

Public Information Meeting #2

December 11, 2024



IN COLLABORATION WITH:



Meeting Housekeeping

- **Presentation (Approximately 40 Minutes)**
- **Open House Exhibit Review Until 9:00 PM**
- **Study Team Members Will Be Available to Answer Questions and Collect Written Feedback**
- **Feedback Must Be Submitted in Writing to be Included in the Study Report**
- **Meeting Materials Will Be Available on [WolfRoadStudy.com](https://www.wolfroadstudy.com) and at Indian Head Park Village Hall After the Meeting**
- **The Post-Meeting Feedback Collection Period Ends on January 10, 2025**

Meeting Goals

- Provide an Overview of the Study Team, Background, and Goals
- Review Project Timeline and Process
- Review Public Involvement Strategy and Public Feedback to Date
- Introduce the Preliminary Alternatives
- Identify Next Steps



Study Overview

Study History

- **March 2019**

- Indian Head Park begins a Feasibility Study to evaluate adding a sidewalk and/or shared-use path along Wolf Road within its municipal limits (72nd Street to Plainfield Road)
- Funding is provided by Cook County DoTH through an *Invest in Cook* grant

- **November 2019**

- Feasibility Study concludes that adding a sidewalk and/or shared-use path would be better accomplished with other corridor improvements (roadway, drainage, etc.)

- **September 2020**

- Wolf Road Phase I Study begins to evaluate corridor-wide improvements including roadway, drainage, bridges, and safety
- Study limits expand to connect two Cook County DoTH Routes (79th Street to Plainfield Road)

Study History

- **April 2022**

- Study Team holds Public Information Meeting #1 to present Preliminary Alternatives
- Due to the amount and type of feedback received, it is determined that a more robust public involvement approach is needed for the remainder of the Study

- **Fall 2022 to Present**

- Cook County provides additional investment to support public involvement process
- Study Team establishes and implements the Public Involvement Plan
- Launch the Study website
- Offer additional feedback opportunities to the public
- Hold Corridor Advisory Committee meetings
- Revise the Preliminary Alternatives using the additional feedback collected

Study Team

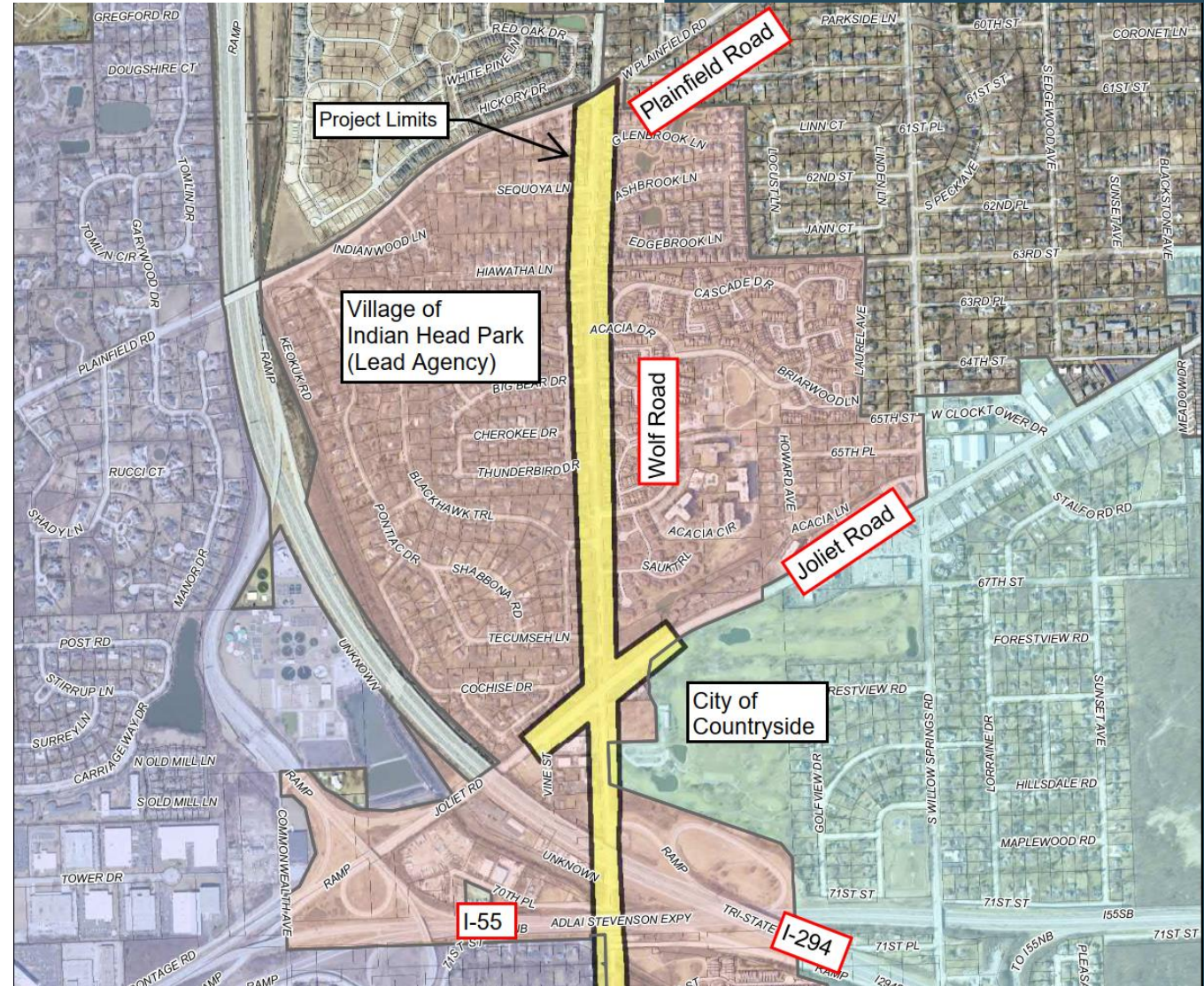
- **Village of Indian Head Park**
 - Lead Agency
- **Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways (DoTH)**
 - Funding the Study
 - Agency with Jurisdiction of Wolf Road
- **Strand Associates, Inc.**
 - Lead Engineering Consultant



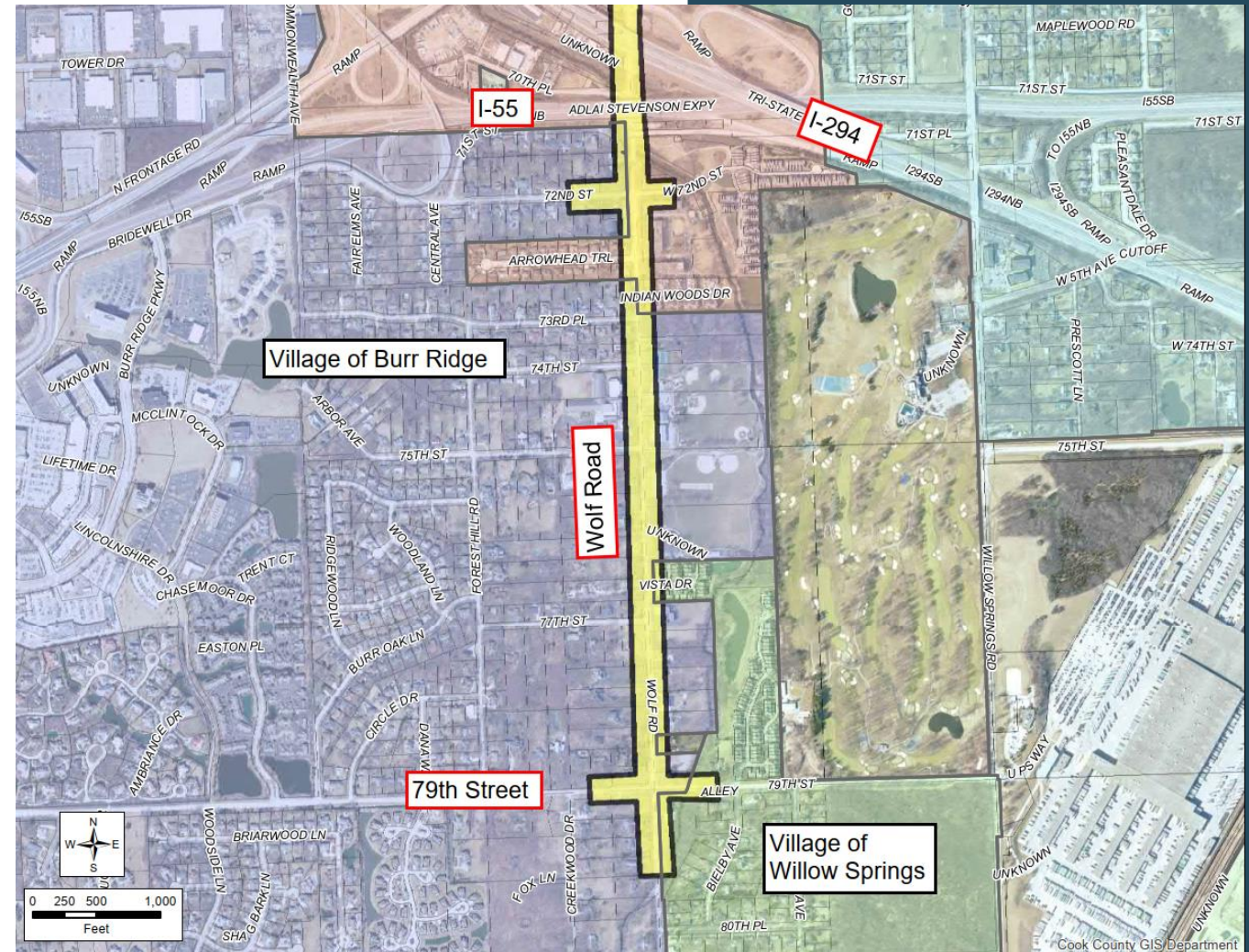
Study Area (Northern Section)

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

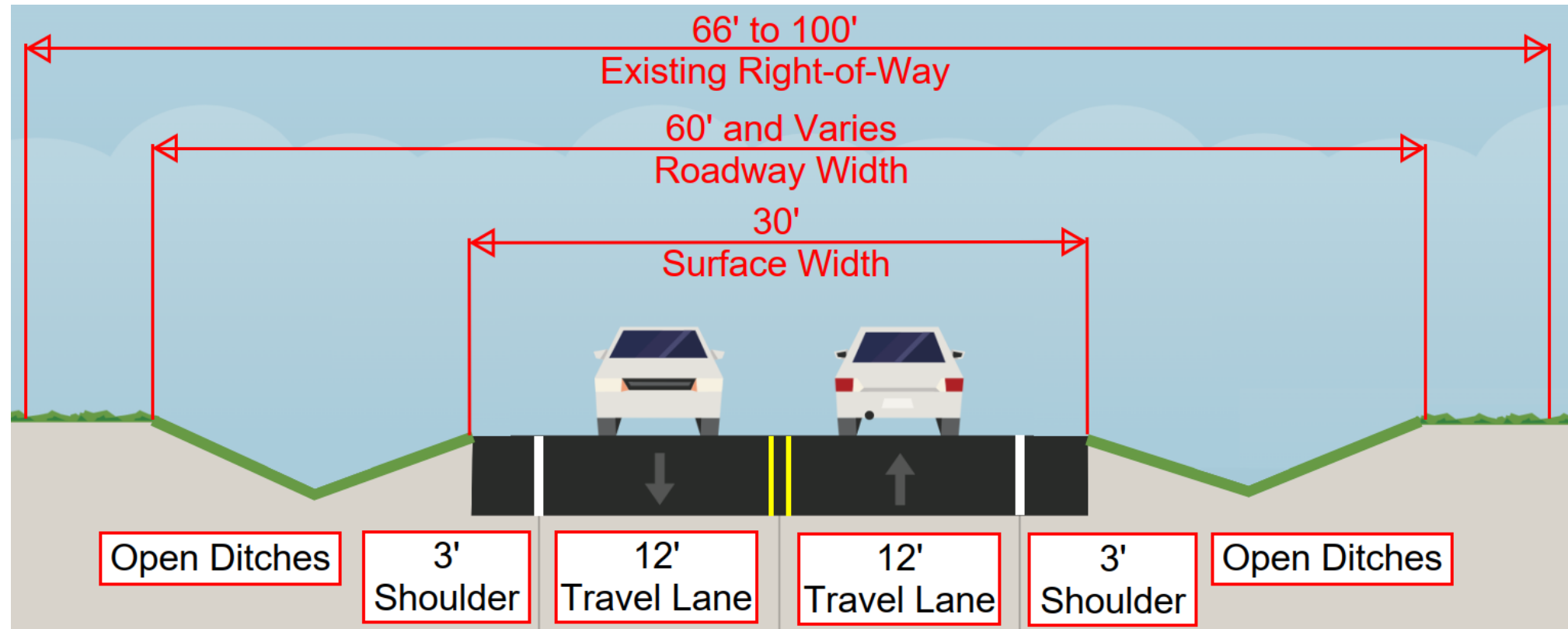


Study Area (Southern Section)



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



Existing Conditions Reviewed

Existing conditions were reviewed to identify deficiencies and opportunities for improvements

- Roadway conditions
- Structure conditions
- Drainage conditions
- Traffic conditions
- Roadway safety
- Multi-modal conditions and connectivity



Study Goals



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



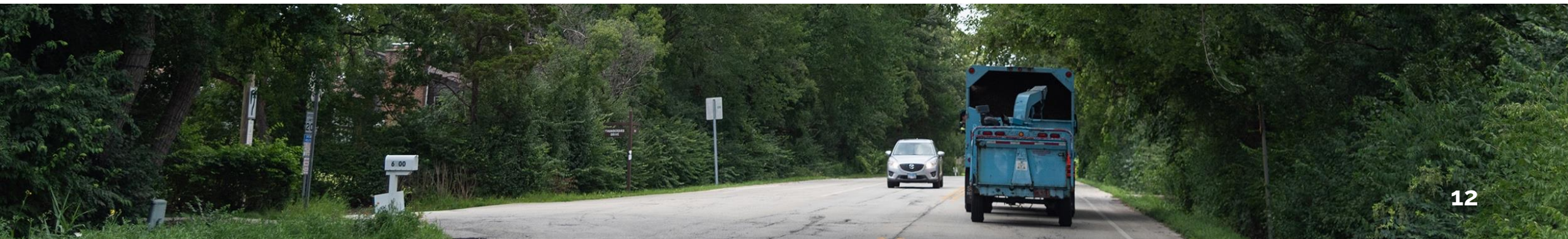
Improve
traffic safety and
operations
for all users.



Evaluate
connectivity and
accommodation for
pedestrians and bicyclists.



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



Project Timeline and Process Overview

Typical Project Timeline

Phase I
Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Study

★ We are Here



Phase II
Contract Plan Preparation and Land Acquisition



Phase III
Construction

Project Timeline

Phase I Activities

- Review the Existing Conditions
- Perform Community Outreach
- Conduct Environmental and Historical Analyses
- Coordinate with Public Agencies
- **Develop a Range of Potential Alternatives that Meet the Corridor Needs**
- Select One Preferred Alternative and Refine the Design
- Compile a Final Report



Preferred Alternative Selection

- **The Study Team will determine the Preferred Alternative after Public Information Meeting #2**
- **Public feedback on the Preliminary Alternatives helps the Study Team understand the needs of the community and corridor**
- **Community consensus on a single Preferred Alternative may not be possible**

Project Timeline

Phase II Activities

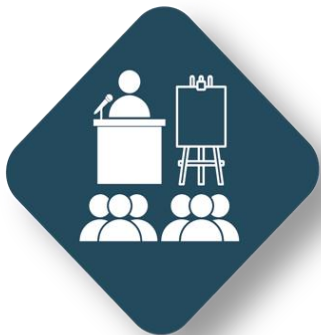
- **Develop detailed construction drawings and contract documents for bidding**
 - **Roadway, drainage, sidewalk/shared-use path, landscaping, water, and sewer**
- **Coordinate private utility relocations in advance of construction (led by others)**
 - **Cable, gas, electric, etc.**
- **Acquire parcels needed to construct the improvements**
- **Obtain regulatory permits**



Public Involvement Overview and Public Feedback Received to Date

2022 Public Feedback

- Extensive public feedback was provided in April and May 2022 surrounding Public Information Meeting #1.
- In response, outreach efforts were increased to better include the public in the Phase I Study, including establishing a Public Involvement Plan (PIP) and a Corridor Advisory Committee (CAC)
- CAC includes over 25 stakeholders representing school districts, park district, residents, business owners, and other government agencies to collaborate with the Study Team on the alternative design process



Public Information Meetings



Community Advisory Committee



Project Website



Stakeholder Meetings

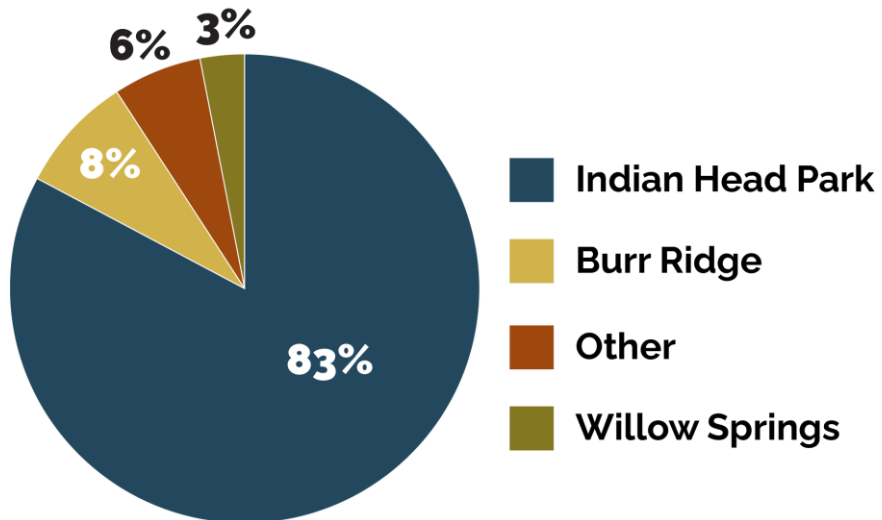
2023 Public Feedback

Questionnaire Survey

Who took the survey?

320 People Responded

Where do they live?



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%)**

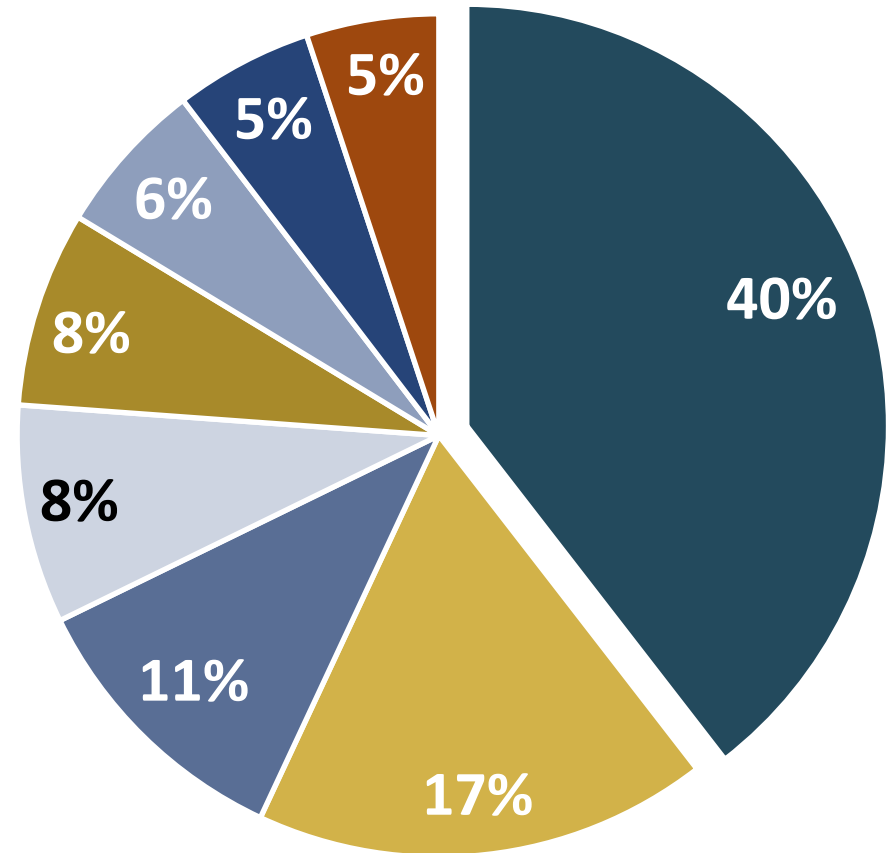
2023 Interactive Map

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

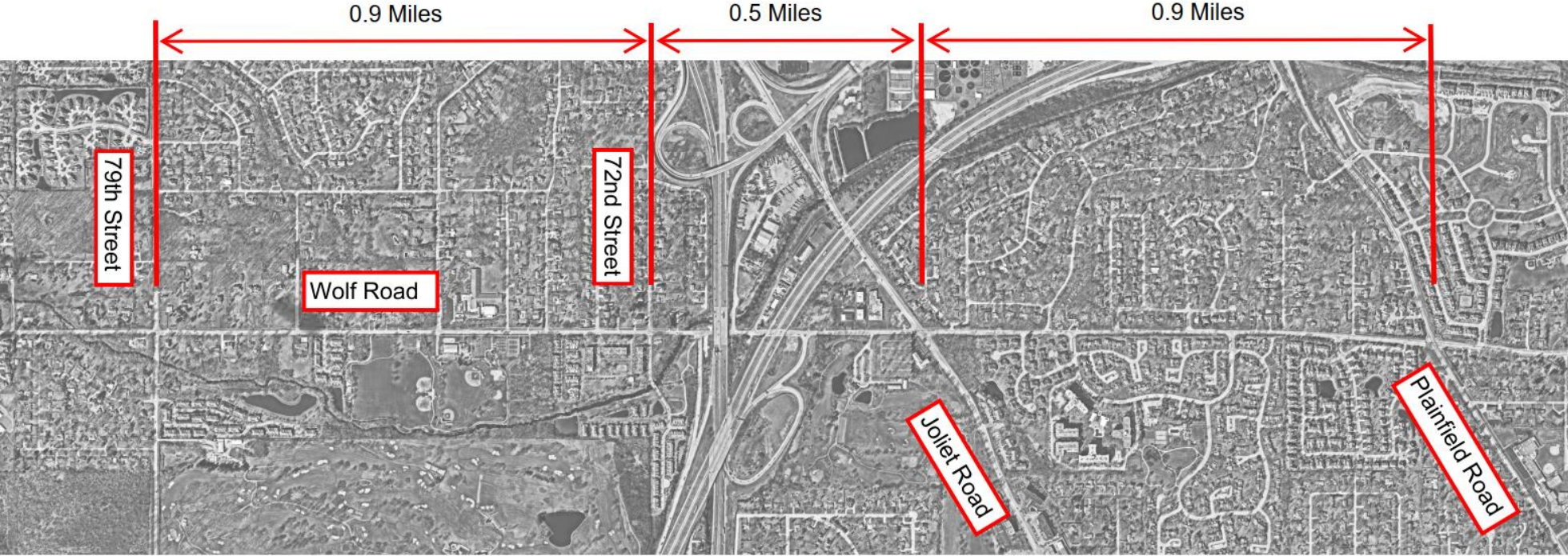
■ Drainage

■ Ideas

■ Property Impacts

2024 Public Feedback

142 Responses Received

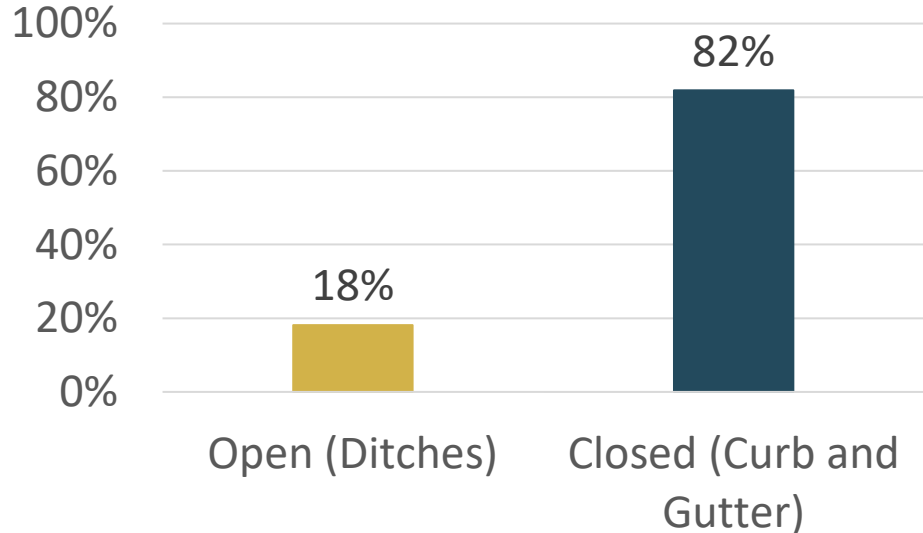


| 79th Street to 72nd Street | 72nd Street to Joliet Road | Joliet Road to Plainfield Road |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Roadway Section</u>: Open (Ditches) or Closed (Curb and Gutter) • <u>Two-Way Left Turn Lane</u>: Yes or No • <u>Sidewalk</u>: Yes or No <u>If Yes</u>: East or West or Both • <u>Shared-Use Path</u>: Yes or No <u>If Yes</u>: East or West or Both • <u>On-Street Bicycle Lanes</u>: Yes or No • <u>Other (Write In)</u>: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Roadway Section</u>: Open (Ditches) or Closed (Curb and Gutter) • <u>Two-Way Left Turn Lane</u>: Yes or No • <u>Sidewalk</u>: Yes or No <u>If Yes</u>: East or West or Both • <u>Shared-Use Path</u>: Yes or No <u>If Yes</u>: East or West or Both • <u>On-Street Bicycle Lanes</u>: Yes or No • <u>Other (Write In)</u>: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Roadway Section</u>: Open (Ditches) or Closed (Curb and Gutter) • <u>Two-Way Left Turn Lane</u>: Yes or No • <u>Sidewalk</u>: Yes or No <u>If Yes</u>: East or West or Both • <u>Shared-Use Path</u>: Yes or No <u>If Yes</u>: East or West or Both • <u>On-Street Bicycle Lanes</u>: Yes or No • <u>Other (Write In)</u>: |

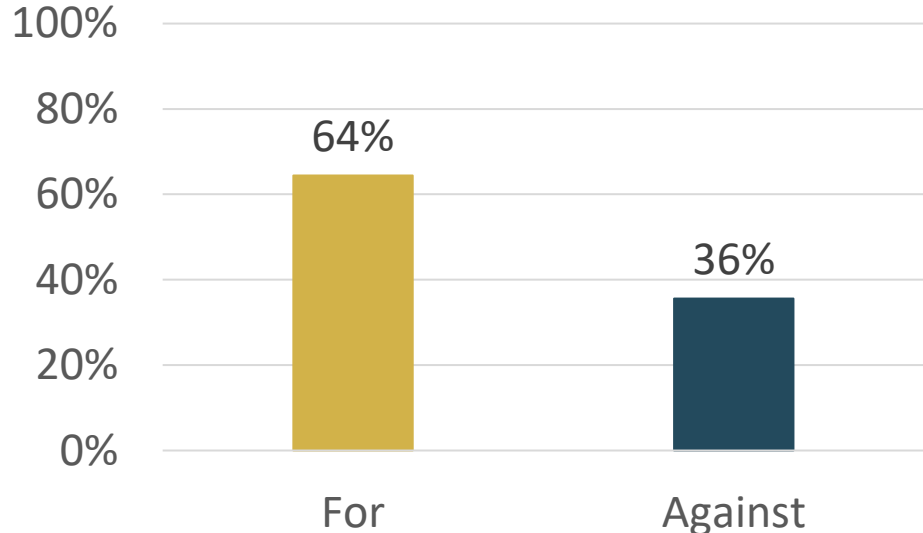
Alternative Map Feedback

Roadway Characteristics

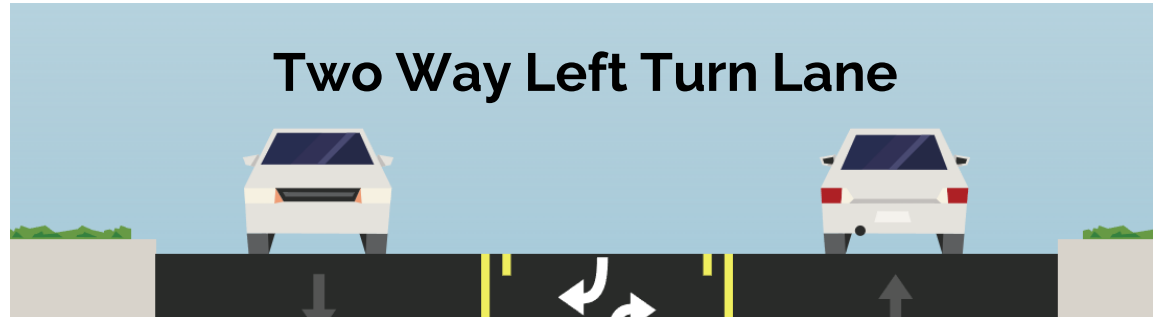
Stormwater Management



Two Way Left Turn Lane

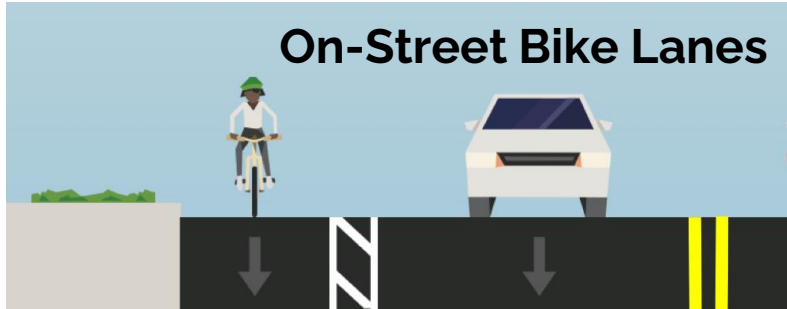
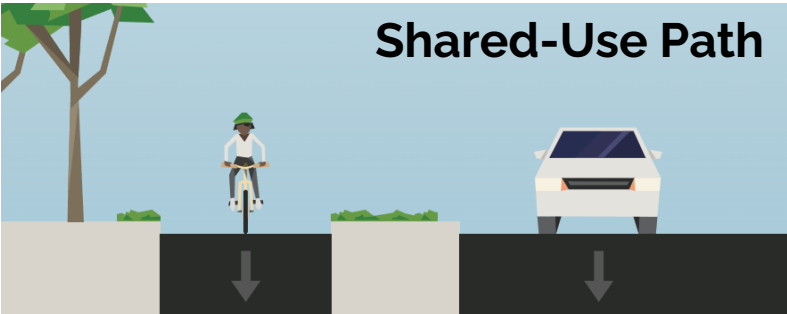
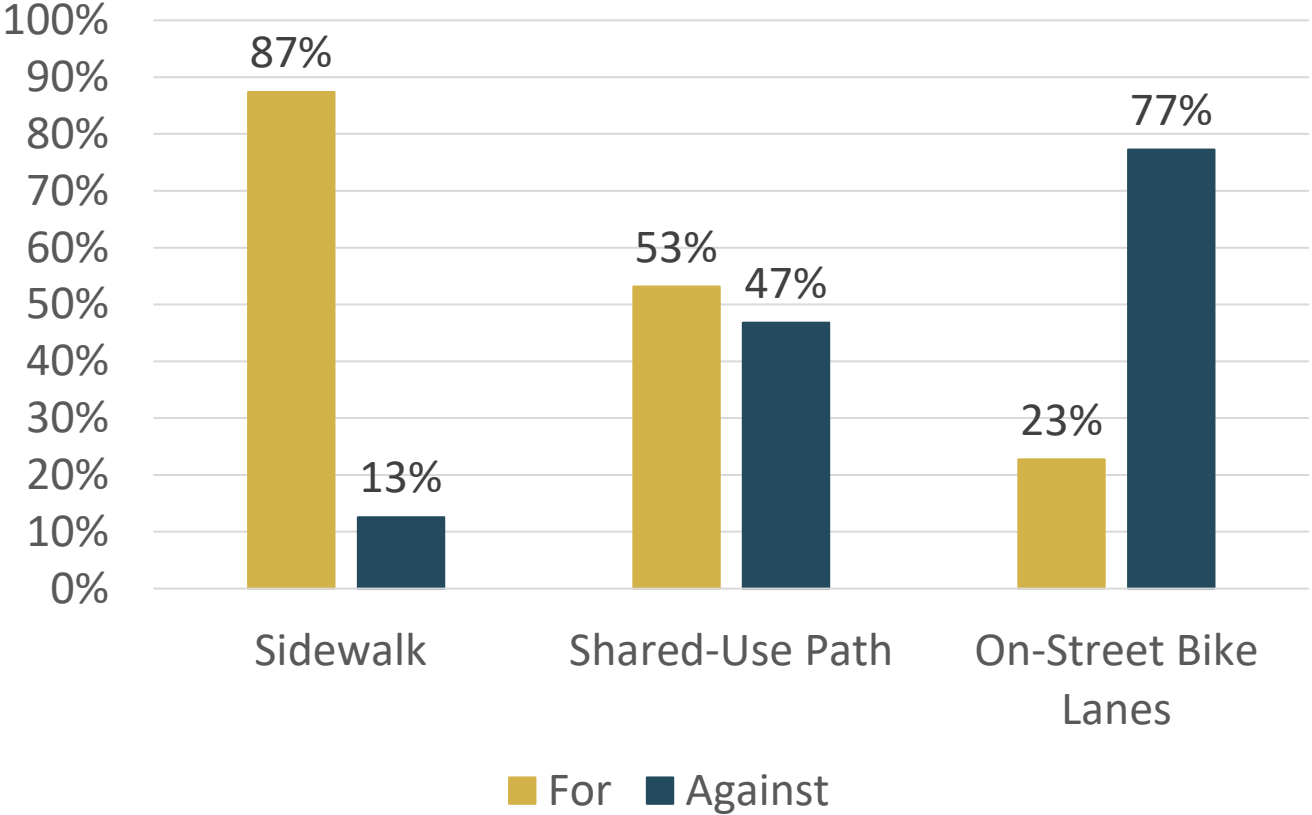


Takeaway: There is support for a corridor with a two way left turn lane and curb and gutter



Alternative Map Feedback

Pedestrian Accommodations



Stakeholder Engagement Overview



15 Voicemails Received



261 Emails Received



**40 Contact List and
Newsletter Sign-Ups**



**2,280 Website
Visitors
3,490 Website Views**



3,236 Postcards Mailed



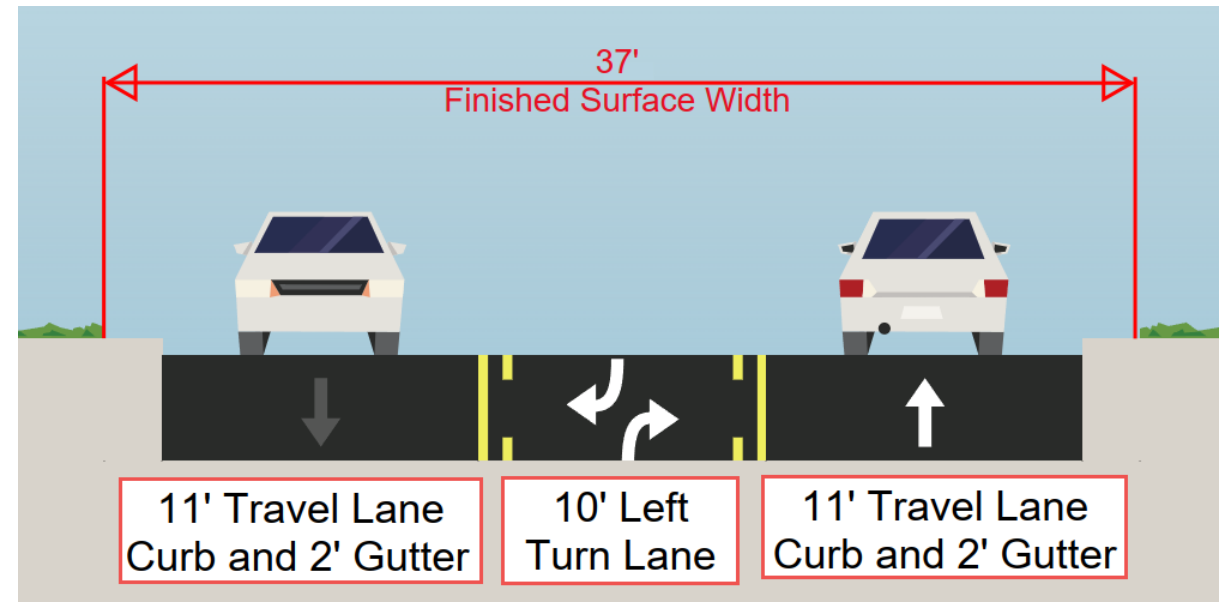
**438 Perspectives
Survey Participants
142 Alternatives
Survey Participants**



Preliminary Alternatives Introduction

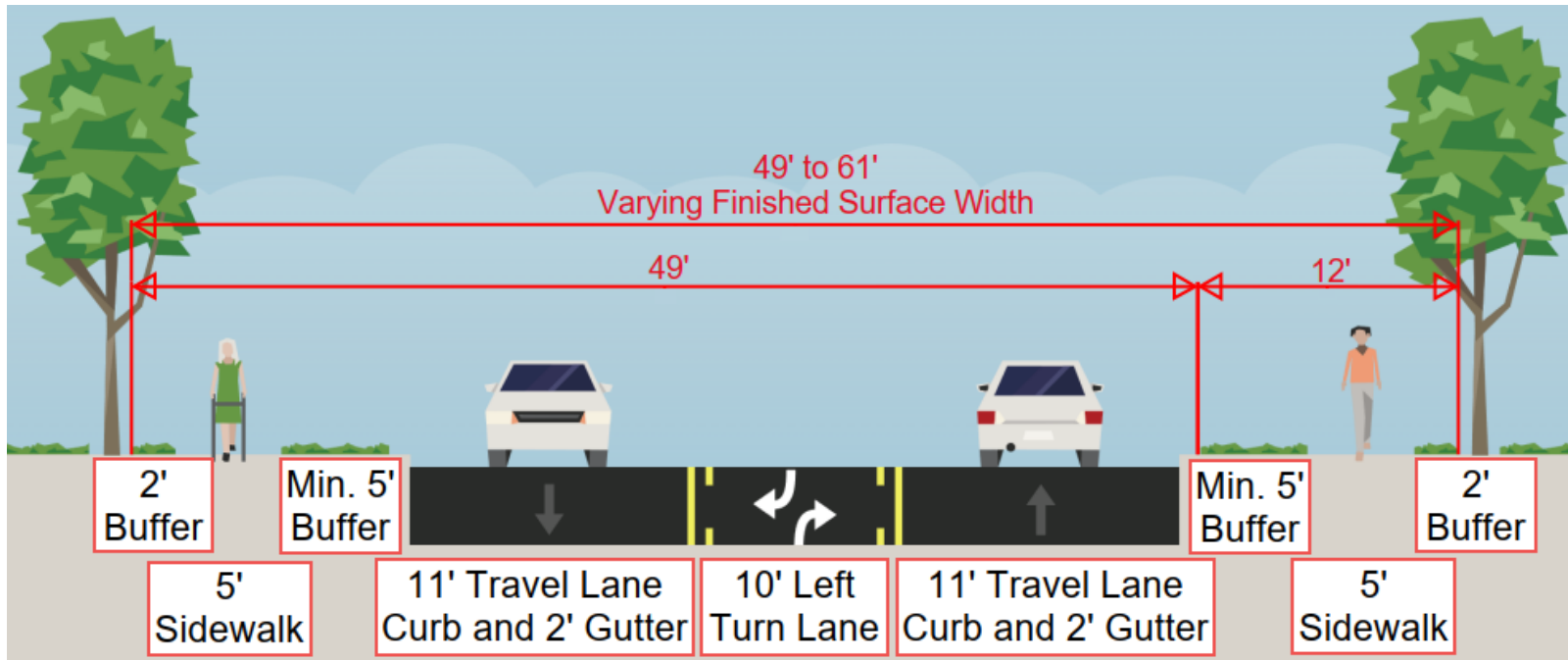
Alternatives Overview

- A consistent roadway configuration is proposed across all alternatives
 - One northbound travel lane
 - One southbound travel lane
 - A two-way left turn lane (dedicated left turn lanes at intersections)
 - Curb and gutter with an underground storm sewer system to collect stormwater
- Off-street pedestrian and/or bicycle accommodations vary across the alternatives
 - 5' Sidewalk
 - 8' Shared-Use Path
 - Minimum 5' buffer required between sidewalk/shared-use path and curb and gutter

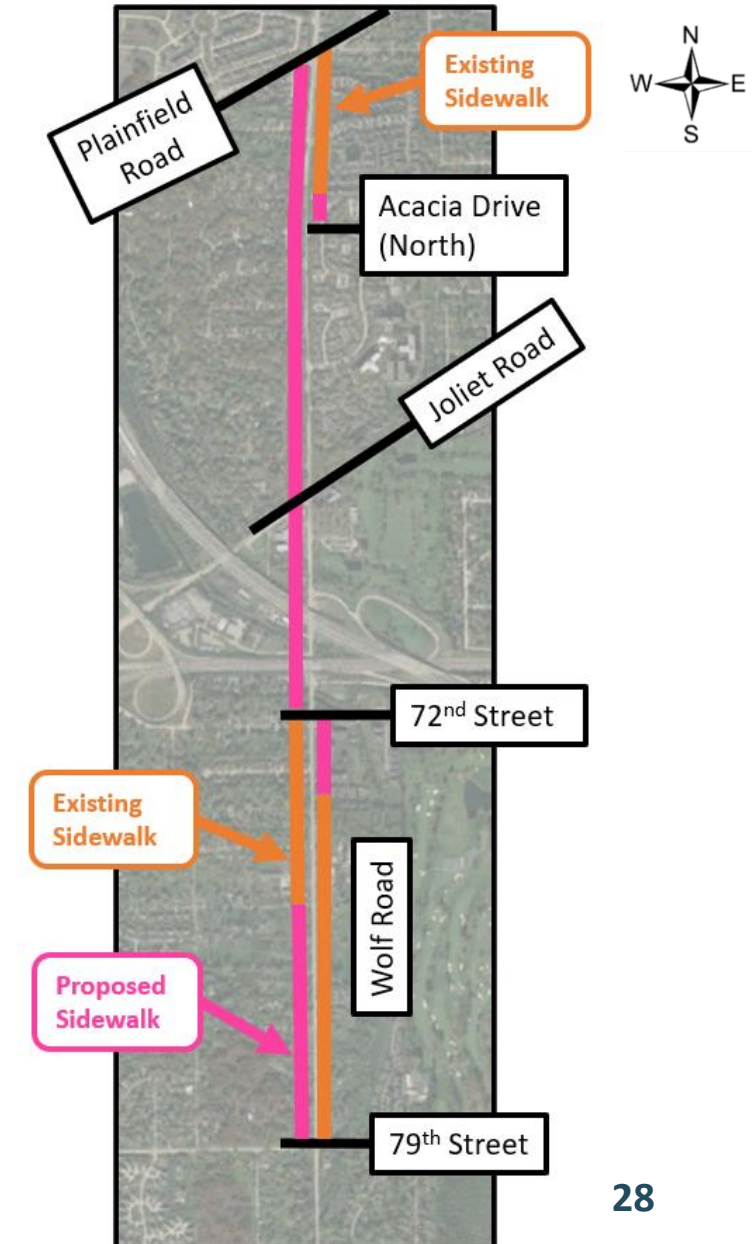


Alternative 1 (Baseline Sidewalk)

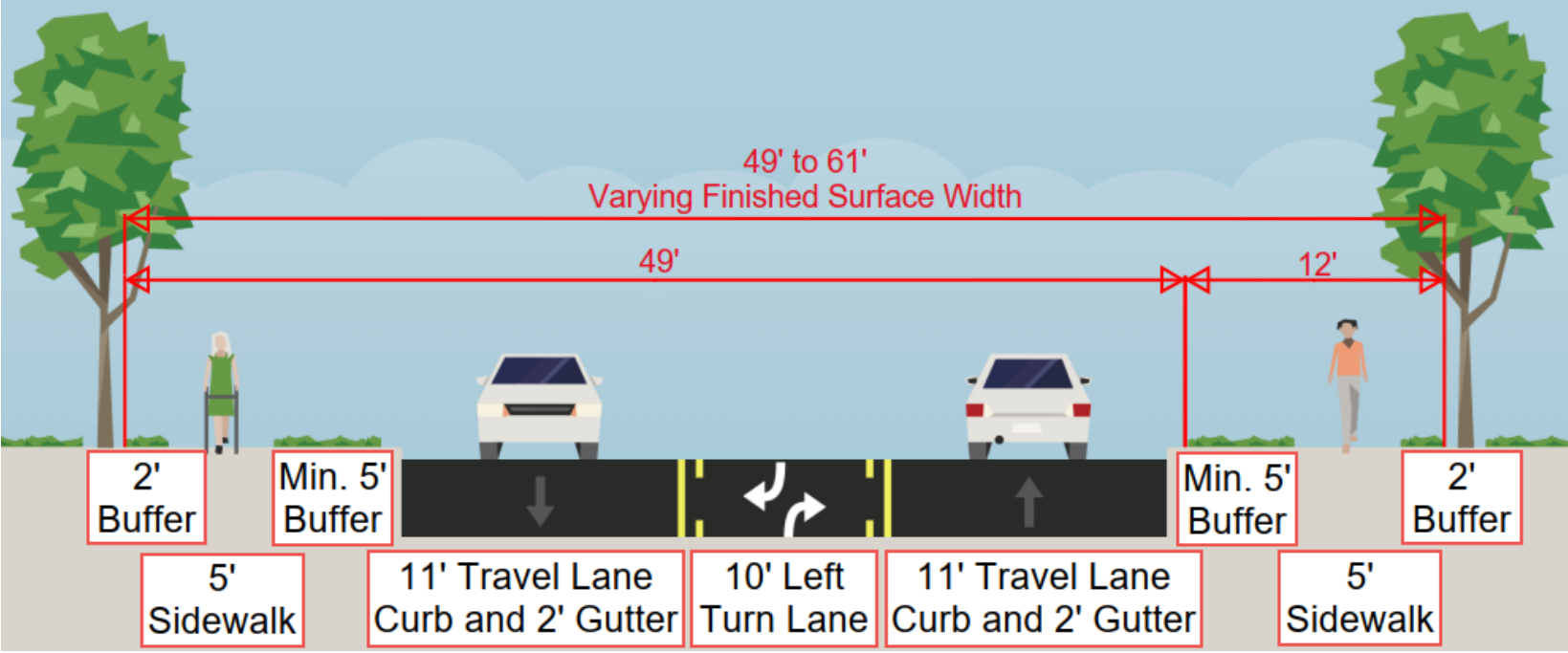
Overview



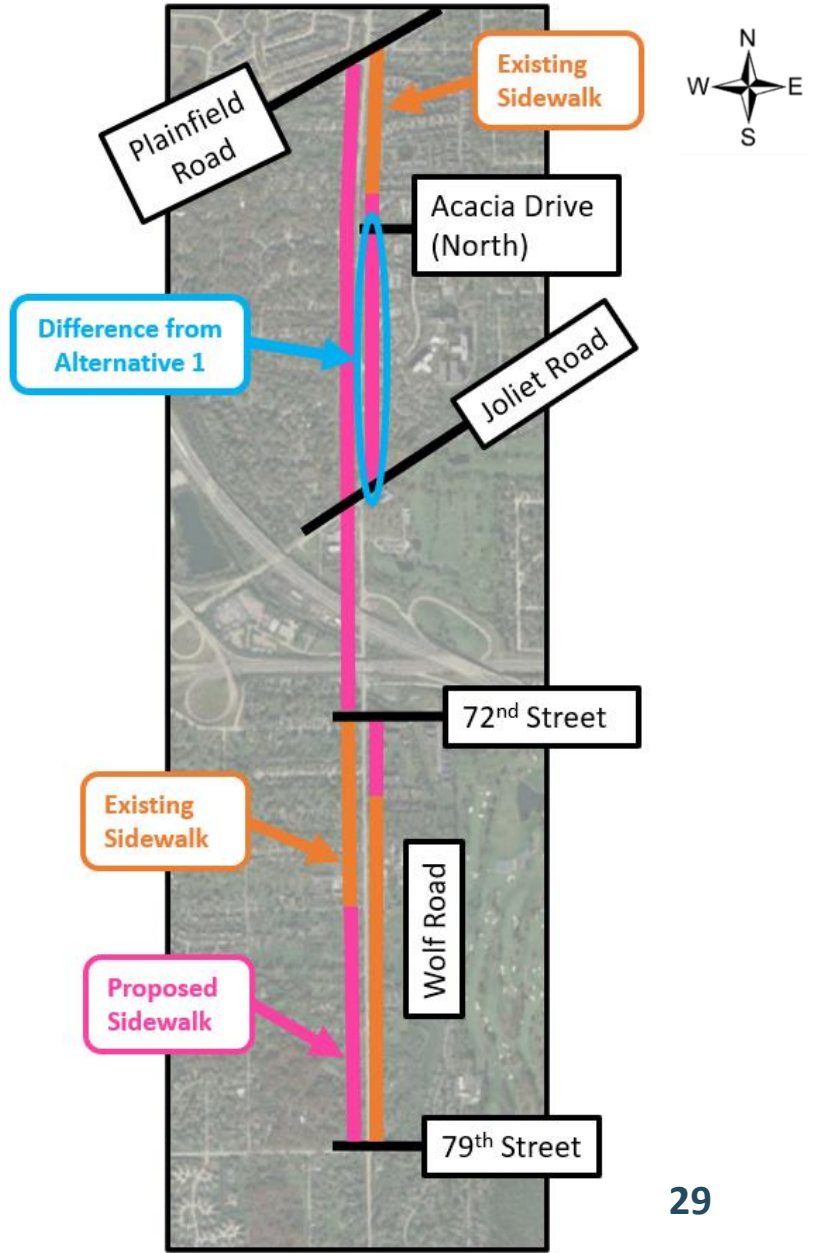
View Looking North



Alternative 2 (Full Sidewalk) Overview

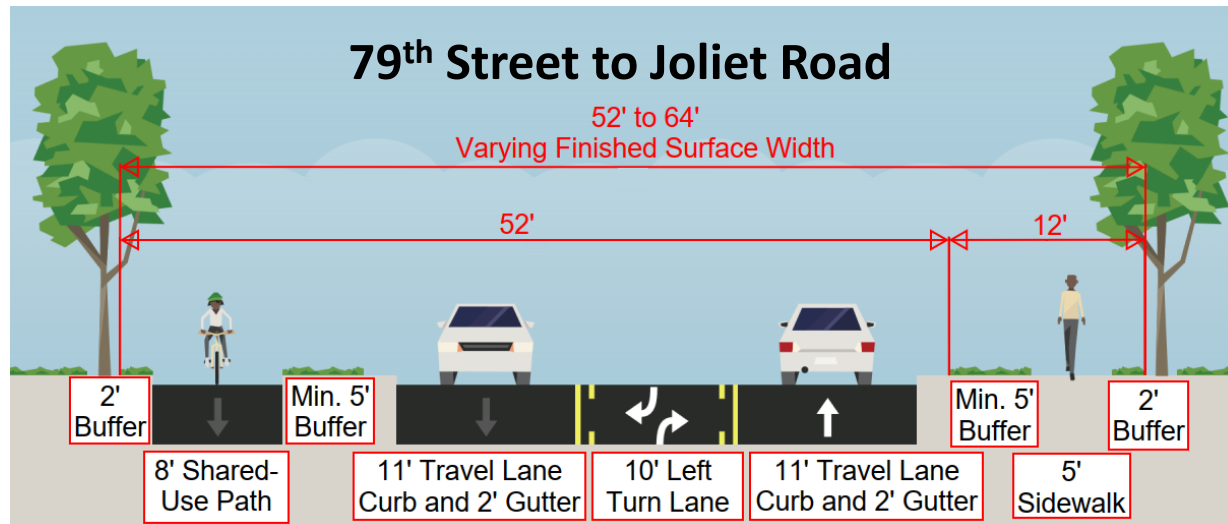
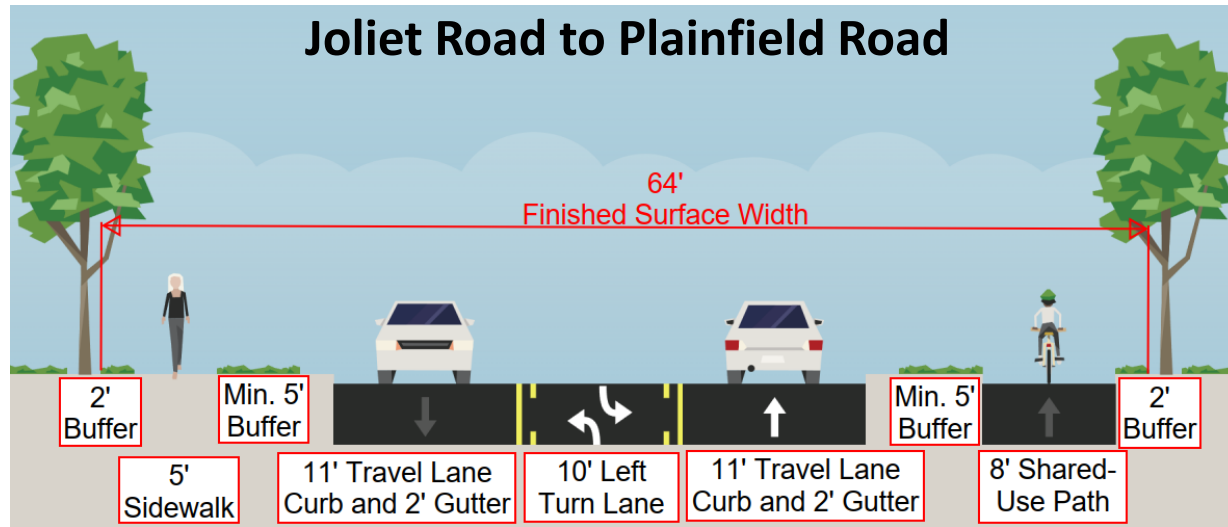


View Looking North

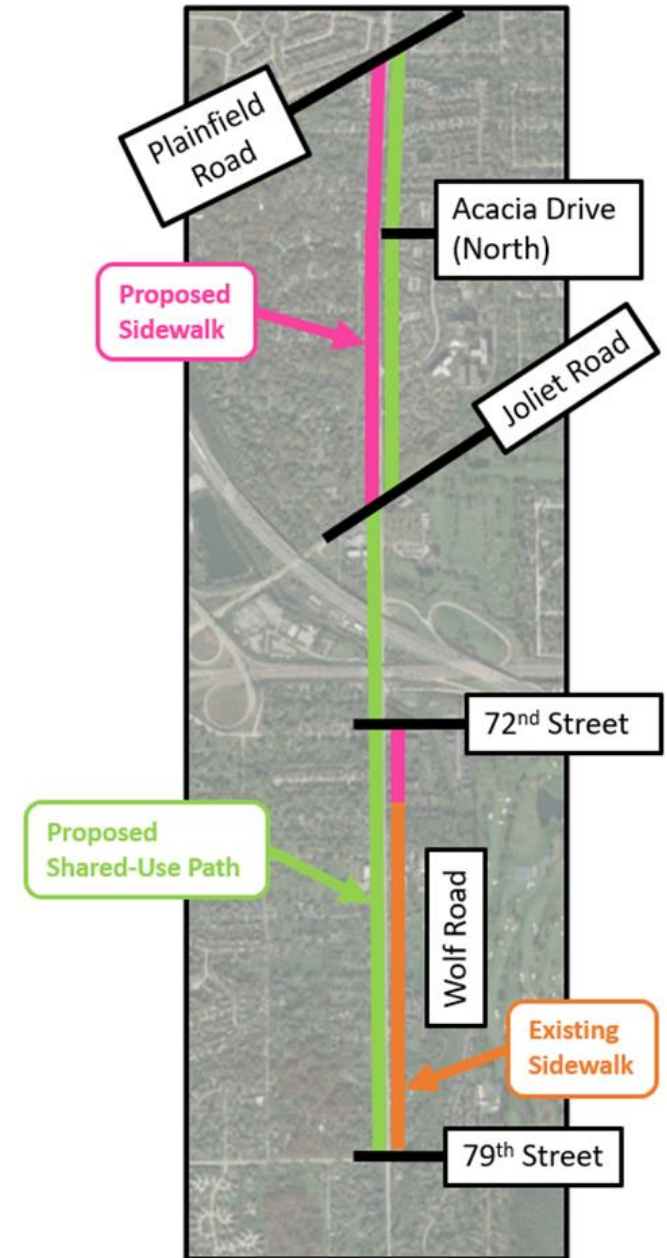


Alternative 3 (Shared-Use Path)

Overview



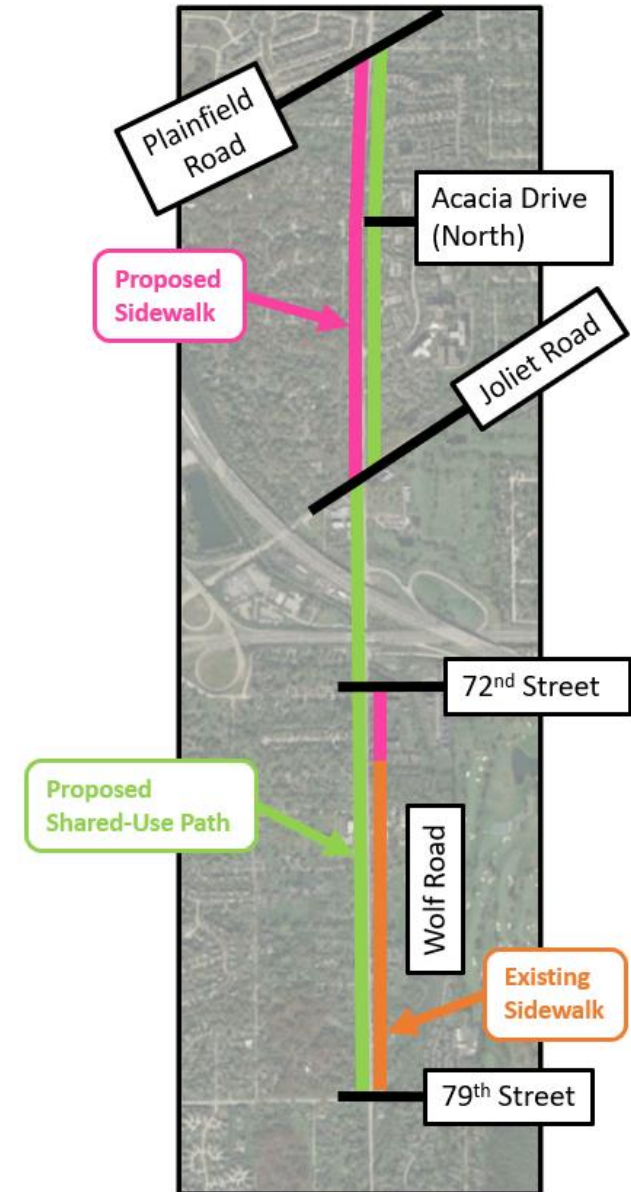
View Looking North



Alternative 3 (Shared-Use Path)

Overview Continued...

- Shared-use path is located on the east side of Wolf Road from Joliet Road to Plainfield Road
 - Data collected from LaGrange Highlands School District 106 shows majority of students attending Highlands Elementary and Middle Schools live east of Wolf Road
 - There are fewer driveways/entrances on the east side of Wolf Road, which will reduce the number of conflict points for pedestrians and bicyclists










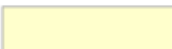
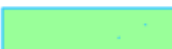




Alternative Exhibits Overview

Alternative Exhibit Highlights

Legend

- A legend is provided on each exhibit to identify the different components

| LEGEND | |
|--|---|
|  | MUNICIPAL LIMIT |
|  | EXISTING RIGHT-OF-WAY |
|  | POTENTIAL ACQUISITION (RIGHT-OF-WAY)* |
|  | POTENTIAL ACQUISITION (TEMPORARY EASEMENT)* |
| *EXACT RIGHT-OF-WAY OR EASEMENT LIMITS WILL BE DETERMINED FOR PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE, PRIOR TO THIRD PUBLIC MEETING | |
|  | EXISTING SIDEWALK |
|  | PROPOSED SIDEWALK |
|  | PROPOSED SHARED-USE PATH |
|  | PROPOSED JOLIET ROAD SHARED-USE PATH (BY THE CITY OF COUNTRYSIDE) |
|  | PAVEMENT |
|  | CURB AND GUTTER |
|  | 100-YEAR (1% ANNUAL PROBABILITY) FLOODPLAIN |
|  | DELINEATED WETLANDS |
|  | STRUCTURE (BRIDGE OR CULVERT) |

NOTES

GRADING AND RESTORATION WILL EXPAND THE LIMITS OF CONSTRUCTION BEYOND THE TOTAL WIDTH DIMENSIONS SHOWN ON THE TYPICAL SECTIONS.

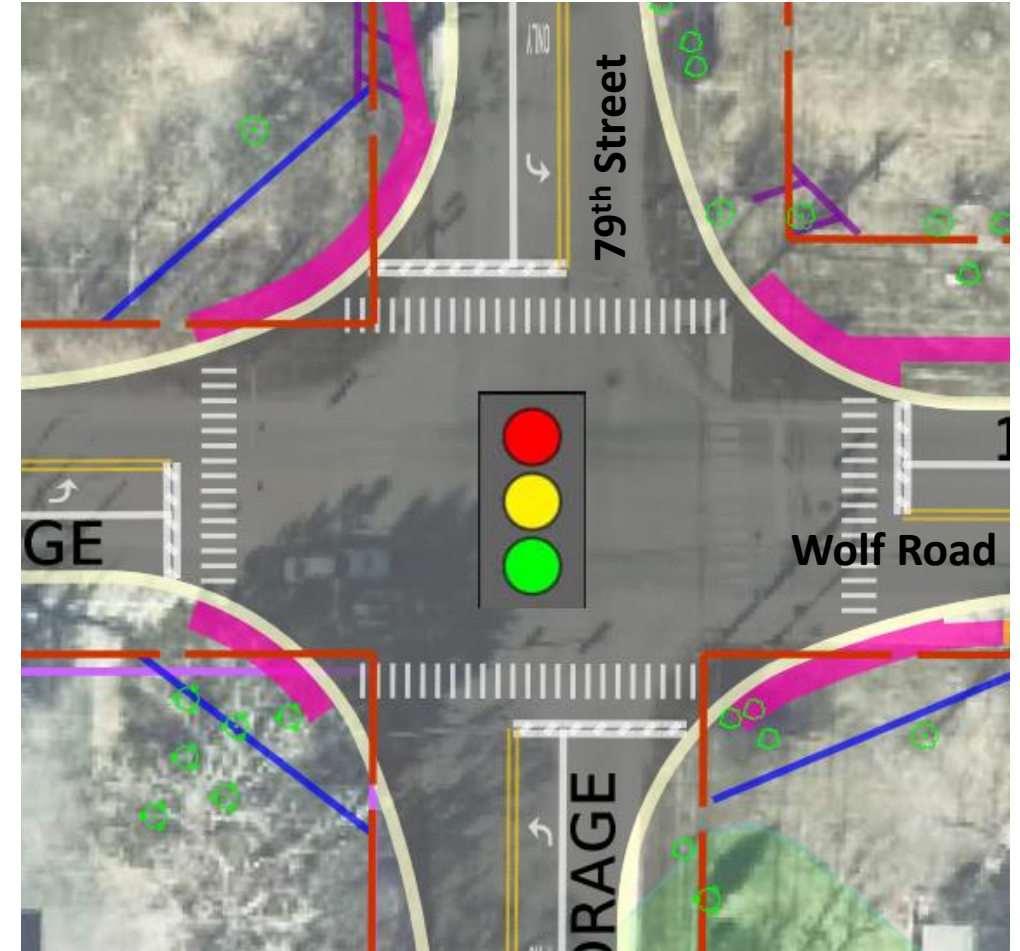
Alternative Exhibit Highlights

Right-of-Way

- The potential improvements are not able to be fully constructed within the existing right-of-way
- Refined land acquisition needs will be determined for the Preferred Alternative and known for CAC Meeting #3 and Public Meeting #3
- Potentially impacted parcels are displayed for each Preliminary Alternative as indicated below

- EXISTING RIGHT-OF-WAY
- POTENTIAL ACQUISITION (RIGHT-OF-WAY)*
- POTENTIAL ACQUISITION (TEMPORARY EASEMENT)*

*EXACT RIGHT-OF-WAY OR EASEMENT LIMITS WILL BE DETERMINED FOR PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE, PRIOR TO THIRD PUBLIC MEETING



Alternative Exhibit Highlights

Land Acquisition

| Type | Description |
|---------------------------|--|
| Fee Simple (Right-of-Way) | Acquisition of all rights and interests |
| Permanent Easement | Area to cover construction and/or installation of ancillary roadway facilities that are considered permanent. Ownership is retained by the property owner, but the land is used by Cook County DoTH for construction and maintenance |
| Temporary Easement | Area essential to the completion of a project, but future entry is not needed. Ownership is retained by the property owner, but the land is used by Cook County DoTH for construction. |

Property owners are financially compensated for all types of land acquisition

Alternative Exhibit Highlights

Potential Number of Parcels Impacted

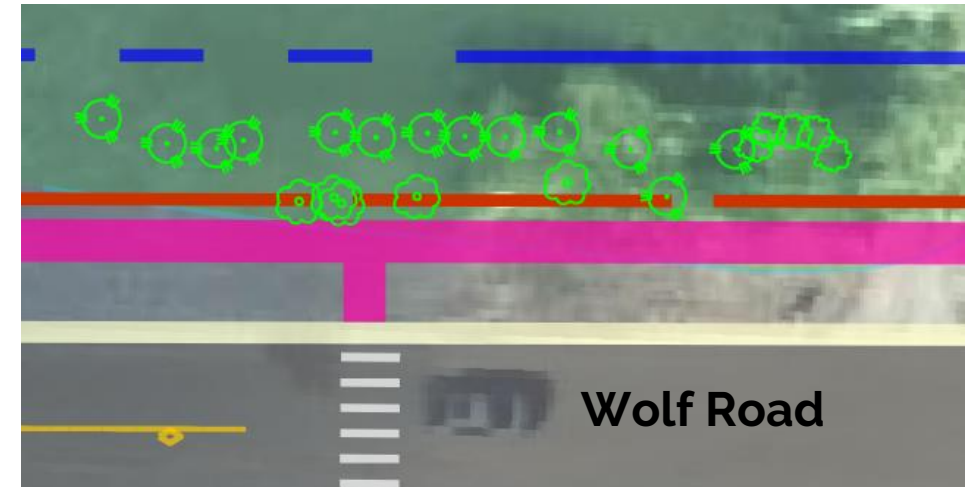
| Alternative | Right-of-Way | Permanent Easements | Temporary Easements |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Alternative 1 (Baseline Sidewalk) | 15 | 0 | 74 |
| Alternative 2 (Full Sidewalk) | 15 | 0 | 76 |
| Alternative 3 (Shared-Use Path) | 26 | 0 | 76 |

- Approximately 135 parcels are present within the Study limits
- The potential number of parcels impacted by land acquisition is subject to change
- Refined land acquisition needs will be determined for the Preferred Alternative and known for CAC Meeting #3 and Public Meeting #3

Alternative Exhibit Highlights

Tree Impacts

- Cook County DoTH has a 1:1 tree replacement policy. Any tree that is greater than or equal to 6 inches in diameter that is removed by the project will be replaced within the corridor.
- Indian Head Park is committed to enhancing the landscaping along Wolf Road beyond the Cook County DoTH replacement policy
- Several factors will contribute to the total number of trees impacted:
 - Roadway and sidewalk/shared-use path layout
 - Underground utility construction (Village, other public, and private utilities)
 - Stormwater infrastructure
 - Elevation and grading changes
 - Temporary elements needed to maintain traffic during construction



- Refined tree impacts can not be determined until Phase II.

Future Vision of Wolf Road

This Project is a Once-in-a-Generation Investment in the Wolf Road Corridor to Enhance and Upgrade Infrastructure for Long-Term Benefit

- **Enhancing Corridor Aesthetics Using Durable, Low-Maintenance Hardscaping and Landscaping Consistent with the Natural and Wooded Landscape of the Community. Resident Input will be Actively Sought to Maintain the Character of the Community**
- **Evaluating Safety and Security Upgrades Using Architectural Fencing, Lighting, or Other Elements in Conjunction with Potential Ordinance Changes**
- **Proactively Planning Infrastructure Improvements for Water Main and Other Utilities along Wolf Road as Part of the Roadway Improvements Using Available Funding Opportunities**

Next Steps

Feedback Collection

- **Feedback Must Be Submitted in Writing to be Included in the Study Report**
- **Written Feedback can be Provided to the Study Team in Several Different Formats**
 - **In-Person at Tonight's Meeting**
 - **E-Mailed to info@WolfRoadStudy.com**
 - **Dropped off at Indian Head Park Village Hall**
 - **Mailed to:**
 - Wolf Road Study Team**
 - c/o RM CHIN & Associates**
 - 500 W. 18th Street Suite 200**
 - Chicago, Illinois 60612**

Next Steps

- **January 10, 2025 – Public Feedback Period After Public Meeting #2 Ends**
- **Early 2025 – Study Team Reviews Public Feedback and Selects the Preferred Alternative**
- **Early 2025 to Early 2026 – Study Team Refines the Preferred Alternative**
- **Spring 2026 – CAC Meeting #3 and Public Meeting #3 (Presentation of the Preferred Alternative and Final Impacts)**
- **Summer 2026 – Study Completion**

Thank you!

Contact the Study team:

Phone: (779) 803-4285

Email: info@wolfroadstudy.com

Address: c/o RM CHIN & Associates

500 W. 18th Street Suite 200

Chicago, Illinois 60612