



Nashua-Manchester (Capitol Corridor)

Project Development Phase

Manchester Station and Layover Facility Options

May 25, 2021

New Hampshire DOT
Department of Transportation

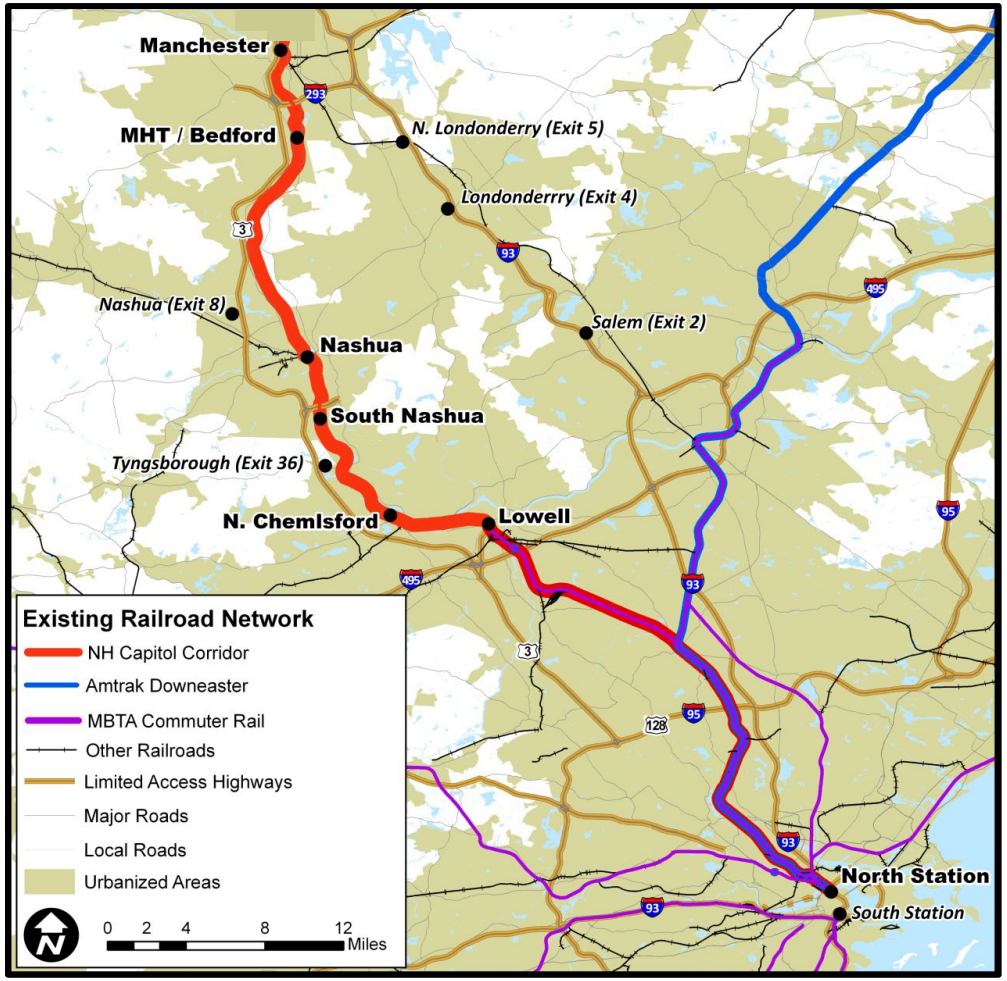
Meeting Agenda

- Background
- Manchester Station Options
- Manchester Layover Facility Options
- Next Steps

Background: *Project Objectives*

- Provide alternative to congestion on I-93/Rt3
- Improve bi-directional access to jobs & housing
- Perform an Environmental Assessment
- 30% design for 30-mile extension of Lowell Line
  - Four new stations and one layover facility
- Detailed and sustainable Financial Plan

Background: *Preferred Service Option*



- Extends Lowell Service to Nashua (34 trains/day) and Manchester (16 trains/day)
- Highest ridership and economic benefits
- Builds on 40 years of MBTA network extensions
- Interstate precedent is Pilgrim Partnership with RI

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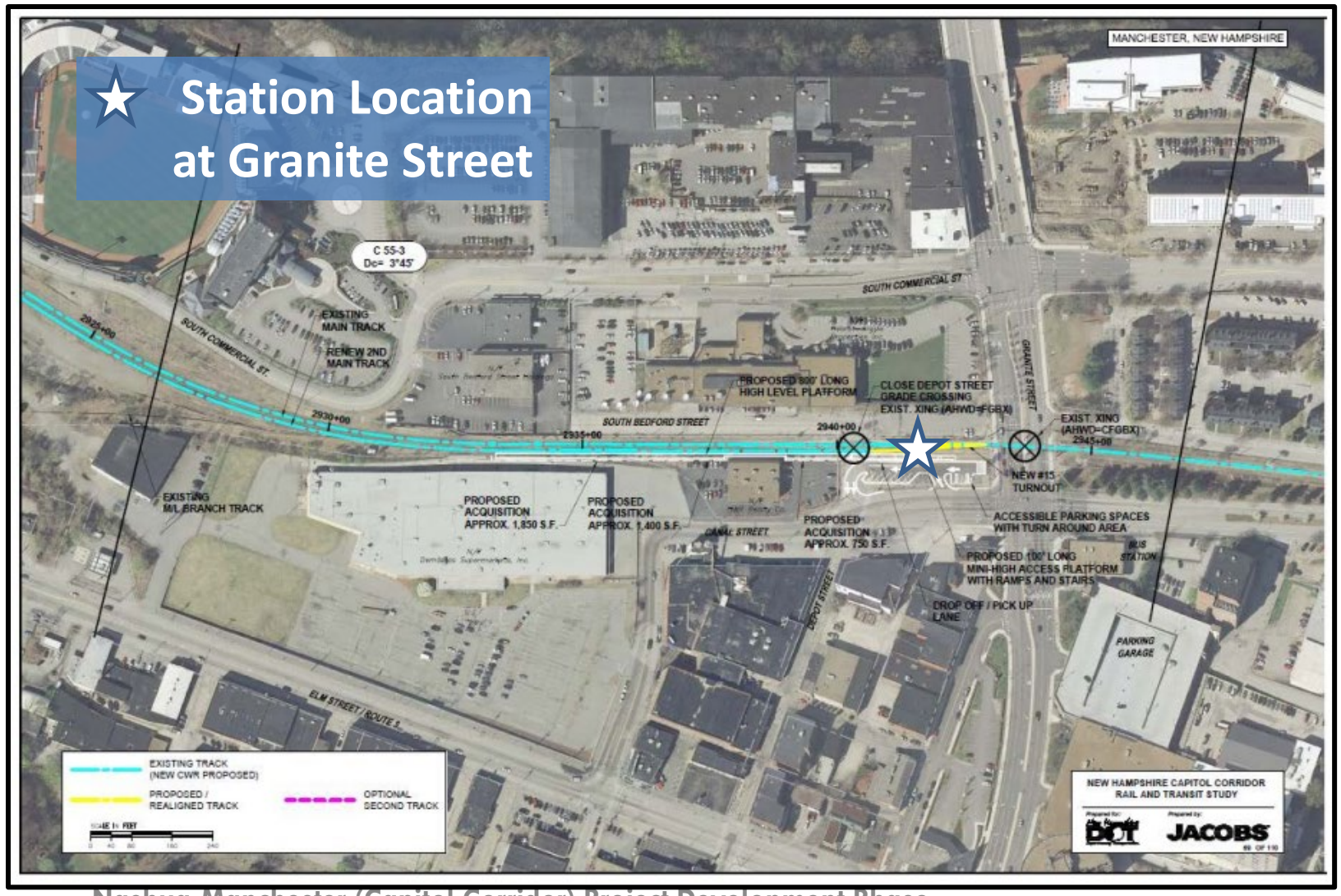
Background: *2014 Station Layout*



- Station alternative as shown in 2014 Environmental Assessment
- The site reflects the location of Manchester's historic rail station
- The plan reflects a single 800' high-level platform along the west side of the track
- This alternative preceded TOD planning

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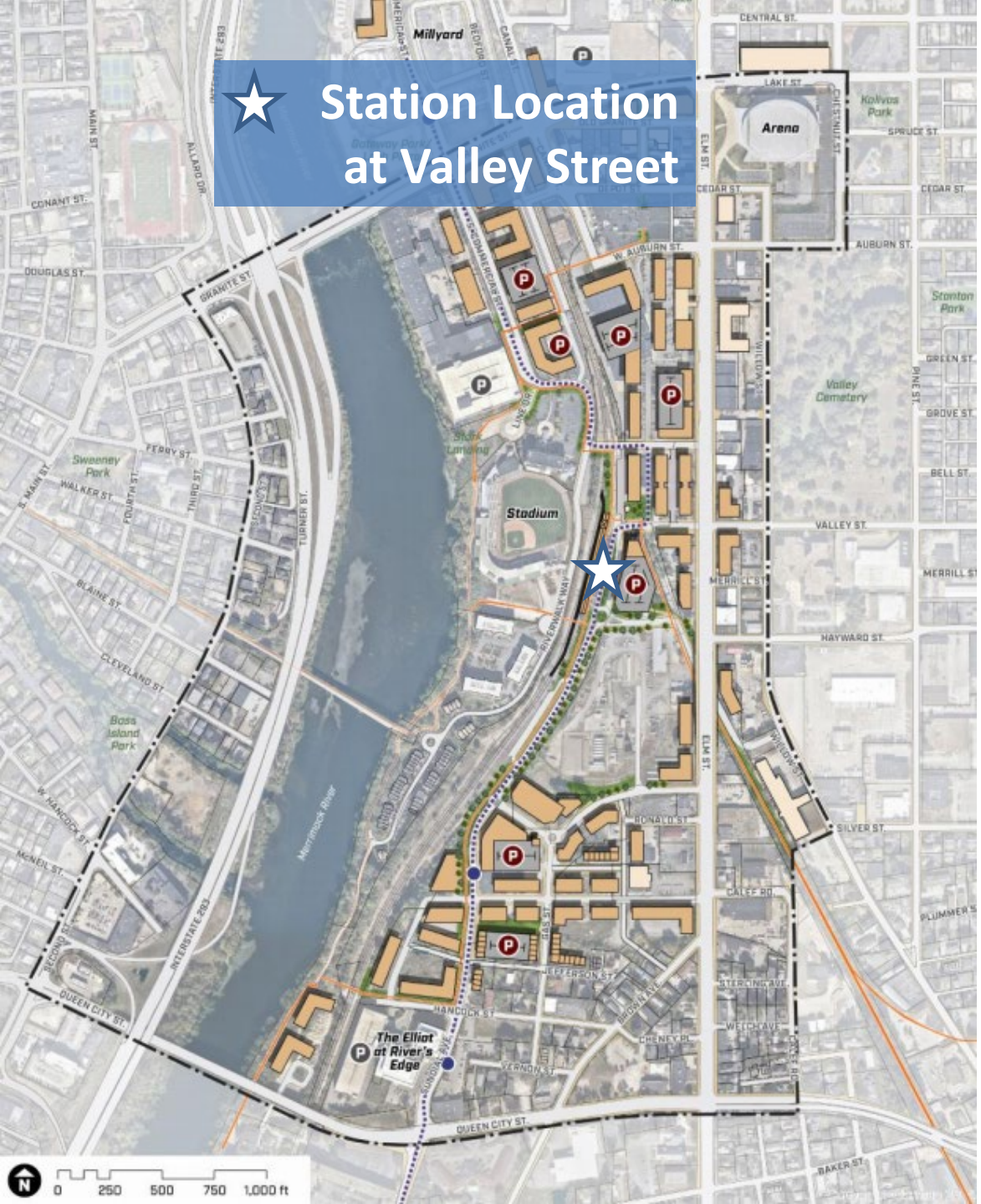
Manchester Station Options



2020 Manchester TOD Plan

- The plan works to create a dense and walkable Manchester
- The plan articulates bike and pedestrian improvements for enhanced connections throughout downtown
- Works to limit parking and particularly surface parking
- The preferred scenario includes 1,100 new residential units, 300,000 SF of office space and 1,000 shared parking spaces

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Manchester Station Options: *Operational Requirements and Design Criteria*

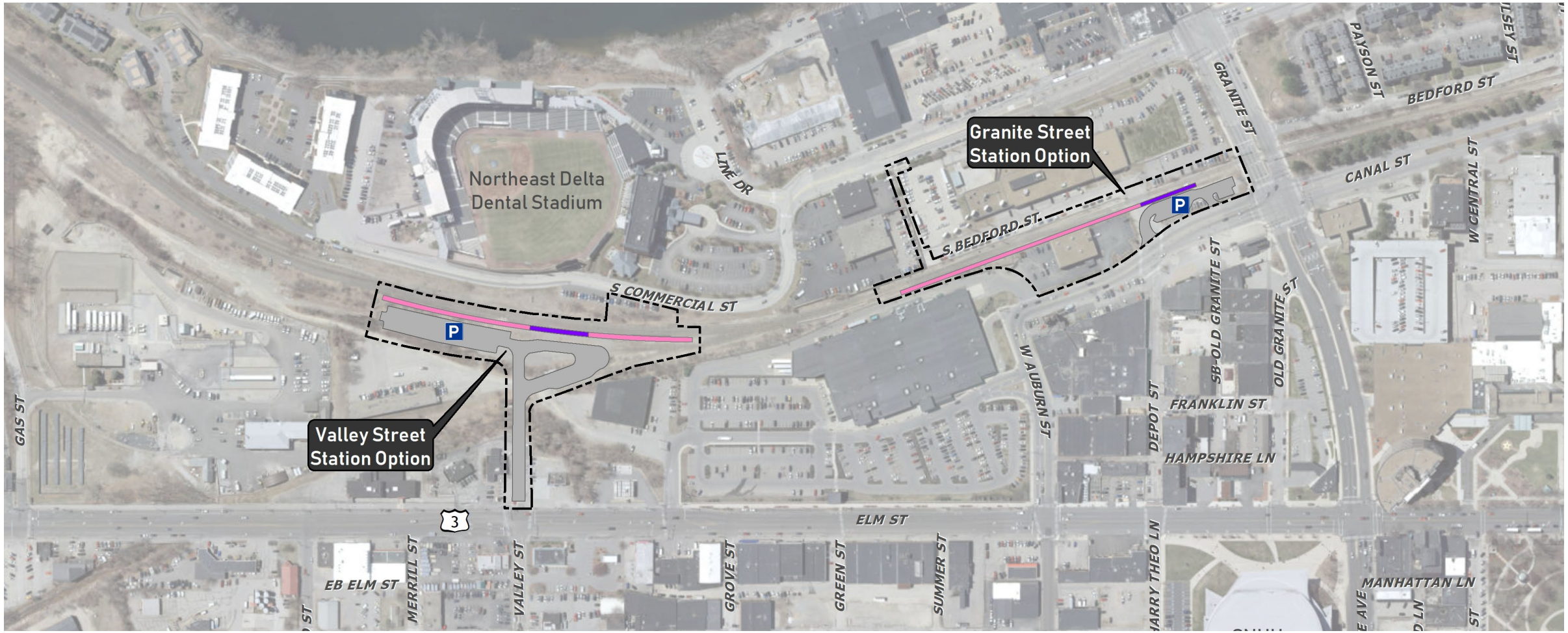
Operational Requirements

- Manchester is a terminus station
- Separate station track desirable to avoid freight conflicts
- MBTA is assumed operator

Design Criteria

- Design pursuant to MBTA and federal standards (CFR Title 49 vol. 1 §37.41-37.43)
- Boarding must occur by use of one or more of the following means:
  - Level-entry boarding; Car-borne lifts; bridge plates, ramps or other appropriate devices; Mini-high platforms, with multiple mini-high platforms or multiple train stops, as needed; or Station-based lifts

Manchester Station Options: *Overview*



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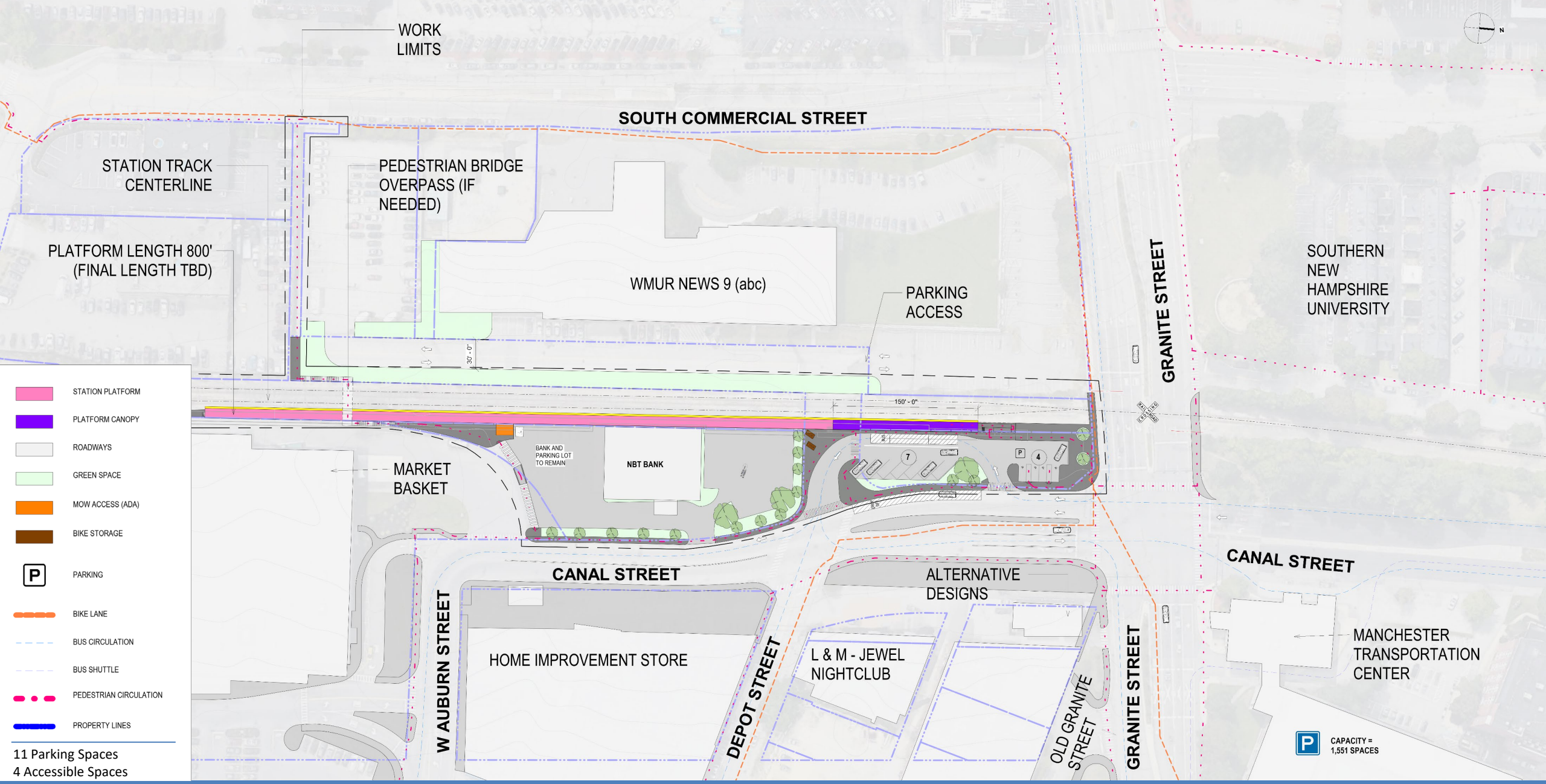
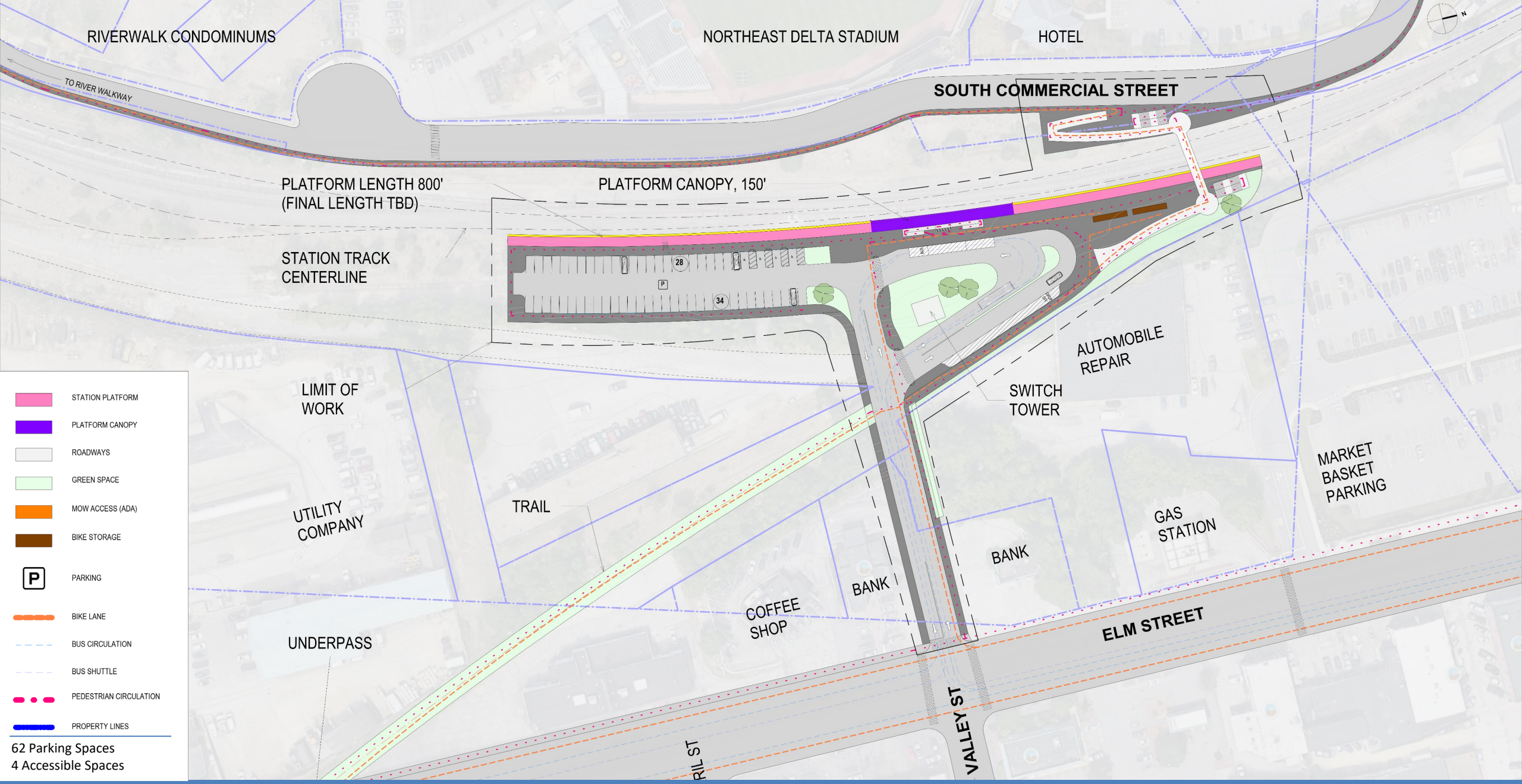
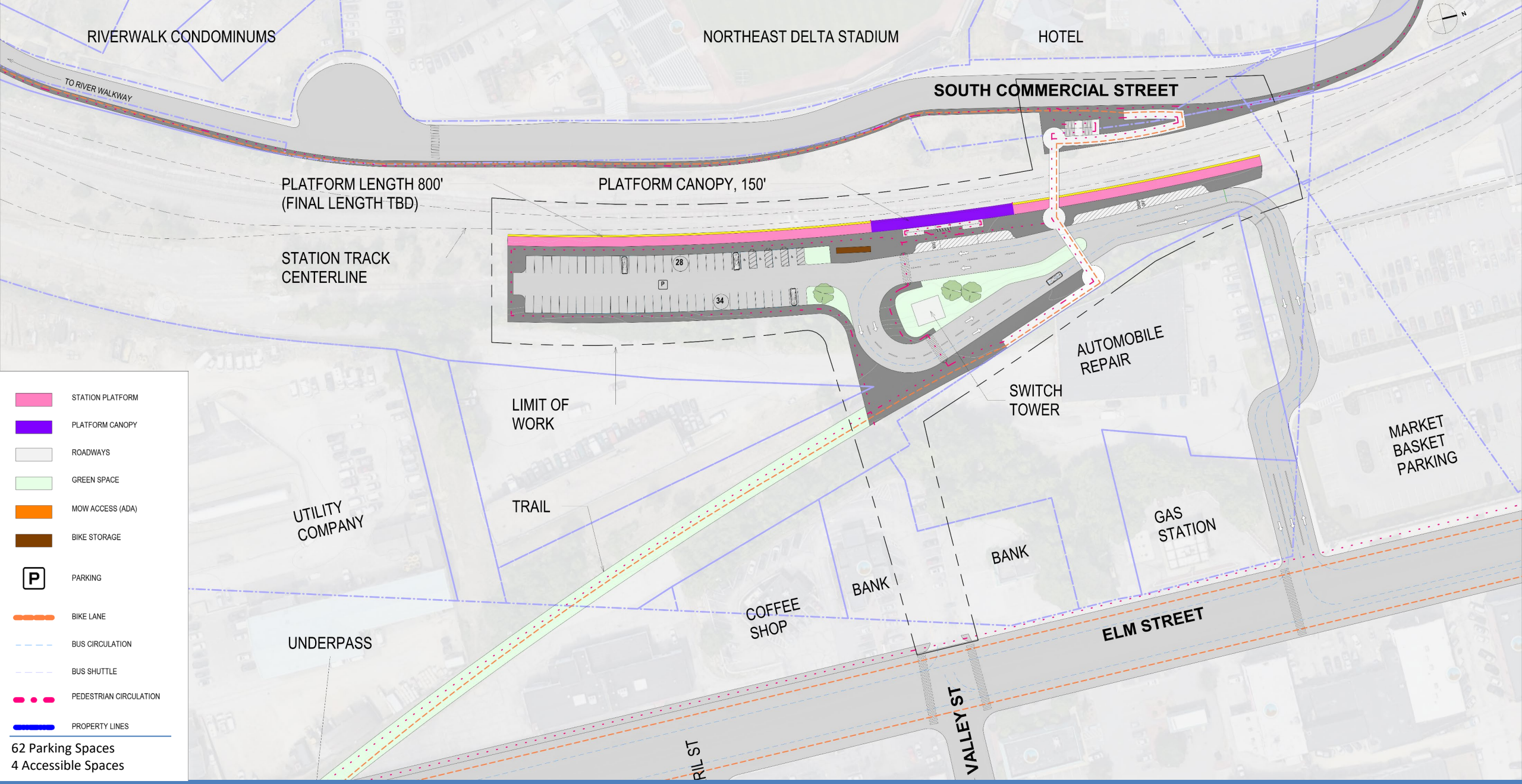


Manchester Station Options: *Granite Street*



Manchester Station Options: *Valley Street A*



Manchester Station Options: *Valley Street B*

Manchester Station Options: *Comparison*

	Granite Street Station		Valley Street Station	
	Pros	Cons	Pros	Cons
Downtown connectivity	Proximity to Downtown and Millyard	On outskirts of TOD redevelopment area	Central to TOD redevelopment area	Further distanced from Downtown and Millyard
Surrounding land use	Good proximity to commercial areas	Modifications to roadway network circulation necessary	Design encompasses future development and provides good buffer between tracks and future development	Proximity to new residential developments on South Commercial Street / Riverwalk Way (potential noise, AQ impacts)
Environment	Outside of 1% and .2% annual chance flood hazard areas		Outside of 1% and .2% annual chance flood hazard areas	Increased impervious service over baseline site area
Pedestrian & Bicycle access	Close proximity to UNH, SNHU and Manchester Transportation Center, and parking garage		Site is connected to future multi-use pathway and provides for direct access to Delta Dental Stadium	
Parking	Proximity to public parking garage; No additional land area needed for parking	Limited onsite parking, 11 vehicles total (7 regular spaces and 4 ADA spaces)	Dedicated parking for up to 62 vehicles including 4 ADA spaces	Competition with other fee-based parking uses

Manchester Layover Facility Options

Layover Site: *Operational Requirements*

- Overnight train storage in yard
- Mid-day trains layover at station (20 to 25 min.)
- Commuter rail schedule:
  - Storage for 4-5 train sets
  - 900 to 1,000 feet/train
- Regional rail schedule may require fewer/shorter train sets

The MBTA's Greenbush Line layover facility

Layover Site: *Design Criteria*

Site Elements

- Small staff building
  - Lockers and restrooms
  - 15 - 20 parking spaces on-site
- Electrical service
  - Footprint for electrical equipment (switchgear, transformers)
  - Supply power for trains (480v), lighting and building

Fueling Considerations

- Liquid fuels via a new truck accessway
  - Provide asphalt apron as in NNEPRA's Brunswick
  - No built-in / on-site fueling facility assumed
- Electrical service could be spec'd to support future electrification of passenger trains

Layover Site: *Compatibility Factors*

Land Use Compatibility

- Adjacent Uses & Screening
  - Relative fit or mesh with existing uses nearby
  - Long-term threats to site's proposed use as layover
- Land Acquisition Required

Train Storage Capacity

- Total Trains / Support for Proposed Schedules
- # Trains per Track
- Accommodates Potential 2nd Main Line Track

Operations

- Proximity to Station
- "Dead Head" Moves
- Accommodates Potential for Future Electrification of Yard & Main Line

Environmental Constraints

- 100-Year Floodplain
- Open Space Adjacency

Infrastructure Availability

- Electrical Service
- Water + Sewer
- Roadway Acces

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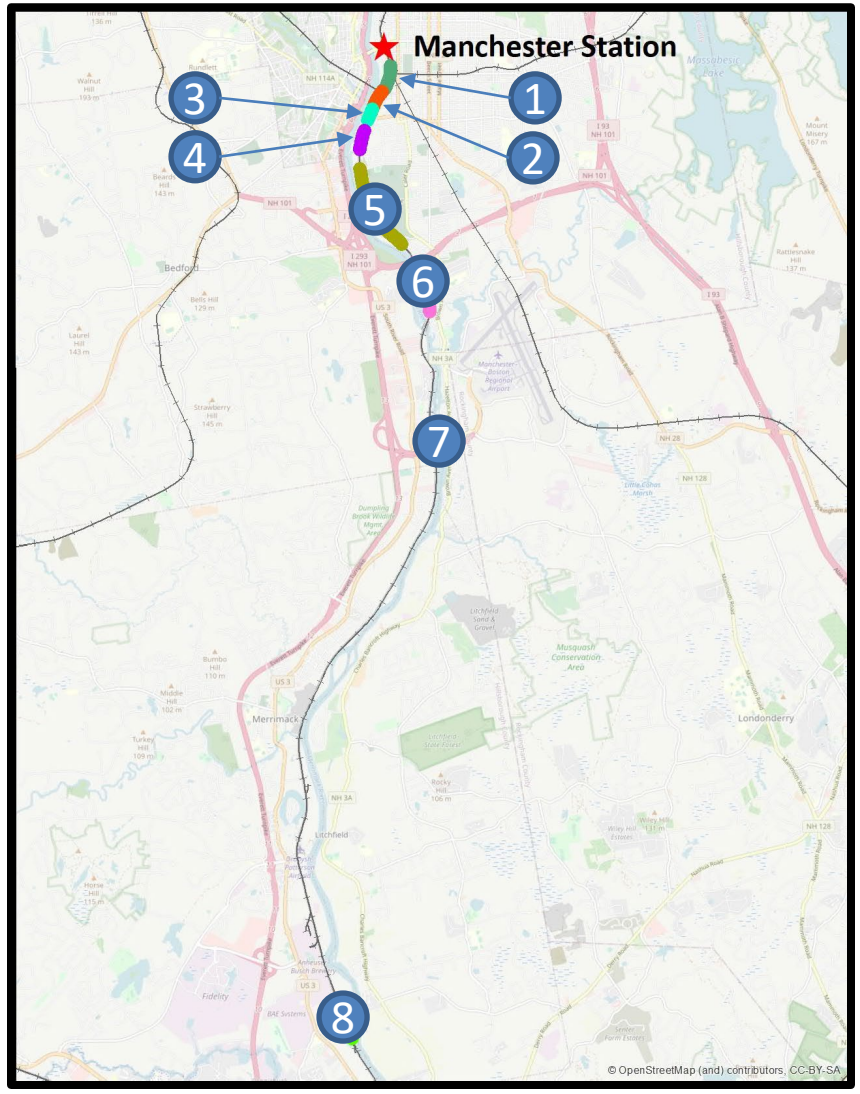
Layover Site: *Potential Locations*



1. Pan Am North (2014 Study)
2. Pan Am South
3. North of Queen City Bridge
4. South of Queen City Bridge
5. Pine Grove Cemetery
6. City of Manchester Wastewater Treatment Plant
7. Bedford U-Haul (Airport)
8. Merrimack Waste Treatment Facility

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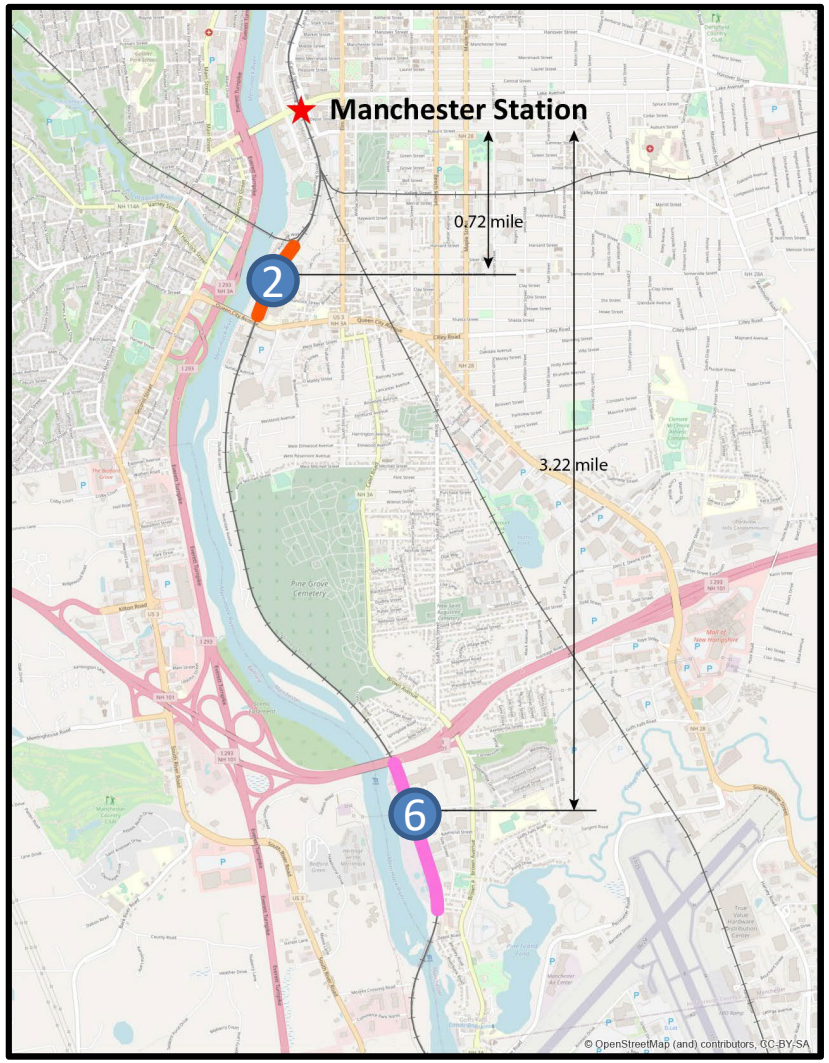
Layover Site: *Short-listed Locations*



2 Pan Am South

6 City of Manchester Wastewater Treatment Plant

Excluded Sites

- *Limited Compatibility with Future Land Use*
  - 1 Pan Am North (2014 Study)
- *Adjacent to Sensitive Receptor*
  - 3 North of Queen City Bridge
  - 4 South of Queen City Bridge
  - 5 Pine Grove Cemetery
- *Deadheading Concerns*
  - 7 Bedford U-Haul (airport)
  - 8 Merrimack Waste Treatment Facility

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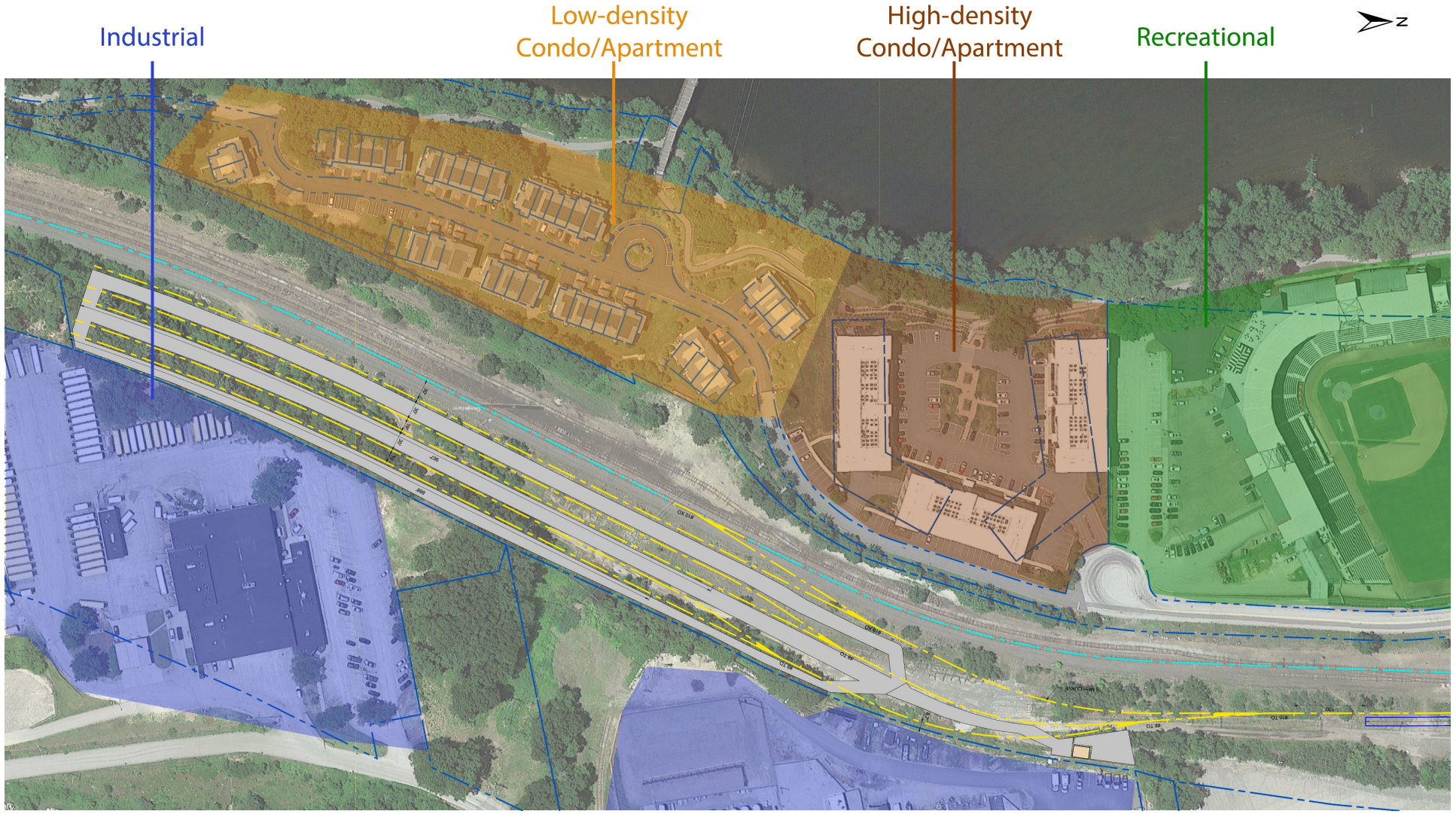
Layover Site: #2 — *Pan Am South*



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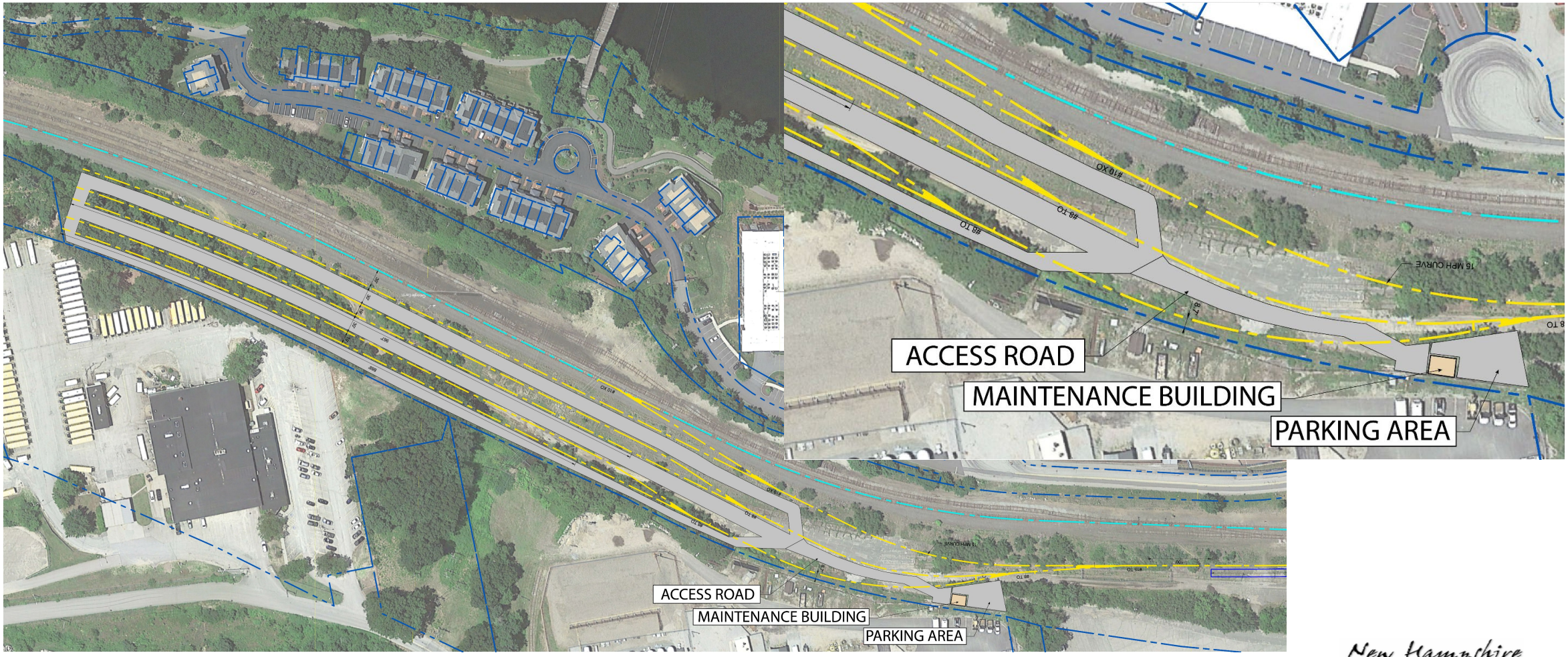
Layover Site: *#2 — Pan Am South*



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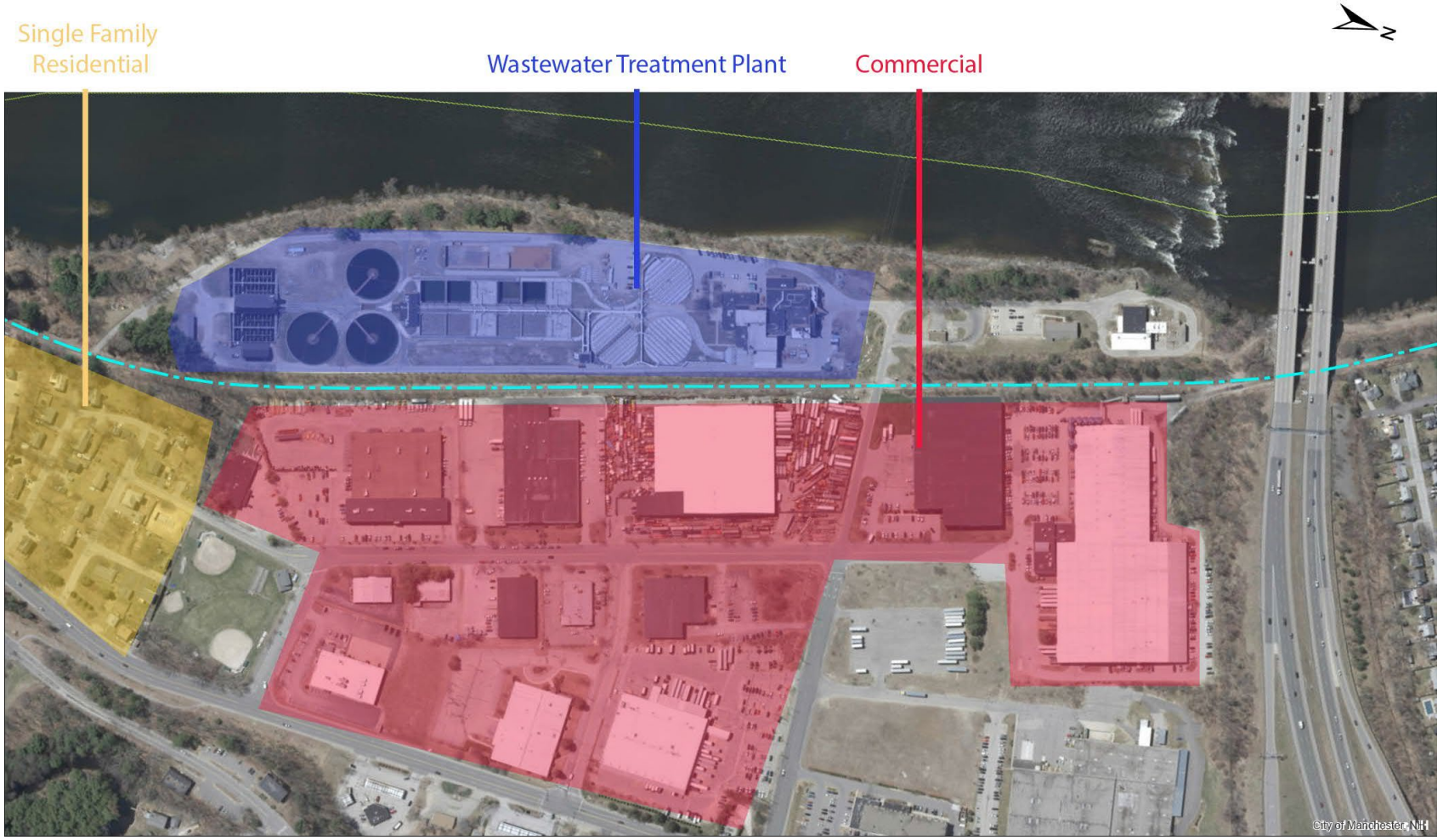
Layover Site: *#6 — Wastewater Treatment Plant*



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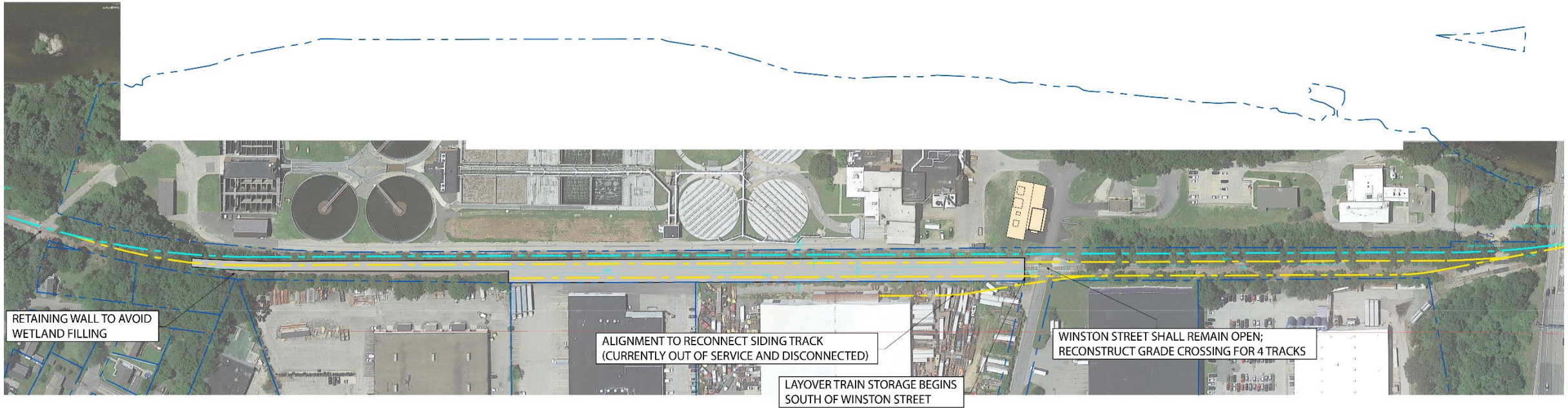
Layover Site: *#6 — Wastewater Treatment Plant*

- 30’ separation between at-grade crossing and beginning of storage
- Maintenance building



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Layover Site: *Summary Screening Matrix*

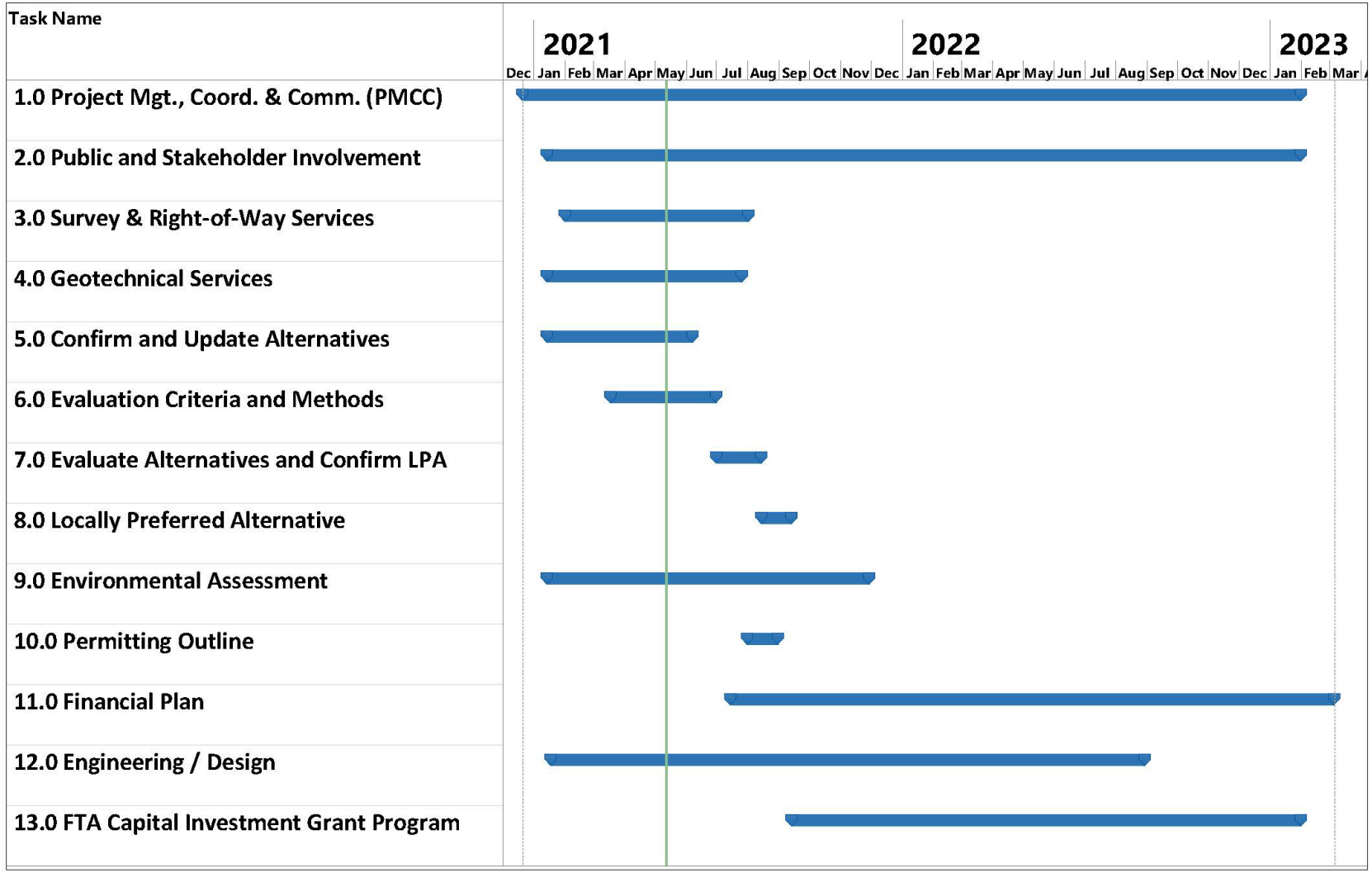
CRITERIA (*)	PAN AM SOUTH	TREATMENT PLANT

Land Use Compatibility	• Compatible uses on east side of ROW
	  ○ West side features two multi-family residential complexes
	  ○ Could add screening berm and/or wall
	• Some land acquisition
		• Compatible uses on both sides of ROW
		  ○ Screening not required
		• Land acquisition for building and parking

Train Storage Capacity	• 5 trains (Supports ALL conceptual schedules) • 5 tracks • One track per train (Desirable) • Accommodates 2nd Main track	• 3 trains (Does NOT support Full Commuter) • 2 tracks • 2 trains on one track (Undesirable) • Does NOT accommodate 2nd Main track
Operations	• Close to station • Minimal “dead head” moves • Yard and Mainline supports future electrification	• 3 miles from station • Impacts to abutters from “dead head” moves • Difficult for future electrification of yard and mainline

Next Steps

Project Schedule



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Confirm / Update Preferred Alternative

- Manchester Regional Commuter Rail
- Stations
  - Manchester *(Granite Street or Valley Street*)*
  - Bedford/Manchester Airport
  - Crown Street Nashua
  - South Nashua *(Spit Brook Rd or Pheasant Lane Mall)*
- Layover *(2 potential locations in Manchester)*
- Need to confirm location of stations and layover

* Valley Street location consistent with City of Manchester TOD Plan, September 2020

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Stakeholder and Public Meeting Schedule

- Stakeholder meetings
  - Small groups / hybrid of in-person and virtual
  - April through July 2021
- Fact sheet – Spring 2021
- General Public Meeting
  - Format based on public health directives in effect
  - Target by November 2021
  - Notification via postcard mailer and website
- Website

Next Steps

- Select preferred station location for South Nashua and Manchester
- Select layover facility location in Manchester
- Coordinate with key stakeholders
  - Municipal TOD plans
  - First mile/last mile station access
- Continue coordination with MBTA/MassDOT, FTA Region 1, and regulatory agencies
- Establish communication channel(s) for project information