



Virtual Public Meeting | E Branch 28-Day Full Access

Track & Intersection Upgrades (August 2-29)

July 23, 2020

SAFETY MOMENT

Wear a face covering when riding public transit

Stay Healthy & Be Safe



Agenda

- **Green Line Transformation (GLT) Overview**
- **E Branch Track & Intersection Upgrades Project**
- **Making Connections During Construction**
- **Construction Sequence**
- **Community Engagement & Outreach**





Green Line Transformation



Our Goal



Improve the Green Line **quality of service**, including **increased capacity** and **enhanced accessibility**, through fleet modernization, infrastructure/facility upgrades and **state-of-the-art technology**

Quality of Service | *Providing Service that Riders Expect and Deserve*

Green Line improvements target five key service metrics focused on our riders



Safety

Mitigate service interruptions due to safety concerns



Capacity

Increase speed, frequency, and capacity



Reliability

Improve reliability and regularity of service



Access

Improve passenger circulation and ADA compliance



Experience

Improve comfort, convenience and communication

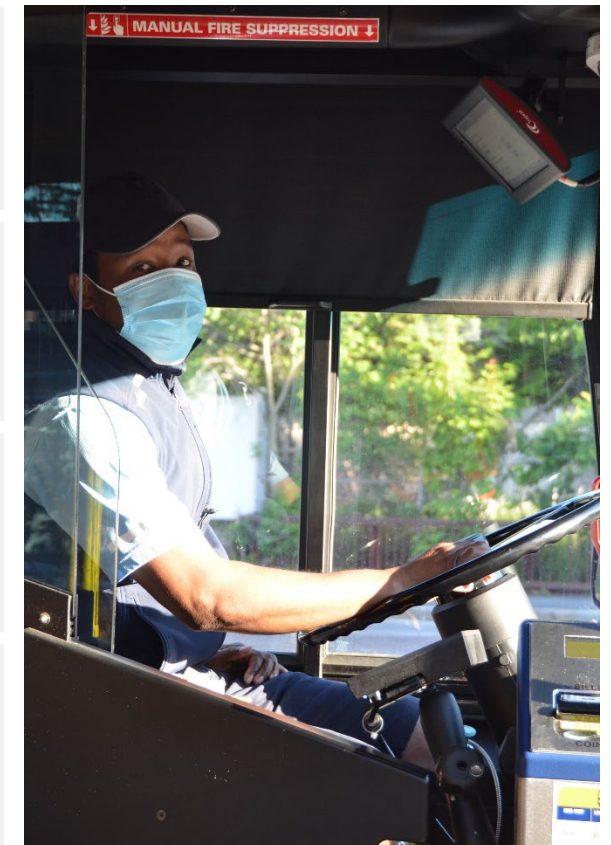


Ride Safer | *We're committed to public health on public transportation*



For the **safety of our riders, employees and contractors** during the public health crisis, additional measures are in place, with up to date information at [mbta.com/covid19/ride-safer](https://www.mbta.com/covid19/ride-safer)

Stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cleaning of high-contact surfaces every 4 hours• In-station hand sanitizer dispensers more widely dispersed
Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Buses will be disinfected every 24 hours• Seats directly behind the vehicle operator unavailable to maintain distance• Seated passengers only to maintain social distancing
Operators	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Operator's temperature to be checked pre-shift for elevated temperatures• We strongly encourage everyone to wear face coverings during this time
Contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Job briefings and breaks will be staggered / in small groups• All personnel will use personal protective equipment



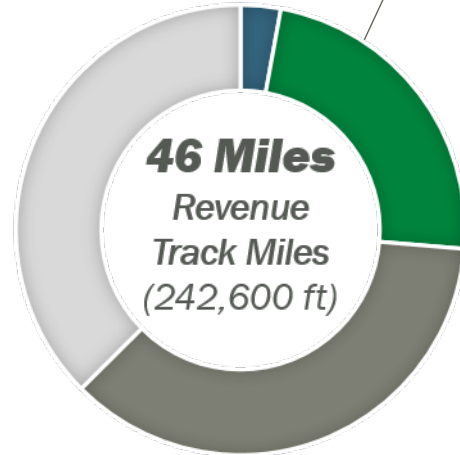
Green Line Full Track Renewal Plan

Acceleration 2019 (Completed)

- 1.6 miles (4%) - 8,480 feet (completed)**
- B & C Branches (Green Line Intersection Upgrades)

Adequate Track

- 16.7 miles (36%) - 88,120 feet**
- D Branch 2019: 10,000 feet



Remaining Work - Design Underway

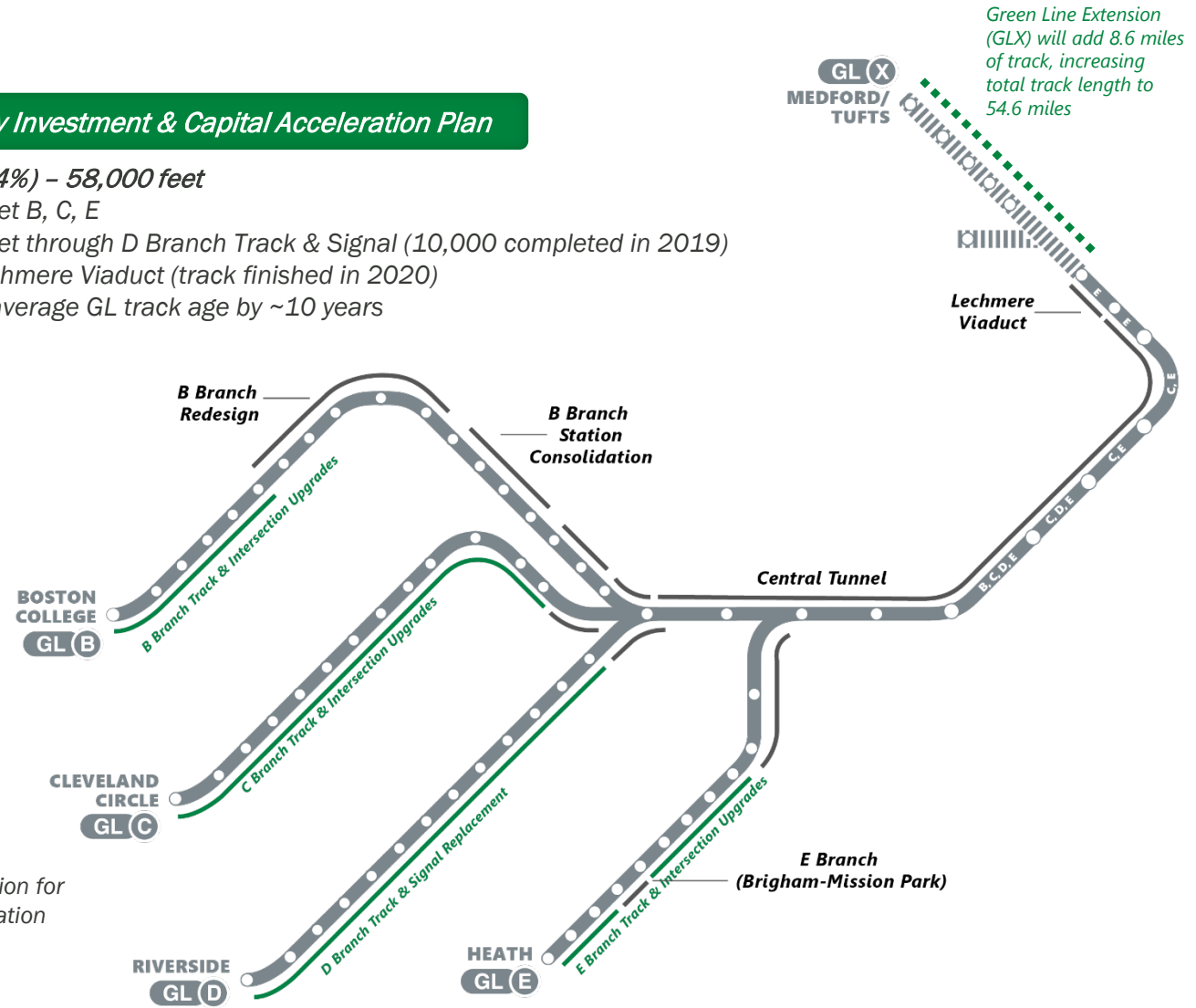
- 16.7 miles (88,000 feet) (36%) 2021 - 2024**
- B Branch, Packards to Warren + Blandford (15,000 ft)
 - Central Tunnel - to all portals (50,000 ft)
 - D Branch - Beaconsfield to Fenway (19,000 ft)
 - Brigham - Mission Park (4,000 ft)

2020 Safety Investment & Capital Acceleration Plan

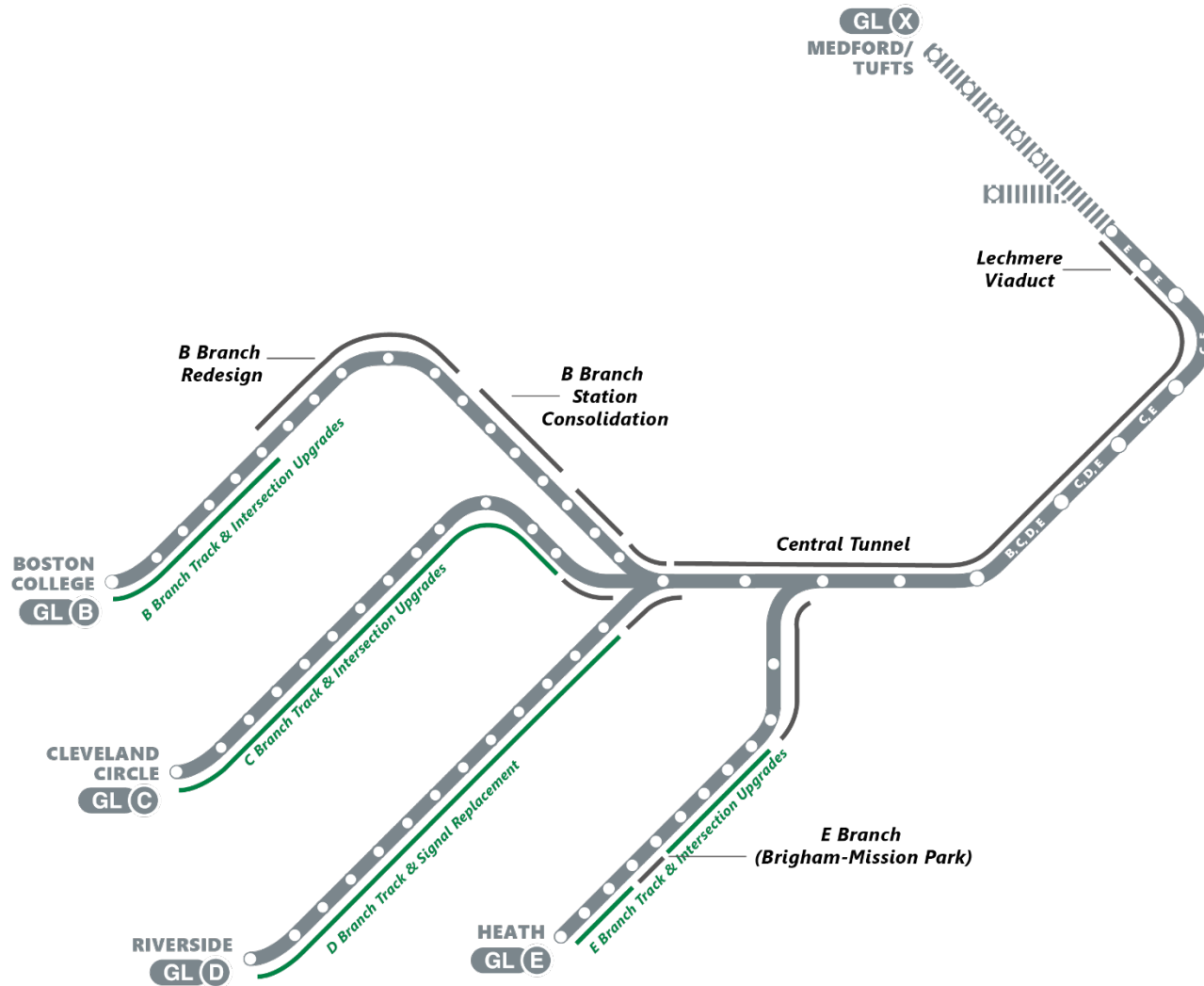
- 11 miles (24%) - 58,000 feet**
- 33,000 feet B, C, E
 - 17,000 feet through D Branch Track & Signal (10,000 completed in 2019)
 - 8,000 Lechmere Viaduct (track finished in 2020)
 - Reduces average GL track age by ~10 years



This work is part of the vision for the Green Line Transformation (GLT) program



Project Details | Ongoing Green Line Projects



GREEN LINE PROJECTS	LOCATION
E BRANCH	
Lechmere Viaduct Rehabilitation	Lechmere – North Station
E Branch Track & Intersection Upgrades	Heath – Symphony
<i>Green Line Extension*</i>	<i>Somerville/Medford</i>
B BRANCH	
B Branch Station Consolidation	Babcock St – BU West
B Branch Track & Intersection Upgrades	Boston College – Blandford
C BRANCH	
C Branch Track & Intersection Upgrades	Cleveland Circle – Kenmore
<i>Green Line Transit Signal Priority (TSP)</i>	<i>Cleveland Circle – Kenmore</i>
<i>Beacon Junction Special Trackwork*</i>	<i>St Marys – Kenmore</i>
<i>Duct Bank Work</i>	<i>Washington Square</i>
D BRANCH	
D Branch Track & Signal Replacement	Riverside – Beaconsfield
Fenway Portal Flood Protection	Kenmore – Fenway
<i>Brookline High School Expansion Project (TOD)*</i>	<i>Brookline Hills Station</i>

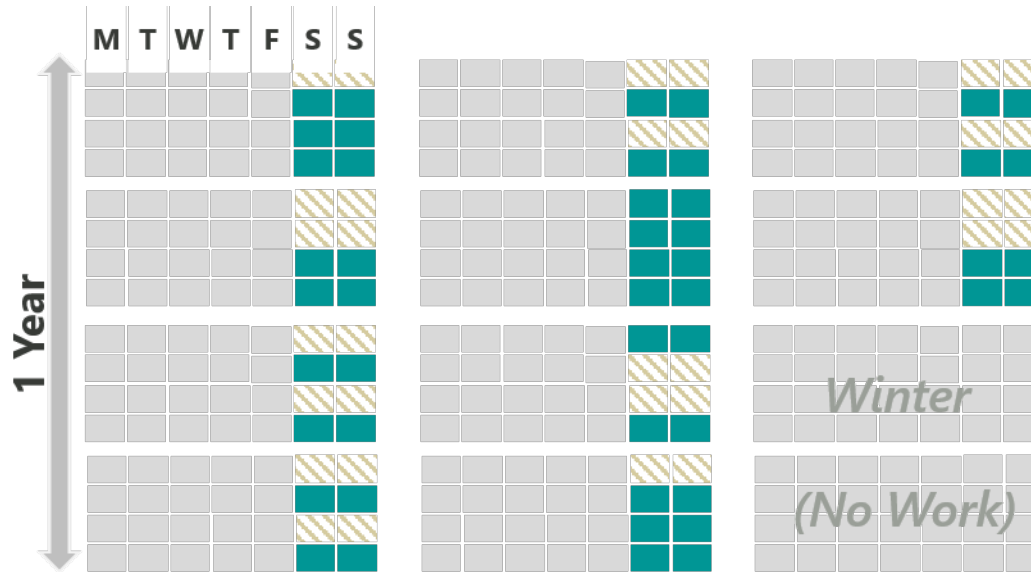
*Concurrent projects underway by other Departments

Construction Strategy | Condensed Duration Delivers Results Sooner

A **28-day closure** replaces **1 year** of delays, slow zones, and early access/weekend diversions — *reducing inconvenience to riders*—to improve **safety and reliability sooner**

Weekends Only:
Impacts riders, residents,
businesses over **1 year**

- Available Work Windows
- ▨ Holidays, Events
- Continued Delays & Slow Zones



28-Day Closure:
Provides a **safer, more reliable,**
and **faster** ride in **1 month**



**1 Year, Non-Stop
Night Work
(Work Scope
Limited)**

**20 Weeks of Early
Access (Mon–Fri)
(Work Scope
Limited)**

**18 - 20 Weekend
Diversions spread
over 1 year**

=

**4 Weeks
(28-Days)**

A 28-Days is more **efficient than 1 year** of diversions or night work



E Branch Track & Intersections Upgrades



Overview | About E Branch & Full-Access Closure

E
Branch



~26,400
Feet of Track
(5 miles)



25 Years
Average Age of
Track (1995)



8 Intersections
15 Pedestrian Crossings
Embedded Track



11 Stations
9 Surface Level
2 Subway



~14,000
Riders
(Pre-COVID)

APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
				E Aug 2-29	Heath – Prudential E Branch Track & Intersection Upgrades			



Work Area & Movement of Equipment

Shuttle Service
(Heath to Prudential)

Route #39 Bus Service
(Forest Hills to Back Bay)



Track & Intersection Upgrades | *Scope and Benefits*



- **Full-Depth Replacement (Forsyth St – Tunnel Entrance)**
Affects subgrade, ballast, ties, running rail
- **Embedded Track Full-Depth Replacement (Heath – Riverway)**
New pavement, subgrade, ballast, ties, running rail
- **Intersection Reconstruction (7 locations)**
Forsyth St, Parker St/Forsyth Way, Ruggles St, Evans Way, Longwood Ave, Fire Department, Huntington Ave/South Huntington Ave Curve



Mitigate risk of service interruptions by replacing track beyond its planned design life



Improve travel times in each direction through eliminating 3,800 feet of slow zones



A more accessible and smoother experience for passengers, bicyclists, and drivers over rubber panel intersection crossings

Track & Intersection Upgrades | *Trackwork Areas and Schedule*



Location	Approx. Start 6AM	Approx. End 6AM	Occupancy
Forsyth St to Tunnel Entrance (Portal)	Monday, August 3	Friday, August 14	Continuous
Longwood Intersection/Brigham Circle & Pedestrian Crossing	Friday, August 7	Monday, August 10	Weekend
Forsyth Way to Forsyth St & Intersections	Thursday, August 13	Tuesday, August 18	Extended Weekend
Fire Dept Crossing & Ruggles St Intersection	Friday, August 14	Monday, August 17	Weekend
Evans Way Intersection	Monday, August 17	Saturday, August 22	Weekday
Huntington Ave/South Huntington Ave Curve	Thursday, August 20	Tuesday, August 25	Extended Weekend
South Huntington Ave	Sunday, August 2	Saturday, August 29	Continuous

**The schedule for this infrastructure project is weather dependent and subject to change without notice*



Making Connections During Construction

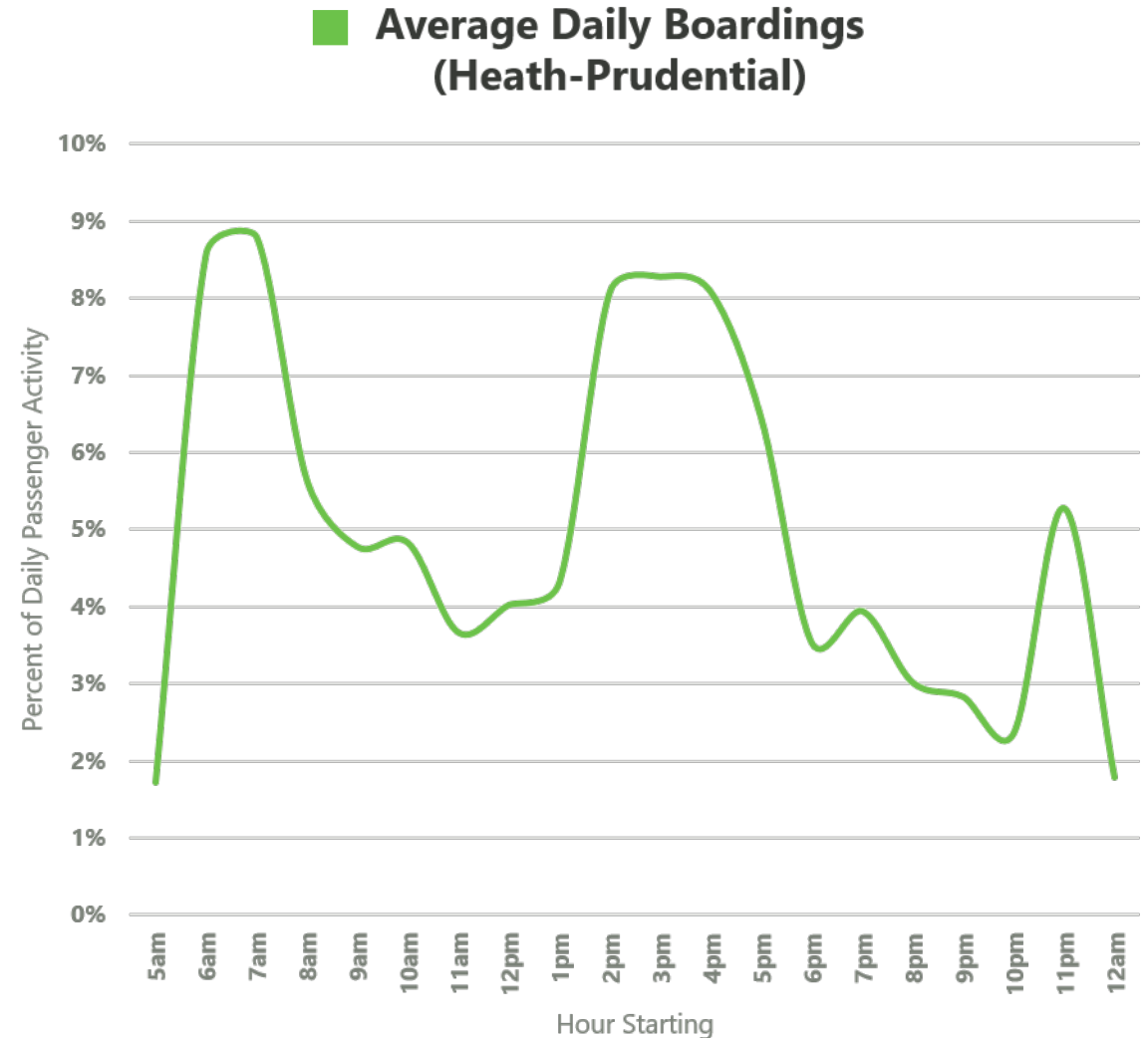


Green Line Ridership Information

Data Counts as of July 14, 2020

GLT conducted passenger counts at each E Branch surface station on July 14 to understand and assess needed capacity for replacement service during the pandemic

- Ridership on the date measured was **70% of pre-COVID levels**
- **We found** that current activity centered around medical area Green Line stations during shift changes (7 am, 3 pm, 11 pm)
- **We understand the minimum number of buses needed to satisfy peak demand** along Brigham Circle and Longwood with a maximum bus load of 20 passengers



Alternative Service | Shuttles and Route 39 Bus

Free, Accessible Buses will operate between Heath and Prudential



Additional bus service schedule will meet or exceed frequency of current E Branch schedule

Shuttle Service (Heath – Prudential)

- **3-5 Minutes** Peak Period
- **8-10 Minutes** Non-Peak Period
- **10-12 Minutes** Weekends
- Private Carriers (Weekdays) & MBTA Buses (Weekends)



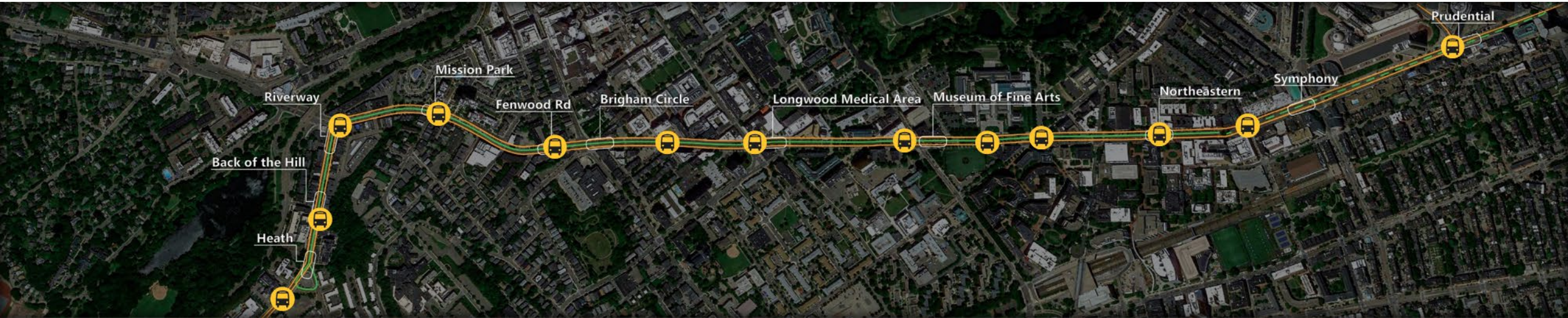
Route 39 Bus (Forest Hills - Back Bay)

- **7 Minutes** Peak Period
- **10-13 Minutes** Non-Peak Period
- **11-15 Minutes** Weekends
- MBTA Regular Service



For the health and safety of our riders, shuttle service will be monitored throughout the 28-days and adjusted to reduce crowding

E Branch | *What Riders Can Expect When Utilizing Alternative Service*



1

Wayfinding and Alternatives

Know Where to Go

- ✓ Signage will be setup before and monitored during construction at stations and surrounding areas
- ✓ Additional MBTA Buses to support Route 39 service
- ✓ Project updates on construction progress and alternative service schedules available on MBTA.com
- ✓ Identify Alternate Routes

2

Service Impacts

Curbside Conditions and Path of Travel

- ✓ Pedestrian path of travel across work zones will be marked
- ✓ Green Line Stations will be closed, and riders redirected to the adjacent Route 39 bus stops
- ✓ Parking spaces taken at various locations

Huntington Ave

Considerations on Rt 39

- **Opera Place** will need to move to the east about 300 feet (both directions) from August 2-16
- **Forsyth Way** near the MFA will need to move toward Forest Hills from August 2-18
- **Fire Dept Crossing & Ruggles Intersection** weekends of August 7-10 and 14-17
- **Longwood Ave** inbound Bus stop location will be shifted towards Evans Way to the east during construction
- **No dedicated bus lanes**

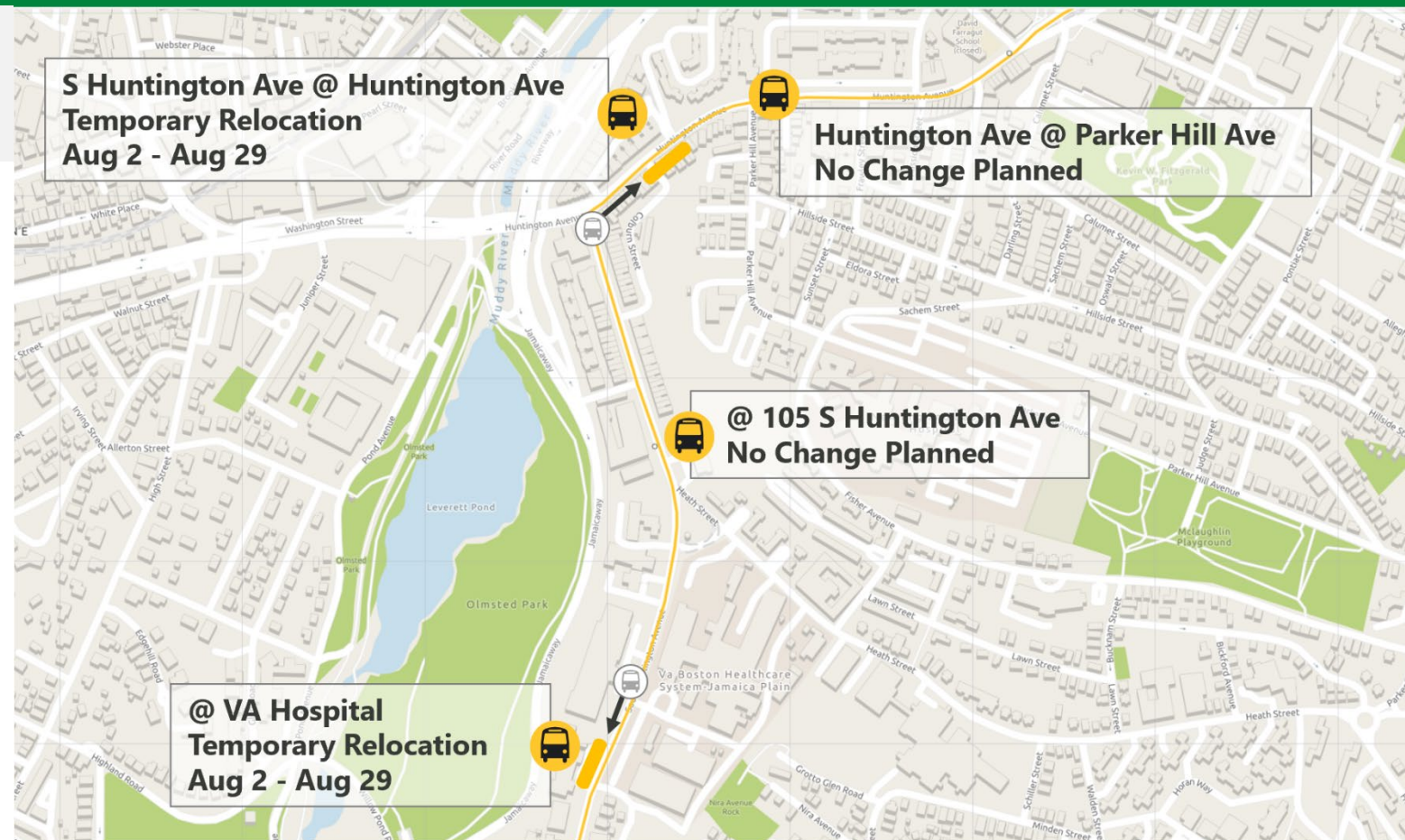


39 Route Inbound	39 Route Outbound	E Branch Stations	Notes
360 Huntington Ave	Huntington Ave @ Opera Place	Northeastern University	Opera Place will need to move to the east about 300 feet (both directions) from August 2-16
	Huntington Ave @ Forsyth Way		Forsyth Way near the MFA will need to move toward Forest Hills from August 2-18
Huntington Ave @ Ruggles St	Huntington Ave @ Louis Prang St	Museum of Fine Arts	Fire Dept Crossing & Ruggles Intersection weekends of August 7-10 and August 14-17
Huntington Ave @ Longwood Ave	Huntington Ave @ Longwood Ave	Longwood Medical Area	Inbound Bus stop location will be shifted towards Evans Way to the east during construction

S. Huntington Ave

Considerations on Route 39

- **Riverway** moves from **South Huntington to Huntington Ave** near Colburn Rd (by the closed entrance of Mission Park)
- Police will monitor the Huntington/South Huntington Ave curve through construction
- **Heath Street/VA Hospital** will need to be moved about 150 feet towards Forest Hills (both directions)
- **105 South Huntington Ave** will be monitored during construction



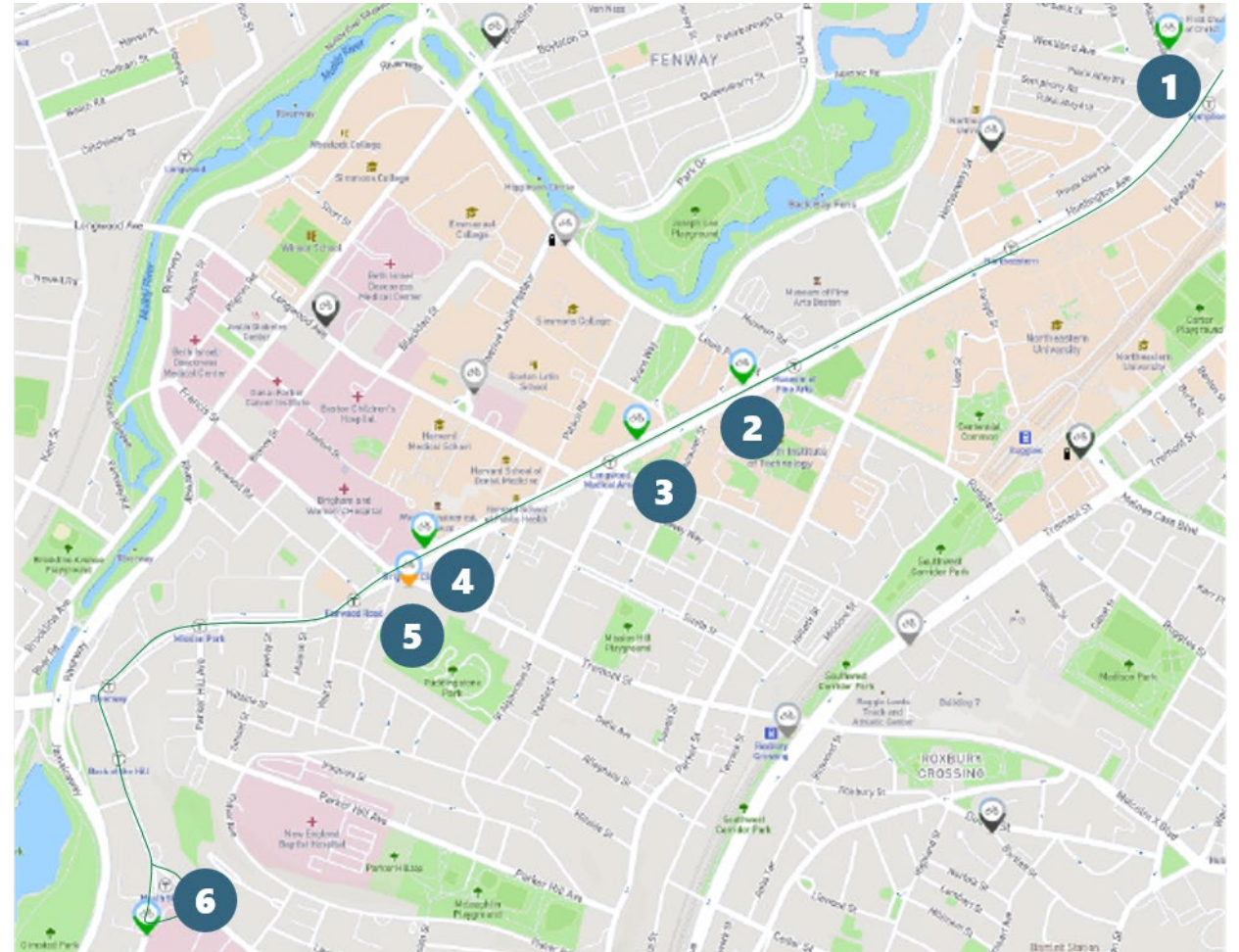
39 Route Inbound	39 Route Outbound	E Branch Stations	Notes
Huntington Ave @ Parker Hill Ave	835 Huntington Ave opp Parker Hill Ave	Mission Park	No Change Planned
S Huntington Ave @ Huntington Ave	S Huntington Ave @ Huntington Ave	Riverway	Riverway moves from S. Huntington to Huntington near Colburn Rd (by the closed entrance of Mission Park)
100 S Huntington Ave	105 S Huntington Ave	Back of the Hill	Monitor adjustment may be needed
S Huntington Ave @ VA Hospital	S Huntington Ave opp VA Hospital	Heath Street	Heath Street/VA Hospital will need to be moved about 150 feet towards Forest Hills (both directions)

Alternative Service | Bike Share

Bluebike Stations along Huntington Ave and South Huntington Ave

1. Christian Science Plaza - Massachusetts Ave at Westland Ave
2. Wentworth Institute of Technology - Huntington Ave at Vancouver St
3. Huntington Ave at Mass Art
4. Brigham Circle - Francis St at Huntington Ave
5. One Brigham Circle
6. S. Huntington Ave at Heath St

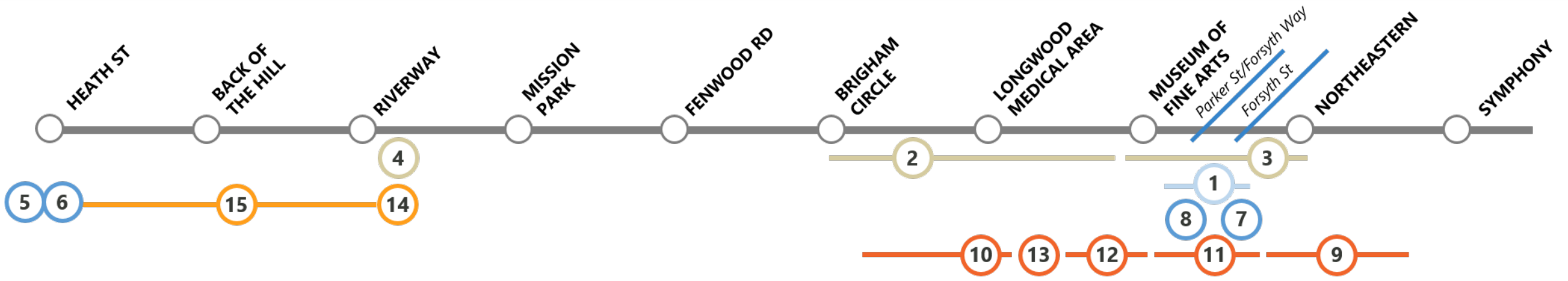
Visit **Bluebikes.com** to learn more





Construction Sequence





#	Work Location*	July							August																																	
		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
		M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	R	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	Huntington @ Parker St/Forsyth Way																																									
2	Brigham to Ruggles																																									
3	Ruggles to Opera																																									
4	South Huntington Ave to Curve																																									
5	South Huntington Ave - south of Heath St																																									
6	Heath Loop																																									
7	Forsyth Way																																									
8	Forsyth St																																									
9	Forsyth St to Tunnel Entrance (Portal)																																									
10	Longwood Intersection/Brigham Circle & Ped																																									
11	Forsyth Way to Forsyth St																																									
12	Fire Dept Crossing & Ruggles & Intersection																																									
13	Evans Way Intersection																																									
14	Huntington Ave/South Huntington Ave Curve																																									
15	South Huntington Ave																																									

*The schedule for this infrastructure project is weather dependent and subject to change without notice

Pre-Welding Track
 Saw-Cutting
 Material & Equipment Storage
 Full Depth Track Replacement
 Embedded Track Full-Depth Replacement

S. Huntington Ave | Material & Equipment Storage (August 2-29, 2020)

Temporary lane taking for material storage (No Parking)



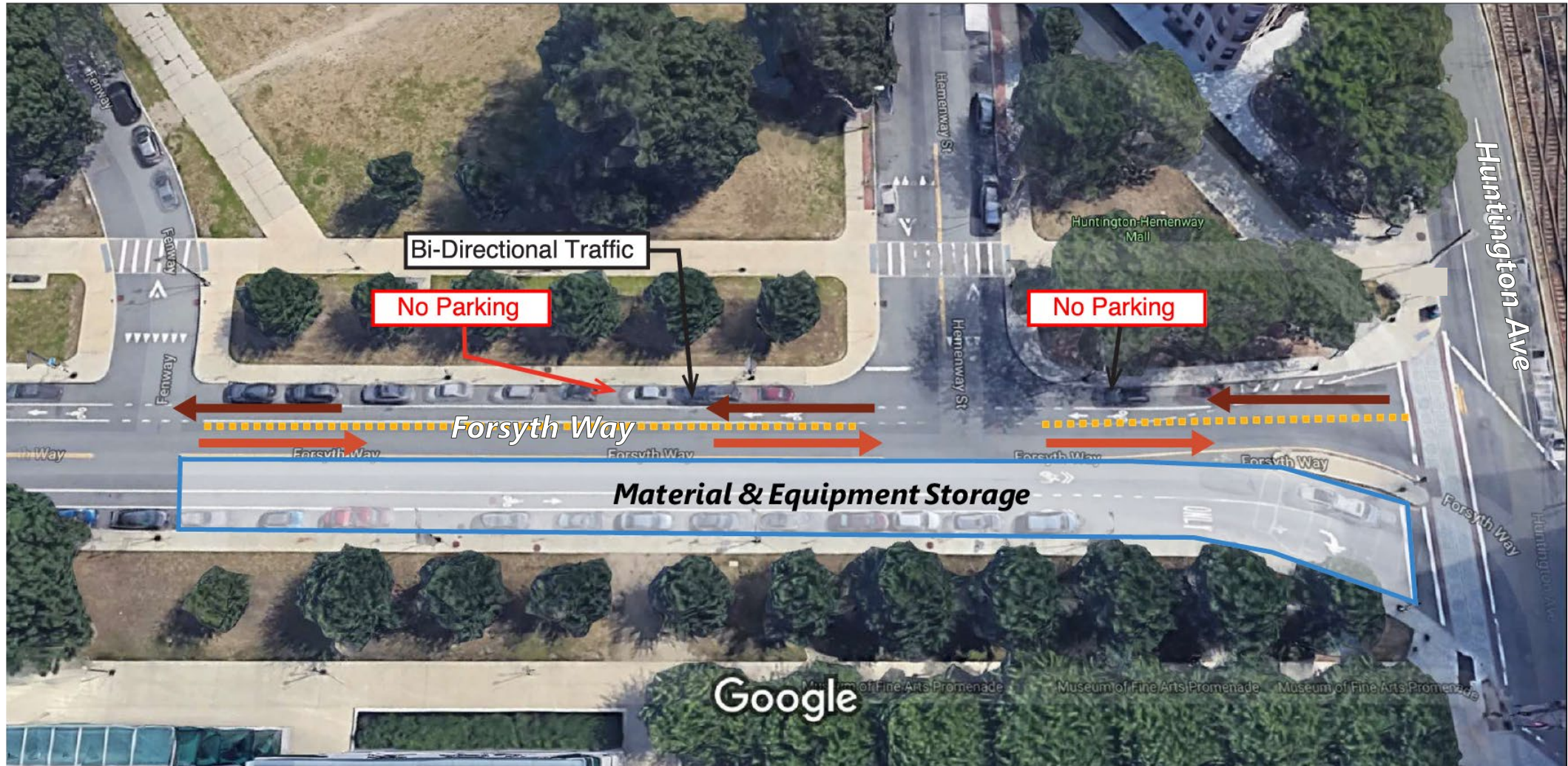
Heath St Loop | Material & Equipment Storage (August 2-29, 2020)

Temporary loop taking for the storage



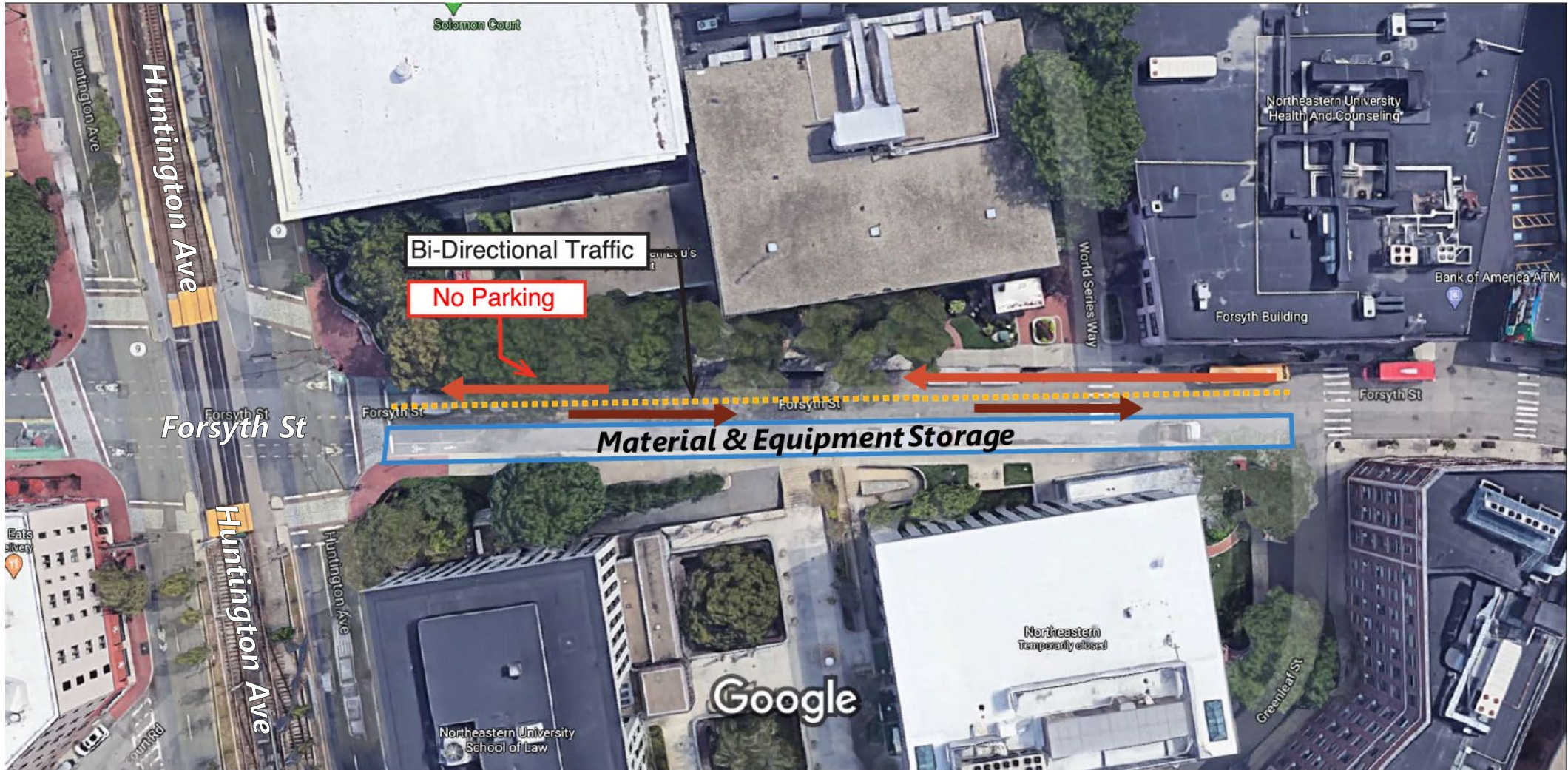
Forsyth Way | Material & Equipment Storage (August 2-18, 2020)

Temporary lane taking for material storage (No Parking)



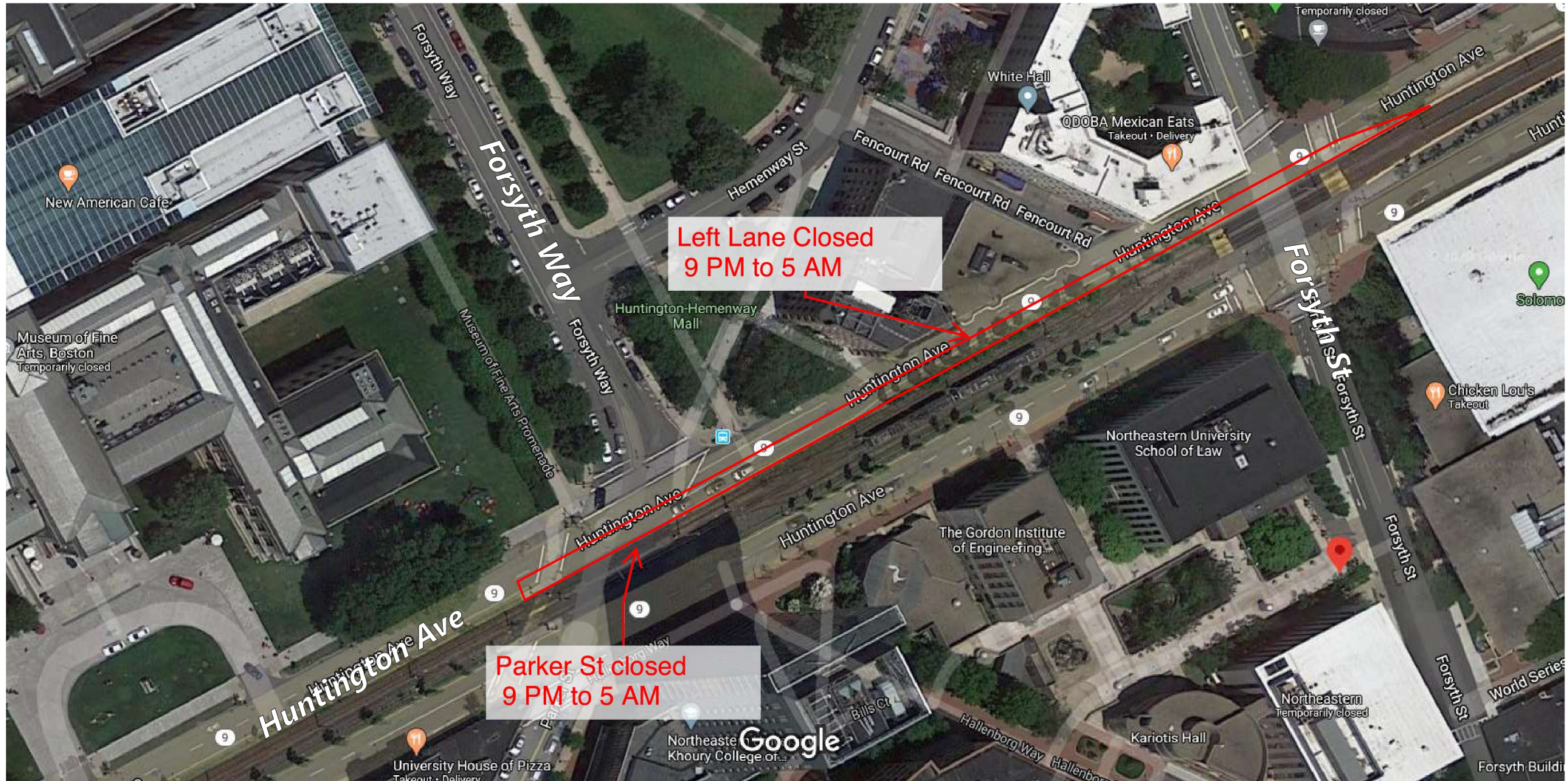
Forsyth St | Material & Equipment Storage (August 2-18, 2020)

Temporary lane taking for storage (No Parking)



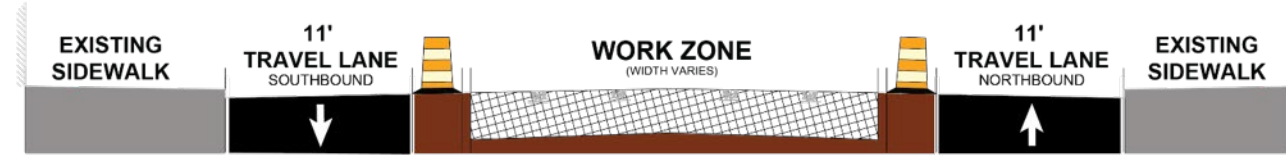
Forsyth St to Tunnel Entrance | Single Lane Restriction (July 20-24 and July 27-31)

Single Lane of travel Westbound on Huntington Ave between Forsyth St & Forsyth Way for welding



Typical Work Zone | *South Huntington Ave*

- Contractor will occupy the center of the roadway to remove and replace track paving and track elements
- All roadway traffic will operate in existing parking lanes
- Parking will not be permitted during construction (24/7)
- Bus stops will be adjusted outside of the work zone to avoid single-lane traffic back-ups
 - Riverway bus stop will be moved to Huntington Ave.
 - Back-of-the-Hill bus stop may be adjusted towards Heath St. if necessary to be separated from the construction work zone



South Huntington Ave | between Heath St and Huntington Ave
One Lane in each direction (No Parking)



Typical Work Zone | Forsyth Way to Francis St

- Contractor will occupy left lanes to gain access to the reservation
- Space is used for crane access and over-the-road vehicles delivering and removing materials
- All roadway traffic will operate in the right lane
- Parking will not be permitted during the construction (24/7)
- Bus stops will be adjusted outside of the work zone to avoid single-lane traffic back-ups



Huntington Ave | between Forsyth Way to Forsyth St/Parker Rd
One Lane in each direction (No Parking)



Traffic Management Plan

Essential transportation services and reduce traffic congestion



Vehicle Access

- Encourage all general purpose traffic to detour away from the construction zone
- Officer enforcement to maintain the **#39** and **#66** buses and emergency vehicles through the intersection of Huntington and South Huntington
- Other bus routes will be monitored during construction (**#8**, **#47** and Area Shuttles)
- Support delivery access for local businesses and shops



Pedestrian Access

- Maintain pedestrian access and crosswalks at each end of the work zone and across the intersection of Huntington Ave and South Huntington Ave at all times
- Officer enforcement to assist pedestrians through each intersection

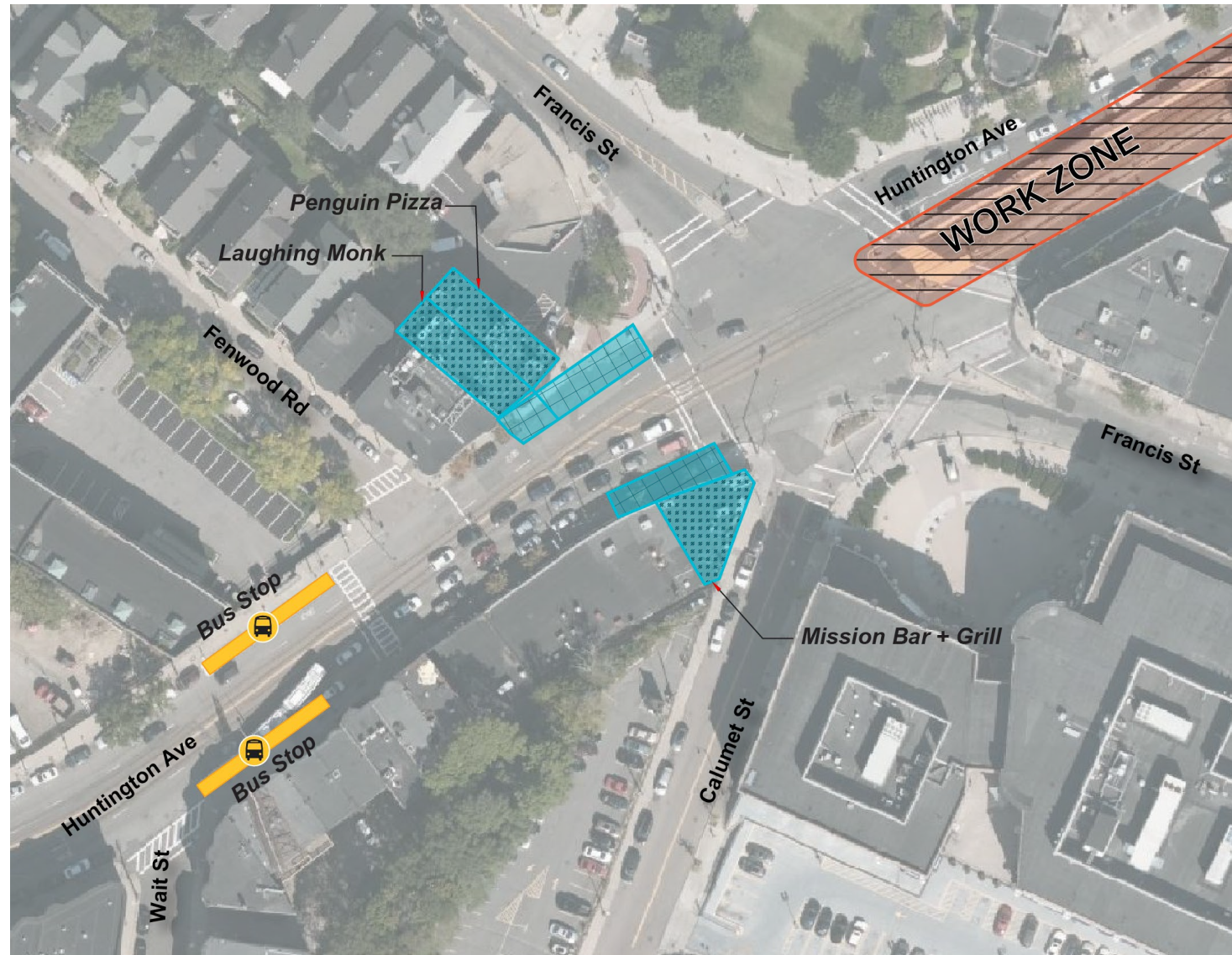


Community Engagement & Outreach



Small Business Impact | Brigham Circle

- **Local Restaurants:** permits for the outdoor seating
- **Work Zone:** track work will take place at Brigham Circle Station Pedestrian Crossing
- No major work is currently planned for the intersection at Francis St and Huntington Ave
- **Bus/Shuttle Stop:** Fenwood Rd will remain at the existing location



We Heard You | *We are working toward a unified goal*

Our transformation program is focused on investing in the future of the E Branch and Green Line

Maintaining Environment and Urban Fabric

- ✓ **Protecting trees during construction**
- ✓ **Ensuring plantings are intact or replaced**
- ✓ **Supporting local businesses “open during construction”**

Investing in the E Branch for Today...

- ✓ **Infrastructure improvements for better reliability and safety**
- ✓ **Responding to riders who want improvements sooner**

Mobility Improvements

- ✓ **Transit Signal Priority**
- ✓ **Supporting Green Links Crossing at Forsyth/Parker St Intersection**
- ✓ **Supporting pedestrian and bicycle improvements at Huntington & S. Huntington**

...Laying the Foundation for Future Investments

- ✓ **Type 10 Supercars**
- ✓ **Platform and Accessibility Upgrades**

Stay Connected



Ask Questions and Be Informed

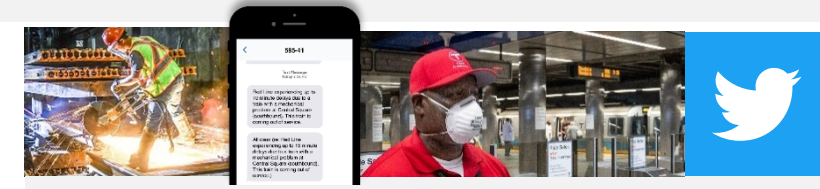
- ✓ Contact GLT@mbta.com
- ✓ Call 24/7 noise hotline: 508-676-3517
- ✓ Follow on social media
- ✓ **Subscribe to alerts** mbta.com/alerts
- ✓ Check website for up to date info
- ✓ Ask a Customer Service Agent



Alternate Routes and Transit Options

- ✓ Regular service replaced by **shuttle buses**
- ✓ **Accessible pedestrian pathways well-marked** during closure
- ✓ Advanced messaging **signage for drivers**
- ✓ **Plan ahead:** mbta.com/glework

Contact us at: GLT@mbta.com
www.mbta.com/GLT



Online & Social Media

Service Alerts
Project Updates

18 INTERSECTION UPGRADES + 4,400 FEET OF NEW TRACK =

mbtatics
Park Street MBTA Station - Green & Red Line

E Branch 28-Day Full Access Track & Intersection Upgrades
 Sunday, August 2 to Saturday, August 29, 2020

Project Overview
 Utilizing a 28-day full weekend and weekend closure, we will accomplish the equivalent of a full year of weekend and night track on the E Branch:
 • Replace track in the vicinity of Northeastern and Heath St. including its live lift, one rail
 • Construct full-depth rubber panel roadway crossings at:
 - Boies Way
 - Ferry Street
 - Longwood Avenue
 - Parker Street
 - Ruggs St Street
 - South Washington Ave
 • Additional improvements include pedestrian crossings and walkways

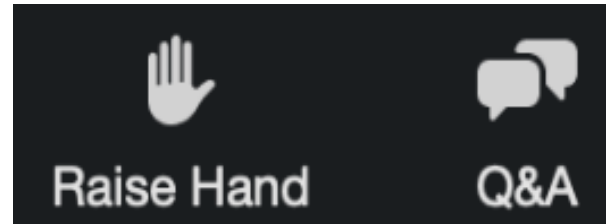
Project Benefits

- ✓ Mitigate risk of service disruptions by replacing track that is beyond its planned design life
- ✓ Improve travel times in each direction by eliminating approximately 4,000 feet of slow zones
- ✓ Adding rubber panels over intersection crossings for a smoother experience for passengers, bicycles, and drivers
- ✓ Improve pedestrian access and safety, as well as compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), at 5 pedestrian crossings

Thank You!

Public Comment | *Next Steps*

Please share only one question or comment at a time



- Press the “**Raise Hand**” button to share your question or comment verbally. Wait for the moderator to recognize and unmute you before speaking
- All attendees who speak **Spanish, Russian, or Cantonese, please raise your hand to provide your comments/questions verbally** for the interpreters to hear you comments

After you speak, we will lower your hand and you will be muted to allow the team to respond and provide opportunities for others to participate

- Use the “**Q&A**” button to submit a typed question or comment

Comments may also be sent to GLT@mbta.com