



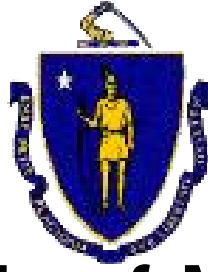
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Neponset River Greenway to Blue Hills Feasibility Study and Conceptual Design

Project Introduction and Listening Session



Neponset River Greenway to Blue Hills
Feasibility Study and Conceptual Design
September 20, 2022



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Governor

Charles D. Baker

Lieutenant Governor

Karyn E. Polito

Energy and Environmental Secretary

Bethany A. Card

Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner

Douglas Rice



DCR MISSION

To protect, promote and enhance our
commonwealth of natural, cultural
and recreational resources
for the well-being of all.



Meeting Logistics

- Please provide feedback after the presentation
 - You will find information on how to give feedback at the end of the presentation
 - **Please Take the Survey**
- Chat and Q&A function is open for comments during the presentation
- Cameras + microphones
 - Your camera is off
 - We will enable your microphone only when you are speaking after the presentation

Please note that this public meeting will be recorded at the recording will be posted online shortly after.

Project Goal

Identify and evaluate alternative routes for greater **community connections**, resulting in a preferred shared-use path alignment connecting between the Neponset River Greenway's southern end at Truman Parkway to the Blue Hills Trailside Museum.



Fowl Meadow

Burma Road Trail



Shared-use Path Objectives

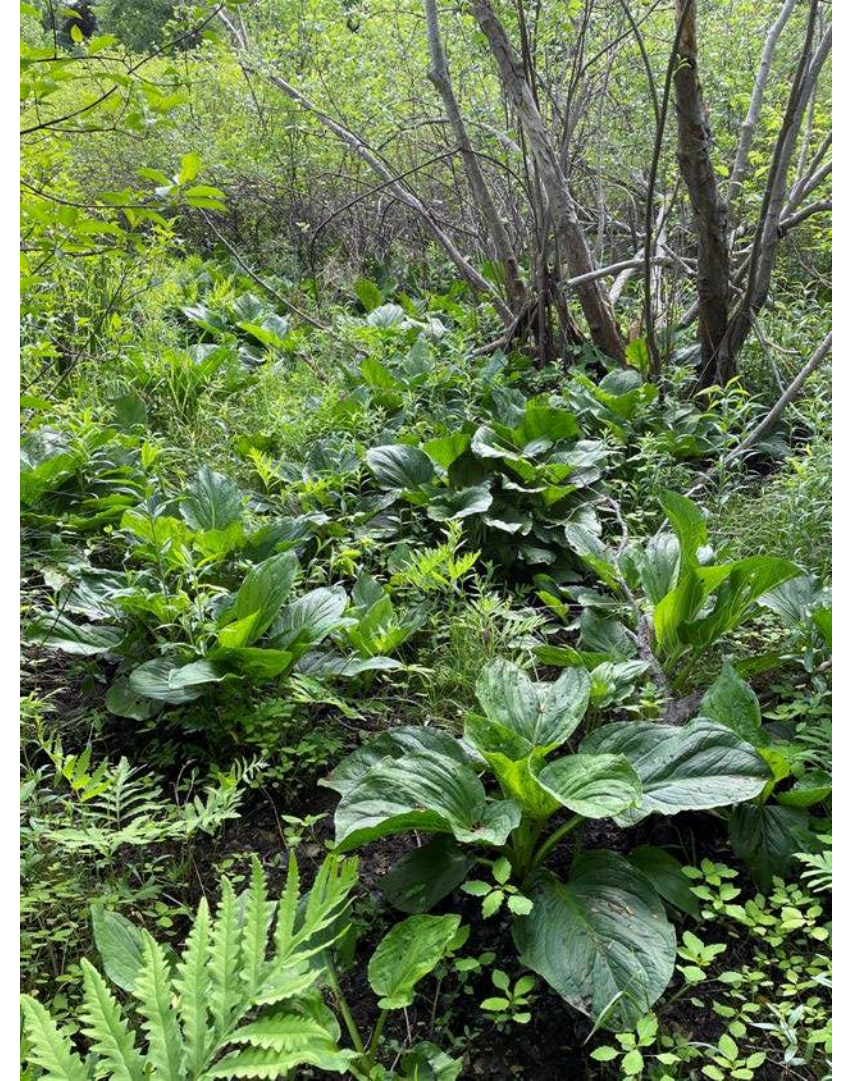
- Enhanced community connectivity
- Improved access to recreation and healthy living for all
- Safety and convenience
- Preservation of natural resources
- Protection of historic and archeological areas
- Climate resiliency
- Straightforward implementation and maintenance



Existing Neponset River Greenway on Truman Parkway looking south

Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Project Summary
- Inventory & Analysis
- Listening Session
- Closing and Next Steps



Project Team

- DCR: Gerald Autler -PM
- Consultant Team:

Toole Design

Karen Fitzgerald - PIC

Kathleen Fasser - PM

Emily Lauderdale, Taylor Dennerlein, and
Sneha Adhikari

BSC - Survey and Environmental Assessment

PAL - Archeological and Cultural Assessment

Meeting Purpose

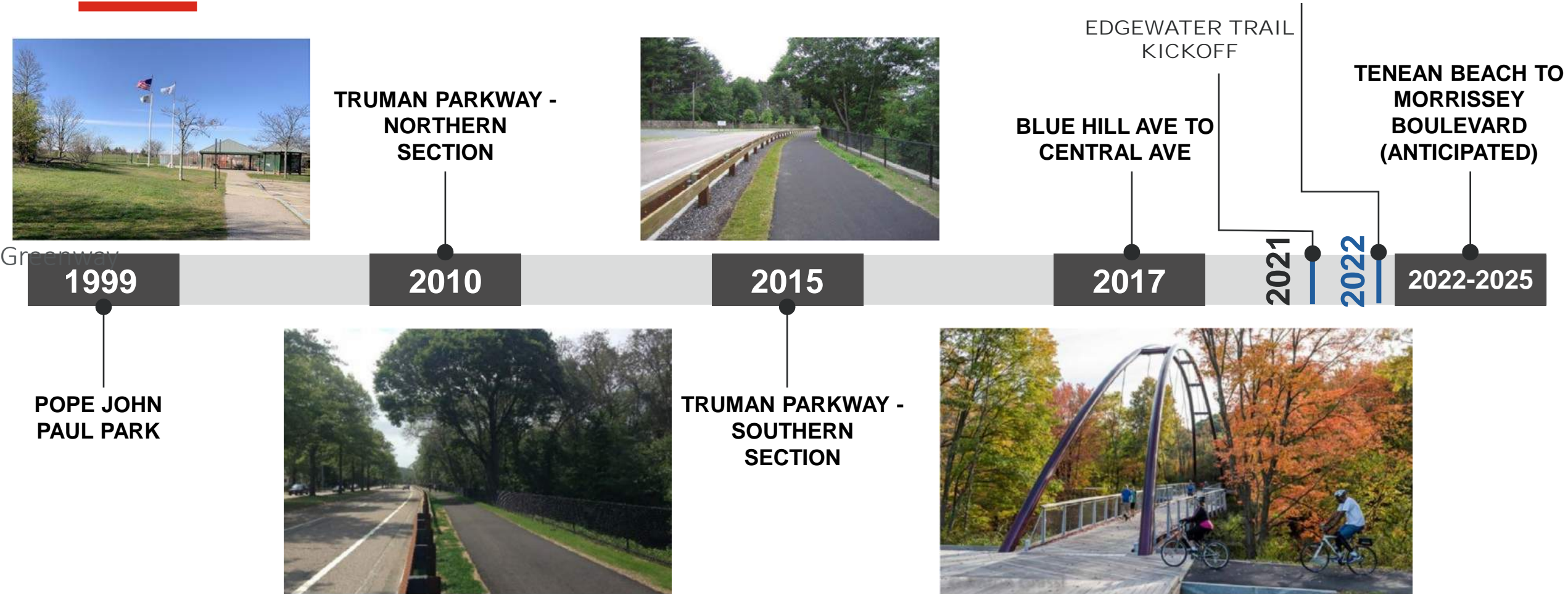
- Introduce the project
- Present the Inventory and Analysis
- LISTEN



A photograph of a stone bridge arch, likely made of granite or similar natural stone, partially hidden behind a dense canopy of green trees and bushes. The bridge arch is visible in the upper half of the frame. The lower half of the image shows a body of water, possibly a river or lake, with some reflections and more foliage in the foreground. A semi-transparent white banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text "PROJECT SUMMARY" in a dark, serif font.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Neponset River Greenway



Project Location



Northern end of Project Area

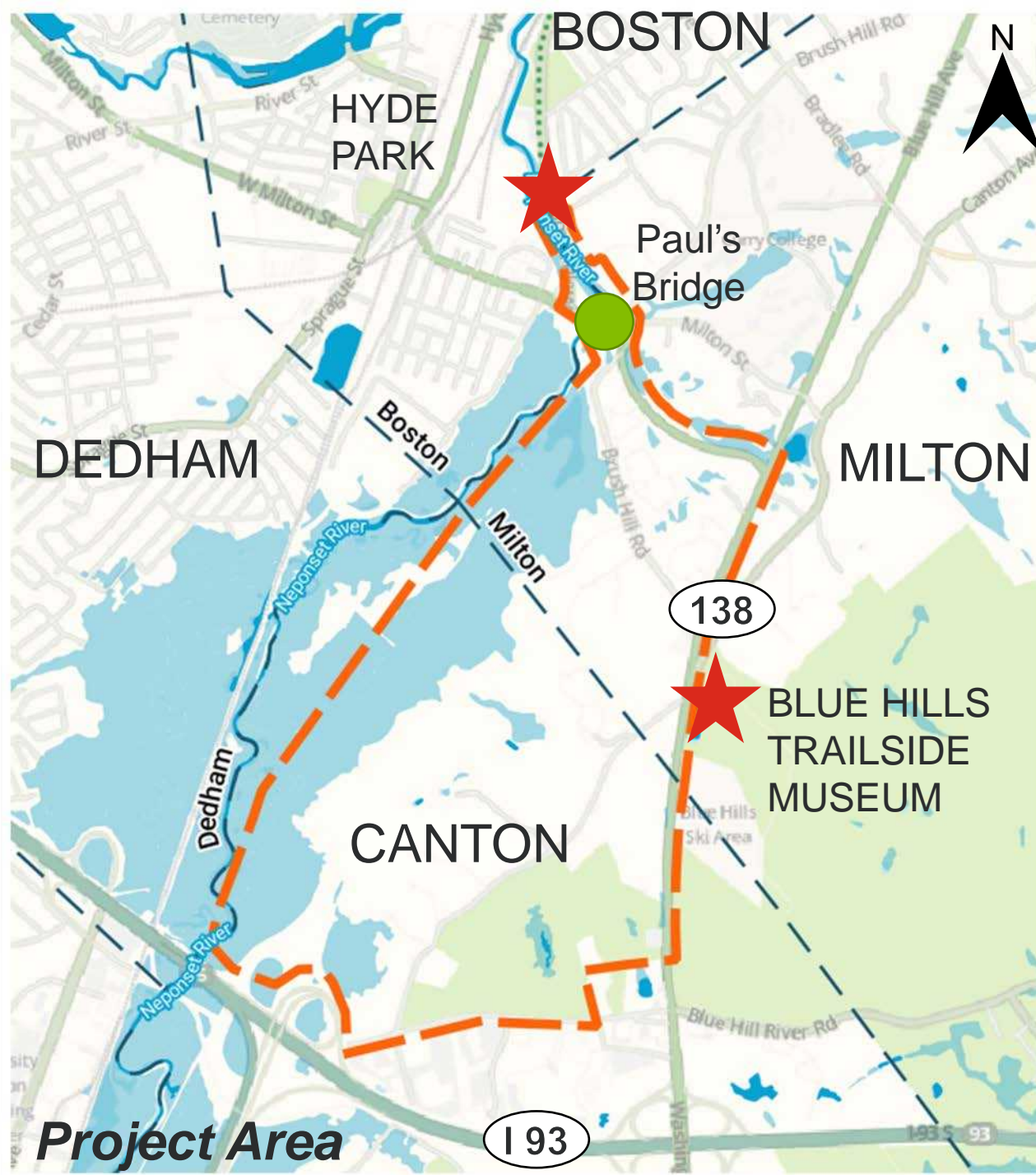


DCR Neponset River Greenway Map

Project Area



Paul's Bridge



Project Result – a shared-use path



Example rendering of a shared use path

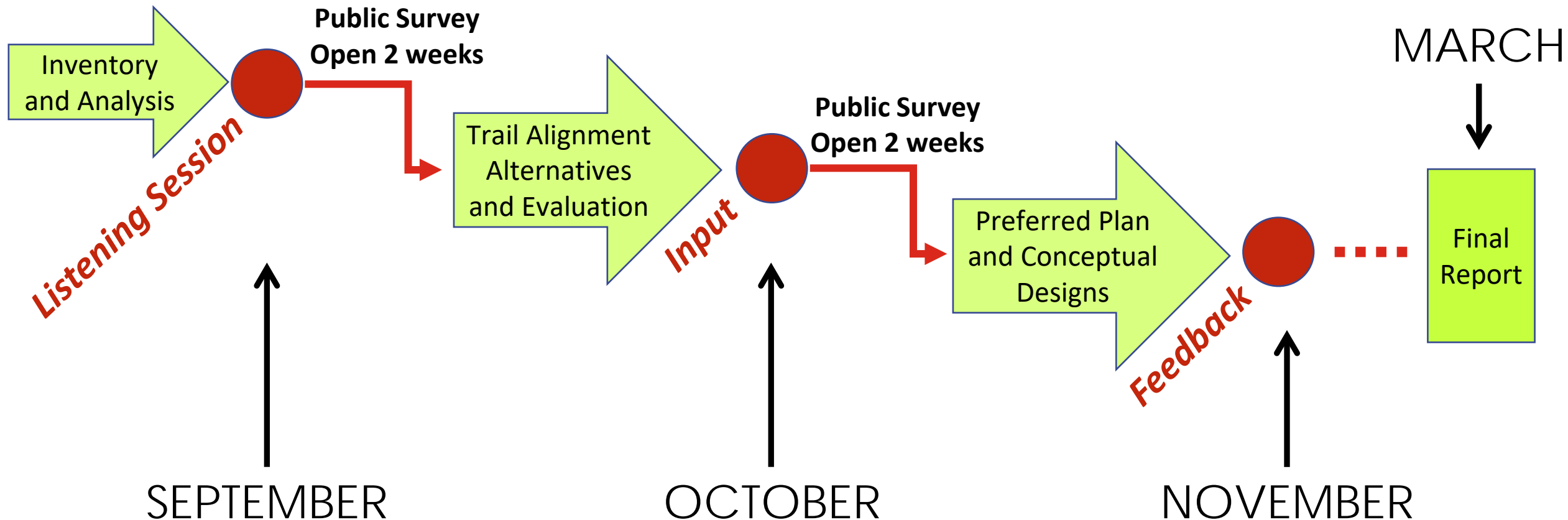


Trailside Museum

Remnants of a highway that didn't get built



Project Timeline



A photograph of a stone bridge arch, likely made of granite or similar natural stone, partially hidden behind a dense canopy of green trees and bushes. The bridge arch is visible in the upper half of the frame, with its stones showing various shades of grey and brown. The foliage is vibrant green and fills most of the foreground and middle ground. At the bottom of the image, a dark, calm body of water is visible, reflecting some of the surrounding greenery. A semi-transparent white banner is overlaid across the lower portion of the image, containing the text "INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS" in a black, serif font.

INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

Existing Conditions Inventory

- Land Use
- Circulation
- Crash Data
- Significant Landscape Features
- Hydrology (BSC)
- Protected Areas (BSC)
- Soils and Soil Conditions (BSC)
- Archaeological Sensitivity (PAL)
- Historic Resources (PAL)
- Other Related Local/Regional Projects



Neponset Valley Parkway

Legends



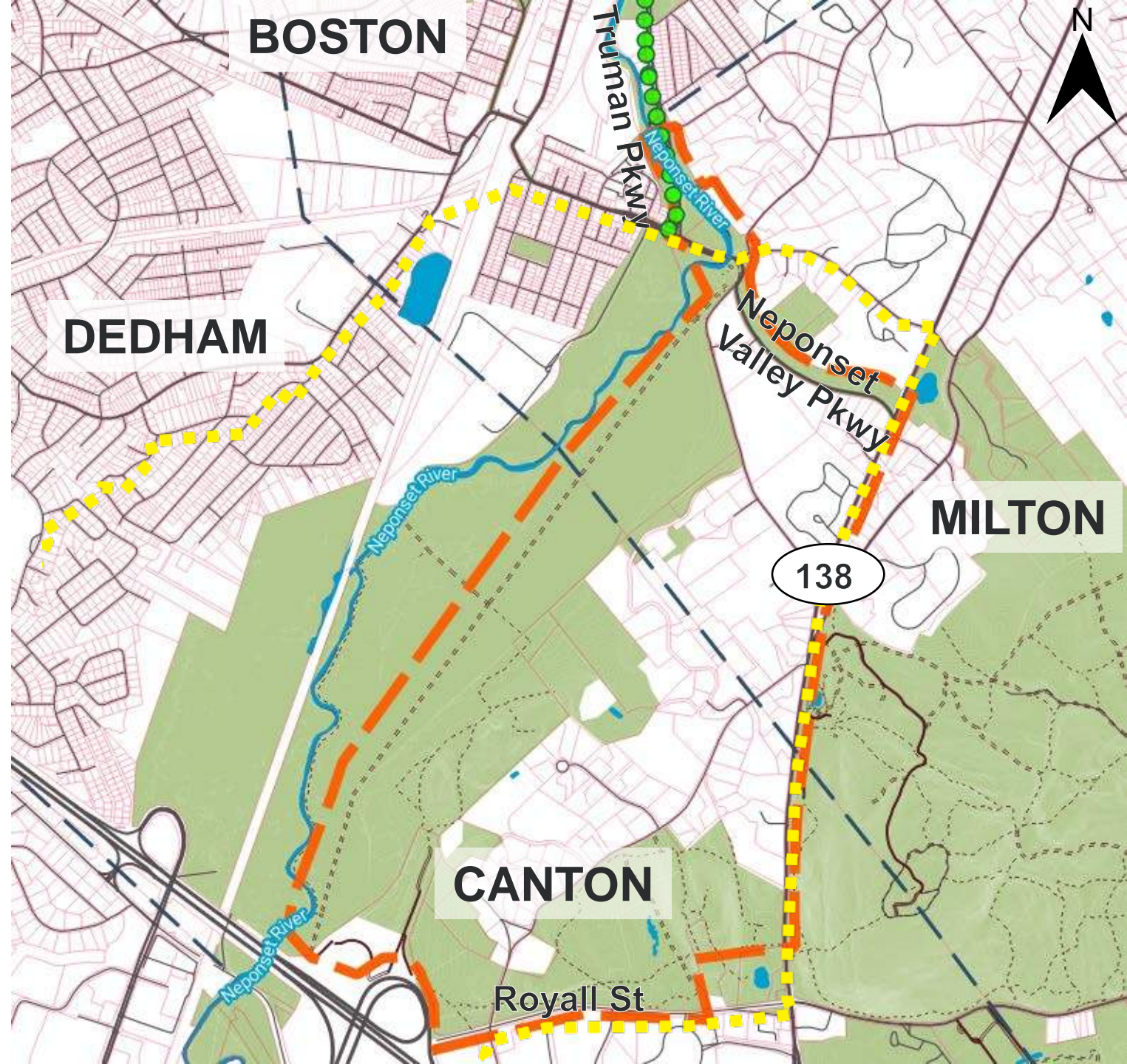
Project Area



Existing Neponset River
Greenway









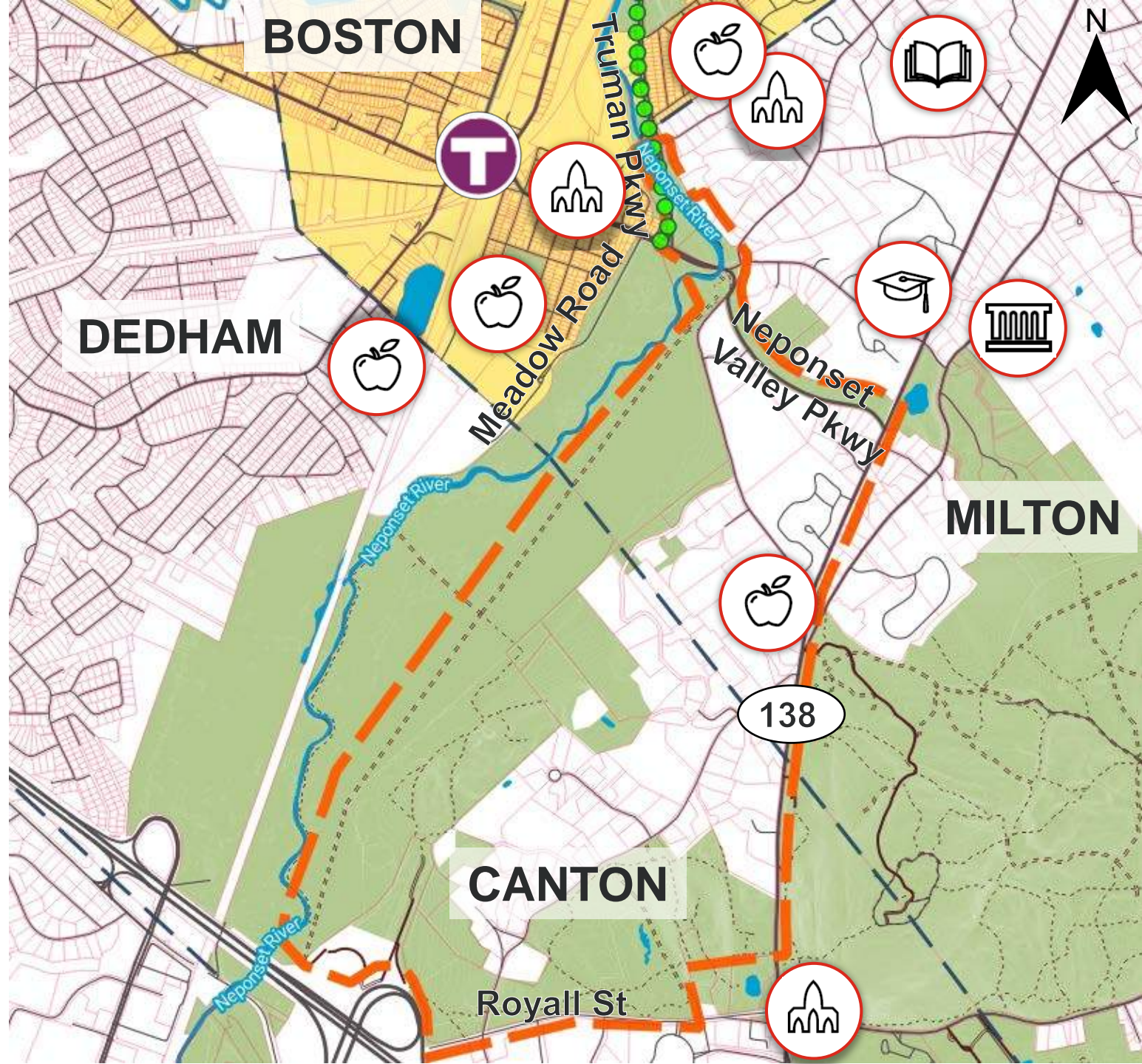
DCR / Open Space



Connectivity

LEGEND

-  Library
-  K- 12 School
-  College or University
-  Place of Worship
-  Museum
-  Environmental Justice
Neighborhoods

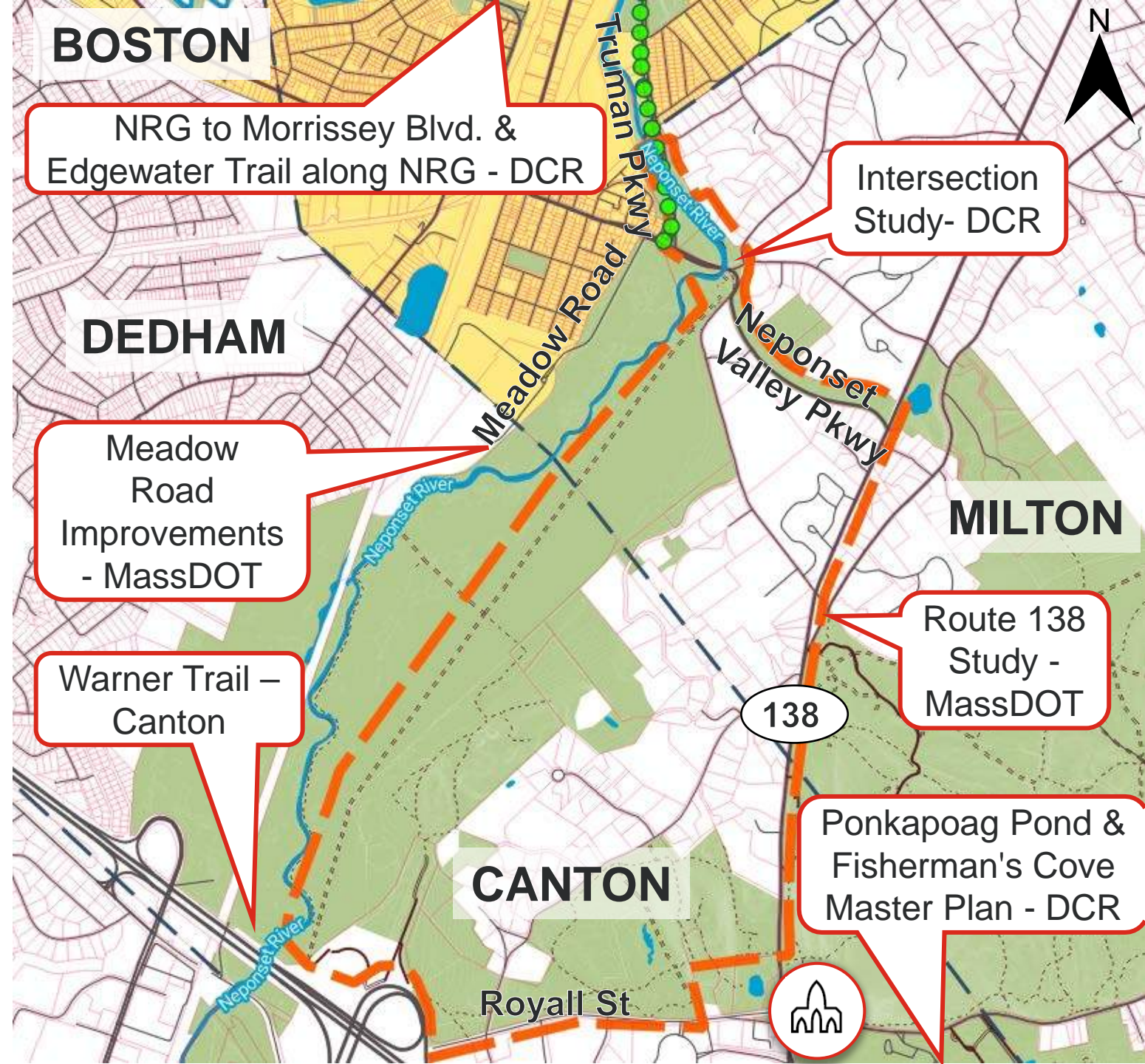


Connectivity



Camp Meigs Memorial Park

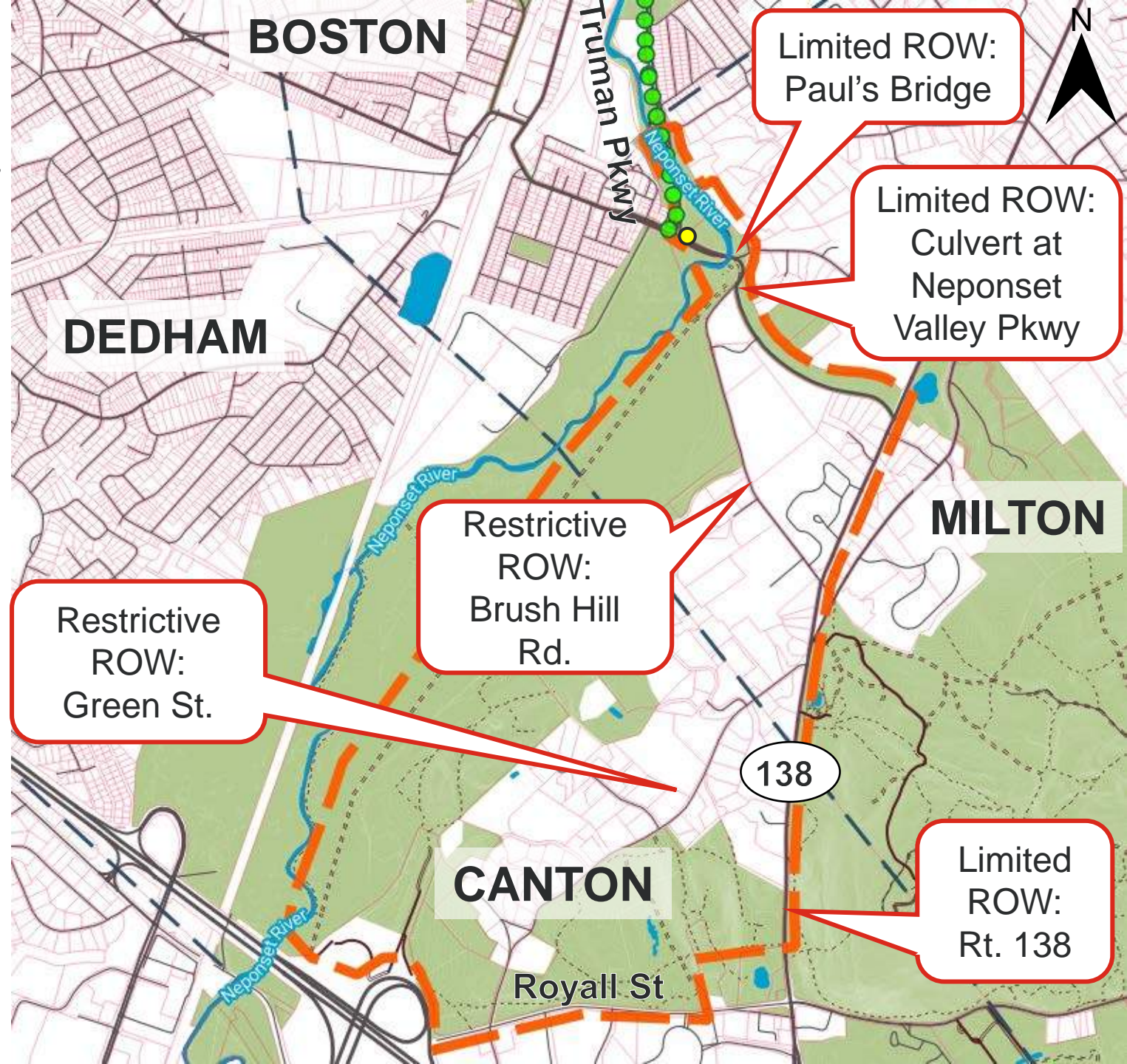
Neponset Valley Parkway



Circulation & Safety

Right-of-Way (ROW)

A right-of-way is granted or reserved public land for transportation purposes. A right-of-way line is the boundary between the public land and the abutting property line.



Circulation & Safety

LEGEND

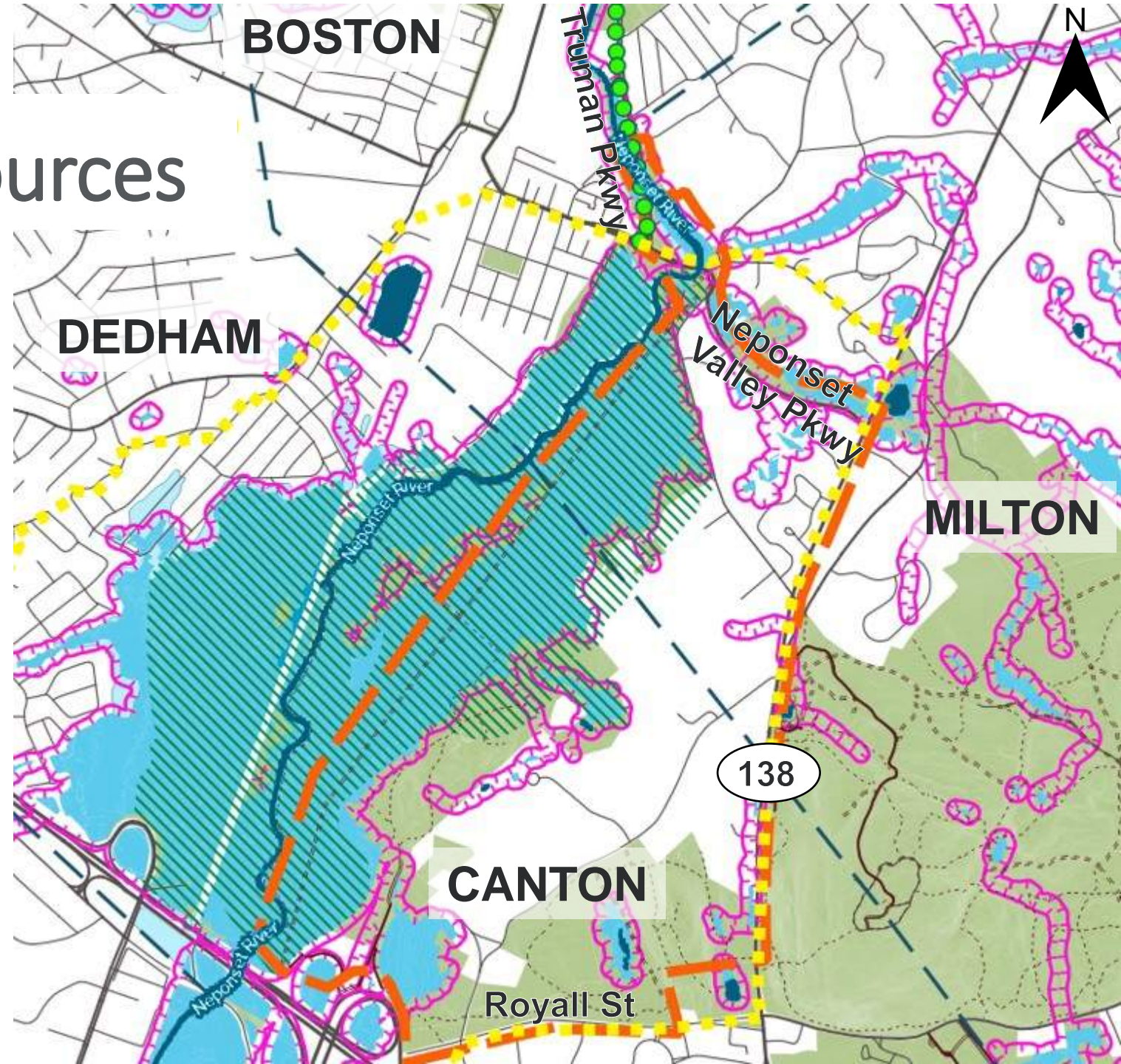
-  MBTA Bus Routes
-  Bike/Ped Injury Crash
-  Bike/Ped Fatal Crash
-  Vehicle Injury Crash
-  Vehicle Fatal Crash



Environmental Resources





LEGEND

- Open Water
- Wetlands
- FEMA Flood Zone AE & A
- ACEC
- Buffer Zones
- Priority & Estimated Habitat Areas






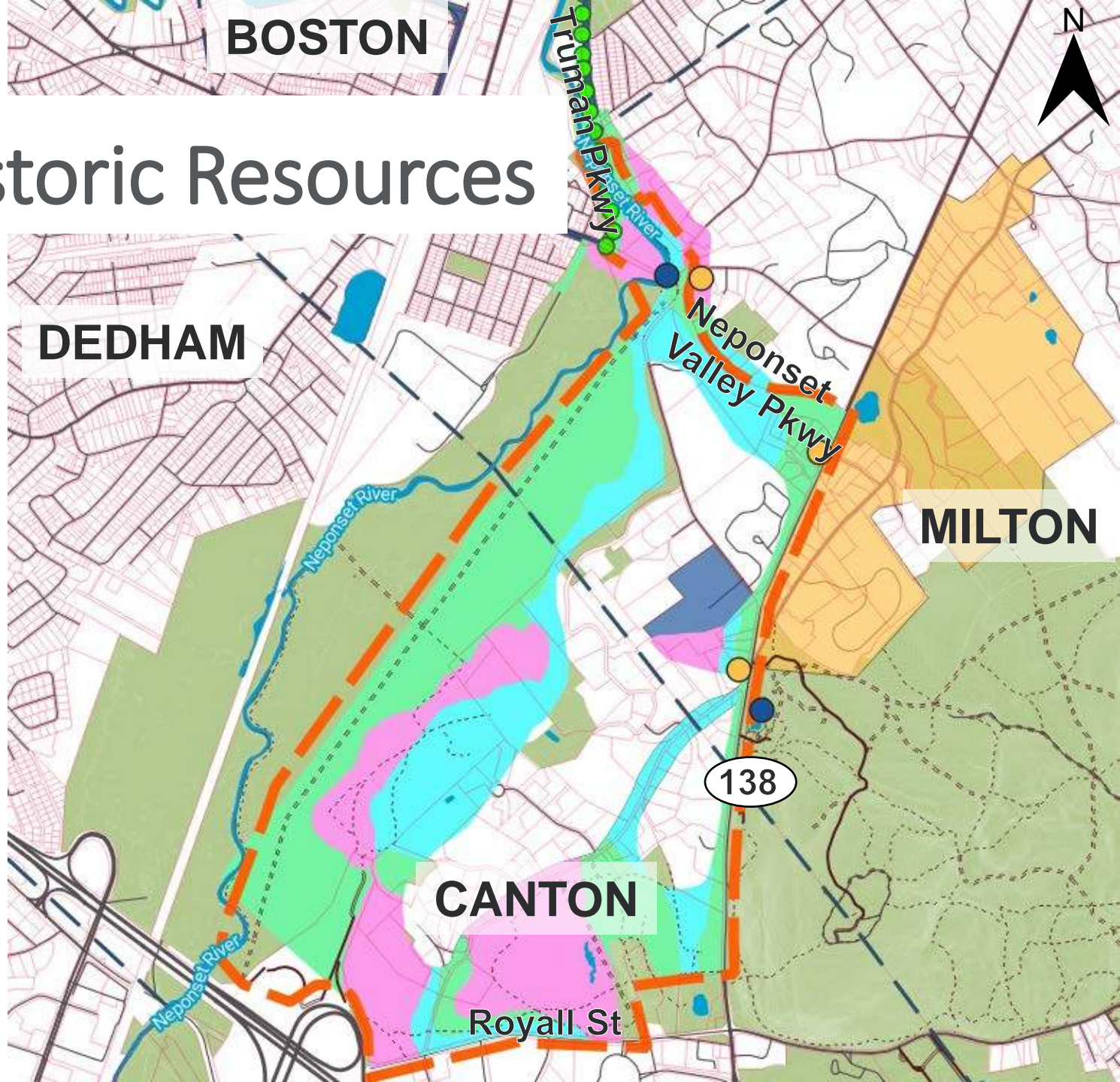
Archaeological & Historic Resources

LEGEND

-  National Register District
-  National Register Property
-  Inventoried Area
-  Inventoried Property

Archaeological Sensitivity:

-  High Sensitivity
-  Moderate Sensitivity
-  Low Sensitivity



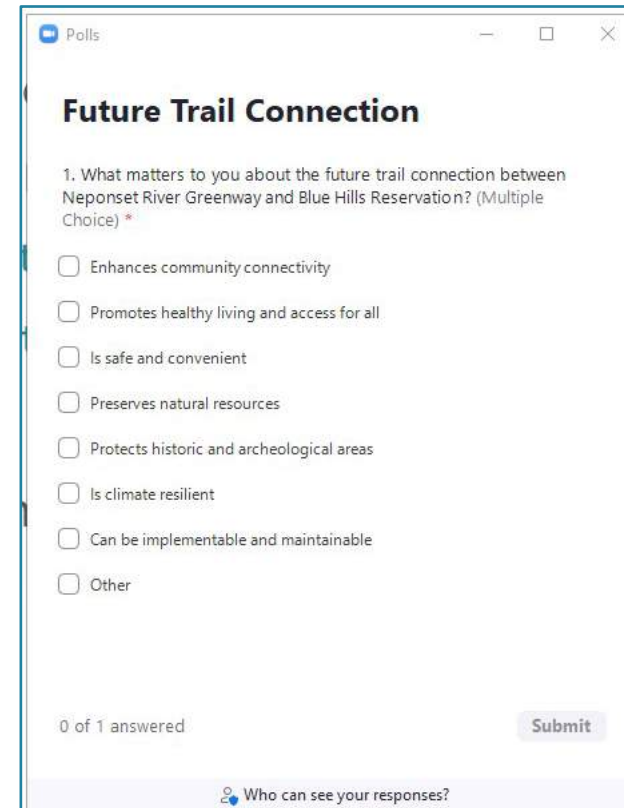
A photograph of a stone bridge arch, likely made of rough-hewn stones in shades of grey and tan. The arch is partially hidden by thick, vibrant green trees and bushes in the foreground. The scene is captured from a low angle, looking up towards the bridge. A semi-transparent white banner is positioned at the bottom of the image, containing the text "LISTENING SESSION" in a black, sans-serif font.

LISTENING SESSION

Zoom Questions

3 multiple choice questions on zoom to get us thinking about the trail.

1. How often do you use the Neponset River Greenway and/or Blue Hills Reservation?
2. How do you currently use the Neponset River Greenway and/or Blue Hills Reservation?
3. What considerations are important to you in the future trail connection between Neponset River Greenway and Blue Hills Reservation?



The screenshot shows a Zoom poll interface. At the top, it says 'Polls' with a close button. The poll title is 'Future Trail Connection'. The question is '1. What matters to you about the future trail connection between Neponset River Greenway and Blue Hills Reservation? (Multiple Choice) *'. There are seven options, each with an unchecked checkbox: 'Enhances community connectivity', 'Promotes healthy living and access for all', 'Is safe and convenient', 'Preserves natural resources', 'Protects historic and archeological areas', 'Is climate resilient', and 'Can be implementable and maintainable'. There is also an 'Other' option. At the bottom left, it says '0 of 1 answered'. At the bottom right, there is a 'Submit' button. Below the poll, there is a link 'Who can see your responses?'.

An online survey with these questions + other detailed questions will be made live after the public meeting if you would like to provide further feedback.

Open Discussion



- We will take comments in the order hands are raised
 - If calling in, dial *9 to raise your hand and *6 to unmute
- Additional comments can be made using the Q+A function and/or the chat function
- In order to allow everyone to speak, please try to limit your time to 1 minute
- Approximately every 15 minutes, we will provide answers to questions
- The meeting is scheduled to end at 7:30 PM
- An online board has been created to reference these slides and maps during comments and questions

A photograph of a stone wall, possibly a bridge or retaining wall, partially obscured by dense green foliage. The wall is constructed from irregular, light-colored stones. The foliage consists of various green leaves and branches, some of which are in the foreground, creating a sense of depth. The overall scene is lush and natural.

CLOSING AND NEXT STEPS

Additional Information

- Recording and tonight's slide deck will be available at:
 - www.mass.gov/dcr/past-public-meetings
- If you have comments on this project:
 - Submit online: www.mass.gov/dcr/public-comment
 - Deadline: Tuesday, October 4, 2022

Please note: the contents of comments submitted to DCR, including your name, town and zip code, will be posted on DCR's website. Additional contact information provided, notably email address, will only be used for outreach on future updates to the subject project or property.

- If you wish to subscribe to a DCR general information or project-related listserv: contact DCR's Office of Community Relations via email at mass.parks@mass.gov

Next Steps

- First Online Survey will be open through October 4, 2022.
- Consultant Team
 - Use input from tonight's meeting, results from the Online Survey and direction from DCR
 - Develop alternatives for the shared-use path alignment and the metrics which will be used to evaluate the alternatives
- Next public meeting will be in mid-October.

Hope to see you there!



Neponset River east of Truman Parkway