



Welcome

River Street Bridge Closure

Status Update

Virtual Public Information Meeting | October 11, 2022 | 6:00PM

Project File Number: 606901



Zoom Meeting 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 (309) 205-3325, Webinar ID: 894-8102-6234



Live Transcript

- Closed Captioning Automatically Generated by Zoom



If you have trouble with the meeting technology during the presentation, please call:

[1-888-799-9666]

Audio Settings ^



Raise Hand



Q&A



Interpretation



Live Transcript

Leave

Public Meeting Notes and Procedures

Public record

- While this virtual public meeting 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 meeting 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 meeting. Information from this meeting will be posted on Mass.gov website.

Important notes

- Your microphone and webcam are automatically disabled upon entering the meeting.
- This meeting 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
 - Makaela Niles
- **Presenter**
 - Nathaniel Cabral-Curtis, WSP
- **Question and Discussion Subject Matter Experts**
 - Joe Gill, Gill Engineering
 - Tom Daley, Gannett-Flemming

Language Translation Speakers

- **Haitian Creole**
 - Gina Miranda
 - Steve Rubens
- **Spanish**
 - Alexandra Fortich
 - Maria Ceron

Public Information Meeting - Advertisement

Mass Media

- *Boston Bulletin* - 9/29 and 10/6
- *Hyde Park Bulletin* - 9/29 and 10/6
- *Roslindale/West Roxbury Bulletin* - 9/29 and 10/6
- *El Planeta* (Spanish) – 9/30 Hispanic Heritage Month edition
- Boston City TV
- Boston Neighborhood Network (BNN)

Social Media

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



**WATCH BOSTON
CITY TV**



Public Information Meeting – Flyer Drops and Staffed Tables

Staffed Tables:

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

Flyer Drops:

- Blake Estates
- Hyde Park Cooperative Bank
- Hyde Park Main Streets
- 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
- Office of Mayor Michelle Wu
- Boston City Council
- Age Strong
- Disability Commission
- Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services
- Office of Immigrant Advancement

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

3 local public schools

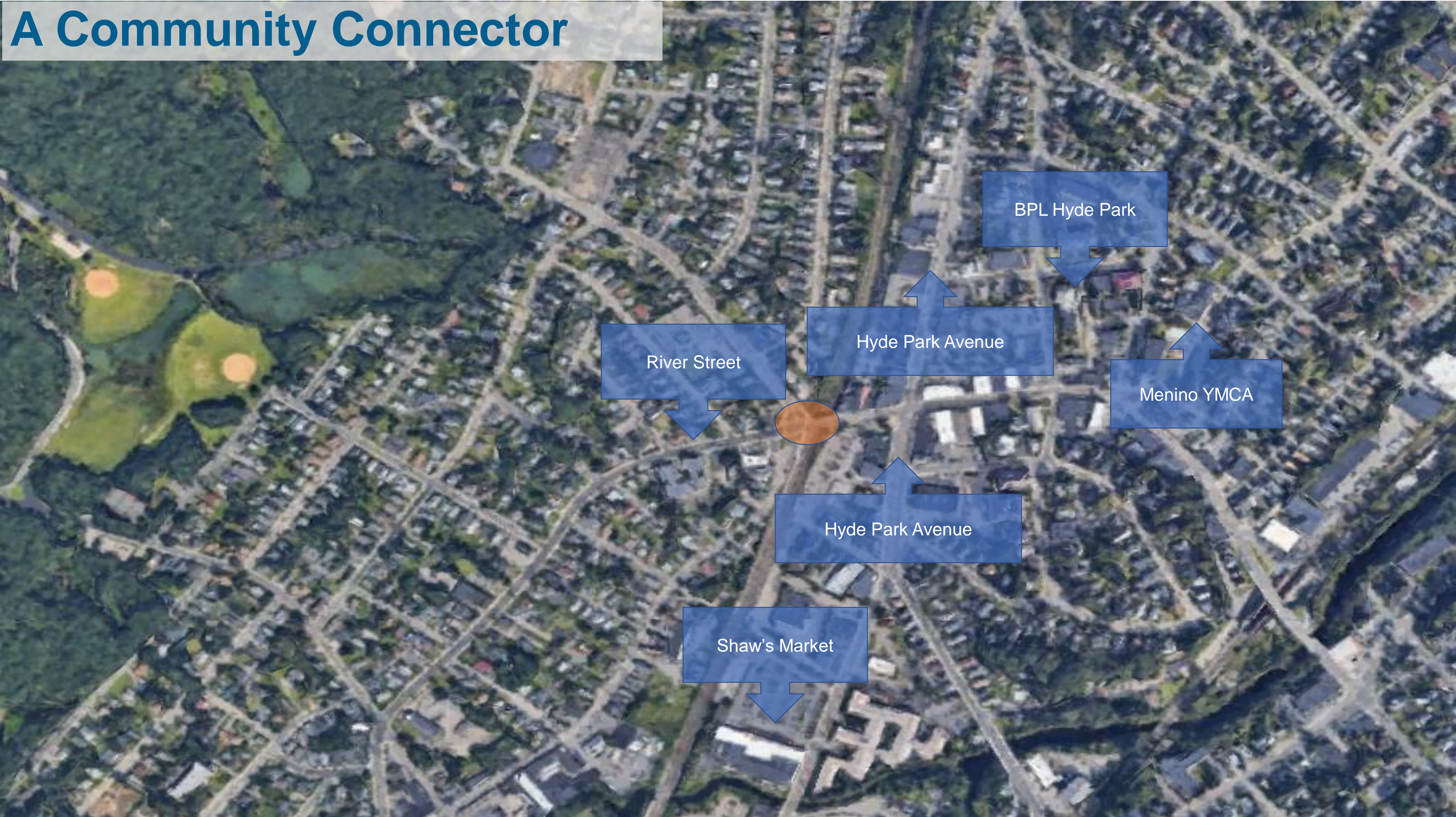
Community Relations Officer Gerri McElmoyle

Agenda

1. Why are we here tonight?
2. What do we want to accomplish?
3. How will you keep me informed
4. How are roadway users affected
5. Question & Discussion



A Community Connector



River Street

Hyde Park Avenue

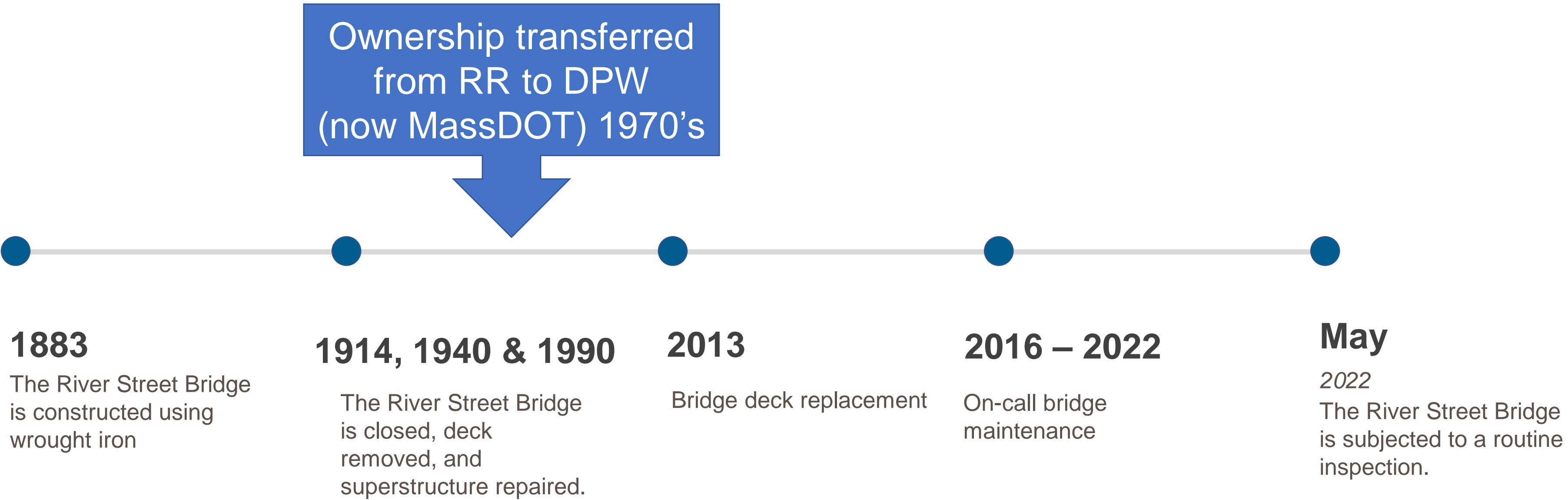
BPL Hyde Park

Menino YMCA

Hyde Park Avenue

Shaw's Market

How did we get here?



How did we get here? - Continued





**Why are we
here tonight?**

The River Street Bridge: a Multimodal Connection

- One lane of traffic in each direction with sidewalks
- Carries MBTA bus routes
- Protective barrier for Amtrak electrified wires (placed 1990's)
- Carries four major utilities



A Deteriorated Structure

- Inspection and repairs have been an ongoing challenge
- The May 2022 inspection uncovered substantial deterioration
- All vehicular traffic detoured to ensure public safety
- Cycling and walking connection maintained





**What do we
want to
accomplish?**

Why Leave the Bridge Closed?

- If we leave the closure in place, it allows us to:
 - Avoid a substantial investment in a structure which must be replaced in any case
 - Accelerate the design of the replacement bridge
 - Begin work on the new bridge in Fall 2023
 - Open the new bridge in Spring 2025
 - Maintain a nearly seamless connection for cyclists and pedestrians

What Will We Do While the Closure Remains in Place?

Early action steps will be taken to speed up construction of the replacement bridge:

- Remove Amtrak electric wires from the existing structure
- Relocate utilities to a utility/temporary pedestrian bridge
- Potentially remove portions the deck of existing bridge if this can be done safely

Amtrak Catenary (Train Power) Electrified Wire Removal



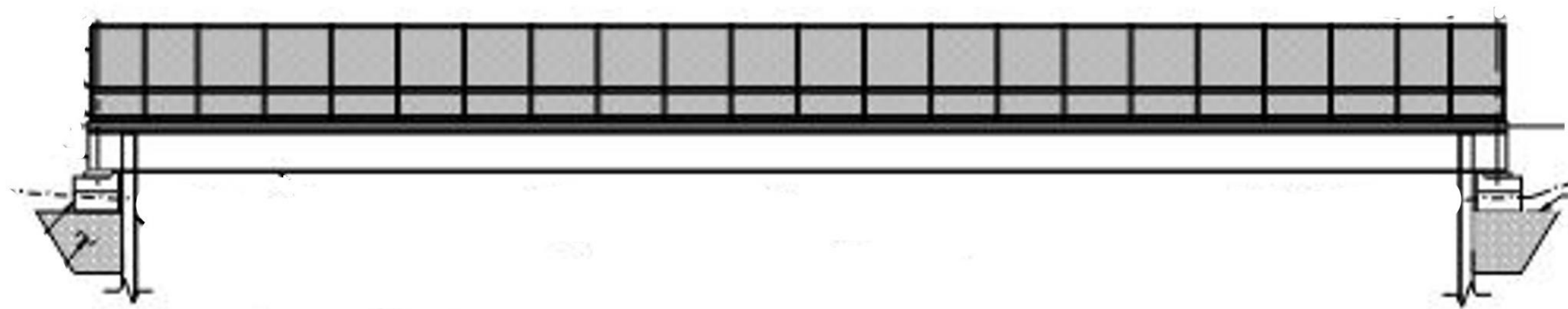
- Wire removal allows:
 - Faster construction
 - Easier maintenance and inspection

Utility Bridge



- Relocating utilities to a separate structure provides:
 - Bicycle and pedestrian connections during construction
 - Easier maintenance and inspection

Utility Bridge - Examples



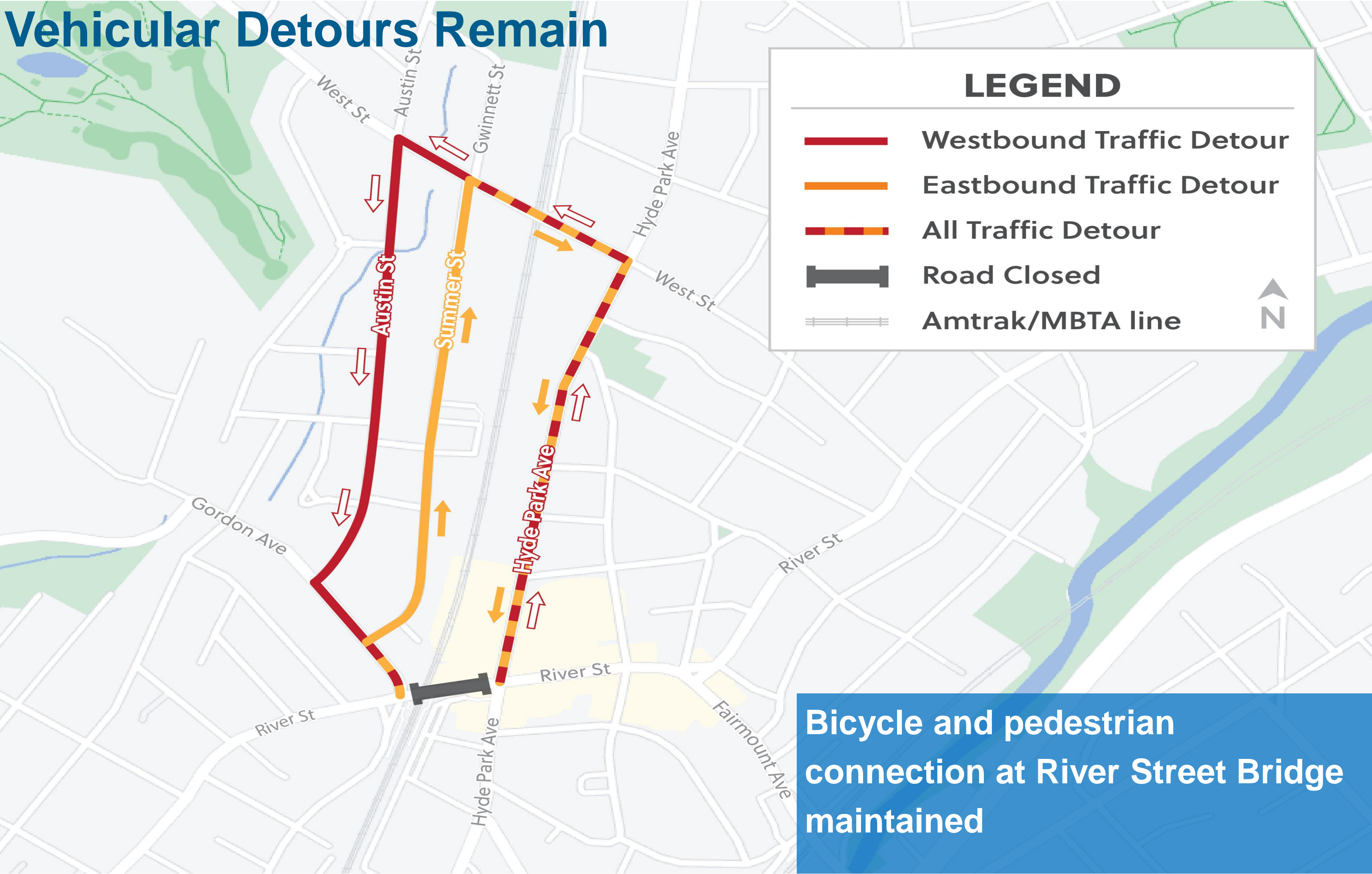
- Walkway on top of steel beams
- High barrier to protect users from catenary wires
- Remains in place for utilities only after construction





**How are the
road users
affected?**

Vehicular Detours Remain



Our next steps

Repair and replace would mean opening the new bridge in Fall 2025



Advance early work
Fall 2022-Spring 2023



25% Design Public Hearing
January 2023



Finalize design
Summer 2023



Begin construction
Fall 2023



Open new bridge
Spring 2025



**How will we
keep you
informed?**

Upcoming public outreach

- January 2023 Design Public Hearing:
 - Officially present the new bridge design
 - Obtain public comment
- Email alerts will be sent to all of tonight's attendees
- Pre-hearing outreach will mirror what was done before tonight



How to reach us?

- Submit written comments to:
Carrie Lavalley, P.E. Chief Engineer
MassDOT
10 Park Plaza – 7th FLR
Boston, MA 02116
Attention: Project Management, Project File No. 606901
- Submit email comments to:
MassDOTProjectManagement@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)



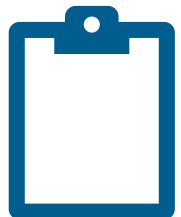
- Please state your name before your question



- 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.

Polling Question

- Please rate your agreement with the following statement: “I understand why the River Street Bridge is closed.”

Yes

Somewhat

No



Thank You

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