



Silver Line Gateway

***Extension of Silver Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)
to Chelsea and East Boston***

**Public Informational Meeting
Chelsea, MA**

August 18, 2014

Introduction / Design Process

Design Team

- Joe Pavaio, PE, MassDOT Project Manager
- John McCormack, MBTA Project Manager
- Frank Astone, PE, AECOM

Municipal and Agency Partners

- City of Chelsea
- EOEEA
- MBTA
- MassDOT
- Massport

Project Phasing

- Phase I – MassDOT
 - Busway and BRT Stations at Mystic Mall, Box District, and Eastern Avenue;
 - Washington Avenue Bridge Replacement;
 - Shared Use Path
- Phase II – MBTA
 - Commuter Rail Station at Mystic Mall;
 - Decommissioning of existing commuter rail station
 - BRT Station at Downtown Chelsea
 - Evaluation of Busway traffic signal systems

Project Schedule

Phase I

- July 2014 Complete Final Design
- July 19, 2014 Advertise for Construction
- Mid/Late September 2014 Bid Opening
- November/December 2014 Anticipated Award and Notice to Proceed
- March/April 2015 Anticipated Start of Construction
- December 2016 Substantial Completion of Construction

Phase II

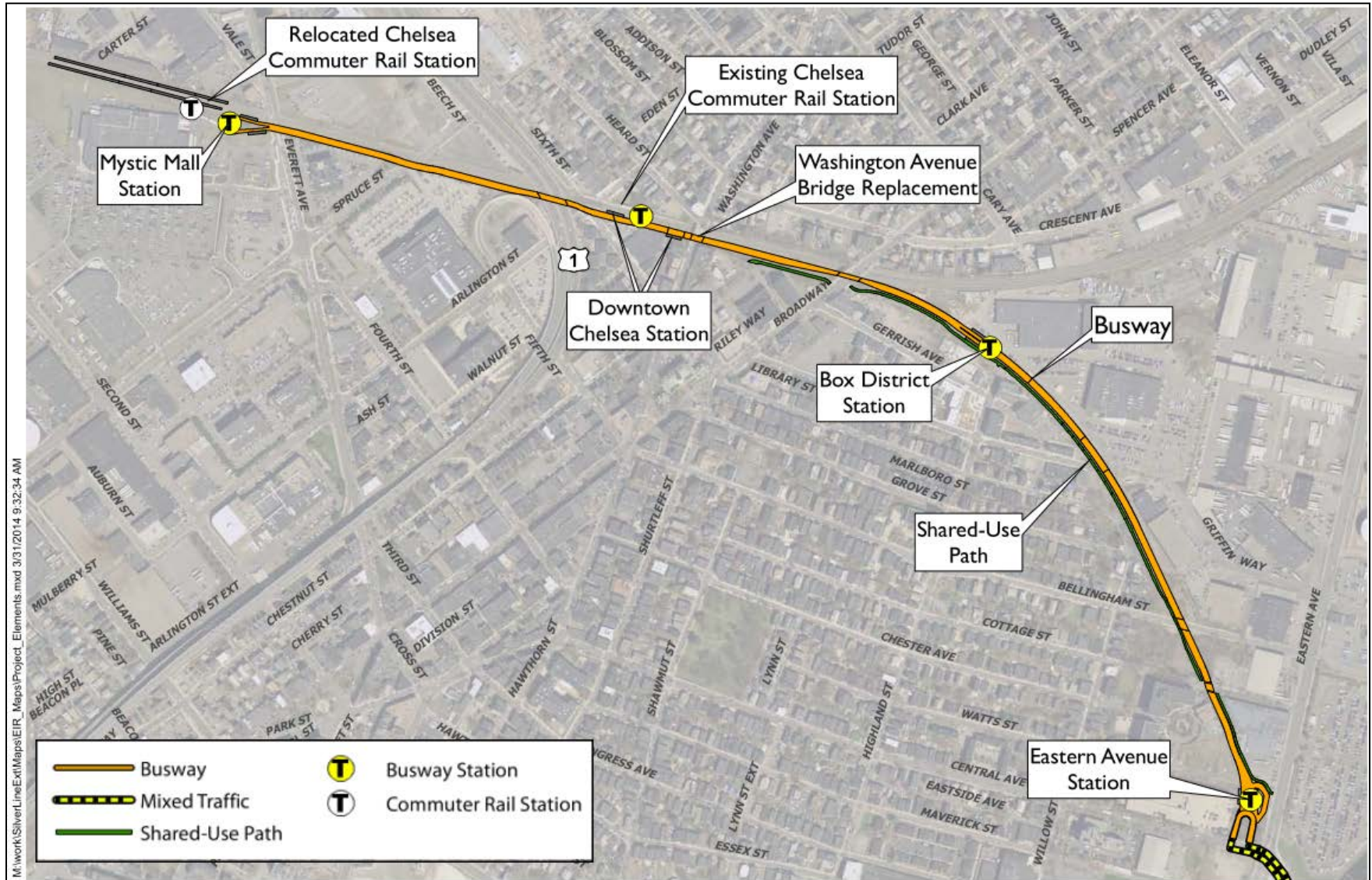
- 2014 - 2015 Design Development
- Summer 2015 Finalize Bid Documents & Advertise
- Fall 2015 Bidding & Award Construction Contract
- December 2017 Substantial Completion of Construction

Planning Study Overview

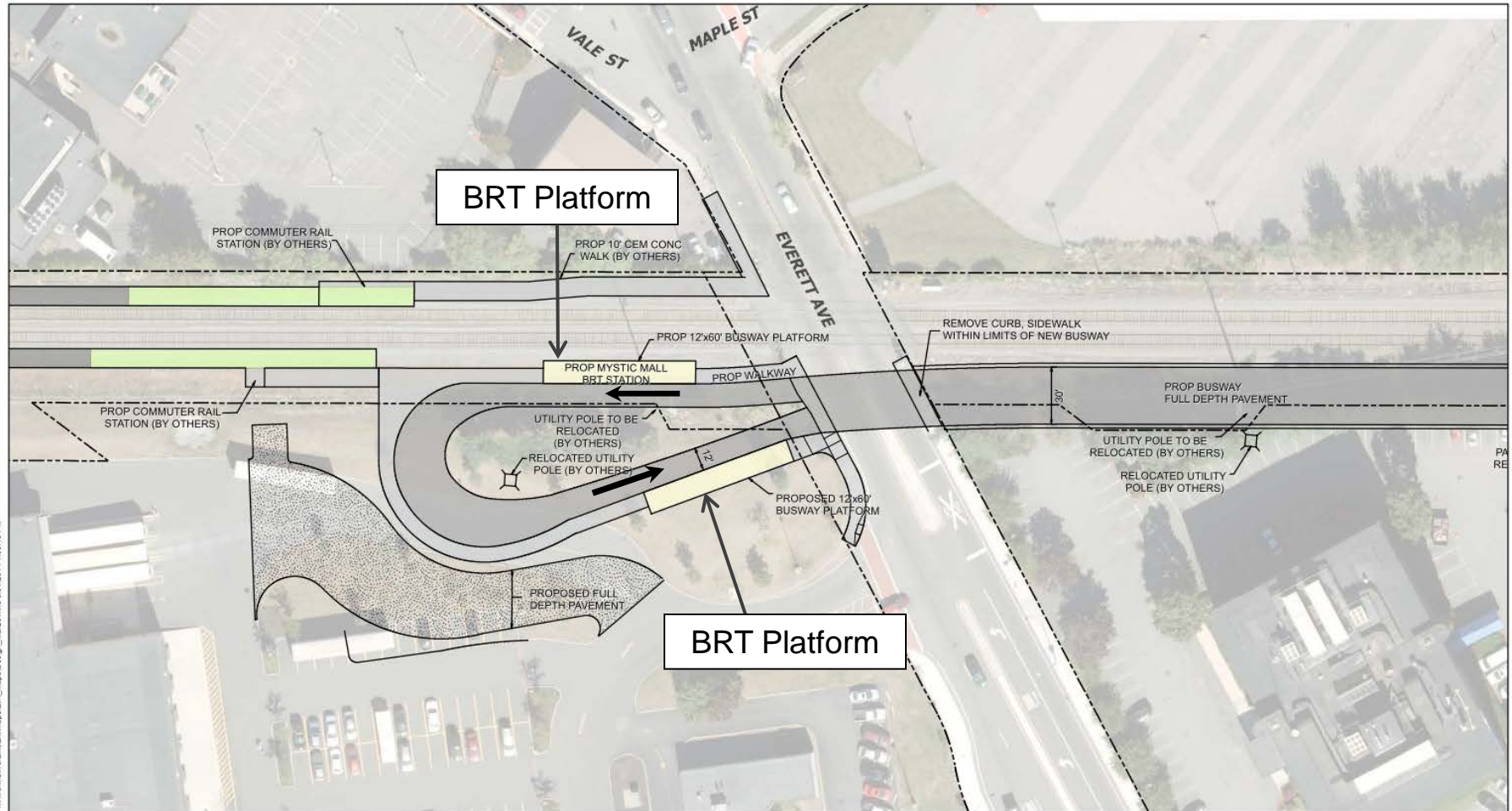
- About 5 miles long
- Diverse mix of land uses
- Many recent state investments
 - Silver Line Transitway
 - Williams Tunnel
 - Airport Station
 - Coughlin Bypass Road
 - Chelsea Street Bridge
 - Grand Junction purchase



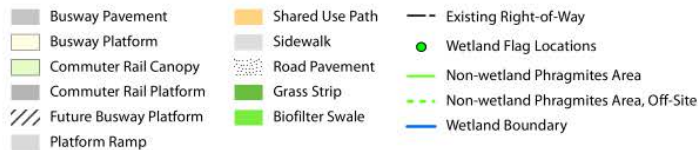
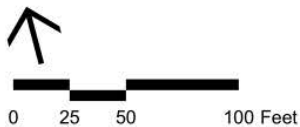
Proposed Project Elements



Busway – Everett Avenue



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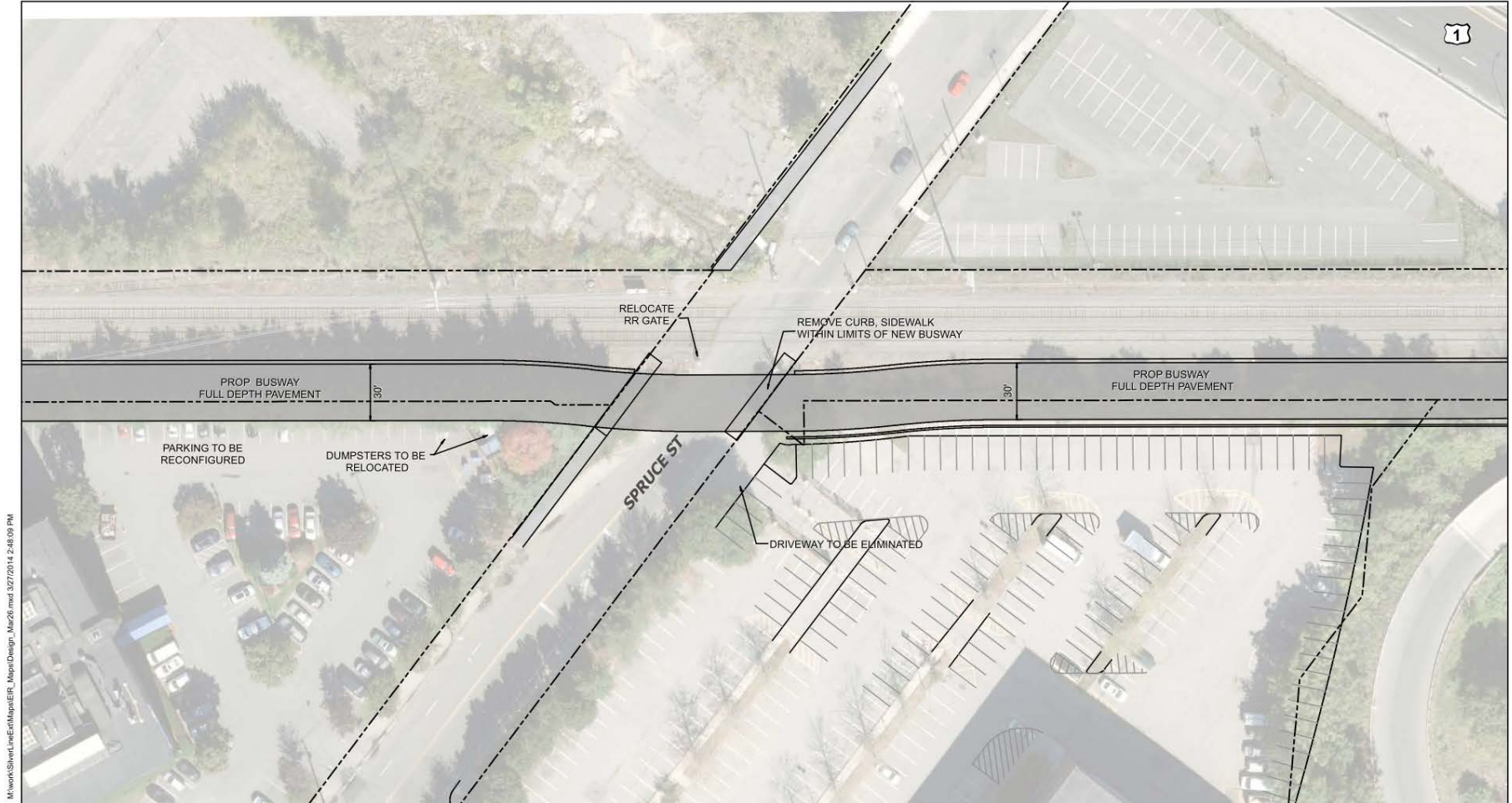


Proposed Improvements

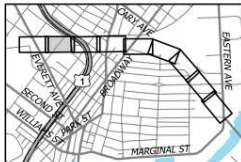
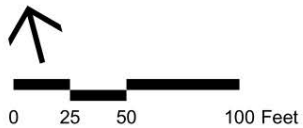
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SILVER LINE GATEWAY
Service to Chelsea, East Boston & the Blue Line

Busway – Spruce Street



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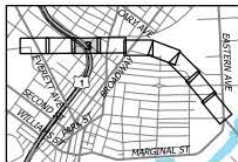
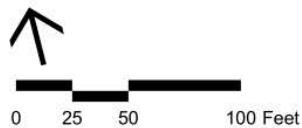
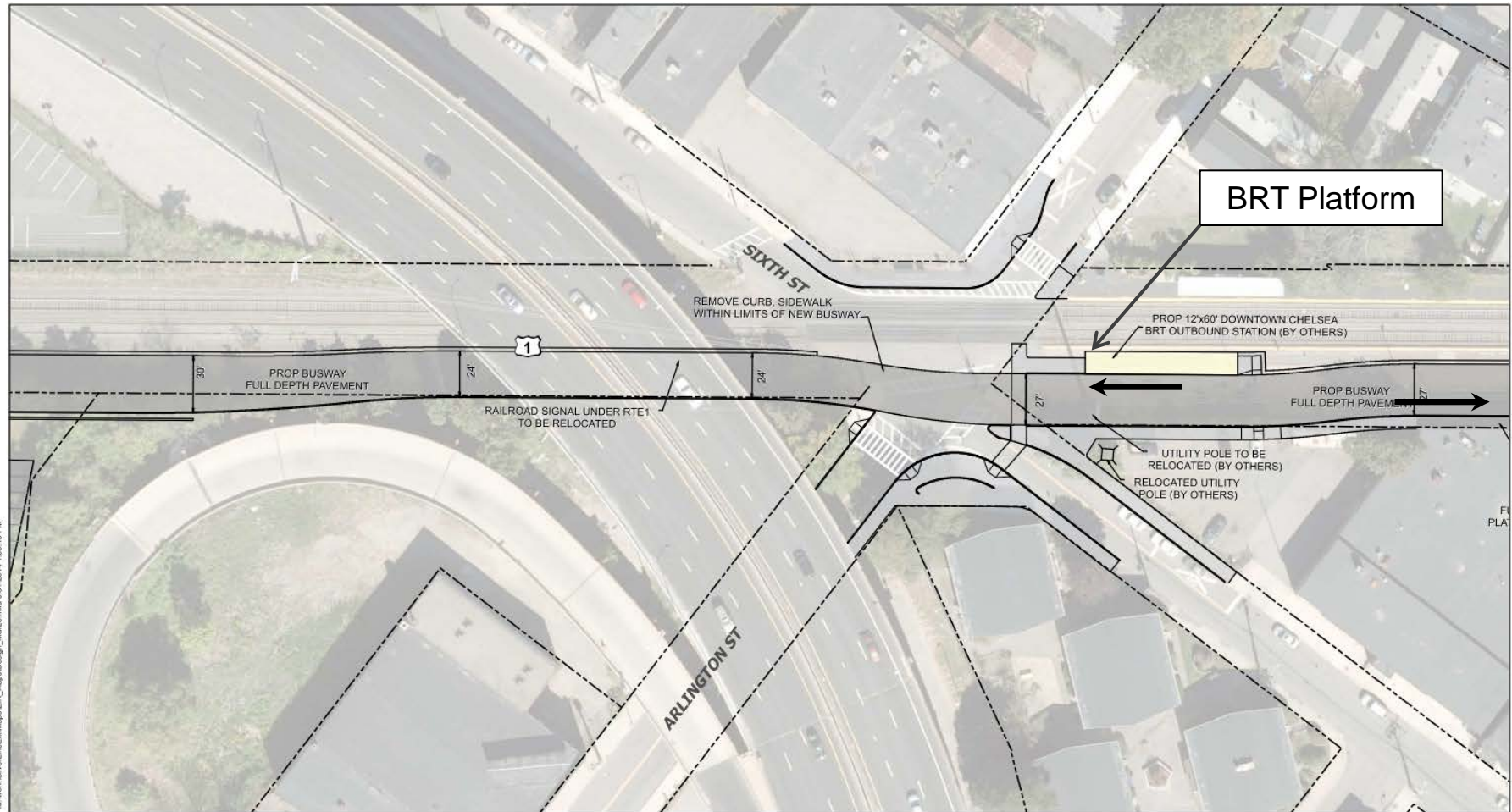
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|------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Busway Pavement | Shared Use Path | Existing Right-of-Way |
| Busway Platform | Sidewalk | Wetland Flag Locations |
| Commuter Rail Canopy | Road Pavement | Non-wetland Phragmites Area |
| Commuter Rail Platform | Grass Strip | Non-wetland Phragmites Area, Off-Site |
| Future Busway Platform | Biofilter Swale | Wetland Boundary |
| Platform Ramp | | |


Proposed Improvements

Sheet 2 of 9

SILVER LINE GATEWAY
Service to Chelsea, East Boston & the Blue Line

Busway – Arlington Street/Sixth Street



-  Busway Pavement
  Shared Use Path
  Existing Right-of-Way
 Busway Platform
  Sidewalk
  Wetland Flag Locations
 Commuter Rail Canopy
  Road Pavement
 Non-wetland Phragmites Area
 Commuter Rail Platform
 Grass Strip
 Non-wetland Phragmites Area, Off-Site
 Future Busway Platform
 Biofilter Swale
 Wetland Boundary
 Platform Ramp

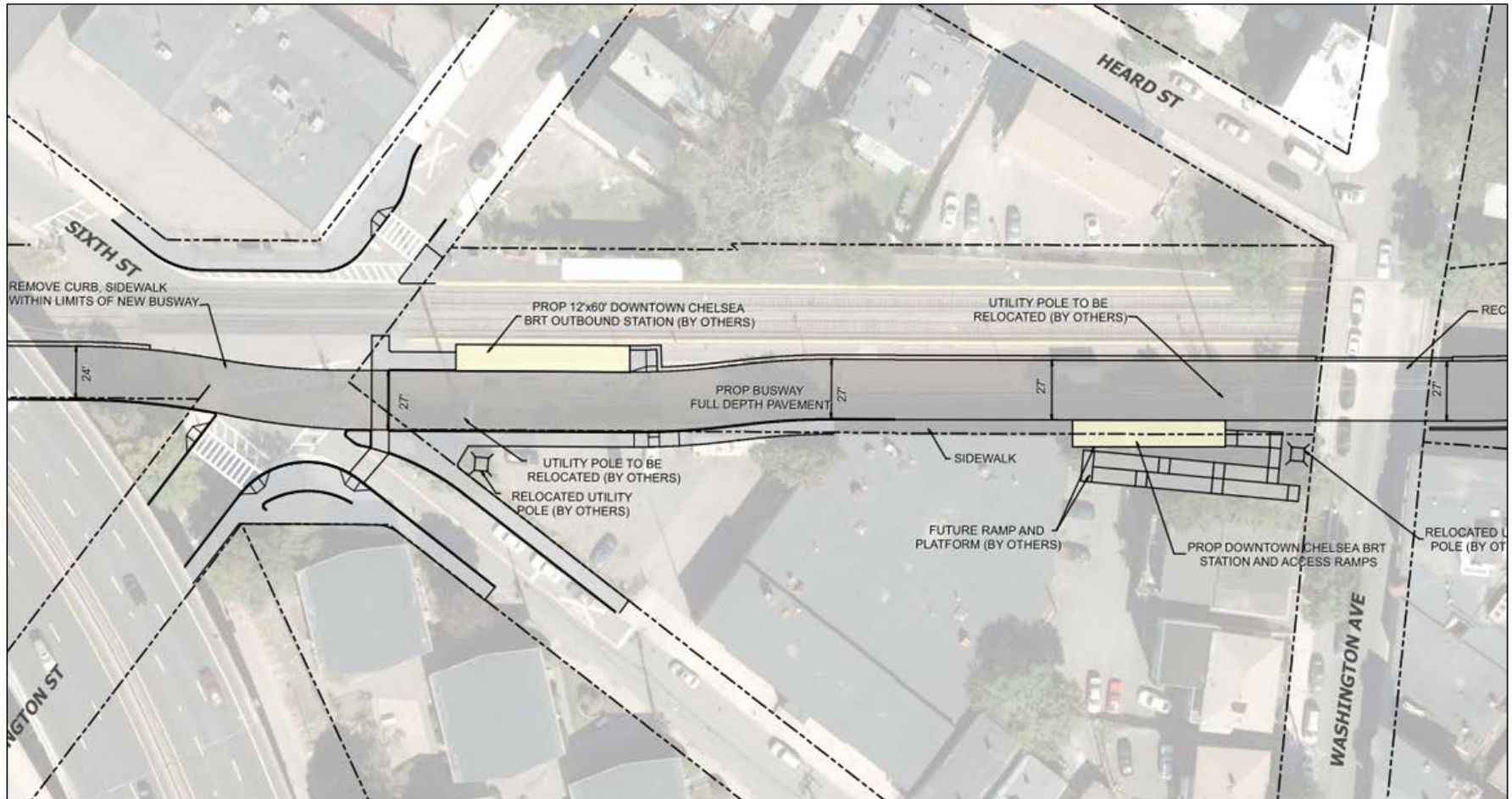
Proposed Improvements

Sheet 3 of 9

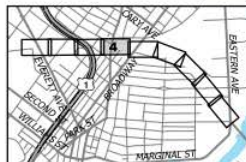
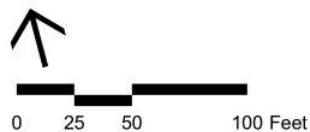
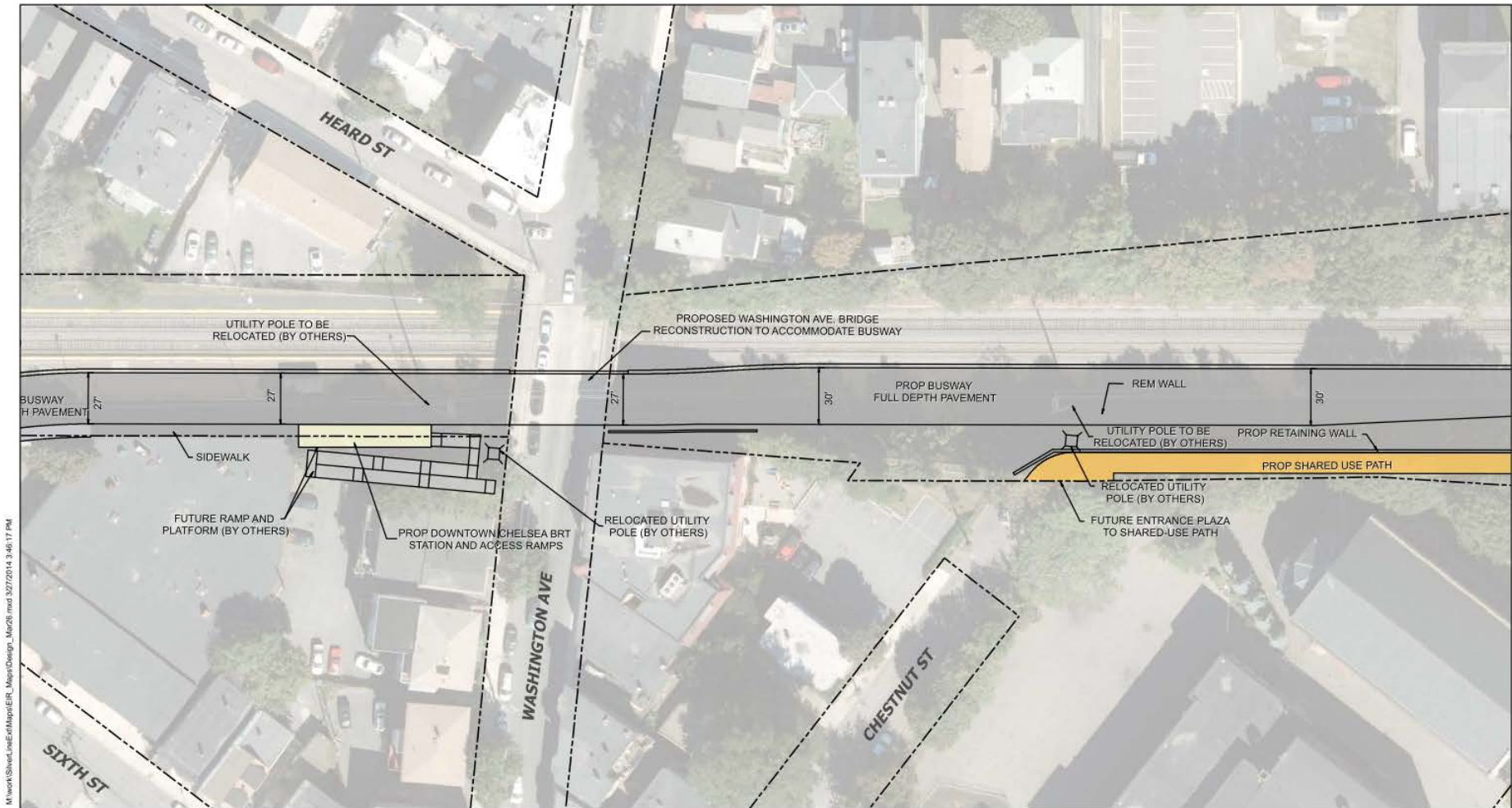


SILVER LINE GATEWAY
Service to Chelsea, East Boston & the Blue Line

Busway – Downtown Chelsea Station



Busway – Washington Avenue



-  Busway Pavement
  Shared Use Path
  Existing Right-of-Way
 Busway Platform
 Sidewalk
 Wetland Flag Locations
 Commuter Rail Canopy
 Road Pavement
 Non-wetland Phragmites Area
 Commuter Rail Platform
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 Biofilter Swale
 Wetland Boundary
 Future Ramp

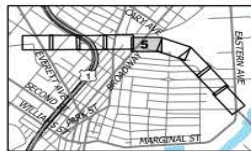
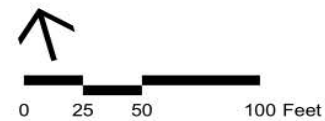
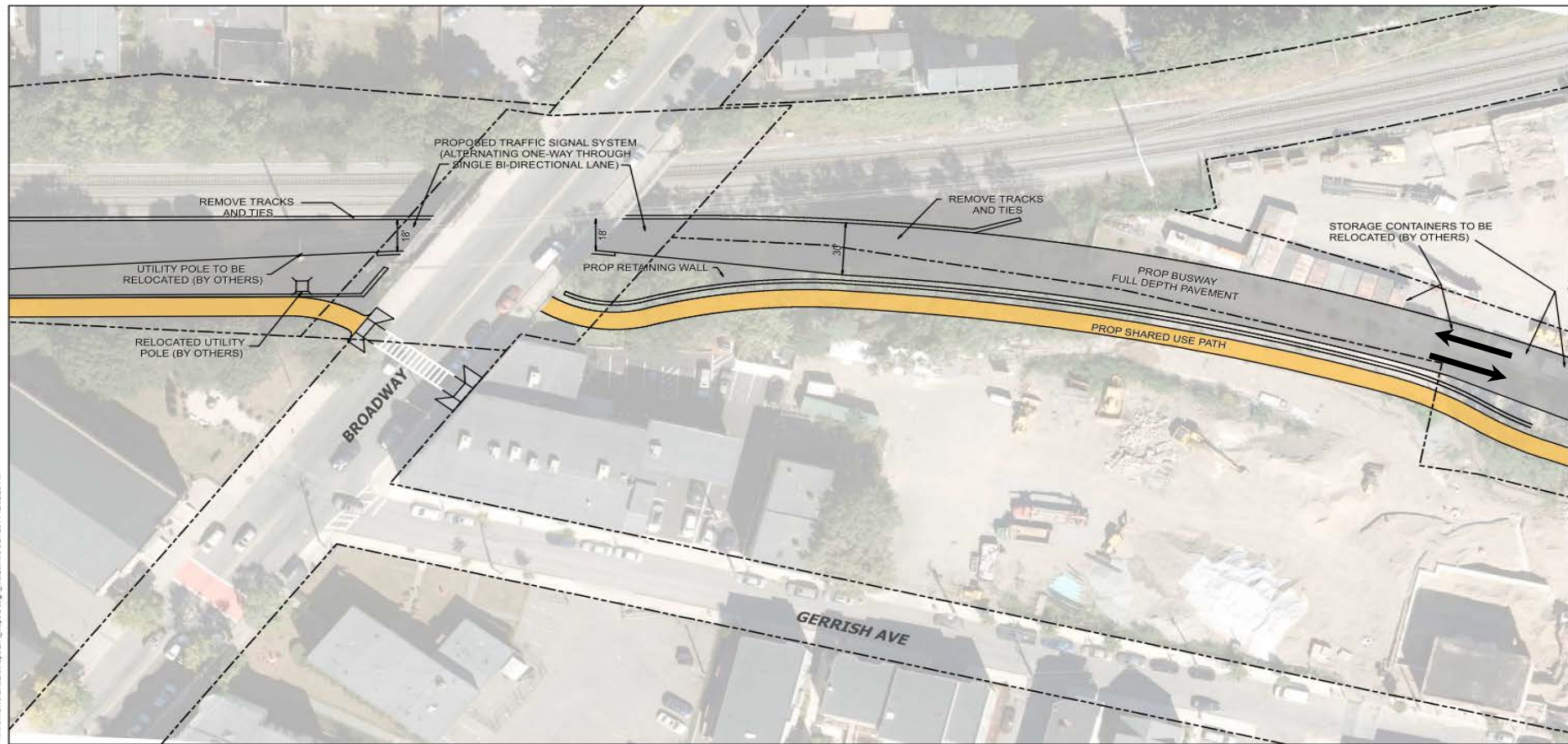
Proposed Improvements

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SILVER LINE GATEWAY
Service to Chelsea, East Boston & the Blue Line



Busway – Broadway



- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Busway Pavement | Shared Use Path | Existing Right-of-Way |
| Busway Platform | Sidewalk | Wetland Flag Locations |
| Commuter Rail Canopy | Road Pavement | Non-wetland Phragmites Area |
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| Future Busway Platform | Biofilter Swale | Wetland Boundary |
| Platform Ramp | | |

Proposed Improvements

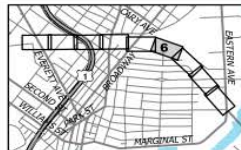
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SILVER LINE GATEWAY
Service to Chelsea, East Boston & the Blue Line

Busway – Box District Station



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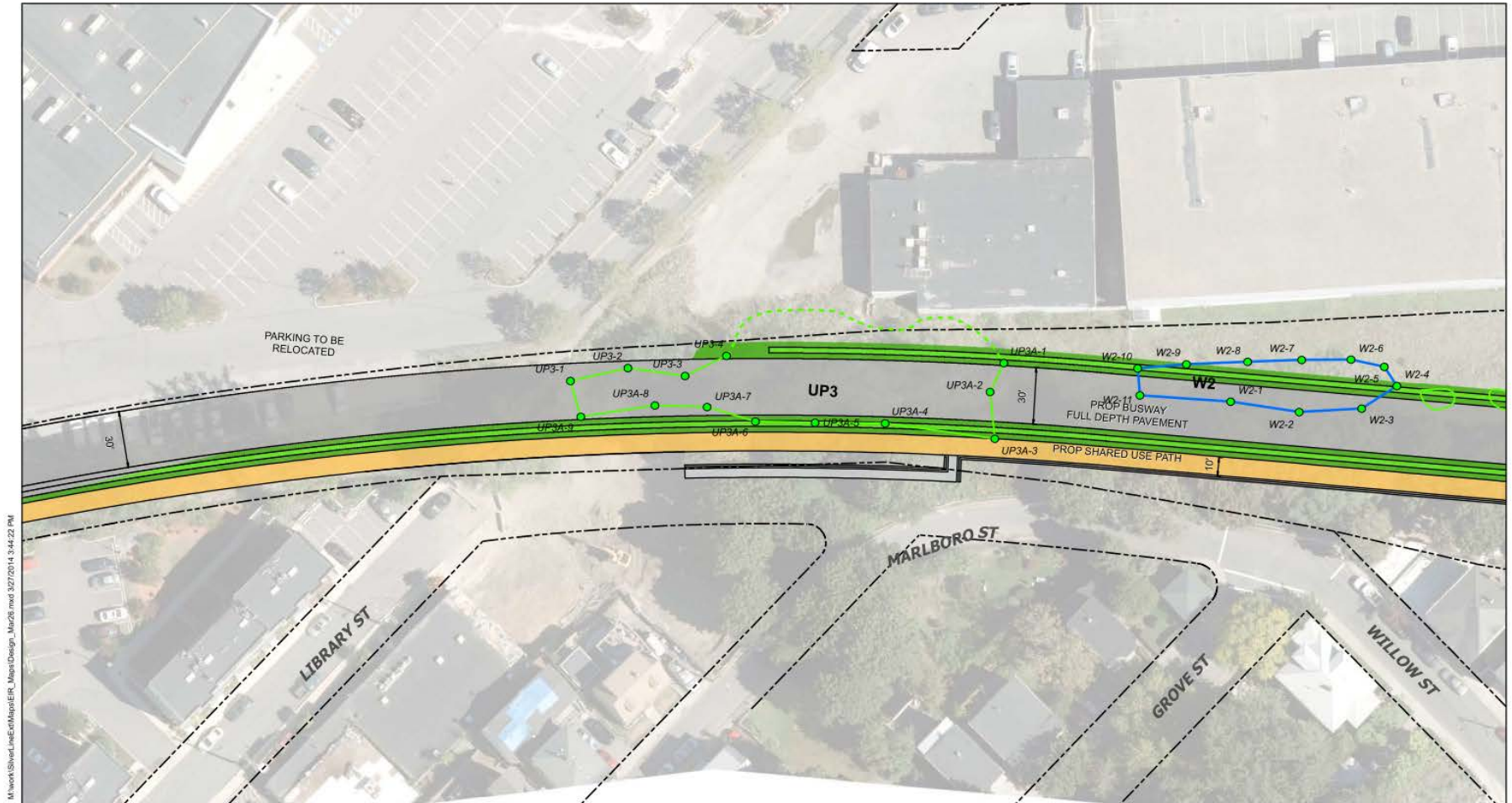
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Proposed Improvements

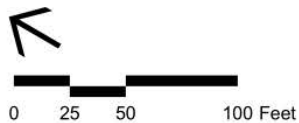
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SILVER LINE GATEWAY
Service to Chelsea, East Boston & the Blue Line

Busway – Library and Marlboro Streets



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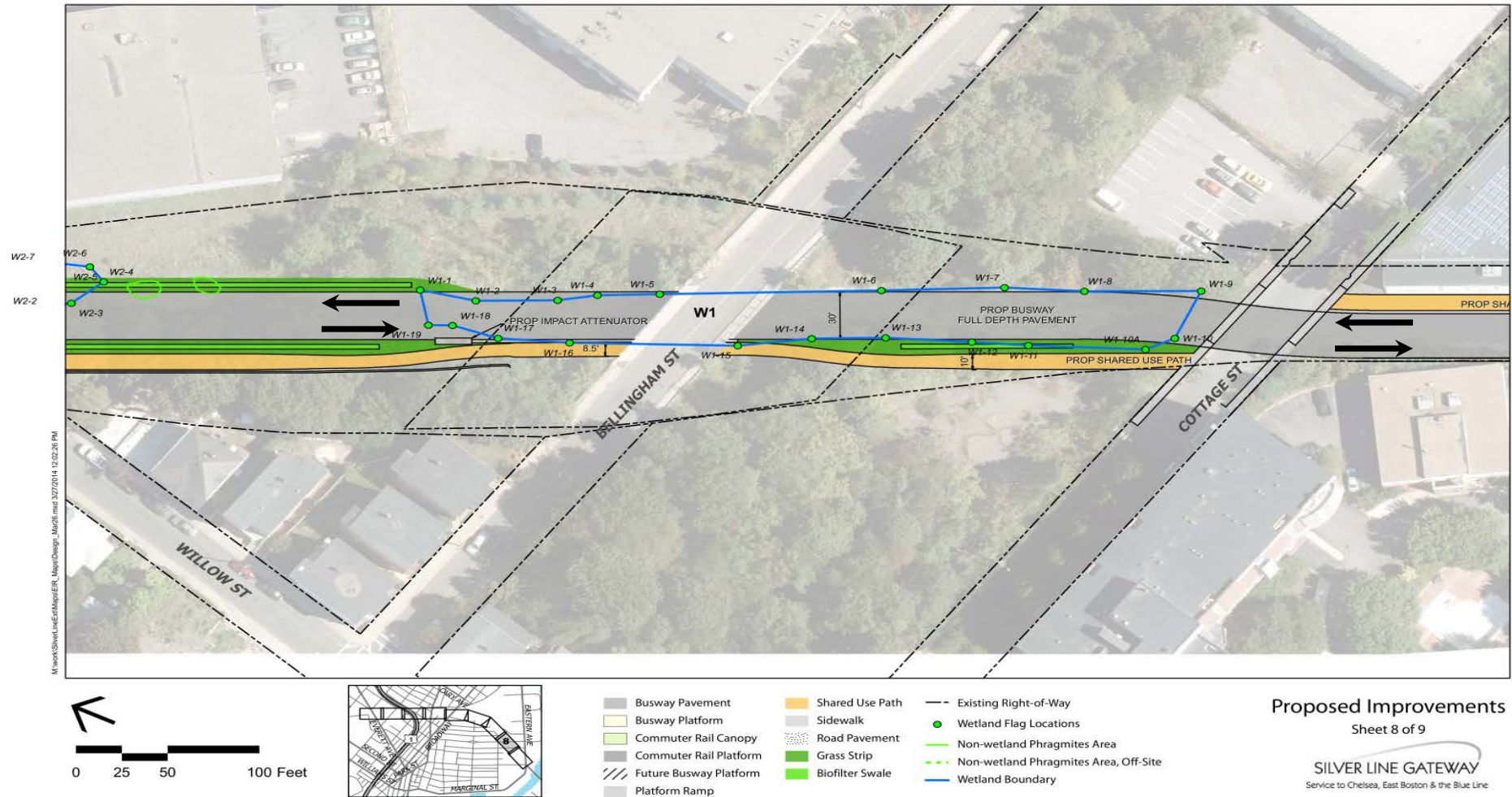
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Proposed Improvements

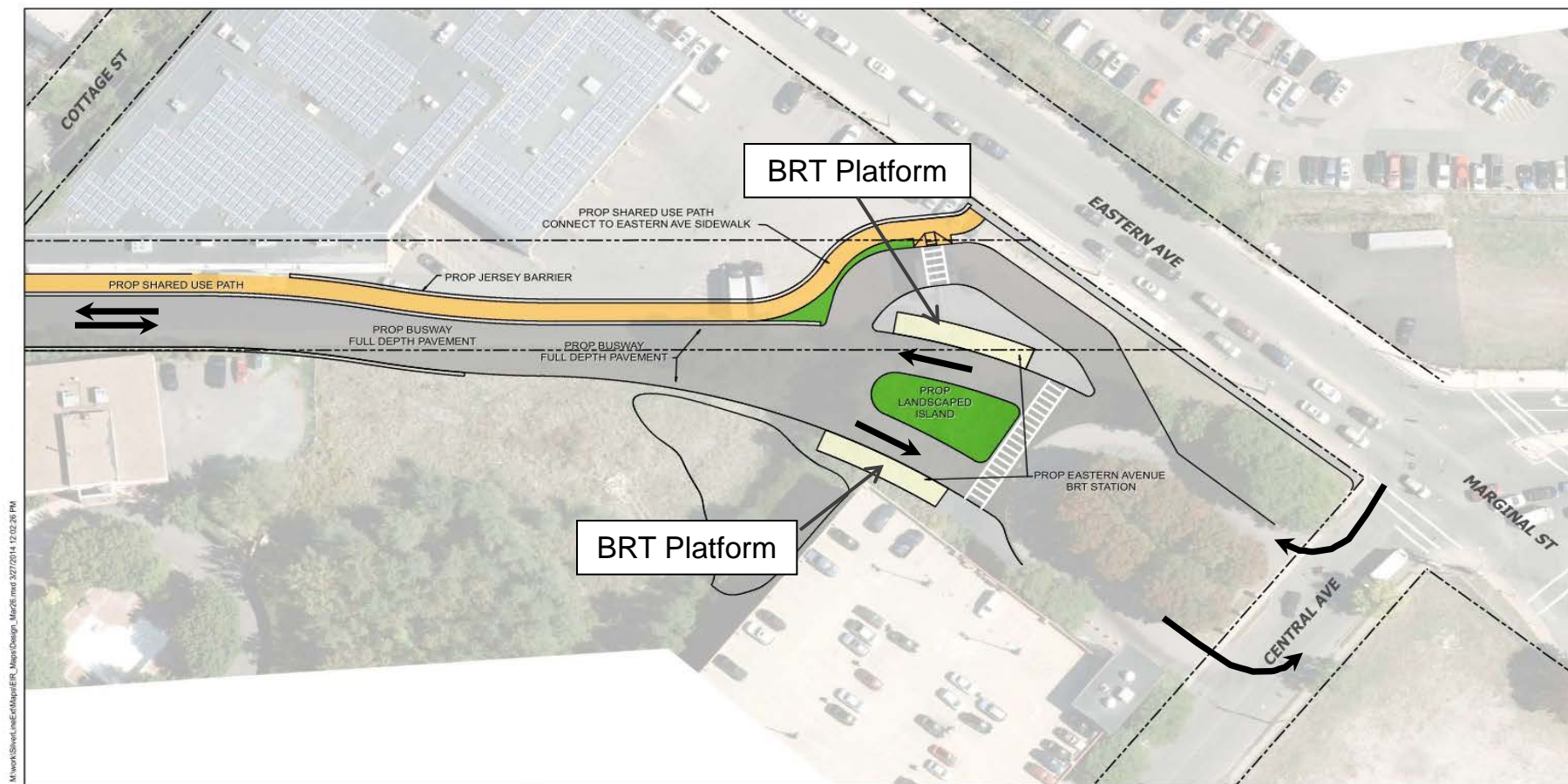
Sheet 7 of 9

SILVER LINE GATEWAY
Service to Chelsea, East Boston & the Blue Line

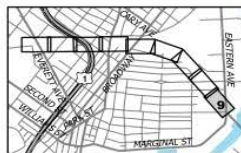
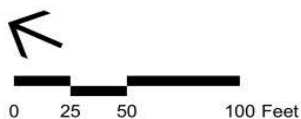
Busway – Cottage & Bellingham Street



Busway – Eastern Avenue Station



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Proposed Improvements

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SILVER LINE GATEWAY
Service to Chelsea, East Boston & the Blue Line

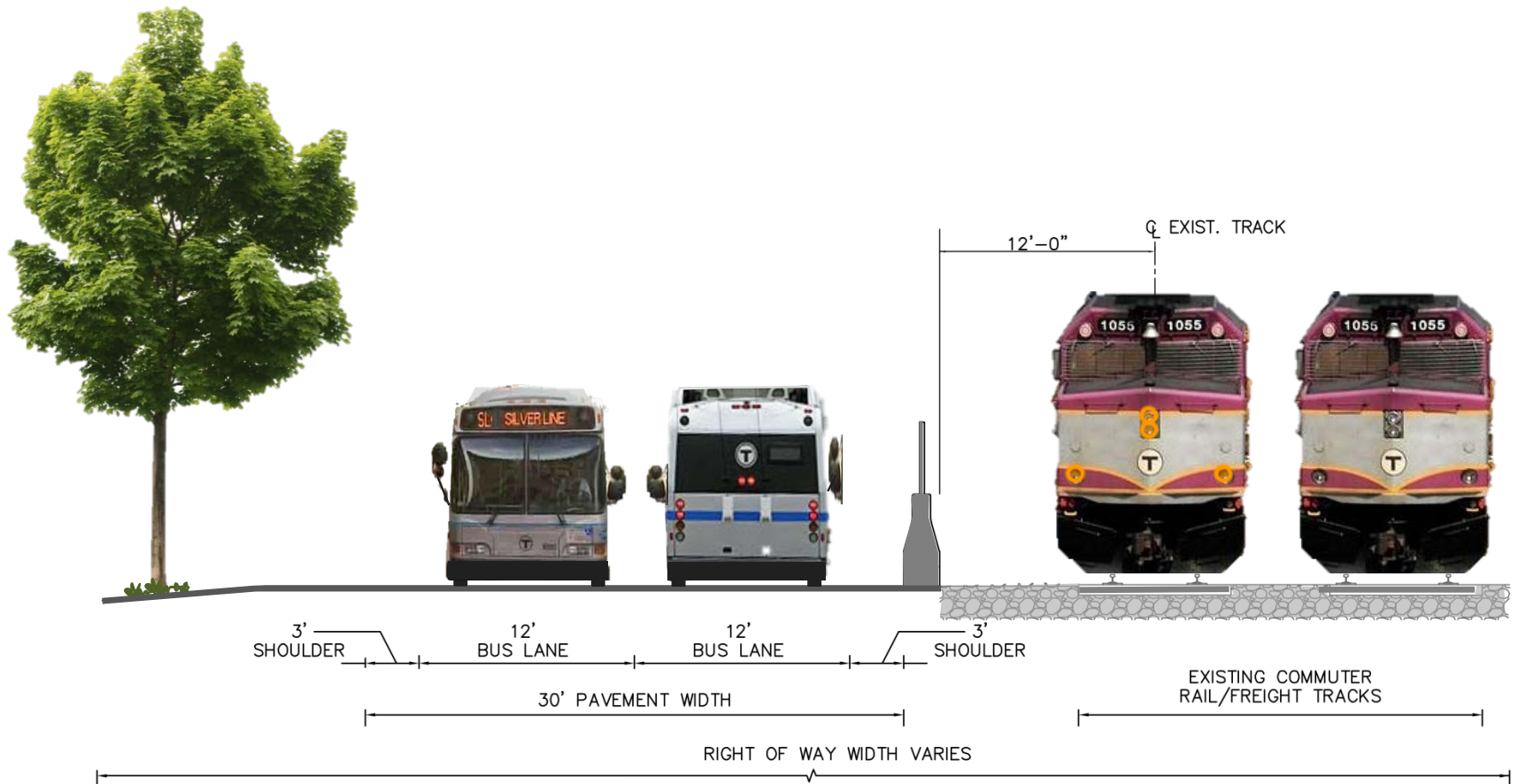
BRT Station Example – Eastern Avenue



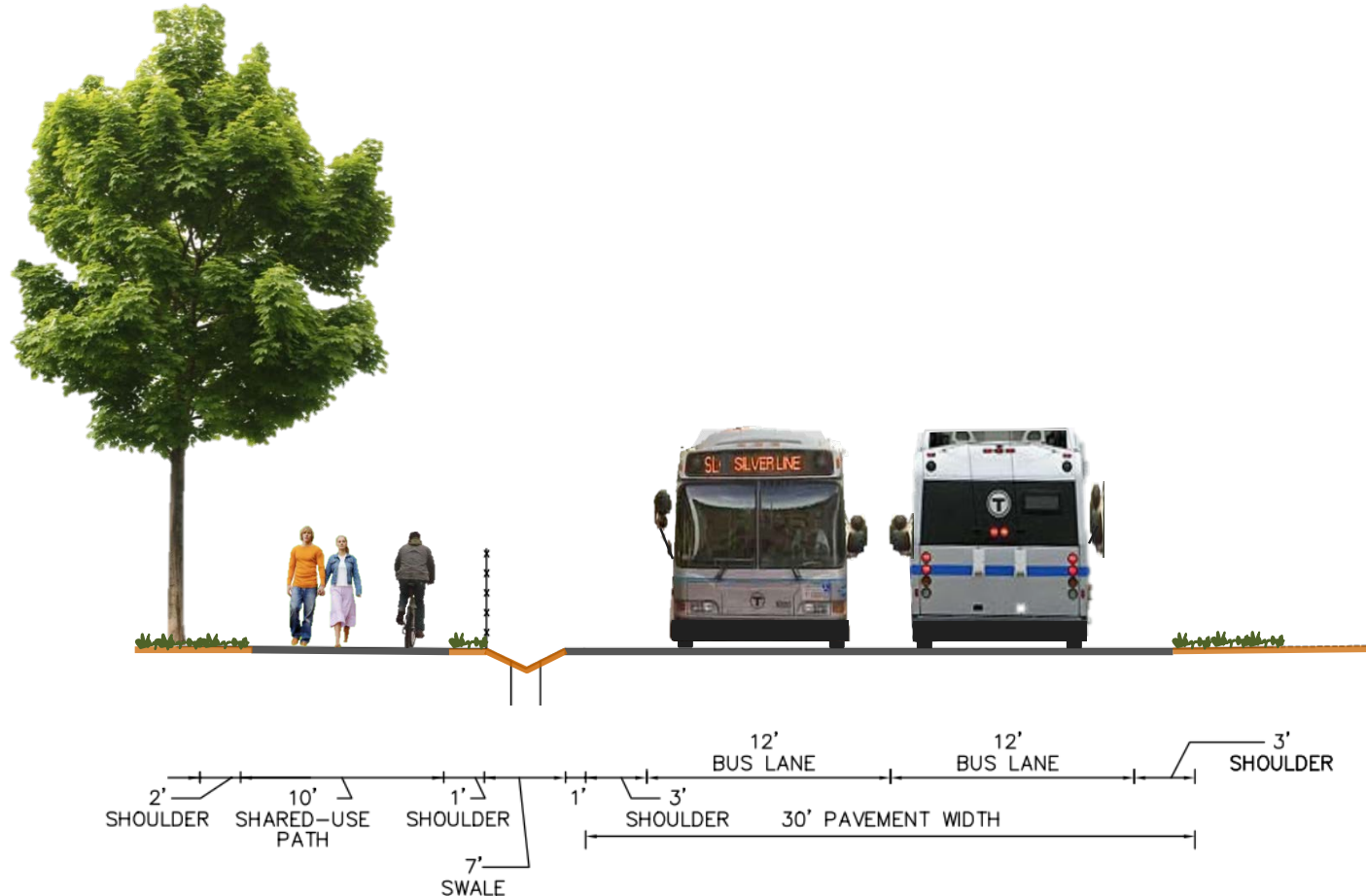
BRT Station Example – Box District



Busway Adjacent to Active Railroad – Typical Section



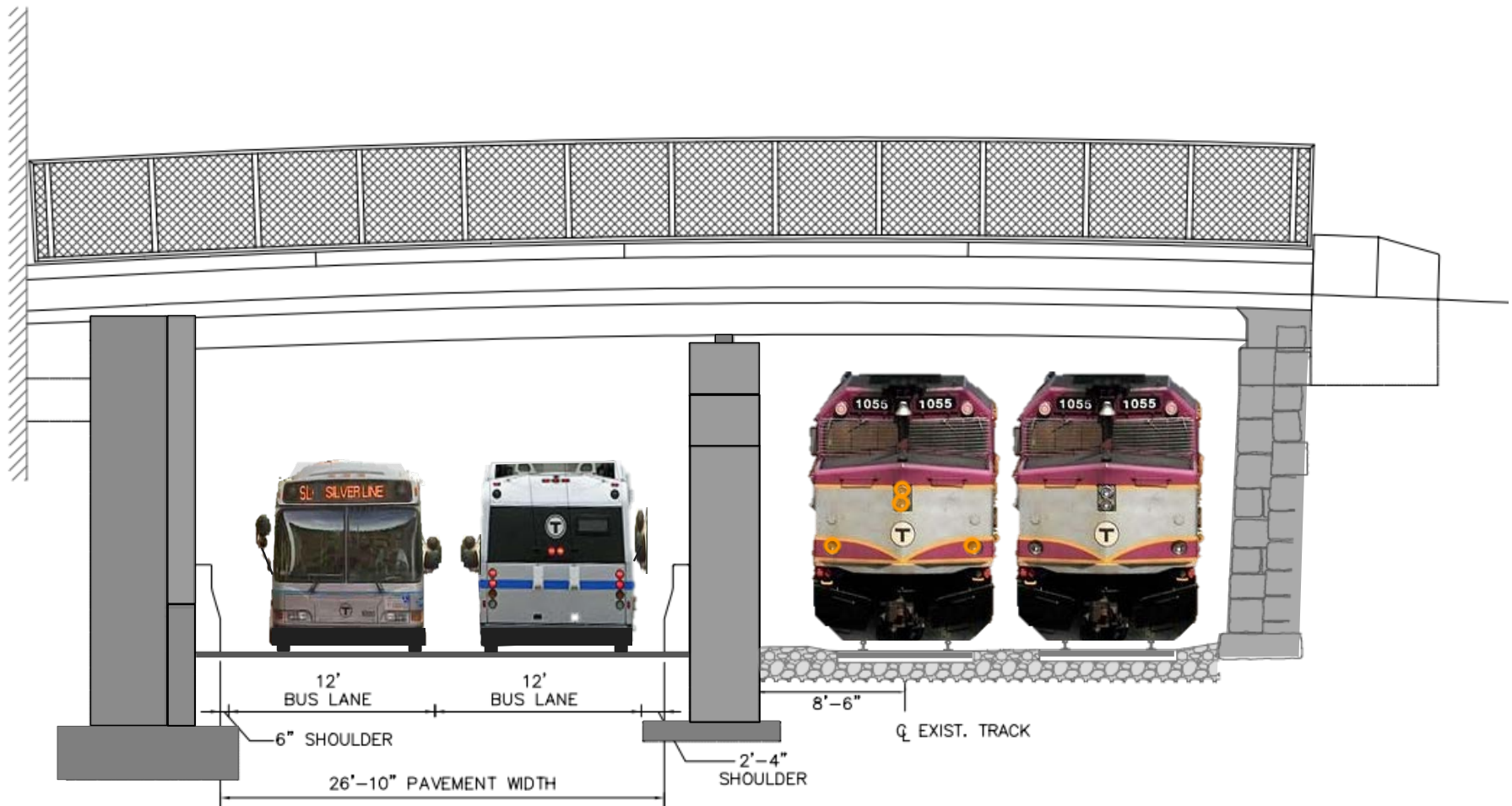
Busway / Shared Use Path – Typical Section



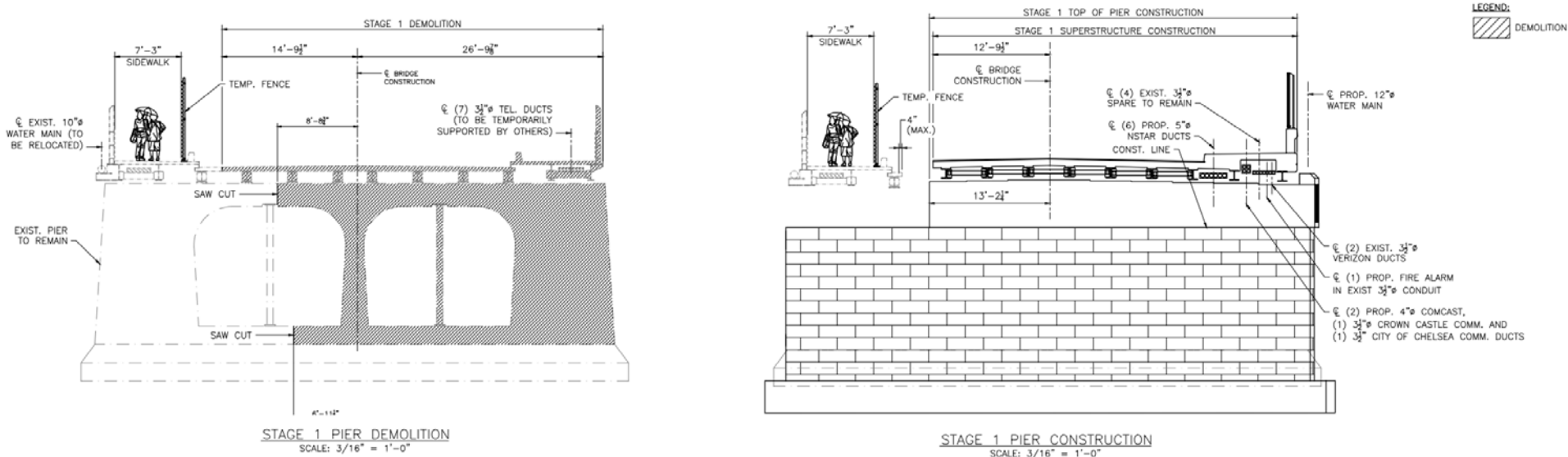
Washington Avenue Bridge

- Rated as functionally obsolete
- Silver Line Gateway has resulted in new design concept for the bridge replacement

Two Lane Busway Beneath Bridge



Washington Avenue Bridge - Stage 1

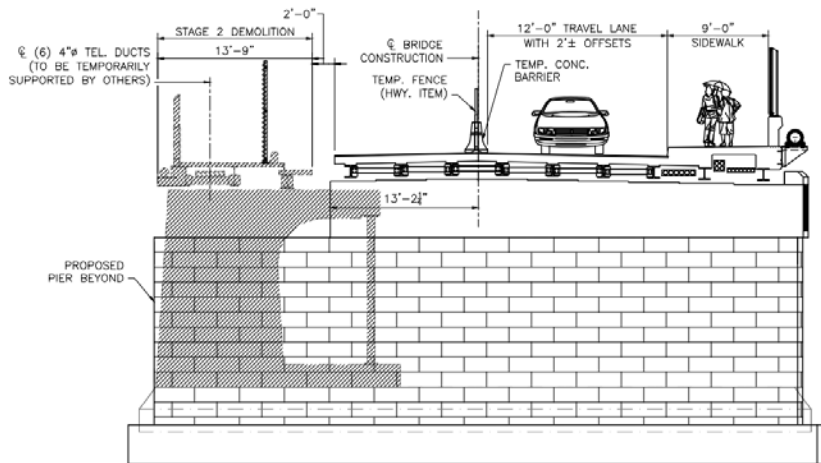


Stage 1 Total Duration

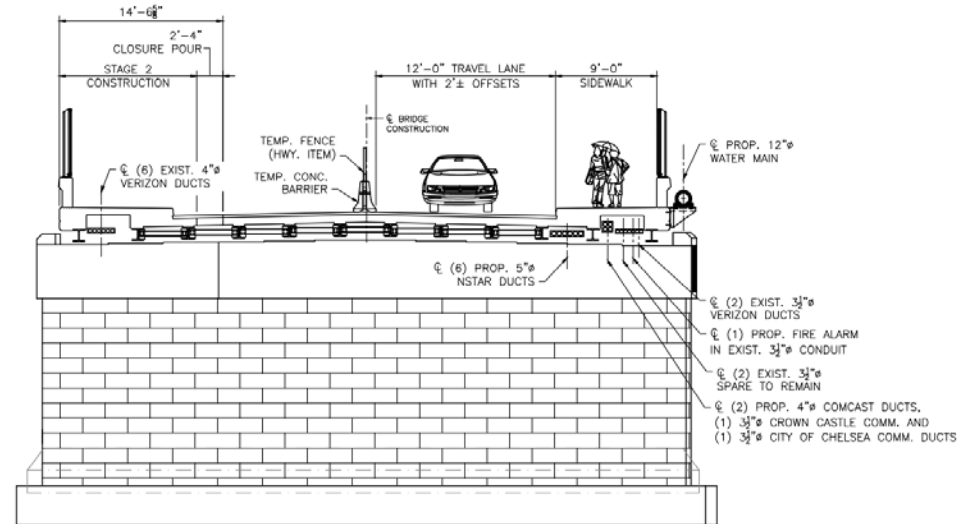
17 months including utility relocations

(Bridge Closure 10½ to 14 months)

Washington Avenue Bridge - Stage 2



STAGE 2 PIER DEMOLITION
SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"

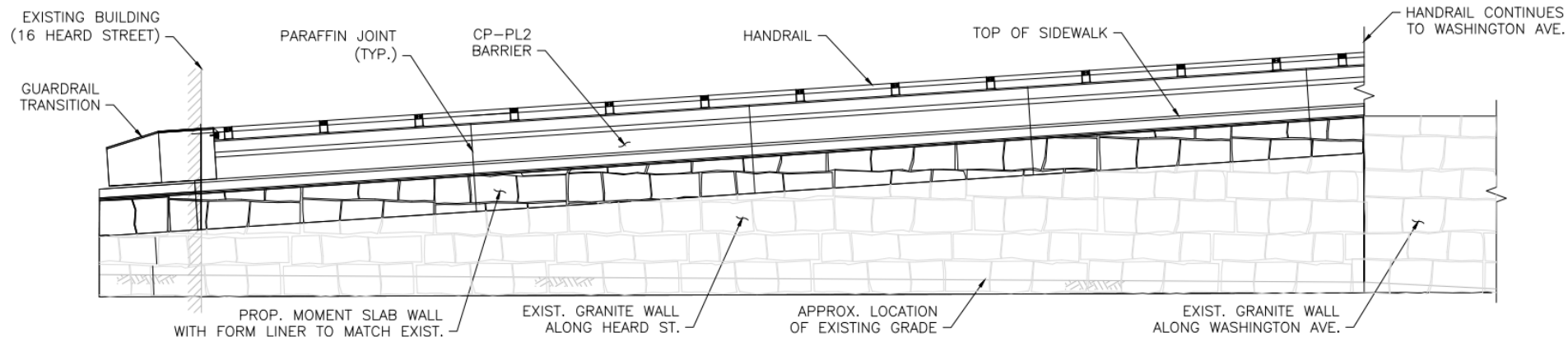


STAGE 2 PIER CONSTRUCTION
SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"

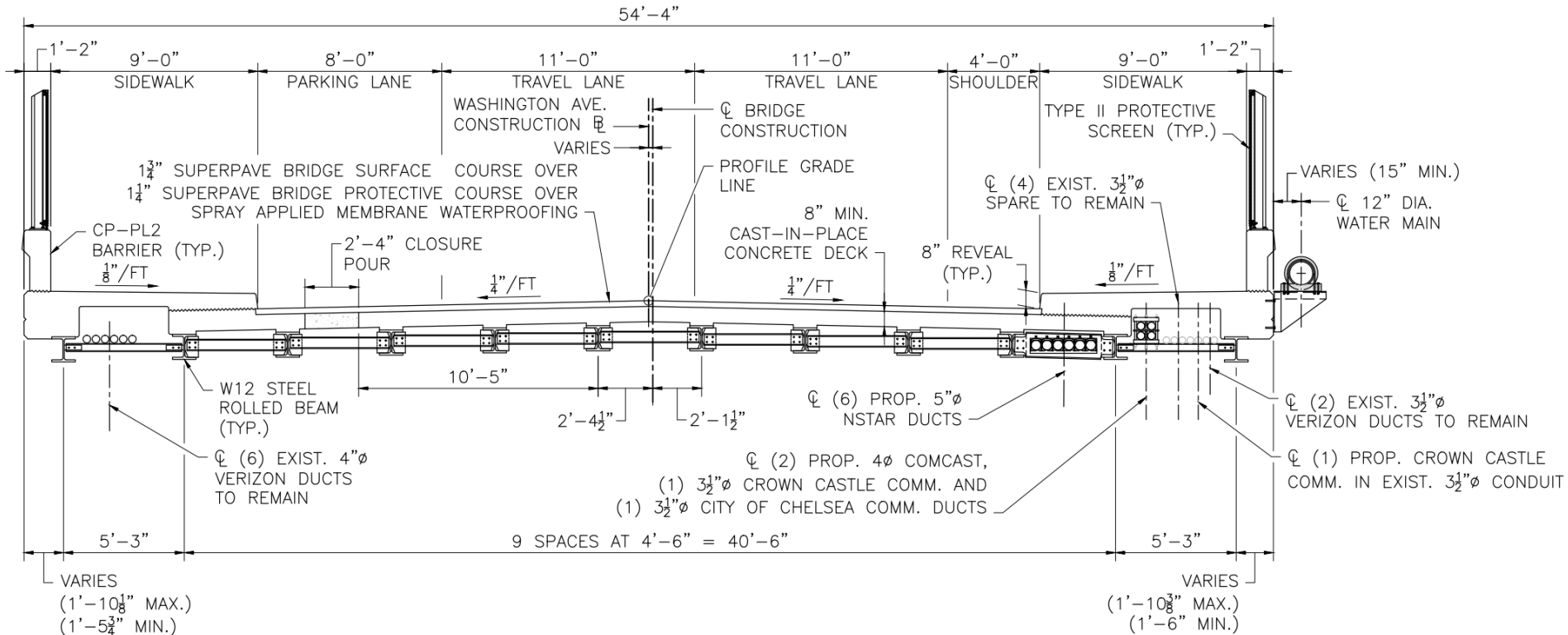
Stage 2 Total Duration
7 to 8 months

Washington Avenue Bridge – Key Issues

- Heard Street wall/barrier needs to be crash tested. May require temporary road closure
- Underpinning of 63 Washington Avenue due to close proximity of south abutment.
- Utility work involved. Temporary support of existing utilities on east side and vaults at Heard St. intersection.



Cross Section of Completed Bridge

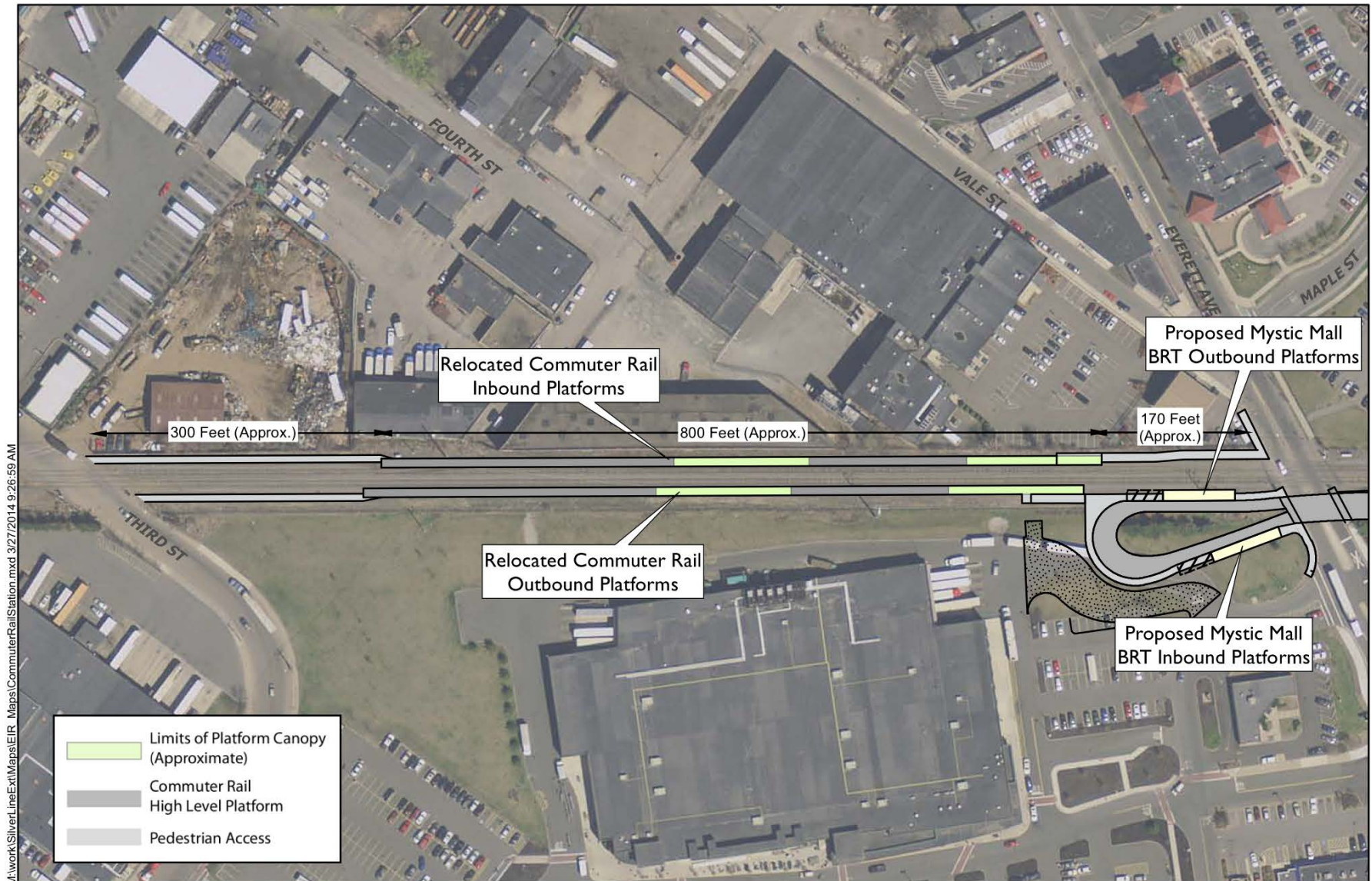


TYPICAL BRIDGE SECTION

Chelsea Commuter Rail Station Phase 2

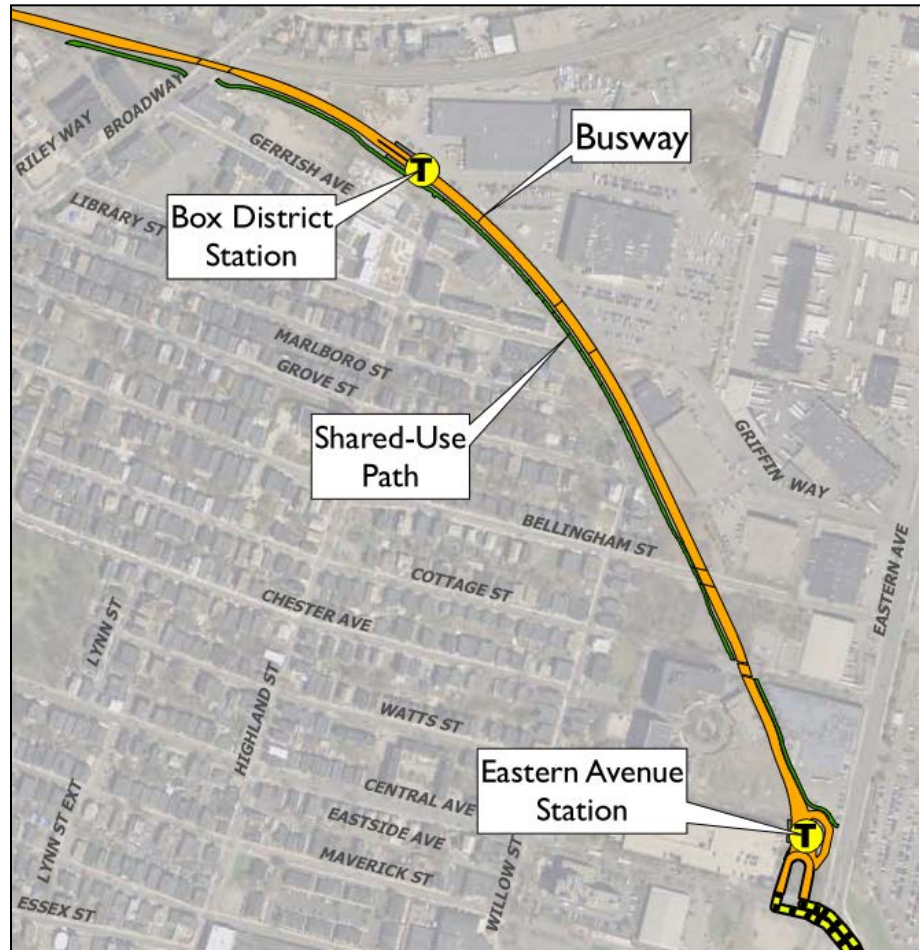
- MassDOT/MBTA's Commitment:
 - Modern Station
 - Accessible to all users
 - Convenient connections with Silver Line Gateway
- Accessibility Regulations and MBTA Design Standards
- Significant constraints to meeting these regulations and standards at existing Station

Relocated Chelsea Commuter Rail Station



Shared-Use Path

- Ongoing coordination with EOEEA, City of Chelsea and consultants to incorporate design of proposed shared use path
- Proposed from Eastern Avenue Station to Chestnut Street
- Approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ mile long
- Separated from the busway in some sections via vegetated swales
- Innovative design approaches to coordinate the path and the busway alignments and crossing points



Key Dates

- 11/15/13 - Environmental Notification Form filed with MEPA
- 12/27/13 – Secretary's Certificate Issued on EENF
- 03/31/14 – Environmental Impact Report Filed with MEPA
- 04/01/14 – Design Public Hearing
- 05/19/14 – Secretary Issues Certificate on the SEIR
- 07/19/14 – MassDOT Advertises Project for Construction
- Mid/Late September 2014 – Bid Opening
- November/December 2014 – Award and Notice to Proceed
- March/April 2015 – Construction Begins

Silver Line Gateway Questions

