



Littleton Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

August 14, 2023

Town of Littleton and Metropolitan
Area Planning Council (MAPC)

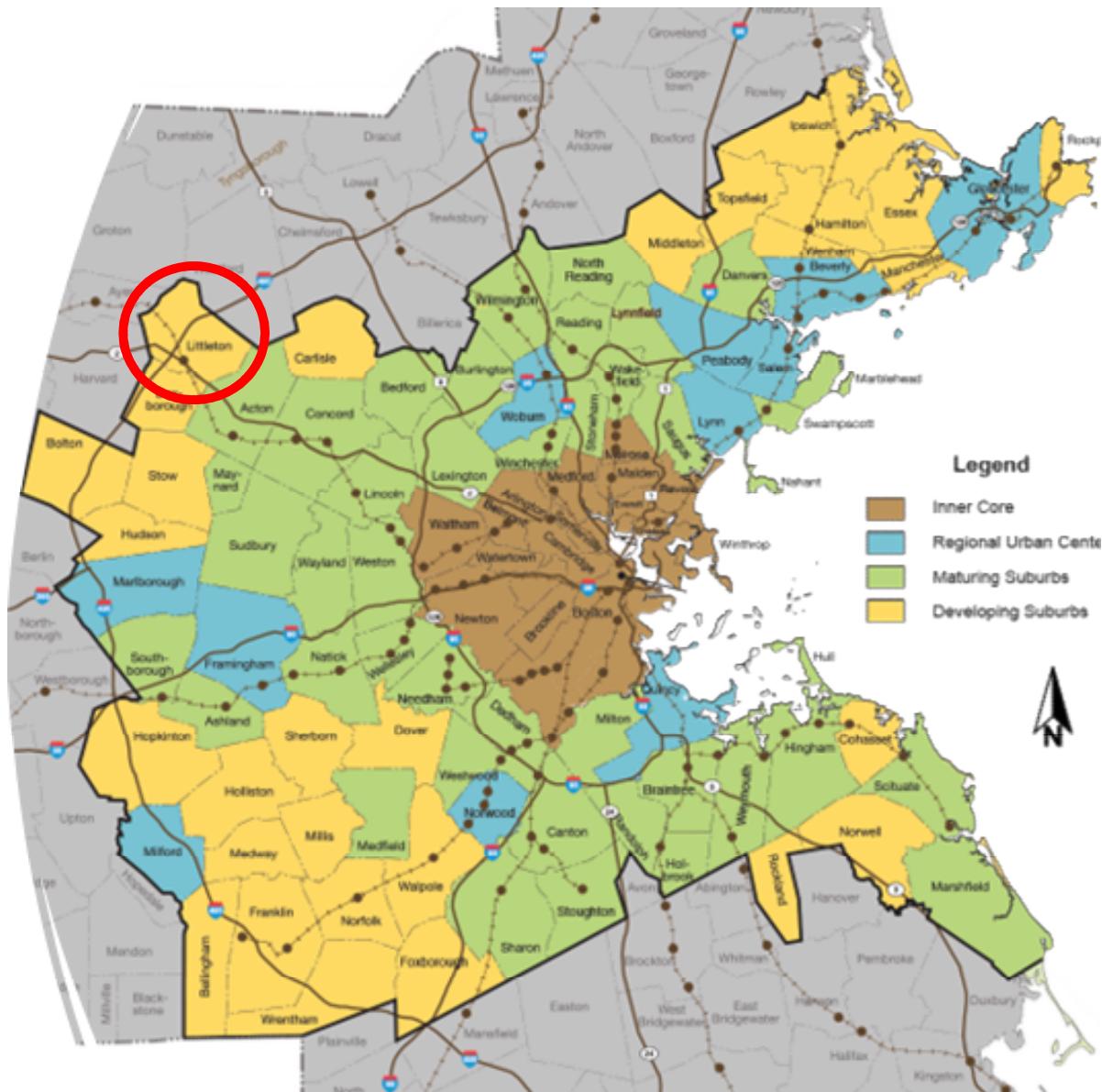
Agenda

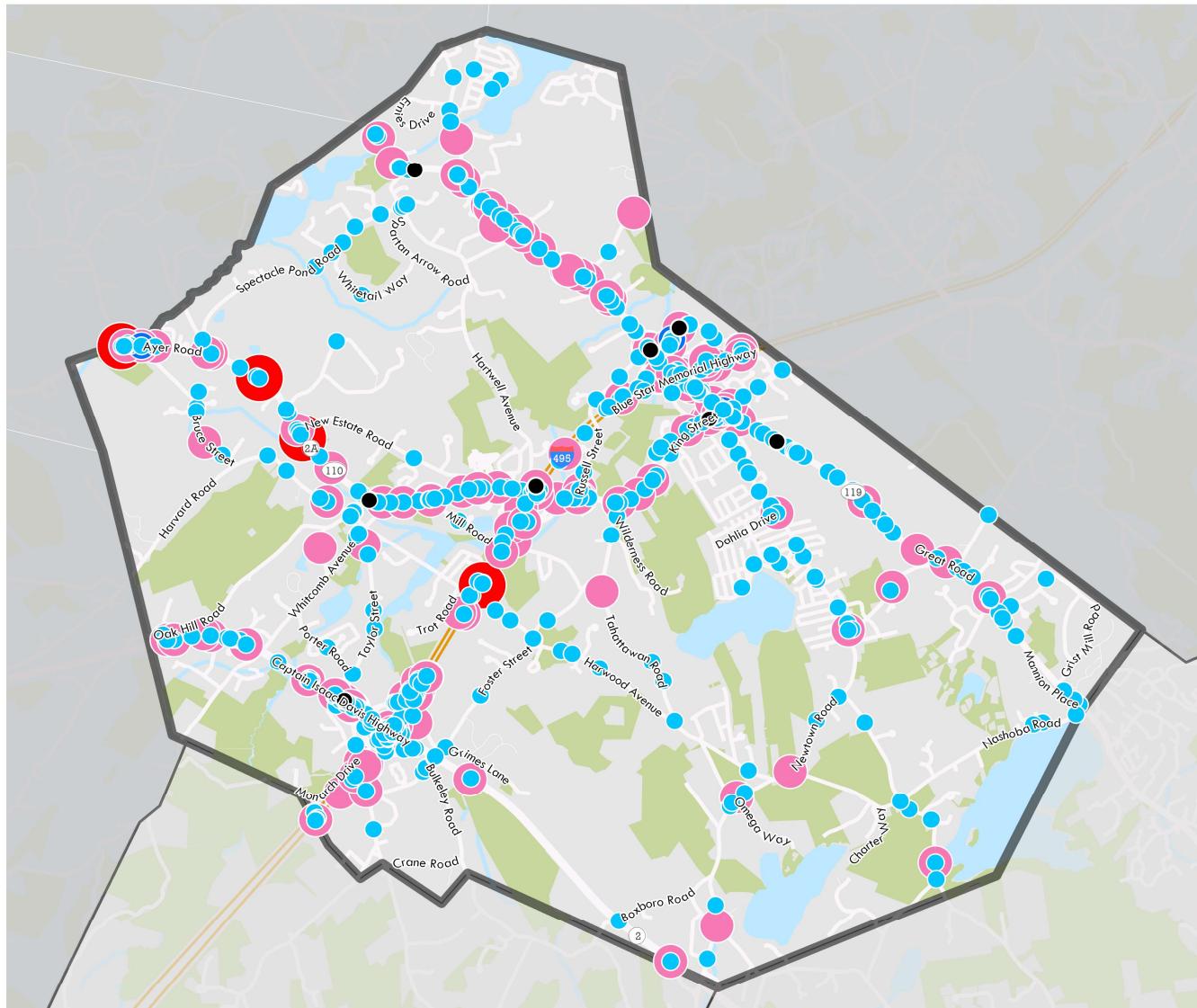
- Littleton & MAPC have been partnering for the last year to develop a bike and pedestrian master plan for the town
- Review process and findings
 - Site visit
 - Existing conditions research
 - Community survey (700+ responses)
 - Public meetings (March 1st and May 10th)
- Recommendations
 - Review and prioritize draft recommendations
- Next steps



Project Team

- Town of Littleton
 - Maren Toohill, Town Planner
 - Jonathan Isaac, Chair of BPAC
 - Michael Gruar, BPAC
- Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)
 - Marah Holland, Senior Transportation Planner
 - David Loutzenheiser, Senior Transportation Planner





Littleton Bike and Pedestrian Plan

Vehicle Crashes

Vehicle Crashes by Severity 2019-2021

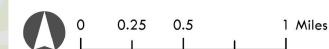
- Fatal injury
- Non-fatal injury
- Not Reported
- Property damage only (none injured)
- Unknown

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Produced by:
Metropolitan Area Planning Council
60 Temple Place, Boston, MA 02111 | (617) 933-0700

Data Sources: MAPC, MassGIS, MassDOT

November 2022



Public Survey Results Summary

Top Requests

- **Sidewalks!**
- Safer routes for children to walk and bike to school
- Off-street paths and trails for running, biking, and walking
- Connections to key destinations
- Road maintenance
- Supporting amenities, such as lighting, signage, and benches

Top Concerns

- Safety
- Traffic (speed, volume, and trucks)
- Lack of connected routes
- Road and sidewalk maintenance create barriers to use
- Experience for children, seniors, and people with disabilities is challenging

Survey Quotes

"**More sidewalks** on busier roads would be great as walking on those can be dangerous with more traffic moving faster."

"I'd like there to be a **safer route** from Littleton Common area to Littleton High School and to the Middle School. Right now, I'd never let my kids walk or bike to the high school in particular given all the trucks and somewhat narrow road."

"I would love a convenient **connection to a bike path** (such as the one in Acton) so I didn't feel the need to drive there and could just bike there from home."

"I live within **2 miles from my child's school**, so I have to pay to have them ride the bus, which bothers me because I don't have a sidewalk on my street, or a crosswalk to get to what would be the closest sidewalk, to walk them to school. **I would love to walk them to school** if it felt like a safe option."

"**Running paths** beside the road would be nice."

"I would really like it if there were more **flashing street signs** for pedestrians, as my family and I walk a lot and it's often dangerous."

"**Biking to the T station** does not feel overly safe. Other towns like Groton and Acton have great bike paths, Littleton could use something similar."

"I feel it is more important to work on **improving the current condition of the towns roads** before constructing specific bike lanes."

Draft Plan Recommendations

Policy Recommendations

- Develop an internal process where BPAC and TAC review **repaving plans** in advance of implementation to provide input
- Ensure all new development includes onsite implementation of Plan recommendations, and possible off site mitigation
- Require all multi-family development and commercial development to require **secure bike parking**, as well as e-bike charging readiness in both indoor and outdoor bike parking areas
- Increase secure bike parking at key destinations including Littleton Common, schools, parks, and the MBTA Commuter Rail

Draft Plan Recommendations

Program Recommendations

- Work with MassDOT's Safe Routes to School Program to conduct a **walking/biking audit** of town schools, develop arrival/dismissal plans, and facilitate annual bike rodeos for students
- Work with school staff and PTOs to develop and pilot **walking/biking school buses** for groups of students



MassDOT Safe Routes to School, Mass.gov

Draft Plan Recommendations

Infrastructure Recommendations (Walking/Rolling)

- Install new **crosswalks and signals** (where appropriate) at high foot traffic locations
- Apply for funding to incrementally **connect existing trails** in Littleton to eventually develop a fully connected trail network
- Expand the current **sidewalk network** incrementally around town, especially on highly desired routes leading to schools and other key destinations

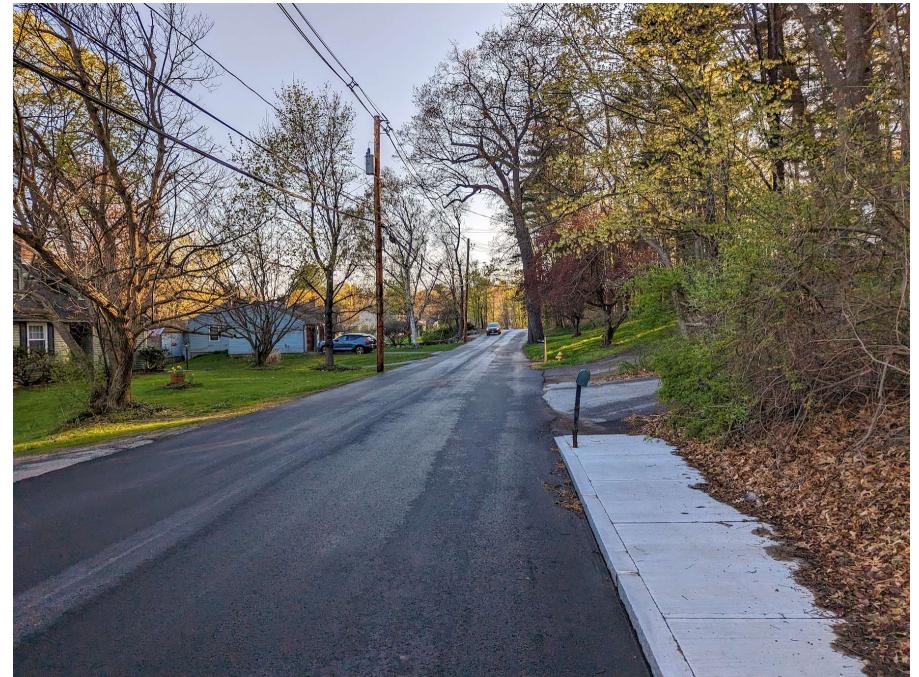
Infrastructure Recommendations (Biking)

- Develop an off-street **shared use path** network connecting the MBTA Commuter Rail, Littleton High School, and Littleton Common that is ADA accessible
- Stripe **bike lanes** on selected arterial streets. Travel lane reductions as low as 10 feet are recommended
- Develop a network of **shared streets**, typically with no centerline and dashed shoulders
- **Improve connections** from Common to Library/Fay Park/Castle in the Trees by re-striping King Street from Foster St to Jennifer St

Sidewalks and Crosswalks

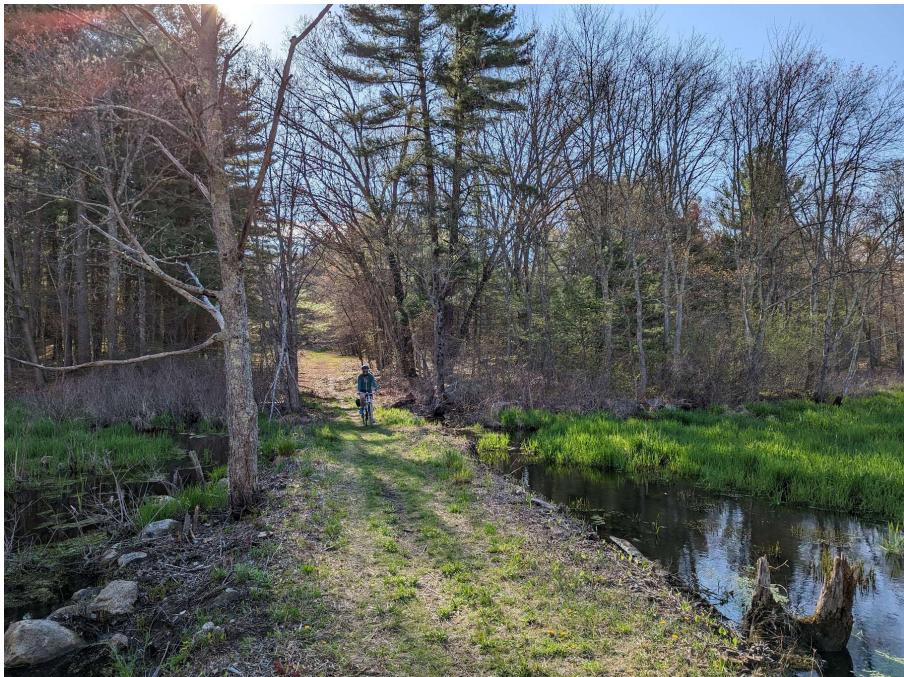


- + Median Refuge Island
- + Rapid Flashing Beacon
- Missing an adequate shoulder for cycling



- + New sidewalk example (Foster St)
- + No centerline stripe
- Sidewalk ends

Shared Use Path Network



- + Trail through conservation land avoids 495 interchange
- + Shared use path potential
- Surface is rough, consider upgrades for multi-use



- + Example along a two-lane roadway

Bike Lanes



- + standard bike lane, typical for Littleton
- no space for a protected bike lane



- + protected bike lane example, flex posts or concrete
- adequate width is needed

Shared Street



- + No centerline (Acton)
- Centerline (Concord)
- Centerline encourages faster speeds, no dedicated space for pedestrians or cyclists



- + Dashed shoulder provide priority space for pedestrians and cyclists
- + Low cost implementation

Draft Plan Recommendations

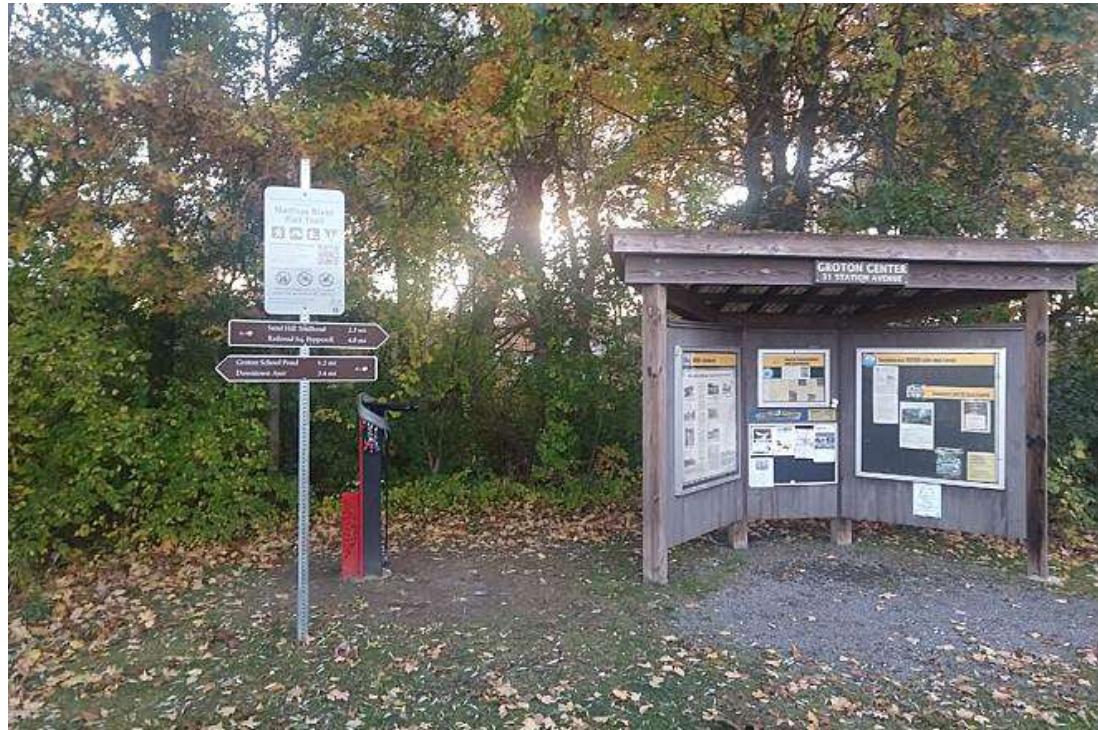
Infrastructure Recommendations (Safer streets)

- Institute **traffic calming measures** at key locations in Littleton, especially near schools and shared streets
- **Remove center fog lines** on many arterial roads, especially those on NRG network

Infrastructure Recommendations (Regional connections)

- Work with neighboring communities to **build connections** to regional paths including the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail and the Nashoba River Rail Trail

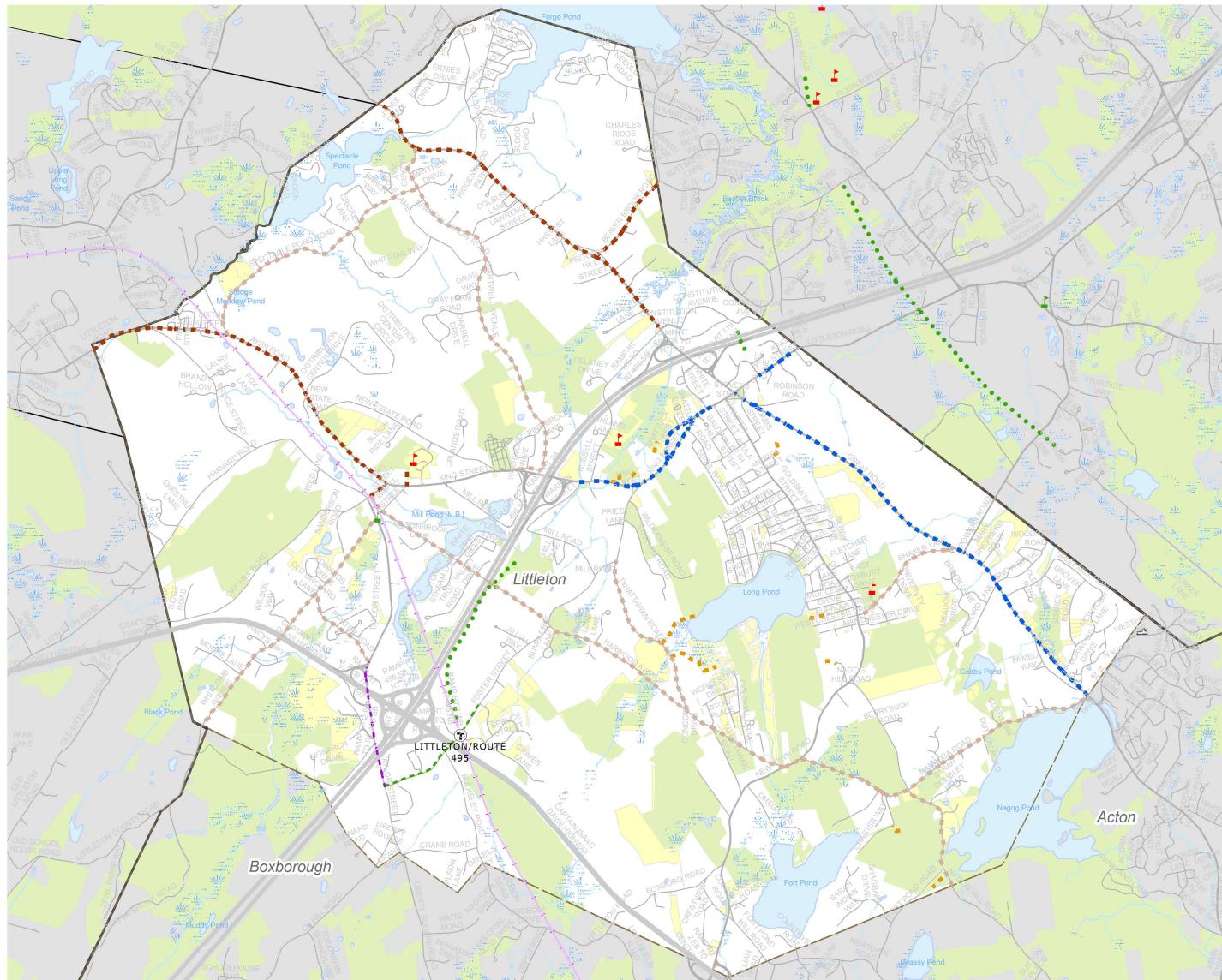
Draft Plan Recommendations



Nashoba River Rail Trail, TrailLink

Infrastructure Recommendations (Other)

- On new and existing trails, increase trash cans, benches, signage, bike repair stations, dog poop bags, landscaping, and other amenities to improve the experience for users



- Complete
- Envisioned
- Shared Use Path – Improved surface
- Shared Use Path – Unimproved
- Bike Lane
- Protected Bike Lane
- Shared Street
- Paved Footway
- Natural Surface Trail

Public Ownership

- Open Space
- TownProperty

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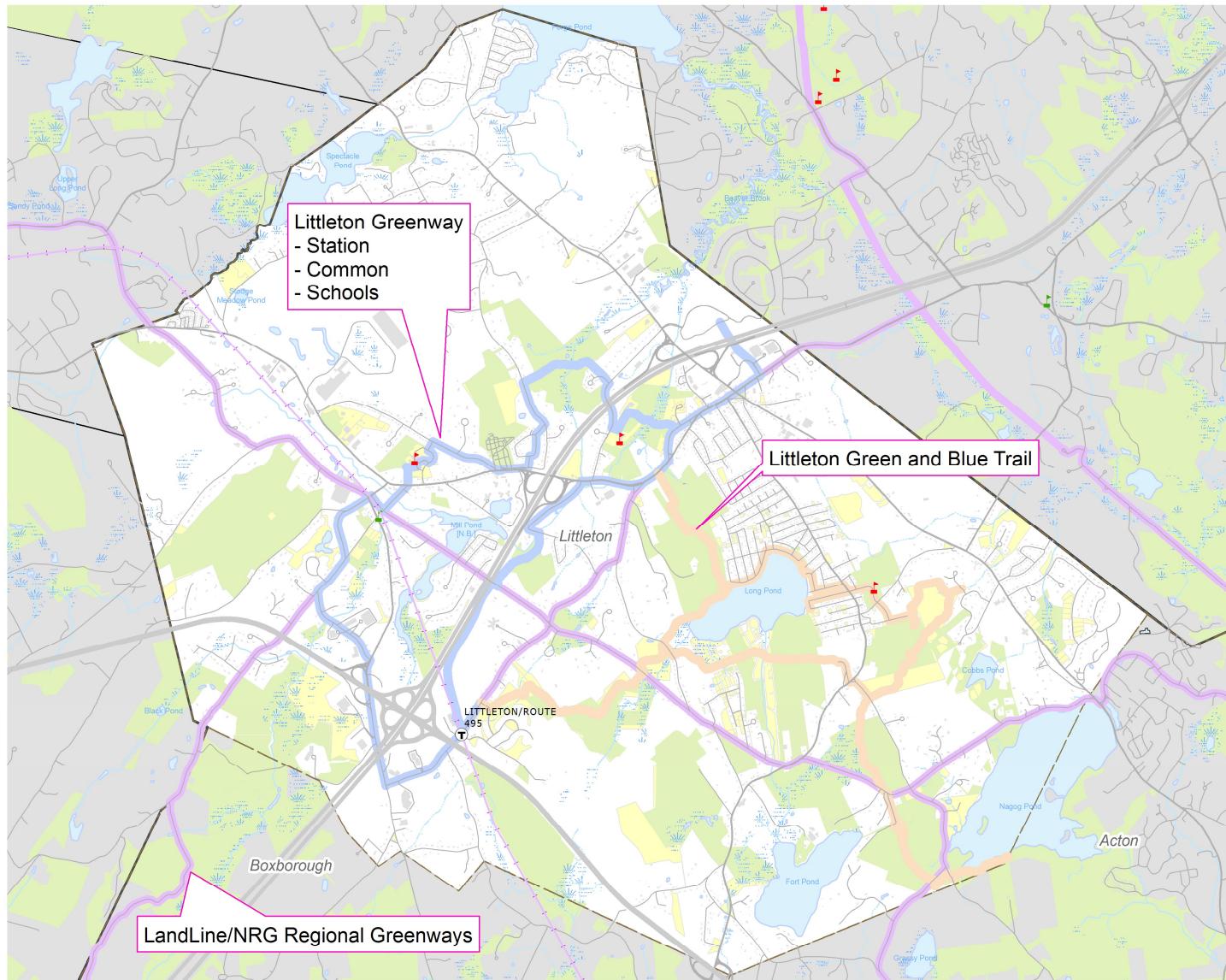
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Data Sources: MAPC, MassGIS, MassDOT, Town of Littleton

May 2023

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles





Town of Littleton

TOWNWIDE TRAILS AND GREENWAYS

- ✓ Complete
- ✗ Envisioned
- Shared Use Path – Improved surface
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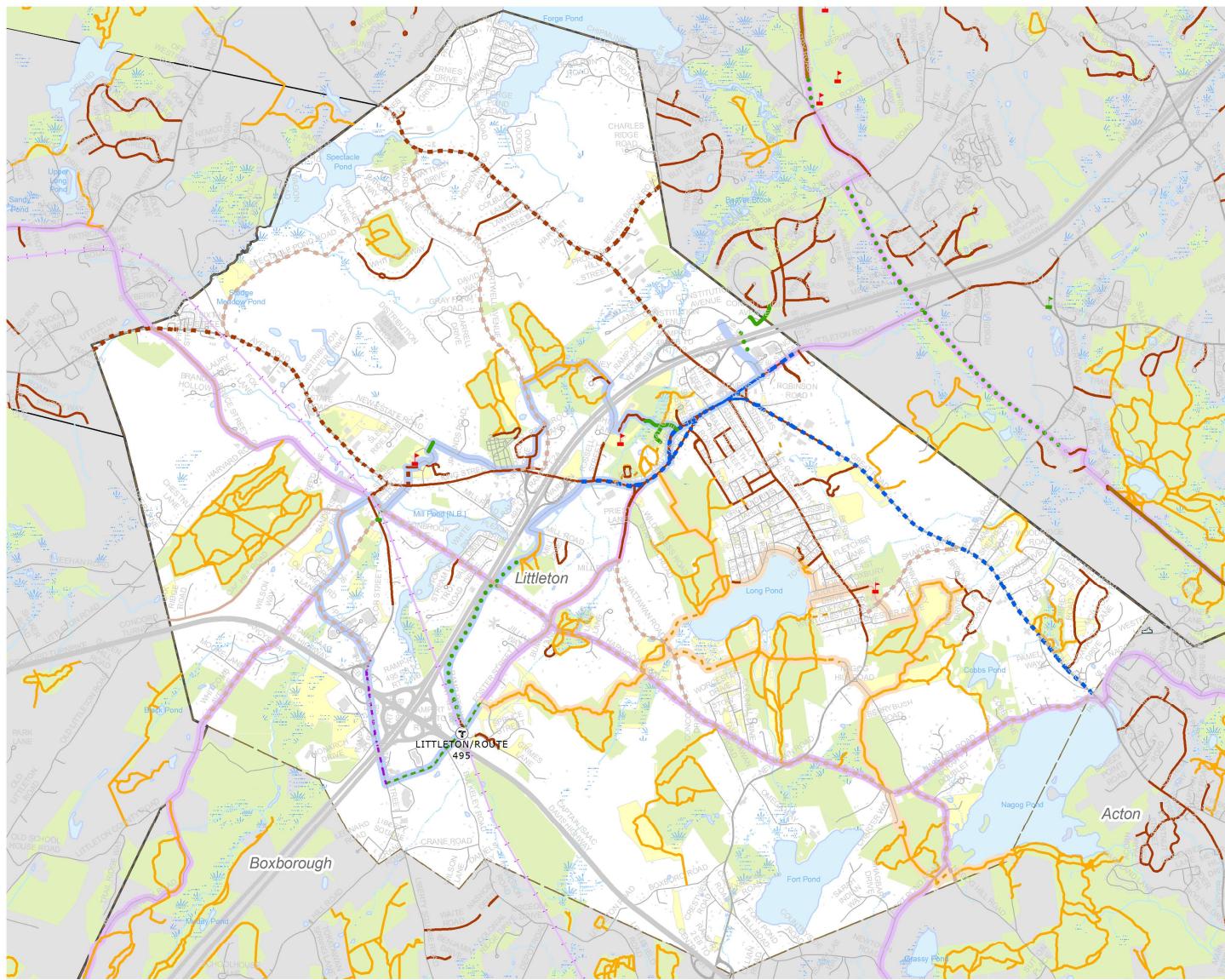
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0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles





Town of Littleton

COMPOSITE RECOMMENDATIONS

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Questions?

