

Two Maps for **Bike To The Sea**



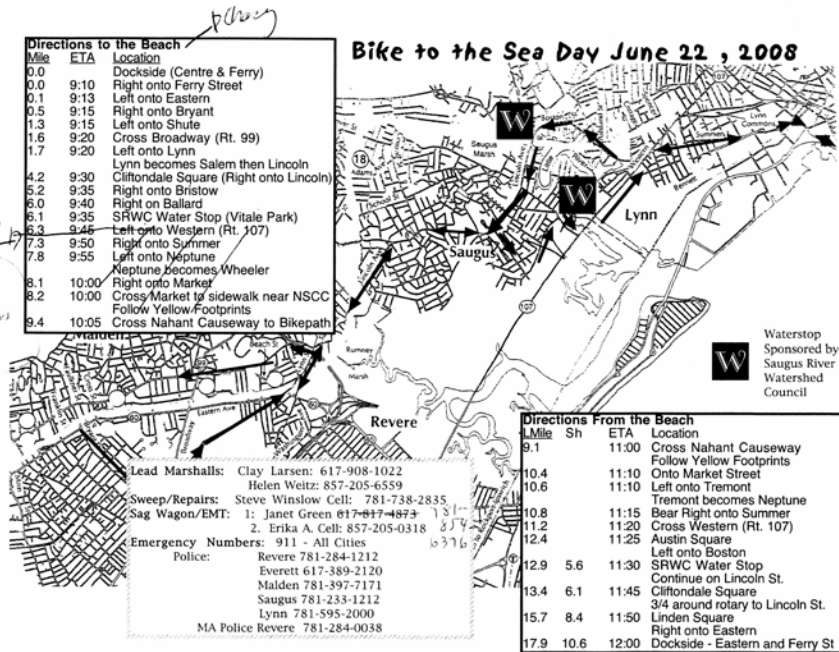
Map #1

What: Bike To The Sea Day route map

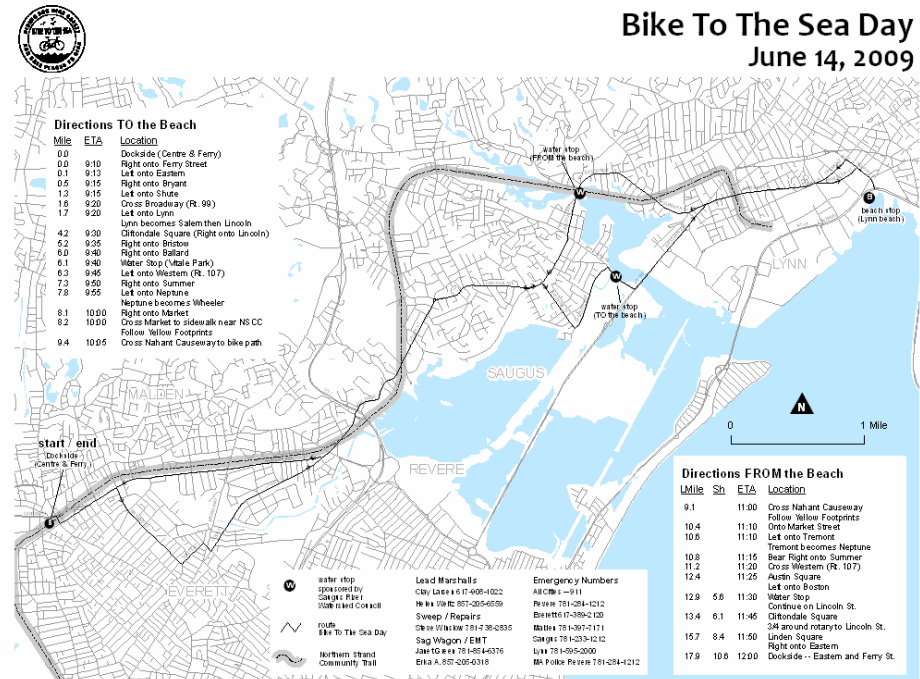
Purpose: Redesign the map to show streets, ride route, and rail trail segment.

Audience: The General Public

From this...



To this...

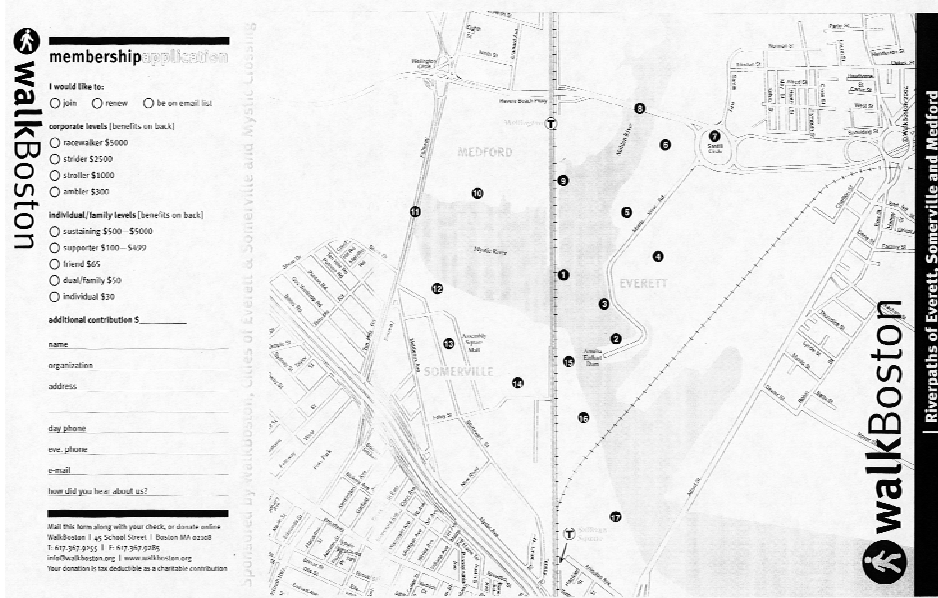


Map #1

Bike To The Sea Day route map

Method:

- Copied the clean & simple “style” of the WalkBoston maps:



Map #1

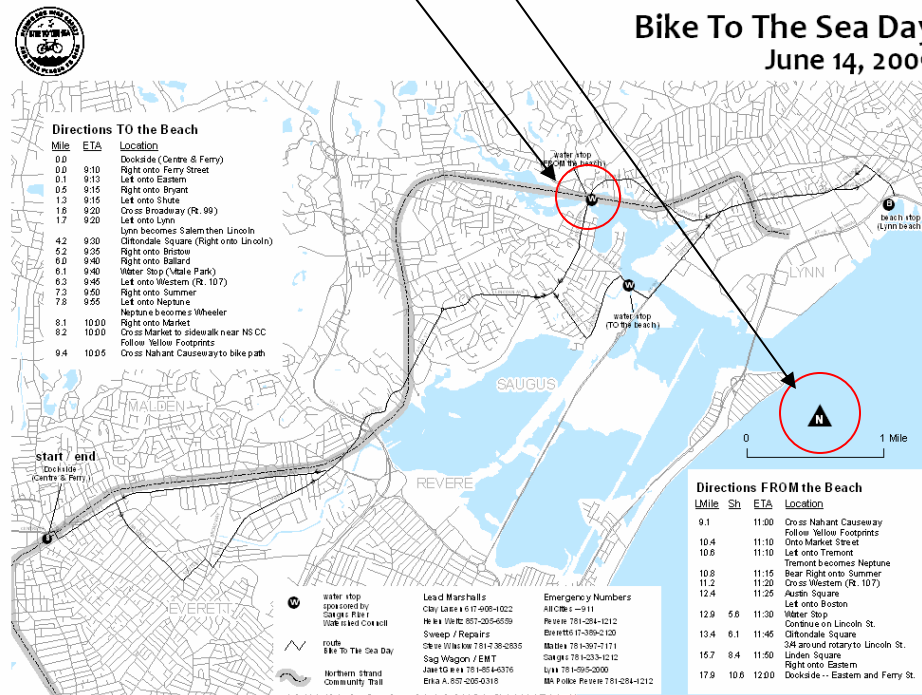
Bike To The Sea Day route map

What worked:

- white on black symbol markers
- Streets: 40% grey, .4 width
- Street labels: Candara, 4 pt.

Areas for improvement:

- Is there a better way to display the route directions/ mileage segments? Is it too difficult for people to decode and follow?
- Should have labeled the water features



Map #2

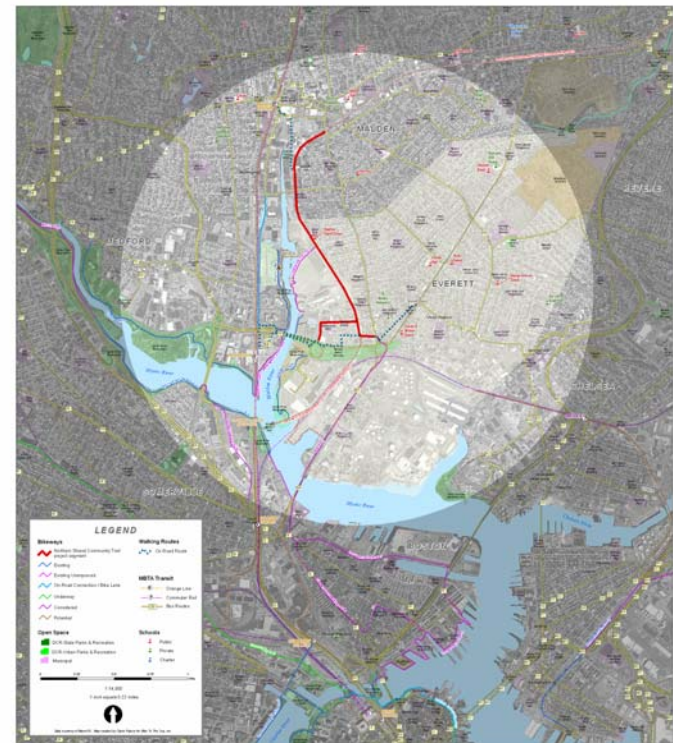
Northern Strand Community Trail: Regional and Local Connections

Purpose:

- Show the **project segment** of the Northern Strand Community Trail (NSCT), and:
 - connecting bike paths & walking routes
 - schools, parks, bus and train transit lines
- Display both regional and local scales

Audience:

- Planners & engineers at MassHighway
- This map will be submitted to MassHighway to fulfill grant application requirements for funding



Map #2

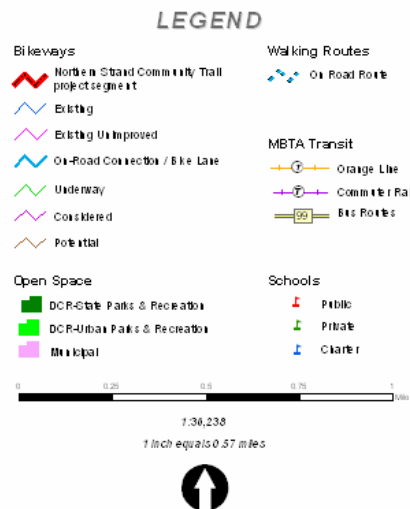
Northern Strand Community Trail: Regional and Local Connections

Challenges:

1. How to show both regional AND local bike path connections?
2. Bike path linework:
 - a) Many categories for Bike path “status”: how to sync this with Bike To The Sea linework to retain map clarity and readability?
 - b) Many kinds of linework on this map: how to keep each distinct?

Solutions:

1. Included two “overview” maps at top of layout for context.
2. Linework
 - a) Integrated Bike To Sea linework with MassGIS symbolization, but changed “existing” (red) status to (blue) and “on-road” (grey) status to (lightblue).
 - b) Changed “texture” of linework to resemble the characteristic of the line:
 - NSCT project segment: red dotted/dashed line
 - Bikeways: solid
 - Walking routes: dashed
 - MBTA trains: “railroad” line symbol
 - Bus routes: used MassGIS layer (solid yellow)

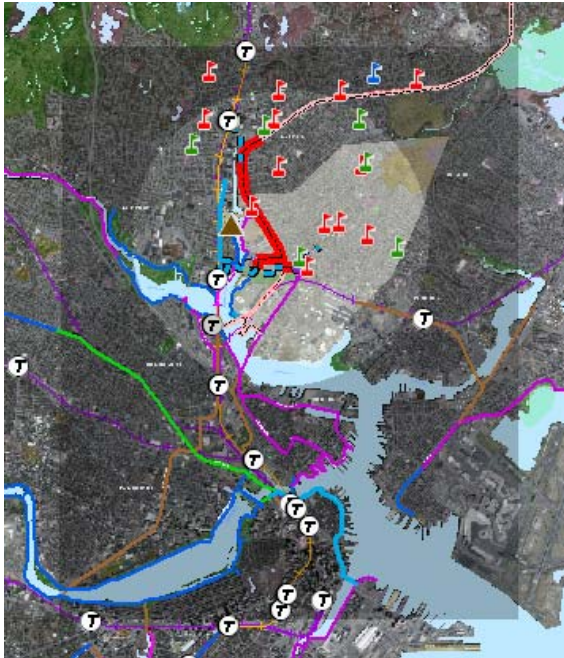


Map #2

Northern Strand Community Trail: Regional and Local Connections

Challenges:

3. There is a lot of information on this map. How to center the reader's focus on the NSCT project segment while including information from the outlying areas?



Solutions:

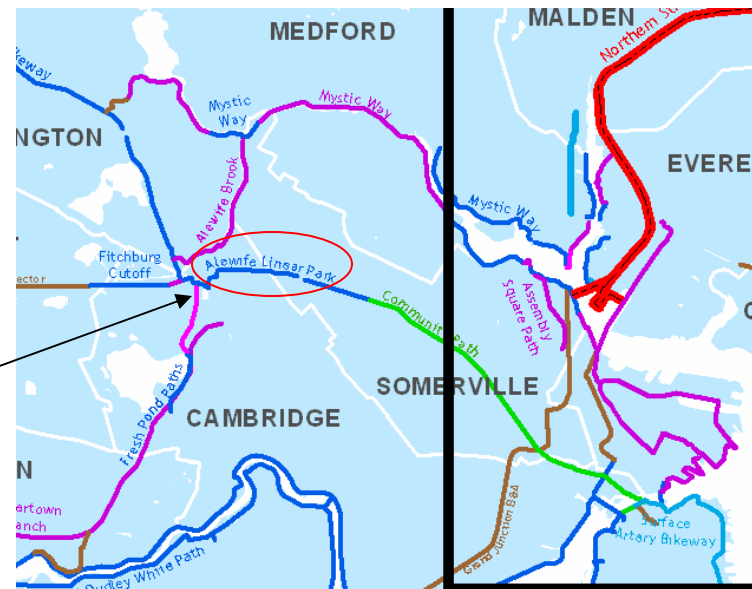
3. Added a “shaded” rectangular shape file with a circle “punch out” to highlight the project area. How I did it:
 - a) Created two shapefiles: one rectangle larger than the map layout, one circle around the project area.
 - b) Used ArcToolbox “Union” tool to make a single shapefile. Symbolized with black fill at 75% transparency.
 - c) Unioned shapefile has two records in attribute table: one for rectangle, one for circle. Deleted the “circle” record to create “punch out” effect.

Map #2

Northern Strand Community Trail: Regional and Local Connections

Method:

- Added and symbolized layers
- Formatted labels for certain layers
- Converted labels to annotation:
 - Bike paths
 - Schools
 - Open Space
 - Towns
- Used “follow this feature” mode for attaching bike path annotation to bike path linework.
- Added “rivers” annotation group to map document and targeted individual river annotations to this group.



Map #2

Northern Strand Community Trail: Regional and Local Connections

Areas for improvement:

- The color **Purple** used by different linework was hard to distinguish with adjacent linework or where linework drew on top of another color.
- “Existing Unimproved” (**pink**) bike paths
- “Considerd” (**purple**) bike paths - **off** road
- “Considered” (**purple**) bike paths - **on** road
- MBTA Commuter Rail (**purple**)

