

Village of Wilmette

Central Avenue ITEP Pedestrian Safety Improvements

TranSystems

EXPERIENCE | Transportation

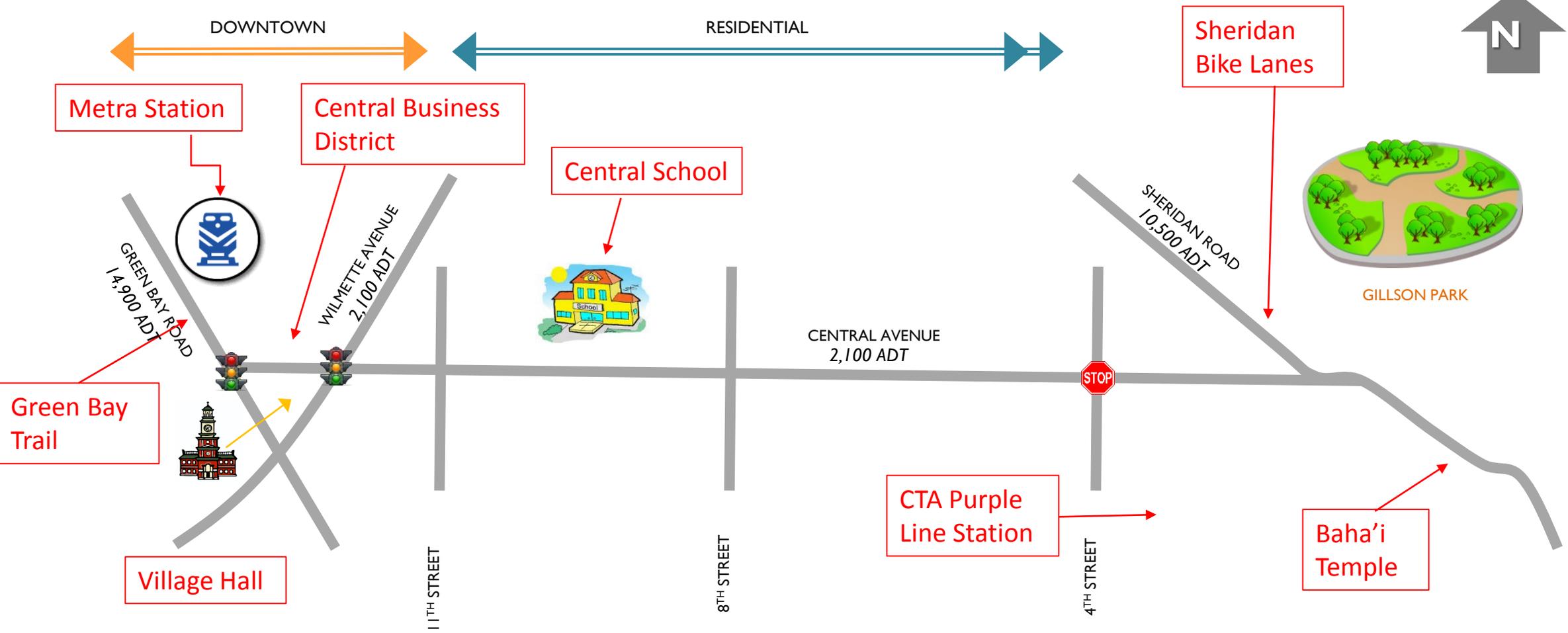


VILLAGE OF WILMETTE

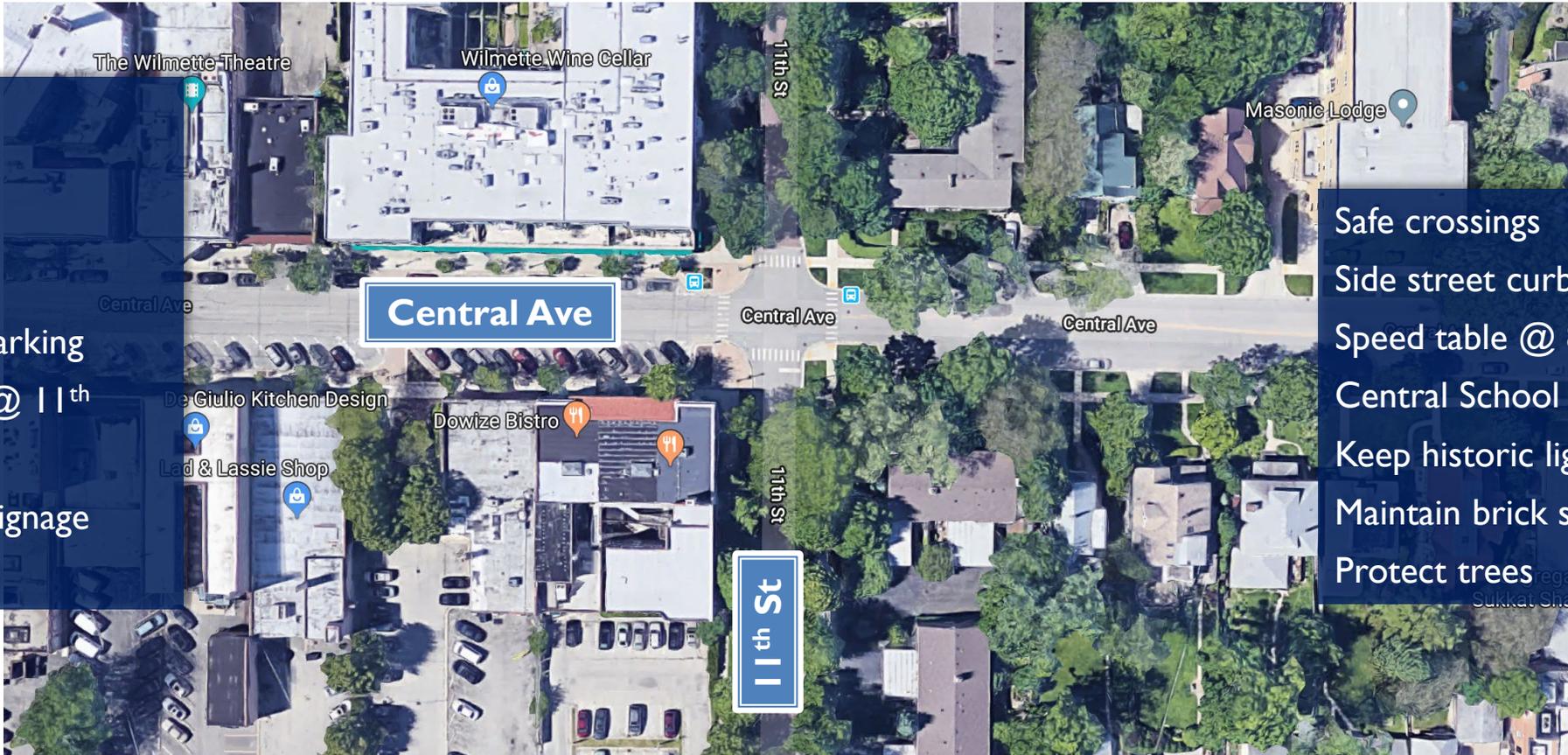
- ▶ Northern suburb of Chicago
- ▶ Western shore of Lake Michigan
- ▶ Immediately North of Evanston
- ▶ 14 miles north of Chicago's downtown district
- ▶ Population: 27,000



PROJECT LOCATION



ROADWAY, TRAFFIC SIGNAL, STREETSCAPING & PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS (\$9M Construction)



- Safe crossings
- Sidewalk layouts
- Curb appeal
- People places
- Maintain on-street parking
- Raised intersection @ 11th
- Bike racks
- Remove redundant signage
- Green infrastructure

- Safe crossings
- Side street curb extensions
- Speed table @ 8th
- Central School hardscape
- Keep historic lighting
- Maintain brick side streets
- Protect trees

Vibrant Downtown

Walkable Neighborhood

CENTRAL AVE LOOKING EAST AT WILMETTE AVE DOWNTOWN



CENTRAL AVE LOOKING EAST AT 11TH DOWNTOWN



11TH TO 8TH RESIDENTIAL/SCHOOL



8TH TO 4TH RESIDENTIAL



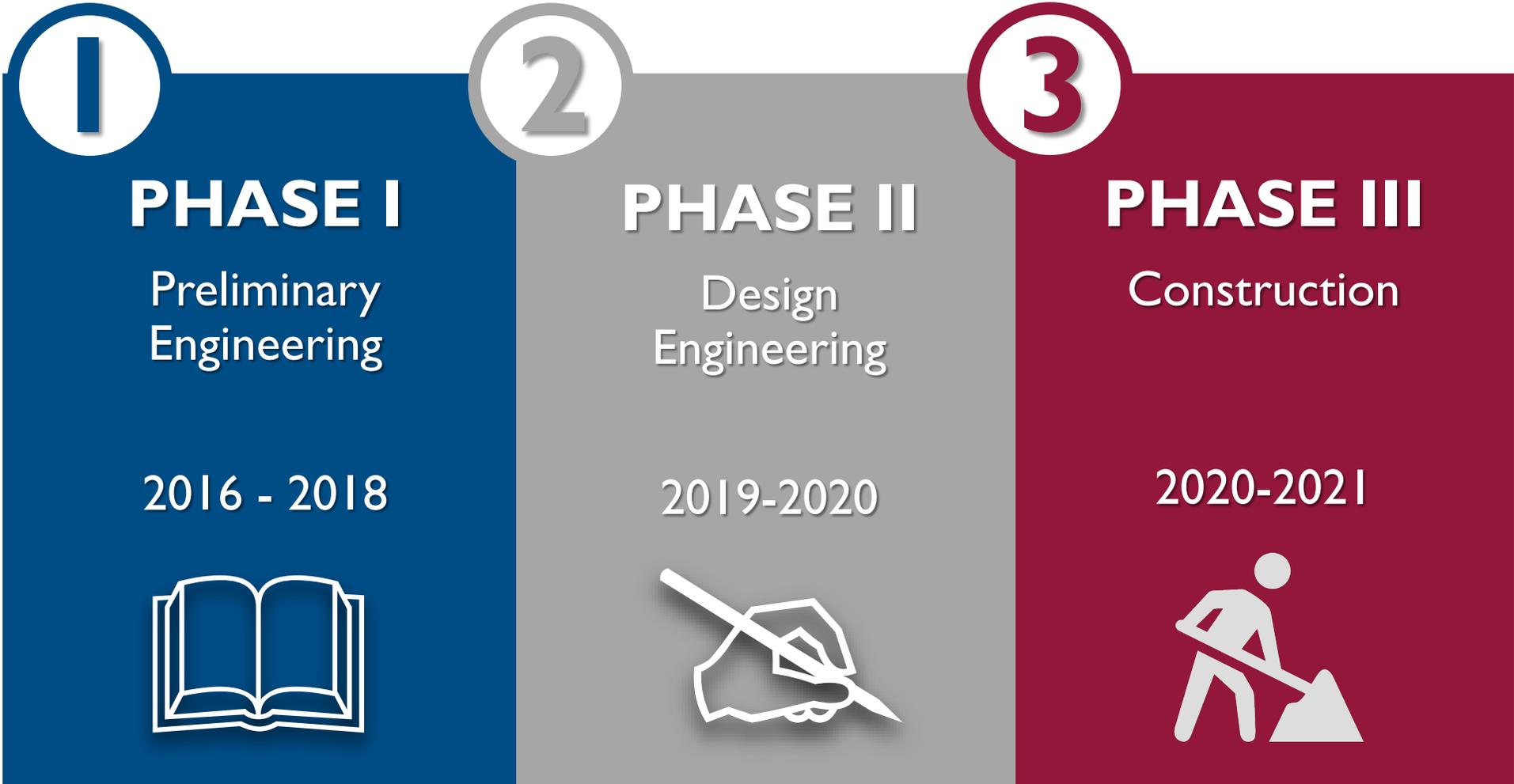
BRICK SIDE STREETS



4TH TO SHERIDAN RD RESIDENTIAL



SCHEDULE (April 2020 Letting)



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

CONTINUOUS OUTREACH FROM DESIGN THROUGH CONSTRUCTION

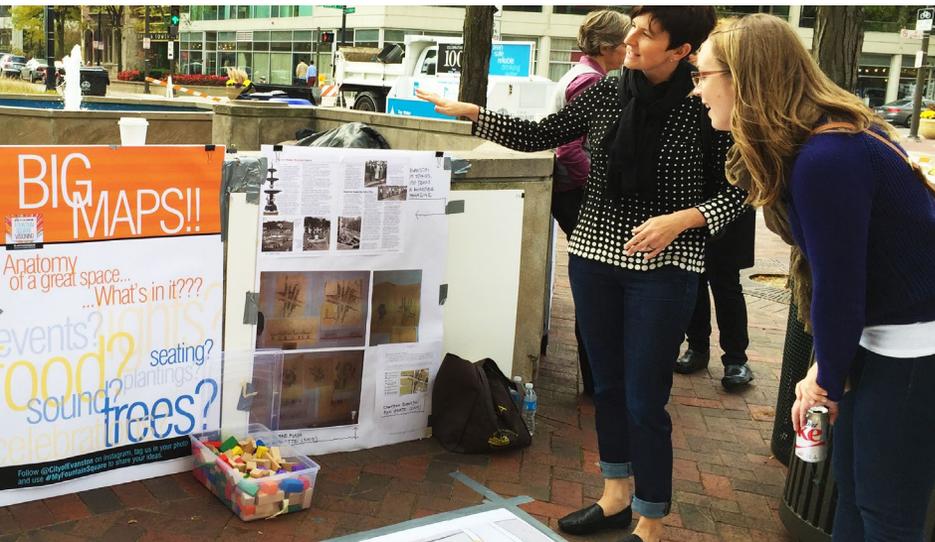


Phase I

- ▶ 3 Public Meetings
 - ▶ > 200 Attendees

Phase II

- ▶ Website
- ▶ Music on the Green
- ▶ Focus Groups
- ▶ Streetscape Poll
- ▶ Public Meeting



OUTREACH TOOL

Poll Results

647 Responses

Aug 17 – Nov 30, 2018

Village website,
e-news, input box,
emails to downtown
businesses

TOP REASONS TO VISIT WILMETTE

Restaurants

92%



Shops

56%



TOP RATED AMENITIES FOR THE DOWNTOWN STREETScape

Trees + Plantings

67%



Outdoor Dining

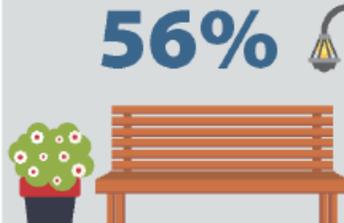
66%



POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE VILLAGE GREEN

Additional Public Seating

56%



Expanded Walkways + Gathering Spaces

51%



POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR VETERANS PARK

Public Seating Areas

59%



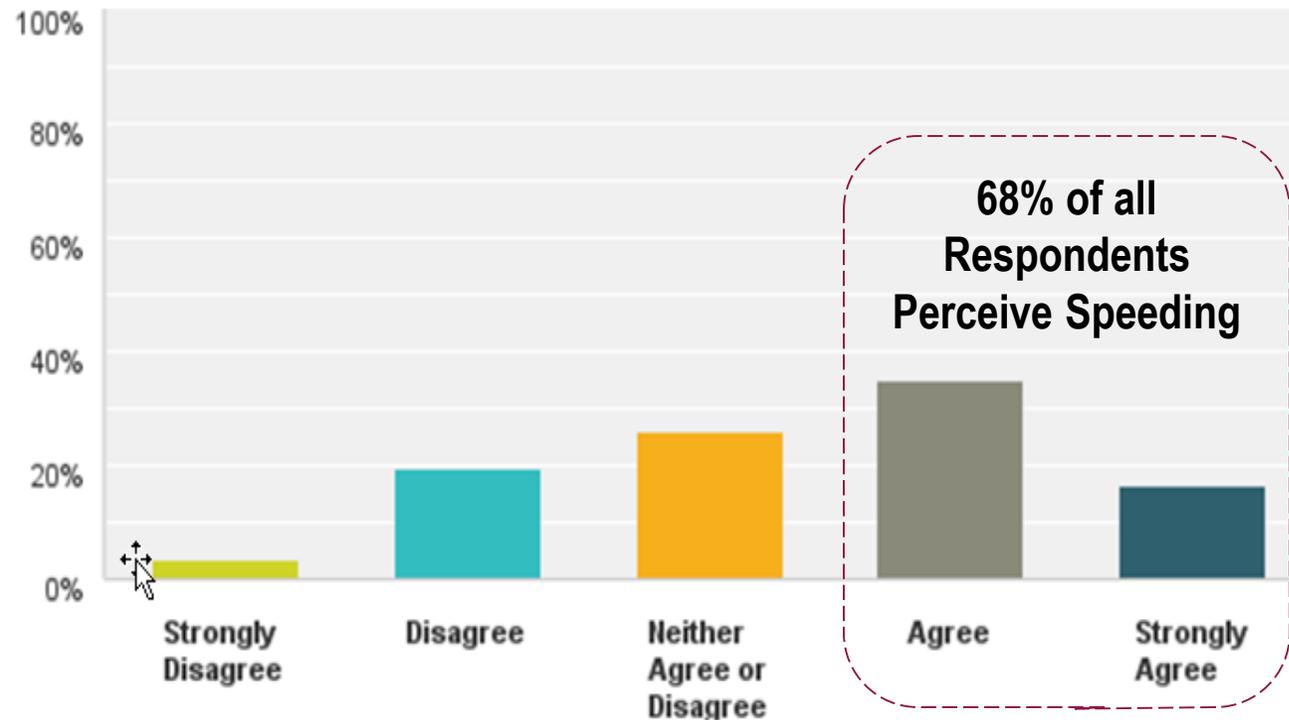
Kid's Play Area

41%



Q20: Speeding is a problem along Central Avenue. (choose one)

Answered: 92 Skipped: 3



PEDESTRAIN IMPROVEMENTS (RESIDENTIAL)

- ▶ Side Street Curb Extensions
- ▶ Speed Table @ 8th
- ▶ Hardscape Central School

TRAFFIC CALMING: CURB EXTENSIONS



Protects
Parking

Shorter Crosswalks

More
Greenspace

RECOMMENDED

11th, 10th, 9th, 7th & 5th

TRAFFIC CALMING: SPEED TABLES



POSITIVES

- ▶ Slows Traffic
- ▶ Protect Pedestrians
- ▶ Driver Awareness

RECOMMENDED

- Raised Intersection @ 11th
- Speed Table @ 8th

CENTRAL ELEMENTARY DROP OFF OBSERVATIONS



Video of Morning Operations (February 2, 2017; 8:35-8:55am)

- ▶ Backups to 8th Street
 - Cars Don't Pull Up
 - Students Remain in Cars
 - Limited Paved Area
- ▶ Duration 15 Minutes (Dissipates after 8:50am Door Opening)
- ▶ Operates Efficiently with Faculty Assistance
- ▶ Potential Adjustments
 - Larger Drop-Off Area
 - Open Doors Sooner

CENTRAL ELEMENTARY DROP OFF AREA



**RECOMMENDED:
Hardscape Parkway**

PEDESTRAIN IMPROVEMENTS (DOWNTOWN)

- ▶ Bike Racks
- ▶ 11th Street Safety
 - ▶ Raised Intersection
 - ▶ Improved Sight Lines
- ▶ People Place Focus
 - ▶ Sidewalks
 - ▶ Village Green
 - ▶ Veteran's Park



BIKE RACKS METRA STATION



BIKE RACKS DOWNTOWN

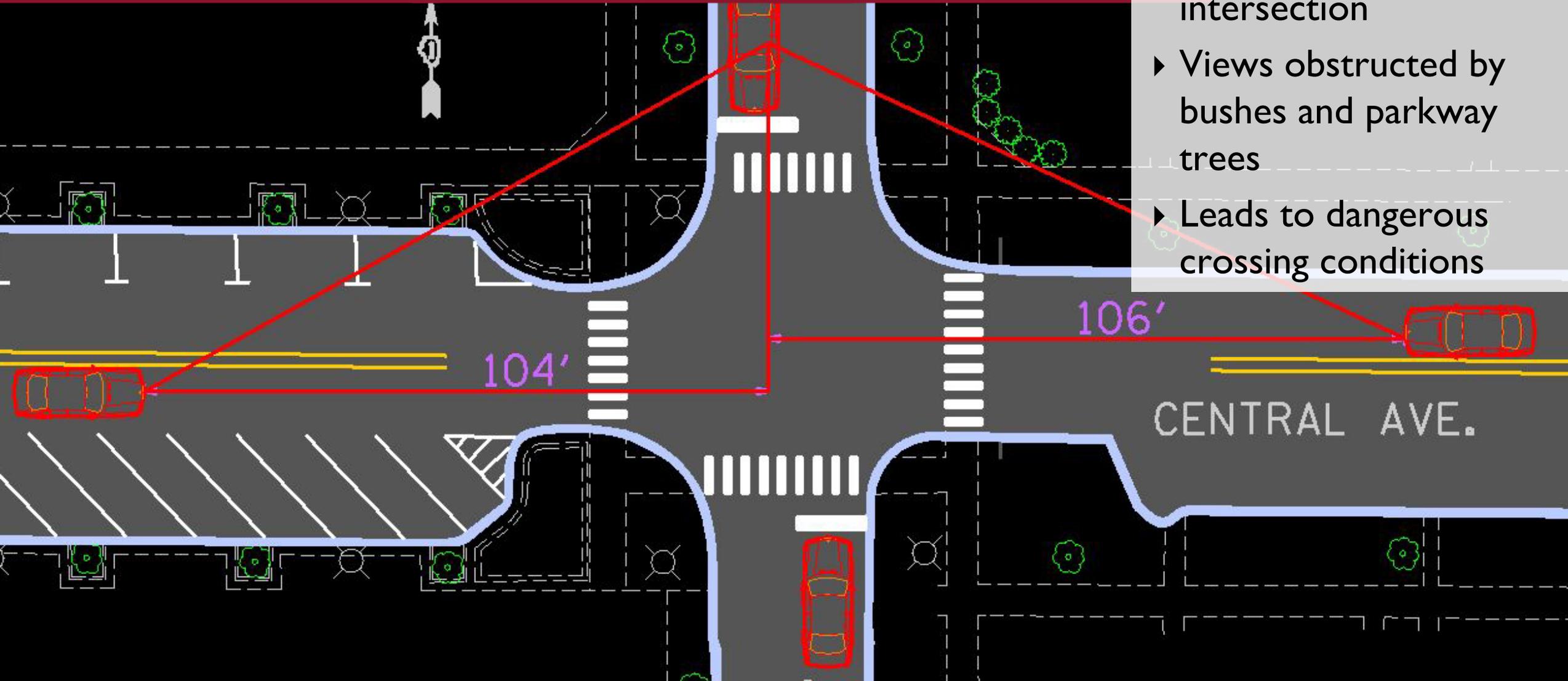


BIKE RACKS | 11TH STREET

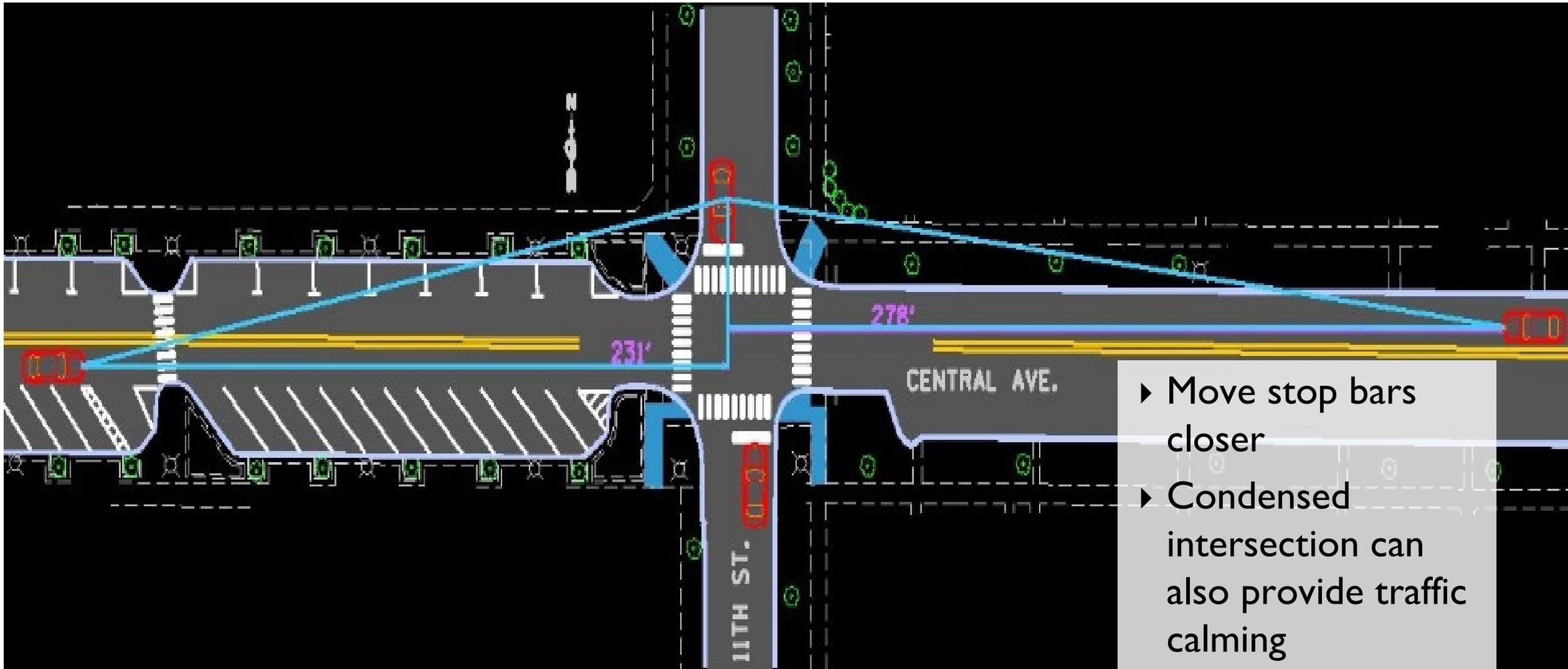


EXISTING LINE OF SIGHT @ 11TH & CENTRAL

- ▶ Stop bars set back from intersection
- ▶ Views obstructed by bushes and parkway trees
- ▶ Leads to dangerous crossing conditions



IMPROVED LINE OF SIGHT



- ▶ Move stop bars closer
- ▶ Condensed intersection can also provide traffic calming

FOCUS AREA: WILMETTE & CENTRAL AVENUES



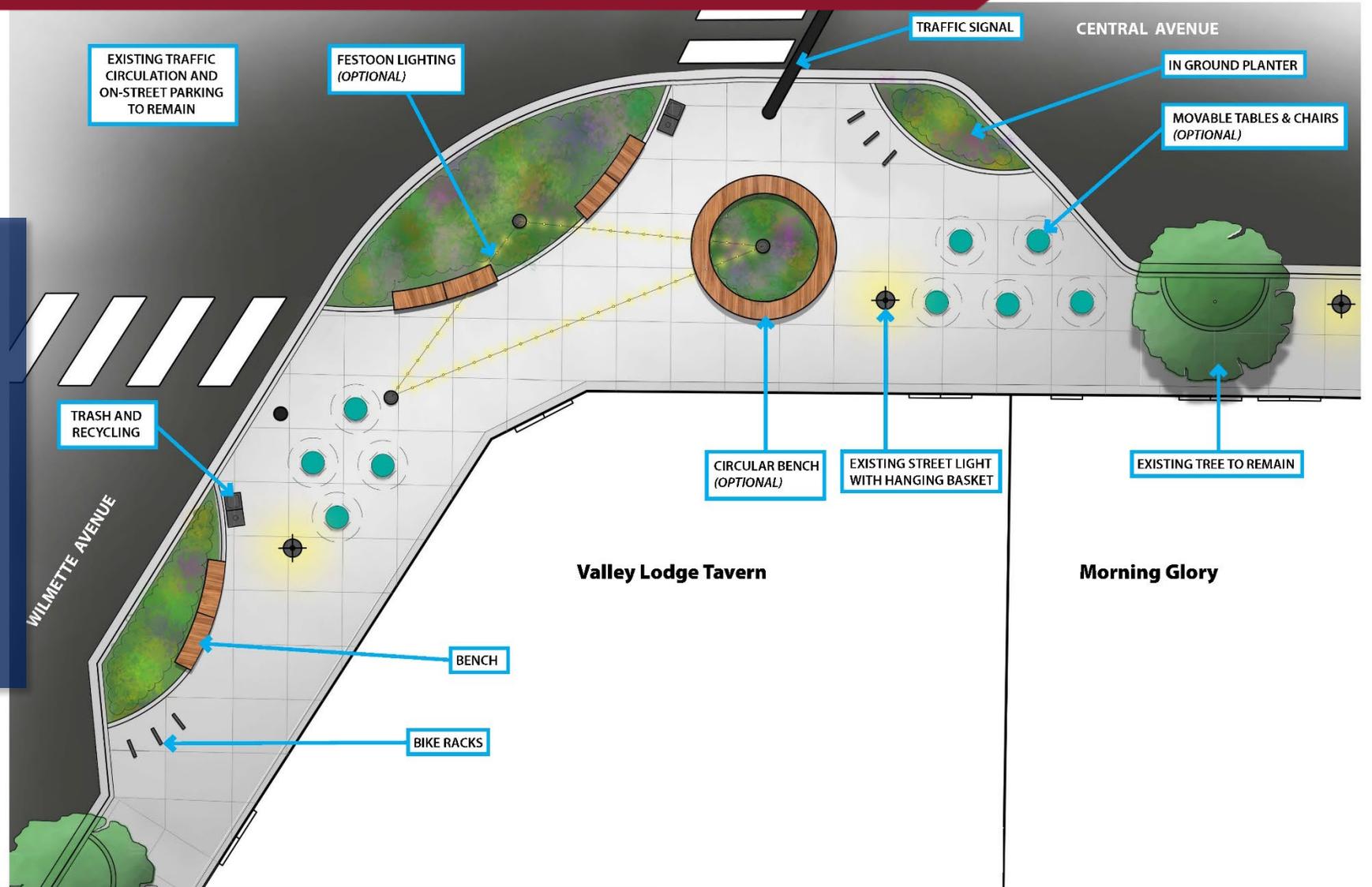
WILMETTE DOWNTOWN STREESCAPE

Central Avenue and Wilmette Avenue



WILMETTE DOWNTOWN STREESCAPE

Typical Pedestrian Bumpout



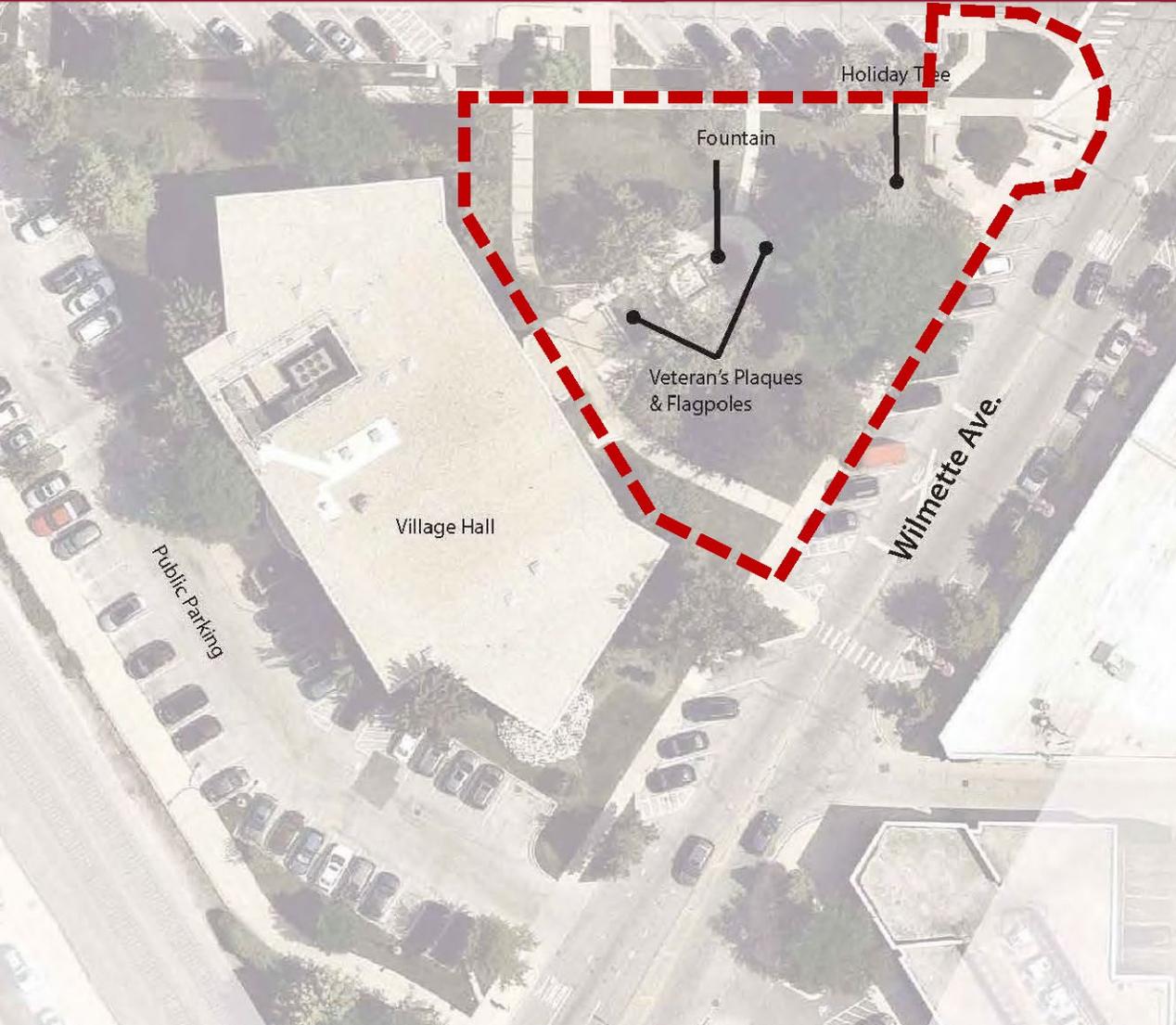
LOOKING EAST ALONG CENTRAL AVE



LOOKING EAST ALONG CENTRAL AVE

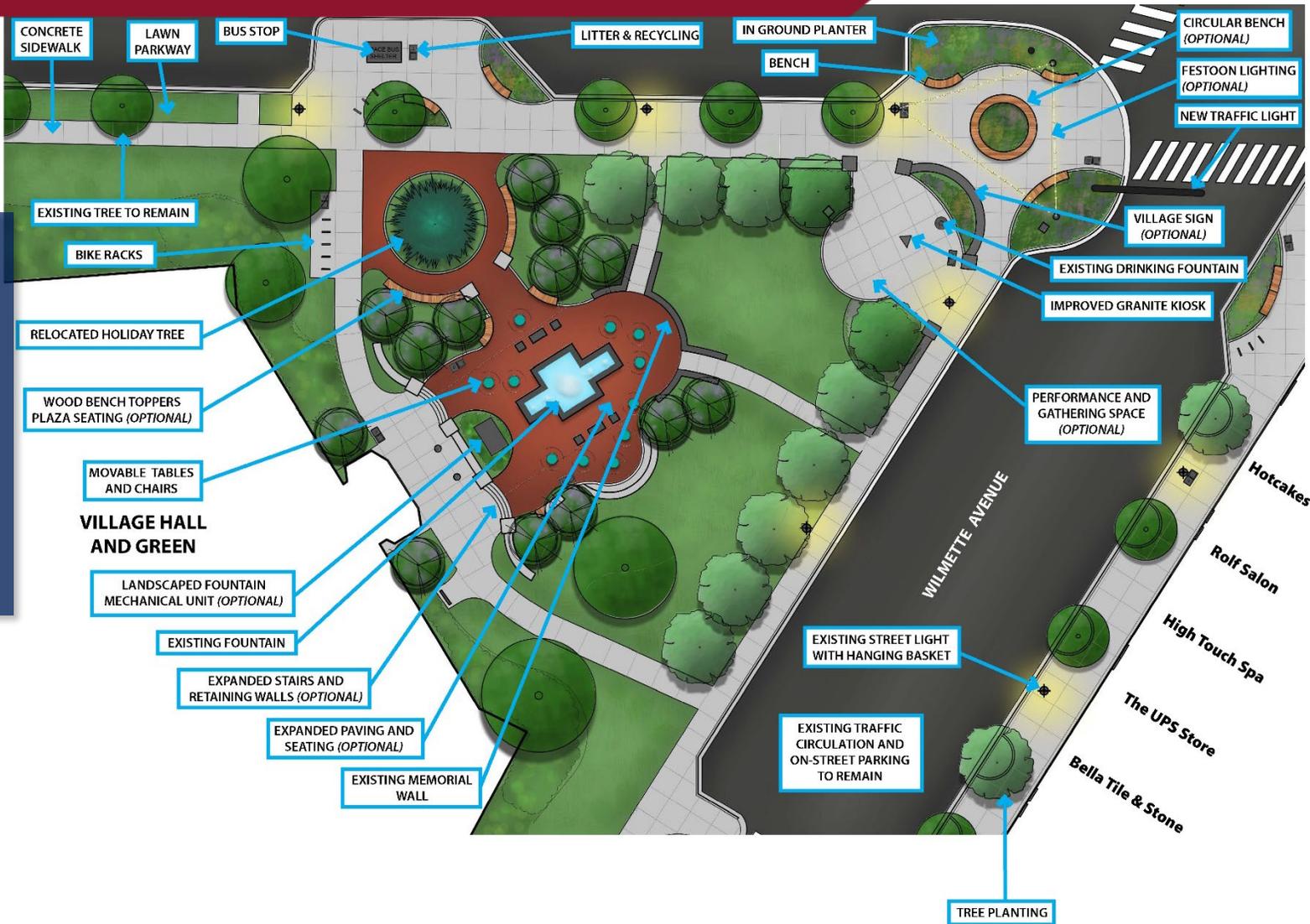


FOCUS AREA: VILLAGE GREEN



WILMETTE DOWNTOWN STREESCAPE

Village Green



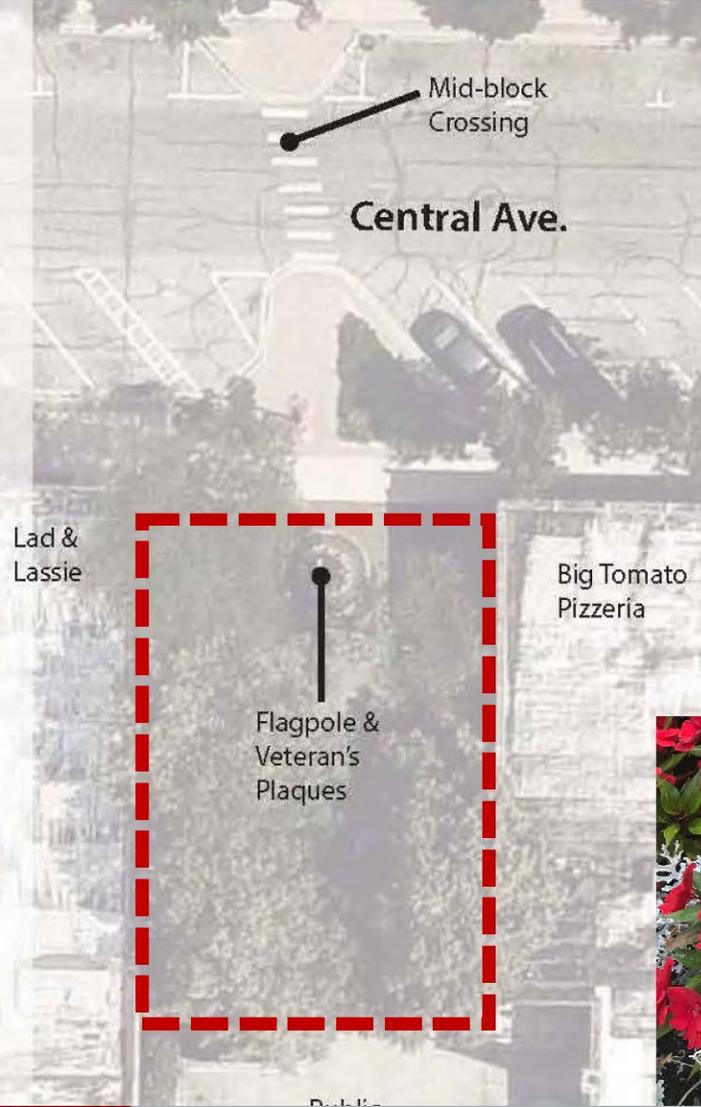
LOOKING SOUTHWEST AT VILLAGE HALL



LOOKING SOUTHWEST AT VILLAGE HALL

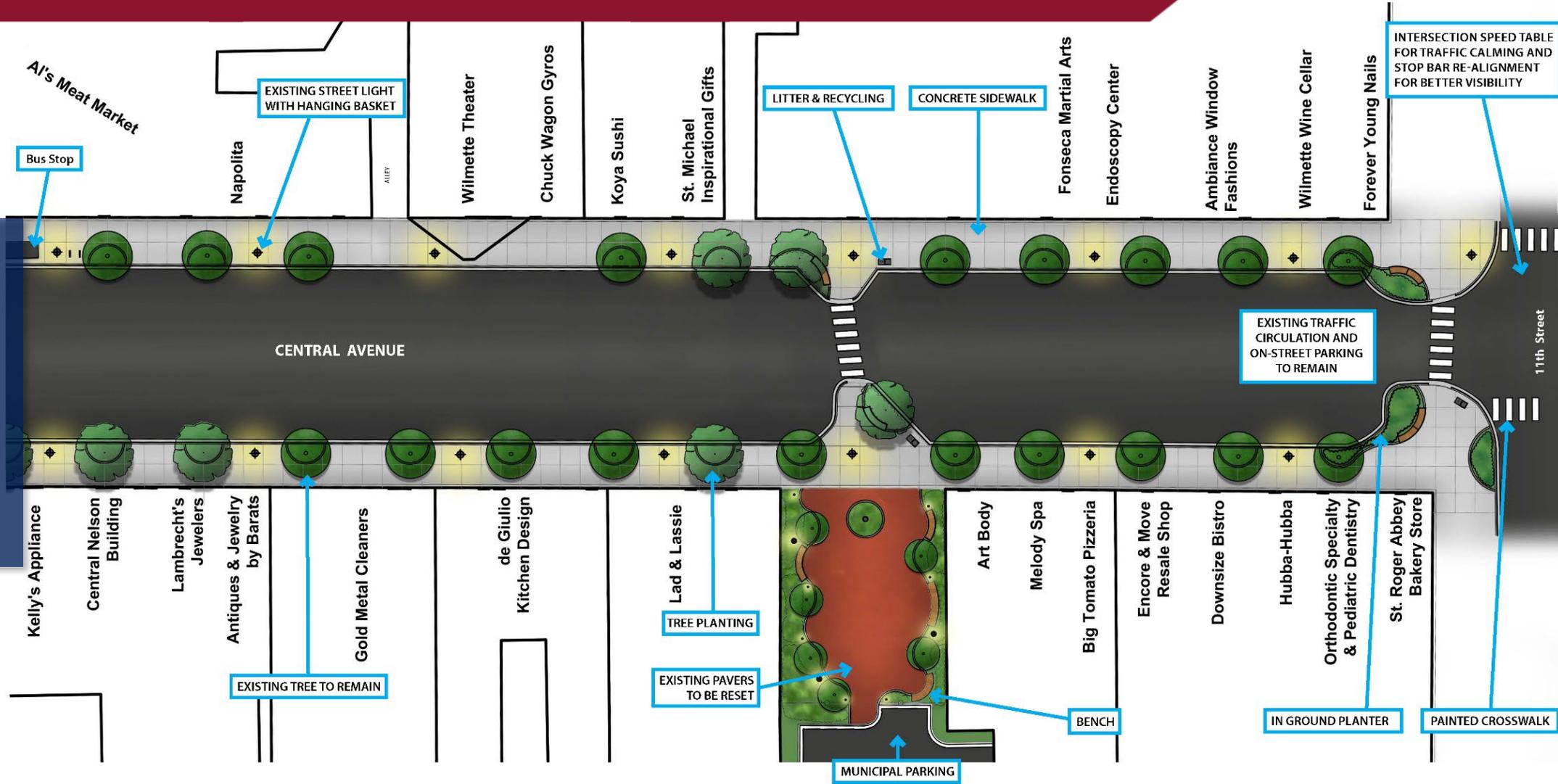


FOCUS AREA: VETERAN'S PARK



WILMETTE DOWNTOWN STREESCAPE

Central Avenue



LOOKING SOUTH AT VETERAN'S PARK



LOOKING SOUTHWEST AT VETERAN'S PARK



BACK-IN PARKING (NOT SELECTED)

POSITIVES

- ▶ Less Severe & Costly Collisions
- ▶ Better Visibility (Cars & Bikes)
- ▶ Safer to Drive-out vs. Back-out
- ▶ Passengers exit to Sidewalk vs. Road
- ▶ Cyclist feel Safer in Front of Cars vs. Behind

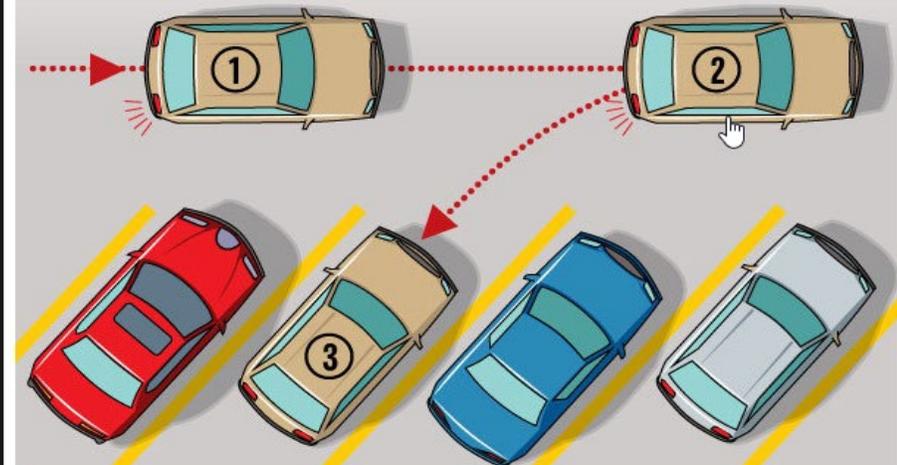
NEGATIVES

- ▶ Discourages Customers
- ▶ Difficult Backing into a Confined Space
- ▶ More Attempts = Congestion
- ▶ May Back onto Sidewalks
- ▶ Outdoor Dining Exhaust
- ▶ Insufficient Width for Bike Lanes



REVERSE ANGLE PARKING

1. Signal for turn
2. Stop just past the parking space
3. Back into the space, using side mirrors to view lines



TAKEAWAYS

ITEP Application Process

- ▶ Clear Instructions
- ▶ Streamline Application
 - Online 7 Pages
 - Attachments Separate
- ▶ Easy to Identify a Good Project with Benefits
 - CBD, Train Station, School, Bike & Pedestrian Facilities, etc.

Project Selection

- ▶ Deadline December 1, 2017
- ▶ Initial Vision & Support
 - Village Center Master Plan
 - Robust Phase I Public Involvement

Funding Issues

- ▶ Complements Larger \$9M Project
- ▶ \$1M Grant for \$1.3M ITEP Items
 - “Wanted to do more” \$2.5M vs. \$1.3M
 - Locally funded an additional \$600k
 - Scoring & Selectable Options
- ▶ Timing
 - Local funds to begin Design (Startup Agreement)
- ▶ What items are eligible?

THANK YOU!


2:00 AM
TO 5:00 AM



8 AM TO 5 PM
MONDAY
THRU
FRIDAY
VILLAGE OF WILMETTE


After 2 inch
snowfall
and until
snow removal
is completed