



Water Plant
Transmission Mains

Ashbaugh Neighborhood Meeting

Presented to:

Ashbaugh-adjacent
Property Owners

Presented by:

The WPTM Team

Presented on:

June 18, 2026



Welcome



Project Team Introductions



- Tim Huffman, City of Columbus, Distribution Manager
- Steve Nocera, City of Columbus, Project Manager
- Matt Casey, ms consultants, Project Manager
- Katie Nolan, Gresham Smith, Deputy Project Manager
- Lisa Shuster, Gresham Smith, Landscape Architect
- Morgan Dunay, Gresham Smith, Planner
- Chavious Burns, Gresham Smith, Landscape Designer
- Marie Keister, MurphyEpson, Outreach Team
- Nick Hoffman, MurphyEpson, Outreach Team
- Elyas Ingram, D&D PolicyWorks, Outreach Team
- City of Dublin Representatives



Agenda



- Project overview & status
- Ashbaugh corridor – construction impacts
- Landscape restoration strategy
- Schedule
- Next Steps

This presentation will be posted online at:

<https://cbuswater.com/resources>



Meeting Format/Ground Rules



- Presentation
- Facilitated discussion
 - Focus on high-level comments and questions
 - Save property-specific questions for project team members
 - Be respectful and kind
- Adjourn to connect with the project team



Process Goals



- Select the most technically feasible, reliable, resilient, constructible routes
- Collaborate with stakeholders
- Be transparent with the public
- Communicate what we are doing
- Minimize disruptions to the extent possible



Project Overview

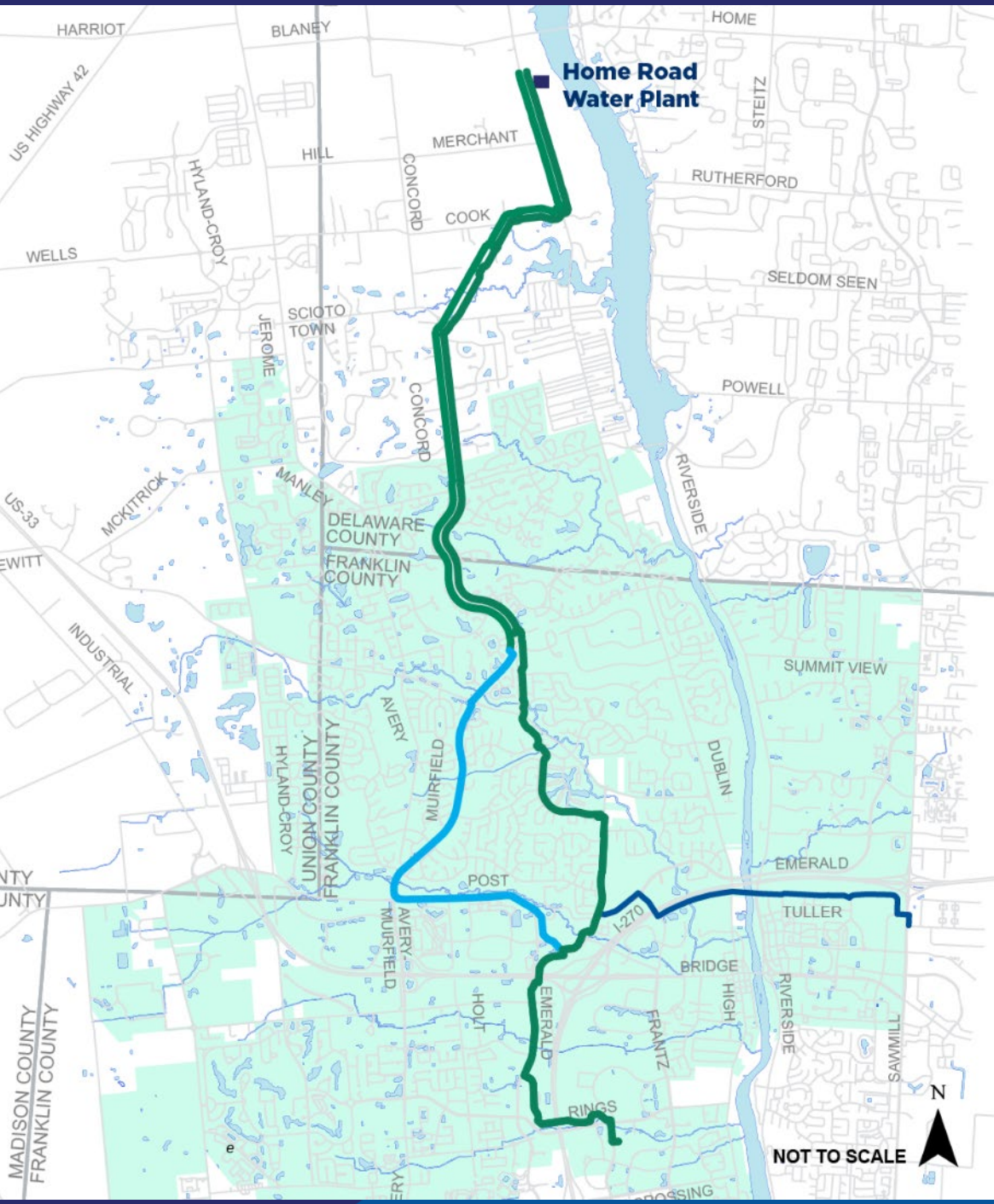


Why We're Building a Water Plant



- We are building a new water plant and transmission mains to meet the growing need for clean, safe drinking water in central Ohio.
- This will increase reliability and resiliency across the water supply system.
- The Home Road Water Plant is being built at the corner of Home Road and State Route 745. Contractors are currently preparing the site for construction.





Legend

-  Phase 1
-  Phase 2
-  Phase 3
-  City of Dublin

Each line represents a 48" transmission main.

Please note that Corridors could be adjusted as design develops.



Water Plant
Transmission Mains

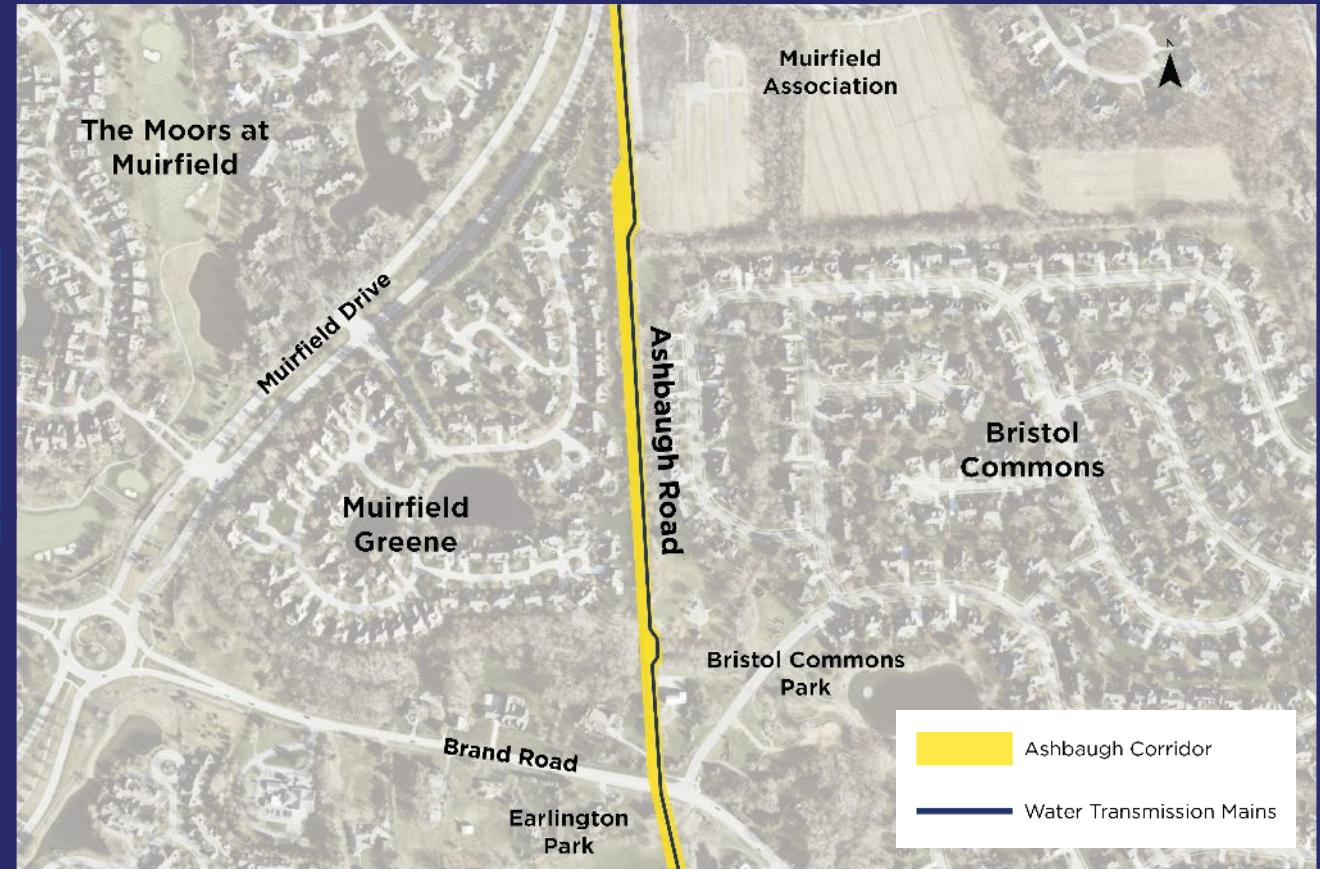
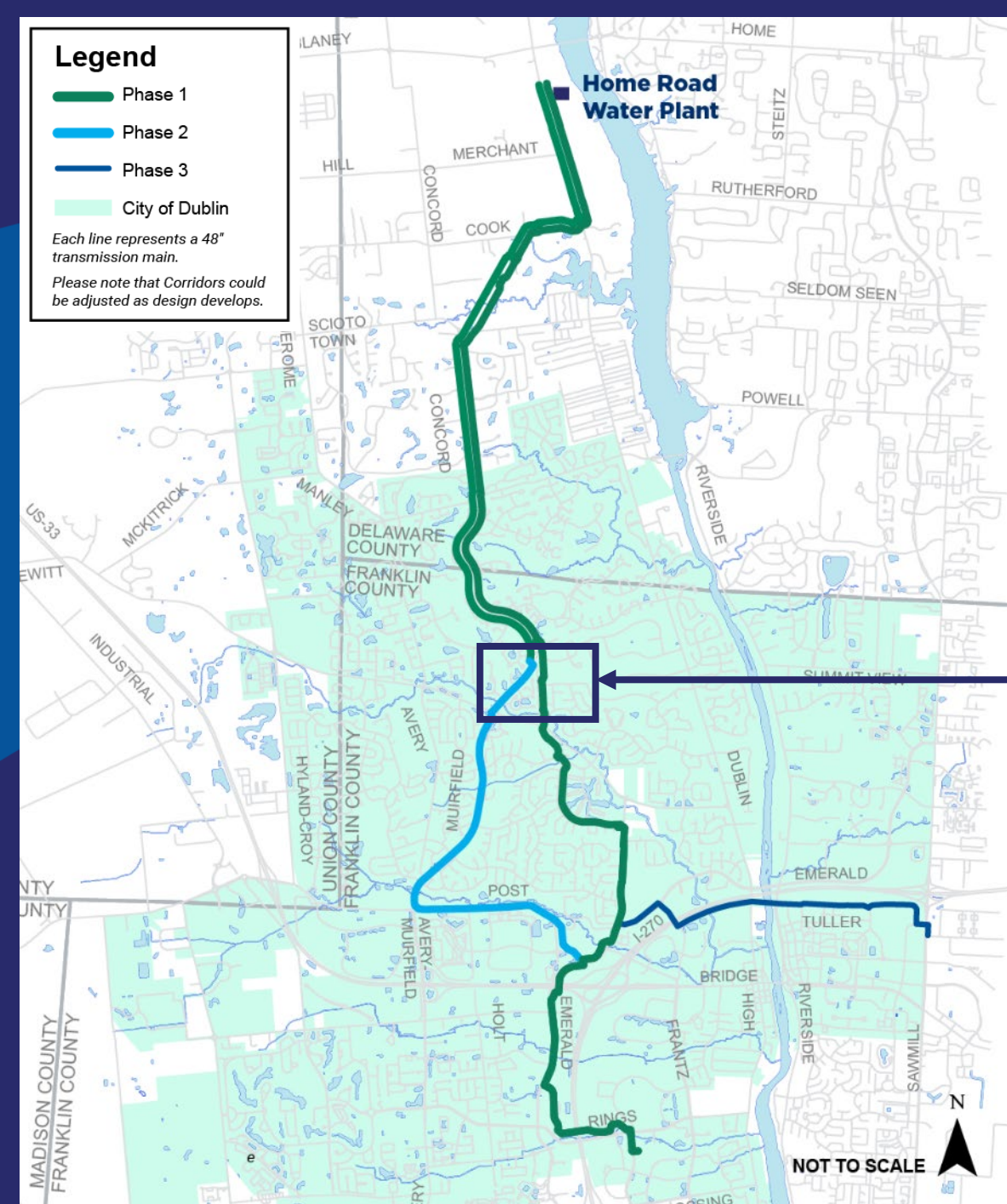


Legend

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Water Plant
Transmission Mains

COLUMBUS
WATER & POWER

General Construction Process

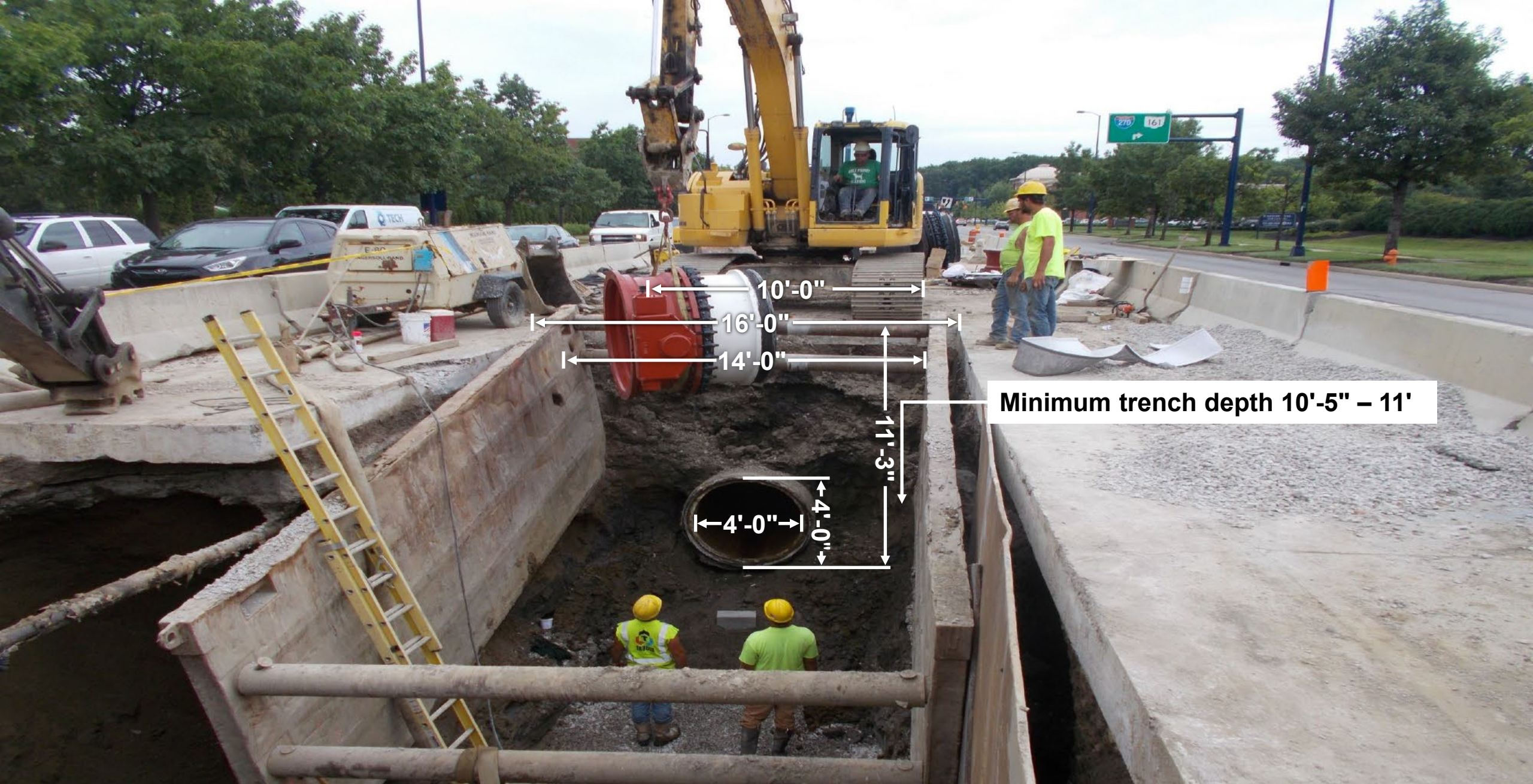


- Vegetation clearing and utility relocation will occur before construction of transmission mains begins
 - Environmental requirements must be met (e.g., avoid Indiana Bat habitat)
- Contractor will provide a detailed schedule once on board
- We will keep the community informed as details emerge through the website, public meetings and Dublin communication channels (social media, e-news, etc.)



What Construction of a 48" Transmission Main Looks Like





Stelzer Road north of Easton Commons / Easton Oval



This is "open trench" construction



Pipe fitting installation



The pipe in this corridor will be a minimum of 5 feet below the road's surface



Space is also needed for large, heavy equipment and supplies



Example of space needs for construction and staging (Miami, FL)

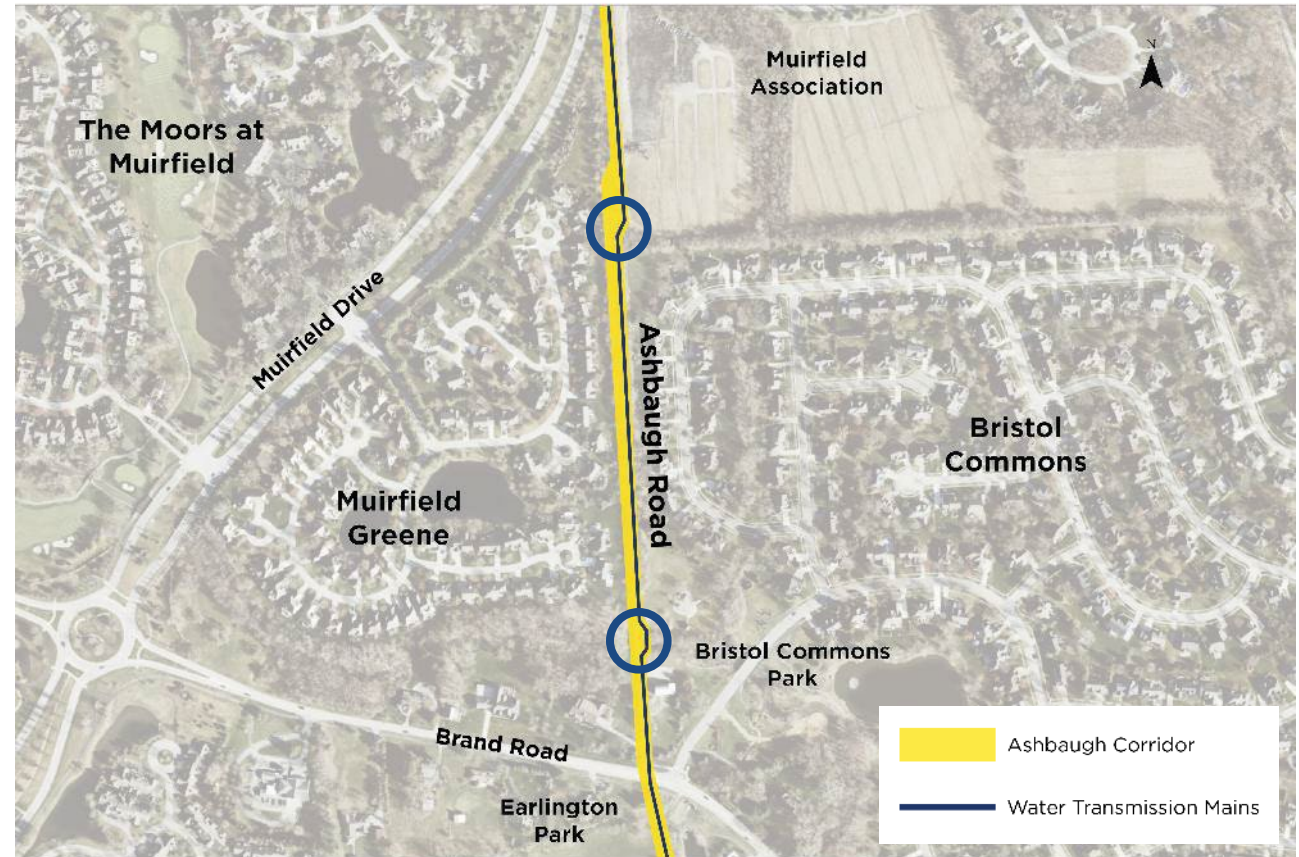
Ashbaugh Corridor



Ashbaugh Alignment



- The transmission main will mostly be constructed within the existing right-of-way of the 0.43-mile Ashbaugh Corridor
- Exceptions: two bump-outs near existing culverts to the north and south of residential properties (shown in blue)
- While it will be positioned on the east side of the corridor, construction activities will affect the full right-of-way



Impacts on Ashbaugh



- To make room for construction, the trees and bushes on Ashbaugh must be cleared from the existing Dublin right of way and utility easement
- When available and applicable, the construction limits will include the entire width of the corridor
- **The good news:** Columbus will replace the trees and bushes (except the invasive Honeysuckle)



Existing Vegetation Observations



- Heavy dominance of Honeysuckle – an invasive species
- Vegetation density and screening vary property by property
 - The majority of property owners have dense vegetation screening the roadway from backyards
 - Several property owners have replaced the dense vegetation with diverse shrubs, perennials and trees
 - Some properties have minimal to no plantings or screening
- Some properties have small access paths to Ashbaugh from adjacent properties



What is the Honeysuckle on Ashbaugh?



- The honeysuckle shrub along Ashbaugh features woody stems, green leaves and clusters of tubular flowers that vary in color from white to yellow
- Although appreciated for its screening density and fragrance, this honeysuckle species is invasive, spreads rapidly and outcompetes native plants, disrupting the local ecosystem



Views from Ashbaugh into Properties Today



0%

100%



From minimal vegetative screening to dense screening



View from Properties Towards Ashbaugh Today



0%

100%



From minimal vegetative screening to dense screening



View from Properties Towards Ashbaugh After Vegetation is Cleared



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View from Properties Towards Ashbaugh During Construction



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Landscape Restoration Strategy



Planting Strategy



- The planting palette will integrate a mix of evergreen and deciduous species for year-round visual interest that restores the current screening density
- Native species for both tree and understory plantings will align with Dublin's approved planting list
- The Landscape Restoration Design will align with the existing landscaping strategies used in the surrounding Dublin area



Why Remove and Not Replace the Honeysuckle?



- **Outcompetes native plants:** Honeysuckle grows rapidly and densely, shading out and displacing native vegetation
- **Reduces biodiversity:** Its dominance leads to monocultures, reducing habitat diversity for wildlife and native plant species
- **Alters ecosystems:** Changes soil chemistry and nutrient cycling, negatively impacting native ecosystems
- **Increases erosion risk:** Its shallow root systems do not stabilize soil as effectively as native plants
- **Spreads aggressively:** Produces abundant seeds dispersed by birds, making it difficult to control once established



But is it on Dublin's Approved Plant List?



- **Yellow Honeysuckle Vine, *Lonicera prolifera***
 - This native species is included on the approved planting list
 - However, it requires a high level of maintenance and is not recommended for the current right-of-way conditions
- **Honeysuckle Shrub (e.g., Amur or Tatarian)**
 - The shrub form is currently responsible for the existing visual screening on site
 - It is highly invasive and tends to outcompete native plant species in the area



Visualized Future View from Ashbaugh into Properties (0-5 years)



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Future View from Ashbaugh into Properties (Typically Mature in 10+ years)



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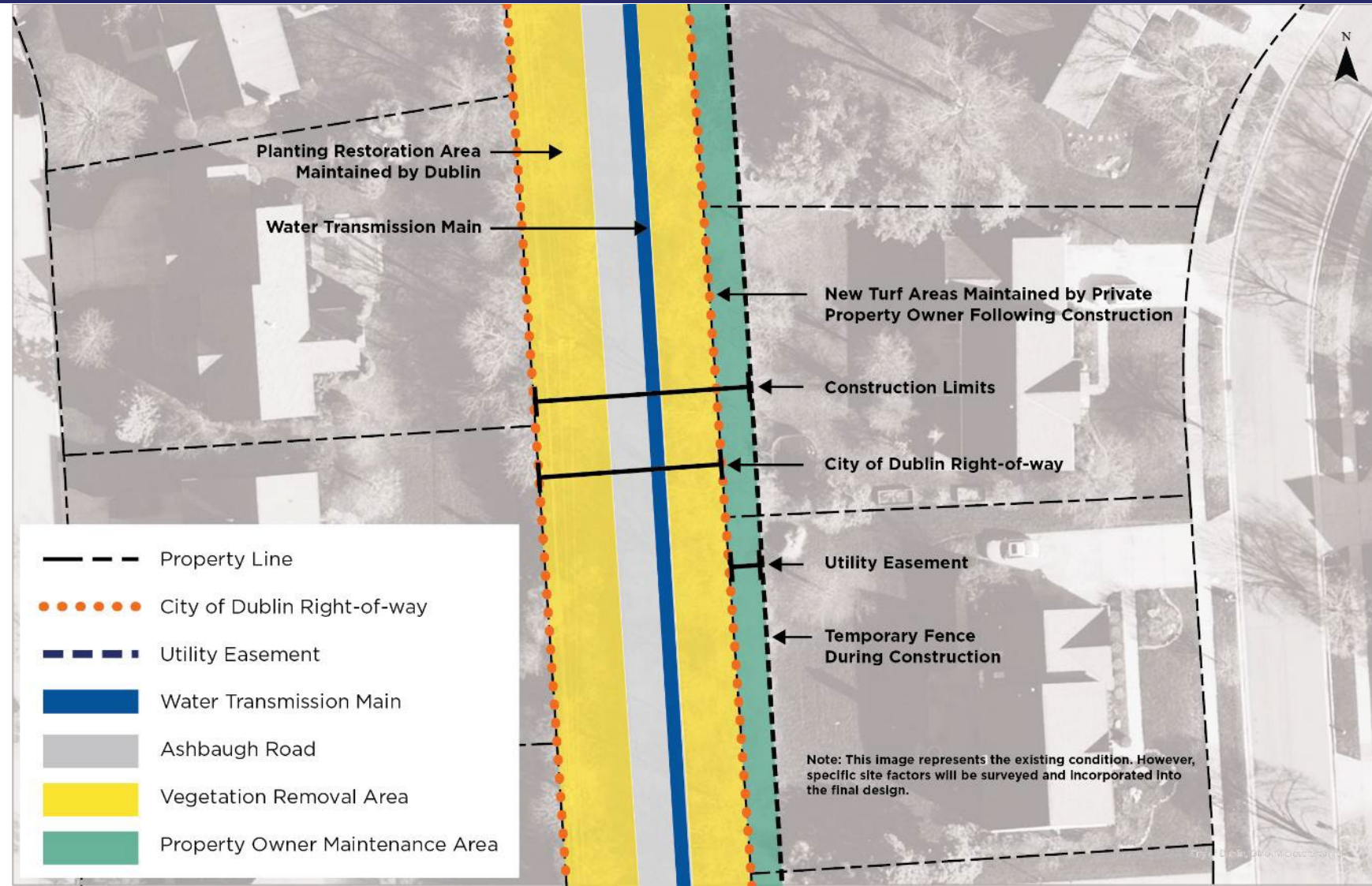
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Current & Future Maintenance Responsibilities



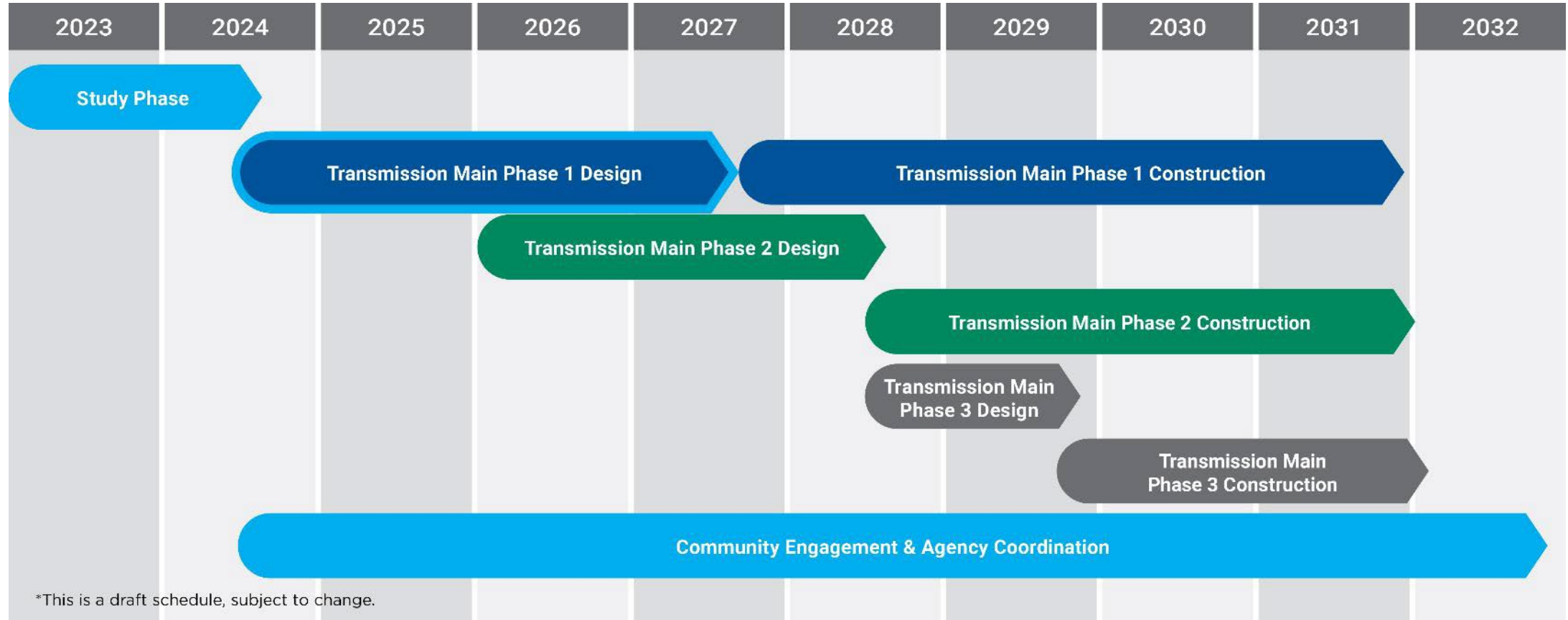
- The **City of Dublin** is, and will be, responsible for maintaining the landscape in the **Yellow Area**
- **Property owners** will be responsible for maintaining the newly established turf located outside the right-of-way but within their private property boundaries, like today, in the **Green Area**



Next Steps



Schedule



Next Steps



- Finalize Transmission Main Phase 1 design
- Develop construction phasing and traffic management plans once the contractor is hired
- Brief the public, then start Phase 1 construction late 2027/early 2028
- **Ashbaugh corridor construction may occur over at least two years**
 - Please note, constraints like weather, Indiana bat habitat, limited planting seasons and the Memorial Tournament will impact the schedule
- It's not yet determined when Ashbaugh construction will occur, but it will be sometime between 2028 and 2030
- There will be ample notification and ongoing construction updates



Discussion Ground Rules



- Focus on high-level comments and questions
- Save property-specific questions for project team members
- Be respectful and kind
- Then adjourn to connect with the project team



Thank You



For more information visit:
cbuswater.com

