W. Braddock Road Corridor & N. Howard Street Access & Safety Improvements Study

City of Alexandria, Virginia
June 2026

Agenda

- Project Location & Goals
- Existing Conditions
- Roadway Analysis
- Design Options
- Next Steps

Project Location

West Braddock Road- Van Dorn Street to Crest Street
North Howard Street – W. Braddock Road to Seminary Road

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

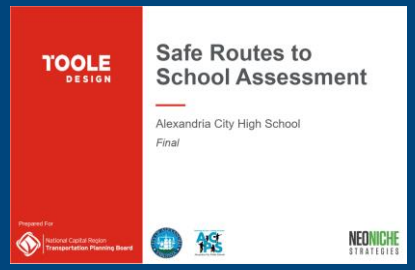
VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation

Project Goals

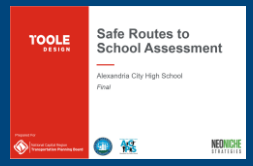
Improve mobility, safety, and access for all roadway users of all ages, abilities and modes of travel.

Alexandria Mobility Plan

Increase student safety walking and biking to school and between campuses.



Right-size the roadways and reduce vehicle speeds.



VISION ZERO
SAFER STREETS FOR ALEXANDRIA

Eliminate bicycle and pedestrian fatalities and severe injuries.

VISION ZERO
SAFER STREETS FOR ALEXANDRIA

Safe Routes to School Audit (2023)

Image Credit: Casey Donahue for Theogony

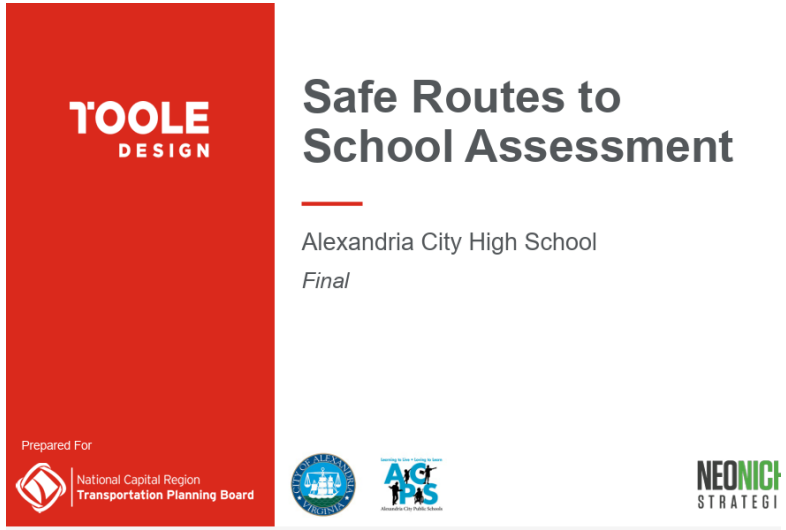
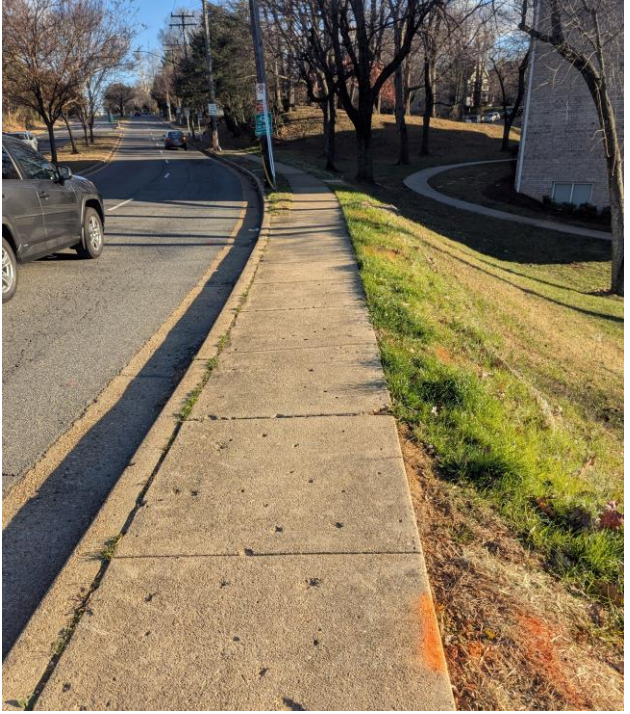
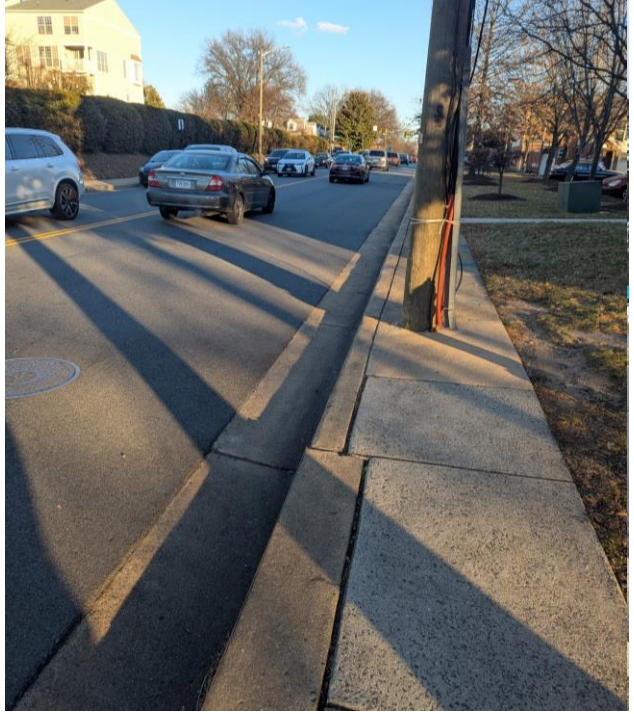


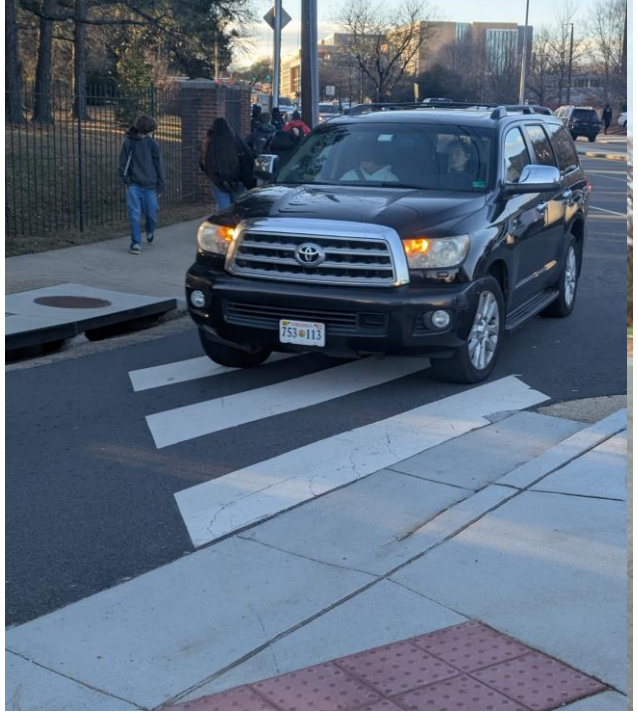
Image Credit: James Libresco for Theogony

Existing Conditions

Corridor Activity







West Braddock: What We See Today

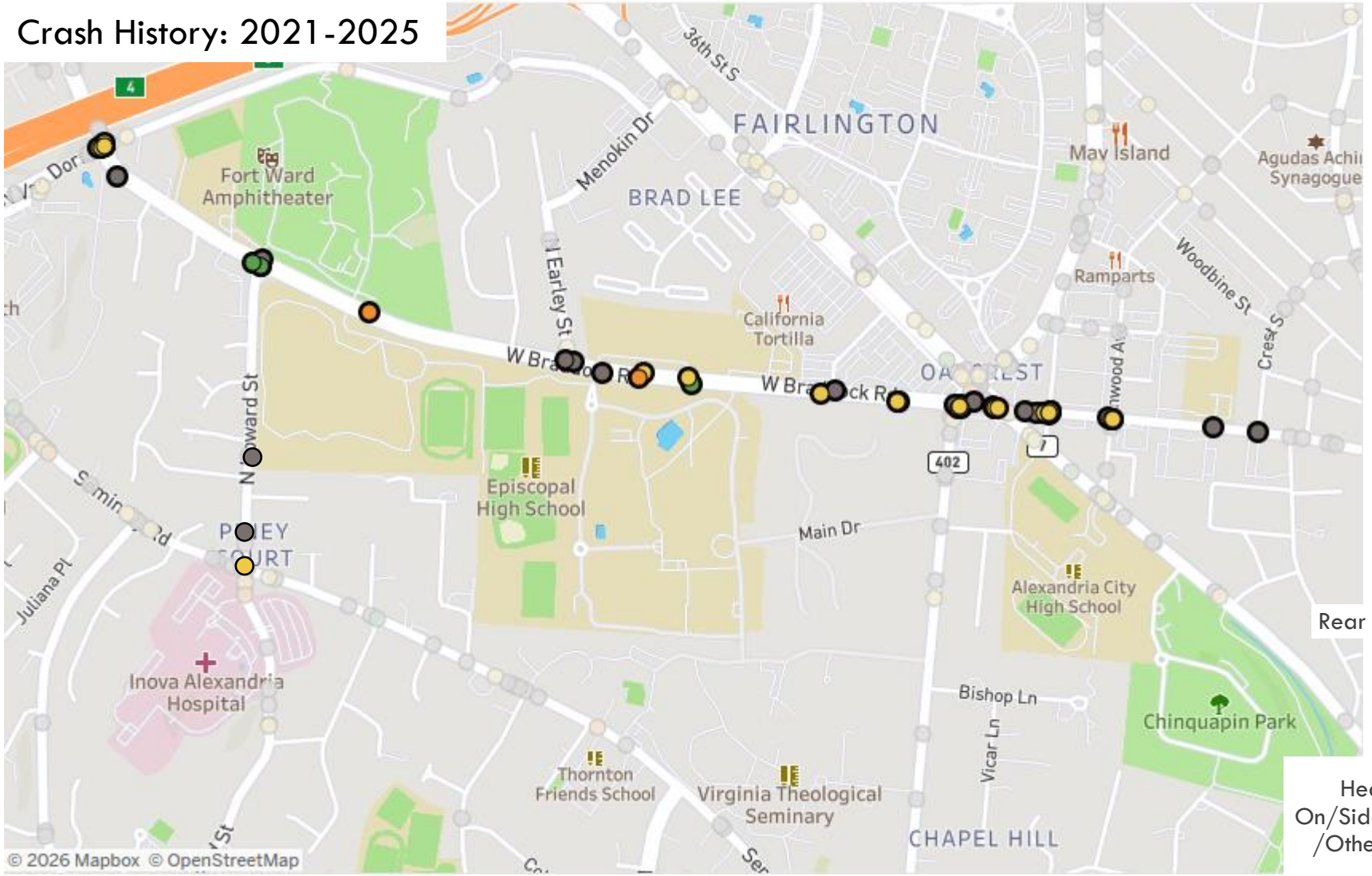
- Narrow sidewalks with obstructions
- Pedestrian/vehicle conflicts at slip-ramps
- Physical constraints to widening sidewalks
- Multiple vehicle travel lanes
- Lack of safe pedestrian crossing options
- Speeding vehicles

North Howard: What We See Today

- Narrow sidewalks with obstructions
- Channelized turns encourage fast turning movements
- Physical constraints to widening sidewalks
- Multiple vehicle travel lanes
- Speeding vehicles
- Parking restrictions

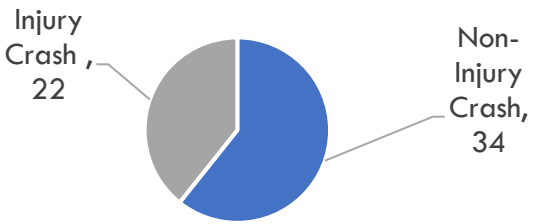
Crash History: W Braddock Rd & N Howard St

Crash History: 2021-2025

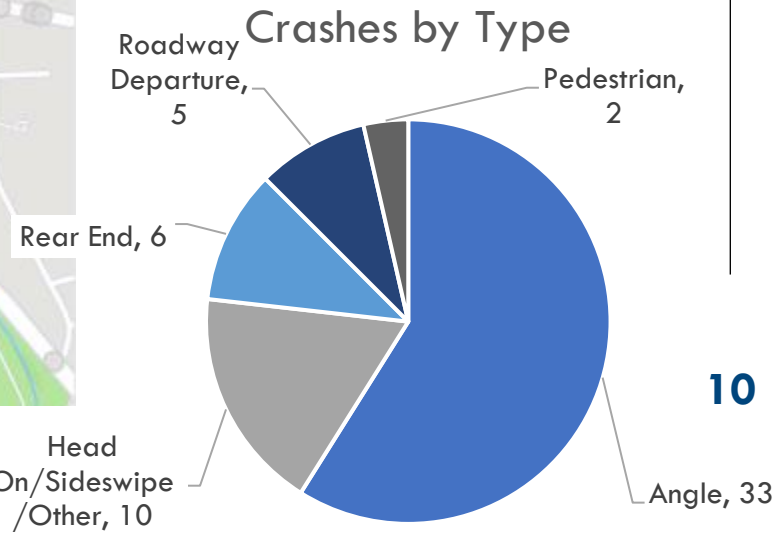


56 **Total Crashes**

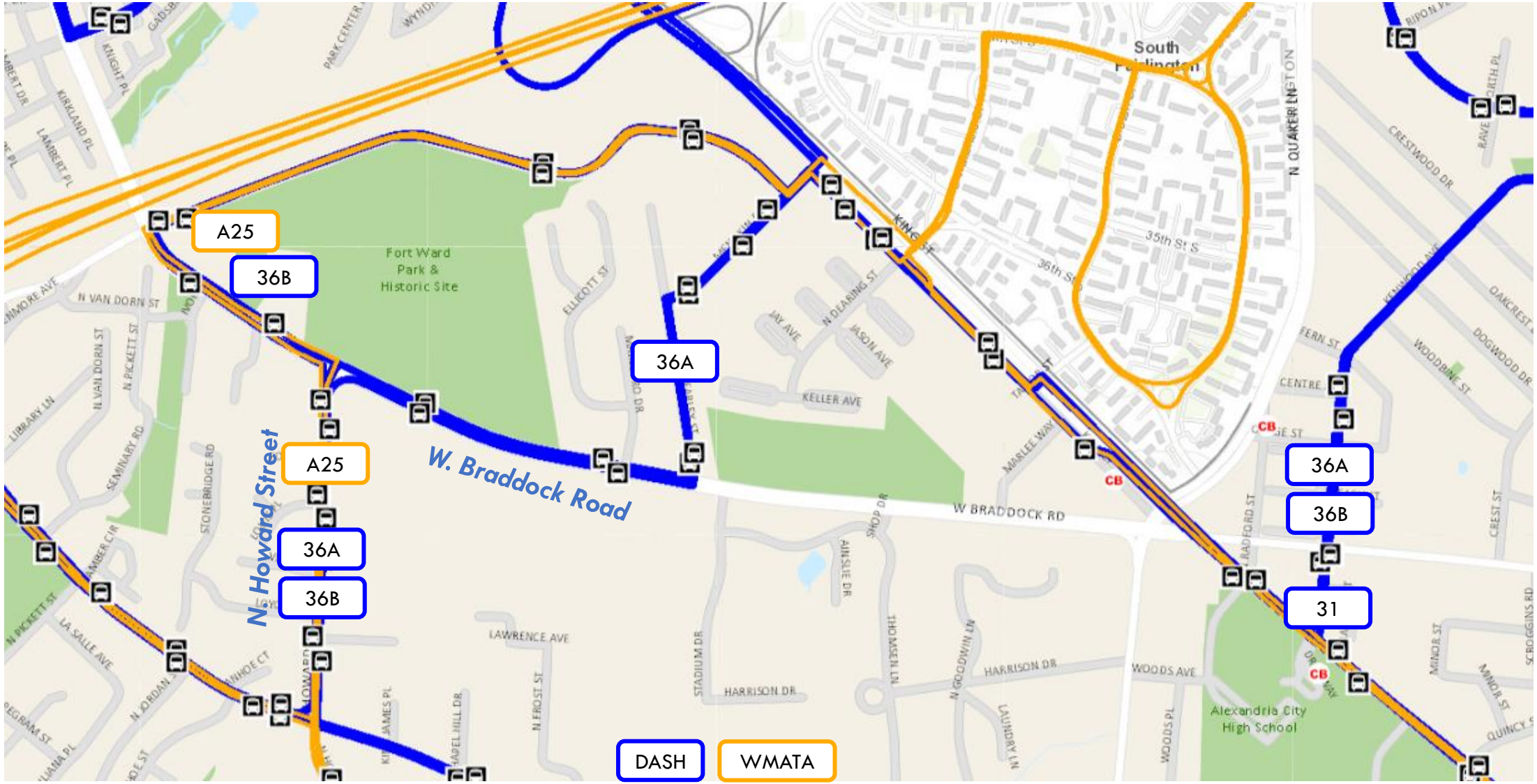
Injury Crashes



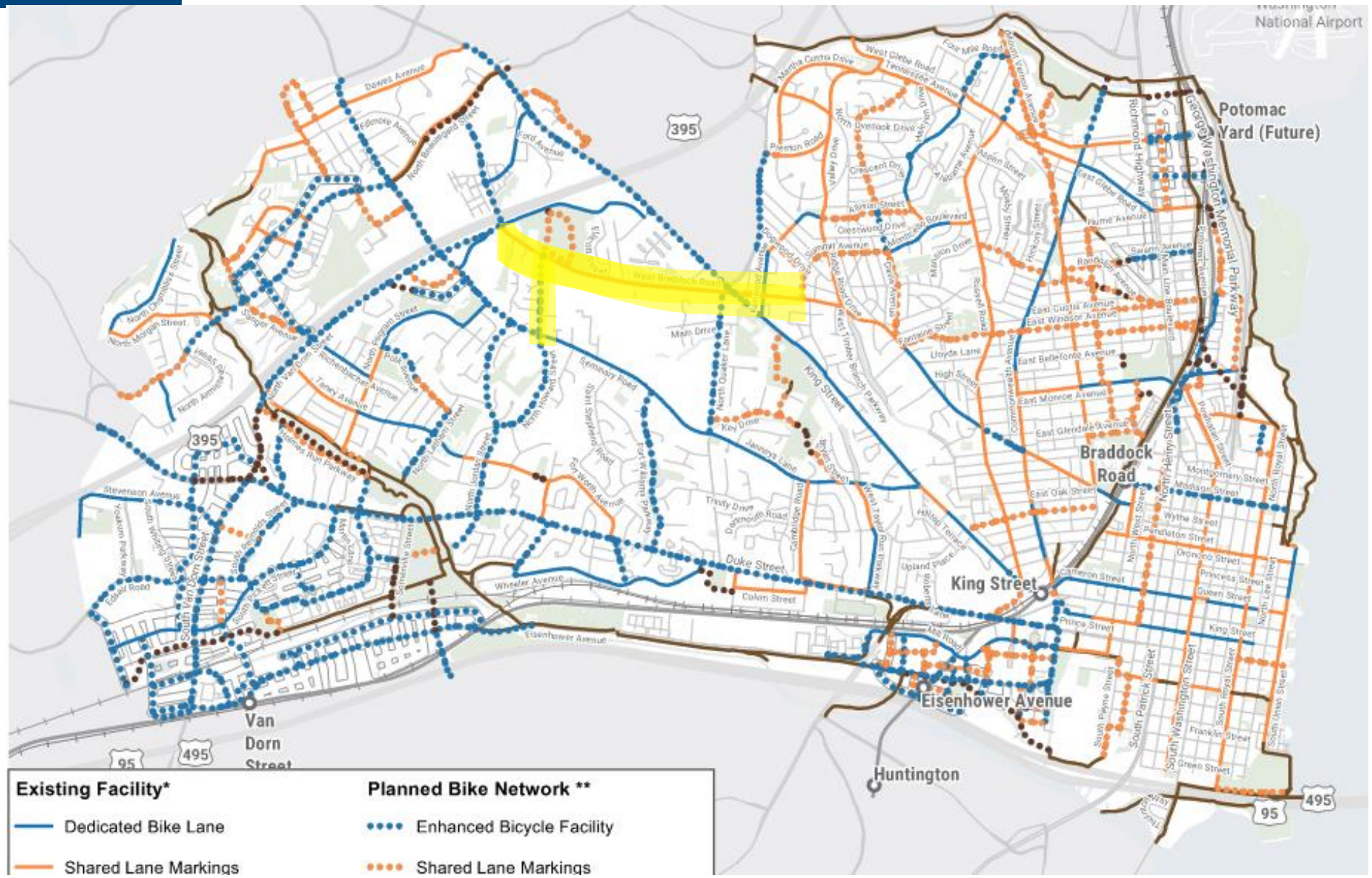
Crashes by Type



Existing Bus Routes



Existing & Planned Bicycle Network



What We've Heard, So Far

Really long pedestrian wait times at signals discourages pedestrians from following signals.

Not enough parking for students and staff at Minnie Howard results in frequent parking in adjacent neighborhoods.

Sidewalks aren't wide enough for the number of students – causing them to walk on the roadways.

Vehicles speeding on West Braddock and North Howard Street create dangerous conditions.

Cut through traffic on North Howard speeds past residential uses

Missing crosswalks at bus stops encourages risky pedestrian behavior.

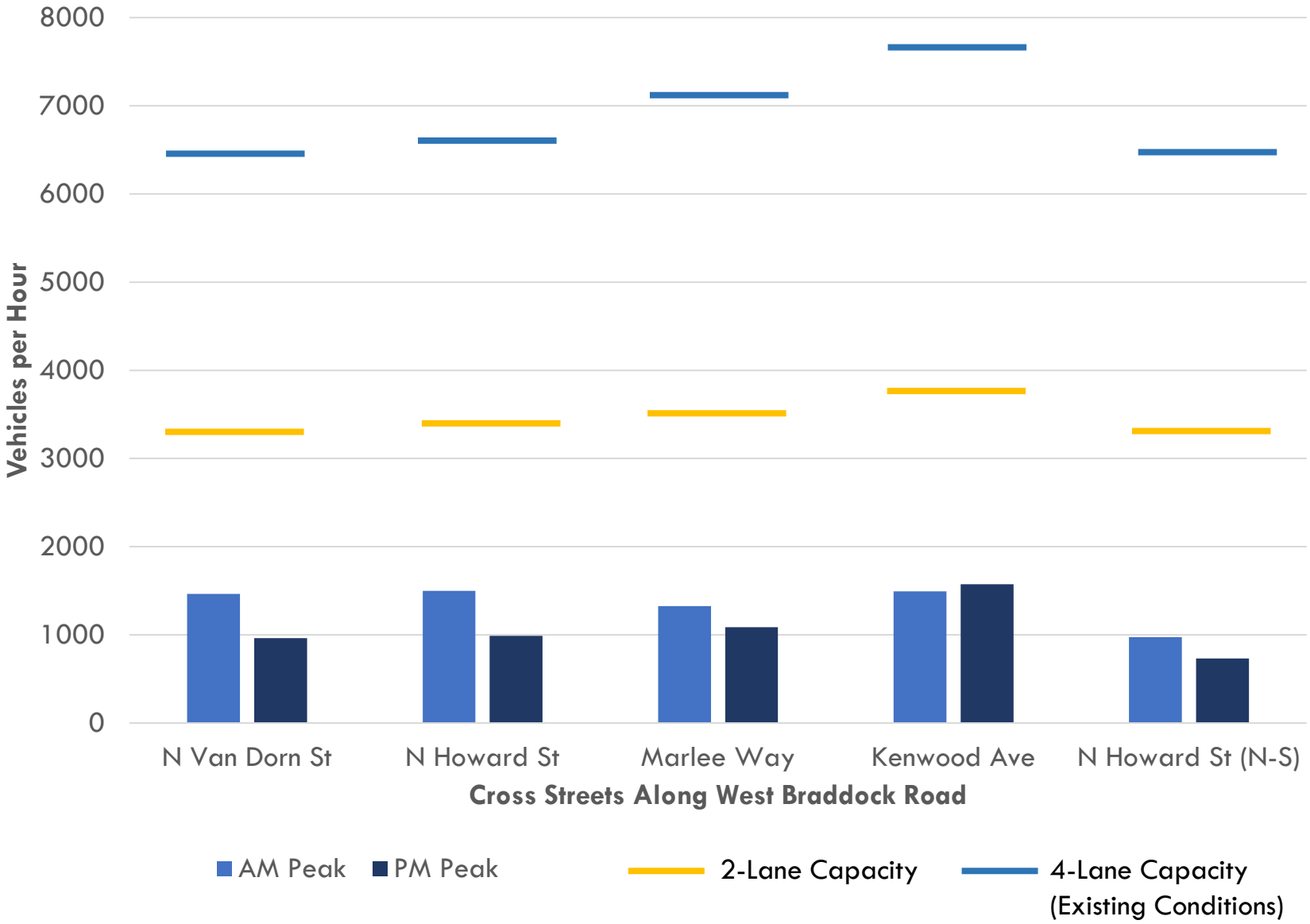
Roadway Analysis

Roadway Capacity and Right-Sizing

Roadway capacity is the amount of traffic a street can carry safely and efficiently within a certain time period.

- **Capacity**
  - Not just the number of lanes.
  - Depends on intersections, turning movements, signal timing, transit, walking, biking and safety conditions.
- **Right-sizing**
  - Can adjust road design to meet current capacity.
  - Reallocates underutilized space

Roadway Capacity Analysis



Benefits of Right-Sizing Roads

Illustrative Diagram

- Reduces vehicle speeding by aligning roadway space with actual traffic volumes
- Lower speeds lower the likelihood and severity of crashes
- Creates space for sidewalks, buffers, on-street parking or transit improvements, or biking without widening the roadway
- Maintains access for drivers, businesses and emergency vehicles
- Dedicated and safer space for walking, biking and scooting for students between school campuses

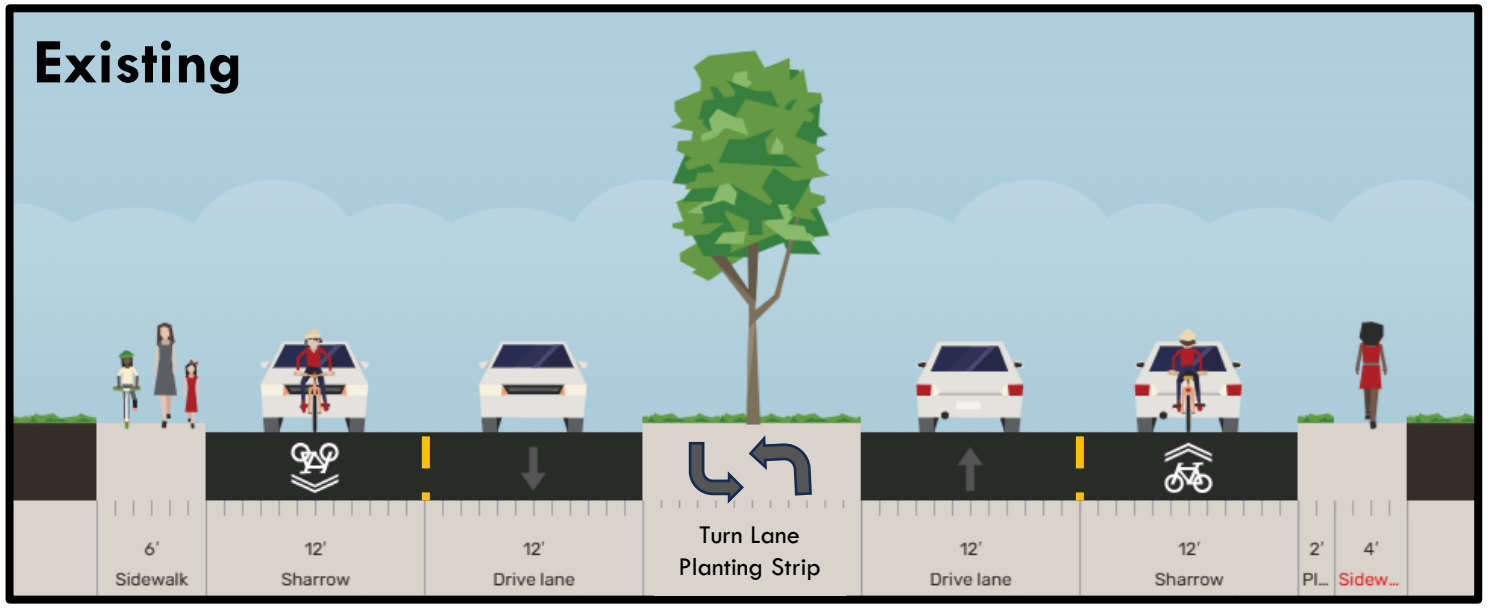
Design Options

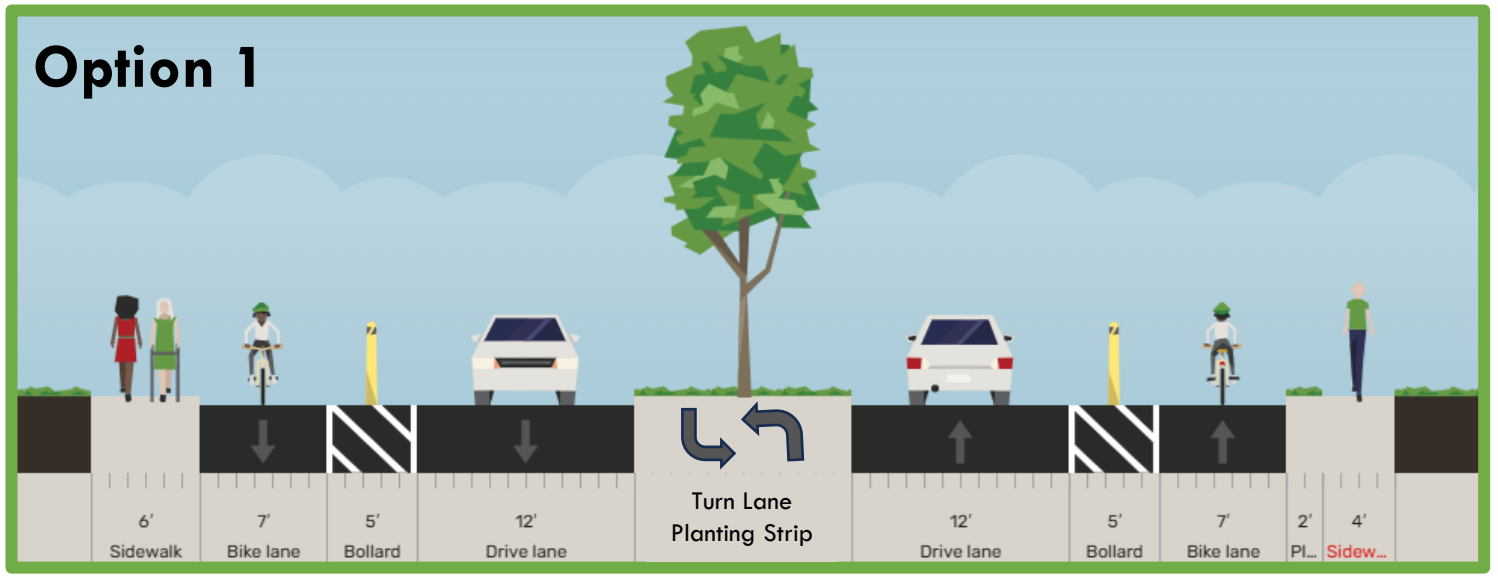
Please Note:

Given the relatively long lengths of the West Braddock and North Howard project corridors, the following slides are illustrative; showing the alignment and potential configurations.

Please visit the project website for detailed concept plans which can be viewed at your leisure and reflect current roadway conditions in their entirety.

West Braddock Road: Protected Bike Lanes





Additional Design Options:

- Curb bump outs
- Enhanced crosswalks

Safety Benefits:

- Reduced vehicle speeds
- Buffered sidewalks
- Dedicated space for walking, biking and scooting
- Separate space for all roadway users
- Shorter crossing distances

Additional Design Options – City Examples

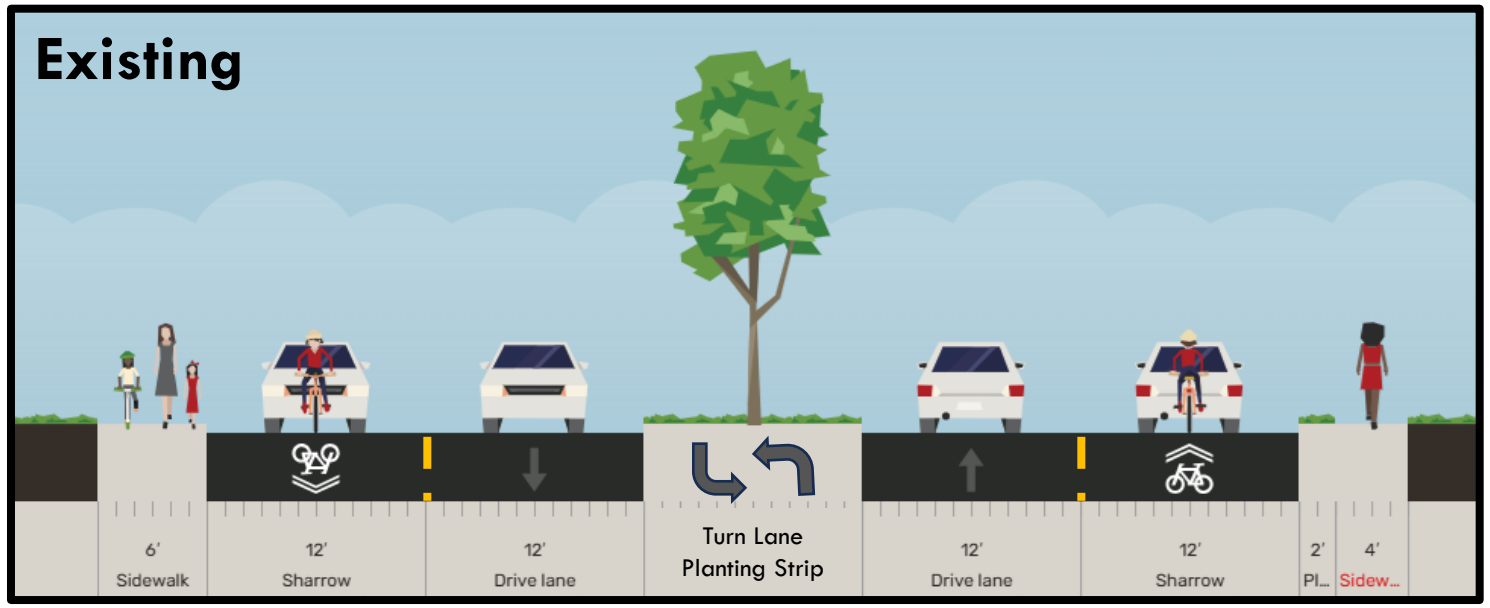
Curb Bump Outs & Enhanced Crosswalk

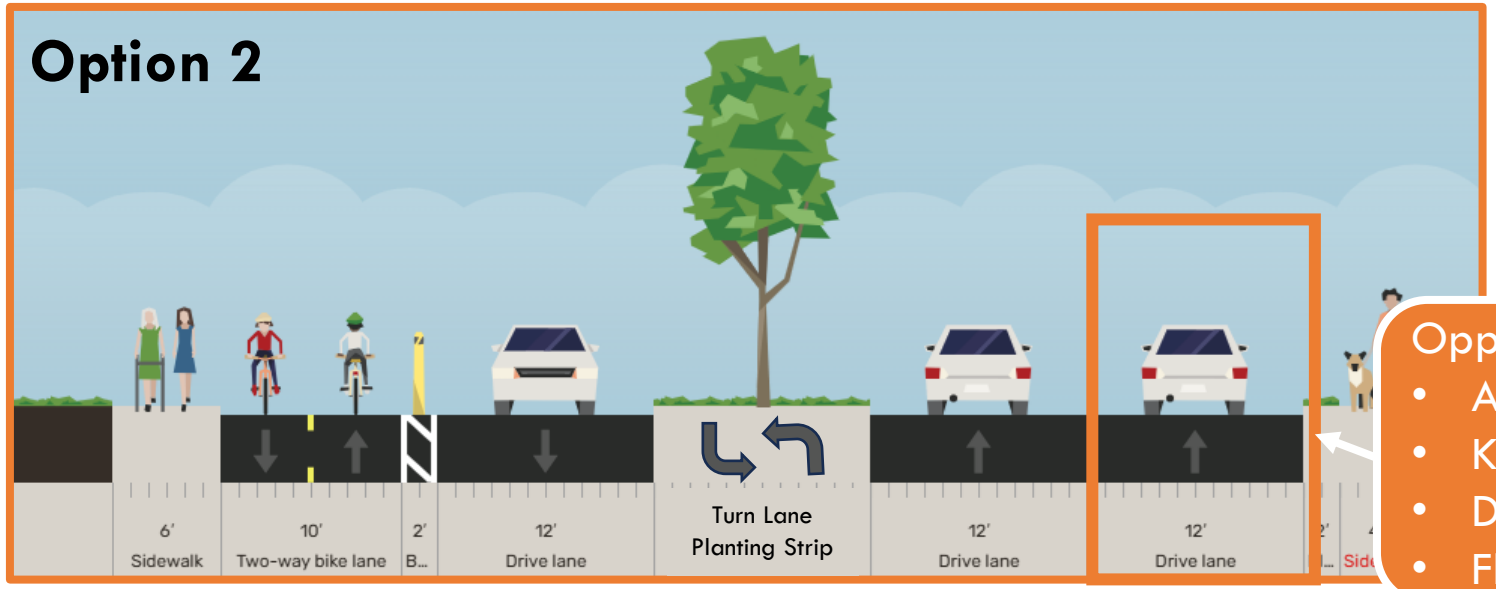
Ex: Harvard Street & N Peyton Street

Pedestrian Refuge Island & Enhanced Crosswalk

Ex: King Street & Tuckahoe Lane

West Braddock Road: Protected Two-Way Cycle Track





Additional Design Options:

- Curb bump outs
- Enhanced crosswalks

Safety Benefits:

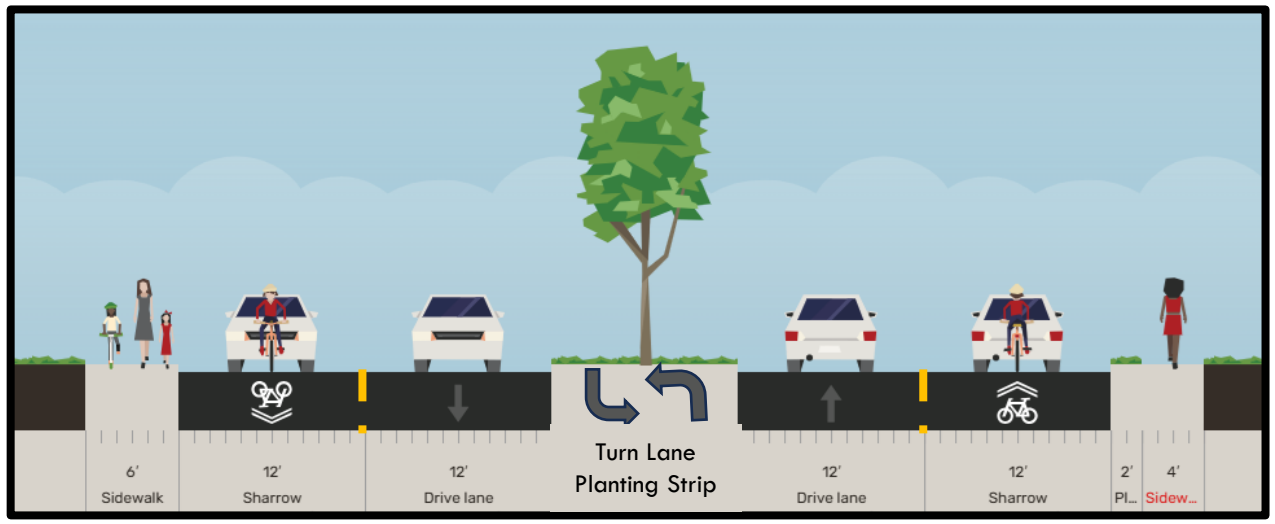
- Reduced vehicle speeds
- Buffered sidewalks*
- Dedicated space for walking, biking and scooting
- Separate space for all roadway users
- Shorter crossing distances*

Opportunity to:

- Add on-street parking
- Keep the travel lane
- Dedicated bus pull off
- Flex posts to create buffer

West Braddock Road: Hybrid

West Braddock Road: Hybrid

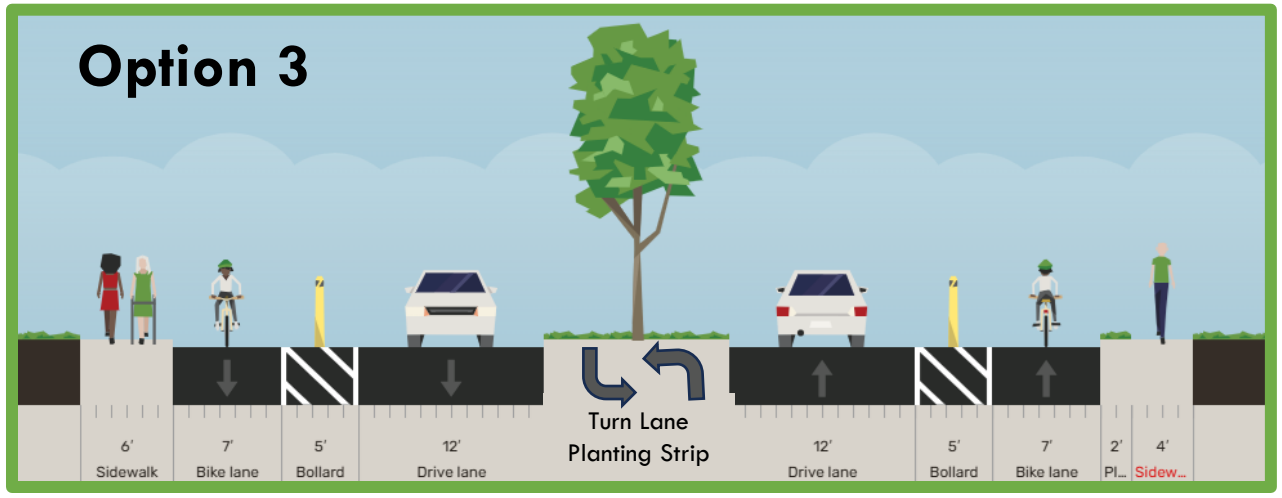


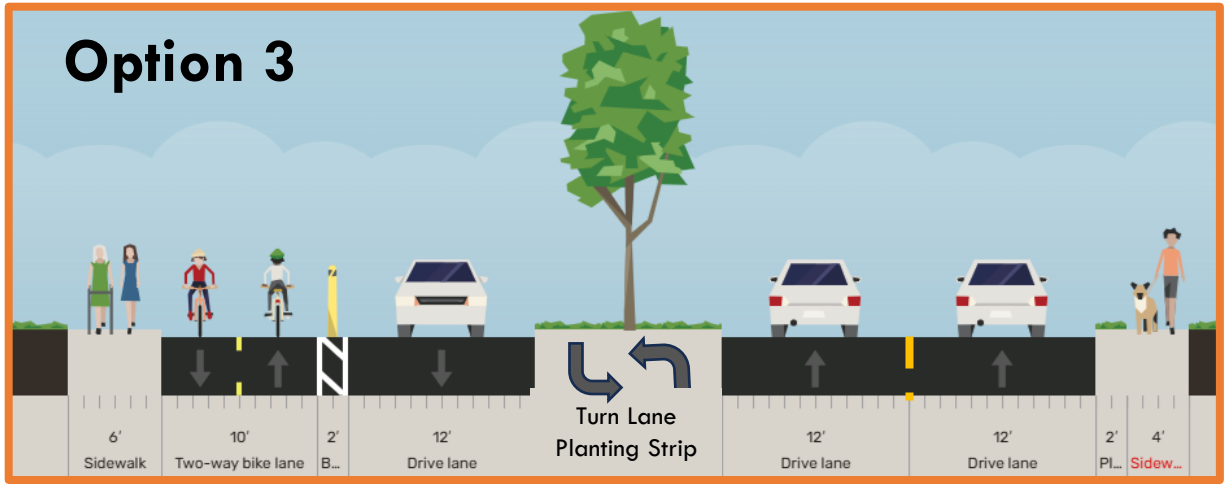
Additional Design Options:

- Curb bump outs
- Enhanced crosswalks

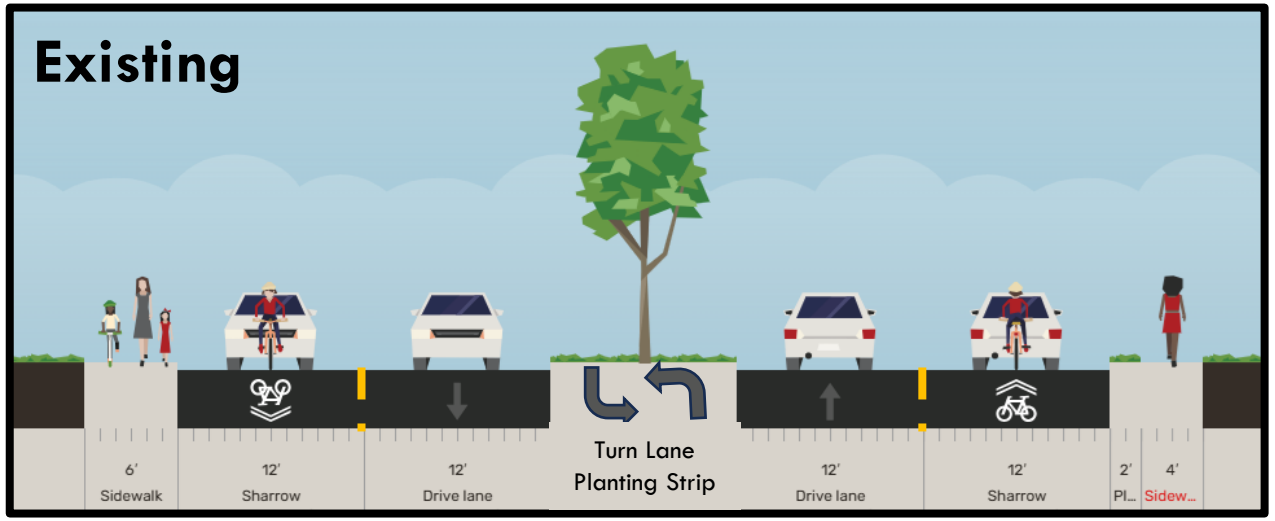
Safety Benefits:

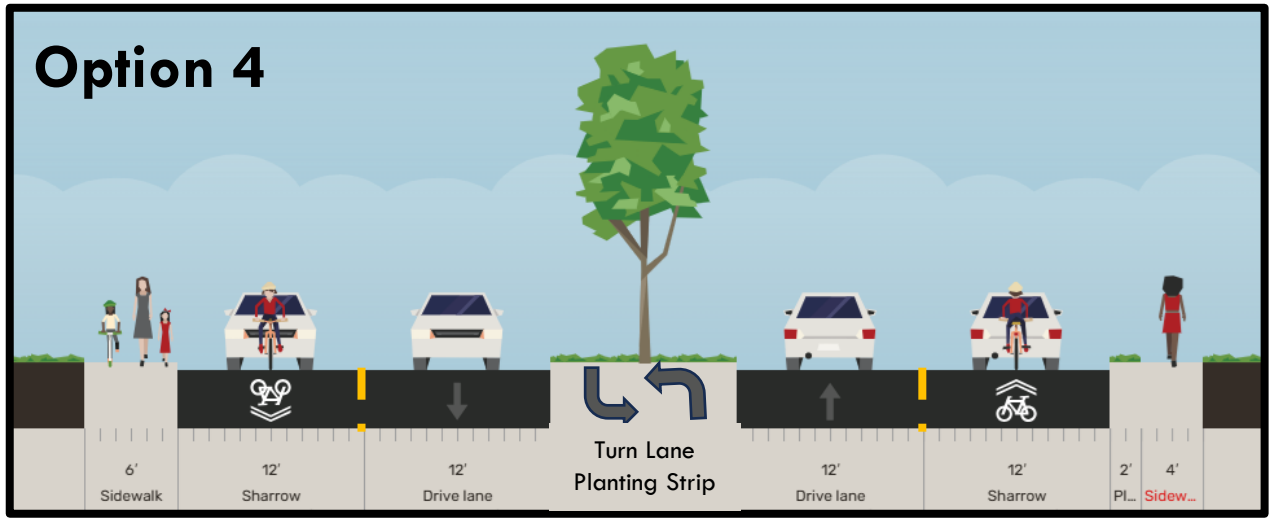
- Reduced vehicle speeds
- Buffered sidewalks
- Dedicated space for walking, biking and scooting
- Separate space for all roadway users
- Shorter crossing distances





West Braddock Road: No Change





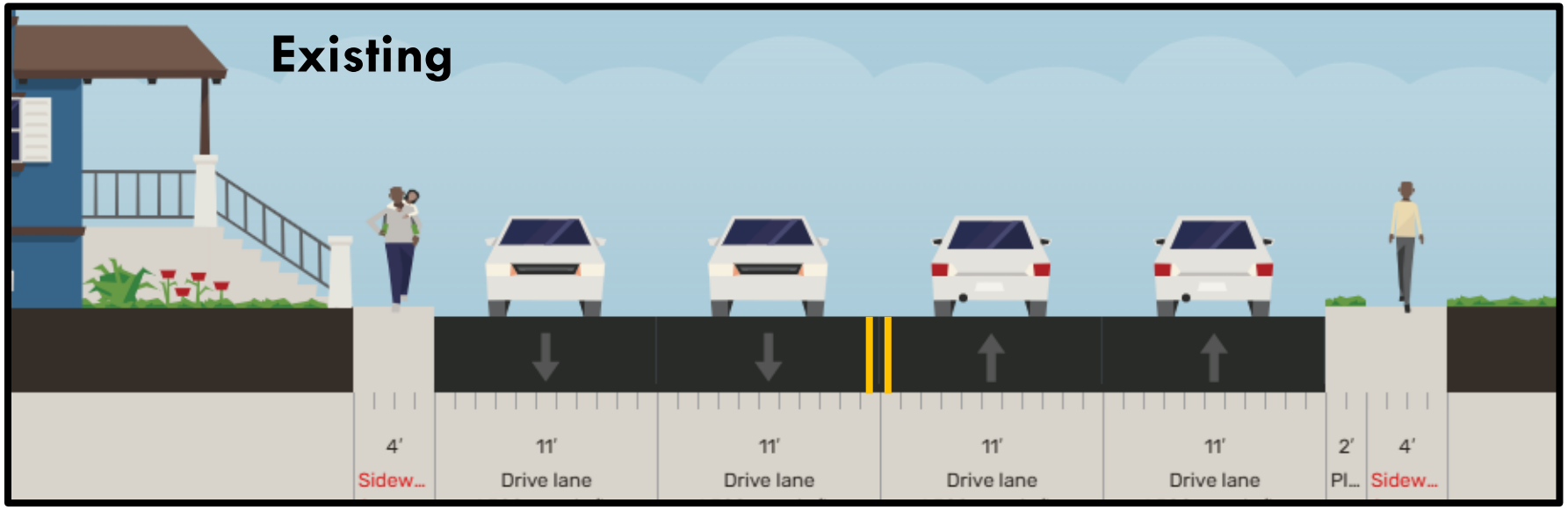
Additional Design Options:

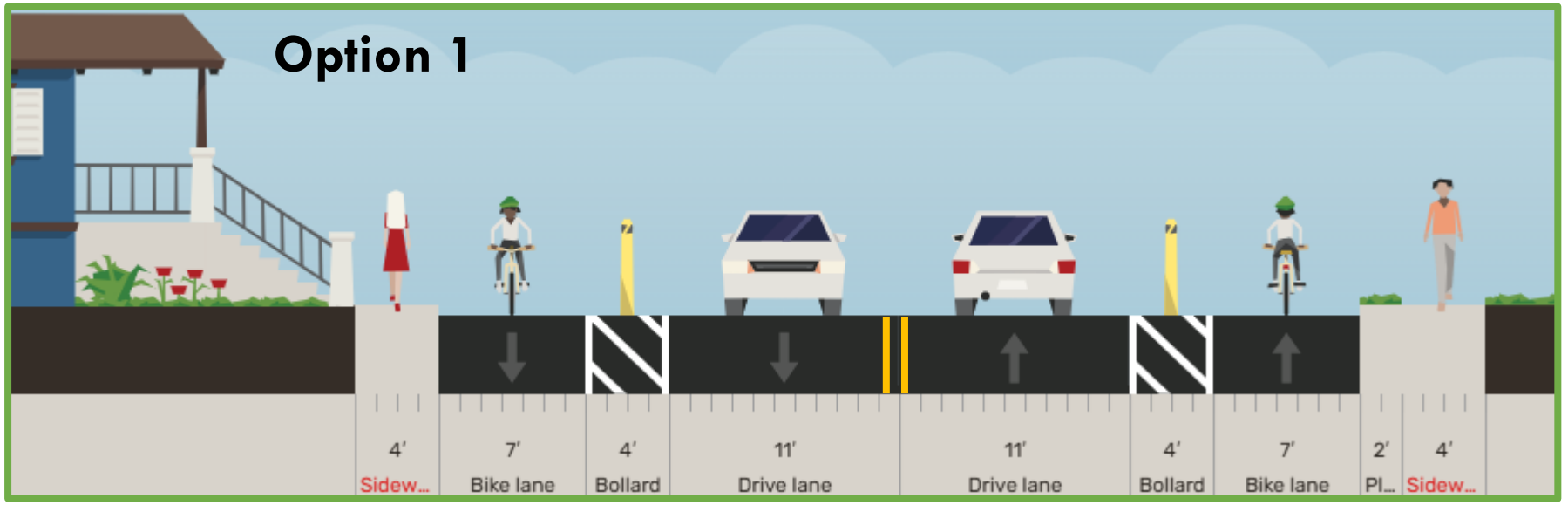
- None proposed

Safety Benefits:

- None identified

North Howard Street: Protected Bike Lanes





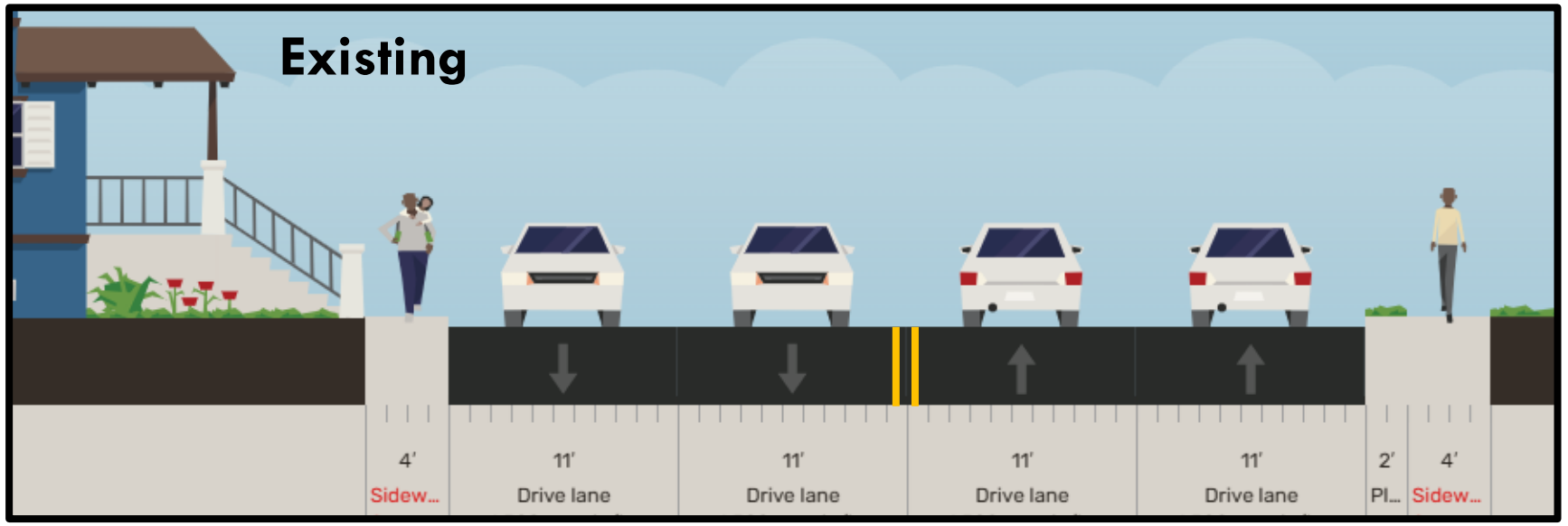
Additional Design Options:

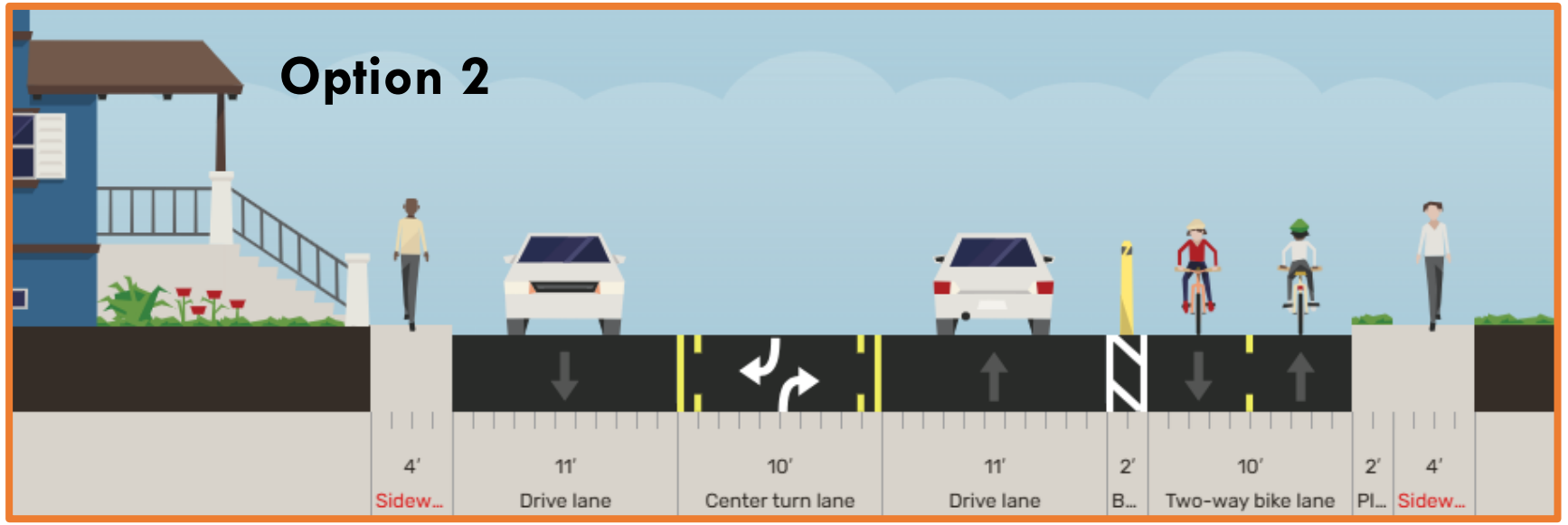
- Curb bump outs
- Enhanced crosswalks
- Consolidated bus stops

Safety Benefits:

- Reduced vehicle speeds
- Buffered sidewalks
- Dedicated space for walking, biking and scooting
- Separate space for all roadway users
- Shorter crossing distances

North Howard Street: Protected Two-Way Cycle Track





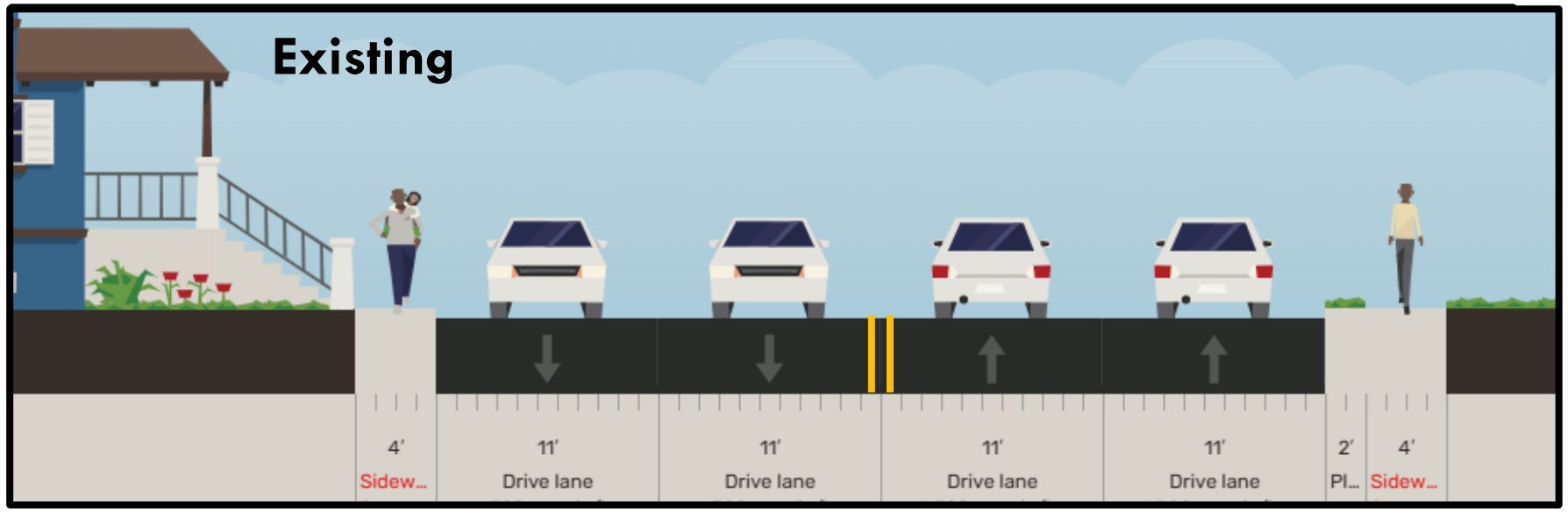
Additional Design Options:

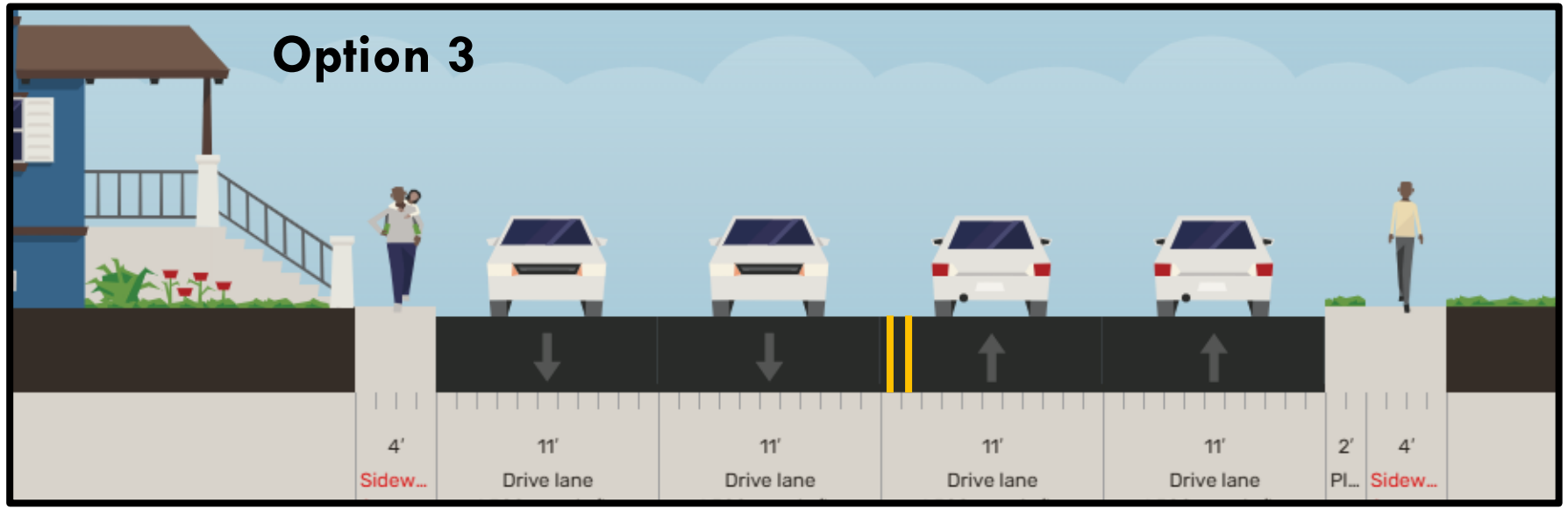
- Pedestrian refuge islands
- Enhanced crosswalks
- Consolidated bus stops

Safety Benefits:

- Reduced vehicle speeds
- Dedicated space for walking, biking and scooting
- Separate space for all roadway users
- Shorter crossing distances

North Howard Street: No Change





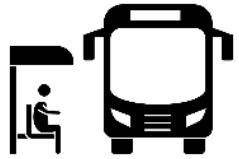
Additional Design Options:

- None proposed

Safety Benefits:

- None identified

Additional Corridor Treatments



Consolidated Bus Stops

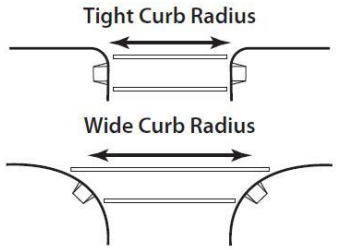
Additional Crosswalks

Leading Pedestrian Intervals

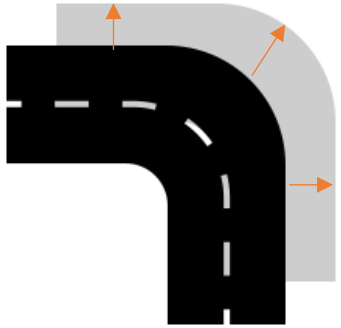
No Turn on Red Signs

Signal Timing Adjustments

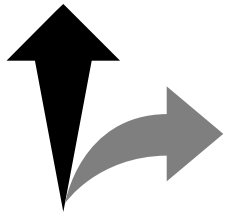
Bike Boxes



Curb Radii Tightening



Additional Space for Pedestrians at Intersections



Slip Lane Removal

Next Steps

Next Steps


Online Feedback Form
June 6 – July 3
Community Engagement
Summer 2026
Share Recommendation with Community and Traffic & Parking Board
Detailed Design & Funding
Implementation

Online Feedback Form

Share your thoughts at:
www.research.net/r/AlexandriaVa-WBraddockNHoward

Or use the QR Code below:

Additional Information

For additional information, visit the project website at:
alexandriava.gov/go/7748

Thank you!