

# The Future of Endicott and Bigelow Streets

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Community Meeting #2 - January 05, 2023 - PNI Club

<https://www.worcesterma.gov/mobility/planning/future-of-endicott-and-bigelow-streets>



Weston & Sampson<sup>SM</sup>  
design studio

# AGENDA

- Project Team Introductions
- **Why Green Island?**
- Short Video from the Walk Audit Academy: “*Walkability is more than just sidewalks*”
- **Project Overview**
- What did we hear at the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting?
- **Updated Design Concepts**
- Questions & Answers & Next Steps



# PROJECT TEAM INTRODUCTIONS

# Meet our team



**Matthew Soule**

Senior Project Manager

Weston & Sampson



**John Odell**

Chief

Department of  
Sustainability &  
Resilience



**Gregory J. Baker**

Director

Neighborhood  
Development Division



**Stephen S. Rolle**

Commissioner

Department of  
Transportation and  
Mobility



**Luba Zhaurova**

Director of Projects

Department of  
Sustainability &  
Resilience





# Stakeholders

- Green Island Community
- Weston & Sampson - Designer
- City of Worcester
  - Economic Development-Neighborhoods Division
  - Department of Public Works and Parks
  - Department of Sustainability and Resilience
  - Department of Transportation and Mobility





# WHY GREEN ISLAND?



- In Spring 2019, Worcester City Manager Ed Augustus committed to investing in and improving the Green Island neighborhood utilizing \$3 million of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. The neighborhood is in close proximity to the new minor league Woo Sox ballpark anticipated to be open in the Spring of 2021 (and opened on schedule).
- In Summer 2019, as part of the Green Island Initiative, the Division of Neighborhood Development organized a public community input meeting in Green Island to obtain feedback and input on neighborhood needs. Over 65 people were in attendance.

# What Residents Like Most About Their Neighborhood

## Top 3 Most Common Responses



### Parks and Recreation Facilities

- Crompton Park
- Green space



### Strong Sense of Community

- Neighbors are friendly and dependable
- Child and pet friendly



### Culture

- Racial and ethnic diversity
- Vibrancy
- Historical context/ identity



# What Residents Like Most About Neighborhood

## Additional Common Responses

- Mobility: walkability, transit access, bike lanes, etc.
- Location: highway access, centrally located, etc.
- Recent development and improvements
- Historical identity
- Stability, longevity
- Child and pet friendly
- Quiet, calm
- Small family-owned businesses
- Safety

# Most Pressing Needs Facing the Neighborhood

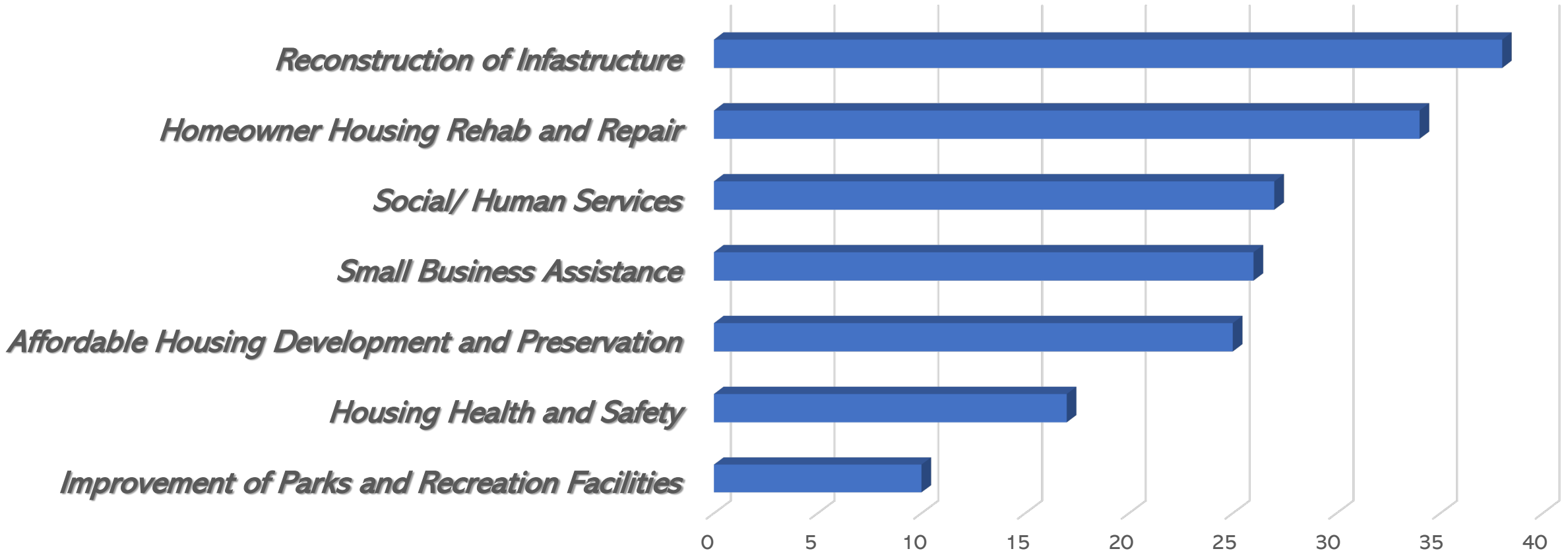
## Additional Common Responses

- Illicit activity
- Lack of affordable housing
- Anxieties over ballpark construction: traffic, gentrification, affordability)
- Poor infrastructure (sidewalks and pavement)
- Traffic
- Need for more owner occupied homes, absent landlords
- Lead remediation
- Park upgrades
- Pest control
- Snow removal on sidewalks
- Preservation of historical sites



# Most Useful, Needed, Or Important Groups Of CDBG Eligible Uses for Green Island

Number of Votes



# “Walkability is more than just sidewalks”

[Walk Audit Academy - 3f: Walkability is more than just sidewalks \("Ped101"\) - YouTube](#)

*Facilitated by Karin Valentine Goins, co-chair of WalkBike Worcester*





# PROJECT OVERVIEW

# Endicott and Bigelow Streets

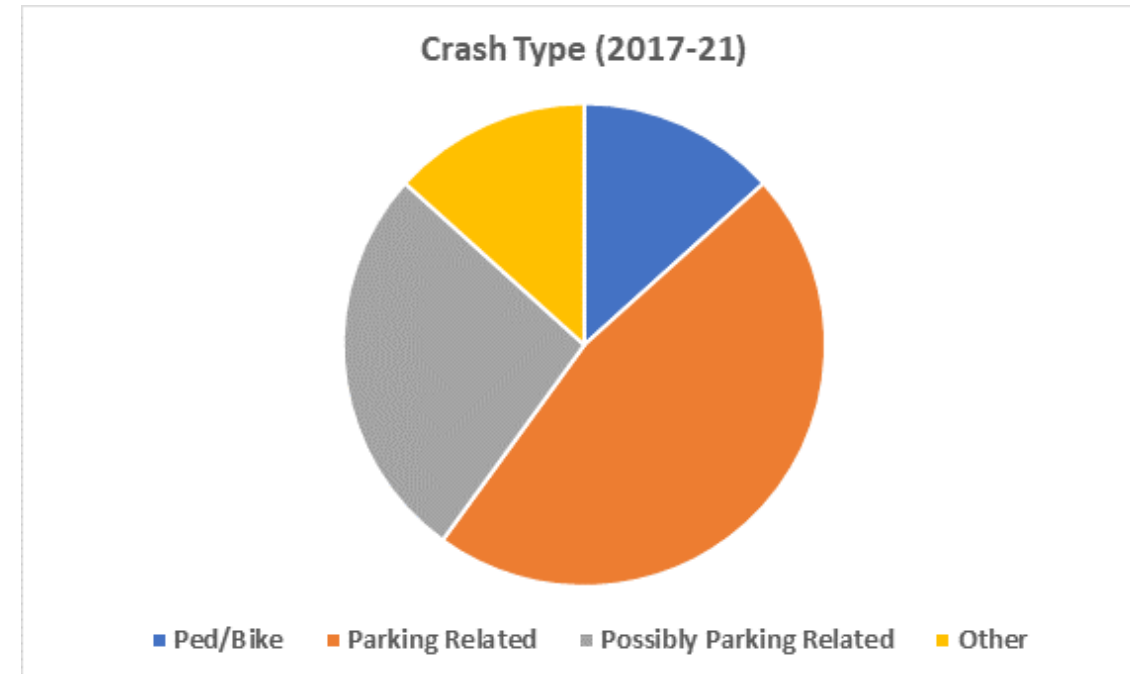
Endicott Street and Bigelow Street are local residential streets linking the Green Island neighborhood, Crompton Park and the rest of the City.





# Statement of Needs

- **Safety:** The segment averages 3 crashes per year:
  - 13% of crashes involve pedestrians or bikes.
  - As many as 74% of crashes are believed to be related to on-street parking.
- **Bicycle Accommodations:** There are no accommodations for bicycles, despite connecting to the bike network at either end.
- **Climate Resilience:** The neighborhood is prone to both flooding and intense summer heat due to an abundance of paved surfaces and little vegetation.
- **Infrastructure Upgrade Needs:** Existing street and sidewalks are in disrepair and need to be upgraded



# Project Goals

- Improve universal access (compliant ADA ramps and more)
- Improve safety via removal of perpendicular parking, curb extension bump outs and more
- Strengthen connections to nearby open space
- Improve water infiltration and reduce urban heat via increased tree canopy and more
- Enhance park visibility





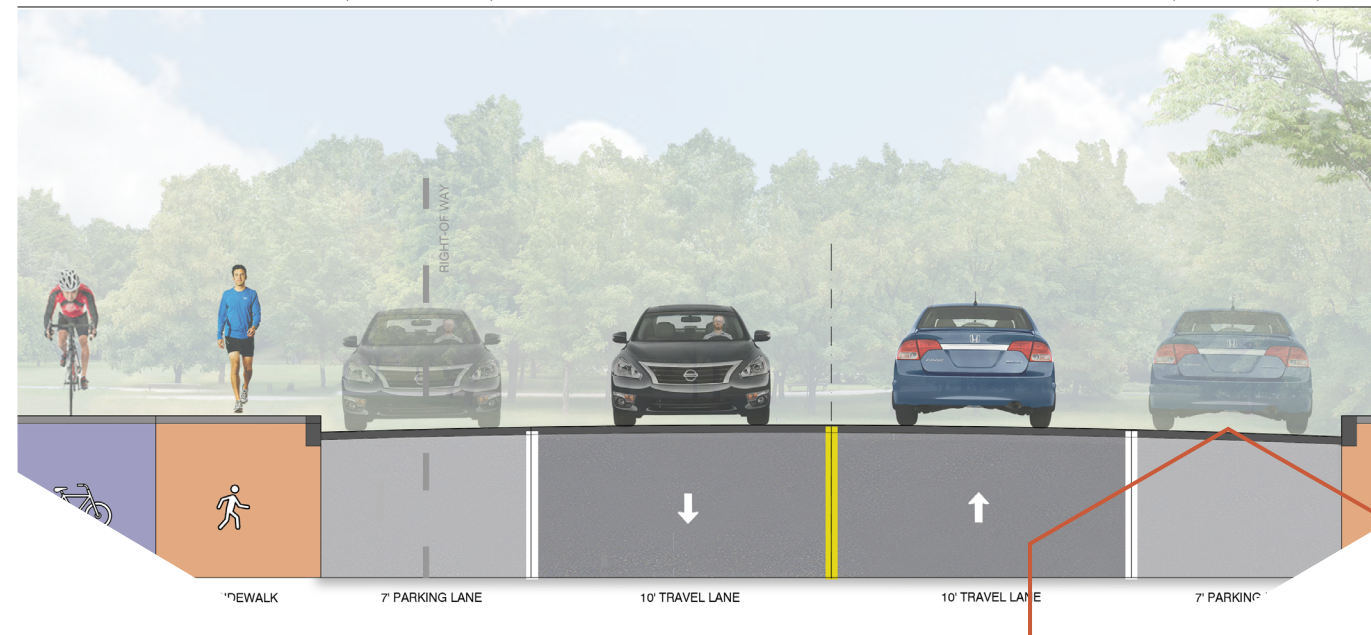
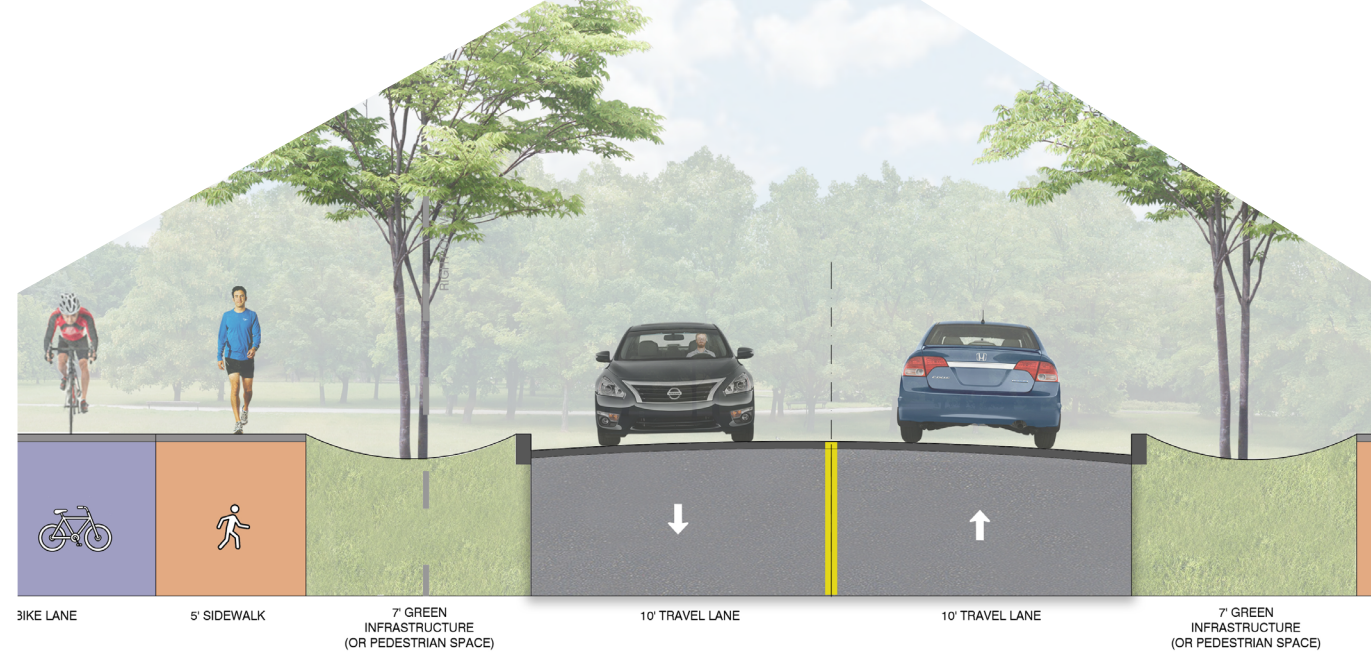
# Project Objectives

- Increase safety for ALL modes of traffic.
- Retain on-street parking for residents, properties, and park visitors
- Reduce crashes
- Improve and Expand sidewalks
- Provide better access to Crompton Park
- Provide safe and comfortable bicycle accommodations
- Improve ADA access and accommodations
- Improve aesthetics
- Reduce urban heat island effects
- Reduce impact to area flooding
- Use this project to inform other projects throughout the city

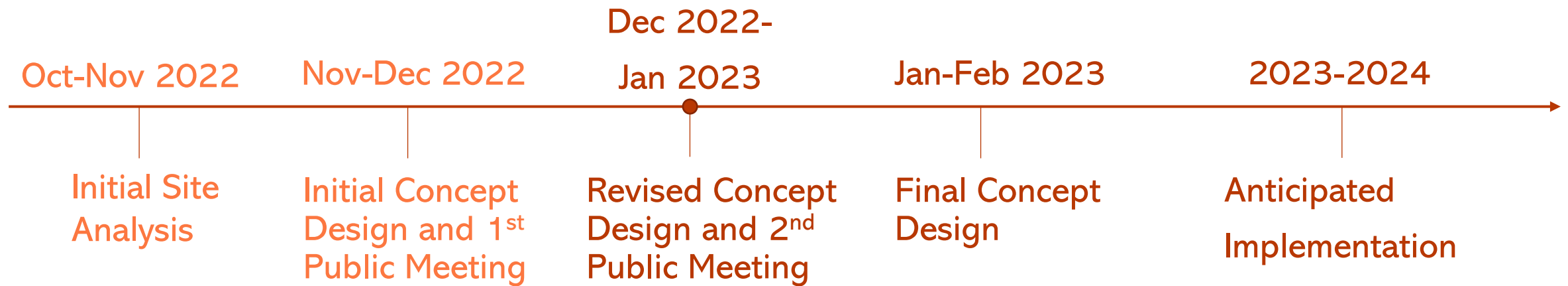


# What are Complete Streets?

- Safe
- Accessible
- Connected
- Multi-functional



# Project Timeline





# WHAT DID WE HEAR AT THE 1<sup>ST</sup> MEETING?



# Comments from the community

- **Stormwater flooding is a concern**
- **Concern regarding proposed removal of some parking spaces**
- **People liked the proposed wider sidewalk on the north side of the Endicott Street**
- **Generally in favor of bike lanes and upgrades to the sidewalks, but some concern regarding how pedestrian areas will overlap safely with the proposed 2-way bike lane and snow clearing**





# **BENEFITS OF UPDATED DESIGN**

# Proposed Design Features

- **Separated (=Safer) Bike Path on Endicott St**
- **Safer Parking Layout on Endicott St**
  - **New Parking Spaces on the Residential Side of Endicott St**
  - **Net loss of 7 spaces**
    - **Reduced by 20 spaces on Endicott St**
    - **Potential gain of 13 spaces on Harding St**
- **Tree Canopy Increased by 46 trees**
  - **Bigelow and adjacent streets - 17 new trees**
  - **Endicott Street - 7 trees removed and 36 new trees proposed**
- **Traffic Calming Bump Outs Added Along Bigelow St**

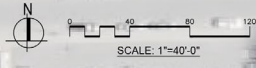


# UPDATED DESIGN CONCEPTS

# Overall Plan

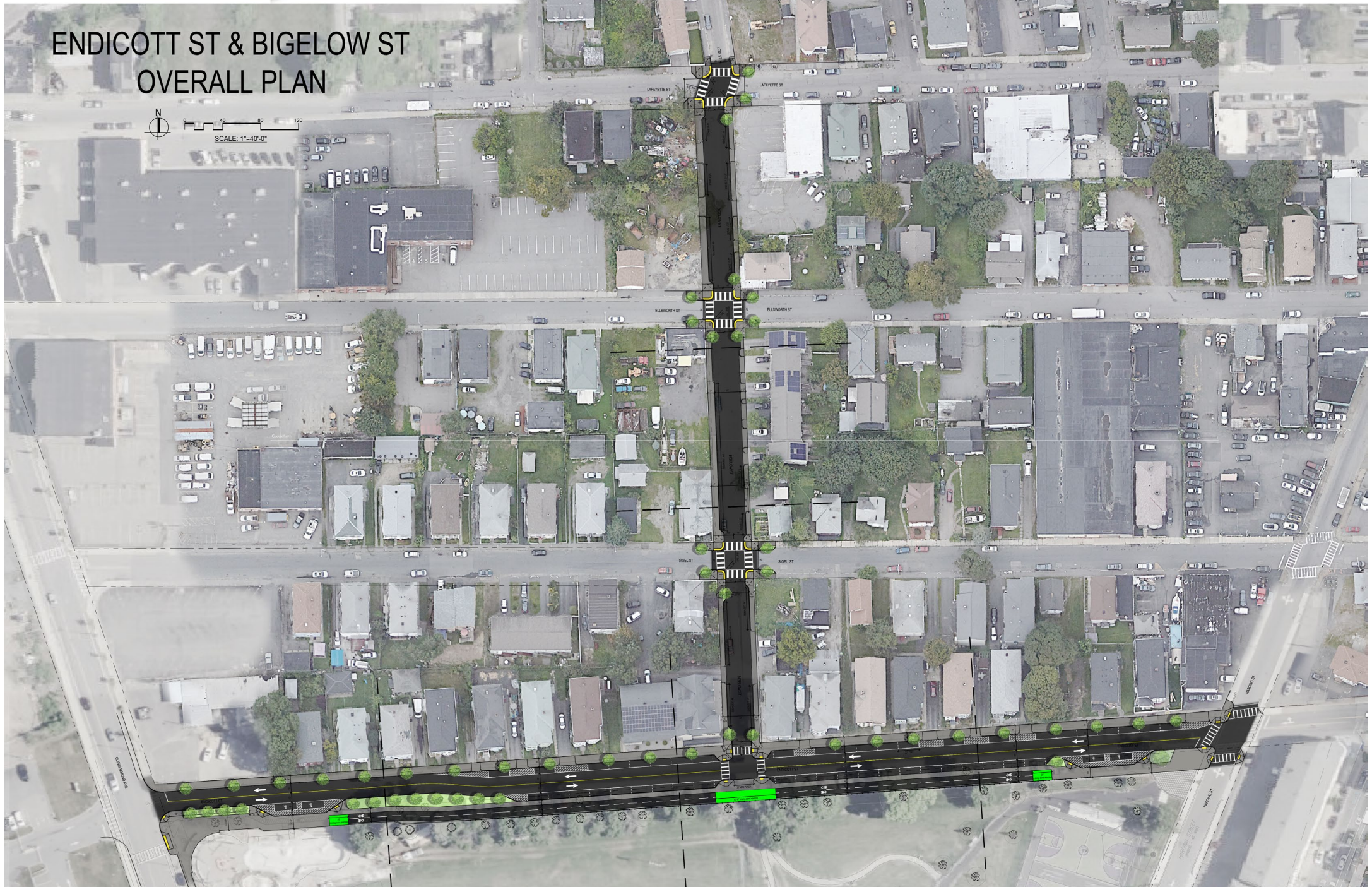
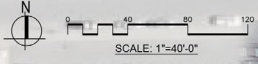


# ENDICOTT ST & BIGELOW ST EXISTING PLAN



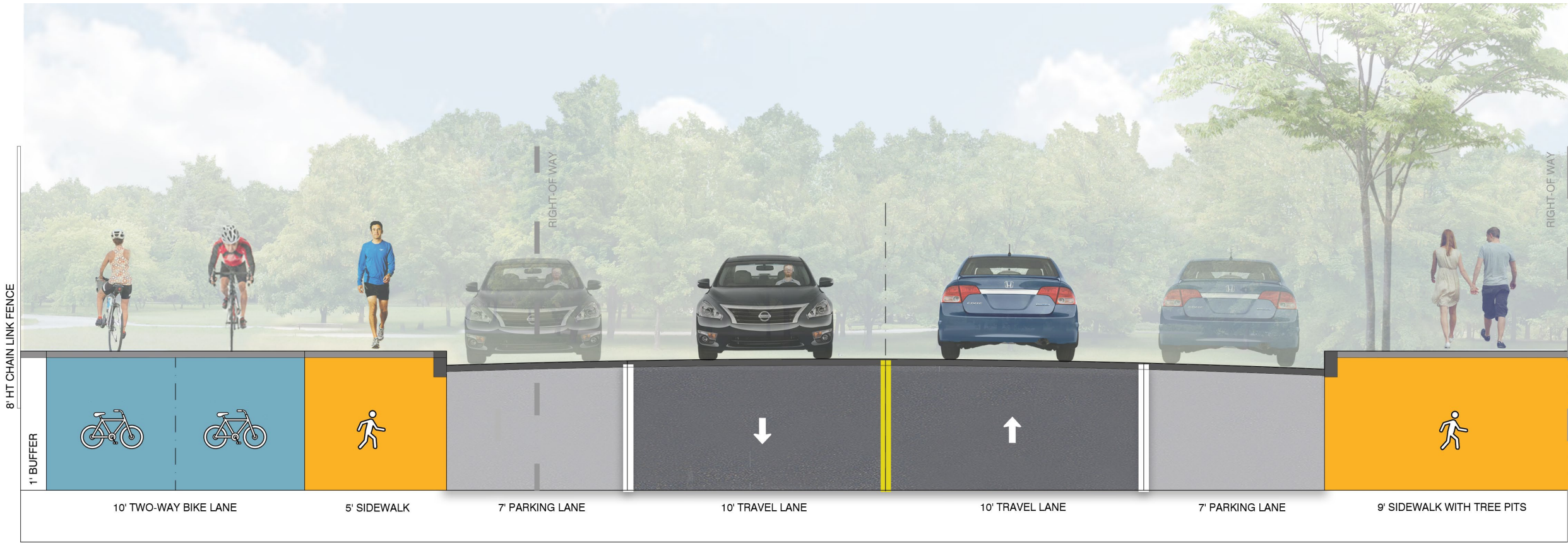


# ENDICOTT ST & BIGELOW ST OVERALL PLAN





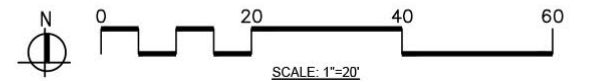
# Endicott Street







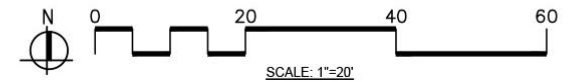
ENDICOTT ST - WEST END PLAN



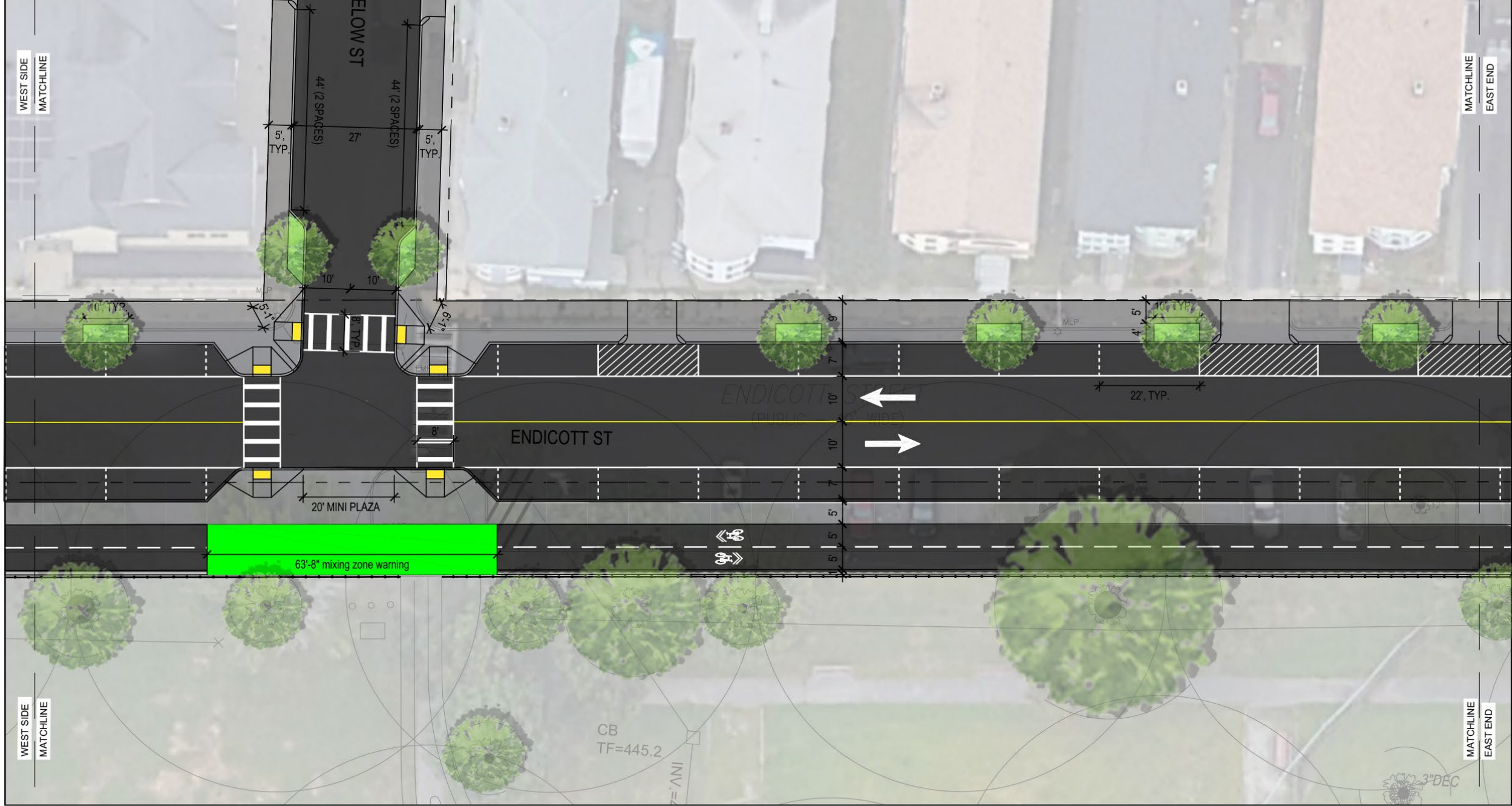




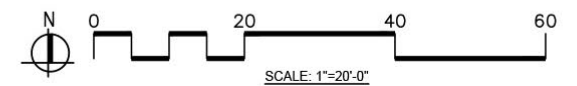
# ENDICOTT ST - WEST SIDE PLAN



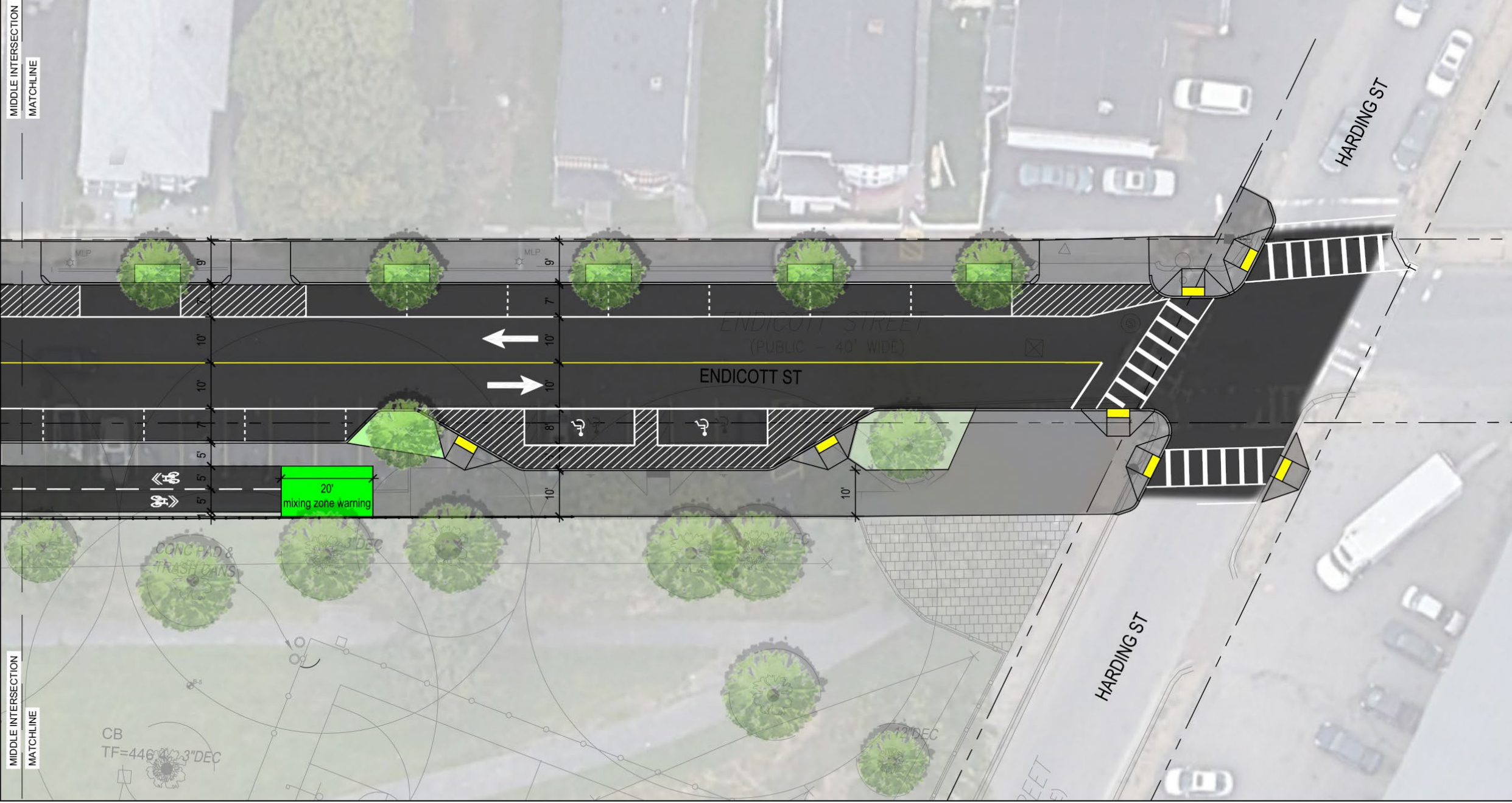




ENDICOTT ST - MIDDLE INTERSECTION PLAN







MIDDLE INTERSECTION  
MATCHLINE

MIDDLE INTERSECTION  
MATCHLINE

# ENDICOTT ST - EAST END PLAN

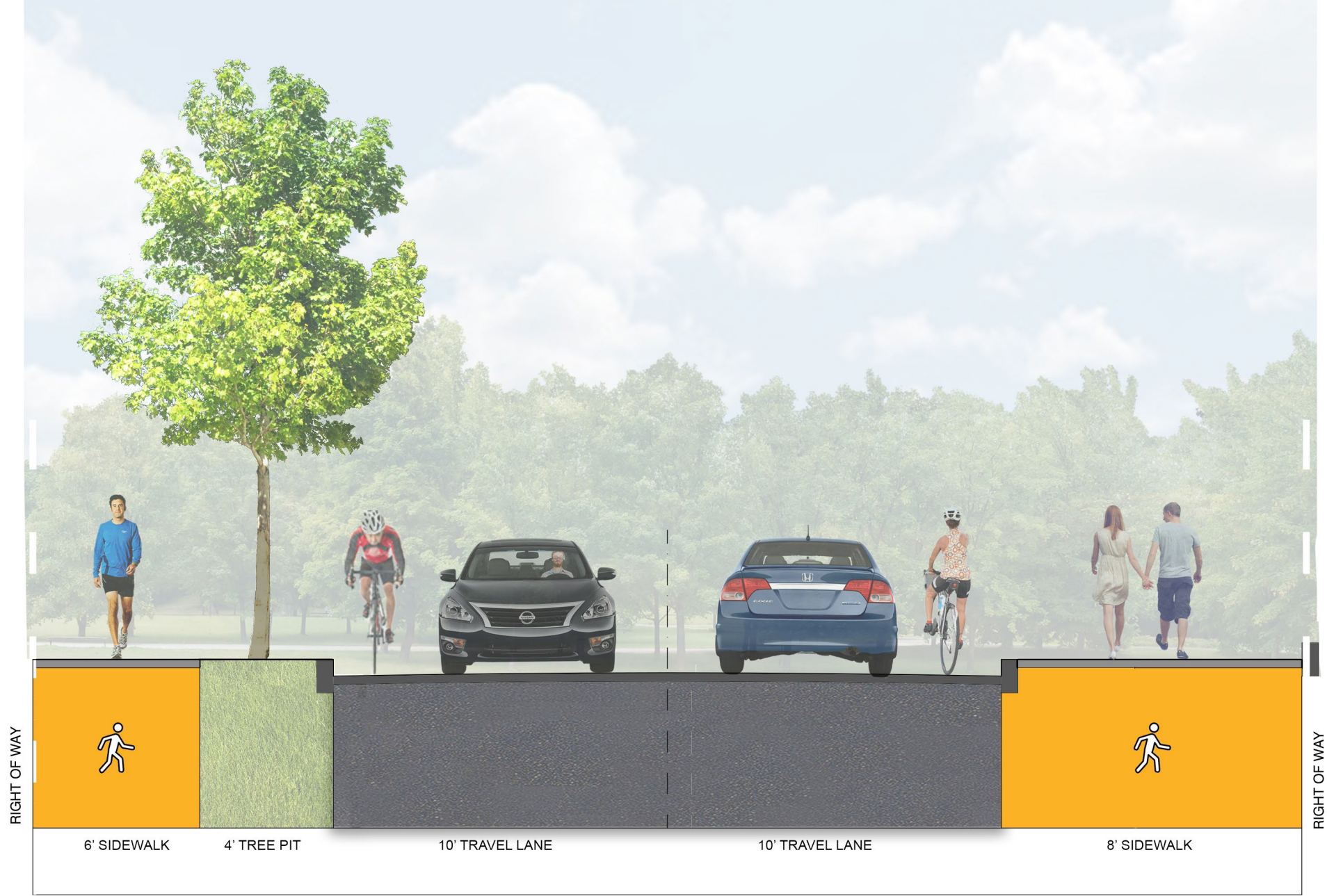






# Bigelow Street

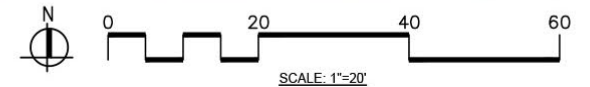




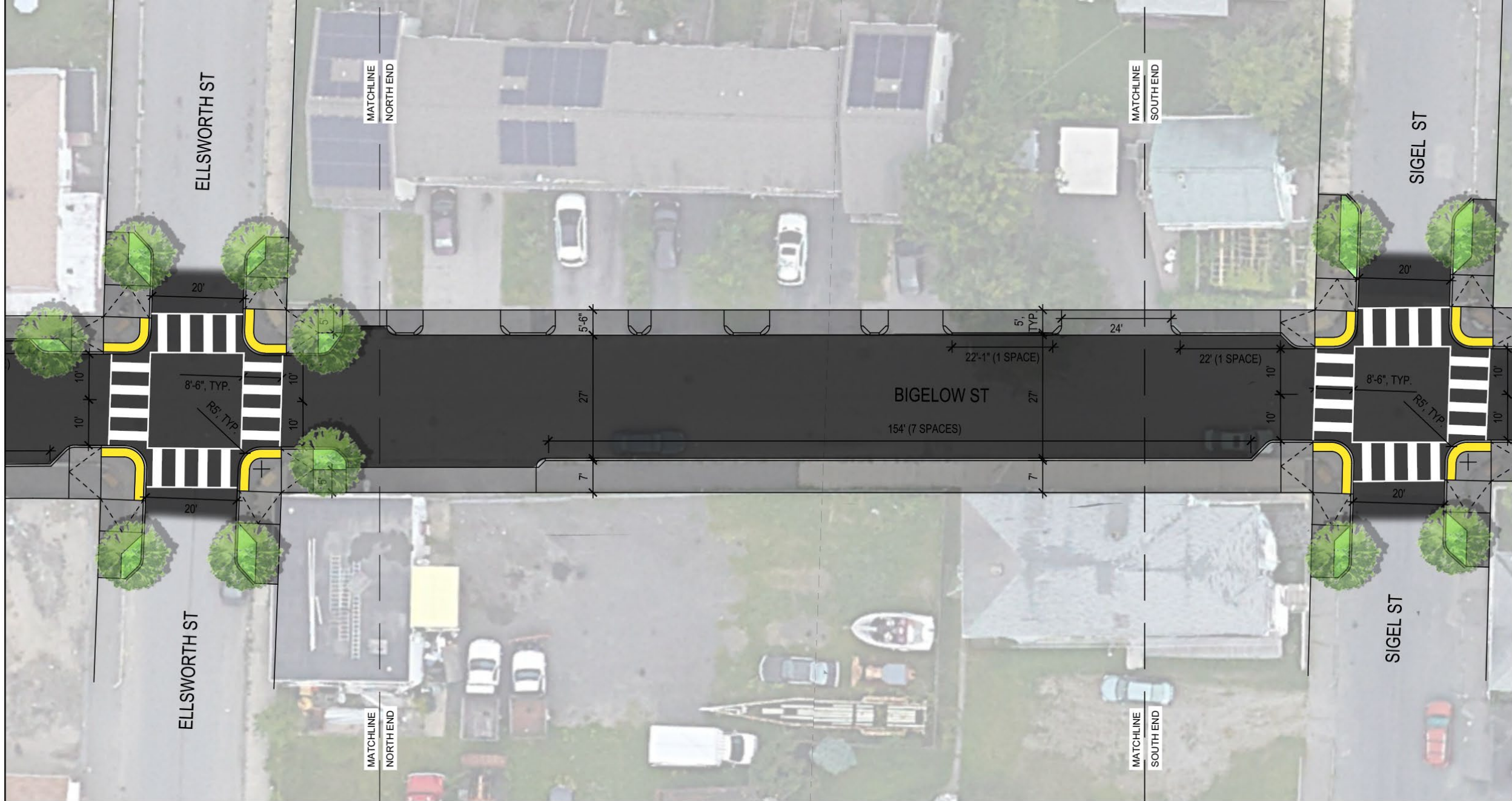




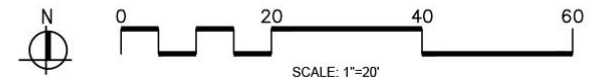
BIGELOW ST - SOUTH END PLAN







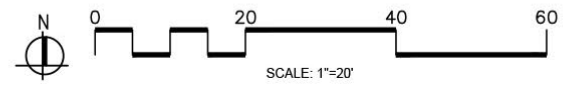
BIGELOW ST - MIDDLE BLOCK PLAN







BIGELOW ST - NORTH END PLAN





# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



# Questions for the Public

**Would anyone be interested in the Adopting a Tree for the new tree plantings on the street?**

**What creative ideas do you have for the mini-plaza leading to the park at the Endicott St x Bigelow St?**



# Questions from the Public



# Next Steps



**How can I follow this project's progress?**

**Check**

**[www.worcesterma.gov/mobility/planning](http://www.worcesterma.gov/mobility/planning)  
for design updates; final concept designs,  
copies of these slides, and more.**

# Thank you

Matthew Soule, Weston & Sampson

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