

# COLUMBIAN SQUARE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Neighborhood Meeting | December 7, 2021



**GREEN**  
INTERNATIONAL  
AFFILIATES, INC.



# AGENDA

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- **Introduction**
- **Overall Project Purpose**
- **Understanding Columbian Square**
- **Current Design Process / Plan**
- **Anticipated Schedule / Construction Phasing**
- **Traffic Maintenance During Construction**
- **Public Outreach/Communication**
- **Questions/Comments**

# INTRODUCTION/PROJECT DESIGN TEAM

- Mayor's Office
- Weymouth Planning & Community Development Dept.
  - Bob Luongo
  - Monica Kennedy
  - Owen MacDonald
- DPW, Police, Fire, Asset Management
- South Shore Hospital
- Green International Affiliates
  - Bill Scully – Project Director
  - Dennis Vertiyev – Project Manager/Lead Engineer
  - Juli Riemenschneider – Landscape Architect
- Capital Strategic Solutions
  - Public Outreach
- Lumen Studios - Lighting
- H2O Engineering - Water Supply/Line Consultant



# TOWN'S OBJECTIVE FOR COLUMBIAN SQUARE



**To create a more livable, safe and vibrant Square for all its users and that meets the needs of the stakeholders.**

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# PROJECT PROCESS

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- Review historical information
- New data collection
- Safety research and Road Safety Audit (RSA)
- Traffic operations analysis
- Identify and evaluate improvement actions
- Developed recommended set of actions
- Utilizing *Complete Streets* principles & experience

# PROJECT PROCESS/TIMELINE

2008

2017

2020

2021

2022

Detailed  
Traffic,  
Utilities and  
Urban Design  
Study

New Analysis  
Confirms Need  
Consensus on Plan

Preliminary  
Design  
Completed

Final  
Design  
Started

Issue Bids  
and Begin  
Construction



# COLUMBIAN SQUARE - The Study Area







# ASSESSING EXISTING CONDITIONS

- Physical features
- Complete Streets assessment
- Traffic Flow characteristics
- Safety Characteristics/Road Safety Audit
- Observed parking conditions





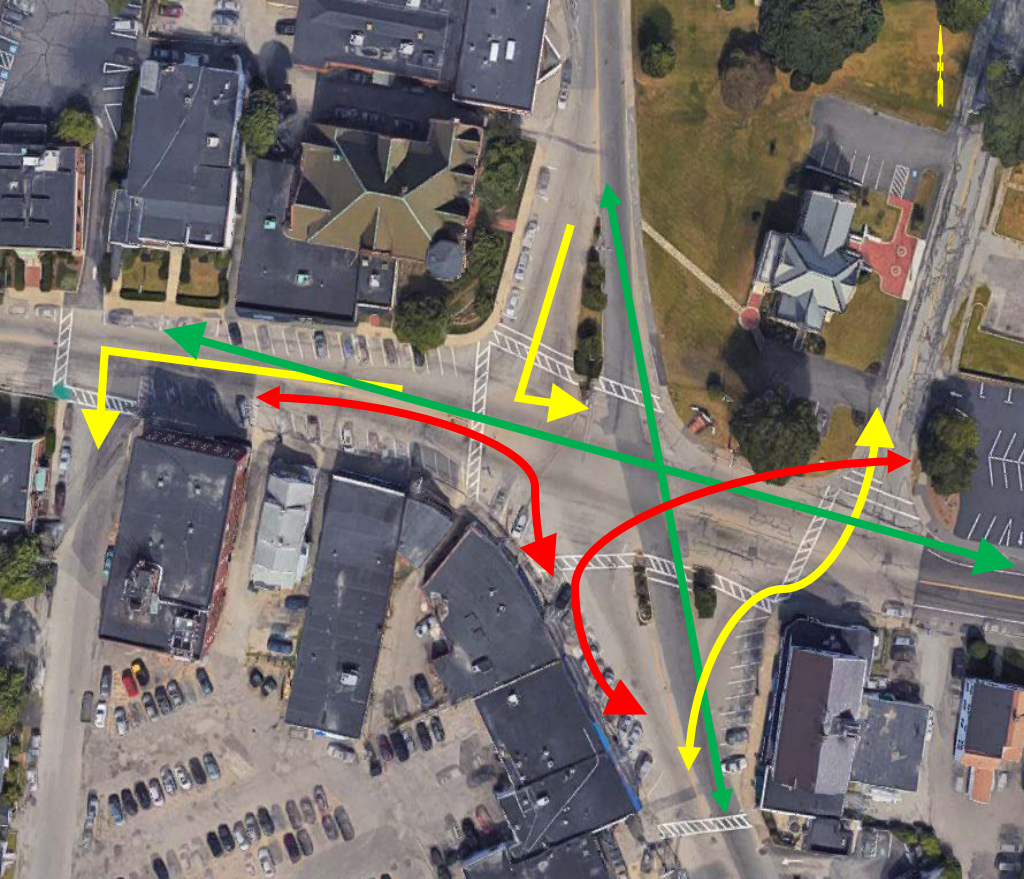
# PHYSICAL CONDITIONS

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- Parking, median landscaping restricts sight distance
- Geometry encourages high speeds around curves
- Long pedestrian crossing distances, without refuge islands
- Historic area
- Excessive pavement area
- Long pedestrian crossings
- Deteriorated non-ADA-compliant Sidewalks



# TRAFFIC FLOW CONDITIONS



- Pleasant Street is a high volume (21,000 vehicles per day)
- Approach speeds at Square >30 mph
- Long queues
- Numerous conflict points and disorder

# SAFETY EXPERIENCE

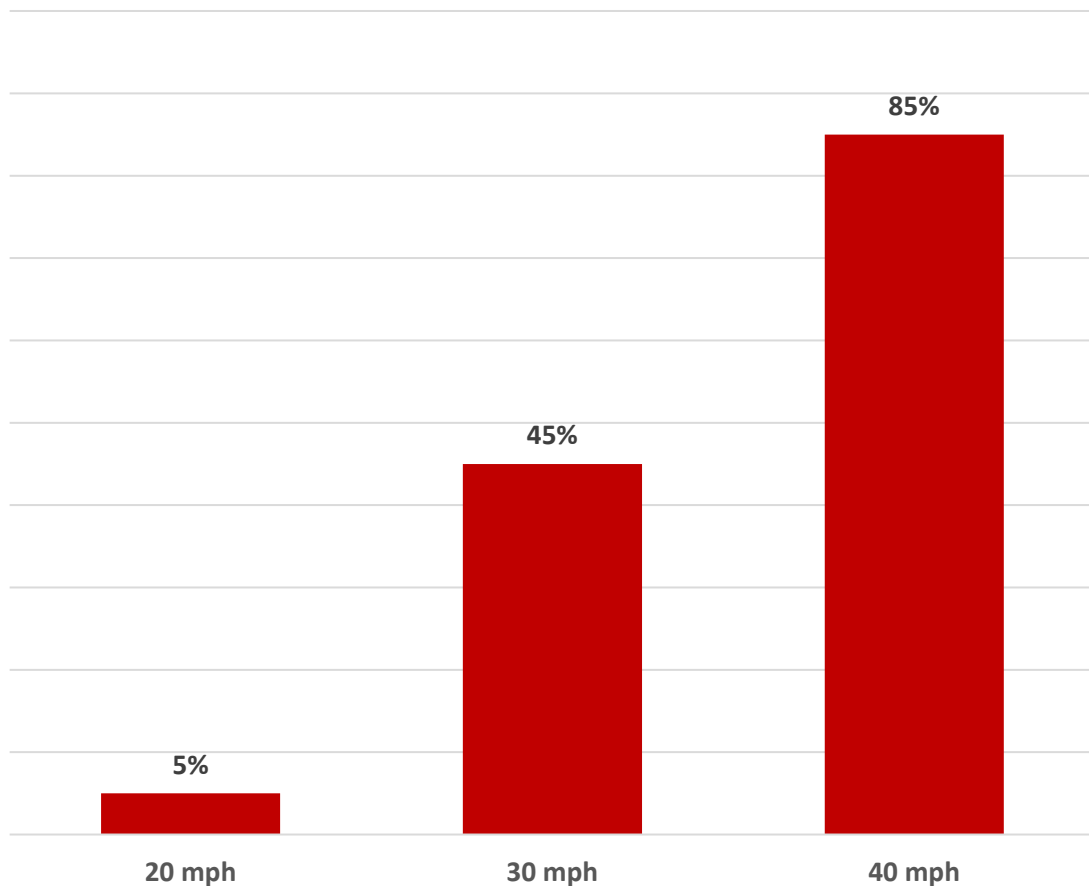
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- Total reported 73 crashes at Square between 2013 and 2015
- 4% injury related crashes
- Between 2011 and 2015, 6 reported pedestrian crashes
- 14 parking-related crashes (2013-2015)
- HSIP crash cluster for 2015-2017 period
- Since 2017, 4 more pedestrian related crashes and 20 related to parking maneuvers



# SAFETY EXPERIENCE

Pedestrian's Chance of Death by Vehicle Speed



- High travel speeds
- Visibility constraints
- Parking maneuvering
- Long, unprotected pedestrian crossings
- Poor lighting for pedestrians
- Road Safety Audit confirmed a number of safety issues

# SUMMARY OF NEEDS ASSESSMENT

## STRENGTHS OF SQUARE

- Historic Buildings
- Active Business Community
- Close to Neighborhoods
- Lots of opportunities

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## WEAKNESSES & THREATS

- Unsafe
- Disorder
- Uninviting
- Inconsistent with Complete Streets principals



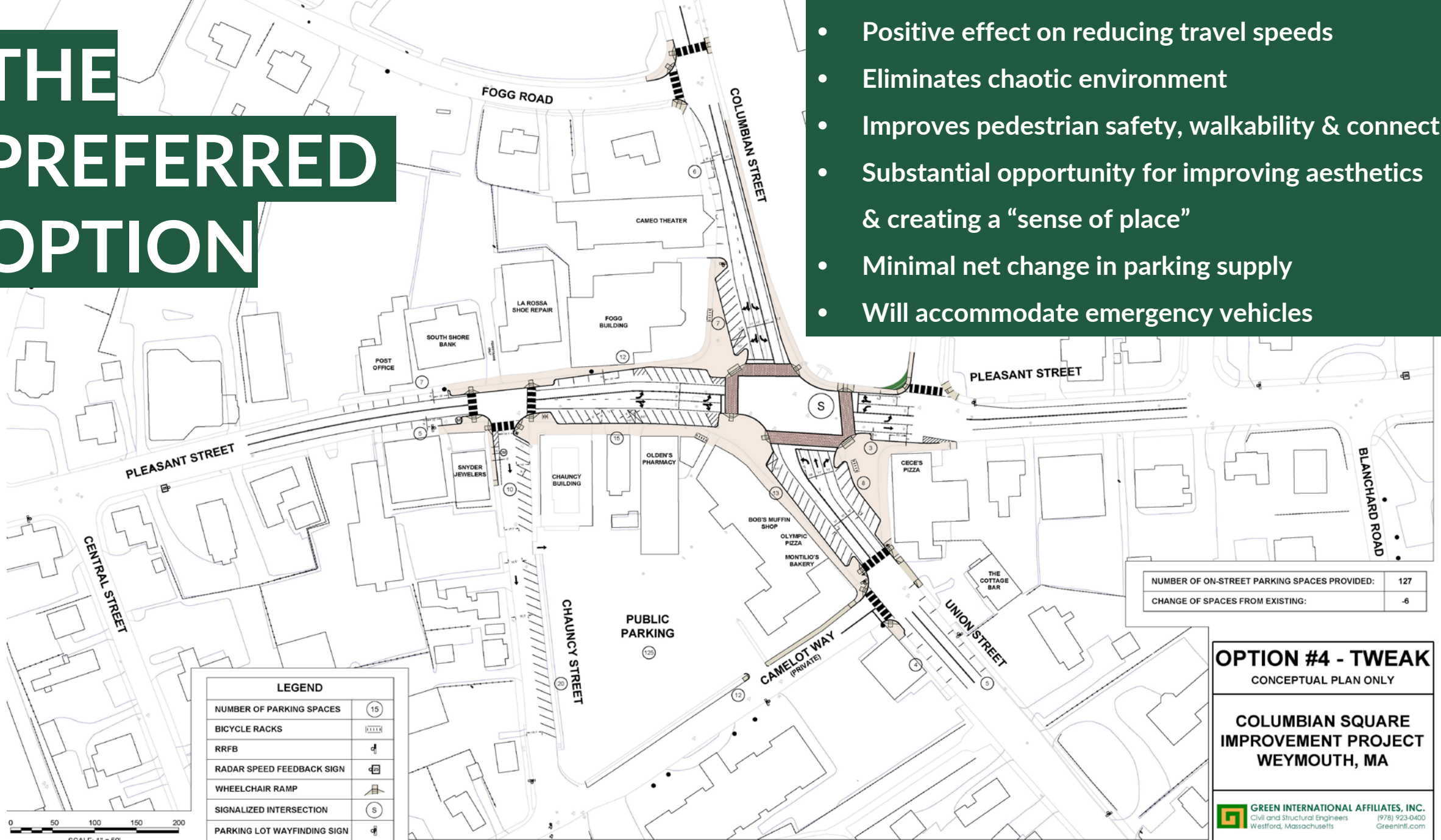
# IMPROVEMENT PLAN

- It is critical that safety issues are addressed
- The Improvement Plan must take a **Complete Streets** approach and be consistent with town policy
- The Plan must offer realistic, reasonable and achievable actions
- The Plan must balance the various needs of users and stakeholders in the public right of way



# THE PREFERRED OPTION

- Positive effect on reducing travel speeds
- Eliminates chaotic environment
- Improves pedestrian safety, walkability & connectivity
- Substantial opportunity for improving aesthetics & creating a “sense of place”
- Minimal net change in parking supply
- Will accommodate emergency vehicles

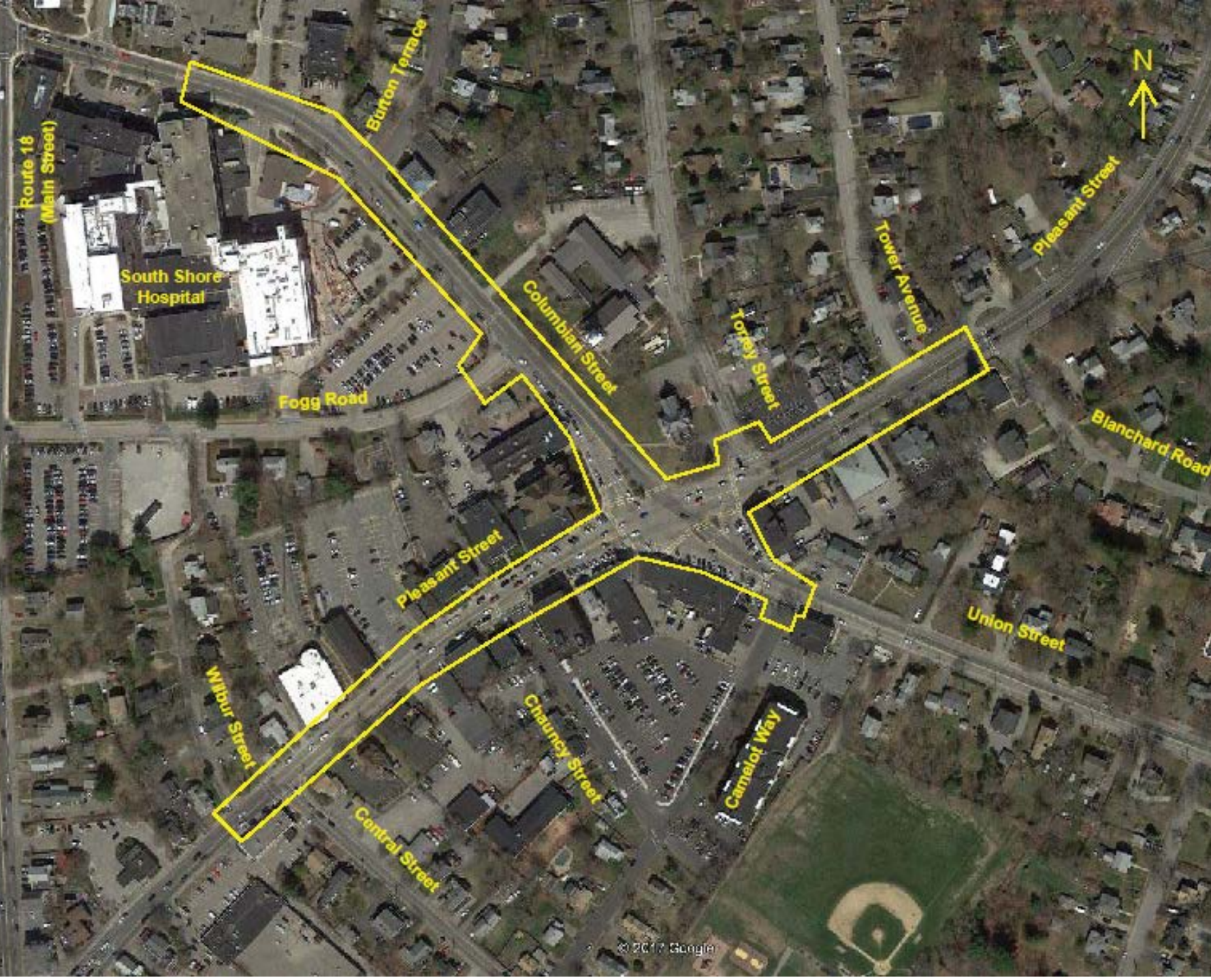


SCALE: 1" = 50'

# **ACTIONS TAKEN BY TOWN SINCE 2017**

- **Chauncy Street converted to one-way**
- **Installed angle parking on Chauncy**
- **Reduced speed limit through Square**
- **Installed speed feedback display signs**
- **Added pavement markings at main intersection**
- **Mayor's office sought and obtained grant funds to supplement local funds to initiate engineering design**
- **Preliminary engineering plans completed in late 2020**
- **Final design initiated in September 2021**





# APPROX. PROJECT LIMITS

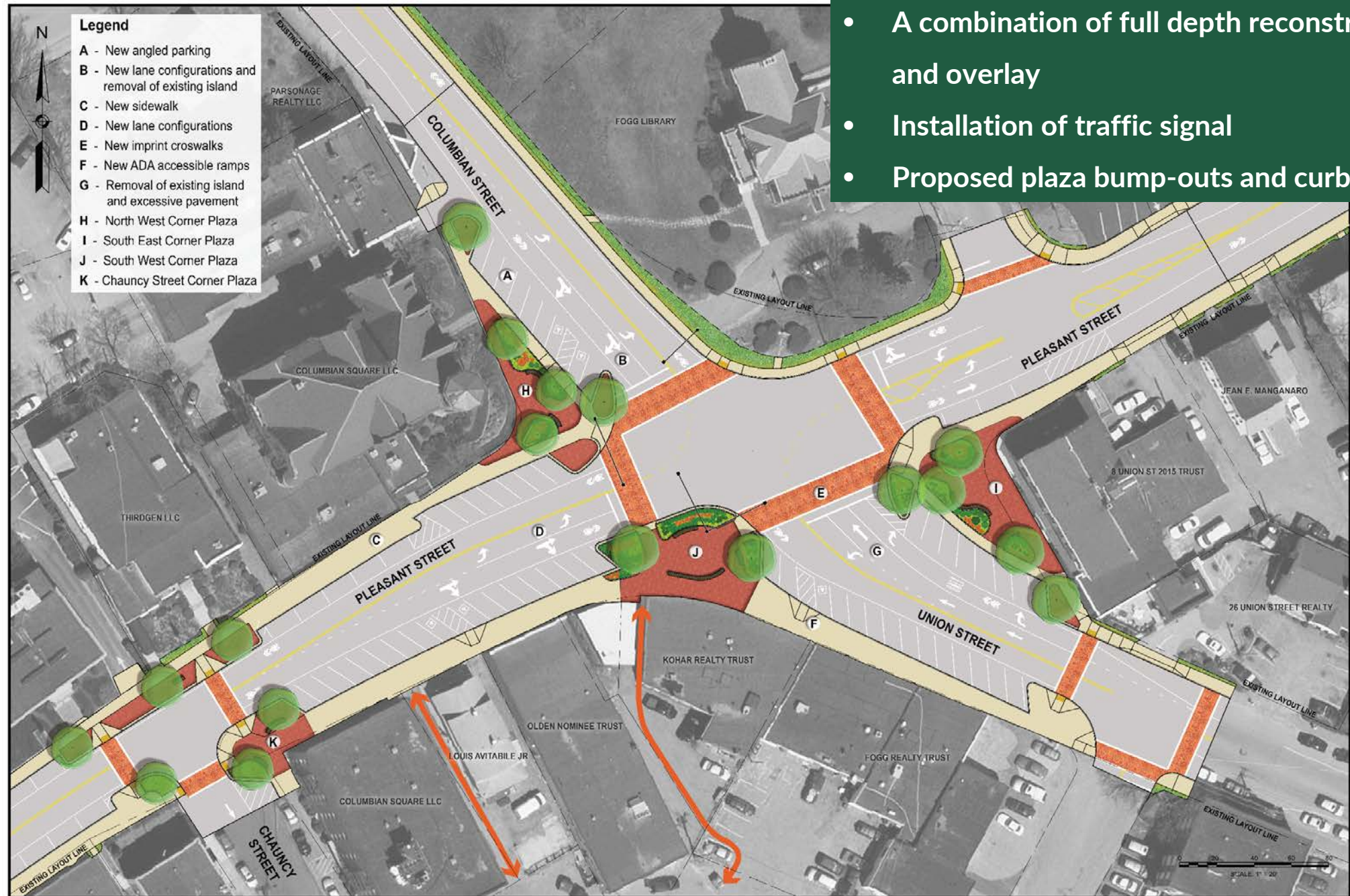
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**COLUMBIAN SQUARE - WEYMOUTH, MA**





- A combination of full depth reconstruction and overlay
- Installation of traffic signal
- Proposed plaza bump-outs and curb extensions

**COLUMBIAN SQUARE - WEYMOUTH, MA**



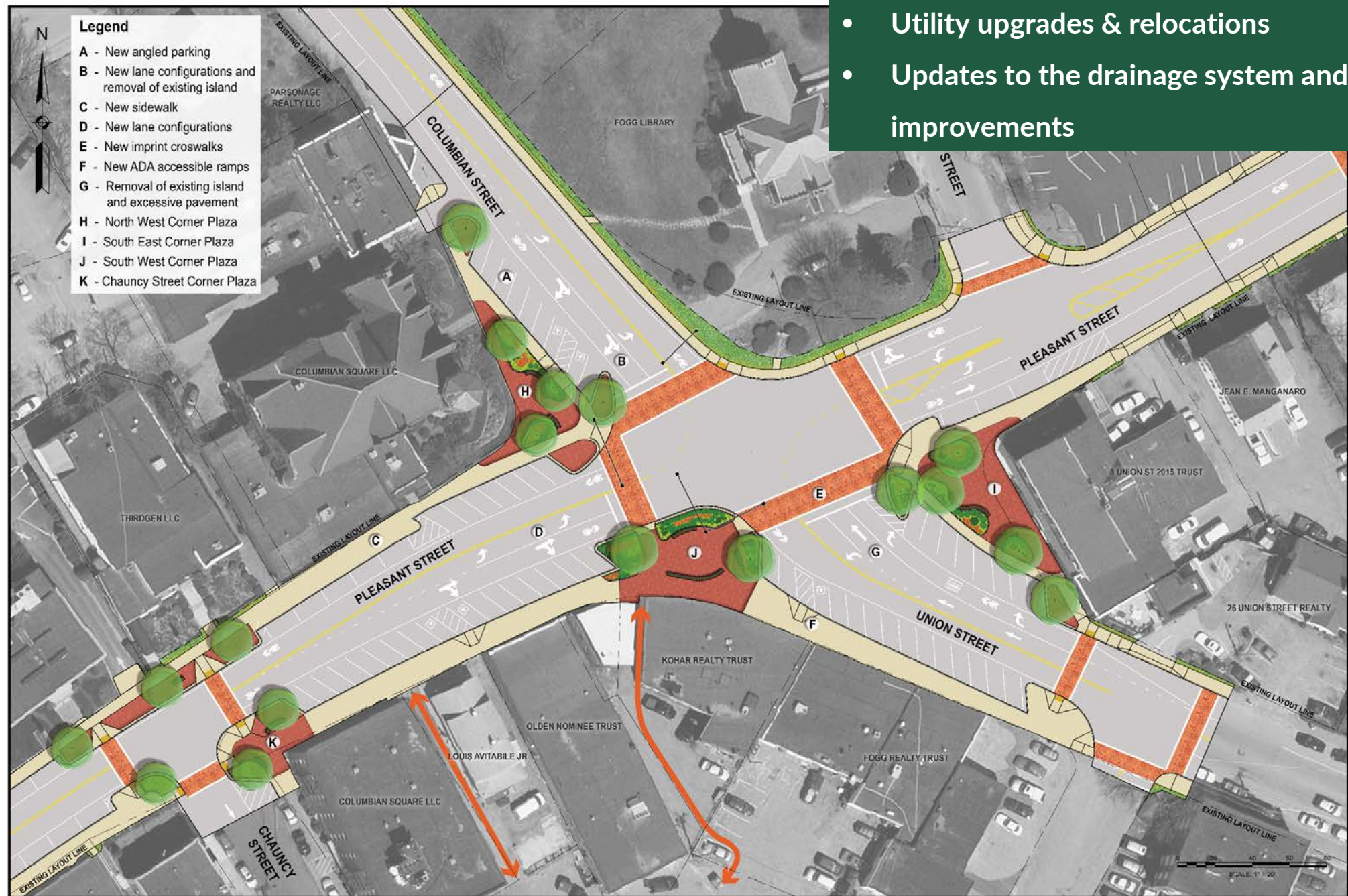
- Lane reconfigurations
- Retained but modified on-street parking
- ADA accessible sidewalks & ramps



**COLUMBIAN SQUARE - WEYMOUTH, MA**



- Utility upgrades & relocations
- Updates to the drainage system and water line improvements



**COLUMBIAN SQUARE - WEYMOUTH, MA**



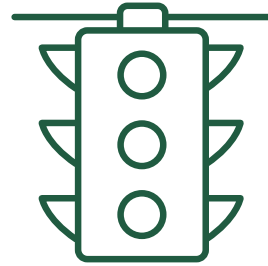
A close-up photograph of a person's lower legs and feet. They are wearing white, wide-leg trousers and black, lace-up boots. The person is walking on a light-colored, textured sidewalk. The background is slightly blurred, showing more of the sidewalk and a hint of a street.

# PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS

- **New, wider sidewalks**
- **ADA compliant ramps**
- **Reduced crossing distance**
- **Wayfinding signs**
- **Improved signage including RRFBs**
- **Curb extensions & refuge islands**
- **Buffer zones**



# PARKING IMPROVEMENTS



Improve awareness of  
& guidance to off-street  
parking lot



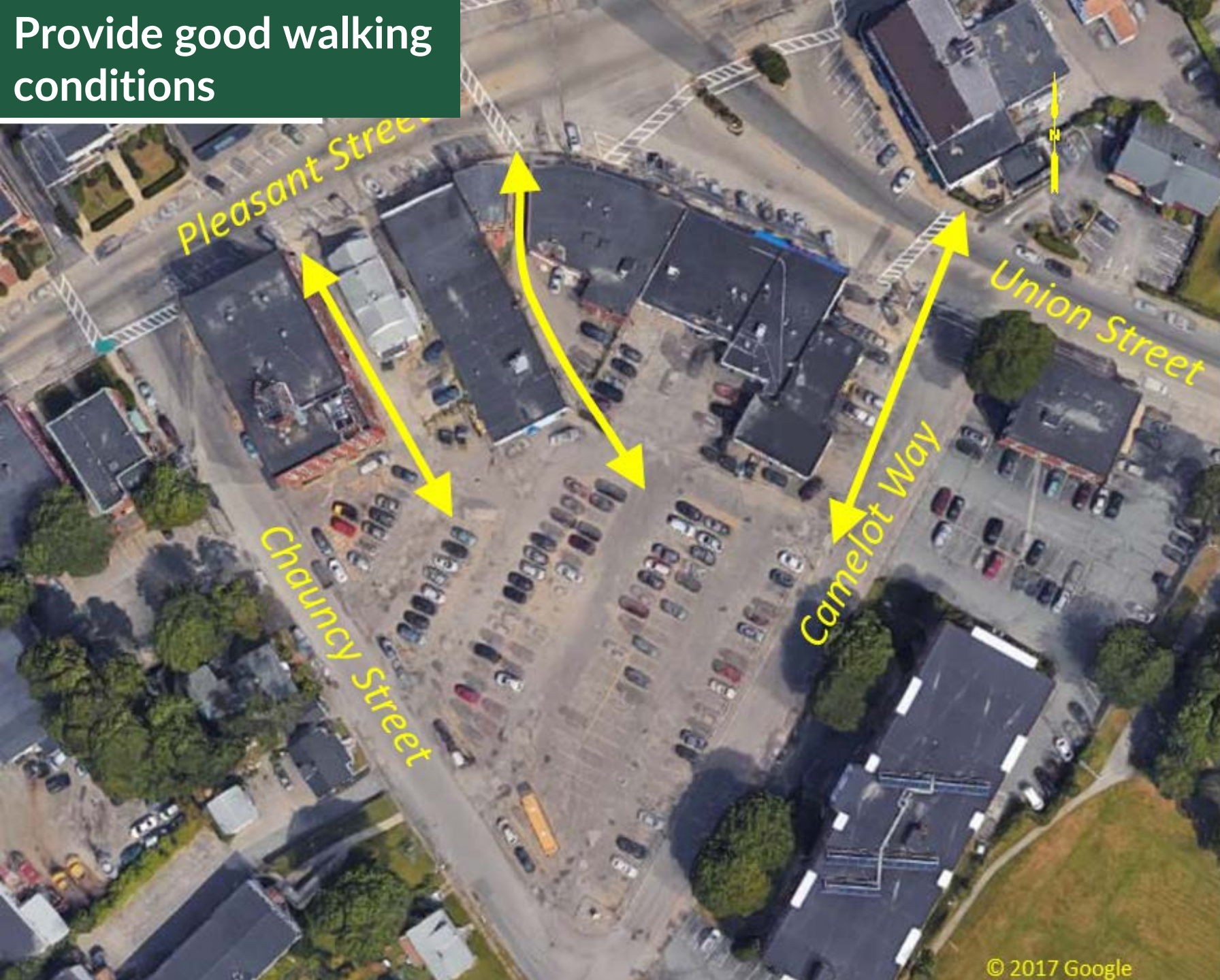
Improve pedestrian access  
between parking lot and  
street



Add bike parking  
throughout the Square



Provide good walking conditions



**CLEAR, SAFE  
PEDESTRIAN  
ACCESS  
BETWEEN  
OFF-STREET  
LOT &  
SQUARE**

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# CREATING SPACES FOR PEOPLE

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- Enhance pedestrian mobility
- Activate and enliven the square by creating places people will enjoy
- Create a uniform character



# CREATING SPACES FOR PEOPLE

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- Provide flexible spaces for gathering and programmed events
- Balance the need for separation from vehicular lanes and visibility
- Provide amenities
- Consider aesthetics for pedestrians and drivers



## Throughout the Square:

- New Sidewalks
- New Crosswalks
- New Lighting

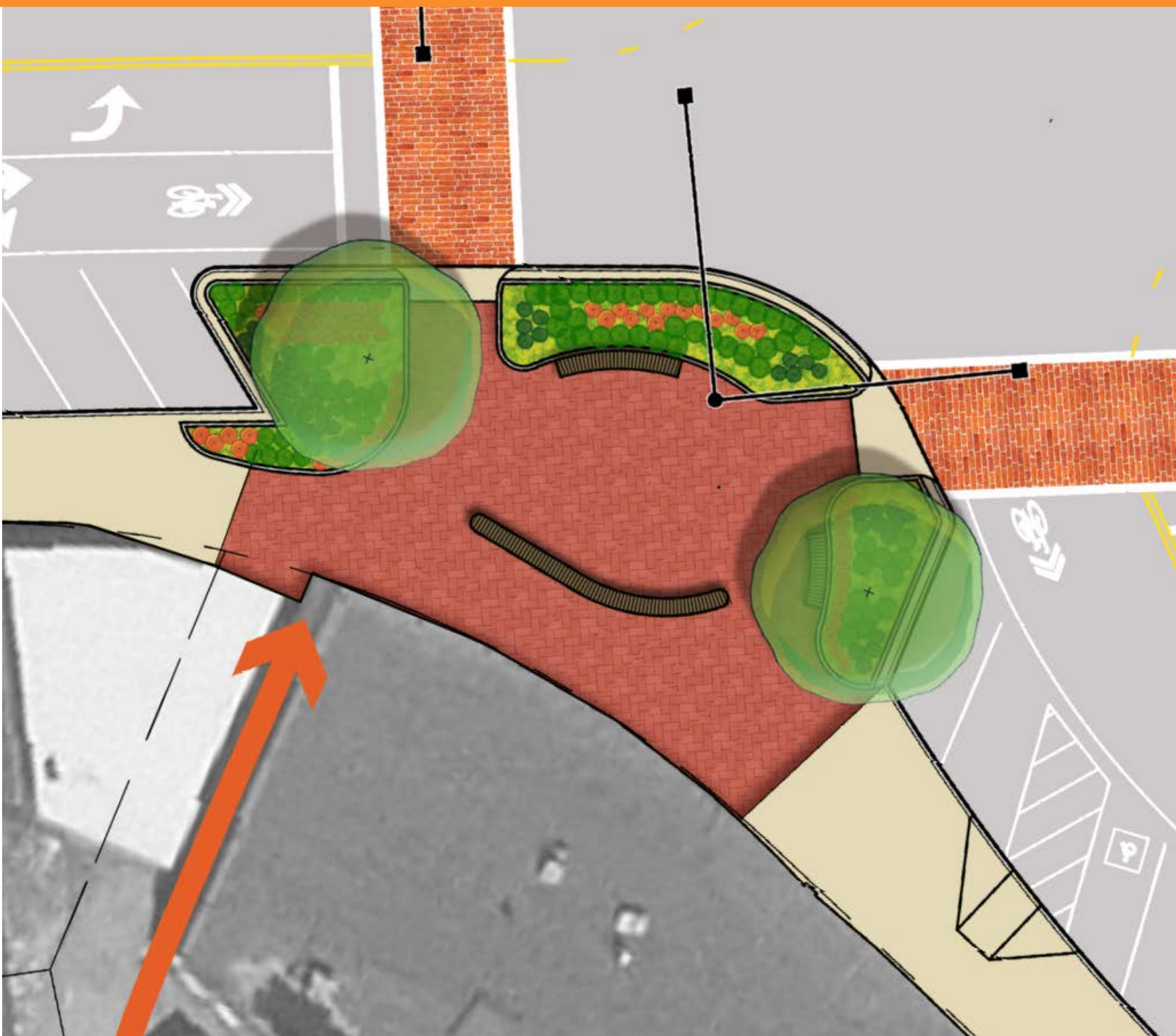
## Focused:

- Corner Plazas
- Planting
- Alleyways

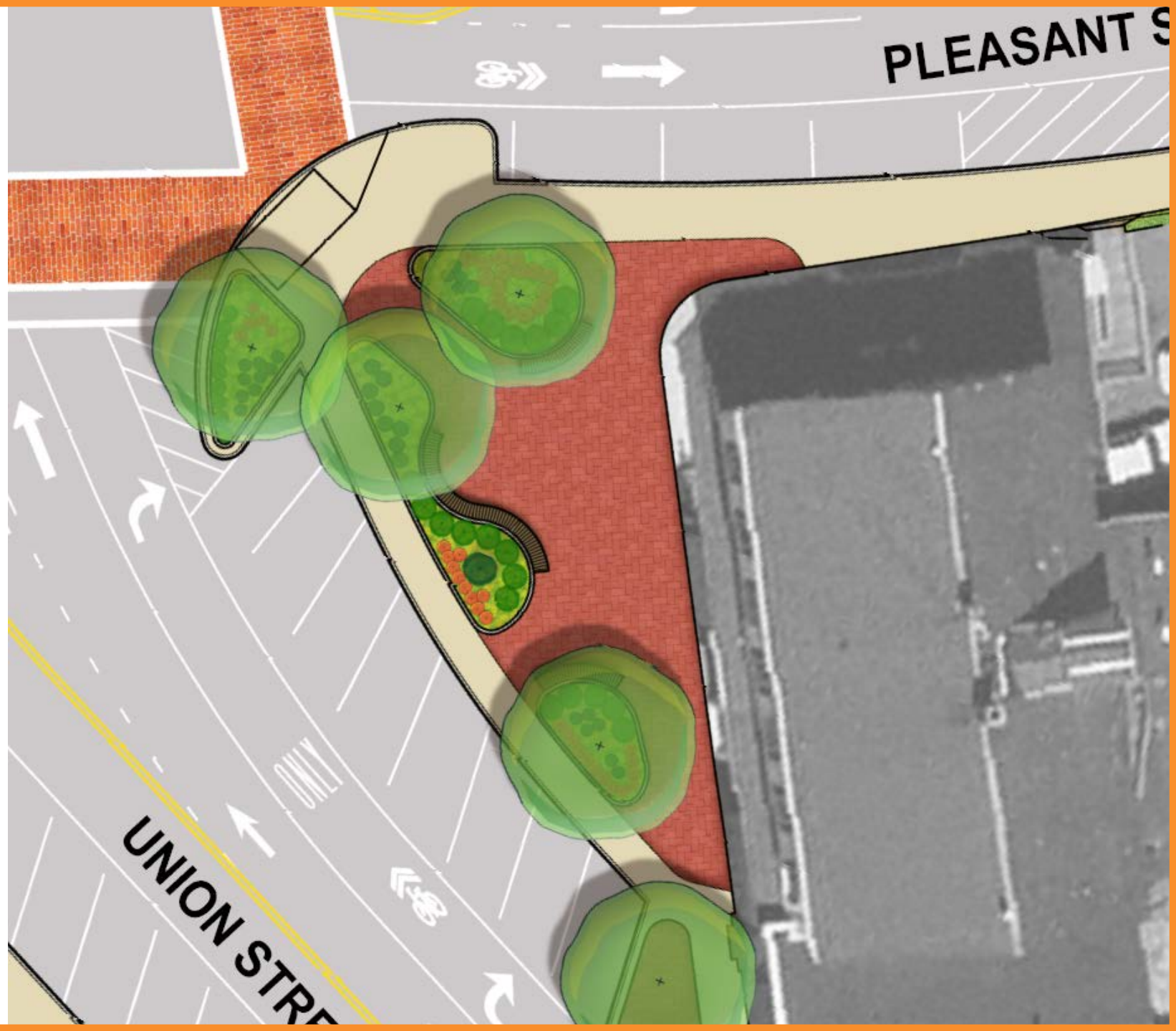




# PLAZA AT SOUTHWEST CORNER

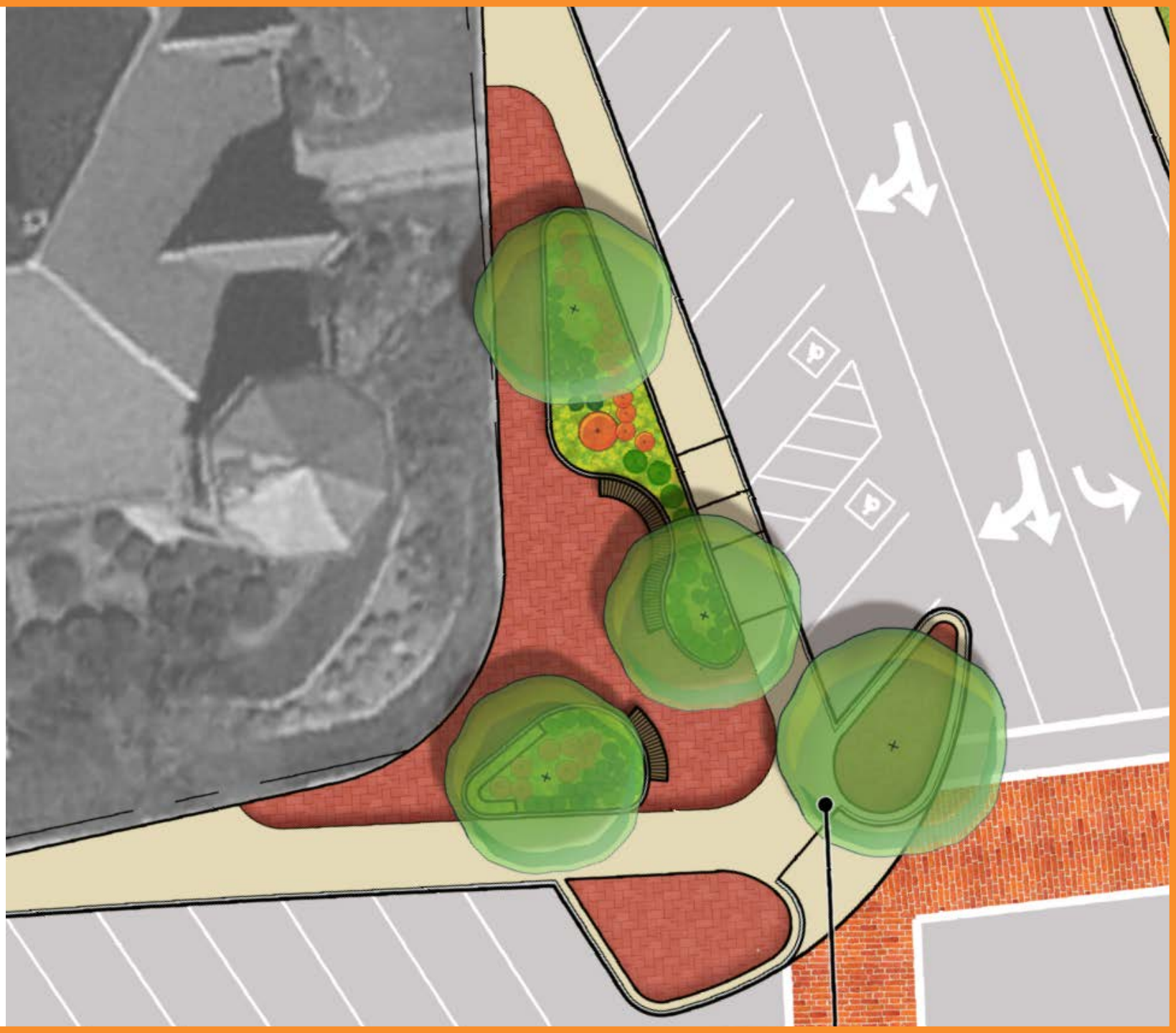


# PLAZA AT SOUTHEAST CORNER

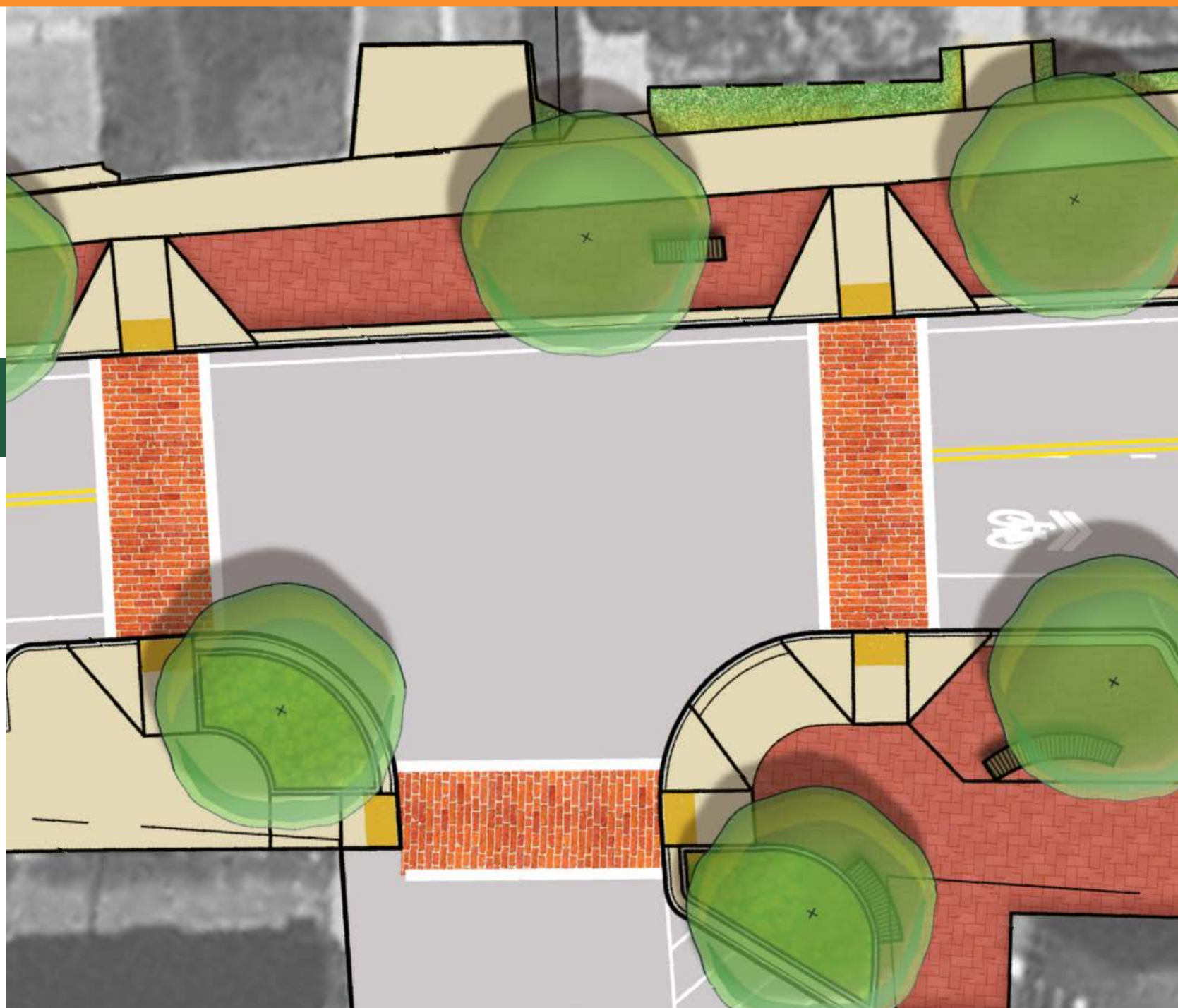




# PLAZA AT NORTHWEST CORNER



# BUMP-OUT AT CHAUNCY STREET





# MATERIALS & SITE AMENITIES







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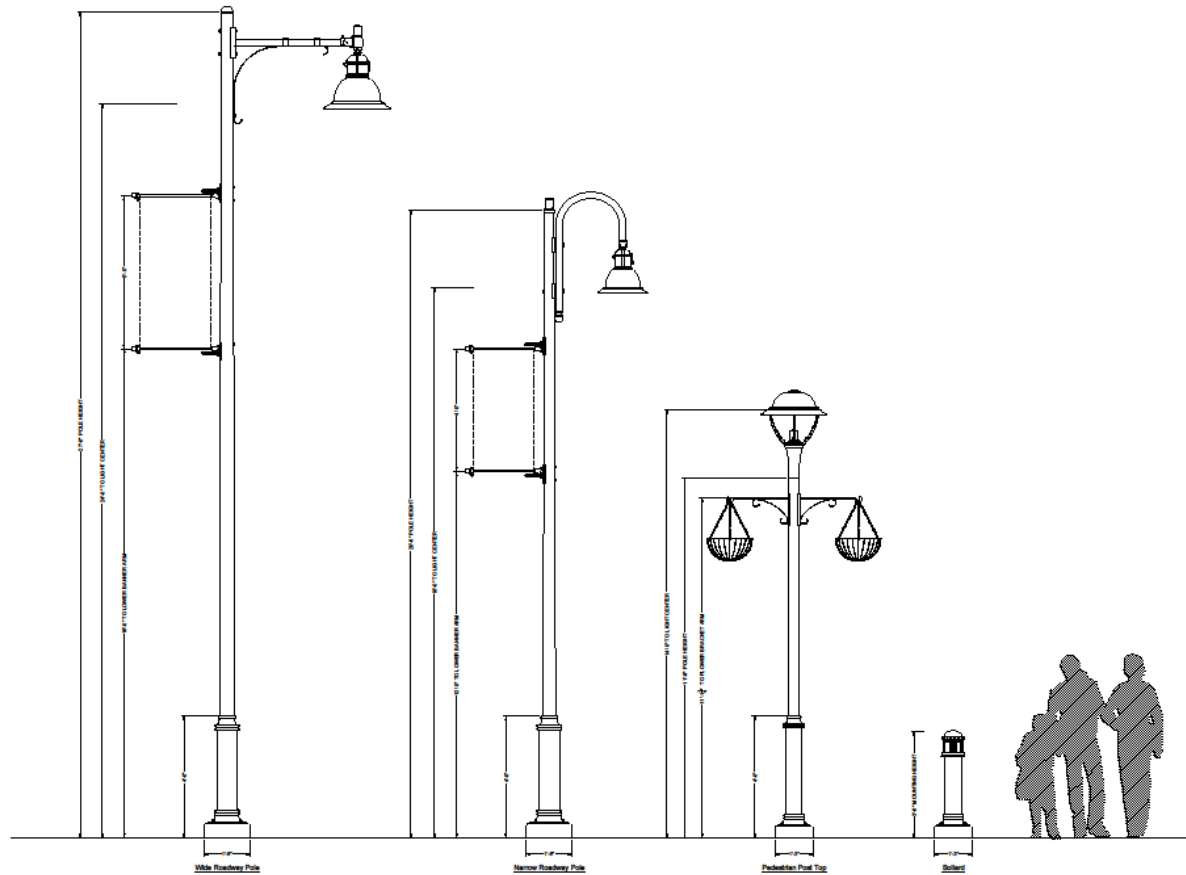


# MATERIALS & SITE AMENITIES



# ORNAMENTAL LIGHT FIXTURES

Lighting Family Option - King Luminaire / Hapco







# ALLEY IMPROVEMENTS EXAMPLES OF TREATMENT



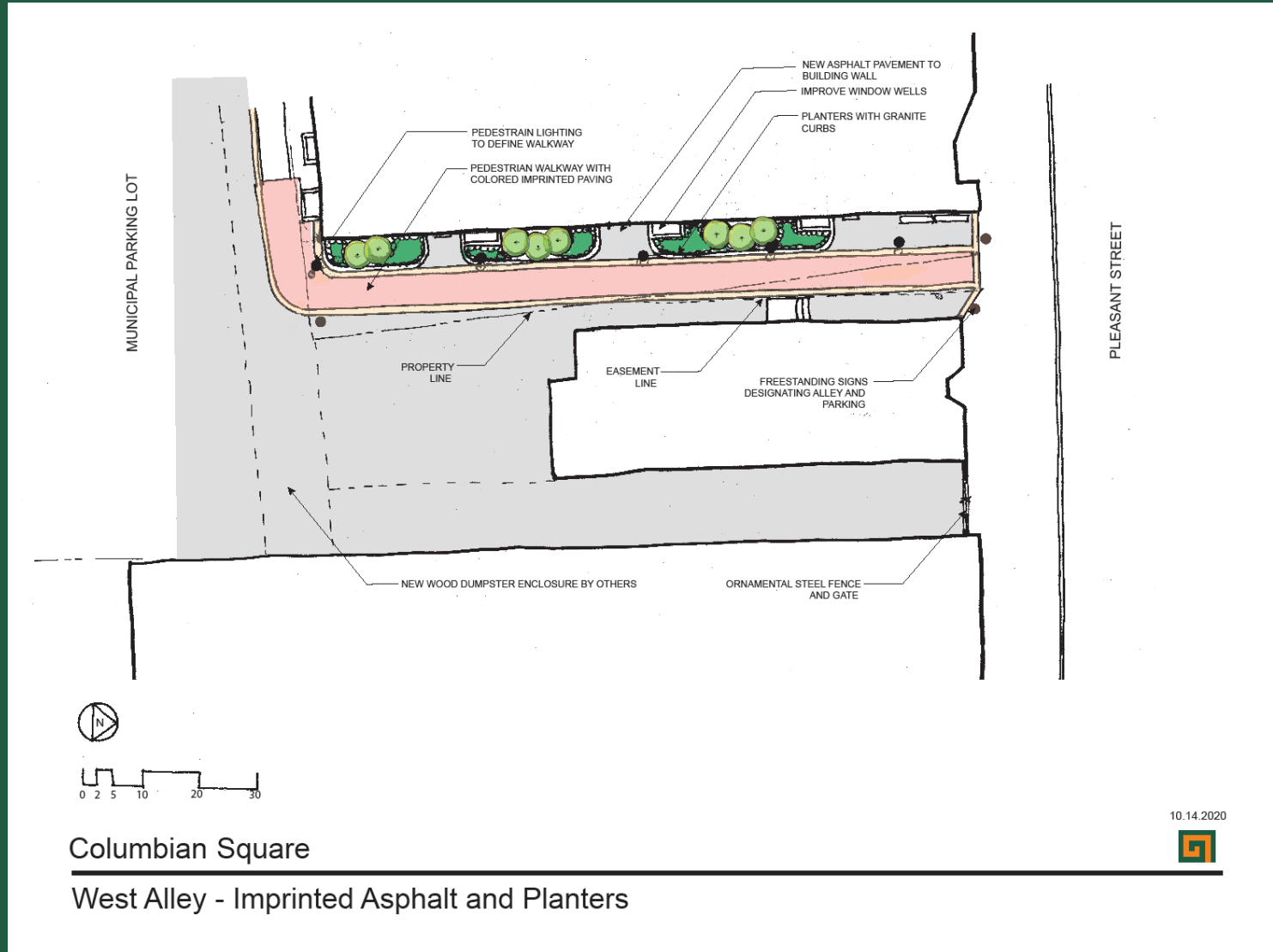


# EXISTING CONDITIONS





# WEST ALLEY - CONCEPT PLAN



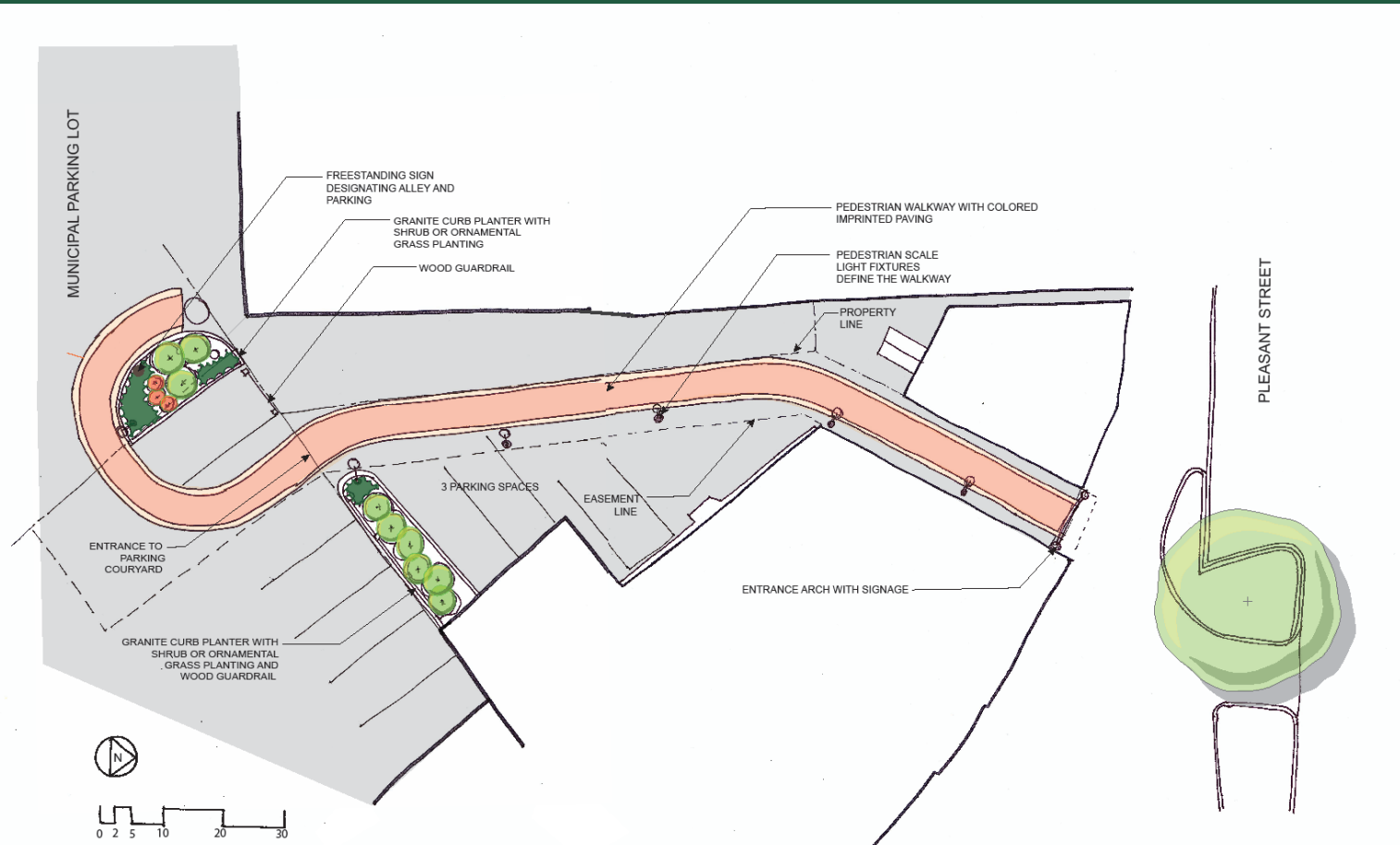
Columbian Square

West Alley - Imprinted Asphalt and Planters

10.14.2020



# EAST ALLEY - CONCEPT PLAN



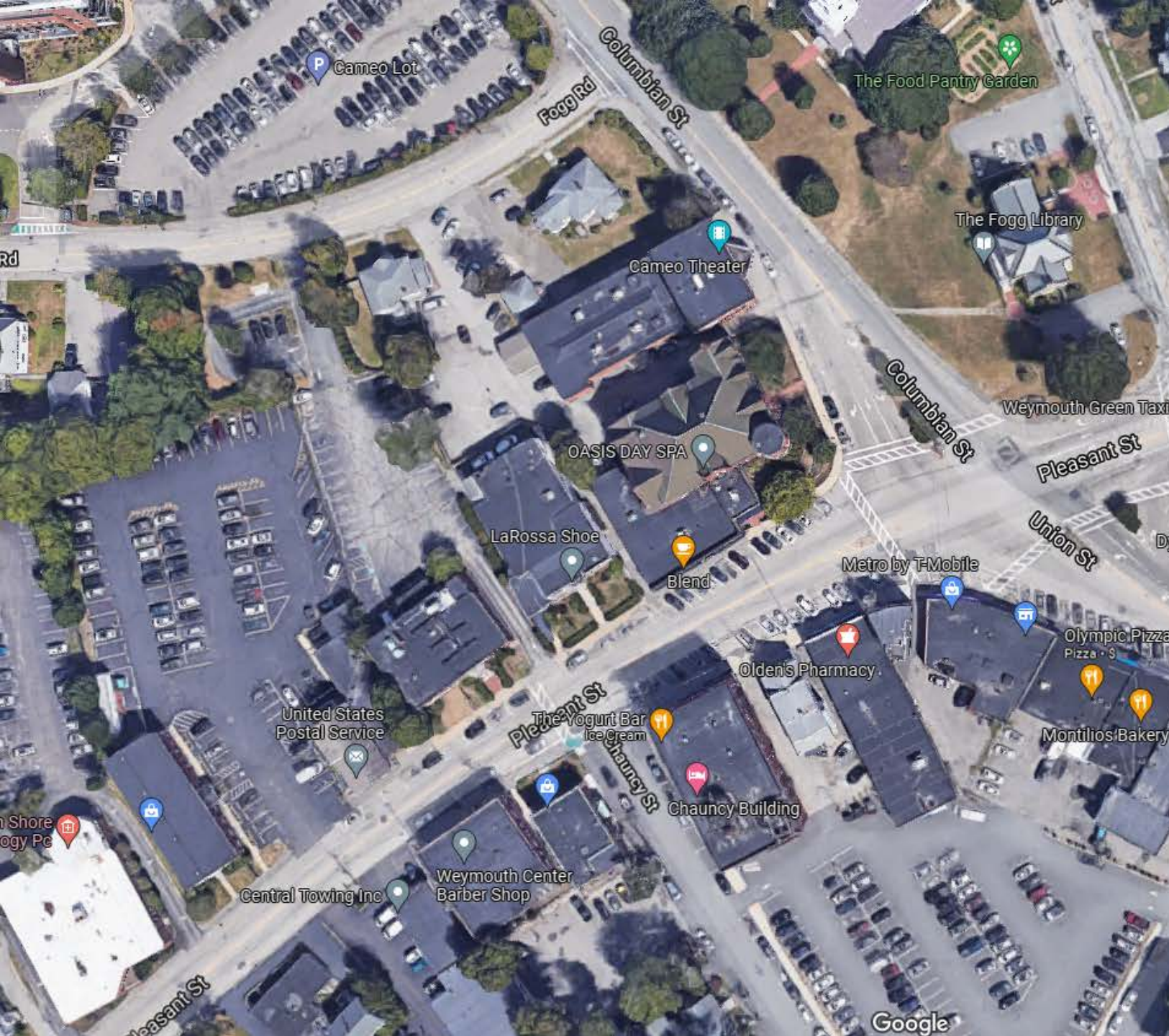
Columbian Square

East Alley - Imprinted Asphalt and Planters

10.14.2020







# TRAFFIC MAINTENANCE PLANNING

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Construction will be phased to minimize impacts to traffic, pedestrian access and business owners



# PHASE 1 - REMOVAL OF THE EXISTING ISLANDS



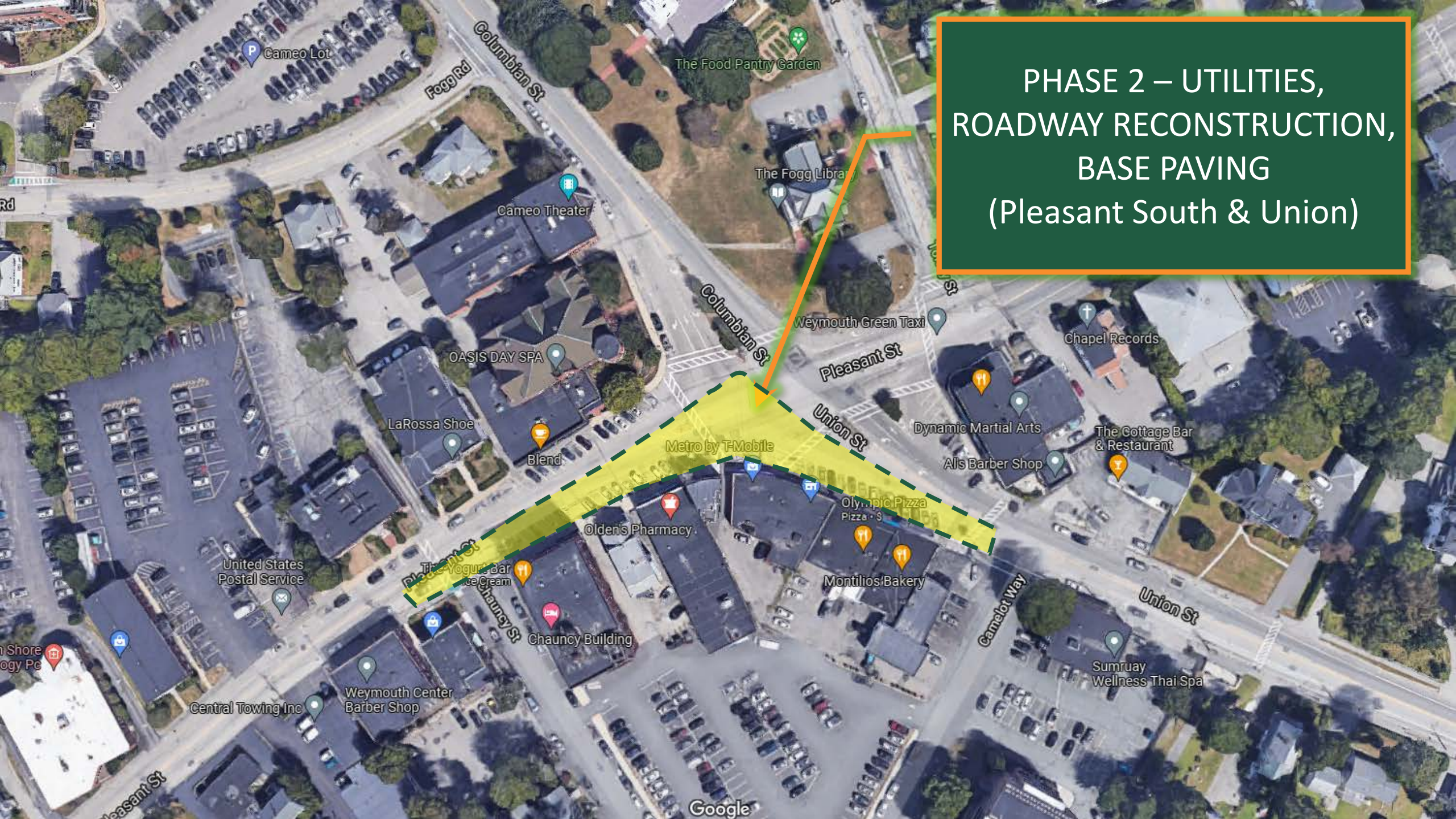


PHASE 2 – UTILITIES,  
ROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION,  
BASE PAVING  
(Columbian & Pleasant)





PHASE 2 – UTILITIES,  
ROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION,  
BASE PAVING  
(Pleasant South & Union)





**PHASE 2 – UTILITIES, ROADWAY  
RECONSTRUCTION, BASE  
PAVING  
(Union & Pleasant North)**



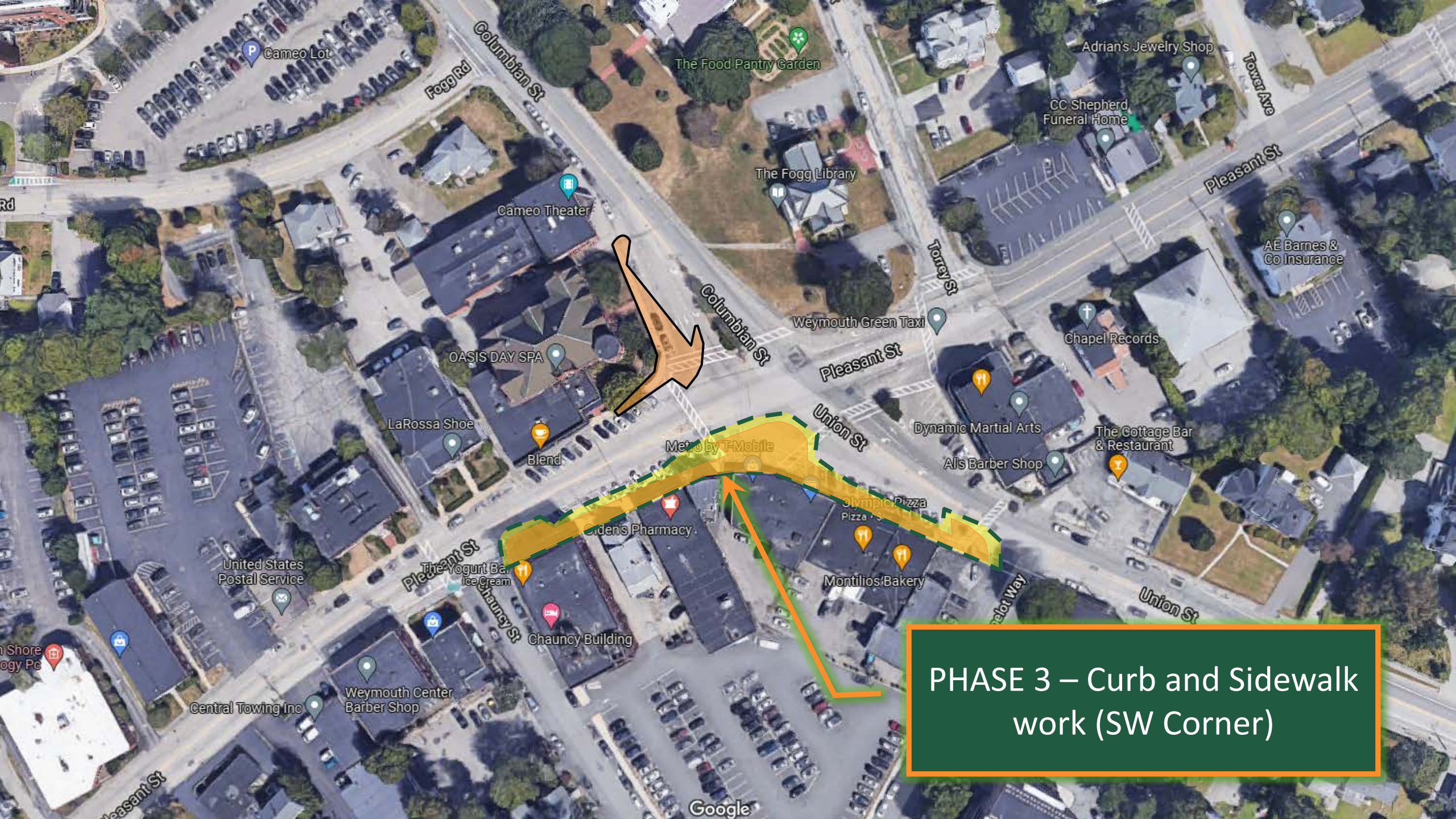


After full depth roadway reconstruction:

PHASE 3 – Curb and Sidewalk work (NW Corner)







**PHASE 3 – Curb and Sidewalk  
work (SW Corner)**



PHASE 3 – Curb and Sidewalk work (SE Corner)





PHASE 3 – Curb and Sidewalk work (NE Corner)

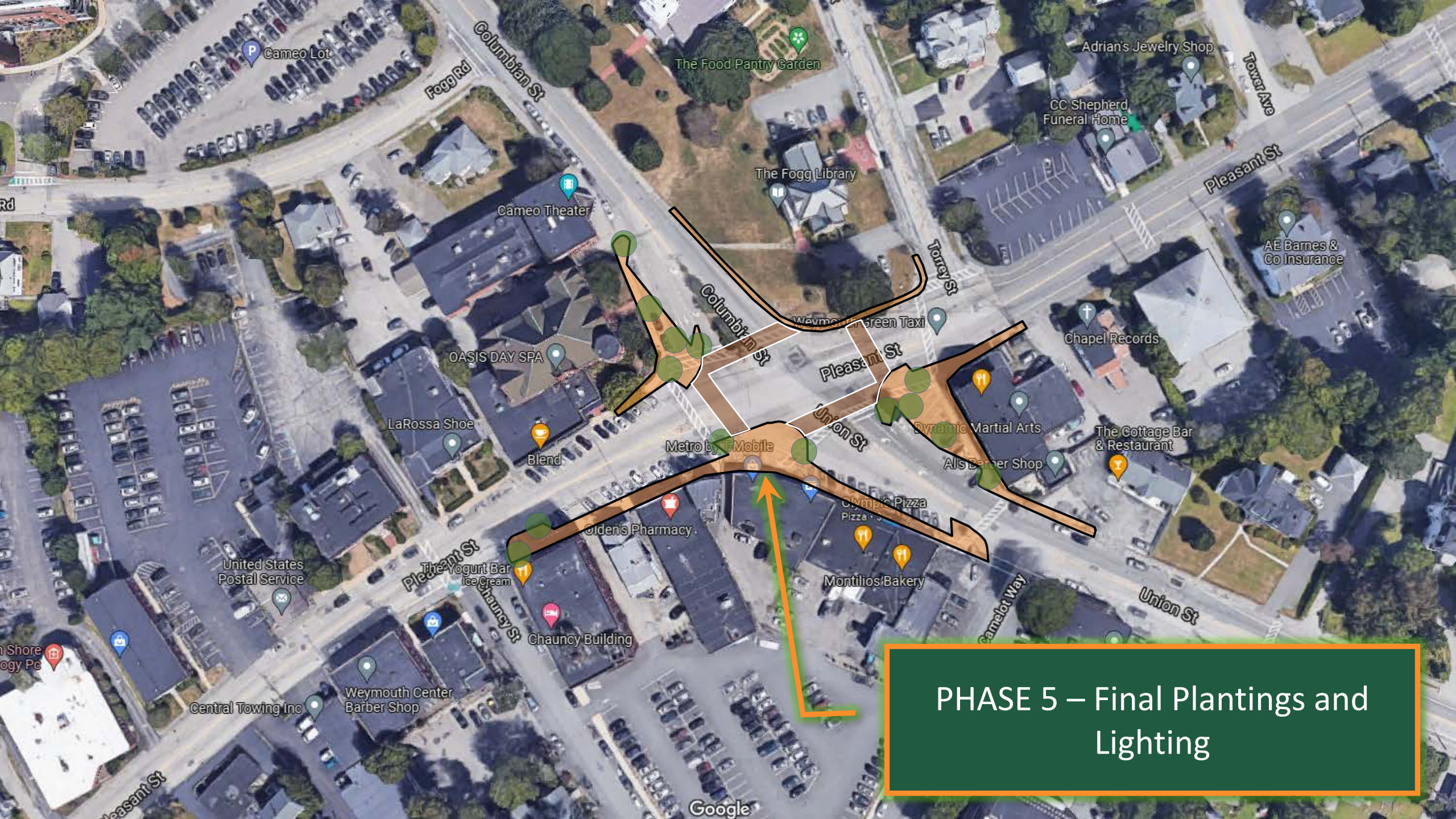




# PHASE 4 – Traffic Signal Installation and Final Surface Paving and Pavement Markings







PHASE 5 – Final Plantings and Lighting





# TRAFFIC MAINTENANCE PLANNING

- Periods of sidewalk closure will be necessary.
- Ongoing coordination between the contractor and abutters will be performed to limit access disruption.





# TRAFFIC MAINTENANCE PLANNING

Periods of Night work will be utilized to mitigate high impact construction phases.

- Utility Work
- Paving
- Pavement Markings





# CONSTRUCTION PERIOD CONDITIONS

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- **Construction: Summer 2022 – Spring 2024**
- **Temporary one-way-alternating traffic during the day**
- **Temporary full closure with detour at night**
- **Police and Flaggers for Traffic Control**





## Town of Weymouth

The Town of Weymouth is the second oldest town in the Commonwealth, dating from 1622 when it was fou

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### Intro

- 7.6K Followers
- Page · Public figure
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- constituentservices@weymouth.ma.us
- [weymouth.ma.us](http://weymouth.ma.us)

### Photos

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### Town of Weymouth

7 hrs · 🌐

#### Weymouth Youth & Family Services Teen Center

December 1 at 12:58 PM · 🌐

Weymouth Youth and Family Services is still taking applications for Weymouth families who are in need of gifts for their children for the holidays. please call 781-331-1719

👍 4

🔗 3 Shares

👍 Like

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### Town of Weymouth

December 3 at 10:24 AM · 🌐

[WEYMOUTH.MA.US](http://WEYMOUTH.MA.US)

Working for the Town of Weymouth /  
Employment Opportunities | Weymouth...

# TRAFFIC MAINTENANCE PLANNING

Updates on construction will be available to the public via several medias (Town Website, Newsletter, Facebook etc.)





# NEXT STEPS

- **Finalize Design and Construction Plans**
- **Upcoming Meetings**
  - **Business owners meeting**
  - **Monthly Design Team meetings**
  - **Final Plan Complete (Feb 2022)**
  - **Project Advertised (March 2022)**





# Say informed, stay connected!

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Visit [www.columbiansquareimprovements.com](http://www.columbiansquareimprovements.com)



Sign up for project emails



Watch [www.weymouth.tv](http://www.weymouth.tv)



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- **Columbian Square Improvements & WETC11**



Construction Notices



Construction Hotline







# COLUMBIAN SQUARE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Neighborhood Meeting | December 7, 2021

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?