

# Welcome!

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Tremont/Columbus Avenue  
Phase 2 Bus Lanes Project

Please settle in!

The meeting will start shortly.



The background image shows a bus stop with a glass and steel roof. Two buses are visible, one in the foreground and one behind it. A sign on the left indicates 'Route 17' and 'Route 171'. The buses have '1292' and '1290' on their fronts. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

# Tremont/Columbus Avenue Phase 2 Bus Lanes Project

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October 26, 2022

Phillip Cherry, MBTA Transit Priority  
Senior Project Manager  
Matthew Moran, BTD Transit Team  
Director

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# Diversity and Civil Rights

## English

All MBTA activities, including public meetings, are free of discrimination. The MBTA complies with all federal and state civil rights requirements preventing discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, limited English proficiency, and additional protected characteristics. We welcome the diversity from across our entire service area. If you have any questions or concerns, please visit [www.mbta.com/titlevi](http://www.mbta.com/titlevi) to reach the Office of Diversity and Civil Rights.

## Spanish

Todas las actividades de MBTA, incluidas las reuniones públicas, están libres de discriminación. La MBTA cumple con todos los requisitos de derechos civiles federales y estatales que impiden la discriminación por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, dominio limitado del inglés y características protegidas adicionales. Damos la bienvenida a la diversidad de toda nuestra área de servicio. Si tiene alguna pregunta o preocupación, visite [www.mbta.com/titlevi](http://www.mbta.com/titlevi) para comunicarse con la Oficina de Diversidad y Derechos Civiles.

## Chinese

MBTA 的所有活动，包括公开会议，都没有歧视。MBTA 遵守所有联邦和州公民权利要求，防止基于种族、肤色、国籍、有限的英语能力和其他受保护特征的歧视。我们欢迎来自我们整个服务领域的多样性。如果您有任何问题或疑虑，请访问 [www.mbta.com/titlevi](http://www.mbta.com/titlevi) 联系多元化和民权办公室。

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# Welcome

## English

Thank you for joining the meeting! We appreciate your participation.

- This meeting will be recorded so that it can be shared with the people that were unable to join.
- All participants will be muted upon entry so that only the presenters can be heard.

## Spanish

¡Gracias por atender esta junta! Agradecemos su participación.

- Esta junta estaría grabada para poder compartir con los que no pudieron asistir.
- Los participantes están silenciados al entrar la junta para que solo se pueda oír a los presentadores.

## Chinese

感谢您参与此会议！

- 本次会议将会被录像，以便我们把它分享给没能来参加的人。
- 所有参与者在进来时都会被静音，以便于演讲者能被听到。



# Interpretation

## English

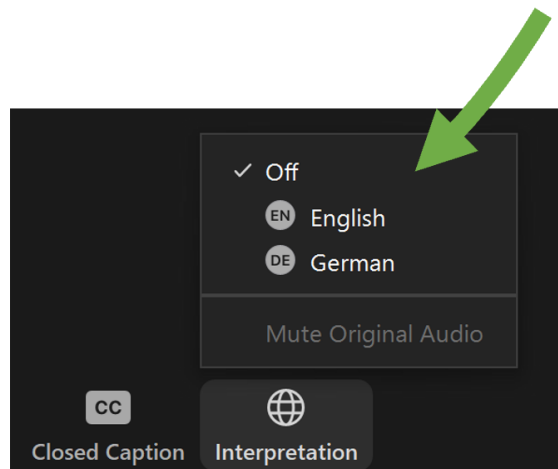
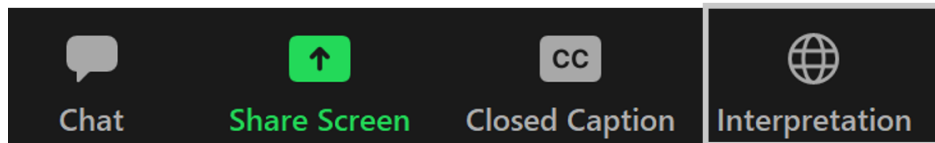
We offer interpretation during this meeting. In your meeting/webinar controls, click Interpretation (the small globe icon) and click the language that you would like to hear.

## Spanish

Ofrecemos interpretación en español durante esta junta. Para escoger el audio en Inglés o en Español tendrá que picar el botón de interpretación, el cual tiene un imagen de un mundo. Cuando le pique la interpretación por favor de escoger el idioma cual le gustaria oír.

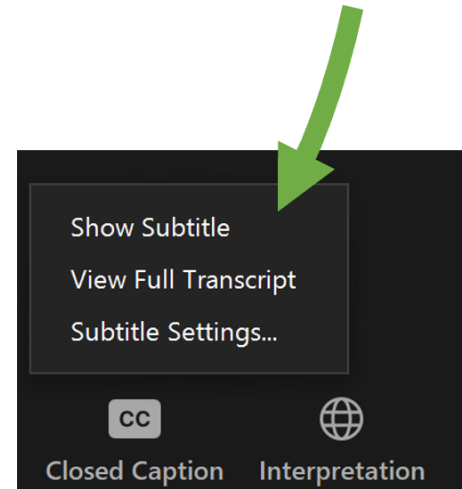
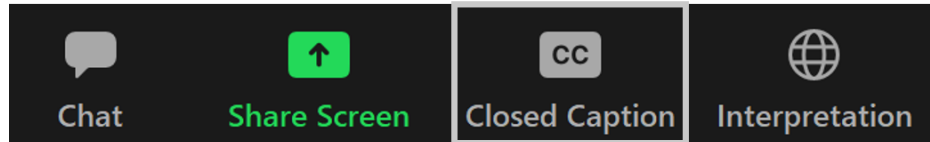
## Chinese

我们本次会议期间提供口译服务。在您的会议/网络研讨会的控件中，单击口译（小地球图标），并单击您想听到的语言



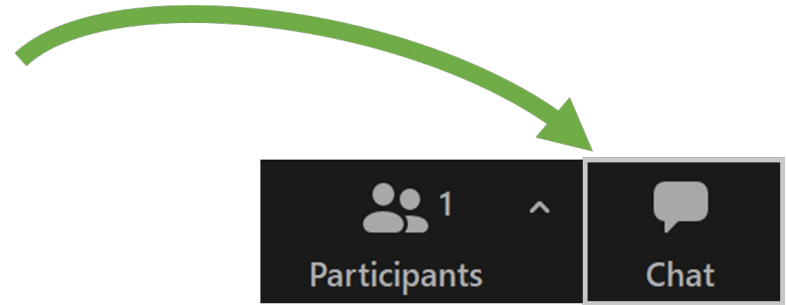
# Captioning

- You can view closed captions by clicking the **Closed Captions** 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.
- To adjust the caption size, click the upward arrow next to **Start Video / Stop Video**. Click **Video Settings** then **Accessibility**. Move the slider to adjust the caption size.



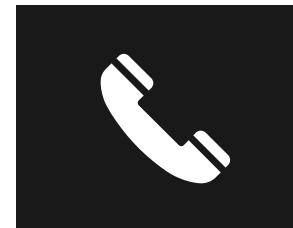
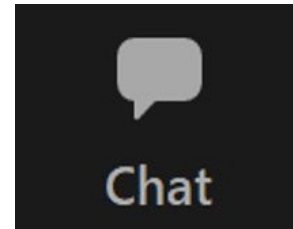
# Chat

- You may use the **Chat button** to submit a typed question or comment at any point during the meeting. The chat is not open, but if you direct your question to “**Ask A Question**” we will receive the comment/question.
- If you have a technical problem, please share your issue in the **Chat feature** at any point during the meeting with a member of the project staff, and we will respond as quickly as possible.



# Questions & Answers

- Please share only one question or comment at a time.
- Use the **“Chat”** button to submit a typed question or comment. The chat is not open, but if you direct your question to “Ask A Question” we will receive the comment/question.
- 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.*



To speak,  
click **“Participants”**  
then **“Raise hand”**

**Send a chat**  
to “Ask A Question”

**\*9**  
Raise Hand

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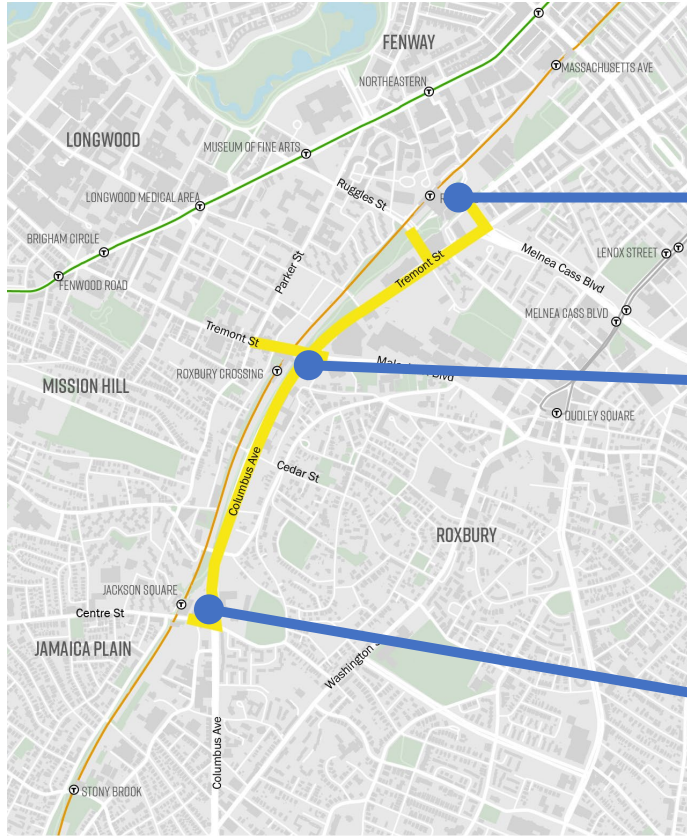
# Tonight's Meeting

- Introductions
- About the Project
- Challenges & Opportunities
- Design Approach
- Next Steps
- Small Group Discussion – Give us your feedback!
- Questions and Answers

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# About The Project

# Where is the Project?



0 300 600 1,200 Feet



Ruggles Station



Roxbury Crossing



Jackson Square



# Partnership between City of Boston and MBTA

- Originated in Go Boston 2030
- Serves multiple MBTA Bus Network Redesign High Frequency Routes
- 45% of Sept '22 MBTA trips are bus trips
- Boston Vision Zero High Crash Network
- Builds on previous Columbus Ave (Phase 1) Bus Lane Project
- Project helps address multiple MBTA and City goals





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# Agency Collaboration



The **Boston Transportation Department** maintains physical features to manage movement along streets

- Traffic signals
- Street widths
- Curb Regulations
- Lane Assignments



The **MBTA** operates and maintains bus facilities along the corridor, including:

- Routes and Schedules
- Signage and Information
- Fares
- Fleet Size and Vehicle Type
- Bus Operator Training

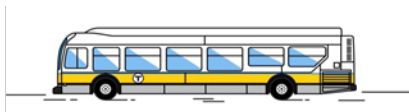
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# Coordination with Nearby Projects

- MBTA: Bus Network Redesign, Jackson Square Accessibility Project
- City of Boston: Terrace St / Parker St Study, Highland Park Neighborhood Slow Streets Program
- BPDA: Parcel 3
- DCR: Southwest Corridor



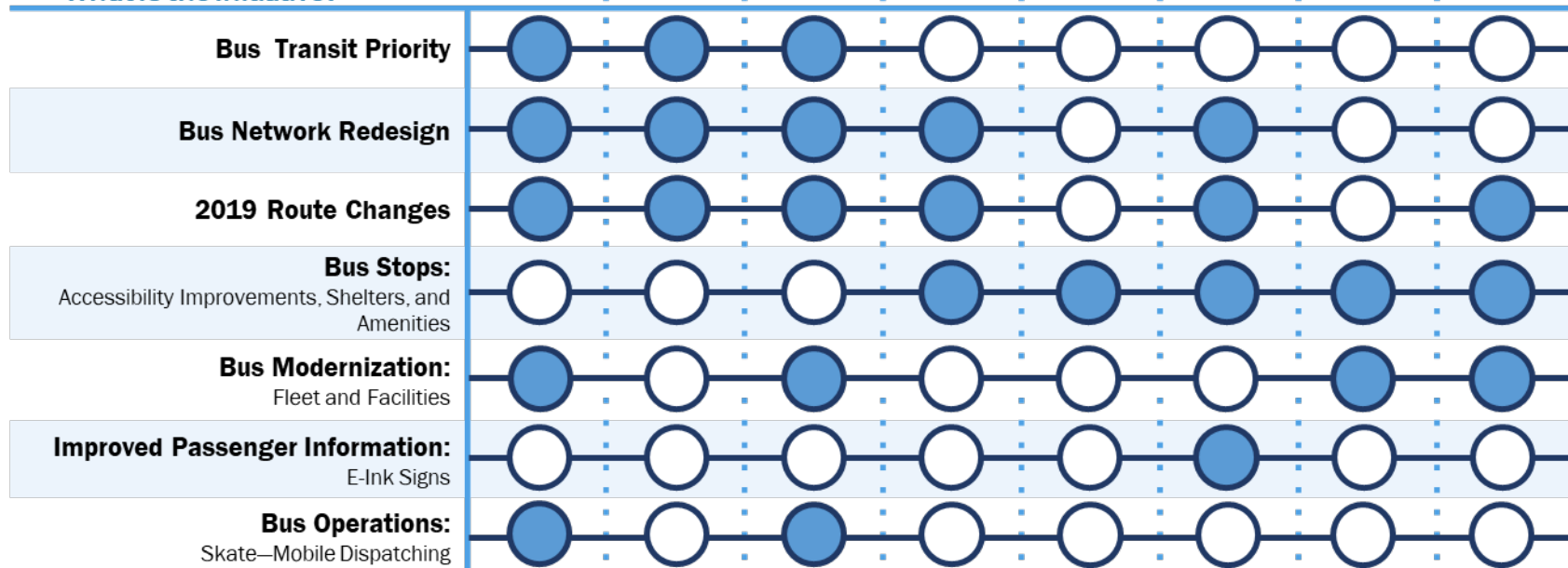
# The Better Bus Project



How Does the Initiative Improve My Experience?

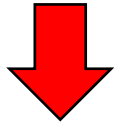
What Is the Initiative?

Frequent Fast Reliable Connects Key Destinations Walkable Easy to Use Comfortable Accessible



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# Go Boston 2030: Mode Share Goals



**Driving Alone by 50%**



**Increase Public Transit by 1/3**

**Increase Walking by 1/2**

**Increase Cycling 4x**



# Project Goals

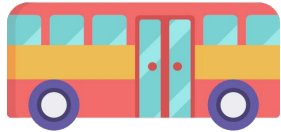
- Prioritize transit, support active transportation and safety
- Support residential, educational, institutional, and EMS access
- Center the needs of the people who live, work, and gather here



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# Challenges & Opportunities

# Congested, High Ridership Route



**28,000**

*Weekday Daily Bus Riders*



**52%**

*Portion of peak-period roadway users on buses*

- Bus trips between Nubian Station and Ruggles Station are slow and unreliable due to variable traffic conditions
- Tremont and Ruggles Streets, in particular, have significant levels of delay
- Columbus Ave Phase 1 Saved 4-8 minutes during peak hour trips

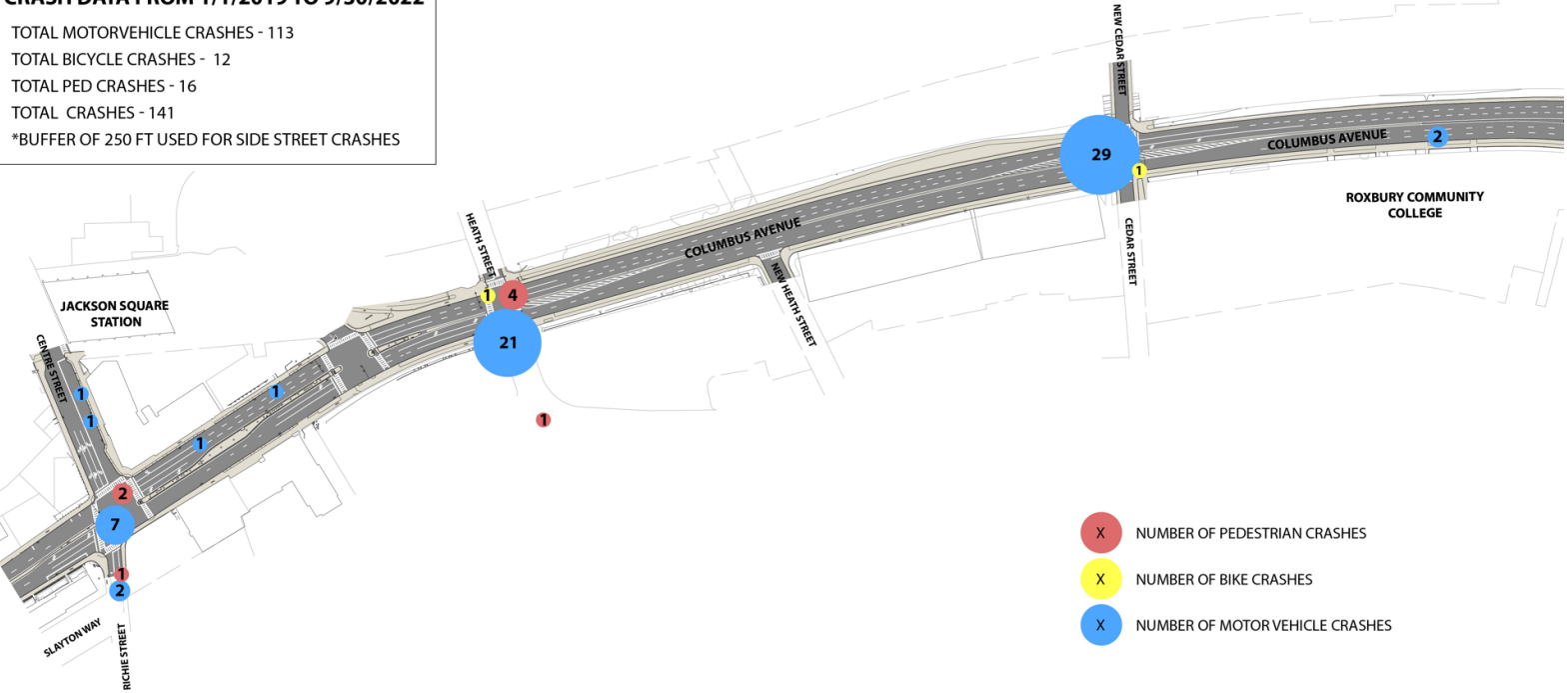
## **.5 Miles takes 10 Minutes**

*A peak-period transit trip from Nubian Station to Ruggles is time consuming and much of the congestion occurs on Tremont Street*

# Crash History - Since 1-1-2019

**CRASH DATA FROM 1/1/2019 TO 9/30/2022**

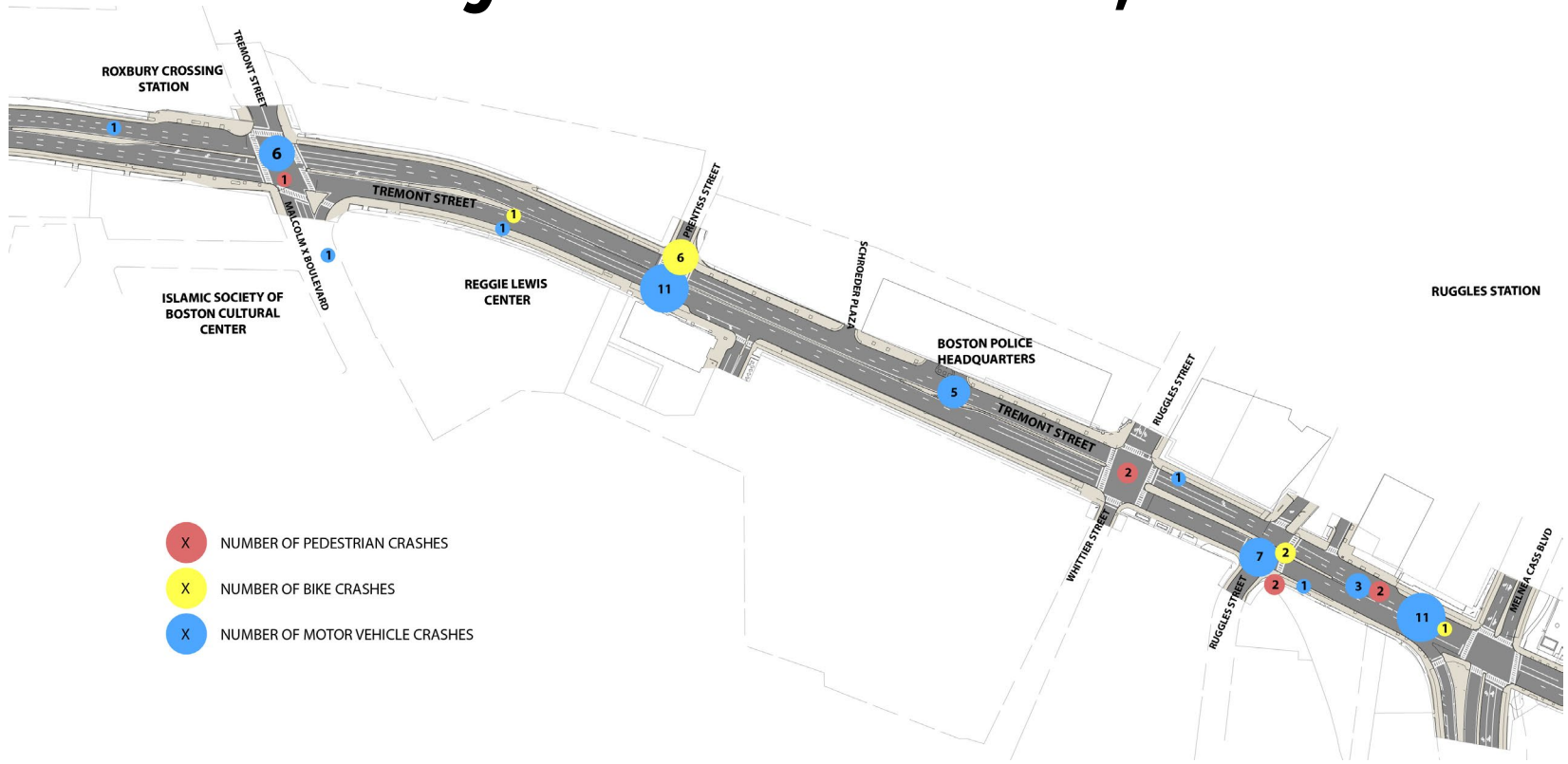
TOTAL MOTORVEHICLE CRASHES - 113  
 TOTAL BICYCLE CRASHES - 12  
 TOTAL PED CRASHES - 16  
 TOTAL CRASHES - 141  
 \*BUFFER OF 250 FT USED FOR SIDE STREET CRASHES



- X NUMBER OF PEDESTRIAN CRASHES
- X NUMBER OF BIKE CRASHES
- X NUMBER OF MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES



# Crash History - Since 1-1-2019, cont.



# Existing Street Design

- Currently prioritizes cars over transit, biking, and walking
- High speeds – loud and uncomfortable
- High speeds and unsafe conditions for pedestrians and cyclists traveling along and across the corridor
- Existing curbside regulations aren't responsive to diverse uses
- Lacking green infrastructure and public realm features



# Pedestrian and Bicycle Access



- High vehicle – pedestrian/cyclist conflicts along Southwest Corridor; unsafe to cross
- Non-compliant ramps are in poor condition
- Single bicycle and pedestrian ramps and crossings along Southwest Corridor

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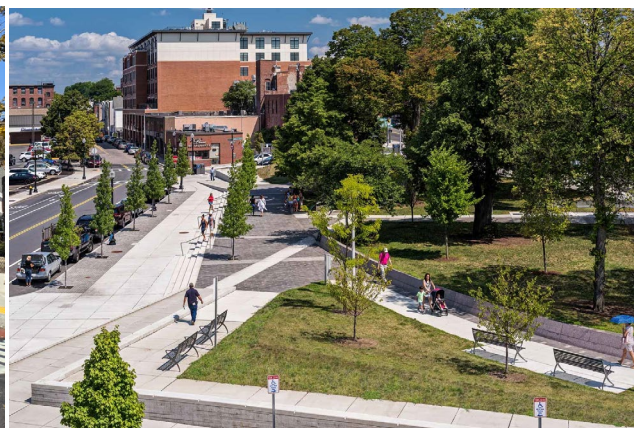
# How Do We Get There?

*Design Elements*



# Key Project Infrastructure Elements

- Bus priority
- Transit stops
- Bicycle and pedestrian connections
- Green infrastructure & public realm
- Curb regulations
- Maintenance



Courtesy: CSS



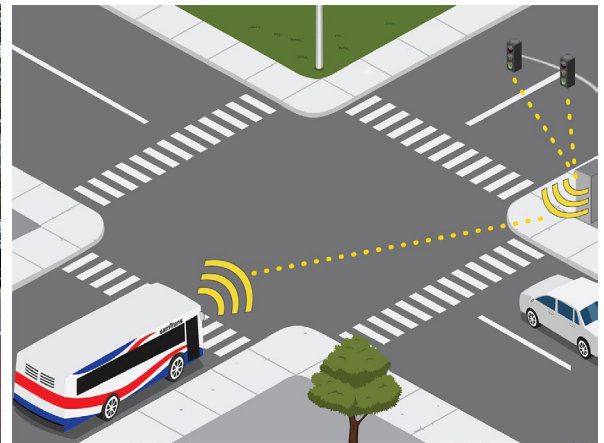
# Bus Priority Elements

Ensure that bus service is reliable and consistent for all trips - even during rush hour --

***Bus routes operating in the project area serve nearly 50,000 riders per day (Sept '22)***

Our tool kit includes:

- Bus Lanes
- "Queue Jump" Lanes
- Street Directionality
- Transit Signal Priority

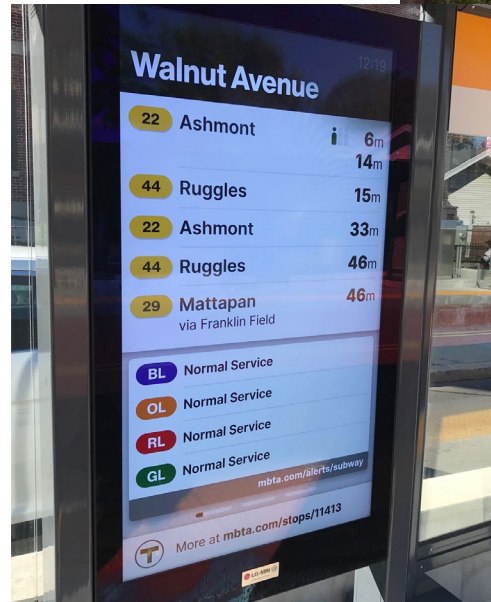




# Transit Stops

Improved comfort, information accessibility & safety at new bus stops:

- Shelters & Seating
- Signage & Transfer Info
- Enhanced Lighting
- Countdown Clocks
- Emergency Call Box



*New Bus Stops on Columbus Ave in JP/Roxbury*

# Transfer Points

Easy transfers to subways,  
commuter rail, and other bus routes:

- Bus stops designed for passenger connections
- Wayfinding signage
- Covered and well-lit walkways
- Real time arrival screens
- Improved access for seniors and persons with disabilities



*Kenmore Square  
Transfer*



# Bicycle Connectivity



Ensure safe and accessible connections *along* and *across* the corridor

- Separate, bicycle and pedestrian crossings along Southwest Corridor
- Wider bicycle crossings that connect to Southwest Corridor bicycle facility
- Clear wayfinding at plazas, especially Roxbury Crossing
- Increase Bluebike Parking & Stations

# Pedestrian Connectivity



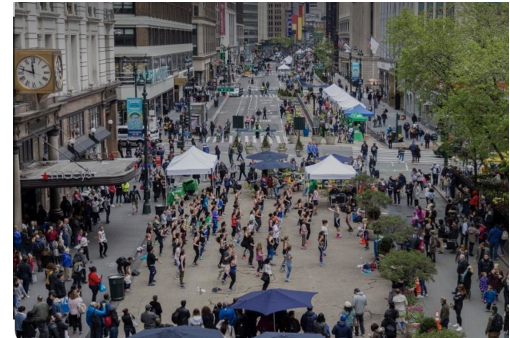
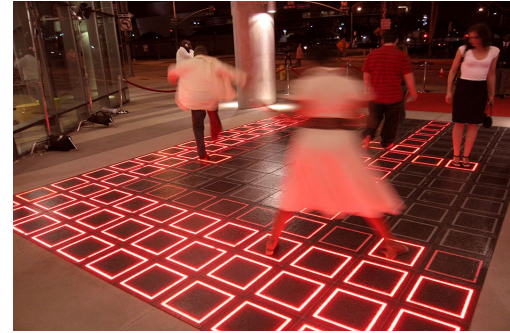
Ensure safe and accessible connections along and across the corridor

- Curb ramp and crosswalk upgrades; updated pedestrian traffic signals
- Safe bicycle – pedestrian infrastructure along and across the Southwest Corridor
- Mid-block crossings and other pedestrian connectivity



# Green Infrastructure & Public Realm

- Plantings and landscaping
- Incorporate natural and stormwater run-off features into the project
- Benches, Public Art, Placemaking, and Street Furniture
- Close coordination with area stakeholders – seeking your feedback!



# Curb Access

Parking, pick-up/drop-off, and deliveries

- Roxbury Crossing and other key locations
- Consider flexible curb hours and restrictions
- Signage, marking, and enforcement



# Maintenance

Critical to project's operation and longevity

- MBTA, City, DCR agreement
- Snow removal, public realm, landscaping
- Stakeholder coordination

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# Next Steps

# Schedule

## Summer 2022

- Stakeholder Engagement
- Existing Conditions Analysis

## 2023

- Develop Advanced Engineering Plans and Funding Strategy
- Additional Public Meeting

## Fall/Winter 2022

- Public Meeting #1 on Corridor Issues (October)
- Open House (November)
- Public Meeting #2 on Concept Design(s) for the Corridor

## 2024-2025

- Construction

**Public Engagement**

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# Share Your Ideas

## **Wednesday, November 9 - Open House (In-Person)**

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Roxbury Community College, Commons 3 and 4, First Floor, Academic Bldg.

## **Share your feedback online: [mbta.com/TremontColumbusFeedback](https://mbta.com/TremontColumbusFeedback)**

- We want to hear from you about your experiences along the corridor and potential improvements to the project area.
- Available in English, Spanish, Haitian Creole and Simplified Chinese.
- Closes on Friday, November 25.

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# Engagement



Stay updated on the project and sign up for alerts:

**[mbta.com/TremontColumbus](https://mbta.com/TremontColumbus)**

To learn more about other MBTA bus initiatives, visit the Better Bus Project

website: **[mbta.com/betterbus](https://mbta.com/betterbus)**



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# Small Group Discussions

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# Key Questions for Discussion

1. Introductions
2. What are your biggest issues or points of frustration along the corridor? (Safety, Wayfinding, Congestion, Noise, etc.)
3. What would improve your experience and/or safety traveling along the corridor as a bus rider, bicyclist, or pedestrian?
4. As part of this project, the MBTA and City of Boston are also interested in exploring ways to improve the public realm through potential plaza improvements, plantings, or art installations. Which locations would you most want to enhance or improve between Ruggles and Jackson Square?
5. Roxbury Crossing is a key community hub and will play a critical role in the MBTA's Bus Network Redesign. We would love to hear some of your issues and opportunities you've experienced on the street and plaza area around the station.

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# Small Group Discussion – Instructions

- You will be automatically placed into breakout rooms, where we will have interactive discussions about corridor.
- Each room will have a group leader, who will facilitate the discussion.
- The discussion in each room will be the same, focusing on your feedback.
- The group discussion will last until 7:00, at which point, you will be moved back into the main room.

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# Small Group Discussion

At this time, meeting attendees are in small groups, discussing the draft network map.

If you are just joining:

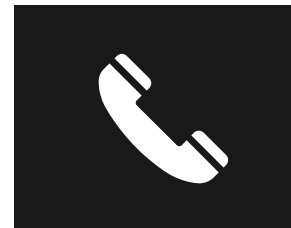
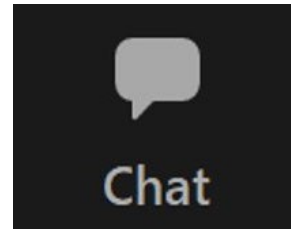
- We will place you in a breakout room to join the discussion.
- We will be reconvening at 7:00 pm.

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# Q&A

# Questions & Answers

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**\*9**  
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# For More Information

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For general inquiries on MBTA public outreach:  
[publicengagement@mbta.com](mailto:publicengagement@mbta.com)

17  
Route 171  
Logan Airport  
Via  
Andrew  
Limited Service,  
Early Mornings  
Only

44 Jackson 2 m  
19 Rosindal 11 m

Thank you!

