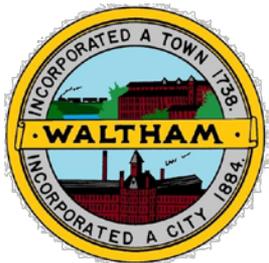


WALTHAM COMPONENT OF THE WAYSIDE TRAIL

Note: The bridge over Rt. 128 is going to be designed by others in conjunction with the State. Slides 9-13, 15-17 & 38 are not applicable and will be updated once bridge plans are finalized.

Public Meeting #1 –
Kick-Off

February 13, 2018

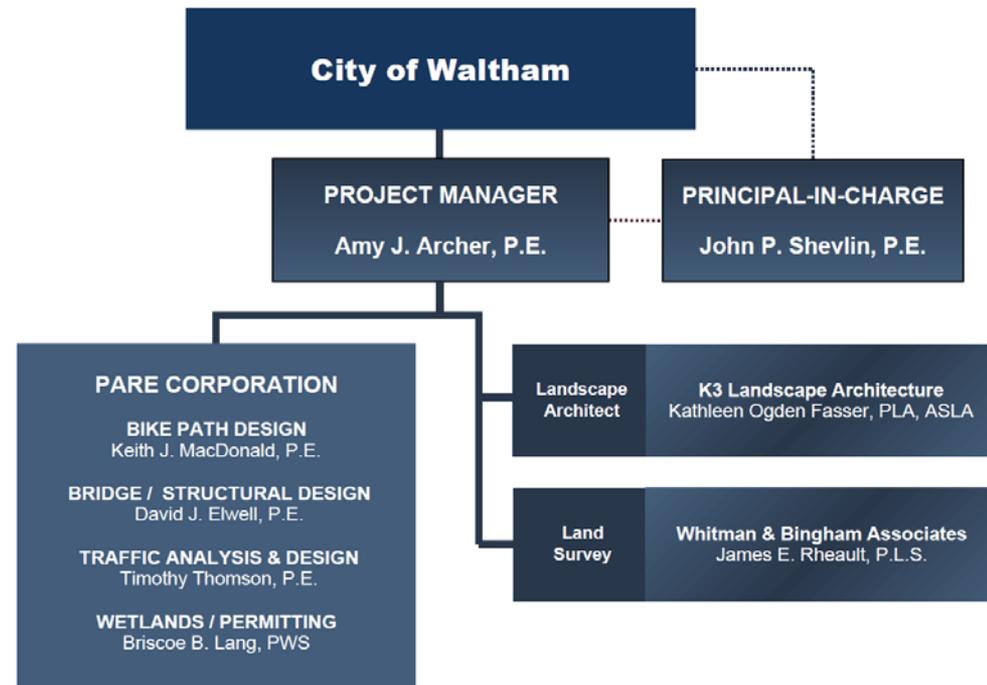


AGENDA

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Introduction | City of Waltham |
| 2. Consultant Team/History | Amy Archer, Pare Corporation |
| 3. Public Engagement Plan | Kathleen Fasser, K3LA |
| 4. Project Limits/Existing Conditions | Amy Archer/Kathleen Fasser |
| 5. Design Details/Proposed Elements | Design Team |
| 6. Public Comment | Open Discussion |
| 7. Next Steps | Amy Archer |

PROJECT TEAM

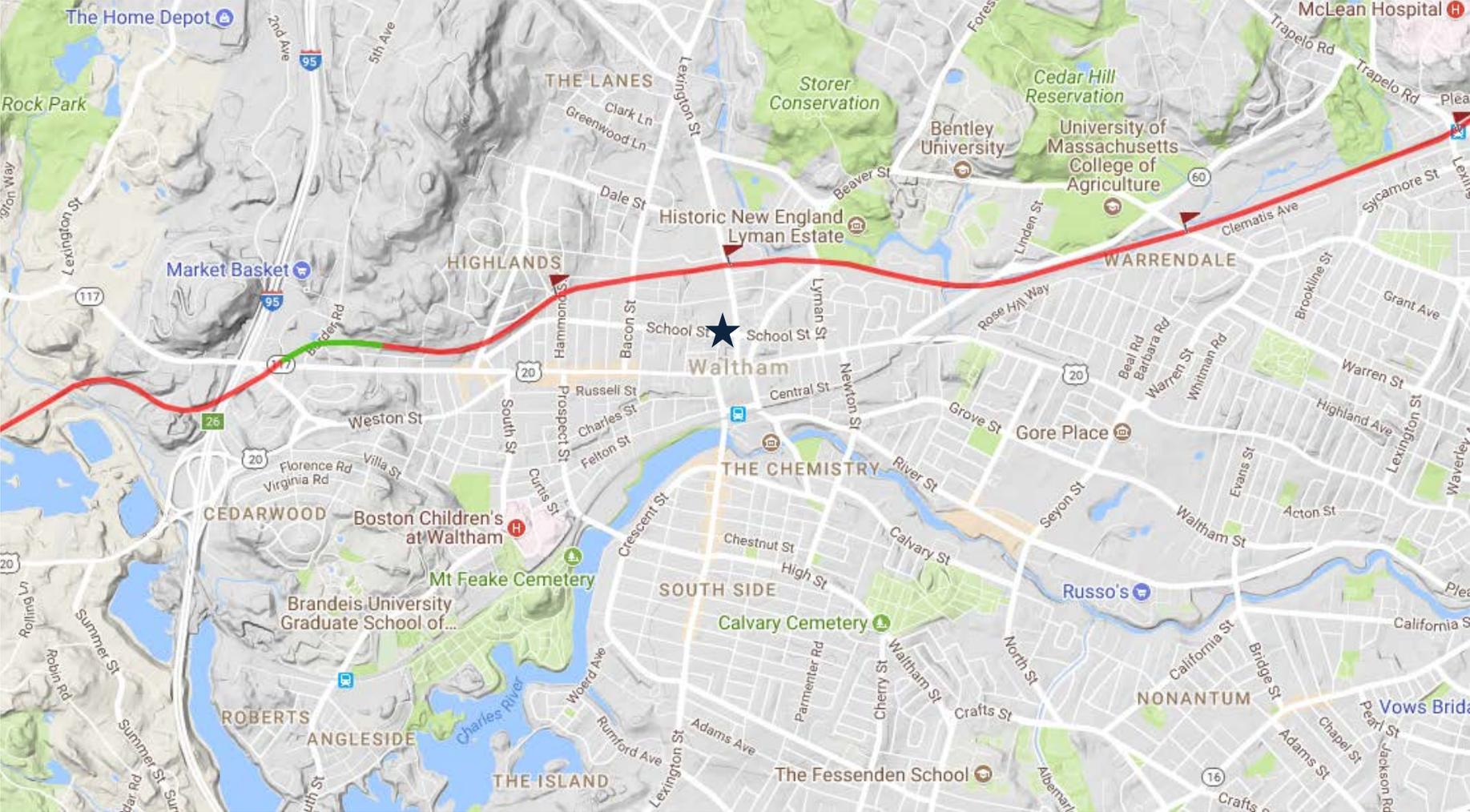
- Pare Corporation – Prime Consultant
 - Bike Path Design
 - Structural Design
 - MBTA Design
 - Traffic Engineering
 - Wetlands / Permitting
- K3 Landscape Architecture
 - Community Engagement and Landscape Architecture



HISTORY AND PATH FORWARD

- **2009:** DCR performed Phase I ESA
- **2010:** DCR signed 99 year lease for abandoned CMRR corridor (Waltham to Berlin)
- **2013:** DCR submitted an EENF to MEPA (to Beaver St)
- **2014:** Waiver obtained from MEPA
- **2017:** City of Waltham bid the design for the Waltham Component of the Wayside Trail (Weston to Belmont)

HISTORY AND PATH FORWARD



HISTORY AND PATH FORWARD

■ Survey Completed

- Identifies key features incl. property, abutters, wetlands, rail bed, curbing, utilities, etc.



■ Design Process Begun

- Detailed field visits – trail, structures and wetlands
- Identification of challenges and opportunities
- Preliminary baseline and key cross sections

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PLAN

ENGAGEMENT GOAL

- Consult with Stakeholders
 - To inform stakeholders of project related information in a timely manner to ensure understanding.
 - To obtain stakeholder feedback on the design process that will be considered moving forward.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PLAN

STAKEHOLDERS

- City residents, including:
 - Abutters
 - Youth and students
 - Families
 - Seniors and older adults
- Trail and facility users:
 - Current users
 - Potential users
 - Non-resident users
 - Commuters
 - Sports enthusiasts
- City Departments' staff and Commissions
- MassDOT, DCR, MBTA
- Elected Officials
- Schools and school districts
- Local employers
- Non-profit/community-based organizations



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PLAN

PROJECT OUTREACH

- Public Meetings
 - Kick-off
 - Abutters Meeting – March 1
 - Public Meeting #3 – TBD
- Coordination with City Departments & Commissions, MassDOT, MBTA and DCR
- Public Feedback Platform -

<http://bit.ly/walthamhealthytransportation>



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PLAN

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

engage in the process in a manner that promotes **respectful civil discourse** and enhances mutual understanding of all stakeholder viewpoints.

PROJECT LIMITS

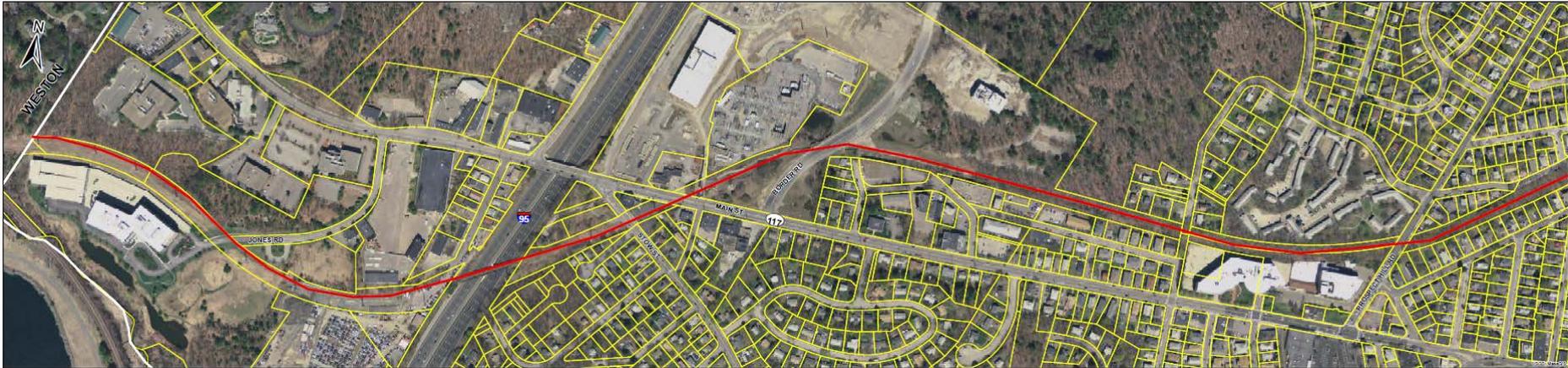
Waltham Wayside Trail Extents



- Off-Road, multi-use path
- 4.2 Miles (Weston line to Belmont line)
- 19' wide corridor within 20-100' MBTA ROW
- 9 Road Crossings (+ 2 dev. access)
- 3 Bridges (+ culverts/ramp)

PROJECT LIMITS

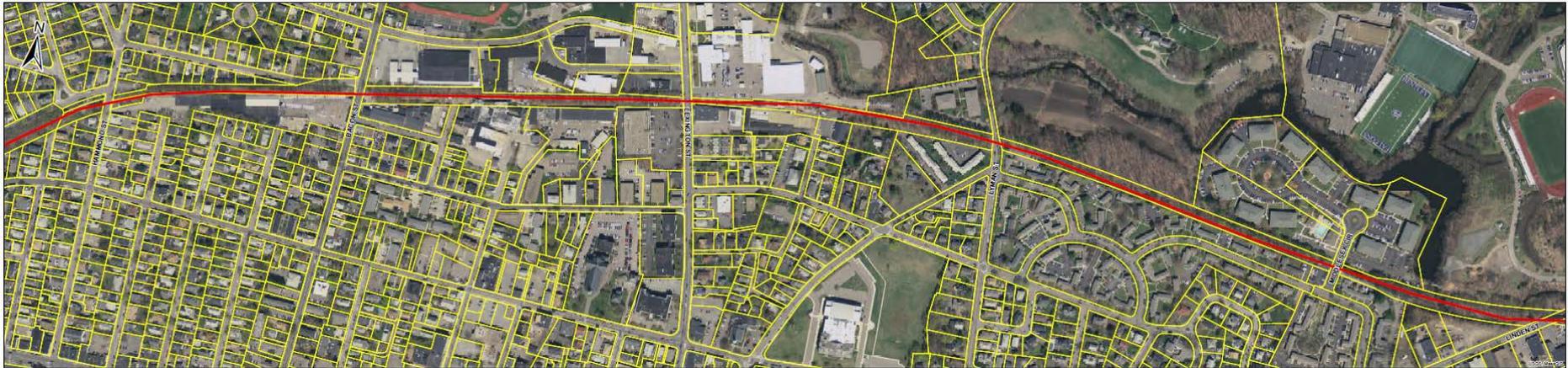
West



- Begin at the Weston town line
- Cross over I-95 utilizing the abandoned RR bridge
- Cross Main Street (Route 117) at grade
- Traverse 1265 development – segment constructed
- Continue along RR corridor east of Prospect Hill

PROJECT LIMITS

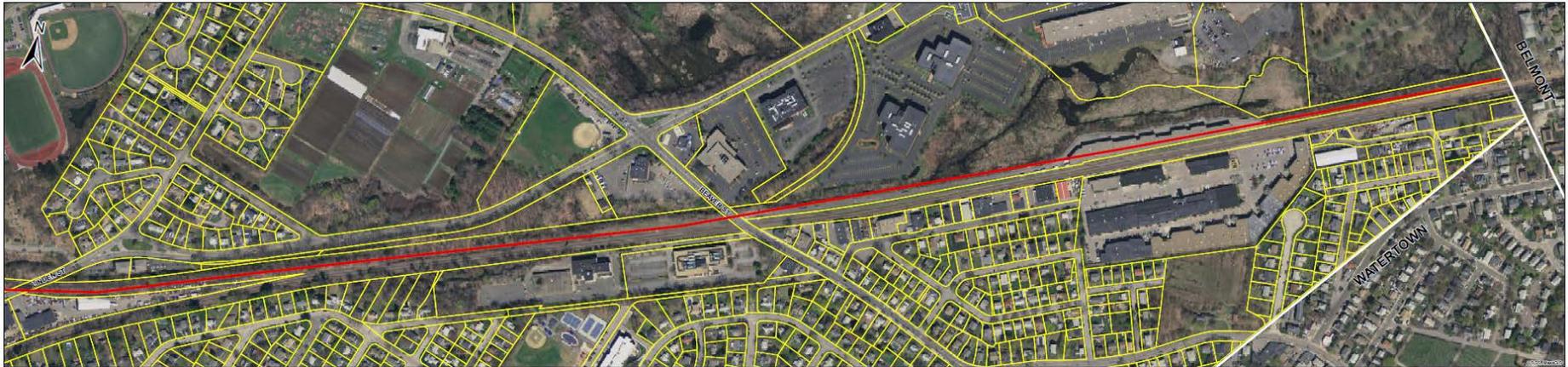
Central



- Cross Bacon Street just south of Plympton Elementary School and just north of the Housing Authority
- Continues east of Lexington Street along the south edge of the Police/Fire/CPW property
- Pass Gardencrest Apartments to Linden Street bridge

PROJECT LIMITS

East



- Cross Beaver Street at grade
- Traverse private property with extensive wetlands
- Terminate on the north side of the rail at the Belmont town line

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Waltham Wayside Trail Extents



West

Central

East

- Nearby Schools:
 - Banks Elementary School
 - McDevitt Middle School
 - Plympton Elementary School
 - Waltham High School
 - Fitzgerald Elementary School
- Nearby Community Destinations:
 - Nearby Parks
 - Nearby Neighborhoods
 - Drake Playground, Leary Field
 - Local Shops/Restaurants
 - Lyman Estate
 - Storer Conservation
 - Bentley University
 - Warren Field
 - Beaver Brook Reservation

OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

WEST



OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

WEST

Future Intermodal Center at Weston town line

Rail on north side of utility poles

- Drain found
- Sewer MH found
- ⊕ Potential Trailhead
- Bridge crossing



Existing path

Connection to
Prospect Hill trails

- ★ Road crossing
- Steep slope
- Exposed rock ledge
- ↔ Obstructed views

OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

CENTRAL



OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

CENTRAL



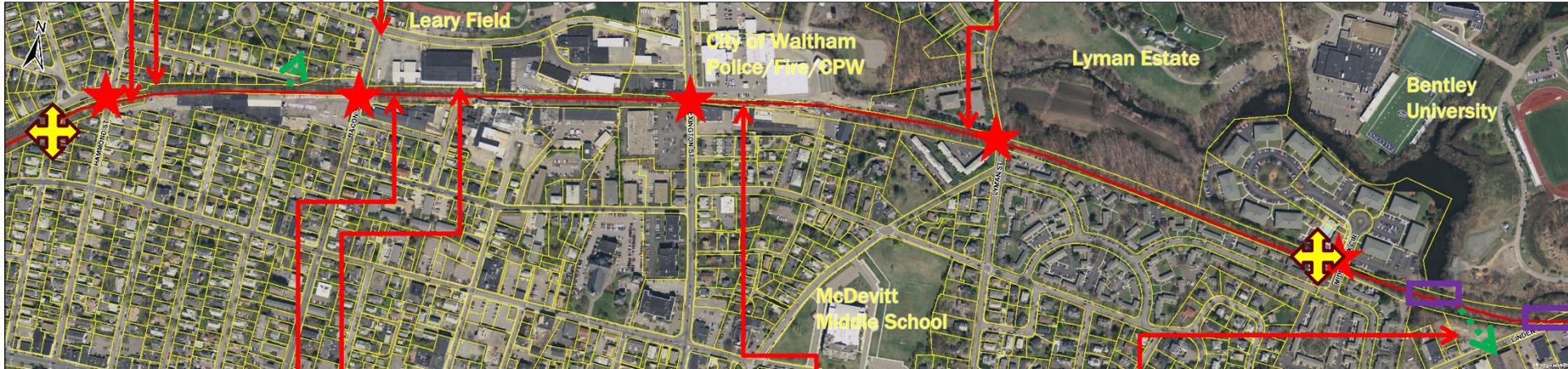
- Drain found
- Sewer MH found
- Potential Trailhead
- Bridge crossing

Narrow ROW, ownership needs clarification

Utility hatch found

Nearby School

RR switch found



Blue screen along business

Potential encroachment

Police/Fire encroachment

Potential connection to Linden Street

- ★ Road crossing
- Steep slope
- Exposed rock ledge
- Obstructed views



OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

EAST



OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

EAST



Three short structures along this stretch

Potential encroachments

- Drain found
- Sewer MH found
- ⊕ Potential Trailhead
- Bridge crossing



Exposed to active RR tracks



- ★ Road crossing
- ➡ Steep slope
- Exposed rock ledge
- ↔ Obstructed views

DESIGN DETAILS

PLANTING GOALS

- Retain as many existing trees as possible (specs for minimally invasive construction methods)
- Replace trees over 14" caliper
- Mitigate impacts to Resource Areas (i.e. wetlands)
- Planted stormwater management
- Shrubs for added erosion protection as needed, i.e. top of slopes
- Regular intervals of shade in non-wooded areas
- Low height vegetation at entrances for clear sightlines
- Native and hardy plants for ease of maintenance

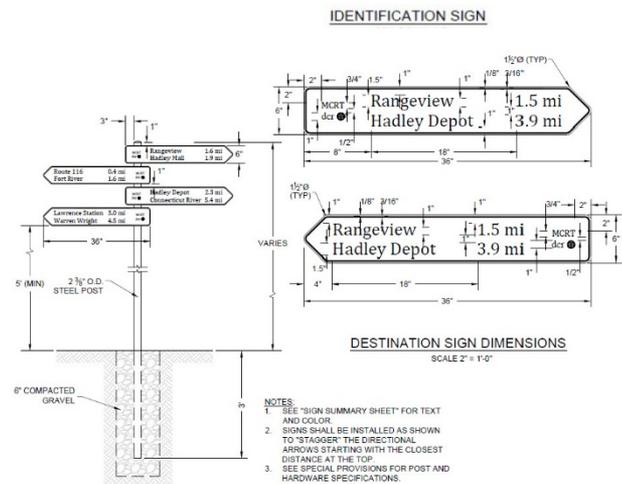
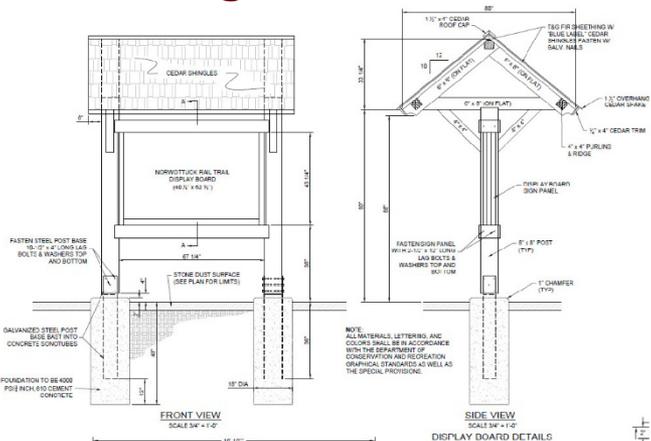
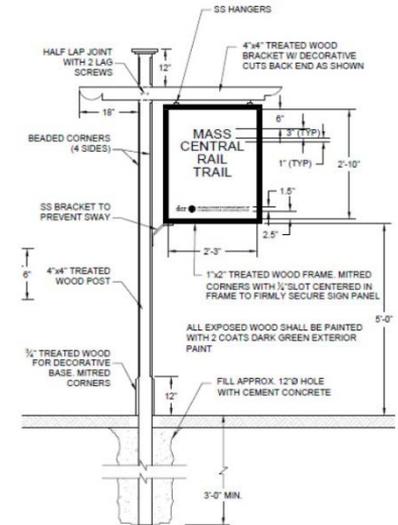


DESIGN DETAILS

WAYFINDING AND TRAILHEADS

TRAIL ENTRANCES may include:

- Trail identification sign
- Trail destination/distance sign
- Trail map sign
- Information kiosk
- Seating



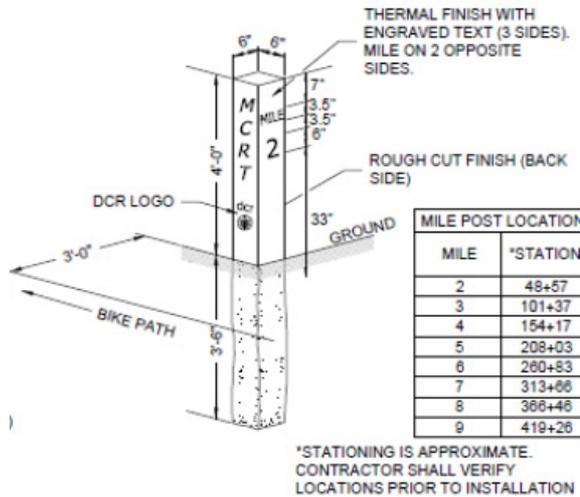
DESTINATION SIGN DETAIL

DESIGN DETAILS

TRAIL AMENITIES

REGULARLY SPACED:

- Mile markers
- Benches
- Shade



GRANITE MILE POST

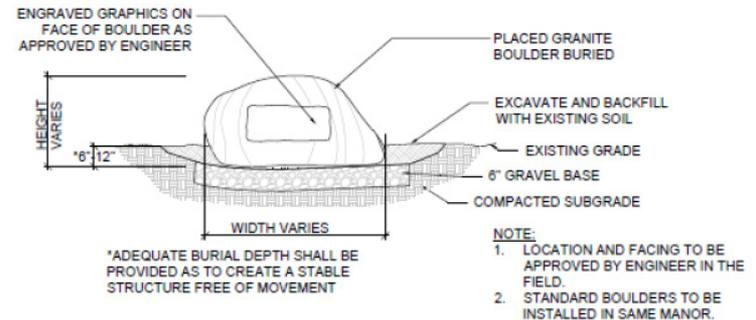


DESIGN DETAILS

TRAIL AMENITIES

SPACED WHERE APPROPRIATE:

- Emergency call boxes
- Interpretive signs
- Rest stops

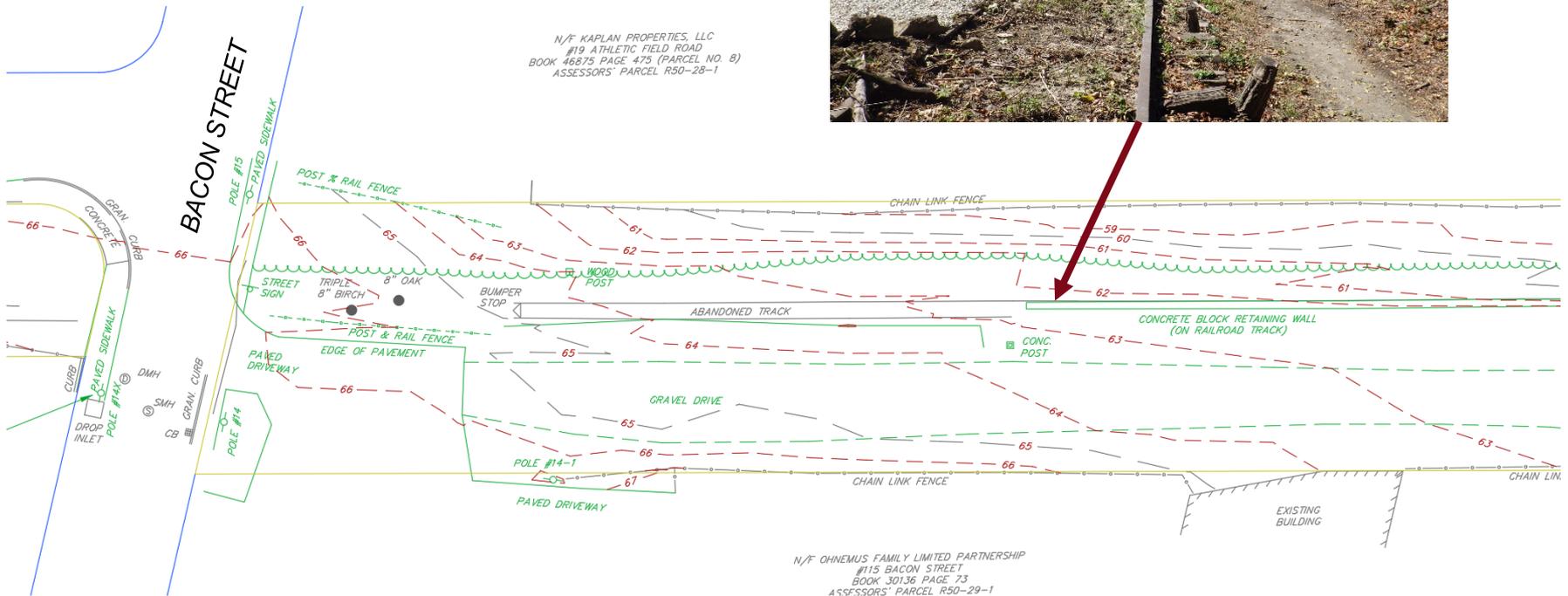


INTERPRETIVE BOULDER
NOT TO SCALE



ENCROACHMENTS

- Encroachments = Areas Requiring Greater Coordination
 - Commercial Entities
 - East of Bacon Street



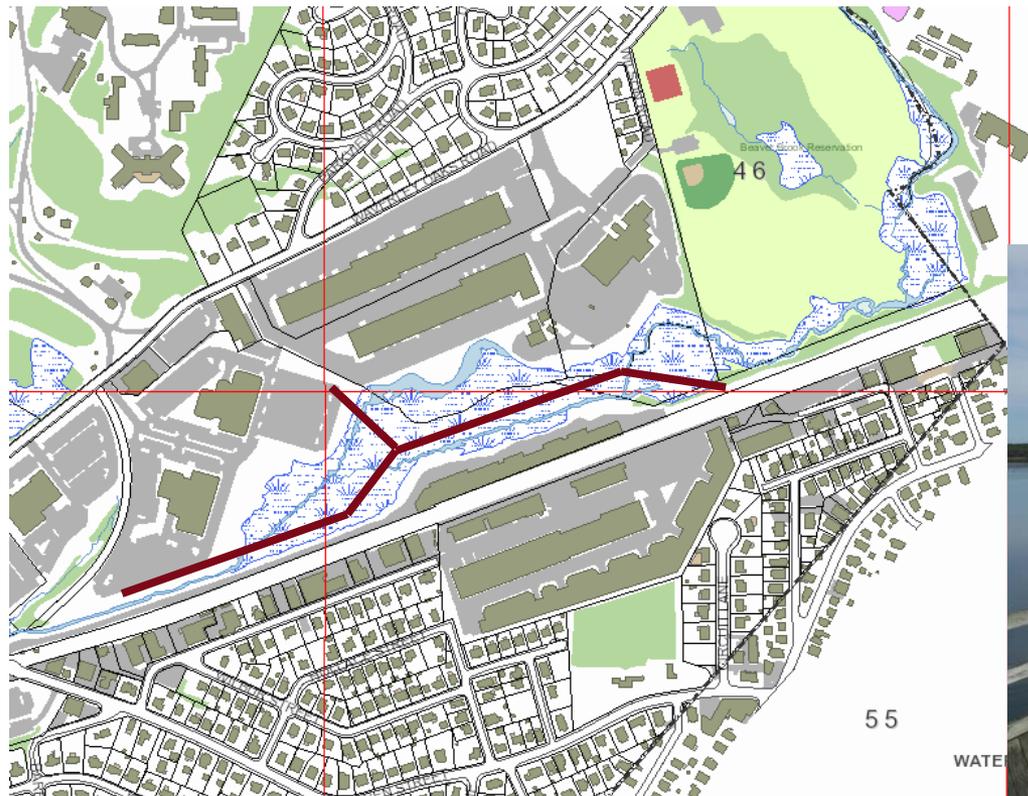
ENCROACHMENTS

- Encroachments = Areas Requiring Greater Coordination
 - Commercial Entities
 - East of Beaver Street



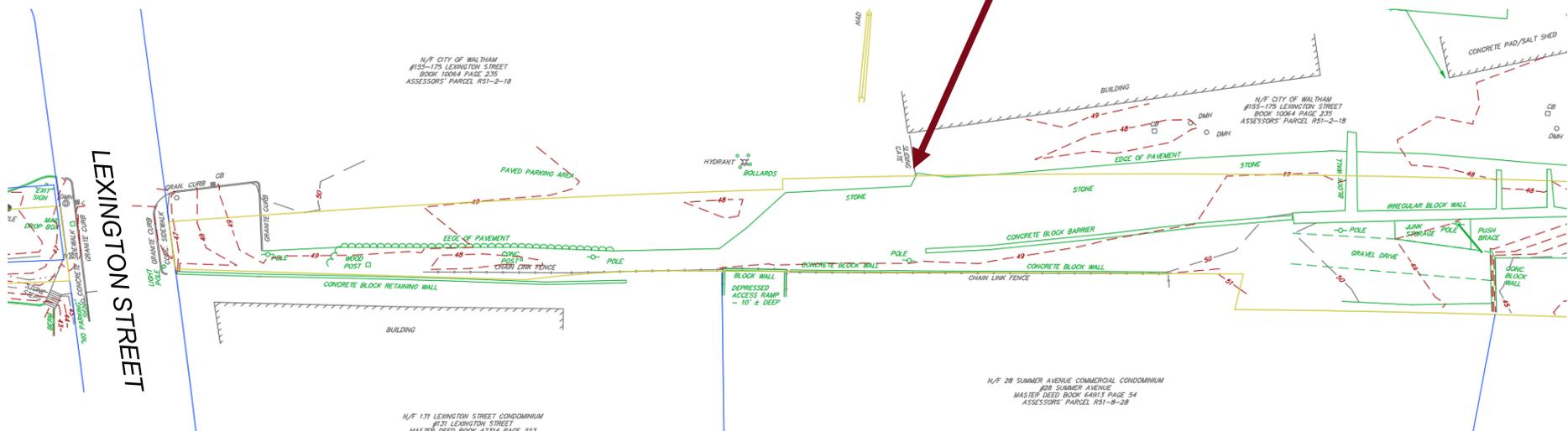
ENCROACHMENTS

- Encroachments = Areas Requiring Greater Coordination
 - Commercial Entities
 - East of Beaver Street



ENCROACHMENTS

- Encroachments = Areas Requiring Greater Coordination
 - City Entities
 - East of Lexington Street



AASHTO GUIDELINES

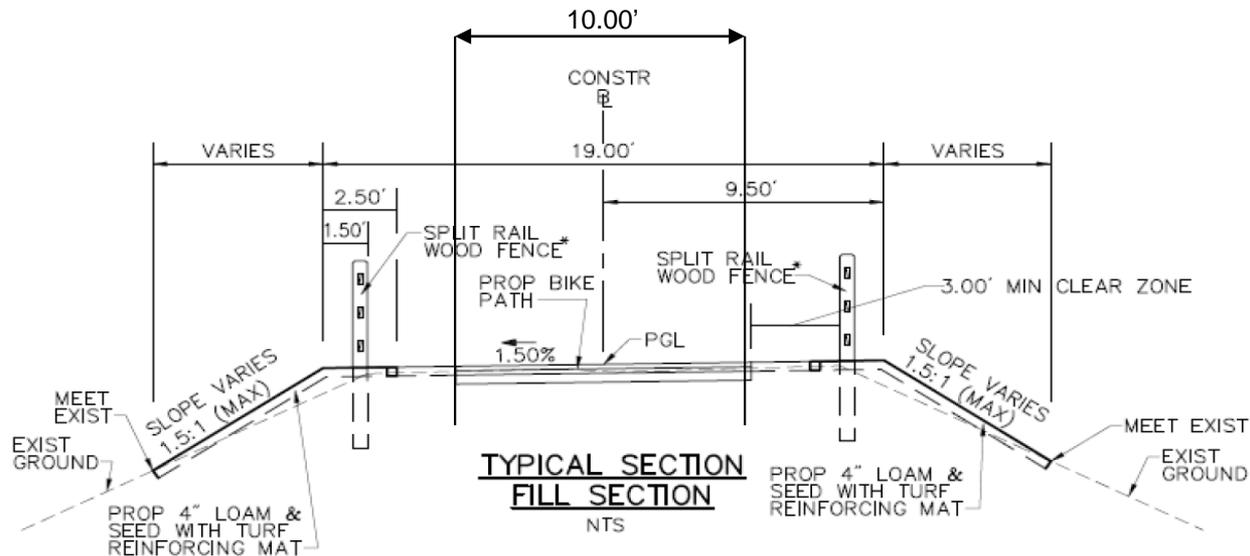
Elements of Design	Standard Value
Width	10' - 14' (11' for passing, 8' in pinch)
Shoulder	2' - 5' (adj. slope 1:3 max)
Object Offset	3' minimum*
Vertical Clearance	8' minimum (10' recommended)
Design Speed	18 mph
Curve Radius	60' minimum
Cross Slope	2% maximum (1% recommended)
Running Grade	5% recommended maximum (ADA)
Structures	Bridges preferred to underpasses

PROPOSED ELEMENTS

■ Typical Section

- Previously recommended by DCR →

19' corridor = 10' paved + 4.5' shoulders



* SPLIT RAIL FENCE TO BE USED ONLY AS NEEDED

PROPOSED ELEMENTS

■ Typical Section

- Largest complaint from previously constructed paths – paved width is too narrow



■ Examples:

- Minuteman (Cambridge to Bedford) – 11' width
 - Blackstone River Bikeway (Worcester to Providence) – 10' width
 - East Bay Bike Path (Providence to Bristol) – 10' width
 - Bruce Freeman (Lowell/Chelmsford to Westford) – 10' width
 - Upper Charles (Milford to Holliston) – 11' width
 - Assabet River (Marlborough to Hudson) – 12' width
-
- Maintain integrity of 19' total width to extent possible
 - 14' paved + 2' shoulders (3' where split-rail fence needed)
 - Results in variation between 18 – 23' total

PROPOSED ELEMENTS

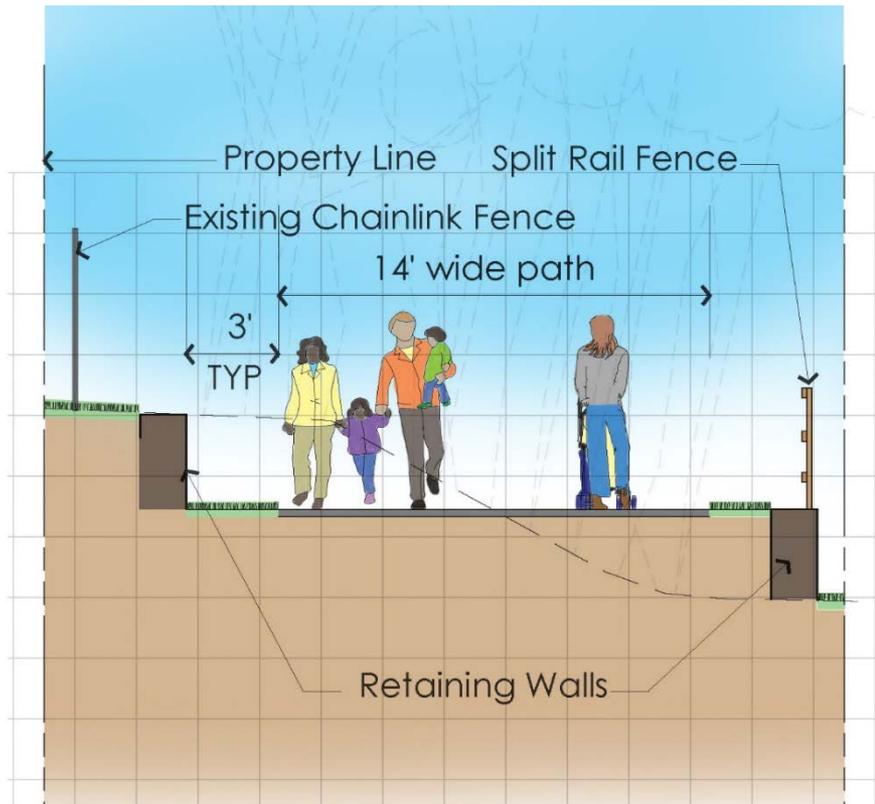
- **Proposed Attributes/Components**
 - **Not seeking space allocation for additional public parking – City parking accommodations adequate**
 - **Following conversations with City/DCR/MassDOT not intending lighting at this time – hours still TBD, conduit proposed for potential future installation (solar not feasible)**



PROPOSED ELEMENTS

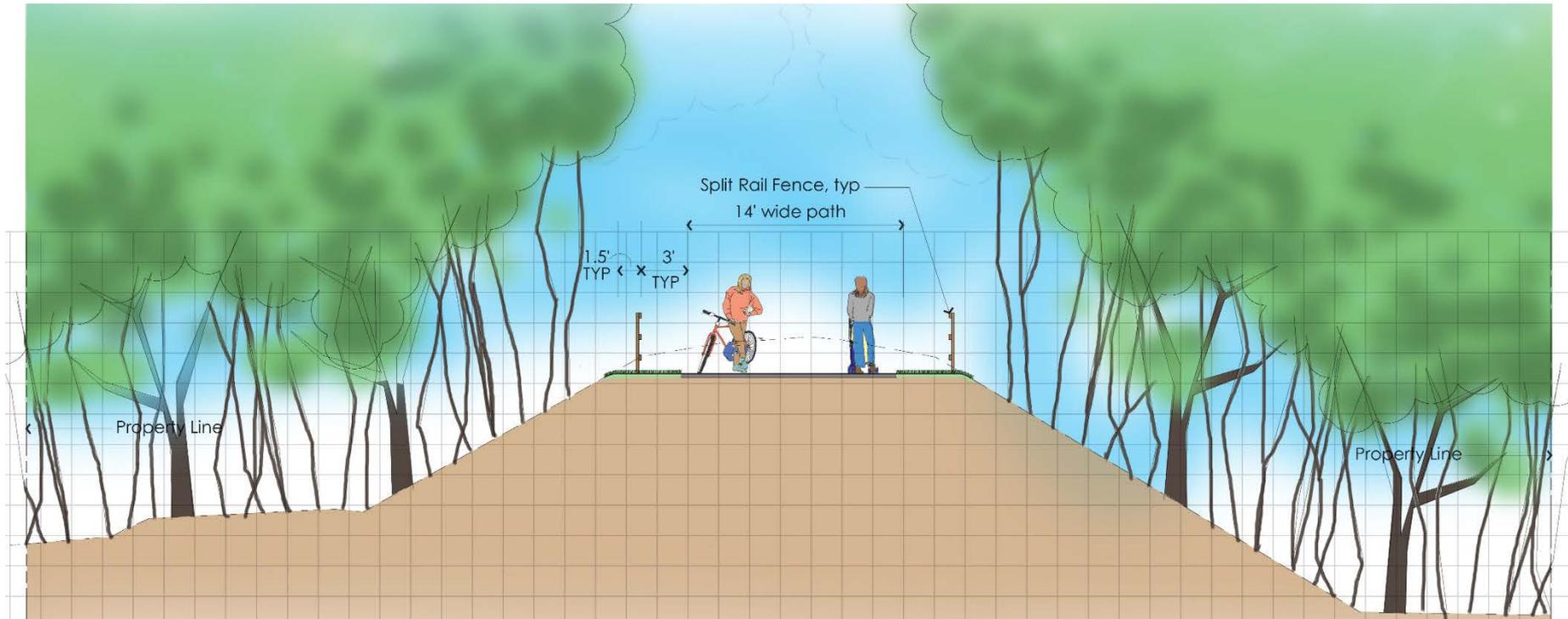
■ Cross Sections

- Location with narrow ROW and buried rail



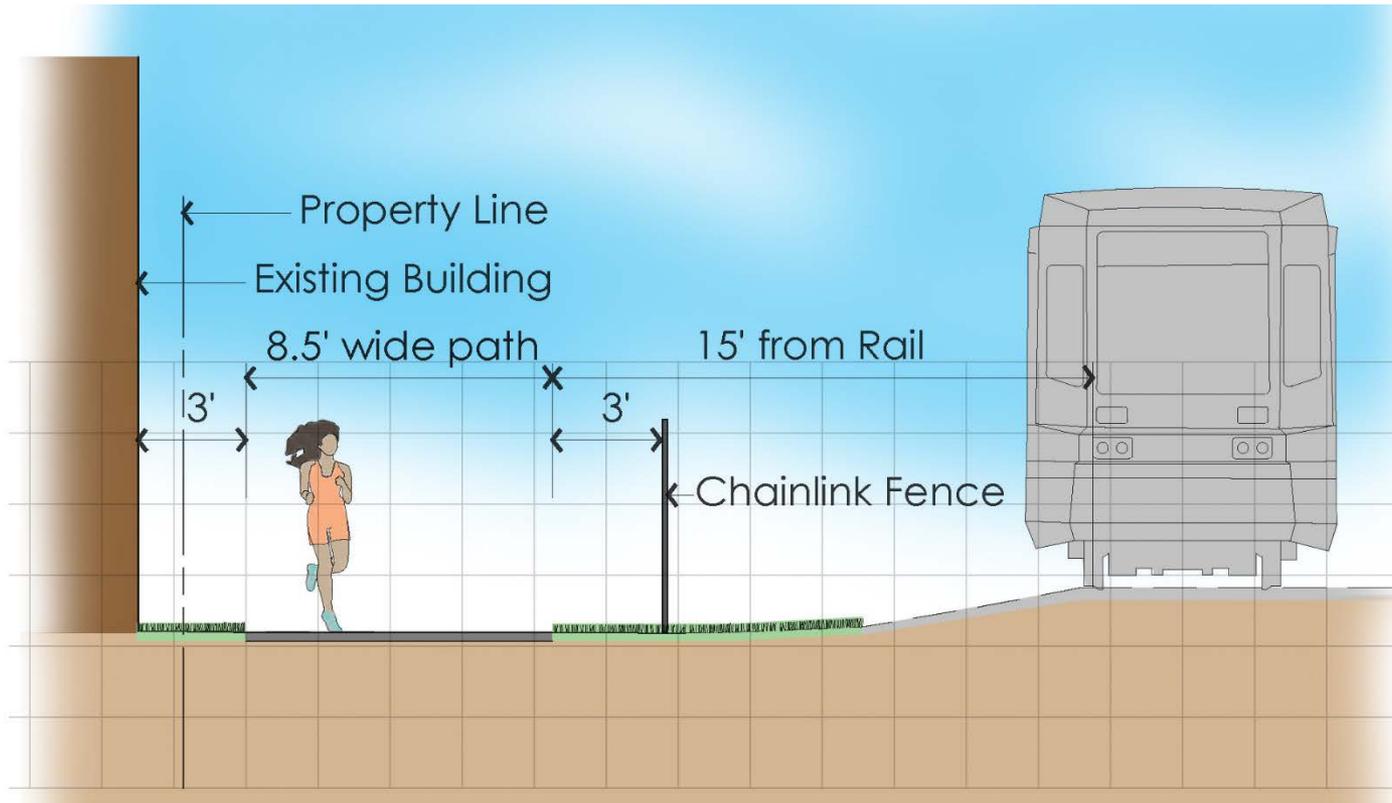
PROPOSED ELEMENTS

- Cross Sections
 - Location with steep slopes



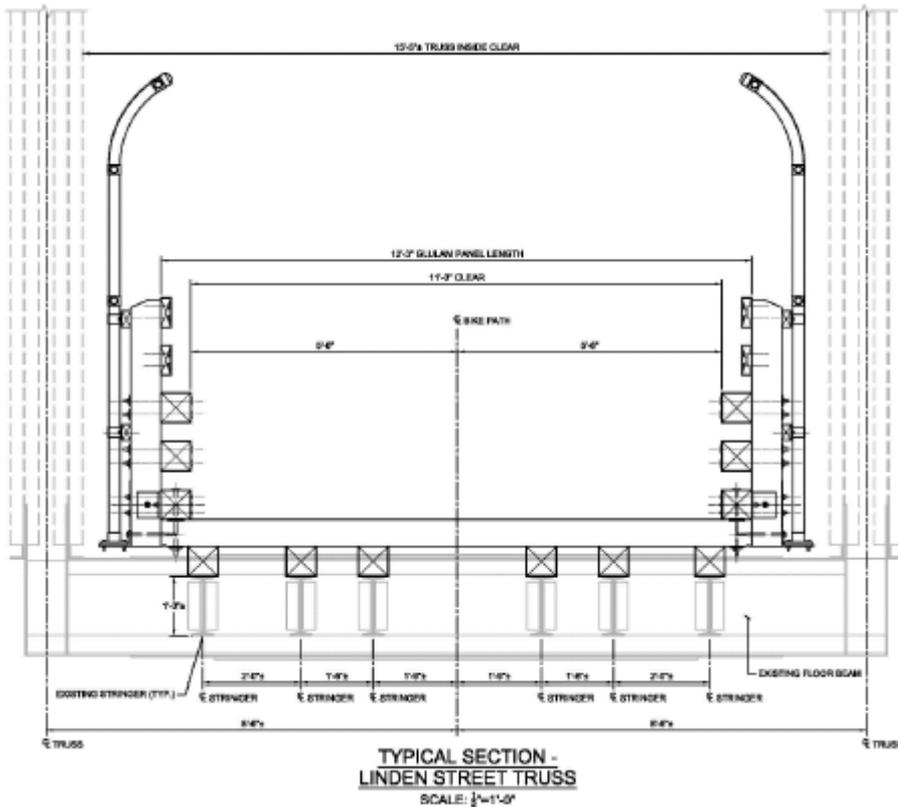
PROPOSED ELEMENTS

- Cross Sections
 - Location along active rail



PROPOSED ELEMENTS

■ Structural Concepts - Linden Street



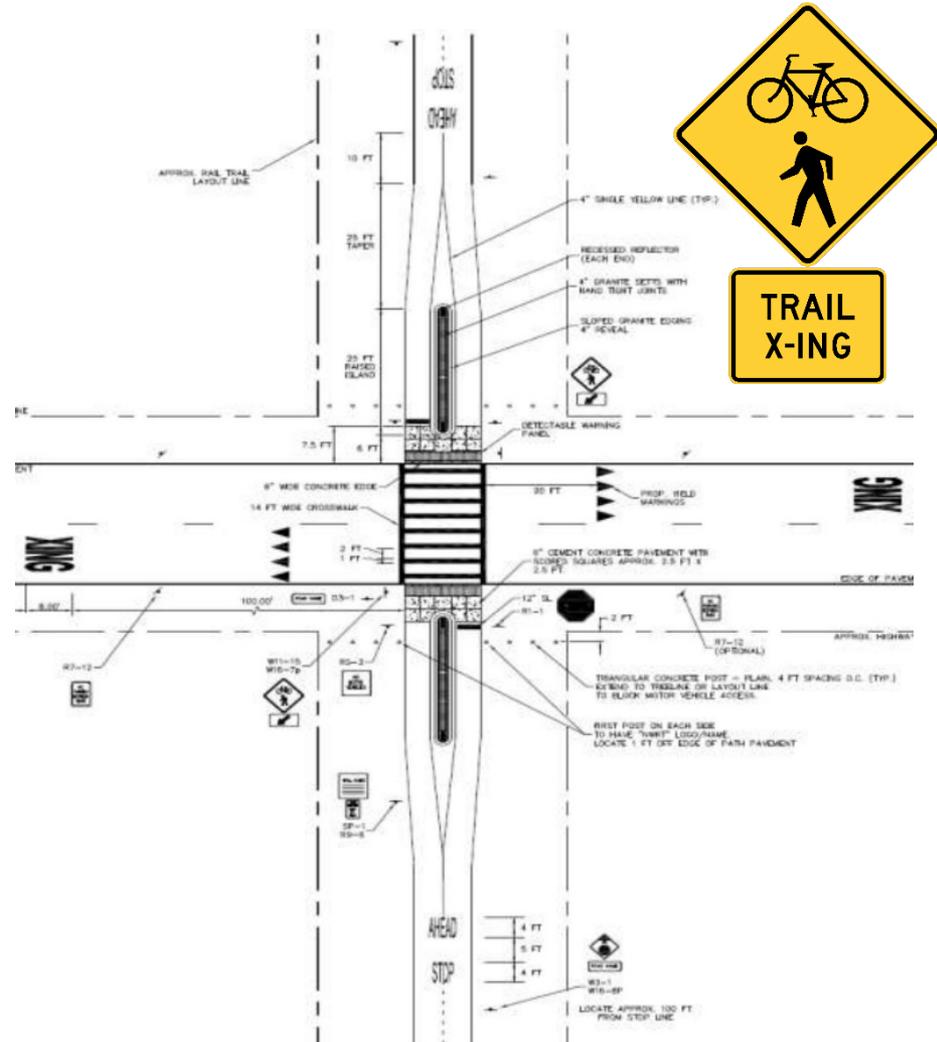
EXISTING BRIDGE



SIMILAR PROPOSED BRIDGE

PROPOSED ELEMENTS

■ Road Crossing Concepts



PROPOSED ELEMENTS

CROSSINGS

	Thursday	Friday	Weekday Avg	Saturday
Main	25,470	25,470	25,470	16,333
Lexington	20,029	20,043	20,036	15,354
Beaver	17,995	17,867	17,931	13,366
Stow	16,502	15,934	16,218	11,608
Lyman	14,503	14,421	14,462	12,022
Linden	12,355	11,705	12,030	8,126
Bacon	10,325	10,724	10,525	8,906
Prospect Hill	7,808	8,444	8,126	6,786
Hammond	2,896	3,014	2,955	2,412

All volumes are vehicles per day

OPEN DISCUSSION

- **Challenges/Opportunities – Is there anything we missed?**
- **Proposed Approach/Amenities – Do you agree or disagree?**
- **Anything else you'd like us to consider moving forward?**



WHAT'S NEXT?

- **Abutters Meeting:**
 - **Thursday, March 1 – 6:30 to 8:30 PM, Government Center Auditorium**
- **Consultant Team advance to Preliminary (25%) Design**
- **Design Presentation and Discussion:**
 - **May 2018**

THANK YOU!

- **Project Information & Online Comments on Planning Department Healthy Transportation Website**
 - <http://bit.ly/walthamhealthytransportation>
- **Additional Comments can be mailed or emailed to:**
 - **Catherine Cagle – Planning Director**
City of Waltham Planning Department
119 School Street, Suite 25
Waltham, MA 02451
ccagle@city.waltham.ma.us
- **Please sign in, if you haven't already!**

