



West Broadway Reconstruction Project

Traffic Commission Informational Presentation

November 14, 2024

Project website: sommervillema.gov/westbroadway

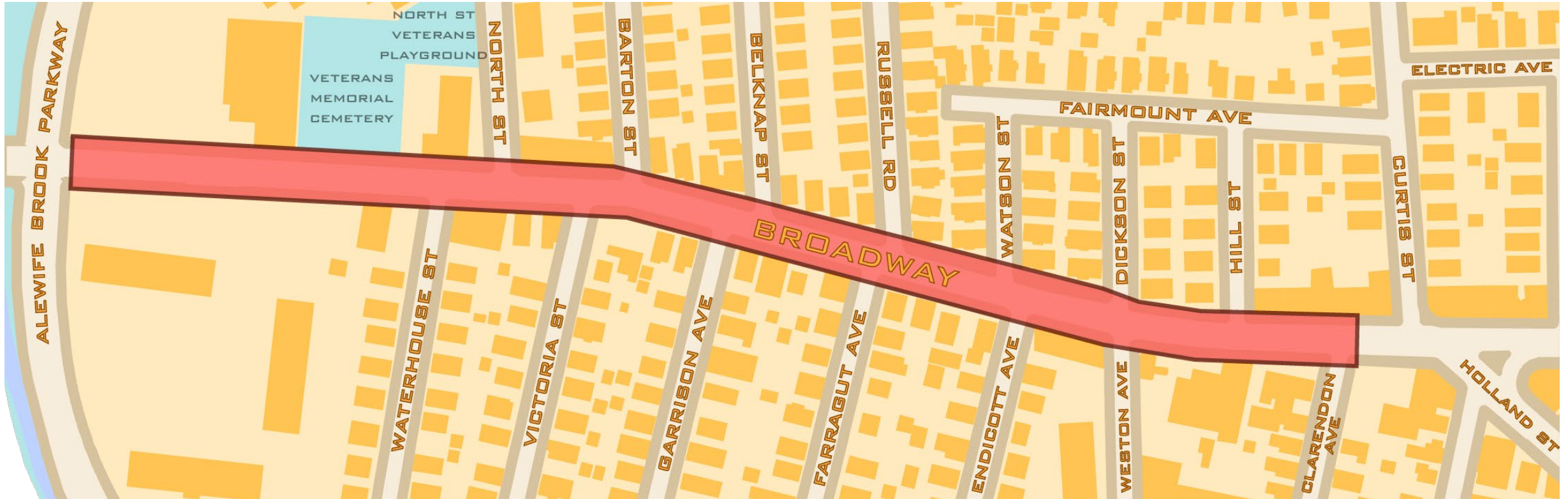
Mayor Katjana Ballantyne
City of Somerville, Office of Strategic Planning & Community Development
Councilor Judy Pineda Neufeld



Project Background



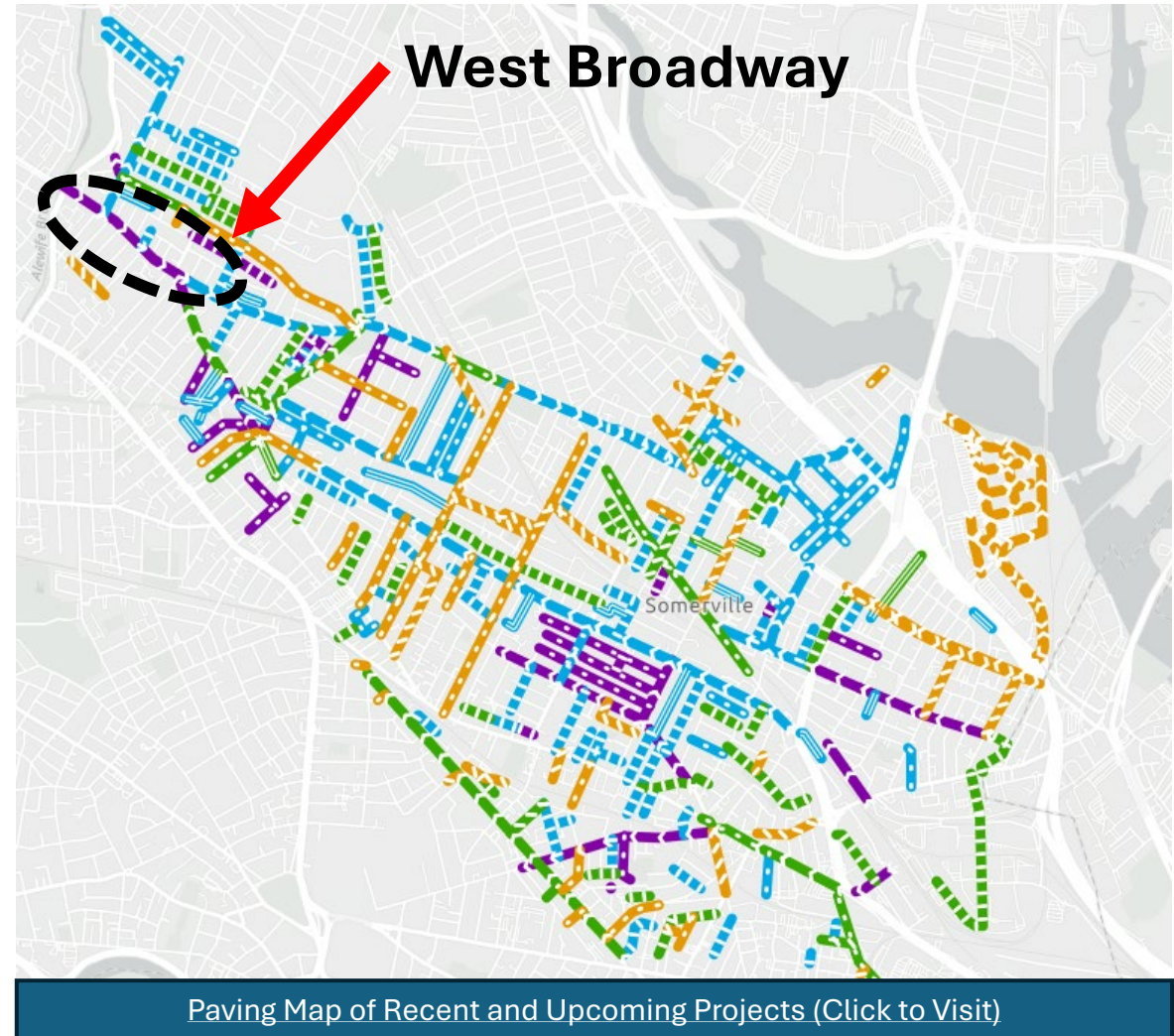
Limit of Work



Broadway from Clarendon Ave to Alewife Brook Pkwy (Route 16).

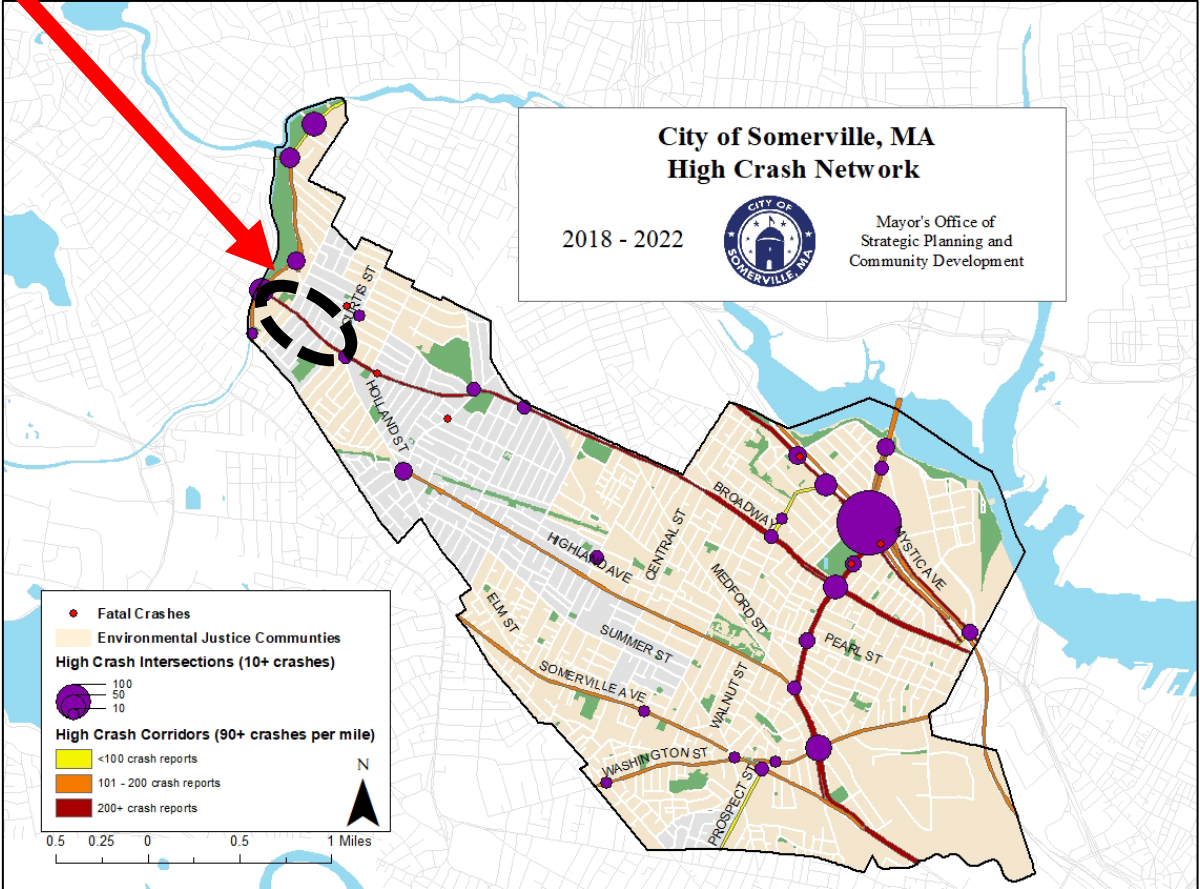
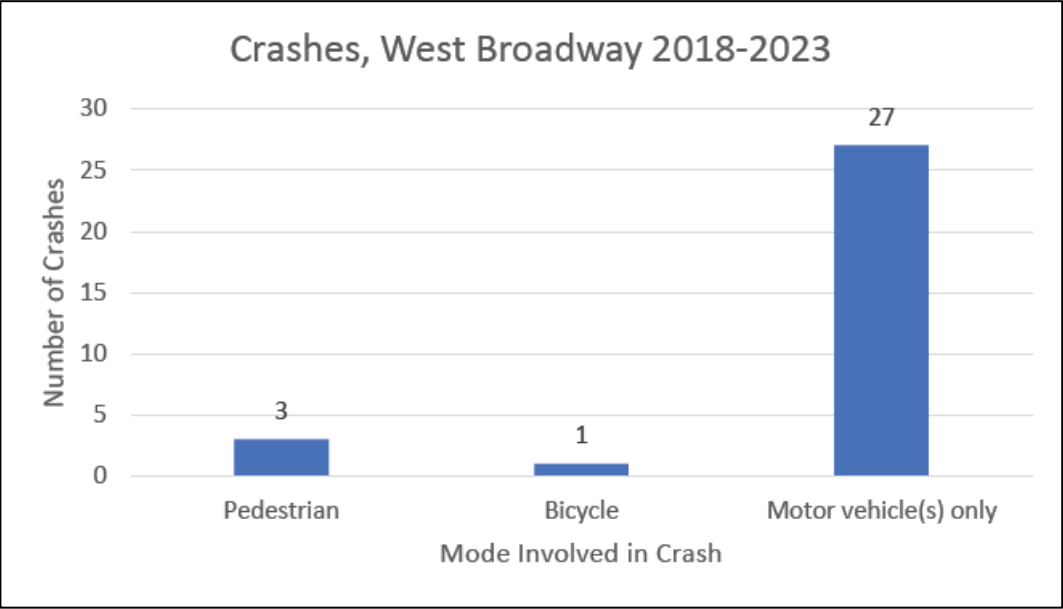
Pavement and Sidewalk Management Program

- [Data-driven pavement management program](#) to maintain and improve our roadways and sidewalks managed by Infrastructure and Asset Management (IAM)
- Selected streets are categorized by project type:
 - Complete Street and Intersection Projects
 - Full Street Projects
 - Sidewalk Only Projects
 - Curb to Curb Paving Projects
 - Partial Paving Projects
- **Western Broadway is designated in the paving program to be reconstructed as a Complete Street.**



High Crash Corridor

West Broadway



Existing Conditions

- Widespread sidewalk and pavement deterioration
- Sub-standard crossing conditions
- Lack of bicycle infrastructure

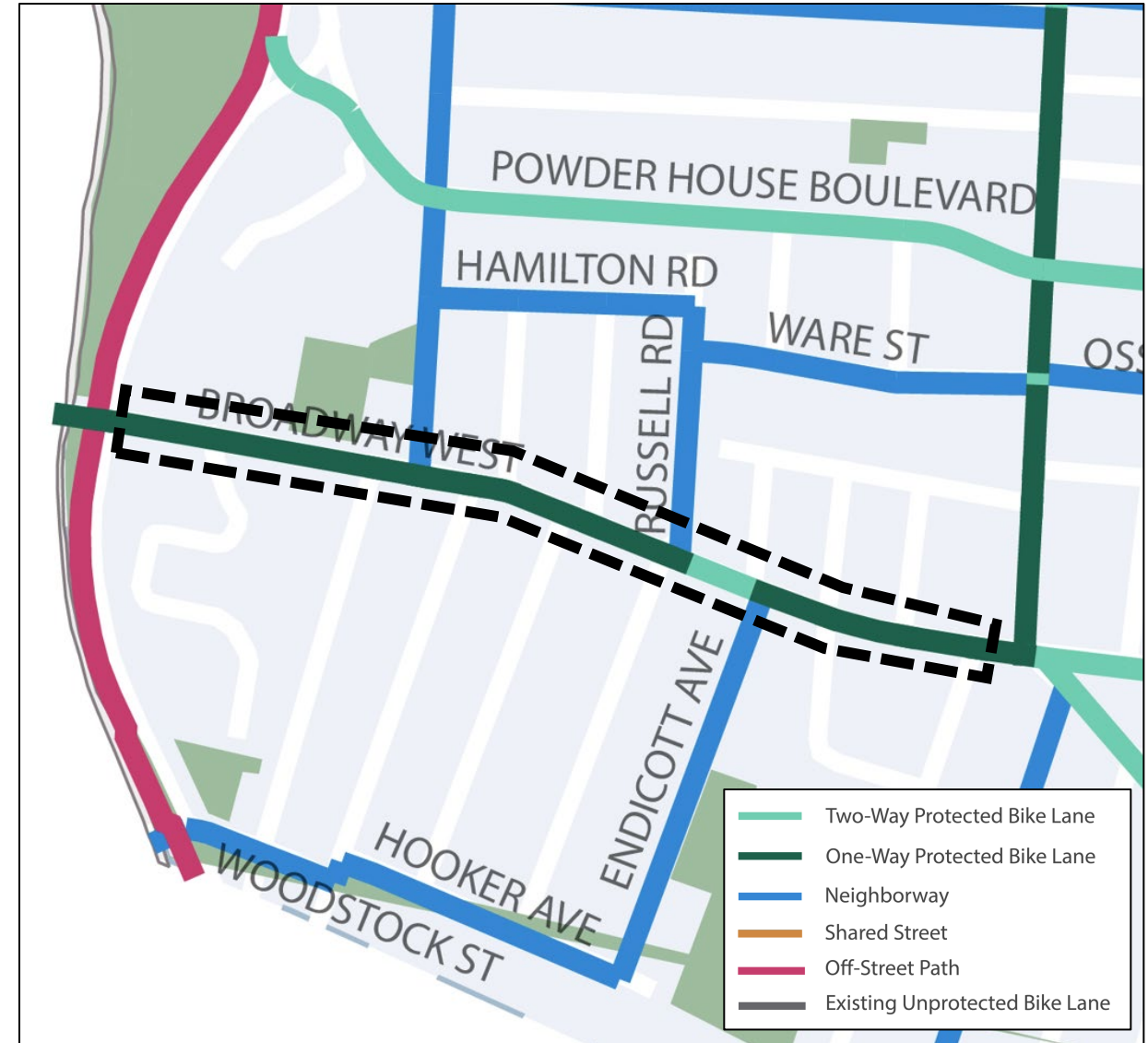


- Blocks with minimal tree canopy
- Bus stops that are not compliant with accessibility standards.

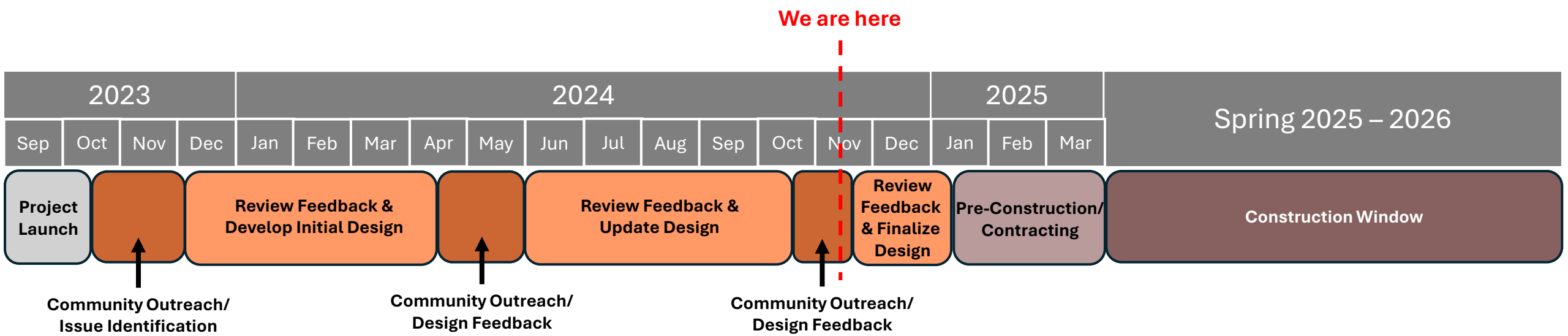


Broadway on the Bicycle Network Plan

- Most of Broadway is designated for one direction of protected bicycle lane in the Somerville Bicycle Network Plan.
- One block between Endicott Ave and Russell Rd is designated for protected bicycle lanes in both directions.
 - This is critical for connecting the Neighborways on Endicott Ave and Russell Rd.
- Neighborways are low stress, low vehicle volume and slow speed streets prioritizing people walking, wheeling and biking. People biking can use the full street. If Neighborways are one-way for vehicles, bikes are still able to go in both directions.
- Learn more about the plan at www.somervillema.gov/bikenetwork



Anticipated Project Timeline



Proposed Design and Parking Regulations



Big Picture Project Design Elements

- Safer crossings and intersections
 - Shorten crossing distances and improve sightlines with curb extensions
 - Slow vehicles and improve visibility of pedestrians by raising crossings to sidewalk level
 - Add connections to abutting Neighborways that are comfortable for all ages and abilities



Big Picture Project Design Elements

- Protected bike lanes (PBLs) in both directions
 - Mix of sidewalk and street level PBLs
 - Pre-cast concrete curb protection for street level PBLs
- In response to a comprehensive evaluation of traffic and crash data, hearing substantial advocacy in community feedback, and evaluating the important bike connections.



Big Picture Project Design Elements

- Enhanced bus rider experience and operations
 - New floating bus stops
 - Add new shelters and/or benches at bus stops
 - Optimize stop spacing



Big Picture Project Design Elements

- Street beautification and amenities
 - Street trees and plantings
 - Benches
 - Trash and recycling bins

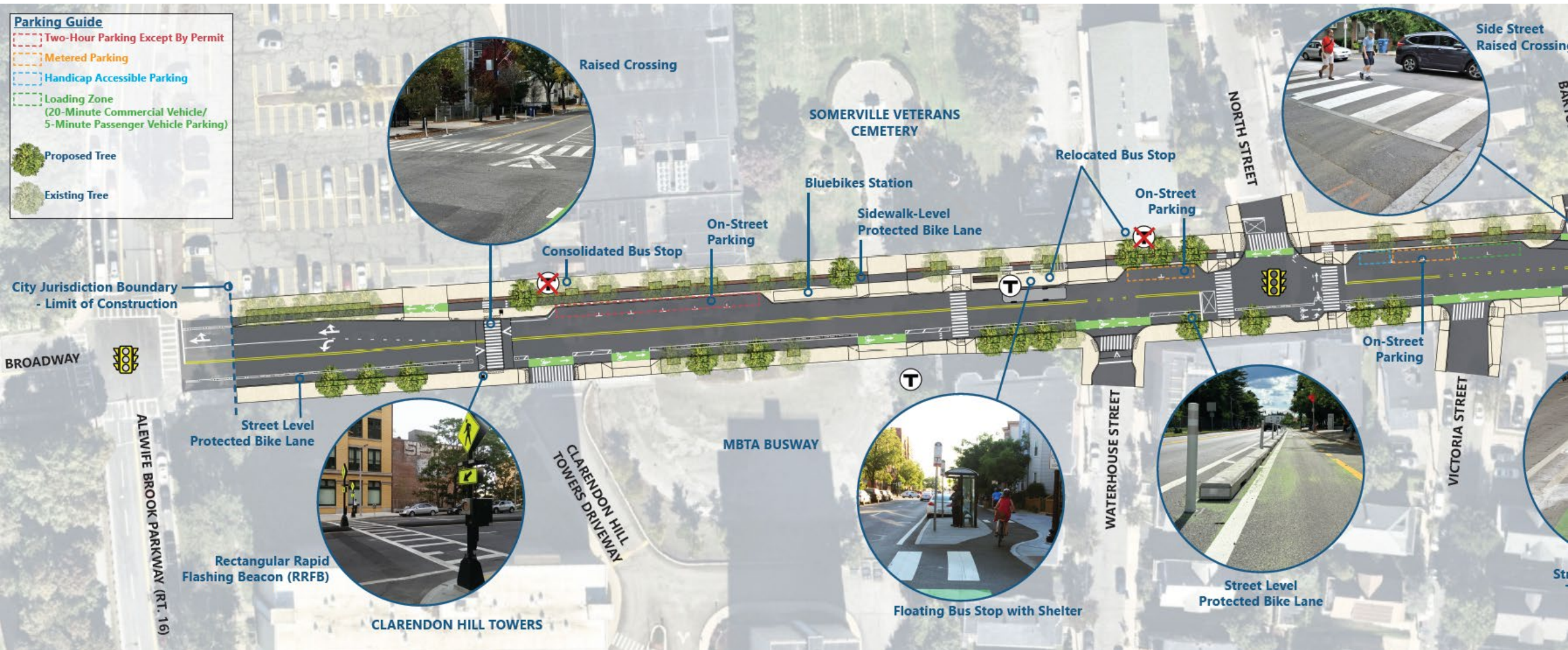


Big Picture Project Design Elements

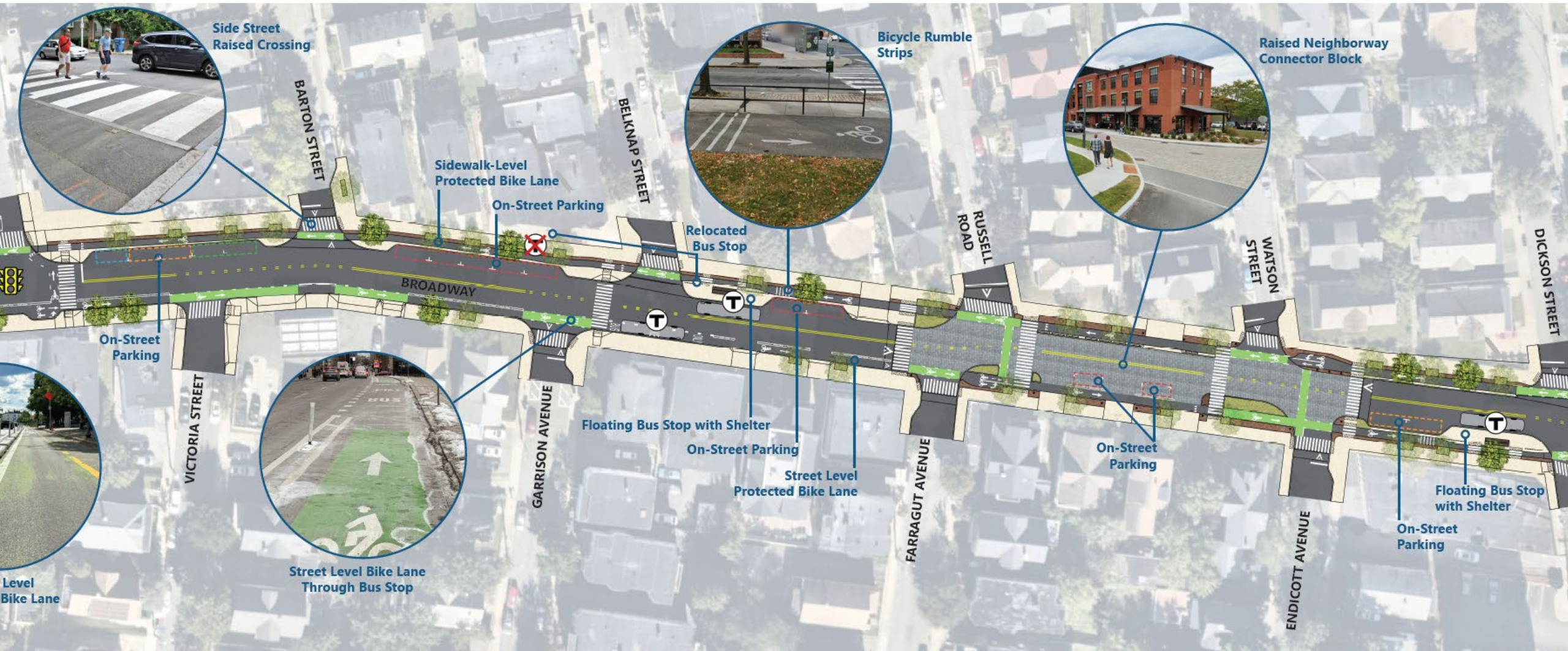
- Preserve one side of on-street parking
 - Proposed reduction of on-street parking spaces on West Broadway from ~62 to ~32
 - Prioritize preserving parking and loading near businesses
 - Increase handicap accessible parking
 - Optimize parking regulations
- Parking study conducted November 2023
 - Parking counts collected at 12pm, 6pm, and 9pm on Broadway and ~200 feet down side streets
 - Between 26-31 parking spaces on West Broadway were available (42-50% of total)
 - Between 35-61 parking spaces on side streets were available (22-38% of total)
 - We anticipate that parking demand will be accommodated with removal of one side of on-street parking



Alewife Brook Parkway to Victoria Street



Victoria Street to Endicott Avenue



Endicott Avenue to Clarendon Avenue



Community Feedback on Parking Reduction

What We Heard

- Concern about impacts of on-street parking removal for small businesses.

Updated Design

- Conversion of some Resident Permit Parking Only spaces on select side streets to Two-Hour Parking Except by Permit



What comes
next?

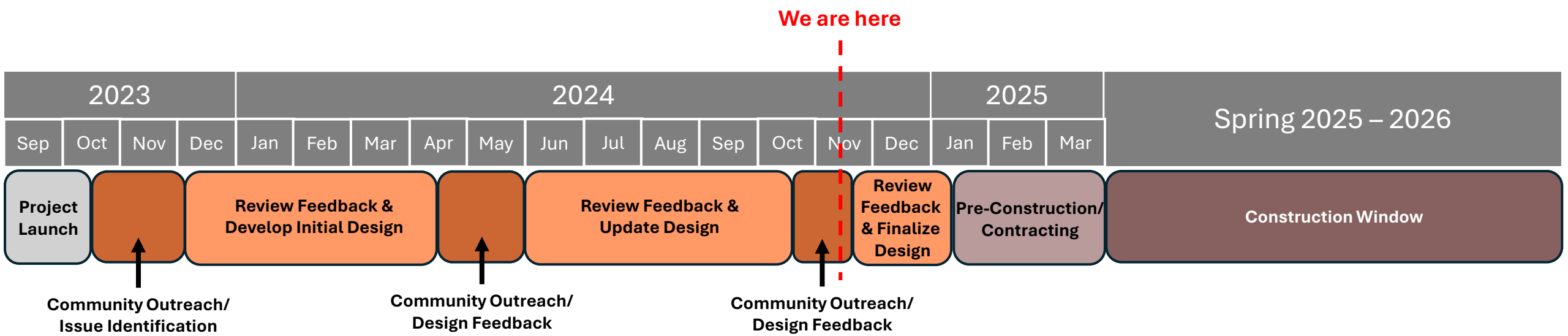


Public Feedback Period



- Project survey open until November 22
- In-person community activities
 - Open House held October 22
 - Street pop-up held October 28
 - Virtual office hours October 30 and November 20
 - Clarendon Hill Towers pop-up held November 13
 - Weston Manor pop-up TBD
 - Business block walking and ongoing engagement

Anticipated Project Timeline



THANK YOU!