



# Route 20 Reconstruction Project in Charlton & Oxford: Construction Update

## *Public Information Meeting*

February 8, 2023, via Zoom 6:00 PM

MassDOT Contract #602659





# Zoom Webinar Controls for Meeting



- 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 309-205-3325, Webinar ID: 810 2051 4844



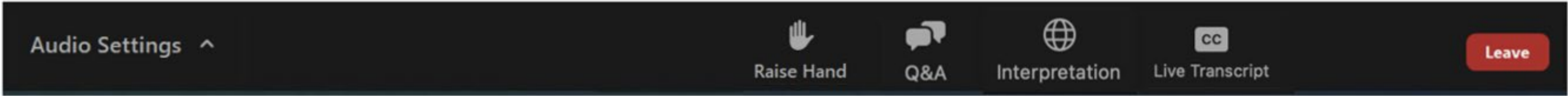
- Closed captioning automatically generated by Zoom

Live Transcript



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

1-888-799-9666



# Public Meeting Notes and Procedures

## Notification of Recording

- 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 transcript. All parts of this meeting are considered public record.
- By continuing attendance with this virtual public meeting, you consent to participate in a recorded event.
- If you are not comfortable being recorded, please turn off your camera, and keep your microphone muted, or you may choose to excuse yourself from the meeting.
- **Other Important Notes**
- Your microphone and webcam are automatically disabled upon entering this meeting.
- The meeting will be open to questions and answers at the end of the formal presentation.
- Please take time to respond to our survey! 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!**



# Public Information Meeting - Outreach

1. Local Newspaper Advertisements
2. Social Media: MassDOT Twitter and Facebook
3. Central Massachusetts Planning Commission
4. Other Organizations that agreed to help with Outreach:
  1. Charlton Council on Aging and Senior Center
  2. Oxford Council on Aging and Senior Center
  3. Venture Community Services





# Agenda

- 01 Team Introduction
- 02 Project Overview
- 03 Design Elements
- 04 Construction Staging
- 05 Next Steps
- 06 Public Outreach
- 07 Questions and Discussion





# Project Team

## MassDOT Highway Division

- Susan Harrington, Project Manager
- Barry Lorion, District 3 Highway Director
- Joe Frawley, District 3 Acting Operations Engineer
- Klodian Polisi, Resident Engineer

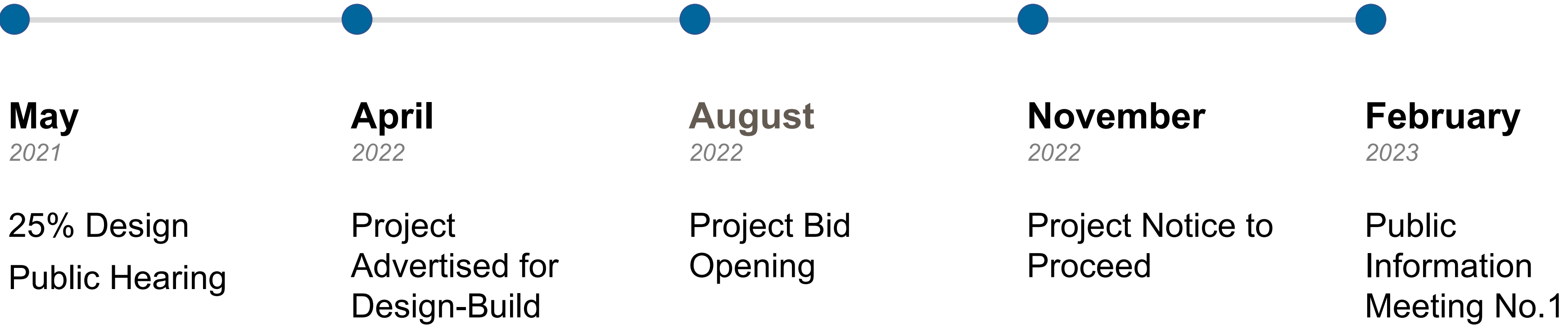
## Design-Build Construction Team

- **Contractor: D.W. White**
  - Jack Harney, Project Manager
- **Design Engineer: TranSystems**
  - Lenny Velichansky, Design Manager
- **Environmental Permitting: BETA Group**
  - Jonathan Niro
- **Public Outreach: Regina Villa Associates**
  - Sarah Paritsky





# How did we get here?





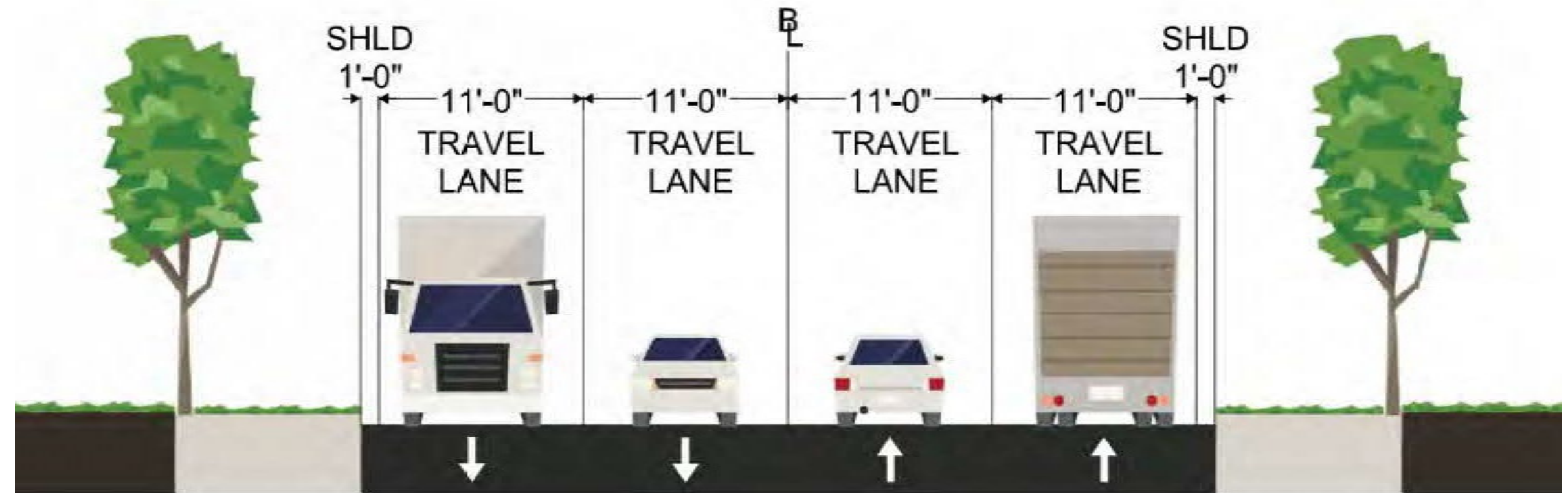


**Why was this  
project  
initiated?**



## Existing Deficiencies

- Safety and speed concerns
- Narrow Roadway
- History of crashes along the corridor
- Congestion
- Functionally obsolete bridges
- Limited pedestrian/bicycle accommodations







# Project Scope



## Project Goals and Objectives

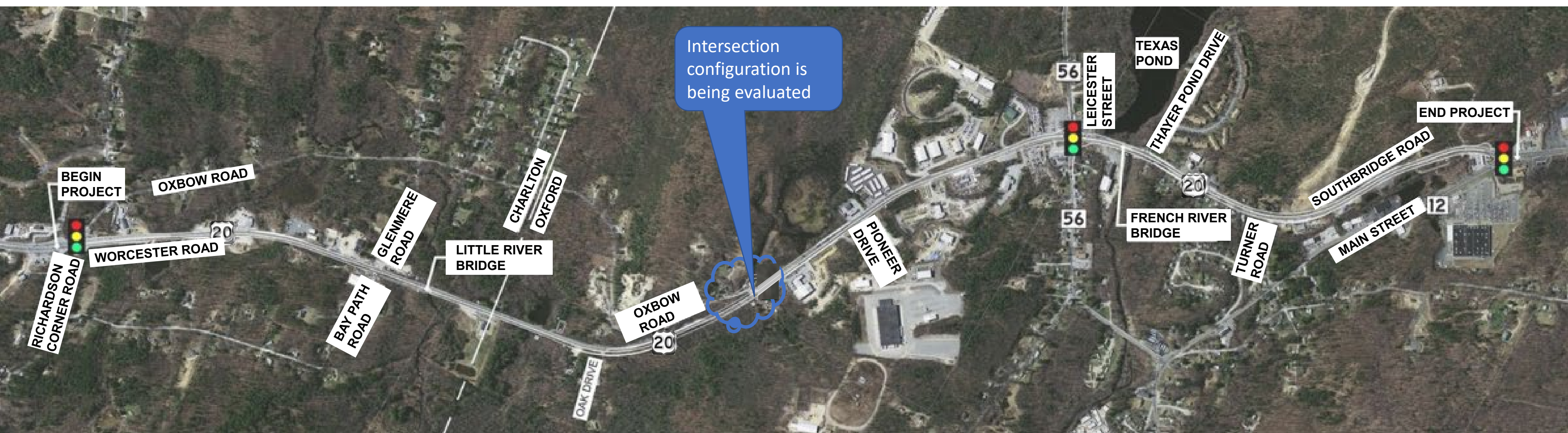
- Improve Safety
- Improve Multi-Modal Mobility
- Replace Functionally Obsolete Bridges





## Overview and Highlights

- Reconstruct Route 20 between Richardson Corner in Charlton and Route 12 in Oxford
- Replace Route 20 Bridges over the Little River and French River
- Improve bicycle and pedestrian accommodations
- Upgrade substandard intersections
- Optimize drainage along the corridor
- Introduce Best Management Practices for stormwater treatment







# Final Design Development



## Approach to Final Design

### Improve Roadway Safety

- Install median barrier/raised median
- Improve roadway alignment and stopping site distance
- Widen roadways to introduce shoulders
- Provide designated emergency pull-off areas

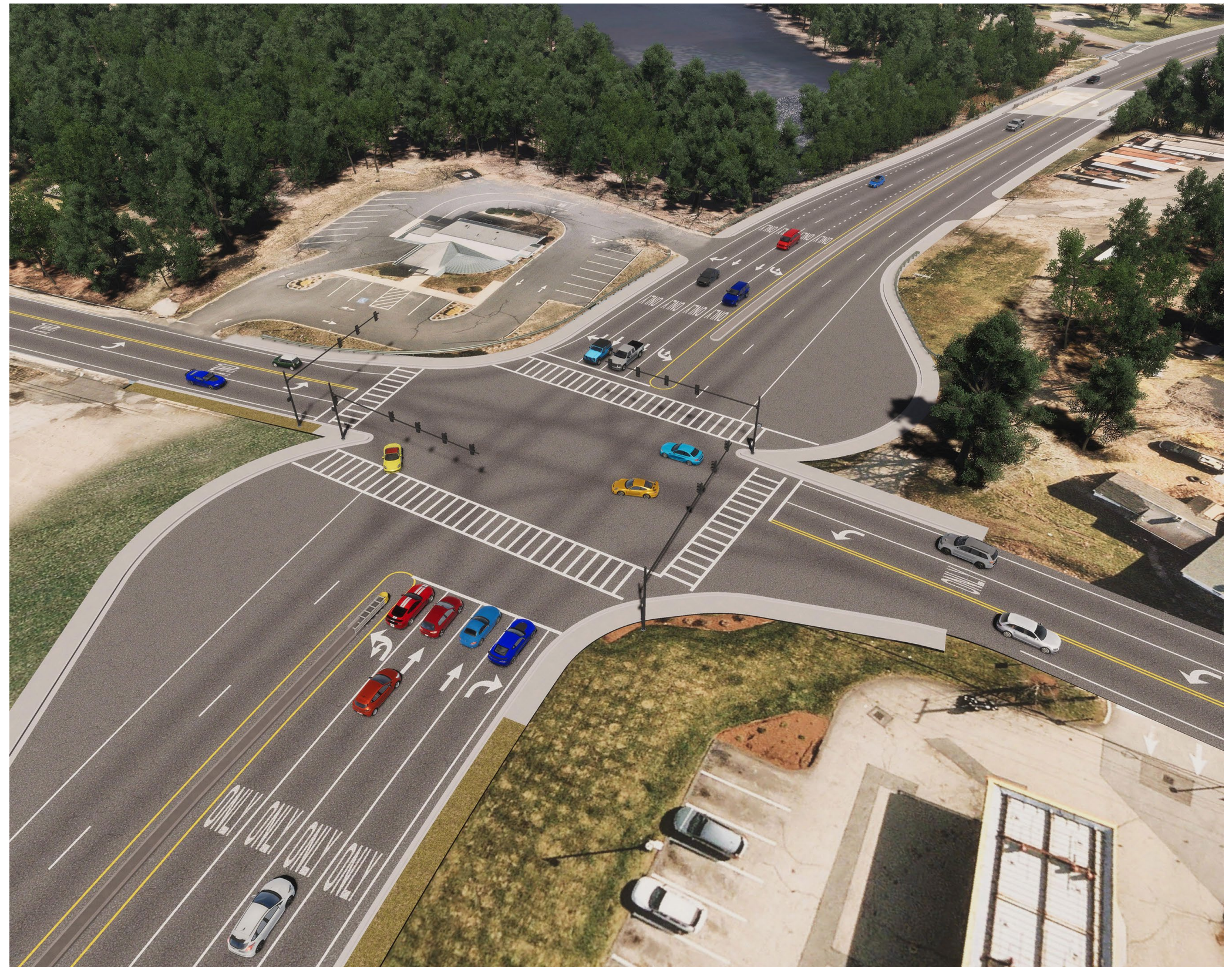




## Approach to Final Design

### Improve Intersection Operations

- Optimize traffic signal operation
- Add turning lanes
- Accommodate U-turns

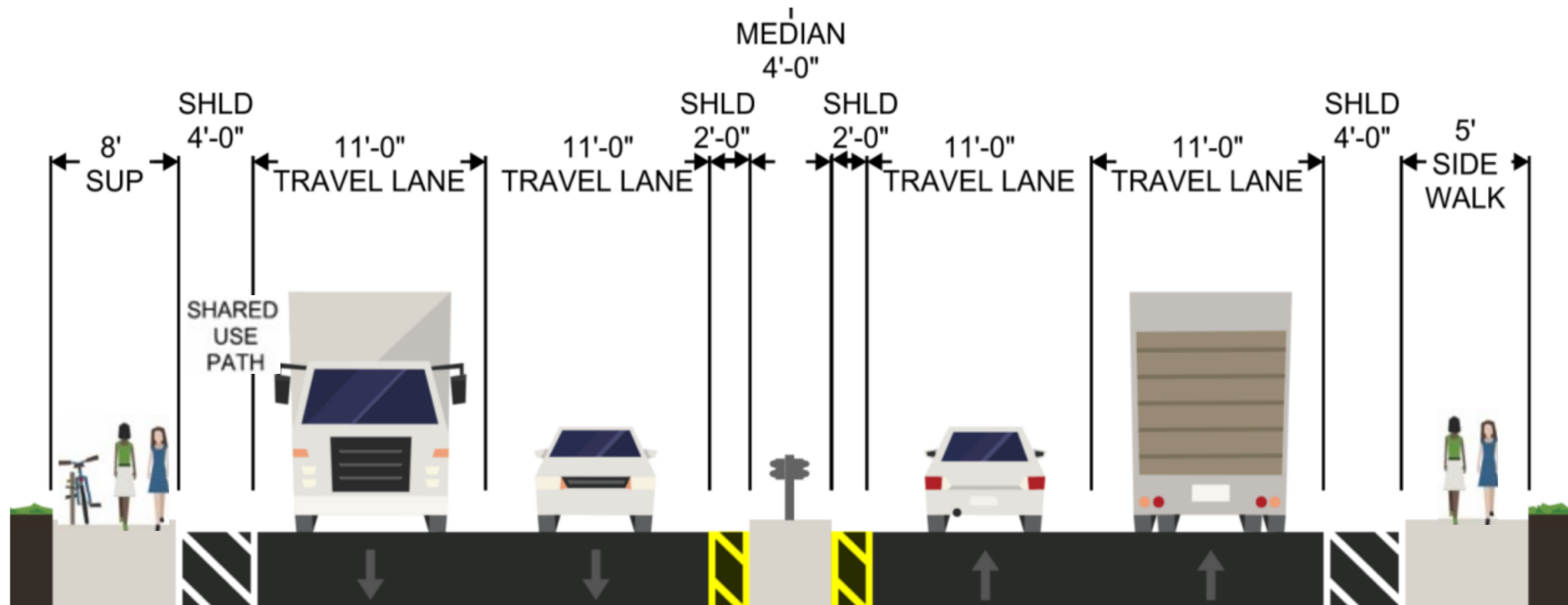




## Approach to Final Design

### Improve Roadway Cross-Section

- Introduce roadway shoulders and dividing median
- Improve Multi-Modal Mobility





## Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations

- Add shared-use path between Oxbow Road and Route 12 on the north side of Route 20
- Add sidewalk between Route 56 and Route 12 on the south side of Route 20





## Approach to Final Design

### Replace Functionally Obsolete Bridges



**Little River Bridge:** replace using conventional construction techniques  
(2023-2024)



**French River Bridge:** replace using accelerated construction techniques  
(2024-2025)



# Approach to Final Design

## End Condition (east end of project)





## Approach to Final Design

### Temporary Traffic Control

- Maintain Route 20 traffic by using multi-stage construction
- Maintain access to abutters
- Inform public of lane restrictions
- Inform motorists of construction activities by using Real Time Traffic Management system







**What is the  
construction  
approach?**



# Construction Overview

## Overall project timeline – approximately 4 years

- Daytime work schedule
  - Typical work hours 7:00am to 3:30 pm
  - May vary between 5:00am and 7:00pm
- Occasional night and weekend work
- Maintain emergency services.

## Construction

- Major earthwork operations will be within confined work zones
- Minimize construction vehicle turning movements
- Travel speeds reduced through work zones for safety
- Water spray for dust suppression



# Temporary Traffic Control

## Local roadway users

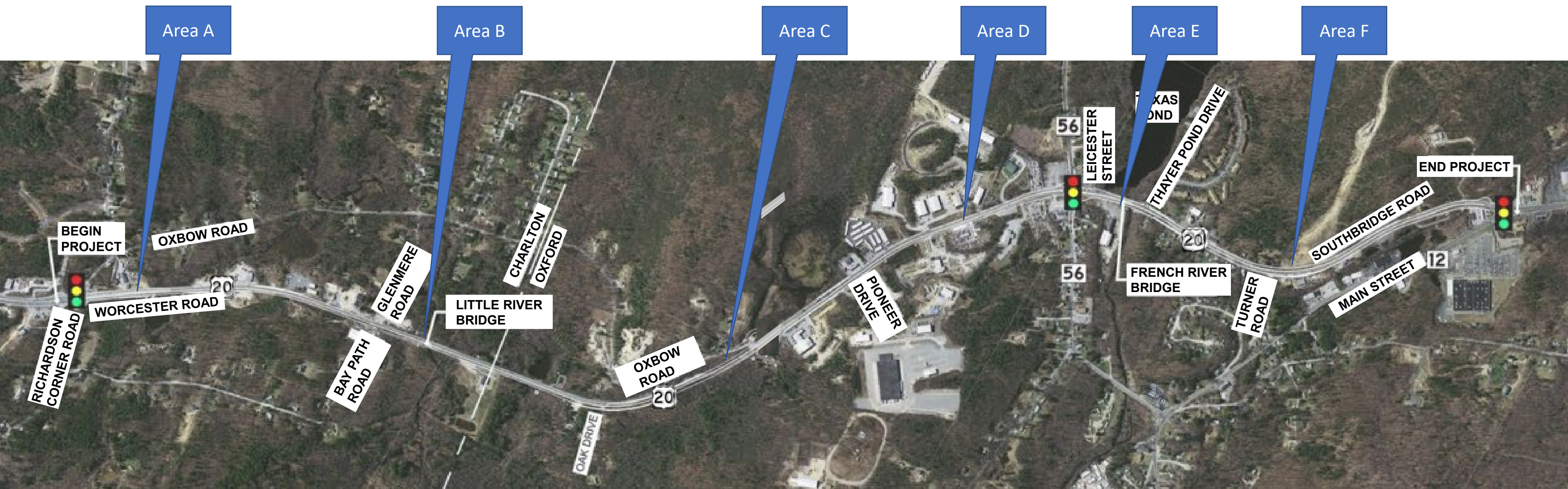
- Changeable message signs
- Install construction signage throughout the corridor
- Announcements for detours
- Maintain access to abutters
- Maintain traffic signal operation
- Install cameras at key locations

## Regional roadway users

- Install Portable Message Boards informing motorists of travel times
- Portable Message Boards will be installed at decision-making points at the I-84 and I-290 / I-395 interchanges

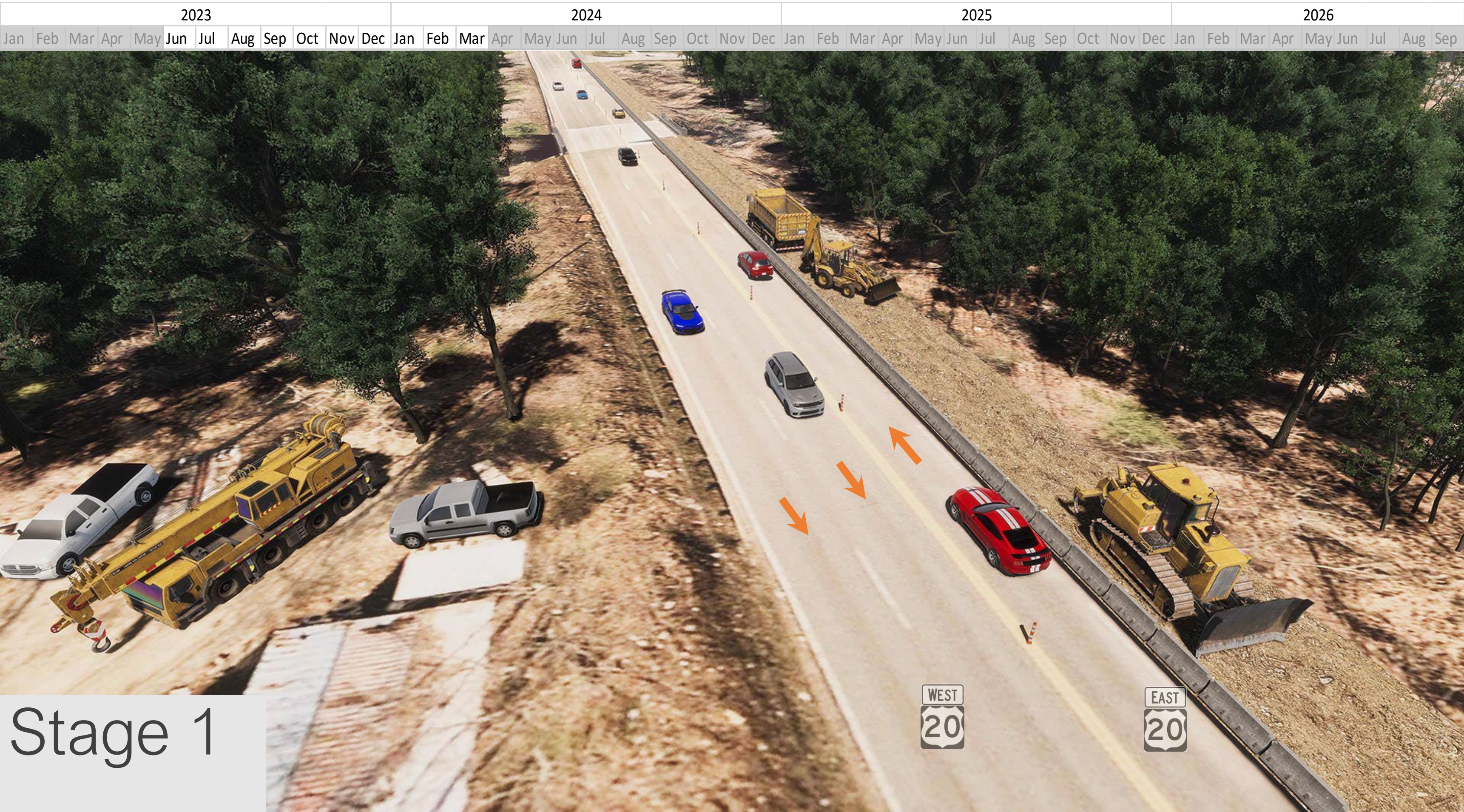


# Construction Staging





# Construction Staging – Area A (looking east)



Stage 1



# Construction Staging – Area A (looking east)



Stage 2



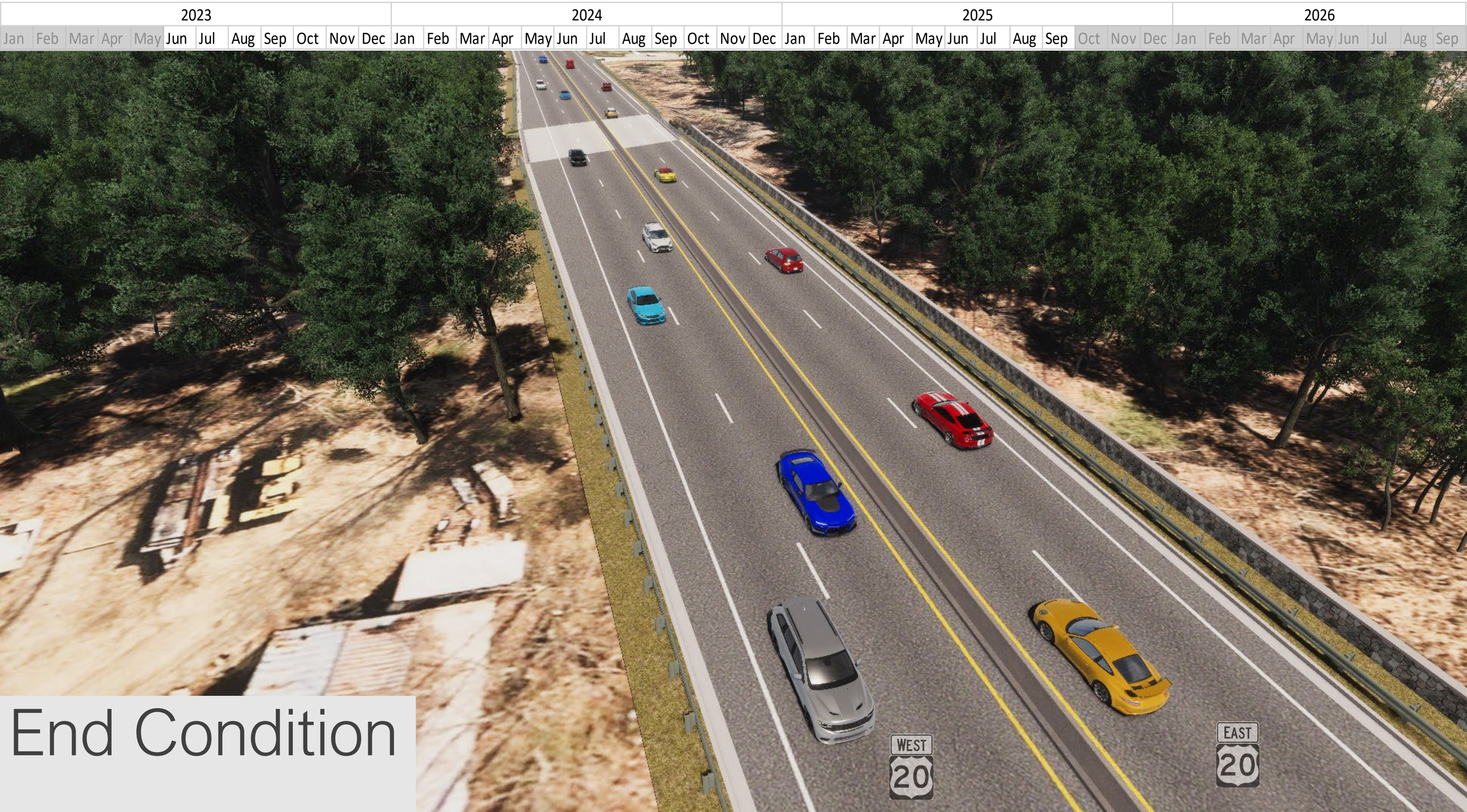
# Construction Staging – Area A (looking east)



Stage 3



# Construction Staging – Area A (looking east)



End Condition





# Upcoming Work Activities



## Borings and Test Pits in Progress

- **What:** Contractor started borings and test pits along Route 20
- **Why:** to gather data to refine the design of the project
- **When:** February
- **Construction work hours:** Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM
- **Traffic impacts:** intermittent short-term single lane closures of eastbound and westbound Route 20





# Vegetation Clearing Begins Soon

- **What:** Work on erosion controls and vegetation clearing along Route 20
- **Why:** Necessary to prepare the site for utility relocations
- **When:** Anticipated from February through April, 2023, weather permitting
- **Construction work hours:** Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM
- **Traffic impacts:** intermittent short-term single lane closures of eastbound and westbound Route 20







Next Steps



# Our next steps



**March 2023**  
Early Construction  
Activities Begin



**Spring 2023**  
Public Informational  
Meeting #2



**Summer 2023**  
Final Design  
Complete



**July 2023**  
(anticipated)  
Construction  
Begins



**September 2026**  
(anticipated)  
Substantial  
Completion



**November 2026**  
(anticipated)  
Project Completion





**How will we  
keep you  
informed?**



# Public Outreach and Engagement

## Public Information Meetings

- Design Public Hearing, May 2021
- Public Information Meeting tonight, February 8, 2023
- Next Public Information Meeting in Spring 2023
- Additional meetings based on design development and prior to the start of major construction activities

## Staying Connected

- Regular email announcements to comprehensive email distribution list
- Regular updates to project website



## Staying Connected

Please join our mailing list! You can sign up on the project website.

### Project website

[www.mass.gov/route-20-reconstruction-project-in-charlton-oxford](http://www.mass.gov/route-20-reconstruction-project-in-charlton-oxford)

### Project email

[dot.feedbackdistrict3@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:dot.feedbackdistrict3@dot.state.ma.us)

### Social media

- **Facebook:** @massdotinfo
- **Twitter:** @MassDOT







# 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.**





# *Thank You*

## *Route 20 Reconstruction Project in Charlton & Oxford*

### *Public Information Meeting*

February 8, 2023, via Zoom

MassDOT Contract #602659

For project questions or comments, please email  
[dot.feedbackdistrict3@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:dot.feedbackdistrict3@dot.state.ma.us)

