NEWTON LEADS 2040

A Transportation
Strategy for Newton

NEWTON TRANSPORTATION STRATEGY PROJECT SCHEDULE

2015 **2016** ▶

| NOV. | DEC. | JAN. | FEB. | MAR. | APRIL | MAY | JUNE | JULY | AUG. | SEPT. | OCT. | NOV. | DEC. |

- Kick off
- Project Branding
- Data Collection & Analysis

- Visioning & Goals Development

➕ Visioning Workshop

- Network Plans
- Vet Initial Ideas

➕ Initial Concepts Workshop

➕ Draft Plan Strategies Workshop

- Refine Initial Ideas
- Finalize Network Plans

Final Plan ➕ Presentation

Develop Framework   **Generate Ideas**   **Evaluate and Create Plan**

DELIVERABLES

- Produce baseline data on transportation in Newton

- Engage the Newton community in a dialogue about transportation

- Develop a vision for transportation in Newton

- Identify goals and metrics

- Recommend early action projects, policies, network plans, and future projects

- **Finalize a strategic transportation plan for Newton to follow in the next 5-25 years**

WHAT WE HEARD
FROM THE
COMMUNITY

- Alleviate traffic congestion

- Address safety at every opportunity

- Expand/upgrade bicycle access

- Improve transportation alternatives

- Preserve Newton's sense of place and village character

- Make sustainability a priority

SAFE. SMART. ACCESSIBLE. LIVABLE. SUSTAINABLE.

Vision For Newton's Transportation Future

PRIORITY ACTIONS

ROADS PROGRAM

Relevance: Roads in poor condition are less safe, less sustainable, and less efficient.

Projected Outcome: Opportunity to create complete & sustainable streets

Photo: NYC DOT

SIGNAL OPTIMIZATION

Relevance: Older signals lack safety features and traffic efficiency technology

Projected Outcome: Continued implementation of signal upgrades, resulting in safer, more efficient travel

SMART PARKING MANAGEMENT

Relevance: Inefficient parking frustrates customers and businesses and adds to congestion

Projected Outcome: Employ smart meter technology and parking management to better serve customers, businesses, and residents

SHARED TRANSIT

Relevance: Existing services like Shuttles/Uber/Lyft/Bridj could serve Newton residents & businesses

Projected Outcome: Expand transit services to offer convenient alternatives and reduce congestion by partnering with successful operators
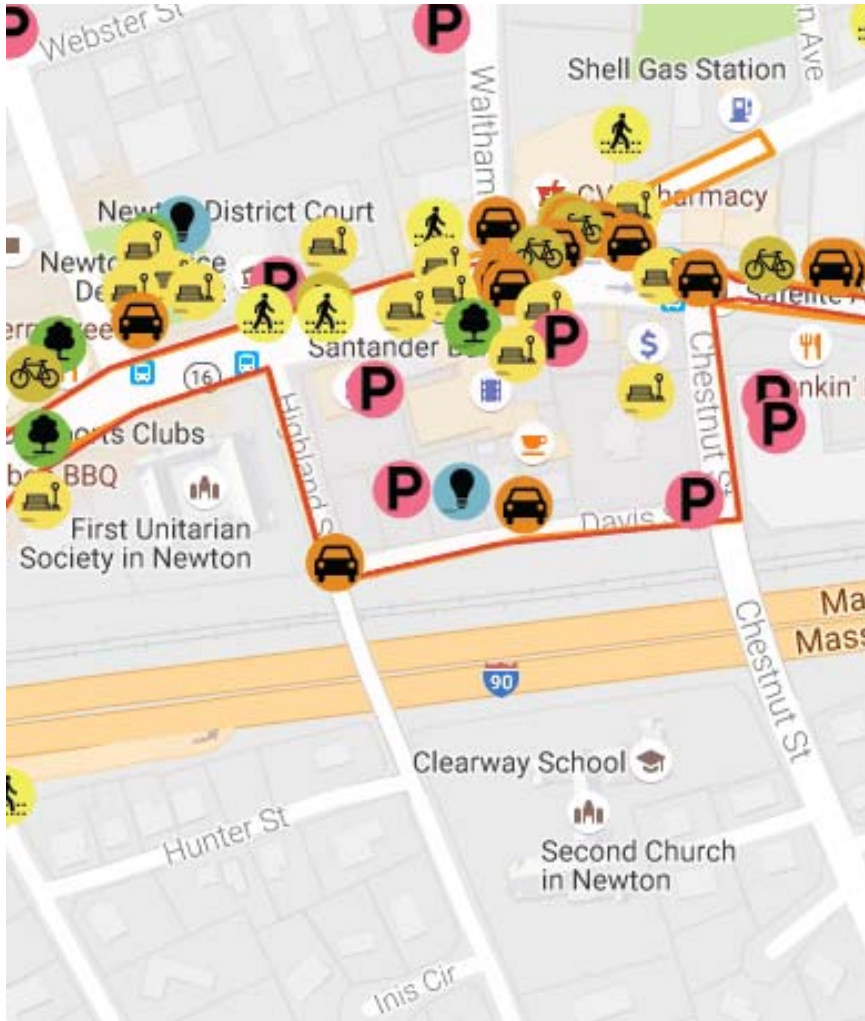
BIKE SHARE & BIKE FACILITIES

Relevance: Expanding bicycle uses requires investment in infrastructure; Bikeshare has proven successful in neighboring communities.

Projected Outcome: Better facilities = more cycling

Photo: Adam Coppola Photography

VILLAGE ENHANCEMENTS

Relevance: Transportation improvements should contribute to each village's unique character

Projected Outcome: Transportation and design improvements are planned for West Newton, Newtonville, & Newton Corner

CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS

Relevance: Major transportation corridors represent opportunities for transformation

Projected Outcome: Needham St – implementation by MassDOT
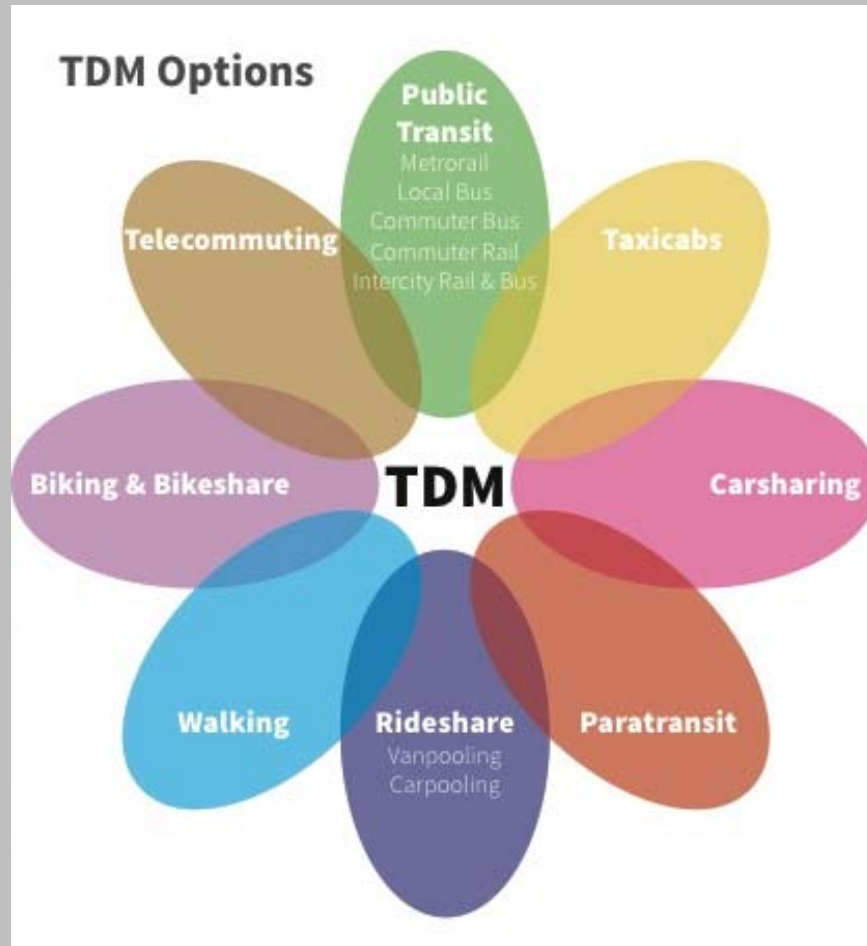**Washington St – community engagement**

VISION ZERO POLICY

Relevance: Newton has a higher number of traffic related injuries compared to neighboring communities

Projected Outcome: Establish policies that focus on safety in transportation

TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE

Relevance: No standards in place to reduce transportation impacts of new development

**Projected Outcome: Incorporate Transportation Demand Management
as a part of the Zoning Redesign Ordinance**

Graphic: Mobility Lab

Photo: SA 3.0

ADVOCATE FOR BETTER MBTA TRANSIT SERVICE

Relevance: Inadequate service and inaccessible stations limit ridership growth

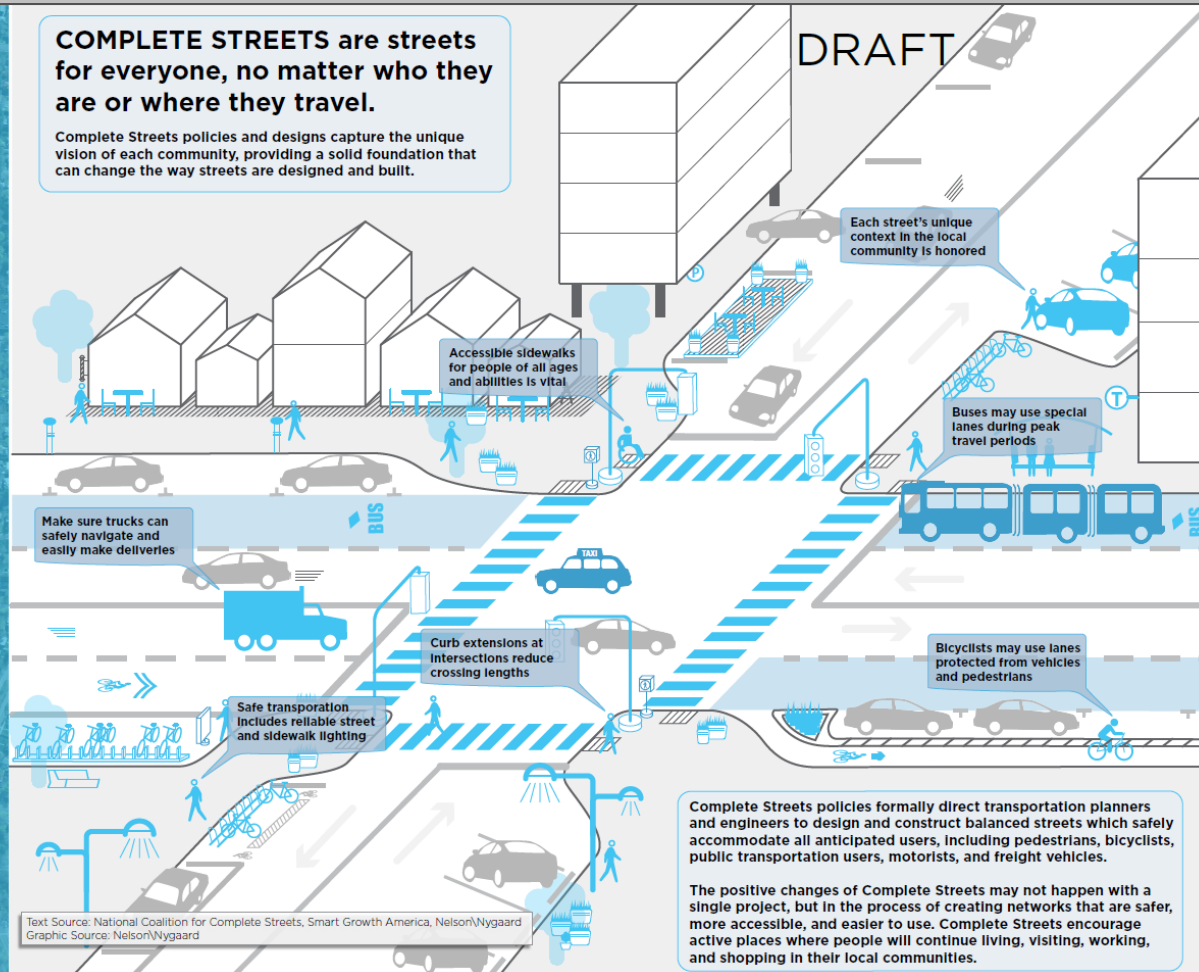**Projected Outcome: Lobby for universal accessibility and increased transit frequency**
Participate in the MBTA's Focus40 project

COMPLETE STREETS are streets for everyone, no matter who they are or where they travel.

Complete Streets policies and designs capture the unique vision of each community, providing a solid foundation that can change the way streets are designed and built.

DRAFT

COMPLETE STREETS 101

Each street's unique context in the local community is honored

Accessible sidewalks for people of all ages and abilities is vital

Buses may use special lanes during peak travel periods

Make sure trucks can safely navigate and easily make deliveries

Curb extensions at intersections reduce crossing lengths

Bicyclists may use lanes protected from vehicles and pedestrians

Safe transporation includes reliable street and sidewalk lighting

Complete Streets policies formally direct transportation planners and engineers to design and construct balanced streets which safely accommodate all anticipated users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation users, motorists, and freight vehicles.

The positive changes of Complete Streets may not happen with a single project, but in the process of creating networks that are safer, more accessible, and easier to use. Complete Streets encourage active places where people will continue living, visiting, working, and shopping in their local communities.

Text Source: National Coalition for Complete Streets, Smart Growth America, Nelson\Nygaard
Graphic Source: Nelson\Nygaard

STREET DESIGN GUIDE

Relevance: No current standards for roadway design or streetscape features

Projected Outcome: Produce a Street Design Guide

THAT'S NOT ALL...

| Vision	Examples of the Additional Actions
SAFE	• Improve lighting • Engage in ongoing safety education and outreach
SMART	• Develop data-driven and coordinated decision-making processes
ACCESSIBLE	• Install directional signs • Upgrade to universally accessible curb ramps and accessible pedestrian signals
LIVABLE	• Pursue creative placemaking opportunities • Plant and maintain street-trees
SUSTAINABLE	• Expand EV charging • Integrate stormwater management in street design
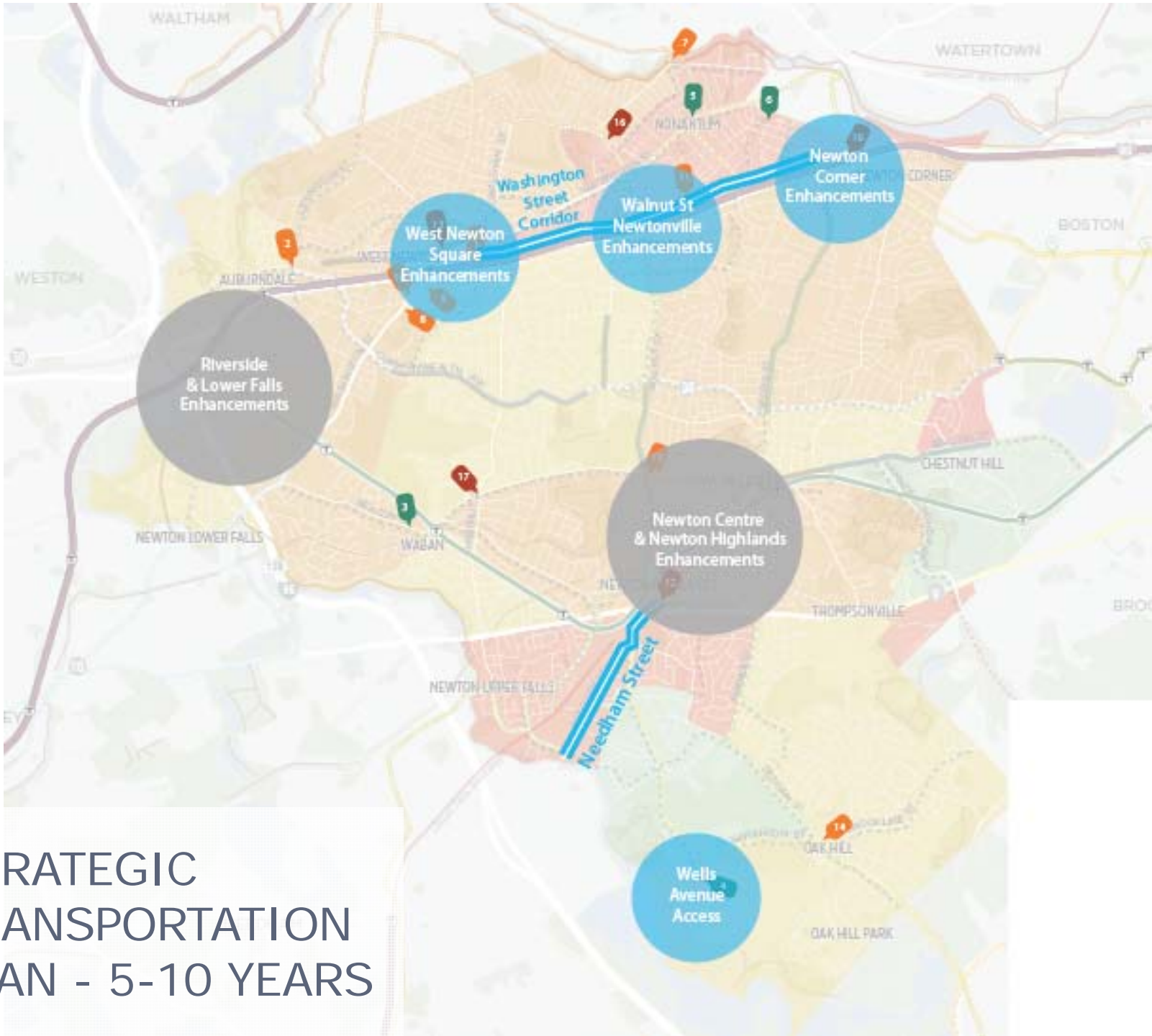
STRATEGIC
TRANSPORTATION
PLAN - 5-10 YEARS