

# Welcome

## Mass Ave Partial Construction Project

*Working Group #5  
Wednesday, April 29, 3-5 p.m.*



# Remote Participation Instructions

## Working Group Members

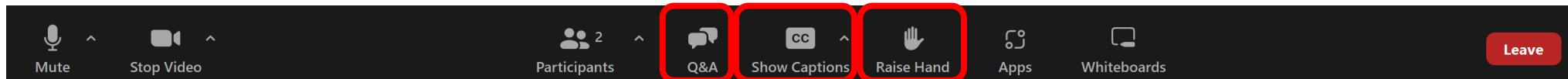
- Participants may speak and show webcam video
- Use "Raise Hand" button during discussion or press \*9 if you are joining by phone only
- Mute your microphone when others are speaking
- Screen-share will be turned off during discussion to allow for more of a virtual meeting room

## Members of the Public

- Attendees are muted and cannot show video
- Written questions and comments will be accepted through the Q&A feature and verbal responses will be provided, time permitting, during the public comment period.
- Verbal questions and comments will be heard during a public comment period at the end of the meeting.

You can enable live captions using the button pictured below.

**Technical Support:** [MassAve4@Cambridgema.gov](mailto:MassAve4@Cambridgema.gov)



# Introductions



# Agenda

- Project Updates
- Focus on Roseland to Waterhouse
- Next Steps
- Working Group Discussion\*
  - *Focus on Roseland to Waterhouse (Segment B), but will include overview of Rindge to Waterhouse (Segment A) and Alewife Brook Parkway to Rindge (Segment A+) at the end*
- Public Comment

\* Opportunities for Working Group Q&A between agenda topics, with broader discussion at the end of the meeting



# Project Updates

- The project has changed
  - Estimates resulted in higher costs
    - Length of corridor and types of construction are key factors
- New constraints on City budget
  - City to seek outside funding opportunities for elements that improve traffic safety

## 1. Budget Projection

- Used Segment B design to project forward costs for A & A+
- **Result:** Over available budget

## 2. Rescoping

- **First review:** Chose elements for a “slim” Segment B applied to A & A+
- **Second review:** New scope with “Priority” locations based on alternative analysis

## 3. Testing New Scope

- “Five Priority Locations”
- Chosen for feasibility and traffic safety concerns
- Supported by previous knowledge through community engagement

## 4. Restart Design

- \* Develop new conceptual designs
- \* Advance design process to construction documents in sequence

# Project Updates Continued

With new costs and budget constraints, project staff have worked on:

- Rescoping – determining which construction activities fit within budget
- Value Engineering across the corridor
  - Focus on providing separated bike lanes
  - Filling partial construction gaps
  - Priority signalized intersections focus on traffic operations

Transportation goals remain but the form of the project has changed

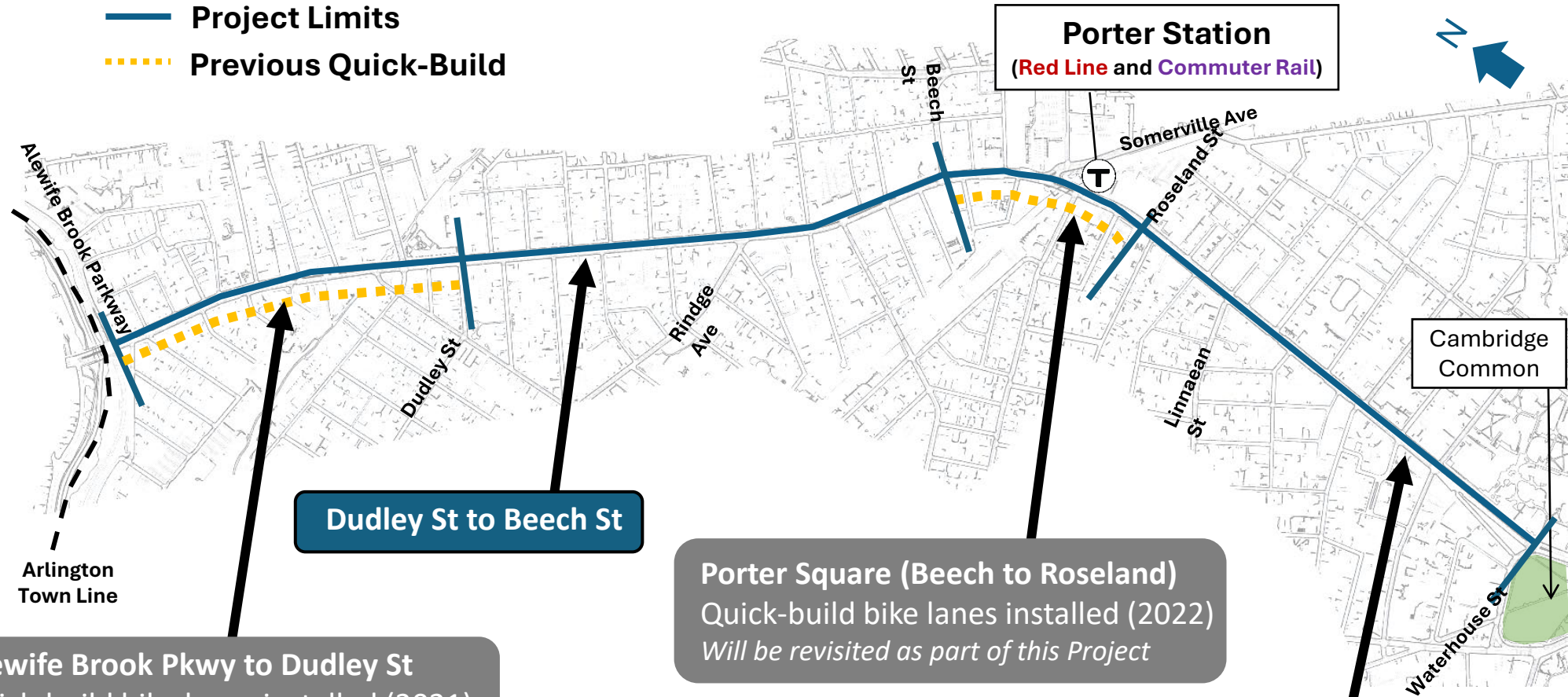
This rescope project will result in a Mass Ave. that:

- Is repaved from curb to curb along the 2 mile corridor
- Has new curb ramps, where necessary
- Has new markings
- Displays new signage
- Has most of the median removed
- Includes traffic signal improvements

# Partial Construction Project Updates

Massachusetts Ave from Waterhouse Street to Alewife Brook Parkway

- Project Limits
- - - Previous Quick-Build



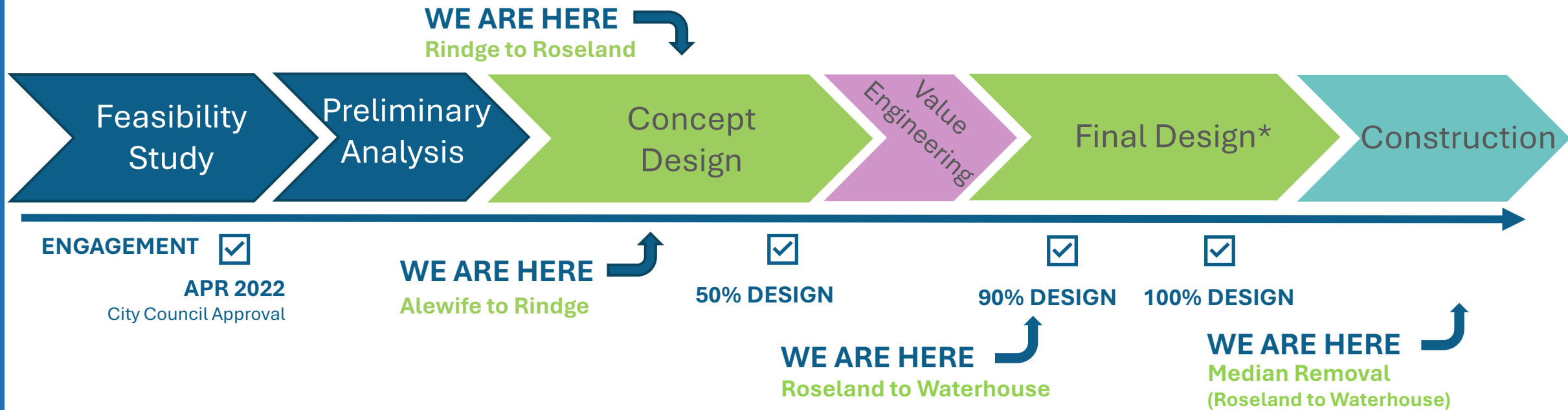
**Dudley St to Beech St**

Porter Square (Beech to Roseland)  
Quick-build bike lanes installed (2022)  
*Will be revisited as part of this Project*

Alewife Brook Pkwy to Dudley St  
Quick-build bike lanes installed (2021)  
*Will be revisited as part of this Project*

**Today's Focus: Roseland St to Waterhouse St**

# Project Status:



# Stakeholder Engagement

## Recent Events

- Pre-Construction Open House May 2025
- Little Mass Ave Green Up Public Meeting Nov 2025



## Upcoming: Preconstruction Public Open House

- To be held prior to construction starting in Fall 2026



## Upcoming: Businesses & Abutters

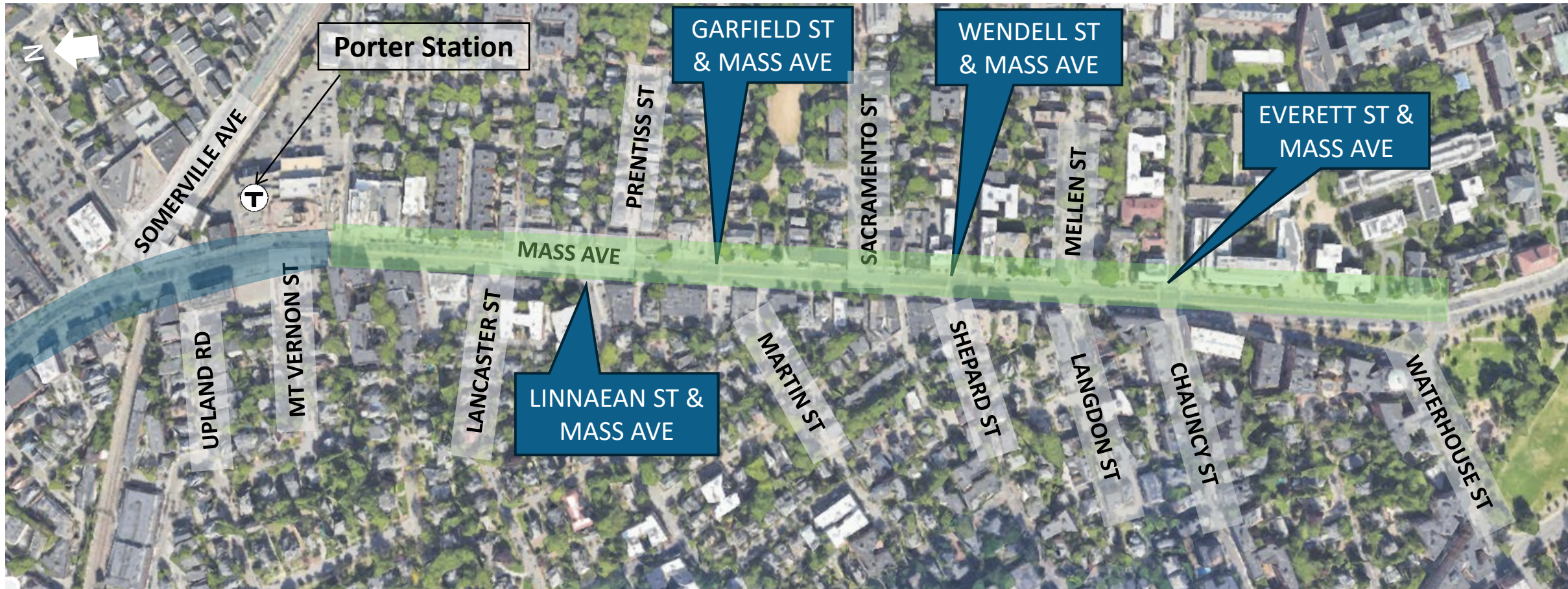
- Door-to-Door Flyering – Roseland to Waterhouse
- Business Office Hours – Roseland to Waterhouse
- Harvard University and Lesley University



# Focus Today

 Concept Design (in progress)

 90% Design (has changed since May 2025 public open house)



# Roseland to Waterhouse *90% Design Update*



# Key Street Design Features

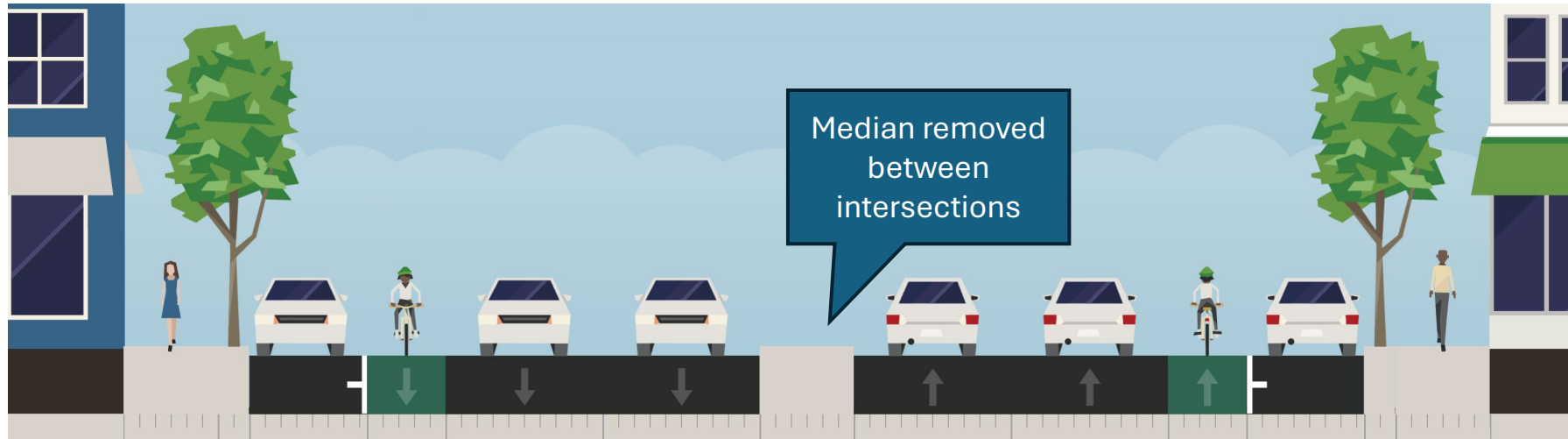
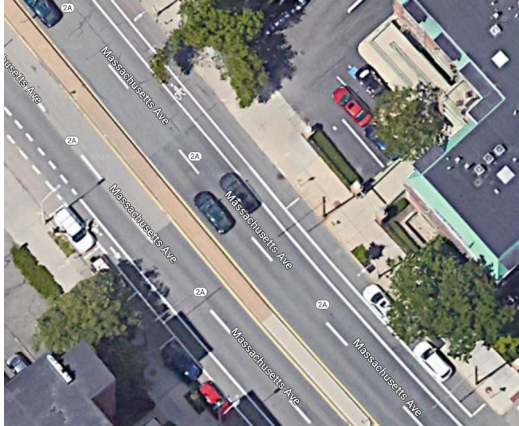
Between Roseland and Waterhouse Street, the street design will have:

- Separated bike lanes
- Northbound: bus lane with general travel lane
- Southbound: general travel lane
- Select intersections with dedicated turn lanes
- Improvement to existing crosswalks, but no new pedestrian crossings
- Accessible parking maintained on Mass Ave or relocated to side streets
- Parking, loading, and pick-up/drop-off zones, where feasible
- Shared bus/bike lane at bus stops\*

\* Note = Project staff are seeking funding opportunities to build "floating" bus boarding islands on this project.

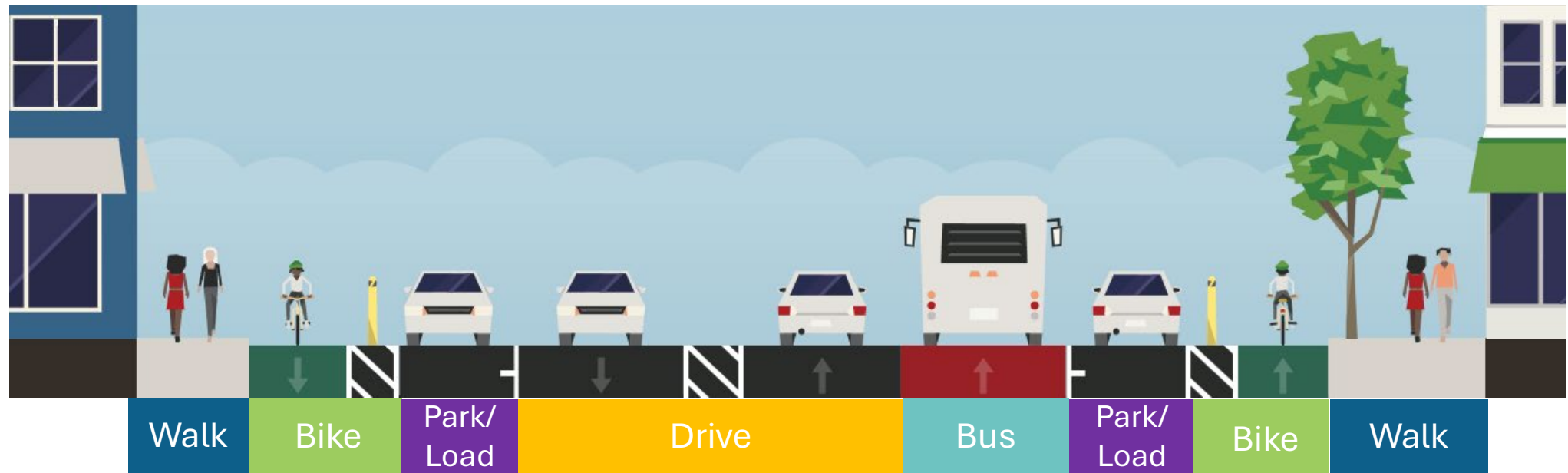


# Today's Typical Cross Section



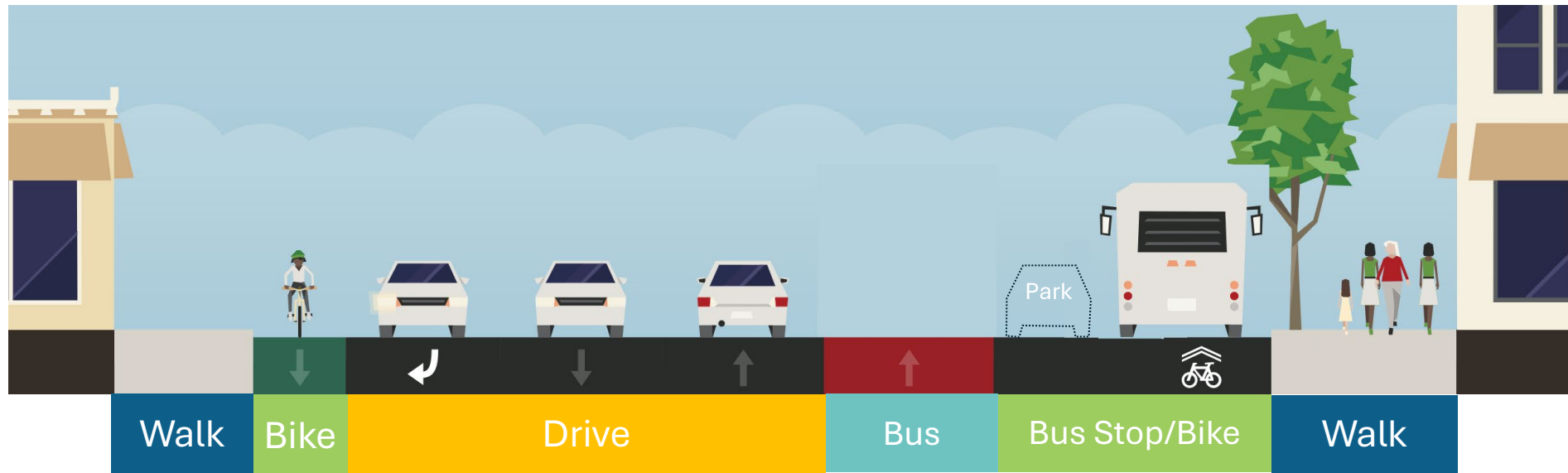
71 feet curb-to-curb

# Key Features: Proposed Typical

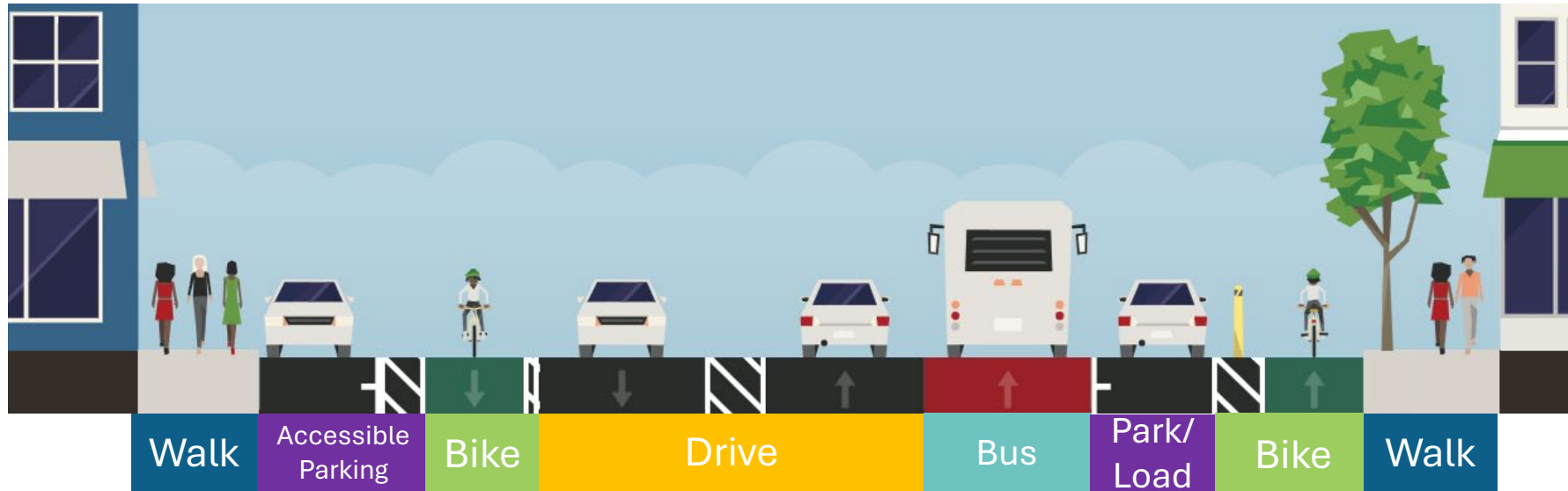


*Mass Ave Looking North*

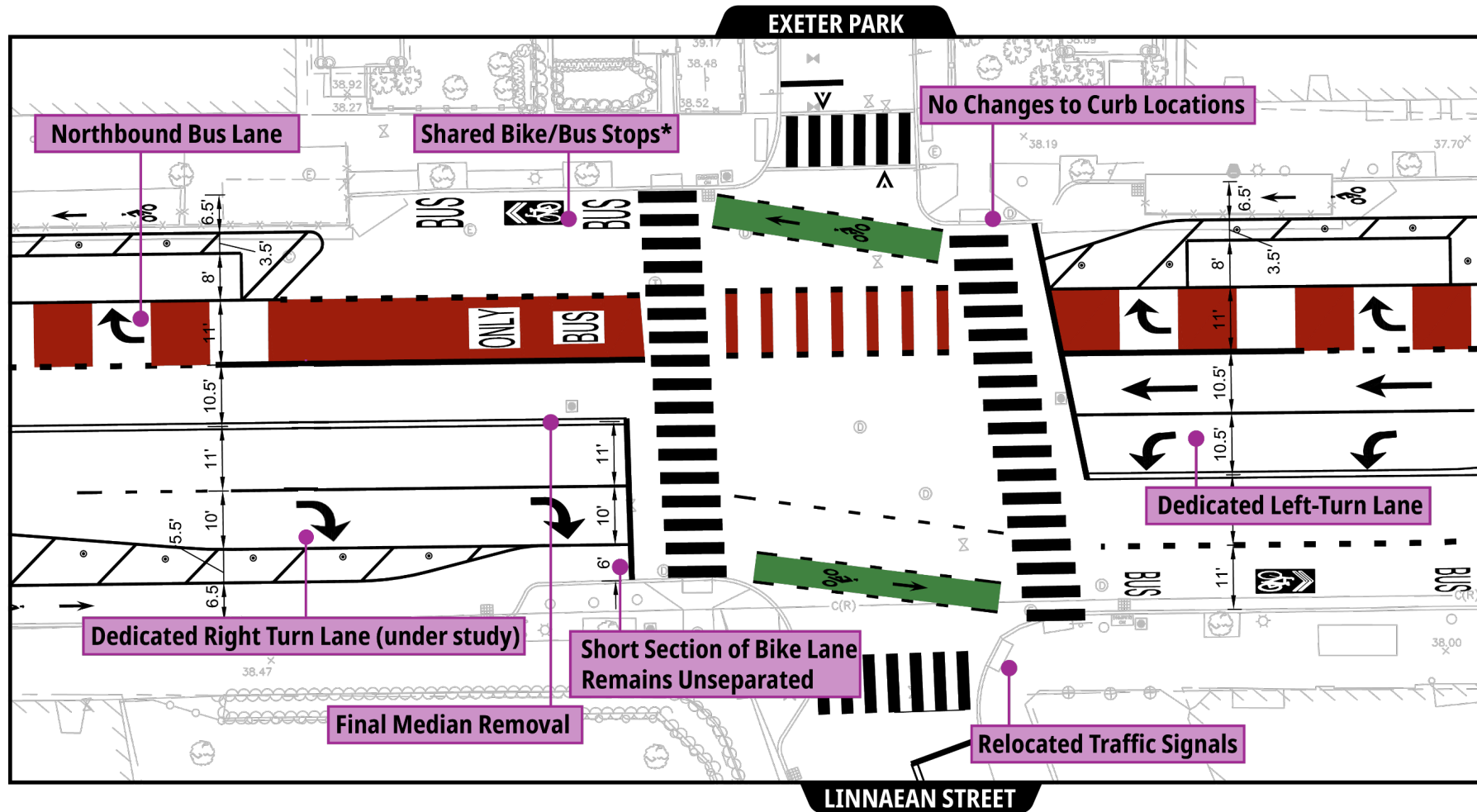
# Key Features: Turning Lane & Bus Stop



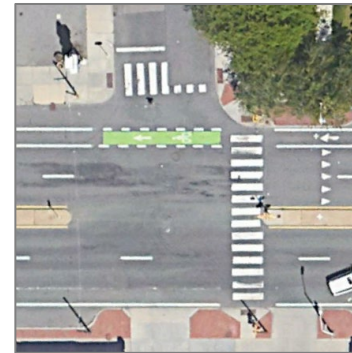
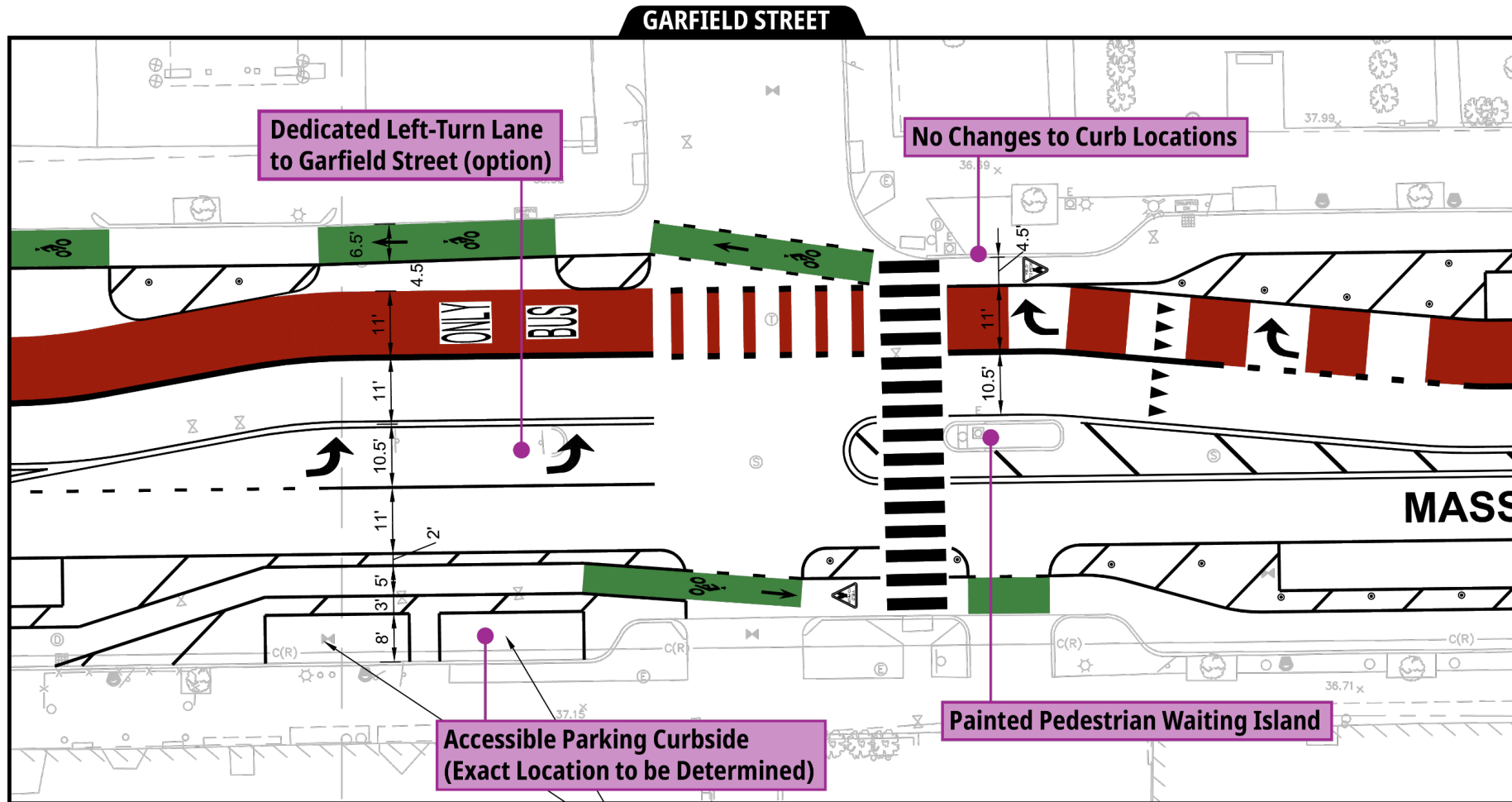
# Key Features: Accessible Parking



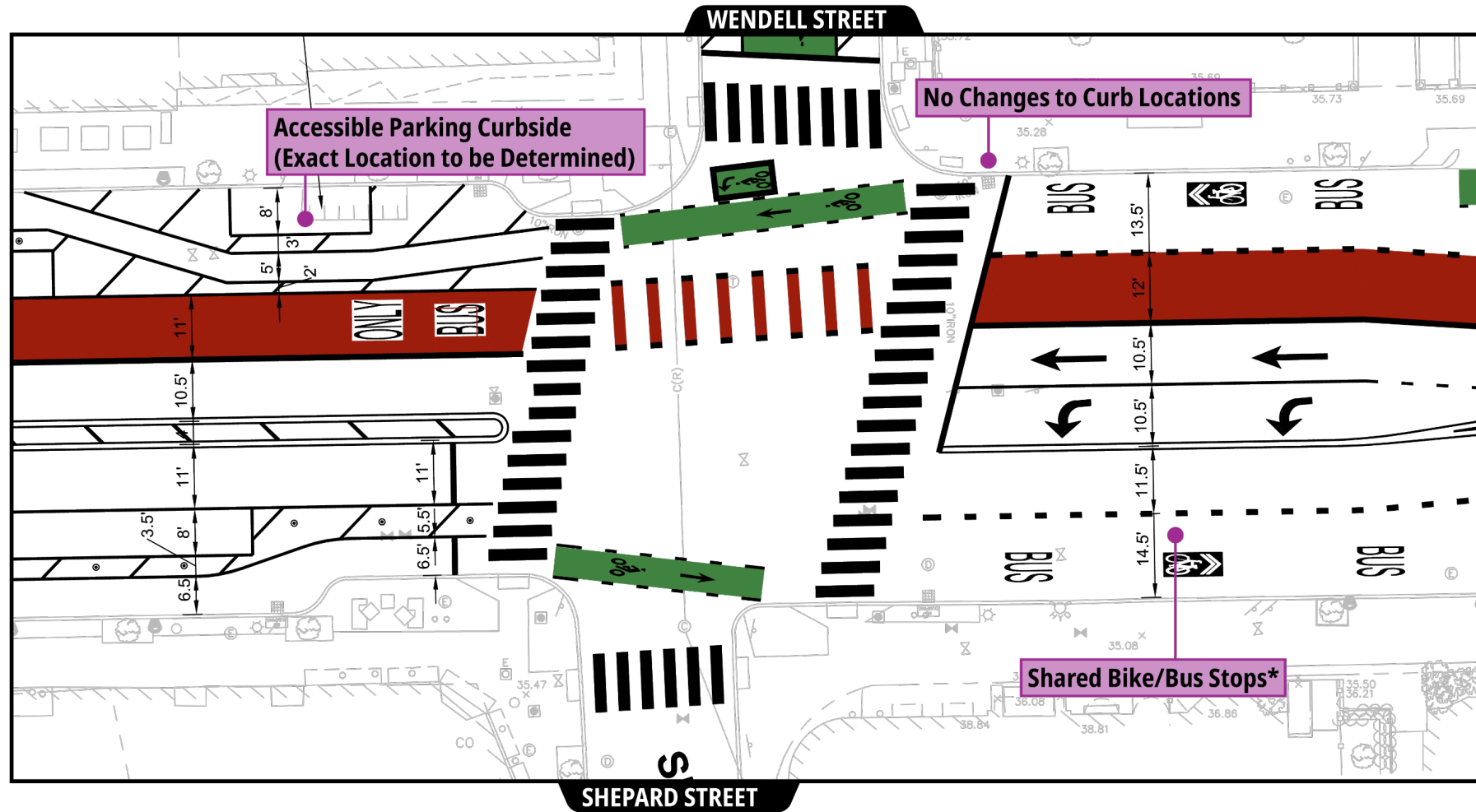
# Key Intersections: Linnaean St / Exeter Park



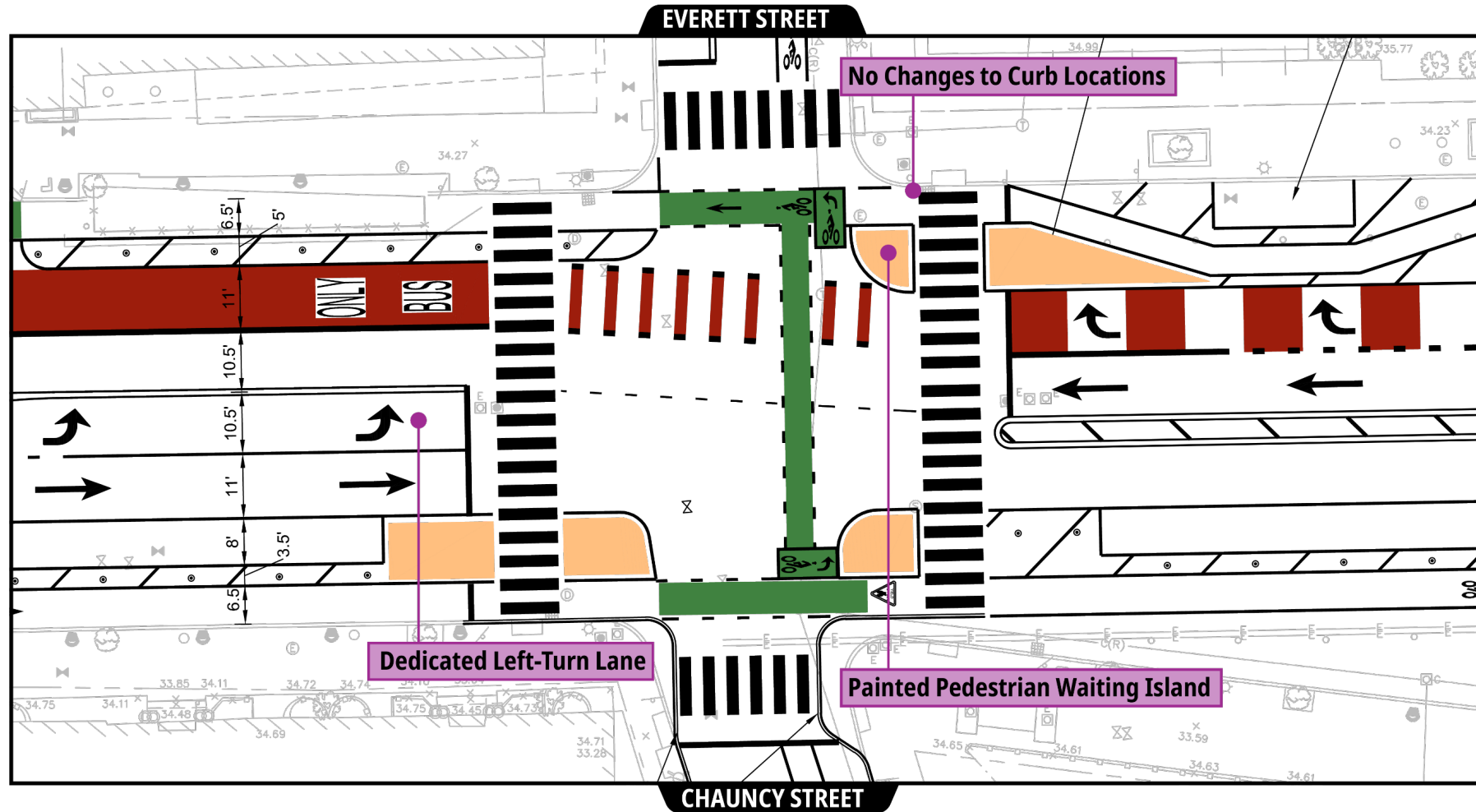
# Key Intersections: Garfield St



# Key Intersections: Wendell/Shepard St



# Key Intersections: Everett/Chauncy St



# Intersection Changes

## Pedestrian Crossings

Developed pedestrian phasing plans for each intersection to balance pedestrian throughput and conflicts



## Bicycle-Vehicle Separation in Signal Phasing

Reviewed updated national guidance for bikeway design (NACTO Guidance)



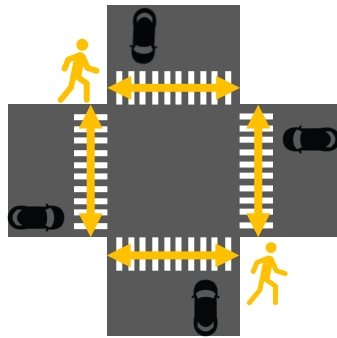
## Turning Lanes

Manage turns by provide dedicated right- and left-turning lanes to provide adequate queuing storage



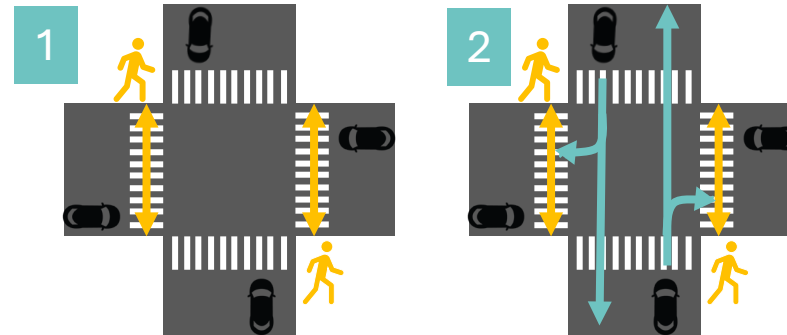
# Pedestrian Signal Phasing

## Exclusive Phasing



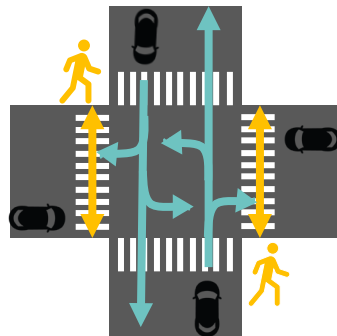
Includes phase where **only pedestrians move**

## Concurrent with Leading Pedestrian Interval



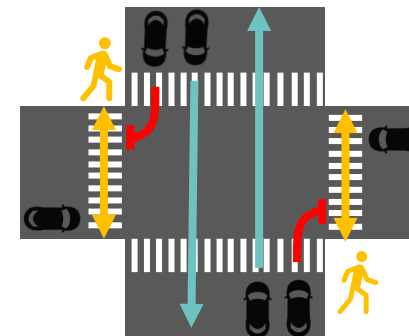
Concurrent phase where **pedestrians get a head start**

## Concurrent Phasing



Includes phase where **vehicles and pedestrians move together**

## Protected Concurrent Phasing

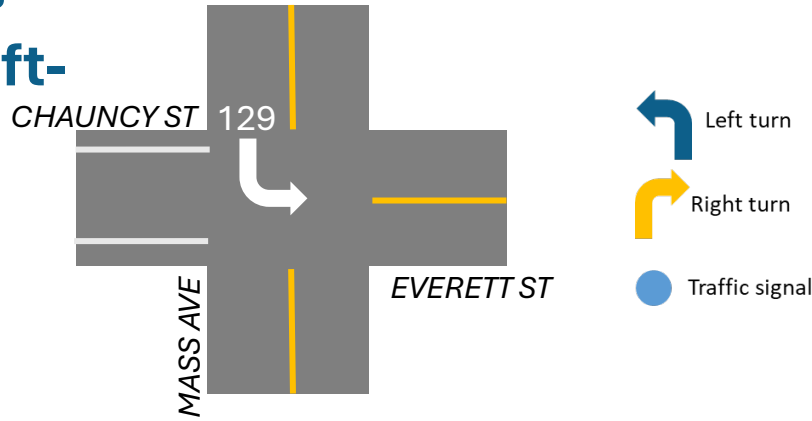


Concurrent phase where **turning movements are controlled**

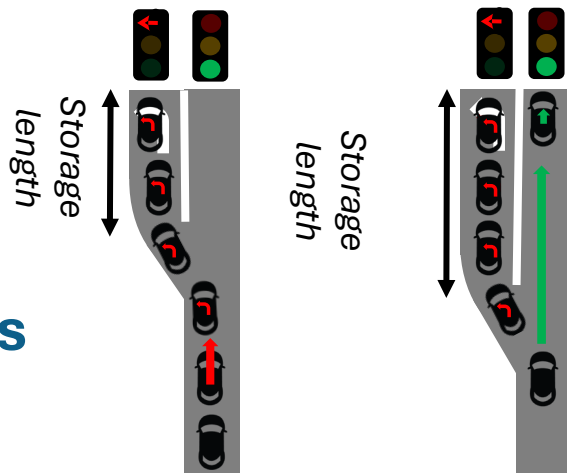
	Waiting time	Conflicts
Concurrent	↓	↑
Exclusive	↑	↓

# Manage Vehicle Conflicts & Queues

At locations with **high left-turning volumes...**



...we need to consider **appropriate storage lengths & separation from bicycles**



City of Cambridge banned Right Turn on Red

# Next Steps



# Next Steps

## Roseland to Waterhouse

- Outreach and engagement to public Spring-Summer 2026
- Finalizing Design through Summer 2026
- Pre-Construction Public Meeting Fall 2026

## Rindge to Roseland

- Concept Design through Summer 2026

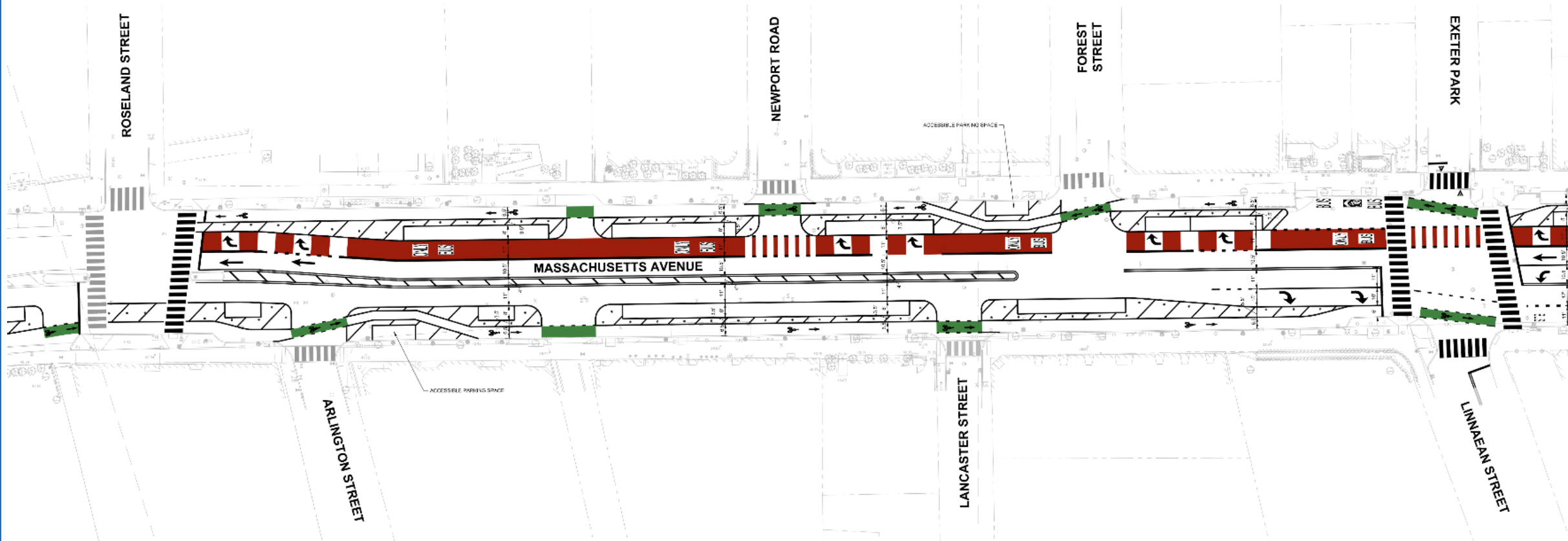
## Alewife Brook Parkway to Rindge

- Concept Design through Summer 2026

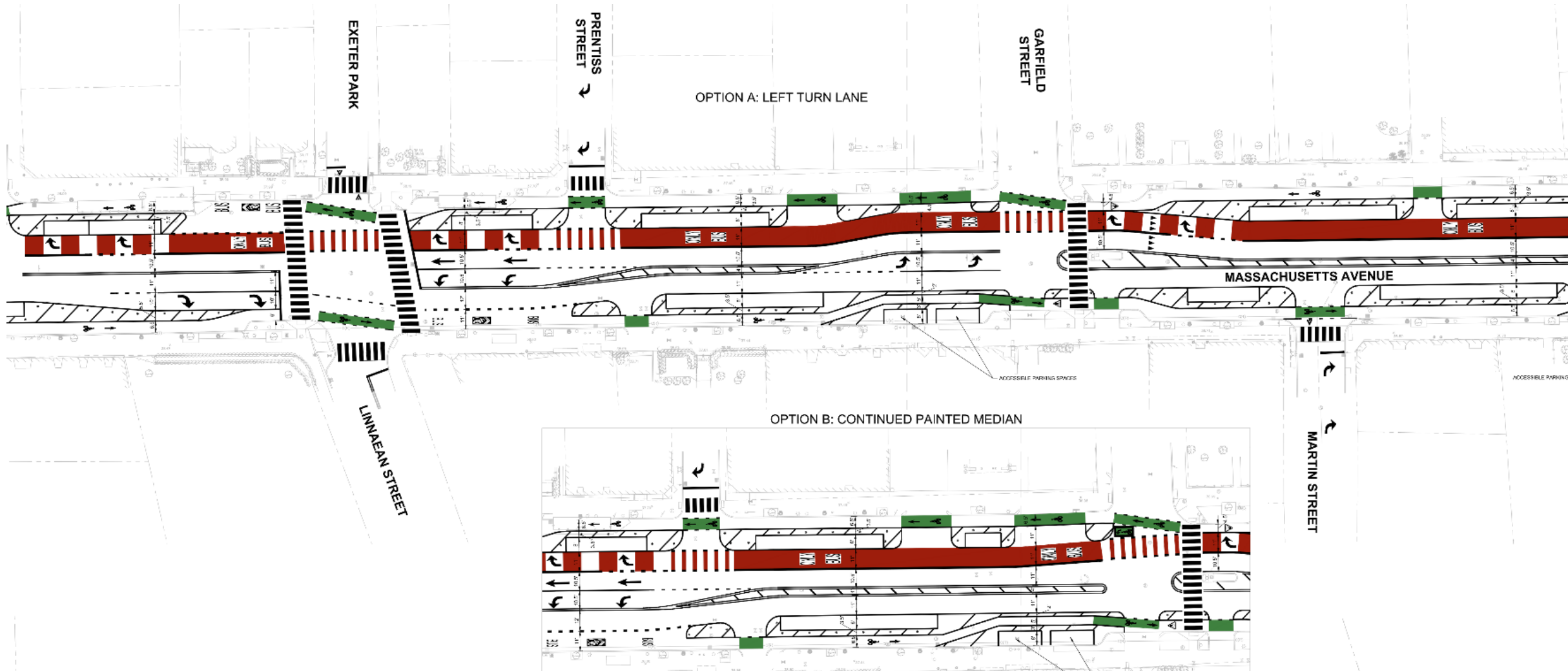
# Working Group Q&A



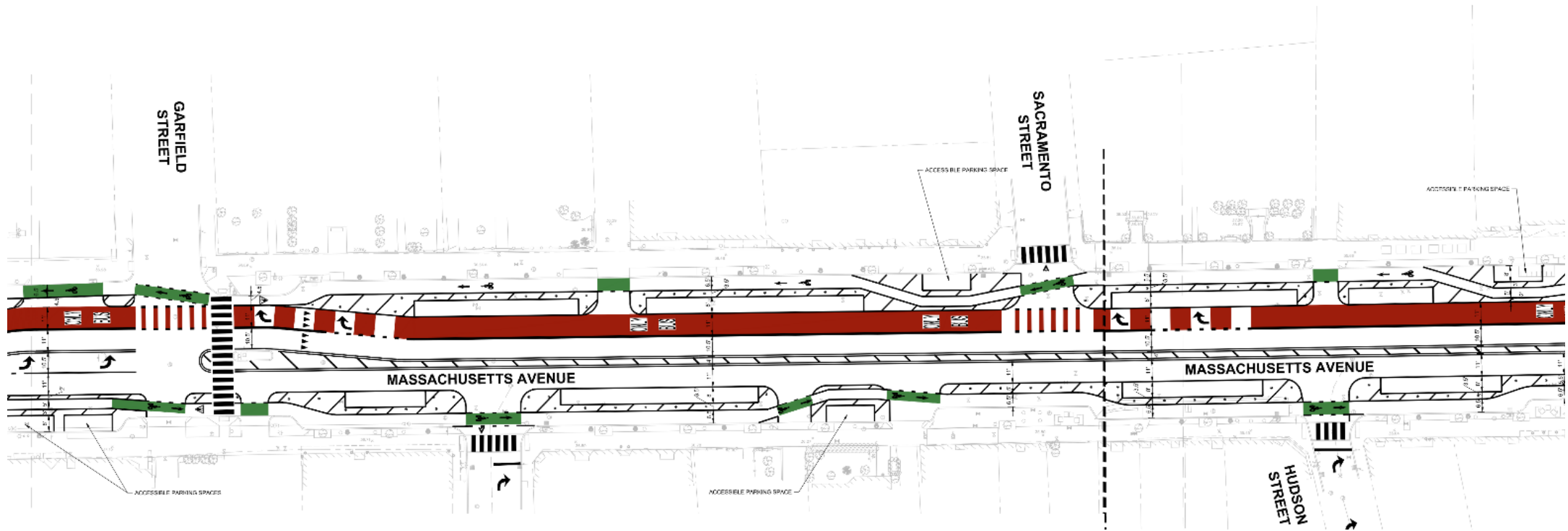
# Roll Plan:



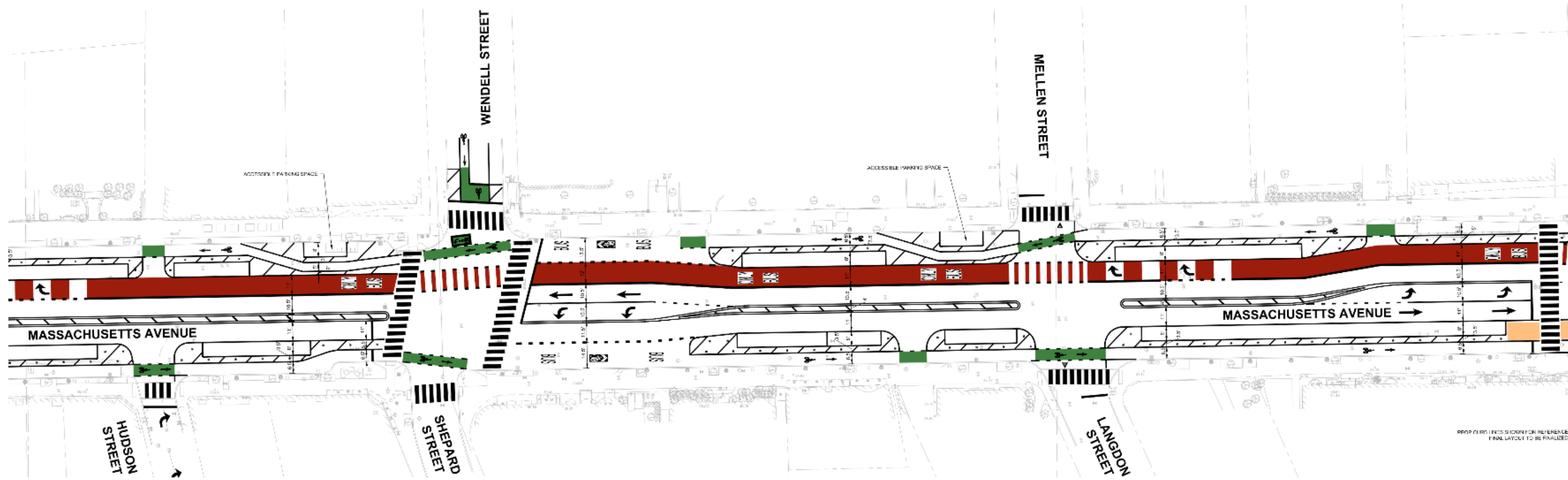
# Roll Plan: Continued



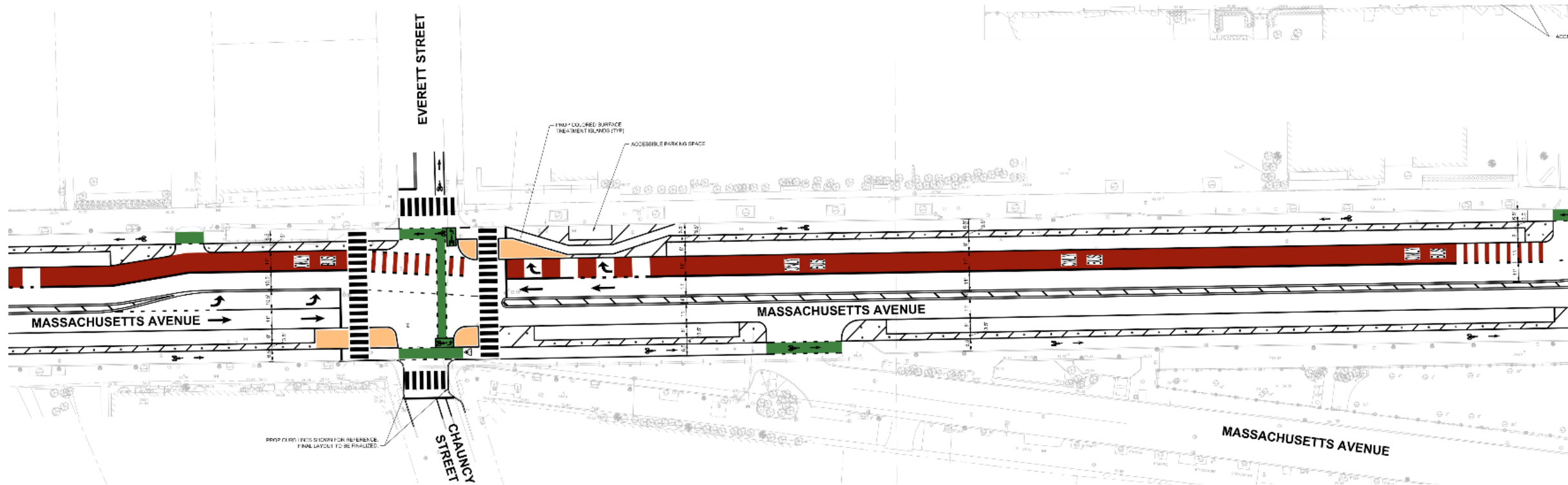
# Roll Plan: Continued



# Roll Plan: Continued



# Roll Plan: Continued



# Roll Plan: Continued

