

I-84 Danbury Project

Project Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting No. 2

May 9, 2019



Agenda

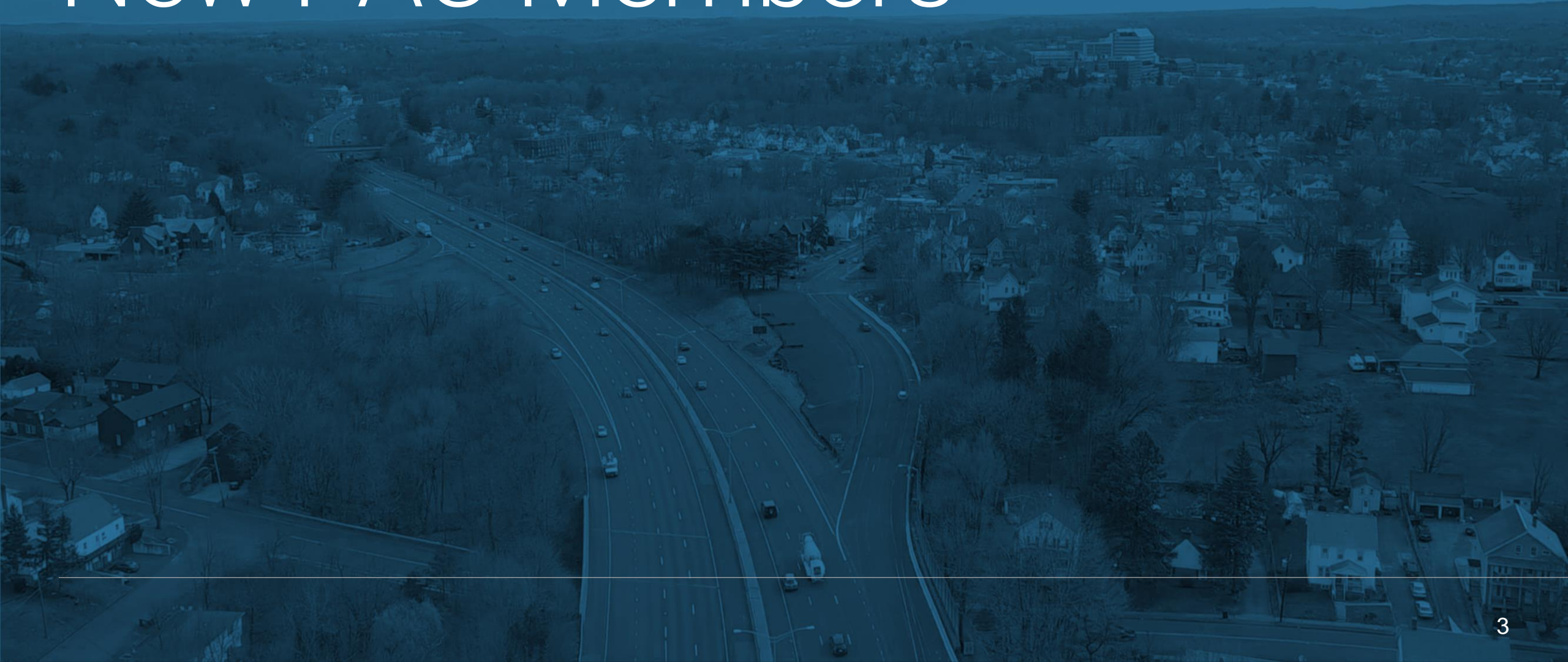
- Review of PAC Meeting No. 1
- New PAC Members
- Needs and Deficiencies Summary
- Next Steps

Review of PAC Meeting No. 1

- Introductions
- Project Advisory Committee
- Project Overview
- Project Development Process
- Next Steps
- Project Contacts



New PAC Members



PAC Membership

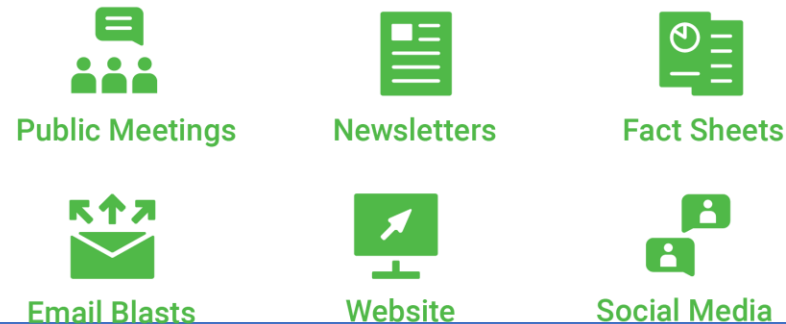
AAA	Danbury Hospital	League of Women Voters of Northern Fairfield County	Town of New Milford
Boehringer-Ingelheim	Danbury Housing Authority	Motor Transport Association of CT (MTAC)	Town of Newtown
Cartus	Danbury Public Schools	New York Metropolitan Transportation Council	Town of Redding
City of Danbury: Business Advocacy, Engineering, Health & Human Services, Library, Planning, Public Works, & Traffic	Danbury Museum & Historical Society	Putnam County, New York	Town of Ridgefield
CityCenter Danbury	Get Downtown Danbury	Sierra Club	West Terrace Neighborhood
CT <i>rides</i>	Greater Danbury Chamber of Commerce	Spring Street Neighborhood	Western Connecticut Council of Governments (WestCOG)
Connecticut State Police	Housatonic Area Regional Transit (HART)	Sterling Woods Association	Western Connecticut State University
Danbury Airport	Housatonic Railroad	Town of Bethel	West Side District
Danbury Commission for Persons with Disabilities	Juniper Ridge Tax District	Town of Brookfield	
		Town of New Fairfield	



Anticipated Project Schedule



Community Engagement (Throughout)

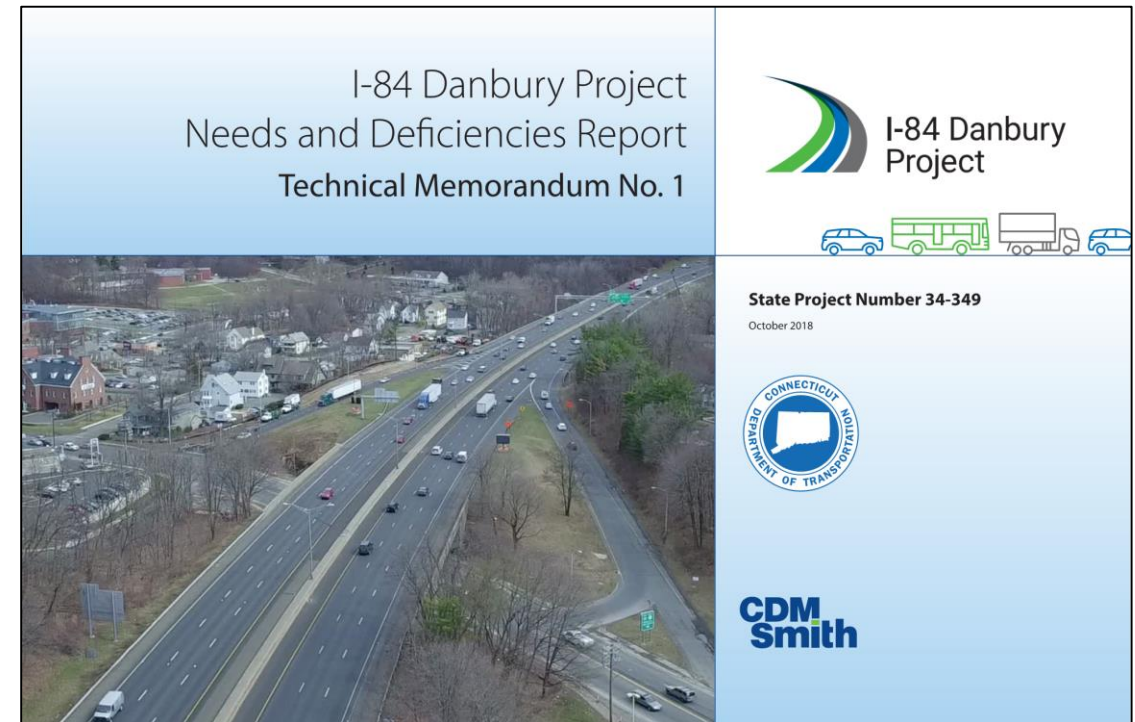


Needs and Deficiencies Summary

Needs and Deficiencies Study

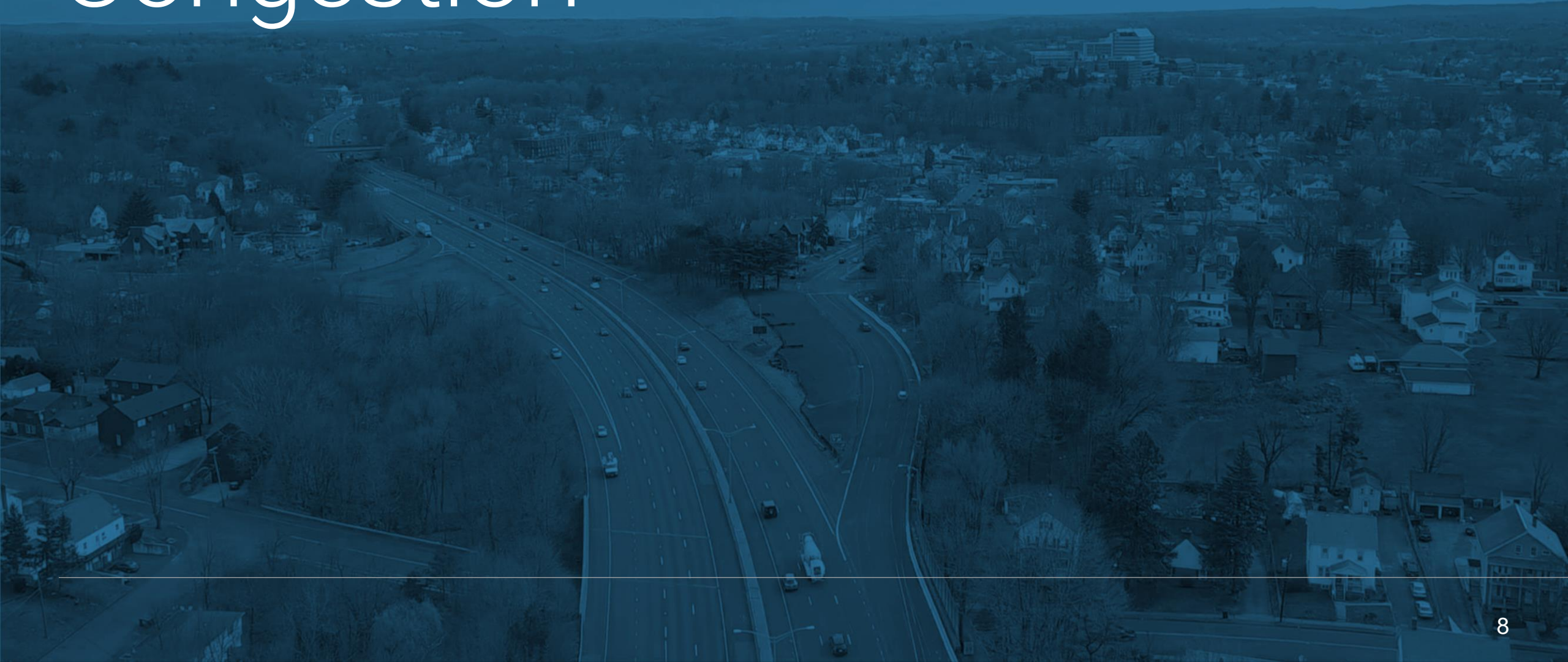
This report documents existing transportation conditions and identifies deficiencies within the project area. Report describes:

- **Traffic** Conditions
- **Geometric** Conditions
- Structural Conditions
- Geotechnical Conditions
- **Safety** Conditions
- **Multimodal** Conditions
(pedestrian, bicycle, transit)





Congestion



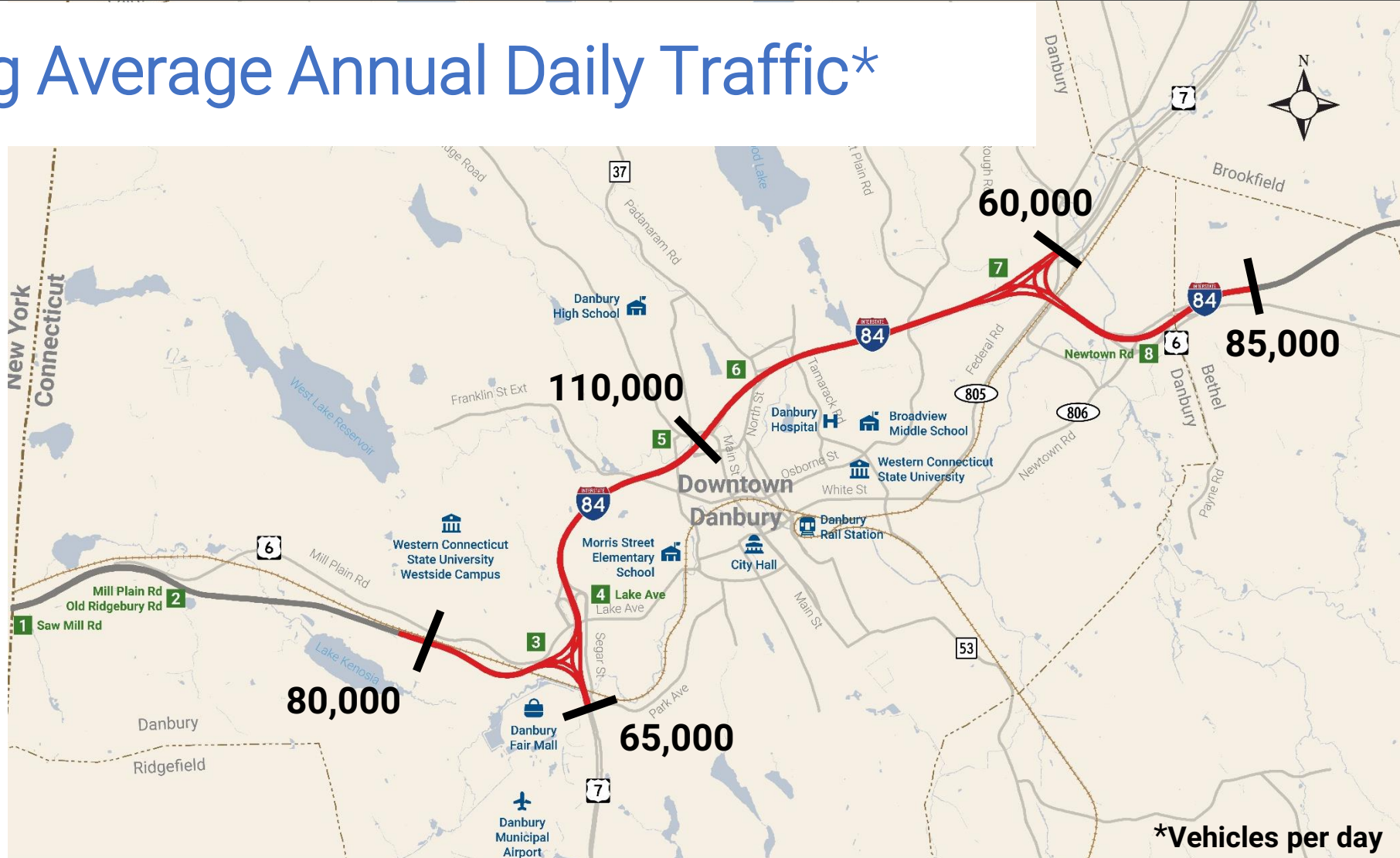
Project Facts and Figures

- I-84 Design Volume (1980).....**15,000** vehicles/day
- Current Traffic Volumes:
 - I-84.....**80-110,000** vehicles/day
 - Route 7..... **60-65,000** vehicles/day





Existing Average Annual Daily Traffic*



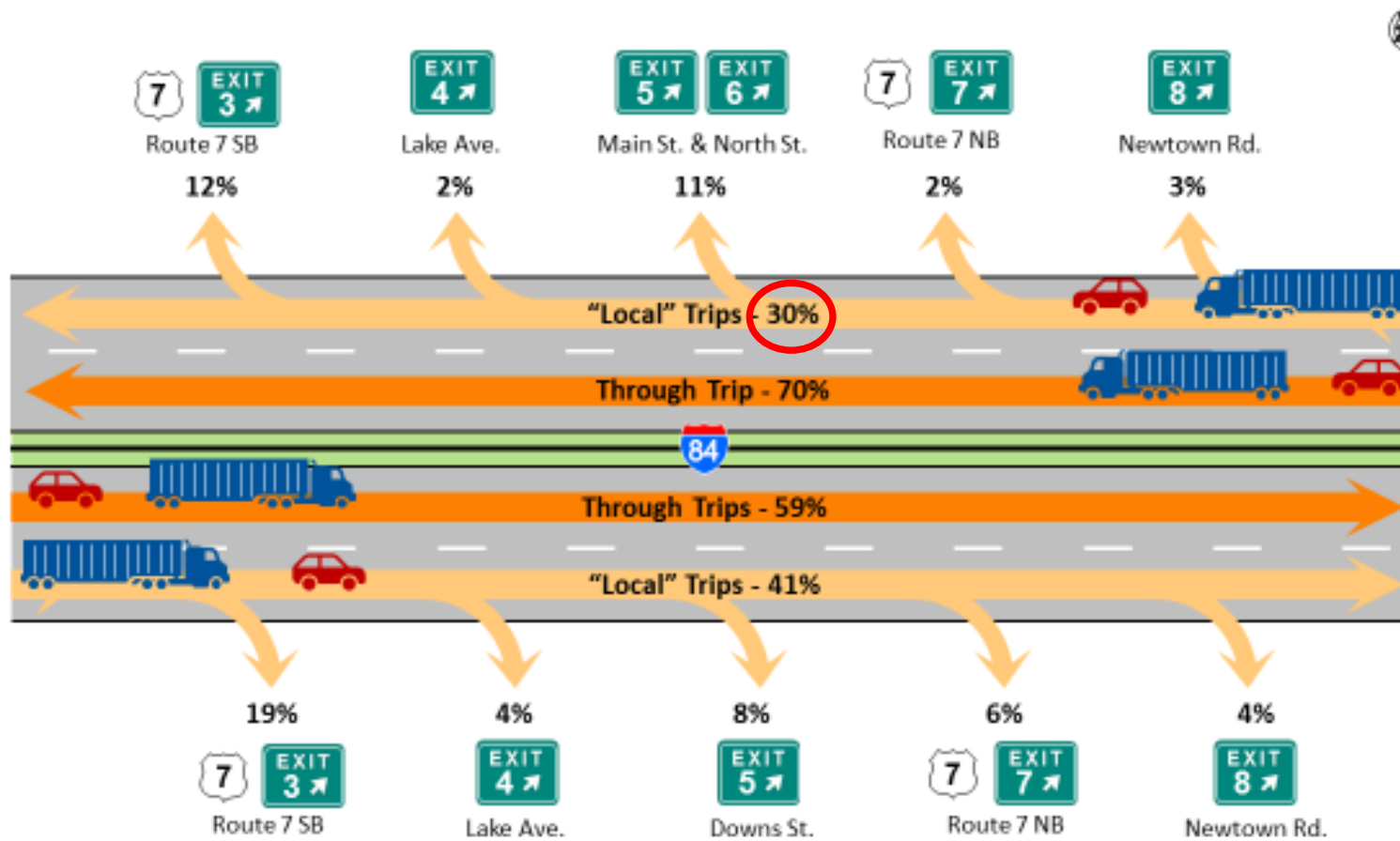
Project Facts and Figures

- About **1/3rd** of the traffic on I-84 is **local**
- The local street network is difficult to traverse and has poor connectivity





I-84 Danbury Project

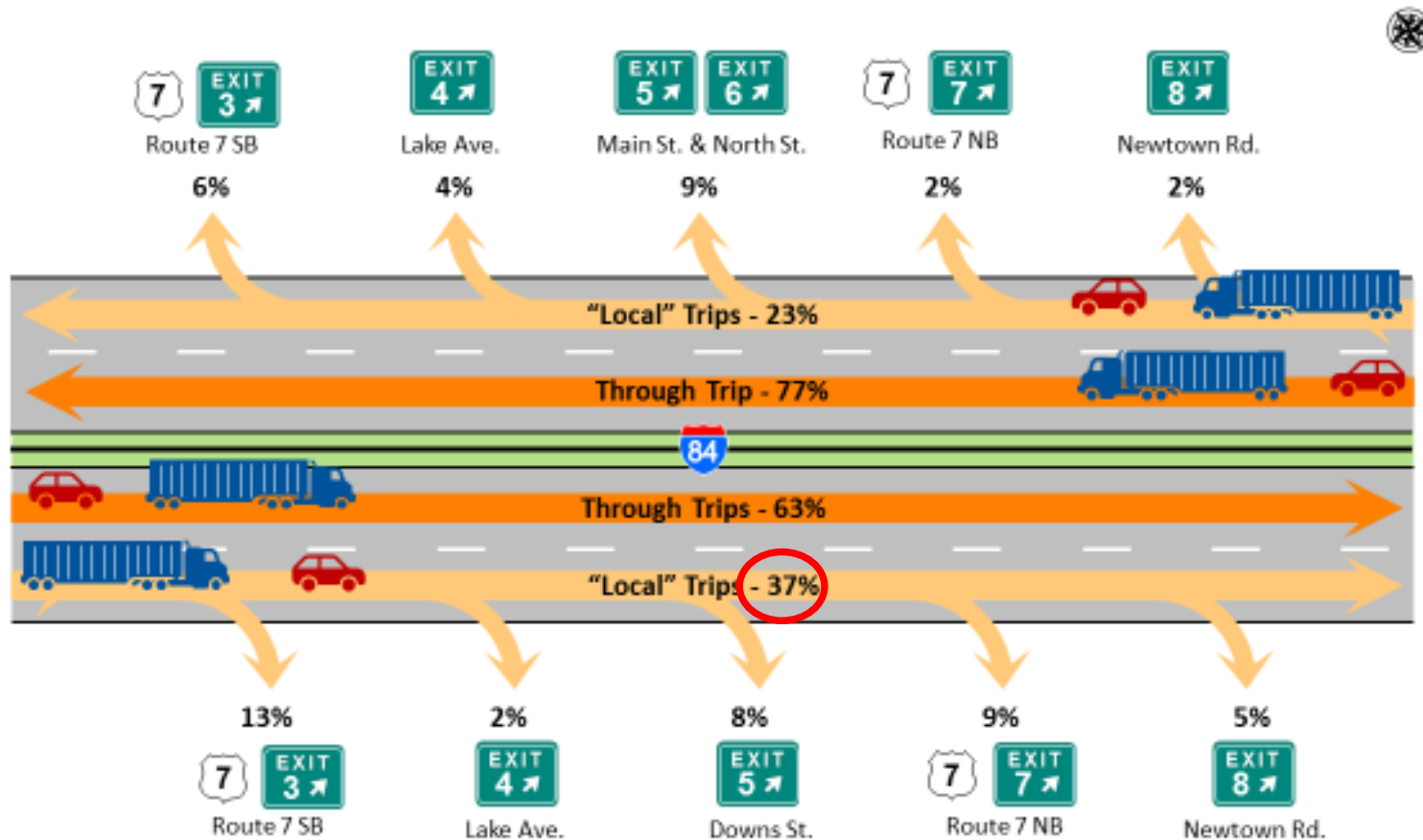


* Note - Represents average of Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

SKYCOMP TRAFFIC DISTRIBUTION DATA I-84 AVERAGE WEEKDAY* - AM PEAK PERIOD

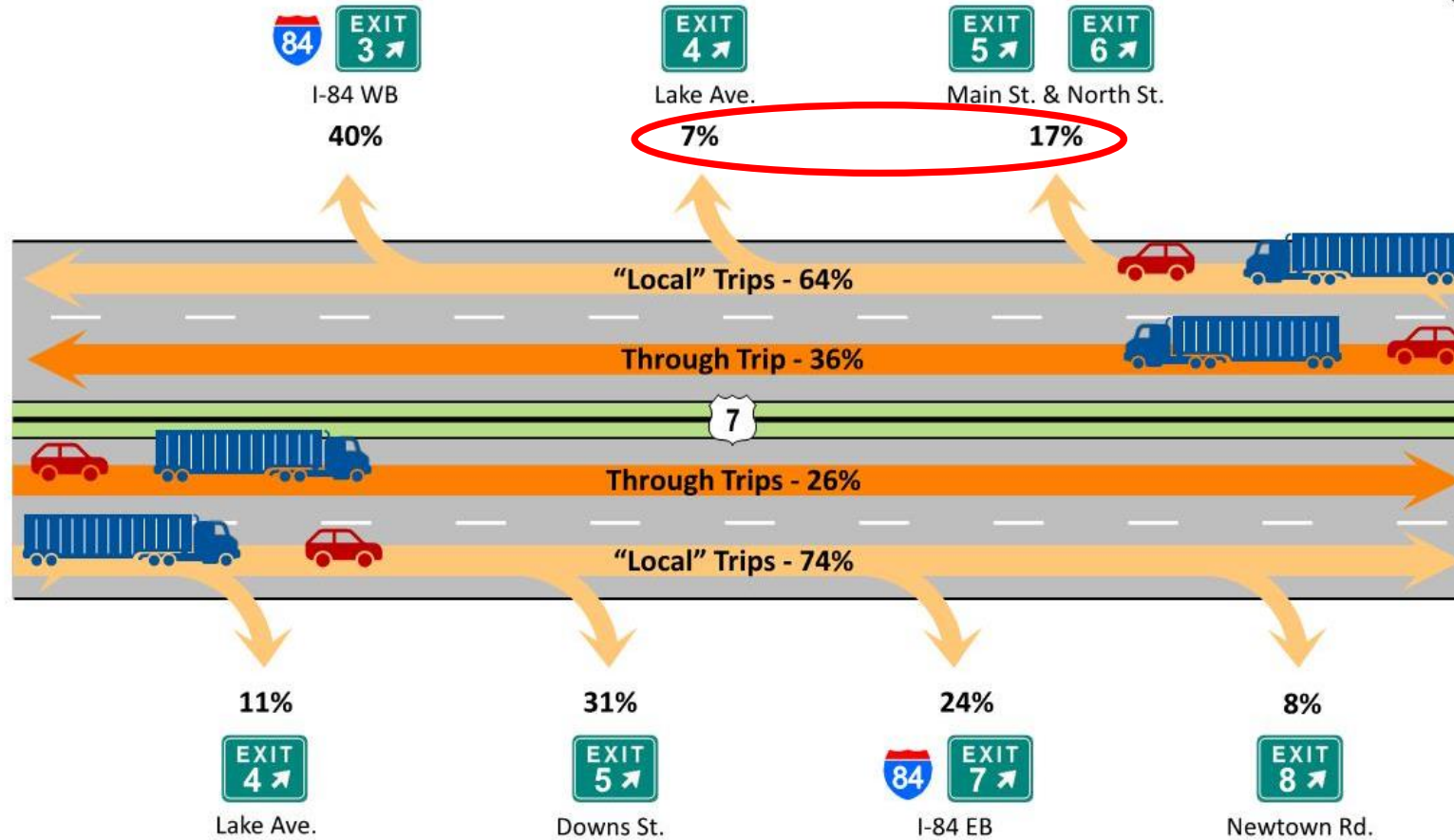


I-84 Danbury Project



* Note - Represents average of Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

SKYCOMP TRAFFIC DISTRIBUTION DATA I-84 AVERAGE WEEKDAY* - PM PEAK PERIOD

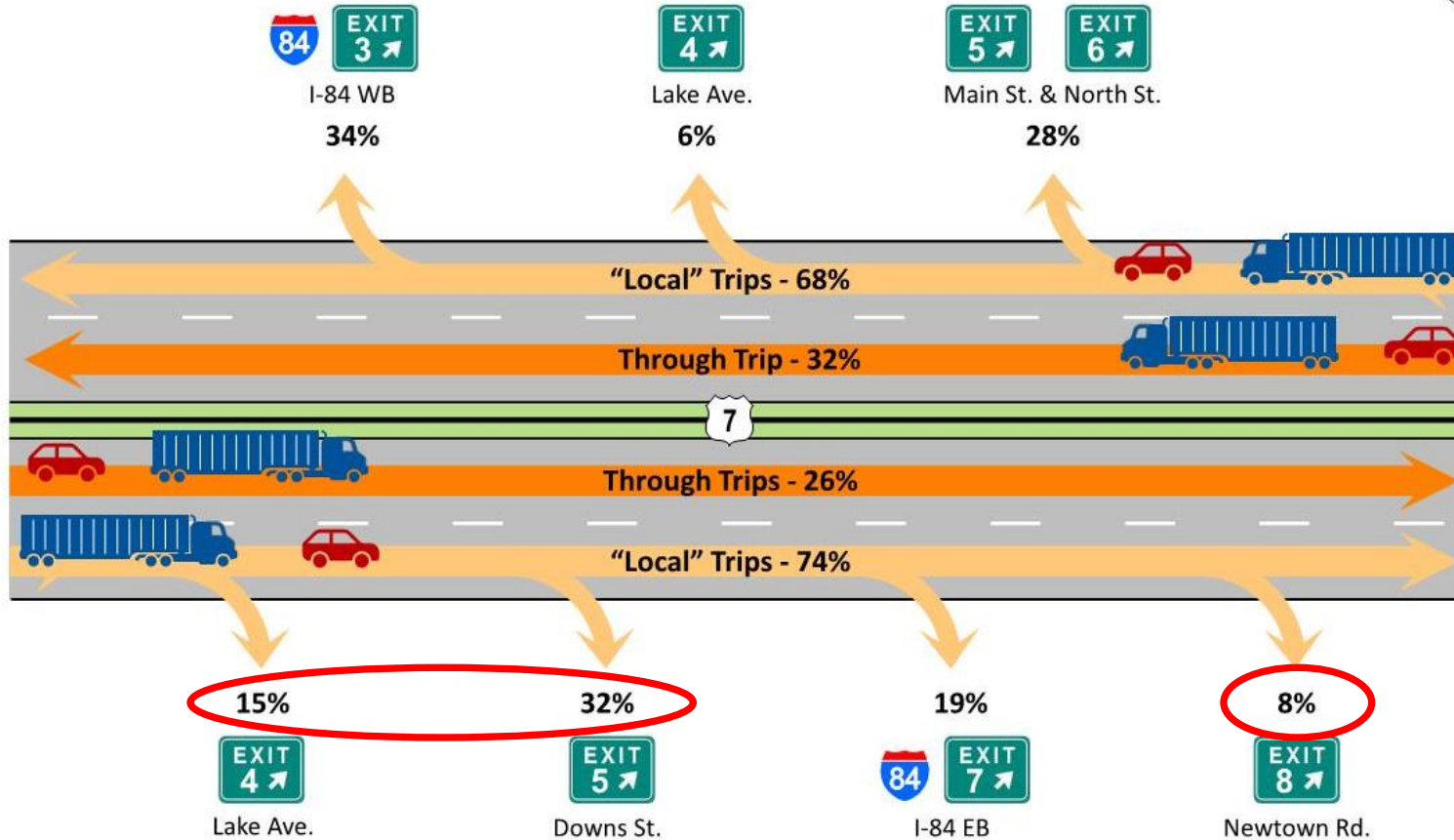


* Note - Represents average of Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

SKYCOMP TRAFFIC DISTRIBUTION DATA ROUTE 7 AVERAGE WEEKDAY* - AM PEAK PERIOD



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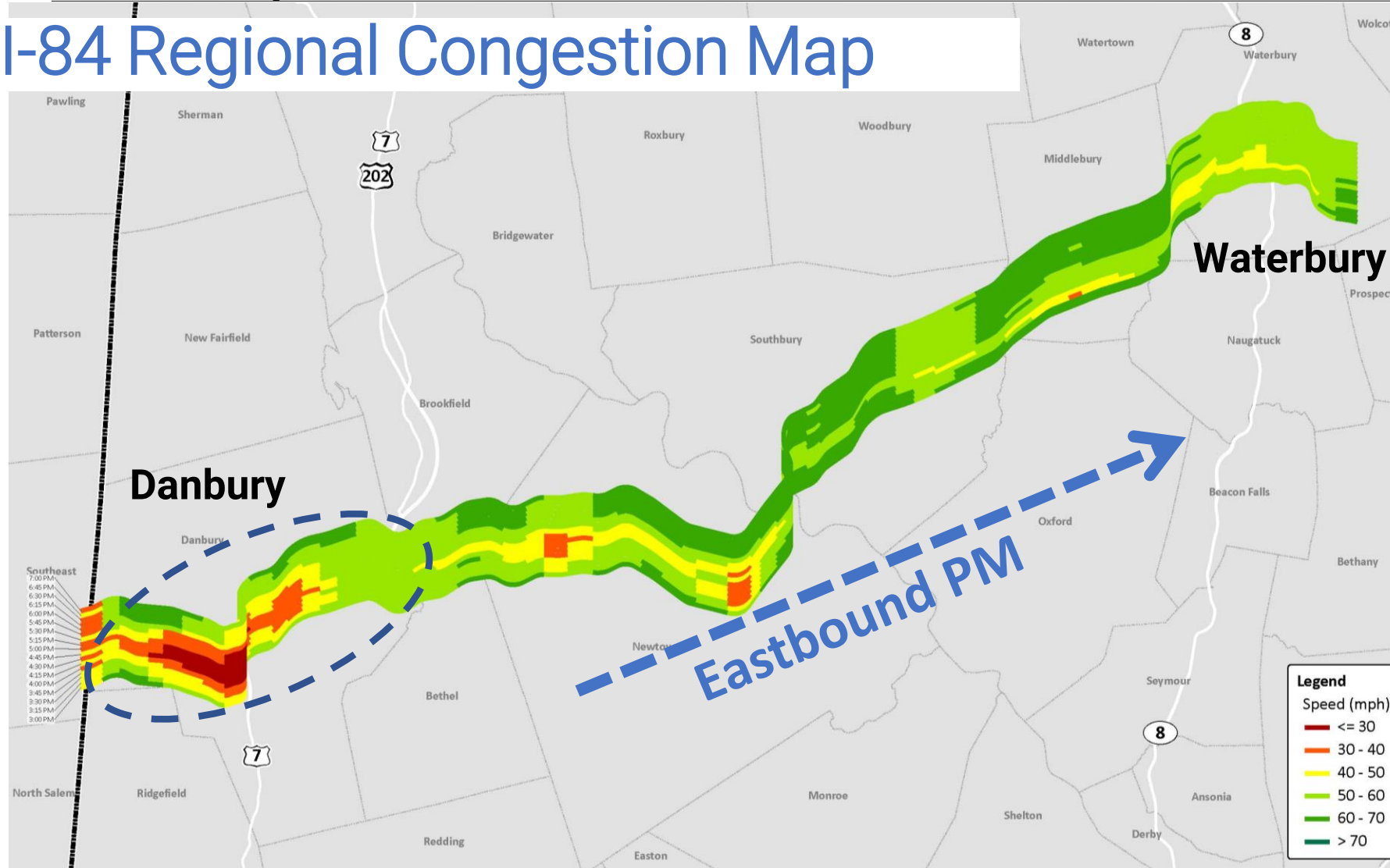


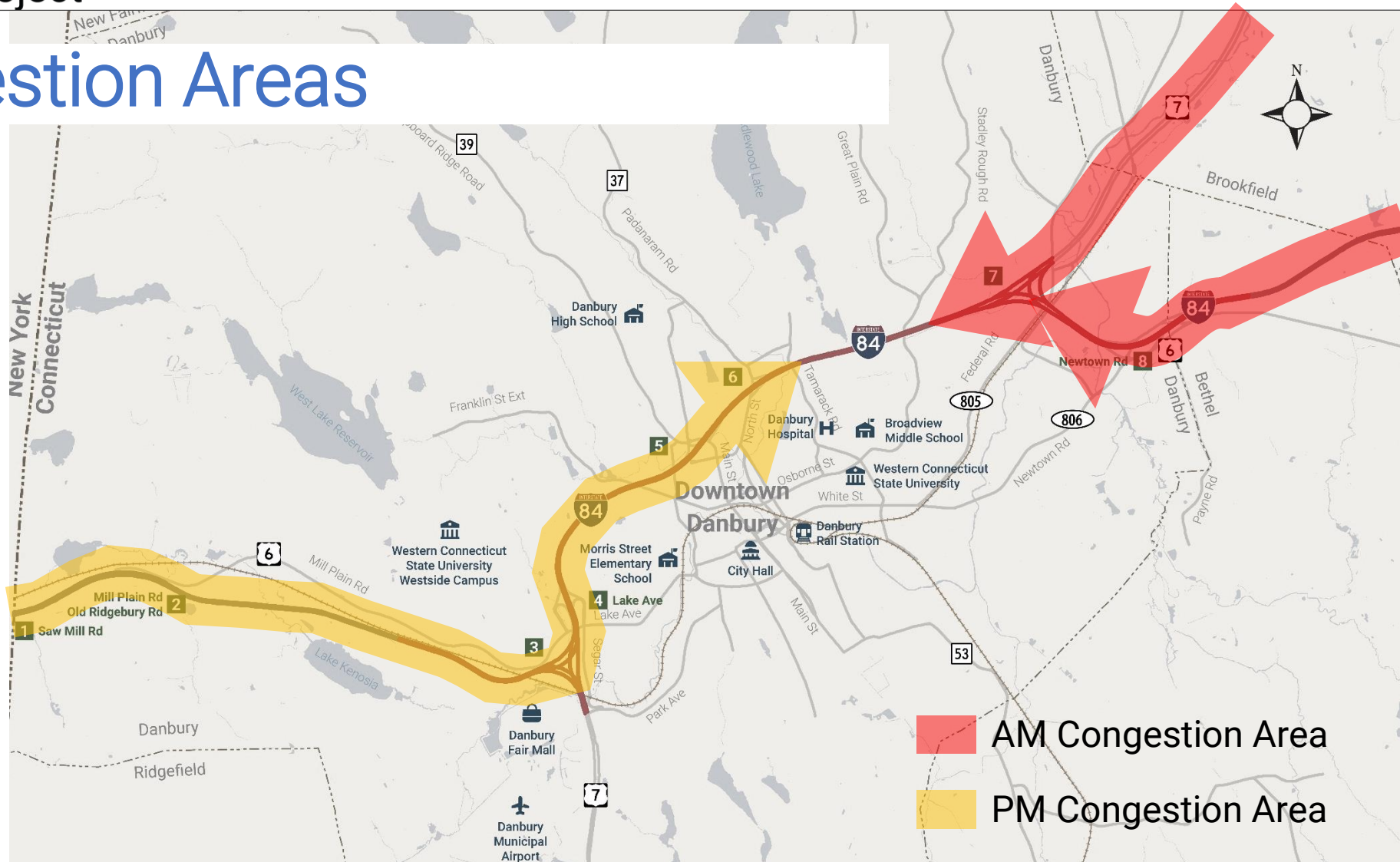
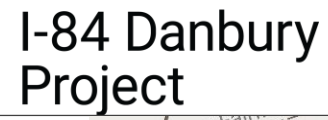
* Note - Represents average of Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

SKYCOMP TRAFFIC DISTRIBUTION DATA ROUTE 7 AVERAGE WEEKDAY* - PM PEAK PERIOD



I-84 Regional Congestion Map





Congestion Facts and Figures

- Congested Time Periods:
 - Morning **7:00-9:00 A.M.**
(I-84 westbound and Route 7 at Exit 7)
 - Evening..... **3:00-6:00 P.M.**
(I-84 eastbound between N.Y. state line and Exit 6)
 - About **25 percent** of the daily traffic travels in the peak periods



Speed Definitions



— <25 MPH



— 25-40 MPH



— 40-50 MPH

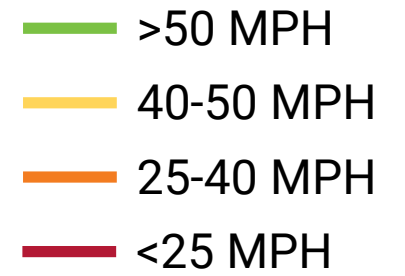


— >50 MPH

Source: Highway Capacity Manual, 2010, Transportation Research Board

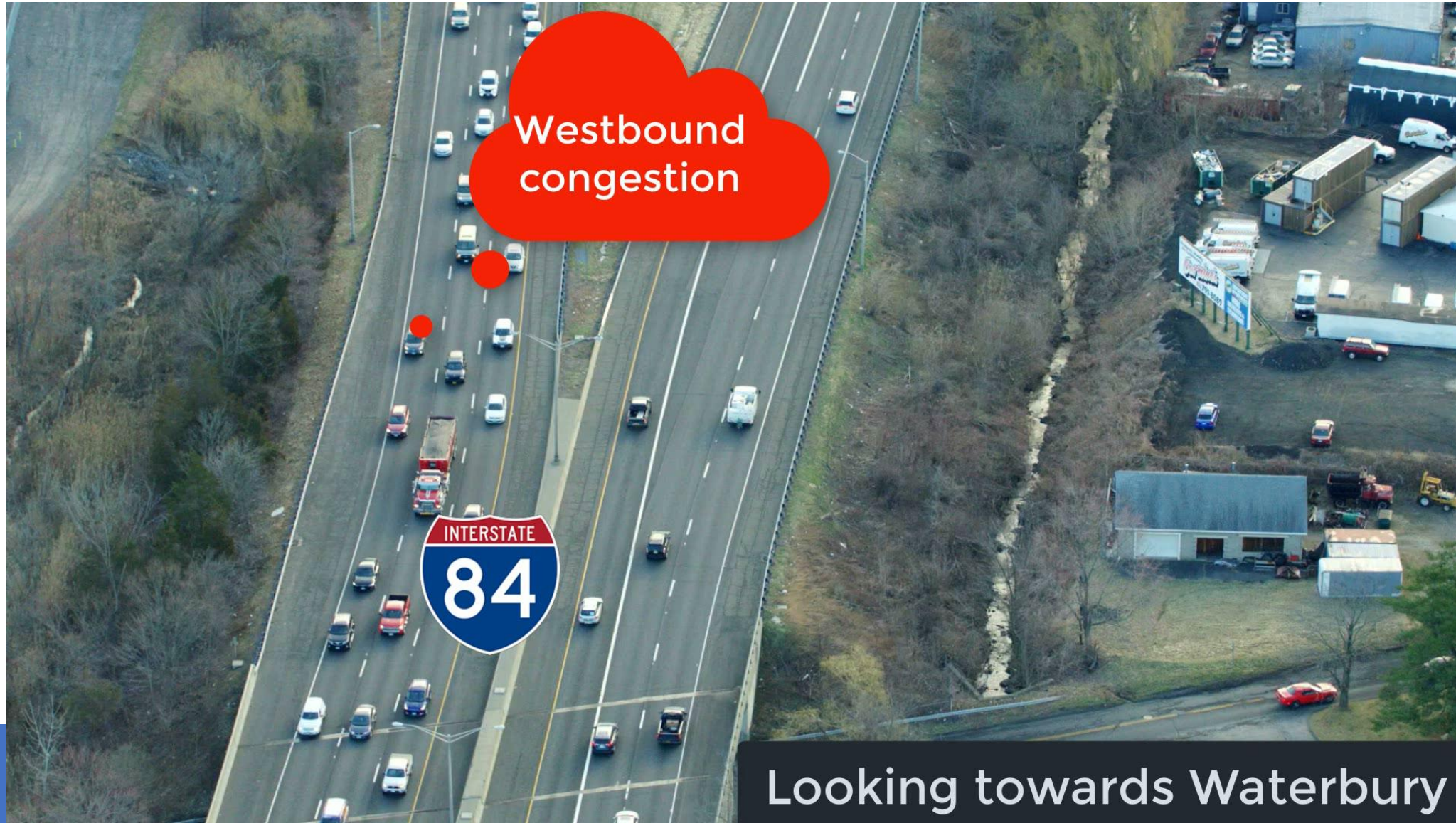


Existing (2016) AM I-84 Westbound





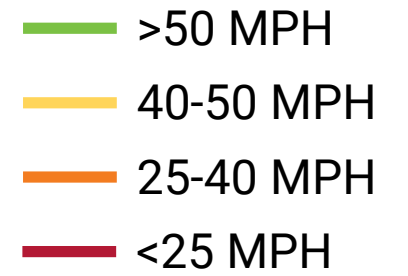
I-84 Westbound AM Conditions



Looking towards Waterbury

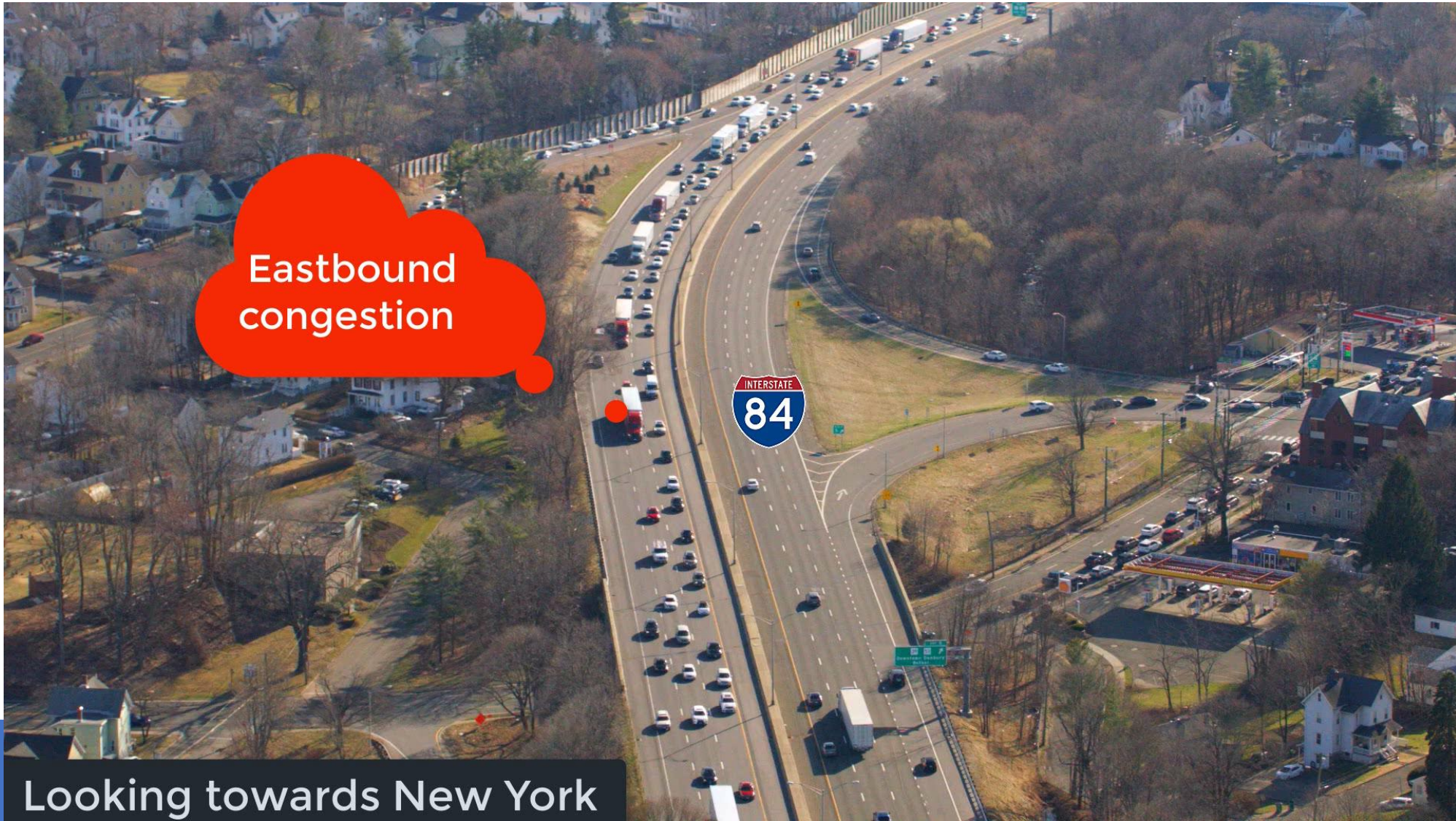


Existing (2016) PM I-84 Eastbound





I-84 Eastbound PM Conditions

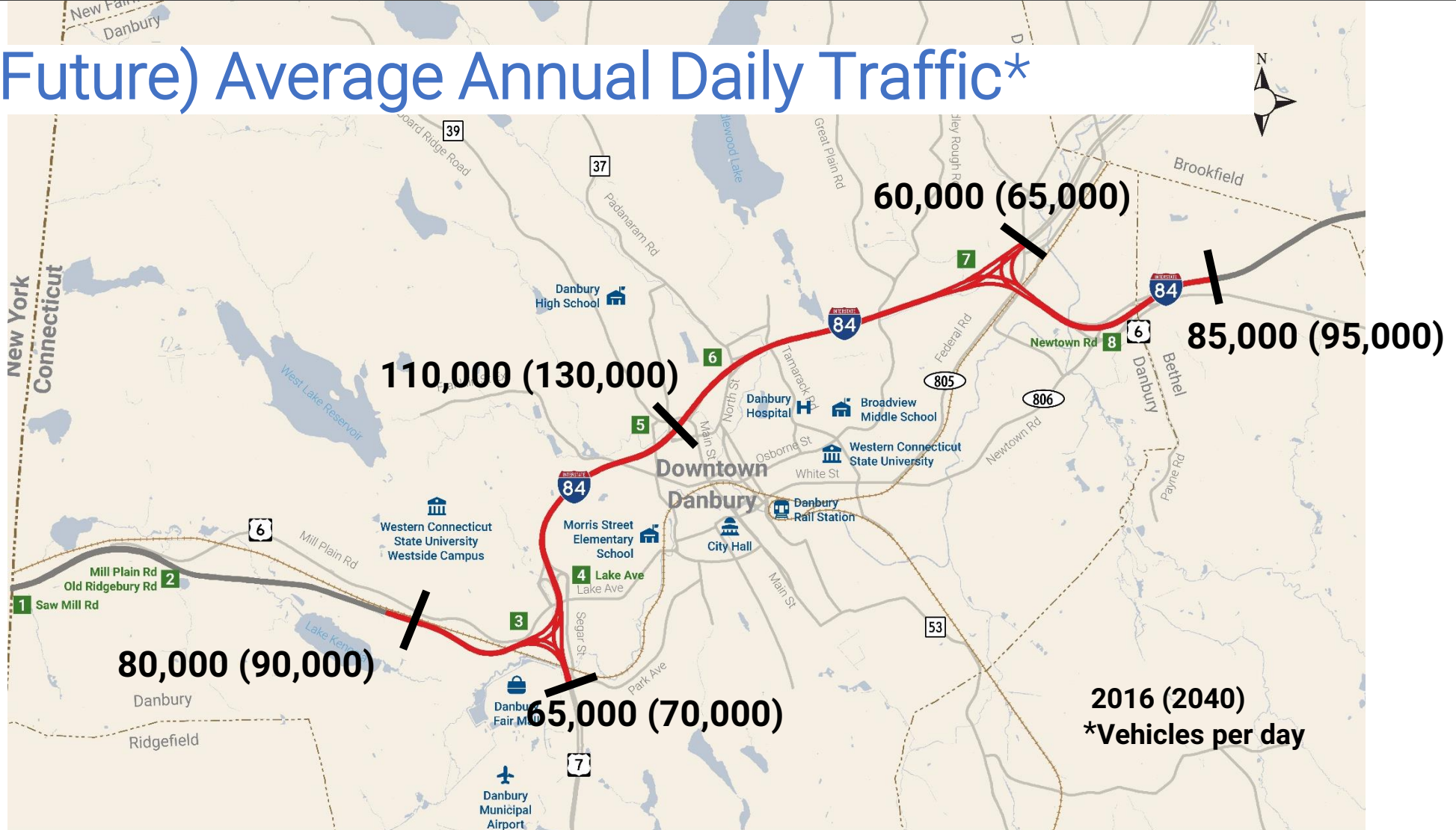




I-84 Danbury Project



Existing (Future) Average Annual Daily Traffic*





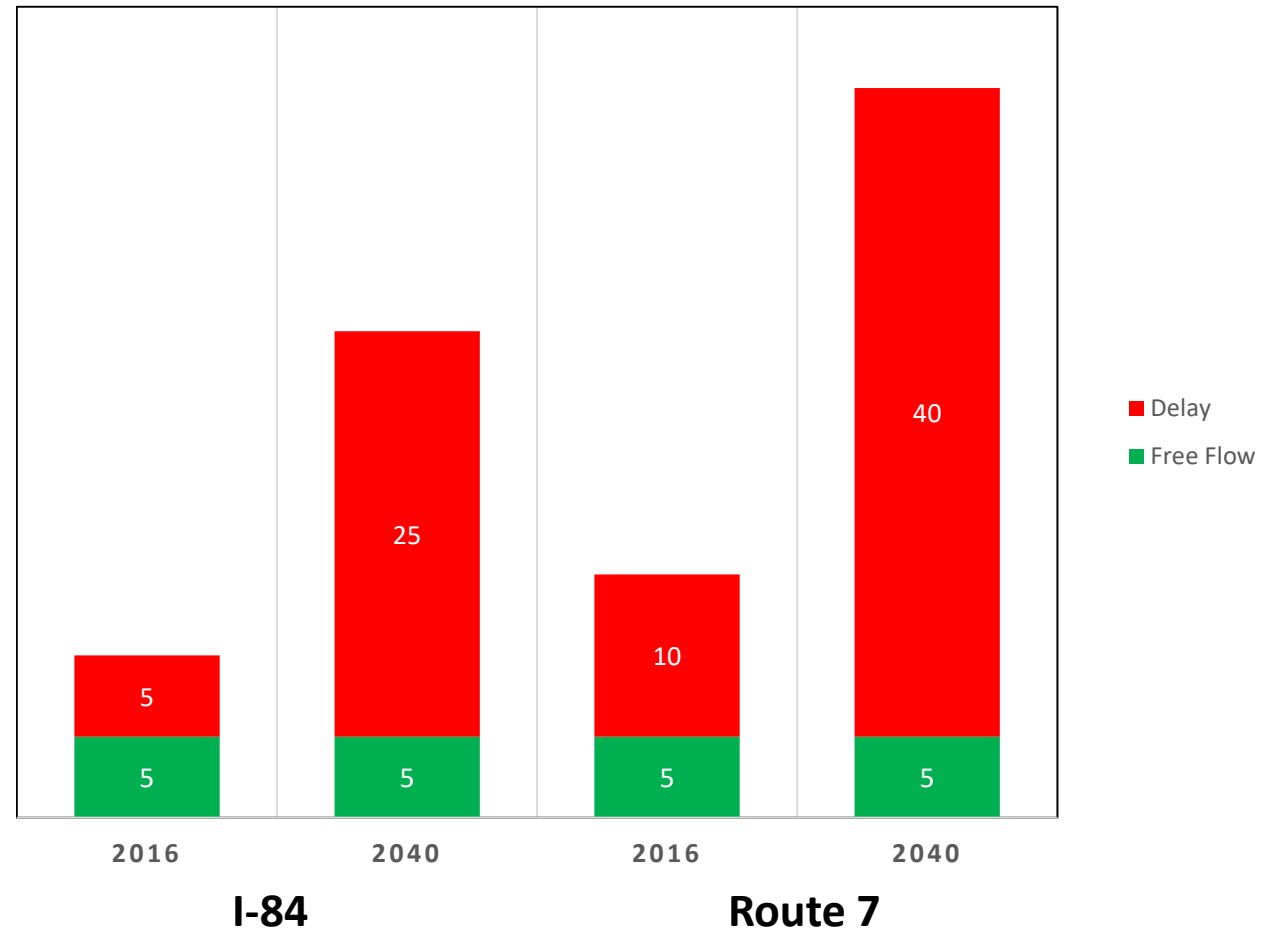
Weekday A.M. Peak Period – Delay

- **I-84 (going west)**

- What it should take – **5** minutes
- What it takes today – **10** minutes
- What it will take – **30** minutes

- **Route 7 (going south)**

- What it should take – **5** minutes
- What it takes today – **15** minutes
- What it will take – **45** minutes





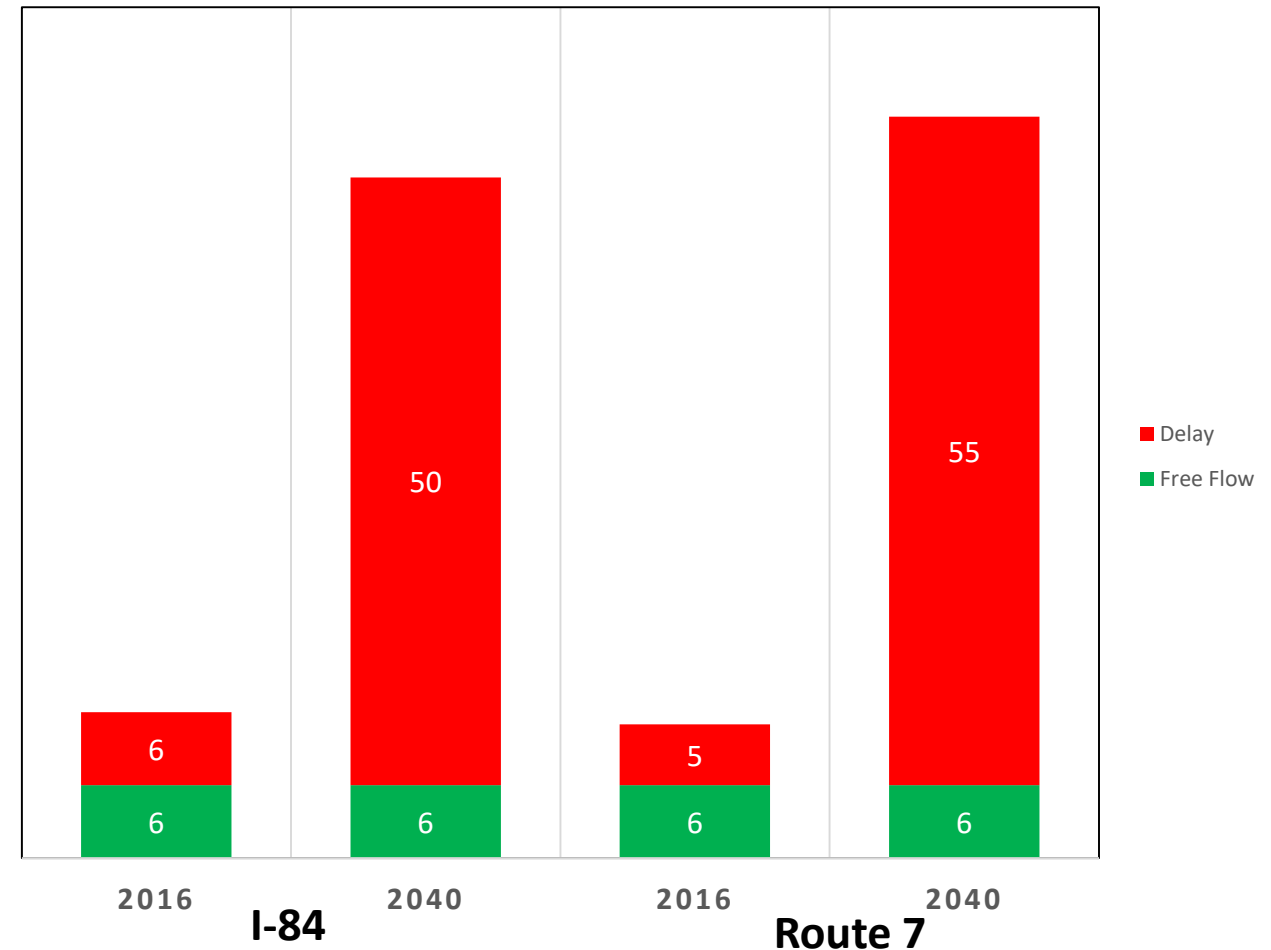
Weekday P.M. Peak Period – Delay

- **I-84 (going east)**

- What it should take – 6 minutes
- What it takes today – 12 minutes
- What it will take – 56 minutes

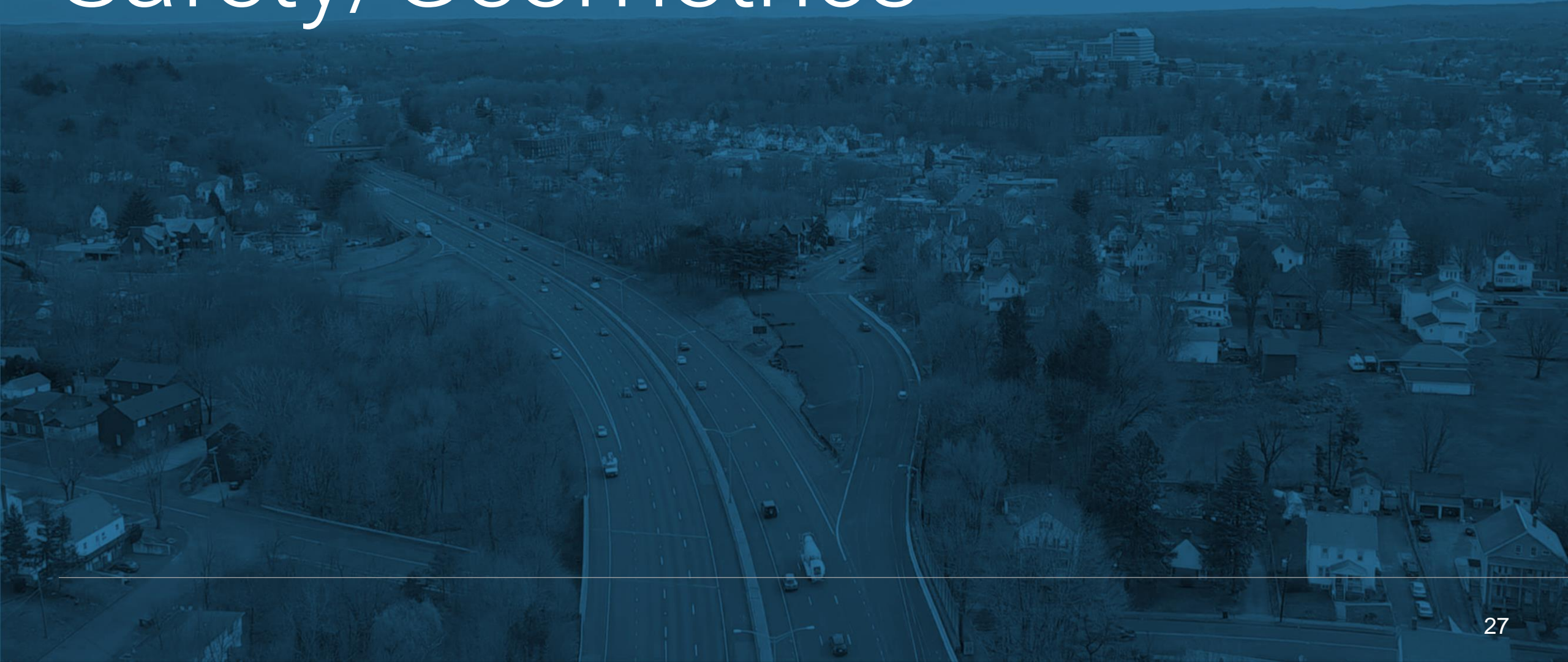
- **Route 7 (going north)**

- What it should take – 6 minutes
- What it takes today – 11 minutes
- What it will take – 61 minutes





Safety/Geometrics



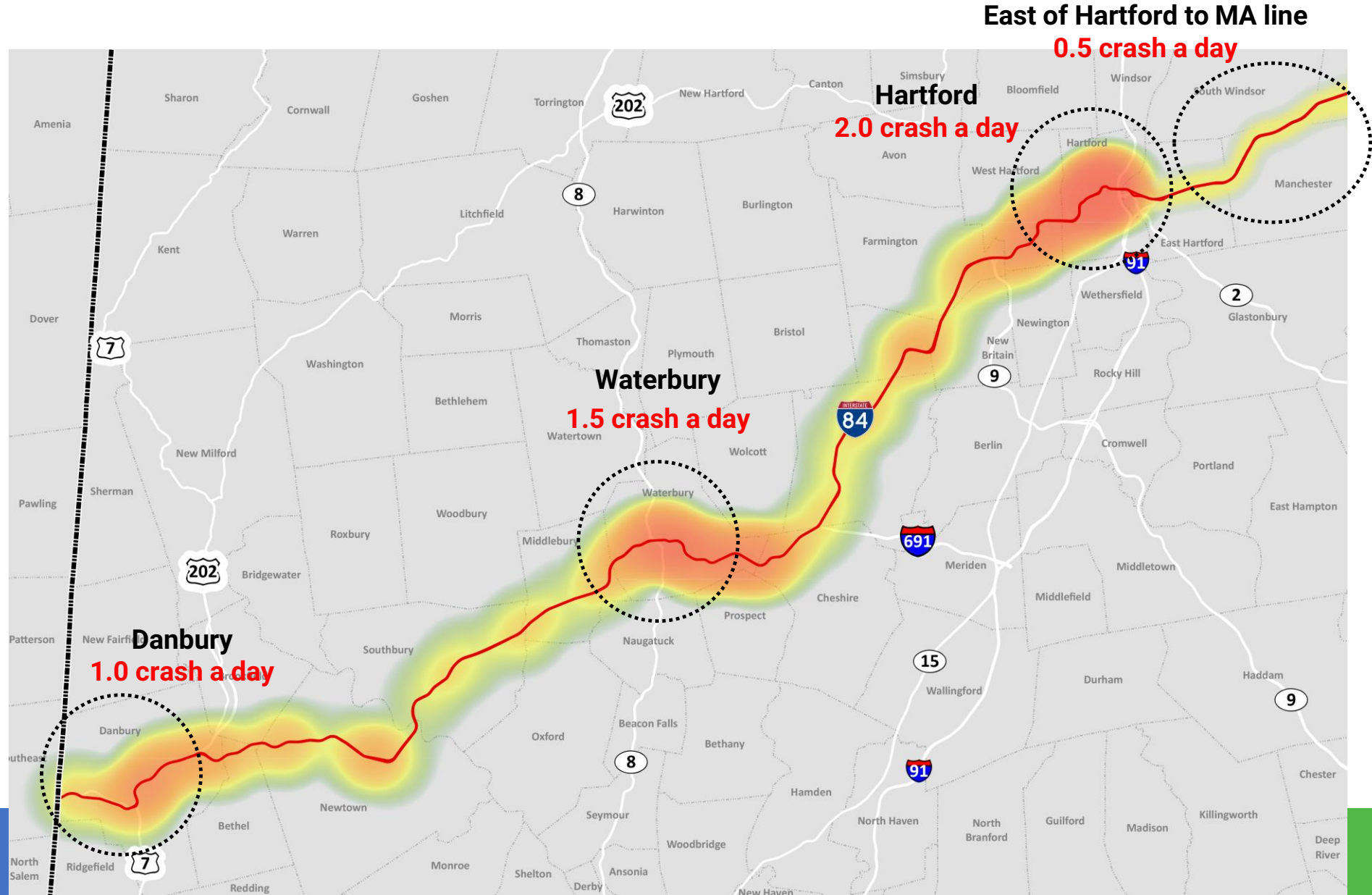
Safety/Geometric Facts and Figures

- About **one crash** a day
- **Three** fatalities reported on I-84
- Predominantly **rear end** crashes
- **Left hand** entrance and exits at Route 7
- **Incomplete** interchange at Exit 6
- **Sharp curves** slow down drivers
- **Poor sight lines** at curves



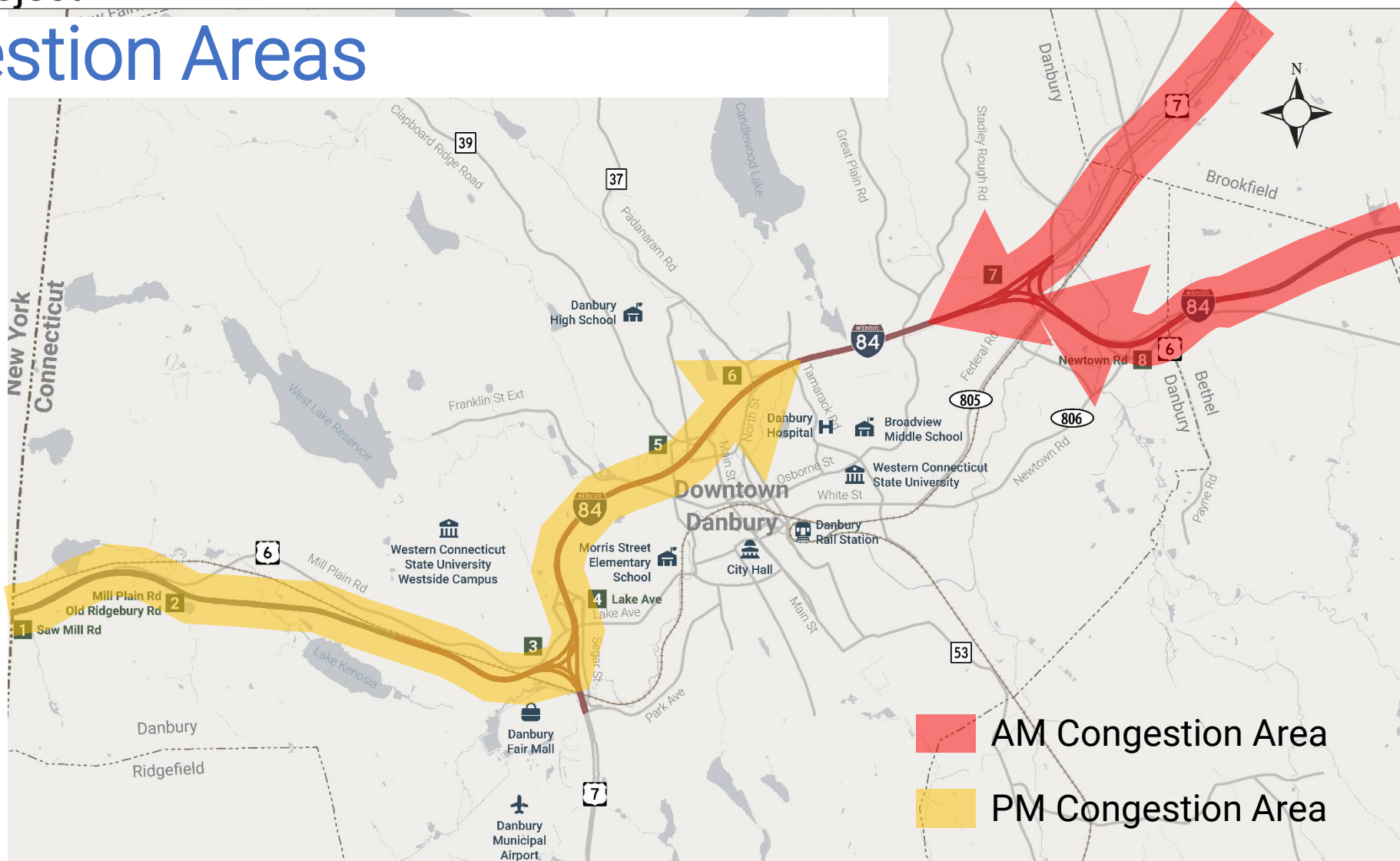


Crash Heat Map



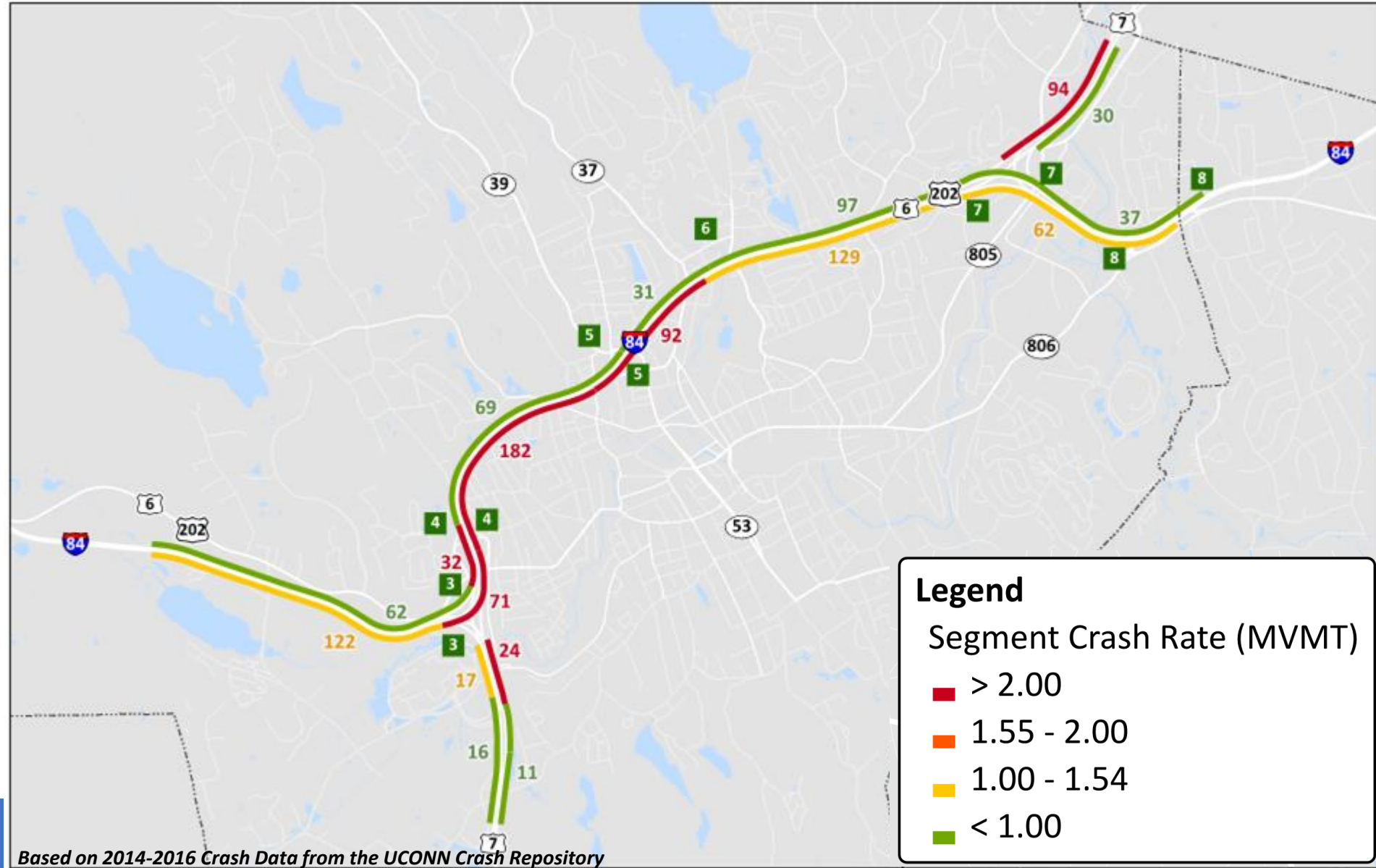


Congestion Areas



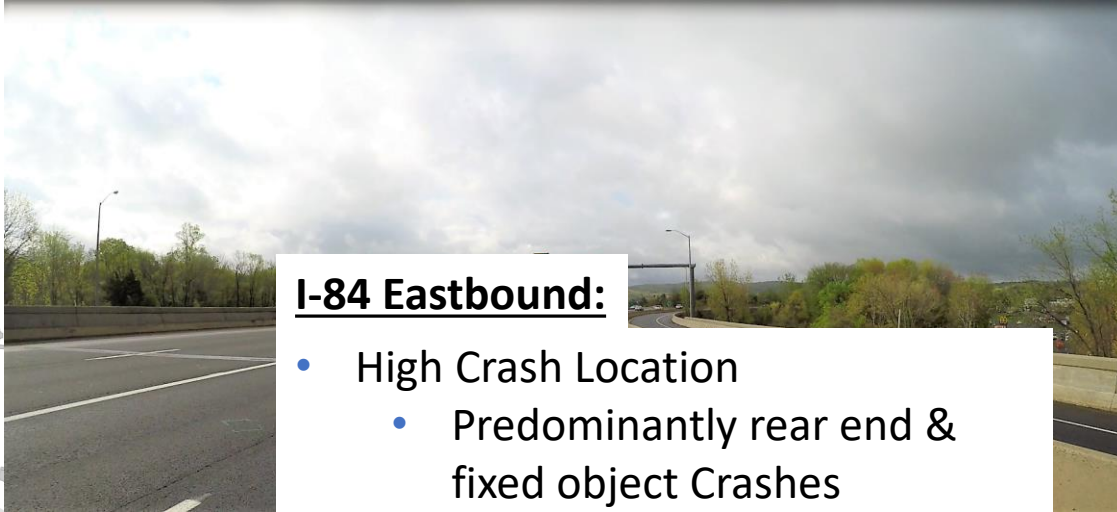


Crash Rate Map





I-84 Danbury Project



I-84 Eastbound:

- High Crash Location
 - Predominantly rear end & fixed object Crashes
- Sharp curve
- Poor sight lines
- Lane drop and not enough distance to exit



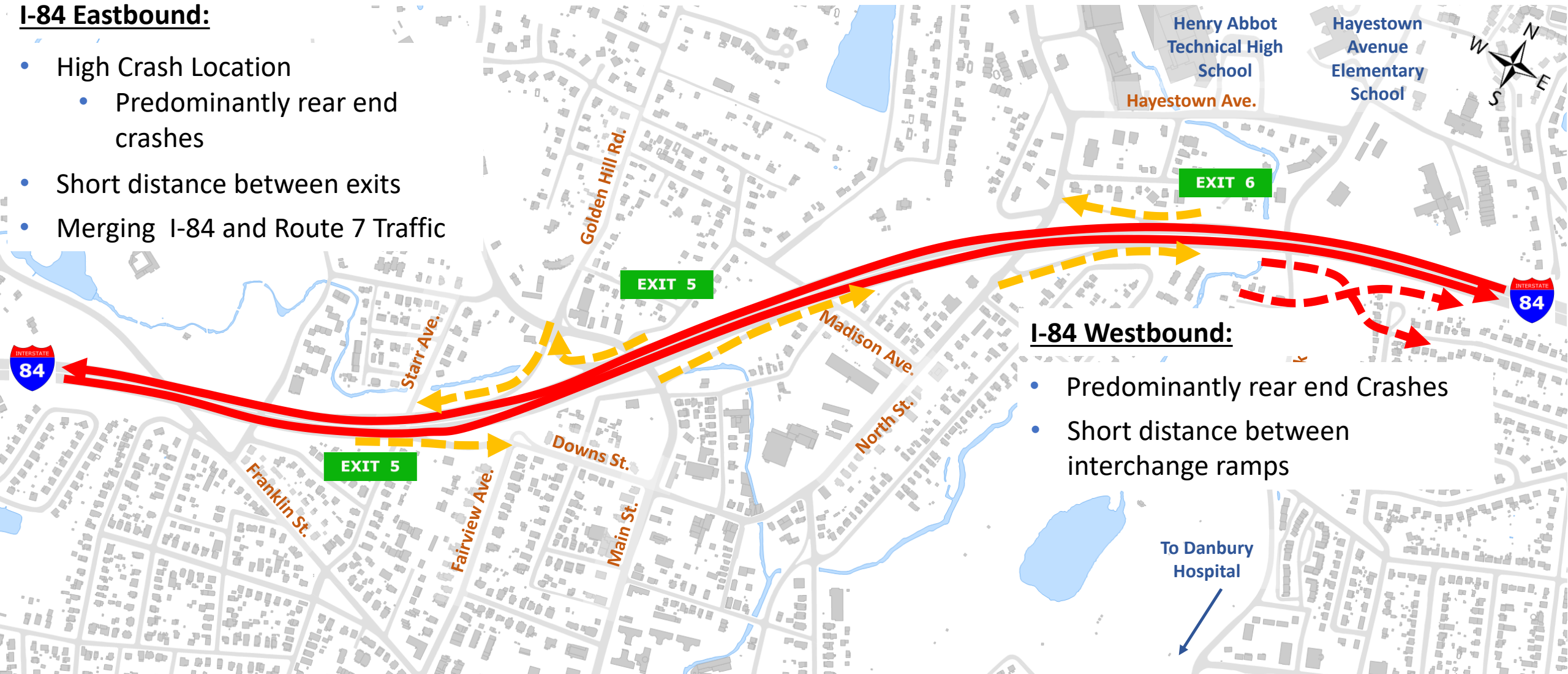
I-84 Westbound:

- High Crash Location
 - Predominantly sideswipe crashes
- Sharp curve
- Poor sight lines
- Left hand exit to Route 7 southbound



I-84 Eastbound:

- High Crash Location
 - Predominantly rear end crashes
- Short distance between exits
- Merging I-84 and Route 7 Traffic

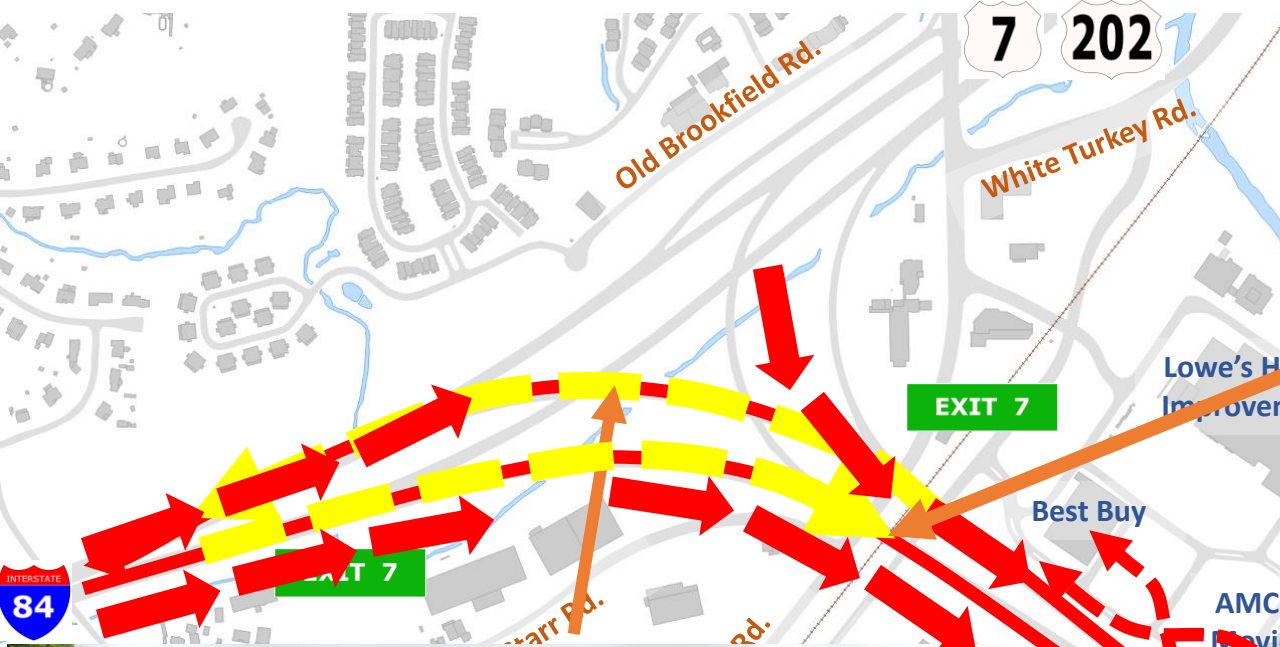


I-84 Westbound:

- Predominantly rear end Crashes
- Short distance between interchange ramps



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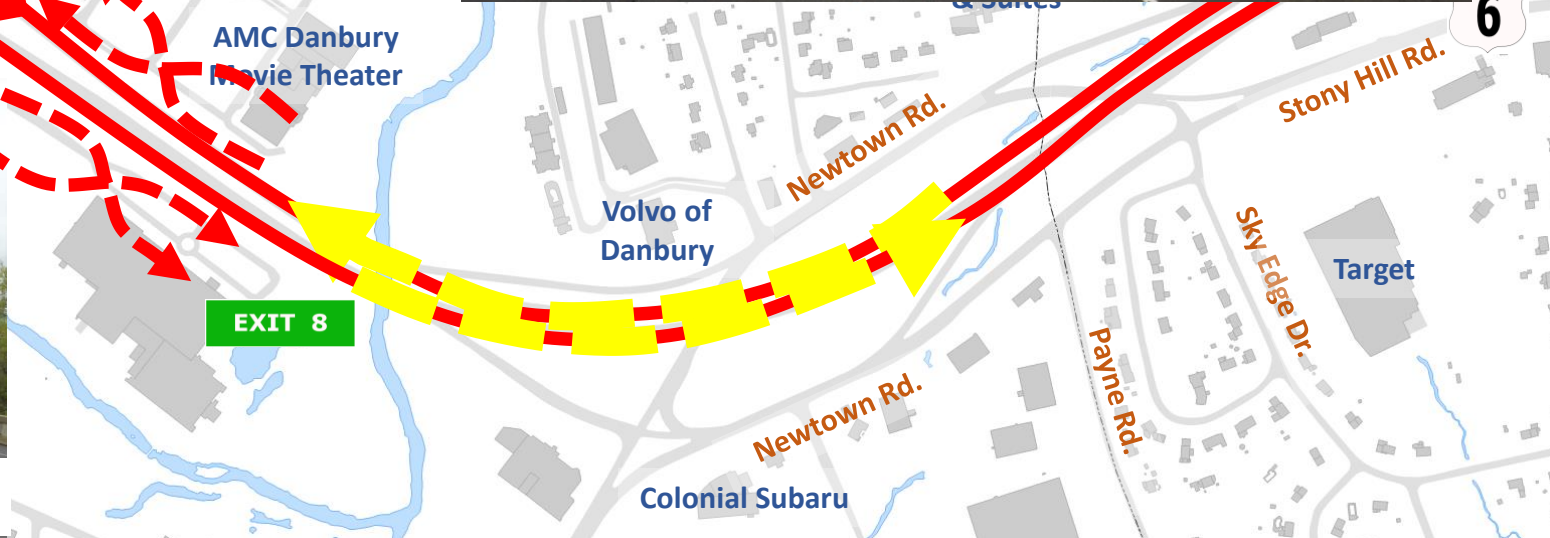
I-84 Westbound:

- Prec
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I-84 Eastbound:

- Predominantly rear end crashes
- Consecutive sharp curves
- Left hand entrance and exit ramps
- Poor sight lines
- Merging and weaving traffic



www.i84danbury.com



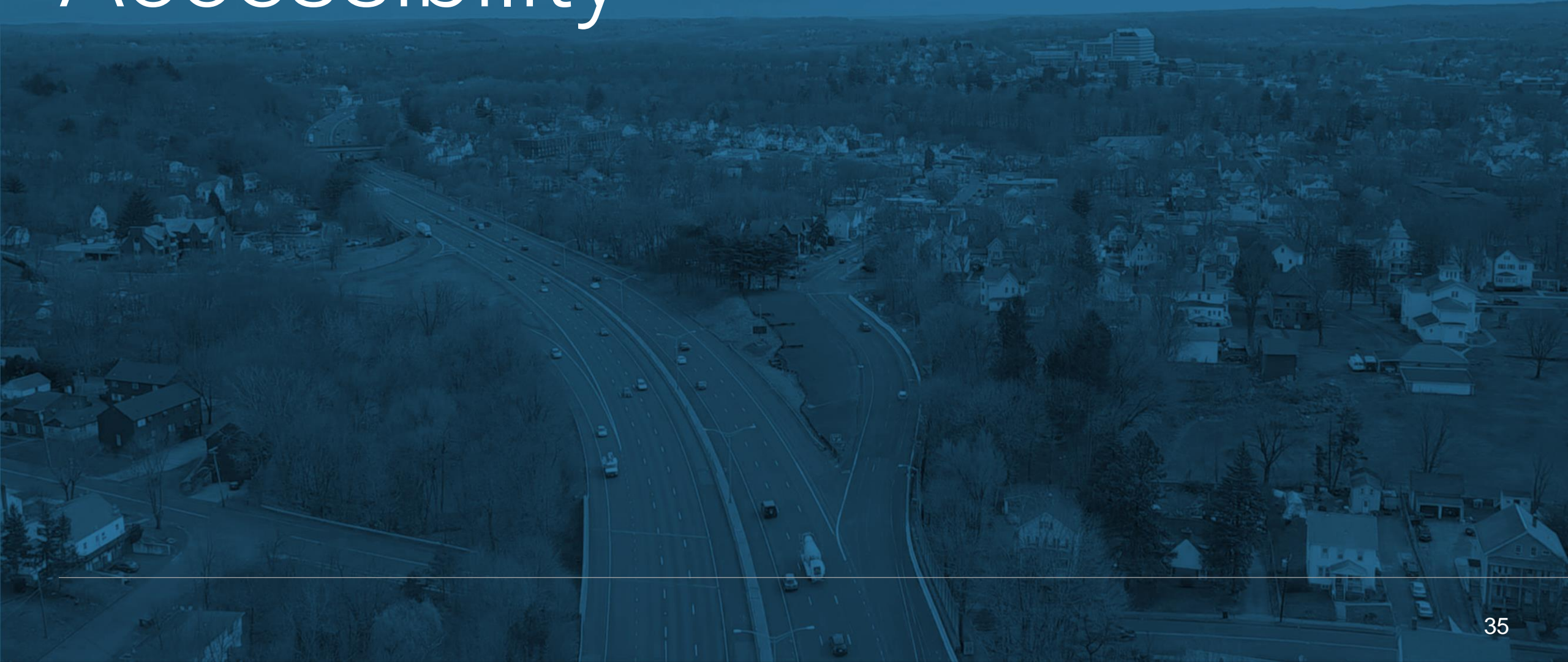
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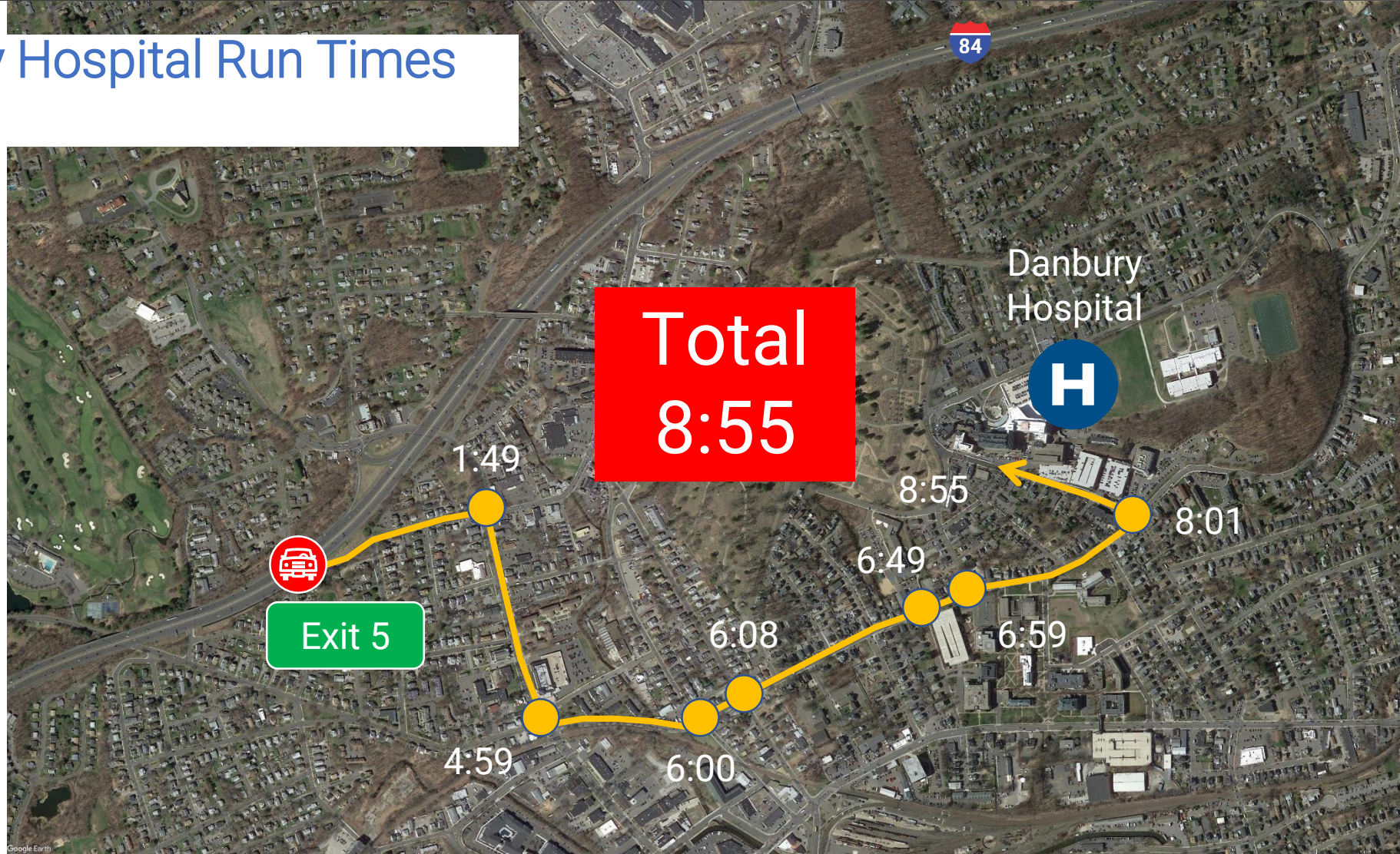


Accessibility



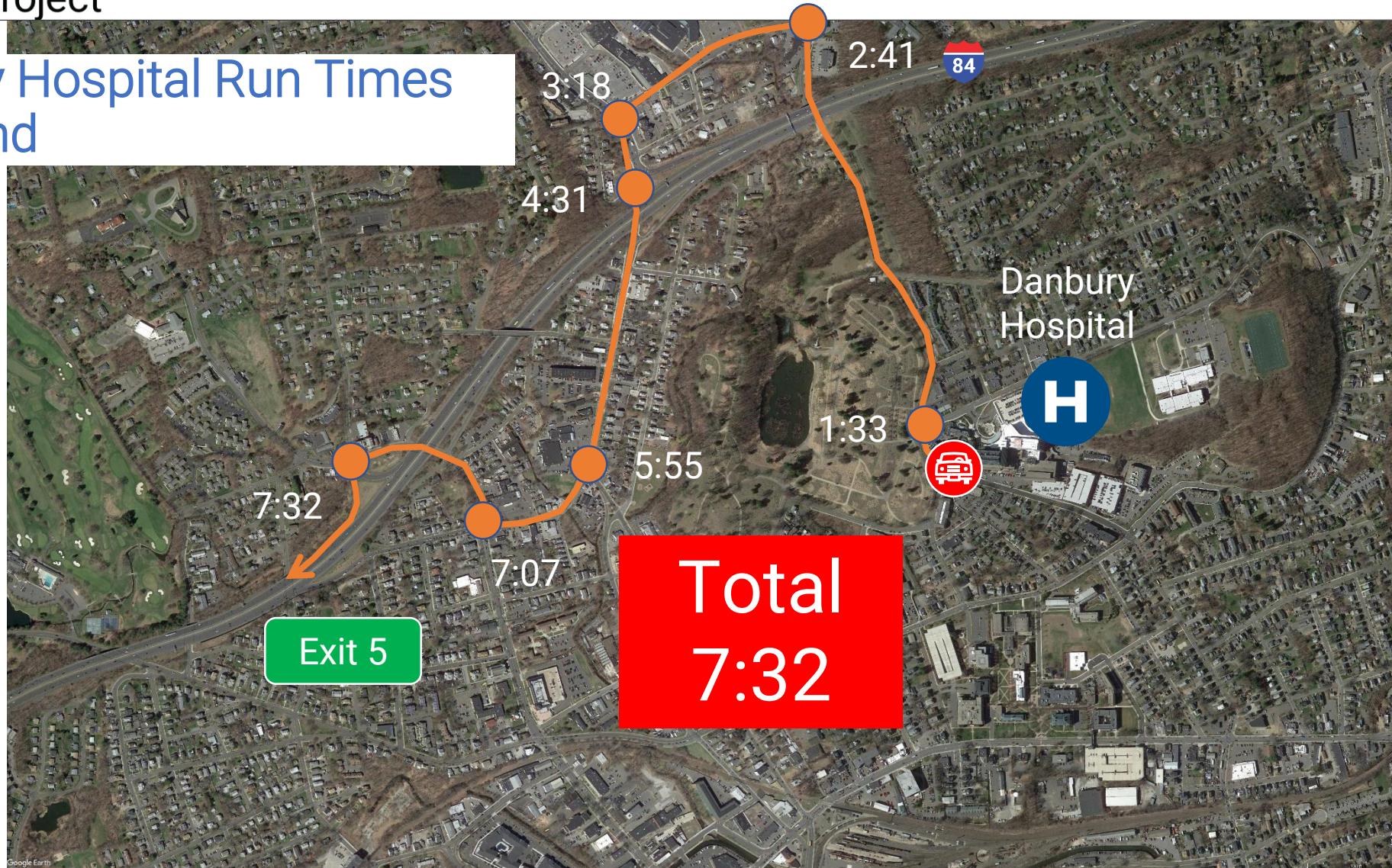


Danbury Hospital Run Times Inbound





Danbury Hospital Run Times Outbound





Multimodal Conditions



Community Survey

- **94%** say I-84 is critical to their travel needs
- **67%** say they use I-84 for local travel
- **88%** say congestion on I-84 causes frustration
- Only **4%** say they use city buses
- **87%** say they **do not** carpool and prefer to drive alone.
- **84%** say they **do not** use commuter rail
- About **50%** say they either walk/bike or would like to walk/bike if it was safe and convenient



Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities

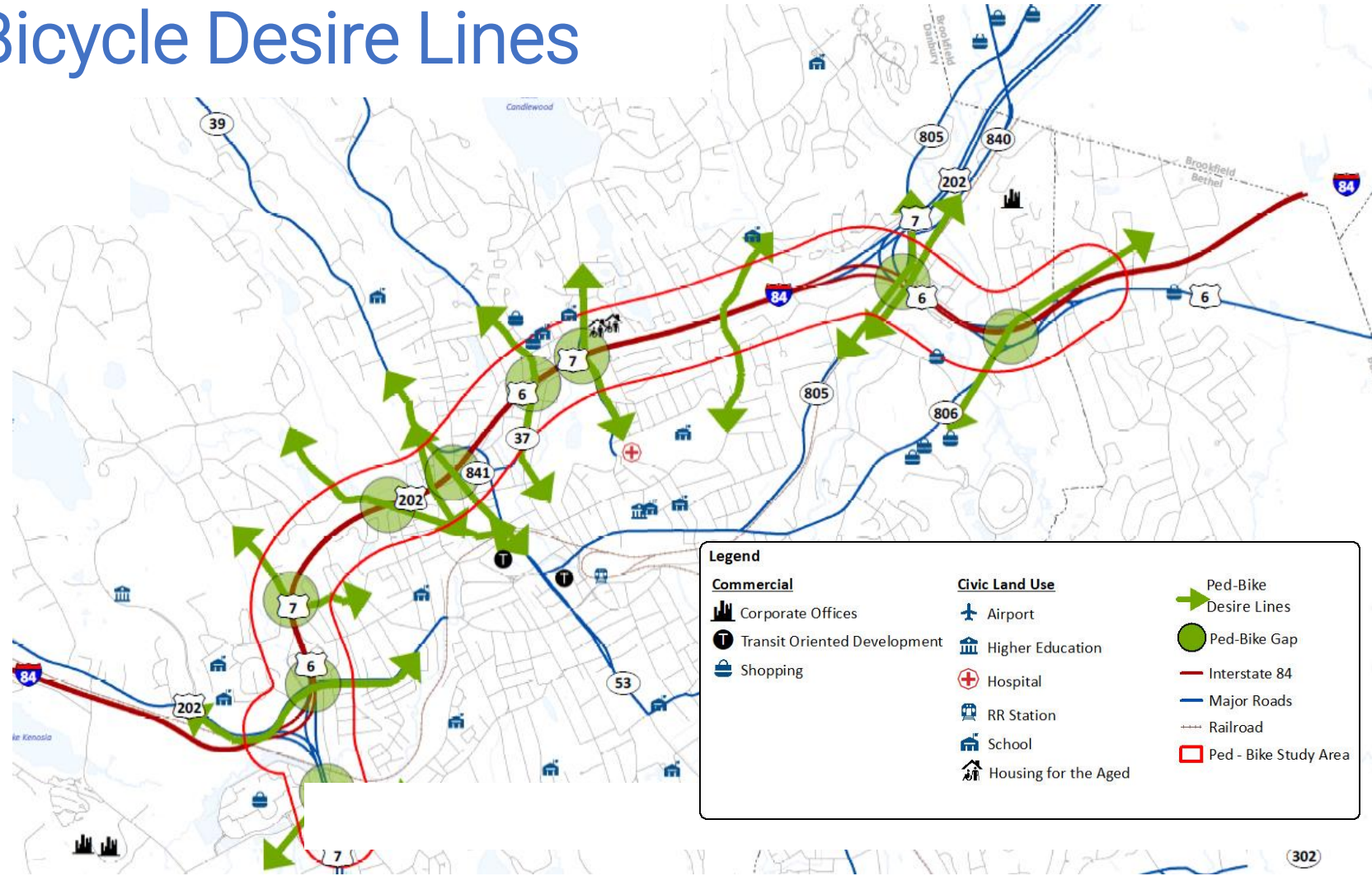
- **Many gaps in sidewalk** network within study area.
- **No marked bicycle lanes** within Danbury city limits.
- Only **2.1%** of Danbury workers commute by foot or bike
 - ✓ Compared to 4.2% nationally and 3.4% in CT





Pedestrian and Bicycle Desire Lines

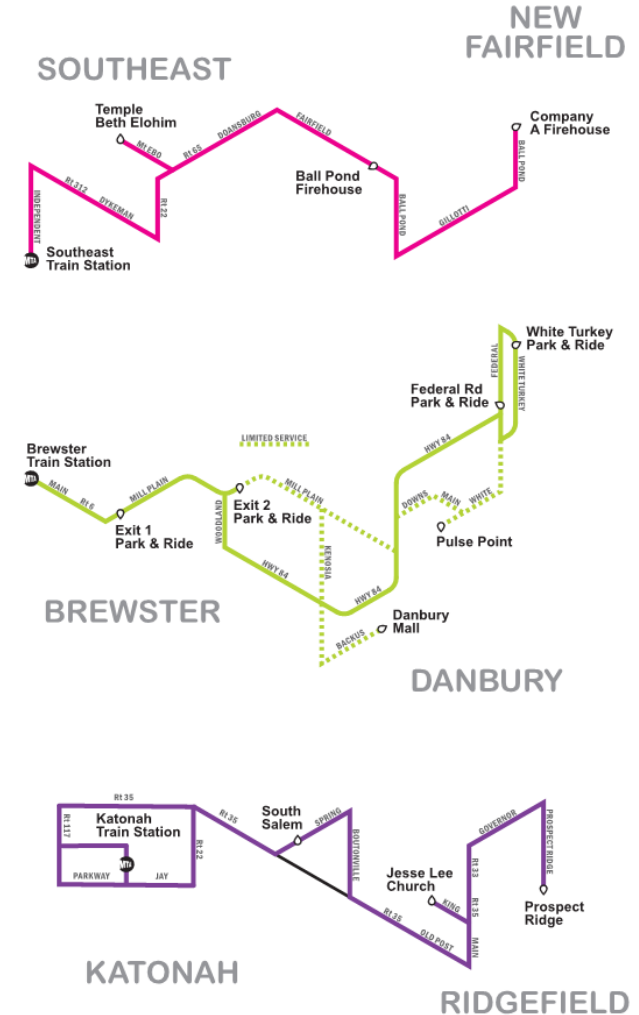
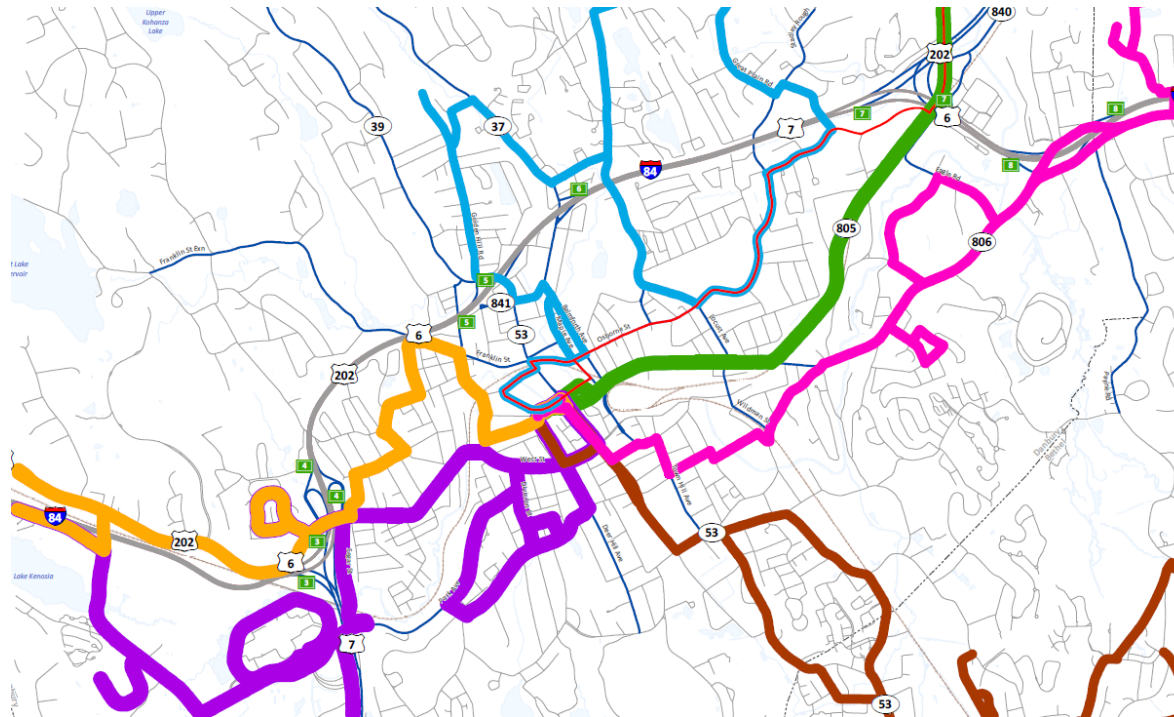
- **19** crossings of local streets with I-84/Rt. 7
 - **15** have low ped-bike compatibility; 4 have medium compatibility.
- **13** rate “high priority” for improving ped-bike travel





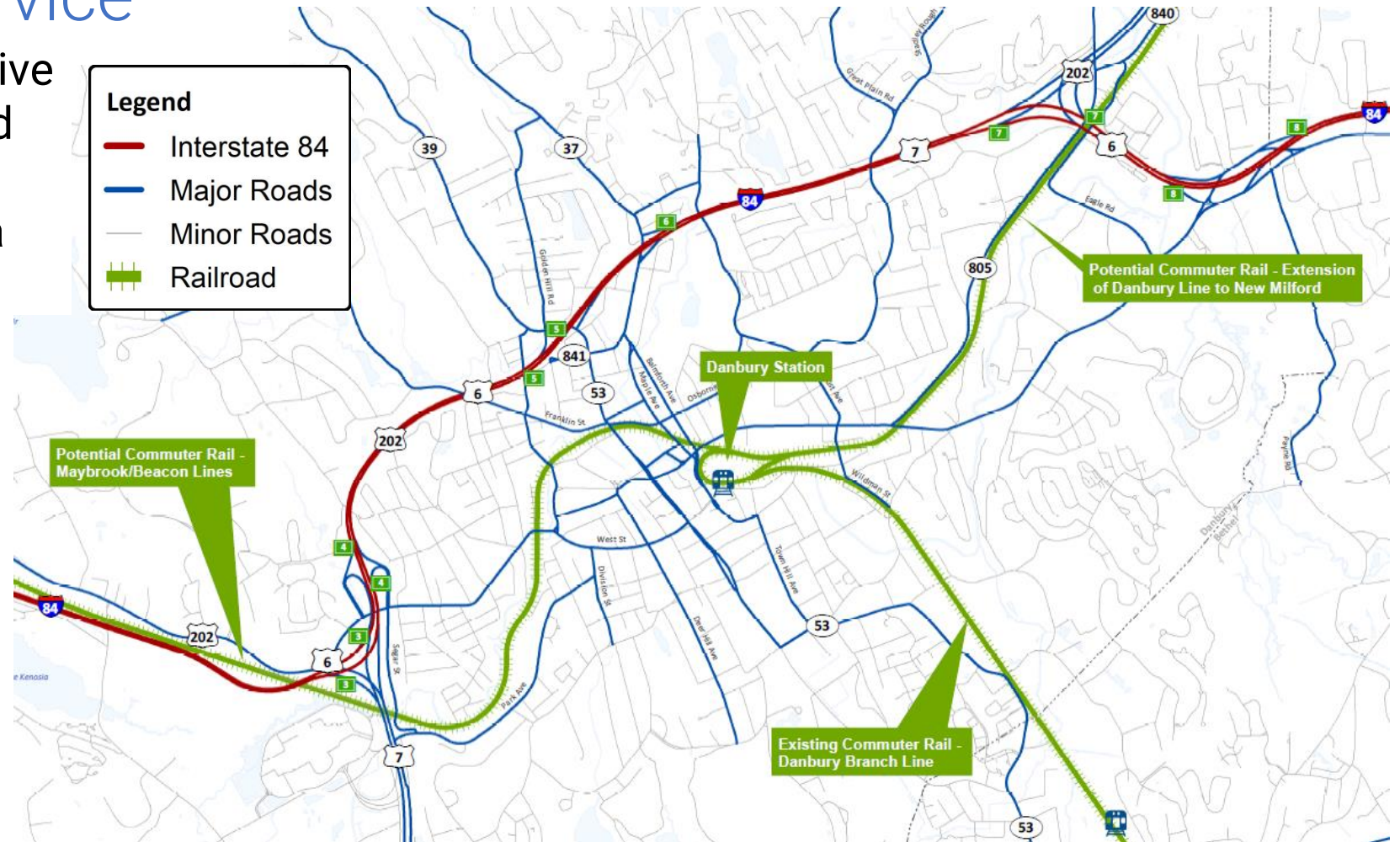
Local Bus and Shuttle Routes

- HART fixed route bus service is well planned and responsive to new employment centers outside of city core.
- Danbury Station is ½ mile away from HART pulse point
- No HART bus routes stop at station.



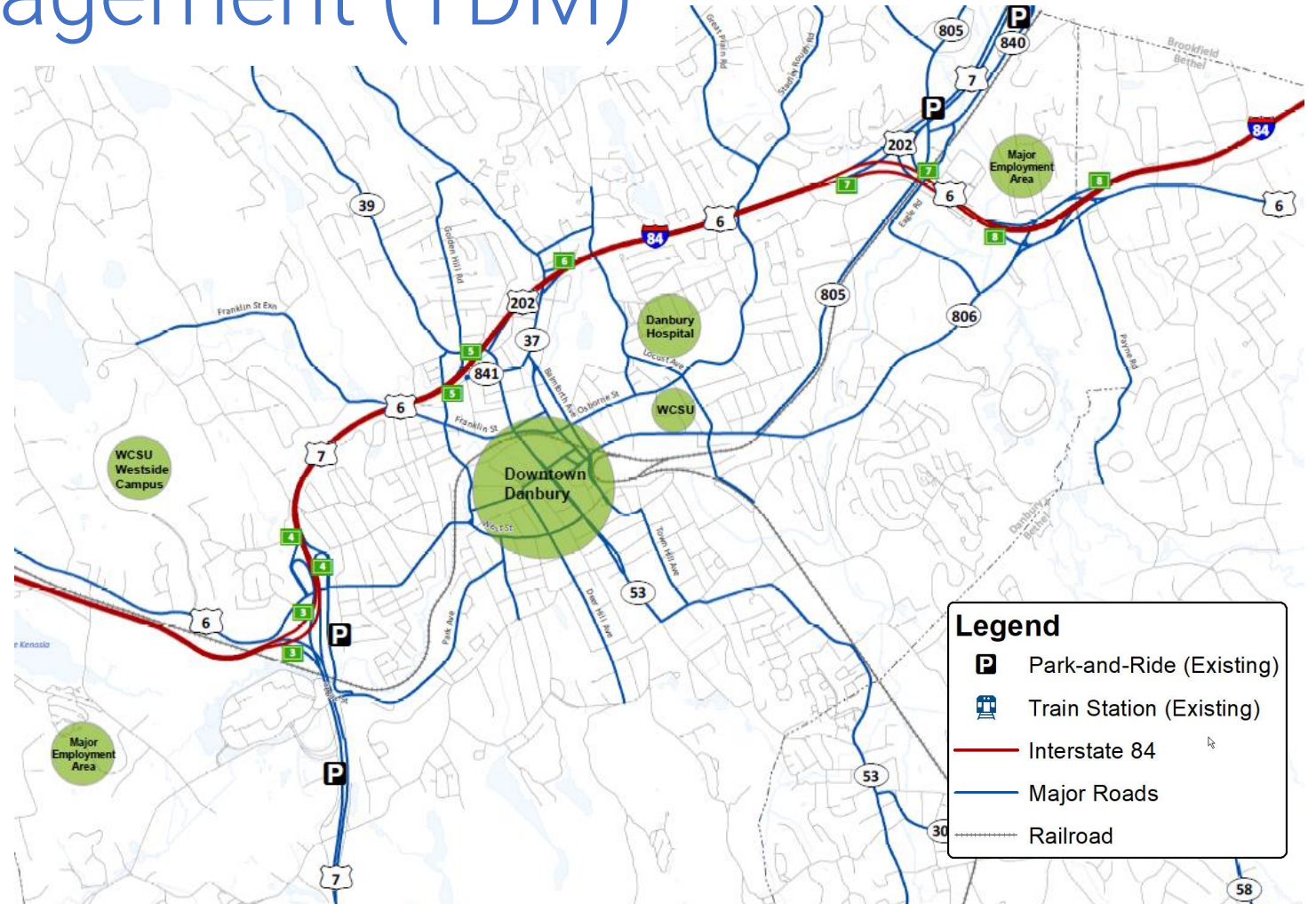
Commuter Rail Service

- Quickest and least expensive commuter rail trip to Grand Central uses Harlem Line from Southeast Station via HART shuttle.



Travel Demand Management (TDM)

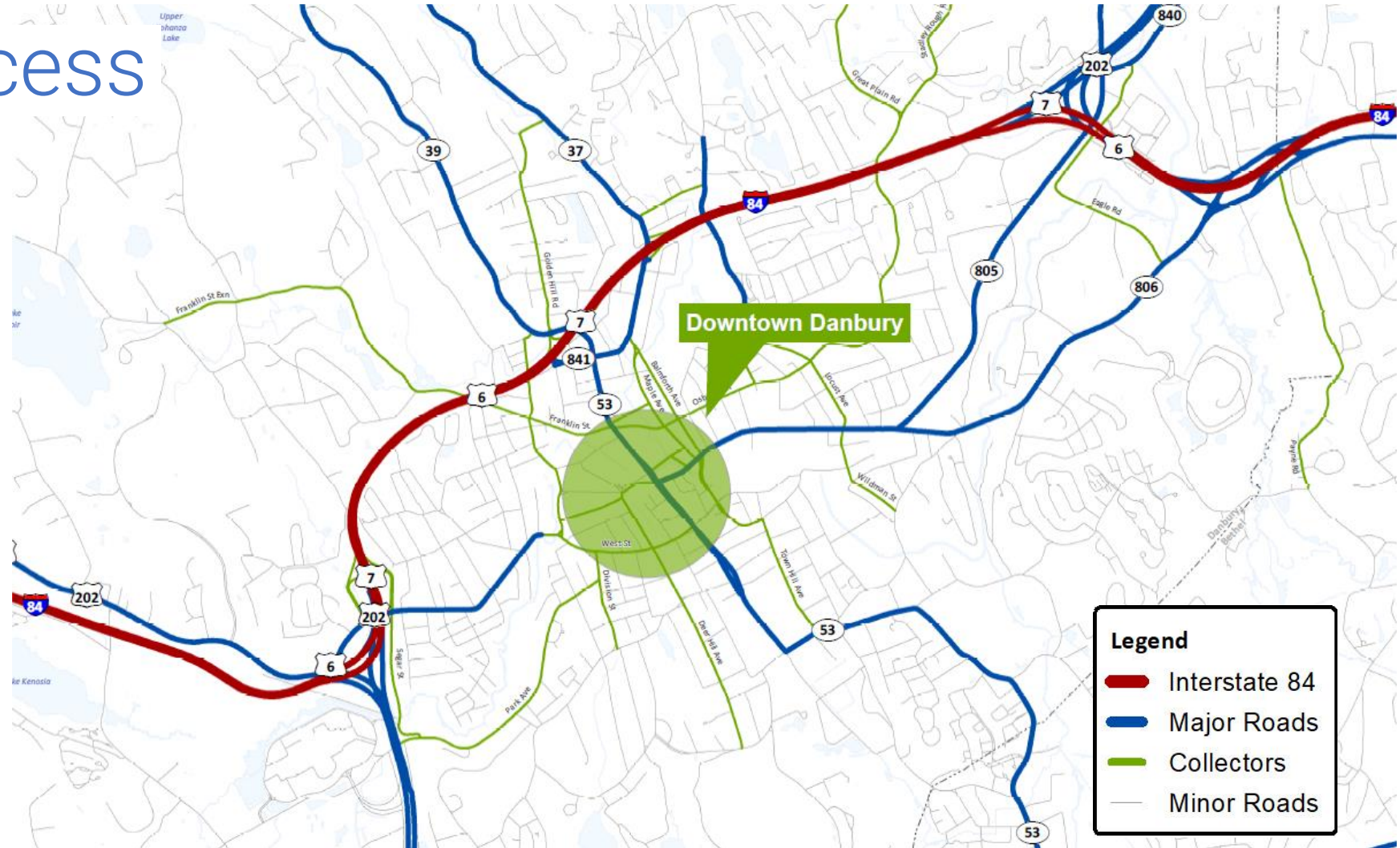
- Current services include:
 - ✓ Park-and-ride lots
 - ✓ Ctrides carpool/vanpool
 - ✓ HART shuttles to rail stations
 - ✓ Flex hours & telecommuting (employer-dependent)
 - ✓ Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)



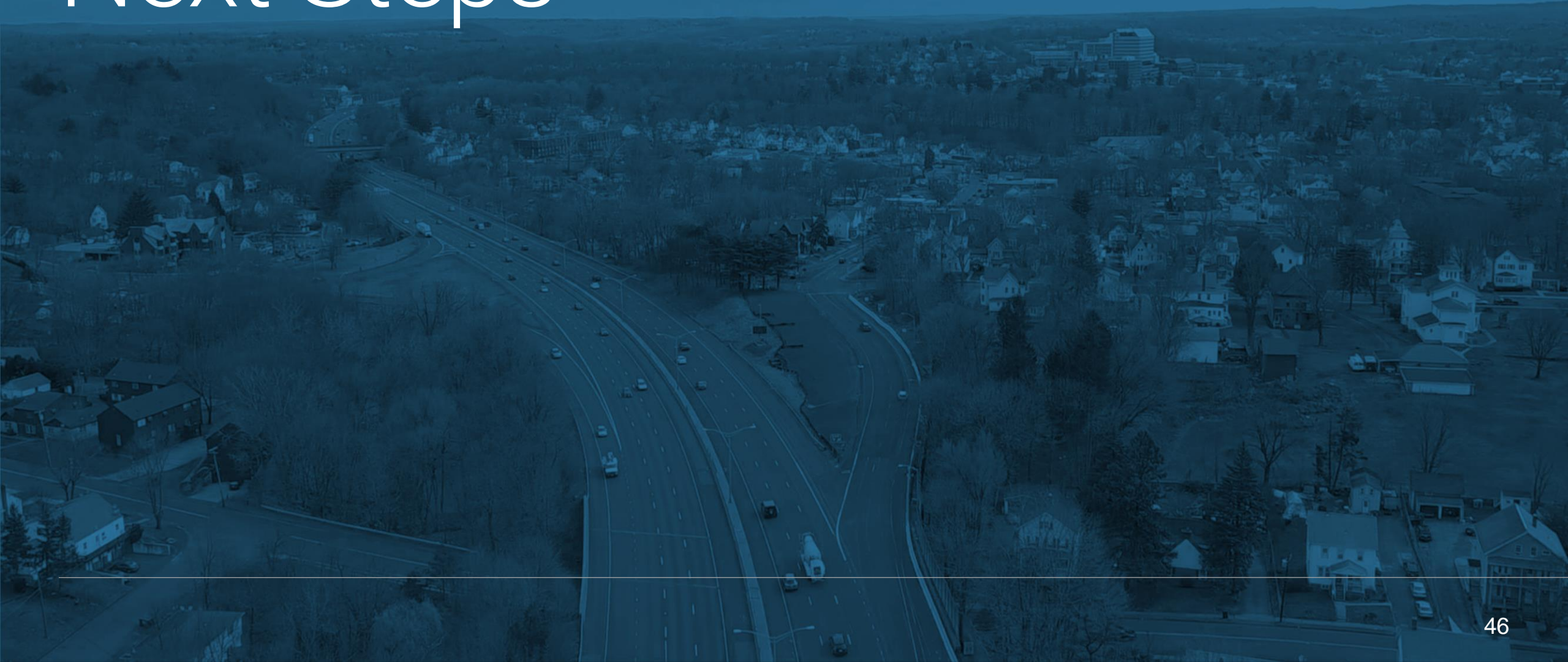


Downtown Access

- Danbury's arterial streets are like a "hub and spokes"
- Lack of street grid focuses traffic to downtown hub
- Lack of alternate by-pass routes when traffic diverts from I-84



Next Steps





Anticipated Project Schedule

2016

2018

Early 2020s

Mid 2020s

Mid/Late 2020s

Project
Initiation

Needs &
Deficiencies

**Purpose
& Need**

Alternatives
Analysis

Complete
Environmental
Document

Preliminary
Design

Final
Design

Construction



Community Engagement (Throughout)



Public Meetings



Newsletters



Fact Sheets



Email Blasts



Website



Social Media



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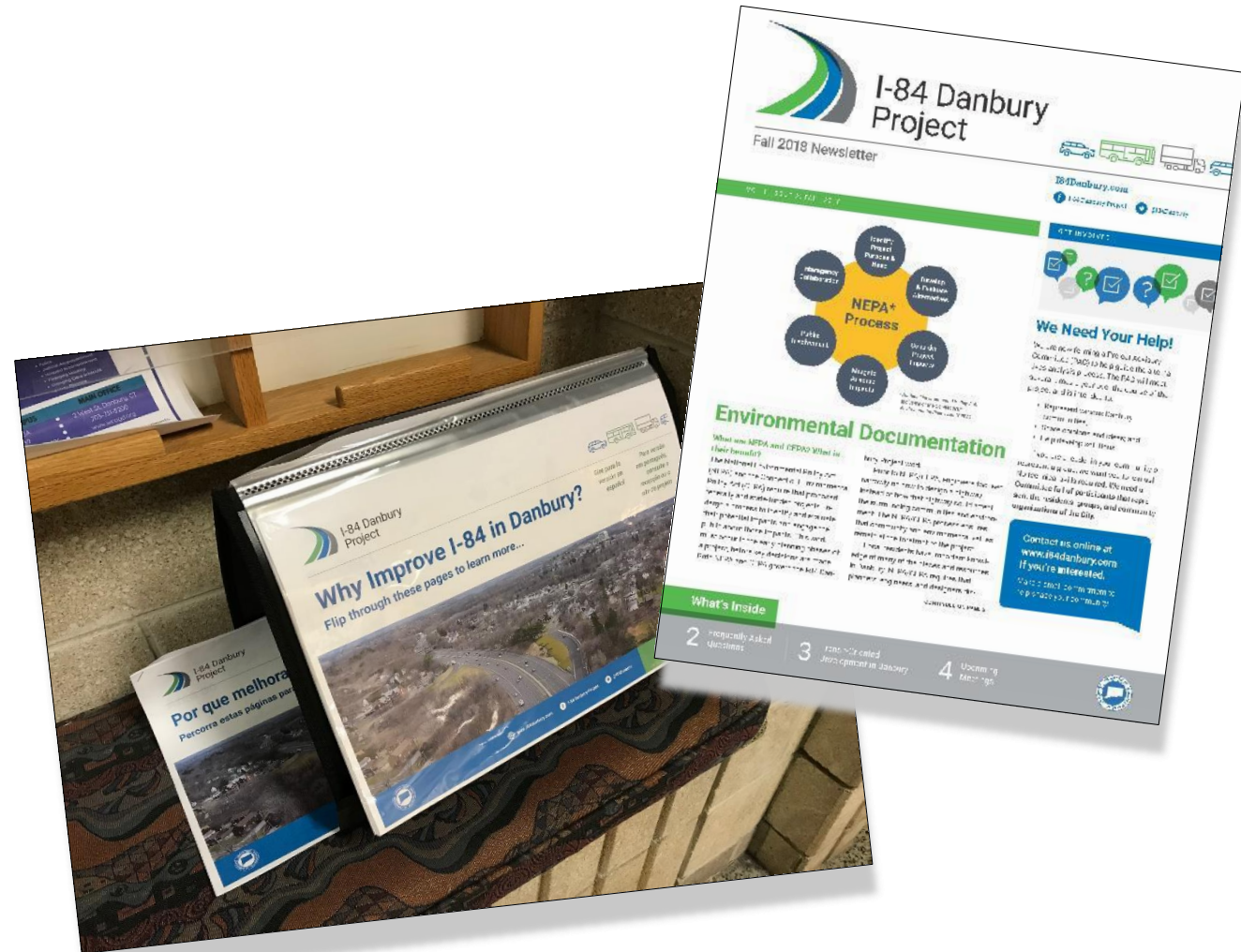
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Future PAC Meetings

- Draft Purpose and Need Statement – PAC #3





Project Contacts:

Andy Fesenmeyer, P.E.
Project Manager, Consultant Design
860-594-3228
Andy.Fesenmeyer@ct.gov

Yolanda Antoniak, P.E.
Project Engineer, Consultant Design
860-594-3197
Yolanda.Antoniak@ct.gov

Questions and Comments





Thank You!