Kennedy Plaza Improvements

October 2018 Update
History:

- **2013-2015**: NEA Our Town Grant and Downtown Circulator Traffic Improvements
  - Established long-term vision
  - Implemented Phase 1 improvements toward the vision
    - Improved RIPTA bus operations and reduced overall footprint within the Plaza
    - Landscaping
    - New bus shelters
Planning Process:

- **2017**: Community Input about next steps for GKP
  - Update 2013 vision to reflect new conditions - Downtown Transit Connector, pedestrian safety issues, and Providence Intermodal Transit Center
  - Build off of improvements constructed in 2015
Planning Process:

Goals

• Consolidate bus stops and make it easier for transit riders to make connections
• Improve safety for people walking and riding bicycles in and around the Plaza
• Improve vehicle circulation around the Plaza
• Create a vibrant public space where residents, workers, and visitors can gather to enjoy the city
Planning Process:

Background

- Community provided input on four possible scenarios
Planning Process:

Background

- Community preferences were clear:
Planning Process:
Background

August 2017:
City announced updated vision
Implementing Improvements to:

- Bus Circulation
- Vehicle Circulation
- Pedestrian Safety
- Bicycle Safety
- Public Space
Bus Circulation

RIPTA Bus Stop Consolidation

- RIPTA stops on **Exchange Terrace** will be removed and consolidated onto Washington St (Except Berth X which will be relocated upon completion of Providence Intermodal Transit Center)

- All bus activity will be removed from **East Approach** and consolidated onto Washington Street

- 2 of 4 existing RIPTA stops on **Fulton Street** will be consolidated onto Washington Street (*Working with RIPTA to consolidate remaining 2 onto Washington as well*)
Bus Circulation

Bus Only Lanes between Kennedy Plaza and Bus Tunnel

More efficient bus service between Kennedy Plaza and Thayer Street
Vehicular Circulation

Two-Way Fulton Street
Vehicular Circulation
Memorial/Fulton Intersection Reconstruction

• Median break and new traffic light at Memorial/ Fulton
• Allow left turns from Memorial to Fulton and from Fulton to Memorial
Pedestrian Safety

Raised, Illuminated Crossings across Washington & Fulton

Raised, illuminated intersection at Exchange/Washington

Raised, illuminated central crosswalk creates welcoming front door to 111 Westminster

Raised, illuminated crosswalk across Washington at Dorrance
Pedestrian Safety
Enhanced Median along Washington Street

- Washington Street median will be extended and enhanced with ornate fencing and trees
Bicycle Safety

Two-way Protected Bike Lane/Shared Use Path along Exchange Terrace (Part of Kennedy Plaza Project)

DTC Project to Provide Connection to Train Station via Exchange Street (RIPTA)

Canal Street Project (RIDOT)

Potential future Sabin Street Bike Lane

Fountain Street Bike Lane Extension (City)
Public Space:  
East Approach

East Approach will be closed to all traffic to provide a better connection between Burnside Park and the Alex & Ani Skating Rink.
Public Space
Public Space

City Center and Downtown Parkland Synthesis
Concept and Precedent Images
PROVIDENCE, RI
Funding Sources

$2,700,000 - RI State Transportation Improvement Program

$500,000 - City of Providence Capital Improvement Program
Design and Construction Timeline

- **Spring 2018**: BETA Group, Inc. contracted for Design and Engineering Services
- **November 2018**: Design and engineering to be completed
- **Winter 2018/2019**: Construction goes out to bid
- **Spring 2019**: Construction contract awarded; construction begins
Questions & Comments

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