



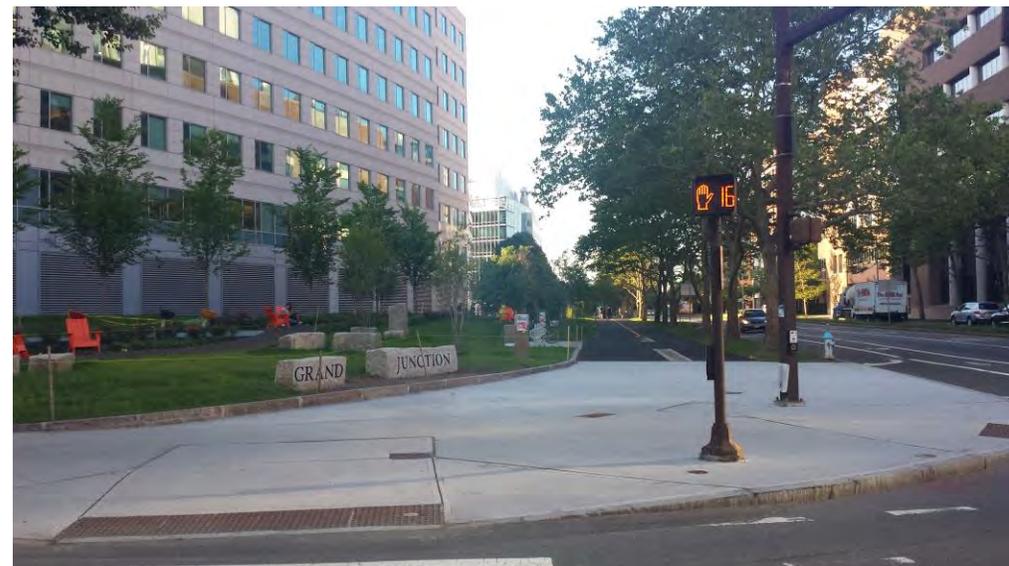
CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
GRAND JUNCTION MULTI-USE PATH DESIGN PROJECT
WORKING GROUP #2 - JULY 22, 2019



MEETING AGENDA

Welcome!

- Introductions and welcome (10 min)
- Recap meetings held to date (20 min)
 - Working Group Meeting #1
 - Public Meeting #1
 - Other updates
- Group input session: Visual photo tour (55 min)
- Group feedback and homework (15 min)
 - Stakeholder outreach through Working Group
 - Members visit Grand Junction Park before next meeting
- Public comment (10 min)
- Upcoming meetings schedule (5 min)
- Next steps (5 min)

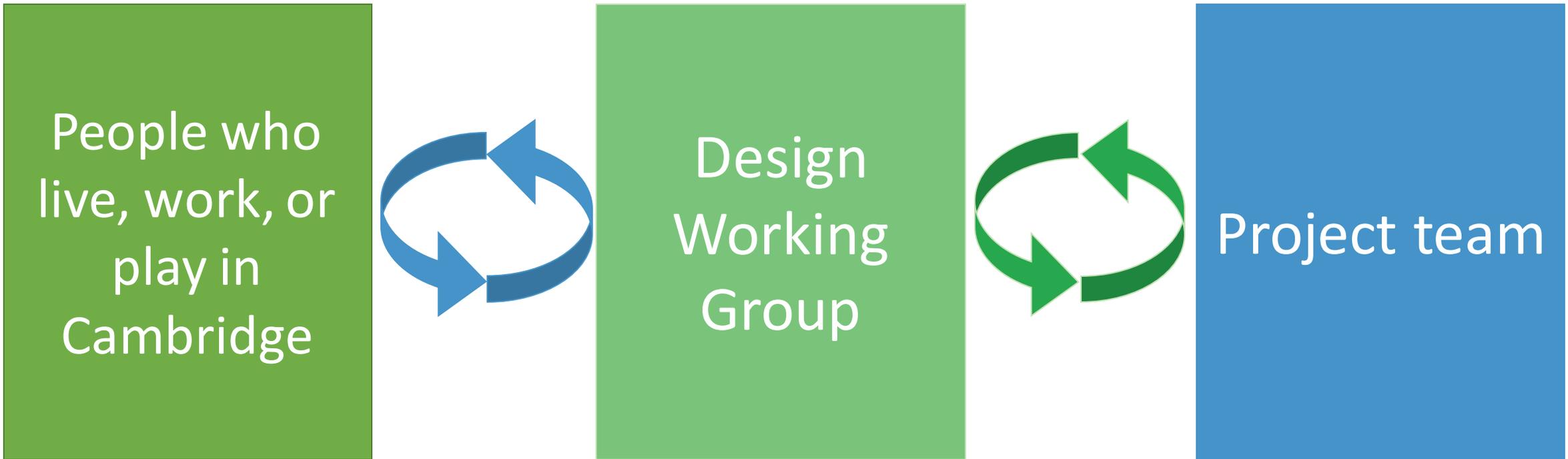




INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME

REFRESHER: WHAT IS A WORKING GROUP?

Working groups assist the City and project teams to understand the sentiment of Cambridge residents, workers, and visitors.



Note: members of the public will have opportunities at the end of each working group meeting to raise issues and comment on the discussion.

MEETING GUIDELINES & GROUND RULES

General working group meeting guidelines:

- Prepare before each meeting: read agenda and materials
- Start meeting on time & end on time
- Help us stay on schedule

Working Group “Ground Rules”:

- Have only one person speak at a time
- Members should not repeat topics (an “air knock” was suggested to signal agreement with comments said)
- Be aware of your air time
- If you want to speak, turn your tent card on its end (a version of hand raise)
- Limit use of cell phones/distraction – Silencing phones is ideal, however if members need to take a phone call or text/email, that is OK with the members.
- Use restroom as needed (don’t have to ask)



MEETING GUIDELINES & GROUND RULES

Working Group “Ground Rules” (cont.):

- Respect others
- Assume good intentions
- Have an expectation that everyone speaks
- Step up to be heard and step back if talking too much
- Don't criticize other members – listen even if you don't agree
- What ways can be created to have everyone be more comfortable to speak within group? Perhaps use map tools to put comments (WIKIMAPS)
- Send out notes to the members
- If members have comments after the meeting, staff send comments out to everyone and add into notes before posting



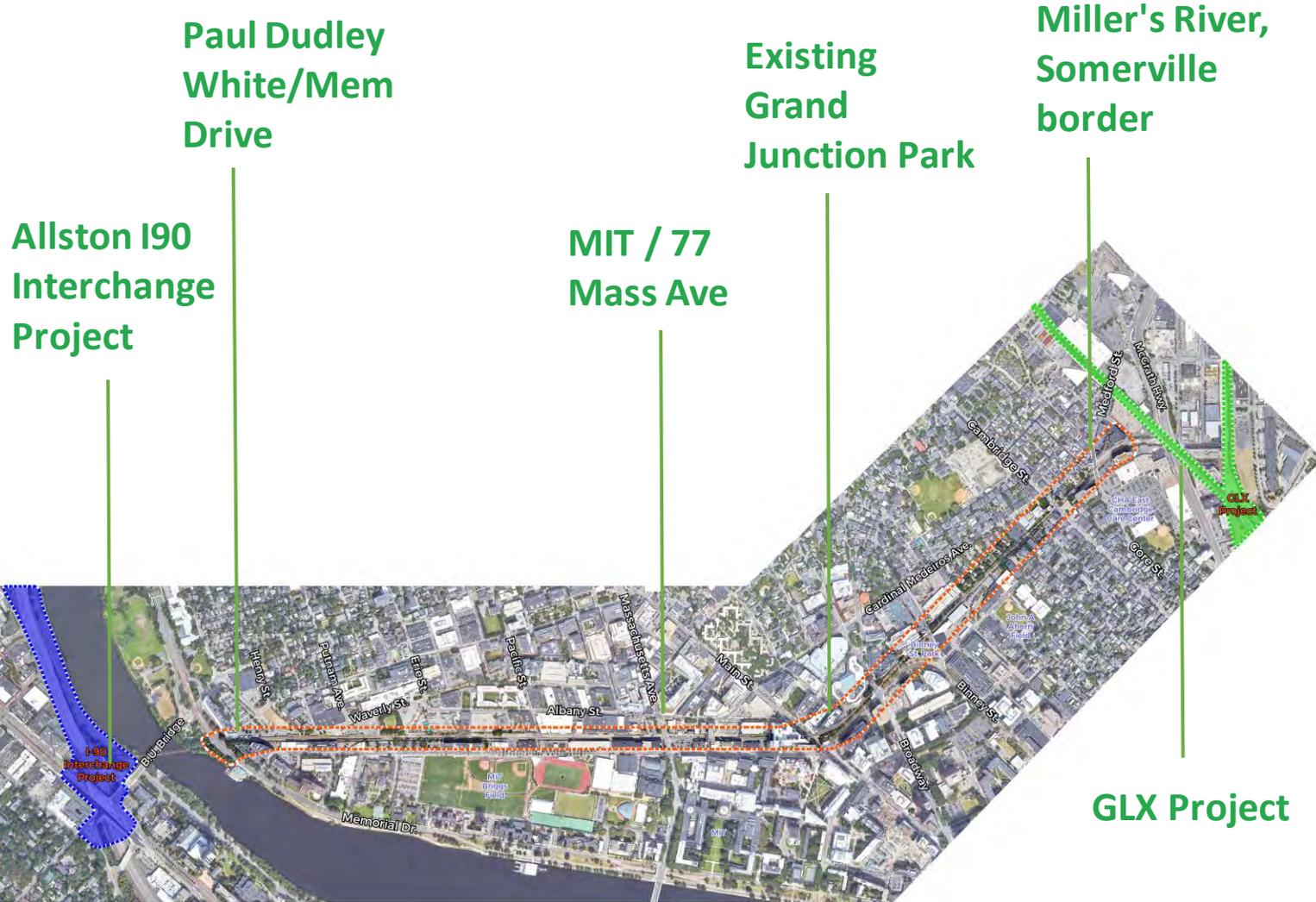
NOTE: Members of the public are welcome to listen and comment. As a rule, we ask members of the public that your comments be related to topics on the agenda and be made during the public comment period, so that the focus of the meeting is on facilitating input from working group members.

NOTE: If a Design Working Group member cannot attend, they are welcome to ask someone to attend as a member of the public and report back. Working group members cannot be substituted and alternates are not allowed.



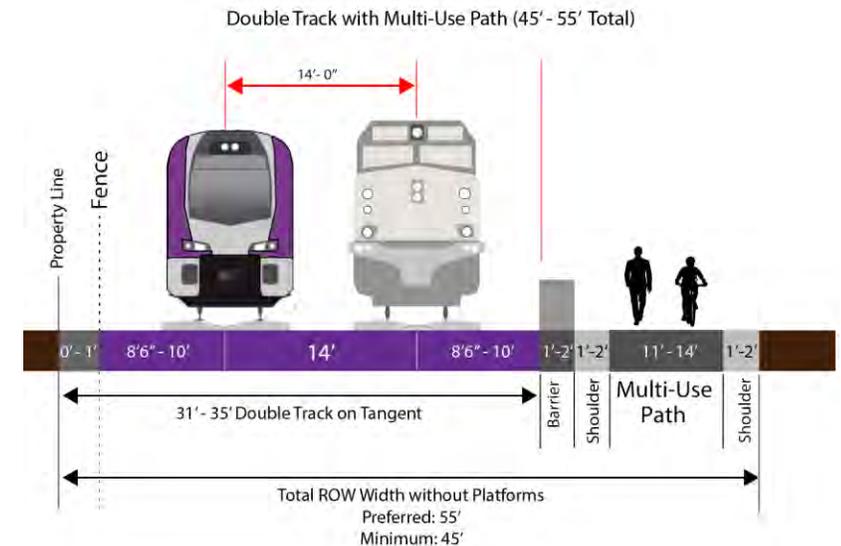
RECAP OF MEETINGS HELD TO DATE

REVIEW OF APRIL 30 WORKING GROUP MEETING



Project Purpose

Fully design and create construction documents for a multi-use path adjacent to the existing rail tracks in the Grand Junction corridor from the Boston University Bridge to Somerville



Visions for Grand Junction Path

- Commuting corridor
- Recreational/exercise resource for students, residents, and families
- Infrastructure to support Vision Zero policy
- Active transportation connection between neighborhoods



Likes and Dislikes from Urban “Rail with Trail” Case Studies

Case Studies that Received the Most Comments:

- Duwamish, Waterfront, Burke-Gilman Trails (Washington State)
- Burlington Greenway (Vermont)
- Springwater on the Willamette Trail (Oregon)
- Libba Cotton Bikepath (North Carolina)
- East Boston Greenway (Massachusetts)

Liked Element of the Case Studies: Wayfinding/Signage; Separation of railroad from trail/path with mid-height fencing; separation of bicycles and pedestrians on paved path

Disliked Elements of the Case Studies: Poor lighting under highway overpasses and bridges (feels unsafe); path crossings over railroad tracks; no barrier between path and rail



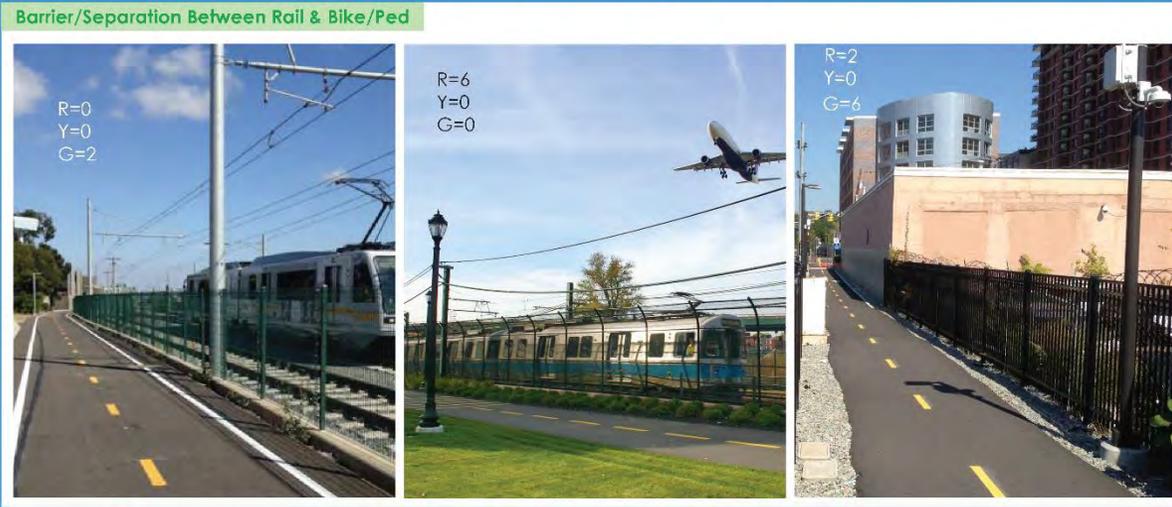
Burlington Greenway



East Boston Greenway

Public Input Exercise - Visual Preference Survey

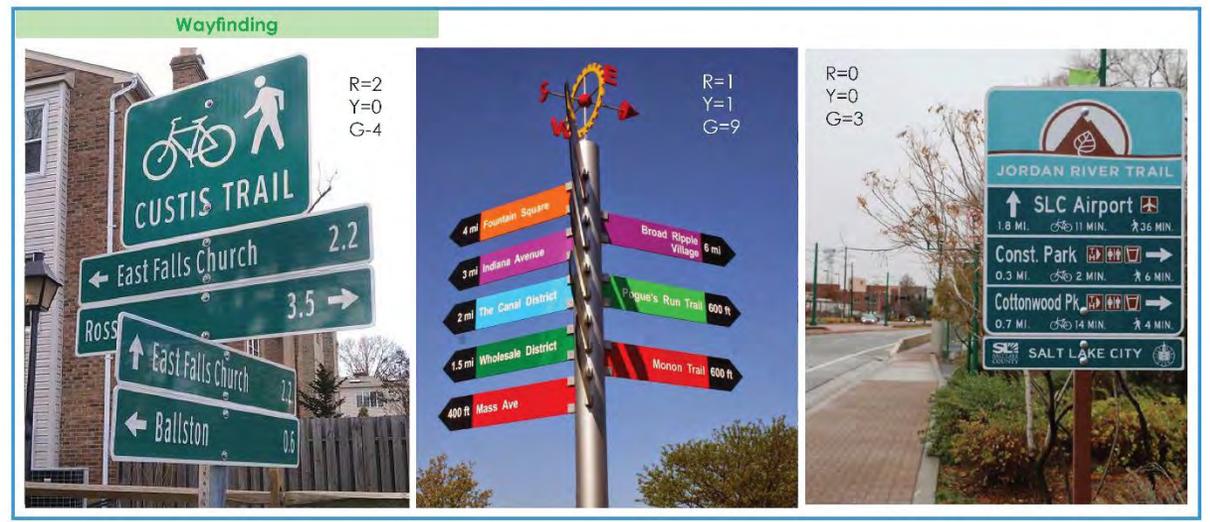
EXAMPLE FEATURES OF RAIL WITH TRAIL MULTI-USE PATHS
Thoughts on what you see? Place a sticker on the corresponding picture.



Likes: Barrier/Separation from Rail and Trail, Wayfinding signage not like roadway signage, well designed path crossings over railroad tracks, using landscaping to create destinations (parklets), well designed lighting

Dislikes: Overuse of public art; high chain link fencing, rubberized railroad crossings; path paving differ from road

Needs: Benches, trash bins and water stations

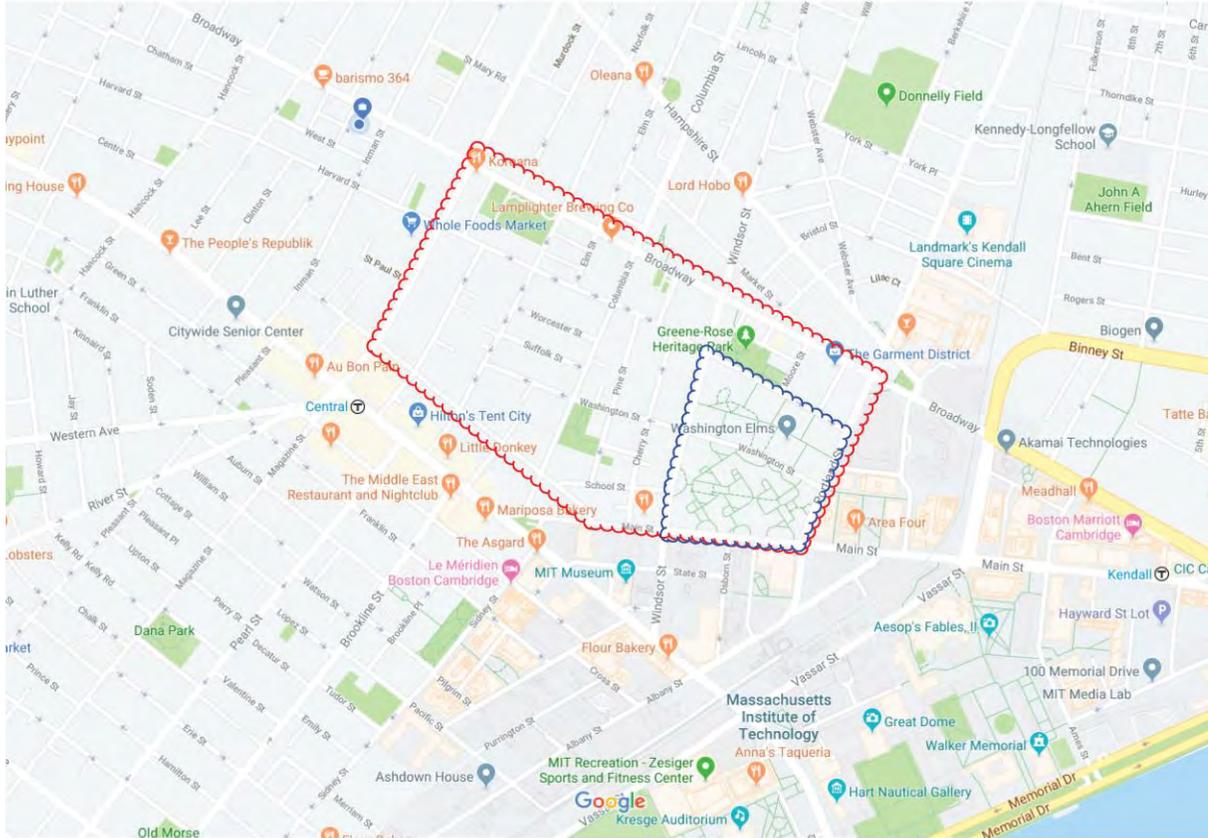




OUTREACH WITH MAYOR'S SUMMER YOUTH WORKERS

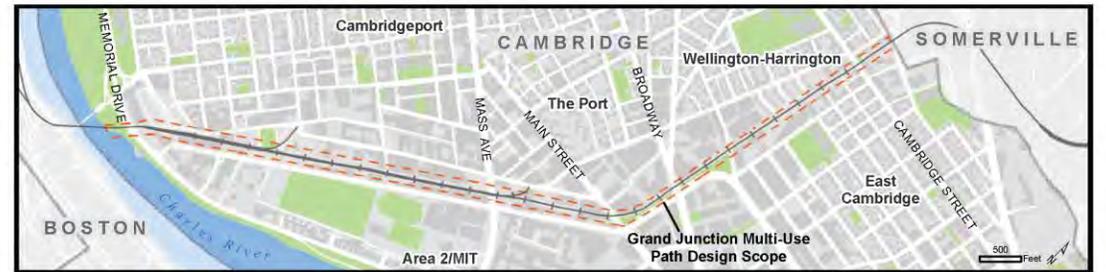
Door-to-door Flyering

Google Maps



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project involves the design of a multi-use path along the existing Grand Junction railroad tracks. The path is proposed to be 14' wide, connecting from Memorial Drive at the Boston University Bridge, traveling through MIT, crossing Massachusetts Ave, Main Street, Broadway and Cambridge Street, and joining the proposed extension of the Somerville Community Path. It will provide a continuous pathway for residents, workers and visitors to stroll, jog, or bike between neighborhoods, commercial areas, and the Charles River. The path will maintain current rail operations while not precluding potential future use of the corridor for passenger service, and providing a safe active transportation corridor.



Overview Map of the existing Grand Junction corridor

HOW DO I LEARN MORE?

- Tegin Teich, Transportation Planner
Cambridge Community Development Department
- 617.349.4615
- TTeich@cambridgema.com
- www.cambridgema.gov/grandjunction

COMMUNITY PROCESS: GET INVOLVED!

Upcoming Events:

- Working Group Meeting - July 2019
- Grand Junction (Self-Guided Bingo) - Summer 2019
- Community Meeting #2 - Fall 2019
- Working Group Meeting #3 - Fall 2019

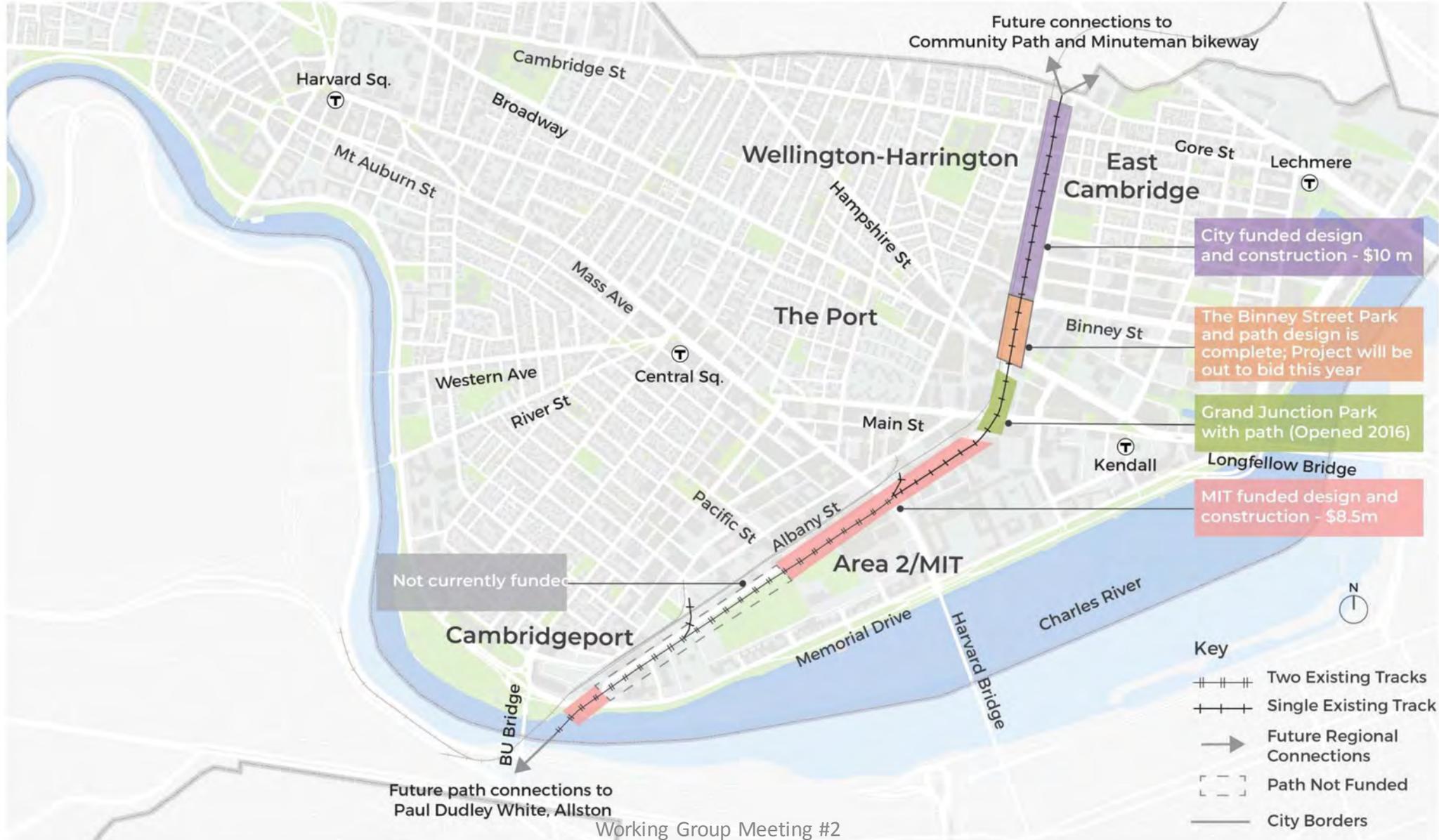
- Continuing coordination with MassDOT, MBTA and MIT
- Completed MAPC Pathway Benefits study – summary to be shared soon
- Kendall Square Association distribution of Transport Kendall report distribution (advocating for Grand Junction multi-use path and future passenger transit)
- RailVision in process of analyzing alternatives
- Cambridge Bike Plan Update – in community outreach stage
- GLX team working with advocates to not preclude a future regional path connection
- Allston I90 Interchange Project MEPA process updates:
 - Final Notice of Project Change (NPC) in late 2020
 - Final EIR in 2021



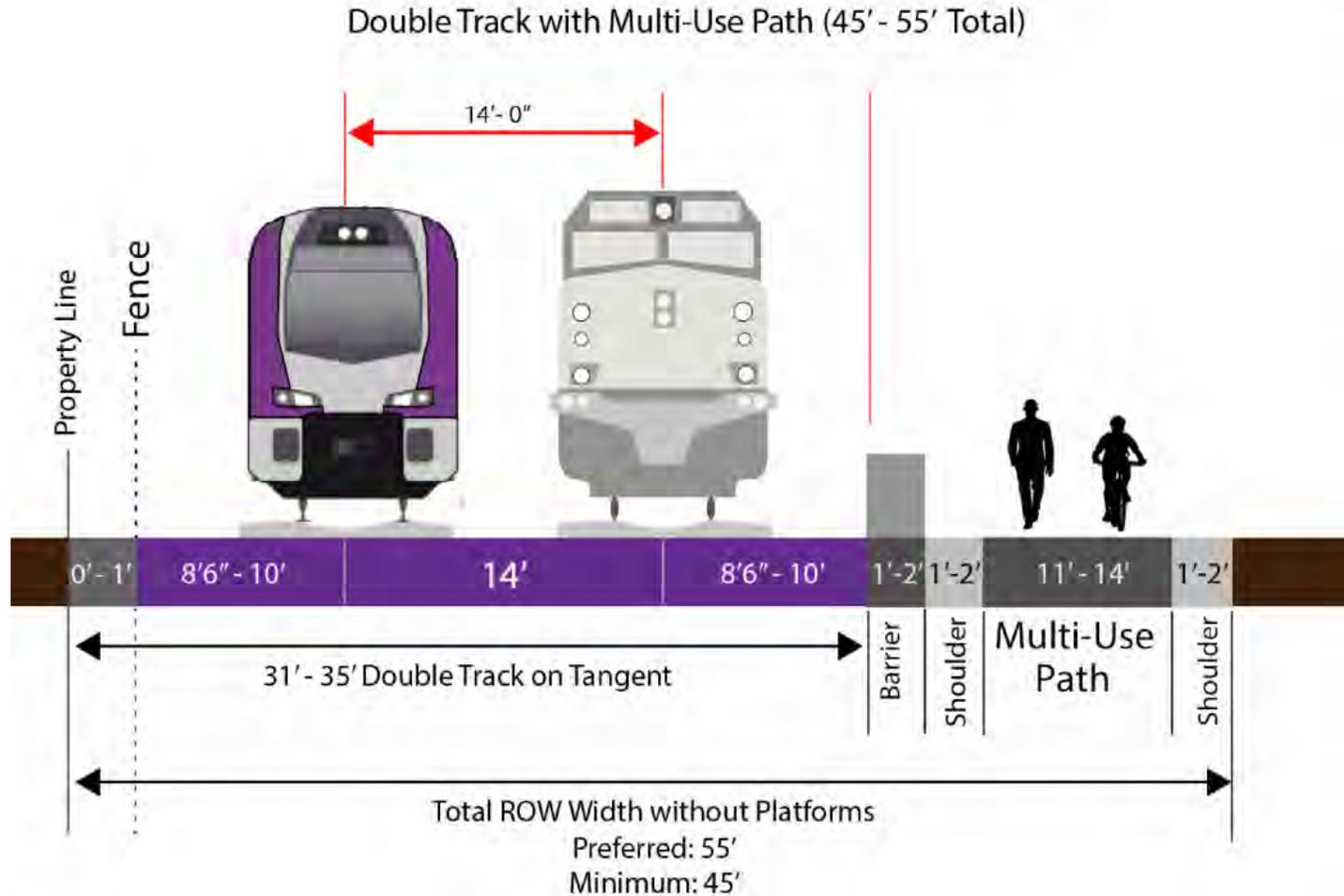


GROUP INPUT SESSION

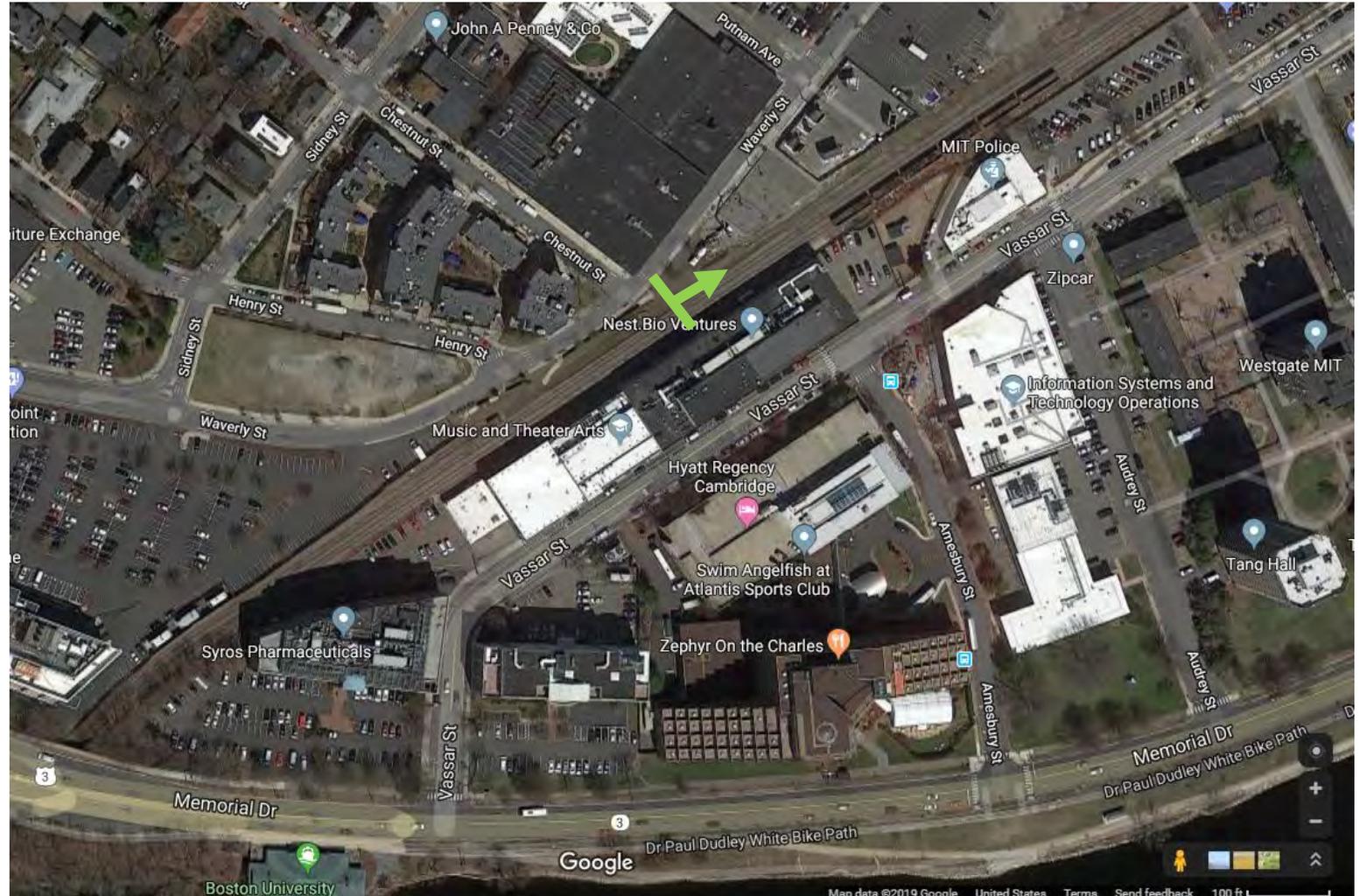
VISUAL PHOTO TOUR OF CORRIDOR



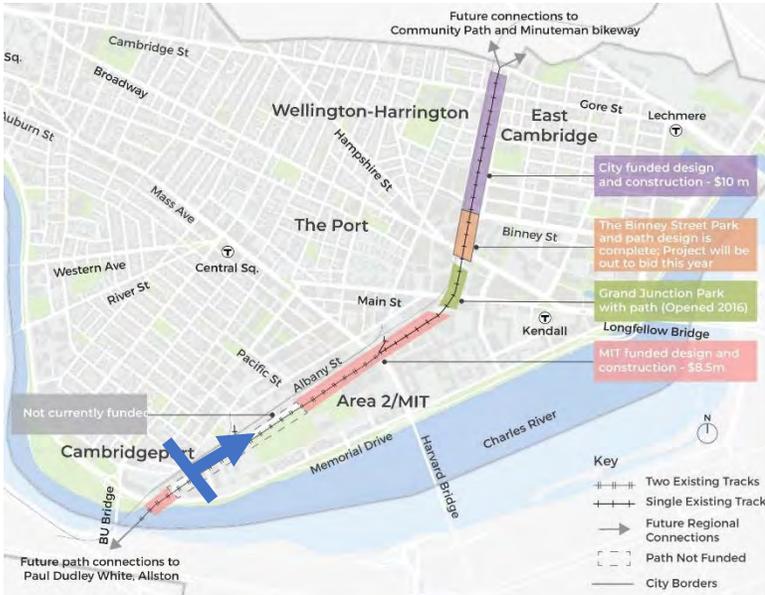
IDEAL CROSS-SECTION DESIGN OF GRAND JUNCTION MULTI-USE PATH



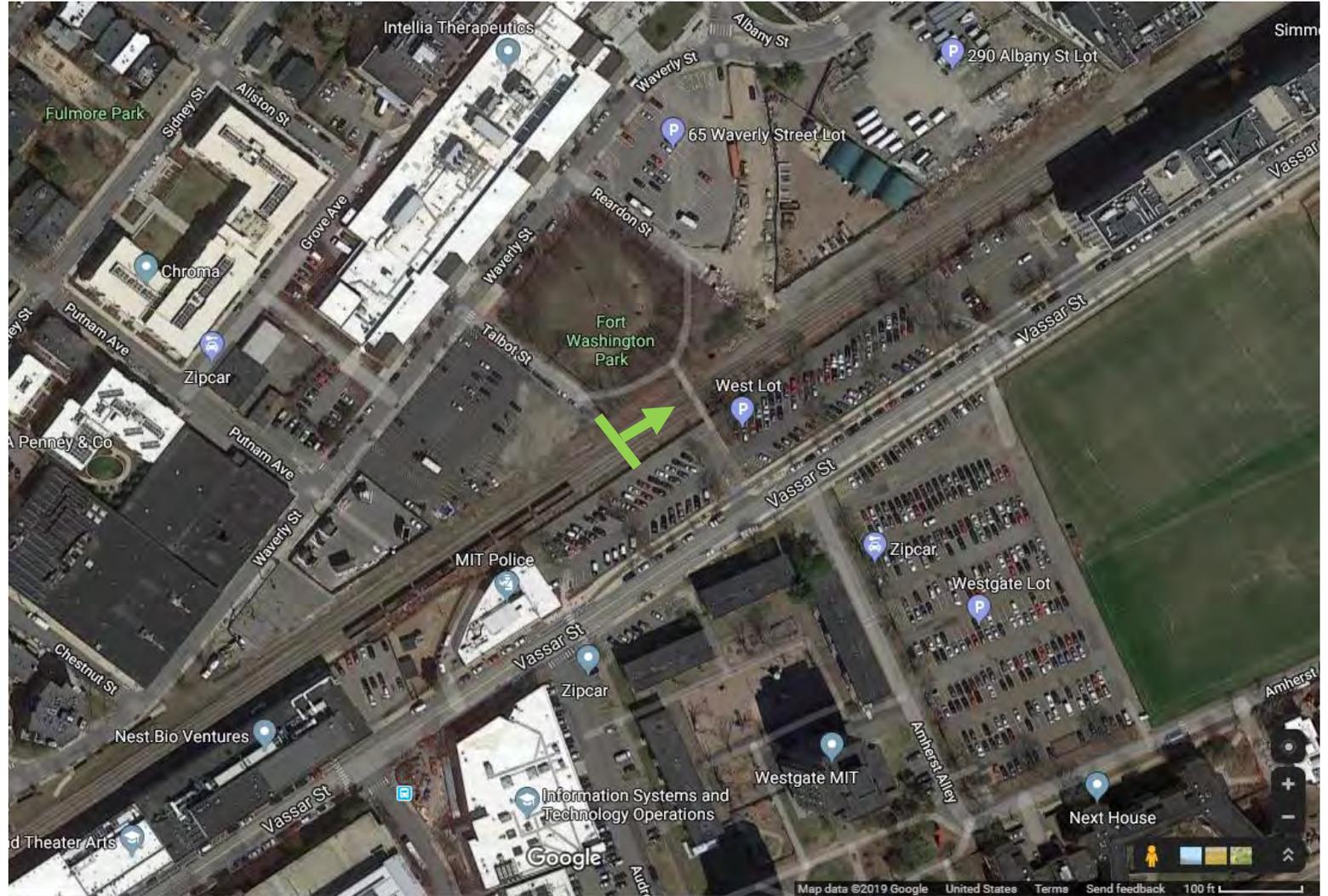
- Near Henry and Waverly
- Likely furthest west possible terminus in near-term



- Near Henry and Waverly
- Likely furthest west possible terminus in near-term



■ Near Fort Washington Park



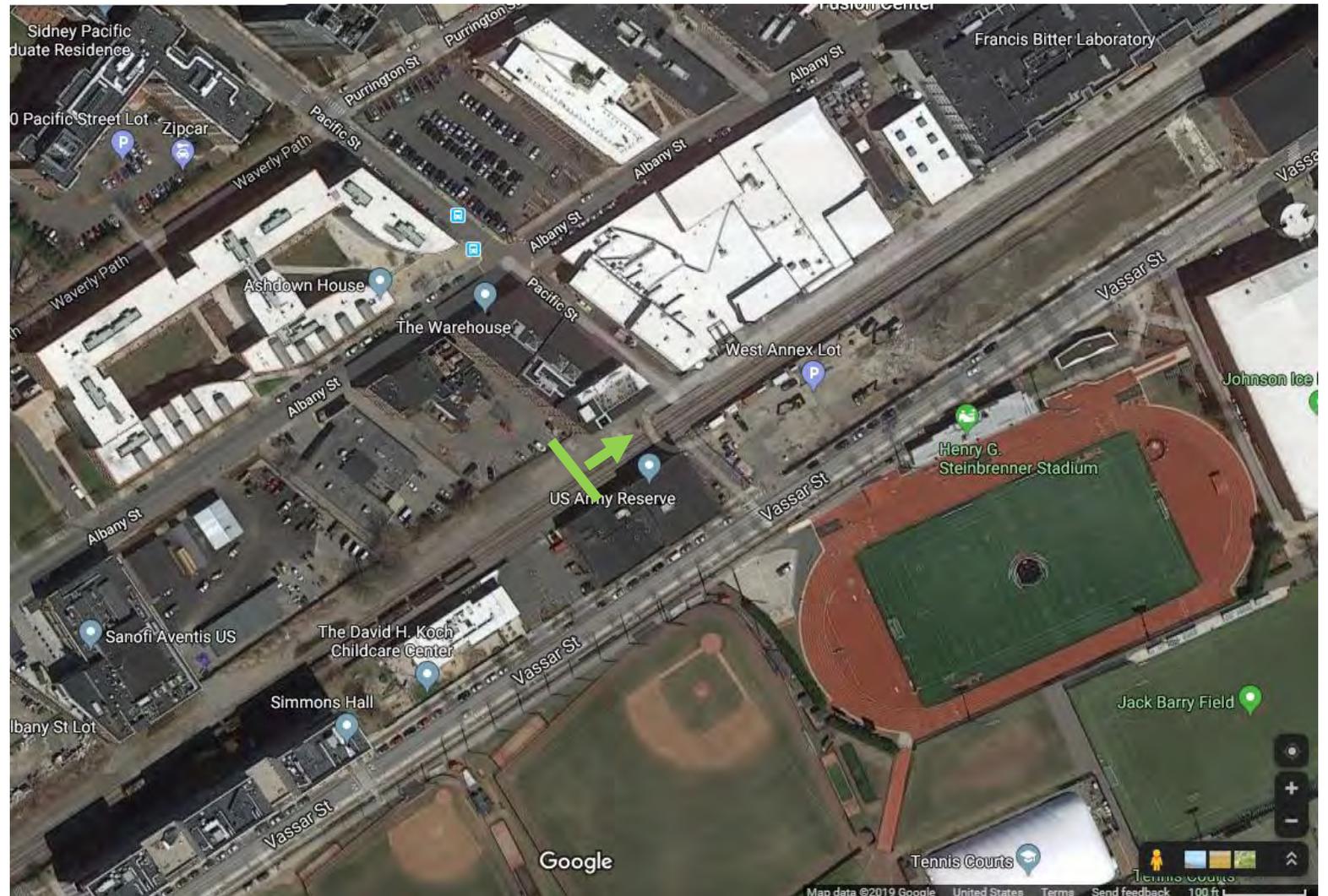
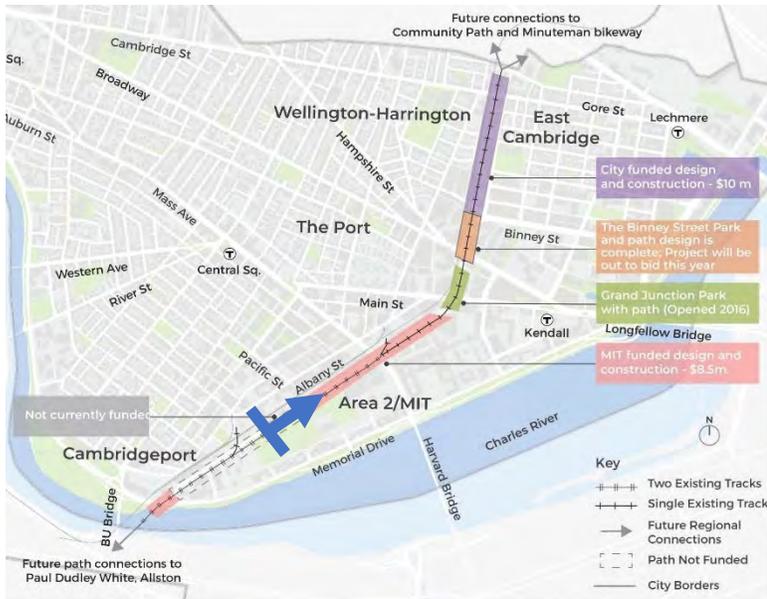
- Near Fort Washington Park



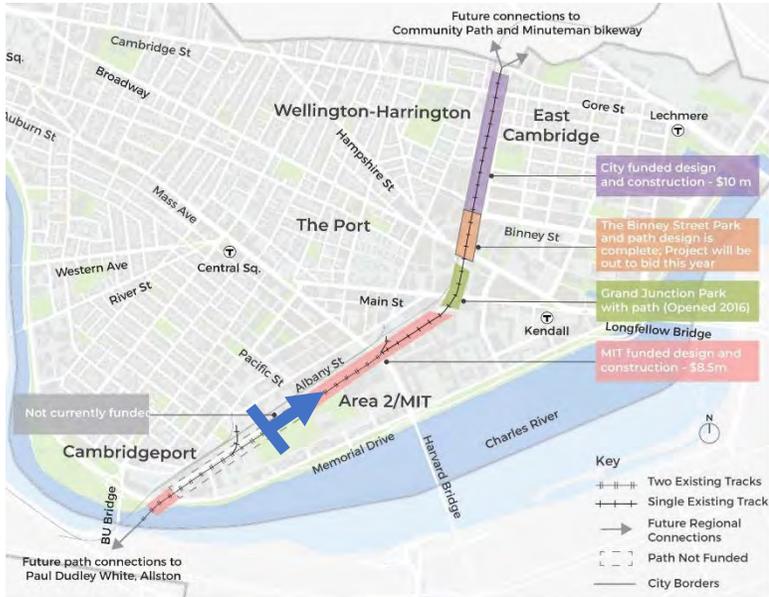
- Near Fort Washington Park



- Approximate boundary of MassDOT and MIT sections
- Pacific Street crossing is another access point



- Approximate boundary of MassDOT and MIT sections
- Pacific Street crossing is another access point



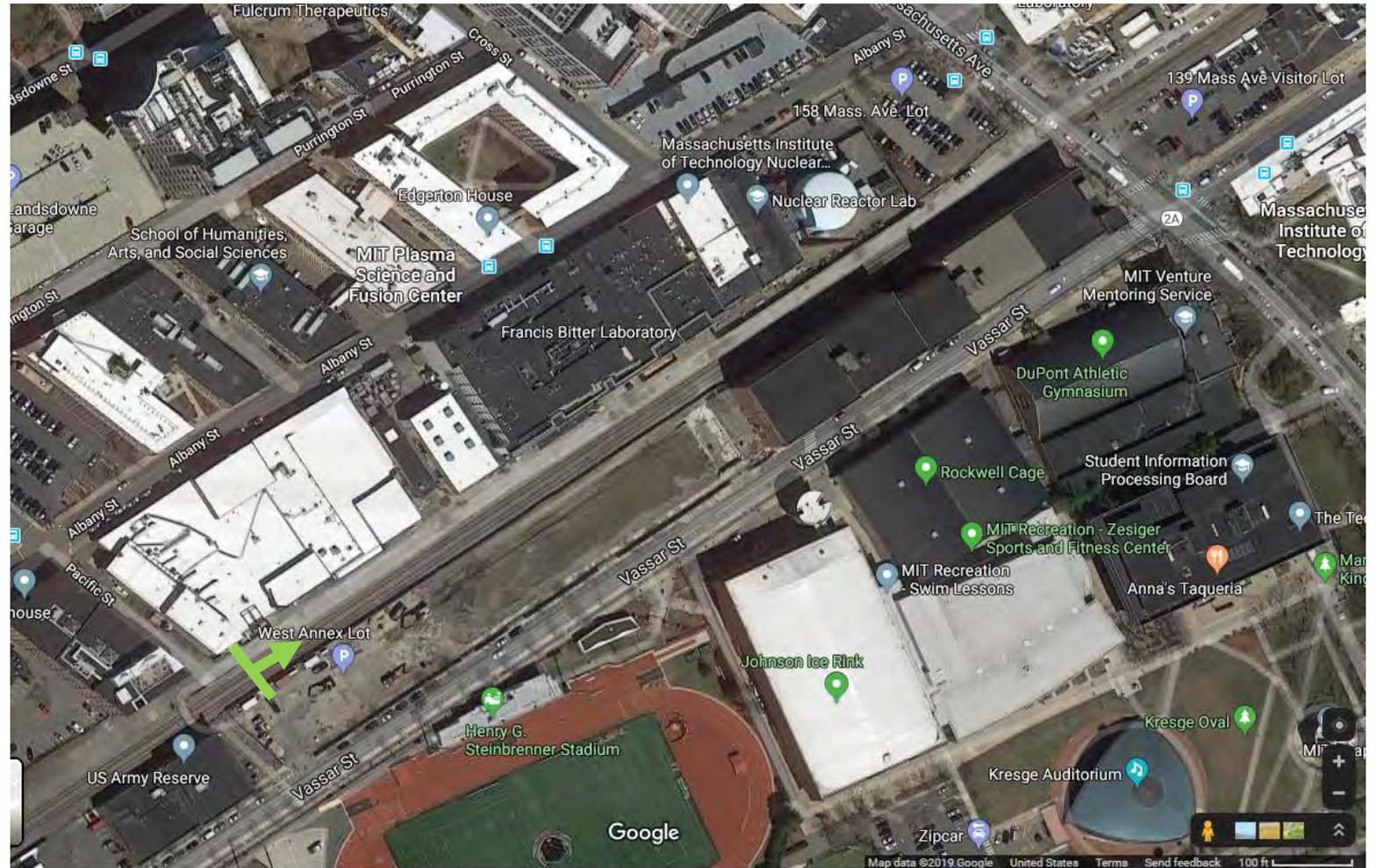
- Pacific Street crossing



- Pacific Street crossing



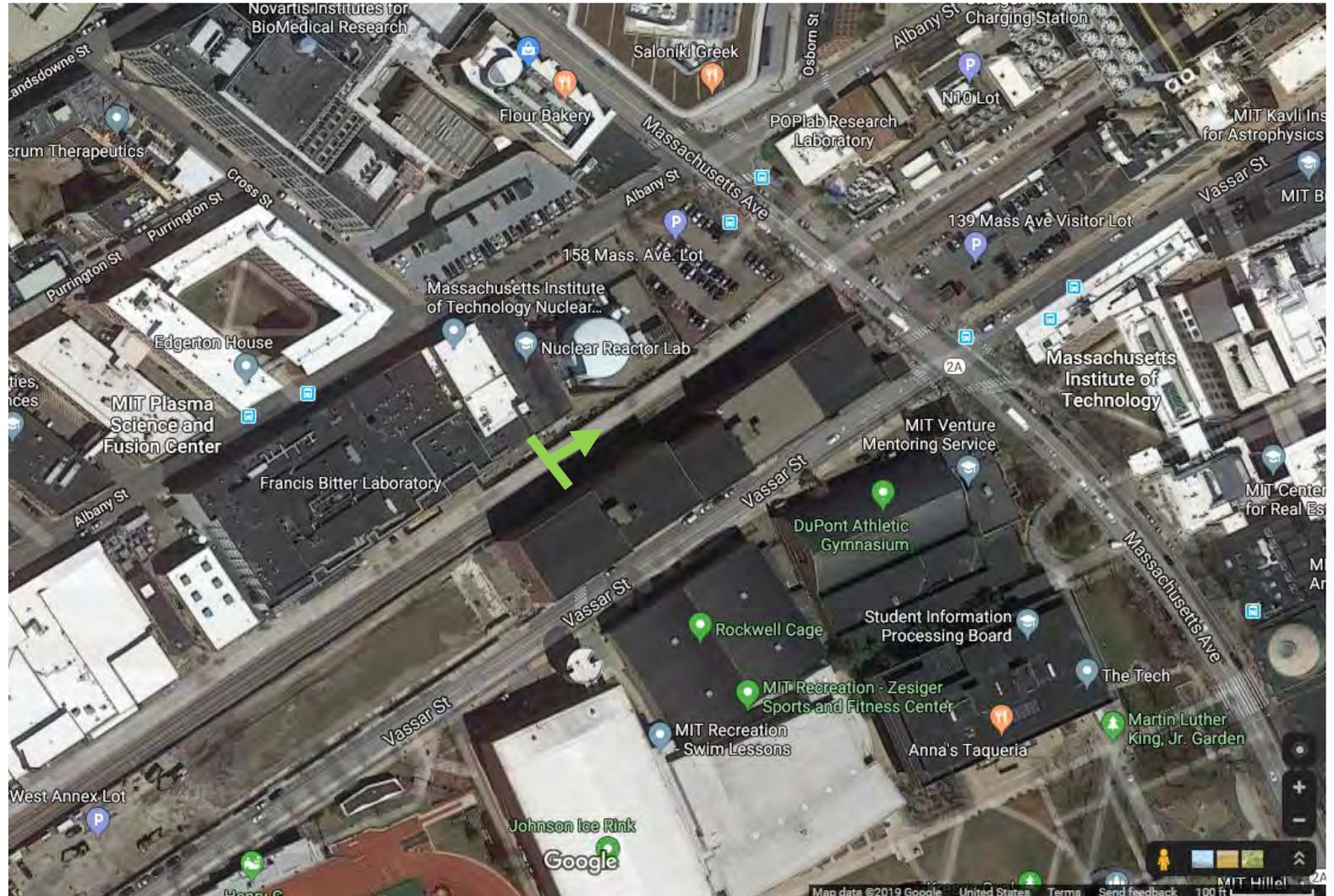
- Between Pacific Street crossing and Mass Ave



- Between Pacific Street crossing and Mass Ave



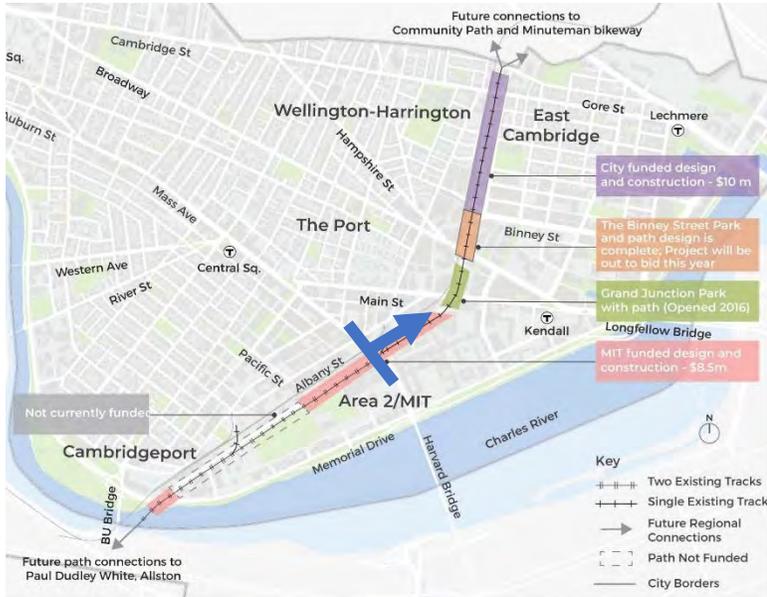
- Approaching Mass Ave, adjacent to NW12 and Metropolitan Storage Warehouse



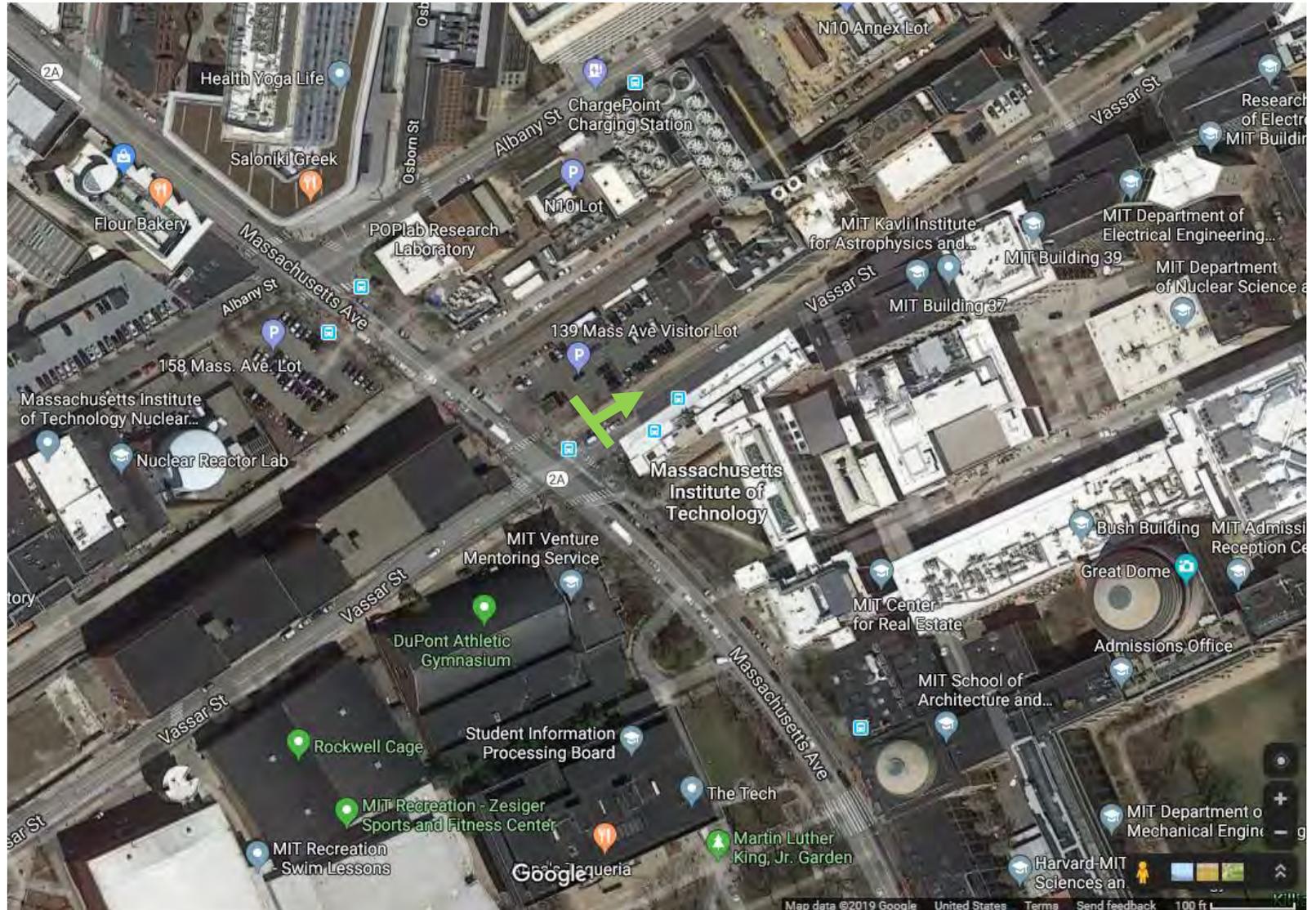
- Approaching Mass Ave, adjacent to NW12 and Metropolitan Storage Warehouse



- Crossing the Massachusetts Avenue intersection



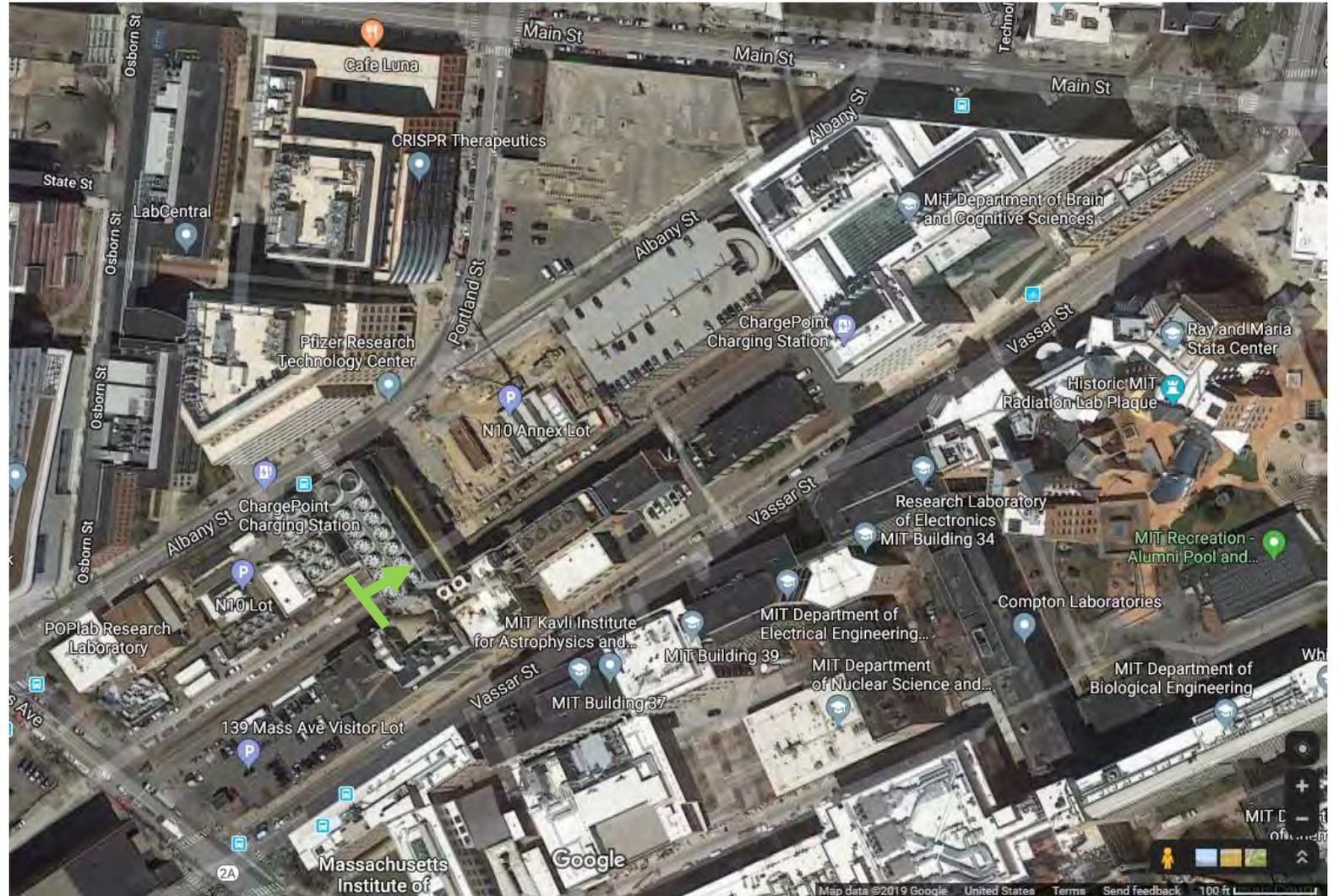
- Between Mass Ave and Main Street



- Between Mass Ave and Main Street



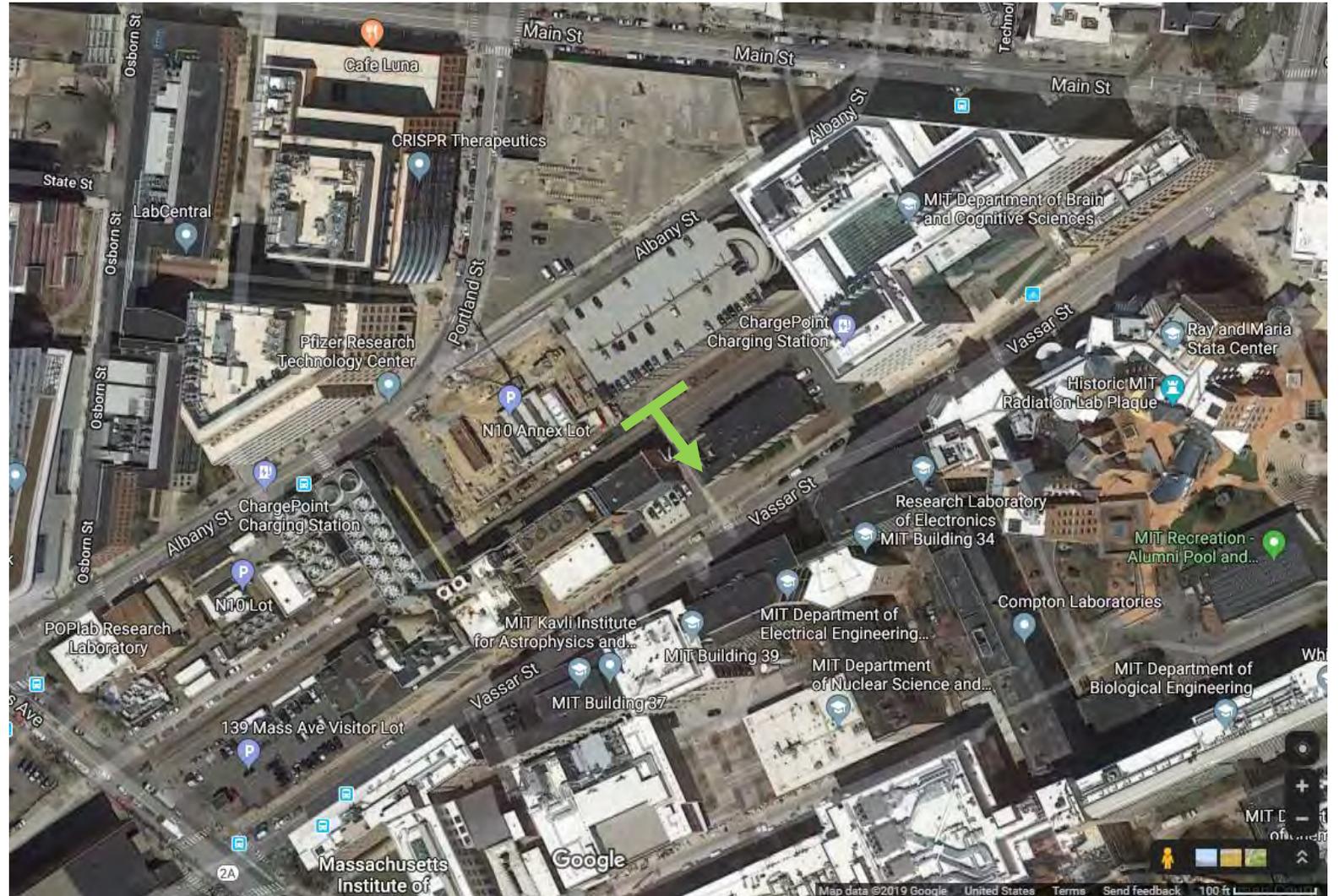
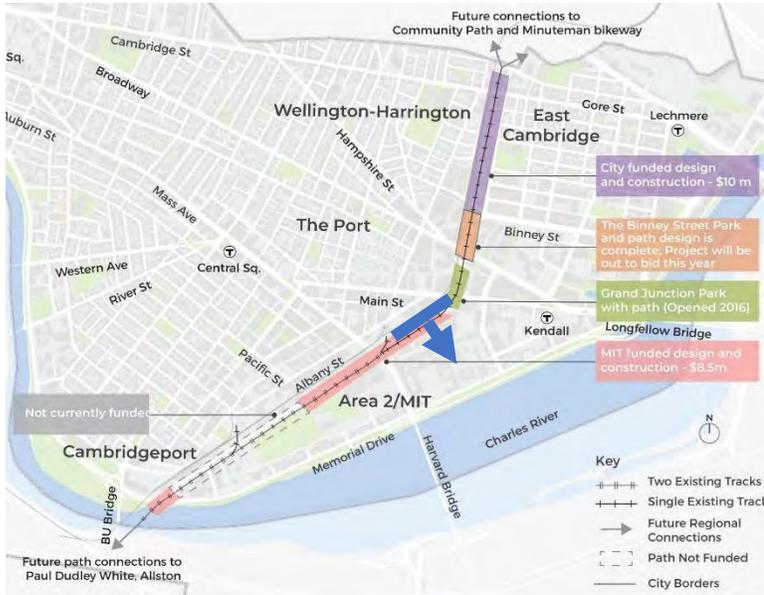
- Adjacent to N16 Co-generation Plant, viewing Co-gen Plant Addition



- Adjacent to N16 Co-generation Plant, viewing Co-gen Plant Addition



■ Albany/Vassar Street crossing



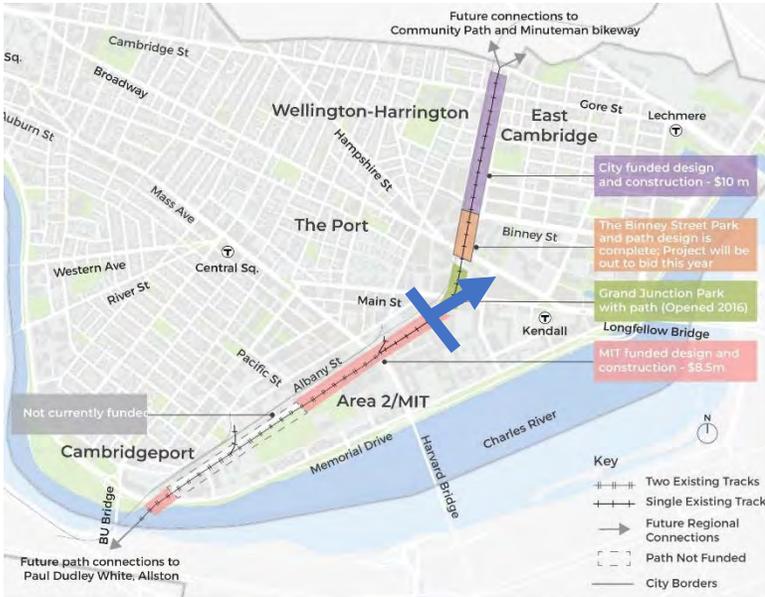
- Albany/Vassar Street crossing



- Approaching Brain and Cognitive Sciences Complex



- Underneath Brain and Cognitive Sciences Complex



- **Underneath Brain and Cognitive Sciences Complex**



- Intersection at Main Street



- Intersection at Main Street



- Intersection at Main Street



- At Main Street facing North, where multi-use path constructed adjacent to roadway



- At Main Street facing North, where multi-use path has been constructed adjacent to roadway

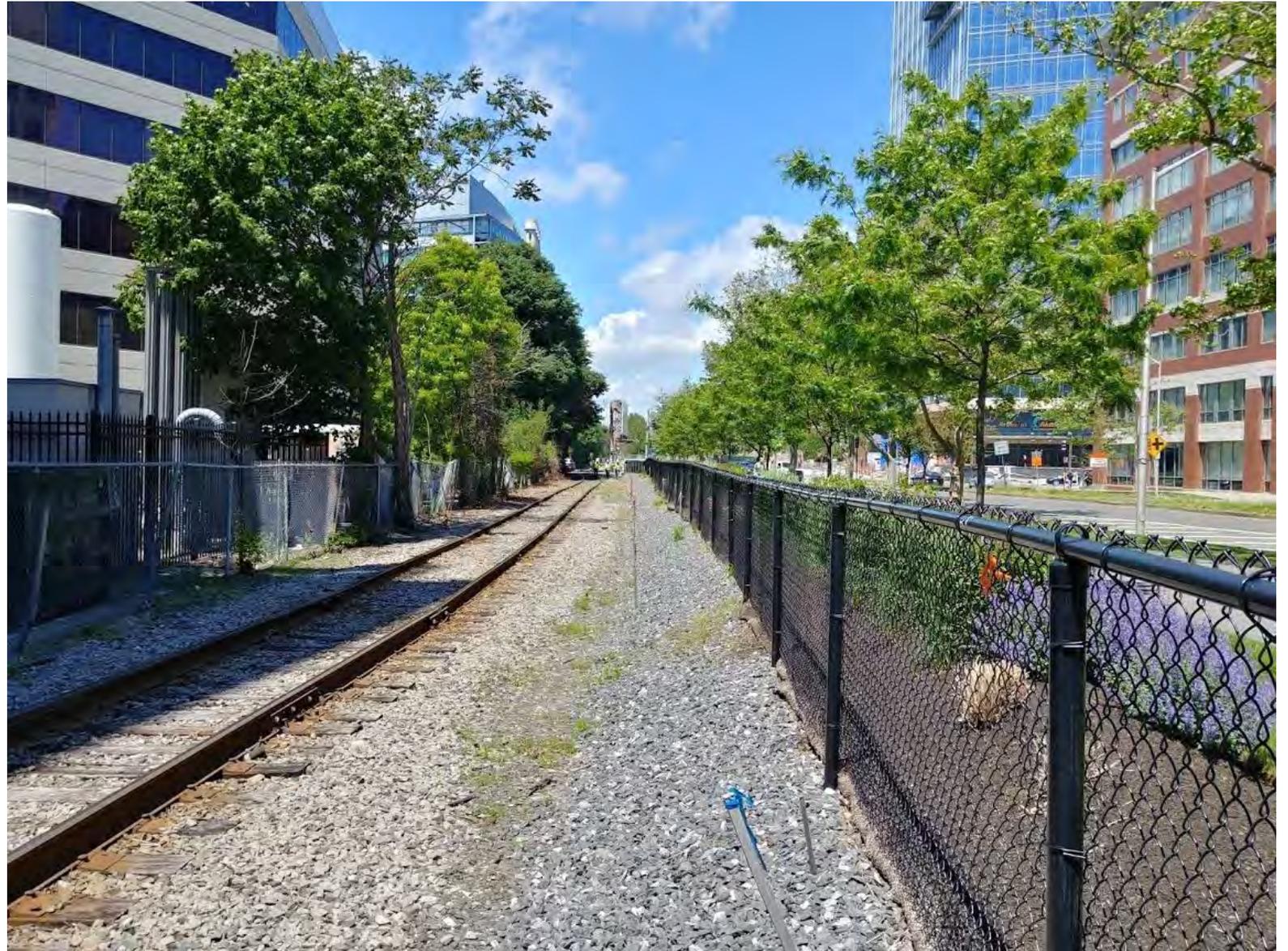
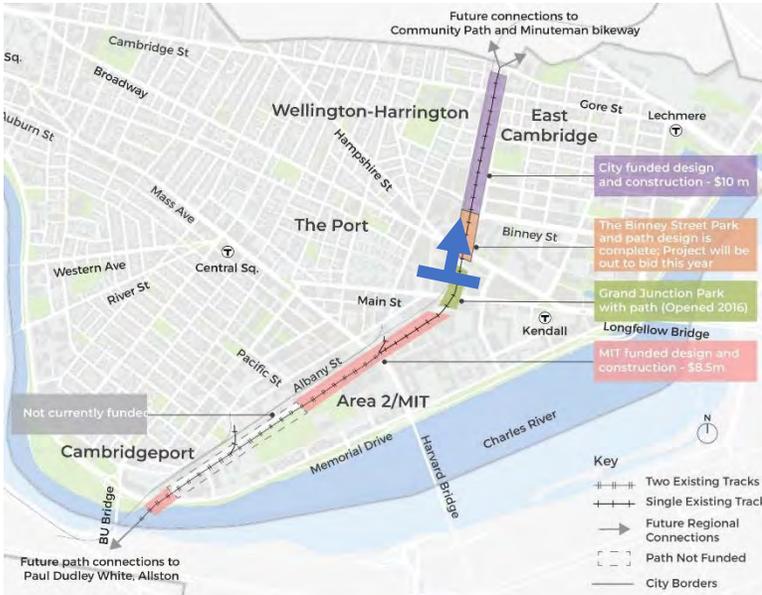


PHOTO TOUR – BINNEY STREET PARK SECTION

- Just north of Broadway
- Will be new Binney Park

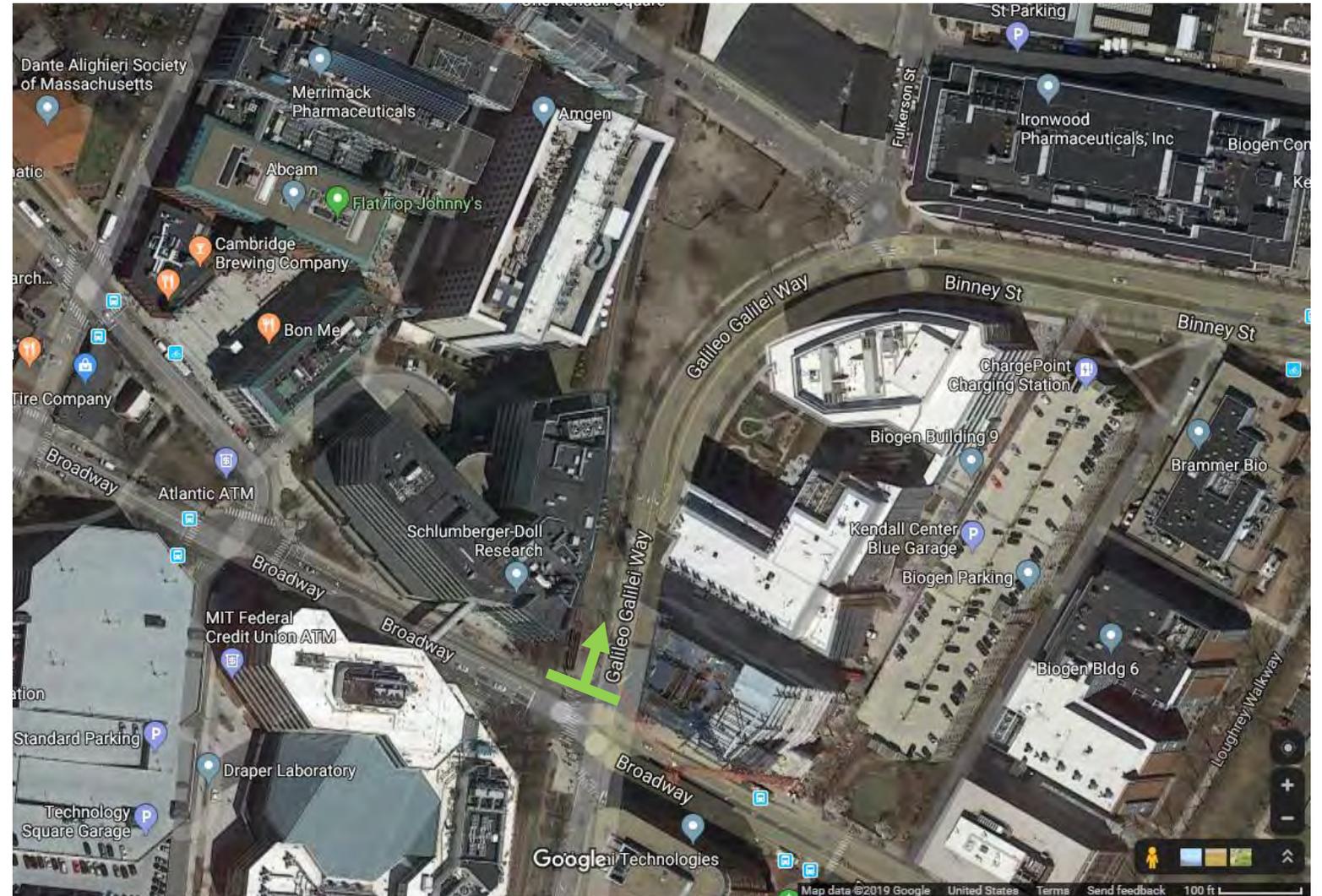
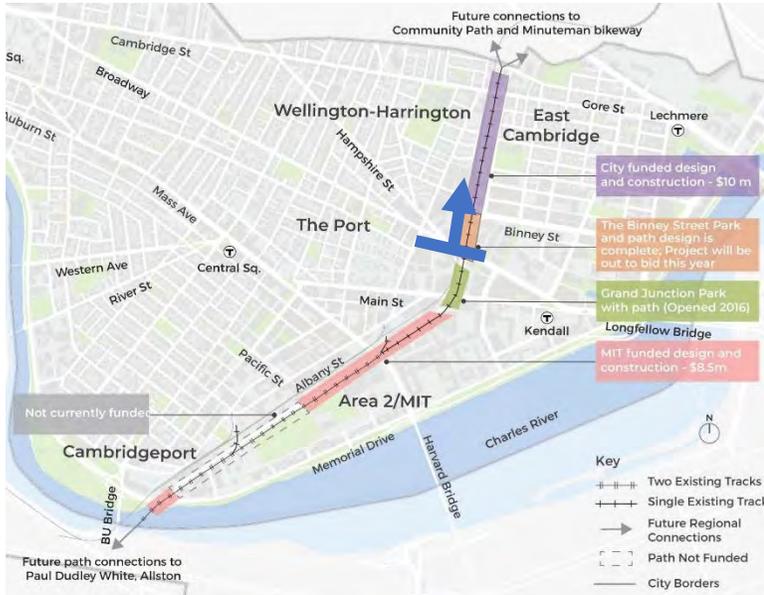
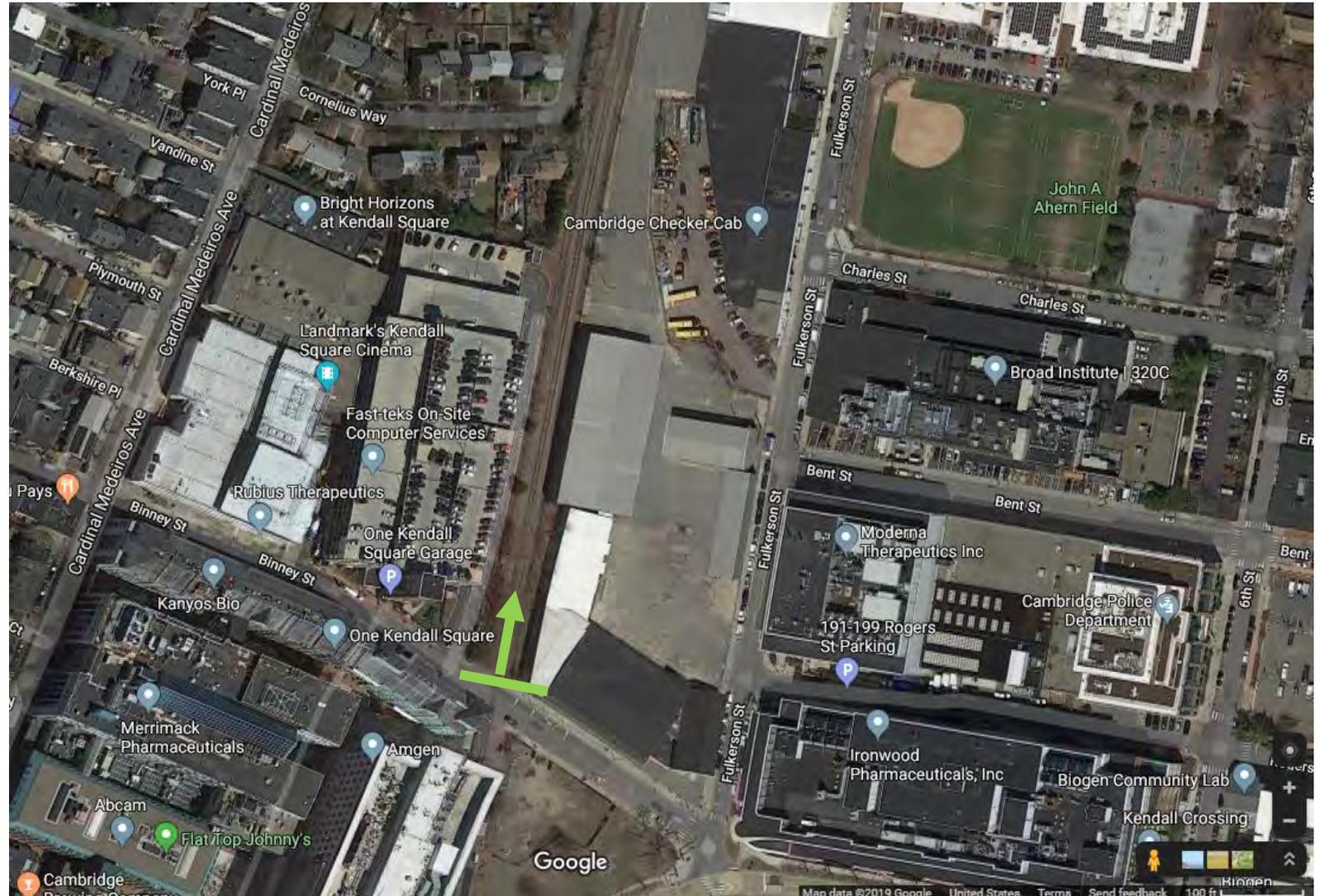


PHOTO TOUR – BINNEY STREET PARK SECTION

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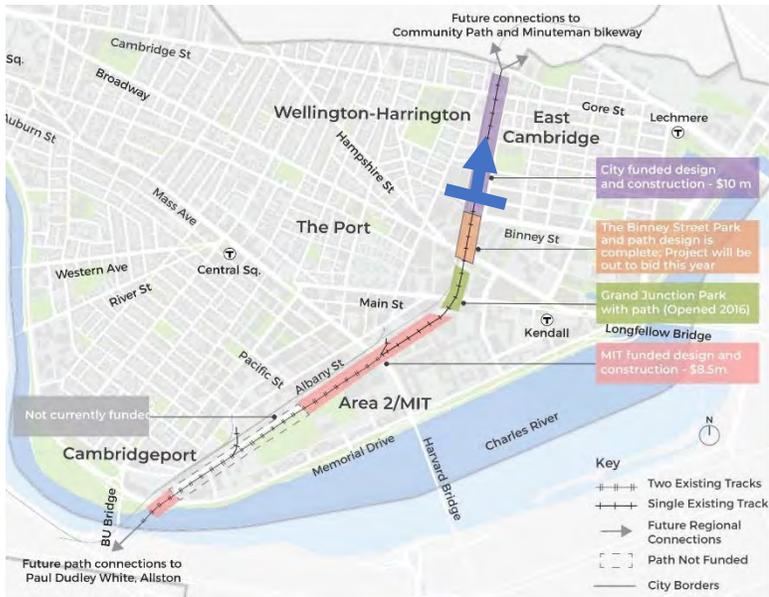
■ Crossing "Little" Binney



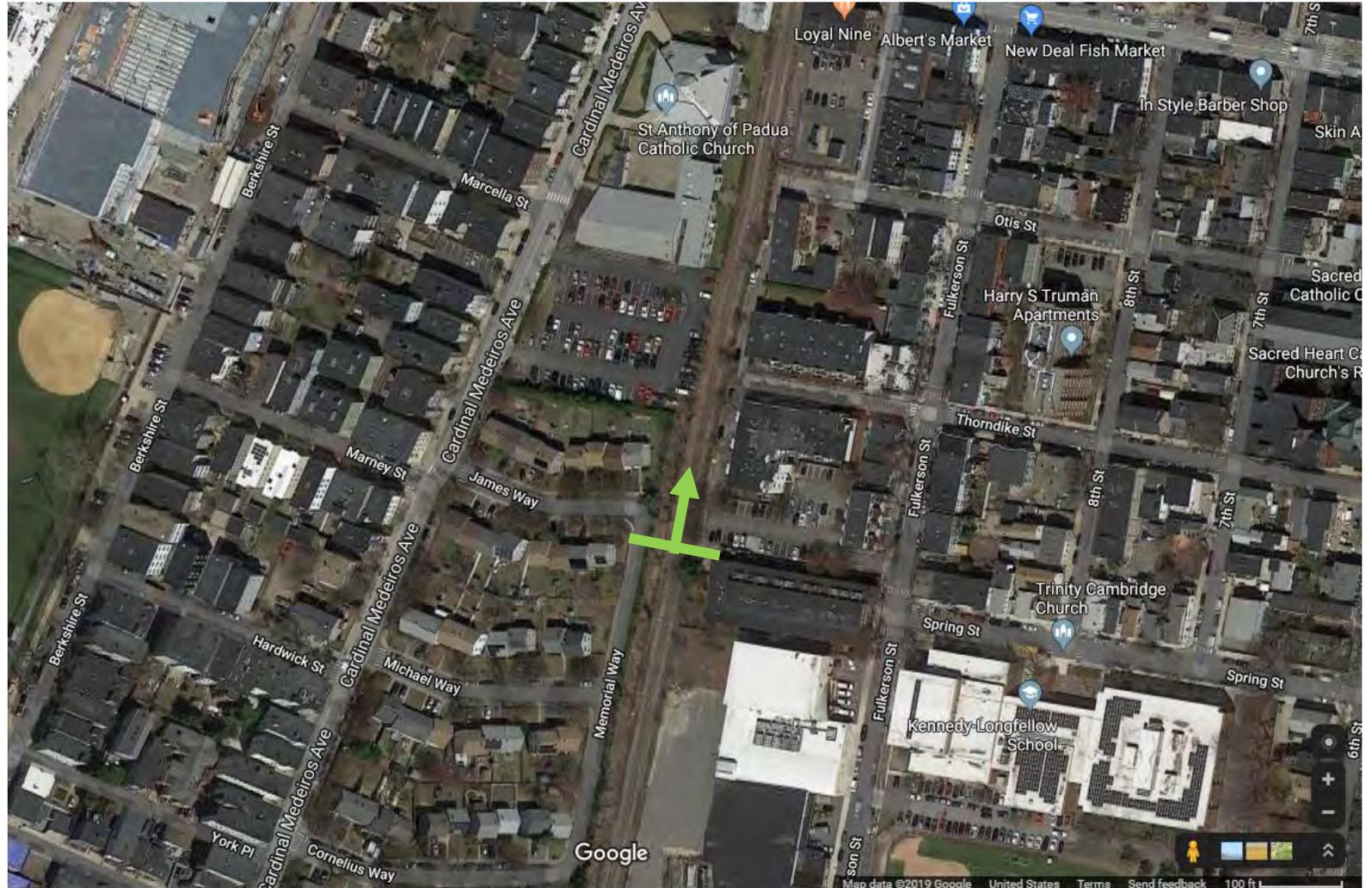
- Crossing "Little" Binney



- North of "Little" Binney, adjacent to 399 Broadway/garage and "Met Pipe" site



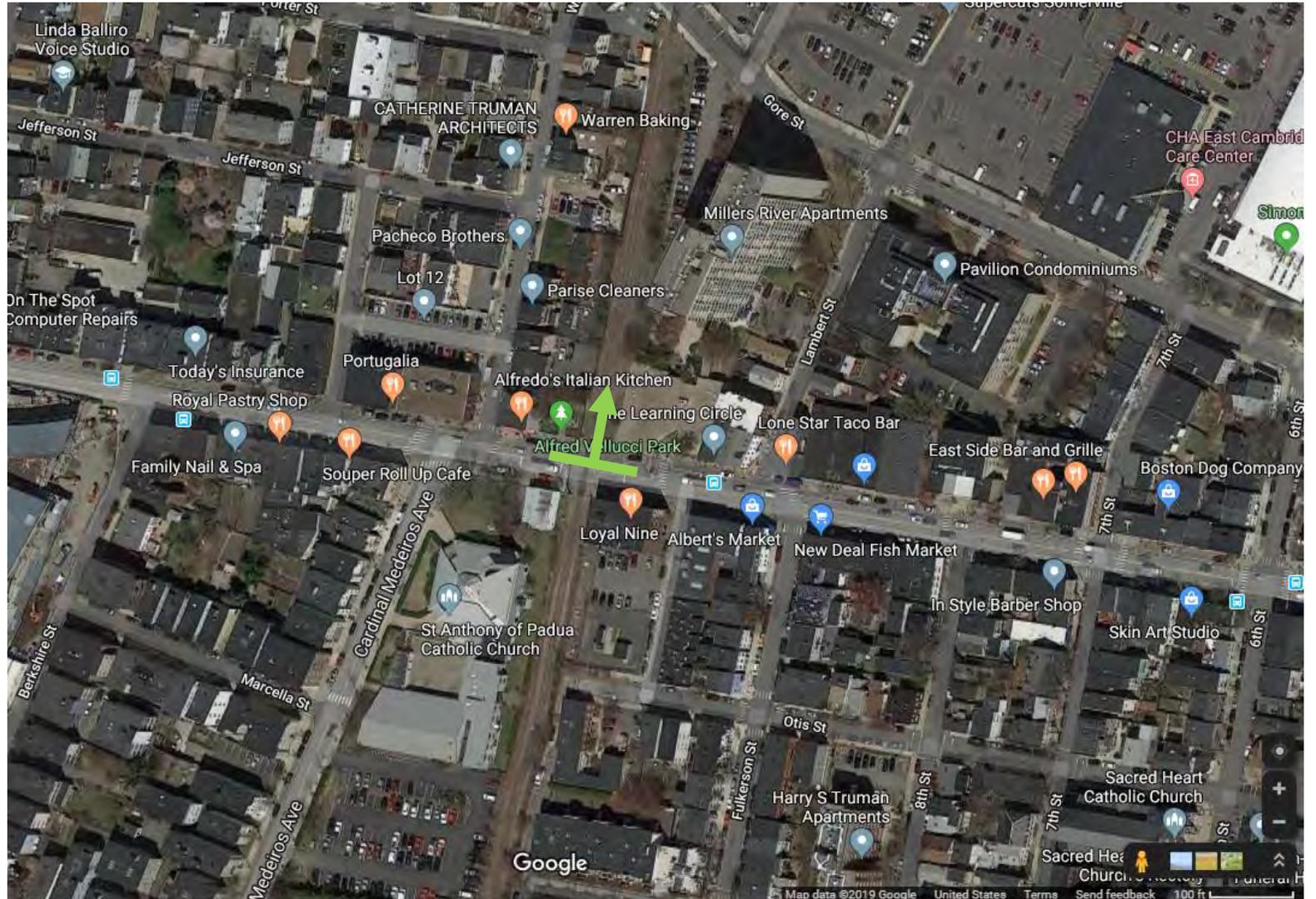
- Between Wellington-Harrington and East Cambridge neighborhoods



- Between Wellington-Harrington and East Cambridge neighborhoods



- Crossing Cambridge St, facing Miller's River Property



- Crossing Cambridge St, facing Miller's River Property



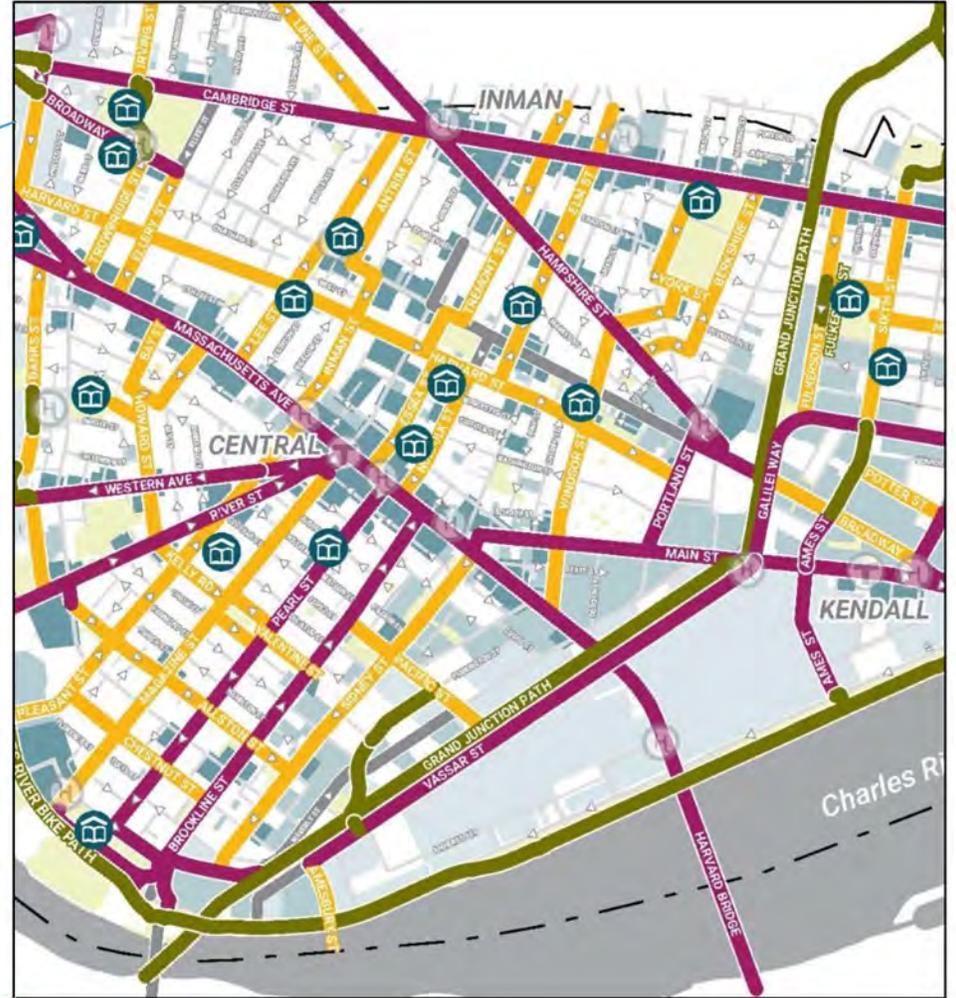
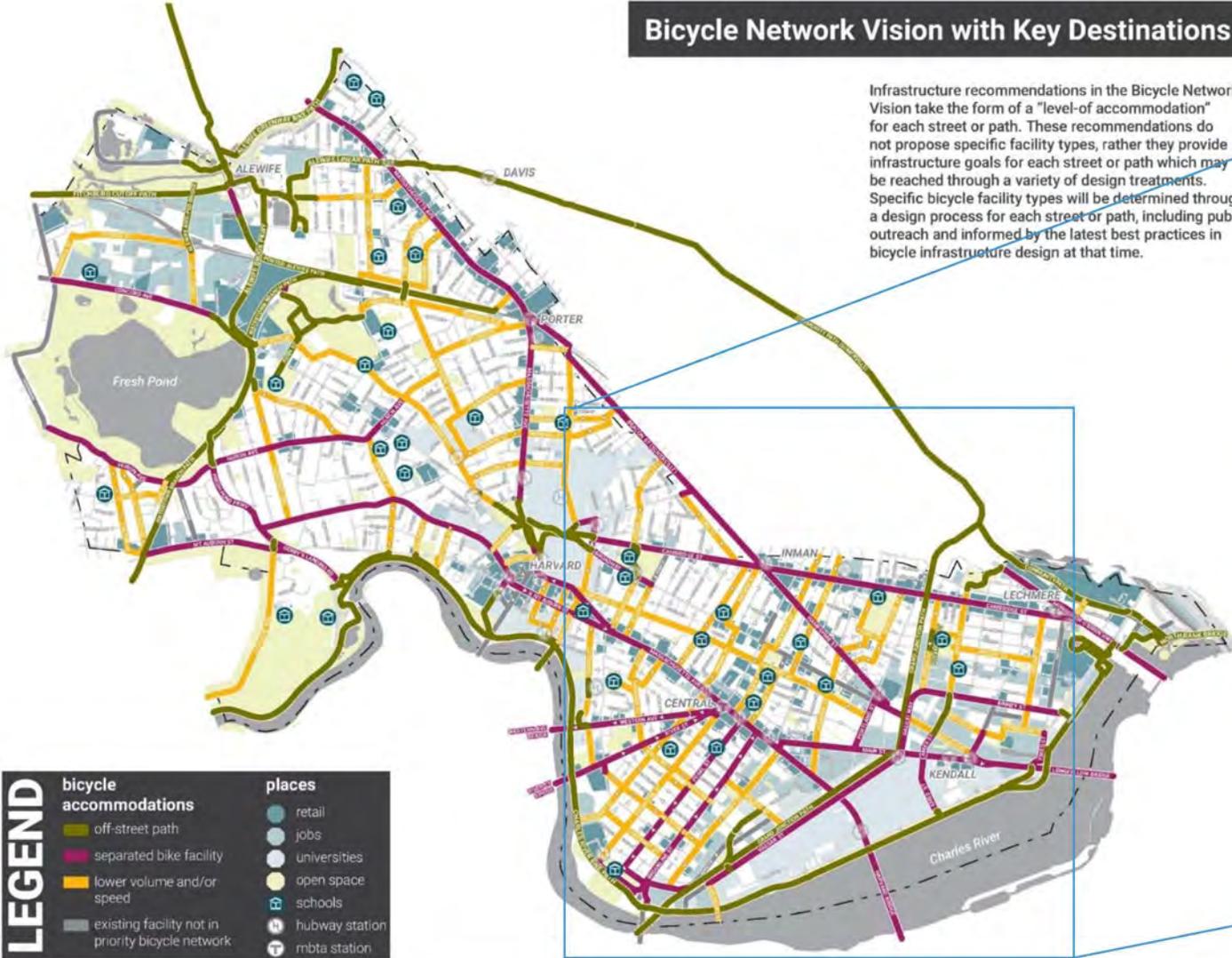
- North of Cambridge street
- Adjacent to Miller's River parking lot



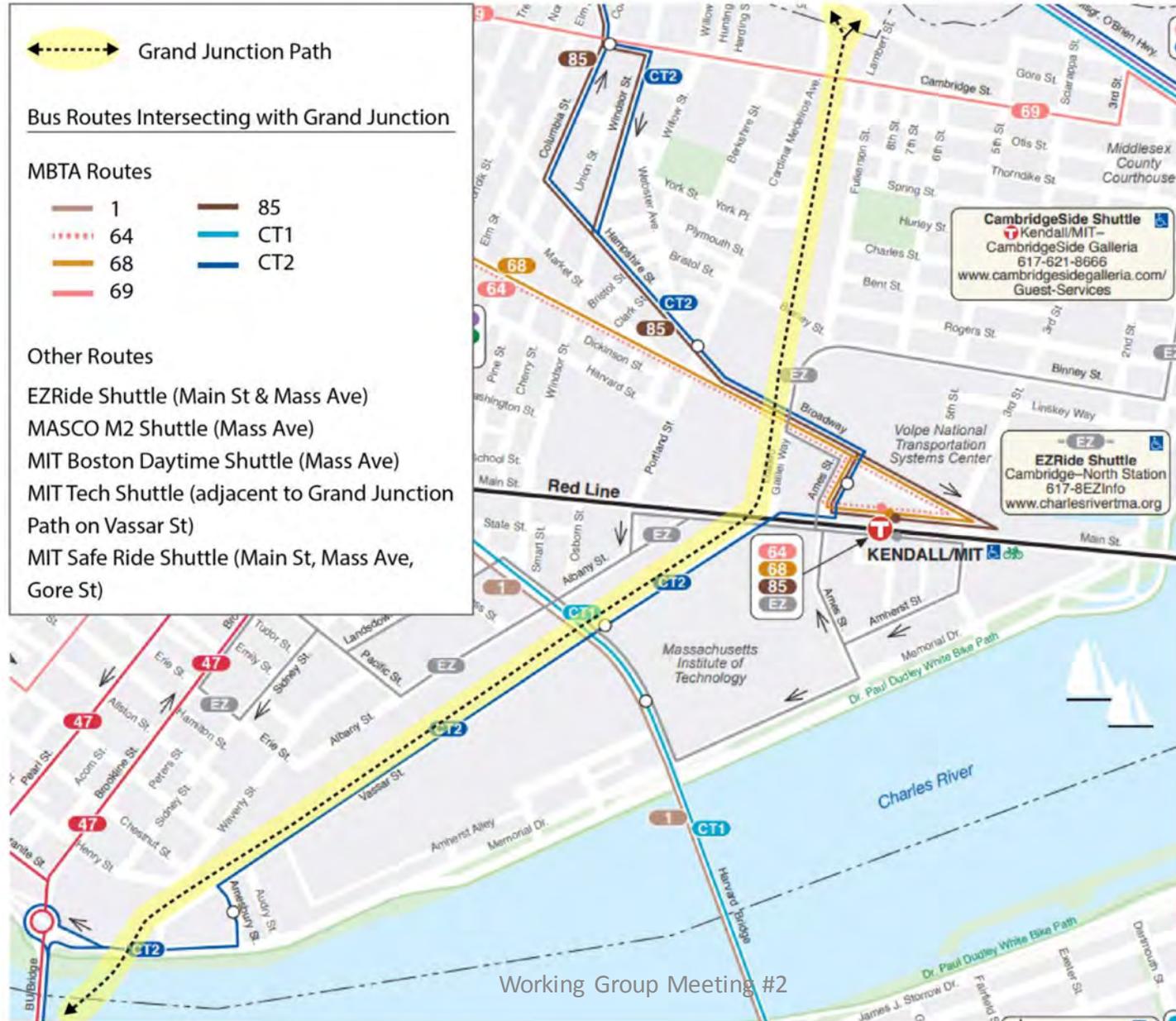
PROPOSED BICYCLE FACILITIES

Bicycle Network Vision with Key Destinations

Infrastructure recommendations in the Bicycle Network Vision take the form of a "level-of-accommodation" for each street or path. These recommendations do not propose specific facility types, rather they provide infrastructure goals for each street or path which may be reached through a variety of design treatments. Specific bicycle facility types will be determined through a design process for each street or path, including public outreach and informed by the latest best practices in bicycle infrastructure design at that time.



TRANSIT INTERSECTIONS WITH GRAND JUNCTION



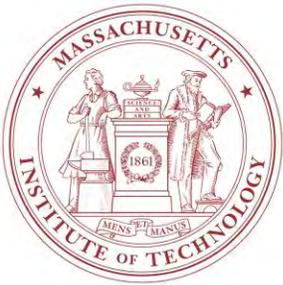


GROUP FEEDBACK AND HOMEWORK

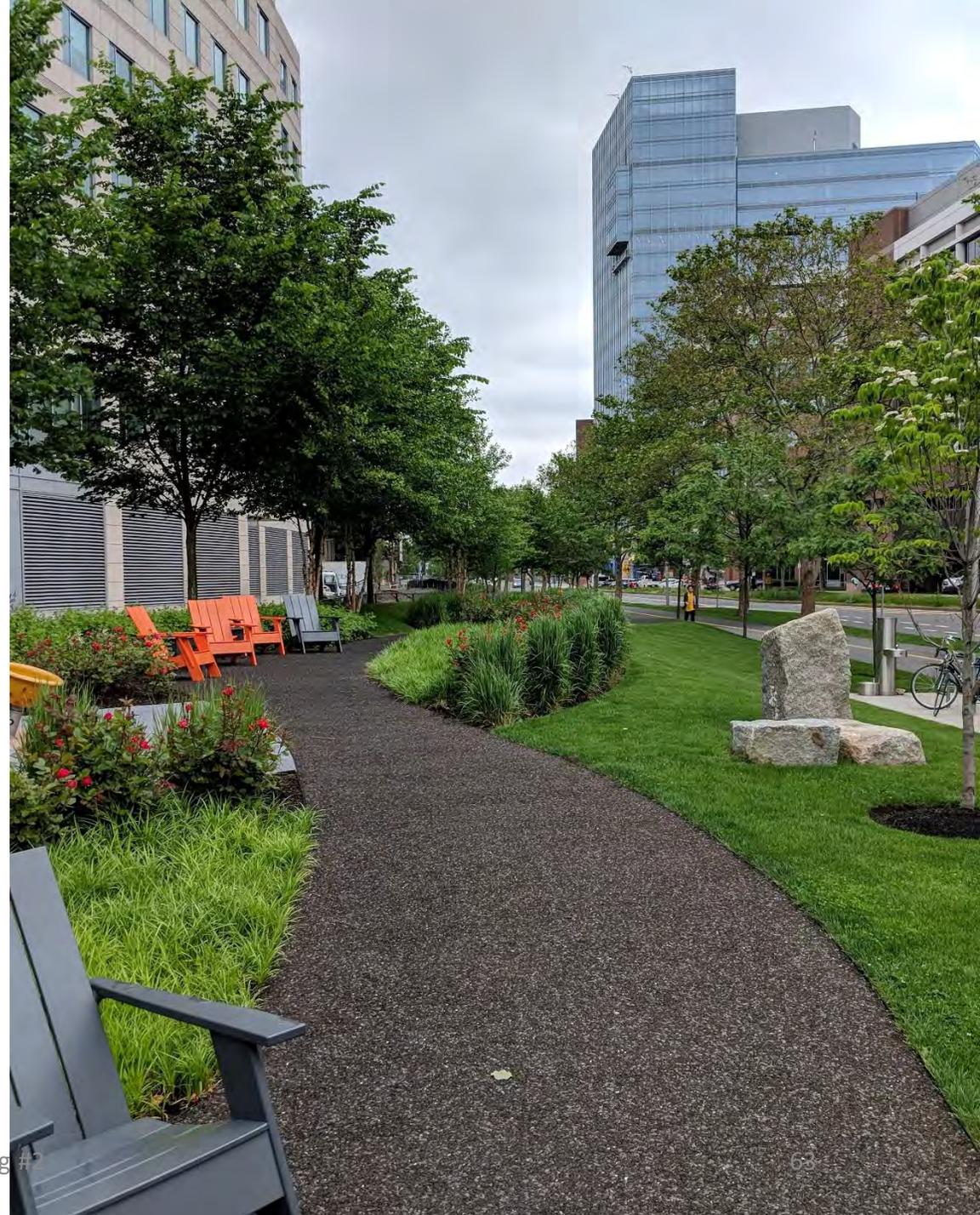


Group Feedback and Homework ORGANIZATIONS

- Which organizations should the team reach out to...
 - for group presentations?
 - to get the word out?



- **Visit Grand Junction Park**
 - **Examine design elements**
 - **Rate likes and dislikes**
 - **Complete by next Working Group meeting on October 1, 2019**





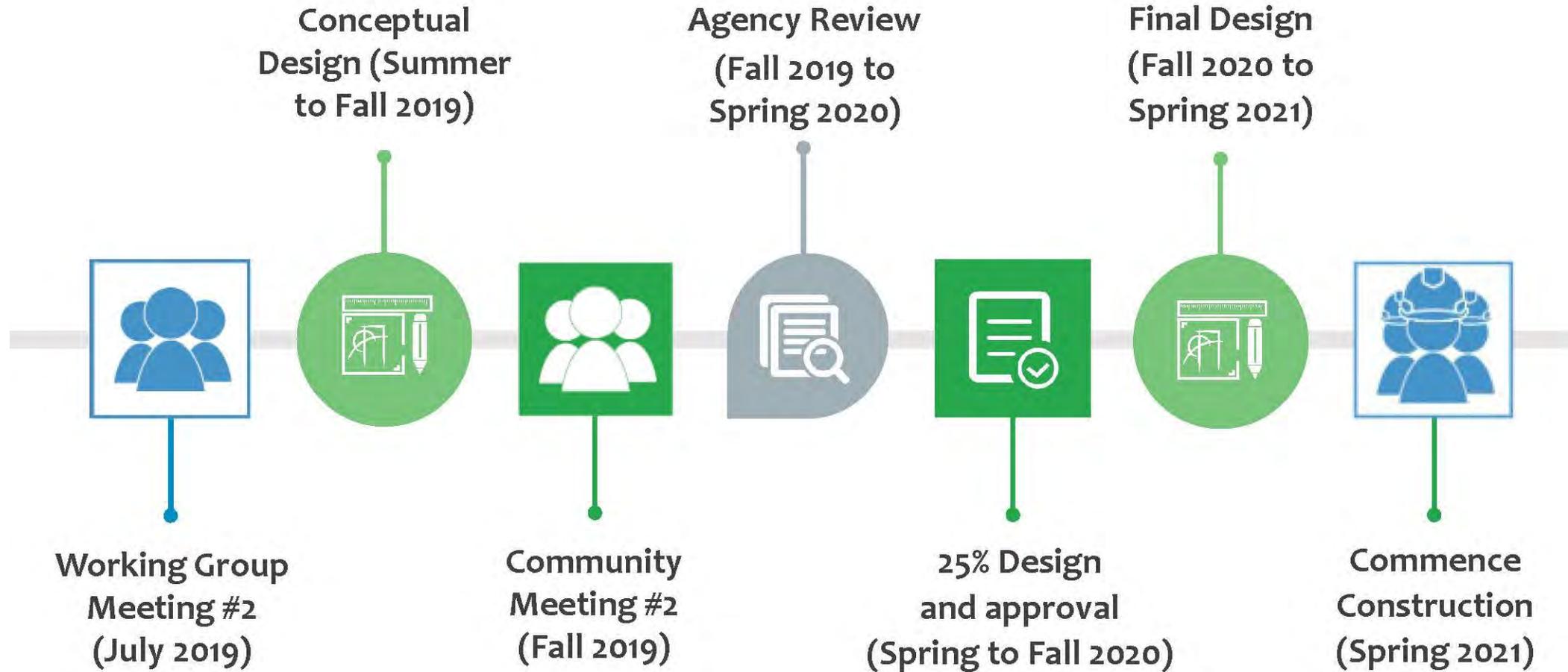
PUBLIC

COMMENT



NEXT STEPS

Schedule Overview



MEETING DATES (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

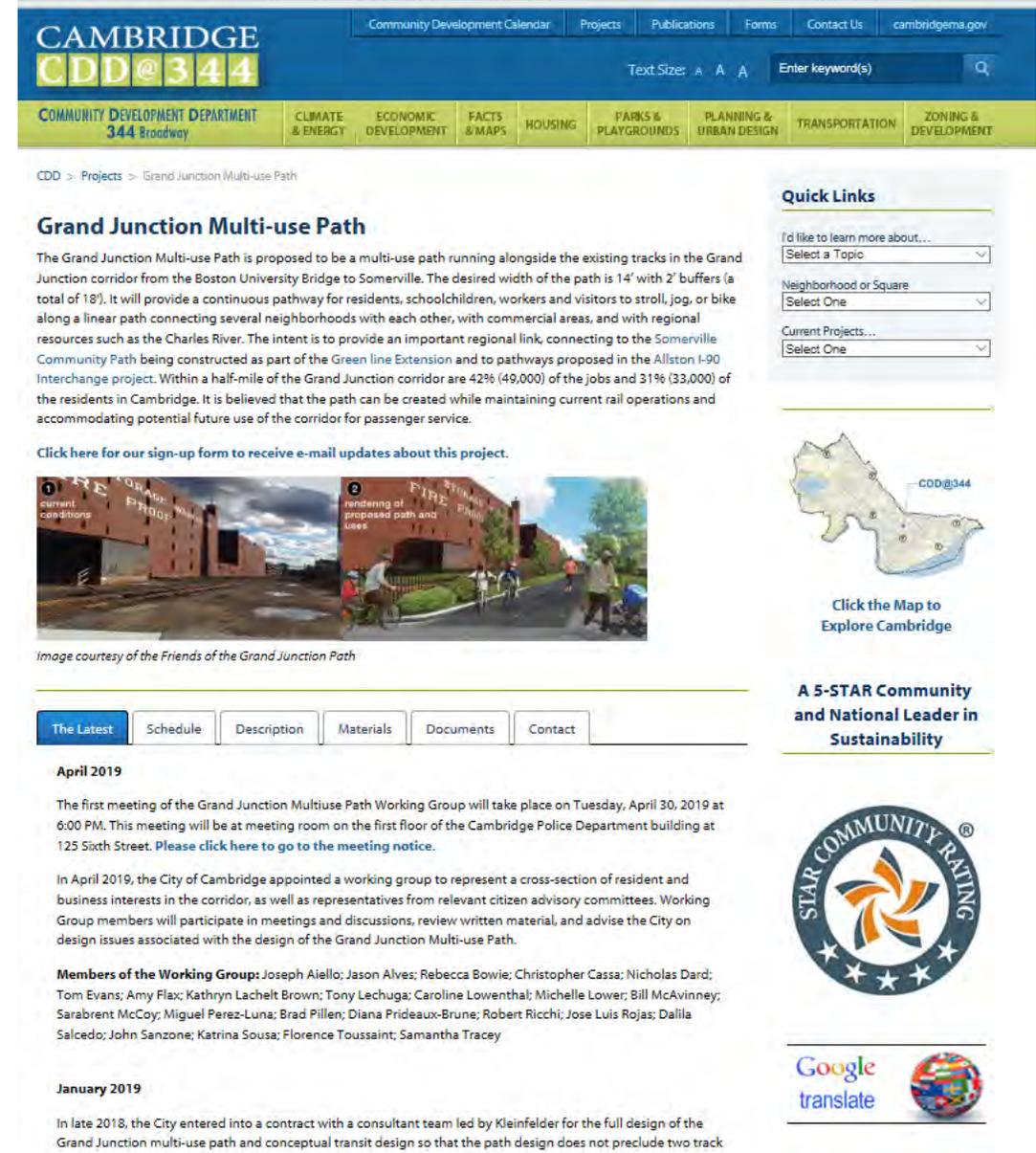
- First Working Group, Tuesday 4/30/2019
- **First Public Meeting, Tuesday, June 4, 2019**
- Second Working Group, Tuesday 7/22/2019
- Third Working Group, October 1, 2019
- **Second Public Meeting, October 29, 2019**
- Fourth Working Group, December 3, 2019
- Fifth Working Group, February 2020
- **25% Design Public Meeting, March 2020**
- Sixth Working Group, April 2020
- **75% Design Public Meeting, February 2021**



The online website will be one important venue for providing input:

- Most recent updates
- Much historical information
- Will document this Design Working Group Process
- Opportunity to comment
- What is most useful for you?

CambridgeMA.gov/GrandJunction



The screenshot shows the Cambridge CDD@344 website. The header includes navigation links for Community Development Calendar, Projects, Publications, Forms, Contact Us, and the website URL cambridgema.gov. A search bar is present with the text "Enter keyword(s)". Below the header is a menu with categories: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (344 Broadway), CLIMATE & ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, FACTS & MAPS, HOUSING, PARKS & PLAYGROUNDS, PLANNING & URBAN DESIGN, TRANSPORTATION, and ZONING & DEVELOPMENT.

The main content area is titled "Grand Junction Multi-use Path". It contains a detailed description of the project, stating it is a multi-use path running alongside existing tracks in the Grand Junction corridor from the Boston University Bridge to Somerville. The path is 14' wide with 2' buffers on each side, totaling 18'. It will provide a continuous pathway for residents, schoolchildren, workers, and visitors to stroll, jog, or bike along a linear path connecting several neighborhoods with each other, with commercial areas, and with regional resources such as the Charles River. The intent is to provide an important regional link, connecting to the Somerville Community Path being constructed as part of the Green line Extension and to pathways proposed in the Allston I-90 Interchange project. Within a half-mile of the Grand Junction corridor are 42% (49,000) of the jobs and 31% (33,000) of the residents in Cambridge. It is believed that the path can be created while maintaining current rail operations and accommodating potential future use of the corridor for passenger service.

Below the text is a link: "Click here for our sign-up form to receive e-mail updates about this project." There are two images: one showing "current conditions" and another showing a "rendering of proposed path and uses". A caption below the images reads: "Image courtesy of the Friends of the Grand Junction Path".

On the right side of the page, there is a "Quick Links" section with three dropdown menus: "I'd like to learn more about..." (Select a Topic), "Neighborhood or Square" (Select One), and "Current Projects..." (Select One). Below this is a map of Cambridge with a red dot indicating the location of CDD@344. A link below the map says "Click the Map to Explore Cambridge".

At the bottom right, there is a badge for "A 5-STAR Community and National Leader in Sustainability" with the STAR Community Rating logo. Below the badge is a "Google translate" button with a globe icon.

The bottom of the page shows a navigation bar with tabs: "The Latest", "Schedule", "Description", "Materials", "Documents", and "Contact". The "The Latest" tab is selected, showing a section for "April 2019". The text under this section states: "The first meeting of the Grand Junction Multiuse Path Working Group will take place on Tuesday, April 30, 2019 at 6:00 PM. This meeting will be at meeting room on the first floor of the Cambridge Police Department building at 125 Sixth Street. Please click here to go to the meeting notice." It also mentions that in April 2019, the City of Cambridge appointed a working group to represent a cross-section of resident and business interests in the corridor, as well as representatives from relevant citizen advisory committees. Working Group members will participate in meetings and discussions, review written material, and advise the City on design issues associated with the design of the Grand Junction Multi-use Path. The members of the working group are listed: Joseph Aiello; Jason Alves; Rebecca Bowie; Christopher Cassa; Nicholas Dard; Tom Evans; Amy Flax; Kathryn Lachelt Brown; Tony Lechuga; Caroline Lowenthal; Michelle Lower; Bill McAvinney; Sarabrent McCoy; Miguel Perez-Luna; Brad Pillen; Diana Prideaux-Brune; Robert Ricchi; Jose Luis Rojas; Dalila Salcedo; John Sanzone; Katrina Sousa; Florence Toussaint; Samantha Tracey.

Below the April 2019 section is a section for "January 2019". The text states: "In late 2018, the City entered into a contract with a consultant team led by Kleinfelder for the full design of the Grand Junction multi-use path and conceptual transit design so that the path design does not preclude two track



THANK YOU

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