

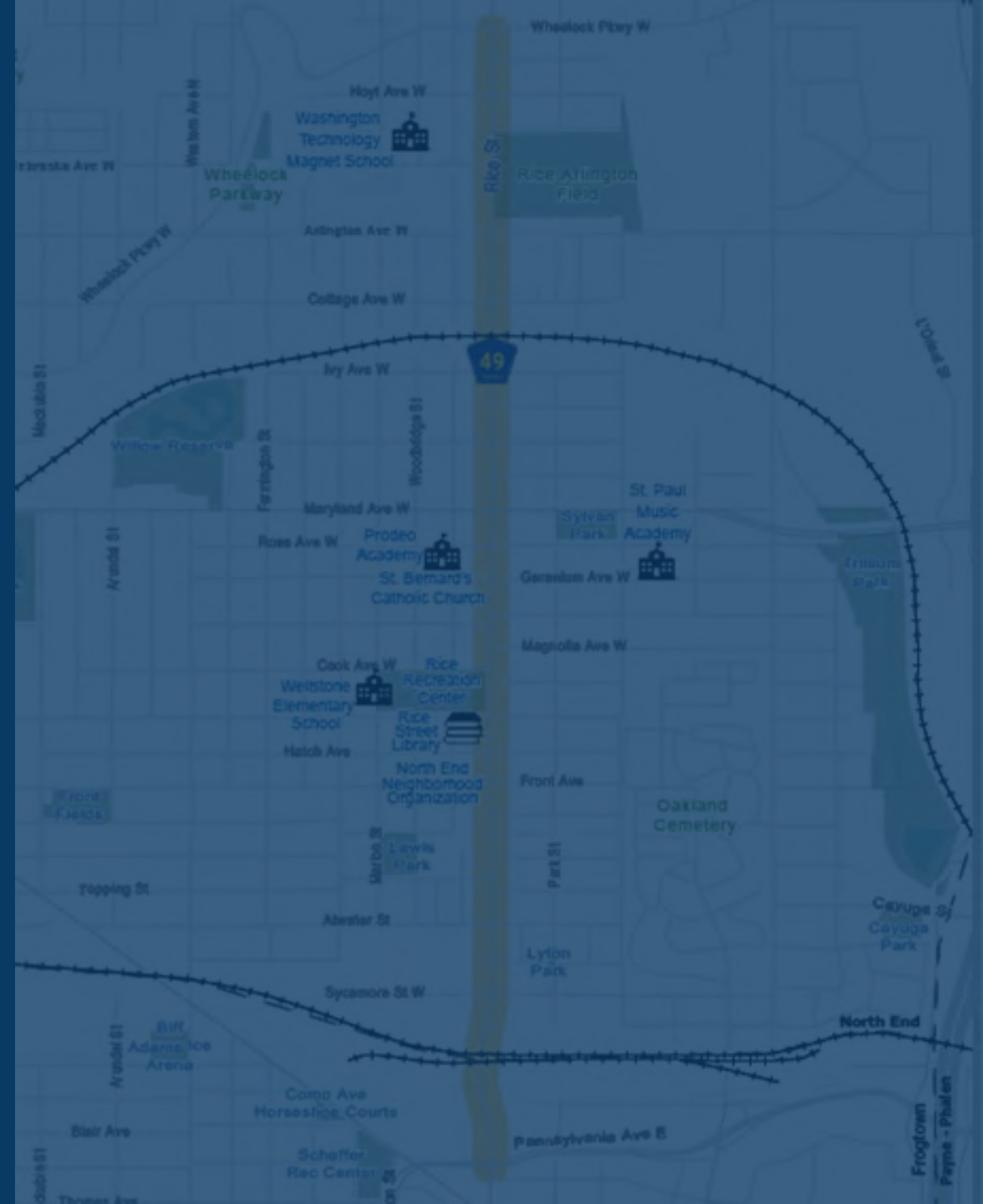
RICE STREET VISIONING STUDY

OPEN HOUSE 4

November 16, 2021



- 1 Project overview
- 2 What we heard
- 3 Recommended Design
- 4 Implementation
- 5 Next steps and questions





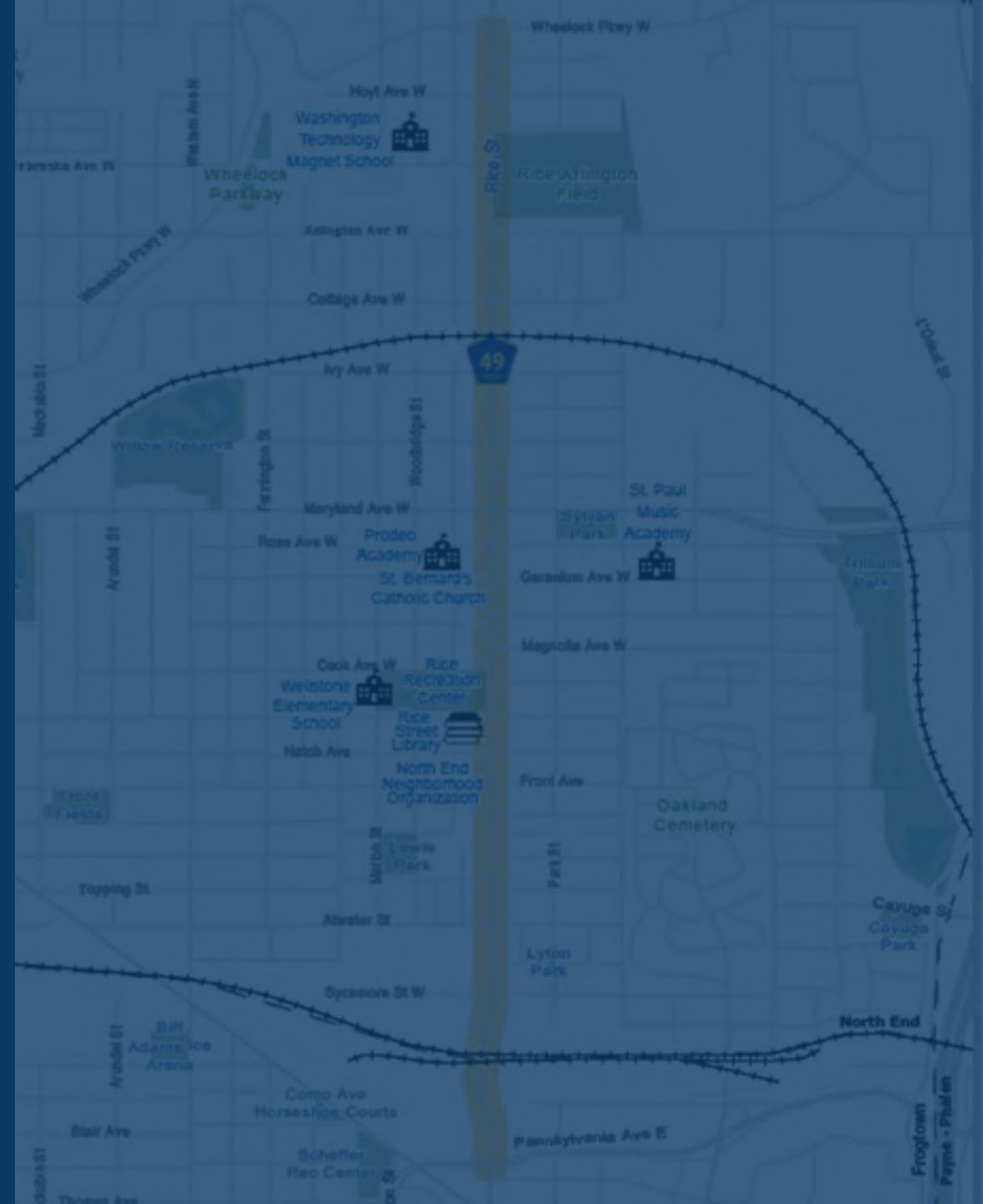
Stay on mute during presentations



Use the chat box



Raise your hand if you have questions



Project Overview

What we
heard

Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions

What is this project all about?

- **Project area:** Rice Street between Pennsylvania Avenue and Wheelock Parkway in St. Paul
- Diverse mix of residents, users, businesses, and modes of travel
- Safety and traffic, community development, business vitality, bike and pedestrian connections, public safety, and livability concerns

Goal: develop plan for Rice Street!



Overview

What we heard

Recommended Design

How do we implement

Next Steps

Questions

Other Goals...



Overview

What we heard

Recommended Design

How do we implement

Next Steps

Questions

Project Timeline



Public Engagement

September 2019 – November 2021



Preliminary Design

August 2020 – November 2021



Implementation

2022 and Beyond

Overview

What we
heard

Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions

What we've heard

Community Engagement

What we
heard

21 email
blasts

1,000+
comments

11
videos

4 open
houses

20+ pop-up
events

Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions

What is Rice
Street like today?
October 2019-
October 2020

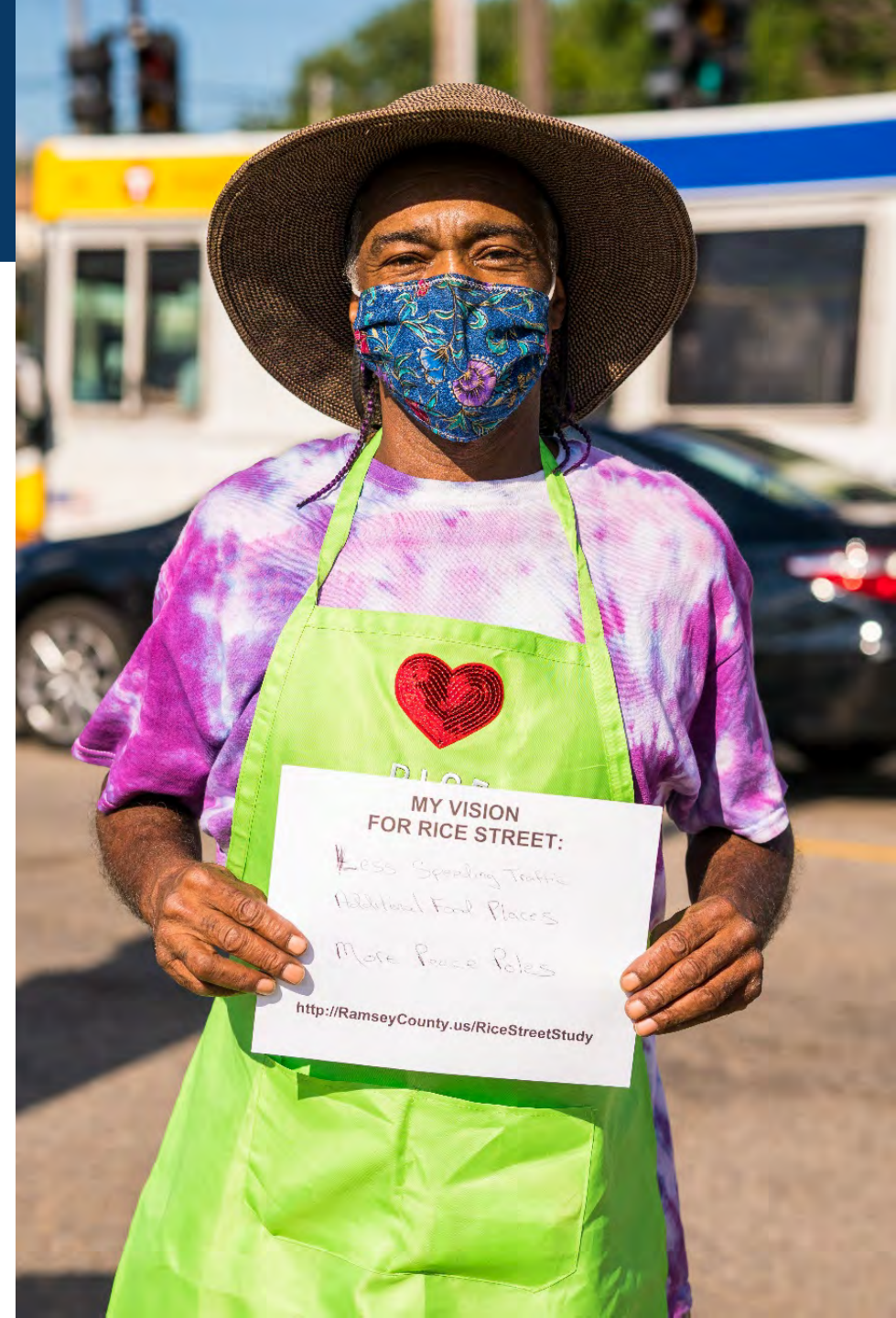
Potential
roadway designs
November 2020-
June 2021

Top 3 roadway
designs
July 2021-
October 2021

Recommended
design
November 2021-
December 2021

Engagement Strategy

- Work with the community
- Invest in community institutions
- Build relationships and capacity
- Look to the long term



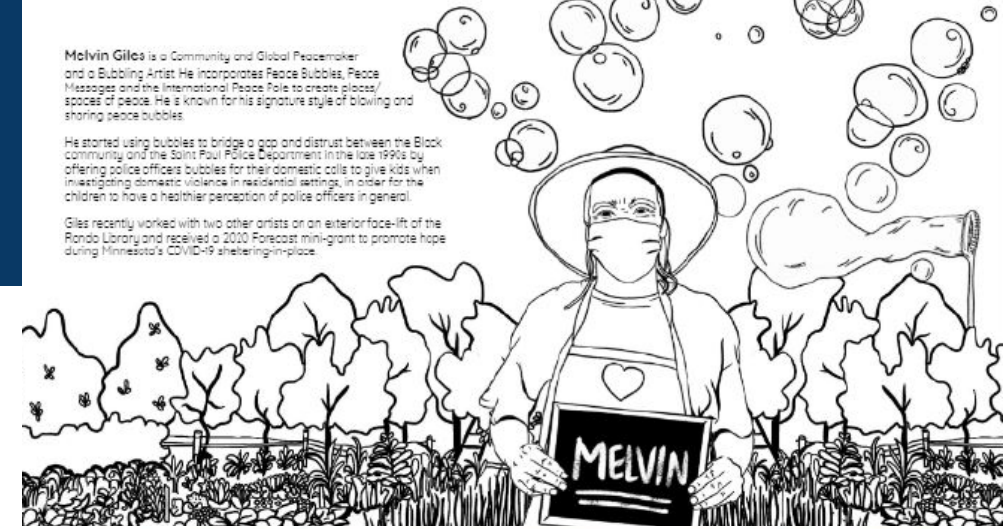
Community Liaisons

- Developing activity book and inserts
- Forming community partnerships
- Doing focus group discussions
- Pop up engagement activities
- Next up: cookbook for community

Melvin Giles is a Community and Global Peacemaker and a Bubbling Artist. He incorporates Peace Bubbles, Peace Messages and the International Peace Pole to create places/spaces of peace. He is known for his signature style of blowing and sharing peace bubbles.

He started using bubbles to bridge a gap and distrust between the Black community and the Saint Paul Police Department in the late 1990s by offering police officers bubbles for their domestic calls to give kids when investigating domestic violence in residential settings, in order for the children to have a healthier perception of police officers in general.

Giles recently worked with two other artists on an exterior face-lift of the Rondo Library and received a 2020 Forefront mini-grant to promote hope during Minnesota's COVID-19 sheltering-in-place.



Overview

What we
heard

Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions

Since we last met...

135+
comments!

Concepts Comment Map

Overview

What we
heard

Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

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Steps

Questions

The screenshot displays a web-based map interface for a neighborhood. The map shows a grid of streets including Geranium Avenue West, Jessamine Avenue West, Cook Avenue West, and Lawson Avenue West. Landmarks such as I & Sheila Istone Elementary School and Rice Street Library are marked. A 'Comment Panel' is overlaid on the left side, featuring an 'Add Comment' button and a 'Pick Comment Type' section with four options: Likes (thumbs up), Dislikes (thumbs down), Concerns (warning triangle), and Ideas and Opportunities (lightbulb). On the right side, a 'Concepts' menu is visible, listing 'Concept A', 'Concept B', and 'Concept C', each with an information icon. Below the menu is a 'Legend' and a 'Help' link. An 'Aerial' view inset is located in the bottom right corner of the map area.

30+
installed

Installed Sidewalk Stickers

Overview

What we
heard

Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions



Marydale Festival and Rice/Larpenteur Block Party

Overview

485+
comments!

What we
heard

Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions



High Level Takeaways

Overview

What we
heard

Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions

- Give high priority for pedestrian and traffic safety, particularly at intersections and crossings.
- Carefully consider bicycle and transit facility options and how they fit with other modes.
- Support the community beyond the roadway: economic development, business vitality, public safety, and livability.

How This Informs Project

Overview

What we
heard

Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions

Pedestrian and traffic safety improvements

- Roadway reconfiguration
- Enhanced pedestrian crossings

Bicycle and transit options/enhancements

- Options with upgraded bike facilities
- Upgraded transit facilities, related to BRT

Community support

- Implementation and partnership approach beyond the roadway
- Inclusive, capacity-building process

Recommended Design

Overview

What we
heard

Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions

Evaluation Goals and Criteria

Transportation Goals & Criteria

- 1 Safe pedestrian accommodations
- 2 Safe bicycle connections
- 3 Improved transit service
- 4 Safe traffic operations
- 5 Welcoming streetscape

Community Context Goals & Criteria

- 1 Economic development and business support
- 2 Workforce development and employment
- 3 Healthy community
- 4 Public safety
- 5 Community-defined goals

Overview

What we
heard

Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions

Overview

What we
heard

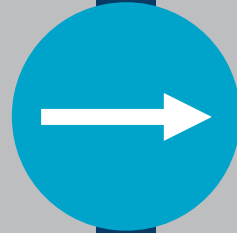
Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions

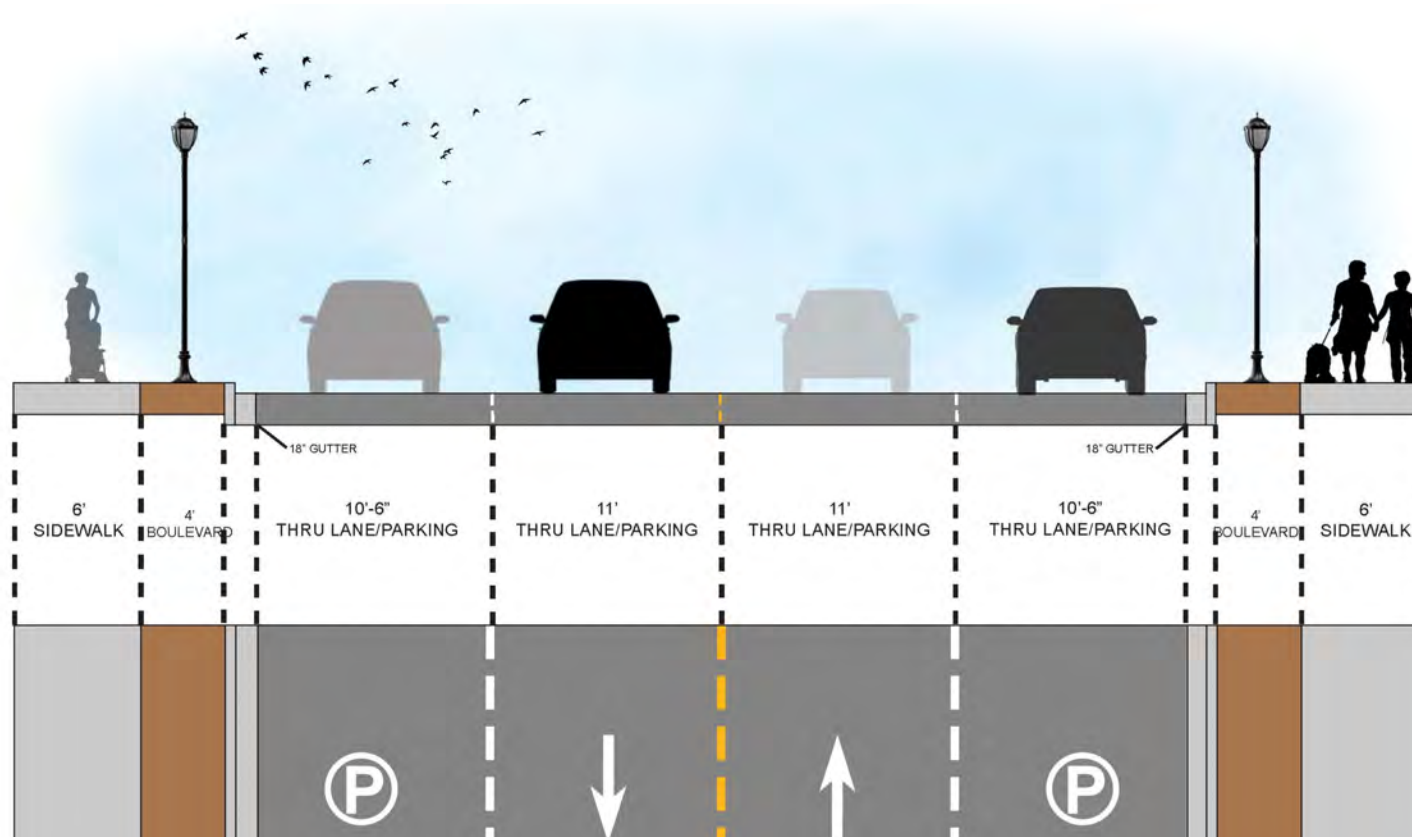
November 2020
7 Concepts



July 2021
3 Concepts

Existing

4-Lane Roadway, Sidewalks



Key elements

- 4-lane roadway with 11-12' lanes
- 6' sidewalks and 4' boulevards
- Parking during certain hours in outside lanes
- NOTE: 4-lane option not considered viable

Overview

What we heard

Recommended Design

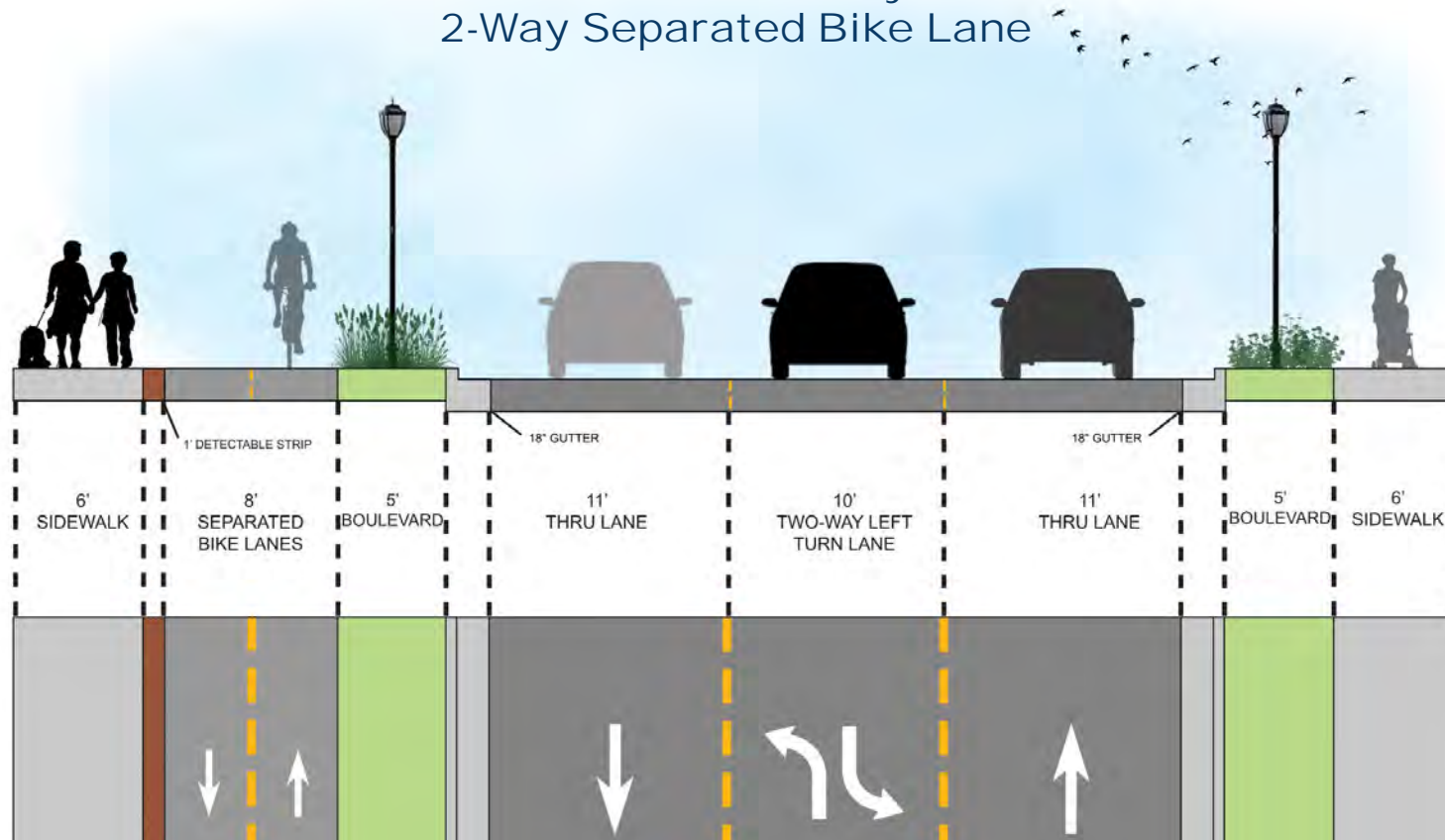
How do we implement

Next Steps

Questions

Concept A

3-Lane Roadway,
2-Way Separated Bike Lane



Overview

What we
heard

Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

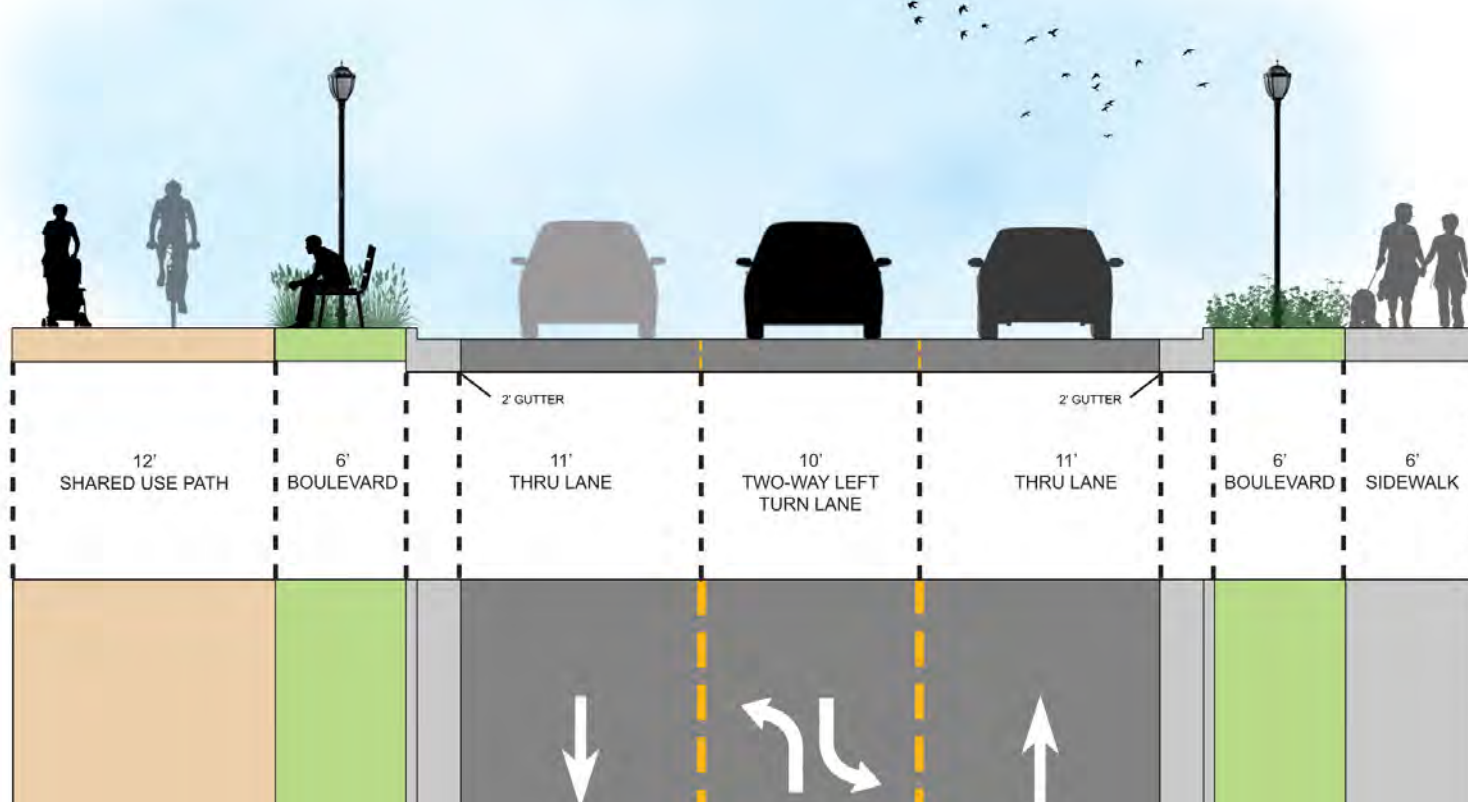
Questions

Key elements

- 3-lane roadway with 11' thru lanes and a 10' turn lane
- 6-foot sidewalks, 5-foot boulevards
- Two-way 8-foot separated bike lane

Concept B

3-Lane Roadway,
Shared Use Path



Overview

What we
heard

Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

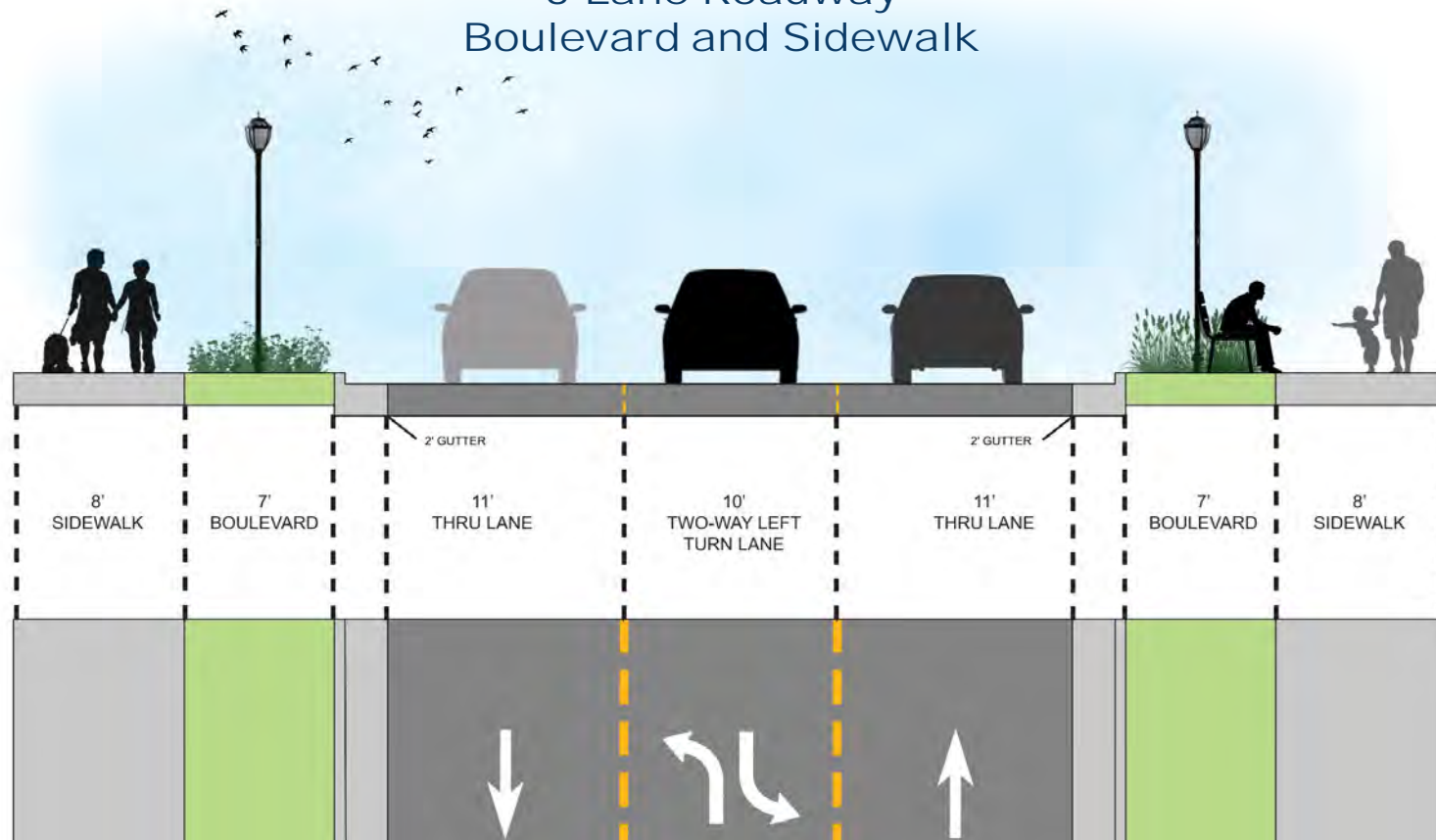
Questions

Key elements

- 3-lane roadway with 11' thru lanes and a 10' turn lane
- 6-foot sidewalk, 6-foot boulevards
- 12-foot shared use side path

Concept C

3-Lane Roadway
Boulevard and Sidewalk



Overview

What we
heard

Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions

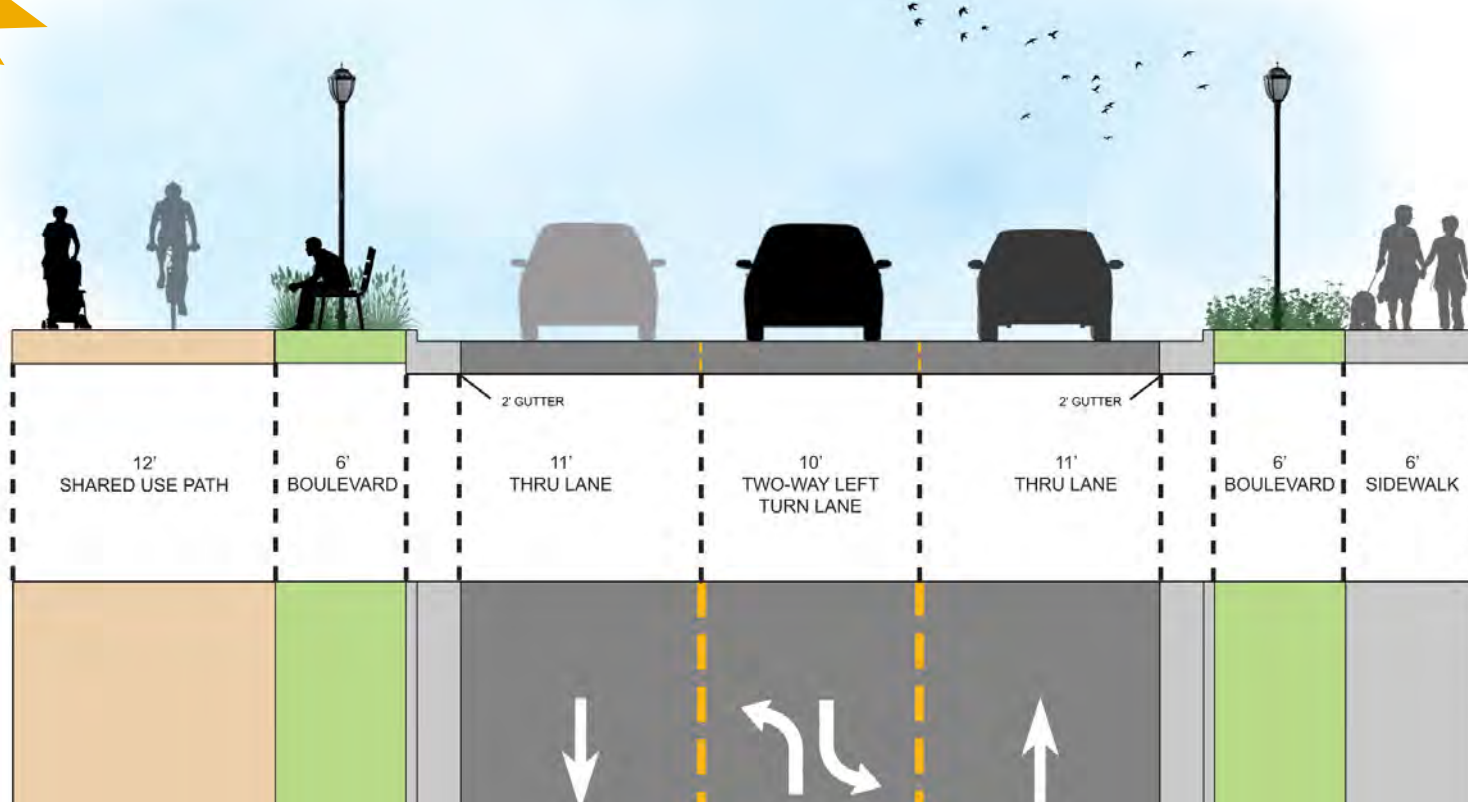
Key elements

- 3-lane roadway with 11' thru lanes and a 10' turn lane
- 8-foot sidewalks, 7-foot boulevards

**Recommended
Design**

Concept B

3-Lane Roadway,
Shared Use Path



Overview

What we
heard

**Recommended
Design**

How do we
implement

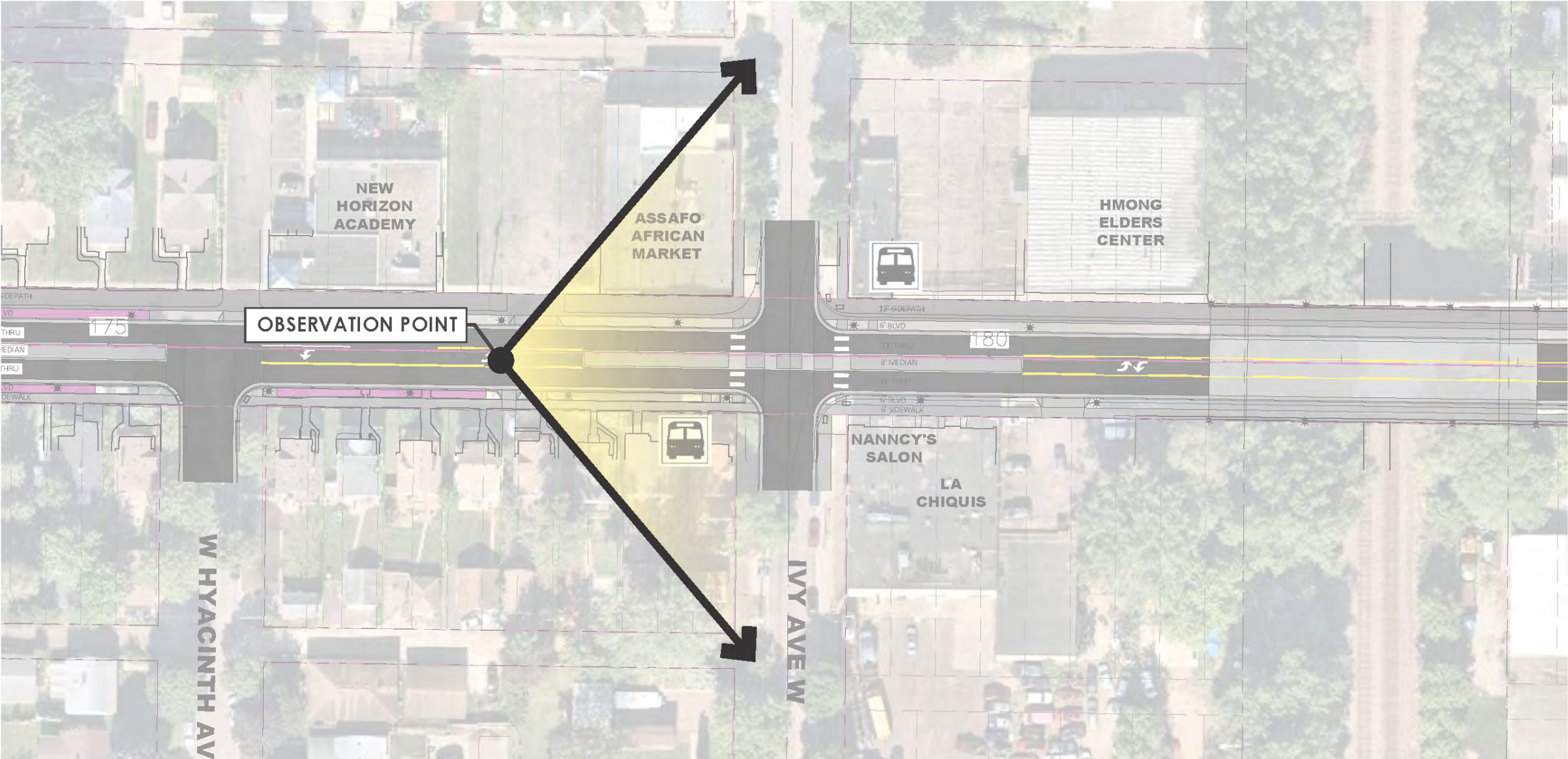
Next
Steps

Questions

Key elements

- 3-lane roadway with 11' thru lanes and a 10' turn lane
- 6-foot sidewalk, 6-foot boulevards
- 12-foot shared use side path

IVY AVE W & RICE STREET



IVY AVE W & RICE STREET



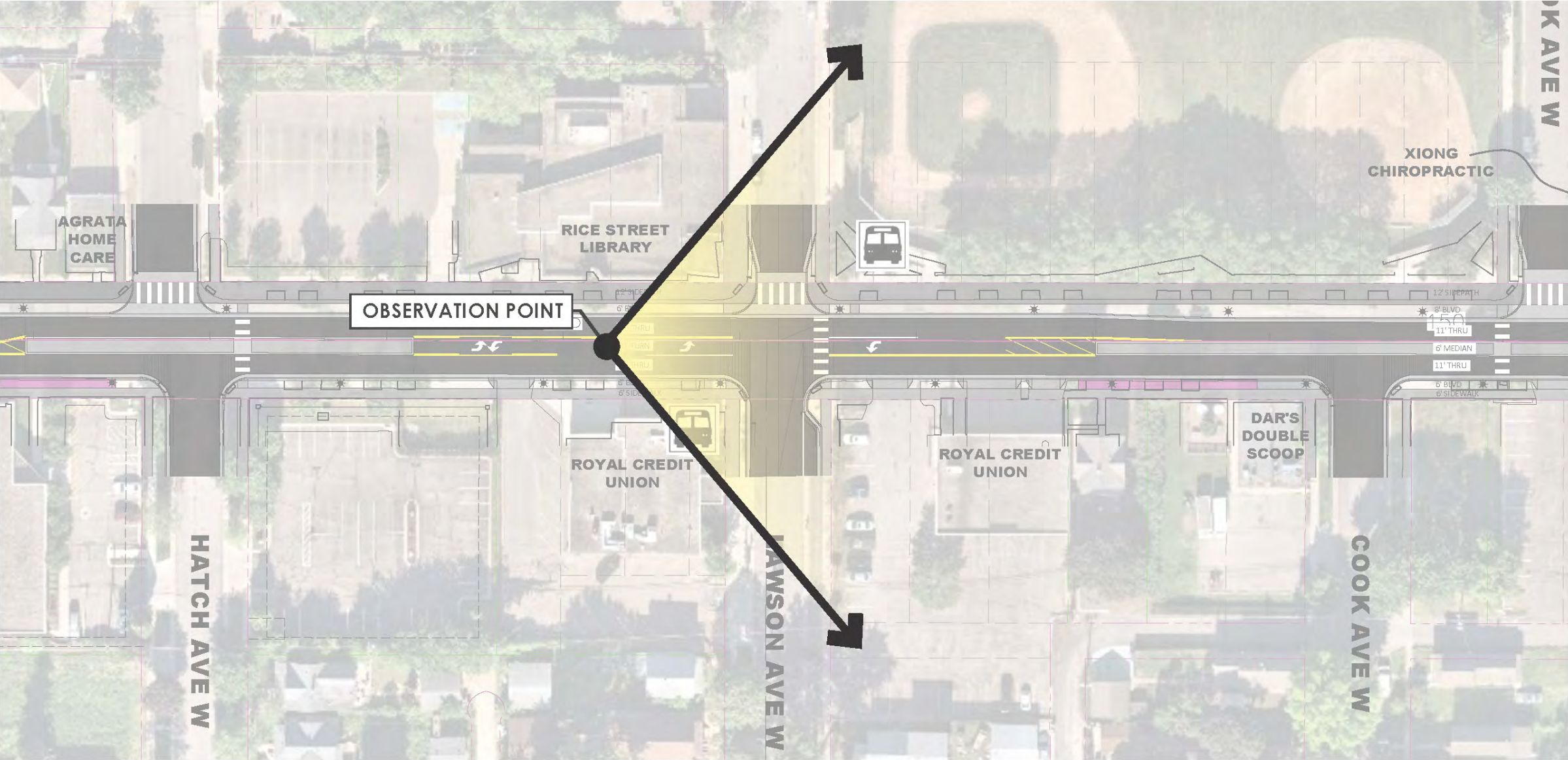
MONTANA AVE & RICE STREET



MONTANA AVE & RICE STREET



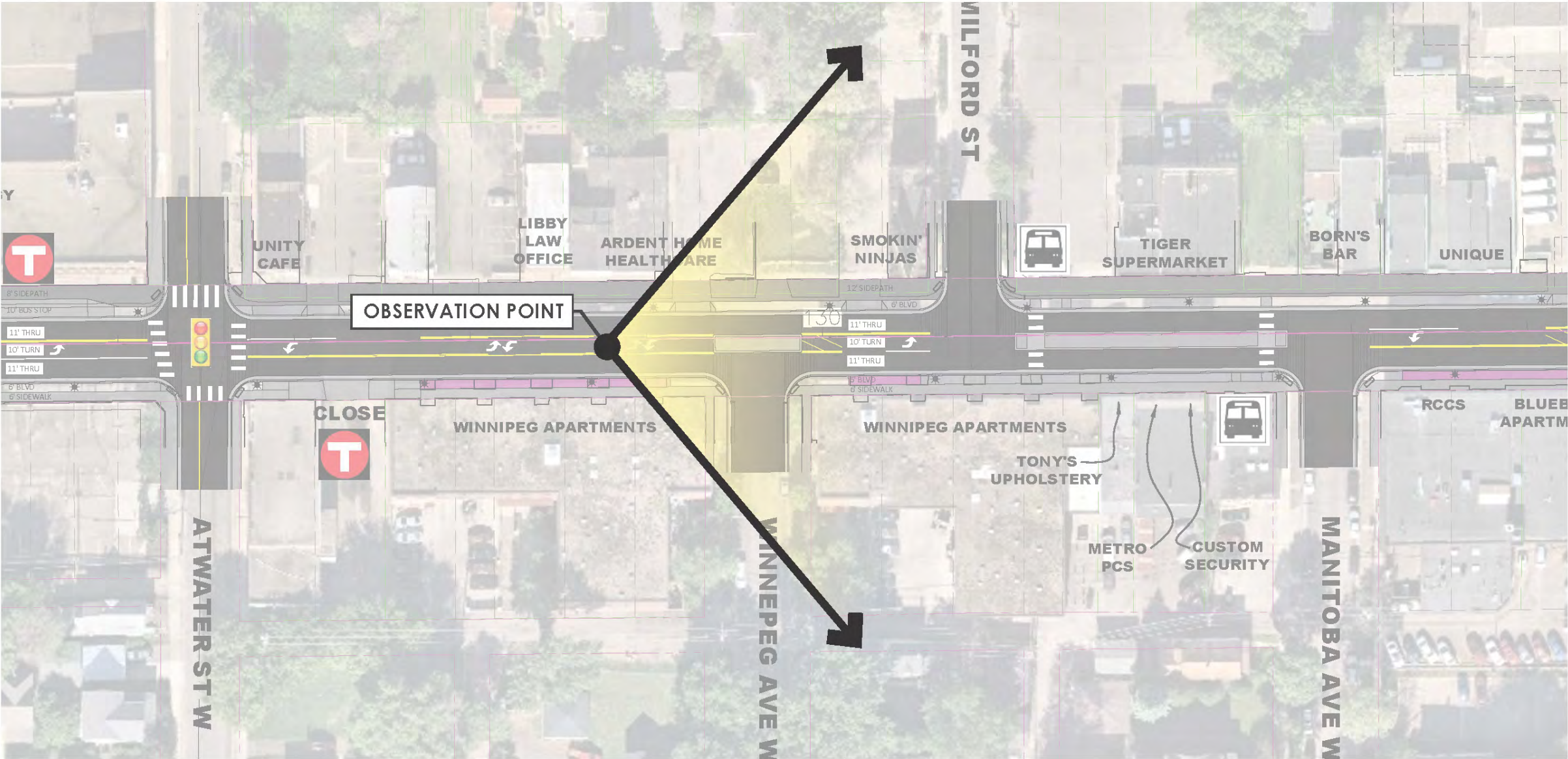
LAWSON AVE W & RICE STREET



LAWSON AVE & RICE STREET



WINNIPEG AVE & RICE STREET



WINNIPEG AVE & RICE STREET



Recommended Design: Concept B

Prioritizes bike and pedestrian accessibility over cars

- New dedicated bike accommodation
- Improved pedestrian access and crossings

Compared to Concept A (bike lane), this one is:

- Better fit with accommodating new BRT
- More flexible in space in public realm, allowing for greening/streetscape
- Easier to be maintained, though questions remain
- More able to include on-street parking, though questions remain

Overview

What we
heard

Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions

Focus: Roadway Access Restrictions

Full Closure

Winnipeg Ave

Hatch Ave

Cook Ave

Rose Ave

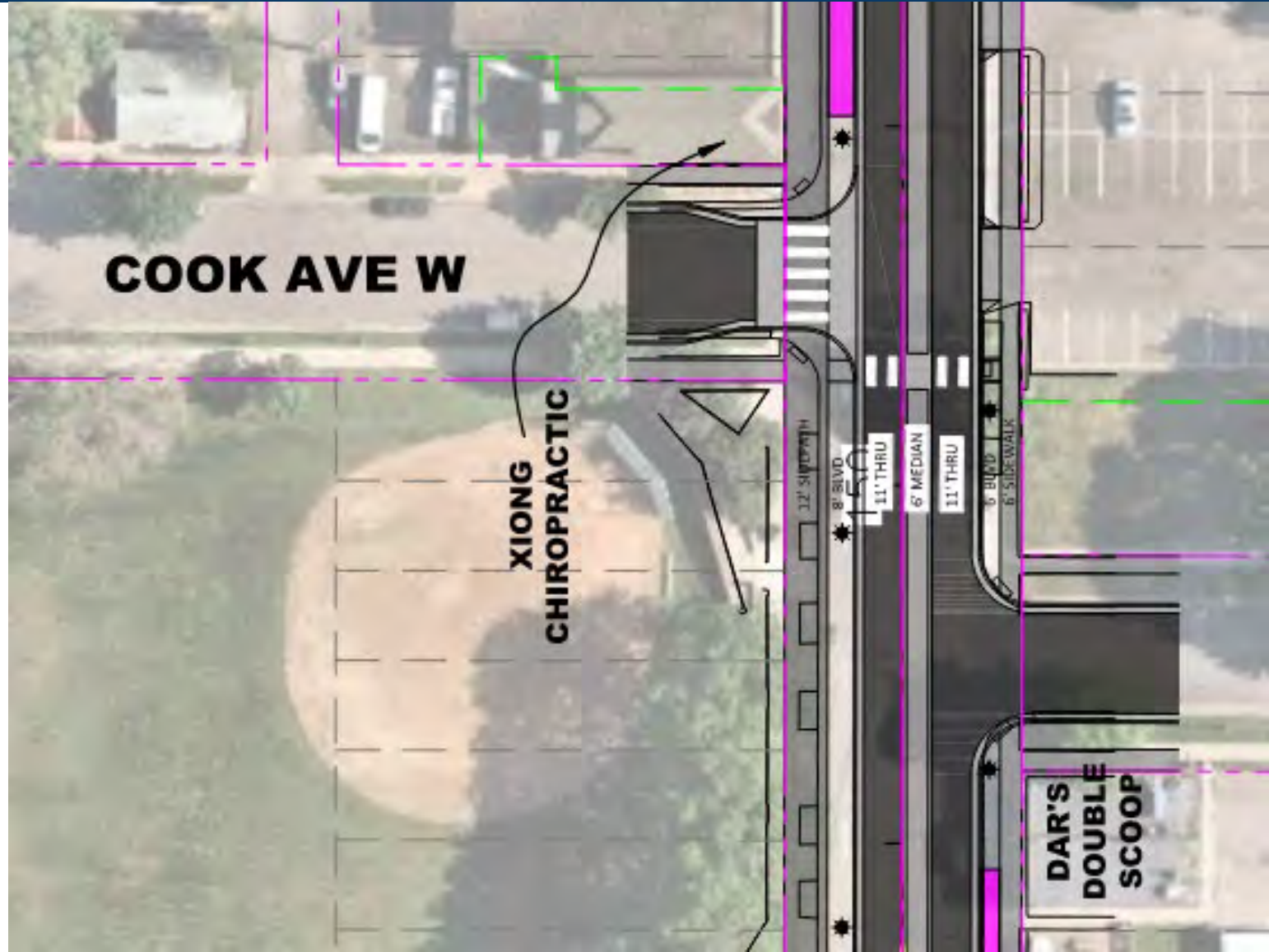
Ivy Ave

Left Turn Removed

Northbound at Ivy

Southbound at Cottage

Southbound at Hoyt



Focus: BRT Project

What will stations look like?



A Pylon markers help riders identify stations from a distance.

B Real-time NexTrip signs provide bus information, and on-demand **annunciators** speak this information for people with low vision.

C Shelters provide weather protection and feature push-button, on-demand **heaters** and shelter **lighting**. Shelter sizes will vary based on customer demand (small shown here).

D Ticket machines and fare card readers collect all payment before customers board the bus.

E Emergency telephones provide a direct connection to Metro Transit police. Stations also feature **security cameras**.

F Stations feature **trash and recycling** containers.

G Platform edges are marked with a cast-iron **textured warning strip** to keep passengers safely away from the curb while the bus approaches. Many stations also feature **raised curbs** for easier boarding.

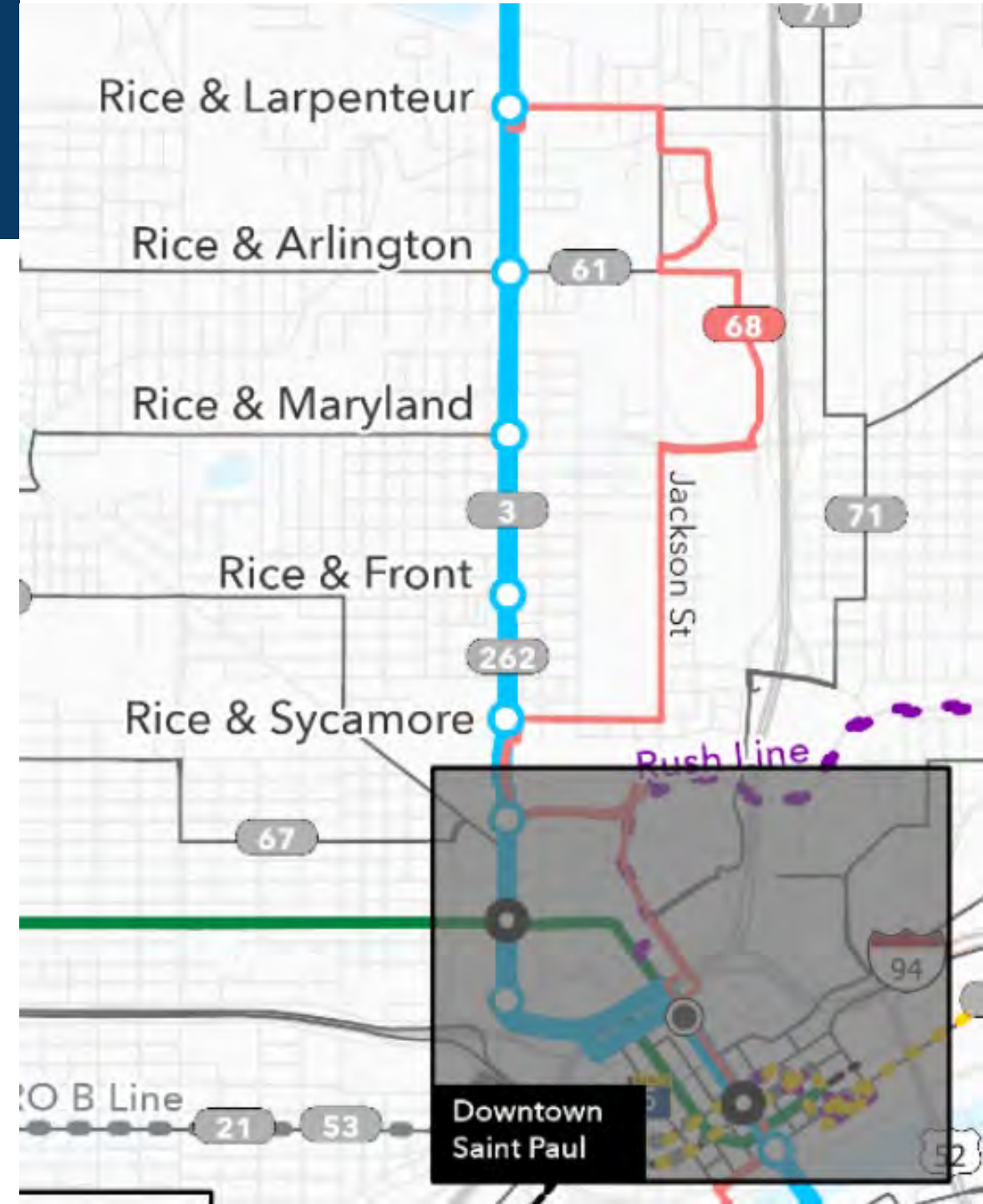
H Platform areas are distinguished by a dark gray concrete pattern.

I Benches at stations provide a place to sit.

J Most stations have **bike parking**.

Some stations have pedestrian-scale **light fixtures** to provide a safe, well-lit environment.

At some stations, **railings** separate the platform from the sidewalk.



Some considerations...



Not all the roadway will be reconstructed at once

- Minimize disruptions to businesses and travelers
- Focus on areas that need the biggest change



Options can be flexed by roadway segment

- Variations in overall right-of-way width
- Differences in need for on-street parking



Future discussions will get into details

- Intersection/pedestrian crossing design
- Transit service and facilities

Overview

What we
heard

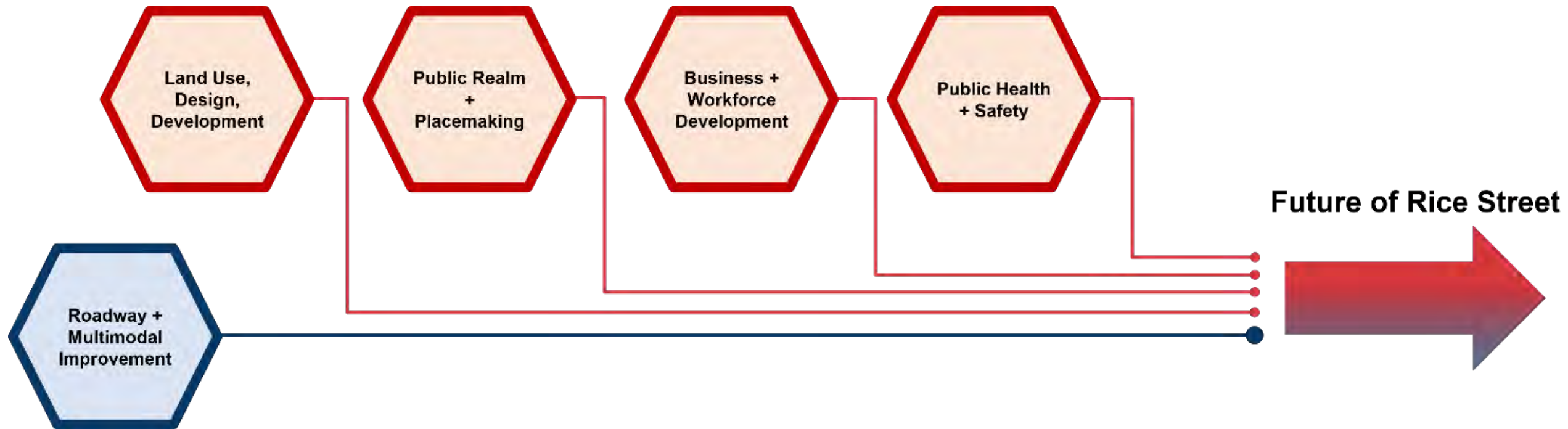
Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions

Livability Framework Implementation Plan



Breakout Session

15 minutes

Overview

What we
heard

Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions

Report Back

15 minutes

Overview

What we
heard

Recommended
Design

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions

Implementation

Overview

What we
heard

Preferred
Concept

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions

Implementation

- **2022-2023** – preliminary and final design
 - More detailed design
 - Stormwater and streetscaping details
 - Right-of-way considerations
 - Transit integration, including G Line project
 - Project staging and funding
- **2024** – construction starts

Overview

What we
heard

Preferred
Concept

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions

Engage Online

Look for notification of online resources:

- Recording and copy of presentation
- INPUTiD map with roadway layout
- Cross sections and visualizations
- More resources to come!

Overview

What we
heard

Preferred
Concept

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions

Next steps



Develop project
implementation
plan



Additional
engagement and
reporting



Move into
implementation

Overview

What we
heard

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How do we
implement

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Steps

Questions

Additional questions?

Overview

What we
heard

Preferred
Concept

How do we
implement

Next
Steps

Questions

Thank you!

[ramseycounty.us/
RiceStreetStudy](http://ramseycounty.us/RiceStreetStudy)



*Don't forget to sign up for
email updates on the website!*

