



Mass Ave/Appleton Street Safety + Accessibility Corridor Project

Select Board Presentation

September 27, 2023

TONIGHT'S MEETING

- Project Scope
- Study Process
- Design Goals
- Engagement
- Final Concept
- Request to Vote



USER CORRIDOR EXPERIENCE

Corridor is disjointed from
broader Mass Ave
experience



MASS AVE/APPLETON STREET SAFETY + ACCESSIBILITY CORRIDOR PROJECT

CORRIDOR CHALLENGES

Understanding the challenges the corridor faces as an **activity center**, and the opportunity to **protect users, support activity and growth, integrate with local amenities**, and **encourage positive culture**, concept development pushed the design to support the goals and vision for the corridor.



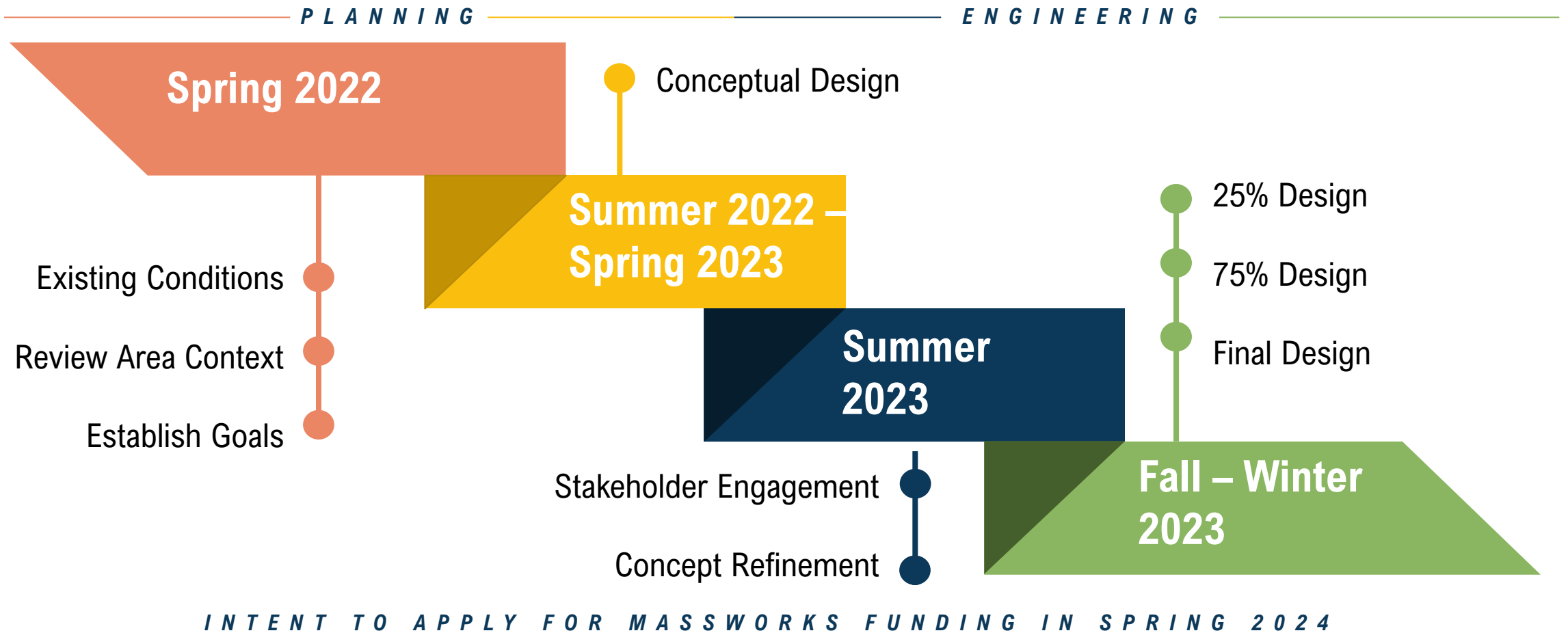
PROJECT CORRIDOR



The Mass Ave/Appleton Street Safety + Accessibility Corridor Project will look at the intersection in context of a greater study area



STUDY PROCESS



DESIGN GOALS

SAFE FOR ALL

PROTECT ALL ROADWAY USERS

- **Reduce vehicle speeds** along the corridor
- **Increase visibility** at intersections
- Prioritize **safe travel for all ages**
- **Simplify navigation**

MAKE THIS A “PLACE”

INTEGRATE CORRIDOR WITH LOCAL AMENITIES

- **Foster a sense of place** along Mass Ave
- **Support connections** between the neighborhood and the Minuteman Bikeway
- Position the neighborhood as **reachable by foot, bike, or bus for local residents and visitors from elsewhere**

PROVIDE FOR LOCAL ACCESS

SUPPORT CORRIDOR ACTIVITY + GROWTH

- **Create dedicated, accessible space** for all people, regardless of mode choice
- **Maintain access** for customers + loading activities
- **Work collaboratively** with residents, business owners, + other stakeholders
- Allow user groups to **meet their individual travel needs** (school, church, neighborhood access, etc.)

BE RESILIENT

ENCOURAGE RESILIENCY THROUGH DESIGN

- **Reduce conflict risk between bicyclists and other users** through progressive design
- **Position transit competitively** with driving
- **Accommodate walking** by understanding where pedestrians want to go
- Utilize **green infrastructure** for enhanced place making where able



ENGAGEMENT (Mar – Oct 22')

- Design Review Committee Meetings – Ten meetings between March 23, 2022 – March 15, 2023
- Neighborhood Listening Session – June 7, 2022
- Public Open House #1 - June 23, 2022
- Library In-Person Exhibit – On display July 20 - July 21, 2022
- Neighborhood Survey – Available July 20-31, 2022
- Stakeholder Interview: Little Halos Preschool and St Athanasius Church – July 22, 2022
- Stakeholder Interview: Arlington Public Schools District – July 22, 2022
- Open House #2 – October 18, 2022
- Ottoson School Student Assemblies – October 19, 2022



CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT

OCTOBER 2022 PUBLIC MEETING



Support for

- traffic lights with left-turn lanes
- protected bicycle lanes
- new crosswalks
- retaining parking where needed

Needs more information regarding

- signal operations
- bicycle navigation
- crosswalk locations
- parking reductions



REPURPOSE SIDEWALK SPACE



Conceptual Rendering of sidewalk

- Create a **separated bicycle facility**
- **Retain parking on north curb** for local businesses
- **Create left-turn lanes**
- **Retain** street trees where possible



ENGAGEMENT (MAR 23' – TODAY)

- Select Board Meeting Presentation – March 6, 2023
- Open House #3 – March 15, 2023
- 1165R Mass Ave Developer Meeting – June 12, 2023
- Ottoson School Design Update Meeting – August 8, 2023
- Business Design Update Meeting – August 24, 2023
- Arlington School District Design Update Meeting – August 30, 2023
- TAC Design Update Presentation – September 13, 2023
- ABAC Design Update Presentation – September 20, 2023
- Select Board Meeting Presentation – September 27, 2023



FINAL CONCEPT



Provide for Local Access

Parking preserved for local businesses and residential building



Make this a "Place"

Foot of the Rocks connected with design



Safe for All

Realign Lowell Street (creating space for pedestrians and reducing turning speeds)



Be Resilient

New crossings at Clark and Richardson connect parking and businesses on northern curb



MASS AVENUE/APPLETON STREET SAFETY AND ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT

FINAL CONCEPT



Be Resilient
Bus stop designed in accordance with MassDOT + MBTA guidance

Make this a “Place” + Be Resilient
New Spaces

Safe for All
Traffic Signal to simplify intersection

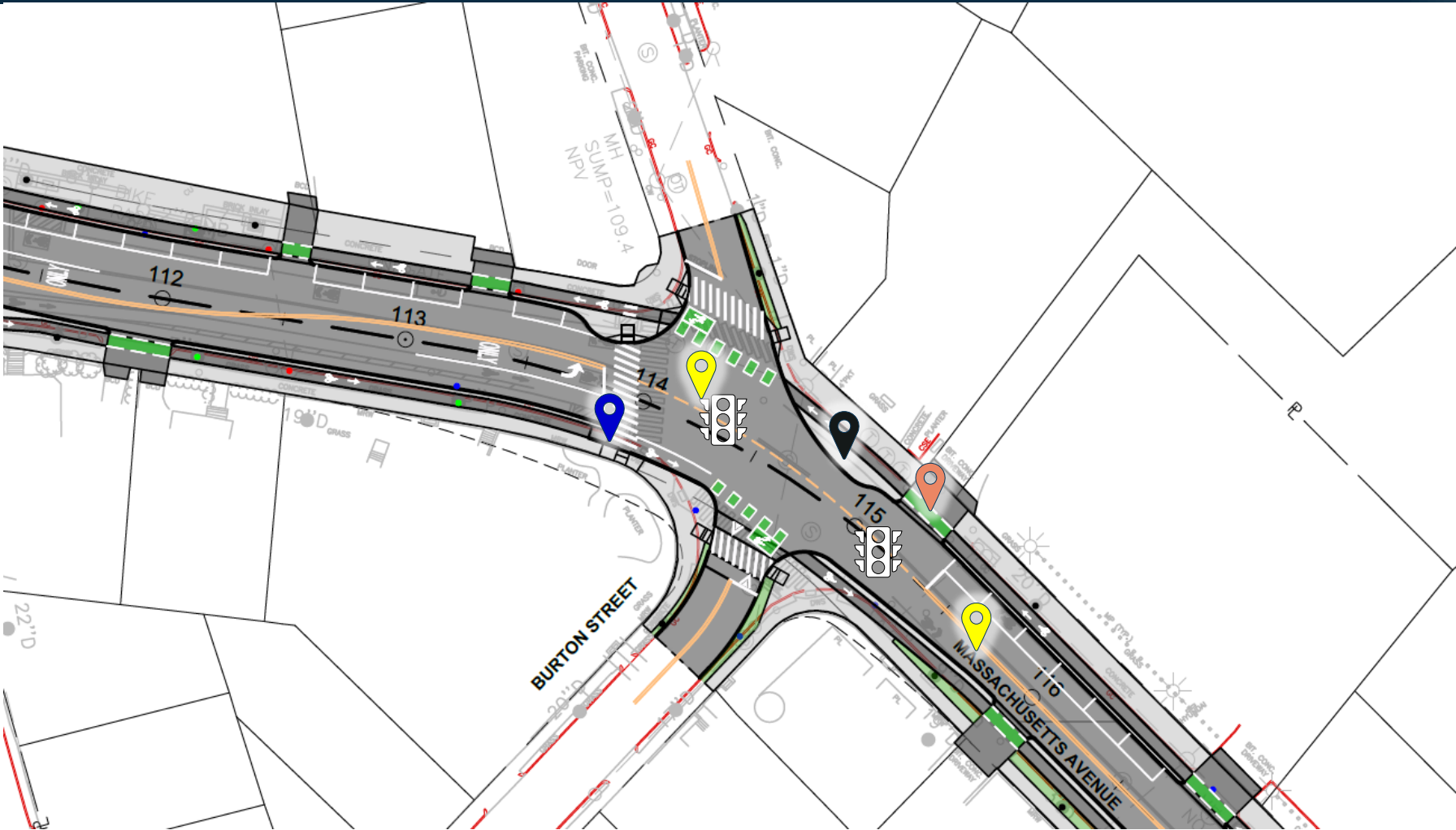
Provide for Local Access
All parking on northern side of Mass Ave between Forest and Appleton preserved, informed by business discussions and parking study

Be Resilient
Protected Bicycle Lanes and crossings



MASS AVENUE/APPLETON STREET SAFETY AND ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT

FINAL CONCEPT



Safe for All

Signal at Forest Street and Burton Street



Make this a “Place”

Bicycle connection to Minuteman Bikeway



Be Resilient

Bumpouts to shorten pedestrian crossings and slow vehicles



Safe for All

Increase visibility of corridor

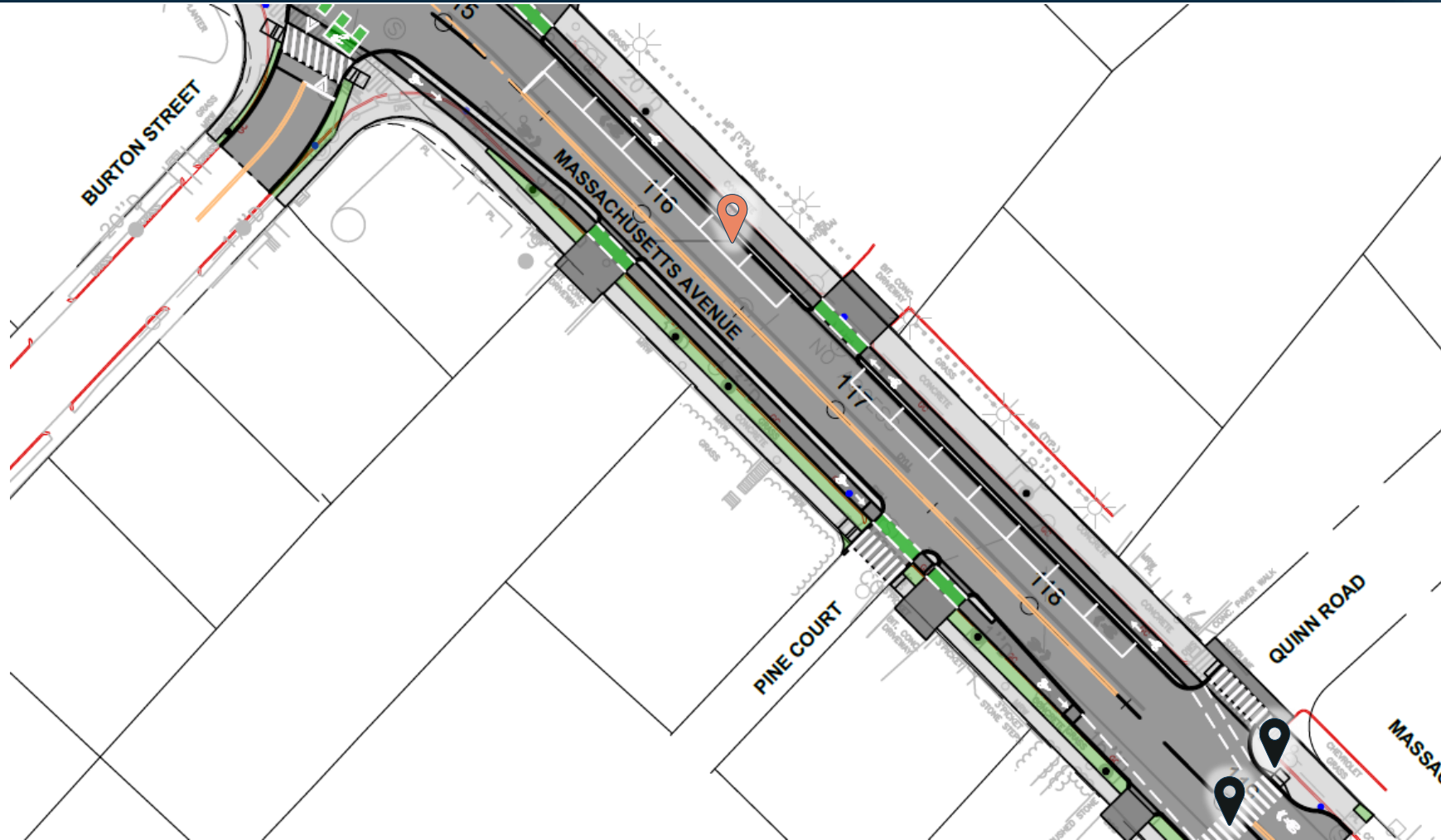


Provide for Local Access

Incorporate Driveway into Signal



FINAL CONCEPT



 **Provide for Local Access**
Preserve Parking

 **Be Resilient**
New crosswalk at Quinn Road

 **Be Resilient**
Bumpouts to shorten
pedestrian crossings and slow
vehicles



STUDY PROCESS

