

Southwest Corridor Park Action Plan

Welcome!

Public Meeting #4
June 18, 2024



Interpretation

We offer interpretation during this meeting. In your meeting/webinar controls, click Interpretation (the small globe icon) and click the language that you would like to hear.



Our Spanish interpreter is:

Bertolt Cantalice

Our Cantonese interpreter is:

Anna Tse

Our Haitian Creole interpreter is: **Jean Luce**



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Governor
Maura Healey

Lieutenant Governor
Kim Driscoll

Energy and Environmental Secretary
Rebecca Tepper

Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner
Brian Arrigo



DCR Mission

To protect, promote and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural and recreational resources for the well-being of all.



Zoom Logistics

Tonight's meeting will be recorded. The recording and slide deck will be available shortly after the meeting at:

www.mass.gov/dcr/past-public-meetings

ZOOM TIPS

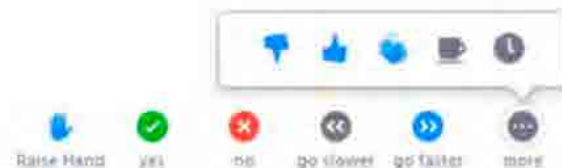
Here is how you can participate during the question and answer part of the presentation.

DURING THE PRESENTATION:



VIA WEB:

Turn video on / off.



To use these non-verbal options click on participants (bottom of screen); these options will pop up in side bar.

DURING THE Q&A:



JOINING VIA PHONE?

Use *9 to raise hand to ask for audio / video permission to ask questions or provide comments.



VIA WEB:

Chat to ask questions / comments or provide responses to poll questions



Raise hand to ask for audio / video permission to ask questions or provide comments.

Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

[6:00 – 6:10]

Corridor-wide Recommendations

[6:10 – 6:30]

Feedback

[6:30 – 6:40]

Action Plan Recommendations

[6:40 – 6:55]

Priorities and Projects

[6:55 – 7:05]

Feedback

[7:05 – 7:25]

Next Steps

[7:25 – 7:30]

Meeting Goals

- **Share final Action Plan recommendations based on feedback from public meeting #3**
- **Explain project prioritization and phasing**
- **Confirm community-driven priorities**

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Each community along the Southwest Corridor Park has a unique history and relationship with their section of the park. Before community engagement began, the team understood it was critical to understand these nuances. It proposed using engagement methods outside of traditional public meetings to be receptive to the various lived experiences of residents and users of the park.

The engagement process strived to provide an equitable outreach approach that includes a diversity of voices. Outreach strategies included one on one interactions, meetings with government agencies, stakeholders and friends groups, presence at community events, interactive mapping and input surveys.



Inclusivity:
To ensure everyone who wants to participate in the public process has an opportunity to do so



Interactive + Fun:
The ability to foster opportunities for park users and residents to provide feedback in creative ways



Consciousness:
The recognition of past harm and complicated relationships between government and communities



Transparency:
Creating clear communication with community members about how their feedback is being used and next steps in the process



681

General Surveys



3 week

Street Ambassador deployment



45

location specific surveys



263

interactive map comments



8

community events attended



4

Open Houses
150 participants



3

public meeting*
123 public meeting participants



3

Community Focus Groups

dcr
Massachusetts



Vision

This Action Plan aims to further elevate the impact of this pioneering linear park, born out of vibrant community engagement, by fostering public health through the promotion of walking, cycling, and recreational activities.

By seamlessly linking neighborhoods, the park will emerge as a shared “backyard,” providing diverse urban experiences and fostering a deeper connection with nature. It will play a crucial role in addressing the challenges of climate change, serving as a green sanctuary that helps mitigate its effects.

Corridor-wide Topics



Corridor-wide design identity:

Mobility, and access:

Park and recreation facilities:

Natural resources:

Cultural resources:

Implementation strategy:

signage, site furnishings, art and placemaking

shared-use path system, accessibility, wayfinding, and adjacent connections

playgrounds, rinks, courts, lawns, fields, community gardens, dog parks

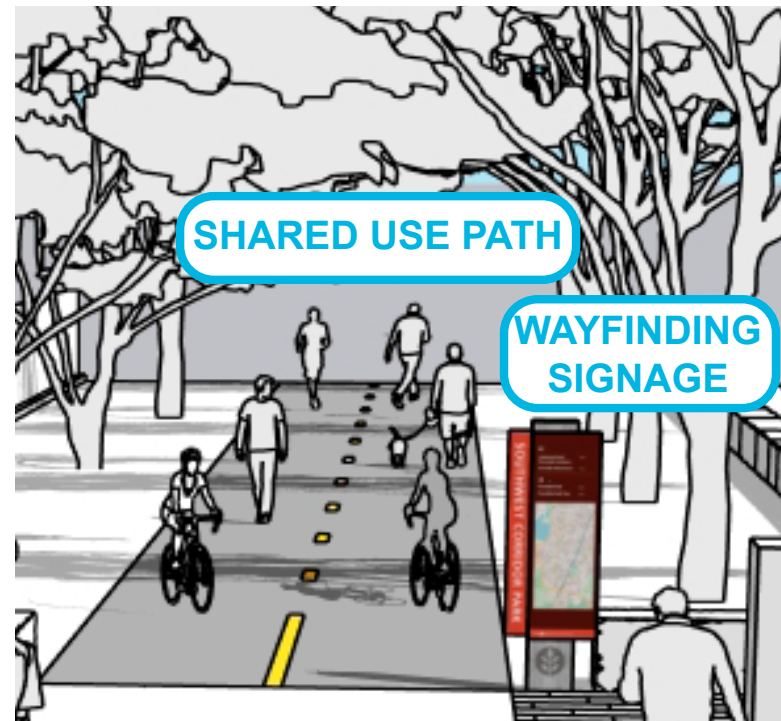
plantings and stormwater management

preservation and interpretation

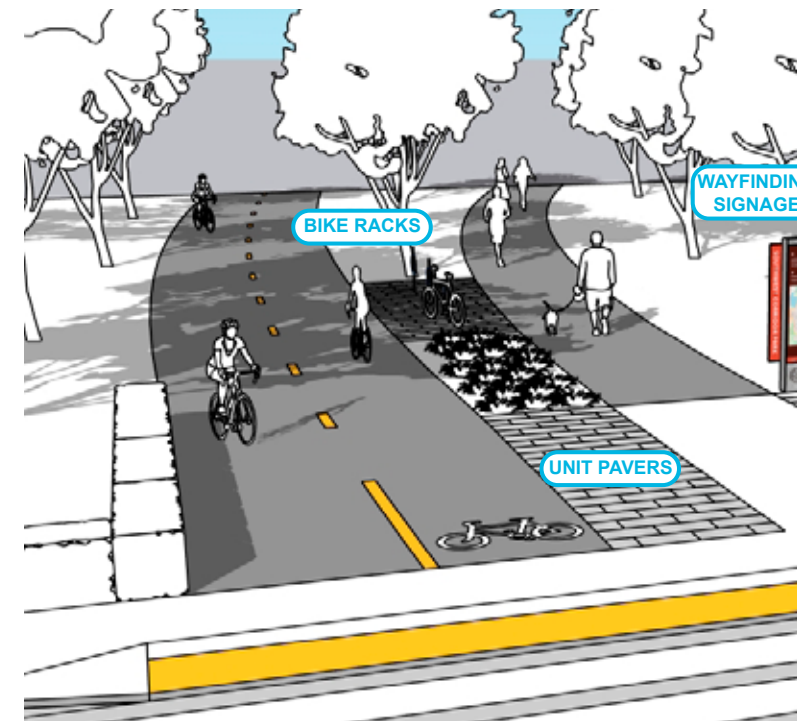
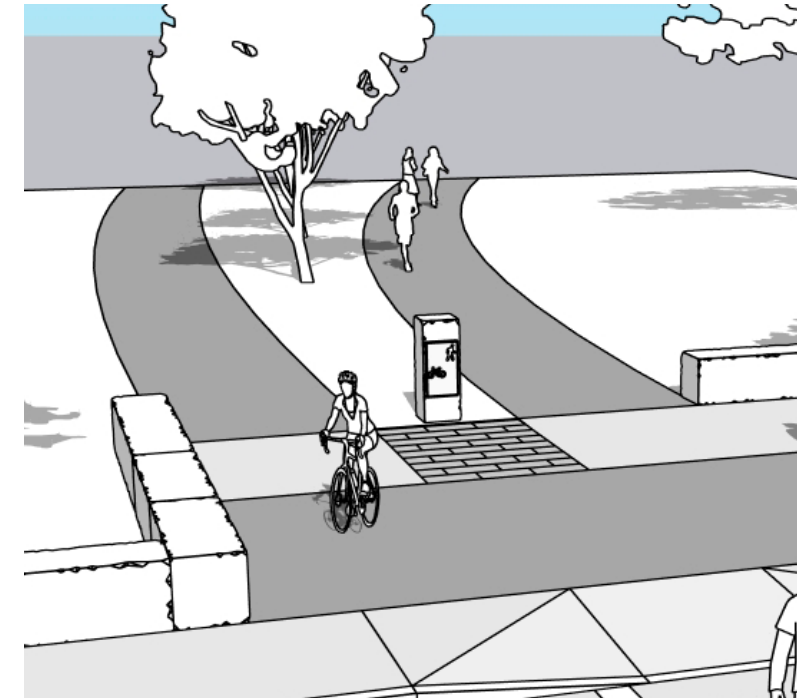
priorities, early action projects, O&M plan, partnerships

SWCP ACTION PLAN: Mobility - Path Width

- Widen today's "bike path" from 8'-9' to a minimum of 11'
- Aim for 12' - 13' where feasible, up to 15' near Jackson Square
- Trees are a priority. Many will be preserved and limit further path widening
- Roadside concrete sidewalks are City-owned. They supplement the corridor but will not be designated as the SWCP path for pedestrians

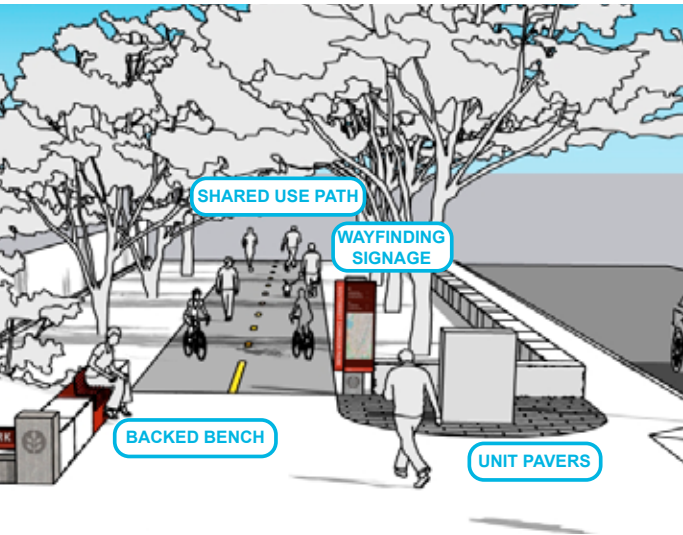
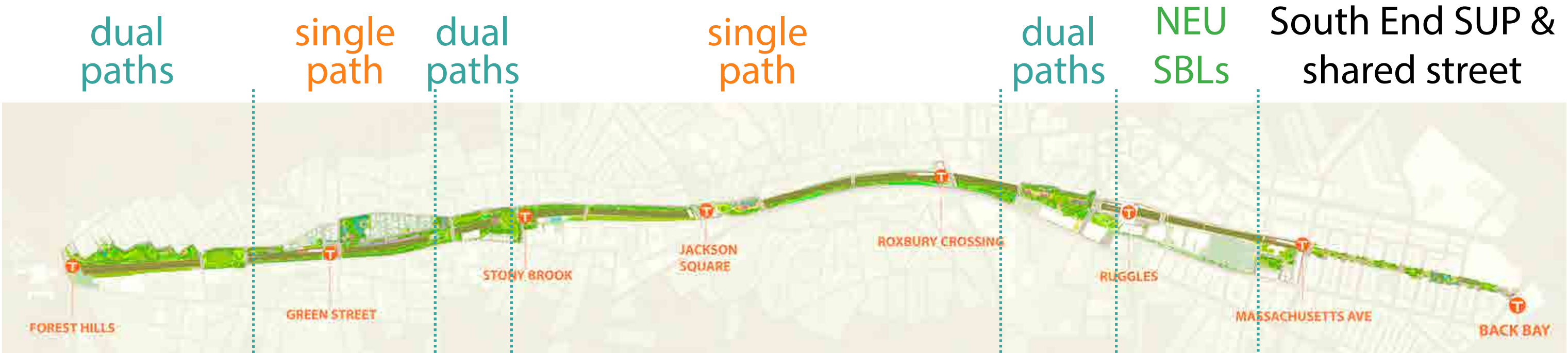


Single Path



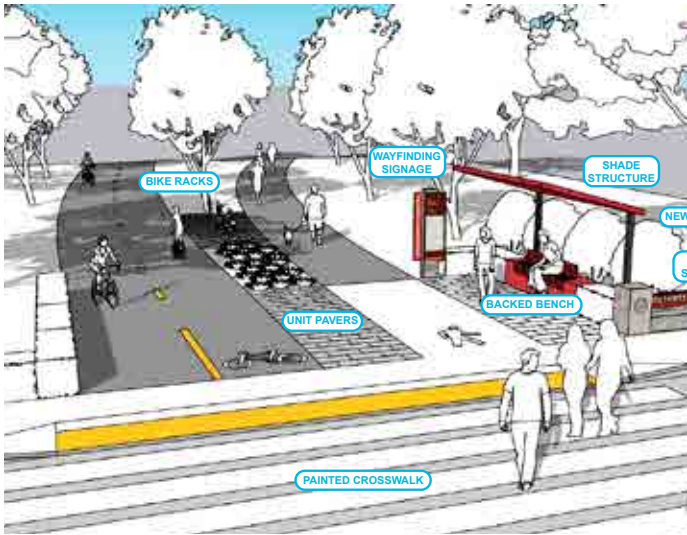
Dual Path

SWCP ACTION PLAN: Mobility - Path Use



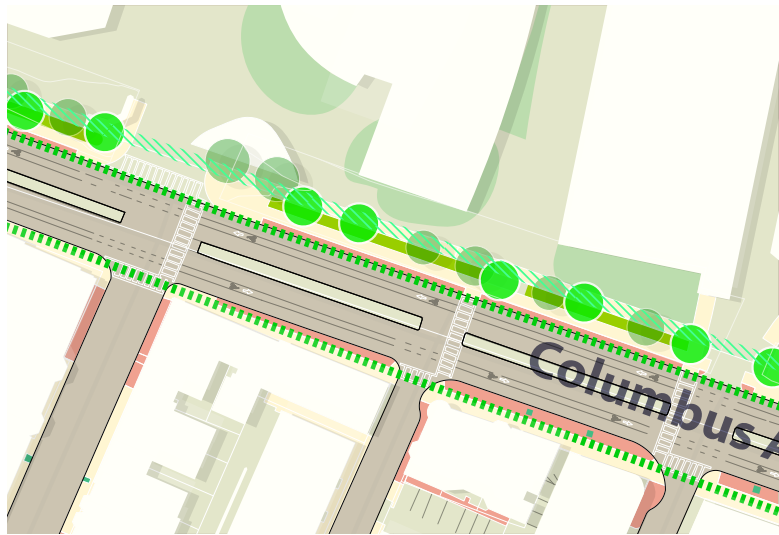
Single Path

Where ONE asphalt path exists today, widen and make shared use



Dual Path

Where TWO asphalt paths exist today, indicate preferred use (ped/bike)



Northeastern Area Separated Bike Lanes (SBLs)

Includes the two-way bike lane next to the fence and in-road, one-way bike lanes. Pedestrians use sidewalk



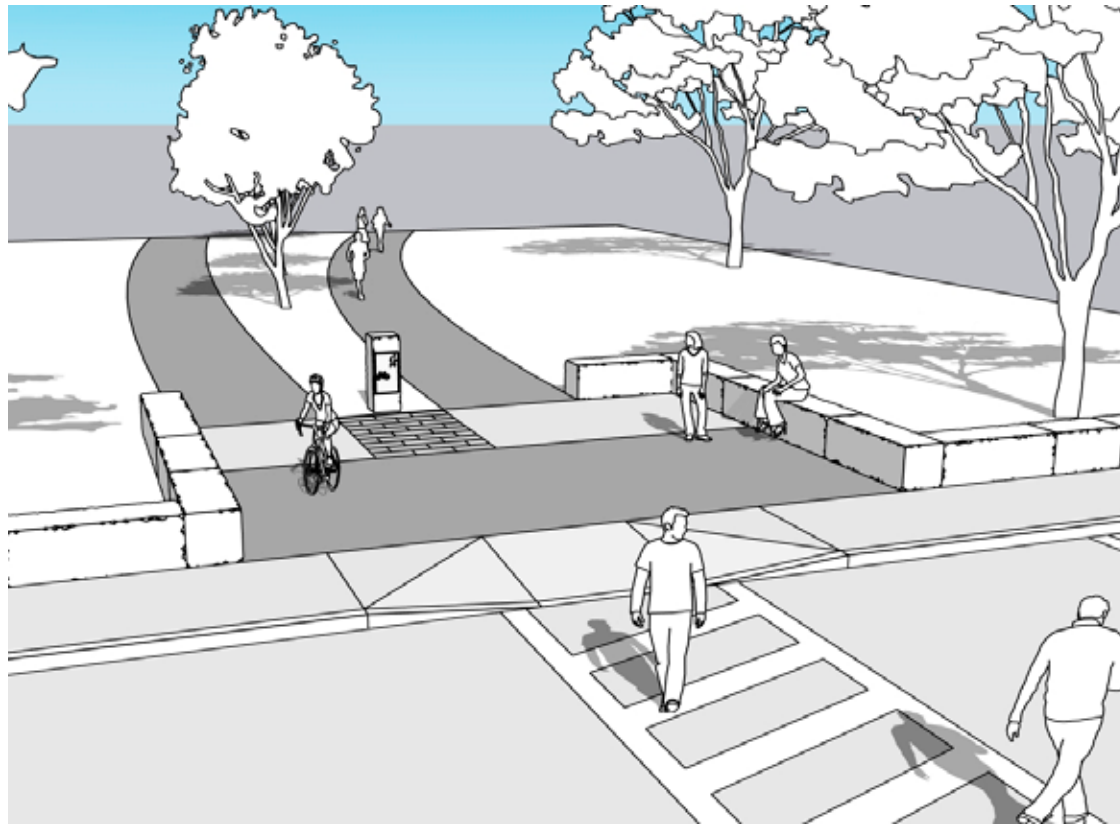
South End - Shared Use Path & Shared Street

Switches between a single, shared use path and street that is open to all users alongside a pedestrian concrete path

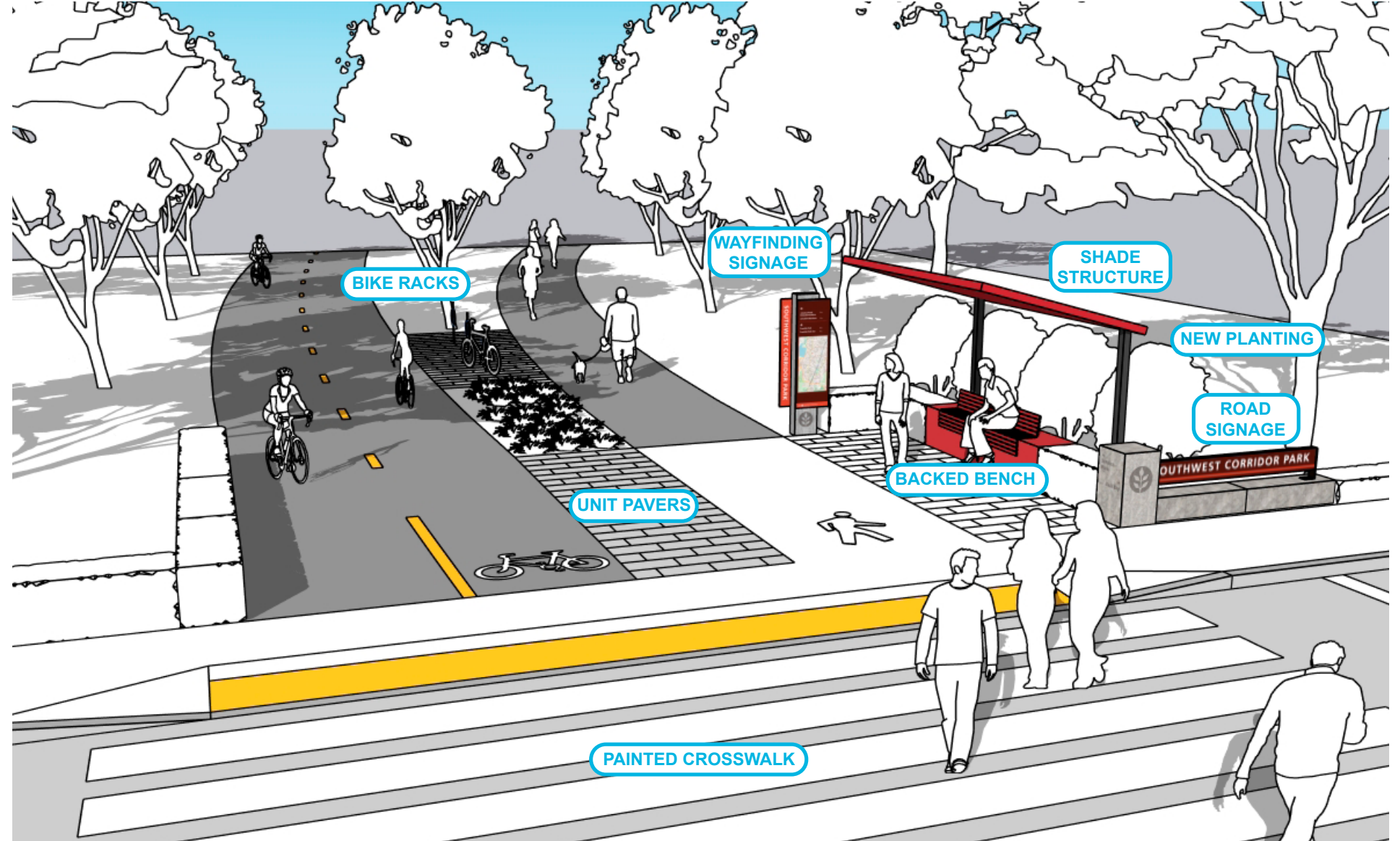
Shared Use Paths (SUPs)

SWCP ACTION PLAN: Mobility - Path Materials

EXISTING CONDITIONS

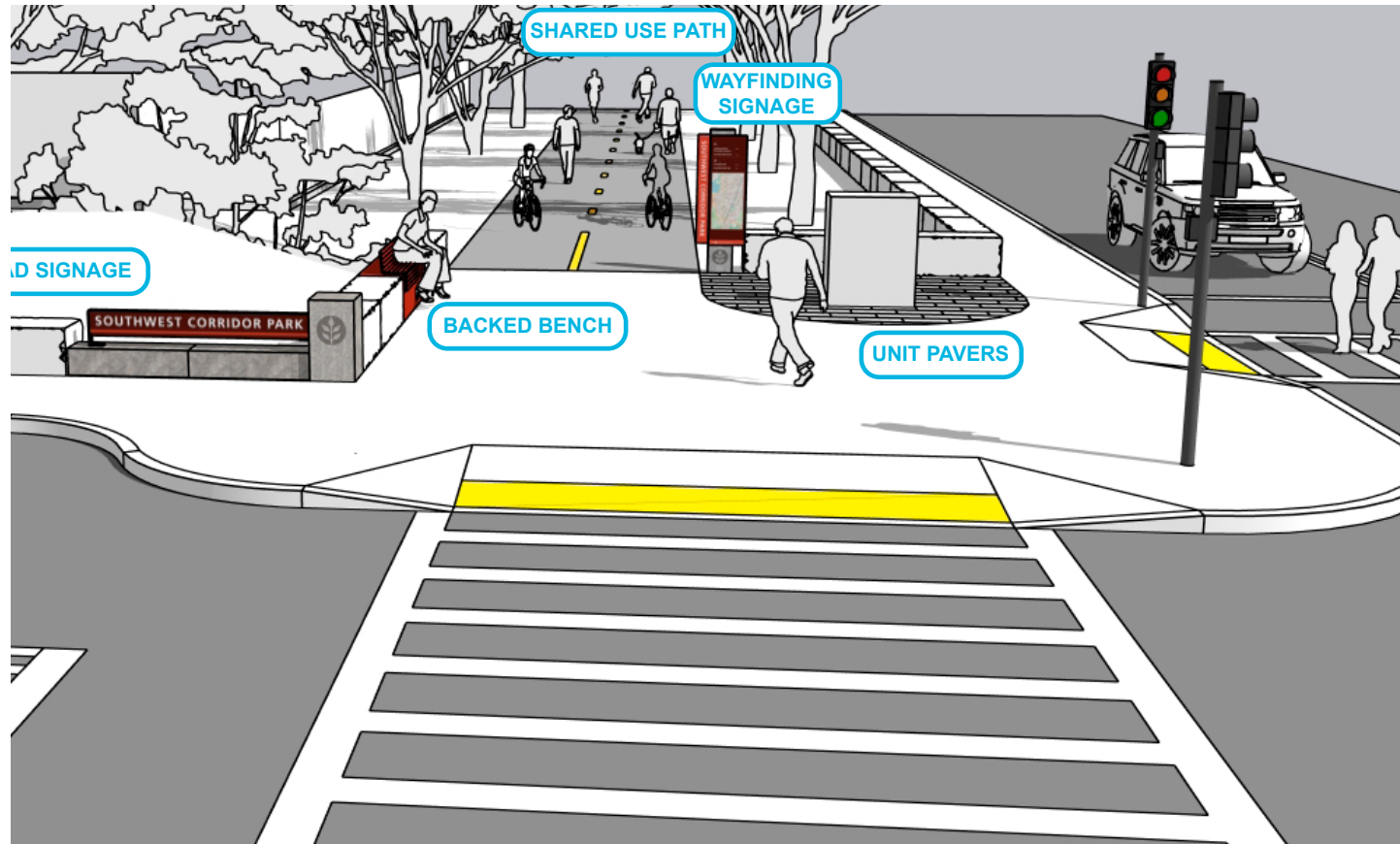


PROPOSED CONDITIONS



- Generally, both single shared use path and dual paths to be asphalt
- Dashed yellow center line on shared use and bike paths
- Use concrete and pavers (sparingly), markings, and signage to further indicate preferred use

SWCP ACTION PLAN: Mobility - Crossings (by BTB)



- City to widen & bring curb ramps up to ADA / PROWAG compliance
- Potential for new crossings, crossing realignments, and moving granite blocks / signal equipment / light poles
- Per City, crossing paint to be determined in design but likely to be wide white markings for both pedestrians and cyclists



Safety issues – steep grades & visibility – to be addressed as feasible given utility constraints



City to implement raised crossings as feasible, including along Columbus Ave

SWCP ACTION PLAN: Mobility - Path Etiquette

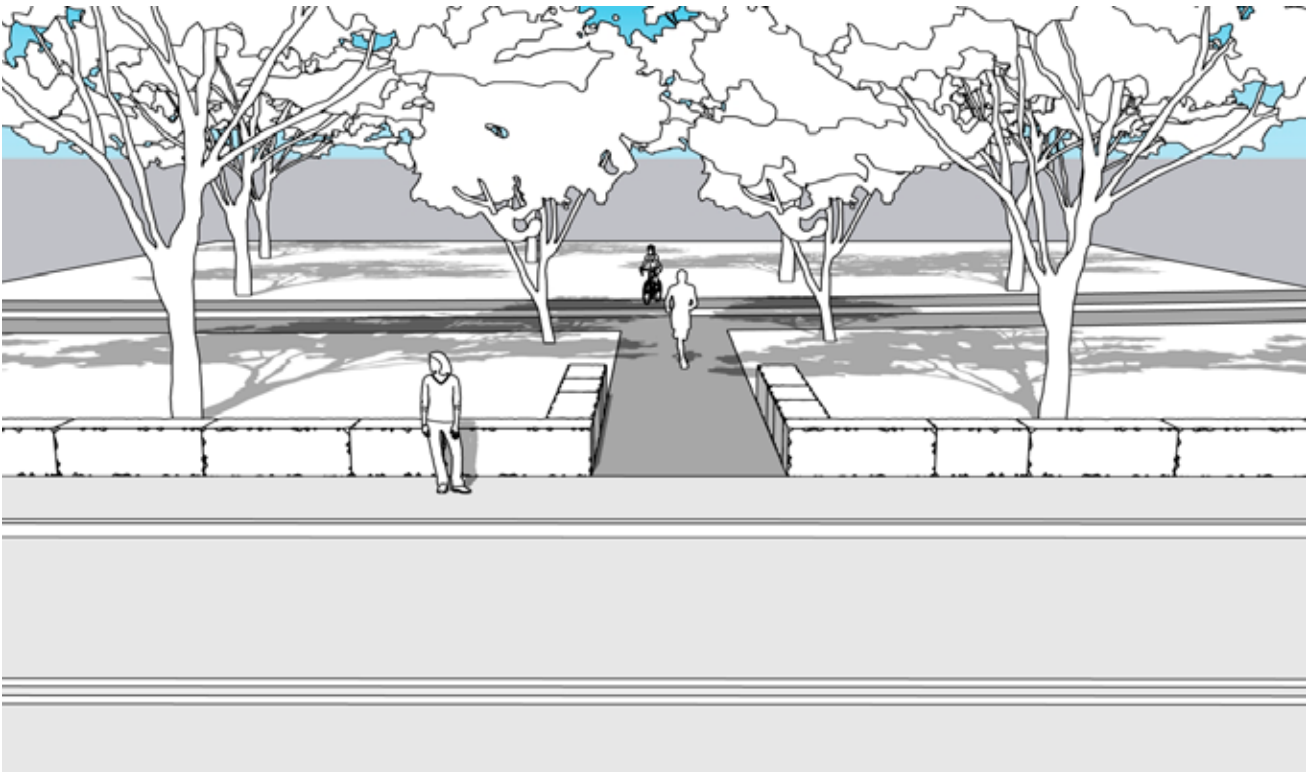
DCR is exploring policies and implementation strategies to:

- Reinforce prohibition of motorized scooters on path
- Reduce conflicts / perception of danger due to high speed travel by people on a range of wheeled devices
- Encourage people walking and biking to “share the path”

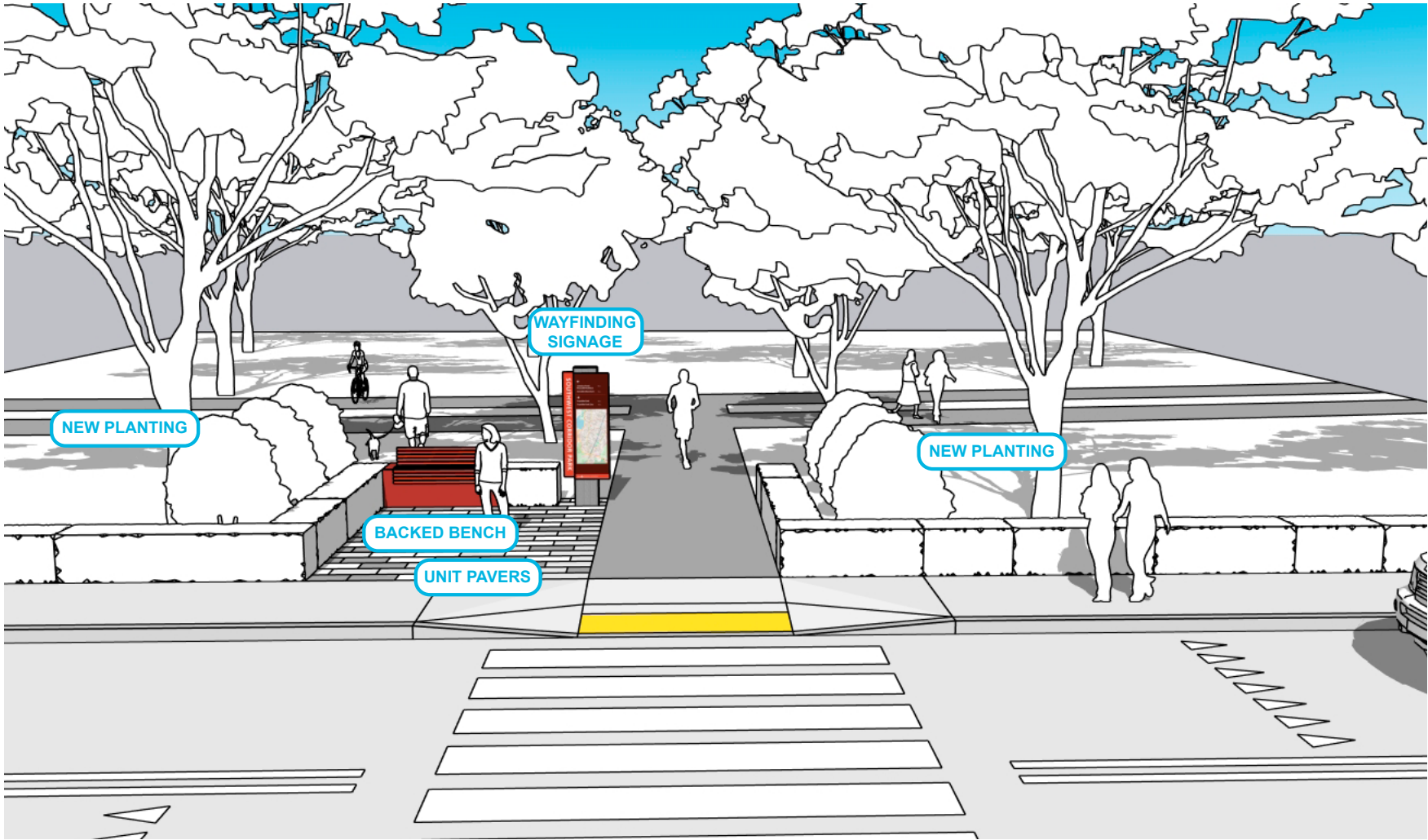


SWCP ACTION PLAN: Secondary entrances

PEDESTRIAN ONLY - EXISTING CONDITIONS



PEDESTRIAN ONLY - PROPOSED CONDITIONS



SWCP ACTION PLAN: Furnishings

Benches



Drinking Fountains



Light Fixture



Bike Racks



Trash Receptacles



SWCP ACTION PLAN: Signage and Wayfinding



SWCP ACTION PLAN: Cultural Resources



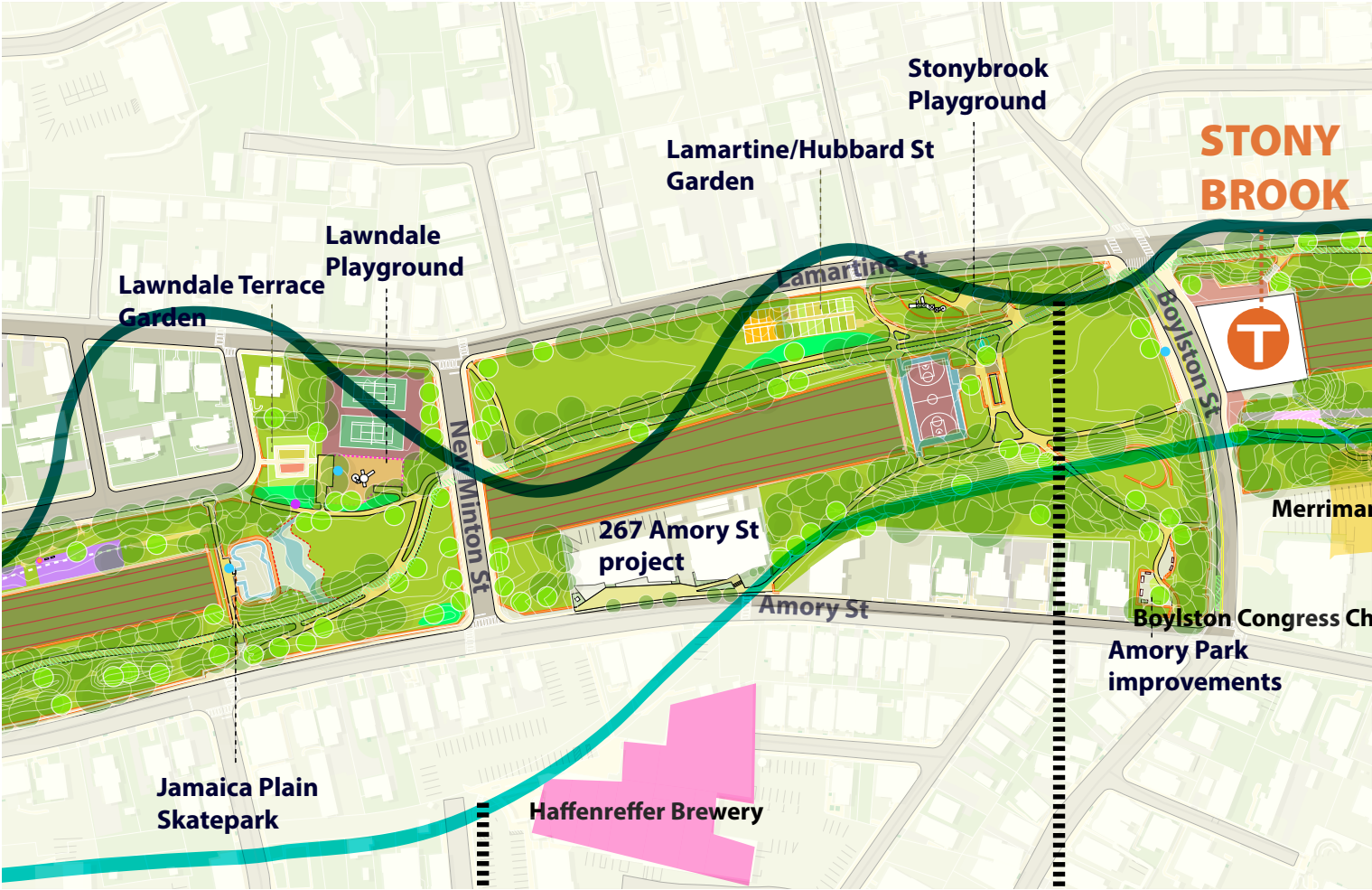
- Develop an interpretive plan
- Prepare an Area Form for Massachusetts Historic Commission
- Highlight activism and community history



SWCP ACTION PLAN: Cultural Resources

Interpretive Signage Showing Changes to Land

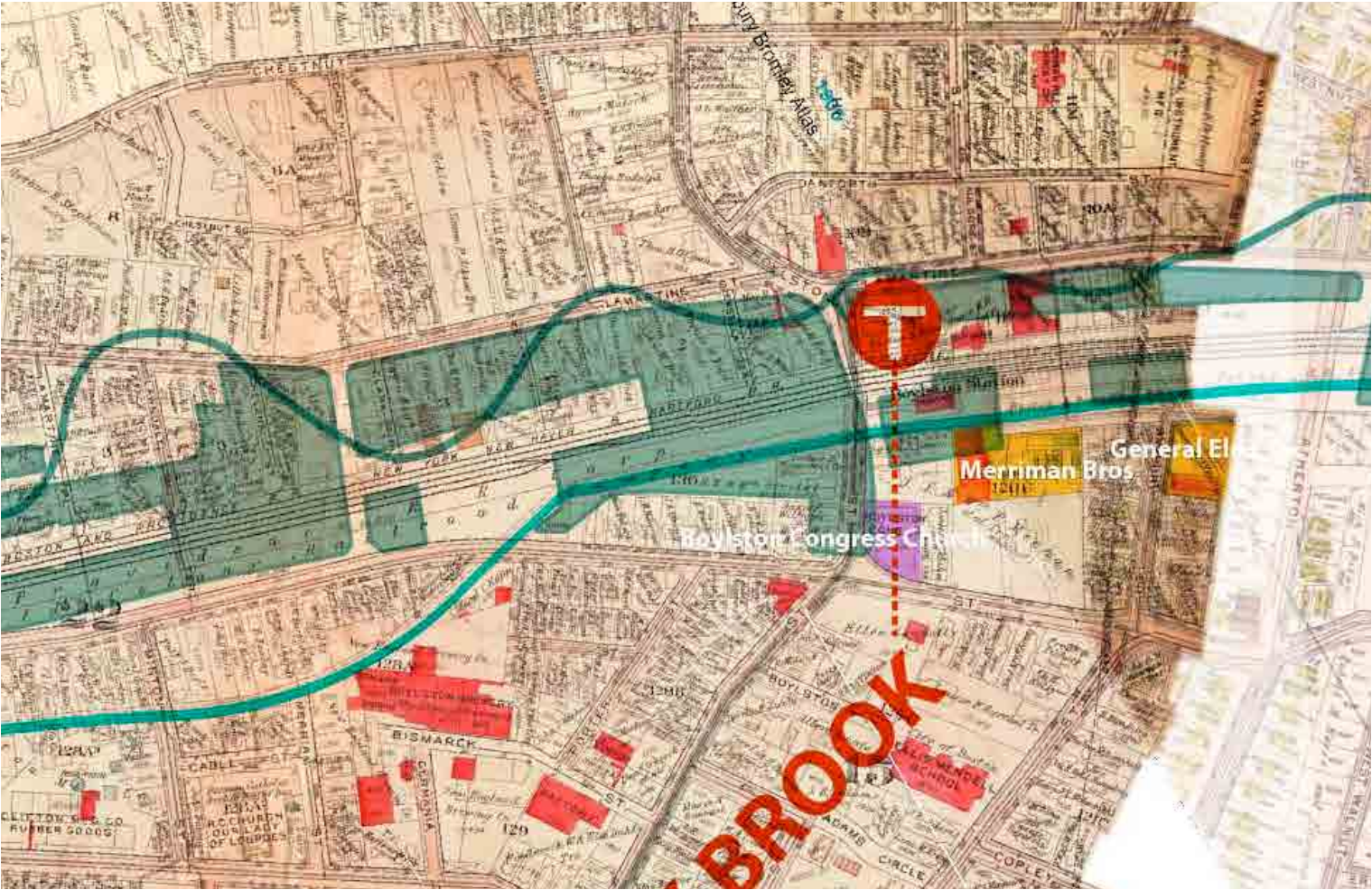
Stony Brook Conduit Today



Stony Brook Conduit
1896 Location

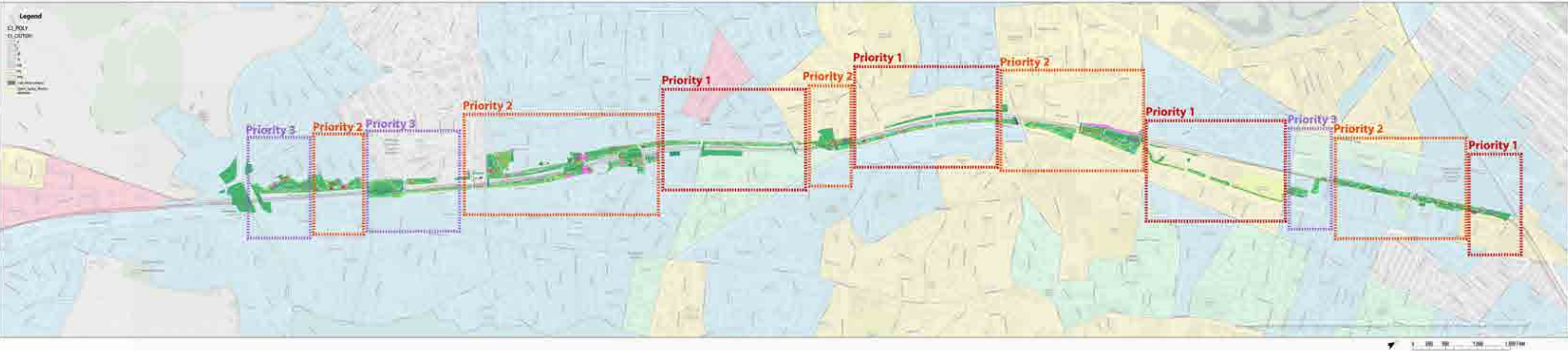
Stony Brook
1819 Location

Stony Brook and Stony Brook Conduit on 1896 Historical Map

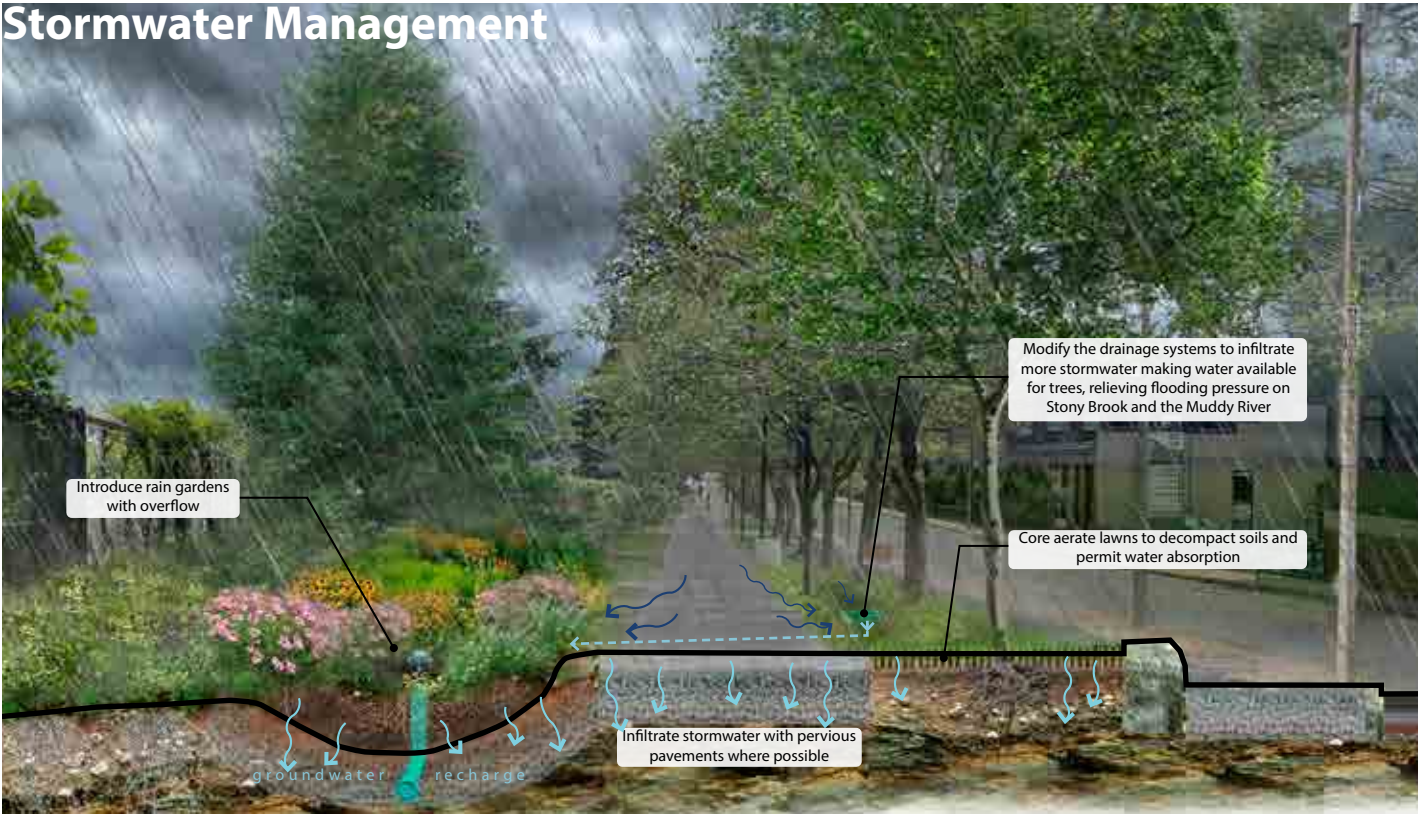


SWCP ACTION PLAN: Natural Resources

Tree Planting



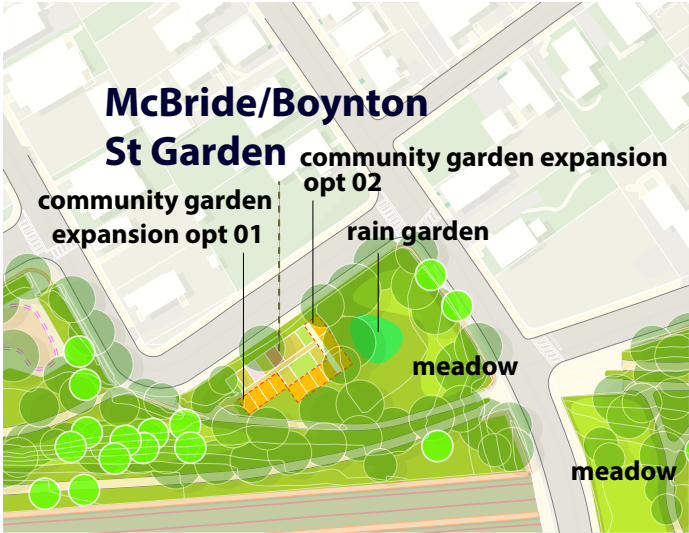
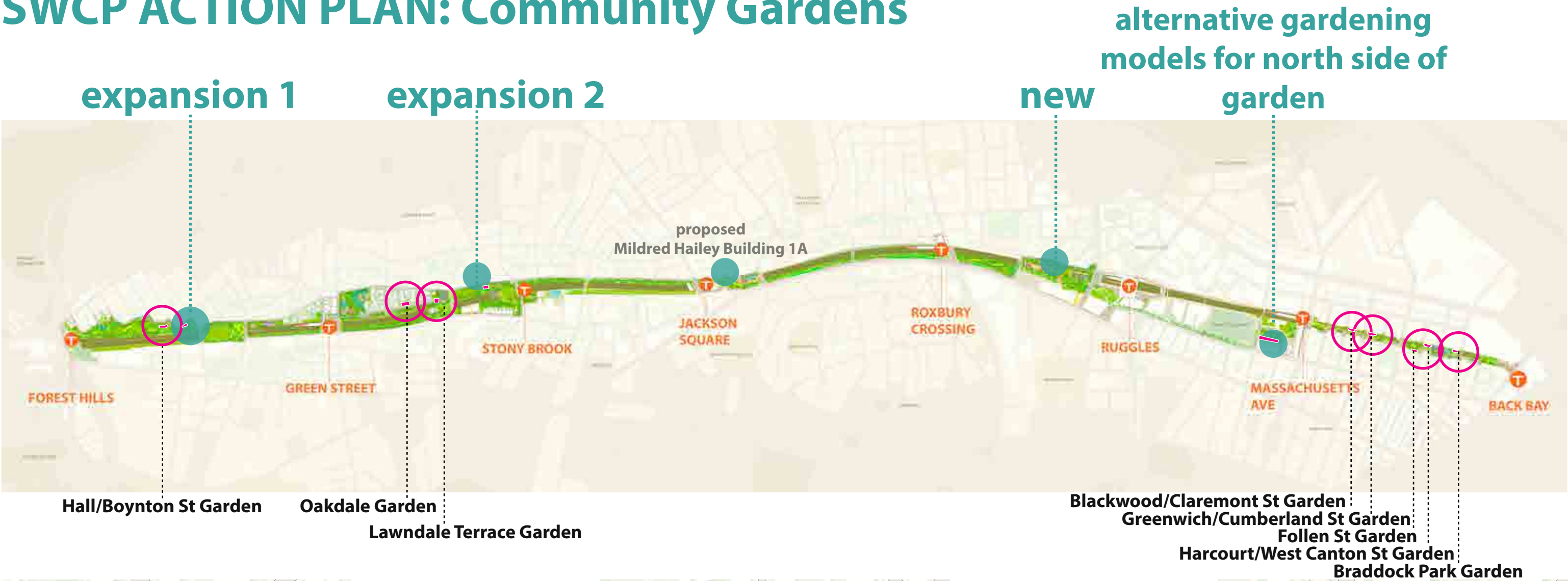
Stormwater Management



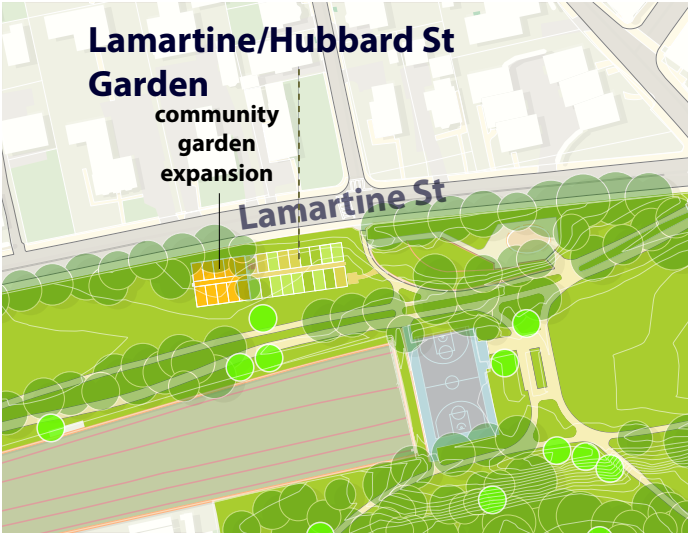
Increasing Biodiversity



SWCP ACTION PLAN: Community Gardens



expansion 1:
McBride/Boynton St
Garden



expansion 2:
Lamartine/Hubbard St
Garden



new:
Mission Hill Deck
Garden

SWCP ACTION PLAN: Dog Park

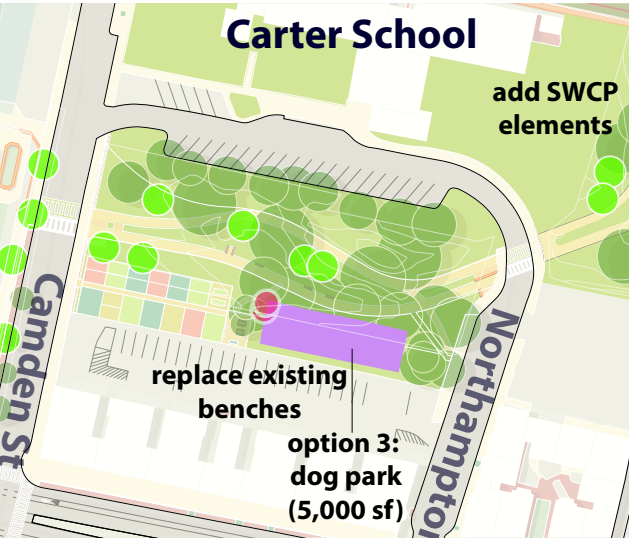
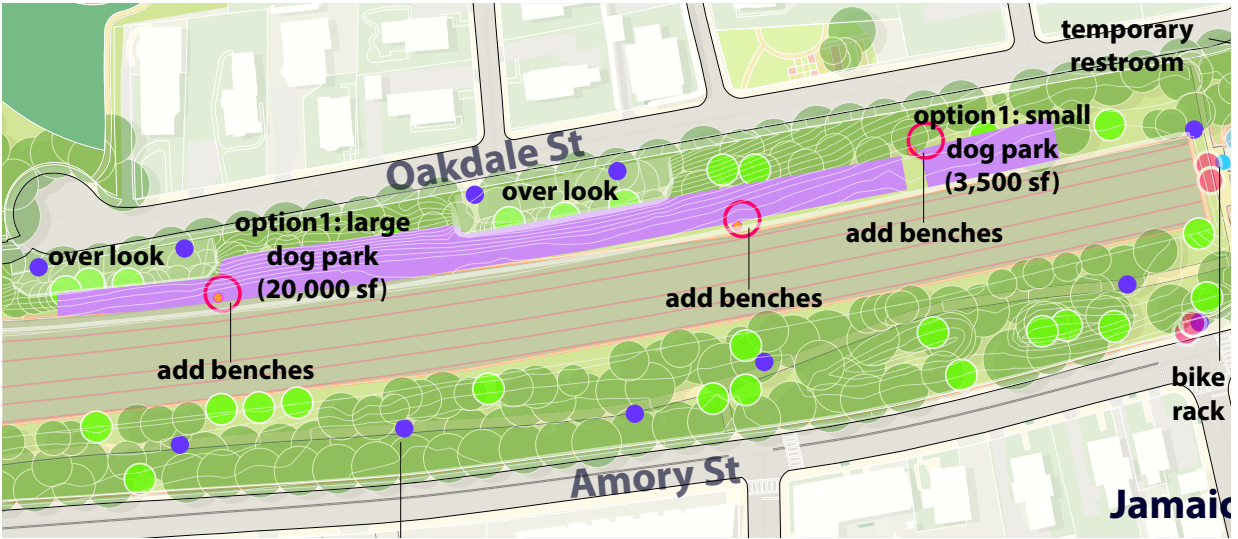
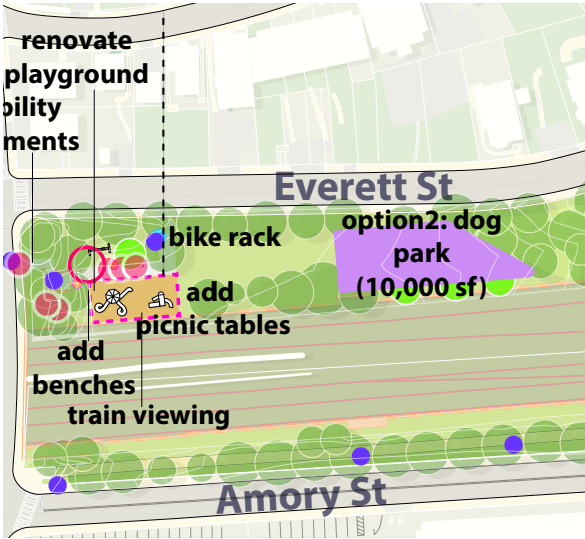
Location Selection Criteria:

- Does not interfere with an existing park use or with the original park design intent (landscape features, amenities)
- Meets the City of Boston's guidance of 100' buffer from abutting residences (residences within 100' but across a street do not apply)
- Meets technical requirements: good drainage, minimal grading, and little to no impact on trees in good condition
- Located with a 10-minute walk of hot spots from documented dog activity and supported by public feedback via focus groups, mapping tools, and surveys

SWCP ACTION PLAN: Dog Park

considered option 1 recommended option 2 considered option 3

considered option 4 existing Carleton Court Dog Park



considered option 1:
temporary dog park
at street hockey court
3,500 sf

recommended option 2:
near Train Park
10,000 sf

considered option 3:
near JP Skate Park
large dog park- 20,000 sf
small dog park- 3,500 sf

considered option 4:
near Mass Ave
5,000 sf

Q & A: Corridor-wide Topics

What are we getting right?

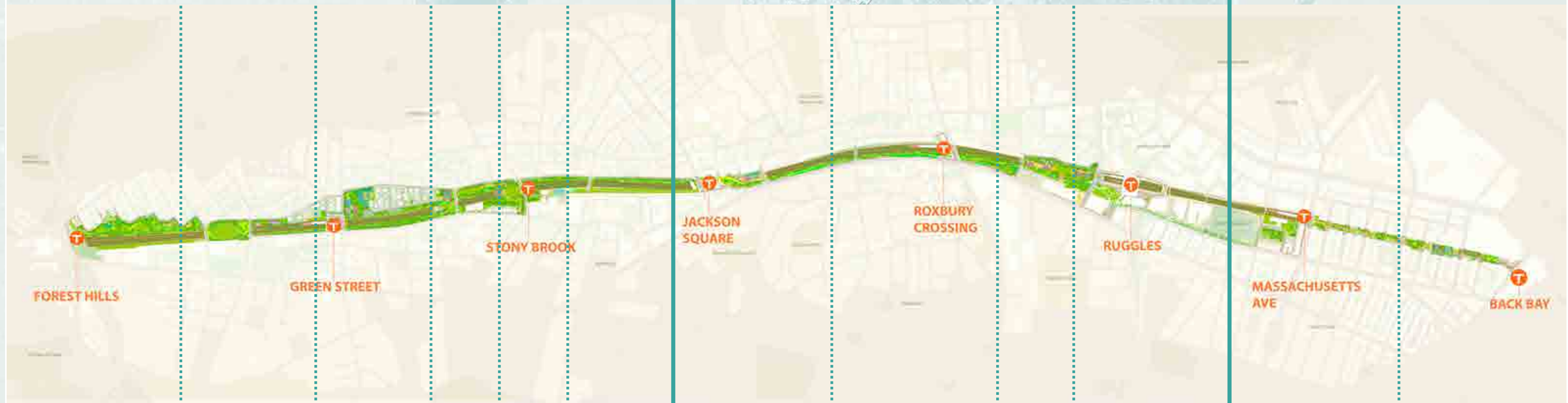
Is there anything we're missing?

Do you have other questions?

Meeting Norms

1. Share the microphone.
2. Accept that we might disagree with one another.
3. Chat is just as valid as questions asked out loud.
4. Please keep comments high level -- detailed discussions about specific topics can take place after this meeting.
5. There are many ways to learn more and give feedback: DCR's comment portal, online survey form, Storymap, and future public meetings and events.

Southwest Corridor Park

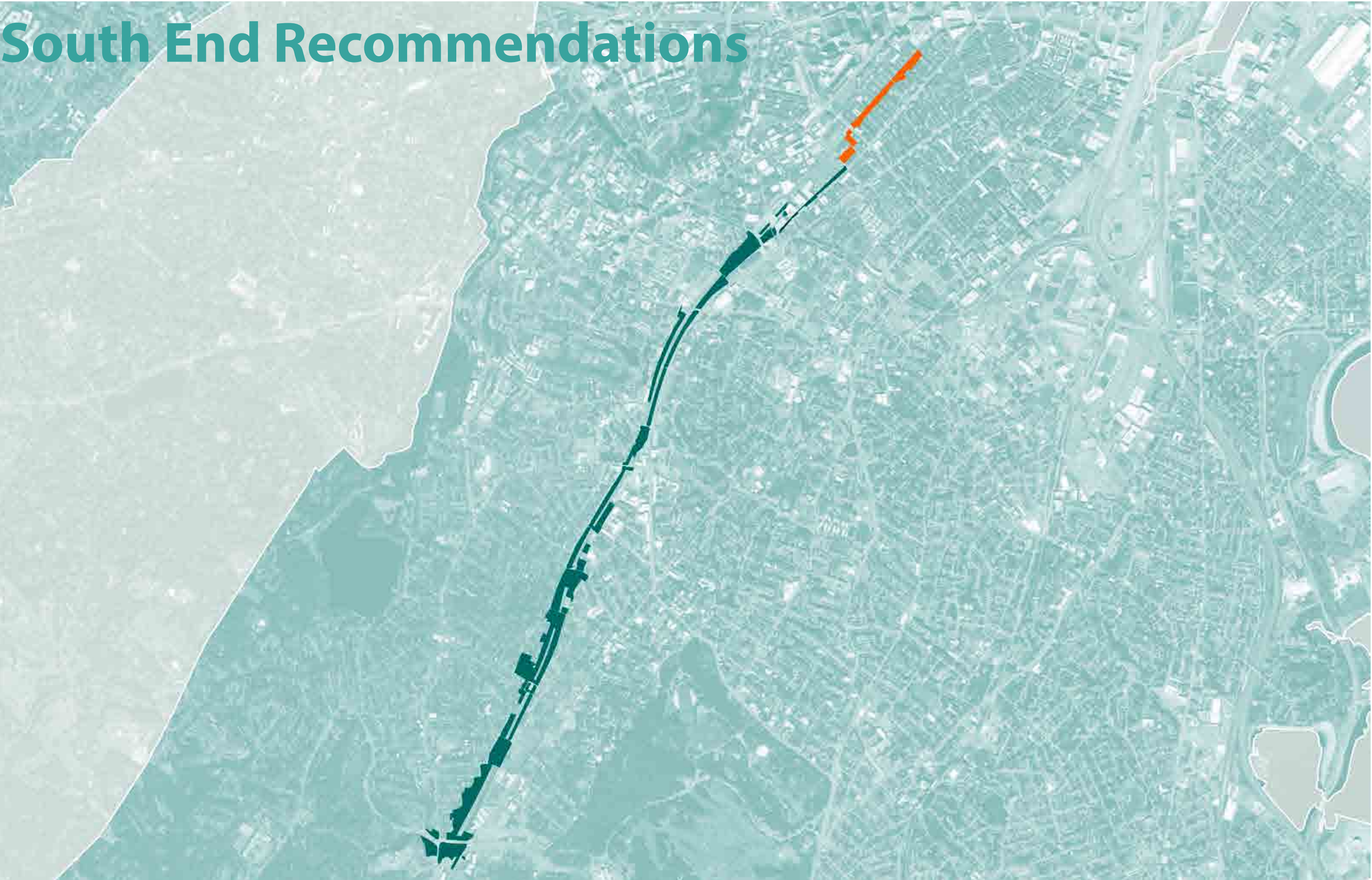


Jamaica Plain

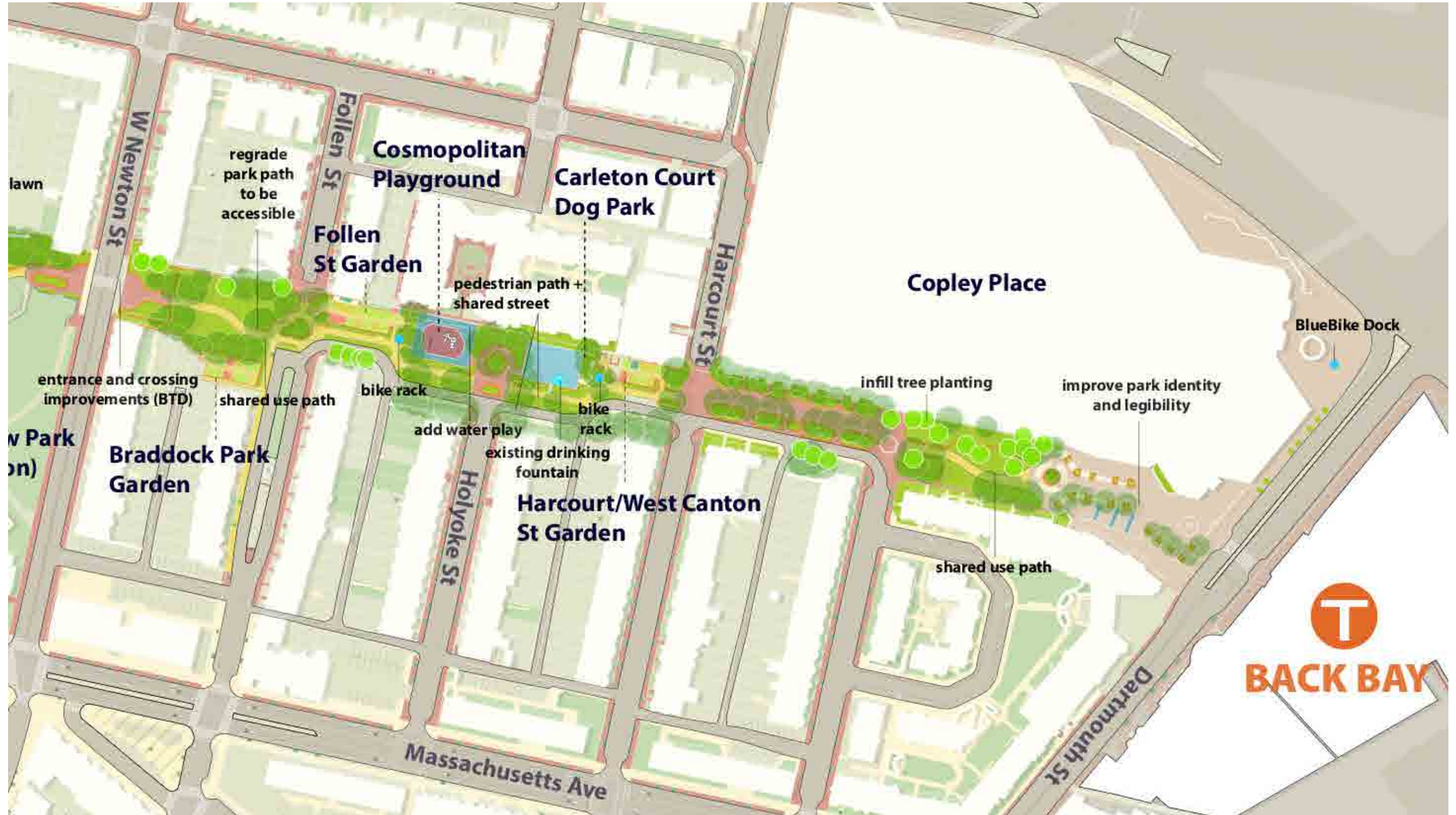
Roxbury

South End

South End Recommendations



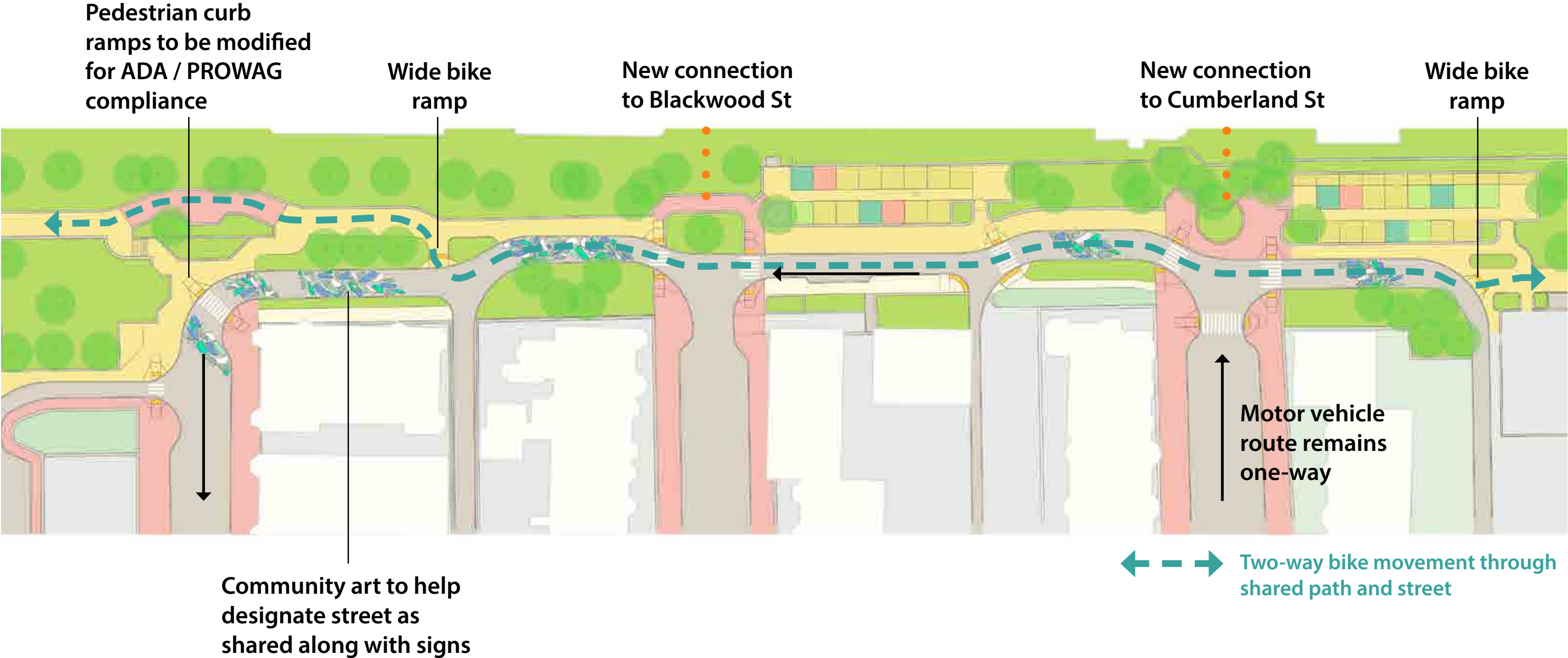
SWCP ACTION PLAN: West Newton to Dartmouth



SWCP ACTION PLAN: Camden to West Newton



SWCP ACTION PLAN: Shared Street Along Claremont



Camden to West Newton

New Entrance at Cumberland Street



Proposed



Existing

Camden to West Newton

Park Entrance on North side of Massachusetts Avenue: Existing

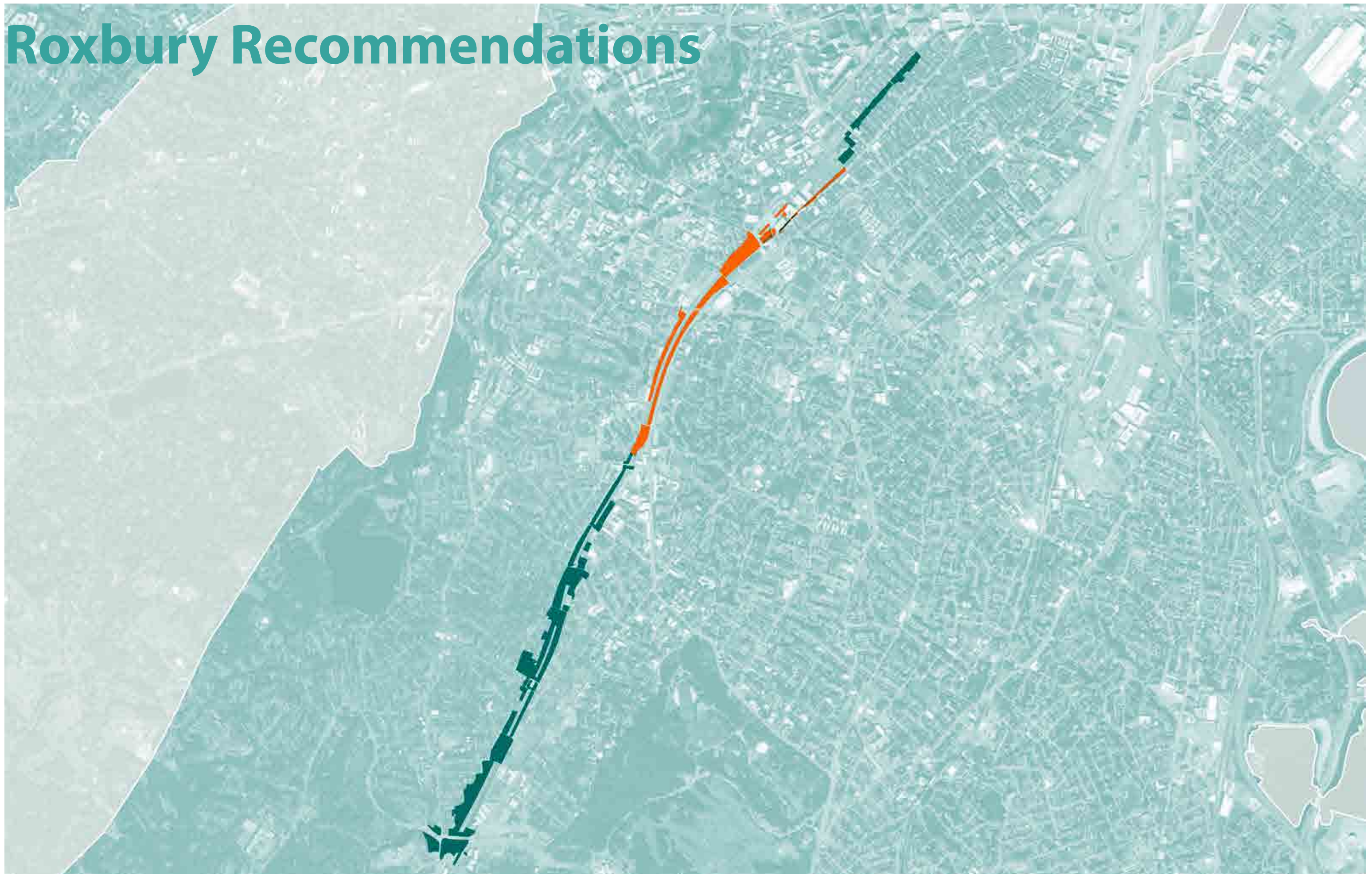


Camden to West Newton

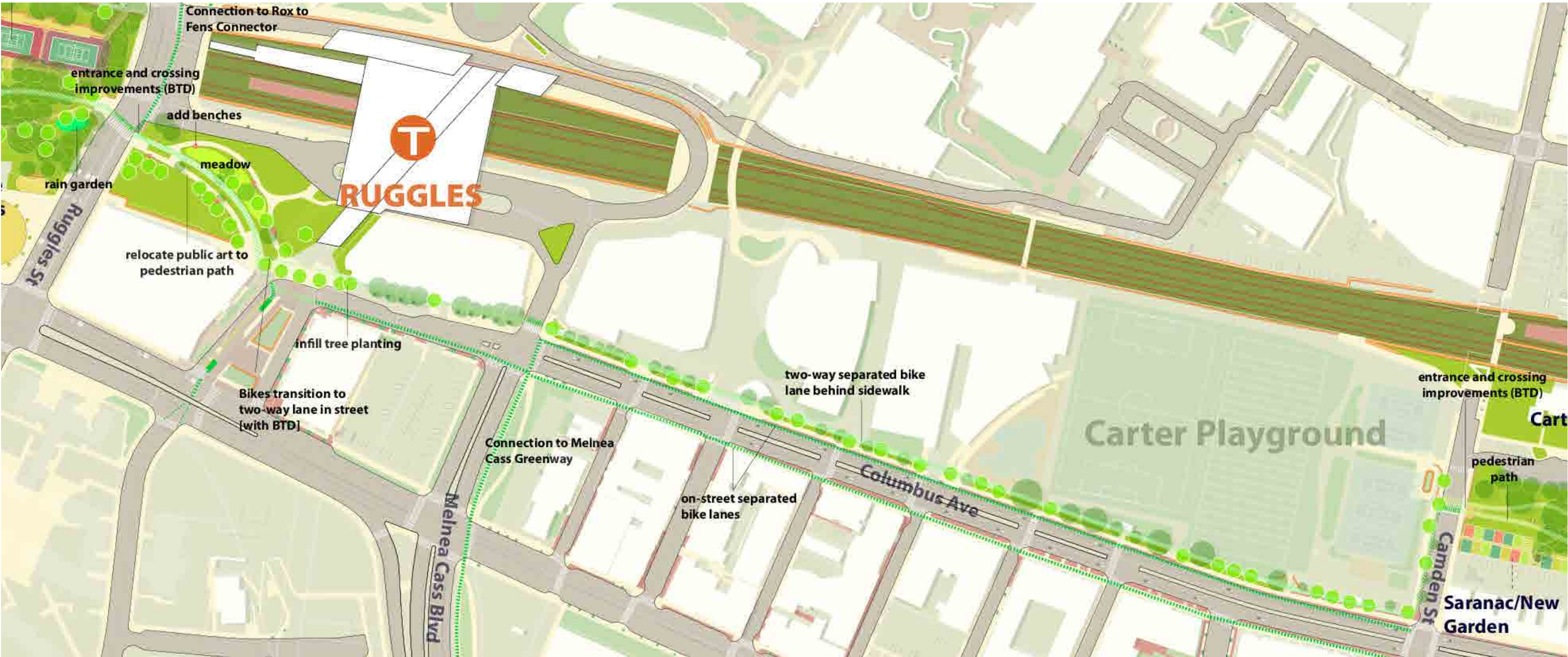
Park Entrance on North side of Massachusetts Avenue: Proposed



Roxbury Recommendations



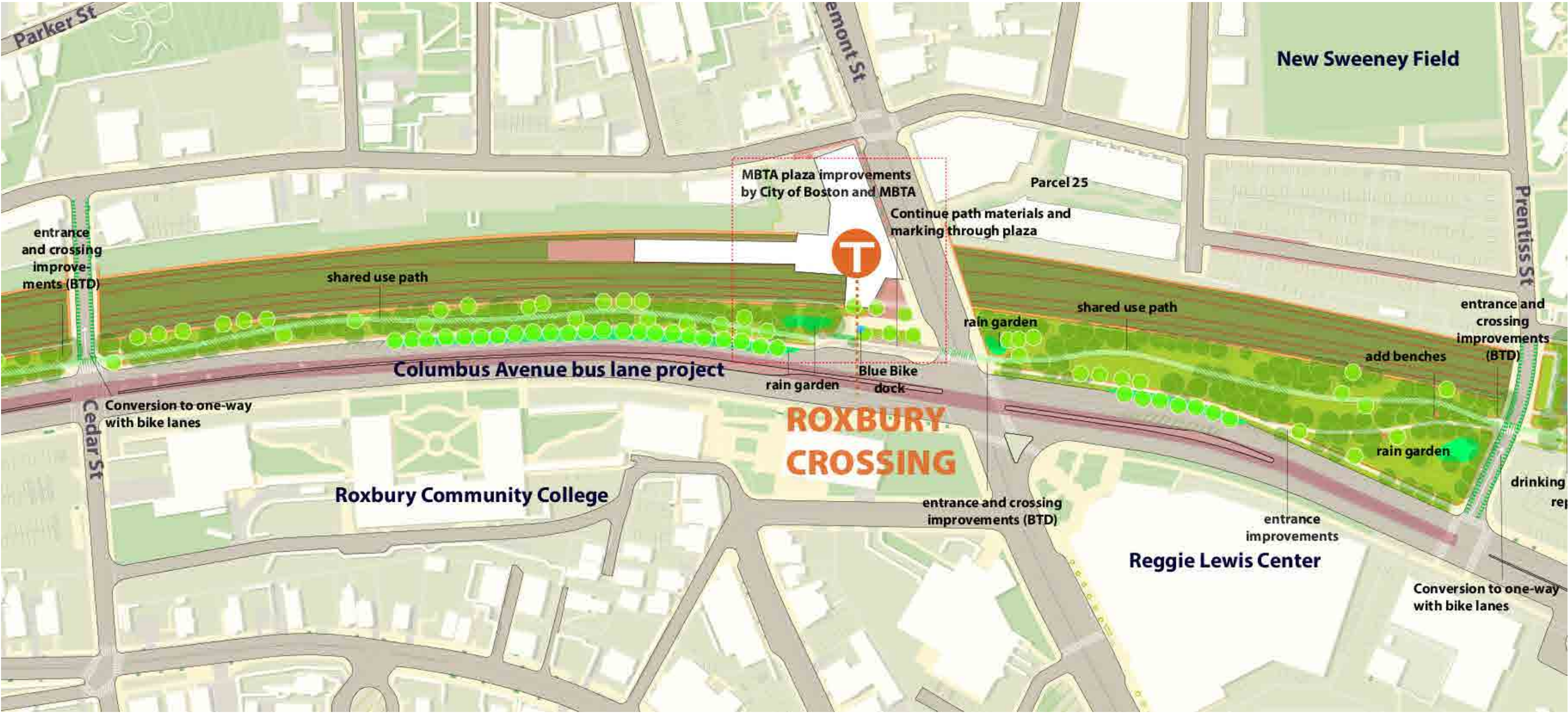
SWCP ACTION PLAN: Ruggles to Camden



SWCP ACTION PLAN: Prentiss to Ruggles



SWCP ACTION PLAN: Cedar to Prentiss



SWCP ACTION PLAN: Centre to Cedar

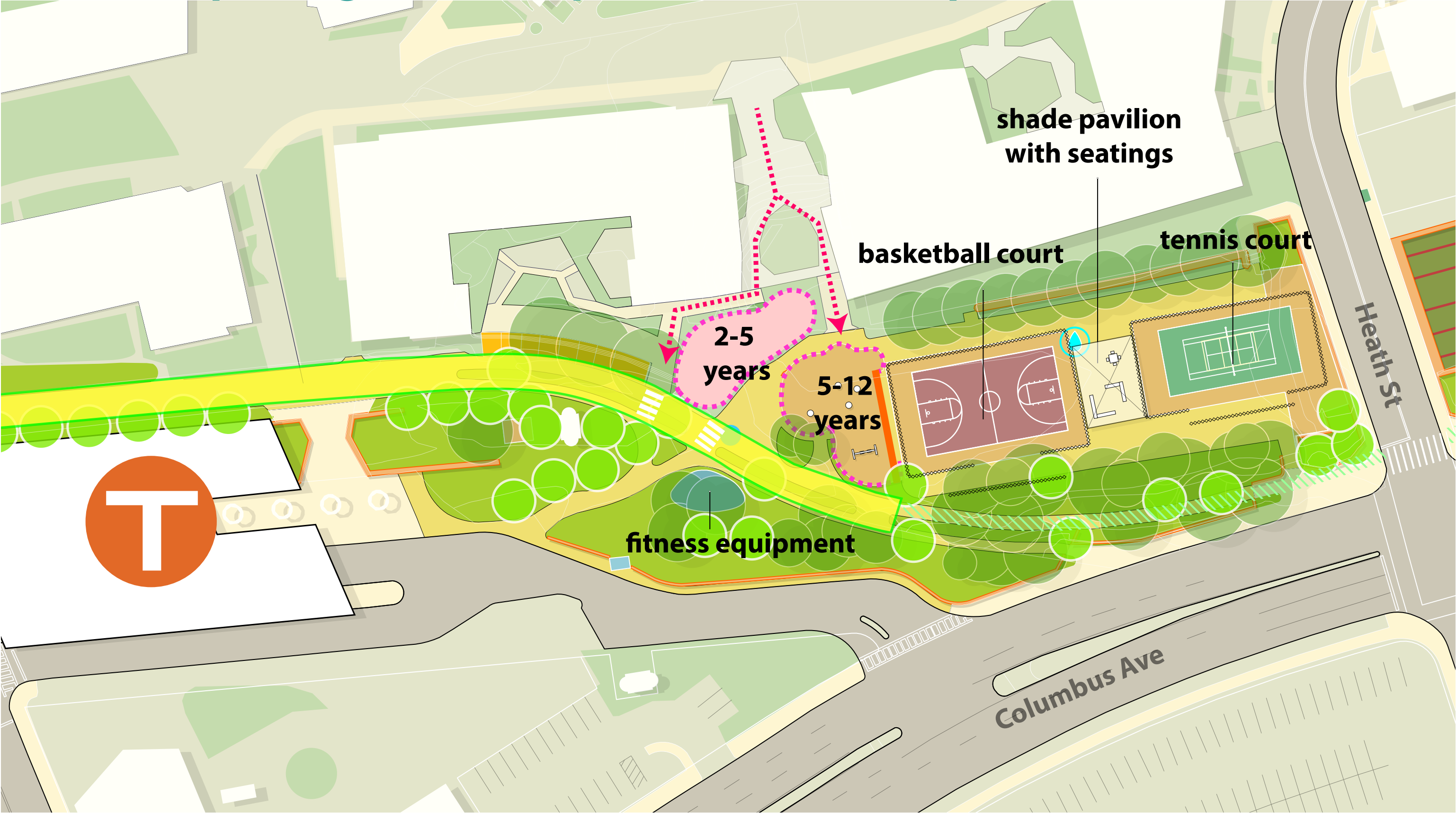


SWCP ACTION PLAN: Jackson Sq Enlargement Proposed Condition Option 01

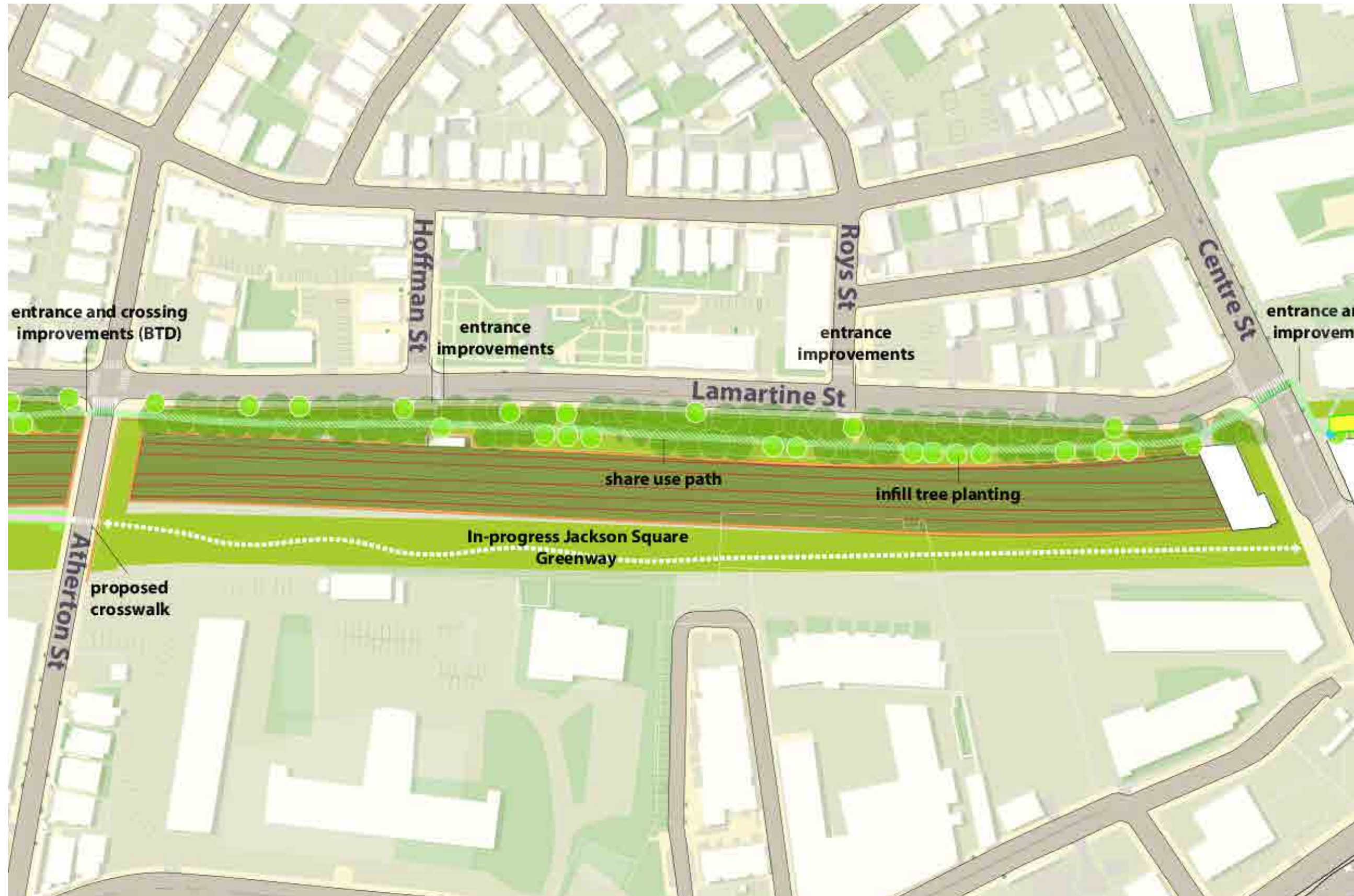


SWCP ACTION PLAN:

Jackson Sq Enlargement Proposed Condition Option 02



SWCP ACTION PLAN: Atherton to Centre



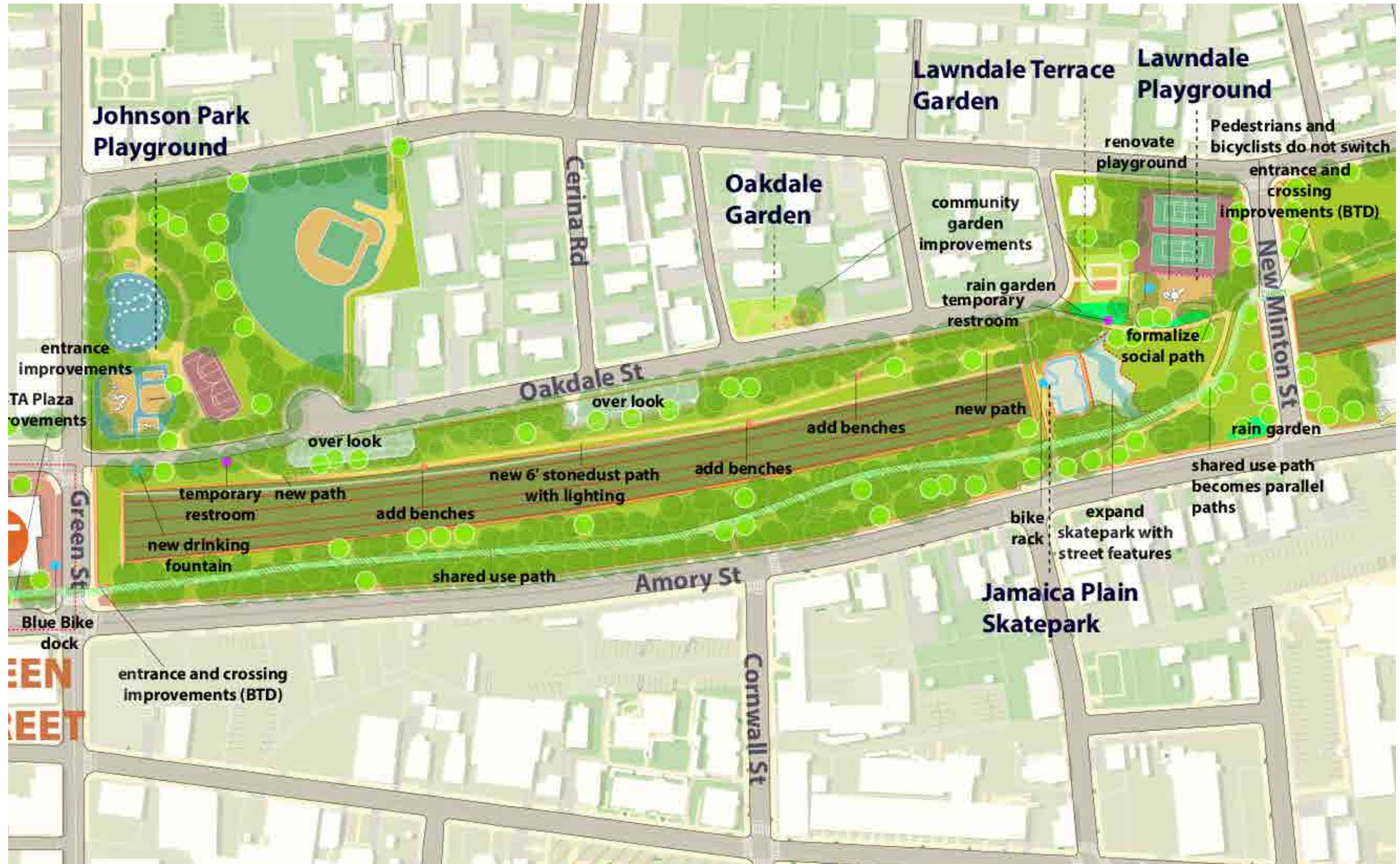
SWCP ACTION PLAN: New Minton to Atherton



SWCP ACTION PLAN: Proposed Condition Enlargement



SWCP ACTION PLAN: Green to New Minton



SWCP ACTION PLAN: McBride to Green



SWCP ACTION PLAN: Arborway to McBride



SWCP ACTION PLAN:
Anson and Spalding Playgrounds Enlargement Proposed Option 01



SWCP ACTION PLAN :
Anson and Spalding Playgrounds Enlargement Proposed Option 02



SWCP ACTION PLAN: Early Action Projects (1-3 years)

DCR

1. **Mission Deck Playground and Splash Pad (2023)**
2. **Kelly Rink and Circulation Improvements (2 phases)**
 - a. Summer 2024: Year round operations and activation
 - b. Ice Rink and Circulation Improvements
3. **Dog Park in Jamaica Plain**
4. **Drinking Fountains (pending feasibility)**
5. **Stonybrook (Court and Seating) and Amory Park Design**
6. **Path Etiquette and Safety Pilot**
7. **Path Repairs**

MBTA or City of Boston

1. **McBride Crossing Improvement**
2. **Columbus Avenue Bus Lane Project**
Crossings: Heath, Cedar, Tremont, Prentiss
Plaza: Roxbury Crossing MBTA Plaza and Path
3. **Ruggles MBTA Station Accessibility Phase 1**
4. **Jackson Square Bluebike Dock Relocation**

SWCP ACTION PLAN: Early Action Projects (1-3 years)



SWCP ACTION PLAN: Community-Driven Priorities (3+ years)

DCR

- **Mobility Improvements:** new paths, signage/wayfinding, trees (BTD to lead crossing improvements)
- **Deck Areas:** Mission Deck, Jackson Square, Stonybrook
- **Community Garden Phase I Improvements:** Lamartine/Hubbard St/ Oakdale/ Lawndale Terrace
- **Playground Renovations:** Anson/Spaulding/Boynton, Train Park, Lawndale, Jackson Square
- **Skatepark Expansion**
- **Cultural Resources and Interpretation Program Plan**

MBTA and City of Boston

- **Crossing Improvements:** Williams, Green, New Minton, Boylston, Atherton Centre, Massachusetts Avenue, West Newton
- **Green Street MBTA Plaza Improvements**
- **Massachusetts Ave MBTA Accessibility Improvements**
- **Jackson Square MBTA Improvements**

SWCP ACTION PLAN: Prioritization Criteria

Safety & Accessibility

- Out of compliance with ADA
- Documented incidents
- Volume of users

Community Support

- Documented support and advocacy
- Overlap with Friends group priorities

Equity

- Environmental justice area
- History of recent and past disinvestments

Cost

- Cost of improvement and availability of funding

Technical Feasibility

- Complexity of ownership
- Design and engineering issues
- Permitting challenges

Readiness

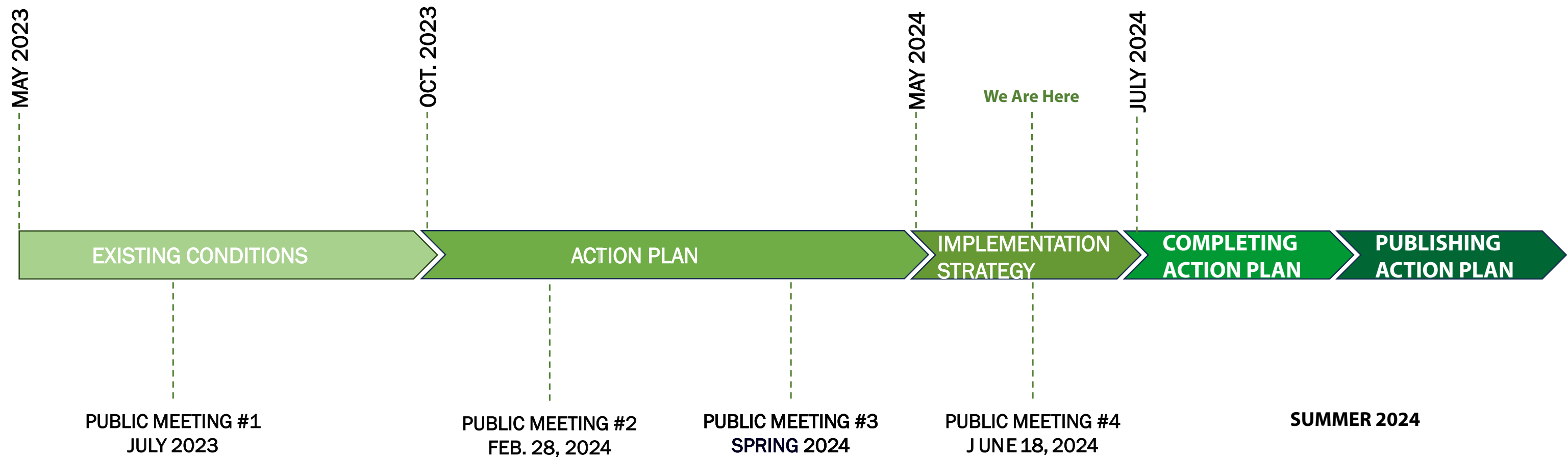
- Lead time required for project initiation, staff availability and funding

Q & A: Action Plan

What are we getting right?

Is there anything we're missing?

SWCP ACTION PLAN: Next Steps



STAY INVOLVED

- **Submit a public comment by July 2 , 2024**
<https://www.mass.gov/forms/dcr-public-comments>
- **Scan the QR Code below to find project website + sign up for updates**

SOUTHWEST CORRIDOR PARK ACTION PLAN

Creating a vision for the future of the SWCP

Boston, MA
January 4, 2024



For more information on the Southwest Corridor Park Action Plan



An aerial perspective of a 3D architectural model of a city. A prominent green corridor, lined with numerous stylized trees in shades of green and yellow, runs diagonally from the bottom right towards the top right. To the left of this corridor is a dense grid of grey rectangular blocks representing buildings. The background shows a vast, flat expanse of similar grey blocks, suggesting a large urban area. The overall scene is brightly lit, with soft shadows.

Southwest Corridor Park Action Plan

THANK YOU!