



Newton Corner: Immediate Safety Improvements

*Thank you for joining us.
This meeting will begin shortly.*

Virtual – Wednesday, September 25, 2024



Newton Corner Immediate Safety Improvements

Public Information Meeting

Virtual – Wednesday, September 25, 2024

Legend

-  Road
-  Sidewalk
-  Grass
-  Traffic Barrier

I 90 - WESTBOUND

I 90 - EASTBOUND

CENTRE AVE.

Zoom Meeting Controls



Ask a question and share comments



Drop down menu to check microphone and speakers



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



If you are unable to access the internet or are having technical problems, please call into the meeting at 309-205-3325, Webinar ID: 834-8203-1380



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

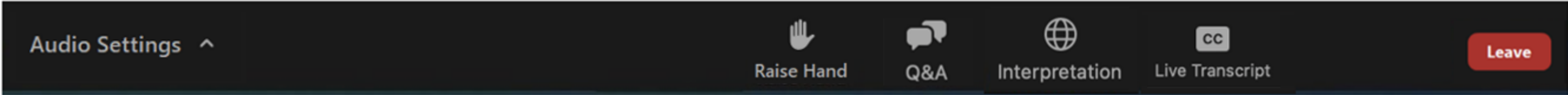


Closed captioning automatically generated by Zoom

Live Transcript

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

(888) 799-9666



Public Meeting Notes and Procedures

Notification

- While this virtual public meeting is not being recorded, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation may choose to retain and distribute images, audio, and/or the Q/A transcript.
- All parts of this meeting are considered public record.
- If you are not comfortable being recorded, please refrain from utilizing the Q/A feature, turn off your camera, and keep your microphone muted, or you may choose to excuse yourself from the meeting.

Important notes

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

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

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!

Agenda

1. Newton Corner Improvements Study Safety Findings
2. Immediate Safety Actions
3. How to Navigate the Upgraded Intersections
4. Schedule and Times of Work
5. Additional MassDOT Efforts in Newton Corner
6. Stay In Touch



Presentation Participants

MassDOT Project Manager

- Emil Vezarov

MassDOT District 6 Staff:

- David Belanger, P.E.
- Mark Abbott, P.E.

MassDOT Legislative and Community Affairs

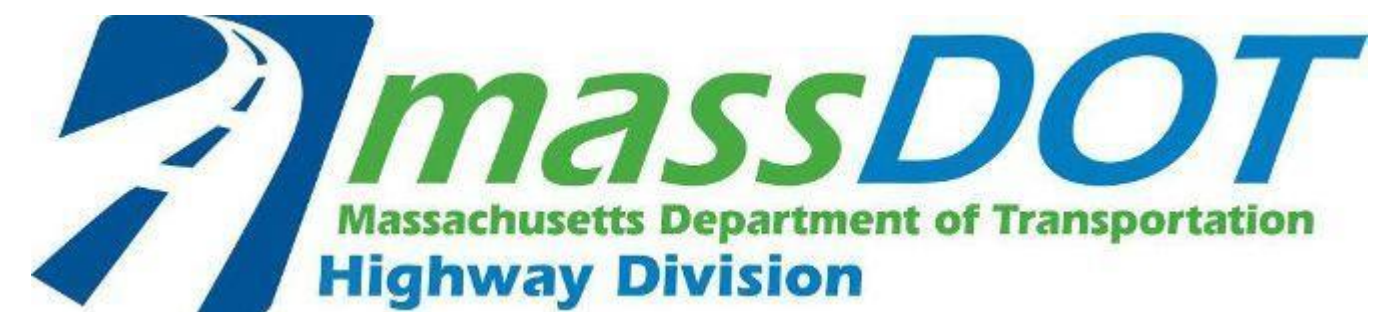
- Dan Fielding

MassDOT Producer/Facilitator

- William Woolford

VHB

- Jim Kersten
- Christine Trearchis, P.E.



Existing Issues Identified for Immediate Action

Operational Issues

- Queuing onto I-90 Eastbound mainline
- Existing signal equipment is antiquated, with visibility issues
- Potential for enhanced wayfinding

Safety Concerns

- High crash locations
- Challenging vehicular merge and weaving sections
- Sight line obstructions

Lack of Multimodal Accommodation

- Pedestrian, bikes, transit



Immediate Safety Improvements

1. North side of Washington Street eastbound bridge (Northwest Quadrant)

- Washington Street westbound maintains two lanes
- Merge two lane Washington Street EB to one lane
- Future signal installation in 2025, currently in design.

2. I-90 Westbound Ramps at Washington Street/ Centre Street (Northeast Quadrant)

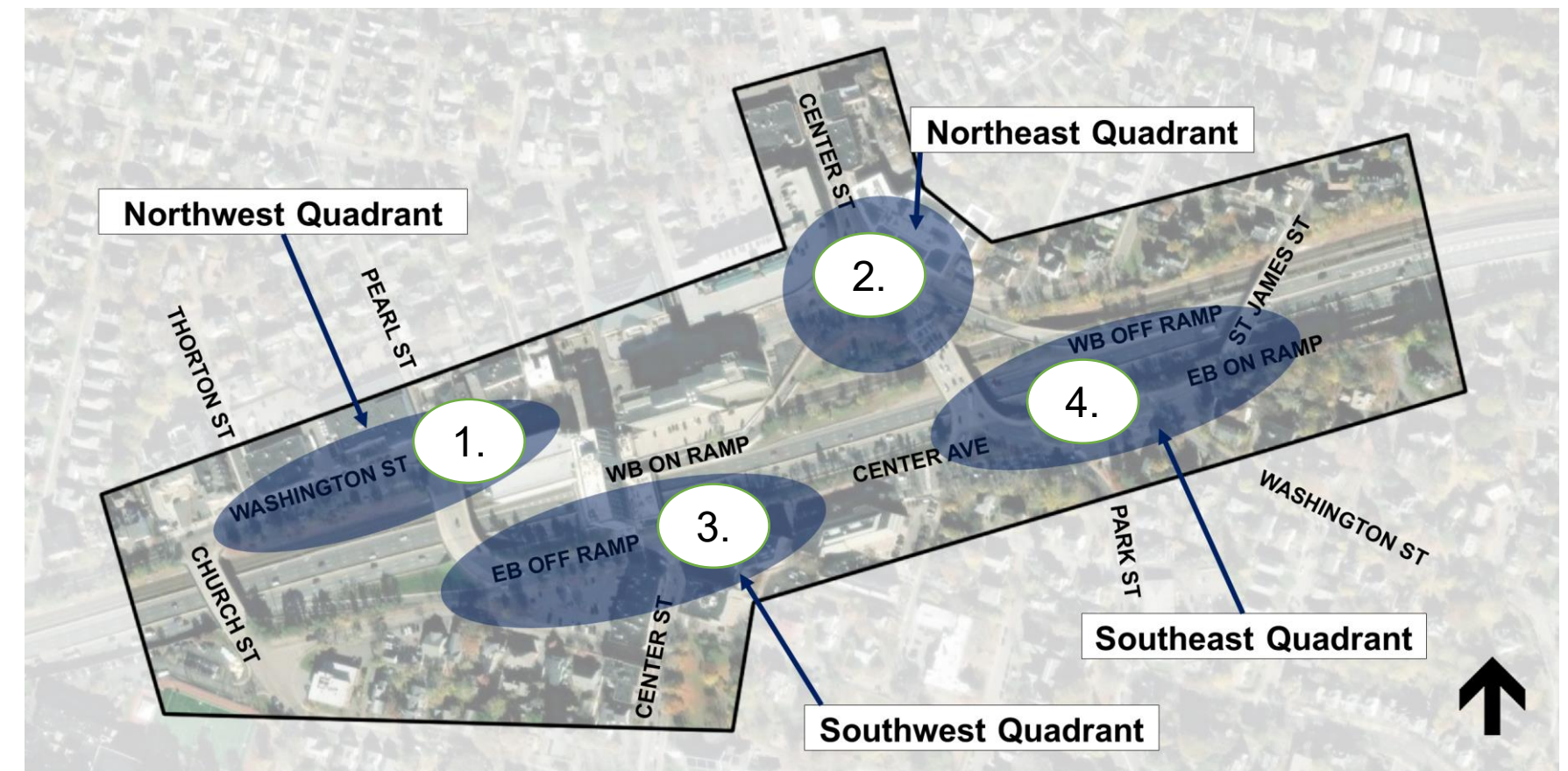
- New traffic control equipment
- Vehicle detection to allow for signal timing actuation

3. I-90 Eastbound Off-Ramp (Southwest Quadrant)

- Convert the pedestrian signal at Centre Street/Washington Street South into a full signal that includes the I-90 EB offramp
- Remove the STOP sign at I-90 EB ramp
- Install queue detection on offramp

4. Washington Street at Park Street/St James Street (Southeast Quadrant)

- New traffic control equipment
- Vehicle detection to allow for signal timing actuation



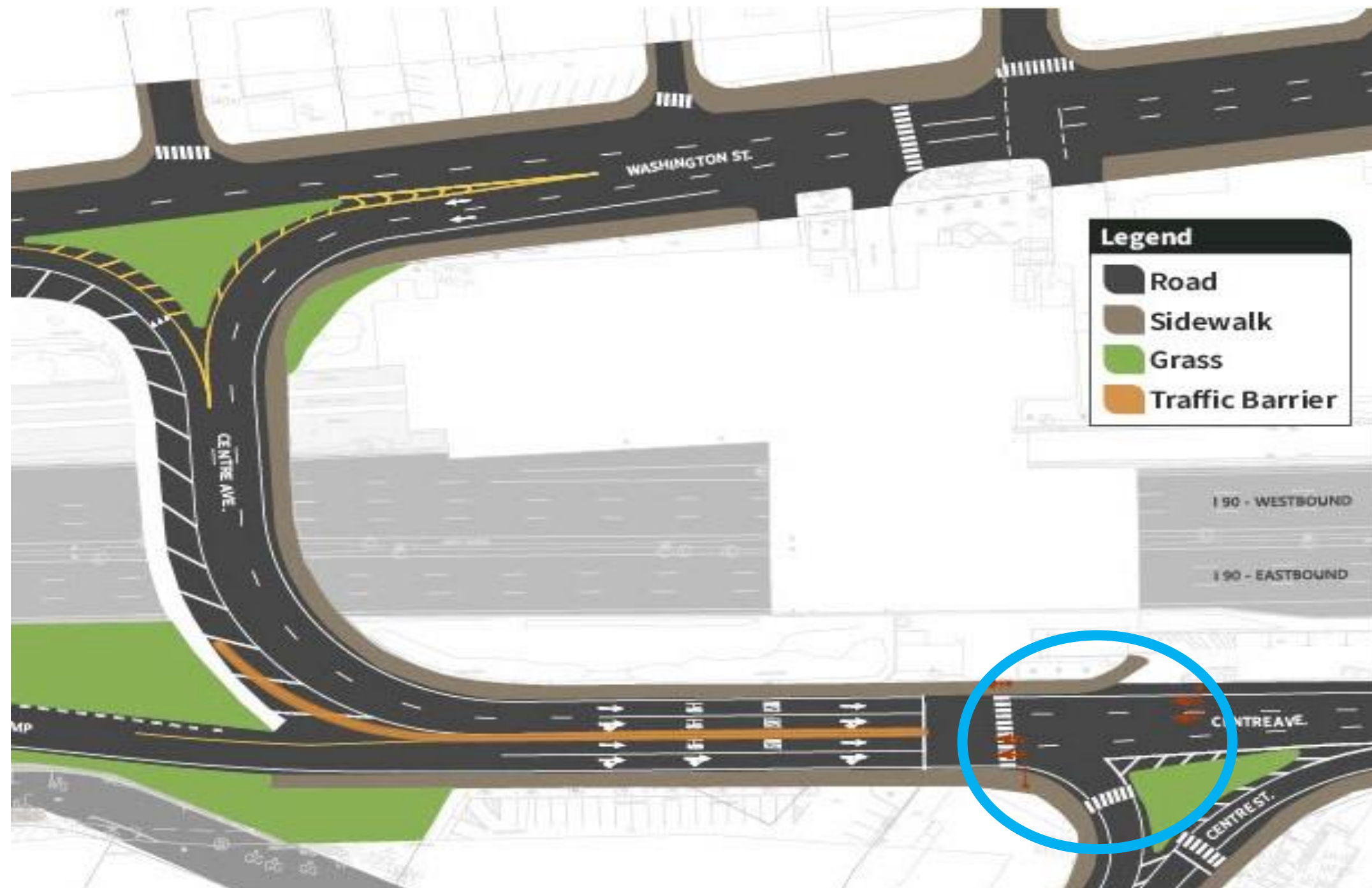
New Signal and Operation—I-90 EB Off-Ramp at Centre St.

What we are doing:

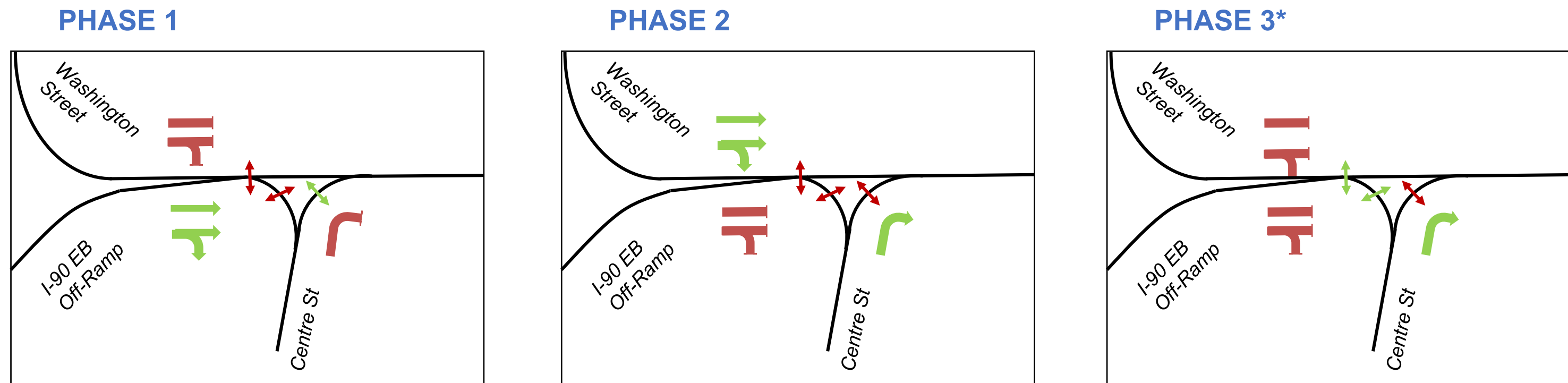
- Upgraded signal at the Centre Street at Centre Ave
- Brings I-90 eastbound off-ramp into the signal with two lanes

Operational Results:

- I-90 eastbound off-ramp queues can be reduced by up to 1,200 ft
- Signal timing adjustments will help balance the demand of I-90 EB Off-Ramp and Washington Street



Signal Phasing Changes



- Three Phase Signal
 - Phase 1: I-90 Eastbound Off-Ramp and Centre Street Northbound Pedestrian Crossing*
 - Phase 2: Washington Street Eastbound and Centre Street Northbound
 - Phase 3*: Washington Street Pedestrian Crossing and Centre Street Northbound
- Pedestrian phases will only appear when push buttons are activated
 - *If push buttons are not activated, only Phases 1 and 2 will be called

What to Know During Construction

Full Construction will begin Monday, September 30th

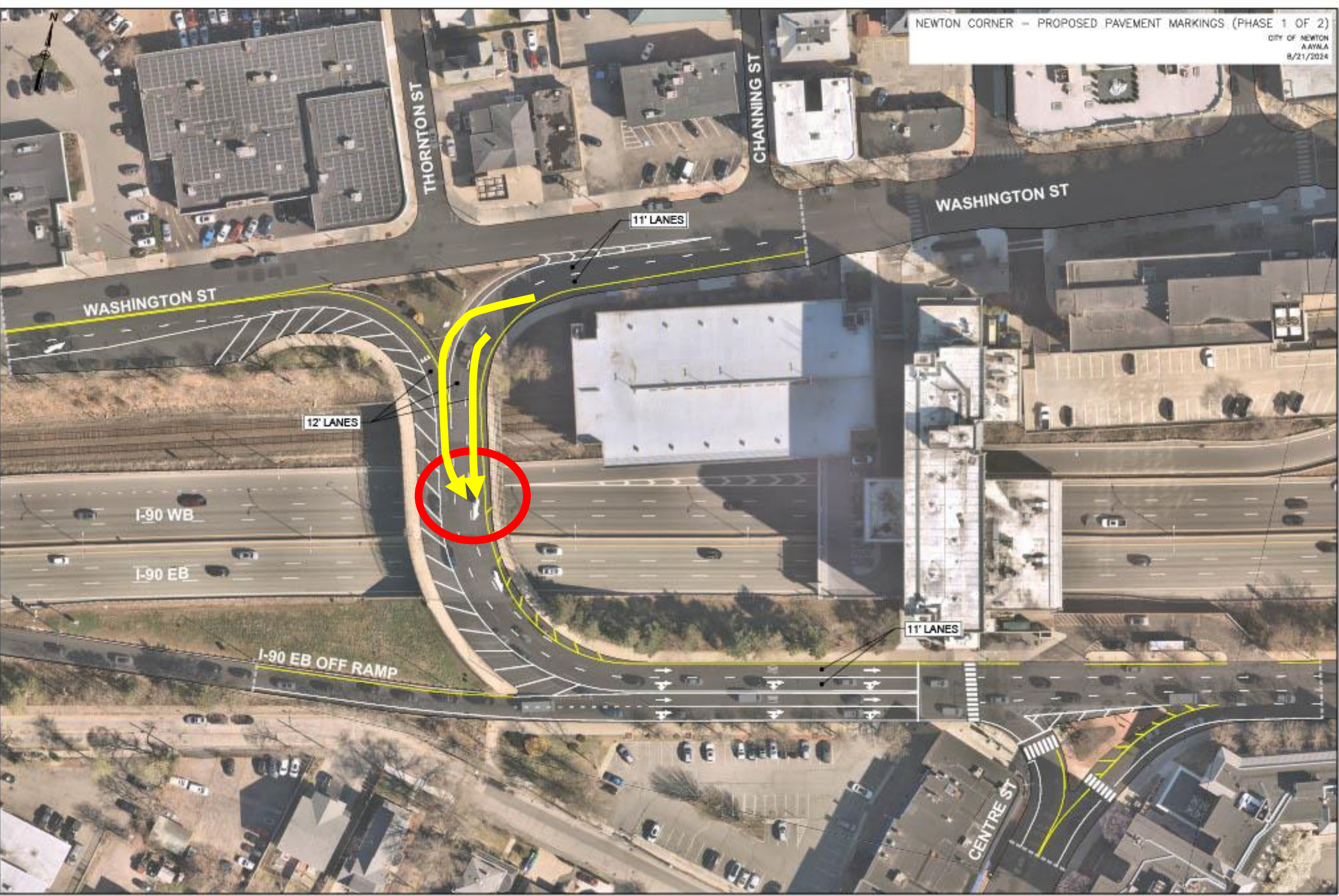
- 9 PM–5 AM Sunday through Thursday
- Approximately one month

Minimal ramp and roadway closures:

- Will require closure for final paving
- Most other operations allow for one lane open



Traveling from Washington St WB



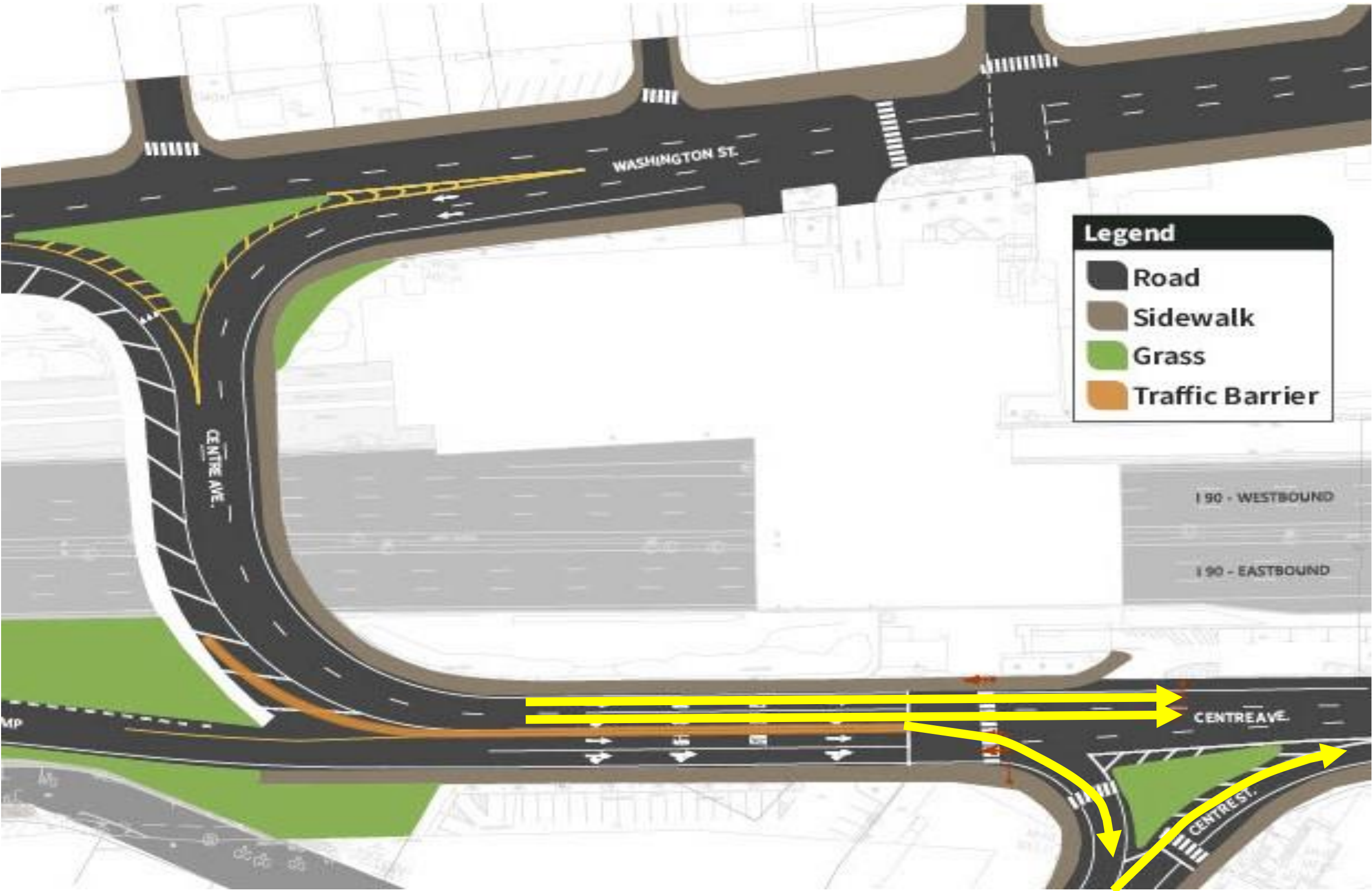
- New Merge Point

Traveling From I-90 EB Off-Ramp



- New signals at Centre Avenue
- To Centre Street – Use right lane
- To Washington St EB – Use either lane
- To Galen Street / Watertown– Use left lane

Traveling From Washington St EB & Centre St NB



To Centre Street –
Use right Lane

To Washington Street EB –
Use Right Lane

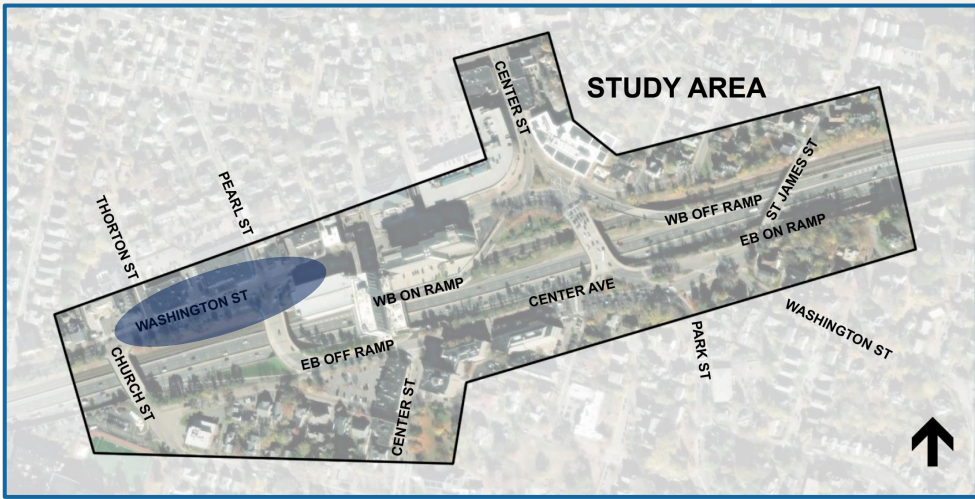
To Galen Street / Watertown
Use either lane

Pedestrian Upgrades & Traveling From Centre St



- New Signalization for Crosswalks:
 - Existing crossing on Centre Avenue
 - Existing crossing at ramp heading southbound to Centre St.
- To Centre Avenue – Similar to today but benefit of new signals

Washington Street at Washington Street New Signal – 2025 (Currently in Design)



- Merge Point

Mid-Term Planning Study

Project Champion

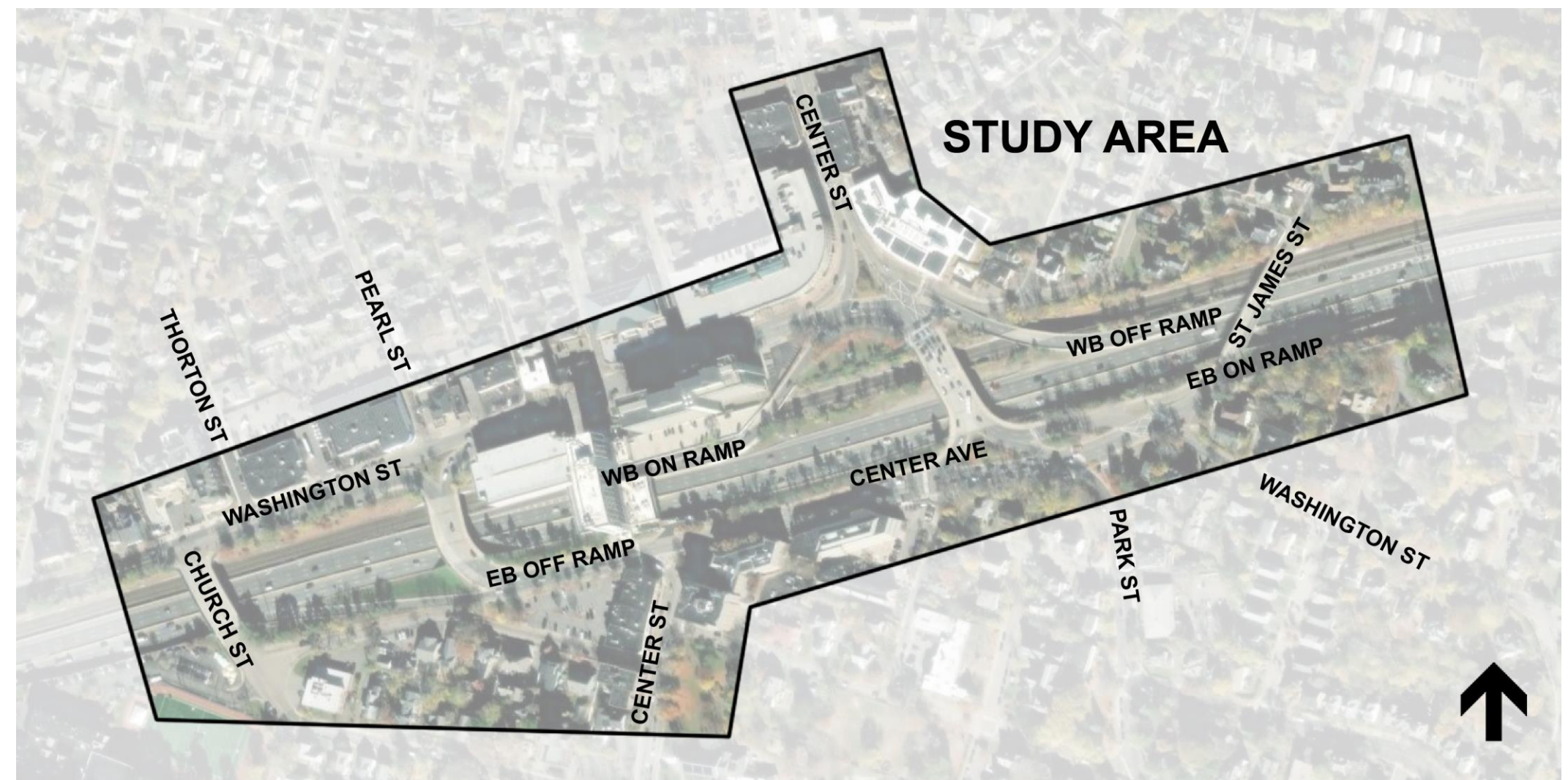
- City of Newton to act as Project Champion

City of Newton to initiate as MassDOT Design Project

- Start MassDOT project development process
- Within design process, finalize specific design details

Identify Potential Funding Sources

- Possible funding through the State Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)



Path Forward

Step 1: Problem/Need/Opportunity Identification



Step 2: Planning



We are here



Step 3: Project Initiation (by the City)



Step 4: Environmental, Design, and ROW Process



Step 5: Programming



Step 6: Procurement



Step 7: Construction



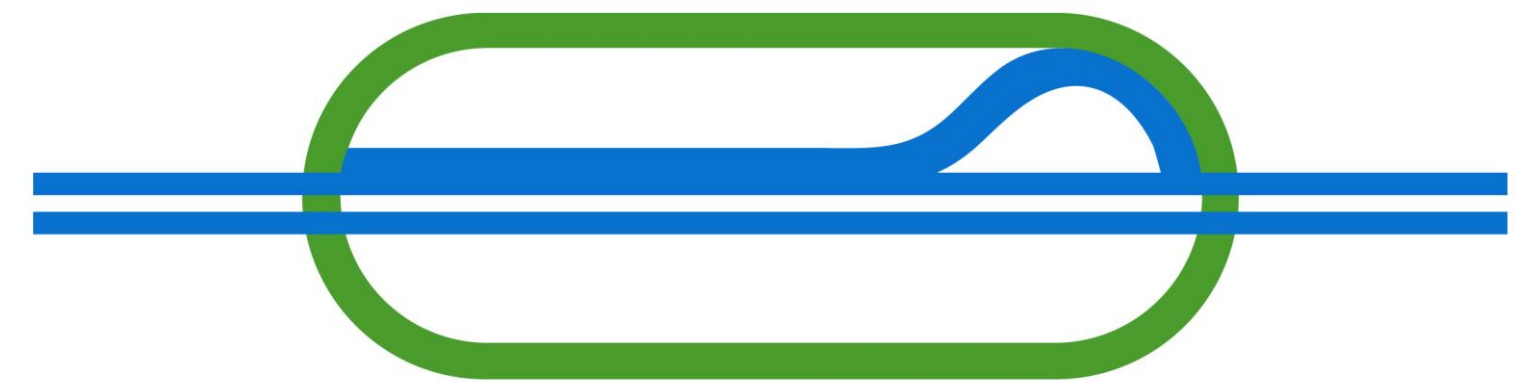
Step 8: Project Assessment

Long-Term Planning Study

- The planning study will consider long-term changes to improve safety, congestion, mobility, and access.
- Please visit the study website to sign up for updates and notification of future meetings.

Study Website:

<https://www.mass.gov/newton-corner-long-term-planning-study>



NEWTON CORNER
LONG-TERM PLANNING STUDY

Key Take Aways

Schedule:

Construction begins September 30th

Approximately 1 month

Work Hours:

Sunday through Monday

9PM to 5AM

Impacts:

- One lane of traffic will be available at most times
- Will require various closures for final paving



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



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.

How to reach us?

Project Website:

<https://www.mass.gov/newton-corner-improvements-project>



Submit Comments or Inquiries via Email:

NewtonCornerImprovements@dot.state.ma.us

Newton Corner Immediate Safety Improvements



Thank You

Newton Corner

Immediate Safety Improvements

Virtual – Wednesday, September 25, 2024 – 6:30PM

NewtonCornerImprovements@dot.state.ma.us

