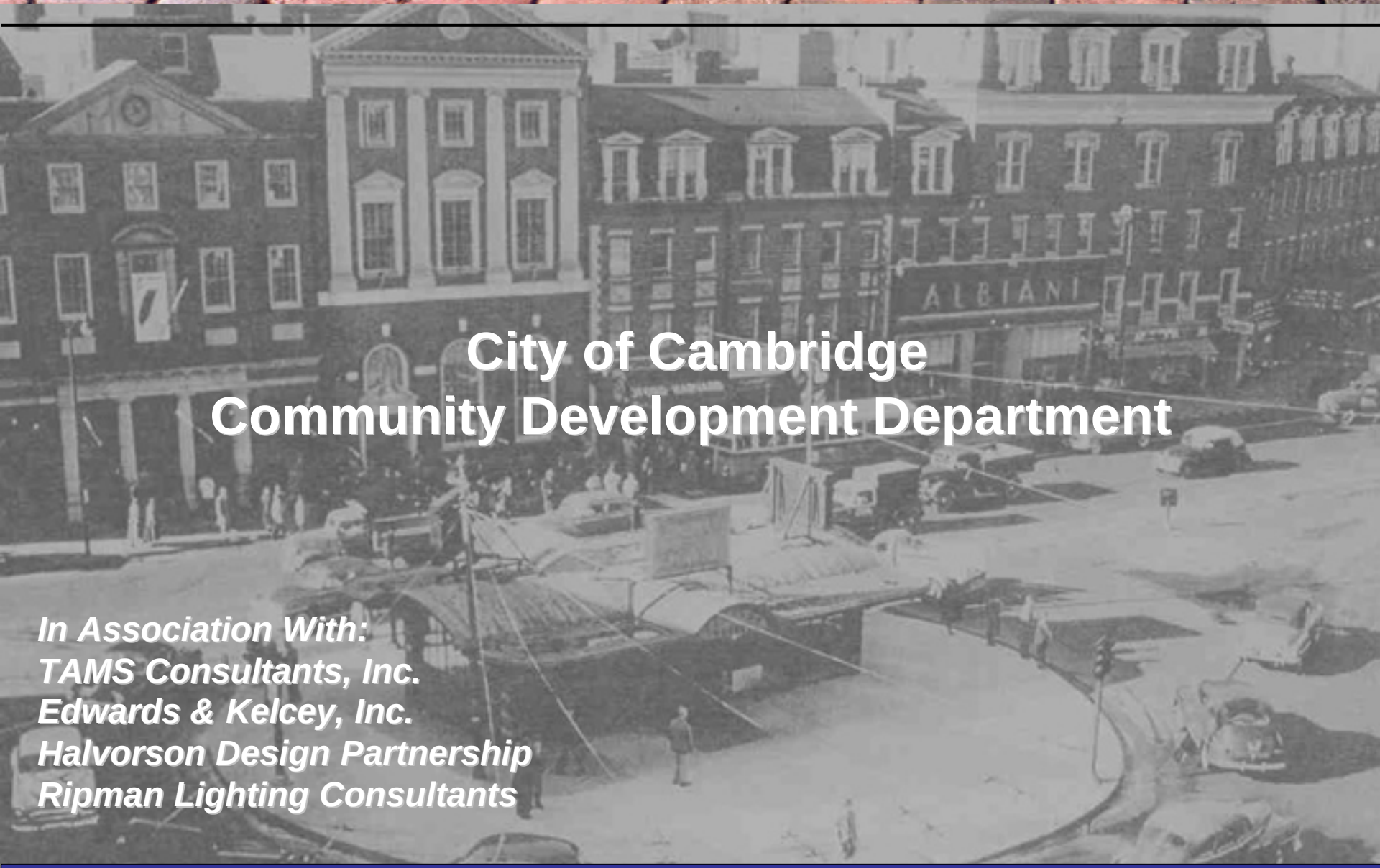
Harvard Square Design Project



City of Cambridge
Community Development Department

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

Community Meeting – November 21, 2002

AGENDA

1. *INTRODUCTIONS / PROJECT BACKGROUND*
2. *OPTIONS FOR CIRCULATION CHANGES*
3. *BREAK*
4. *SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS*
5. *REPORTING BACK*
6. *NEXT STEPS*

HARVARD SQUARE DESIGN COMMITTEE

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

SCHEDULE

- *COMMITTEE BEGAN MEETING IN APRIL 2002*
- *DESIGN THROUGH SUMMER 2003*
- *CONSTRUCTION (FIRST PHASE) FALL 2003 / SPRING 2004*

BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

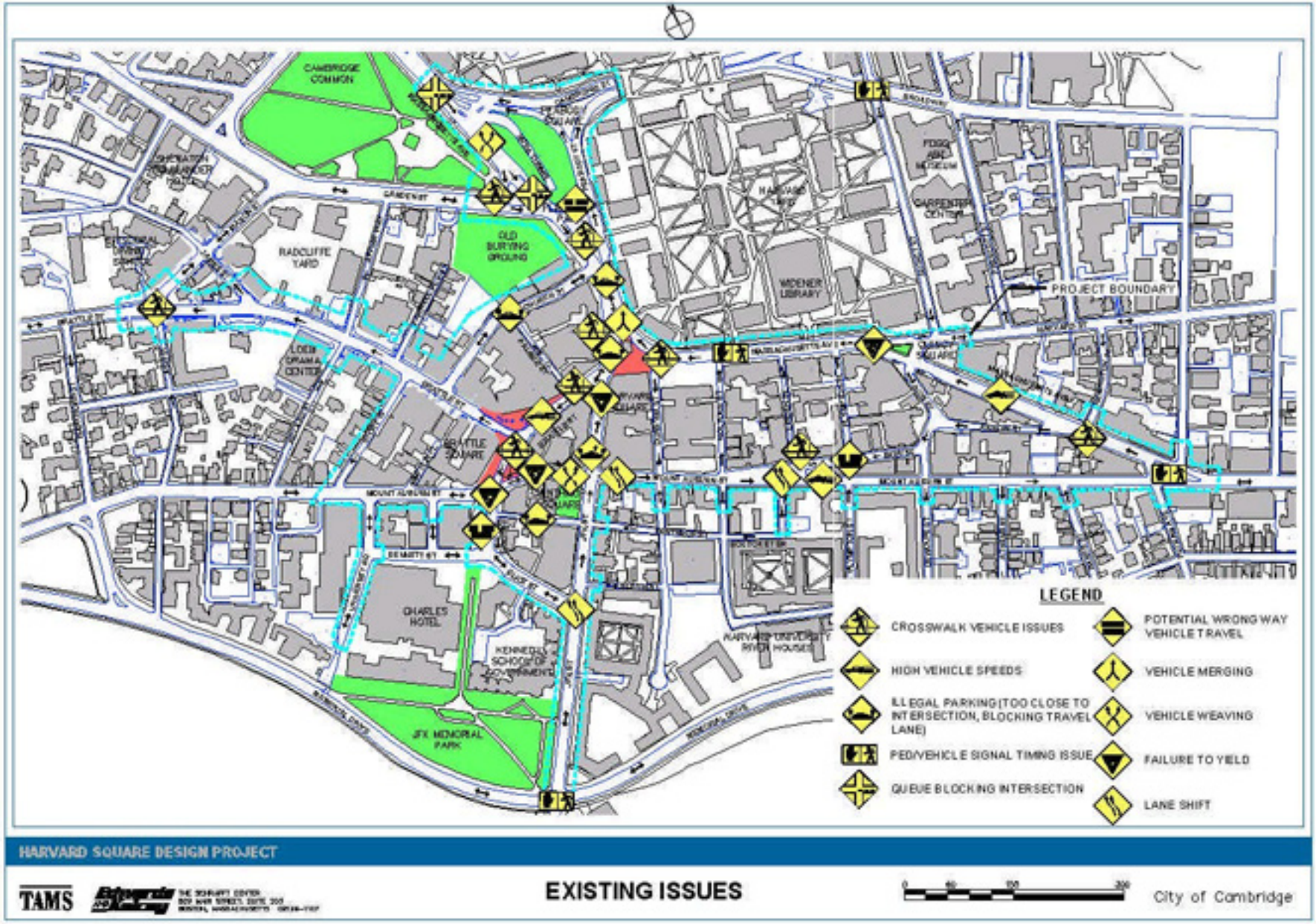
OPPORTUNITY: ENHANCE THE SQUARE FOR ALL USERS

PROJECT AREA

SHORT-TERM IMPROVEMENTS

- ***BENCHES***
- ***LANDSCAPING***
- ***BIKE PARKING***
- ***LIGHTING***

EXISTING ISSUES



WHY STUDY CIRCULATION ALTERNATIVES?

- ***Determine Minimum Number of Travel Lanes Needed***
- ***Determine Street Directions***

- ***Determine What to Do With Extra Space***

TRAFFIC ANALYSIS

- *VOLUMES AND CIRCULATION*
- *SIGNALS VS. STOP SIGNS*
- *PEDESTRIANS, CYCLISTS AND MOTORISTS*

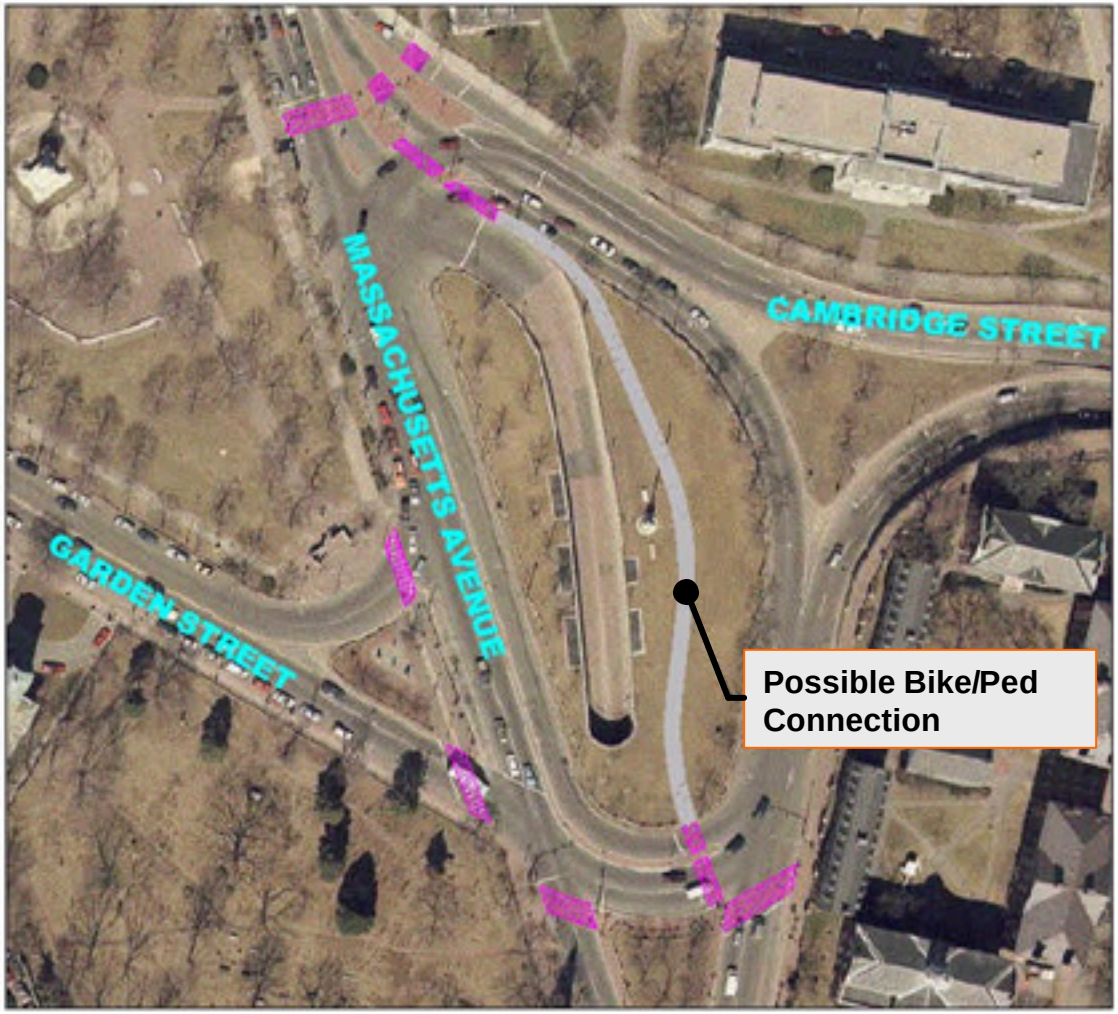
FLAGSTAFF PARK CONNECTION

HARVARD SQUARE DESIGN PROJECT

TAMS

City of Cambridge
June 20, 2002

FLAGSTAFF PARK CONNECTION



Garden St. Entrance to Flagstaff Park

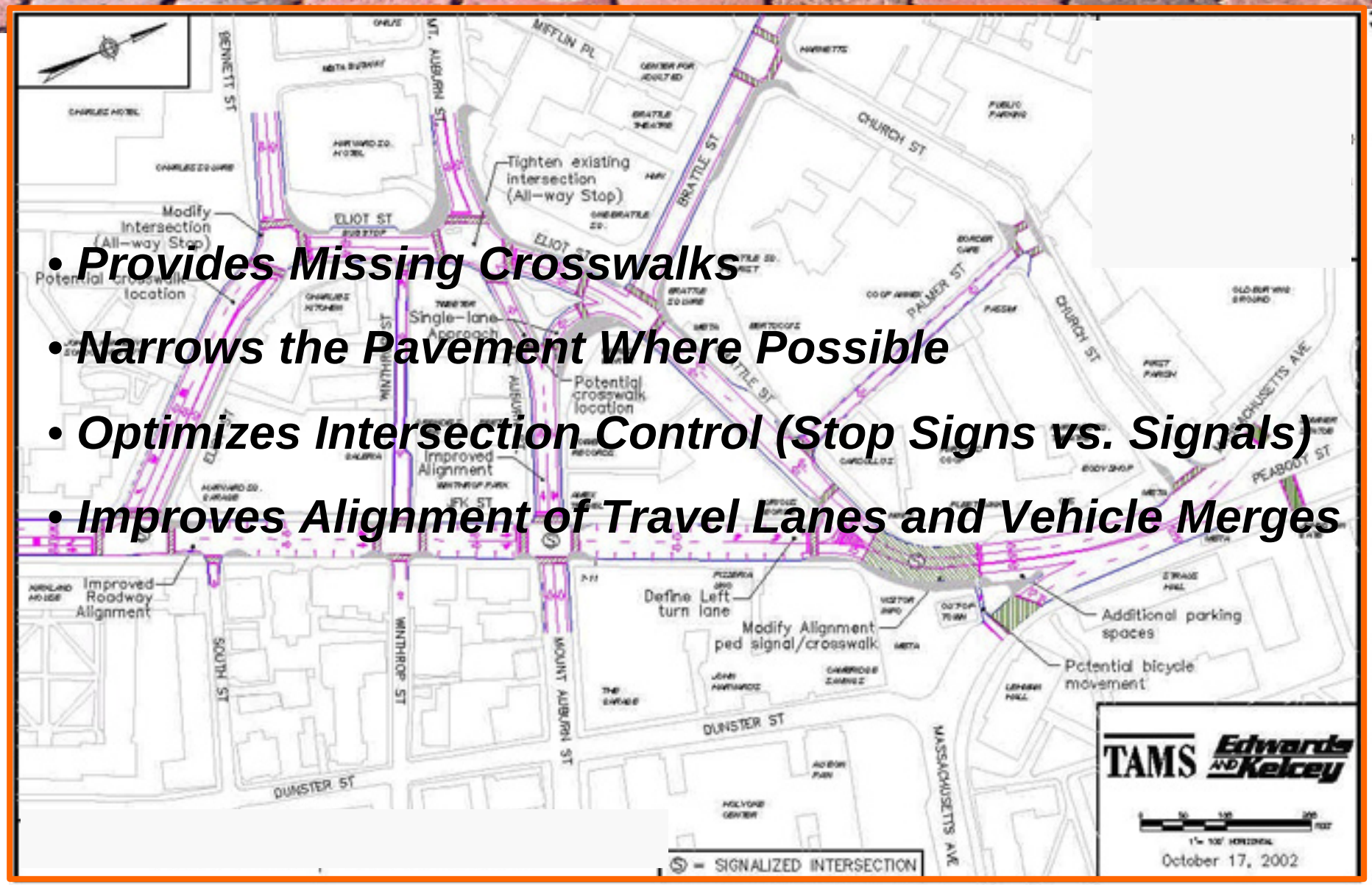
- *Alternate Route for Bikes/Peds between Harvard Sq. and North Mass. Ave (Porter Sq.)*
- *Opens-Up Currently Underutilized Space*

TAMS Edwards and Kelcey

October 17, 2002

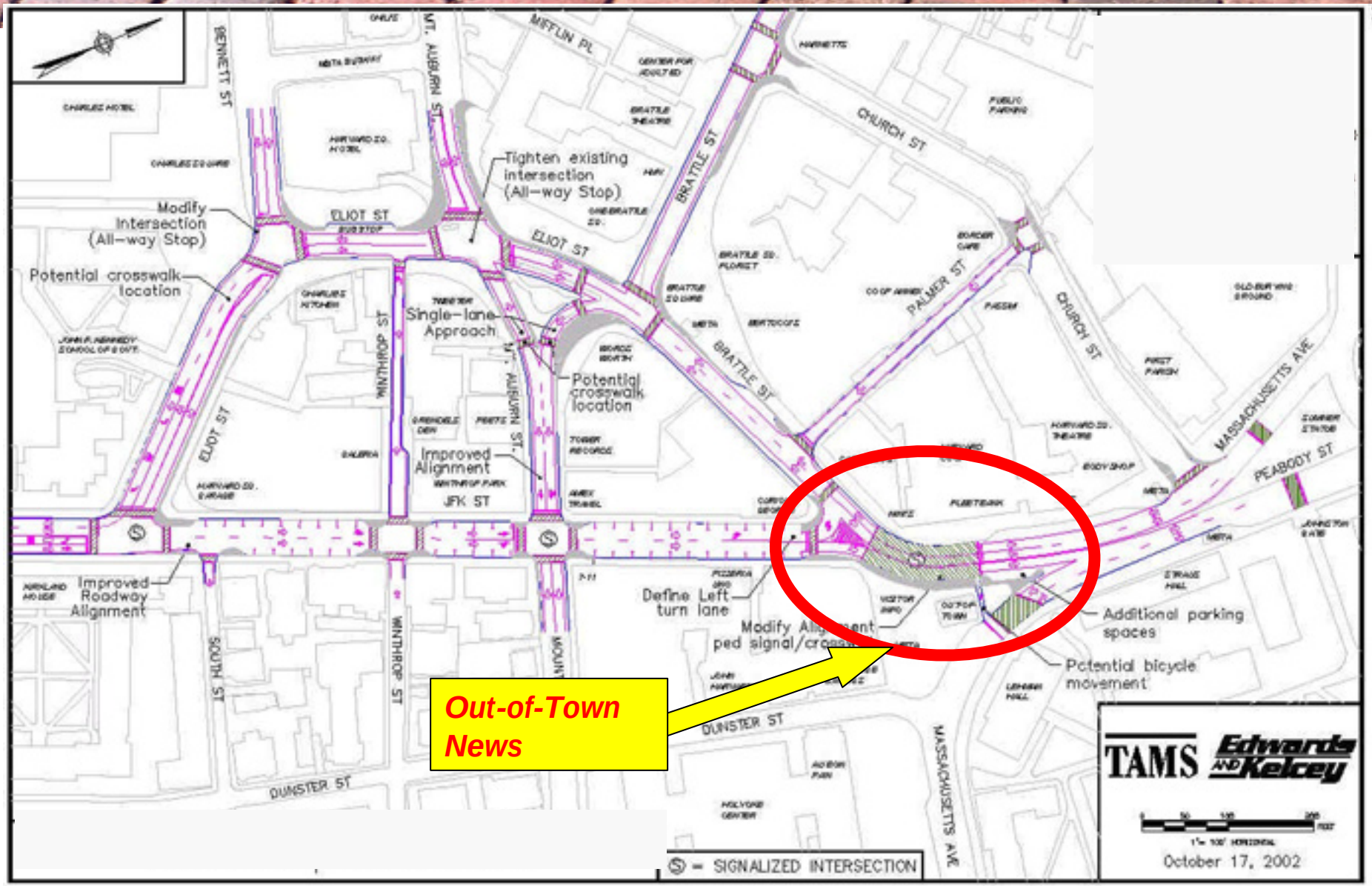
BASIC IMPROVEMENTS

BASIC IMPROVEMENTS

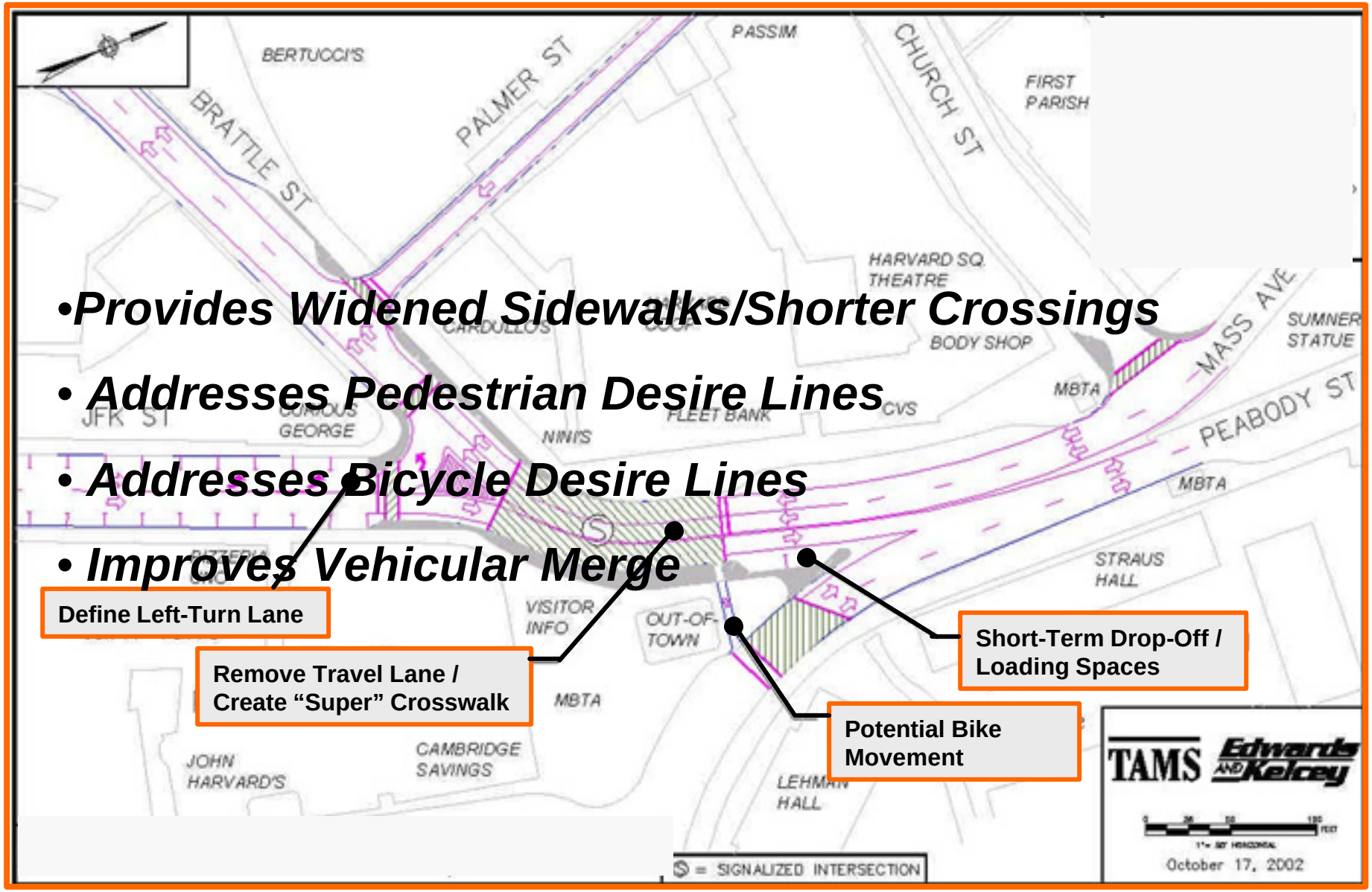


- ***Provides Missing Crosswalks***
- ***Narrows the Pavement Where Possible***
- ***Optimizes Intersection Control (Stop Signs vs. Signals)***
- ***Improves Alignment of Travel Lanes and Vehicle Merges***

BASIC IMPROVEMENTS



BASIC IMPROVEMENTS
OUT-OF-TOWN NEWS



- ***Provides Widened Sidewalks/Shorter Crossings***
- ***Addresses Pedestrian Desire Lines***
- ***Addresses Bicycle Desire Lines***
- ***Improves Vehicular Merge***

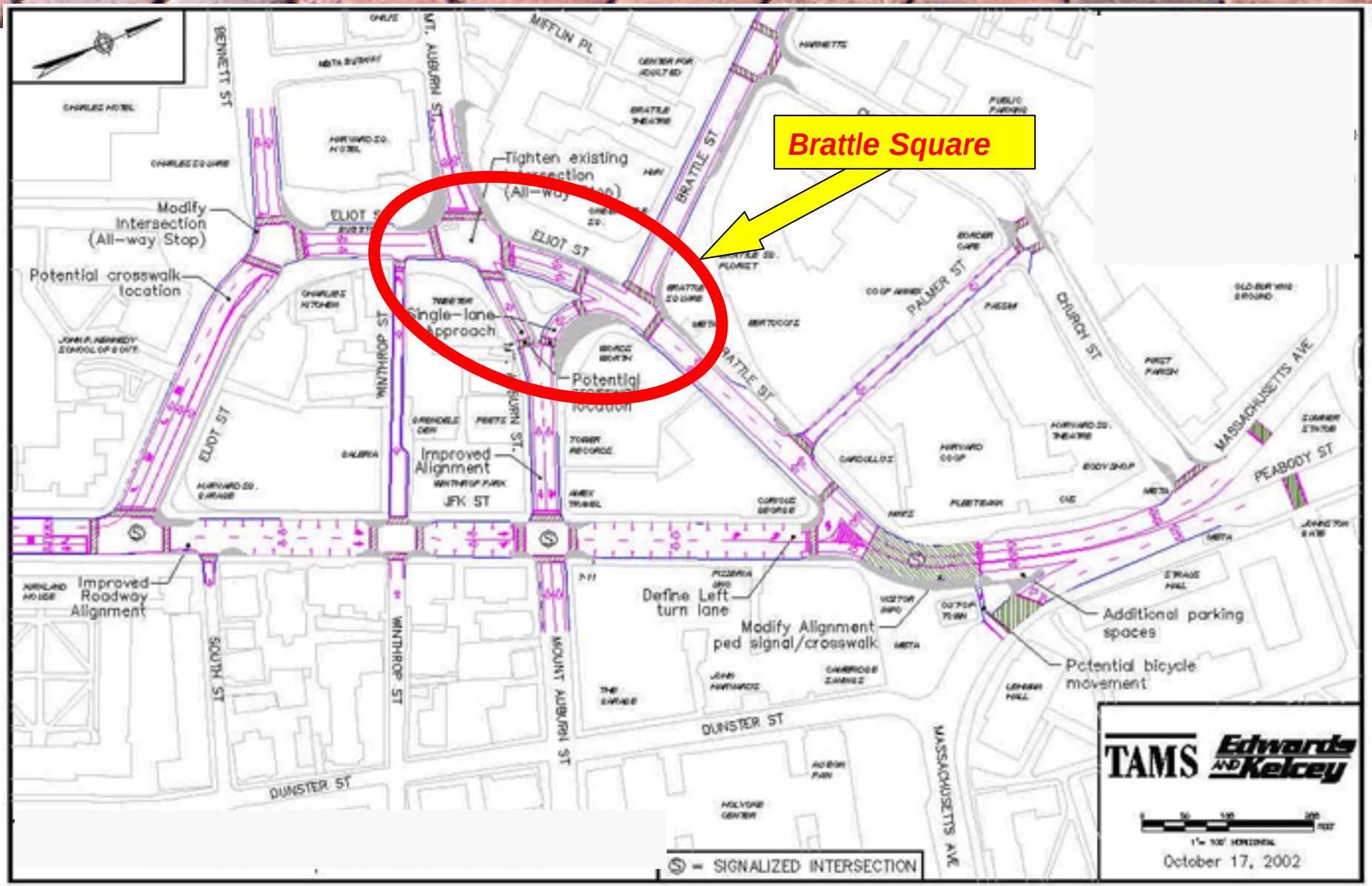
Define Left-Turn Lane

Remove Travel Lane / Create "Super" Crosswalk

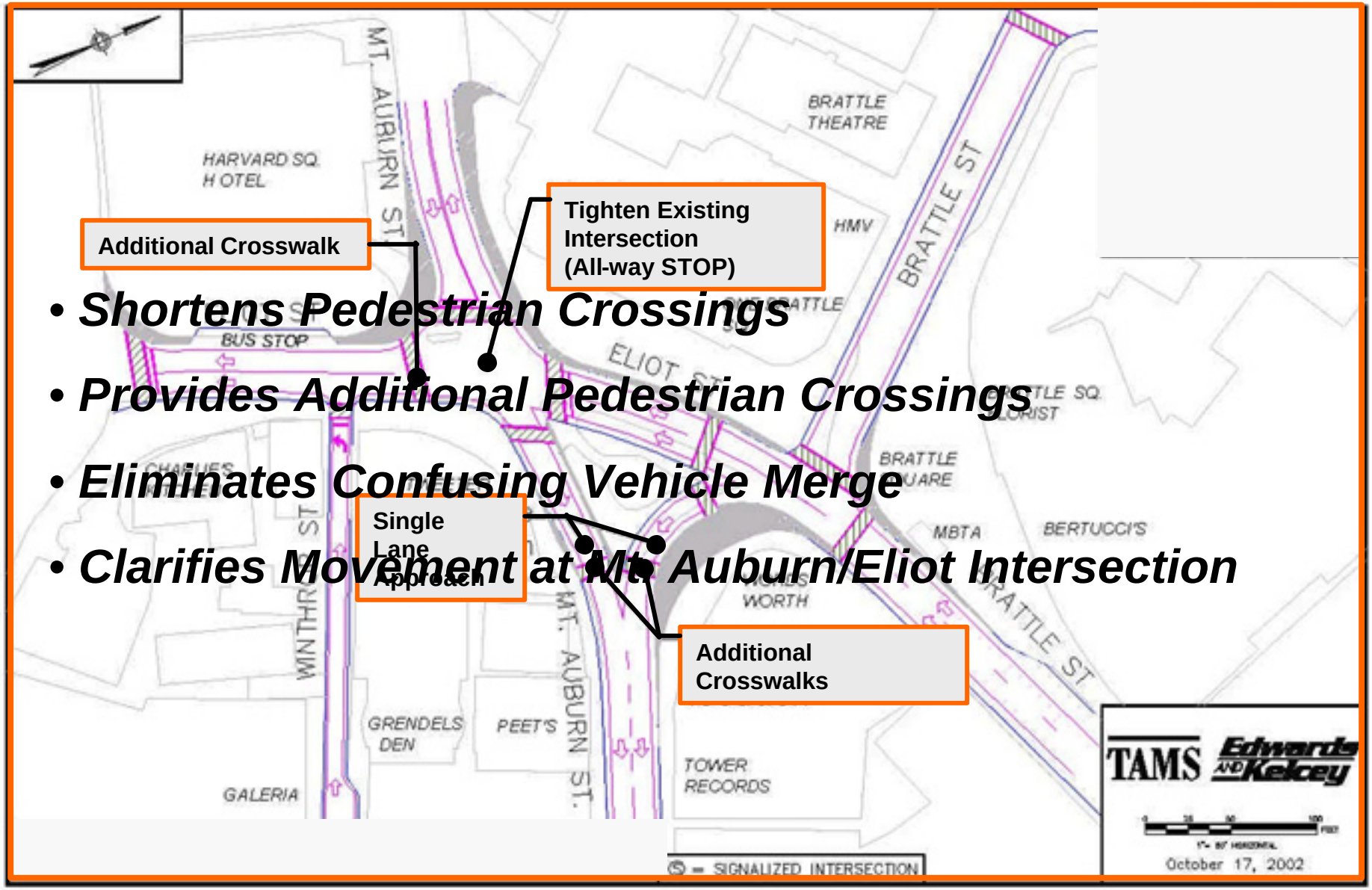
Short-Term Drop-Off / Loading Spaces

Potential Bike Movement

BASIC IMPROVEMENTS

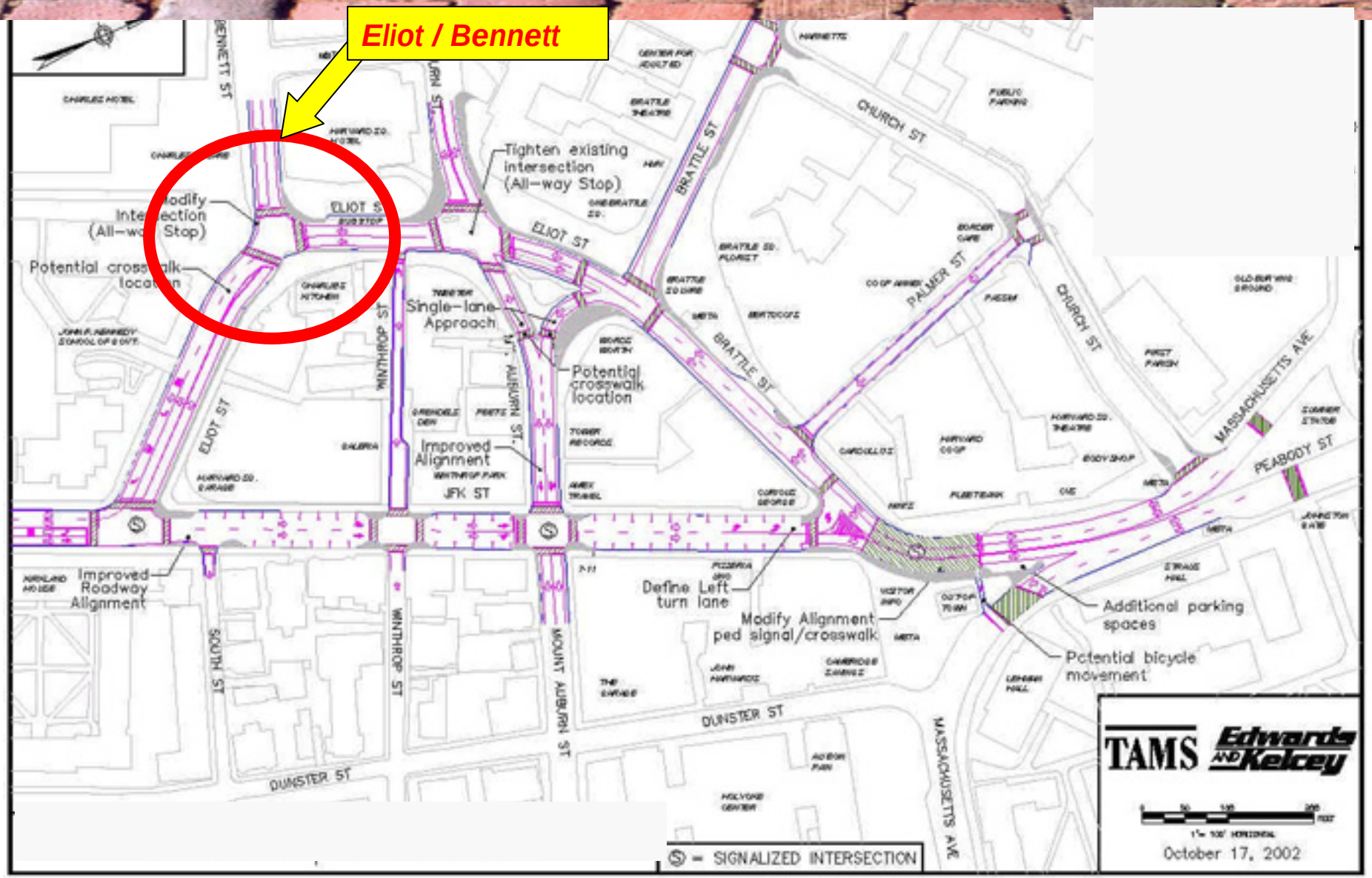


BASIC IMPROVEMENTS
BRATTLE SQUARE

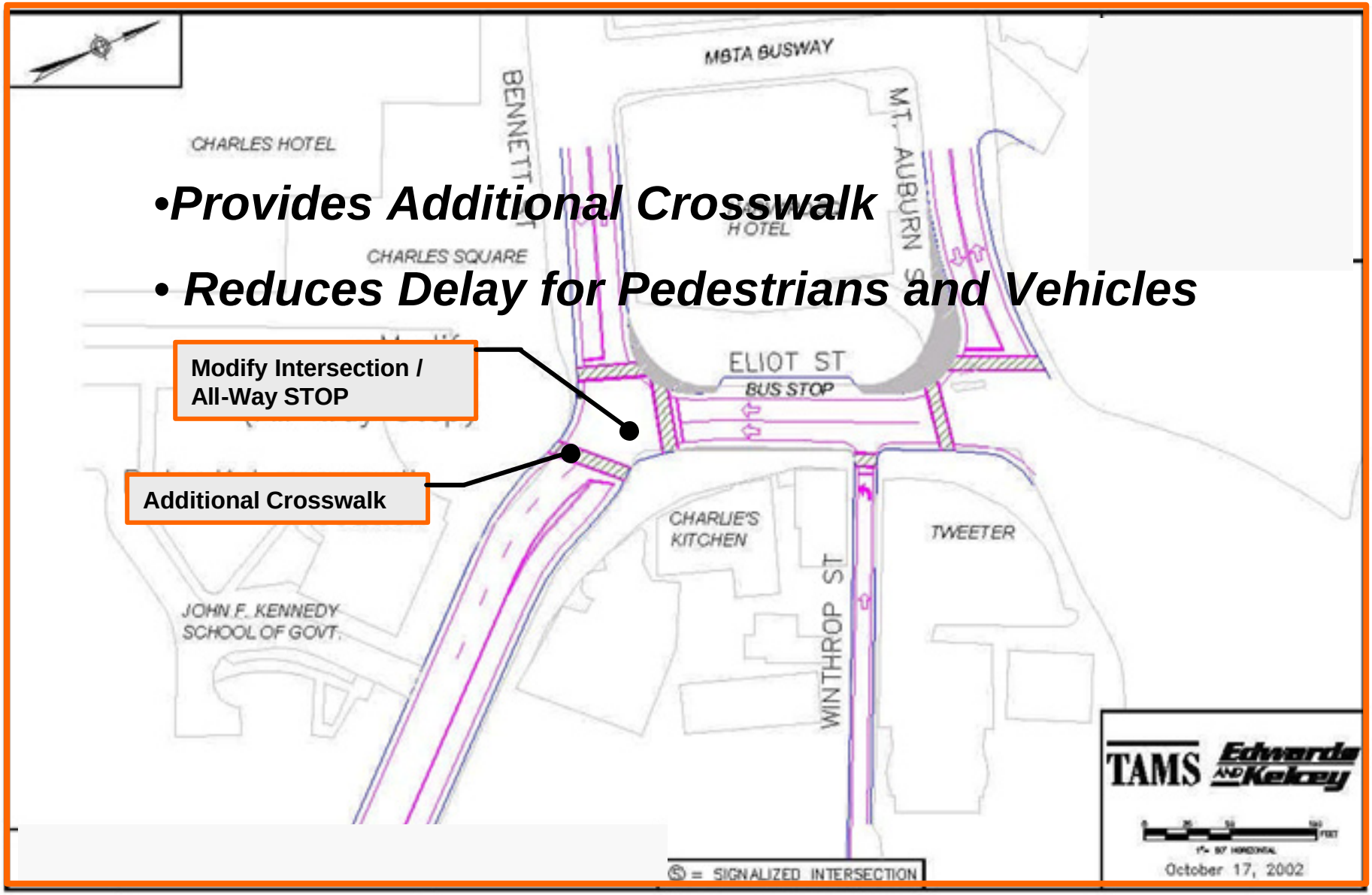


- ***Shortens Pedestrian Crossings***
- ***Provides Additional Pedestrian Crossings***
- ***Eliminates Confusing Vehicle Merge***
- ***Clarifies Movement at Mt. Auburn/Eliot Intersection***

BASIC IMPROVEMENTS

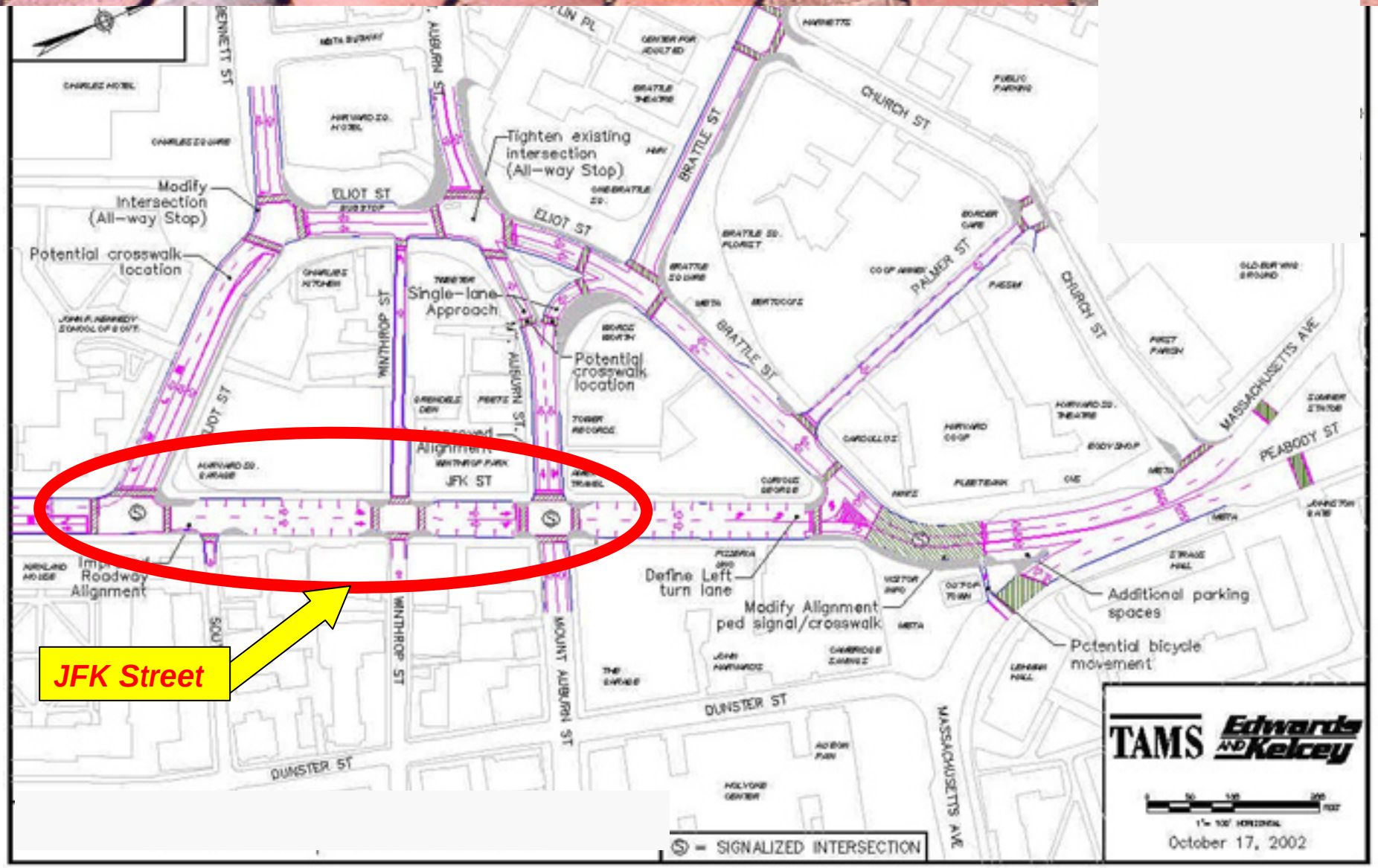


BASIC IMPROVEMENTS
ELIOT / BENNETT INTERSECTION



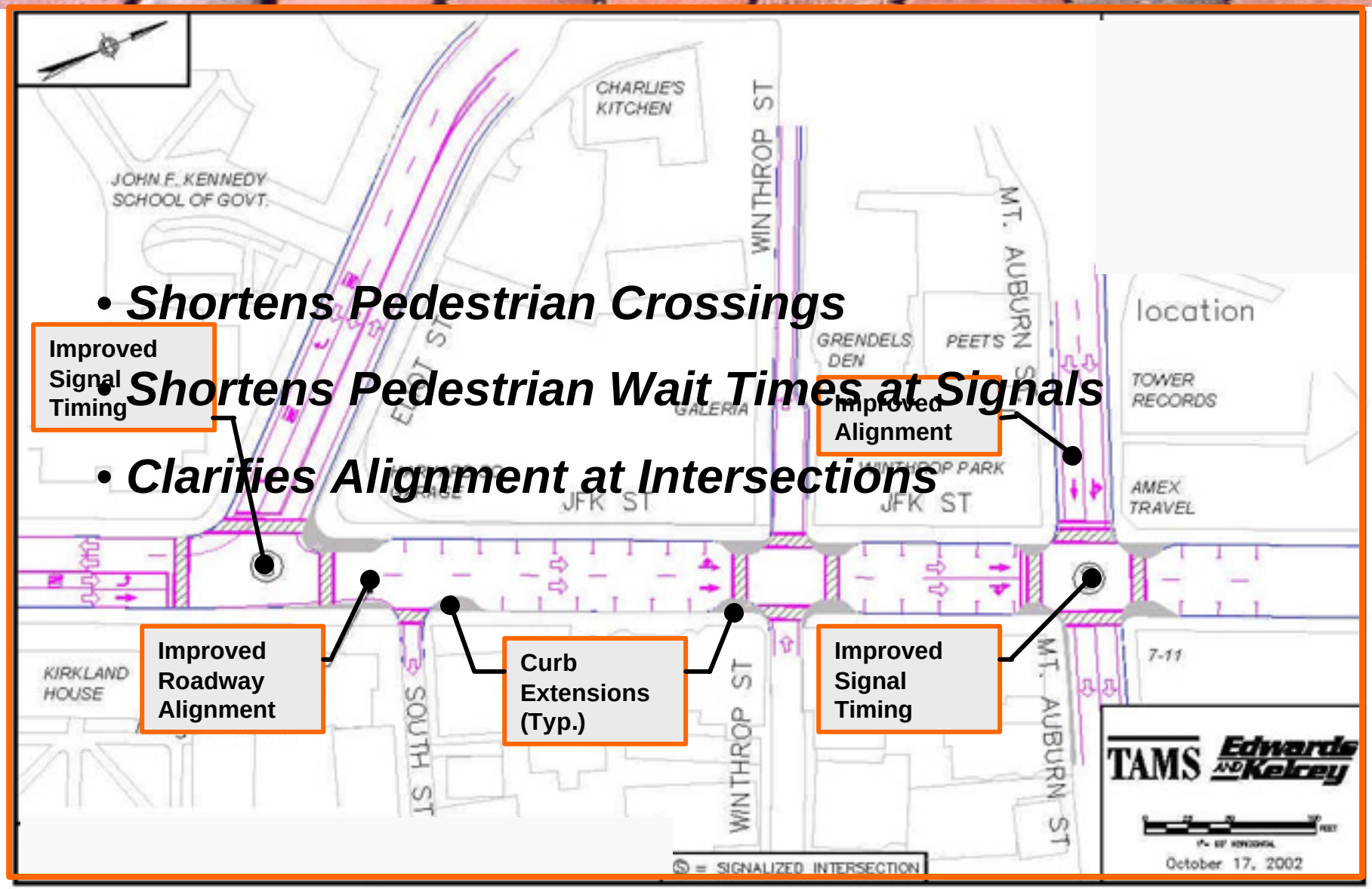
- ***Provides Additional Crosswalk***
- ***Reduces Delay for Pedestrians and Vehicles***

BASIC IMPROVEMENTS



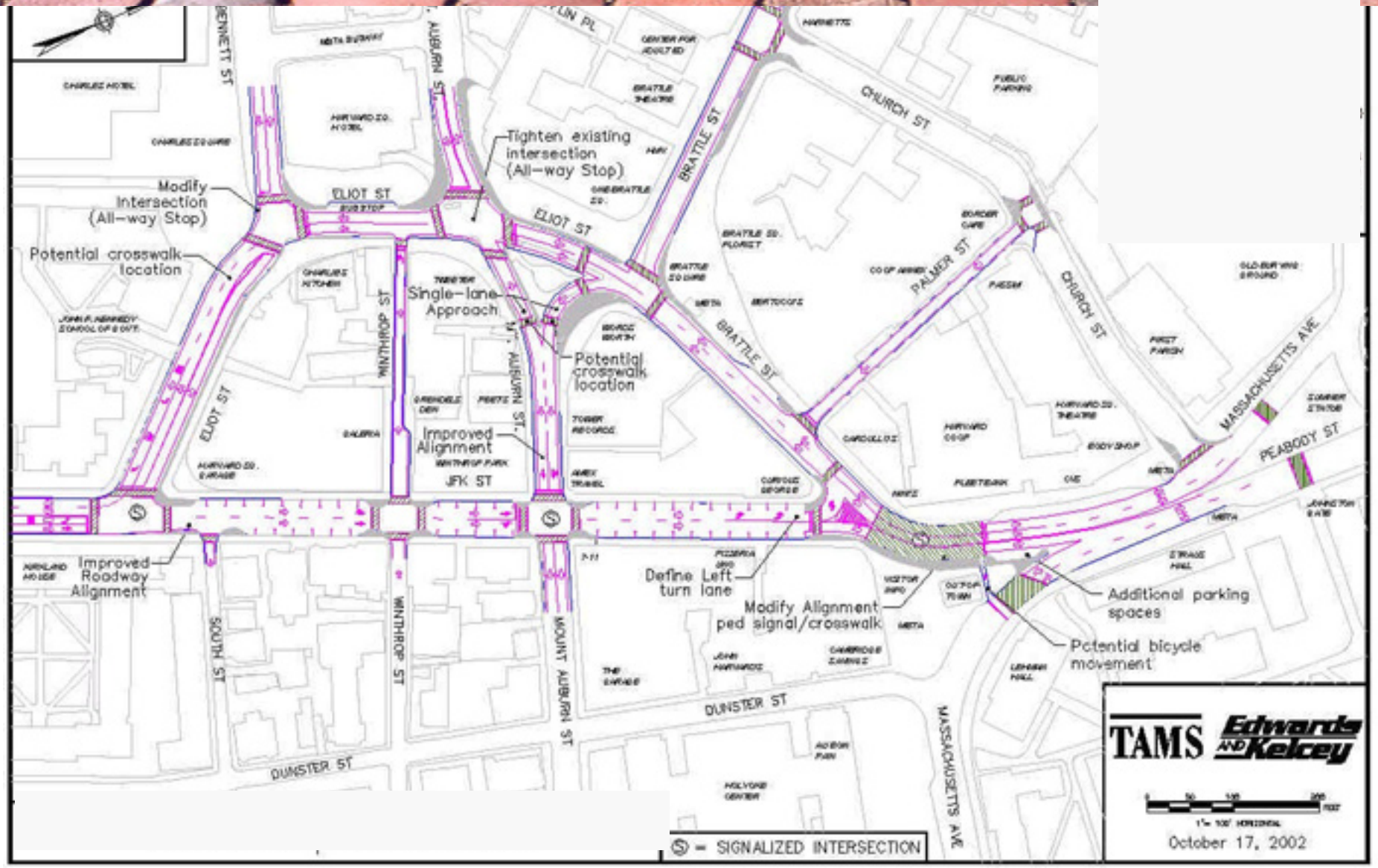
BASIC IMPROVEMENTS

JFK STREET

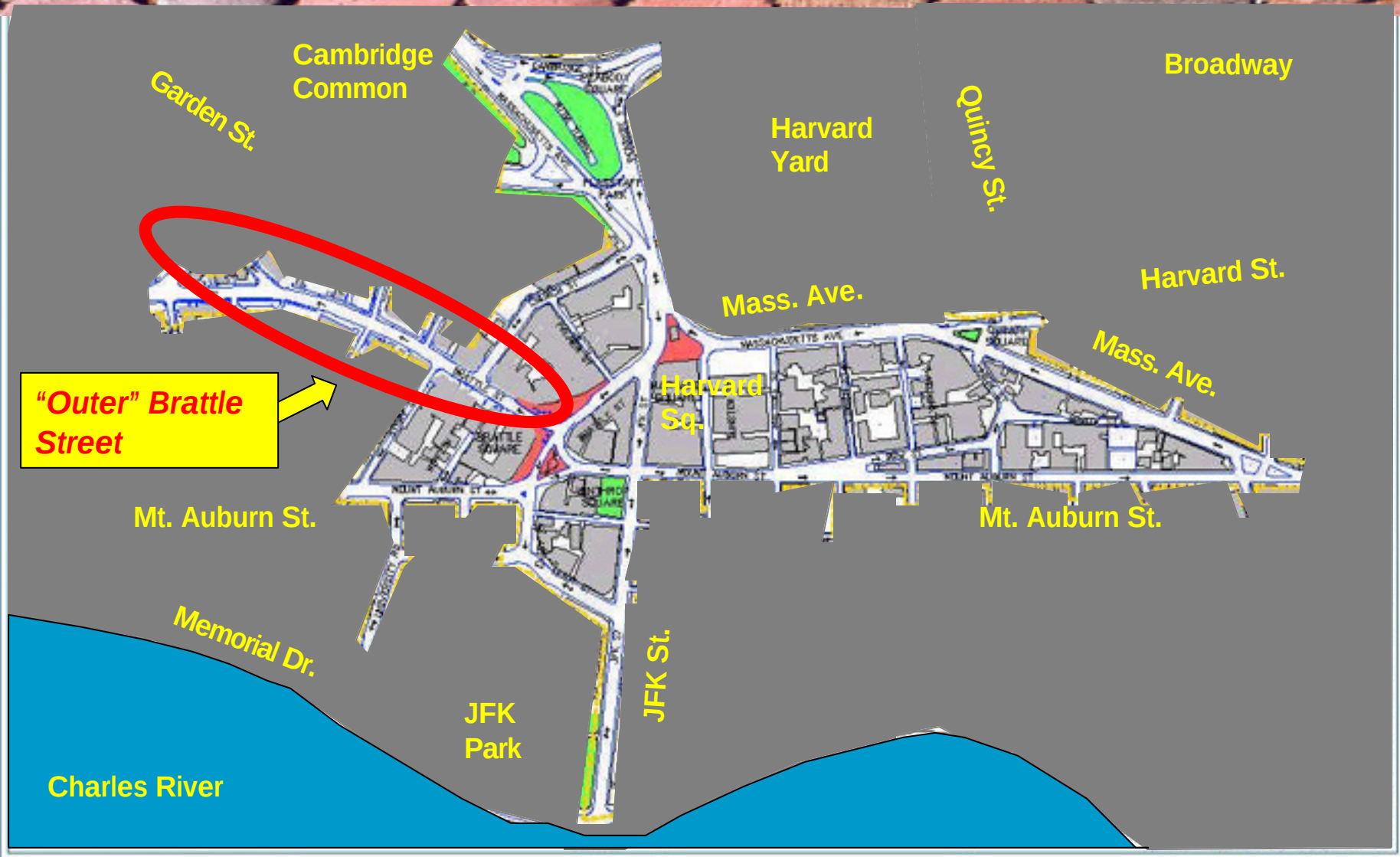


- ***Shortens Pedestrian Crossings***
- ***Shortens Pedestrian Wait Times at Signals***
- ***Clarifies Alignment at Intersections***

BASIC IMPROVEMENTS



"OUTER" BRATTLE STREET

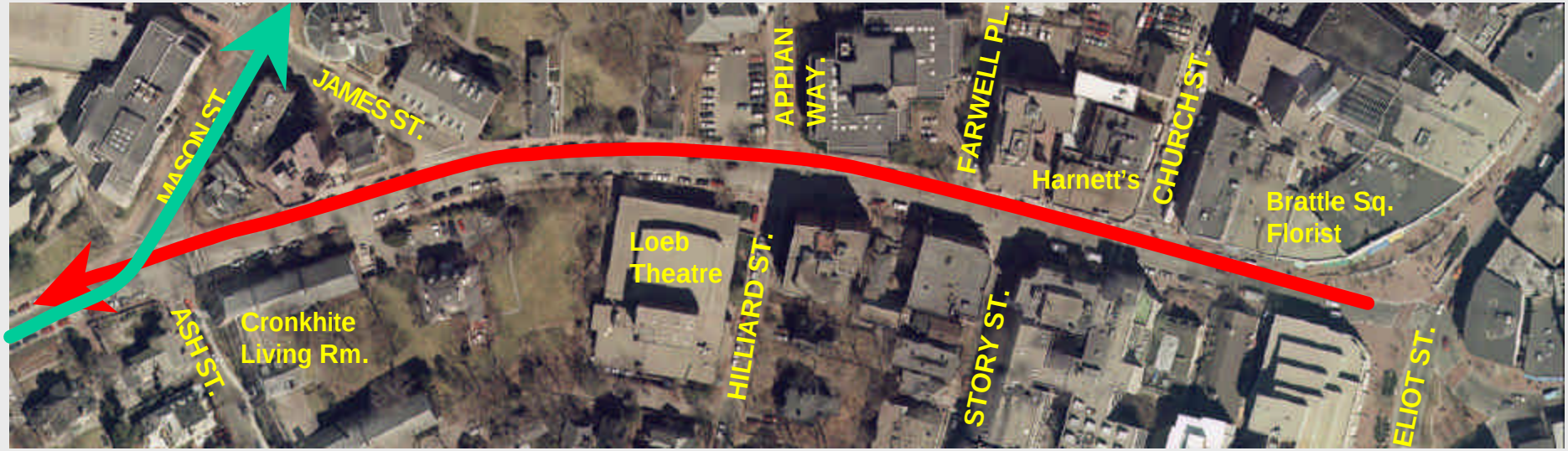


HARVARD SQUARE DESIGN PROJECT

TAMS

City of Cambridge

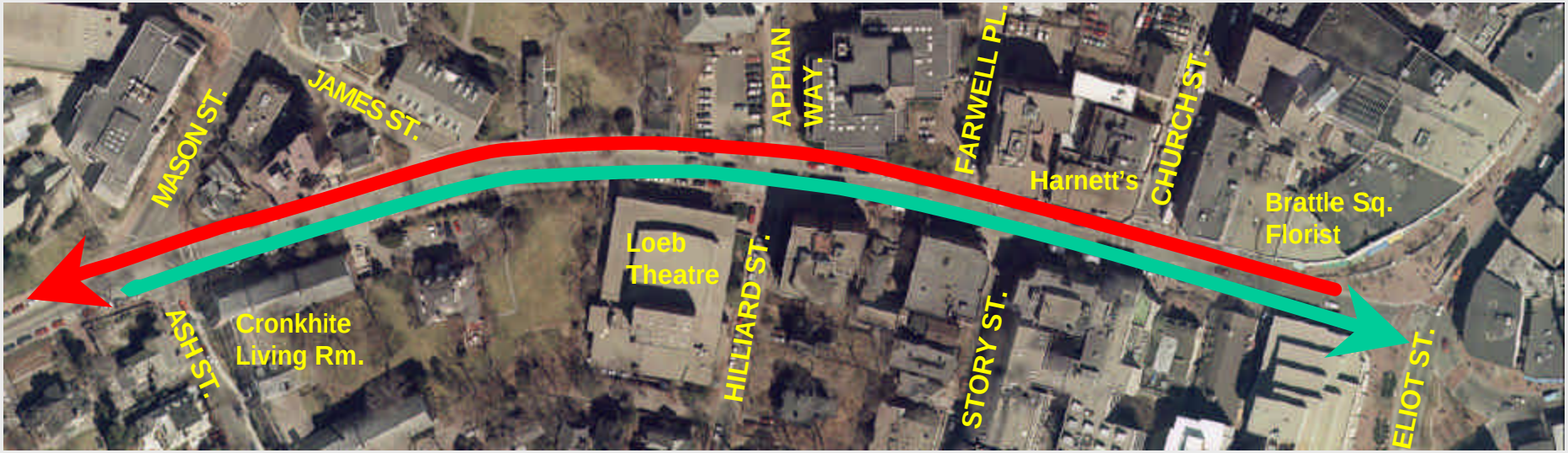
"OUTER" BRATTLE STREET
EXISTING TRAFFIC FLOW



- ***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***
- ***Variations Possible (Ex. 2-Way to Church Street Only)***

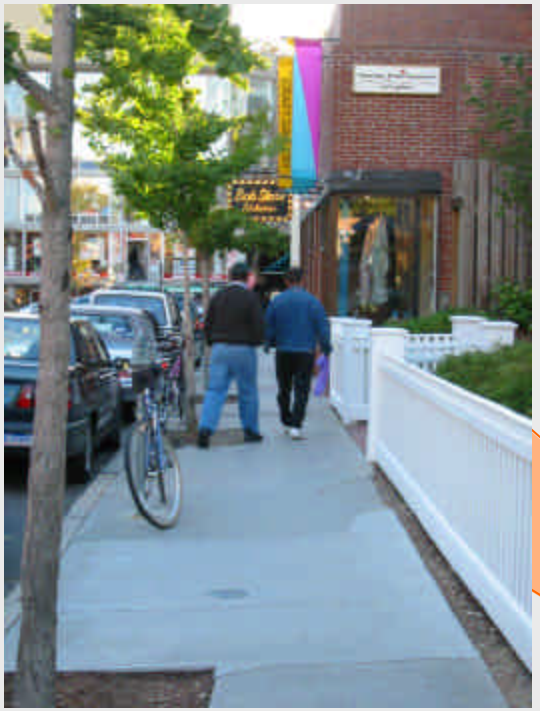
CHURCH STREET

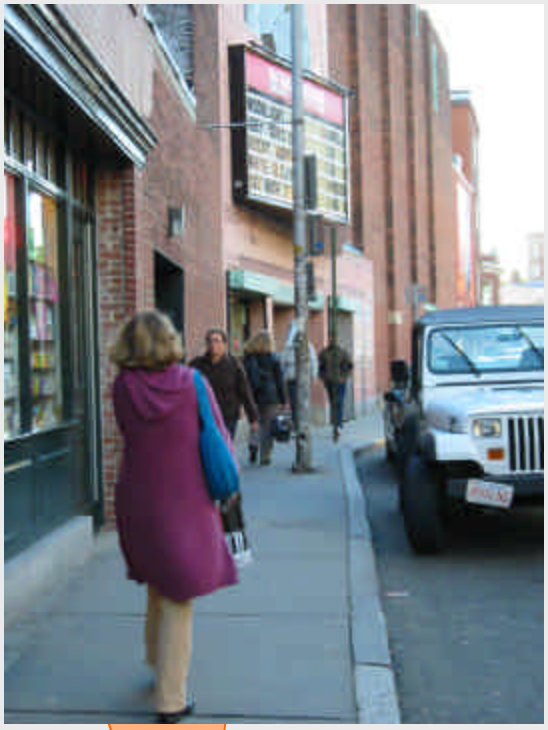
HARVARD SQUARE DESIGN PROJECT

TAMS

City of Cambridge

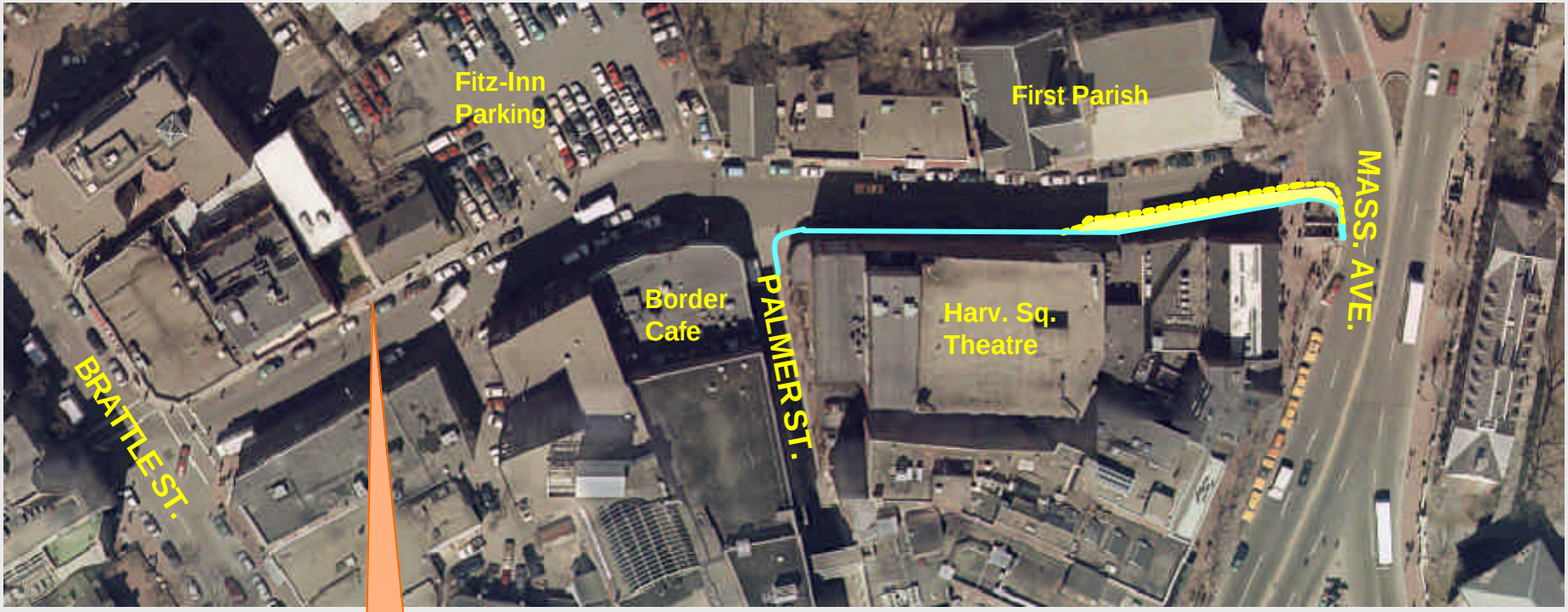
CHURCH STREET





TAMS Edwards AND Kelcey

CHURCH STREET



Tree Grates

- ***One-Way Street***
- ***Spot Improvements***

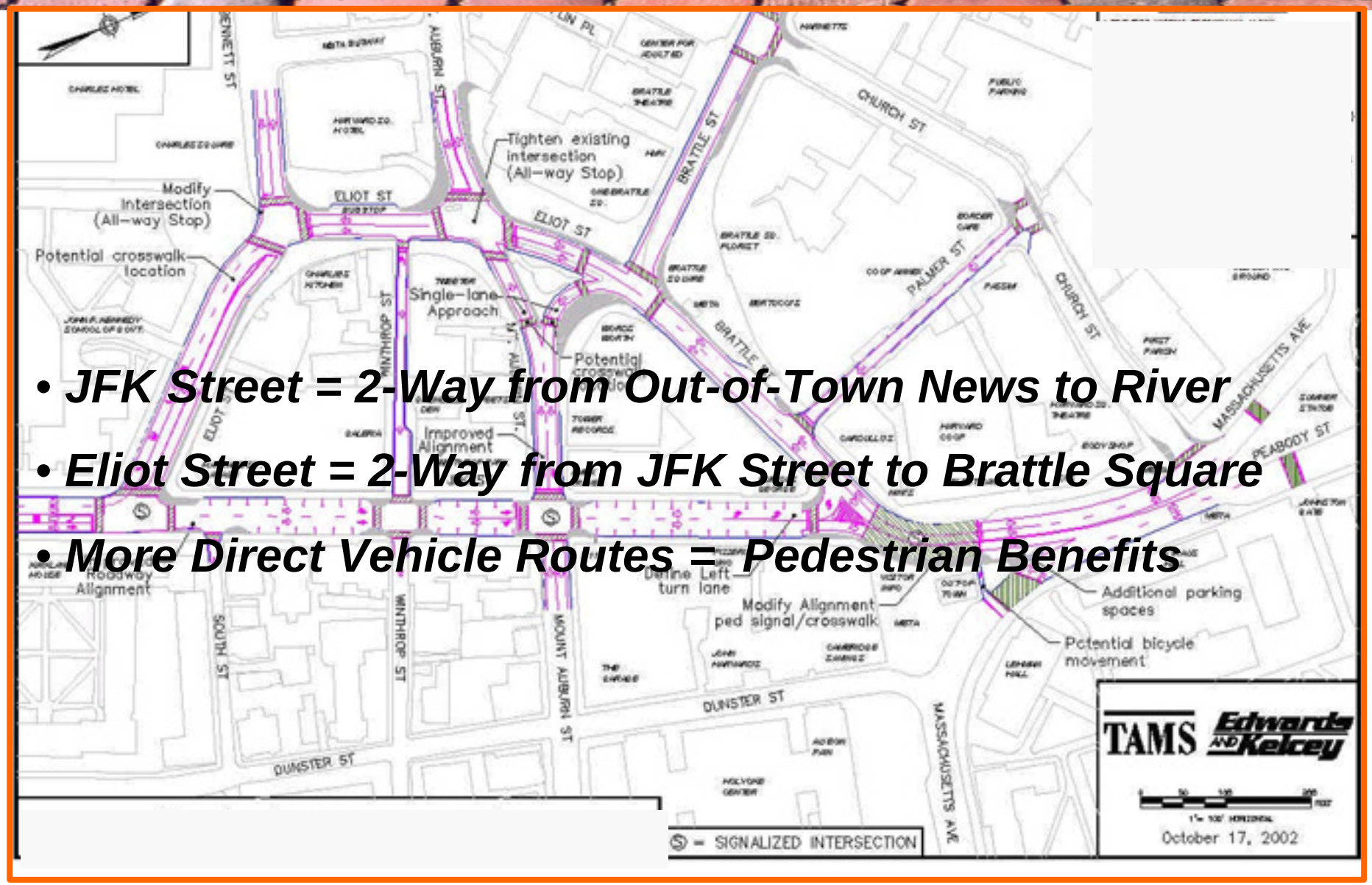
2-WAY JFK / 2-WAY ELIOT

HARVARD SQUARE DESIGN PROJECT

TAMS

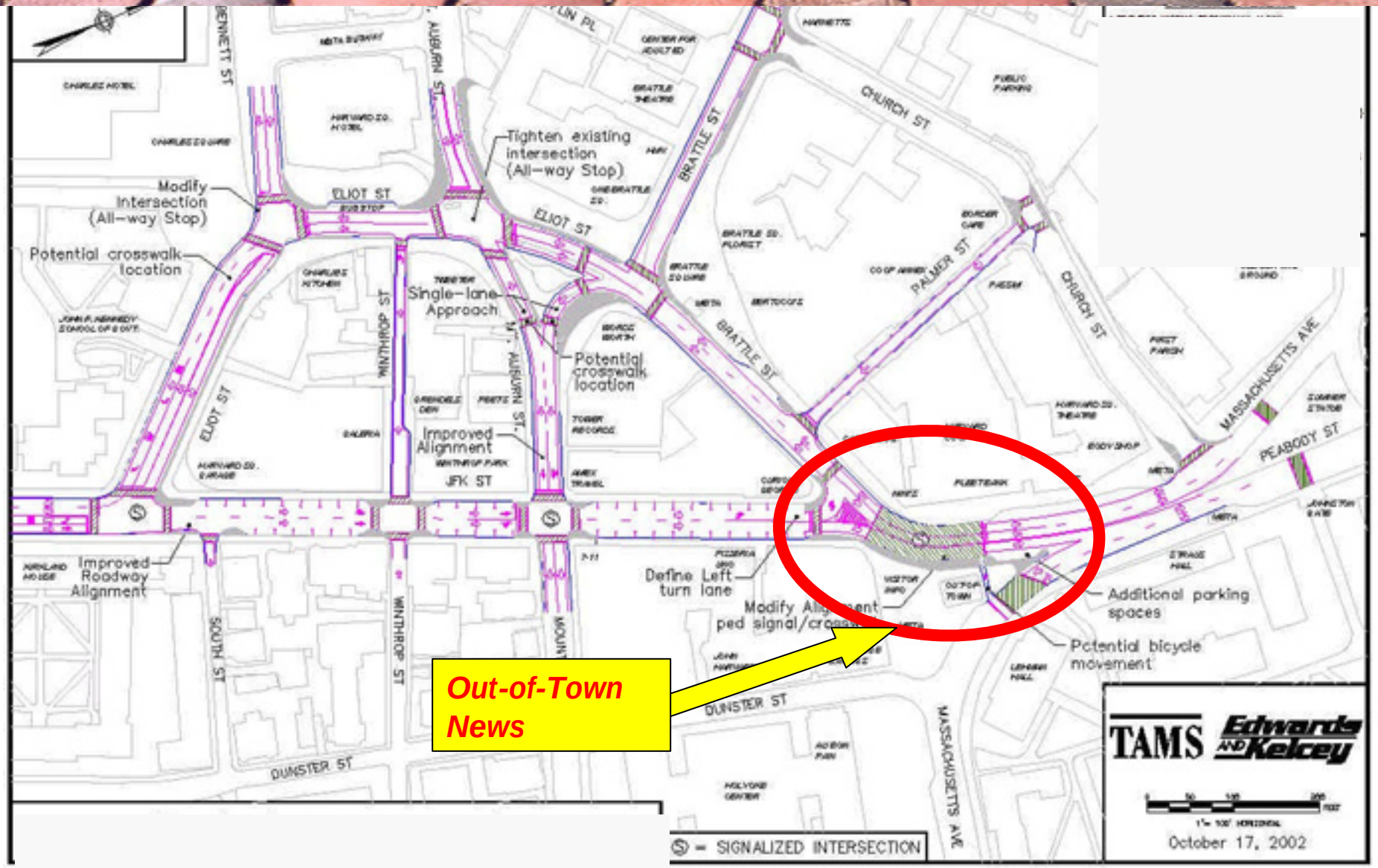
City of Cambridge

2-WAY JFK / 2-WAY ELIOT



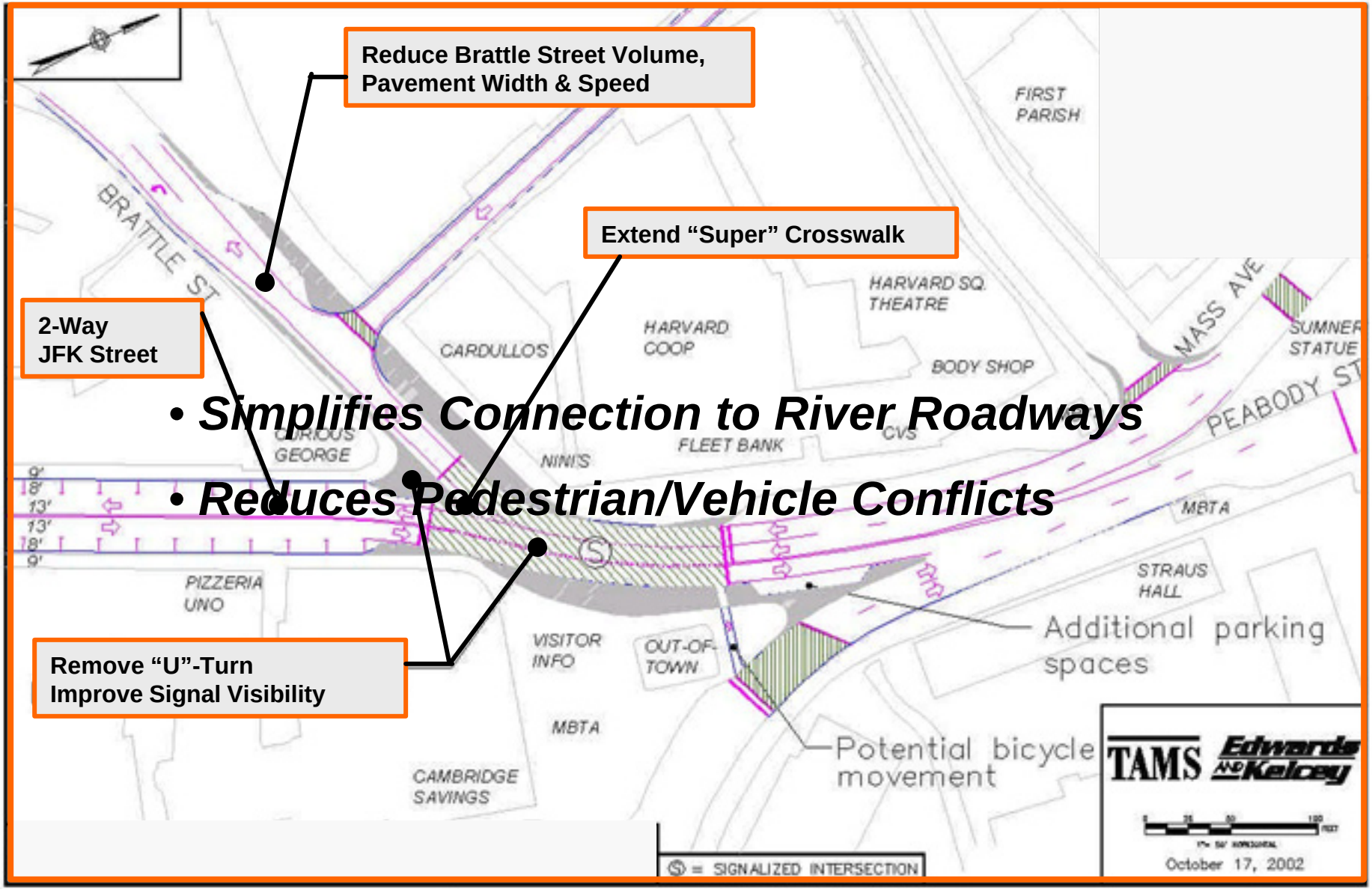
- ***JFK Street = 2-Way from Out-of-Town News to River***
- ***Eliot Street = 2-Way from JFK Street to Brattle Square***
- ***More Direct Vehicle Routes = Pedestrian Benefits***

2-WAY JFK / 2-WAY ELIOT

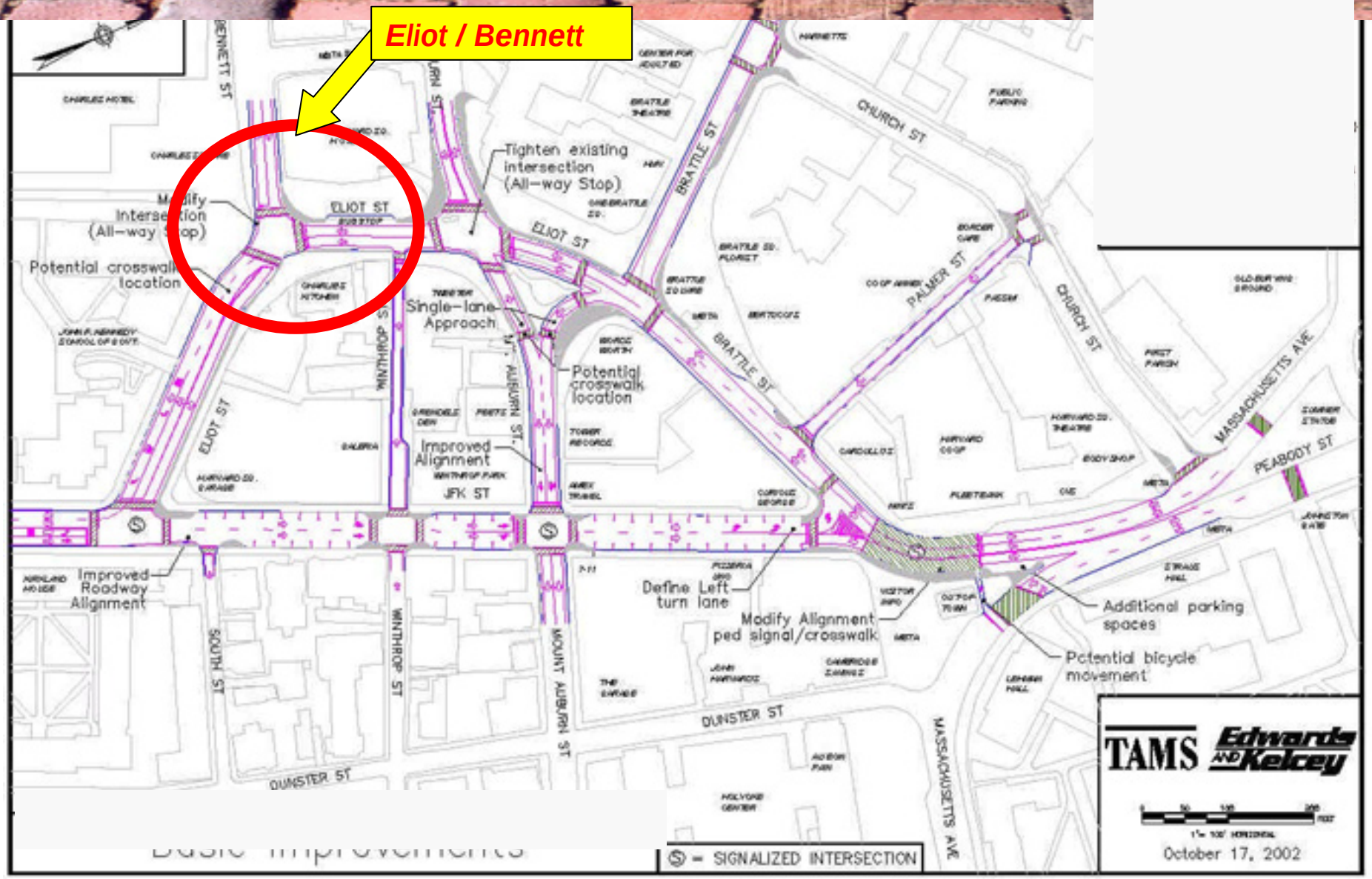


2-WAY JFK / 2-WAY ELIOT

OUT-OF-TOWN NEWS

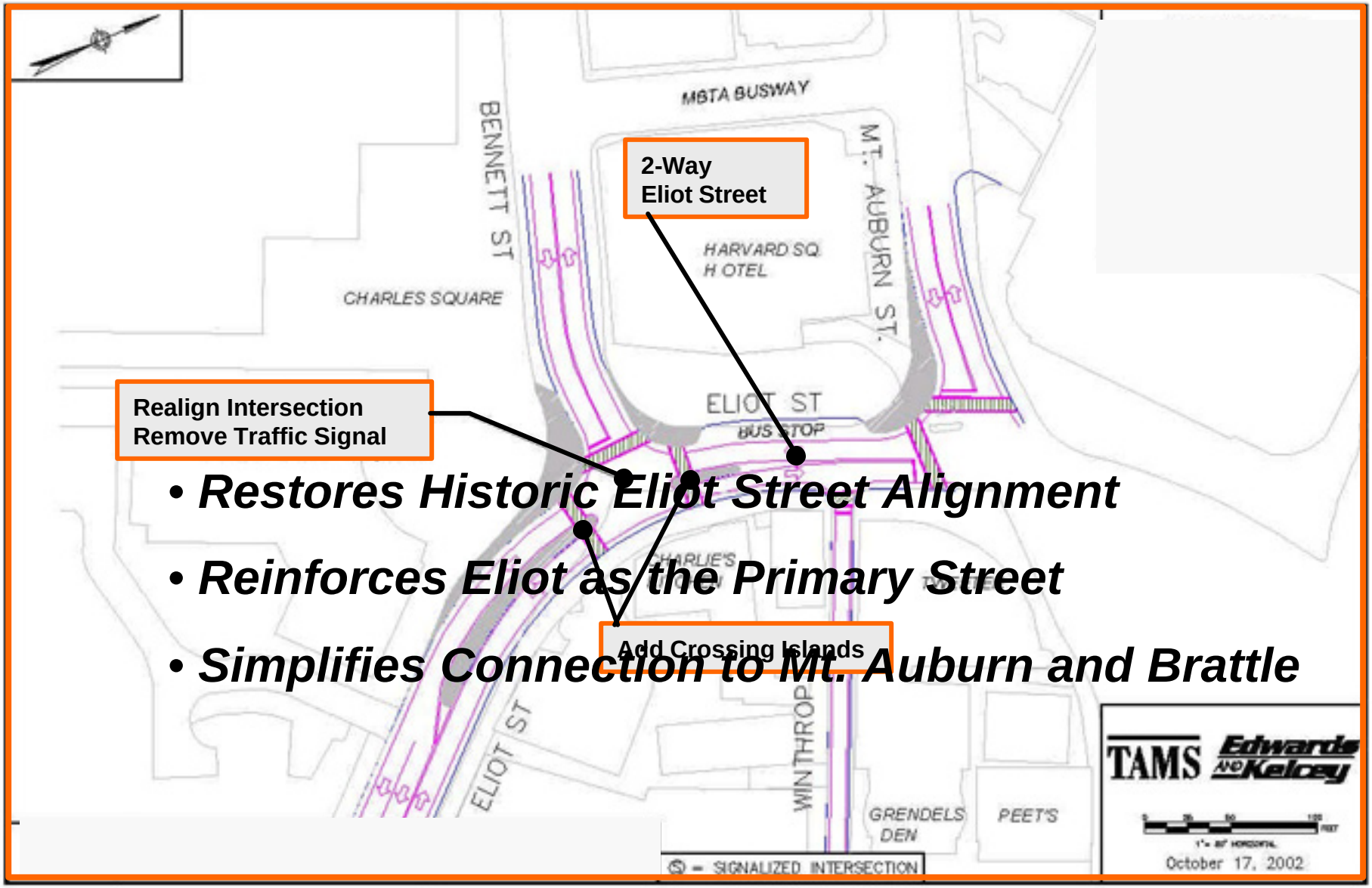


2-WAY JFK / 2-WAY ELIOT



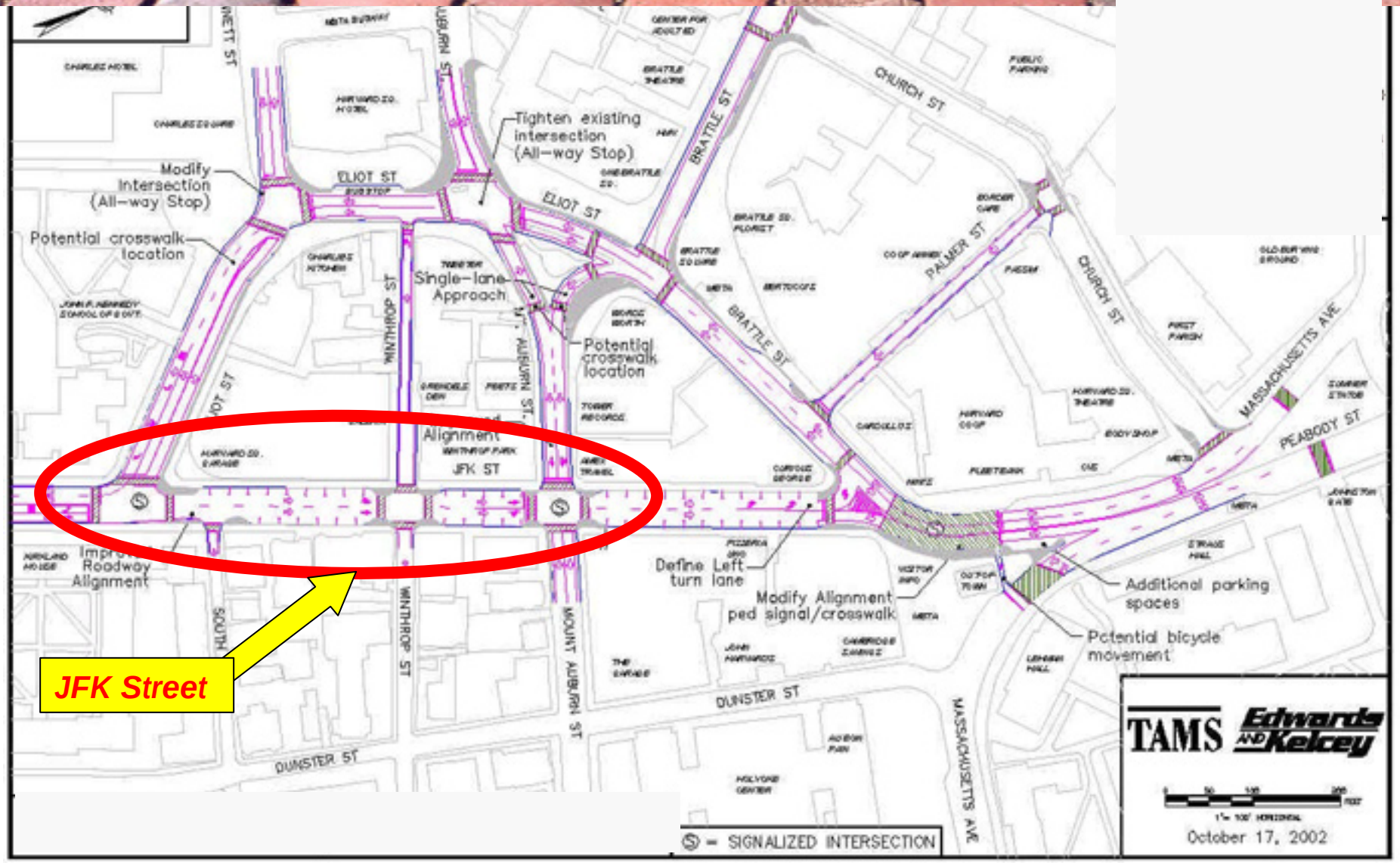
2-WAY JFK / 2-WAY ELIOT

ELIOT / BENNETT INTERSECTION



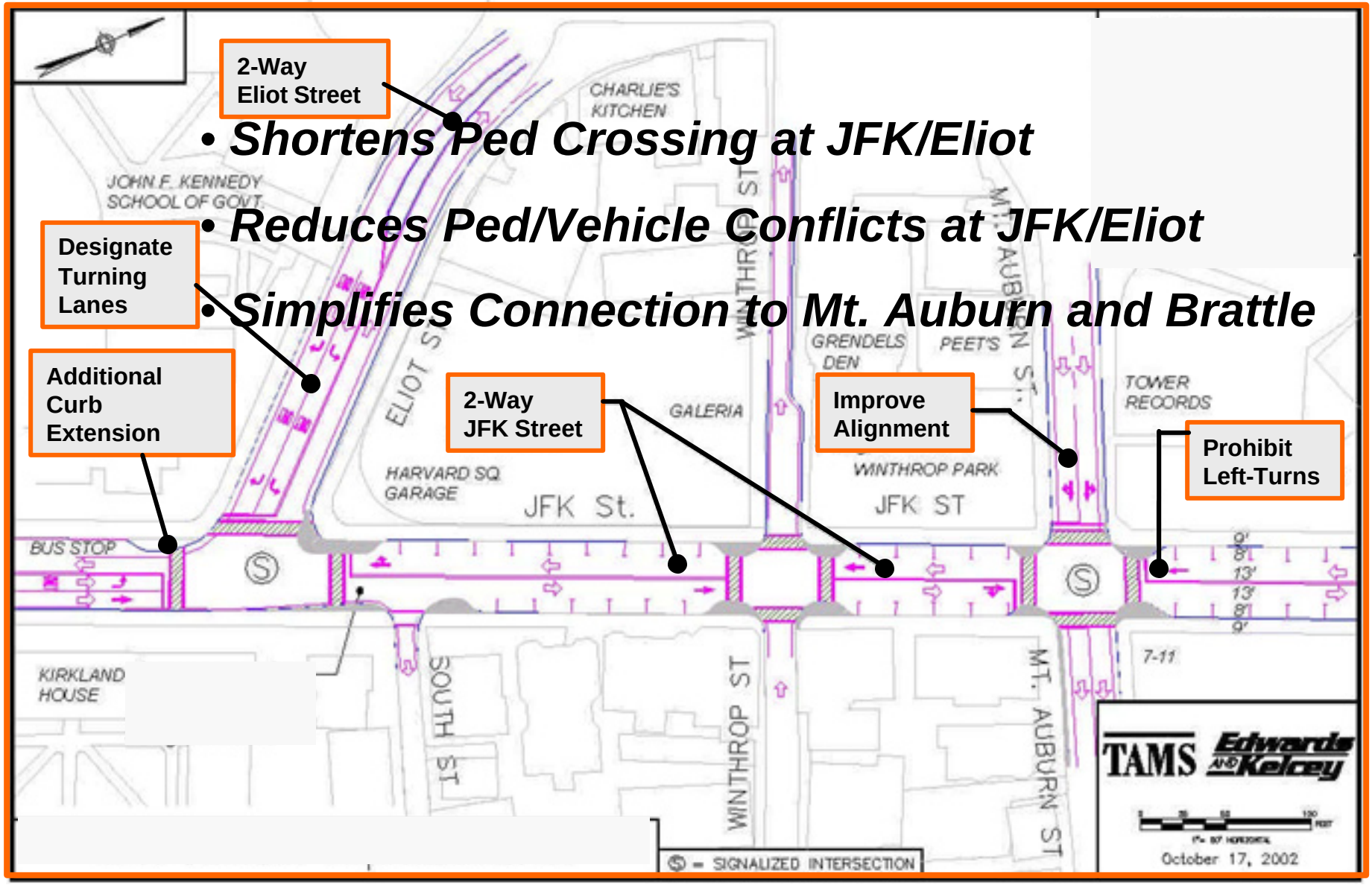
- ***Restores Historic Eliot Street Alignment***
- ***Reinforces Eliot as the Primary Street***
- ***Simplifies Connection to Mt. Auburn and Brattle***

2-WAY JFK / 2-WAY ELIOT



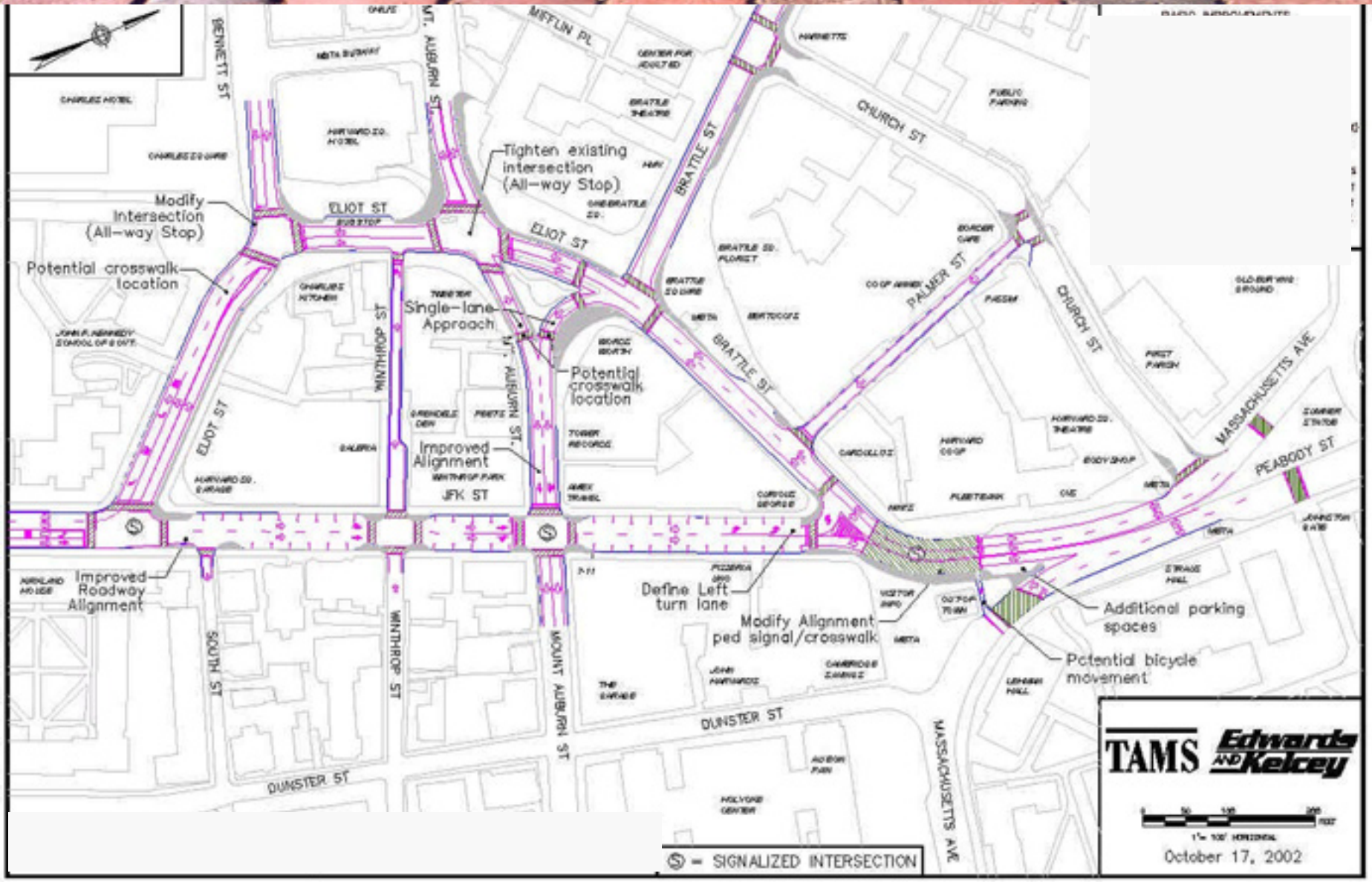
2-WAY JFK / 2-WAY ELIOT

JFK STREET IMPROVEMENTS



- ***Shortens Ped Crossing at JFK/Eliot***
- ***Reduces Ped/Vehicle Conflicts at JFK/Eliot***
- ***Simplifies Connection to Mt. Auburn and Brattle***

2-WAY JFK / 2-WAY ELIOT



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS