



Reconstruction of the Pell Bridge Approaches

Public Information Meeting – Proposed Action Overview

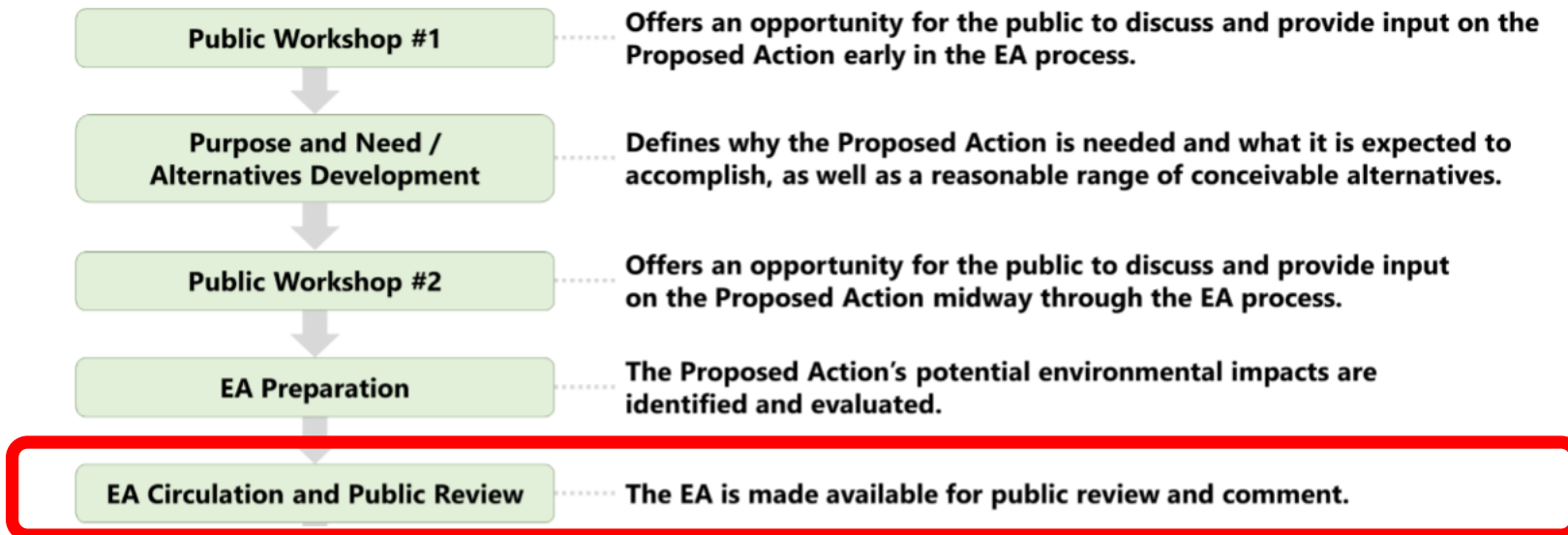
December 12, 2019



Agenda

- Environmental Assessment (EA) Progress Status
- Overview of Public Outreach
- Project Purpose and Need
- Overview of Proposed Action
- Public Comment Options
- Breakout

Environmental Assessment (EA) Process and Schedule



FHWA Determination: A determination is made if additional study is required (EIS) or issues a finding of no significant impact (FONSI).

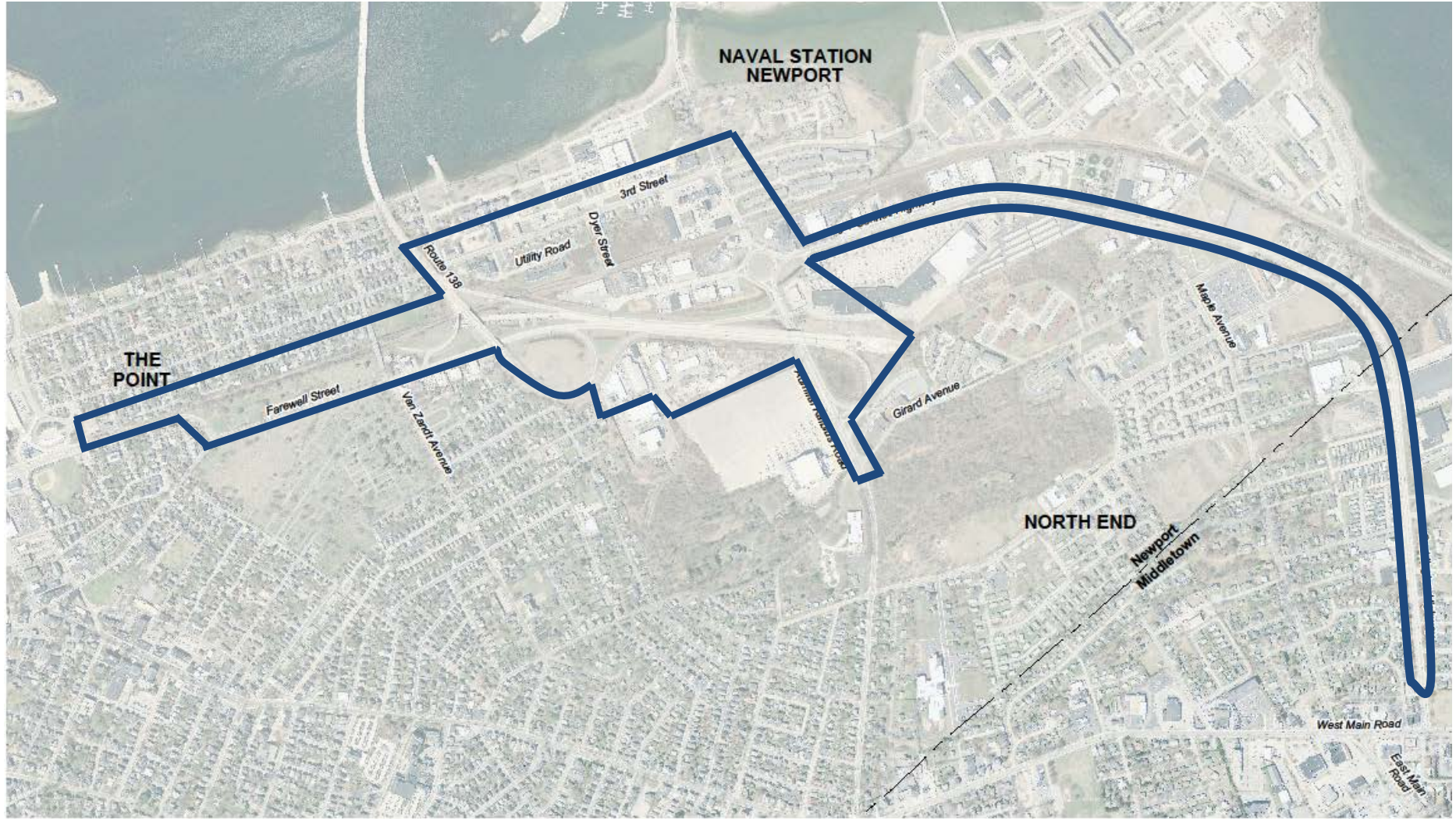
- Public Input and Comment Period Round #1: Spring 2018
 - City Hall Public Meeting
 - North End Neighborhood
- Over 70 comments received. Majority of topics focused on:
 - Traffic Congestion/Ramps Queuing onto Bridge
 - Pedestrian Connectivity (Especially to North End)
 - Third Street Used as a Cut-Thru
 - Local Business Impact
 - Drainage/Flooding
 - Bike Paths

- Project Purpose
 - Improve safety and connectivity for all road users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicles
 - Create parcels for development
- Project Need
 - Reduce vehicular congestion and queuing on Pell Bridge
 - Improve connectivity between Newport's North End and Downtown areas for all road users
 - Spur economic development

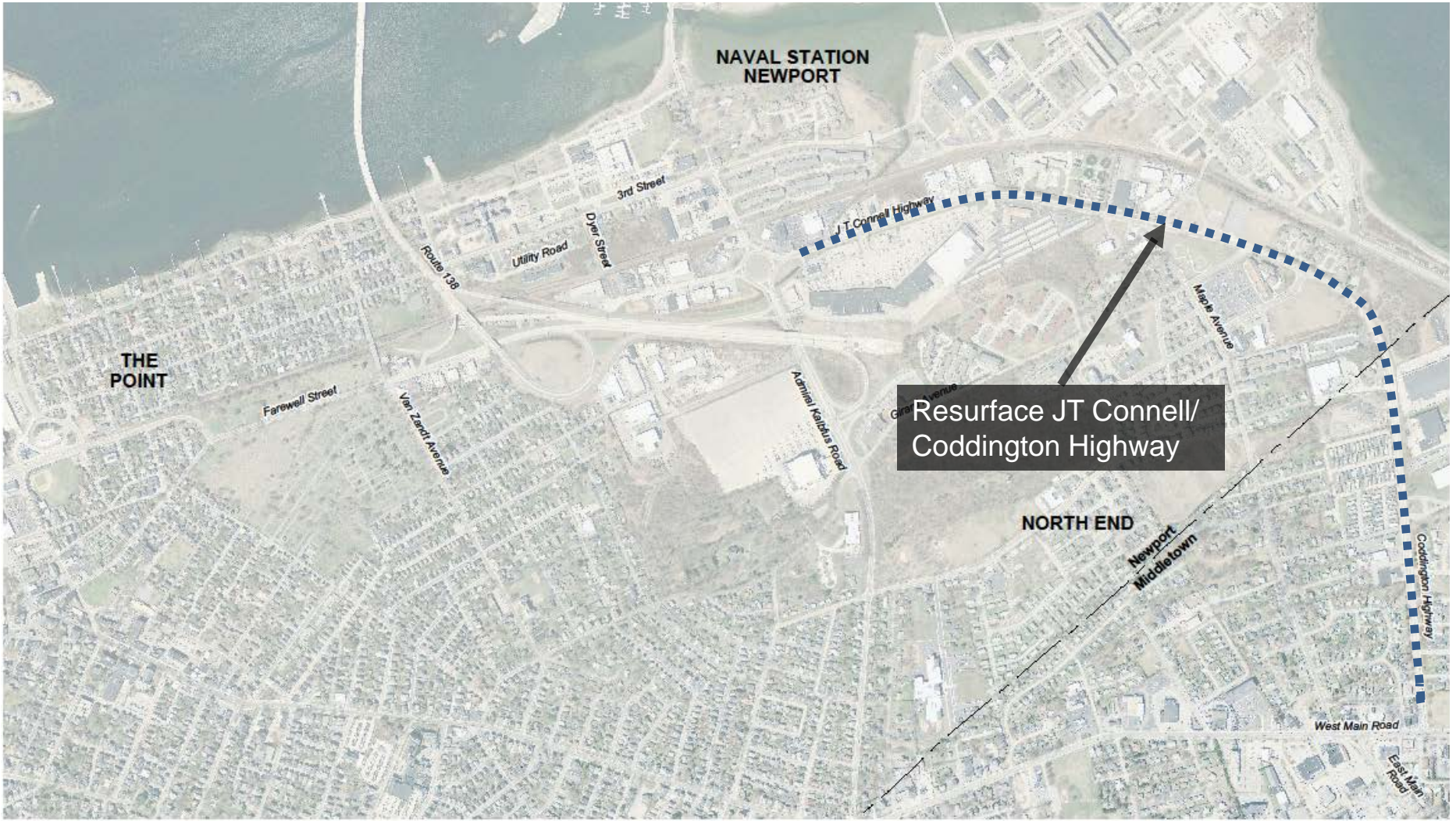
- Seven Alternatives Developed (Alternative 1, 2, 3A, 3B, 3C, 4A & 4B)
- Public Input and Comment Period Round #2: Summer 2018
 - City Hall Public Meeting
 - North End Neighborhood
 - Off-Broadway Neighborhood
 - Point Neighborhood Meeting
 - Newport Chamber of Commerce
- Received over 100 comments on the alternative alignments

- Major Stakeholders
 - City of Newport
 - RITBA
 - Naval Station Newport
- Other Important Stakeholders
 - Elected Officials
 - Local Neighborhood and Community Groups
 - Business and Residential Abutters
 - Newport Chamber of Commerce
 - Nearby Towns
 - Discover Newport

Project Study Area



JT Connell Highway Resurfacing – Separate Project



Resurface JT Connell/
Coddington Highway

Existing



Safety



1950's Layout



Proposed Action



Existing Circulation – North End / Downtown



North End to Downtown

Downtown to North End

Proposed Circulation – North End / Downtown



North End to Downtown

Downtown to North End

Existing Circulation – Pell / North End



Pell Bridge to North End

North End to Pell Bridge

Proposed Circulation – Pell / North End



Pell Bridge to North End

North End to Pell Bridge

Existing Circulation – Pell / Downtown



Pell Bridge to Downtown

Downtown to Pell Bridge

Proposed Circulation – Pell / Downtown



Pell Bridge to Downtown

Downtown to Pell Bridge

Proposed Traffic Signal System



S Existing signal to be replaced/relocated

S New signal proposed

Proposed Circulation – Operational Needs

- Manage length of queues at signalized intersections
- Accommodate all roadway users including
 - Vehicles
 - Pedestrians
 - Bicycles
 - Freight
 - Transit
- Automatically respond to special events

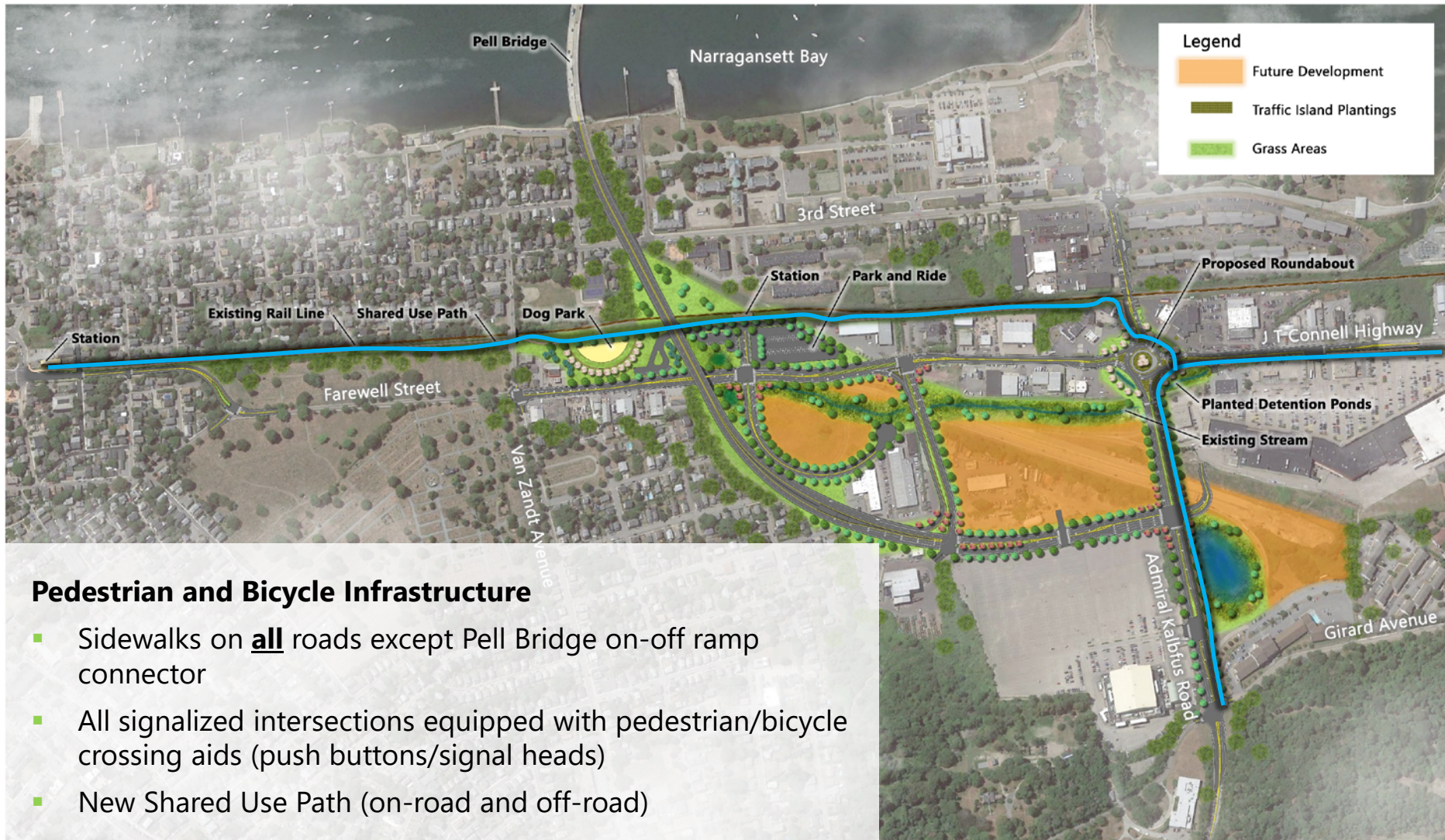


Proposed Circulation – Smart Signal District

- Faster signal system timing adjustment in response to fluctuations in traffic flow
- Ability to dynamically respond to non-reoccurring congestion
- Provide for adjustments in coordinated routes based on traffic flow
- Increase safety
- Increase average speeds
- Reduce delay/emissions & stops
- Faster automatic system response to accidents/emergency events
- Ability to support emerging transportation technologies (CV)



Proposed – Pedestrian and Bicycle



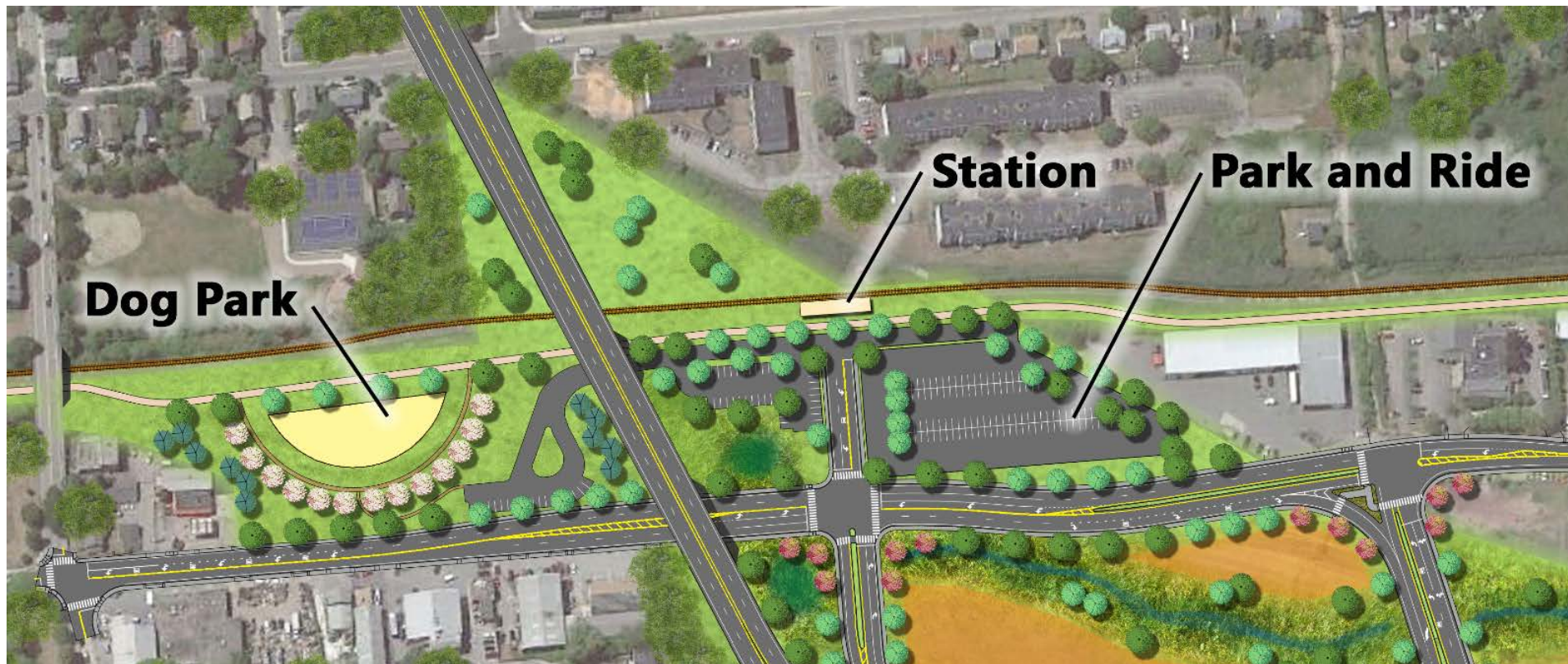
 **Proposed Shared Use Path**

Proposed – Admiral Kalbfus Road Safety Improvements

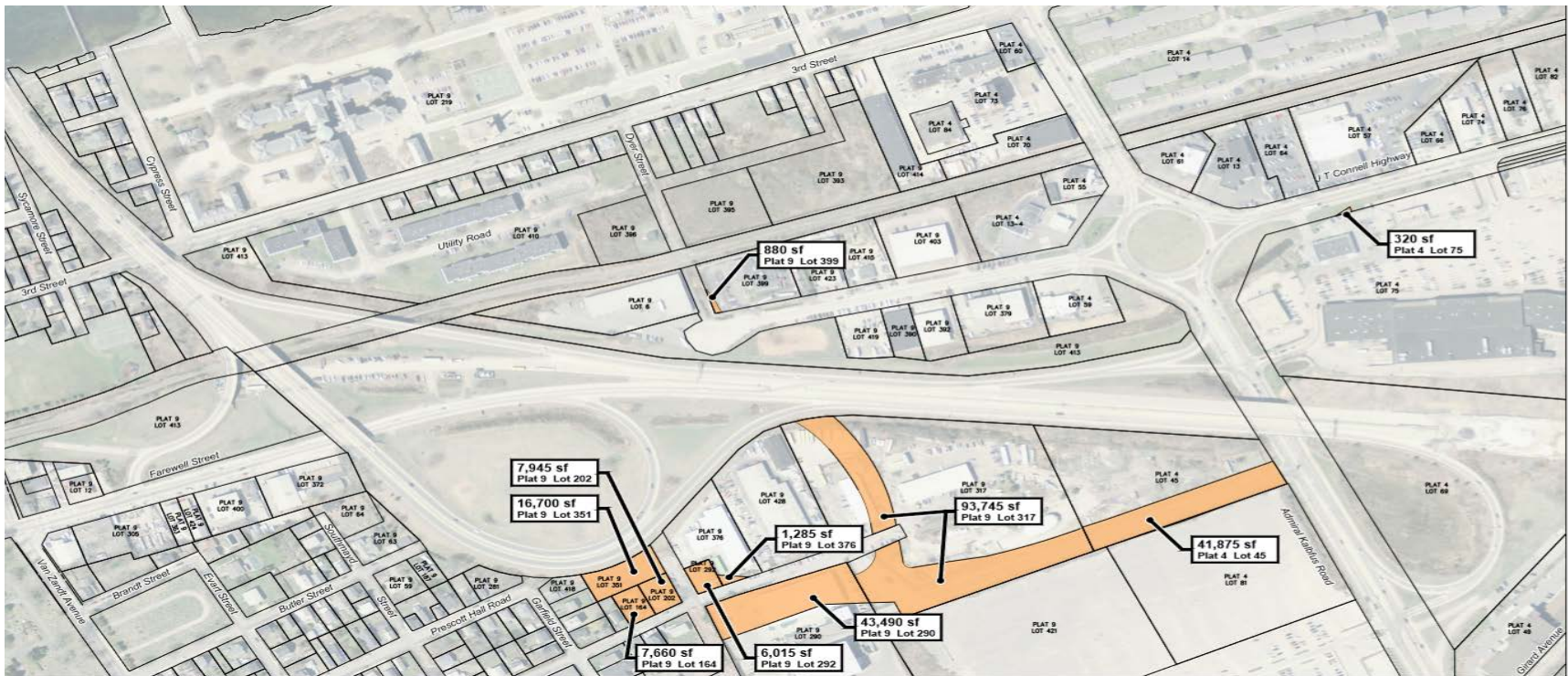


- Install turn lane at 3rd Street
- Upgrade at-grade rail crossing
- Convert rotary to roundabout
- Remove off-ramp with skewed right turn lane (cause of most crashes)
- Install signal at Malbone Street/Girard Avenue

Proposed – Transit Features/Dog Park

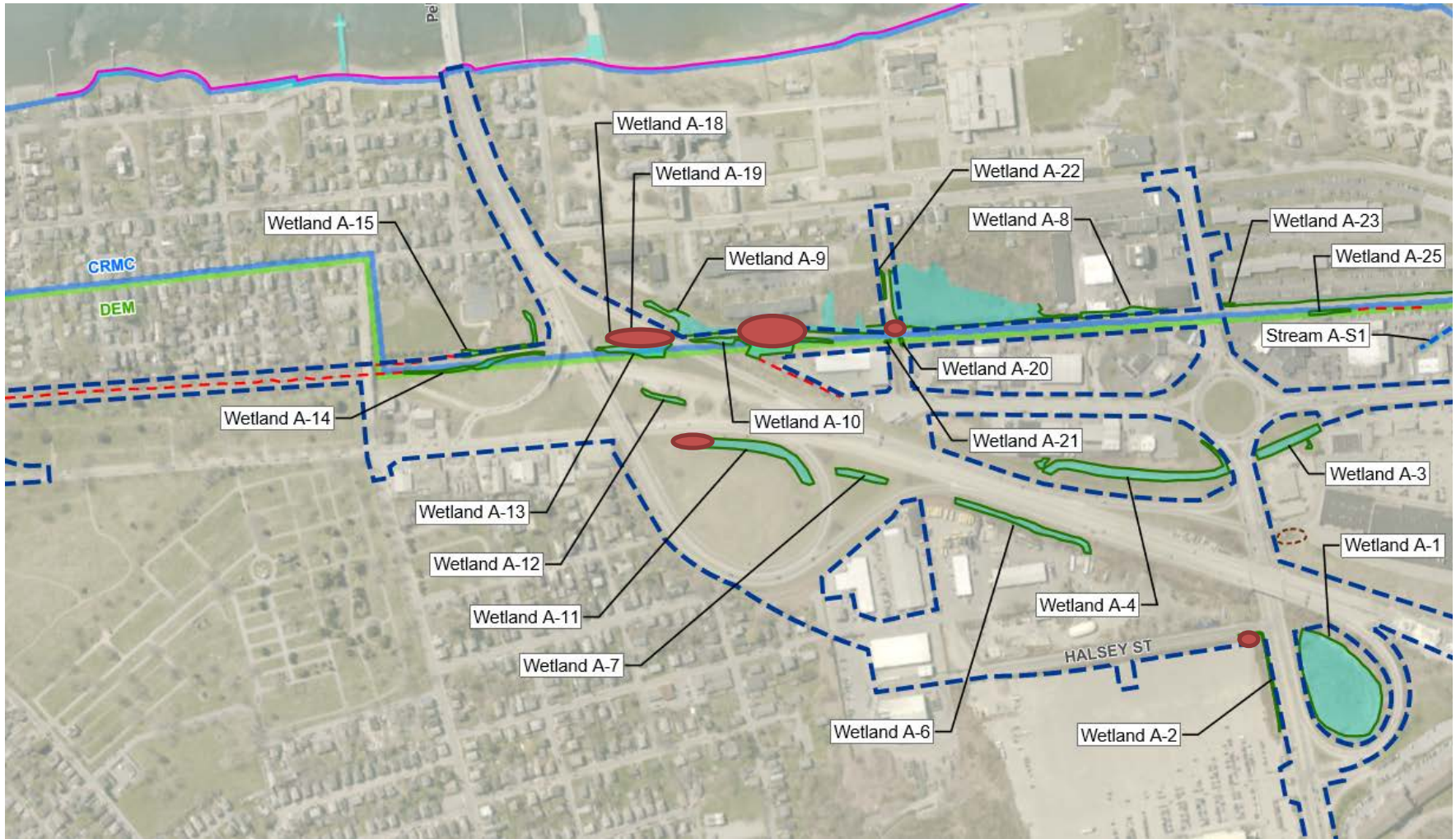


- 250-300 space surface park and ride
- Platform for potential future shuttle service along existing rail
- Relocated dog park
- Connectivity to shared use path



- The ROW impacts based on the proposed action are provided in the Draft EA and the referenced appendix.
- We have informational brochures available tonight which provide a summary of the state process for acquisitions and relocation. We will also upload the informational documents onto the update the website to help everyone understand the process.

Wetland Impacts



 Impacted wetland

- Construction Access/Impacts
 - Maintain access to businesses.
 - Work off-peak times and utilize night work where necessary.
 - No detours thru residential neighborhoods.

- Noise
 - Limit night work where possible in any residential areas
 - Consider noise deterrents where roadway is moving closer to residential properties.

- Drainage/Stormwater
 - Will design to latest requirements per RIDOT Consent Decree
- Floodplains
 - Providing access to/from bridge above 50 year flood elevation including sea level rise
- Health & Safety
 - During construction, activities are monitored onsite, mitigated as needed, and will follow all regulatory requirements (RIDEM, CRMC)

- Public input is critical and encouraged thru entire stage of the project
 - Concerns/comments on elements or impacts of proposed action
- Input may be submitted:
 - In person tonight – see comment box or via online portal
 - By mail – address provided on the comment form
 - Using the online portal at home – web link provided on the comment form
- The deadline for comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment is December 23, 2019. Those comments will be formally responded to in the Final Environmental Assessment.
- Our project website will remain open for any additional input for the project team.

RECONSTRUCTION OF THE PELL BRIDGE APPROACHES

Environmental Assessment (EA)

HOME

ABOUT

TIMELINE

FAQ

DOCUMENTS

USEFUL LINKS

SITMAP

Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) is reconfiguring the Pell Bridge Interchange. The following pages give a brief history along with pertinent information about the environmental assessment (EA), Project timeline, and public outreach.



Project Status

- Finalized the first steps of the process including scoping, purpose and need development, and existing conditions
- Determining alternatives to include within the EA

Upcoming Events

- July 16, 2018 - Public Workshop at Newport City Hall
- July 17, 2018 - Public Workshop at Florence Gray Center

Please consider completing the survey below with your questions, concerns and comments about the

- Project Updates
- Draft EA
- Meeting Materials/ Graphics/Reports
- Link to Survey
- www.pellbridge-ea.com

- Winter 2020
 - Respond to comments, modify design as necessary based on public input and work in conjunction with FHWA to develop the Final Environmental Assessment (EA).
 - FHWA issues determination.
- Late Winter 2020 through Fall of 2020 – Advance Design and Continue Public Outreach. Develop plans, specifications and estimates and advertise project.
- Construction anticipated to begin in Spring/Summer 2021 and extend thru 2024.

Questions on Proposed Action

- 3 Stations - each station has:
 - Existing Conditions
 - Preferred Alternative

