



South Campus Area Planning

Amherst - Buffalo, NY

February 2022



Background

Previous plans have identified TOD / mixed-use development goals:

- Potential for Collaboration (2020, UBRI, IDEA)
- Amherst Comprehensive Plan (Eggertsville Focal Planning Area, 2020)
- Town of Amherst Mixed Use Zoning (2019)
- GBNRTC TOD Plan (2018, 2021)
- City of Buffalo Green Code (2017)
- South Campus Revitalization Plan (2017)
- Building UB : The Comprehensive Physical Plan (2009)
- Eggertsville Action Plan (2000)



Project Purpose

This project brings together some of the ideas for future collaboration identified in the Potential for Collaboration document and illustrates the potential for:

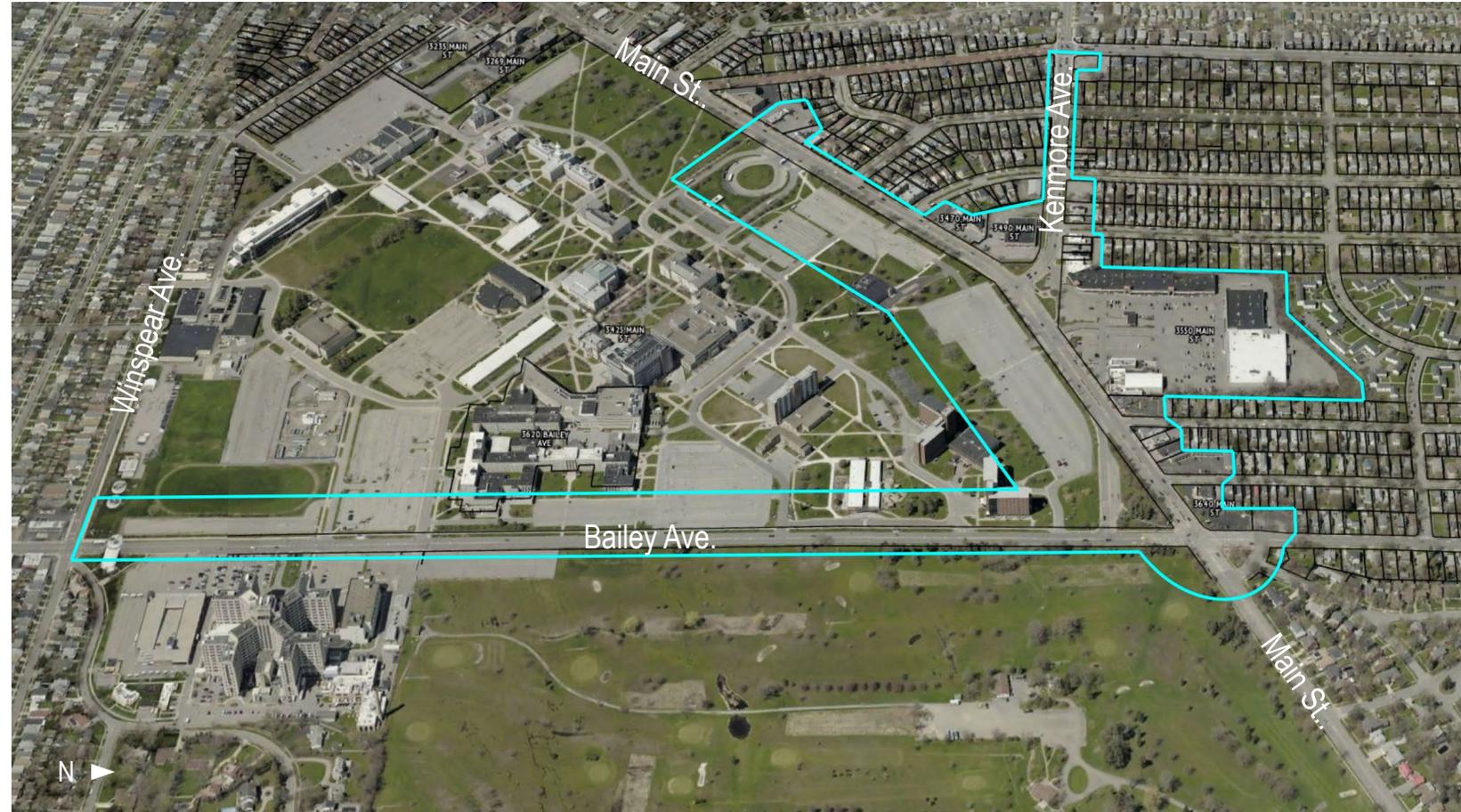
- streetscape improvements
- mixed-use development opportunities
- better organization of building masses, pedestrian spaces, vehicular circulation and public transportation infrastructure



Study Area

This planning and landscape architecture effort focusses on the following areas:

- Main Street from Bailey Avenue to the west side of the UB South Campus
- Kenmore Avenue from Main Street to Niagara Falls Boulevard
- Bailey Avenue from north of Main Street to north of Winspear Avenue



Project Goals

1. Develop a vision for the South Campus district to activate conversations with the community, stakeholders and leaders at the neighborhood, municipal and corridor scale.
2. Further the planning for transit-oriented development (TOD) and mixed-use development goals identified in previous planning documents.
3. Identify potential streetscape improvements; mixed-use opportunities; and better organization of building masses, pedestrian spaces, multi-modal circulation and public transportation infrastructure.
 - Activate the streetscape
 - Promote appropriate infill development
 - Strengthen connections and improve pedestrian safety
 - Fill in the visual and physical gap of activity and walkability along Bailey Avenue
 - Prioritize pedestrians, transit users and cyclists in the hierarchy of streetscape design
 - Provide a flexible public space for events, markets and community gatherings
 - Reinforce UB's plans for South Campus, including re-establishment of the historic EB Greene framework and formal entries from Bailey Avenue and Kenmore Avenue
 - Create a strong, cohesive sense of place for the South Campus area utilizing hardscape, landscape and architectural treatments; consistent site furnishings and lighting; street trees; and roundabouts/gateways

Stakeholder Collaboration

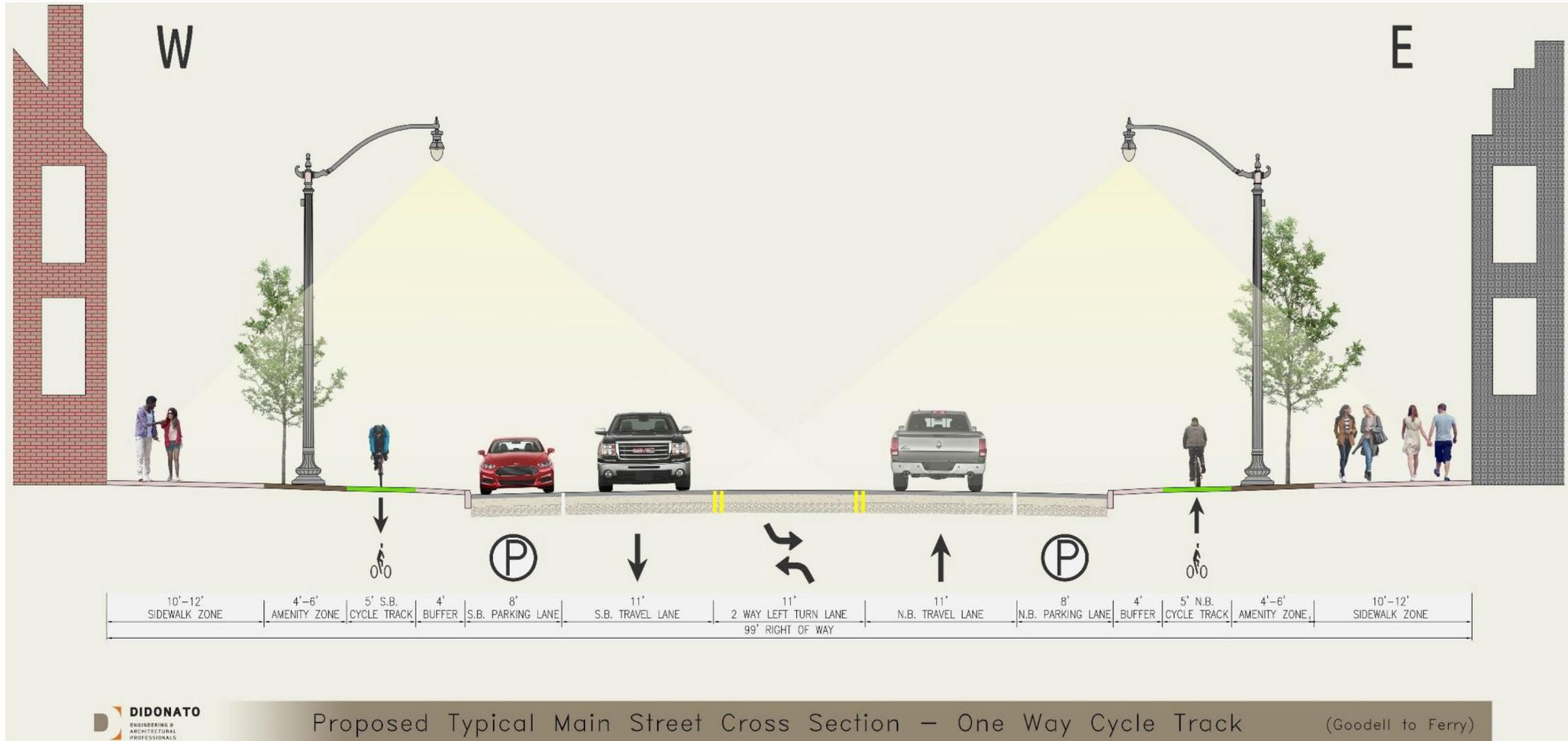
This project brings together input from numerous stakeholders including:

- Town of Amherst
- City of Buffalo
- Niagara Frontier Transit Authority (NFTA)
- Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transit Authority (NFTA)
- State University of New York at Buffalo (UB)
 - Campus Planning
 - UB Regional Institute
 - UB IDEA Center
- Erie County Department of Environment & Planning
- Capen Boulevard Neighborhood
- Phillips Edison & Company

Stakeholder Input

City of Buffalo

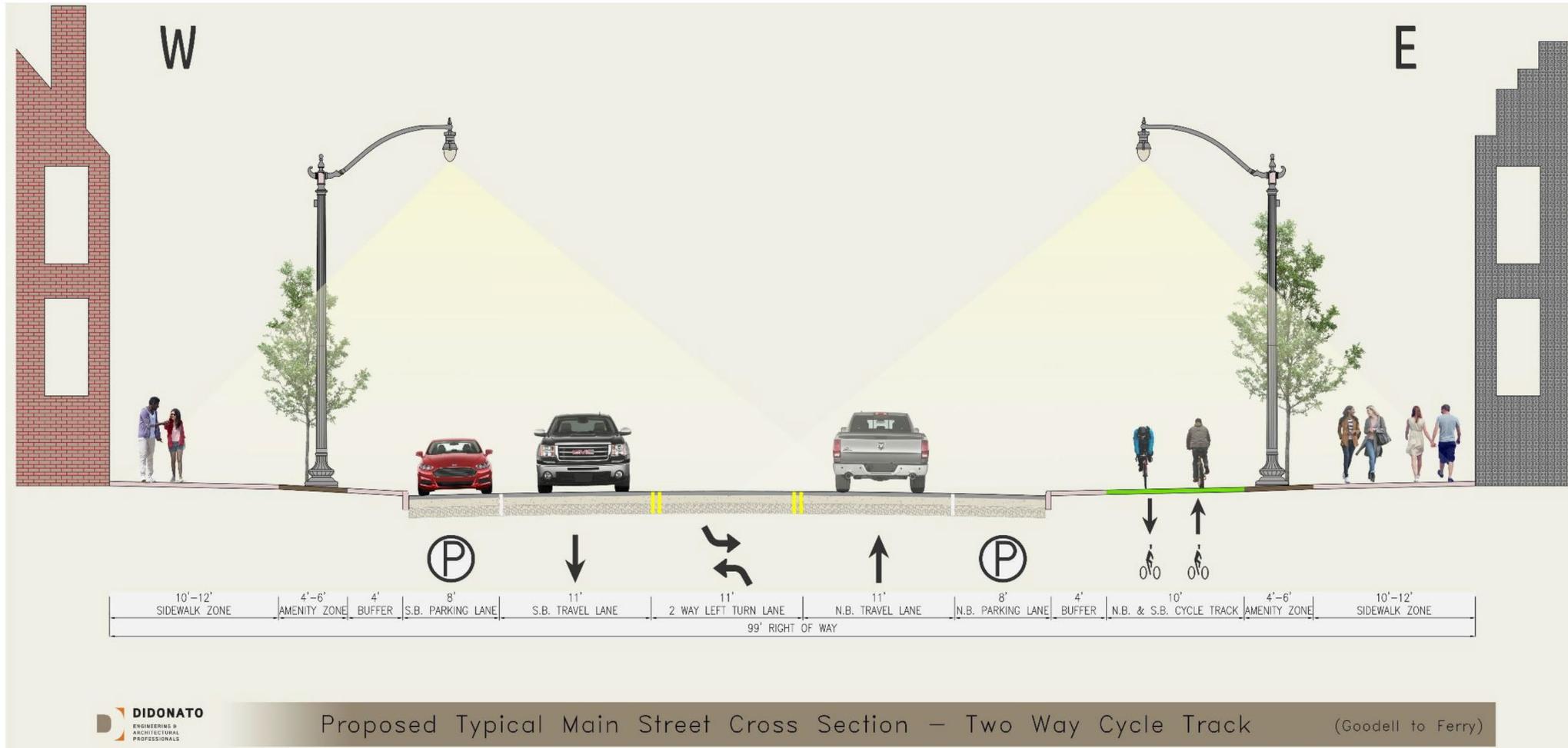
Option A: Middle Main two, sidewalk level one-way cycle tracks (preferred alternative for Middle Main)



Stakeholder Input

City of Buffalo

Option B: Middle Main one sidewalk level two-way cycle track

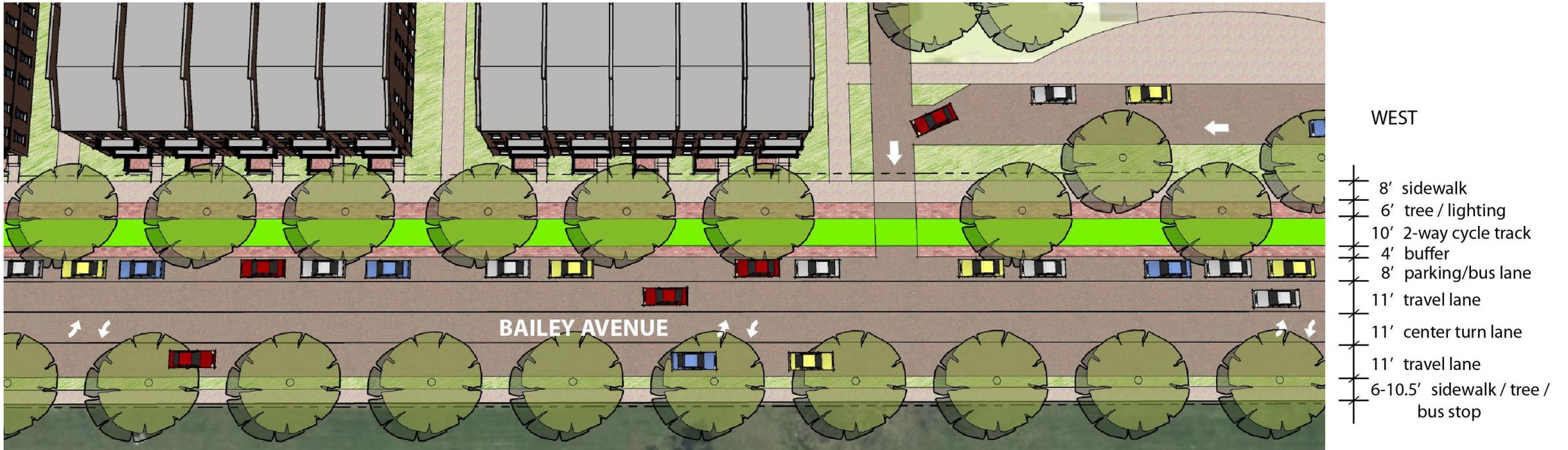


Stakeholder Input

NFTA (Nadine Chalmers)

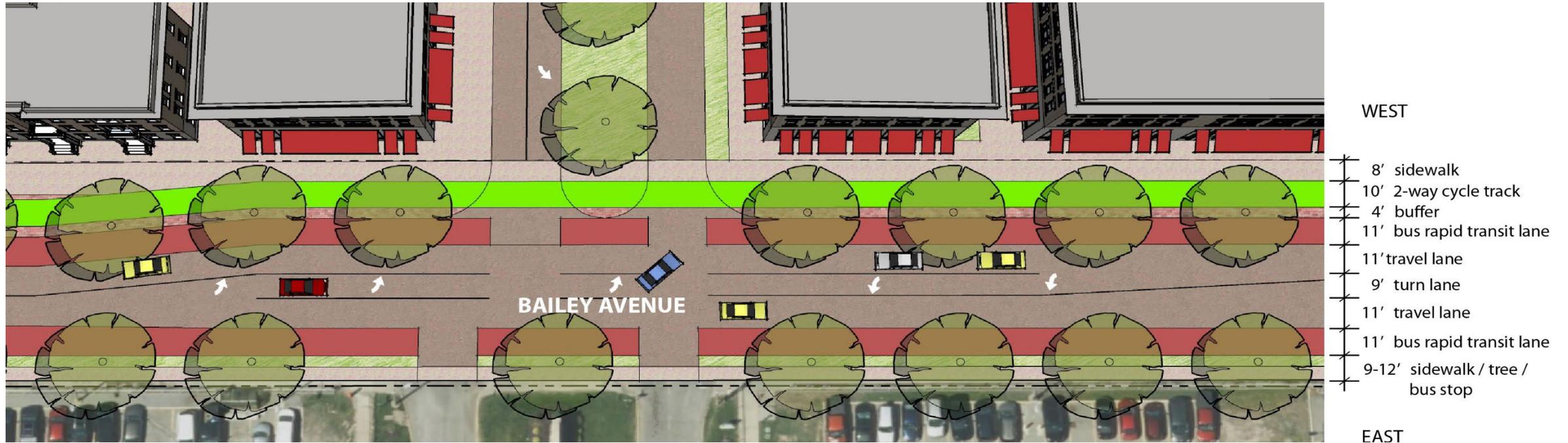
- Bailey Ave. Corridor Improvement Study proposes bus rapid transit lanes between Winspear Ave. and Sherman Rd.
- Elimination of jug handle - NFTA is OK with this as long as provisions are made including:
 - Restroom for drivers
 - Routes 12 and 8 both terminate at this jug handle and some buses go there to layover when out of room at University Loop; they need to be able to conveniently turn around to head back west
 - Space for approximately 3-4 buses to pull up/layover
 - Transit priority signal at exit onto Bailey Ave.

Proposed Bailey Cross-Section (Sherman to Main)



- Continues cycle track proposed in the Middle Main project
- Bump-outs could be utilized in parking/bus stop lane (not shown)
- Continue two-way cycle track to North Campus

Proposed Bailey Cross-Section (Winspear to Sherman)



- Continues cycle track proposed in the Middle Main project
- Business Access & Transit (BAT) lane for bus rapid transit
- Continue two-way cycle track to North Campus

Stakeholder Input

GBNTRC (Kelly Dixon, Mike Davis)

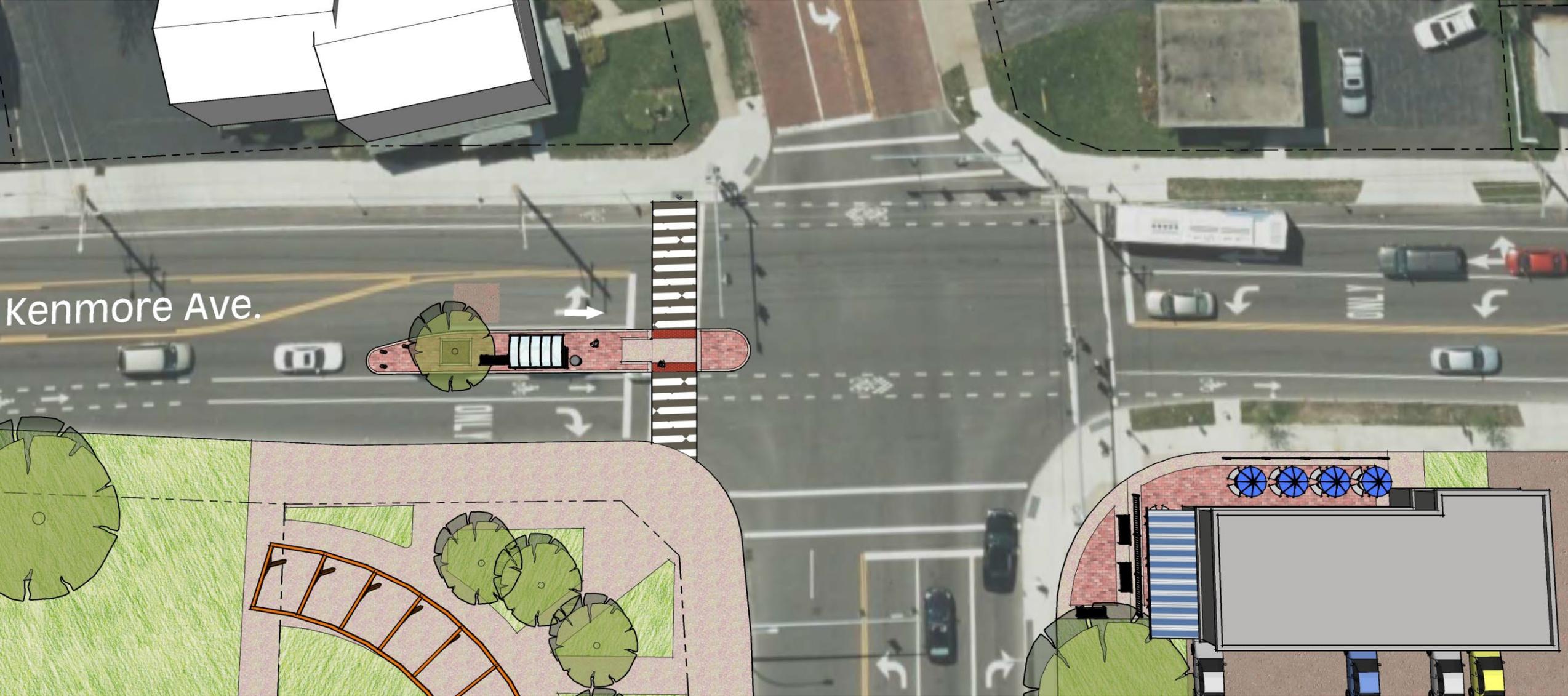
- Kenmore & Niagara Falls Blvd: given the low traffic volumes here, the left hand only turn lane can safely be removed (Kenmore Ave. westbound at Niagara Falls Blvd.)

Concept developed for in-Street boarding island stop



Precedent images: K Street, Washington DC

Proposed in-street boarding island stop (Kenmore Ave .at Niagara Falls Blvd.)





Stakeholder Input Update/Status

GBNTRC (Kelly Dixon, Mike Davis)

- Main & Bailey: analyzed possibility of (1) eliminating jug handle and (2) adding roundabout.
 - Considered City's lane reconfiguration for Bailey Ave.
 - From a volume standpoint, it may be possible to eliminate jug handle and have all traffic flow through the Main-Bailey intersection
 - Advised that it a roundabout at the Main-Bailey intersection is not feasible due to traffic volume
- Bailey-Winspear-Lebrun: analyzed the possibility of adding a roundabout
 - Roundabout improves level of service compared to the existing optimized signalized intersection
- Main & Kenmore: analyzed the possibility of adding a roundabout
 - Suggested that a two-lane roundabout would be required and recommended that a more in-depth study is required to determine feasibility
 - Advised that, unlike Middle Main, Main St. in our study area cannot be reduced to one travel lane in each direction due to traffic volume
 - An alternative to a roundabout is a signalized intersection with a "non-motorized scramble" phase to accommodate the behavior and needs of students and other pedestrians/cyclists at this intersection

Stakeholder Input

Pedestrian scramble concept (Elmwood at Chippewa)



PEDESTRIAN SCRAMBLE CONCEPT | BUFFALO, NY
S ELMWOOD AVE & W CHIPPEWA ST

Stakeholder Input Update/Status

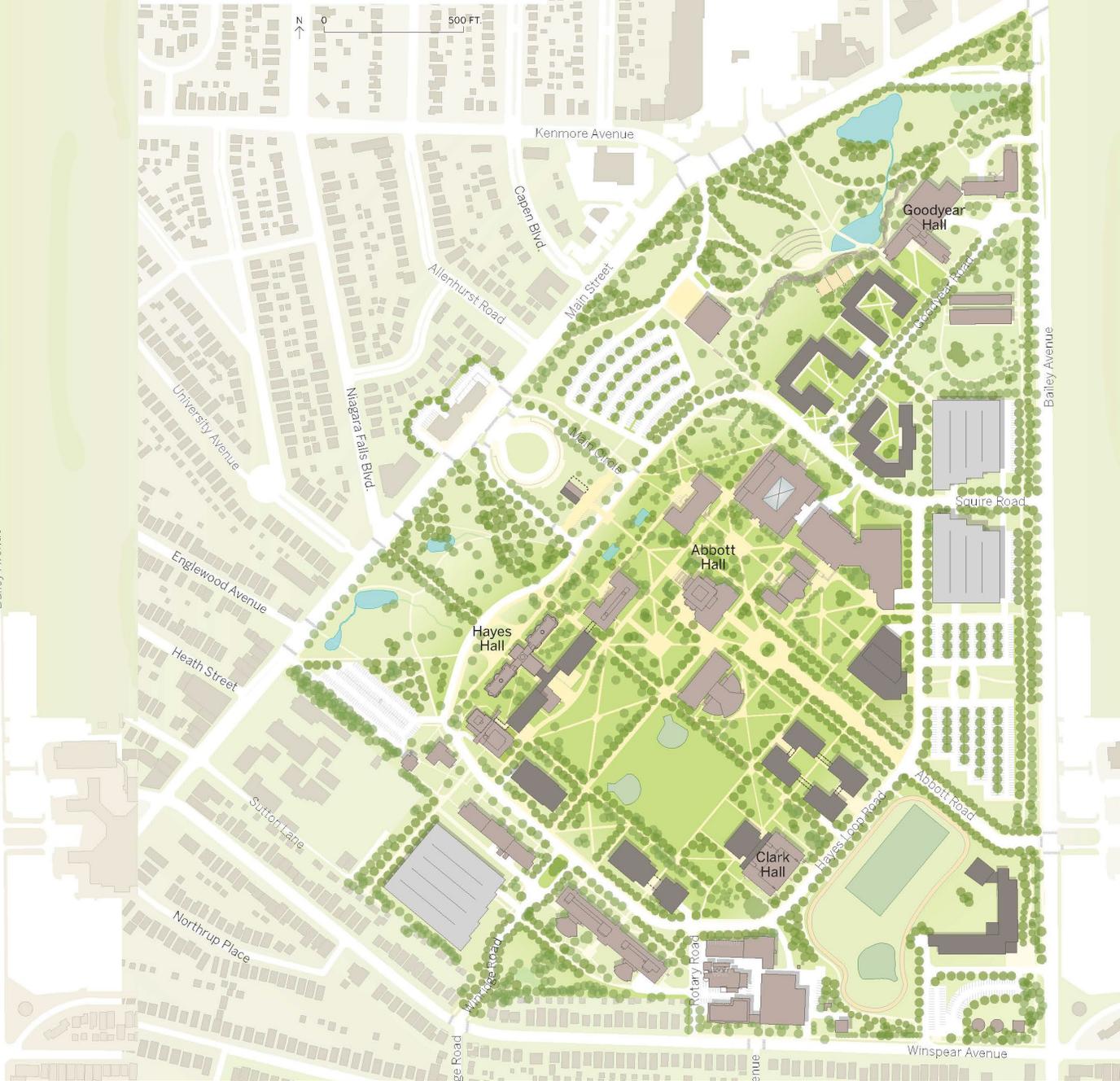
University at Buffalo – Physical Plan and South Campus Revitalization Plan

- Used as reference for retained and proposed buildings, and proposed roads, service access and parking garages
- Honor EB Greene’s cruciform quad plan
- Extend Main Street lawn to east side of Metro station
- New entrance at Main and Kenmore
- Additional primary entrance on Bailey across from VA hospital
- Additions to Physical Plan for South Campus:
 - Townhomes for grad student housing and mixed-use infill along Bailey
 - Elimination of jug handle and addition of transit-oriented, mixed-use infill (with parking behind) along Main near Bailey

EXISTING CAMPUS PLAN



ILLUSTRATIVE CAMPUS PLAN



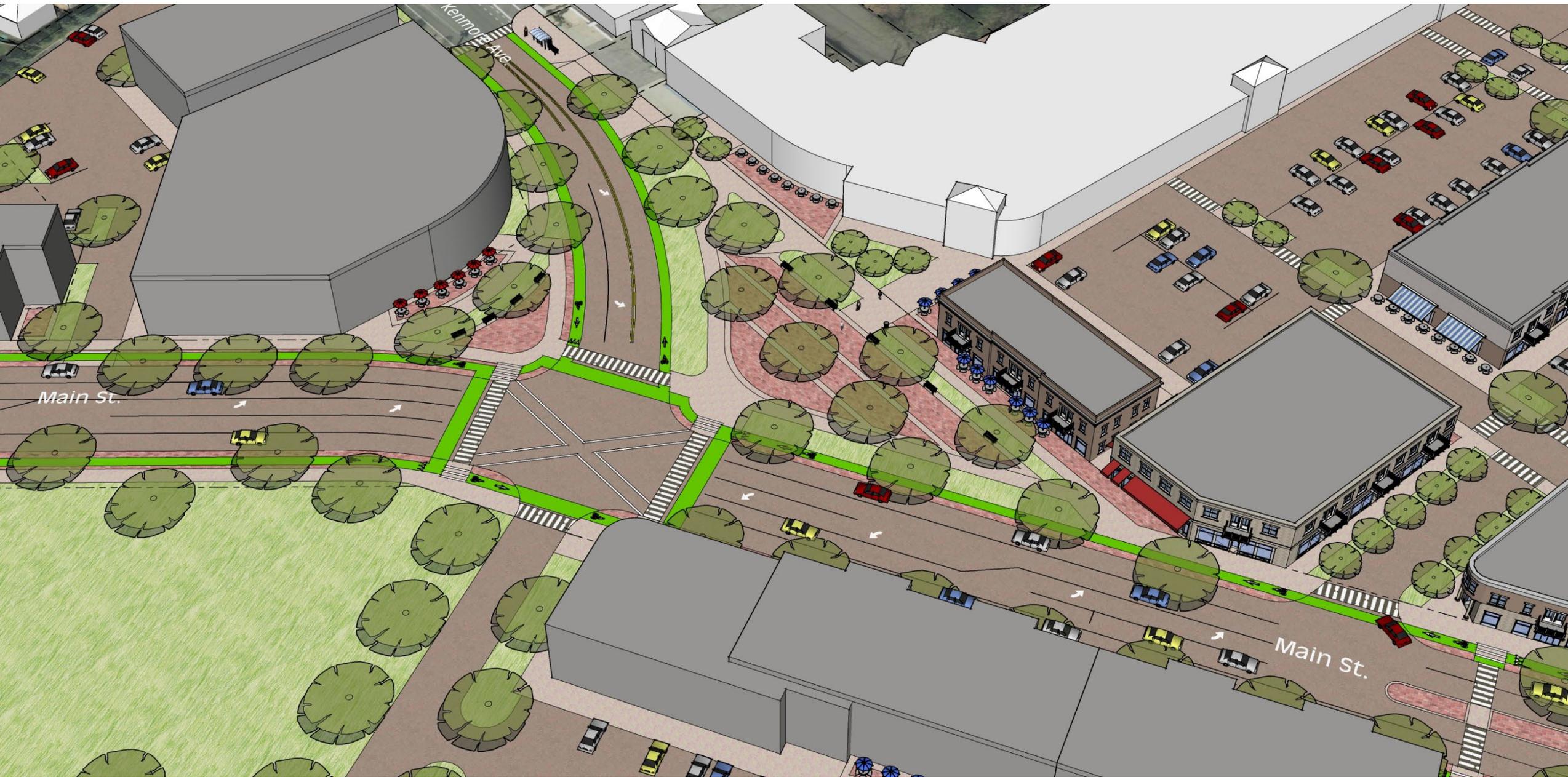




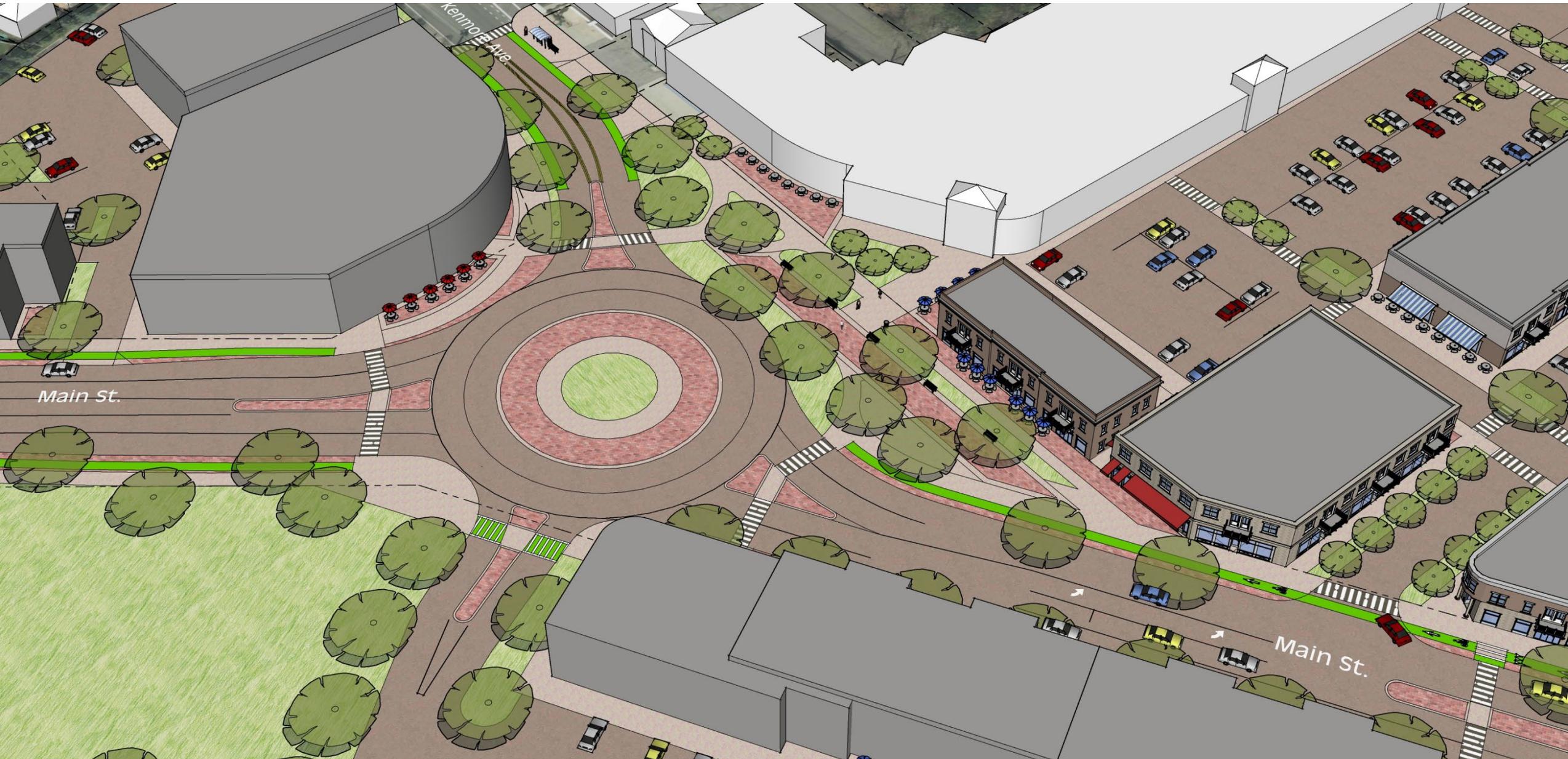


Alternative with signalized intersection and multi-modal scramble





Alternative with roundabout (requires further, in-depth traffic study)





TOPS plaza - existing



TOPS plaza - proposed

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