



Student Assignment Working Group

Newton Public Schools
November 28, 2017

SAWG Charge

1. Review school boundary and buffer zone changes in conjunction with the long-range facility plan
2. Solicit feedback from stakeholders
3. Engage community (website, public sessions)
4. Make student assignment recommendation (June 2018)
5. Conduct timely notification to impacted property owners (June – September 2018)
6. Approve school boundary changes one year in advance of new school openings (Sept. 2018)
7. Full implementation (September 2019)

Current Objectives

- ① Expand Cabot district to ease crowding at nearby schools
- ② Review Bigelow and Day feeder patterns
- ③ Adjust school district boundaries for new school locations of Horace Mann and Lincoln-Eliot
- ④ Remain consistent with **values*** identified in 2015 process for Angier and Zervas

* To minimize family and community impact

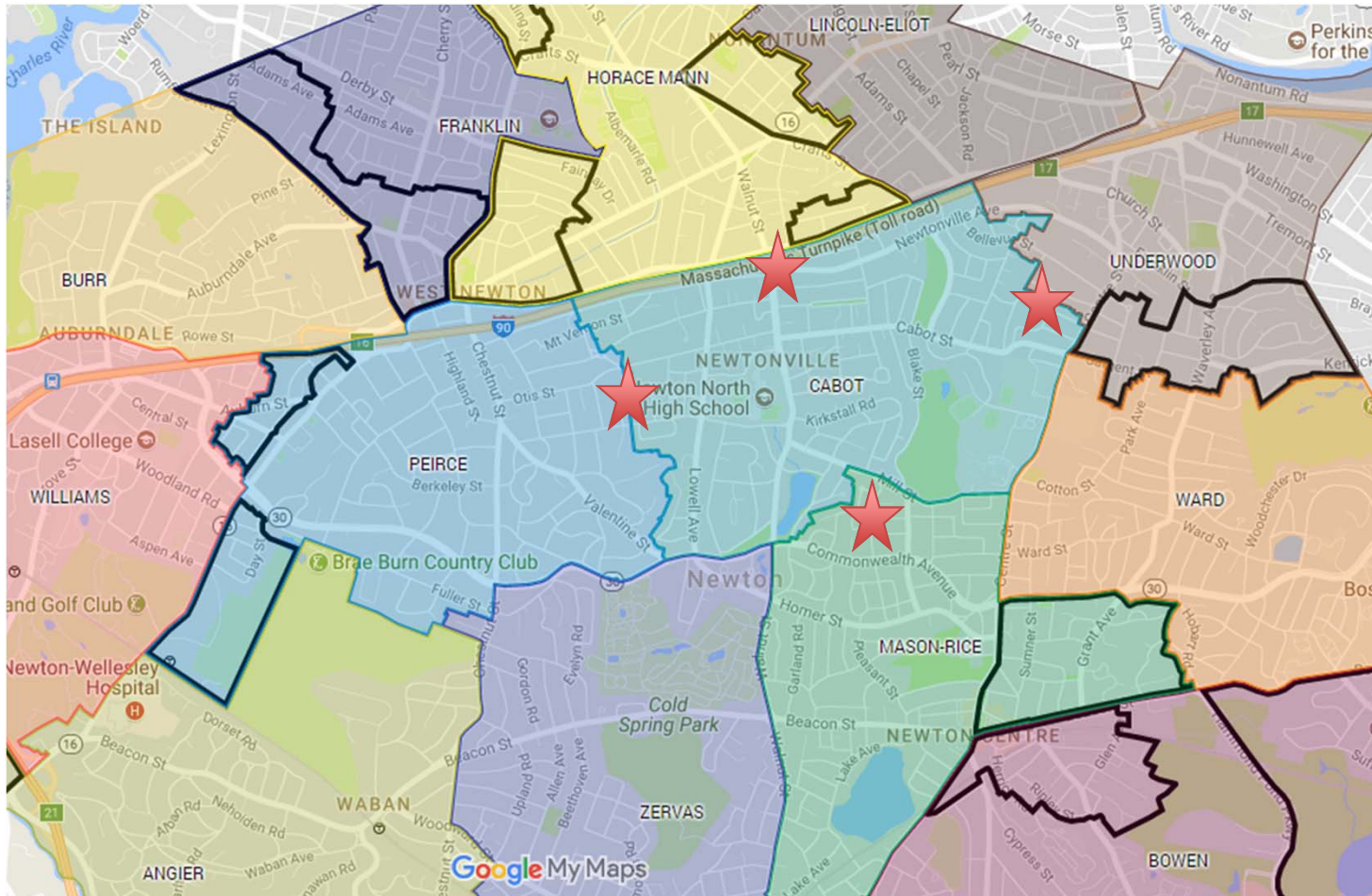
Complex Challenges

- Growth patterns are shifting
- Ongoing capacity pressures
- Two school location changes
- Dense neighborhoods and network of road ways (including Mass Pike)
- Increasing pressure on bus routes
- MSBA funding for Lincoln-Eliot still pending

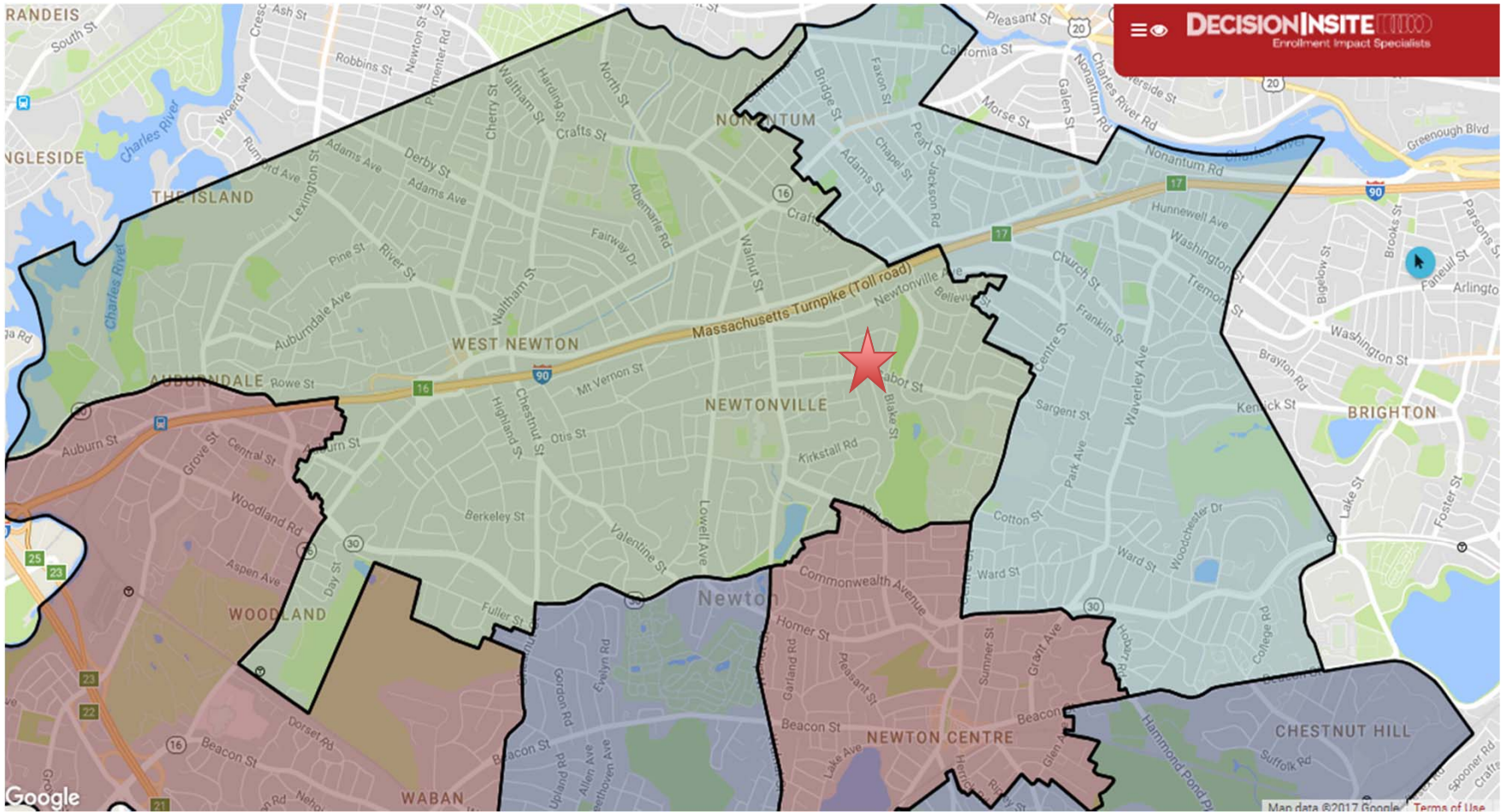
Cabot – Scenarios to Expect

- Cabot boundary and Washington Street corridor
- Boundary or buffer zone changes between Cabot and Underwood
- Boundary or buffer zone changes between Cabot and Mason-Rice
- Boundary or buffer zone changes between Cabot and Peirce and Ward
- Can 100% of Cabot students go to Day?
- Other middle school assignment options

Cabot Boundary Exploration: Elementary districts



Cabot Boundary Exploration: Middle School Districts



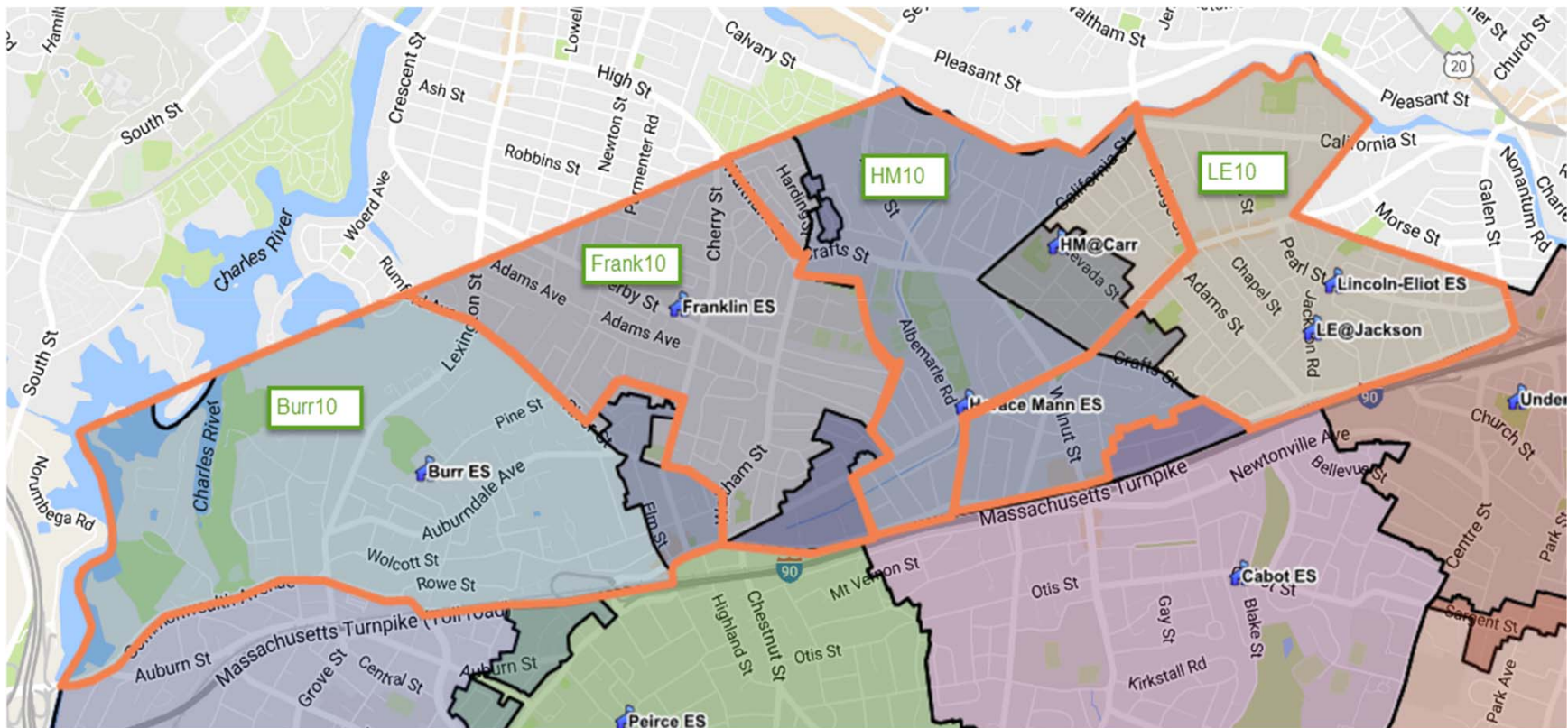
Examples of areas for Exploration



North side – Scenarios to Expect

- **Boundary changes between Burr, Franklin, Horace Mann and Lincoln-Eliot**
 - Carr school currently in a Buffer Zone
- **Existing Cabot-Horace Mann Buffer zone**
- **Other boundaries between Burr or Franklin and Peirce**

Independent Boundary Analysis



Internal Process

- Identify change ‘components’
- Map and identify student distribution
- Use spreadsheet model to move students in various scenarios
- Apply enrollment projection data
- **Identify potential scenarios that balance enrollment and ease crowding**

Guided Feedback Process

- Preliminary review with expanded working group including:
 - Additional school principals
 - PTO or parent representatives
 - City Council representatives
 - City departments (Planning, Transportation)
 - Safe Routes to School
- Incorporate feedback to refine scenarios

2017-18 Timeline

2017-18 Activities	Timing
Review and test scenarios	Sep 2017 – Feb 2018
Stakeholder input	Nov 2017 – June 2018
Initial scenarios & Public Comment	February 2018
Refine scenarios	Feb – May 2018
Final scenarios & Public Comment	May 2018
Recommendation & Public Comment	June 2018
Outreach to residents	Summer/Fall 2018
Final discussion and vote	Sept - October 2018
Full implementation	September 2019

School Committee Upcoming Meetings

February 12, 2018

March 5, 2018

April 25, 2018

June 18, 2018

**Public sign up for updates:
SAWG@newton.k12.ma.us**



Discussion or Feedback

- Process as outlined?
- Membership of expanded working group for guided feedback?
- Format for public sessions?
- Is review of 2015 Student Assignment process helpful for new School Committee members?
- Other ideas?