



Canada Border  
Services Agency    Agence des services  
frontaliers du Canada



Public Services and  
Procurement Canada

Services publics et  
Approvisionnement Canada



U.S. Customs and  
Border Protection



**MaineDOT**



# Madawaska/Edmundston International Bridge and Border Crossing

## *Public Information and Scoping Session*

# Purposes of this Session

- Meet the Federal, State, and Provincial agencies
- Learn about the project and why it is needed
- Provide input on the project as part of Scoping Process
- Understand the next steps
- Ask questions

# Federal, State, and Provincial Agencies



Canada Border Services Agency  
Agence des services frontaliers du Canada

➤ Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA)



Public Services and Procurement Canada  
Services publics et Approvisionnement Canada

➤ Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC)



U.S. Customs and Border Protection

➤ U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)



➤ U.S. General Services Administration (GSA)



➤ New Brunswick Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (NBDTI)



**MaineDOT**

➤ Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT)

# Purpose and Need

The purpose of this project is to provide for the long-term safe and efficient flow of current and projected traffic volumes, including the movement of goods and people between Edmundston, New Brunswick and Madawaska, Maine.

The proposed project is needed because 1) the existing International Bridge is nearing the end of its useful life, and 2) the existing Madawaska Land Port of Entry is substandard, inhibiting the agencies assigned to the Port from adequately fulfilling their respective missions.

# Existing International Bridge

- Opened in 1921 – design life exceeded
- 4 truss spans – 942 feet (287 m) long
- Eligible for U.S. National Register of Historic Places



*Madawaska/Edmundston International Bridge and Border Crossing*

# Existing International Bridge

- Many deficiencies
  - Substandard geometry – roadway width & clearance
  - Foundations susceptible to undermining
  - Piers cracked and deteriorated
  - Significant steel corrosion
  - Bridge capacity insufficient
- Bridge posting & strengthening



# Madawaska Land Port of Entry



- Facility & Operational Deficiencies
  - Built in 1959
  - No room for expansion – lacks office and inspection areas
  - Changing mission & operational needs
  - Does not meet the Architectural Barriers Act
  - Subject of prior study

# Madawaska Land Port of Entry

## ➤ Site Deficiencies

- Does not meet current CBP mission requirements for a LPOE
- Deficient in inbound and outbound passenger and commercial processing areas
- Small size does not support adequate queuing space for vehicles – causes traffic to back up into Edmundston





# National Environmental Policy Act

- Project development guided by:
  - National Environmental Policy Act
  - Many other Federal and State laws and Executive Orders
- Intended to help officials make decisions
  - Understanding of potential environmental consequences
  - Protect, restore, enhance the environment



# Scoping – What is it & its purpose

- Scoping – process to determine the range and extent of relevant issues by consulting with interested parties
- Purpose of Scoping:
  - Identify and determine extent of the most significant issues
  - Identify and eliminate from study issues which are not significant
- Like to hear from you



# Edmundston Port of Entry

- Constructed in 1992
- Meets long-term needs



*Madawaska/Edmundston International Bridge and Border Crossing*

# Basic Facts

- Bridge replacement includes existing bridge removal
- Rehabilitating existing bridge was evaluated
- New bridge – 2 lanes, shoulders, and sidewalk
- Madawaska LPOE will be replaced
- Edmundston POE – constructed 1992, meets long-term needs
- New crossing designed to last 75 years

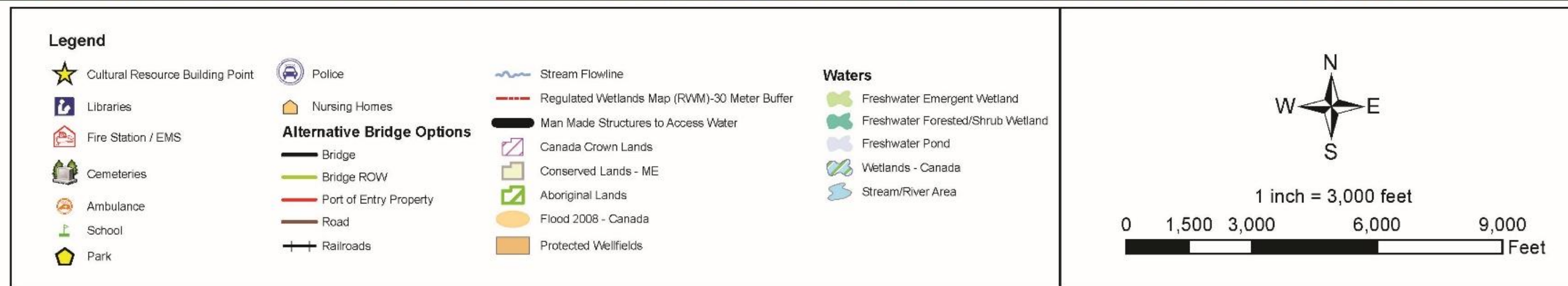
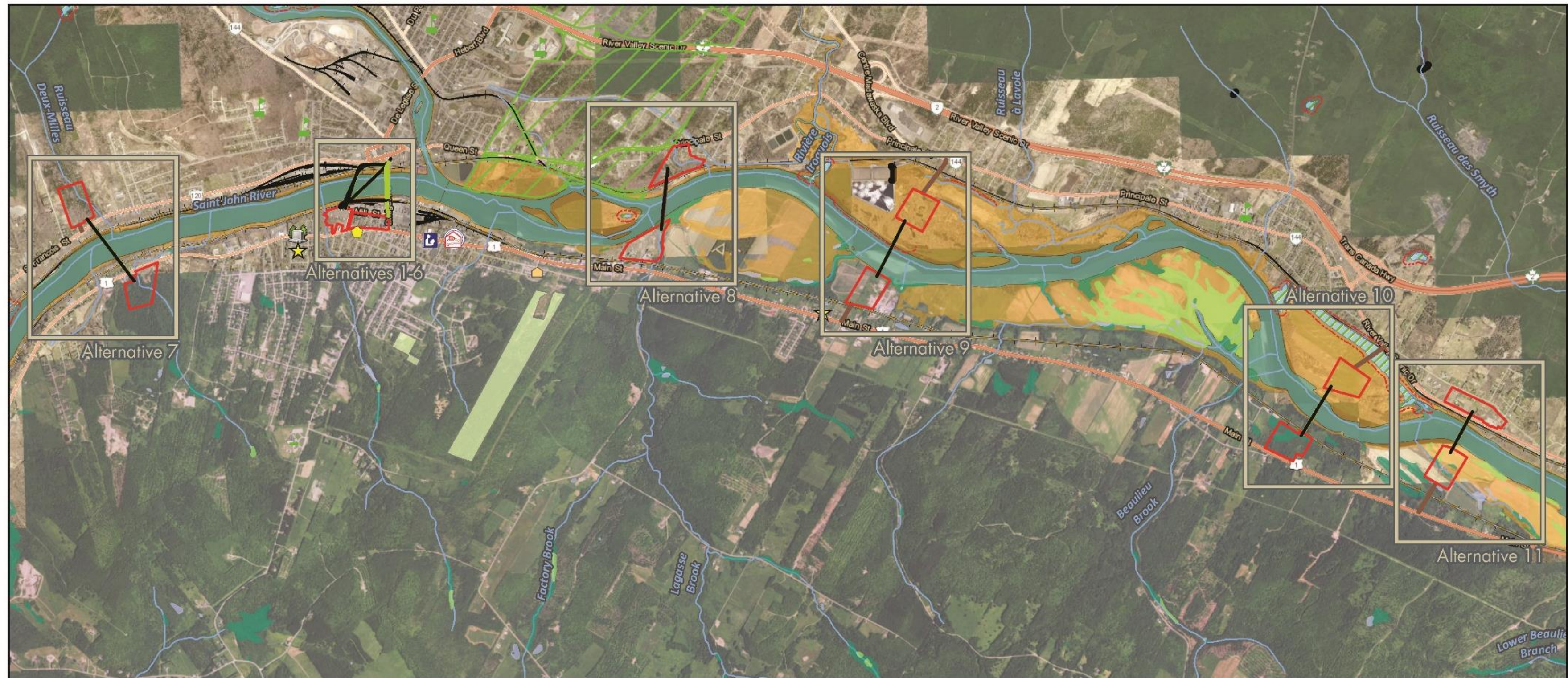
# Initial Outreach

- Town of Madawaska
- Twin Rivers Paper Company
- Maine Northern Railways
- City of Edmundston
- Edmundston Chamber of Commerce
- Downtown Edmundston Group
- CN Railways
- Public Information Session #1

# Crossing Locations – Evaluation Criteria

- Purpose & Need
- Transportation Considerations
- Land Port of Entry Considerations
- Social Environment Impacts
- Natural Environment Impacts
- Cost – Construction and Long-term
- Schedule for Delivery

# 12+ Crossing Locations Evaluated



## Madawaska/Edmundston International Bridge and Border Crossing

# Out of Downtown Locations

- Evaluation completed
- Cost, impact and schedule is unacceptable
  - Significant community & social impacts – existing bridge removed
  - Edmundston POE – meets long-term needs
  - Significant floodplain & wetland impacts
  - Adds years to schedule
  - Weight restriction – need to accelerate replacement



# Downtown Location

- Given current constraints, preferred by Federal, State, and Provincial Agencies
- Maintains direct connection and cohesion between City and Town
- Overall Cost – lower than out of downtown locations
- Schedule – delivered quicker than out of downtown locations
- Twin Rivers Paper Company Operations – Careful planning, design, and construction required

# U.S. Federal Government Owned Property

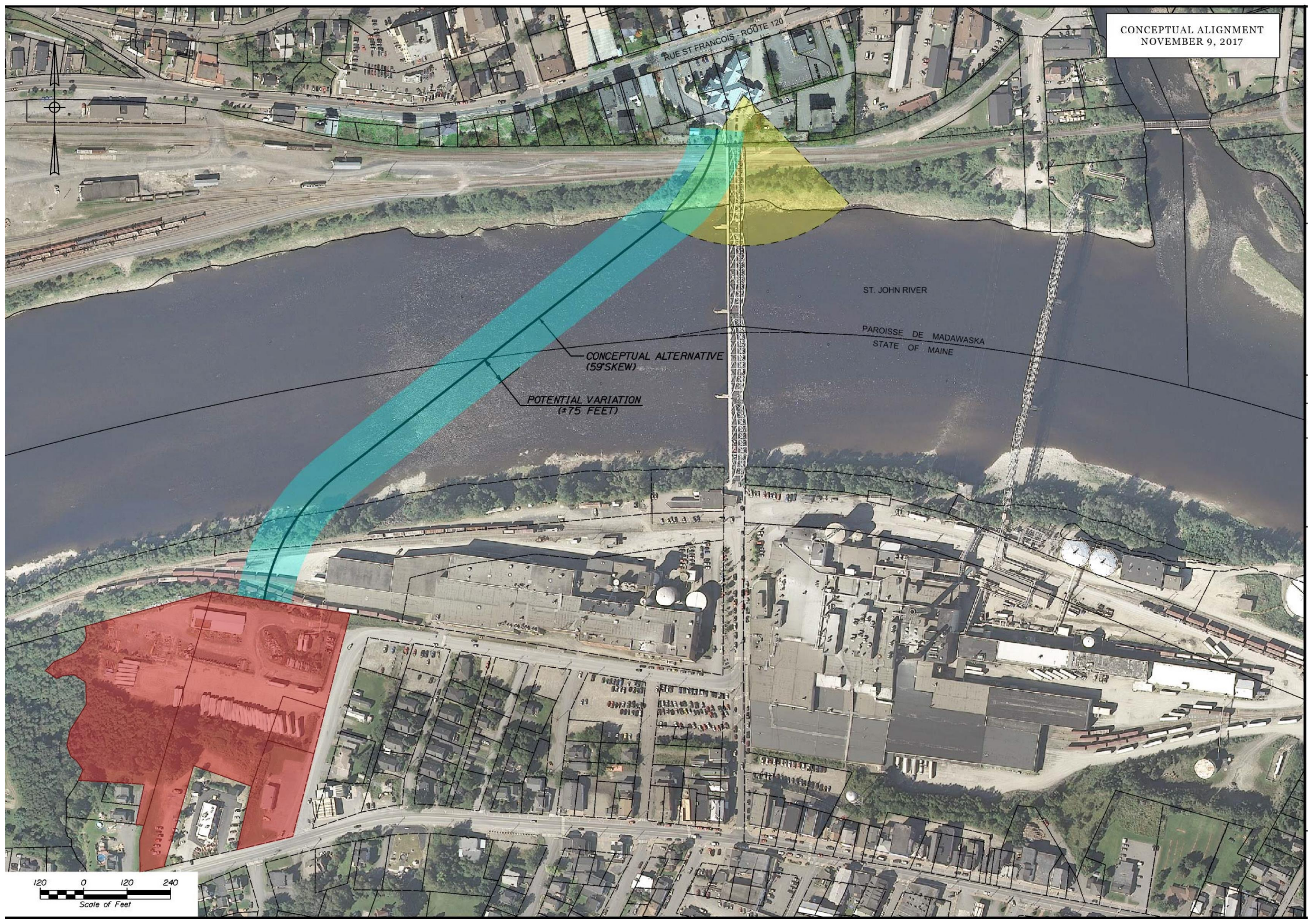


*Madawaska/Edmundston International Bridge and Border Crossing*

# U.S. Federal Government Owned Property

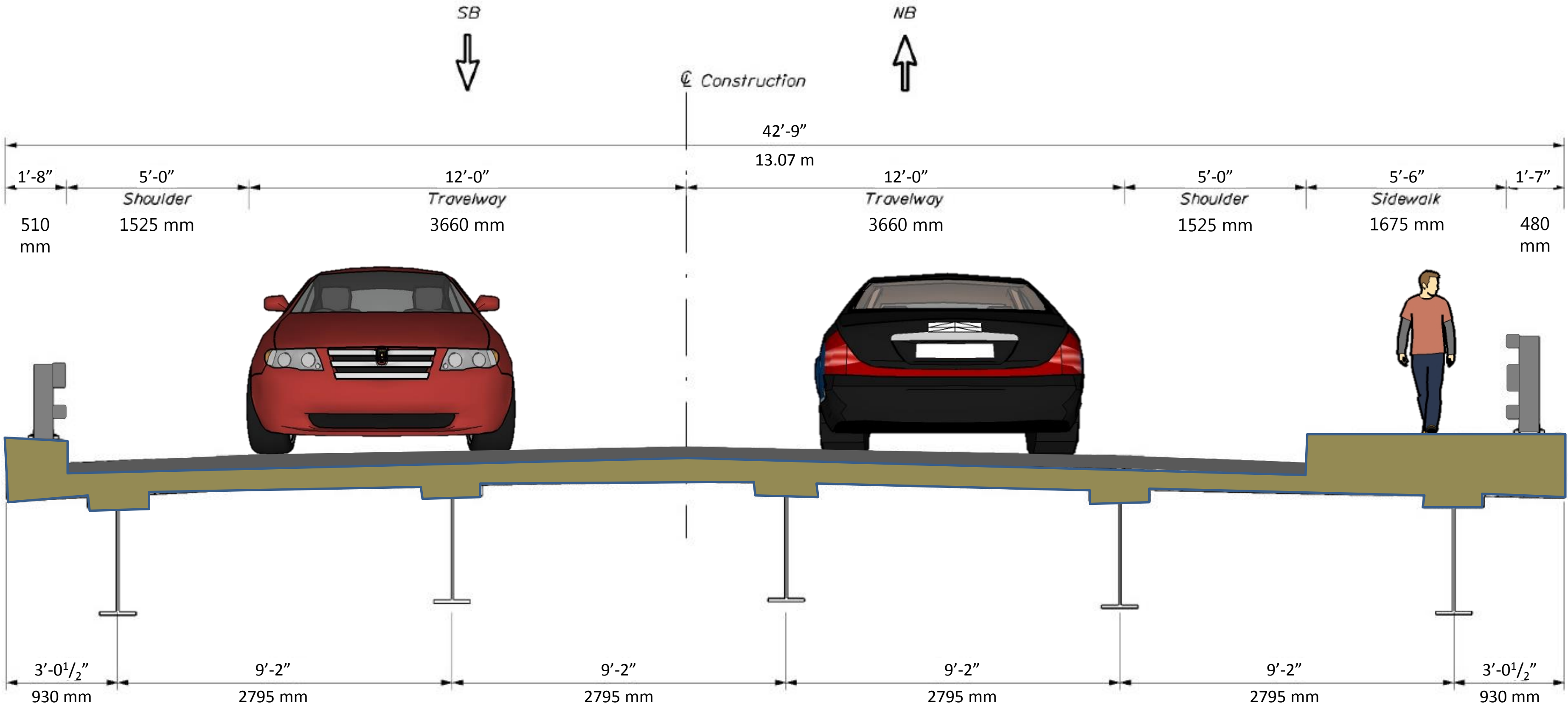
- Preferred location for LPOE
  - Other sites considered – too small, costly, disruptive
  - Existing LPOE – remains open during construction
  - Better traffic circulation
  - Shorter vehicle queues
  - Faster processing times

# Selected Downtown Location



*Madawaska/Edmundston International Bridge and Border Crossing*

# Conceptual Bridge Cross Section



*Typical Section  
(Bridge Section)  
Not to Scale*

# Bridge Types – to be determined

Steel or Concrete Girder



Segmental Concrete



*Madawaska/Edmundston International Bridge and Border Crossing*

# Schedule – Best Case Scenario

- Agencies are working hard to deliver
- International Bridge
  - Design completed – 2019
  - Construction – 2020, pending approvals
  - New bridge open – 2022, best case
- Madawaska LPOE
  - To open with the bridge
- Schedule is ambitious, periodic updates

# Next Steps

- Project website kept up to date:  
<http://www.maine.gov/mdot/planning/studies/meib/>
- Feasibility and Planning Study – complete early 2018
- Bridge and LPOE design
- Federal, State, and Provincial agencies to provide regular updates on developments, progress, and next steps
- Questions or comments? Submit online or:

## **Nate Howard**

Maine Department of Transportation  
(207) 624 – 3310

## **Richard Beauregard–Long**

New Brunswick Department of  
Transportation and Infrastructure  
(506) 453 – 3939