

Transportation and the Public Realm

Presentation to the Central Square Advisory Committee

July 18, 2018



Contents

- Sustainable transportation, policies, and plans
- Current Central Square projects
 - South Mass Ave
 - River Street
- Other open space/transportation project examples

Sustainable Transportation

- High quality of life
- Low environmental impact
- Strong economy
- Health



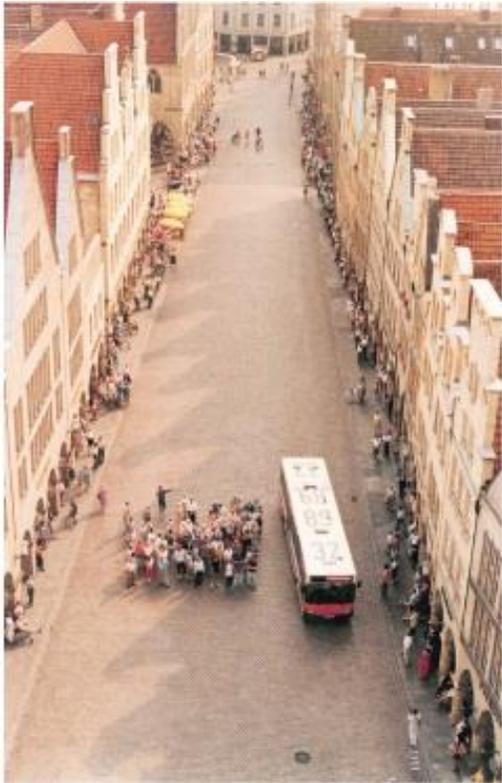
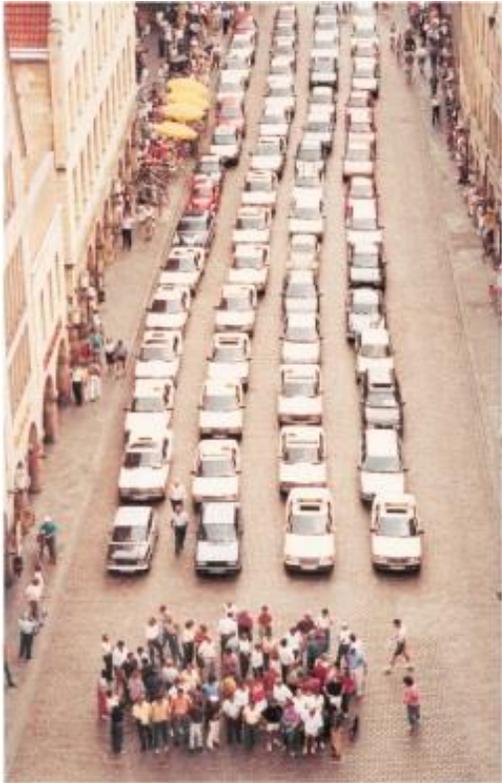
Healthy Communities

Sustainable
Transportation



Low Environmental Impact

Sustainable
Transportation



Sustainable Transportation

Economic Benefits

TRANSIT FOR A
STRONGER ECONOMY



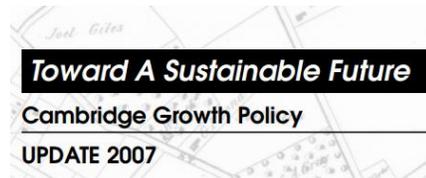
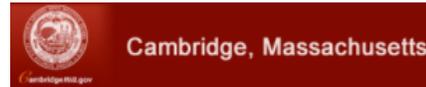
Sustainable Transportation

Areas of Work:

- Outreach and education
- Reducing the traffic impact of development
- Adapting infrastructure to enable people of all ages and abilities to travel by foot, bike, and transit
- Working regionally to increase transit use and capacity



Municipal Policies



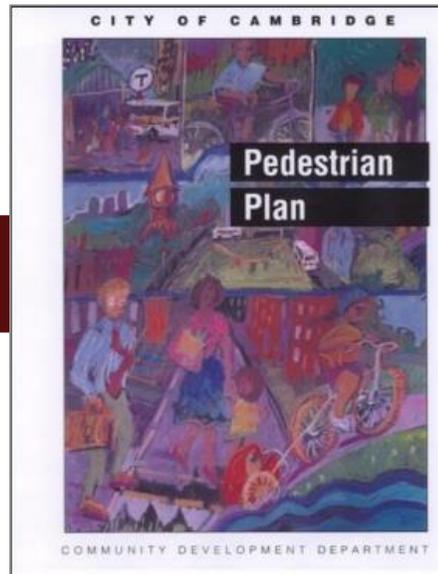
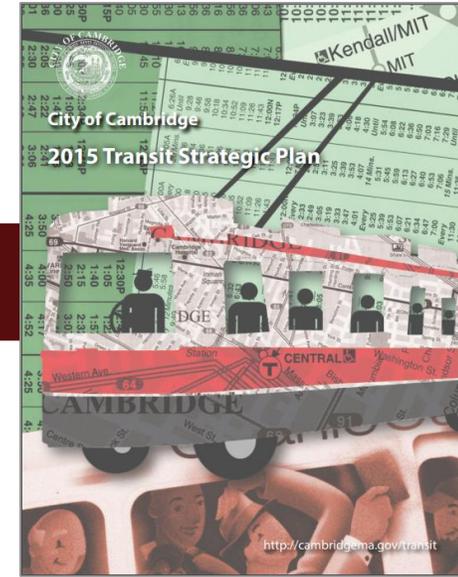
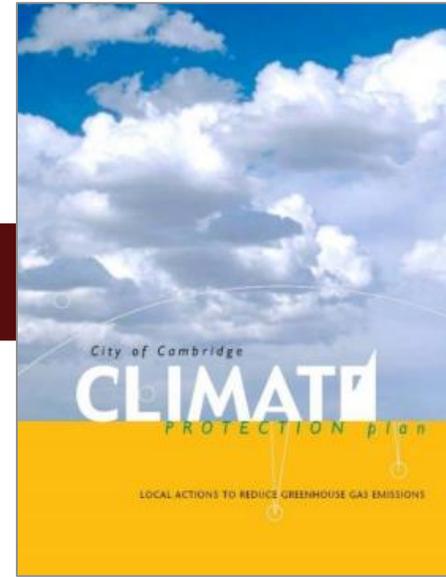
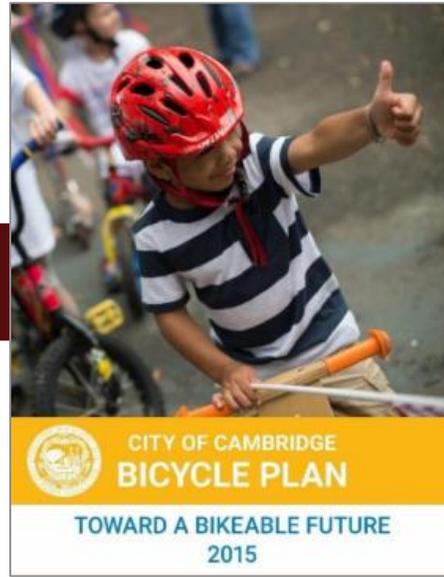
Vision Zero calls for the elimination of fatalities and serious injuries resulting from traffic crashes, and emphasizes that they can, and should be prevented (2016).

Complete Streets are designed and operated to enable safe access for *all* users – regardless of age, ability, or mode of transportation (2016).

Vehicle Trip Reduction Ordinance established programs to encourage alternatives to single-occupancy vehicle travel (1992).

Cambridge Growth Policy emphasizes sustainable modes of transportation such as walking, biking and using transit and low-emission vehicles, which promote livability and help to improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions (1993/2007).

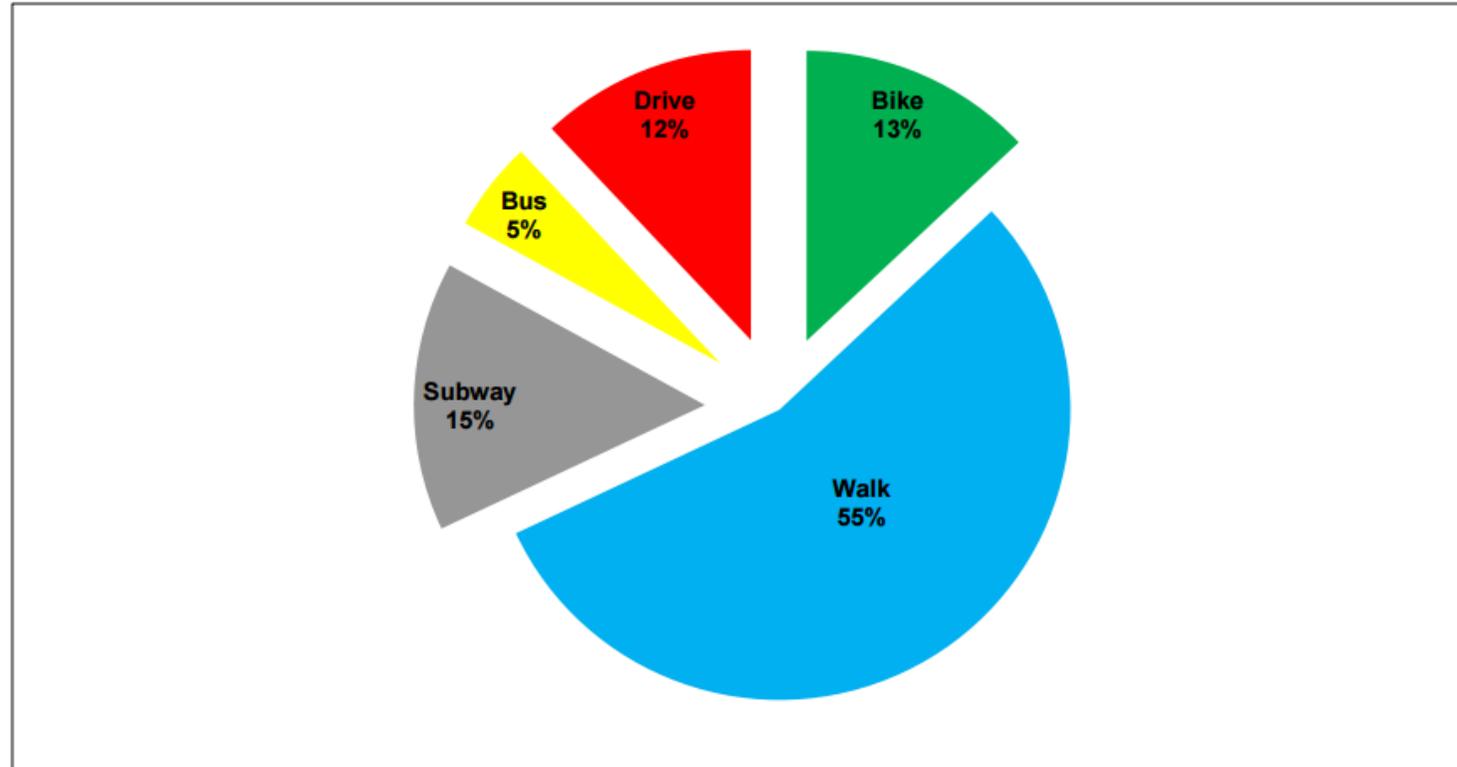
From Plans to Action



Central Square Transportation

Findings: Transportation Modes

What mode of transportation do you most frequently use to get to Central Square?



Source: Central Square Customer Survey, 2014 Update. See <http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/econdev/aboutcambridge/centralsq>

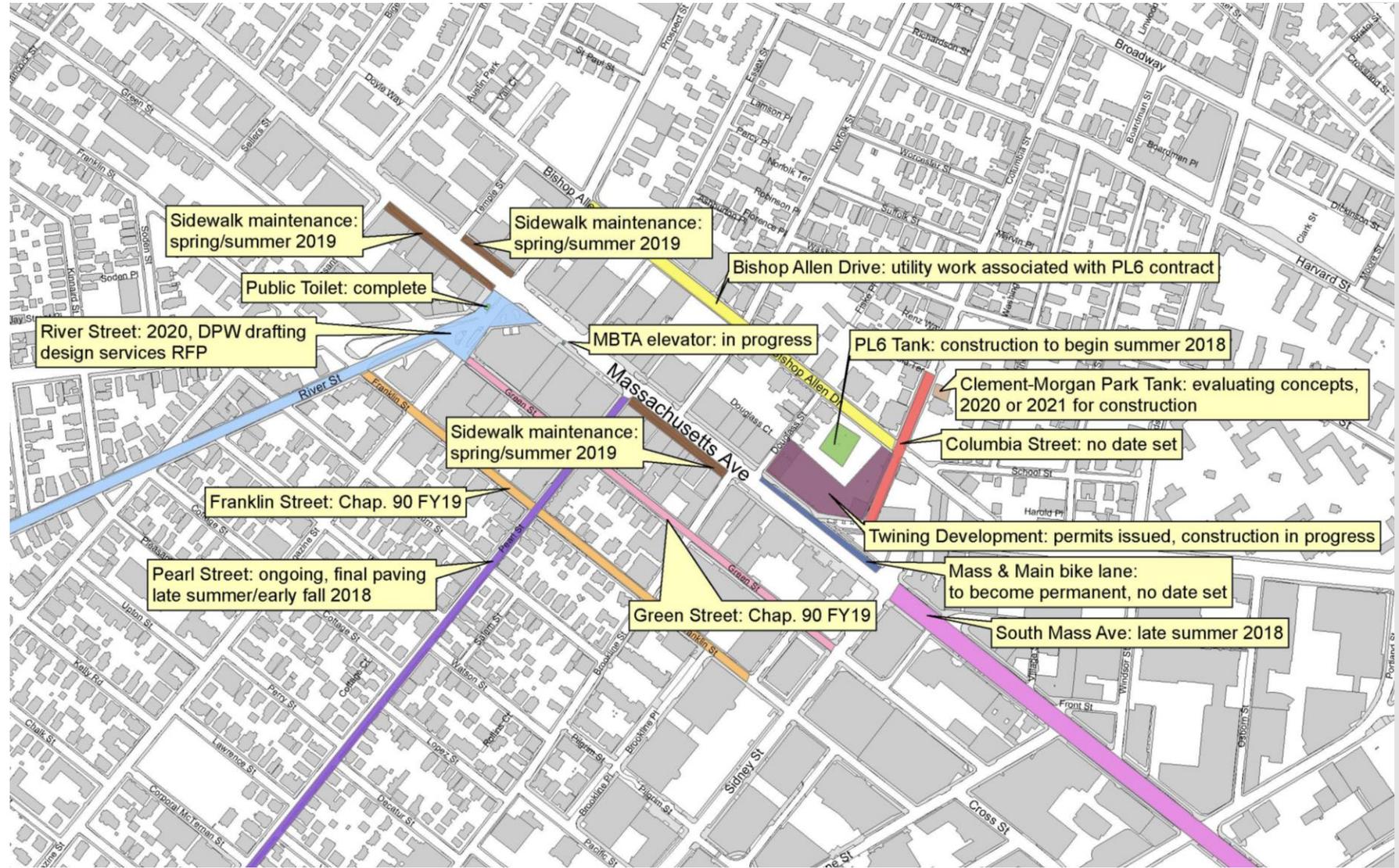
Central Square Projects (Historical)

Central Square before and after 1996 infrastructure improvements



Source: Central Square Final Report, 2013. See <http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/econdev/aboutcambridge/centralsq>

Central Square Projects: Updated July 2018



Sample Ongoing and Near-Term Initiatives

Ongoing, collaborative initiatives to meet sustainable transportation goals in Central Square:

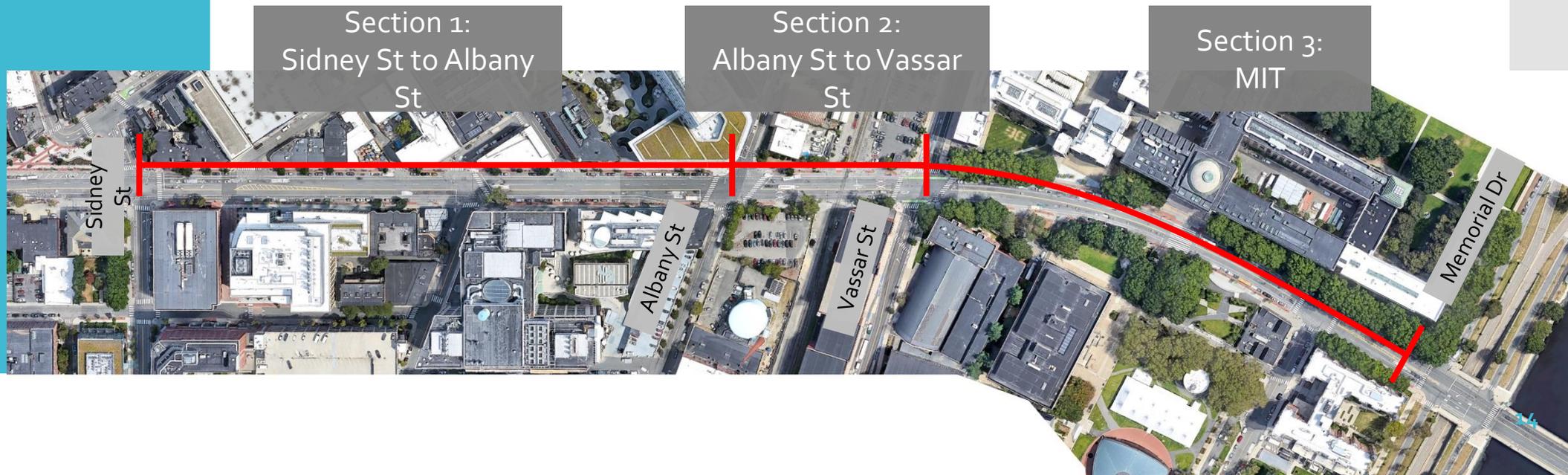
- South Mass Ave Corridor Safety Improvement Project (implementation expected in summer/fall 2018)
- River Street Infrastructure and Streetscape Design (design process starting in FY2019)

South Mass Ave Corridor Safety Improvements Project

Project Goals:

- Address safety issues and reduce crashes - Vision Zero
- Reduce transit delays
- Enable/encourage people of all ages and abilities to choose sustainable transportation

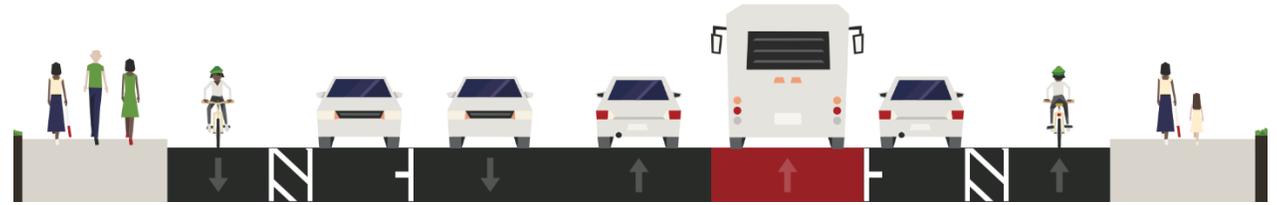
<http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/Projects/Transportation/southmassavecorridorsafetyimprovementsproject>



South Mass Ave Corridor Safety Improvements Project

The three DRAFT general cross sections (intersections vary)

Section 1:
Sidney St to
Albany St

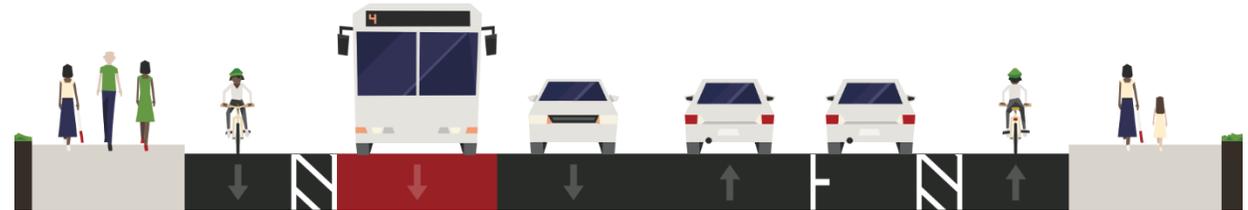


Section 2:
Albany St to
Vassar St



Most Complicated

Section 3:
MIT



Source: South Mass Ave Corridor Safety Improvements Presentation, Public Meeting #2, June 19, 2018.

See <http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/Projects/Transportation/southmassavecorridorsafetyimprovementsproject>

South Mass Ave Corridor Safety Improvements Project

Photo-Simulation of draft design



Before

Source: South Mass Ave Corridor Safety Improvements Presentation, Public Meeting #2, June 19, 2018.

See <http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/Projects/Transportation/southmassavecorridorsafetyimprovementsproject>

South Mass Ave Corridor Safety Improvements Project

Photo-Simulation of draft design



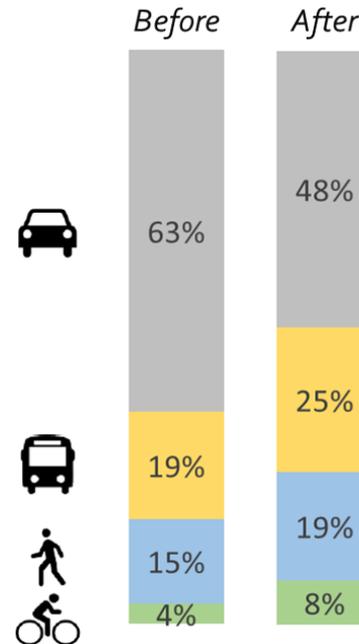
After

Source: South Mass Ave Corridor Safety Improvements Presentation, Public Meeting #2, June 19, 2018.
See <http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/Projects/Transportation/southmassavecorridorsafetyimprovementsproject>

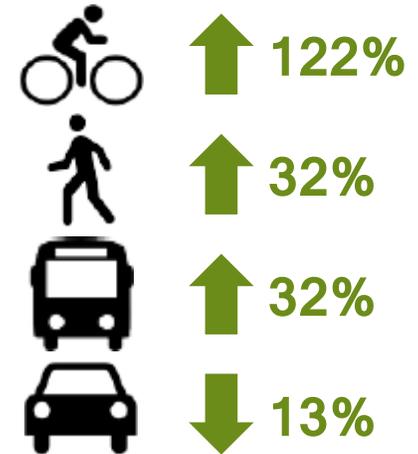
River Street Infrastructure and Streetscape Design

- Design process expected to start in fall of 2018
- Central Square visioning/charrette exercise will be included
- Includes extensive consideration of transportation, urban design (Carl Barron Plaza), landscape architecture (including creation of new pocket parks), and utilities
- Some similarities to Western Ave reconstruction – see <http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/Projects/Transportation/westernavenue>

Western Ave:
Percent of total
weekday PM
peak users by
mode before
(2007/9) and
after (2015/6)
construction



Western Ave post
construction



River Street Infrastructure and Streetscape Design

Western Ave before/after



River Street Infrastructure and Streetscape Design



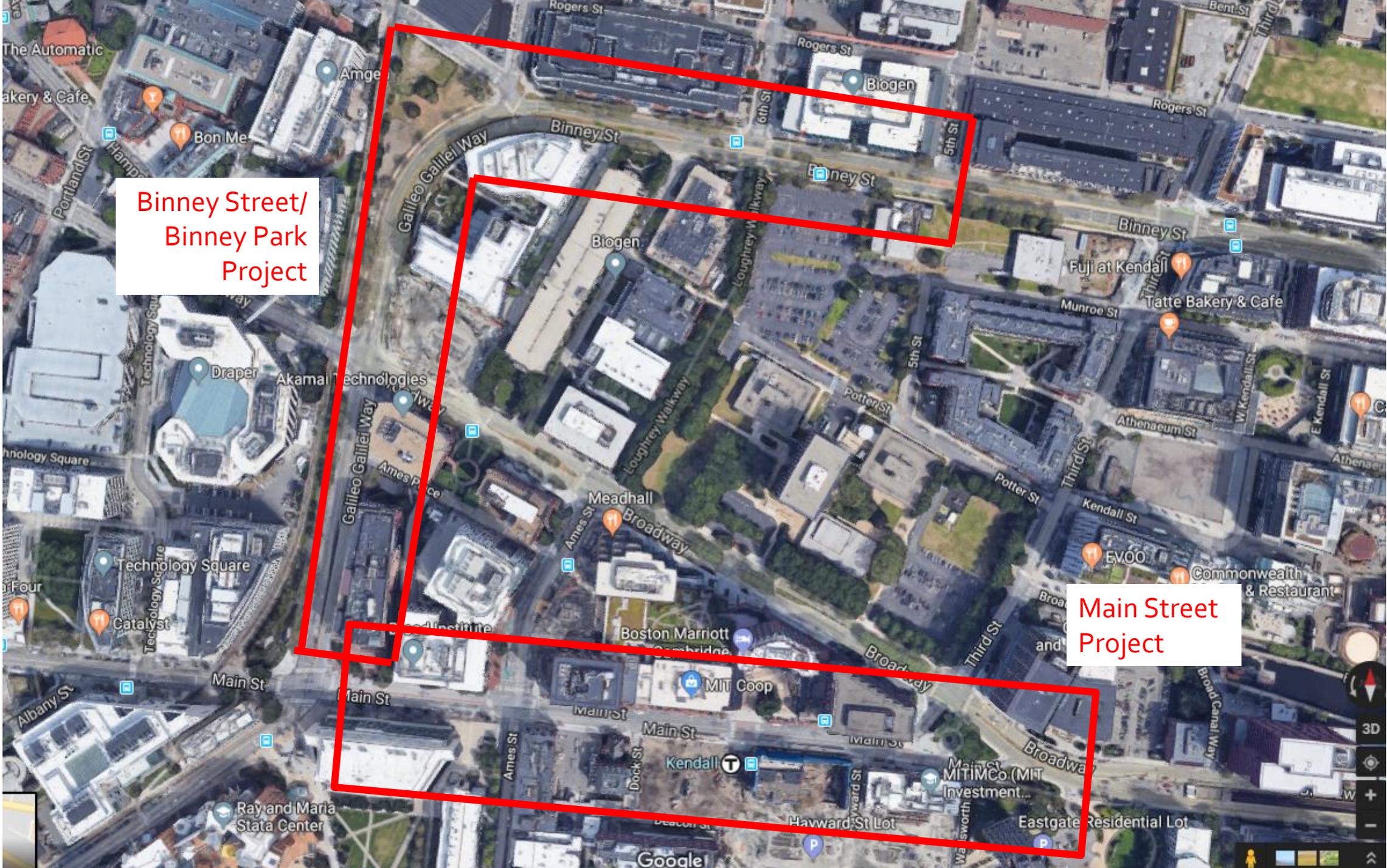
Western Ave before/after



Project Examples: Transportation /Open Space Considerations

Project Examples for Discussion:

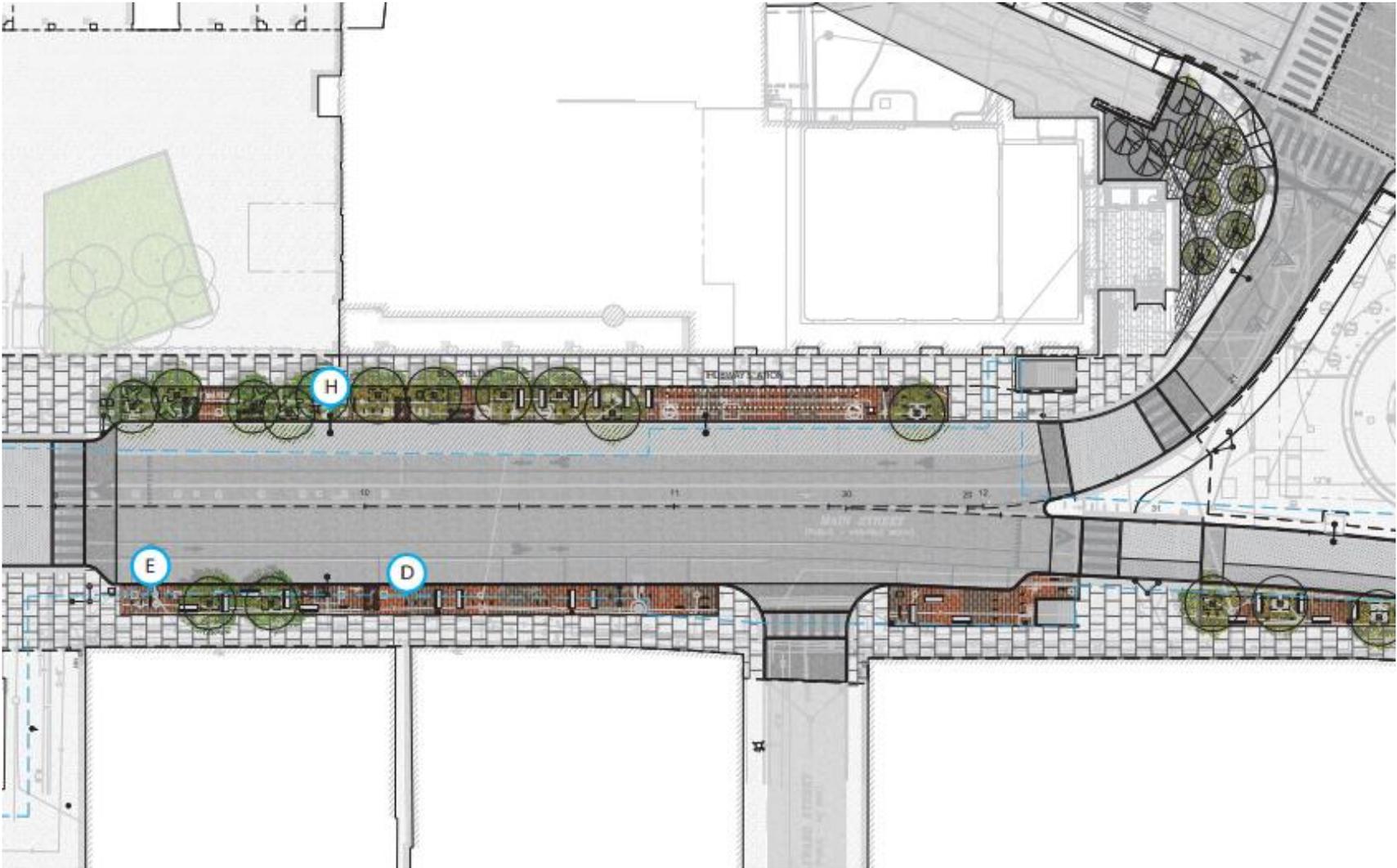
- Main Street (completed summer 2016)
- Binney Street/Binney Park (under design)
- Inman Square (design complete, seeking approval for construction)



Binney Street/
Binney Park
Project

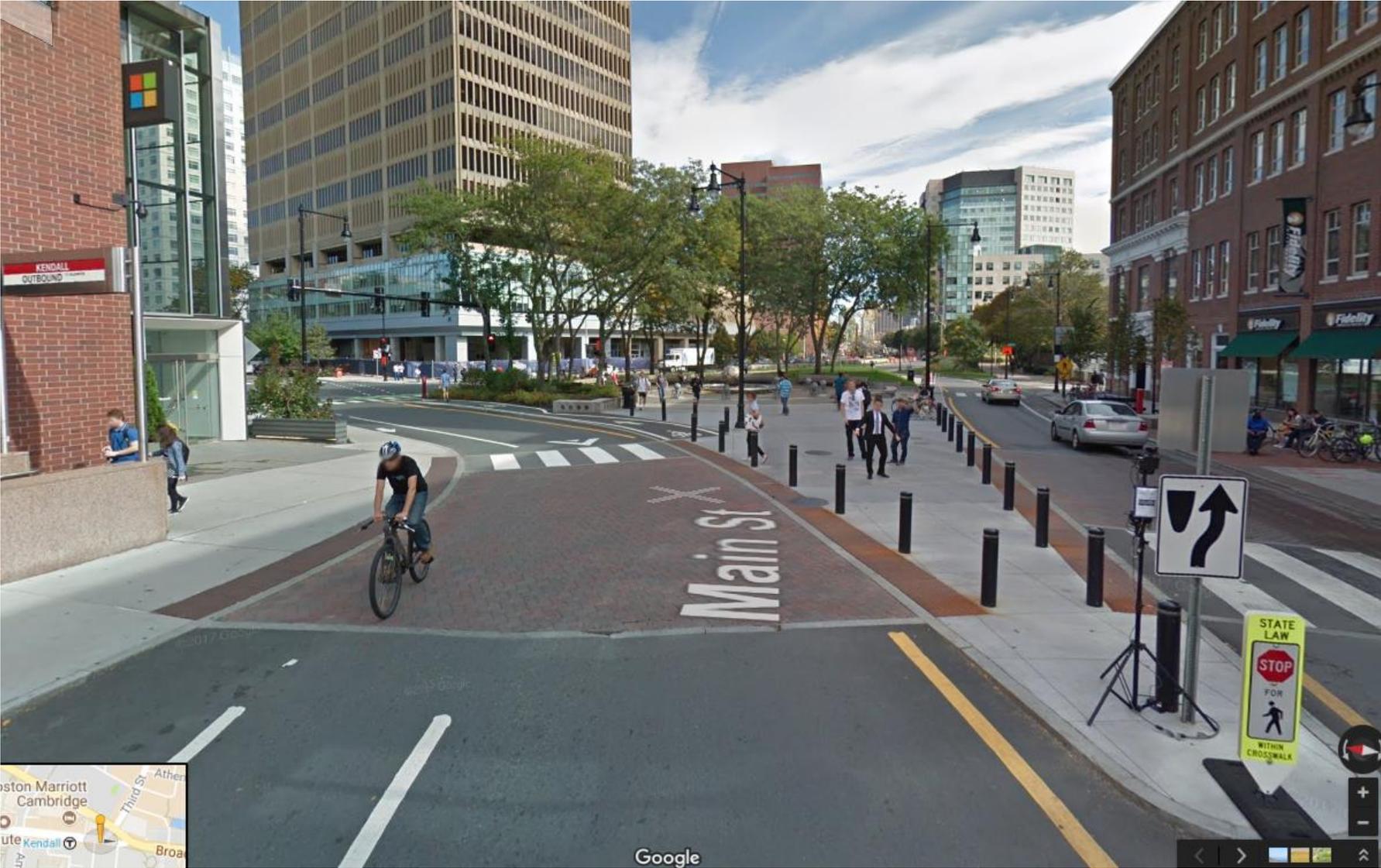
Main Street
Project

Main Street



Source: Main Street Plan rendering. See <http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/Projects/Planning/K2C2.aspx>

Main Street



Binney Street



Scale: 1" = 20'
0' 10' 20'
May 2017

Source: "Layout Drawings version 3 Update", 2017.
See <http://www.cambridgeredevelopment.org/binneygalileobroadway-streetscape-redesign/>

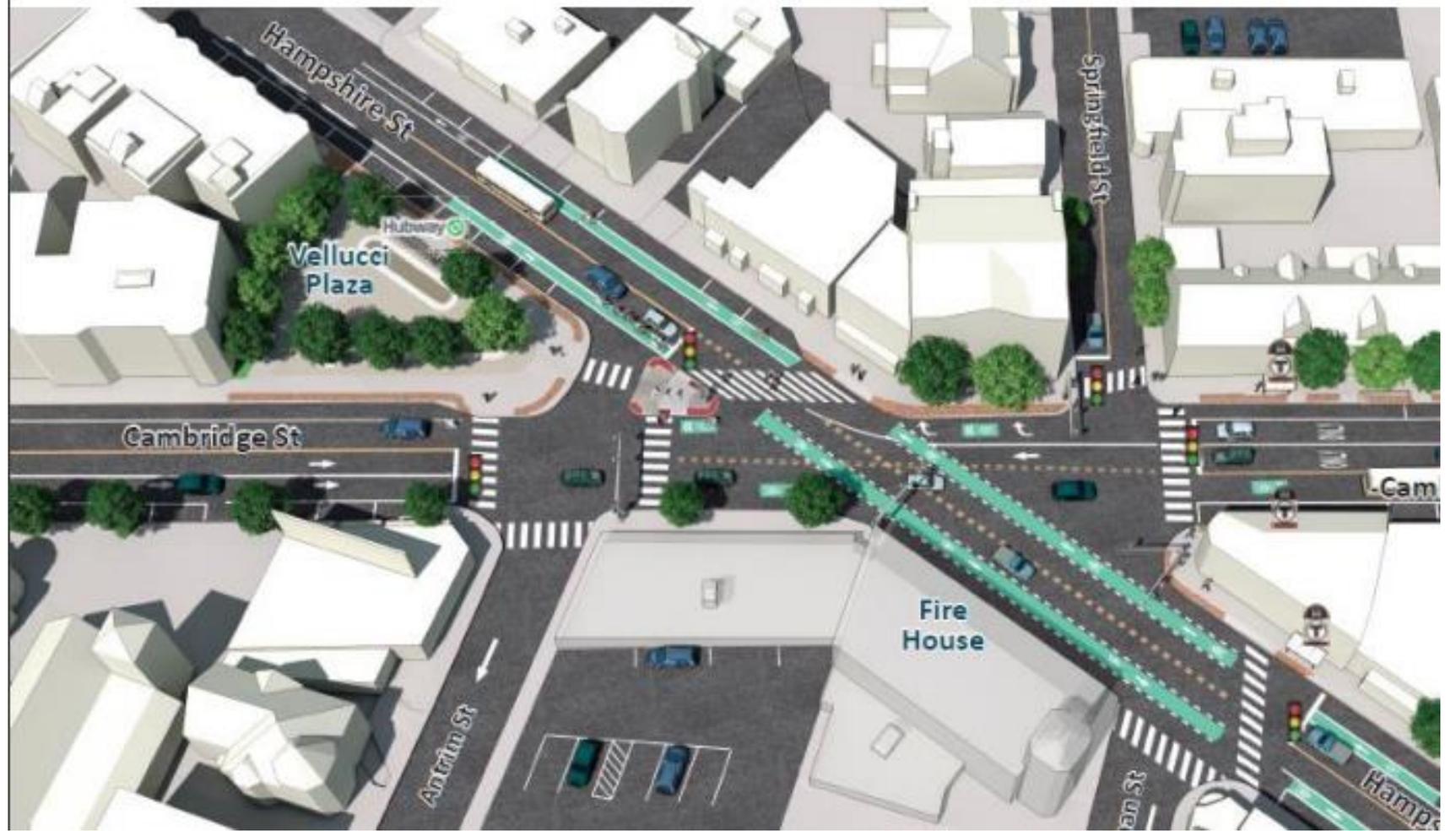
Binney Street

Early concept of Binney Street Park with Grand Junction Path



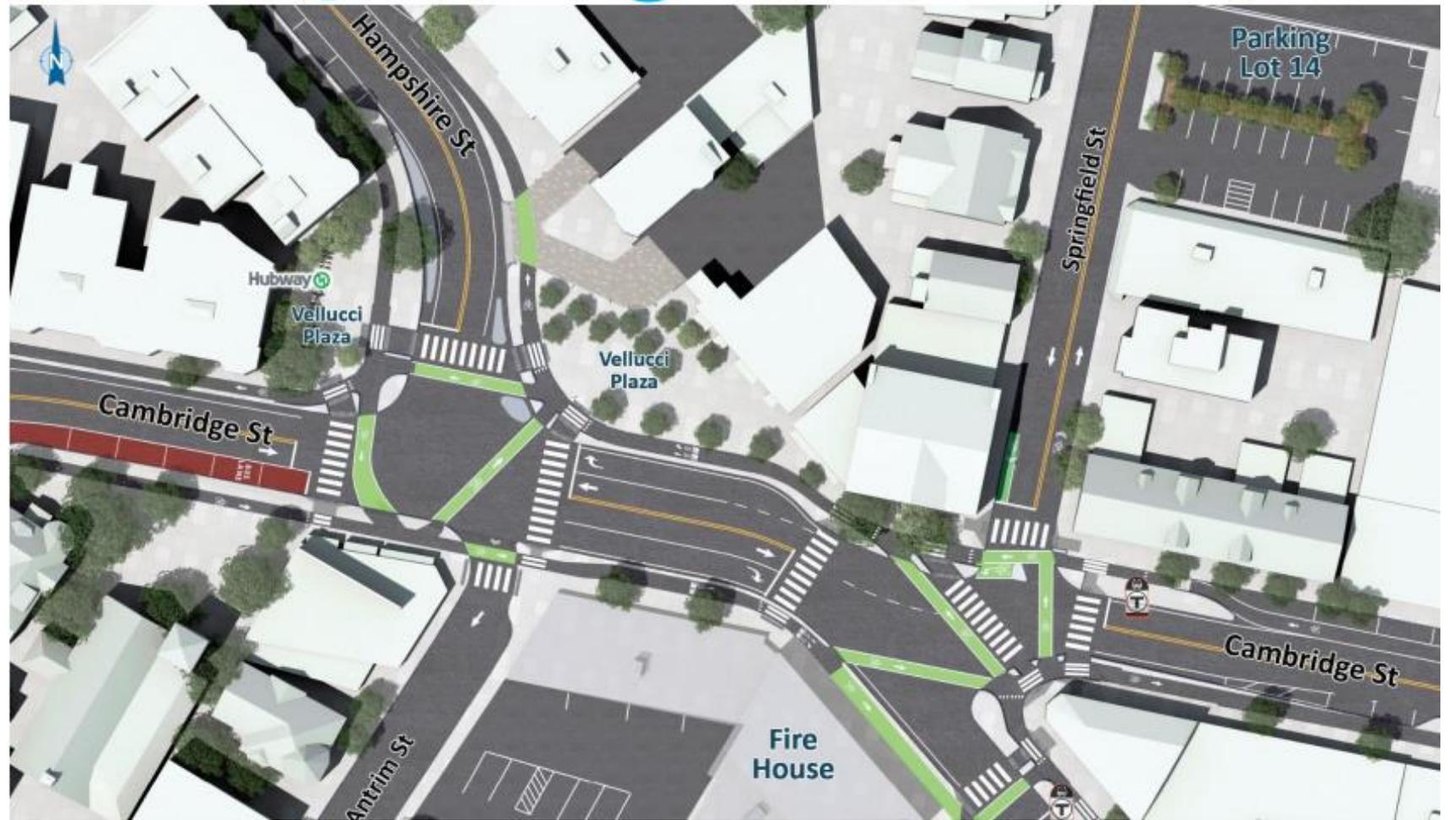
Source: "Binney Street Park Triangle Park" presentation, 2017. See: <http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/Projects/detail.aspx?path=%2fsitecore%2fcontent%2fhome%2fCDD%2fProjects%2fPark%2fbinneystreetpark>

Inman Square Existing



Source: Inman Square Intersection Improvements Project presentation, Community Meeting #5, March 2018.
See: <https://www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/cityprojects/2016/inmansquare>

Inman Square Proposed

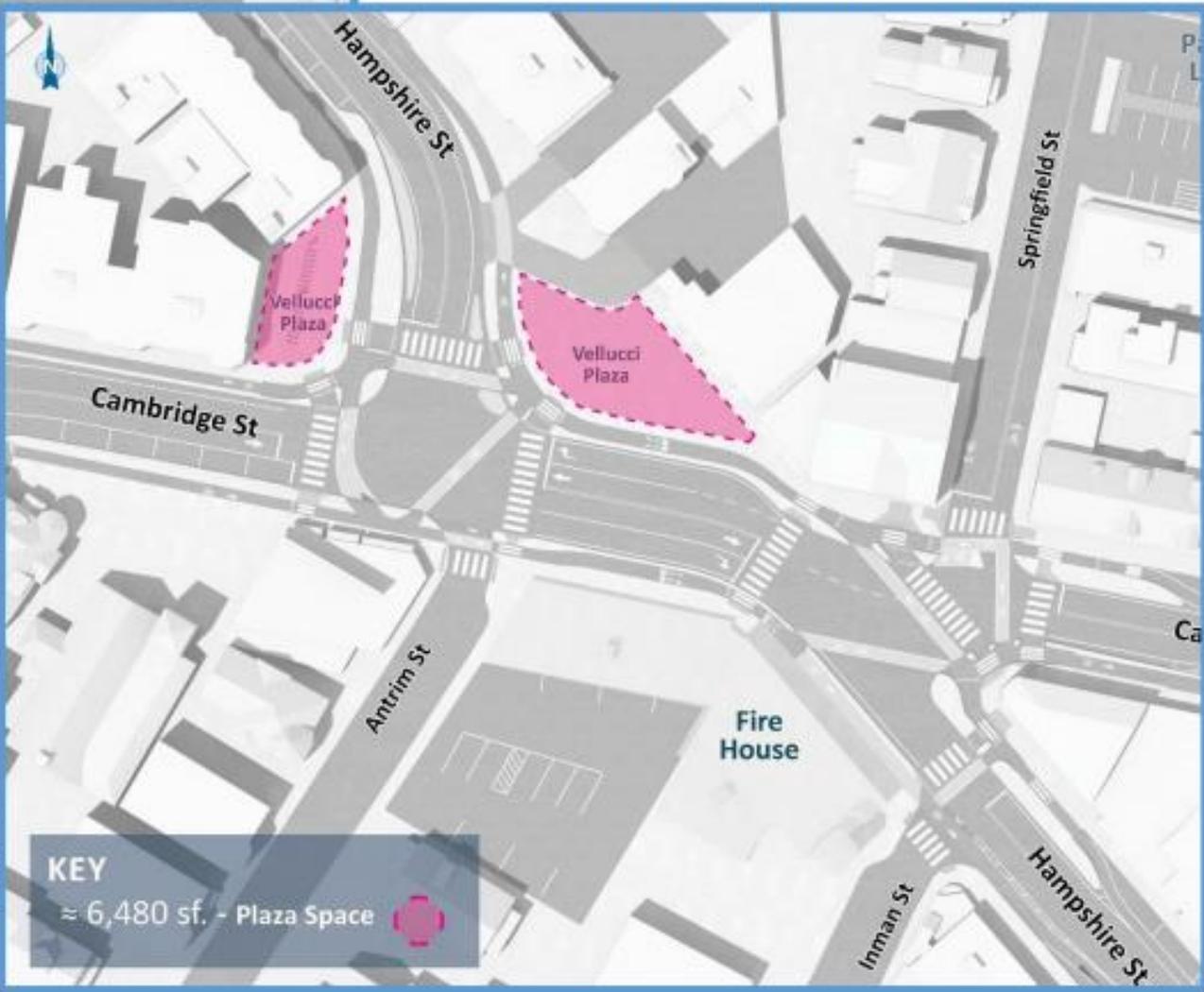


Source: Inman Square Intersection Improvements Project presentation, Community Meeting #5, March 2018.
See: <https://www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/cityprojects/2016/inmansquare>

Existing – 6,480 sq ft



Current Concept – 6,480 sq ft



Source: Inman Square Intersection Improvements Project presentation, Community Meeting #5, March 2018.
 See: <https://www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/cityprojects/2016/inmansquare>

Discussion

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