



## **Arlington Bicycle Advisory Committee at Tri-Town Bike Committee Meeting**

Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024.

Time: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM.

Location: Remotely via Zoom.

The link to join the zoom meeting is available on the calendar event webpage:

<https://www.arlingtonma.gov/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/33761/18#!/>

Members of the public are asked to send written comments to John Alessi at [jalessi@town.arlington.ma.us](mailto:jalessi@town.arlington.ma.us) with a copy to Christopher Tonkin at [tonkinc@comcast.net](mailto:tonkinc@comcast.net).

### **\*Notice to the Public on meeting privacy\***

Please allow additional time to join the meeting. Members of the public who wish to participate without providing their name may still do so by telephone at 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 829 3620 4733. Documents related to the below agenda items follow as attachments to this document.

### **Agenda**

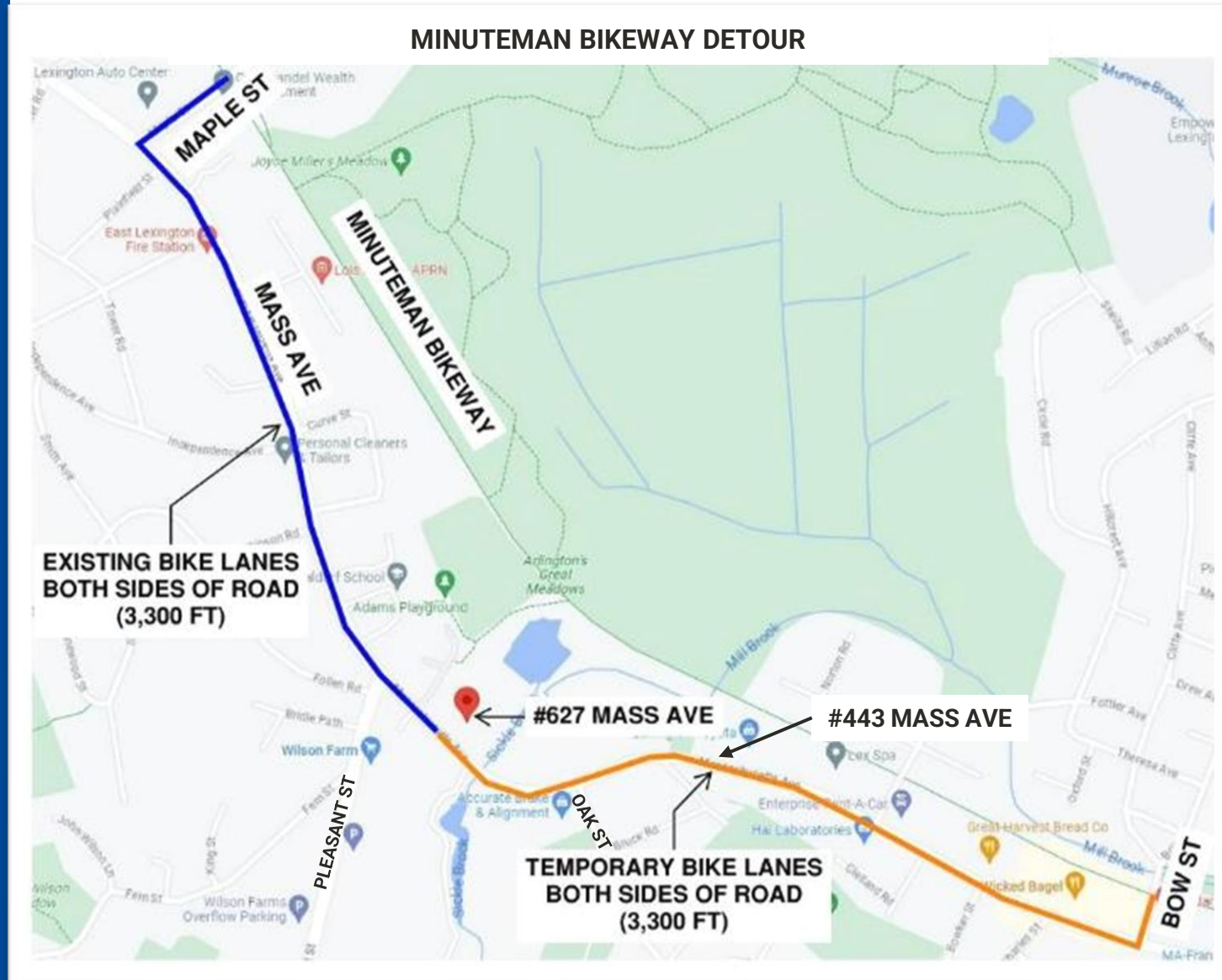
1. Introductions.
  - a. Christopher Tonkin, Arlington Chair.
  - b. Peter Weichman, Bedford Chair.
  - c. Betty Gau, Lexington Chair.
2. Updates from each community.
3. E-bike legislation discussion and encouraging better behavior on the bikeway.
4. The future of the <https://minutemanbikeway.org/> website.
5. Vision for joint town bikeway projects – sign posts.
6. Other business.
7. Adjourn.

### **Attachments**

1. Town of Lexington Bicycle Advisory Committee - Northern Extra High Pressure Zone Improvements Bikeway Detour Update.
2. Governor Charlie Baker's 3/12/2020 Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law.

# Town of Lexington Bicycle Advisory Committee

Northern Extra High Pressure  
Zone Improvements  
Bikeway Detour Update  
1/11/24



# Agenda

- Bikeway Detour Alternatives Analysis to Mitigate Impact of Bikeway Construction/Closure
  - **Alternative 1:** Two phase construction sequence, split at Ellen Dana Ct
  - **Alternative 2:** Eliminate residential parking and detour southbound traffic to restripe two-way bike lane on north side of Mass Ave
  - **Alternative 3:** Reschedule project such that Bikeway construction performed in winter (2025/2026) and after Lexington 250<sup>th</sup>
  - **Recommended Alternative:** Reschedule project and add safety measures to designed Mass Ave bikeway detour

# Alternative 1 Two-Phase Construction Sequence



# Alternative 1: Two-Phase Construction Sequence

## Challenges

- Ellen Dana Ct is a private road. Need approval for bikeway traffic and pave dirt path
- No truck access from Maple St
- Truck Access on active Bikeway

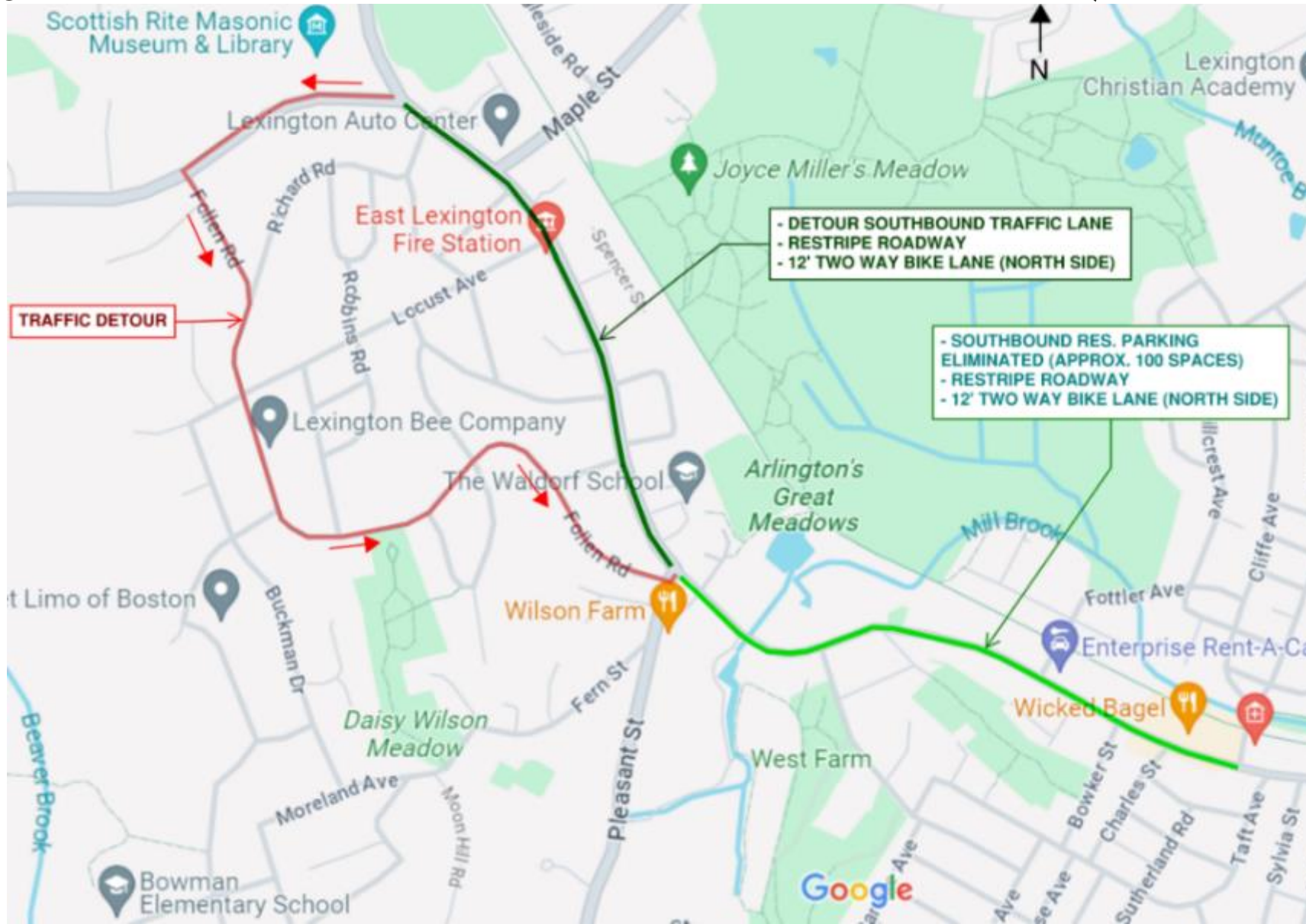
## Conclusion

- Feasible only if
  - Use of private road granted
  - MWRA obtains a temporary easement
  - Therefore, **not recommended** for short construction duration of 6 months



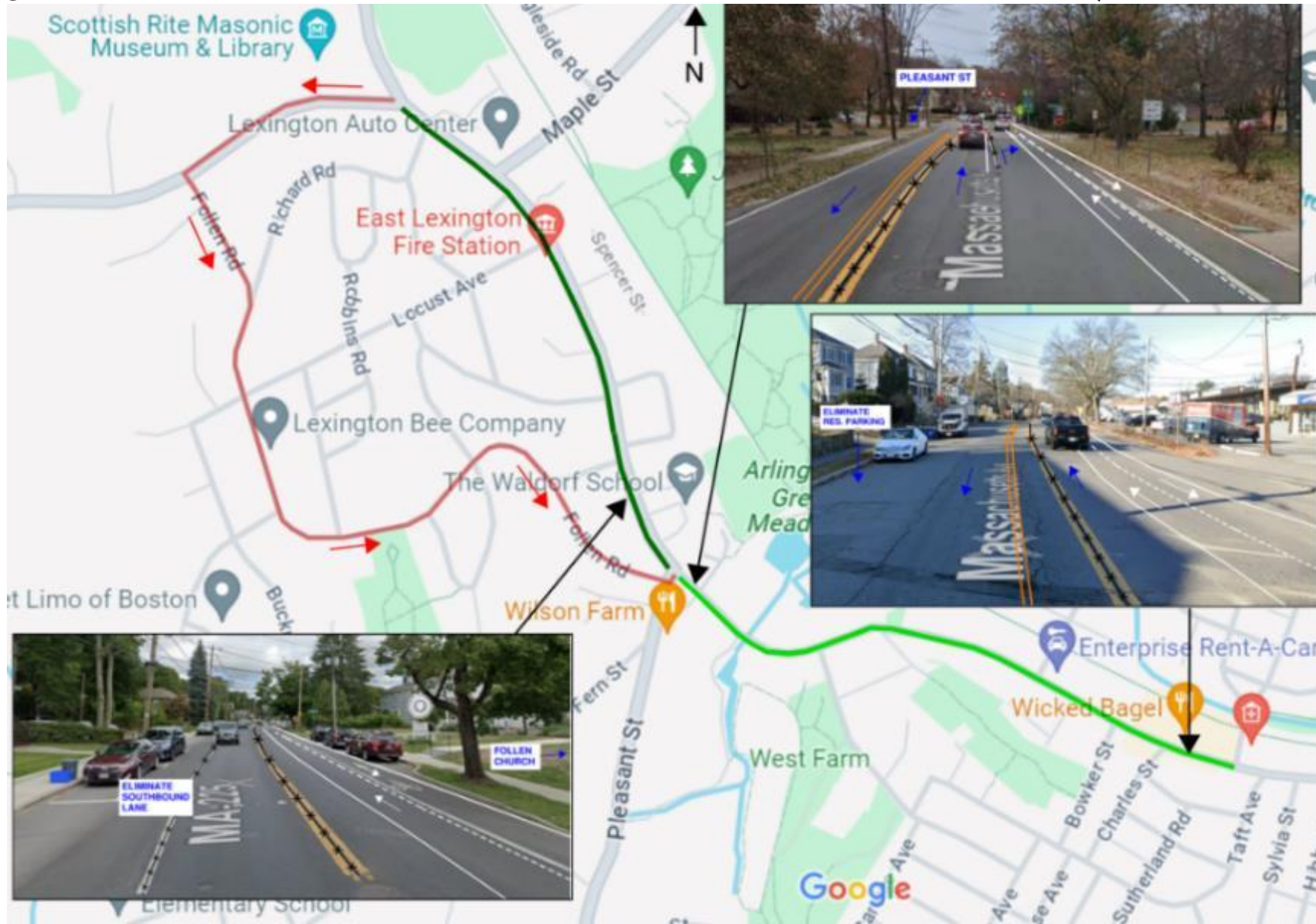
# Alternative 2

## Two-Way Proposed Bike Lane on Mass Ave (North side)



# Alternative 2

## Two-Way Proposed Bike Lane on Mass Ave (North side)



# Alternative 2

## Two-Way Protected Bike Lane on Mass Ave (North side)

### Challenges

- Relocate MBTA Bus Route 62 stops
- Approval from Town & MADOT to restripe roadway
- Reprogram intersection signalization
- Long traffic detour for Waldorf School & Follen Church
- Traffic detour in residential area

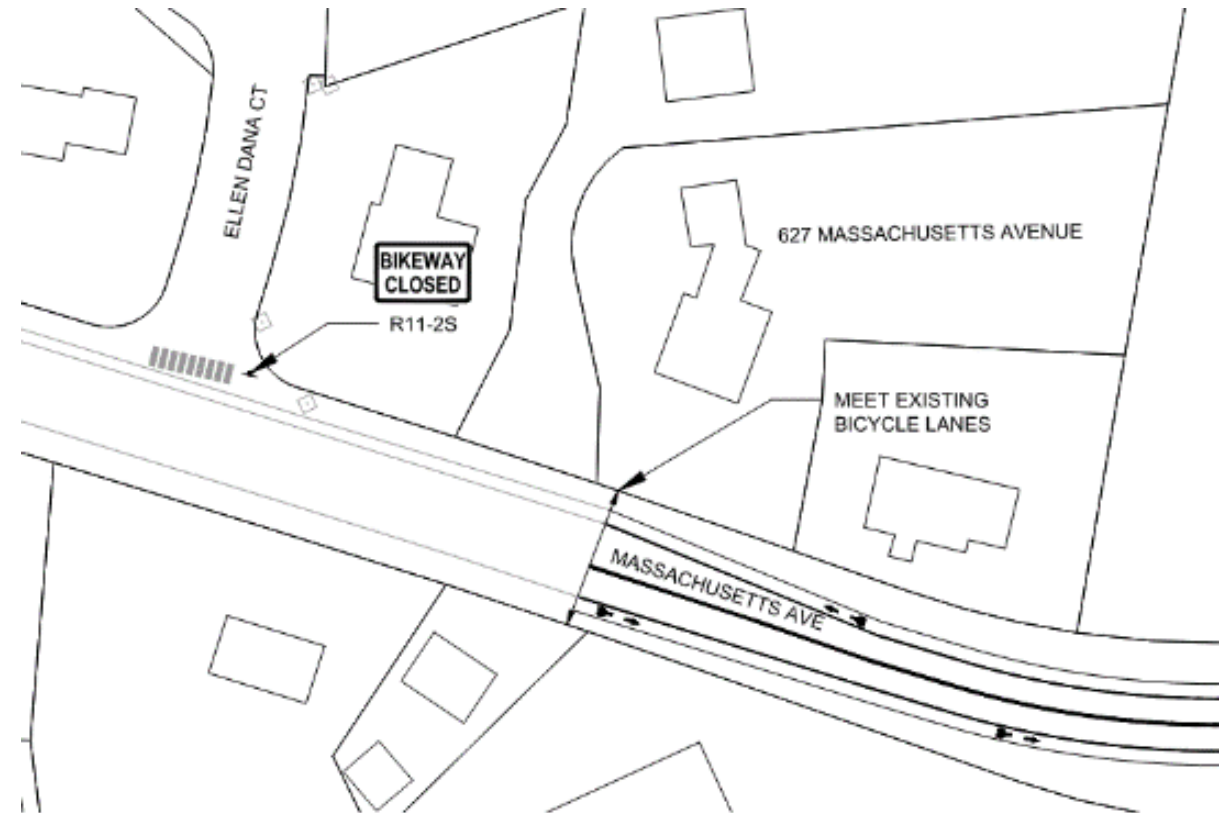
### Conclusion

- Alternative 2 is **not recommended**



# Alternative 3: Reschedule Project

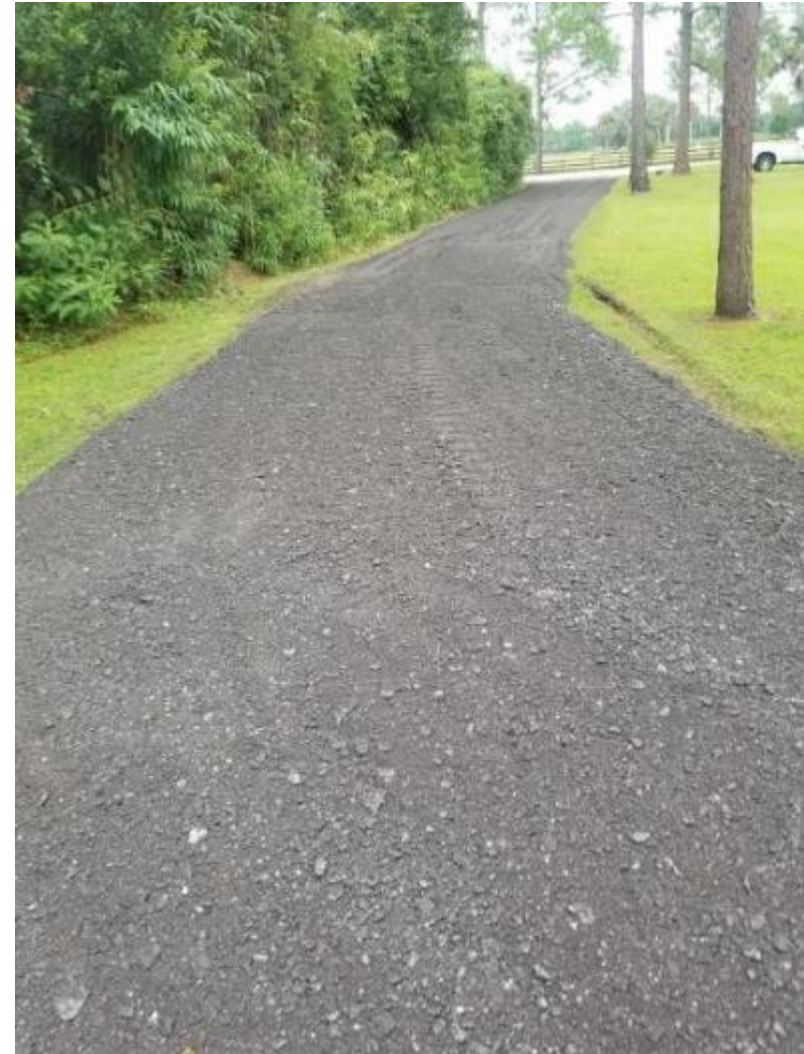
- Maple Street construction April 2025 to November 2025
- Bikeway construction from November 2025 – May 2026
- Winter bikeway usage substantially **less than** summer usage
- Avg. Bikeway Usage (April – Nov)
  - ~35,000 cyclists per month
  - ~34,000 pedestrians per month
- Avg. Bikeway Usage (Nov – May)
  - ~16,000 cyclists per month
  - ~28,000 pedestrians per month



# Alternative 3 (Cont.)

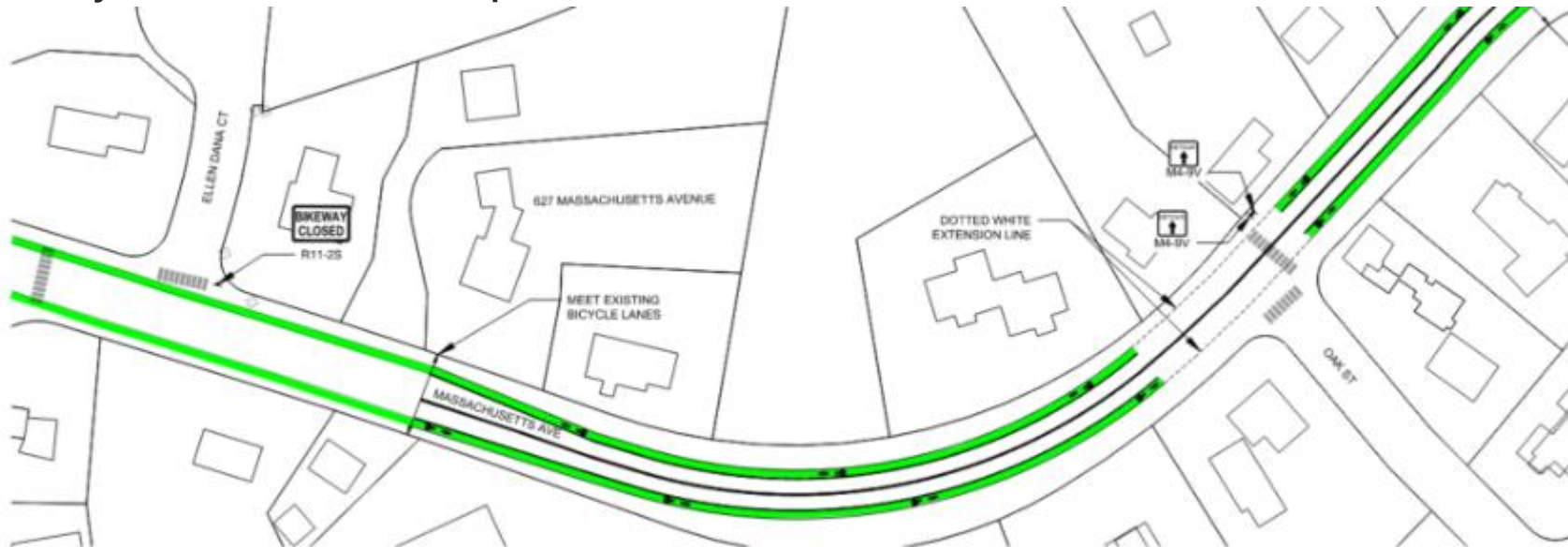
- Weekend usage is 3x weekday usage
- Open Bikeway on weekends would further mitigate impact
  - Contractor to add compacted Recycled Asphalt Pavement (RAP) every Friday
  - Will extend construction duration

RAP Surface Example

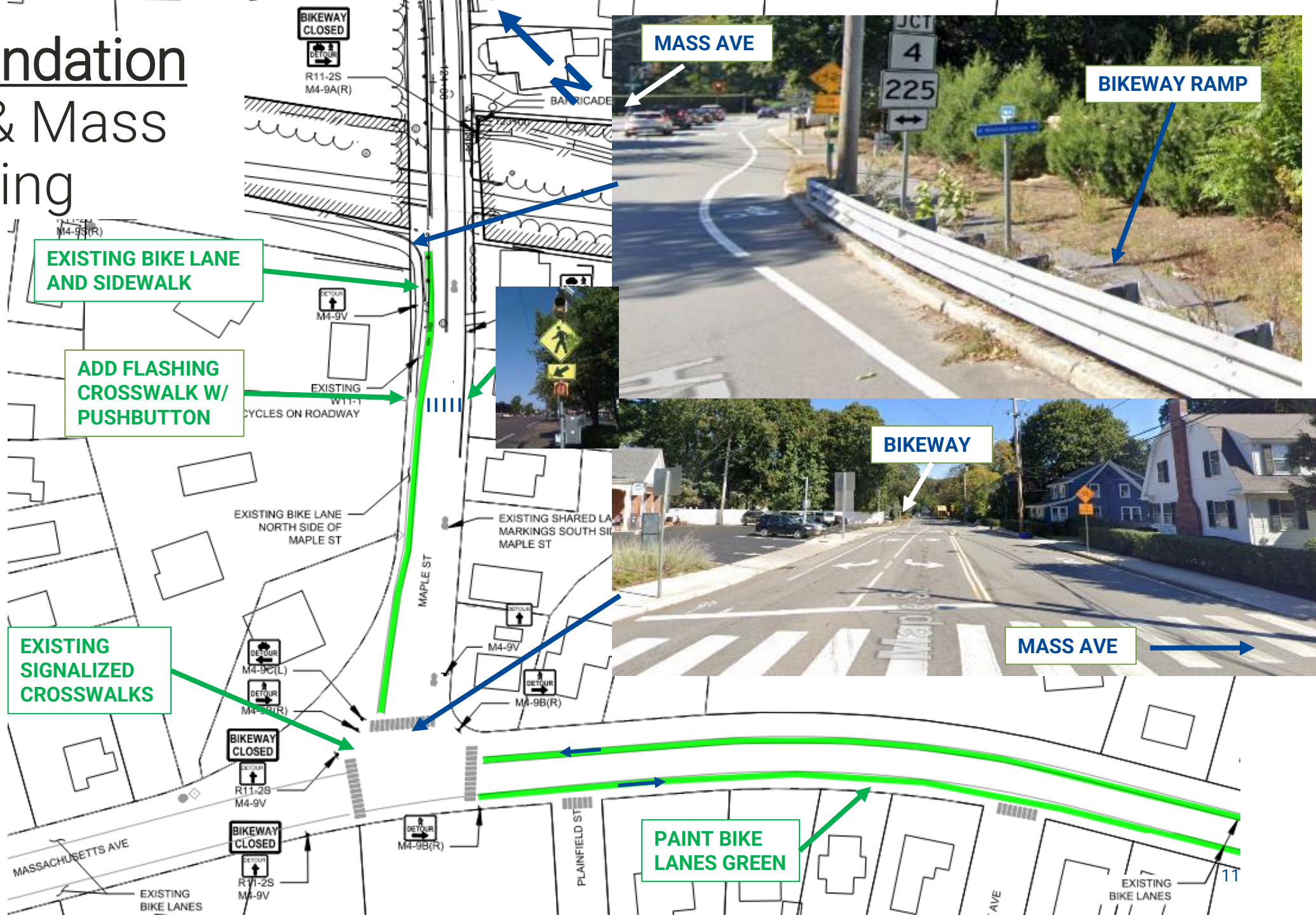


# Recommendation

- Winter Construction (2025-2026)
- Possible to open Bikeway on weekends
- Implement Mass Ave bike lane detour as designed
  - Use existing bike lanes from Maple St to 627 Mass Ave
  - Stripe bike lanes on each side from 627 Mass Ave to Bow St
  - Paint roadway bike lanes green (both existing and proposed)
  - Add safety measures to Maple St and Bow St intersections

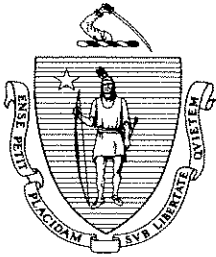


# Recommendation Maple St & Mass Ave Crossing





# Discussion



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133  
(617) 725-4000

**CHARLES D. BAKER**  
GOVERNOR

**KARYN E. POLITO**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**ORDER SUSPENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS  
OF THE OPEN MEETING LAW, G. L. c. 30A, § 20**

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting pursuant to the powers provided by Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 and Section 2A of Chapter 17 of the General Laws, declared that there now exists in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts a state of emergency due to the outbreak of the 2019 novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”); and

**WHEREAS**, many important functions of State and Local Government are executed by “public bodies,” as that term is defined in G. L. c. 30A, § 18, in meetings that are open to the public, consistent with the requirements of law and sound public policy and in order to ensure active public engagement with, contribution to, and oversight of the functions of government; and

**WHEREAS**, both the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (“DPH”) have advised residents to take extra measures to put distance between themselves and other people to further reduce the risk of being exposed to COVID-19. Additionally, the CDC and DPH have advised high-risk individuals, including people over the age of 60, anyone with underlying health conditions or a weakened immune system, and pregnant women, to avoid large gatherings.

**WHEREAS**, sections 7, 8, and 8A of Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 authorize the Governor, during the effective period of a declared emergency, to exercise authority over public assemblages as necessary to protect the health and safety of persons; and

**WHEREAS**, low-cost telephone, social media, and other internet-based technologies are currently available that will permit the convening of a public body through virtual means and allow real-time public access to the activities of the public body; and

**WHEREAS** section 20 of chapter 30A and implementing regulations issued by the Attorney General currently authorize remote participation by members of a public body, subject to certain limitations;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I hereby order the following:

(1) A public body, as defined in section 18 of chapter 30A of the General Laws, is hereby relieved from the requirement of section 20 of chapter 30A that it conduct its meetings in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, provided that the public body makes provision to ensure public access to the deliberations of the public body for interested members of the public through adequate, alternative means.

Adequate, alternative means of public access shall mean measures that provide transparency and permit timely and effective public access to the deliberations of the public body. Such means may include, without limitation, providing public access through telephone, internet, or satellite enabled audio or video conferencing or any other technology that enables the public to clearly follow the proceedings of the public body while those activities are occurring. Where allowance for active, real-time participation by members of the public is a specific requirement of a general or special law or regulation, or a local ordinance or by-law, pursuant to which the proceeding is conducted, any alternative means of public access must provide for such participation.

A municipal public body that for reasons of economic hardship and despite best efforts is unable to provide alternative means of public access that will enable the public to follow the proceedings of the municipal public body as those activities are occurring in real time may instead post on its municipal website a full and complete transcript, recording, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as practicable upon conclusion of the proceedings. This paragraph shall not apply to proceedings that are conducted pursuant to a general or special law or regulation, or a local ordinance or by-law, that requires allowance for active participation by members of the public.

A public body must offer its selected alternative means of access to its proceedings without subscription, toll, or similar charge to the public.

(2) Public bodies are hereby authorized to allow remote participation by all members in any meeting of the public body. The requirement that a quorum of the body and the chair be physically present at a specified meeting location, as provided in G. L. c. 30A, § 20(d) and in 940 CMR 29.10(4)(b), is hereby suspended.

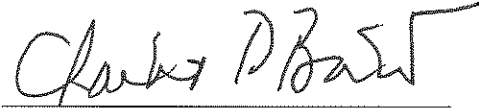
(3) A public body that elects to conduct its proceedings under the relief provided in sections (1) or (2) above shall ensure that any party entitled or required to appear before it shall be able to do so through remote means, as if the party were a member of the public body and participating remotely as provided in section (2).

(4) All other provisions of sections 18 to 25 of chapter 30A and the Attorney General's implementing regulations shall otherwise remain unchanged and fully applicable to the activities of public bodies.

This Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until rescinded or until the State of Emergency is terminated, whichever happens first.



Given in Boston at 6:40 PM this 12th day of  
March, two thousand and twenty.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles D. Baker". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

CHARLES D. BAKER  
GOVERNOR  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts