

# CIRCUIT DRIVE TRAFFIC CALMING & DRAINAGE

*Franklin Park*





# PROJECT TEAM

---

## AMY LINNÉ

PROJECT MANAGER

[amy.linne@boston.gov](mailto:amy.linne@boston.gov) or 617-961-3045

## MY'KEL MCMILLEN

OUTREACH COORDINATOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

[corey.mcmillen@boston.gov](mailto:corey.mcmillen@boston.gov) or 617-201-1294

## LAUREN BRYANT

PROJECT MANAGER, FRANKLIN PARK ACTION PLAN

[lauren.bryant@boston.gov](mailto:lauren.bryant@boston.gov) or 617-961-3019

## OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

### ASHA JANAY

ROXBURY LIAISON

[asha.janay@boston.gov](mailto:asha.janay@boston.gov)

### CAROLINE PETERS

JAMAICA PLAIN LIAISON

[caroline.peters@boston.gov](mailto:caroline.peters@boston.gov)

### MADISON FOLEY

DORCHESTER LIAISON

[madison.foley@boston.gov](mailto:madison.foley@boston.gov)

### ANTHONY NGUYEN

MID-DORCHESTER LIAISON

[anthony.nguyen@boston.gov](mailto:anthony.nguyen@boston.gov)

## JOSHUA McCORKLE

ROSLINDALE LIAISON

[joshua.mccorkle@boston.gov](mailto:joshua.mccorkle@boston.gov)

## CONSULTANT TEAM

### NITSCH ENGINEERING

TRANSPORTATION,  
GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

### REED HILDERBRAND

FRANKLIN PARK ACTION PLAN,  
ADVISORY INPUT





# GROUPS WE WILL COORDINATE WITH ON THIS PROJECT

---

## CITY OF BOSTON

*Office of Green Infrastructure*

*Landmarks Commission*

*Office of Neighborhood Services*

*Parks Department – Urban Forestry Division*

*Transportation Department*

*Disabilities Commission*

*Planning Department*

*Boston Public Schools*

*Boston Police Department, B-2*

*Park Rangers*

## OUTSIDE PARTNERS

*MBTA*

*Franklin Park Zoo*

*William J Devine Golf Course*

*Shattuck Hospital*

*Franklin Park Coalition*

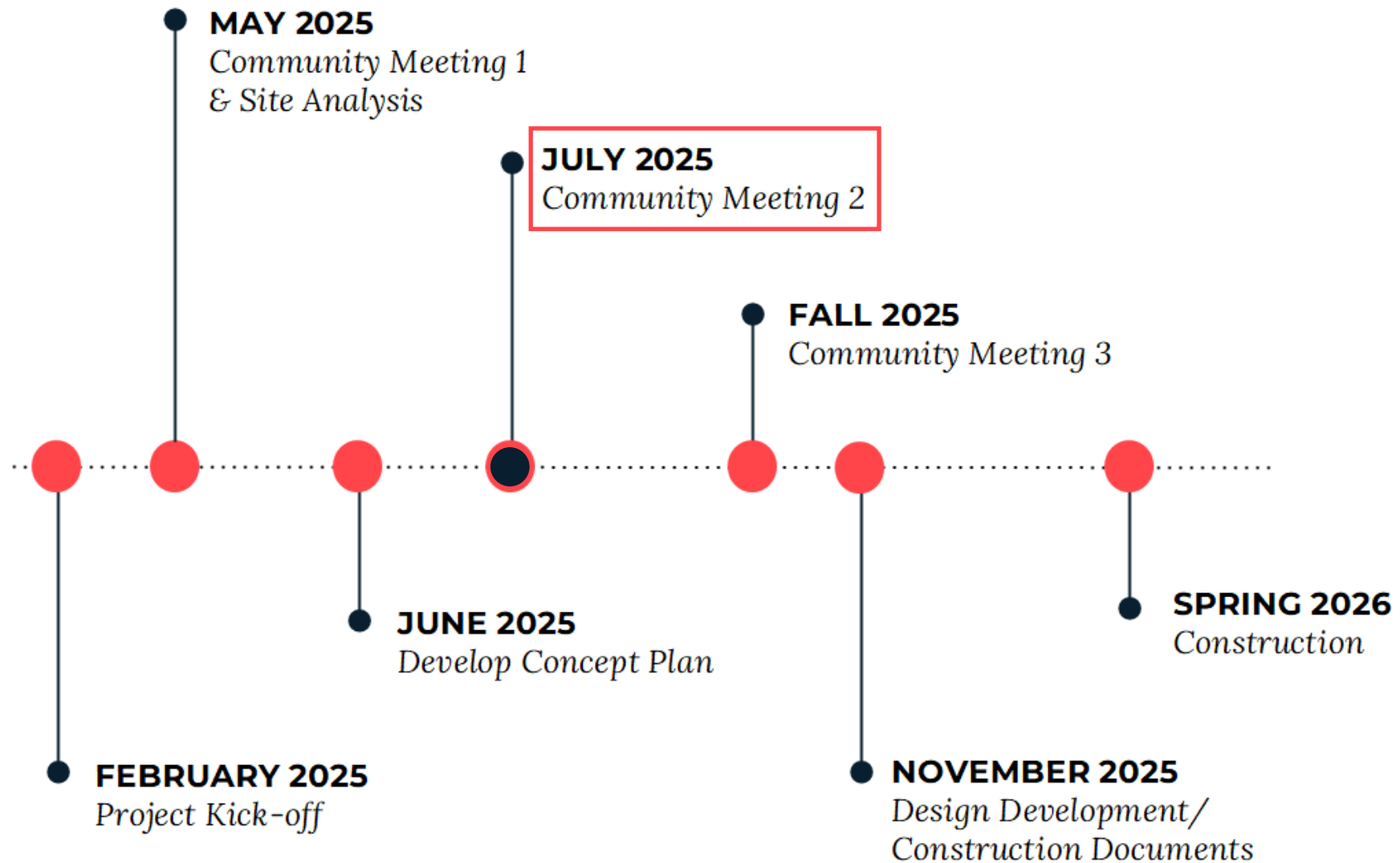
*The Community*

*Massachusetts State Police*



# PROJECT SCHEDULE

---





# FRANKLIN PARK FEATURED INVESTMENTS UNDERWAY

---

## OVERLOOK RUINS RESTORATION STUDY

**CURRENT STATUS:** DESIGN LED BY STUDIO ZEWDE

## BEAR DENS SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

**CURRENT STATUS:** CONSTRUCTION SUMMER 2025

**SHATTUCK PICNIC GROVE TENNIS COURTS:** Expansion for Community and BPS Recreation

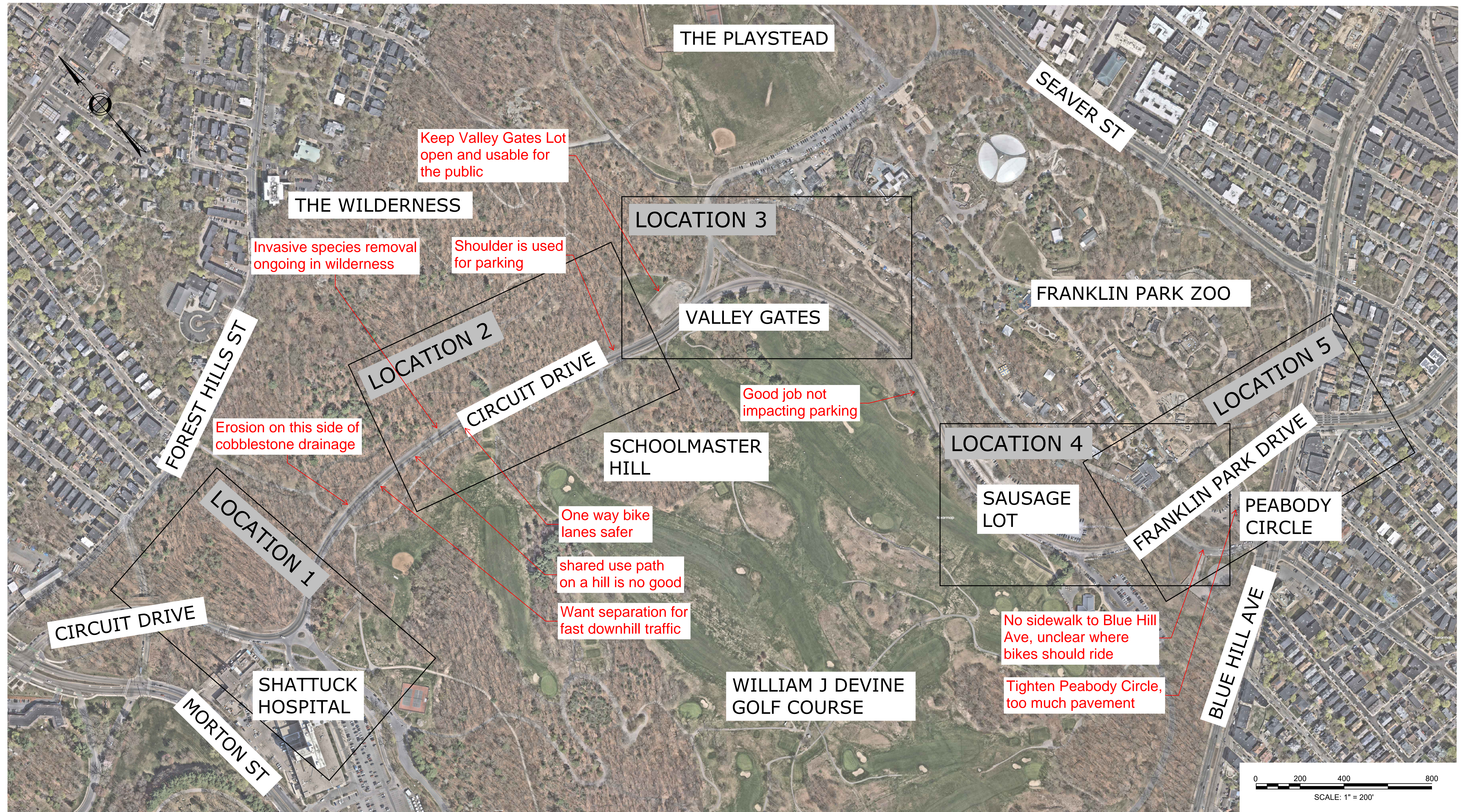
**CURRENT STATUS:** CONSTRUCTION FALL 2025

**FRANKLIN PARK TRUST PROJECTS:** Removing invasive plants, restoring Wilderness Picnic Area, repaving Glen Rd, and safety improvements at Ellicott Arch

**CURRENT STATUS:** CONSTRUCTION SUMMER 2025

**WHITE STADIUM RENOVATION:** Year-Round BPS Athletics & Community Hub + Up to 20 Boston Legacy Games Annually





## KEY PLAN

CIRCUIT DRIVE, FRANKLIN PARK, BOSTON, MA

Project: **CIRCUIT DRIVE TRAFFIC & DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS**  
Project No.: **16118**  
Client Name: **BOSTON PARKS DEPT**

Drawn By: **MCA**  
Checked By: **JTB**  
Date: **07/28/2025**

## KEY PLAN

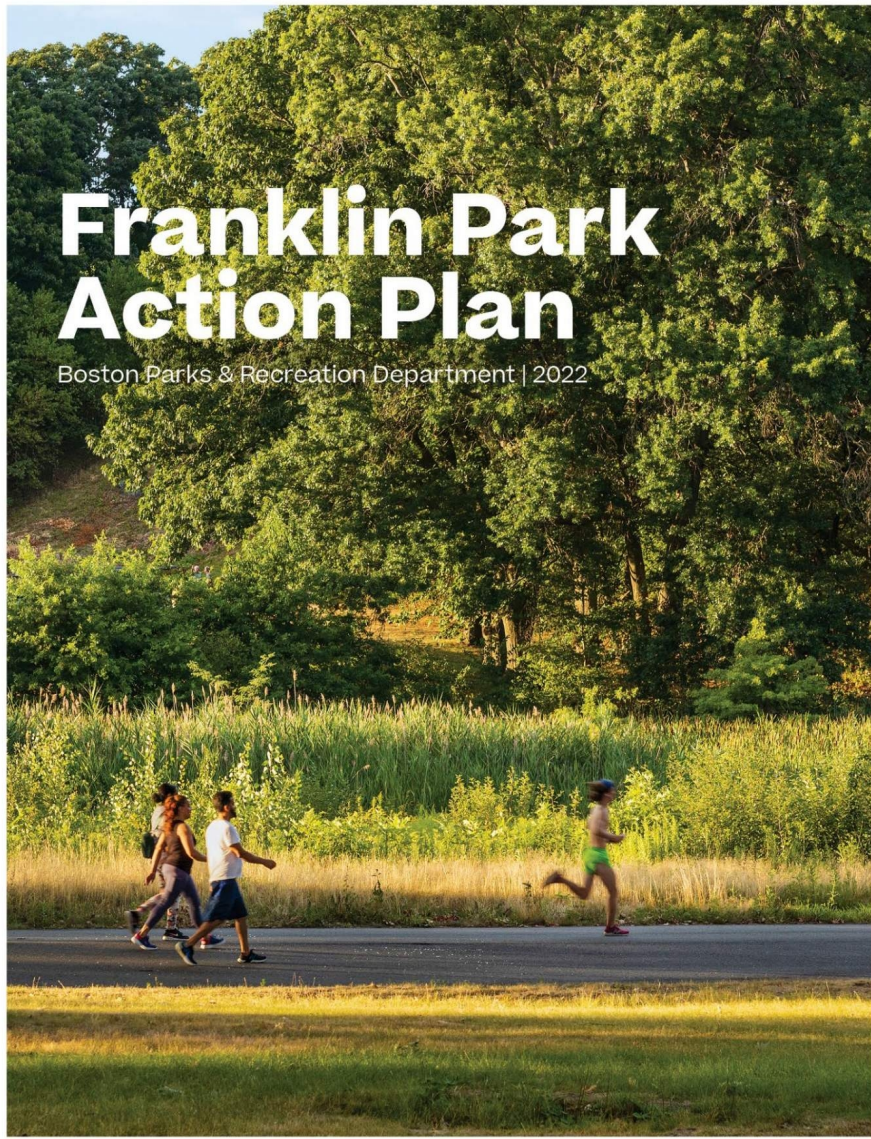


# PROJECT BACKGROUND AND FRANKLIN PARK ACTION PLAN

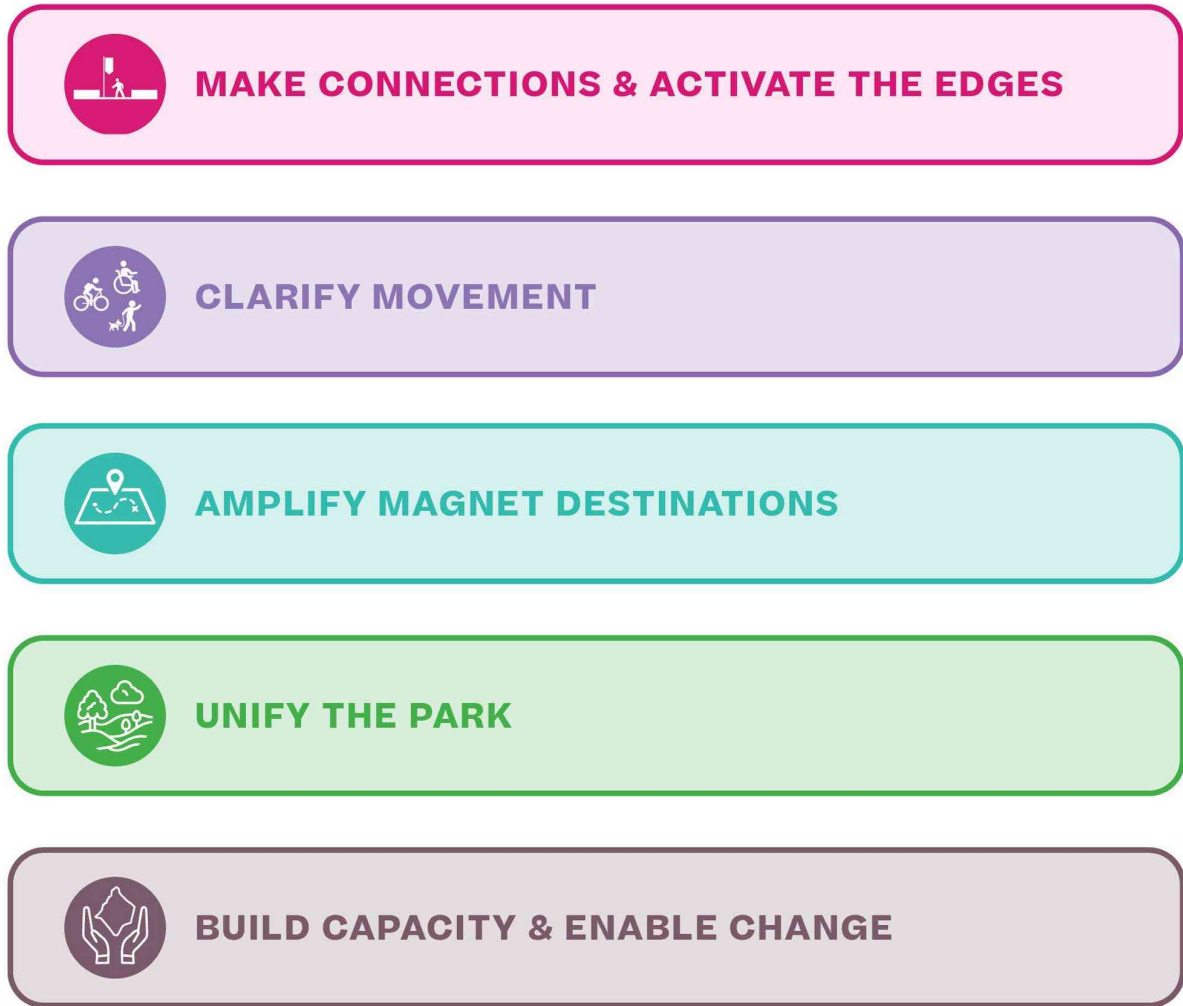
## PROJECT GOALS

- Promote pedestrian and bicyclist safety
- Slow vehicle speeds
- Improve drainage and stormwater management
- Implement low-cost recommendations from the Action Plan
- Promote Franklin Park as a destination instead of a main thoroughfare
- Note: Circuit Drive will not be closed as part of this project

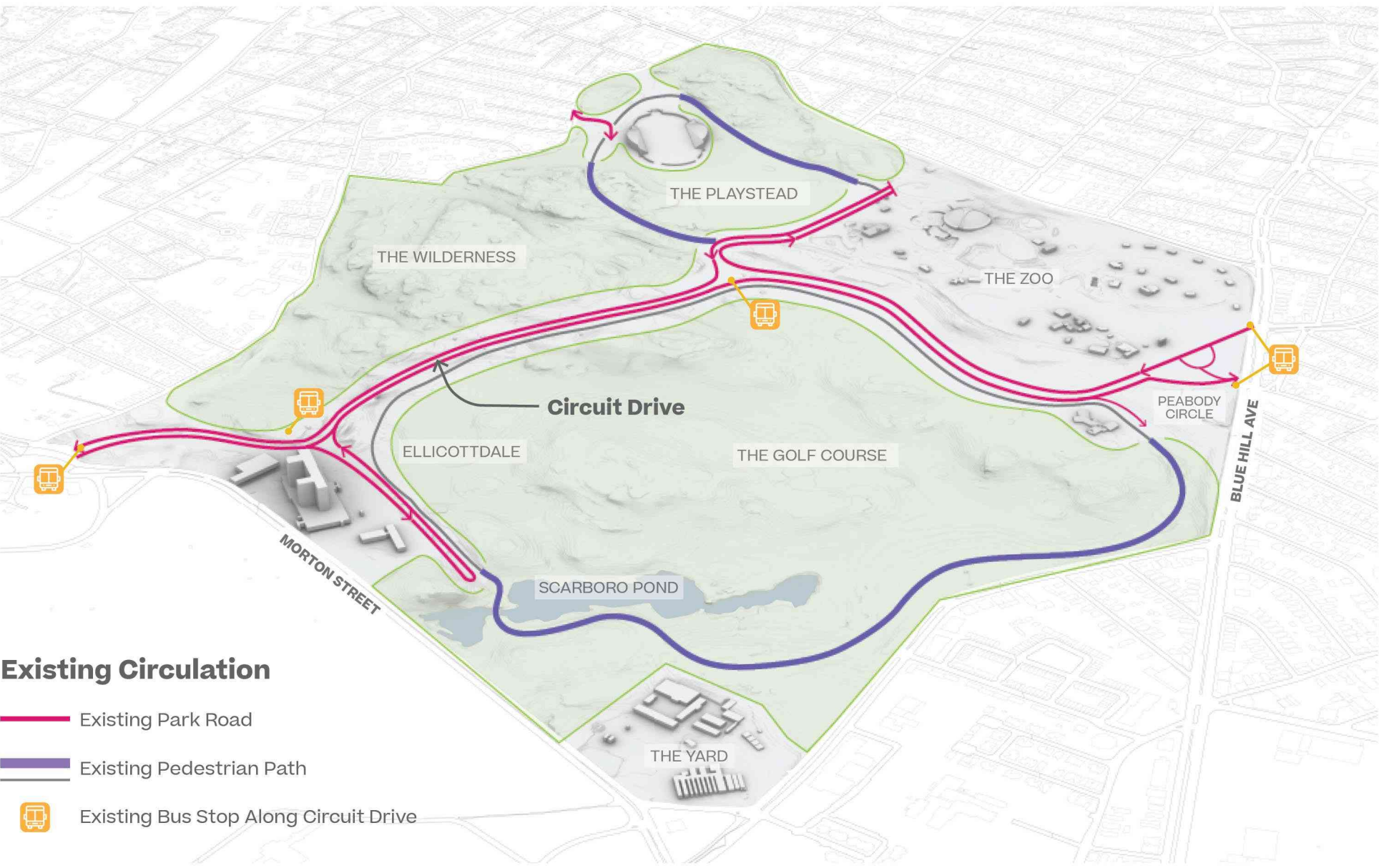
## FRANKLIN PARK ACTION PLAN



FOUR BIG IDEAS → FIVE PRIMARY PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS



## CIRCUIT DRIVE TODAY EXISTING CIRCULATION



## DRAINAGE TODAY CHALLENGES



## CIRCUIT DRIVE TODAY THE HEART OF THE PARK



## CIRCUIT DRIVE TODAY CHALLENGES



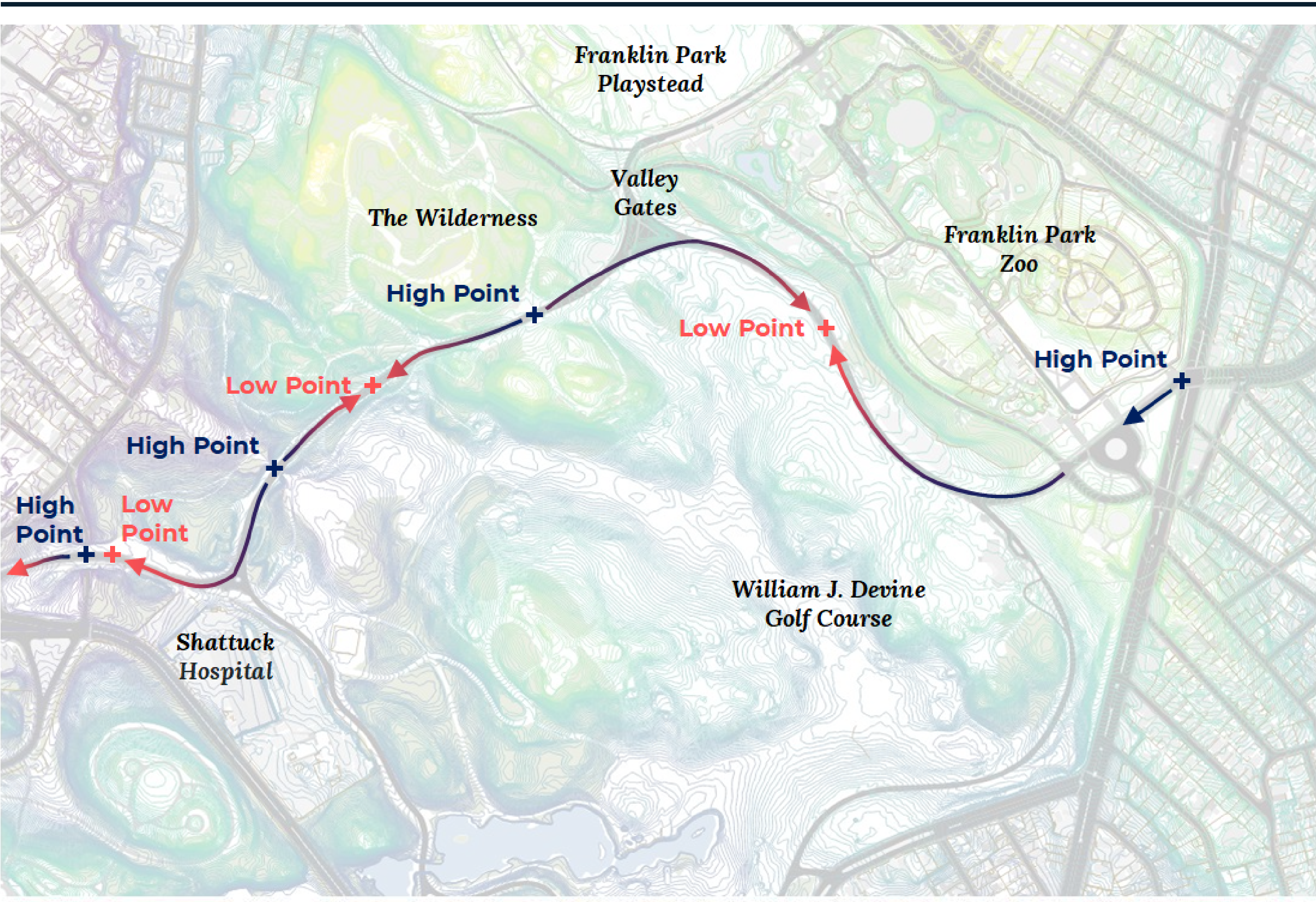


# STORMWATER CONSIDERATIONS

## KNOWN FLOODING AREAS



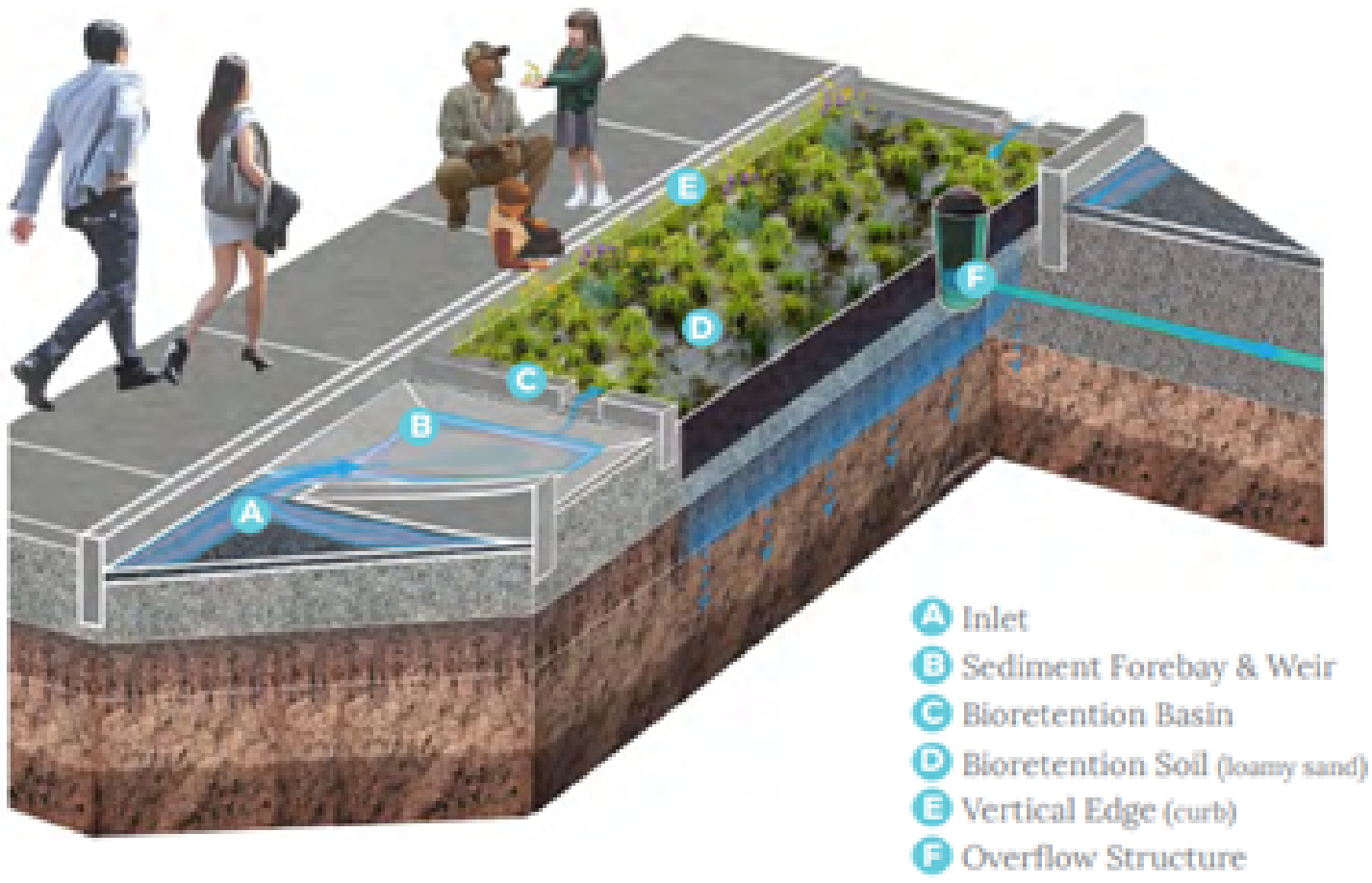
## TOPOGRAPHY



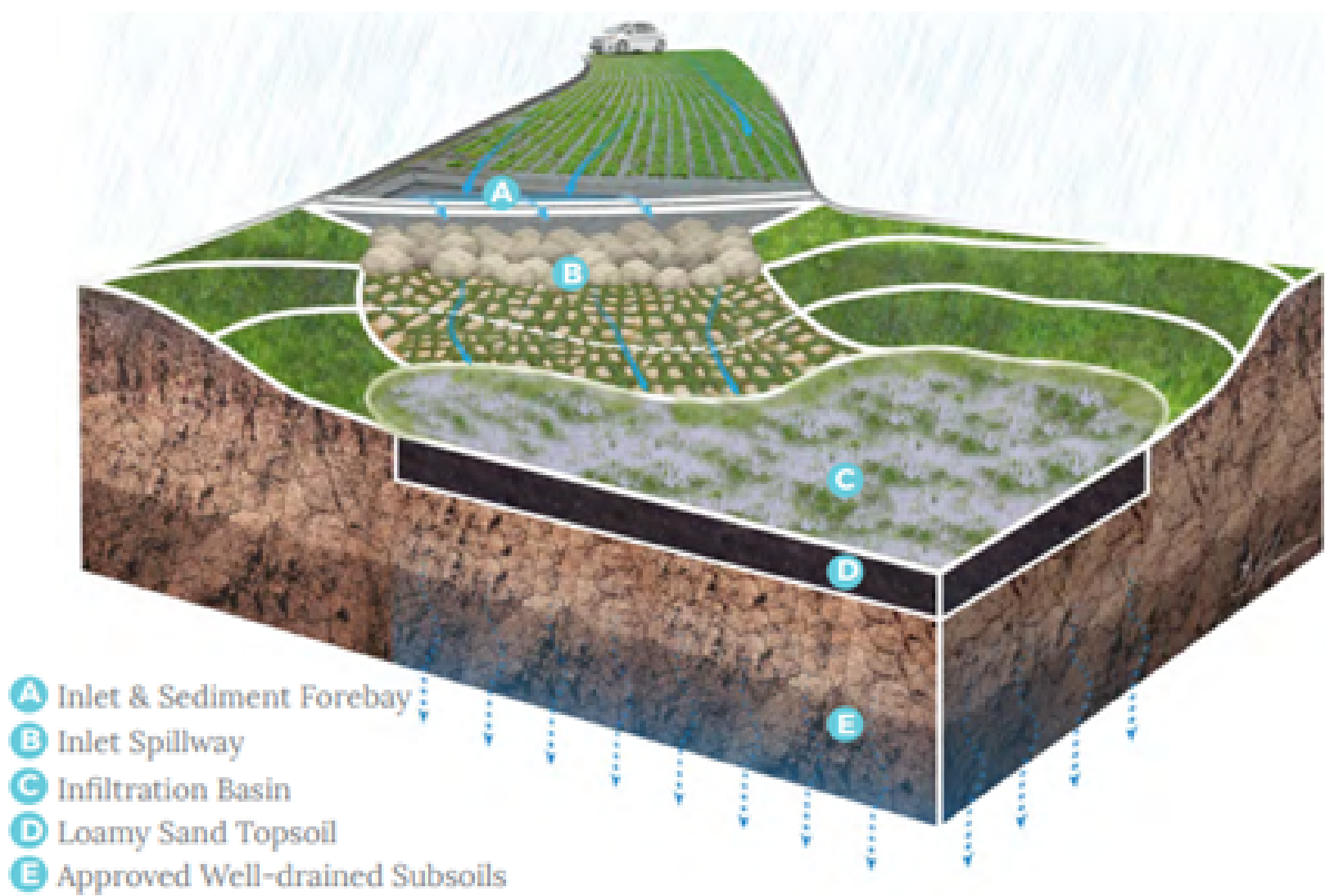
## POTENTIAL GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTIONS



BIORETENTION



BIORETENTION

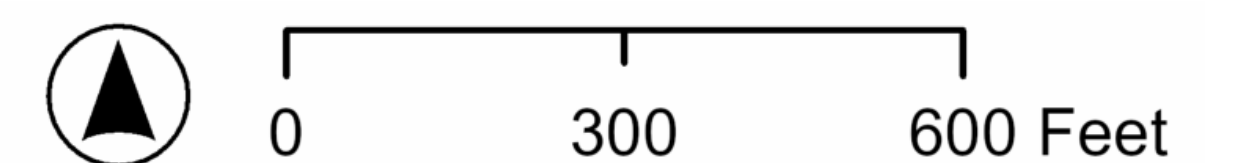
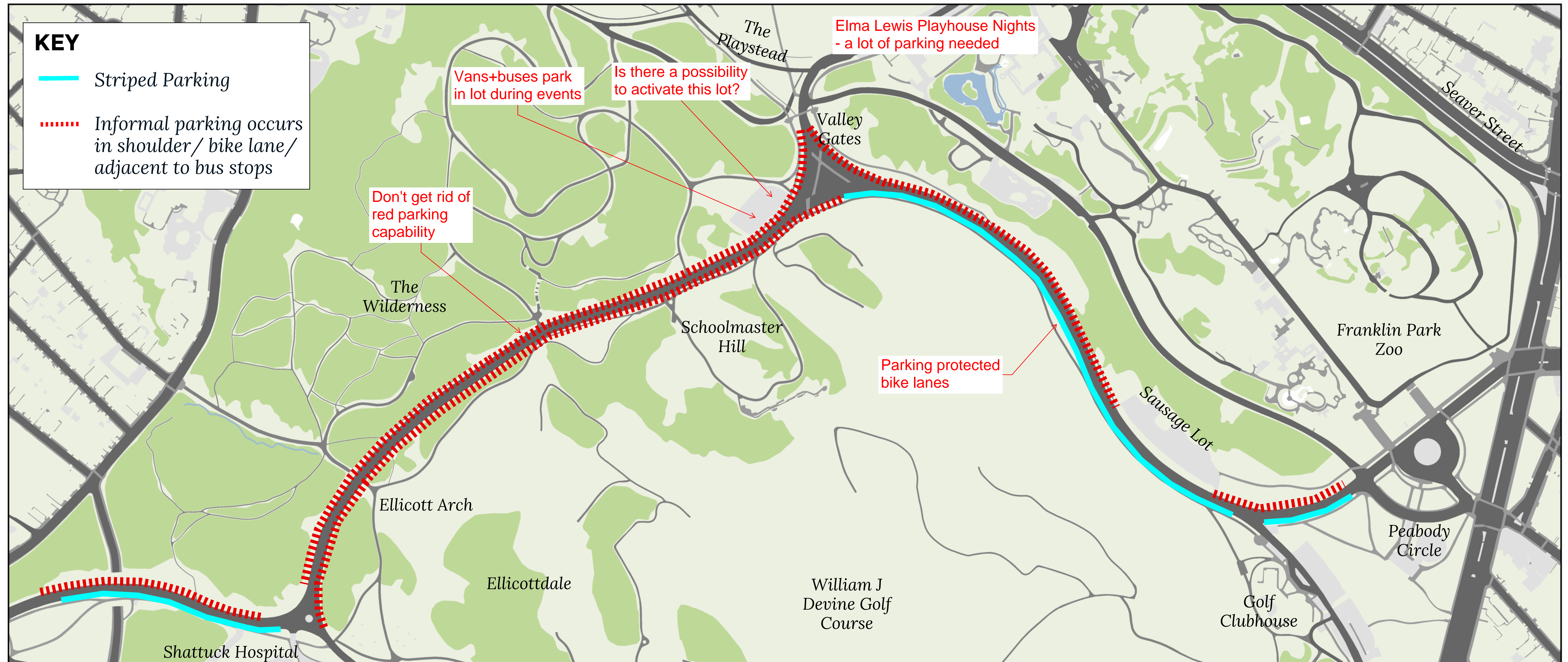


INFILTRATION BASIN



## EXISTING PARKING

- High parking demand during events creates surges in parking usage compared to normal activities
- Conflicts between bicyclists, drivers trying to park, parked cars, and pedestrians walking to park pathways
- Informal parking in shoulder and landscape degrades off-pavement landscape and creates drainage challenges

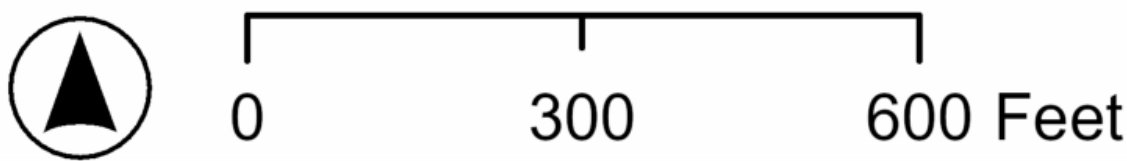
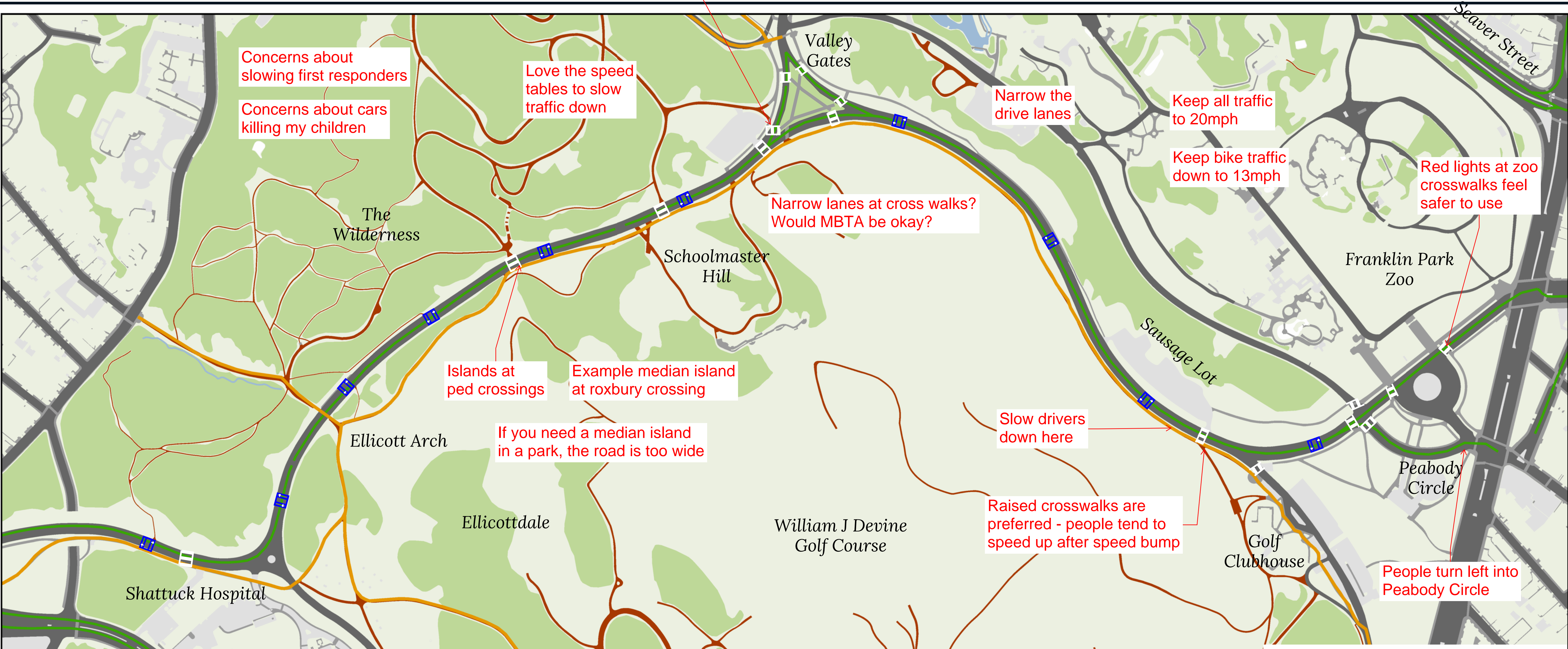


Informal parking activity during a recent event.

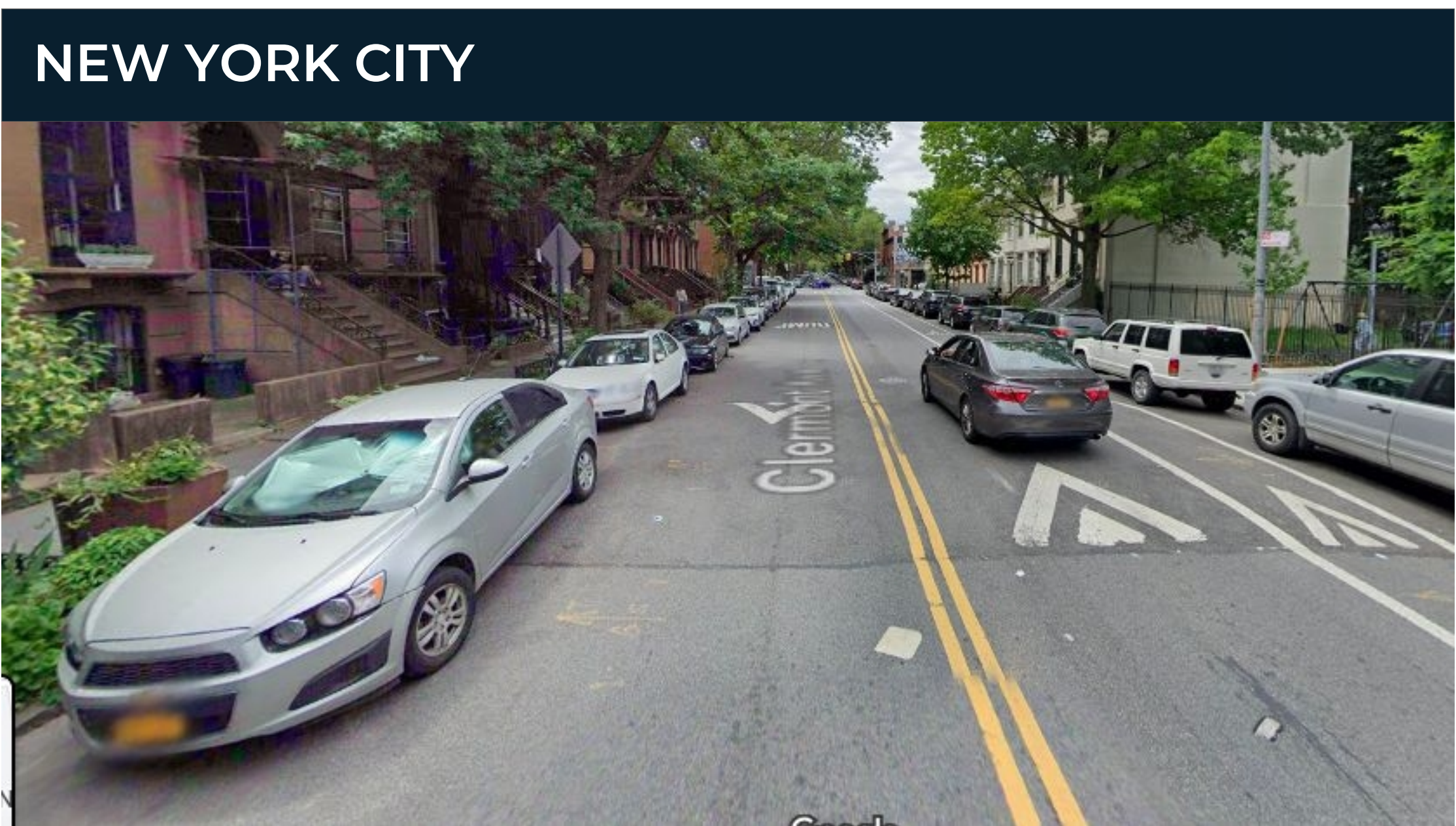
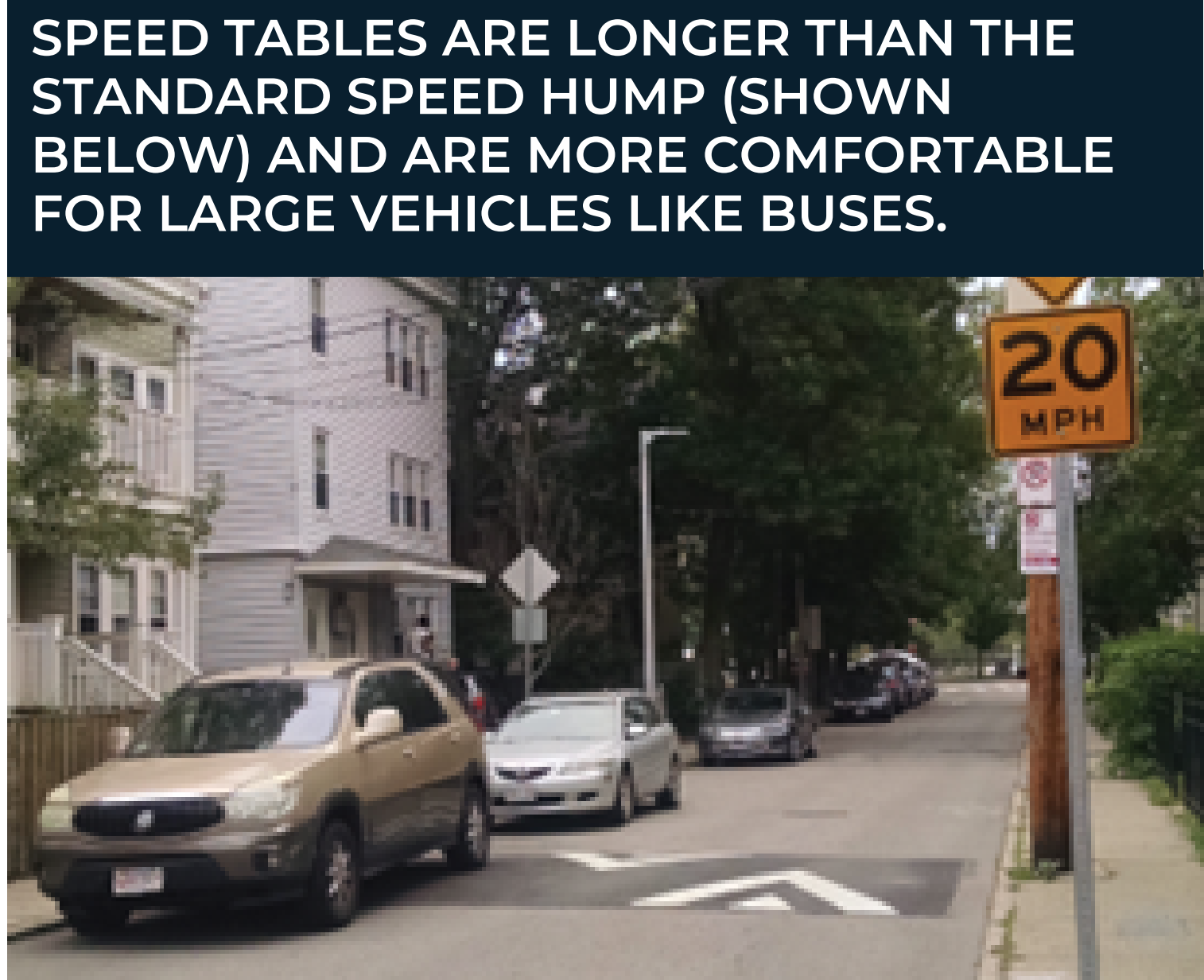


# TRAFFIC CALMING - CROSSWALKS AND SPEED TABLES

- Potential for 5 new crosswalks along Circuit Drive to increase pedestrian safety and park connectivity
- Potential for 10 speed tables, spaced to encourage slower vehicle speeds through the park

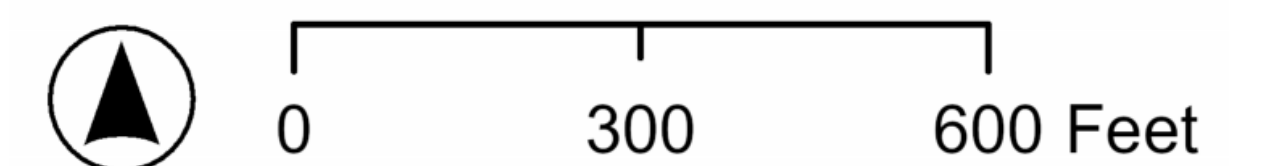
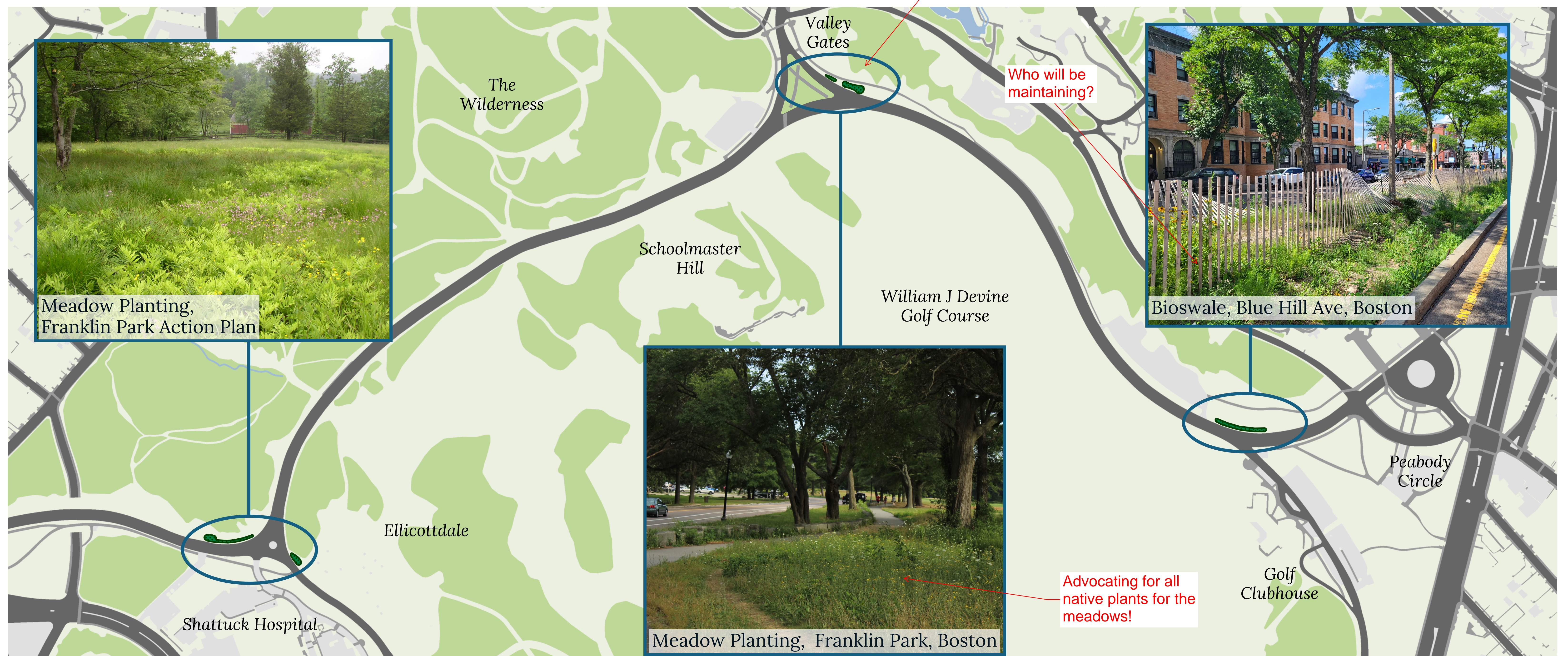


## SPEED TABLE EXAMPLES FROM OTHER CITIES





# POTENTIAL LOCATIONS OF SHORT-TERM DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

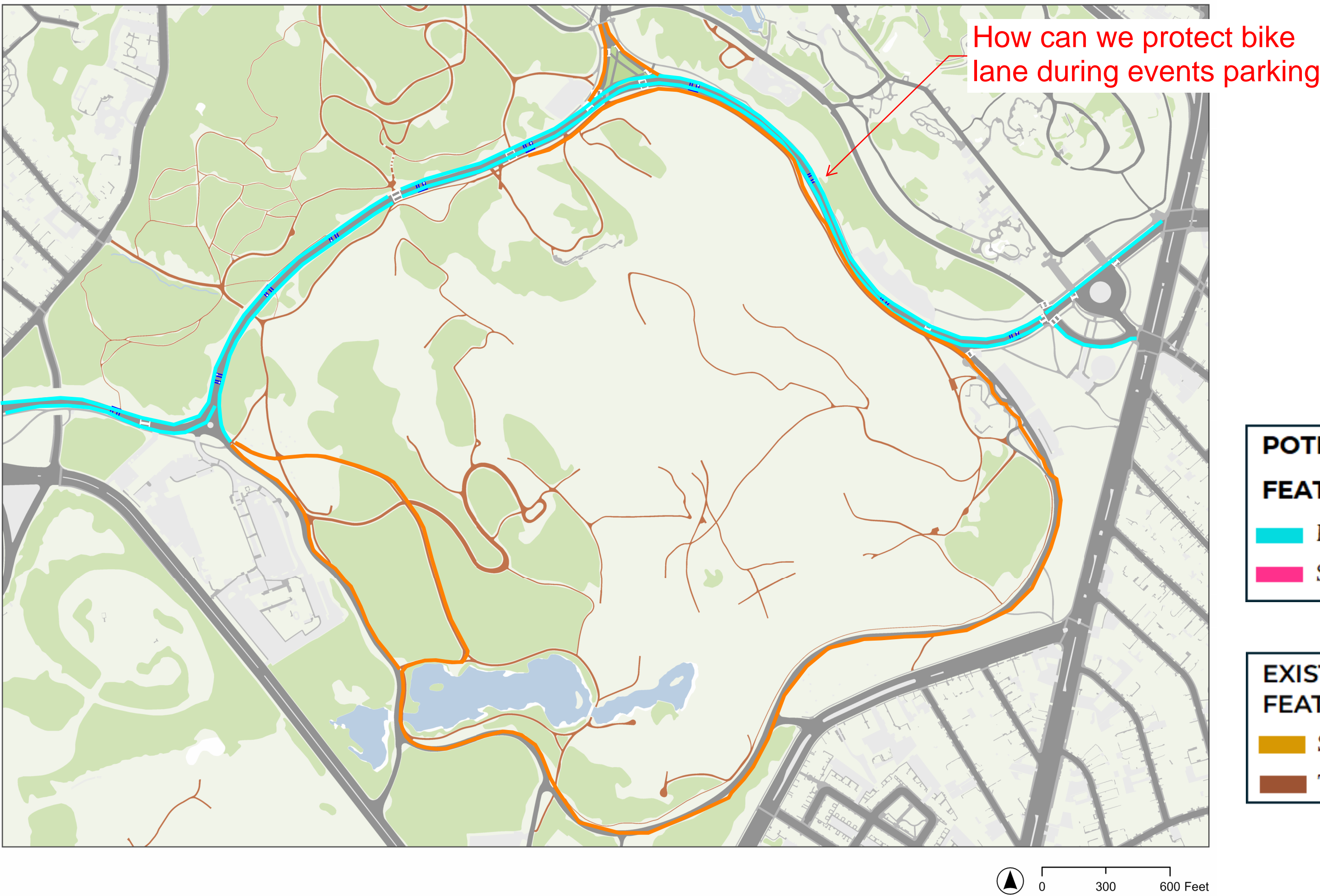


- Locations selected in coordination with transportation upgrades, and drainage upgrades will be constructed simultaneously with transportation work.
- Plant selections made to prioritize continuity with the prevailing landscape character of adjacent park areas.
- Longer term investments for drainage infrastructure would also be required.

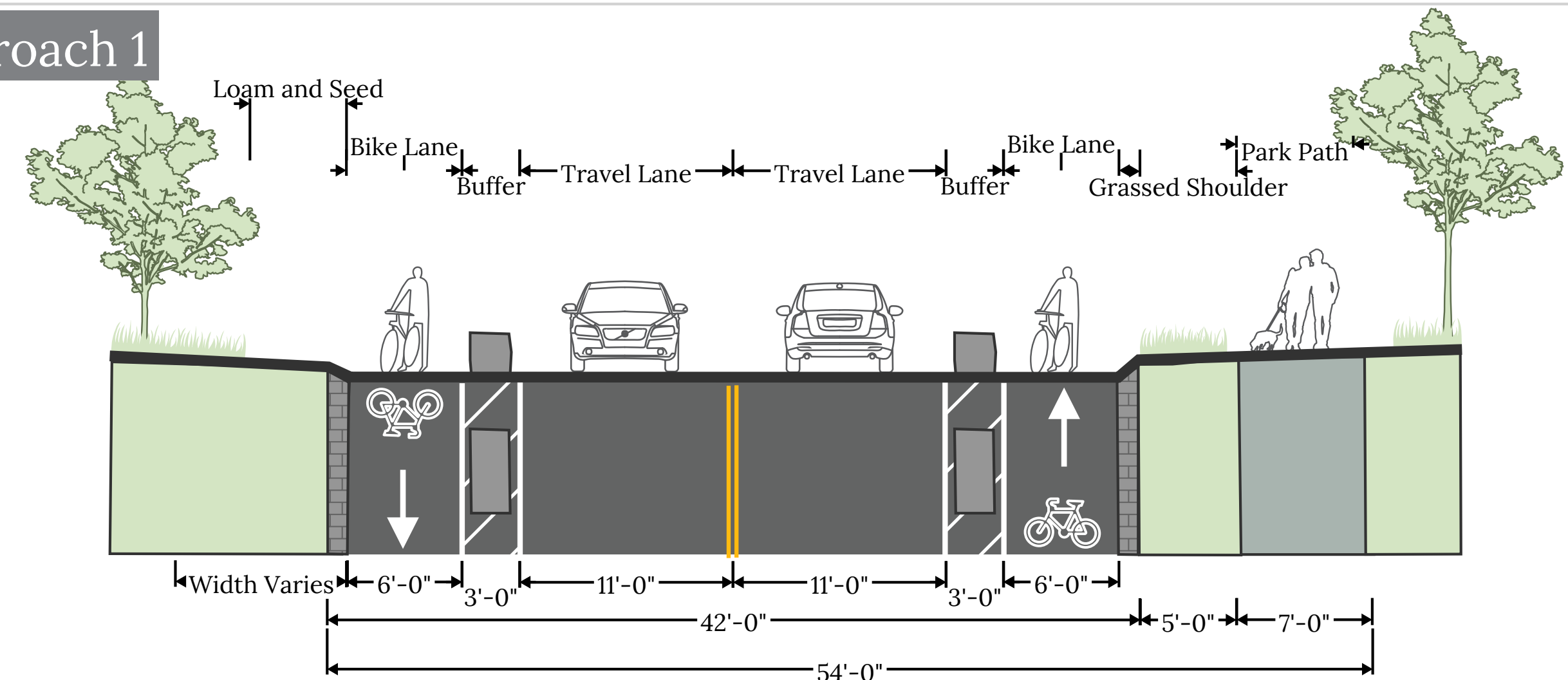


# APPROACH 1 – BUFFERED BIKE LANES

Creates separated, designated, and continuous travel lanes for cyclists to move through the park from one end to another.



Approach 1



Buffered bike lanes now!

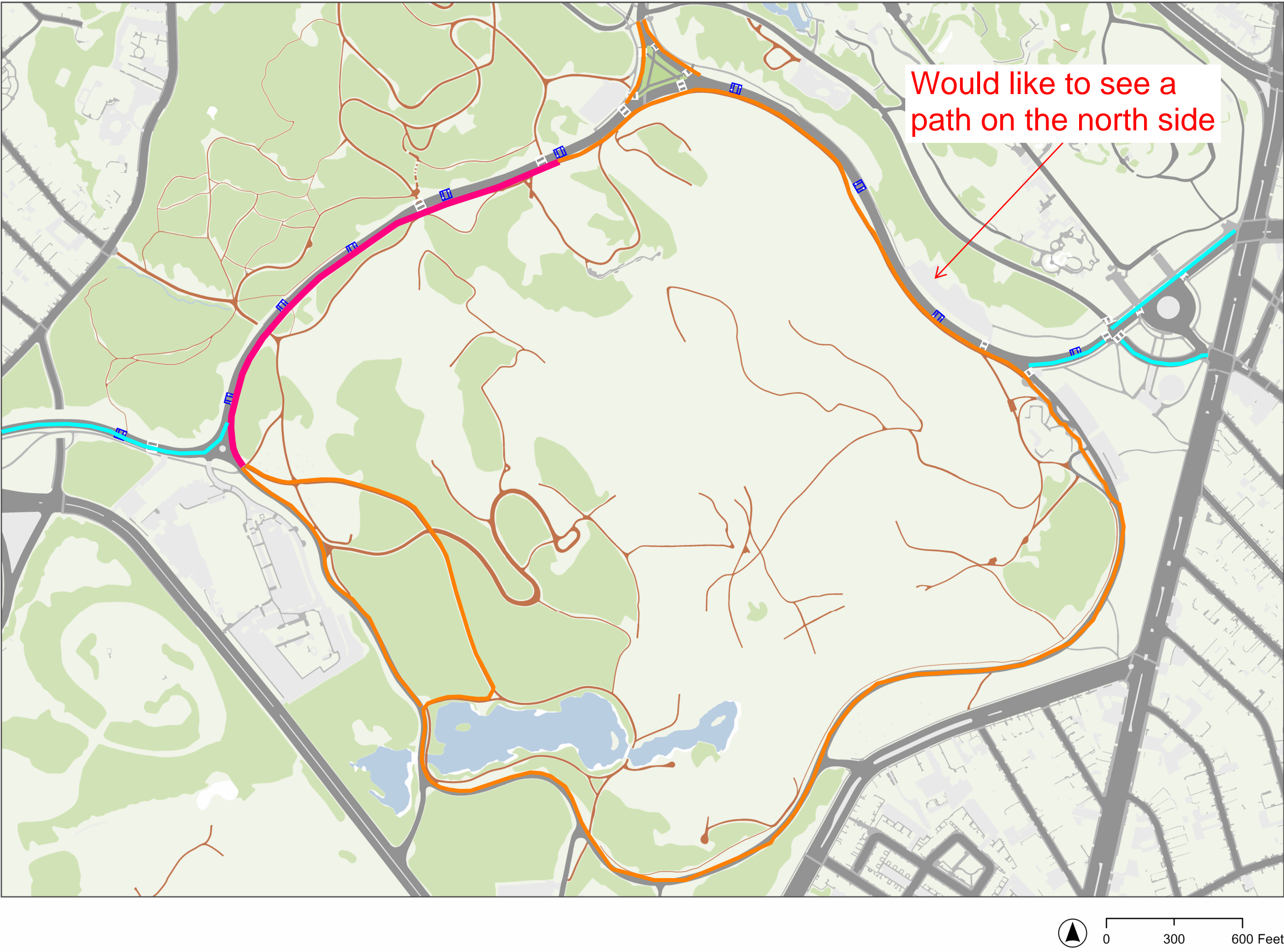
Snow removal? need ~7.5' width for protected lanes

One separate bidirectional bike lane saves \$\$ and same benefit

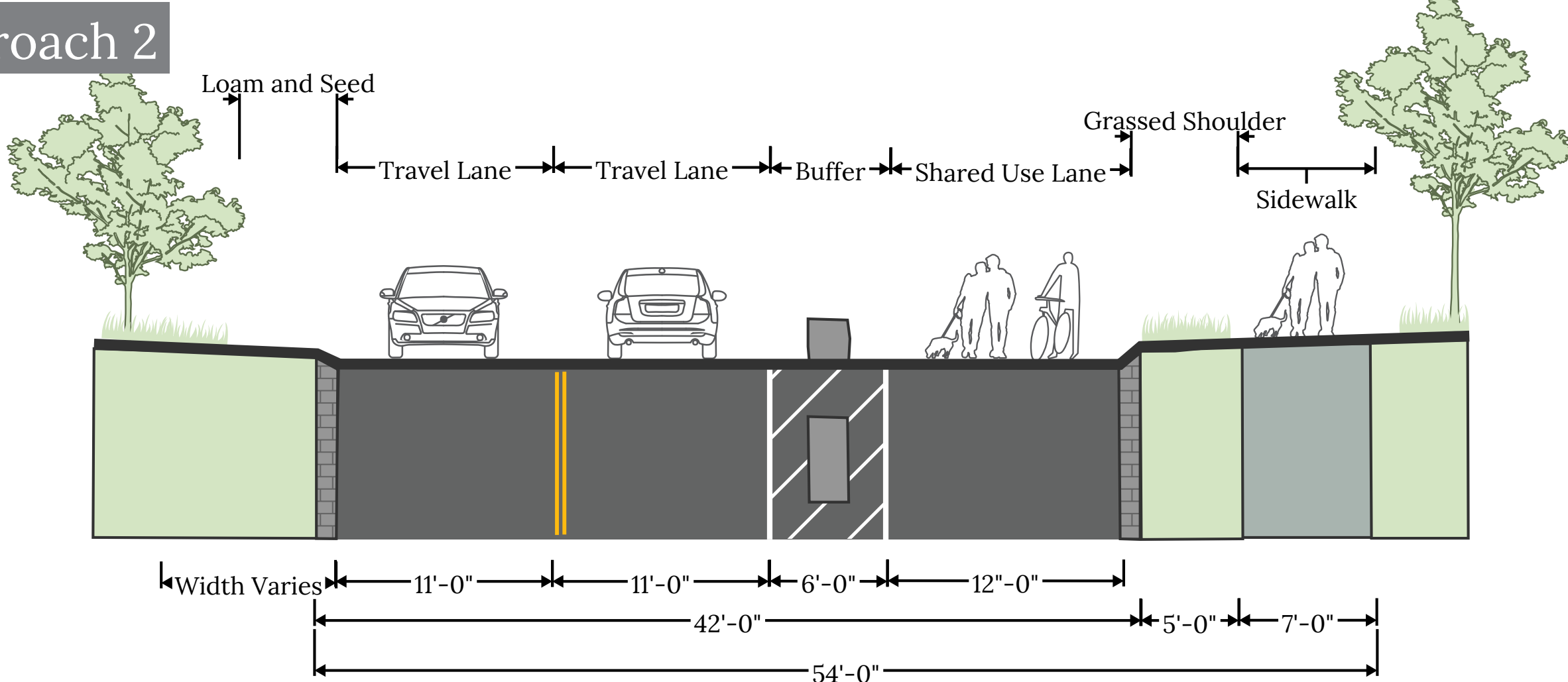
Two lanes preferred for bikes

# APPROACH 2 – SHARED USE PATH

Completes the Circuit Loop by combining pedestrian and bicyclist use into a single space, while maintaining vehicular traffic along Circuit Drive and accommodating bike through traffic.



Approach 2



Preference for approach 2, please keep informal parking

Tricky to cross with combined path



# PRECEDENTS

## MODE SEPARATION

### PAINTED SEPARATION

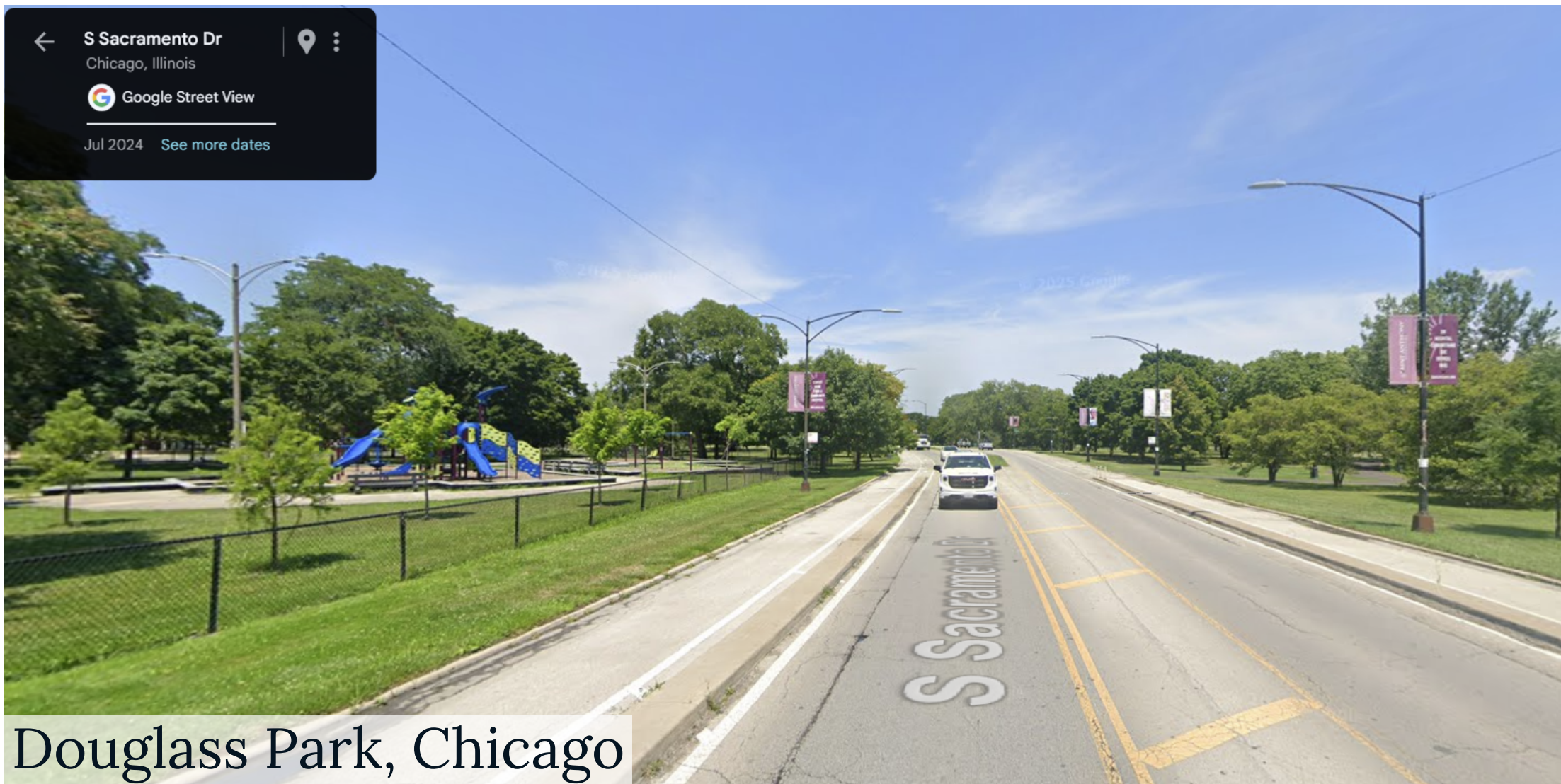


Paint to separate  
peds/bikes would  
be good



Public Garden, Boston

### PHYSICAL SEPARATION



Douglass Park, Chicago



Central Park, New York City



Central Park, New York City

Physical  
separation from  
cars is better

Flex posts don't  
work

## CURB HARDENING AND REINFORCEMENT



Prospect Park, New York City



Boston, MA

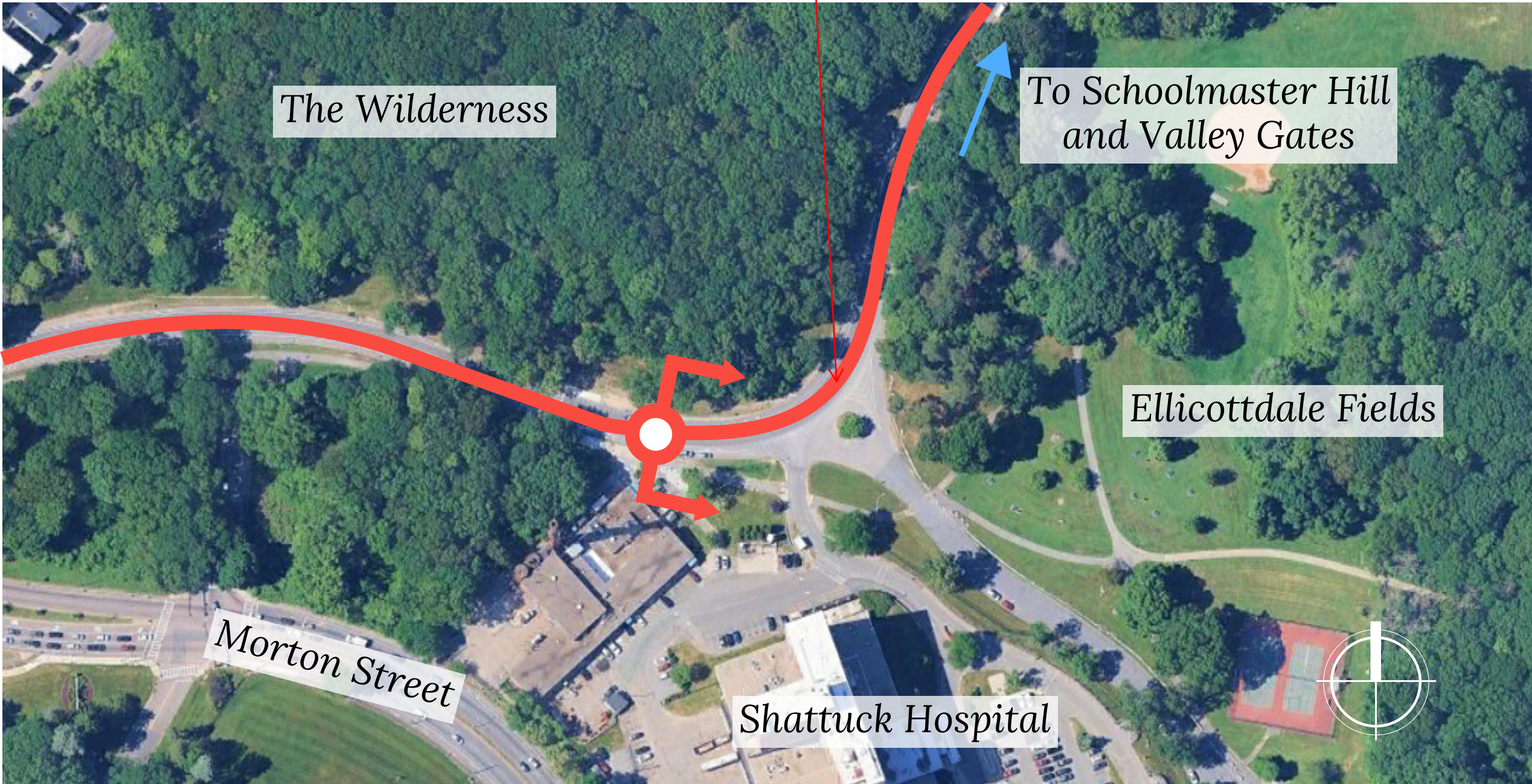


Arborway, Boston

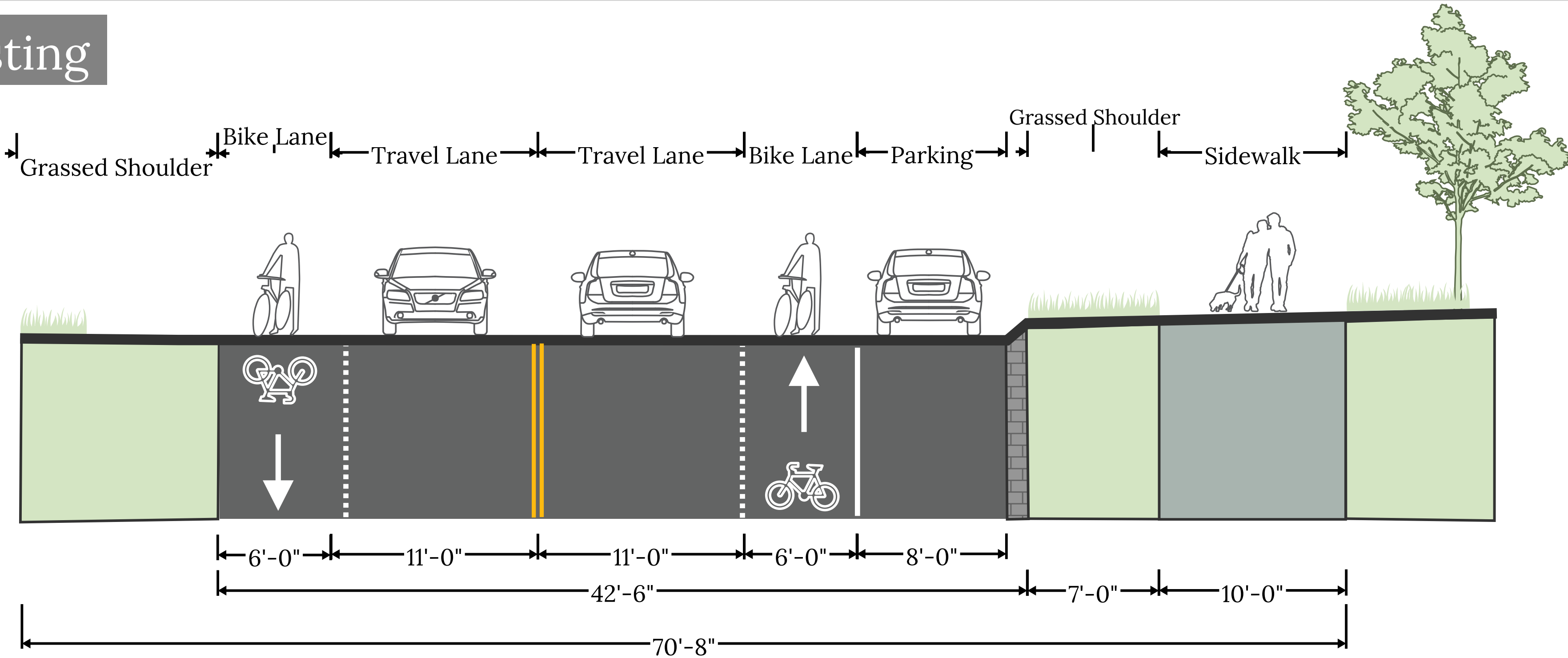


# LOCATION 1 - SHATTUCK HOSPITAL

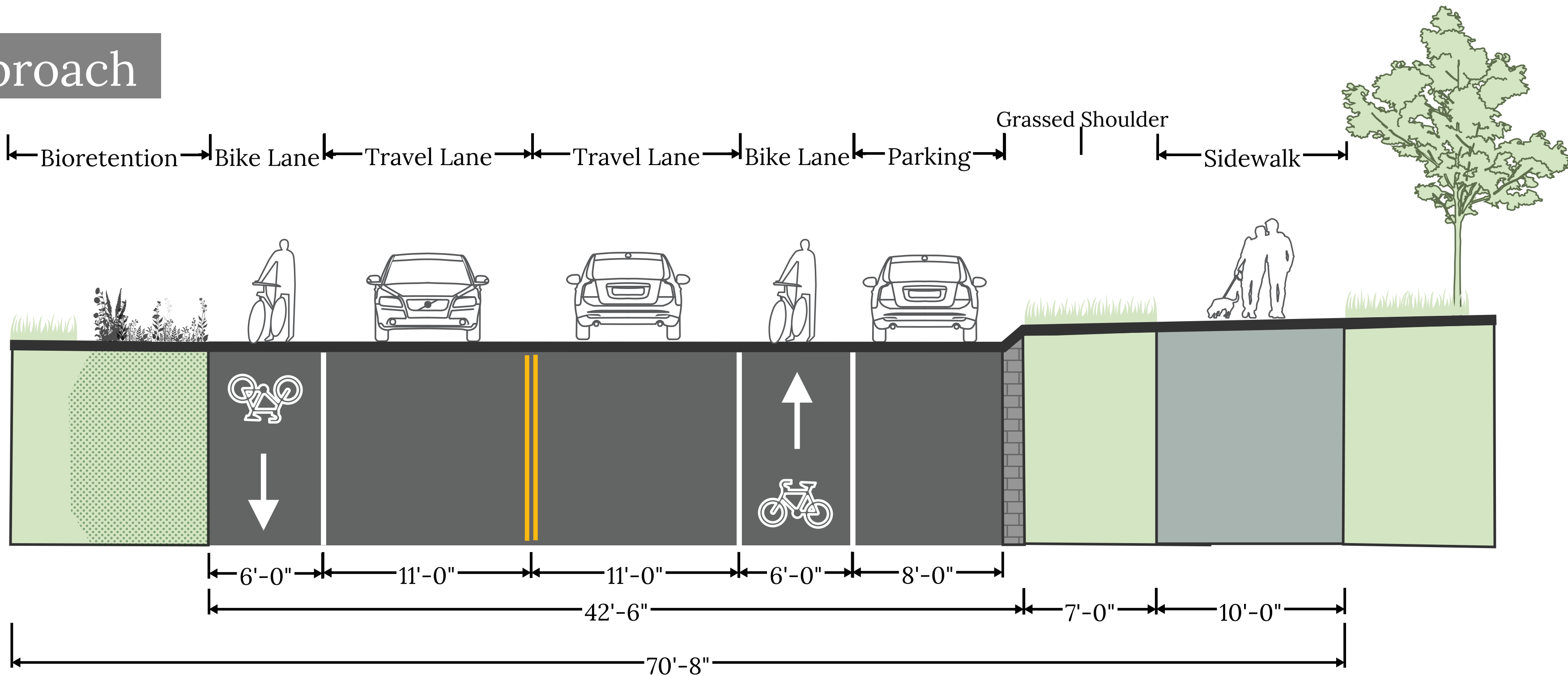
Keeping people on one side helps keep bikes safe from cars encroaching



## Existing

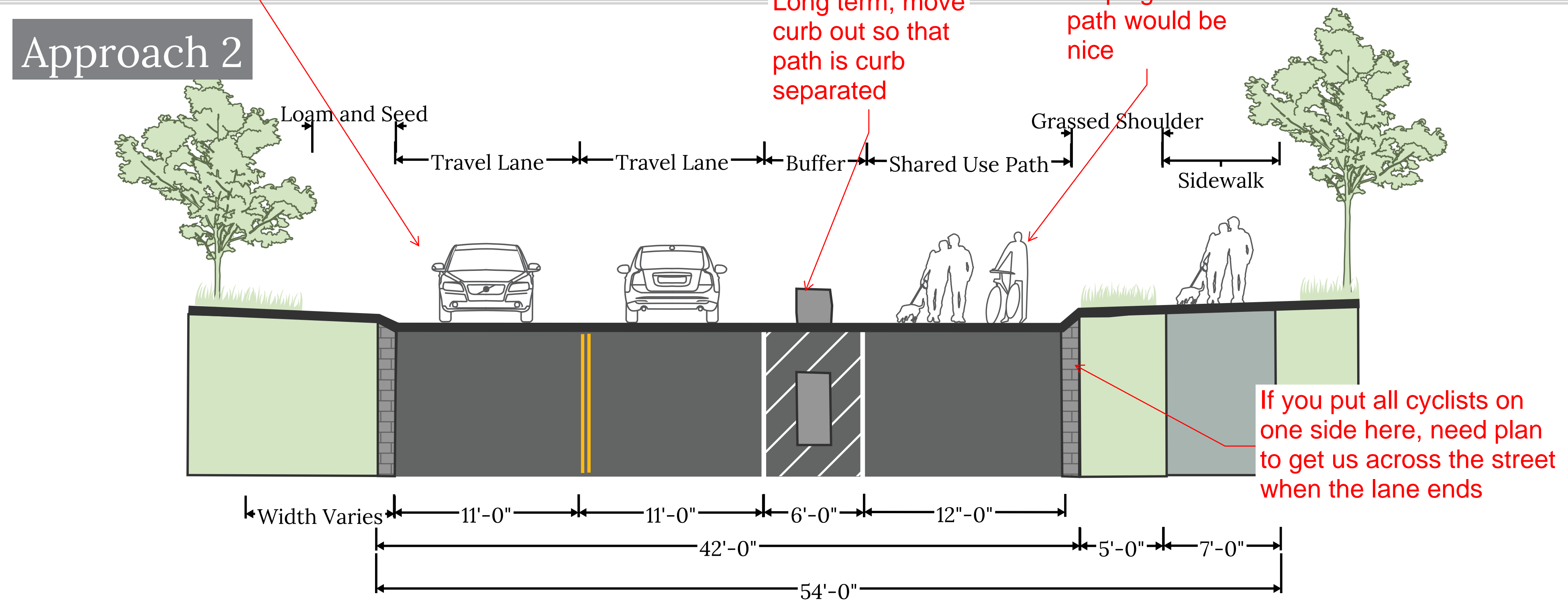
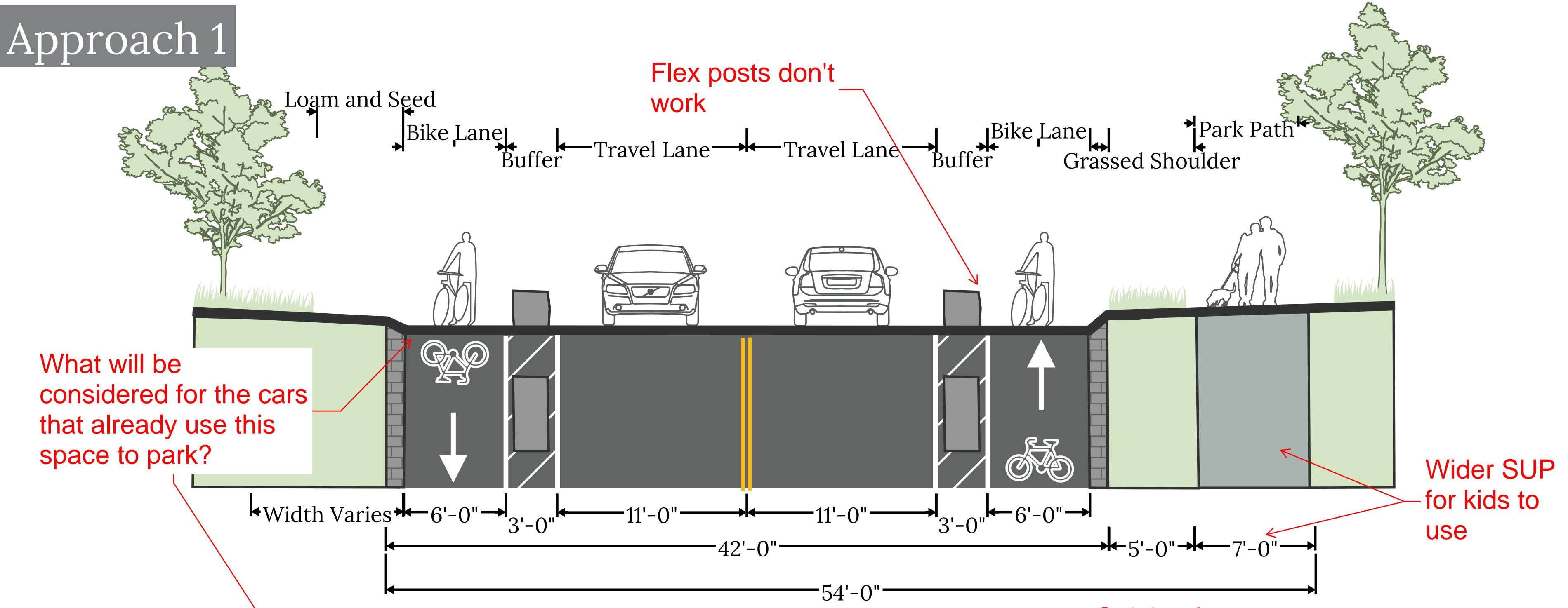
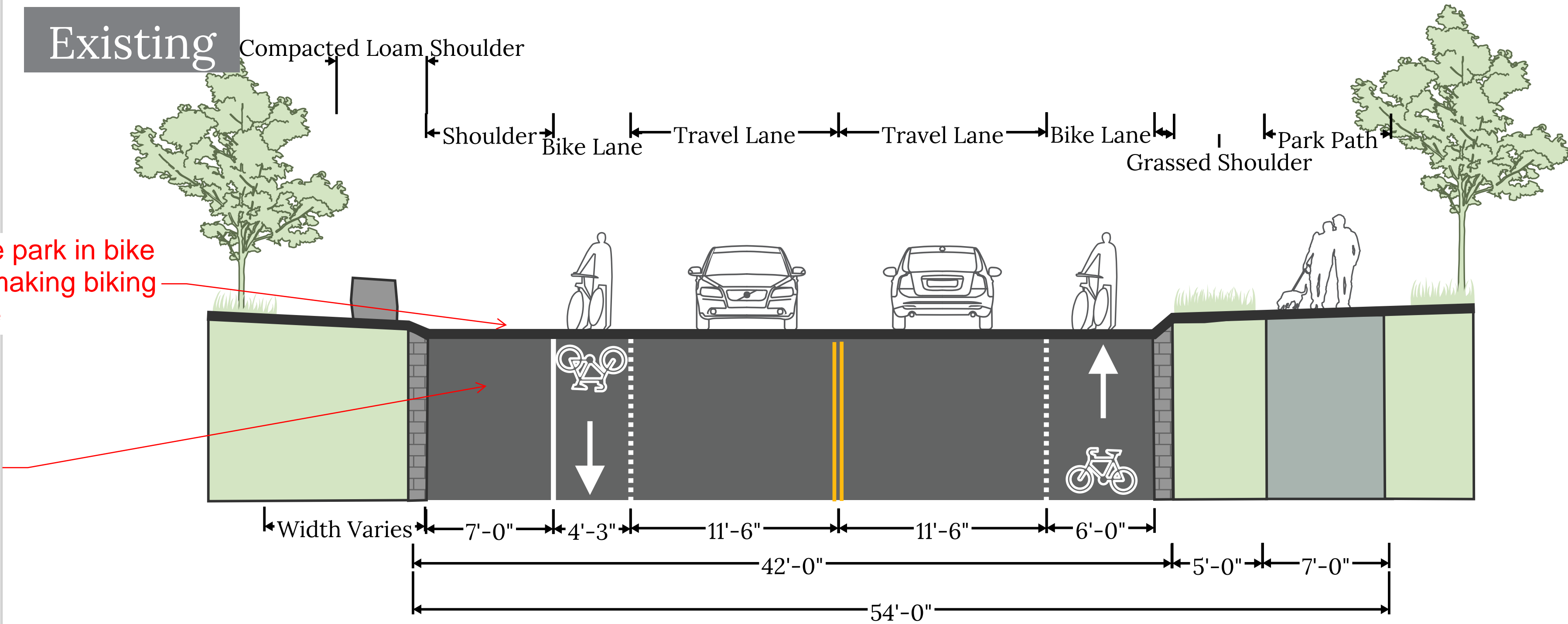
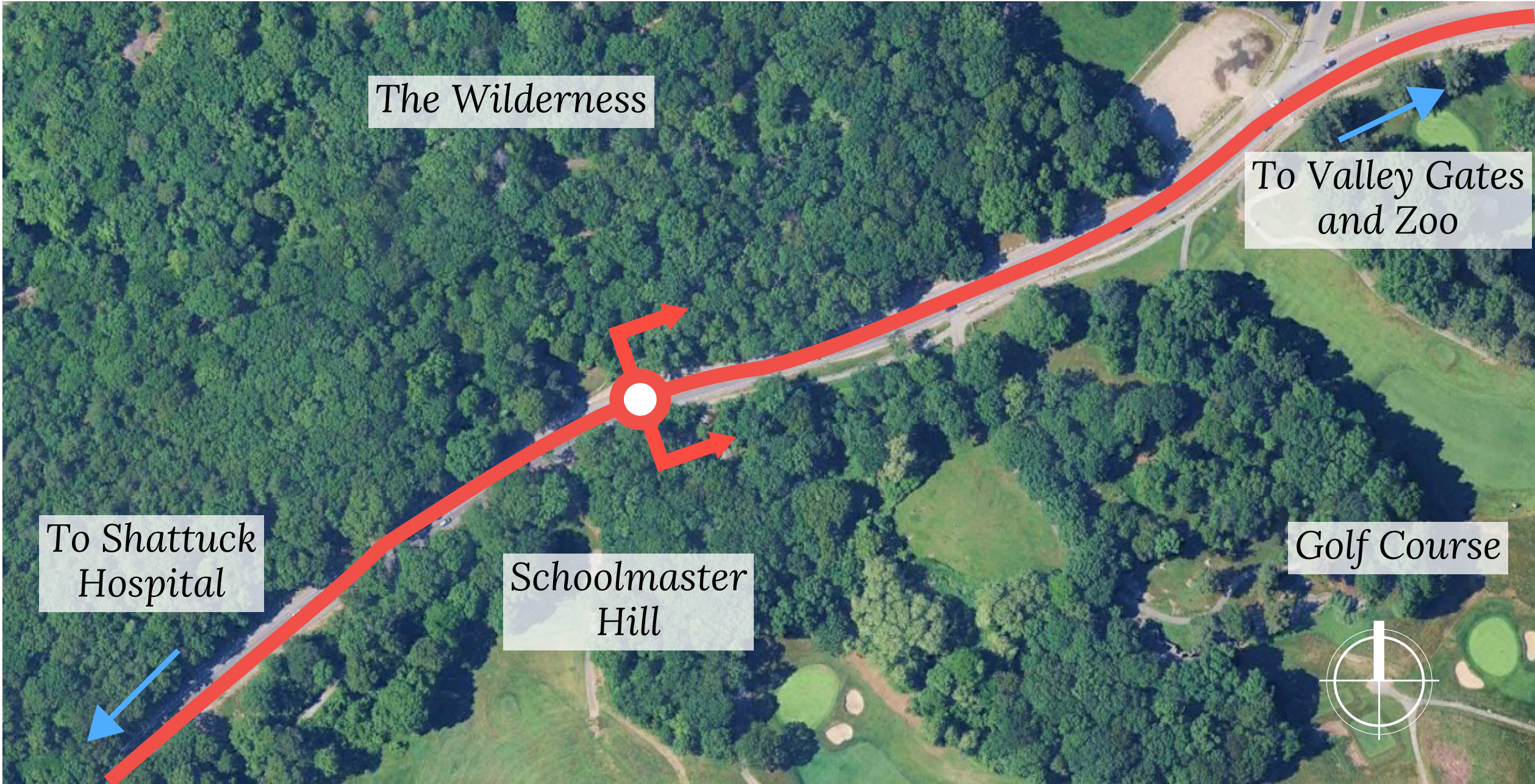


## Approach





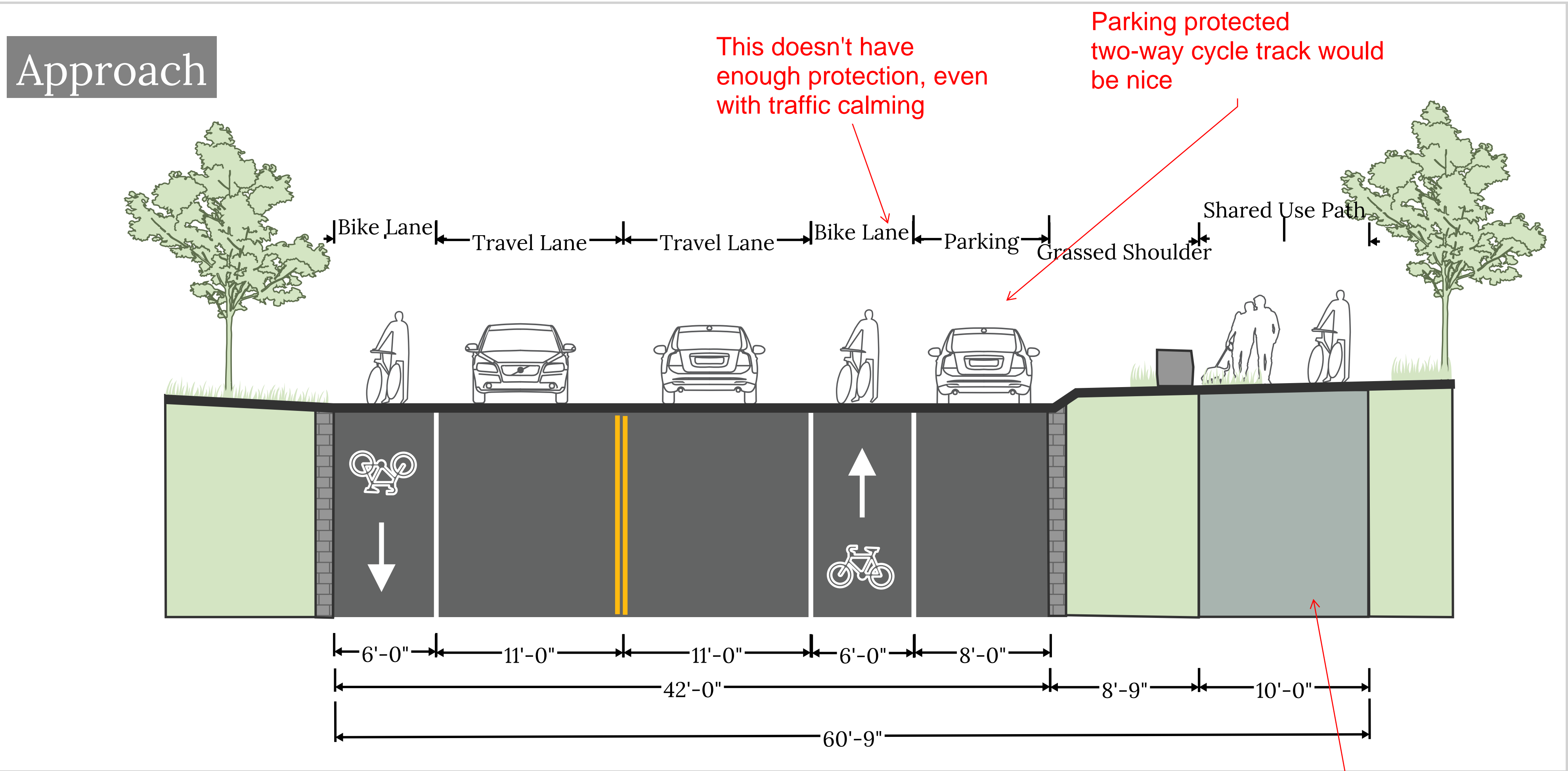
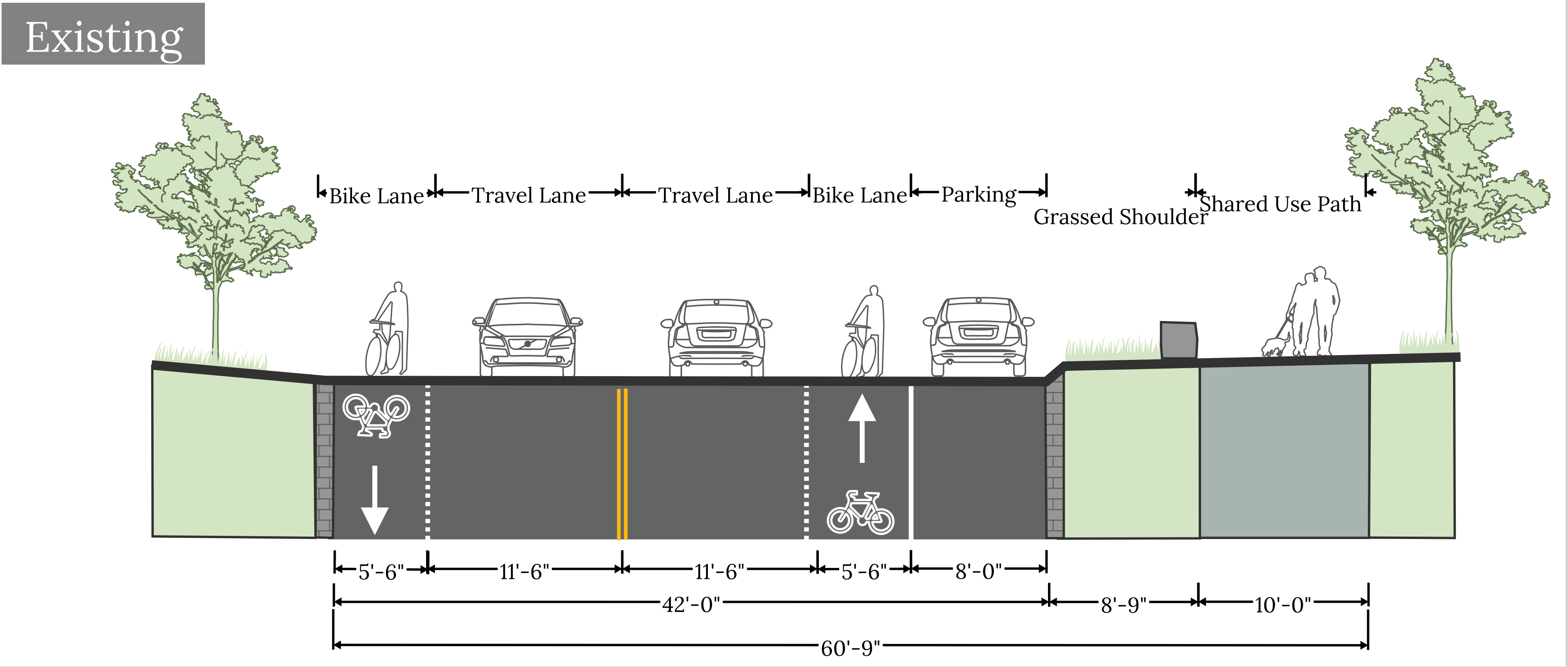
# LOCATION 2 - SCHOOLMASTER HILL





LOCATION 3 - VALLEY GATES

Most dangerous spot for bicyclists.

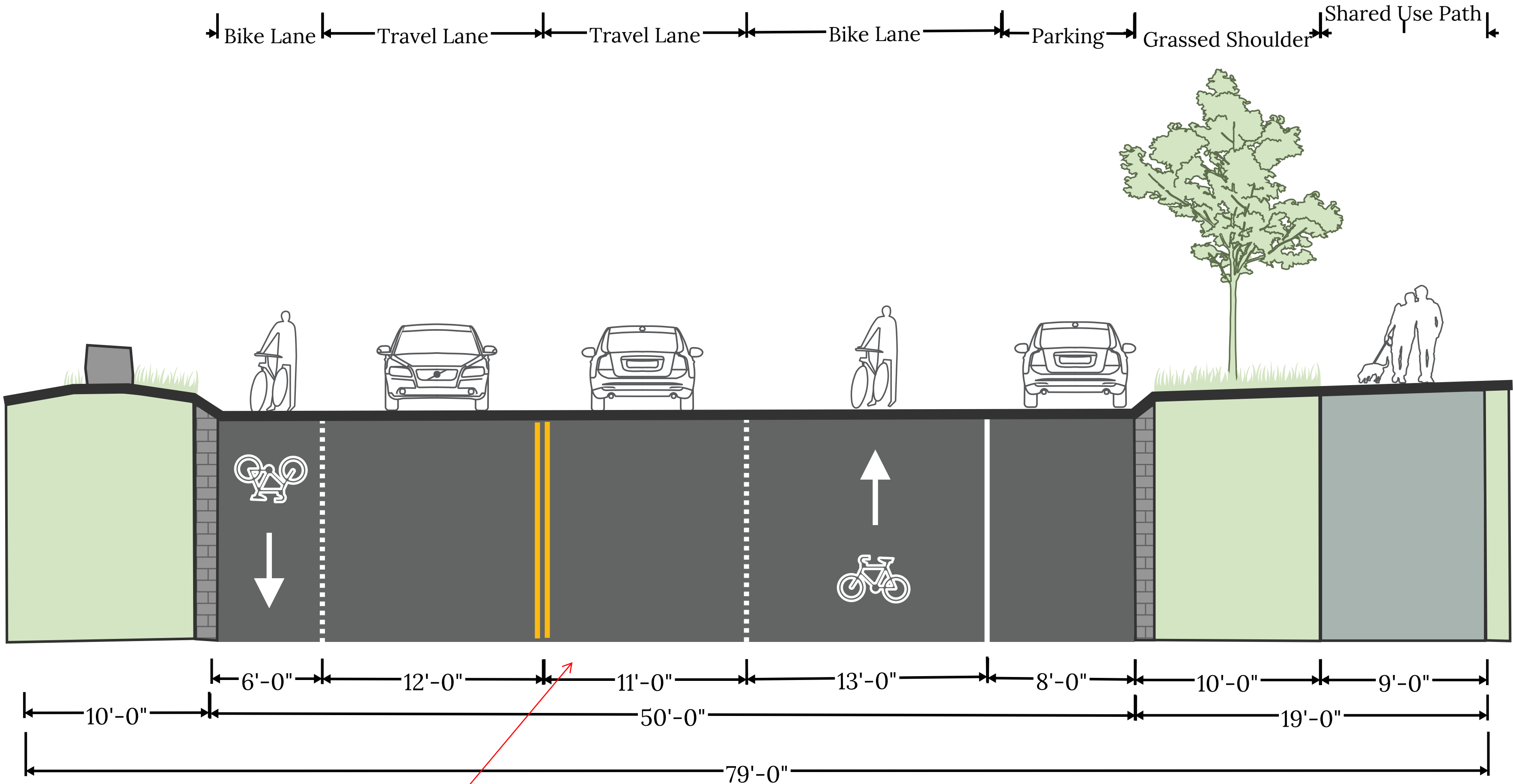




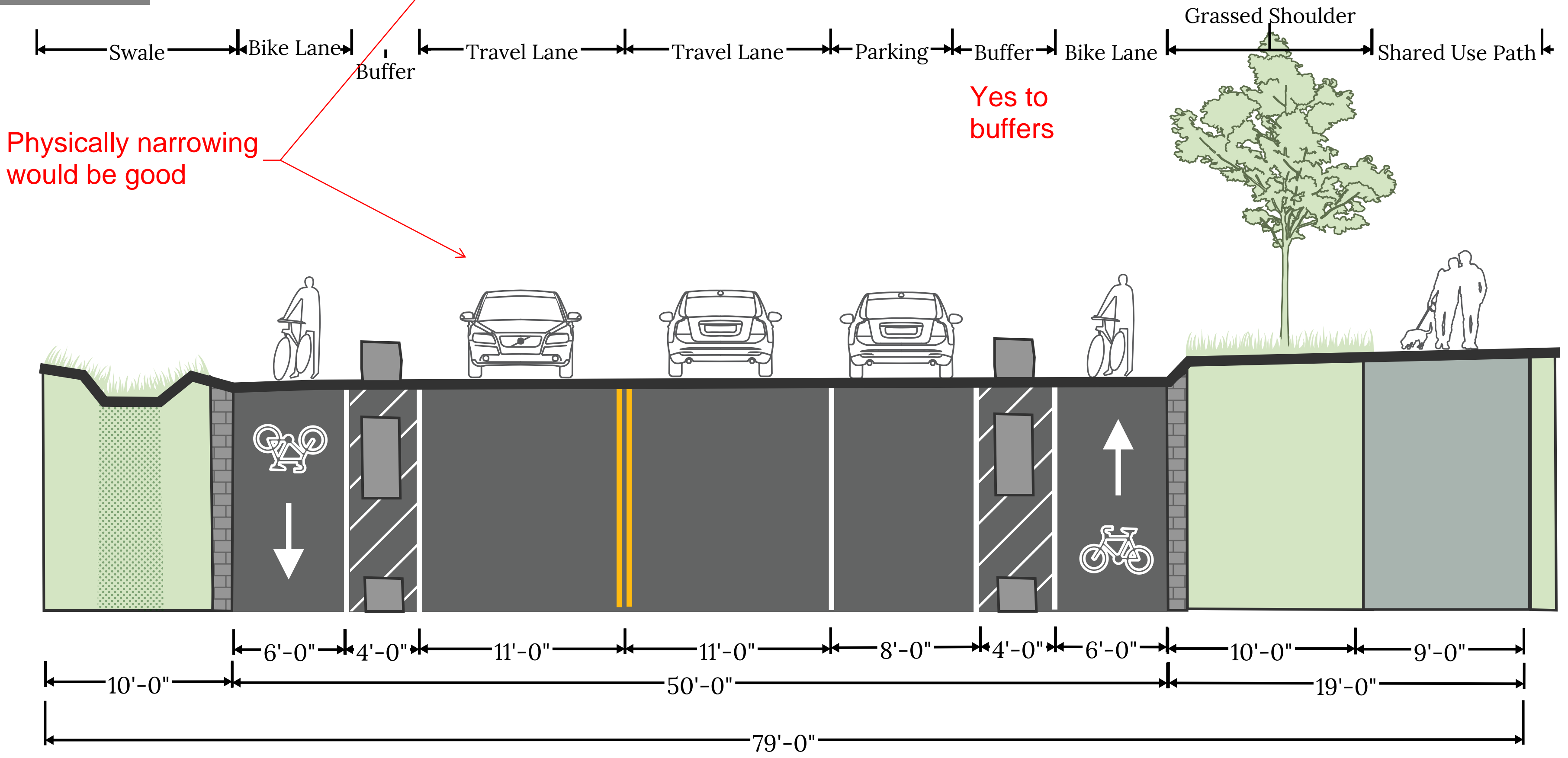
# LOCATION 4 - GOLF COURSE



## Existing



## Approach

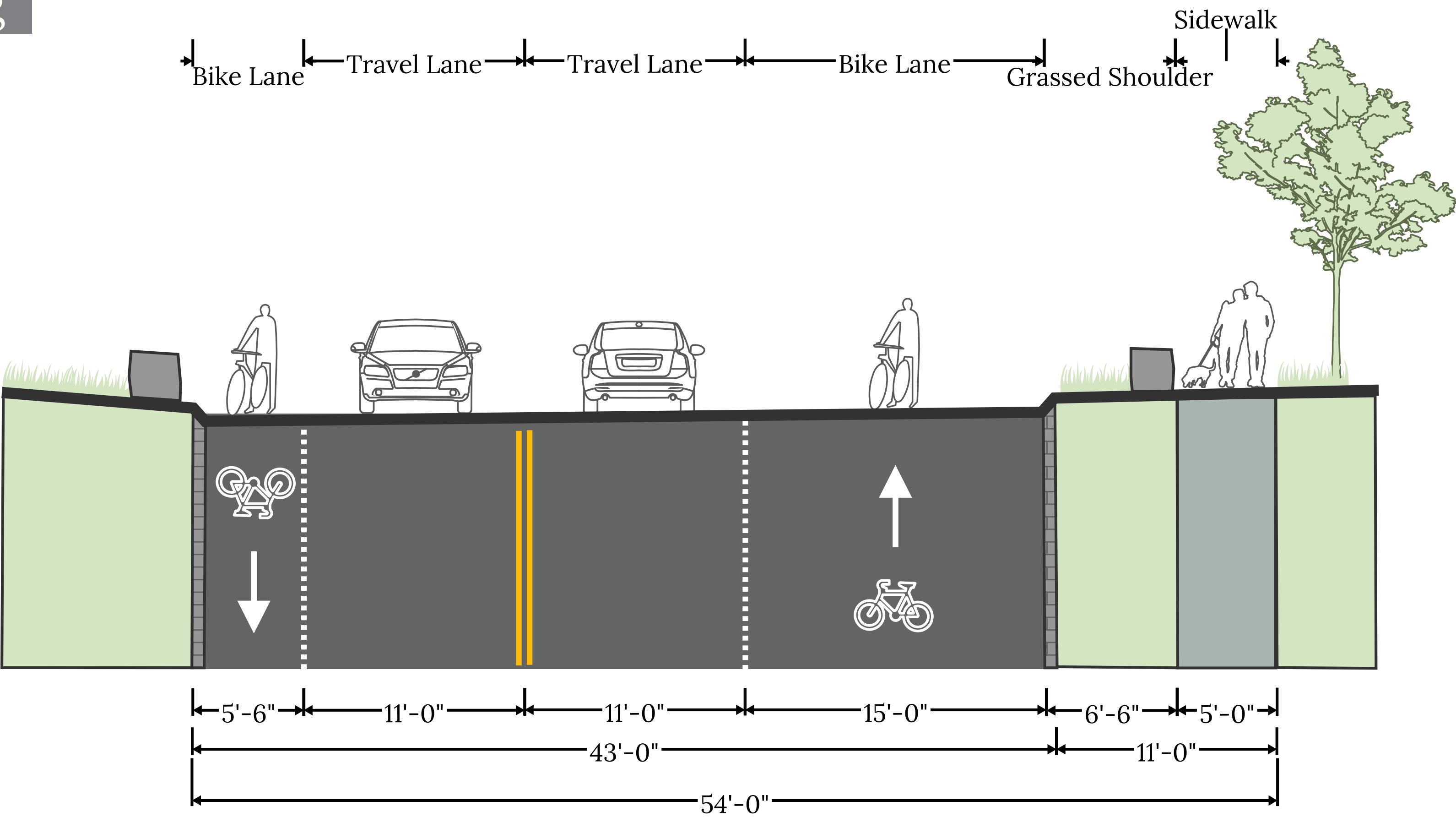




# LOCATION 5 - PEABODY CIRCLE AREA



## Existing



## Approach

