massDOT
Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Highway Division

CITY of BOSTON

North Washington Street Bridge Replacement Project

Virtual Public Information Meeting

October 18, 2022 I 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Project File No. 604173

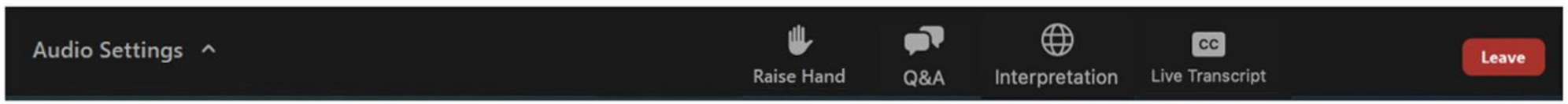
Zoom Webinar Controls for 10/18 Meeting

- Listen in **Spanish and Mandarin**
- 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: 824-4426-5958
- Closed captioning automatically generated by Zoom

Live Transcript

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

+1-888-799-9666



Public Meeting Notes and Procedures

Public record

- 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.
- All parts of this meeting are considered public record.
- If you are not comfortable being recorded, please refrain from using the Q&A feature or you may choose to excuse yourself from the meeting. Information from this meeting will be posted on Mass.gov website.

Important notes

- Your microphone and webcam are automatically disabled upon entering the meeting.
- This 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.

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

01 Welcome & Introduction

02 Project Status

03 Updated Timeline

04 Traffic Management

05 Discussion

Panel

- Jim O'Leary – MassDOT District 6
- Ed Baumann – Alfred Benesch & Co. (Bridge Designer)
- Chris Barry – JF White Contracting
- Jeffery Paul – JRP Consulting Services
- Ben Sun – City of Boston DPW
- Bill Conroy – BTD
- Sgt. Paul Chevrette – Boston Police

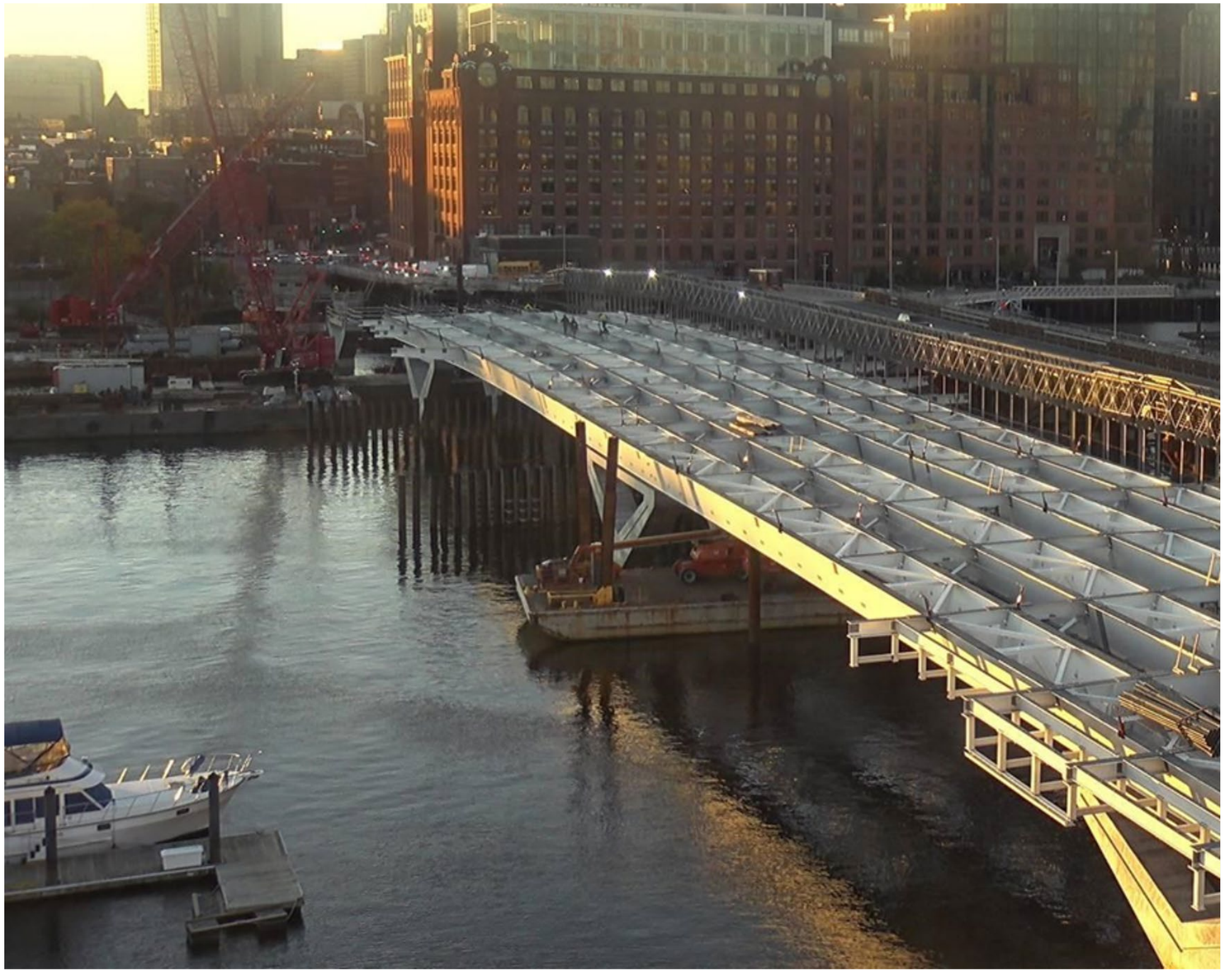
Producers

- Leah Grodstein - MassDOT
- Christopher Klem - MassDOT
- Roy Kirwa – MassDOT

Interpreters

- Susana Carrella – Spanish
- Yan Wu – Mandarin
- Qianxue Jin - Mandarin

Project Status



What We Have Done

- Piers for new bridge complete
- First elements of new bridge being built at City Square
- 60% of steel erected
- Structural work paused after MassDOT inspectors discovered 52 cracked welds at several connection points

What Have We Done This Past Year?

Sept
2021

Cracked welds identified

Oct
2021

Crack welds found at fabrication facility

Structural work on bridge paused

Nov
2021

Samples of cracked welds sent for testing

Dec
2021

Calculations verifying safety of erected steel submitted

Draft Root Cause Analysis submitted

Jan
2022

Final Root Cause Analysis submitted

Investigation launched to find other cracked welds

Feb – Aug
2022

Corrective action plan submitted, reviewed, and tested

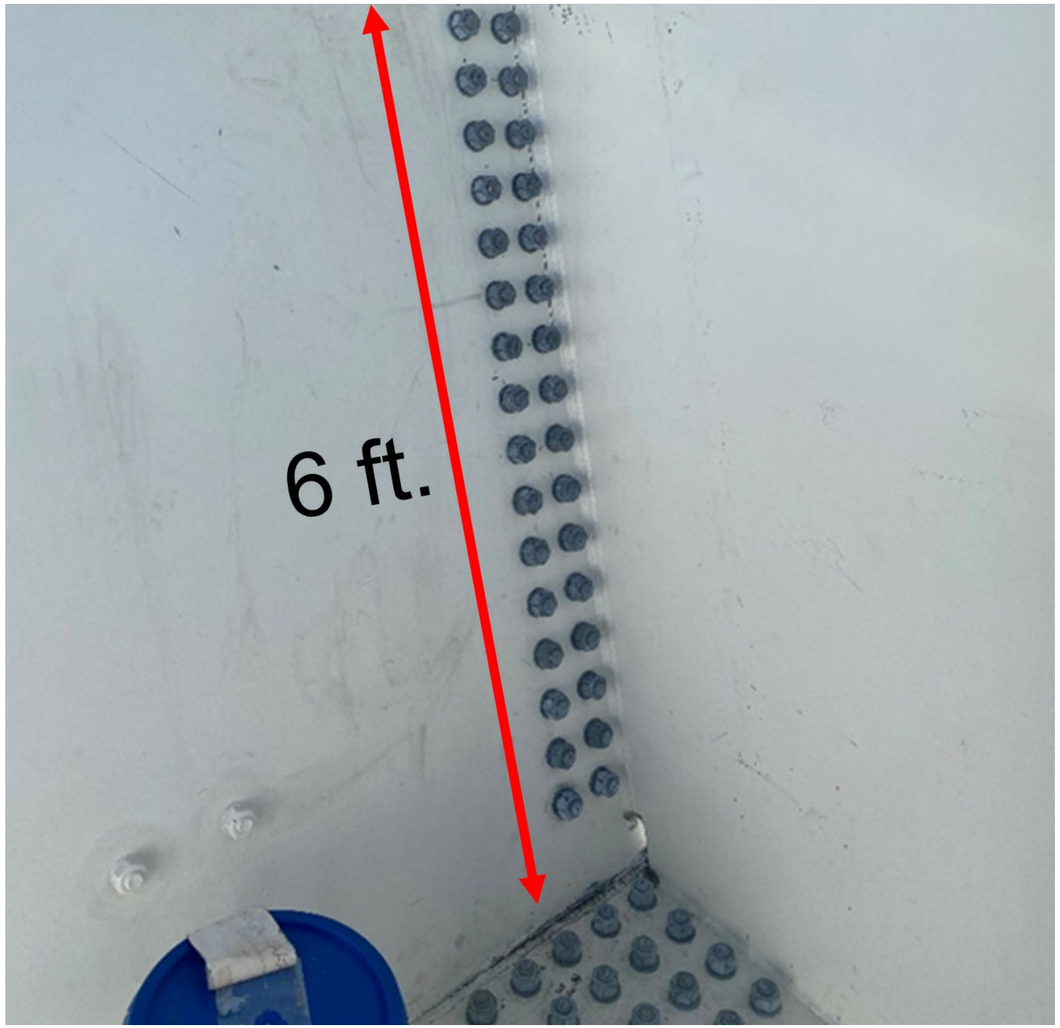
Sept
2022

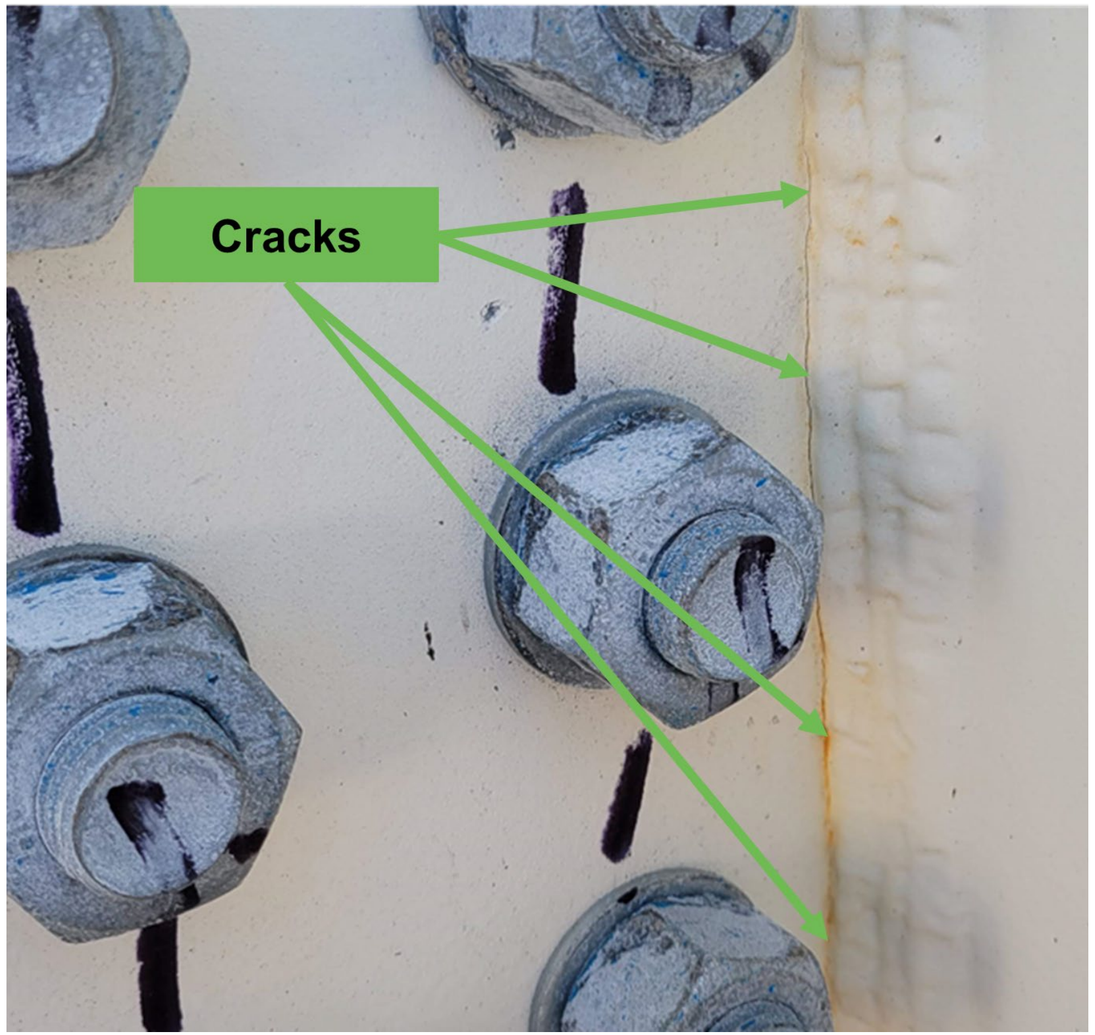
Corrective action implementation starts – currently underway

Oct
2022

Public Information Meetings

What Caused The Pause?

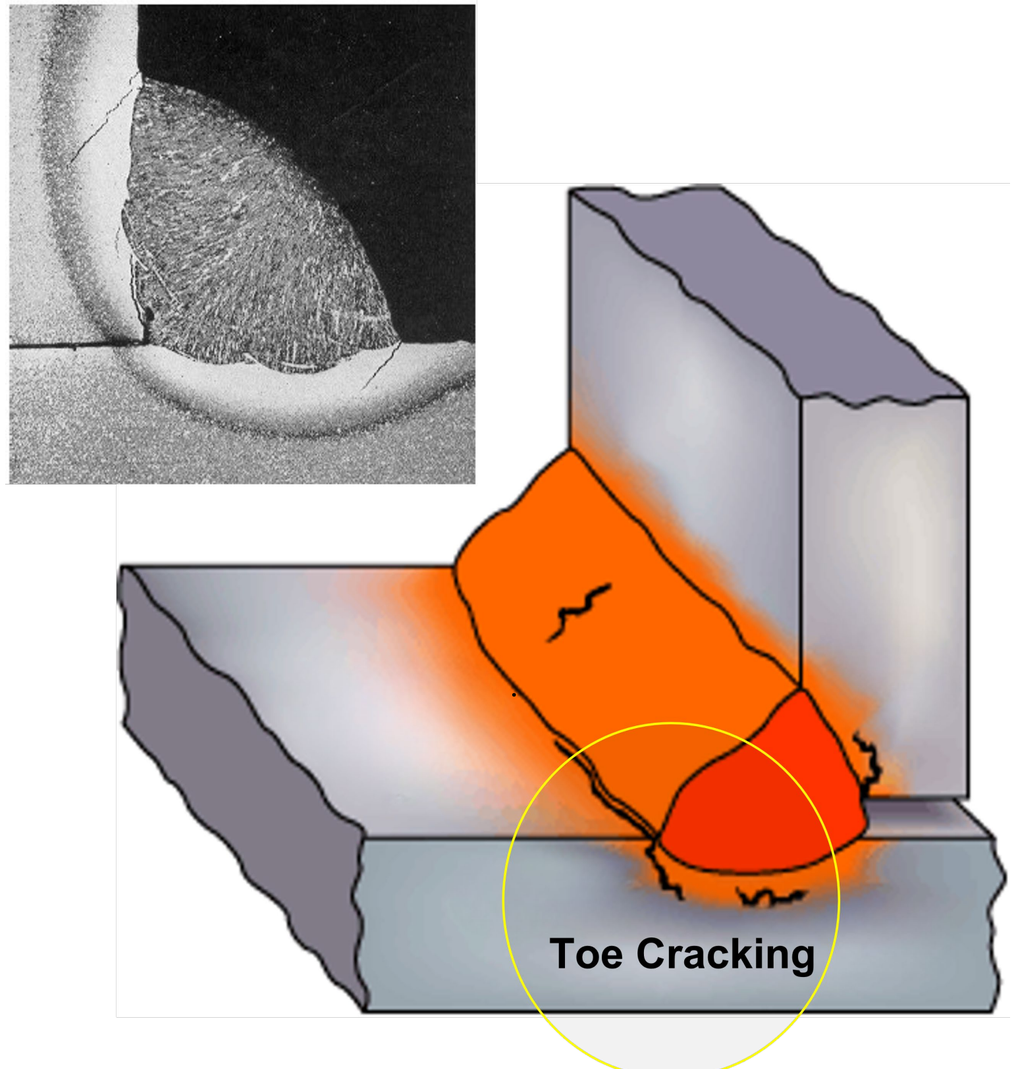




Example Crack

Why Are These Small Cracks So Serious and Caused Such A Long Delay?

- Known as Toe Cracking
- Small hairline cracks that expand over time
- Found in the field and at the fabricator
- Generally, appears a few days after fabrication and grows over time
- If not addressed steel would have greatly reduced strength capacity and structural integrity



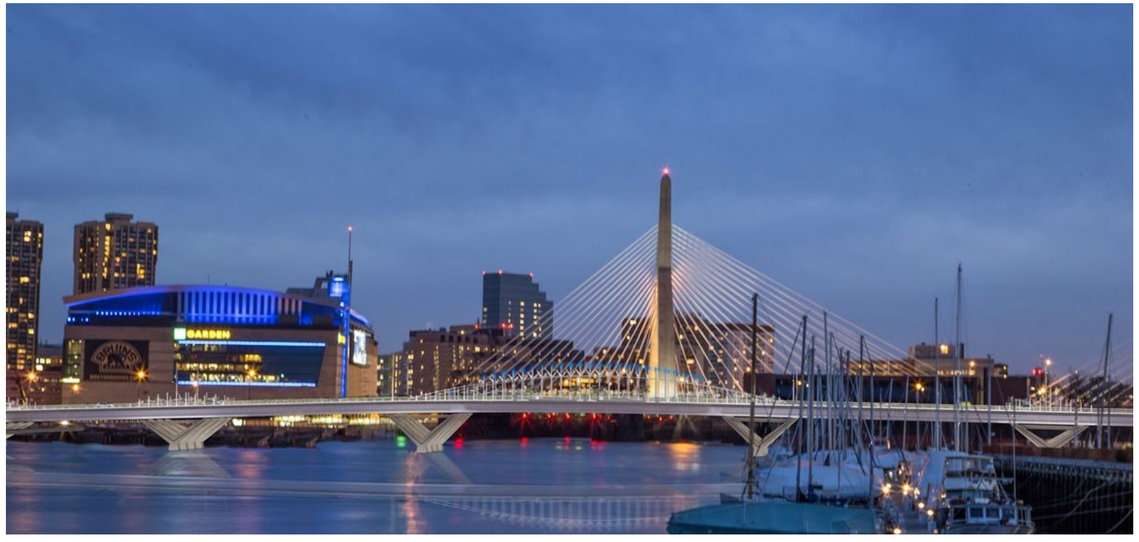
Corrective Action Plan

- MassDOT's investigation identified and mapped out 192 locations of welded connection points that are cracked or at risk of cracking
- The corrective action plan involves mapping/testing the cracks, removing paint from the cracks, repairing cracks if needed, heat treating, and repainting each of the 192 identified locations
- For the 52 identified connection points with cracks, these connection points are being rewelded in addition to above corrective actions

Updated Project Timeline

Current Estimated Project Milestones

- Traffic switch to new bridge: December 2023
- Fully open to all users: December 2024
- Contract Complete: March 2025



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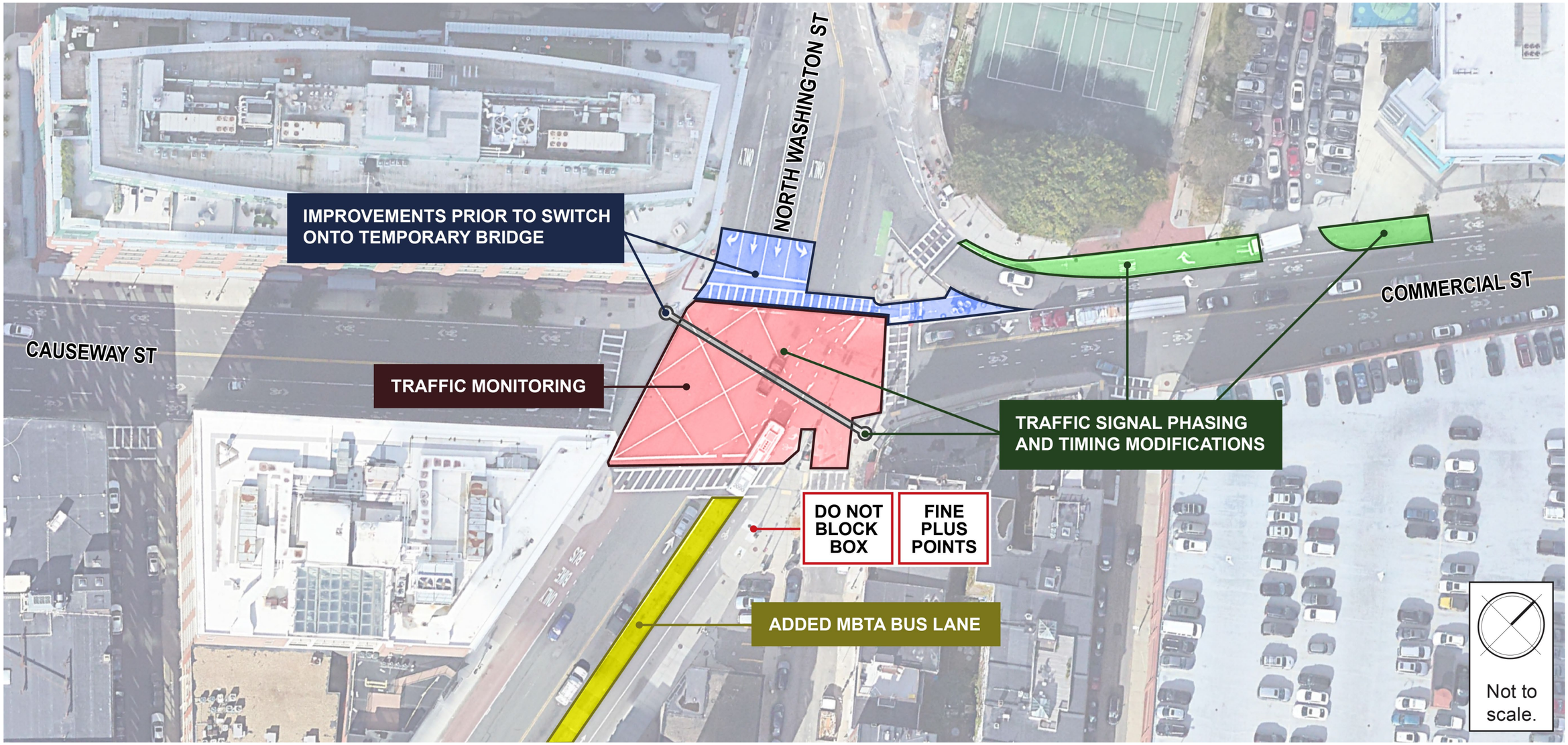
Traffic Management

Traffic Improvements and Monitoring at Keany Square



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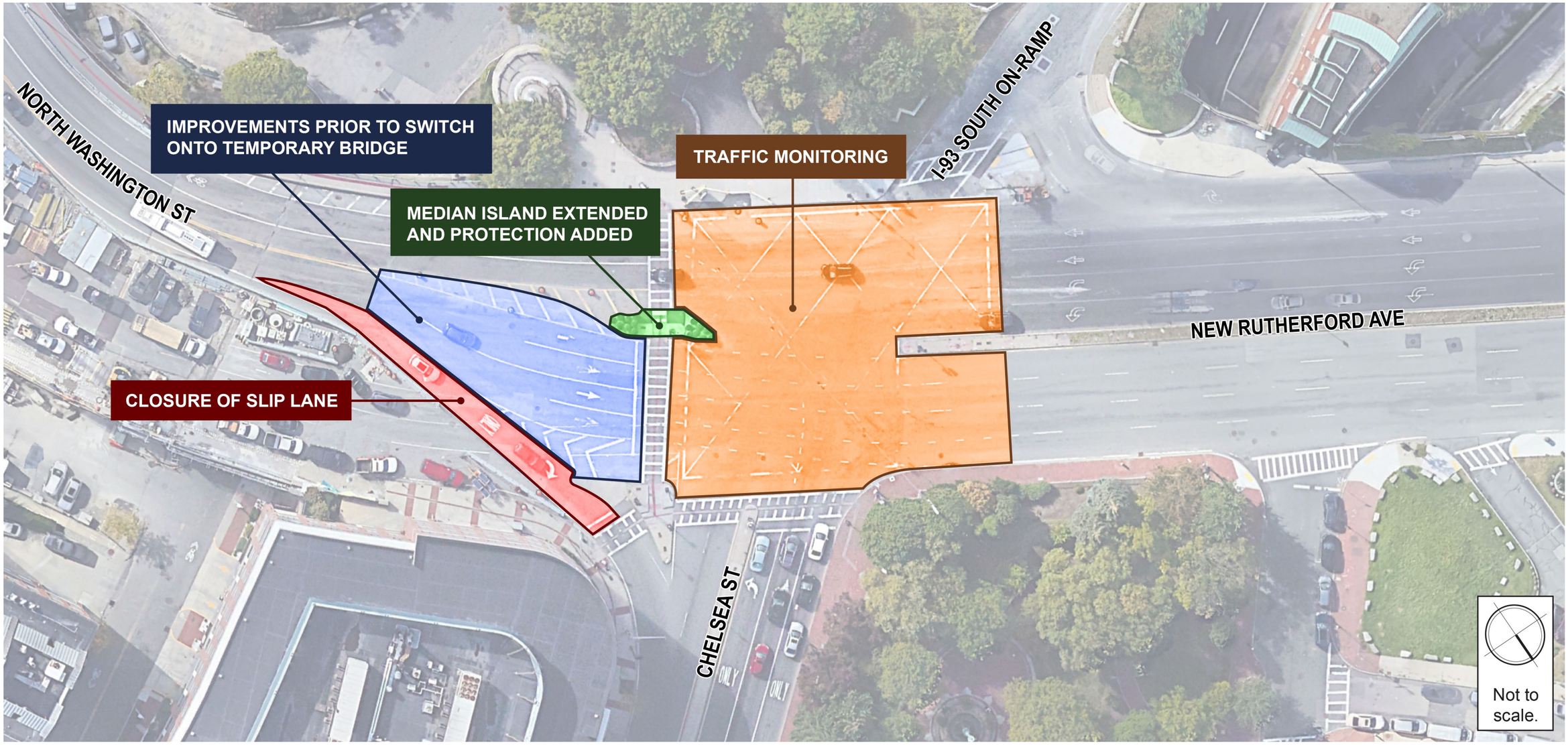
Traffic Improvements and Monitoring at City Square



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Estimated Project Schedule

1

December 2022

Estimated completion of corrective action repairs

2

January 2023

Deck formwork resumes

3

March 2023

Steel installation work resumes

4

April 2023

Work installing concrete deck and sidewalk begins

5

December 2023

3 lanes of traffic shifted to new bridge

Demolition of temporary will commence

How will we keep Public informed?

How to Connect with the North Washington St. Project

To receive project updates, attend public information meetings, and get more information on the project, contact the team:

- Project email:
  NorthWashingtonStreet@dot.state.ma.us

- Project Website:
  mass.gov/north-washington-street-bridge-replacement

QR code to
project website

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 Sumner 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