# Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Ed Ball Building Room #3112

Photo Credit: Lee Durban

# About Us

The BPAC educates, supports, promotes, & advocates for the needs of pedestrians & bicyclists throughout Jacksonville



**Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)** 

Agenda – October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

5:30 - 5:45 PM Introductions & Adoption of Minutes

5:45 - 6:15 PM Presentation: Downtown Jacksonville Revitalization Lori Boyer, CEO, Downtown Investment Authority (DIA)

#### **Presentation: Park Street Road Diet Update**

6:15 - 6:45 PM Robin G. Smith, P.E., City Engineer/Chief of Engineering & Construction, City of Jacksonville (COJ)

6:45 - 6:55 PM Rapid Fire Topics / Announcements

6:55 - 7:00 PM Wrap-up / Next Meeting Info

Adjourn





# DOWNTOWN TRANSPORTATION

LORI BOYER, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER | 904-255-5301 | BOYERL@COJ.NET



# What is the Downtown Investment Authority?

## **City agency created in 2012 to ensure:**

## **1. Focused effort on downtown**

(previously part of overall City Economic Development Department)

# 2. Continuity in execution of plan

(previously often changed focus with Mayoral administration)

# **3.** Governing board of business leaders

(to assume implementation of Community Redevelopment Plans in Downtown)



# Downtown's districts







### THE DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN JUNE 2023



# There is a Master Plan and it includes all modes of transportation Downtown

- Adopted in 2022 as a CRA Plan, a Business and Investment Strategy, Downtown Design guidebook, and multiple other neighborhood plans and strategies- includes Emerald Trail Plan
- Establishes 8 distinct and measurable goals for redevelopment
- Includes guidance for public infrastructure, regulatory framework for private development and incentives to encourage desired development
- Integrated and aligned set of plans prepared both by DIA and partner stakeholders





#### THE DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN JUNE 2023



# **Downtown transportation aspects of the Master Plan**

- All <u>public capital projects (CRA and CIP)</u> for Downtown roads, streetscapes, parks, etc.
- Integrated mobility plan (Jacksonville Transportation Authority, Florida Department of Transportation and local plans, i.e. Emerald Trail)
- On- and off-street parking strategy
- Downtown Design guidelines govern back of curb design, use and appearance



# Goal No. 5

Improve the safety, accessibility and wellness of Downtown Jacksonville and cleanliness and maintenance of public spaces for residents, workers and visitors

# Strategies for meeting the goal

Supports improvements such as:

- A. Installation of <u>pedestrian countdown timers</u> and <u>enhanced lighting</u>, including CIP project to add streetlights
- B. Enhanced maintenance of parks and all public spaces roadways, parks, vacant lots, etc.
- C. Tree plantings in sidewalk amenity zone to increase walkability
- **D.** Incentives tied to shared use parking



# Goal No. 6

Improve the walkability/bikeability of Downtown and pedestrian and bicycle connectivity between Downtown and adjacent neighborhoods and the St. Johns River

# Strategies for meeting the goal (Pt. 1)

- **1.** Establishment of sidewalk widths, pedestrian clear zones and shade requirements
- 2. Activated streetfront facades (as prescribed in the Downtown Overlay Zone)
- 3. Creation of sidewalk enhancement and bike lane projects (in CRA projects)
- 4. Support of public transportation expansion and initiatives (i.e. Ultimate Urban Connector)



# Goal No. 6

Improve the walkability/bikeability of Downtown and pedestrian and bicycle connectivity between Downtown and adjacent neighborhoods and the St. Johns River

# Strategies for meeting the goal (Pt. 2)

4. Comprehensive mobility plan includes:

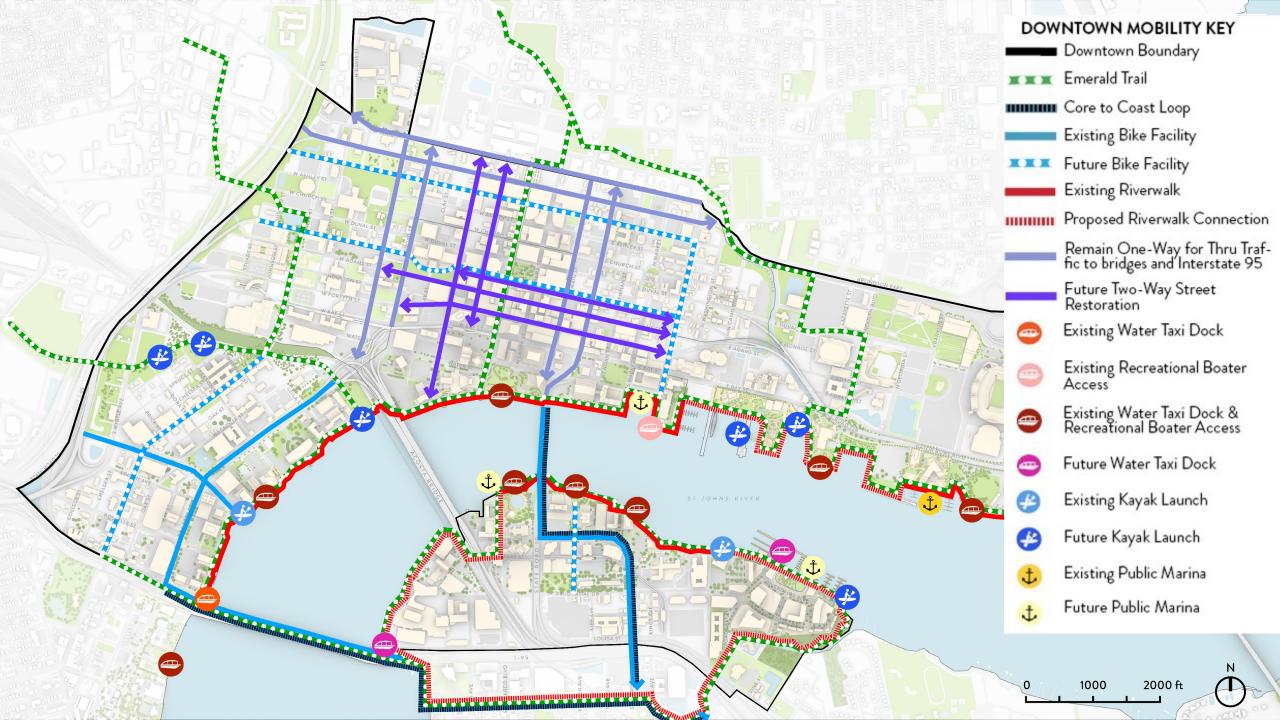
- a) Two-way street restorations (Preservation of one-way travel on streets to/from bridges)
- b) Network of Bike facilties at regular intervals N/S and E/W (Emerald Trail plus additional roadways)
- c) Network of docks, water taxi stops and marinas
- 5 Downtown Zoning Overlay is integrated via requirements to reopen rights of way to the river and creation of pedestrian corridors



The Downtown mobility plan

# **Elements of the plan**

- New bicycle and pedestrian walkways
- Two-way street restoration on selected one-way streets in CityCenter
- Preservation of one-way traffic on streets leading directly to and from the river
- Network of recreational boater docks, water taxi stops and marinas
- Support for public transportation existing and future systems





# The Downtown parking plan

# **Creating a fully connected Downtown**

- Parking plan anticipates ongoing reduction of singleoccupancy car travel via innovations like rideshare technology, e-bikes/scooters, advancements in autonomous vehicle technology
- Companion transit strategy supports expanded mass transit, including the Ultimate Urban Connector to further connect Downtown
- Supports Goal No. 6 by prioritizing mobility by walking, cycling, e-scooters, etc.
- Supports Goal No. 5 by promoting safety, accessibility and wellness for Downtown residents, workers and visitors



# **Comprehensive parking strategy**

- a) Elimination of code parking minimum requirements throughout Downtown to reduce the number of garages and lots within Downtown
- b) Incentives help fund projects enhancing mobility and sharing parking
- c) Adjusted rates for City garages and metered spaces to ensure availability of on-street parking for customers and visitors and balance supply and demand by location
- d) Establishing clear and logical transit and pedestrian linkages to parking facilities, and improved wayfinding and signage
- e) Transition to new technologies including kiosks, apps for location of available parking and payment, and dynamic pricing to improve customer experience and stabilize fund revenues



# Parking revenue: Where it goes and how is it used

- a) All parking revenue from garages, meters and fines is deposited in the Parking Enterprise Fund
- b) The Parking Enterprise Fund pays for staff and operation of all equipment and those facilities — AND for enforcement staff for the entire City, handicap parking, loading zones, parking across driveways or over sidewalks, etc.
- c) Small annual surplus used for upgrades

# HOW INCENTIVES WORK AND SUPPORT MOBILITY GOALS



# The majority of DIA incentives

(by value and project)

are funded by the new development itself

- REV grants are rebates of a portion of the new taxes paid by the development – <u>without the</u> <u>development, they would not</u> <u>exist</u>.
- Donations of undeveloped land create new taxpaying developments.



# How incentives support mobility goals

- a) Require riverwalk and creekfront trail easements as condition for eligibility
- b) Require view and ACCESS corridors as condition to eligibility
- c) Up to 15% of a multifamily REV grant and 10% of a boutique hotel REV grant is earned for shared parking
- d) Must reopen rights of way to river
- e) Encourage density
- f) New developments and tax revenue provides funds for CRA capital projects

# **Return on Investment >1**



The revenues received by the City in the form of taxes generated by the development, and donations from the developer, are greater than the total amount of City outflows in incentives.

# **MOBILITY PROJECTS SHAPING DOWNTOWN**



## **FDOT Shared-Use Path**

Along Fuller Warren Bridge

#### Status

#### Completed (2023)

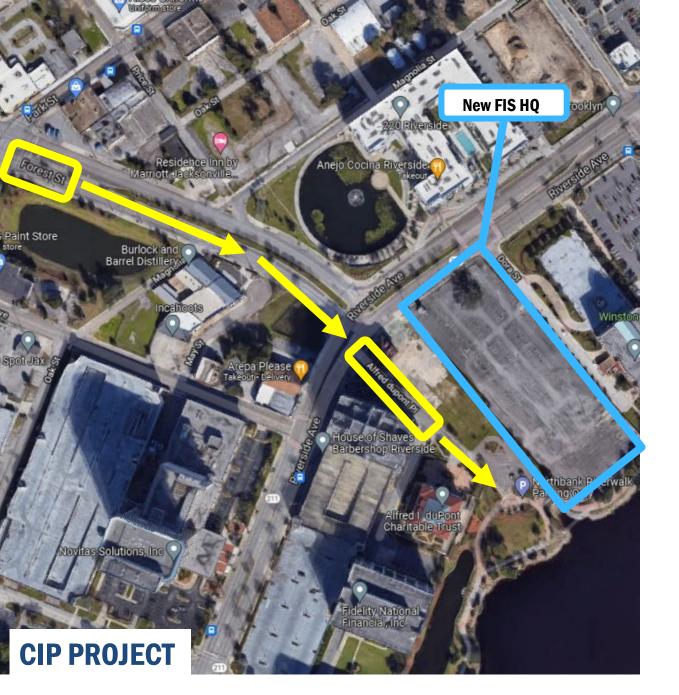
#### Scope

- Bike/pedestrian lane along Fuller Warren Bridge
- Links Brooklyn to the Southbank/San Marco neighborhoods

#### Investment

**~\$20 Million** (Shared-Use Path portion)

#### **\$126 Million total** (Total I-10/I-95 interchange improvements project)



## Forest Street/Alfred duPont Place Improvements

Forest Street/Alfred duPont Place/Riverside Ave Intersection

Status

#### Completed (2022)

#### Scope

Realignment of Alfred duPont Place, Forest Street and Riverside Ave Intersection – aligns roadway and sidewalks to provide direct route to Gefen Park and Riverwalk and supports construction of new FIS headquarters

**Investment** \$4,520,000



## **Emerald Trail LaVilla Link**

S-Line to Stonewall

#### Status

- Under construction
- Expected completion: October 2023

#### Scope

- 1.3-mile project that will feature walking lanes, additional lighting and overlooks with shade and railings.
- First of nine Emerald Trail projects that are expected to be completed over the course of the next decade.

**Investment** \$5,245,863



## LaVilla Heritage Trail & Gateways

Various Locations

#### Status

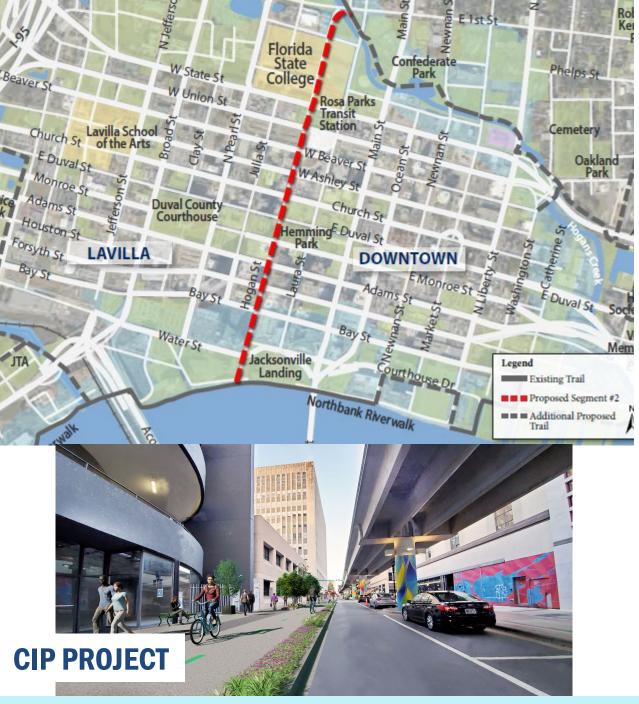
- Heritage Trail project commenced July 2023; research & design underway
  - Anticipated completion of design: January 2024
  - Anticipated bid for fabrication & installation: January 2024
- Gateways: Sites identified

#### Scope

The LaVilla Heritage Trail will generate public awareness of, and celebrate, the cultural significance of the LaVilla neighborhood. A series of markers and storyboards identifying important buildings, sites, people and stories of the community will be included as well as trail markers identifying the route.

Gateway features at major neighborhood entries will be installed to reinforce the significance of the truly historic neighborhood that once thrived in this location.

#### **Investment** \$830,000



## **Emerald Trail Hogan St. Cycle Track**

Hogan Street – FSCJ to Northbank Riverwalk

#### Status

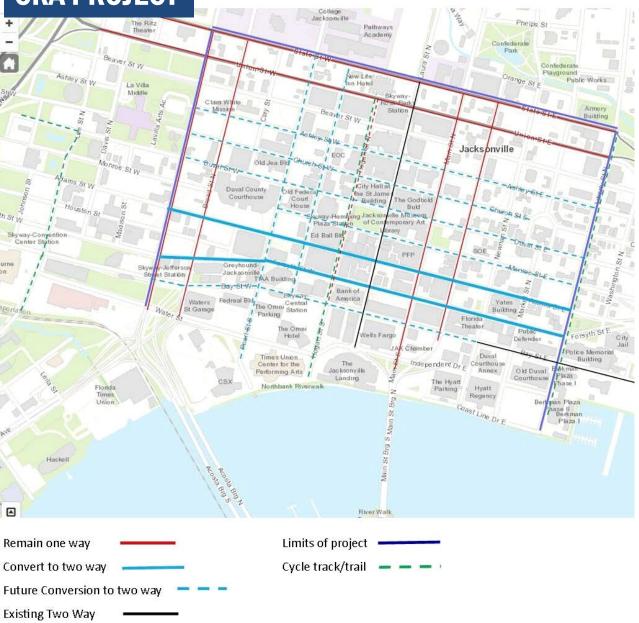
- 60% plans complete
- Bidding design-build, in procurement for award
- Completion delayed due to change in design firms completion was expected in 2023; now late 2024

#### Scope

- 1-mile project that will feature a two-way cycle track and expanded sidewalks to accommodate pedestrians and outdoor dining.
- Second of nine Emerald Trail projects expected to be completed over the course of the next decade.

#### **Investment** \$6.9 million CIP

### **CRA PROJECT**



## **Two Way Street Conversions of** East-West Running Adams Street & Forsyth Street

#### Status

- Bid closed July 2023; received two (2) responses
- Public Works to go before procurement to select team
- Estimated construction commencement: Late 2023

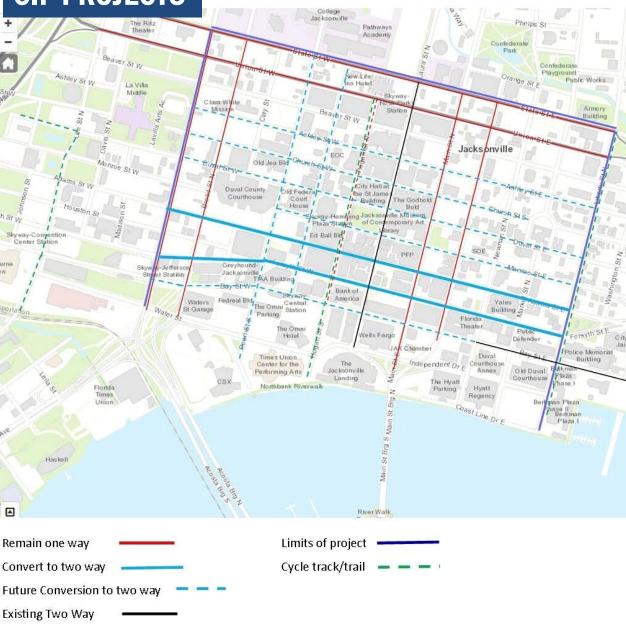
#### Scope

- Restore one-way streets to two-way streets, beginning with Adams Street and Forsyth Street, to:
  - Improve safety, particularly for pedestrians and bicyclists
  - Improve network efficiency
  - Increase property values
  - Promote economic development, particularly residential growth, restaurant, and entertainment

#### Investment

~\$4 million (constrained) plus additional \$5 million to implement unconstrained (**DIA FUNDED**)

### **CIP PROJECTS**



# Two Way Street Conversions of Pearl and Julia; mobility improvements to Monroe

#### Status

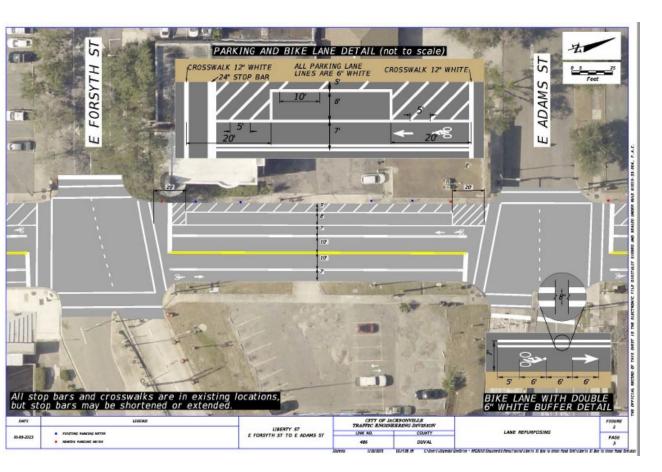
- CIP funding Monroe and Julia 23/24; Design to commence 2024
- Pearl slated for CIP funding 24/25

#### Scope

- Restore one-way streets to two-way streets:
  - Pearl Street from Riverwalk to State Street
  - Julia Street from Bay Street to State Street
- Monroe Street from I-95 to Liberty Street mobility improvements and possible two-way in segments

#### Investment

Monroe Street: \$1M in FY 22-23; \$4M in FY 23-24 Pearl Street: \$1M in FY 24-25; \$4M in FY 25-26 Julia Street: \$1.5M in FY 22-23; \$3M in FY 23-24



## **Liberty Street Improvements**

Liberty Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202

#### Status

CRA funded \$100,000 FY 23-24 for design; DIA Board to consider additional CRA funding this month to permit construction in 24-25

#### Scope

Public Works is redesigning Liberty Street as a north-south bicycle corridor. This corridor will provide a parallel facility to the Emerald Trail segments at Hogan's Creek, Hogan Street and Lee Street to connect Beaver Street to the Riverwalk. Limits of this project are between the curb lines (i.e. travel lanes).

CRA project focuses on areas outside of the curbs (e.g. sidewalk) for expanding sidewalk widths, enhancing hardscape and landscape, etc., to complement the Public Works effort.

#### Investment \$ 750,000+ (CRA funded)





# Market Street Streetscape

## Improvements

Market Street between Bay and the Cathedral, Jacksonville, FL 32202

#### Status

# CRA funded \$500,000 in FY 22-23 for design; additional funding of \$1,000,000 in 23-24 for construction

#### Scope

See Northbank Streetscape project above. At the request of the Cathedral District and consistent with their neighborhood plan, DIA Board recommended that Market Street be our first project under this initiative.

Investment \$ 1,000,000+ (CRA funded)





# Hogan's Creek to Riverwalk — Emerald Trail

Begins: FSCJ Downtown Ends: Northbank Riverwalk at Newnan Street

#### Status

- Not started Trail design and construction will be part of the Hogans Creek Stream Restoration Improvements
- Expected project length is 4 to 5 years

#### Scope

- East of Main Street, segment extends the Hogan's Creek Greenway along the creek corridor to the south of Duval Street where the segment will create a loop connection on the east side of downtown with the Northbank Riverwalk and the TIAA Bank Field, Veterans Memorial Arena, and Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville sports venues.
- Provide access and recreational amenities
- Connect neighborhoods with trail

#### Investment

\$17,330,000 (trail design and construction only)



**CIP PROJECT** 



## **U2C/Bay Street Innovation Corridor**

**Bay Street** 

#### Status

- JTA selected Balfour Beatty Vision 2 Reality (V2R) team August 2021 to design Bay Street Innovation Corridor
- Estimated commencement: 2023-2024

#### Scope

- This collaboration with the City, North Florida TPO, JEA and JAX Chamber will create a national model for the deployment of autonomous vehicles.
- The existing Skyway will be converted and smart technologies such as dynamic signals, connected intersections, integrated data exchange, pedestrian sensors, flood warning sensors and power consumption reduction will be installed.

#### **Investment** \$350 million





## **Flagler Avenue Shared Street**

#### Status

- Funded for design: \$500,000
- Begin design this year with goal of beginning construction when RiversEdge obligation paid off next year

#### Scope

CRA funded project to implement a Shared Street Project on Flagler Ave from Riverplace Blvd. to Prudential Drive and complete a public access connection to the Riverwalk over former Flagler Ave. right of way. Flagler Avenue would be an Enhanced Riverwalk Gateway that would prioritize pedestrians, reinforcing connections from downtown to the waterfront, provide more inviting entry point to the Riverwalk and generate placemaking opportunities. Recommended enhancements include wider sidewalks with enhanced pavement, vegetated bump-outs, tree canopy, street furnishings, and lighting upgrades.

#### Investment

Estimated cost: \$3,800,000; CRA funded \$500,000 this year and \$300,000 FY 23/24





#### Programmed Segment | San Marco Connector



# Southbank Riverwalk Extensions & Overland Loop (Emerald Trail)

Various Locations

#### Status

1. Baptist — 100% Design Complete

*(in front of Baptist Medical; adjacent to Fuller Warren Bridge)* Estimated construction commencement 2024-2025 depending on permitting and funding.

- 2. Nemours/Nira Street Complete
- 3. San Marco Blvd to Prudential Drive TBD
- 4. FEC Railroad Crossing at Prudential TBD
- 5. Kings Avenue to RiversEdge TBD

#### Scope

- Design and construction to extend the Southbank Riverwalk to include amenities such as pavers, benches, and other amenities.
- Complete an overland multi-use loop trail that is aesthetically integrated with the Southbank Riverwalk.

#### Investment

\$15,000,000 (Baptist Portion – CIP \$300,000 (Overland Segments of Overland Loop – CIP; additional funds required

### CRA and PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS



## **Southbank Riverwalk Extensions**

Various Locations

#### Status

Multi-Use Path (to be built by others)

#### **1.** Southerly — Complete (as part of The Southerly development; adjacent to Acosta Bridge)

# RiversEdge/FKA The District — Under Construction (work to be done by The District Community Development District and funded by the Southside Community Redevelopment Area) \$2.6 M Investment by the Southside CRA; \$680,000 by CDD

#### 3. 1230 Hendricks Ave. — Complete

Riverwalk extension construction required as part of PUD terms

#### Scope

Design and construction to extend the Southbank Riverwalk to include amenities such as pavers, benches, and other amenities.



# Challenges

**1**. Delays in procurement, design and construction of projects.

**2.** Market (and lender) demand for on-site parking despite code changes.

3. Screening and activation of dead spaces created by parking garages and surface lots.

4. Lack of will to enforce Code regarding above.

5. Local demand for free parking adjacent to destination- suburban concepts.

6. Coordination and shared vision with other agenciesthroughput vs. safety and retail; pedestrians vs. cars



**Challenges and SUCCESSES** specifically regarding bike /ped friendly development

## Challenges

- a) ROW widths overall
- b) Lane widths and bus routes
- c) Underground infrastructure not confined to narrow corridors
- d) Developers and Lenders insistence on parking

## Successes

- a) Shared use acceptance
- b) Two-way restoration starting
- c) New developments and tax revenue provides funds for CRA capital projects



# **Opportunities for public input in the development review process — <u>public</u> projects**

- **1.** Find an advocate on the Council or in the Administration who will share the vision and advocate for the project to be included in the CIP
- 2. In July, review the mayor's proposed CIP budget and advocate with Council members prior to the CIP budget hearing in August about issues with timing, funding, priority or new projects needed
- 3. Attend or participate in public outreach initiatives offered by FDOT, Public Works and Parks and their contractors- request to be on the lists of contacts
- 4. Public comment at regular DIA Board meetings and City Council



# Opportunities for public input in the development review process — <u>private</u> projects

• The Downtown Development Review Board (DDRB) and DIA invite public comments on projects at their monthly meetings.

• Typically, projects undergo two rounds of review by the DDRB (conceptual and final), with public comments accepted at each step- this is a zoning, design and public realm review

• DDRB agendas are posted online 7 days in advance of meetings, or can be received by email by contacting the DIA and requesting to be added to the notification list

IF a project goes to DIA for an incentive, it will be noticed 7 days in advance as with DDRB; otherwise, many projects do not go to DIA for review

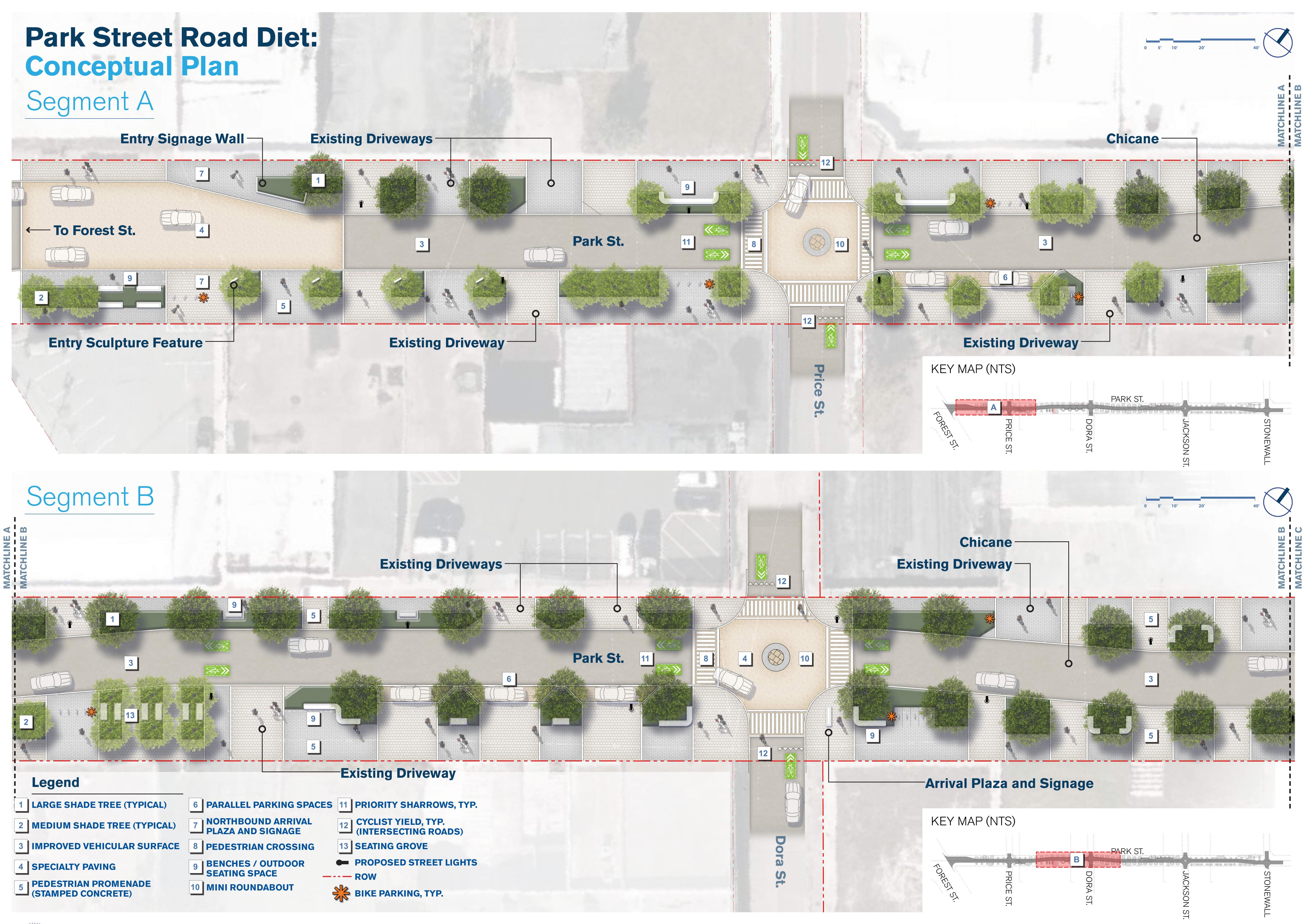


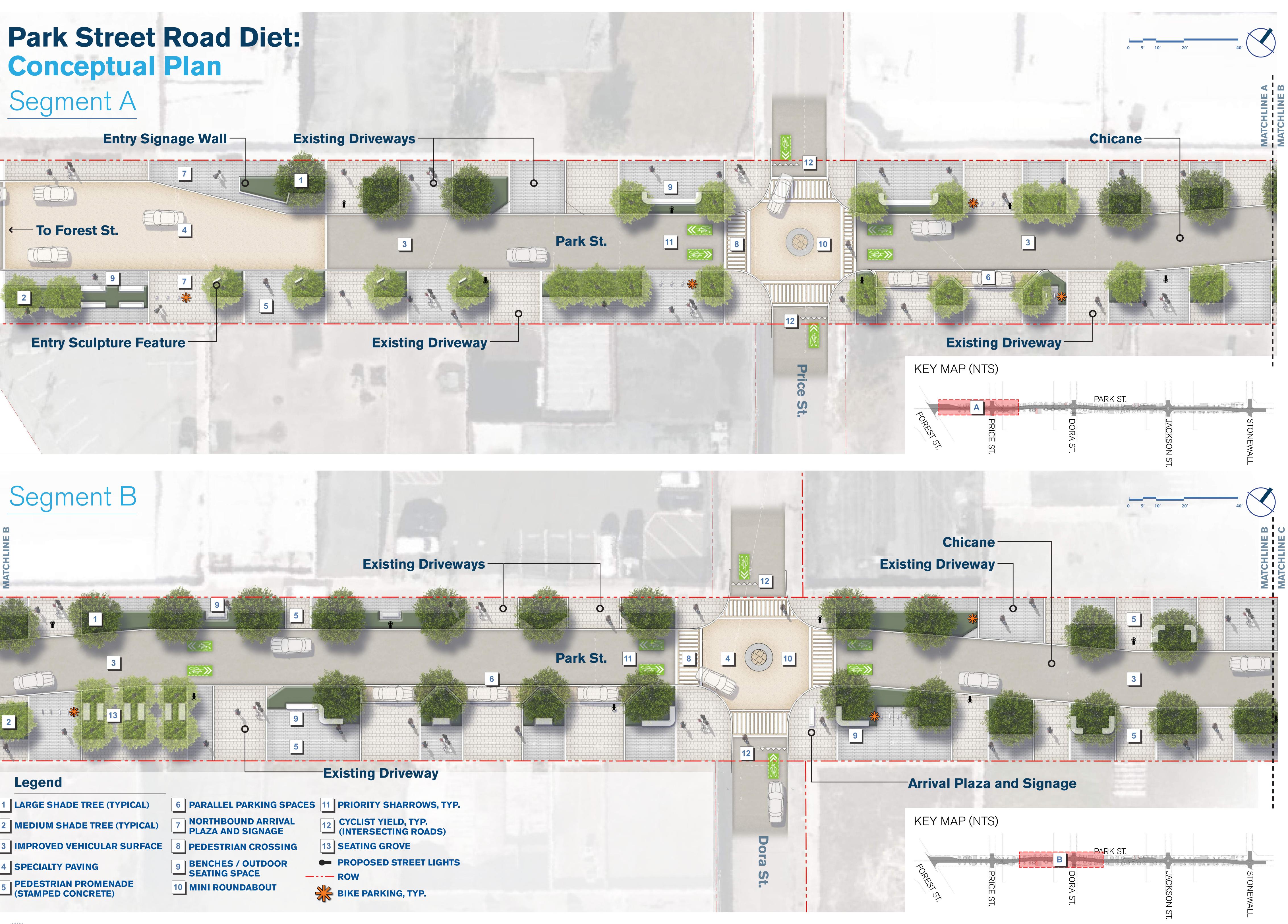


# THANK YOUL

*<b>DVYSTA* 

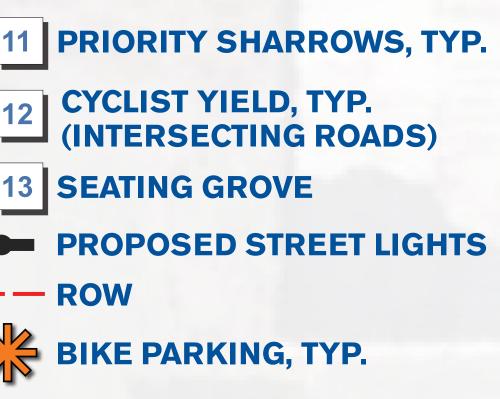
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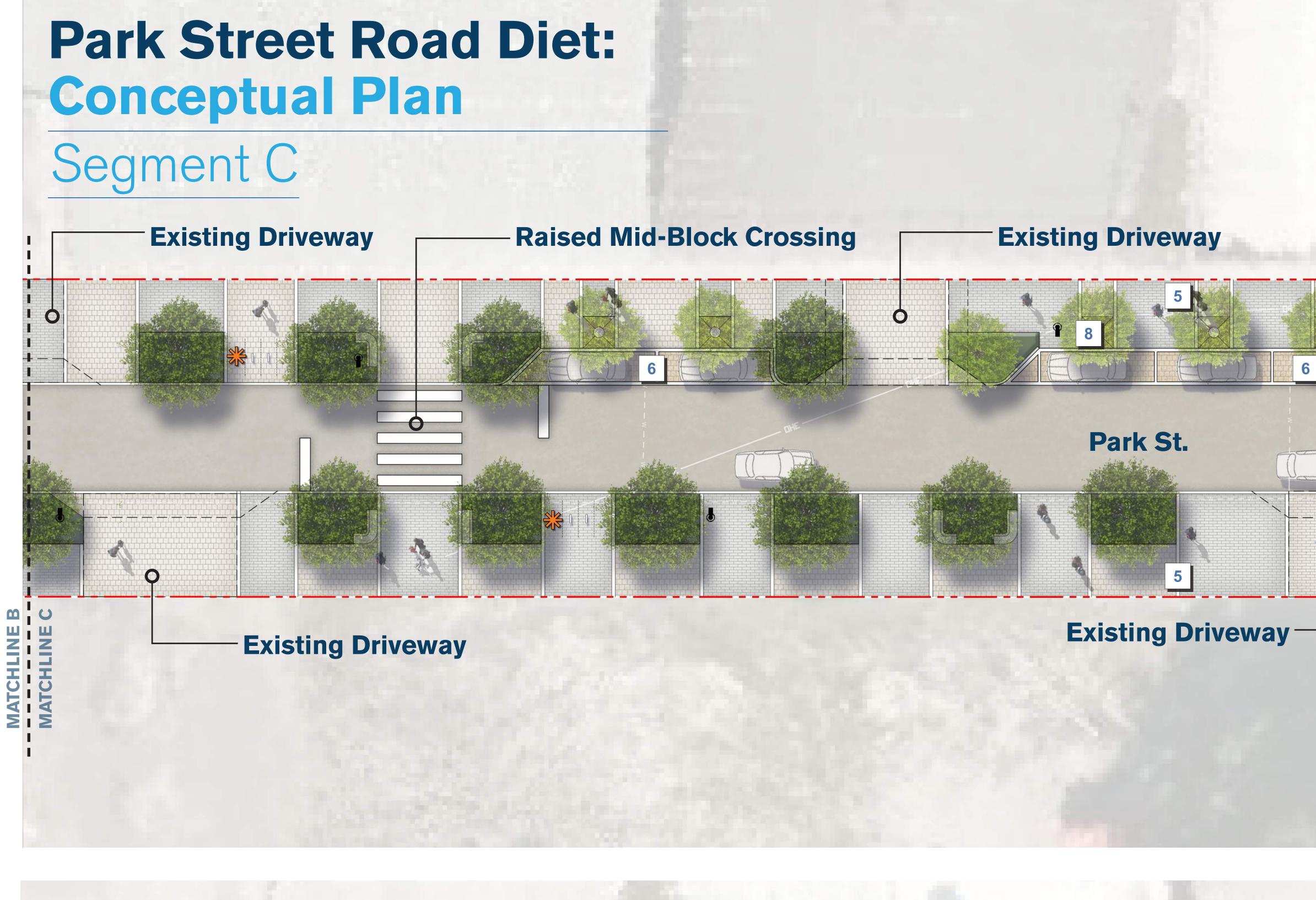


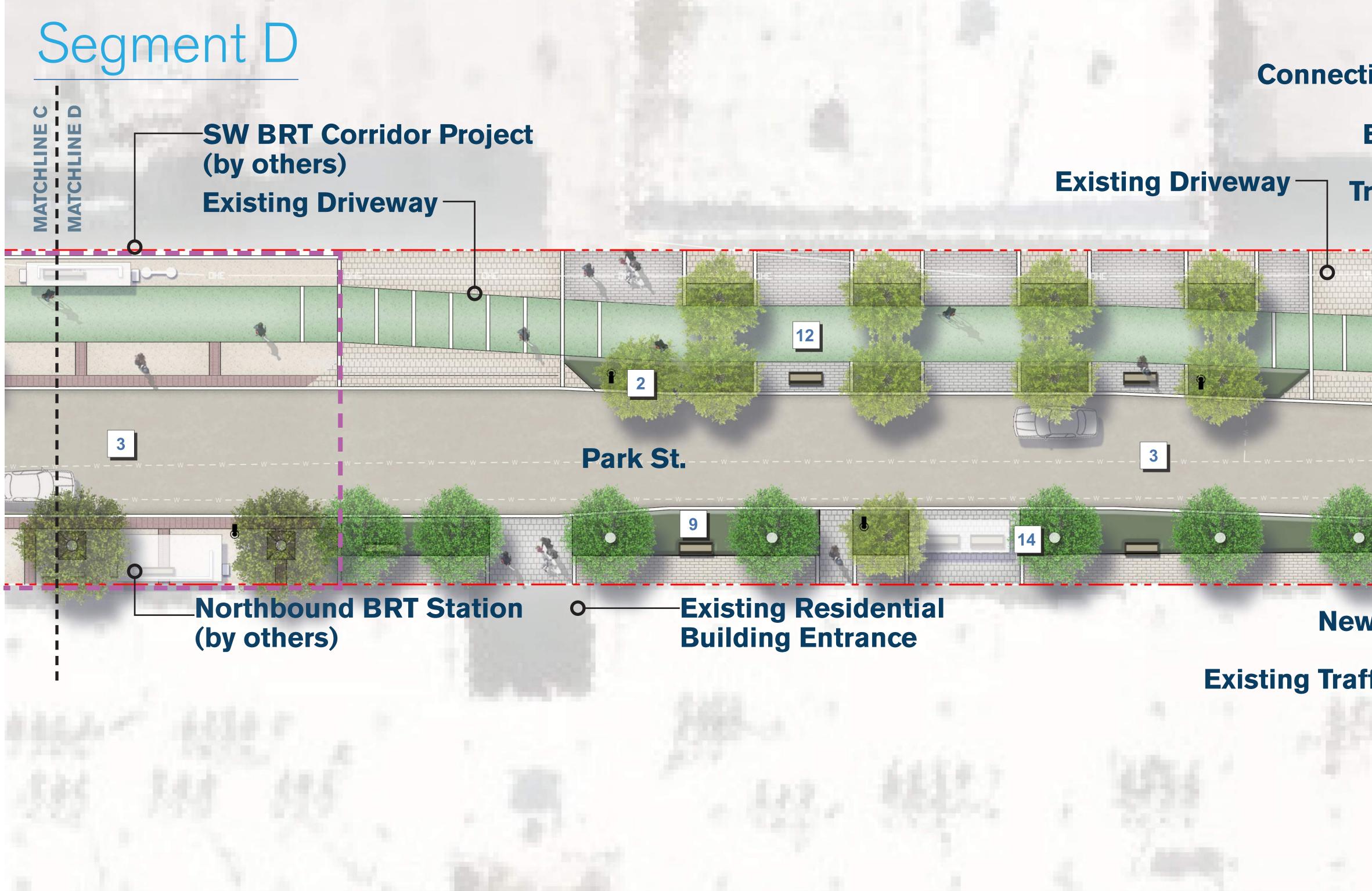
Park Street Road Diet | City of Jacksonville





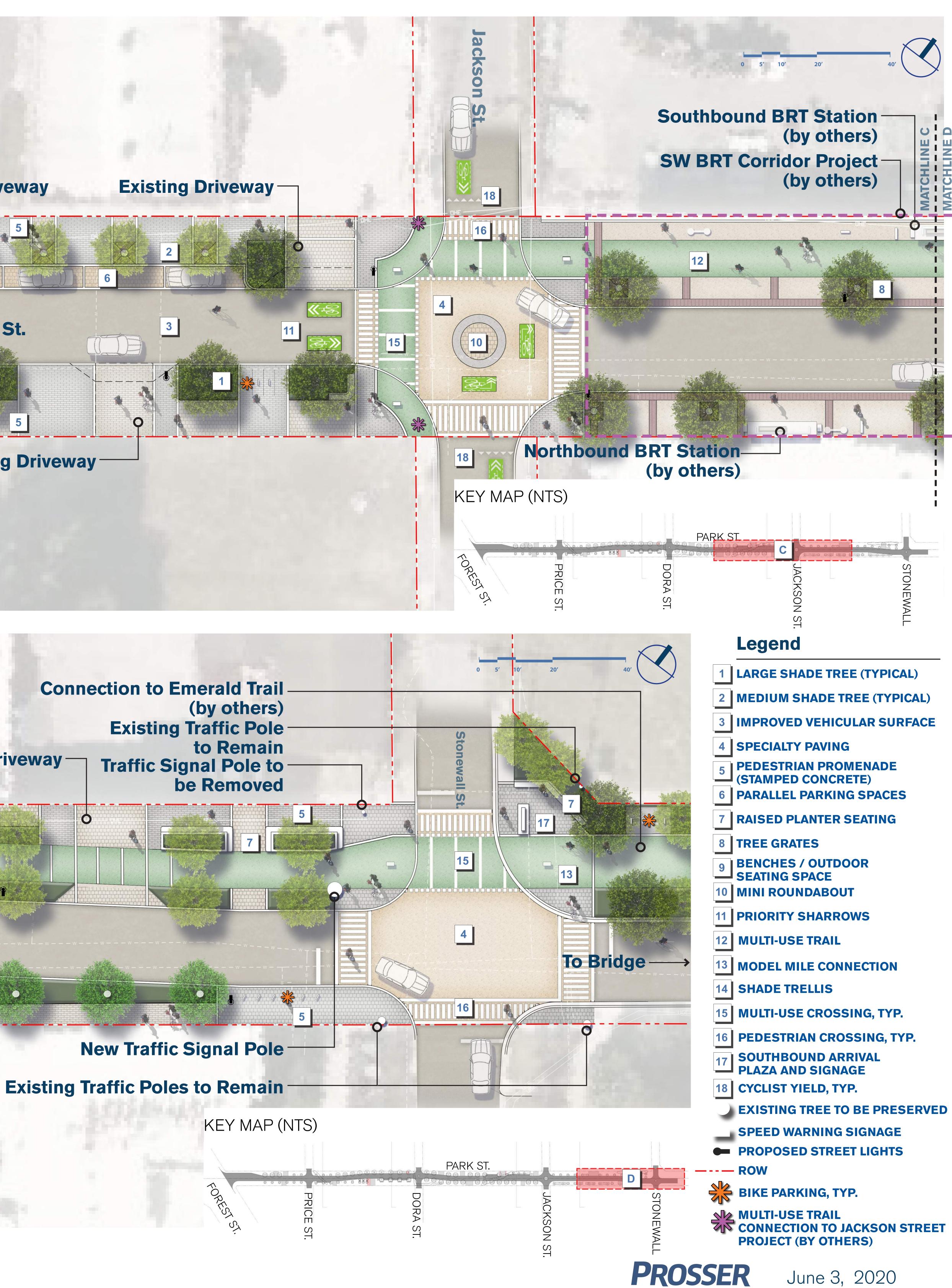
June 3, 2020







Park Street Road Diet | City of Jacksonville



# Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 11am-2pm Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 10am-3pm



James Weldon Johnson Park – Two Days! FDOT, COJ, JTA, ProTECH DNA, bike shops, bike clubs, and more! Tons of FREE giveaway items, bike registration, helmets, lights, backpacks, coloring books, etc.

## SMART GROWTH AMERICA Accepting Applications: TA for Local Champions/Advocates

- Applications are now open for a brand-new Technical Assistance (TA) program for local champions to develop the skills & knowledge needed to leverage data & storytelling to address rising pedestrian fatalities
- Building upon the SGA cornerstone resource Dangerous by Design, this program will also provide participants the
  opportunity to engage with the upcoming edition

# The deadline to apply is at 11:59 p.m. on November 15



https://smartgrowthamerica.org/

On X: @SmartGrowthUSA



## FDOT – CARBON REDUCTION STRATEGY: WEBINAR, PUBLIC MEETING, COMMENTS

Webinar on Tuesday, October 3, 2023, at 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Register for the webinar:



The **DRAFT** Strategy:



- The Carbon Reduction Strategy Public Comment Period begins on Monday, October 2, 2023, & ends on Friday, October 13, 2023
- You can provide comments on the draft plan on website or by emailing Planning@dot.state.fl.us
- Please remember to submit your comments by October 13, 2023
- https://www.fdot.gov/planning/policy/carbonreduction-strategy



