

Welcome

**Public Information and Scoping
Meeting**

**Improvements to the
Merritt Parkway / Route 7 Interchange
&
Merritt Parkway / Main Ave. Interchange**

Project 102-269 - City of Norwalk

May 29, 2008

Connecticut Department of Transportation



Tonight's Meeting

- **Background**
- **Role of MPC**
- **Summary of Public Meetings**
- **Public Involvement Process**
- **Alternatives**
- **Photographs of Original Models**
- **Next Steps**
- **Questions / Comments**



Background

- **2005 Public Meeting**
- **Lawsuit**
- **Gov. Rell's request to meet w/ Merritt Parkway Conservancy (MPC)**
- **Comr.'s letter to Gov. Rell – DOT will “bring these alternatives to broader public involvement.”**



Role of Merritt Parkway Conservancy (MPC)

- MPC was party to Lawsuit
- Gov. Rell authorized DOT to meet with MPC
“...to determine if a reasonable solution balancing the competing concerns can be found.”
- Understanding reached with MPC -
Modified Cloverleaf w/ Option D2
- MPC's role now



Public Meetings

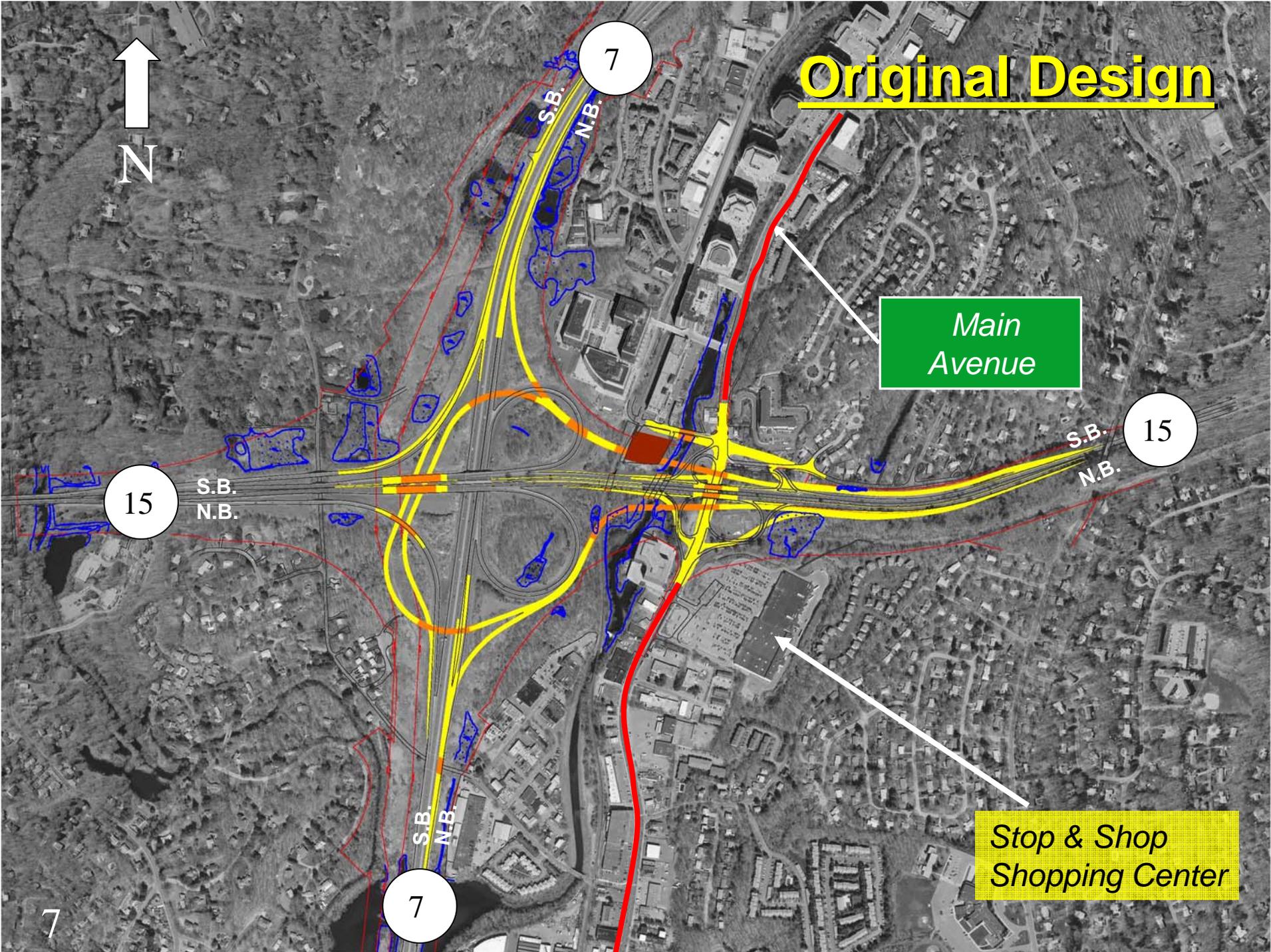
- **April 5, 2005 – Public Information Mtg.**
- **March 18, 2008 – Public Information and Scoping Mtg.**
- **May 14, 2008 – Mtg. in Silvermine**



Public Involvement

- **Goal is consensus**
- **Everyone's voice heard**
– *stakeholder's meetings*
- **Additional public meetings**
- **Must find the best balance**
- **Decision may involve compromises**
- **Most prudent and feasible alternative**





Original Design

Main Avenue

Stop & Shop Shopping Center



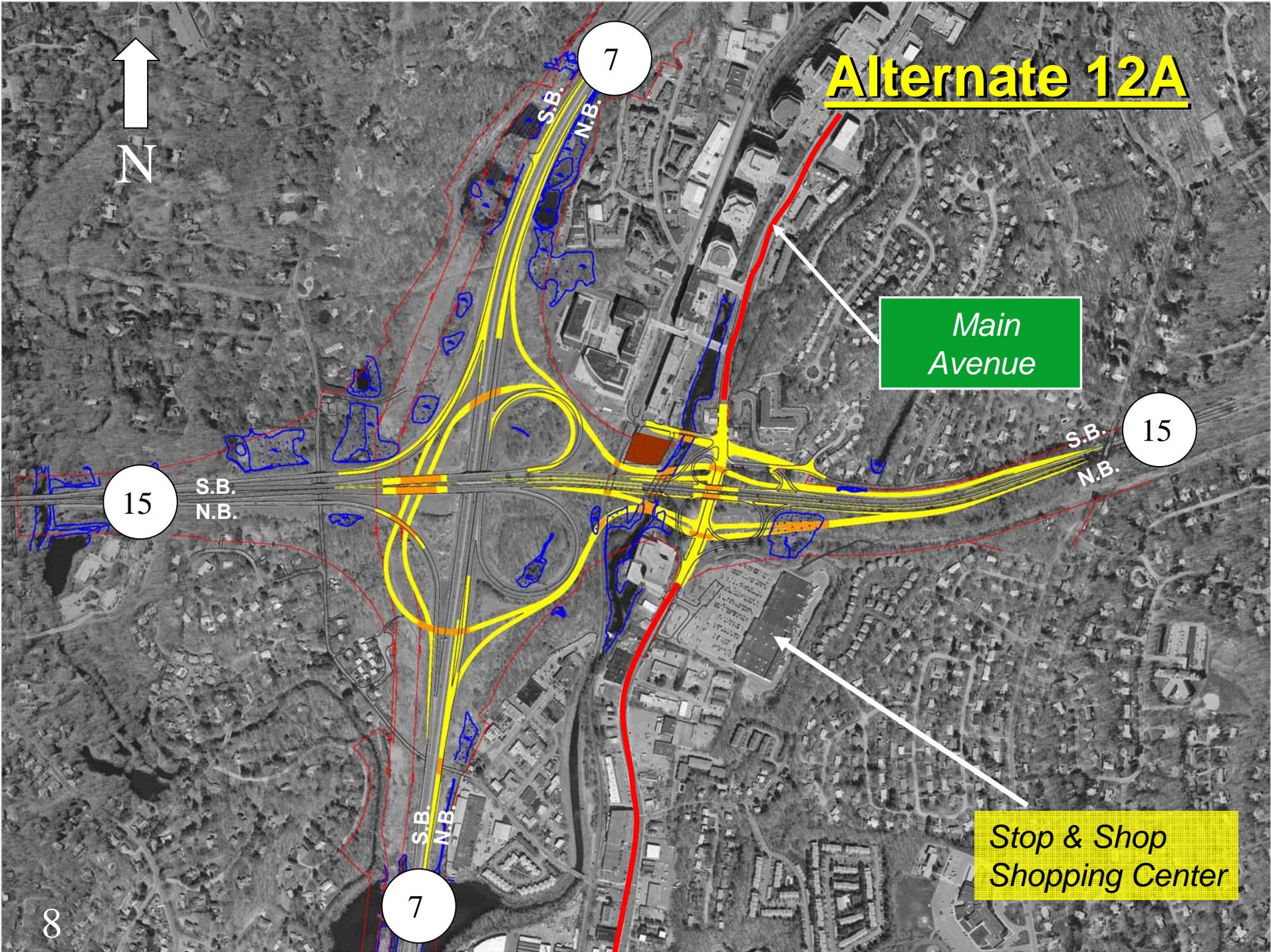
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Alternate 12A

Main Avenue

Stop & Shop Shopping Center



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Modified Cloverleaf w/ Option D2



Main Avenue

Stop & Shop Shopping Center

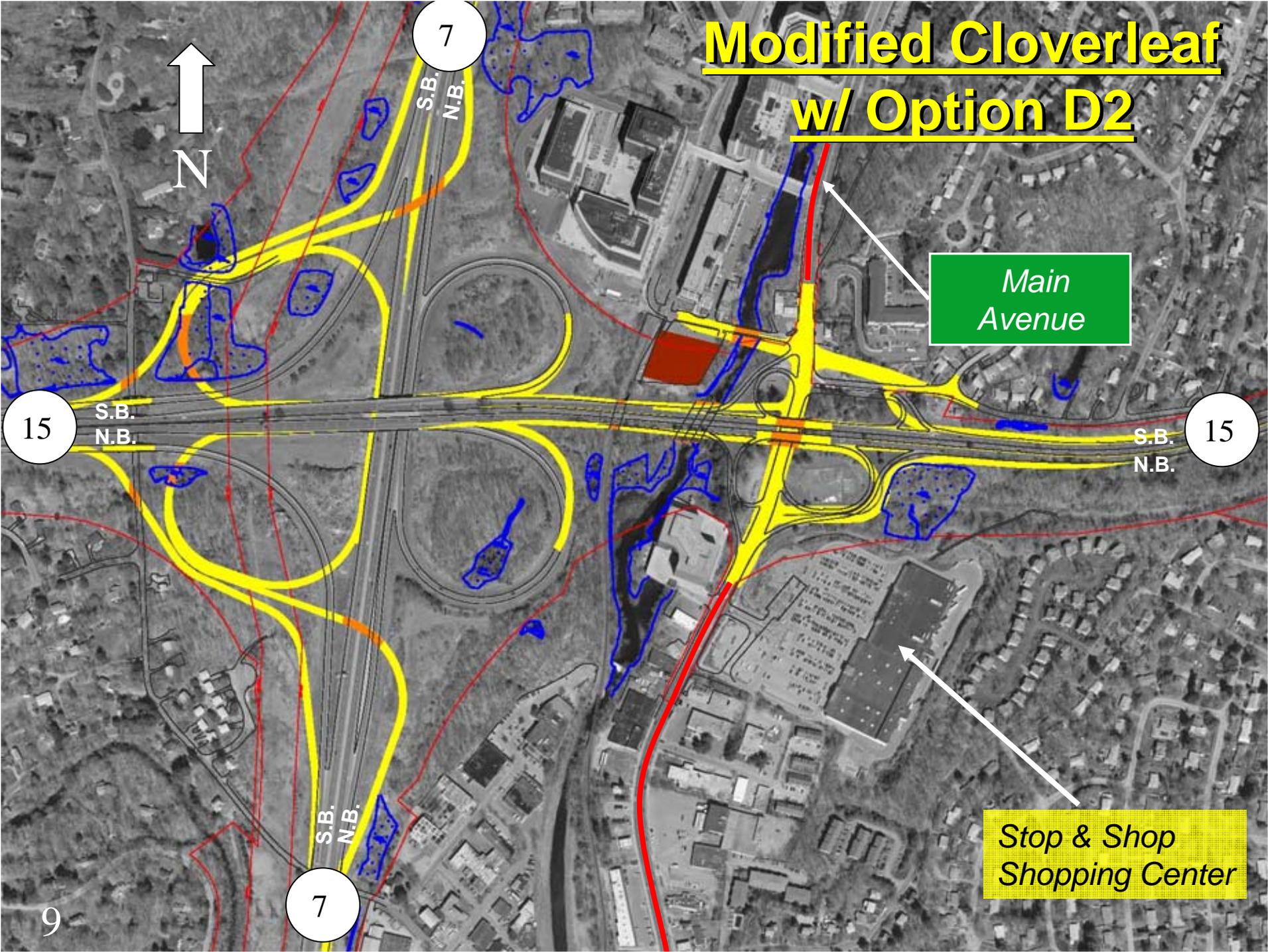
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Comparison of Primary Alternatives

	Cost escalated to 2012 (million)	Wetlands Impacts (acres)	Historic Bridges Affected	Indirect Parkway Impacts (visual)
Original Project *	\$139-175	0.60	4	-
Alt. 12A	\$134-169	0.40	4	Less
Modified Cloverleaf w/ D2	\$98-124	1.25	4	Least

*original cost ~ \$109 million



Comparison of Primary Alternatives

- **Traffic Operations**
- **Safety**
- **Wetlands**
- **Land Use and Socio/Economic**
- **Natural Resources, Land Cover, Natural Areas and Terrestrial Biota**
- **Direct and Indirect Property Impacts**
- **Groundwater and Water Supply Impacts**
- **Temp. Construction Impacts**

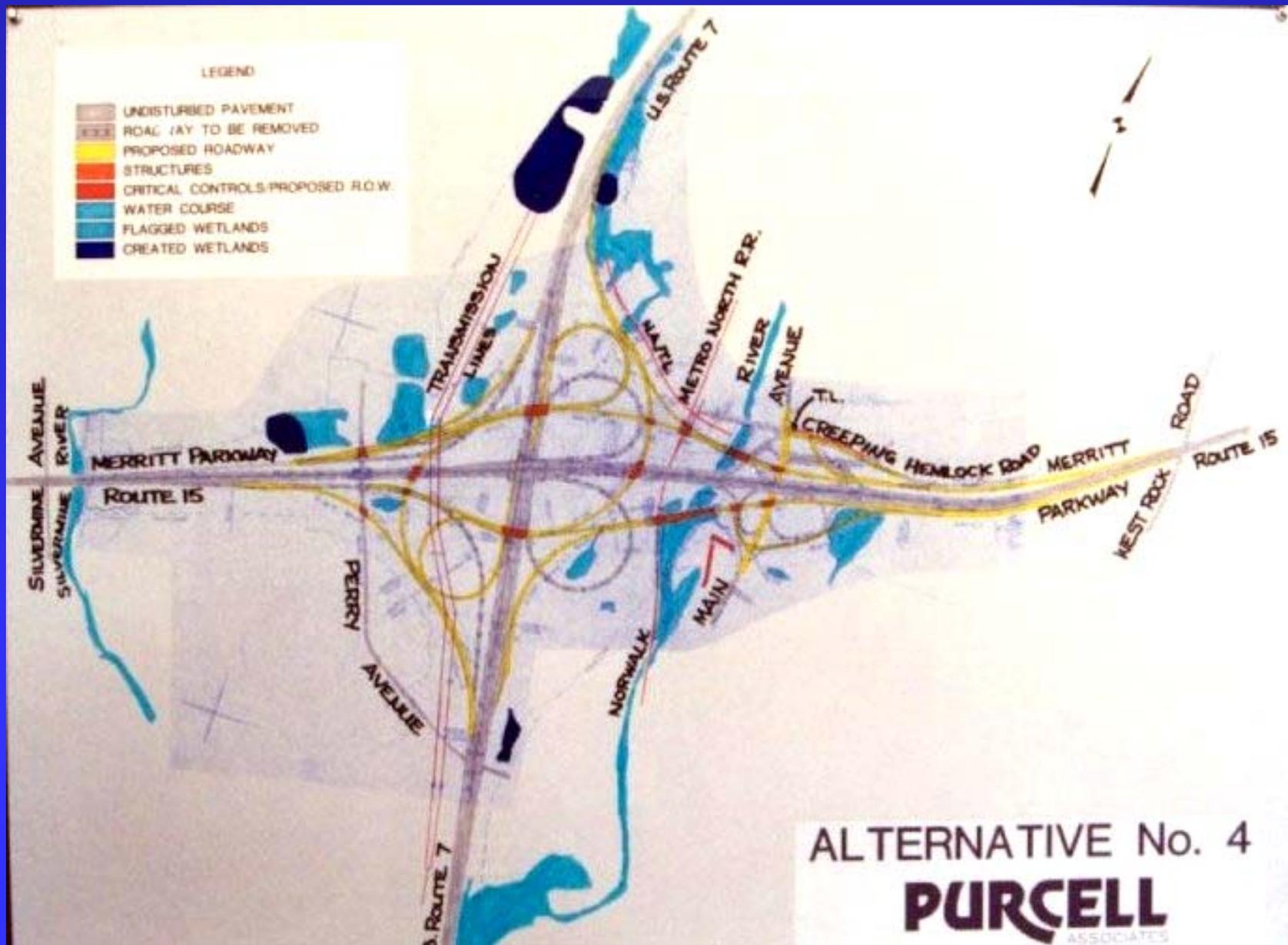


Comparison of Primary Alternatives (cont'd)

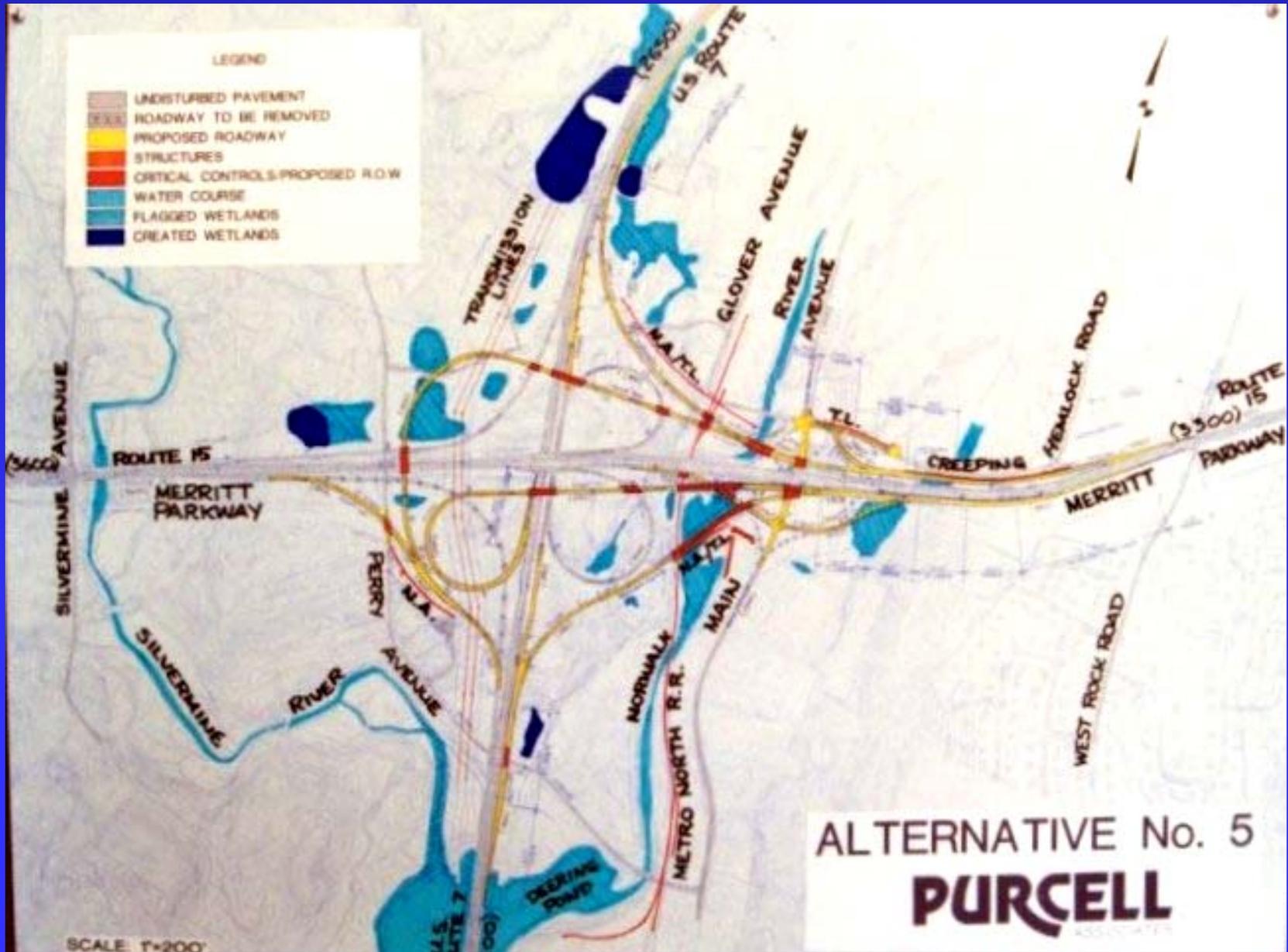
- Air Quality
- Floodplains
- Forest
- Historic Resource Impacts
- Noise
- Hazardous / Regulated Materials
- Archaeological Impacts
- Cumulative Impacts
- Opportunities for Mitigation of Wetlands/
Water Resources
- Cost



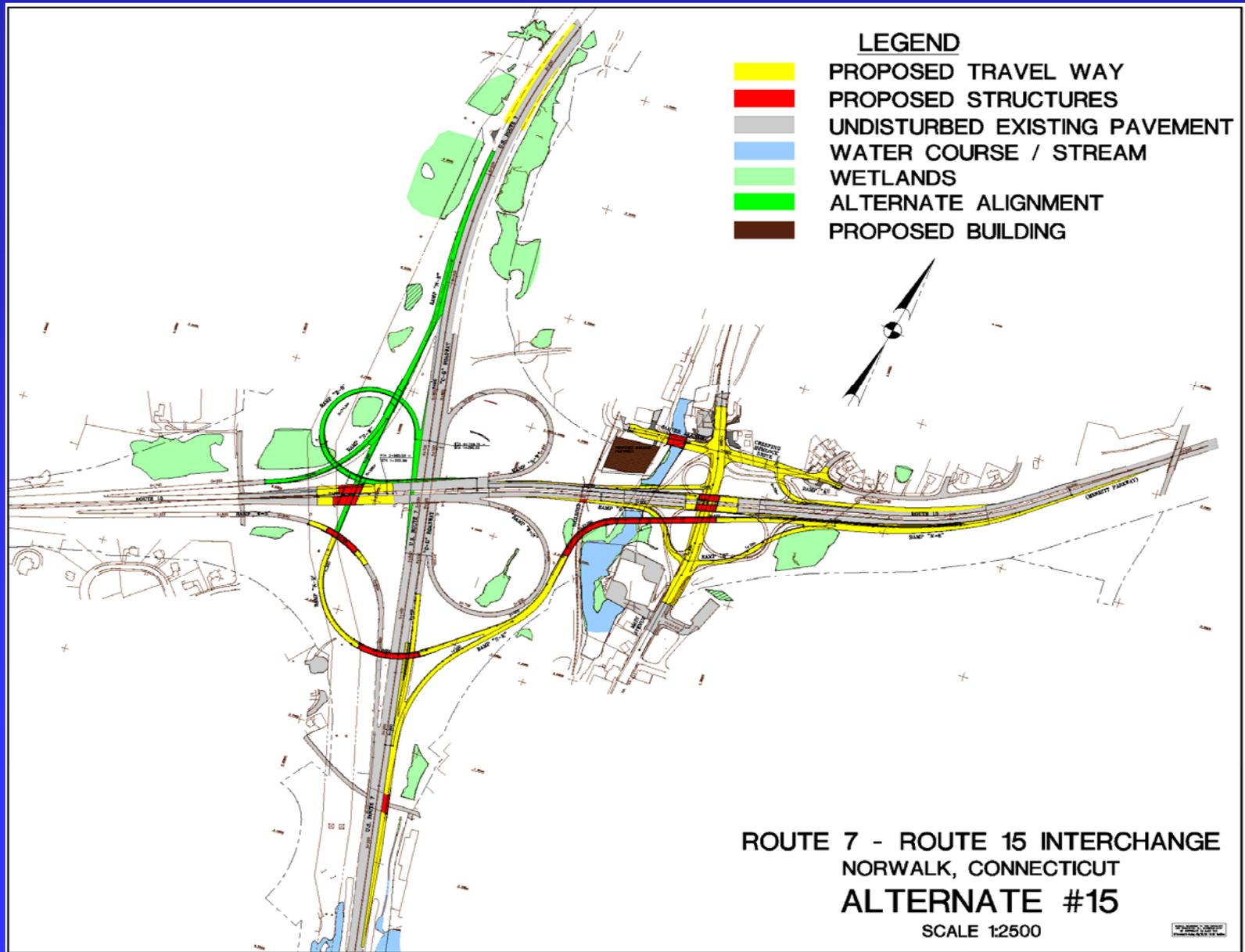
Other Alternatives - Alt. 4



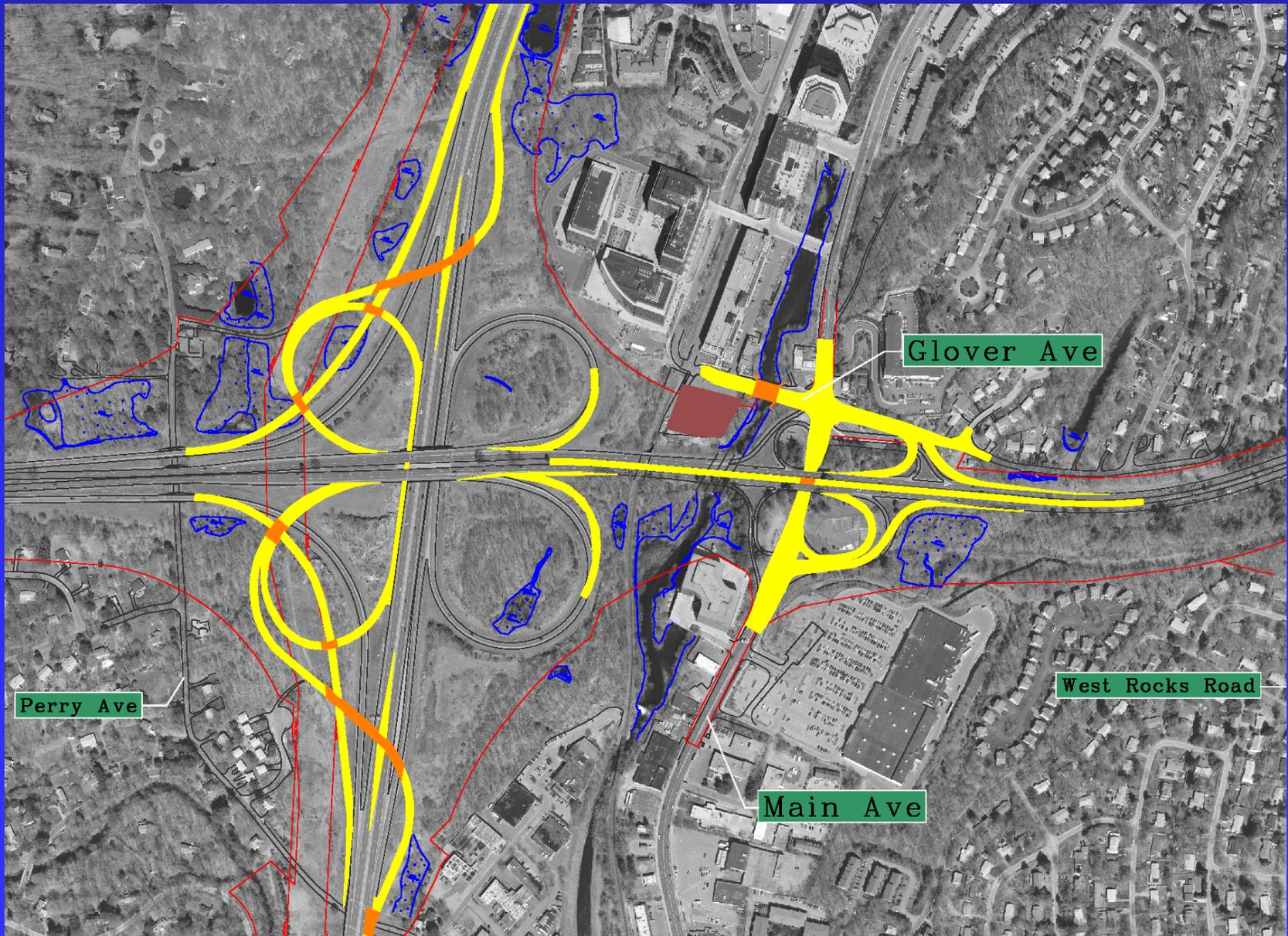
Other Alternatives - Alt. 5



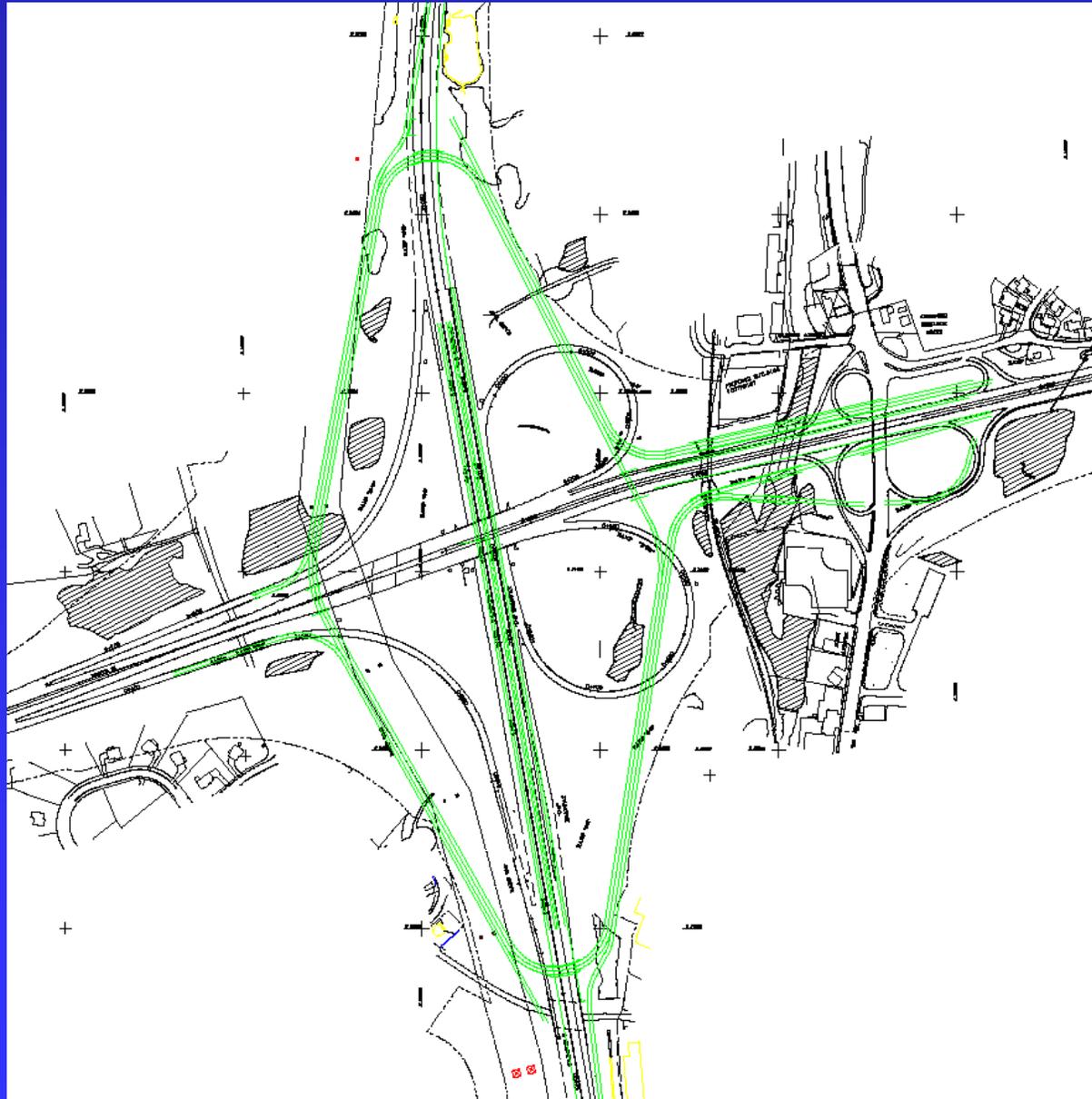
Other Alternatives - Alt. 15



Other Alternatives - MPC "Ultimate Option"



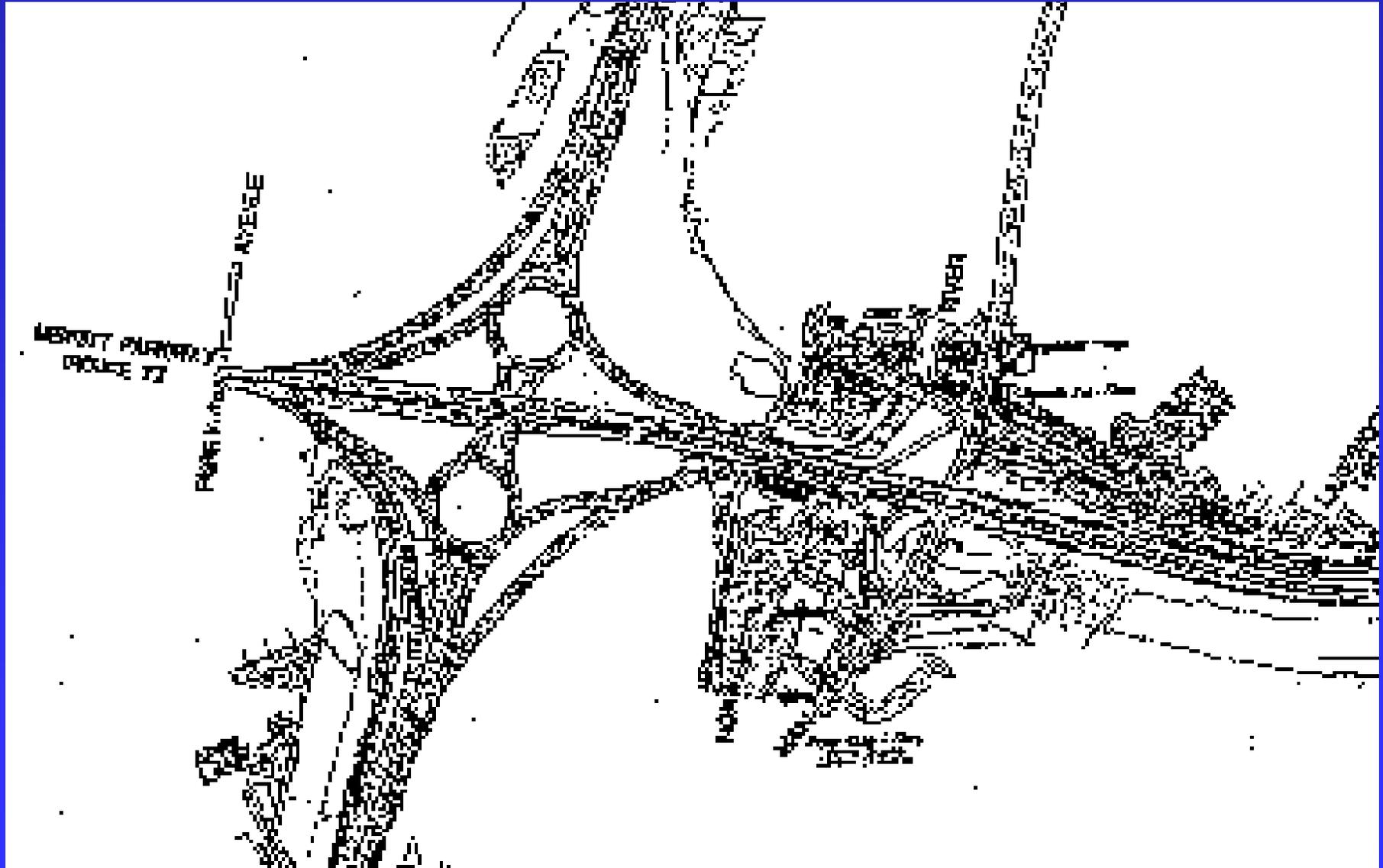
Other Alternatives - Michigan Interchange



Other Alternatives-Signals



Other Alternatives - High Speed Roundabouts



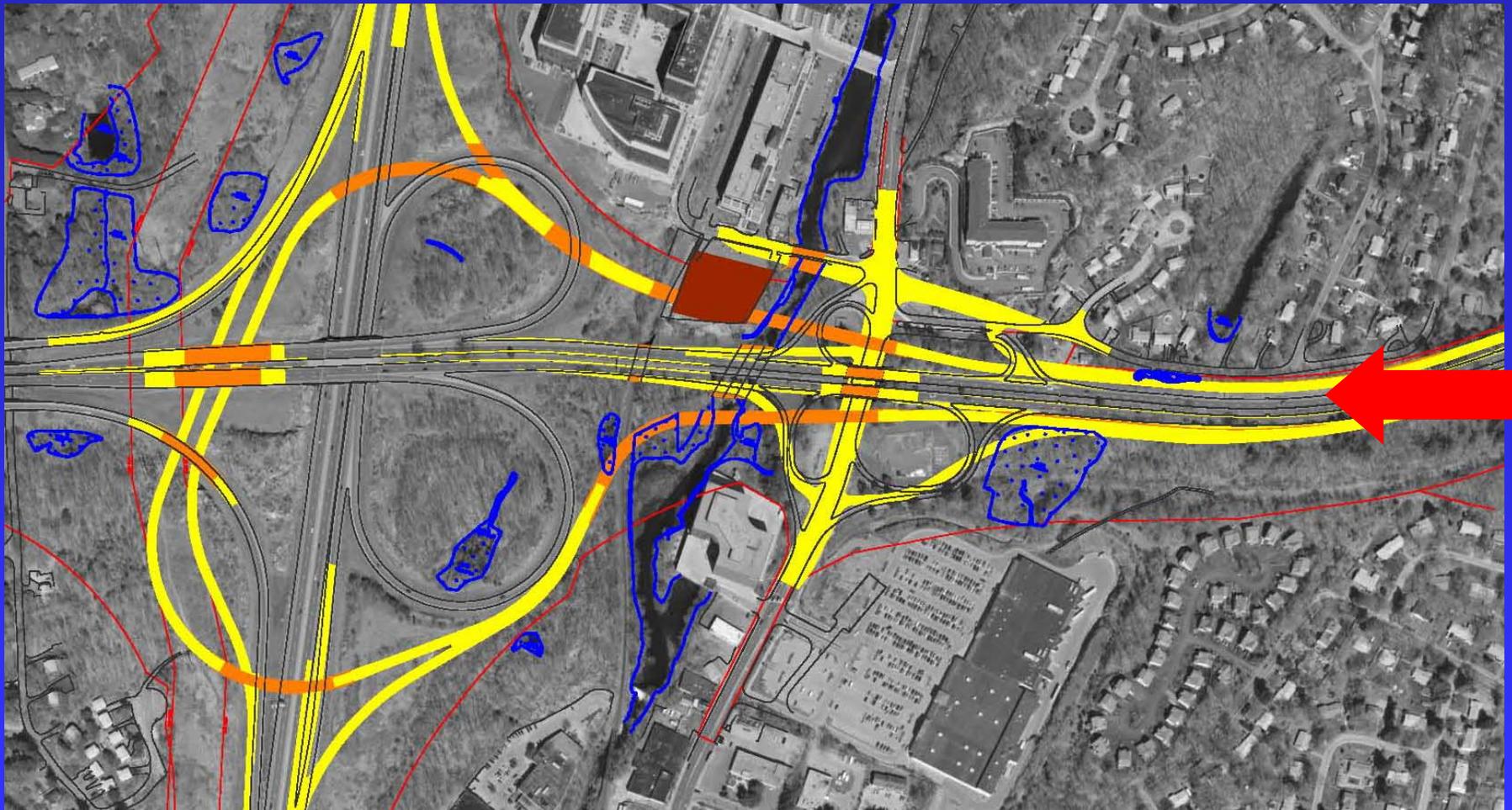
Other Alternatives - High Speed Roundabouts



Models of Original Design (1994)



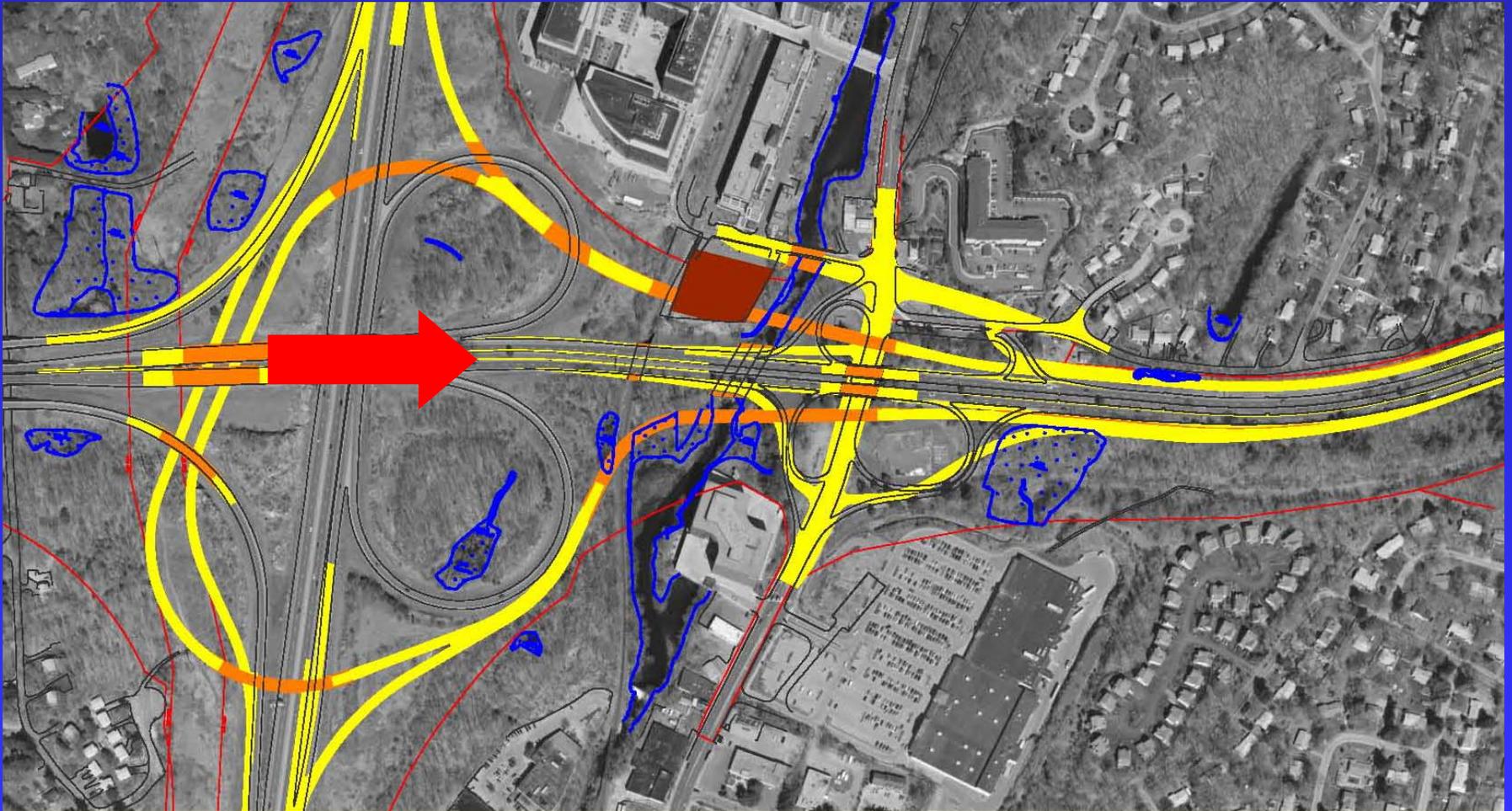
Looking West Along Merritt Parkway



Looking West Along Merritt Parkway



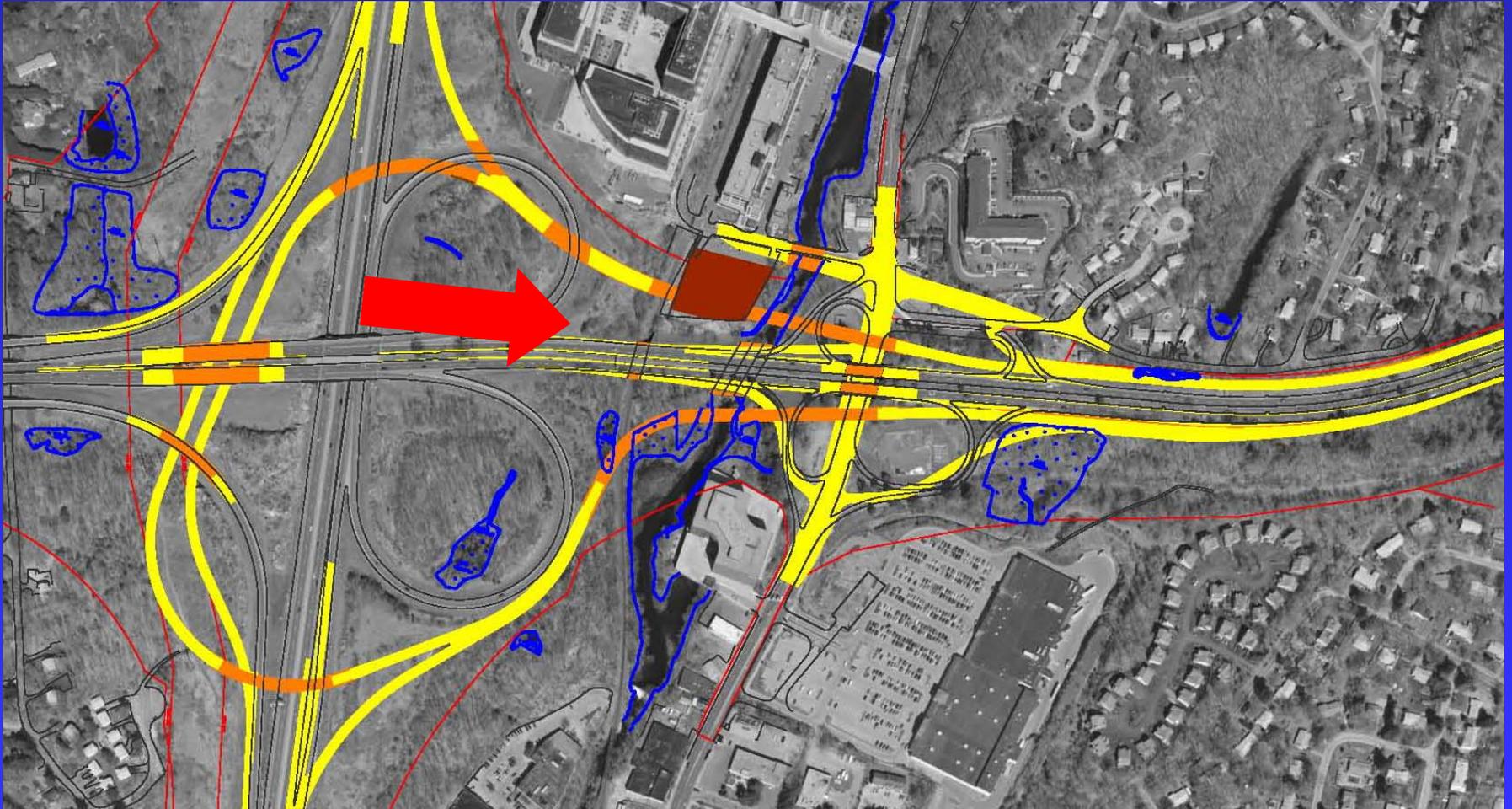
Looking East Along Merritt Parkway



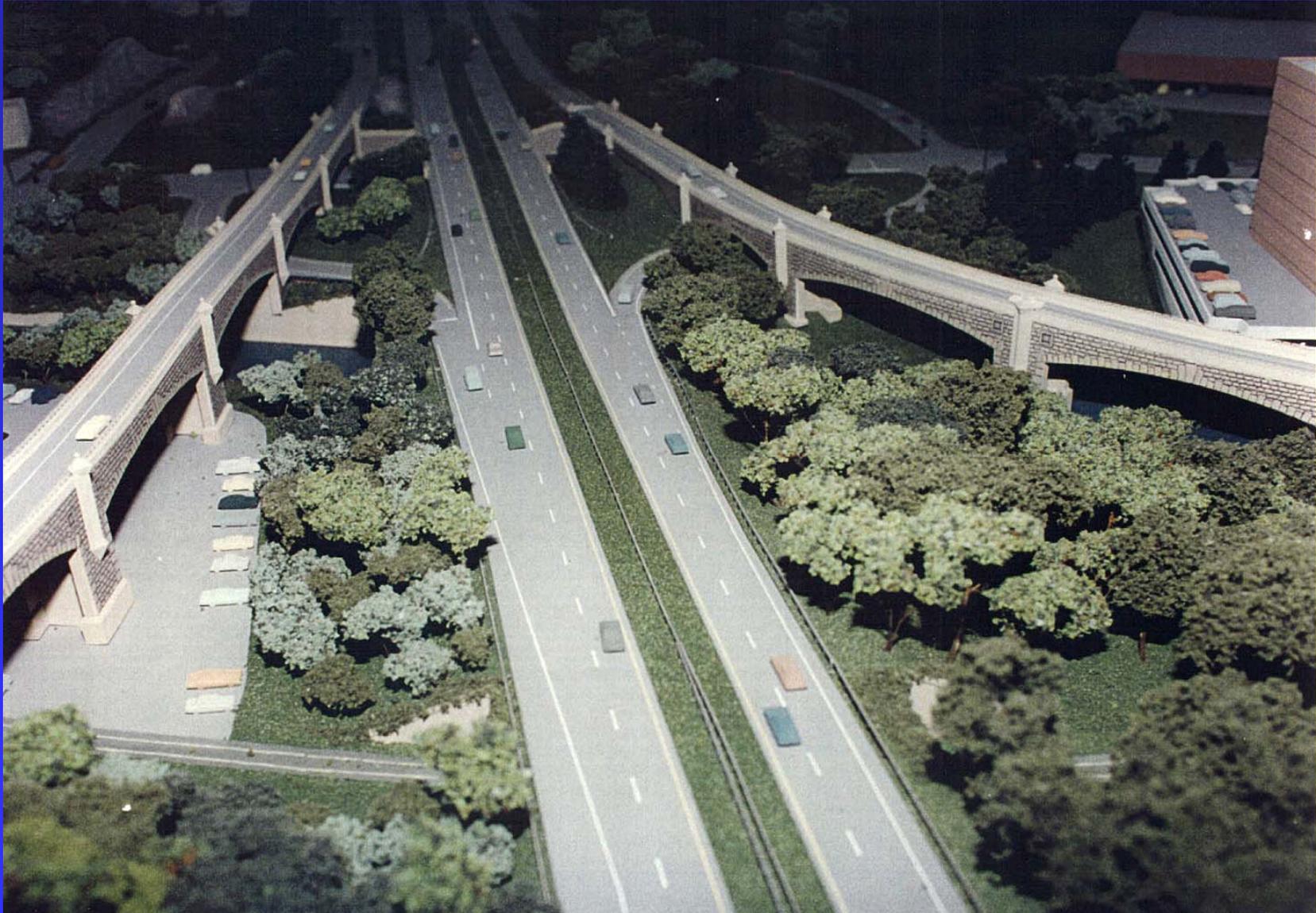
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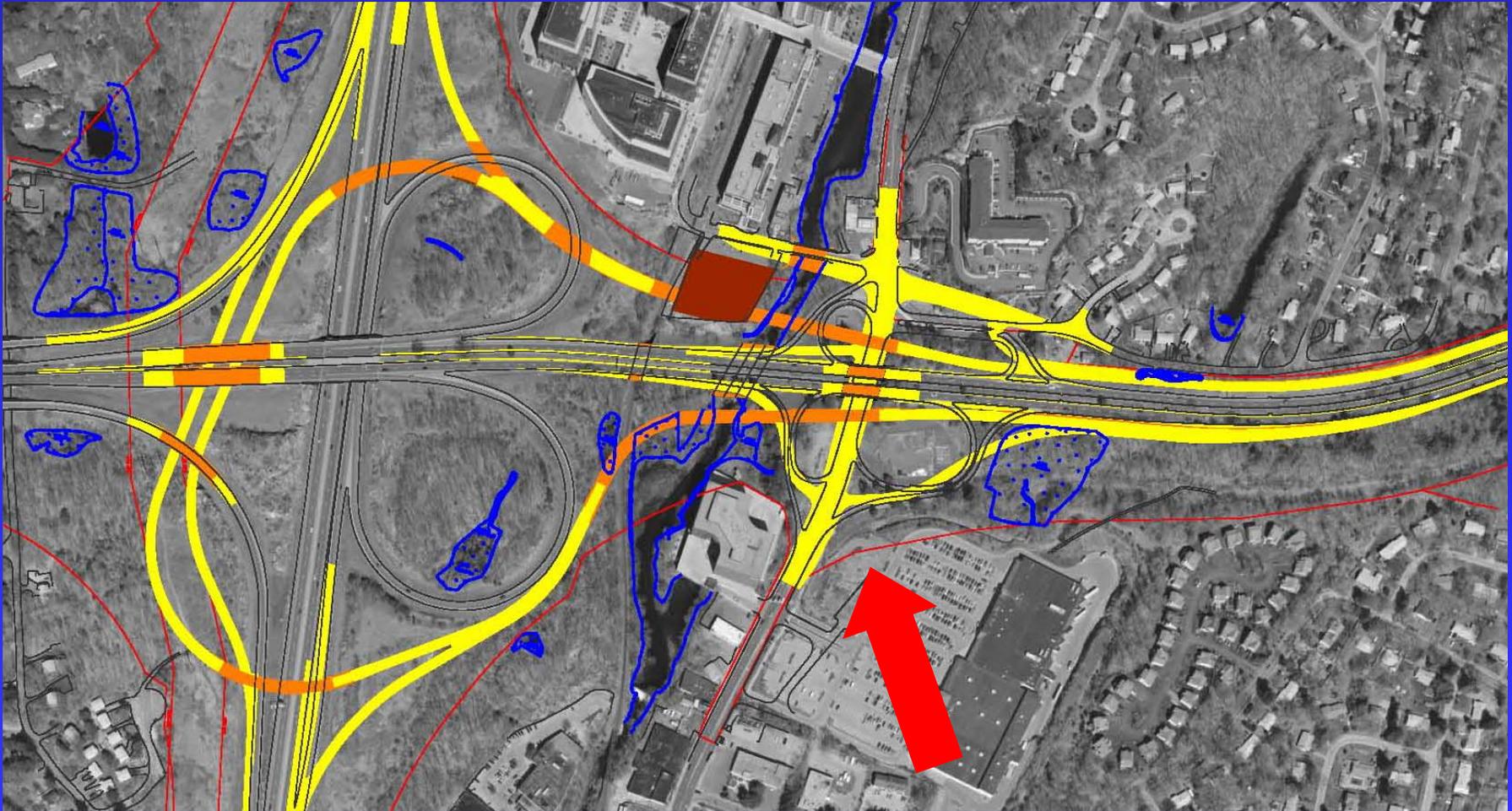
Looking East Along Merritt Parkway



Looking East Along Merritt Parkway



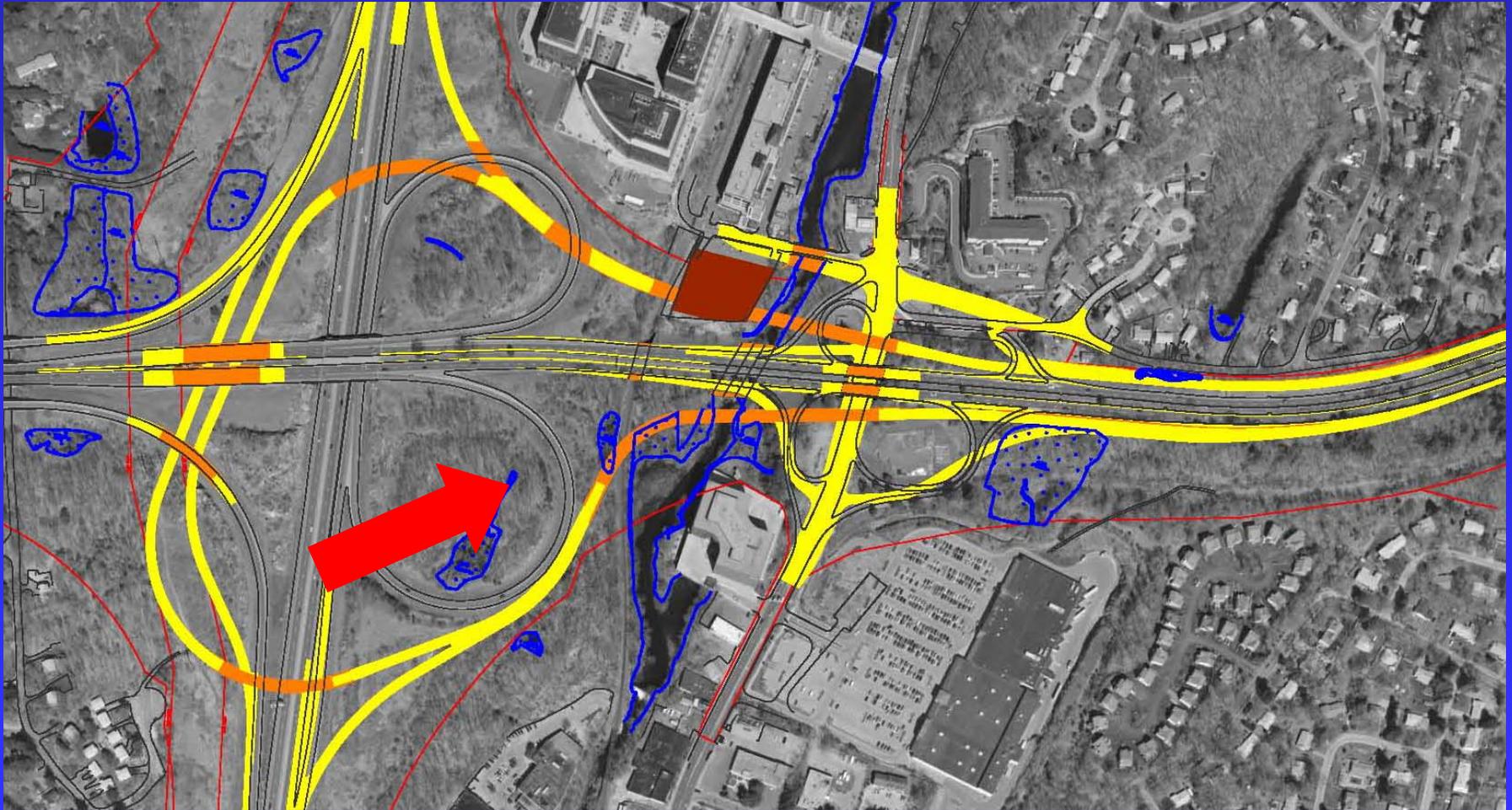
Looking North Along Main Ave.



Looking North Along Main Ave.



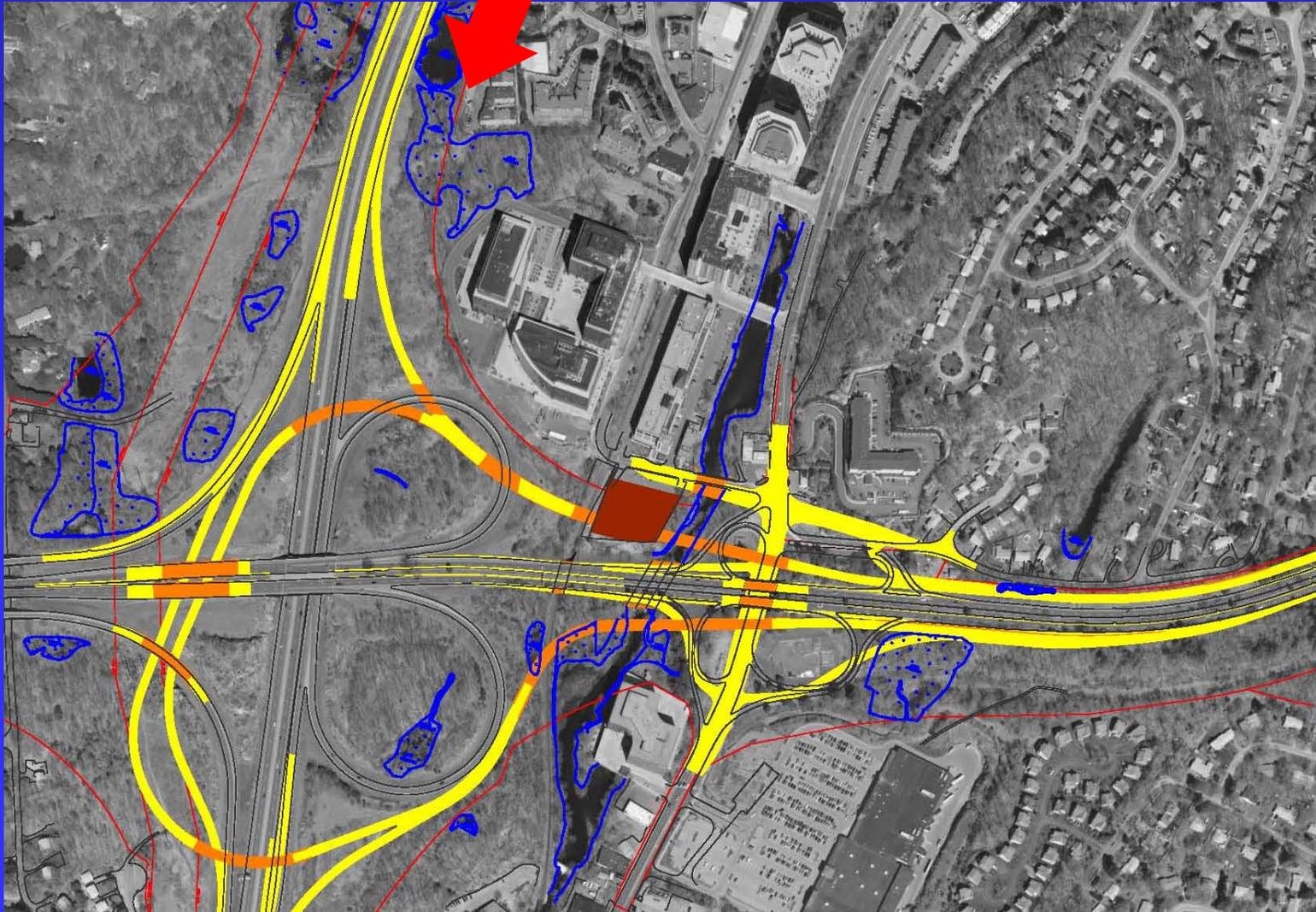
Looking Northwest Toward Main Ave.



Looking Northwest Toward Main Ave.



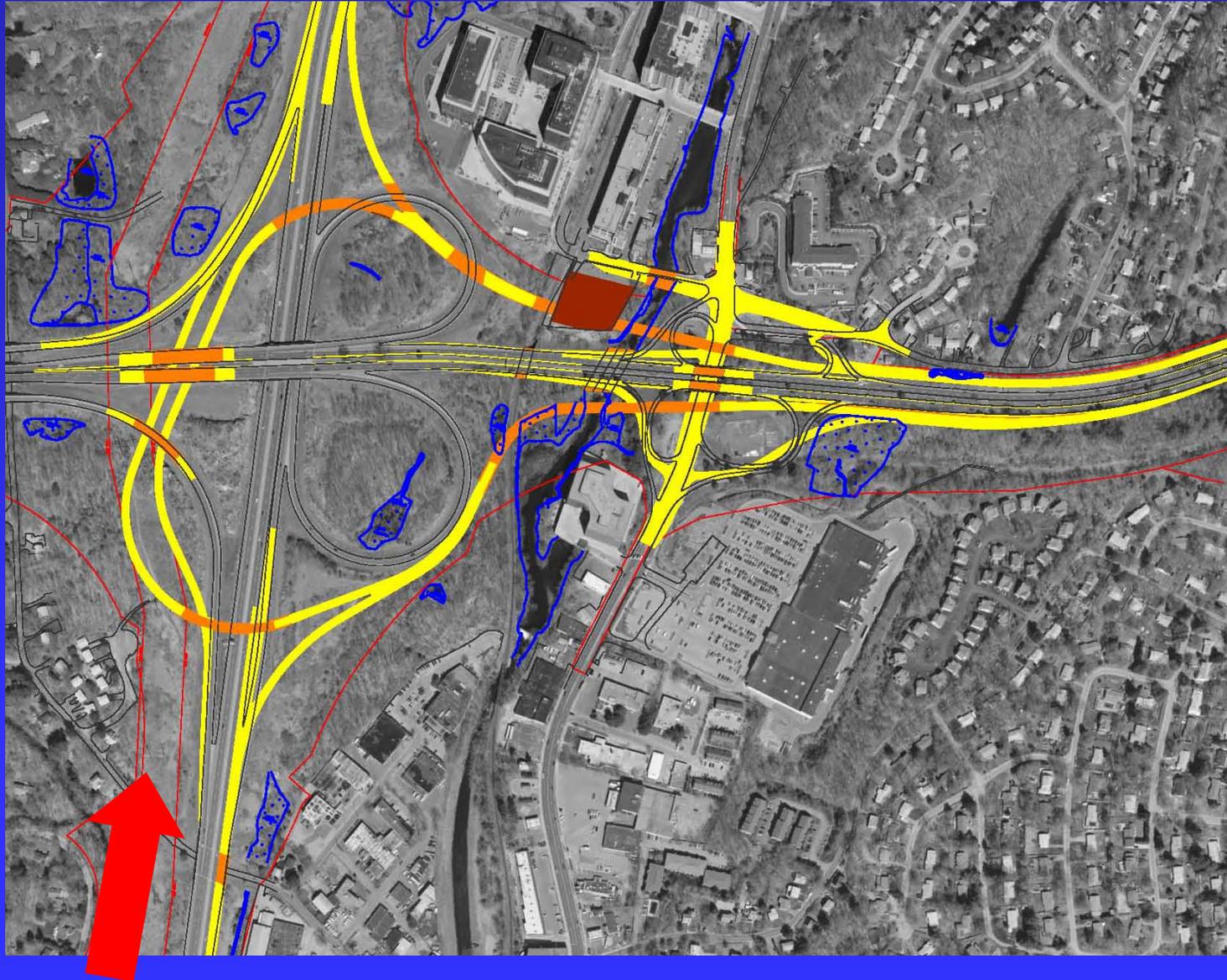
Looking South Along Rt. 7



Looking South Along Rt. 7



Looking North Along Rt. 7



Looking North Along Rt. 7



Next Steps

- Stakeholders Meetings
- Improve Upon Primary Alternatives
- Develop New Alternatives (?)
- Additional Public Forums



What We Need to Do for You:

- Listen
- Be Responsive
- Provide Transparency
 - Provide you access to information
 - Explain the process
 - When decisions are made, explain why
- Keep You Informed



What We Need from You:

- **Continued Involvement**
 - Please seek information and participate
- **Constructive Comments**
- **Your Patience**
 - There are constraints and complex issues



Contact Information

Written Comments should be sent to:

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Connecticut Department of Transportation

