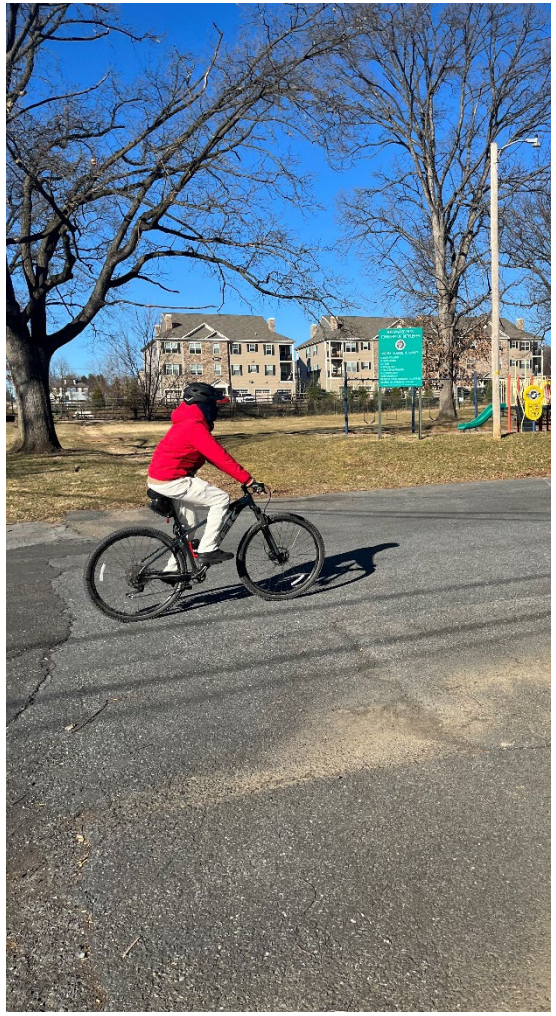
BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP

Active Transportation Plan

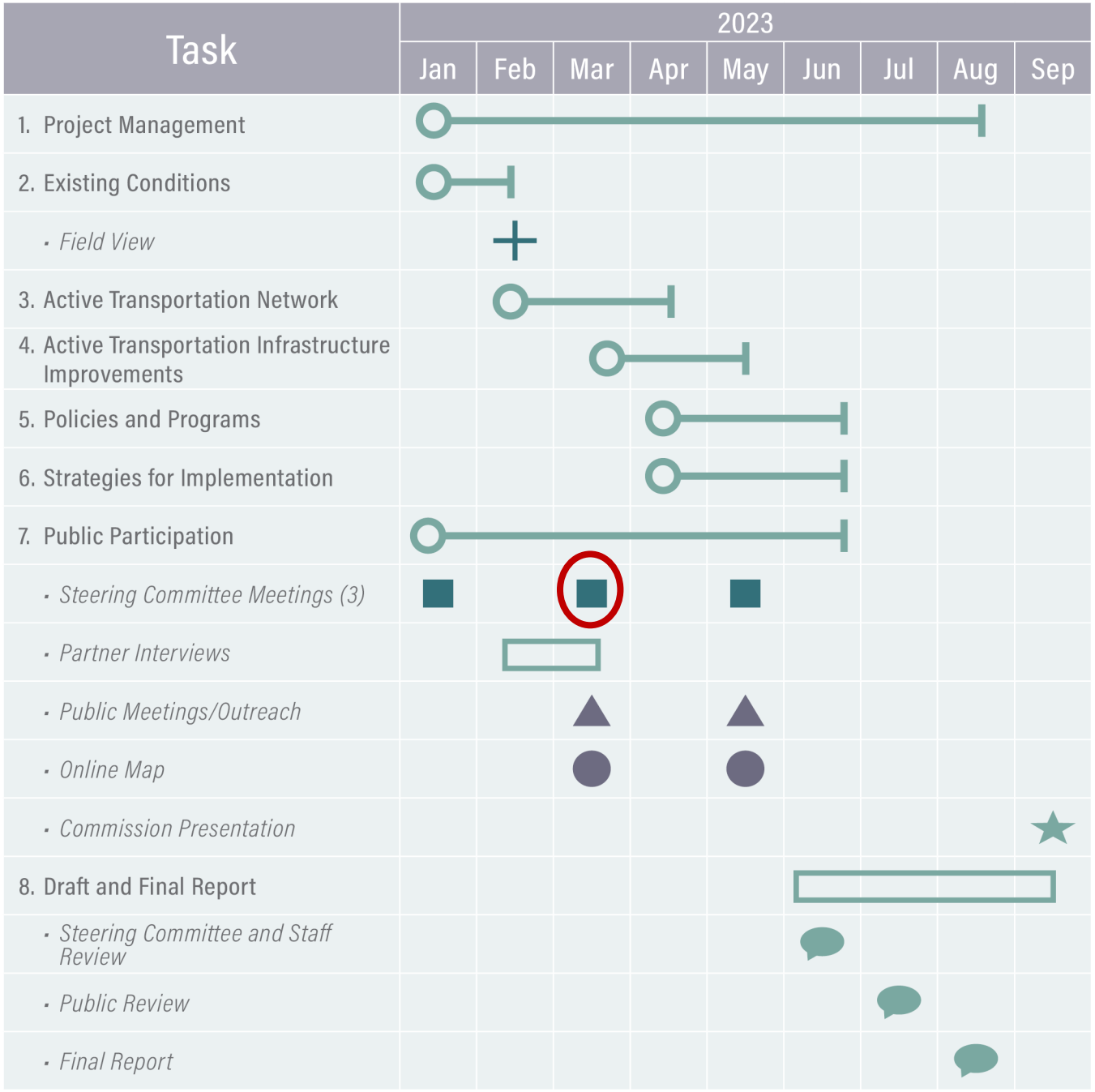


BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP
Active Transportation Plan

Steering Committee Meeting #2 - 3/27/23

1. Project Schedule Update
2. Community Input
3. Stakeholder Interviews
4. Key Issues
5. Draft Vision
6. Potential Connections Mapping

PROJECT SCHEDULE



PUBLIC MEETING #1

March 6, 2023

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau ACS 5-year Estimates 2017-2021

Vunerable Populations Indicators

PEOPLE OF COLOR 26.1%

MEDIAN AGE (ACS 2017-2021)
- BETHLEHEM TWP - 43.6
- NORTHAMPTON CO - 42.1
- PENNSYLVANIA - 40.8

19.2% Senior Population 65 and older

4.6% HOUSEHOLDS BELOW POVERTY LEVEL

2.3% LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING HOUSEHOLDS

Transportation Indicators

% of Income Spent on Transportation

23.1% Median income families

59.5% Low income indicators

COMMUTE MEAN TRAVEL TIME **27.8** Minutes

80.4% Drive Alone to work

3.9% % of Households with no access to a vehicle

SAFETY ANALYSIS

Reportable crashes within the township were reviewed using PennDOT's Pennsylvania Crash Information Tool for the five-year period between 2017-2021. Crashes that took place on US Route 22 or PA 33 were excluded because bicycle and pedestrians are prohibited.

Crashes involving pedestrians (1.6%) and bicycles (1.2%) represented a relatively small percentage of the 838 total reportable crashes within the township. However, out of 13 crashes involving pedestrians four resulted in a "Suspected Serious Injury" and of a total of 10 crashes involving a bicycle, there were three "Suspected Serious Injury" cases and one fatality (one of four total fatal crashes within the township). Additional crashes involving pedestrians or bicycles may have occurred in the study area but were not reported to PennDOT.

Looking at data for all crashes can also be useful for determining trends and hotspots with potentially unsafe conditions for all users. The heatmap above reveals that crashes were clustered around the following intersections and corridors:

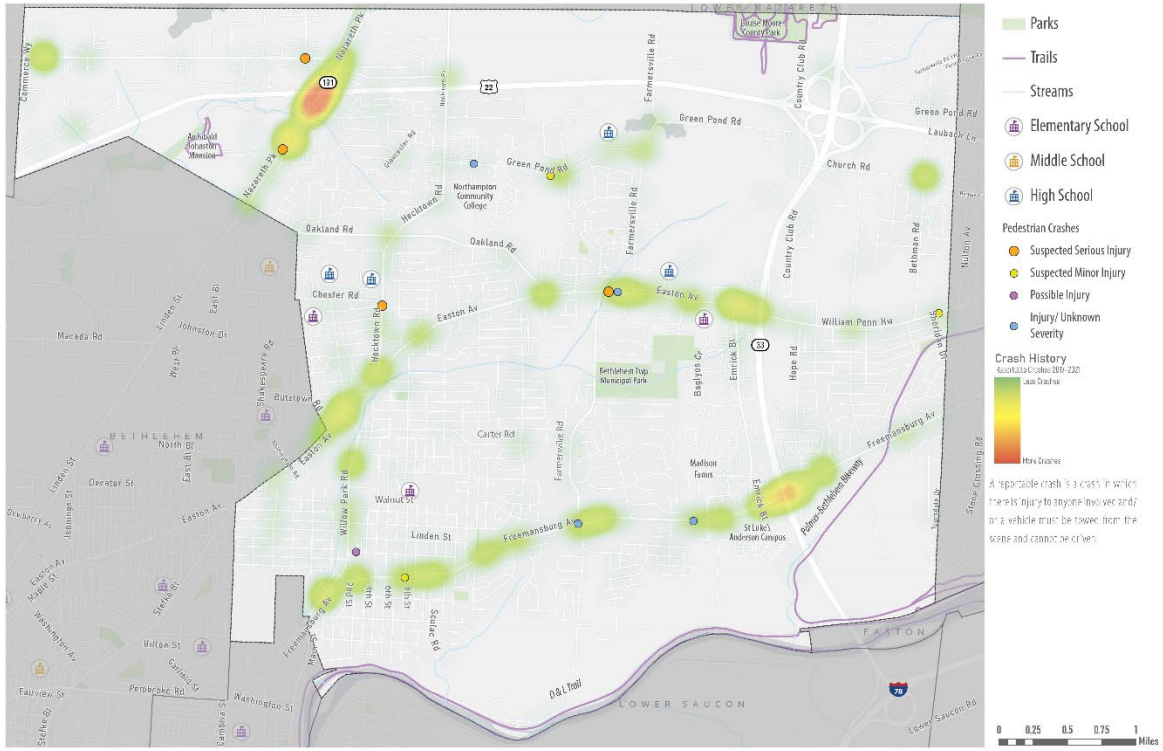
INTERSECTIONS

- *Easton Ave/Willow Park Rd*
- *Nazareth Pike/US Route 22*
- *Freemansburg Ave/PA 33*

CORRIDORS

- *Easton Ave/William Penn Hwy (PA 2020)*
- *Freemansburg Ave (PA 2018)*
- *Nazareth Pike (PA 3015)*
- *Willow Park Rd (PA 3007)*

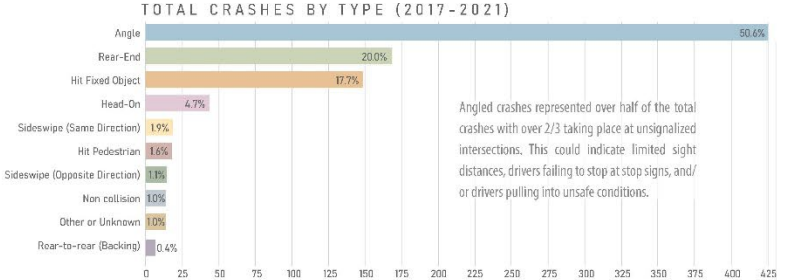
CRASH HEAT MAP - REPORTABLE CRASHES (2017-2021)



TOTAL CRASHES BY YEAR (2017-2021)

There were an average of 168 crashes/year between 2017-2021 with a high of 191 in 2017 and a low of 132 in 2020 (likely due to reduced driving during COVID-19 related travel restrictions).

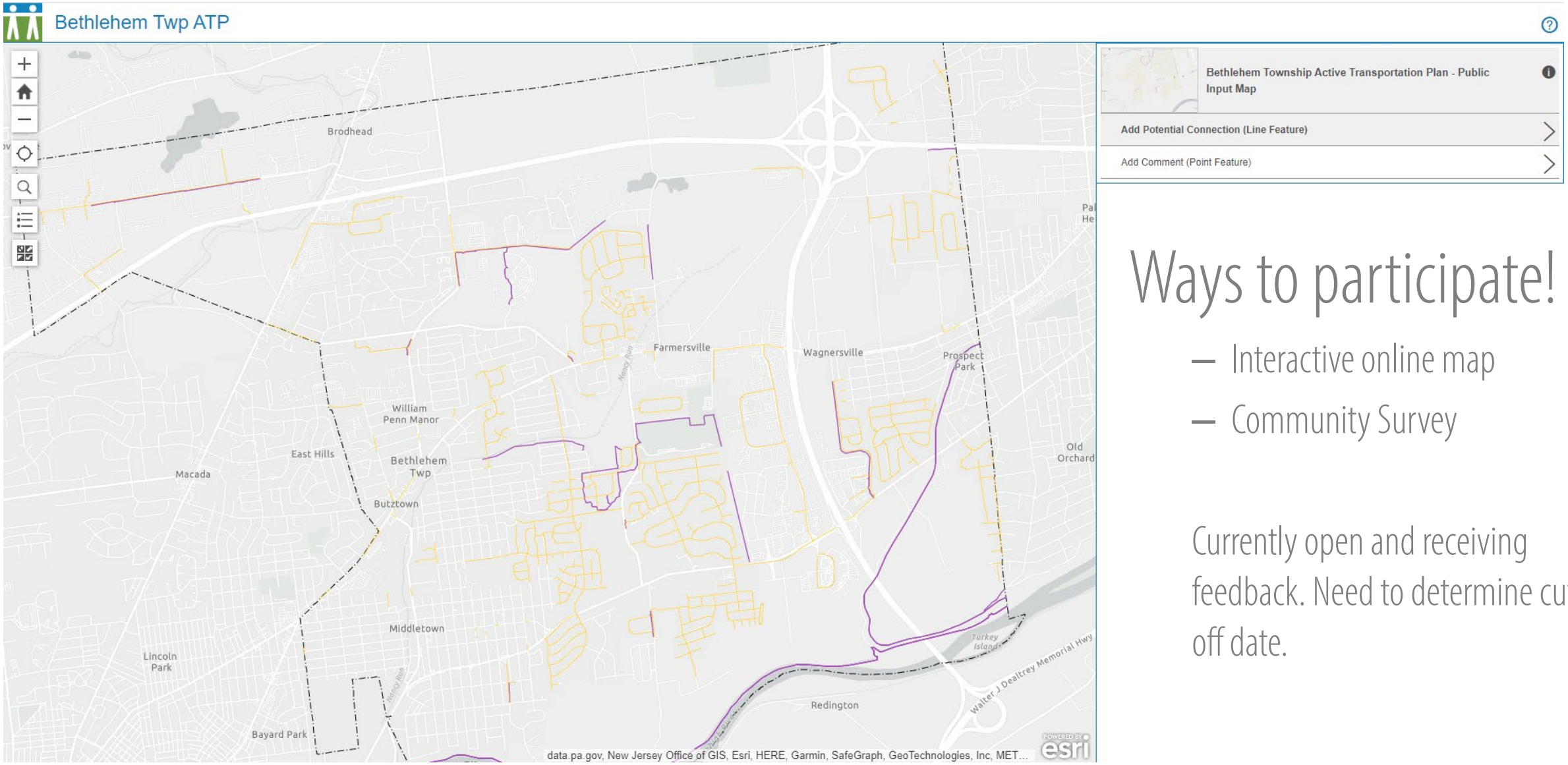
TOTAL CRASHES BY TYPE (2017-2021)



Angled crashes represented over half of the total crashes with over 2/3 taking place at unsignalized intersections. This could indicate limited sight distances, drivers failing to stop at stop signs, and/or drivers pulling into unsafe conditions.

COMMUNITY INPUT

Interactive Map and Survey



Ways to participate!

- Interactive online map
- Community Survey

Currently open and receiving feedback. Need to determine cut off date.

COMMUNITY INPUT

Stakeholder Interviews

Northampton Community College

- Neighborhood Connections
- Transit Service
- Connections to shopping
- Louis Moore Park
- Hecktown/Oakland Road

Bethlehem Township Public Works

- Existing parks/trails
- Transit enhancements
- Connected network of ped/bike
- Limited ROW
- Lack of infrastructure on major corridors

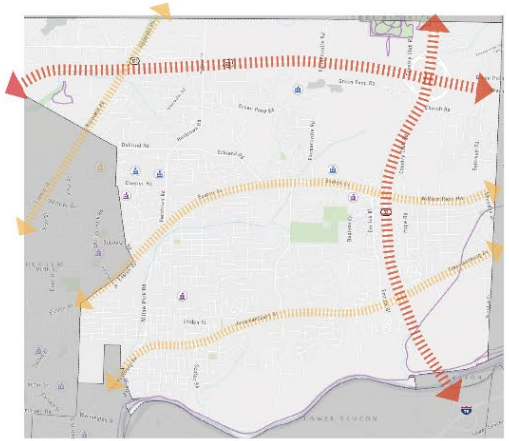
D&L National Heritage Corridor

- Existing parks/trails
- Public transit connections
- Connections to shopping
- Signage/wayfinding
- Topology

KEY ISSUES

INCOMPLETE SIDEWALKS

BARRIERS



LACK OF ACCESS

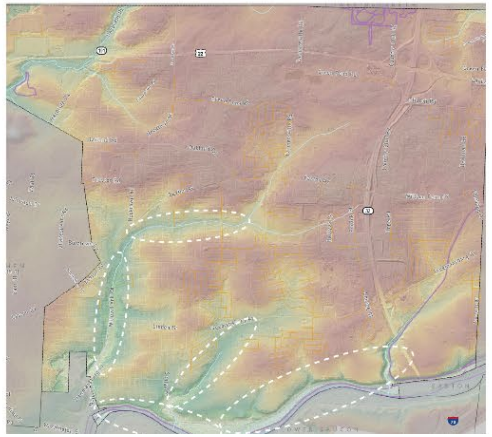
NARROW STREETS

LACK OF CONNECTIONS

TRANSIT ACCESS

PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

TOPOGRAPHY



DRAFT VISION

A safe, accessible, and connected active transportation network of where people of all ages and abilities can comfortably reach key destinations and resources throughout the Township and beyond.

DRAFT GOALS

Expand safe connections between key destinations and recreational resources within the Township and the surrounding region

- Employment Centers
- Recreational Resources
- Regional Trails
- Schools
- Commercial/Retail
- Community Resources
- Institutions/Campuses

Improve safety for pedestrians and people who ride bikes at crossings, especially those along major arterial roadways (Easton Ave/William Penn Hwy, Freemansburg Ave) and highways (US 22, Route 33)

Develop policies and educational campaigns to promote active transportation network and increase awareness among residents and visitors

- Online Map of Trail Network
- Wayfinding and Informational Signage
- Driver Education and Awareness Campaigns

Prioritize improvements that will serve more vulnerable populations including:

- Limited Vehicle Access
- Households Below Poverty
- Racial and Ethnic Minorities
- Limited English Proficiency
- Older Adults
- Youth
- People with Disabilities

Create comfortable connections for walking and biking along lower speed, lower volume residential roadways

Improve connections to transit services and transit supportive infrastructure, especially at future Enhanced Bus Service station locations and other bus stops

Expand walking and biking access to existing trails, parks, and other recreational resources to promote healthy lifestyles and improve public health

Expand on-road bicycle opportunities with supportive policies and capital improvements

DRAFT TOOLBOX

Off-Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities

	Shared Use Path (Multi-Use Trail)	Pedestrian Path	Sidewalk	Foot Path
				
Target Users	Ped, Bike, Other non-motorized users	Ped	Ped	Ped
Width	10’ + 8’ (Permissible)	5’ +	5’ +	Varies
Surface	Asphalt; Compacted Stone; Concrete	Asphalt; Concrete; Compacted Stone	Concrete (typically); Brick; Asphalt	Grass; Dirt; Other Natural surfaces; Steps and stairs

DRAFT TOOLBOX

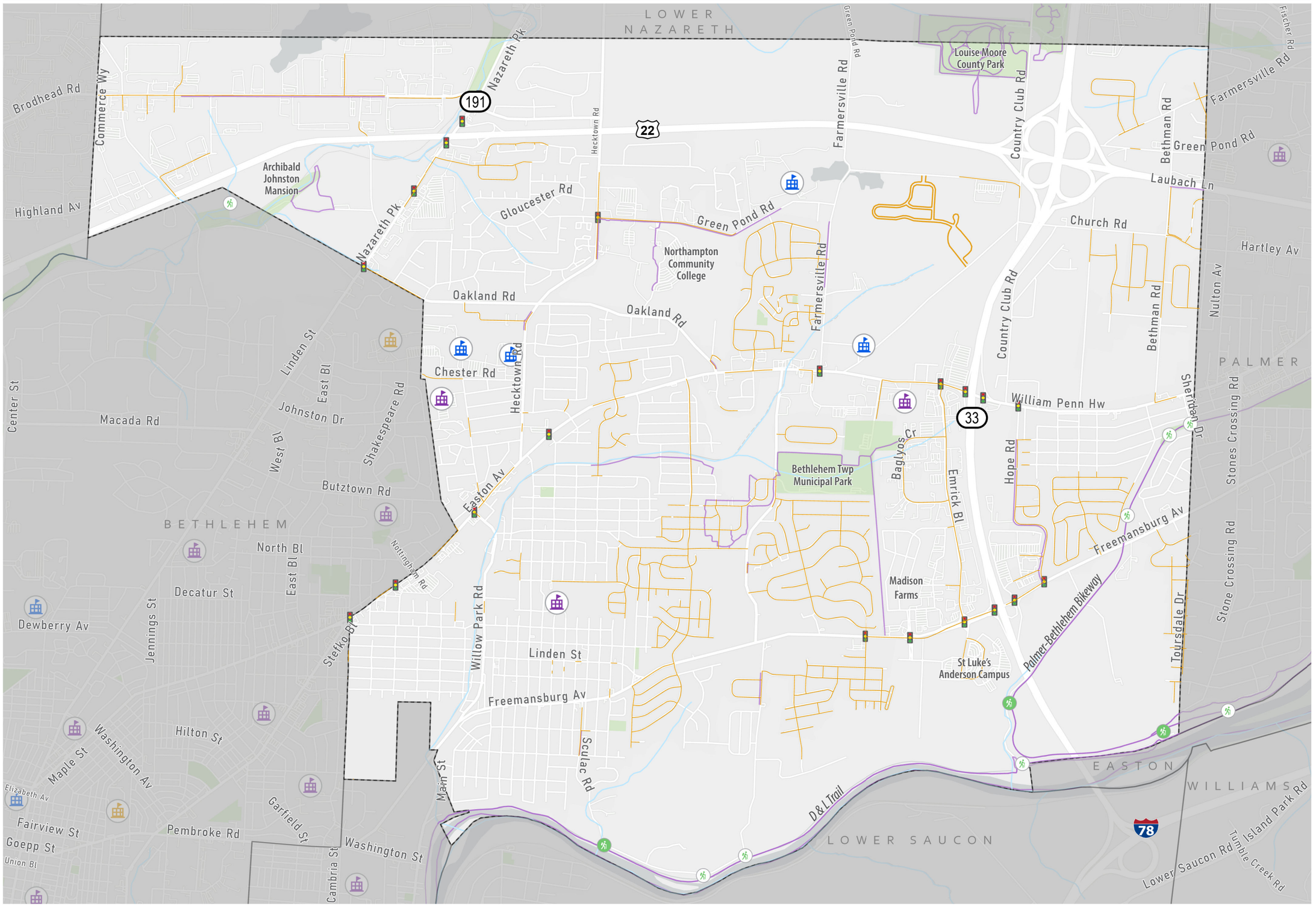
On-Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities

Shared Roadway	Shared Lane (Sharrow)	Paved Shoulder	Bicycle Lane	Visually Separated Bike Lane	Physically Separated Bike Lane

LESS SEPARATION ← **SEPARATION FROM TRAFFIC** → **MORE SEPARATION**

Bicycle Route

EXISTING CONDITIONS MAP



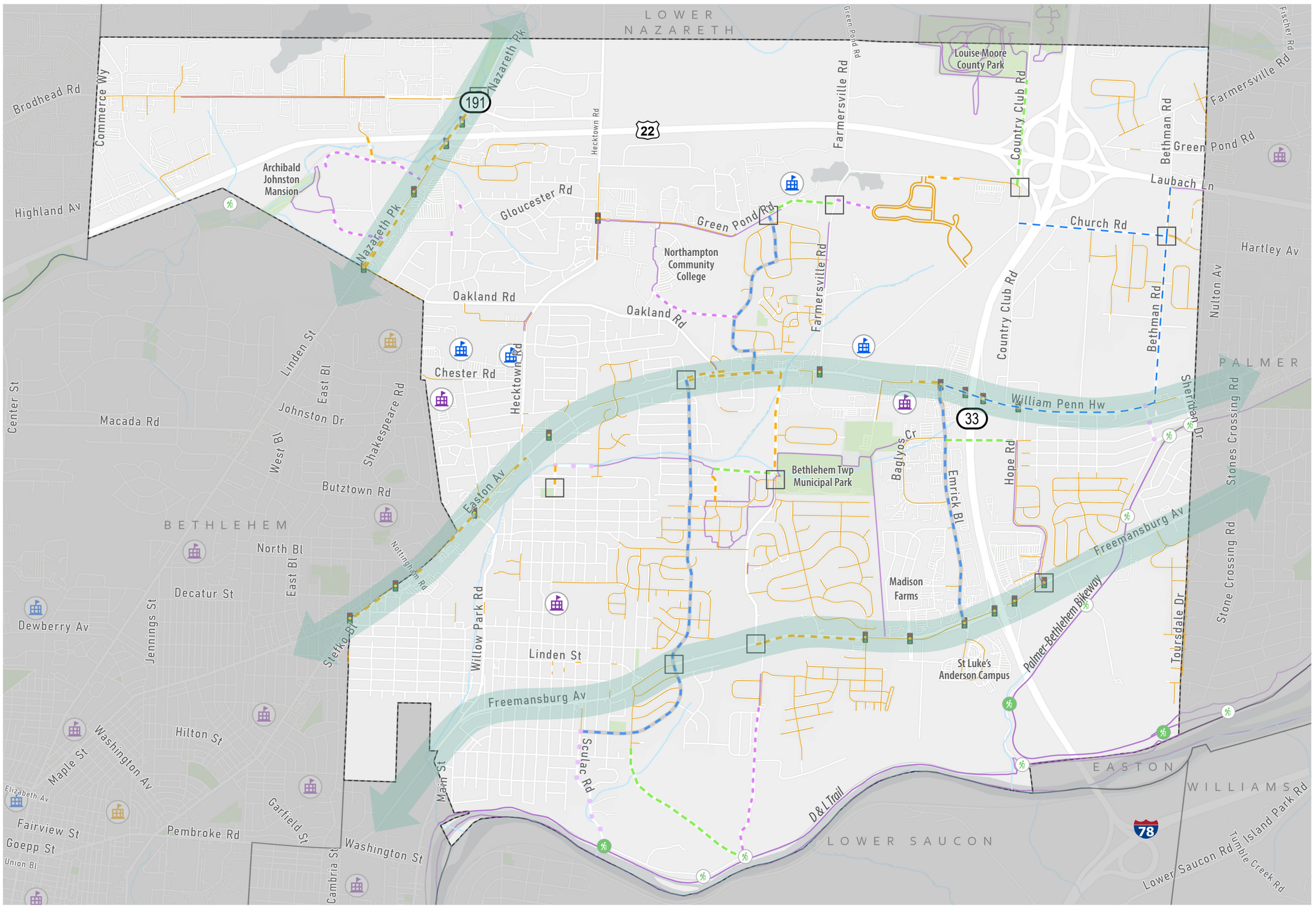
- Existing Sidewalk
- Existing Pedestrian/Shared Use Path

Trail Access Point
- Existing
- Proposed

- Parks
- Streams
- Elementary School
- Middle School
- High School
- Signal Intersection

0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles

POTENTIAL CONNECTIONS - OVERVIEW MAP



Existing Sidewalk

Existing Pedestrian/Shared Use Path

Potential Connections

- Sidewalk
- Pedestrian Path
- Shared Use Path
- Bicycle Boulevard
- Bicyle Lane
- Wayfinding

Key Crossing Improvement

Trail Access Point

- Existing
- Proposed

Parks

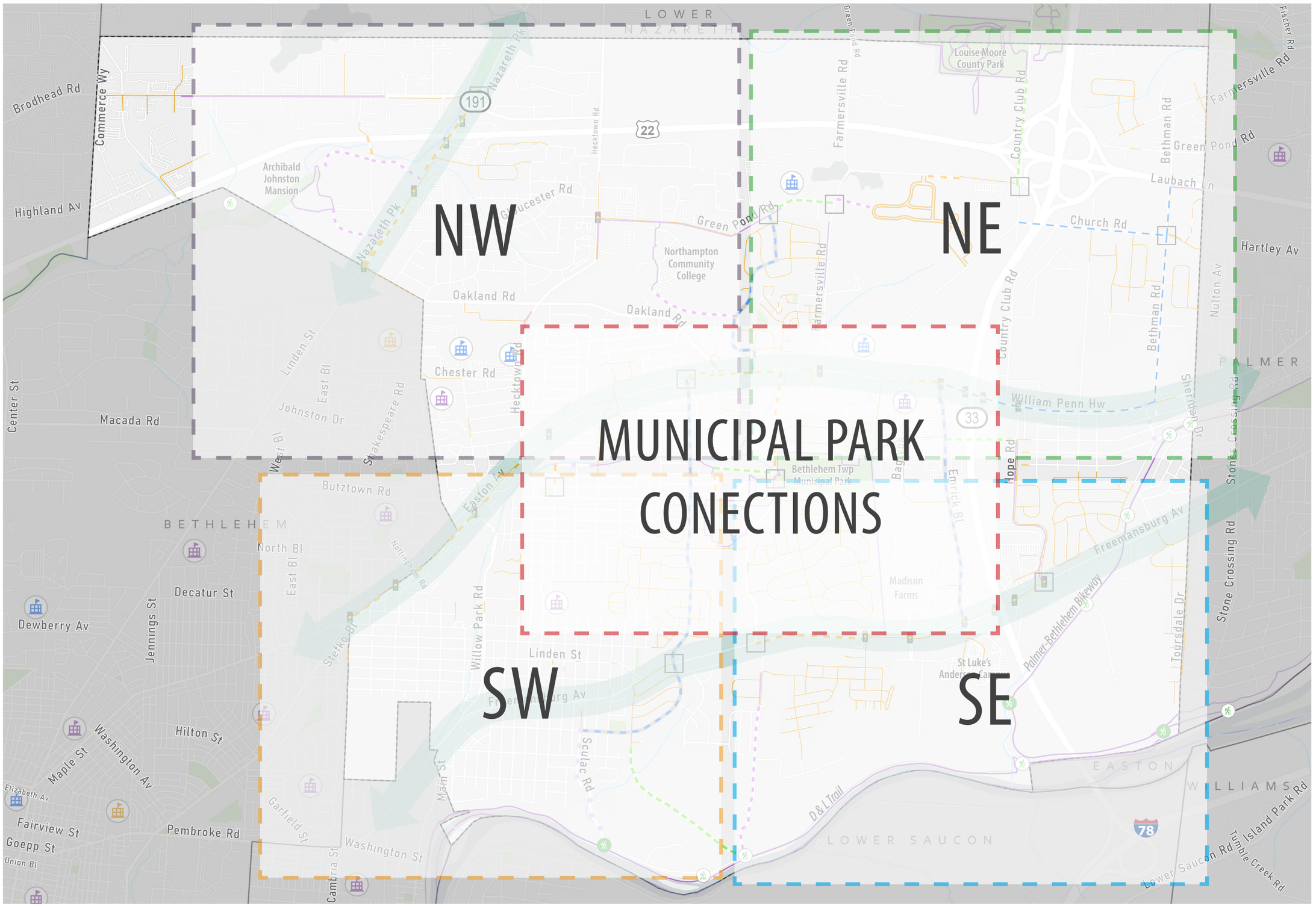
Streams

- Elementary School
- Middle School
- High School
- Signal Intersection

Key Multimodal Arterials

0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles

POTENTIAL CONNECTIONS - OVERVIEW MAP



POTENTIAL CONNECTIONS - NW QUADRANT

Future RRFB Crosswalk Improvement

Existing Sidewalk

Existing Pedestrian/Shared Use Path

Potential Connections
- Sidewalk
- Pedestrian Path
- Shared Use Path
- Bicycle Boulevard
- Bicyle Lane
- Wayfinding

Key Crossing Improvement

Trail Access Point
- Existing
- Proposed

Parks

Streams

Elementary School

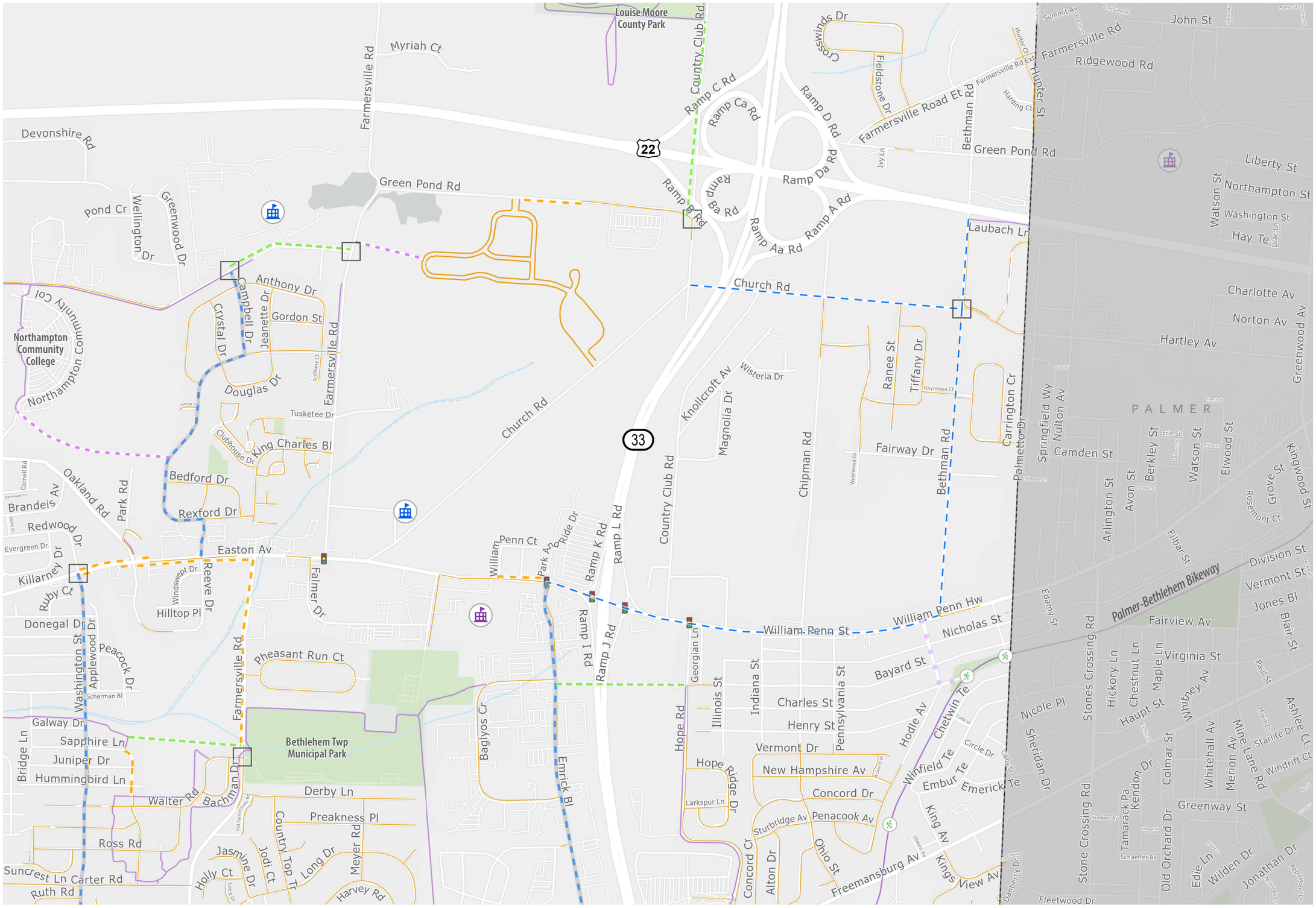
Middle School

High School

Signal Intersection

0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 Miles

POTENTIAL CONNECTIONS - NE QUADRANT



Existing Sidewalk

Existing Pedestrian/Shared Use Path

Potential Connections

- Sidewalk
- Pedestrian Path
- Shared Use Path
- Bicycle Boulevard
- Bicyle Lane
- Wayfinding

Key Crossing Improvement

Trail Access Point

- Existing
- Proposed

Parks

Streams

Elementary School

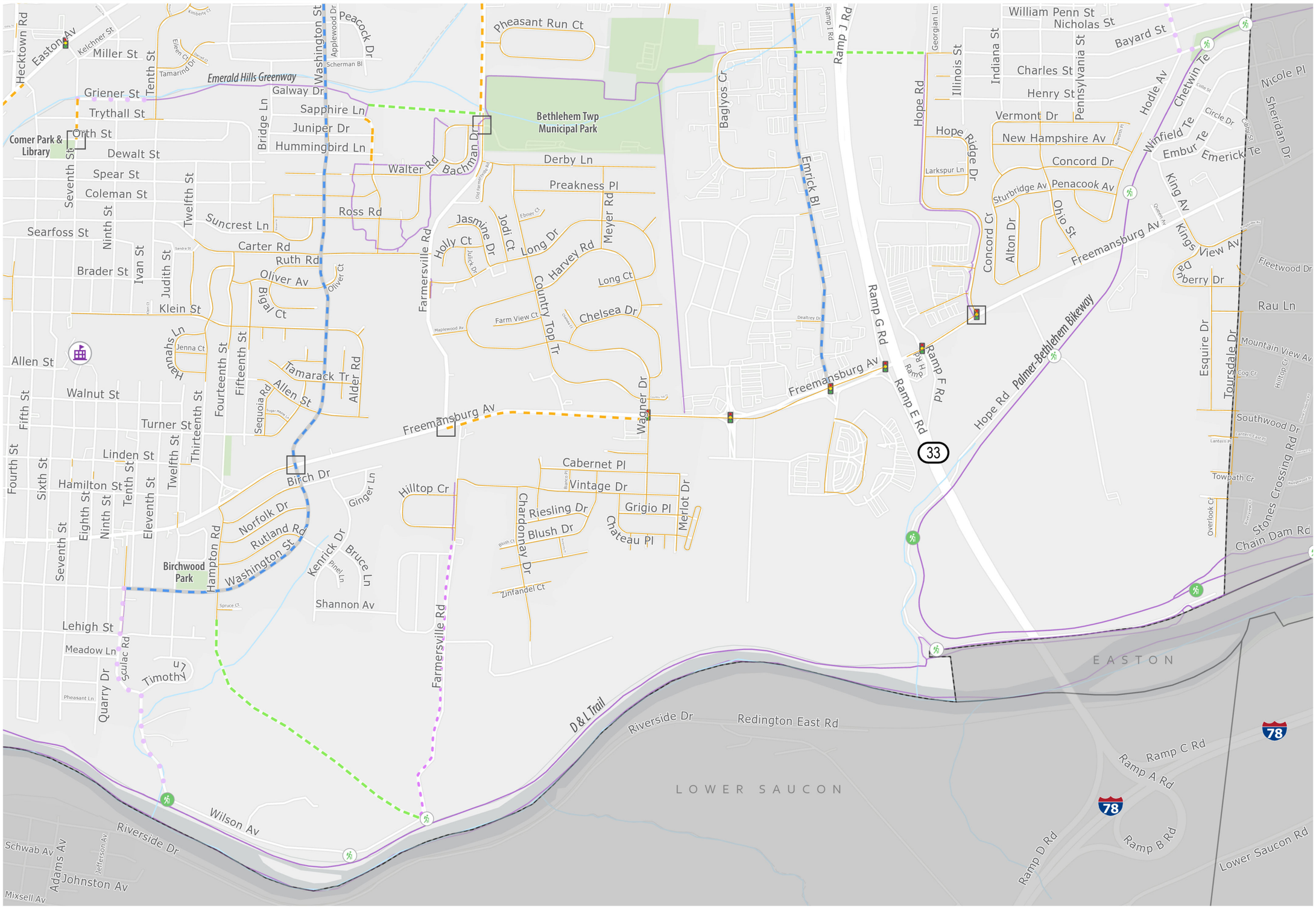
Middle School

High School

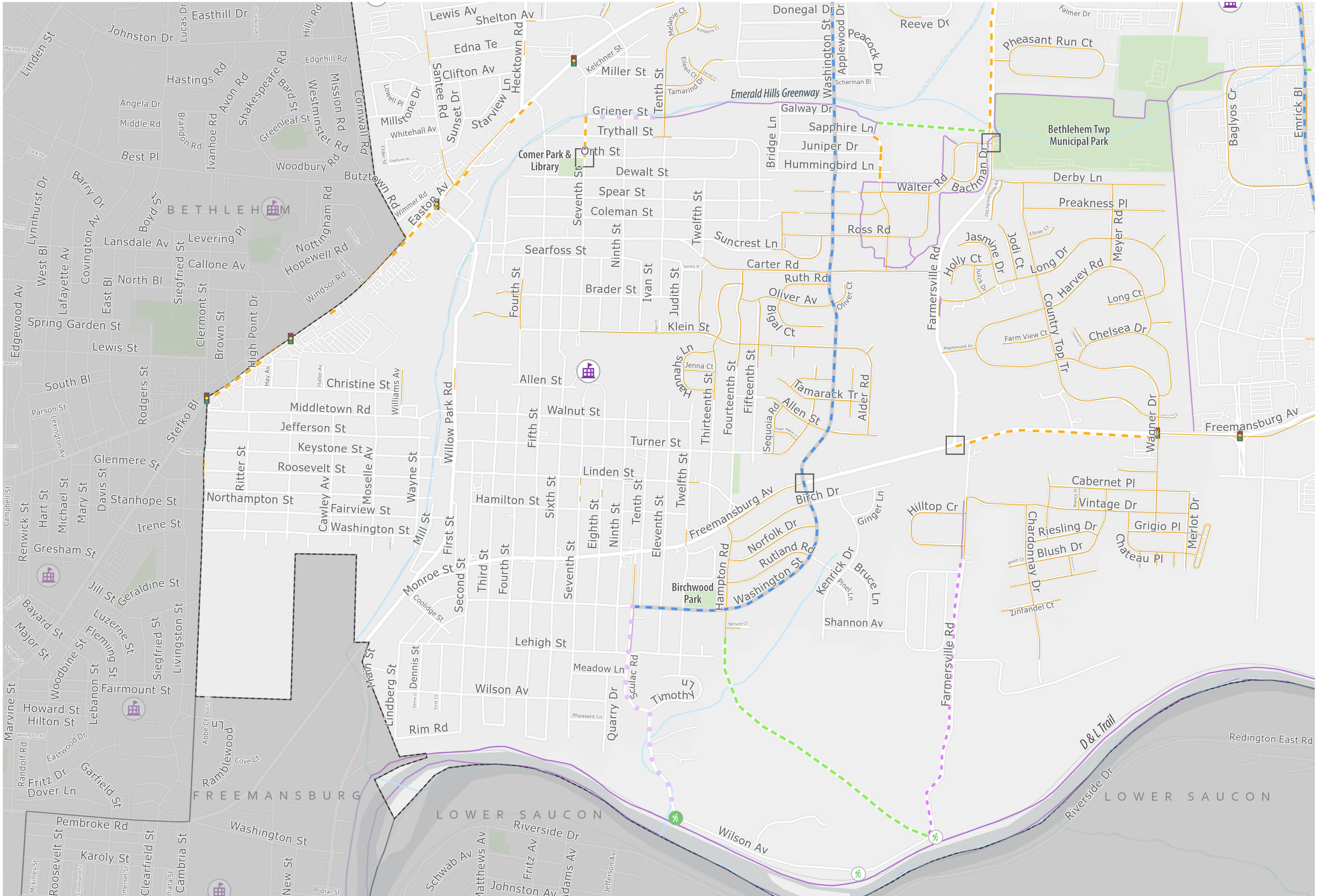
Signal Intersection

0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 Miles

POTENTIAL CONNECTIONS - SE QUADRANT



POTENTIAL CONNECTIONS - SE QUADRANT



Existing Sidewalk

Existing Pedestrian/Shared Use Path

Potential Connections
- Sidewalk
- Pedestrian Path
- Shared Use Path
- Bicycle Boulevard
- Bicyle Lane
- Wayfinding

Key Crossing Improvement

Trail Access Point
- Existing
- Proposed

Parks

Streams

Elementary School

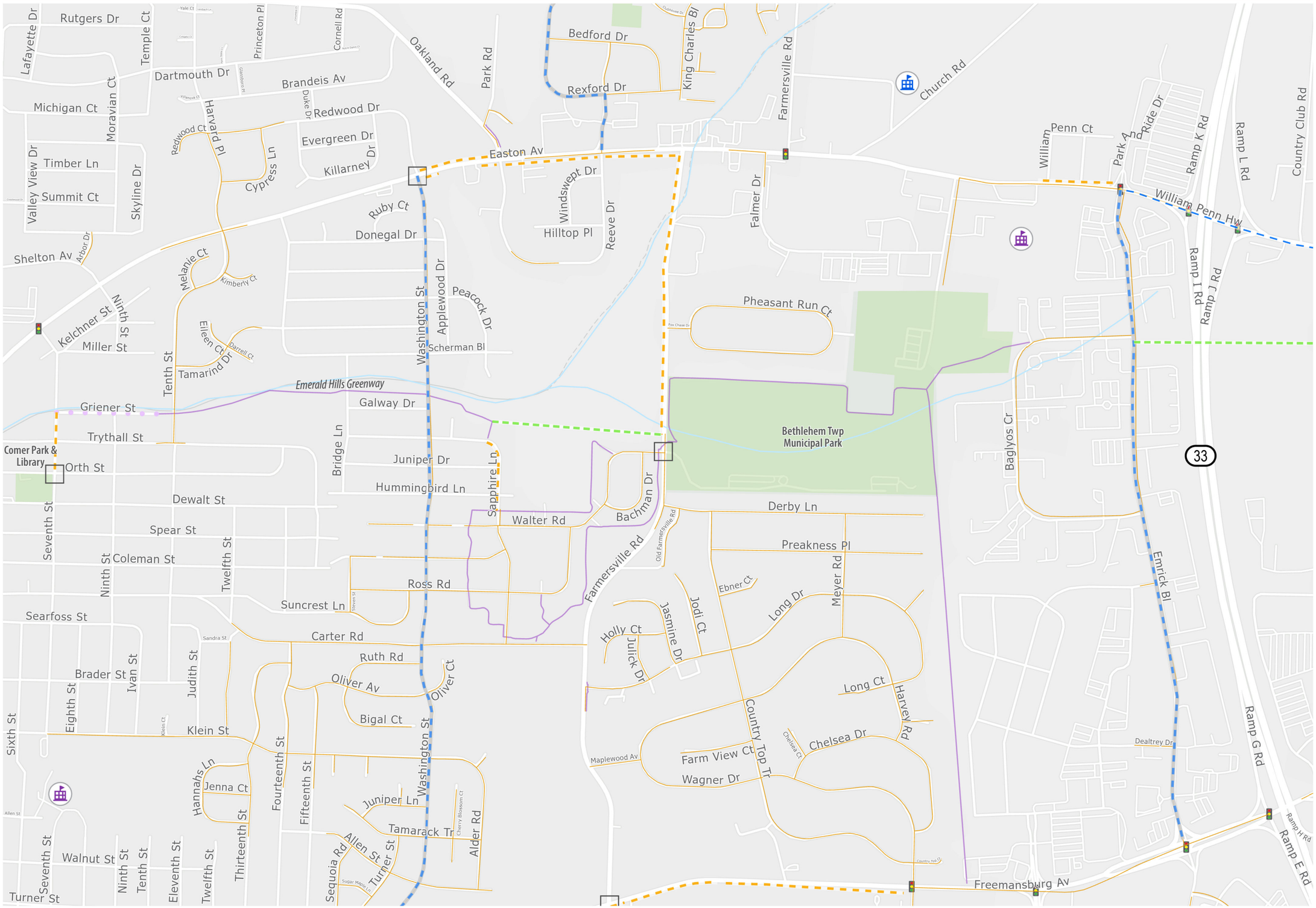
Middle School

High School

Signal Intersection

0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 Miles

POTENTIAL CONNECTIONS - MUNICPAL PARK CONNECTIONS



Existing Sidewalk

Existing Pedestrian/Shared Use Path

Potential Connections

- Sidewalk
- Pedestrian Path
- Shared Use Path
- Bicycle Boulevard
- Bicyle Lane
- Wayfinding

Key Crossing Improvement

Trail Access Point

- Existing
- Proposed

Parks

Streams

- Elementary School
- Middle School
- High School

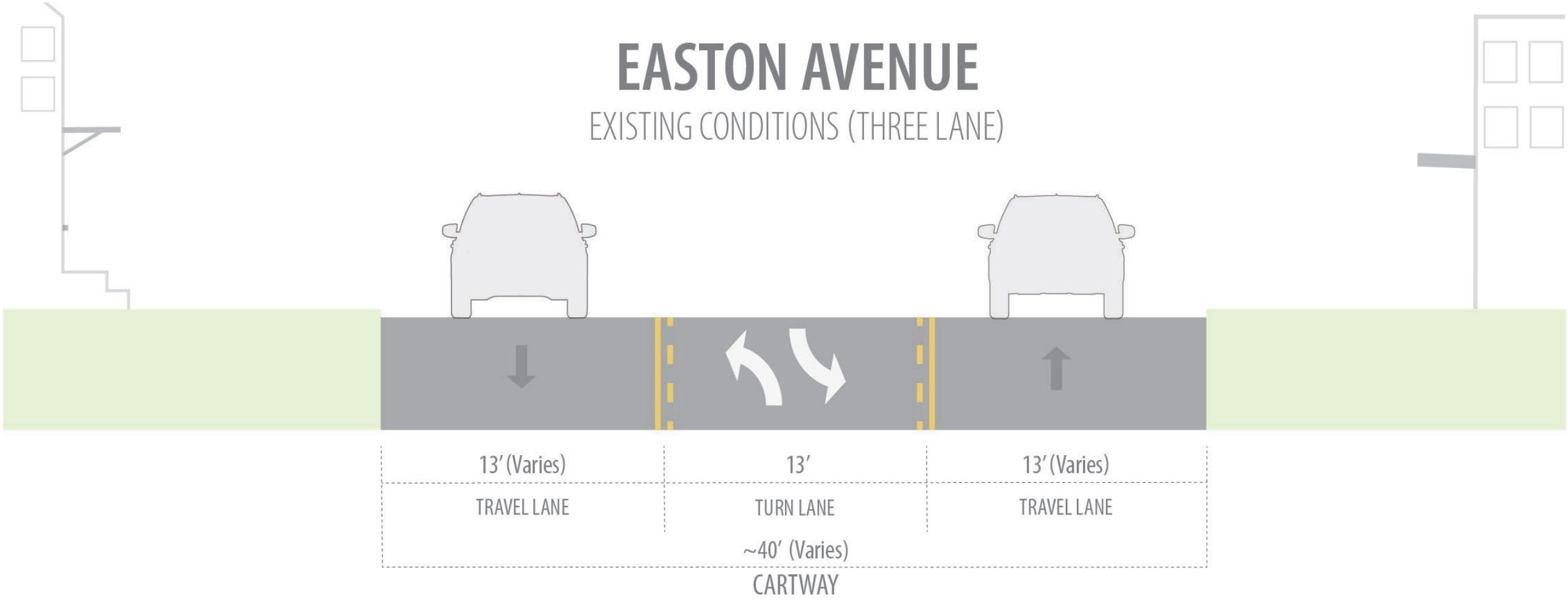
Signal Intersection

0 0.09 0.18 0.27 0.36 Miles

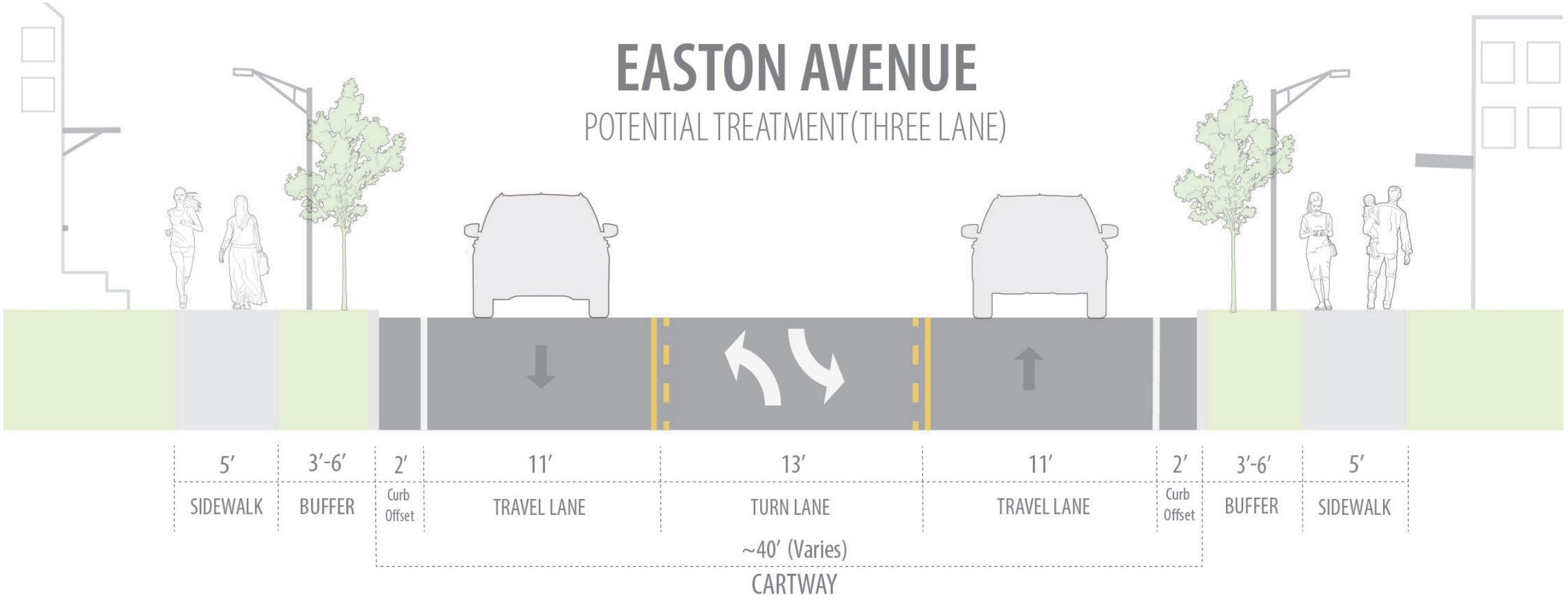
POTENTIAL CONNECTIONS

EASTON AVENUE

EXISTING CONDITIONS (THREE LANE)



POTENTIAL CONNECTIONS



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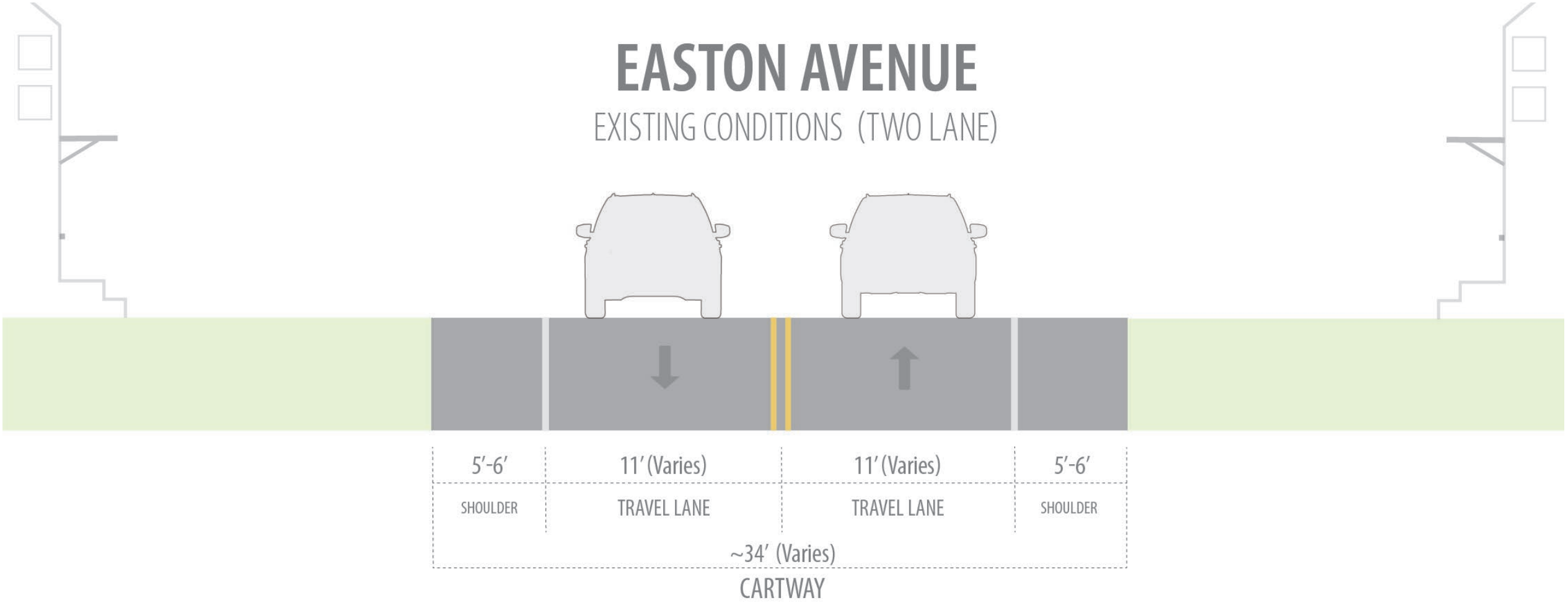
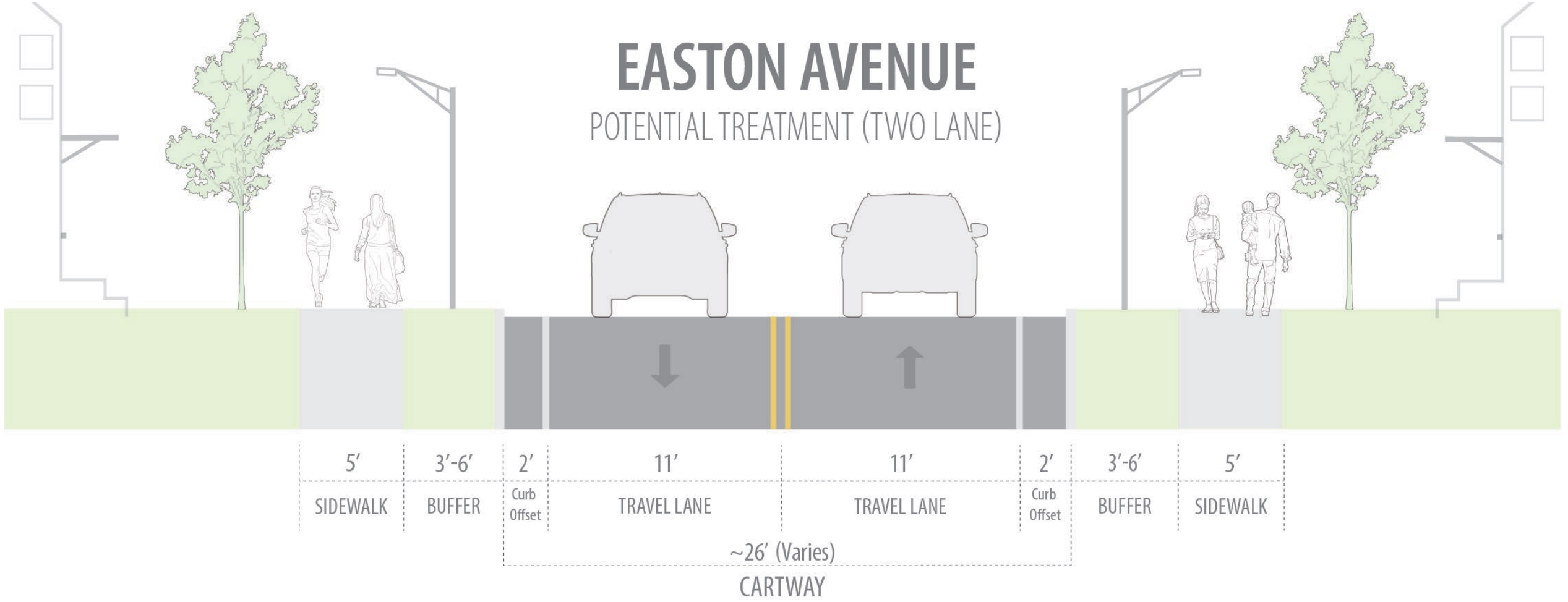


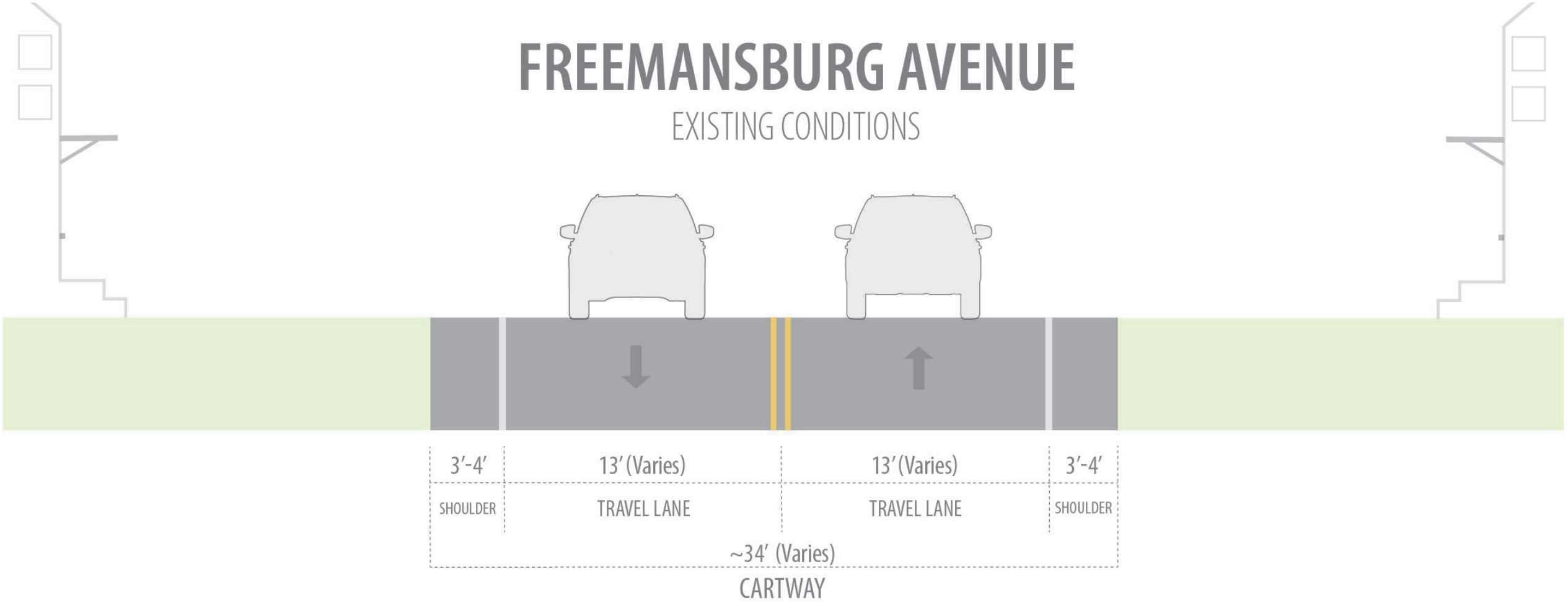
POTENTIAL CONNECTIONS



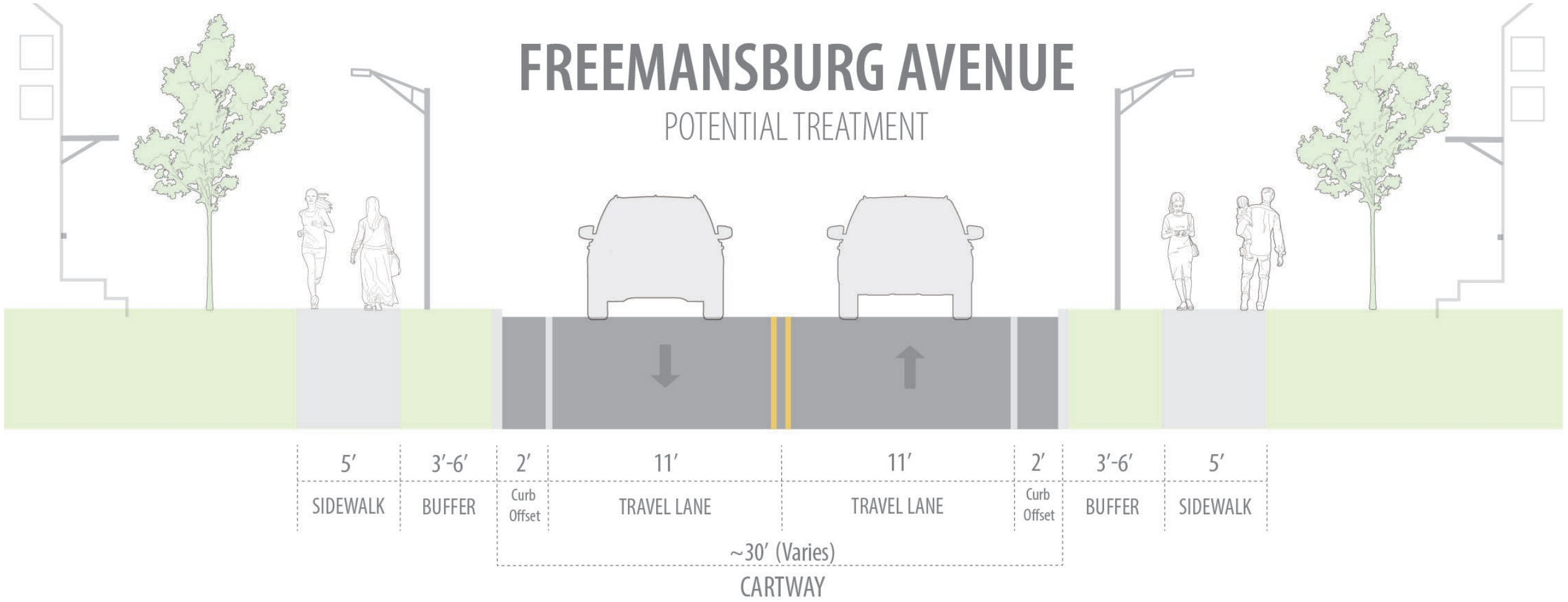
POTENTIAL CONNECTIONS

FREEMANSBURG AVENUE

EXISTING CONDITIONS



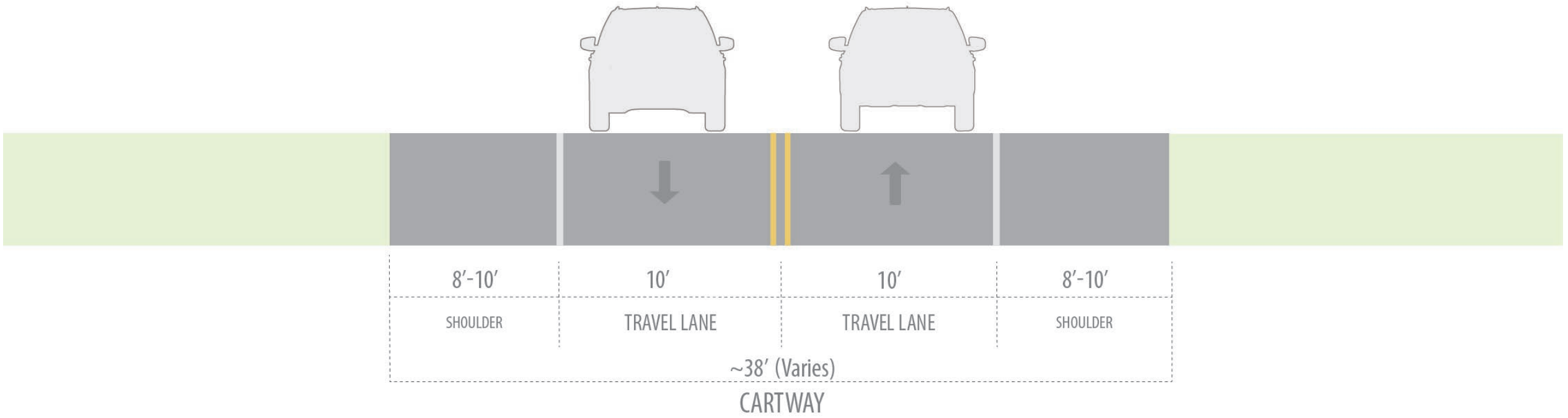
POTENTIAL CONNECTIONS



POTENTIAL CONNECTIONS

CHURCH ST

EXISTING CONDITIONS



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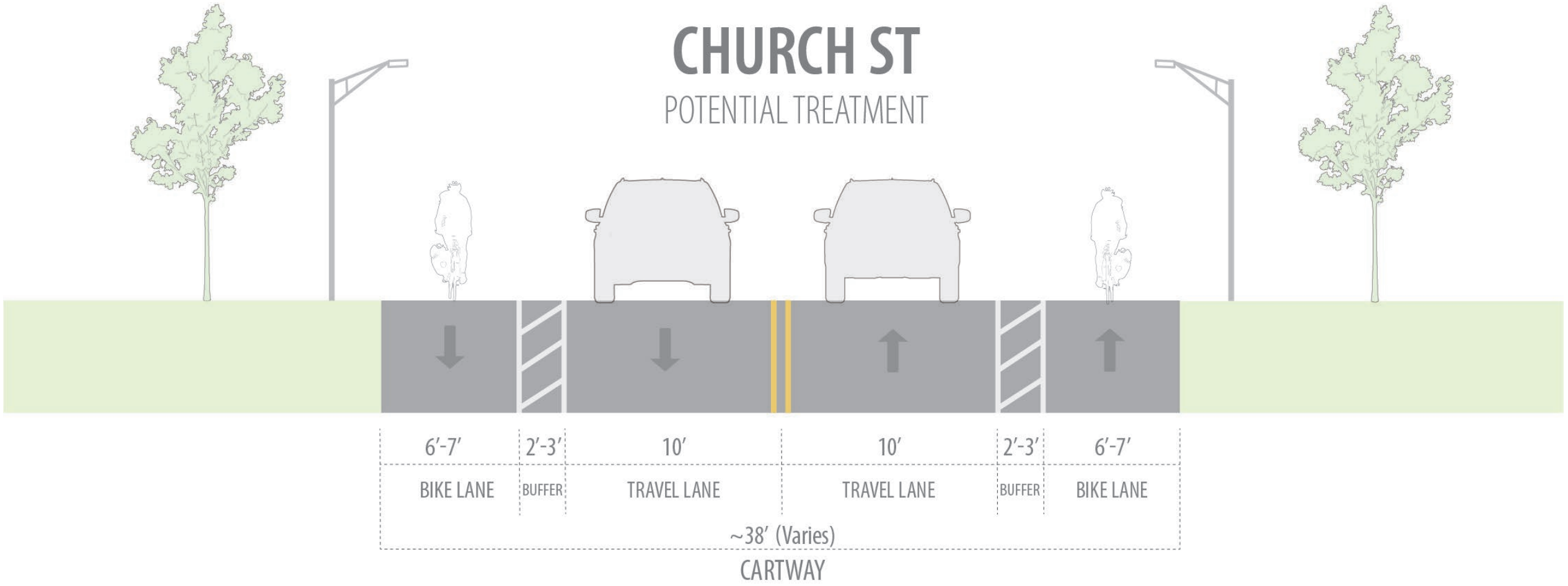

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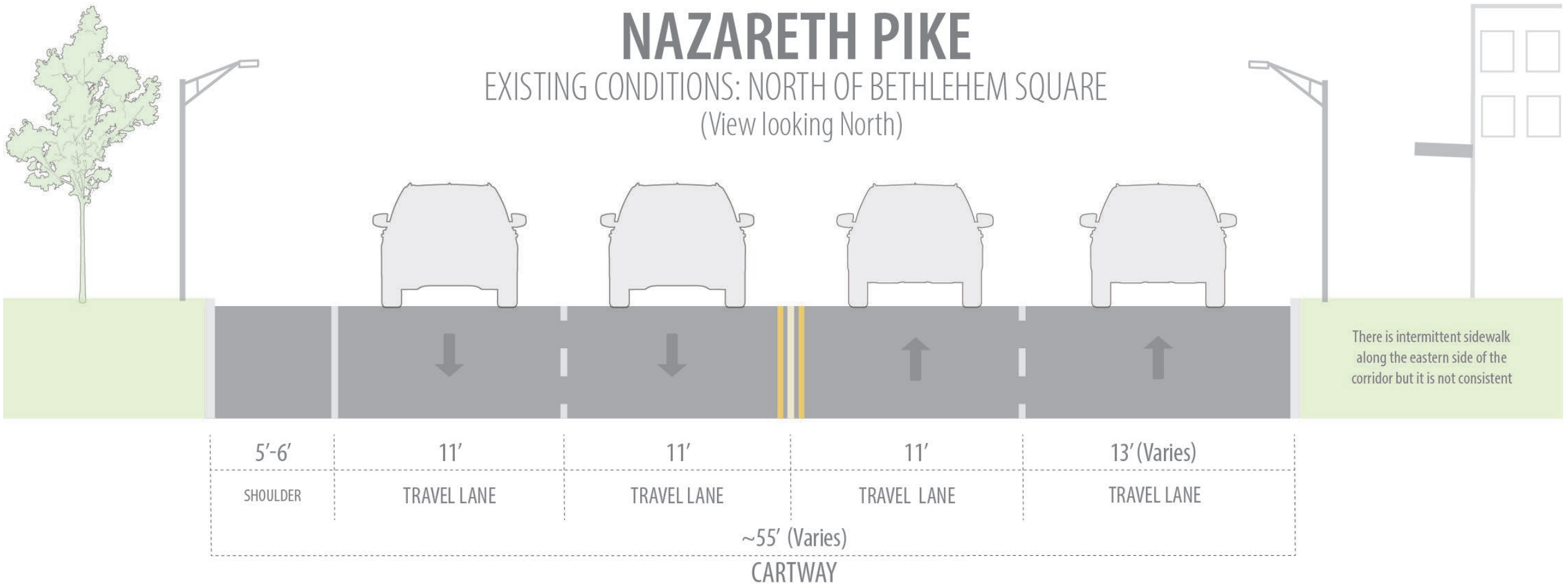

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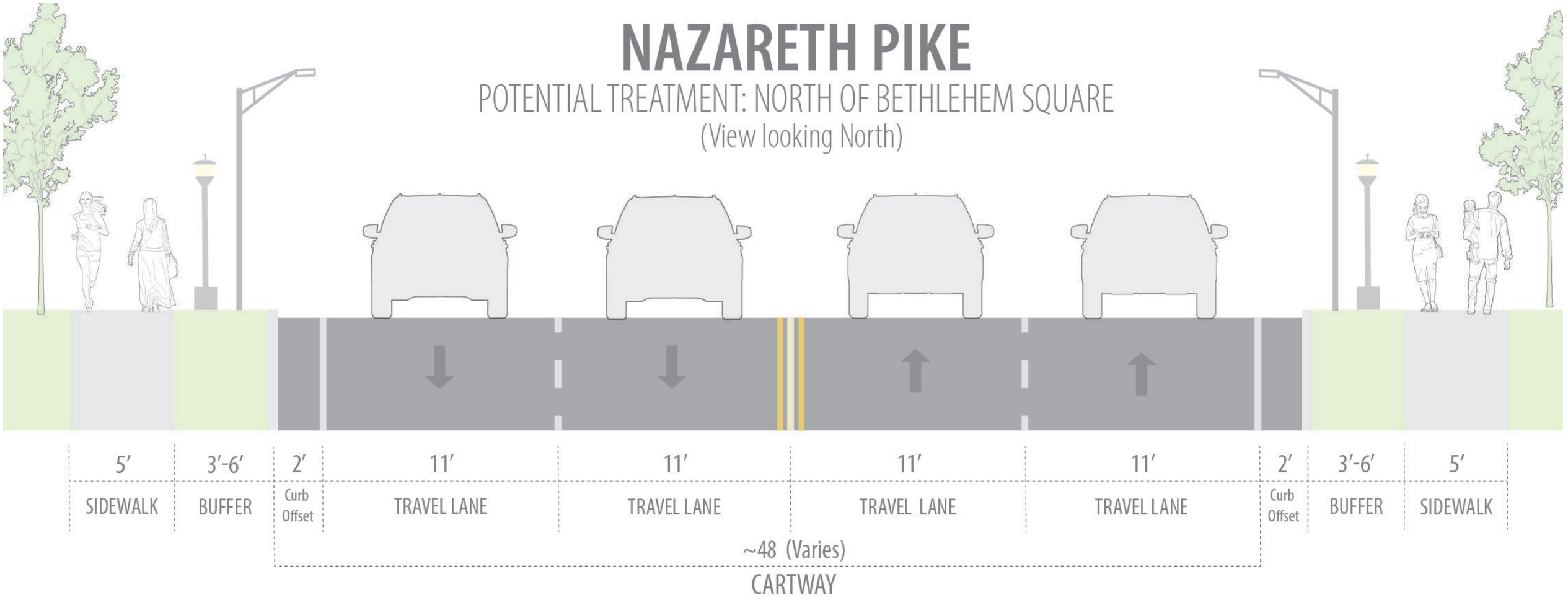

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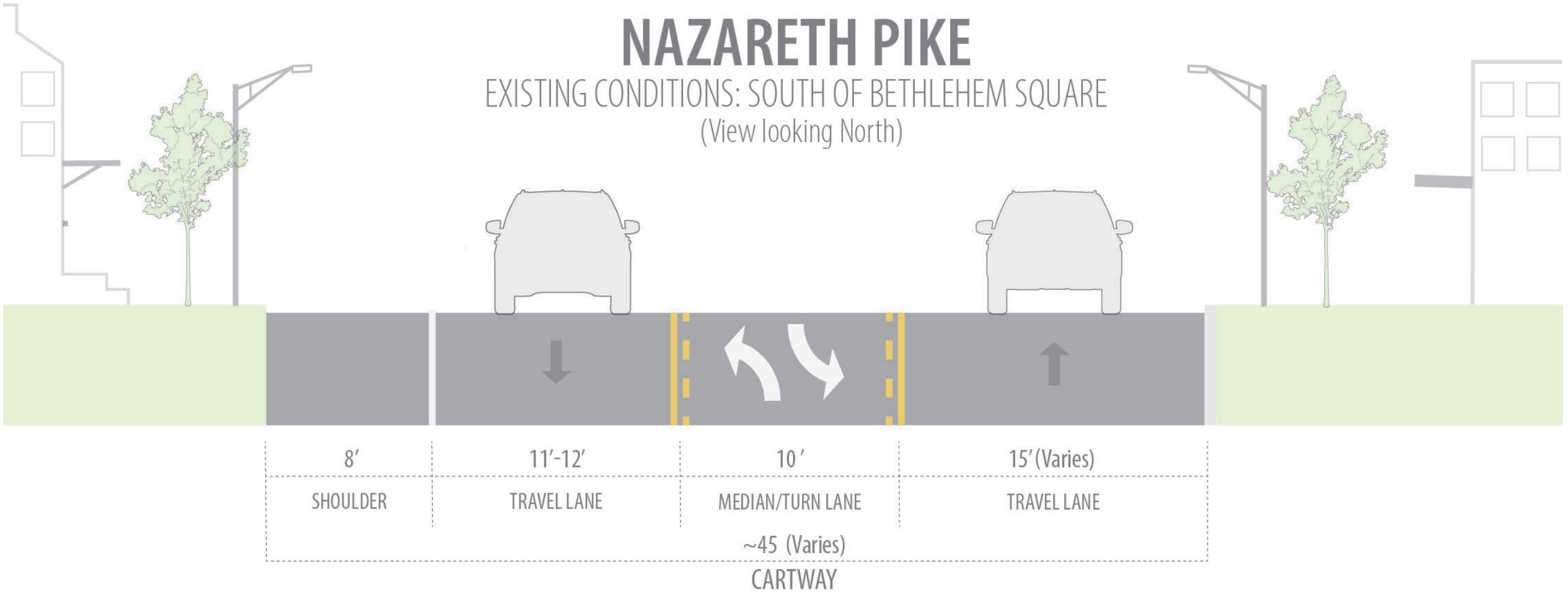

POTENTIAL CONNECTIONS