



ROUTE 1A



CORRIDOR STUDY

*Working Group Kick-Off Meeting
October 20, 2021*

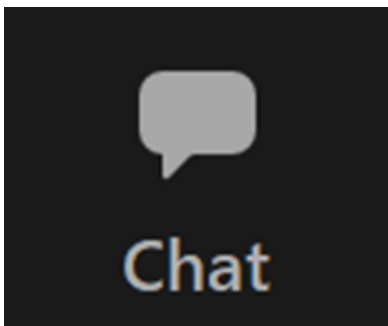
East Boston – Revere



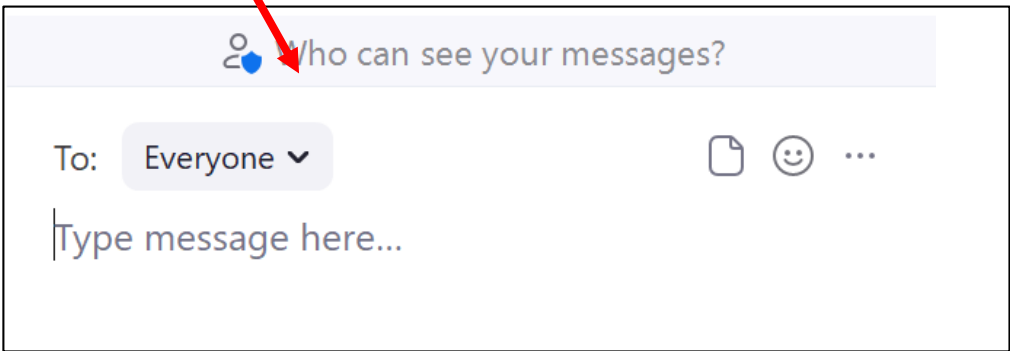
Zoom Controls



- Press the **Raise Hand** button. Please wait for the moderator to recognize you before unmuting yourself and speaking.



- Please share any typed feedback in the **Chat** feature. Be sure to select **To: Everyone**.



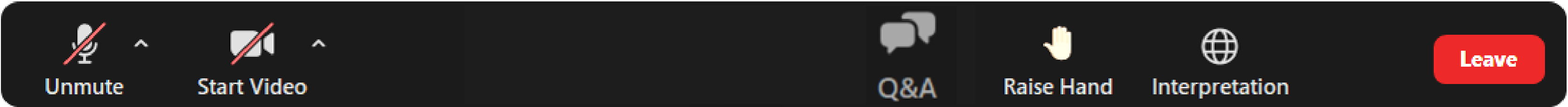
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Closed captioning automatically generated by Zoom



Agenda

- 1 Introductions
- 2 Study Background
- 3 Purpose and Need
- 4 Study Area
- 5 Public Involvement and Working Group
- 6 Study Goals
- 7 Key Issues and Opportunities
- 8 Next Steps





Study Background

Why Was This Study Initiated?

After receiving public feedback in response to a request to lease the inactive rail parcels along the Chelsea Creek, the MBTA's Fiscal and Management Control Board and MassDOT committed to conducting a study of the rail corridor.

Study Purpose and Need

The purpose of this study is to assess the potential uses of the MassDOT and MBTA rail parcels located between Route 1A and the Chelsea Creek in East Boston, and evaluate the Route 1A corridor between Bell Circle and Day Square.

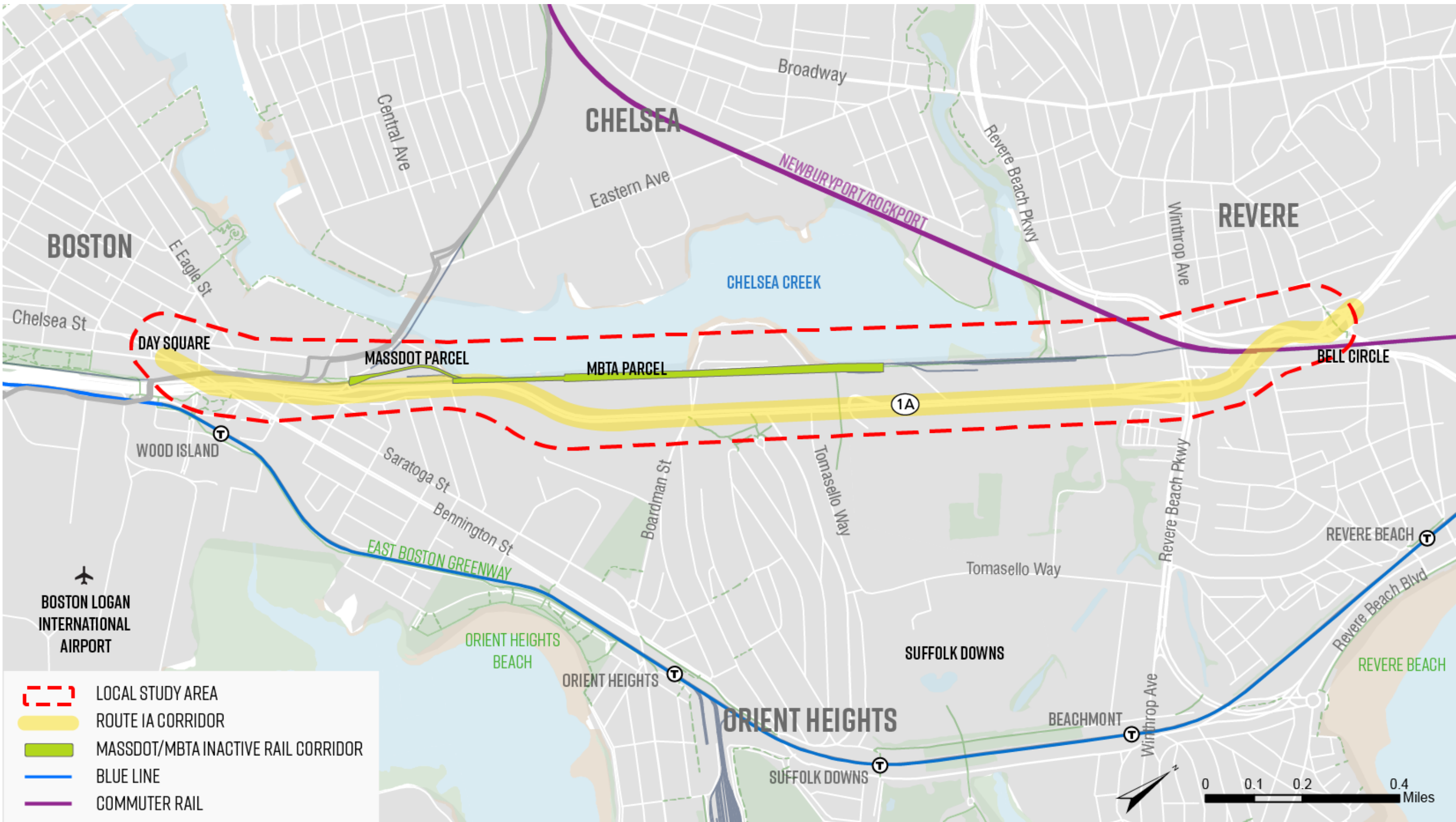
The study will identify opportunities to:

- improve walking, biking, and transit conditions
- address safety deficiencies for all users
- accommodate freight needs and increasing demand on the corridor due to new development
- mitigate potential impacts of climate change



Study Area

Our study area includes the MassDOT/MBTA owned rail parcels along the Chelsea Creek and Route 1A from Chelsea Street in East Boston to Bell Circle in Revere.



Study Process



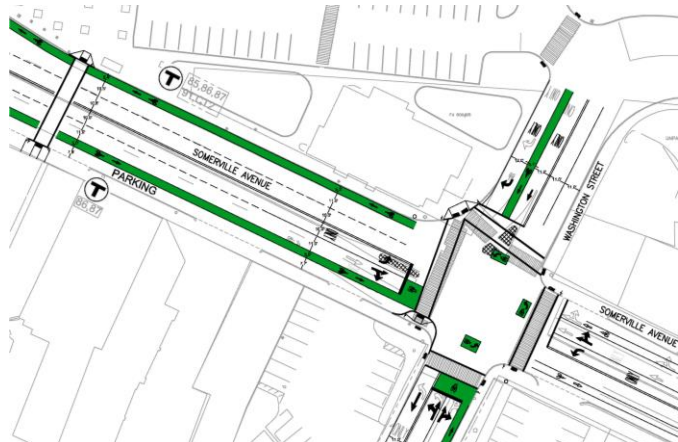
Public Involvement



- Study area
- Planning context
- Goals & objectives



- Multimodal data and analysis
- Issues and opportunities



- Infrastructure, operations, and policy improvements
- Designed to address issues and opportunities and achieve goals & objectives



- Qualitative and quantitative evaluation
- Evaluation criteria based on goals & objectives



- Short, medium and long-term recommendations
- Implementation plan
- Consensus-based

Study Schedule



Public Involvement

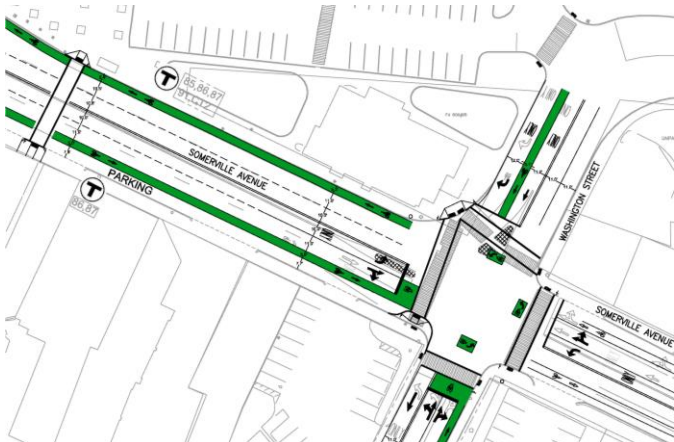
Study Context

Existing & Future Conditions

Alternatives Development

Alternatives Analysis

Findings & Recommendations



Fall 2021

Fall 2021/
Winter 2022

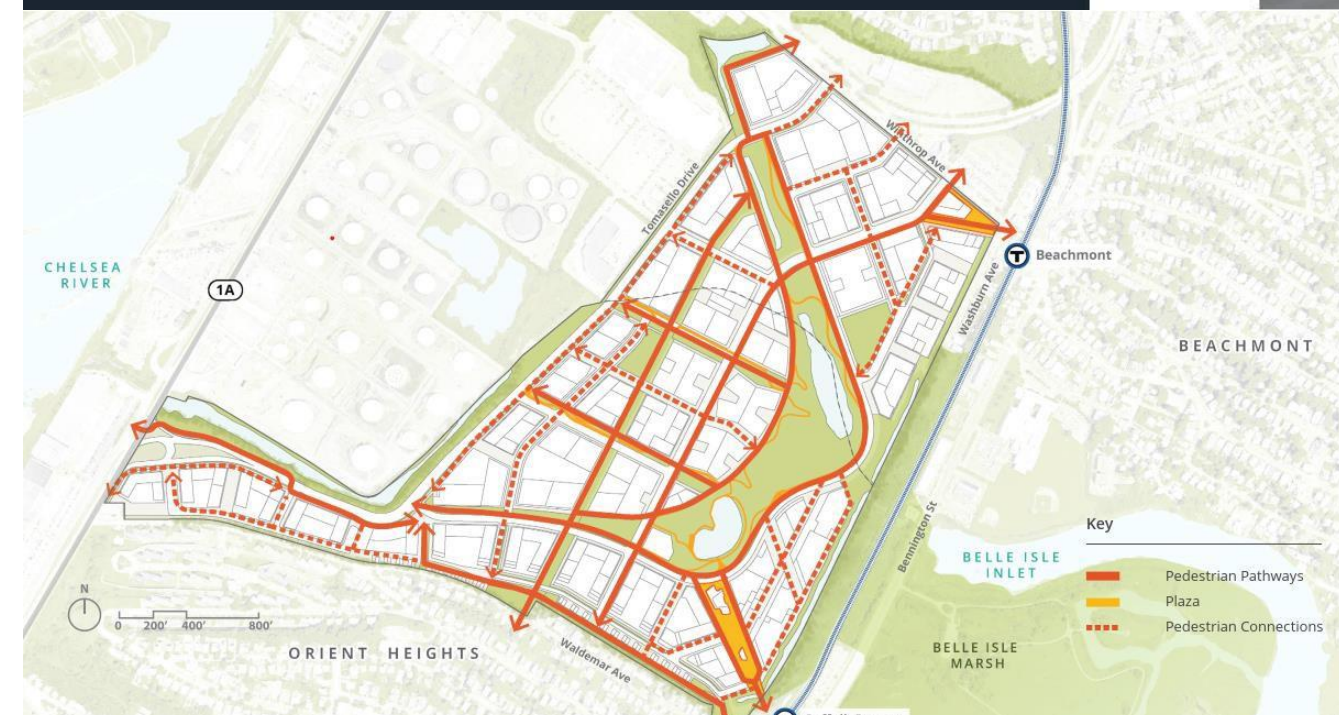
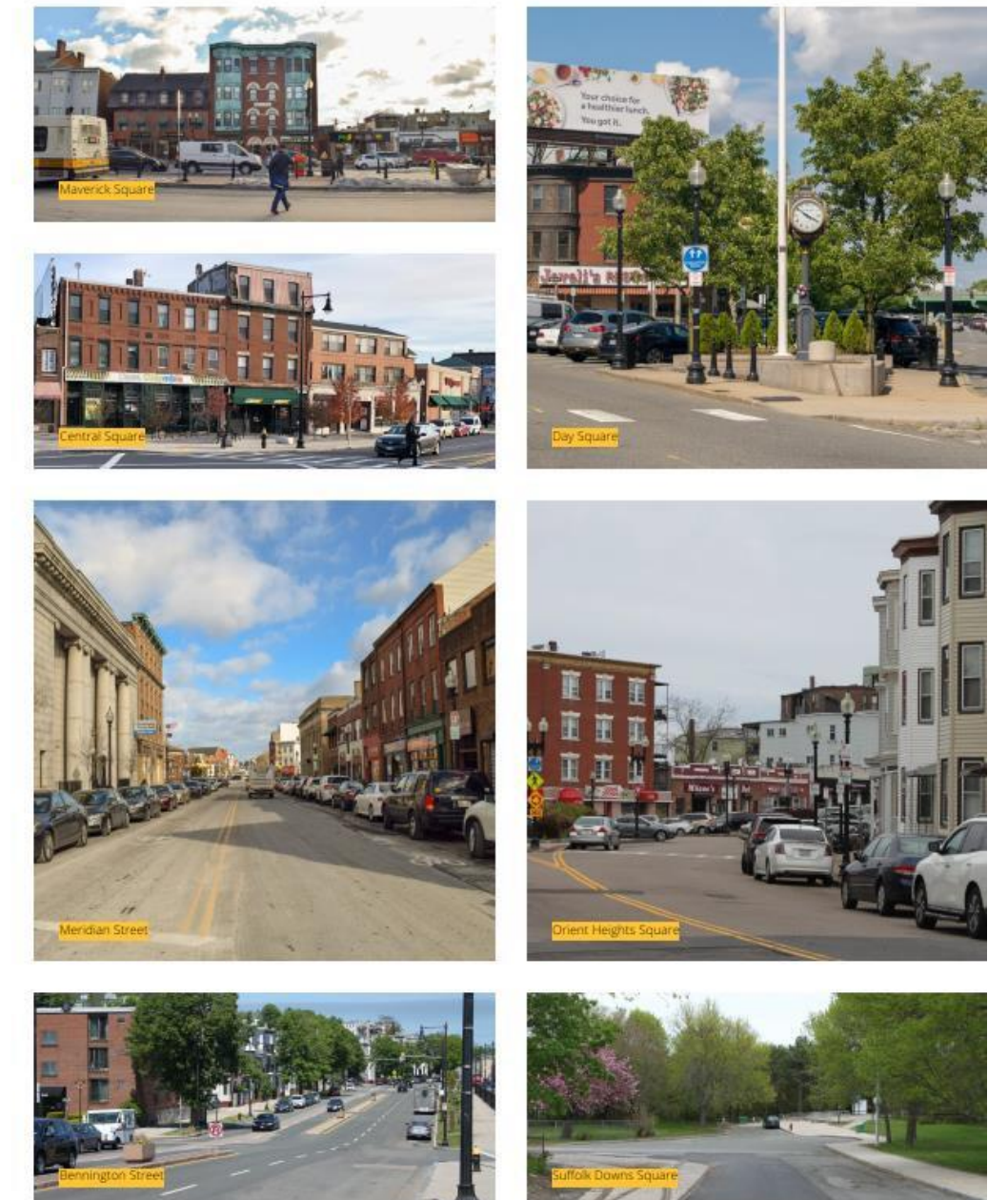
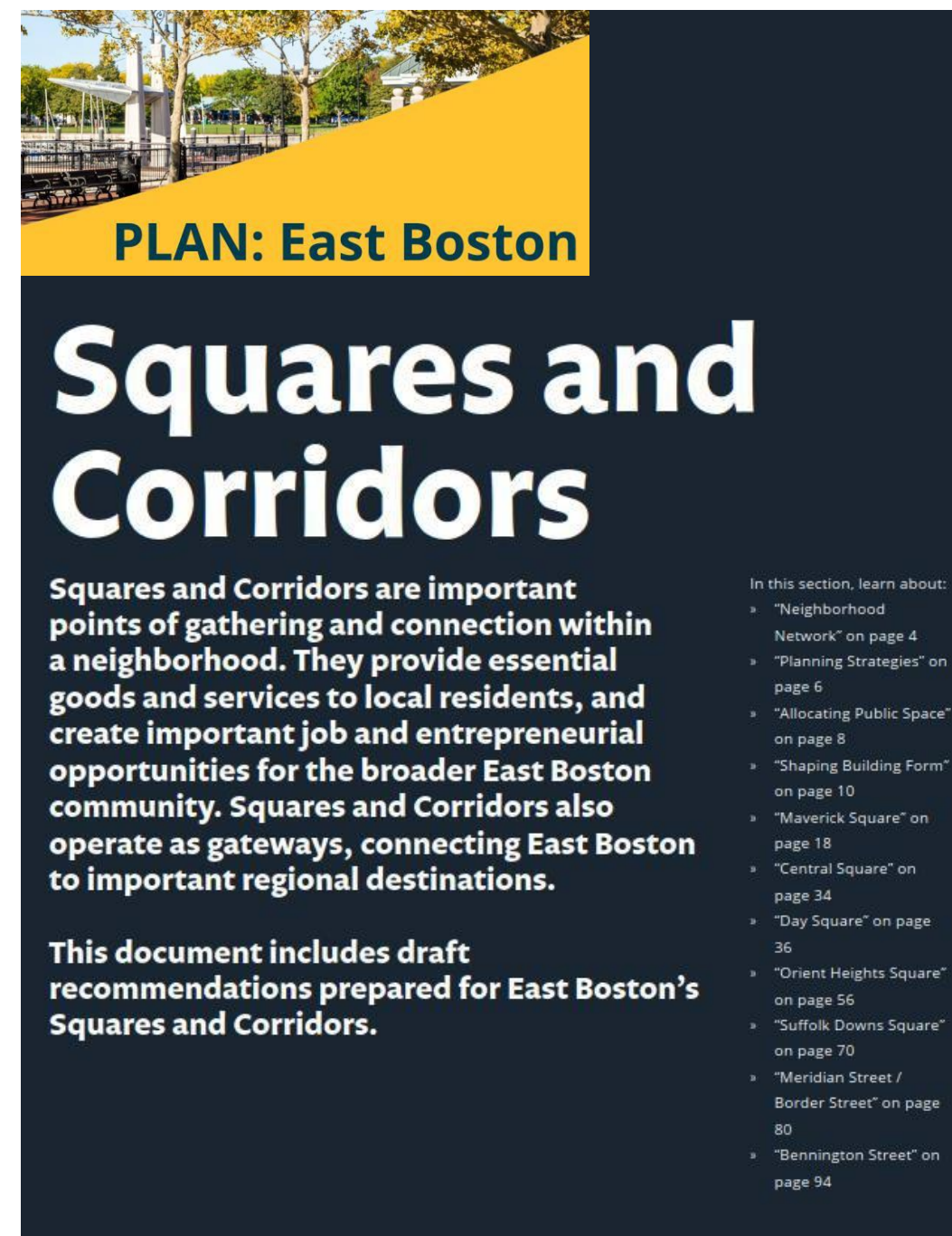
Spring 2022

Spring/Summer
2022

Fall 2022

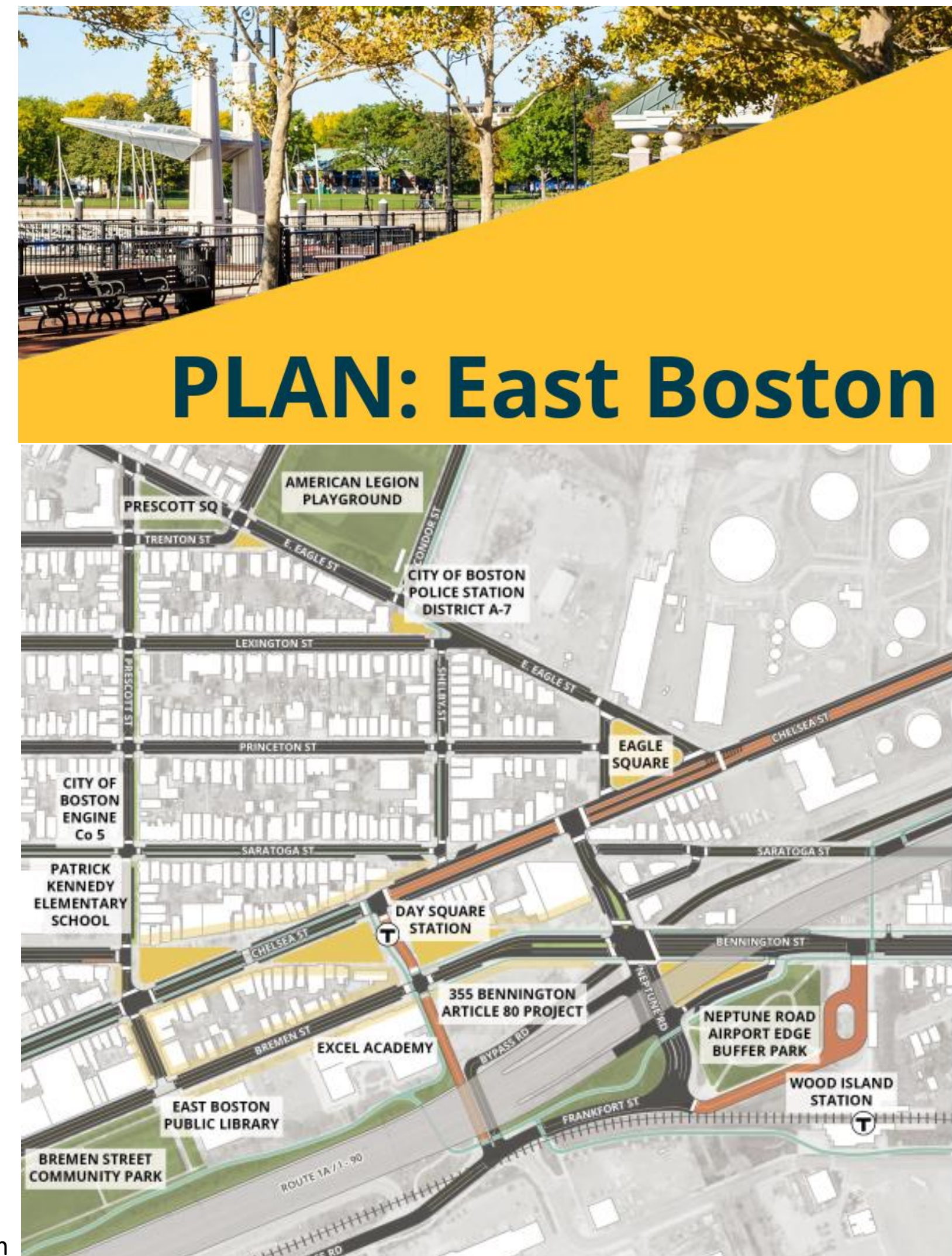
Prior and Ongoing Studies and Projects

- PLAN: East Boston
- Climate Ready Boston
- Vision Chelsea Creek
- Next Stop: Revere Master Plan
- East Boston Municipal Harbor Plan
- Chelsea Creek Municipal Harbor Plan
- Suffolk Downs Redevelopment
- Addison-McClellan EDA
- MassDOT Road Safety Audits



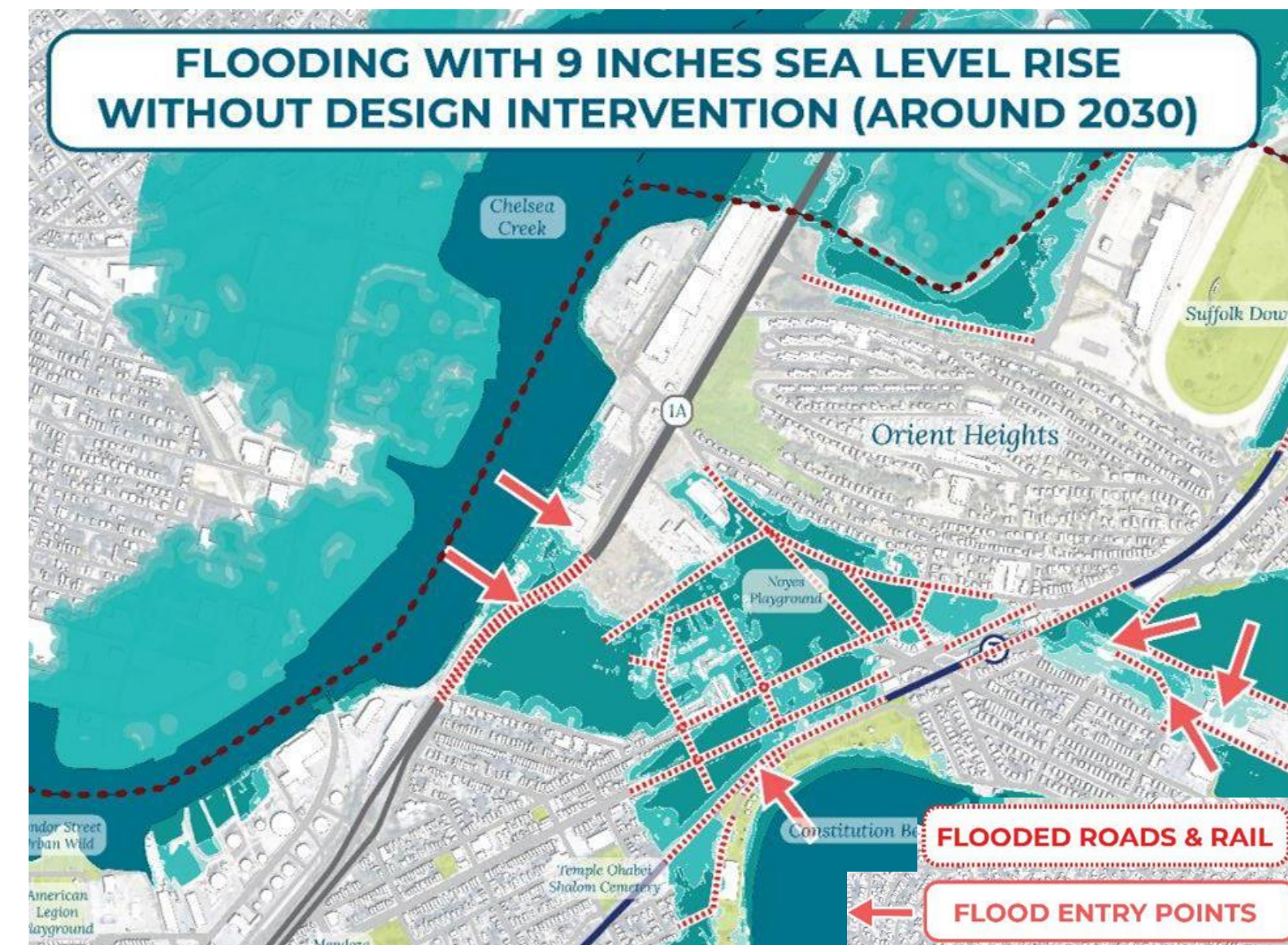
PLAN: East Boston

- Comprehensive plan for East Boston including zoning, land use, urban design, open space, and transportation
- Initial recommendations include improvements to corridors and squares throughout East Boston, including Day Square
- Strategies for squares and corridors include bus lanes, Shared Use Path connections, new public spaces, etc.
- Additional recommendations (forthcoming) will be made for the Chelsea Creek waterfront

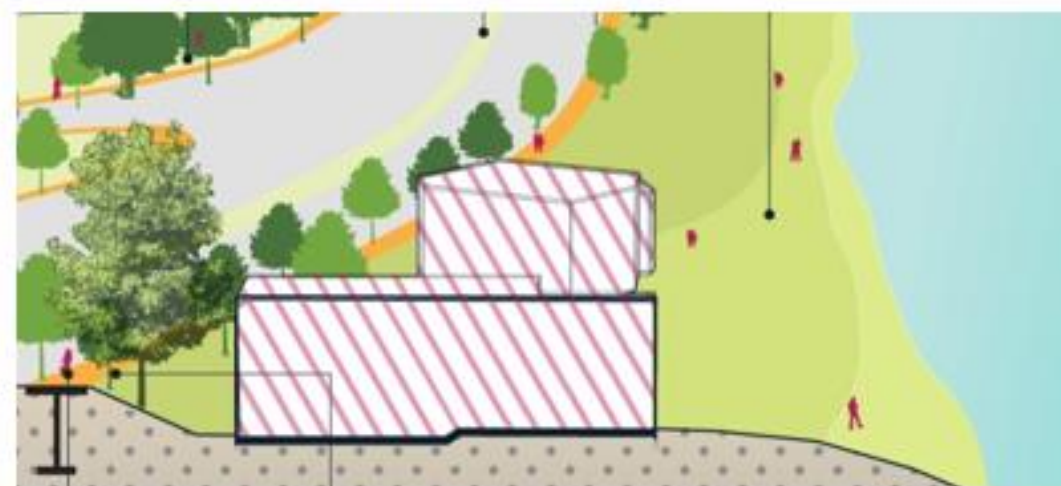


Climate Ready: East Boston

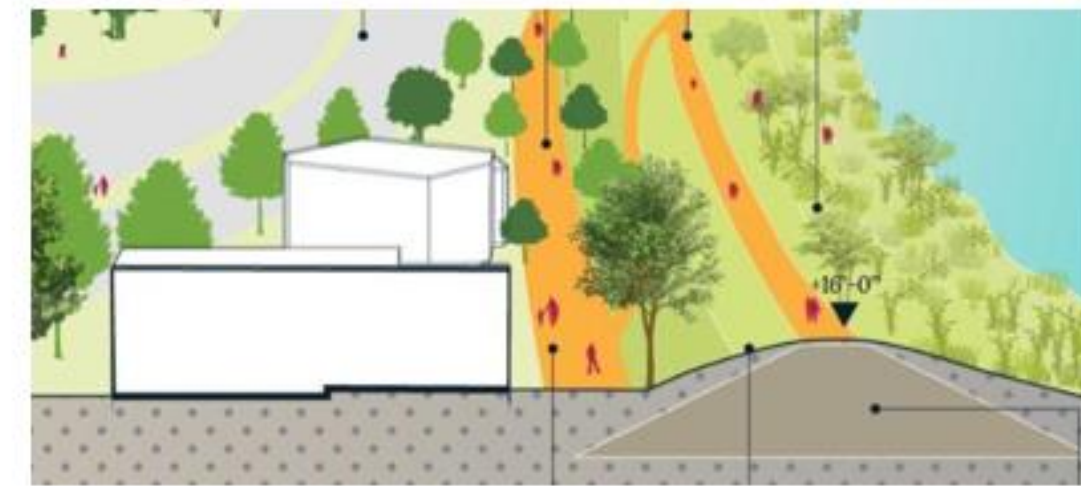
- Process lead by the City of Boston to create neighborhood solutions to coastal flooding from sea level rise and storms
- Identified locations in East Boston that face flood risks including along Chelsea Creek and the Route 1A corridor between Addison Street and Boardman Street
- Potential strategies being evaluated include elevated infrastructure such as berms and sea walls



Escenario 1 **Scenario 1:**
Raised Road with Flood Wall



Escenario 2 **Scenario 2:**
Raised Berm with Ecological Restoration





Public Involvement and Study Working Group

Public Involvement

We will engage with the community to gather input through a variety of mechanism:

- Project website: <https://www.mass.gov/route-1a-east-boston-corridor-study>
- Public Information Meetings (4 meetings)
- Working Group Meetings (5 meetings)
- Neighborhood Briefings
- Site visits
- Meetings with elected officials and municipalities
- Online feedback forms

Role of the Working Group

We have convened a Working Group made up of representatives from Community Based Organizations, elected officials, and public agencies from East Boston and Revere to provide input throughout the course of the study.

The Working Group will meet around key project milestones and will:

- Review findings and provide feedback
- Share information with the communities and organizations represented
- Provide local knowledge, perspective, and expertise

Stakeholder Working Group Members

Community Based Organizations

- Eagle Hill Civic Association
- Harbor View Neighborhood Association
- Orient Heights Neighborhood Council
- East Boston Foundation
- East Boston Social Centers
- Centro Presente
- GreenRoots
- Harborkeepers
- Neighborhood of Affordable Housing
- East Boston Health Center
- Livable Streets Alliance
- Salesian Boys and Girls Club of East Boston

Elected officials

- Acting Boston Mayor Kim Janey
- Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards
- Revere Mayor Brian M. Arrigo
- Revere City Councilor John Powers
- Revere City Councilor Ira Novoselsky
- Revere City Councilor Joanne McKenna
- State Representative Adrian Madaro
- State Representative Jessica Giannino
- State Representative Jeffrey Turco
- U.S. Representative Ayanna Pressley
- U.S. Representative Katherine Clark
- U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren
- U.S. Senator Edward Markey



Establishing the Study's Goals and Objectives

What Are Study Goals?

- High-level statements of desired outcomes
- Collaborative goal-setting among MassDOT, community residents, corridor stakeholders, and other agencies
- Relate to major challenges and opportunities, for example:
 - Safety
 - Access
 - Equity
 - Sustainability
- Form the foundation for evaluating corridor alternatives and ideas



Common Goals From Related Studies

- Expand access to transportation options
- Improve safety
- Promote public health
- Prepare for Climate Change impacts
- Increase equity



VISION CHELSEA CREEK

FOR A MORE RESILIENT & EQUITABLE WATERFRONT

CLIMATE READY BOSTON

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MAYOR MARTIN J. WALSH

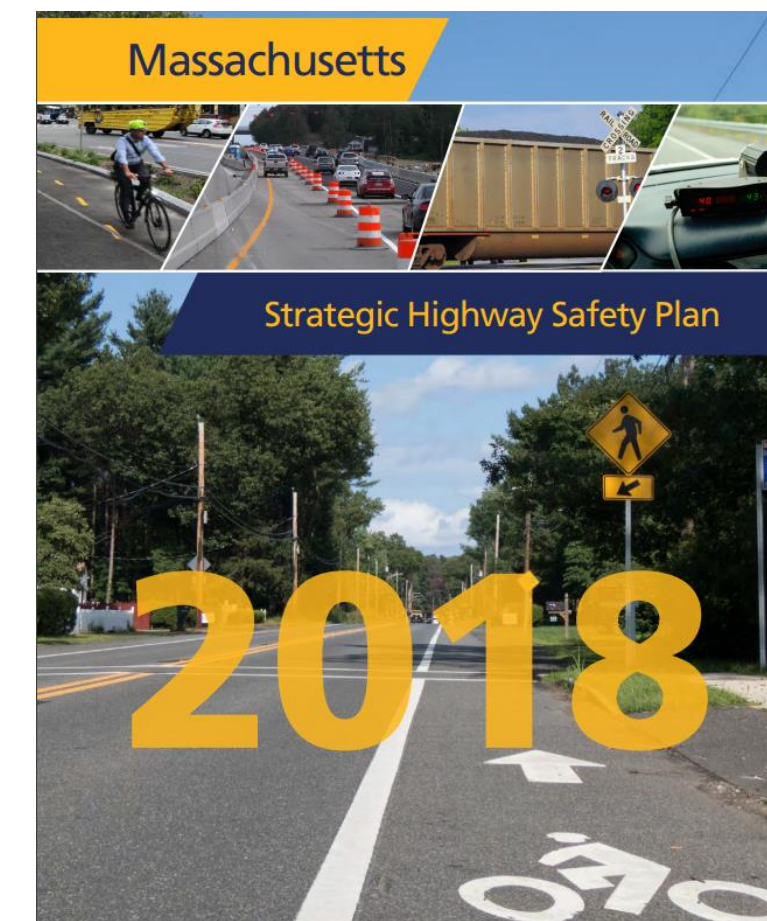


DECEMBER 2016



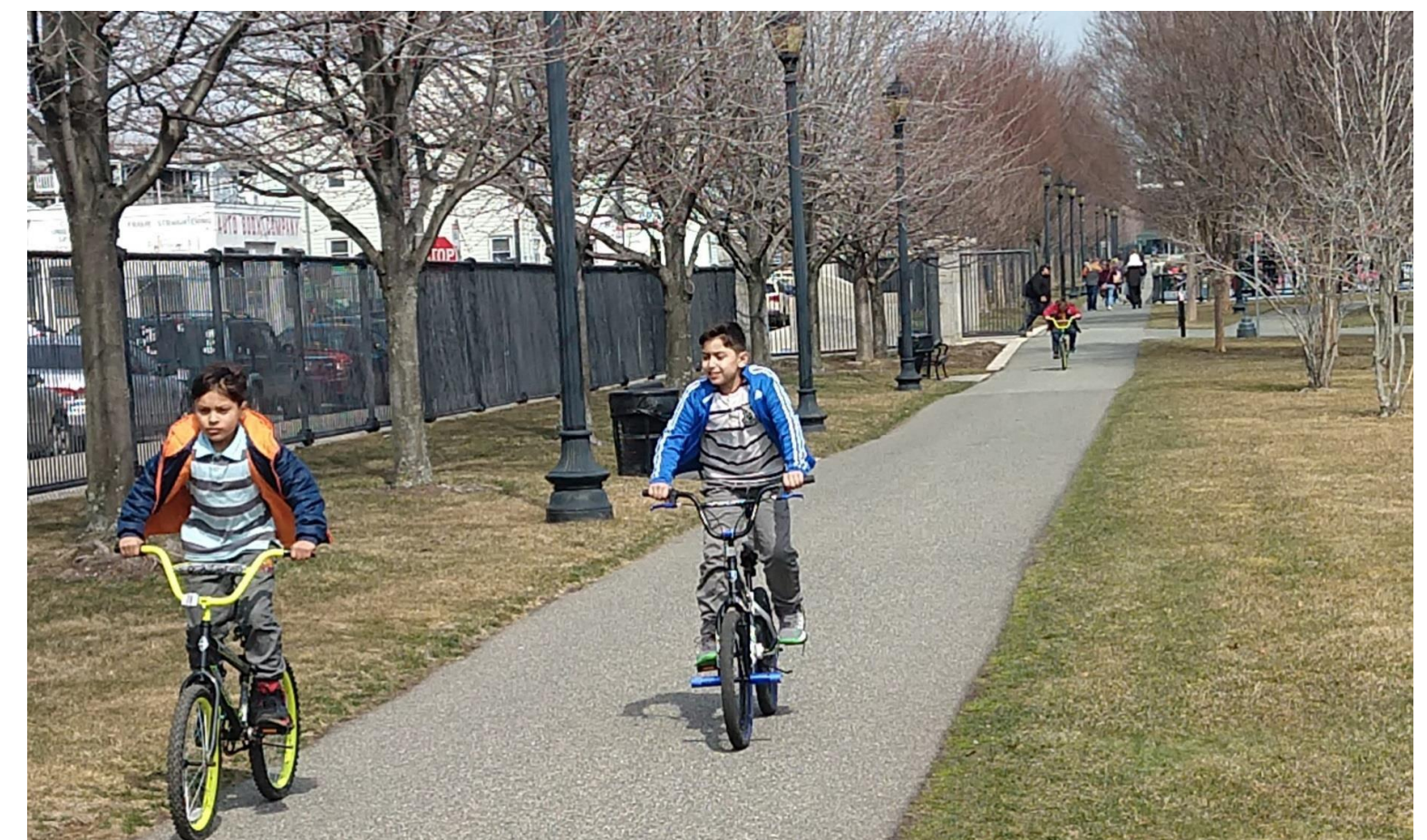
State Plans, Policies, and Documents That Help Inform Our Goals

- Pedestrian Transportation Plan
- Bicycle Transportation Plan
- Freight Plan
- Strategic Highway Safety Plan
- MassDOT Healthy Transportation Policy Directive
- MassDOT Project Development and Design Guidelines
- And more...



Example Study Goals for Discussion

- Safety
 - Improve safety for people using all modes of transportation (walking, biking, transit, driving, etc.)
- Multimodal Access
 - Enhance access for all modes along and across corridor
 - Mitigate corridor congestion
- Equity
 - Enhance corridor benefits – recreation, access to natural resources, beneficial land uses – for impacted communities
 - Reduce corridor burdens – pollution, noise, vibration – for impacted communities
- Sustainability and Climate Change Resiliency
 - Improve air quality and natural resources
 - Enhance resilience of corridor infrastructure



Developing Study Objectives

- Objectives are derived from our Goals and describe what each Goal means
- Objectives are statements with measurable outcomes that allow us to determine if an alternative will succeed in meeting our Goals

Example Objectives:

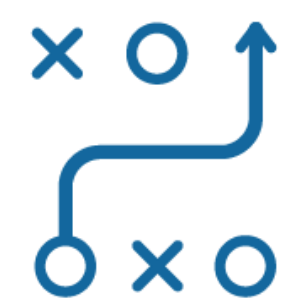
- Safety:
 - Reduce the number of crashes on the corridor.
 - Reduce the number of conflict points at intersections.
 - Increase Level of Comfort for vulnerable road users.

Selecting Evaluation Criteria

- Evaluation criteria are quantitatively measurable data that allow us to determine how well each alternative meets our goals and objectives

Potential Criteria:

- Multimodal Access – mode split, travel times, transit reliability, level of comfort, vehicle speeds, etc.
- Safety – number of crashes, crash rate, number of conflict points, etc.
- Sustainability and Climate Change Resiliency – Greenhouse Gas Emissions, air quality, flood risk, etc.
- Equity – impact to Environmental Justice populations, public health indicators, access to open space, etc.



Schedule and Next Steps

Next Steps

MEETING CALENDAR

- First week of November Site Walk
- November 17 2nd Working Group Meeting: Existing Conditions & Issues
- December 1 1st Public Meeting: Existing Conditions & Issues

AHEAD OF THE NEXT MEETING, WE WILL

- Coordinate site walk
- Refine goals and objectives
- Investigate current and future conditions + Identify issues
 - Land Use, Demographics, Environmental, Public Health
 - Safety Concerns, Traffic, Walking, Biking, Transit, Driving
 - Use of MBTA Rail Parcel

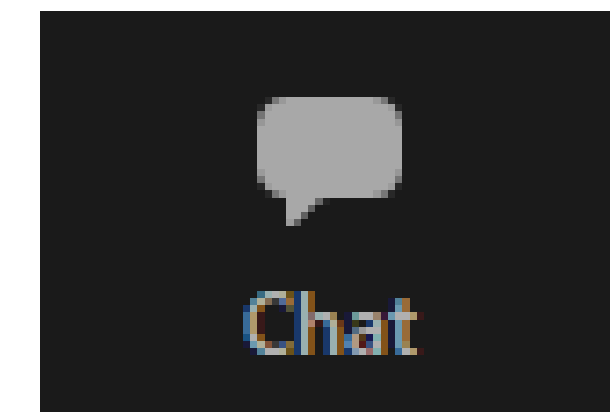


Questions and Discussion

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Working Group Members

- Use the “**Chat**” button to submit a typed question or comment
- Press the “**Raise Hand**” button to share your question or comment verbally. Wait for the moderator to recognize and unmute you before speaking.
- If you have joined by phone only, you may “raise your hand” by pressing the star button and then nine (*9)
- *After you speak, we will lower your hand and you will be muted to allow the team to respond and provide opportunities for others to participate*
- Website: <https://www.mass.gov/route-1a-corridor-study>
- Email: Rt1ACorridorStudy@dot.state.ma.us





Thank you!

For question and comments please email:
Rt1ACorridorStudy@dot.state.ma.us

Sign up for project updates:
<https://www.mass.gov/route-1a-corridor-study>

