

Yovani Baez-Rose  
Assistant City Manager/DPD Director

Camilo Espitia  
Deputy Director

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Thomas A. Golden, Jr., City Manager 

FROM: Yovani Baez-Rose, Assistant City Manager/DPD Director

CC: Elizabeth Oltman, PE, Transportation Engineer

### INFORMATIONAL REPORT: City Hall GoLowell Construction Project

The City Hall GoLowell project has been bid for construction and awarded to a contractor, Newport Construction Corporation. The preliminary schedule received by DPD has preliminary construction activities such as signage and permit applications occurring the first week of March 2026, with utility work beginning mid-March. Full sidewalk excavation will begin the first week of April, weather permitting. The project is phased to minimize pedestrian impact, with sidewalk work starting on Market Street/Cardinal O'Connell Parkway, then moving to the south (non-City Hall) side of Merrimack Street and then the final phase in front of City Hall. The Contractor has been made aware of all special events that are scheduled in the areas around City Hall. Work will be halted the Wednesday prior to the Folk Festival, for example. Access to City Hall and the businesses and residences along Merrimack Street and Cardinal O'Connell Parkway will be maintained, however some temporary detours should be expected.

A website will be provided with construction information here: [City Hall Project 2026 | Lowell, MA](#)

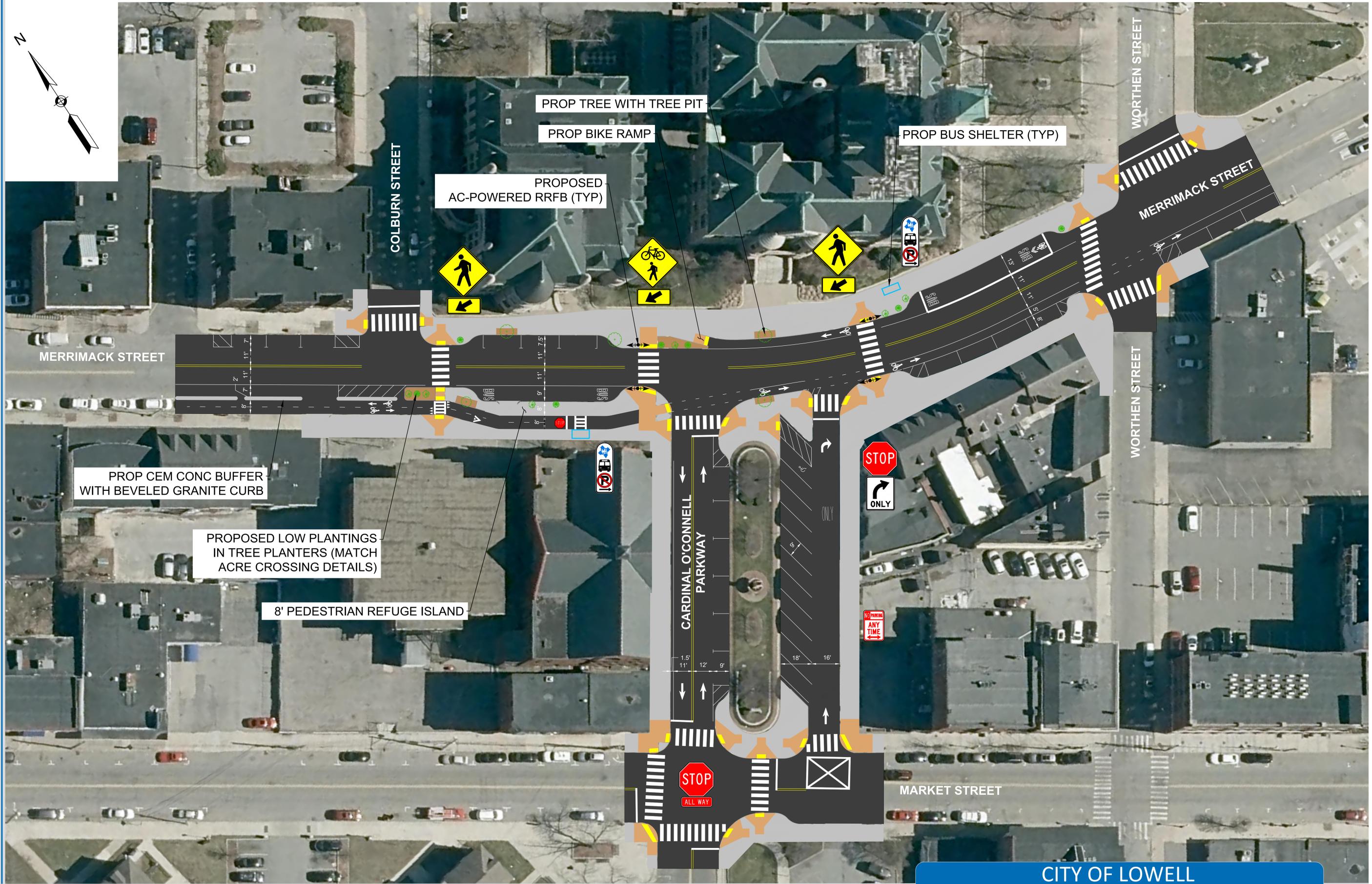
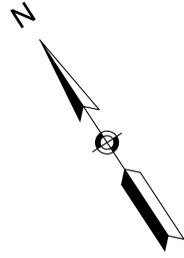
Attached is a rendered concept plan from the design process. Elements of the plan include:

- Create protected bus stops in front of City Hall and the Smith Baker building.
  - Note: the raised island opposite Colburn Street was adjusted in the final plans after consultation with Lowell Fire Department.
- Widen the sidewalk areas in front of City Hall.
- Provide curb extensions to shorten crossing distances across Merrimack Street at Worthen Street and Cardinal O'Connell Parkway.

- Install Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons at two crosswalks across Merrimack Street to City Hall.
- Create new bicycle lanes and a formal bicycle crossing at City Hall. This will link City Hall with the two-way bicycle lane that is planned between City Hall and Cabot Street in conjunction with the infrastructure improvements associated with the Acre Crossing development along Merrimack Street and Cabot Street.
  - Note: on street parking will be maintained along Merrimack Street in the post-construction condition. The two-way bicycle lane will be between the parking lane and the sidewalk.
- Reconfigure traffic flow along Cardinal O’Connell Parkway to clarify the intersection of Cardinal O’Connell Parkway with Market Street and provide angled parking in front of the businesses on the east side of the street.
  - Note: the two-way traffic realignment will only be implemented if the Cardinal O’Connell Parkway travel lane adjacent to the Smith Baker building is cleared for vehicle travel.
- Replace sidewalk and reset curb throughout the project area to improve drainage.
- The median along Cardinal O’Connell Parkway will be maintained and protected during construction.

This project is funded through a Federal Transit Authority Grant in association with the Lowell Regional Transit Authority, a State Transportation Earmark, and City Capital funding for a total construction cost of \$2,261,000.

EMO – 2/17/2026



PROP CEM CONC BUFFER WITH BEVELED GRANITE CURB

PROPOSED LOW PLANTINGS IN TREE PLANTERS (MATCH ACRE CROSSING DETAILS)

8' PEDESTRIAN REFUGE ISLAND

PROP TREE WITH TREE PIT

PROP BIKE RAMP

PROPOSED AC-POWERED RRFB (TYP)

PROP BUS SHELTER (TYP)

CARDINAL O'CONNELL PARKWAY

MARKET STREET

COLBURN STREET

WORTHEN STREET

WORTHEN STREET

MERRIMACK STREET

- LEGEND:**
- = CEMENT CONCRETE SIDEWALK
  - = PEDESTRIAN CURB RAMP
  - = PAVEMENT RESURFACING
  - = LANDSCAPE AREAS

OCTOBER 11, 2024  
SCALE: 1' = 20'

**CITY OF LOWELL  
GO-LOWELL CITY HALL BUS STOP**

MERRIMACK STREET / MARKET STREET / CARDINAL O'CONNELL PARKWAY  
PRELIMINARY DESIGN  
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS



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