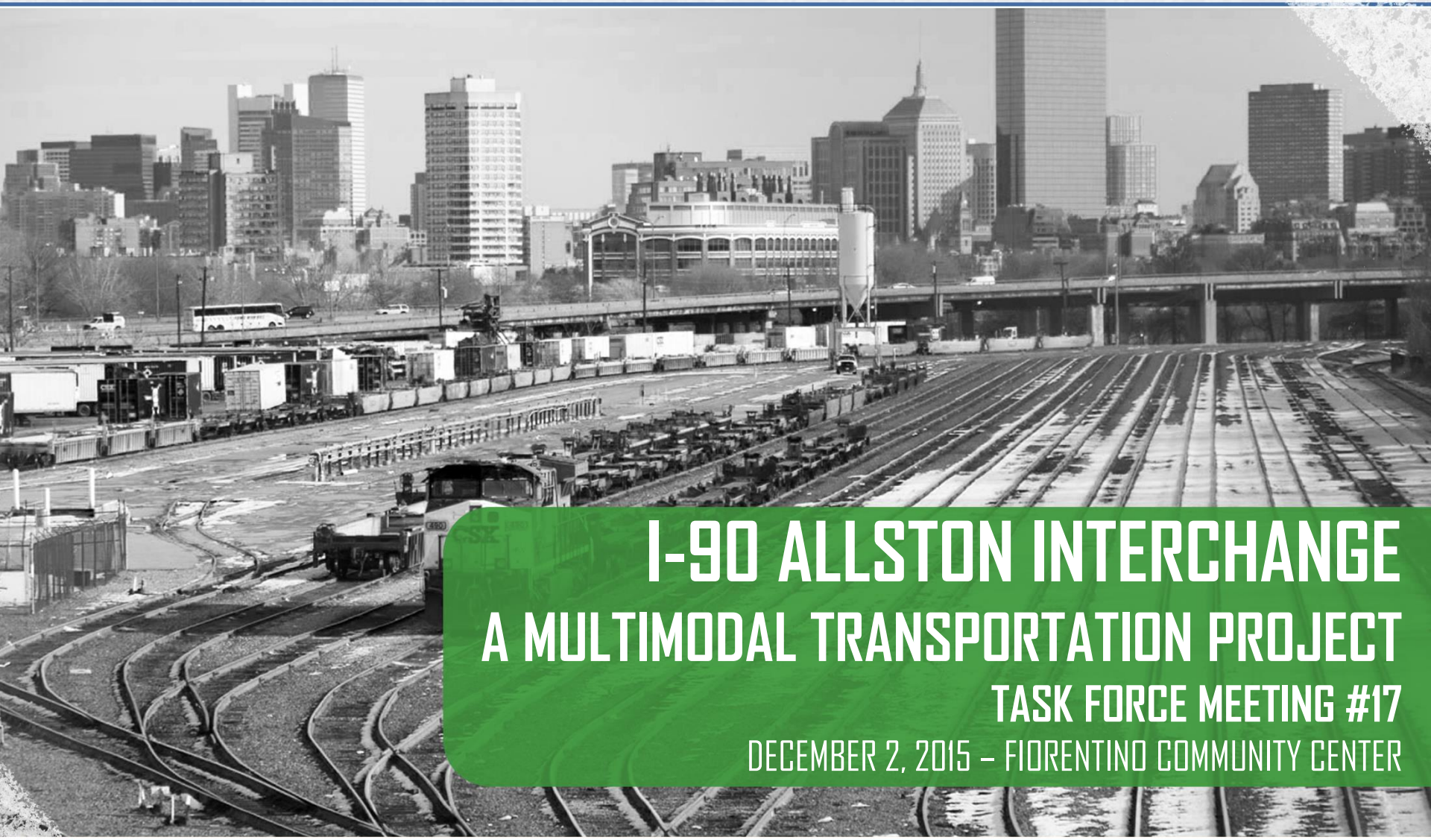


I-90 ALLSTON INTERCHANGE

A MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECT

TASK FORCE MEETING #17

DECEMBER 2, 2015 – FIORENTINO COMMUNITY CENTER

Meeting Agenda

- MEPA Document Approach
- At-Grade Concepts Review by HNTB
- Upcoming Meetings
- Discussion

MEPA Document Approach

Three Concepts to be described in Draft Environmental Impact Report

- Refined Concept 3K
- ABC
- Amateur Planner

All Three Concepts to be Compared Using an Evaluation Matrix

	GROUP 3 - URBAN TYPE									
	OPTION 3A	OPTION 3B	OPTION 3C	OPTION 3D	OPTION 3E	OPTION 3F	OPTION 3G	OPTION 3H	OPTION 3I	OPTION 3J
Traffic Operation										
Safety	⊖	⊖	⊖	⊖	⊖	⊕	⊖	⊕	⊕	⊕
Travel Time/LOS	○	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕
Intersection Connectivity	○	○	○	○	○	⊕	○	○	⊕	⊕
Multi-Modal Connectivity										
Safety	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	○	⊕	⊕	○	⊕	⊕
Pedestrian Routes	⊕	○	○	○	⊖	⊕	○	○	⊕	⊕
Bicycle Routes	⊕	○	○	○	⊖	⊕	○	○	⊕	⊕
Bus/Rail Access	⊕	⊖	○	○	○	⊕	○	⊕	⊕	⊕
Streetscape	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Environmental										
Drainage and Stormwater	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊖	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕
Historic Impacts	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Wetlands	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Noise	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊖	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕
Parks/Open Space	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Contaminated Soils	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕
Air Quality	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕
Land Use										
Accommodate Future Development	⊕	⊕	⊖	⊖	○	⊕	○	○	⊕	⊕
Community Cohesion	⊖	⊖	⊖	⊕	○	⊕	○	⊕	⊕	⊕
Construction										
Logistics	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Construction Phase Impacts	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Cost/Schedule										
Construction Cost	○	○	○	○	○	⊖	○	○	⊖	○
Construction Schedule	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Maintenance/Life Cycle Cost	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	○	⊕	○	⊕	⊕	⊕
Meets Purpose & Need	○	⊖	⊖	⊕	○	⊕	○	○	⊕	⊕

Positive ⊕ Neutral ○ Negative ⊖

Next Steps under Development

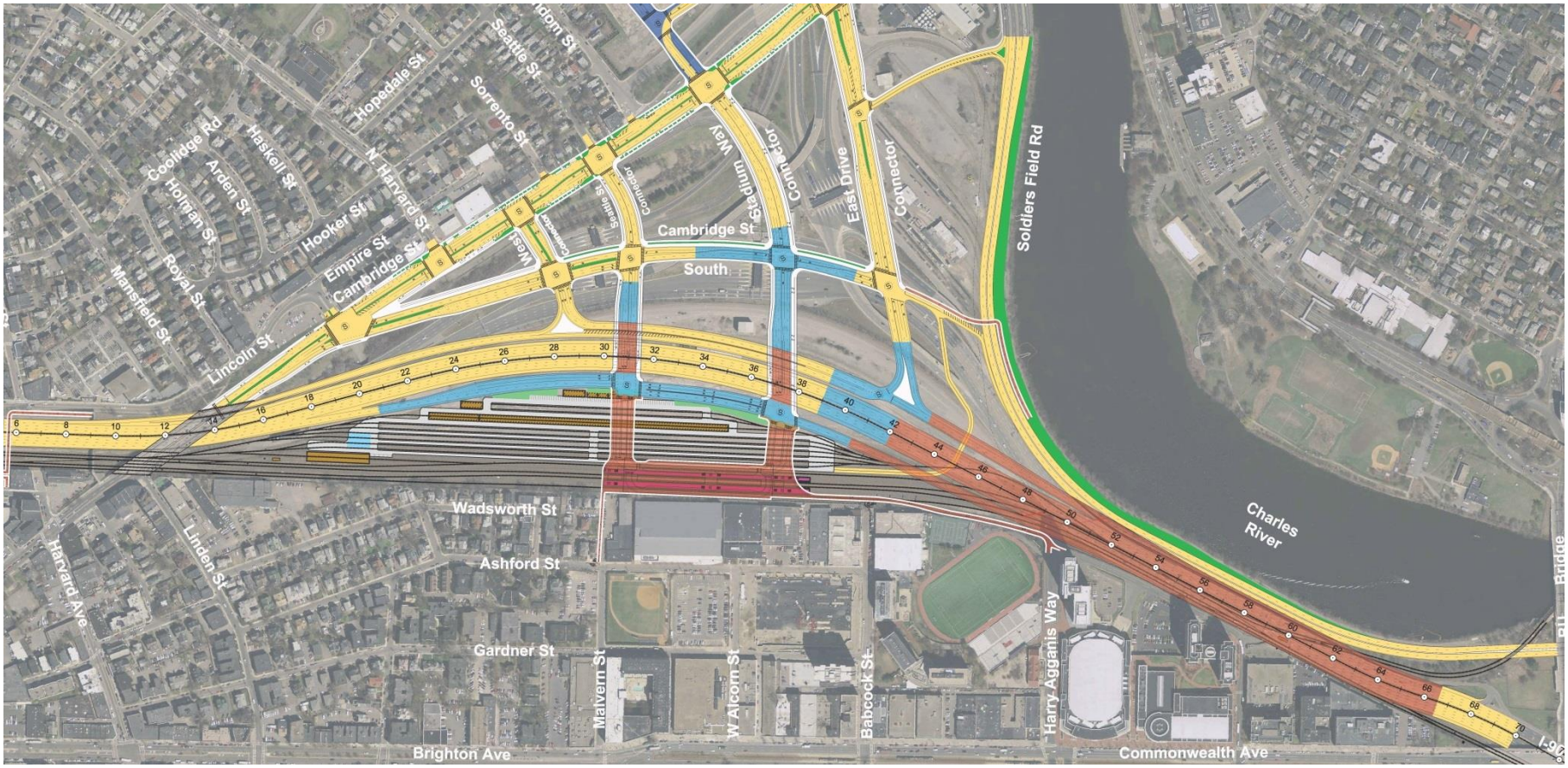
- Draft EIR Outline
- Draft EIR Schedule with Task Force Meetings at key milestones

Allston Interchange Feasibility Study

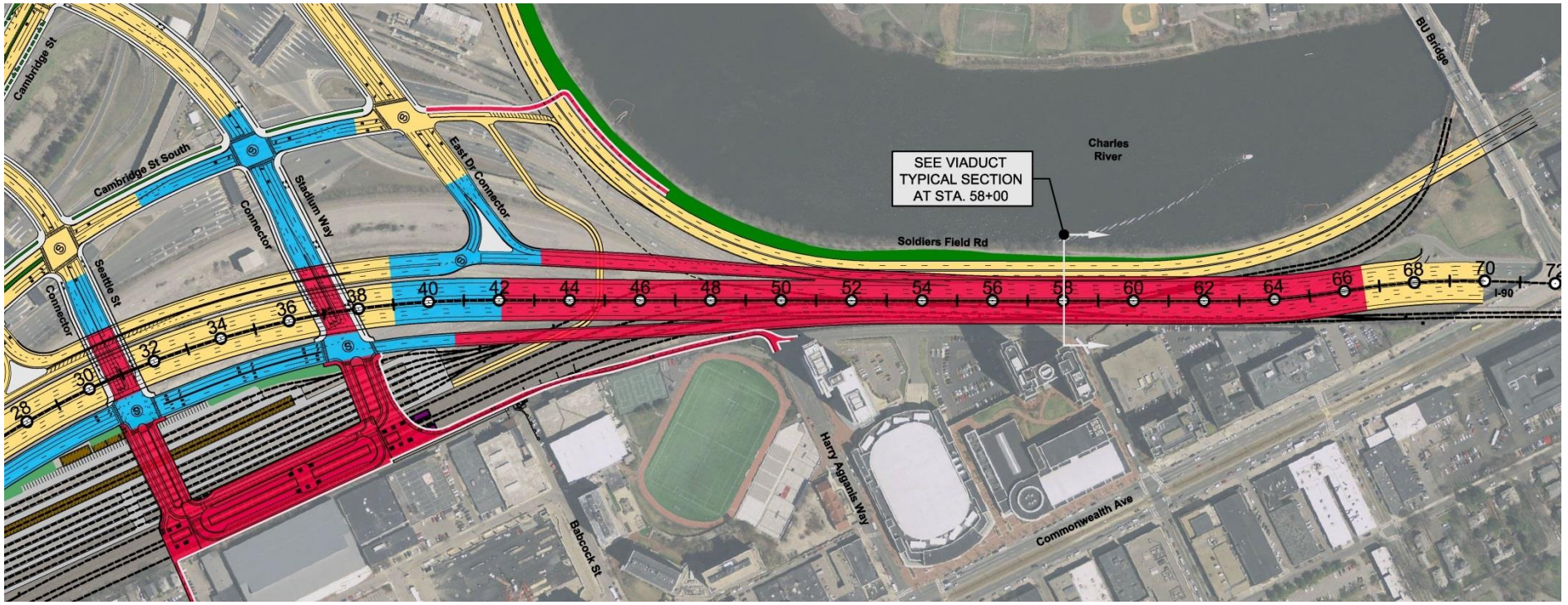
Scope of Work

- Engineering & Environmental Analysis
  - Highway/Structural Engineering
  - Railroad Engineering
  - Environmental Approvals & Permits
- Interstate 90 Alternatives - “the Throat”
  - Concept 3J3/3K4 – highway on viaduct
  - A Better City (ABC) - all modes at grade
  - Amateur Planner - Grand Junction RR on viaduct
- Construction Staging
- Relative cost comparison

“3K4” Concept

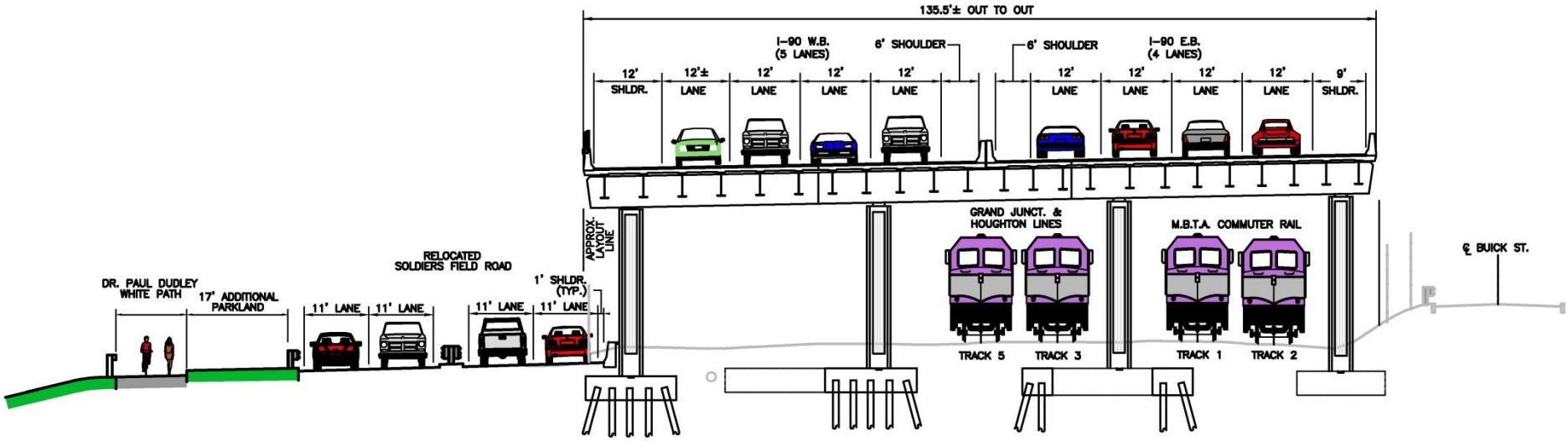

Hopedale St
Seattle St
Sorrento St
Coolidge Rd
Holman St
Arden St
Haskell St
N Harvard St
Hooker St
Empire St
Cambridge St
Mansfield St
Royal St
Lincoln St
Seattle St
Connector
Cambridge St
South
Stadium Way
Connector
East Drive
Connector
Soldiers Field Rd
Charles River
Wadsworth St
Ashford St
Gardner St
Harvard Ave
Linden St
Malvern St
W Alcom St
Babcock St
Harry Agganis Way
Brighton Ave
Commonwealth Ave

3K4 Concept – in “throat” area



- I-90 Elevated
- 2,500 foot elevated highway (viaduct)
- Grand Junction, Houghton Chemical, and Worcester Commuter Rail remain at-grade
- Houghton Chemical connection maintained at-grade (similar to exist.)
- Soldiers Field Road shifted underneath elevated I-90 to provide additional parkland

3K4 Concept - Typical Section



PDW Path

- 12-ft wide path
- 17-ft of additional parkland

Soldiers Field Road

- 11-ft travel lanes
- 1-ft shoulders
- 4-ft median

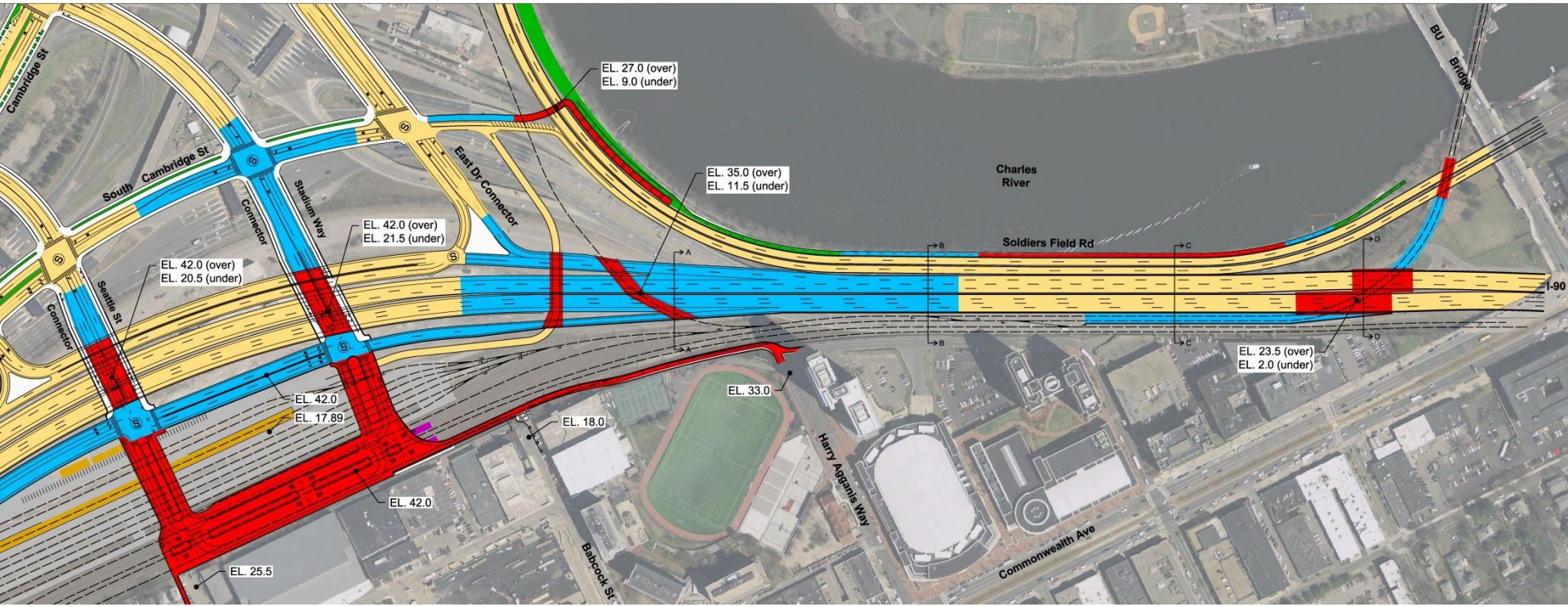
I-90

- 12-ft travel lanes
- 6-ft left shldrs
- 9-ft EB right shldr
- 12-ft WB right shldr
- 3-ft median

Rail

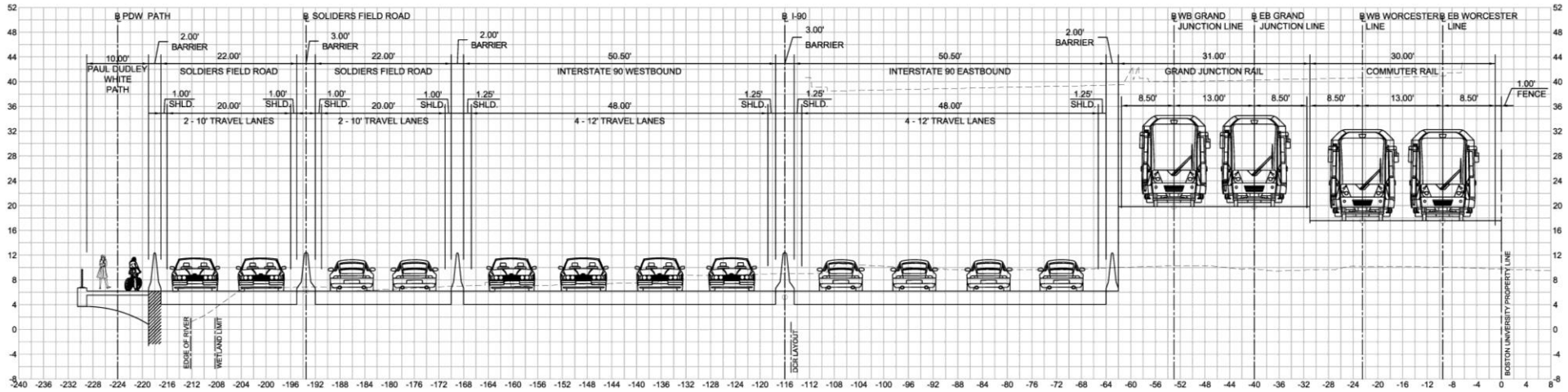
- 2 – Grand Junction
  (1 – Houghton Chem)
- 2 - Worcester

ABC Concept



- I-90 at Grade
- Corridor widened into Charles River
- 1,100 foot at-grade highway
- 350 foot Grand Junction flyover
- 1,400 foot retained fill highway, 20-25 feet tall (Houghton connection)
- 1,500 feet of depressed railroad

ABC Concept - Section at Pinch Point



PDW Path

- 10-ft wide path
- Cantilever structure

Soldiers Field Road

- 10-ft travel lanes
- 1-ft shoulders
- 3-ft median

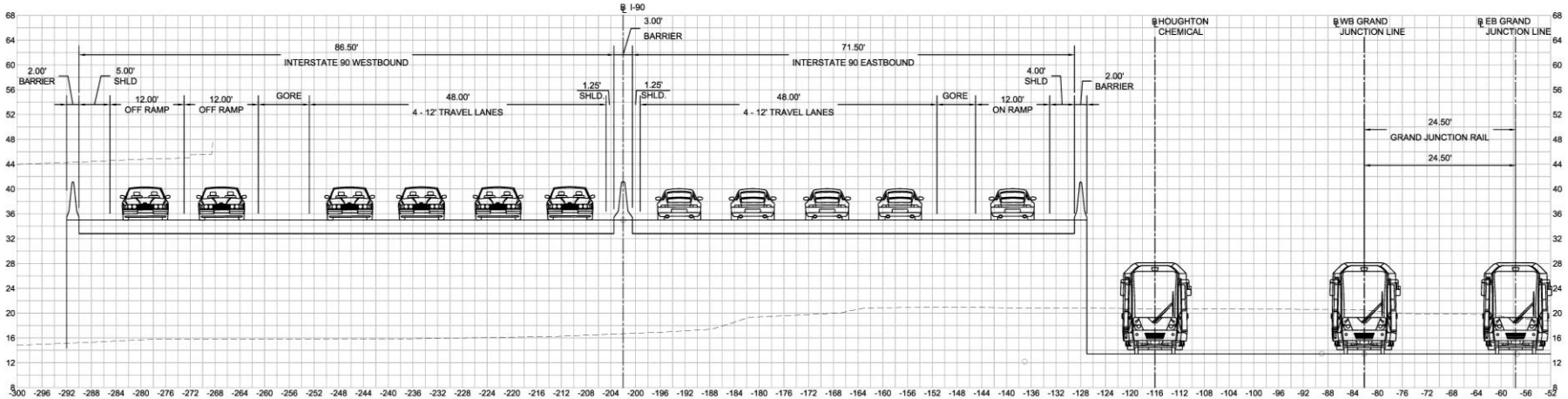
I-90

- 12-ft travel lanes
- 1.25-ft shoulders
- 3-ft median

Rail

- 2 – Grand Junction
- 2 - Worcester

ABC Concept – at Retained Fill Structure



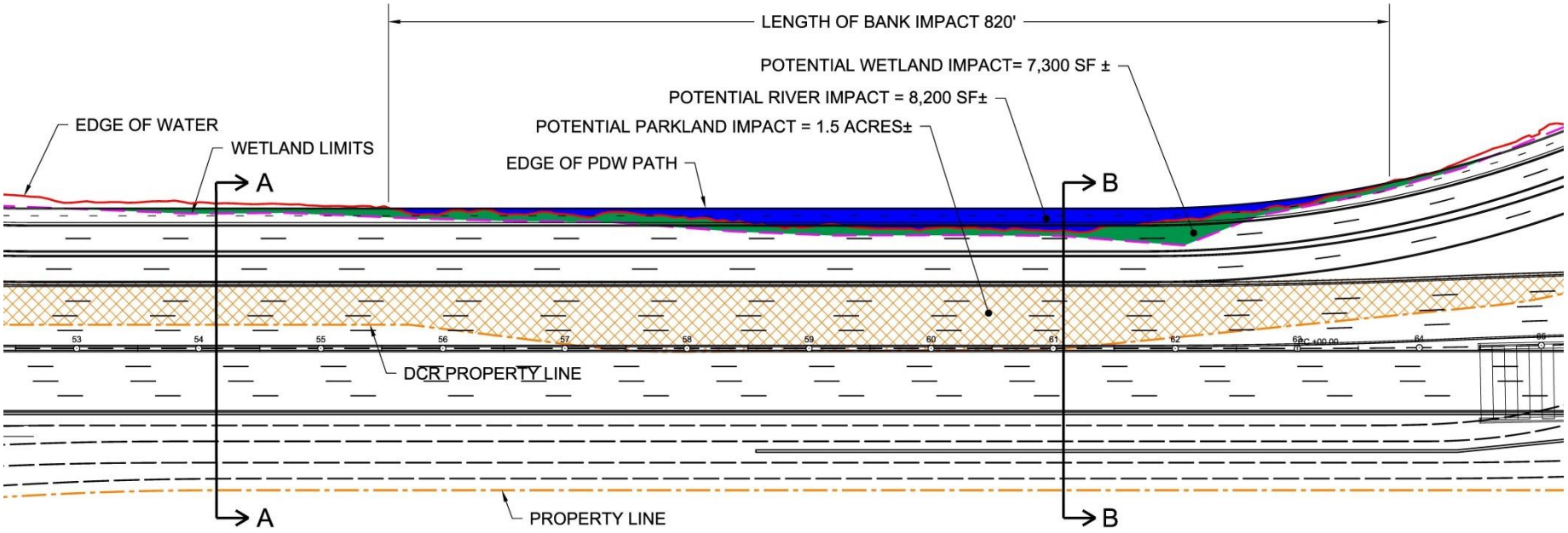
Retained Fill Structure

- Approx. 25’ high at crest
- Approx. 1,400’ long

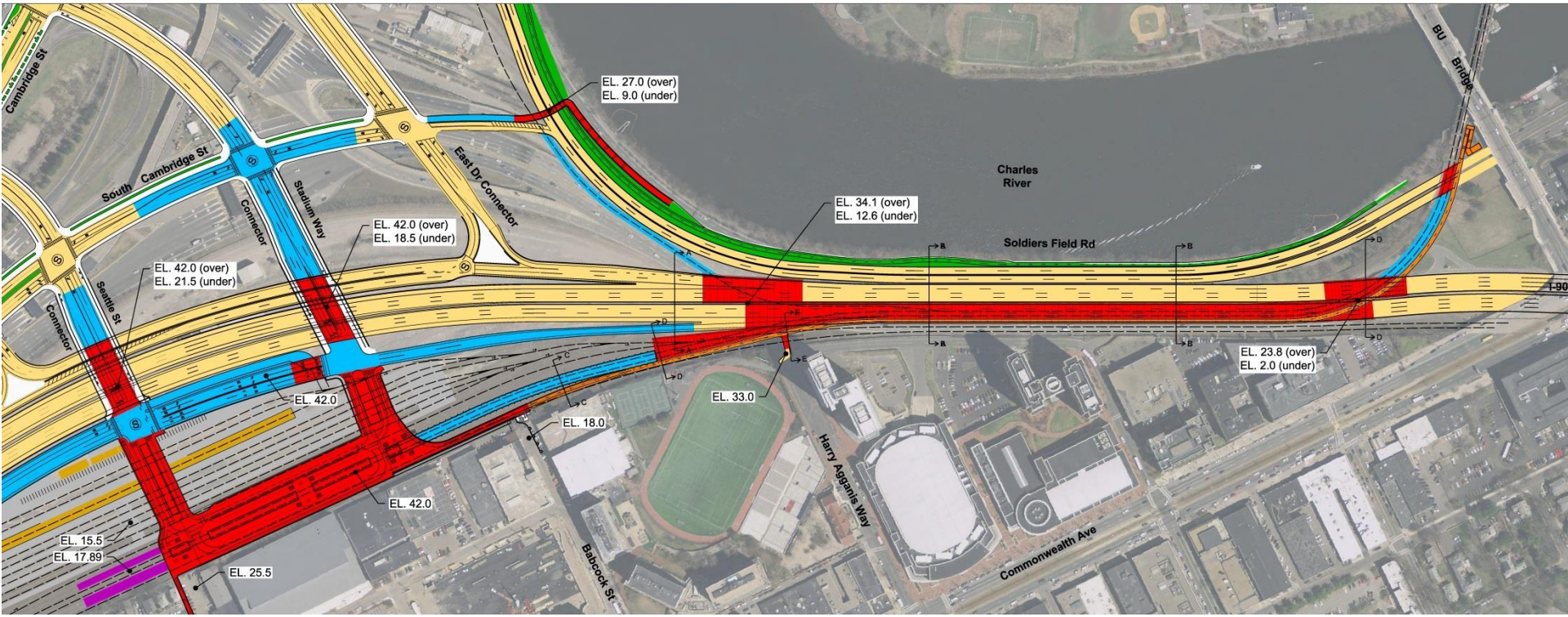
Lowering of RR

- Approx. 8’ deep max.
- Approx. 1,500’ long

Resource Impacts - ABC

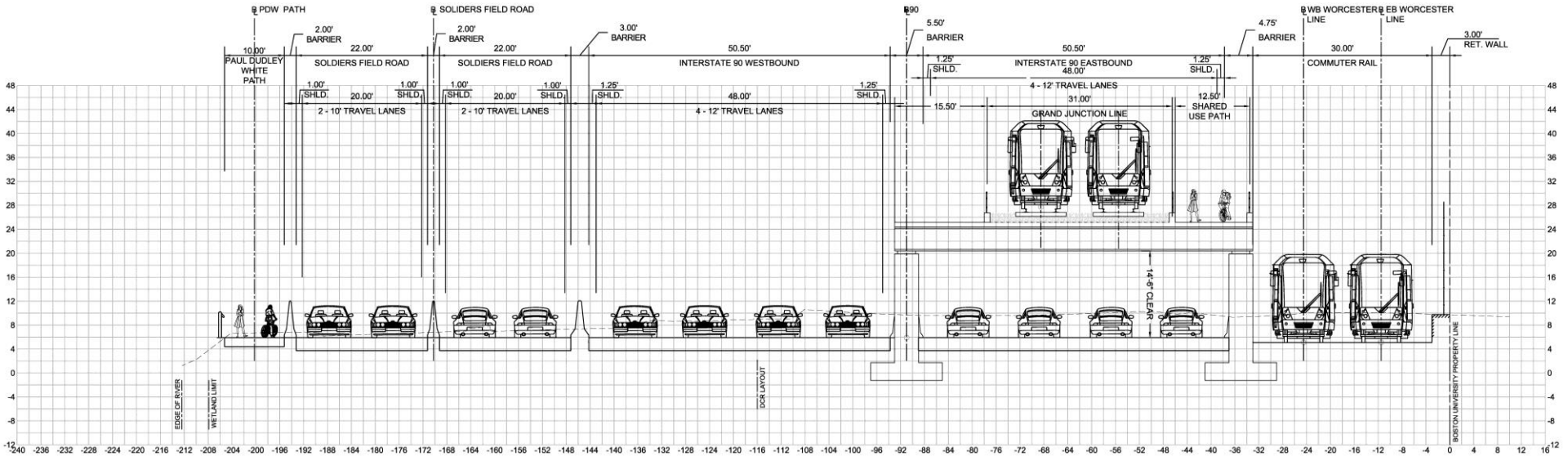


Amateur Planner Concept



- I-90 at Grade
- Existing corridor width maintained
- 2,500 foot at-grade highway
- 2,100 foot Grand Junction viaduct
- 2,000 feet of depressed commuter rail
- 3,200 foot “People’s Pike” atop Grand Junction viaduct

Amateur Planner Concept – Section at Pinch Point



PDW Path

- 10-ft wide path

Soldiers Field Road

- 10-ft travel lanes
- 1-ft shoulders
- 2-ft median

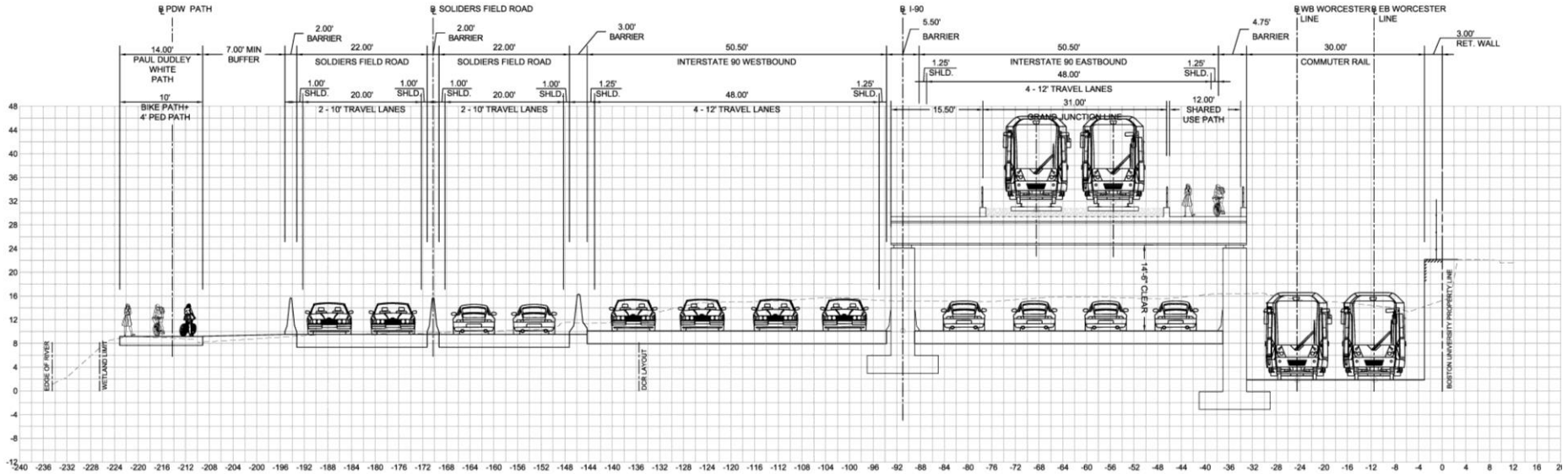
I-90

- 12-ft travel lanes
- 1.25-ft shoulders
- 5.5-ft median

Rail

- 2 – Grand Junction
- 2 - Worcester

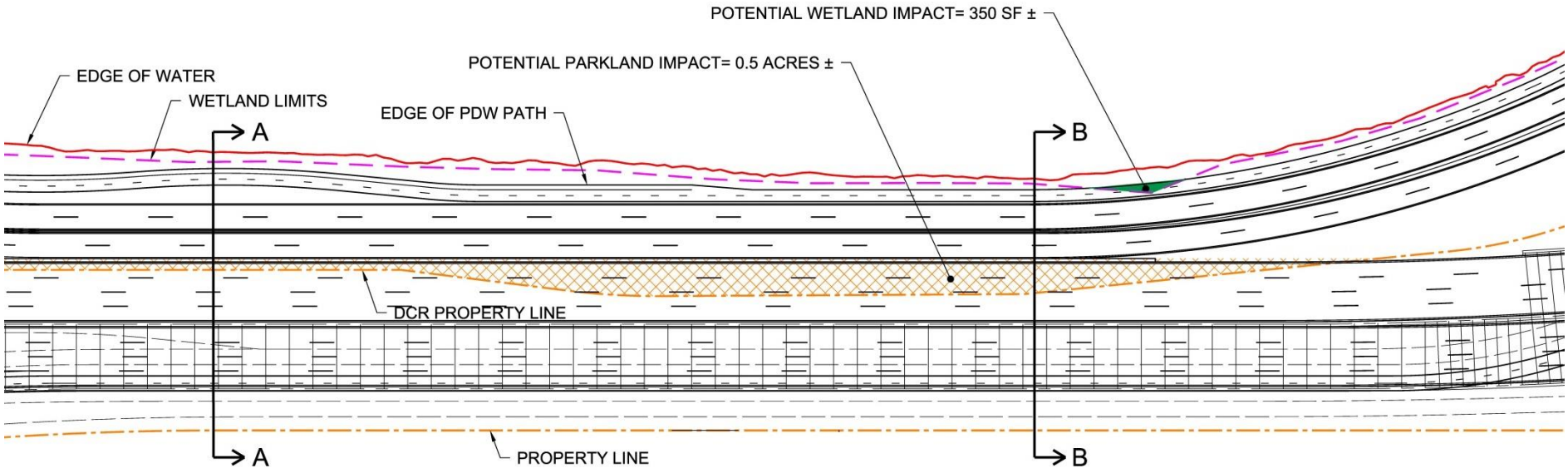
Amateur Planner Concept - Typical Section



Lowering of RR

- Approx. 14’ deep max.
- Approx. 2,000’ long

Resource Impacts - Amateur Planner



Allston Interchange Alternatives

	ABC Concept	Amateur Planner Concept	3J3 / 3K4
Highway Cross Section	No improvement to substandard section	No improvement to substandard section	Right shoulders/breakdown lanes provided
Worcester Line	2-tracks 8-ft cut (ground water issue)	2-tracks 14-ft cut (ground water issue)	2-tracks No significant changes
Grand Junction	2 tracks (future) - flyover, SFR bridge modification	2 tracks (future) - flyover, rail viaduct, SFR bridge mod.	2-tracks (future) No significant changes
Houghton Connection	Rail access with railroad underpass	Rail access on railroad structure	Rail access at grade No significant changes
West Station Platform	Maintains proposed platform location	Shift platforms 260-ft west	Maintains proposed platform location
Operations/GJ Access From South Station	All operational movements accommodated	Operations impacted	All operational movements accommodated
Worcester Line Construction Impact	12 months low speed operation 24 months intermittent impacts	12 months low speed operation 24 months intermittent impacts	24 months intermittent impacts
GJ Construction Shutdown	Minimum 3 year closure	Minimum 4 year closure	Short term outages (few weeks)
PDW Path Construction Impacts	Min. 6 month closure or detour	Min. 5 year closure or detour	No closures anticipated
Cost	Low	High	Medium
Historic/Parkland Impact – 4(f) / Article 97	Adverse effect/Not apparent least harm feasible and prudent	Adverse effect/Not apparent least harm feasible and prudent	Limited impact: cantilever viaduct over SFR and PDW bridge
Charles River Impacts - NEPA/404/WPA	Not apparent LEDPA/ WPA Variance Required	Not apparent LEDPA	Apparent LEDPA

Upcoming Meetings

Public Information Meeting, December 8th

- Review Concept 3K development
- Review West Station Refinements
- Review ABC and Amateur Planner At- Grade Concepts
- Update BRA Placemaking Study

Task Force Meeting, December 17th

- BRA/MassDOT Placemaking Review

Discussion