Reduction in travel lanes, on-street bicycle lanes recommended in 2002 Watertown Bicycle Transportation Plan

Multiple alternatives developed, presented to Public Works Subcommittee

“Road Diet” selected as Preferred Alternative
■ TIP Project initiated by MassDOT - $12.2 million

■ Currently at “25 Percent” design stage (Preliminary Engineering)
  Alignment, lane configuration, utilities, right-of-way

■ Utility and MBTA Coordination in progress
**ROAD DIET**

**Reduction** in the number of through roadway lanes

To provide space for **all users**.
Why a road diet?

Accommodate **all** roadway users:
- Vehicles, Bicycles, Pedestrians, Transit

Improve safety

Add traffic calming, green space

Widen sidewalks

Reduce stormwater runoff

Improve traffic operations

Achieve Complete Streets objectives
Shouldn’t fewer lanes mean *less* capacity?
Shouldn’t fewer lanes mean *less* capacity?

- Turning vehicles block left lane
- Lane-changers interrupt right lane flow
Shouldn’t fewer lanes mean *less* capacity?
- Provide a “Town Street” instead of “State Highway”
- Complete Streets approach
- Welcoming and Wayfinding Signage
- ADA Compliance
- Crosswalks near stops
- Review stop locations
- Incorporate signal priority
- Construction impacts
Keep vehicle speeds appropriate to context while accommodating traffic so it doesn’t divert to side streets

- Narrower roadway/Road Diet
- Bump-outs
- Radar signage
Projected from 2012-2016 daily traffic counts
85th percentile speeds
PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Retain Four-lane Section, Summer St to Common St

New signal

Two-lane Section
Bike Lanes
Turn Lanes

Signalized Intersection

Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon
(Russell Ave, Oakley Rd, Winthrop St)
INTERSECTION OPERATIONS

Parker Street/Common Street
INTERSECTION OPERATIONS

Walnut Street/Bates Road East
INTERSECTION OPERATIONS

Hosmer School – Boylston Street
INTERSECTION OPERATIONS

School Street
BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Give us your thoughts

- Safety
- Traffic
- Public Transit
- Pedestrian Accommodations
- Bicycle Accommodations
- Streetscape

Thank you!