



Improvements on Route 3A from Richardson Road to Technology Drive

Pre-25% Project Information Meeting

Chelmsford Police Dept. July 8, 2025 6:00 PM

Project File No. 612535



Notice of MassDOT's policy on diversity and civil rights:

- All MassDOT activities, including public meetings, are free of discrimination.
- MassDOT complies with all federal and state civil rights requirements preventing discrimination based on sex, race, color, ancestry, national origin (limited English proficiency), religion, creed, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or veteran's status.
- We welcome the diversity from across our entire service area. If you have any questions or concerns, please visit <https://www.mass.gov/nondiscrimination-in-transportation-program> to reach the Office of Diversity and Civil Rights.

All questions and comments are welcome and appreciated; however, we do request that you refrain from any disrespectful comments.

Project Team

MassDOT

- Jon Freeman, Project Manager
- Dan Fleury, District 4
- Michael Ruderman, State Right of Way
- Nancy Knight, Municipal Right of Way

Town of Chelmsford

- Christine Clancy, P.E., DPW Director

Howard Stein Hudson (HSH)

- Bridget Myers, P.E., Manager of Roadway Design
- Angela Bleeker, P.E., Traffic Engineer

Thank You for Your Support

Public Notice Published:



MassDOT Facebook:

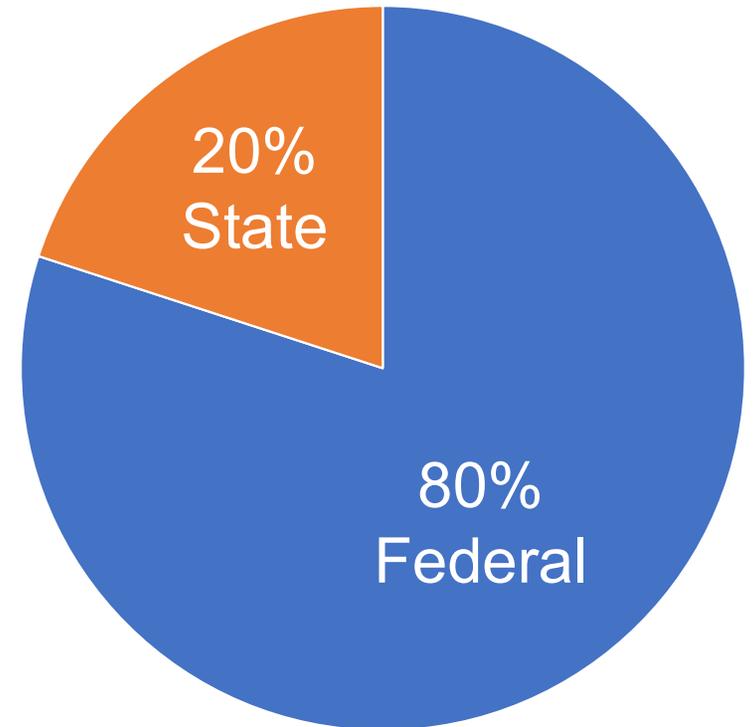


Municipal Departments:



Project Funding

- Funding Source: Statewide Transportation Improvement Program
 - Project not currently programmed
- Total Estimated Project Cost: \$7.6M
 - 80% from FHWA – Federal Aid Funding
 - 20% from MassDOT
- Cost does not include any Right of Way acquisition costs





**How will your
property be
impacted?**

Right of Way (ROW)

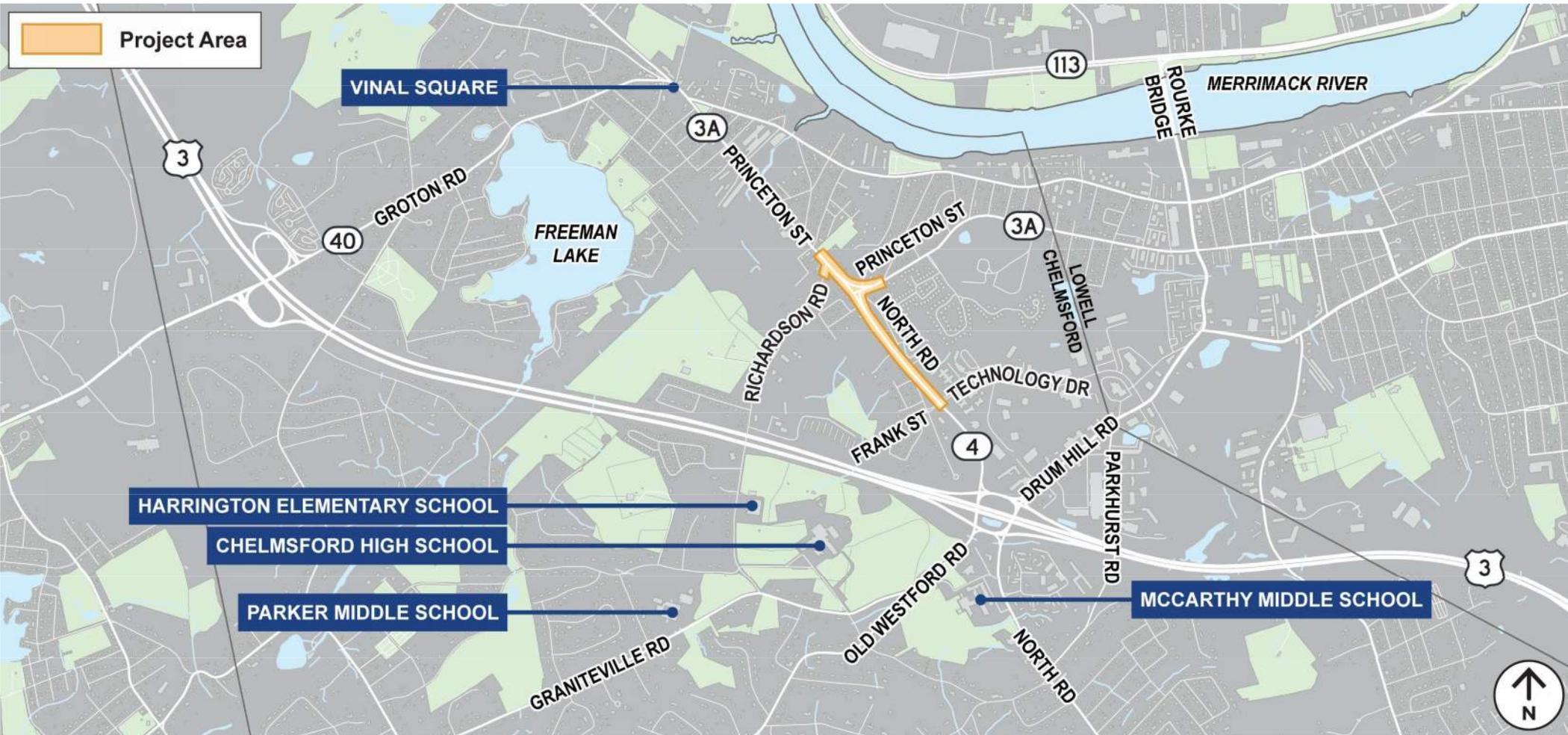
- Temporary easements anticipated for construction and tying into private properties
- Possible permanent easements needed for small sections of sidewalk

Agenda

1. Project Location
2. Project Initiation
3. Project Goals
4. Current Design
5. Property Impacts
6. Next Steps
7. Questions and Discussion



Project Location





Why was this project initiated?

Existing Conditions – Richardson Road Intersection

- Excessive queues (more than 18+ vehicles) on Richardson Road during school peak
- Lack of sufficient gaps in traffic on Princeton Street (Route 3A)



Existing Conditions – Richardson Road Intersection

- Lack of safe and comfortable pedestrian crossings
- School-age children use this intersection
- No bicycle accommodations



Existing Conditions – Princeton St (Rt 3A) at North Rd (Rt 4)

- Sidewalks in poor condition
- Lack of ADA ramps and crosswalks through intersection
- Large intersection
- Right turn slip lanes = high speeds on turns
- No left turns out of Gas Station



Existing Conditions – North Rd (Rt 4) to Technology Dr

- No sidewalks or bike accommodations
 - Desire to connect to Technology Drive
- 85% speed/posted speed – 40 mph
- No sidewalks or crosswalks at the Technology Drive intersection
- Missing connection to Drum Hill area





**What do we
want to
accomplish?**

Project Goals

- Improve safety and operations at Richardson Road intersection by adding a new traffic signal
- Improve pedestrian and bicycle accommodations from Richardson Road to Technology Drive
- Geometric improvements and signal upgrades at the intersection of Princeton Street (Route 3A) at North Road (Route 4)
- Reduce vehicular speeds on North Road (Route 4)



How Did We Get Here?



Signal Warrant Analysis – Richardson Road Intersection

- Town reached out to HSH to conduct Signal Warrant Analysis in 2019
- Traffic counts taken in April-May 2019
- Signal Warrants Met:
 - Warrant 1 – 8-hour Vehicular Volume
 - Warrant 2 – 4-hour Vehicular Volume
 - Warrant 3 – Peak Hour
- Observations:
 - Limited gaps in Princeton Street (Route 3A) traffic to enter from Richardson Road
 - Causes drivers to pull past stop line and creates unsafe conditions



Project Initiation

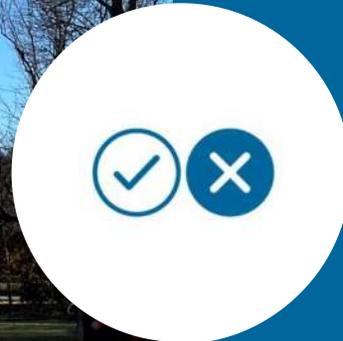
- Project initiated through MassDOT's Project Intake Tool
- Rough concept sent to MassDOT for Review. Town's original proposal included signal at Richardson Road and ADA/sidewalk improvements from Richardson Road to Technology Drive
- HSH and the Town met with MassDOT – 2021
 - MassDOT feedback was to also include bicycle accommodations as well as intersection upgrades along project limits.
- Project Approved into MassDOT System



ICE – Intersection Control Evaluation

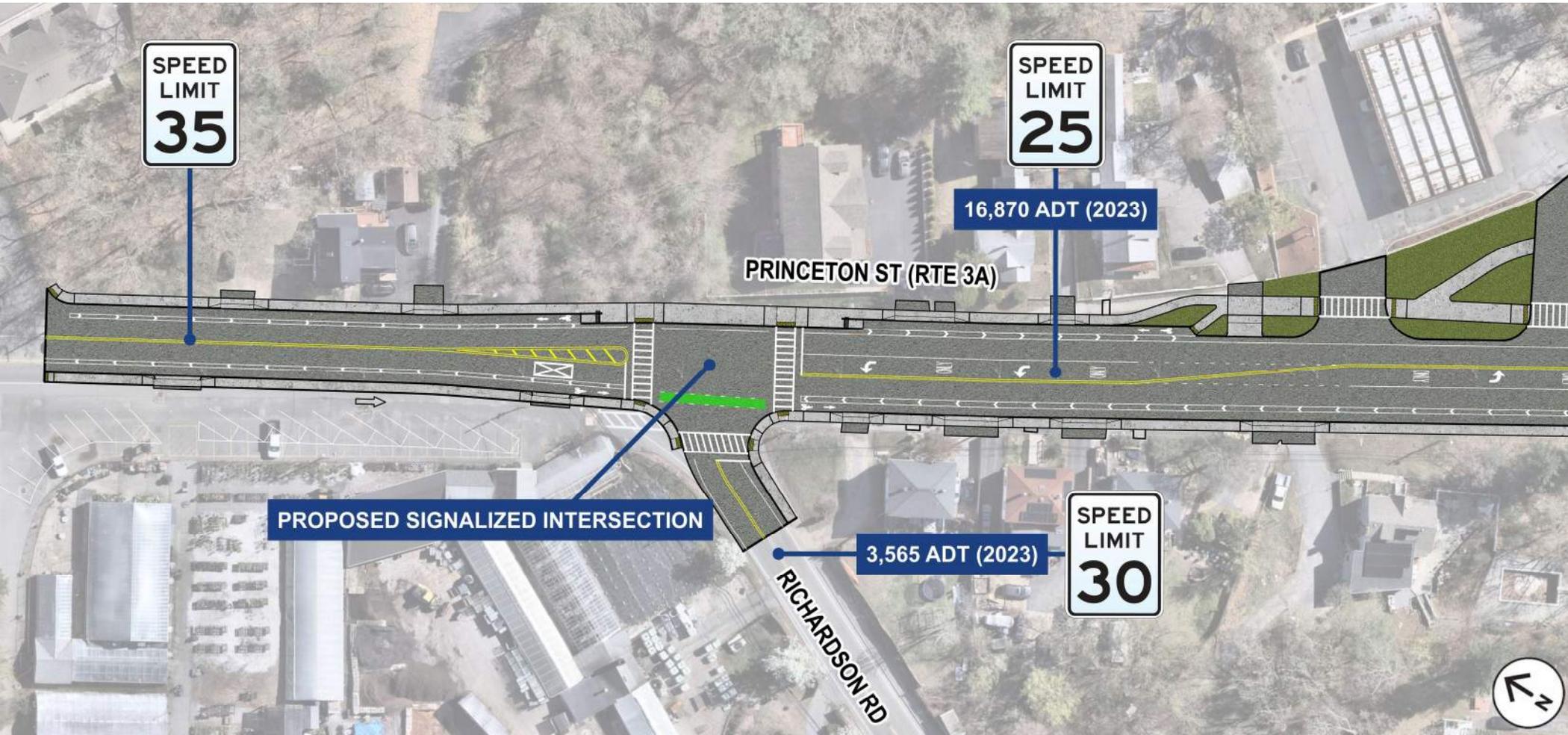
The purpose of an Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) is to consider multiple context-sensitive control strategies in a consistent manner when planning a new intersection or modifying an existing intersection.

- Stage 1 – Screening
 - Determine applicable intersection control types:
 - Princeton Street (Route 3A) at Richardson Road – Signalized Control, Roundabout
 - Roundabout determined to be non-viable based on ROW impacts and potential queue spillback. Proceeded with signalized control.



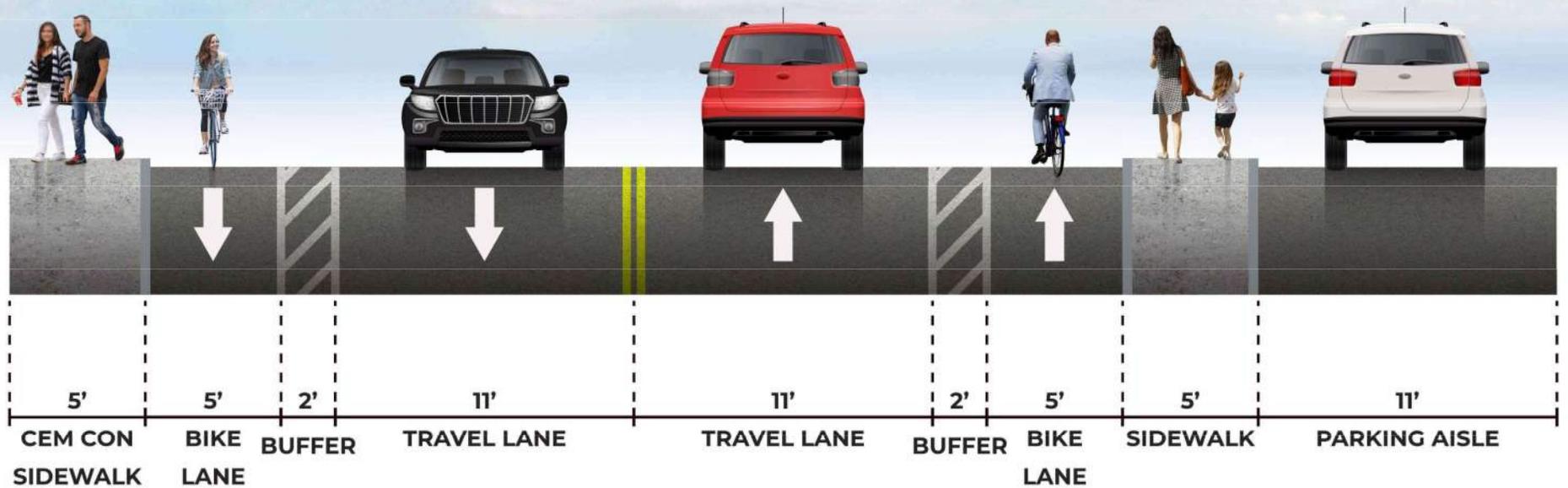
What is the proposed design?

Pre-25% Design – Richardson Rd Intersection

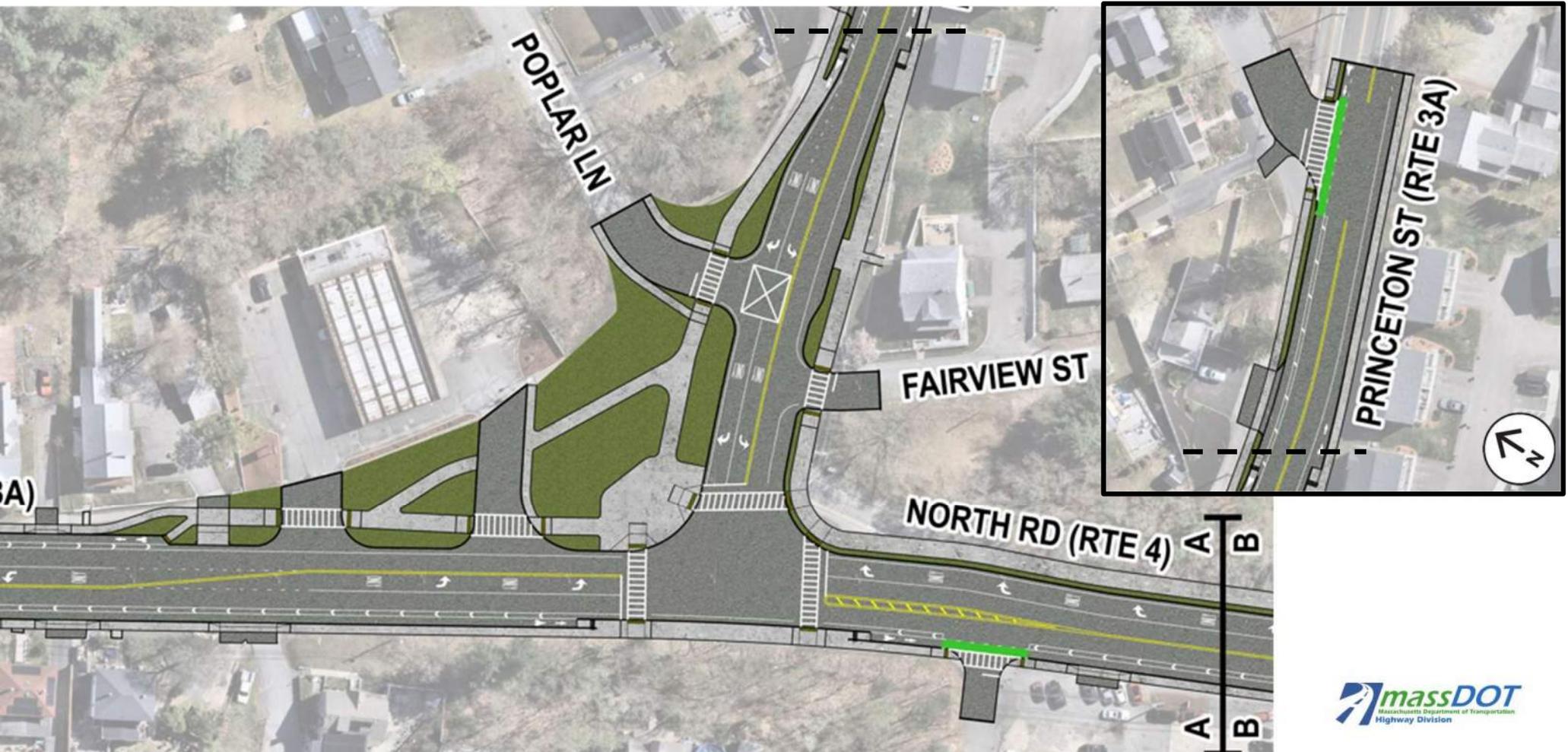


Proposed Cross Section

PRINCETON STREET (ROUTE 3A) FROM HIGHLAND AVENUE TO RICHARDSON ROAD

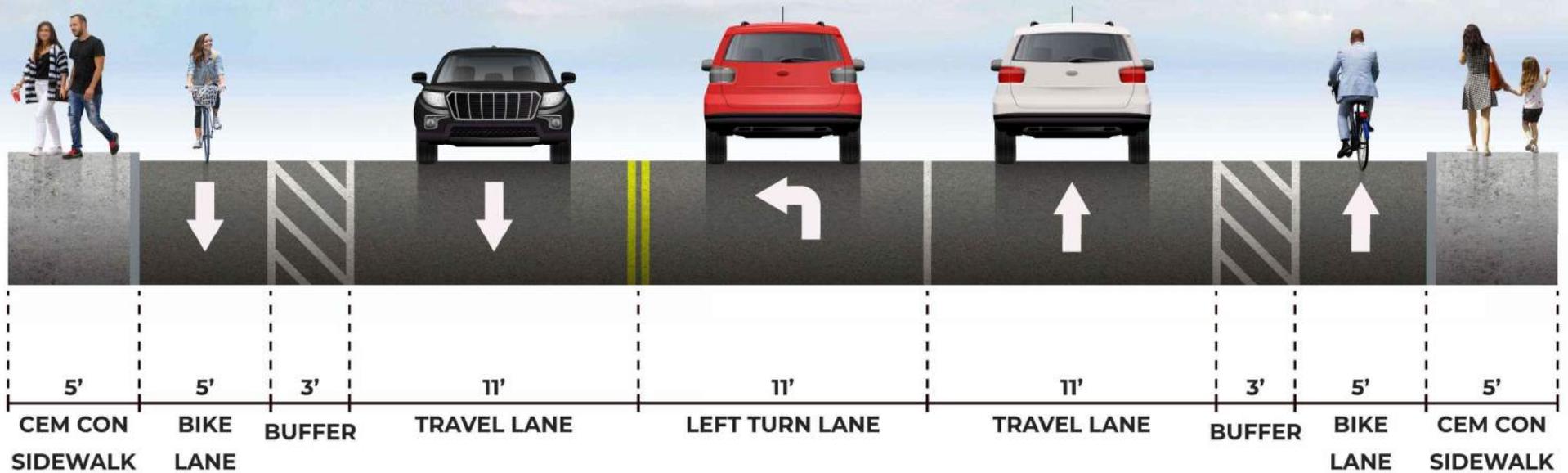


Pre-25% Design – Princeton St (Rt 3A) at North Rd (Rt 4)



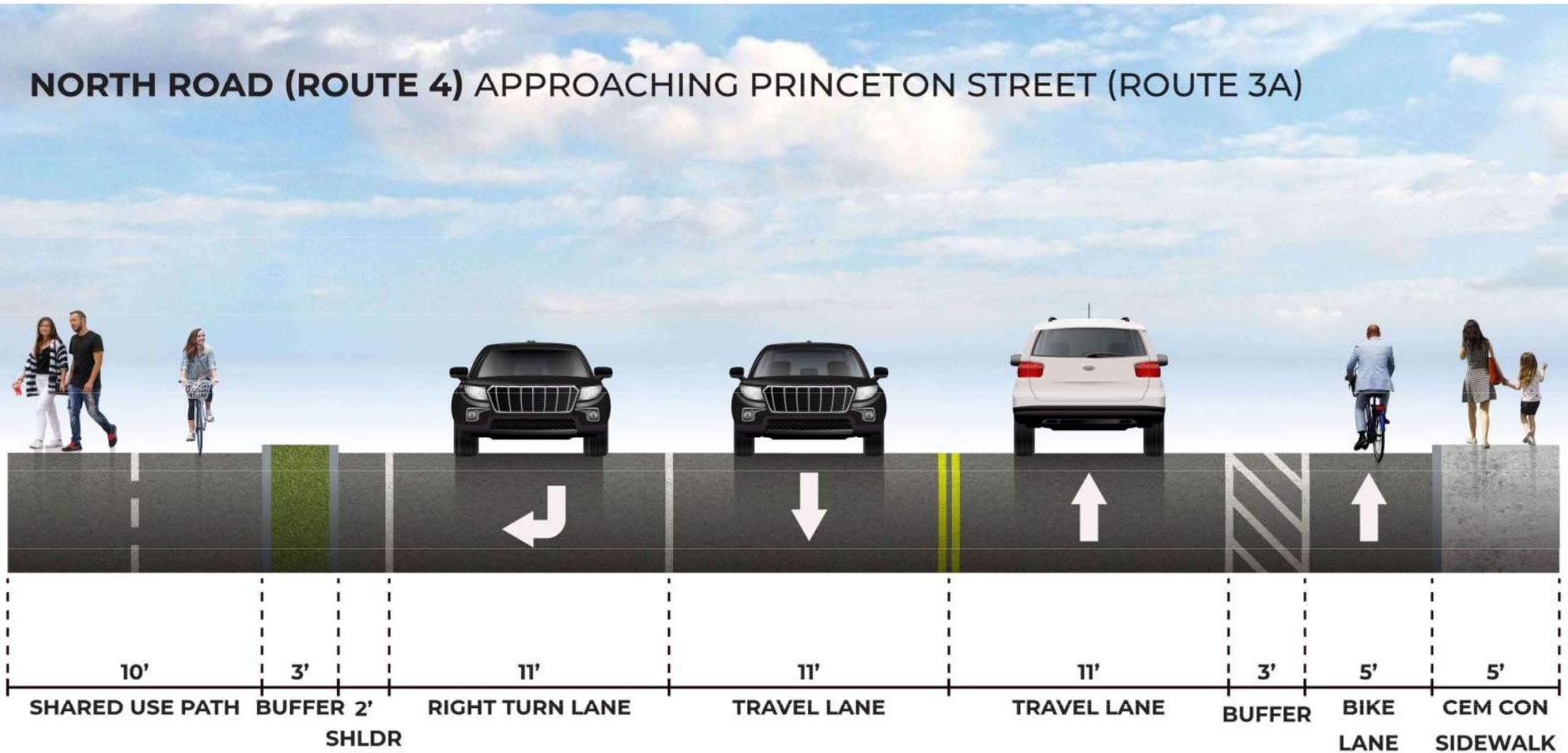
Proposed Cross Section

PRINCETON STREET (ROUTE 3A) FROM RICHARDSON RD TO PRINCETON ST (ROUTE 3A)

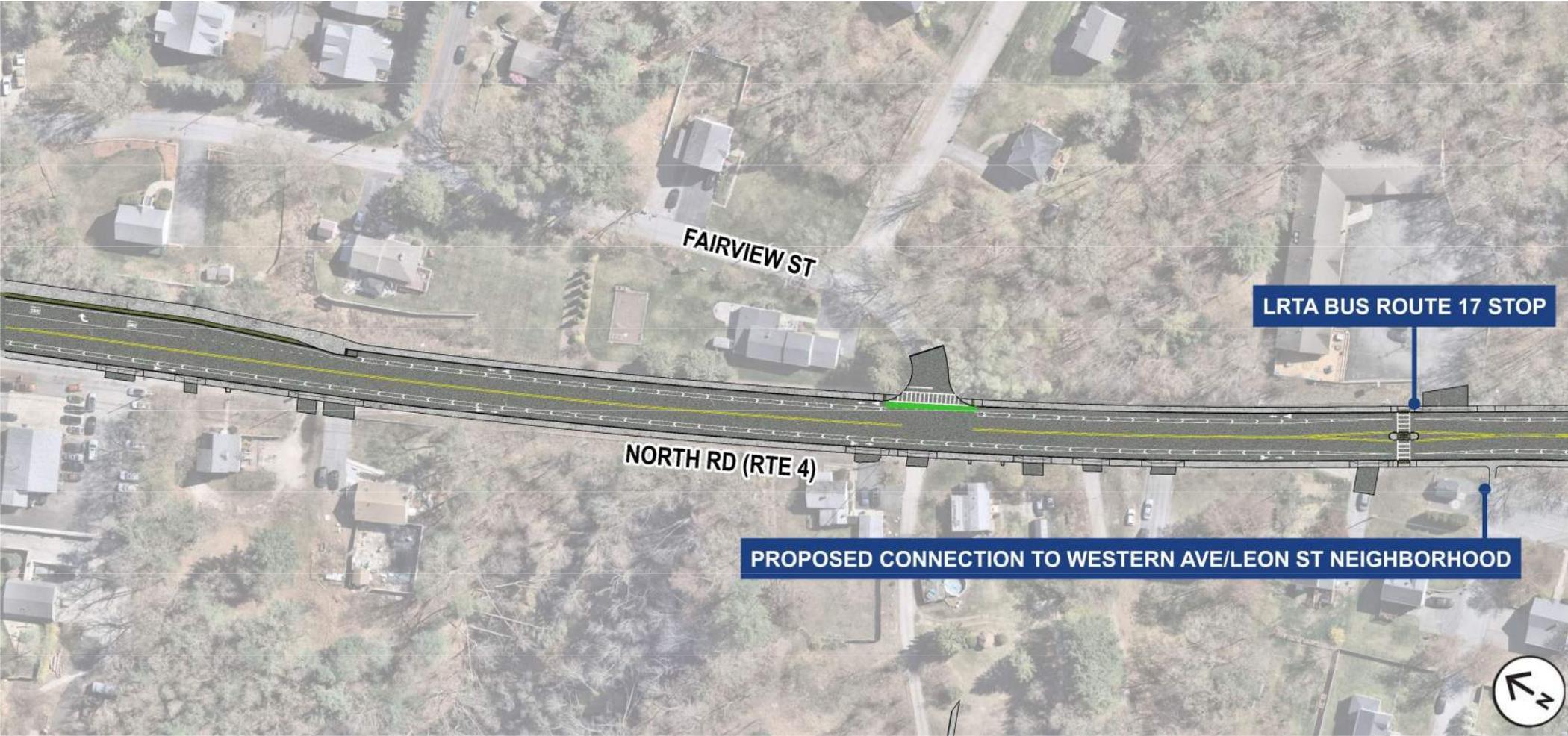


Proposed Cross Section

NORTH ROAD (ROUTE 4) APPROACHING PRINCETON STREET (ROUTE 3A)

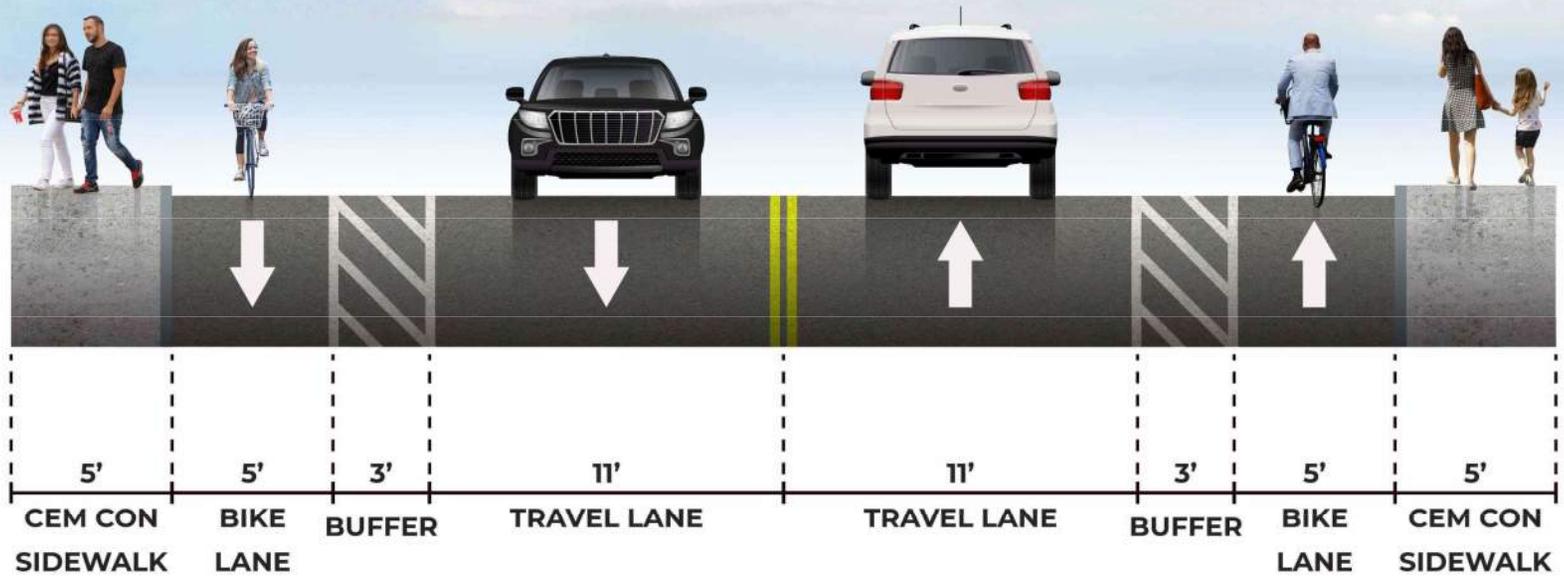


Pre-25% Design – North Rd



Proposed Cross Section

NORTH ROAD (ROUTE 4)



Pre-25% Design – North Rd (Rt 4) at Technology



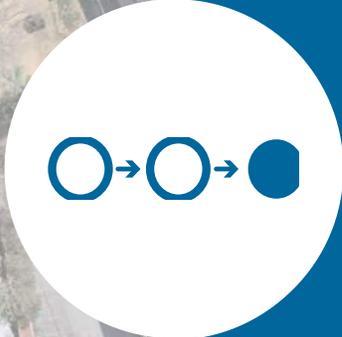


What are the environmental, impacts?

Environmental Permitting

- Wetlands
 - There are a few pockets of wetlands along North Road.
 - It is not anticipated that this project will have any direct wetland impact.
 - A Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) is anticipated to be filed with the Chelmsford Conservation Commission.





How will the design progress?

Our Next Steps



Additional Survey and Data Collection



25% Design Submittal



25% Design Public Hearing



Final Design
75%, 100%, PS&E



Construction*

*Project is not yet funded through State Transportation Improvement Plan

How Will We Keep You Informed?

- Two-way communication between the project team & the community
 - Email: MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us
 - MassDOT website: <https://www.mass.gov/event/>



Project website:

<https://www.mass.gov/event/chelmsford-improvements-on-route-3a-princeton-street-from-richardson-road-to-technology-drive-07-08-2025>



Questions and Discussion



Thank You

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