

BROAD STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT



Department of Planning and Development
November 16, 2020

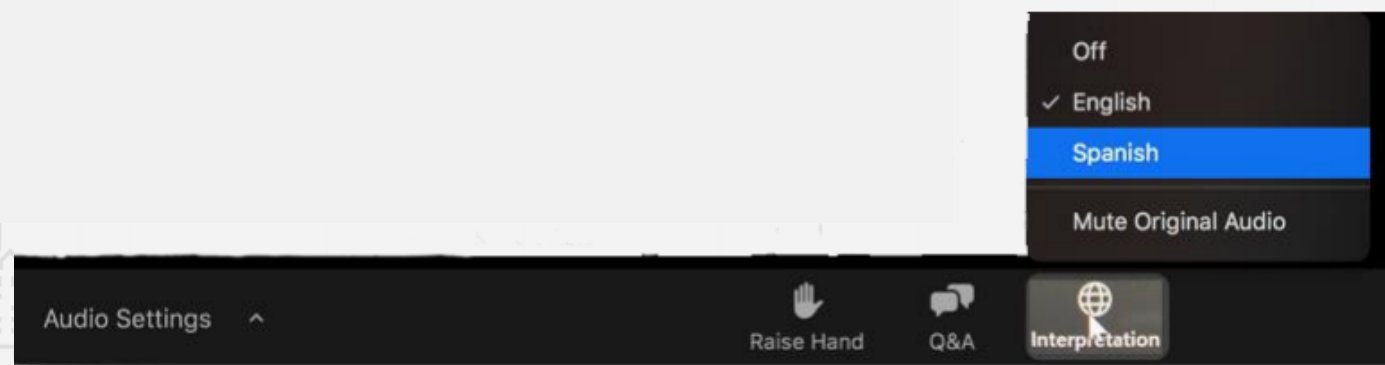


Virtual meeting procedure



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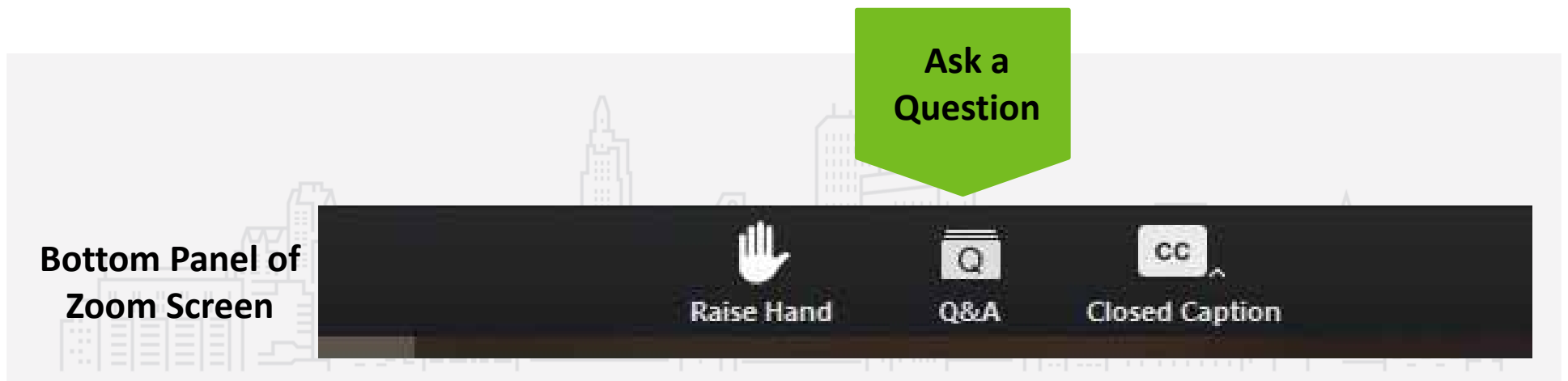
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Virtual meeting procedure



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Agenda



- Welcome from Bonnie Nickerson, Planning Director
- Overview of project background and community engagement
- Project details and schedule
- Q+A

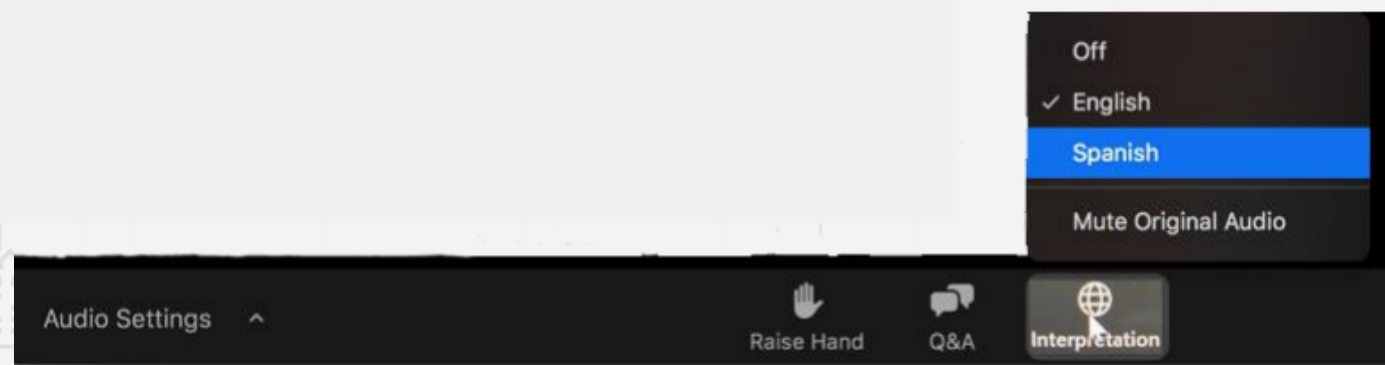


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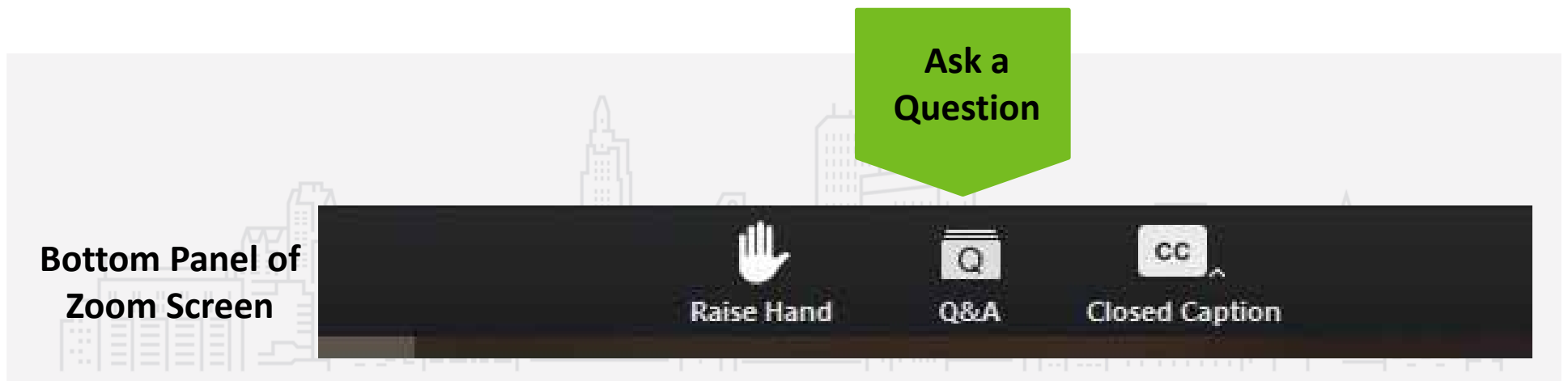
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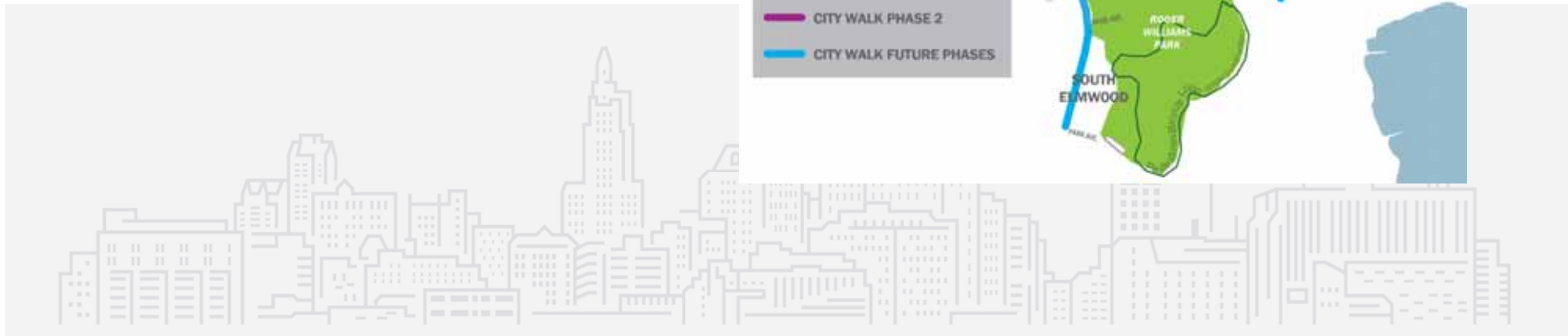
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Broad Street project



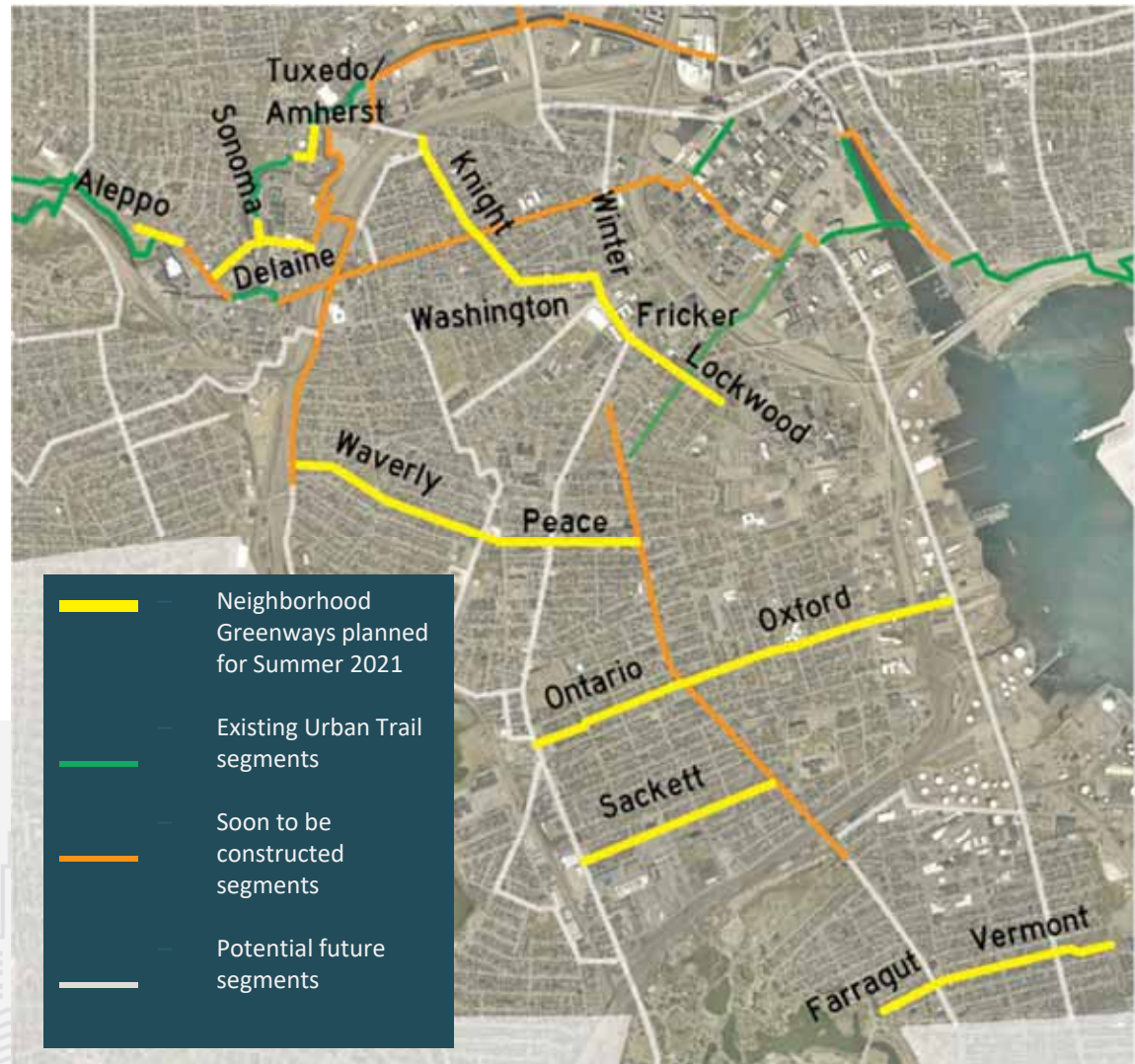
- \$3.5M investment in safety and accessibility on Broad Street between Trinity Square and Roger Williams Park entrance
- Repaving + safety improvements for all modes



Citywide context



- Connects to other City investments in Downtown, South Providence, and Washington Park
- Will safely connect Broad Street to:
 - Roger Williams Park
 - Downtown
 - India Pt Park and East Bay Bike Path
 - Woonasquatucket Greenway
 - Washington Secondary Trail



Why these streets?



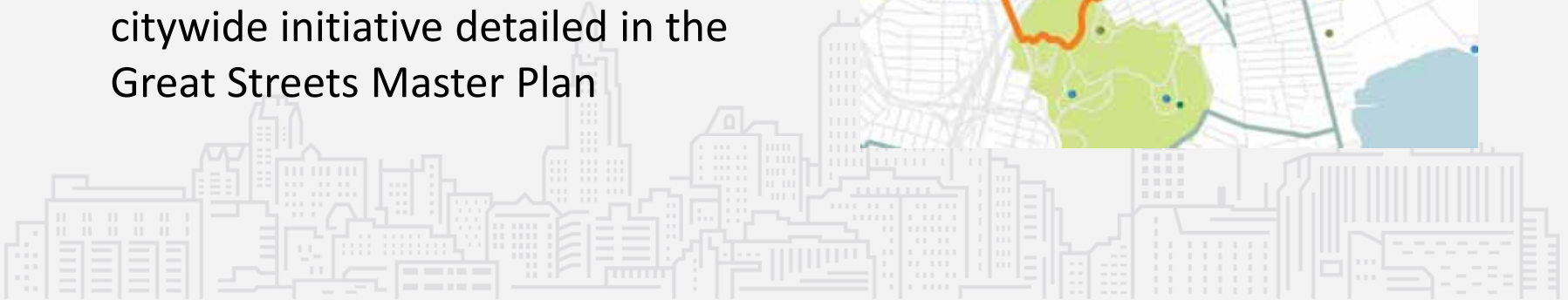
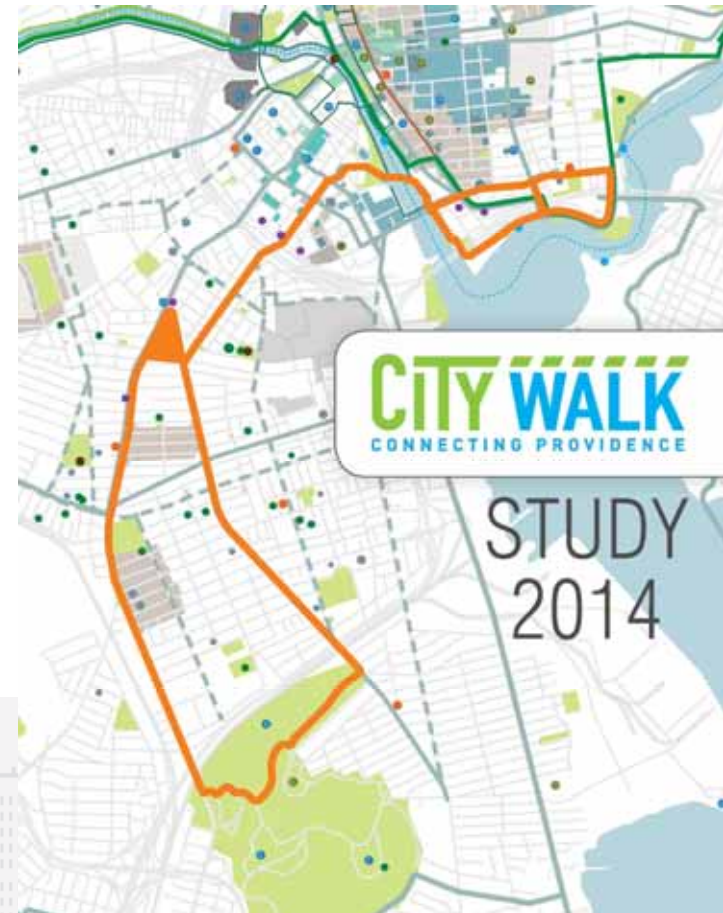
- City considered factors such as connectivity, access, and equity to determine which streets should move forward in 2020-2021:
 - Connectivity: Does the street connect to an existing or funded Urban Trail segment?
 - Access: Does the street provide access to important destinations such as schools, jobs, parks, libraries, cultural institutions, local businesses
 - Equity: We must invest in our neighborhoods equitably to overcome injustices that have harmed communities of color with past unhealthy transportation decisions



Project background



- City Walk was first imagined by community groups in 2006 to connect Providence neighborhoods after relocation of I-195
- The City adopted that vision and found funding from City (Capital Improvement Program) and State (State Transportation Improvement Program)
- City Walk inspired a larger citywide initiative detailed in the Great Streets Master Plan



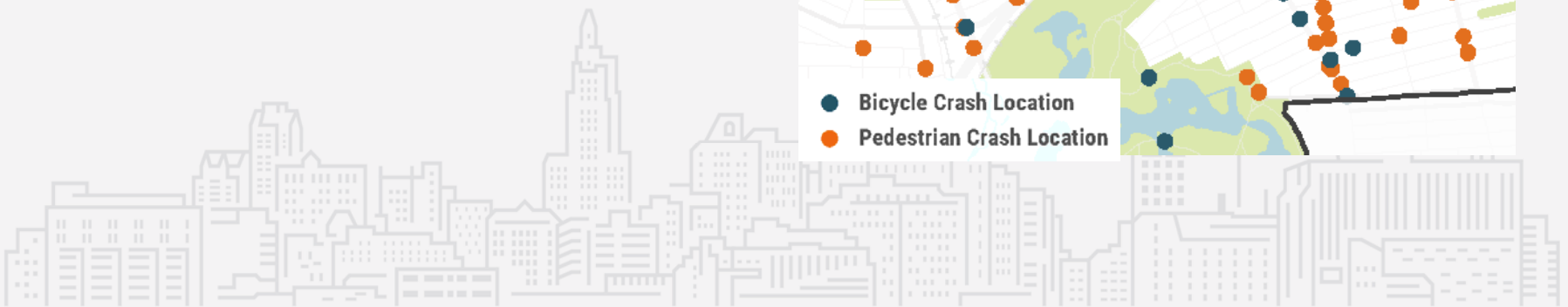
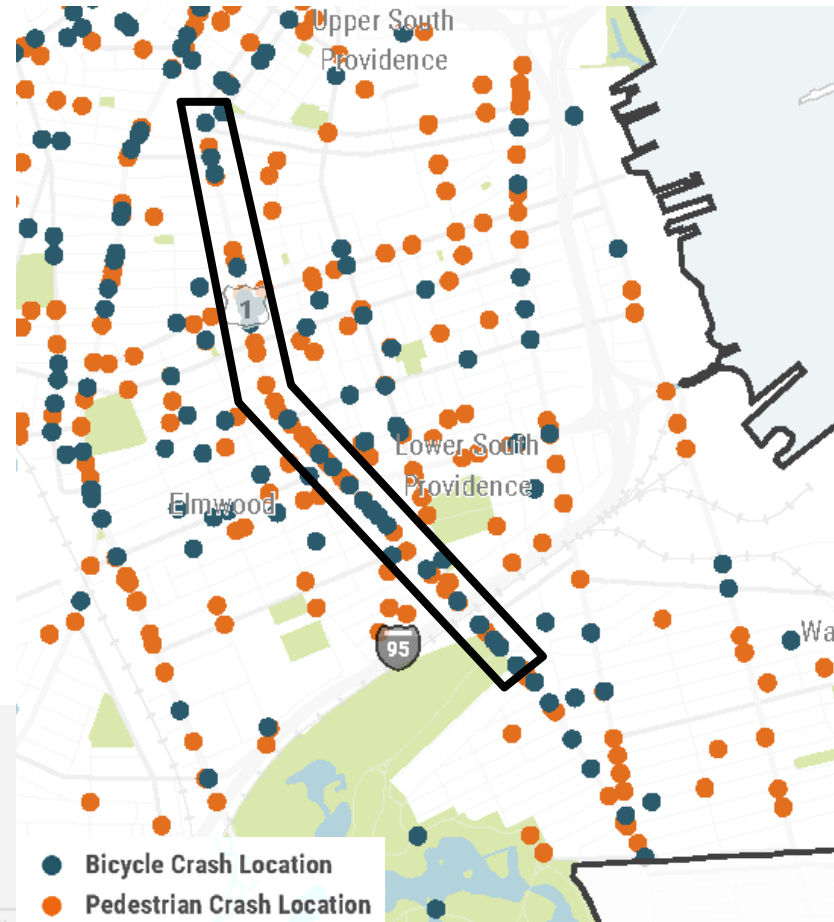
Project background



Safety

Broad Street has the **highest crash rate for people walking and biking** in Providence

From 2009-2017, **104 people** walking or biking on Broad Street were hit by a car

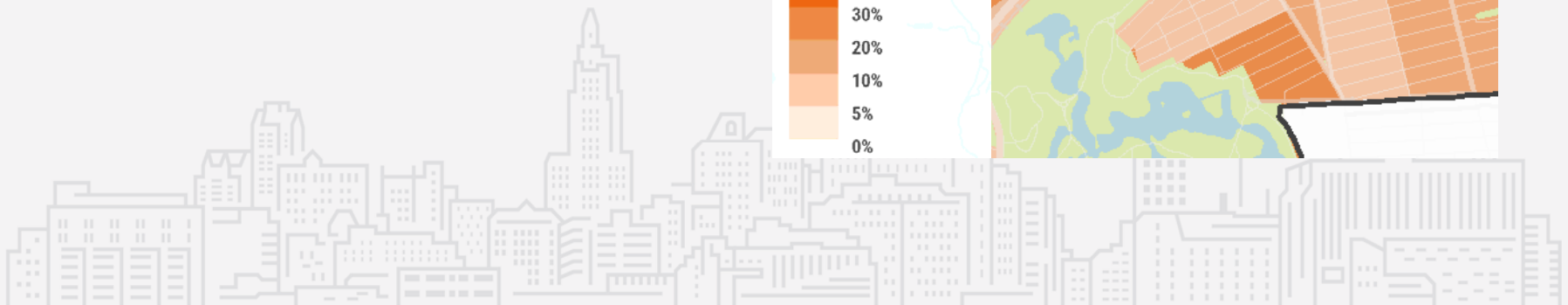
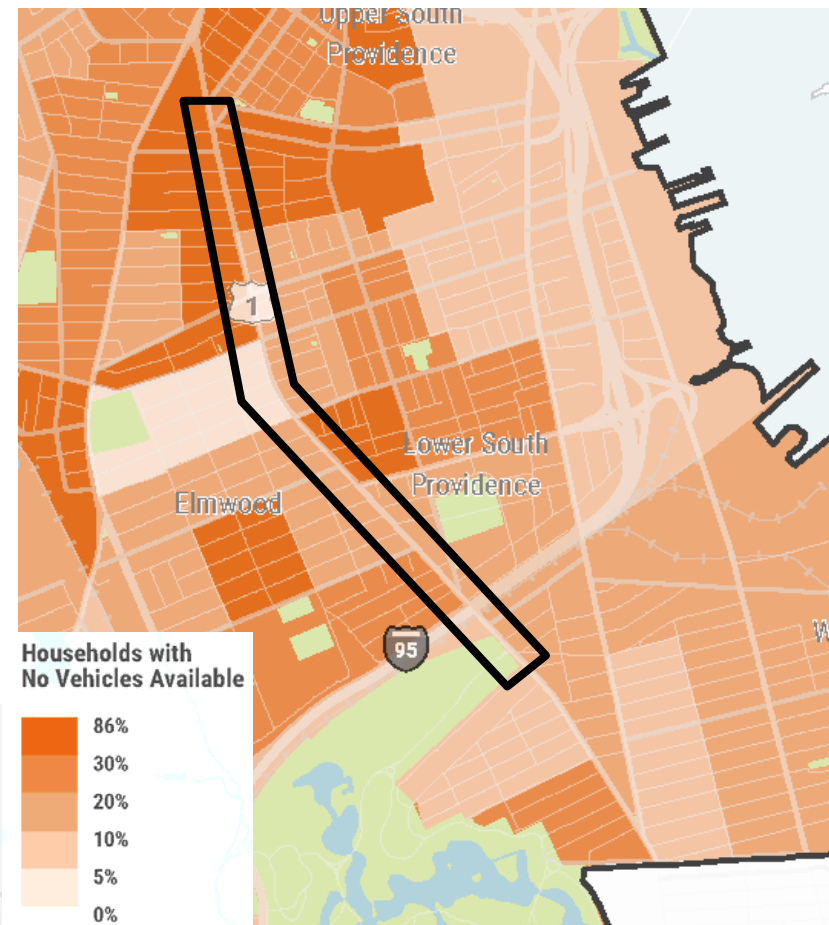


Project background



Access + Equity

- **23% of households** in the Broad Street area do not have a car
- **40% of people** in the Broad Street area walk, ride the bus, bike, or carpool to work
- 30,000 people live within 1/3 mile of Broad St (<10 min. walk)
- Reducing household transportation costs
- >5,000 elementary, middle, and high school students at schools along Broad St



Project process



- Advisory Group Formed
- Community Walk
- Public Meeting

- Public Meeting
- 4 Advisory Group Meetings
- Street Team Formed
- Field Survey & Existing Conditions Analyses
- Concept Development
- Demonstration Project

- Street Team Ambassadors
- 2 Advisory Group Meetings
- Design Development

- 2 Advisory Group Meetings
- Project delayed by COVID
- Street Team Ambassadors
- Public Meeting
- Final Design and Engineering

- Pre-Construction Communication
- Repaving & Project Installation



Public input

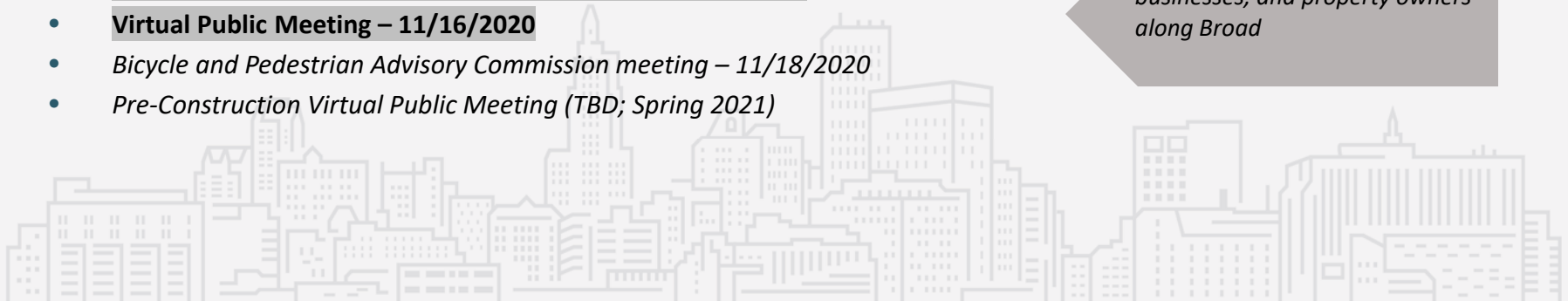


Public input



- **Public Meeting – 11/28/2017 @ Southside Cultural Center**
- Elmwood Crime Watch meeting - 1/24/2018
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission meeting - 12/19/2018
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission meeting - 2/21/2018
- South Providence Neighborhood Association meeting - 3/8/2018
- Washington Park Association meeting - 3/14/2018
- **Public Meeting – 5/14/2018 @ Calvary Baptist Church**
- **Demonstration Project - 6/16/2018 on Broad Street**
- South Providence Neighborhood Association meeting - 1/24/2019
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission meeting - 2/20/2019
- Elmwood Neighborhood Association meeting - 2/24/19
- **Public Meeting – 3/5/2019 at Southside Cultural Center**
- **Public Meeting – 3/13/2019 at Feinstein Elementary**
- Downtown Neighborhood Association meeting - 6/11/19
- I-195 Commission Meeting – 7/24/2019
- **Public Meeting – 3/10/2020 (CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19)**
- **Virtual Public Meeting – 11/16/2020**
- *Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission meeting – 11/18/2020*
- *Pre-Construction Virtual Public Meeting (TBD; Spring 2021)*

Mailers sent out to residents, businesses, and property owners along Broad



Public input



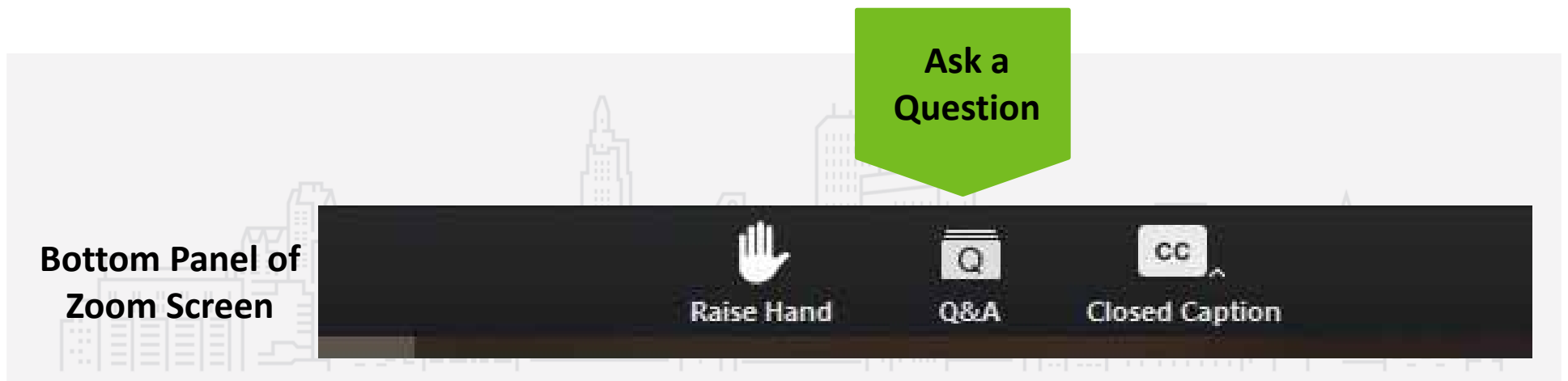
- Advisory Group comprised of neighborhood group representatives and other stakeholders has met every few months since 2017
- Street Ambassadors have attended events to inform residents and gather input:
 - Pilotworks Spring Market on 5/12/18
 - SustainPVD Fair on 5/19/18
 - Children's Museum South Side Night on 5/23/18
 - Sankofa World Market on 6/2/18
 - Broad Street Farmer's Market on 6/23/18
 - Sankofa World Market on 6/27/18
 - Sankofa World Market on 7/7/18
 - Broad Street Farmer's Market on 7/14/18
 - Trinity Square Block Party on 8/25/18
 - Roger Williams Park Free Admission Day for Providence Residents on 9/1/18
 - Broad Street Farmers Market on 7/13/19
 - Broad Street Farmers Market on 7/20/19
 - Roger Williams Park Free Admission Day for Providence Residents on 8/3/19
 - Pearl Street Block Party on 9/7/19



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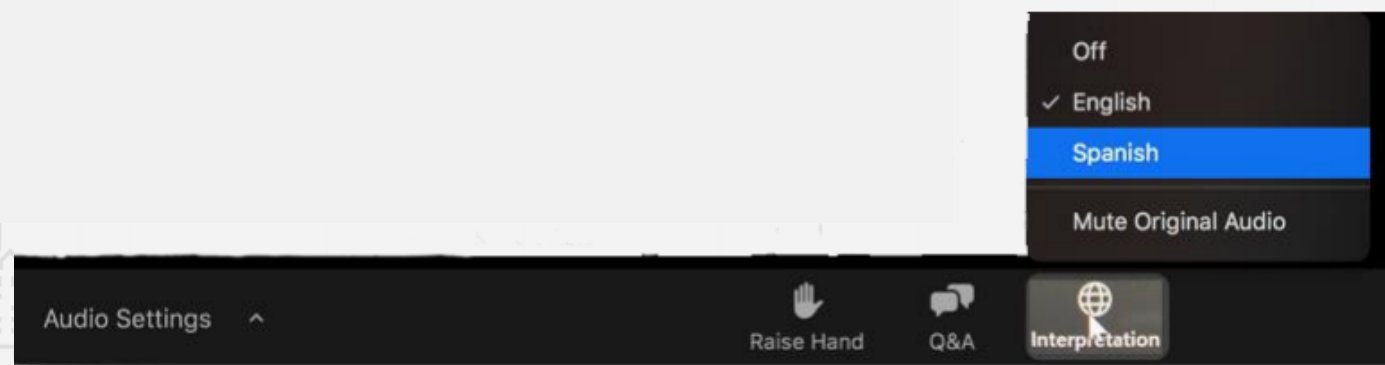


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Community feedback



People walking feel exposed to speeding vehicles

Many crosswalks feel too long or unsafe

There are missing crosswalks at key locations

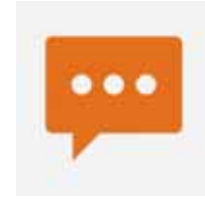


Buses do not pull all the way into bus stops, which creates unsafe conditions



People are concerned about aggressive driving and speeding

People feel like Broad Street is chaotic to drive on

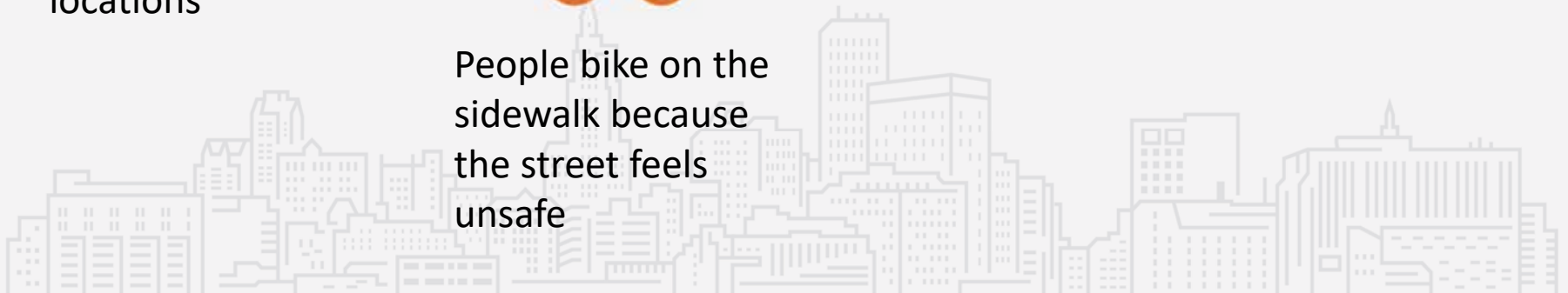


People want to see art and greenery

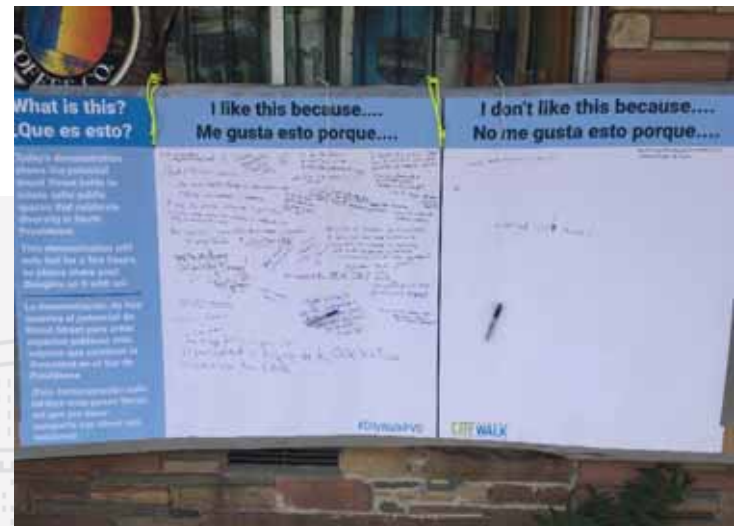
People want more lighting and shade on Broad Street



People bike on the sidewalk because the street feels unsafe



Demonstration project (June 2018)



Demonstration project (June 2018)



Walking improvements



New Crosswalks and Curb Ramps

Repainting all crosswalks, installing new crosswalks, making crosswalks ADA accessible



Crosswalk Visibility Improvements

Making WALK signal automatic, making it clear that no parking allowed on top of crosswalks



Pedestrian Head Start Signals

Giving people walking a few seconds head start to begin crossing before cars



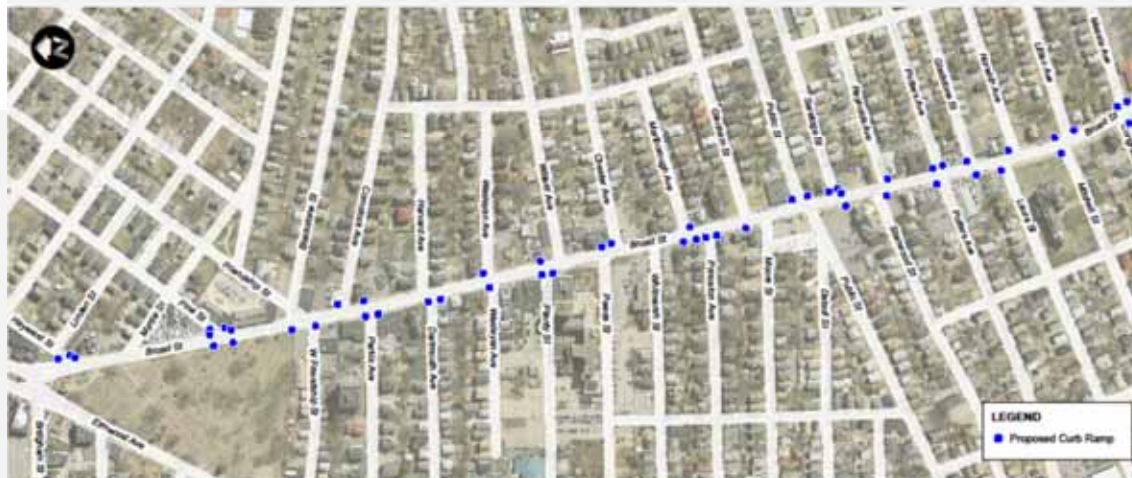
More Space and a Buffer From Cars

Creating a buffer between the sidewalk and traffic and reducing people biking on sidewalk

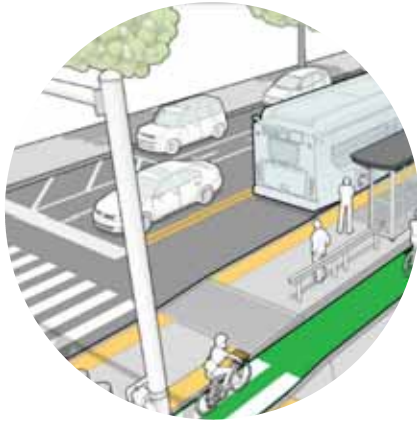


Walking improvements

- Over 90 new ADA-compliant curb ramps to make walking safer and more accessible



Bus improvements



Bus Boarding Islands

Providing more space for people waiting for buses on new bus boarding islands



Faster & Easier Bus Pickup

Making boarding easier for people with disabilities and speeding up bus boarding



No Bus-Bike conflicts

Eliminating conflicts between buses and people riding bicycles by routing bike lane behind bus stops (most of Broad Street)



Biking improvements

and micromobility



Urban Trail

From Roger Williams Park to Plenty St, people riding bikes, scooters, roller blades, and skateboards have a place to travel away from cars



Painted Bike Lane

From Plenty St to Trinity Square, a painted bike lane on each side of the street is provided



Bike Parking

New bike racks recently installed along Broad St



Driving improvements



Repaved Roadway

Broad Street will be milled and repaved



Parking

Keeping parallel parking on **both** sides of Broad St.

On the southbound side, people will park between the urban trail and car travel lanes; northbound parking will be against the curb like it is today



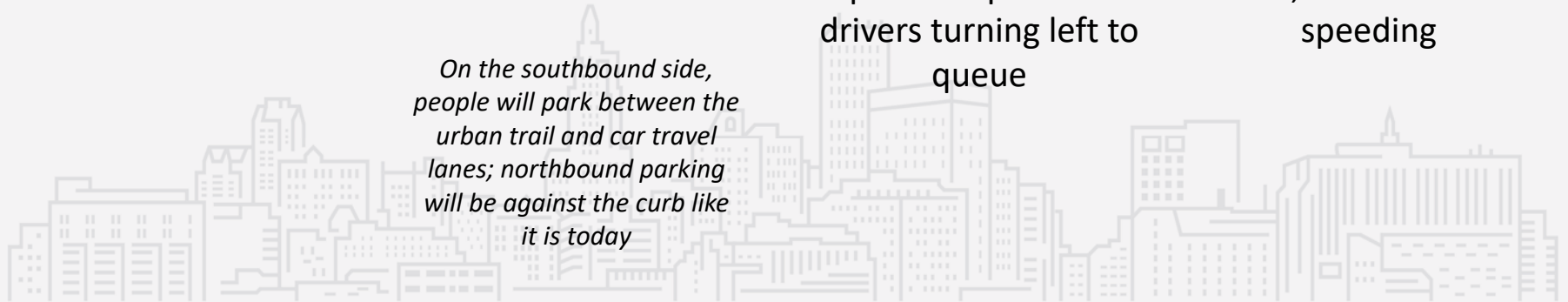
Turn Lanes

At key intersections, left turn lanes will provide space for drivers turning left to queue



Slower Traffic Speeds

The street will have narrower driving lanes, which reduces speeding



Streetscape improvements



Planters and Greenery

New planters installed next to the bike lanes



Space for Public Art

Providing space for new ground murals and other public art



Community Pride

Colored center line of the street



Trash & Recycling

New trash and recycling receptacles were installed along Broad Street



Broad St Northern Section:



Broad St @ Oxford St: Before



Broad St @ Oxford St: After



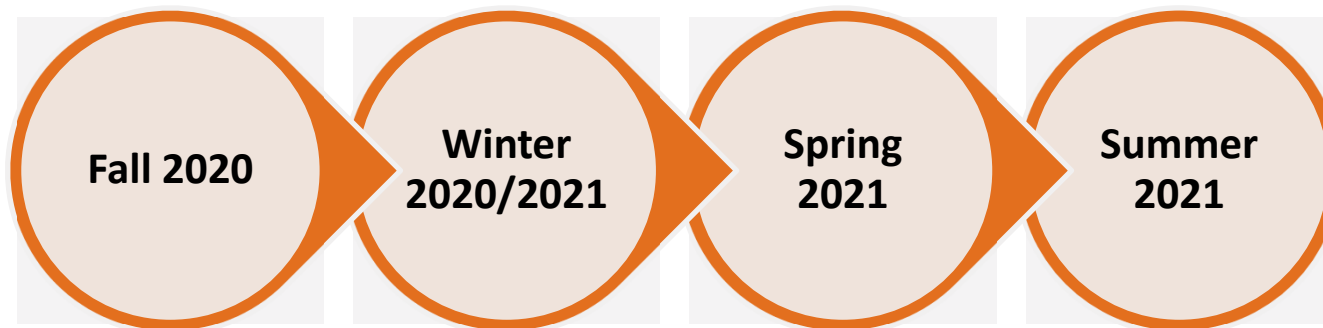
Broad St @ RWP Entrance: Before



Broad St @ RWP Entrance: After



Construction schedule

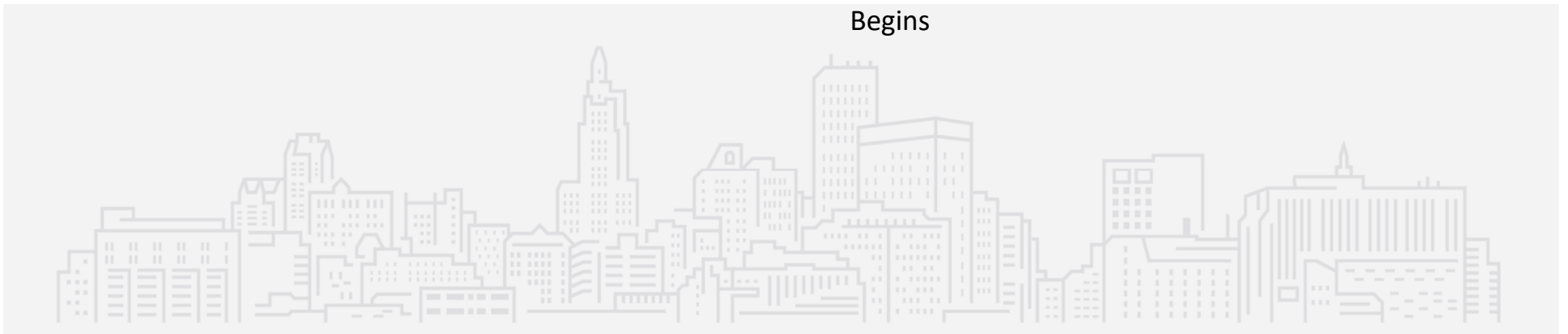


- Complete Final Engineering and Prepare Bid Packages

- Project Bidding and Contractor Selection

- **Pre-Construction Public Meeting and Mailers**
- Construction Begins

- Construction Completed



Related initiatives



- Roger Williams Park Gateway Center
- Signage and Branding of overall city “Urban Trail” network
- Housing and Anti-Displacement Study:
www.providenceri.gov/planning/comprehensive-housing-strategy
- Truth, Reconciliations, and Reparations:
www.providenceri.gov/community-relations/trr
- COVID-19 Housing Resource Guide:
www.providenceri.gov/pema/covid-19-housing-resource-guide



For more information



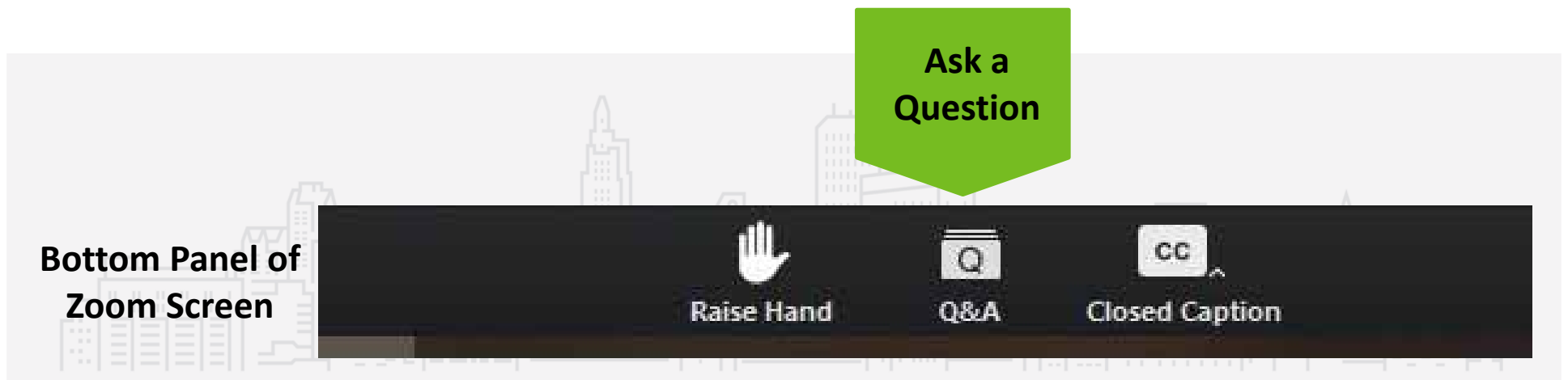
- View this presentation, sign up to receive project emails:
www.providenceri.gov/planning/citywalk
- Read the Great Streets Master Plan:
www.providenceri.gov/planning/great-streets



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Thank you

Want to get in touch?

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