



Route 7/15 Norwalk Project - Update Winter 2017





Route 7/15 Norwalk

Agenda

- Introductions
- Project Goals
- Update on Work Status
- Alternative Development
- Project Schedule Review
- Next Steps



Route 7/15 Norwalk

Project Goals

- Provide for increased mobility and connectivity in interchange area including providing for all traffic movement connections between Route 7 and Merritt Parkway
- Address safety deficiencies
- Improve mobility and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists in area of interchanges

Guiding Principal for Solutions

- Avoid, minimize, mitigate environmental/historic impacts



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Update on Work Status

- Existing Conditions (traffic, natural, archeological)
- Environmental Documentation
- Development of Alternatives
- Public Outreach



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Identification of Preferred Alternative

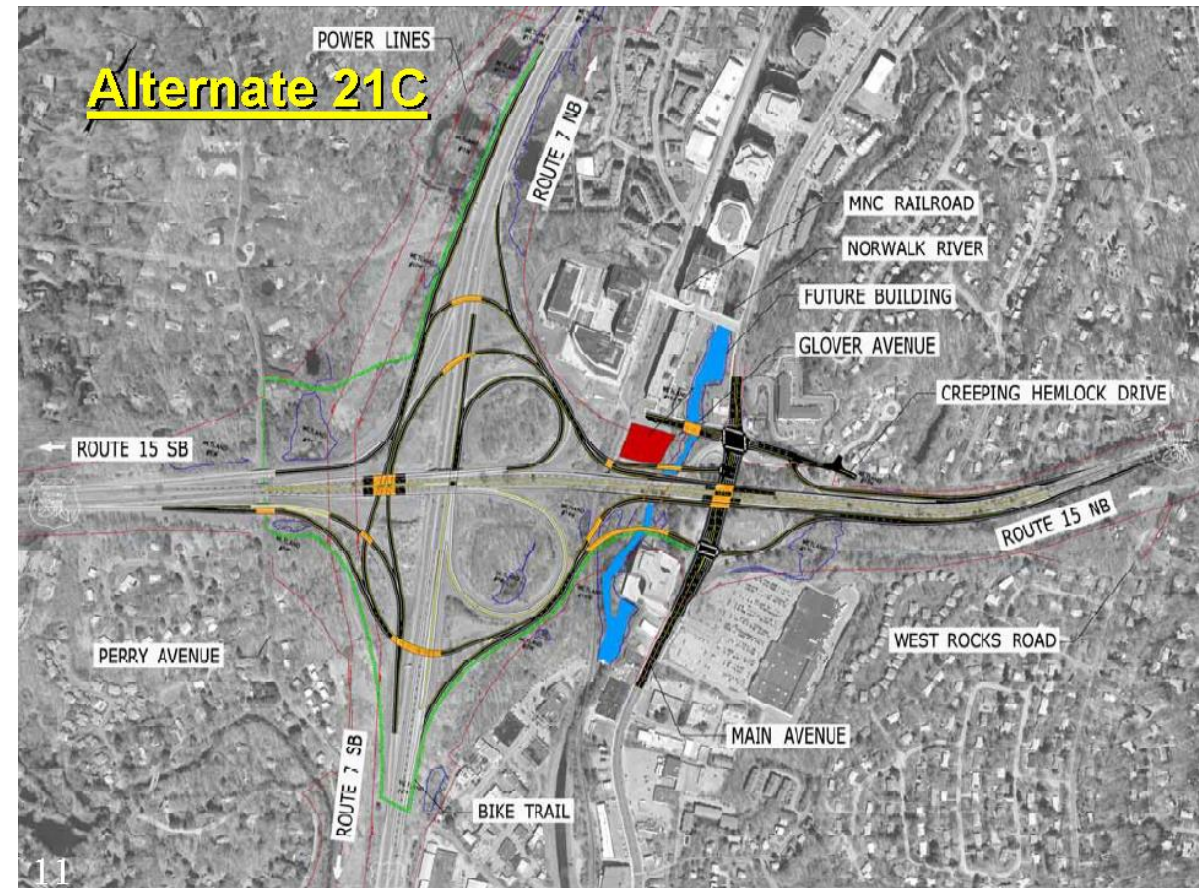
- Based on achieving purpose and need
- Evaluation screening matrix (for example):
 - Cost
 - Engineering feasibility
 - Traffic operations
 - Environmental impacts
 - Community input
 - Etc.....
- Recommendation for final design after approval in NEPA/CEPA process



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Development of Alternatives

- Refinement of 21C
- Consideration of additional alternatives





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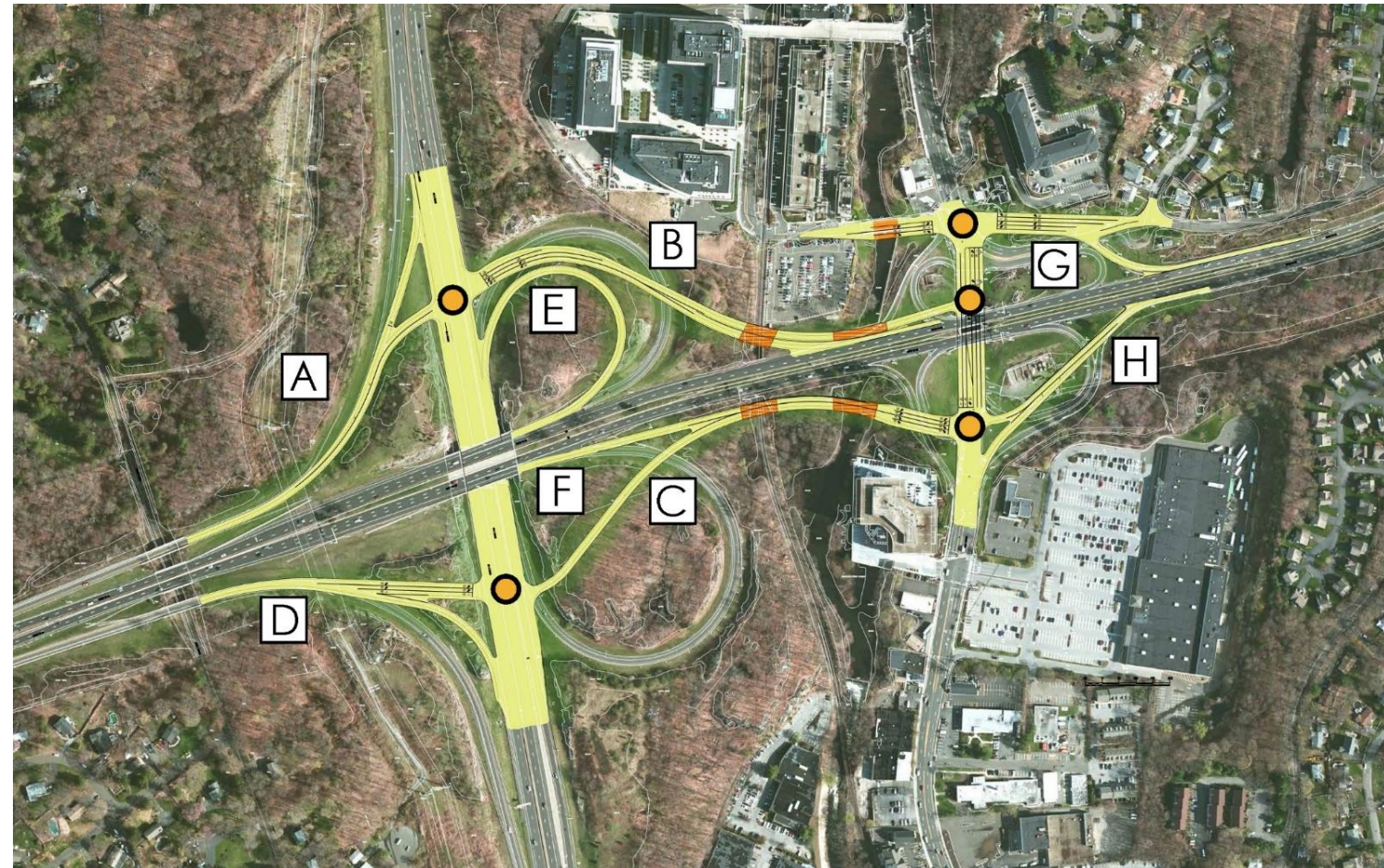
Alternative 26 Design Concept



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Alternative 26 Interchange Configuration

- Make all connections (Route 7 / Main Ave)
- Number of lanes on Route 7
- Heavy traffic movements
- Eliminate non-standard Main Ave ramps
- Eliminate weaves on Merritt Parkway

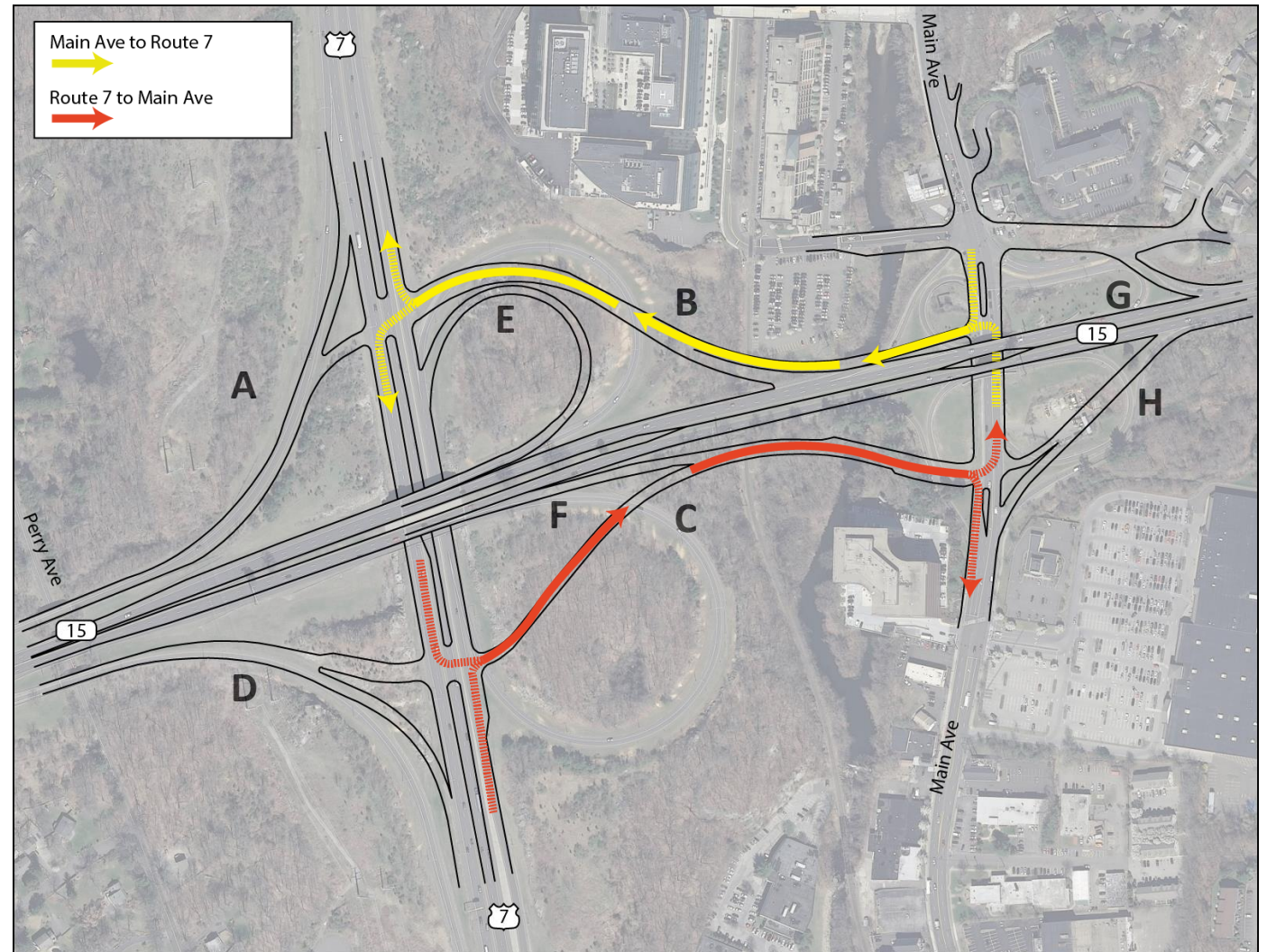




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Alternative 26 Connections

- Between Main Ave & Route 7
- Accommodates commercial vehicles

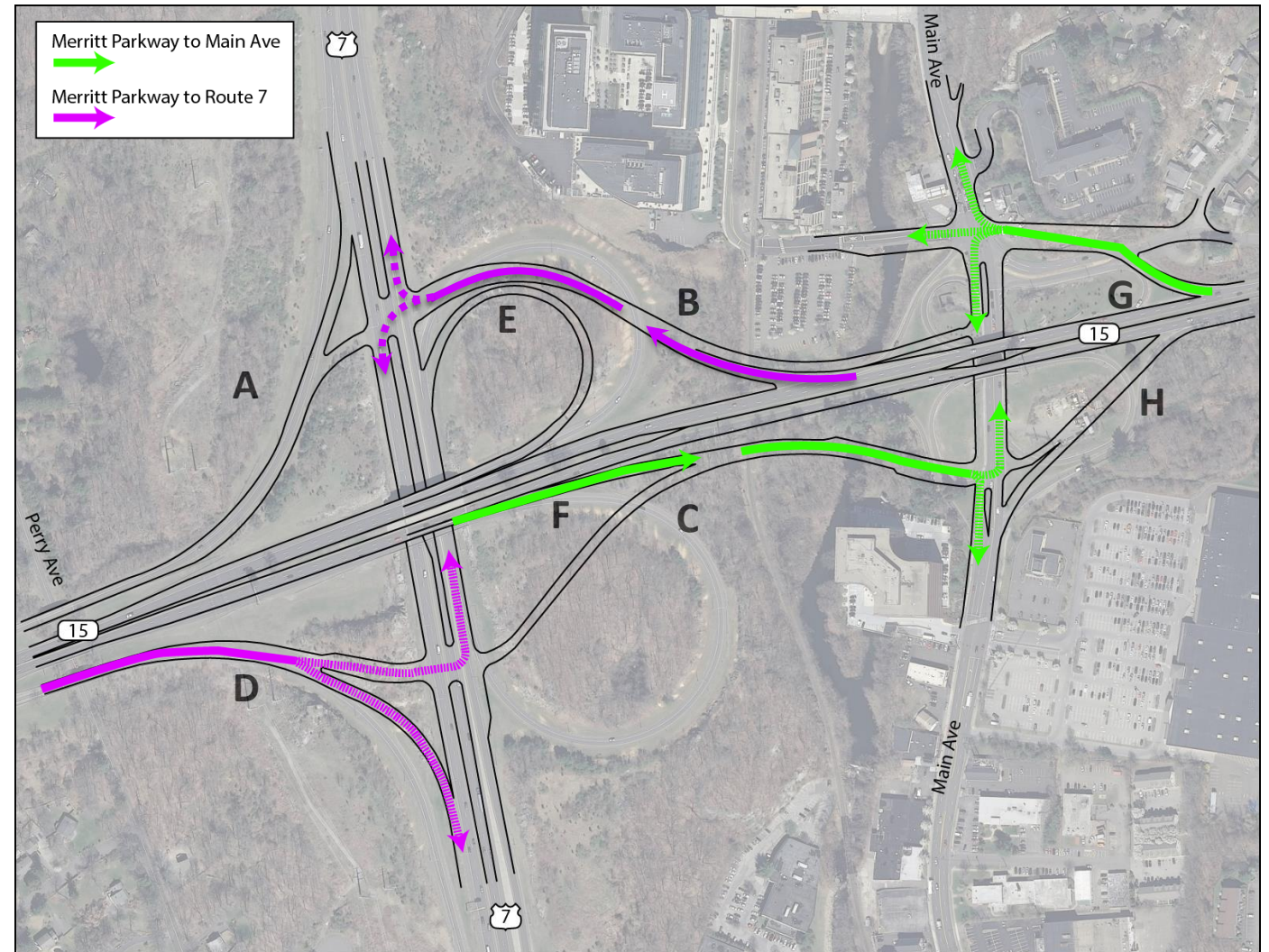




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Alternative 26 Connections

- From Parkway
(to Route 7 & Main Ave)

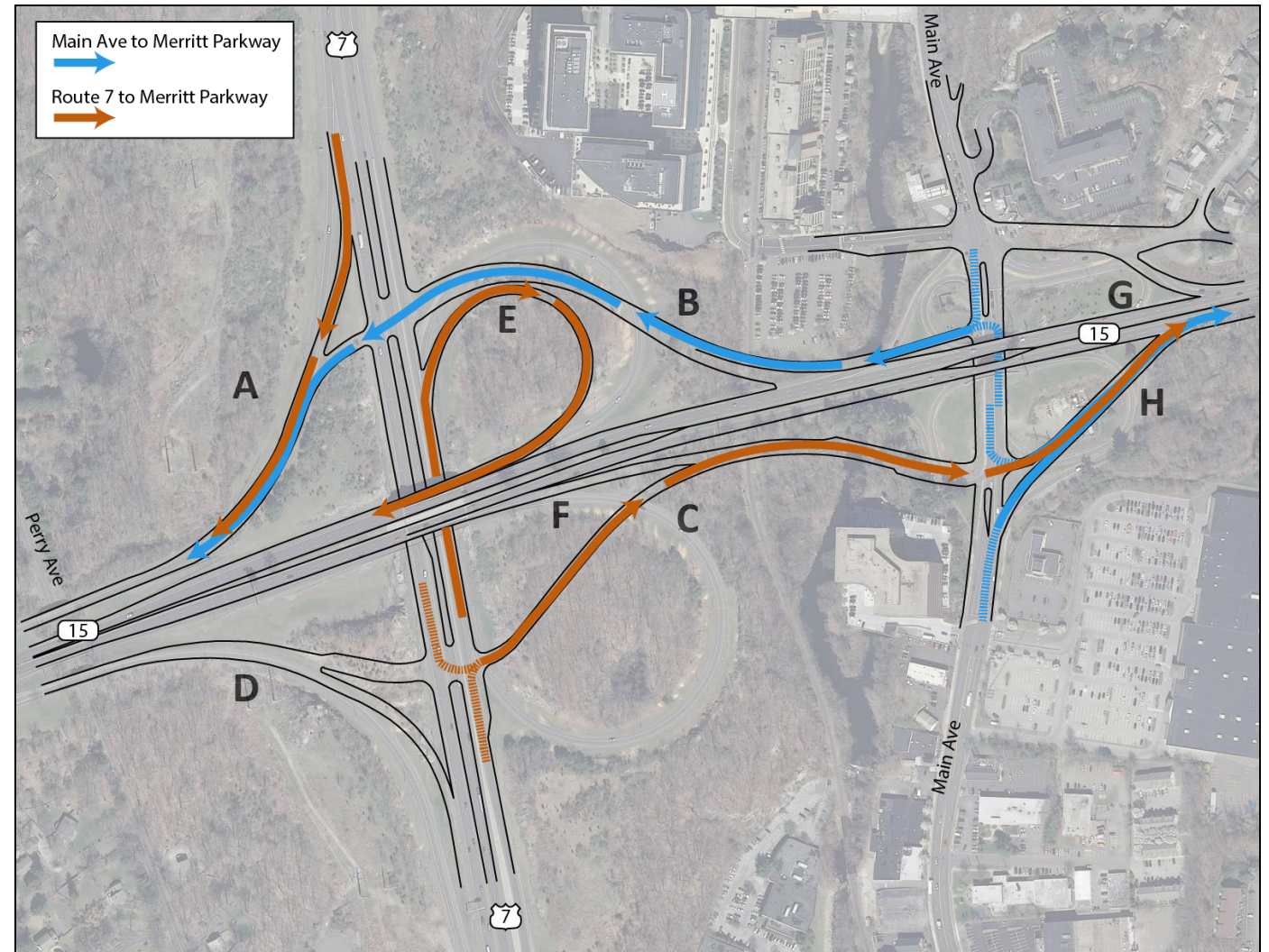




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Alternative 26 Connections

- To Parkway
(from Route 7 & Main Ave)

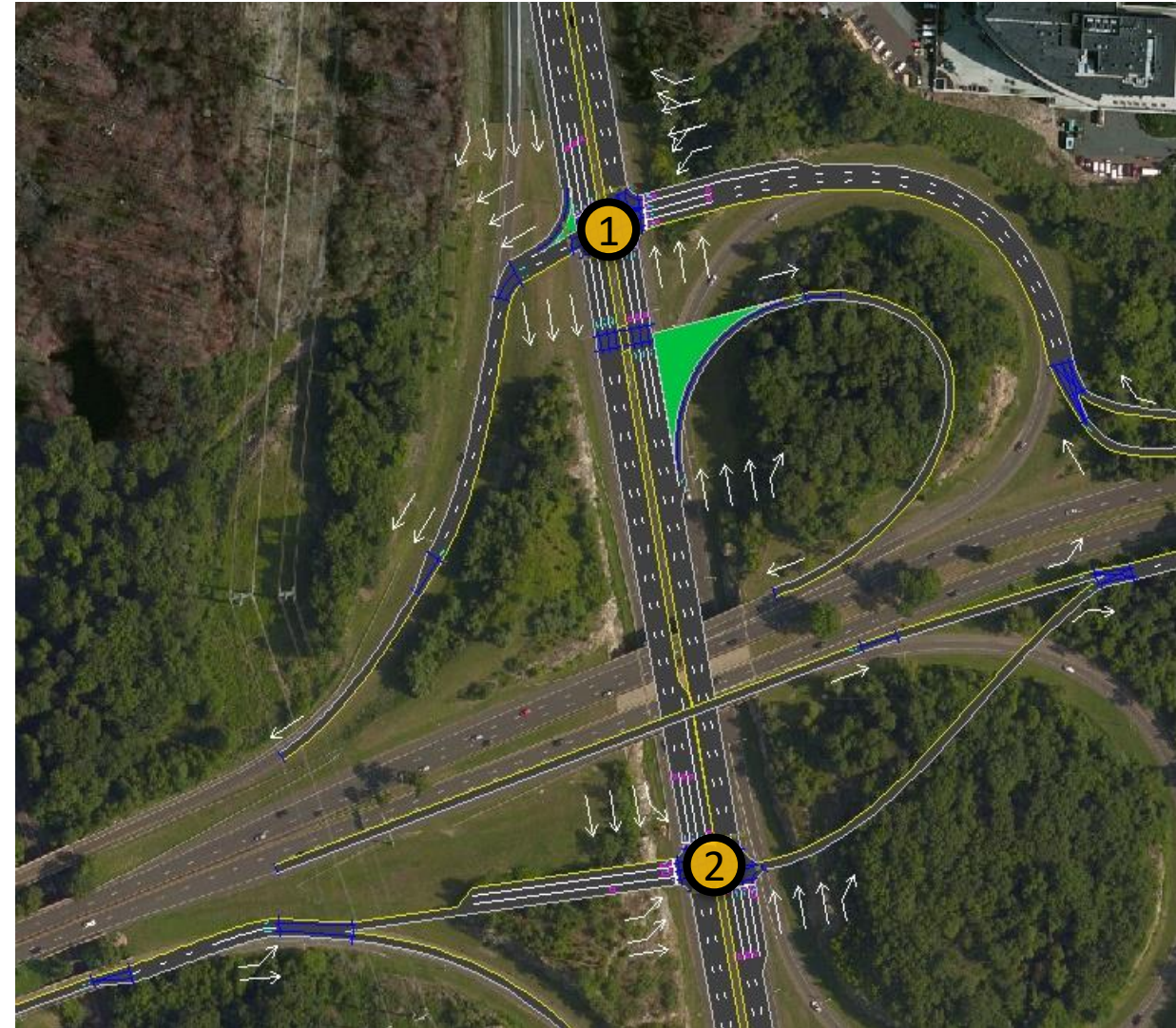




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Preliminary Traffic Analysis – Route 7 Alternative 26

- Assume 3 through lanes
- Intersection 1 operates at LOS C or better
- Intersection 2 operates at LOS D or better
- Queues do not block adjacent intersections or ramps



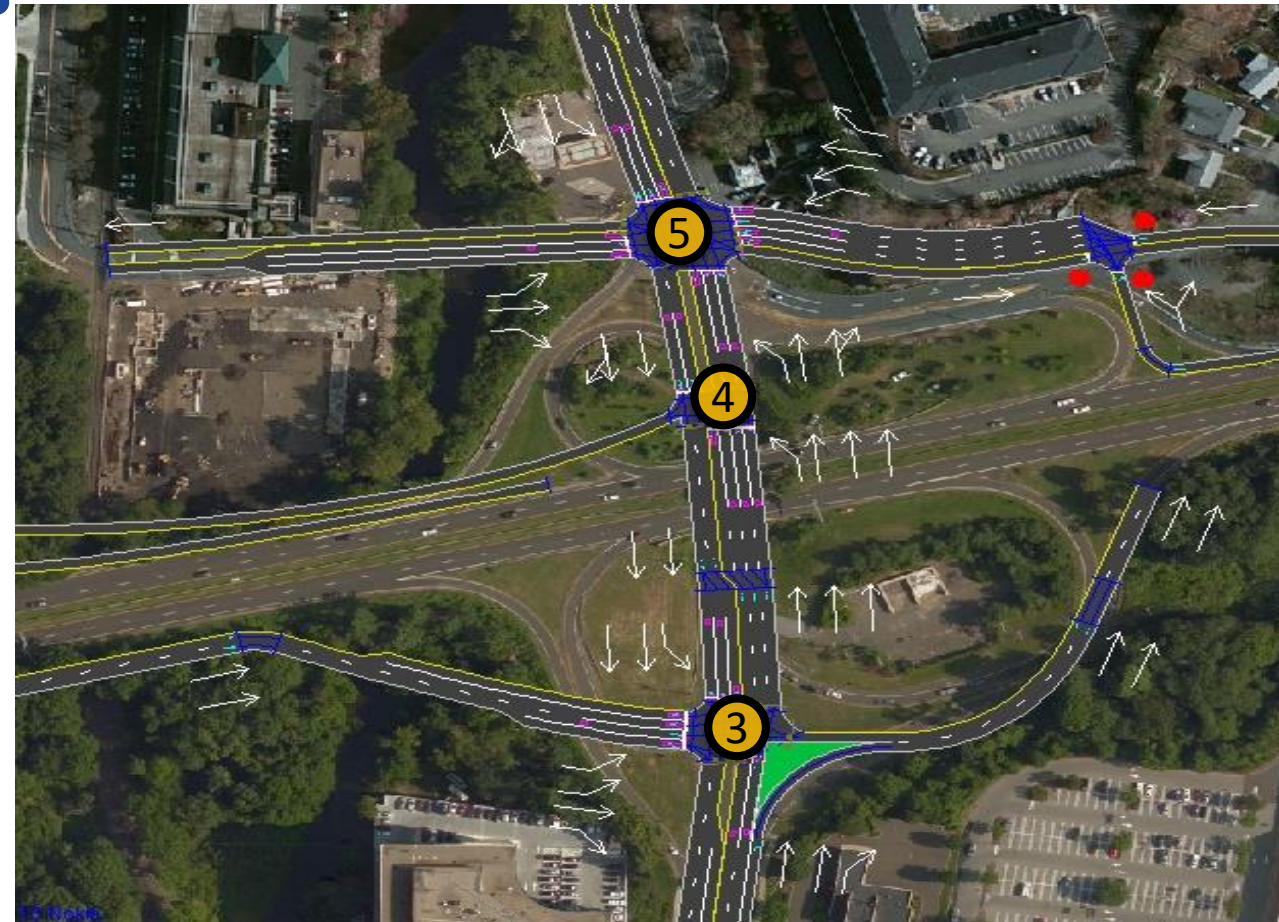


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Preliminary Traffic Analysis

– Main Avenue

- 2 new signalized intersections on Main Ave
 - Intersection 3 operates at LOS C
 - Intersection 4 operates at LOS D or better
- 1 modified intersection on Main Ave
 - Intersection 5 operates at LOS C as per Alternate 21C





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Initial Alternative 26 Concept Analysis Benefits / Drawbacks

Potential Benefits

- More compact (less footprint) and simpler interchange for Route 7/15
- Less structures required
- Significantly less expensive - Initial and long-term
- Potential to minimize environmental impacts associated with interchange; both natural resources and historic resources/parkway character



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Initial Alternative 26 Concept Analysis Benefits / Drawbacks

Potential Drawbacks

- Greater air quality and noise impacts on Route 7 (signals)
- Potential safety concerns at new Route 7 traffic signals
- Potential reductions in LOS from Alternate 21C
- Alternate 21C considered free flow (preferred)



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Initial Alternative 26 Concept Analysis Questions to be Answered / Unknowns

- ROW acquisition?
- Travel time benefits (over directional ramps)?
- Precluding Route 7 Expressway?
- Alternative 26 Access: Limited? Development opportunities?



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Outreach to Date

Stakeholder Meetings- Over 20 meetings to date!

- Neighborhoods
- Business groups
- Major property owners
- Environmental groups
- Website
- Newsletters
- Social Media (Facebook and Twitter)
- Newspaper article



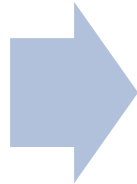


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Preliminary Schedule

2016

- Outreach with key stakeholders
- Data collection
- Identification of design alternatives
- Environmental studies



2017

- Project Advisory Committee meetings
- Public information meetings
- Develop preliminary alternatives
- Identify preferred alternative
- Preliminary design process



2018

- Conclude Environmental Documentation
- Initiate final design process



2021

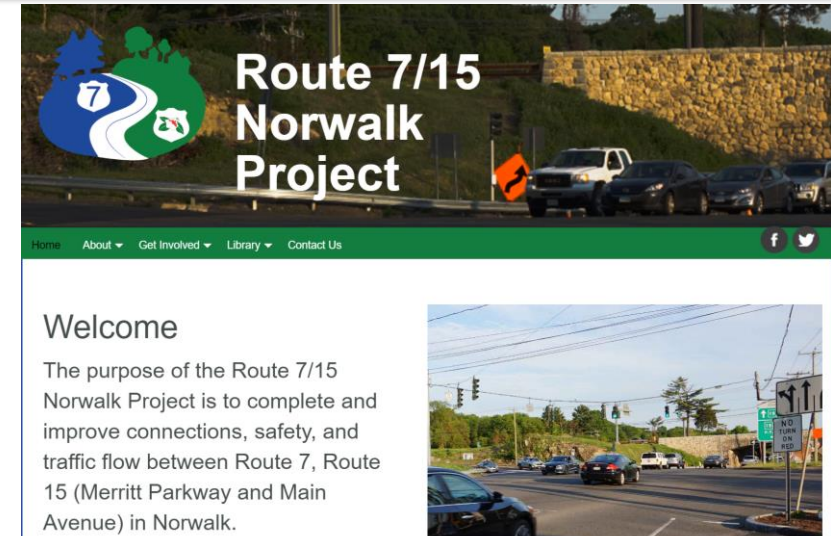
- Start Construction



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Stay Connected

- Sign –up for contact list
- Visit website
- Connect with project on social media
- Attend meetings





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Contact Information

- CTDOT
 - Andy Fesenmeyer - Project Manager Andy.Fesenmeyer@ct.gov
 - Jen Sweeney - Project Engineer Jennifer.Sweeney@ct.gov
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 - John Eberle, - Project Manager john.eberle@stantec.com
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