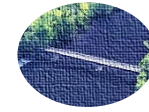


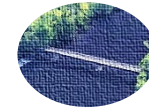
Newton-Weston Multi-Use Trail Connection Project 25% Design Public Hearing

December 11, 2019 | Williams Elementary School, Newton, MA



1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Project Background
3. Proposed Design
4. Construction & Schedule
5. Q&A

Project Team



**Newton-Weston Multi-use
Trail Connection Project**



MassDOT Highway Division

Responsible for Administering
the Project Development Phase



Greenman-Pedersen, Inc.

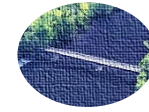
Planning, Design & Engineering



Howard Stein Hudson

Public Involvement

Riverside Greenway Network Vision



Newton-Weston Multi-use
Trail Connection Project

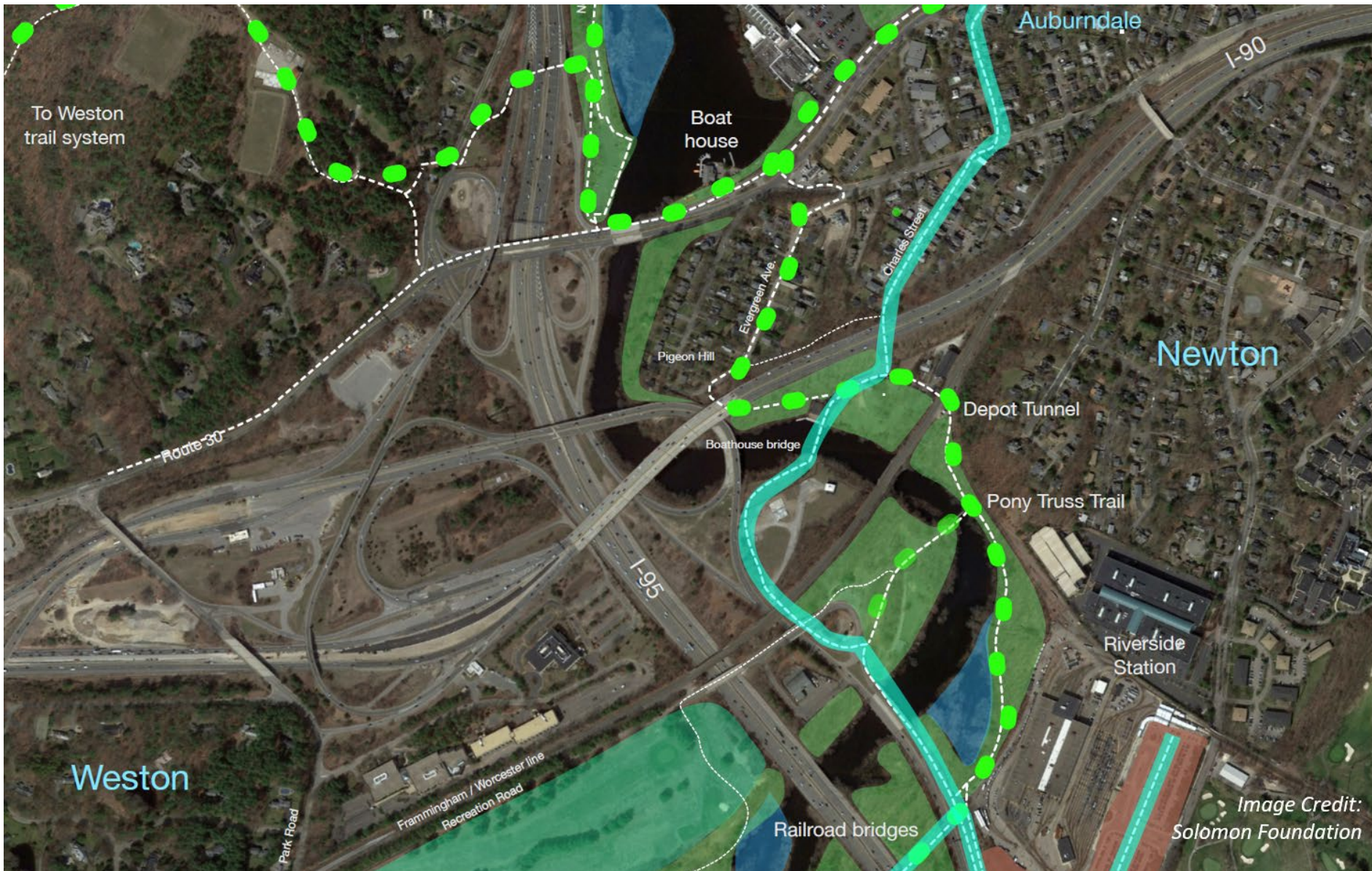
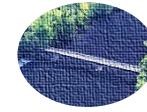


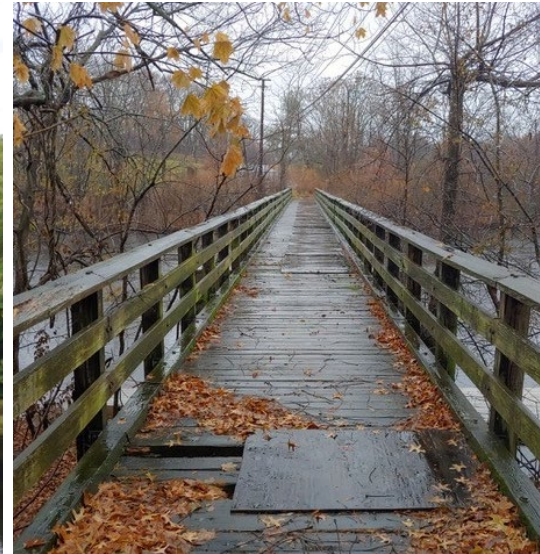
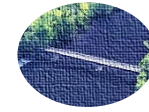
Image Credit:
Solomon Foundation

Project Area



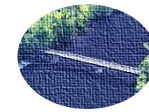
Newton-Weston Multi-use
Trail Connection Project





PROJECT BACKGROUND

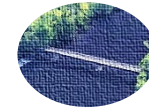
History of Bridge



Newton-Weston Multi-use
Trail Connection Project

- 1850:** Bridge constructed for vehicle use, connecting Newton and Weston
- 1980:** Bridge converted to footbridge for pedestrian use
- 2000s:** Bridge closed to pedestrians due to unsafe and deteriorating conditions
- 2009:** Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) proposed reconstruction of footbridge
- 2012:** Shared use path created from bridge to Riverside Park around MWRA facility
- 2018:** MassDOT initiates bridge replacement

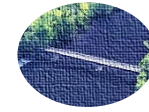
The Bridge Today



- Closed due to safety issues caused by the deteriorating structure
- Timber deck and railings are rotted
- Large holes have opened in the stone walls of the bridge piers below the waterline
- Steel support beams have no spare capacity for higher loads
- Unauthorized use and potential safety hazards



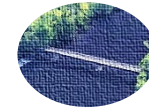
Limited Trail Connections



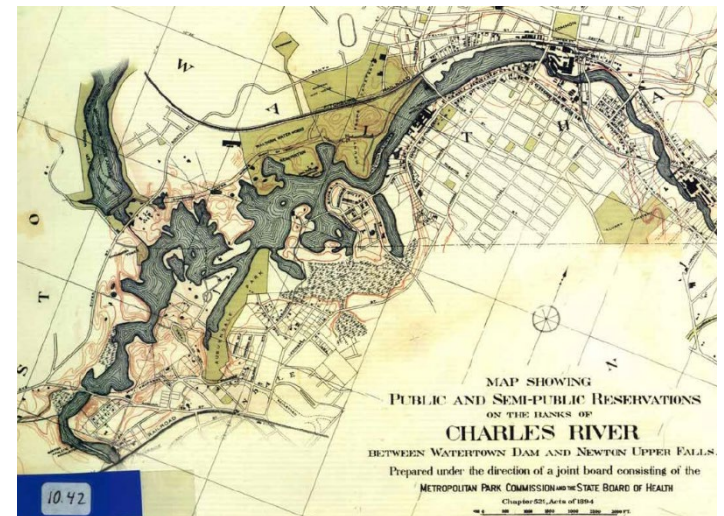
Newton-Weston Multi-use
Trail Connection Project

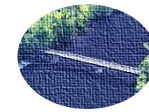
- Limited pedestrian crossings over the Charles River
- Difficult to walk and bike between Newton and Weston





- Charles Eliot wrote report on public open space opportunities (*Metropolitan Park Commission, 1892*)
- Eliot proposed a park system along the Charles River and a network of interconnected open spaces along the riverbanks

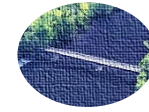




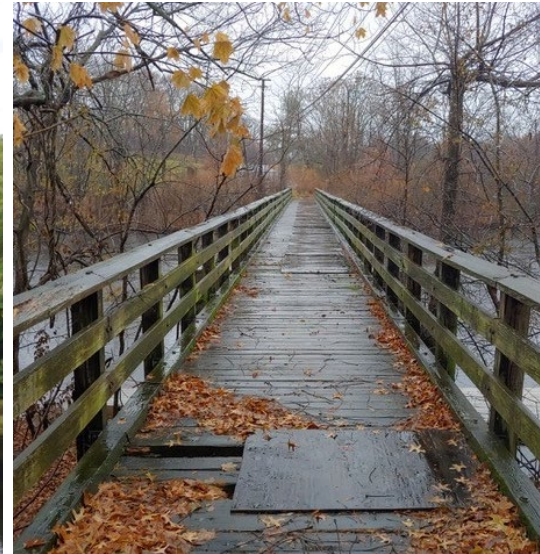
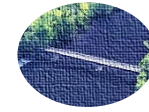
Upper Charles River Reservation Master Plan, 1998

- Proposes a continuous Greenway along the Charles River in Watertown, Waltham, Weston, and Newton
- Aims to “improve access to the river and/or greenway for walkers, hikers, boats, canoes, bicycles, anglers, and the physically challenged”
- Includes improving “circulation and open-space connections along the river corridor”

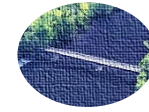




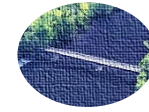
- Improve local and regional mobility, safety, and accessibility by creating a multi-use trail connection across the Charles River between Newton and Weston
- Address the deficient structural and safety conditions on the Boathouse Pedestrian Bridge



PROPOSED DESIGN

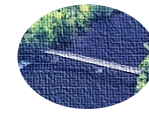


- Reconstruct the Recreation Road pedestrian bridge
 - Prefabricated Steel Truss Bridge
 - Simplify water navigation by replacing the two existing piers with one center pier
 - Width over bridge to be 12ft with 2ft shoulders
 - Install new timber and steel mesh railings
 - Pave asphalt surface over the new bridge



- Improve the multi-use path approaches to the bridge on both sides
 - Widened paths as they approach the bridge
 - More gradual ramps
 - ADA compliant grading
 - Consistent with paved asphalt surface over the bridge
 - New timber railing along both approaches

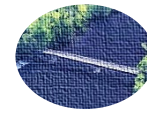
Existing Bridge



Newton-Weston Multi-use
Trail Connection Project



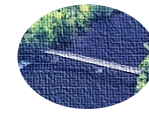
Proposed Bridge



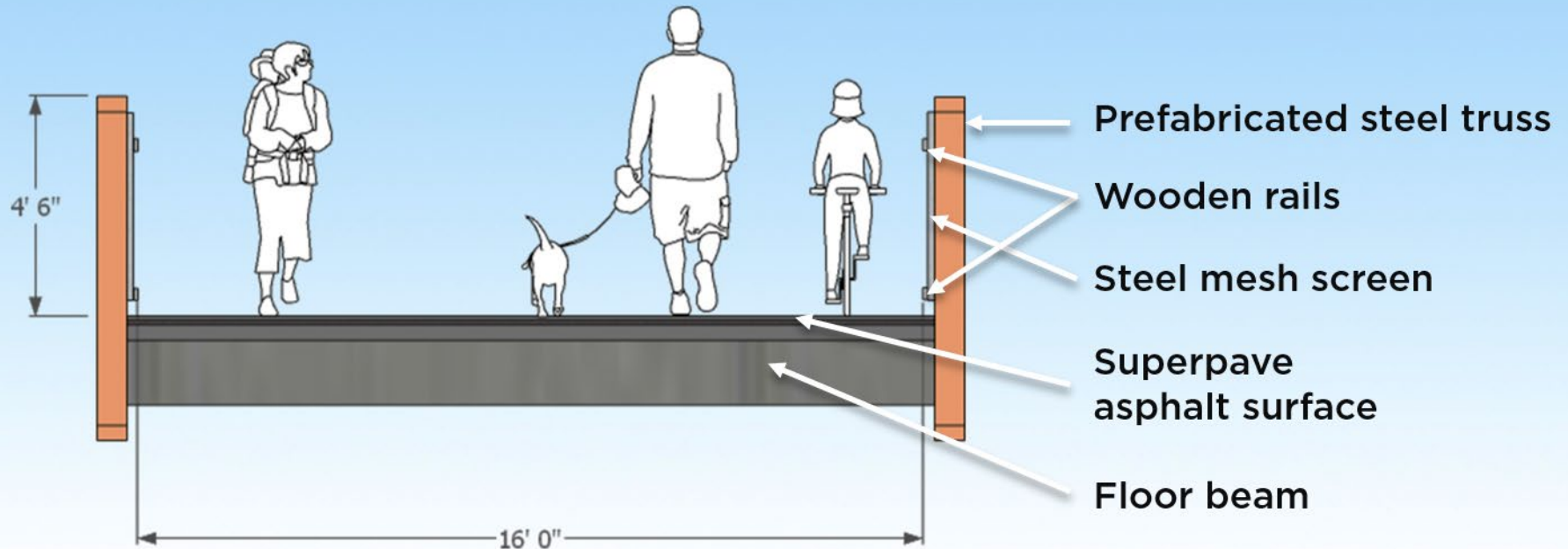
Newton-Weston Multi-use
Trail Connection Project



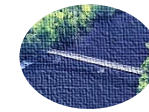
Proposed Cross-section



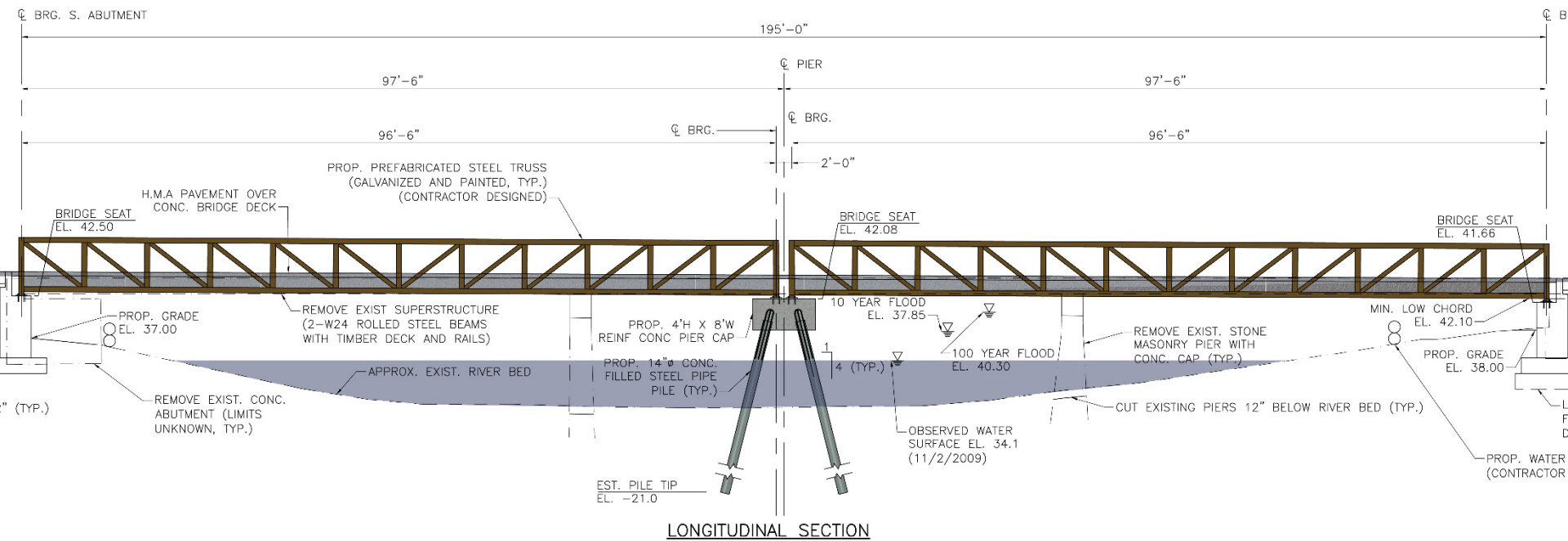
Newton-Weston Multi-use
Trail Connection Project



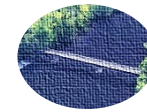
Proposed Bridge Design



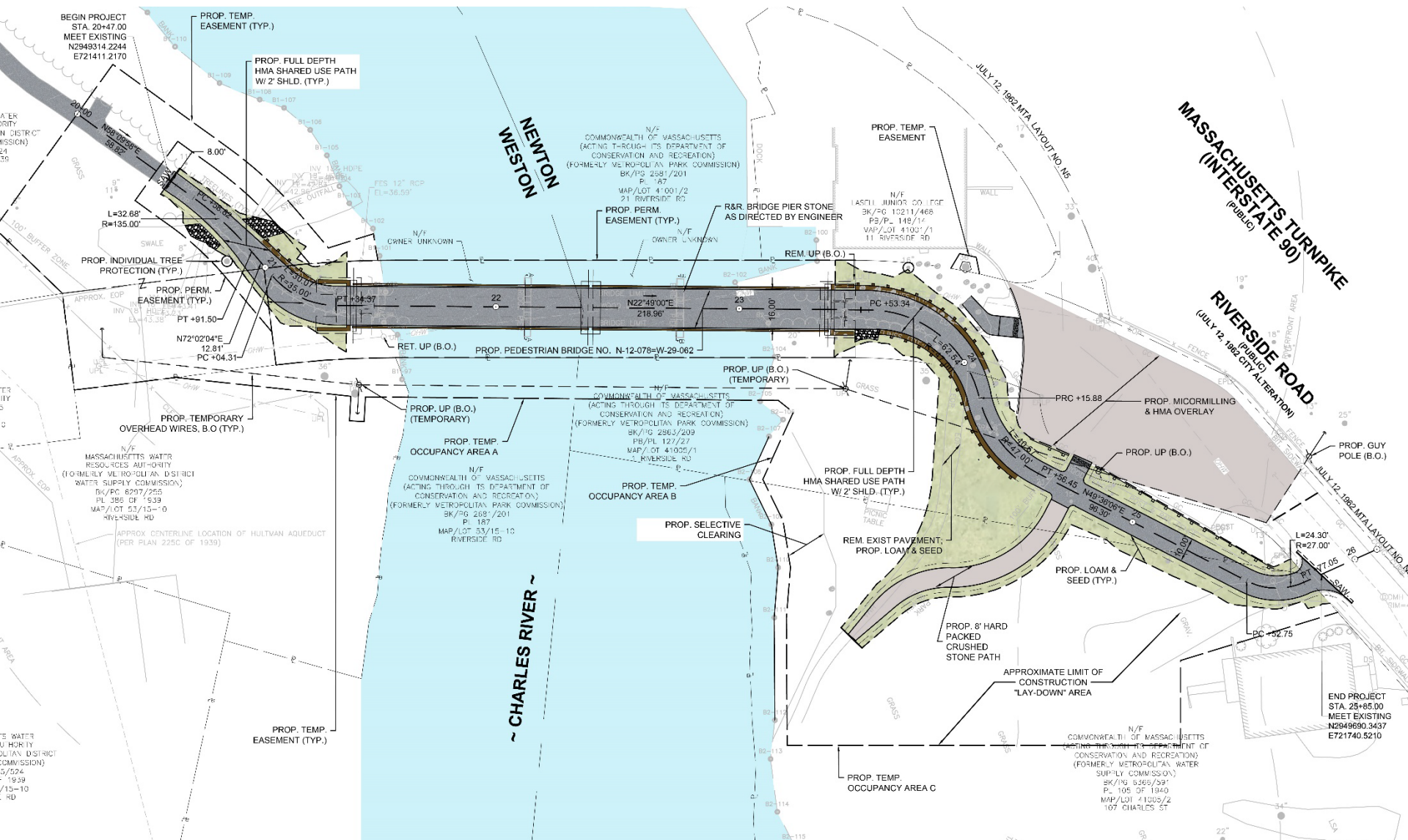
Newton-Weston Multi-use
Trail Connection Project

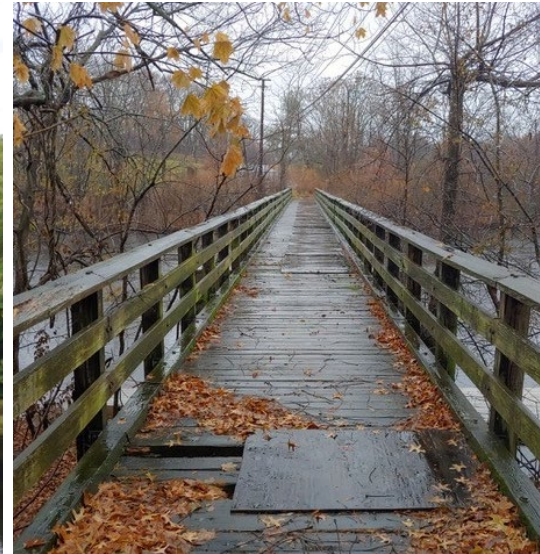
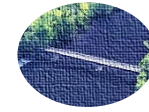


Proposed Construction Plan

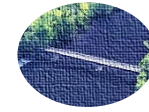


Newton-Weston Multi-use
Trail Connection Project

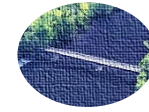




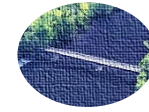
CONSTRUCTION AND SCHEDULE



- Work during daytime
- Maintain access to Stoller Boathouse
- DCR property will be used for construction staging
- Restore landscaping at completion
- No roadway traffic impacts

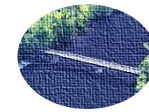


- Requires some small temporary and permanent easements in Newton and Weston
- Only one easement on private property for tree protection



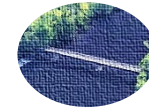
- Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act
Environmental Notification Form (ENF)
- Wetlands Protection Act Notice of Intent (NOI)
- Clean Water Act - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Permitting
- Chapter 91
- Coast Guard Permit
- Section 404 General Permit (USACE)

Anticipated Schedule



Newton-Weston Multi-use
Trail Connection Project

- **Design: 2018 - 2021**
- **Advertisement: Spring 2021**
- **Construction Begins: Fall 2021**
- **Project Completion: 2023**



Share your feedback on the proposed design for the Boathouse Pedestrian Bridge Replacement Project:

- Share your comments tonight
- Submit a comment form by mail
- Email Michael Trepanier at michael.trepanier@dot.state.ma.us

If you have questions or would like more information about the project, contact:

- Nate Lash at nlash@hshassoc.com or (617)-482-7080 x282