

Maryland Avenue 4-to-3 Lane Conversion Trial

Arkwright Street to Payne Avenue

4-to-3 lane conversions in Ramsey County

Ramsey County supports 4-to-3 lane reductions through its All Abilities Transportation Network policy, as the road design prioritizes the most vulnerable users of a transportation system.

A full evaluation of all undivided four-lane roads in the county road system is expected to be complete in 2020
The study will look at each road to determine whether a lane reduction would have a positive impact
The evaluation will offer long-term planning guidance for maintenance, funding and reconstruction

Three-lane conversion projects in Ramsey County

CURRENT PROJECTS

Rice Street

Larpenteur Avenue

RECENT PROJECTS

Maryland Avenue between Payne Avenue and Johnson Parkway

The County's first three-lane conversion

Permanently converted to three lanes in 2018

Median pedestrian refuges and marked crosswalks were added at Greenbrier Street and Duluth Street



Current condition on Rice Street. Currently under evaluation for potential 4-to-3 lane reduction



Maryland Avenue 4-to-3 permanent lane conversion between Payne Avenue and Johnson Parkway: enhanced pedestrian crossing at Duluth Street

What is the Maryland Avenue 4-to-3 Lane Conversion Trial?

- 1

In 2018, Maryland Avenue between Payne Avenue and Johnson Parkway was permanently striped as a three-lane road following a 4-to-3 conversion trial in 2017
- 2

To continue the effort to convert Maryland Avenue to a three-lane road, Ramsey County is studying the possibility of converting Maryland Avenue between Arkwright Street and Payne Avenue from a four-lane to three-lane road
- 3

The change to a three-lane road would include one travel lane in each direction and a two-way left-turn lane in the center
- 4

A three-month trial of the 4-to-3 lane conversion will be in place from late August 2019 to November 2019

Project area map



What are the benefits and trade-offs of a 4-to-3 lane conversion?

Benefits

A 4-to-3 lane conversion improves the safety for all users by:

- Creating safer and easier crossings for pedestrians
- Reducing vehicle speed
- Separating left-turns from through traffic
- Reducing the severity of crashes

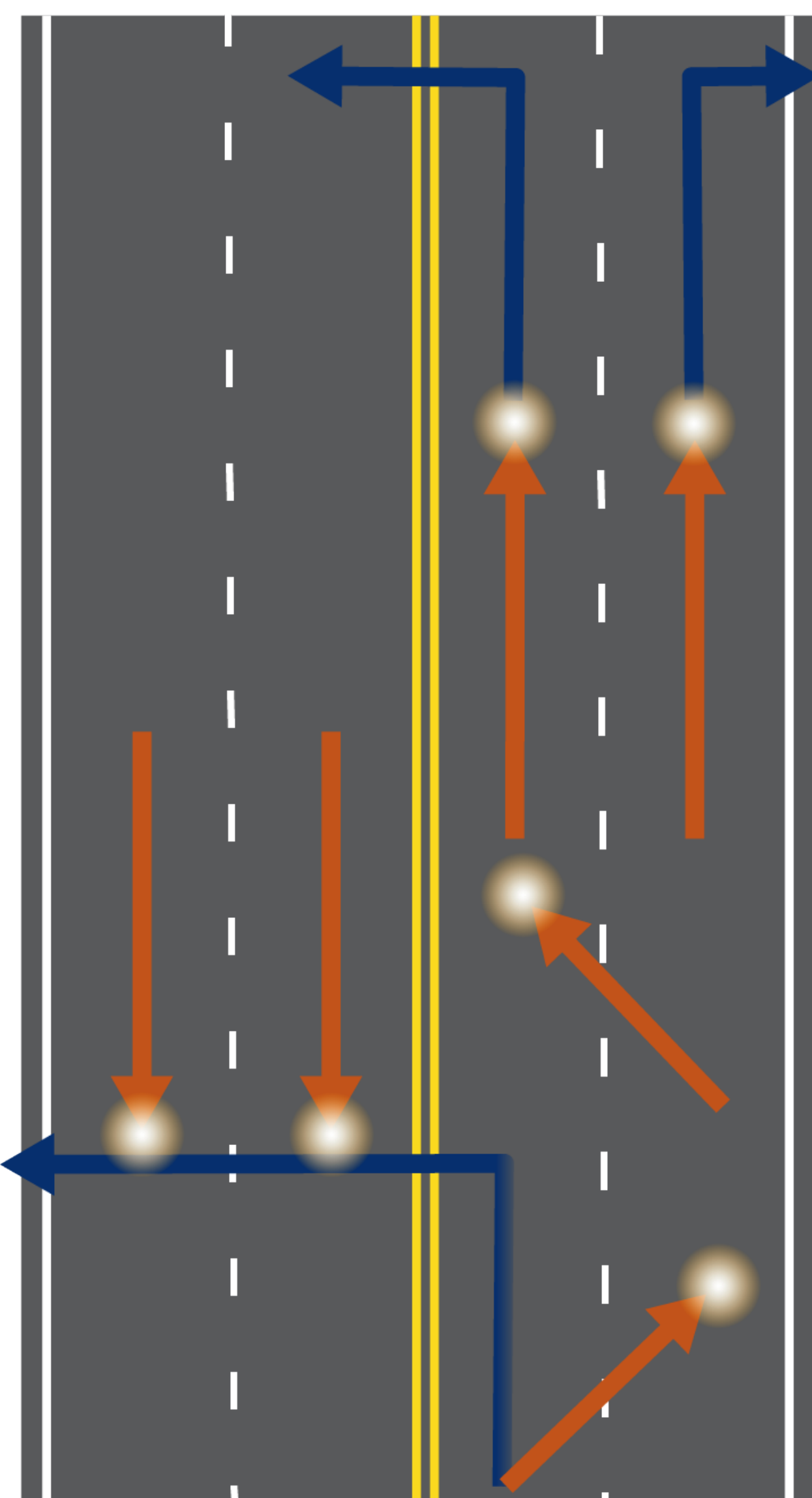
Trade-offs

In exchange for increased safety, there may be trade-offs for a 4-to-3 lane conversion especially during rush hour:

- Increase in travel time
- Longer lines of vehicles at traffic lights
- Fewer gaps between vehicles making it difficult for vehicles to cross or make left turns at intersections

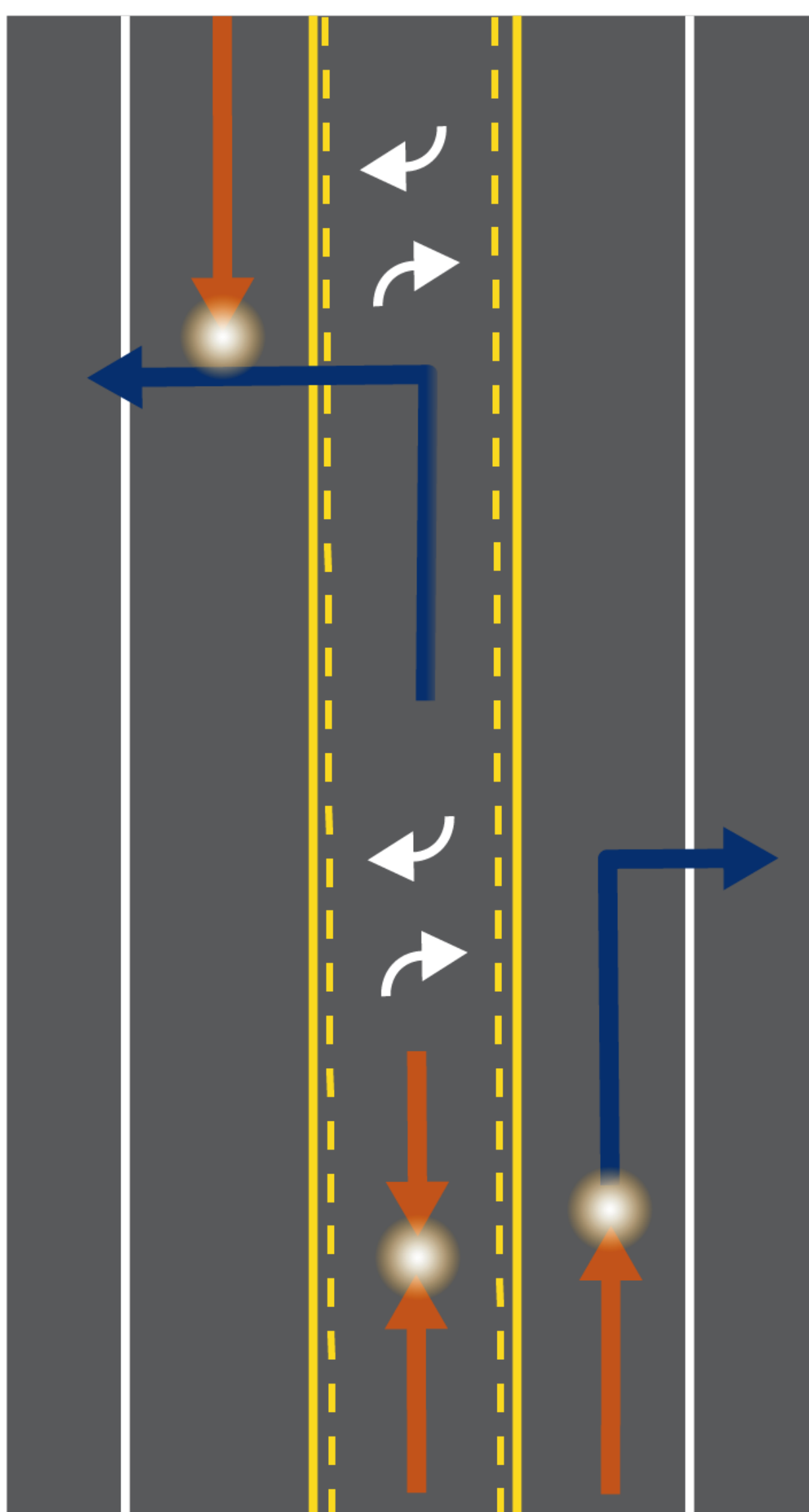
BEFORE

Four-lane undivided road



AFTER

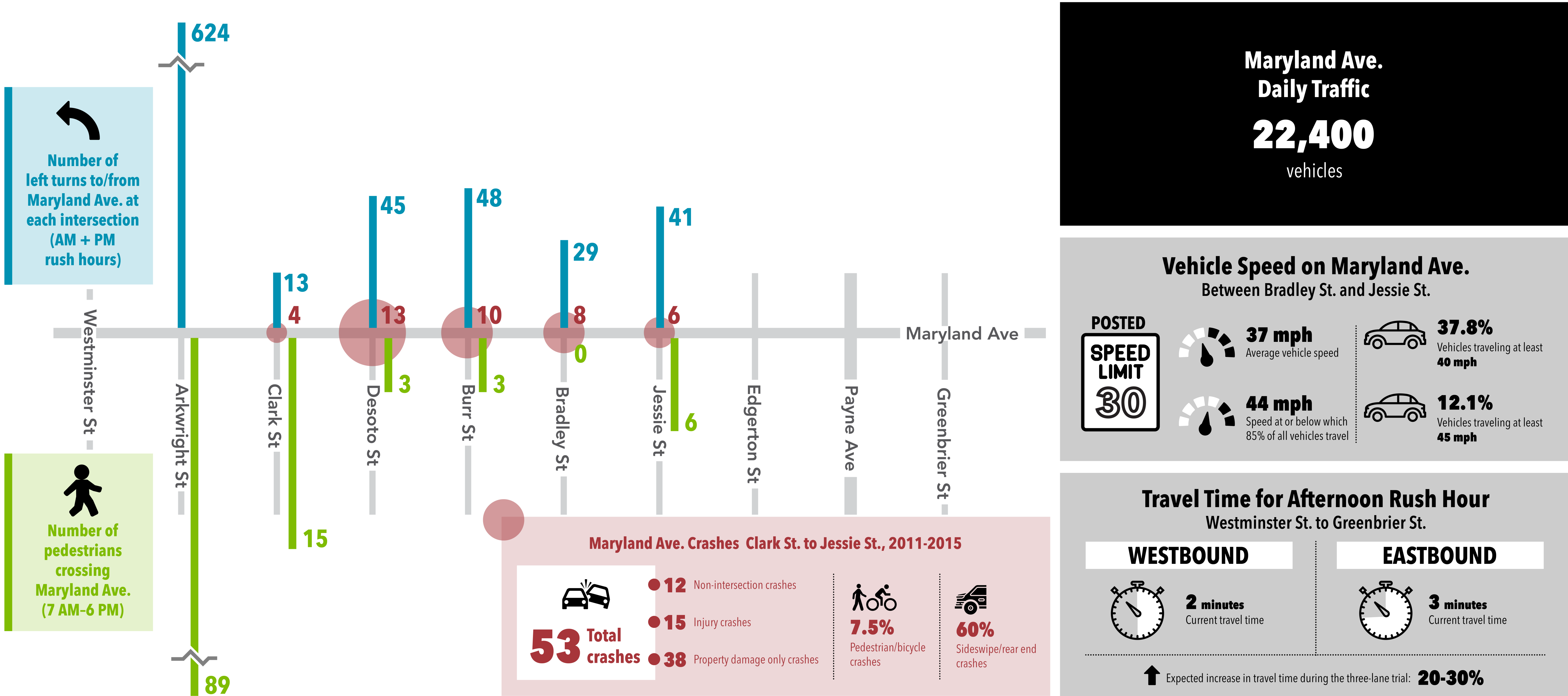
Three-lane road with a two-way left-turn lane in the center



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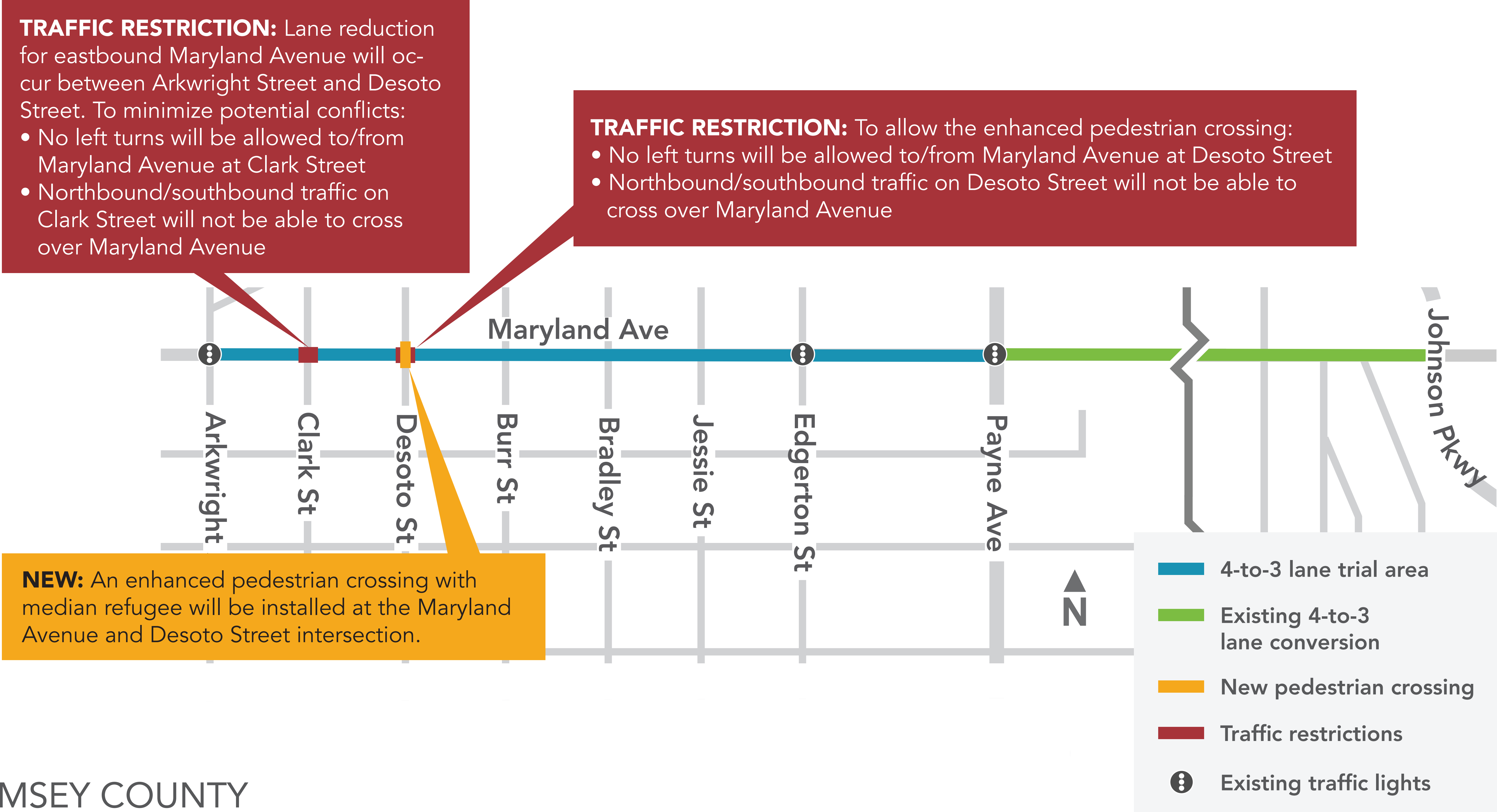
What is happening on Maryland Ave. between Arkwright St. and Payne Ave. today?



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Arkwright Street to Payne Avenue

What impacts will there be to pedestrians and drivers during the lane conversion trial?



What changes are expected on Maryland Avenue during the trial?

What will change on Maryland Avenue

Improved safety

- Decrease in vehicle speeds
- Decrease in injury crashes
- Decrease in rear-end/sideswipe crashes
- Increase in pedestrians crossing

Impacts to vehicle movements

- Increase in travel time/delay/backups during rush hour
- Fewer gaps between vehicles, so vehicles may have difficulty in crossing and making left turns at intersections
- Potential increased use of nearby streets

Improved quality of life

- Improved driver/pedestrian comfort

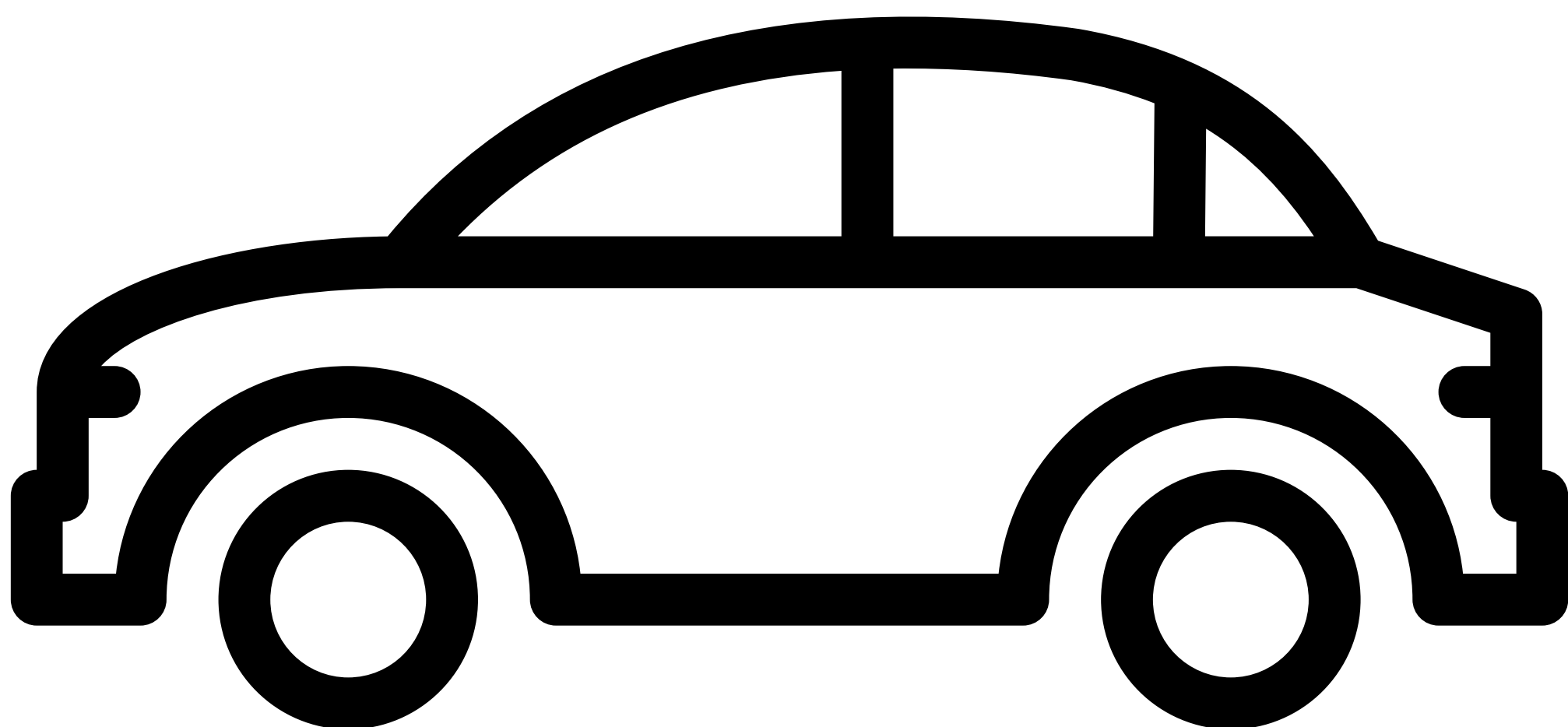
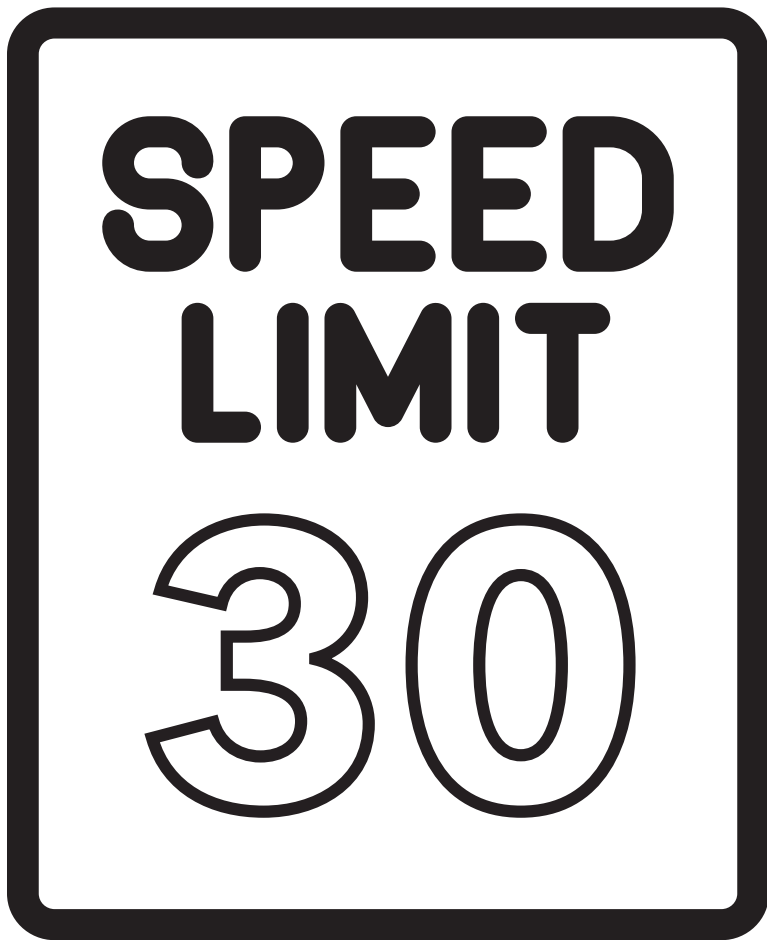
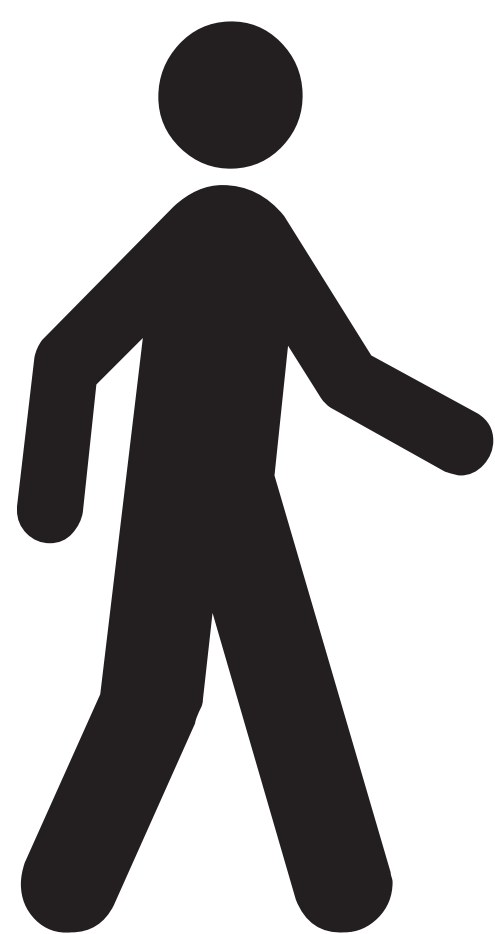
What won't change on Maryland Avenue

Maryland Avenue will remain open to vehicles

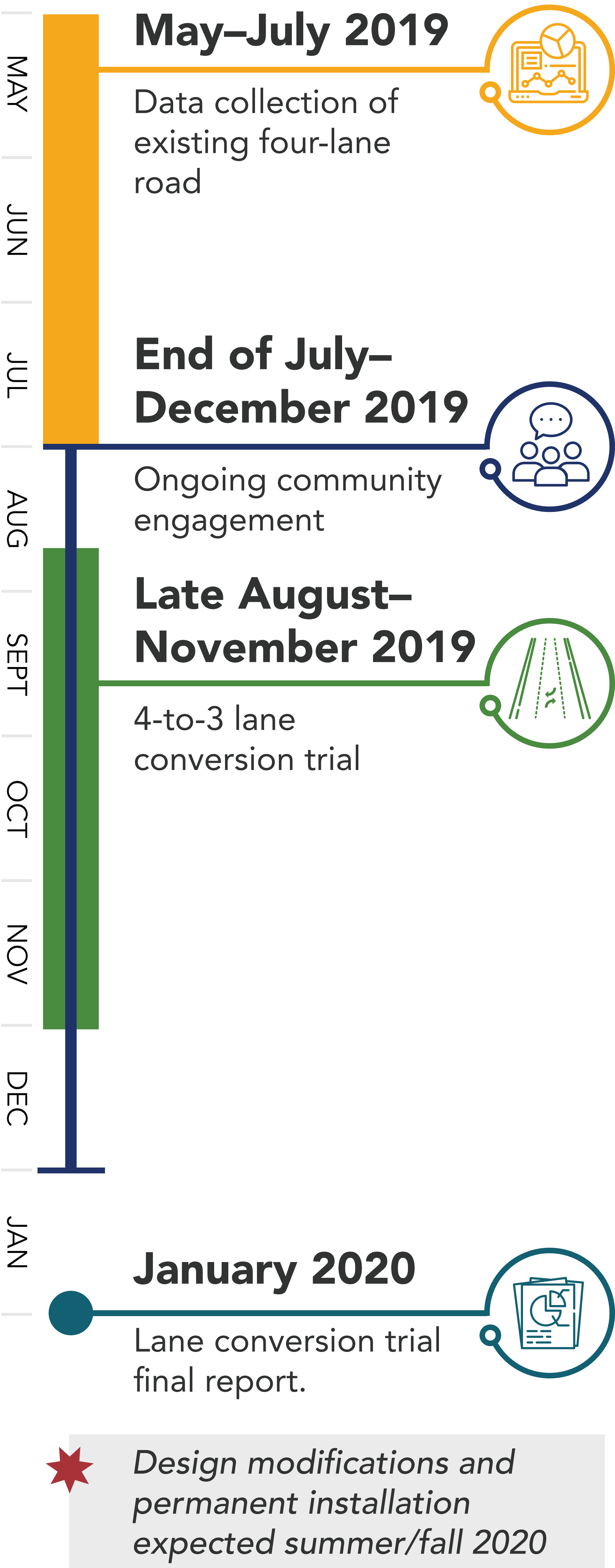
- During the restriping to a three-lane road and installation of the pedestrian median, there may be some delays

Driveways: There will be no impacts to driveways on Maryland Avenue

Speed limit: There will be no changes to the posted speed limit



What is the schedule for the 4-to-3 lane conversion trial?



How will the Maryland Avenue three-lane trial be evaluated?

Ramsey County will be looking at the following during the lane conversion trial to determine if Maryland Avenue between Arkwright Street and Payne Avenue will permanently stay a three-lane road:



What happens next?

- If the trial is successful, the three-lane configuration on Maryland Avenue between Arkwright Street and Payne Avenue will remain in place
- Any design modifications and permanent installation would occur in summer/fall 2020

We want to hear from you!

Your feedback is important.



Fill out a ***comment sheet*** and submit it today



Go to the ***project website*** and submit feedback through our ***online engagement site***



Call or email project staff



ramseycounty.us/marylandlaneconversion



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Stay updated on the lane conversion trial and upcoming engagement opportunities by signing up for email updates through the project website.