

Union Square Transit Signal Priority Improvements



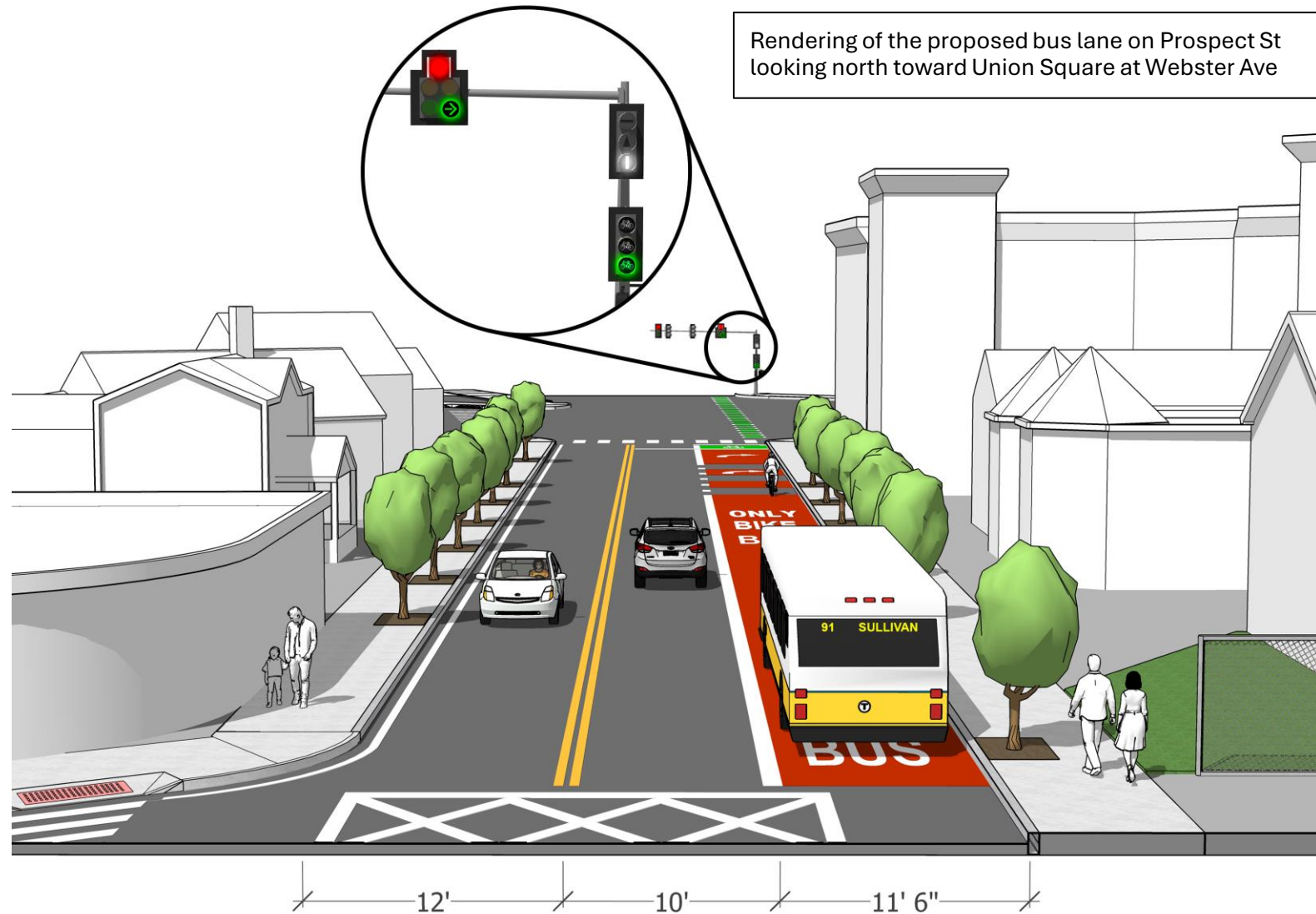
City of Somerville – OSPCD Mobility

Presentation to the City of Somerville Traffic Commission

July 7, 2026

Project Overview

- Union Square is an area of Somerville that is growing quickly. To mitigate the impact of some of the recent development, the City has received funding to be spent on transit priority improvements that can keep the 4 existing bus routes and 2 future bus routes moving
- In partnership with the MBTA, we will be making major upgrades to the signal equipment at Washington St and Webster Ave, Somerville Ave and Prospect St, and Webster Ave and Prospect St. These upgrades should help everyone, but especially buses, get through the square more quickly without compromising on safety
- This effort also includes installing a bus/bike lane on Prospect St from Oak St to Webster Ave



Coordination, Outreach, and Next Steps

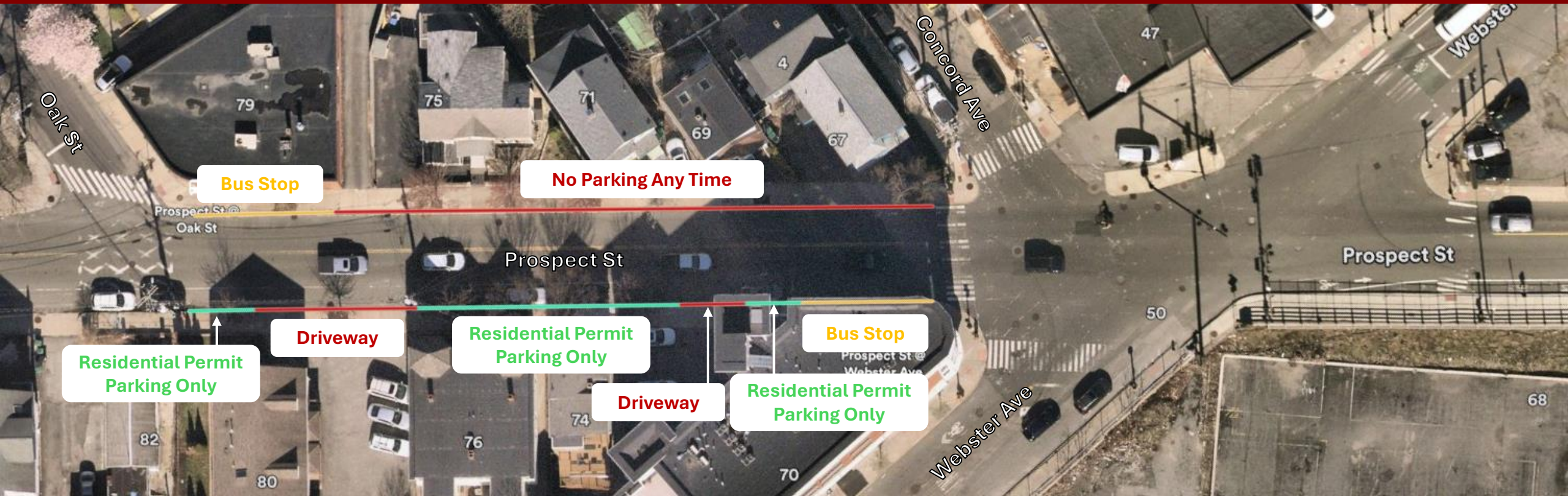


Informational flyer posted on a sign post on Prospect St, with flyers on homes in the background

- The City of Somerville’s Mobility Division and Engineering Division have been working closely with the MBTA on the design plans for this project, with the primary focus being on traffic signals. The Parking Department has been involved to weigh in on sign types and locations, and will also be installing some of the new signs that are proposed
- The Somerville Fire Department and Department of Public Works have been sent the final plans to ensure that they’re aware of the changes, which are expected to improve the ease of operations for both departments
- The City’s Pedestrian and Transit Advisory Committee (PTAC) and the Somerville Bicycle Advisory Committee (SBAC) have also been informed of the changes
- The final plans and an overview of the proposed changes are available on a dedicated project page, voice.somervillema.gov/usq-transit, which was publicized in the Mobility Division’s June newsletter. Flyers were also put up in the project area to provide additional notice to neighbors that may not have heard about the project through other means
- If approved, implementation is expected to begin in August or September

On-Street Parking

Prospect Street Existing Condition



On Prospect Street between Oak Street and Webster Avenue, there are approximately 7 residential permit parking only spaces and a bus stop on the east side of the street. There is a bus stop on the west side of the street, but parking is not allowed at any time

On-Street Parking

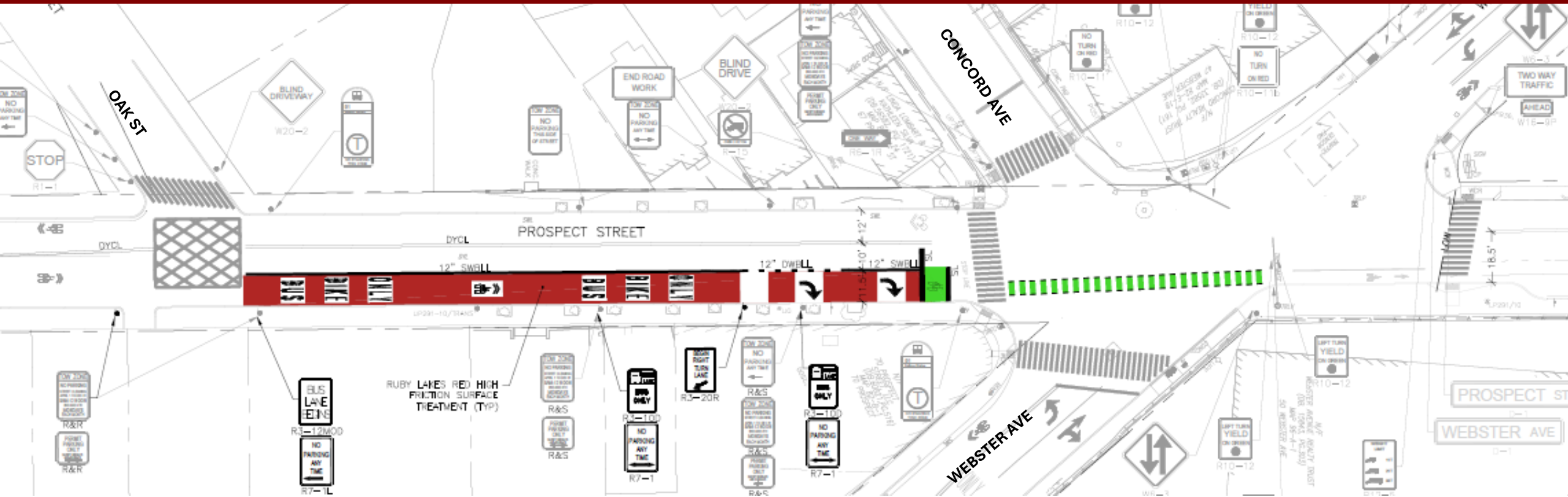
Prospect Street Proposed Curb Regulation Changes



The request is to convert the 130 feet of residential permit parking only on the east side of Prospect Street between Oak Street and Webster Ave to no parking any time

On-Street Parking

Prospect Street Proposed Final Condition



The final proposed condition is a full-time bus lane that also permits bikes and right-turning vehicles

Thank You!