

# Winchester Center Station Improvements

**Public Meeting  
November 21, 2019**

**Winchester High School Auditorium**

***Presentation of the  
MBTA Winchester Center Commuter Rail Station  
Rehabilitation Project***



MASSACHUSETTS BAY  
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Moving Massachusetts Forward  
**massDOT**

# Agenda

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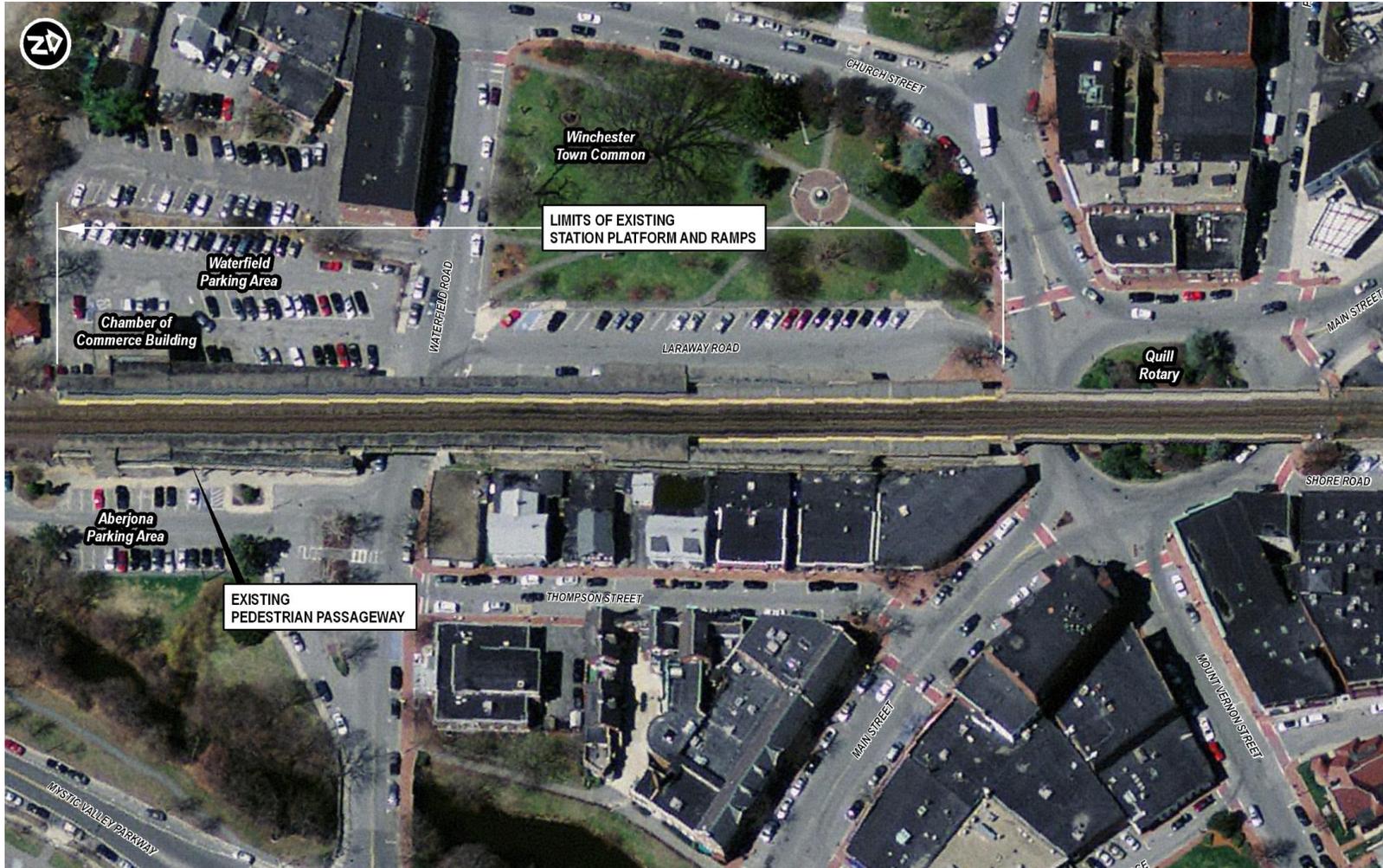
1. Welcome and Elected Officials Opening Remarks
2. Project Site, Goals, Scope
3. Project Funding and Investments
4. Existing Conditions
5. Design Update
6. Accelerated Project Schedule
7. Construction and Mitigation
8. Closing Remarks from Town Manager, Lisa Wong
9. Questions/Comments

# Opening Remarks

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## Elected Officials

# Project Site



## Winchester Center Station (29 Waterfield Road)

- Immediately adjacent to Winchester Town Common
- Served by MBTA Commuter Rail service on Lowell Line
- Between Mishawum Station to the north and Wedgemere Station to the south
- Approx. 237 total parking spaces on both sides of station
- Parking lots managed and maintained by the Town

# Project Goals and Scope

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## SAFETY

- Install permanent and emergency lighting, security cameras at platforms and passenger assistance telephone

## ACCESSIBILITY

- Install two new, fully accessible, high-level side platforms, new pedestrian bridge over Quill Rotary to new ramp entrance on Shore Road, new covered stairwells, wayfinding and signage, lighting, new platform canopy and benches, upgrade sidewalk
- Install new elevators and stairs on south end of station to connect platform to ground level
- Install new ramps and stairs at middle of station to access MBTA bus stop and town center

## SUSTAINABILITY

- Use new Fiber Reinforced Polymer (FRP) composite panels for platforms and ramps to provide corrosion-resistant structures that can better withstand weather, de-icing chemicals and high foot traffic

## RESILIENCY

- Elevated platforms achieve resiliency design parameters, new elements to be located to maintain operations during extreme environmental events

## OPERATIONS

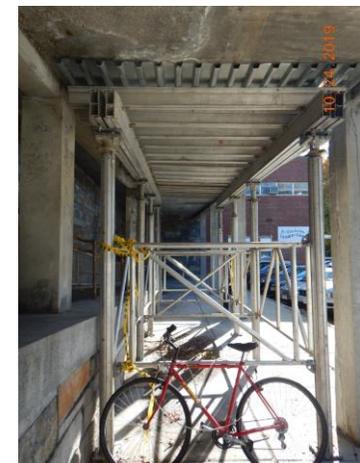
- High-level boarding improves dwell time, shorter trip times and enhances customer experience

# Project Funding and Total MBTA Investments in Winchester

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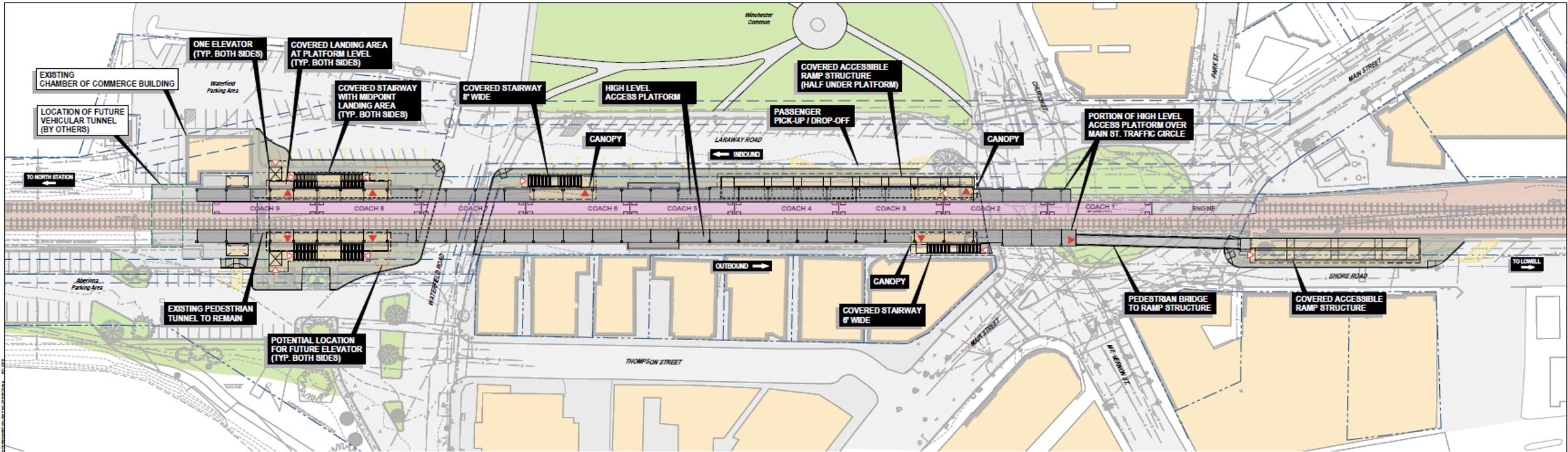
- Currently programmed and fully-funded for design and construction in FY20-24 CIP.
  - FY17 – Provided \$2.7M for design
  - FY18 – Provided additional \$4.6M for design, and \$30.2M for construction
  - FY20 – Provided additional \$12.3M to complete construction
  - Total Approved Project Budget is **\$49.9M**
- Between 2017 and 2019, the MBTA spent **\$700K** on urgent structural repairs throughout station.
- Expedite work to reduce operating costs. Progressing the project to advertisement saves the MBTA on future repairs and helps ensure more competitive bids during the construction off-season.
- In February 2010, MBTA received **\$2.2M** through a federal stimulus grant for design and installation of two new mini-high platforms and two accessible ramps at Wedgemere Station. Work was completed in June 2013.
- In total, MBTA has invested **\$52.8M** in Town of Winchester, for two station improvement projects and related repair work.

# Existing Conditions – Station Photos



- Station ramps and platforms deteriorating
- Platform curbs spalling, causing railing posts to detach
- Station does not meet current MBTA Commuter Rail Design, ADA, or MAAB standards/requirements for accessibility

# Future Station Layout



# View of Outbound Side



# View from Inbound Side



# View from Winchester Common



# Project Schedule

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60% Design Plans

**November 1, 2019**

Public Meeting

**November 21, 2019**

100% Design Plans

**January 2020**

Public Meeting

**January 2020**

PS&E (Advertise Project)

**February 2020**



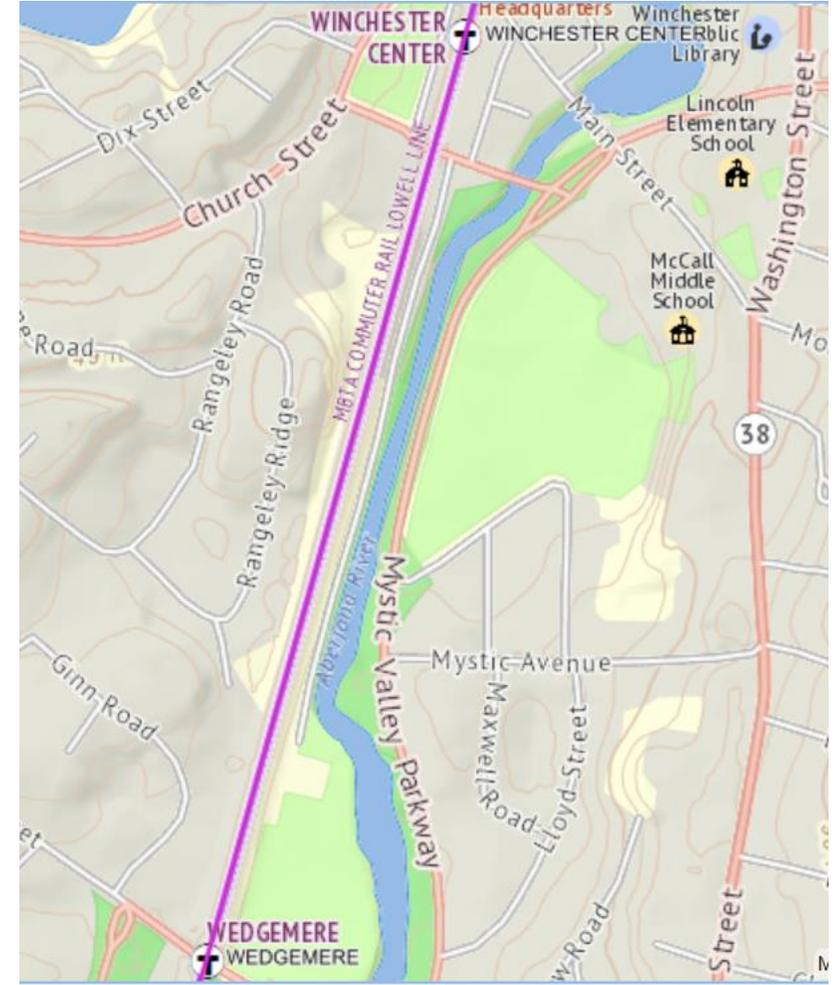
# Construction Method Options

## Partial Station Closure

- Phase Work
- Approx. 36 months to complete
- Increase in maintenance costs
- Slower construction activities
  - > Longer presence in downtown

## Full Station Closure

- Station closed to patrons
- Approx. 28 months to complete (**8 months faster**)
- Cost savings
- Proximate station (Wedgemere Station)
- Mitigation
  - > Walk, Park, Bike, Drop-off, Bus



# Mitigation Strategy During Construction – Parking/Bus

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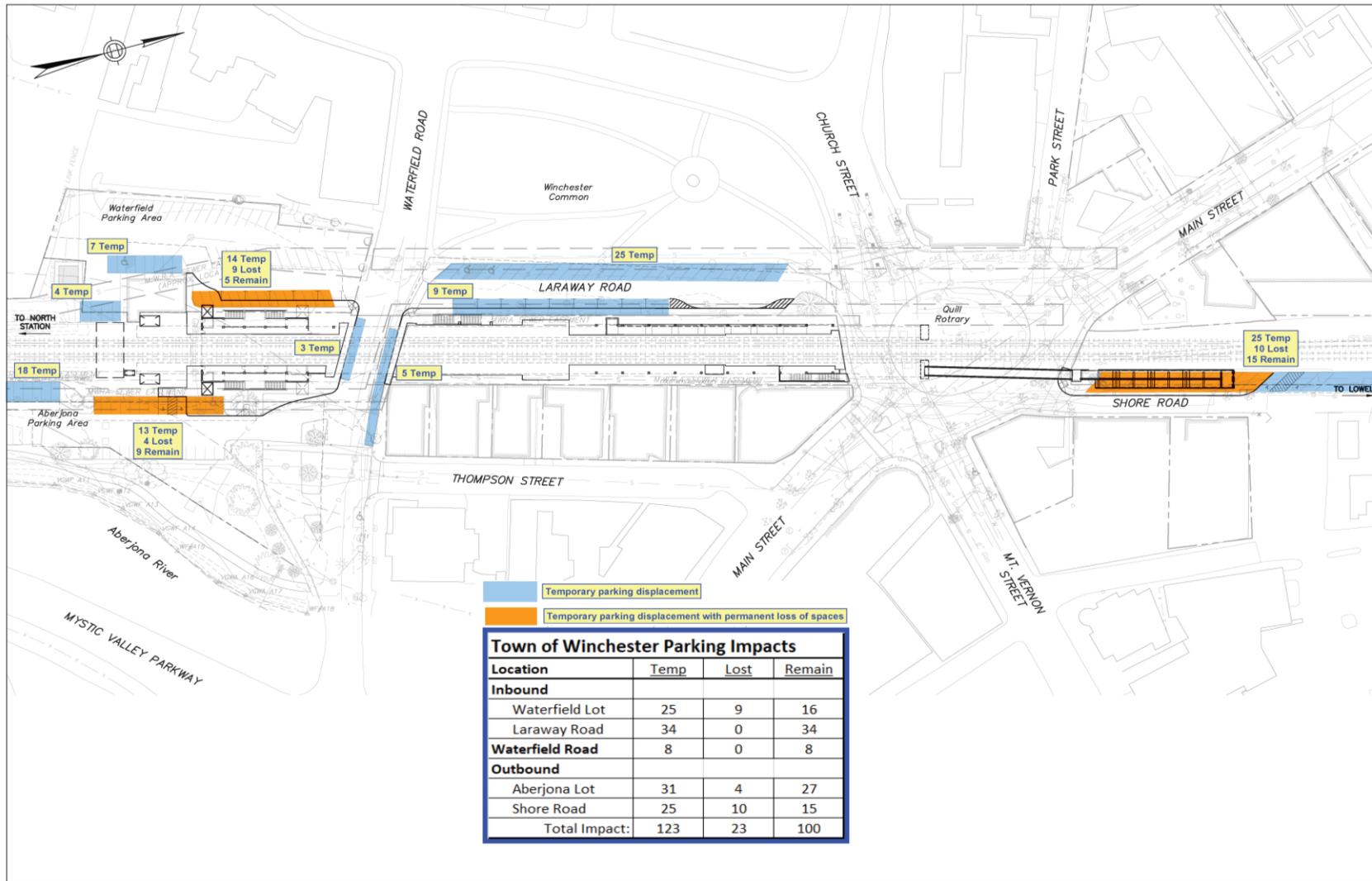
## Parking

- Some parking remains at Winchester Center
- Review loss of spots and look to provide alternatives for drivers
- Currently investigating parking options

## Shuttles and MBTA Bus Route #134

- Move MBTA Bus Route #134, proposed to keep as close as possible to shuttle bus pick-up/drop-off point at Winchester Center
- **Bus shuttles** to/from Wedgemere Station (0.6 miles further south)
  - Proposed pick-up and drop-off on Waterfield Road near and around Wedgemere Station

# Parking Impact Plan



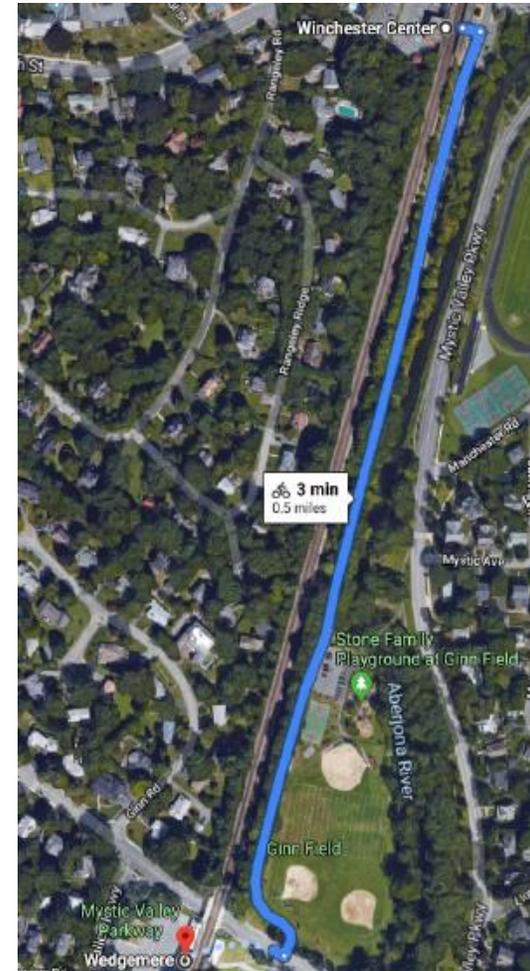
# Mitigation Strategy During Construction – Walk and Bicycle

## Pedestrian Access

- **Walk** to Wedgemere Station
  - Promote use of Tri-Community Greenway for pedestrian access between stations during construction; approx. 13 minutes from Winchester Station (paved and accessible)

## Bicycles

- **Bicycle access and parking** at Wedgemere Station
  - Provide additional bike racks at Wedgemere Station (existing bike racks are crowded)
  - Use shared path through Tri-Community Greenway (approx. 3 minutes from Winchester Station)



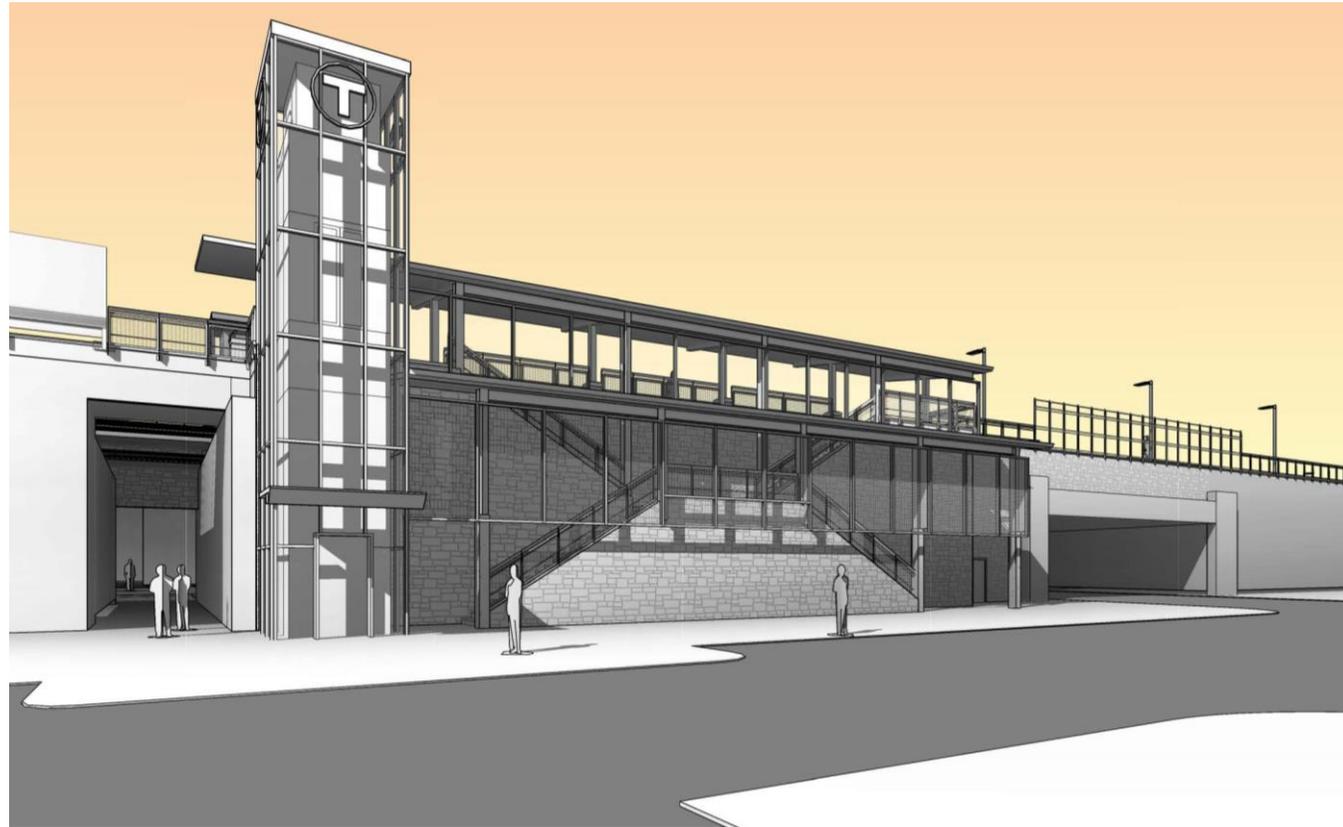
## Closing Remarks

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**Town Manager, Lisa Wong**

# Questions/Comments

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Project website: [mbta.com/winchesterstation](http://mbta.com/winchesterstation)