

Corridor Advisory Committee Meeting #1

December 13, 2023



IN COLLABORATION WITH:



Meeting Goals

- **Introduce the Study Team**
- **Establish the Corridor Advisory Committee Roles and Responsibilities**
- **Provide an Overview of the Study Background, Goals, and Timeline**
- **Review and Receive Feedback on Existing Conditions**
- **Review Public Involvement Strategy and Public Survey Results**
- **Discuss Potential Corridor Alternative Components**
- **Identify Next Steps**



Study Team

- Amy Jo Wittenberg, Village President
- Gavin Morgan, Village Administrator
- Charlie Eck, Village Trustee
- Katie Bell, Cook County DoTH
- Jennifer Palma Skrebo, Cook County DoTH
- Darcie Gabrisko, Strand Associates
- Matt Gazdziak, Strand Associates
- Tony Spinelli, Strand Associates
- Caitlin Bettisworth, R.M. Chin & Associates
- Katrice Hodges Perkins, R.M. Chin & Associates



Corridor Advisory Committee Roles, Responsibilities, and Ground Rules

Corridor Advisory Committee

- Local Residents
- Flagg Creek Water Reclamation District
- Illinois Tollway
- La Grange Highlands Sanitary District
- LaGrange Highlands School District 106
- Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
- Pleasant Dale Park District
- Pleasantdale School District 107
- Pleasantview Fire Protection District
- Township of Lyons
- Village of Burr Ridge
- West Central Municipal Conference

Introductions

- Name, organization or neighborhood, and connection to the project
- Please keep your introductions to 30-45 seconds

Corridor Advisory Committee

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Advise on project direction, needs, and details
- Provide guidance and support for issues within your areas of expertise
- Serve as a link to update the public and your organization of progress, scope, schedule, etc.
- Assist in promotion of public information meetings to community members

Ground Rules

- Commitment to attend and participate in all meetings
- Commitment to be open minded and be respectful of group thoughts, comments, and concerns
- Commitment to be an ambassador of the project and inform community

Corridor Advisory Committee

When?

- **Meeting #1** - Study Introduction, Existing Conditions Review, Public Involvement Overview, and Potential Alternative Component Discussion - **TODAY!**
- **Meeting #2** - Public Involvement Review, Analysis Completed to Date, Preview Preliminary Alternatives to be Presented at Public Information Meeting #2 - **Early to Mid 2024**
- **Meeting #3** - Public Involvement Review, Analysis Completed to Date, Preview Preferred Alternative to be Presented at Public Information Meeting #3 - **Late 2024**

Study Overview

Study Background



The Village of Indian Head Park, in conjunction with the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways (DoTH), has initiated a Preliminary Engineering and Environmental (Phase I) Study for 2.3 miles of Wolf Road.

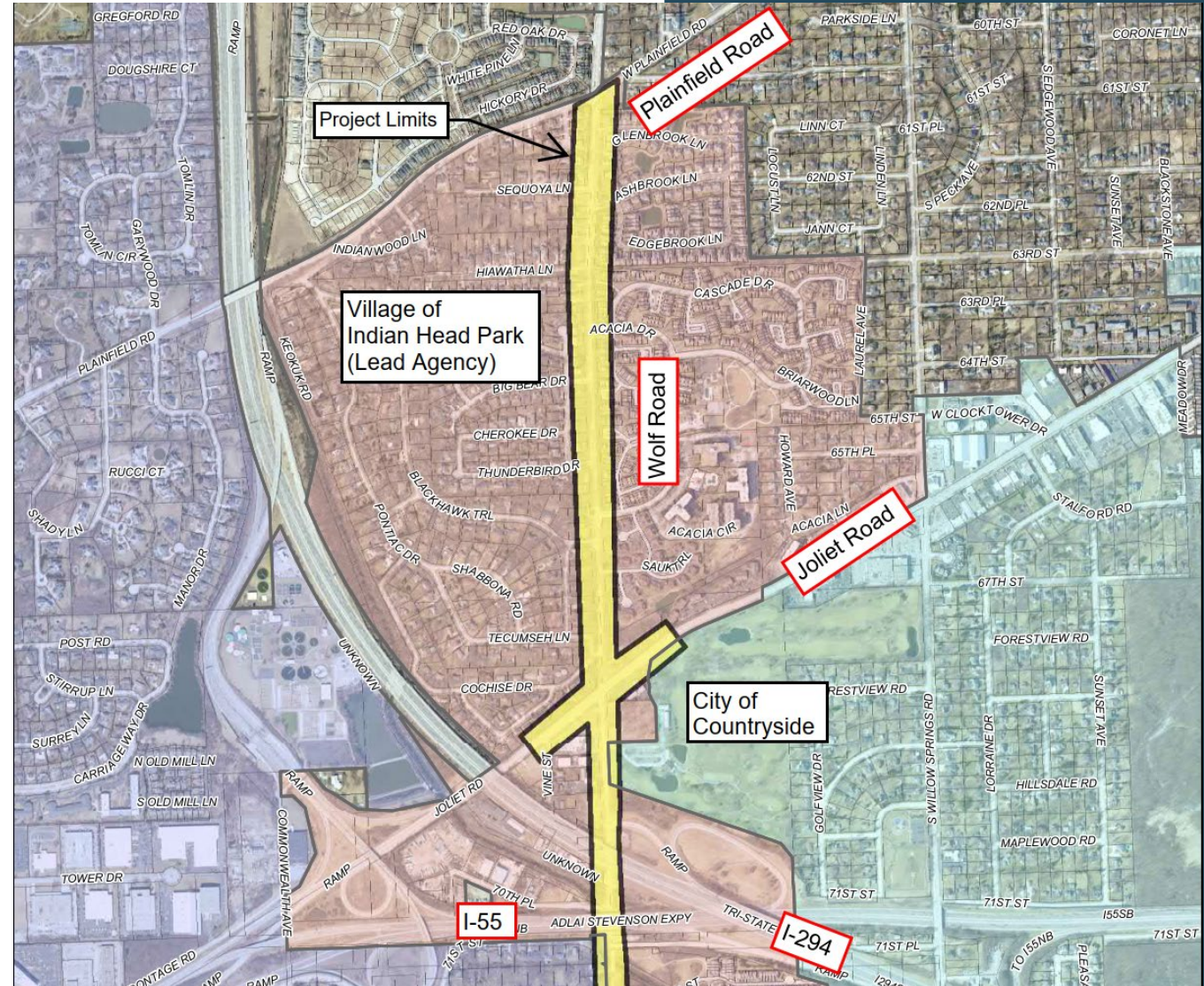
This Phase I Study will accomplish the following:

- Review existing corridor conditions
- Coordinate with adjacent ongoing and planned future projects
- Solicit stakeholder and public input to develop the Study goals and guide the study process
- Develop and assess corridor improvement alternatives, including determining any necessary design variances
- Provide a preferred alternative to advance to Phase II (design engineering) and Phase III (construction)

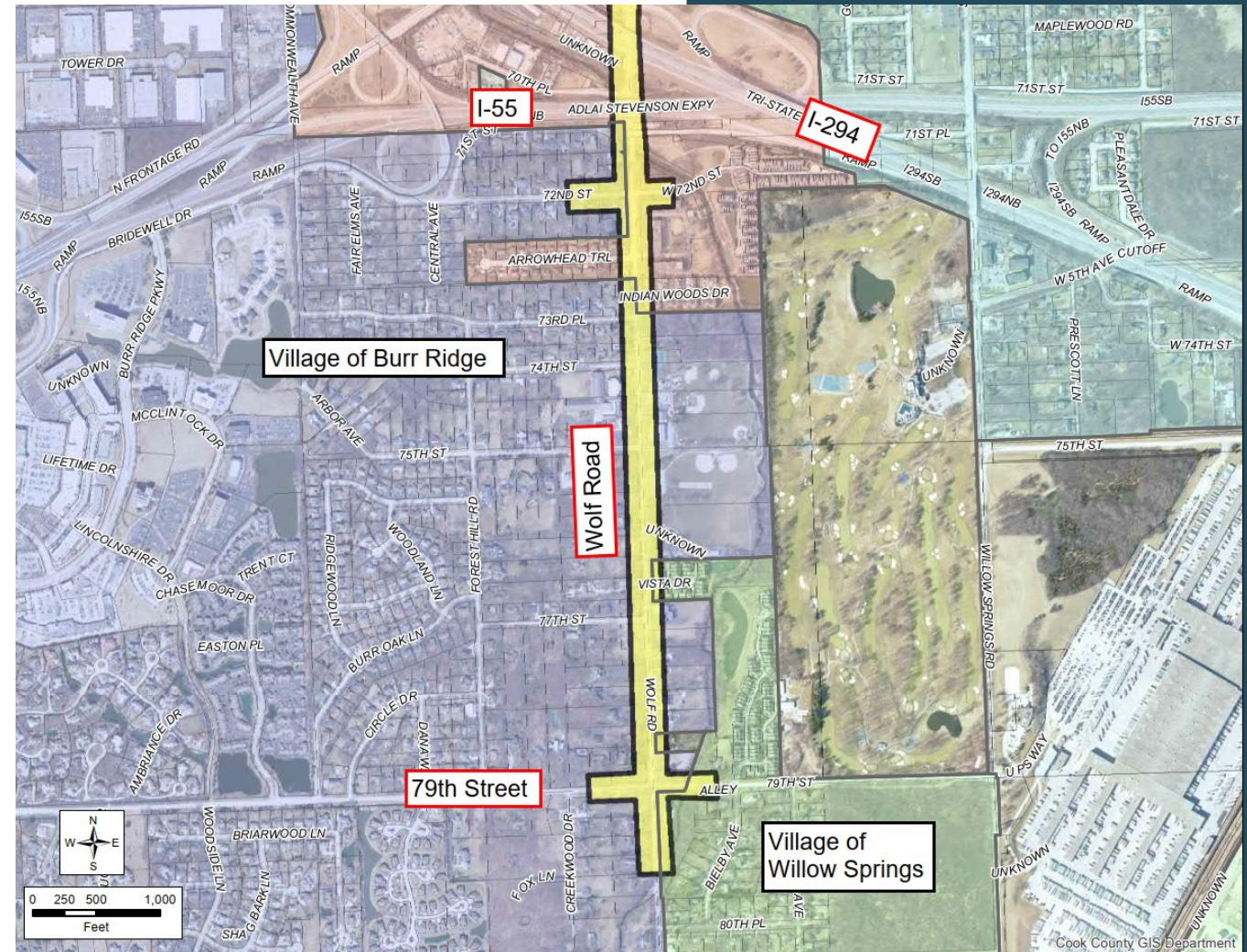
Study Area (Northern Section)

The Study corridor is approximately 2.3 miles long, from 79th Street to Plainfield Road.

- Village of Indian Head Park
- Village of Burr Ridge
- City of Countryside
- Village of Willow Springs
- Township of Lyons



Study Area (Southern Section)



Study Goals



Accommodate
the projected year 2050
travel demands and
improve operational
efficiency.



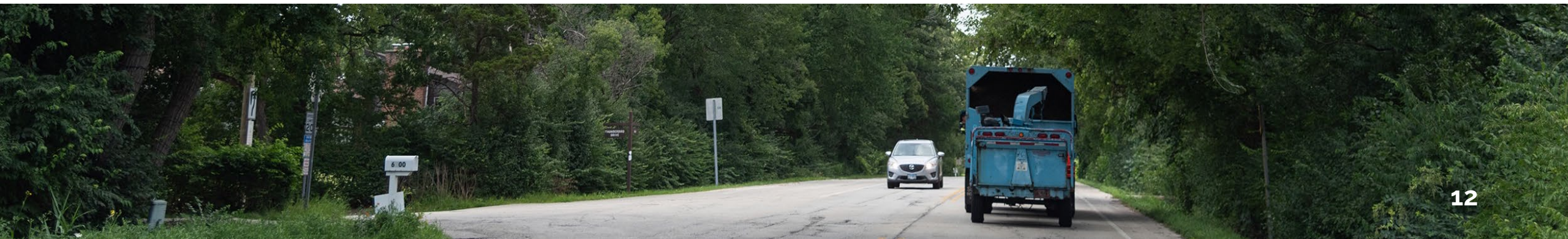
Improve
traffic safety and
operations
for all users.



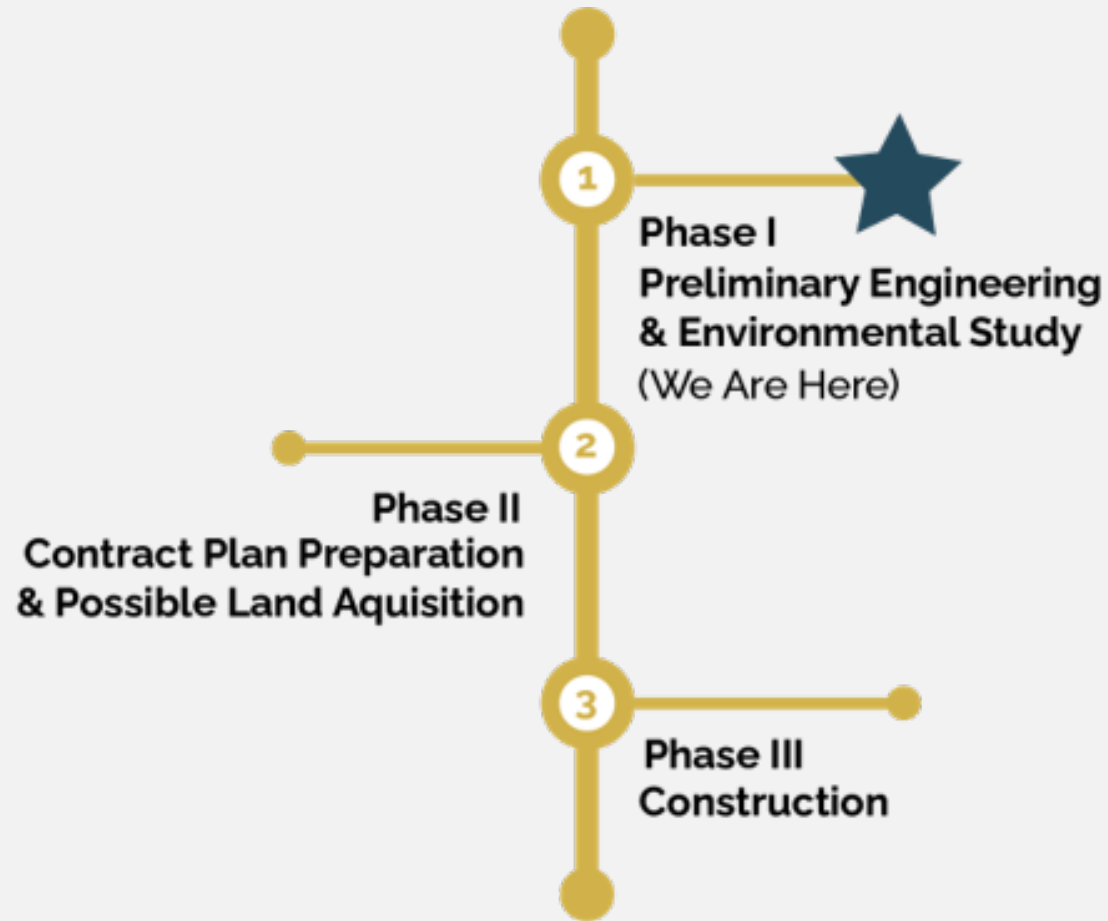
Evaluate
connectivity and
accommodation for
pedestrians and bicyclists.



Reconstruct & Update
the roadway, structures,
intersections, and drainage
infrastructure following
current design standards



Typical Project Timeline



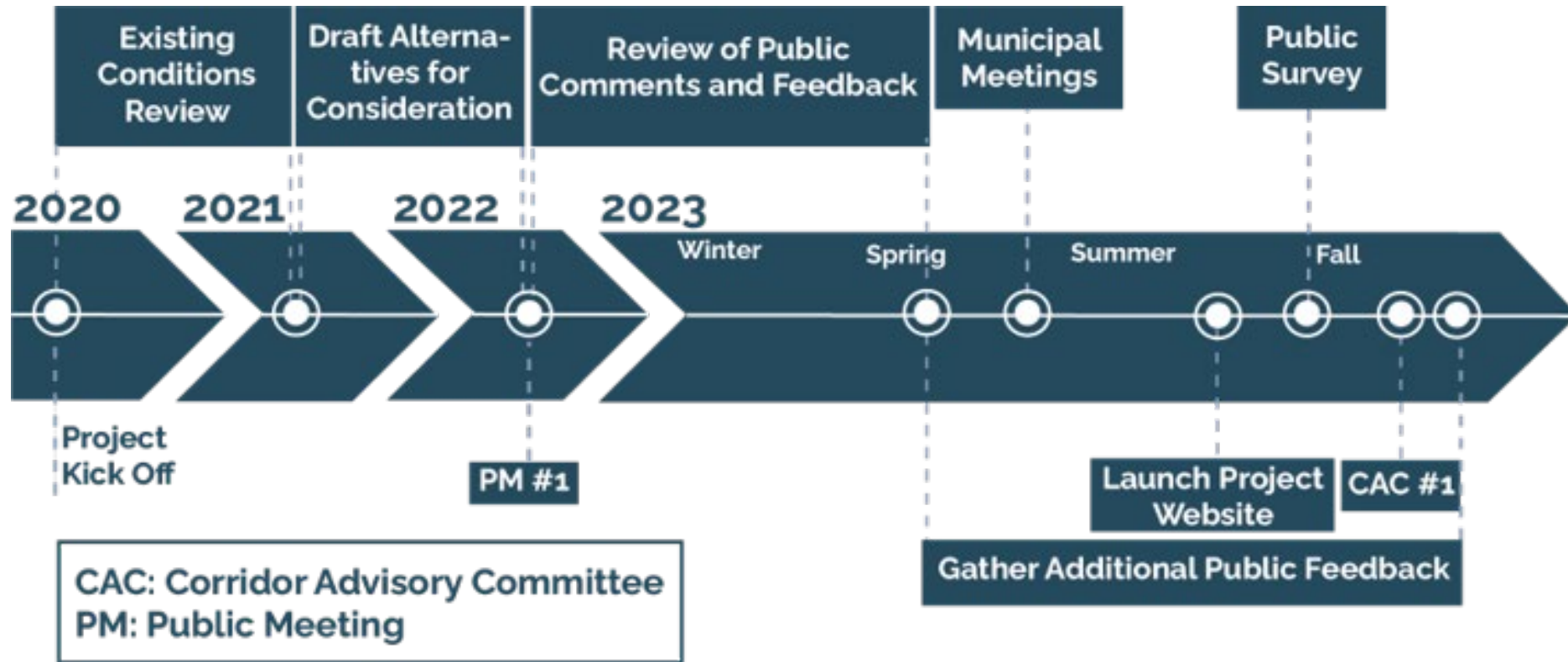
- The Study team is currently in Phase I: Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Study
- The goal of Phase I is to select a preferred alternative and identify associated impacts
- Phase II and III are unfunded; Phase I decisions affect future funding eligibility
- The Study follows the federal engineering process to maintain eligibility for future funds

Engineering Process Overview

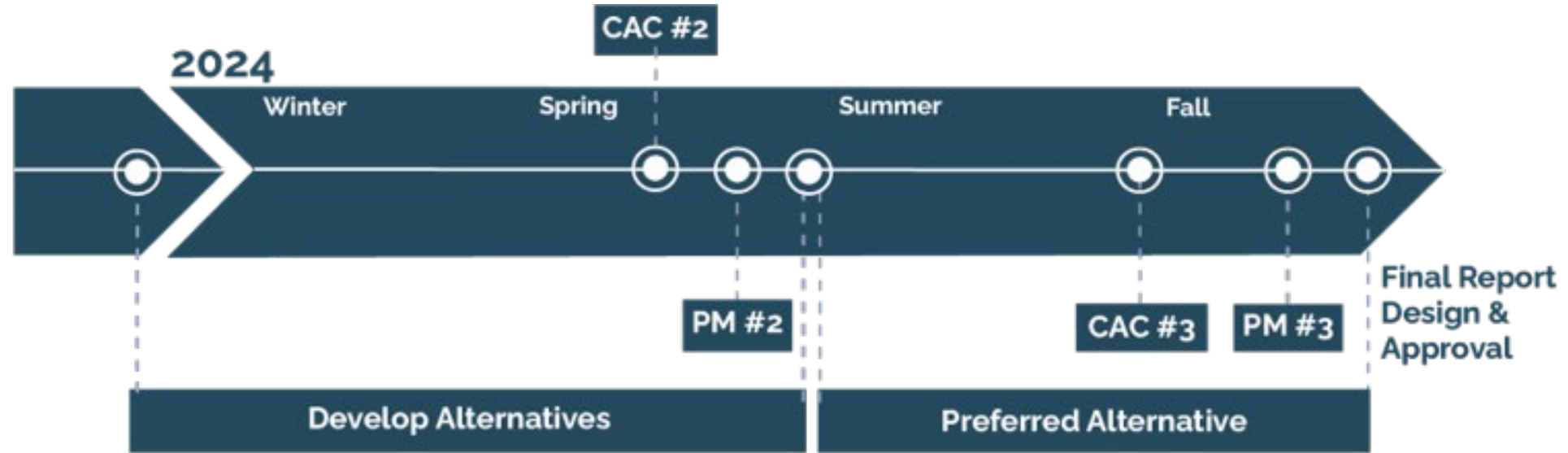
- The Study follows an established engineering process with reviews and approvals by:
 - Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)
 - Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- IDOT has design manuals, criteria, and standards to be followed.
- Variations from the guidelines require thorough documentation and justification
- Design variances are reviewed and approved by IDOT and FHWA



Wolf Road Phase I Study Timeline



Wolf Road Phase I Study Timeline



CAC: Corridor Advisory Committee
PM: Public Meeting

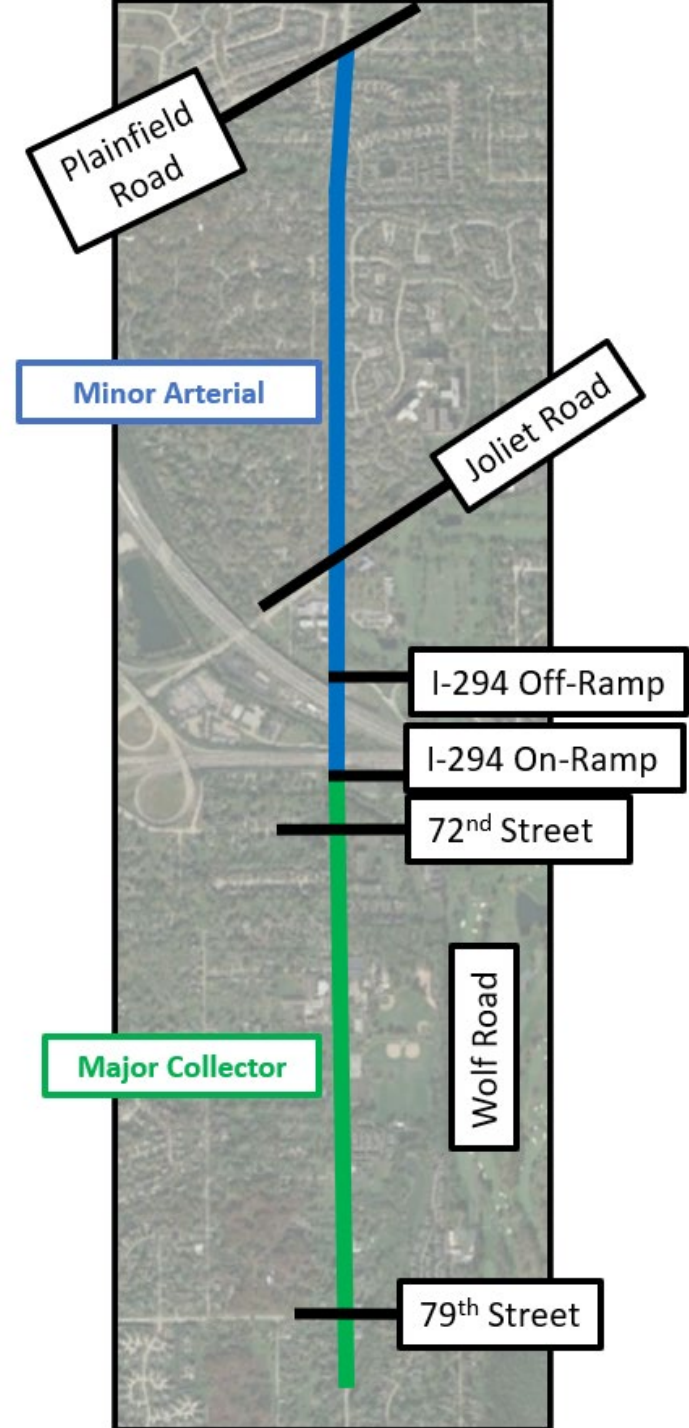
Existing Conditions Review

Existing Conditions Review

- Roadway classifications and conditions
- Structure conditions
- Drainage conditions
- Traffic conditions
- Crash history
- Multimodal conditions

Roadway Classifications

- Illinois roads have assigned functional classifications
 - Interstates
 - Other Freeways and Expressways
 - Other Principal Arterials
 - Minor Arterials ★
 - Major Collectors ★
 - Minor Collectors
 - Local Roads
- This project will not change the functional classifications
- IDOT criteria identifies what design vehicle must be accommodated at intersections based on the functional classifications



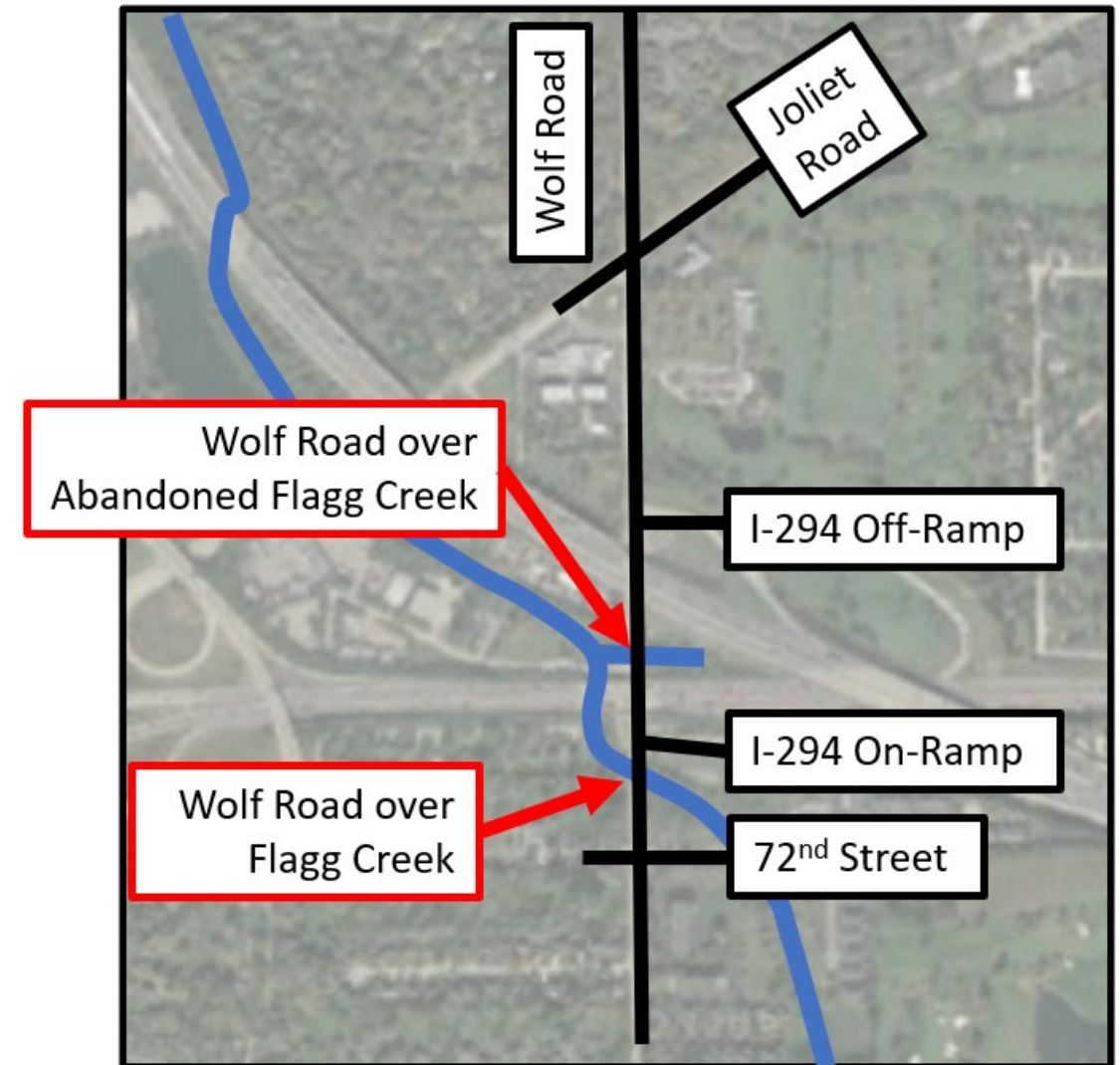
Roadway Conditions

- The Wolf Road pavement has reached the end of its useful life and needs to be reconstructed
- The pavement and underlying materials have worn out, and reconstruction is necessary due to lack of significant past improvements
- Resurfacing is no longer a viable alternative



Structure Conditions

- **Flagg Creek Bridge**
 - Original Construction = 1955
 - Last Rehabilitation = 1991
 - Emergency Repairs = 2023
 - Meets IDOT criteria for full replacement
- **Abandoned Flagg Creek Box Culvert**
 - Original Construction = 1991
 - Observed creek erosion and deteriorating culvert condition
 - Full replacement is the most cost-effective option



Drainage Conditions

- Most of the corridor contains open ditches
- The Joliet Road intersection has an underground storm sewer system
- Corridor drainage ultimately flows to Flagg Creek
- Adjacent drainage studies by others are ongoing or have recently been completed

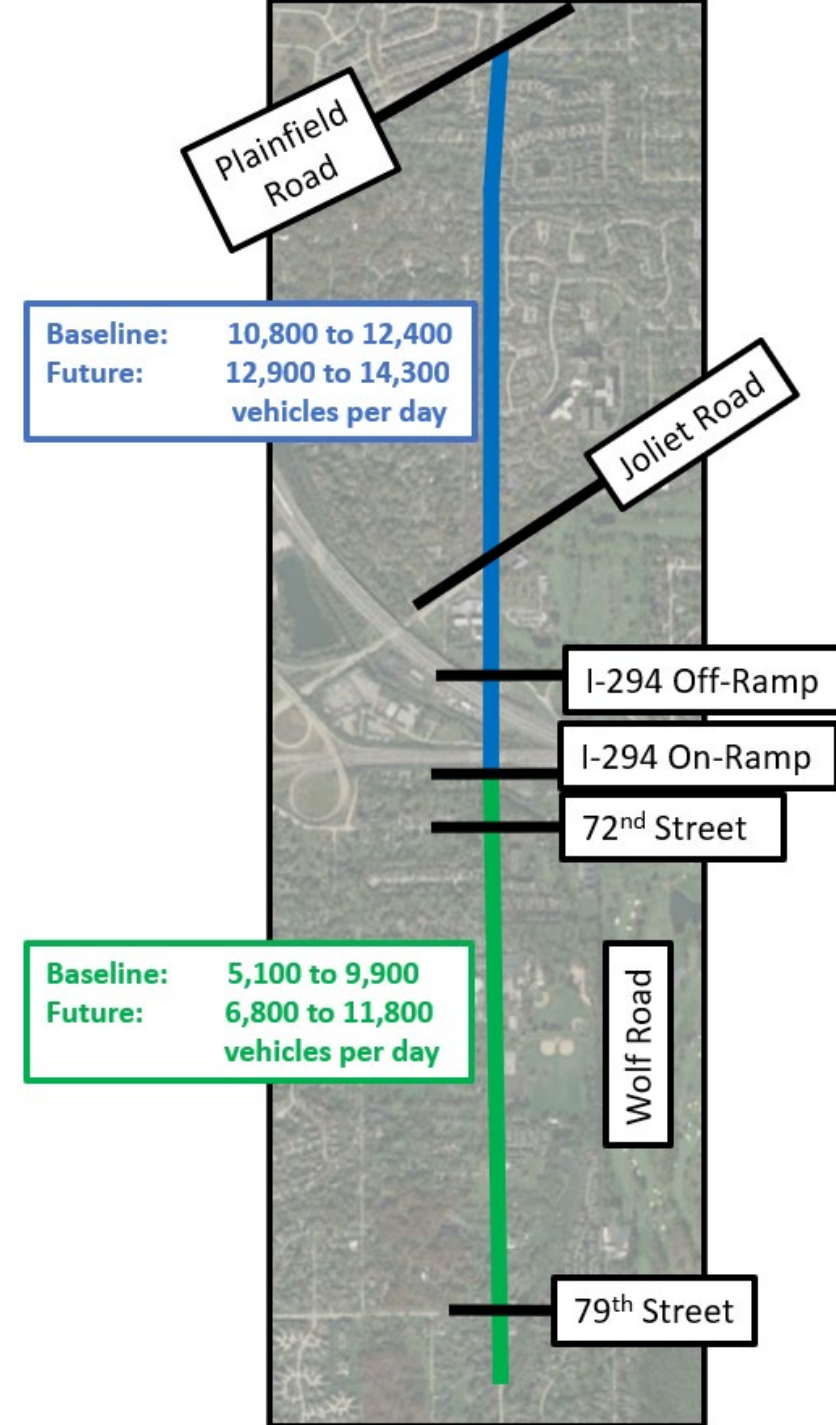


Discussion Topic(s):

- Where do you see drainage issues?
- What type of drainage improvements would you like to see?

Traffic Conditions

- **Baseline evaluation year: 2019**
- **Future evaluation year: 2050**
- **2050 traffic projections were determined by the region's central planning organization, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)**
- **2050 traffic volumes range from 6,800 to 14,300 vehicles per day**



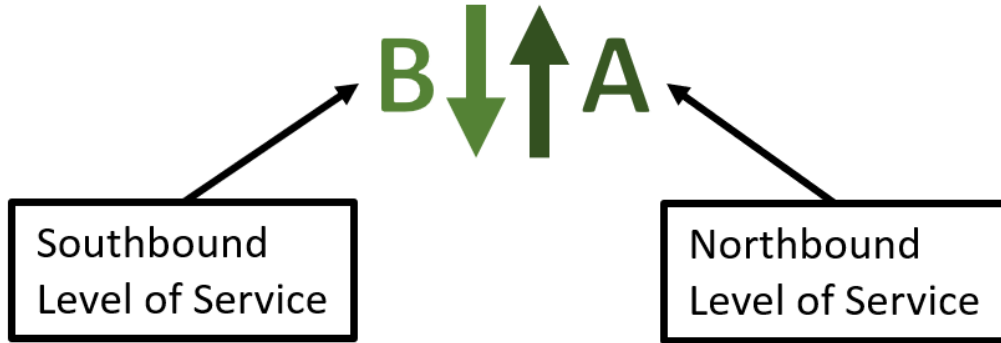
Traffic Conditions

- Traffic operations are evaluated using the metric called Level of Service (LOS)
- Letter grades from A to F quantify the amount of delay that roadway users encounter

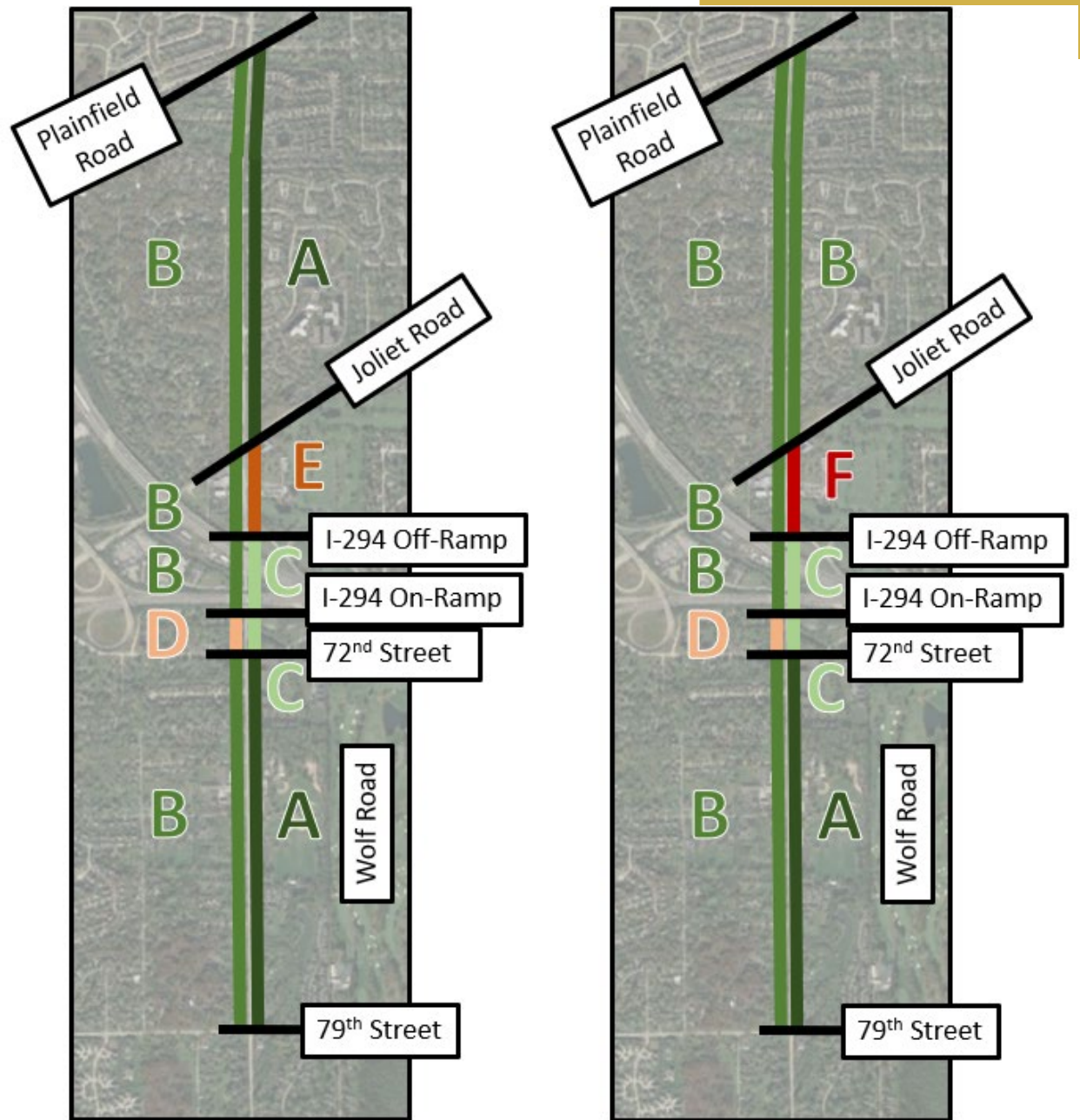
Minimum Design Criteria

A	NO DELAYS Traffic is moving freely.
B	NO DELAYS Stable flow with minimal congestion.
C	MINIMAL DELAYS Stable flow with moderate congestion.
D	NOTABLE DELAYS Congestion is increasing, but there are no major backups.
E	CONSIDERABLE DELAYS Unstable flow; congested condition.
F	CONSIDERABLE DELAYS Major congestion; stop-and-go traffic.

Traffic Conditions



- D** **NOTABLE DELAYS**
Congestion is increasing, but there are no major backups.
- E** **CONSIDERABLE DELAYS**
Unstable flow; congested condition.
- F** **CONSIDERABLE DELAYS**
Major congestion; stop-and-go traffic.



Baseline (2019)

Future No-Build (2050)

Traffic Conditions



72nd Street Intersection



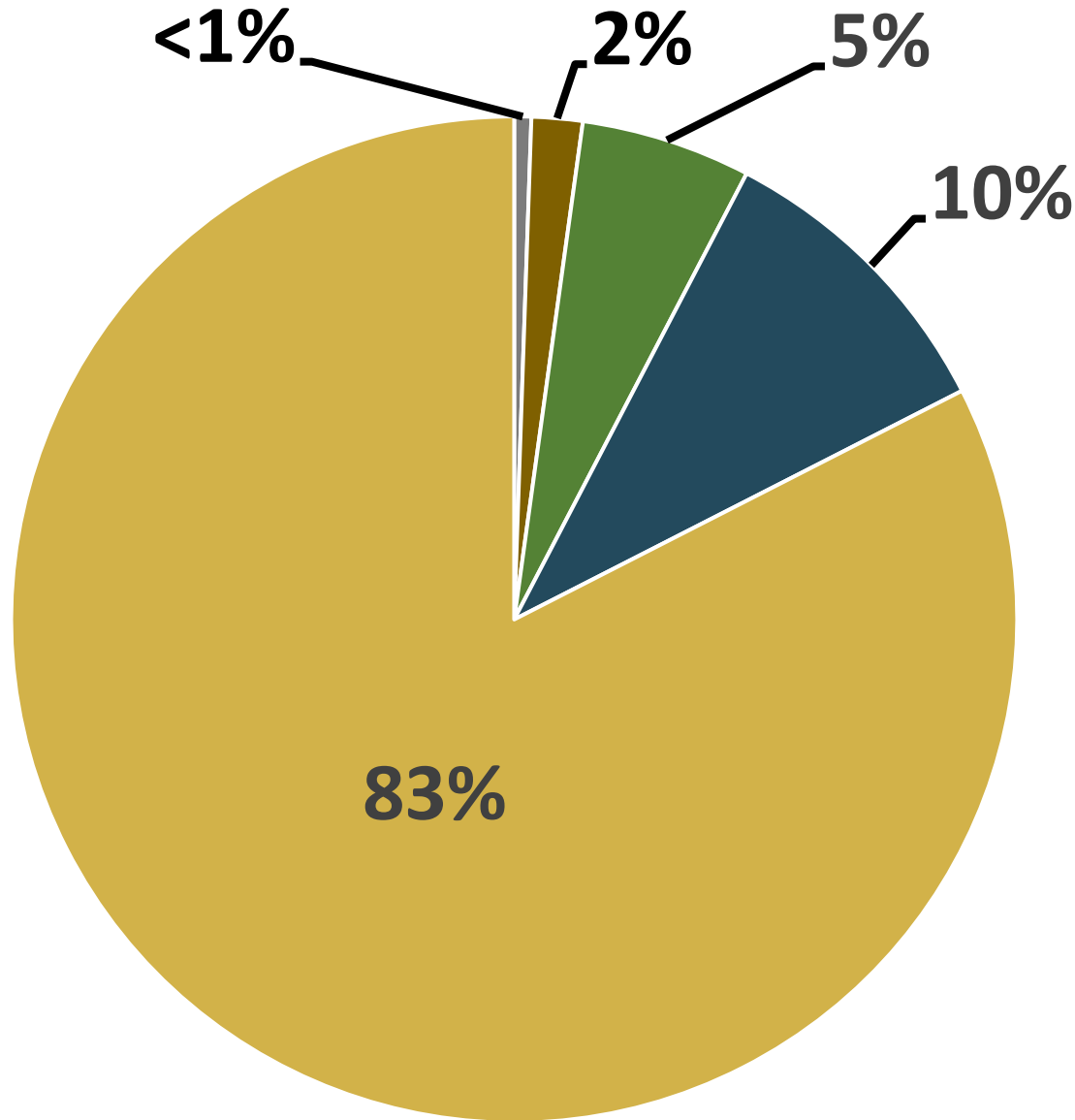
Joliet Road Intersection



CONSIDERABLE DELAYS

Major congestion; stop-and-go traffic.

Crash History (2016 to 2020)



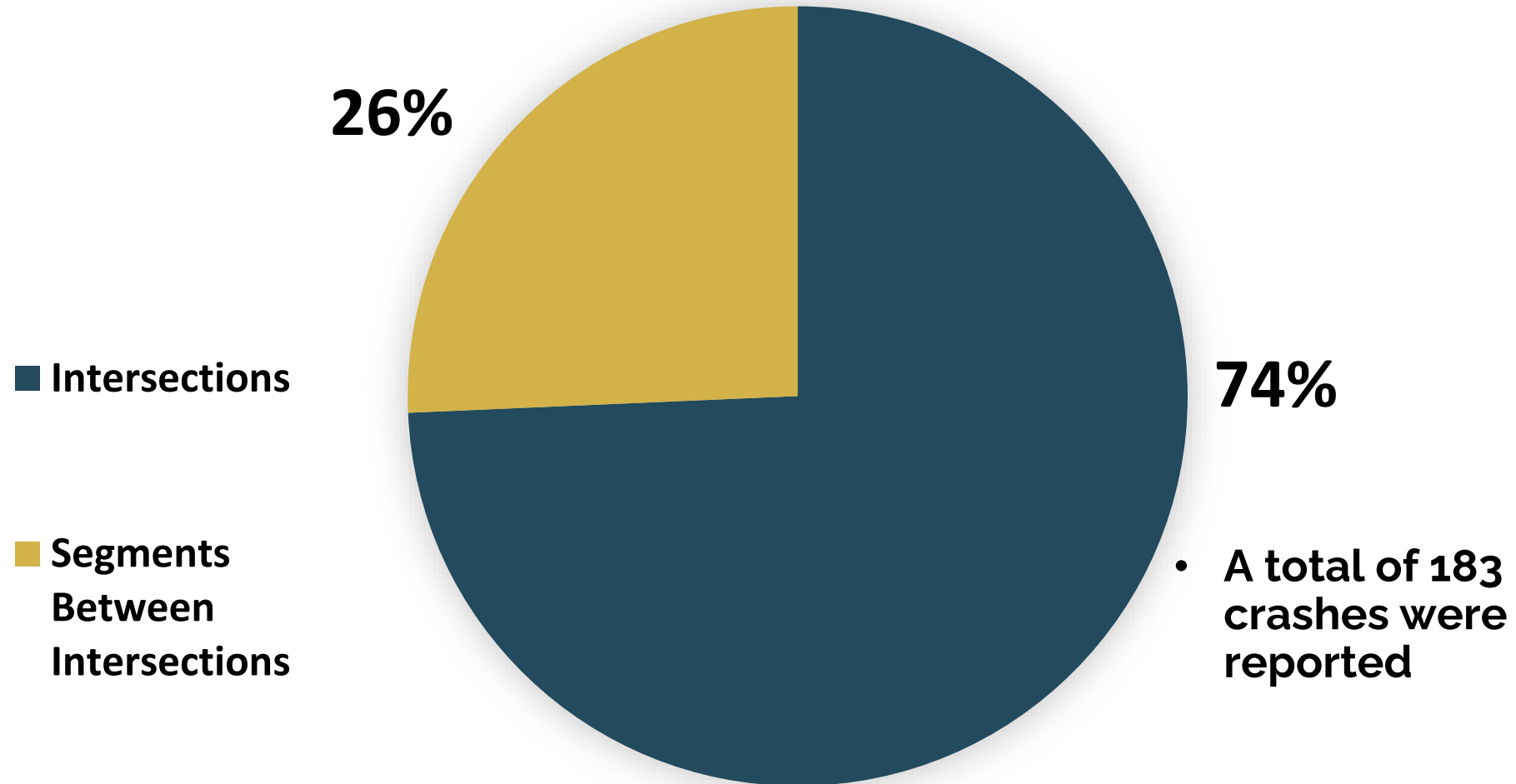
Crash Type

A total of 183 crashes were reported

- Type K (Fatal Injury)
- Type A (Suspected Serious Injury)
- Type B (Suspected Minor Injury)
- Type C (Possible Injury)
- PD (Property Damage Only)

Crash History (2016 to 2020)

Crash Location

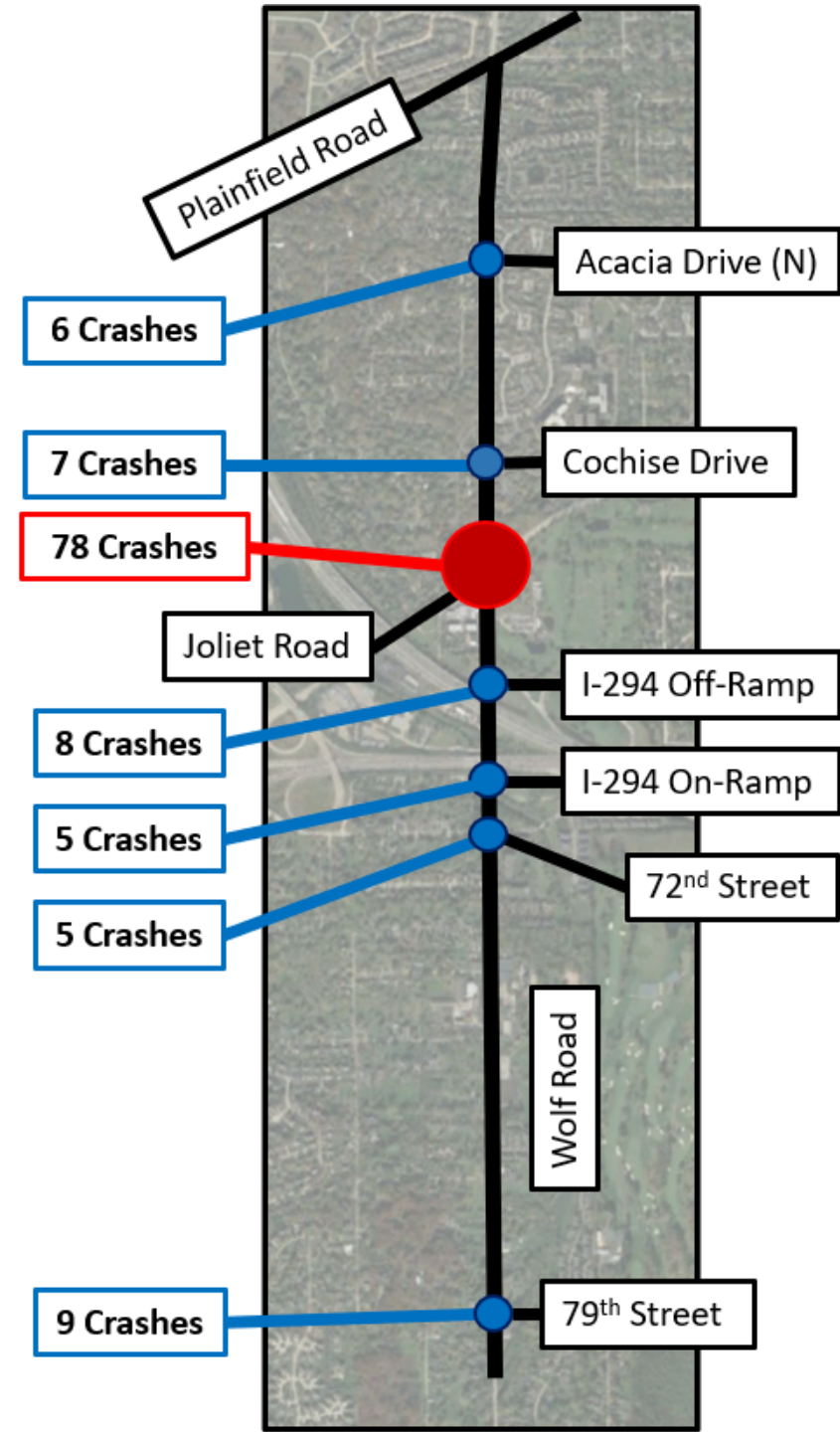


Crash History (2016 to 2020)

The Joliet Road intersection was found to have the most intersection crashes within the corridor

Discussion Topic(s):

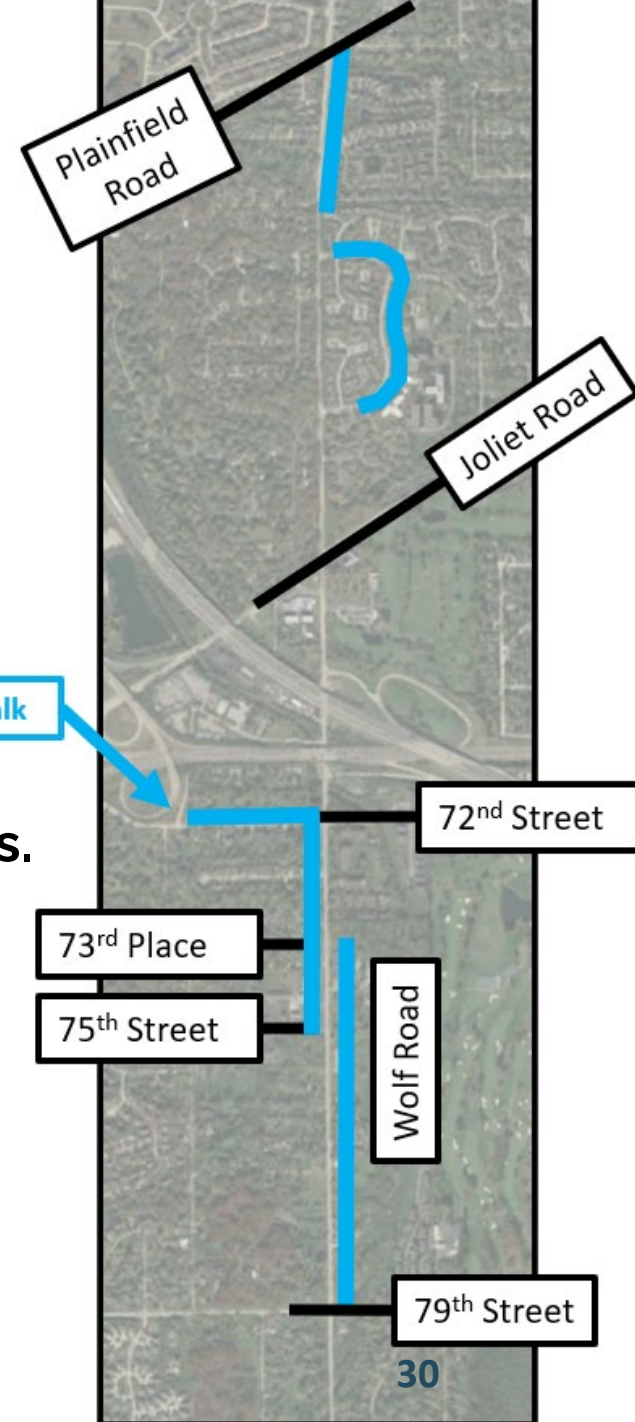
- What type of safety issues do you see along the corridor?
- What type of safety improvements do you think would help?



Multimodal Conditions

- **Wolf Road is a multimodal corridor relied upon by many different types of users:**
 - **Passenger Vehicles**
 - **Pedestrians**
 - **Bicycles**
 - **Transit**
 - **Freight**
- **Sidewalks are intermittently provided along Wolf Road**
- **Bicycles must use the Wolf Road travel lanes and narrow shoulders. There are no marked or separate bicycle accommodations**

Existing Sidewalk



Multimodal Conditions

Illinois state law requires that reasonable access be provided for trucks to travel off the National Highway Freight Network (which includes I-294 and I-55) for the purposes of food, fuel, repair, rest, and to points of loading and unloading.

This prohibits the ability to restrict truck traffic along Wolf Road.



Discussion Topic(s):

What multimodal issues do you see or have you experienced?

What are some multimodal changes that you suggest?

Purpose and Need

Through evaluating the corridor's existing conditions, the Study's Purpose and Need was developed, presented to, and approved by IDOT and FHWA:

- The purpose of the proposed improvements is to provide improved operational efficiency and safety and enhance pedestrian and bicycle accommodations and safety
- Improvements are needed to address intersection capacity and crashes and provide sidewalk connectivity and bicycle accommodations along the corridor

Discussion Topic(s):

Are changes to the Purpose and Need required?



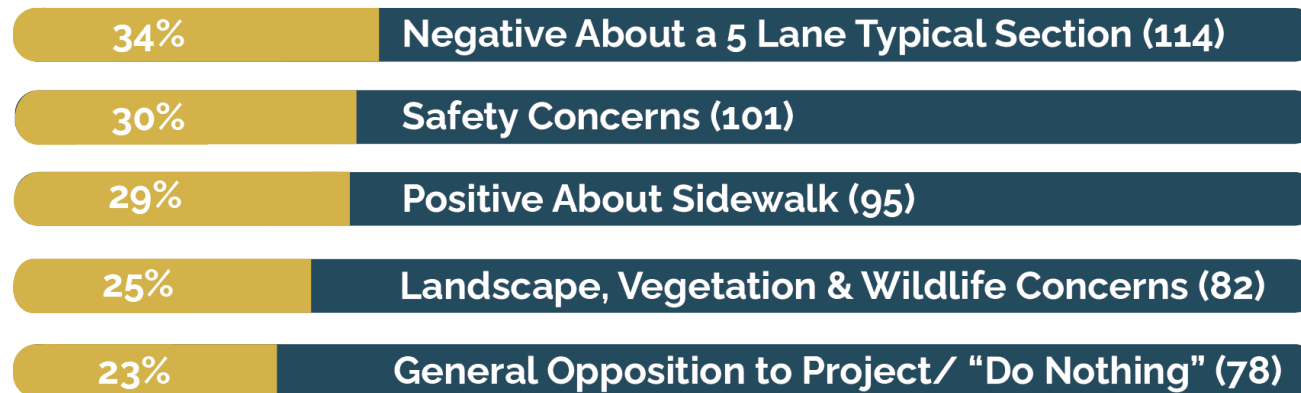
5 Minute Break



Public Involvement Overview and Survey Results

Public Feedback (2022)

- Extensive public feedback was provided in April and May 2022 surrounding Public Information Meeting #1.
- Wide-ranging feedback indicated a variety of opinions along the corridor
- In response, outreach efforts were increased to better include the public in the Phase I Study, including establishing a Public Outreach Strategy and associated Public Involvement Plan (PIP)



Public Outreach Strategy

Website/Communication Materials

- Provide up-to-date information on the project
- Provide one place with all meeting materials, newsletters, and announcements

Public Survey

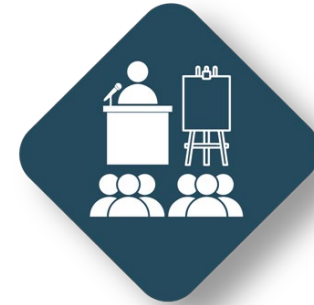
- Gather input on concerns, suggestions, and alternatives

Corridor Advisory Committee Meetings

- Present updates
- Gather input on alternatives
- Preview Public Information Meetings

Public Information Meetings/Stakeholder Meetings

- Present updates
- Provide an opportunity for feedback



Public Information Meetings



Community Advisory Committee



Project Website



Stakeholder Meetings

Feedback Received to Date

Stay Connected!



Leave a voicemail at (779) 803-4285

WOLF ROAD
CORRIDOR STUDY



Fill out the contact form at www.wolfroadstudy.com/contact



Send an email to the study team at info@wolfroadstudy.com



Send physical correspondence to: Wolf Road Phase I Study Team, c/o RM Chin & Associates
500 W. 18th Street Suite 200
Chicago, Illinois 60616

www.wolfroadstudy.com

Wolf Road Public Survey

The Village of Indian Head Park and the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways (DoTH) are conducting a public survey to gather information from the community to further evaluate the future needs of the Wolf Road corridor.

Input and feedback provided by the public will be evaluated in the context of the overall Phase I study and help guide the preliminary engineering process to address the unique challenges of the Wolf Road corridor.

Survey responses provided by November 10, 2023, will be used as discussion materials at the Corridor Advisory Committee Meeting #1, anticipated to be held in December 2023. The Study Team intends to use the results of this survey in high-level summaries as well as to provide the responses in a summary appendix. The Study Team will ensure that all responses used will not include any personal identifiable information and can't be linked back to the participant.

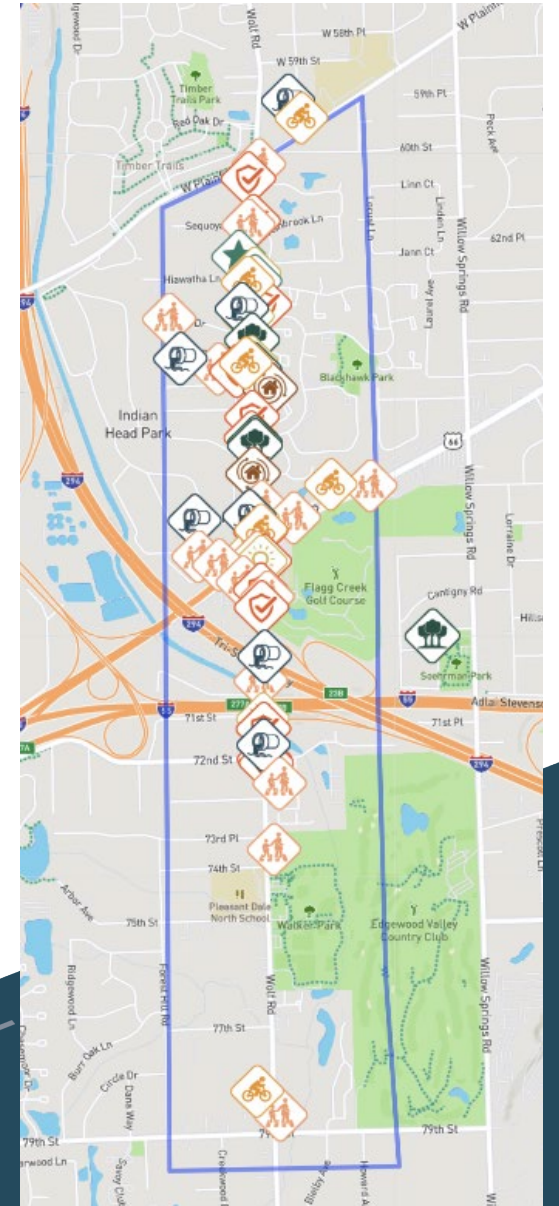
* Required

1. Email Address *

Enter your answer

2. Which municipality do you live in?

- Indian Head Park
- Burr Ridge
- Countryside
- Willow Springs
- Other



Questionnaire Survey

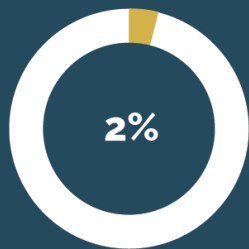
Who took the survey?

320 People Responded

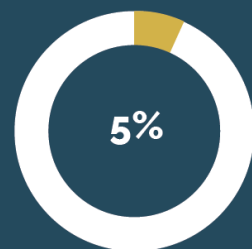
How often do they use Wolf Road?



Daily

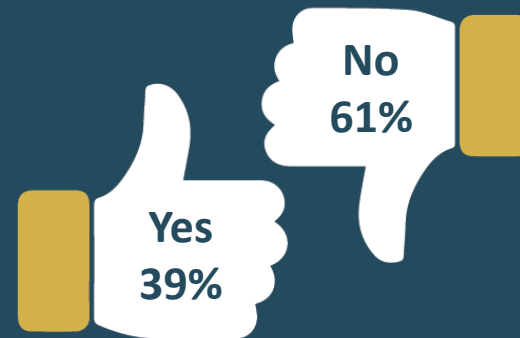


On Occasion

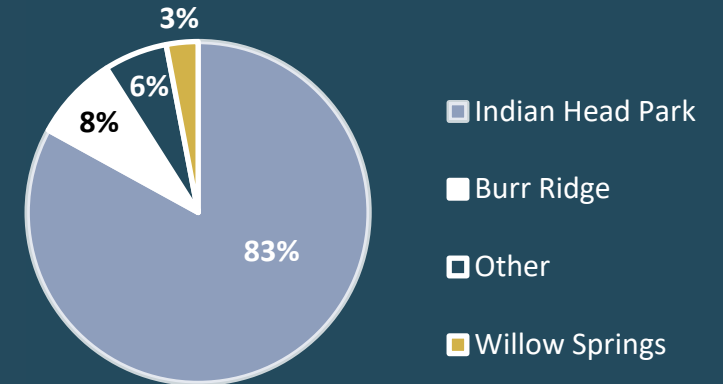


Weekly

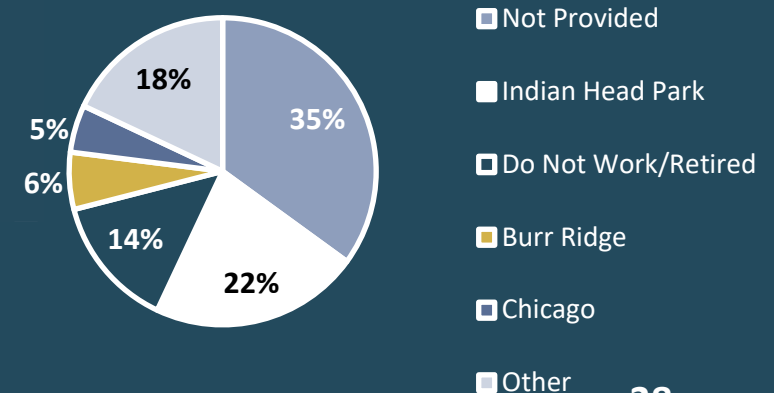
Did they participate in any of the initial public involvement activities?



Where do they live?



Where do they work?



Public Survey Overview (2023)

Top concerns along Wolf Road

- **Traffic/Roadway Conditions (27%)**
- **Bike/Pedestrian Accommodations (24%)**
- **Safety (23%)**
- **Aesthetics (9%)**
- **Land Use (7%)**
- **Other (6%)**
- **Drainage (3%)**
- **None (1%)**

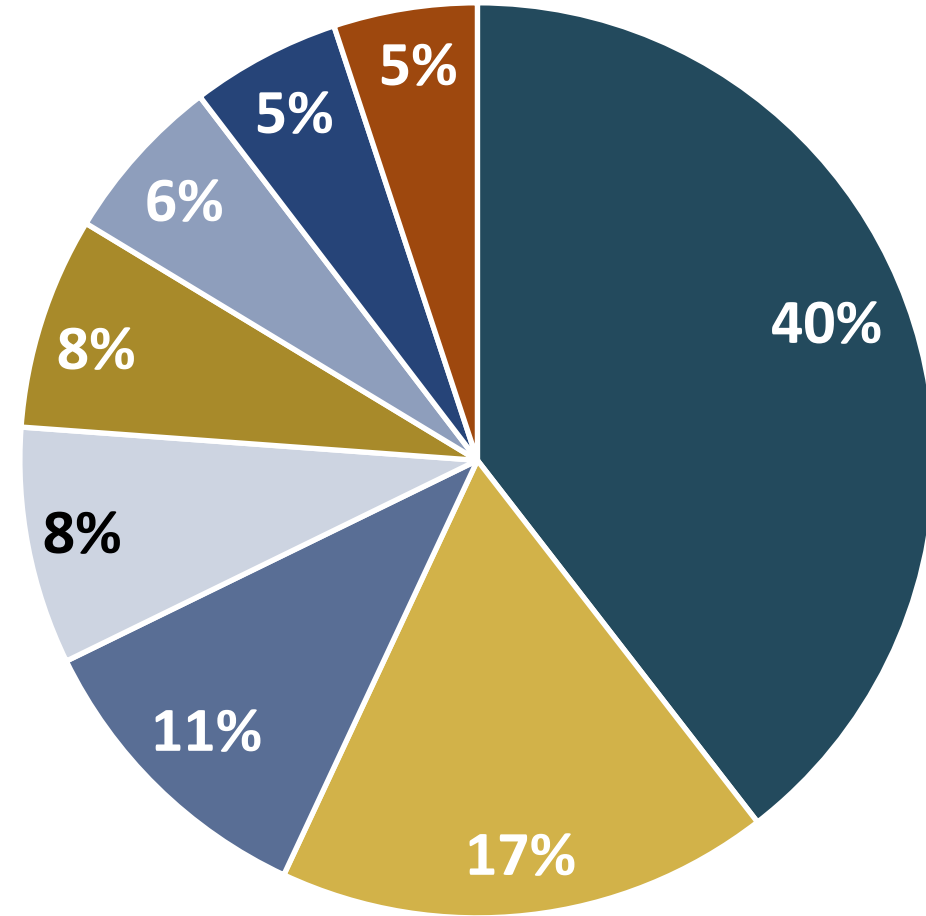
Other concerns along Wolf Road

- **Increased freight in residential areas**
- **Landscaping/Tree removal**
- **Proposed Roadway Geometry/widening, turn lanes**
- **Property acquisition**
- **General opposition**

Interactive Map

81 Total Participants
62 Pins on the Map
447 Comments on Pins

Participants emphasized the urgent need for enhanced pedestrian and cycling infrastructure to ensure safe mobility, as well as the need to preserve trees.



- Pedestrians
- Bike
- Trees
- Community Resources
- Safety
- Drainage
- Ideas
- Property Impacts

Public Feedback (2023)

- In addition to the insights gathered from the survey and map, the project team collected feedback from residents through **letters (2), social media, email (83), and voicemail (18)**. The concerns voiced echoed those previously highlighted, with a particular emphasis on safety.
- **Homeowner Association Letters**
 - **Ashbrook Associations:**
 - Support for maintaining the existing sidewalk and configuration along the east side of Wolf Road from Plainfield Road south to Acacia PUD
 - Preference to have the sidewalk on the east side of Wolf Road paved at this terminus to the south that goes to the Acacia Association
 - **Indian Head Park Associations:**
 - Support for 2-4 safe crossing sites with Rapid Flashing Beacons from 72nd Street to the south of the school
 - Support for a sidewalk on the east side of Wolf Road from 72nd Street to 79th Street
 - Opposition to a sidewalk on the east side of Wolf Road from 72nd Street to Joliet Road
 - Support for an ADA-compliant sidewalk on the west side of the street from Joliet Road to 79th Street



Potential Alternative Components

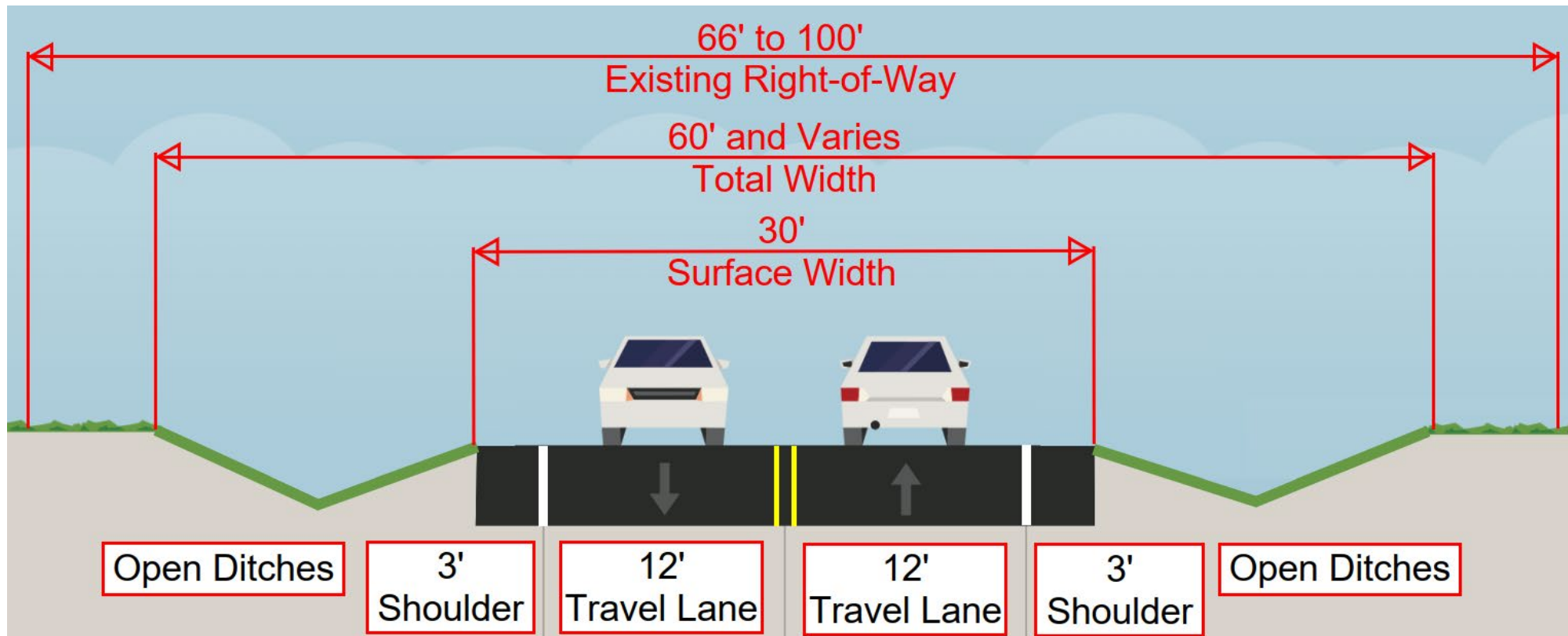
Alternative Parameters

- **Preliminary alternatives will be developed that:**
 - Meet the Study's Purpose and Need
 - Meet Cook County DoTH and IDOT Design Criteria to the extent possible



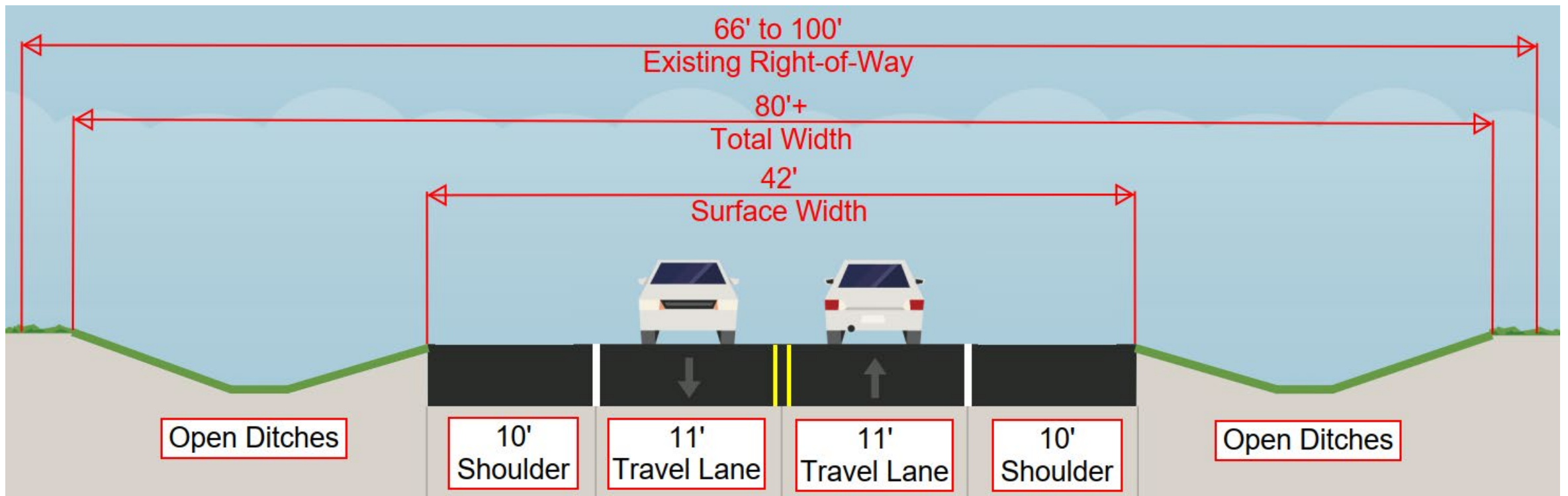
Existing Roadway

- Existing Wolf Road generally contains 12-foot-wide lanes and 3-foot-wide shoulders, but conditions vary along the corridor
- Open ditches collect and drain stormwater



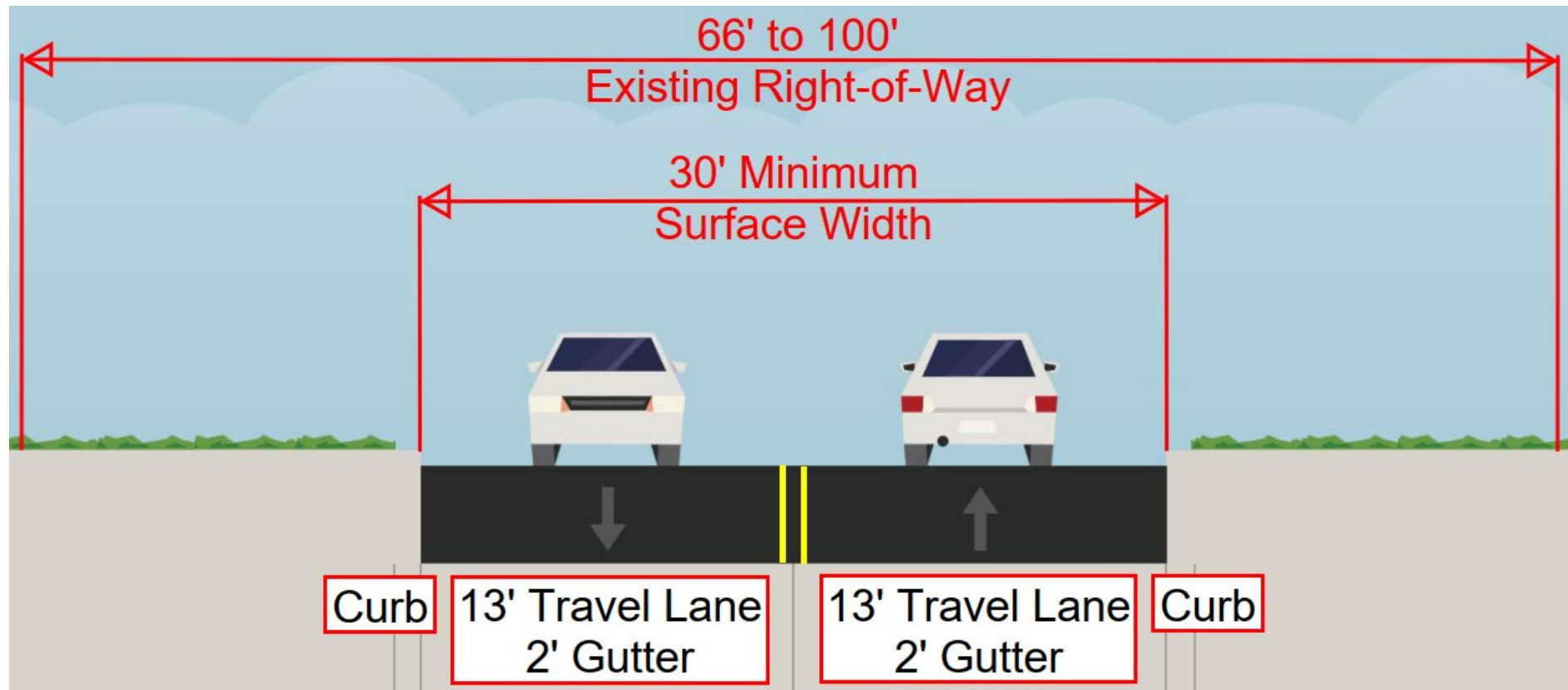
Roadway with Open Drainage System

- IDOT criteria requires **11-foot-wide lanes** and **10-foot-wide shoulders** for two lane roads with open ditches
- Open ditches collect and drain stormwater



Roadway with Closed Drainage System

- IDOT criteria requires 30-foot minimum surface width for two lane roads with curb and gutter
- Curb and gutter collects stormwater and drains it through underground storm sewers
- Left-turn lanes would be evaluated at specific locations

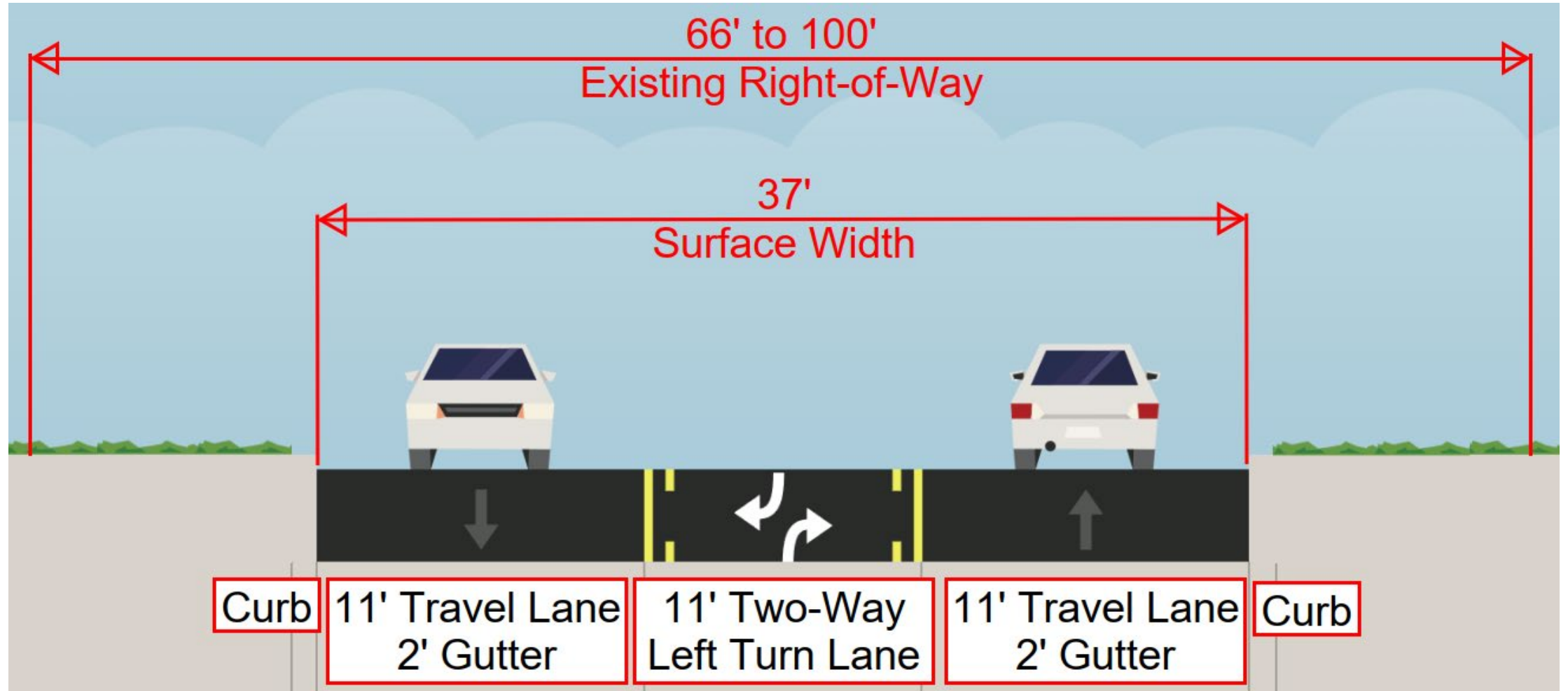


Two-Way Left Turn Lane

The IDOT Bureau of Local Roads and Streets Manual and IDOT Bureau of Design and Environment Manual provide guidance on when it is advantageous to include a Two-Way Left Turn Lane (TWLTL) along a corridor.

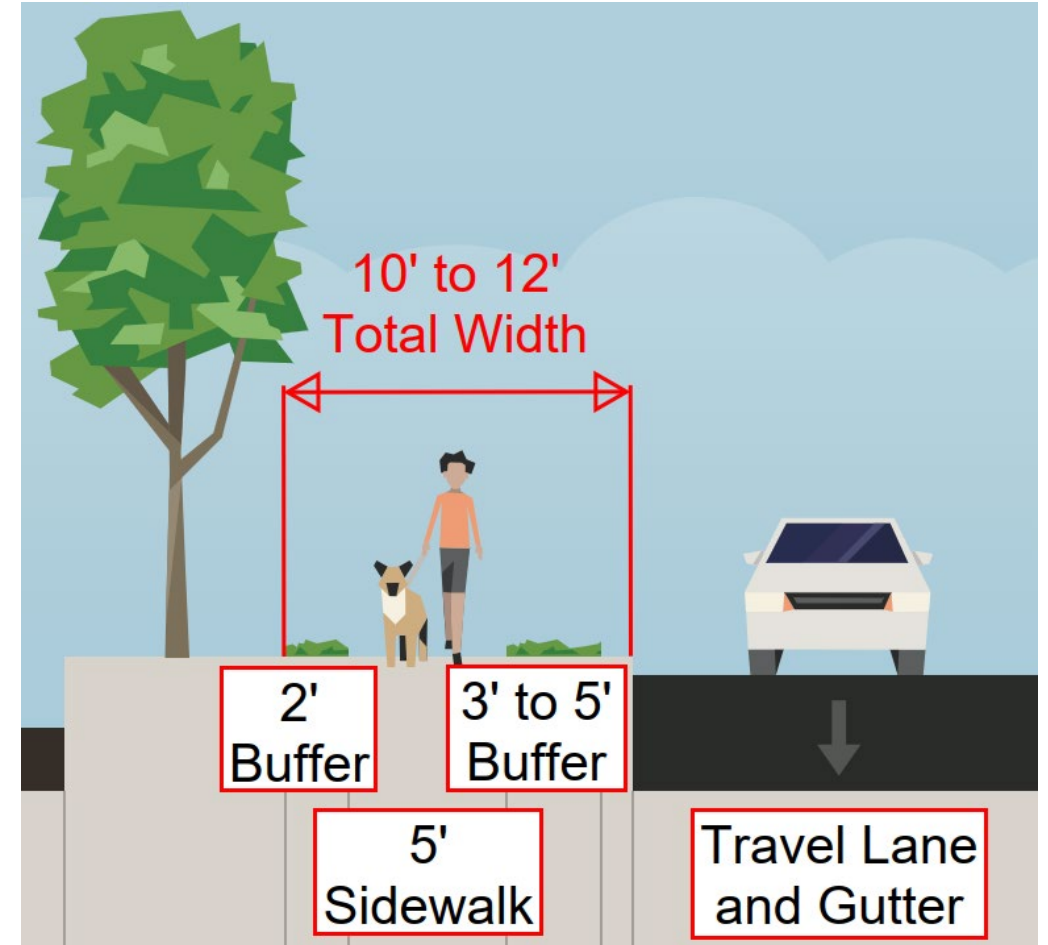
IDOT TWLTL Guidance	Wolf Road Corridor
Areas with substantial mid-block left turns	There are 10 neighborhood entrance intersections between Joliet Road and Plainfield Road (0.9 miles in length)
Areas with a high number of driveways (30 to 60 per mile)	There are 46 driveways over 1.4 miles (33 driveways per mile) between 79th Street and Joliet Road
Two-lane undivided urban arterials	The existing roadway is a two-lane urban arterial
Design speeds between 25 mph and 45 mph	The proposed design speed is 35 mph

Two-Way Left Turn Lane



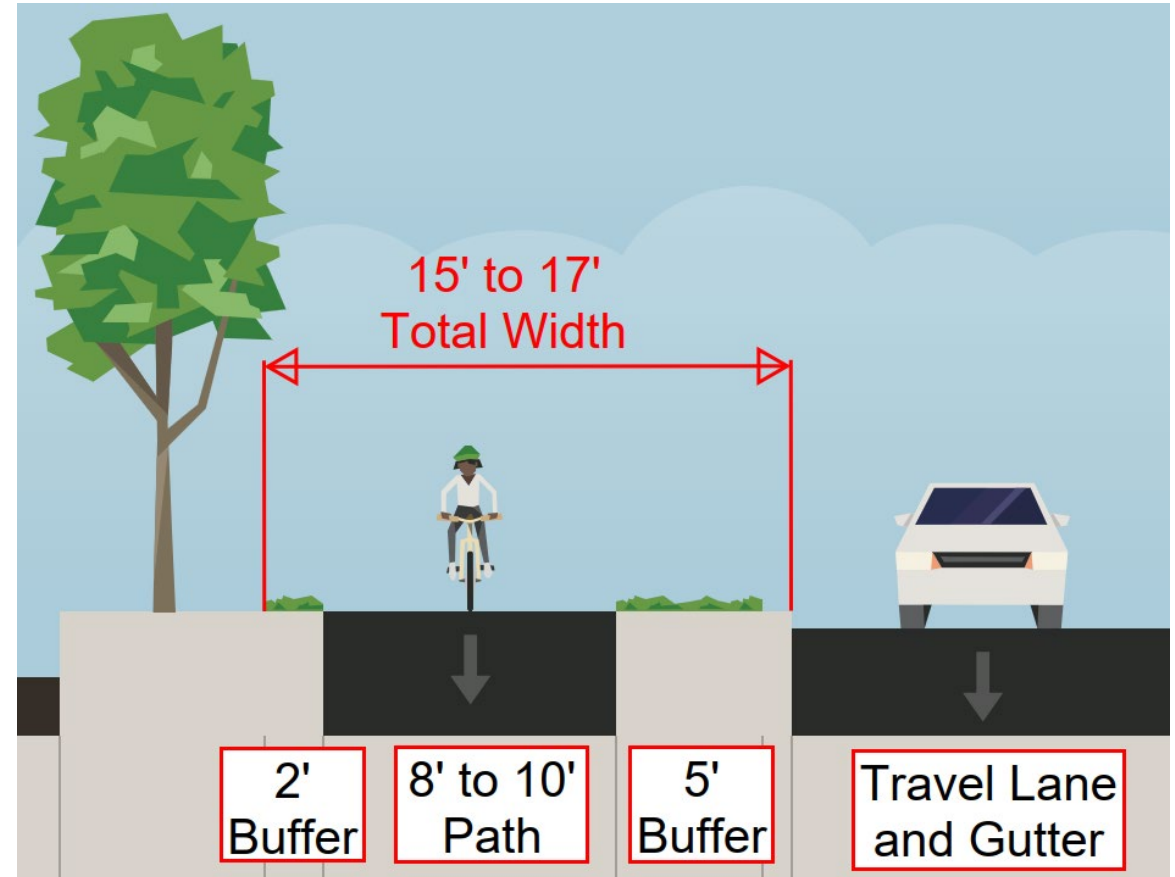
Pedestrian Accommodations

- IDOT and Cook County DoTH criteria recommend:
 - 3- to 5-foot-wide buffer between the curb and the sidewalk
 - 5-foot-wide sidewalk
 - 2-foot-wide buffer behind the sidewalk
- Sidewalk only accommodates pedestrians
- The criteria can vary to accommodate site specific conditions



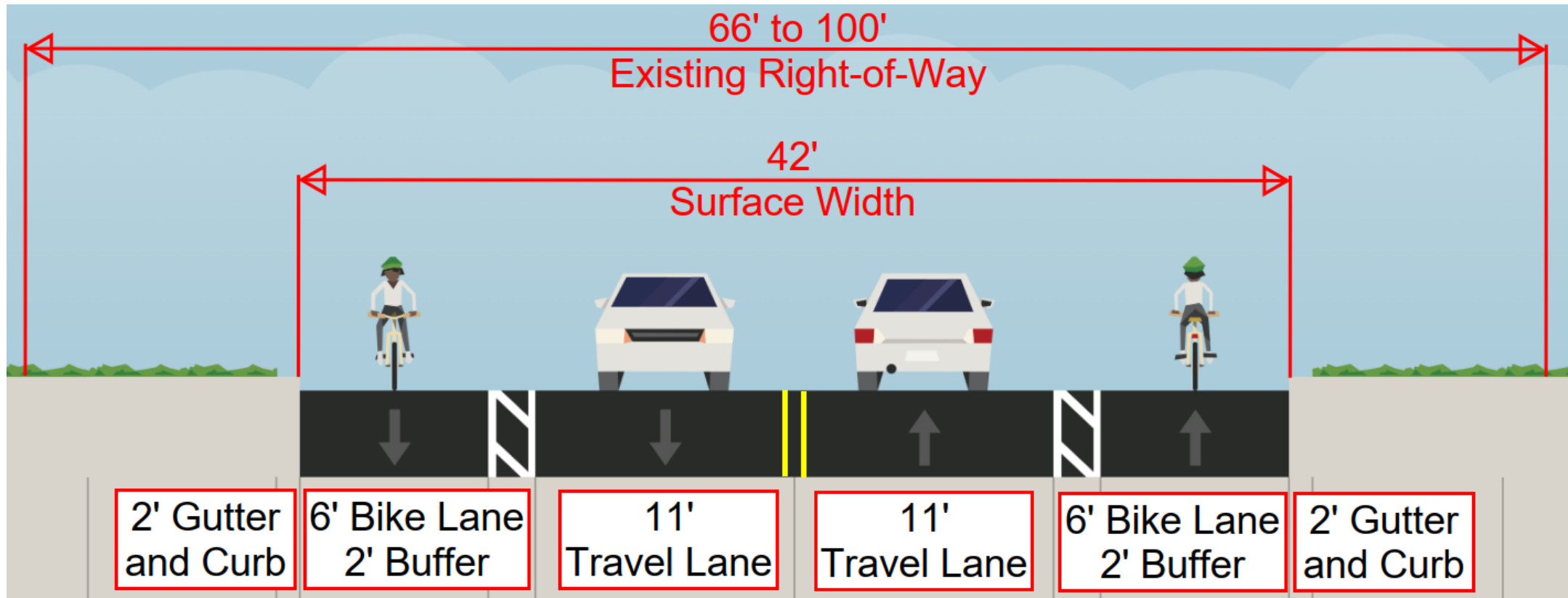
Pedestrian and Bicycle Accommodations

- IDOT and Cook County DoTH criteria recommend:
 - 5-foot-wide buffer between the curb and the shared-use path
 - 8- to 10-foot-wide shared-use path
 - 2-foot-wide buffer behind the shared-use path
- Shared-use path accommodates both pedestrians and bicyclists
- The criteria can vary to accommodate site specific conditions



Bicycle Accommodations

- IDOT and Cook County DoTH criteria recommend:
 - 6-foot-wide on-street bicycle lane and a 2-foot-wide buffer
 - Separate northbound and southbound on-street bicycle lanes
 - Bicycle lanes only accommodate bicyclists



Open Discussion

- **What do you think about the alternative components?**
- **Which components should the Study team carry forward to develop preliminary alternatives?**
- **Additional thoughts can be marked on the handout**

Next Steps

Next Steps



- Review CAC and Public Feedback to Develop Preliminary Alternatives
- CAC Meeting #2 - Early to Mid 2024 - Public Involvement Review, Analysis Completed to Date, Preview Preliminary Alternatives to be Presented at Public Information Meeting #2
- Public Information Meeting #2 - Mid 2024 - Presentation of Preliminary Alternatives



Thank you!

Contact the Study team:

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