

# **Northeast Corridor Infrastructure Program**

*and*

## **Blue Line Extension Construction Update**

**May 12, 2015**

Presented by:  
**City of Charlotte**

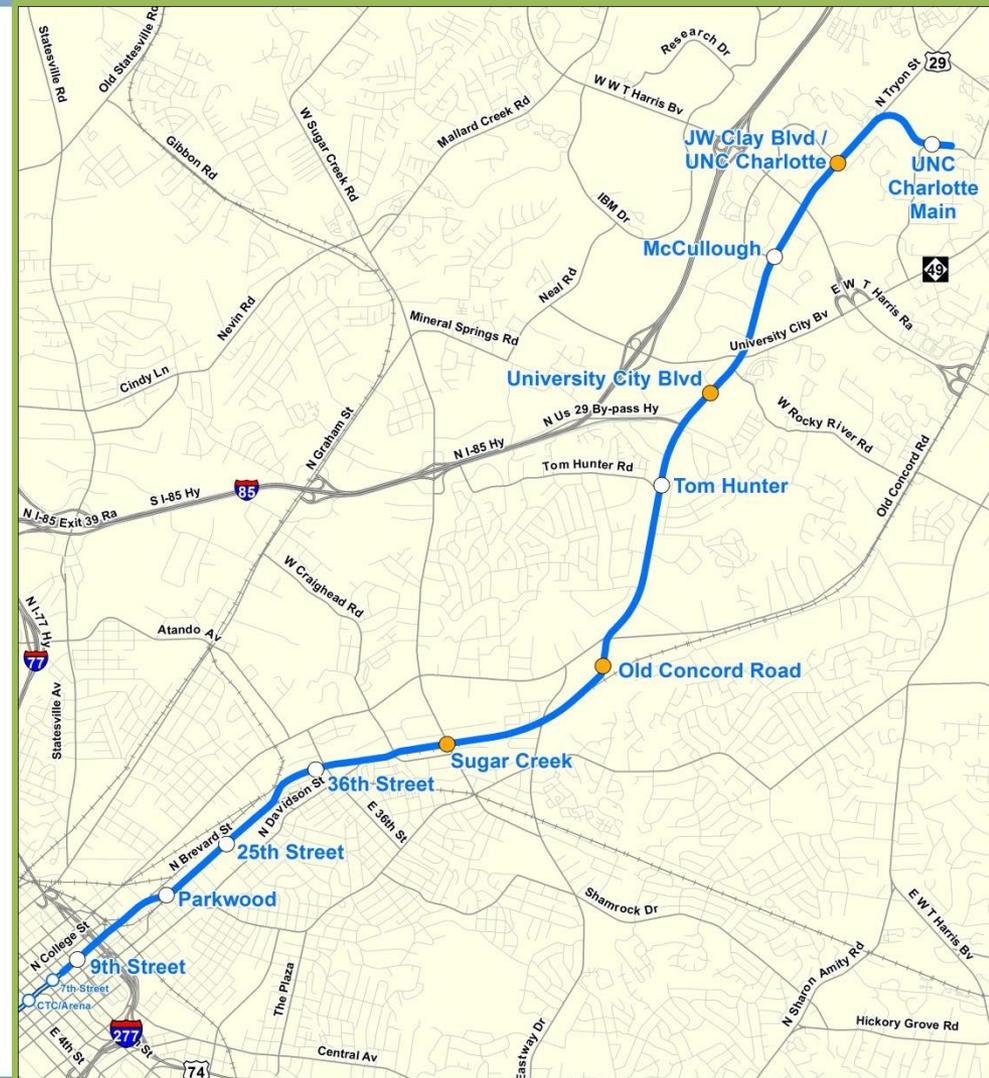
Engineering & Property Management  
Charlotte Area Transit System  
Charlotte Department of Transportation

## LYNX Blue Line Extension Construction Update



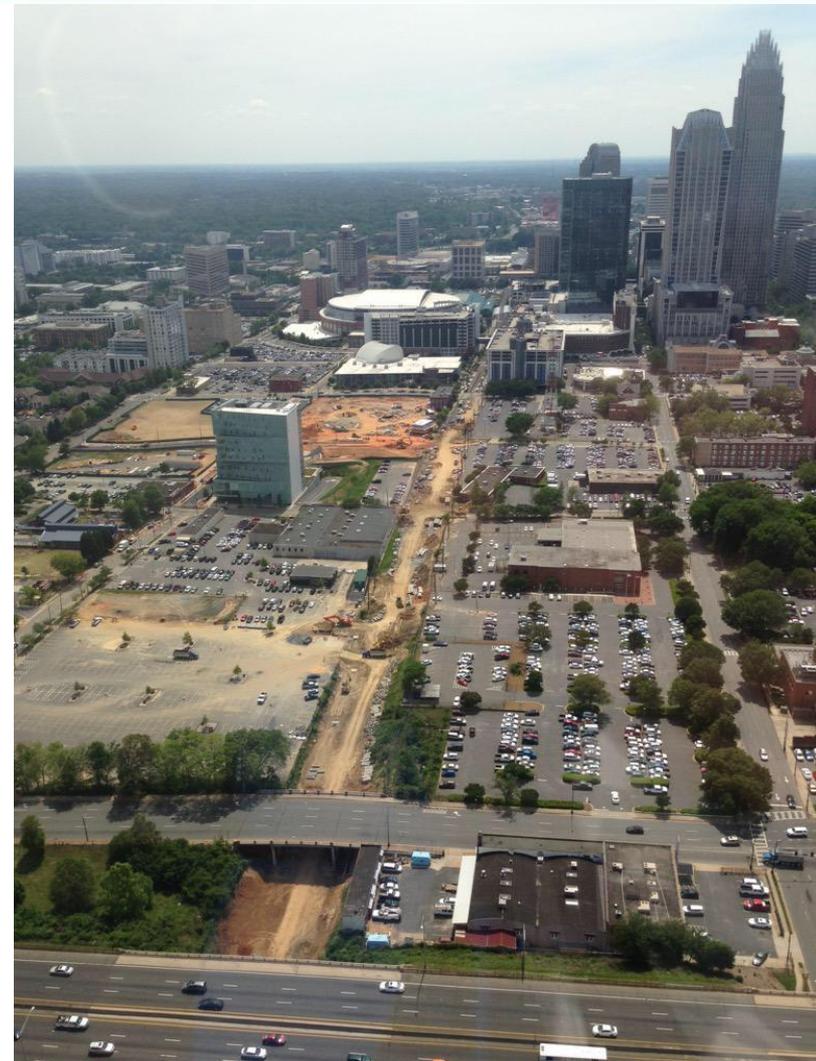
## LYNX Blue Line Extension (BLE) Project Overview

- 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



## Uptown

- Closures
  - East 8<sup>th</sup> Street
  - East 9<sup>th</sup> Street
- Installing Storm Drainage
- Relocating Utilities
- Preparing for Track



## Uptown to Old Concord

- Closures
  - 12<sup>th</sup> Street
  - N Brevard Street
  - East 36<sup>th</sup> Street
  - Craighead Road
  - Eastway Drive
- Bridges, Station Foundations, Retaining Walls
- Excavation for Future Bridge over E 36<sup>th</sup> Street
- Extension of Eastway Bridge



## Along North Tryon

- Closures
  - Old Concord Road
  - Austin Drive
  - Arrowhead Drive
  - Orchard Trace Lane
  - Grove Lake Drive
- Widening roads
- Private Utility and Traffic Signal Relocations continued
- **SAFETY FIRST:**
  - Speed Limit Along North Tryon Street 35 MPH
- Storm Drain and Water Line Installation



## Bridges and Walls along the Alignment

- Various Shorter Block Retaining Walls
- 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 Bridge Across Toby Creek
- Working on Retaining Wall that will Surround the Tail Track



## How You Can Stay Informed

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CATS Customer Service: 704-336-RIDE (7433)

City of Charlotte Customer Service: 311

[www.ridetransit.org](http://www.ridetransit.org)

[www.charlottefuture.com](http://www.charlottefuture.com)

***Be Informed. Be Connected. Be In The Know.***

## Community Investment Plan (CIP)

- *\$816.4 million in proposed improvements throughout the City*
- *4 bond cycles over the next 8 years*

## **Proposed Investments – Northeast**

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

## 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*



## 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**

## Planning Process:

- Identify deficiencies
- Assess environmental issues
- Survey
- Traffic analysis
- Public outreach
- Determine a preferred alignment

## We begin with a concept...

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

## Then we come to you...

- How will you get to the transit station?
- What do you like about the street?
- What deficiencies do you see?
- What would make it a “complete street”?

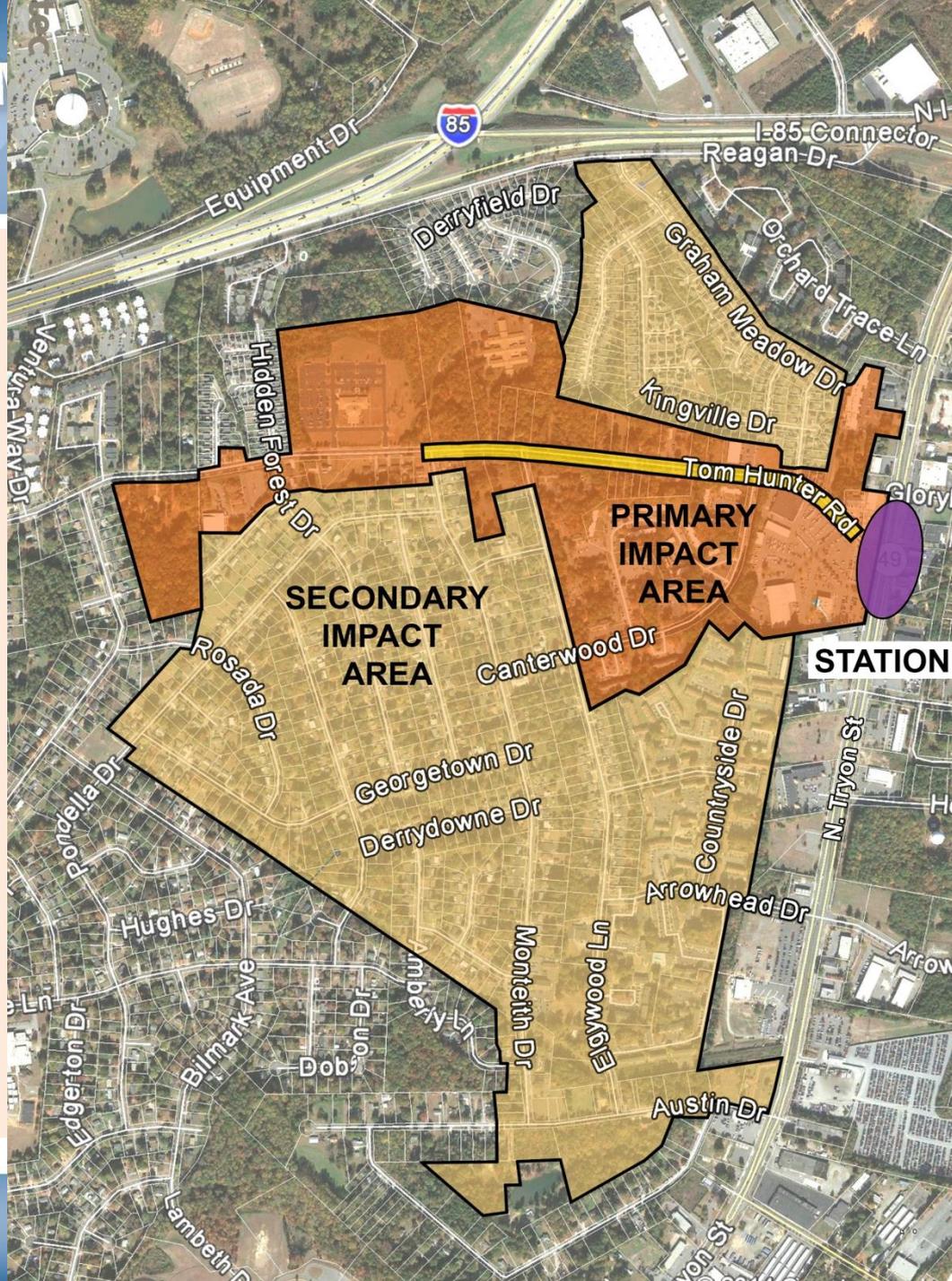
## Projects to be addressed tonight:

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



CHARLOTTE

# Tom Hunter Road Streetscape



## What needs to be Improved



**VEHICLE  
SPEED**



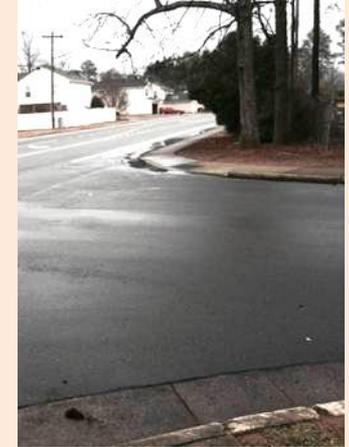
**DRAINAGE &  
REPAIRS**



**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**



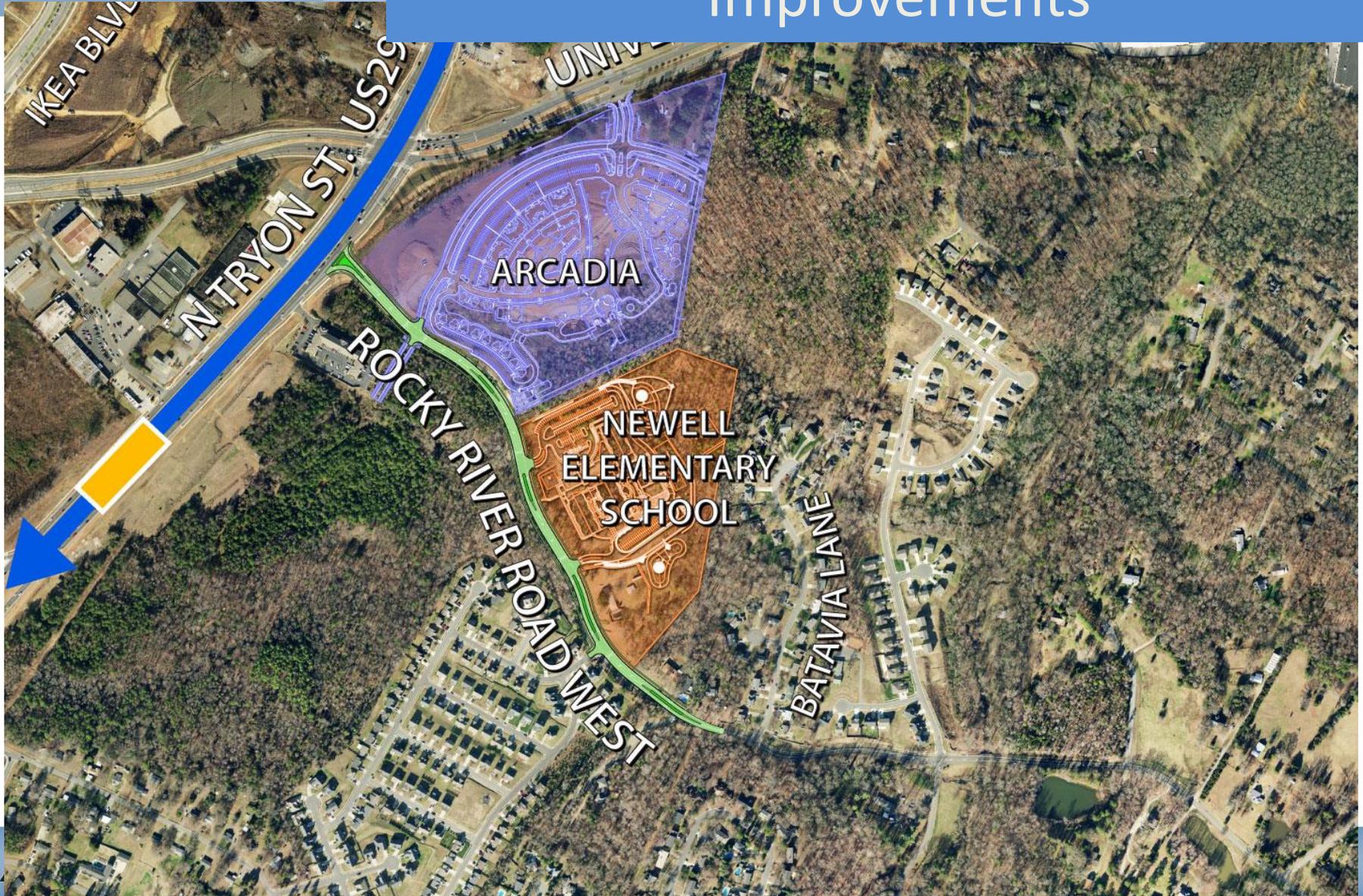
# MOVING CHARLOTTE FORWARD

*Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor*



704-336-RIDE (7433)  
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# Rocky River Road West Street Improvements



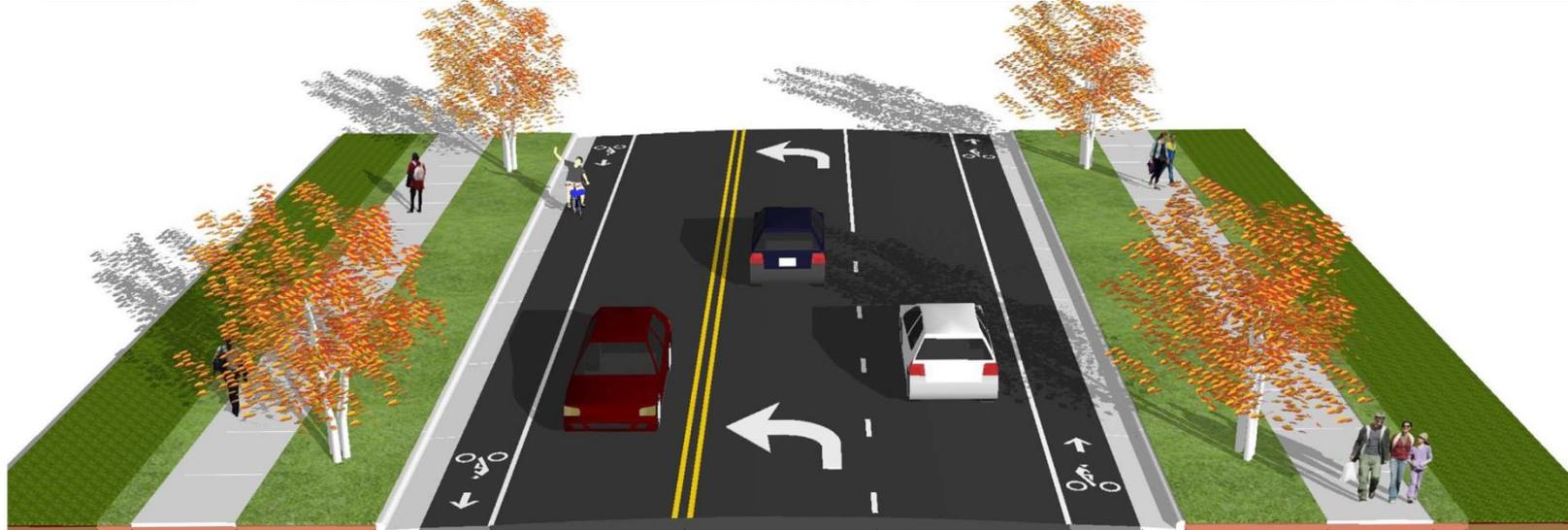




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# MOVING CHARLOTTE FORWARD

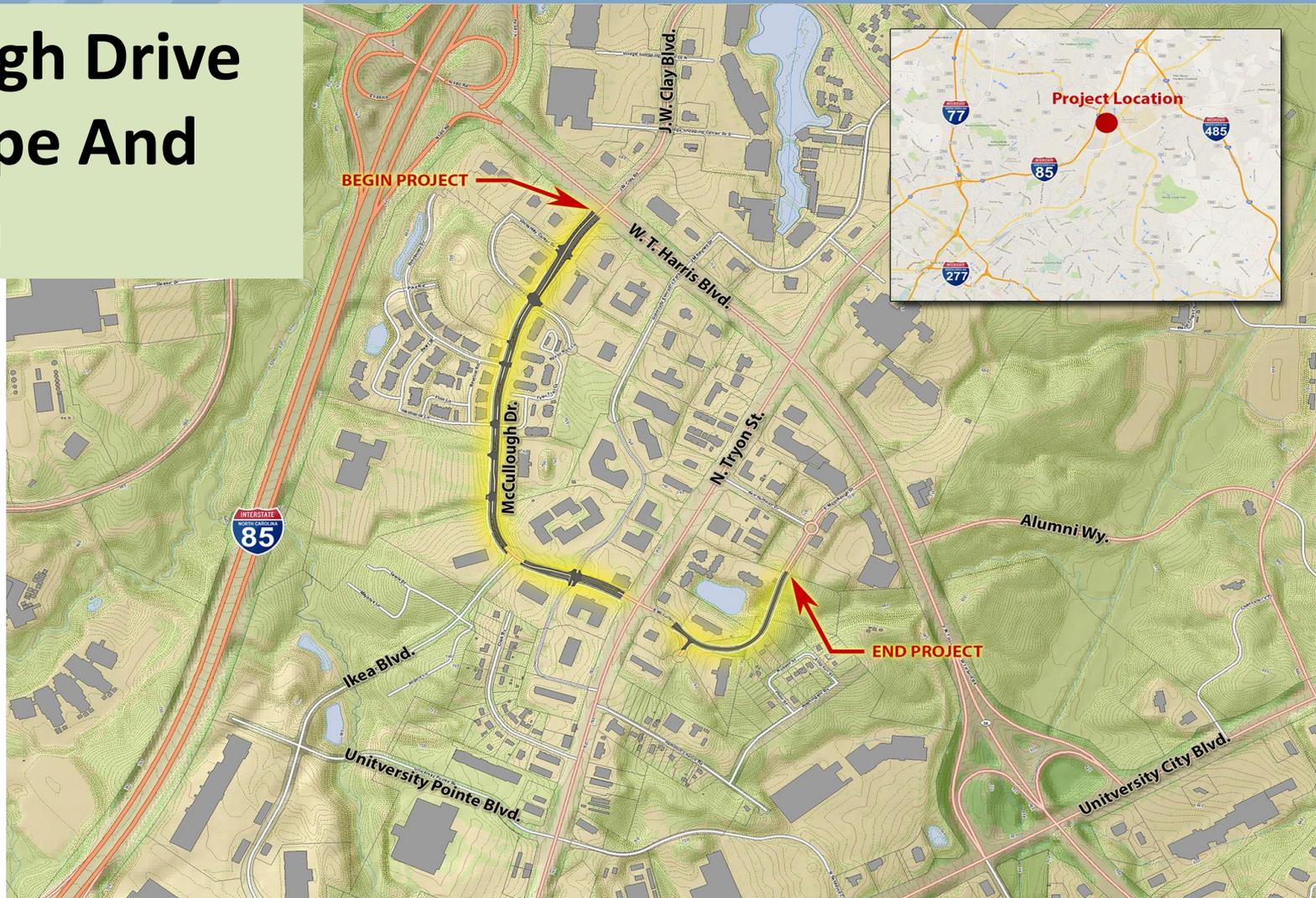
*Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor*



## Typical Section

704-336-RIDE (7433)  
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## McCullough Drive Streetscape And Extension





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# MOVING CHARLOTTE FORWARD

*Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor*

## ***What Needs to Be Improved: Missing Sidewalk Connections***





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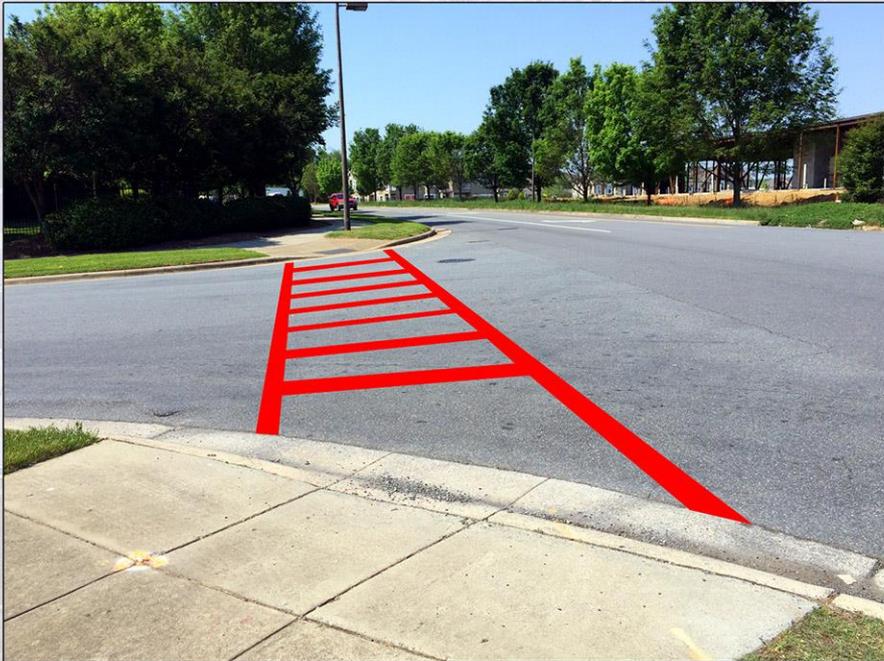
# MOVING CHARLOTTE FORWARD

*Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor*

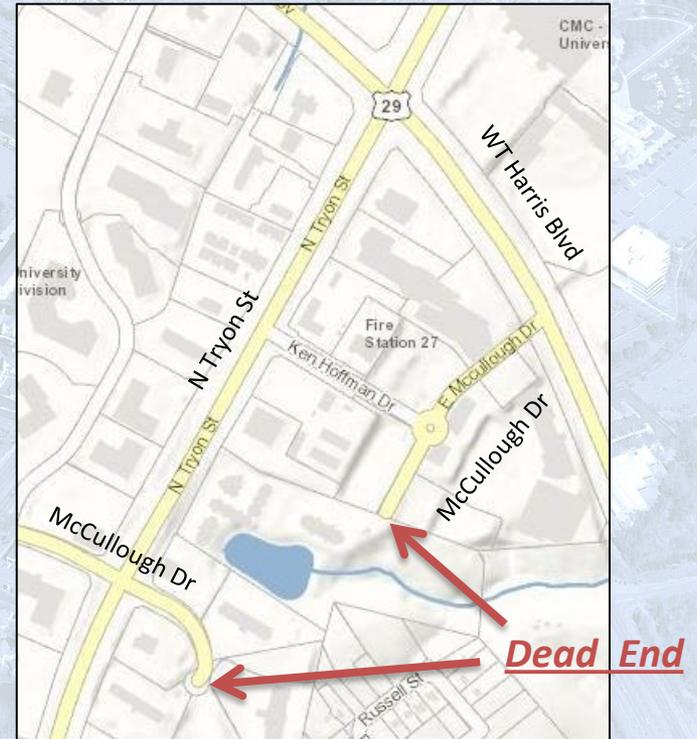
## ***What Needs to Be Improved: Damaged Sidewalk***

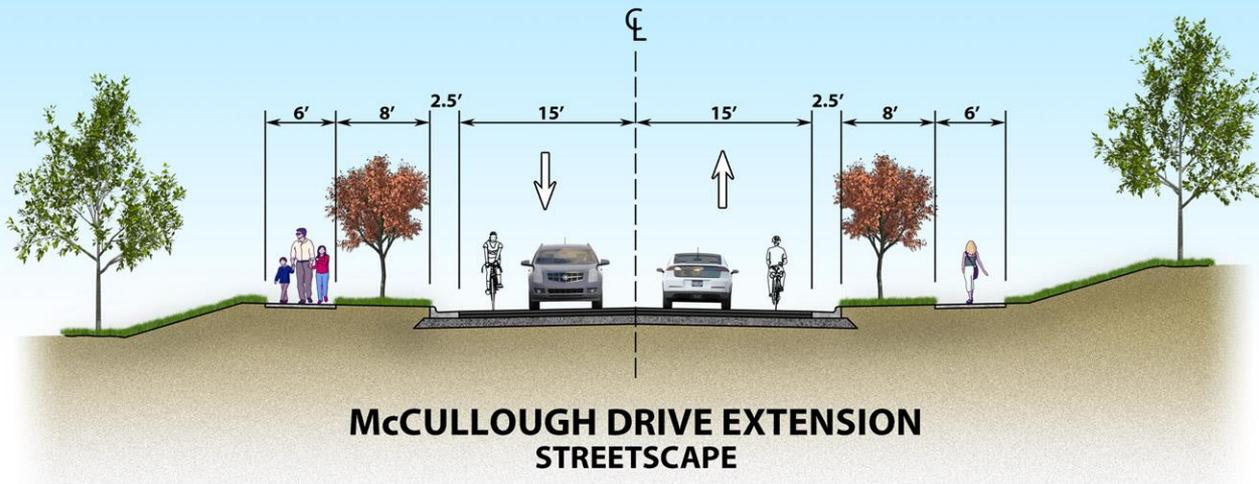
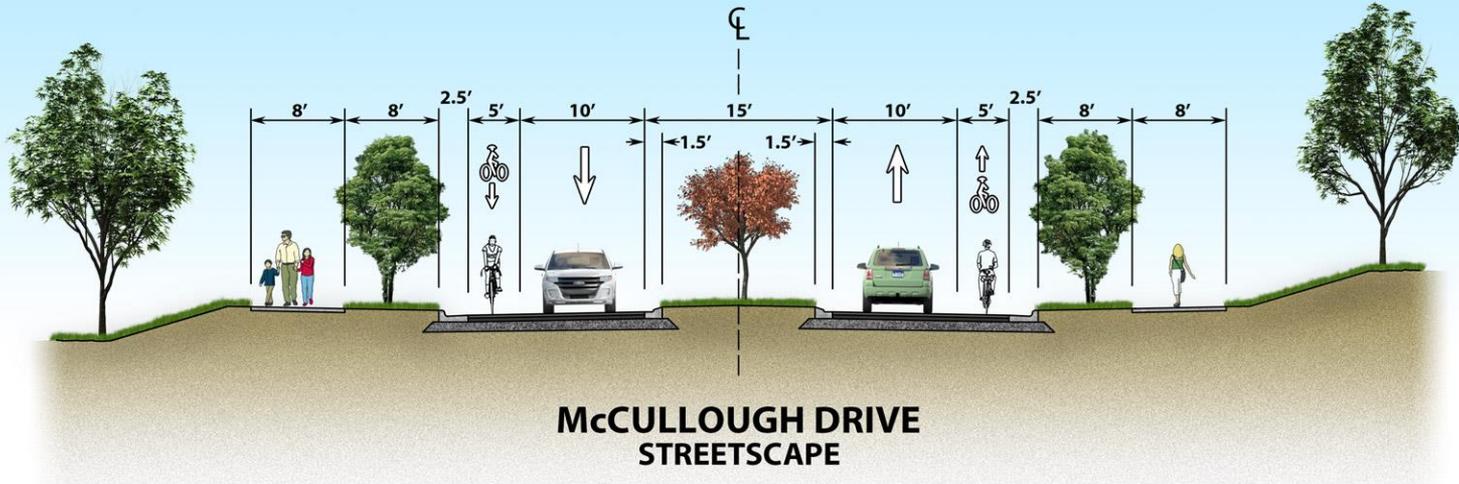


## *What Needs to Be Improved: Missing Crosswalks and Crosswalk Connections*



## What Needs to Be Improved: Missing Street Connection





## JW Clay Streetscape



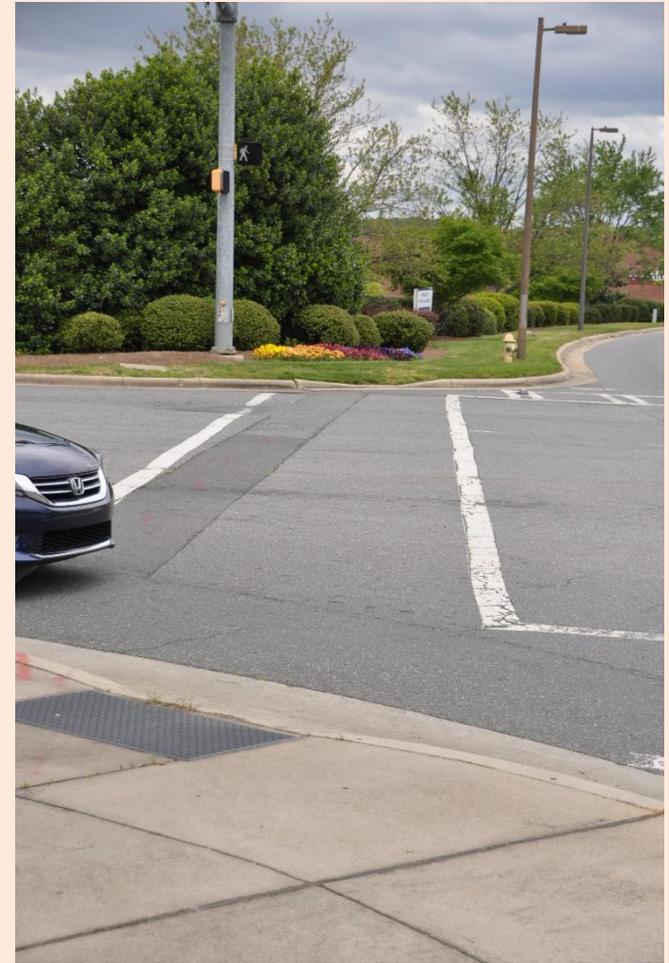
## JW Clay Streetscape



## JW Clay Streetscape Project Deficiencies



Missing sidewalk, bike lane



Crosswalks without sidewalk

## JW Clay Streetscape Project Deficiencies



Lack of connectivity



Missing sidewalk, no bike lane facility, no access to Barton Creek Greenway

## JW Clay Streetscape



## All Projects...What's Next?

- Planning contracts underway
- Public discussion tonight
- Continued public involvement throughout project
- Anticipate “preferred alignment” by year end

# Phasing and Scheduling

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

## 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?

Visit [www.charlottefuture.com](http://www.charlottefuture.com) to learn more about the Community Investment Plan and sign up to receive regular updates.