

# WELCOME TO THE PLEASANT STREET VIRTUAL MEETING

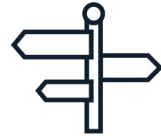
*The presentation will begin in a few minutes.*



You can raise your hand to ask a question aloud. Once we open for discussion, you may type questions in the chat box, as well.



Your microphone is turned off.

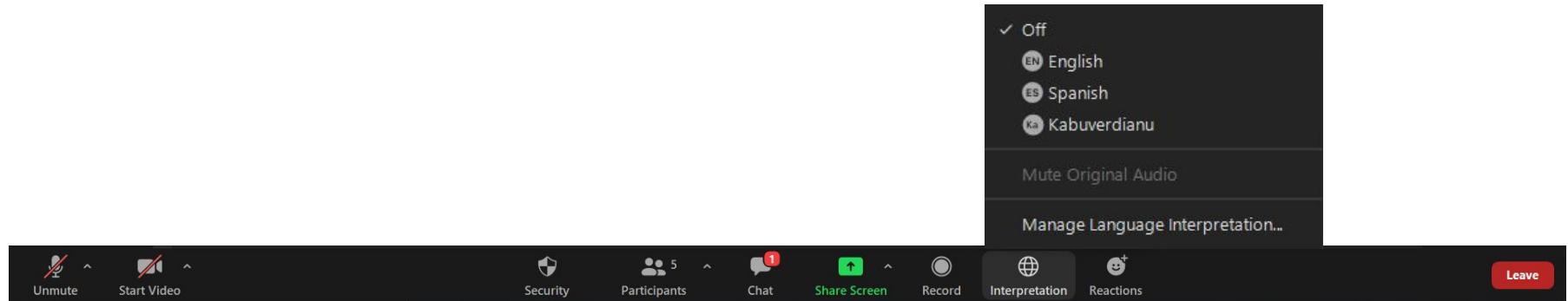


[boston.gov/pleasant-street](https://boston.gov/pleasant-street)  
[pleasant.street@boston.gov](mailto:pleasant.street@boston.gov)  
617-635-1378

# Welcome! ¡Bienvenidos!

For interpretation in Spanish:

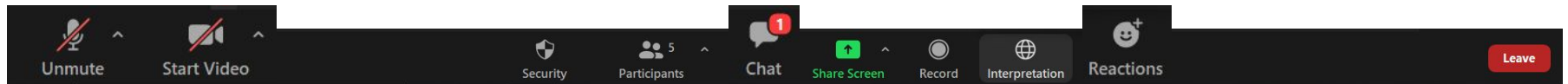
1. Go to control bar at the bottom of the screen and click "Interpretation"
2. Next, click on the language that you would like to hear.
3. You now have access to the Spanish meeting.



# Welcome!

This meeting **will be recorded**.

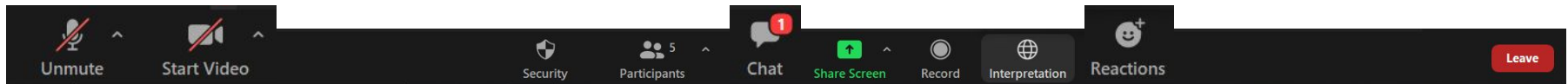
Update your name in Zoom to include your preferred name and your pronouns.



# Welcome!

Your microphones are turned off to start. You will need to unmute to speak. Joining via phone? Press \*6 to unmute.

You can use non-verbal feedback options. Raise your hand if you have a question. If you called into the meeting, use \*9 to raise your hand.





A Safer, Slower  
**PLEASANT STREET**

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*December 7, 2021*

# Agenda

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6:30 ▶ Introductions

- 6:35 ▶ Project team presentation:
- Purpose of the project
  - What we've heard so far
  - Tools we use to create safer streets
  - Next steps for the project

- 6:50 ▶ Opportunity for input:
- Your stories about Pleasant Street
  - Your experiences on Pleasant Street

# Hi!

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**Jen Rowe (she/they)**  
Planner, Active Transportation  
Boston Transportation Department  
jennifer.rowe@boston.gov



**Dan Merrow (he/him)**  
Sr. Engineer, Active Transportation  
Boston Transportation Department  
daniel.merrow@boston.gov

# Agenda

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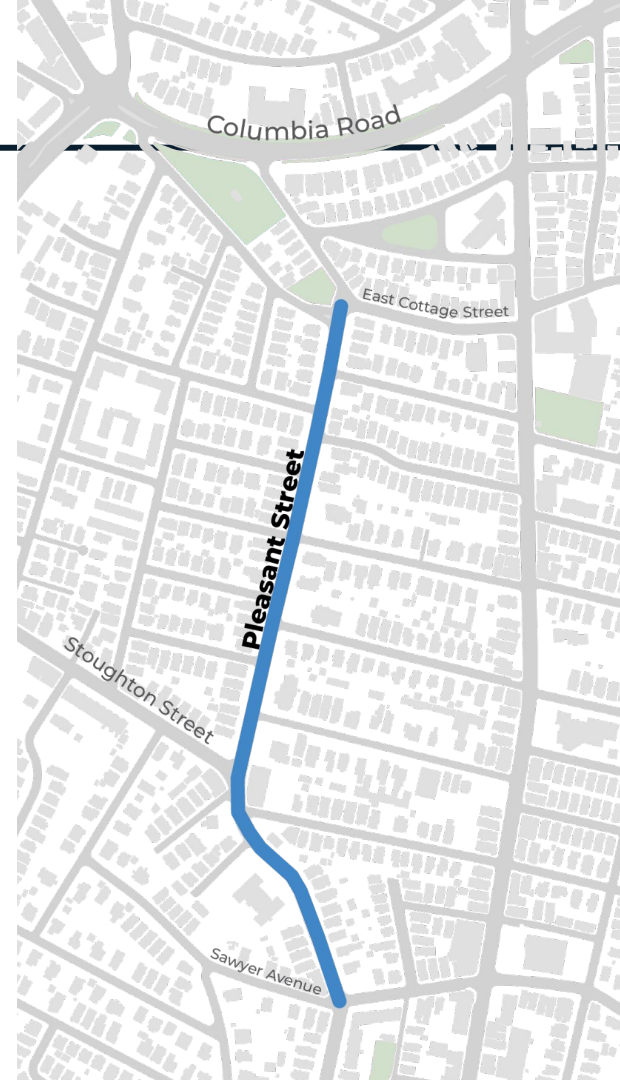
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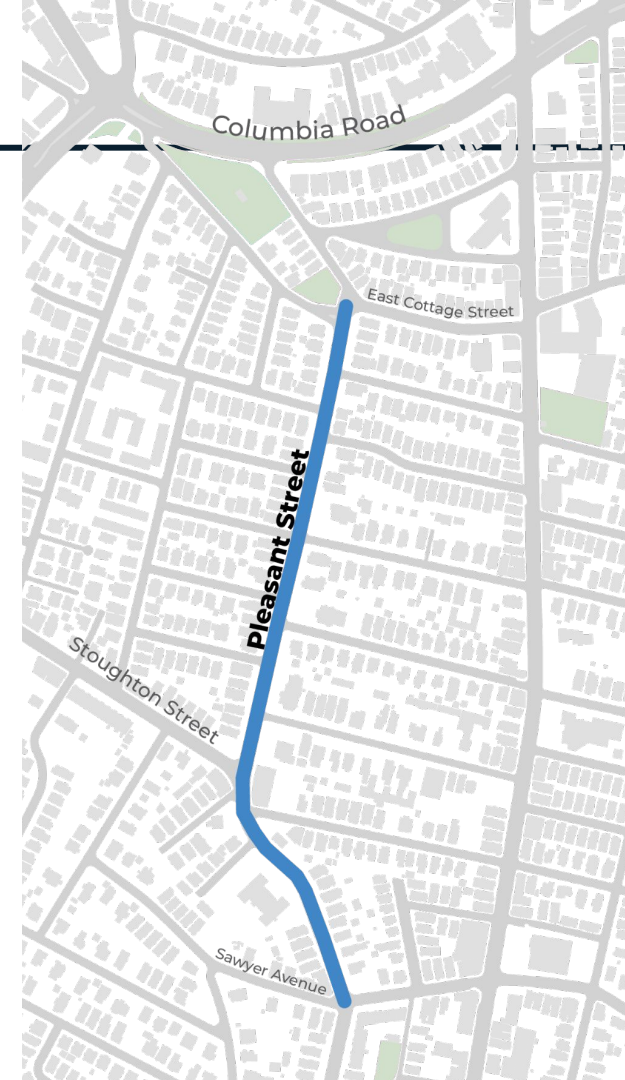
# Project goals

- ▶ Calm traffic speeds
- ▶ Make crosswalks better for:
  - people biking and walking,
  - kids,
  - older adults,
  - people with disabilities



# Project scope

- ▶ We can make changes on Pleasant Street and its non-signalized intersections.
- ▶ We are **not** able to make changes to the signalized intersection at Stoughton Street.



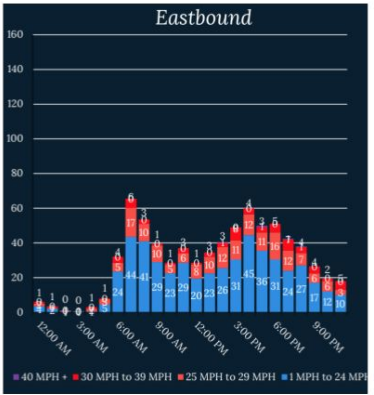
# How we begin our design process

## Observations



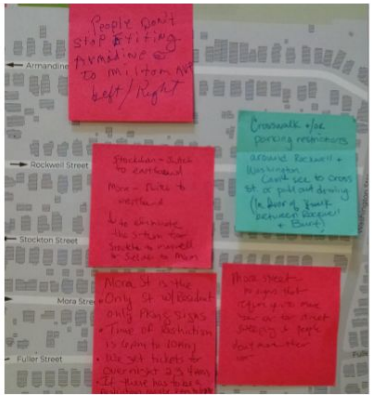
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## Traffic data



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## Your comments



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## Design proposal



# Traffic speeds on Pleasant Street

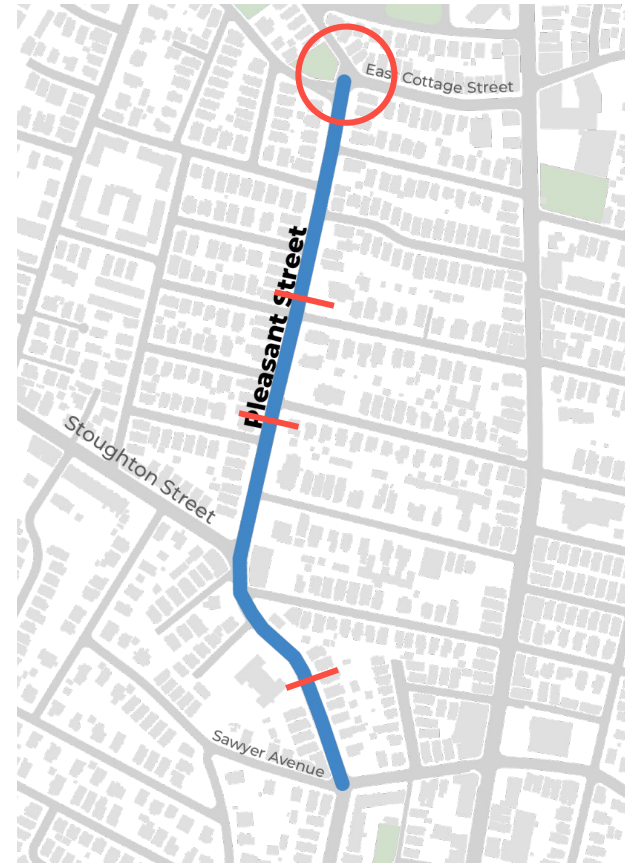
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*Collected in October 2021*

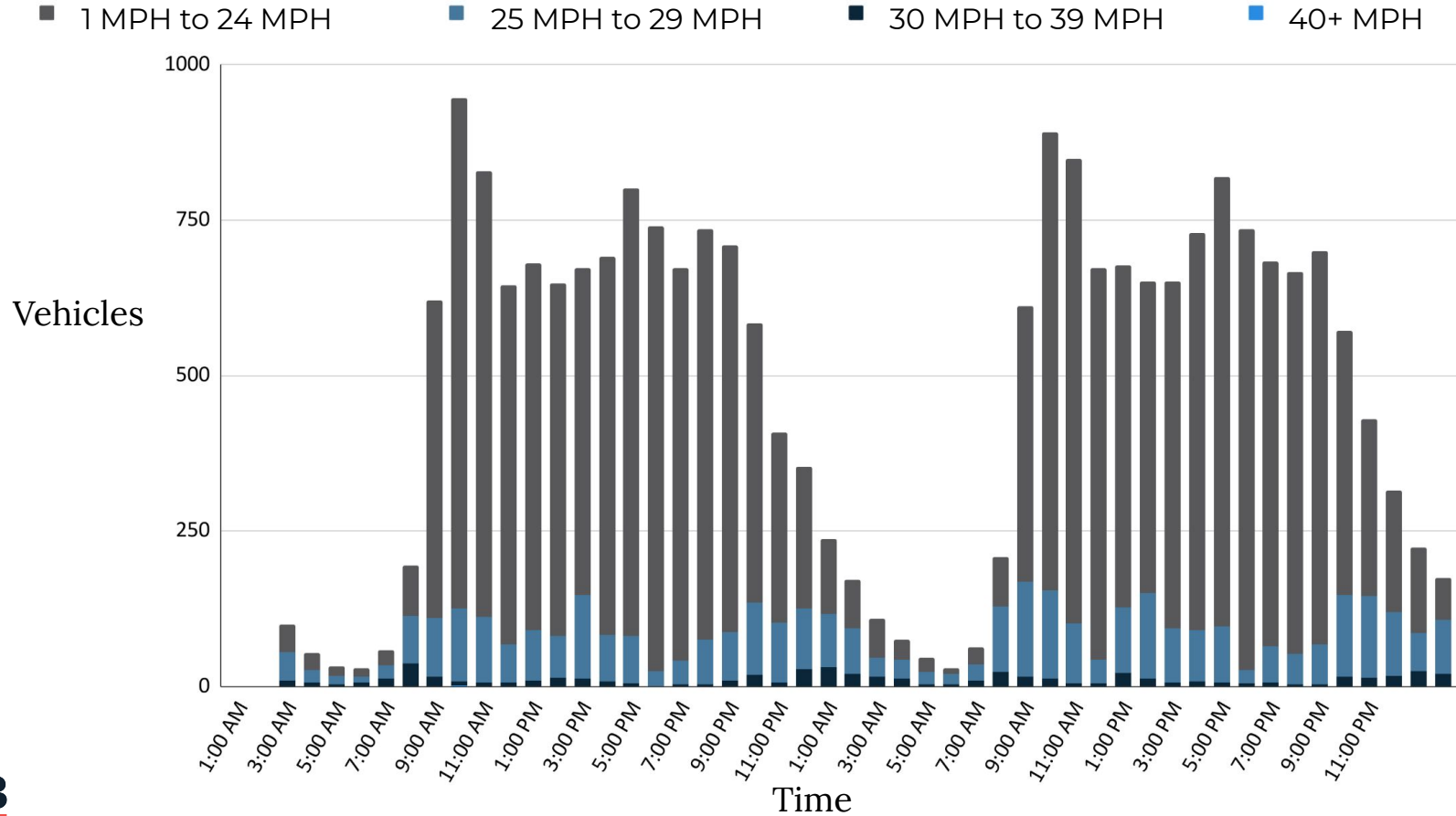


# We collected data in October 2021

- ▶ We collected the number of vehicles and their speeds at three locations
- ▶ We counted how people walking, biking, and driving used the intersection at East Cottage Street

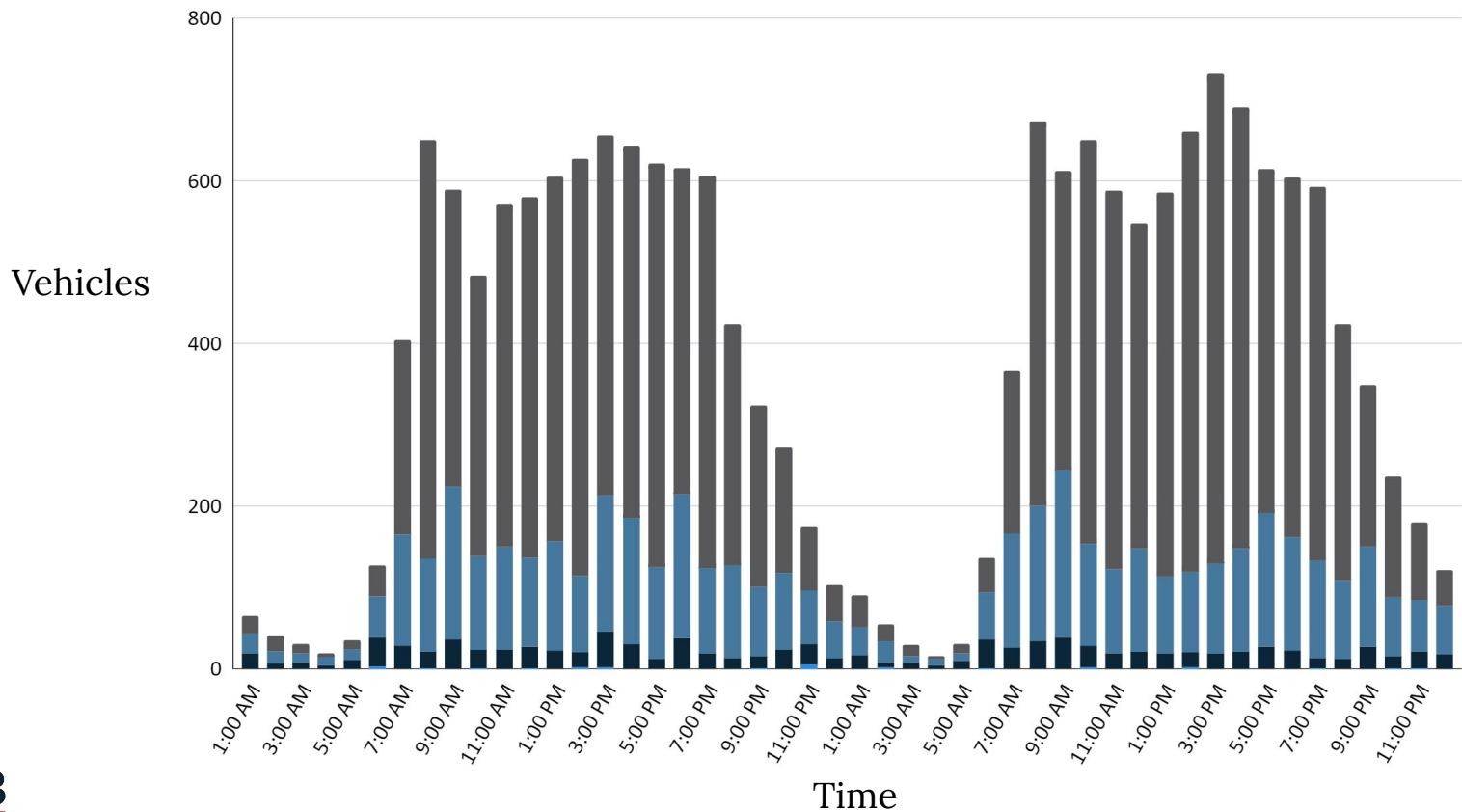


# Speeds near Edward Everett School



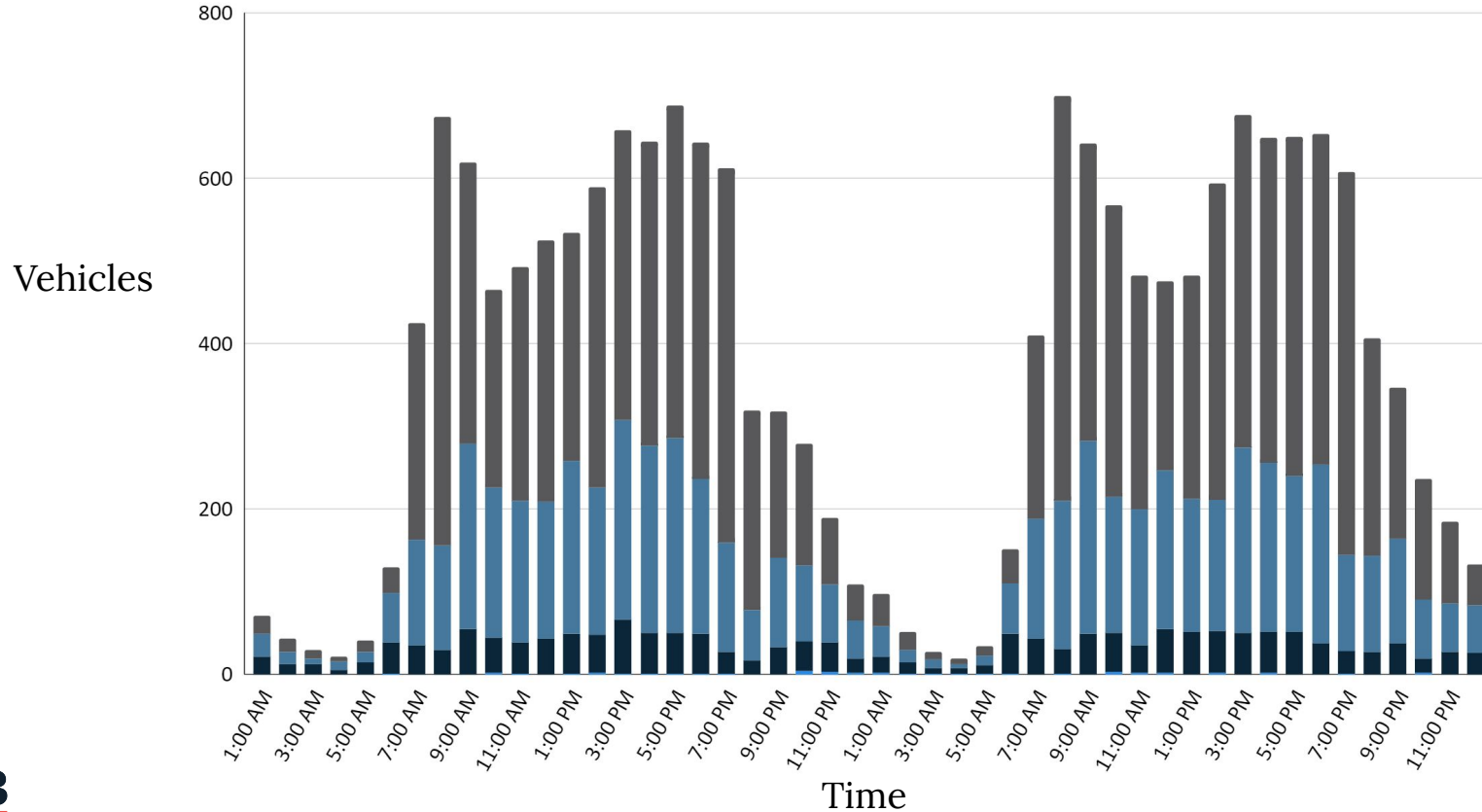
# Speeds near Trescott Street

■ 1 MPH to 24 MPH    ■ 25 MPH to 29 MPH    ■ 30 MPH to 39 MPH    ■ 40+ MPH

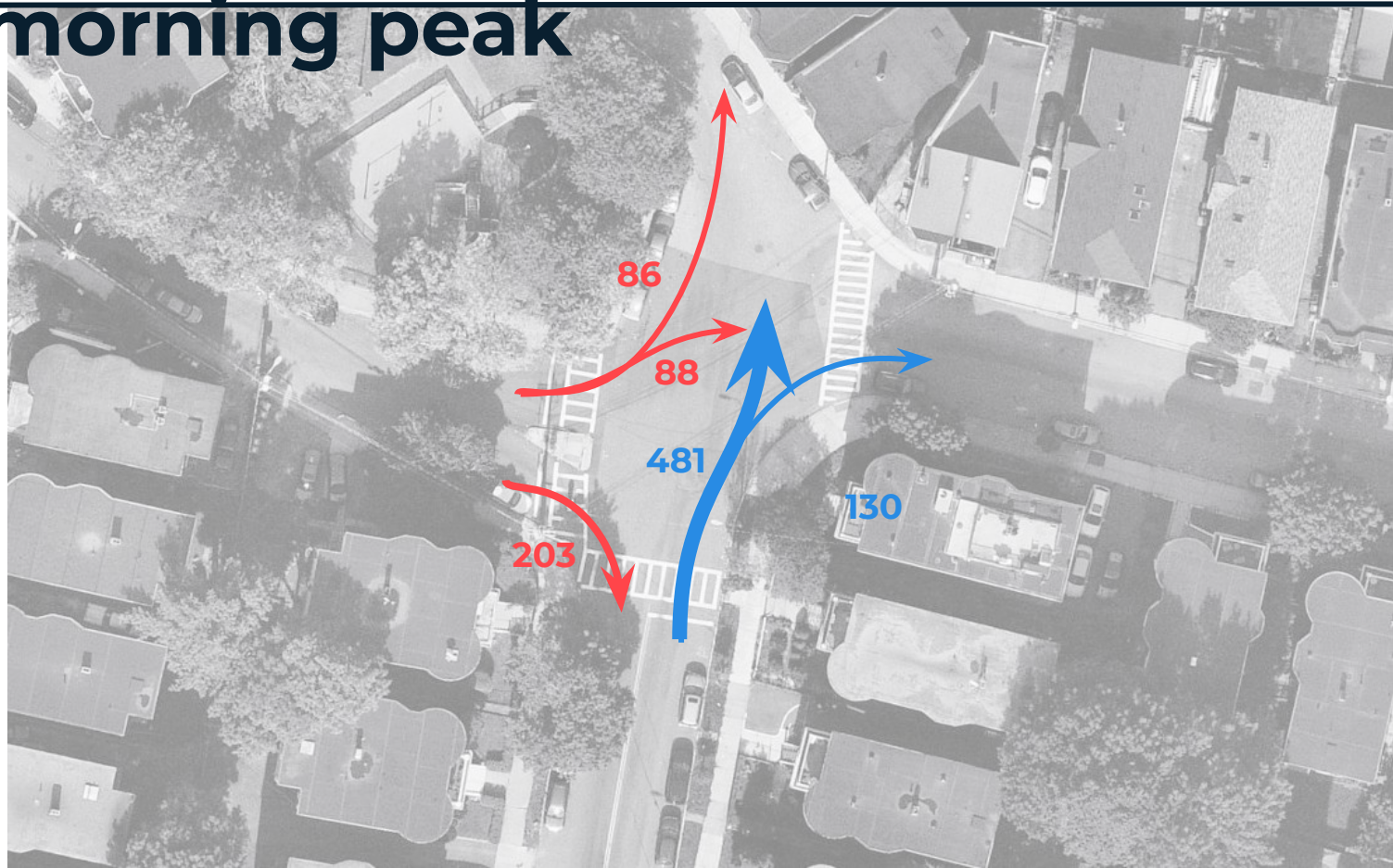


# Speeds near Hinkley Street

■ 1 MPH to 24 MPH    ■ 25 MPH to 29 MPH    ■ 30 MPH to 39 MPH    ■ 40+ MPH

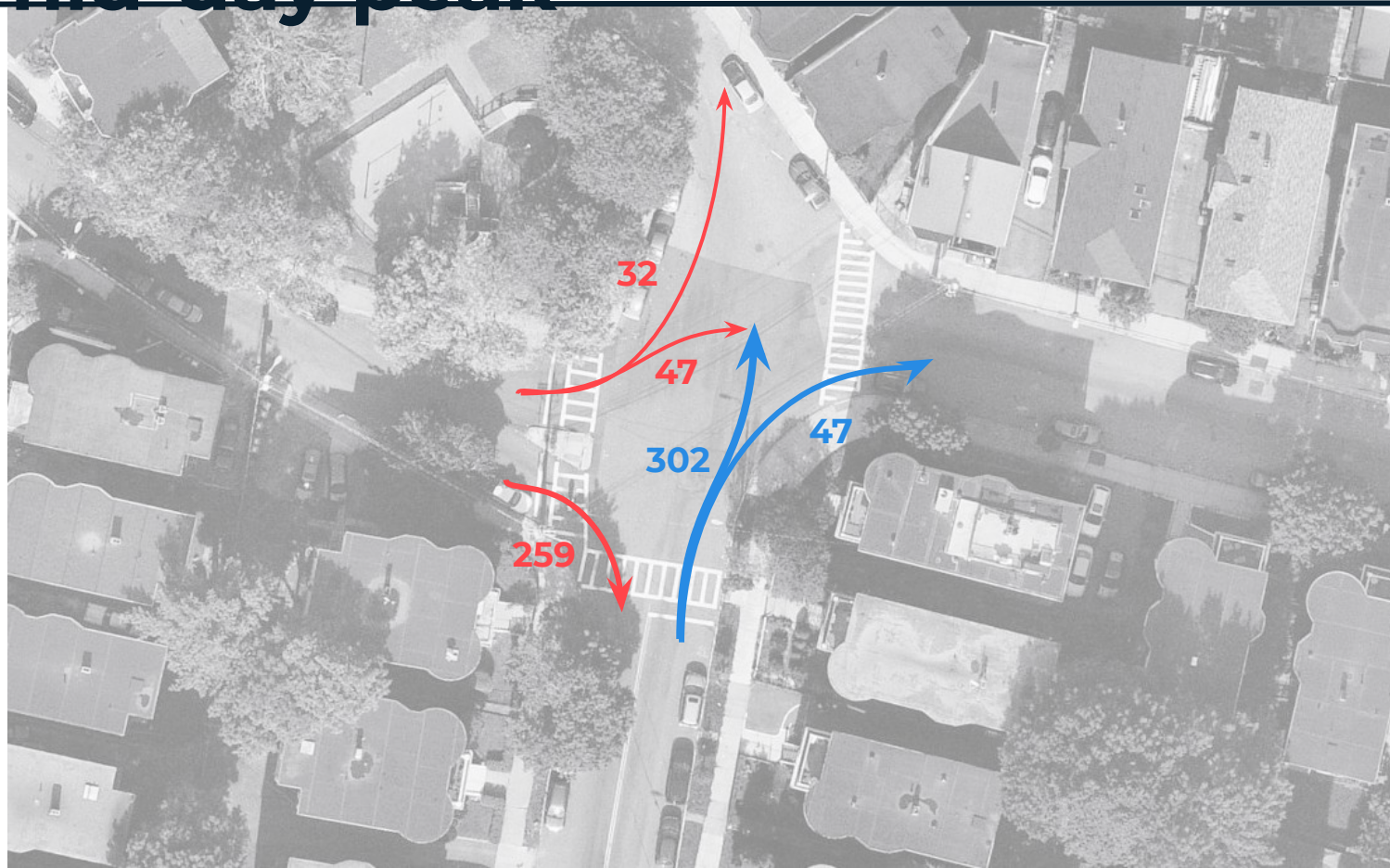


# Driving patterns at East Cottage during the morning peak

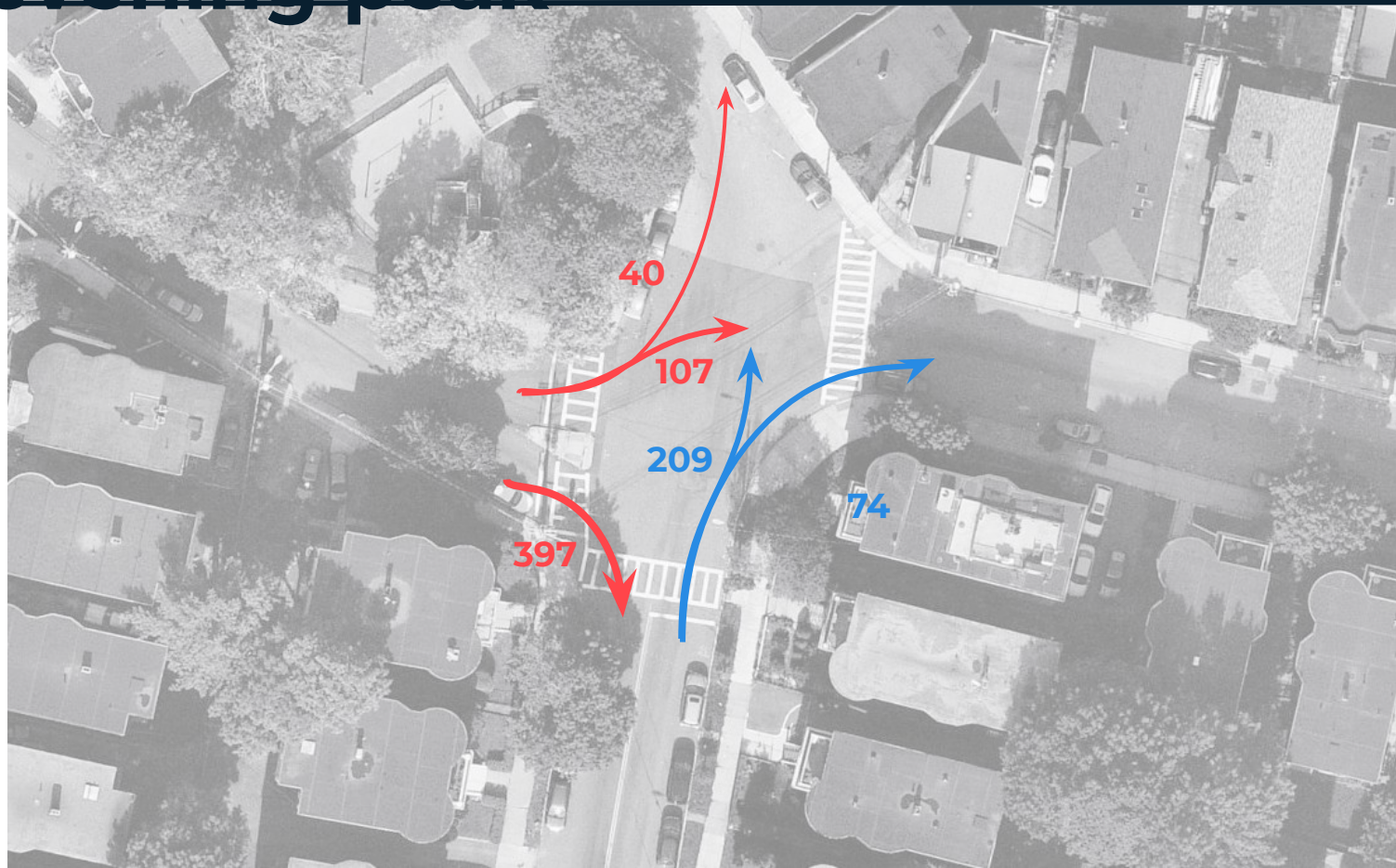




# Driving patterns at East Cottage during the mid-day peak

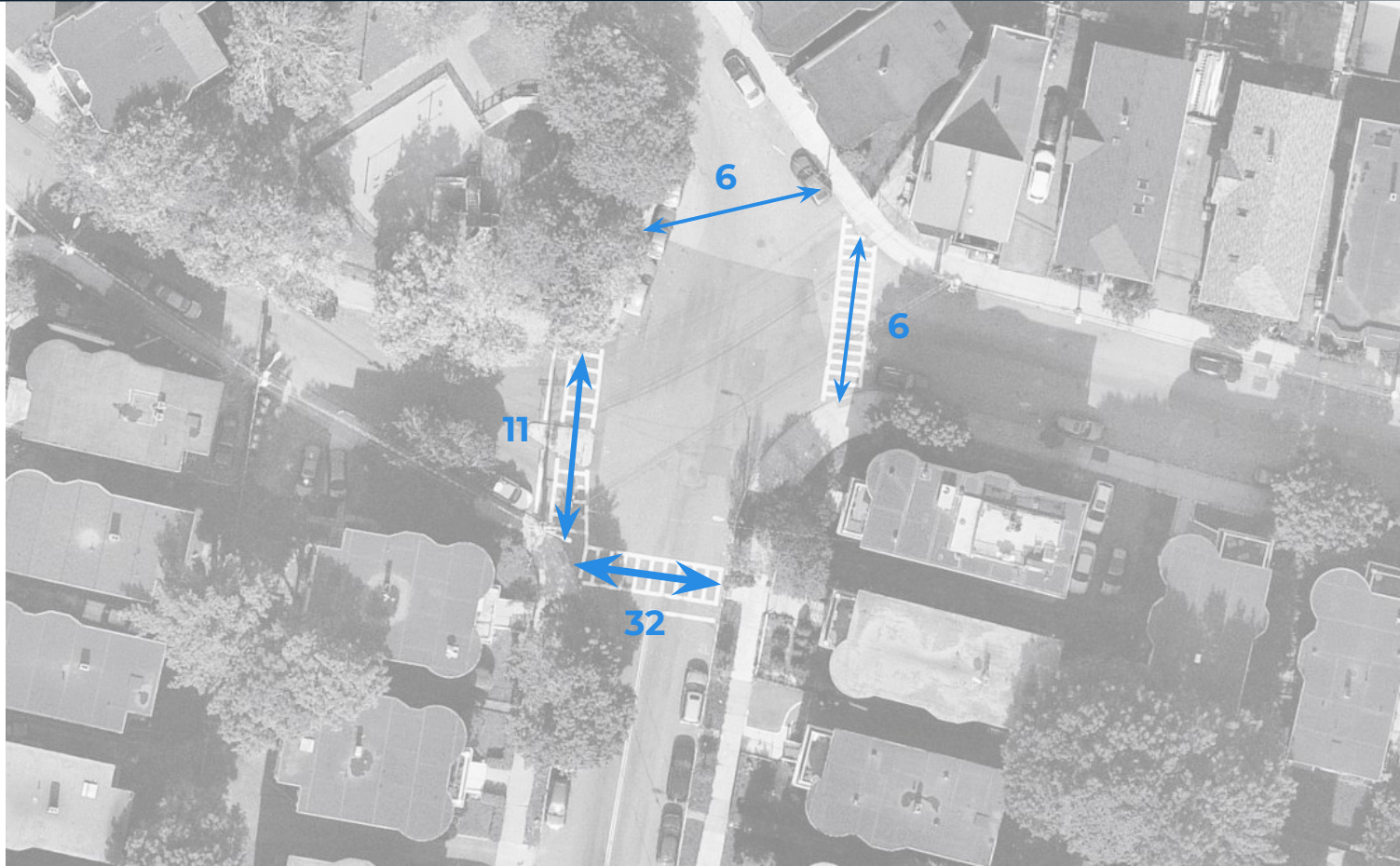


# Driving patterns at East Cottage during the evening peak





# How people crossed the street (all day)





# **Safety concerns on Pleasant Street**

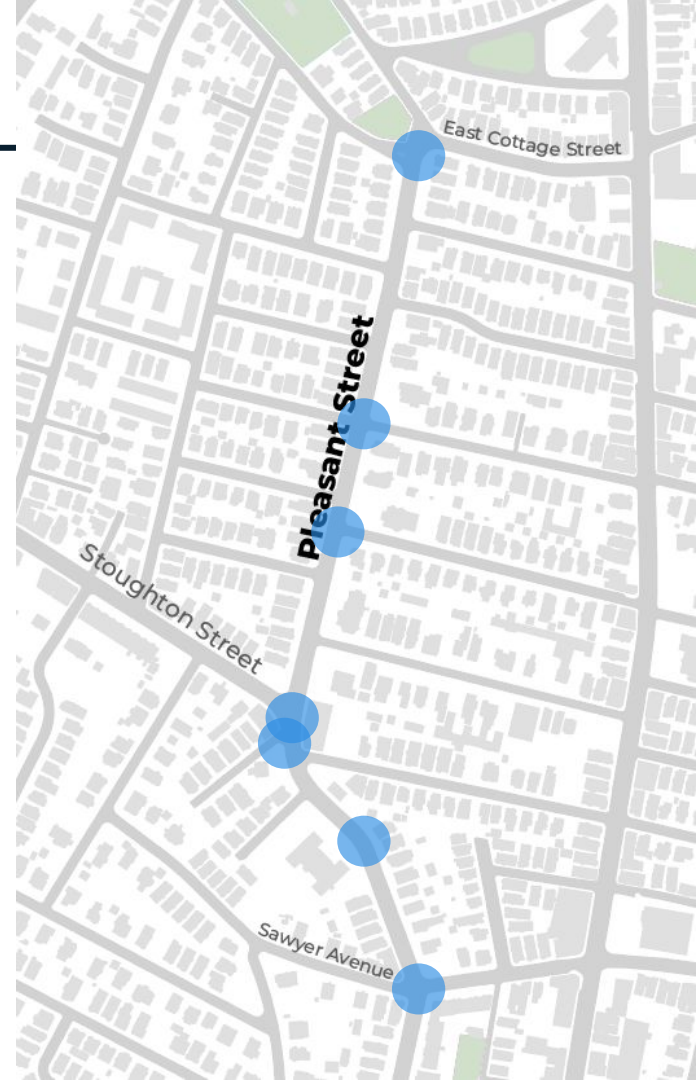
# How we heard from you so far:

- ▶ Emails and phone calls received after postcard mailing
- ▶ Walking tour on October 23, 2021
- ▶ *Ongoing*: Conversations with non-residential stakeholders (e.g., Edward Everett School)



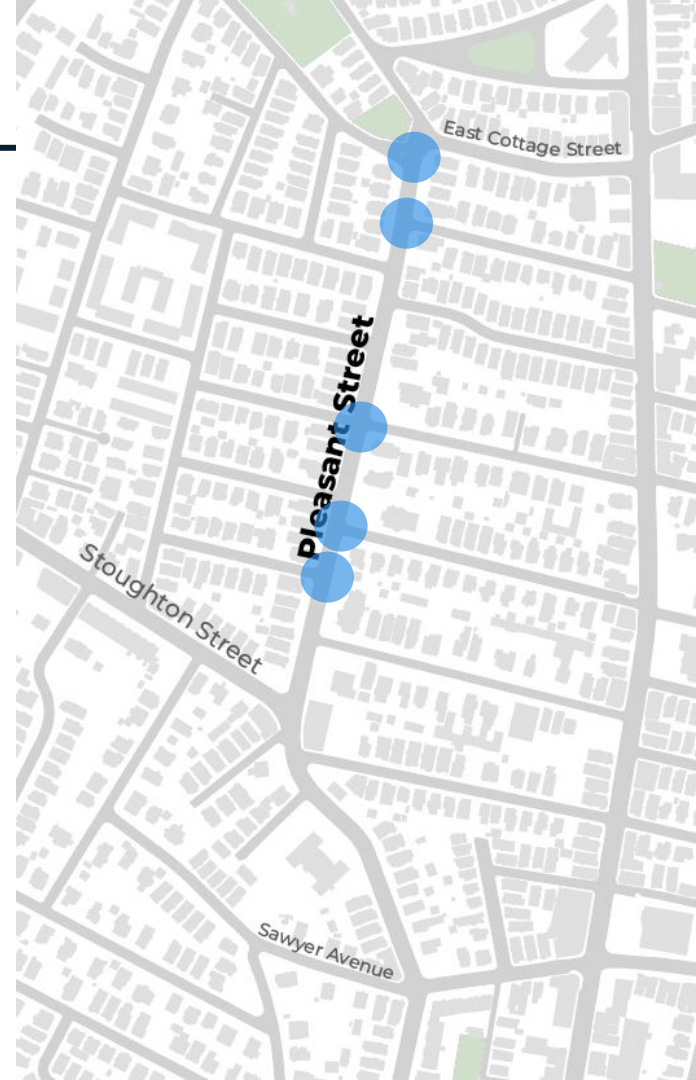
# Crossings don't feel safe

- ▶ Drivers do not stop or yield at crosswalks, even for crossing guards.
- ▶ There is no curb ramp across from Victoria Street.



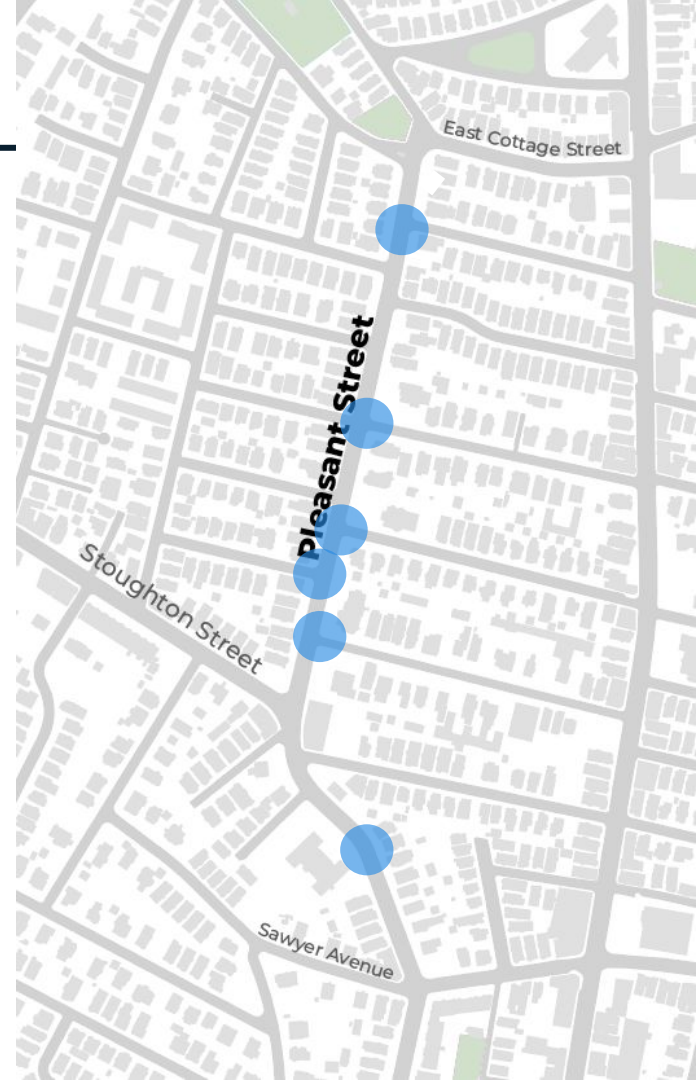
# Drivers make fast turns

- ▶ Drivers make dangerously fast turns off side streets looking for gaps in traffic.
- ▶ Drivers do not fully stop for the stop sign at East Cottage Street. They sometimes speed through the intersection.



# Poor visibility

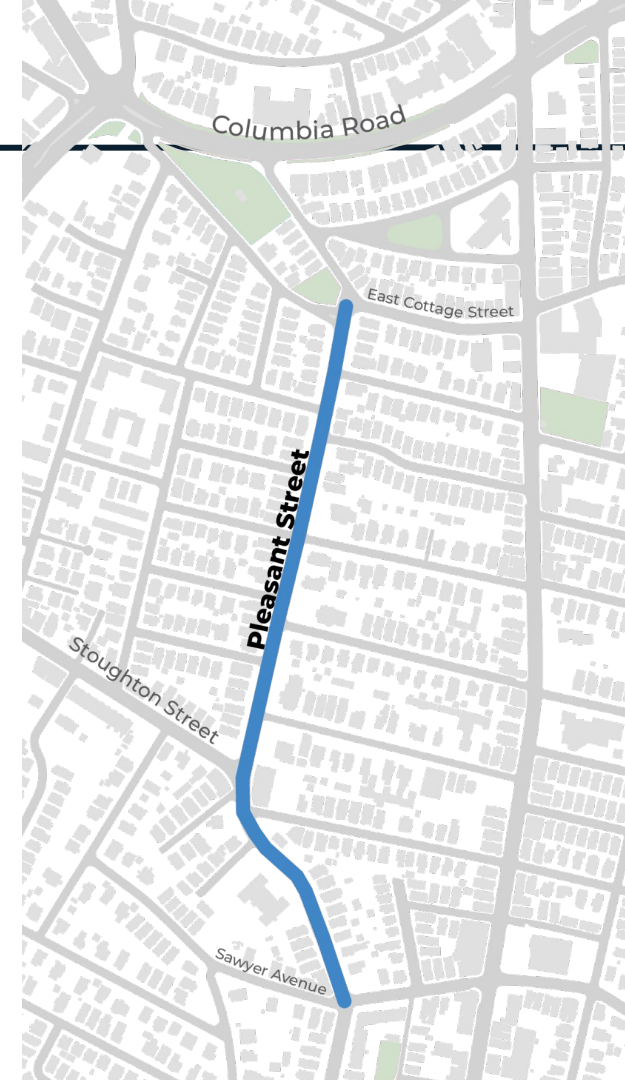
- ▶ Drivers park too close to the crosswalks and intersections, leading to poor visibility for drivers turning off side streets.
- ▶ The curvature of the street between Stoughton Street and the Edward Everett School makes for poor visibility at the crosswalk.
- ▶ Drivers do not notice signs for the school.





# Overall issues

- ▶ Drivers speed on Pleasant Street.
- ▶ Drivers pressure cyclists to go faster, which can lead cyclists to pull aside and weave back into traffic, a sometimes-risky maneuver.
- ▶ Drivers use the street as a cut-through to avoid stop lights on Columbia Road and Dorchester Avenue. These include drivers of large trucks, duck-boats, and buses.



# Other Concerns

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## Report to 311:

- ▶ Street lighting repairs or requests
- ▶ Drag racing
- ▶ Sidewalk repairs
- ▶ Trash or street-sweeping issues

# Potential tools for Pleasant Street

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# CLEAR CORNERS

Drivers parked 20 feet within an intersection can block sight lines of other users on the street.



# CLEAR CORNERS

We restrict parking with paint and flex posts to improve visibility of other people on the street, including small children.





## **HIGH VISIBILITY CROSSWALK**

The most visible type of crosswalk looks like a ladder. This type of crosswalk has a row of thick white bars between two horizontal bars.





## RAISED CROSSWALKS

Raised crosswalks are at the same level as the sidewalk. They slow drivers and make it easier to see people crossing.





# CURB EXTENSIONS

Curb extensions create a shorter crossing. The sidewalk is extended into the street approximately 6 feet.





# CROSSING ISLANDS

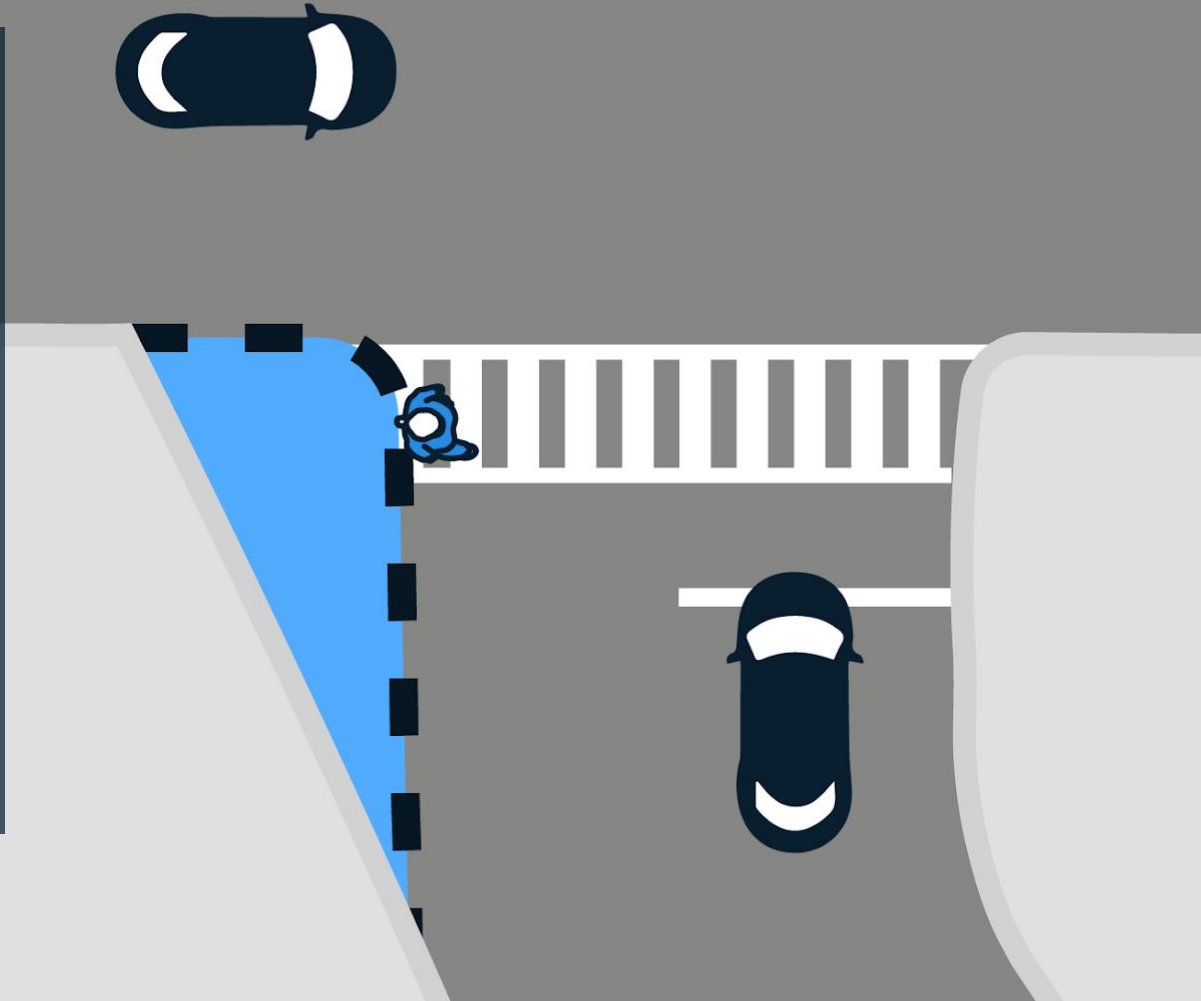
Crossing islands provide a place for people to pause when crossing multiple lanes.



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## INTERSECTIONS

We redesign irregularly-shaped intersections by extending the curb to create intersections with right-angles. This improves visibility at intersections and reduces conflicts.



# Next Steps for Pleasant Street

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# Our next steps

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- ▶ Winter 2022
  - Review your concerns
  - Engineering field work to evaluate potential interventions
- ▶ Spring 2022
  - Return to you with concept designs
  - Make adjustments based on your feedback
- ▶ Summer through Fall 2022
  - Collaborate with other departments and agencies on design
  - Share updates with you

# We want to hear from you!

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Share your thoughts through December 2021.

Visit the project website: **[boston.gov/pleasant-street](https://boston.gov/pleasant-street)**

- ▶ Sign up for the mailing list
- ▶ View all project information and presentations

Email your stories and experiences to  
**[pleasant.street@boston.gov](mailto:pleasant.street@boston.gov)**

# Nearby projects

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- ▶ Mass Ave Better Bike Project
  - [boston.gov/mass-ave-south](https://boston.gov/mass-ave-south)
- ▶ Hancock Street Triangle Neighborhood Slow Streets
  - [boston.gov/slow-streets/hancock](https://boston.gov/slow-streets/hancock)
- ▶ PLAN Glover's Corner
  - [bostonplans.org/planning/planning-initiatives/plan-dorchester-glovers-corner](https://bostonplans.org/planning/planning-initiatives/plan-dorchester-glovers-corner)
- ▶ Dot Block Development
  - [bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/dot-block](https://bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/dot-block)