



# NEEDHAM - NEWTON

COMMUNITY WAY

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING  
APRIL 18, 2023



Engineering | Design | Planning | Construction Management

# WELCOME!

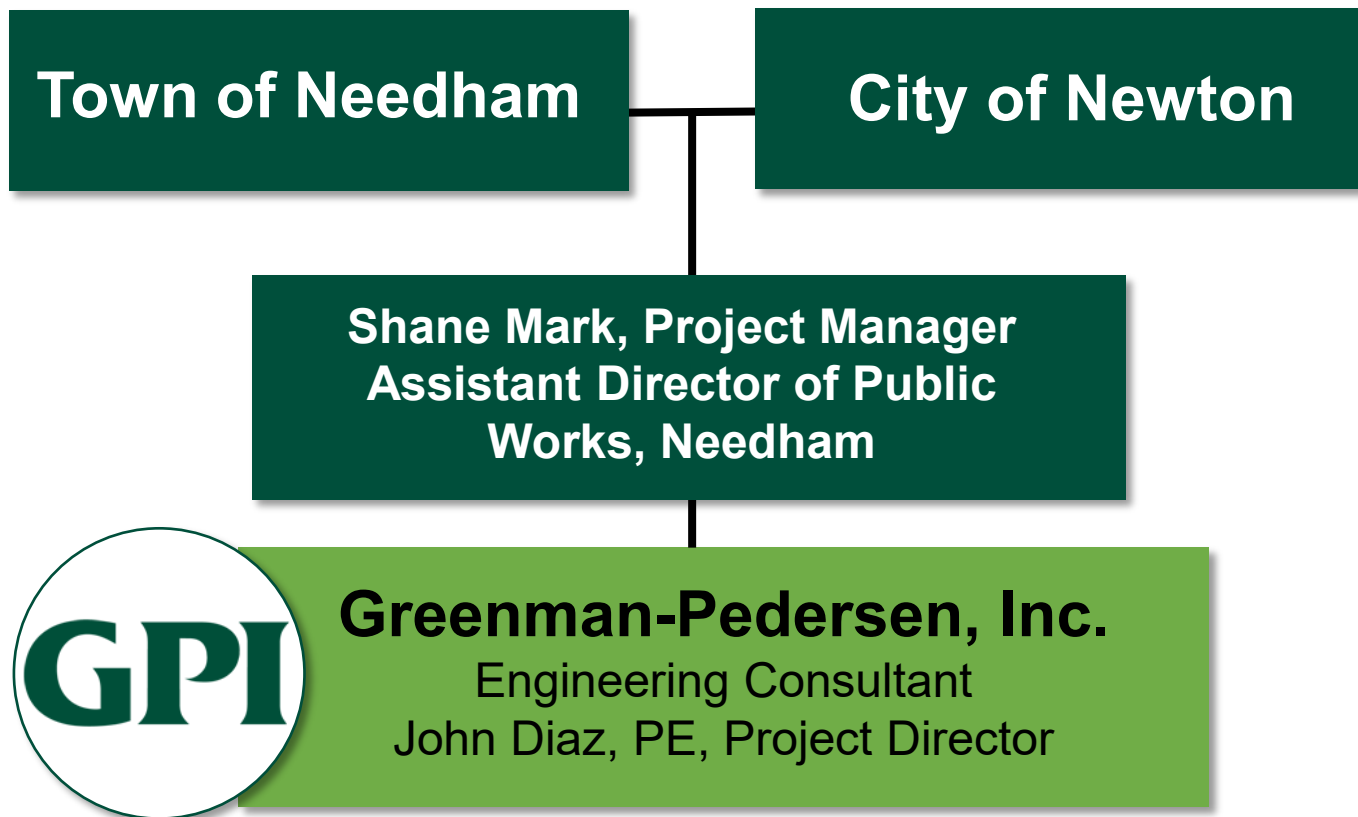
This meeting is being recorded. By continuing to be in the meeting you are consenting to be recorded.

The recording will be posted on the Town of Needham and City of Newton websites:

<http://needhamma.gov/communityway>

<https://www.newtonma.gov/government/planning/transportation-planning/projects/community-way>

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Purpose of the Meeting
3. Scope and Timing of the Feasibility Study
4. Project Area Overview
5. Community Way Design Considerations
6. Next Steps
7. Questions And Comments
8. Informal Discussions over Base Maps – Review Maps, Ask Questions, Leave Comments

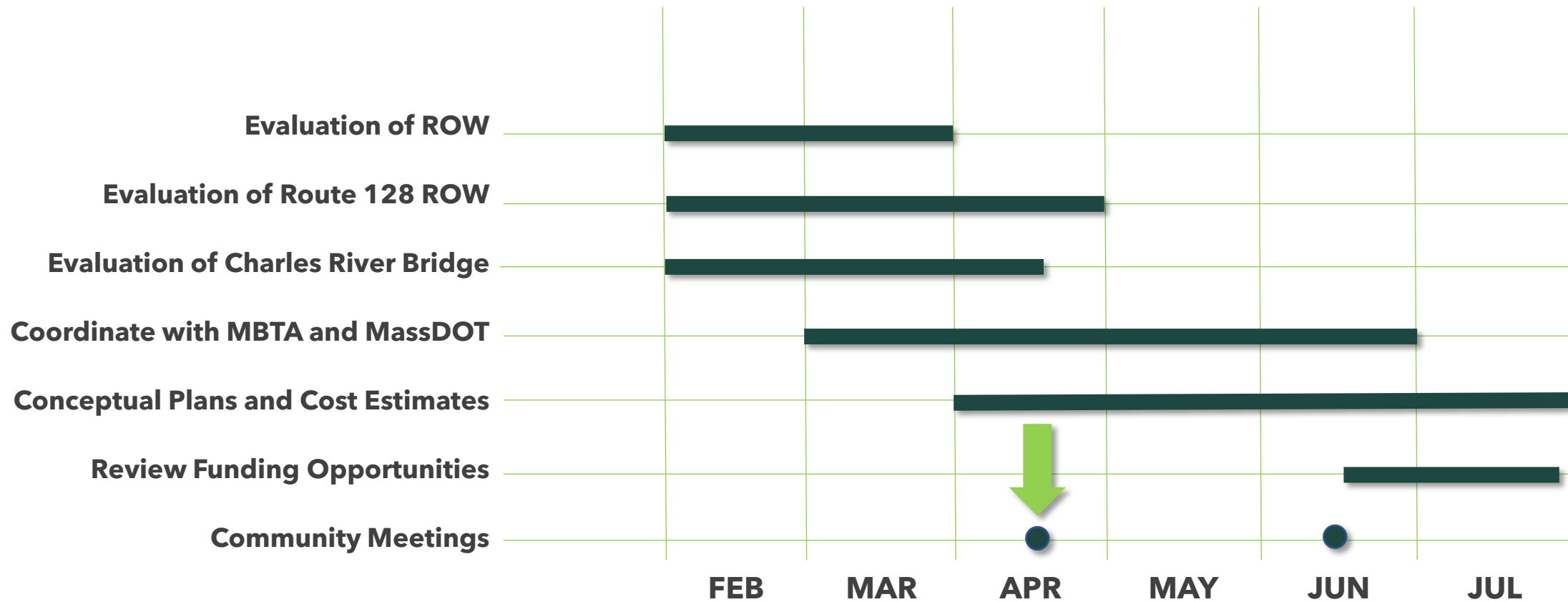


The purpose of this meeting is two-fold:

- to **inform the public** about the preparation of a feasibility study for potential multi-modal use of the MBTA owned corridor between Webster Street and the Upper Falls Greenway; and
- to **collect public input** regarding the potential multi-modal use of the corridor.

The project is a **feasibility study** for providing a community ‘way’ between Webster Street in Needham and the Upper Falls Greenway in Newton. The feasibility study will consider a shared use path ***designed to accommodate only bicycles and pedestrians*** versus a facility ***designed to accommodate bicycles, pedestrians and electric shuttle buses***. *The feasibility study is funded by a federal grant which defined the study scope. No recommendations will be made.*

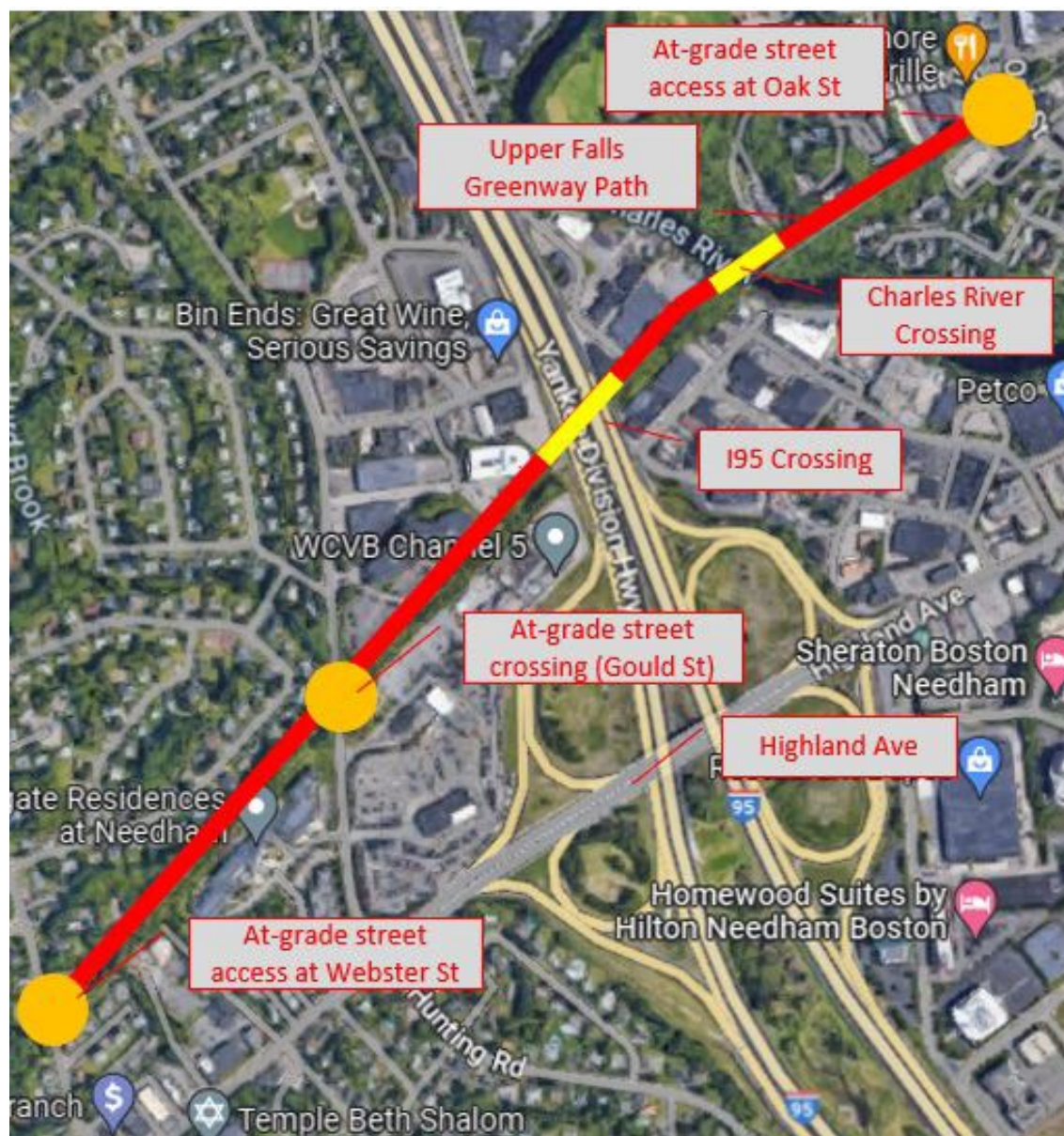
# PROJECT SCHEDULE



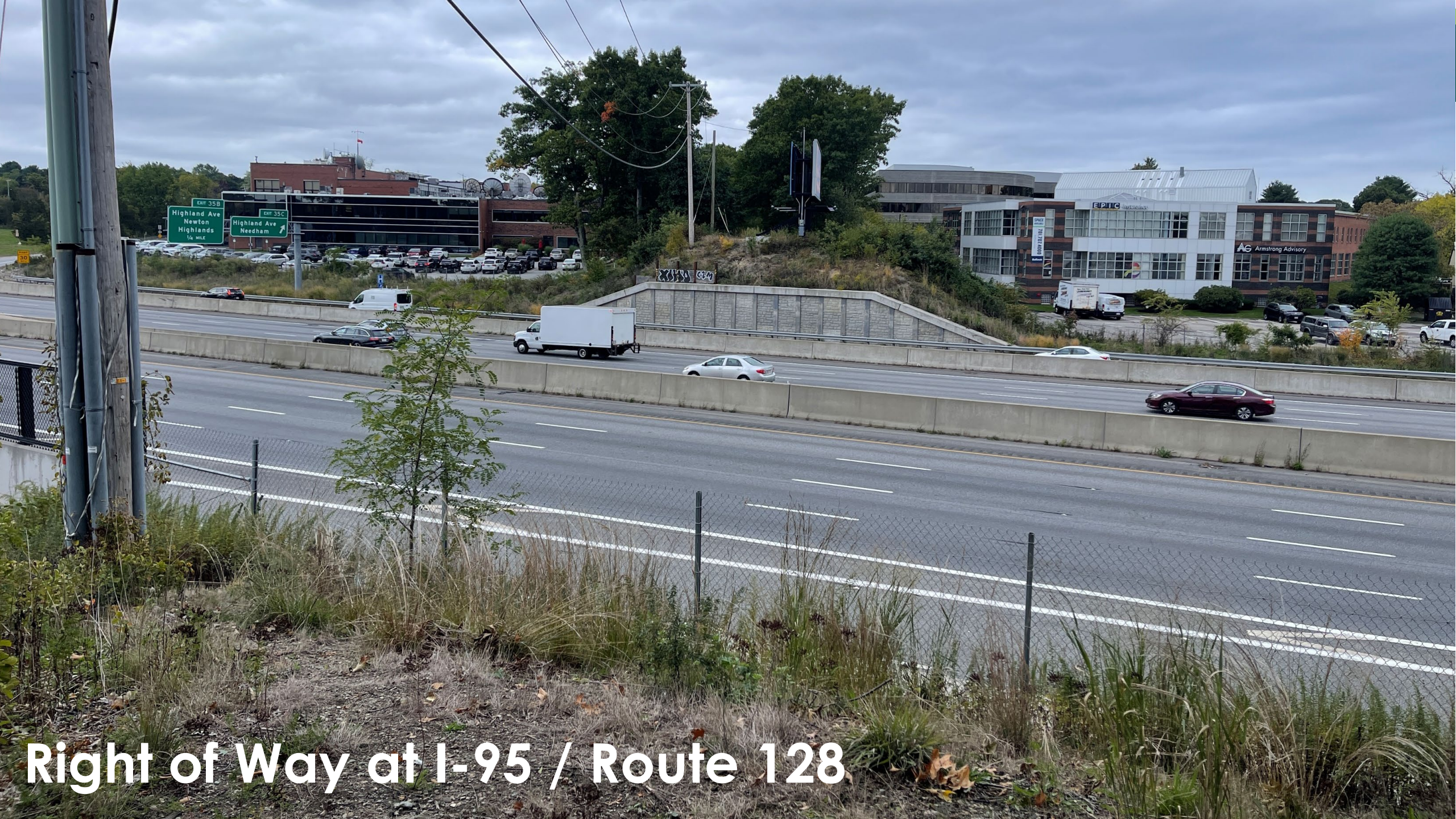
# PROJECT AREA

Corridor length is approximately 4,000 linear feet

Corridor width is typically 82.5 feet







Right of Way at I-95 / Route 128



**Bridge over the Charles River**



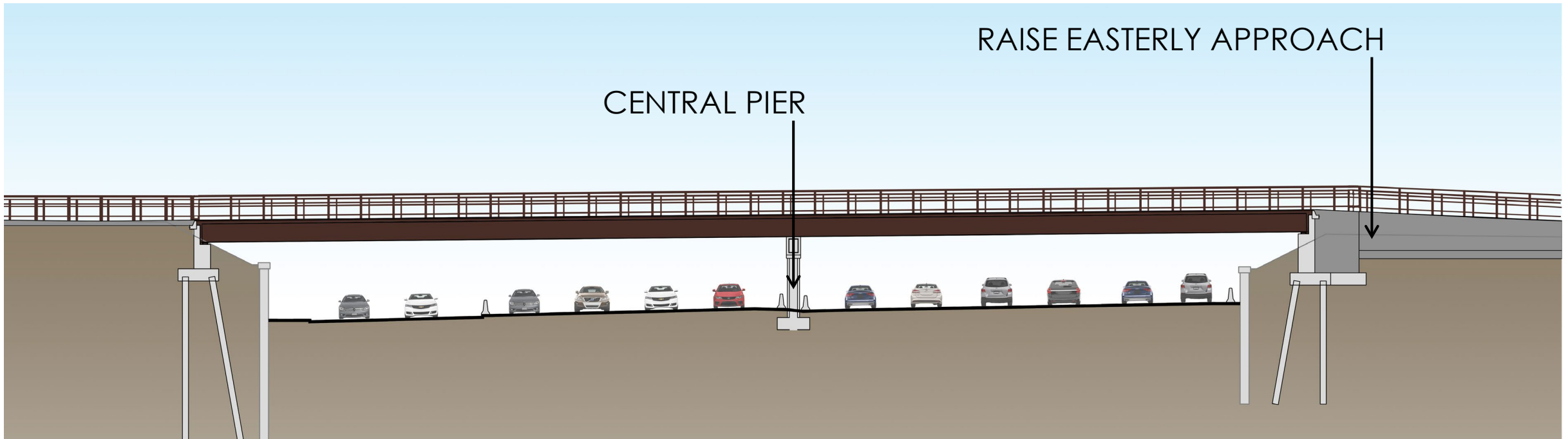
Corridor Conditions



NO  
PARKING  
NO  
TRESPASSING  
NO  
DUMPING  
222-1212

Corridor Conditions

# I-95 / ROUTE 128 BRIDGE DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS



Easterly approach would need to be raised to meet vertical clearance standards for I-95 / Route 128.

Central pier for a two-span bridge structure requires MassDOT / FHWA approval.



**GPI**

# CHARLES RIVER BRIDGE DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

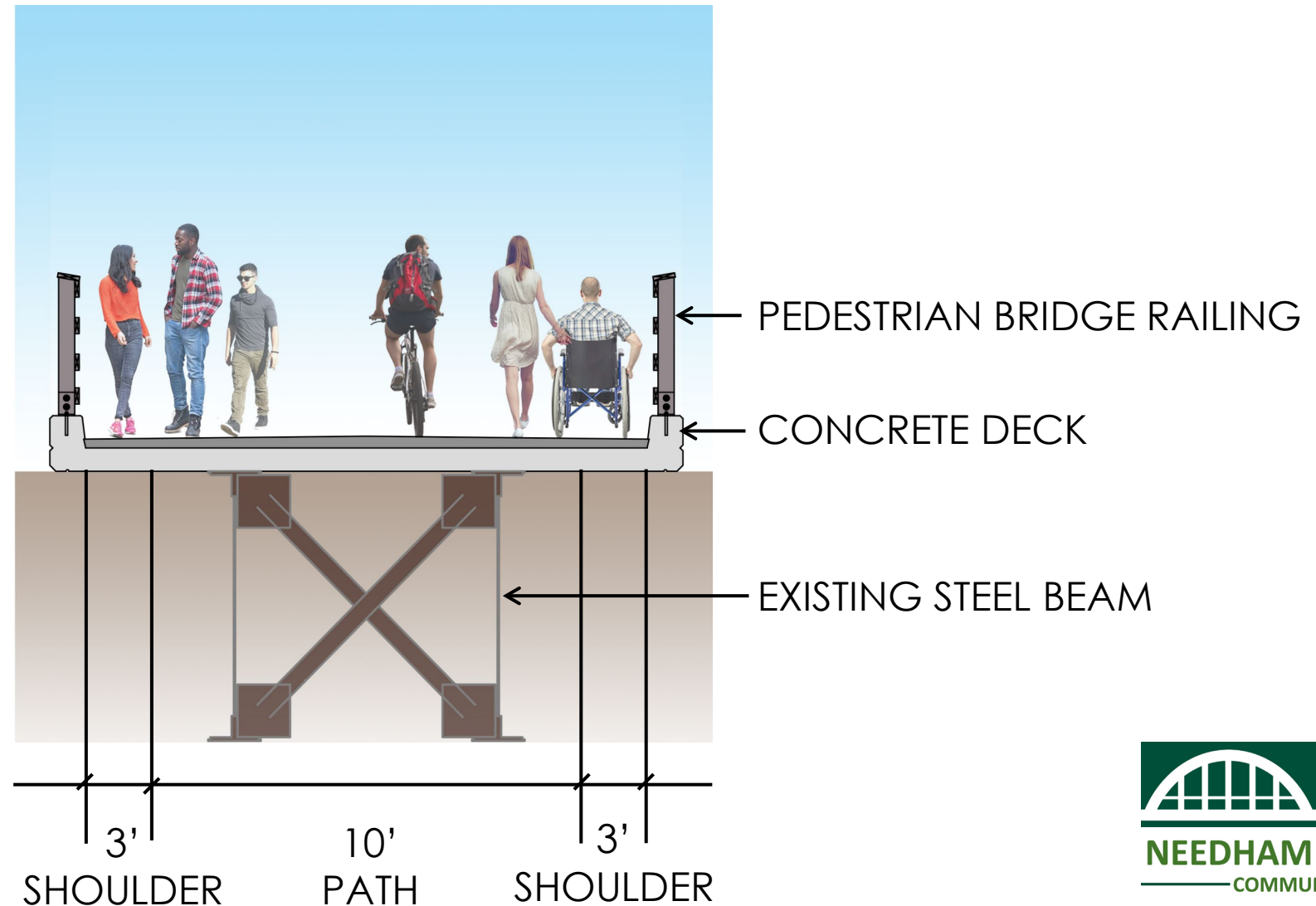
- Existing structure: steel stringers on concrete abutments - satisfactory condition
- Deck needs replacement
- Concrete deck needed for Shared Use Path
- Existing beams suitable for pedestrian/cyclist only path – **16-foot useable width maximum**
- Larger path for transit/bikes/pedestrians (**up to 26-foot usable width**) would require **new concrete abutment sections** to widen bridge



Existing South Substructure

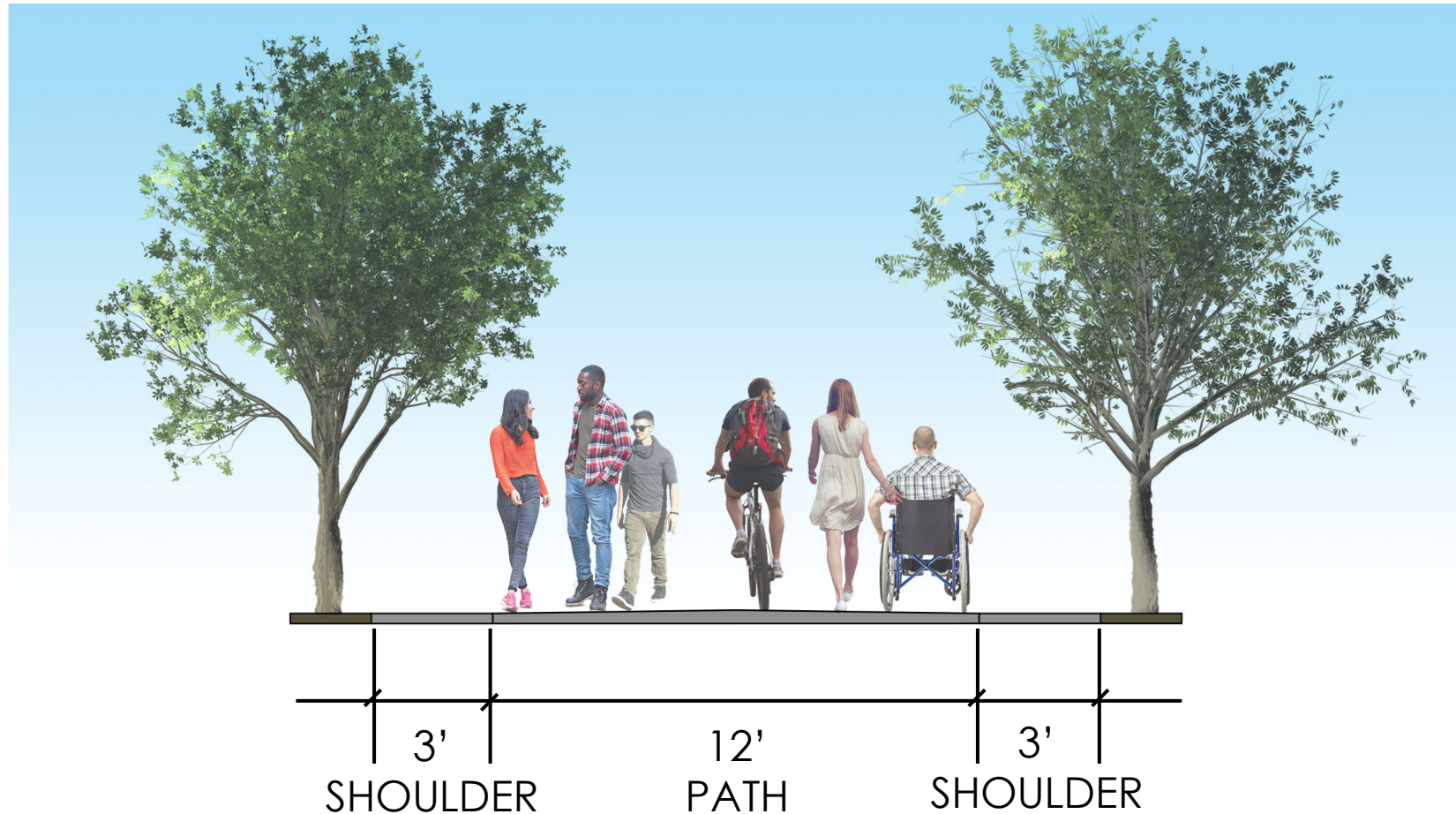
# CHARLES RIVER BRIDGE DESIGN OPTION: 16-FEET - PEDESTRIANS / BICYCLES

Maximum path width for existing substructure on Charles River Bridge





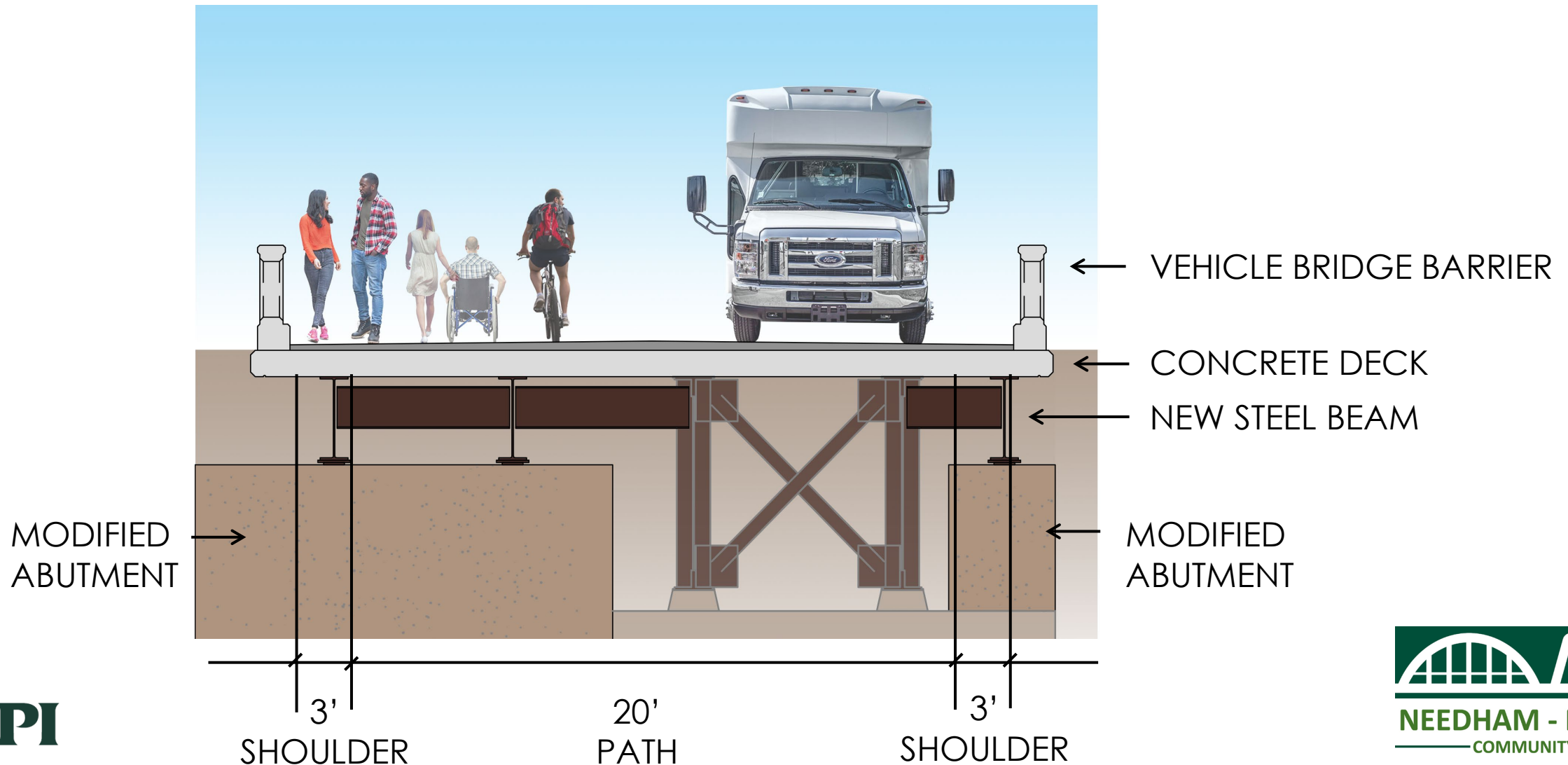
# PATH DESIGN OPTION: 18-FEET: PEDESTRIANS / BICYCLES



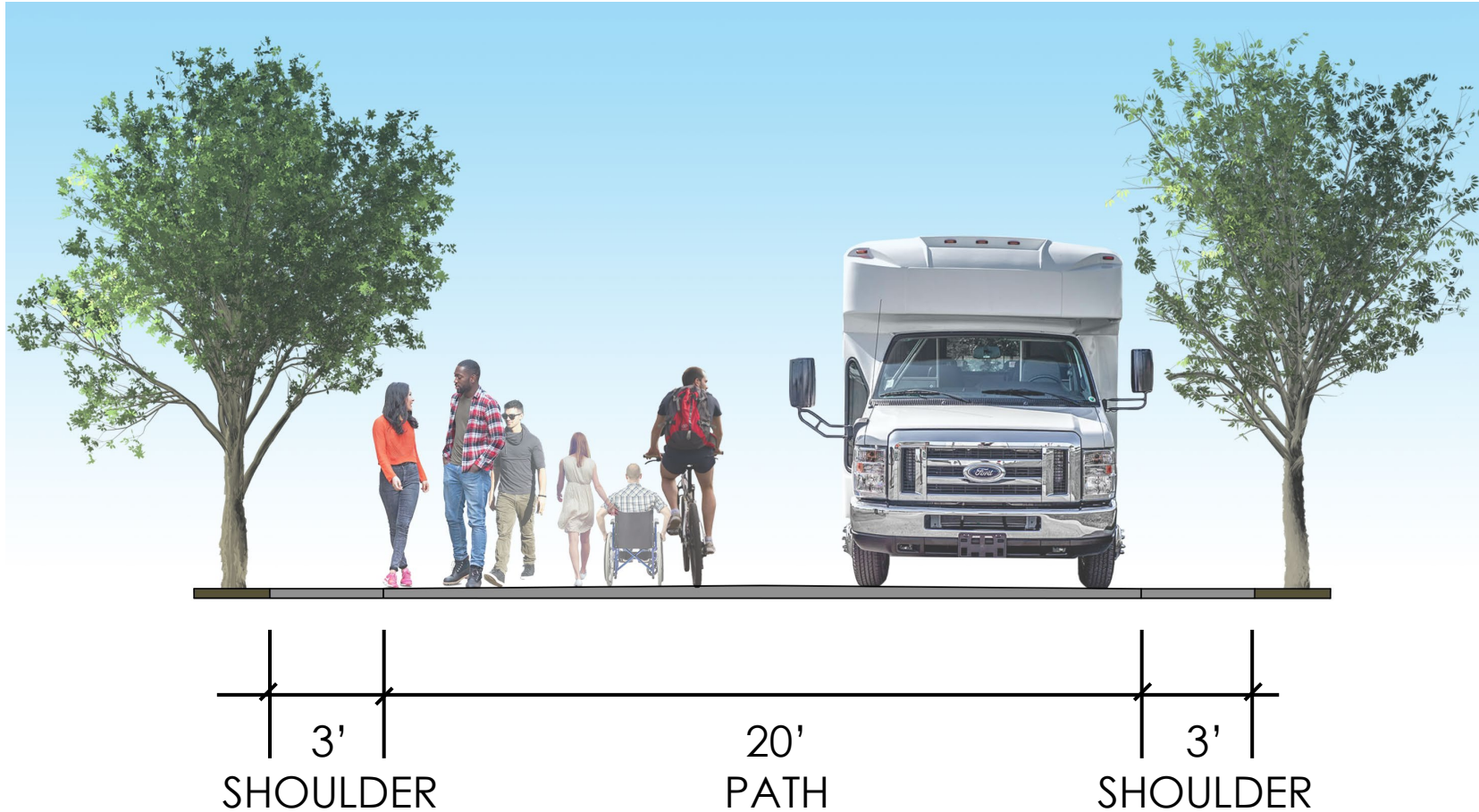
Typical minimum path width – MassDOT Standards  
May need exception for narrower bridge from MassDOT

# CHARLES RIVER BRIDGE DESIGN OPTION: 26-FEET - PEDESTRIANS / BICYCLES / SHUTTLES

Maximum path width for expanded substructure on Charles River Bridge



# PATH DESIGN OPTION 26-FEET: PEDESTRIANS / BICYCLES / SHUTTLES



- 1. Continue Feasibility Study of Community Way**
  - Develop Design Alternatives
  - Prepare Cost Estimates
- 2. Review Public Input**
- 3. Present Feasibility Study Findings at Community Meeting #2 - June 2023 (date to be determined)**

**We would like your input!**

**Online survey link:**

<https://forms.office.com/r/B0dkVpcDNb>



**Survey Open Until April 30th**



Thank You!

Questions and Comments

**GPI**