

Anderson Grade Separated Path Project

Dr. Paul Dudley White Path at Anderson Memorial Bridge



**Fiorentino Community Center,
123 Antwerp Street, Allston, MA**

October 22, 2015

6 PM

Agenda

- Introduction
- Project Overview
- Project Background
- Project Goals
- Discussion of Alternatives
- Question & Comments

Introduction

MassDOT Project Manager:
Michael Trepanier

- *Our goal tonight:*
 - Introduce the project to you
 - Identify our project team
 - Outline next steps

Project Team



Peter Furth, PhD

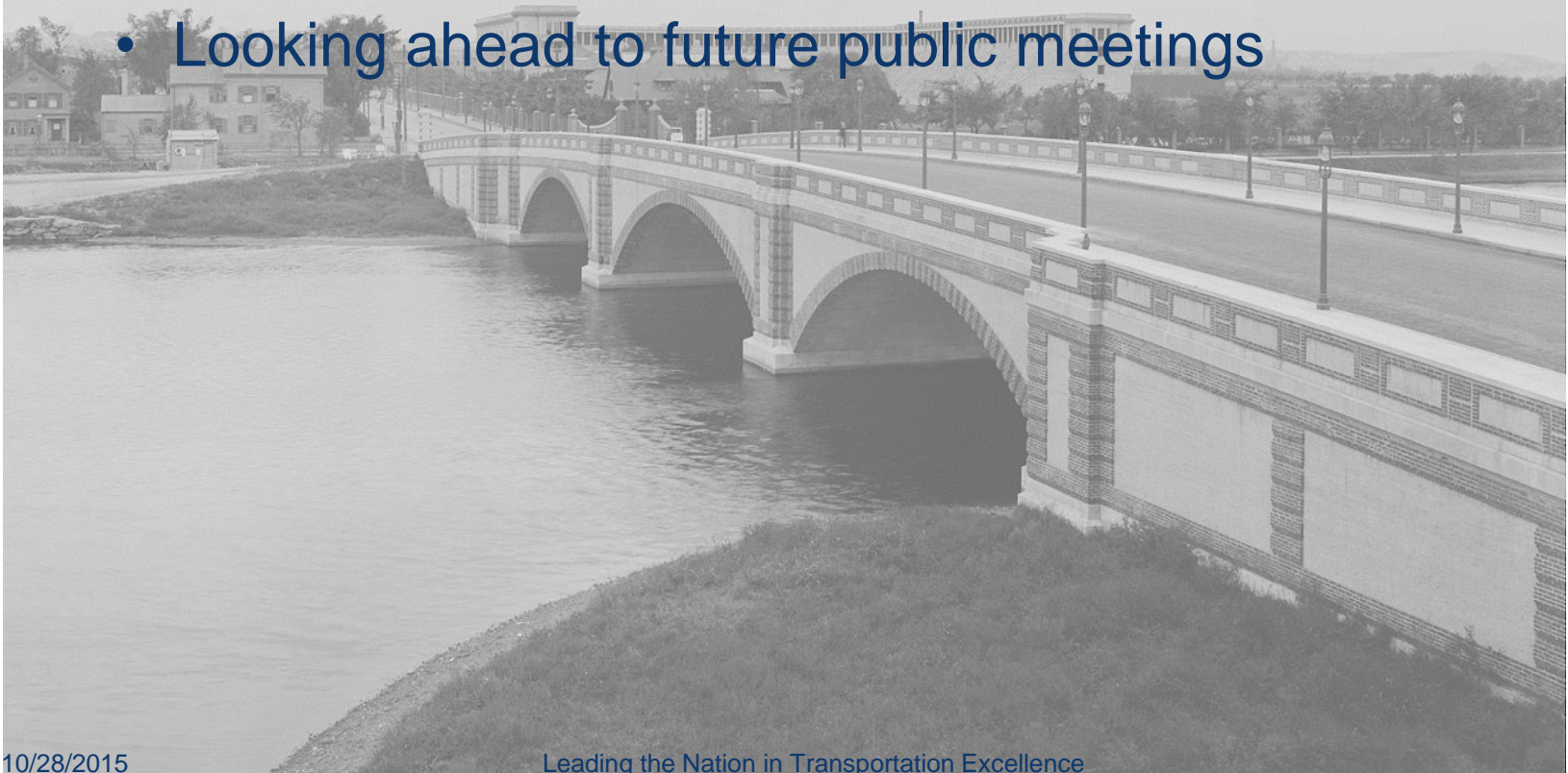
Project Location



Project Overview

- What?
 - Evaluation of at-grade and grade-separated concepts
- Why?
 - To provide grade-separated shared use path
 - To enhance the recreational use of the Charles River Basin
 - To accommodate bicycle / pedestrian transportation modes
 - To improve crossing efficiency at North Harvard Street
 - To address safety, accessibility & congestion concerns of path users
- How?
 - Evaluate alternatives: underpass, boardwalk, and at-grade
 - Select preferred alternative
 - Advance preliminary design
 - Obtain environmental permit approvals

- History of community interest in underpass at this location.
- Just beginning tonight:
 - Some preparatory stakeholder discussions
 - Looking ahead to future public meetings



Background

- Anderson Memorial Bridge was built in 1915
- Modified in 1950's for Soldiers' Field Rd (SFR) underpass
- Bridge and surroundings are on the National Historic Register
- Bridge rehabilitation currently underway
- Project includes improvements to SFR/N. Harvard intersection

Existing Conditions

- Paul Dudley White (PDW) Path crosses intersection at grade.
 - Path narrows on approach to the bridge.
- Over three quarters of bicycle traffic and more than half of pedestrian traffic continue along path across North Harvard Street.
- SFR westbound vehicle right turns (to Harvard Square from Boston) run concurrent with PDW crossing.

Existing Conditions

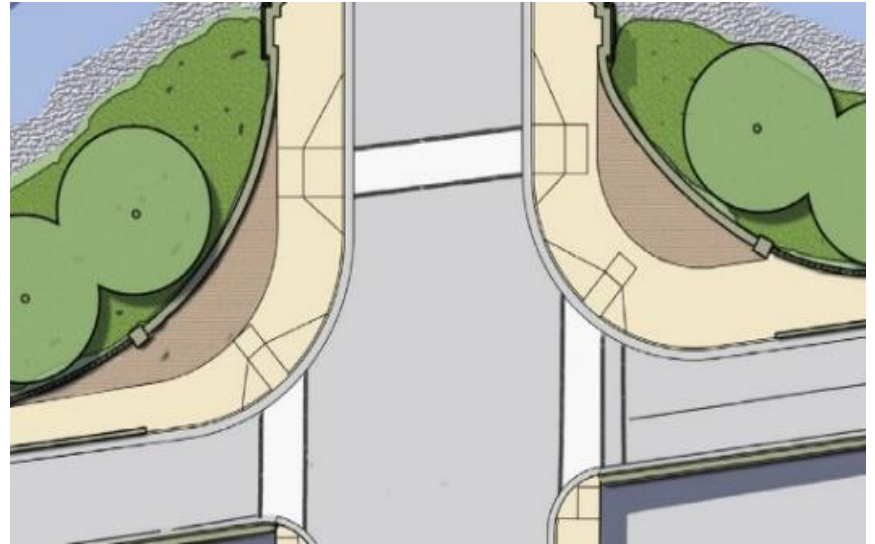


Bridge Rehabilitation Project

Before



After



Bridge Rehabilitation Project

Before and After

Existing Conditions

Soldiers Field Road/North Harvard Street



Proposed Improvements

Soldiers Field Road/North Harvard Street

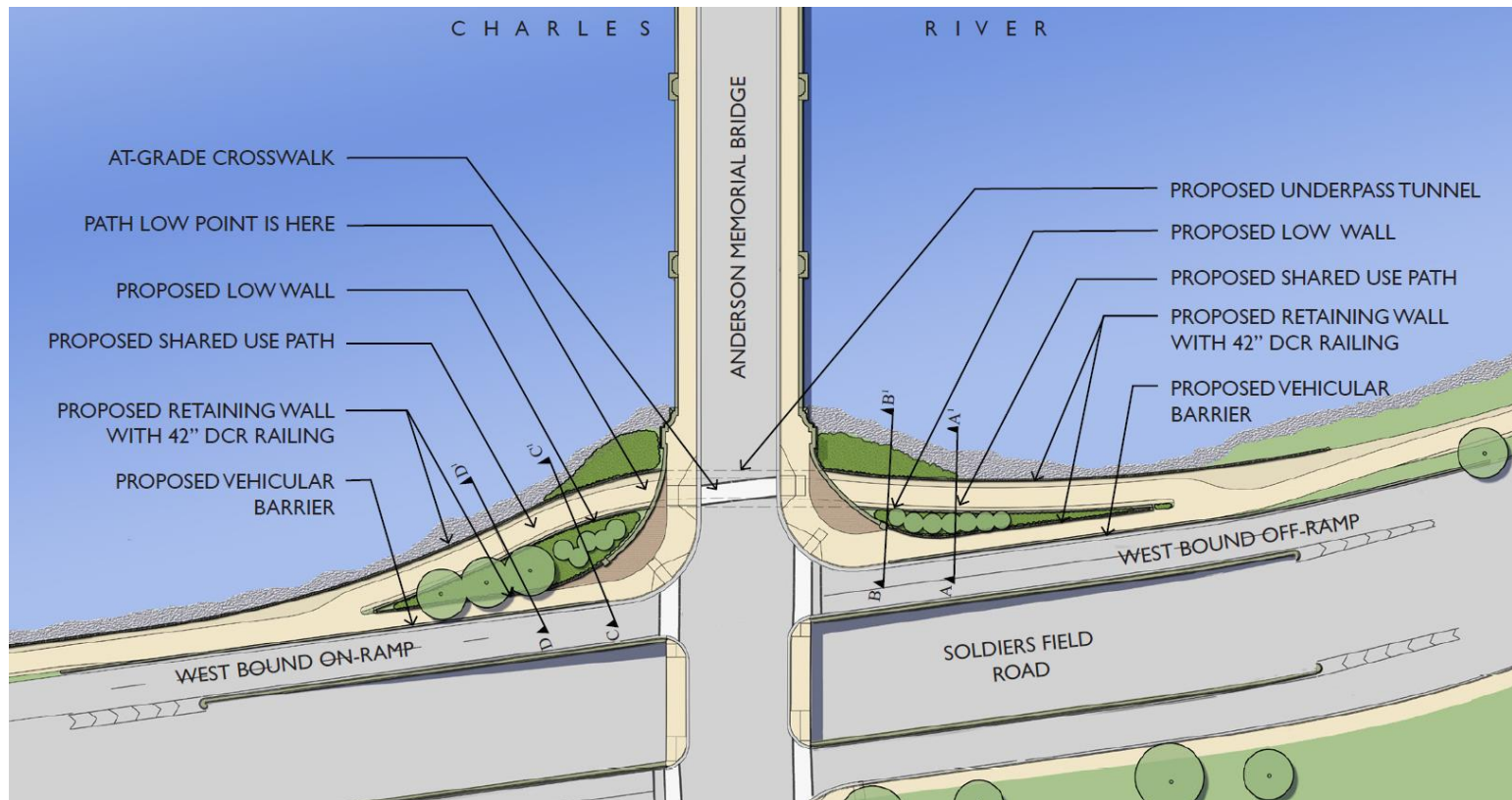


Project Goals

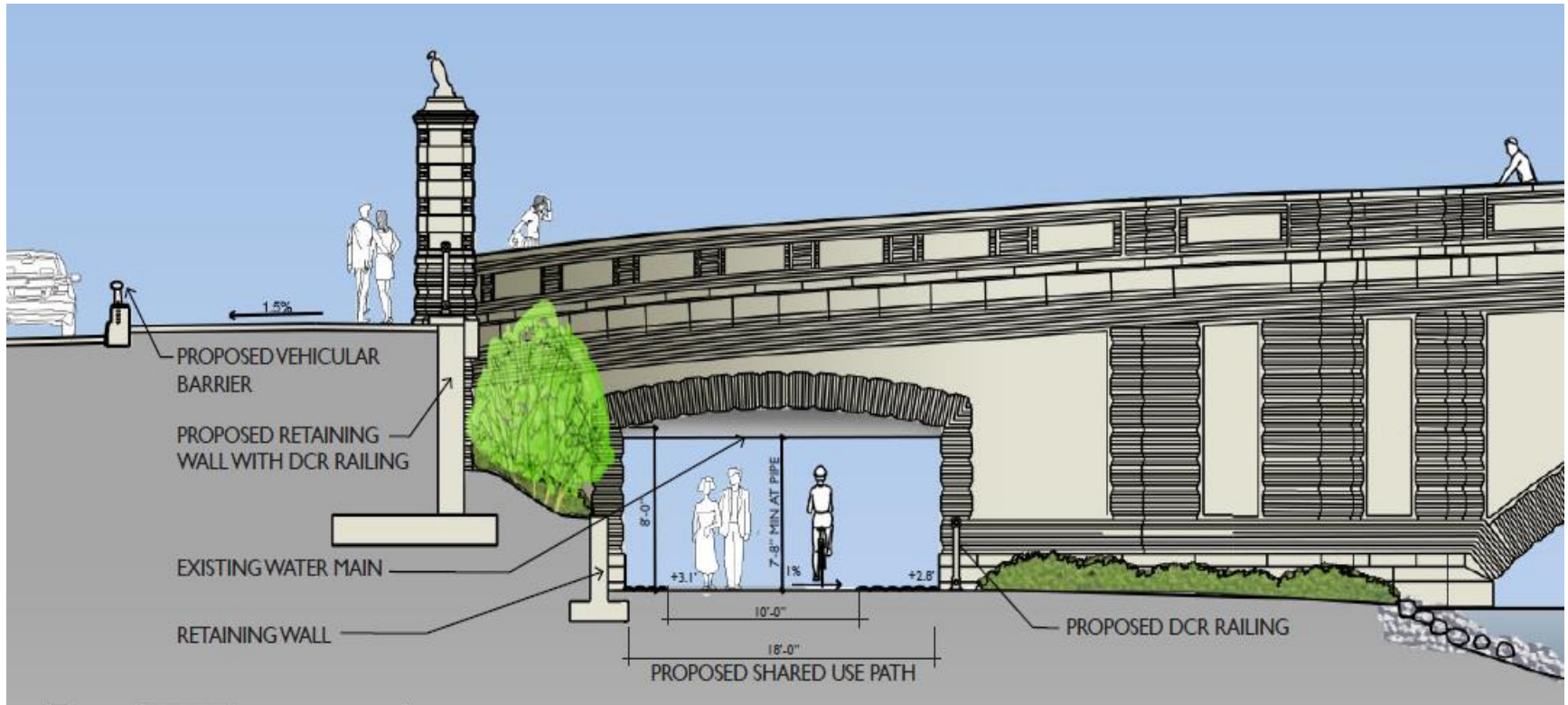
- Study *fully and without bias*, the provision of grade-separated shared-use path
- A successful grade-separated path would:
 - Address bike/ped safety, accessibility & congestion concerns
 - Accommodate increased bicycle and pedestrian use
 - Improve crossing efficiency for bicycles and pedestrians
 - Meet public requests for more bicycle/pedestrian alternatives
 - Enhance recreational use of Charles River Basin & PDW Path

Discussion of Alternatives

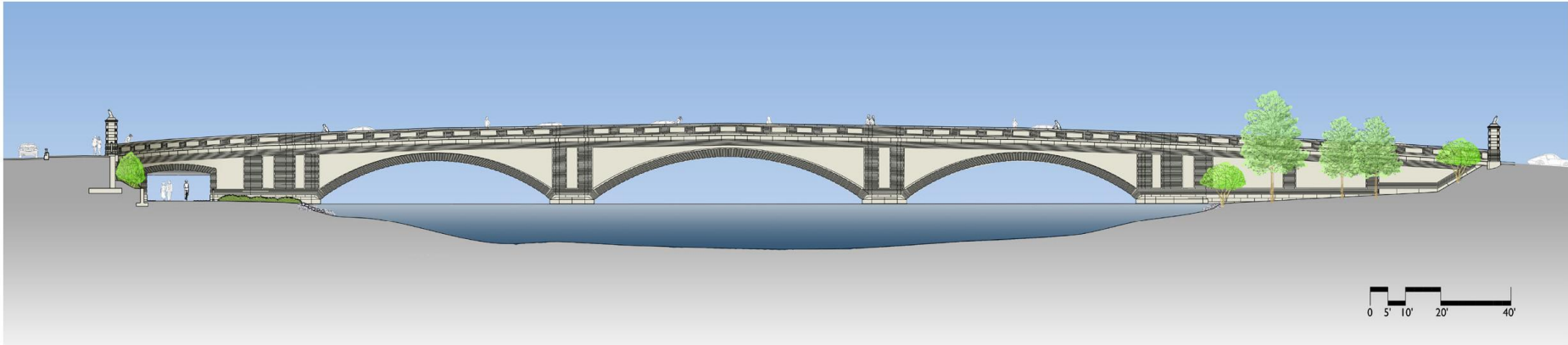
- Alternative 1 – Underpass Tunnel



Proposed Improvements - Underpass



Underpass Alternative



Benefits

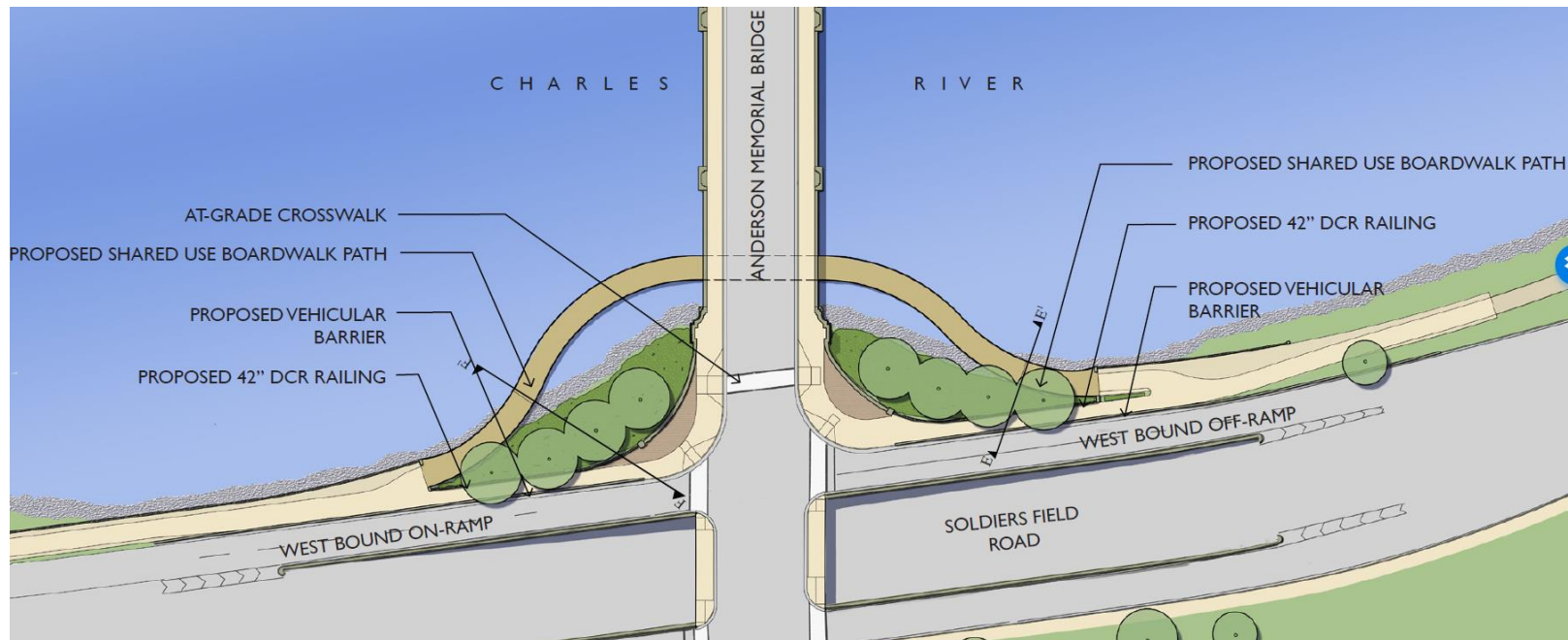
- Addresses bike/ped safety concerns
- Path connectivity facilitates commuting
- Relieves congestion at intersection
- Enhances recreation – access to river
- Supports healthy transportation

Design Considerations

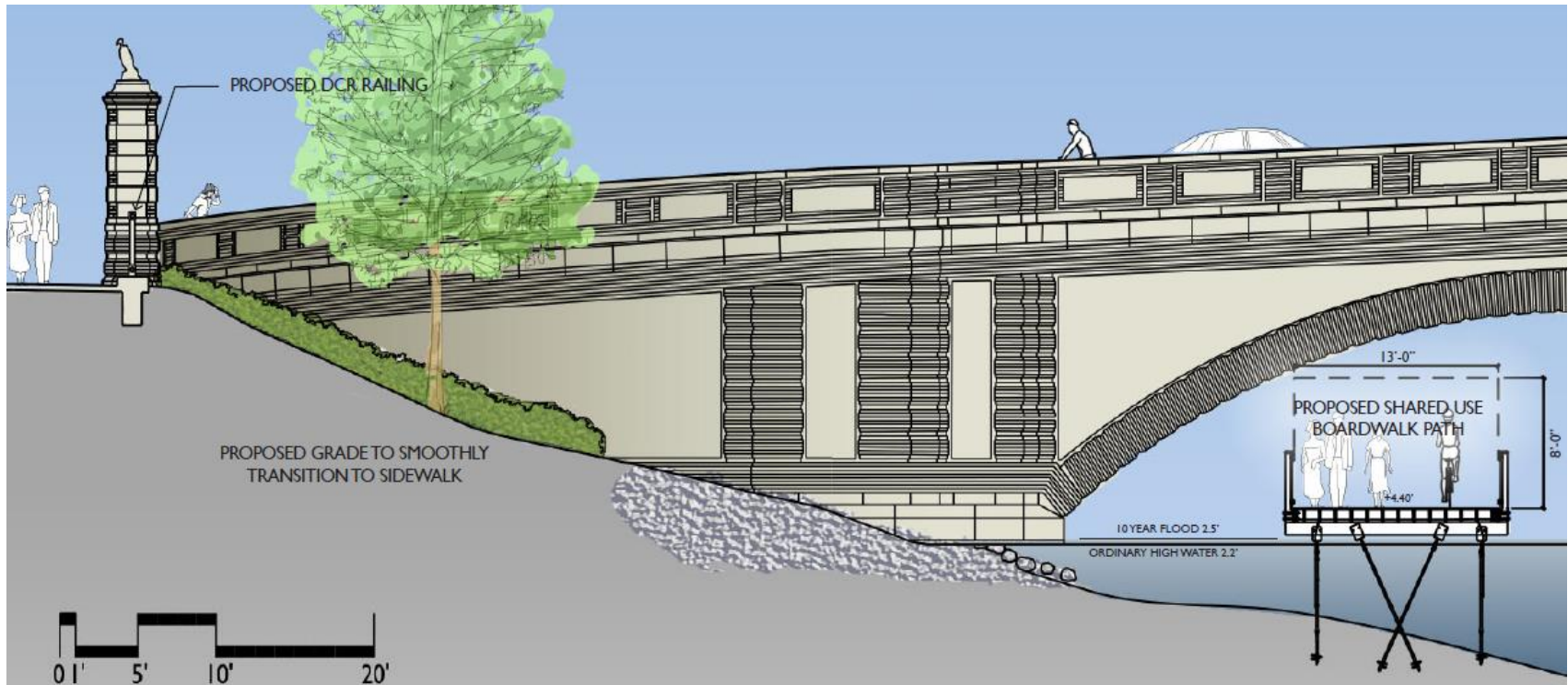
- Impact to historic resource
- Impact to landscape's character
- Constructability – tunnel / walls
- Additional path intersections
- Security
- Sight distance and tunnel height
- MWRA approval
- 1 local permit to obtain

Discussion of Alternatives

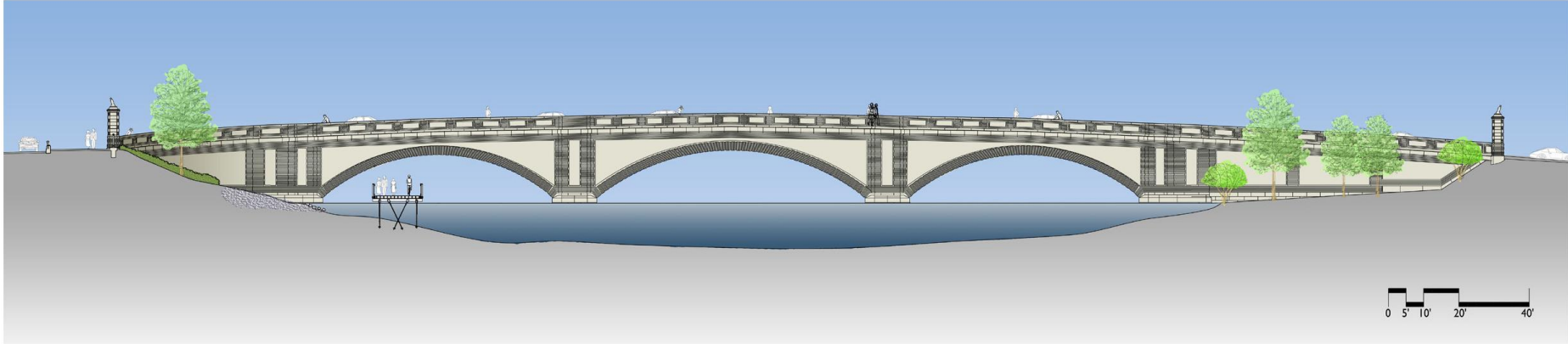
- Alternative 2 – Boardwalk



Proposed Improvements - Boardwalk



Boardwalk Alternative



Benefits

- Addresses bike/ped safety concerns
- Path connectivity facilitates commuting
- Relieves congestion at intersection
- Enhances recreation – access to river
- Supports healthy transportation

Design Considerations

- Impact to historic resource
- Impact to navigability of river
- Environmental impacts to river
- Impact to landscape's character
- Constructability – pile installation in river
- Additional path intersections
- Security

Discussion of Alternatives

No-Build Alternative

Bridge Rehabilitation Project Intersection Improvements

Before



After



No-Build Alternative

Bridge Rehabilitation Project Intersection Improvements

Benefits

- No cost
- No permitting
- No environmental impacts
- No impacts to historic resource or landscape character
- No impacts to navigability of river
- Security issues avoided

Design Considerations

- Does not address community request for uninterrupted path connectivity
- Potential bike/ped conflicts with vehicles remain
- Congestion at crossing for pathway users remains

Project Schedule

- Ongoing Anderson Bridge reconstruction
 - Planned completion in Summer 2016
- Tonight's meeting will be documented
- Final feasibility report anticipated for fall, 2015
 - These materials will be made available upon request
- Preliminary design and permitting efforts are next
- Current study ends at 25% design level (Summer, 2016)
- Public involvement will continue throughout the project

Contact Information

- To join our stakeholder database, submit a comment, or ask a question, please contact:

Nathaniel Cabral-Curtis

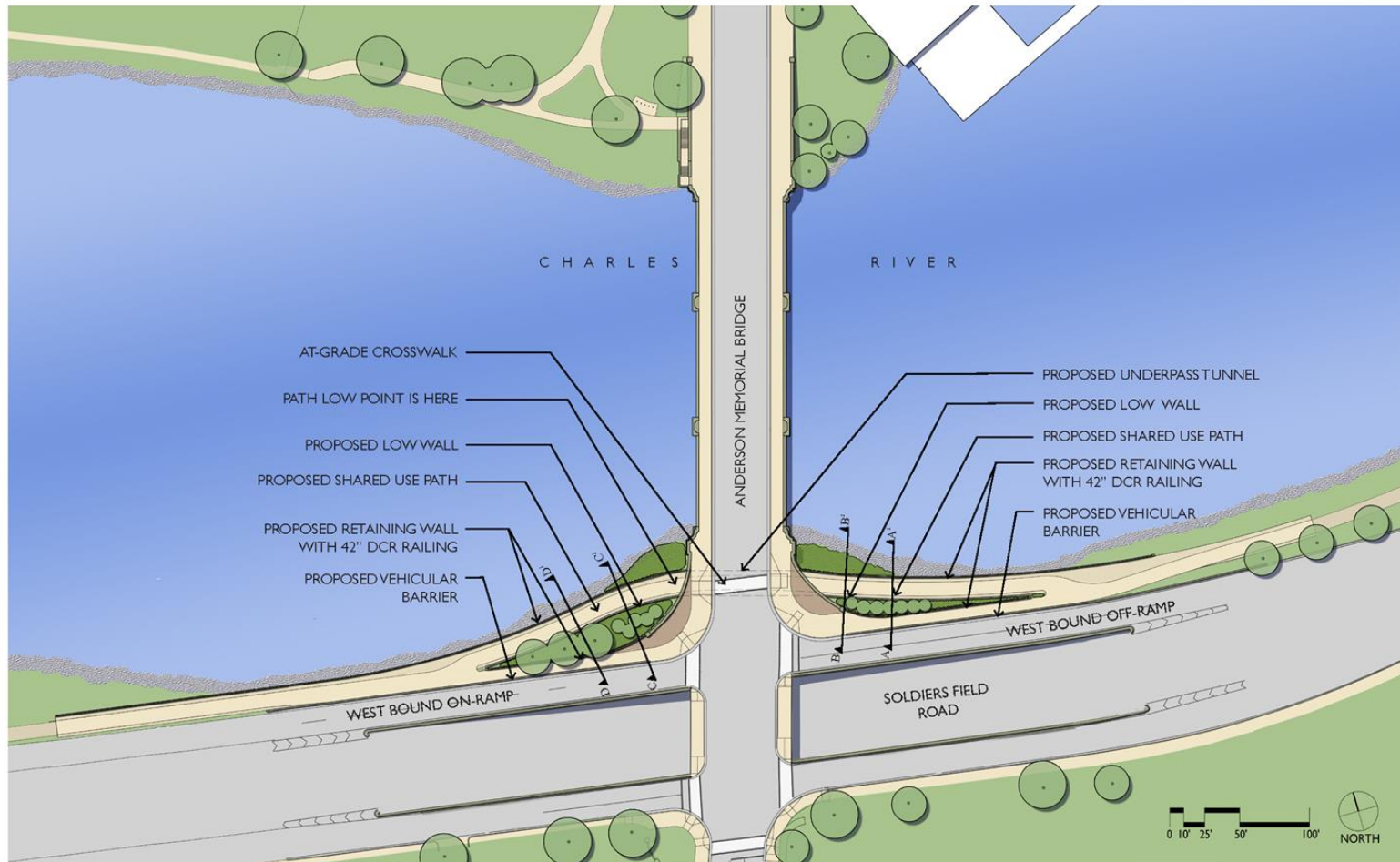
Manager of Public Involvement

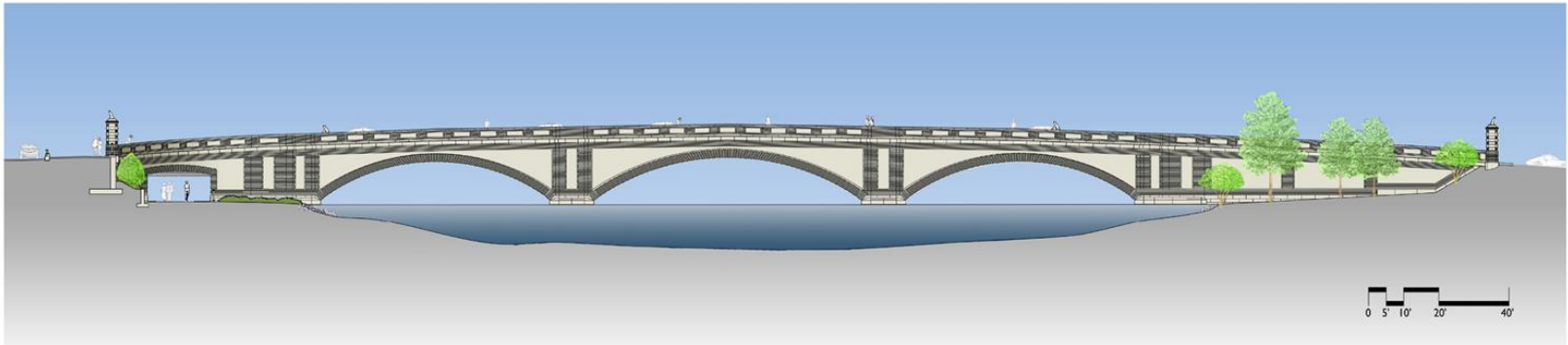
ncabral-curtis@hshassoc.com

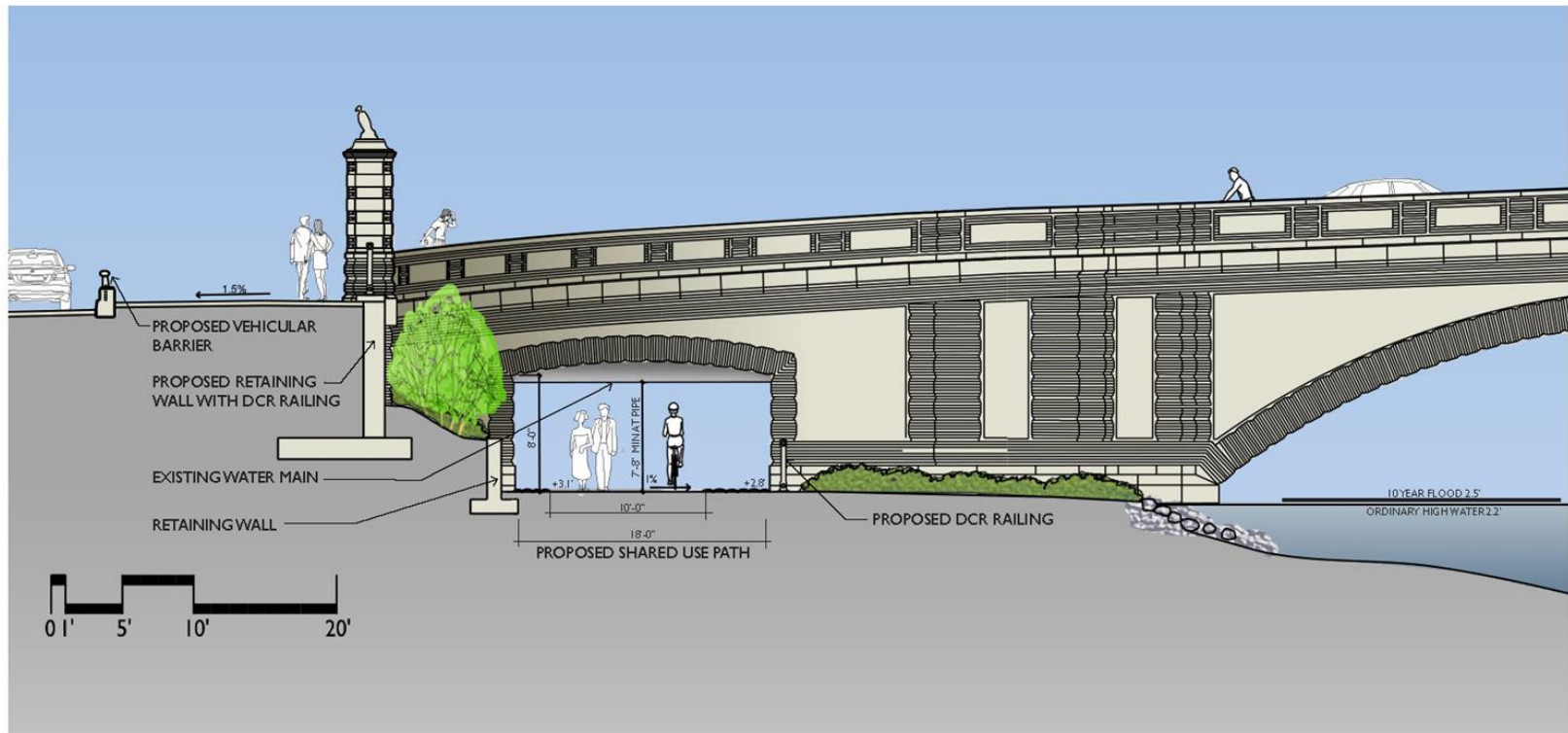
(617) 482-7080 x236

Questions and Comments?



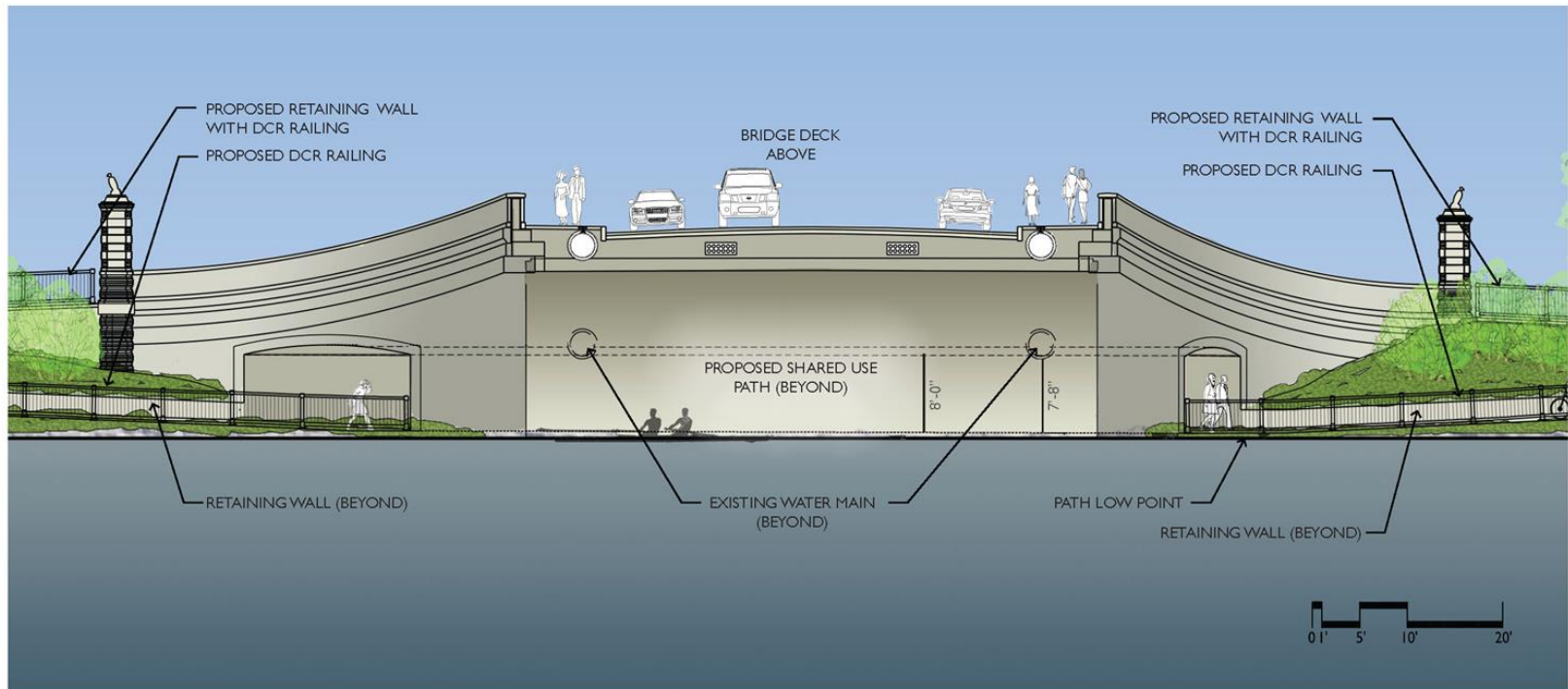


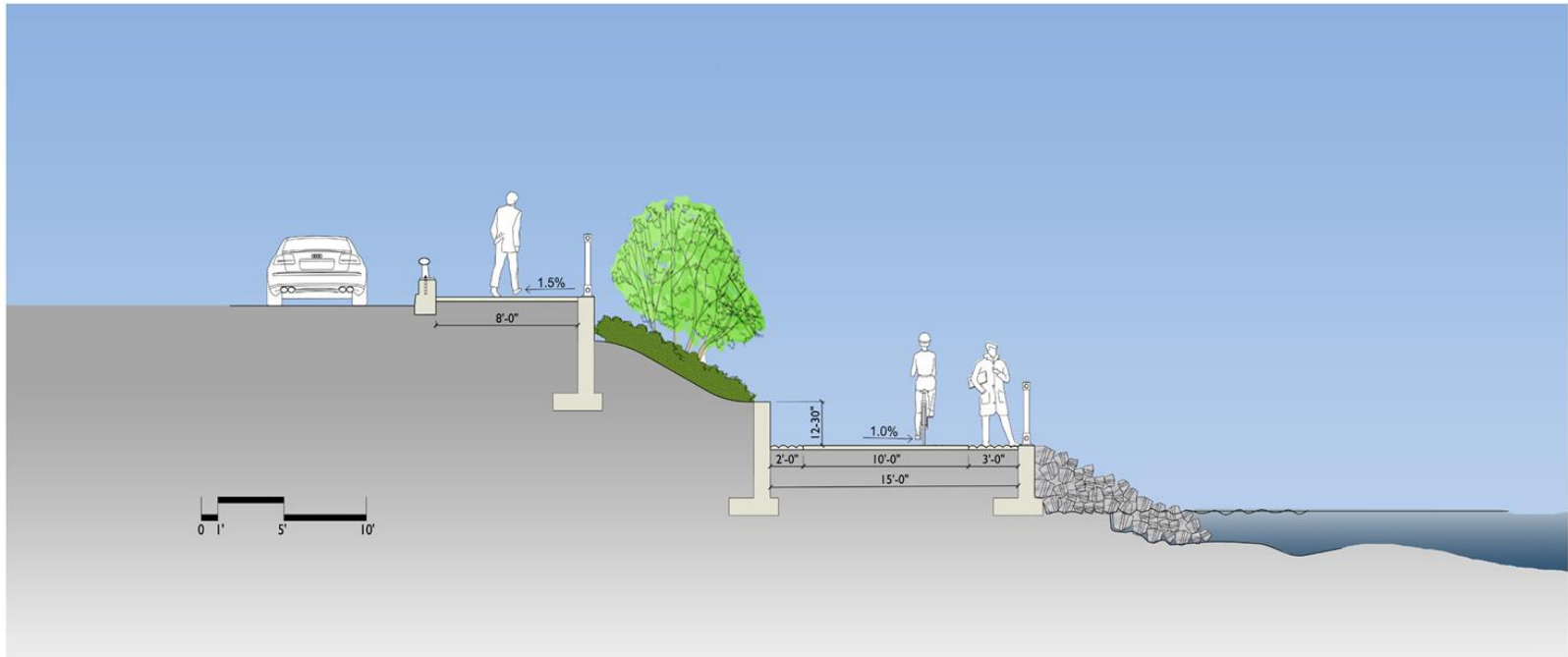


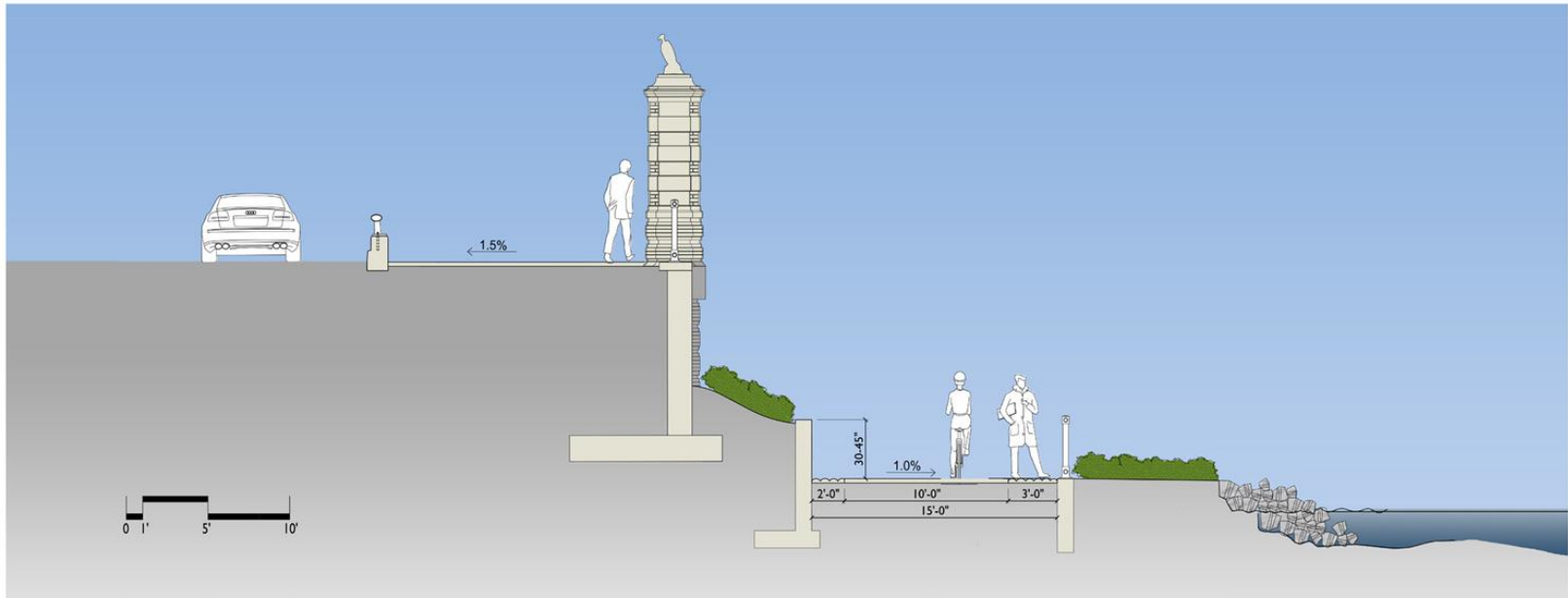


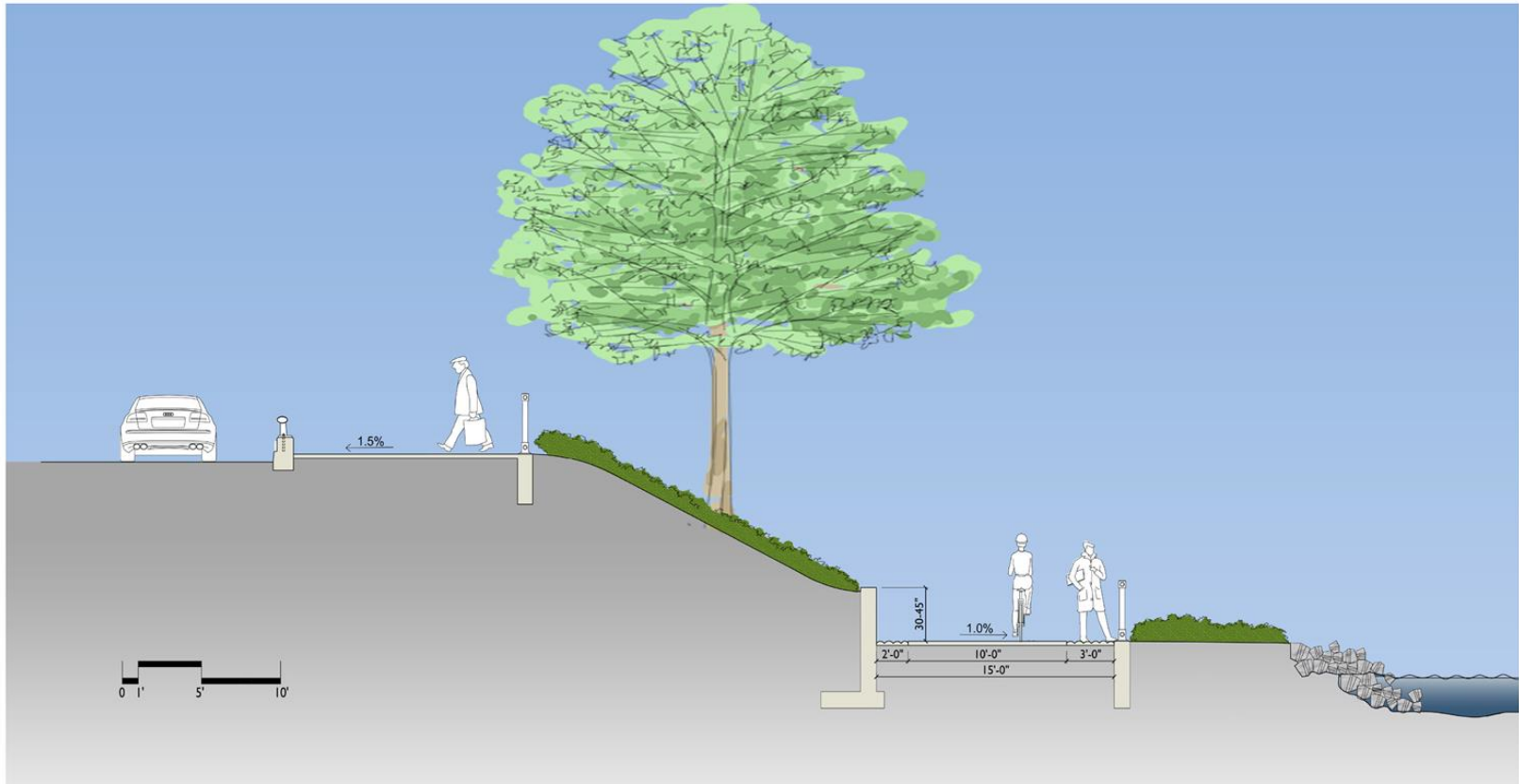




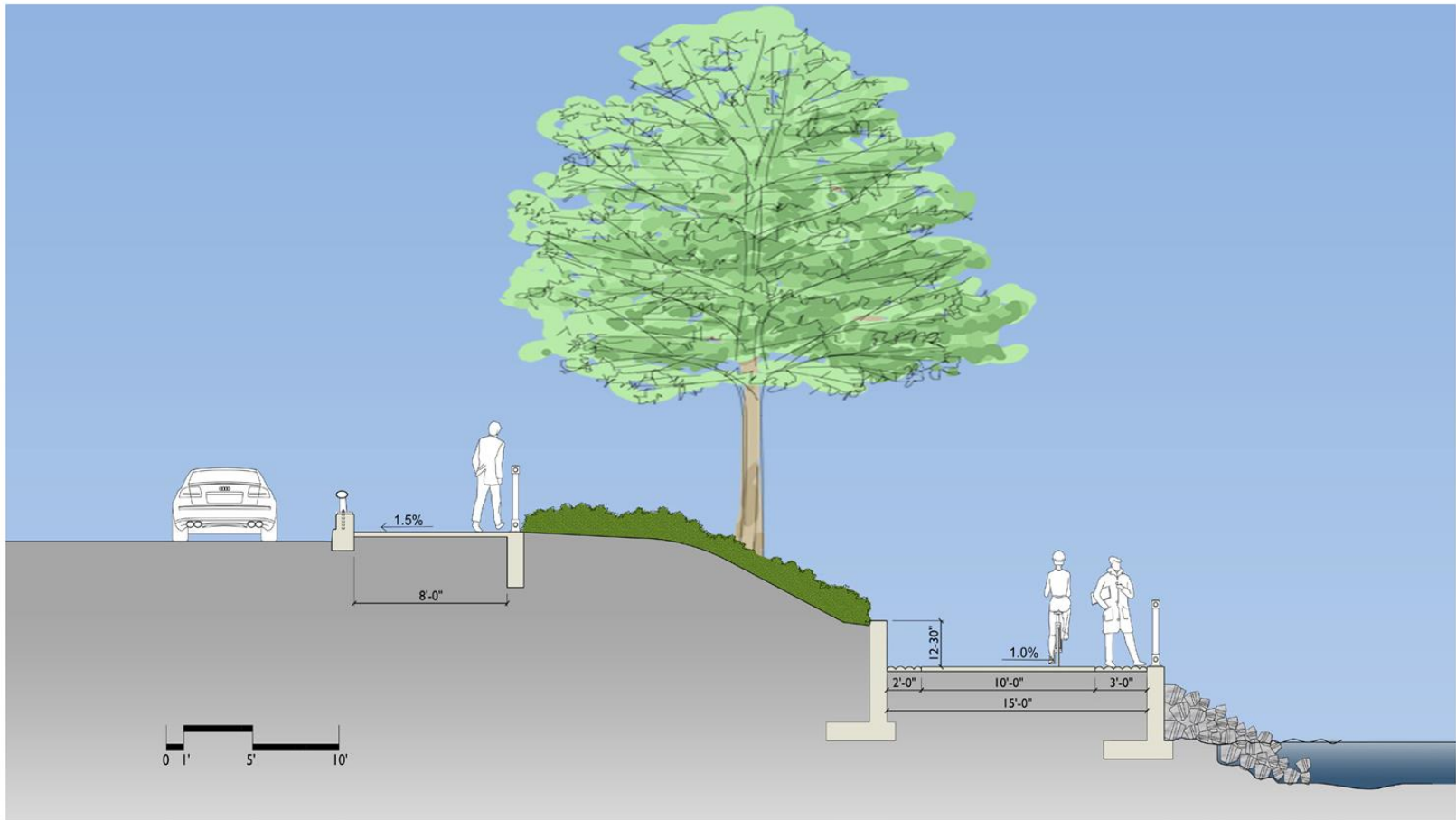




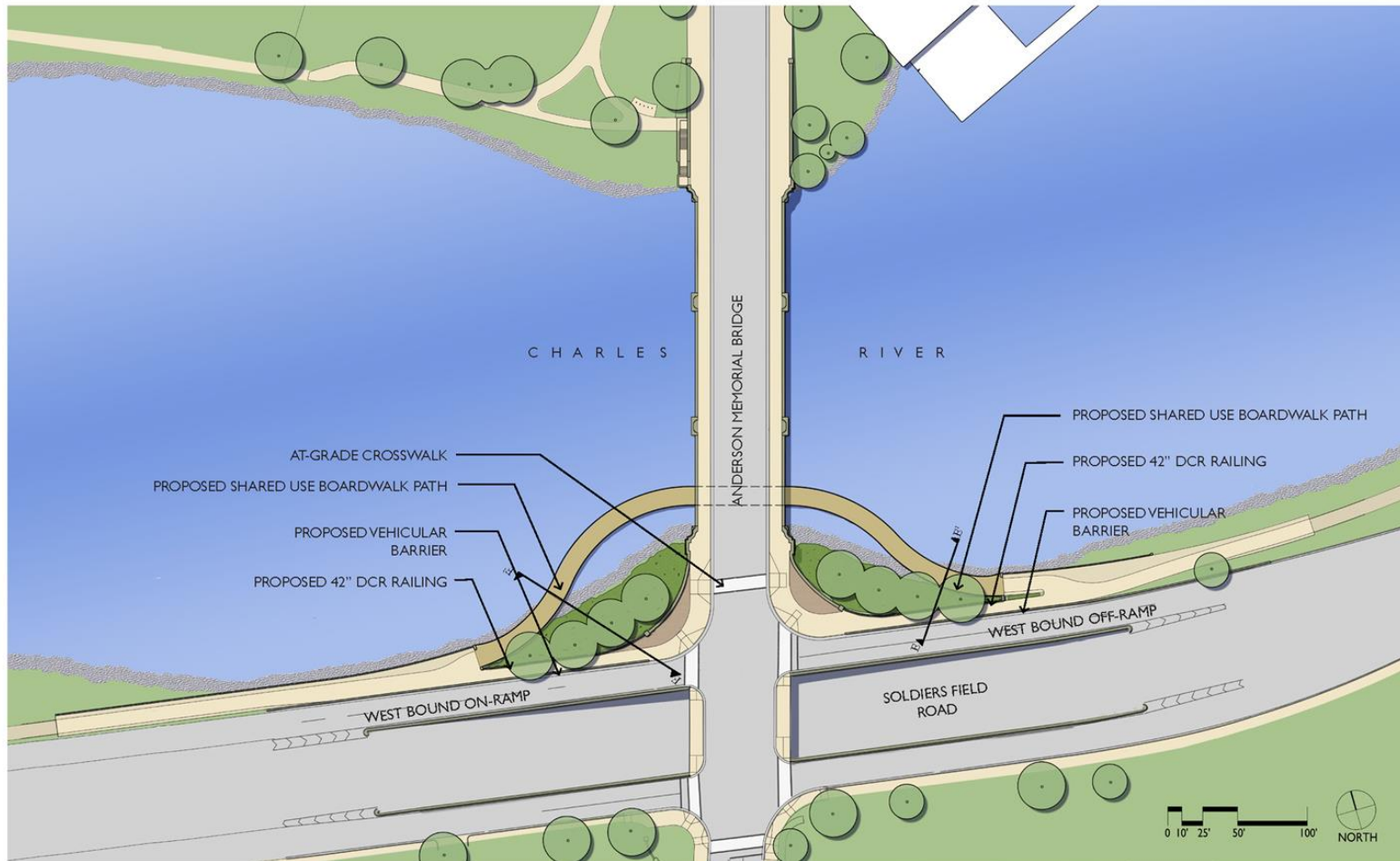


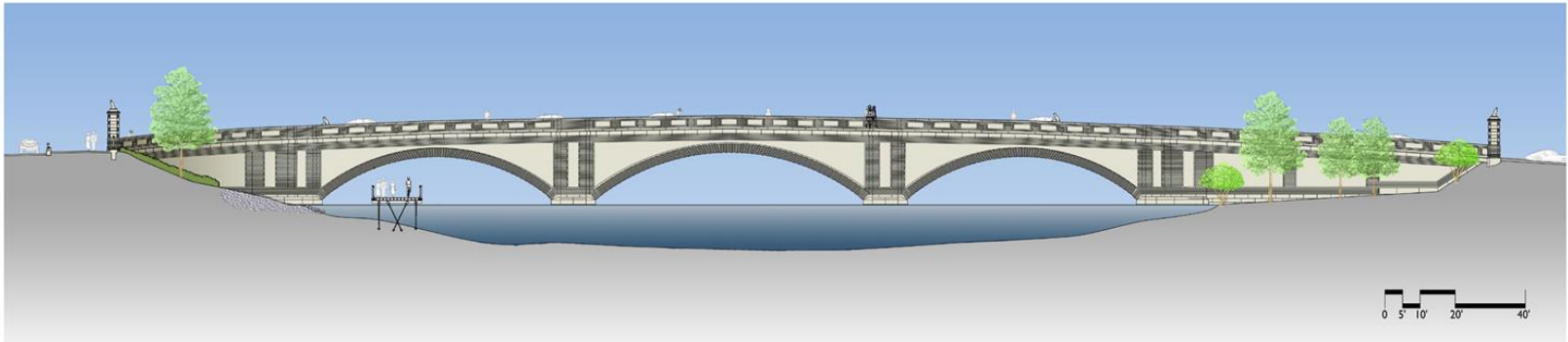


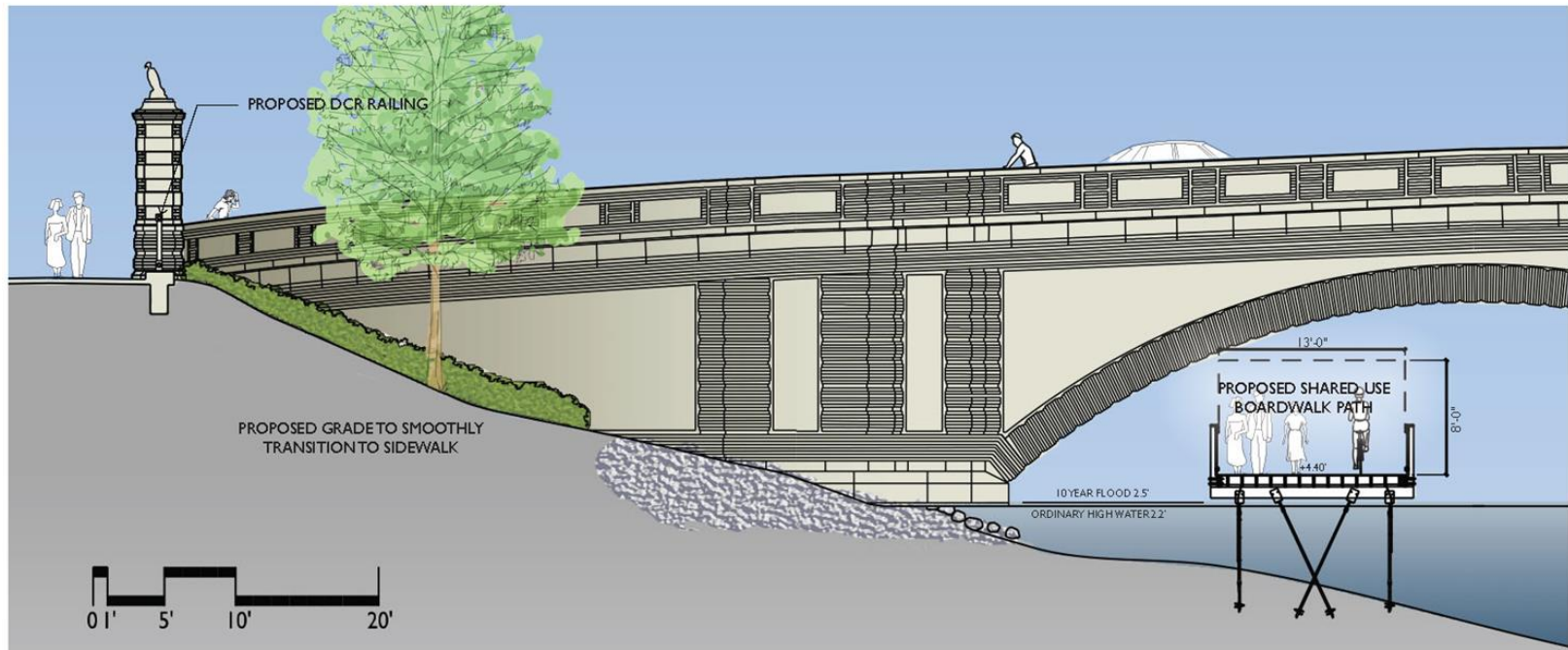
Underpass Option - Section C - C'
Shared Use Path at the Anderson Memorial Bridge



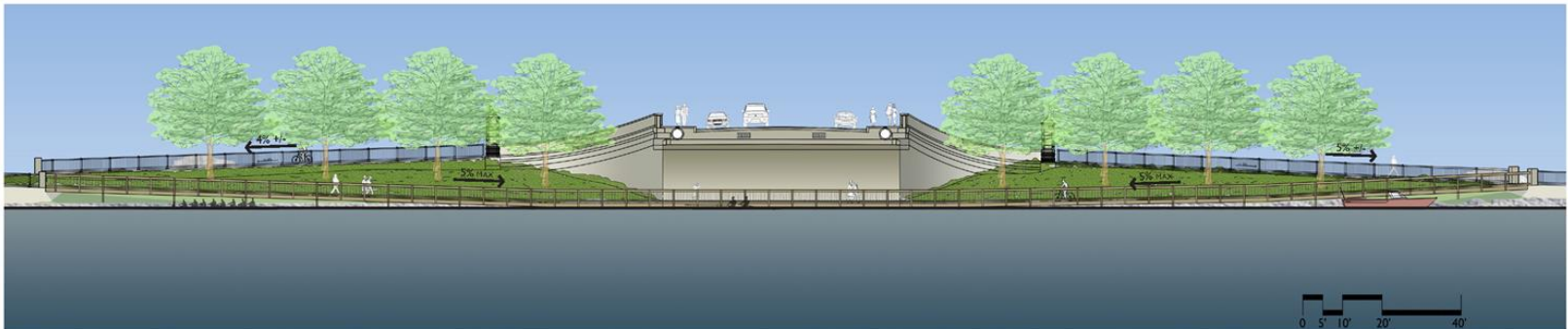
Underpass Option - Section D- D'
Shared Use Path at the Anderson Memorial Bridge

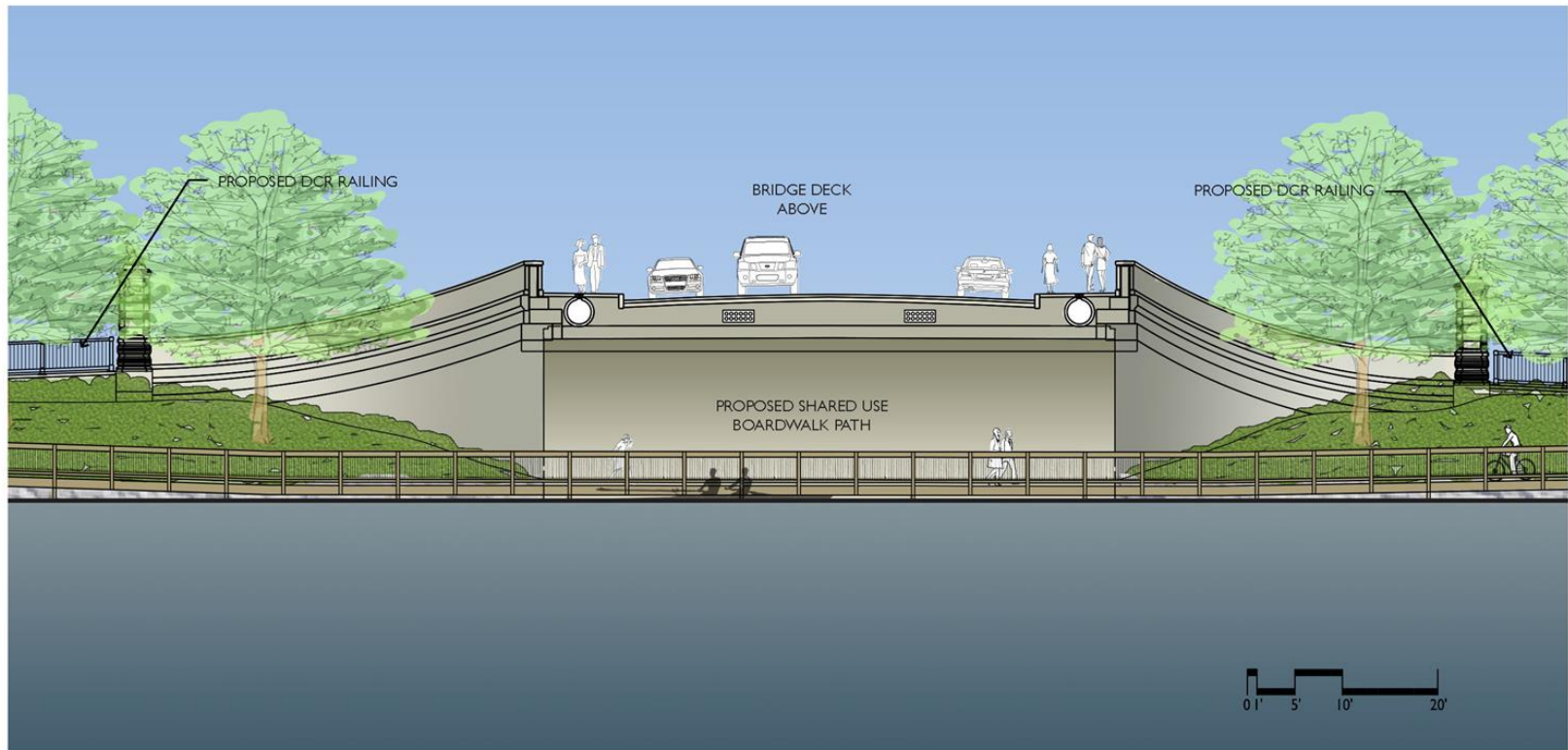


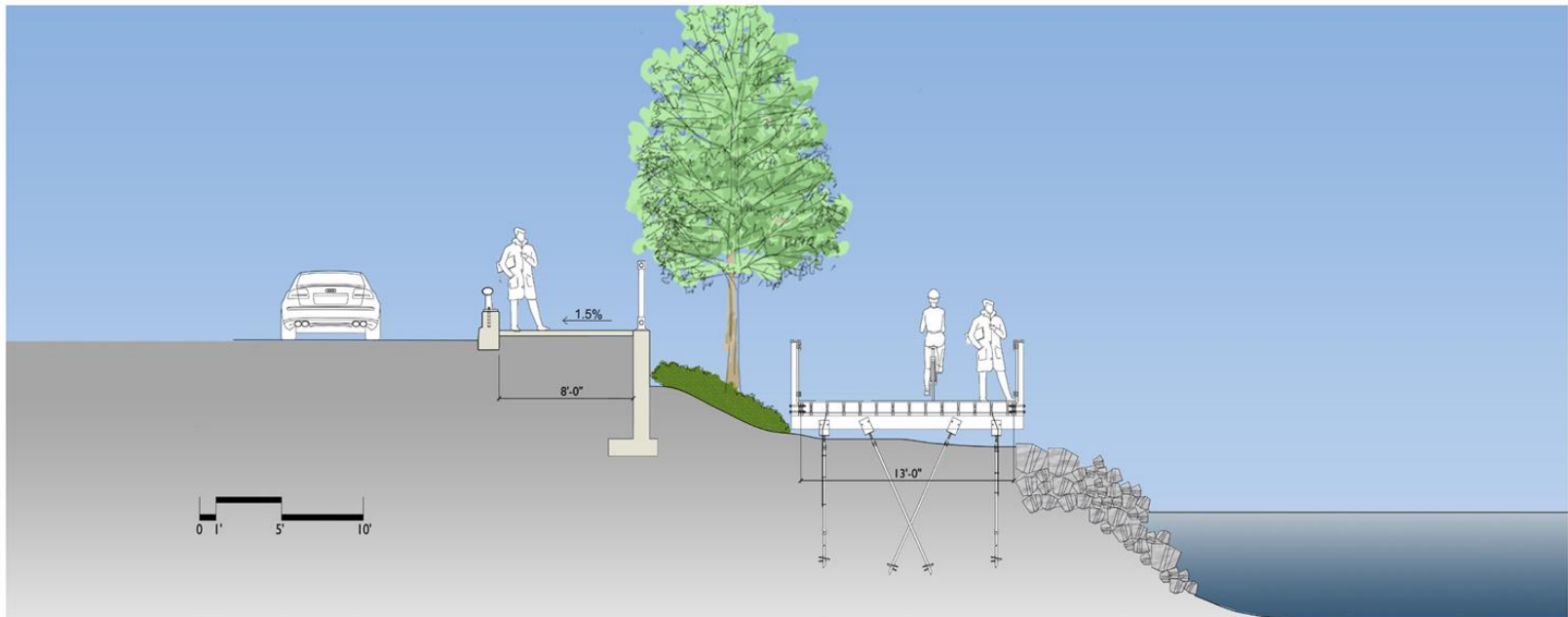


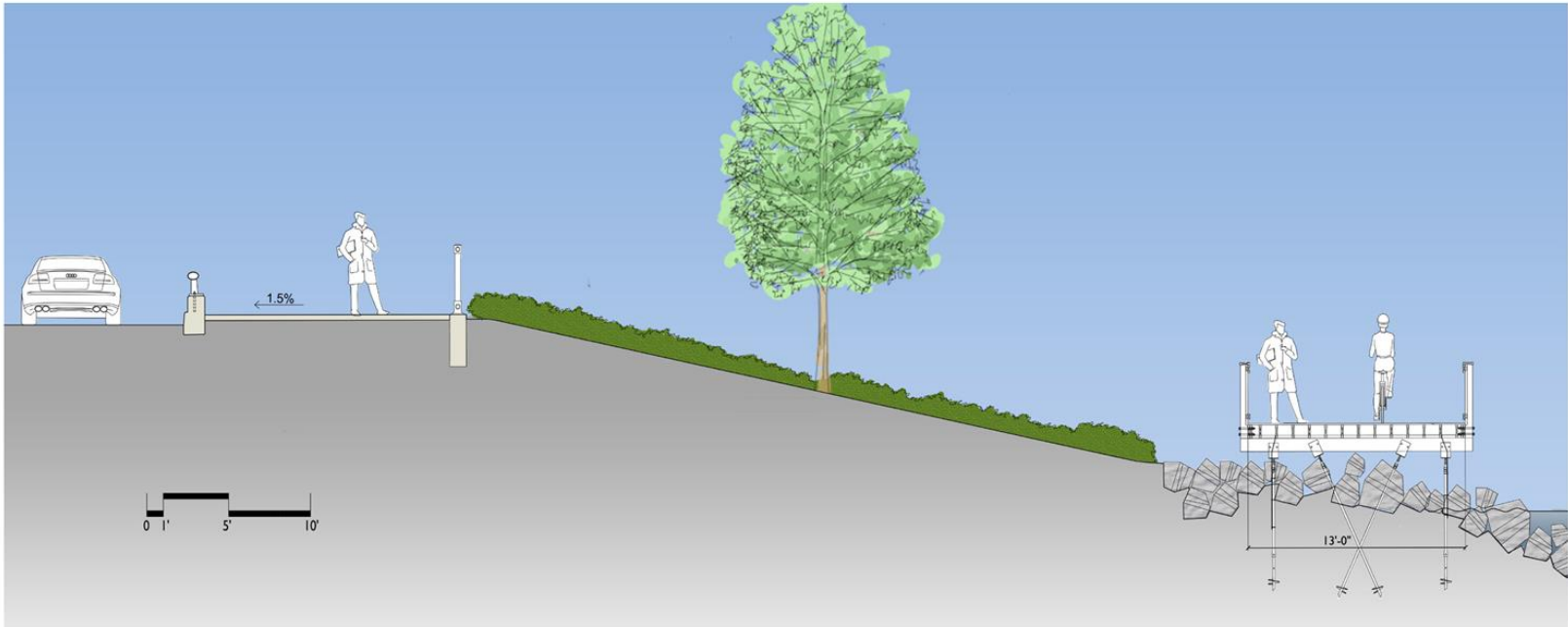


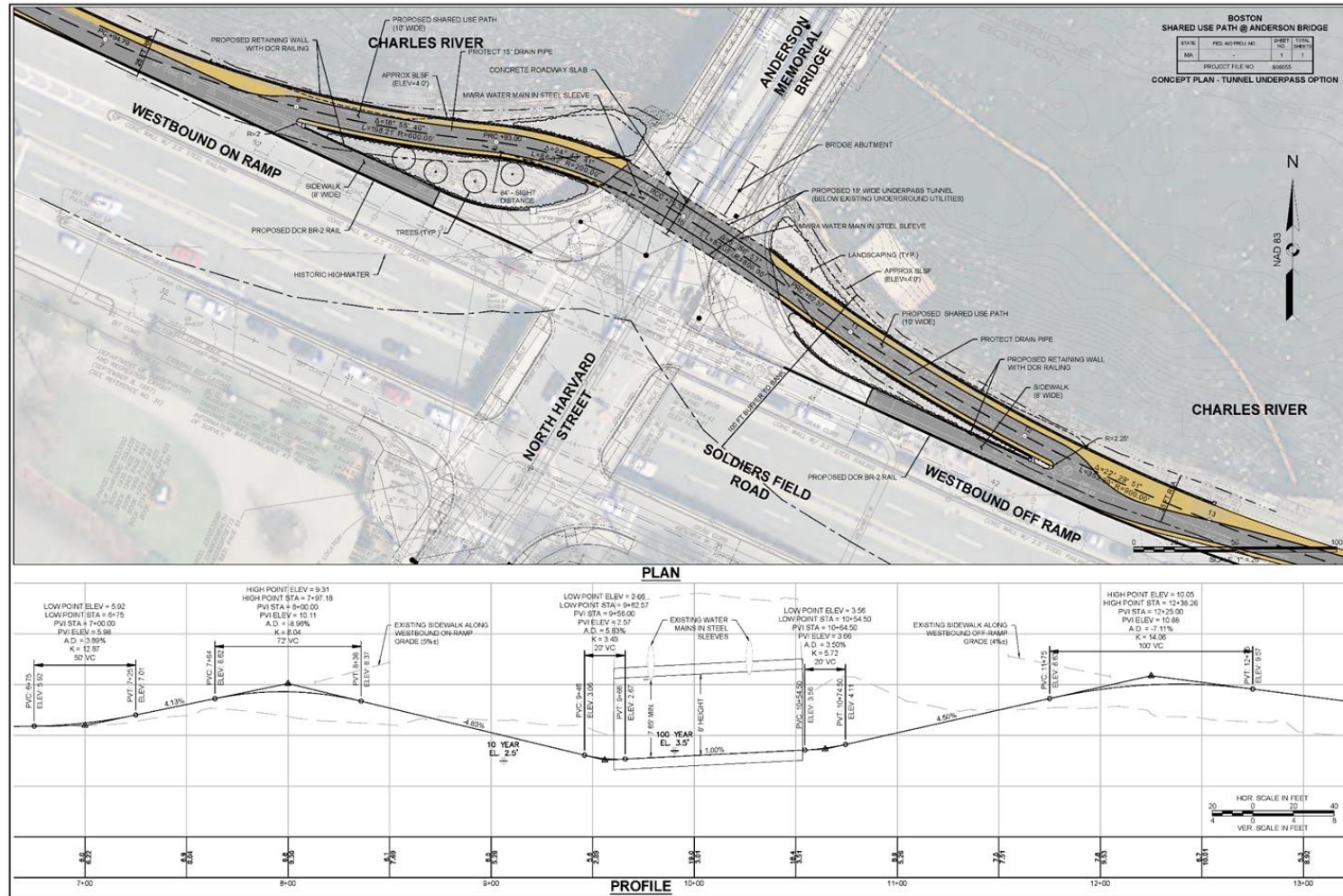


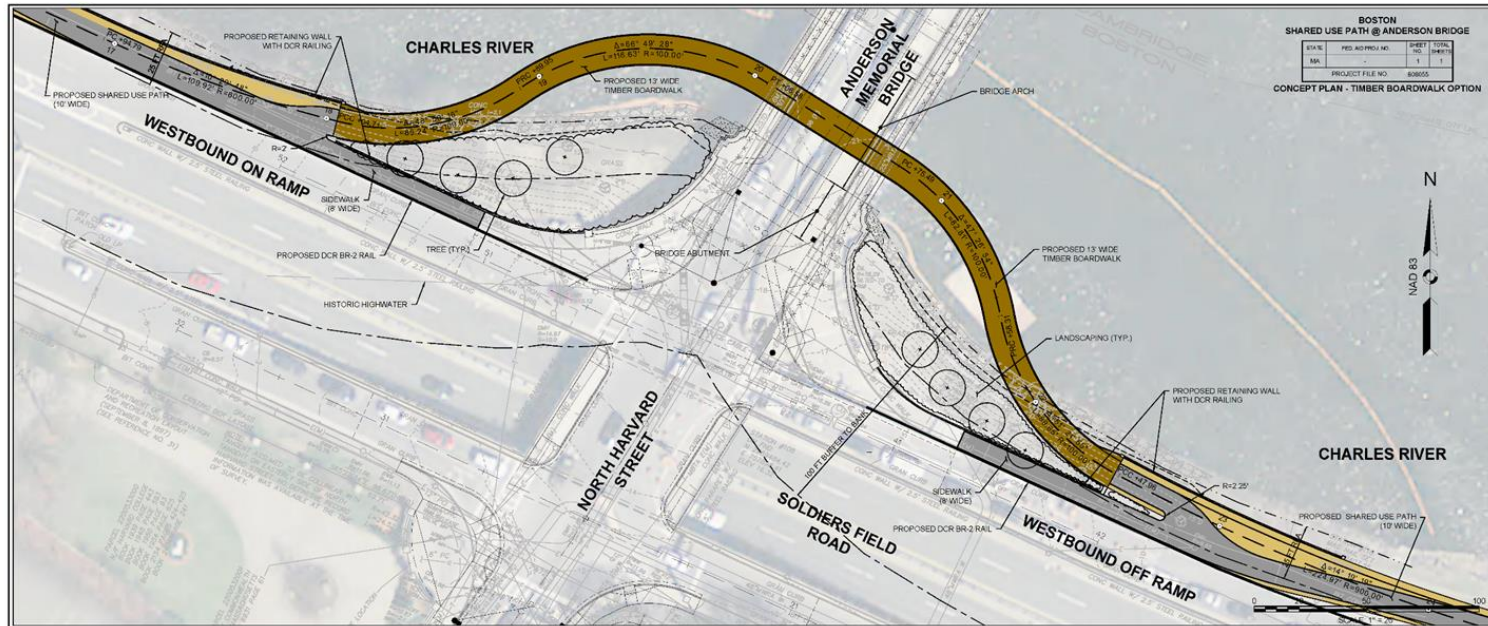












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