



Public Forum:  
Update on Proposed  
Millstone Road  
Improvements

Town of Brewster  
February 17, 2022







# Forum Purpose

**Provide information about:**

**Project history**

**Project goals**

**Updated design elements**

**Next steps**

**Feedback**





# Project History

## ■ Then...

- Millstone Road was originally built in the 1700s
- First formally laid out as a road by Town Meeting in 1847
- Only 1 house south of 140 Millstone Road (seasonal cottages) as of 1961 – no subdivisions
- Brewster Town Meeting approved a 50-foot public way in 1963

## ■ Now...

- Approximately 25 percent of Brewster residents live on or adjacent to Millstone Road
- Currently averages 3800 vehicles/day - arterial road connecting Routes 6A & 137 and surrounding neighborhoods
- Greater interest in designing transportation infrastructure to be safe for all users – vehicles, bikers, and walkers





# Project History

- \$10M road bond approved by Town Meeting in 2015
- Improvements to Snow Road & Underpass Road completed in 2017
- Town engaged VHB as design consultant in 2018
- Town held 3 public forums
  - August 2018 – existing conditions survey & project kick-off
  - September 2019 – conceptual/25% design
  - November 2020 – 75% design
- Project temporarily suspended in April 2021
  - Resident feedback
  - Change in DPW Director
  - Town acquisition of Cape Cod Sea Camps Properties





# Project Goals

## Improve safety

- Improve safety of roadway for all users
  - Vehicles: selectively improve roadway geometry
  - Pedestrians & Bicyclists: add sidewalk

## Accessibility

Provide ADA compliant sidewalk for entire length of road

## Eliminate easements

Eliminate need for permanent easements on residential property

## Connectivity

Provide better interconnections with existing transportation network & improve access to Town amenities

## Maintain character

Maintain character of scenic road

## Improve drainage

Improve drainage systems and stormwater treatment





# Consistency with Community's Strategic Planning Goals

- ✓ “Provide services and **infrastructure for an age friendly community...**” (Brewster Vision Plan)
- ✓ “Identify opportunities to **connect existing open space resources with new resources** created from....open space acquisitions.” (Open Space & Recreation Plan)
- ✓ “Increase **bike access to key destinations** in Brewster” (Brewster Bikeways Committee Strategy)
- ✓ “Enhance bike **safety**” (Brewster Bikeways Committee Strategy)
- ✓ “Developing a **connected, integrated network** that serves all users” (Select Board Complete Streets Policy)
- ✓ “**Preserve and enhance scenic, aesthetic, historical and environmental resources** while **improving safety, mobility and infrastructure conditions**” (Select Board Complete Streets Policy)





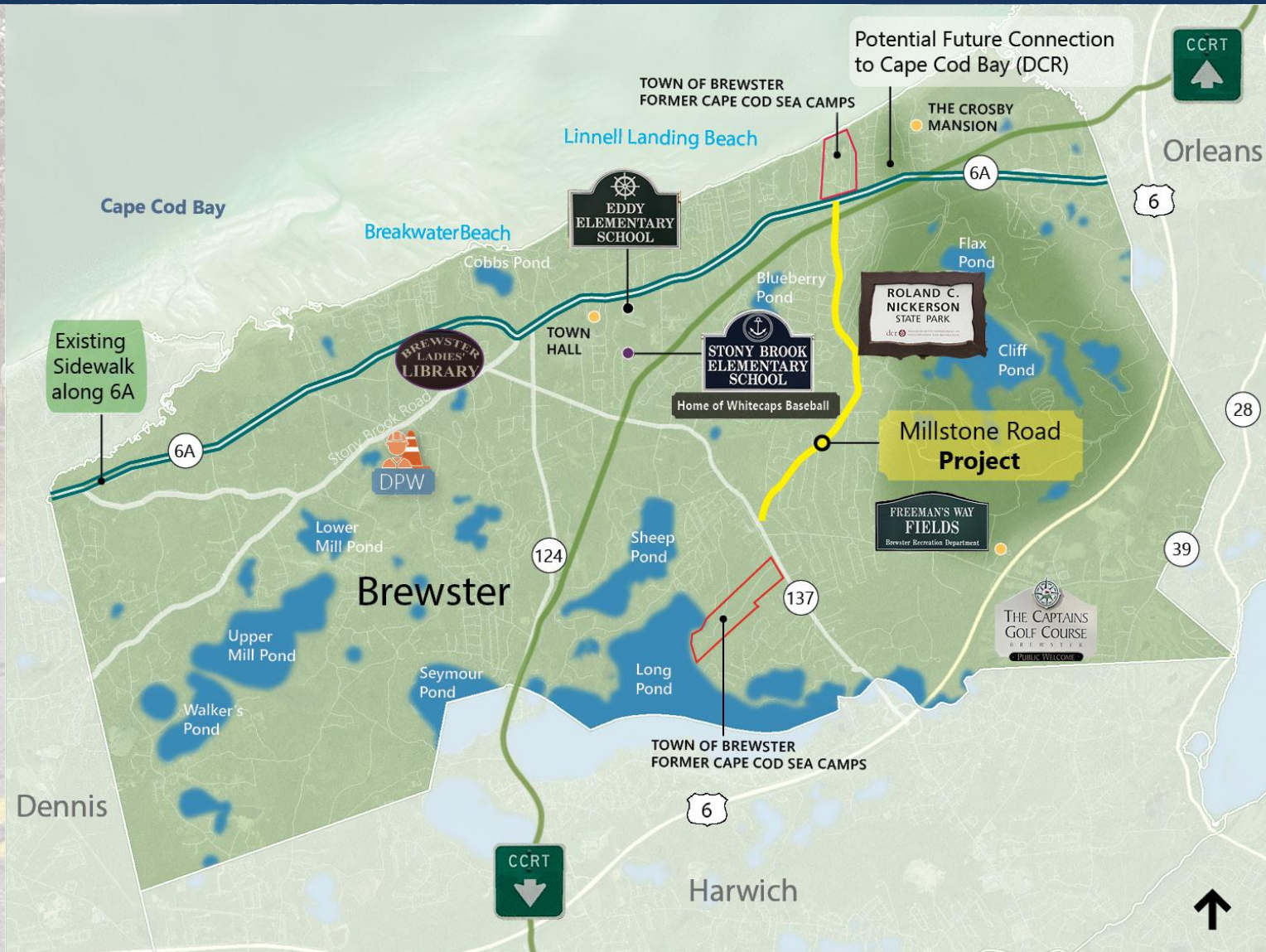
# Connectivity

- Project would improve connectivity to many popular amenities around Town
  - Cape Cod Rail Trail
  - Nickerson State Park
  - Route 6A
  - Bay beaches
  - Schools
  - Brewster Whitecaps
  - Millstone neighborhoods
  - Local businesses
  - Cape Cod Sea Camps





# Town and Regional Connectivity







# Cape Cod Sea Camps Properties

- Town completed its acquisition of two former Cape Cod Sea Camps properties in November 2021
  - 3057 Main Street (Route 6A) - 55 acres on Cape Cod Bay
  - 500 W.H. Besse Cartway (Route 137) - 66 acres on Long Pond
- Current site amenities at Pond include:
  - 1200 feet of pond frontage
  - Informal trail network in wooded upland
- Possible future uses include:
  - Beach (resident only?)
  - Sailing, kayaking, etc
  - Partnership with Brewster Conservation Trust to preserve land & develop trails (linking to adjacent Robinson property)
  - Partnership with Massachusetts Audubon Society for programming
  - Appropriately scaled community housing





# Cape Cod Sea Camps Properties

- Current site amenities at Bay include:
  - 800' of beach frontage ( plus 650' more at Spruce Hill)
  - Boathouse
  - Outdoor swimming pool & pavilion
  - Arts center & outdoor theaters
  - Basketball courts, tennis courts, and athletic fields
- Possible future amenities include:
  - Beach (resident only?)
  - Community Center
  - Expanded recreation facilities
  - Open space & passive recreation
  - Nature-based educational programming
  - Boat moorings
- Millstone Road provides critical connections to both properties





# Initial Design

November 2020 design included:

- Two-foot shoulders
- Eleven-foot travel lanes
- Continuous five-foot sidewalk separated from the road by a green strip where possible
- Realignment of the roadway at Agassiz Road
- Ten permanent easements required
- Installation of additional stormwater infrastructure





# Updated Design

Current design includes:

- One-foot shoulders
- Eleven-foot travel lanes
- Continuous five-foot sidewalk separated from the road by a green strip where possible
- Follow existing road footprint as much as possible
  - Removal of the straightening at Agassiz Road
  - Elimination of all private residential permanent easements
  - Minimize tree removal
- Installation of additional stormwater infrastructure





# Updated Plan – Route 6A & Rail Trail







# Simulation – Rail Trail Crossing

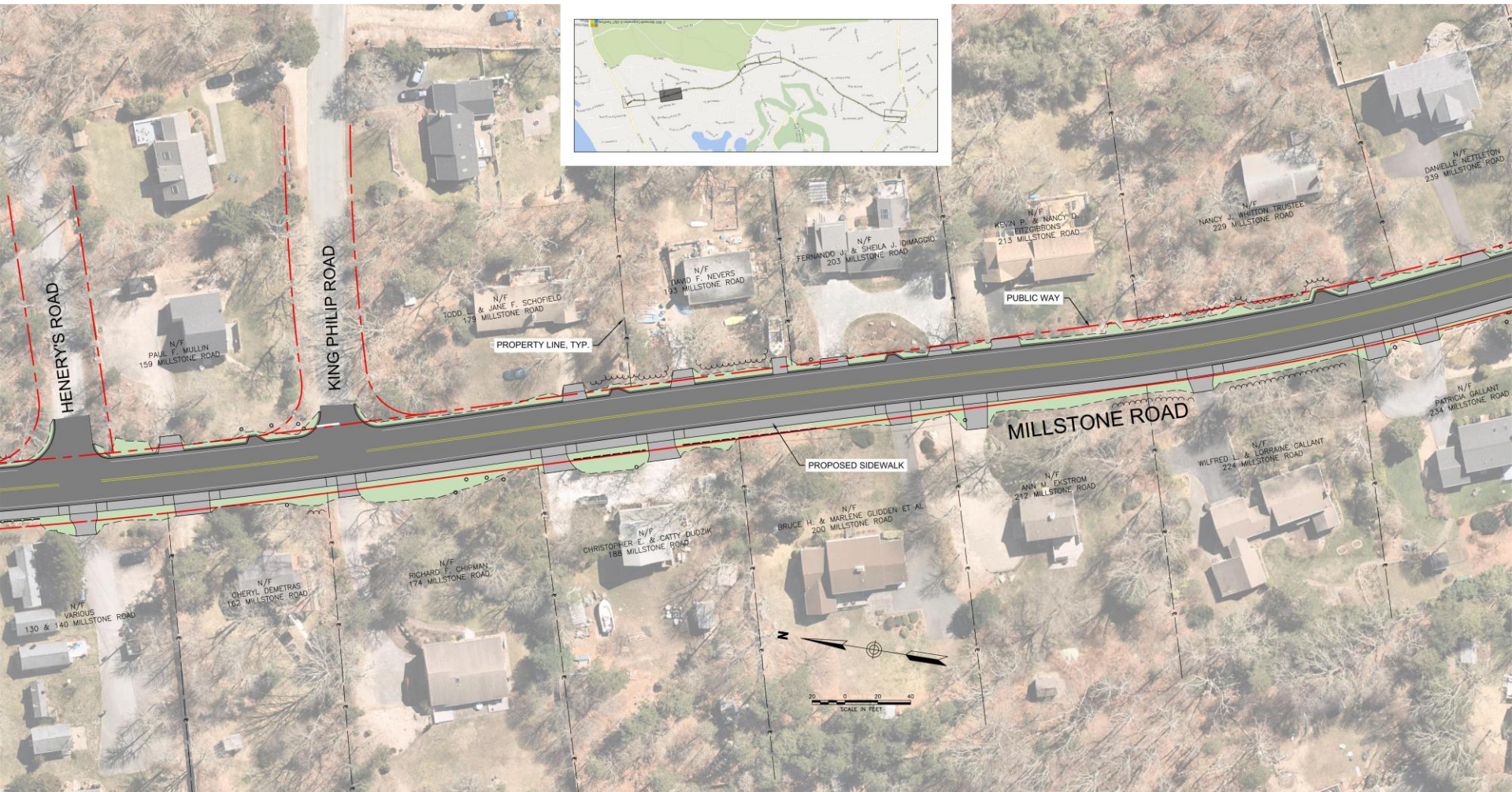
Looking North (To Route 6A)







# Updated Plan – King Philip Road







# Simulation – King Philip Road

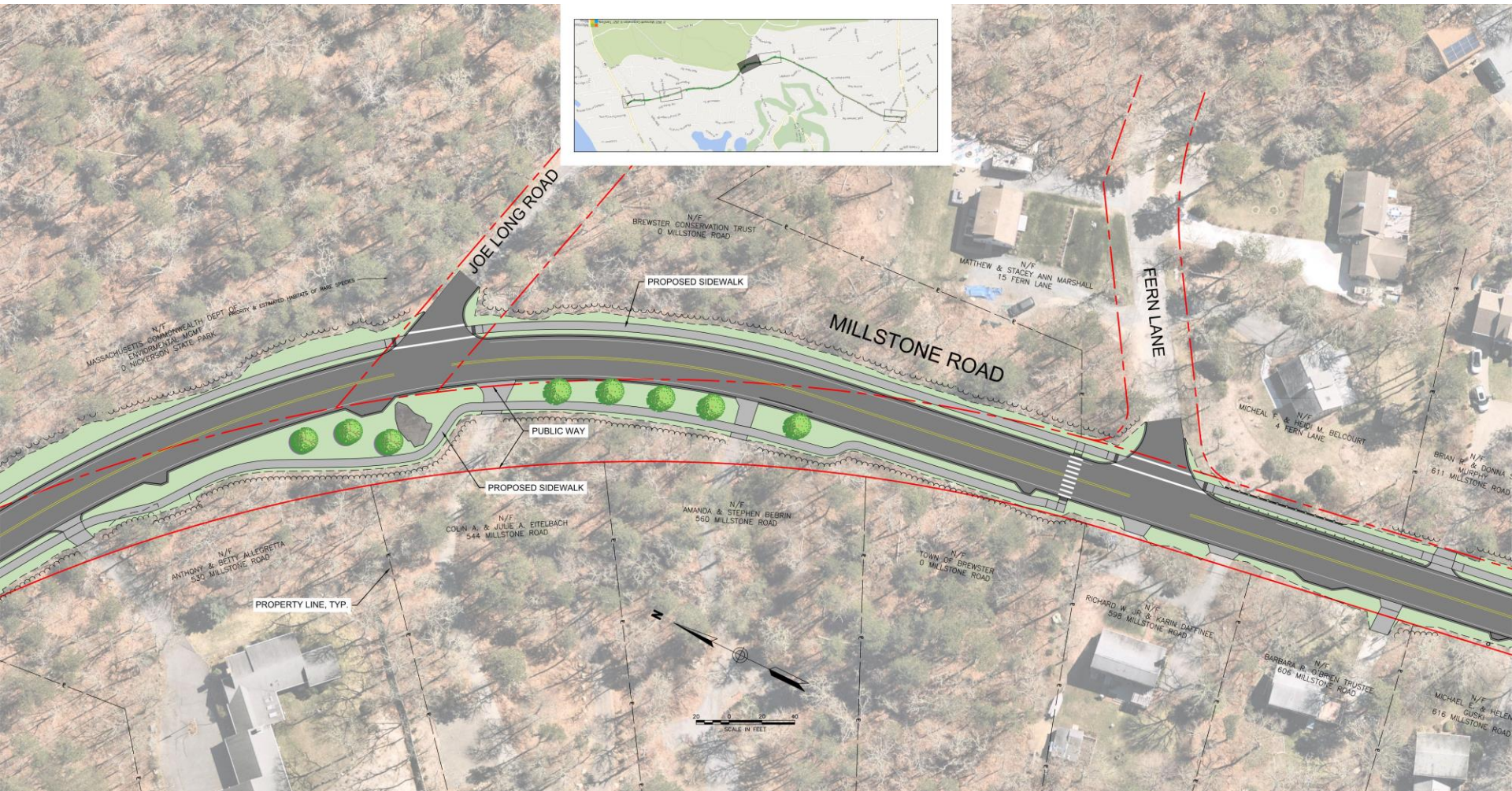
Looking South (To Route 137)







# Updated Plan – Fern Lane







# Simulation – Fern Lane

Looking North (To Route 6A)







# Updated Plan – Agassiz/Cliff Pond Road







# Simulation – Agassiz/Cliff Pond Road

Looking South (To Route 137)







# Simulation – Baron's Way

Looking North (To Route 6A)







# Simulation – Russell's Path

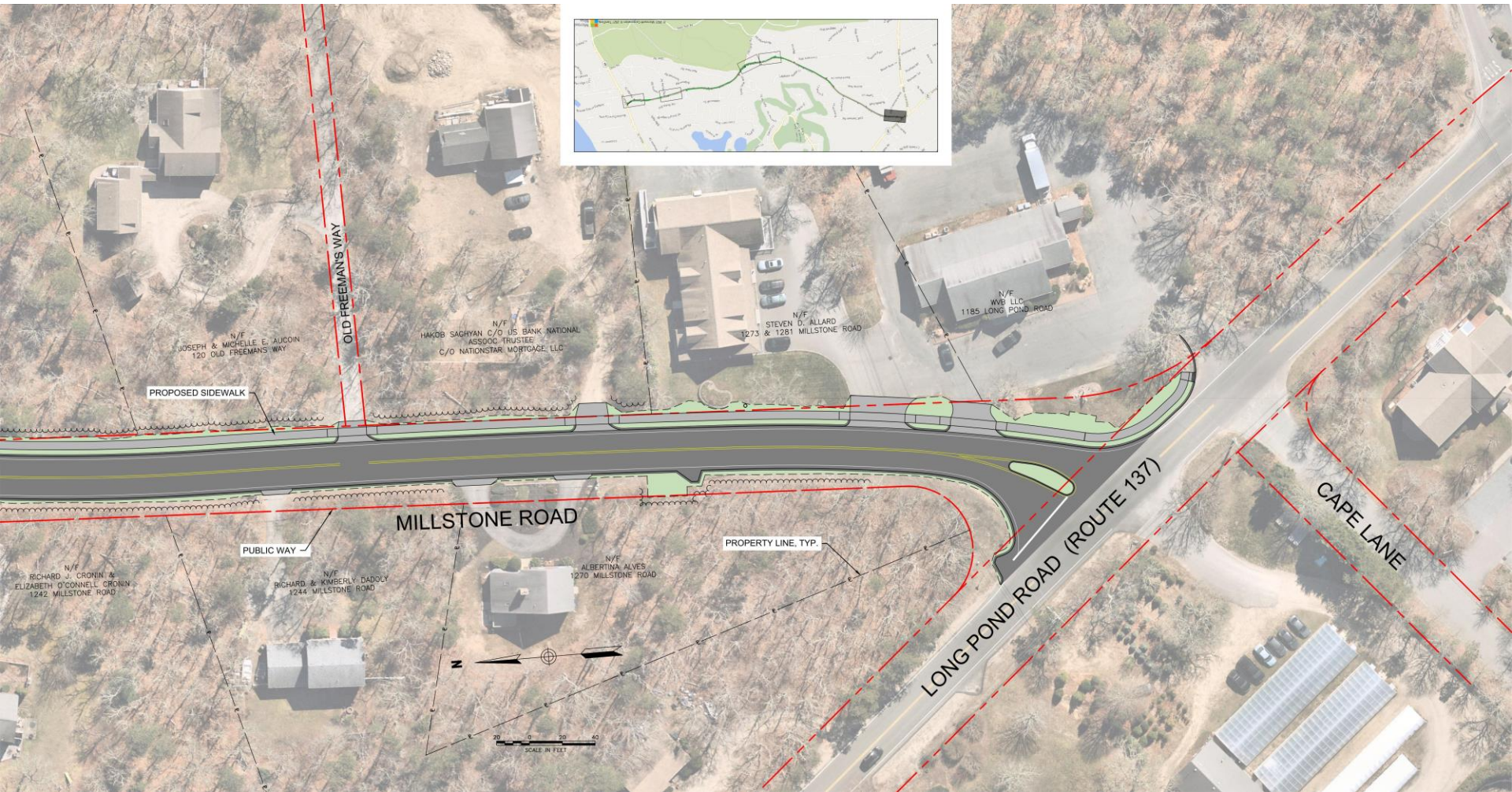
Looking North (To Route 6A)







# Updated Plan – Route 137







# Next Steps



**4TH PUBLIC  
FORUM**

**FEBRUARY 2022**

**MARCH 2022**

**DEADLINE  
FOR PUBLIC  
COMMENT**

**SELECT BOARD  
VOTES ON PROJECT  
NEXT STEPS**

**SPRING 2022**

140







# Thank You

**Follow project updates at:**

**[www.brewster-ma.gov/millstone-road-improvement-project](http://www.brewster-ma.gov/millstone-road-improvement-project)**

**Send comments by March 3, 2022, to:**

**[millstoneroad@brewster-ma.gov](mailto:millstoneroad@brewster-ma.gov)**

**For questions related to individual properties contact:**

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# Questions & Answers

