



Arlington Complete Streets Prioritization Plan

Public Meeting
June 15, 2023

Zoom Protocols & Reminders



Comments and questions are welcome in the chat.

We may not be able to respond to all of them during the meeting.



To ask a question during the designated Q&A times and breakout rooms, either:

- 1) Raise your hand using the Zoom Reactions button; OR
- 2) Type your question into the chat.



Stay curious and be mindful.

Be kind to presenters, staff, and participants.

Please remain muted unless you have been called on to ask a question.

Plan Overview

Final plan will identify at least 15 street improvement projects in Arlington that will expand safe and accessible options for all travel modes – walking, biking, transit and vehicles – for people of all ages and abilities.

All projects included in Arlington's Complete Streets Prioritization Plan update will be eligible for funding through the Massachusetts Department of Transportation's Complete Streets funding program.

Timeline

- Fall 2022: Project begins
- December 2022: Site visit with MAPC, Town of Arlington, and Kittelson
- January-February 2023: First survey is released for public feedback
- March 2023: Survey analysis, project list developed
- April-May 2023: Project sketches and cost estimates developed
- **June 2023: Public meeting** ←
- Summer 2023: Final plan is published and posted on Town website

Project Team

**Town of
Arlington**

John Alessi
Senior Transportation
Planner

**Metropolitan
Area
Planning
Council**

Marah Holland
Senior Transportation
Planner

**Kittelson &
Associates
, Inc.**

Elizabeth Flanagan
Senior Planner
Rachel Grosso
Transportation Planner

Existing Conditions

The project team reviewed previous plans and existing conditions within the Town of Arlington to better understand current challenges and opportunities

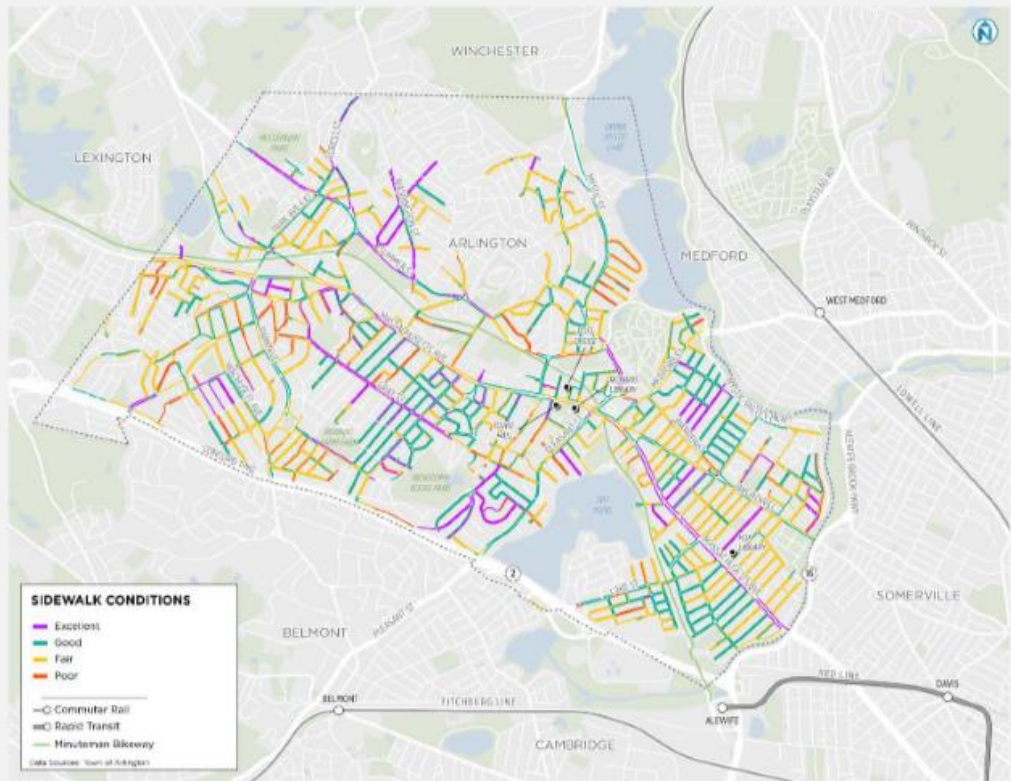
Key Previous Planning Efforts:

- Arlington's Complete Streets Prioritization Plan (2017)
- Connect Arlington Sustainable Transportation Plan (2021)
- Minuteman Bikeway Planning Project (2022)
- Arlington's ADA Transition Plan (2019)
- Safe Routes to School projects
- Bicycle Friendly Community Award

Additional Existing Conditions Assessment:

- Site visit (December 2022)
- Public survey (February 2022)

SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

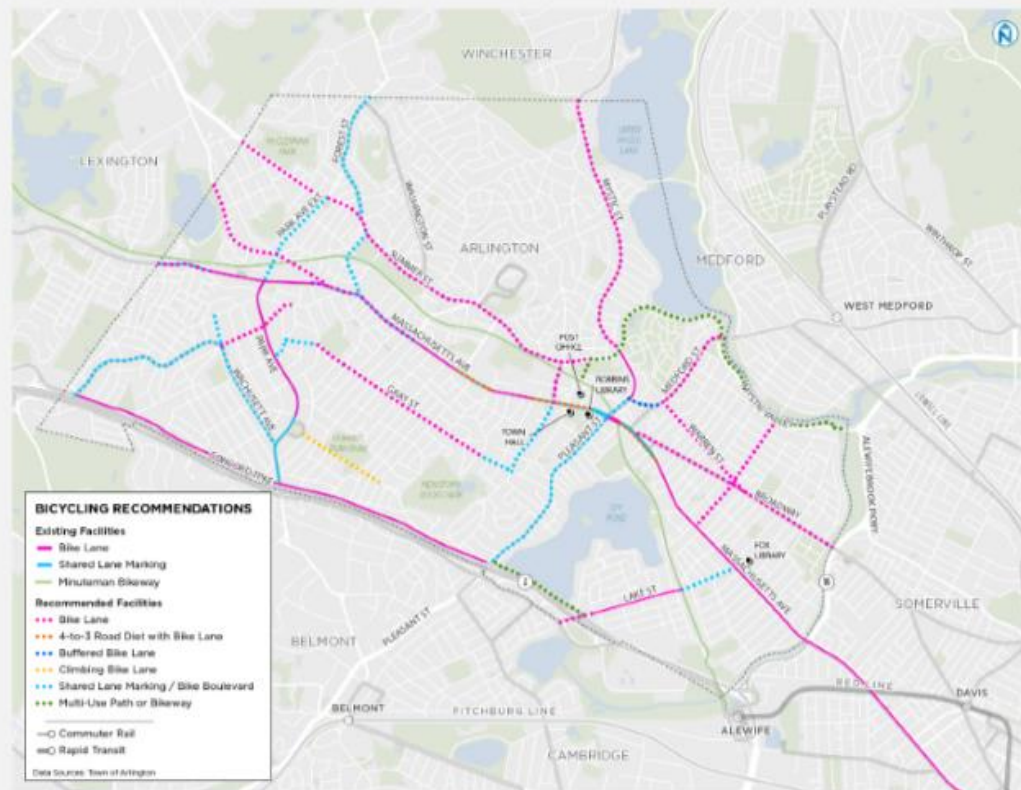


Proactive planning provides a roadmap to achieve goals in a predictable manner.

Connect Arlington recommends building on the Town's completed sidewalk conditions analysis to develop a comprehensive sidewalk improvement program to implement and allocate funding to ensure the pedestrian network is safe and proactively maintained.

Connect Arlington Sustainable Transportation Plan

RECOMMENDED BICYCLE NETWORK



Map edited 8/5/21 to correct location of proposed bike lane on Bales Rd and River St.

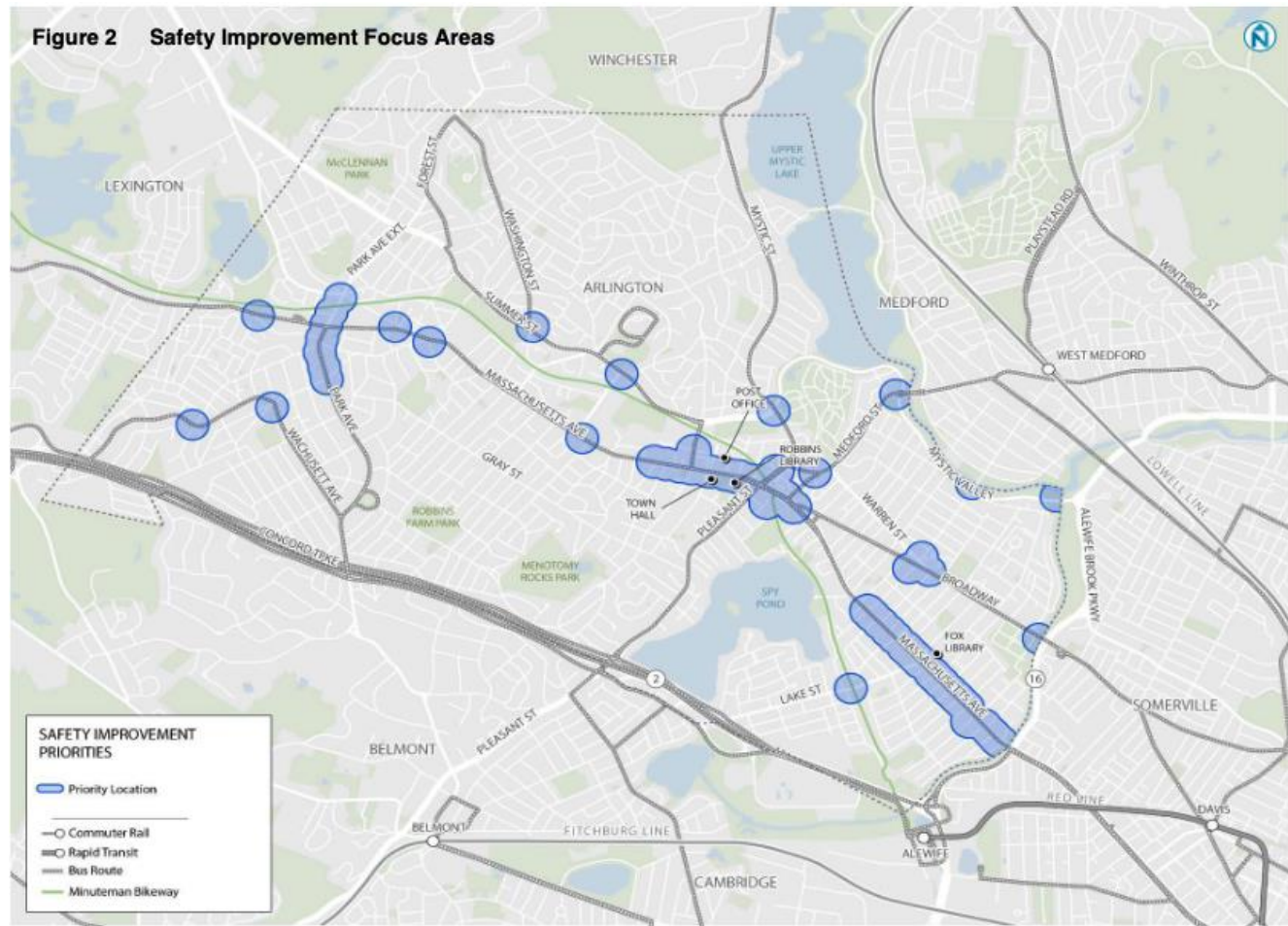
Connect Arlington Sustainable Transportation Plan

Developing a highly connected network of dedicated, preferably separated, bicycle lanes and facilities is a priority recommendation of Connect Arlington.

Building out a town-wide network would provide safer, more comfortable, and convenient facilities to encourage bicyclists of varying levels of experience and comfort to move around, reducing the need or preference to drive.

Connect Arlington Sustainable Transportation Plan

Figure 2 Safety Improvement Focus Areas



Massachusetts Environmental Justice Populations

Minority: the block group minority population is $\geq 40\%$, or the block group minority population is $\geq 25\%$ and the median household income of the municipality the block group is in is $< 150\%$ of the Massachusetts median household income

Income: at least 25% of households have a median household income 65% or less than the state median household income

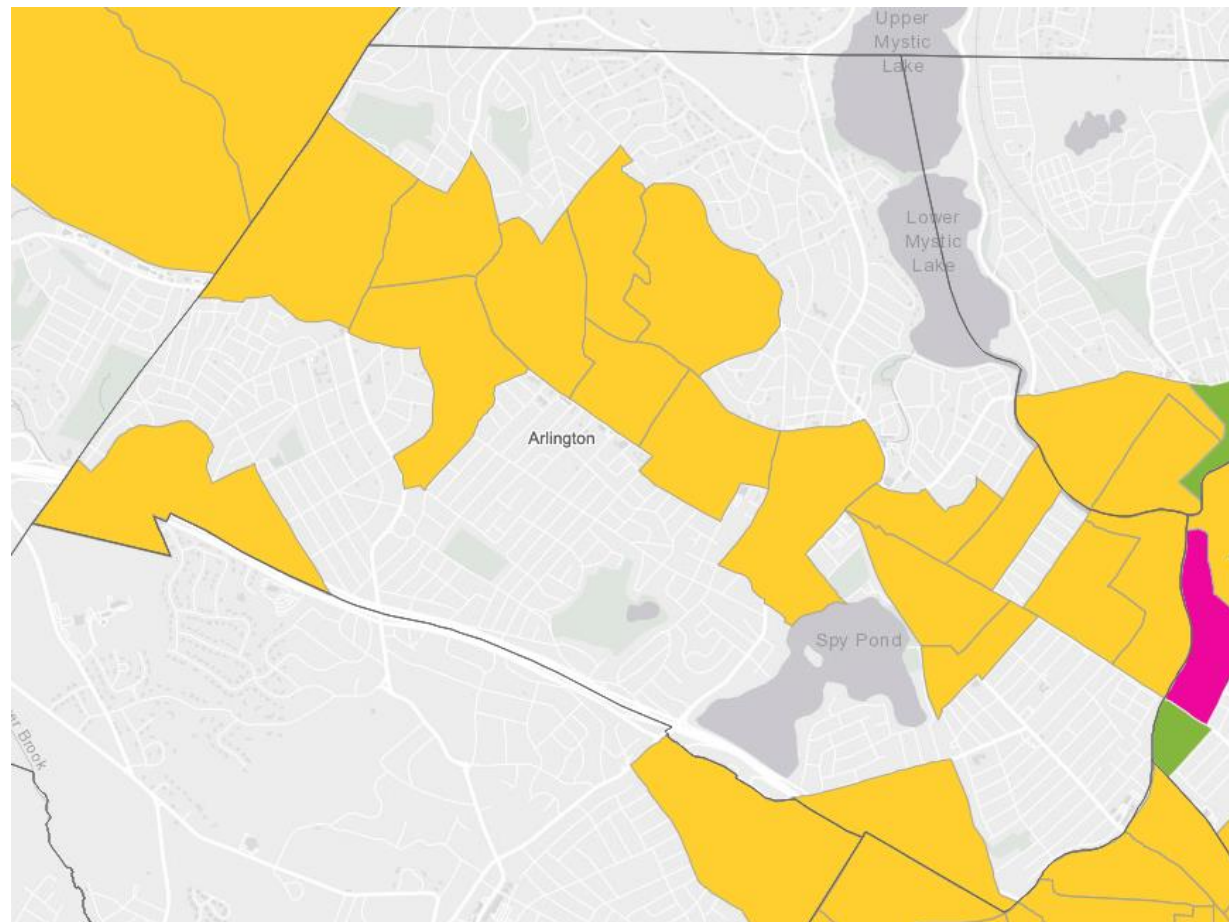
Language isolation: 25% or more of households do not include anyone older than 14 who speaks English very well

Minority and Income

Minority and English isolation

Income and English isolation

Minority, Income and English isolation



Mobility Options for All Ages, Capabilities, and Incomes

Continue to implement **accessibility improvements** throughout Arlington including sidewalk and access improvements (ramps, ADA parking, van parking) at schools, public buildings, recreation facilities and more.

Continue to develop and implement **Safe Routes to School (SRTS) projects**—programs and infrastructure improvements—that aim to provide safe transportation networks for children to walk and bike from their homes to their schools.

Reduced Climate Impacts from Travel in Arlington

Create and implement a plan to expand **public electric vehicle charging** at libraries, business districts, public parking and other facilities, both on- and off-street.

When designing and constructing any transportation facilities, include **low impact, “green” design interventions** and construction techniques to reduce climate impacts including those that reduce impermeable surfaces to the greatest extent, reduce heat island impacts, increase water retention on-site, etc.

Survey Overview

1,200+
responses

The first of two surveys was released in February 2023.

First survey goals:

- Provide overall feedback about experience using various modes of travel in town
- Identify specific streets and intersections to consider as part of the project list

Second survey:

- Available summer 2023
- Present a draft list of at least 15 projects for feedback

Final plan will identify at least **15 street improvement projects** in Arlington that will expand safe and accessible options for all travel modes – walking, biking, transit and vehicles – for people of all ages and abilities

Final Complete Streets Prioritization Plan will be completed in the summer of 2023

Who Responded?

1,200+
Responses

95% of respondents were Arlington Residents.

Majority of respondents were ages 35 and up.

More than half of respondents have vulnerable road users living at home (Children 18 and under, Seniors over 65).

How do you typically travel within Arlington? (Check all that apply)

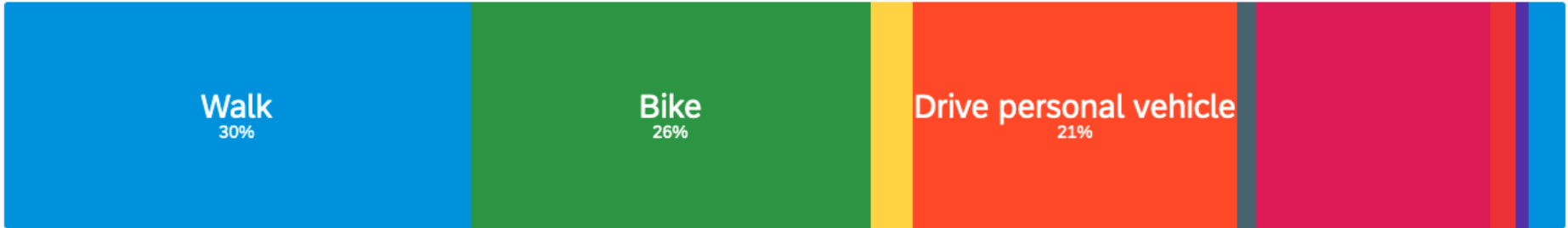


■ Walk (30%) ■ Bike (15%)

■ Roll (other types of personal wheeled mobility besides bicycling, such as wheelchairs, walkers, scooters, mopeds, skateboards, strollers, and more) (2%)

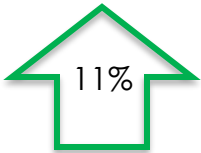
■ Drive personal vehicle (35%) ■ Carpool (2%) ■ Ride public transit (bus) (12%) ■ Rideshare (Uber, Lyft, taxi) (4%) ■ Other (0%) ■ Bluebikes (1%)

If conditions within Arlington were safer, more efficient, or easier, how would you choose to travel on a regular basis? (Check all that apply)



■ Walk (30%)
 ■ Bike (26%)
 ■ Roll (other types of personal wheeled mobility besides bicycling, such as wheelchairs, walkers, scooters, mopeds, skateboards, strollers, and more) (3%)

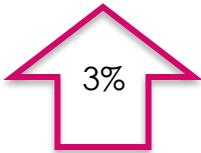
■ Drive personal vehicle (21%)
 ■ Carpool (1%)
 ■ Ride public transit (bus) (15%)
 ■ Rideshare (Uber, Lyft, taxi) (2%)
 ■ Other (1%)
 ■ Bluebikes (2%)



Bike



Drive personal vehicle



Ride public transit

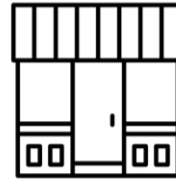
People would like better connections to...



**Minuteman
Bikeway**



Schools



**Business
Centers**



**Grocery
Stores**

by walking, rolling, biking, and bus

Challenges Residents Face When:



Walking or Rolling

- No sidewalks or lack of connected sidewalks
- Uneven, broken, or unmaintained sidewalks
 - Unsafe crossings
 - Fast drivers



Taking the Bus

- Long wait times



Biking

- Lack of connected or continuous bike lanes
 - Limited or no protected bike lanes



Driving

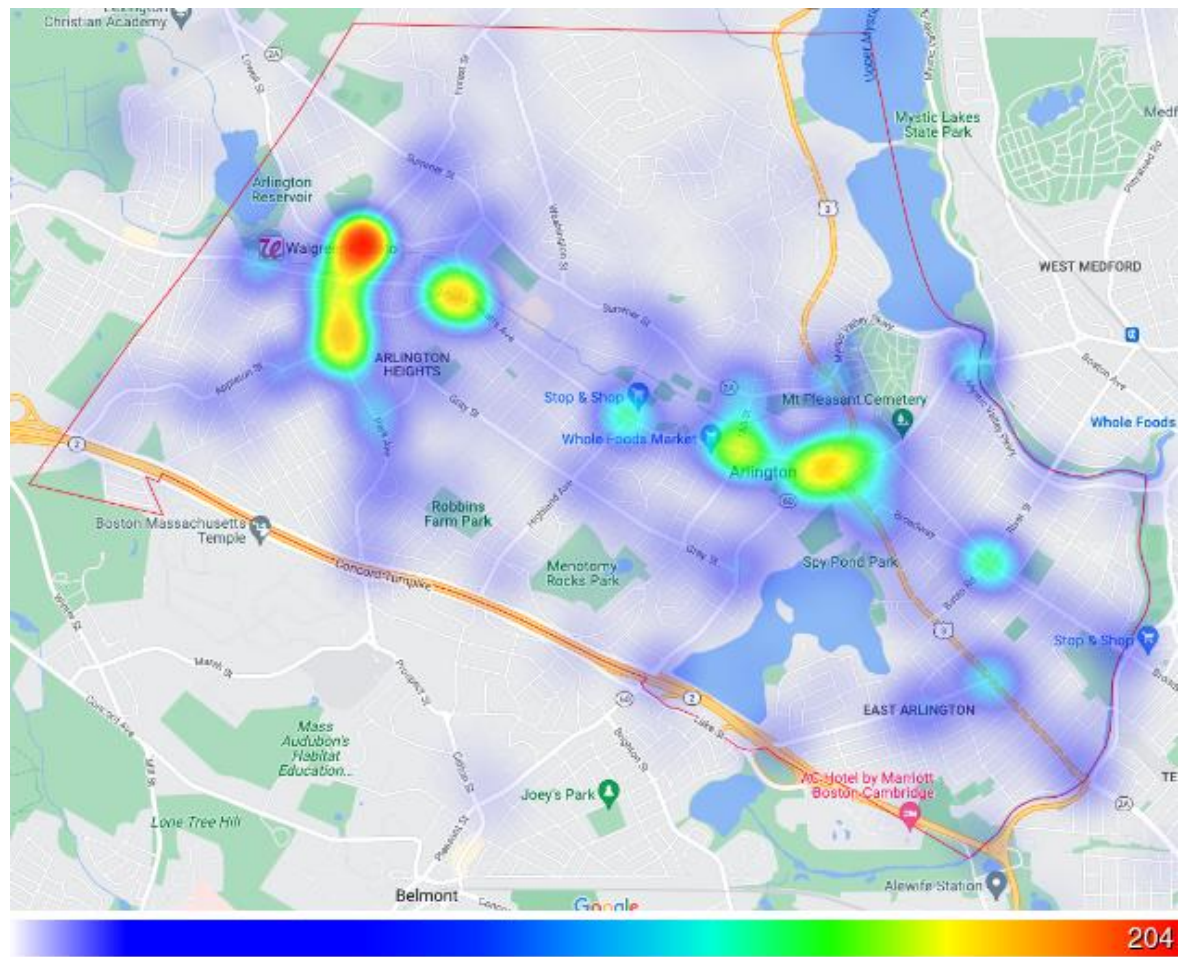
- Unmaintained roads

Are there specific streets you think Arlington should prioritize for complete streets? Please list your top three streets below.

Street Name	# of Mentions
Massachusetts Avenue	415
Park Avenue	347
Broadway	168
Summer Street	168
Appleton Street	164
Pleasant Street	143

On the map below, please click on up to five intersections that you would like to see Arlington prioritize for complete streets.

The red line represents the border of the Town of Arlington.



Questions & Answers

If you have a question about the existing conditions part of the presentation, **please type your question into the chat**. We will take verbal questions (and more questions from the chat) after we present about the project list.

Projects Overview

The draft project list proposes 18 projects to improve conditions for people walking, biking, rolling, driving, and riding the bus.

Process to develop list:

- Reviewed existing conditions and previous plans
- Conducted site visit with project team
- Released a public survey
- Analyzed survey results
- Assessed near to medium-term feasibility
- Integrated DPW, DPCD, APD priority projects

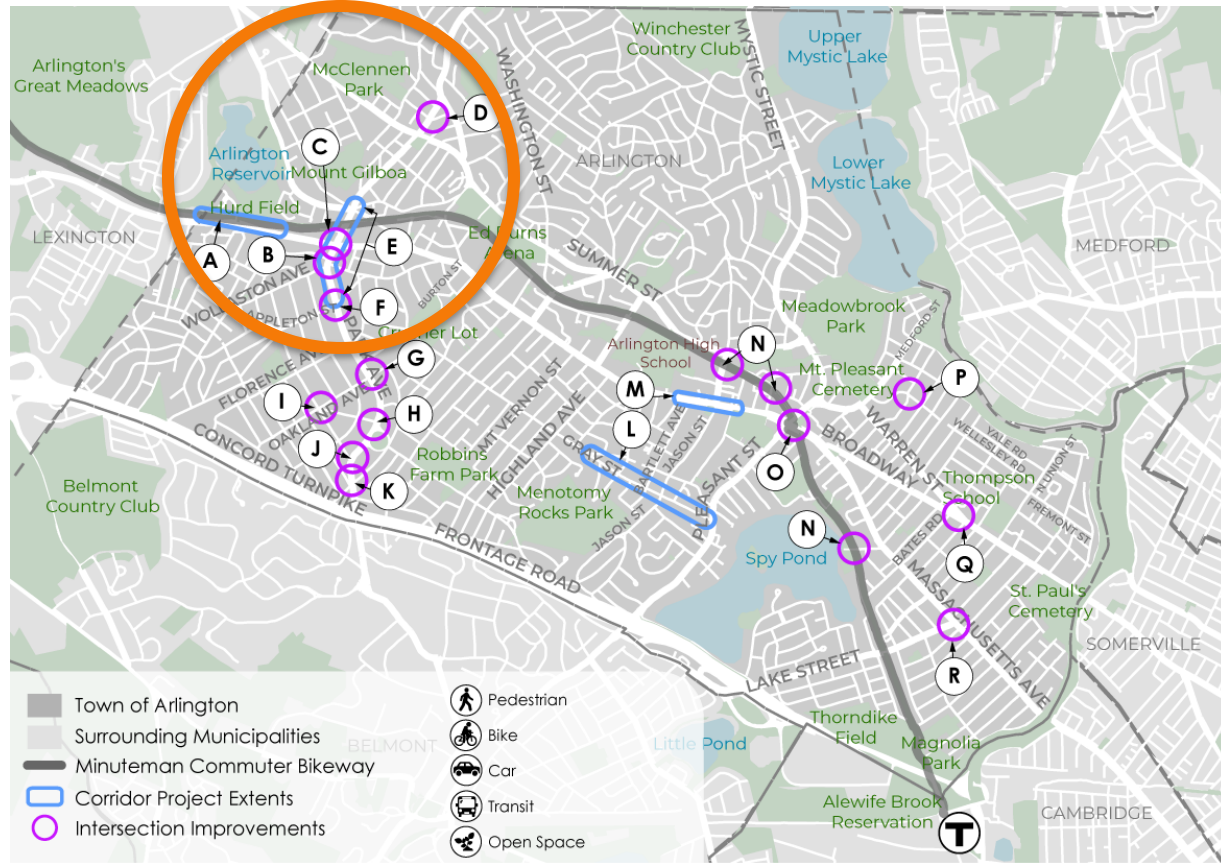
Major changes:

- Improvements for biking, walking, and bus connections
- Curb bump outs to slow traffic and enhance safety for all users
- More crosswalks for better connections across busy streets
- Safety changes at high-crash sites

Projects Overview - North

PROJECT KEY

- A:** Mass Ave at Dundee Rd and Paul Revere Rd
- B:** Park Ave at Paul Revere and Wollaston
- C:** Mass Ave at Park Ave
- D:** Park Ave Extension and Huntington Rd
- E:** Park Ave - Wollaston to Downing Square
- F:** Park Ave at Appleton
- G:** Park Ave at Oakland Ave
- H:** Park Ave and Park Circle
- I:** Wachusett Ave, Oakland Ave, and Propsect Ave
- J:** Park Ave at Wachusett Ave
- K:** Park Ave at Cedar Ave and Waverly St
- L:** Gray St from Endicott Rd to Bartlett Ave
- M:** Mass Ave - Bartlett Ave to Academy St
- N:** Minuteman Bikeway at Mill St, Water St, and Linwood St
- O:** Minuteman Bikeway at Mass Ave - Swan Place to Mystic St
- P:** Franklin St, Phillips St, and Lewis Ave
- Q:** Warren Ave at Broadway and River St
- R:** Mass Ave and Lake St

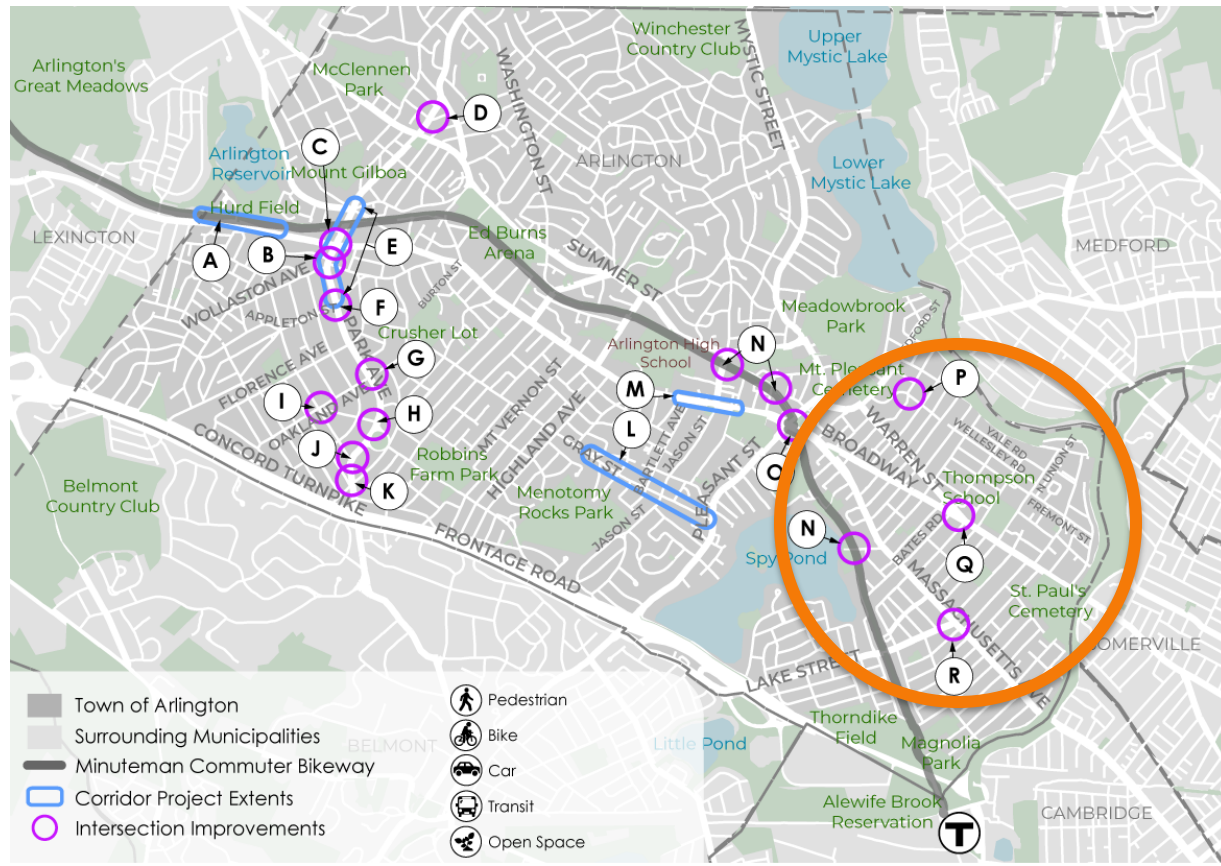


- Town of Arlington
- Surrounding Municipalities
- Minuteman Commuter Bikeway
- Corridor Project Extents
- Intersection Improvements
- Pedestrian
- Bike
- Car
- Transit
- Open Space

Projects Overview - South

PROJECT KEY

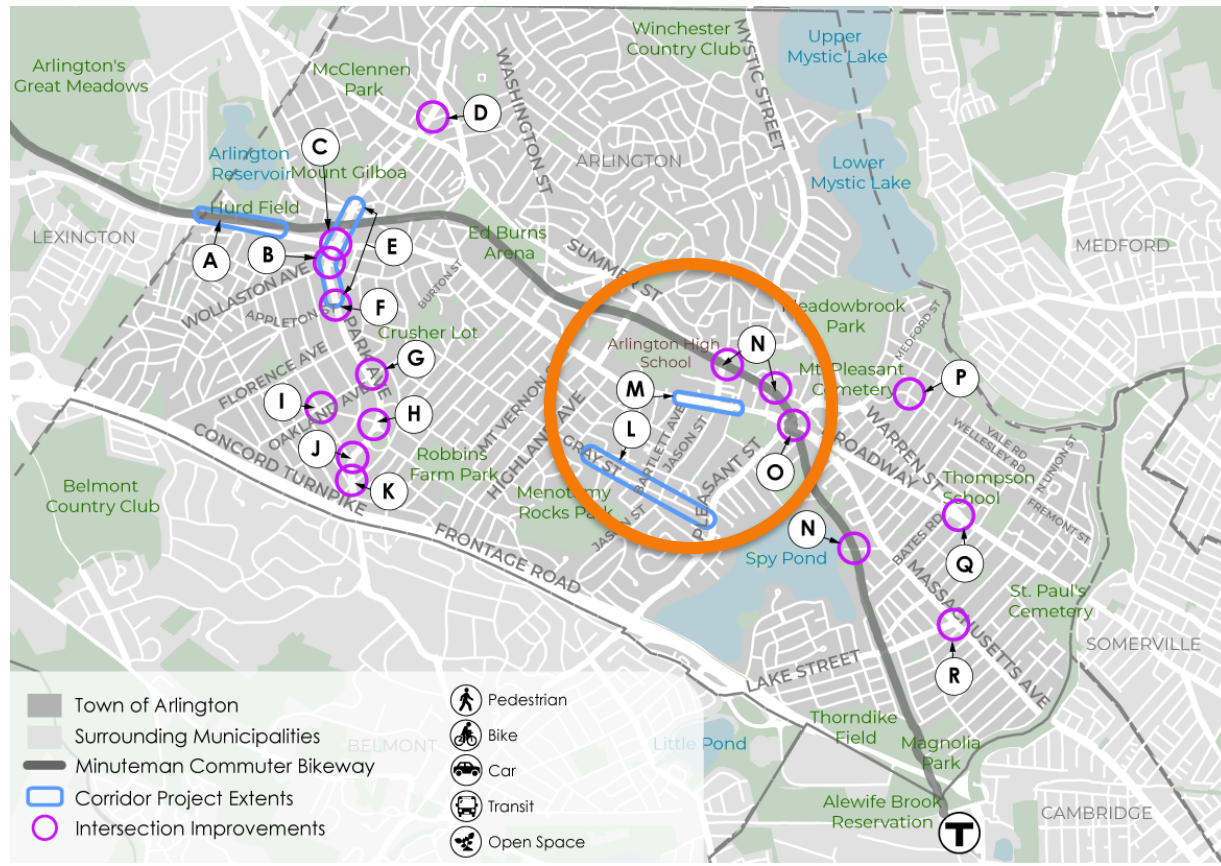
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Projects Overview - Central

PROJECT KEY

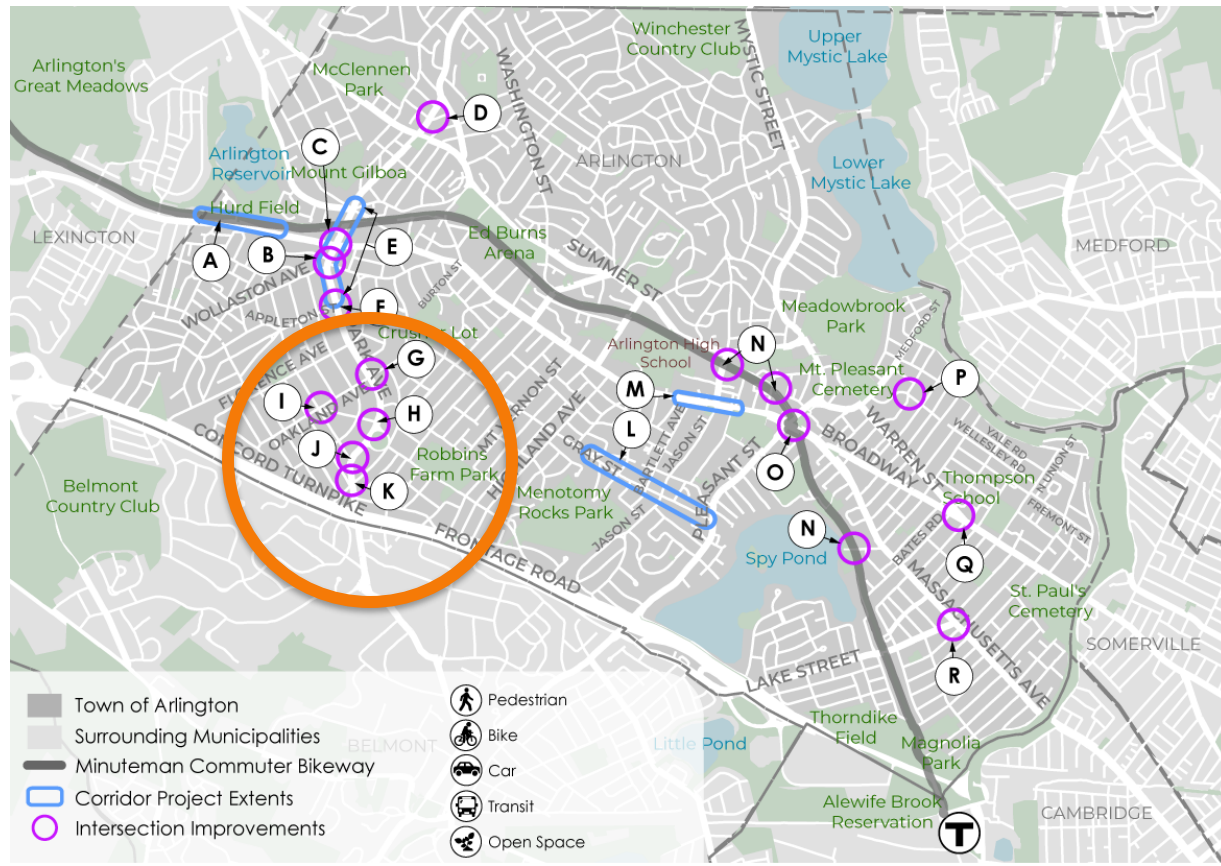
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- R:** Mass Ave and Lake St



Projects Overview - West

PROJECT KEY

- A:** Mass Ave at Dundee Rd and Paul Revere Rd
- B:** Park Ave at Paul Revere and Wollaston
- C:** Mass Ave at Park Ave
- D:** Park Ave Extension and Huntington Rd
- E:** Park Ave - Wollaston to Downing Square
- F:** Park Ave at Appleton
- G:** Park Ave at Oakland Ave
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- I:** Wachusett Ave, Oakland Ave, and Propsect Ave
- J:** Park Ave at Wachusett Ave
- K:** Park Ave at Cedar Ave and Waverly St
- L:** Gray St from Endicott Rd to Bartlett Ave
- M:** Mass Ave - Bartlett Ave to Academy St
- N:** Minuteman Bikeway at Mill St, Water St, and Linwood St
- O:** Minuteman Bikeway at Mass Ave - Swan Place to Mystic St
- P:** Franklin St, Phillips St, and Lewis Ave
- Q:** Warren Ave at Broadway and River St
- R:** Mass Ave and Lake St



Example Changes – Broadway at Bates Rd, River St, Warren St

- Close off Warren St between River St and Broadway
- Expand public open space
- Simplify intersection geometry
- Add curb extensions with new curb ramps and crosswalks
- Add new crosswalks across Broadway at bus stops
- Create clear corners for better visibility

\$ \$2 million

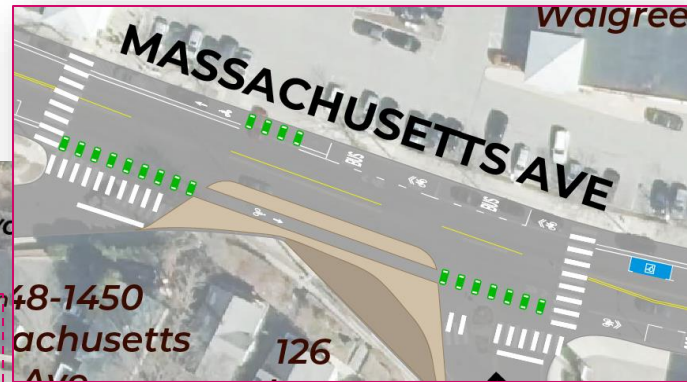
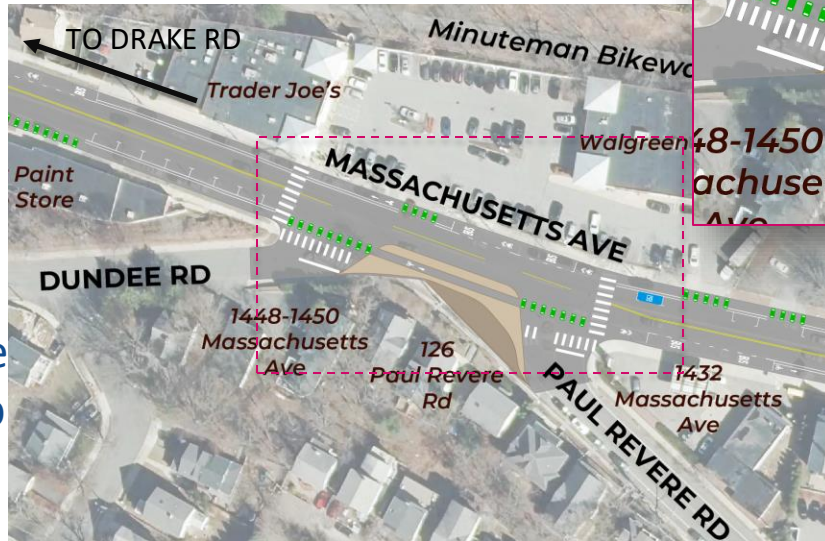
⌚ 3-5 years

All project sketches are preliminary concepts



Example Changes – Mass. Ave at Dundee Rd and Paul Revere Rd

- Tighten intersections with curb extensions and rain gardens
- Add parking-protected and buffered bike lanes
- Right-size bus stops
- Add Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) across Mass Ave
- Add crossing to bus stop at Drake Rd



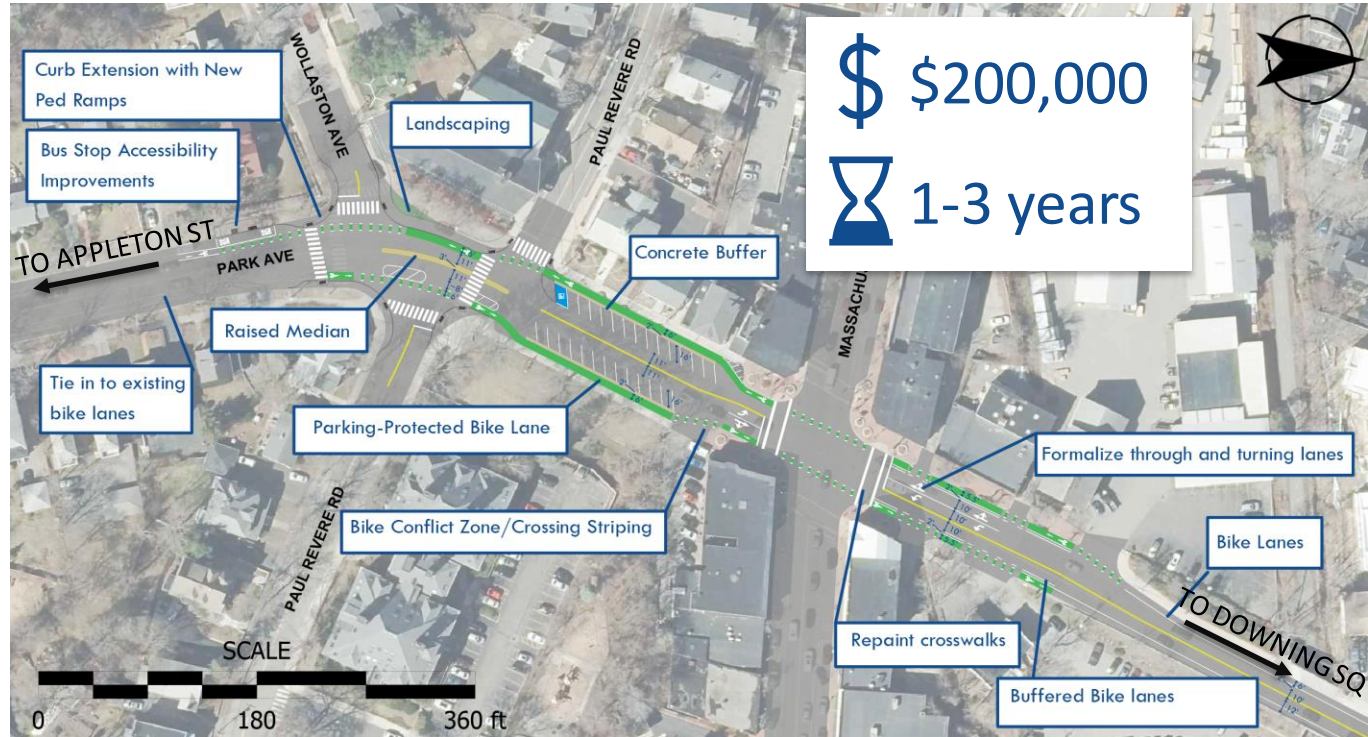
\$ \$480,000

⌚ 2-4 years

All project sketches are preliminary concepts

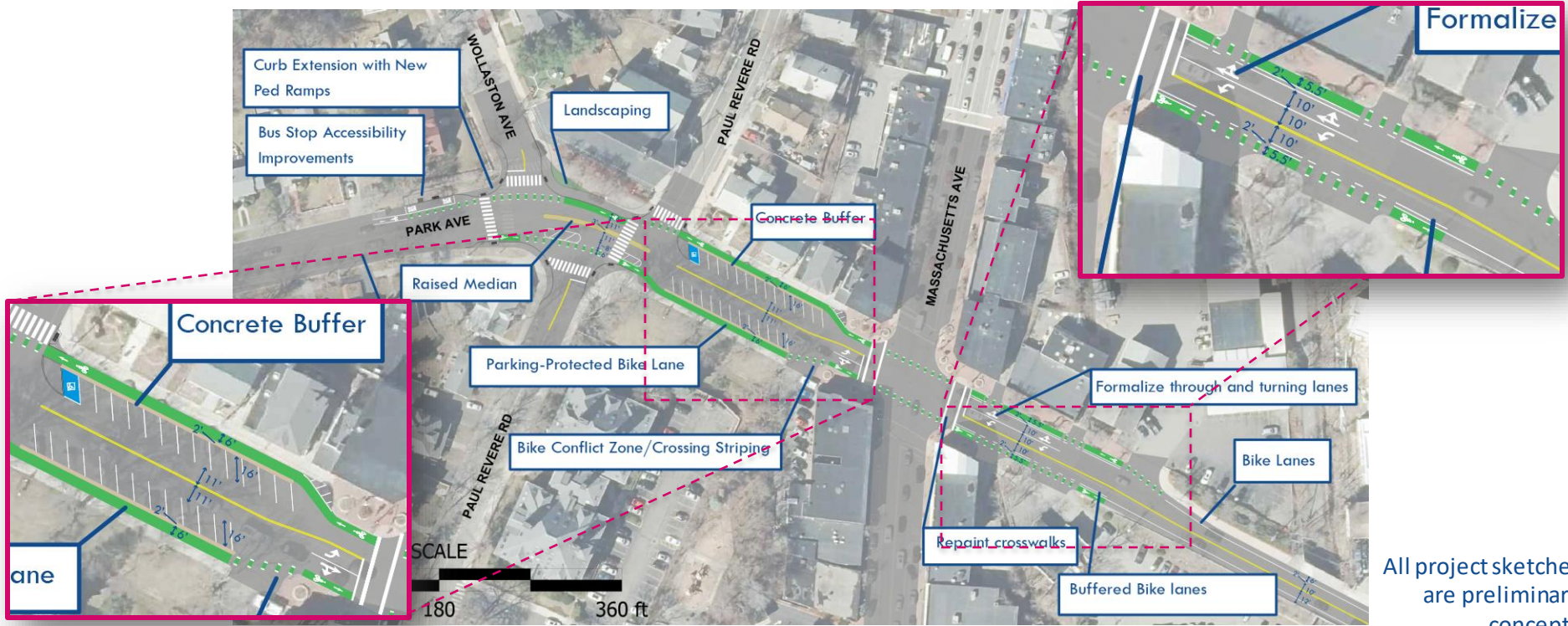
Example Changes – Park Ave from Wollaston Ave to Downing Square

- Tie-in to existing bike lanes from Appleton St to Wollaston Ave
- Add parking-protected bike lanes from Paul Revere Rd to Mass. Ave
- Add bike Lanes from Mass. Ave to Downing Square
- Stripe bike lanes through intersections



All project sketches are preliminary concepts

Example Changes – Park Ave from Wollaston Ave to Downing Square

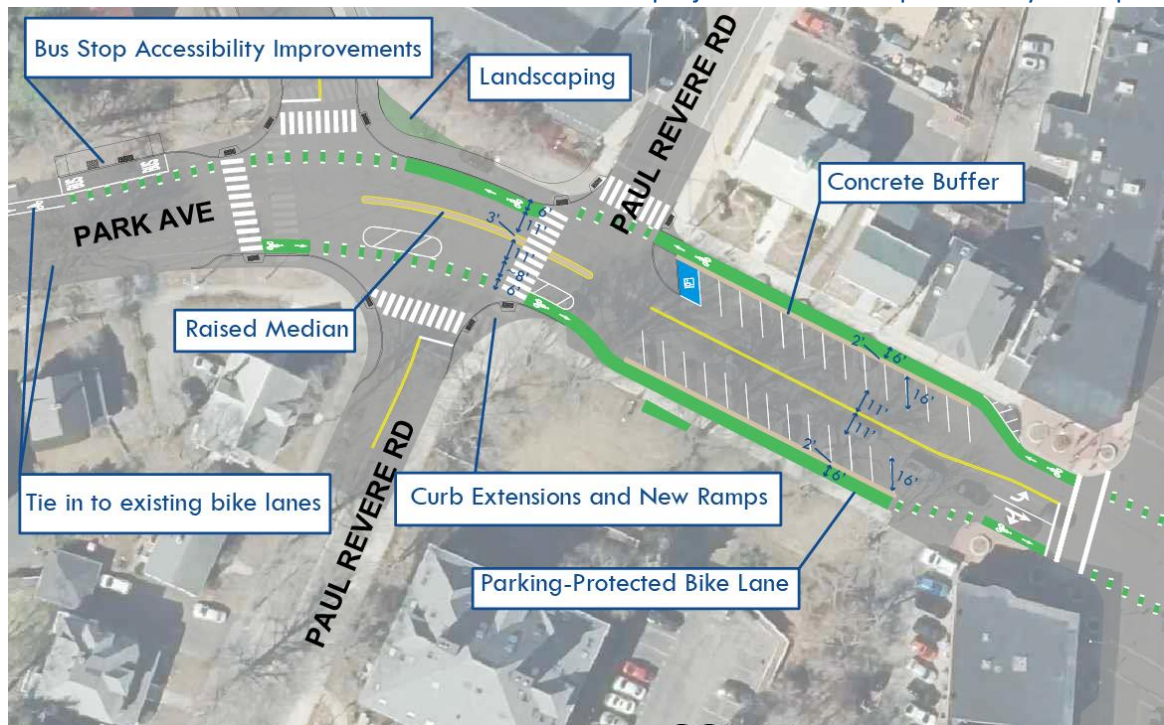


All project sketches are preliminary concepts

Example Changes – Park Ave at Paul Revere Rd and Wollaston

- Improve bus stop accessibility
- Add curb extension with landscaping opportunity
- Add hardened centerline for traffic calming
- Simplify intersection by restricting Paul Revere Rd through movement
- Add bike lanes and protected bike lanes

All project sketches are preliminary concepts



Questions & Answers

You can type your question into the chat or use the raise hand feature to verbally ask your question. Please keep all questions brief to give others time to ask their questions as well.

Breakout Discussions

We want to know what you think!

Our **four breakout groups** will each be led by one member of the project team.

Breakouts will last for 25 minutes.

What projects are most important to you?

What did you find exciting or interesting?

What do you think is missing?

Next Steps

If you're interested in continuing to follow the Complete Streets Prioritization Plan, here are our next steps:

- Release follow-up public survey soon
- Post final plan to Town website later this summer
 - Submit plan to MassDOT by September 1st
- Apply for project funding beginning November 1st

Contact Information

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