the Prime Contractor and all Subcontractors working on the same shift
- No work will commence before 7AM or continue after 4PM without approval by the Engineer
- The bridge is over the Charles River which has heavy marine traffic throughout the day. The contractor will be required to occupy only one span over the water at a time, leaving the other two spans open for marine traffic
- No work will be done on weekends or during community events without approval by the Engineer



## Community Events

**Major events include but are not limited to:**

- Head of the Charles Regatta
- Fourth of July Celebrations
- Race for Cancer 5K Summer Series
- WGBH Run
- Fast Feet For Freedom 5K
- Lymphedema & Lymphatic Walk/ Run
- NAMI Walk
- Boston Great Strides
- Samaritans Walk/ Run
- Hearing Loss Walk
- Foundation Fighting Blindness Walk
- Boston River Run
- Turkey Trot
- Cambridge Half Marathon



# Our next steps



**Fall 2023**

Advertisement of  
Construction



**Summer 2024**

Construction Begins  
Phase 1



**Spring 2025**

Phase 2A



**Spring 2026**

Phase 2B



**Fall 2026**

Project Complete





**How will we  
keep you  
informed?**



## Public Outreach

- Public meeting was noticed in the following local newspapers:
  - *El Mundo* – 9/14
  - *Sampan* – 9/15
  - *Boston Globe* – 9/18
- Multilingual meetings flyers were shared with:
  - Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese Speakers (MAPS)
  - Cambridge Center for Chinese Culture and Greater Boston Chinese Golden Age Center
  - City of Cambridge's Community Engagement Team, Commission for Persons with Disabilities, and Council on Aging
  - Boston's Office of Neighborhood services Allston representative
  - Watertown and Boston RMV Service Branch
  - Margaret Fuller House - Food Distribution Center
  - Harvard Business School
  - Public locations within 1 mile of the bridge
- Project Updates
  - You can subscribe to receive project update emails using the link on the project website



## Project Contact Information

- Visit the project website for more information and to sign up for project updates:  
<https://www.mass.gov/eliot-bridge-preservation>
- Email questions and comments to:  
Project Email - [eliotbridgepreservation@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:eliotbridgepreservation@dot.state.ma.us)







# Questions and answers



## Questions & Answers



- Raise your hand to be called on for questions



- Please state your name and connection to the project before your question



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





# ***Thank You***

## *Eliot Bridge Preservation Project*

September 18, 2023

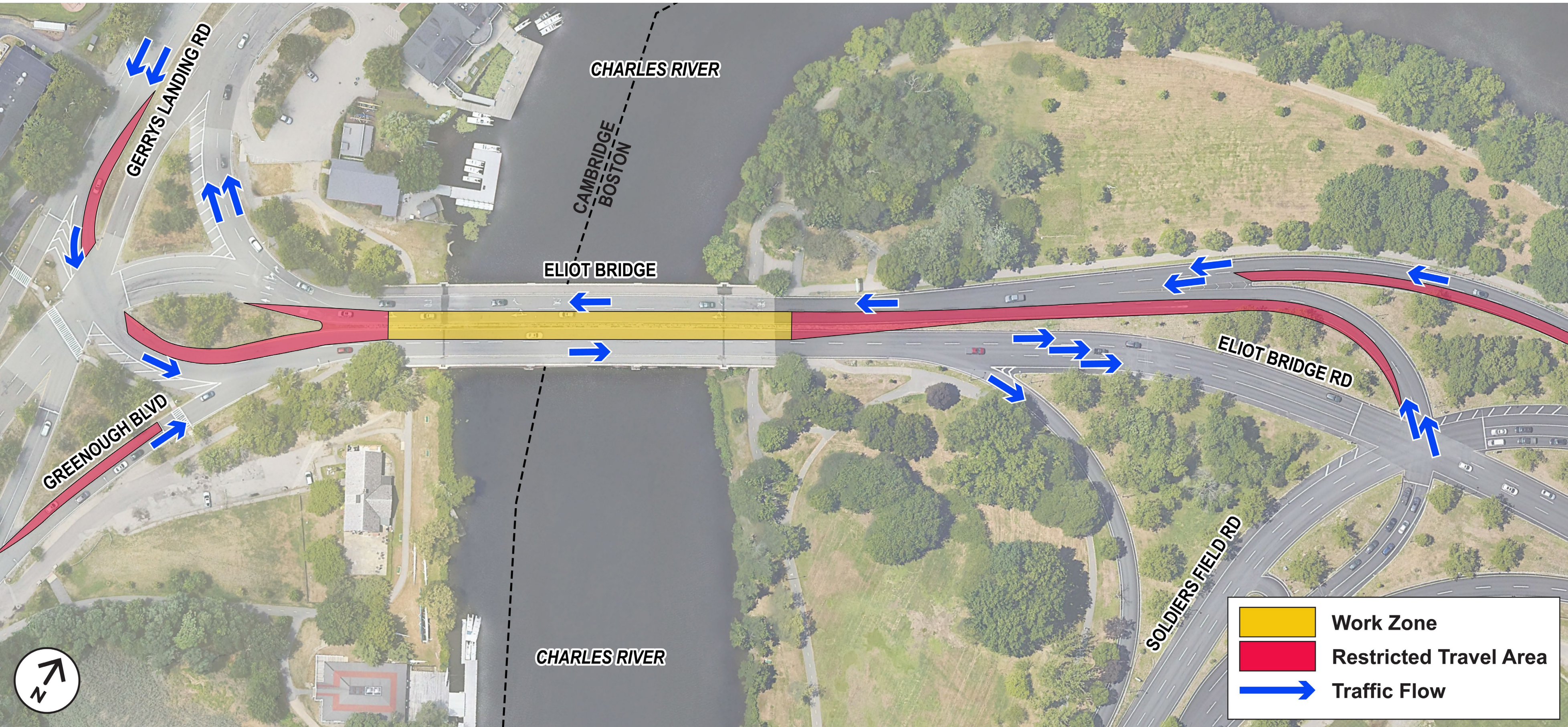
Project File No. 608762

Project Email - [eliotbridgepreservation@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:eliotbridgepreservation@dot.state.ma.us)



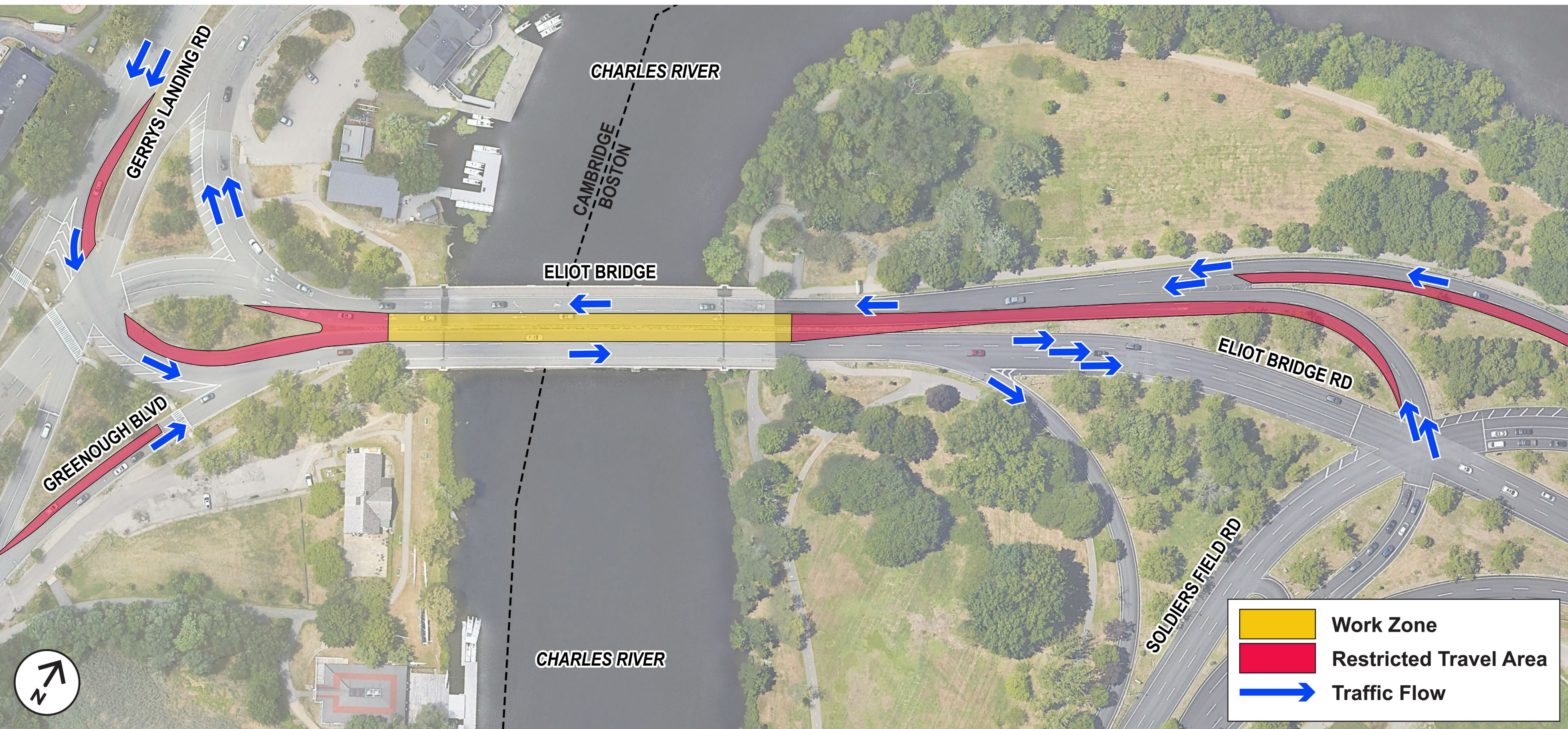


# Temporary Lane Closures: Exterior Closures





# Temporary Lane Closures: Interior Closures





# Project Limits

