



MOVING CHARLOTTE FORWARD

Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Northeast Corridor Infrastructure Program

with
Blue Line Extension Construction Update

Presented by:

City of Charlotte

Engineering & Property Management
Charlotte Area Transit System
Charlotte Department of Transportation



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LYNX Blue Line Extension Construction Update



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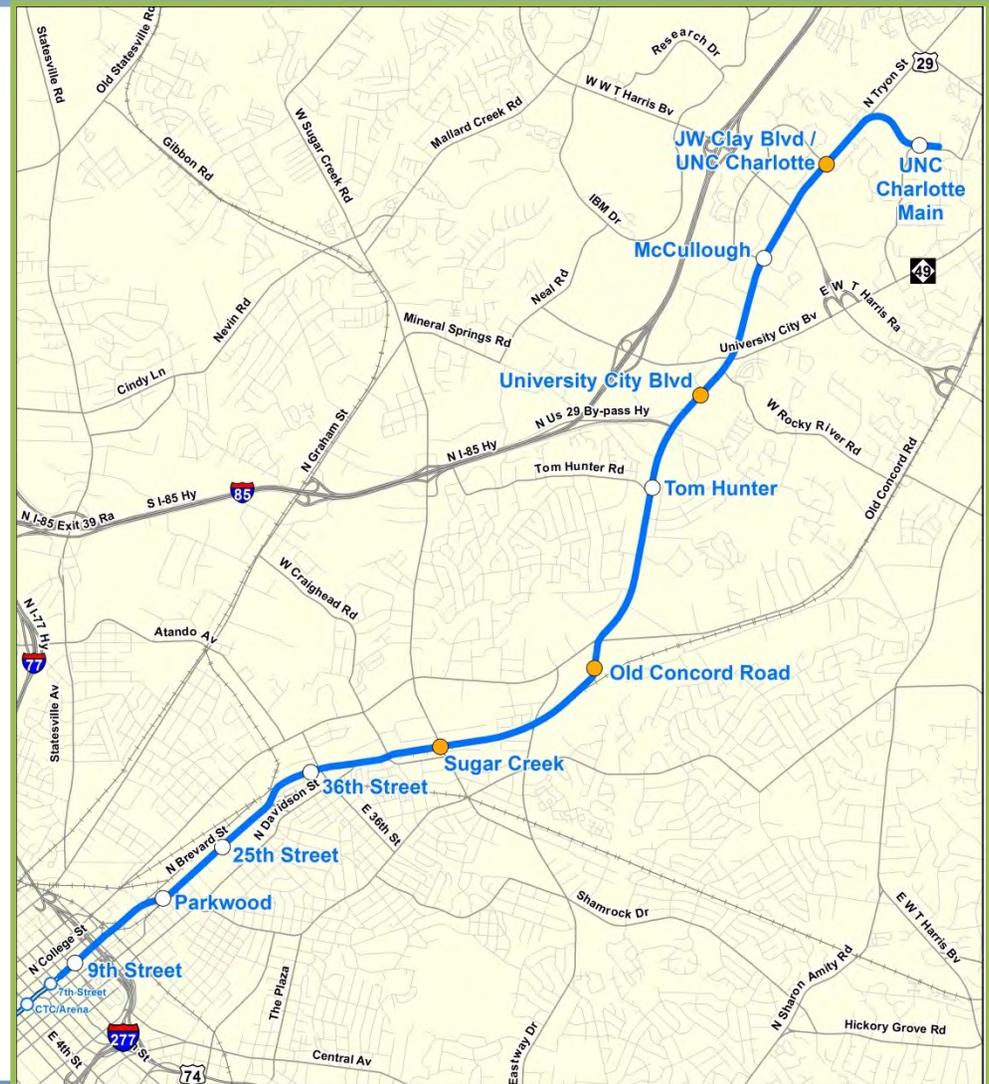


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LYNX Blue Line Extension (BLE) Project Overview

- 9.3 miles, 11 stations
- 4 park and ride facilities
- Approximately 3,100 parking spaces
- Accommodates 3-car trains
- 25,000+ daily riders
- Improvements to North Tryon St.
- Connects UNC Charlotte campuses
- 22 minute commute from Uptown to UNC Charlotte
- Initial peak period service 7.5 minute frequency
- Connecting bus services
- Revenue service in 2017

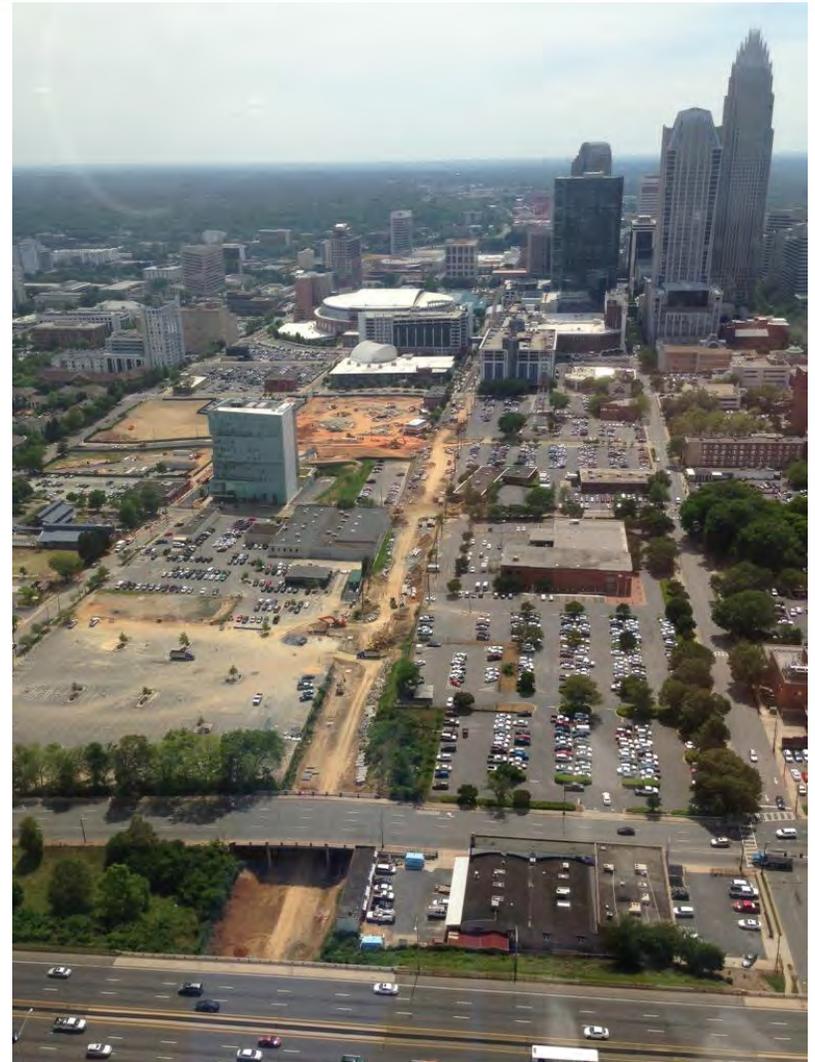


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Uptown

- Closures
 - East 8th Street
 - East 9th Street
- Installing Storm Drainage and Duct Bank
- Relocating Sanitary Sewer and Water Line
- Preparing for Track Installation



Uptown to Old Concord

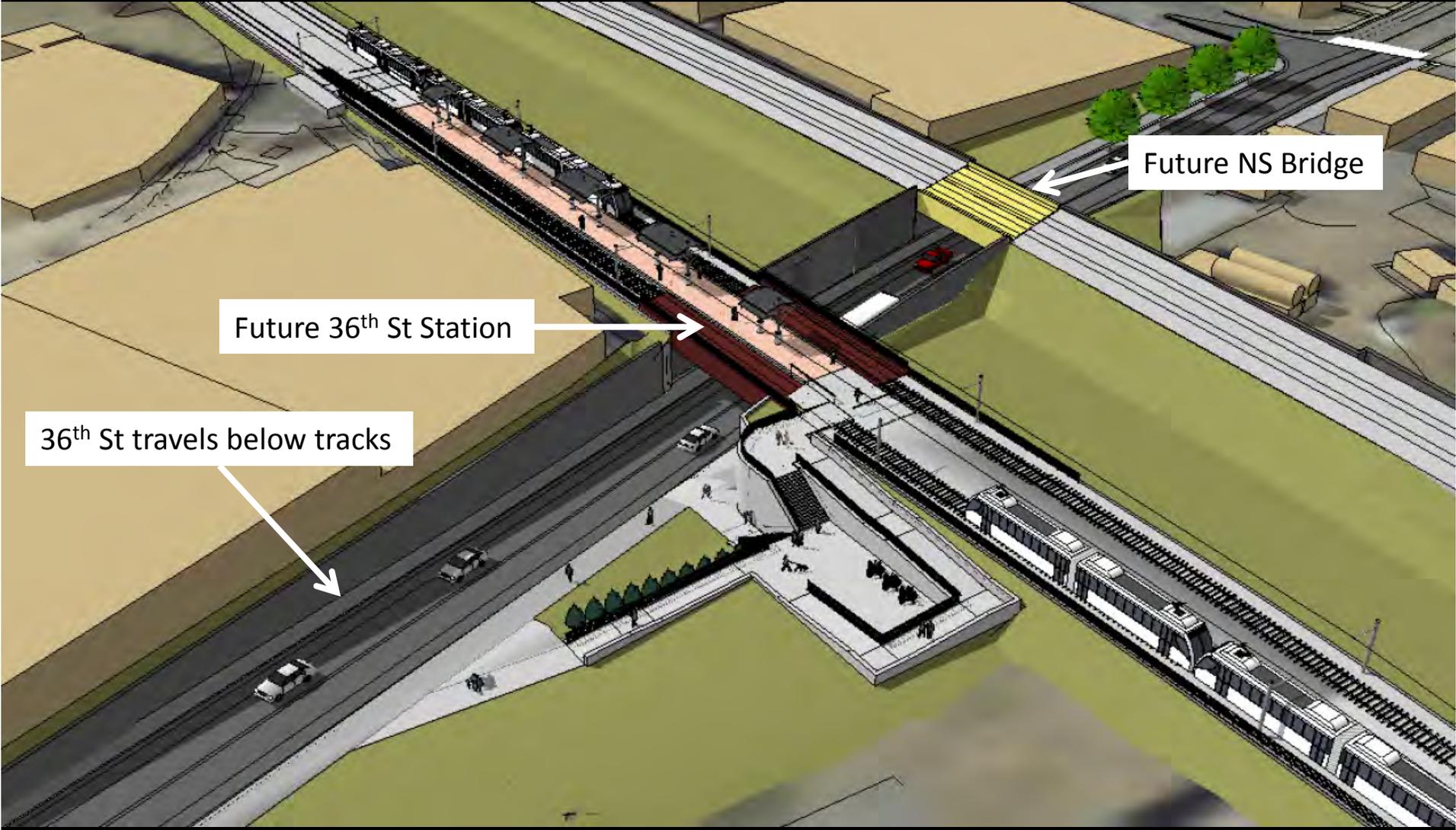
- Closures
 - 12th Street
 - N Brevard Street
 - East 36th Street
 - Craighead Road
 - Eastway Drive
- Light Rail Bridges, Station Foundations, Retaining Walls
- Excavation for Future Norfolk Southern Bridge over E 36th Street
- Removal of Eastway Bridge, Excavation and Drilled Pier Installation for New Abutment





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Future 36th St Station

36th St travels below tracks

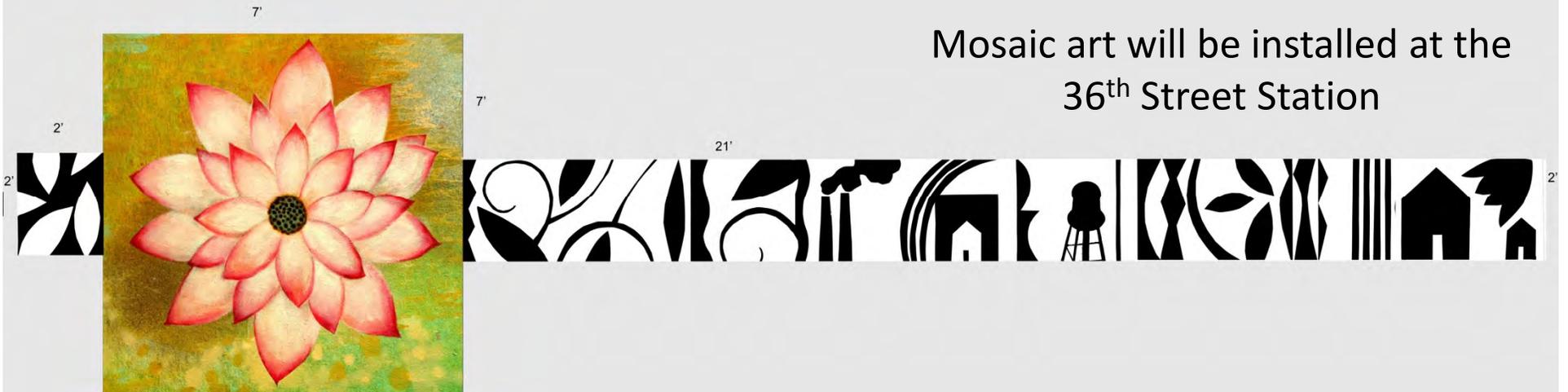
Future NS Bridge



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Mosaic art will be installed at the
36th Street Station

Along North Tryon

- Closures
 - Old Concord Road
 - Austin Drive
 - Arrowhead Drive
 - Orchard Trace Lane
 - Grove Lake Drive
- Side Roads Being Rebuilt to Match New N Tryon Roadway Configuration and Grade
- Private Utility and Traffic Signal Relocations continue
- Road Closures, Lane Closures, Traffic Shifts (installing concrete barrier, restriping lanes)
- Grading and Paving in Preparation for Construction of New Roadway Outside of Travel Lanes
- Storm Drain and Water Line Installation



Safety First!!!

- Speed Limit Along North Tryon Street Has Been Reduced to 35 MPH

Citizens Will Experience

- Daily Lane Closures
- Road Closures & Detours
- Shifting Traffic Lanes
- Left Turns & U-turns Restricted
- Narrowing of Existing Travel Lanes
- Traffic Delays
- Pedestrian Path Changes
- Bus Stop Relocations



Construction Continues on Retaining Walls along the Alignment

- Various Shorter Block Retaining Walls
- MSE Retaining Walls for Light Rail Bridges Across the I-85 Connector and University City Blvd
- Installing Permanent Fencing on Retaining Walls



University City Blvd. Parking Deck



- 6 Levels with Approx. 1,500 Spaces for Cars
- 24 Covered Bicycle Spaces , 3 Bus Bays
- 5 Retail Spaces
- Installing Steel Piles, Foundations, Walls and Storm Drainage

J.W. Clay Parking Deck



- 5 Levels with Approx. 800 Spaces for Cars
- 14 Covered Bicycle Spaces, 2 Bus Bays
- 7 Retail Spaces
- Installing steel piles and foundation

UNC Charlotte Station Area

- Building Light Rail Bridge Across Toby Creek
 - Working on the Substructure, Superstructure, and MSE Retaining Walls
- Working on Retaining Wall that will Surround the Tail Track





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City of Charlotte Customer Service: 311

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Community Investment Plan (CIP)

- *Long-range investment strategy*
- *\$816.4 million in proposed improvement*
- *4 bond cycles over the next 8 years*
- *Seek leverage with public and private efforts*

Proposed Investments - Northeast

- ***North East Corridor Infrastructure (NECI)***
- *Two bridges over I-85 in University area*
- *Cross Charlotte Trail*
- *Applied Innovation Corridor*



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Northeast Corridor Infrastructure Program (NECI)



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Northeast Corridor Infrastructure Program (NECI)



NECI Program Goals

Improve Accessibility

- *Provide pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular connections to light rail stations.*

Promote Economic Development

- *Provide infrastructure to support and encourage transit supportive development*





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Improved transportation connections can help make this happen in your Community



**PLACES FOR
COMMUNITY**



**ACCESS
TO JOBS**



REDEVELOPMENT



**STRONGER
LOCAL
BUSINESSES**



**NEW BUSINESS
OPPORTUNITIES**



**HEALTHY
LIFESTYLE**



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Our Planning process:

- Identify deficiencies
- Assess environmental issues
- Survey
- Traffic analysis
- Public outreach

We begin with a concept...

- How community accesses transit?
- What is working well?
- What deficiencies?
- What would make it a “complete street”?

Then we come to you...

- How will you get to the transit station?
- What is working well?
- Deficiencies?
- What would make it a “complete street”?
- What is potential for economic development?

Projects to be addressed tonight:

- J W Clay Boulevard
- McCullough Drive
- Rocky River Road West
- Tom Hunter Road



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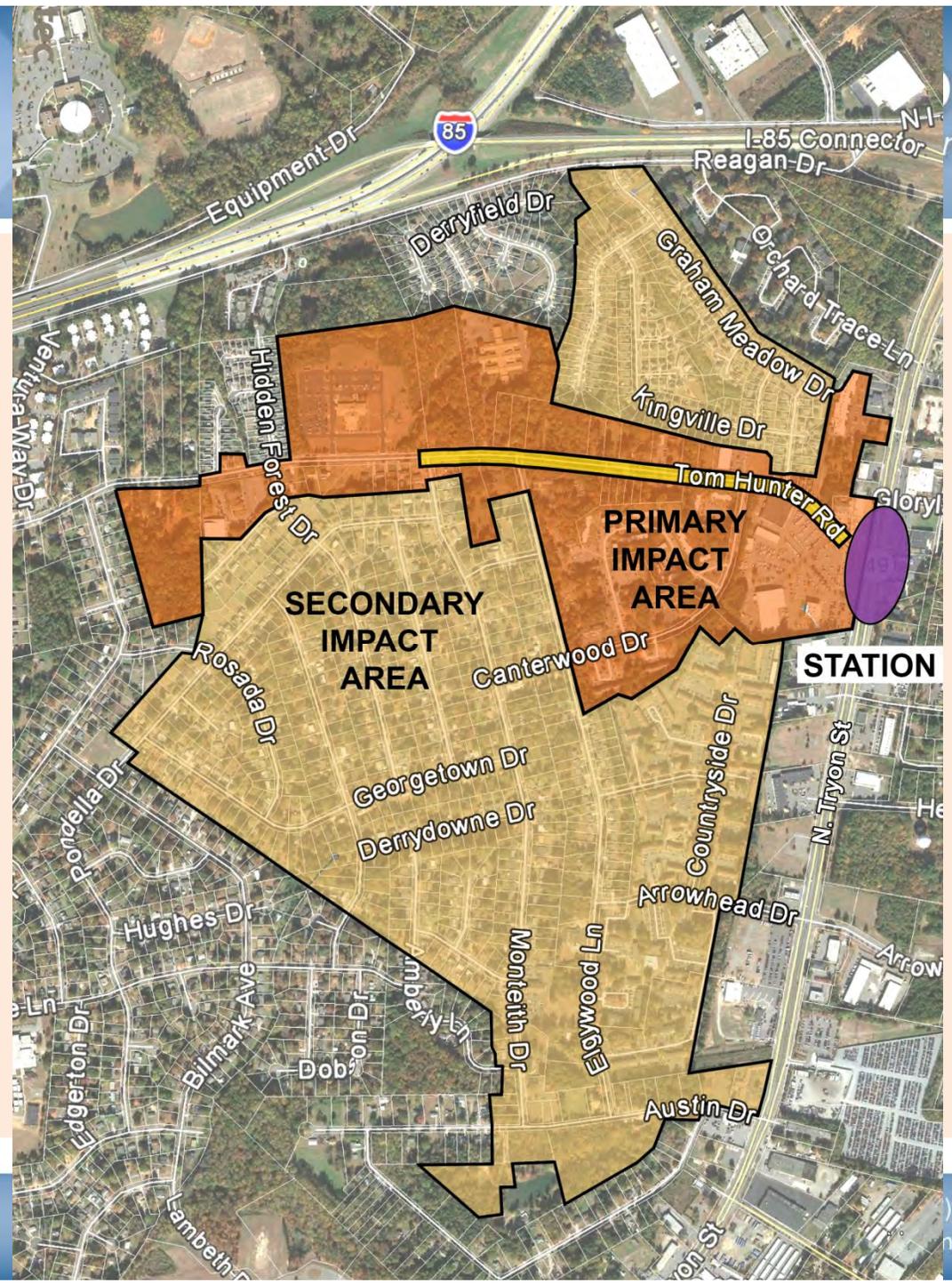
Tom Hunter Road Streetscape



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Tom Hunter Road Streetscape



What needs to be Improved



**VEHICLE
SPEED**



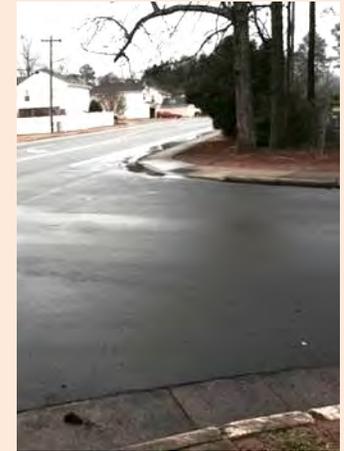
**DRAINAGE &
REPAIRS**



**SIGHT
DISTANCE**



**CONNECTIVITY
GAPS**



**CROSSWALKS
& SAFETY**

The Tool Box for Improvements



**STREET
TREES &
SIDEWALKS**



**LIGHTING
& MEDIAN**



**CROSS
WALKS &
PED SIGNALS**



**AMENITIES, SMALL
PLAZAS/PUBLIC PLACES**



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Rocky River Road West Street Improvements



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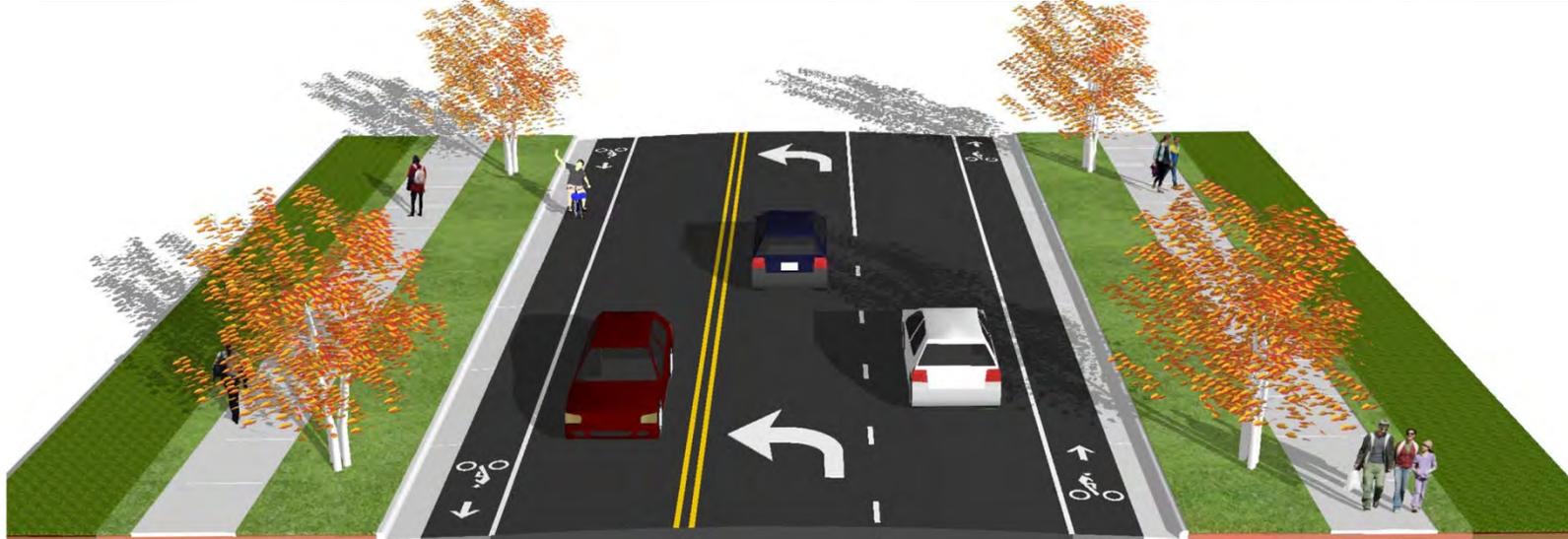
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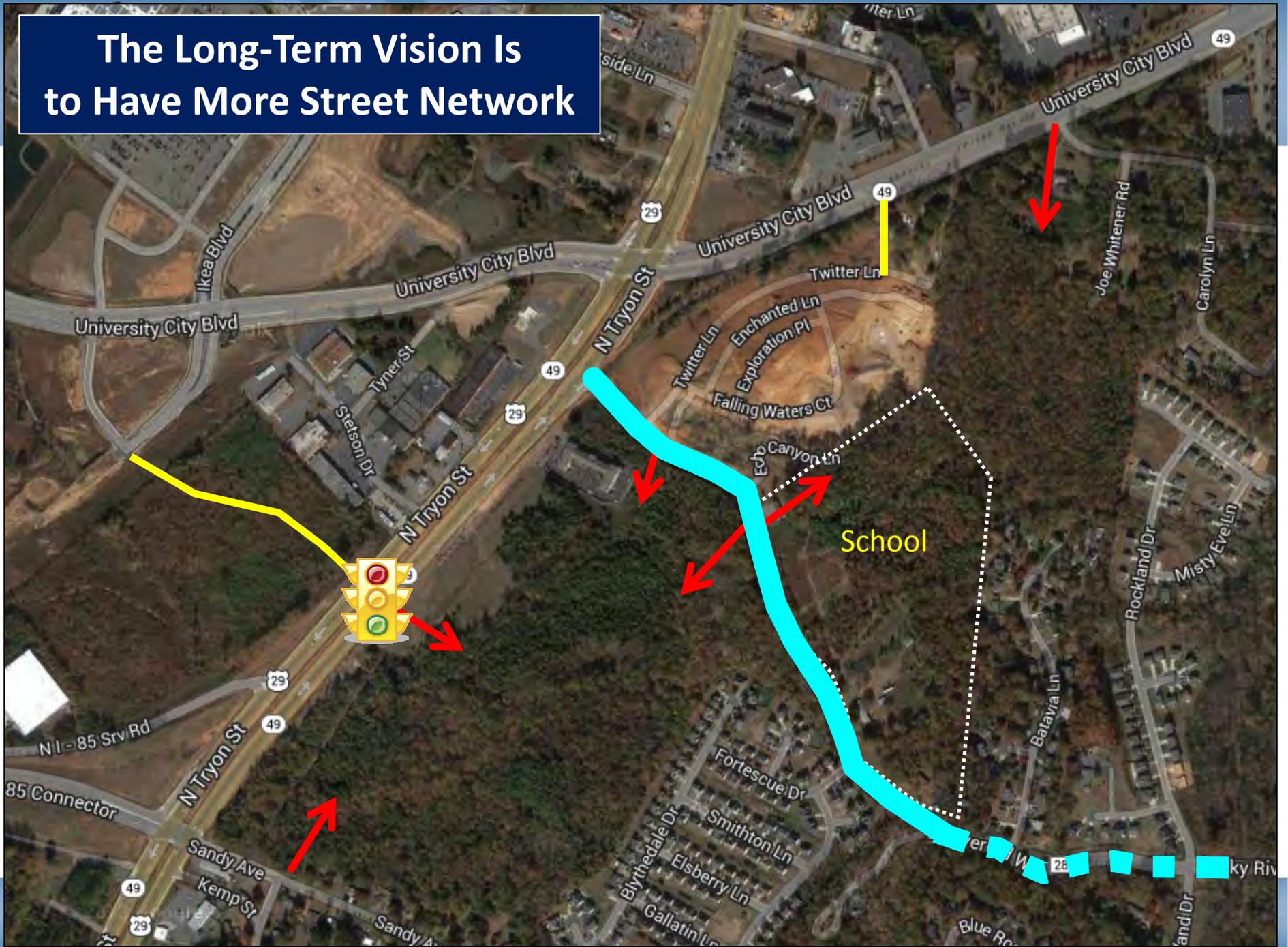
Project Purpose:

- To provide safe pedestrian and bike access to the Blue Line Extension (BLE) University City Blvd Station.
- To provide safe pedestrian and bike access to proposed Toby Creek Greenway.
- To address existing sight distance concerns along the corridor.
- To reduce the number of construction impacts associated with adjacent developments.





The Long-Term Vision Is to Have More Street Network





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McCullough Drive Streetscape



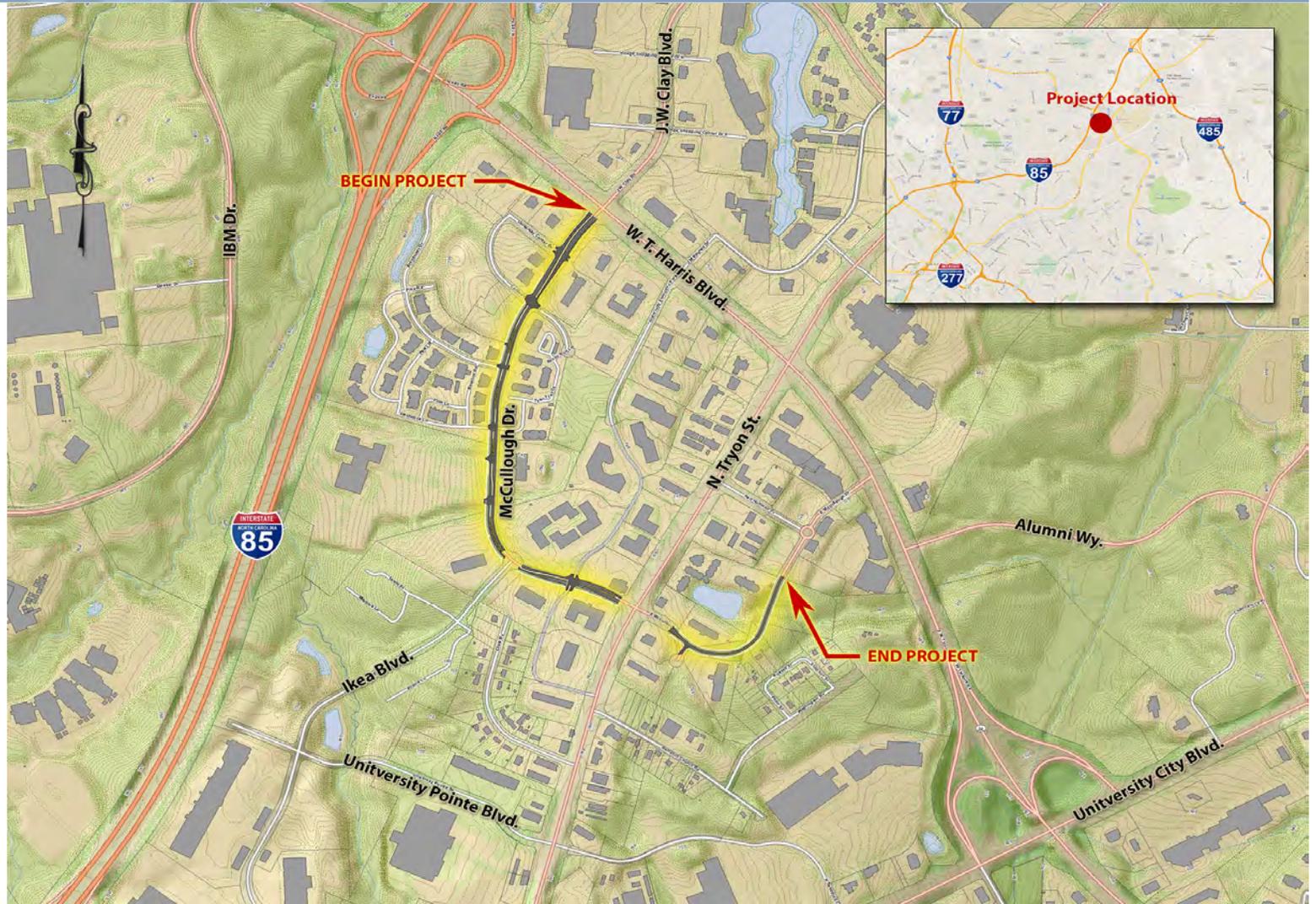
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McCullough Drive Streetscape And Extension



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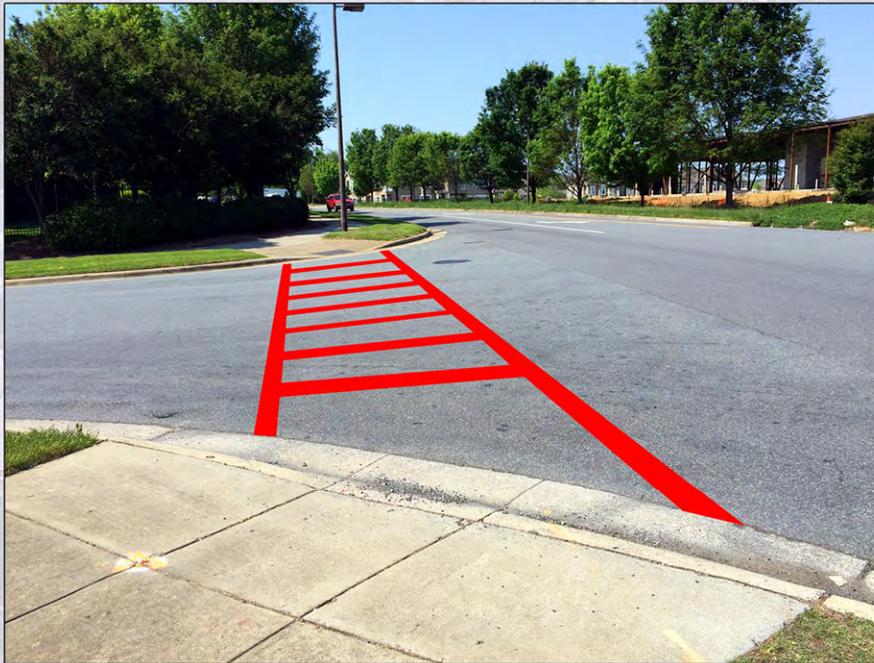
What Needs to Be Improved: Missing Sidewalk Connections



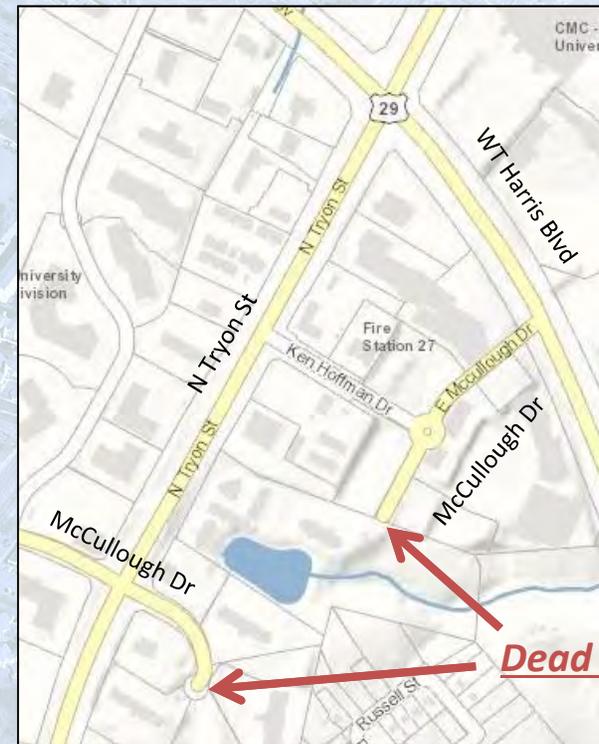
What Needs to Be Improved: Damaged Sidewalk



What Needs to Be Improved: Missing Crosswalks and Crosswalk Connections

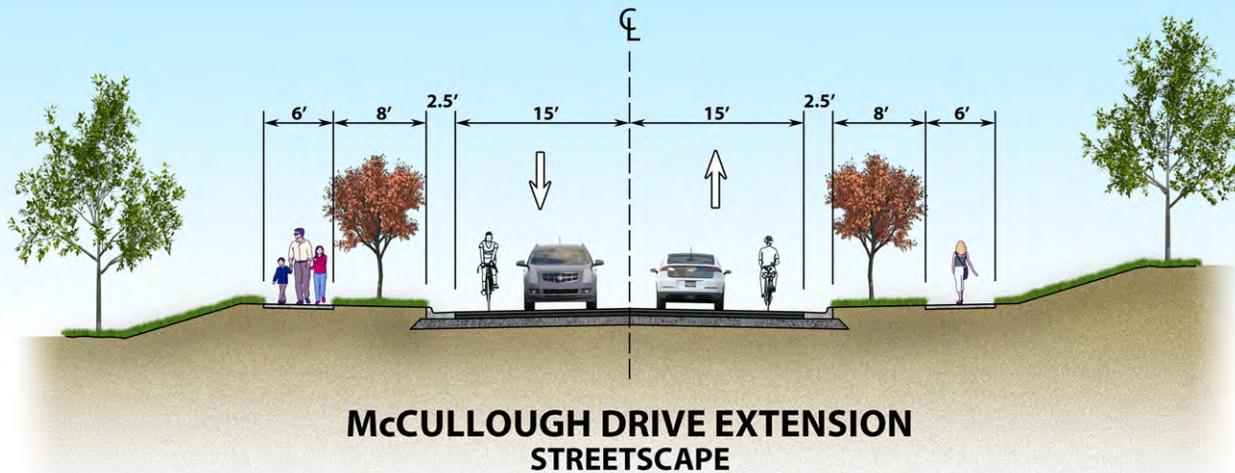
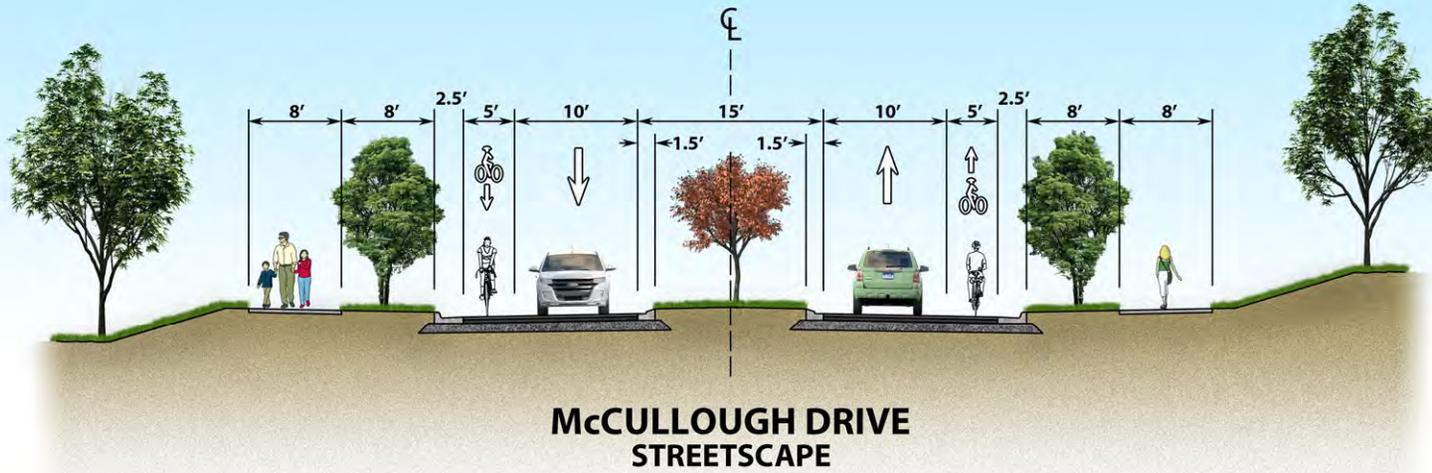


What Needs to Be Improved: Missing Street Connection

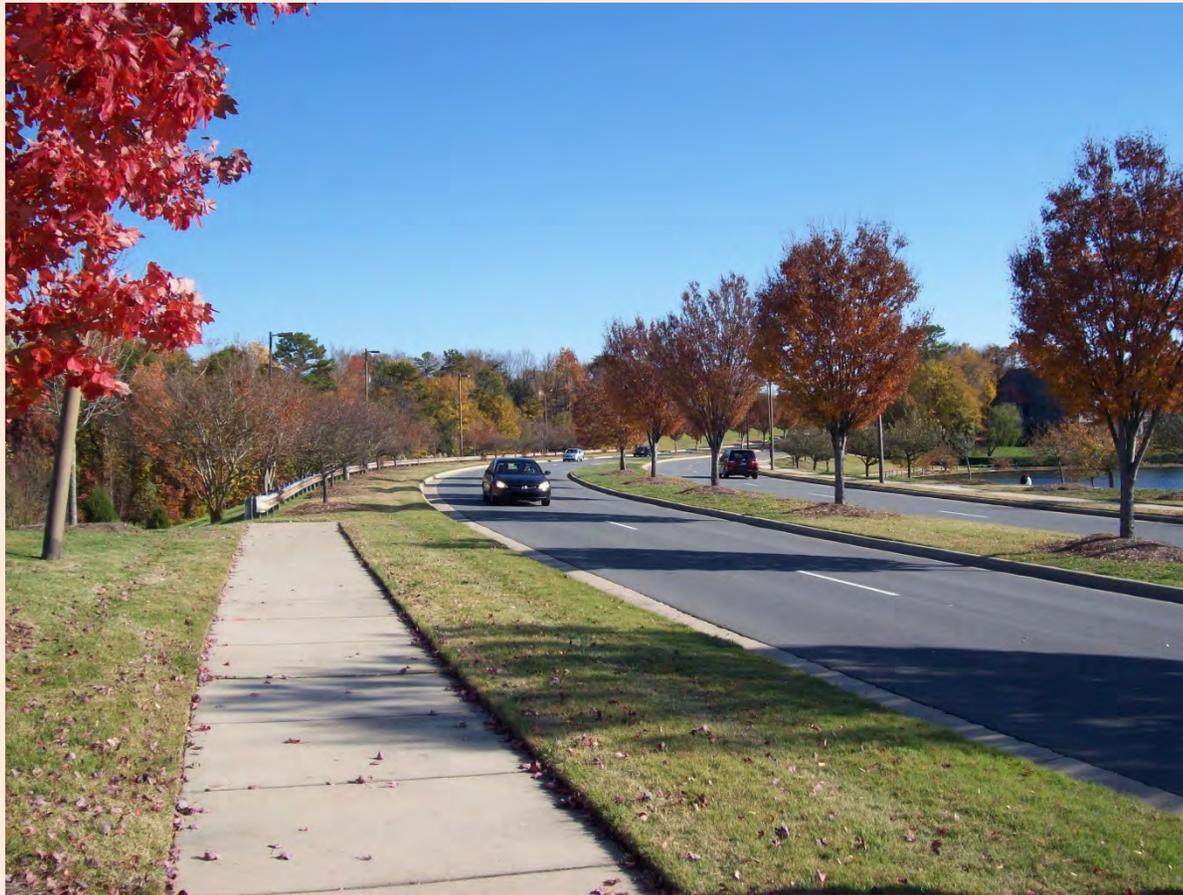


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JW Clay Streetscape



JW Clay Streetscape



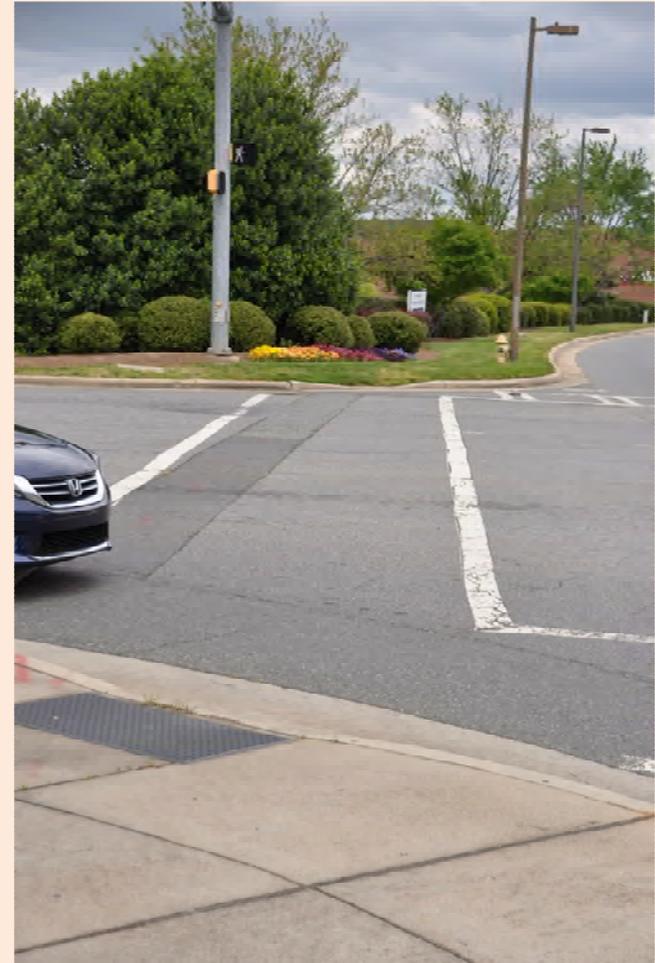
JW Clay Streetscape Project Goals

- Improve pedestrian and bicycle mobility on JW Clay Blvd from WT Harris Blvd. to N. Tryon Rd.
- Provide connectivity to:
 - Proposed JW Clay Park-n-Ride Station
 - Barton Creek Greenway
 - North Bridge over I-85 connecting Research Dr. to JW Clay Blvd.

JW Clay Streetscape Project Deficiencies



Missing sidewalk, bike lane



Crosswalks without sidewalk

JW Clay Streetscape Project Deficiencies



Lack of connectivity



Missing sidewalk, bike lane/path
to Barton Creek Greenway

JW Clay Streetscape Project Deficiencies



Limited crosswalks, sidewalks, pedestrian refuge

JW Clay Streetscape Project Improvements

- Streetscape improvements may include:
 - Sidewalks
 - Planting strips
 - Bike lanes
 - Median modifications
 - Landscaping
 - Pedestrian refuge islands
 - Traffic signals or roundabouts
 - Street lighting
 - Intersection improvements

Phasing and Scheduling

- Planning – Approximately 1 year
- Design
- Real Estate
- Utility relocation
- Bid
- Construction/Landscaping

What's next?

- Planning contracts underway
- Continued public involvement
- Future BLE updates, Cross Charlotte Trail meetings

NECI Program Goals

Improve Accessibility

- *Provide pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular connections to light rail stations.*

Promote Economic Development

- *Provide infrastructure to support and encourage transit supportive development*



Breakout Session

- How do you see yourself using the road?
- How do you think the street can function better?
- What amenities would best suit your needs?
- What deficiencies do you experience?



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How You Can Get Involved

You are invited to be a part of the process of building Charlotte's future. To remain a vibrant city where people want to live and work, Charlotte needs your ideas and voice.

We encourage you to:

- Attend meetings
- Share your ideas
- Participate in surveys
- Collaborate with City planners and project managers

Visit www.charlottefuture.com to learn more about the Community Investment Plan and sign up to receive regular updates.





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Questions?



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