



# Route 6 Corridor Study

## Marion Board of Selectmen Meeting

Tuesday - March 3, 2020 - 7:30 PM

Marion Town Hall

2 Spring Street, Marion, MA 02738

# Study Summary: Funding & Approval Process

## Funding

Southeastern Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMMPO)

*Federal and state transportation planning funds provided through the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)*

## Process

February 18, 2020 - SMMPO released study for 21 day comment period

March 17, 2020 - SMMPO will endorse the final study

# Study Goal

*To improve conditions of Route 6 for all road users employing a context sensitive approach.*

# Study Summary: What are the issues?

## Core Issues

- High vehicle speeds.
- Narrow travel lanes with little to no shoulder.
- Inconsistent sidewalk network that is close to road and in need of repairs to improve accessibility.
- No dedicated bicycle facilities.
- Some drainage structures are sinking and creating depressions along curb.
- Some unsignalized intersections have geometric challenges creating poor sight distances.
- Signalized intersections lack protected left turn lanes. Turning vehicle blocks visibility for oncoming traffic.

# Study Summary: “Two Basic Questions”

## Question #1

### What improvements can be made with the existing layout?

- Intersections (*traffic control, geometry, signal phasing*)
- Bicycle and pedestrian facilities (*sidewalks, crosswalks, curb ramps*)
- Infrastructure (*catch basins, signage, utility poles, pavement markings*)

## Question #2

### Is it possible to reduce the number of travel lanes?

- Are there areas that could be reduced?
- What type of layout would be appropriate and acceptable?

# Study Summary: What are the issues in Marion?

*Narrow Travel Lanes & Shoulders*



*Intersection Geometry Issues*



*Sidewalk Obstructions*



*Connectivity Issues*



*Drainage Issues*



# Study Summary: Areas of concern in Marion

Spring Street



Front Street



“S” Curve Area



Creek Road



Converse Road



# Recommendations: Improvements in Marion

## Question #1

### Traffic Control Type

Intersection

Existing

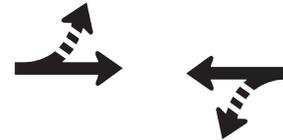
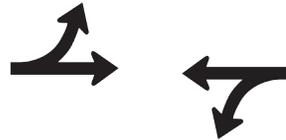
Future

Spring Street



*or Roundabout*

Front Street



*Protected/  
Permissive Left Turns*

### Geometric Improvements

Creek Road



Converse Road



# Recommendations: General Improvements

## Question #1

### Consider the following:

- Replace all existing *signage and pavement markings* with high-visibility retroreflective materials to improve visibility
- Replace all existing High-Pressure Sodium (HPS) streetlights with high-efficiency *LED lights* to improve visibility.
- Replace all existing “standard” style crosswalks with “continental” or “ladder” style to improve visibility.
- Reconstruct existing *drainage structures* that are in disrepair and bring flush to pavement surface to avoid depressions and standing water.
- Remove telephone poles from existing sidewalks or include a path that provides adequate clearance widths and add *ADA compliant curb ramps* to improve pedestrian mobility.
- Add *bicycle signage* along the corridor to improve awareness of bicycle activity.

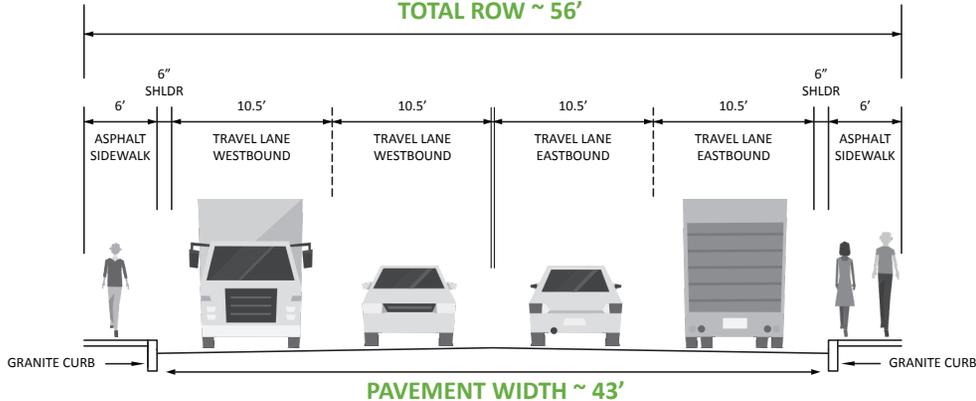
# Recommendations: Which layout is preferred?

## Question #2

### ALTERNATIVE 1

(4) 10.5' TRAVEL LANES, (2) 6" SHOULDERS, (2) 6' SIDEWALKS

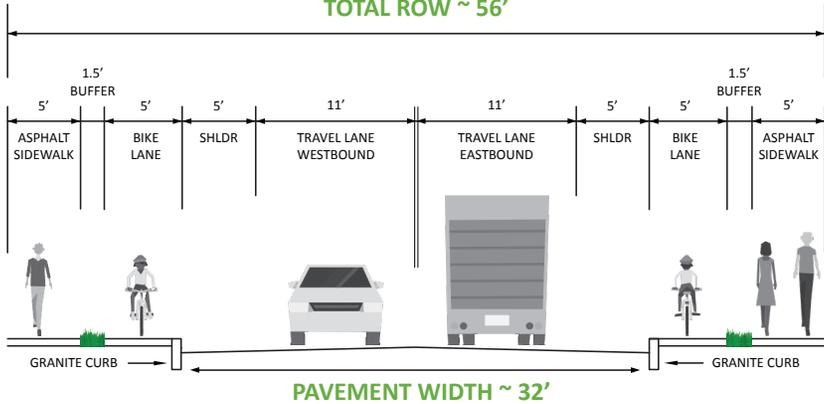
TOTAL ROW ~ 56'



### ALTERNATIVE 3

(2) 11' TRAVEL LANES, (2) 5' SHOULDERS, (2) 5' BIKE LANES, (2) 1.5' GRASS BUFFERS, (2) 5' SIDEWALKS

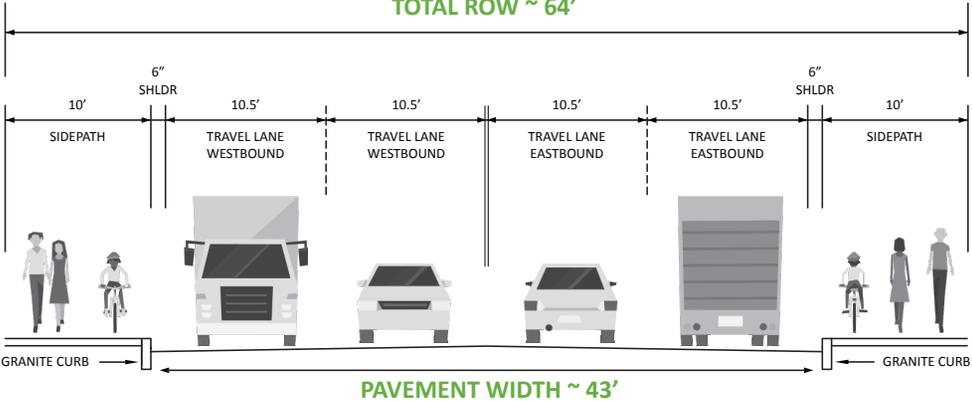
TOTAL ROW ~ 56'



### ALTERNATIVE 2

(4) 10.5' TRAVEL LANES, (2) 6" SHOULDERS, (2) 10' SIDEPATHS

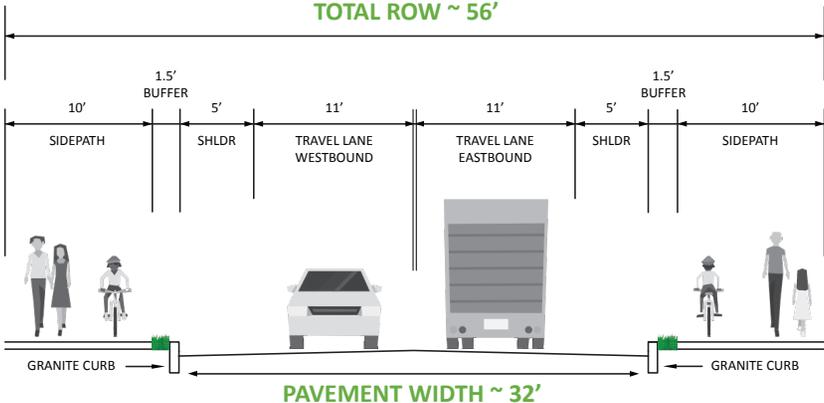
TOTAL ROW ~ 64'



### ALTERNATIVE 4

(2) 11' TRAVEL LANES, (2) 5' SHOULDERS, (2) 1.5' GRASS BUFFERS, (2) 10' SIDEPATHS

TOTAL ROW ~ 56'

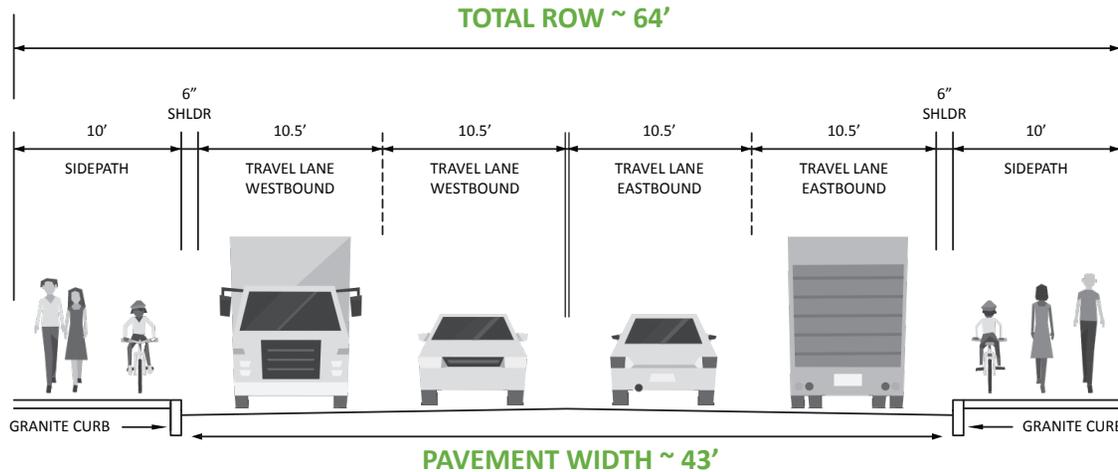


# Recommendations: Overall Results

## Question #2

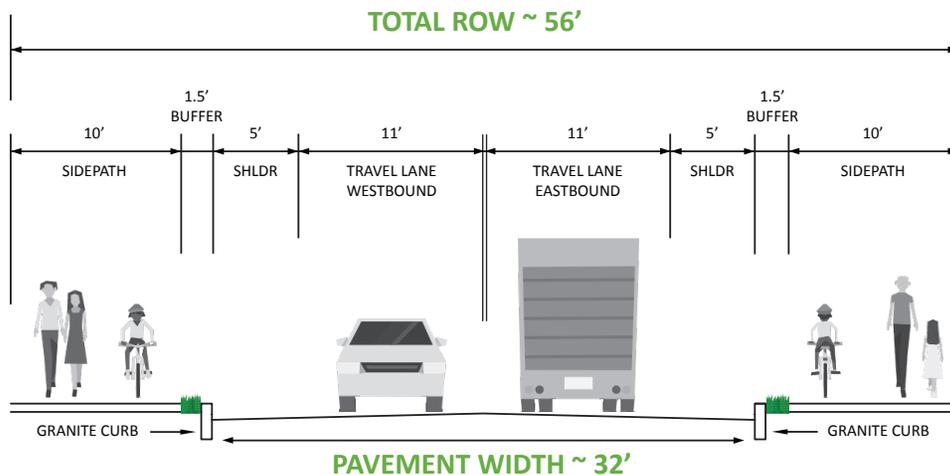
### ALTERNATIVE 2

(4) 10.5' TRAVEL LANES, (2) 6" SHOULDER, (2) 10' SIDEPATHS



### ALTERNATIVE 4

(2) 11' TRAVEL LANES, (2) 5' SHOULDERS, (2) 1.5' GRASS BUFFERS, (2) 10' SIDEPATHS



## *Final Findings:*

- 1) Alternative #2 (31%)
- 2) Alternative #1 (19%)
- 3) "Combination" (13%)
- 4) Alternative #3 (12%)
- 5) Alternative #4 (12%)

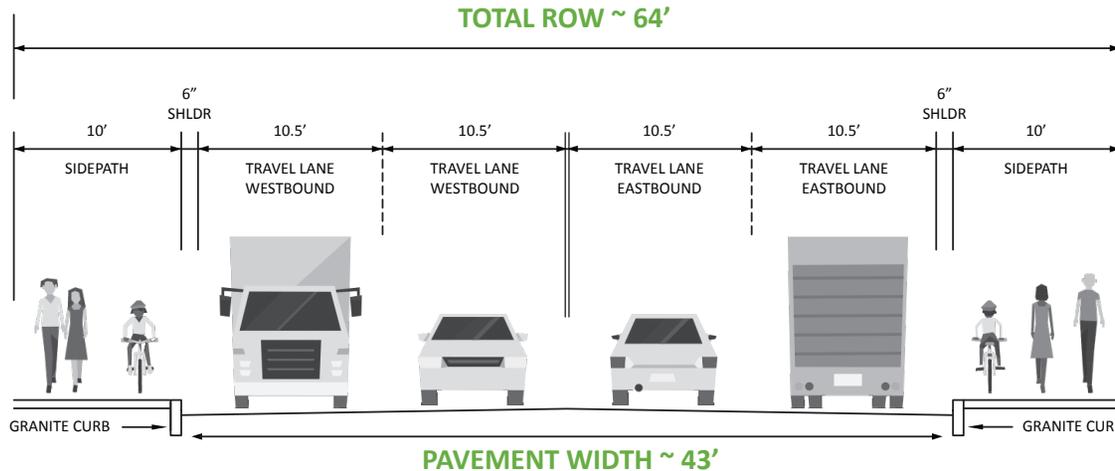
*Nearly 3/4 of responses were Marion residents.*

# Recommendations: Marion Responses

## Question #2

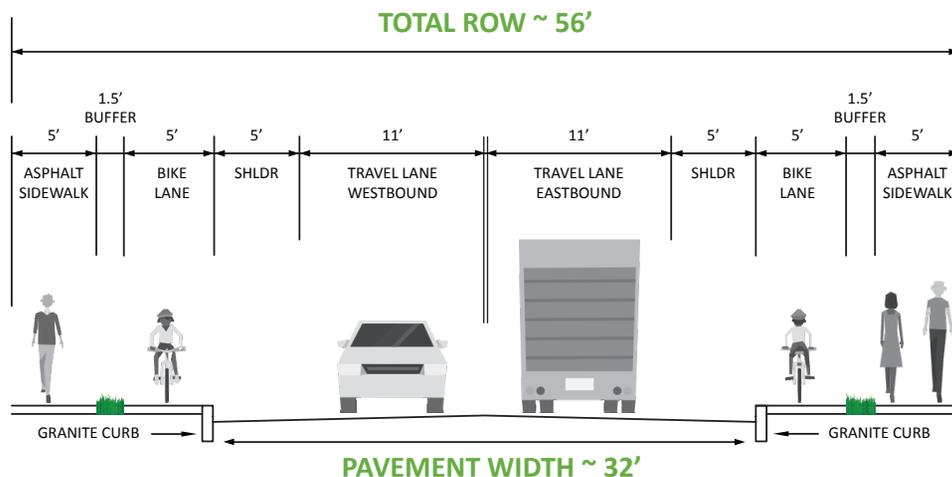
### ALTERNATIVE 2

(4) 10.5' TRAVEL LANES, (2) 6" SHOULDER, (2) 10' SIDEPATHS



### ALTERNATIVE 3

(2) 11' TRAVEL LANES, (2) 5' SHOULDERS, (2) 5' BIKE LANES, (2) 1.5' GRASS BUFFERS, (2) 5' SIDEWALKS

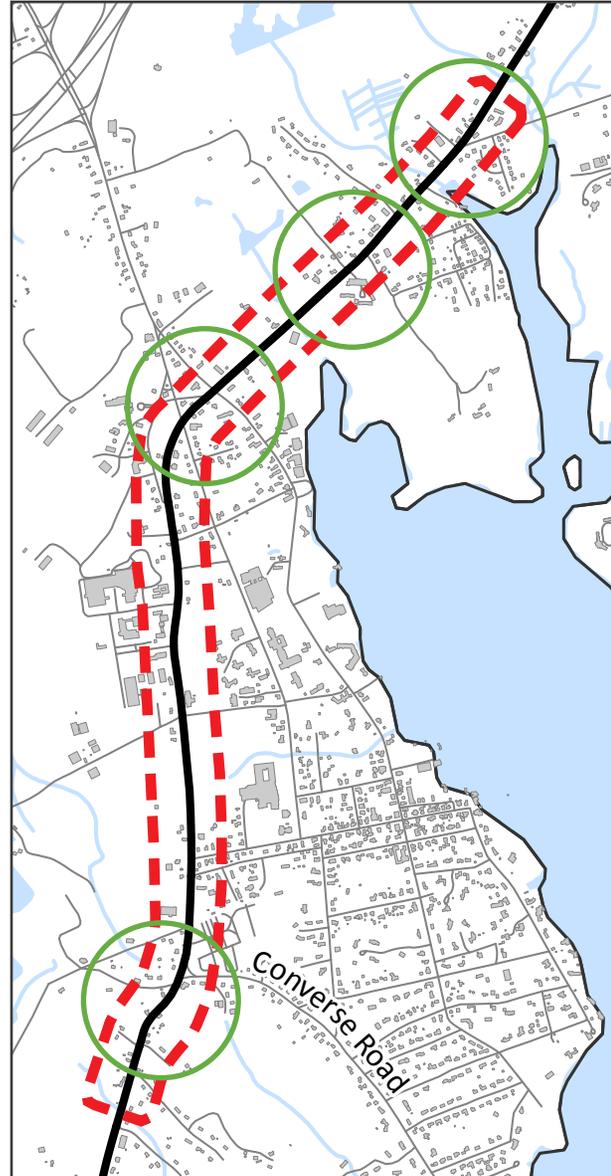
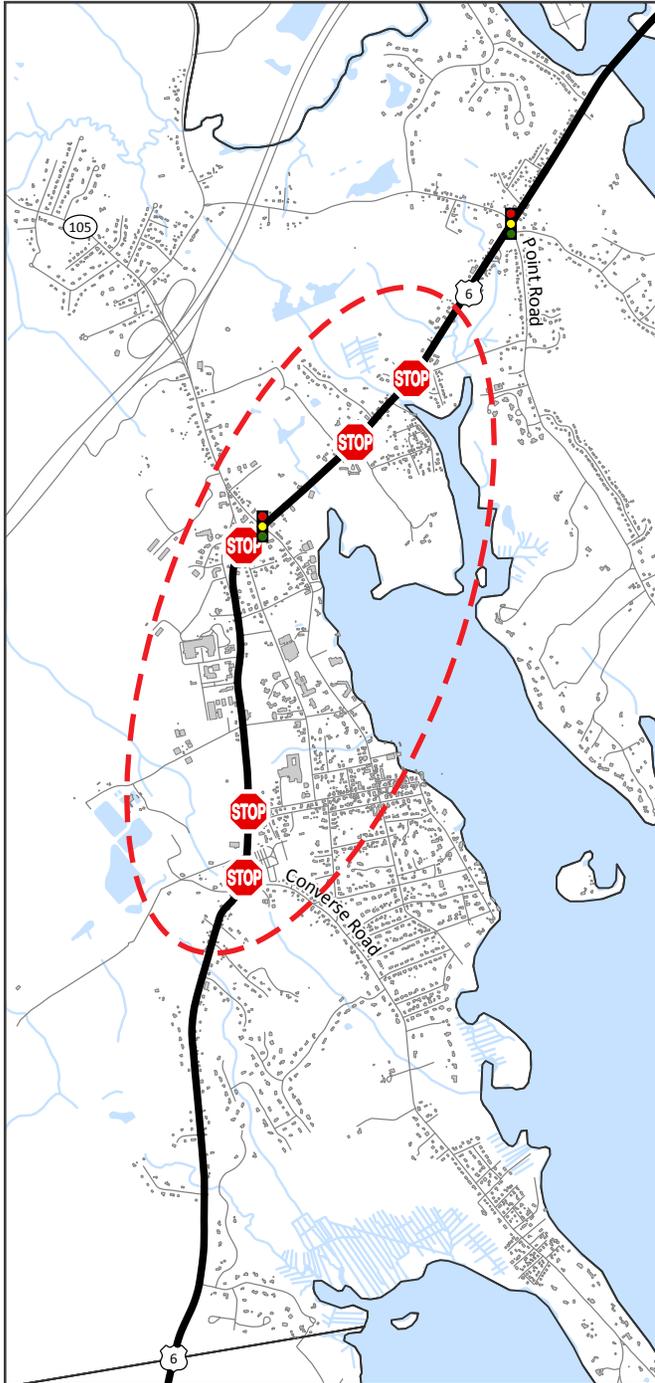


## *Final Findings:*

- 1) Alternative #2 (25%)
- 2) Alternative #3 (12%)
- 3) "Combination" (11%)
- 4) Alternative #1 (8%)
- 5) Alternative #4 (7%)

# Recommendations: Potential Project?

## Question #2



### **Components:**

- 1) Reduce number of travel lanes
- 2) Improve crossings
- 3) Create bike path
- 4) Improve sidewalks

### **Areas of Concern:**

- 1) "S" Curve Area
- 2) Converse Road
- 3) Spring Street
- 4) Front Street
- 5) Hermitage Road
- 6) Creek Road

# Next Steps: MassDOT Project Development Process

## PROCESS

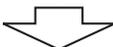
**STEP I** Problem/Need/Opportunity Identification



**STEP II** Planning



**STEP III** Project Initiation



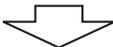
**STEP IV** Environmental/Design/ROW Process



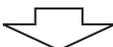
**STEP V** Programming



**STEP VI** Procurement



**STEP VII** Construction



**STEP VIII** Project Assessment

## OUTCOMES

1. Project Need Form (PNF)

2. Project Planning Report (If necessary)

3. Project Initiation Form (PIF)  
3. Identification of Appropriate Funding  
3. Definition of Appropriate Next Steps  
3. Project Review Committee Action

4. Plans, Specs and Estimates (PS&E)  
4. Environmental Studies and Permits  
4. Right-of-Way Plans  
4. Permits

5. Regional and State TIP  
5. Programming of Funds

6. Construction Bids and Contractor Selection

7. Built Project

### Step #1:

*Marion should develop a conceptual project.*

### Step #2:

*Marion should meet with MassDOT District 5 to discuss options.*

Source: MassDOT Project Development and Design Guide (2006)

# Questions?



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***Project Website:***

***[www.srpedd.org/Route-6-Corridor-Study](http://www.srpedd.org/Route-6-Corridor-Study)***

***Facebook page:***

***[www.facebook.com/Route6CorridorStudy](http://www.facebook.com/Route6CorridorStudy)***