



# CALUMET AVENUE & RIDGE ROAD STREETScape

## TOWN OF MUNSTER

COMMITTEE MEETING #2 | NOVEMBER 18, 2020 | VIDEO-CONFERENCE



# INTRODUCTIONS + PROJECT TEAM



## **Teska Associates | Community Planning + Landscape Architecture**

Jodi Mariano, PLA, Principal Landscape Architect

Heather Faivre, PLA, Associate Landscape Architect



## **Sam Schwartz Consulting | Transportation + Traffic Planning**

Sara Disney Haufe, PE, PTOE, Associate + Deputy Director of Traffic Engineering

# PROJECT GOAL

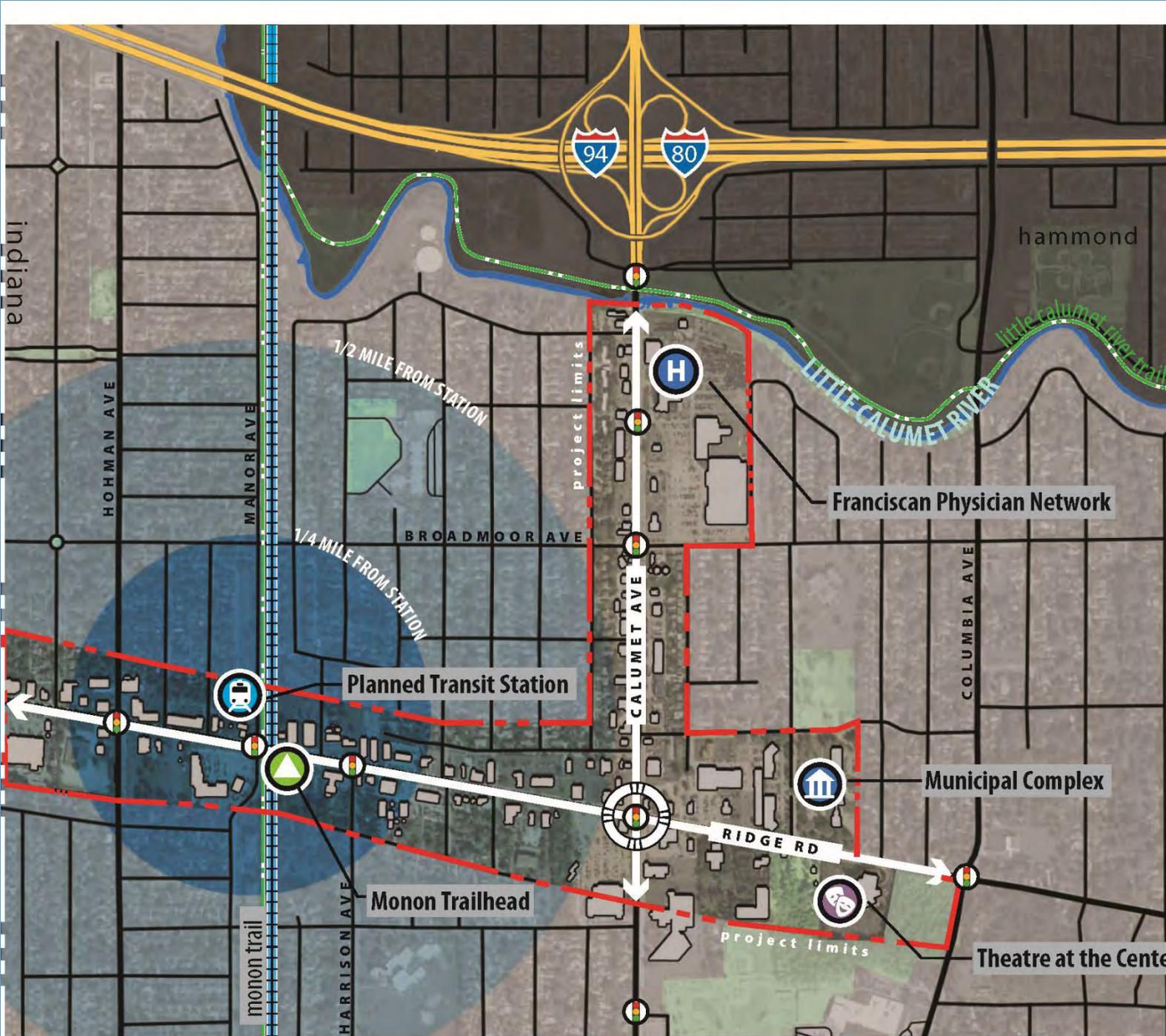
The goal of this project is to develop **a more welcoming environment for walking, biking, to reinforce a sense of place in our community, and to enhance the ability to absorb stormwater and reduce flooding.**

# KEY THEMES

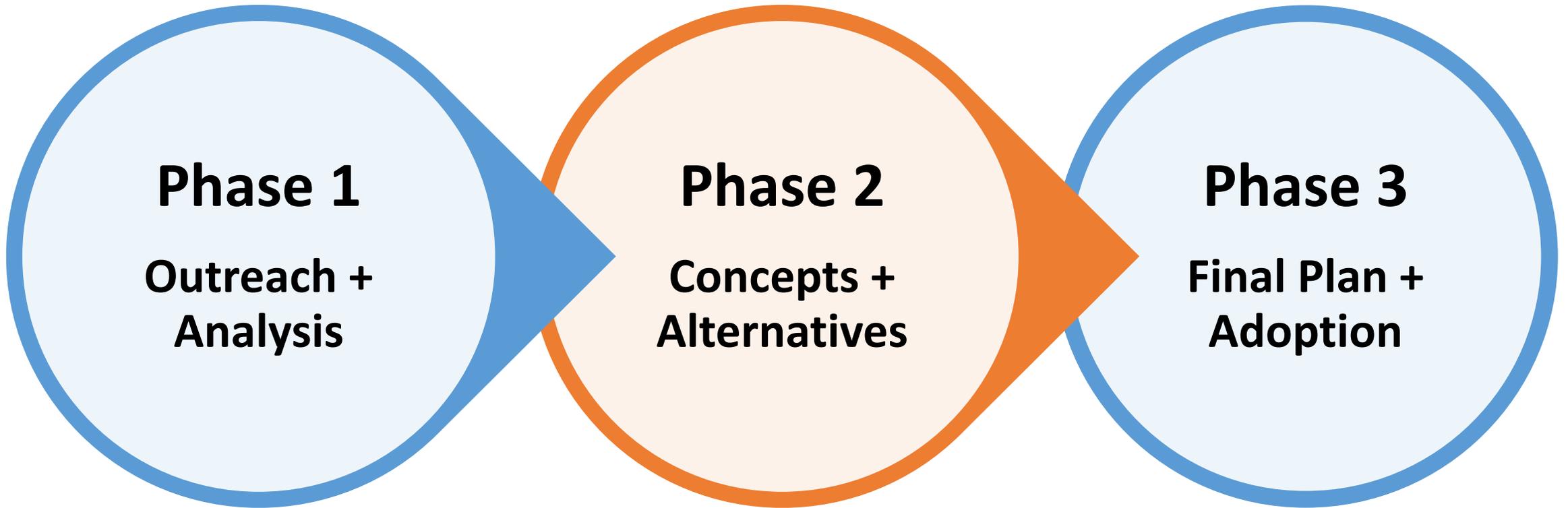
- A **safe and comfortable** pedestrian environment
- A functional streetscape providing **stormwater benefits**
- A consistent and **beautiful public realm**
- A **sense of arrival** and identity
- A multimodal system that balances **access and mobility**

# FUNDING FOR THE STREETScape PLAN

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration + the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Lake Michigan Coastal Program. **“The Coastal Grant”**



# STUDY AREA



**MAY – JULY 2020**

**Analysis / project website  
Staff meeting**

**Committee meeting #1**

**Neighborhood poll #1**

**Stakeholder interviews**

**Farmers market pop up**

**AUG – DEC 2020**

**Concept development**

**Committee meeting #2**

**Neighborhood poll #2**

**Agency meetings**

**Public open house**

**JAN 2020 – MARCH 2021**

**Final plan + pilot project**

**Committee meetings #3-4**

**Public meeting**

**Town Council meeting**

# AGENDA

1. **Introductions, project goals + scope review**
2. **Community outreach:** stakeholder interviews, poll #1 results
3. **Concept plan presentation:** elements + concept plans
4. **Traffic considerations:** methodologies + traffic impacts
5. **Agency outreach + considerations**
6. **Workshop activity + discussion**
7. **Next Steps:** poll #2, public meeting



# OUTREACH

- Project Website
- Stakeholder Interviews
- Munster Community Market
- Neighborhood Poll #1

596 Responses +  
677 Individual Comments!



# OUTREACH | Calumet Avenue key takeaways

1. Sidewalks and crossings are generally perceived as unsafe.
2. Speeding traffic should be calmed.
3. Left turning movements are perceived as challenging and unsafe.
4. Utility poles are unsightly.
5. Trees and greening are lacking.
6. The corridor needs an attractive entry to Munster.



# OUTREACH | Ridge Road key takeaways

1. Sidewalks and crossings are generally perceived as unsafe.
2. Additional traffic on Ridge Road seems to coincide with I-94 backups.
3. Outdoor seating + dining are positive trends that should be supported in the public way.
4. Businesses need more parking.
5. Trees and greening are lacking.
6. The planter pots and decorative lights are mismatched and appear 'tired'.
7. The corridor has attractive features but lacks a sense of place.

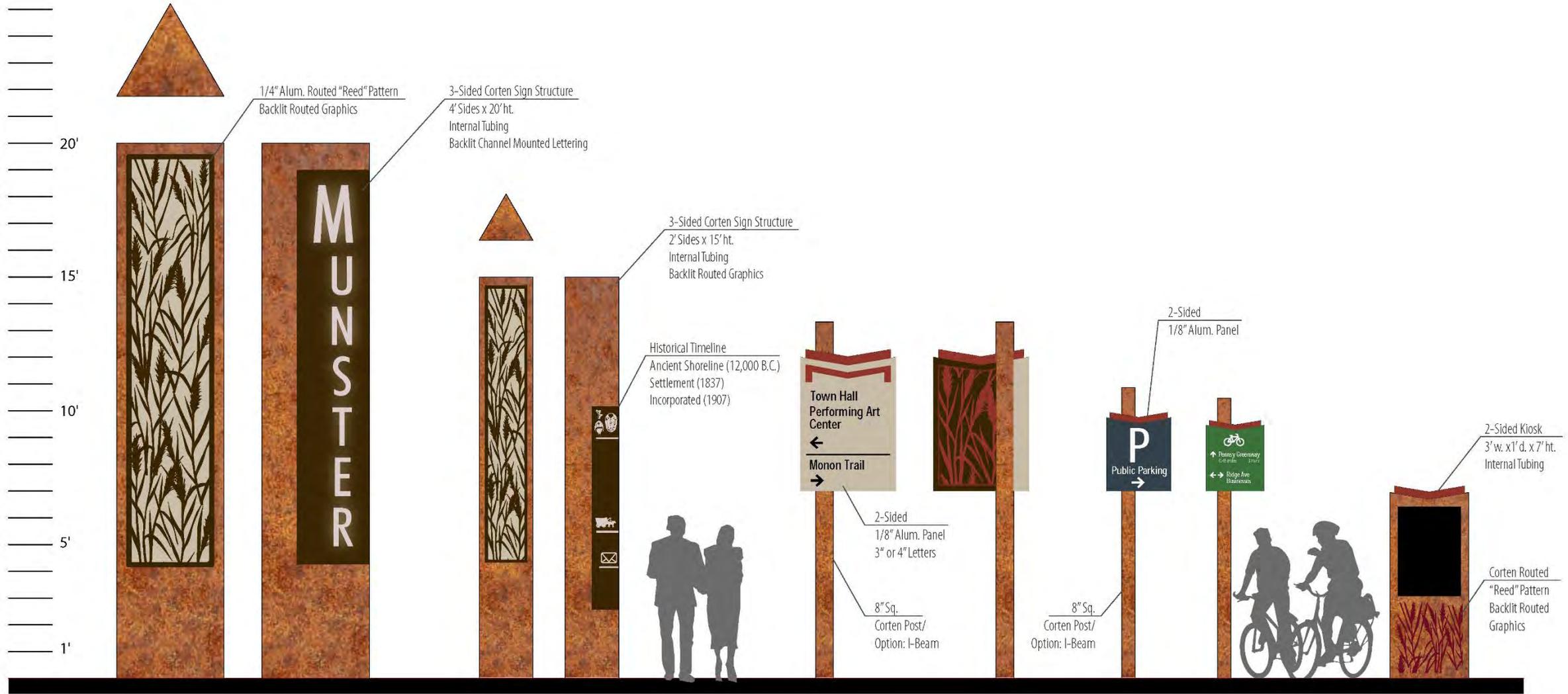


# **OUTREACH | Community poll #1**

**If you had a magic wand, what would you do to improve the Calumet Ave / Ridge Road Corridor?**

- 1. Safety first**
- 2. Calm traffic**
- 3. Improve biking and walking**
- 4. Create an attractive atmosphere**
- 5. Declutter the streetscape**
- 6. Make it greener**
- 7. Work with property owners to improve their curb appeal**
- 8. Maintenance is key**

# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Metal Sign Family



TOWN GATEWAY PIER

IDENTITY PIER W/ ELEVATION DATUM

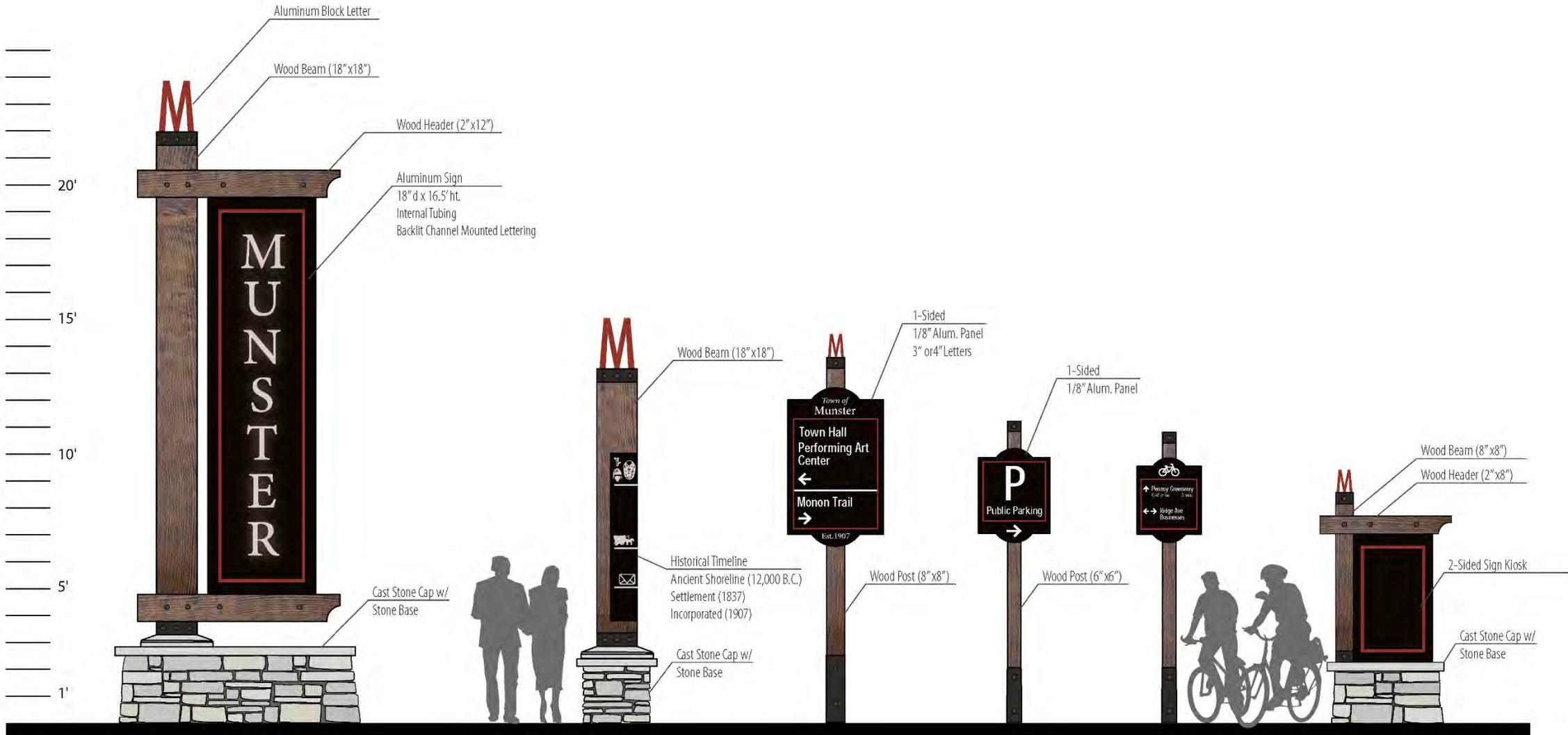
VEHICULAR DIRECTIONAL SIGN  
(FREE STANDING OR MOUNTED TO  
LIGHT POLE)

PUBLIC PARKING  
DIRECTIONAL SIGN  
(FREE STANDING OR MOUNTED TO  
LIGHT POLE)

BICYCLE DIRECTIONAL  
SIGN

KIOSK

# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Stone + Timber Sign Family



TOWN GATEWAY PIER

IDENTITY PIER W/ ELEVATION DATUM

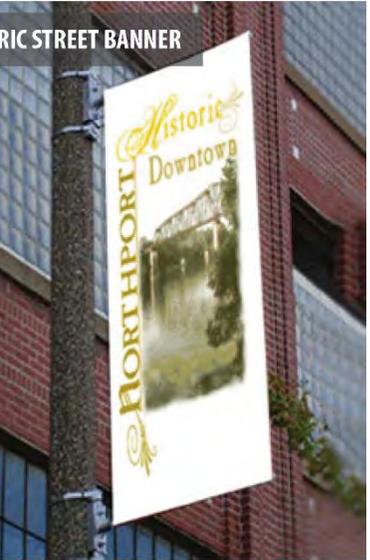
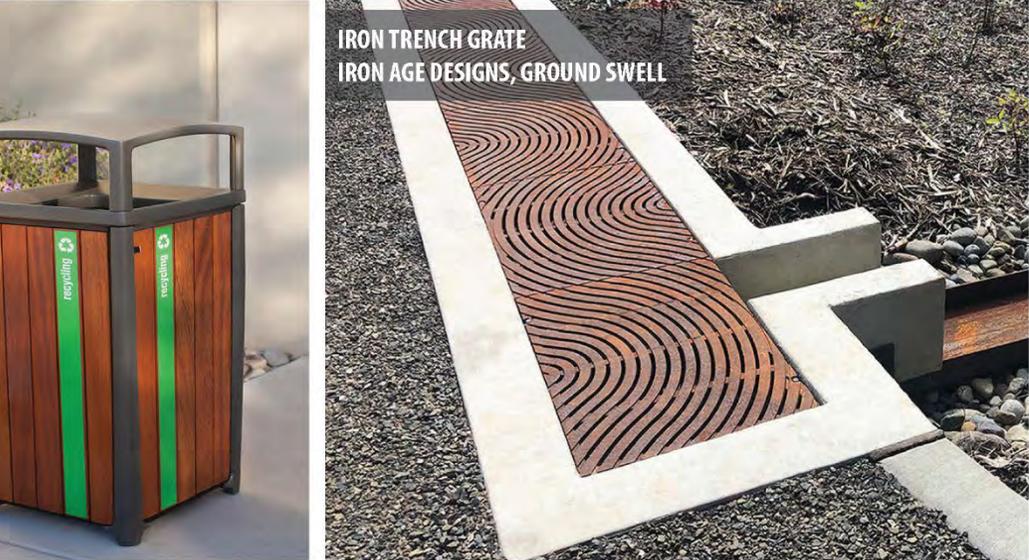
VEHICULAR DIRECTIONAL SIGN  
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PUBLIC PARKING  
DIRECTIONAL SIGN  
(FREE STANDING OR MOUNTED TO  
LIGHT POLE)

BICYCLE DIRECTIONAL  
SIGN

KIOSK

# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Furnishings - Rustic



# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Furnishings - Refined



WOOD + ALUMINUM BENCH BACKLESS  
LANDSCAPE FORMS GENERATION 50 BENCH



WOOD + ALUMINUM BENCH WITH BACK  
LANDSCAPE FORMS AUSTIN BENCH



ALUMINUM BIKE RACK  
LANDSCAPE FORMS, BOLA BIKE RACK



WOOD + ALUMINUM  
LITTER + RECYCLING RECEPTACLE  
LANDSCAPE FORMS GENERATION 50



IRON TREE GRATE  
IRON AGE DESIGNS, KELP



IRON TRENCH GRATE  
IRON AGE DESIGNS, MINNIONE



METAL STREET BANNER



FABRIC STREET BANNER

# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Plantings



**American Hornbeam**  
*Cornus caroliniana*  
Mature Height: 25'  
Mature Width: 25'  
Pollinators: Butterflies/Moths



**Black Tupelo**  
*Nyssa sylvatica*  
Mature Height: 45'  
Mature Width: 50'  
Pollinators: Bees



**Common Hackberry**  
*Celtis occidentalis*  
Mature Height: 65'  
Mature Width: 50'  
Pollinators: Butterflies/Moths



**Kentucky Coffeetree**  
*Gymnocladus dioica*  
Mature Height: 50'  
Mature Width: 50'  
Pollinators: Butterflies/Moths



**Ohio Buckeye**  
*Aesculus glabra*  
Mature Height: 30'  
Mature Width: 30'  
Pollinators: Bees & Hummingbirds



**Red Maple**  
*Acer rubrum*  
Mature Height: 45'  
Mature Width: 40'  
Pollinators: Bees & Butterflies/Moths



**Swamp White Oak**  
*Quercus bicolor*  
Mature Height: 50'  
Mature Width: 40'  
Pollinators: Butterflies/Moths



**Yellowwood**  
*Cladastis kentuckea*  
Mature Height: 40'  
Mature Width: 40'  
Pollinators: Butterflies/Moths



**Dwarf Bush Honeysuckle**  
*Diervilla lonicera*  
Mature Height: 1'-3'  
Mature Width: 3'-5'

Flower Color: Red/Orange/Yellow  
Pollinators: Butterflies & Hummingbirds



**Kalm's St. John's wort**  
*Hypericum kalmianum*  
Mature Height: 2'-3'  
Mature Width: 3'-4'

Flower Color: Yellow  
Pollinators: Bees



**New Jersey Tea**  
*Ceanothus americanus*  
Mature Height: 2'-3'  
Mature Width: 2'-3'

Flower Color: White  
Pollinators: Bees, Butterflies/Moths, & Hummingbirds



**Arctostaphylos uva-ursi**  
*Bearberry*  
Mature Height: 1'  
Mature Width: 3'-6'

Flower Color: White/Pink  
Pollinators: Bees, Butterflies/Moths, & Hummingbirds



NOTE: Mature tree heights and widths are dependent on soil conditions and maintenance practice.

# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Plantings



**Butterflyweed**  
*Asclepias tuberosa*  
Mature Height: 1'  
Mature Width: 2'  
Flower Color: Orange  
Pollinators: Bees & Butterflies/Moths



**Lance-Leaf Coreopsis**  
*Coreopsis lanceolata*  
Mature Height: 2'  
Mature Width: 1'-2'  
Flower Color: Yellow  
Pollinators: Bees, Butterflies/Moths & Flies



**Narrow-Leaf Mountain Mint**  
*Pycnanthemum tenuifolium*  
Mature Height: 2'  
Mature Width: 2'-3'  
Flower Color: White  
Pollinators: Bees, Butterflies/Moths, Flies, & Wasps



**Nodding Wild Onion**  
*Allium cernuum*  
Mature Height: 1'-2'  
Mature Width: 1'  
Flower Color: Pink  
Pollinators: Bees, Butterflies/Moths, & Hummingbirds



**Palm Sedge**  
*Carex muskingumensis*  
Mature Height: 1'-3'  
Mature Width: 1'-3'



**Prairie Dropseed**  
*Sporobolus heterolepis*  
Mature Height: 1'-2'  
Mature Width: 2'-3'



**Prairie Junegrass**  
*Koeleria macrantha*  
Mature Height: 1'-2'  
Mature Width: 1'-2'



**Prairie Sedge**  
*Carex bicknellii*  
Mature Height: 1'-3'  
Mature Width: 1'-3'



**Sideoats Grama**  
*Bouteloua curtipendula*  
Mature Height: 1'-2.5'  
Mature Width: 1'-2'



**Smooth Blue Aster**  
*Aster laevis*  
Mature Height: 2'-3'  
Mature Width: 2'-4'  
Flower Color: Blue  
Pollinators: Butterflies/Moths



**Black-eyed Susan**  
*Rudbeckia hirta*  
Mature Height: 2'-3'  
Mature Width: 2'  
Flower Color: Yellow  
Pollinators: Butterflies/Moths



**Wild Columbine**  
*Aquilegia canadensis*  
Mature Height: 2'  
Mature Width: 1'-2'  
Flower Color: Red/Yellow  
Pollinators: Butterflies/Moths & Hummingbirds



**Wild Geranium**  
*Geranium maculatum*  
Mature Height: 1'-2'  
Mature Width: 1'-2'  
Flower Color: Lavender  
Pollinators: Bees, Butterflies/Moths, & Flies



**Lance-Leaf Coreopsis**  
*Coreopsis lanceolata*  
Mature Height: 2'  
Mature Width: 1'-2'  
Flower Color: Yellow  
Pollinators: Bees, Butterflies/Moths & Flies



**Narrow-Leaf Mountain Mint**  
*Pycnanthemum tenuifolium*  
Mature Height: 2'  
Mature Width: 2'-3'  
Flower Color: White  
Pollinators: Bees, Butterflies/Moths, Flies, & Wasps



**Palm Sedge**  
*Carex muskingumensis*  
Mature Height: 1'-3'  
Mature Width: 1'-3'



**Prairie Dropseed**  
*Sporobolus heterolepis*  
Mature Height: 1'-2'  
Mature Width: 2'-3'



**Prairie Sedge**  
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Mature Height: 1'-3'  
Mature Width: 1'-3'



**Smooth Blue Aster**  
*Aster laevis*  
Mature Height: 2'-3'  
Mature Width: 2'-4'  
Flower Color: Blue  
Pollinators: Butterflies/Moths



**PERMEABLE PAVING AT SIDEWALKS WITH RAIN GARDENS**

# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Roadway Lights + Signals



45<sup>th</sup> and Calumet Ave

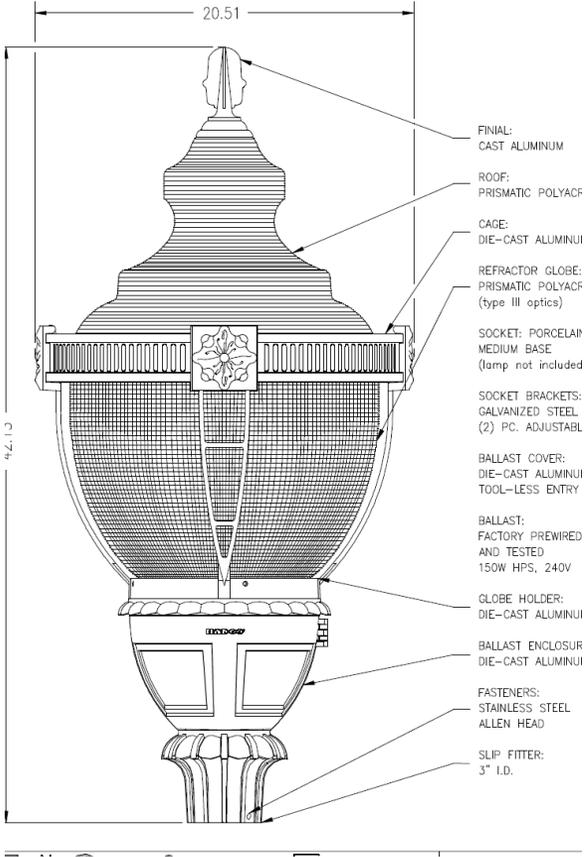
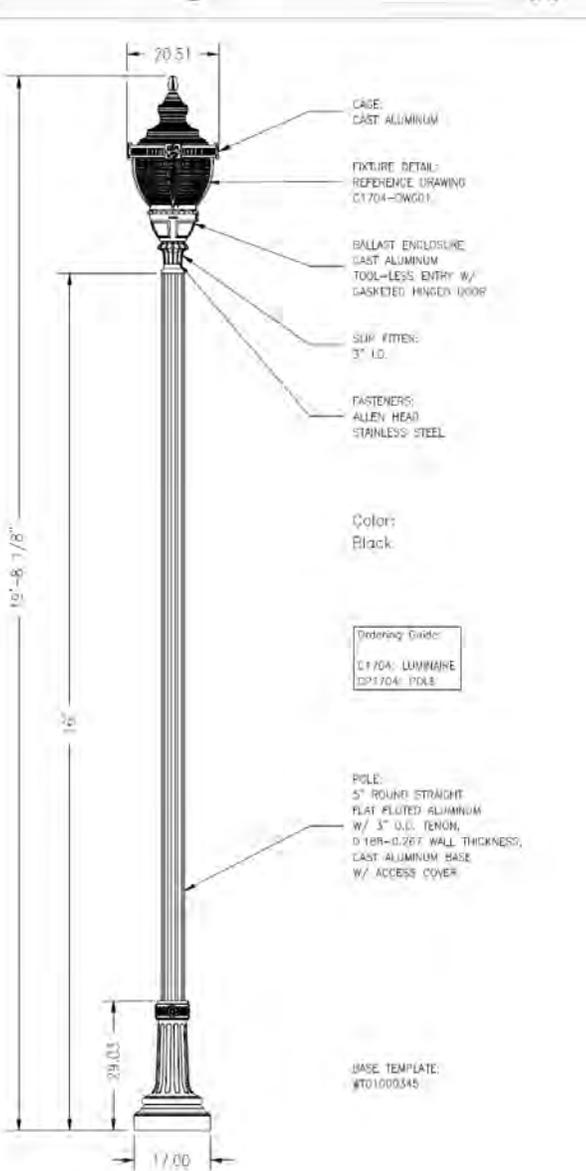
# CONCEPT PLAN | Pedestrian Lights Shepherd's Hook Option



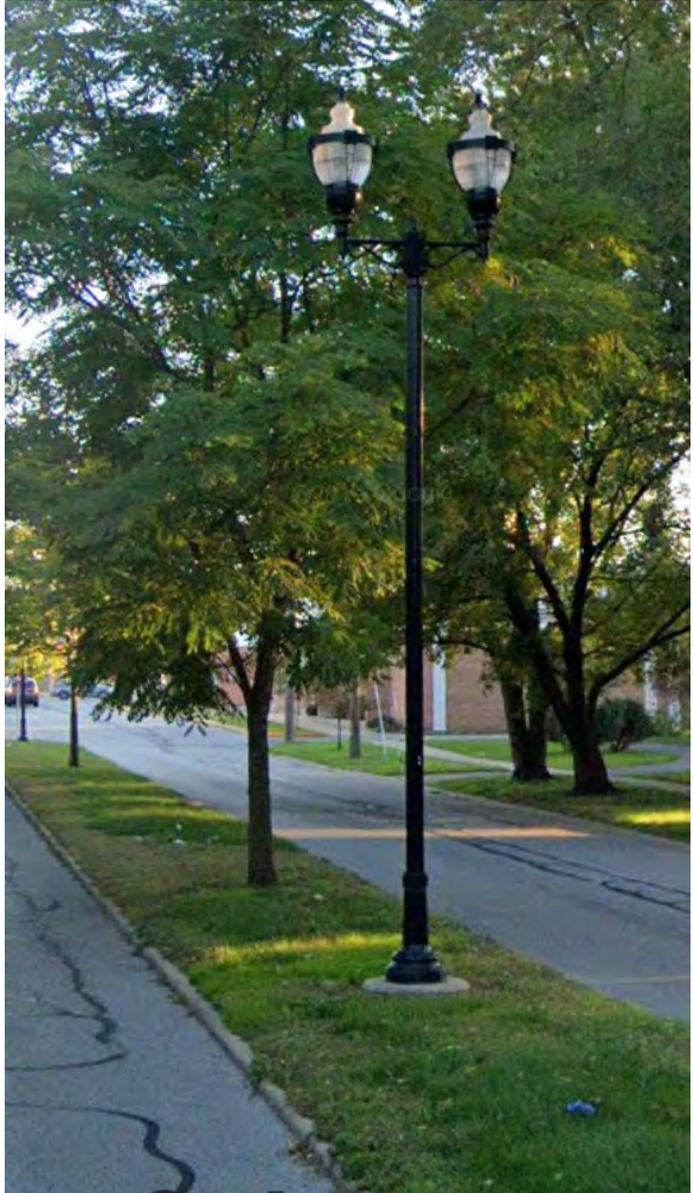
# CONCEPT PLAN | Pedestrian Lights Post Top Option



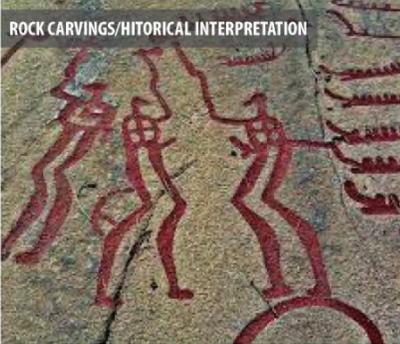
# CONCEPT PLAN | Pedestrian Lights Caged Acorn Option



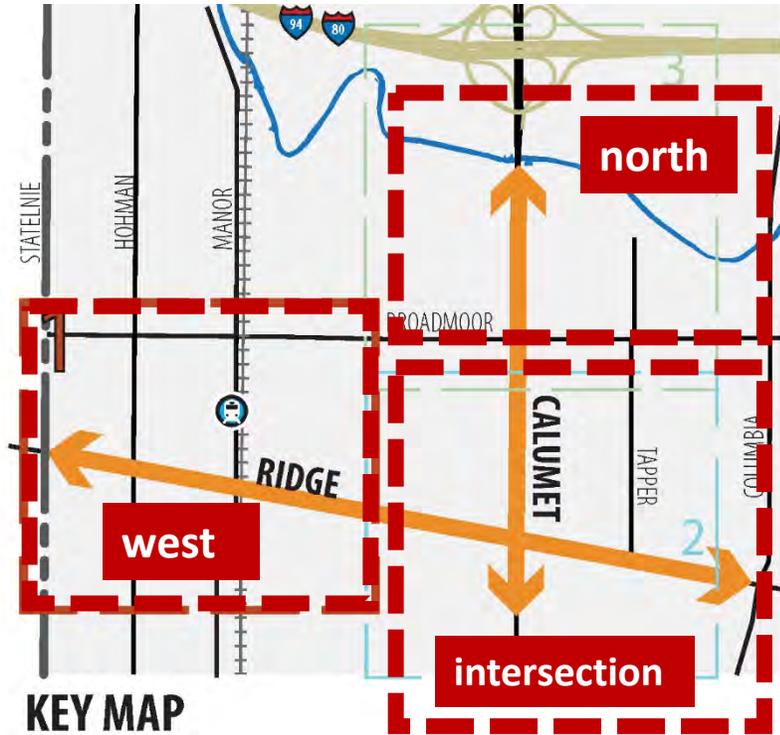
Hohman Avenue



# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Public Art



# CONCEPT PLAN | Min vs Max Roadway Change



## LEGEND

-  SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION
-  PLANNED TRANSIT STATION LOCATION
-  PLANNED TRANSIT RAIL LINE
-  POTENTIAL RELOCATION FOR OVERHEAD POWERLINES (FURTHER STUDY REQUIRED)
-  PARCEL LINE
-  RIGHT OF WAY
-  CONTOUR LINE
-  REGIONAL TRAIL

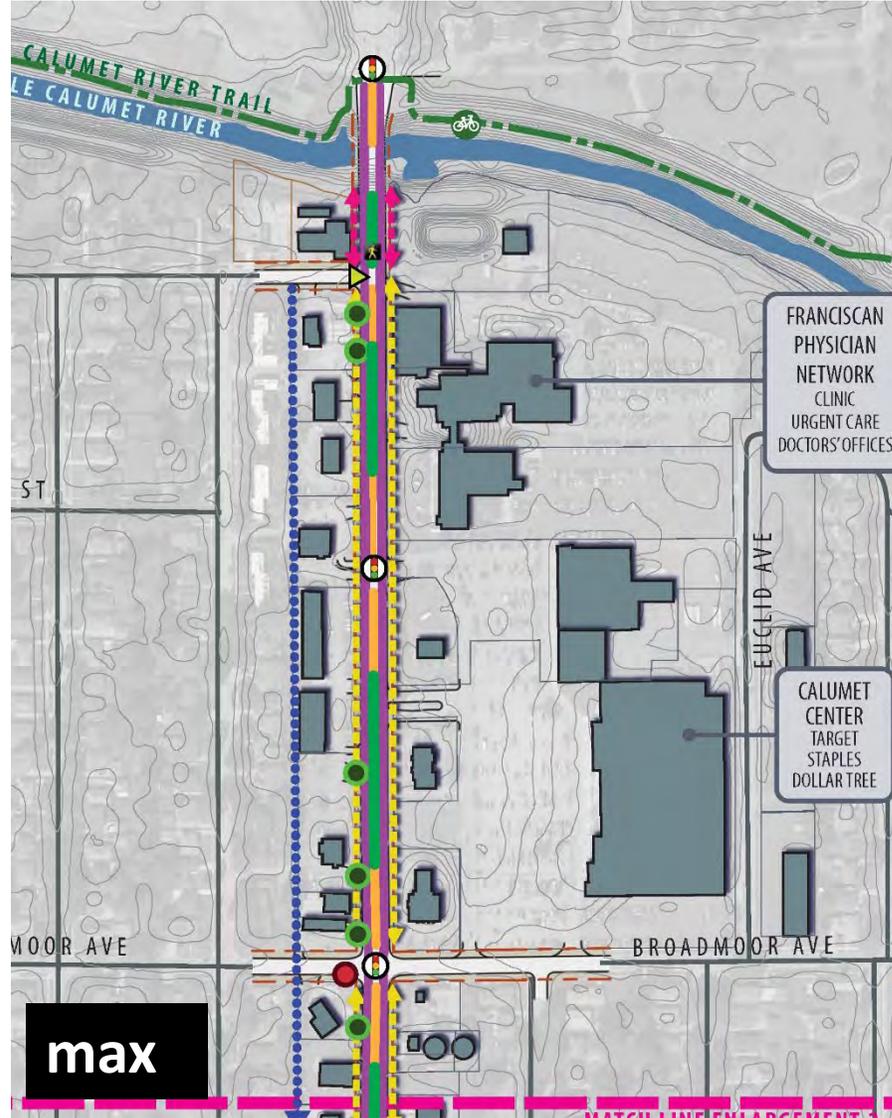
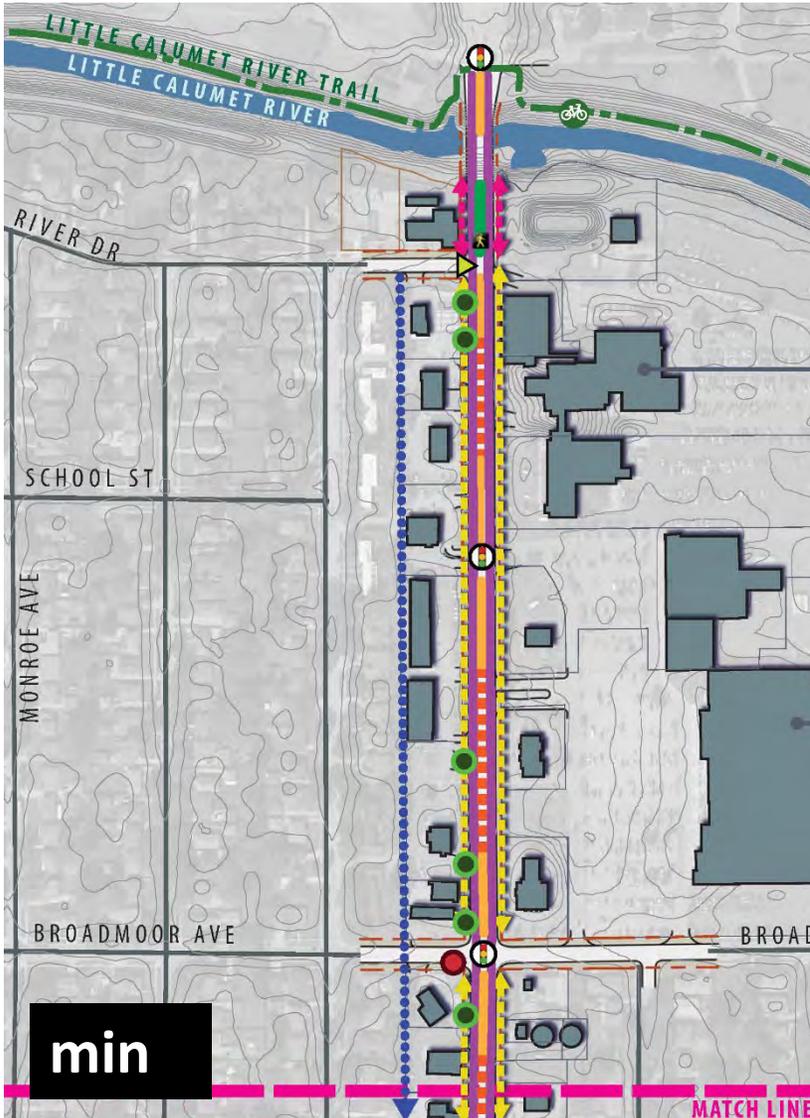
## ROADWAY

-  (2) TRAVEL LANES
-  2-WAY LEFT TURN LANE
-  DEDICATED LEFT TURN LANE
-  DEDICATED RIGHT TURN LANE
-  LANDSCAPE MEDIAN
-  MID-BLOCK CROSSING
-  RIGHT IN/RIGHT OUT
-  MODIFIED CURB-CUT
-  CLOSED CURB-CUT
-  NEW CURB-CUT

## RIGHT OF WAY TO CURB

-  DOWNTOWN STREETScape  
(WIDE SIDEWALKS 11'-16" WIDTH, TREES IN GRATES/PLANTERS, DECORATIVE PAVING)
-  6' SIDEWALKS W/ LANDSCAPE PARKWAY
-  10' to 12' SIDEWALK
-  7'-6" to 8'-6" SIDEWALK
-  5'-6" to 6' SIDEWALK

# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Min vs Max - north



## ROADWAY

- (2) TRAVEL LANES
- (1) TRAVEL LANE
- 2-WAY LEFT TURN LANE
- DEDICATED LEFT TURN LANE
- DEDICATED RIGHT TURN LANE
- LANDSCAPE MEDIAN
- ON-STREET PARKING
- MID-BLOCK CROSSING
- RIGHT IN/RIGHT OUT
- MODIFIED CURB-CUT
- CLOSED CURB-CUT
- NEW CURB-CUT

## RIGHT OF WAY TO CURB

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- 6' SIDEWALKS W/ LANDSCAPE PARKWAY
- 10' to 12' SIDEWALK
- 7'-6" to 8'-6" SIDEWALK
- 5'-6" to 6' SIDEWALK
- 10' MULTI-USE PATH (PED/BICYCLE)

# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Photovisualizations

Gateway entry sign and salt tolerant trees, shrubs + grasses

Replace railing with steel-backed timber rail

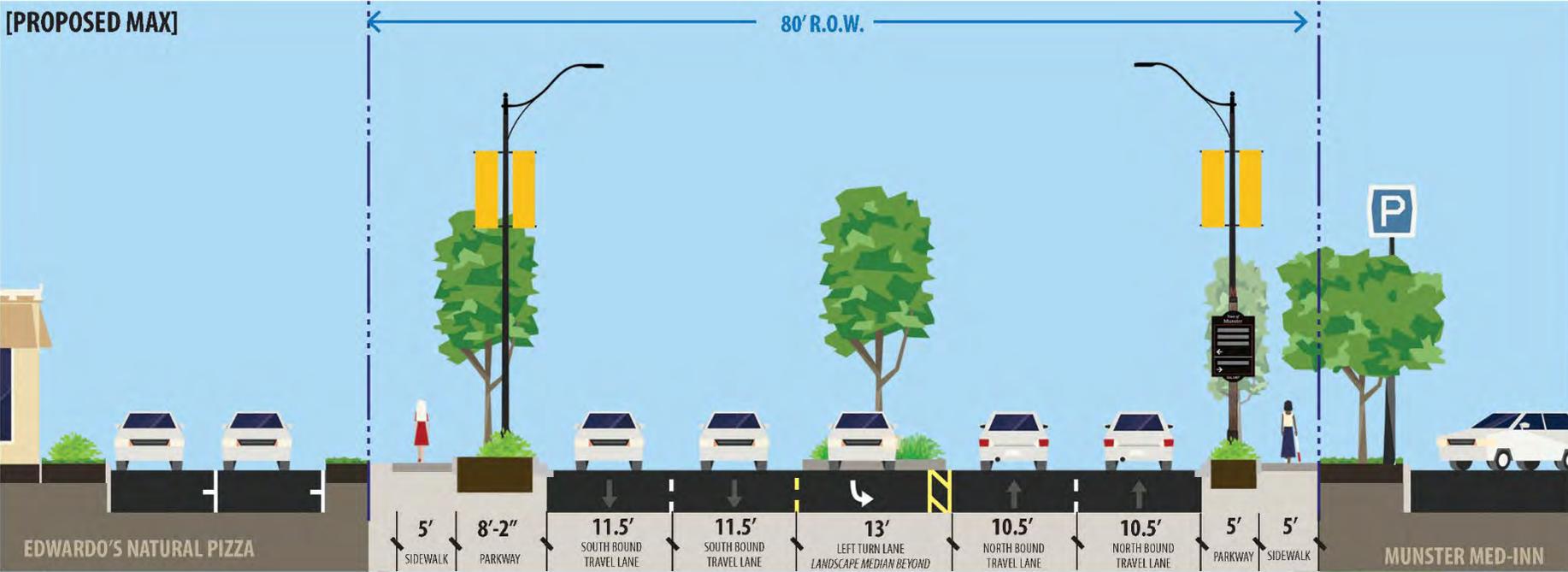
Mural (requires coordination with Hospital)

Replace railing with steel-backed timber rail



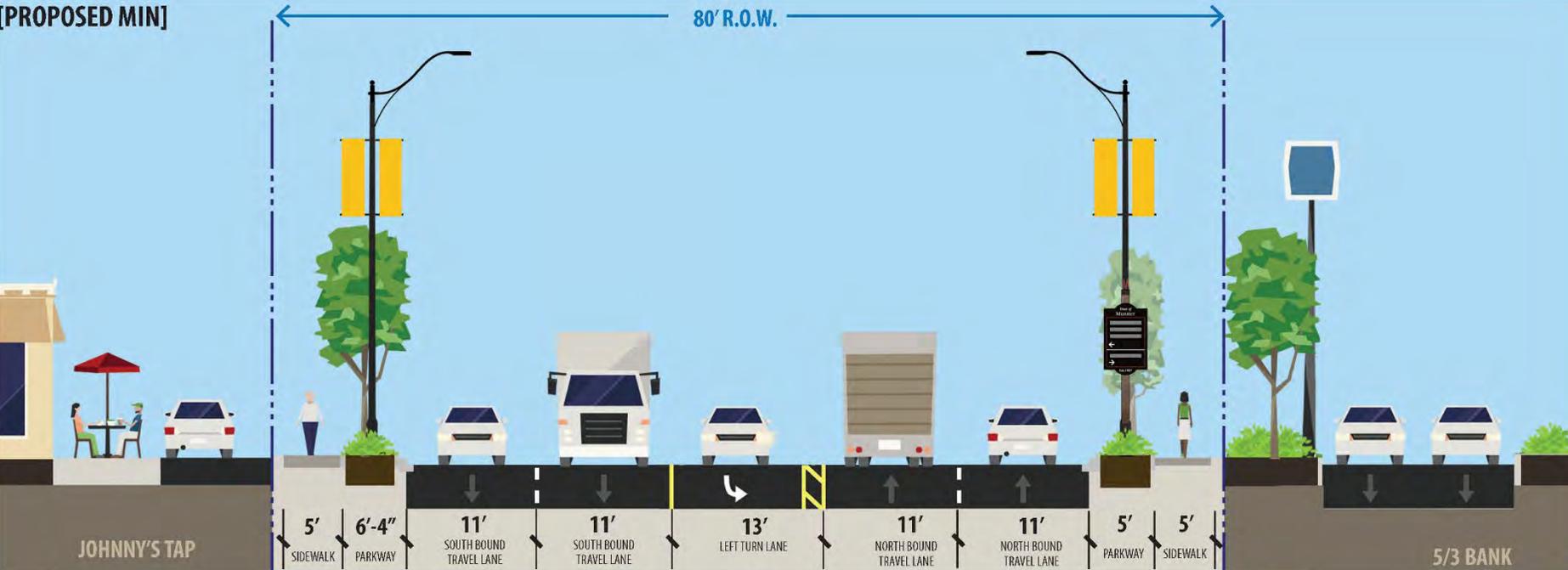
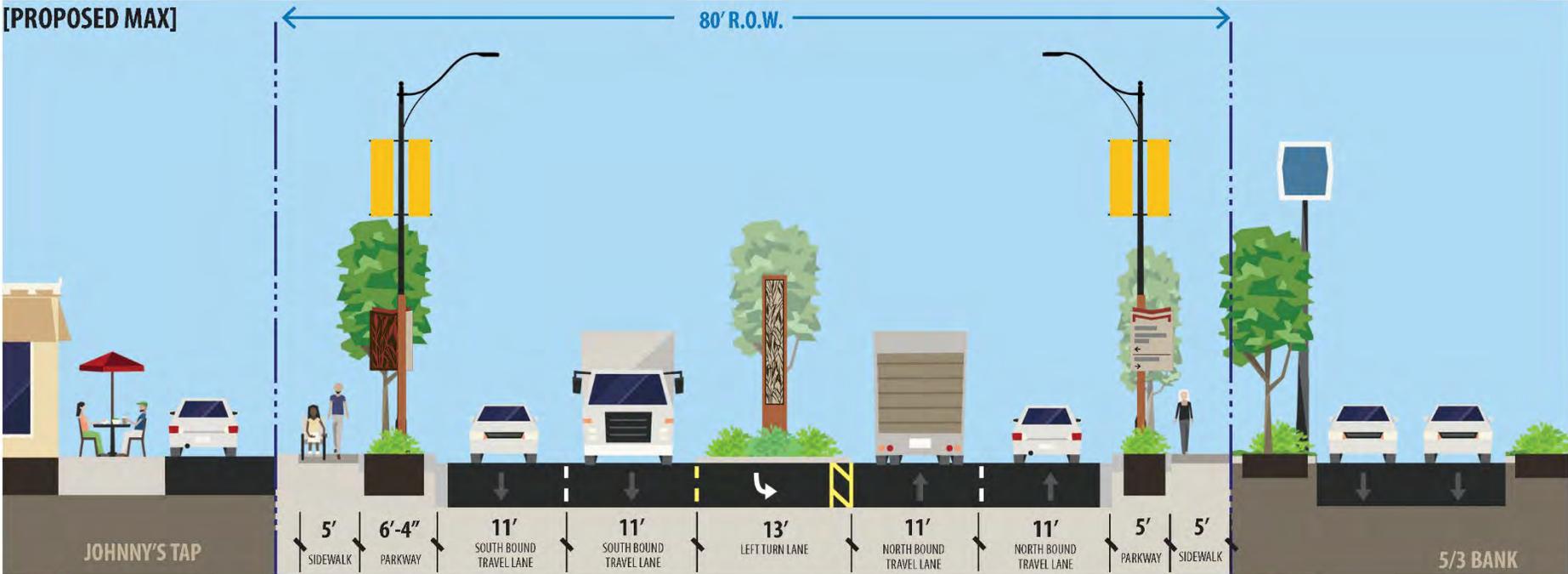
# Calumet Ave Sections

## South of River Drive

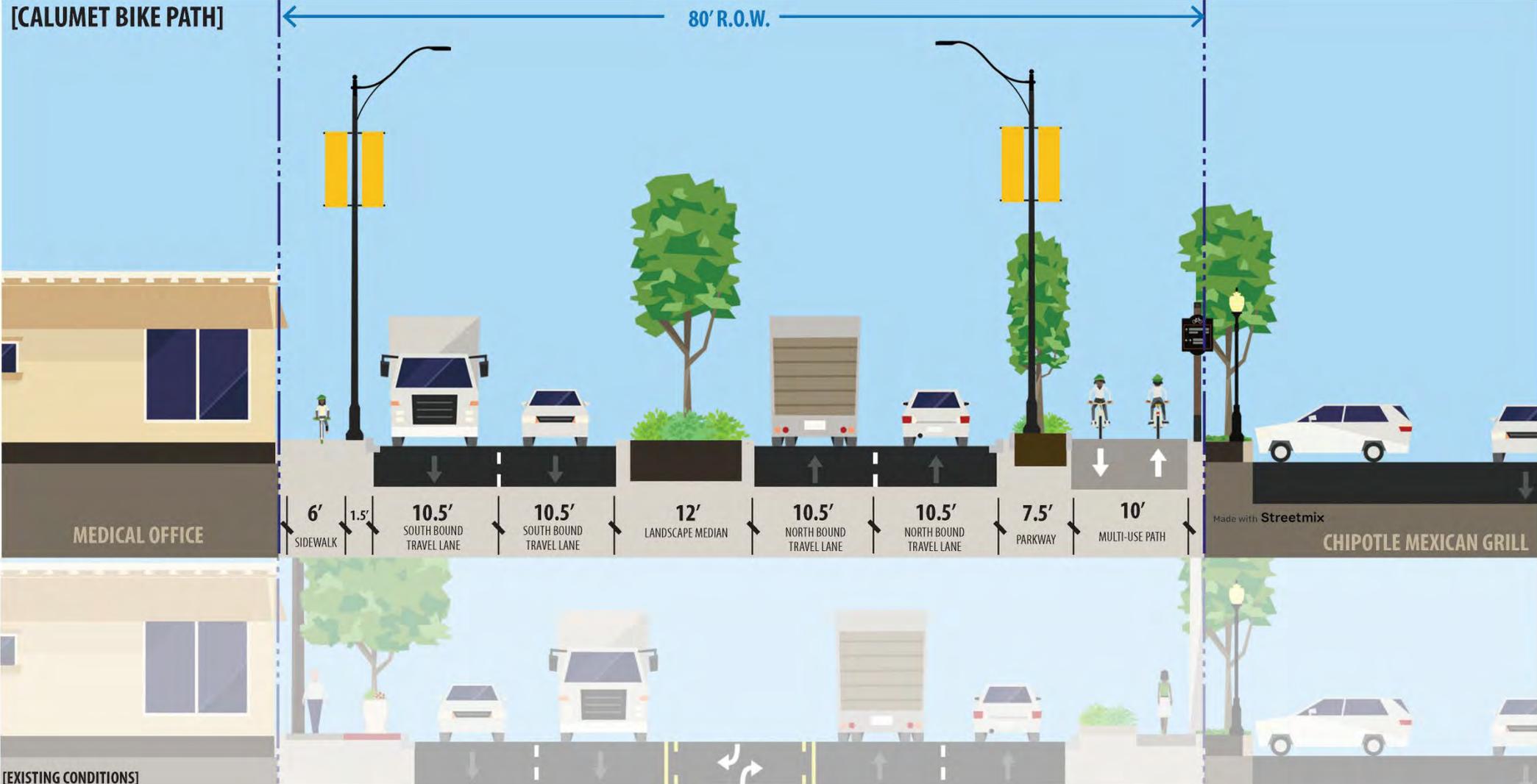


# Calumet Ave Sections

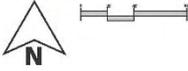
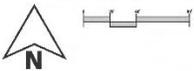
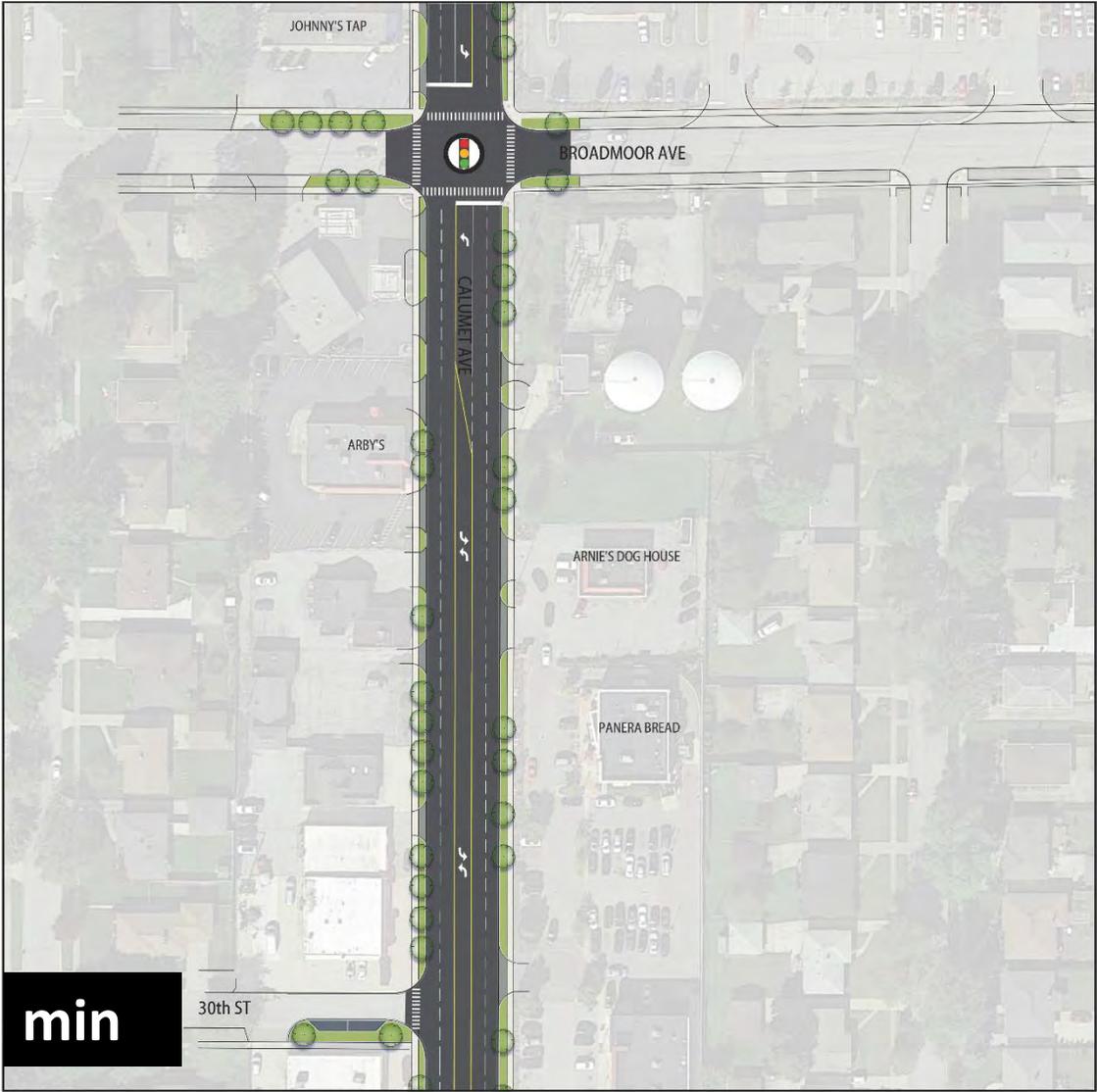
## North of Broadmoor Ave



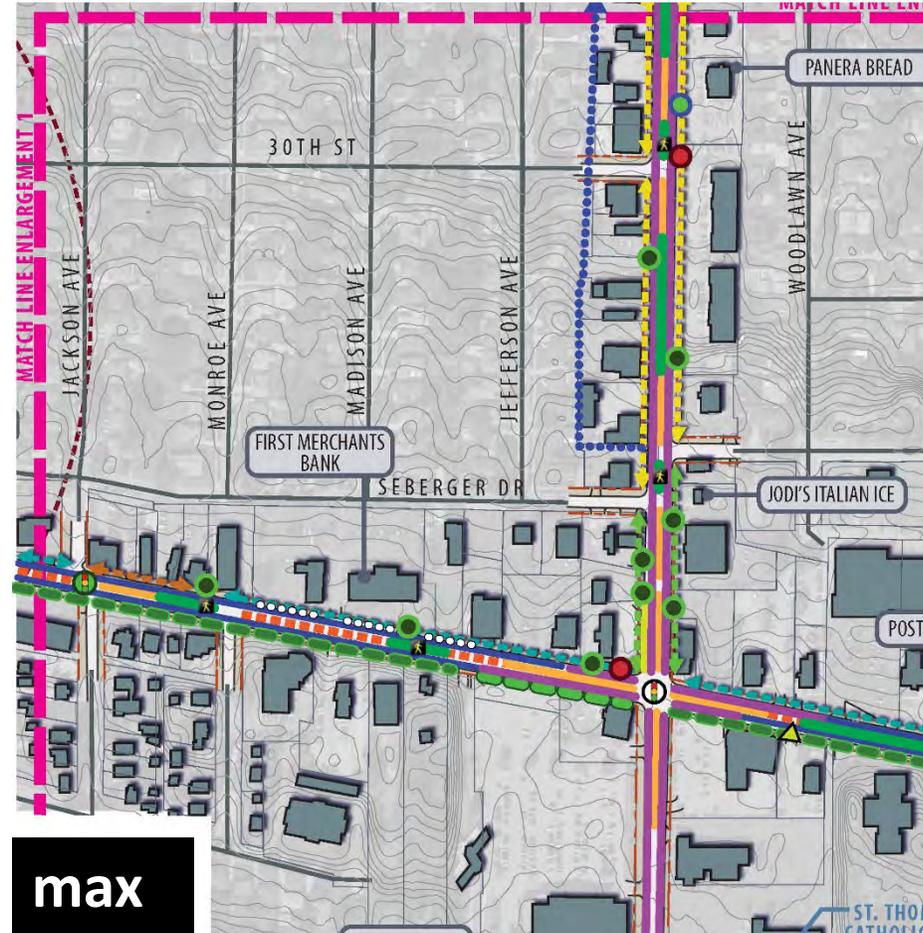
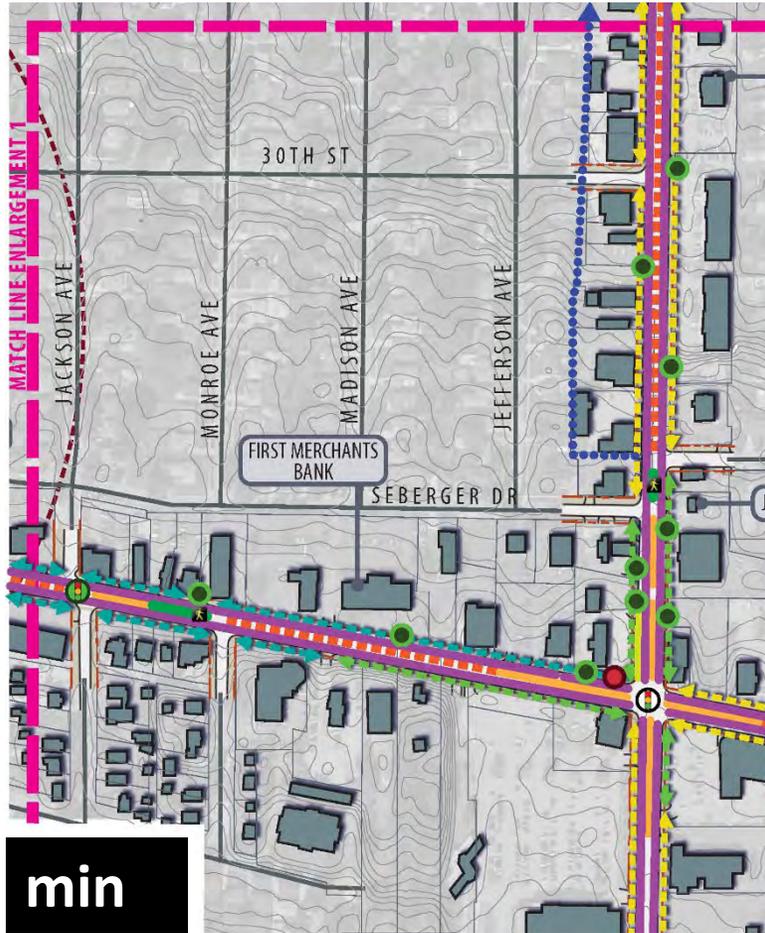
# Calumet Ave Sections | Bike Path Study



# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Enlargements



# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Min vs Max - intersection



## ROADWAY

-  (2) TRAVEL LANES
-  (1) TRAVEL LANE
-  2-WAY LEFT TURN LANE
-  DEDICATED LEFT TURN LANE
-  DEDICATED RIGHT TURN LANE
-  LANDSCAPE MEDIAN
-  ON-STREET PARKING
-  MID-BLOCK CROSSING
-  RIGHT IN/RIGHT OUT
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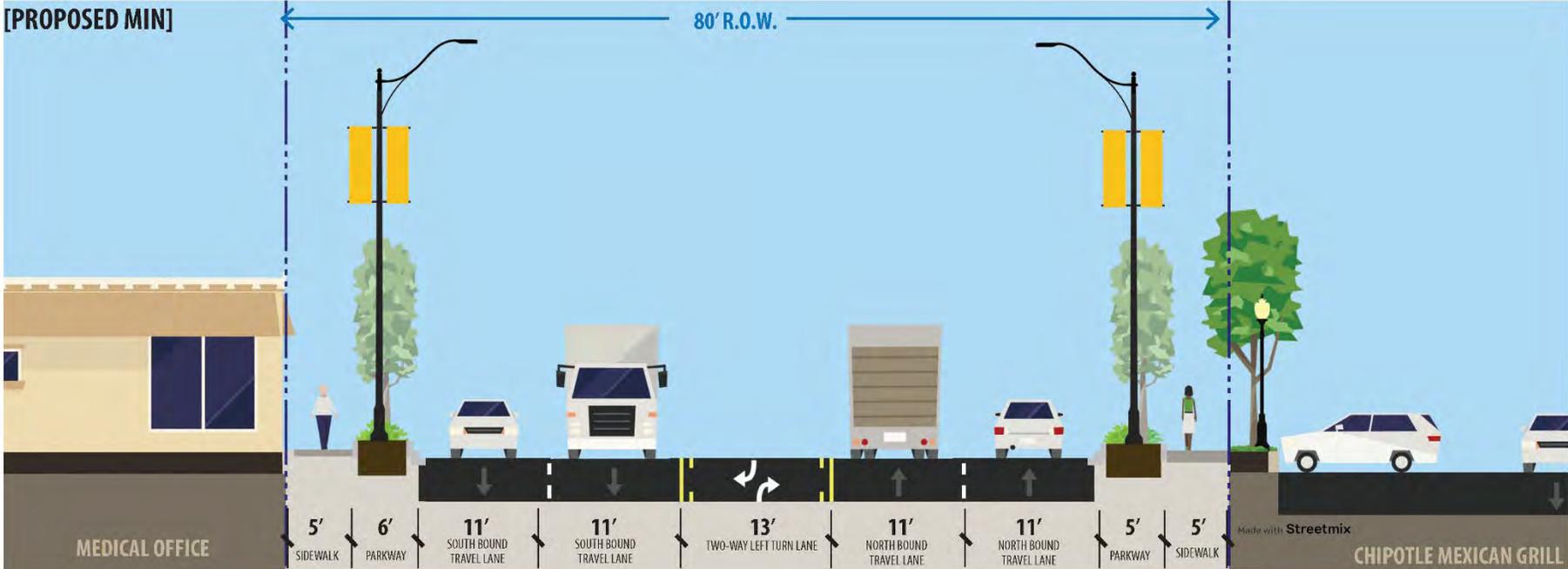
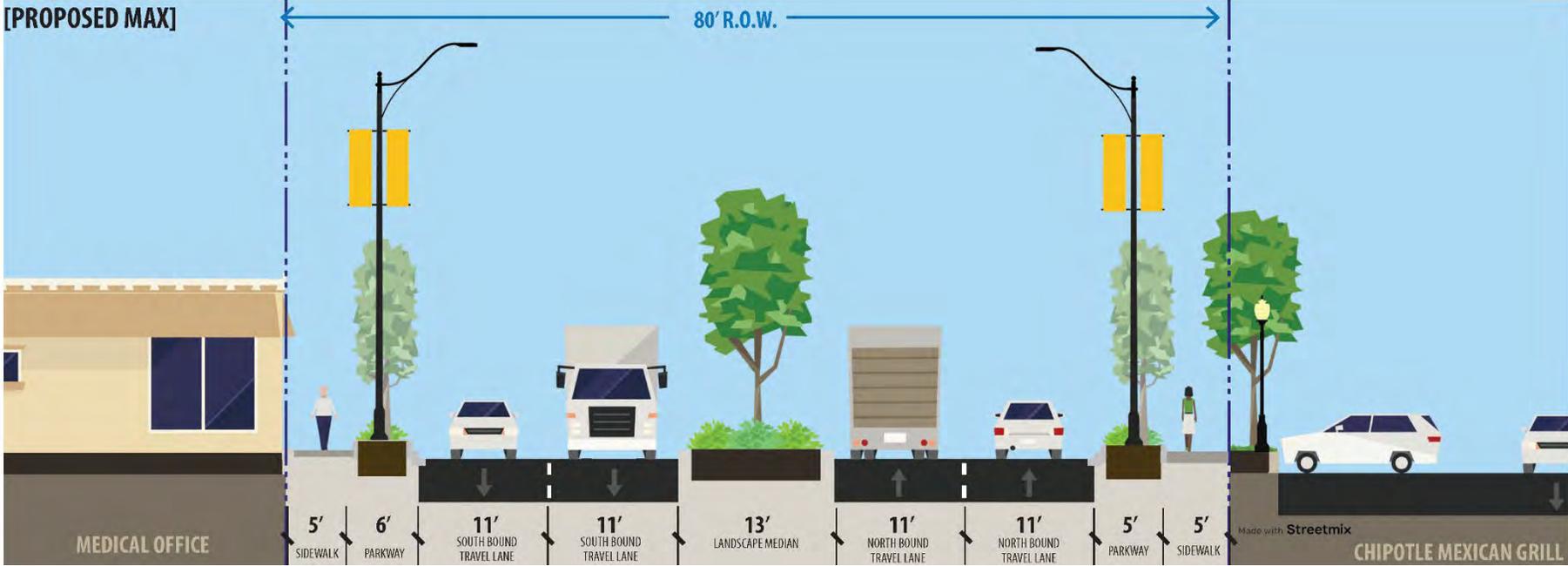
## RIGHT OF WAY TO CURB

-  DOWNTOWN STREETScape  
(WIDE SIDEWALKS 11'-16" WIDTH, TREES IN GRATES/PLANTERS, DECORATIVE PAVING)
-  6' SIDEWALKS W/ LANDSCAPE PARKWAY
-  10' to 12' SIDEWALK
-  7'-6" to 8'-6" SIDEWALK
-  5'-6" to 6' SIDEWALK
-  10' MULTI-USE PATH (PED/BICYCLE)

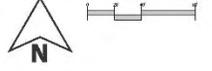
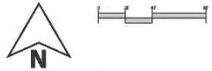
E

# Calumet Ave Sections

## South of 30<sup>th</sup> Street



# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Enlargements



# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Photovisualizations

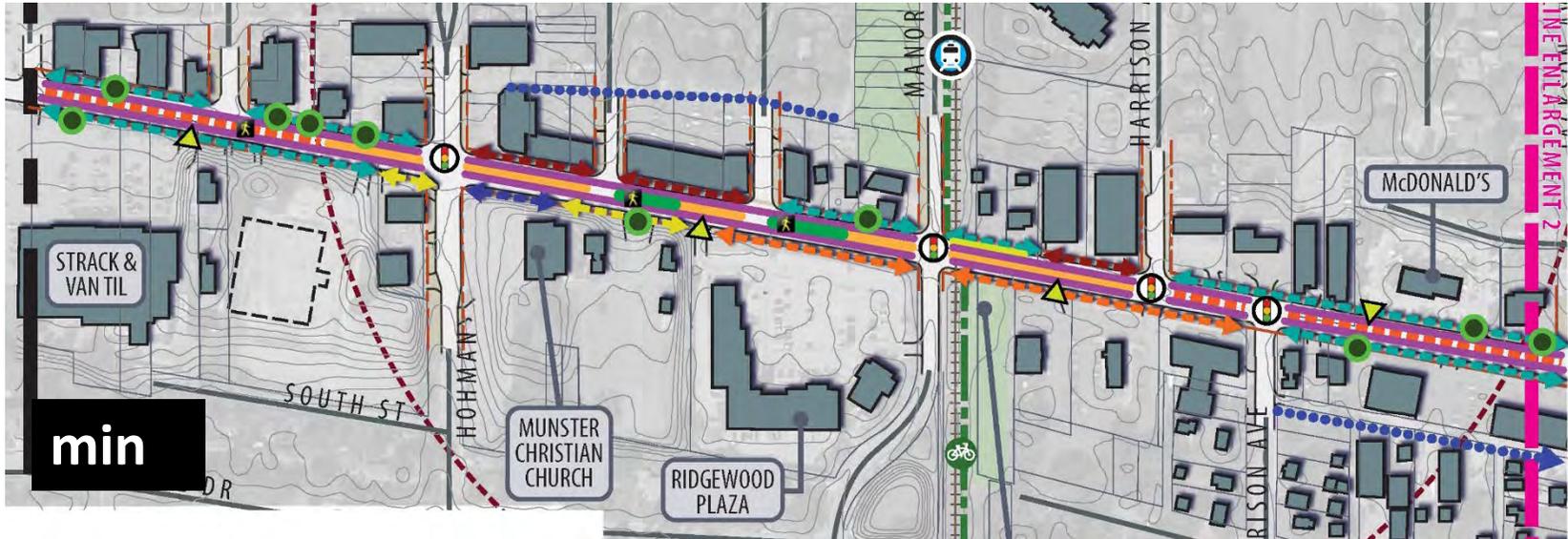
Enhanced crosswalk striping

Improved traffic signal enhancements include black poles and mast arms, enhanced pedestrian signalization and timing

Accessible curb ramps with detectable warnings



# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Min vs Max - west



## ROADWAY

- (2) TRAVEL LANES
- (1) TRAVEL LANE
- 2-WAY LEFT TURN LANE
- DEDICATED LEFT TURN LANE
- DEDICATED RIGHT TURN LANE
- LANDSCAPE MEDIAN
- ON-STREET PARKING
- MID-BLOCK CROSSING
- RIGHT IN/RIGHT OUT
- MODIFIED CURB-CUT
- CLOSED CURB-CUT
- NEW CURB-CUT

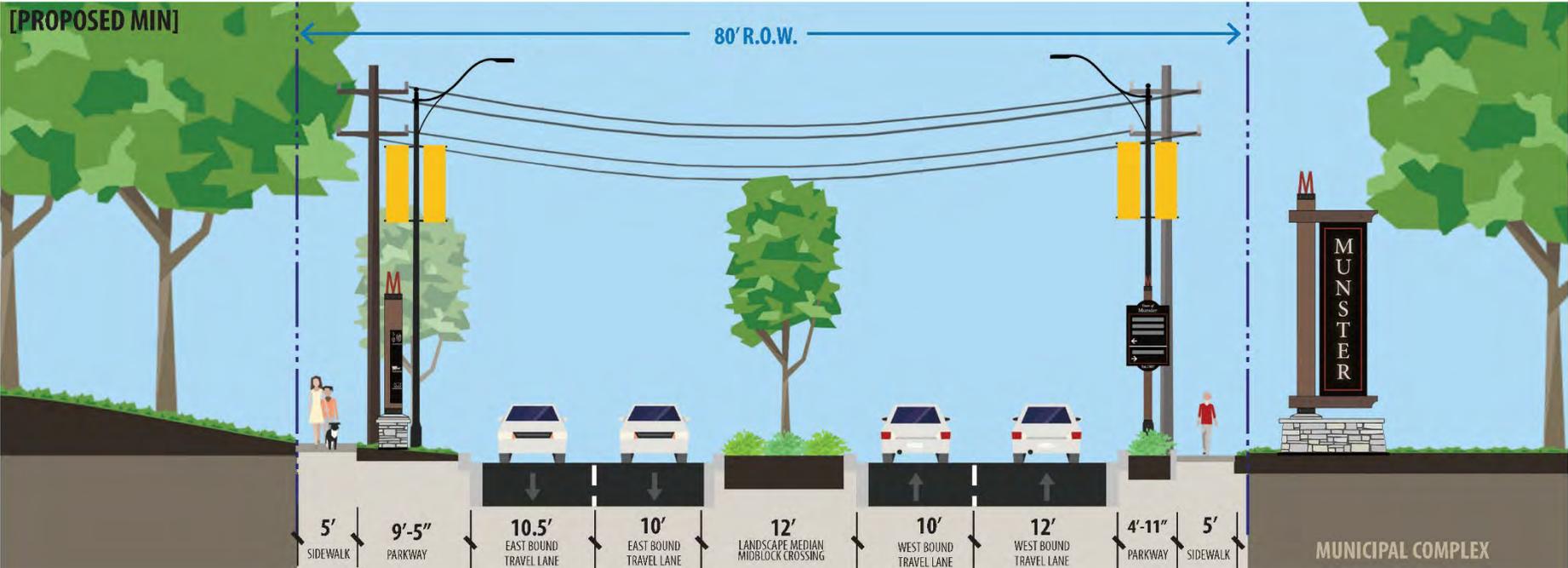
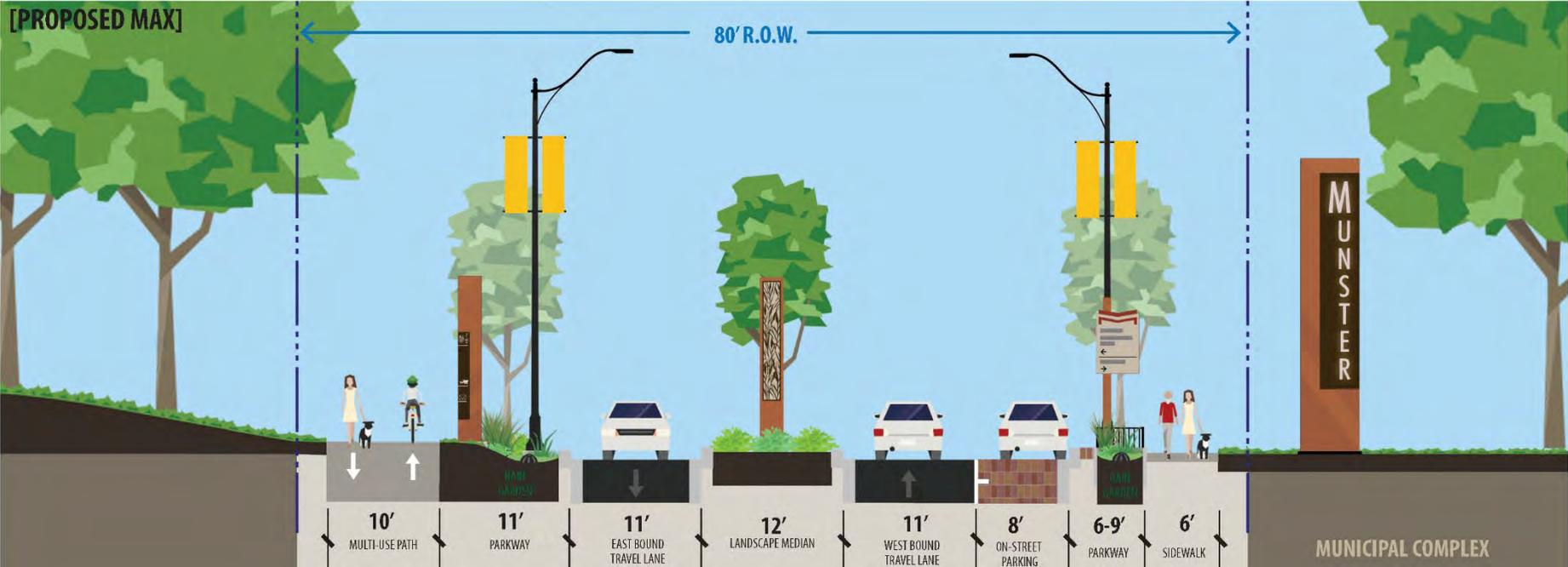


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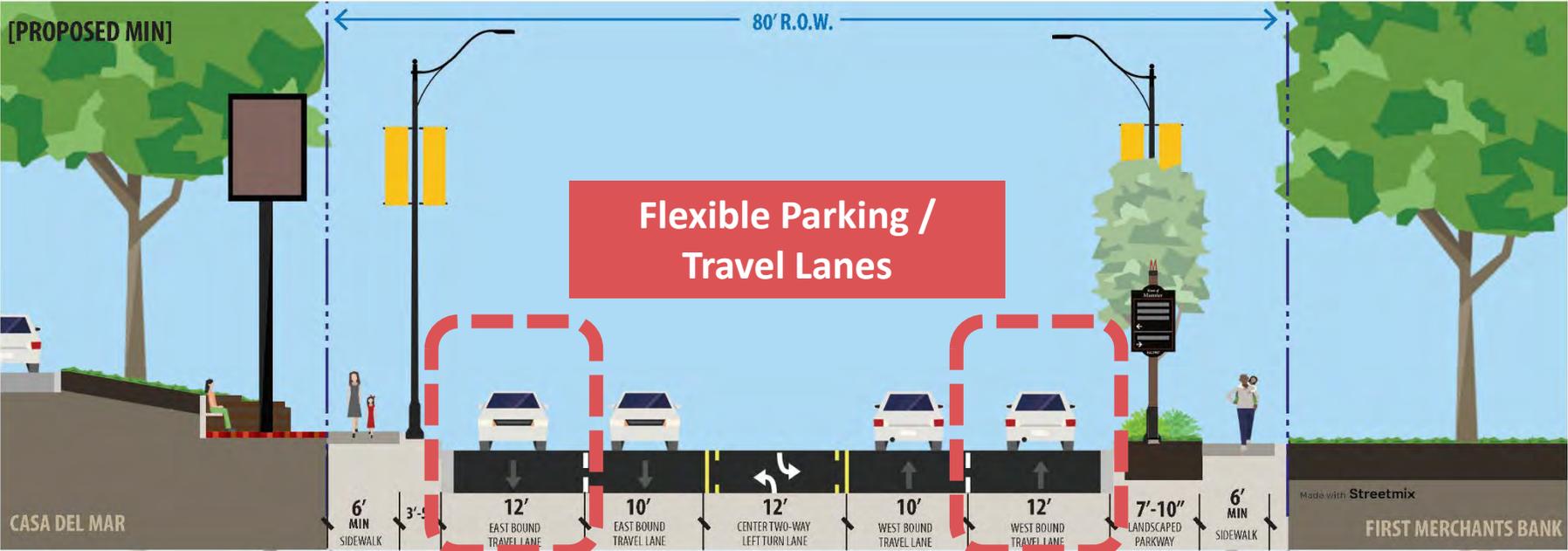
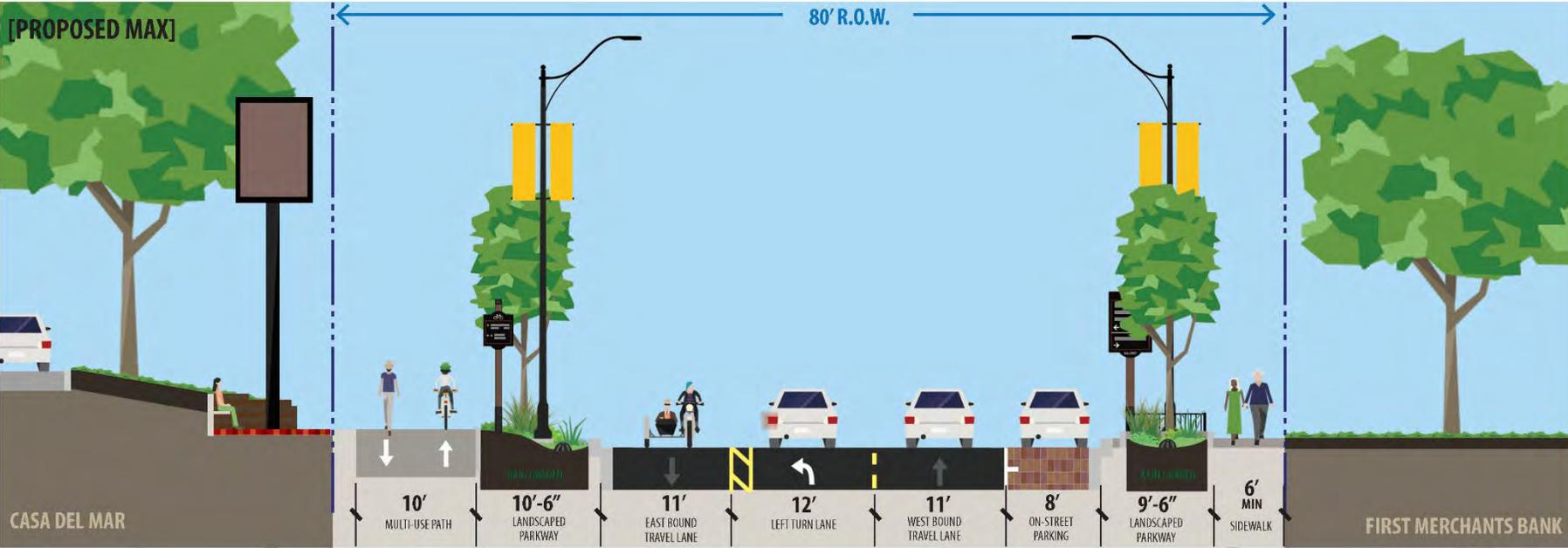
# Ridge Road Sections

## East of Tapper Ave (Town Hall)



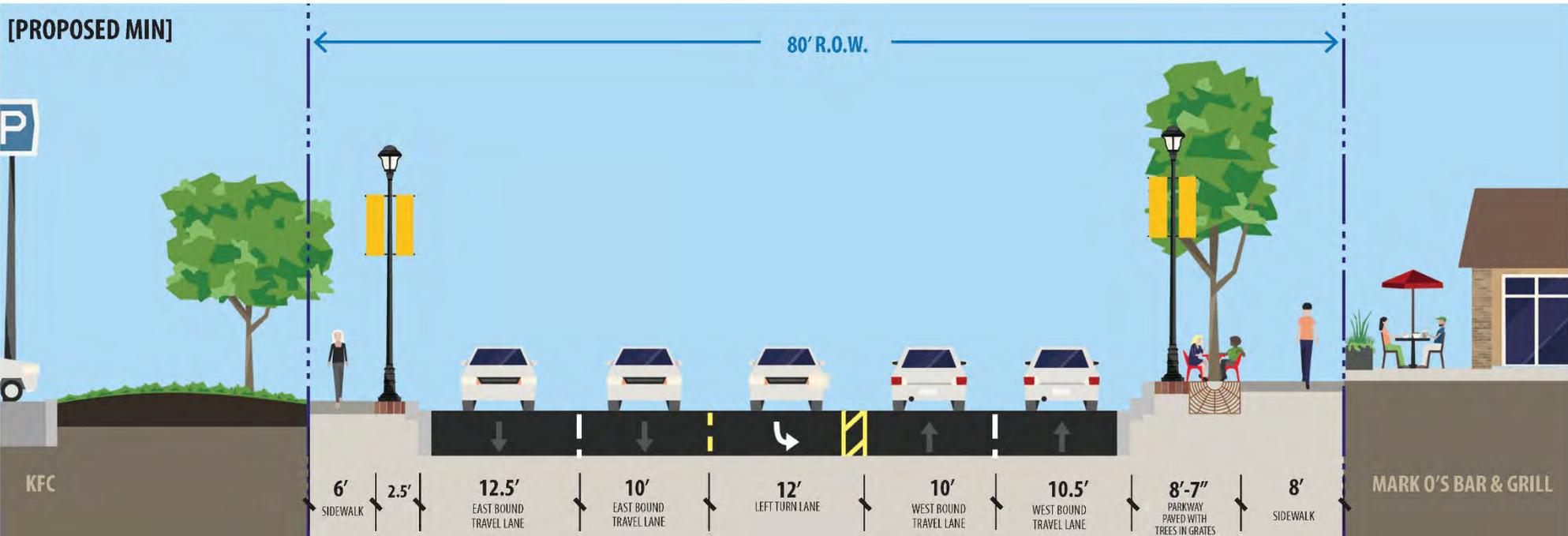
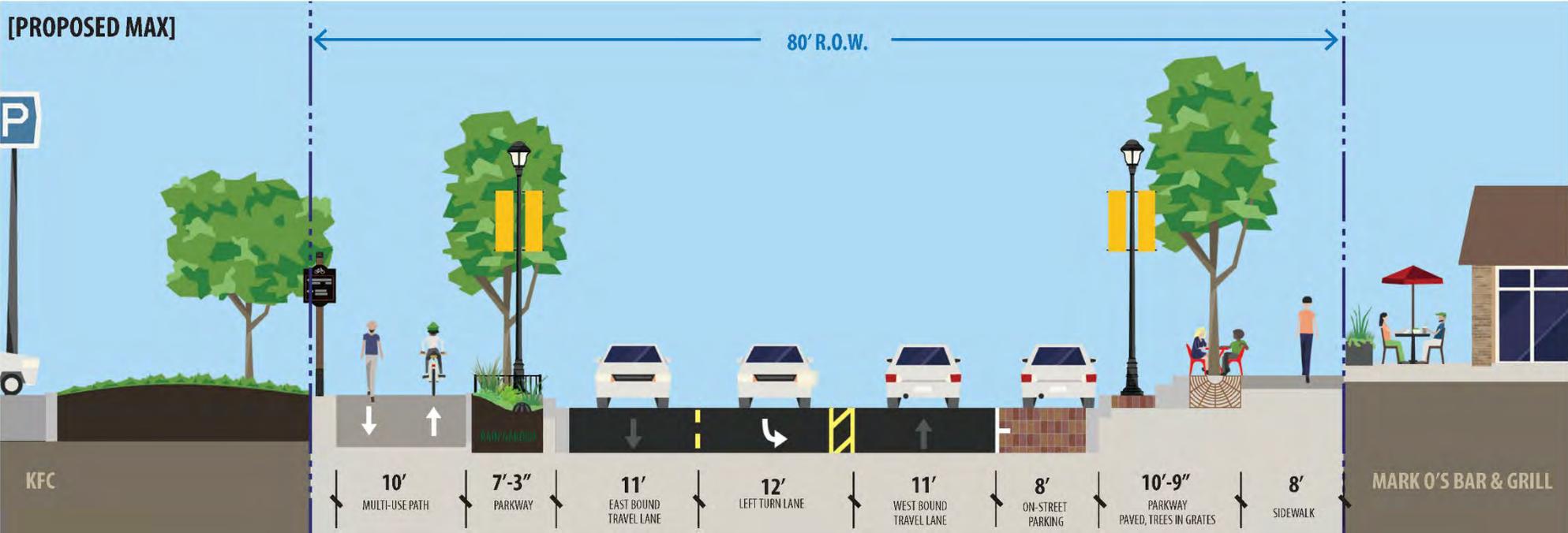
# Ridge Road Sections

West of Calumet Ave

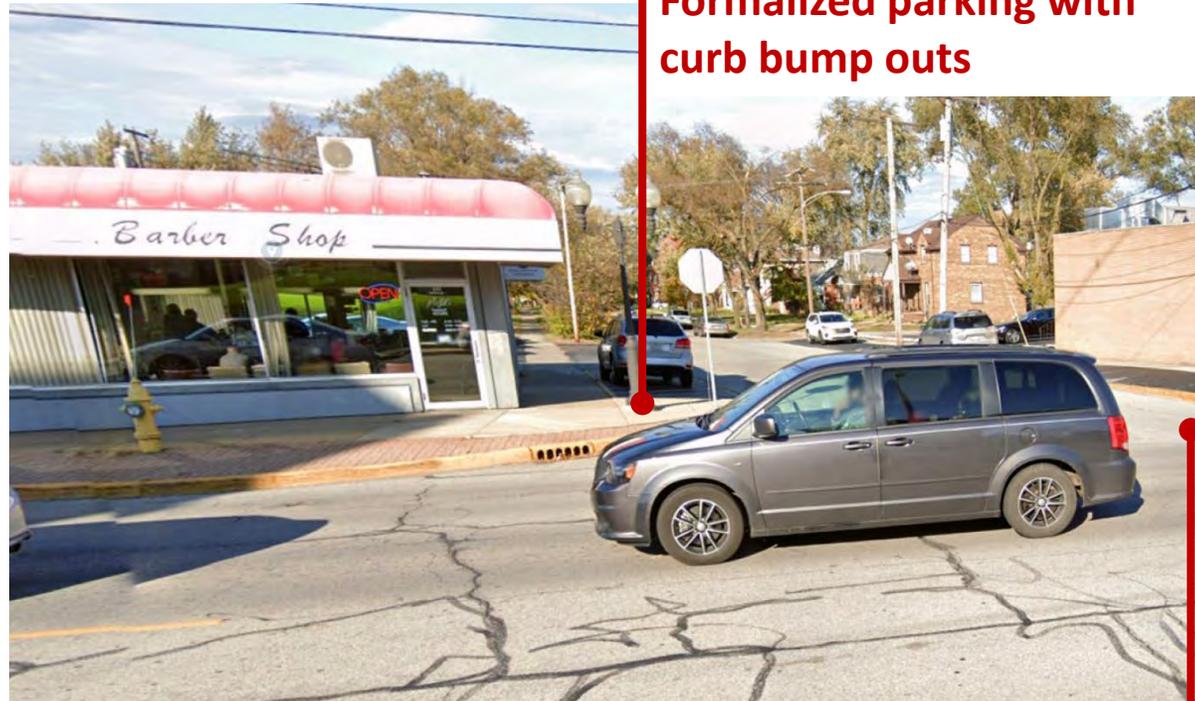


# Ridge Road Sections

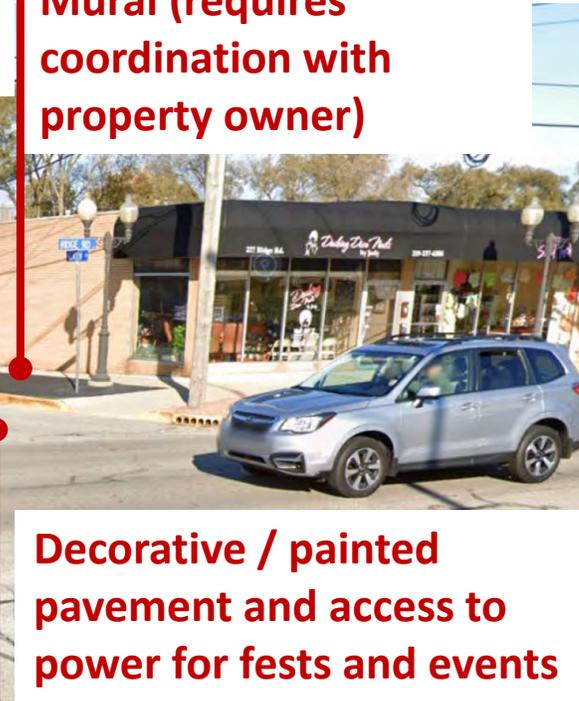
## West of Harrison Ave (west)



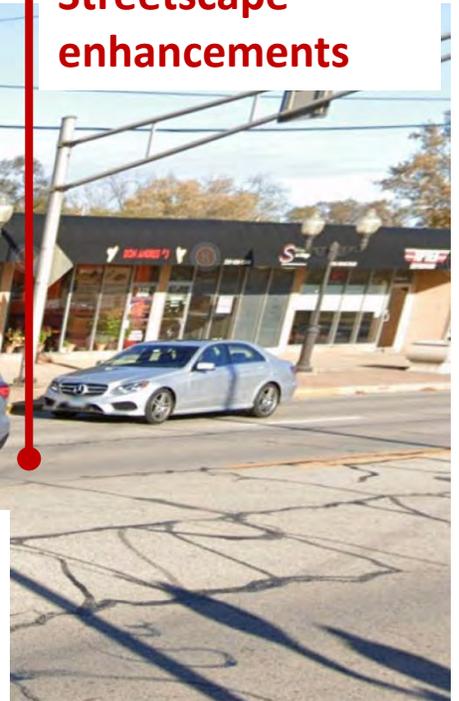
# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Photovisualizations



Formalized parking with curb bump outs



Mural (requires coordination with property owner)



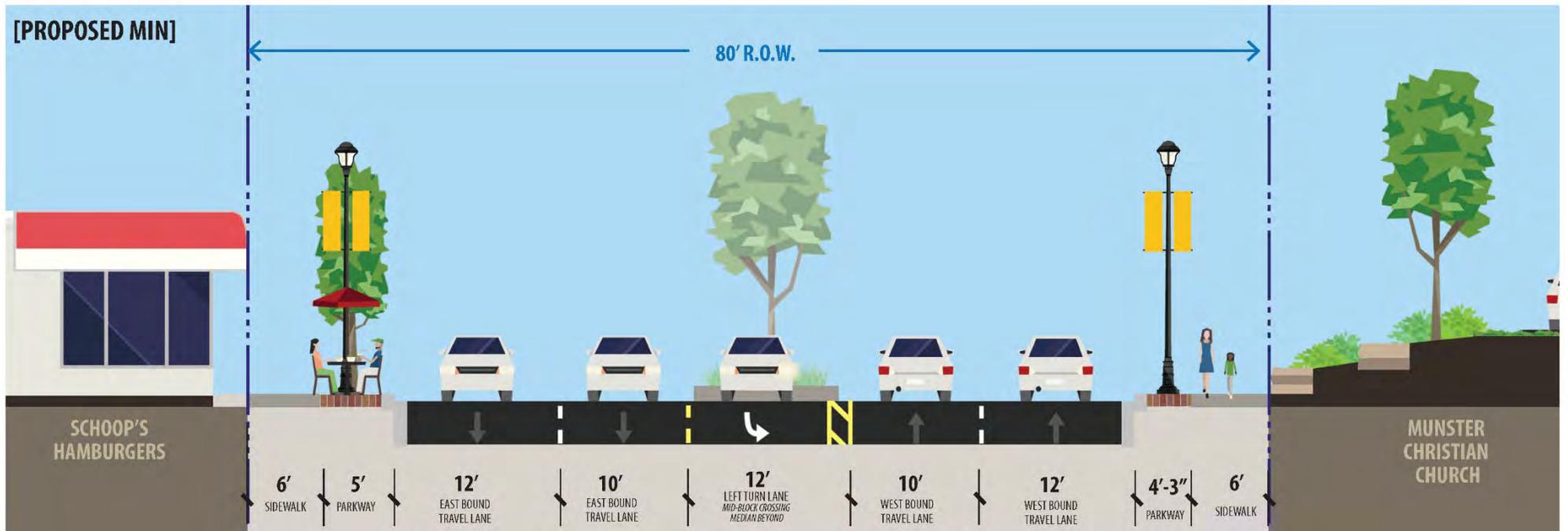
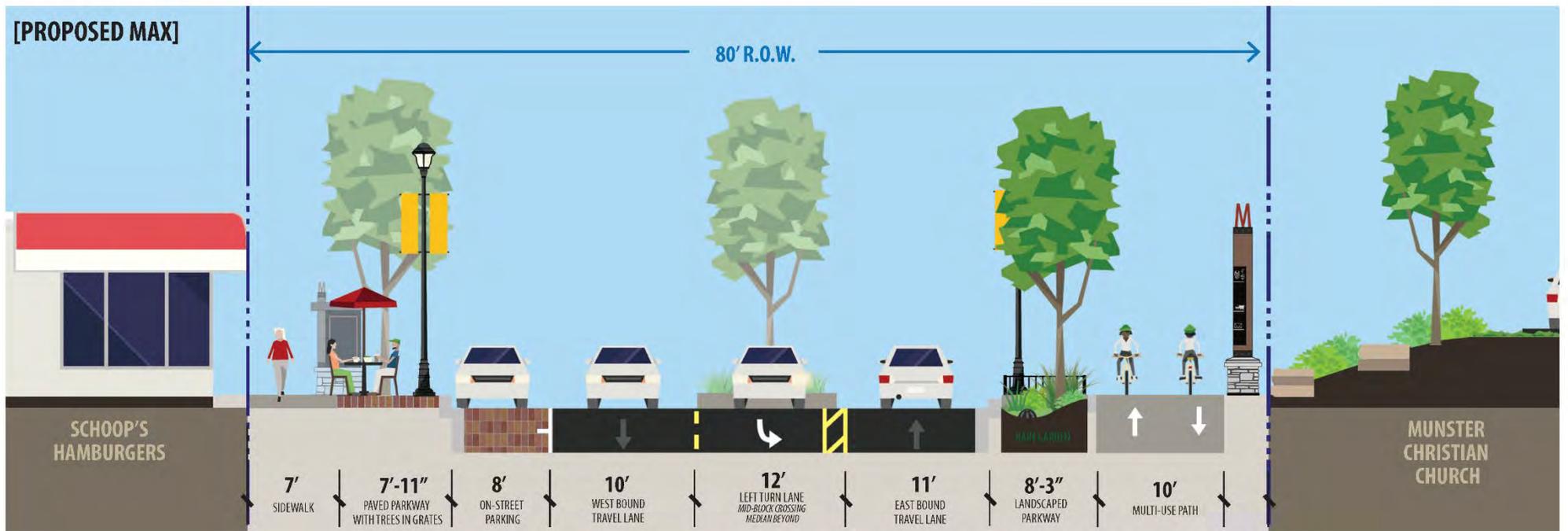
Streetscape enhancements

Decorative / painted pavement and access to power for fests and events



# Ridge Road Sections

East of Hohman Ave  
(west of Meadow Lane)



# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Enlargements



# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Enlargements



# CONCEPT PLAN PRESENTATION | Photovisualizations

Rail crossing improvements (overhead + gates)



Streetscape improvements



# PILOT PROJECTS | Options



## NORTH CALUMET AVE GATEWAY

- Timber railings
- Gateway sign
- Evergreen tree screening



## MEADOW LANE PARKING PLAZA

- Pavement / building wall murals
- Dedicated staff for events programming
- Electrical access, movable furnishings

# METRICS | IMPERVIOUS VS PERVIOUS SPACE

## RIDGE ROAD

	EXISTING	MIN	MAX
IMPERVIOUS SPACE	100%	89%	75%
PERVIOUS SPACE	0%	11%	25%

## CALUMET AVENUE IMPERVIOUS VS PERVIOUS SPACE

	EXISTING	MIN	MAX
IMPERVIOUS SPACE	100%	90%	86%
PERVIOUS SPACE	0%	10%	14%

# METRICS | PARKWAY WIDTHS + TREES

RIDGE ROAD			
	EXISTING	MIN	MAX
PARKWAY WIDTH	4'-6" to 9'-2"	3'-0" to 9'-2"	5'-0" to 17'-0"
TREES	0	123	255

CALUMET AVENUE			
	EXISTING	MIN	MAX
PARKWAY WIDTH	5'-0" - 12'-0"	3'-6" - 12'-0"	3'-6" - 12'-0"
TREES	8	132	132

# METRICS | PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

## PEDESTRIAN CROSSING DISTANCE (TYPICAL)

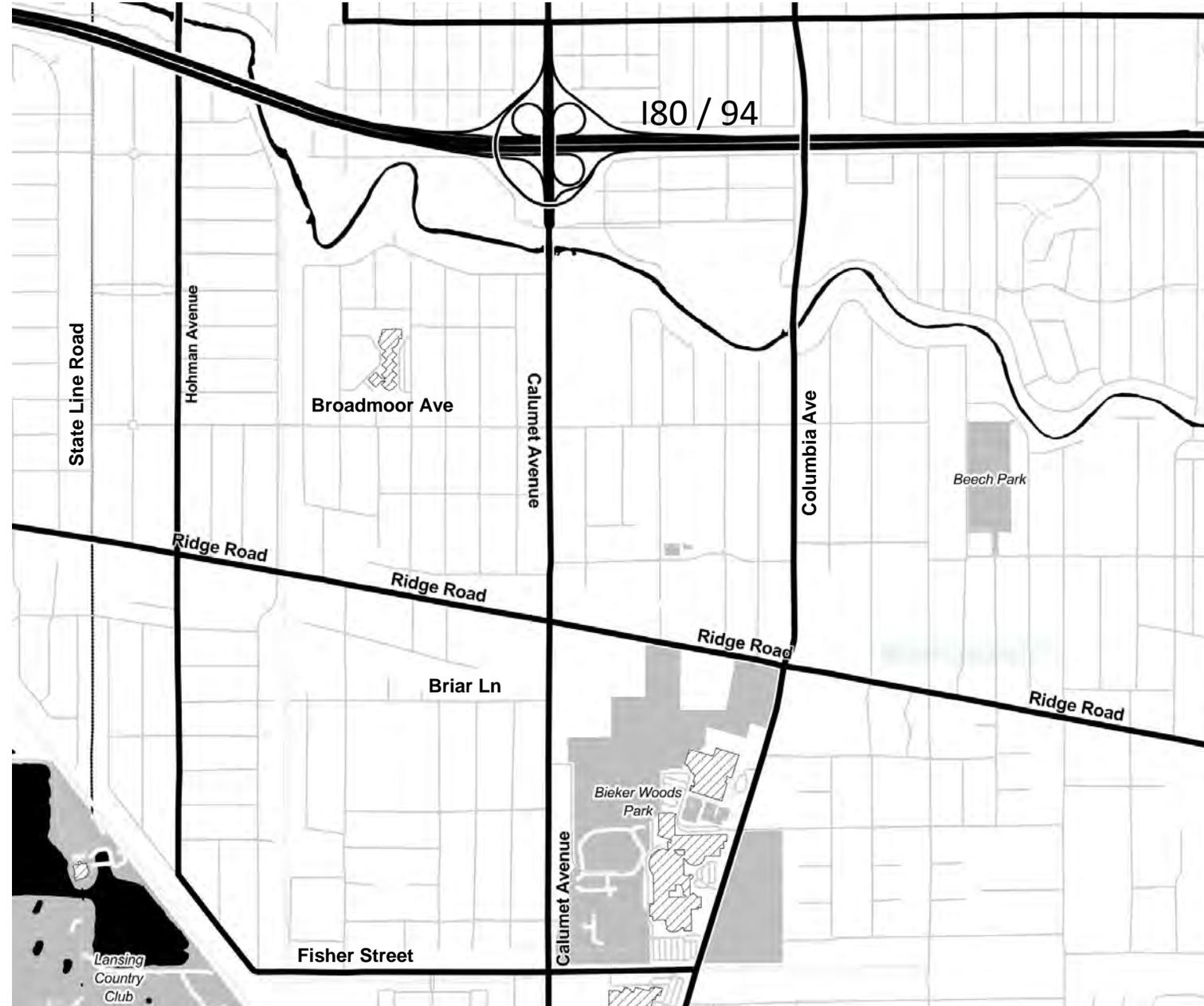
	EXISTING	MIN	MAX
Ridge Road	55-70'	55-70'	35-70'
Calumet Avenue	55-75'	55-75'	55-75'

## SIDEWALK WIDTH (TYPICAL)

	EXISTING	MIN	MAX
Ridge Road	4'	5-6'	6-8' along north side 10' multiuse path along south side
Calumet Avenue	4'	5'	5'

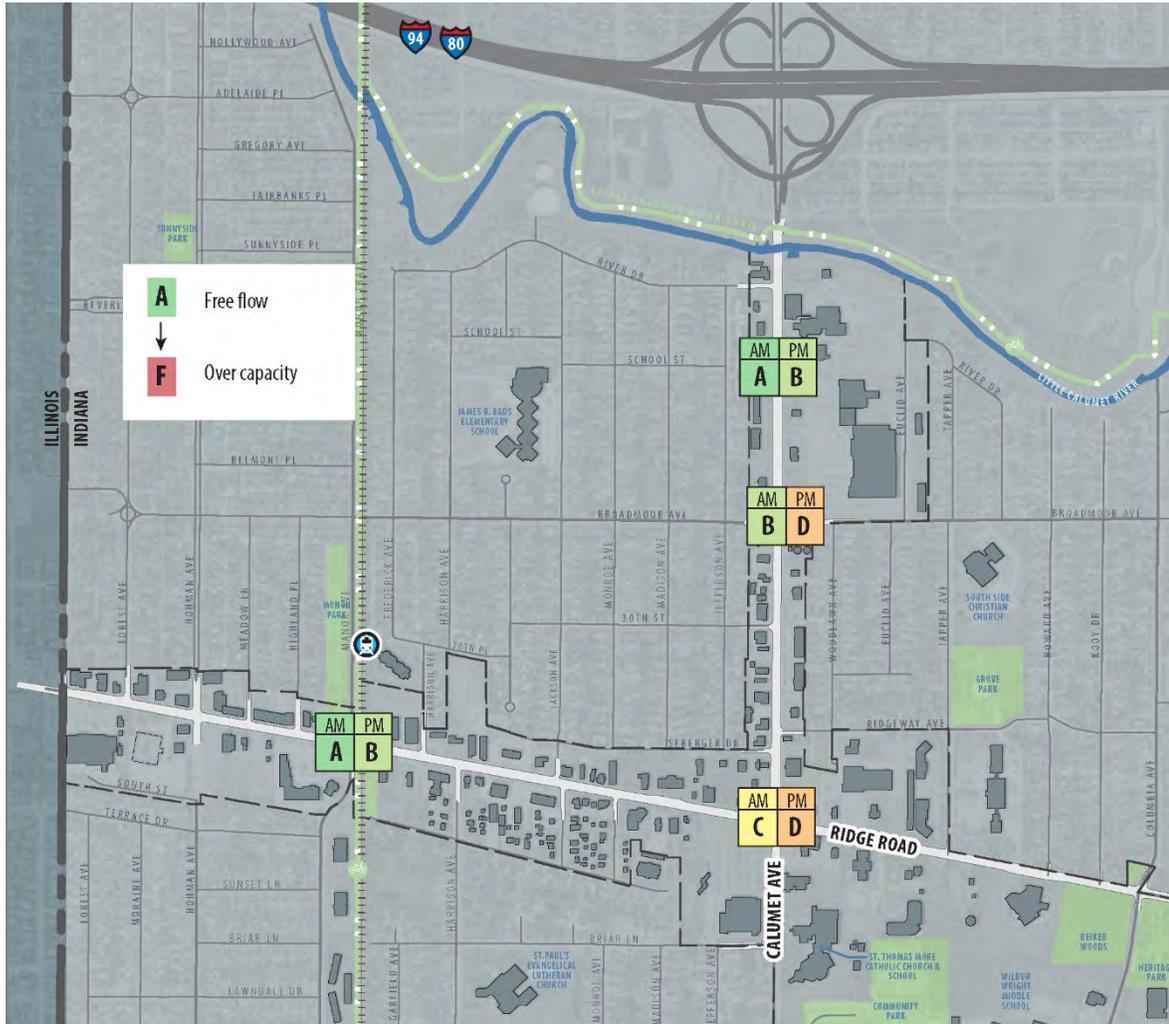
# APPROACH TO FUTURE TRAFFIC ANALYSIS

- Build on 2014 conditions (Town-provided data)
- Extrapolate to 2020 based on INDOT growth trends
- Apply NIRPC projections reflecting area infrastructure improvements
- Add RDA development projections
- Further engineering study to be performed when design begins

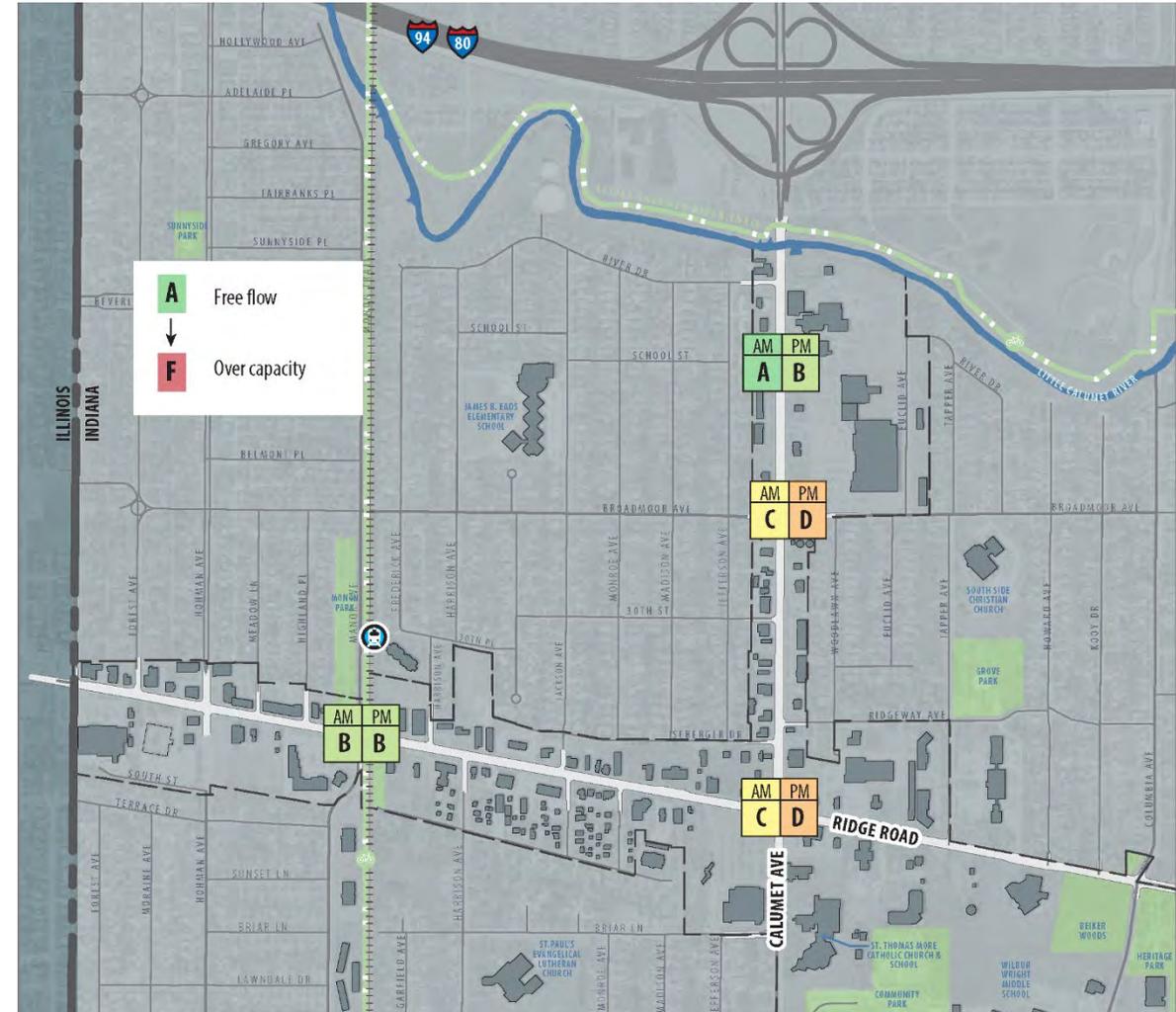


# INTERSECTION LEVELS OF SERVICE

## Future Min Scenario

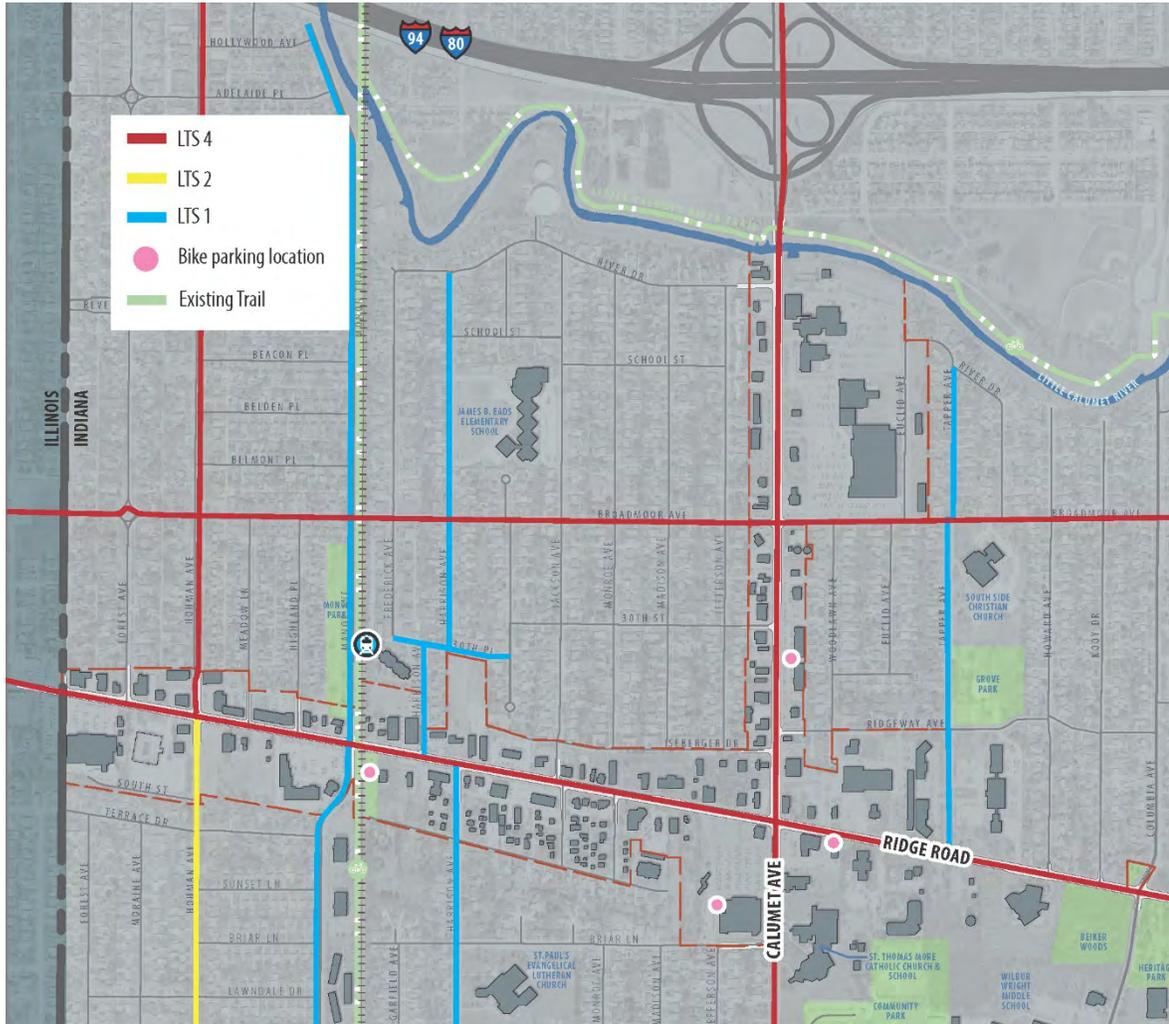


## Future Max Scenario

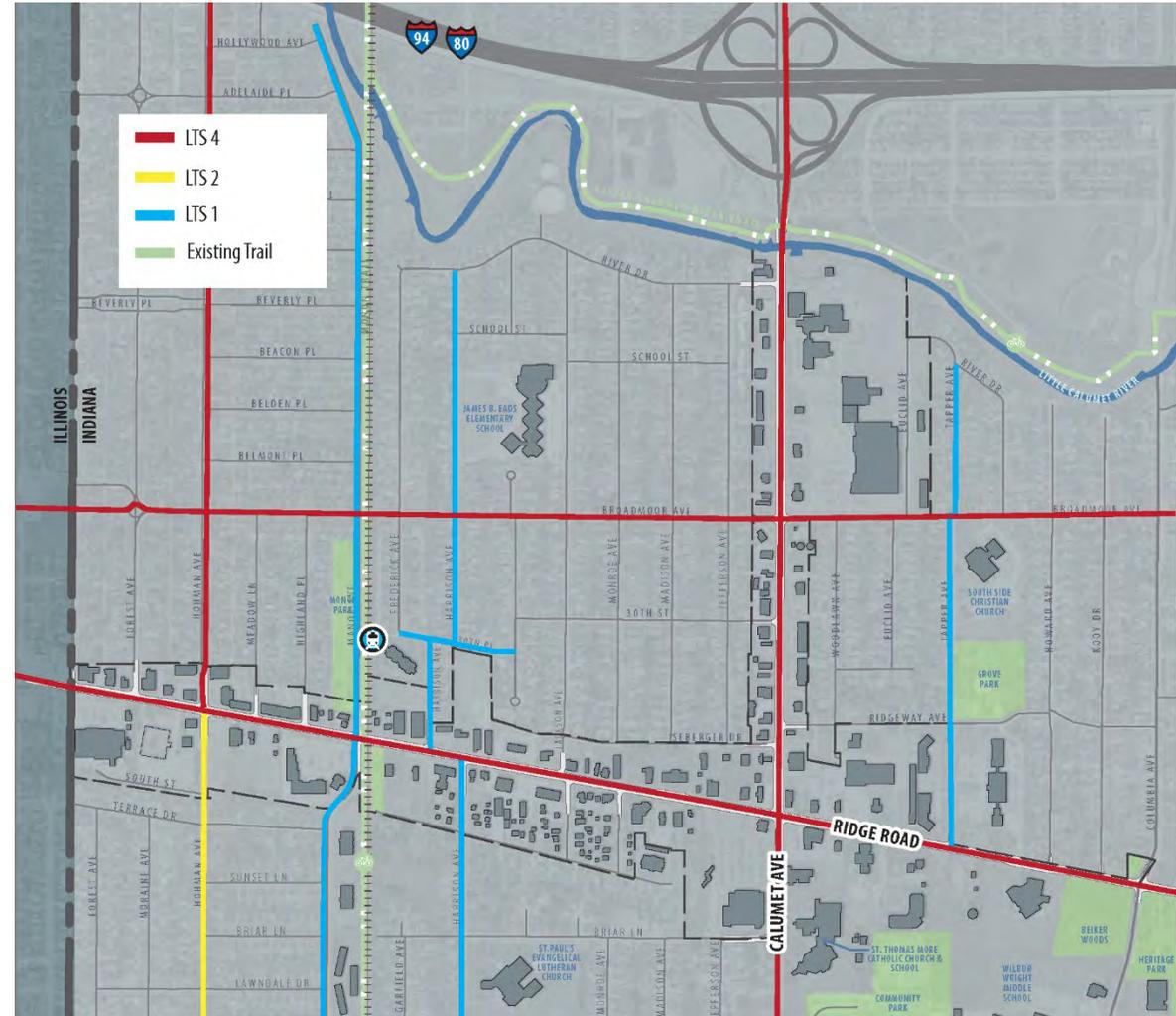


# BICYCLIST LEVEL OF TRAFFIC STRESS (LTS)

## Existing

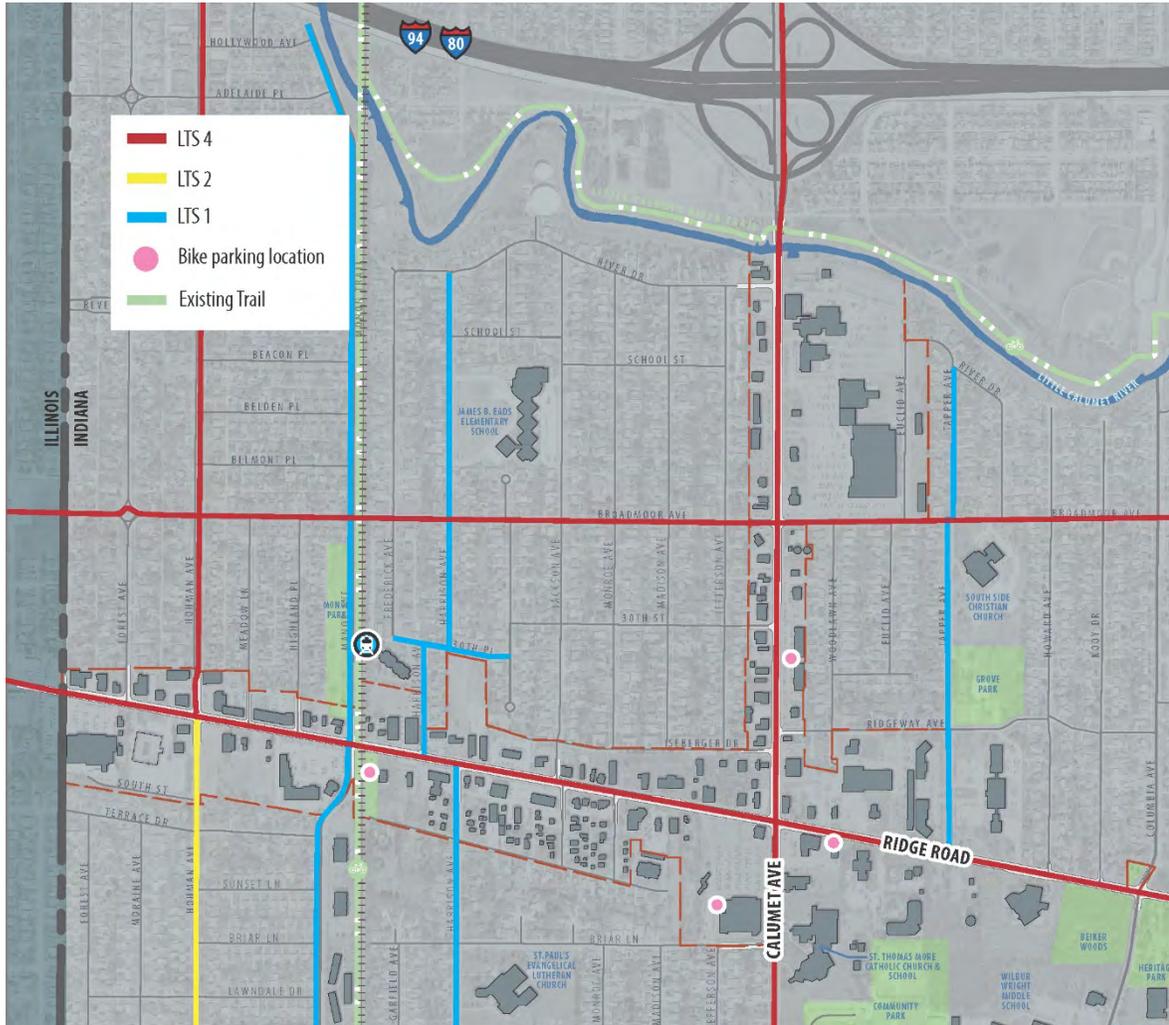


## Future Min Scenario

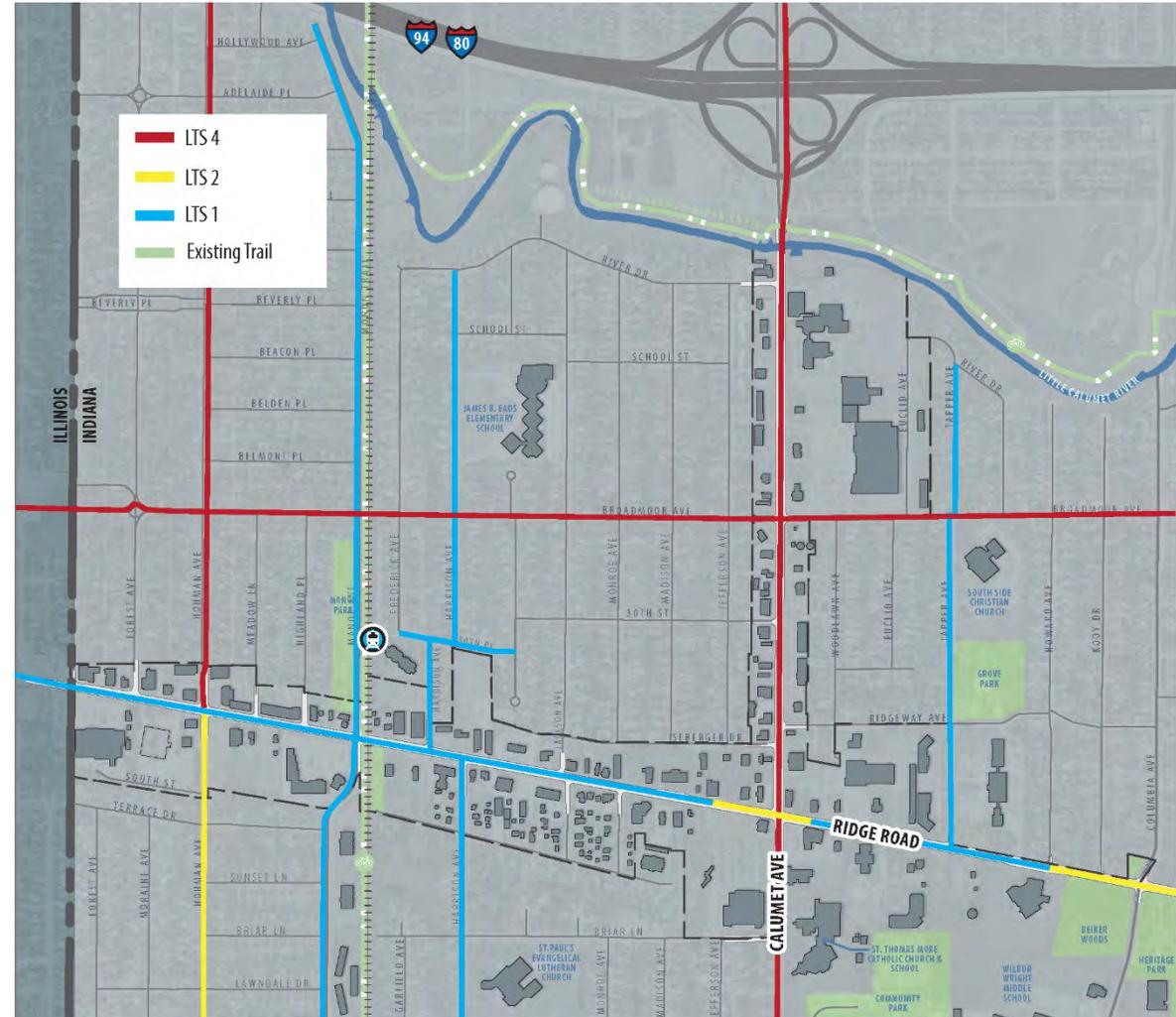


# BICYCLIST LEVEL OF TRAFFIC STRESS (LTS)

## Existing



## Future Max Scenario



# METRICS | TRAFFIC

## DISTANCE BETWEEN PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

	EXISTING	MIN	MAX
Ridge Road	300'-2,300'	275'-1,200'	275'-1,200'
Calumet Avenue	860'-1,820'	390'-1,340'	390'-800'

## NUMBER OF CURB CUTS

	EXISTING	MIN	MAX
Ridge Road	59 total (~9 per 1,000 ft) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 58 full access</li> <li>• 1 limited access</li> </ul>	56 total (~8 per 1,000 ft) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50 full access</li> <li>• 6 limited access</li> </ul>	56 total (~8 per 1,000 ft) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 44 full access</li> <li>• 12 limited access</li> </ul>
Calumet Avenue	56 total (~13 per 1,000 ft) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 56 full access</li> <li>• 0 limited access</li> </ul>	54 (~12 per 1,000 ft) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 54 full access</li> <li>• 0 limited access</li> </ul>	55 total (~13 per 1,000 ft) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 36 full access</li> <li>• 19 limited access</li> </ul>

# METRICS | TRAFFIC

## NUMBER OF PARKING SPACES

	EXISTING	MIN	MAX
<b>Ridge Road</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0 during peak hours, 58 during off-peak hours</b>	<b>58</b>

*\* Additional on-street parking at Highland Pl, Meadow Ln and Forest Ave.  
Approx 10 spaces per street = 30 spaces*

<b>Calumet Avenue</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
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*\* Additional on-street parking at Seberger Dr (2) 30<sup>th</sup> St (4) = 6 spaces*

# METRICS | TRAFFIC

## VEHICLE DELAY (BY INTERSECTION)

	EXISTING	MIN	MAX
Ridge/Calumet	30.9 AM	31.3 AM	32.8 AM
	41.1 PM	45.0 PM	51.6 PM
Ridge/Manor	12.8 AM	8.9 AM	11.9 AM
	18.0 PM	10.8 PM	19.9 PM
Calumet/Broadmoor	24.5 AM	16.8 AM	24.8 AM
	42.5 PM	38.8 PM	43.8 PM

## VEHICLE QUEUES

	EXISTING	MIN	MAX
Ridge Road	126-237' AM	93-229' AM	105-227' AM
	240-434' PM	83-270' PM	194-544' PM
Calumet Avenue	80-593' AM	330-706' AM	318-657' AM
	115-572' PM	453-851' PM	446-837' PM

# AGENCY OUTREACH + CONSIDERATIONS

<b>NICTD</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Station area plans at 30%</li><li>• Anticipated construction completion by 2025</li></ul>
<b>NRPC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Support complete streets approach</li><li>• Funding opportunities for streetscape: <i>Next Level Trails; Transportation Enhancement Funds (INDOT); Green Streets Funds</i></li><li>• NRPC could fund a Transportation Master Plan</li></ul>
<b>Little Calumet River Basin Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Funding opportunities for streetscape: <i>The Tree Grant; Plantings associated with north Calumet gateway.</i></li></ul>
<b>Indiana DNR</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Potential funding programs: <i>FEMA BRIC (Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities); GLRI (Great Lakes Restoration Initiative); DNR Small Grants (wayfinding, green infrastructure)</i></li></ul>
<b>NIPSCO</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Calumet Ave is a transmission corridor</li><li>• Ridge Rd is mostly distribution</li><li>• Opportunities to consolidate aerial crossings at Ridge Rd and to consolidate utilities as part of the station development.</li></ul>

# NEXT STEPS + QUESTIONS?

1. Community Poll #2
2. Public meeting, *mid December*
3. Next Committee Meeting: Draft Streetscape Plan, *after the new year*

**INPUT ACTIVITY**

**Log on to: [MENTI.COM](https://www.menti.com)**