

**FOREST
HILLS
IMPROVEMENT
INITIATIVES**

Welcome



CITY OF BOSTON

Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

Fifth Community Meeting

August 1st, 2007

Organized by:

Office of Neighborhood Services
Greater Forest Hills Area Task Force
Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority
Boston Redevelopment Authority
Boston Transportation Department
Boston Parks and Recreation Department
Department of Conservation and Recreation

FIFTH COMMUNITY MEETING AGENDA

Welcome and Brief Overview on Process

- Work Plan & Schedule
- Community Concerns & Ideas

1. Transportation & Streetscape

- Existing Conditions – Capacity & Volumes
- Responses & Options for Improvement

3. Topic Stations & Community Feedback

- Traffic Flow – Safe & Smooth Travel Options
- Complete Street Cross Sections
(Pedestrians, Bicycles, Cars & Green Space)
- Reconnection New Washington St (Emerald Necklace)
- Bicycling Network & Routes

4. Summaries Discussion & Follow up Activities



CITY OF BOSTON

Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

COMMUNITY PLANNING PROCESS OVERVIEW

GOALS & OUTCOMES

- *Community Vision - Emerging Principles*
- *District Concept Plan* – an overall strategy for the district
- *Development Scenarios & Guidelines* – for all Six Development Study Sites
- *Detailed Use & Design Guidelines* for MBTA RFP's – parcels U, V and W and related Right of Ways
- **Transportation & Streetscape Improvements** - including comprehensive *Transportation Action Plan*
- *Amend Zoning* - to Reflect Recommendations



CITY OF BOSTON

Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

TRANSPORTATION & STREETScape CONSULTANT TEAM TASKS

- Improve transportation environment for all modes
- Inventory existing conditions
- Generate short-term, lower-cost improvements
- Prepare longer-term solutions complementing local vision
- Tonight, discuss different options and approaches
- Feasibility not determined (logistically or financially)
- Your input will allow us to narrow the options



CITY OF BOSTON

Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

**FOREST
HILLS
IMPROVEMENT
INITIATIVES**

Traffic Flow

EXISTING TRAFFIC CONDITIONS



CITY OF BOSTON

Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

FOREST HILLS IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Traffic Flow



CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor



AM Turning Movement Counts

FOREST HILLS IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Traffic Flow



CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor



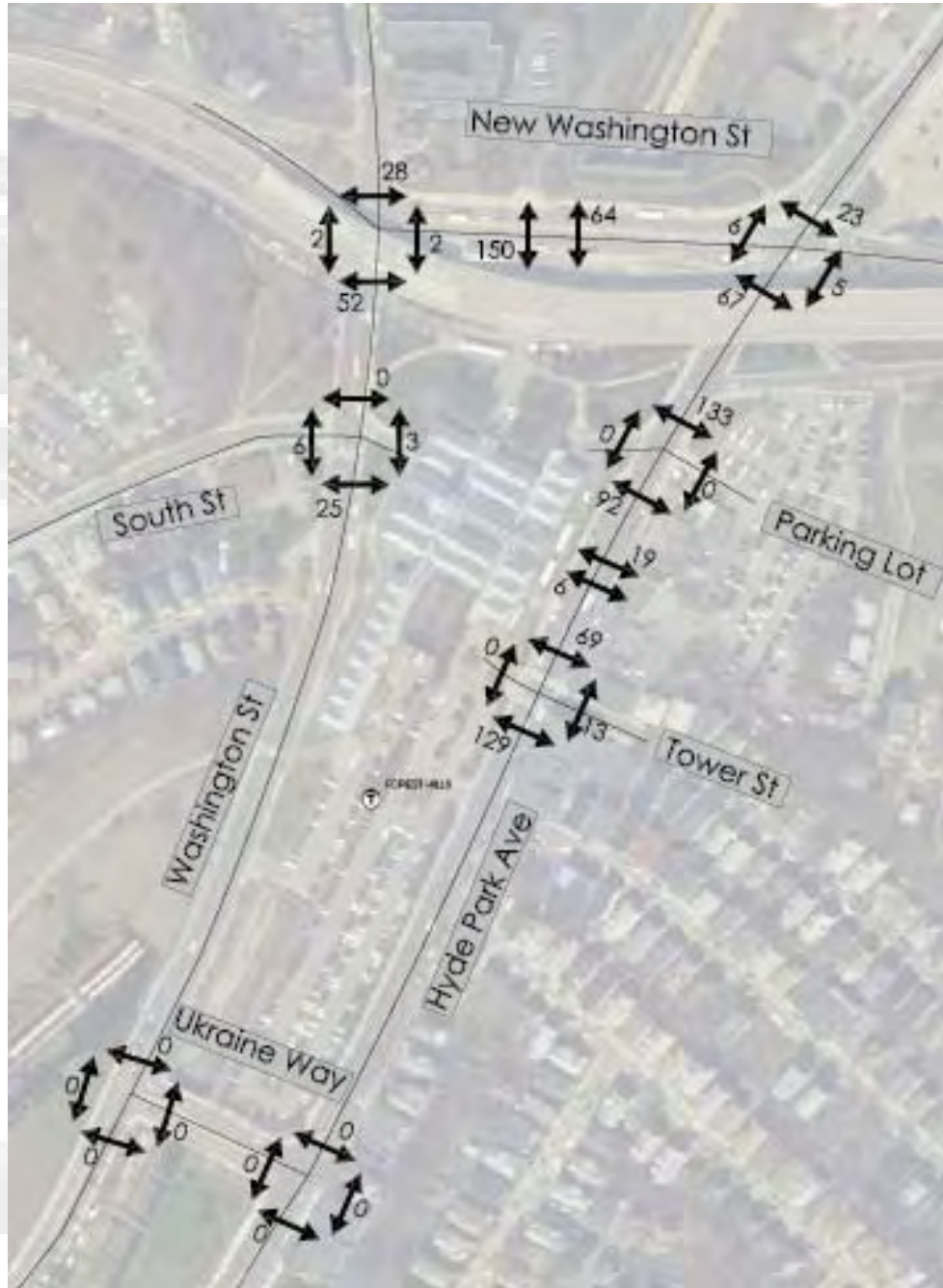
PM Turning Movement Counts

FOREST HILLS IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Traffic Flow



CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor



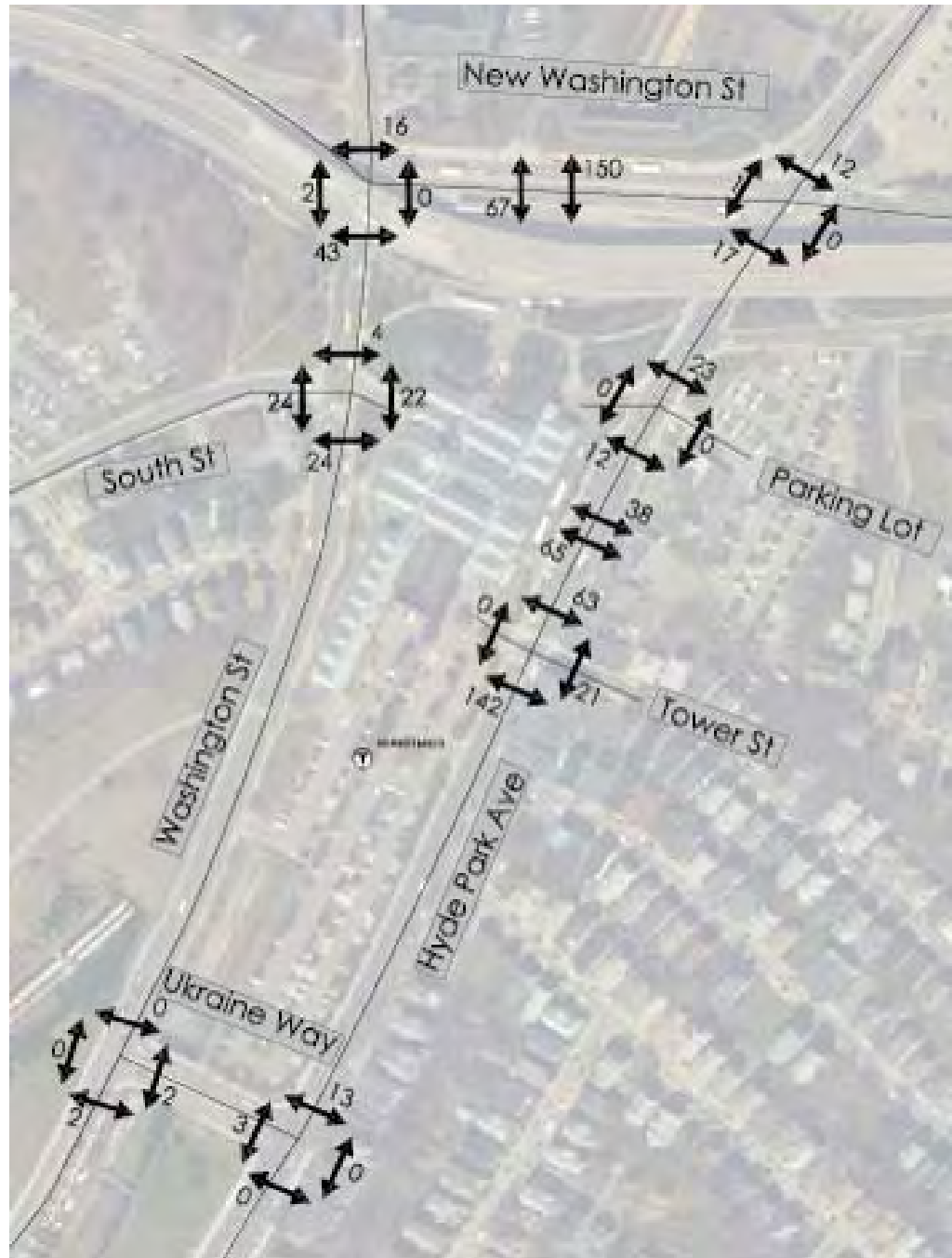
AM Pedestrian Volumes

FOREST HILLS IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Traffic Flow



CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor



PM Pedestrian Volumes

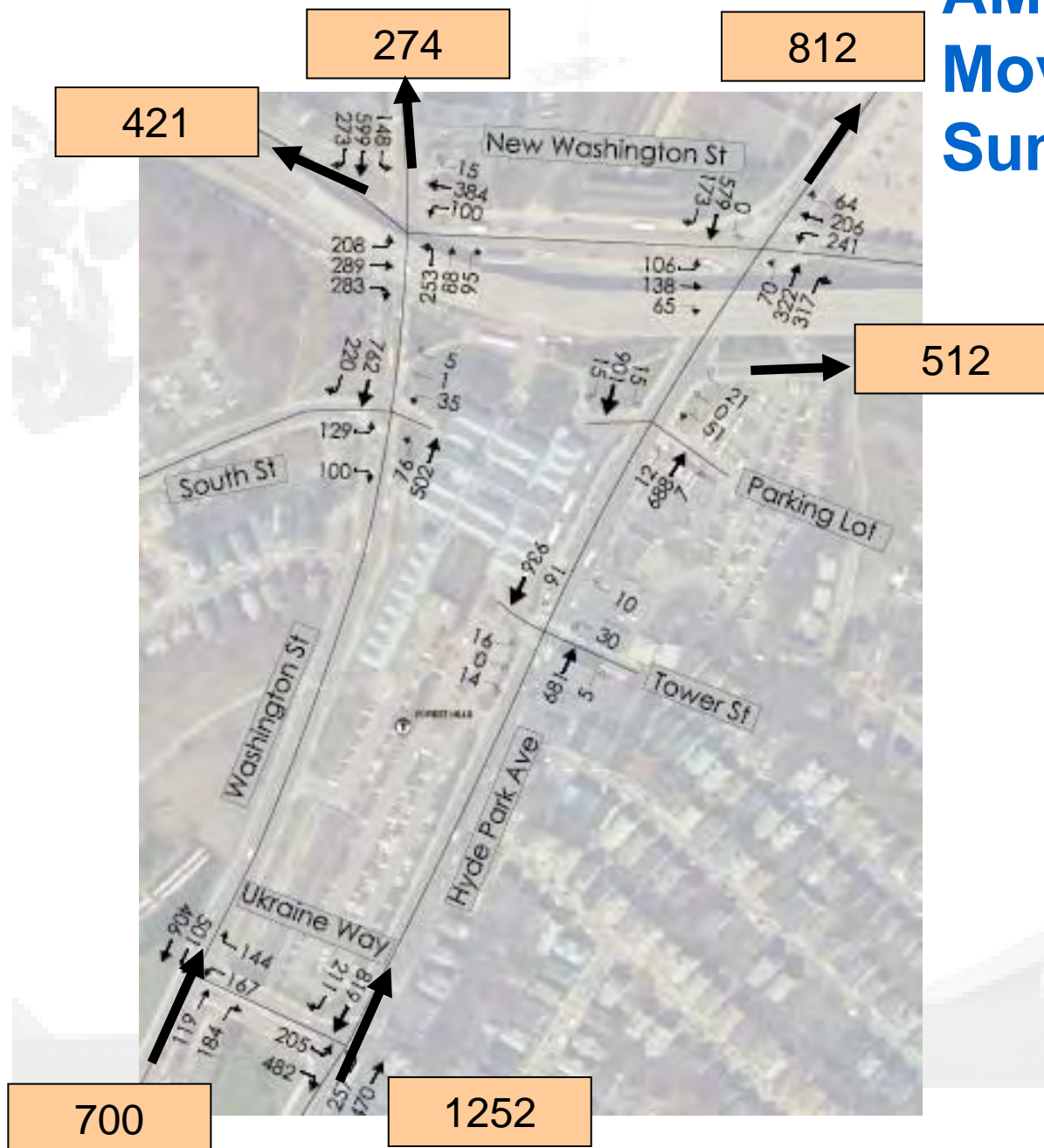
FOREST HILLS IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Traffic Flow



CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

AM Turning Movement Summary



Traffic Flow

Signal Coordination Improvements

- Both Hyde Park Ave & Washington St.

One-way Traffic Flow

- Around Forest Hills Station on New Washington, Washington Sts., Ukraine Way, and Hyde Park Ave.



CITY OF BOSTON

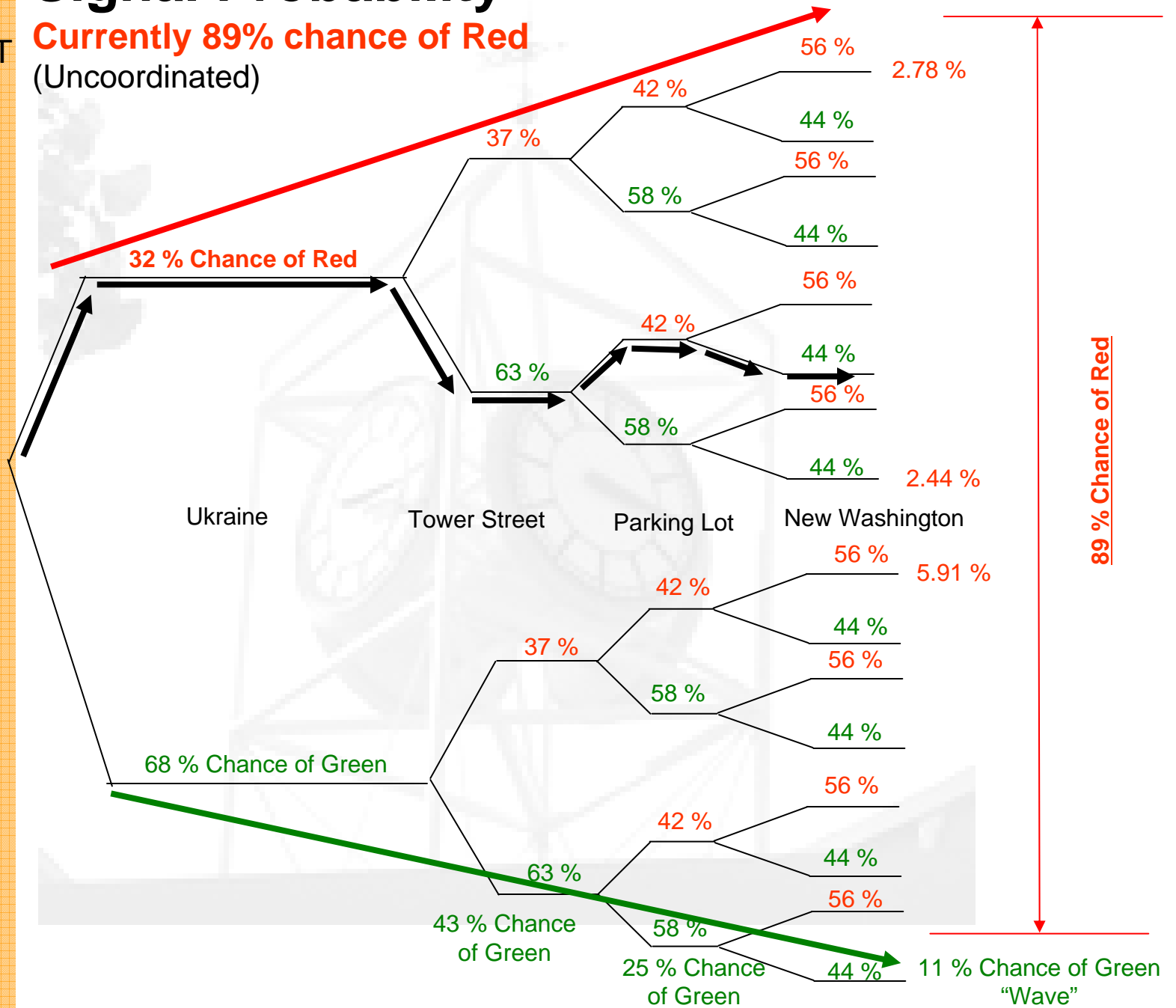
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

FOREST HILLS IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Traffic Flow

Signal Probability

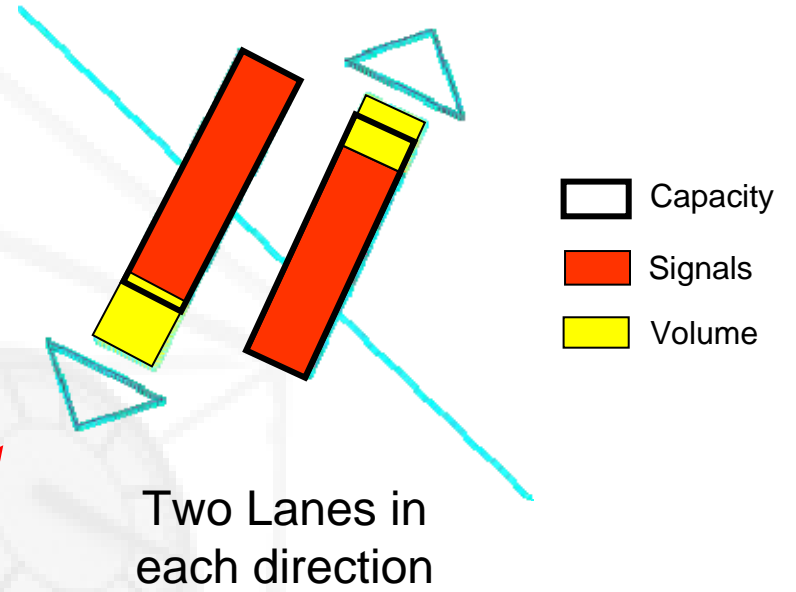
Currently 89% chance of Red
(Uncoordinated)



CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

FOREST HILLS IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Traffic Flow



UNCOORDINATED SIGNALS
– Impact on efficiency



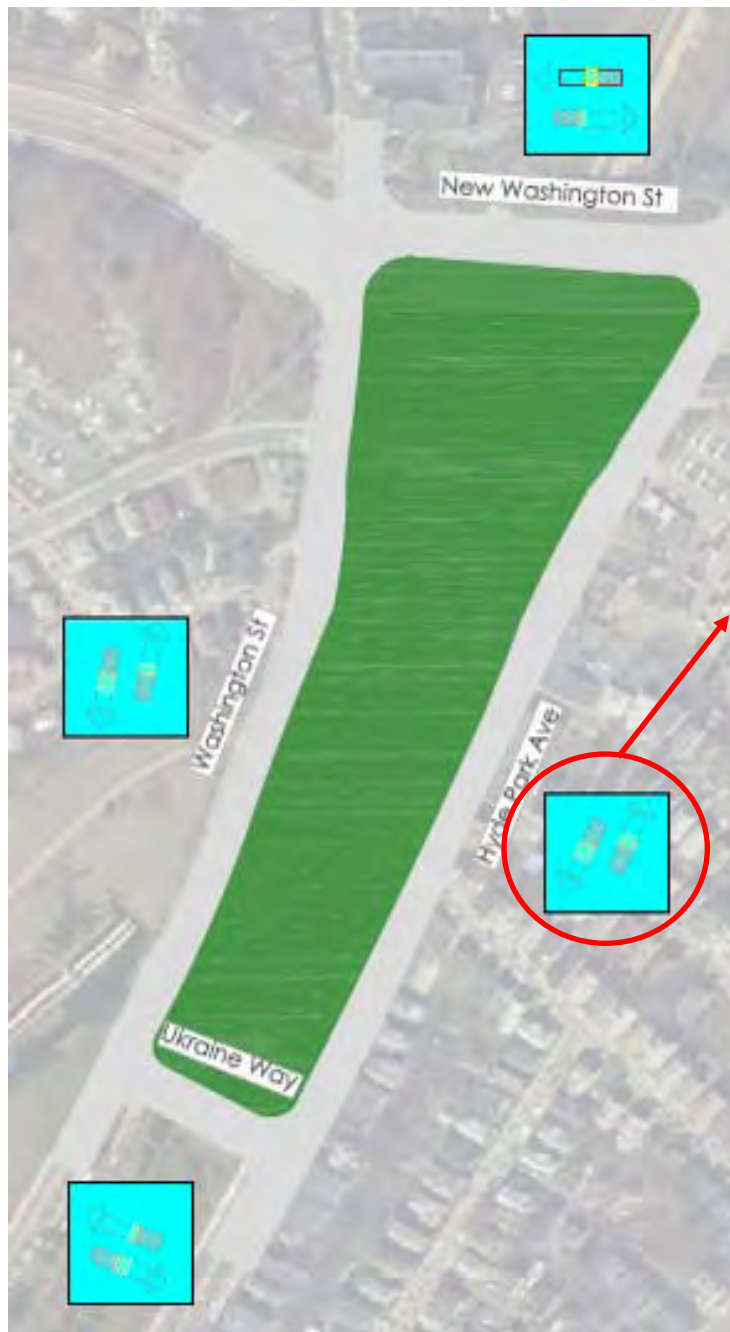
CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

FOREST HILLS IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

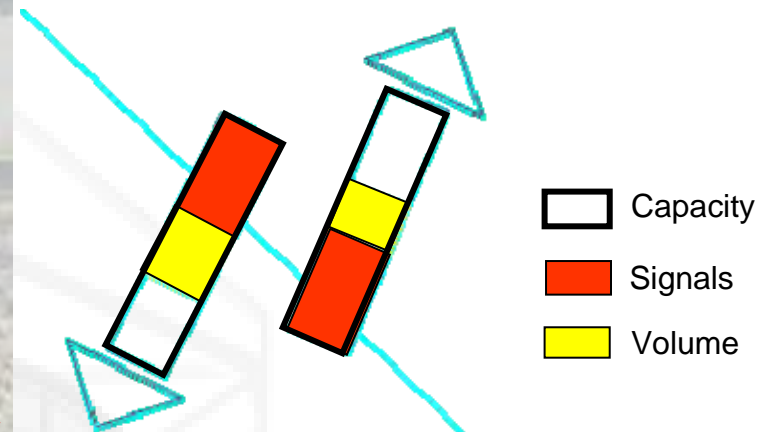
Traffic Flow



CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor



COORDINATED SIGNALS – Impact on efficiency



Two Lanes in each direction

- Reduce time spent in the corridor
- Improved driver and pedestrian behavior
- **Chance of Red is reduced from 89% to less than 50%**

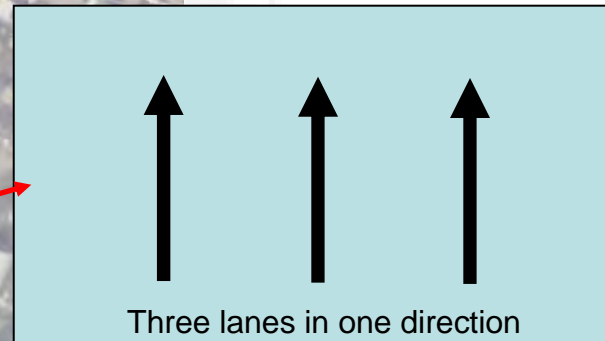
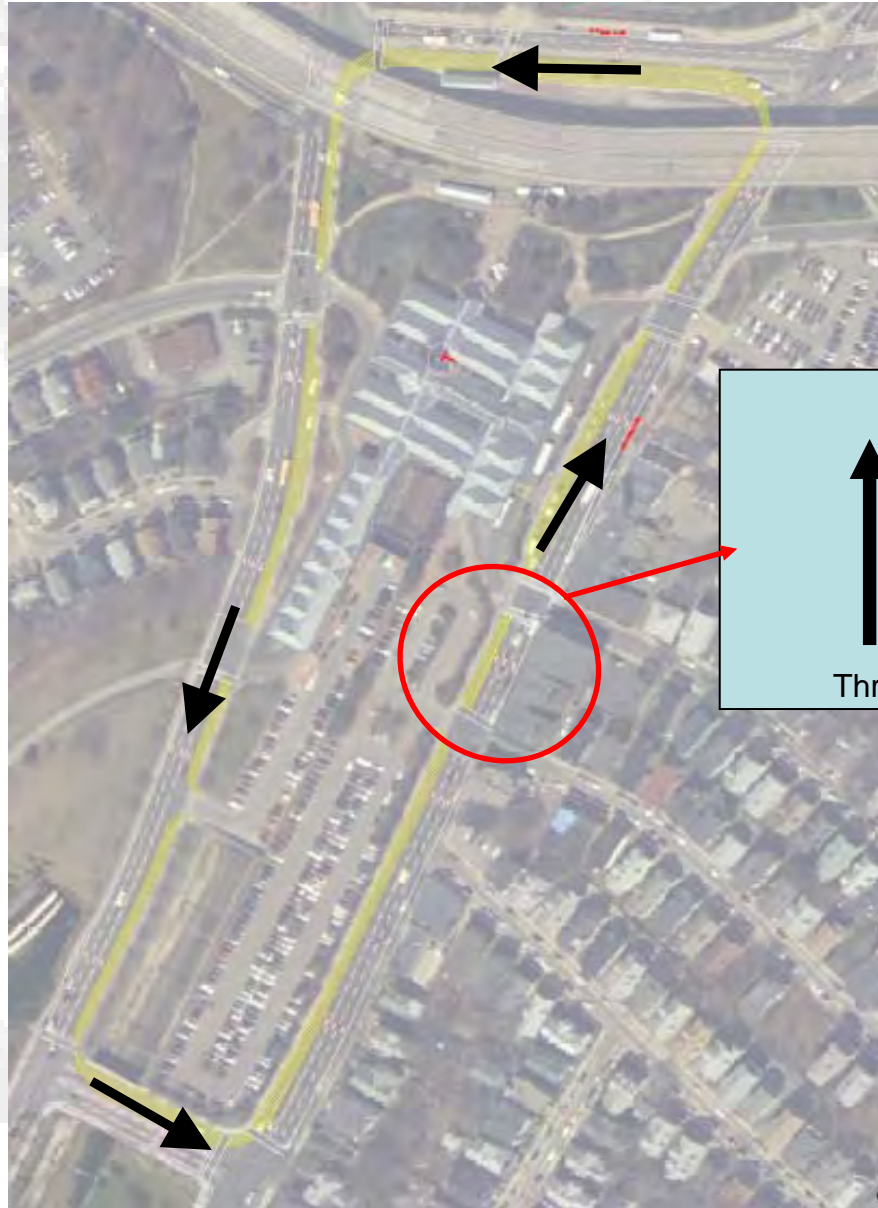
**FOREST
HILLS
IMPROVEMENT
INITIATIVES**

Traffic Flow



CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

ONE-WAY CIRCULATION

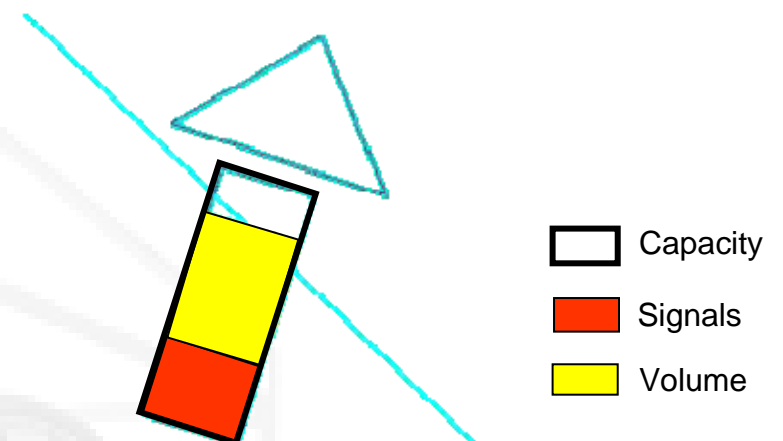
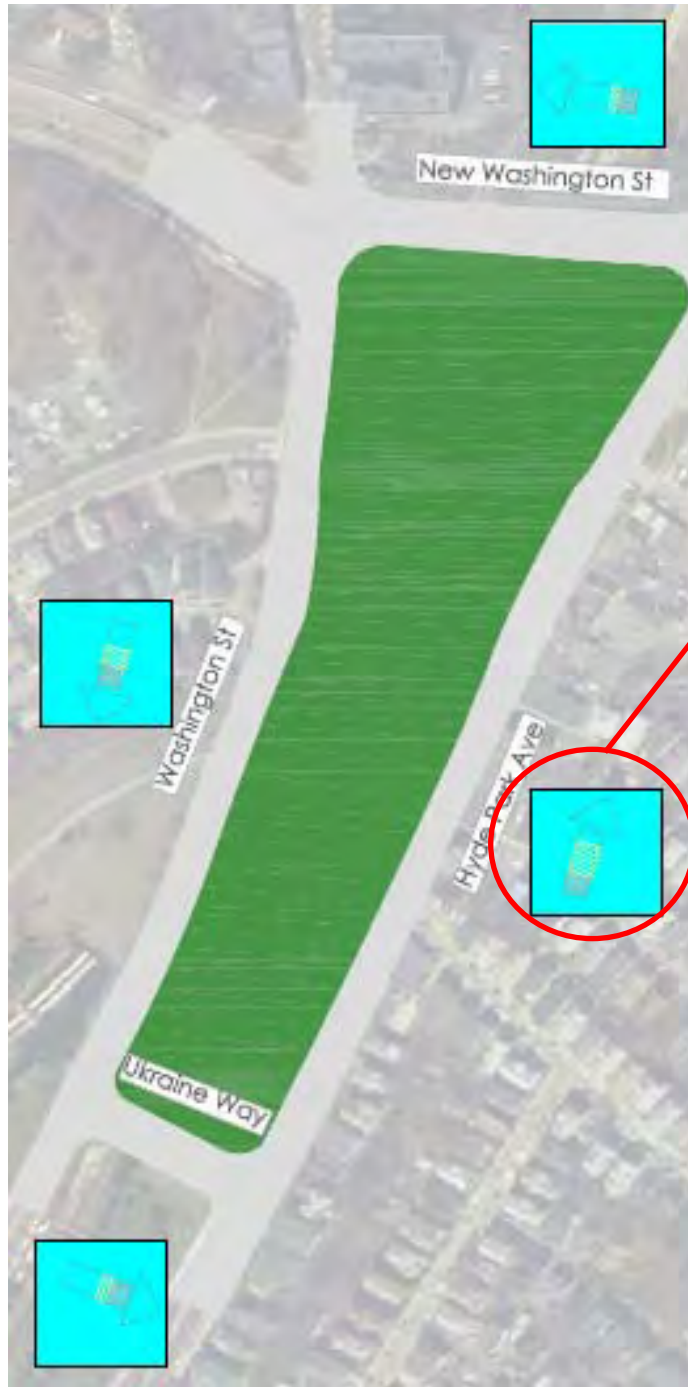


FOREST HILLS IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Traffic Flow



CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor



Three lanes in one direction

**ONE-WAY LOOP –
Impact on efficiency**

SUMMARY

Signal Coordination Improvements

Relatively straightforward and easily implemented:

- Traffic will flow Smoothly and Safely
- Provides predictable pedestrian crossing times
- Drivers will respond positively

One-Way Improvements

More complex to design and implement, yet provides additional space for:

- Pedestrians & Sidewalk Space
- Cyclists Paths and Lanes
- On-street Parking
- Green Space



CITY OF BOSTON

Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

SUMMARY

Concept: One Way Loop

Traffic Flow

PROS

CONS

Drop a lane – narrower roadway

- . Shorter pedestrian crossings
- . Space to reallocate for other modes - options for:
 - . Wider sidewalks
 - . Bike lanes or paths
 - . Wider sidewalks

Single direction turns from:

- . Tower Street
- . Weld Hill Street
- . Woodlawn Street
- . South Street

Smoother, safer traffic flow

Longer distance, bus routes (travel around the station)

Fewer signals

Change

Safer pedestrian crossings

Vehicle speeds may increase (slightly)

Easier vehicle entry into traffic

Longer vehicle trips for residents on all sides of station

Longer vehicle trips for parkers

Complete Streets

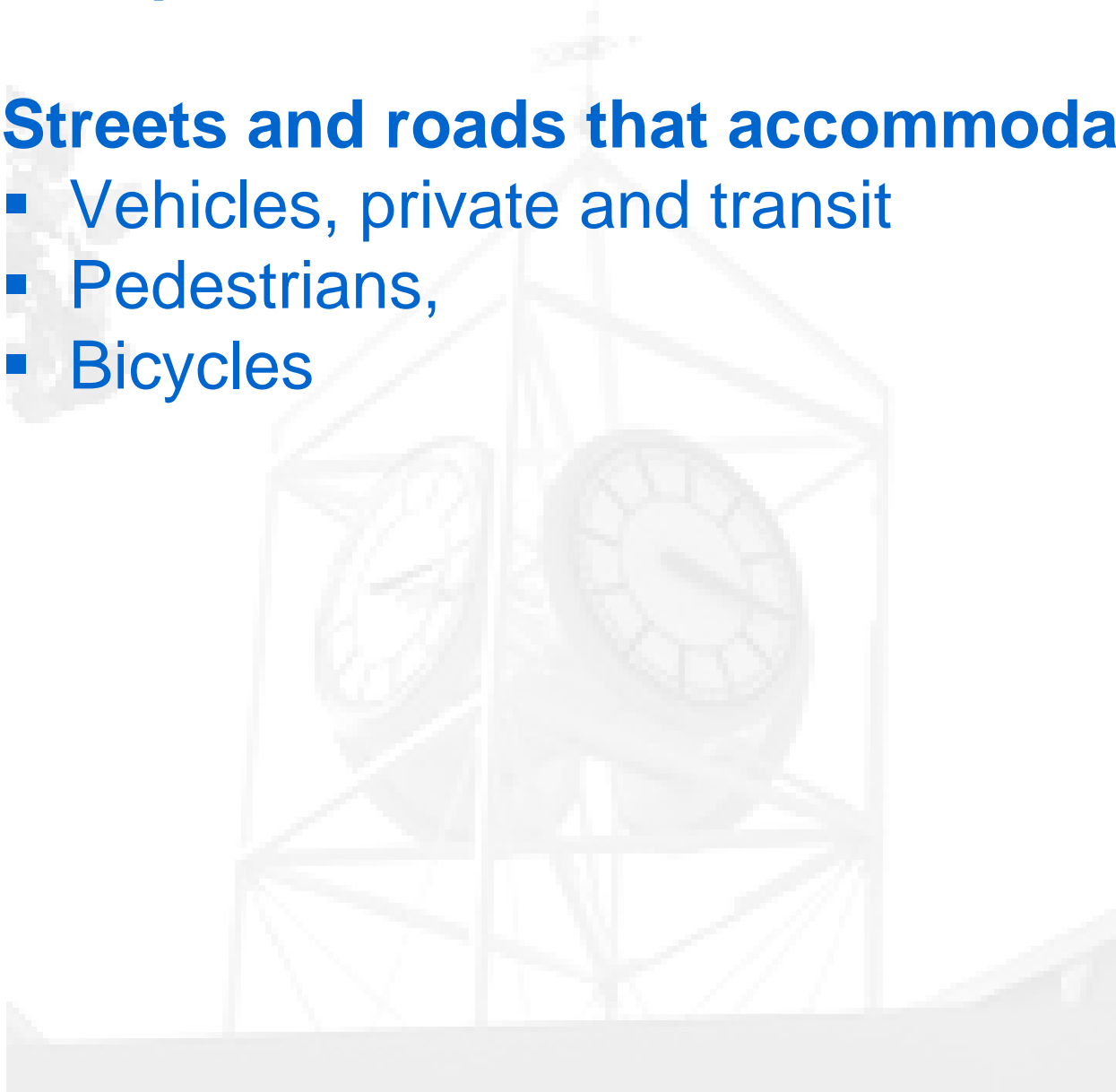
Streets and roads that accommodate:

- Vehicles, private and transit
- Pedestrians,
- Bicycles



CITY OF BOSTON

Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor



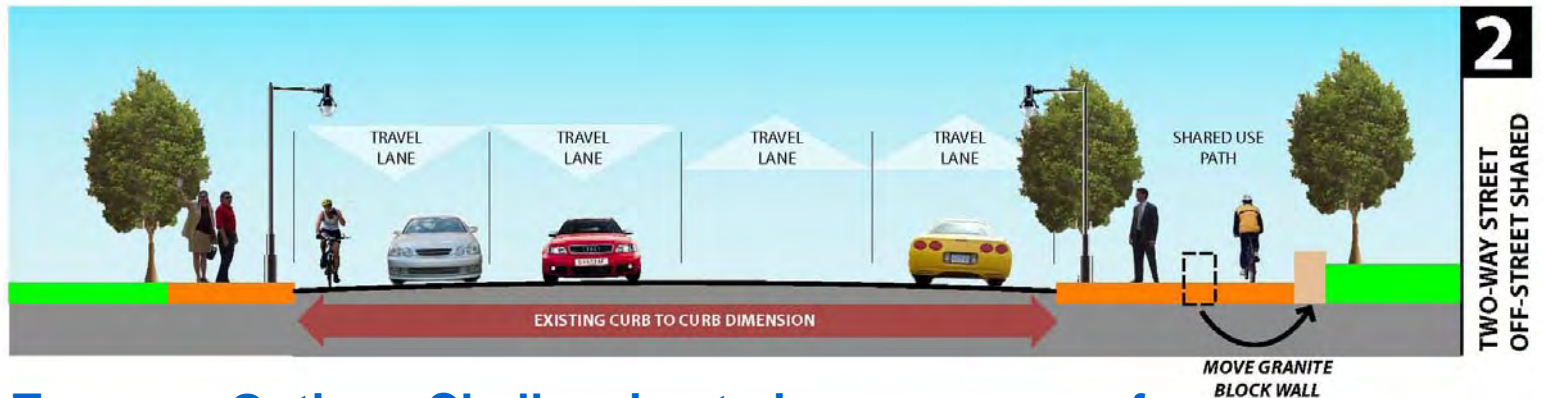
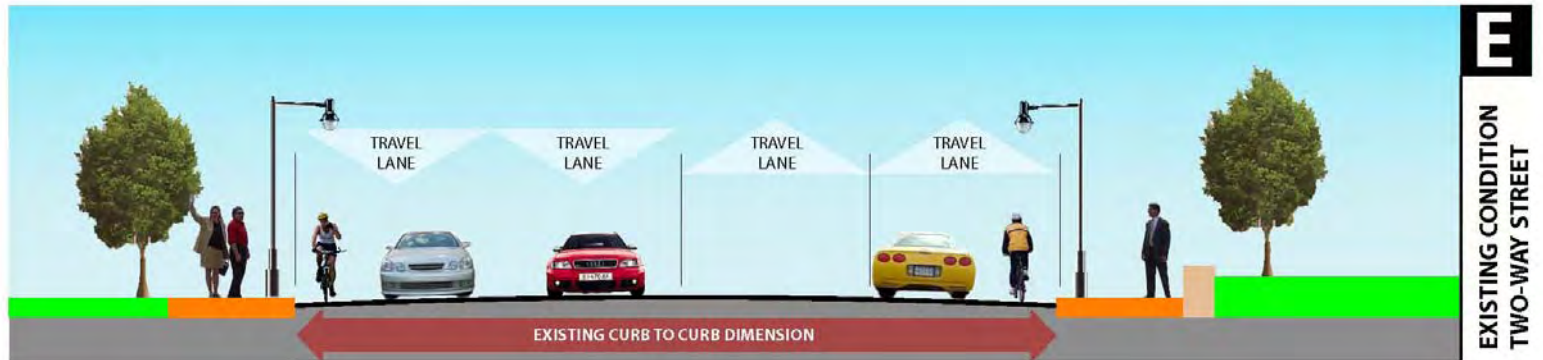
**FOREST
HILLS
IMPROVEMENT
INITIATIVES**

**Complete
Streets**



CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

WASHINGTON STREET - Existing



Two-way Option: Challenging to increase space for bicycles and/or pedestrians.

FOREST HILLS IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Complete Streets



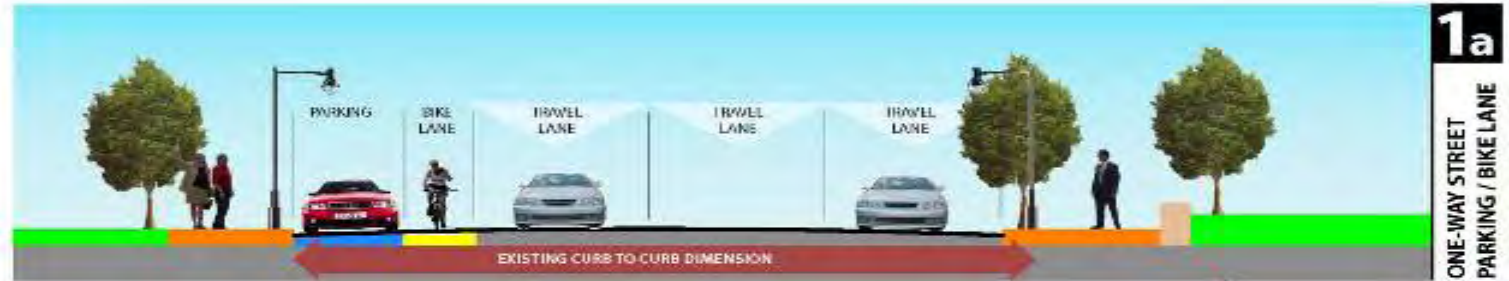
CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor



EXISTING CONDITION
TWO-WAY STREET

WASHINGTON STREET - Existing

One-way Options: Parking, Bikes On-Street, or Bikes Off-Street



ONE-WAY STREET
PARKING / BIKE LANE



ONE-WAY STREET
ON-STREET BIKE LANE



ONE-WAY STREET
TWO-WAY BIKE PATH

FOREST HILLS IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Complete Streets



CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

HYDE PARK AVENUE - Existing



Two-way Option: No change

FOREST HILLS IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Complete Streets



CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor



HYDE PARK AVENUE - Existing

One-way Options: Bike Lane with Parking, or Wider Sidewalks



**FOREST
HILLS
IMPROVEMENT
INITIATIVES**

**Reconnection
New
Washington**

WASHINGTON ST / NEW WASHINGTON ST

Improve East / West & North / South Connections:

- Reduce pavement
- Reduce length and complexity of pedestrian crossings
- Increase accessible, usable Green Space
- Increase space for pedestrian and off-street bicycle connections



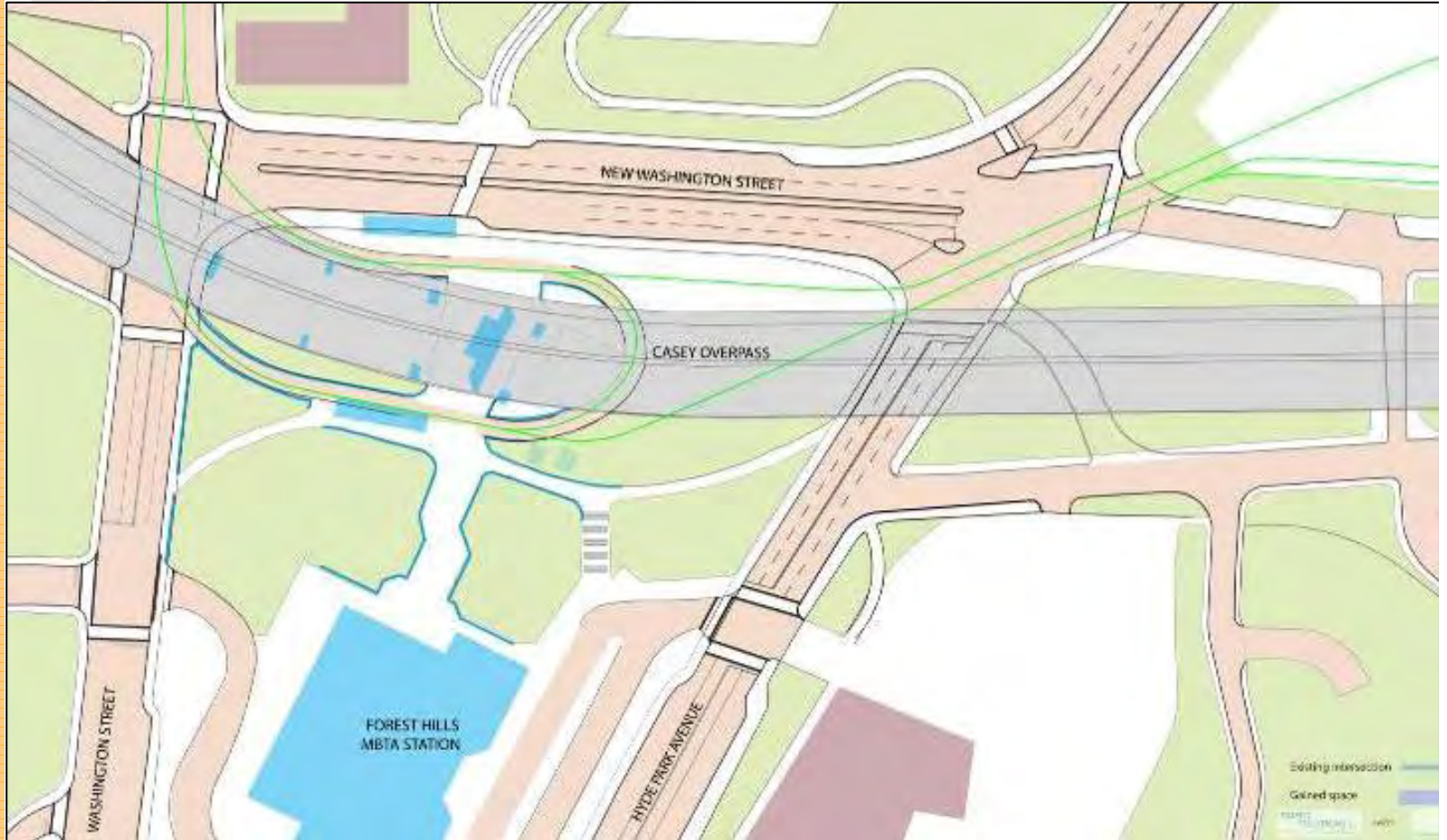
CITY OF BOSTON

Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

**FOREST
HILLS
IMPROVEMENT
INITIATIVES**

**Reconnection
New
Washington**

**EXISTING CONDITIONS:
New Washington St., Washington St., and Hyde
Park Avenue**

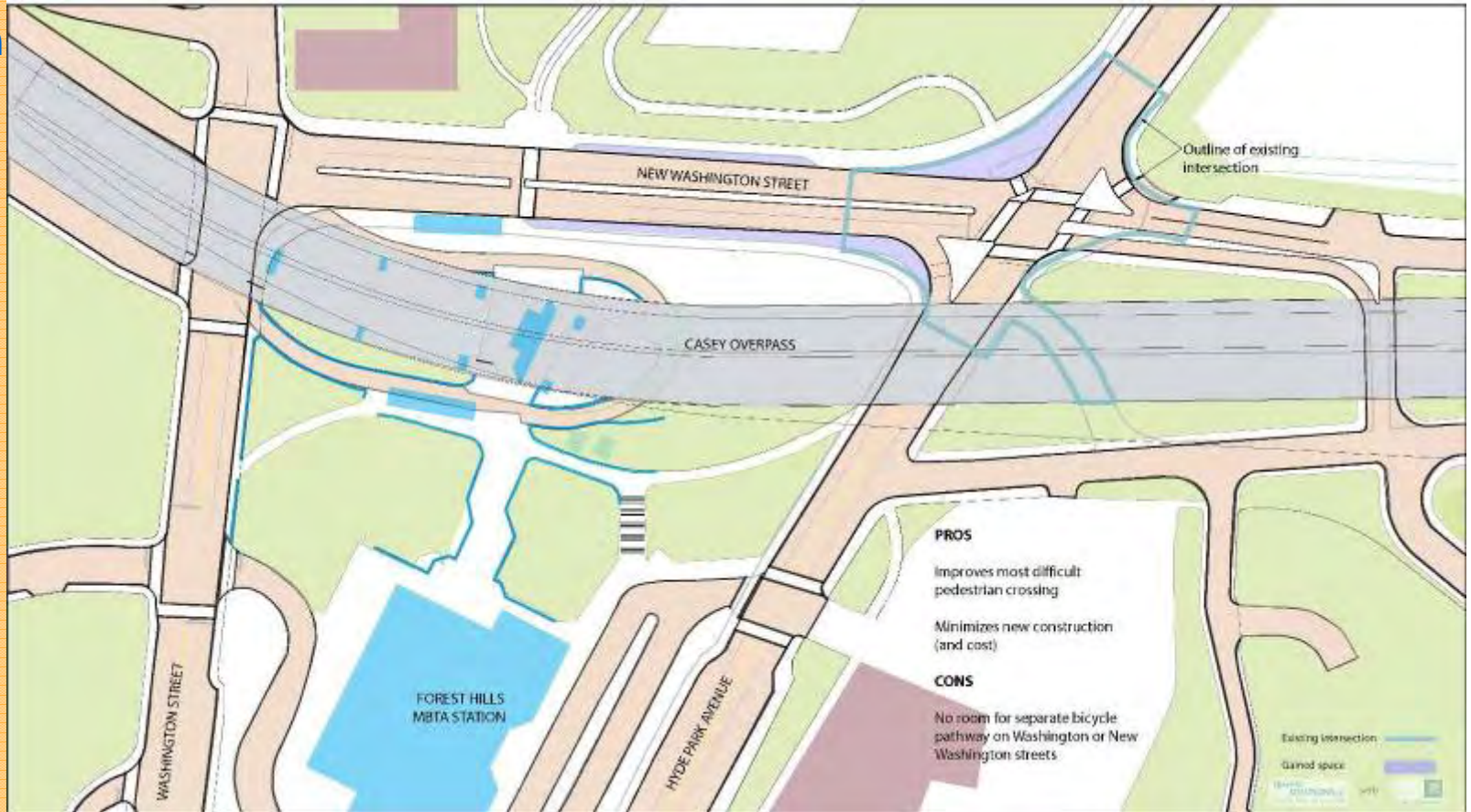


CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

**FOREST
HILLS
IMPROVEMENT
INITIATIVES**

**Reconnection
New
Washington**

**TWO-WAY TRAFFIC:
▪ CURRENT ALIGNMENT
▪ REDUCED INTERSECTION**

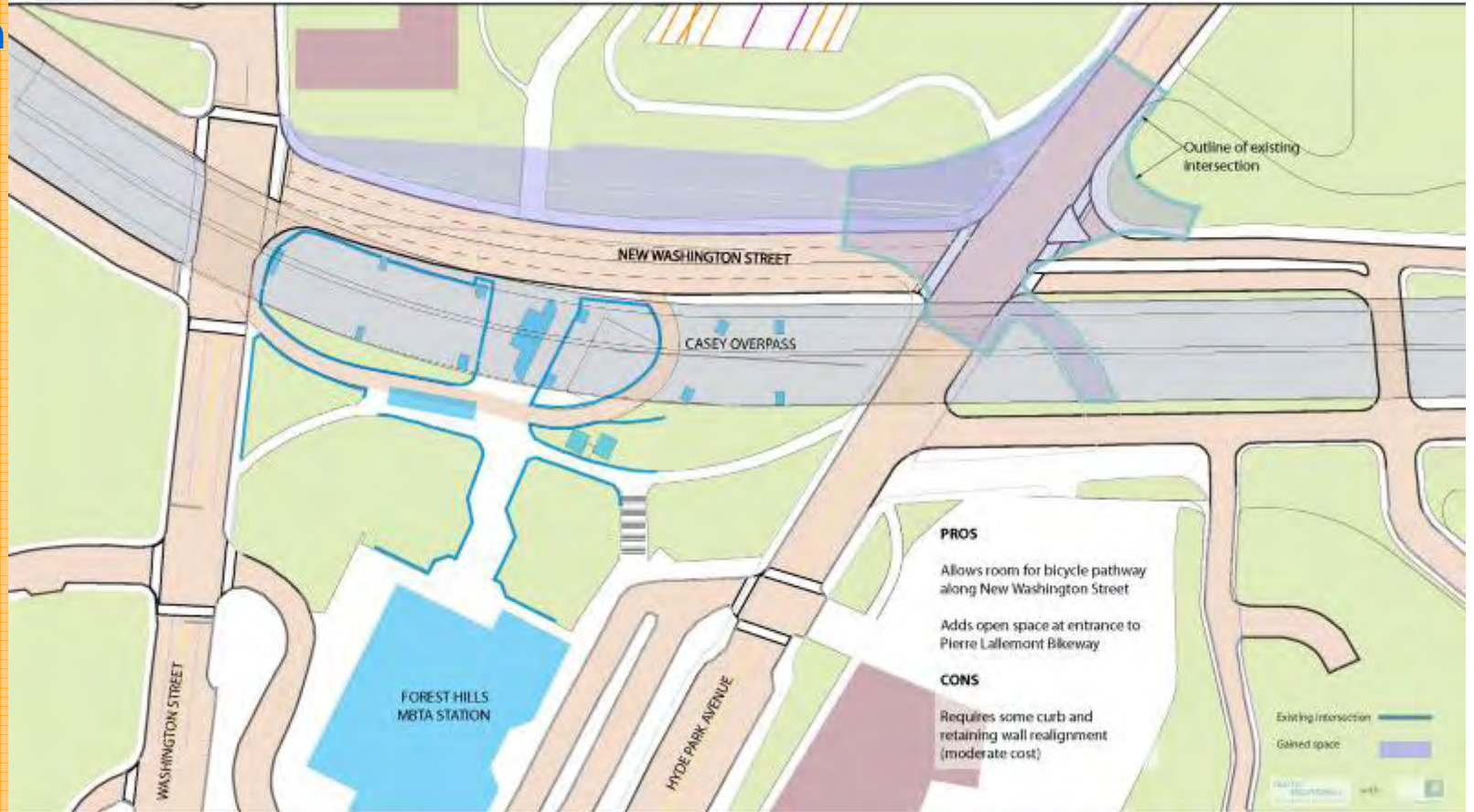


CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

**FOREST HILLS
IMPROVEMENT
INITIATIVES**

**Reconnection
New
Washington**

**TWO-WAY TRAFFIC:
▪ REVISED ALIGNMENT
▪ REDUCED INTERSECTION**

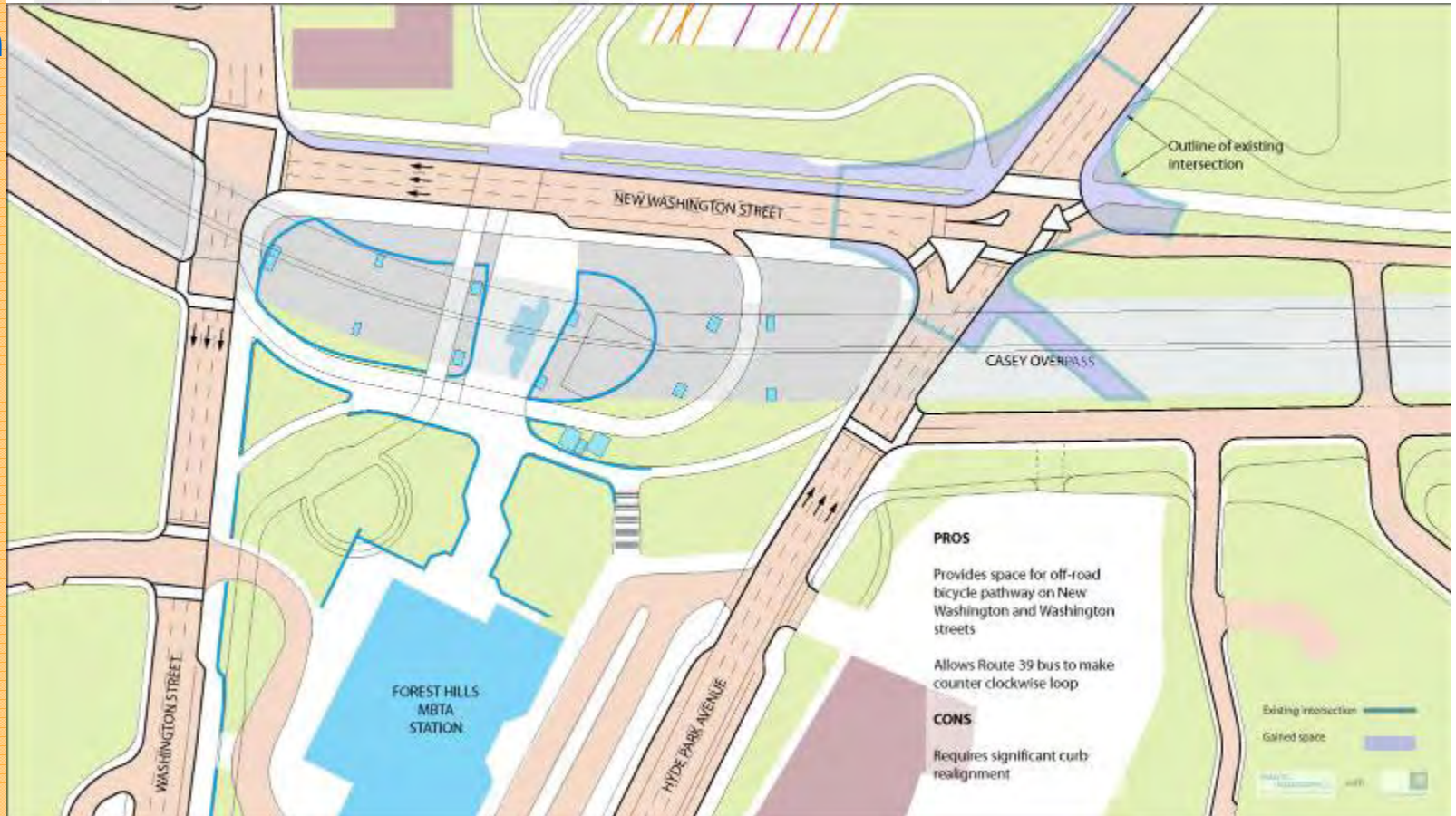


CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

FOREST HILLS IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Reconnection New Washington

ONE-WAY TRAFFIC: CURRENT ALIGNMENT



CITY OF BOSTON

Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

IMPROVE BICYCLING CONNECTIONS

Create connections through difficult area to:

- Emerald Necklace connection (East / West)
- Southwest Corridor Bike Path
- Arborway, Jamaica Way, Muddy River Bike Paths
- Connection to surrounding neighborhoods
- Connection to Roslindale and Hyde Park
- Wayfinding Signage

Trade-offs: On-Street vs. Off-Street Bike Paths

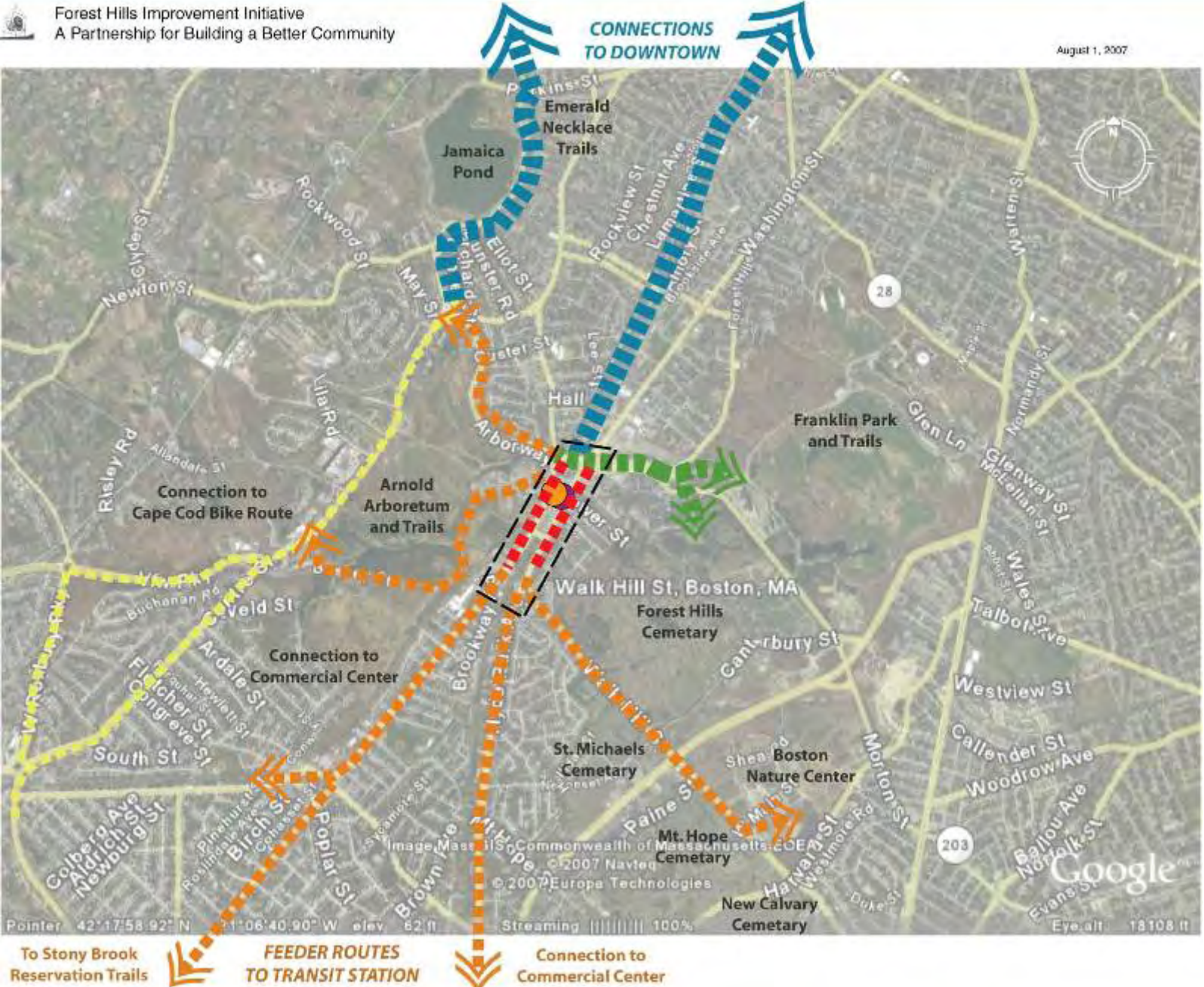


CITY OF BOSTON

Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

FOREST HILLS IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Bike Connections



CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

**FOREST
HILLS
IMPROVEMENT
INITIATIVES**

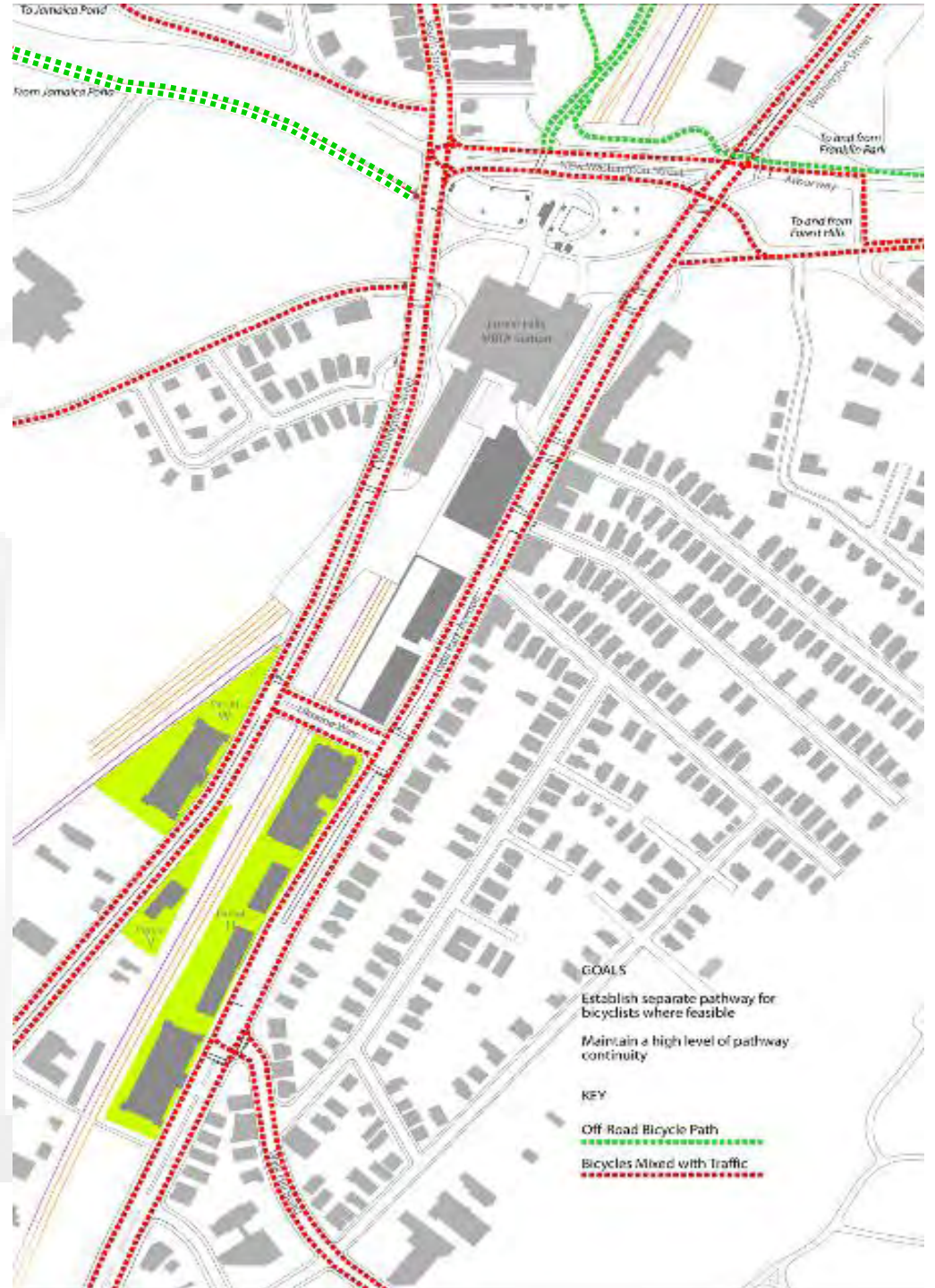
**Bike
Connections**

**BICYCLE
NETWORK
EXISTING
CONDITIONS**



CITY OF BOSTON

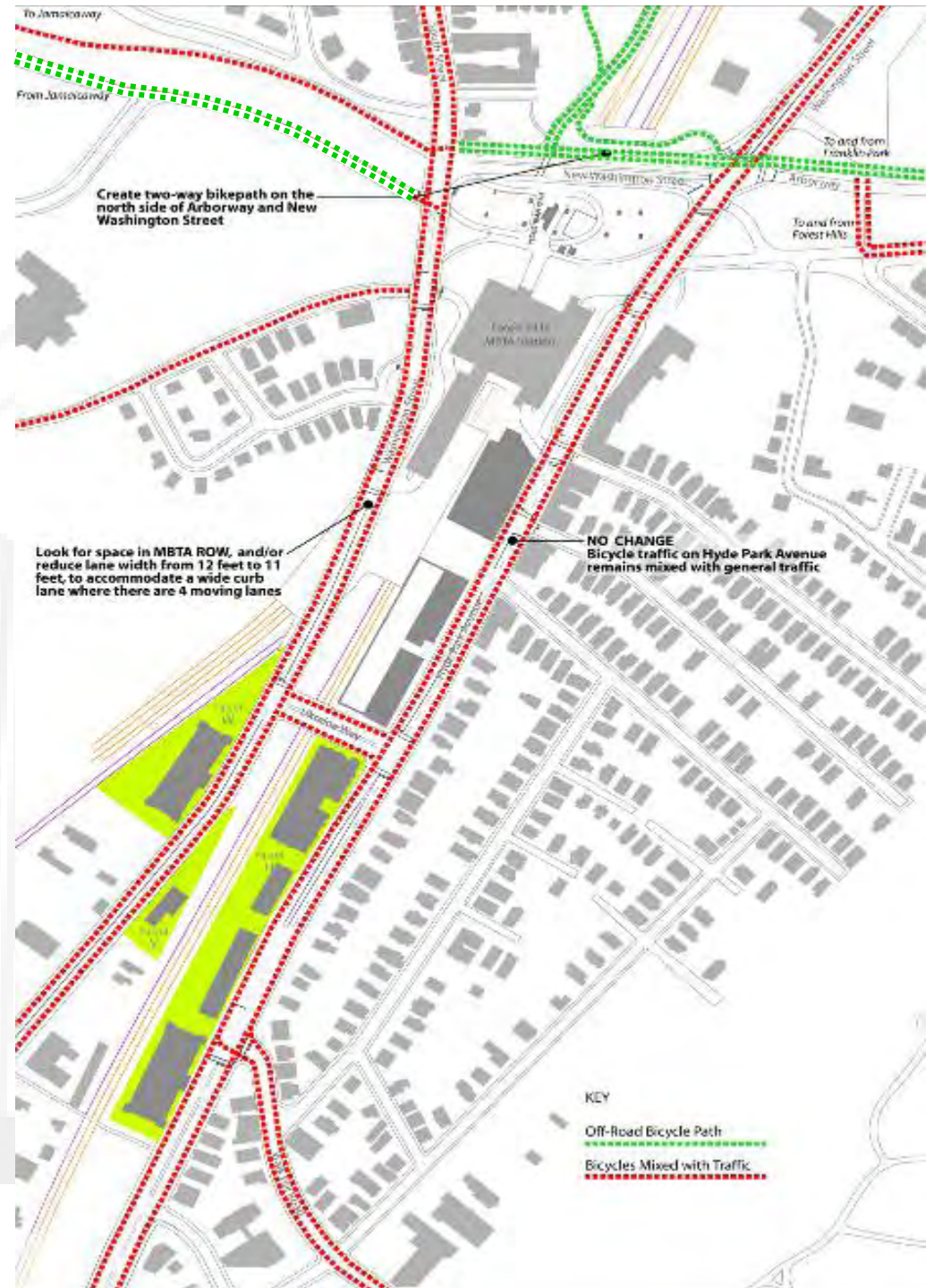
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor



**FOREST
HILLS
IMPROVEMENT
INITIATIVES**

**Bike
Connections**

**BICYCLE
NETWORK
TWO-WAY
CIRCULATION**

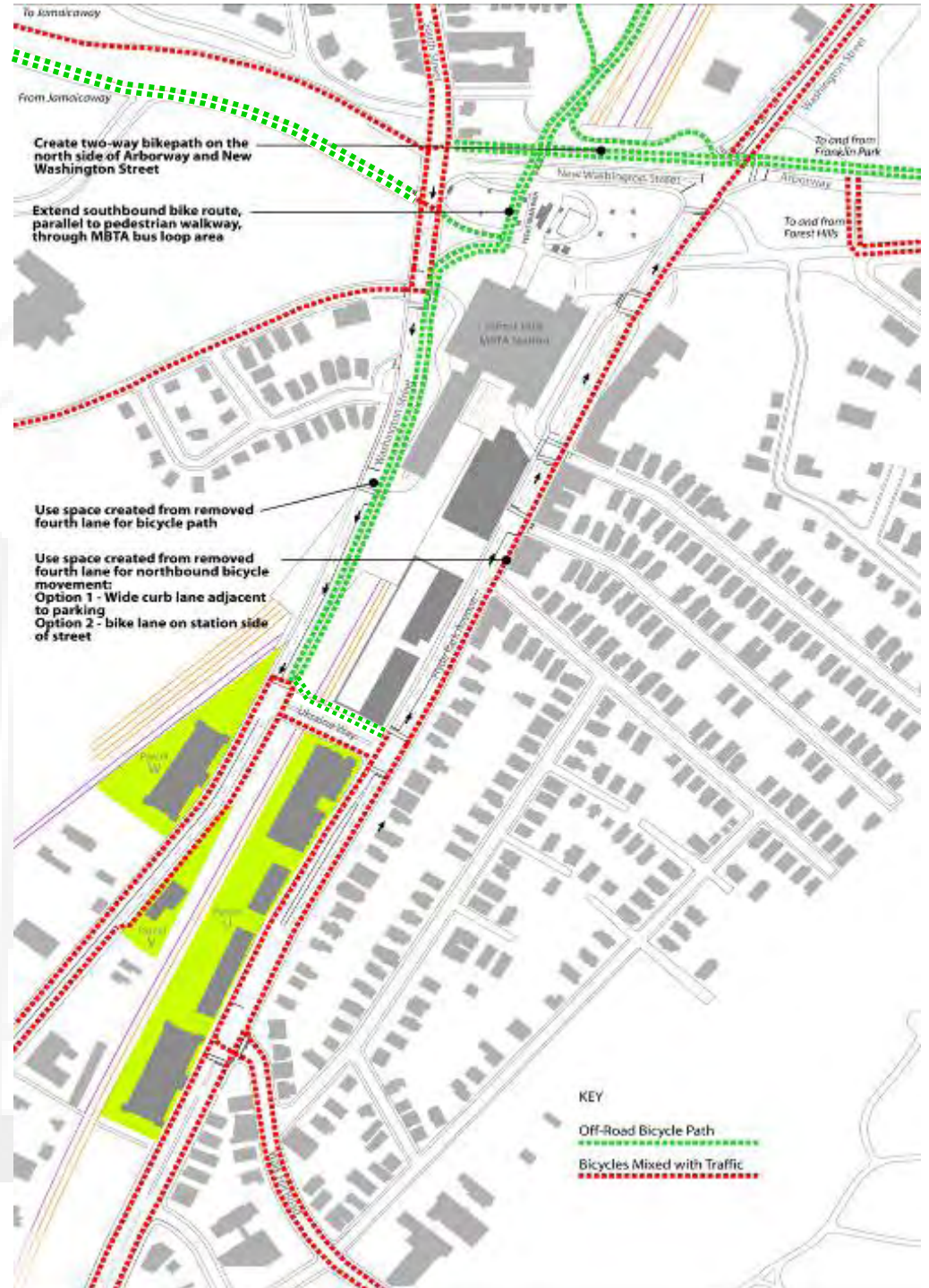


CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

FOREST HILLS IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Bike Connections

BICYCLE NETWORK ONE-WAY CIRCULATION



CITY OF BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino,
Mayor

**FOREST
HILLS
IMPROVEMENT
INITIATIVES**

EXAMPLE OF BICYCLE PATHS

Other



Driveway transition



Combined sidewalk and bike path



Combined sidewalk and bike path

Street crossing



Driveway transition