

Worcester Kelley Square Improvement Project

Spring 2019

About the Project

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), in coordination with the City of Worcester and the Federal Highway Administration, is undertaking the Kelley Square Improvement Project to improve safety and operations within the general Kelley Square area. The project is addressing the safety and operational challenges facing pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists. The project will also support the local businesses and residents who call Kelley Square home. Community input and support are essential to redesign the square to meet the needs and vision of the community. The goal of the public engagement program is to share information with all users of Kelley Square and gather input.

The project focuses on the Kelley Square intersection of Vernon Street, Water Street, Harding Street, Green Street, Millbury Street, and Madison Street. The project also includes a section of Madison Street from Kelley Square to the railroad overpass. The project area is one of the highest crash locations in Massachusetts.

The area does not currently accommodate bicyclists safely and sidewalks are not accessible to people with disabilities. The redesign will also include intersection modifications at the I-290 eastbound and westbound ramps with Vernon Street. The



project does not include rebuilding the Vernon Street bridge over I-290, but roadway striping will be added to show two lanes of travel in each direction.

Reimagining Kelley Square Reaches 25% Design

The project began in July 2018. The project team reached out to residents, businesses, agencies, elected officials, City staff, and community and advocacy groups. Three public visioning workshops, an informational meeting and the design public hearing on February 27, 2019 led to the current design.

The current design includes:

- Marking two lanes of travel within the roundabout and on the Madison Street and Vernon Street approaches to the roundabout,
- Changing Millbury Street to one-way southbound and Harding Street south of the roundabout to northbound travel,
- Keeping Harding Street north of the roundabout one-way southbound between Harrison Street and Kelley Square, and
- Prohibiting left turns at the I-290 westbound off-ramp and providing a signal at the intersection.

Pedestrians and bicyclists will be accommodated with a

wide shared-use path on the perimeter of the proposed Kelley Square roundabout. Crosswalks at Madison Street, Vernon Street and across the middle of the roundabout itself will be enhanced with the addition of rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs). Landscaping, streetscaping and other amenities will be added during final design. These will include lighting and plantings in Kelley Square.



Upcoming Schedule

- *April 28, 2019* – 75%/100% design submitted
- *Late May 2019* – public meeting for construction planning
- *July 20, 2019* – advertise for construction

How to Be Involved

We want to hear from you! Please sign up to receive email updates and meeting notices, attend meetings and visit the project website to learn more. The website includes previous presentations. You can reach us at kelleysqproj.worcester@dot.state.ma.us or <https://www.mass.gov/worcester-kelley-square-improvement-project>.

