



Sumner Tunnel Restoration Project

Modified Phase 2 Public Information Meeting

March 14 and March 15, 2023








Project File No. 606476



Zoom Webinar Controls for Meeting

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

[1.888.799.9666]

-  • Listen in Spanish and Arabic
-  • 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 1-312-626-6799 Webinar ID: 841 0048 2917
-  • Closed captioning automatically generated by Zoom
-  • Use the View button in the upper right-hand corner to adjust the meeting view settings to your preference



Public Meeting Notes and Procedures

Notification of Recording

- This virtual public meeting will be recorded. The Massachusetts Department of Transportation may choose to retain and distribute the video, still images, audio, and/or transcript. All parts of this meeting are considered public record.
- By continuing attendance with this virtual public meeting, you consent 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.

Other Important Notes

- Your microphone and webcam are automatically disabled upon entering this 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! Your feedback is important.

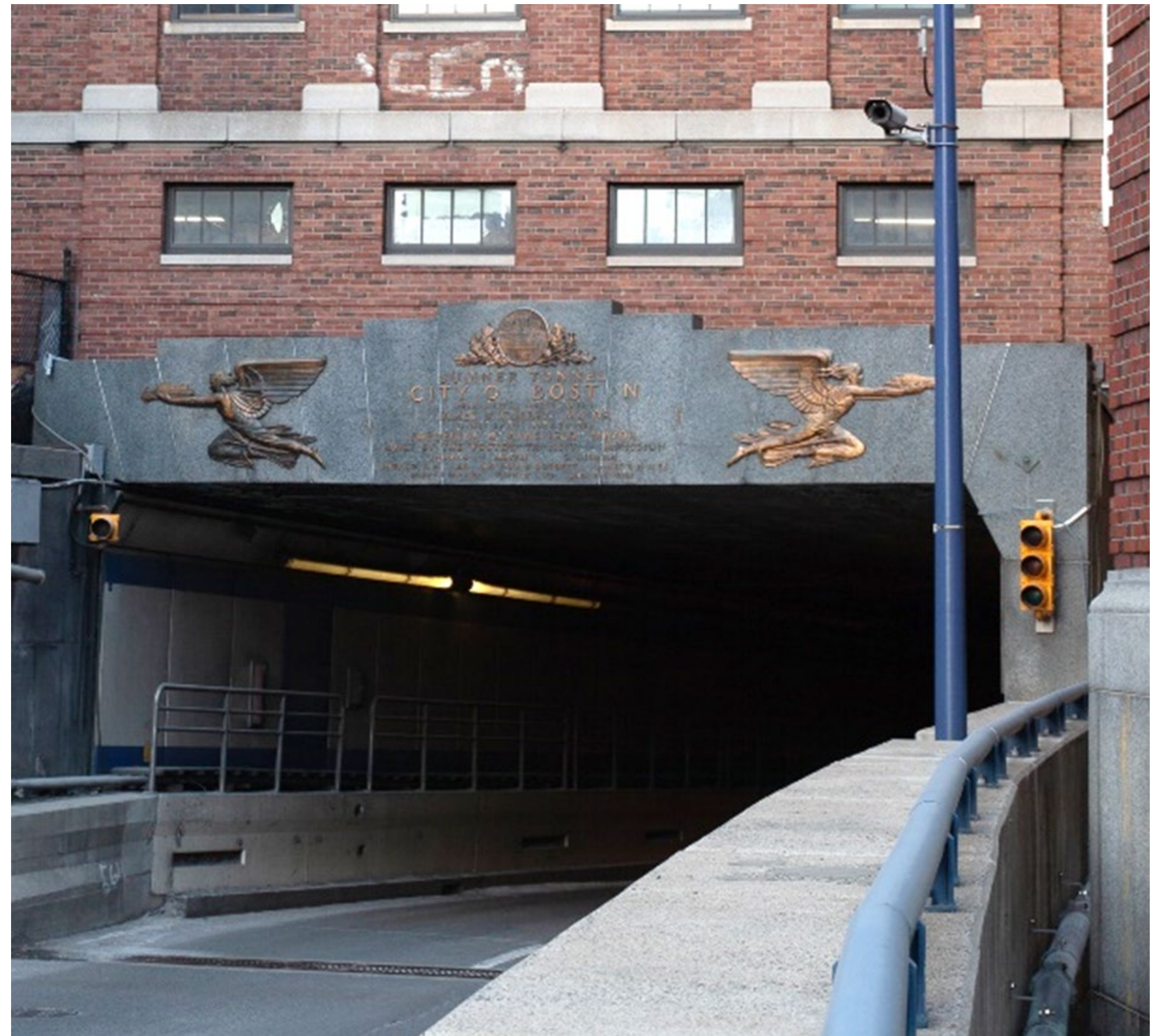
Notice of MassDOT's policy on diversity and civil rights:

- 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!

Agenda

1. Project Overview
2. Tunnel Shutdown
3. Impacts and Mitigation
4. Working Groups Structure
5. Public Process



Project Overview

In 2018, MassDOT identified the Sumner Tunnel as the highest priority project in the Metropolitan Highway System

- Major transportation route for regional traffic
- Connects East Boston and Logan Airport to Downtown Boston
- Links Route 1A to I-93 and Storrow Drive
- Carried over 39,000 vehicles a day in 2019



Project Overview

Condition of Tunnel

Spalled concrete, corroded rebar, and rusted support beams



Project Overview - Goals



- Remove and replace the tunnel ceiling and repair overhead arch



- Demolish and replace the tunnel deck and roadway surface



- Repair tunnel walls and install painted fireproof panels



- Install new LED lights inside tunnel



- Upgrade CCTV and fire alarm systems

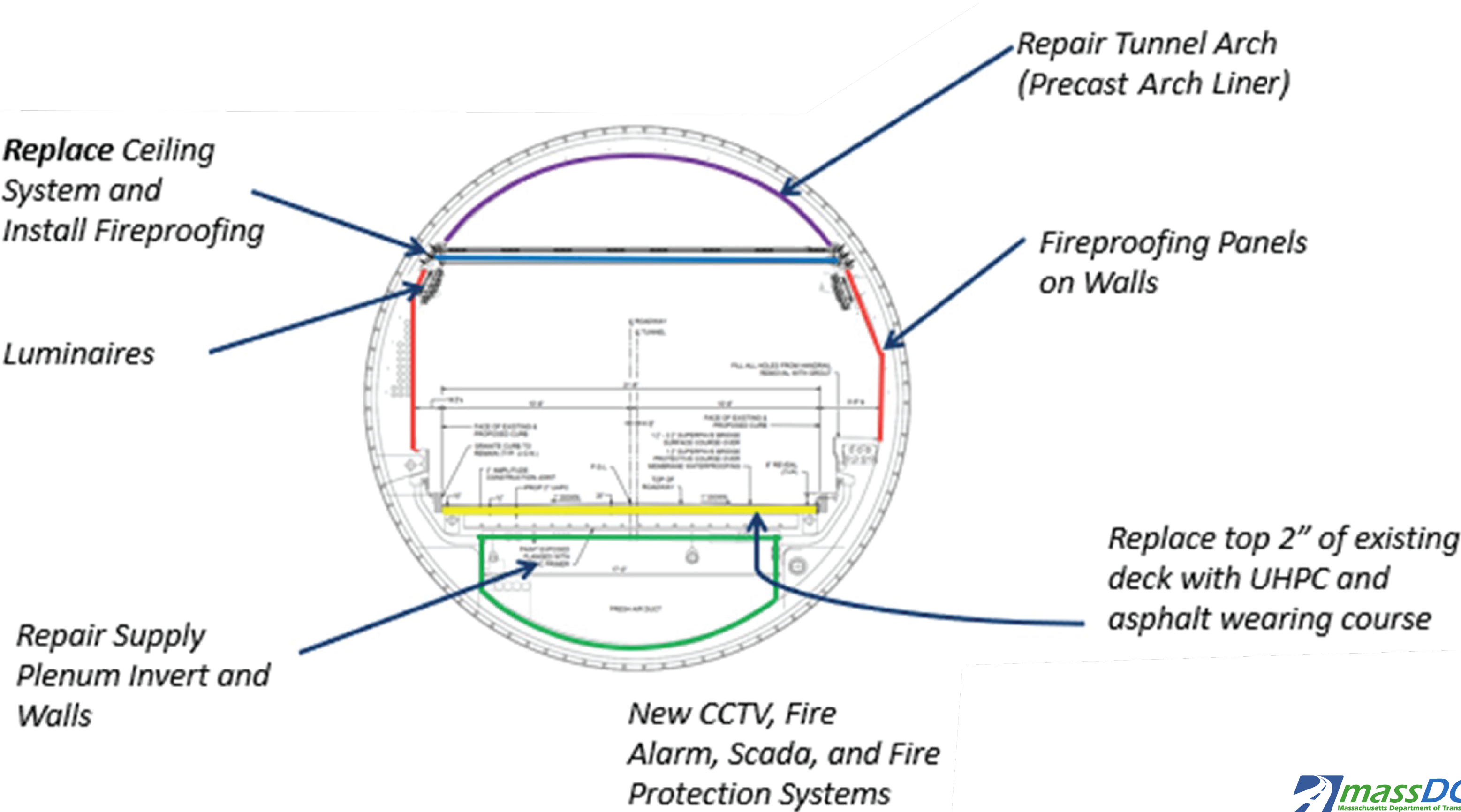


- Install new utility conduits and cables

Tunnel Shutdown – Need for Extended Shut Down

- The project's means and construction methods require an extended shutdown and cannot be completed utilizing weekend tunnel closures
- Tunnel width is not wide enough for both equipment and public access
 - Installation and preparation of ceiling precast requires the whole width of the tunnel
- The tunnel's roadway will not be suitable for public access during roadway restoration process
 - The roadway's current condition requires it to be stripped to its base before resurfacing
- The ventilation system will not be operational during replacement
 - Without an operational ventilation system, the tunnel cannot be safely opened for public access
- Contractor can work concurrently on multiple restoration items without disruption

Tunnel Shutdown - Typical Cross-Section



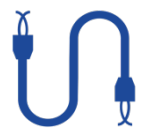
Work Completed for Phase 1



- Repair of tunnel walls



- Ornamental fixtures taken down for portal restoration



- Removed deteriorating railings and wall panels and relocated communication lines



- Upgraded tunnel vent buildings



- Rehabilitated low-point water pump stations

*Always able to return roadway at the end of the weekend shutdown. Ventilation is fully operational



Keyway prep for precast arch panels



Box section ceiling demolition

Tunnel Shutdown – Single Season Original



- 36 weekend shutdowns approaching full closure
- 16-week full closure May through September 2023
- 12 weekend shutdowns through December 2023

Tunnel Shutdown – Two Season Modification

- MassDOT asked the Design-Build contractor to look for opportunities to reduce impacts.
- In original proposals the ceiling and roadway demolition and reconstructions were done together in a single four-month shutdown phase in order to maintain life safety and ventilation systems.
- The contractor leveraged their knowledge of the tunnel gained in earlier phases to propose a modified approach where ceiling demolition and replacement and roadway demolition and replacement is accelerated and done in two separate phases.
- Each accelerated two-month phase is completed between July 4th and Labor Day in 2023 and again during the same time period in 2024.
- This period is outside of the school year and is statistically the lowest traffic volumes of the calendar year.
- Additional weekend closures will be necessary between phases but have more flexibility in their scheduling.

Tunnel Shutdown – Two Season Modification



- 41 weekend shutdowns approaching full closure
- 8-week full closure July through August 2023
- Periodic weekend shutdowns September 2023 through June 2024
- 8-week full closure July through August 2024
- 2-3 weekend shutdowns through October 2024



Impacts and Mitigation

Impacts and Mitigation – Transportation Strategies

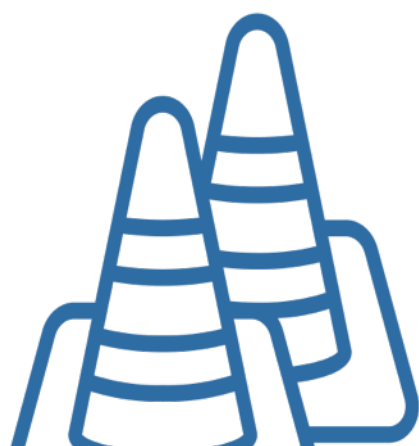


Ongoing community engagement



Safety:

Contingency plans and ongoing coordination with Boston Fire, Police, Emergency Services, and Hospitals



Real time and on the ground traffic monitoring and detour modification when needed



Two-way communication with the public via dedicated project email and hotline



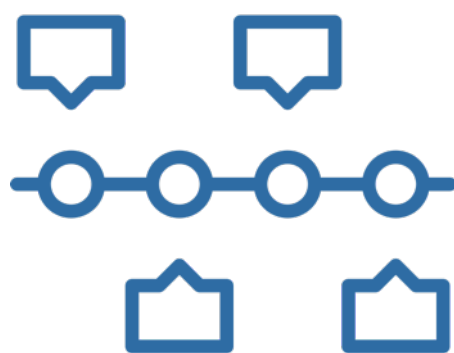
Coordination with the MBTA to ensure public transit options



Ferry service from East Boston for duration of project



Coordination with GPS companies

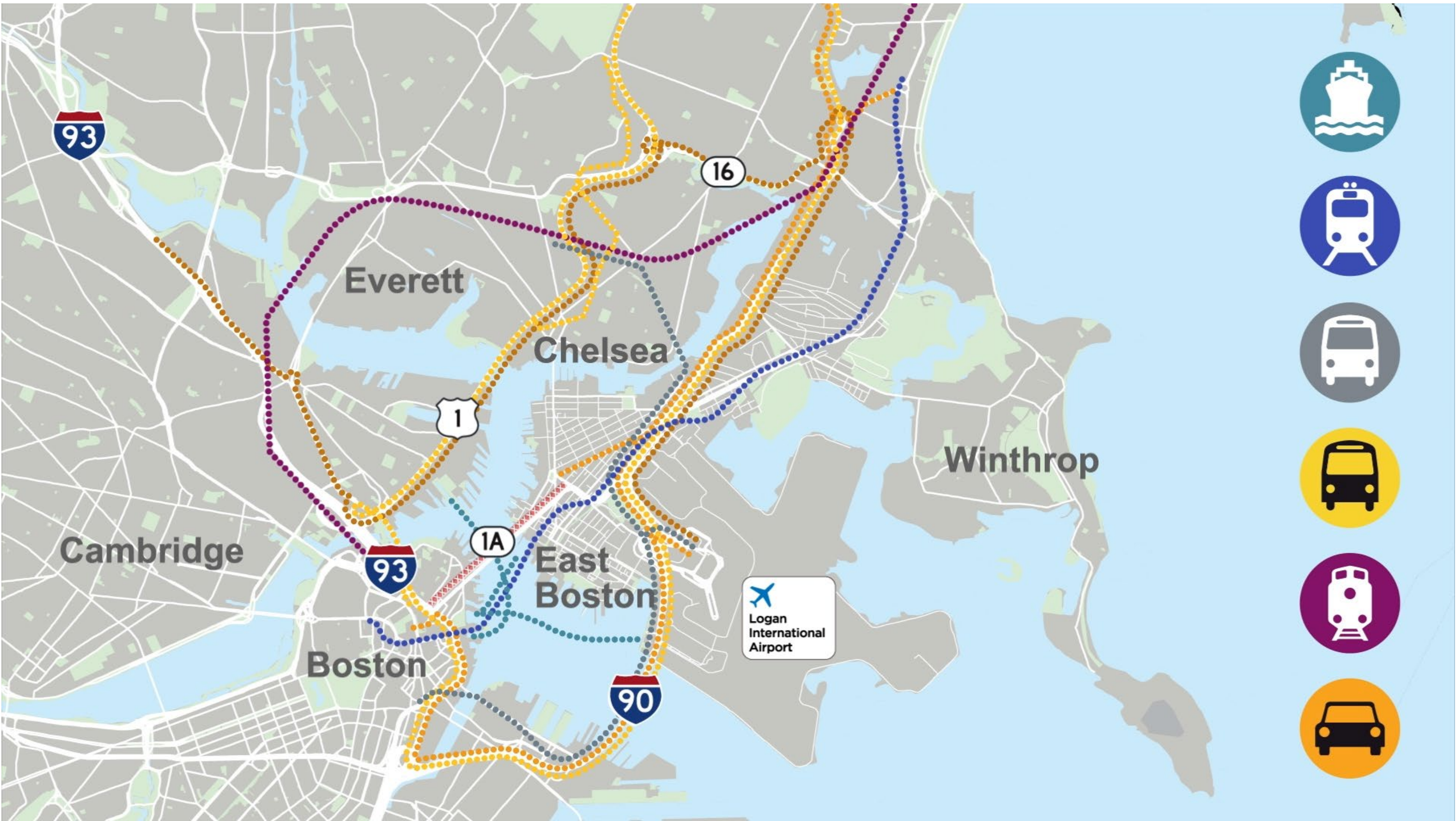


Updating the public throughout the project timeline

Impacts and Mitigation – Direct Mitigation

- Reduced Tolls for Active East Boston Resident Program
 - EZ pass accounts active in the East Boston Resident Program will receive a toll discount on the Tobin Bridge during tunnel closures
- MBTA Ferry
 - MassDOT to continue Pilot MBTA East Boston Ferry service from Lewis Mall to Long Wharf
- Isolated intersection improvements
 - signal phasing and timing changes
 - turn restrictions
 - lane utilization/lane changes
 - Field Monitoring Units
 - Real Time information
- Incentives/Disincentives for Design-Build team to ensure compliance with contract timelines

Travel Options During Full Closure of the Tunnel





**THE SUMNER TUNNEL IS CLOSING
JULY 5, 2023 - AUGUST 31, 2023**

**YOUR COMMUTE
WILL BE IMPACTED**



**EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS AND
PLAN YOUR ALTERNATIVE ROUTE**

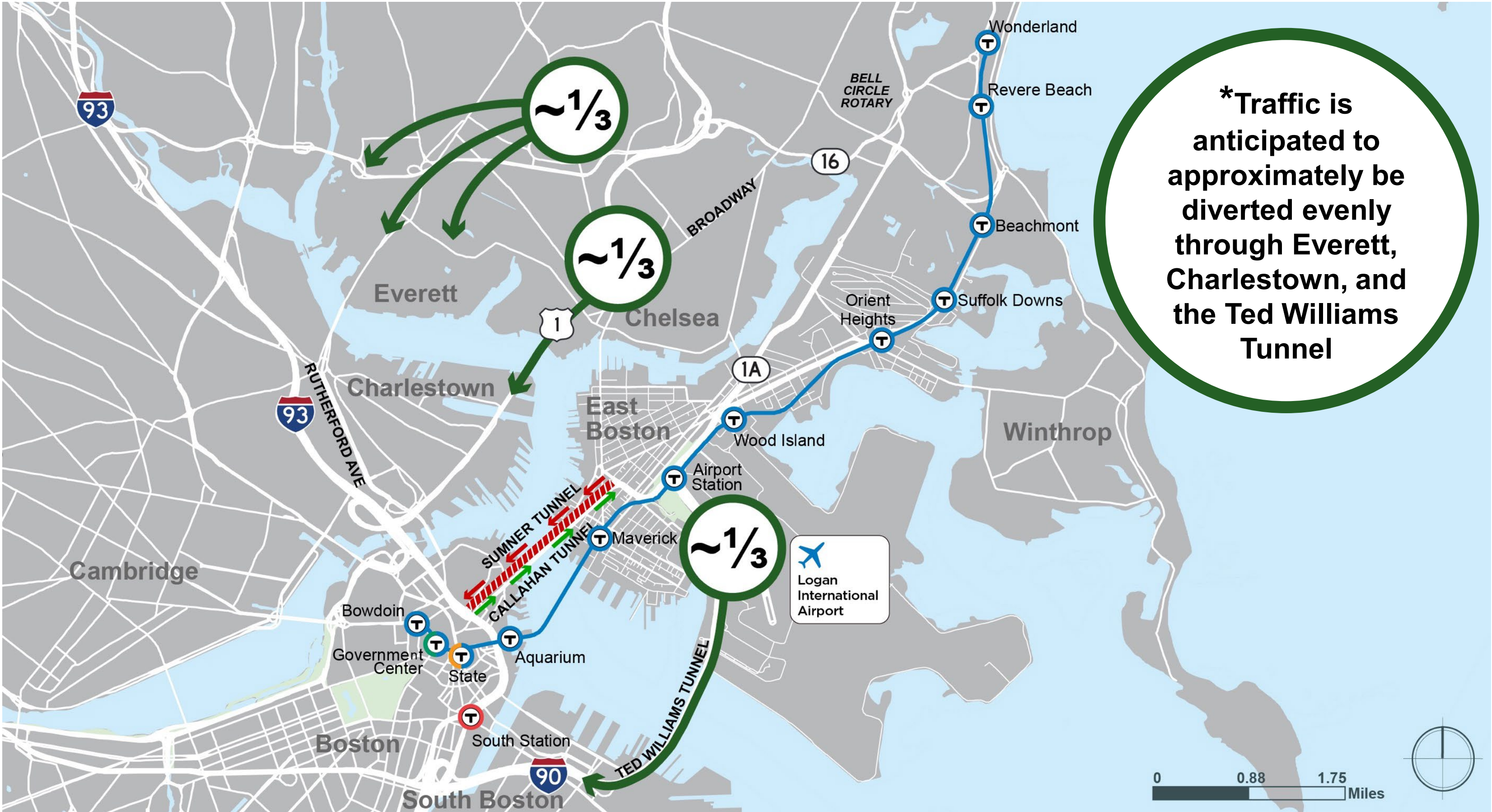
FOR MORE PROJECT INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT
MASS.GOV/SUMNER-TUNNEL

Explore Sumner Alternatives

Expect delays and plan ahead

- Reduce
 - If able, adjust your commute time or work from home
- Reroute
 - Alternate Routes
 - Travel Time Dashboard
 - Mass.gov/511
- Re-mode
 - Explore MBTA Transit, Ferry, and Commuter Rail
 - Carpool

Impacts and Mitigation – Traffic Diversions



***Traffic is anticipated to be diverted evenly through Everett, Charlestown, and the Ted Williams Tunnel**

Ongoing Mitigation – Environmental and Community

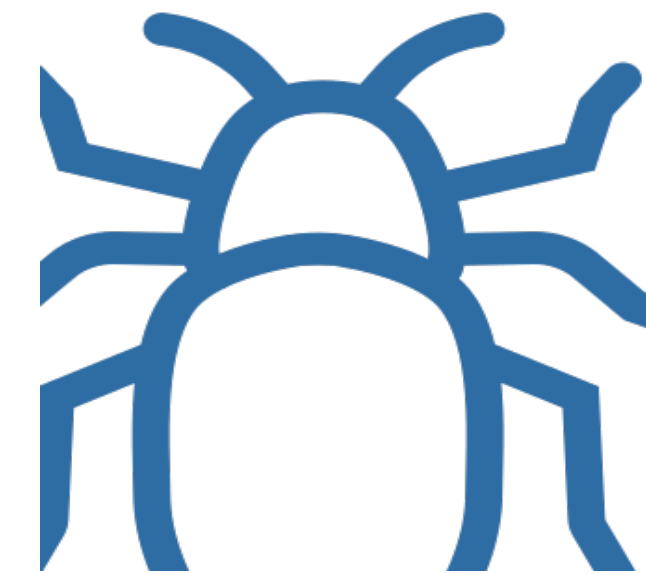


Contractor is required to dispose of runoff and materials offsite



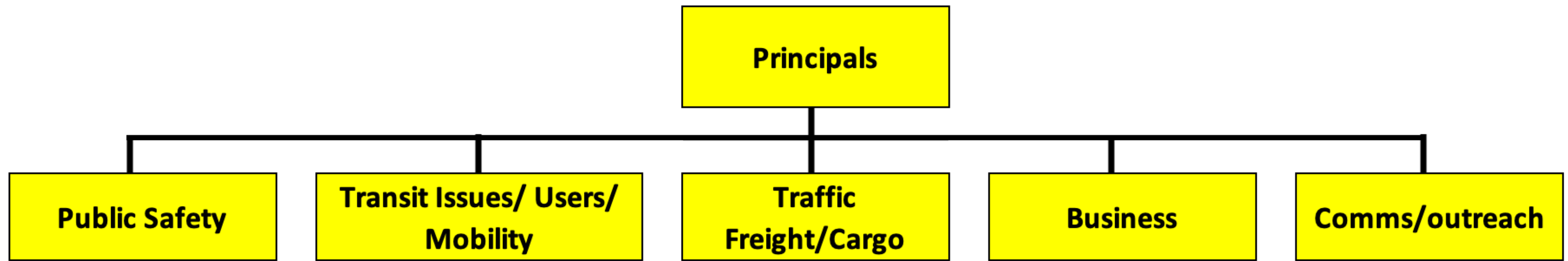
Noise and Dust Monitoring

- Noise monitoring meets City of Boston and MassDOT standards
- Control methods to keep dust within work zone



Contractor is required to address pests and follow standards set by MassDOT

Working Groups – Structure



Working groups mission

- Leave no stone unturned
- Review project impacts and current mitigation strategies
- Identify additional solutions and strategies to reduce impacts for all modes
- Limitations on proposals that involve changes to the scope of work – timing, duration, approach to construction, etc.
- Categorize strategies into low-cost easily implemented and those that require additional coordination, funding, and third-party assistance

Public Process - Communications on Shutdown

Meetings	Direct Outreach	Provide Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Virtual legislative briefings• Virtual stakeholder and community group briefings• Virtual public meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Neighborhood pop-ups• Informational posters throughout the region• Emails to EZ-Pass holders• Outreach to Logan Express, Regional Bus Companies, and Rental Car Agencies• Outreach to abutters and diverse community groups• Outreach to businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update project website• Provide regular project and traffic updates via email listserv• MassDOT social media posts• Press briefings• Press releases• Newspaper notices

Public Process - Goals

- **Provide consistent project updates**
 - Website, Gov Delivery, and social media
- **Equitable outreach**
 - Project materials will be translated, and abutters will receive additional outreach
- **Provide timely responses to inquiries**
 - Respond to email inquiries and hotline calls within 24 hours
- **Evaluate effectiveness of outreach and modify if needed**
 - Through regular internal meetings
- **Collaborate with stakeholders**
 - Provide briefings and two-way communication



**How Can I
Connect with
the Project?**

How to Connect with the Project



Project hotline

- 508-510-2920



Email the project team with feedback and questions:

- Sumner100@dot.state.ma.us



Timely project updates

- Project website: www.mass.gov/sumner-tunnel



**Questions and
discussion**

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



- 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 Connect with the Project



Project hotline

- 508-510-2920



Email the project team with feedback and questions:

- Sumner100@dot.state.ma.us



Timely project updates

- Project website: mass.gov/sumner-tunnel-restoration-project



Thank You

Sumner Tunnel Centennial Restoration Project

March 14 and March 15, 2023 | 6 p.m.

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