



Intersection Improvements Fellsway / McGrath (Route 28) at Mystic Avenue (Route 38)

Virtual Public Information Meeting

June 2, 2022 - 6:30 PM

Project File Number 608562

Somerville, MA

Zoom meeting controls



- Listen in Spanish (Español), Portuguese (Português), Chinese (中文), and Haitian Creole (Kreyòl ayisyen).



- Drop down menu to check microphone and speakers



- Turn camera on/off



- Ask a question and share comments



- Raise your hand



- If you are unable to access the internet or are having technical problems, please call into the meeting at 646-876-9923, Meeting ID: 890 5694 0332



If you have trouble with the meeting technology during the presentation, please call 1-888-799-9666.



Unmute



Start Video



Raise Hand



Interpretation

Leave

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 chat transcript.
- By continuing attendance with this virtual public meeting, you are consenting to participate in a recorded event.
- All recordings and chat transcript will be considered a public record.
- If you are not comfortable being recorded, please turn off your camera, keep your microphone muted, and refrain from chatting in the transcript box. Otherwise, you may choose to excuse yourself from the meeting.

Other important notes

- Please note that you will be automatically muted upon entering the meeting. The 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.

Agenda

Fellsway / McGrath (Route 28) at Mystic Avenue (Route 38)

- Project Team / Panelists
- MassDOT Projects in the Area
- Public Outreach
- Targeted Safety Improvement Projects
 - State Funded
 - Accelerated Early Action Projects
 - Description of Improvements
 - Design / Implementation Timeline
- Federally Funded TIP Project
 - Transportation Improvement Program
 - Changes since 25% Design
- Next Steps / Timeline



Project Team:

- **MassDOT**
 - Project Manager: David Shedd
 - District 4: Frank Suszynski
 - Complete Streets: Andy Paul
 - District 4 Traffic: Sara Timoner
 - Legislative Liaison: Dan Fielding
 - Producers: Leah Grodstein, Hung Pham
- **VHB – Design Consultant**
 - Project Manager: Tim McIntosh
 - Traffic: Keith Wenners
- **City of Somerville**
 - Director of Transportation / Infrastructure: Brad Rawson

Language Translation Speakers

- **Spanish**
 - Alexandra and Nefeli
- **Portuguese**
 - Rafael and Debora
- **Chinese**
 - Yan Wu
- **Haitian Creole**
 - Gina and Steve



MassDOT Projects in the Area

Bridge Substructure Repairs (# 606528)

- Next meeting June 9, 2022

Route 28 / Route 38 Intersection (# 608562)

- Design in progress

McGrath Highway Resurfacing (# 608482)

- Under construction

Previous Public Outreach

- Planning Study Phase
 - January 2019: Stakeholder Group Meeting
 - October 2019: Public Meeting
 - December 2019: Stakeholder Group Meeting
 - February 2020: Public Meeting
- 25% Design Phase
 - December 2020: Virtual Public Information Meeting
 - June 2021: Virtual Public Hearing *

* Part of the I-93 Bridge Preservation project



Advertisements


Local Papers

Appeared in the following:

- Boston Globe
 - May 19, 2022
 - May 26, 2022
- The Somerville Times
 - May 19, 2022
 - May 26, 2022
- Somerville Journal
 - May 19, 2022
 - May 26, 2022

MassDOT Website

- Notice and Flyer posted on the MassDOT Website



Signal and Intersection Improvements

McGrath Highway (Rte 28) at Mystic Avenue (Rte 38)

Virtual Public Informational Meeting

What is happening?


MassDOT is proposing to reconstruct the intersection of McGrath Highway (Route 28) and Mystic Avenue (Route 38) and make improvements to address safety concerns. The purpose of this Public Informational Meeting is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the intersection improvements in Somerville, MA. All views and comments made at this informational meeting will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

How will this affect you?

The intersection reconstruction and related improvements will improve safety for all roadway users. Some roadway restrictions will be required during construction but access to all properties will be maintained. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and offer comments.

When	Attend
Thursday June 2, 2022	www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings
6:30 PM	

Please note this ZOOM meeting will be recorded. Information will be available on the website. Visit www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings for more information.



This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities and those with limited English proficiency. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request, as appropriate. To request accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Office by phone (857) 368-0602, fax 857-368-8580, relay 7-1-1, or by email MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us. Requests should be made as soon as possible prior to the meeting, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten business days before the meeting.

Project inquiries may also be emailed to massdotprojectmanagement@dot.state.ma.us. Please submit any written statements regarding the proposed undertaking to: Carrie A. Lavallee, P.E., Acting Chief Engineer, MassDOT, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02216, Attention: Project Management, PROJECT FILE NO. 608562

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING
Project File No. 608562

A Live Virtual Public Informational Meeting will be hosted on the MassDOT website below to provide an update of the design for the proposed Signal and Intersection Improvements at McGrath Highway (Route 28) / Mystic Avenue (Route 38) project as well as an update on early action construction improvements at the Mystic Avenue /McGrath Highway intersection in Somerville, MA.

WHEN: 6:30 PM, June 2, 2022

PURPOSE: The purpose of this meeting is to provide the public with an update on the status and progress of the proposed Signal and Intersection Improvements at McGrath Highway (Route 28) / Mystic Avenue (Route 38) project. All views and comments submitted in response to the meeting will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The proposed project consists of intersection improvements to improve safety for all users and to provide more efficient traffic operations in the immediate area of the intersection of McGrath Highway (Route 28) and Mystic Avenue (Route 38). This project will address the safety and operational deficiencies faced by all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists. The work will include new traffic signals; improved pedestrian accessibility and connections; improved transit accessibility; and updated signs and pavement markings.

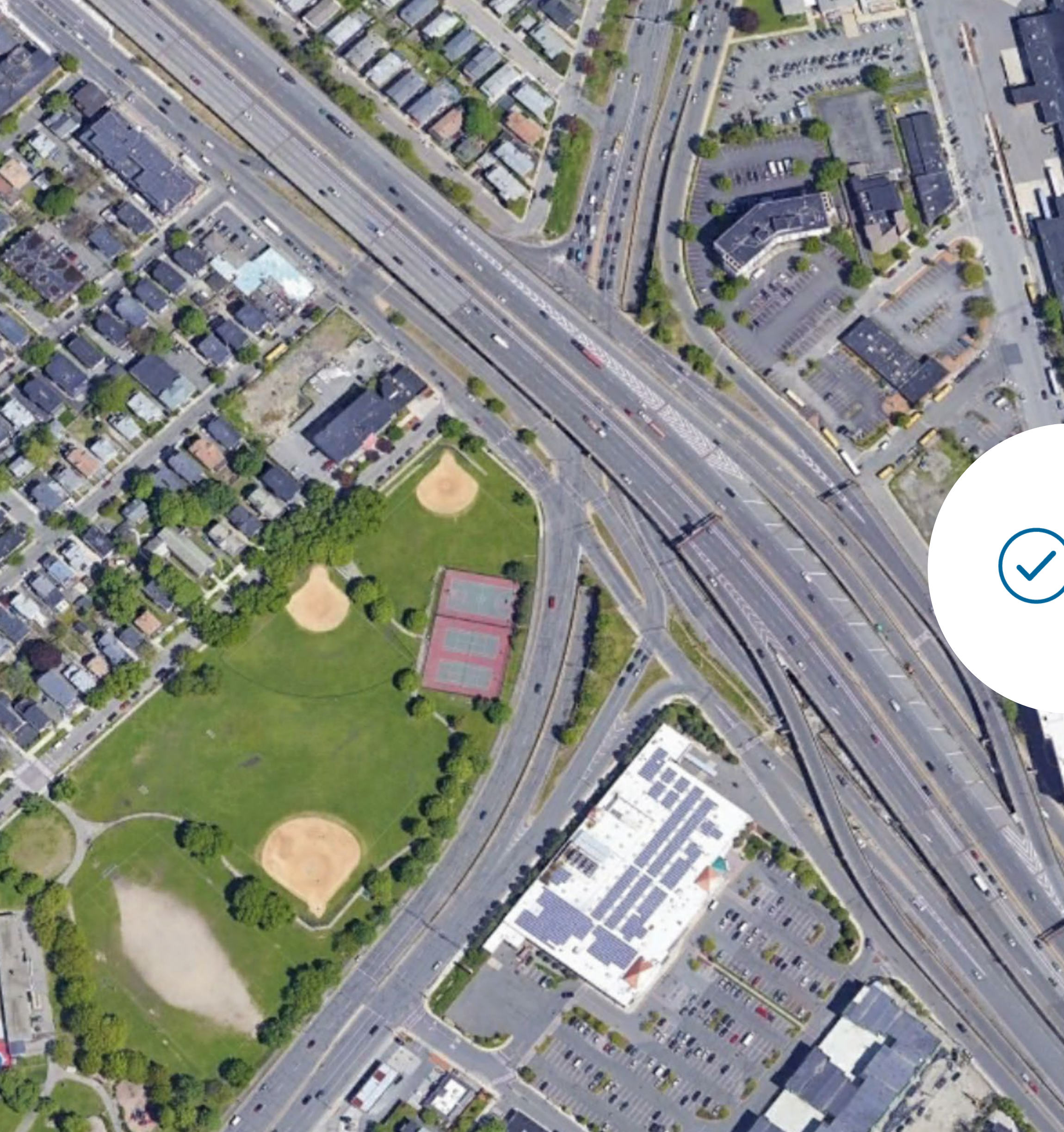
This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (e.g. interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, live captioning, videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats), as available. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT’s Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer by phone (857-368-8580), TTD/TTY at (857) 266-0603, fax (857) 368-0602 or by email at MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us. Requests should be made as soon as possible and prior to the meeting, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten business days before the meeting.

This Live Virtual Public Informational Meeting or a cancellation announcement will be hosted on the internet at www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings.

JONATHAN GULLIVER
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

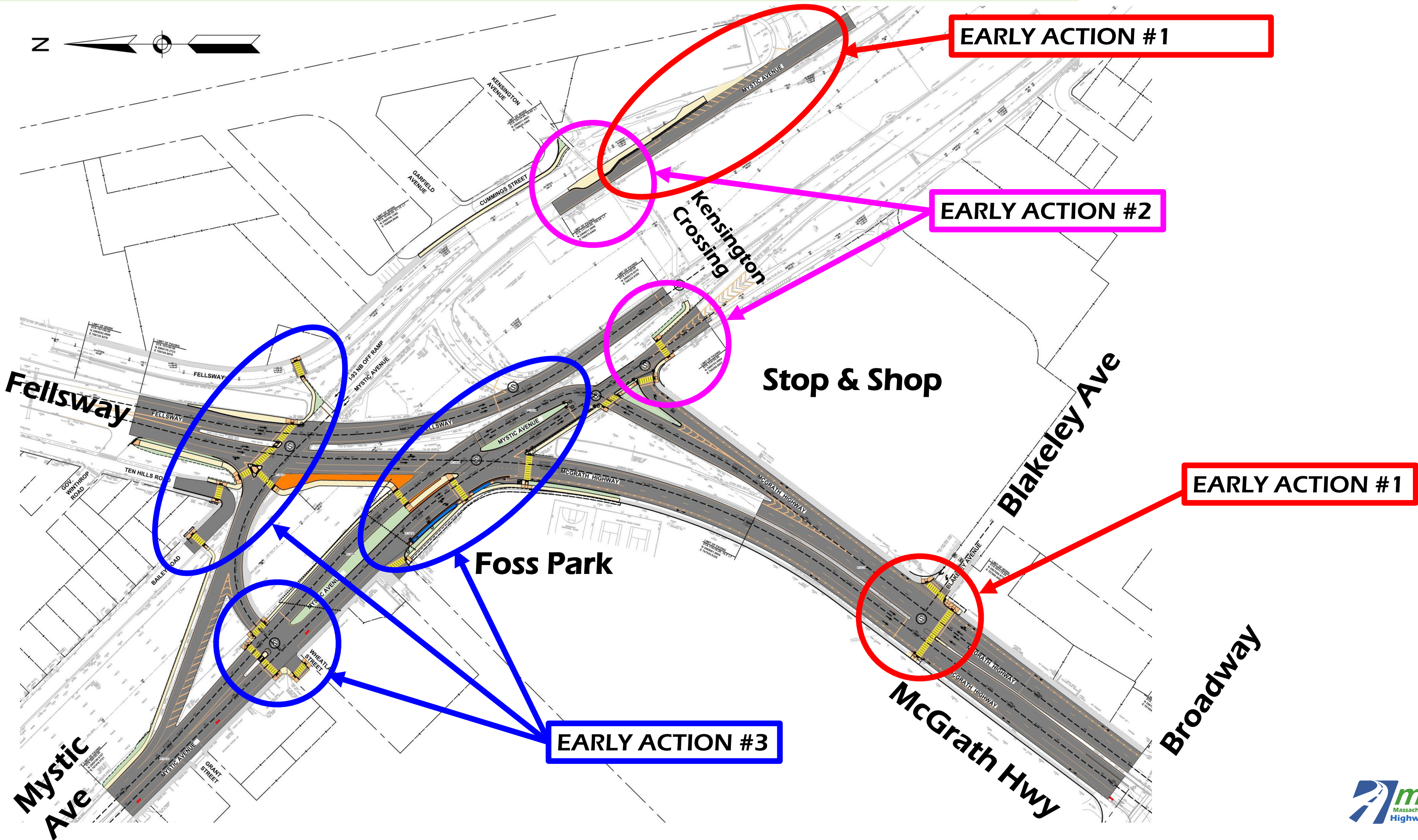
CARRIE E. LAVALLEE, P.E.
CHIEF ENGINEER





Route 28 / 38 Targeted Safety Improvements / Early Actions

Project Area – Targeted Safety Improvements





**Early Action
Design #1**

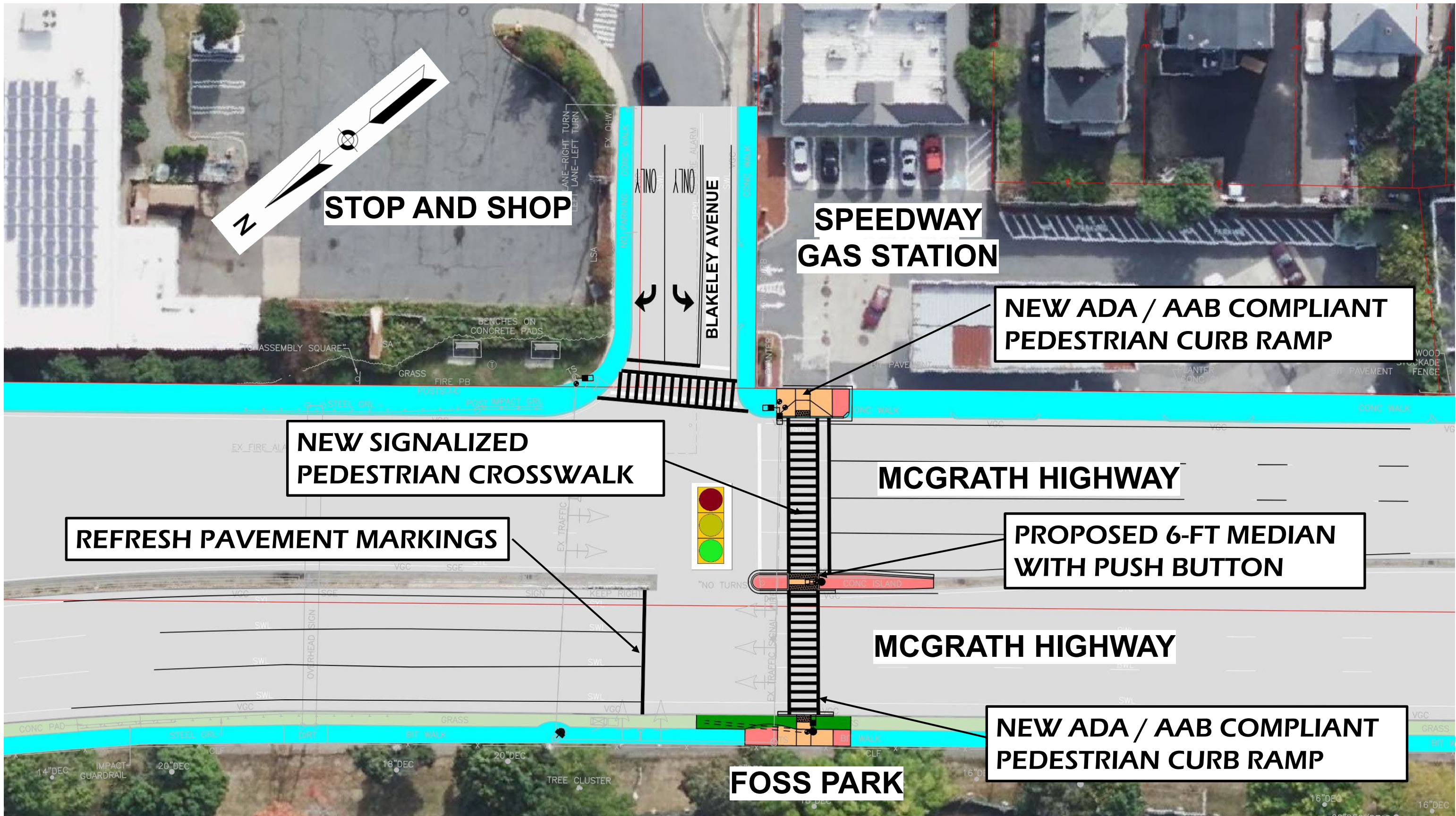
**Blakeley
Avenue
Improvements**

Blakeley Avenue – Existing Conditions

- Major desire line through Foss Park across McGrath to Blakeley Avenue
- No pedestrian accommodations



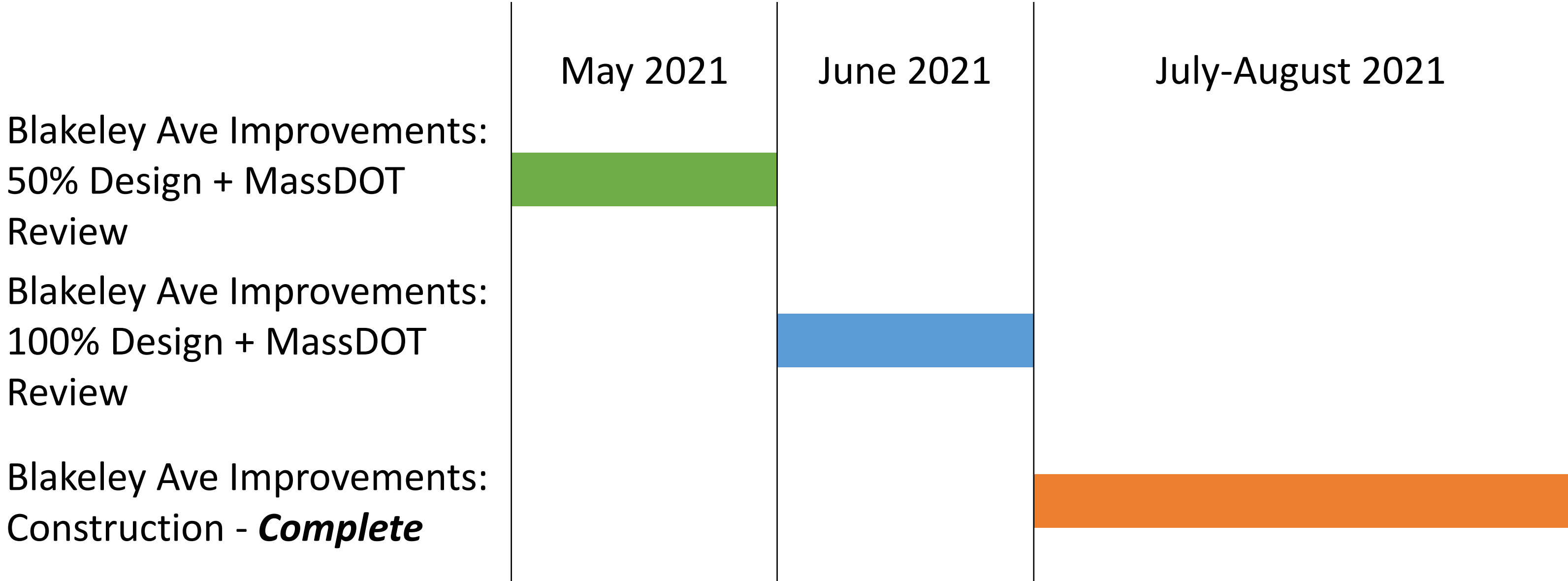
Targeted Safety Improvements: Blakeley Avenue



Blakeley Avenue (Completed)



Early Action Design # 1 - Timeline



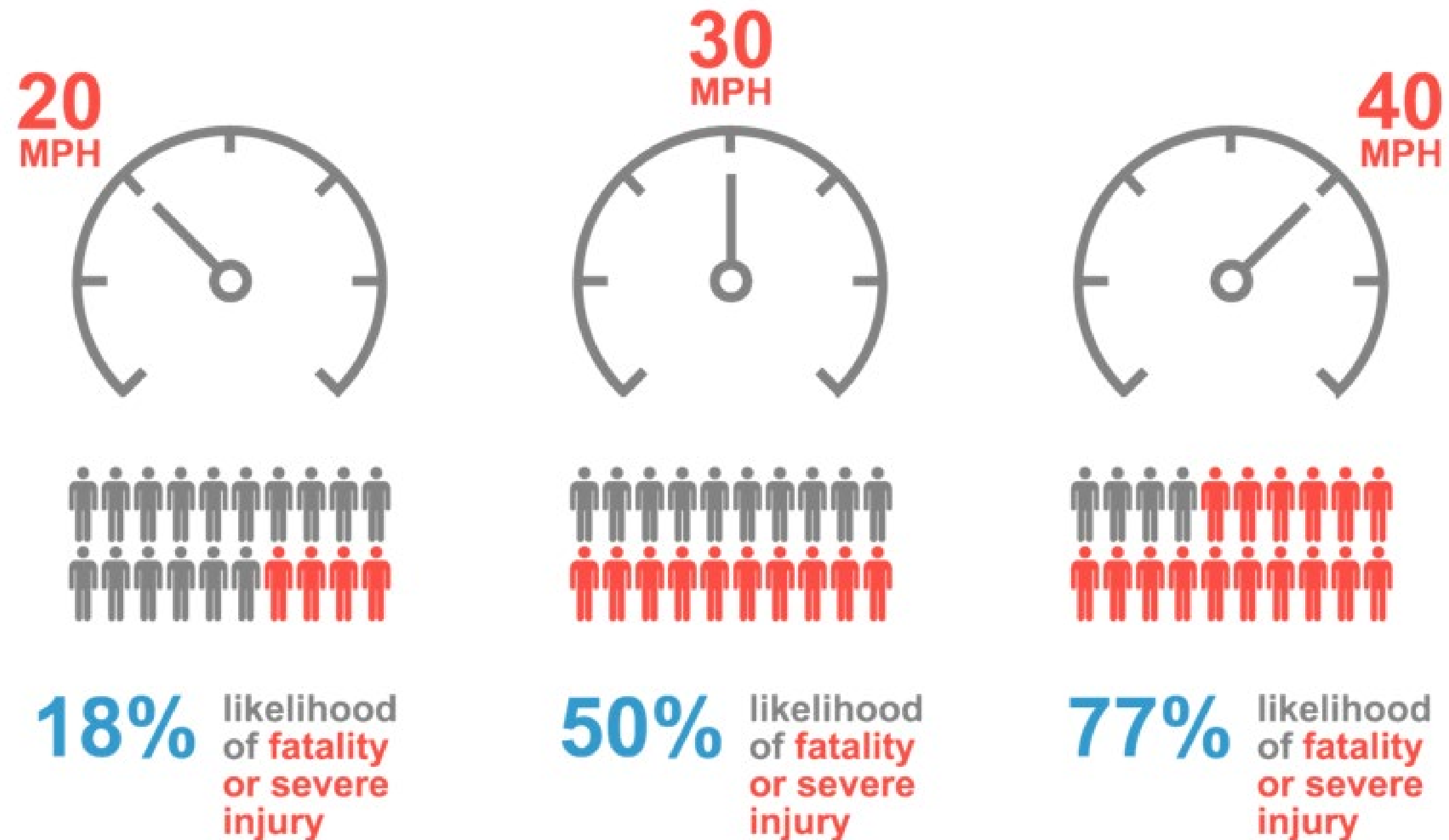


**Early Action
Design #2**

**Kensington
Crossing
Improvements**

Vehicle Speed is Related to Crash Severity

- Higher vehicle speeds **increase** the likelihood that a pedestrian crash will result in a fatality or severe injury



Source: Impact Speed and a Pedestrian's Risk of Severe Injury or Death, Brian Tefft, AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, 2011. Graphic – Vision Zero Boston Action Plan , 2016

Raised Crosswalks

- Elevated crossing spanning the entire width of the roadway
- Makes the pedestrian more prominent in the driver's field of vision
- May reduce vehicle speeds and improve motorist yielding

Waverley Avenue - Watertown

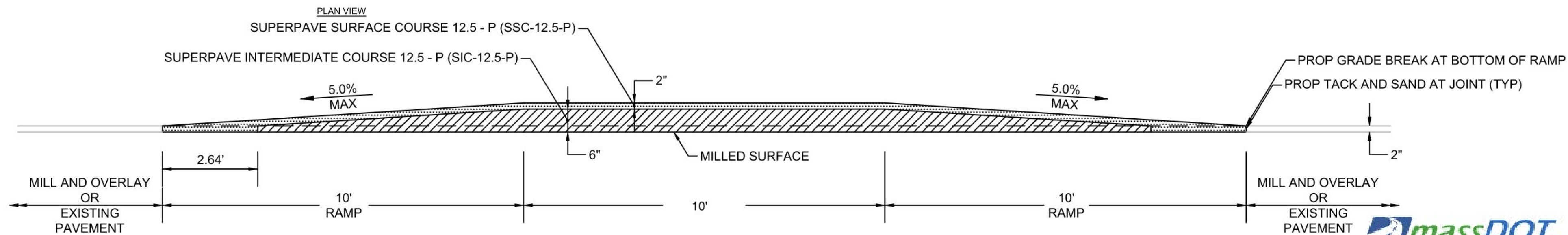
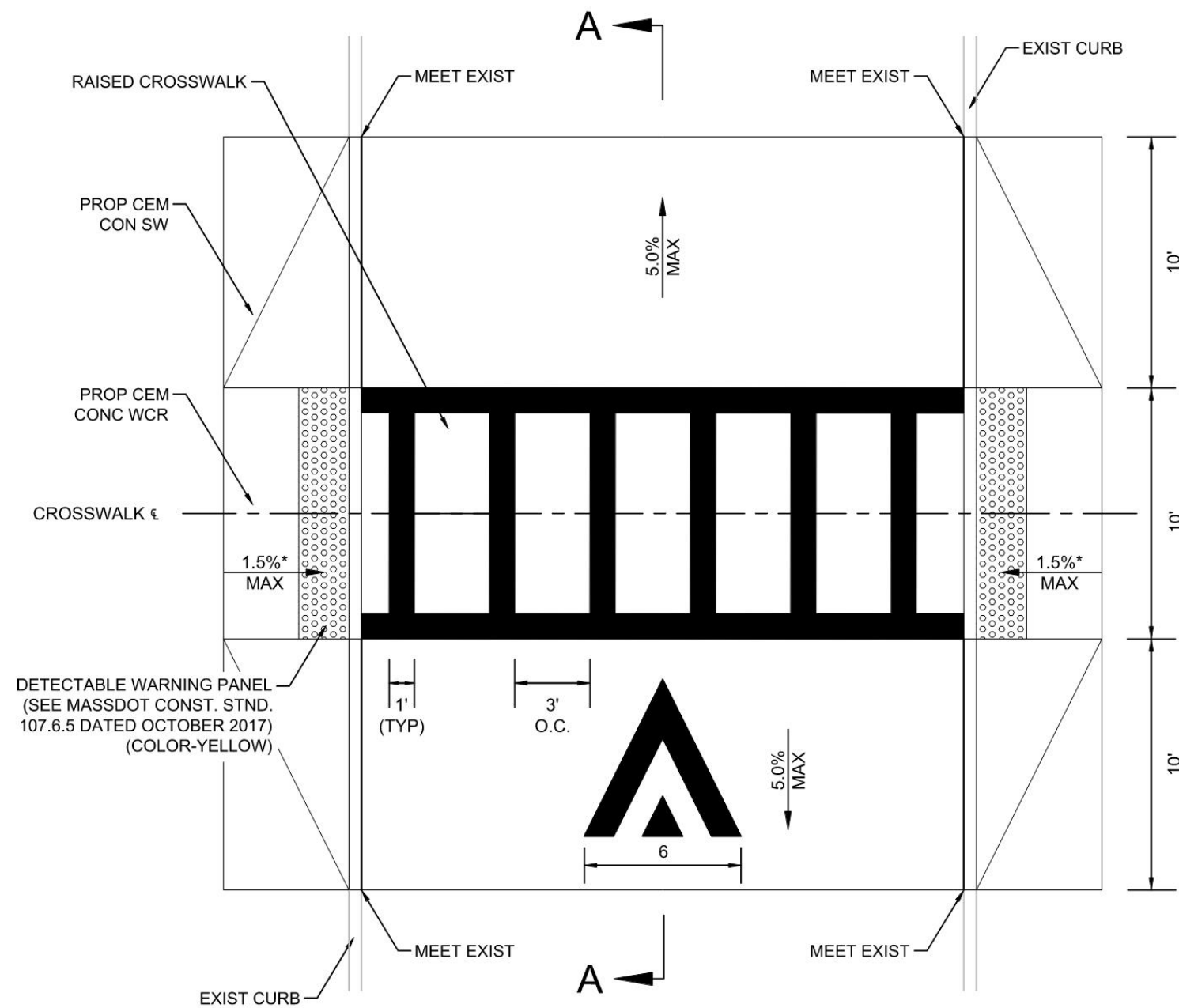


Raised crosswalks
can reduce
pedestrian
crashes by

45%



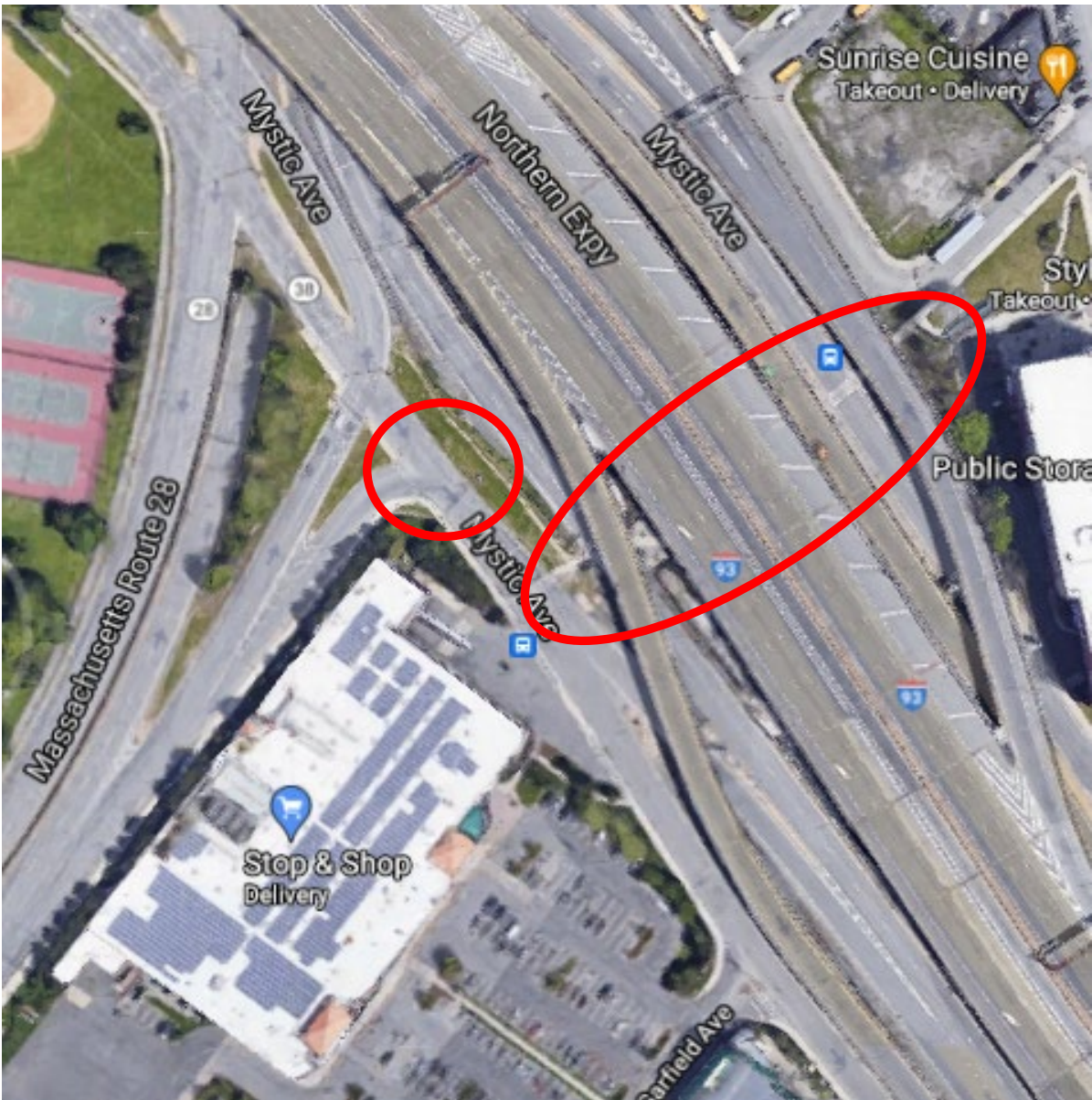
Raised Crosswalks Details



SECTION A-A

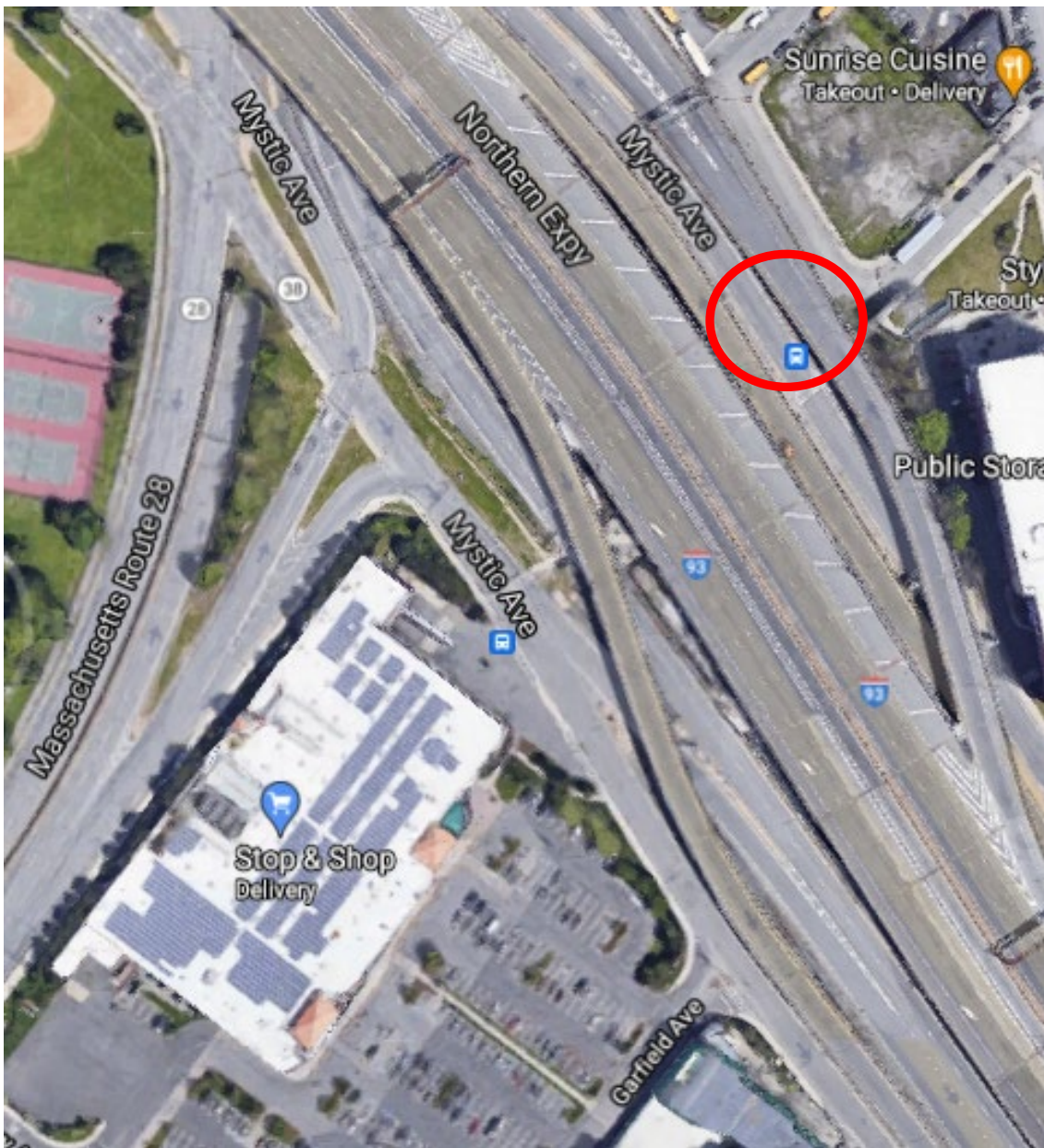
Kensington Connector

Raised crosswalks at the three Kensington crosswalks and for the Rte 28 NB / Rte 38 SB right turn



Kensington Connector

Upgrading of the crossing devices
at Kensington / Rte 38 NB to
RRFB



Raised Crossing Rendering: Kensington Connector – South



Existing



Rendering

Raised Crossing Rendering: Kensington Connector – I-93 SB



Rendering



Existing

Raised Crossing Rendering: Mystic Ave NB/Kensington Connector – North

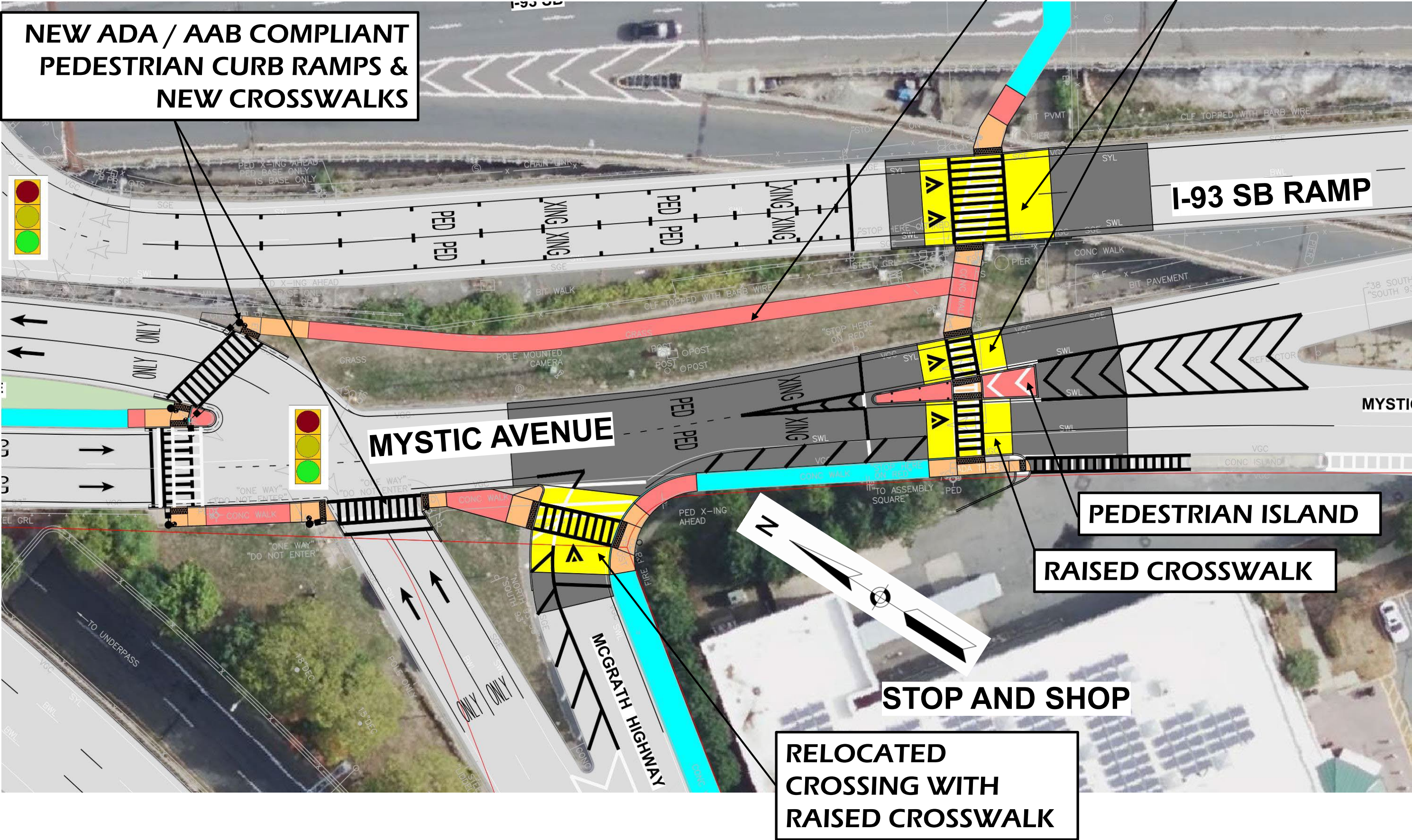


Rendering



Existing

Targeted Safety Improvements: Kensington Connector

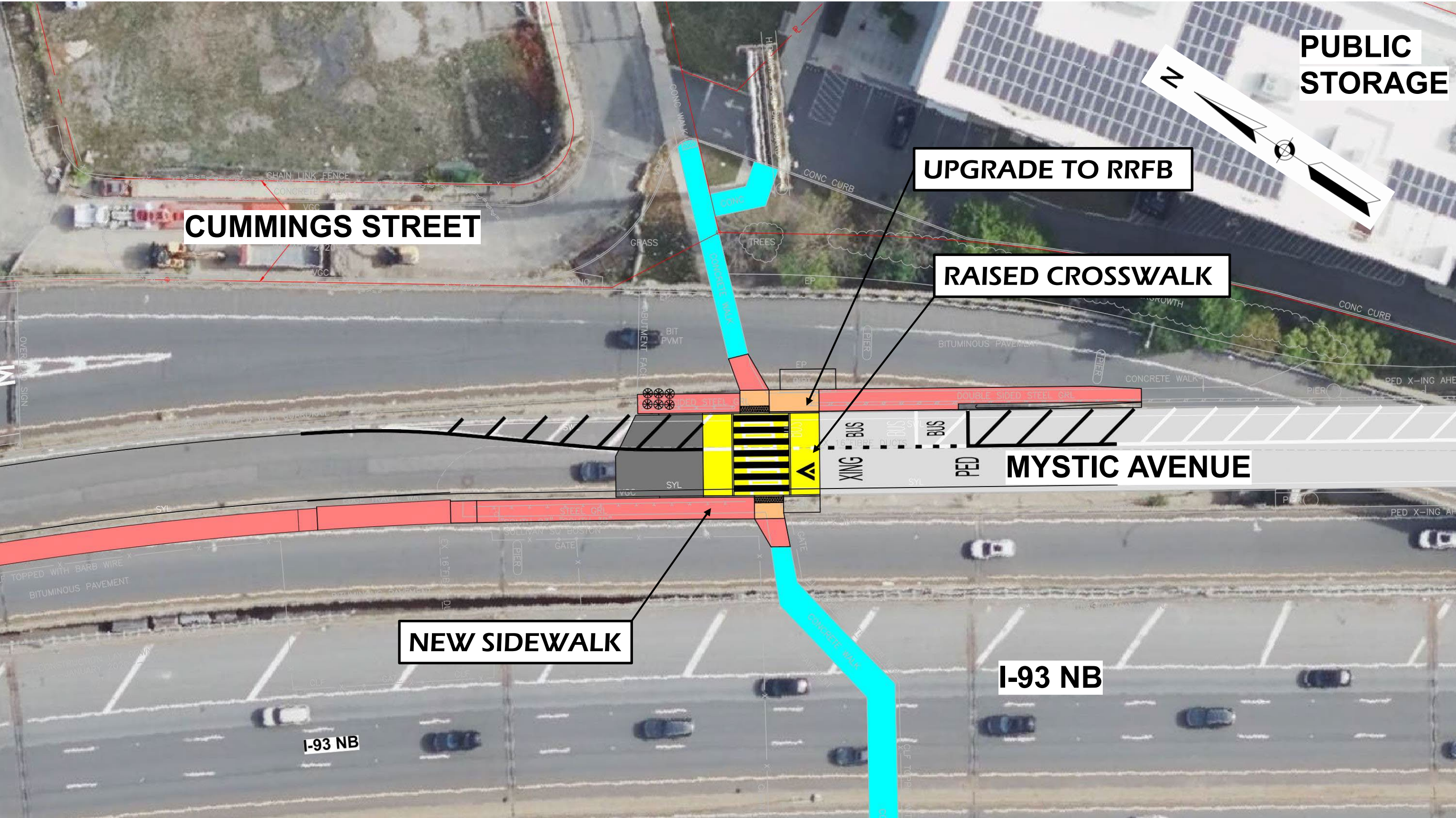


DRAINAGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION – I 93 SB

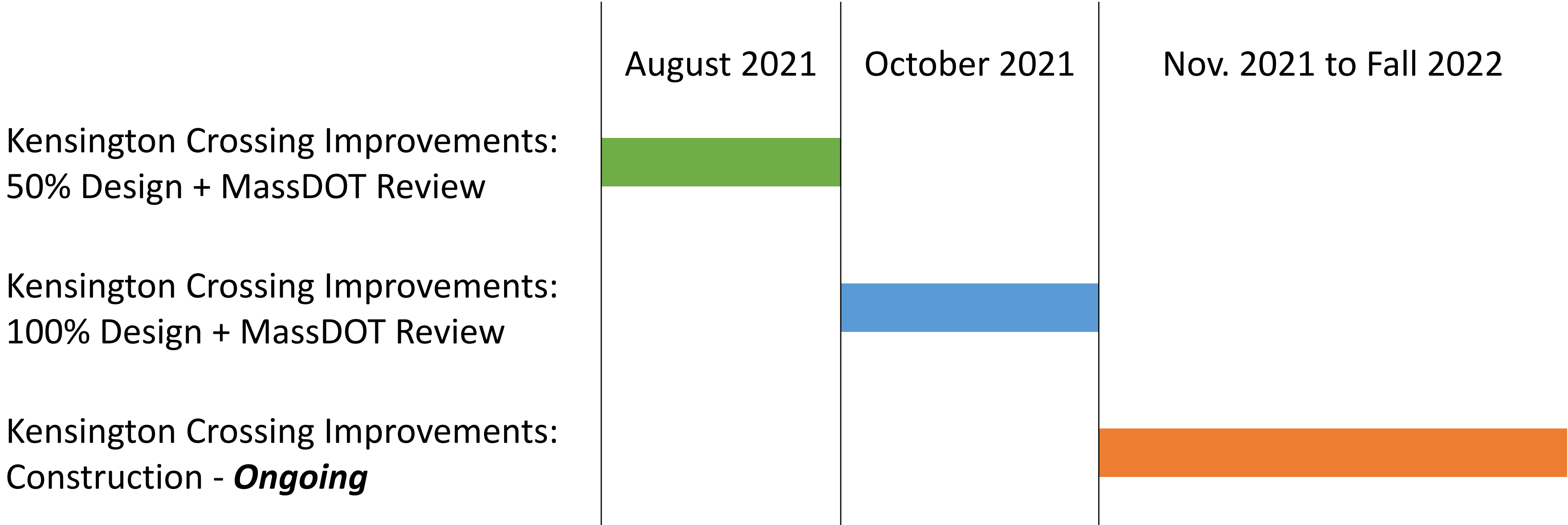


DRAINAGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION – MYSTIC AVE SB

Targeted Safety Improvements: Mystic Ave NB/Kensington Connector – North



Early Action Design # 2 - Timeline

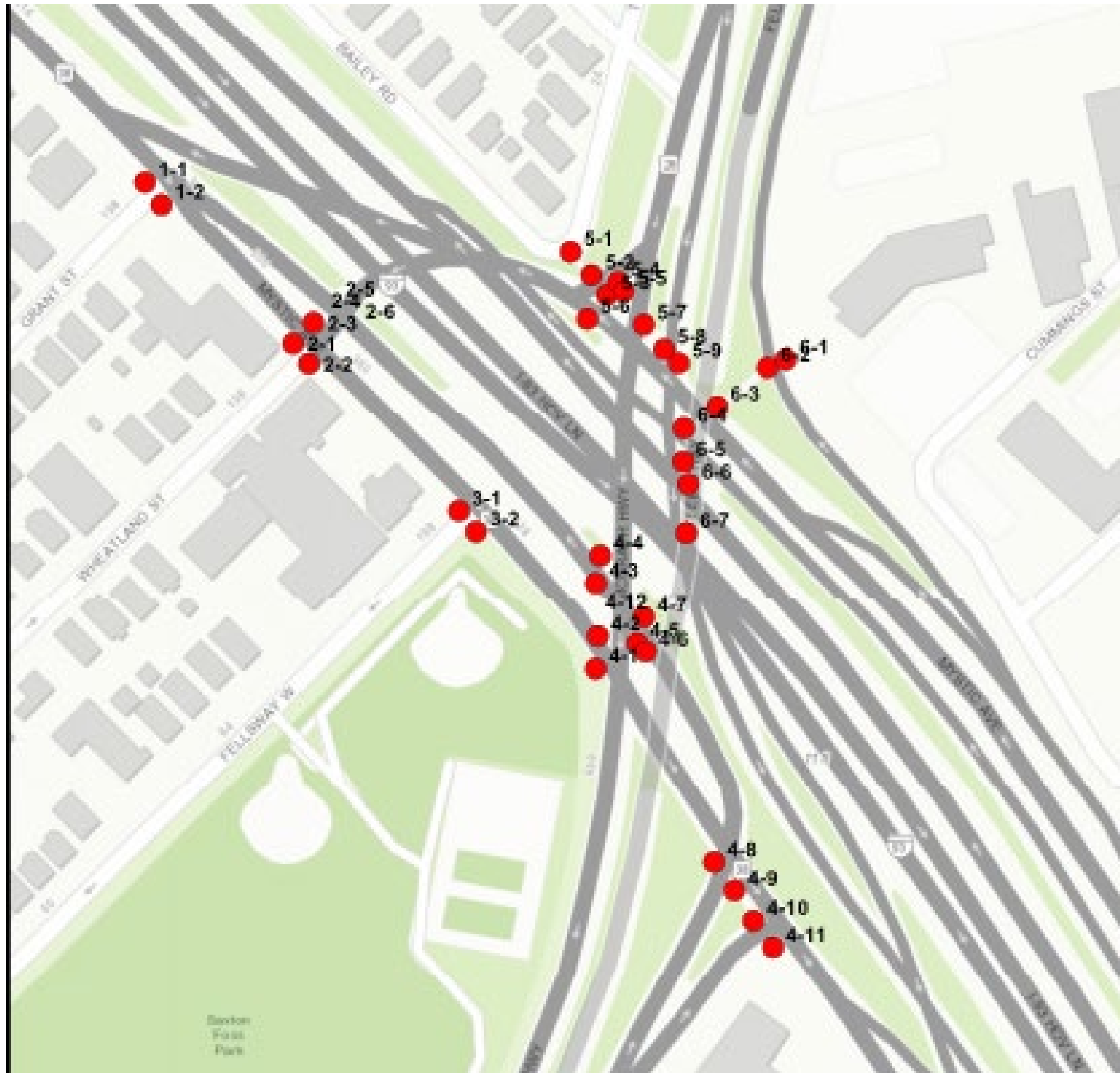




Early Action Design # 3

Pedestrian Accessibility Improvements

Pedestrian Infrastructure and Accessibility



Evaluate Pedestrian Infrastructure

- Pedestrian Crossings
- Curb Ramps
- Sidewalks
- Signal Timings
- Verify MassDOT Inventory

Pedestrian Curb Ramp Status

- Active
- Deficient

Pedestrian Accessibility Improvements

EARLY ACTION RECOMMENDATIONS

- Install ADA compliant curb ramps where missing
- Replace deficient curb ramps
- Remove impediments to pedestrians (signal posts, guard rails)
- Construct walk along established desire lines (beaten path)



Rendering: Sidewalk Connections



Rendering



Existing

RRFB at I-93 NB Off-Ramp

Installation of RRFB at I-93 NB off-ramp to Rte 28 NB pedestrian crossing + Curb extensions



Rectangular Rapid-Flashing Beacon (RRFB)

- RRFBs can improve visibility of pedestrians at marked crosswalks

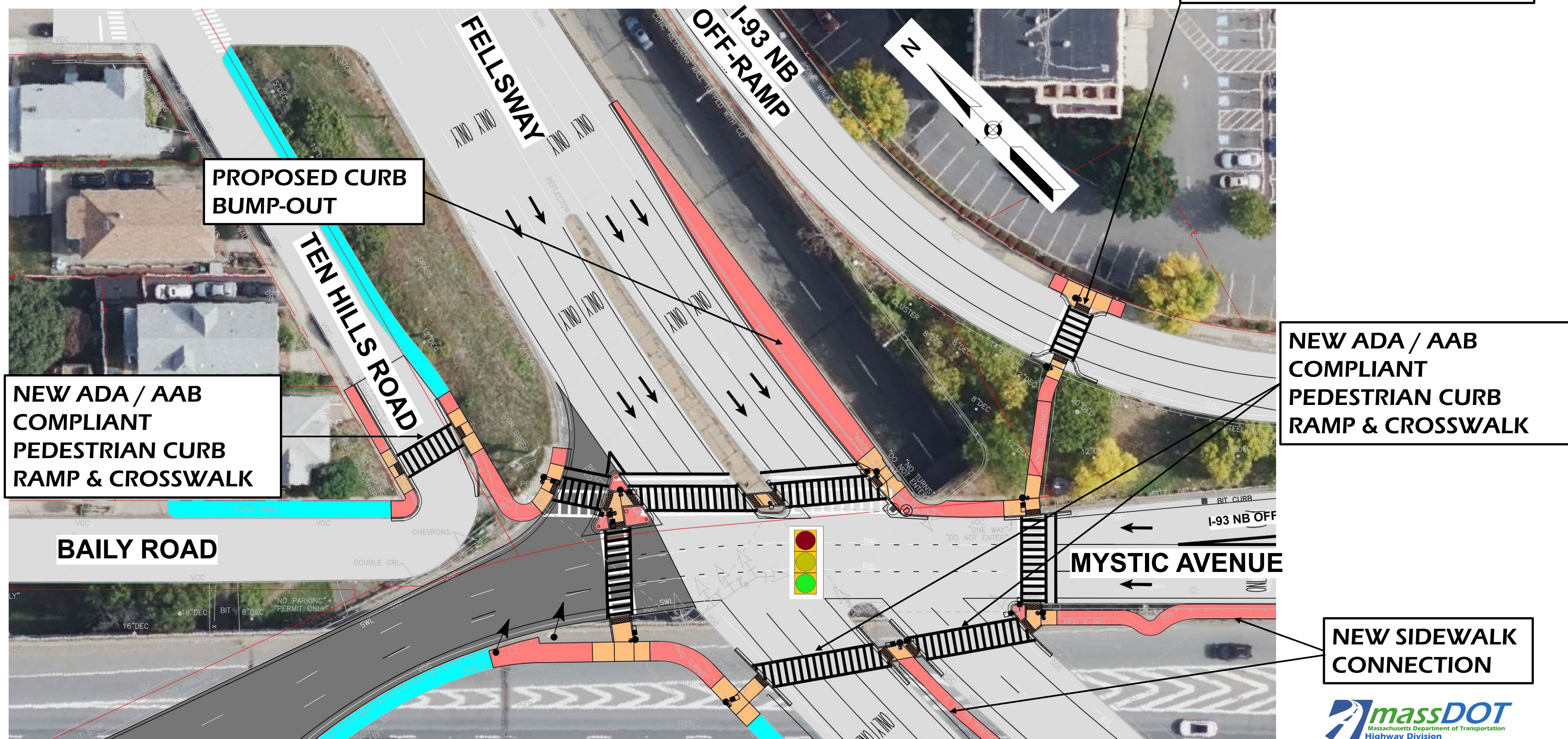


RRFBs can
reduce
pedestrian
crashes by

47%



Targeted Safety Improvements: Fellsway at Mystic Ave Northbound

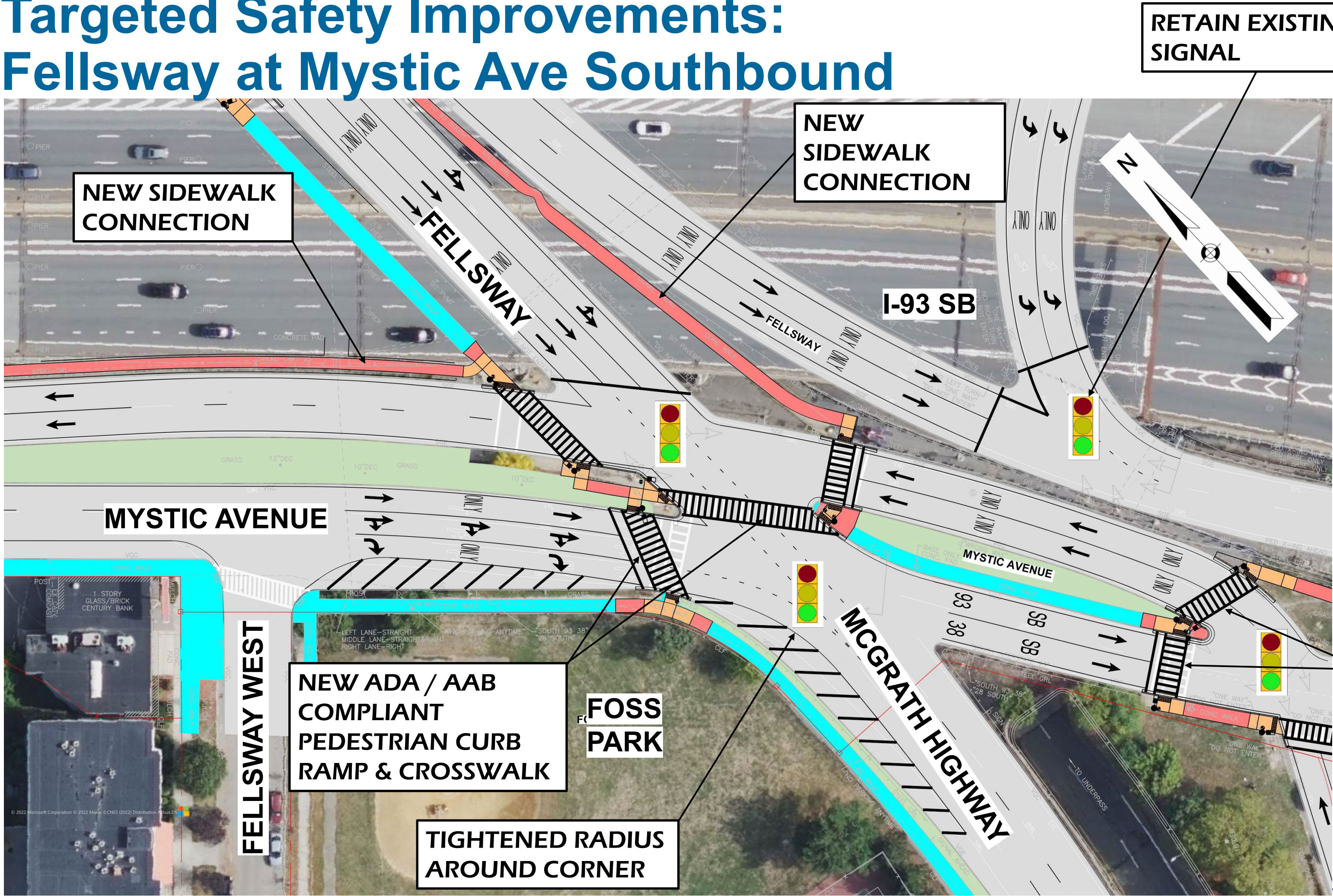


Mystic Ave Right to McGrath

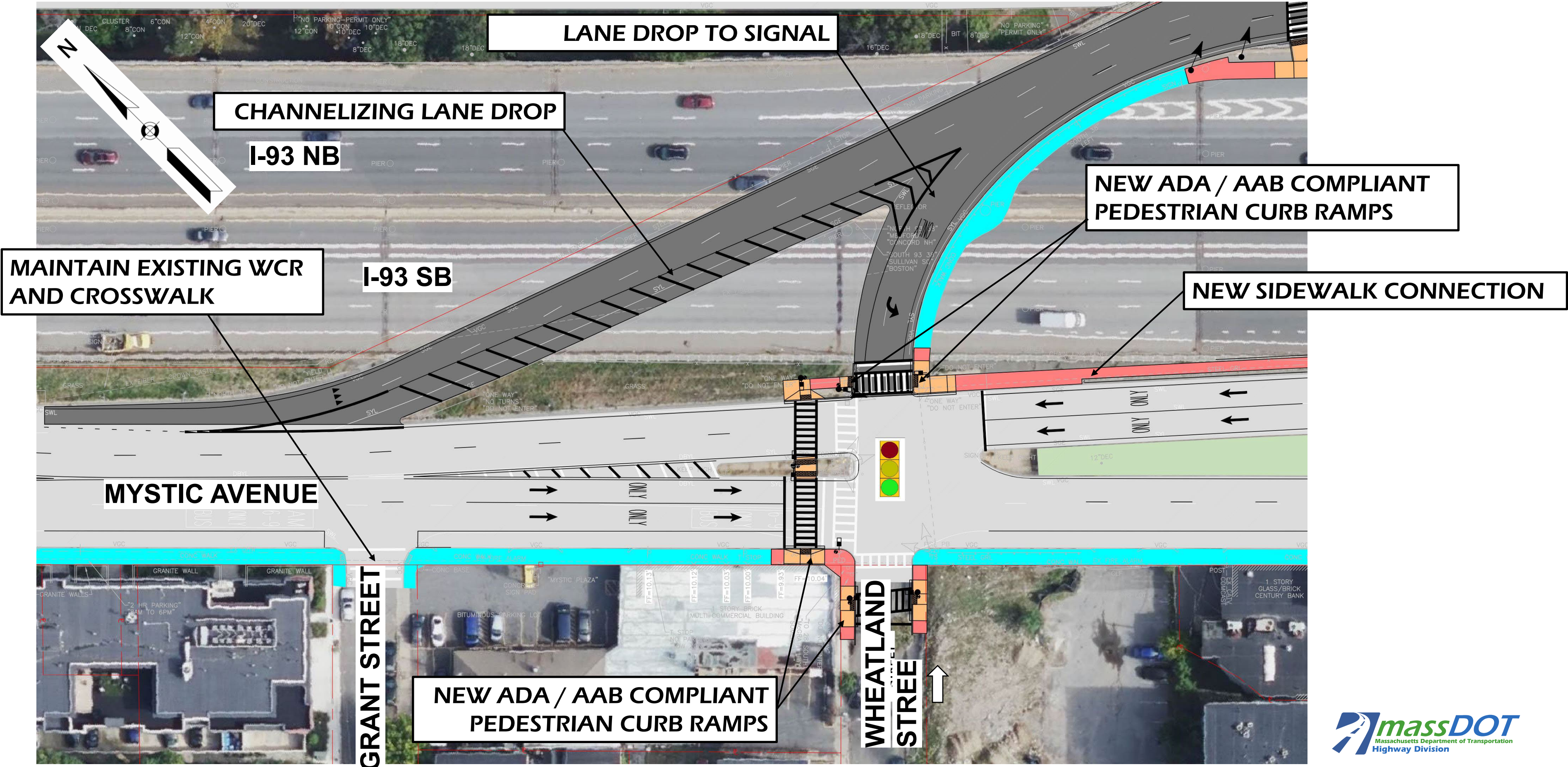
Implementation of corner
tightening pavement markings
on Route 38 SB to Route 28 SB



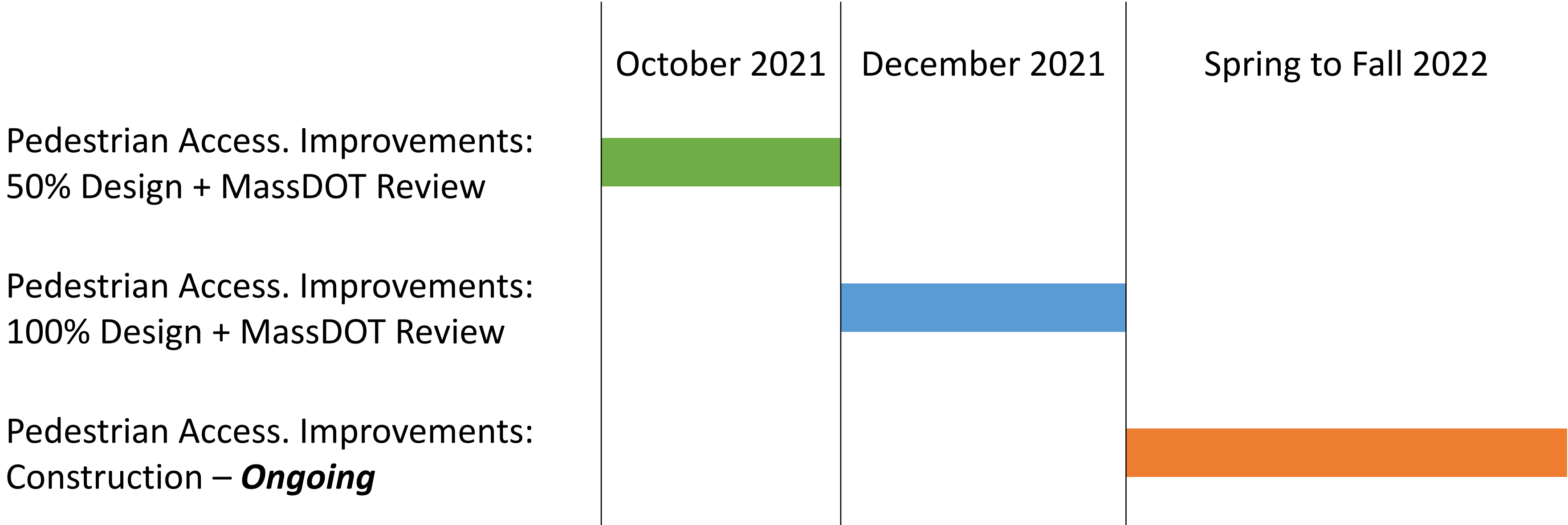
Targeted Safety Improvements: Fellsway at Mystic Ave Southbound

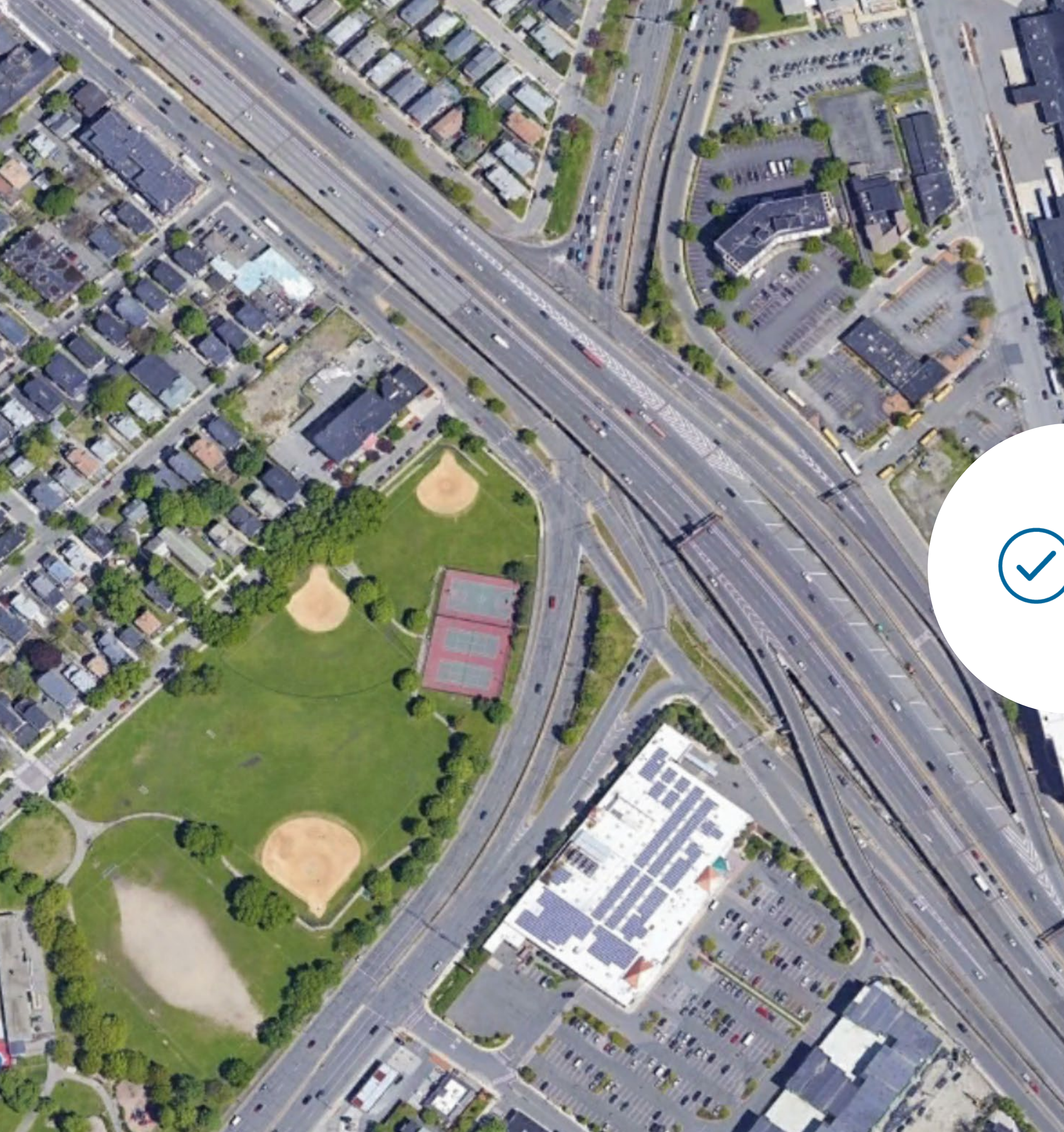


Targeted Safety Improvements: Wheatland Street at Mystic Ave



Early Action Design # 3 - Timeline





**Route 28 / 38
Federally
Funded TIP
Project**

**Revised 25%
Design**

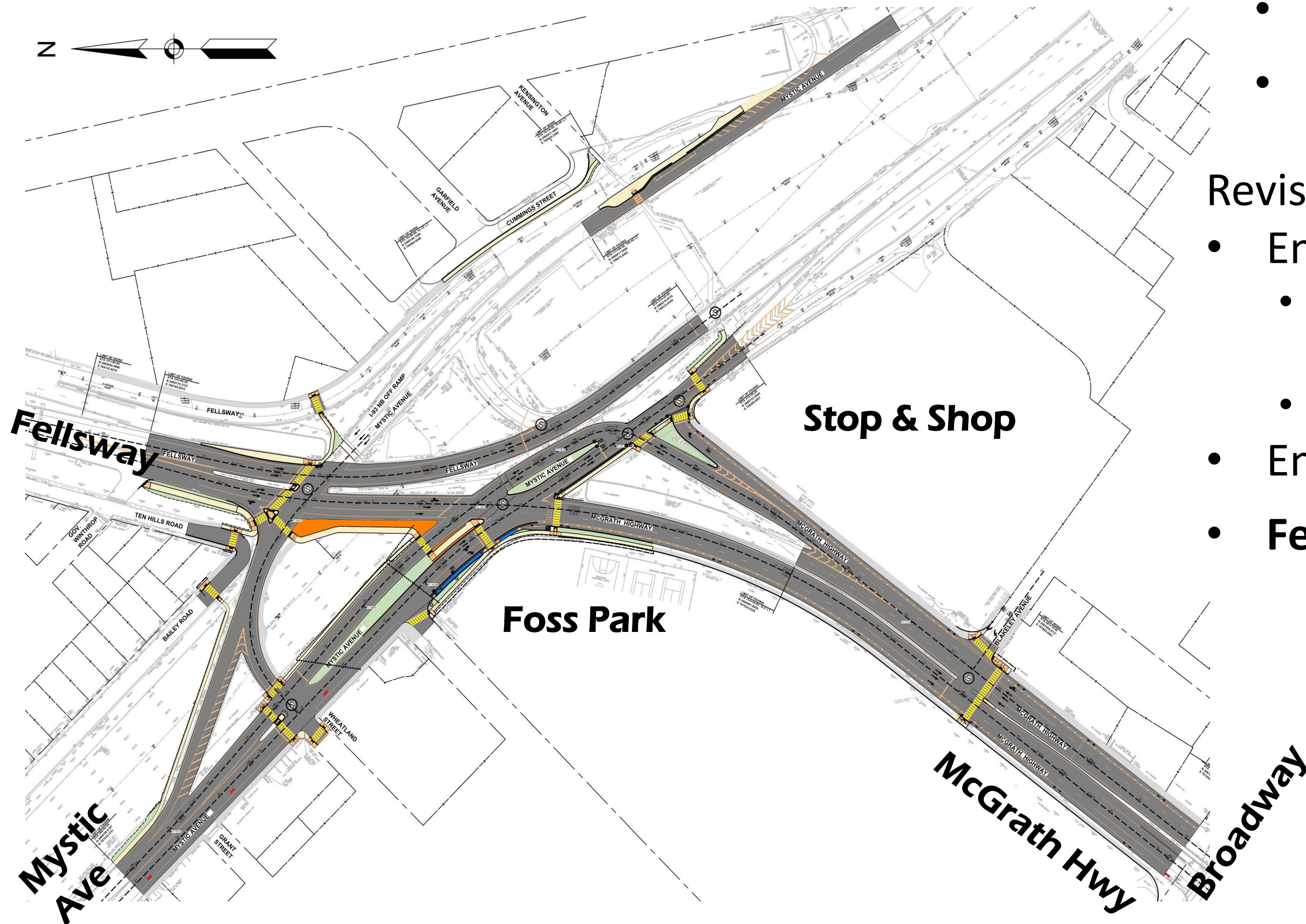
Project Design Changes

Original 25% Design

- Traffic Signal Upgrades
- Pedestrian / Bike Improvements

Revised 25% Design

- Enhanced Bicycle Facilities
 - Sidewalk Level, Separated Bike Lanes
 - Shared Use Path
- Enhanced Mobility
- **Fellsway / McGrath - Lane Drop**



Lane Narrowing and/or Elimination

- Reduced roadway crossing distance and pedestrian exposure
- Reduce vehicle speeds
- Provide space for installing curb extensions and/or widening sidewalks

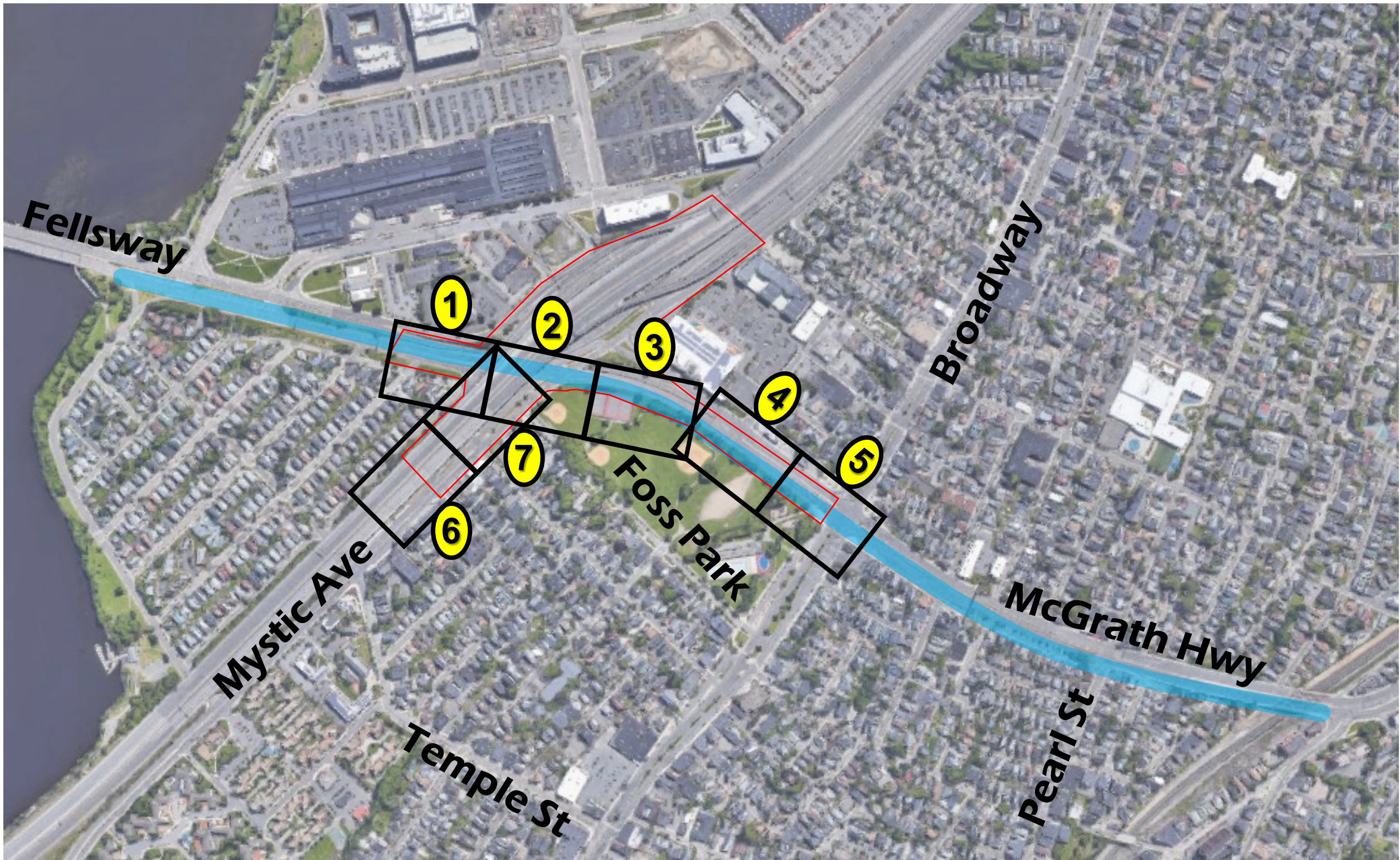
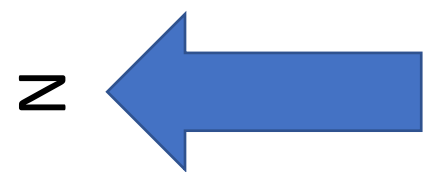


Lane Elimination can reduce
total crashes by

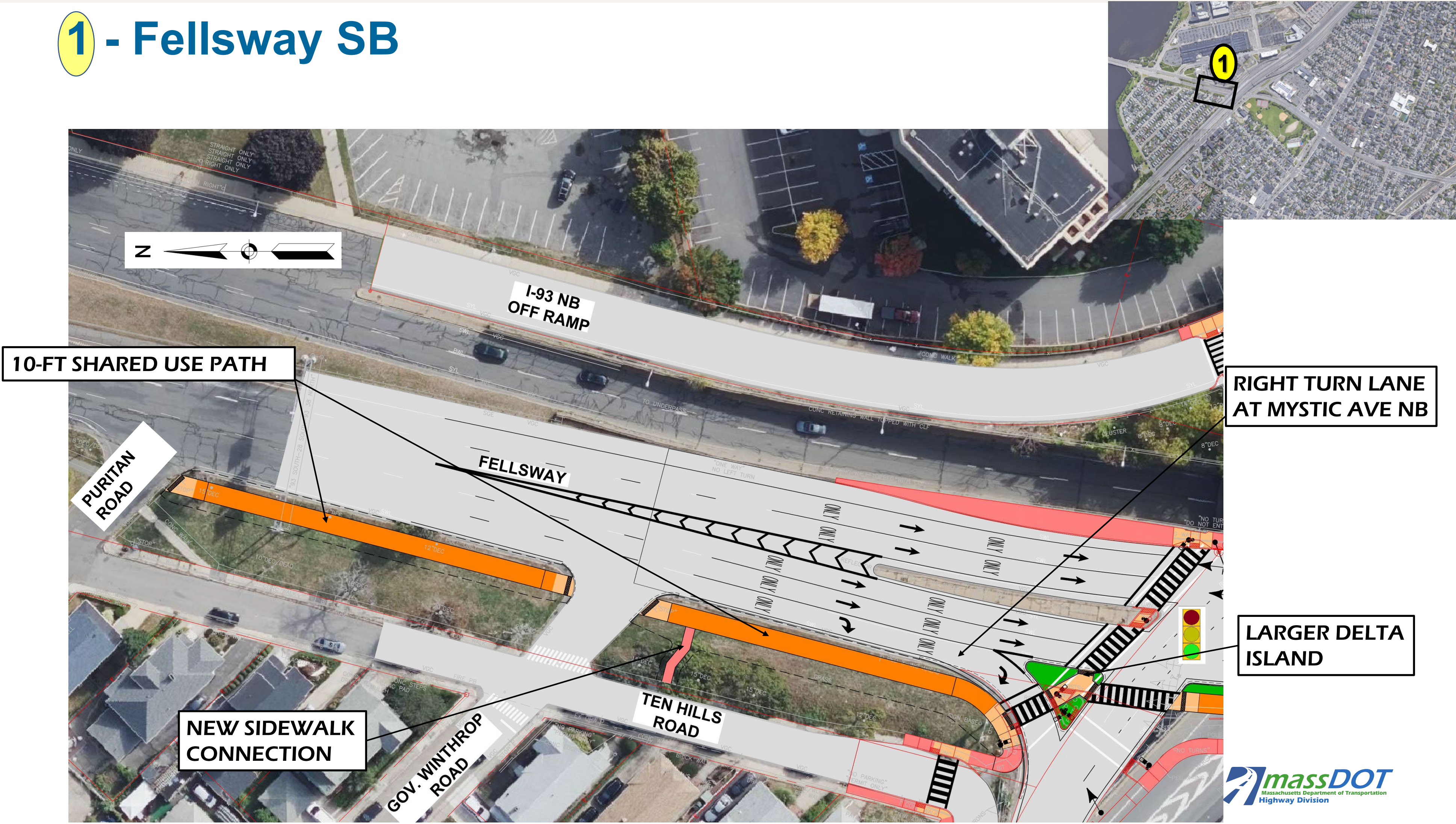
19-47%*

*19% in urban areas, 47% in suburban areas.

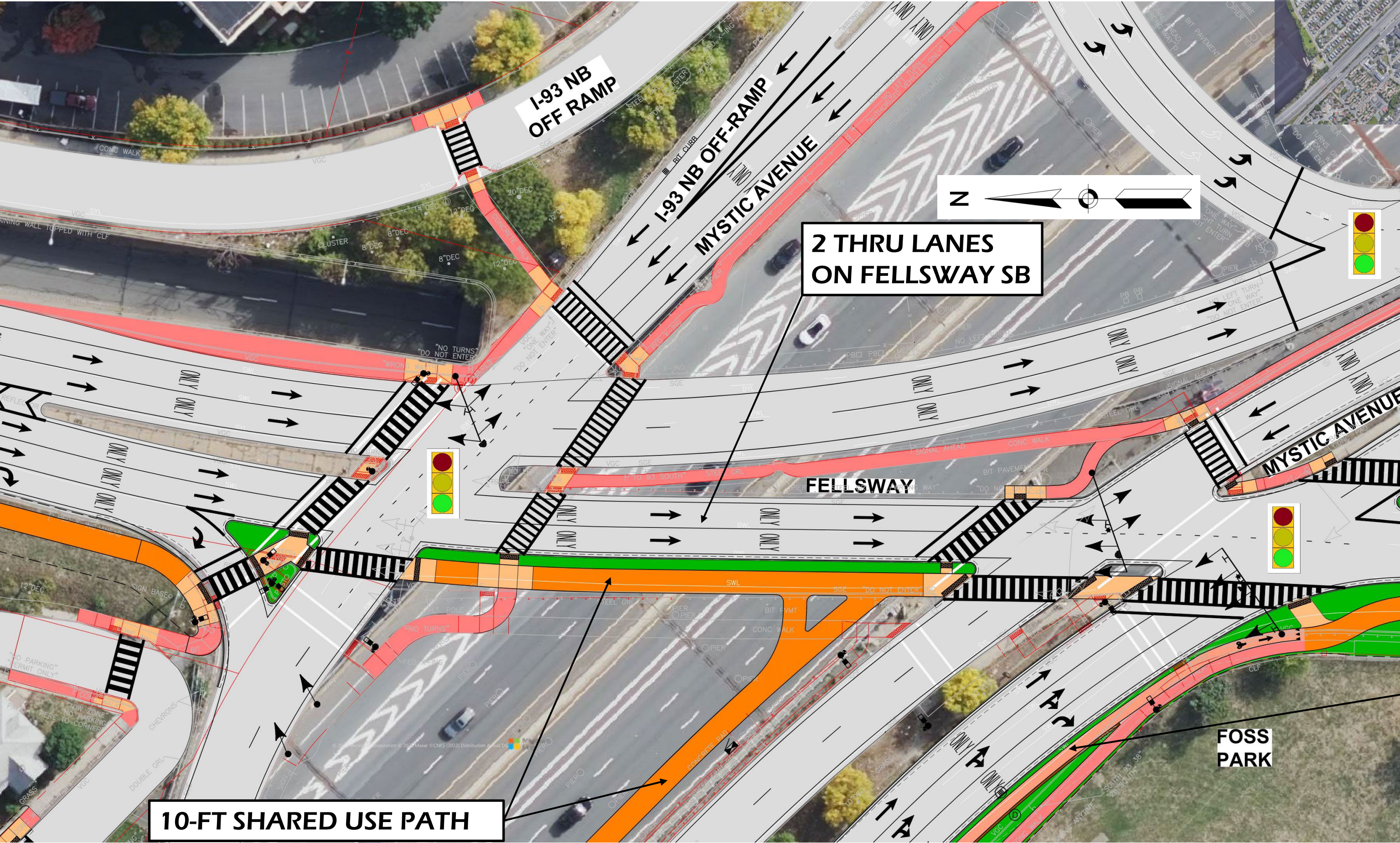
Project Area – Design Project Locus



1 - Fellsway SB

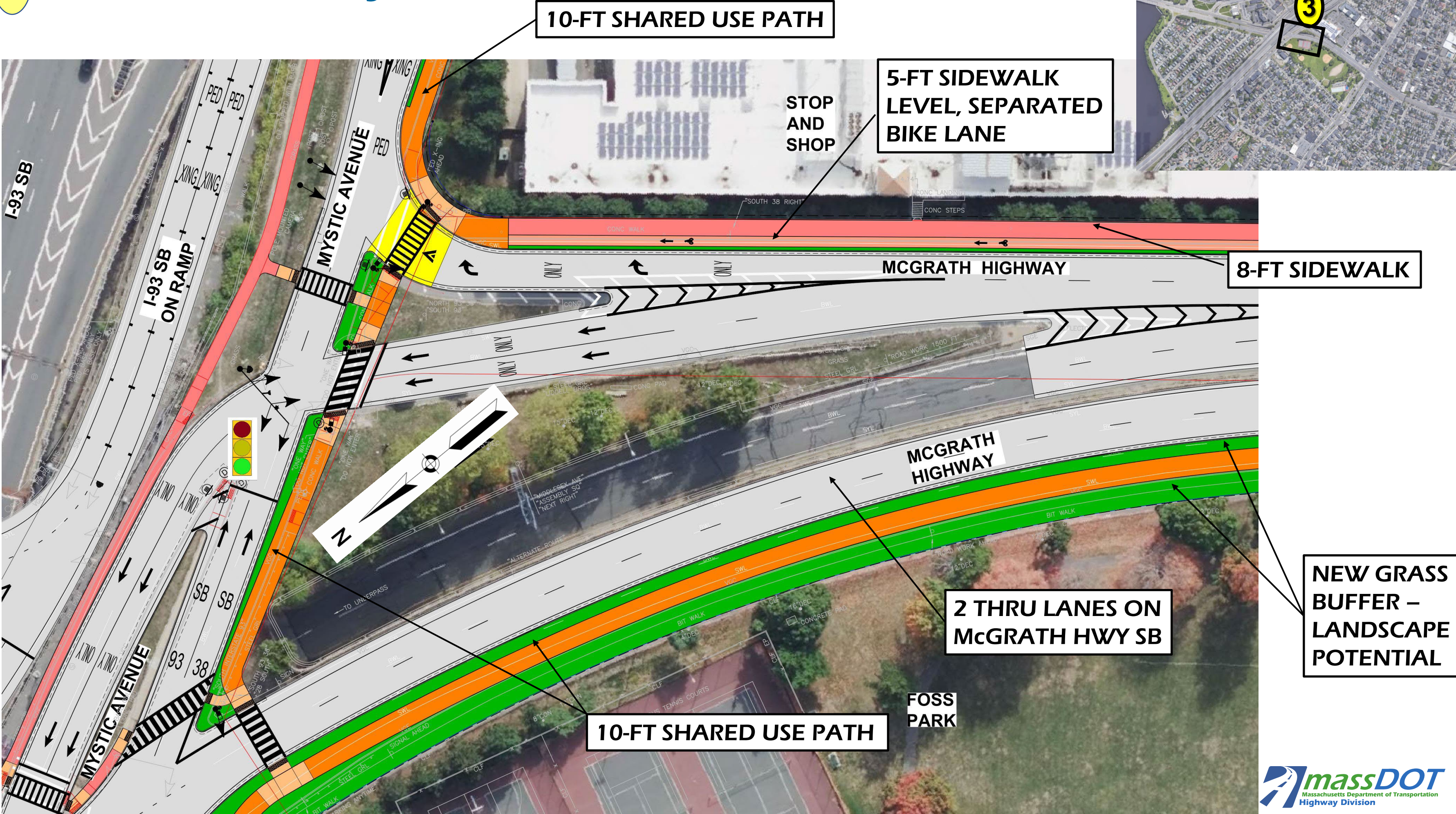


2 - Fellsway SB under I-93

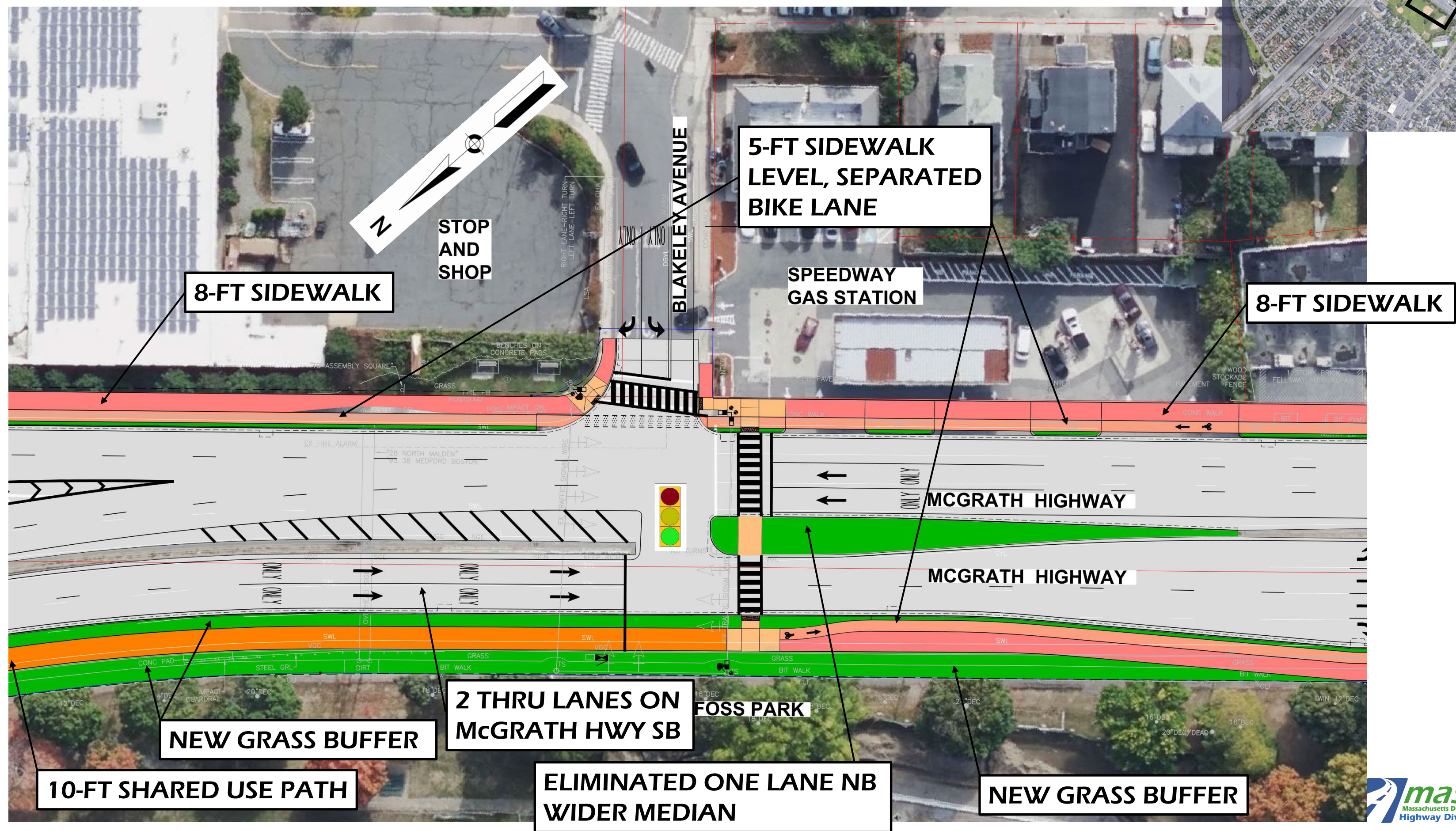


5-FT SIDEWALK
LEVEL, SEPARATED
BIKE LANE

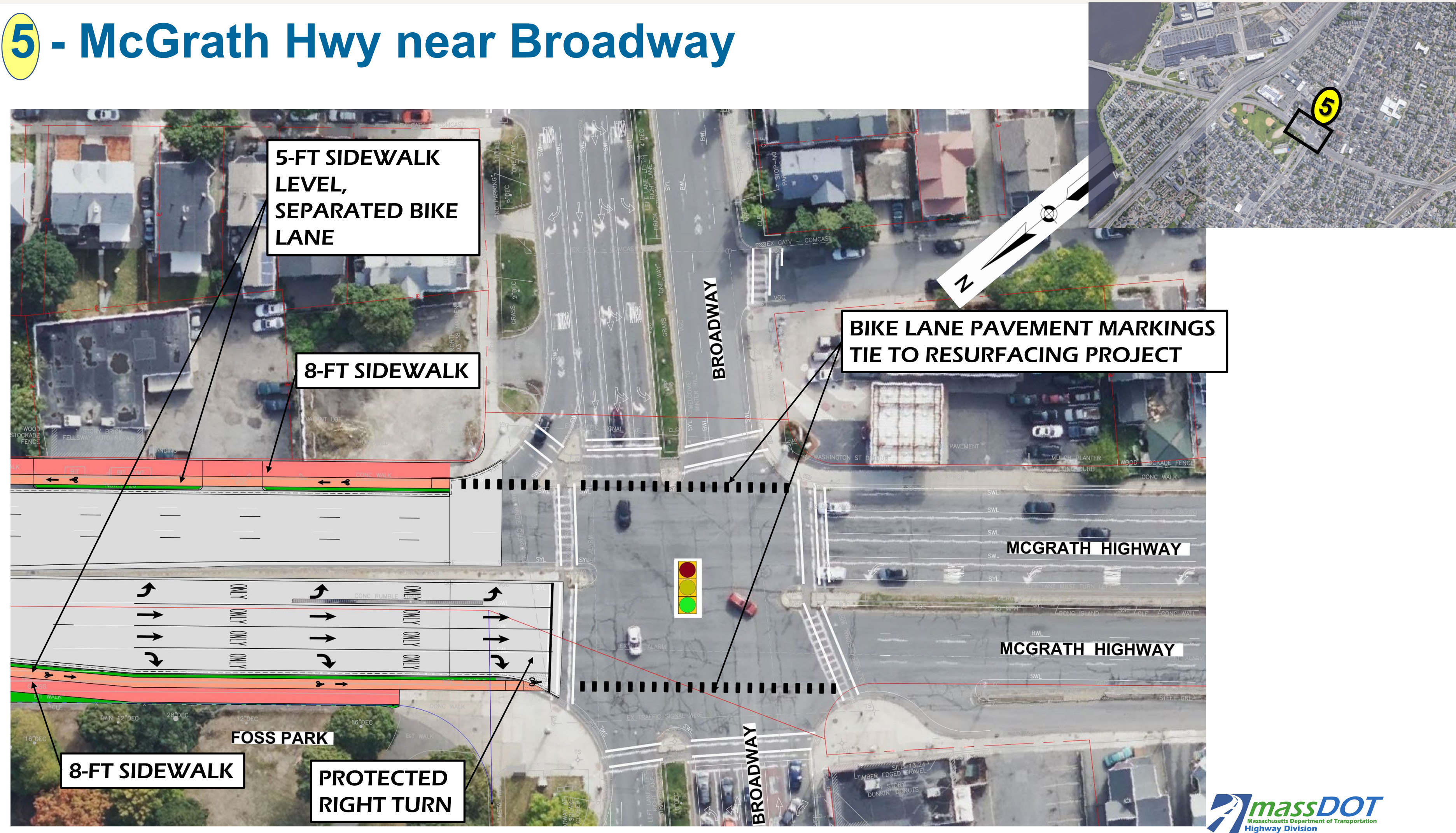
3 - McGrath Hwy near Mystic Avenue



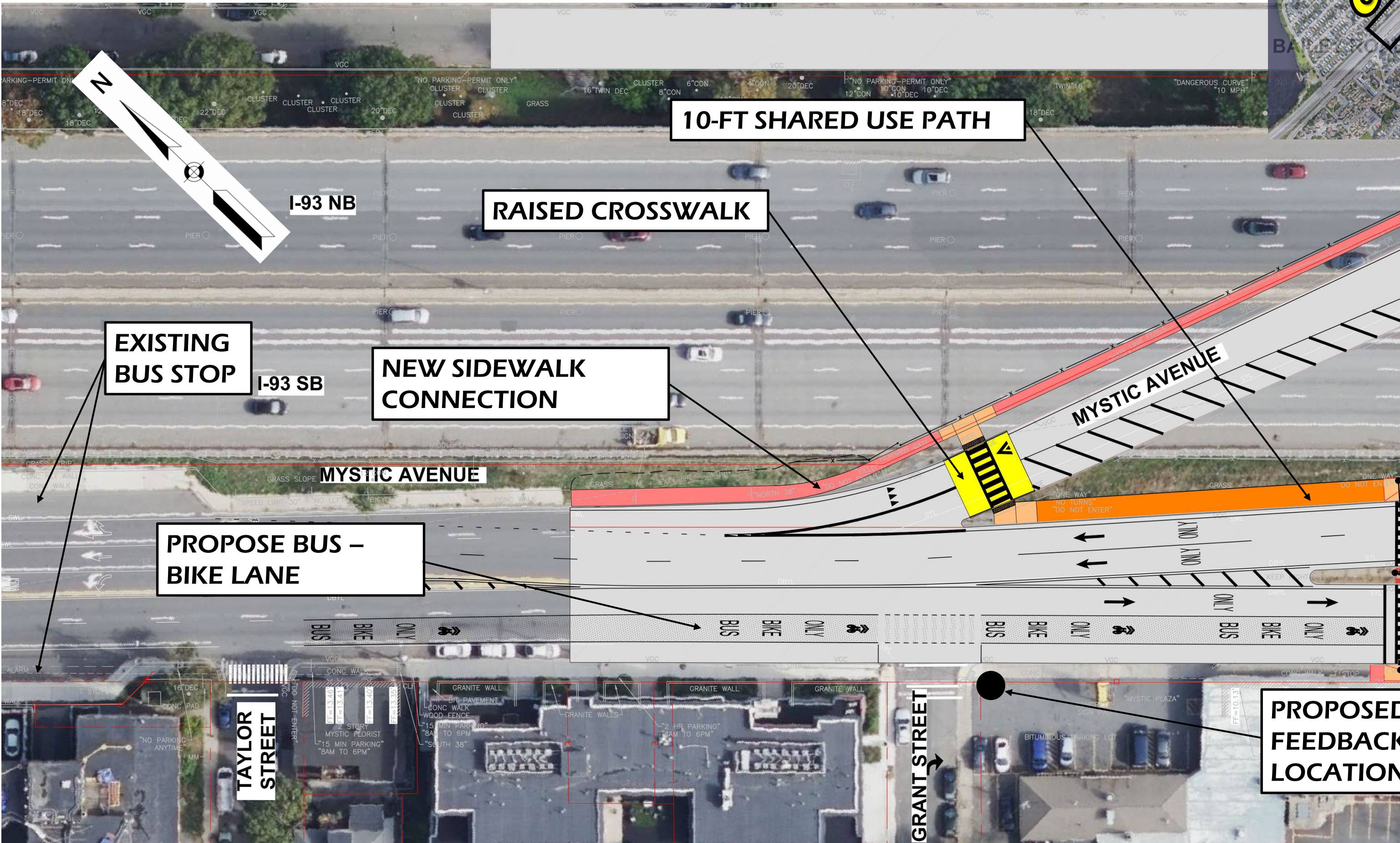
4 - McGrath Hwy at Blakeley Avenue



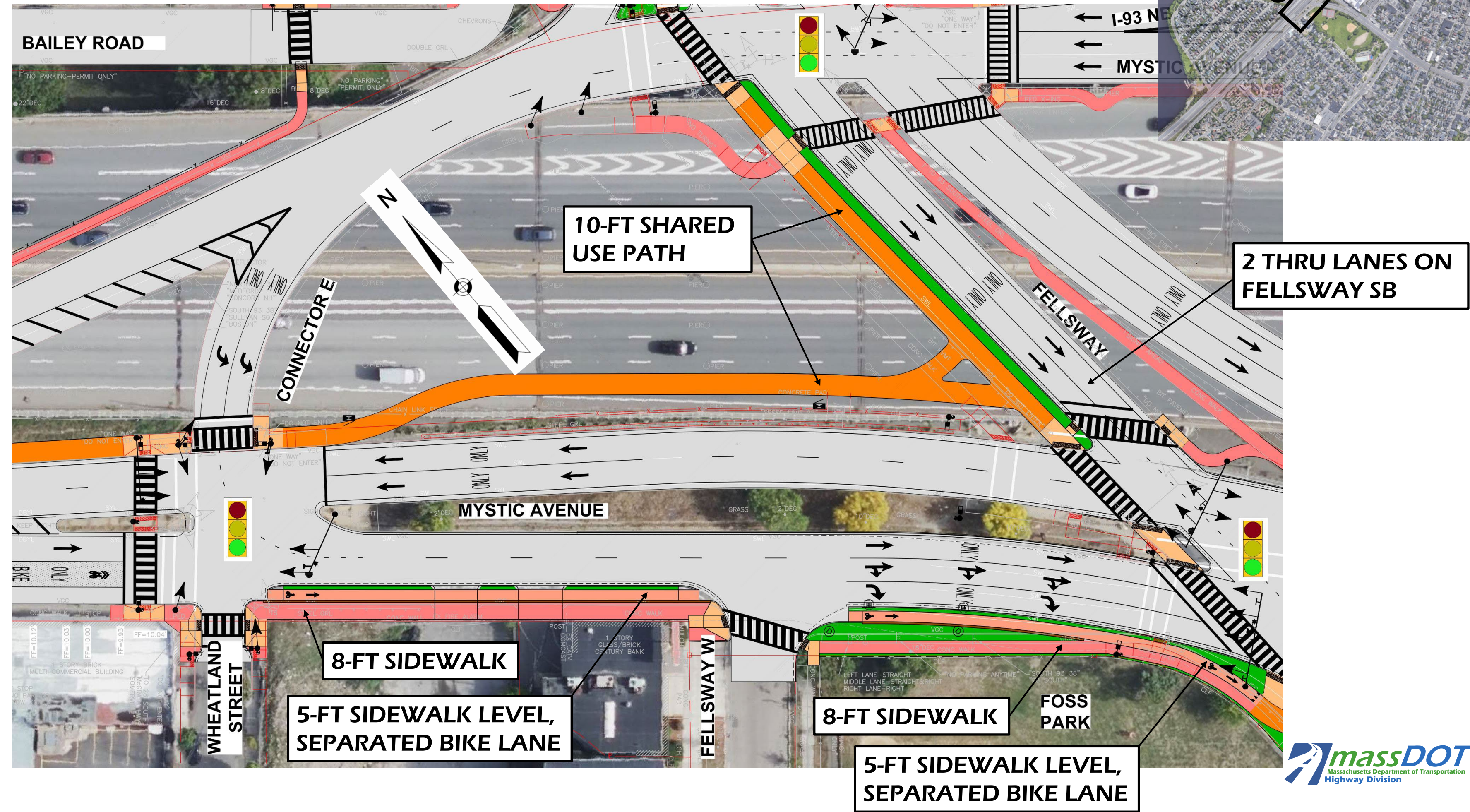
5 - McGrath Hwy near Broadway



6 - Mystic Avenue near Grant Street



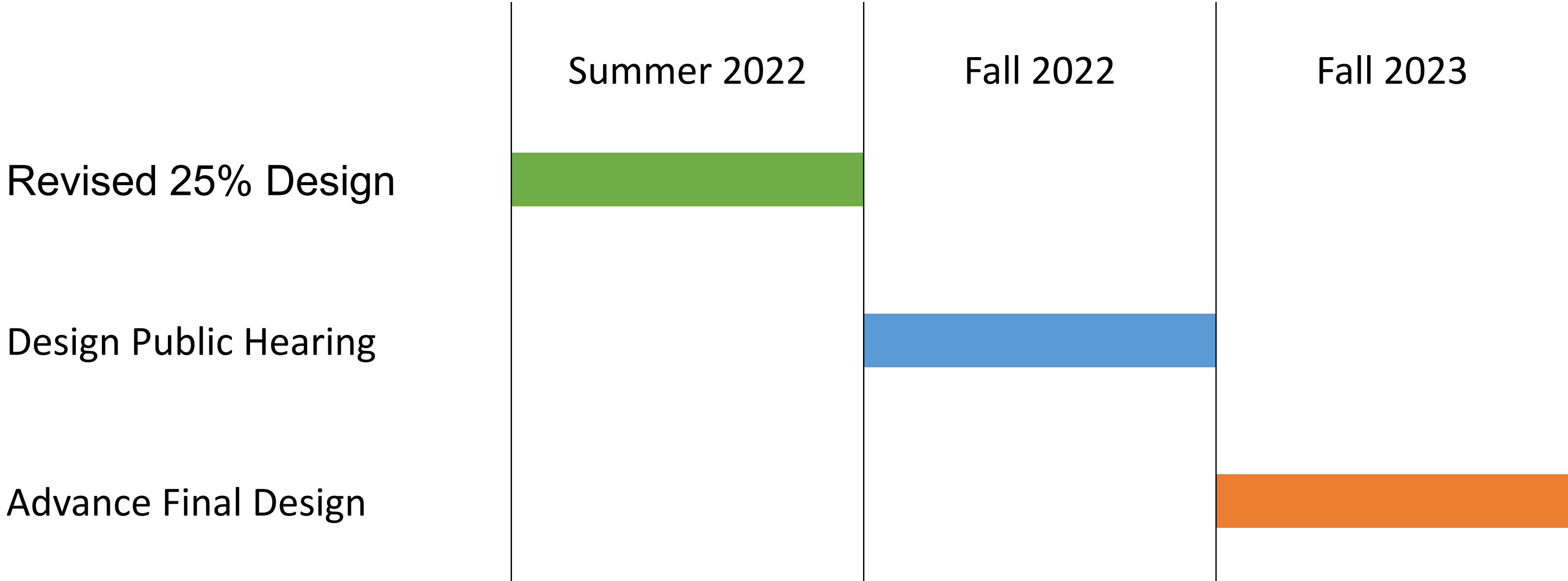
7 - Mystic Avenue at Wheatland St / Fellsway W





Anticipated Next Steps/ Timeline

Next Steps & Anticipated Timeline



Anticipated Construction – Spring 2024



**How will we
keep you
informed?**

How to reach us?

- Submit written comments to:
Carrie Lavallee, P.E., Chief Engineer
MassDOT
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116
Attention: Project Management Section Project File No. 608562
- Submit email comments to:
MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us
- For project information visit the MassDOT Design Public Hearing web site at:
<https://www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings> or used the QR Code:





**Questions and
discussion**

Questions and answers



- “Raise your hand” to be unmuted for verbal questions.



- 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

Intersection Improvements

*Fellsway/McGrath (Route 28)
at Mystic Avenue (Route 38)*

Project No. 608562 | June 2, 2022 | 6:30 PM

MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us

David Shedd, Project Manager