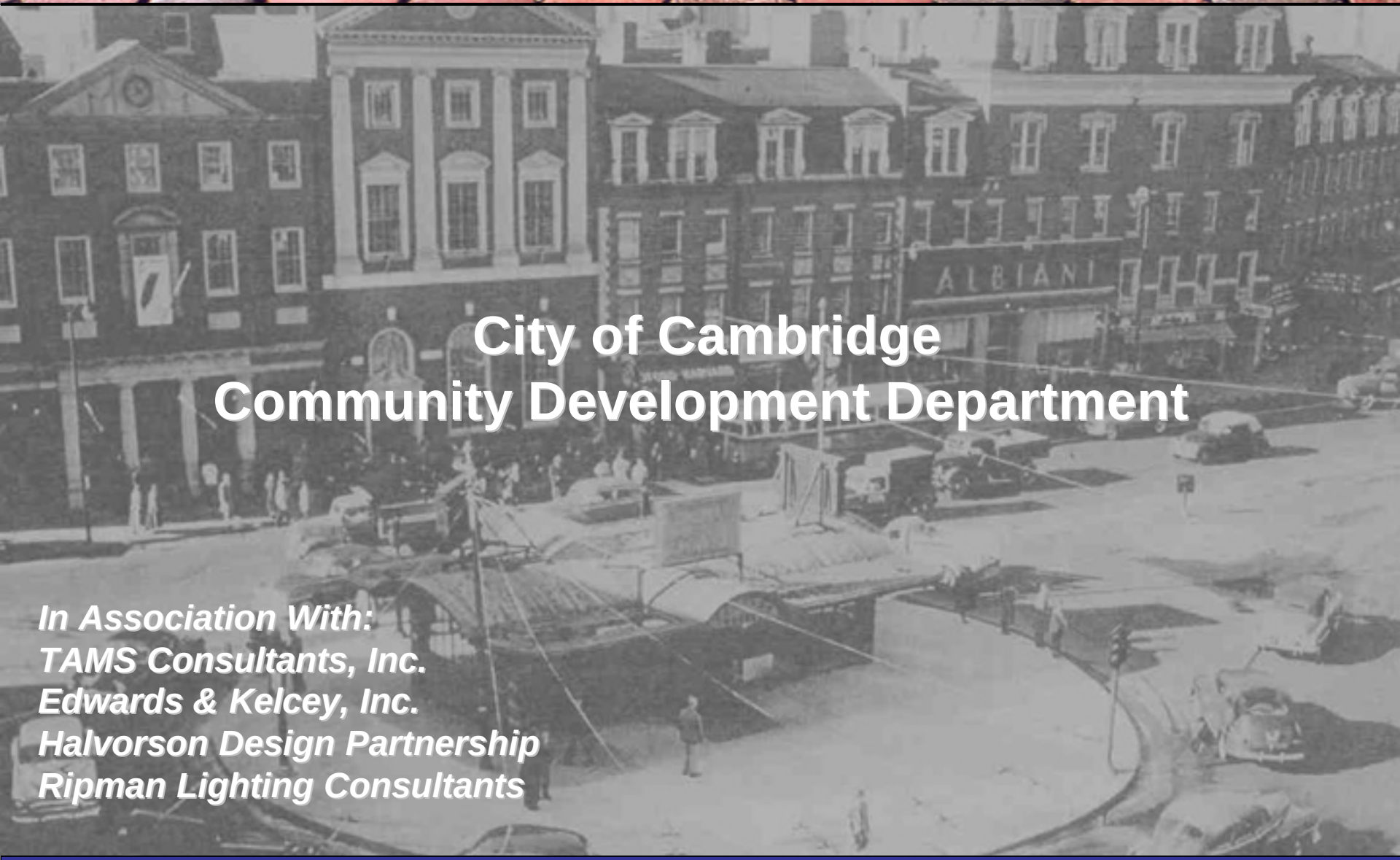
Harvard Square Design Project



City of Cambridge
Community Development Department

In Association With:
TAMS Consultants, Inc.
Edwards & Kelcey, Inc.
Halvorson Design Partnership
Ripman Lighting Consultants

Community Meeting – May 15, 2003

AGENDA

1. *INTRODUCTIONS / PROJECT BACKGROUND*
2. *TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS*
3. *PLAZA IMPROVEMENTS*
4. *BREAK*
5. *SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS*
6. *REPORTING BACK*

HARVARD SQUARE DESIGN COMMITTEE

- ***16 MEMBERS***
- ***BUSINESSES***
- ***RESIDENTS***
- ***INSTITUTIONS***
- ***HARVARD UNIVERSITY STUDENT***
- ***CITY STANDING COMMITTEES***

SCHEDULE

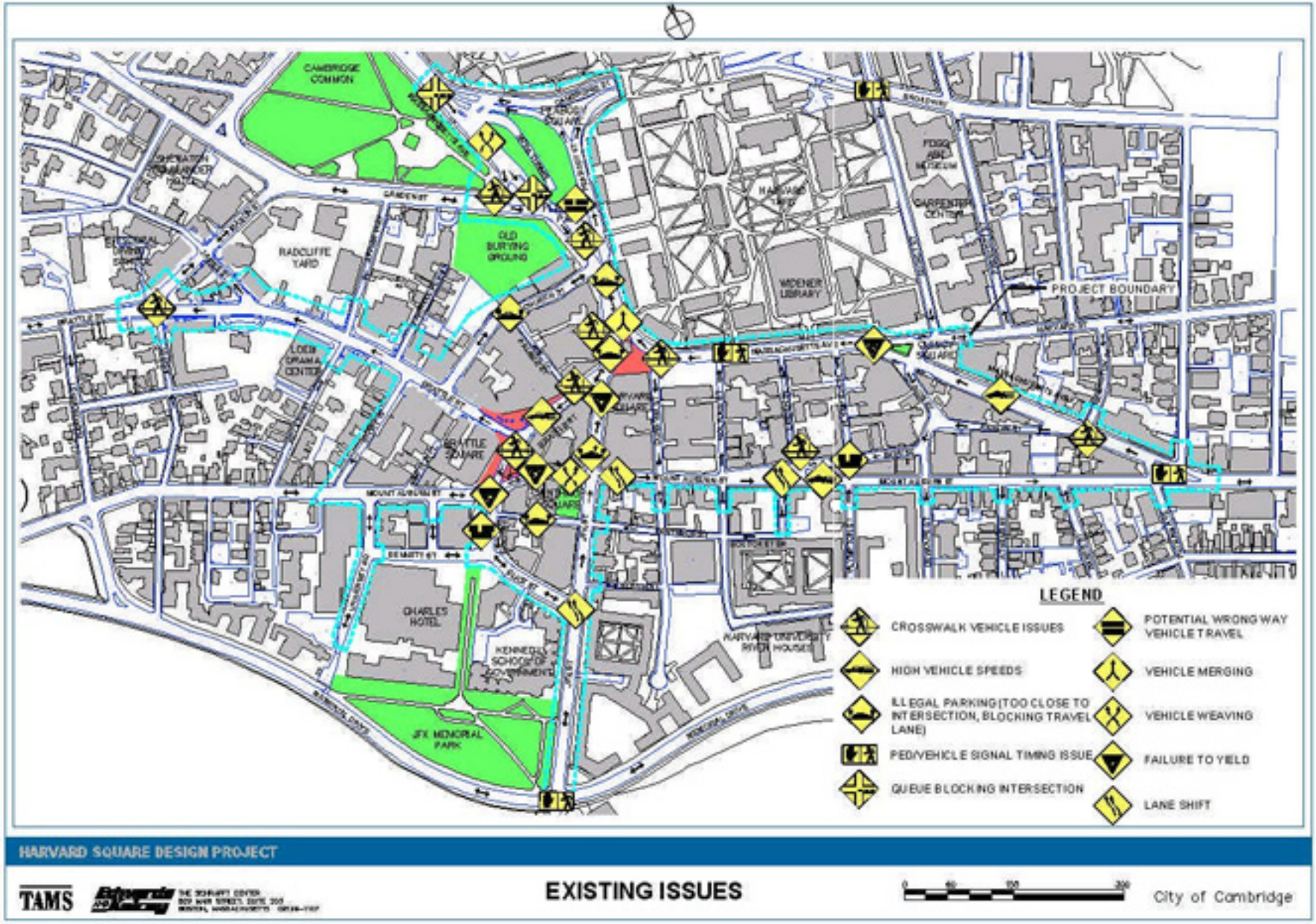
- ***COMMITTEE BEGAN MEETING IN APRIL 2002***
- ***1st COMMUNITY MEETING (TRANSPORTATION) NOVEMBER 21, 2002***
- ***2nd COMMUNITY MEETING (PLAZAS) MAY 15, 2003***
- ***COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE - WINTER 2003***
- ***CONSTRUCTION - SUMMER/FALL 2004***

BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

OPPORTUNITY: ENHANCE THE SQUARE FOR ALL USERS

PROJECT AREA

EXISTING ISSUES



TRANSPORTATION - RECAP

- *Conducted Detailed Transportation Analysis*
- *Evaluated Circulation for Pedestrians, Cyclists, Motorists*

- *Determined Number of Travel Lanes Needed*
- *Determined Street Directions*
- *Identified "Extra Space" in Public Right-of-Way*

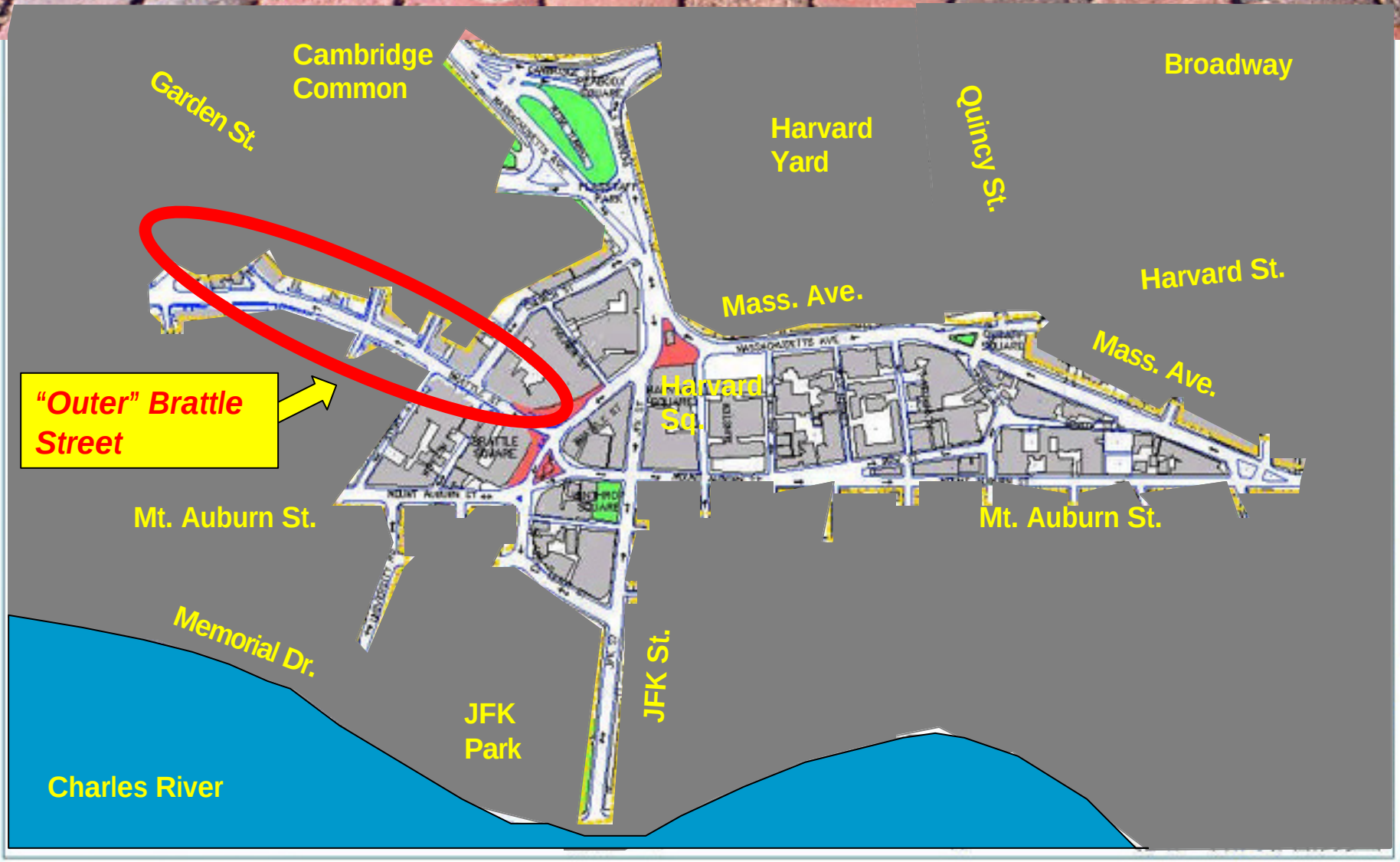
2-WAY JFK / 2-WAY ELIOT

HARVARD SQUARE DESIGN PROJECT

TAMS

City of Cambridge
June 20, 2002

"OUTER" BRATTLE STREET

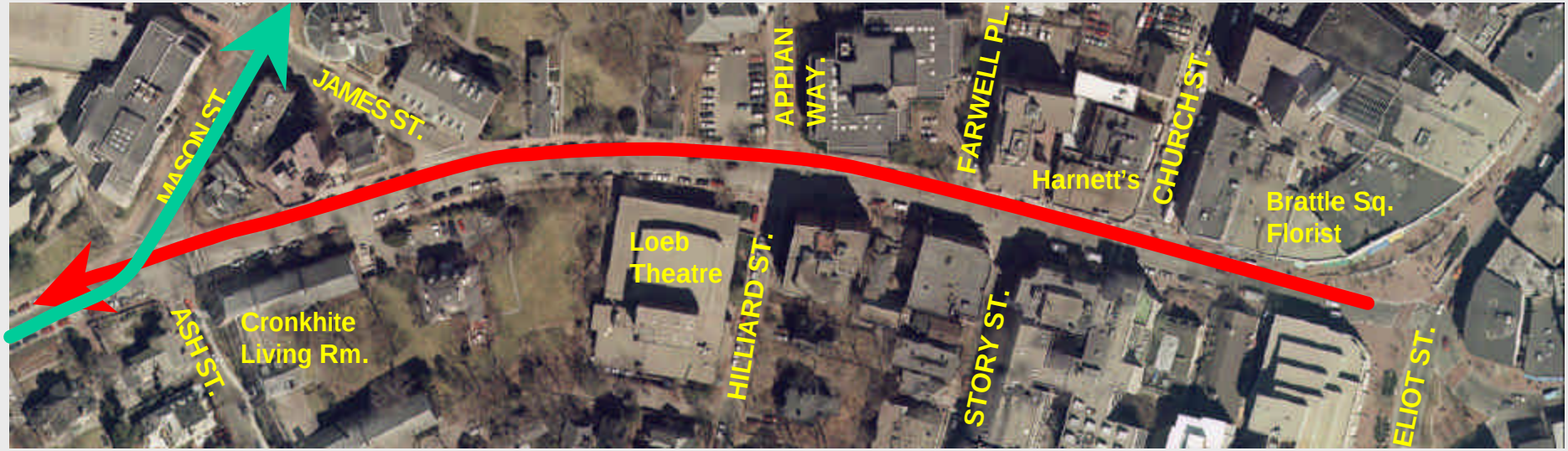


HARVARD SQUARE DESIGN PROJECT

TAMS

City of Cambridge

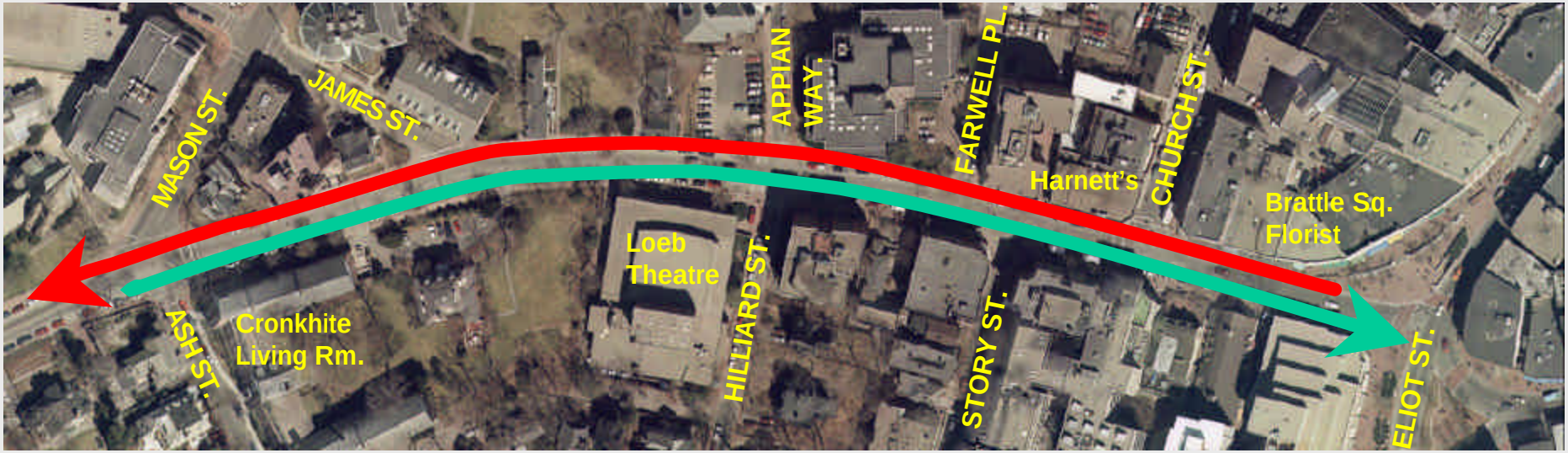
"OUTER" BRATTLE STREET
EXISTING TRAFFIC FLOW



- ***Circuitous Route for Eastbound Vehicles & Cyclists***
- ***Uninviting Gateway to the Square***

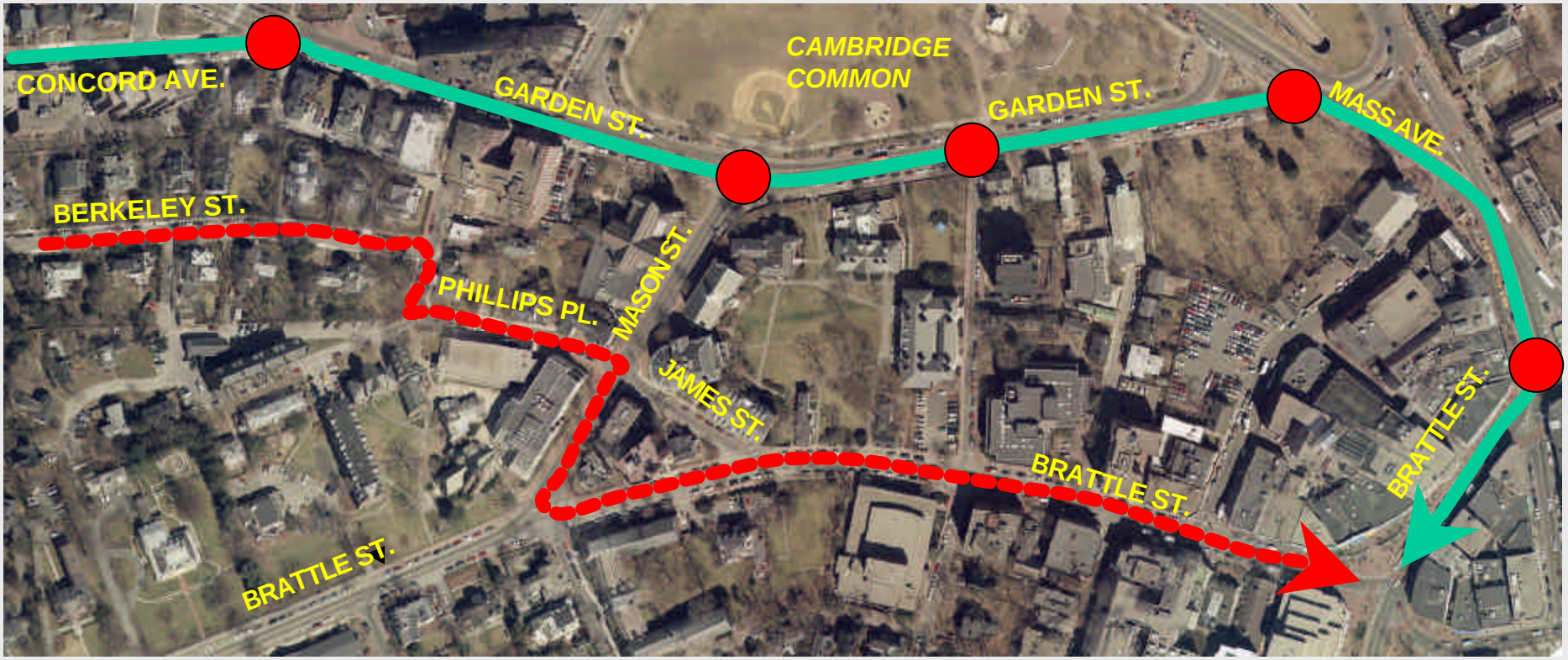
CONTRA-FLOW BIKE LANE

"OUTER" BRATTLE STREET
2-WAY TRAFFIC FLOW



- ***Conventional 2-Way Street with Parking on Both Sides***
- ***Functions Well with "STOP" Sign at Eliot Street End***
- ***Increases Traffic Volumes on Brattle Street***
- ***Variations Possible***

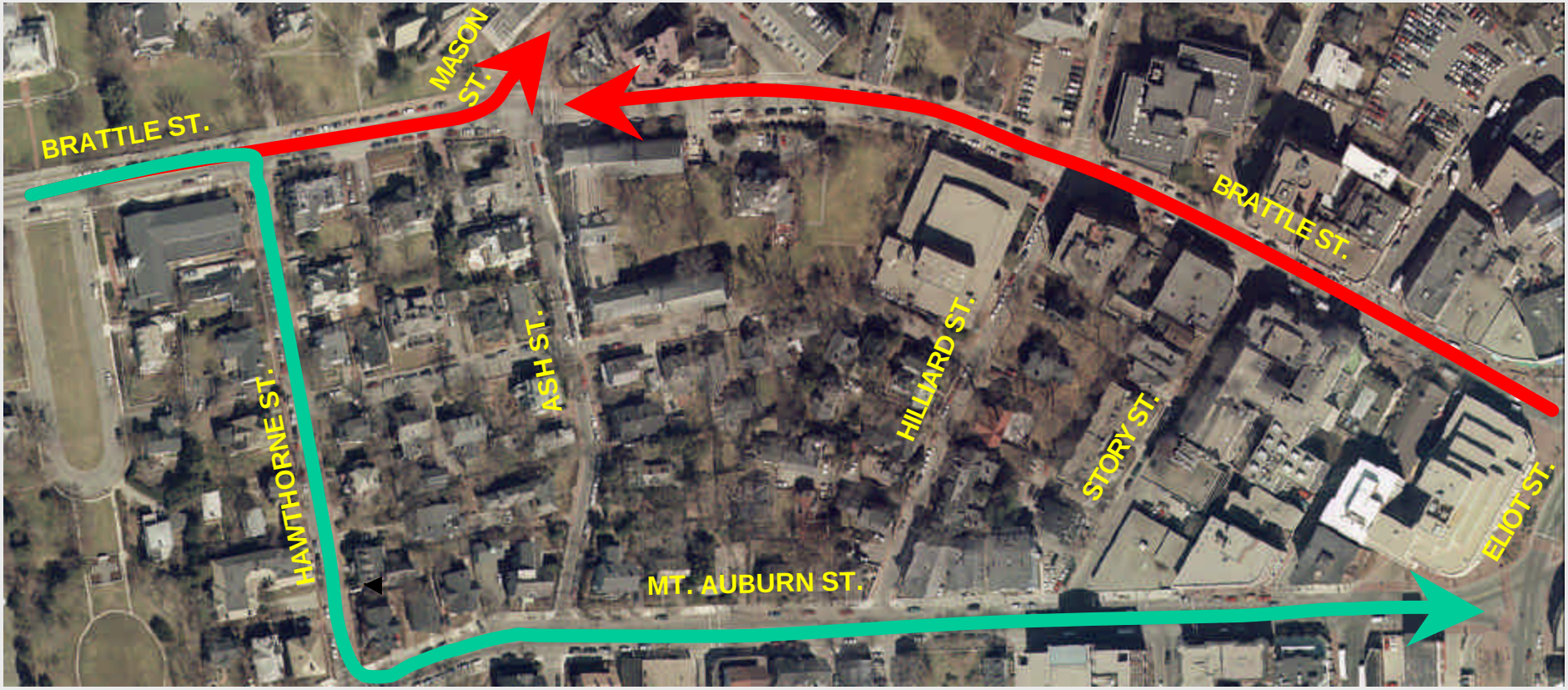
"OUTER" BRATTLE STREET



- *Current Route into Square from Concord Avenue*
- *Berkeley Street*

"OUTER" BRATTLE STREET

MAINTAIN ONE-WAY BRATTLE



- ***Maintain Brattle Street Flow "As-Is"***

- ***Sign Bike Route via Hawthorne / Mt. Auburn***

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

- *Provide Missing Crosswalks*
- *Narrow the Pavement Where Possible*
- *Provide Accommodation for Cyclists*
- *Improve Alignment of Travel Lanes and Vehicle Merges*

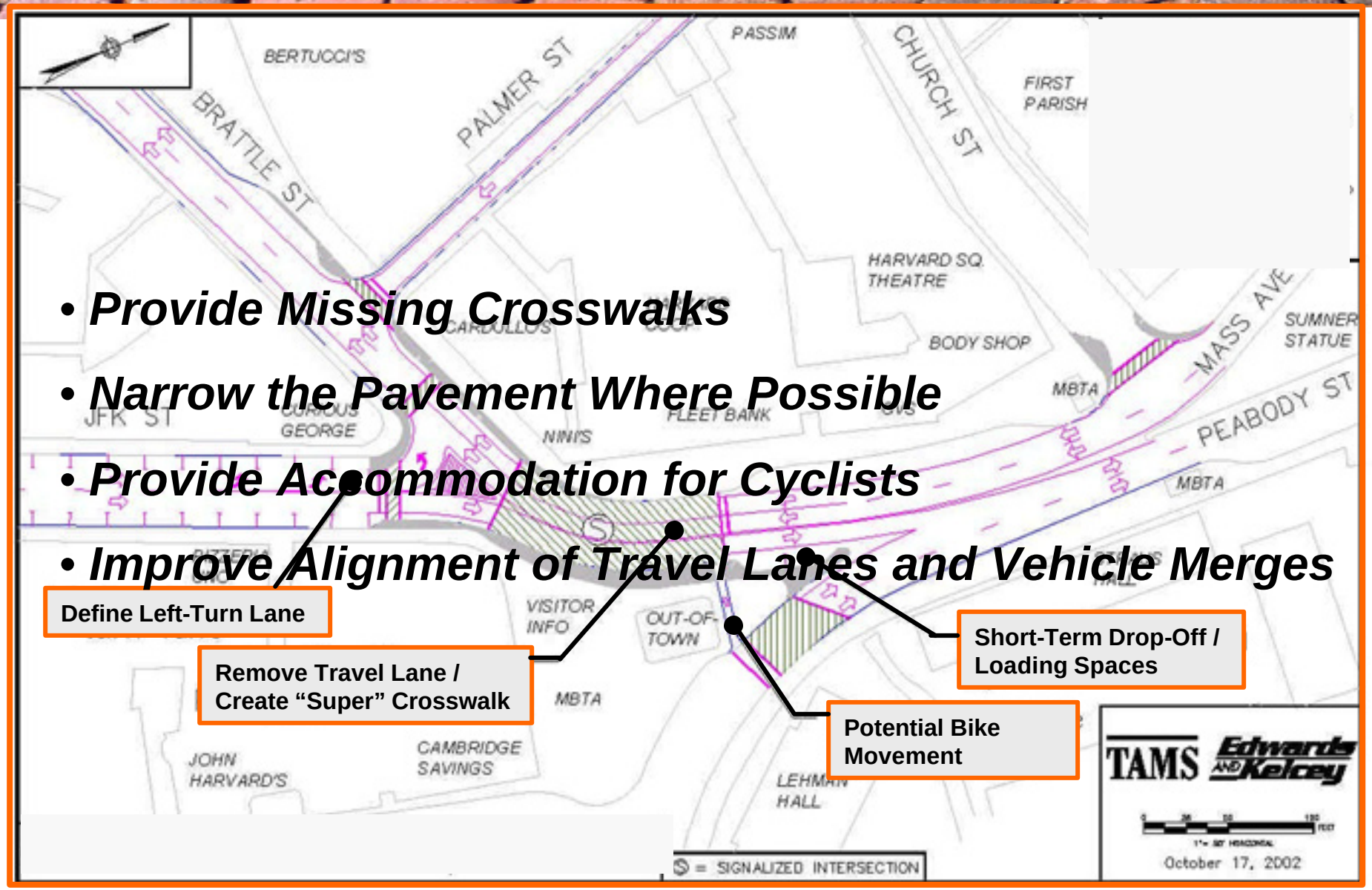
HARVARD SQUARE DESIGN PROJECT

TAMS

City of Cambridge

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

OUT-OF-TOWN NEWS



- ***Provide Missing Crosswalks***
- ***Narrow the Pavement Where Possible***
- ***Provide Accommodation for Cyclists***
- ***Improve Alignment of Travel Lanes and Vehicle Merges***

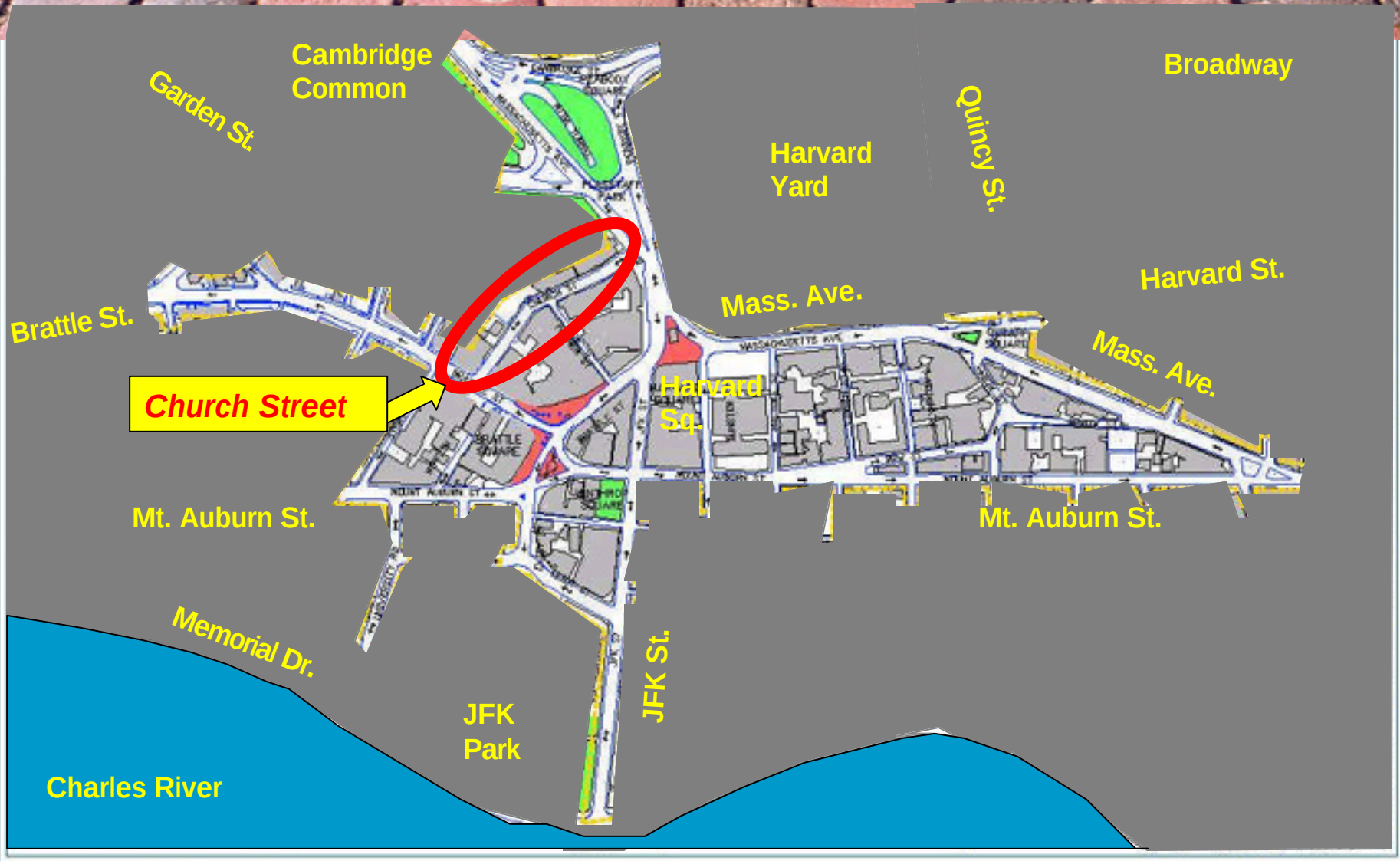
Define Left-Turn Lane

Remove Travel Lane / Create "Super" Crosswalk

Short-Term Drop-Off / Loading Spaces

Potential Bike Movement

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS



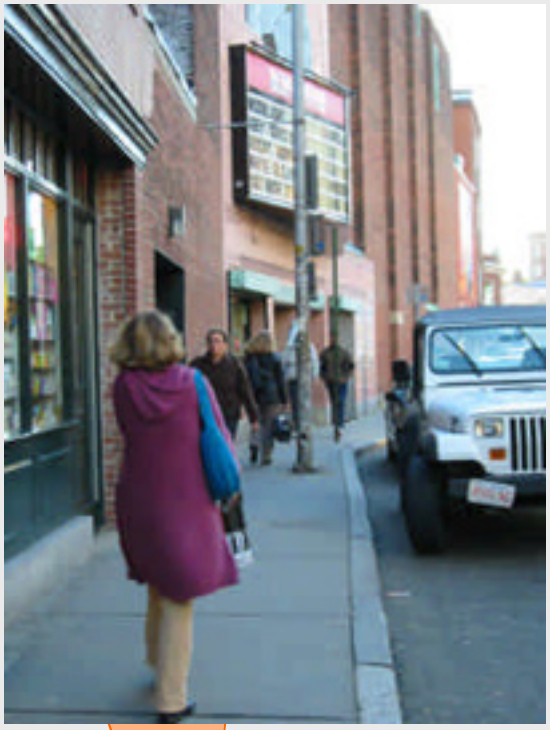
HARVARD SQUARE DESIGN PROJECT

TAMS

City of Cambridge

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

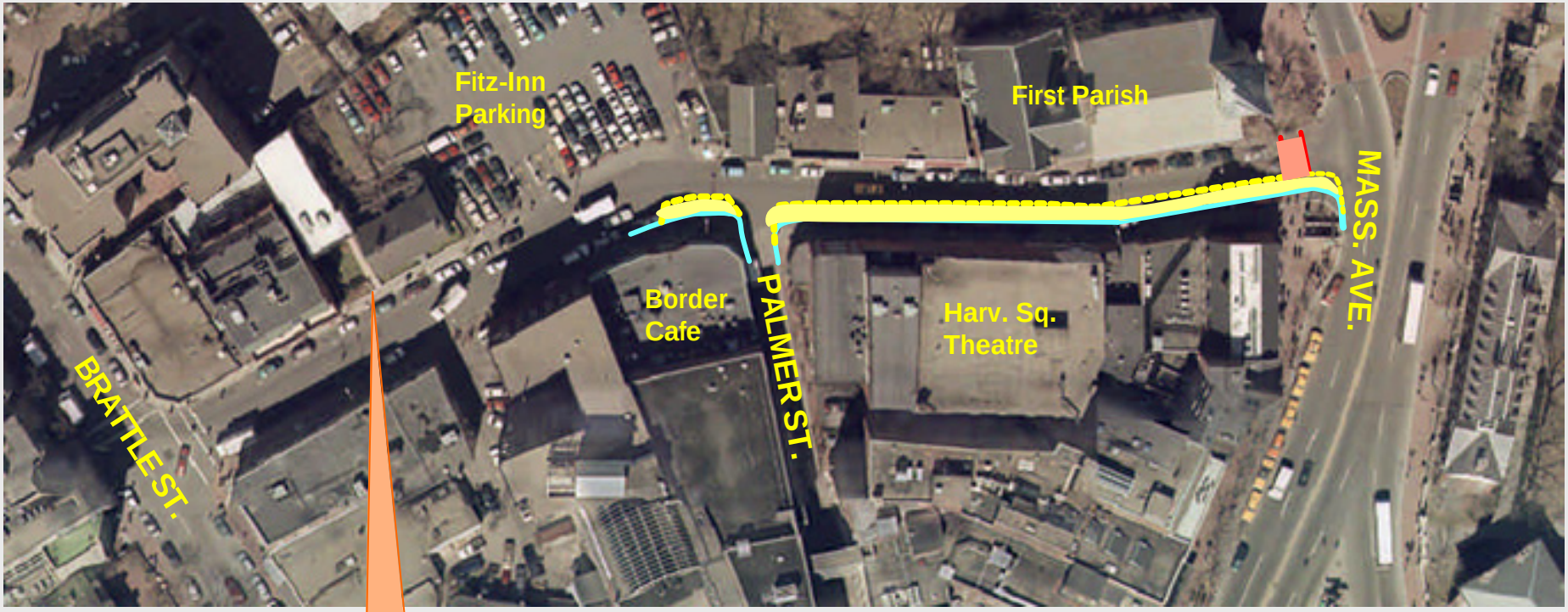
CHURCH STREET



TAMS Edwards AND Kelcey

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

CHURCH STREET

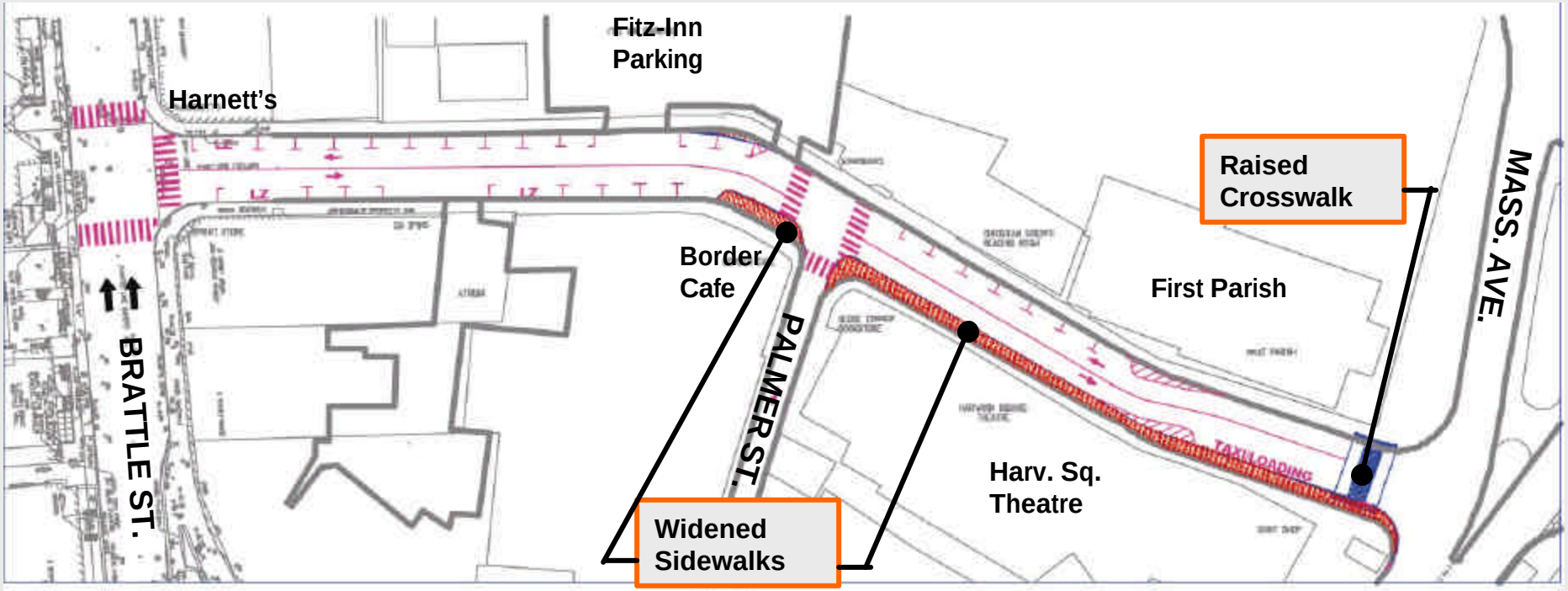


Tree Grates

- ***One-Way Street***
- ***Improved Two-Way Street***

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

CHURCH STREET



- ***Maintains 2-Way Flow***
- ***Maintains Taxi / Loading Zone***
- ***Net Loss of 8 Parking Spaces***

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

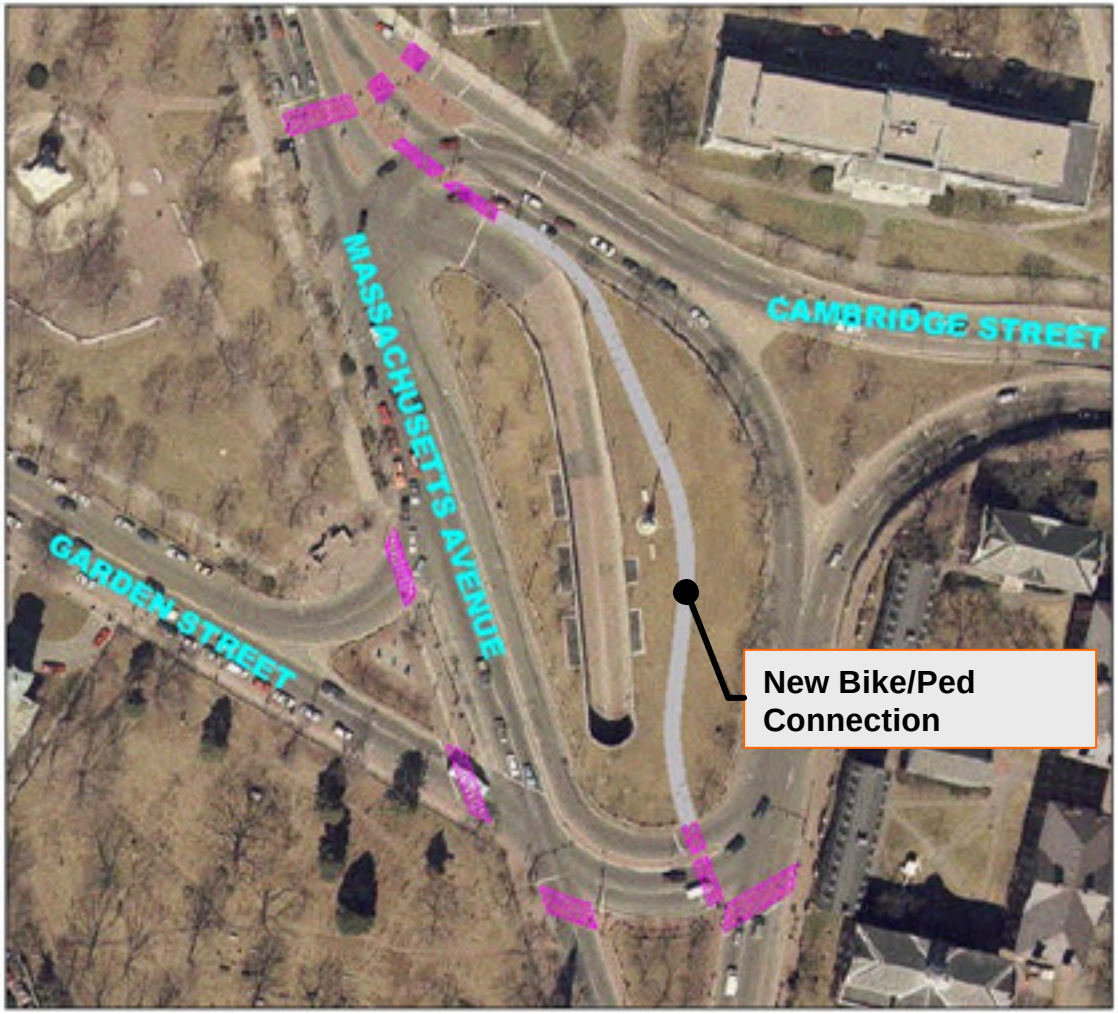
HARVARD SQUARE DESIGN PROJECT

TAMS

City of Cambridge
June 20, 2001

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

FLAGSTAFF PARK CONNECTION



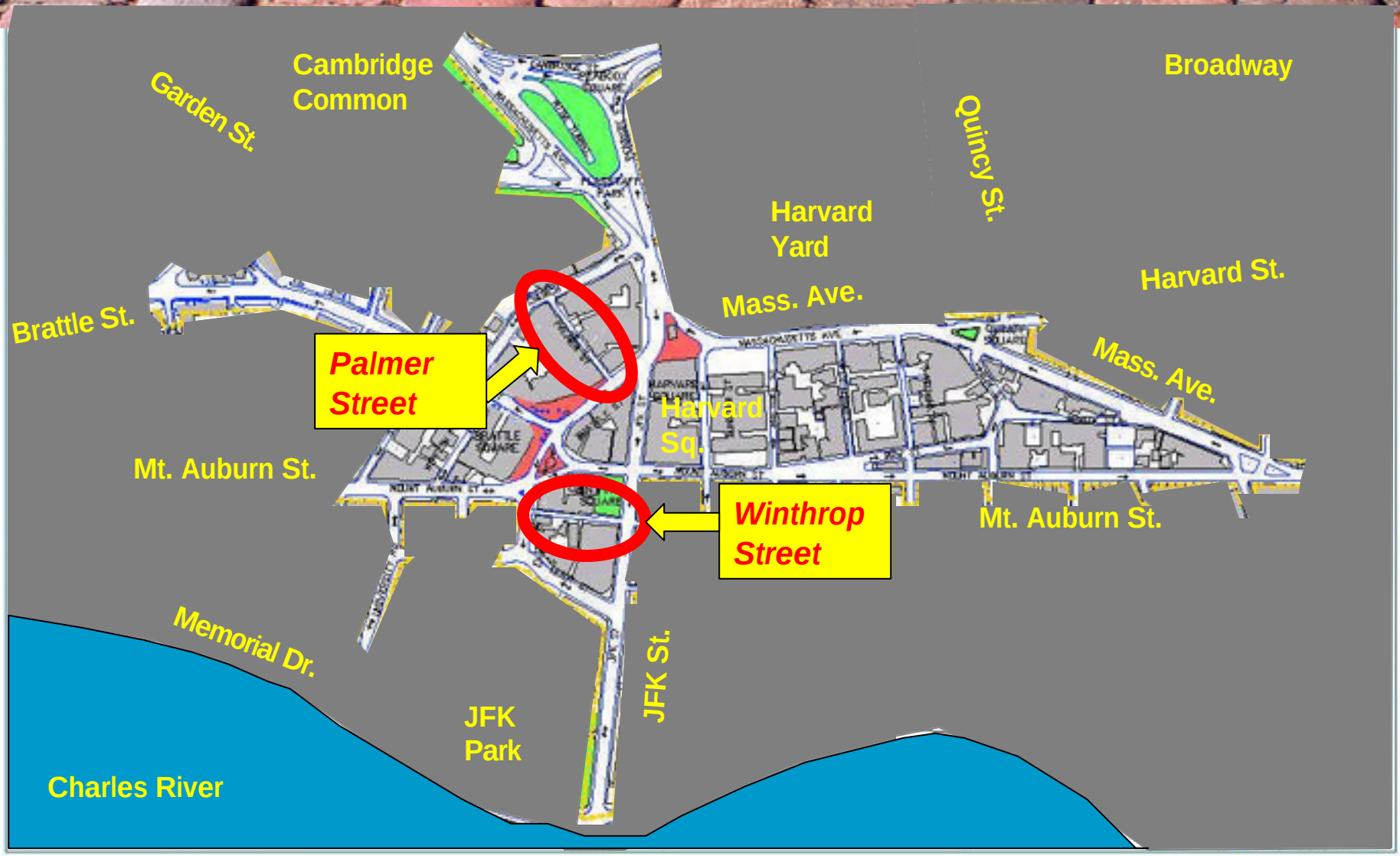
Garden St. Entrance to Flagstaff Park

- *Alternate Route for Bikes/Peds between Harvard Sq. and North Mass. Ave (Porter Sq.)*
- *Opens-Up Currently Underutilized Space*

TAMS Edwards and Kelcey

October 17, 2002

SHARED STREETS



HARVARD SQUARE DESIGN PROJECT

TAMS

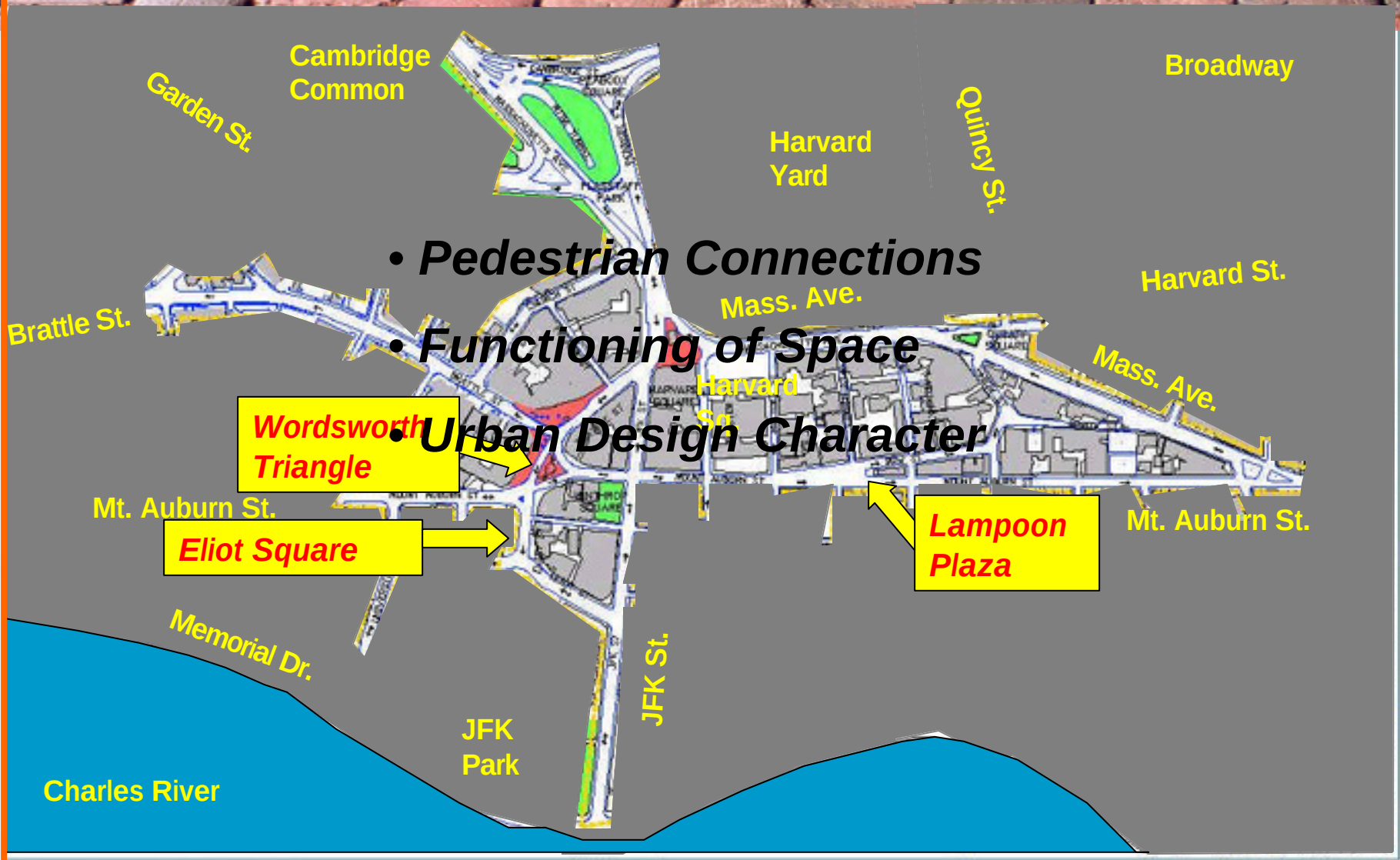
City of Cambridge

SHARED STREETS

Palmer Street

Winthrop Street

PLAZA IMPROVEMENTS



- *Pedestrian Connections*
- *Functioning of Space*
- *Urban Design Character*

HARVARD SQUARE DESIGN PROJECT

TAMS

City of Cambridge

PLAZA IMPROVEMENTS
MINIMUM CHANGE AREAS

DeGuglielmo Plaza – Works Well

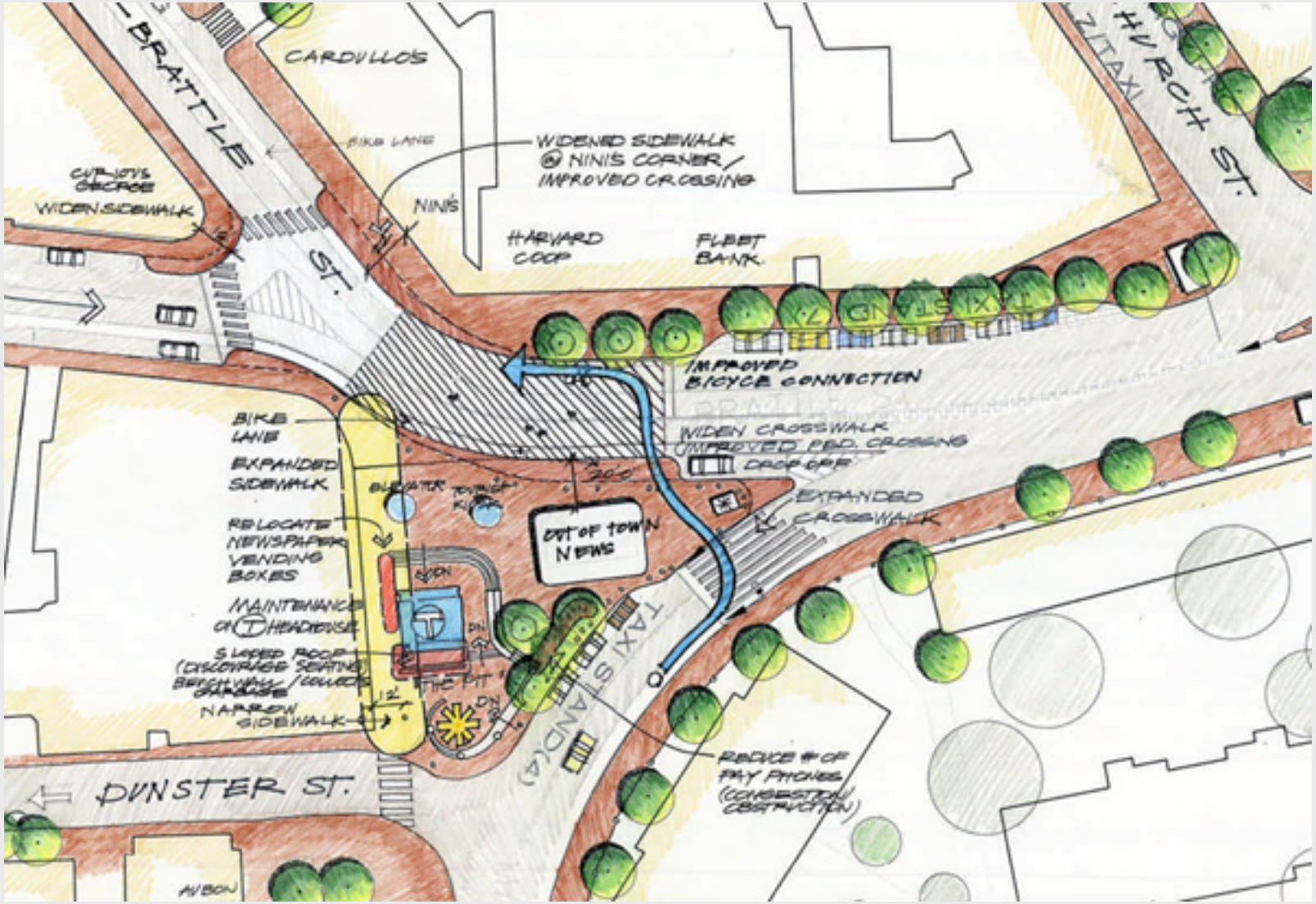
PLAZA IMPROVEMENTS
MINIMUM CHANGE AREAS

One Brattle Square – Physical Constraints (MBTA Vents)

PLAZA IMPROVEMENTS

MINIMUM CHANGE AREAS – “THE PIT”

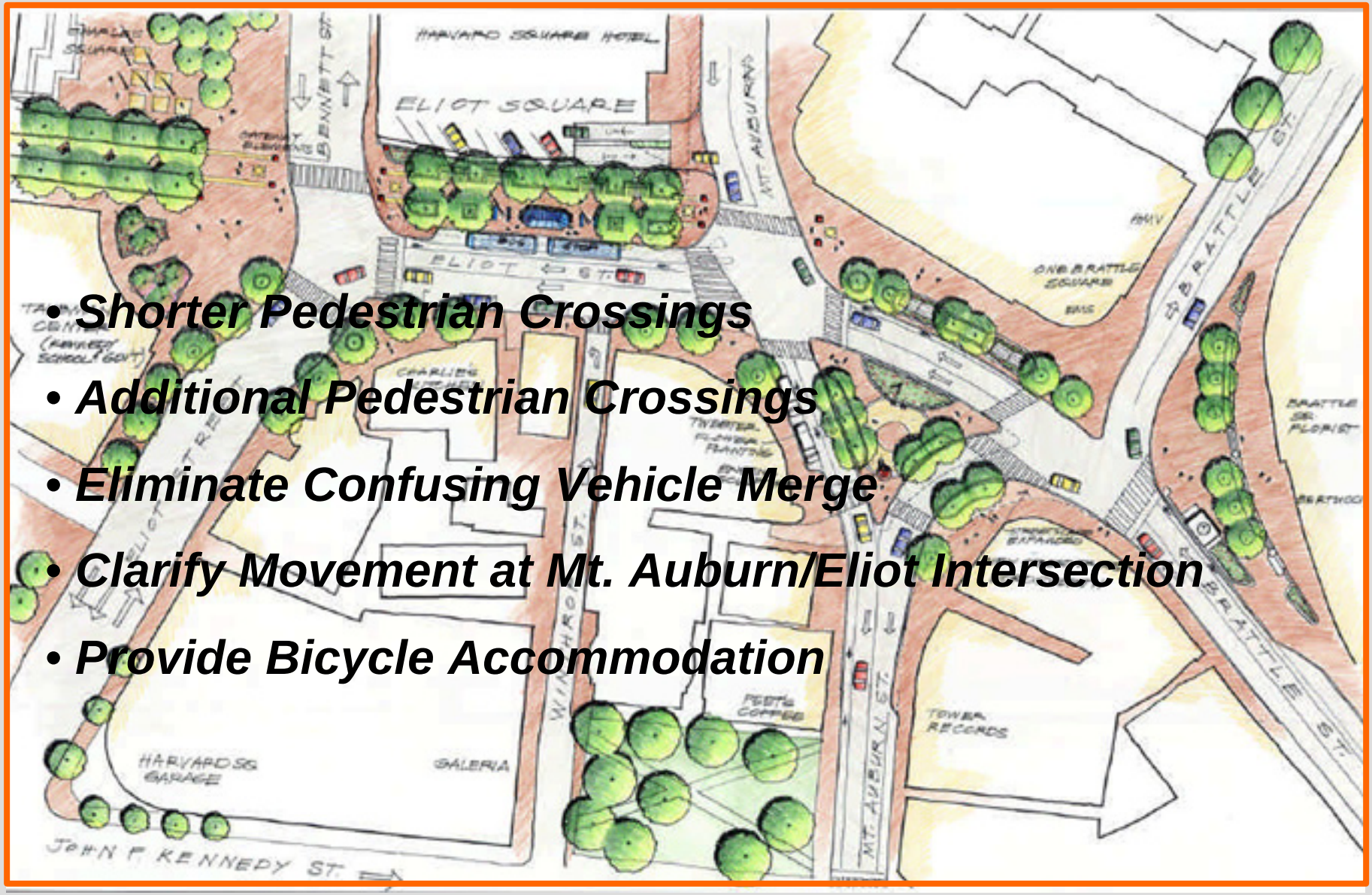
PLAZA IMPROVEMENTS
MINIMUM CHANGE AREAS



Out-of-Town Peninsula / "The Pit"

PLAZA IMPROVEMENTS

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS
WORDSWORTH / ELIOT



- *Shorter Pedestrian Crossings*
- *Additional Pedestrian Crossings*
- *Eliminate Confusing Vehicle Merge*
- *Clarify Movement at Mt. Auburn/Eliot Intersection*
- *Provide Bicycle Accommodation*

PLAZA IMPROVEMENTS
WORDSWORTH / ELIOT

"Wordsworth" Triangle

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS
WORDSWORTH TRIANGLE

PLAZA IMPROVEMENTS
WORDSWORTH / ELIOT

Eliot Square Bus Stop

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

ELIOT SQUARE

PLAZA IMPROVEMENTS

HARVARD SQUARE DESIGN PROJECT

TAMS

City of Cambridge

PLAZA IMPROVEMENTS

LAMPOON PLAZA

- *Lack of Crosswalks*
- *Expanse of Pavement*
- *Long Crossings*

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

LAMPOON PLAZA

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

LAMPOON PLAZA

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS