

# Welcome!

Thank you for joining us. This is the  
**second Public Meeting** on the  
**Silver Line Extension** Alternatives  
Analysis. Please settle in!

The meeting will start shortly.



# SL – Extension

## Alternatives Analysis

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Public Meeting #2

September 28, 2021

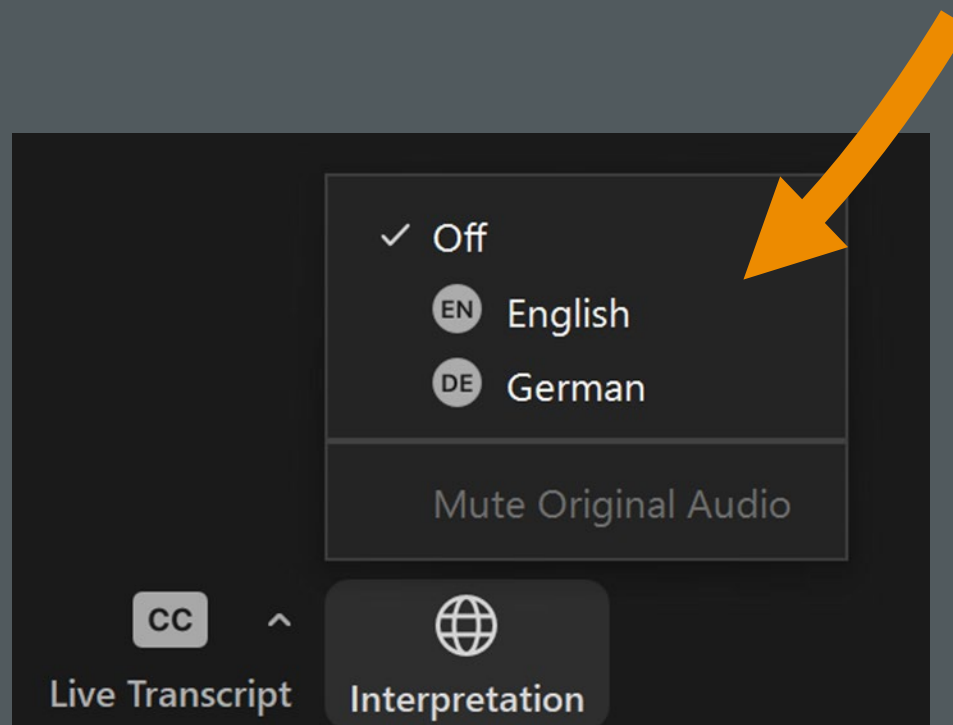
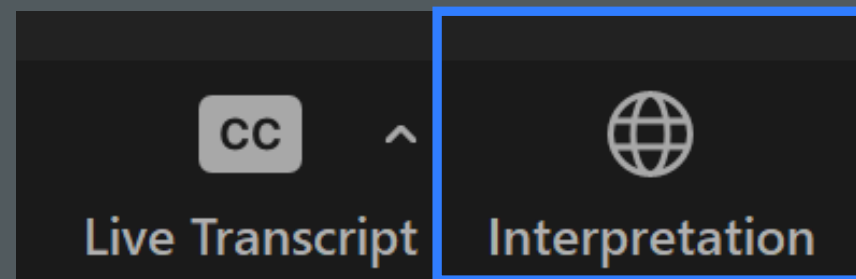




# How To Use Zoom

## Interpretation

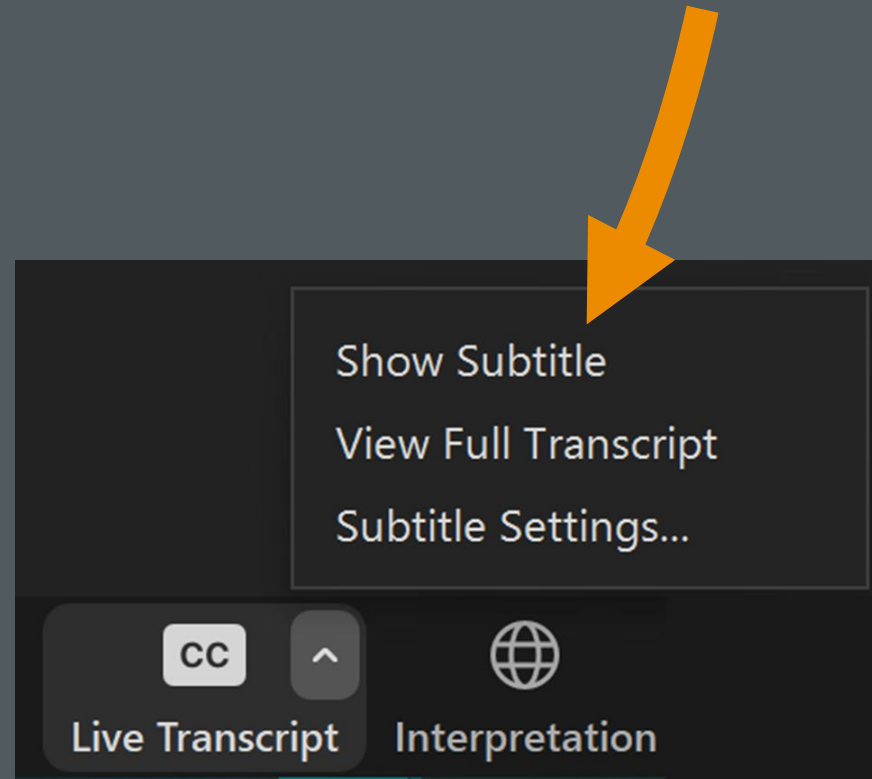
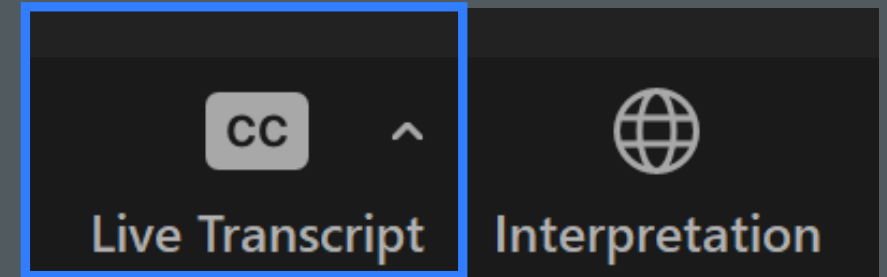
- Select the **language** you would like to hear by clicking the **Interpretation** feature and selecting a language from the list provided.
- To hear the **interpreted language only**, click **Mute Original Audio**.



# How To Use Zoom

## Captioning

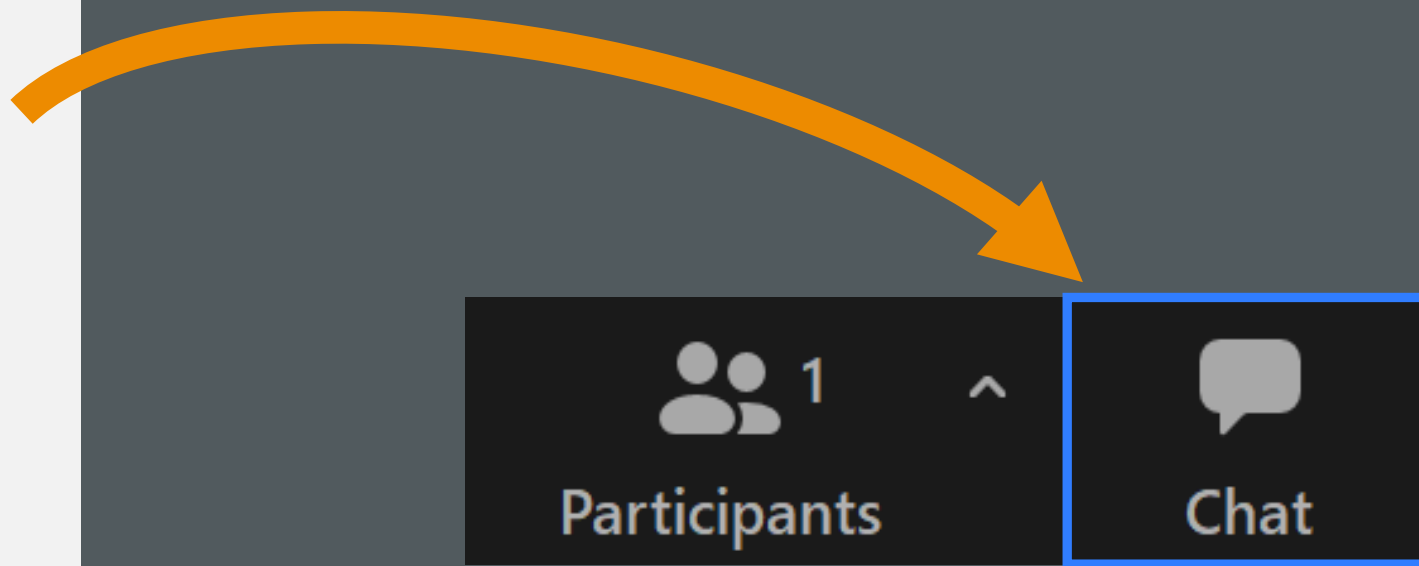
- You can **view closed captions** by clicking the **Live Transcript** feature and selecting from the options shown.
- **Show Subtitle** will **display a caption** at the bottom of the screen.
- **View Full Transcript** will display the meeting's **audio transcription** in a window to the right.



# How To Use Zoom

## Chat

- You may use the **Chat button** to submit a typed question or comment at any point during the meeting.
- If you have a technical problem, please share your issue in the **Chat feature** at any point during the meeting, and we will respond as quickly as possible.



# TONIGHT'S AGENDA

01 | Welcome

02 | Project Presentation  
- Project Overview  
- Work to Date

03 | Breakout Session on  
Potential Alternatives

04 | Questions & Answers

05 | Next Steps

## Meeting Purpose

Our goal for tonight's meeting is to get your feedback on potential alternatives to move forward into the next phase of our study.

# PROJECT PURPOSE

What is the project, and why are we doing it?

# Project Purpose

The ***purpose*** of the Silver Line Extension Alternatives Analysis is to assess the feasibility, utility, and cost of various alignment and service frequency options of an extension of the Silver Line, providing high quality transit from Chelsea through Everett and on to Somerville, Cambridge and/or Boston.



This project's overarching **objective** is to add transit service capacity and connectivity that will knit together Chelsea and Everett with nearby communities that are not currently well connected with high-quality transit.

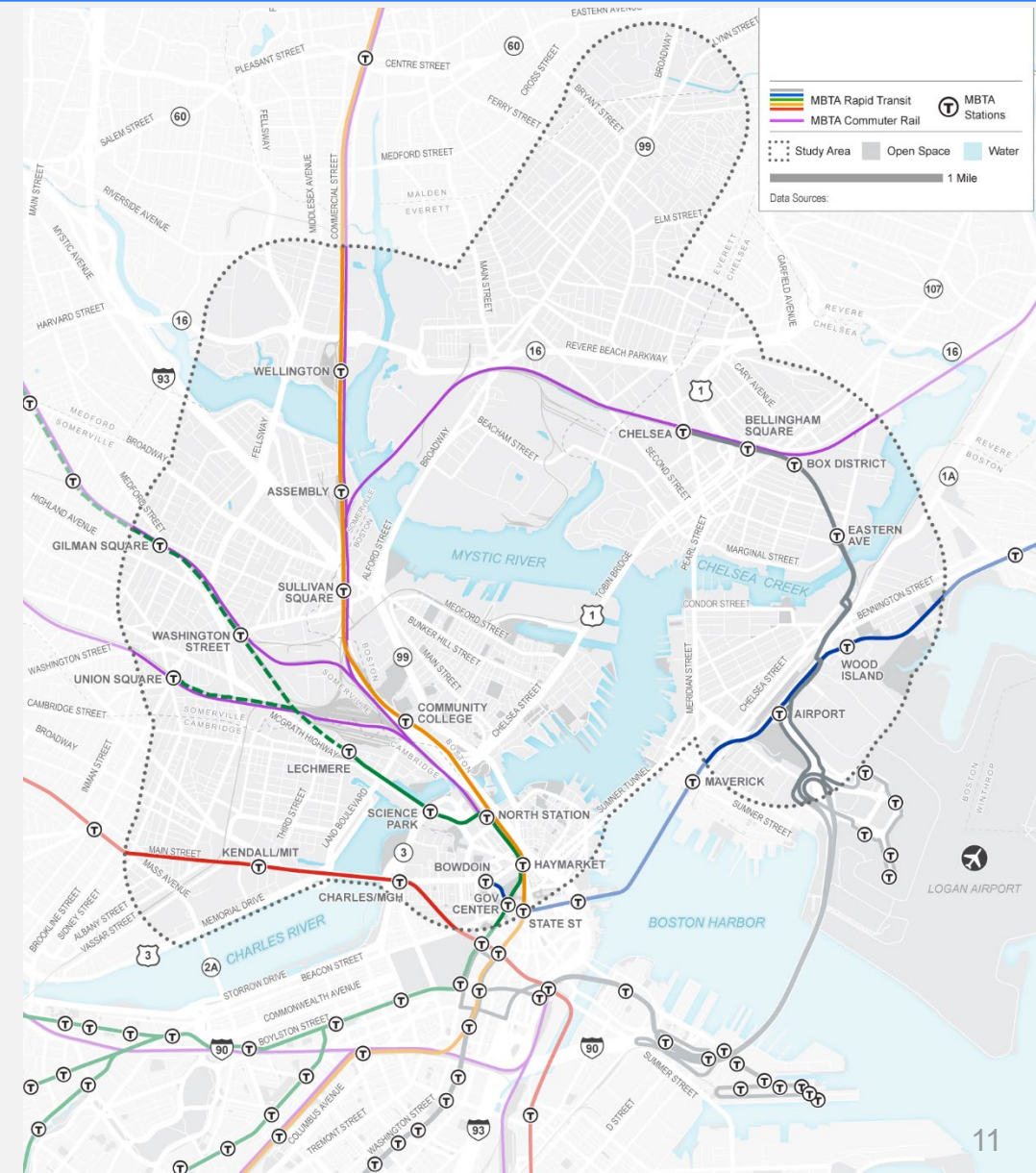
- Existing transit service is not competitive with driving for many types of trips being made to and from Chelsea and Everett.
- Despite the lack of competitiveness, bus ridership in Chelsea and Everett during the pandemic has been more durable than in other communities.
- Chelsea, Everett, Somerville, and Cambridge are experiencing rapid growth in housing and employment in areas that are not currently well served by transit.
- There are existing transit connections in Chelsea, Everett, and nearby communities that could be leveraged and improved into a high-quality cohesive network.

We recognize that our project is happening at the same time as other projects that are important to our region and transit network. We are actively working with staff from these efforts to ensure they are coordinated:

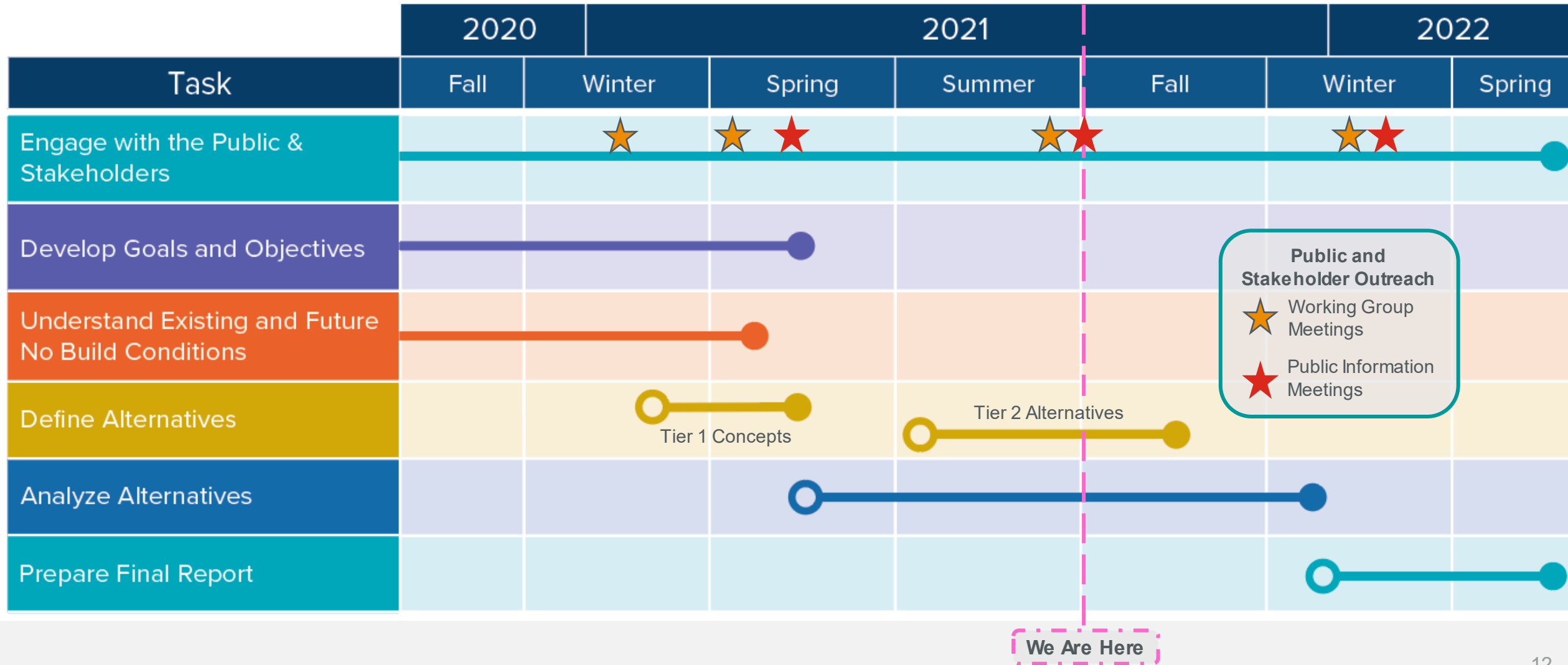
- Better Bus Project (includes Bus Network Redesign)
- Wellington Circle Study
- McGrath Boulevard Project

# Our Study Area

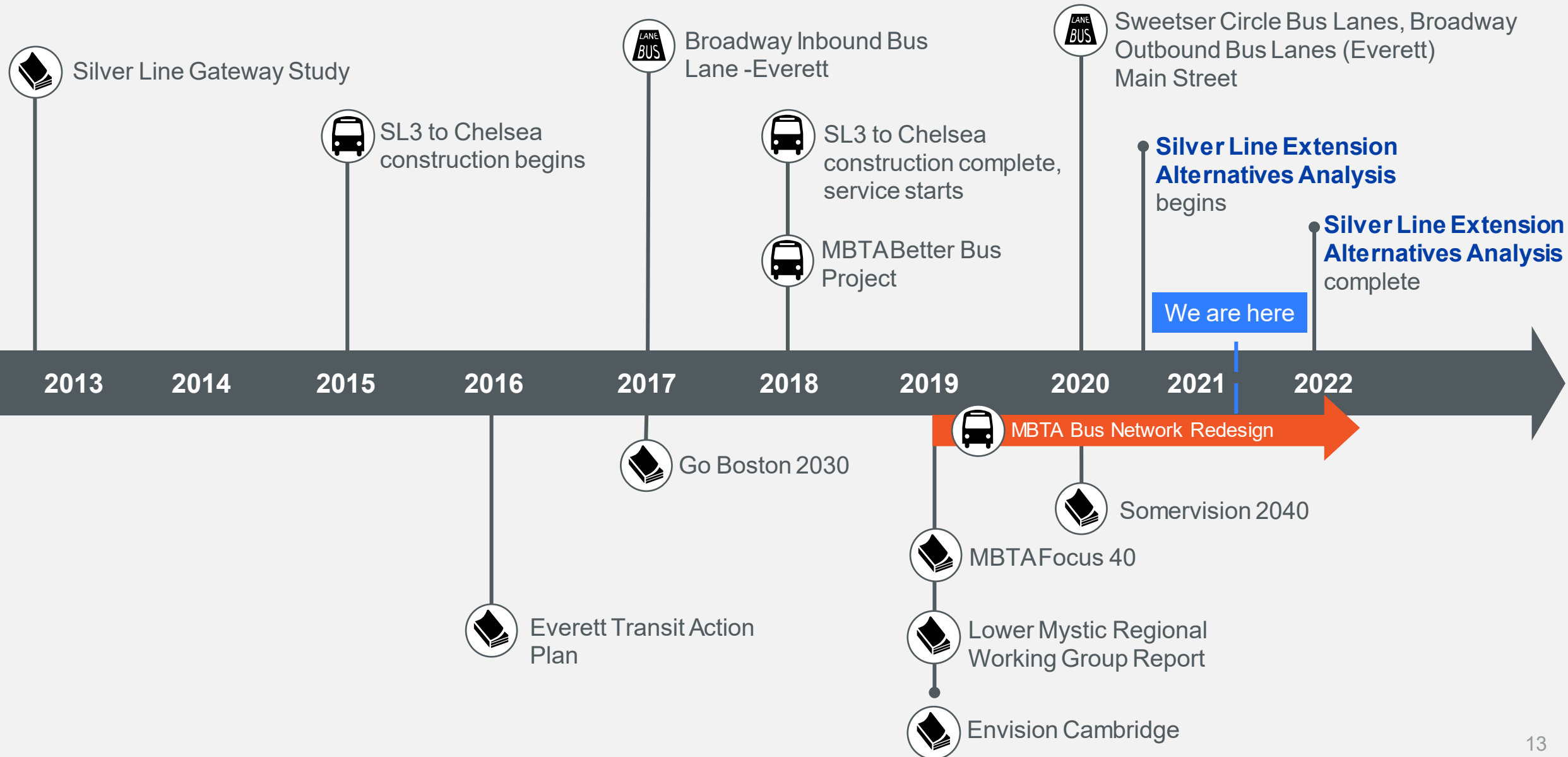
The study area was developed to encompass likely study alignments that would meet the project's purpose, with a reasonable buffer to reflect uncertainty.



# Project Schedule



# Context and Project History



# Work to Date

What we've been up to since our last meeting



# Progress Since Last Meeting

Our 1<sup>st</sup> Public Meeting was in April 2021. Since that time, we have:

- Opened an Online Feedback Form (April-May)
- Refined our Goals and Objectives based on what we heard from the community (May-June)
- Completed our existing conditions analysis (May)
- Created a long list of ideas and evaluated them against the Goals and Objectives (June-July)
- Began to form a short list of alternatives for further analysis (August-September)

# Stakeholder Working Group

We have convened a Stakeholder Working Group made up of:

- Staff from MAPC and the cities within our study area
- State Representatives and Senators whose districts overlap with the study area
- Community members nominated by Mayors and City Managers

This group is providing input throughout the course of the project and meeting around key milestones

To date we have met with this group three times. Meetings are open to the public and recordings and presentations are posted on the project website: [mbta.com/slx](http://mbta.com/slx)

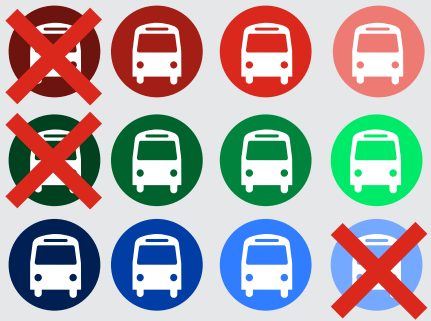
# Public Outreach to Date

Prior to tonight's meeting, we have:

- Met regularly with staff from the Cities of Chelsea, Everett, Somerville, Cambridge, Medford and Boston
- Held 3 External Working Group meetings, open to the public
- Held a virtual public meeting in April 2021
- Created a project website and posted materials and meeting recordings
- Published 2 online feedback forms and an interactive map available at [mbta.com/slx](https://mbta.com/slx)
- Published press releases and email updates about the project to the MassDOT distribution list
- Advertised the public meetings in print, radio, and online media in English, Spanish, and Portuguese (Everett Independent, Chelsea Record, Brazilian Times, respectively) and on Super 99.9 FM in Spanish
- Planned future outreach includes meeting with community-based organizations and neighborhood organizations

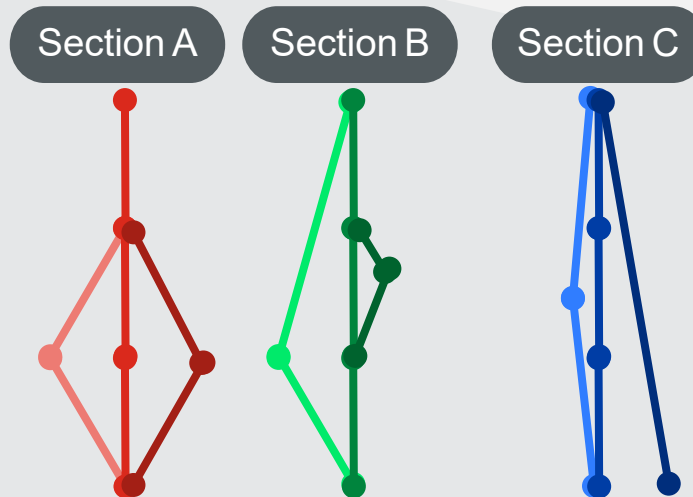
# Project Evaluation Process

## Screening



Review a wide host of ideas and remove all those that don't meet the project's purpose

## Tier 1 Evaluation



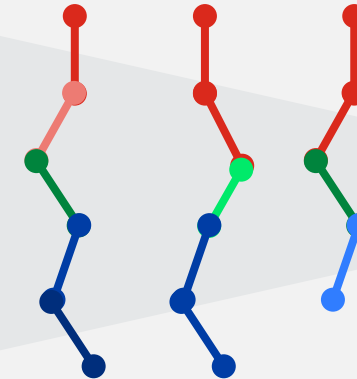
Test different alignments within each section

NOTE: Alignments shown above are illustrative, and not intended to represent any specific alignments!

We Are Here

## Tier 2 Evaluation

### Entire Route



Test best alignments as complete route

LPA

# Goals and Objectives

Goals and Objectives provide the framework that guides the study

They help us know when we have been successful

Evaluation criteria nest within the goals and objectives, and help us understand which alignments are more effective than others

Our Goals and Objectives must be consistent with the goals and visions laid out by each community within the study area as well as the missions of MassDOT and the MBTA

# Goals and Objectives

Our Goals and Objectives are drawn from other recently-completed plans:

- MBTA Focus 40
- City of Chelsea (various studies)
- Everett Transit Action Plan
- Go Boston 2030
- SomerVision 2040
- Envision Cambridge



# Our Goal Areas

The major themes that guide our work



Expand Mobility  
and Access



Advance Equity



Improve Safety



Support Climate  
Change  
Resilience and  
Sustainability

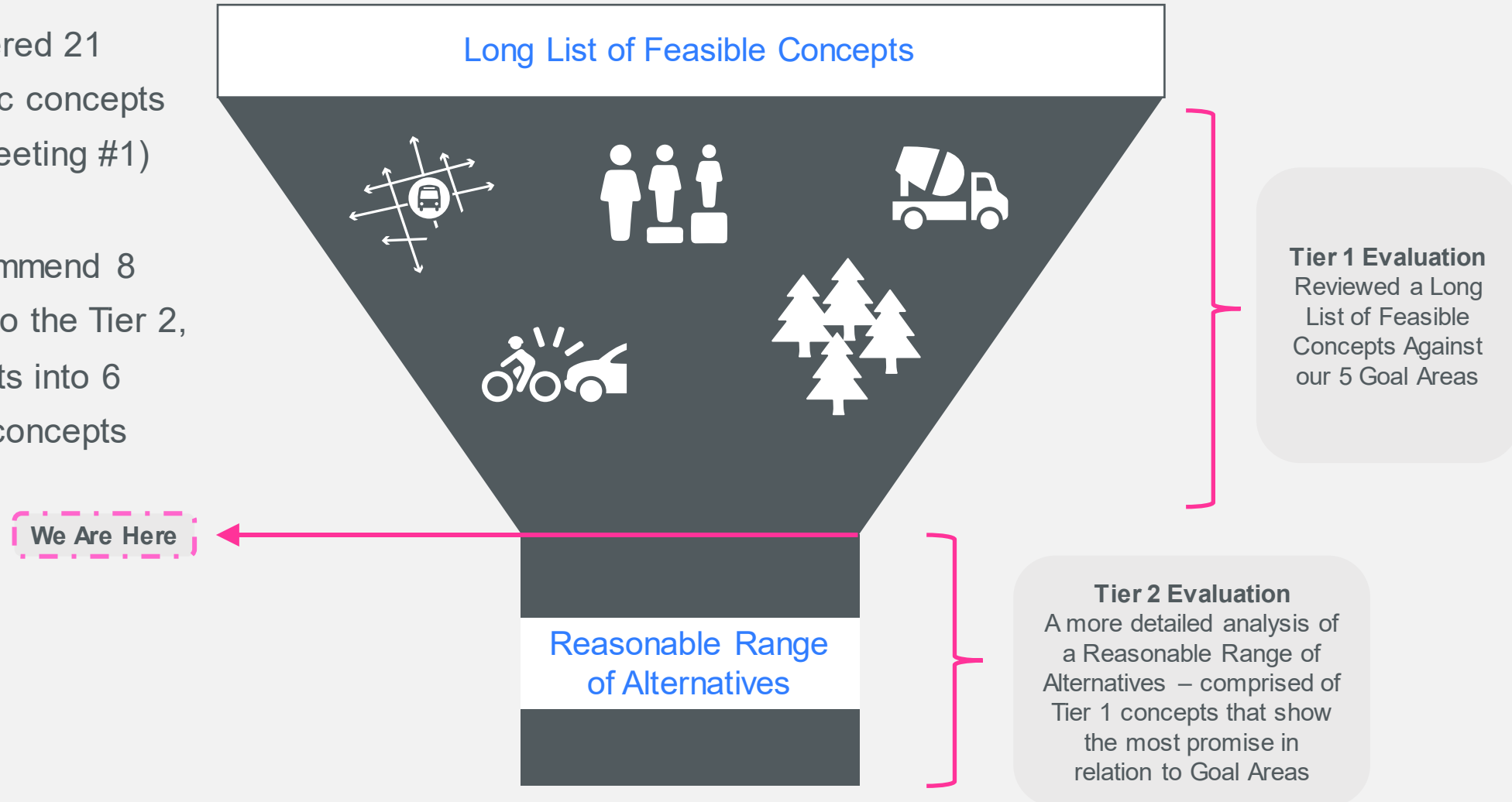


Advance  
Feasible and  
Implementable  
Solutions

# What We Have Found

The Tier 1 considered 21 geographic-specific concepts (focus of Public Meeting #1)

Of these, we recommend 8 moving forward into the Tier 2, combining concepts into 6 complete service concepts

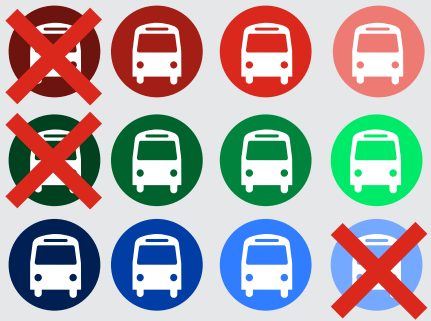


# Potential Alternatives

We Want to Hear From You!

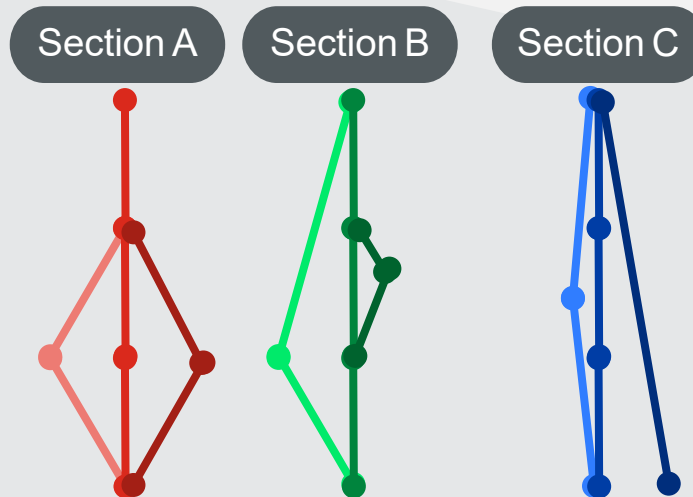
# The Tier 2 Process

## Screening



Review a wide host of ideas and remove all those that don't meet the project's purpose

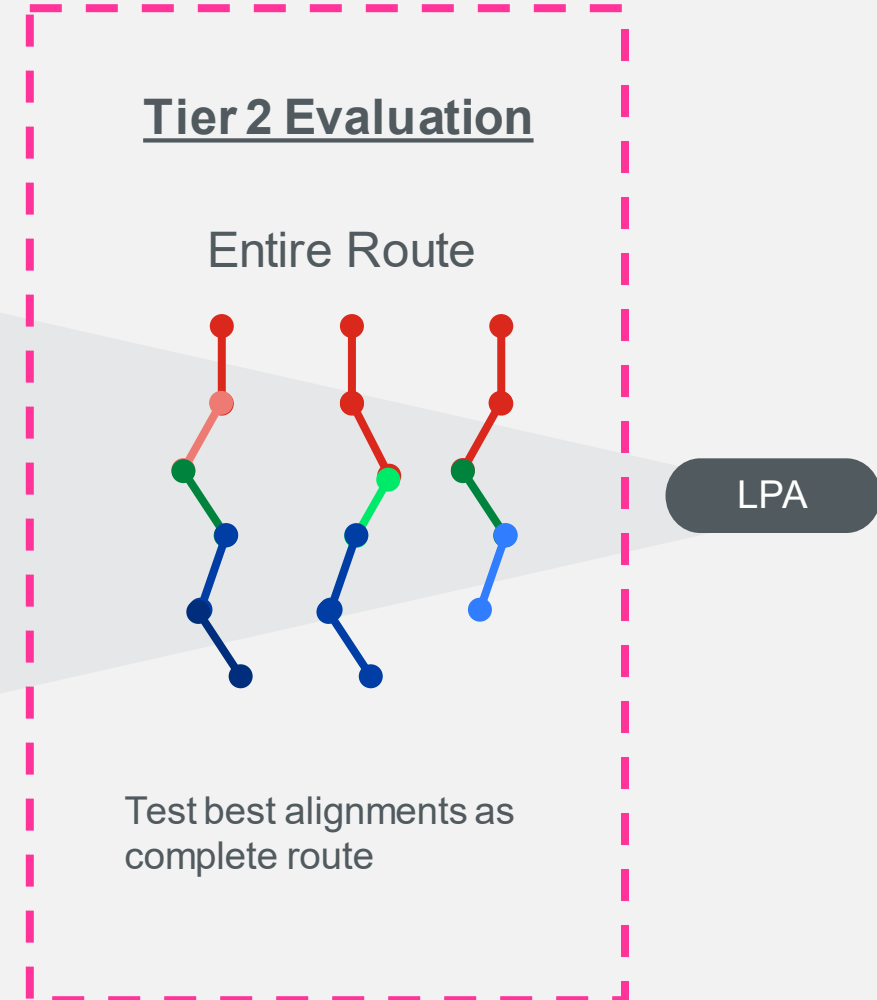
## Tier 1 Evaluation



Test different alignments within each section

NOTE: Alignments shown above are illustrative, and not intended to represent any specific alignments!

## Tier 2 Evaluation



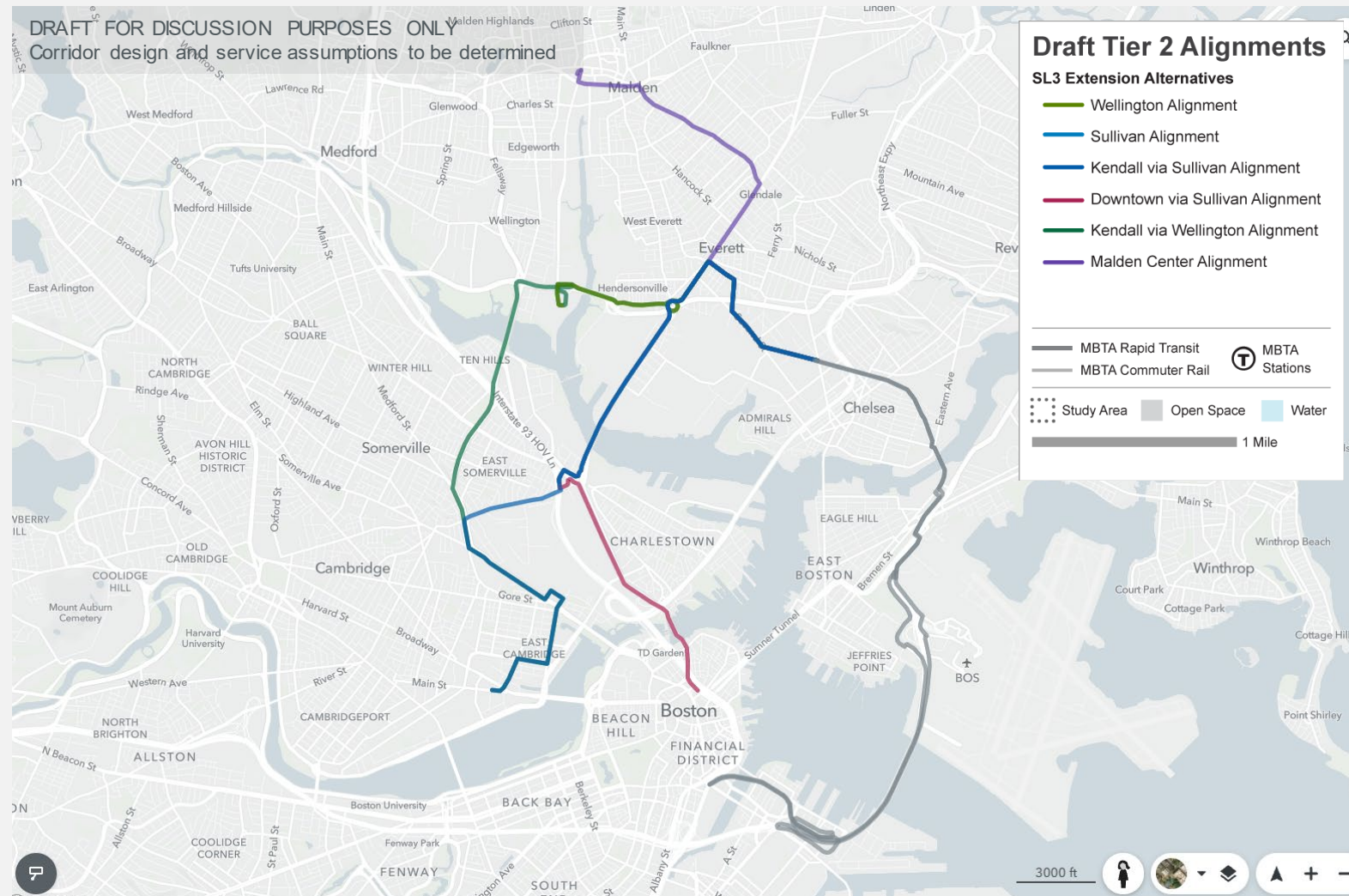
Test best alignments as complete route

# Some High-Level Assumptions

- Silver Line investments provide Bus Rapid Transit-level quality of service
- We seek transit priority wherever possible
  - Where constraints exist, we consider tradeoffs between general traffic and on-street parking with transit priority
  - Where constraints do not exist, we will assume the highest level of transit priority possible
- Stops will be spaced farther apart than they are for other MBTA bus service

# Big Service Questions to Address

- What is the extension of the SL3?
- Are some alternatives really a different SL service (like a SL 6 or SL 7)?
- If so, where would transfers occur?
- Do our SL3 extensions start at Chelsea, at Airport, at South Station?
- Does it make some sense for some alternatives to begin elsewhere?





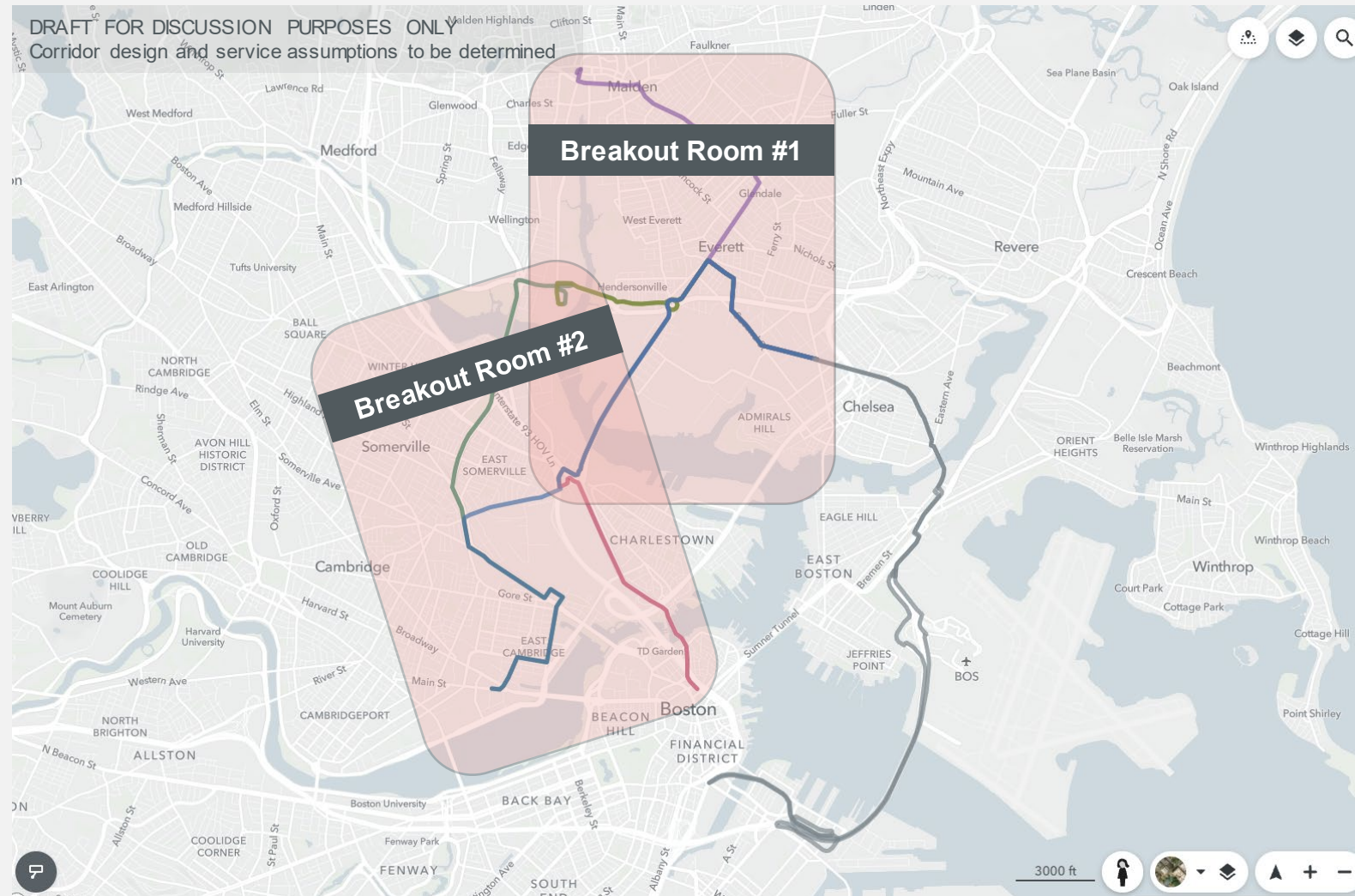
# Breakout Rooms

**Breakout Room #1:**  
Chelsea and Everett to  
the Orange Line

**Breakout Room #2:**  
Orange Line to Kendall  
and/or Boston

Spanish Breakout  
Room (All Sections)

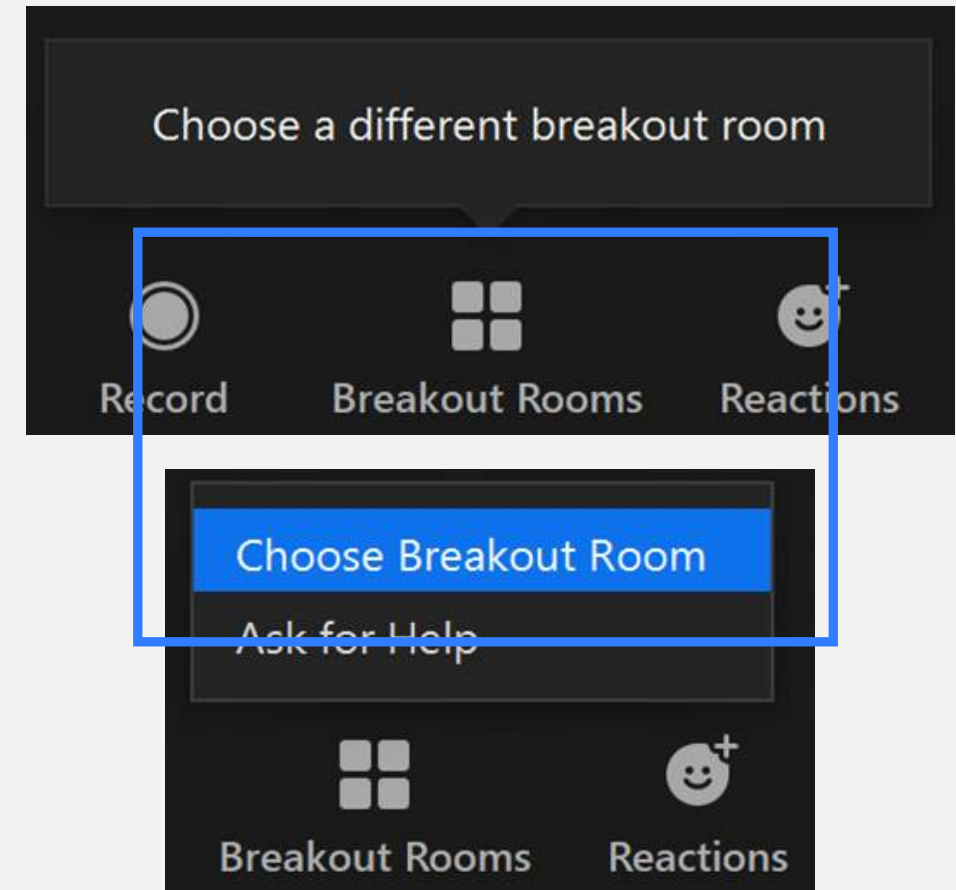
Discusión en Español  
(Todas las secciones)



# Self-selecting a Breakout Room

- Click “**Breakout Rooms**” in your meeting controls. This will display the list of open breakout rooms.
- Click “**Join**” next to the Room you wish to enter, then confirm by clicking “**Join**” again.
- To exit a Breakout Room, click “**Leave Breakout Room**” but be careful to only leave the Room, not the meeting.
- *We will be in breakout rooms for about 30 minutes. At any point, you may switch to another breakout room. We will ultimately convene everyone back in the main room.*

**Note:** *if you are joining by phone, you will have to be assigned to a room by a moderator.*



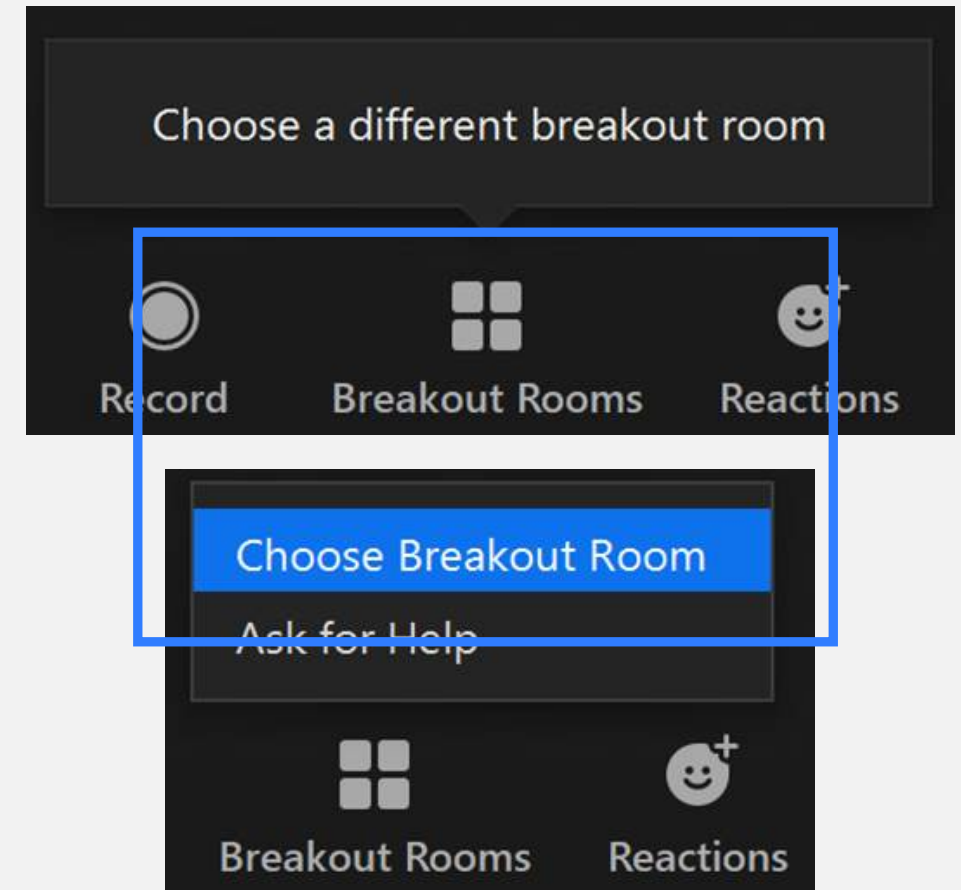
# Small Group Discussion

At this time, meeting attendees are in small groups, discussing potential alternatives.

- **Breakout Room #1:** Chelsea and Everett to the Orange Line
- **Breakout Room #2:** Orange Line to Kendall and/or downtown Boston

If you are just joining:

- Please select a breakout room to join the discussion
- We will be reconvening at 7:15 pm.



# Next Steps

Where do we go from here?

# Next Steps

- Our second Online Feedback Form is live at [mbta.com/slx](https://mbta.com/slx)
- There will be continued public outreach this fall as we finalize alternatives
- Tier 2 analysis will be conducted later this fall and winter

# Questions & Answers

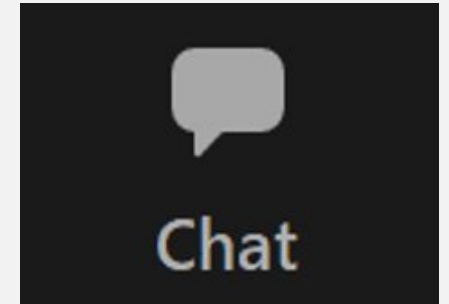
What feedback would you like to share with us?

What additional questions do you have?



# Questions and Answers

- Please share only one question or comment at a time
- Use the “**Chat**” button to submit a typed question or comment
- Press the “**Raise Hand**” button to share your question or comment verbally. Wait for the moderator to recognize and unmute you before speaking.
- If you have joined by phone only, you may “raise your hand” by pressing the star button and then nine (\*9)
- *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*
- Comments may also be sent to [SLX@mbta.com](mailto:SLX@mbta.com).
- The project website is at <https://www.mbta.com/projects/silver-line-extension-slx-alternatives-analysis>



# **SL – Extension**

Alternatives Analysis

# **THANK YOU!**



**For questions and comments  
please email [slx@mbta.com](mailto:slx@mbta.com)**