Battle of

Menotomy250

ARLINGTON 250 MASSACHUSETTS

The Untold Stories of Menotomy

2024

Battle Reenactment

Battle Reenactment

Event Planning Introduction

Let's review each category.

1. Safety.

– Spectator Viewing

Spectators will be restricted to the Arlington High School side of Mass. Ave. Spectators WILL NOT be allowed on the Jason Russell House side of Mass. Ave. for the entire length of the Reenactment Route.

Purpose: This gives reenactors a discharge zone so they can fire their muskets AWAY FROM THE SPECTATORS.

- Television Crews / Photographers

Television Crews and Photographers have 3 dedicated viewing stands located directly across the street from key Battle Locations.

Purpose: Provide TV Crews and Photographers an elevated unobstructed view so they are not in the street in front of Reenactors while they are firing their muskets and giving Spectators unobstructed views of the event.

- Dignitaries

A Dignitary Stand is located directly across the street from the Jason Russell House.

Purpose: This location was chosen to give Dignitaries an unobstructed view of the Historic Jason Russell House fight and allows for the safe and quick evacuation of Dignitaries in the event of an emergency.

- Cannons

Cannons were historically used on April 19th, 1775 by the Crown Forces.

Purpose: We are currently looking to see if there is a safe location to discharge canons "once" to signal the beginning of the advancement of the Crown Forces column down Mass. Ave.
At this time, a safe location has not been found.

- Horses

For the safety of both participants / spectators and the animal, Horses will not be used in this event.

2. Recreating Historic events / Tactical planning

- Historic events

As word of the fighting in Lexington and Concord traveled the countryside, militia men from thirteen towns arrived in Menotomy from Middlesex and Essex Counties. These men took up positions in and around houses, stone walls, fields, and barns along the road the Kings troops would take on their retreat to Boston.

Evacuees whose homes would be caught in the middle of the fighting flee ahead of the Crown Forces column seeking refuge in nearby towns.

Brigadier General Hugh Percy regularly fired his cannons to scatter the Provincials.

Upon reaching the Foot of the Rocks, Lord Percy put out strong flanking parties to his main forces to protect the column. The militia quickly found themselves caught fighting in between the two.

The bloodiest fighting took place inside a single house as the Redcoats cleared a path for their retreat. Twelve Provincials would be killed at the Jason Russell House.

The fighting would continue until Col. Smith, Lord Percy and their men reached the safety of the guns of the H.M.S. Somerset in Charlestown.

- Recreating Historic events / Tactical planning

The Battle Reenactment stays true to History.

By design, Sight and Sound will be used to create an Event experience that gives Spectators a sense of how fierce and brutal the fighting was on that day.

- Visual

Crown Forces Reenacting units found up and down the Eastern Seaboard have been invited to participate in this event thus creating a “Sea of Red” column that will proceed down Mass. Avenue.

- Sound

Fighting will be occurring on both ends of the Crown Forces Column as the Redcoats move through Menotomy with 3 locations creating a three-front fight (2 separate flanking locations and the Jason Russell House) that will magnify the sounds of the Battle Reenactment.

3. Event Logistics

- Satellite Parking Location

A "one location fits all" satellite location provides the following:

- Ample parking for Participants Vehicles (Reenactor and Parade) and Buses
- Indoor Participant Registration
- Indoor Restrooms
- Indoor First Aid Station
- Pre and Post-Event Safety Inspections (Muskets and Powder)
- Post-Event Indoor Meal Distribution Location and Indoor Seating

Medford High School is the current location that has been identified as the preferred satellite parking location.

Purpose: Provide a location outside of Arlington so that Participants do not contribute to the pedestrian, parking and traffic congestion that will be created by spectators and will not be stuck in it at the end of the event.

- Event Staging Area's

Two Event Staging Area's have been identified.
Staging Area – A: Russell Commons Municipal Parking Lot
Staging Area – B: Arlington Public Works on Grove Street

Note: Each Staging Area should have a First-Aid (EMS) / Water Station and Porta Potties.

Purpose: Provide Pre-event Participant drop-off locations, parking for Buses during the event, and Post-event Participant pick-up locations.
Participants will be bused in from the Satellite Parking Location and immediately bused back at the end of the event minimizing their contribution to traffic congestion.
This also maximizes available parking for Spectators.



Intersection/Street Closures



1. **Mass Ave @ Mt Vernon St.**
2. Mass Ave @ Prentiss St.
3. Mass Ave @ Coleman Road
4. Mass Ave @ Grove St.
5. Mass Ave @ Highland Ave.
6. Mass Ave @ Schouler Court
7. Mass Ave @ Lockeland Ave.
8. Mass Ave @ Bailey Road
9. Mass Ave @ Churchill Ave.
10. Mass Ave @ Newman Way
11. Mass Ave @ Bartlett Ave.
12. Mass Ave @ Willow Court
13. Mass Ave @ Ramsdell Court
14. Mass Ave @ Mill St.
15. Mass Ave @ Jason St.
16. Mass Ave @ Academy St.
17. Mass Ave @ Central St.
18. Mass Ave @ Court St.
19. Mass Ave @ Water St.
20. Mass Ave @ Peg Spangler Way
21. Mass Ave @ David Lamson Way
22. Mass Ave @ Mystic St.
23. Mass Ave @ Pleasant St.
24. Mass Ave @ Swan Place
25. **Mass Ave @ Broadway**

Map Symbols

Reenactor Related Symbols

Staging Area - A Location Identifier

American Forces Side (American or Crown)

Medford Unit or Group

 Participant Bus Transportation

 First-Aid / Water Station / Porta-Potties

Blue – American Forces

Green – American Evacuees

Red – Crown Forces

Music

 Crown Forces Cannons

 Unit or Group - Direction of Movement

 General Engagement Locations (Note: not restricted to that specific location – this is a running battle)

Street Closure / Traffic Control Related Symbols



Closed — Street Closure Barricades & Additional Signage



Open for 2-Way Traffic — Traffic Flow



Law Enforcement

Dump Truck / Street Barracade – Street Closure

Spectator Viewing Areas



Designated Spectator Viewing Area



Designated Handicapped Viewing Area

Special Designated Areas

TV-Photo Staging A — Television Camera Crews & Photographers

Dignitary Stage — Dignitary Viewing Stage



Battle of Menotomy – Order of Deployment, Battle and Parade / Passing in Review

1. All American Forces and Parade Units will be Bussed to Staging Area A (Russell Common Municipal Parking Lot).

2. All Evacuee Participants and ALL Crown Forces Participants will be Bussed to Staging Area B (Public Works).

3. Order of American Forces Deployment from Staging Area A (Russell Common Municipal Parking Lot) up Mass. Ave..
   - Medford Militia will march up Mass. Ave. to Staging Area B to wait for Battle deployment.
   – 2nd Mass. will march up Mass. Ave. and take up positions at Stop & Shop and wait for Crown Forces Column.
   – Danvers Alarm Company will march up Mass. Ave. and take up position at the Jason Russell House and wait.

4. After Medford Arrives at Prentiss Road, Evacuee's will Flee down Mass. Ave. (from Staging Area B to Staging Area A).

5. Crown Forces Artillery - Opening Salute Announces the Beginning of the Crown Forces Column Deployment - Yet TBD.

6. Crown Forces Column Deployment from Grove Street onto Mass. Ave. begins.
   – Harassment fire from American Forces (Medford) begins as the Crown Forces Column deploys onto Mass. Ave.
   – Once the Crown Forces Column is fully deployed onto Mass. Ave., American Forces Frontal Attack by 2nd MA begins in front of Stop n Shop while Medford continues attacking the Rear of the Column.

7. Crown Forces Flanking Maneuver circling around Churchill Ave to Newman Way.

8. Battle at Jason Russell House – 3 Fights simultaneously erupt (Front, Middle and Rear of Crown Forces Column).

9. Crown Forces Flanking Maneuver circling around Academy St. / Arlington Town Hall to the Town Park / Robbins Library.

10. ALL Fighting Ceases in front of Swan Place. All Participants will turn Left onto Medford St. then proceed Left onto Park Terrace to Staging Area - A (Russell Common Municipal Parking Lot)
    Participants will then board buses to be transported back to Medford High School.

11. Parade Units will be formed up in the Russell Common Municipal Parking Lot prepared to begin marching shortly after the Battle Participants have cleared Park Terrace. They will access Mass. Ave. via Park Terrace / Medford Street.
    The Parade begins in front of Swan Place and proceeds up Mass. Ave...
    Units will "Pass in Review" in front of the Dignitary Stand and Jason Russell House. Parade ends at Stop n Shop.

12. All Parade Units will Exit right onto Grove St. and proceed to Staging Area B (Arlington Public Works Dept.).
    All Parade Units will then board buses and be transported back to Medford High School.

Staging Area - A

(1) Pre-Event Staging of American Forces

Medford – 2nd Mass – Danvers

(2) Deployment of American Forces up Mass. Ave.

(3) Pre-Event Staging of Parade Units



Staging Area - A

Buses will transport American Forces in from Medford High School to the Russell Common Municipal Parking Lot



American Forces Troop Deployment Begins - Order of March

Medford Militia will march up Mass. Ave. to **Staging Area B** to wait for deployment.

2nd Mass. will march up Mass. Ave. and take up positions at **Stop & Shop.**

Danvers Alarm Company will march up Mass. Ave. and take up positions at the **Jason Russell House.**



Staging Area - A

Buses will transport Parade Units in from Medford High School to the Russell Common Municipal Parking Lot.
Parade Units will wait for All of the Battle Reenactment Forces to arrive back at the Russell Commons Parking Lot Before starting the Parade.

Staging Area - B

(1) Upper Mass. Ave. Street Closure Location

(2) Pre-Event Staging Location for
American Evacuee's and Crown Forces

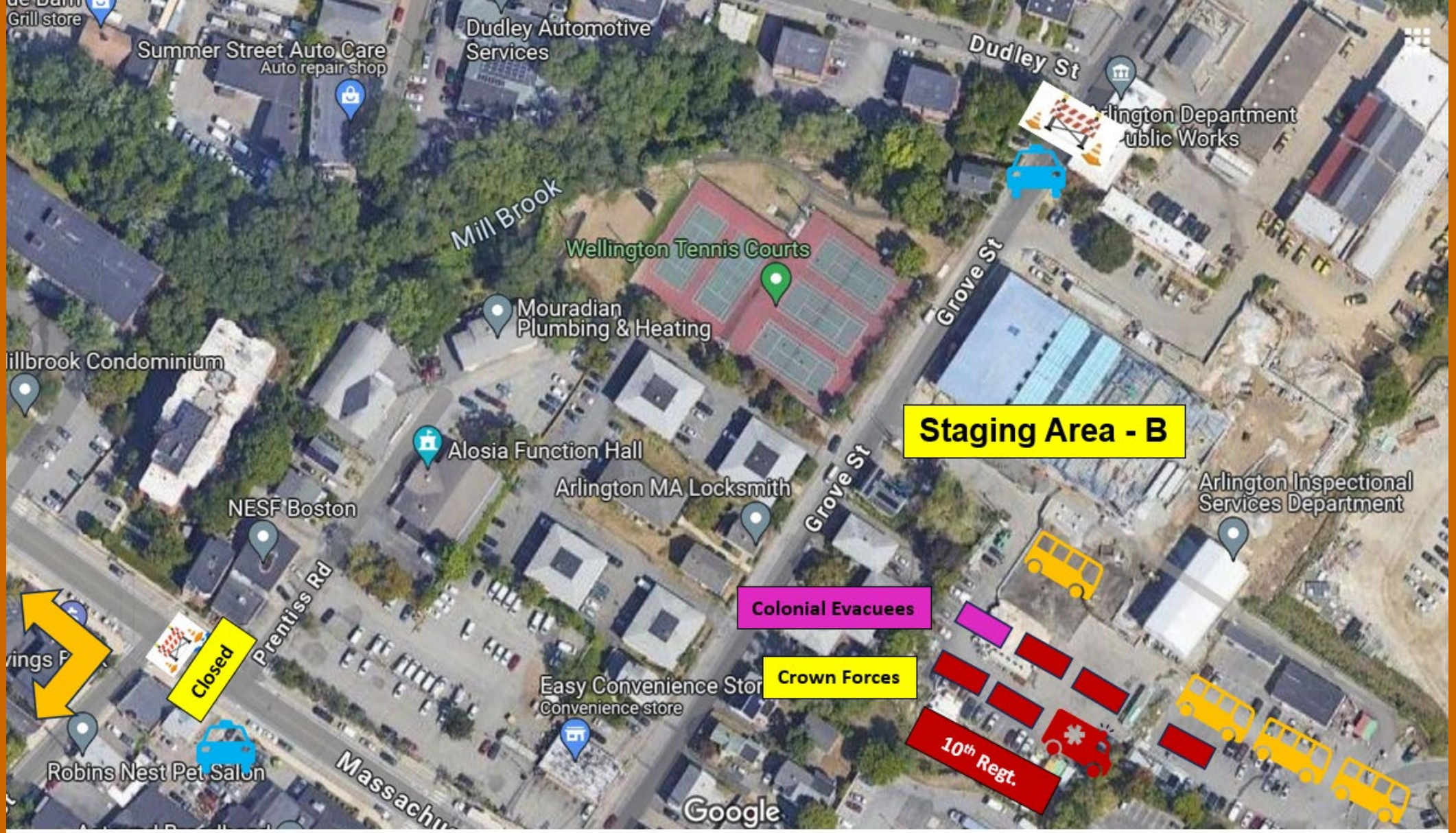
(3) American Forces - Medford
Arrives at Pre-Battle Staging Location

(4) Evacuees Flee down Mass. Ave. from the
Approaching Crown Forces Column



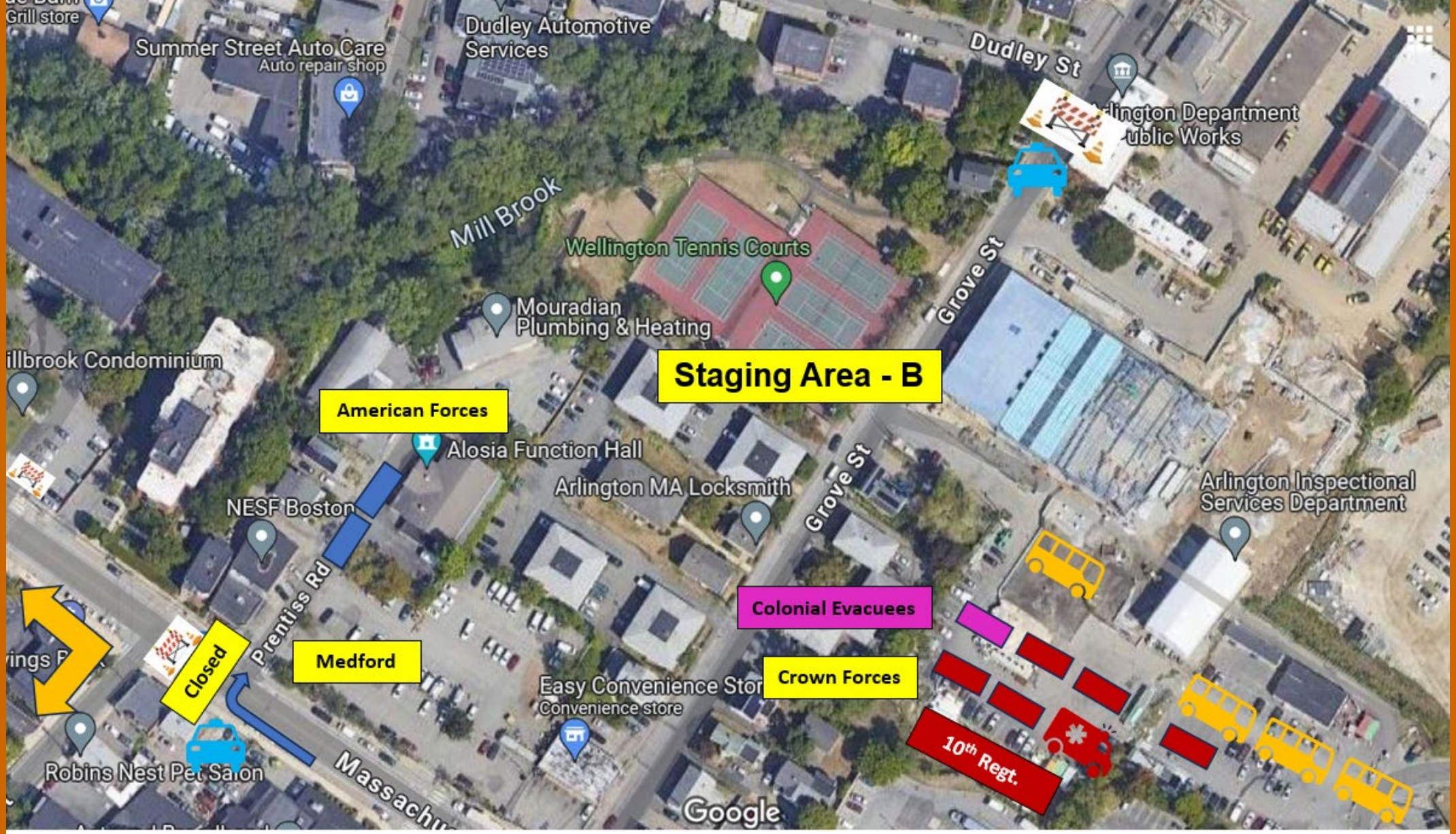
Location of the Mass. Ave. - Full Street Closure @ Mt Vernon Street and Mass. Ave.

Prentiss Road and Grove Street are Event Participant Pre-Event Staging and Departure Area's.



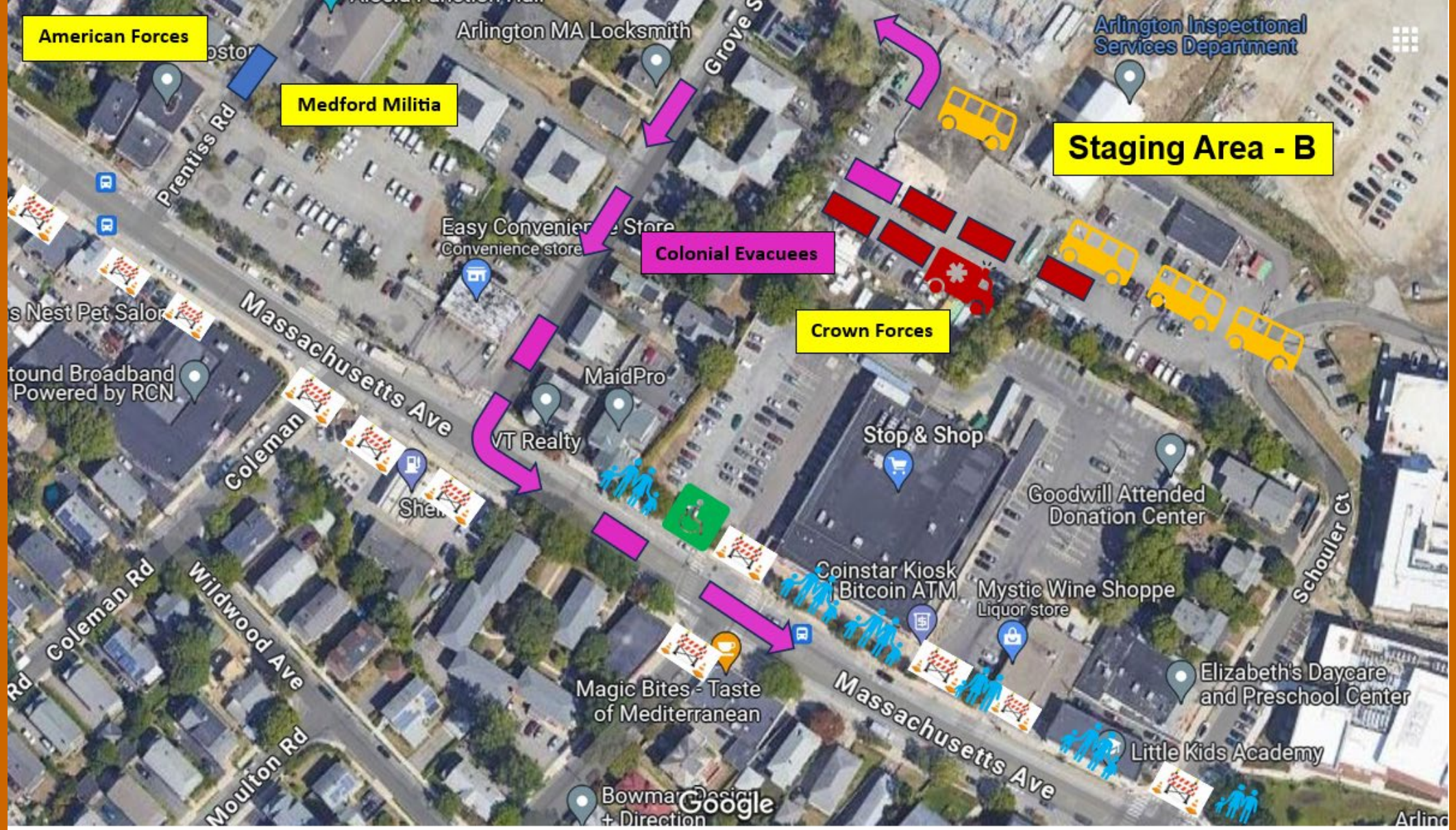
Pre-Event Staging Area – B

Buses will transport Colonial Evacuees and Crown Forces in from Medford High School to the Public Works Dept. Parking Lot off Grove Street to wait for Deployment onto Mass. Ave..



American Forces – Medford arrives at Pre-Battle Staging Location

American Forces – Medford – will march up Mass. Ave. from Staging Area – A
and take up their Battle Deployment Position on Prentiss Road.



Evacuees Flee from the approaching Crown Forces Column

After Medford Arrives at Prentiss Road, Evacuee's move via Grove Street onto Mass. Ave. where they will begin their walk / run / walk down Mass. Ave. from Grove Street to Medford Street.

Crown Forces

Column Deployment

Battle Begins

(1) Crown Forces Artillery - Opening Salute

(2) Crown Forces Column Deployment

- Harassment fire from American Forces (Medford)

- American Forces Frontal Attack begins

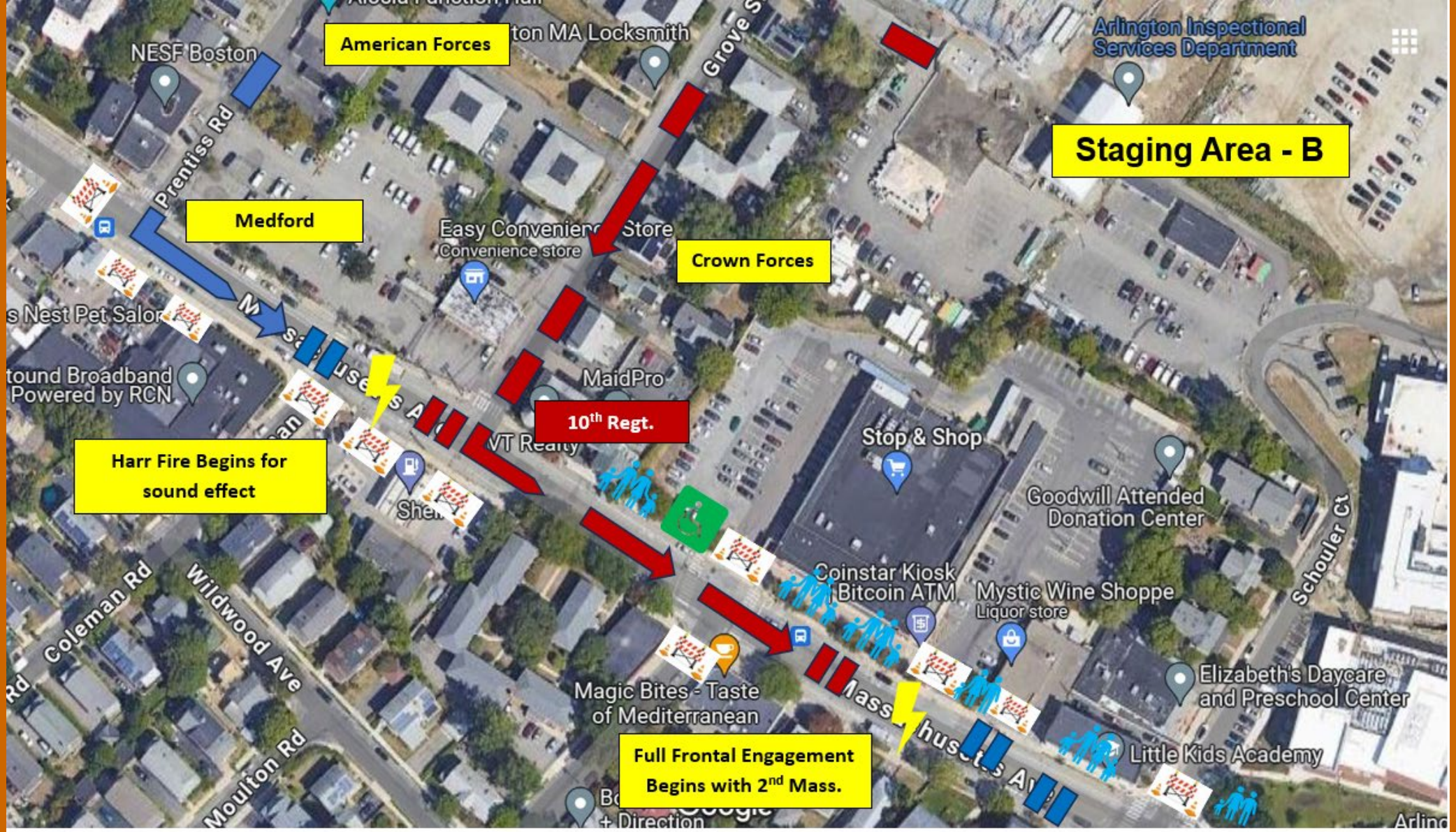
(5) Full Running Battle Down Mass. Ave.

Crown Forces Artillery

- Opening Salute -

Location yet to be determined!

Opening Salute Announces the Beginning of the Crown Forces Column Deployment



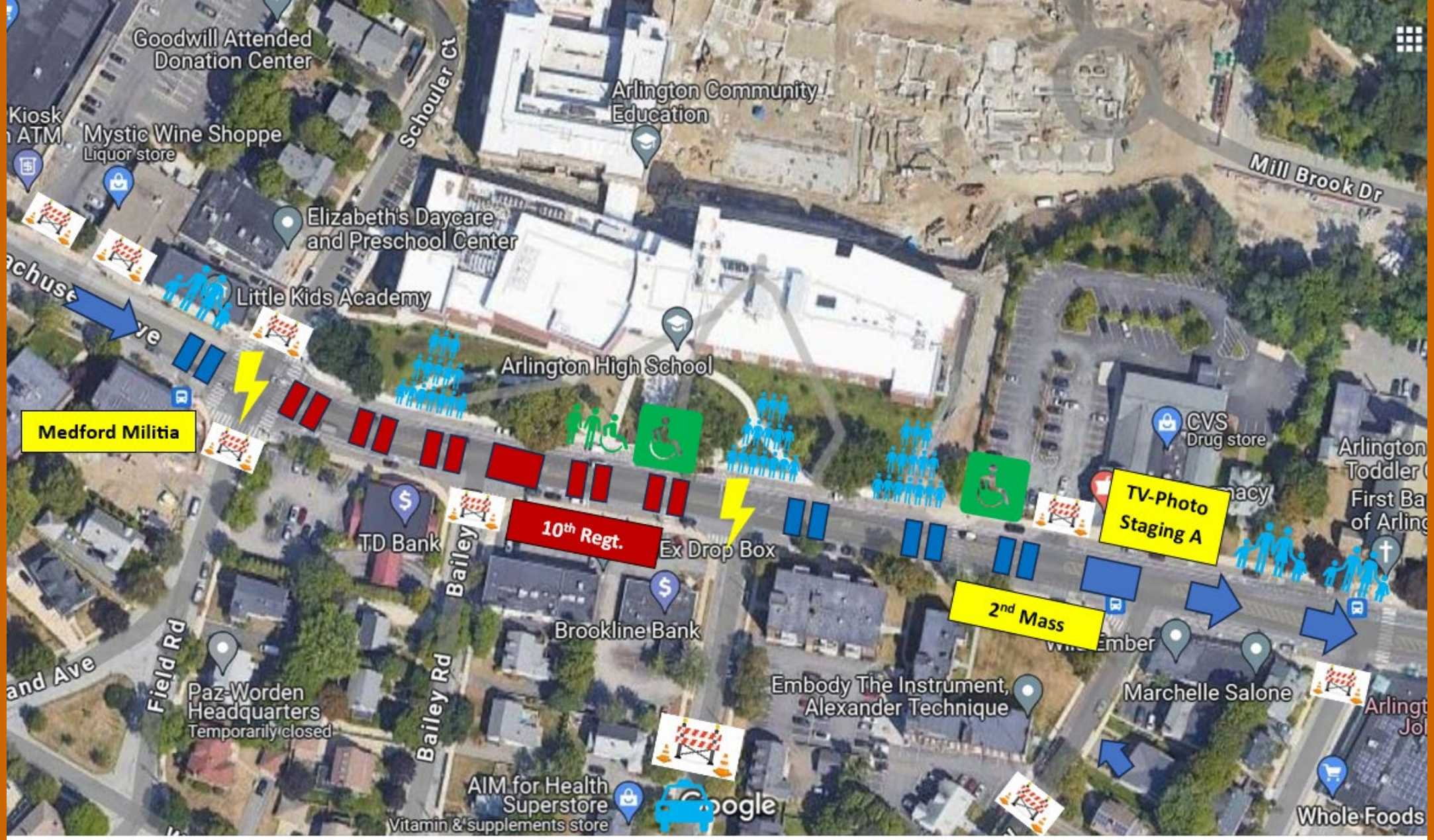
Crown Forces Column Deployment Begins

– Harassment fire from American Forces Pickets (Medford) begins as the Crown Forces Column deploys onto Mass. Ave.
– Once the Crown Forces Column is fully deployed onto Mass. Ave., American Forces Frontal Attack by 2nd MA begins in front of Stop n Shop while Medford continues attacking the Rear of the Column.



"Full Running Battle" - Direction of Troop Movement

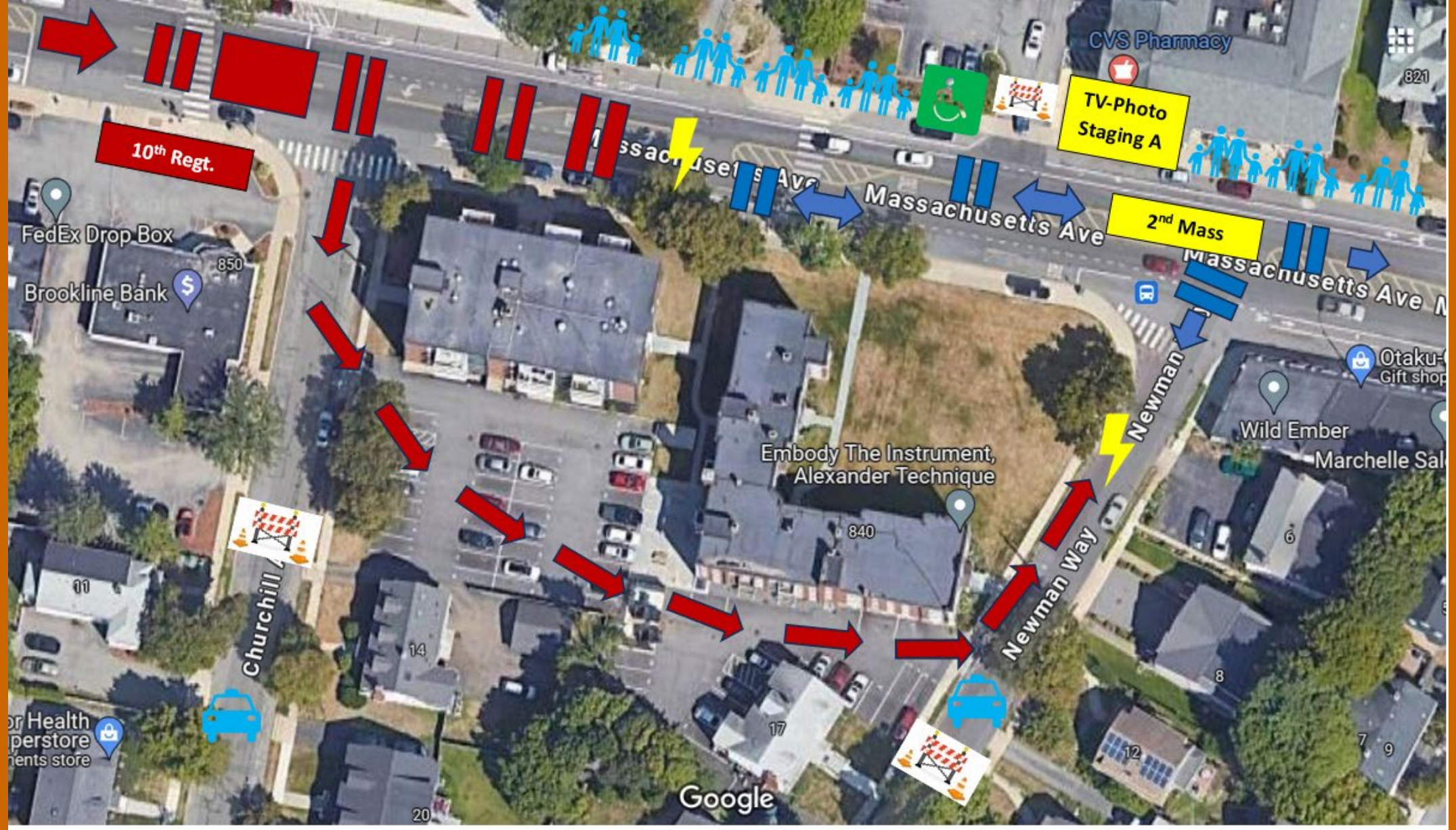
Arlington High School – Massive Spectator Viewing Area



"Full Running Battle" continues down Mass. Ave.

Crown Forces push the American Forces (2nd Mass.) back past Churchill Ave.

First Crown Forces Flanking Maneuver

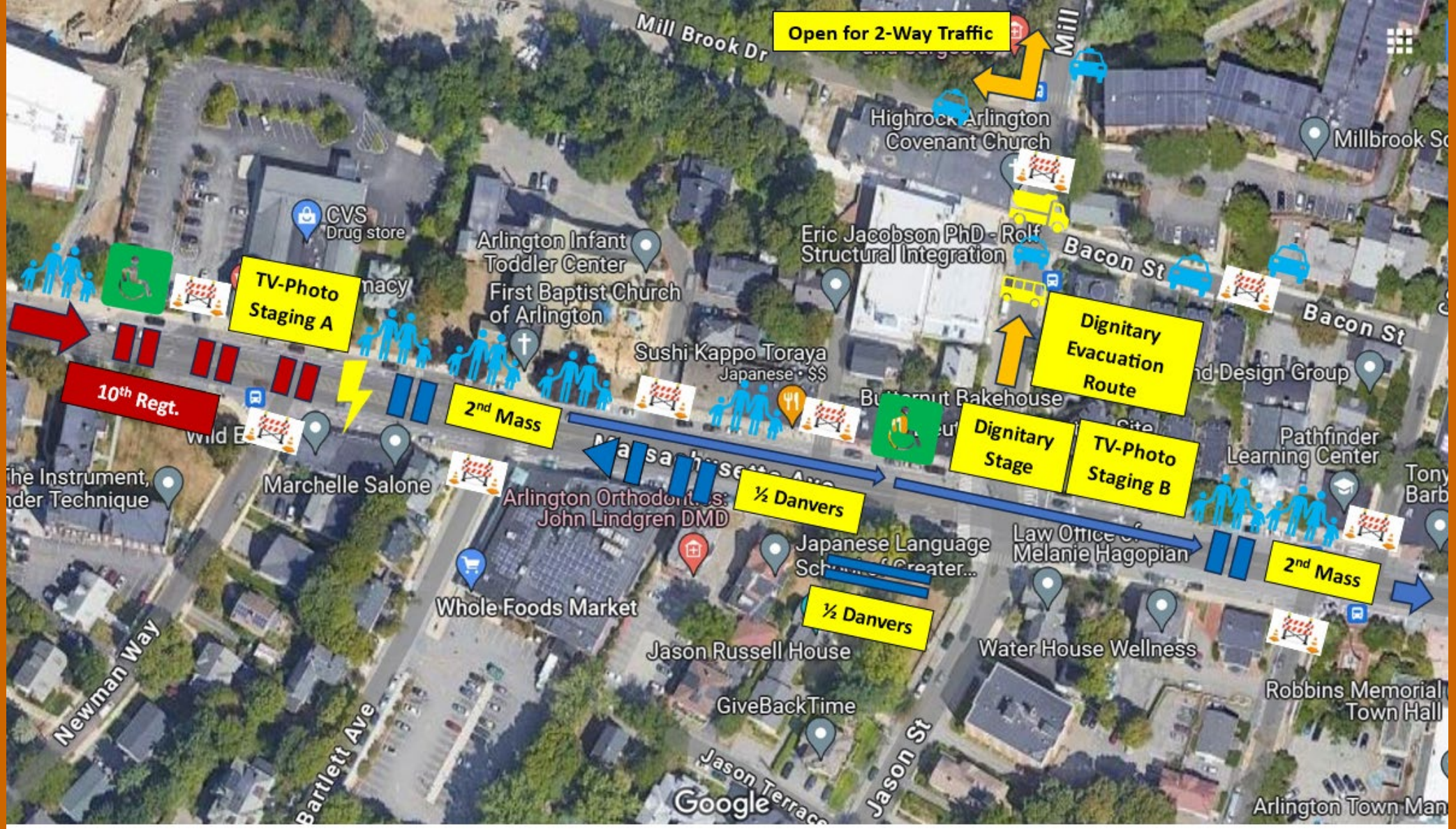


First Crown Forces Flanking Maneuver

Crown Forces deploy Flankers onto Churchill Ave. around back Parking Lot to Newman Way.
Skirmish with American Forces on Newman Way.

Battle at Jason Russell House

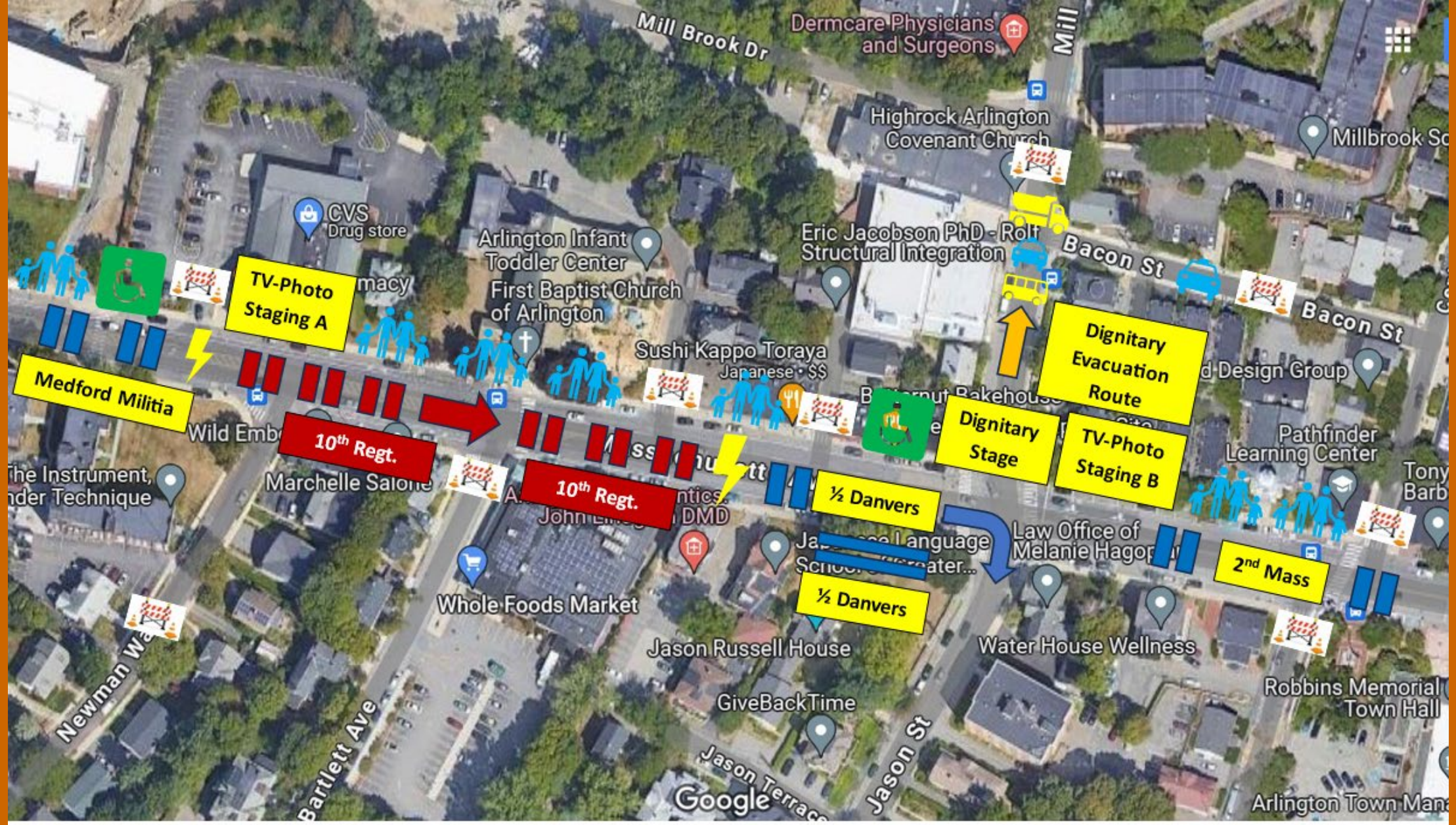




Set-up for the Battle at Jason Russell House

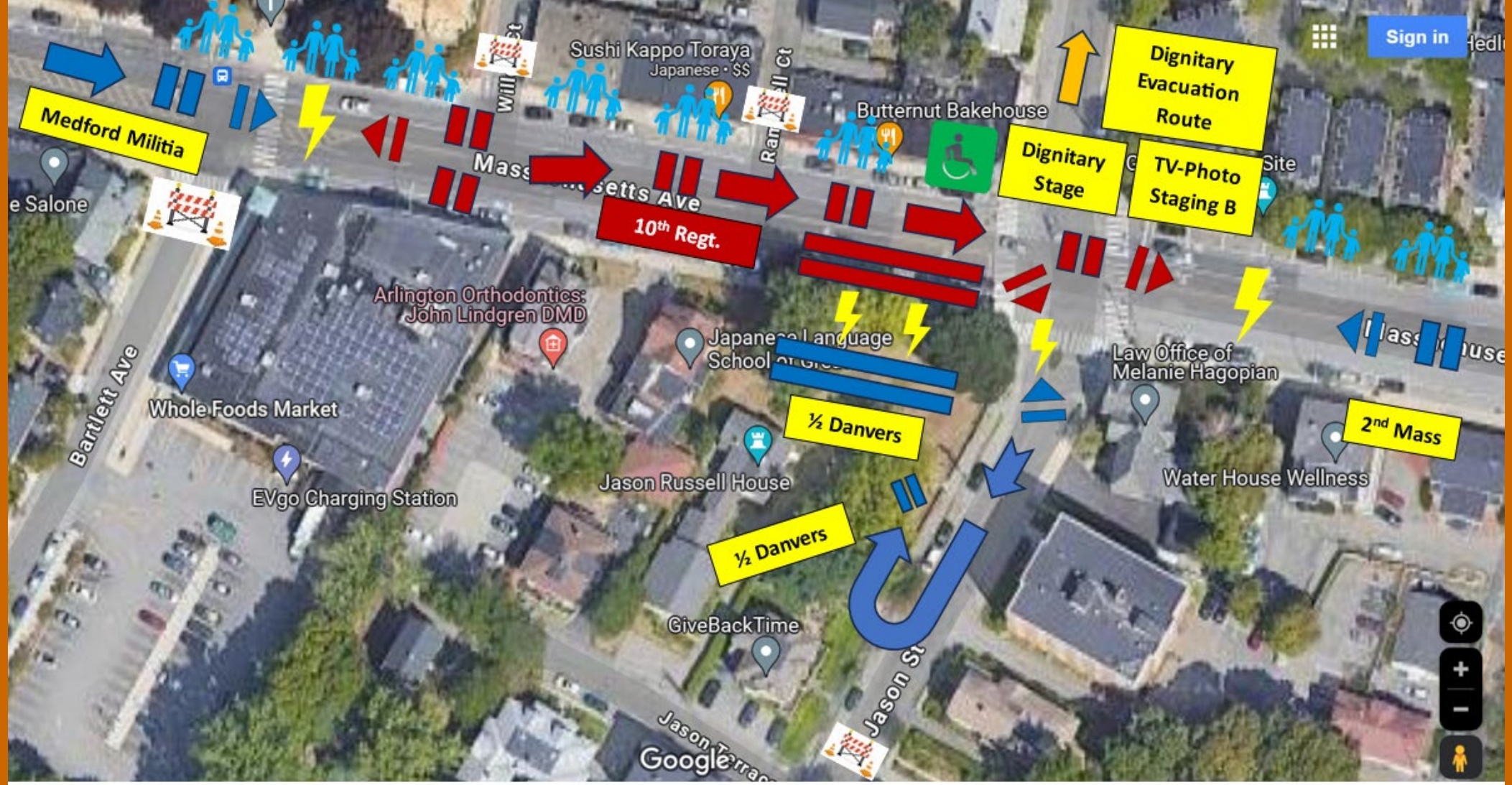
Danvers Alarm Coy engages the Full Crown Forces Column.

Reinforcements wait to provide cover for Danvers from behind the Jason Russell House stone wall while 2nd Mass. pulls back below Jason Street to reposition for Re-engagement with the Crown Forces.



Danvers falls back onto Jason Street

Reinforcements at Jason Russell House and 2nd Mass Ready to Reengage the Crown Forces Column



Full Battle at Jason Russell House Begins

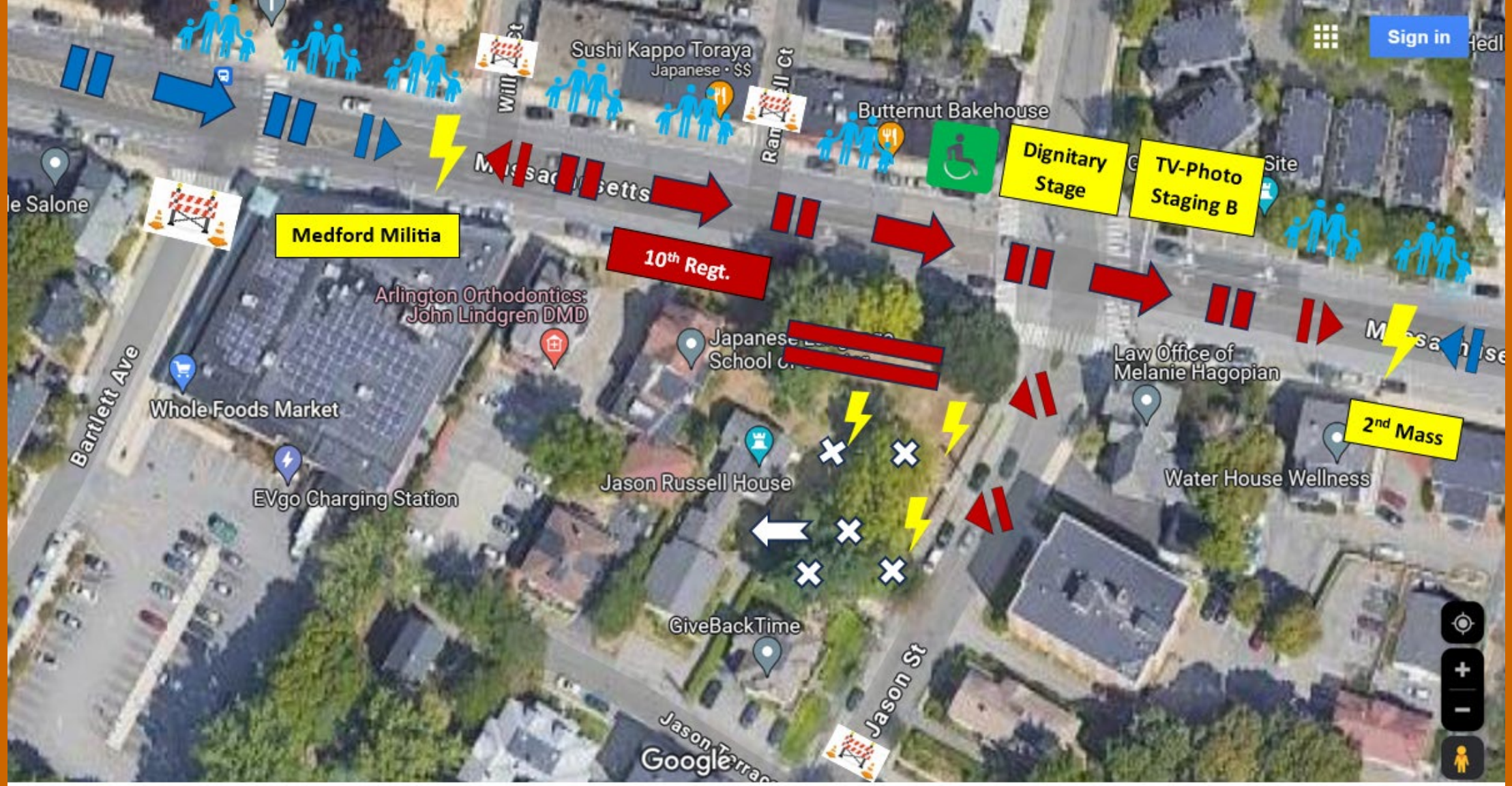
Danvers falls back around behind the Stonewall while being pursued.

Fighting opens up simultaneously on 3 Fronts

(1) with Danvers and its Reinforcements at Jason Russell House

(2) with 2nd Mass. in the front of the Column

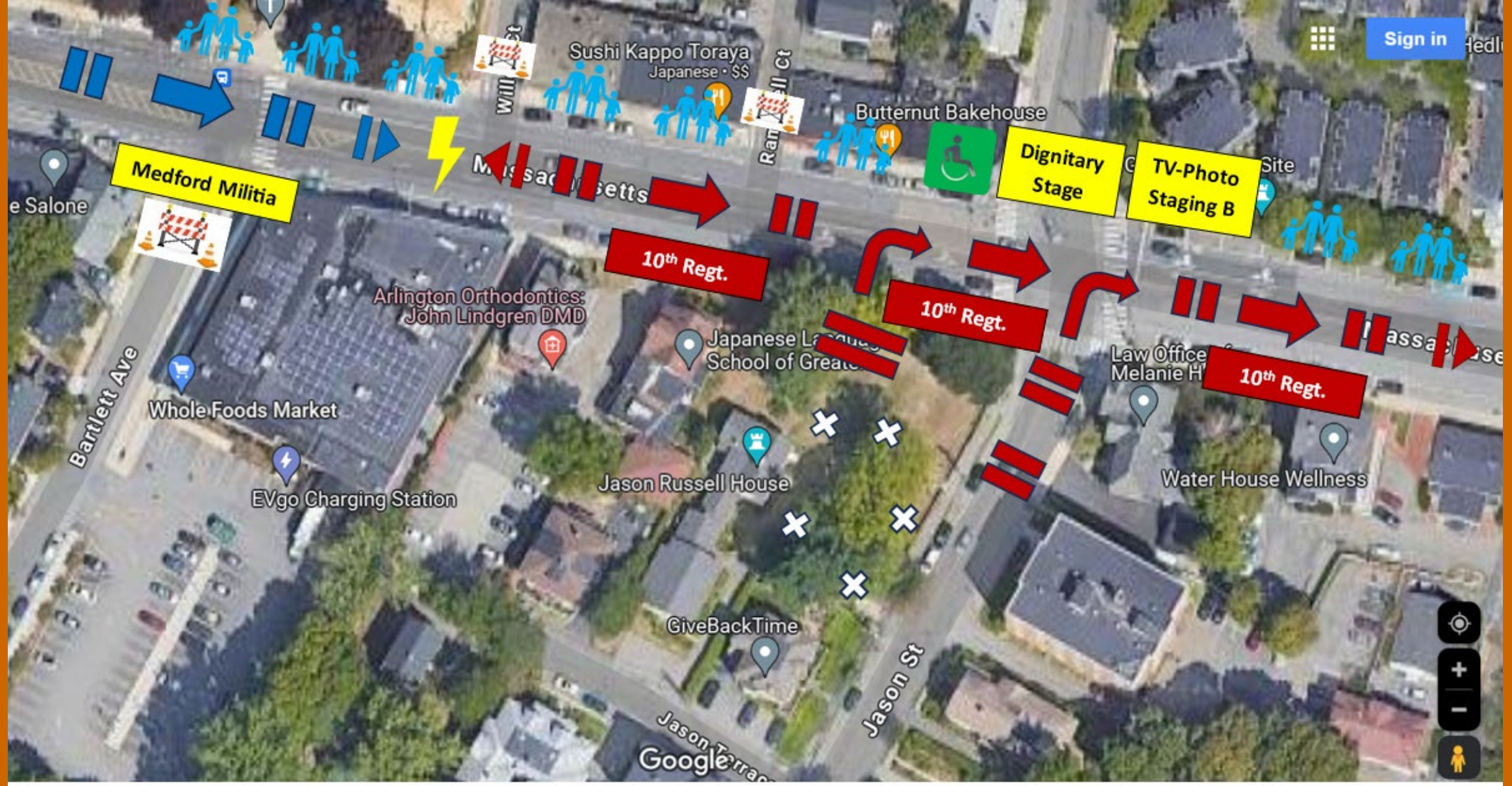
(3) with Medford Militia at the back of the Column.



The remaining Men of Danvers Retreat inside the Jason Russell House while being pursued by Redcoats.

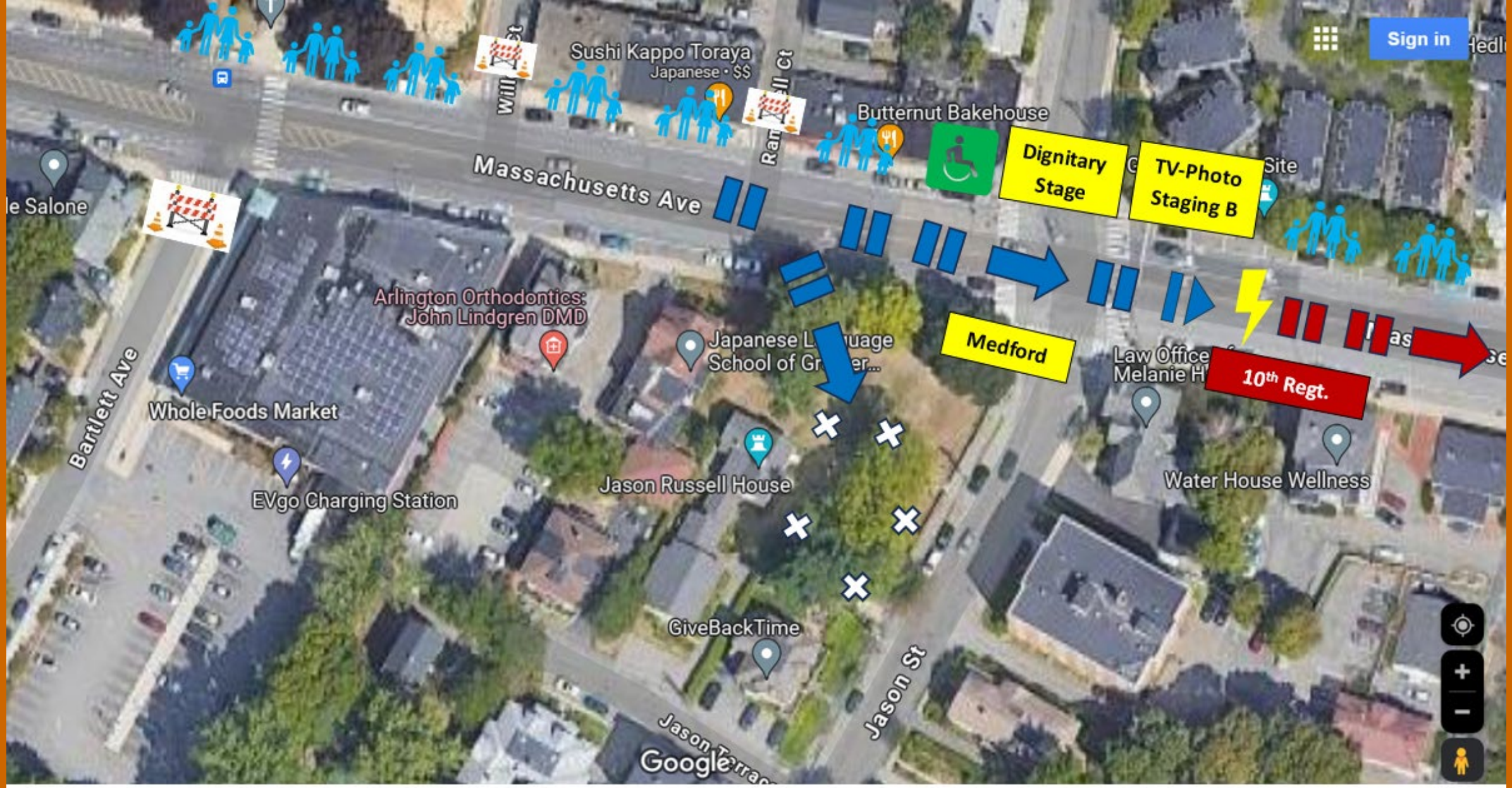
The Crown Forces Column pushes forward against the 2nd Mass.

While continuing to keep the Medford Militia pushed back at the rear of the Column.



Fighting ceases at the Jason Russell House

The Crown Forces Companies reform as the Main Column continues to push forward.
Fighting continues at the Front and Back of the Column.



Medford recovers Danvers Men from the Jason Russell House

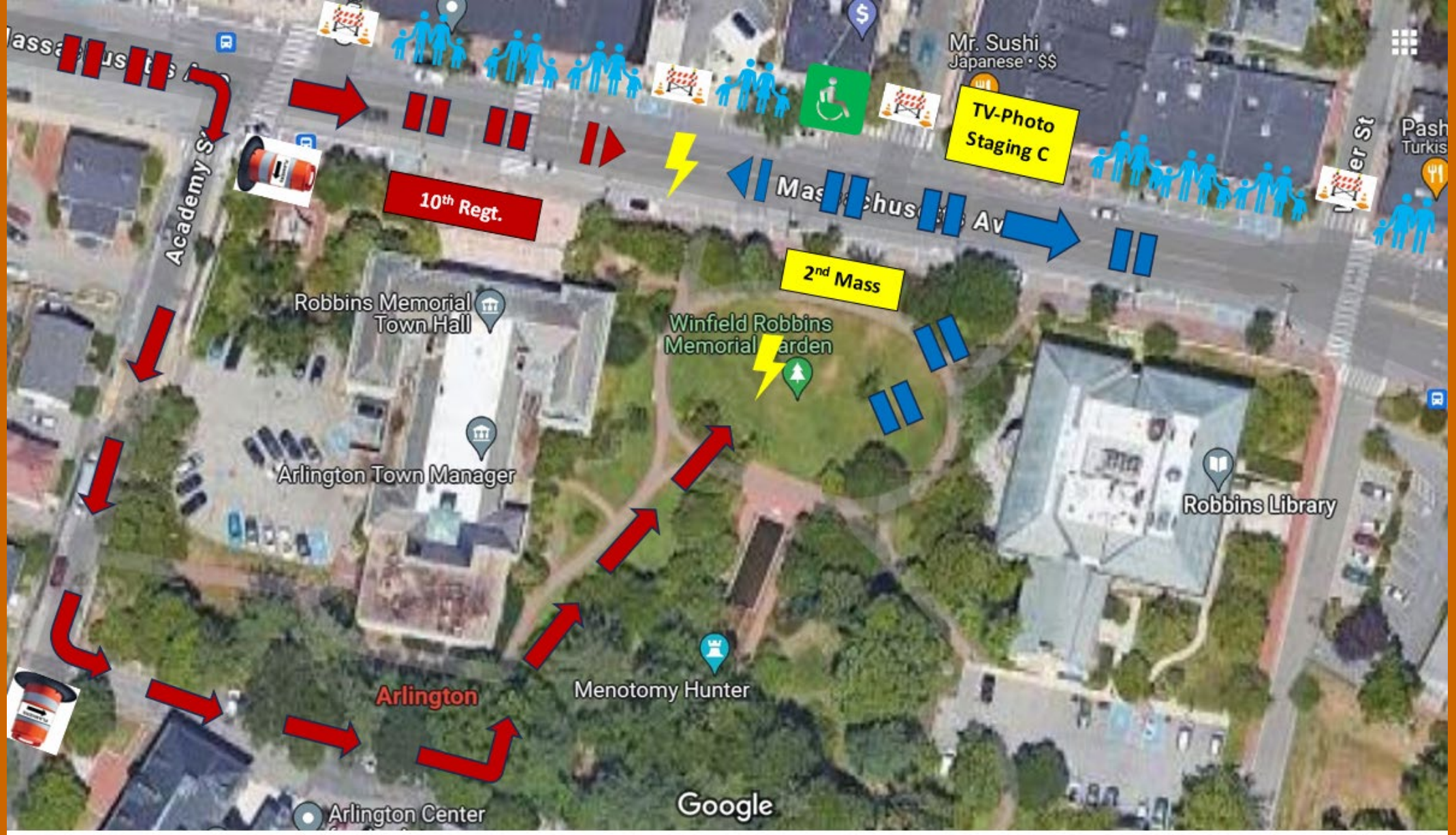
As the Crown Forces Column continues to push forward Danvers men joins Medford and continues the Fight.



The Fight continues on both ends of the Crown Forces Column

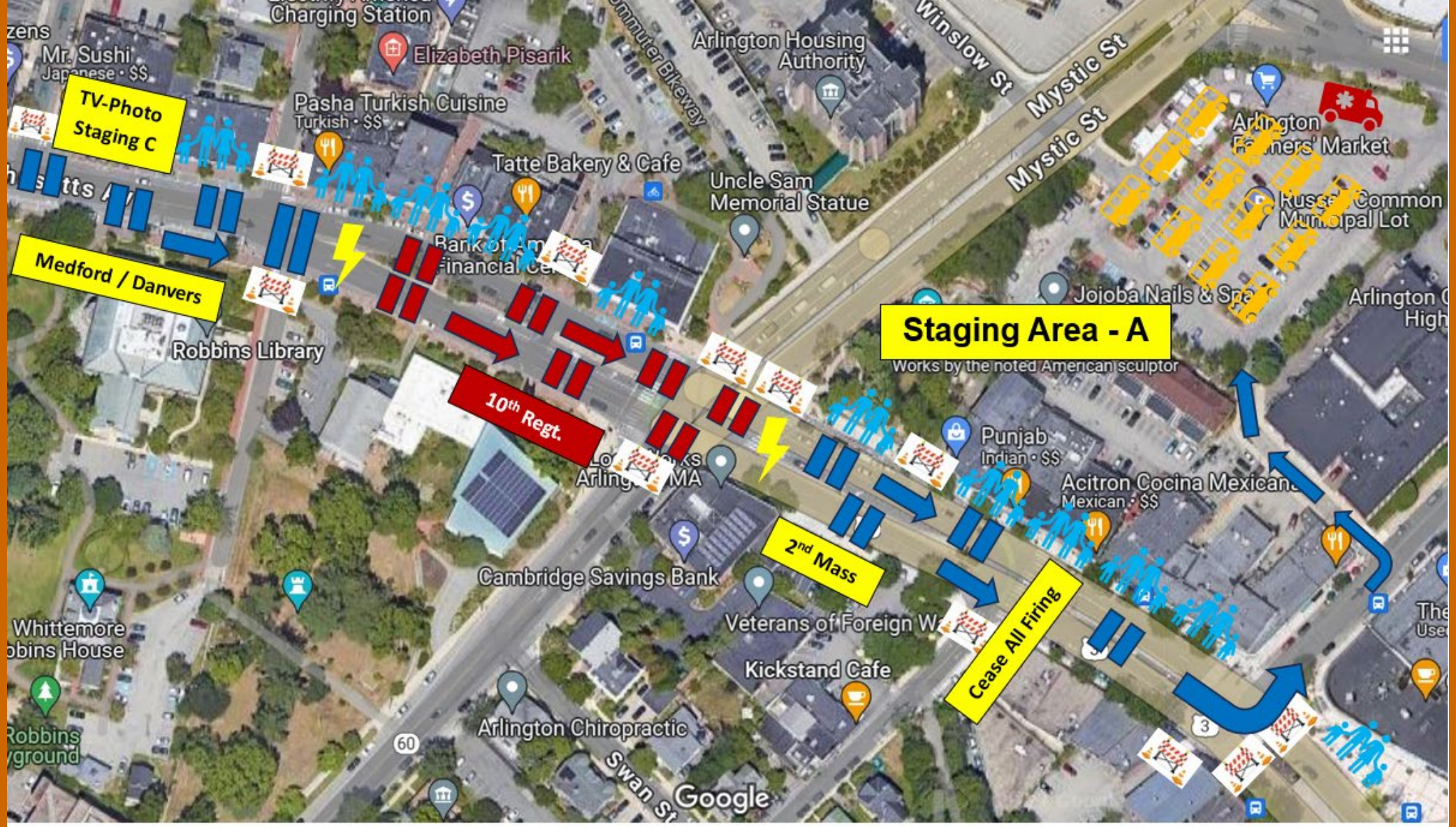
As it continues to push their way forward down Mass. Ave.

Second Crown Forces Flanking Maneuver



Second Crown Forces Flanking Maneuver

Crown Forces deploy Flankers onto Academy Street around the back Parking Lot to Robbins Memorial Garden / Lawn. Skirmish with American Forces on the Lawn bordering Mass. Ave...



Final Street Fight

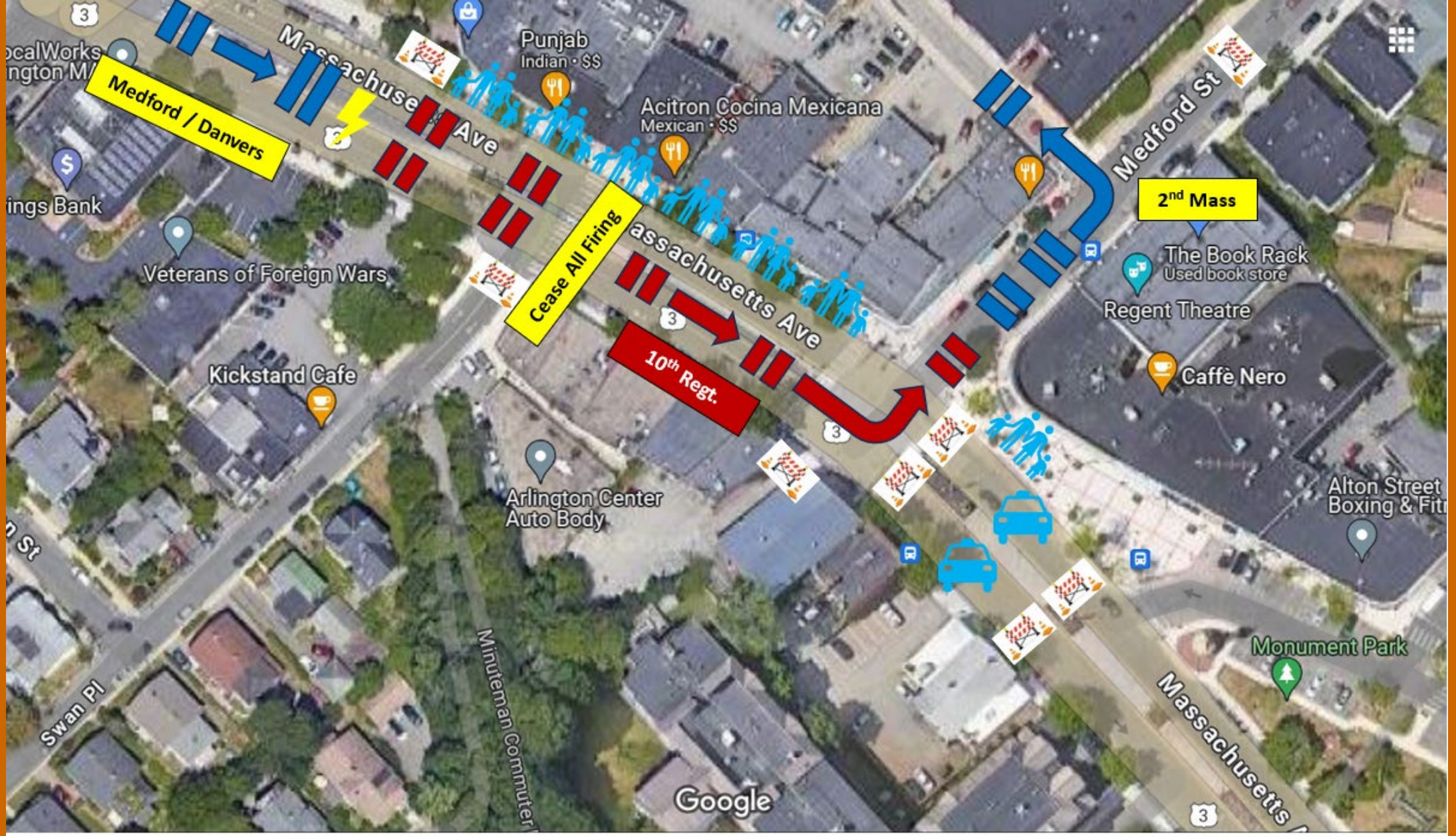
American Forces split into 2 Columns where Mass. Ave. divides into 2 Lanes creating a multi-front Street Fight.

Street Fighting continues across the Intersection of Route 60 down Mass. Ave.

All Musket Firing Ceases at the Intersection of Swan Place and Mass. Ave...

Staging Area - A

Battle Reenactment Units – Parade Units
Transition



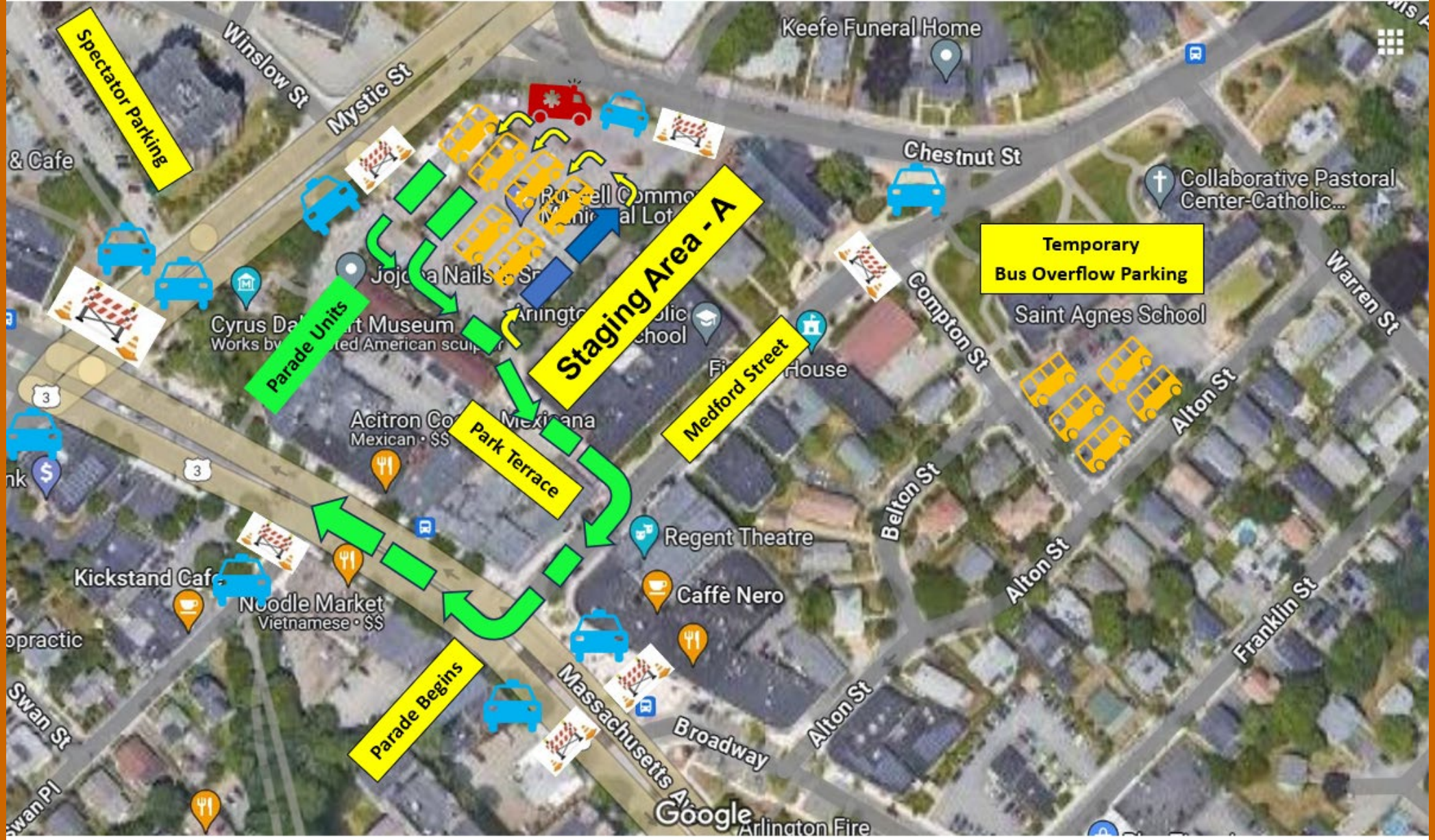
ALL Musket Firing Ceases in front of Swan Place - Lower Mass. Ave. Street Closure

All Battle Participants will turn Left onto Medford Street, then Left onto Park Terrace.



Battle Reenactment Unit Departure - Staging Area – A

All Units will proceed to Staging Area – A (Russell Common Municipal Parking Lot) and immediately clear Park Terrace for Parade Units by boarding waiting buses.



Parade Unit Deployment Staging Area - A

Parade Units will be formed up in Staging Area - A Parking Lot waiting for All Battle Participants to clear Park Terrace.
Parade Units will then access Mass. Ave. via Park Terrace / Medford Street.
The Parade immediately begins as Parade Unit's turn out of Medford Street onto Mass. Ave…



Battle Participants Depart Staging Area - A

Battle Participants will Board Buses waiting in the Russell Common Municipal Parking Lot.
Buses will begin Transporting Battle Participants Back to Medford High School.

Parade Begins

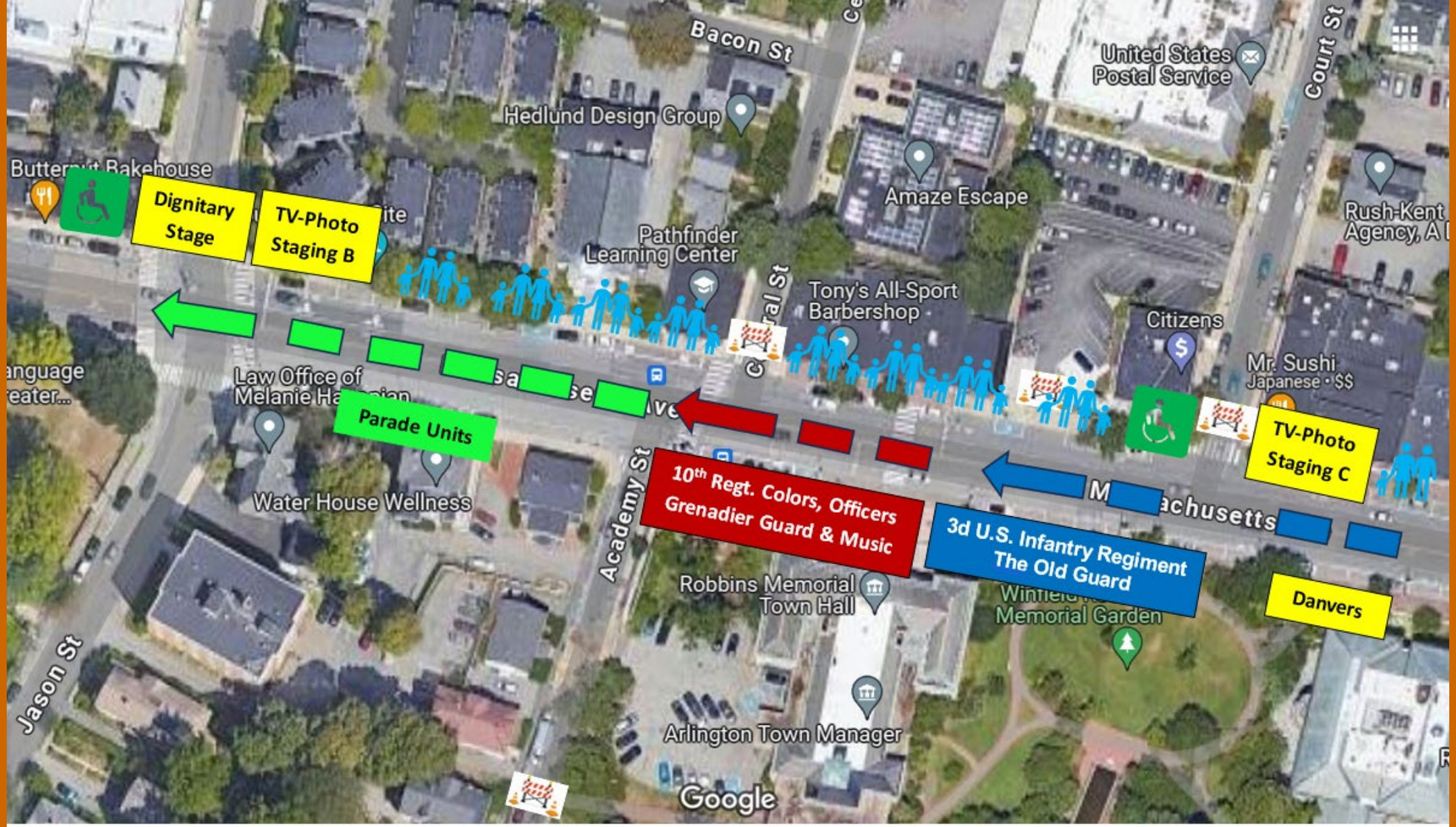
Parade Route

Passing in Review



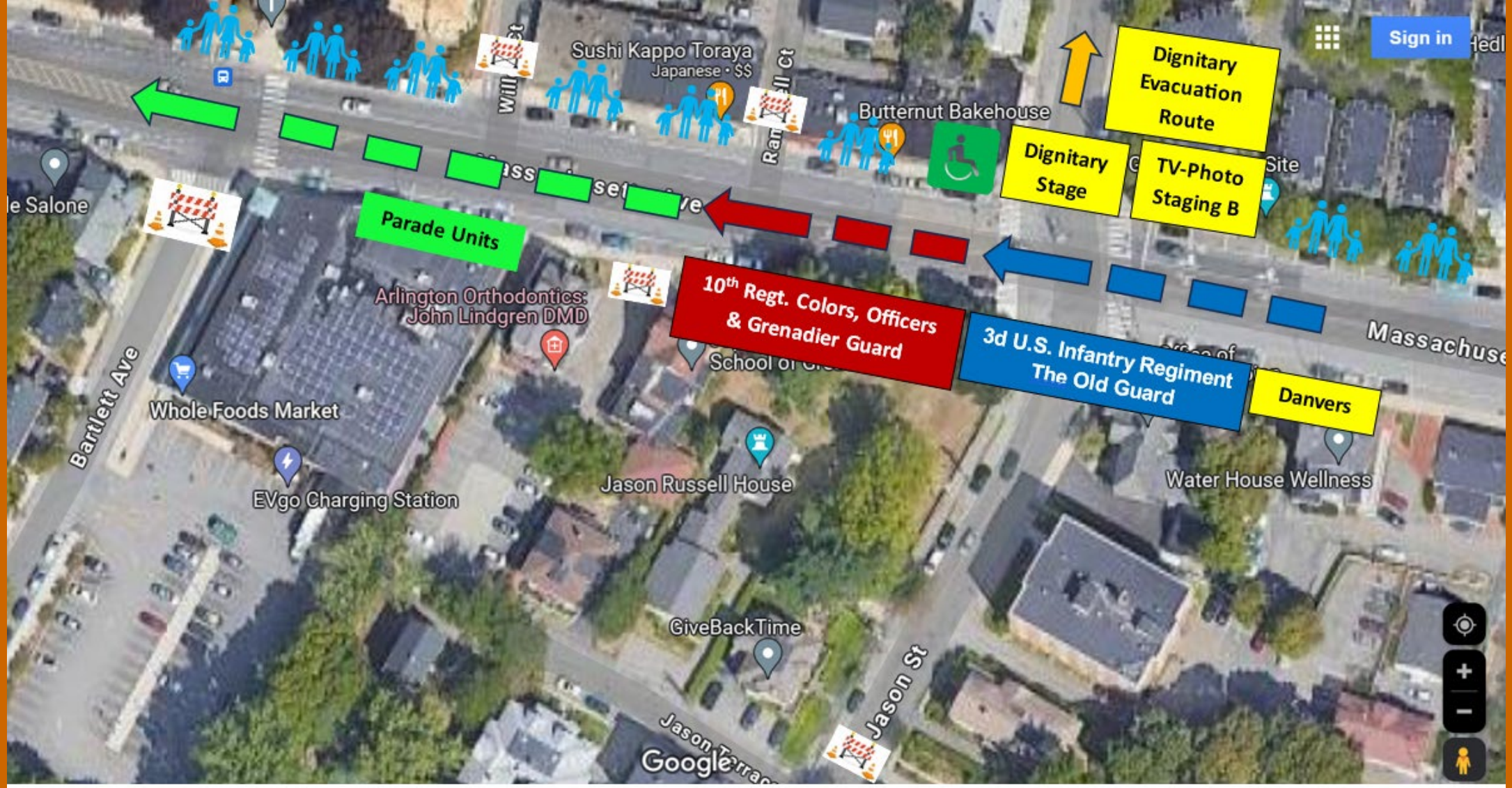
Parade Begins

Parade Units - 10th Regt. Colors, Officers, Grenadier Guard & Music - 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment "The Old Guard" and Danvers Alarm Company begin marching up Mass. Ave. from the Corner of Medford Street and Mass. Ave. .



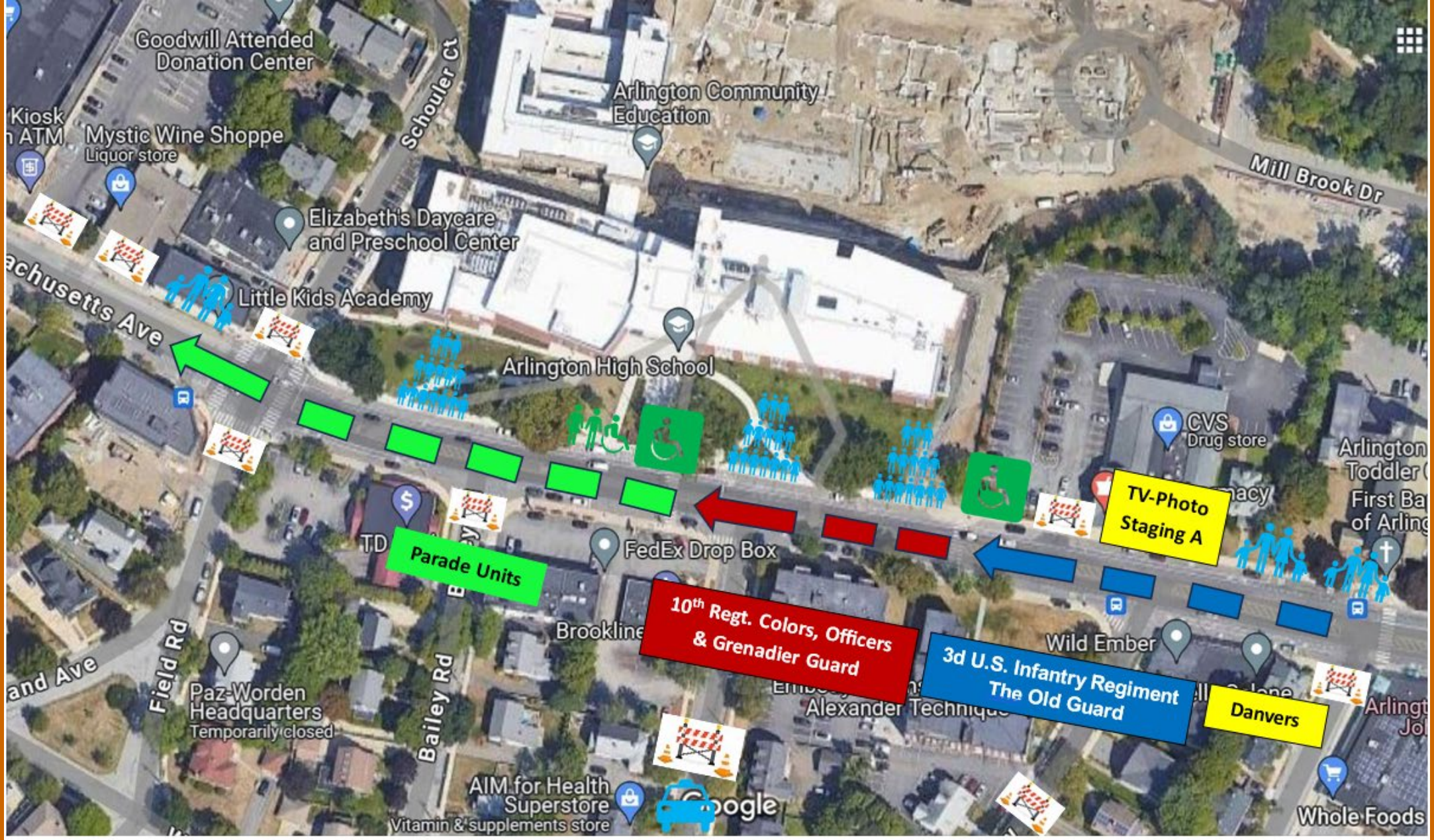
Parade Units march past Town Hall

All Parade Units march up Mass. Ave. past the TV and Photographer Staging C Location on the corner of Court Street, and Arlington Town Hall.



Dignitary Stage / Jason Russell House – Passing in Review

All Parade Units marching up Mass. Ave. will proceed at a slow march beginning at the TV and Photographer Staging B Location on the corner of Jason Street and Mass. Ave., "Passing in Review" in front of the Dignitary Stage continuing at a slow march past the Jason Russell House to Honor the Fallen.



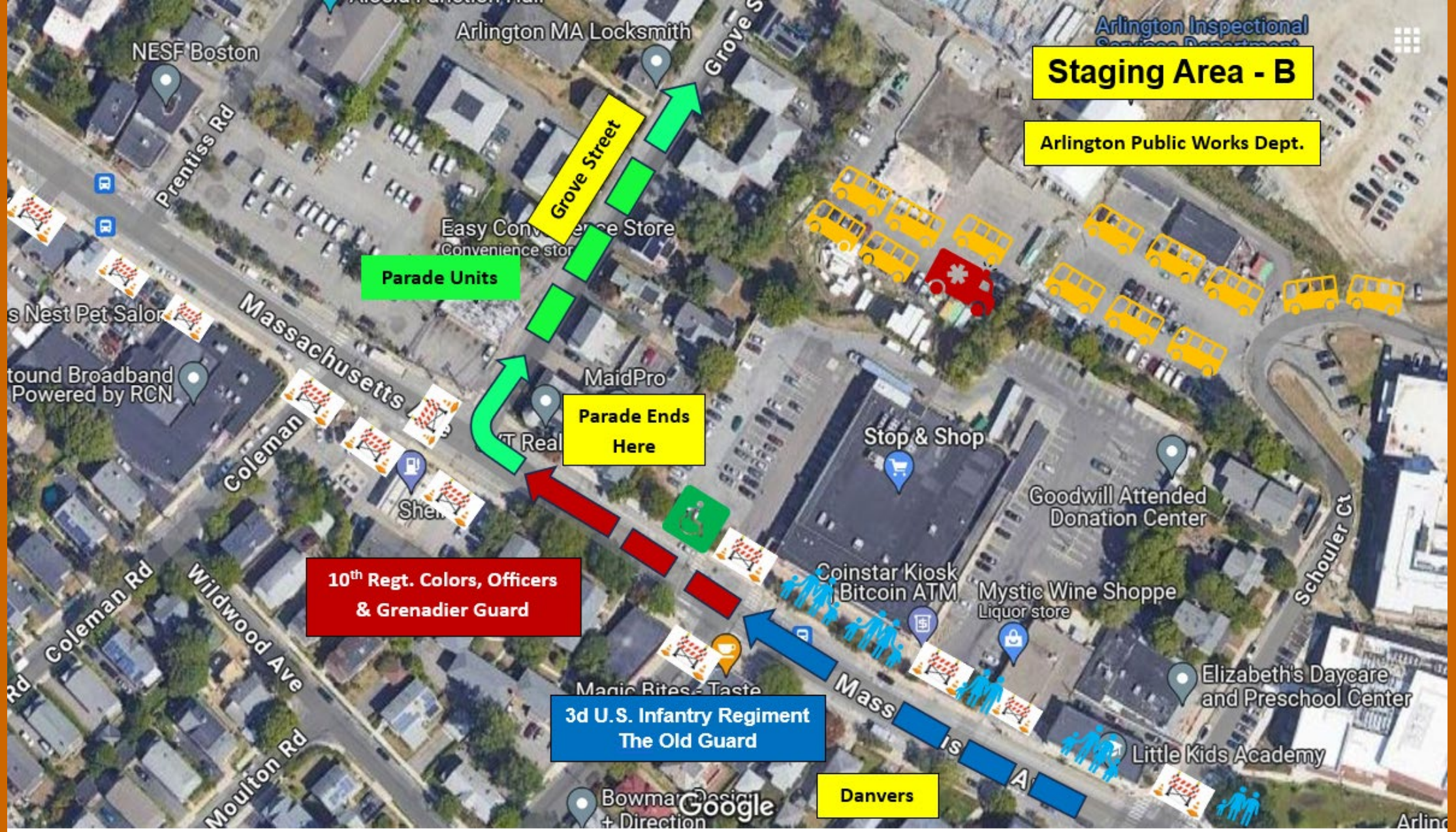
Parade Units continue marching up Mass. Ave.

past the TV and Photographer Staging A Location in front of CVS and Arlington High School.

Parade Ends

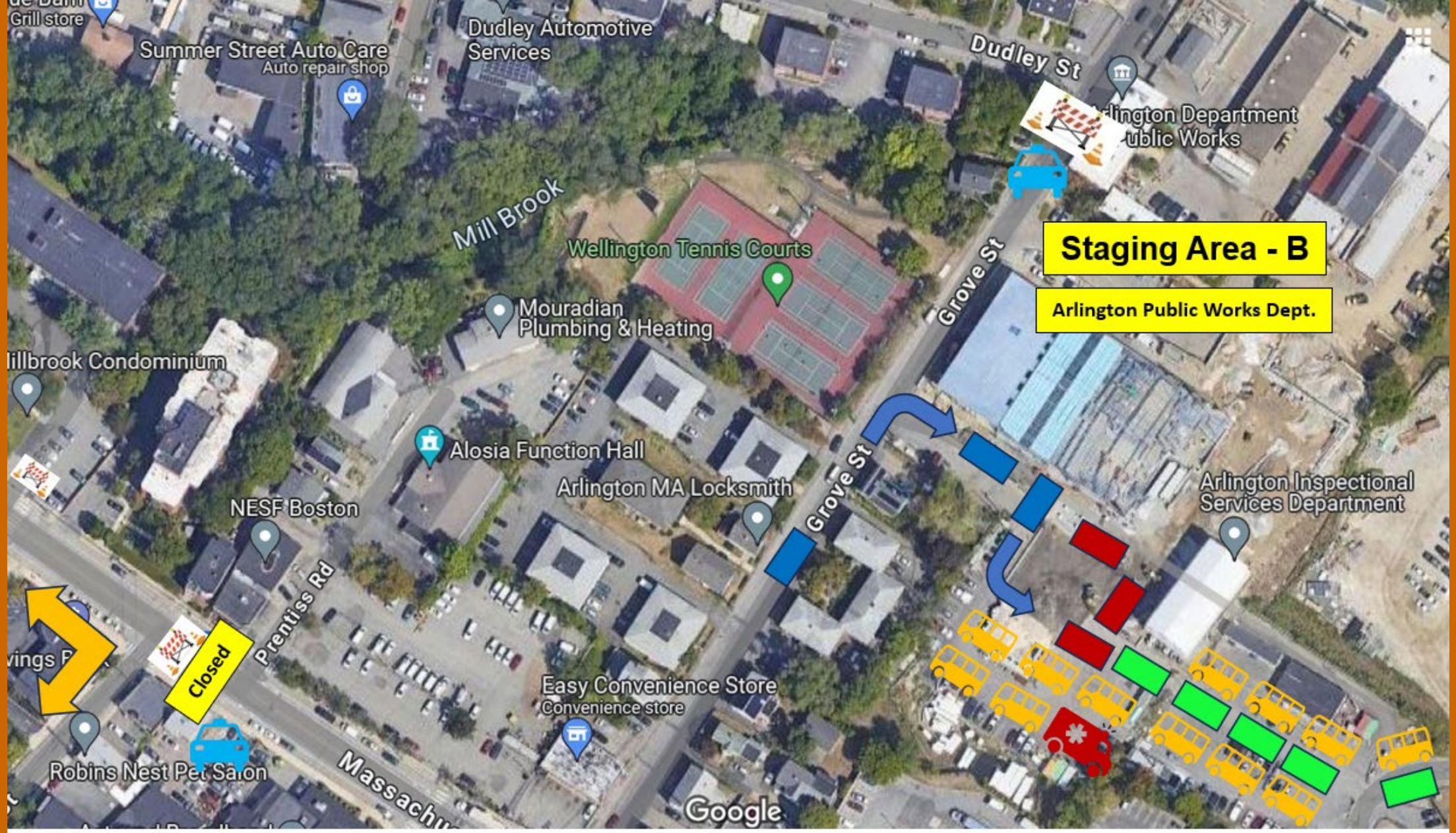
Parade Units Exit Mass. Ave.

Parade Units Departure



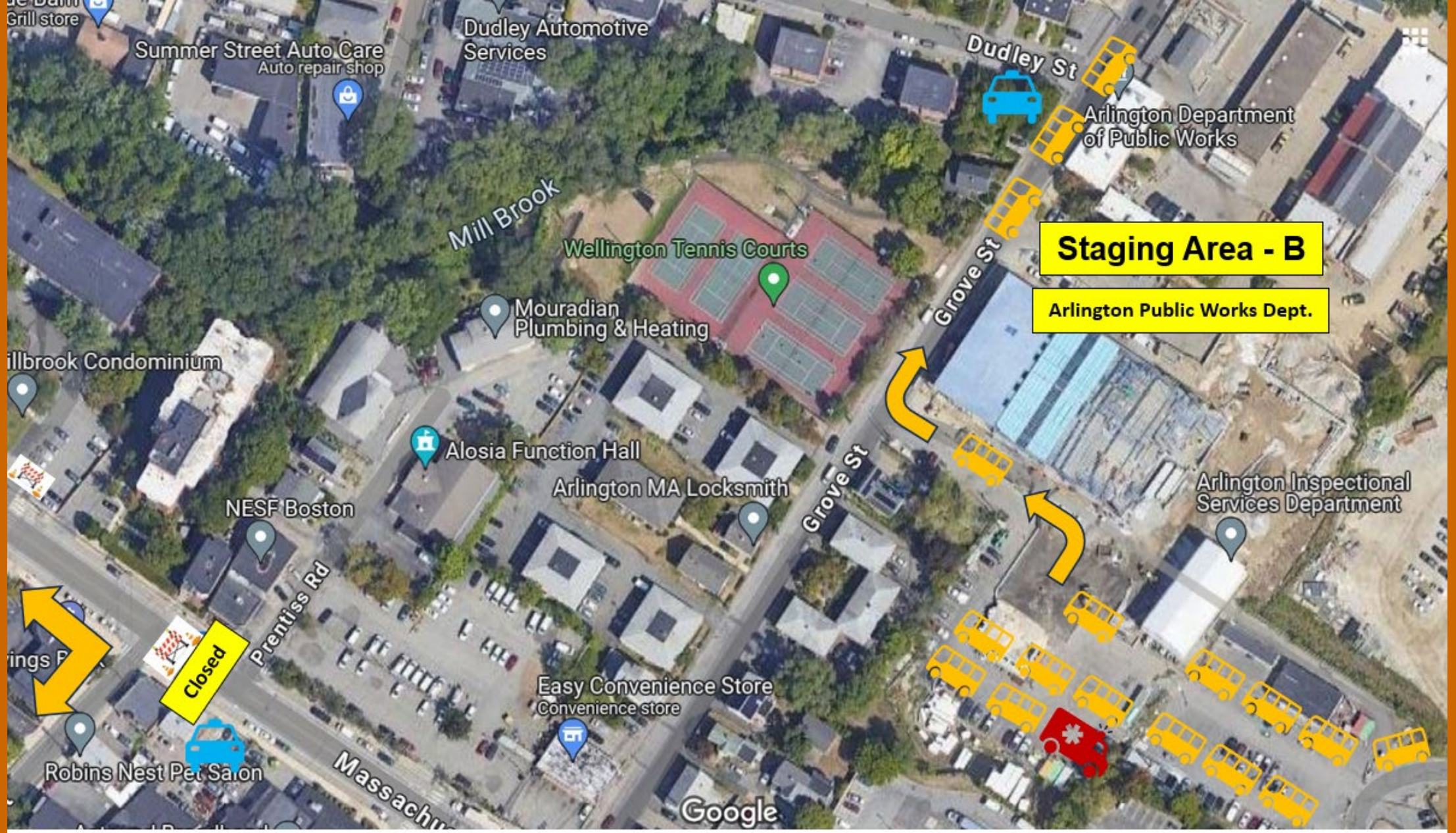
Parade ends at Stop & Shop

Parade Units exit Mass. Ave. via Grove Street and proceed to Staging Area B - Arlington Publics Works Department.



Parade Units exit Mass. Ave. via Grove Street

Parade Units proceed to Staging Area B and begin boarding Buses waiting at the Arlington Publics Works Department.



Parade Unit Buses Depart Staging Area - A

After All Parade Units have boarded their Buses, they will begin Transporting Parade Units Back to Medford High School.

Battle of Menotomy250

2024

Henry Rutkowski

American Forces Commander

Mike Graves

Crown Forces Commander

Ron Richmond

Event Planning

December 10th, 2023 Meeting Plan