

CIRCUIT DRIVE TRAFFIC CALMING & DRAINAGE

Franklin Park



MEETING RECORDING



The Boston Parks and Recreation Department will be recording the meeting and posting to our project webpage for those who are unable to attend the Zoom meeting live.

It is possible that participants may also be recording the meeting with their phones cameras or other devices. If you do not wish to be recorded during this meeting, please keep your microphone muted and camera off.

*Please share with your neighbors and friends,
boston.gov/circuit-drive*

VIRTUAL MEETING ETIQUETTE

We want to ensure this conversation is a pleasant experience for all and that all community members/stakeholders are comfortable sharing their comments, questions and feedback.

Please be respectful and mindful of each other's time when asking questions/ providing comments, so that all attendees are able to participate in the meeting.

Keep questions/ comments project-specific and not personal to yield solution-driven discussion.

Please wait until all attendees have had the opportunity to ask a question/ provide a comment before providing additional questions/ comments.

*You can always set up a conversation with **Amy Linné**, amy.linne@boston.gov, to further discuss the project or process.*

ZOOM TIPS

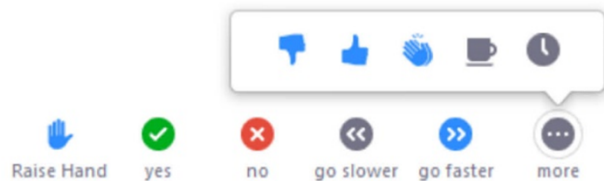
Here is how you can participate during the question and answer part of the presentation.

DURING THE PRESENTATION:



VIA WEB:

Turn video on / off.



To use these non-verbal options click on participants (bottom of screen); these options will pop up in side bar.

DURING THE Q&A:



JOINING VIA PHONE?

Use *9 to raise hand to ask for audio / video permission to ask questions or provide comments.



VIA WEB:

Chat to ask questions / comments or provide responses to poll questions



Raise hand to ask for audio / video permission to ask questions or provide comments.

AGENDA

1

PROJECT TEAM INTRODUCTION

2

PROJECT OVERVIEW

3

SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK RECEIVED

4

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

5

CLOSING REMARKS & NEXT STEPS

PROJECT TEAM

BOSTON PARKS

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FRANKLIN PARK
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GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

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AICP, EIT, ENV SP

REED HILDERBRAND

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PLAN, ADVISORY INPUT

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GROUPS WE ARE COORDINATING WITH ON THIS PROJECT

CITY OF BOSTON

Transportation Department

Disabilities Commission

Landmarks Commission

Planning Department

Office of Green Infrastructure

Office of Neighborhood Services

Parks Department – Urban Forestry
Division

Boston Public Schools

OUTSIDE PARTNERS

Franklin Park Coalition

The Community

MBTA

Franklin Park Zoo

William J Devine Golf Course

Shattuck Hospital

Massachusetts State Police

FRANKLIN PARK FEATURED INVESTMENTS UNDERWAY

BEAR DENS SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

CURRENT STATUS: IN CONSTRUCTION, TARGET COMPLETION MAY 2026

SHATTUCK PICNIC GROVE TENNIS COURTS: Expansion for Community and BPS Recreation

CURRENT STATUS: ARCHAEOLOGY WORK ONGOING, CONSTRUCTION TO START IN 2-3 WEEKS

FRANKLIN PARK TRUST PROJECTS

Removing invasive plants, restoring Wilderness Picnic Area, repaving Glen Rd, and safety improvements at Ellicott Arch

CURRENT STATUS: IN DESIGN FALL 2025

FRANKLIN PARK EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CURRENT STATUS: LUIS PEREZ DEMORIZI HIRED IN SEPTEMBER 2025

WHITE STADIUM RENOVATION

Year-Round BPS Athletics & Community Hub + Up to 20 Boston Legacy Games Annually

ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION:

CURRENT STATUS: ONGOING

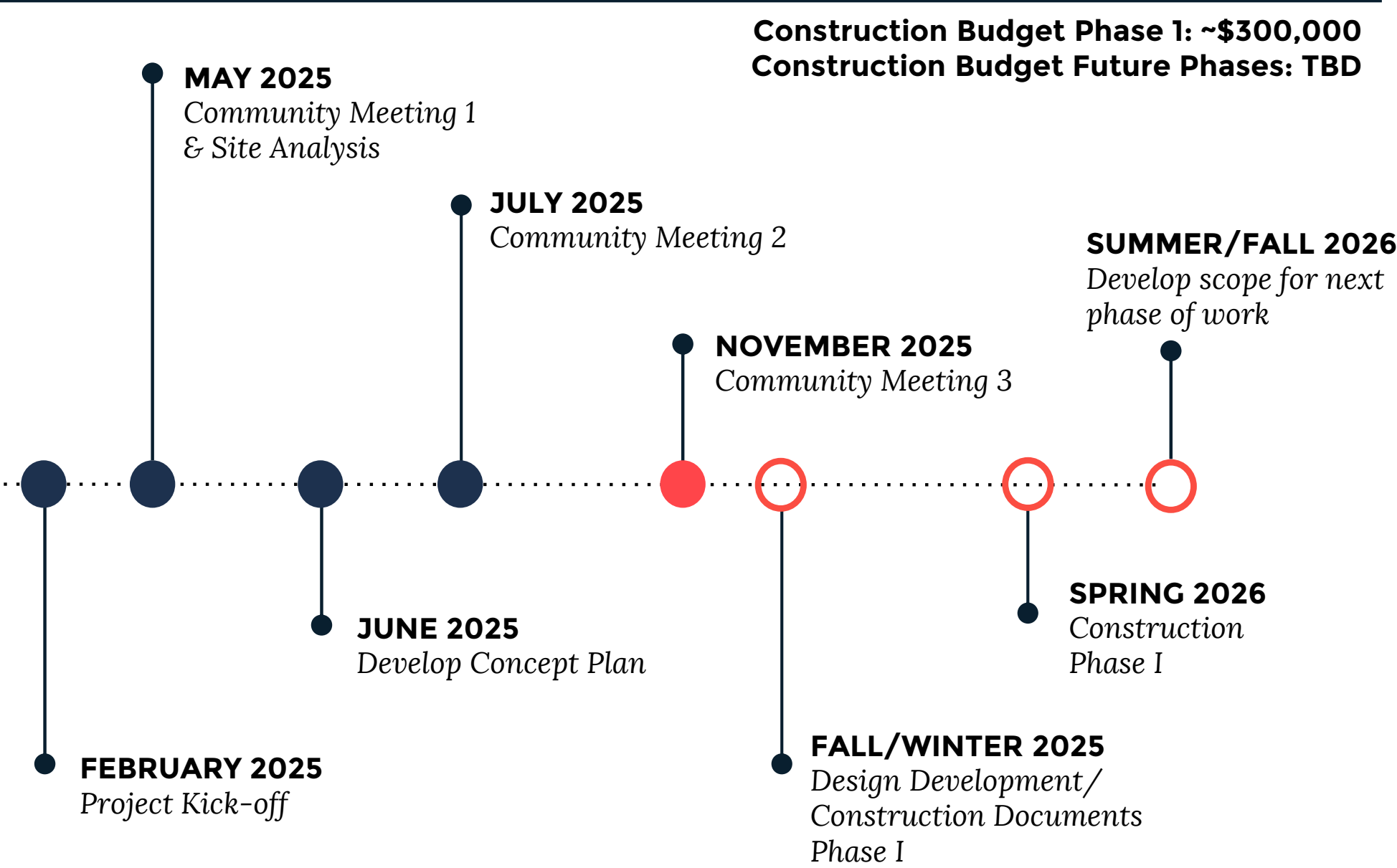
DOG FACILITIES STUDY

CURRENT STATUS: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN FALL 2025 TO WINTER 2026

PROJECT OVERVIEW

A wide-angle photograph of a multi-lane asphalt road lined with mature trees. The road has double yellow lines and a white edge line. In the foreground, there's a grassy area with large rocks. The background shows more trees and a few cars in the distance. The entire image has a blue color overlay, and the text 'PROJECT OVERVIEW' is centered in white.

PROJECT SCHEDULE



PROJECT GOALS – TRANSPORTATION AND STORMWATER

Overall Project Goals

- Connect the north and south sides of the park by improving access across Circuit Drive for pedestrians and cyclists
- Improve safety for all users of Circuit Drive
- Improve accessible accommodations
- Understand and address chronic flooding in the corridor
- Clarify traffic movements and parking

Phase 1 Goals

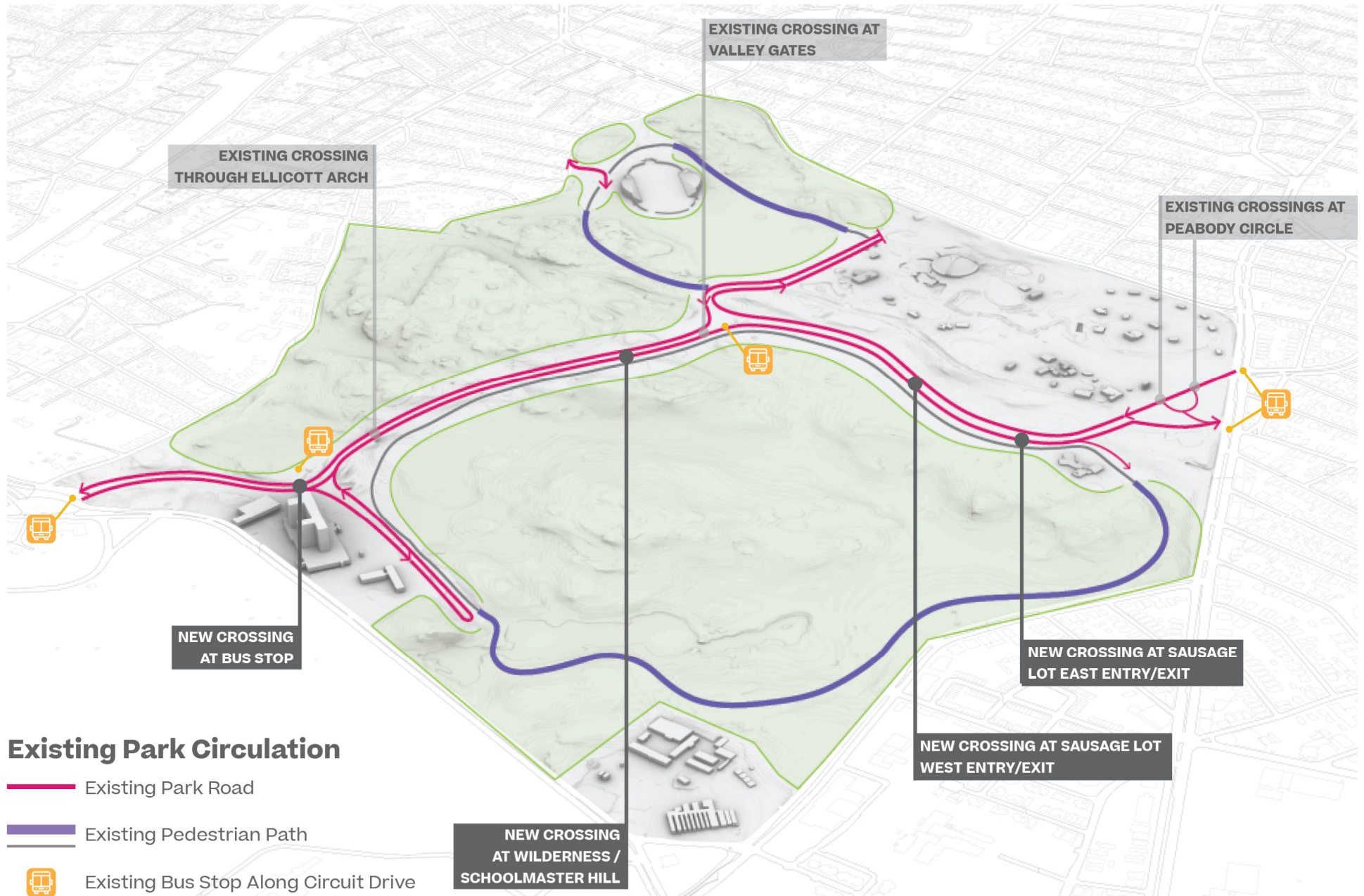
- Slow vehicle speeds
- Improve connections across Circuit Drive for pedestrians and cyclists

Note: No portions of Circuit Drive will be closed as part of this project.



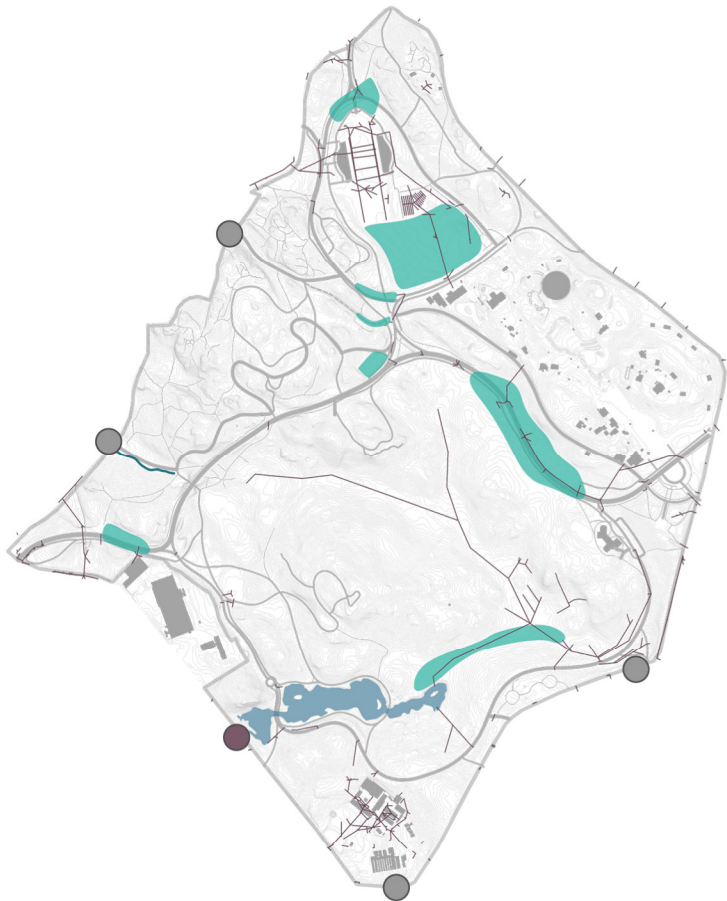
FRANKLIN PARK ACTION PLAN - IMMEDIATE RECOMMENDATIONS, 2022

IMPLEMENT 'MAKE SAFE' IMPROVEMENTS ON CIRCUIT DRIVE



FRANKLIN PARK ACTION PLAN – DRAINAGE ANALYSIS

CHALLENGES



Localized Drainage Issues

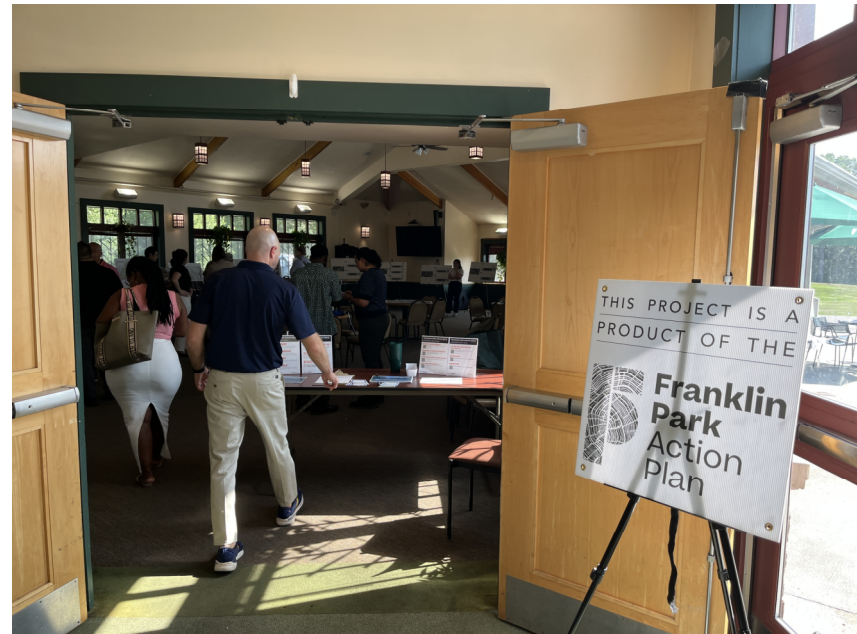
- Localized Drainage Issue
- Below Ground Drainage Infrastructure
- Scarboro Pond & Ellicott Stream
- Drainage Outlet to City System

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



FEEDBACK WE'VE HEARD SO FAR

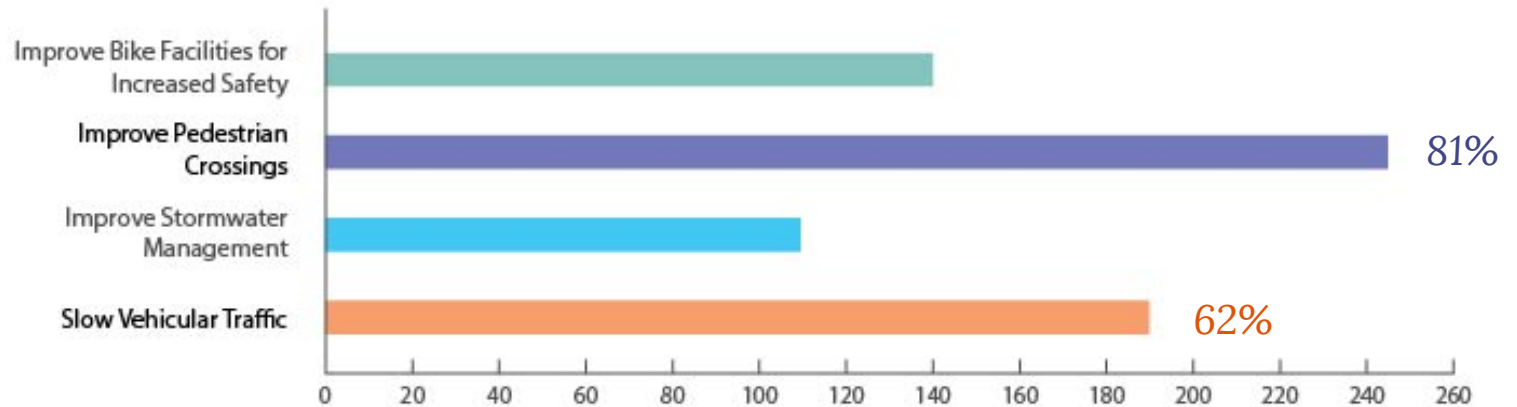
- Two public meetings
 - Virtual 5/14/2025
 - In-Person 7/30/2025
 - One community survey
 - Open 7/30/2025 to 9/19/2025
-
- Slower vehicle speeds
 - Safer crossings
 - Protected space for bikes
 - Clarified parking
 - Improved stormwater drainage



COMMUNITY SURVEY RESPONSES

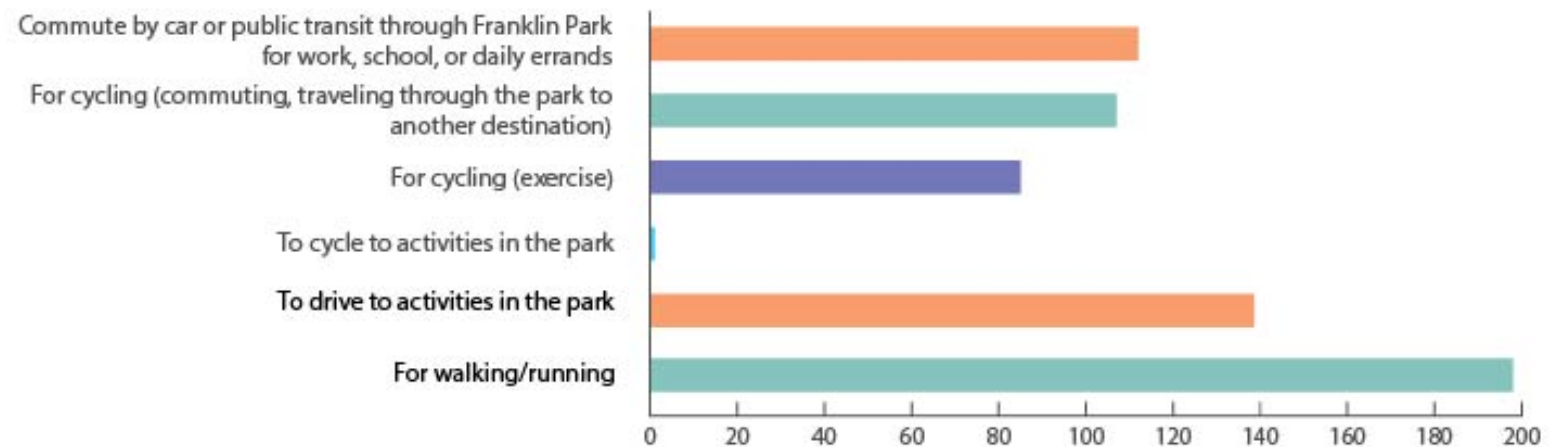
303 Responses

In your opinion, what is/are the most important improvement(s) to make with this project? Select all that apply.



Top priorities: improved pedestrian crossings and slower vehicular traffic

How do you typically use Circuit Drive? Select all that apply.



What would you most like to see from the Circuit Drive project?

“

Slow down traffic

Better Lighting

Better crossings for pedestrians, e.g., raised crosswalks

Do not eliminate informal parking

Narrow the roadway

Safety

More tree canopy

Protected bikeway

Sidewalk along the zoo side

Eliminate parking along
Circuit Drive

Reconnect the 2 sides of the park

More sustainable water
management

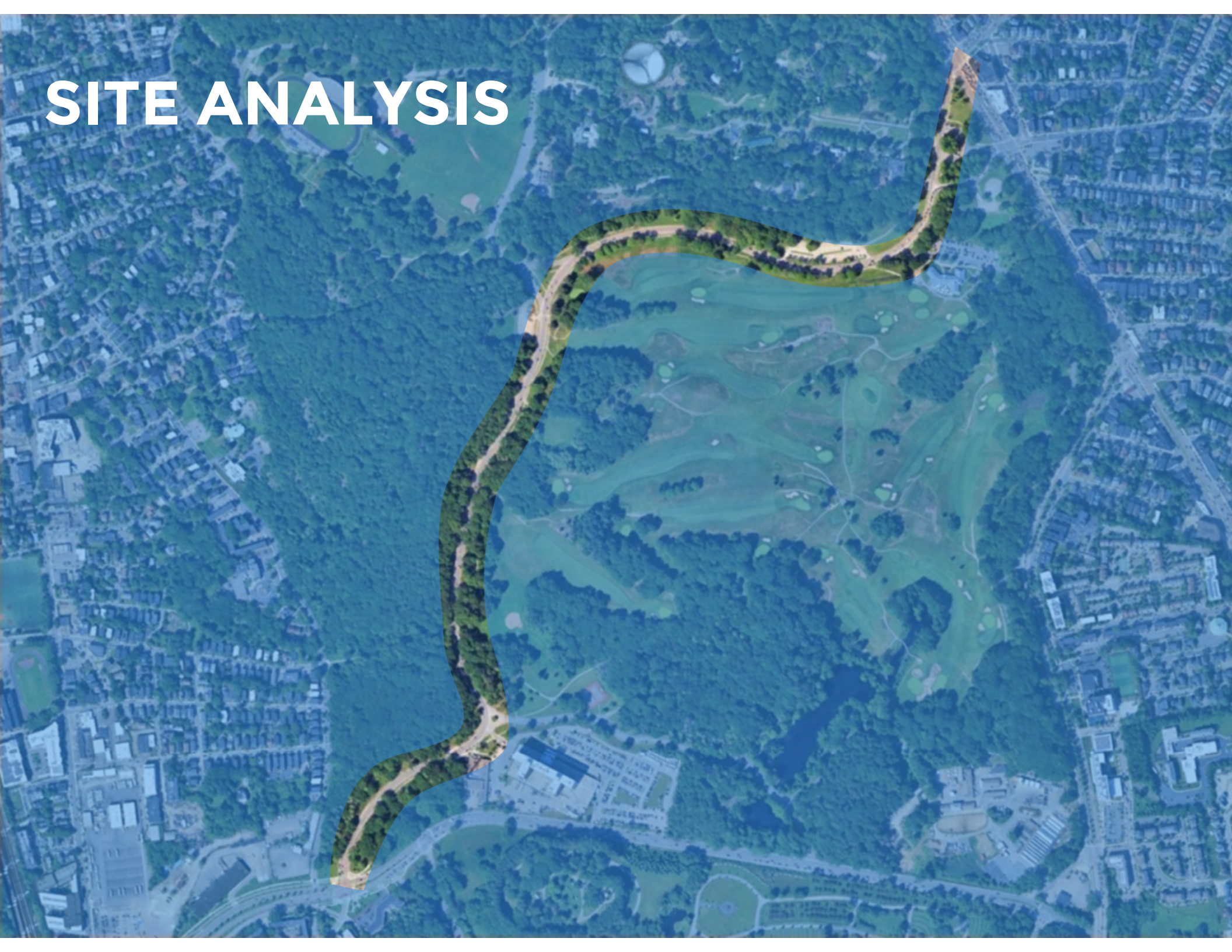
Better access to the other side of the park

Clarify parking

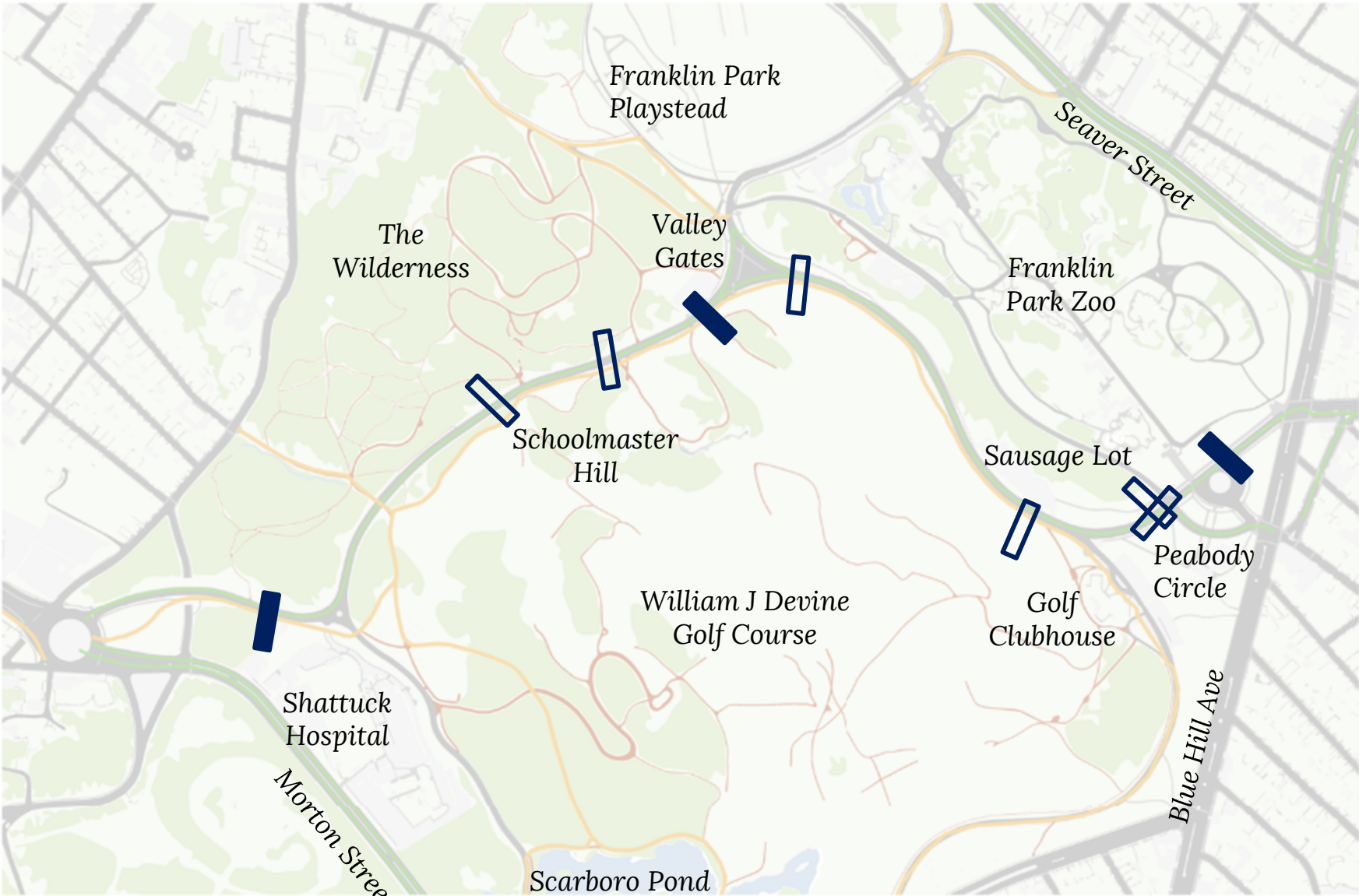
Better Signage



”

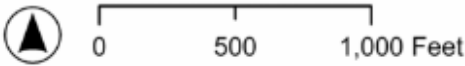
SITE ANALYSIS



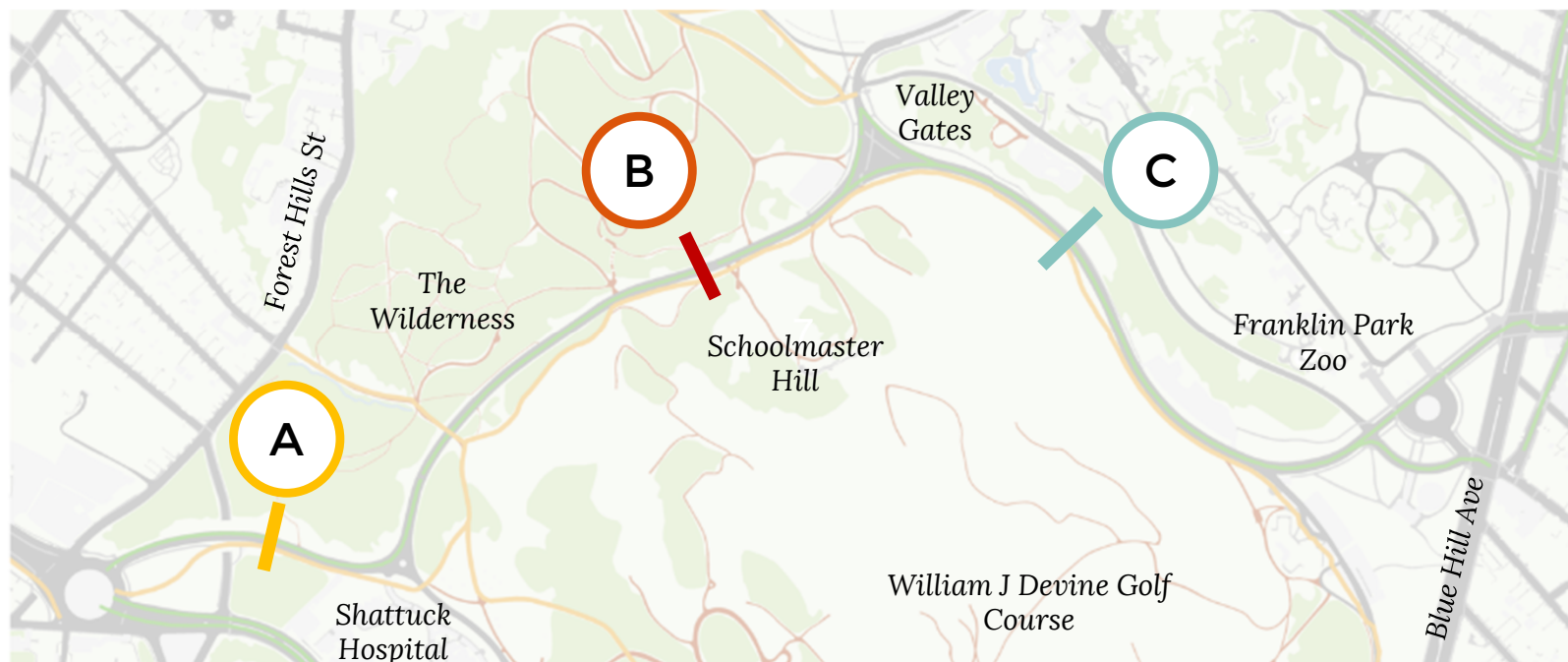
SAFETY OBSERVATIONS – PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS



-  Crossing desire line
-  Marked crosswalk

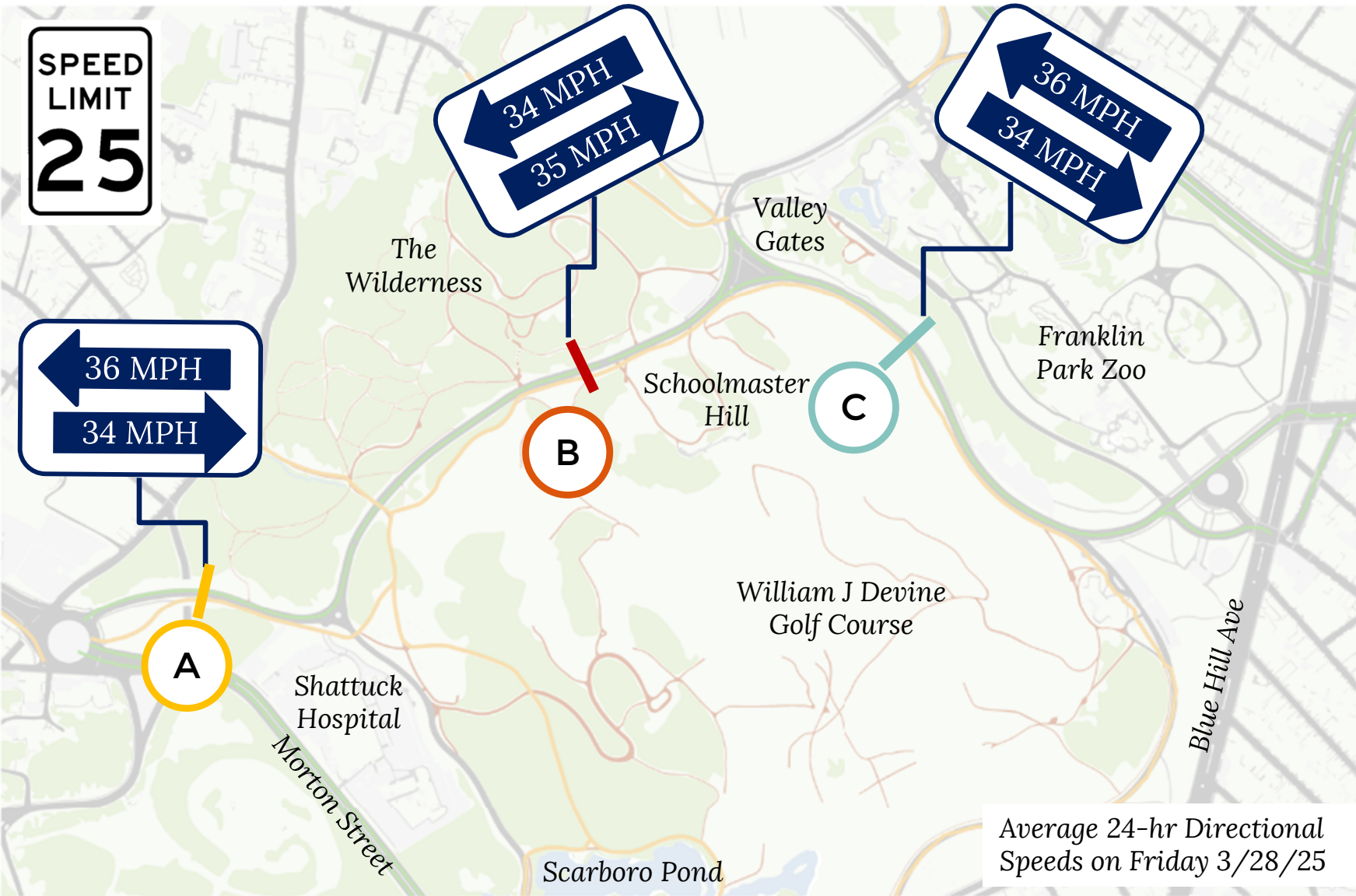


SAFETY OBSERVATIONS – TRAFFIC SPEEDS



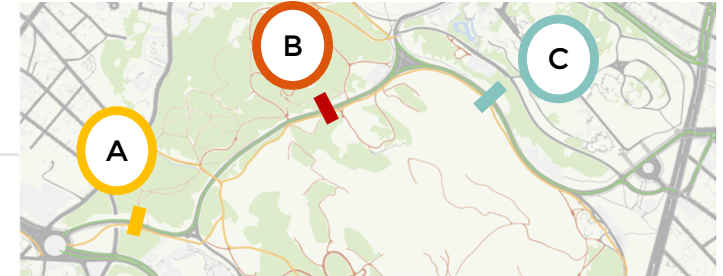
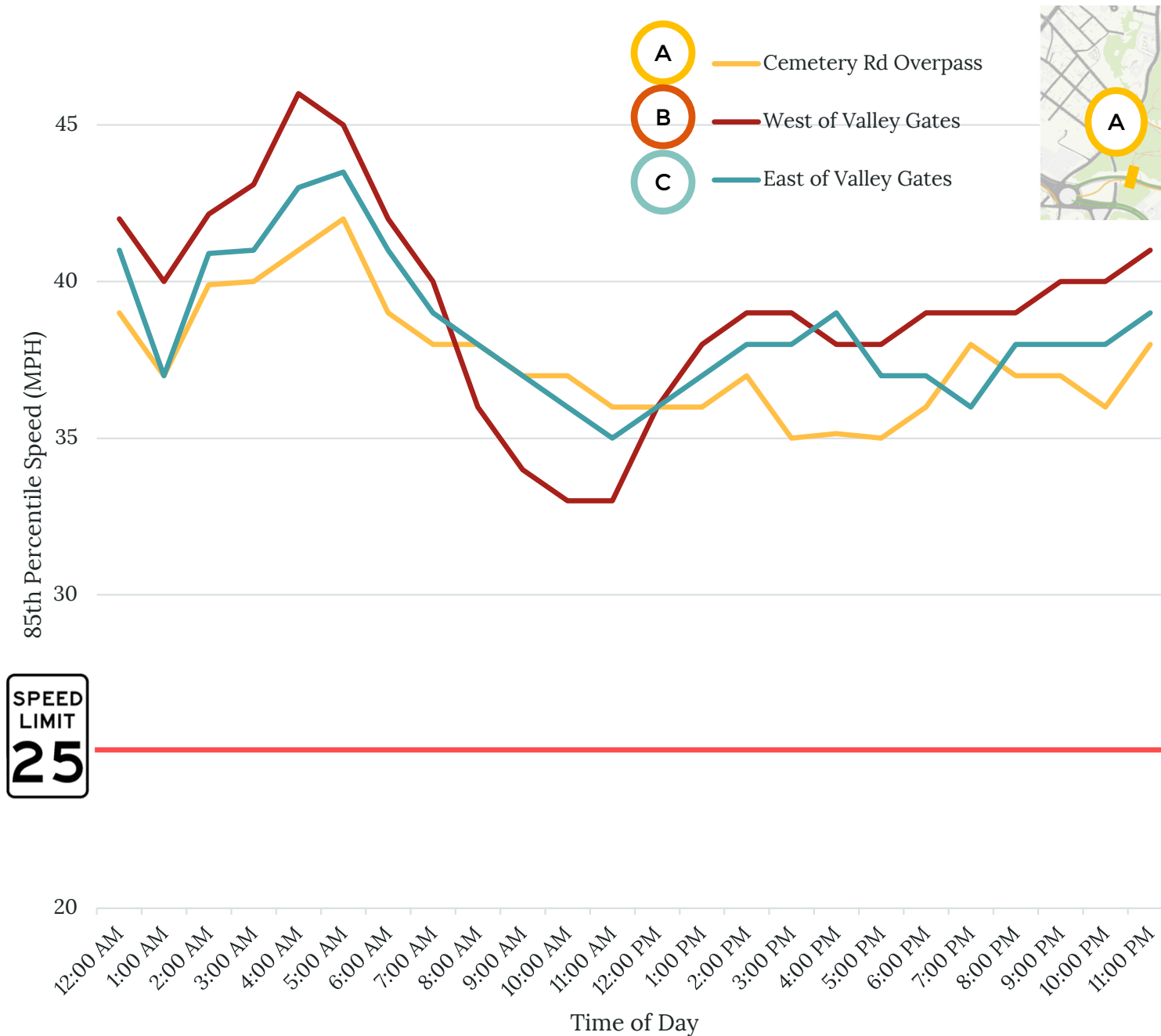
- Counts collected along the corridor to assess possible differences in different locations.
- Thursday through Saturday on two weekends
 - March 27-29 (prior to first public meeting)
 - June 12-14 (after first public meeting)
- Goal was to obtain both vehicular speeds and data on pedestrian/ bicyclist usage across different days of the week.

SAFETY OBSERVATIONS – TRAFFIC SPEEDS



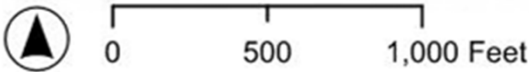
SAFETY OBSERVATIONS – TRAFFIC SPEEDS

Circuit Drive 85th Percentile
Two-Way Speed by Hour
Friday June 13, 2025

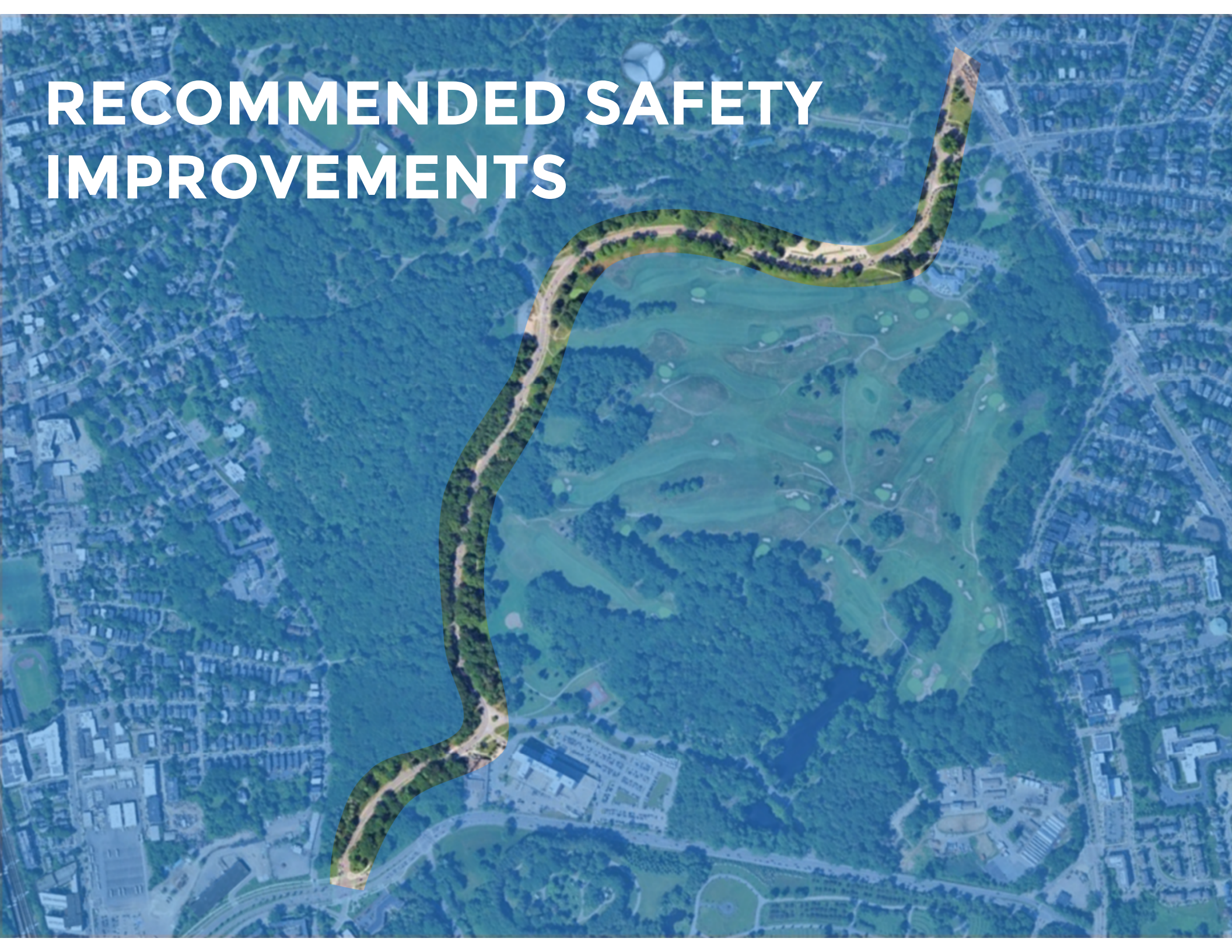


- 15% of traffic is going the speed shown on the graph, or even faster. 85% of traffic is going slower.
- Fastest traffic is going above 35 mph throughout the day.
- Highest speeds observed in the early morning.
- Lower speeds observed in mid-morning.

KNOWN FLOODING AREAS



RECOMMENDED SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS



PHASED APPROACH

PHASE I SPRING 2026

LOW COST, QUICK BUILD, AND EFFECTIVE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDE:

- *7 new crosswalks*
- *10 new speed tables*
- *Drainage system clean out*
- *Pipe investigation*

FUTURE PHASES

MEDIUM-TERM IMPROVEMENTS BASED ON COMMUNITY FEEDBACK AND MEASURING RESULTS FROM PHASE I. SCOPE AND SCHEDULE TO BE FINALIZED, TARGETING SPRING 2027 CONSTRUCTION

- *Comprehensive upgrades to bicycle infrastructure*
- *Parking clarification*
- *Green infrastructure installation*

PHASE I TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS



LEGEND

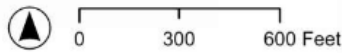
Existing Pavement

Existing Trails

Existing Crosswalk

New Crosswalk (7 new crosswalks)

Speed Table (10 new speed tables)



PHASE I TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS



TRAFFIC CALMING



New Minton Street at Southwest Corridor

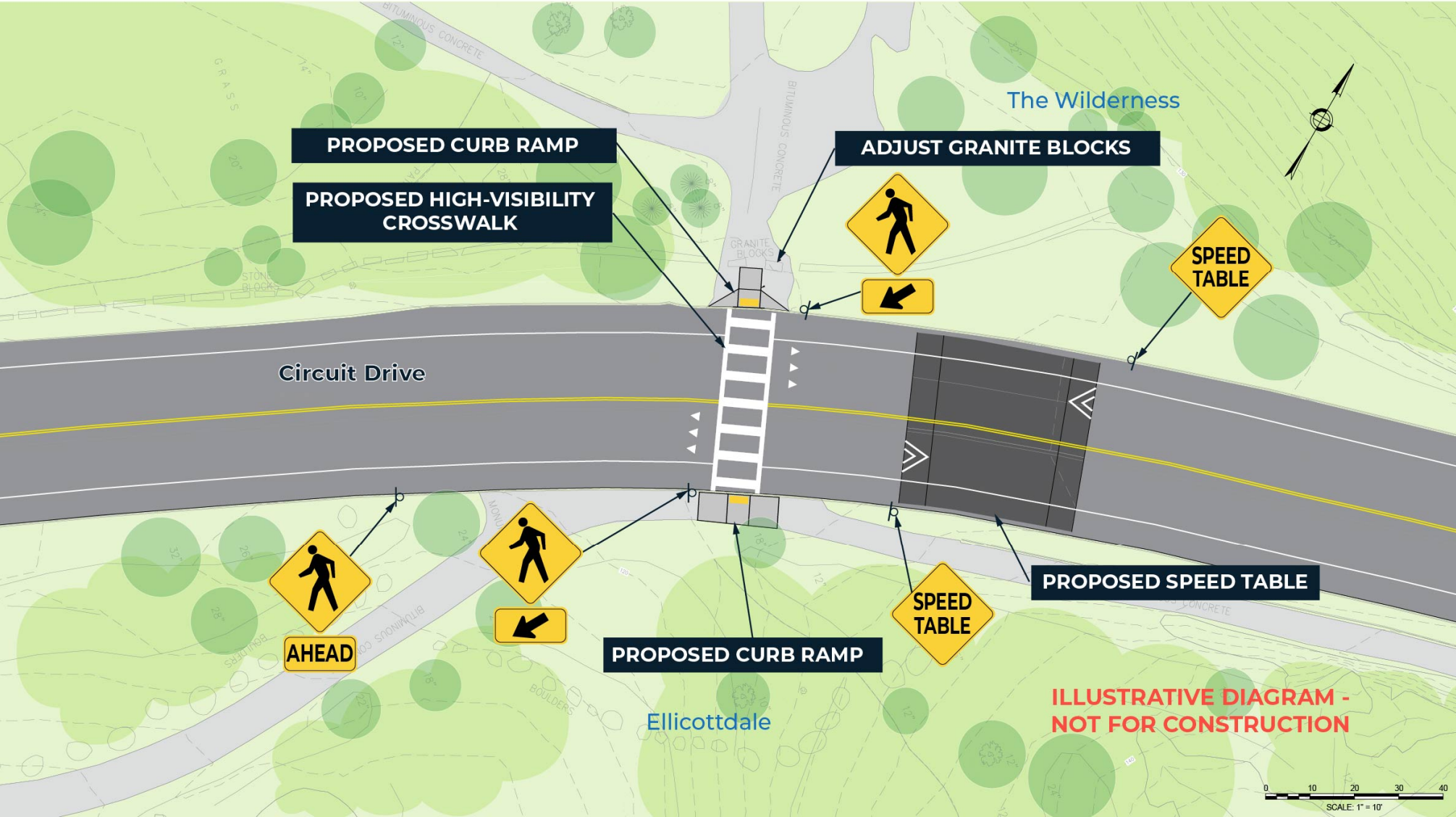


Speed Humps:
6' long, 15-18 mph, low volume residential



Speed Tables:
22' long, 20 mph, busier streets with buses

EXAMPLE PLAN VIEW AT THE WILDERNESS



EXAMPLE RENDERING AT THE WILDERNESS

← The Wilderness

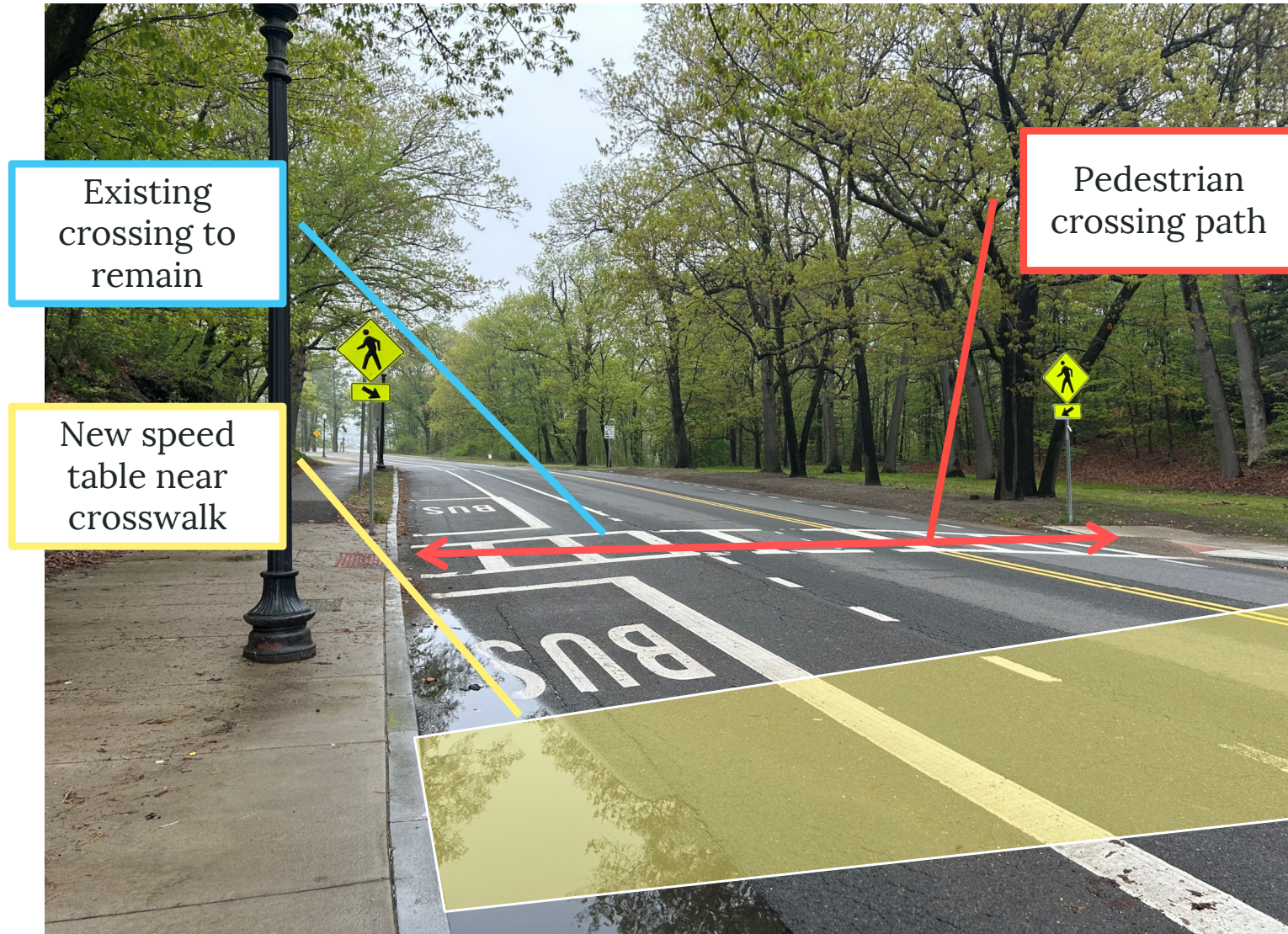
Ellicottdale →



PHASE I TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS - SHATTUCK BUS STOP

← Shattuck Hospital

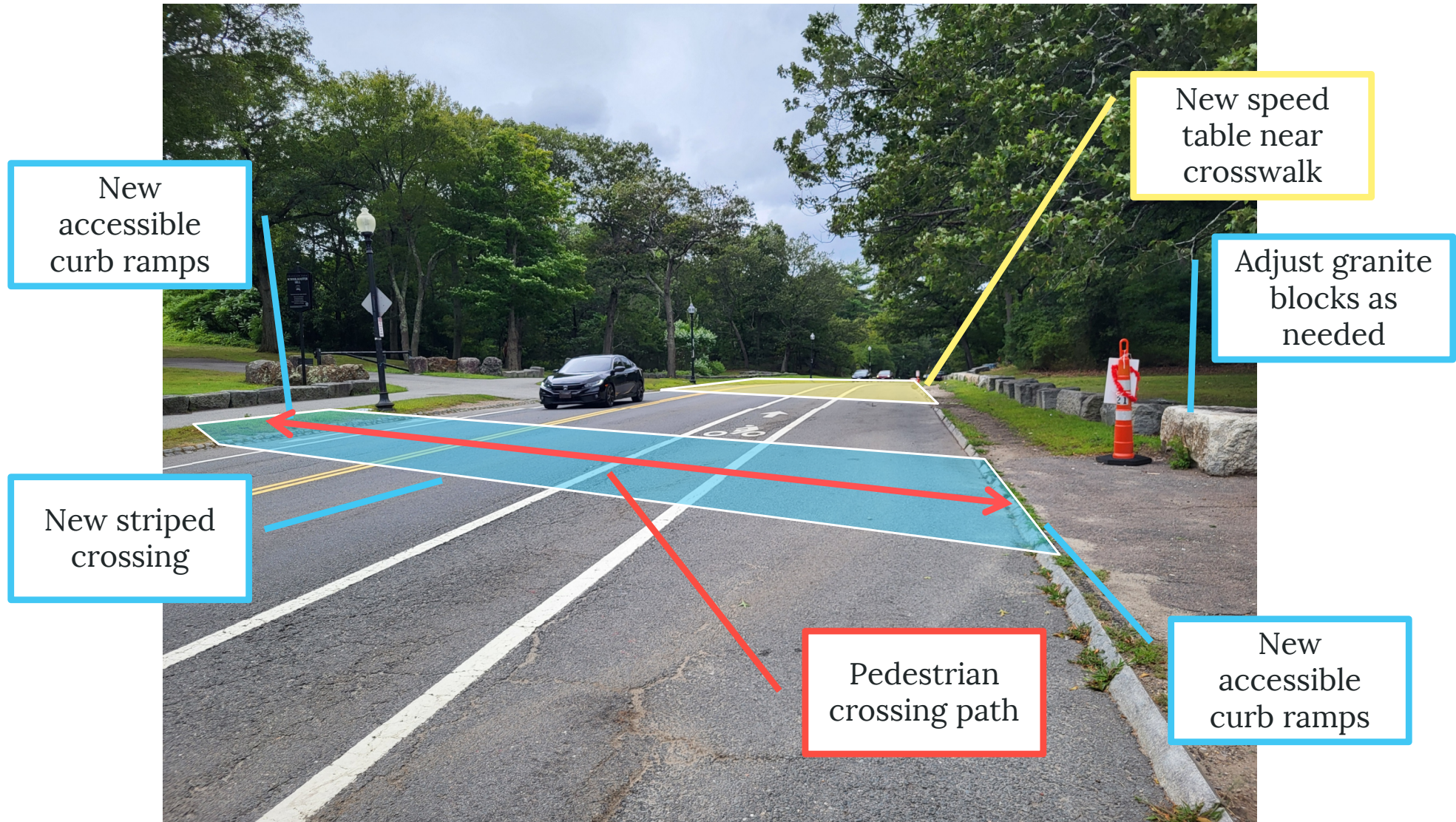
The Wilderness →



PHASE I TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS – SCHOOLMASTER HILL

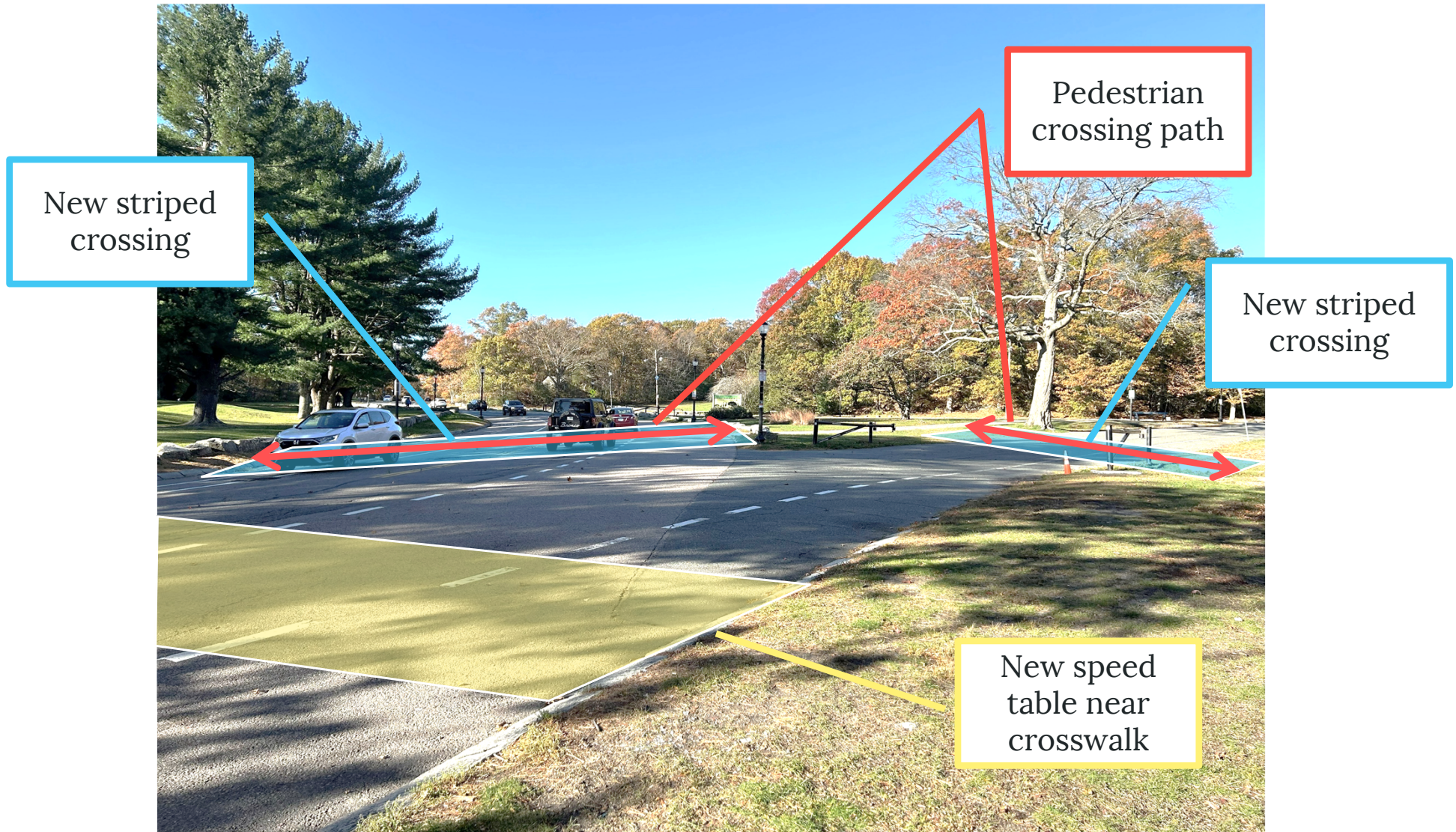
← Schoolmaster Hill

The Wilderness →



PHASE I TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS - VALLEY GATES

← Golf Course Valley Gates →



PHASE I TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS - VALLEY GATES

← Valley Gates

Golf Course →

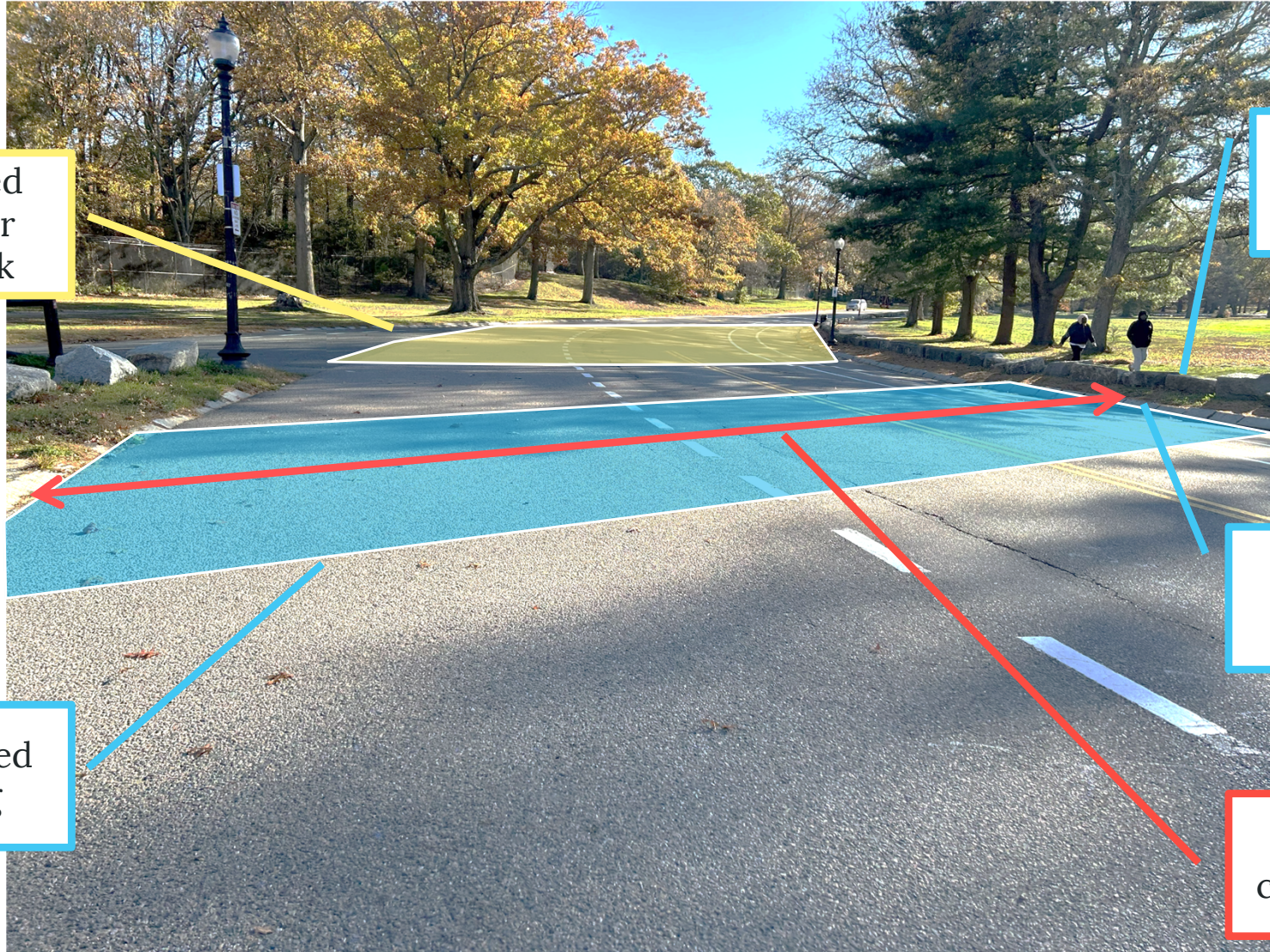
New speed
table near
crosswalk

Adjust granite
blocks as
needed

New striped
crossing

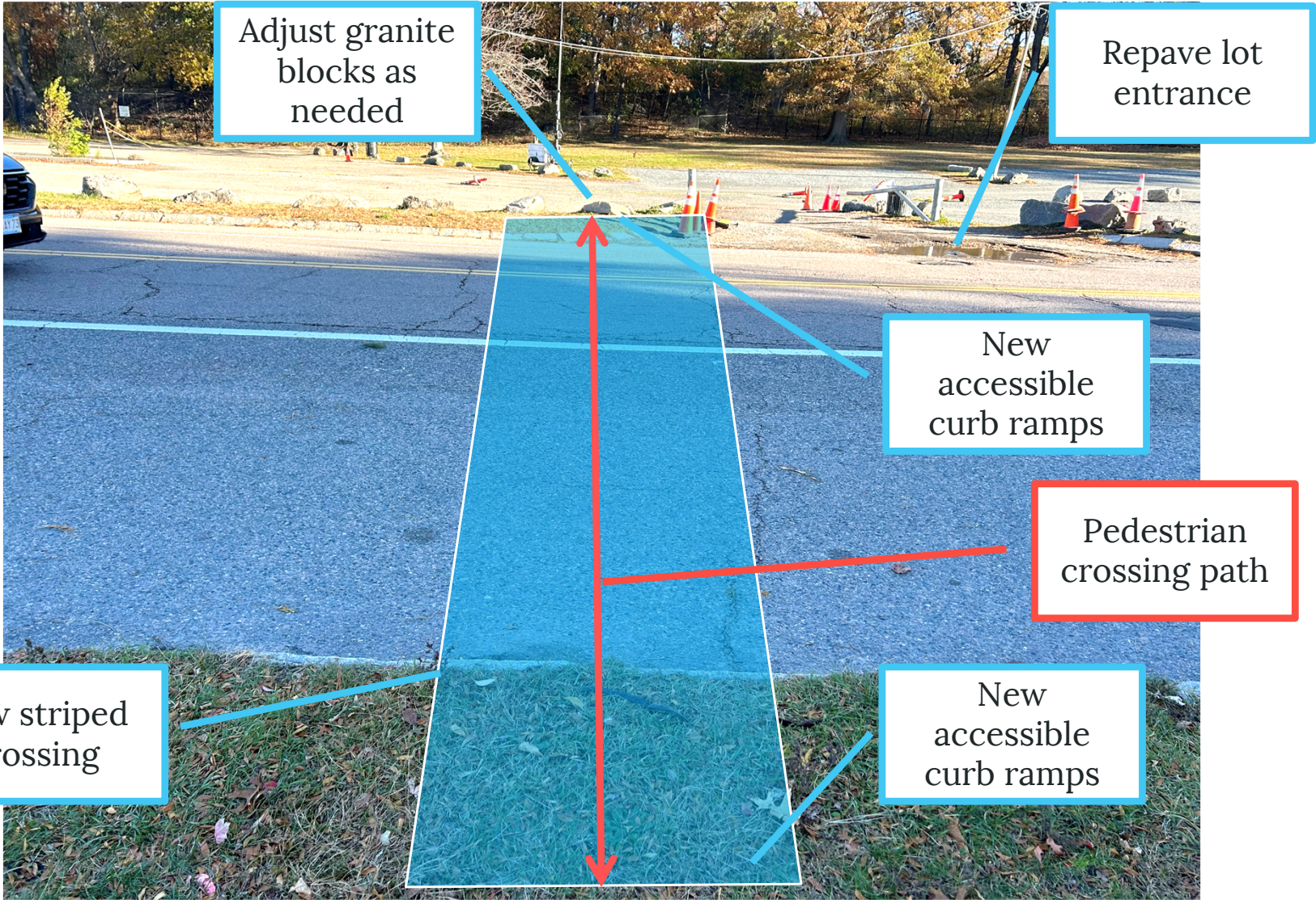
New
accessible
curb ramps

Pedestrian
crossing path



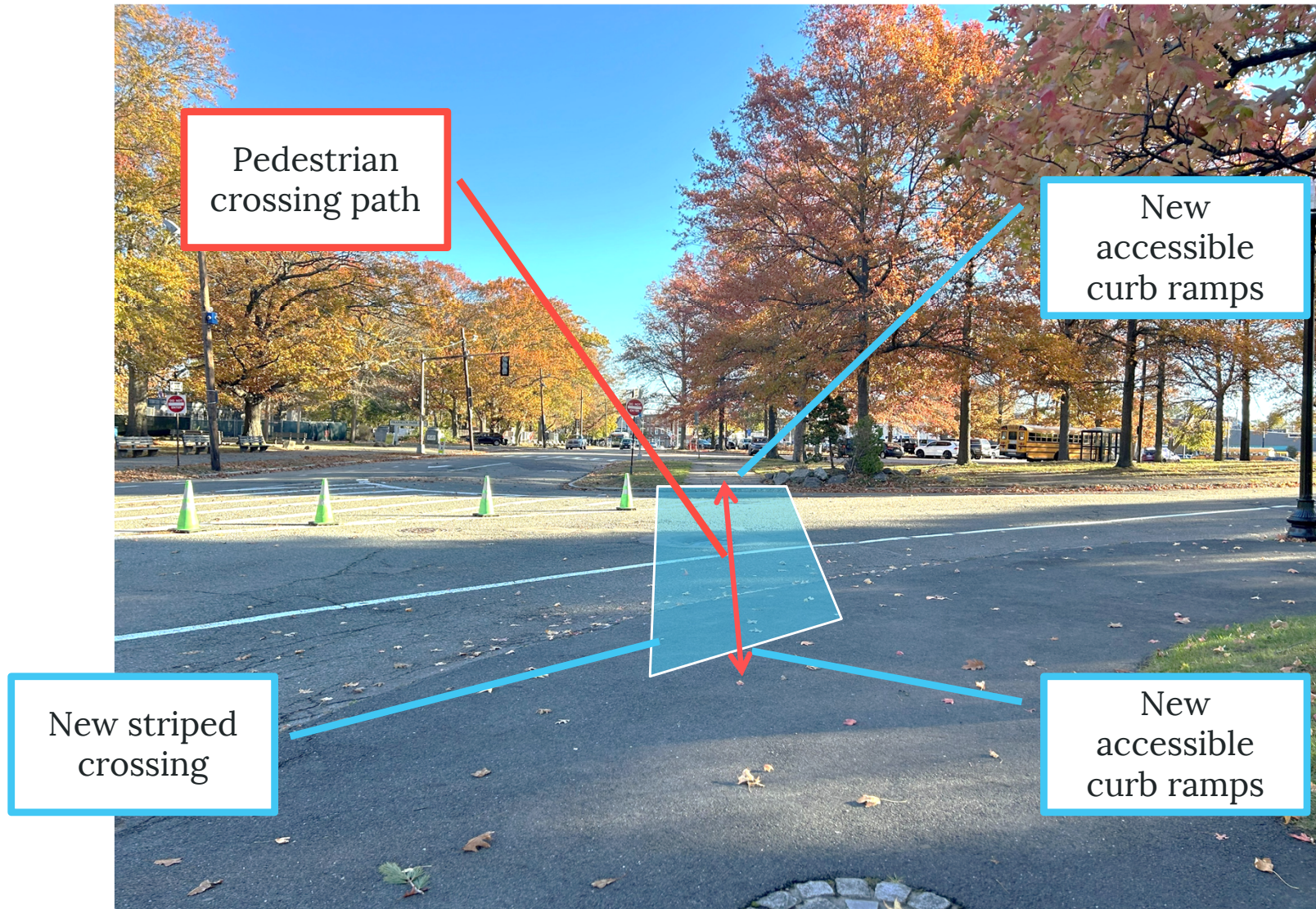
PHASE I TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS – SAUSAGE LOT

← To Valley Gates ————— To Peabody Circle →

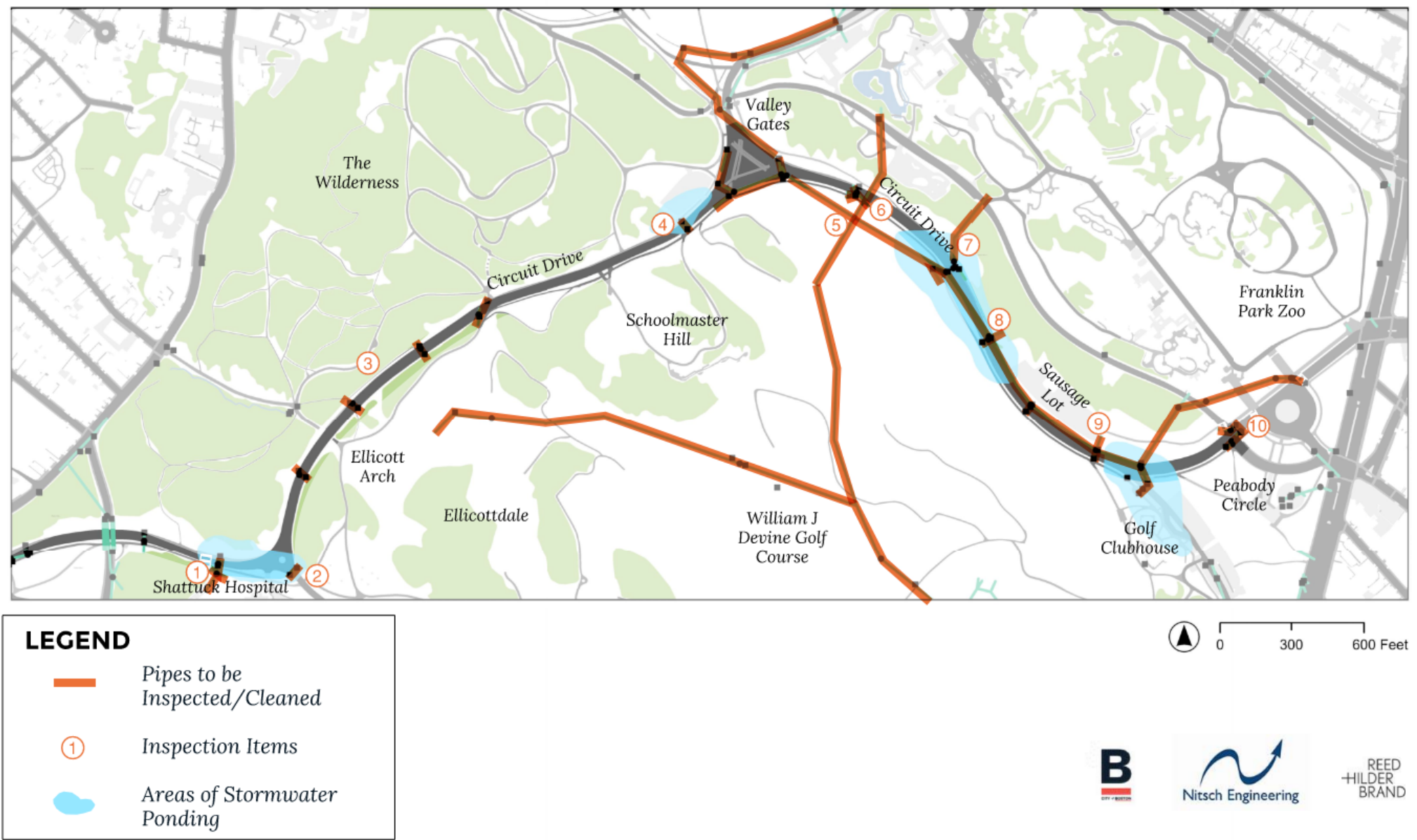


PHASE I TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS – PEABODY CIRCLE

← Franklin Park Zoo ————— Peabody Circle and Blue Hill Ave →

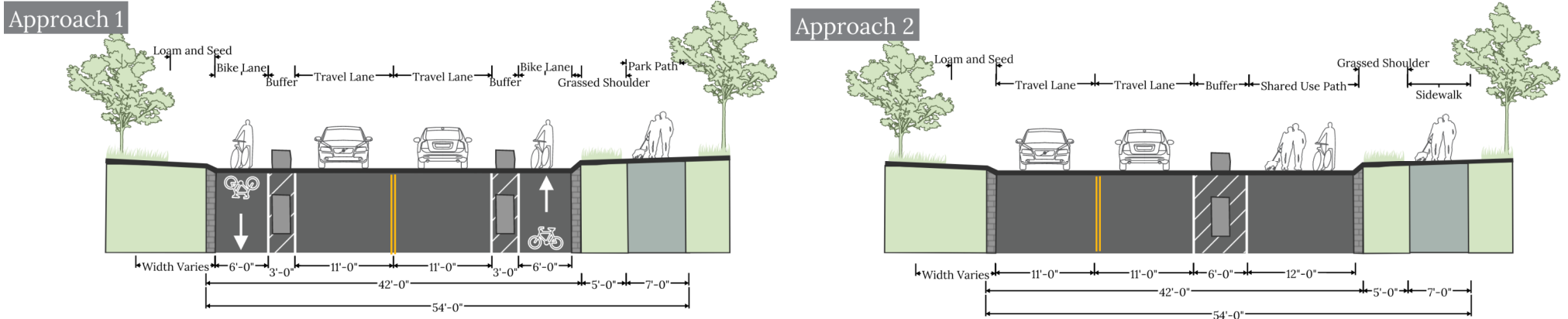


PHASE I - STORMWATER APPROACH



FUTURE PHASES

- Validate impacts of Phase I improvements
- Collect new traffic counts to establish impacts of Phase I
- Implement protected bike lanes
- Provide clarified parking options
- Integrate additional stormwater management, green infrastructure, and sub-surface detention if necessary
- Simplify traffic movements at Valley Gates
- Reduce impervious area where possible



QUESTIONS?

← The Wilderness

Ellicottdale →





THANK YOU!

Questions after you leave?
boston.gov/circuit-drive

Contact –
AMY LINNÉ
PROJECT MANAGER
amy.linne@boston.gov or 617-961-3045

For questions, maintenance requests or
concerns regarding any of our
parks contact 311

BOS:
311



November, 2025
Boston Parks and Recreation



PHASE I TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS



LEGEND

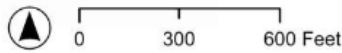
Existing Pavement

Existing Trails

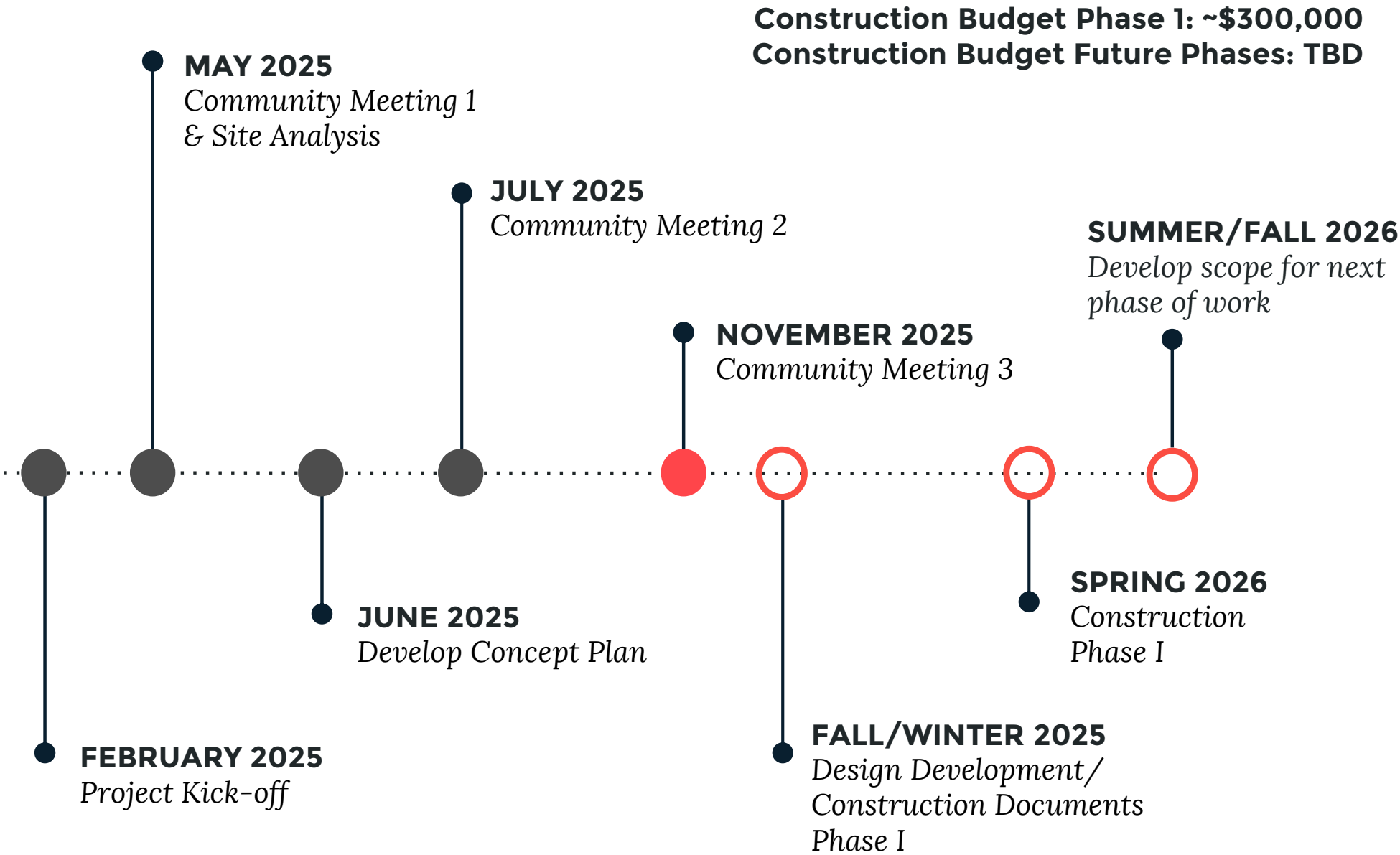
Existing Crosswalk

New Crosswalk (7 new crosswalks)

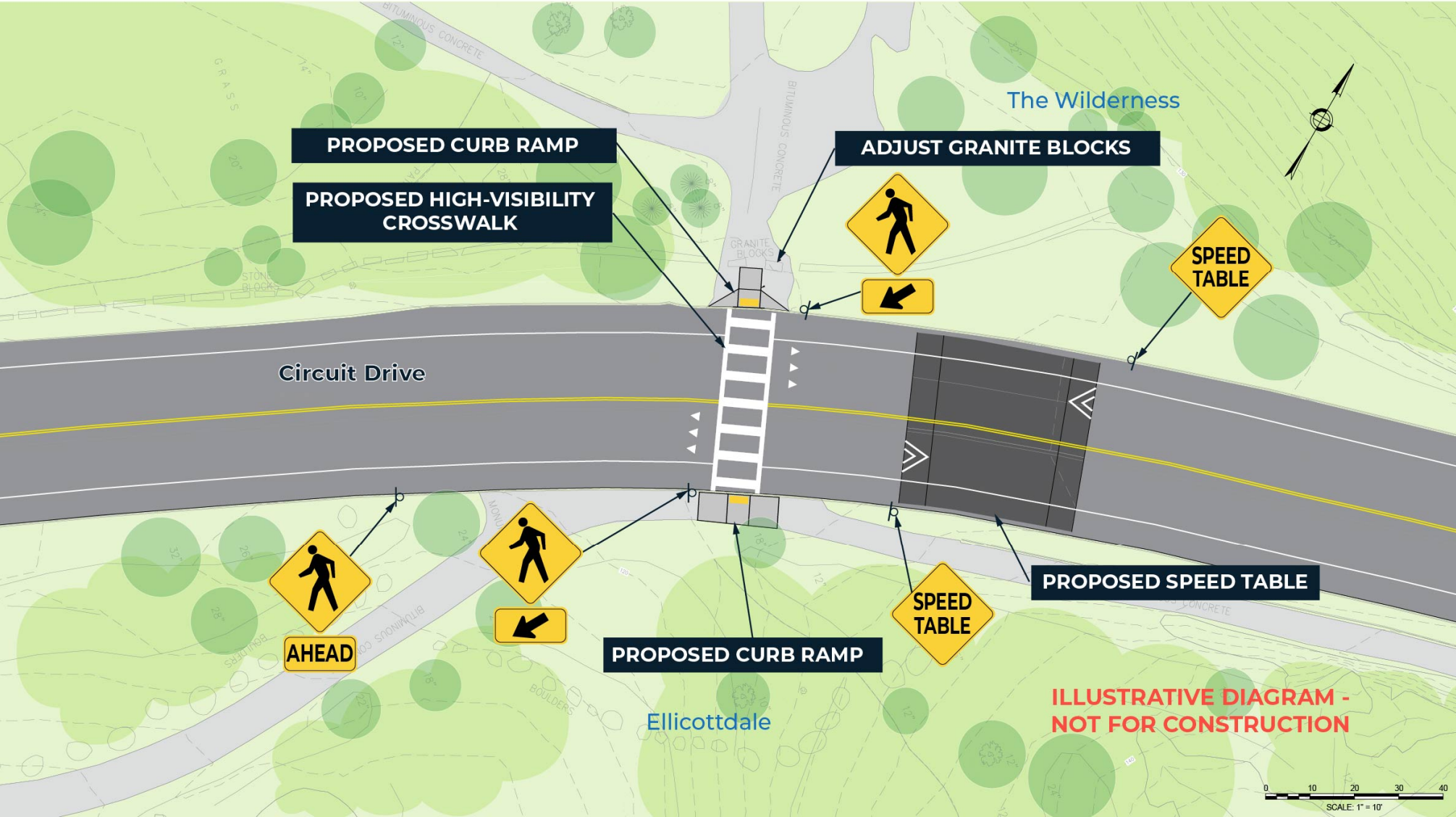
Speed Table (10 new speed tables)



PROJECT SCHEDULE



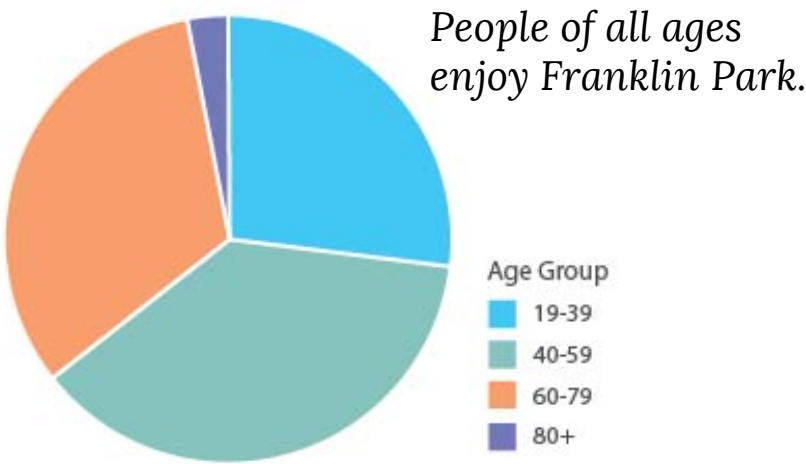
EXAMPLE PLAN VIEW AT THE WILDERNESS



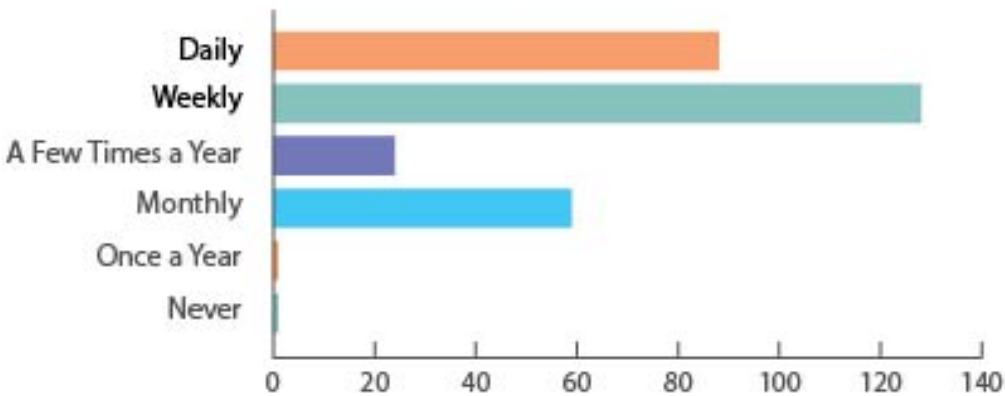
COMMUNITY SURVEY RESPONSES

303 Responses

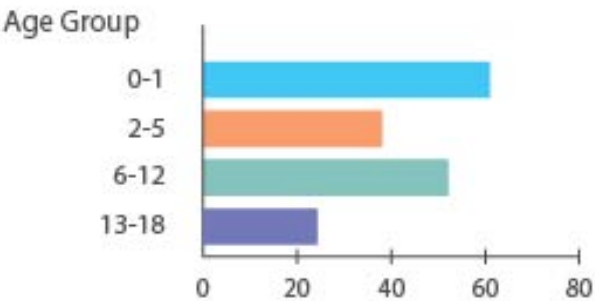
Age of Respondents



How often do you visit Franklin Park/use Circuit Drive?

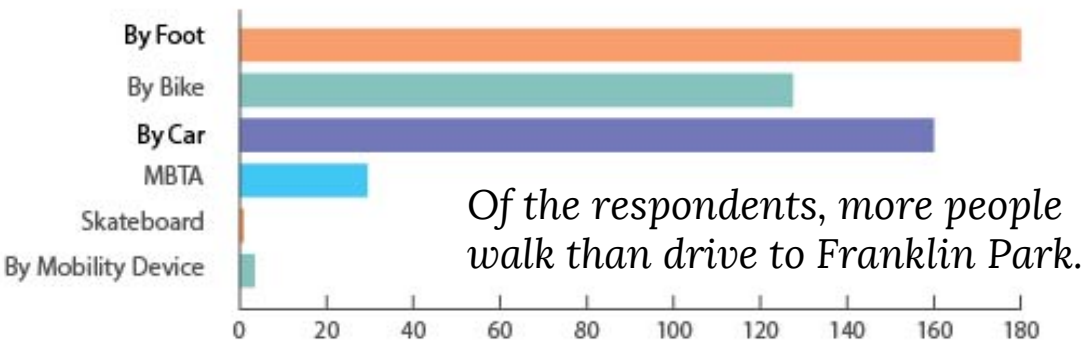


If you have children under 18 in your household, what is their age range?



46% of respondents have children.

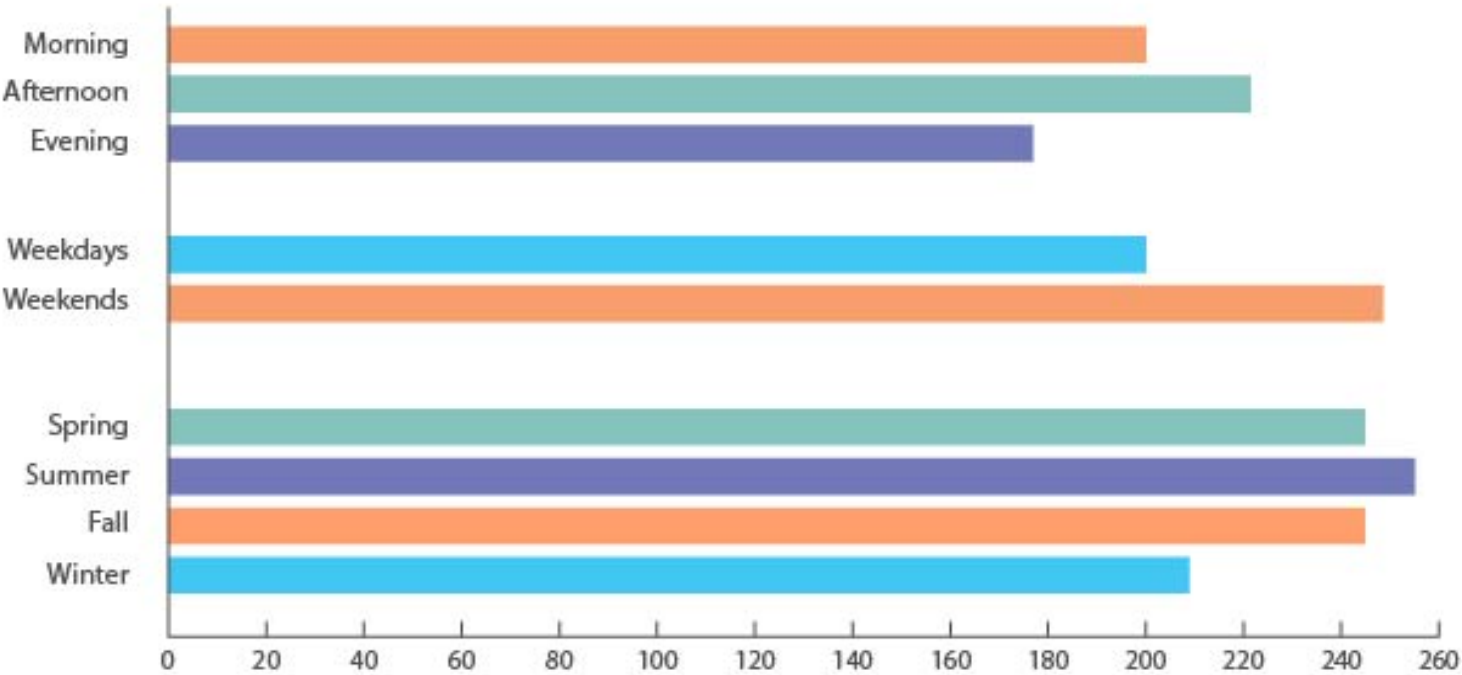
How do you typically get to Franklin Park?



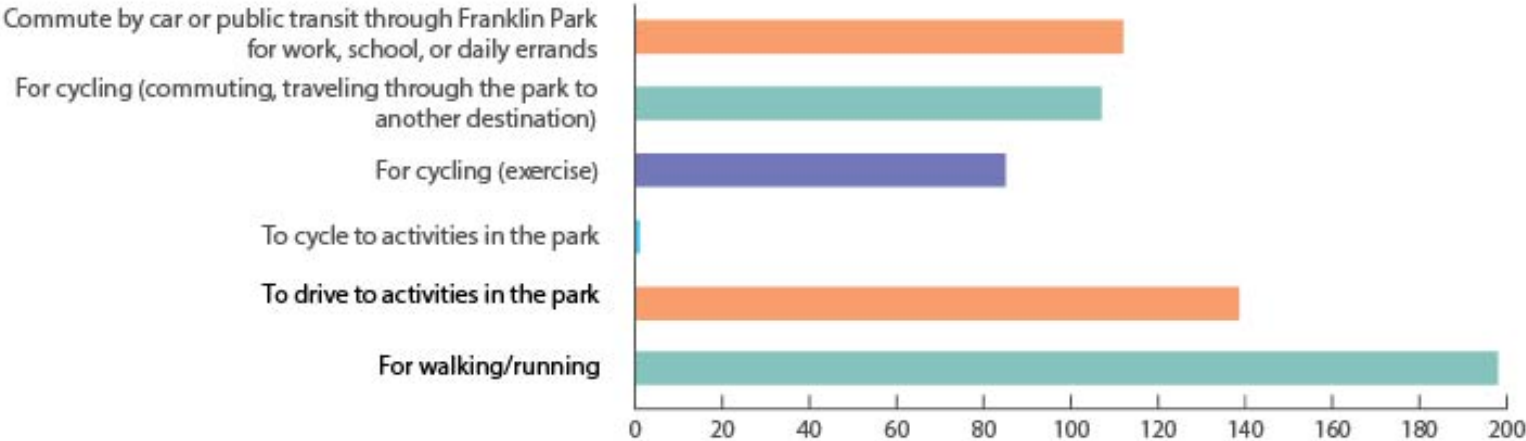
COMMUNITY SURVEY RESPONSES

303 Responses

When do you visit Franklin Park/use Circuit Drive?
Select all that apply.



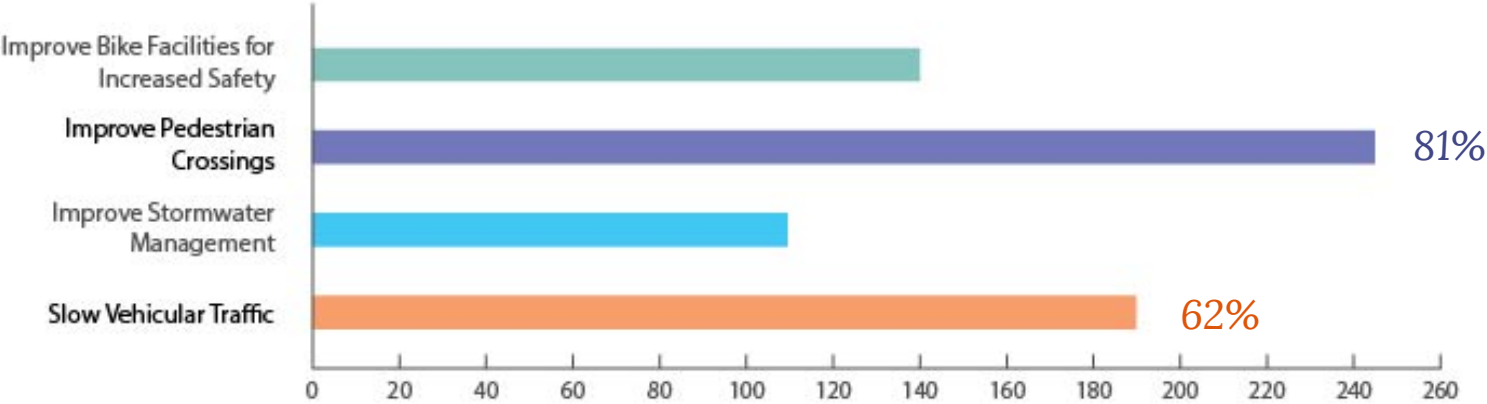
How do you typically use Circuit Drive? Select all that apply.



COMMUNITY SURVEY RESPONSES

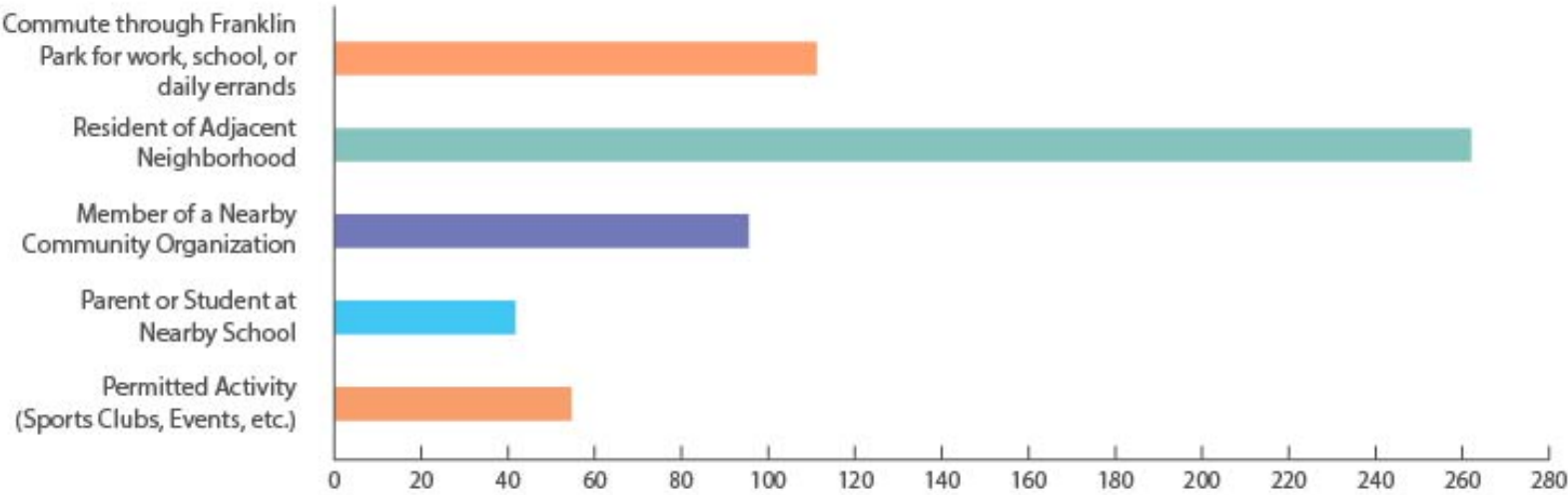
303 Responses

In your opinion, what is/are the most important improvement(s) to make with this project? Select all that apply.



Top priorities: improved pedestrian crossings and slower vehicular traffic

What is your relationship to Franklin Park? Select all that apply.



How has stormwater/flooding impacted your experience along Circuit Drive?

Degradation of park land

Impact bus stop area and
slow down commute

A few times, it has been impassable as a pedestrian.

Cause of hazardous road conditions, swampy grassed
areas adjacent to the Drive are unsightly and quite
possibly mosquito breeding pools.

Change walking path to avoid flooding areas.

Closed street causes detours.

Puddled and dangerous
bike lanes

Dangerous during the winter/ very slippery.

Crosswalk area near Glenway/ Circuit
Drive is often flooded

Flooded Sidewalk

What would you most like to see from the Circuit Drive project?

Slow down traffic

Better Lighting

Better crossings for pedestrians, e.g., raised crosswalks

Protected bikeway

Do not eliminate informal parking

Safety

More tree canopy

Narrow the roadway

Sidewalk along the zoo side

Eliminate parking along
Circuit Drive

Reconnect the 2 sides of the park

More sustainable water
management

Better access to the other side of the park

Clarify parking

Better Signage