



City of Somerville
City of Cambridge

Squires Bridge Replacement Route 28 over MBTA

Public Information Meeting

This meeting will begin shortly.





City of **Somerville**
City of **Cambridge**

Squires Bridge Replacement Route 28 over MBTA

Public Information Meeting

Zoom | July 14, 2026 | 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Project File No. 612634



Zoom meeting controls



- Listen in [insert language]



- 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 1-305-224-1968, Webinar ID: 871 3323 5639



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

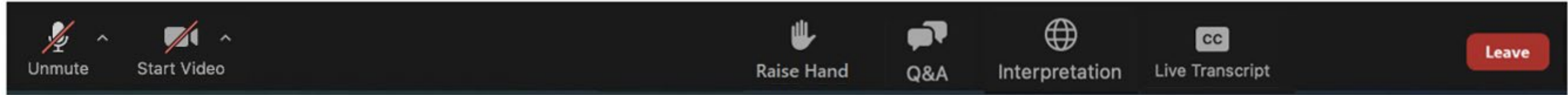


Live Transcript

- Closed captioning automatically generated by Zoom

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

1-888-799-9666



Public meeting notes and procedures

Notification of video recording

- This virtual public meeting will be recorded. The Massachusetts Department of Transportation may choose to retain and distribute the video, images, audio, and/or chat transcript.
- All parts of this meeting are considered public record.
- By continuing attendance with this virtual public meeting, you are consenting to participate in a recorded event.
- If you are not comfortable being recorded, please 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 meeting. 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!

Advertisements/Public Outreach

MassDOT Website

- Event created
- Flyer posted in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, Chinese, & Haitian-Creole

Local Newspapers

- Charlestown Patriot Bridge
- Somerville Medford Transcript Journal
- Somerville/Medford Weekly News
- Cambridge Chronicle & Tab
- Cambridge Day

Legislative Briefing

- July 9, 2026 - Virtual



Public Informational Meeting (PIM) – 612634 Somerville/Cambridge – Bridge Replacement – Route 28 over MBTA

What is happening?

The purpose of this meeting is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed roadway reconstruction project. All views and comments submitted in response to the meeting will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

How will this affect you?

The proposed project consists of replacement of the bridge ("Squire's Bridge") carrying McGrath Hwy (Route 28) over the MBTA railroad tracks in Somerville, MA. The project also includes reconstruction of McGrath Hwy & O'Brien Hwy (Route 28) between Poplar Street and Third Street in Cambridge. The proposed design will provide a single bridge span to the south passing over Somerville Avenue and will provide a separate bridge span to the north passing over Somerville Avenue. The project also includes improvements to the roadway and will be re-aligned to improve neighborhood connectivity. The project also includes improvements for all roadway users, including improved pedestrian, bicycle, and transit facilities and increased green space.



When

Tuesday, July 14, 2026
7:00-8:30 p.m., EDT

Attend

www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division

Visit www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events for more information or to register for the presentation if you are unable to attend the meeting.



To ensure its meetings are accessible, MassDOT reasonably provides: translation services, accommodations, alternative formats, and auxiliary aids and services. For more information, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer at 857-368-8580 or MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us. For adequate time to process such request, please contact the officer as early as possible, ideally 10 days prior to the event.

Project inquiries may also be emailed to MassDOTMajorProjects@dot.state.ma.us or by mail to: Carrie A. Lavalley, P.E., Chief Engineer, MassDOT, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: Major Projects, PROJECT FILE NO. 612634

V3.0

Reunión Pública Informativa 612634 Somerville/Cambridge – Reemplazo del puente de Route 28 sobre las vías de la MBTA

¿De qué se trata?

El propósito de esta reunión es brindar al público la oportunidad de familiarizarse plenamente con el proyecto propuesto de reconstrucción de la carretera. Se leerán y se tendrán en cuenta, hasta donde se pueda, todas las opiniones y los comentarios enviados en respuesta a esta reunión.

¿Cómo le afectará esto?

El proyecto propuesto consiste en el reemplazo del puente, («Puente de Squire») que cruza McGrath Hwy (Route 28), sobre las vías férreas de la MBTA en Somerville, Massachusetts. El proyecto también incluye la reconstrucción de la carretera de McGrath Hwy y O'Brien Hwy (Route 28) entre Poplar Street, en Somerville, y Third Street, en Cambridge. El diseño propuesto contempla un puente de un solo tramo que cruzará las vías férreas y un tramo de puente independiente hacia el norte que pasará sobre la extensión de Somerville Avenue, la cual se realineará para mejorar la conectividad entre los barrios. El proyecto también contempla infraestructura adecuada para todos los usuarios de la carretera, incluida la mejora de las instalaciones para peatones, ciclistas y el transporte público, así como mejoras en materia de seguridad y un aumento de las áreas verdes.

Fecha:

Martes 14 de julio de 2026
De 7:00 a 8:30 p.m., EDT

Asista a la reunión en:

www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events



Ingrese en www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events para obtener más información o para ver una grabación de la presentación si no puede asistir a la reunión.



Para garantizar que sus reuniones sean accesibles, el MassDOT ofrece razonablemente traducción, interpretación, modificaciones, adaptaciones, formatos alternativos y recursos y servicios para discapacitados. Para solicitar dichos servicios, comuníquese con el Director Ejecutivo de Diversidad y Derechos Civiles (Chief Diversity & Civil Rights Officer) de MassDOT llamando al 857-368-8580 o escribiendo a MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us. Para poder tener tiempo suficiente de cumplir con dicha solicitud, hágala con la mayor anticipación posible (lo ideal sería 10 días antes del evento).

También puede enviar preguntas sobre el proyecto al siguiente correo electrónico: MassDOTMajorProjects@dot.state.ma.us. Envíe las declaraciones escritas relacionadas con el proyecto propuesto a: Carrie A. Lavalley, P.E., Chief Engineer, MassDOT, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: Major Projects, PROJECT FILE NO. 612634

V3.0

Agenda

- 01 Introduction
- 02 Project Need
- 03 Project Goals
- 04 Concept Design
- 05 Next Steps
- 06 Question & Answer



Presentation Participants

- **MassDOT**

- Christopher Cameron, Project Manager
- Brain Levine, District 6 Project Development
- Brian Fallon, District 4 Project Development
- Dan Fielding, Legislative Affairs
- Michael Ruderman, Right of Way
- Miranda Briseño, Producer
- Adetoyin Olaoye, Producer

- **Design Consultant Team**

- Chris Howard, P.E., GPI
- John Watters, P.E., GPI

- **City of Somerville**

- Brad Rawson, Director of Mobility
- Justin Schreiber, Senior Transportation Planner

- **City of Cambridge**

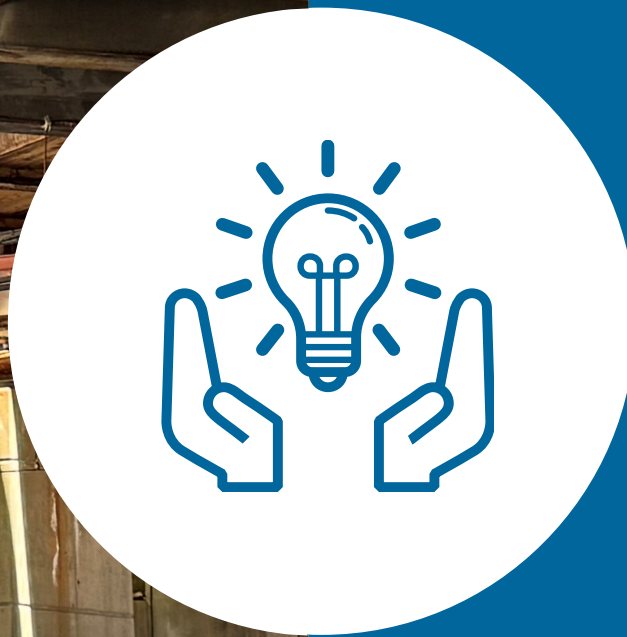
- Jeff Parenti, Assistant Commissioner for Street Management
- Bill Deignan, Senior Transportation Program Manager



Project Area

This Squires Bridge Replacement project extends along **McGrath Highway** from the southern extent, just over the city line, at **Third Street** in Cambridge to the northern extent at **Poplar Street and Medford Street** in Somerville.

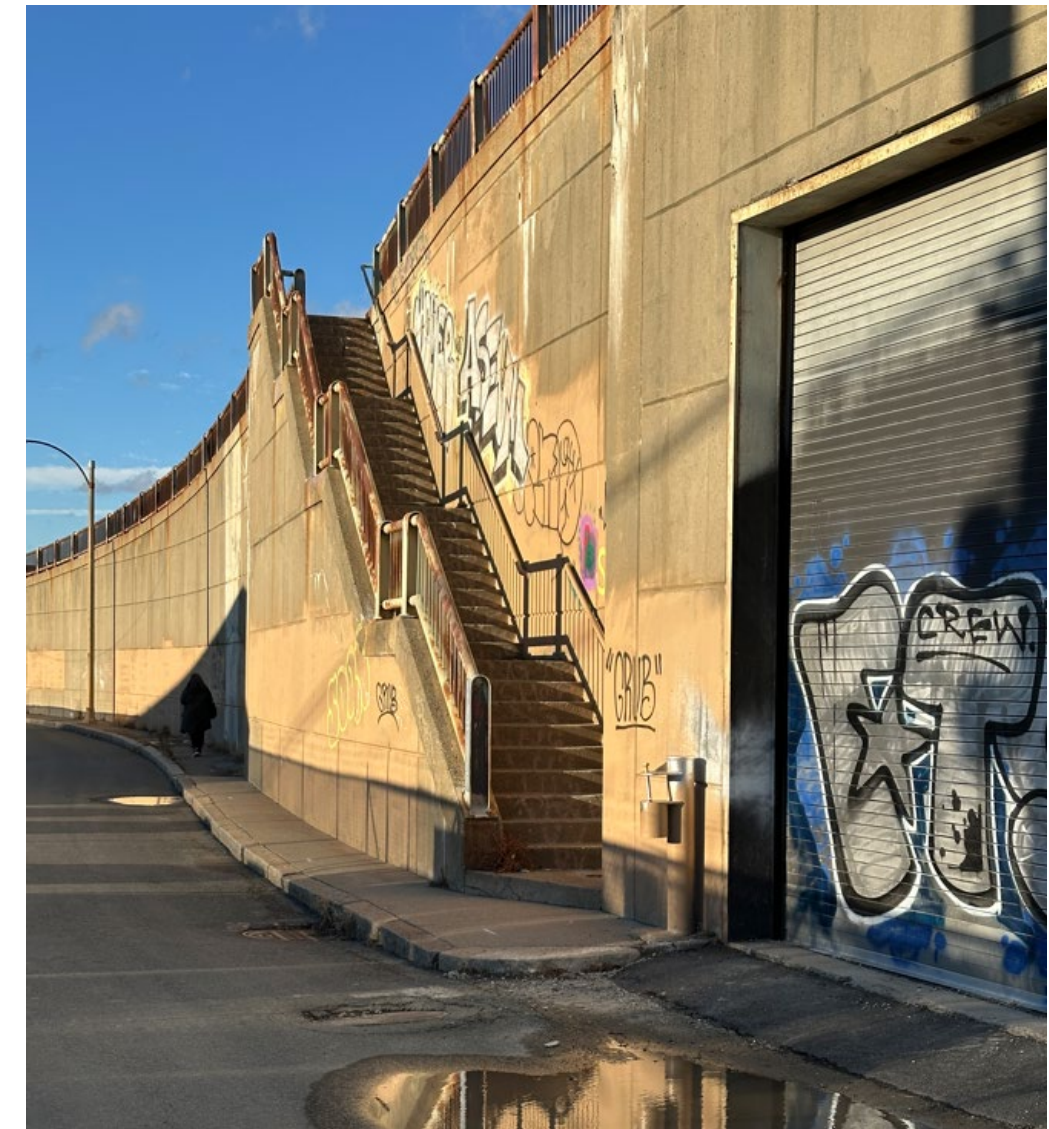
The northern extent project limits are being coordinated with the McGrath Boulevard project.



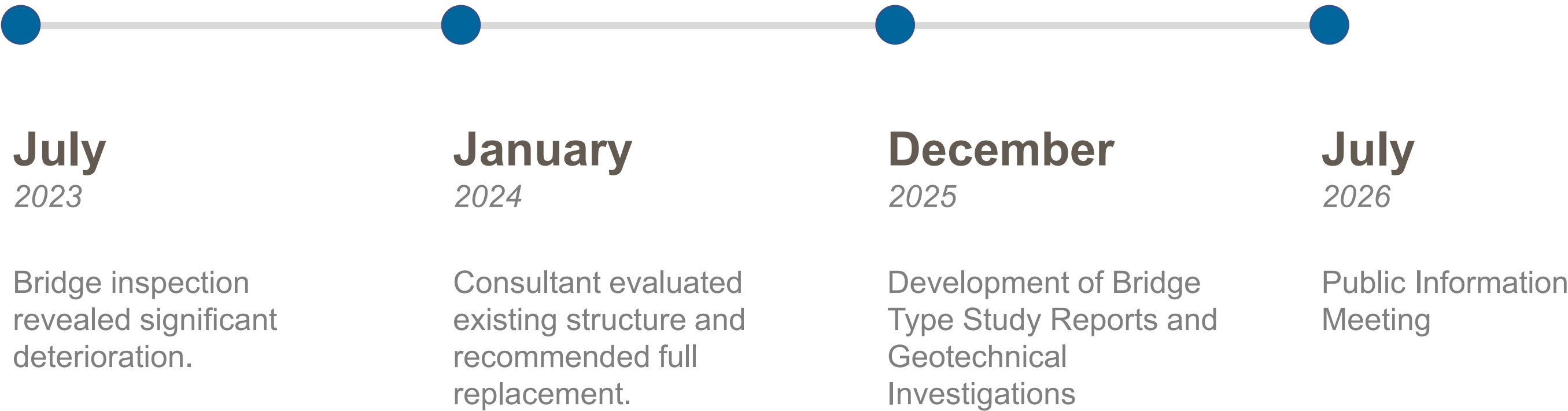
**Why was this
project
initiated?**

Project Need

- **Bridge Deterioration**
 - Currently safe but deteriorating
- **Roadway Improvements**
 - Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Transit Accommodations
 - Operational Improvements
- **Neighborhood Connectivity**
 - Somerville Ave Extension (Scary Way) provides poor access to the Brickbottom neighborhood
 - Future Path connections
 - ADA accessibility improvements



How did we get here?

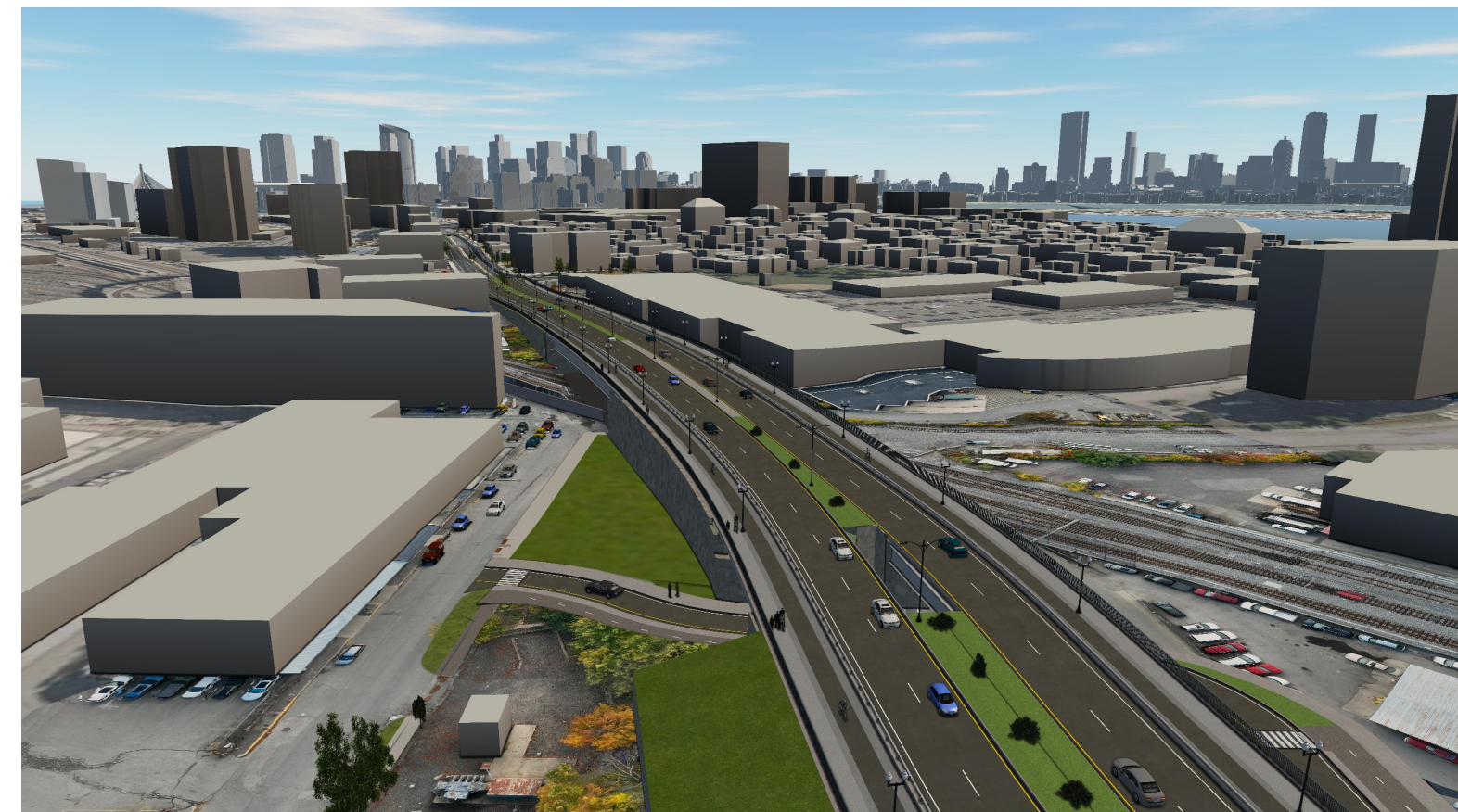




**What do we
want to
accomplish?**

Project Goals

- Replace Squires Bridge
- Continue **Safety improvements** to support Vision Zero objectives
- Improve **neighborhood connections**
- Improve facilities supporting **sustainable transportation**
- **Accessible design** that removes barriers





**Relevant
Projects**

Coordination with Relevant Projects

- McGrath Boulevard Project (#607981)
- Rutherford Avenue (#606226)
- Silver Line Extension Alternatives Analysis
- Redevelopment of 200 McGrath Highway
- Redevelopment at 1 & 15 McGrath Highway
- MBTA Bus Network Redesign
- Brickbottom Neighborhood Plan
- Poplar Street Pump Station / Art Farm
- Grand Junction to Community Path Connection



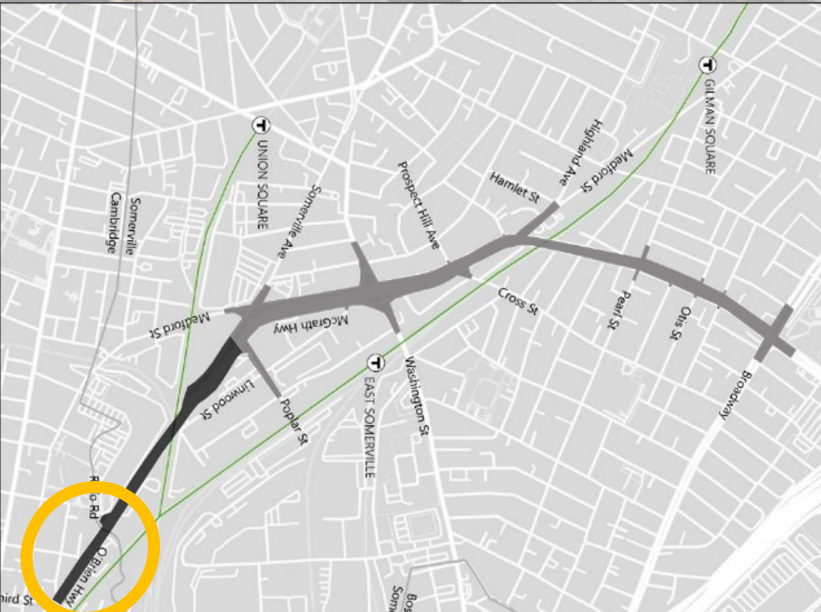
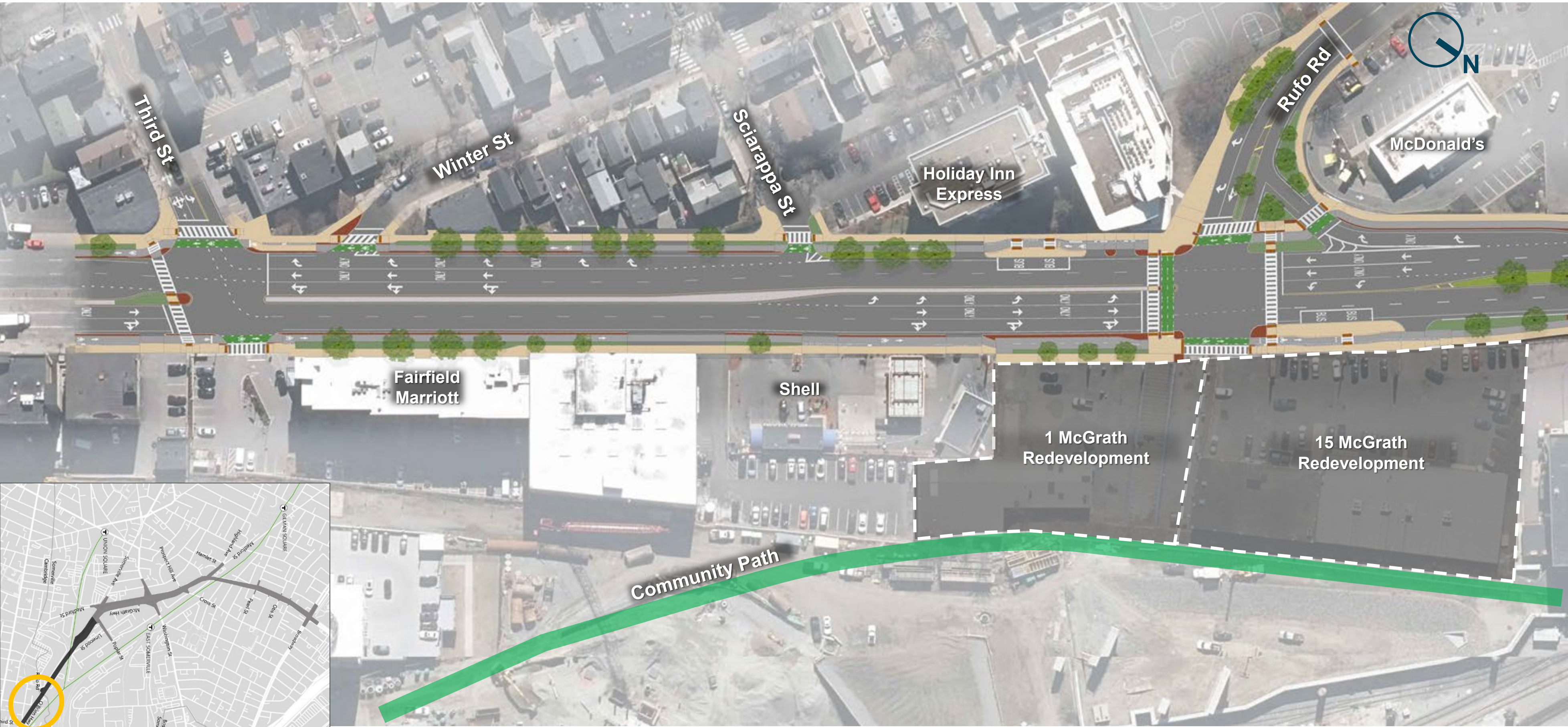


**What is the
preferred
alternative?**

Preferred Alternative



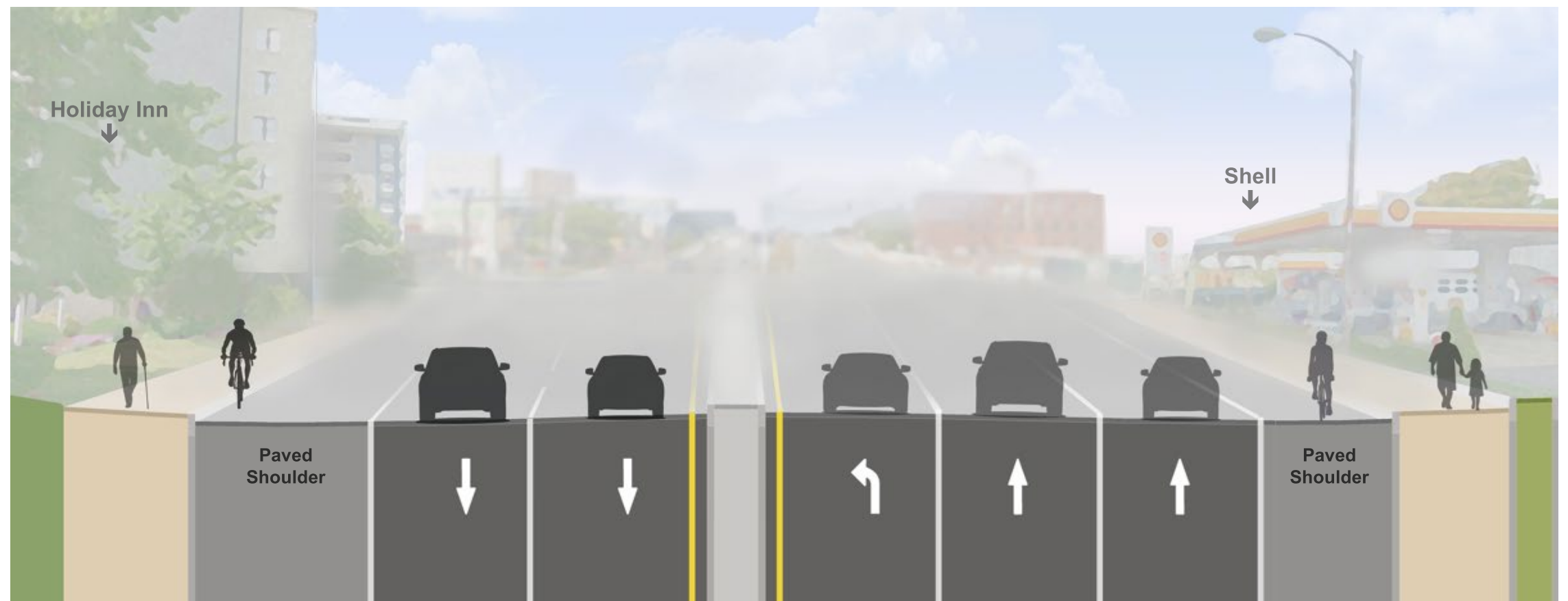
Third Street to Rufo Road



Third Street to Rufo Road

Existing Condition

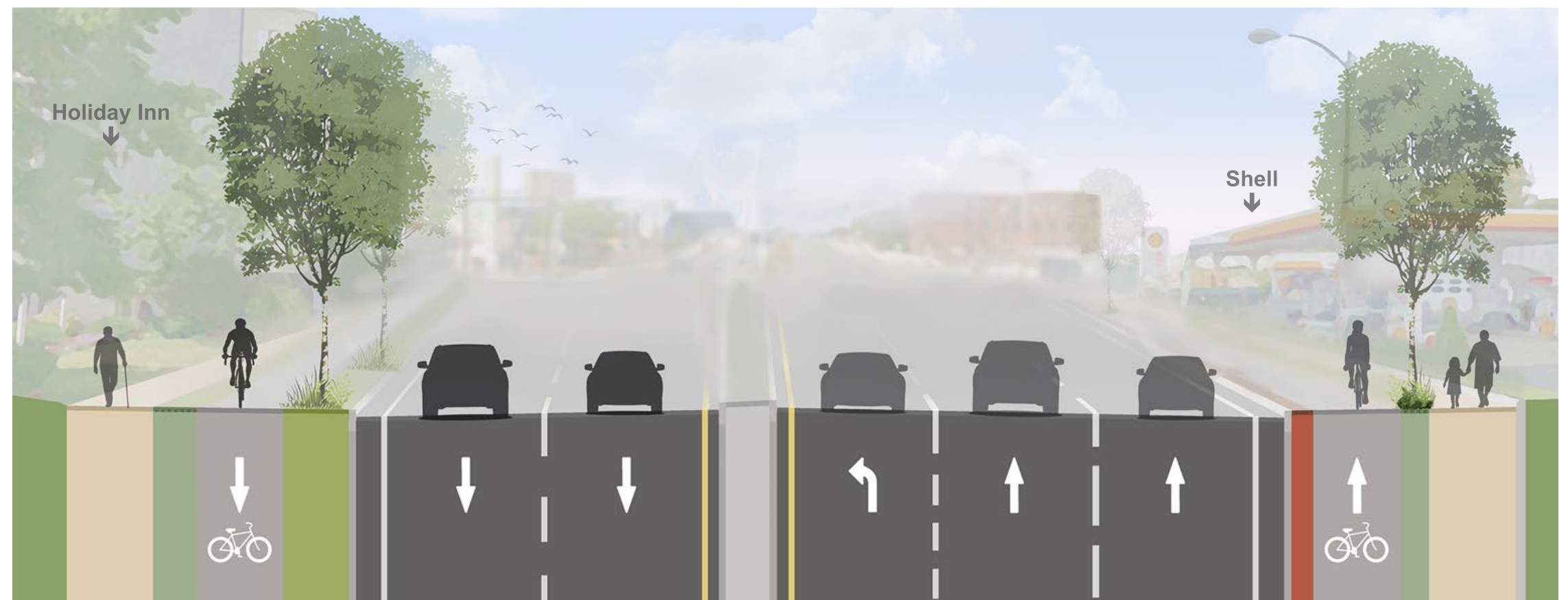
- Excessive pavement width
- No physical separation for bike lanes



Existing Conditions Cross Section Rendering

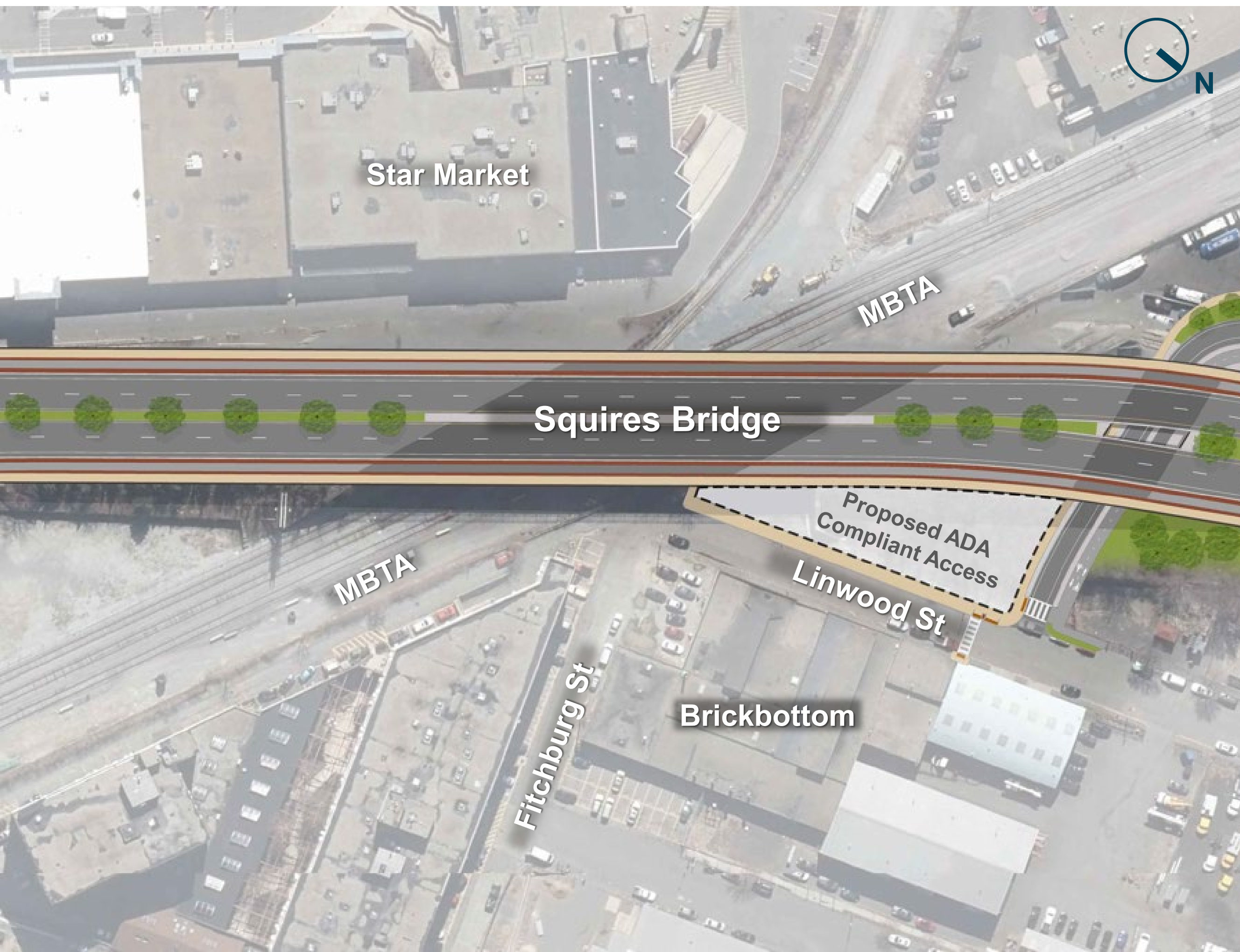
Proposed Alternative

- Reallocate pavement width to provide raised single direction bike lanes and street buffers

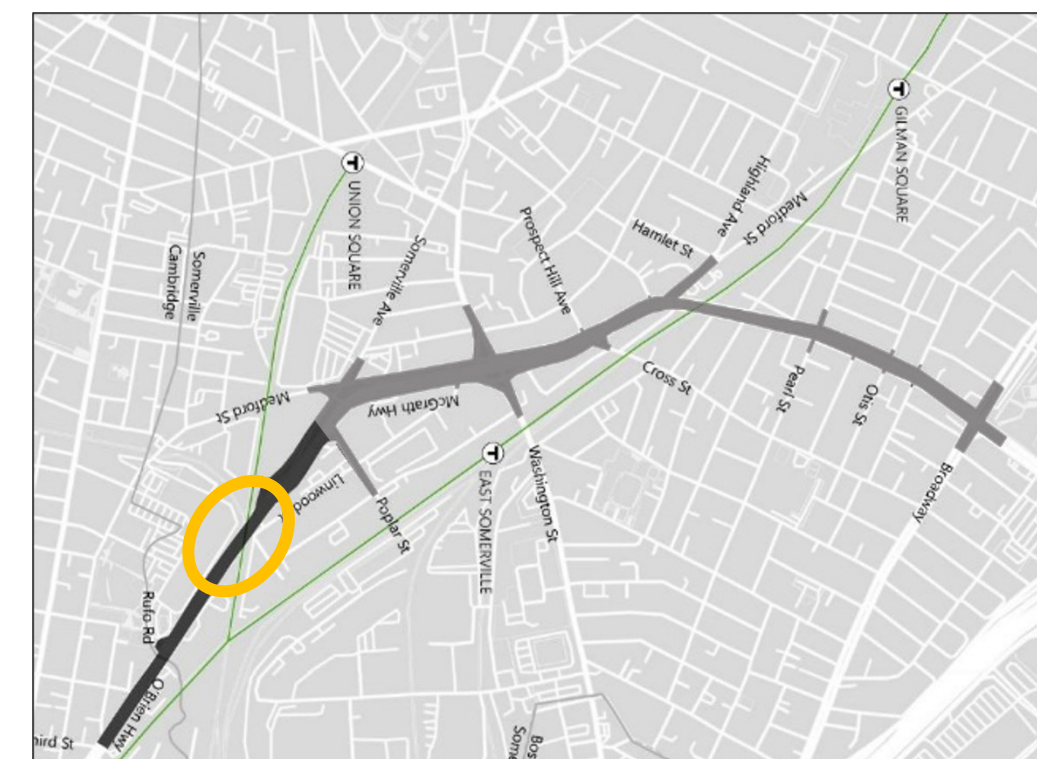


Proposed Alternative Cross Section Rendering

Squires Bridge



- Replacement of bridge structure and elimination of pier supports within MBTA right-of-way
- New structure to span completely over MBTA tracks
- Accessible connection proposed from Linwood Street to Route 28



Squires Bridge Approach Roadway

Existing Condition

- Excessive pavement width to formerly accommodate 3 travel lanes (recently re-striped to 2) in each direction



Existing Conditions Cross Section Rendering

Proposed Alternative

- New structure to provide 2 travel lanes in each direction consistent with the rest of McGrath Boulevard corridor
- Sidewalks and single-direction bike lanes to be incorporated with bridge rail protection from motor vehicles



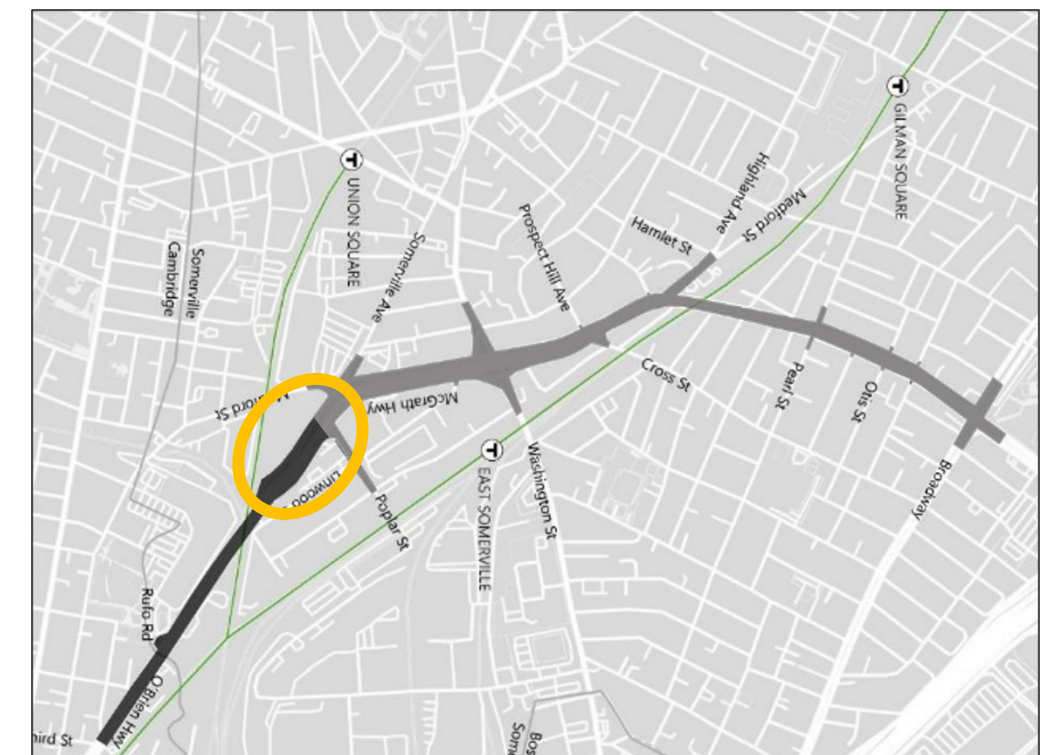
Proposed Alternative Cross Section Rendering

Somerville Ave Extension (“Scary Way”)



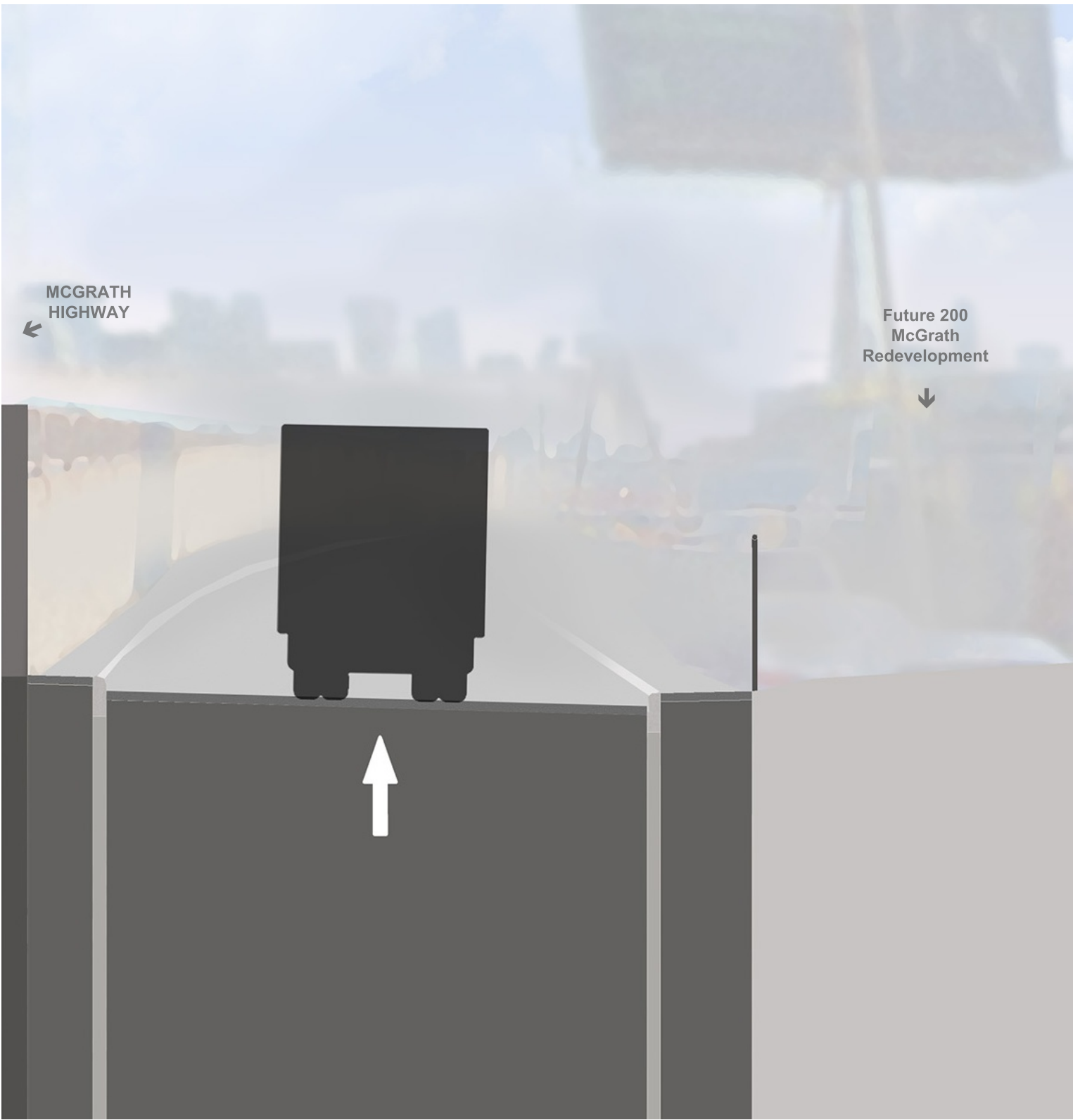
What's included in the design?

- Somerville Ave Extension realigned for better Brickbottom connectivity
- Maintains one way motor vehicle operation
- Sidewalk and two-way separated bike lane
- 200 McGrath direct driveway access to Route 28, no rerouting of vehicles through Brickbottom



Somerville Ave Extension “Scary Way”

Existing Condition



Existing Conditions Cross Section Rendering

Proposed Alternative



Proposed Alternative Cross Section Rendering



**How will the
bridges look?**

Investigated Bridge Type

Squires Bridge

- Single span beam bridge
- Two span beam bridge
- Truss bridge
- Other large-span structures

Somerville Ave Extension Bridge

- Single span beam bridge



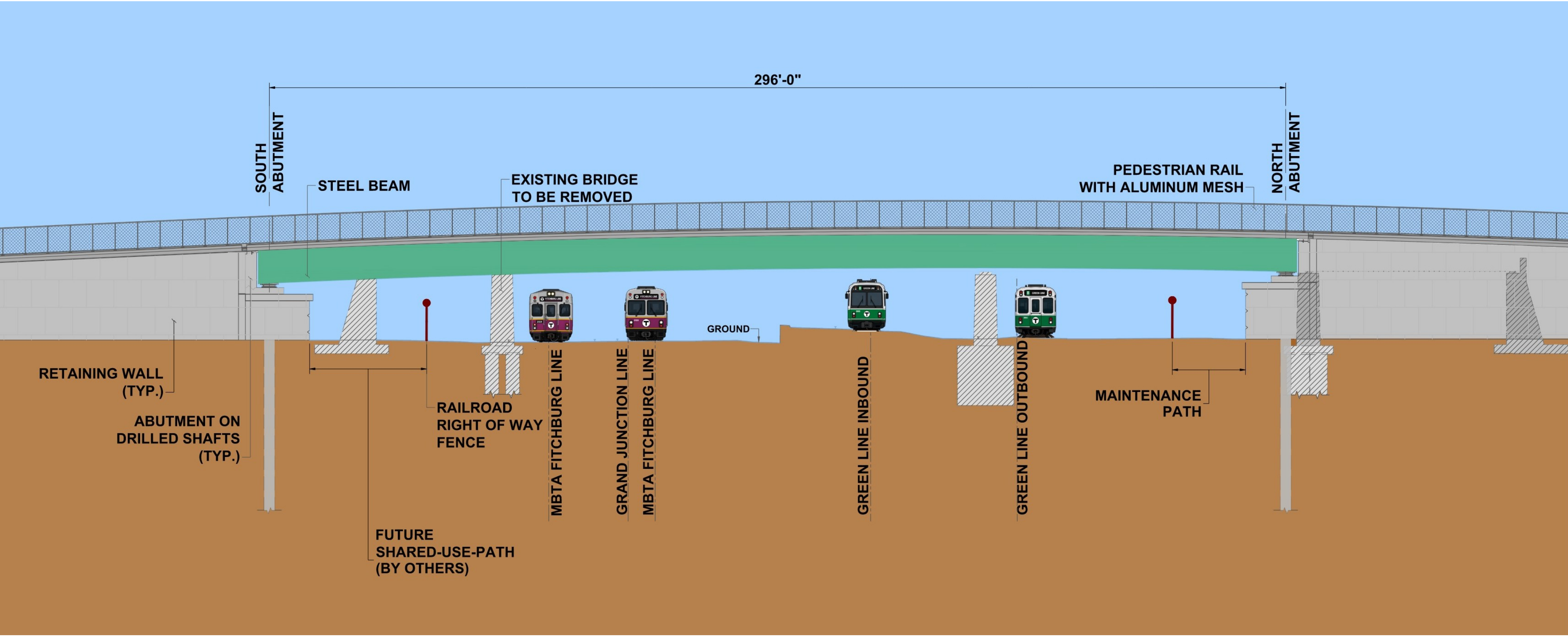
Preferred Bridge Type

Single Span Beam Bridge

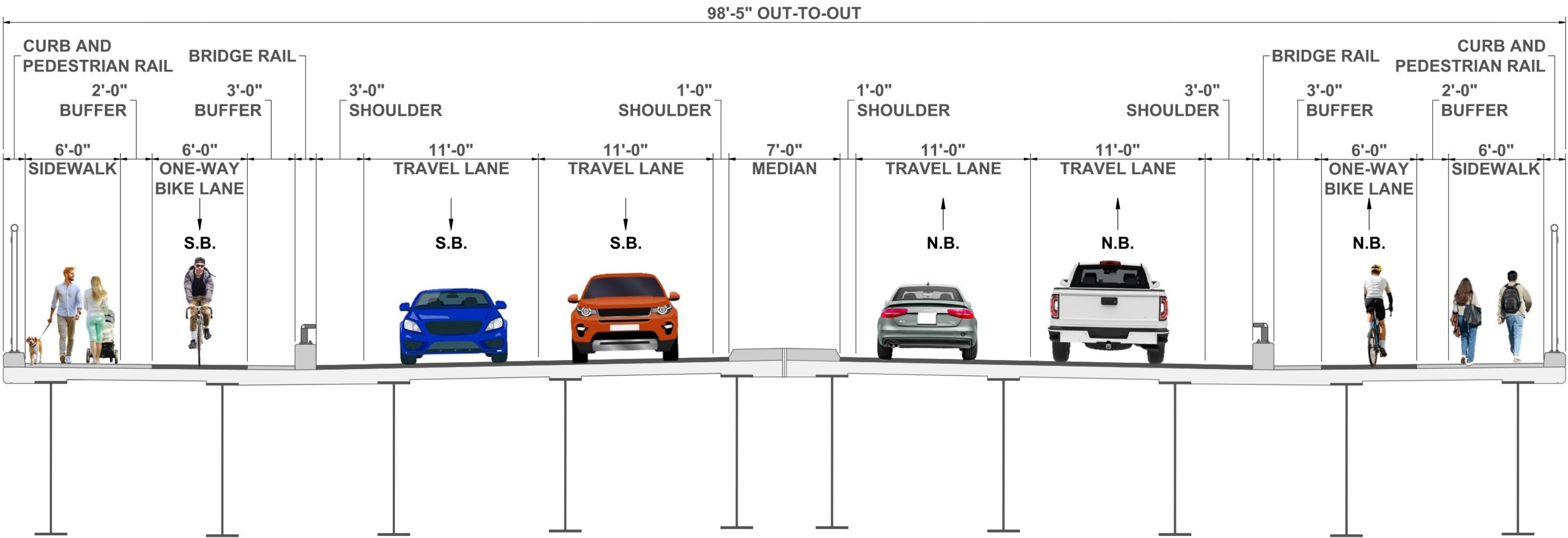
- No supports between railroad tracks
- Reduced railroad impacts during construction
- Provides space for future potential path development at South Abutment
- Improved openness and visibility for Somerville Avenue Extension



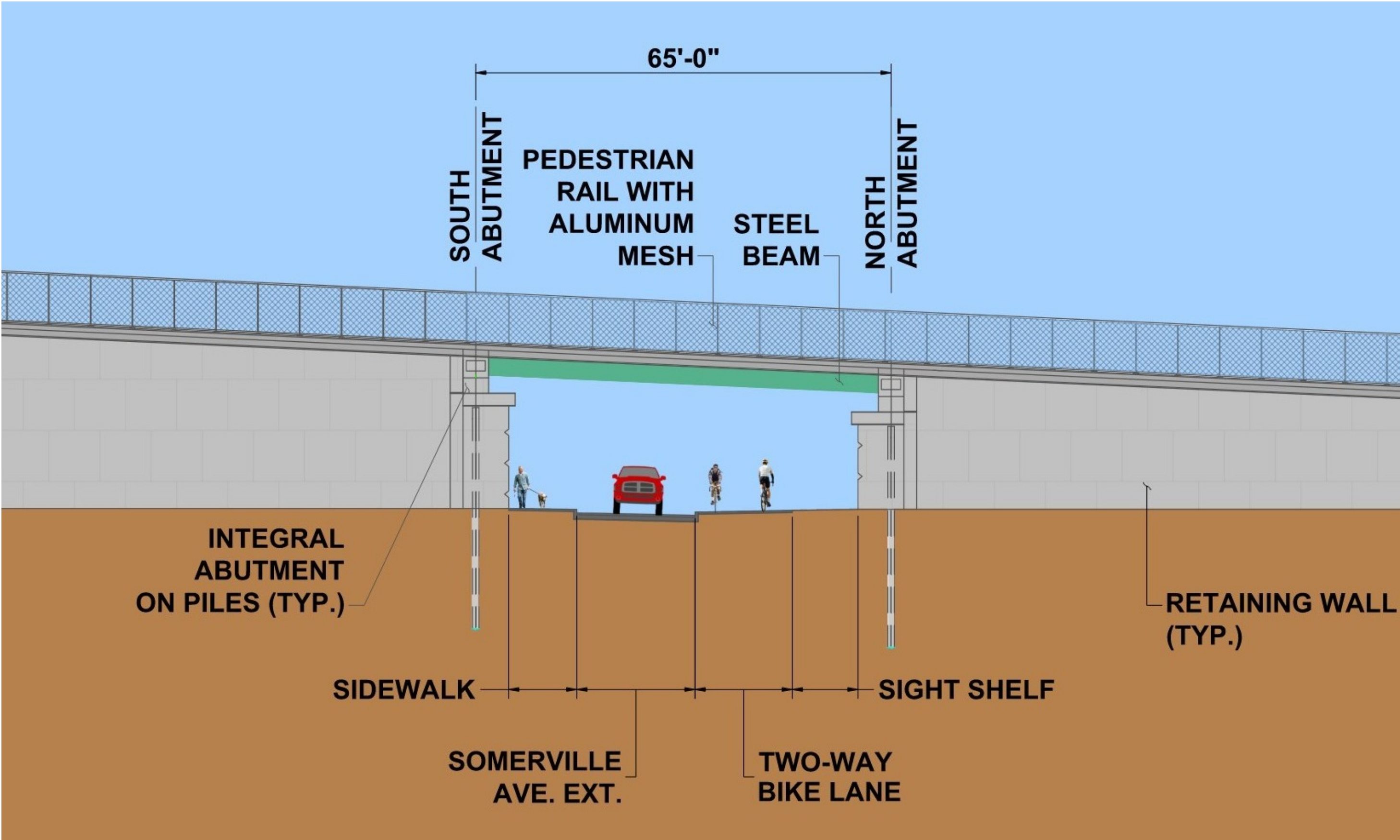
Squires Bridge – Proposed Elevation



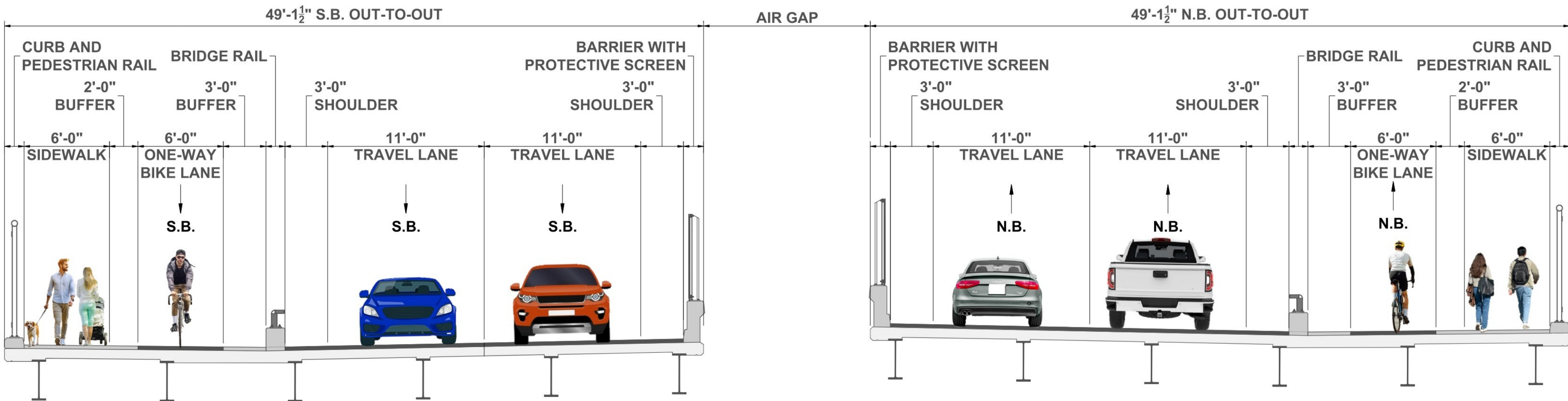
Squires Bridge – Proposed Cross Section



Somerville Avenue Extension – Proposed Elevation



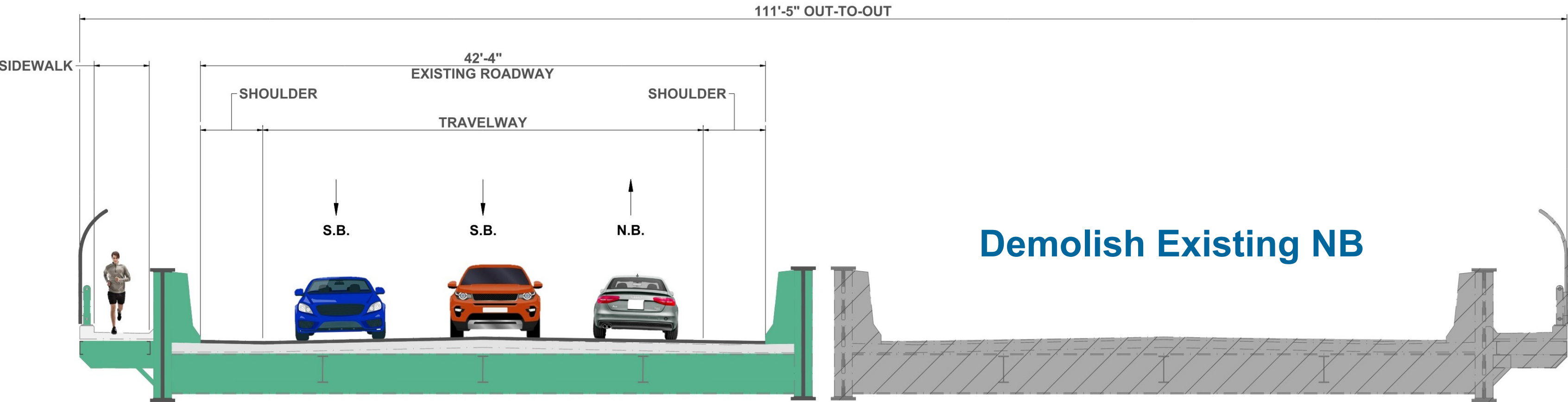
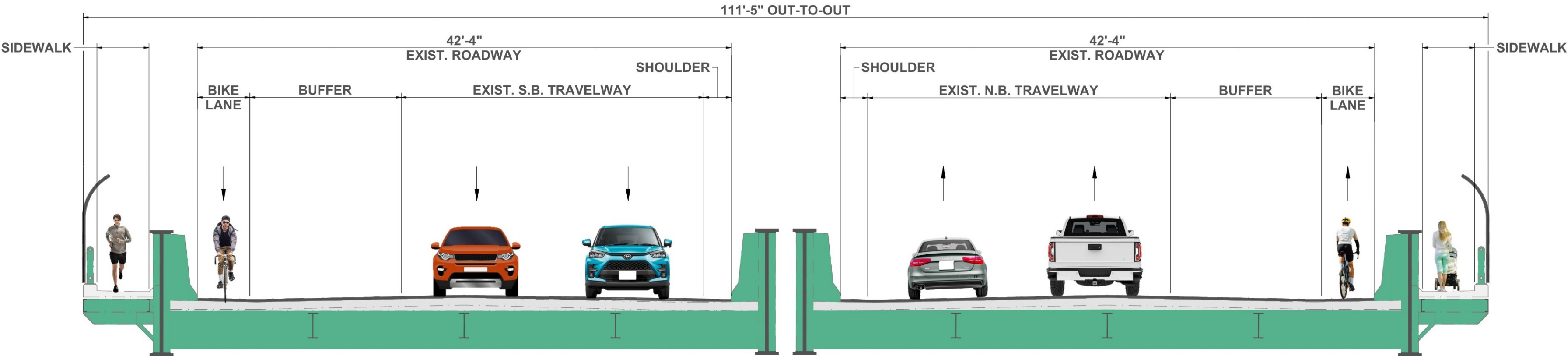
McGrath Boulevard over Somerville Avenue Extension – Cross Section



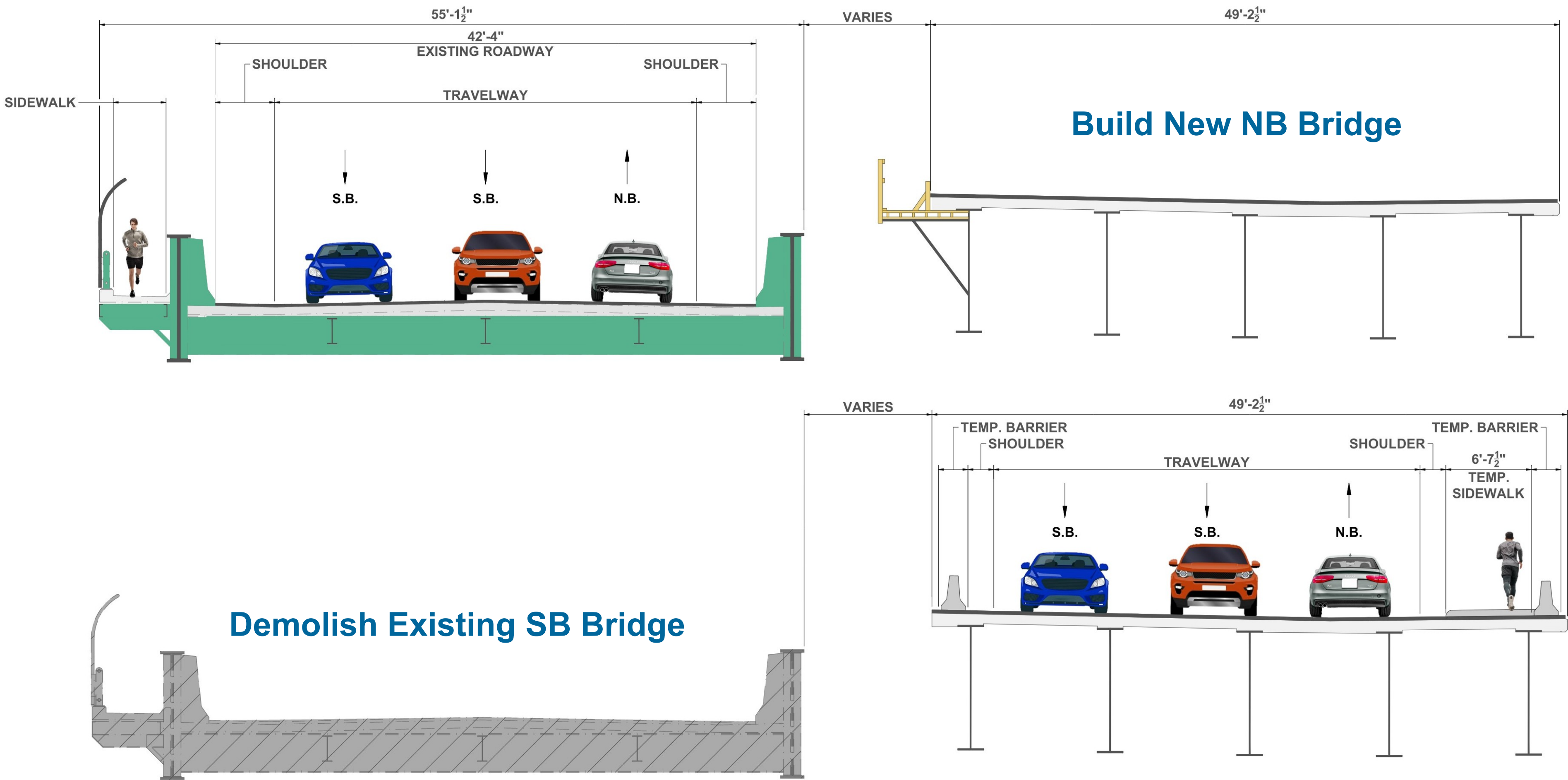


**How will the
project be
constructed?**

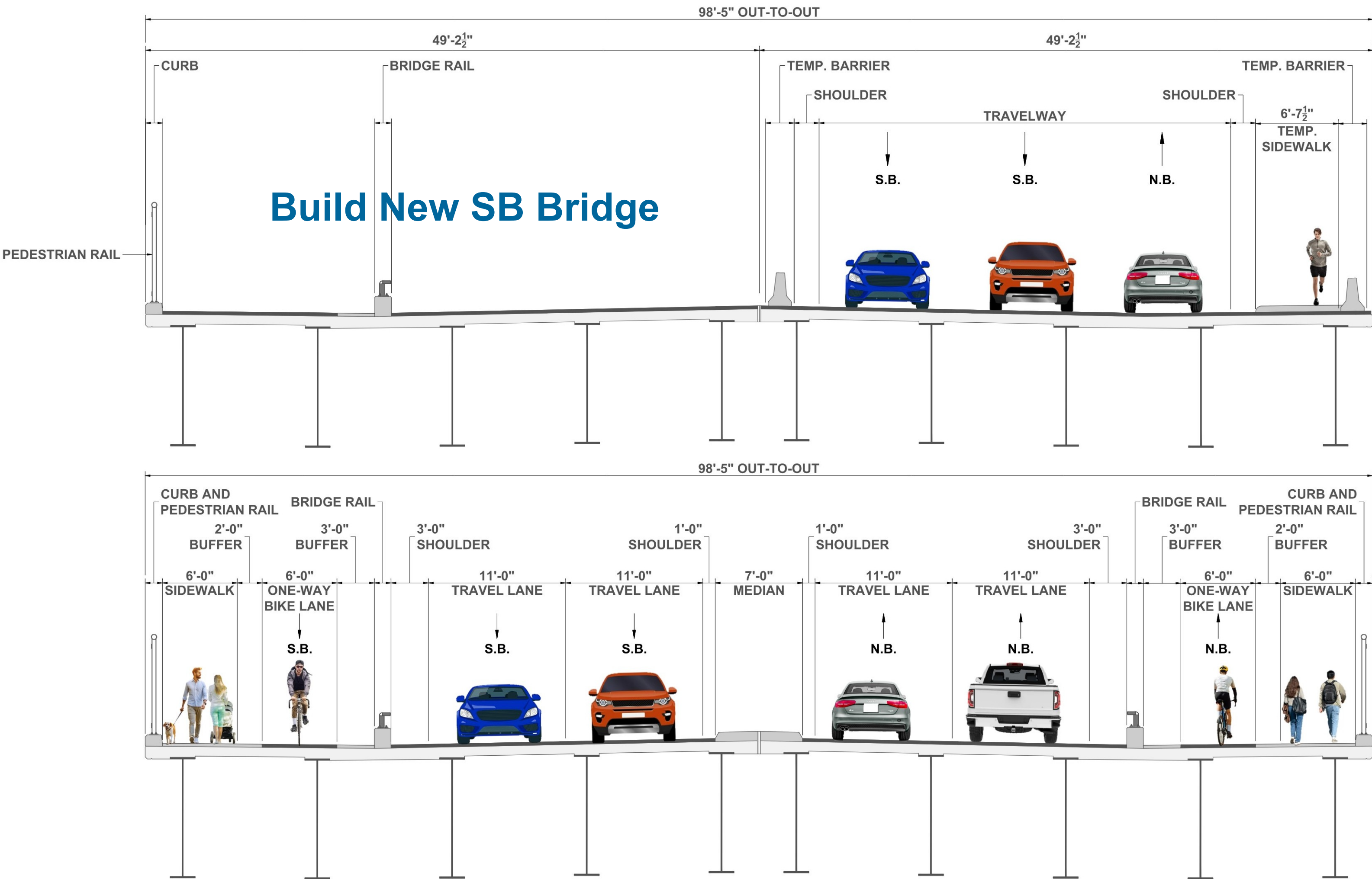
Anticipated Staging - Route 28/Squires Bridge Construction Looking Northbound



Anticipated Staging - Route 28/Squires Bridge Construction Looking Northbound



Anticipated Staging - Route 28/Squires Bridge Construction Looking Northbound

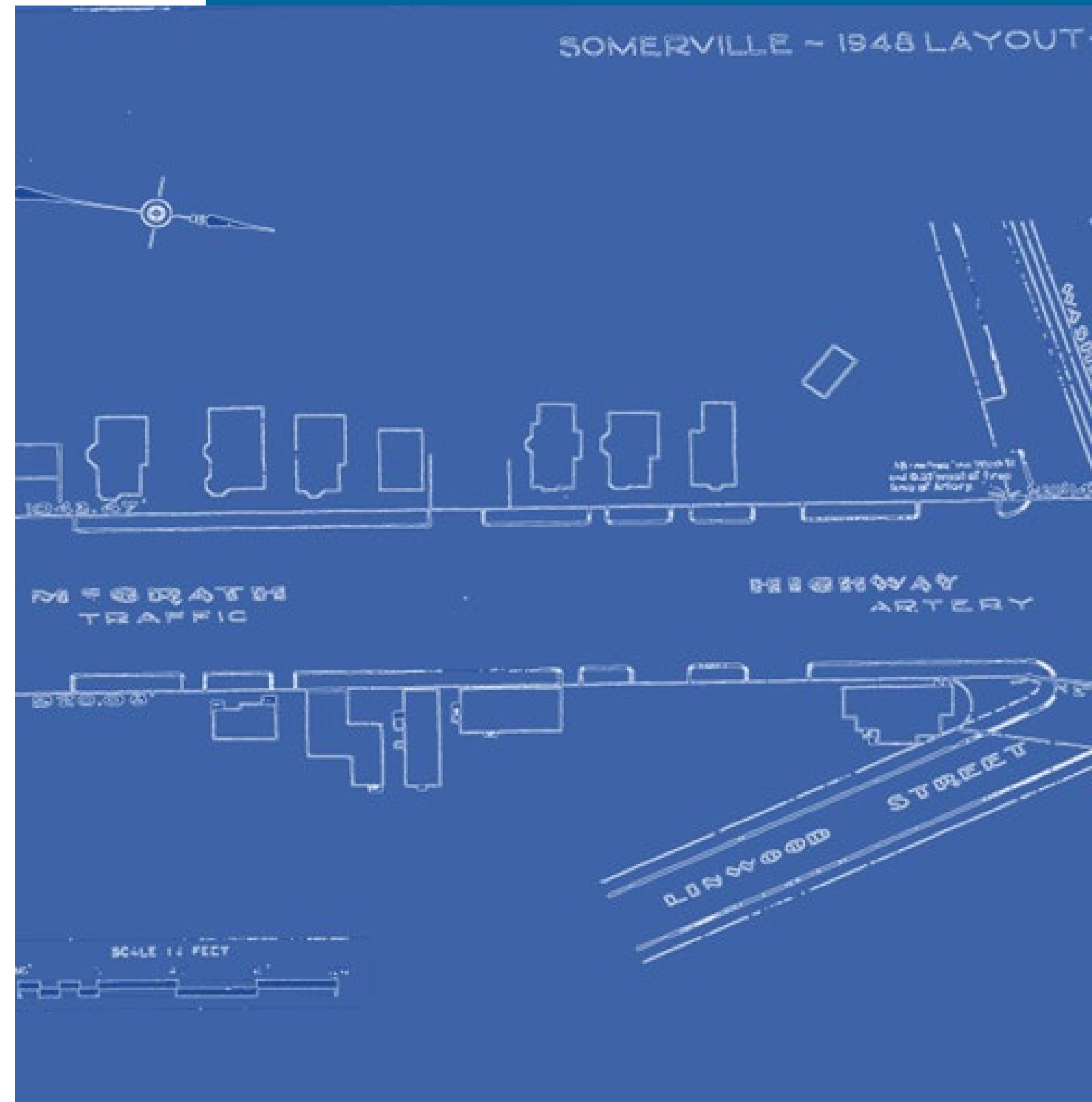




**How will your
property be
impacted?**

Right-of-Way (ROW)

- Proposed work primarily within the existing State Highway Layout
- Project width constrained by existing buildings
- Small impacts to rebuild sidewalks and driveways
- Public will be informed of property impacts as the design advances
- All Right of Way activities are governed by the provisions of the Real Property Act of 1970 and Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 79



Our next steps



Continue Outreach

- Stakeholders
- Somerville
- Cambridge

Ongoing



25% Design

- Project coordination
- Plan development
- Preliminary ROW

Fall 2026



Design Public Hearing

- Present full 25% level design

Early 2027



Final Design

- 75% Design
- 100% Design
- Complete ROW
- Prepare Bid Package

2028 – 2030



Construction

- Advertisement
- Bid Review
- Select Contractor
- Notice to Proceed

Begins 2030



How to Stay Involved?

How to reach us

- Submit email comments to:
massdotmajorprojects@dot.state.ma.us
- For project information visit the MassDOT Upcoming Events for Highway Division web site at <http://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events> or used the QR Code:
- Submit written comments to:
Carrie Lavalley, P.E., Chief Engineer
MassDOT Highway Division
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116
Attention: **MAJOR PROJECTS**, PROJECT FILE NO. 612634





Questions and answers

Questions and answers



- “Raise your hand” to be unmuted for verbal questions (Alt + Y if using a phone)



- Submit your questions and comments using the Q&A button



- 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

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



City of **Somerville**
City of **Cambridge**

Thank You

Squires Bridge Replacement Route 28 over MBTA

Zoom | July 14, 2026 | 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Project File No. 612634

Project Manager – Christopher Cameron

