



Route 20 Reconstruction Project in Charlton & Oxford: Design & Construction Update

Public Information Meeting

May 4, 2023, 6:00 PM via Zoom

Project File No. 602659

Zoom Webinar Controls for Meeting



- Ask a question and share comments



- Drop down menu to check microphone and speakers



- Raise your hand (Alt + Y, * 9 if dialing in)



- If you are unable to access the internet or are having technical problems, please call into the meeting at 305-224-1968, Webinar ID: 829 0189 3343



Live Transcript

- Closed captioning provided by Language Connections



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

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

[1.888.799.9666]

Audio Settings ^



Raise Hand



Q&A



Live Transcript

Leave

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!

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.

Thank You for Your Support

Local Newspaper Advertisements:

Charlton Villager

Worcester Telegram & Gazette

MassDOT Facebook and Twitter:

facebook.com/massdotinfo/

twitter.com/MassDOT

Municipal Partners:

Charlton Council on Aging and Senior Center

Oxford Council on Aging and Senior Center

Community Organizations:

Central Massachusetts Planning Commission

Venture Community Services



Agenda

- 01 Project Overview
- 02 Design Elements
- 03 Oxbow Rd Intersection
- 04 Construction Update
- 05 Next Steps
- 06 Public Outreach
- 07 Questions and Discussion

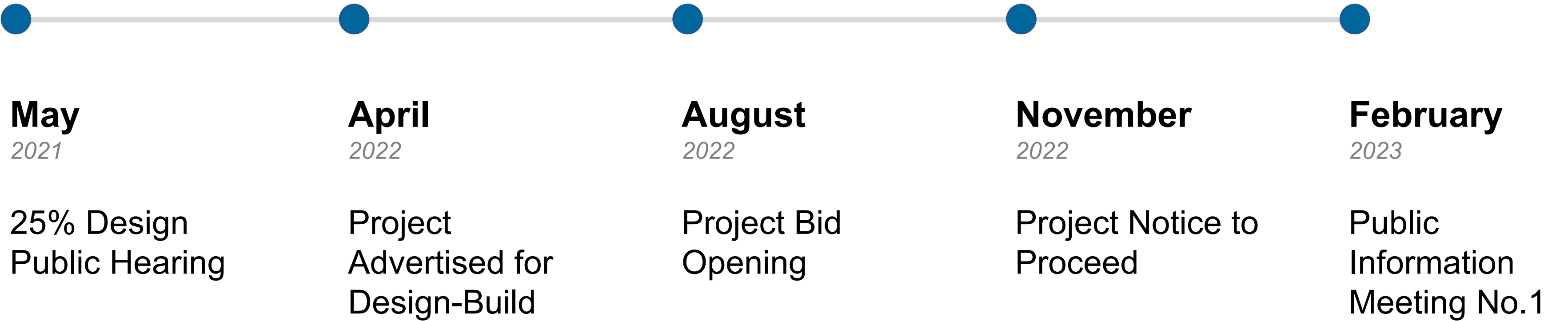


Presentation Speakers:

- **MassDOT Project Manager**
 - Christopher Gagne
- **MassDOT Producers/Facilitators**
 - Leah Grodstein and Kit McLewee
- **MassDOT Highway Division**
 - Barry Lorion, District 3 Highway Director
 - Joe Frawley, District 3 Operations Engineer
 - Klodian Polisi, Resident Engineer
- **Design Build Construction Team**
 - Contractor: D.W. White – Jack Harney, Project Manager
 - Design Engineer: TranSystems – Lenny Velichansky, Design Manager
 - Environmental Permitting: BETA Group – Jonathan Niro
 - Public Outreach: Regina Villa Associates – Sarah Paritsky

- **Closed Captioning / CART**
 - Language Connections

How did we get here?

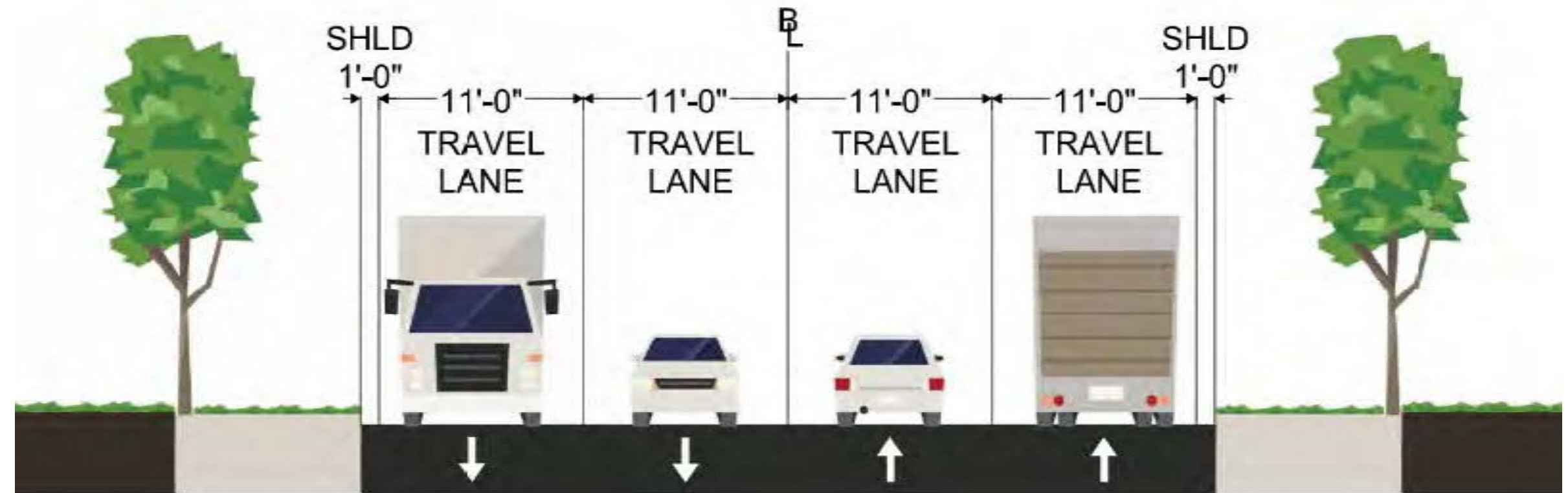




**Why was this
project
initiated?**

Existing Deficiencies

- Safety and speed concerns
- Narrow roadway
- History of crashes along the corridor
- Congestion
- Functionally obsolete bridges
- Limited pedestrian/bicycle accommodations





Project Scope

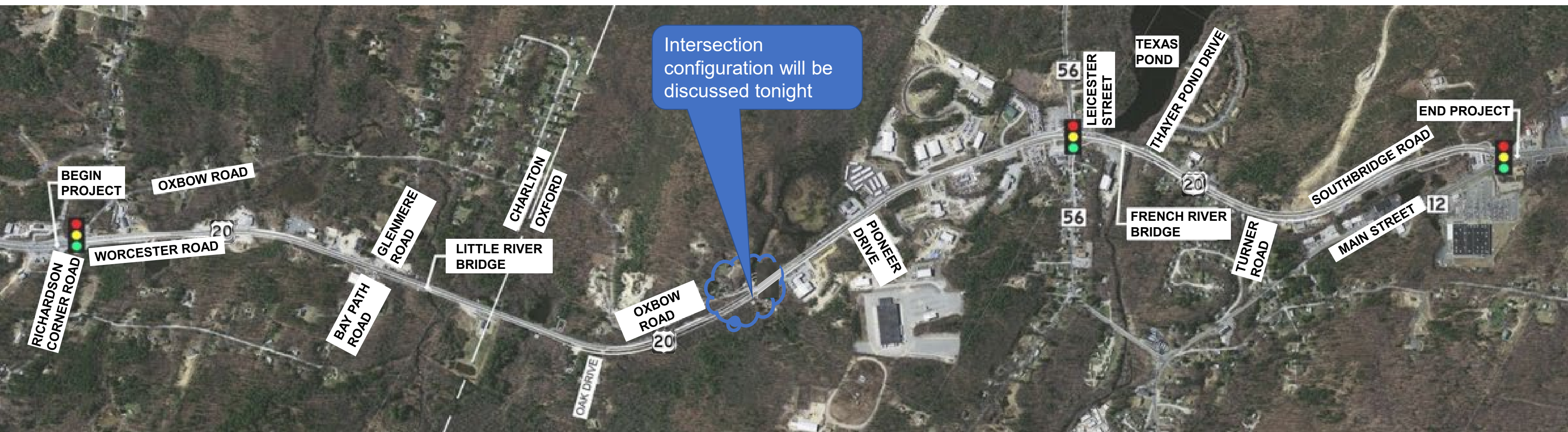
Project Goals

- Improve Safety
- Improve Multi-Modal Mobility
- Replace Functionally Obsolete Bridges



Overview and Highlights

- Reconstruct Route 20 between Richardson Corner in Charlton and Route 12 in Oxford
- Replace Route 20 Bridges over the Little River and French River
- Improve bicycle and pedestrian accommodations
- Upgrade substandard intersections
- Optimize drainage along the corridor
- Introduce Best Management Practices for stormwater treatment

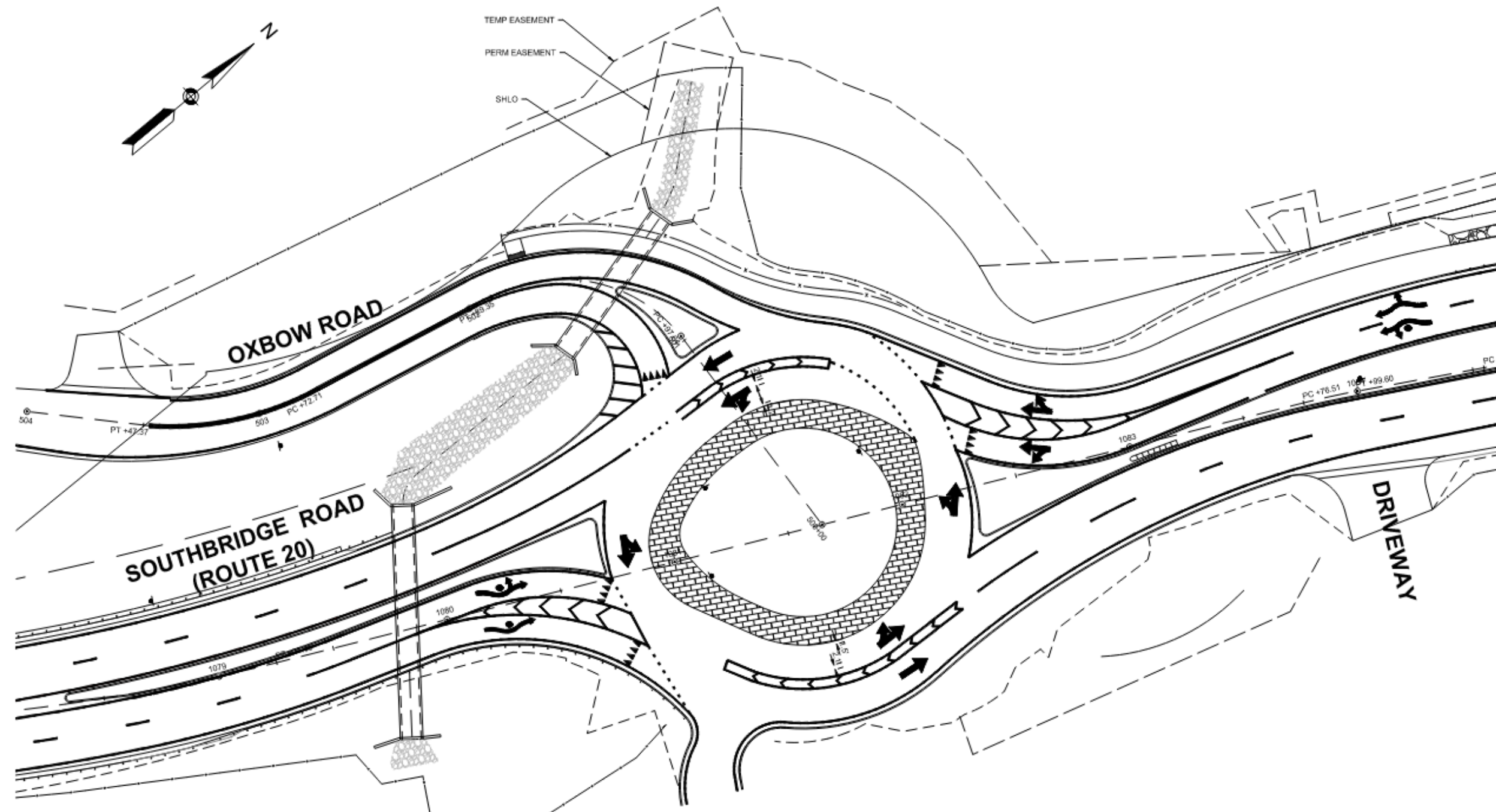




Project Design Update

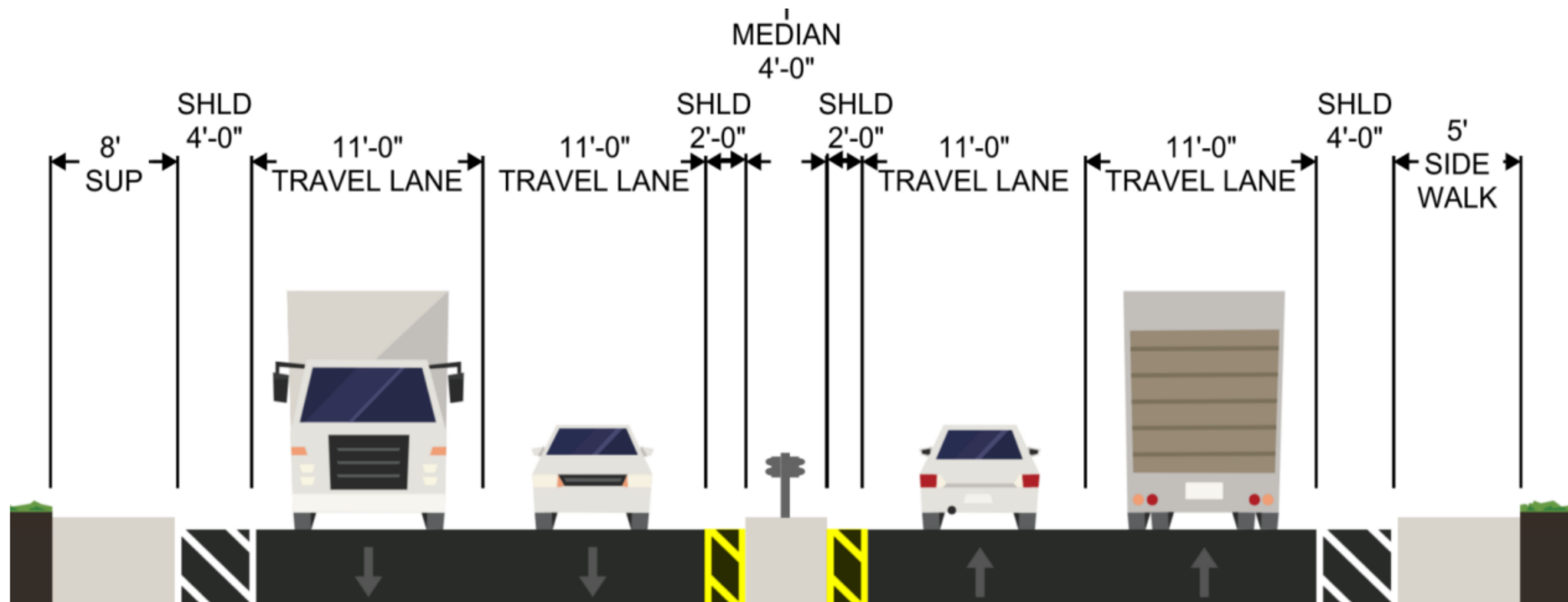
Project Design

- Design is proceeding on schedule, anticipated completion: July 2023
- Major Design Revision: Roundabout at Route 20/Oxbow Road intersection in Oxford



Project Design

- Typical Route 20 Section between Route 12 and Route 56

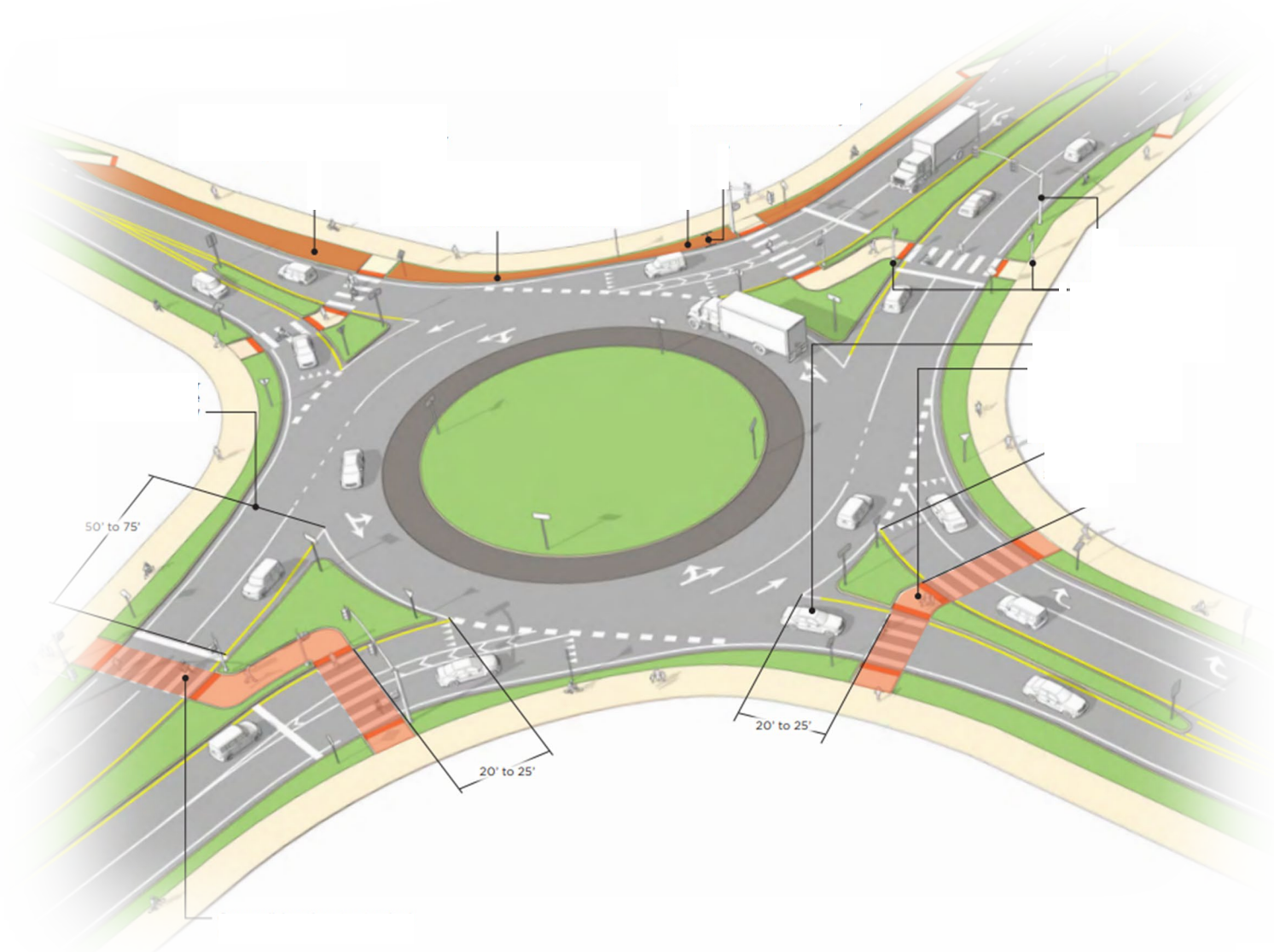


Key Roundabout Features

Safety:

- Speed is reduced prior to entering roundabout
- Similar vehicle speeds through roundabout
- Reduce crash severity
 - *Reduction in total crashes: 35%*
 - *Reduction in injuries and fatalities: 76%*

(Source: National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) Report 672)



Example Roundabout

Source:

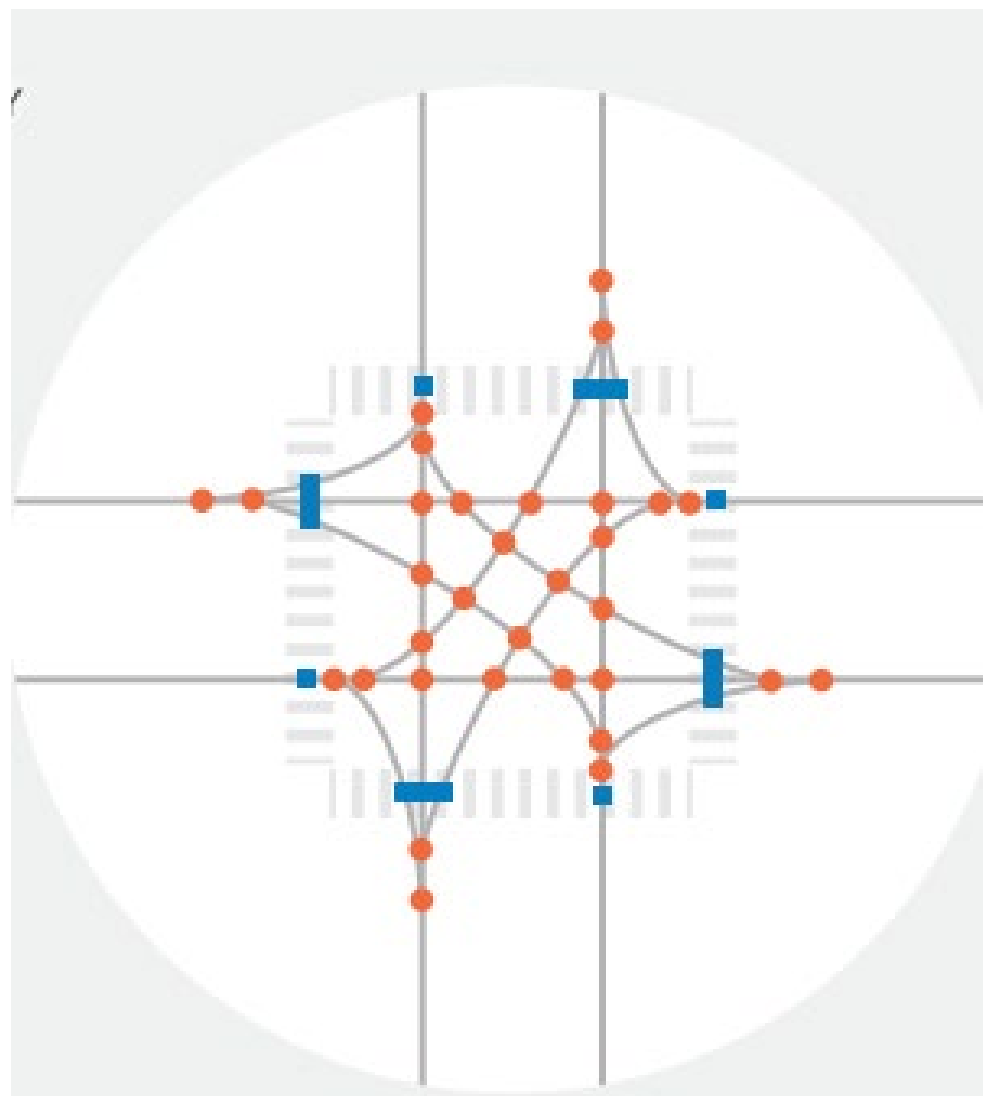
MASSDOT GUIDELINES FOR THE PLANNING AND DESIGN OF ROUNDABOUTS

Key Roundabout Features

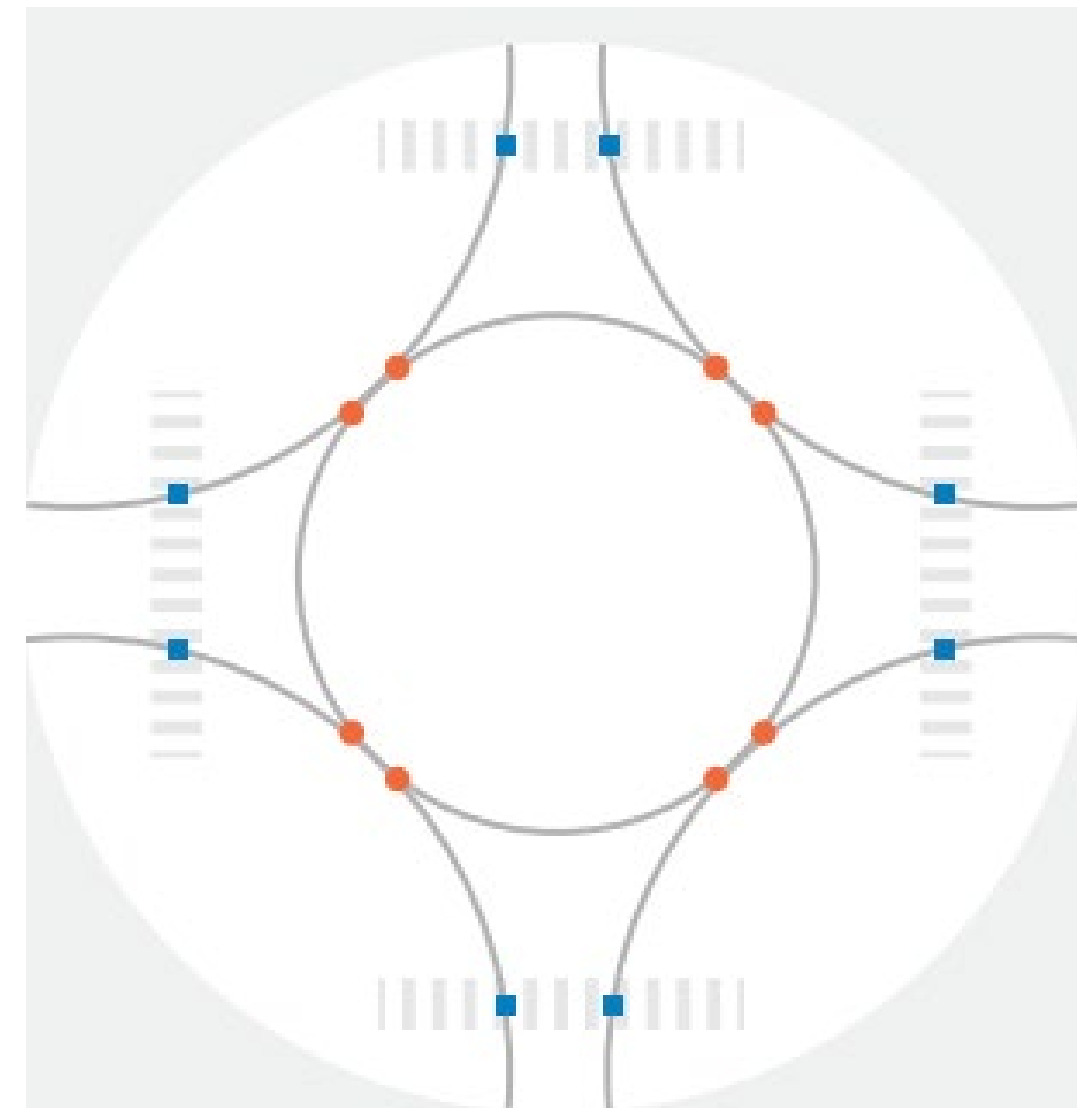
Safety:

- Fewer number of overall conflict points and no left turn conflicts

Intersections
(32 conflict points)



Roundabouts
(8 conflict points)



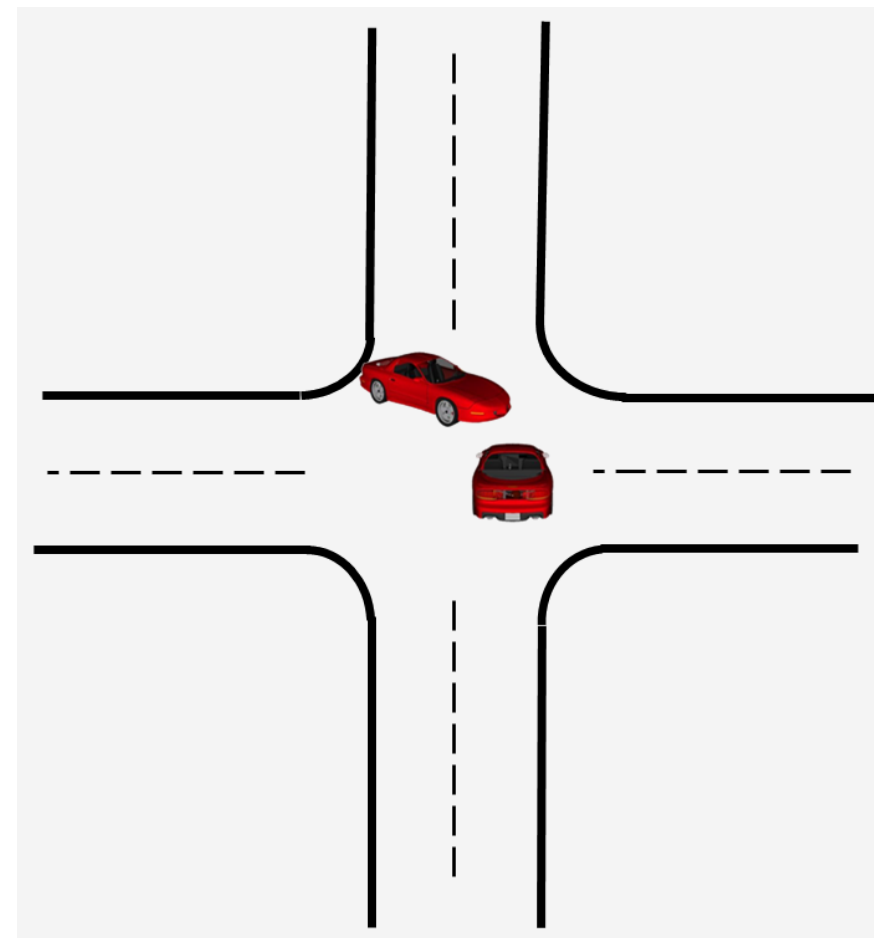
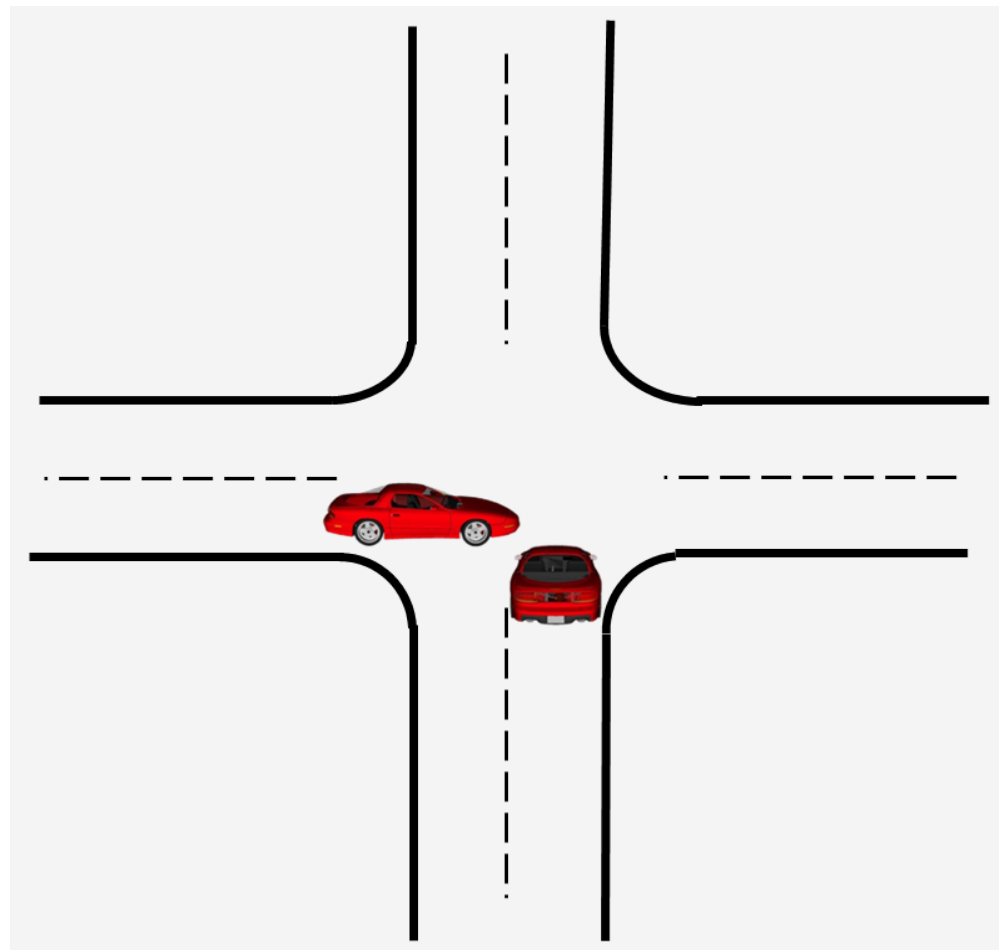
Source: MASSDOT GUIDELINES FOR THE PLANNING AND DESIGN OF ROUNDABOUTS

Key Roundabout Features

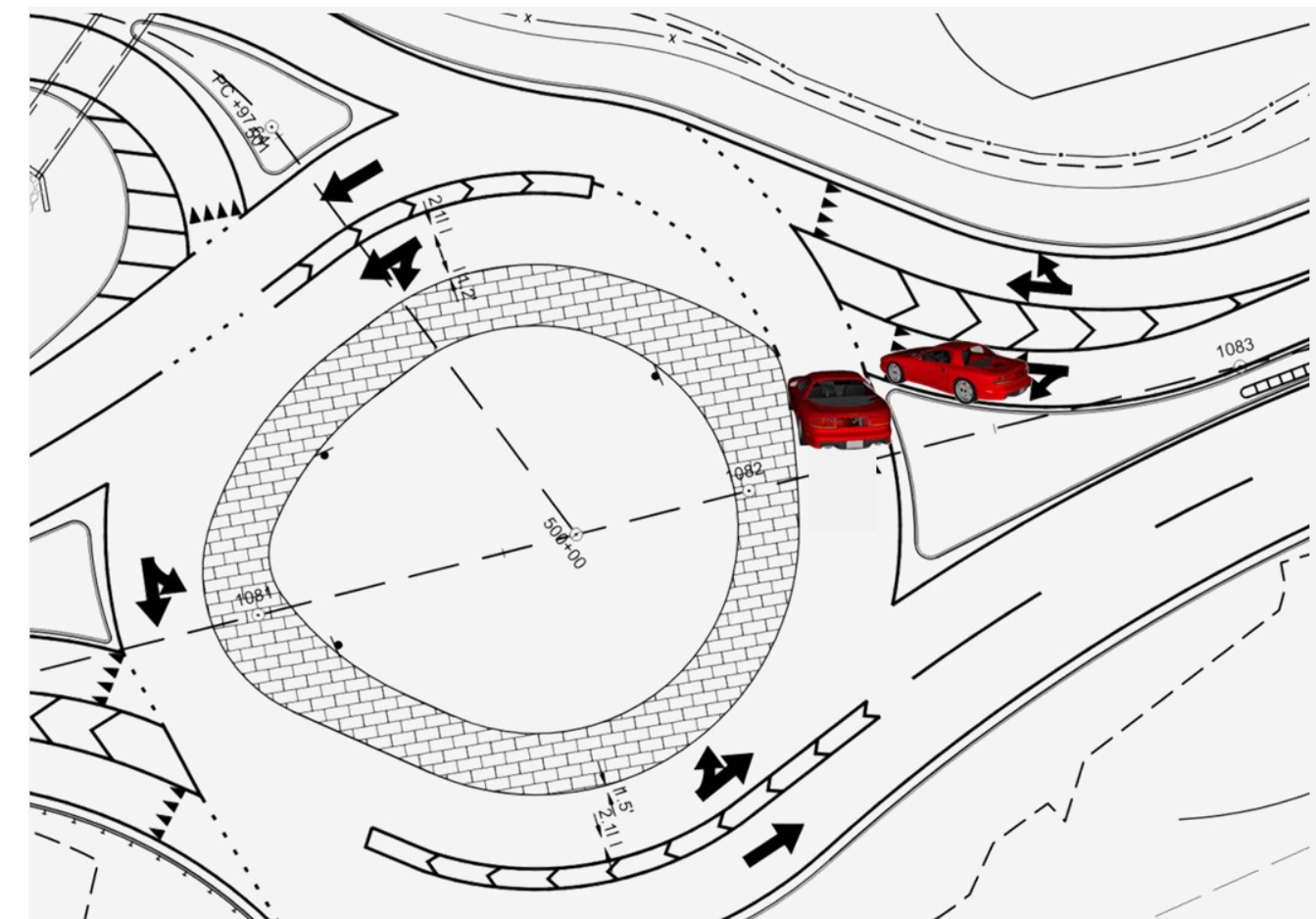
Safety:

- Reduced severity of Crashes

Intersections



Roundabouts



Source: **MASSDOT** GUIDELINES FOR THE PLANNING AND DESIGN OF ROUNDABOUTS

Key Roundabout Features

Operation:

- Lane assignments are introduced in advance to avoid lane changing within roundabout



Key Roundabout Features

Operation:

- Shorter vehicle delays and queues than at signalized intersections
- Easier U-turn movements including trucks, school buses and emergency vehicles



Roundabout on Route 9 in Northampton

Oxbow Road Roundabout





Construction Overview

Construction Overview

Overall project timeline – approximately 4 years

- Daytime work schedule
 - Typical work hours 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM
 - May vary between 5:00 AM and 7:00 PM
- Occasional night and weekend work
- Single lane closures continue on weekdays
- Maintain emergency services

Mitigation of Construction Impacts

- Major earthwork operations will be within confined work zones
- Minimize construction vehicle turning movements
- Travel speeds reduced through work zones for safety
- Water spray for dust suppression

Wide Loads Prohibited from Work Zone

- Restriction prohibits vehicles carrying wide loads over 8 ft 6 in on Route 20 between Route 12 and Richardson Corner Road
- In place on Mondays through Fridays, 7:00 am to 4:00 pm
- Vehicles carrying wide loads should avoid the work zone, seek alternate routes, and contact MassDOT's Commercial Truck Permits Office:
 - Phone: (781) 431-5148 – M-F 7am-3pm
 - Email MassDOT-TruckPermit@dot.state.ma.us
 - Web: www.mass.gov/commercial-truck-permits
 - Fax: (781) 431-5014



Current Work Activities

Erosion Control

- **What:** Work on erosion controls and vegetation clearing along Route 20
- **Why:** Necessary to prepare the site for utility relocations
- **Anticipated Completion:** May 2023
- **Construction work hours:** Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM
- **Traffic impacts:** intermittent short-term single lane closures of eastbound and westbound Route 20



Utility Pole Relocations

- **What:** Utility companies installing new utility poles along Route 20
- **Why:** Necessary for the relocation of overhead wires
- **Anticipated Completion:** Late 2023
- **Construction work hours:** Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM
- **Traffic impacts:** intermittent short-term single lane closures of eastbound and westbound Route 20





Next Steps

Our next steps



Spring 2023
Public Information
Meeting #2



Summer 2023
Final Design Complete



July 2023
(anticipated)
Significant
Construction Begins



Summer 2023
Public Information
Meeting #3



September 2026
(anticipated)
Substantial
Completion



November 2026
(anticipated)
Project Completion

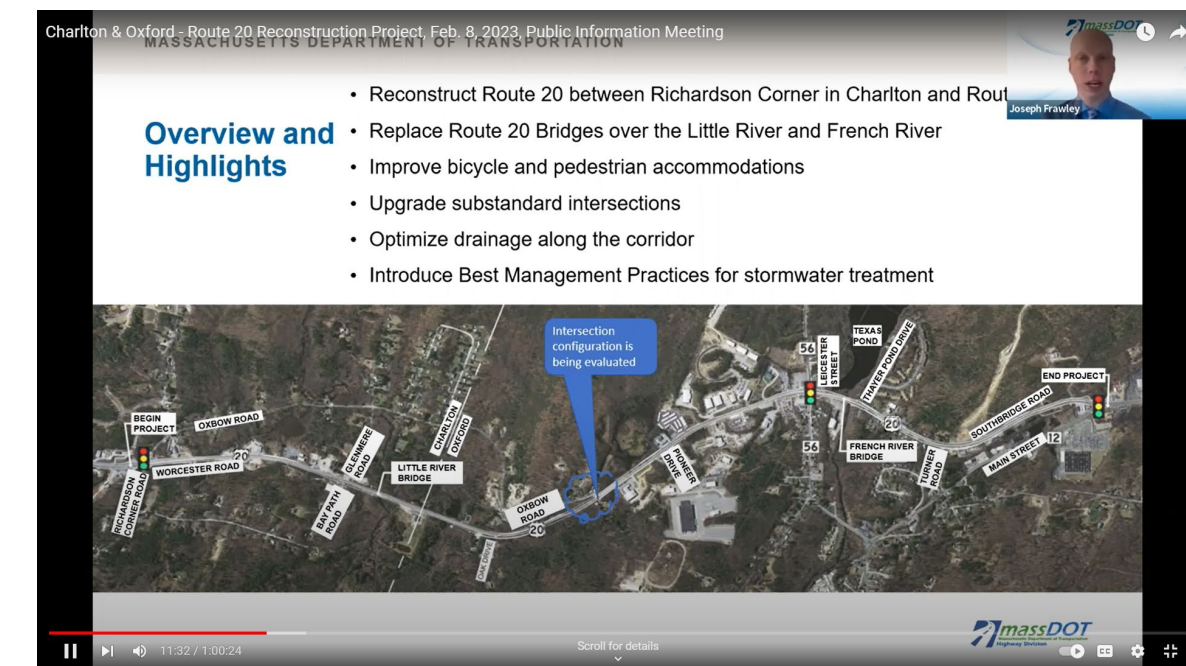


**How will we
keep you
informed?**

Public Outreach and Engagement

Public Information Meetings

- Design Public Hearing, May 2021
- Public Information Meeting #1, February 8, 2023
- Public Information Meeting #2, tonight
- Next Public Information Meeting, Summer 2023
- Additional meetings based on design development and at major milestones



Staying Connected

Please join our mailing list! You can sign up on the project website.



Project website

www.mass.gov/route-20-reconstruction-project-in-charlton-oxford



Project email

dot.feedbackdistrict3@dot.state.ma.us



Project hotline for urgent, construction-related issues (monitored during work hours): 508-990-5012



Social media

- **Facebook:** @massdotinfo
- **Twitter:** @MassDOT



Questions and answers

Questions and answers



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



- 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.



Thank You

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in Charlton & Oxford*

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For project questions or comments, please email
dot.feedbackdistrict3@dot.state.ma.us