



MAYOR JORGE O. ELORZA
CITY OF PROVIDENCE

PRE-CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION SESSION: DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENTS

Department of Planning + Development
June 17, 2021

para español →

- ✓ Off
- English
- Spanish
- Mute Original Audio

 Interpretation



Agenda

- Which streets are planned to see changes this summer?
- How do those streets fit into the overall Urban Trail Network?
- What changes are planned for these streets?
- Questions and Answers



Virtual Meeting Procedure

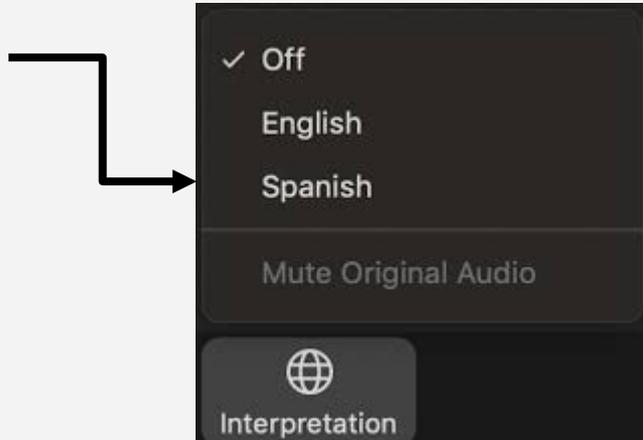


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Interpretation

Para español:



Downtown Road Safety Improvements

- **Empire Street** (Fountain to Weybosset)
- **Chestnut Street** (Weybosset to Clifford)
- **South Water Street** (Memorial to Wickenden)
- **Richmond Street** (one block from Clifford to Elbow)



Why these streets?

- City considered factors such as **connectivity**, **access**, and **equity** to determine which streets should move forward in 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 past injustices; our government has harmed communities of color with past unhealthy transportation decisions





Network Map from Great Streets Plan

Plan released January 2020 details citywide network of quiet neighborhood streets & separated bike lanes.

Orange = new route, Blue & Green = existing route



Downtown Great Streets map

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Downtown Road Safety Improvements

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Community Engagement



- Jun 24, 2020 – Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission review of South Water St
- Jun 23, 2020 – Ward 1 virtual neighborhood meeting on South Water St
- Feb 25, 2020 – Public meeting about Empire, Chestnut, and Richmond at 444 Westminster St
- Jan 15, 2020 – Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission review of South Water St
- Oct 16, 2019 – Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission review of Empire/Chestnut & Richmond
- Mar 18, 2019 – Great Streets Plan workshop at 444 Westminster St
- Aug 15, 2018 – Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission review of Empire/Chestnut & Richmond

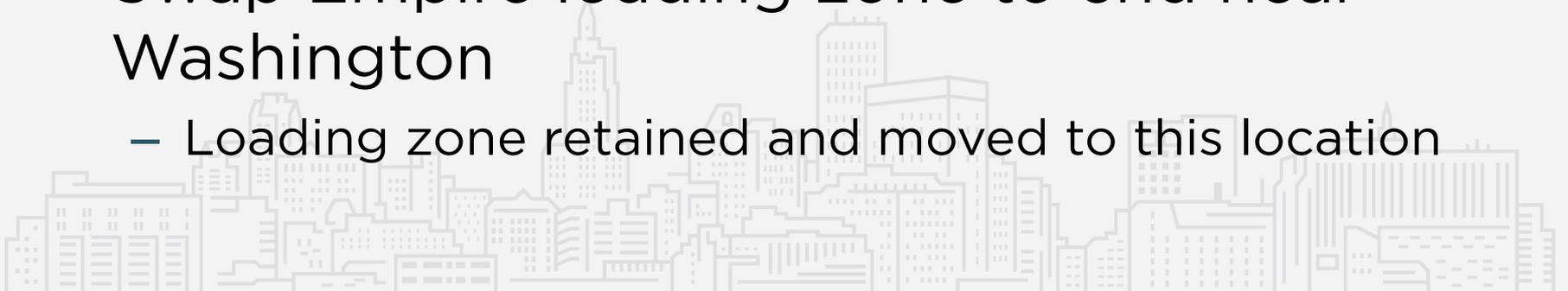
Many individual meetings with various stakeholders



Community Feedback



- Avoid conflicting with JWU shuttle routes
 - No JWU shuttle routes are impacted
- Construction zone at Parcel 28 taking up some roadway space
 - Adjusted dimensions of improvements to fit
- Speeding & noise on South Water St
 - Integrated speed lumps into plan
- Swap Empire loading zone to end near Washington
 - Loading zone retained and moved to this location



Timeline

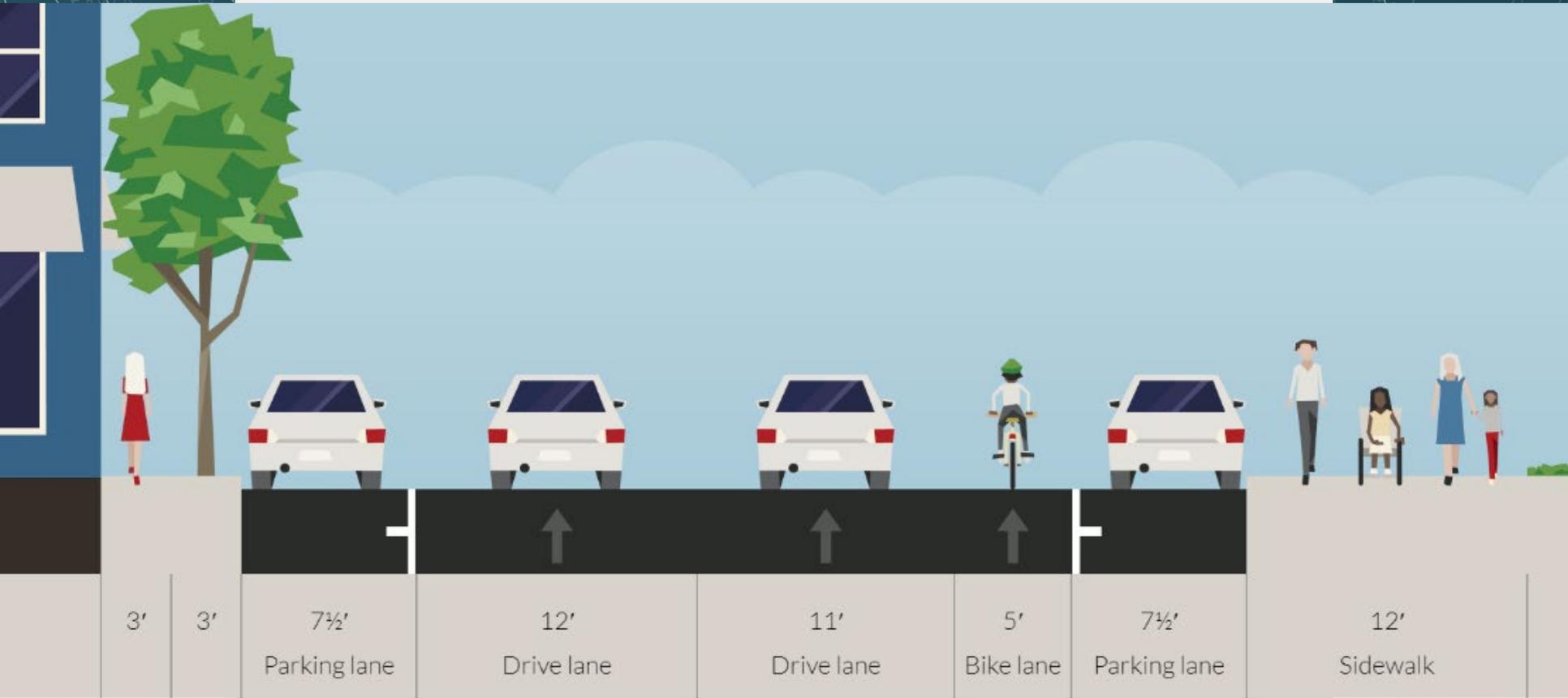
- **Mid to late July:** Construction begins
- **September 30:** Construction complete



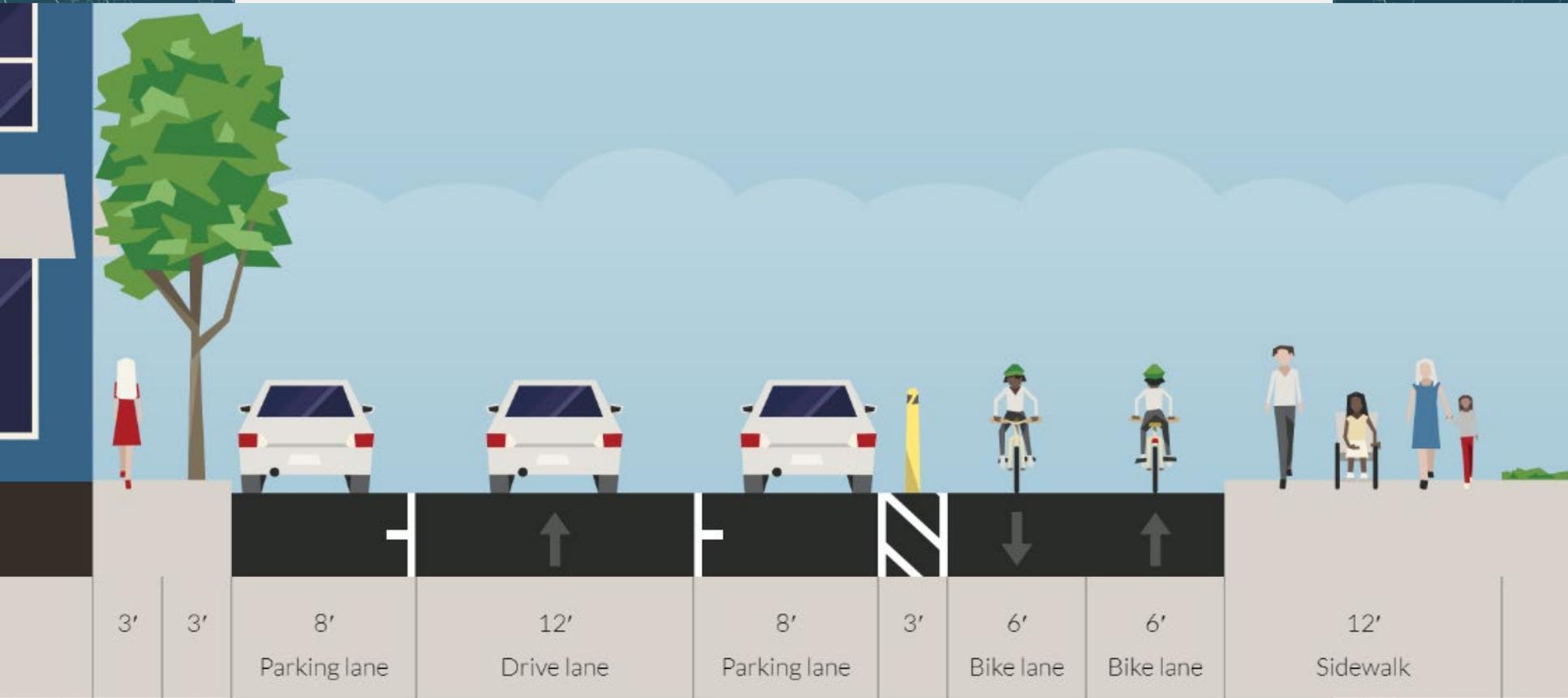


New style of separation

Other cities have recommended modular hard plastic curbing units such as Tuff Curb XLP, pictured above, which are designed to withstand impacts that occur regularly in the roadway.

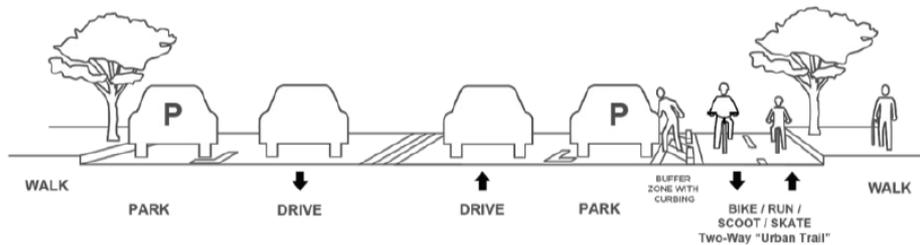


South Water Street current conditions

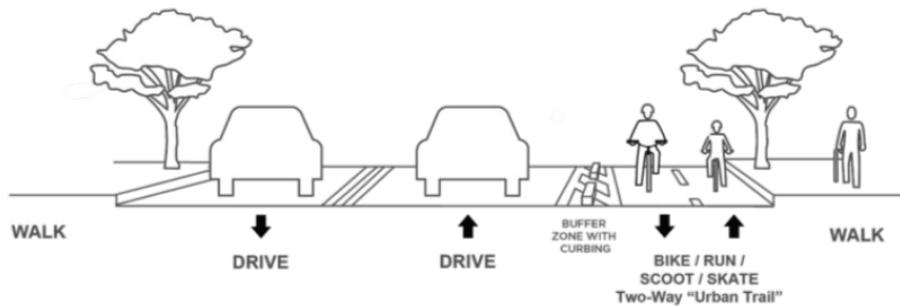


South Water Street new configuration

Two-way separated urban trail on the river side of the street



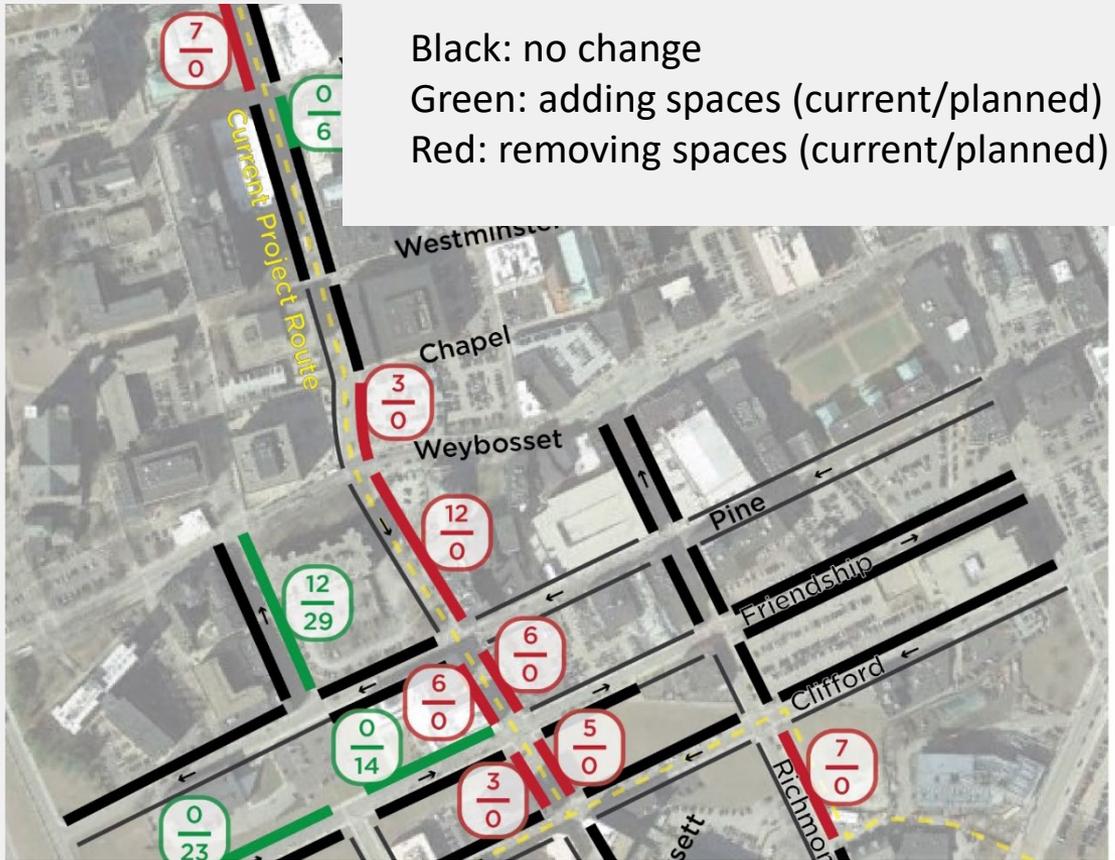
Proposed Empire Street layout (Fountain to Broad): One car lane each direction; keep on-street parking on both sides of the street; urban trail on southwest side



Proposed Chestnut Street layout (Broad to Clifford): One car lane each direction; no on-street parking; urban trail on southwest side (between Weybosset and Pine, the street will remain one-way for cars as it is today)

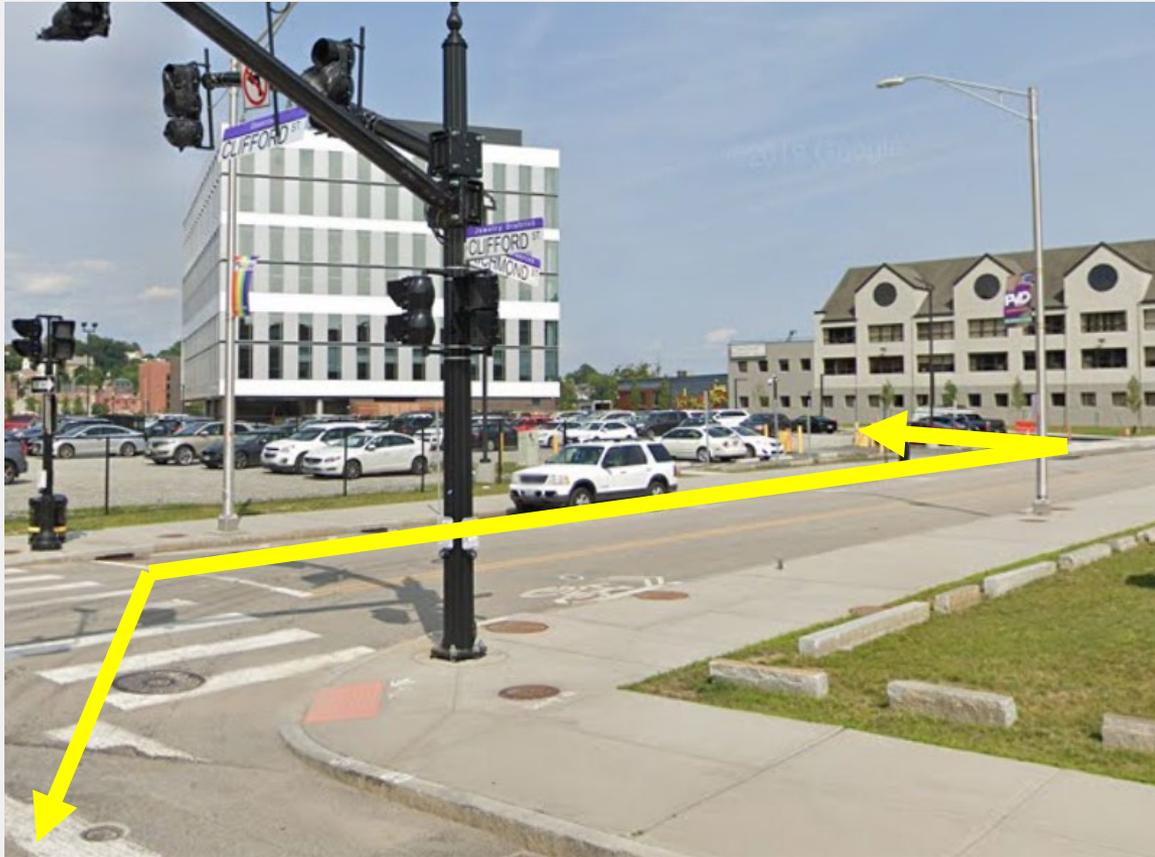
Empire St & Chestnut St

Adding a two-way separated urban trail on southbound side



14 parking spaces added

- **Claverick:** 17 new
- **Friendship:** 37 new
- **Empire:** 6 new by AS220
- **Chestnut:** removing 32
- **Richmond:** removing 7
- **Empire:** removing 7 by PPL



Richmond St

Half-block connection from Clifford Street to West Side Park via Elbow Street alongside Point225

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For more information



- www.providenceri.gov/planning/great-streets/
 - Read the Great Streets Master Plan
 - View this presentation again
- Alex Ellis, Principal Planner
 - aellis@providenceri.gov





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CITY OF PROVIDENCE

THANK YOU

City of Providence

