

# Cumberland Avenue

## CORRIDOR PROJECT



City of Knoxville  
Public Meeting:  
April 19, 2010



*Image Credit: Bruce Mccamish, [www.amazingaerialphotography.com](http://www.amazingaerialphotography.com)*

# Project History – The Process

- Public process started Fall of 2006 and included:
  - public meetings
  - stakeholder meetings
  - a design charette/project studio
- Established an Advisory Board
- Created the purpose of the plan:
  - ***“To chart the course for a more attractive, economically successful, vibrant and safe Cumberland Avenue”***
- Plan adopted by MPC and City Council Spring ‘07



# Project History – The Location

## Study Area

- Fort Sanders Neighborhood
- The Strip: major focus
- University of TN Campus



# Project History – The Vision



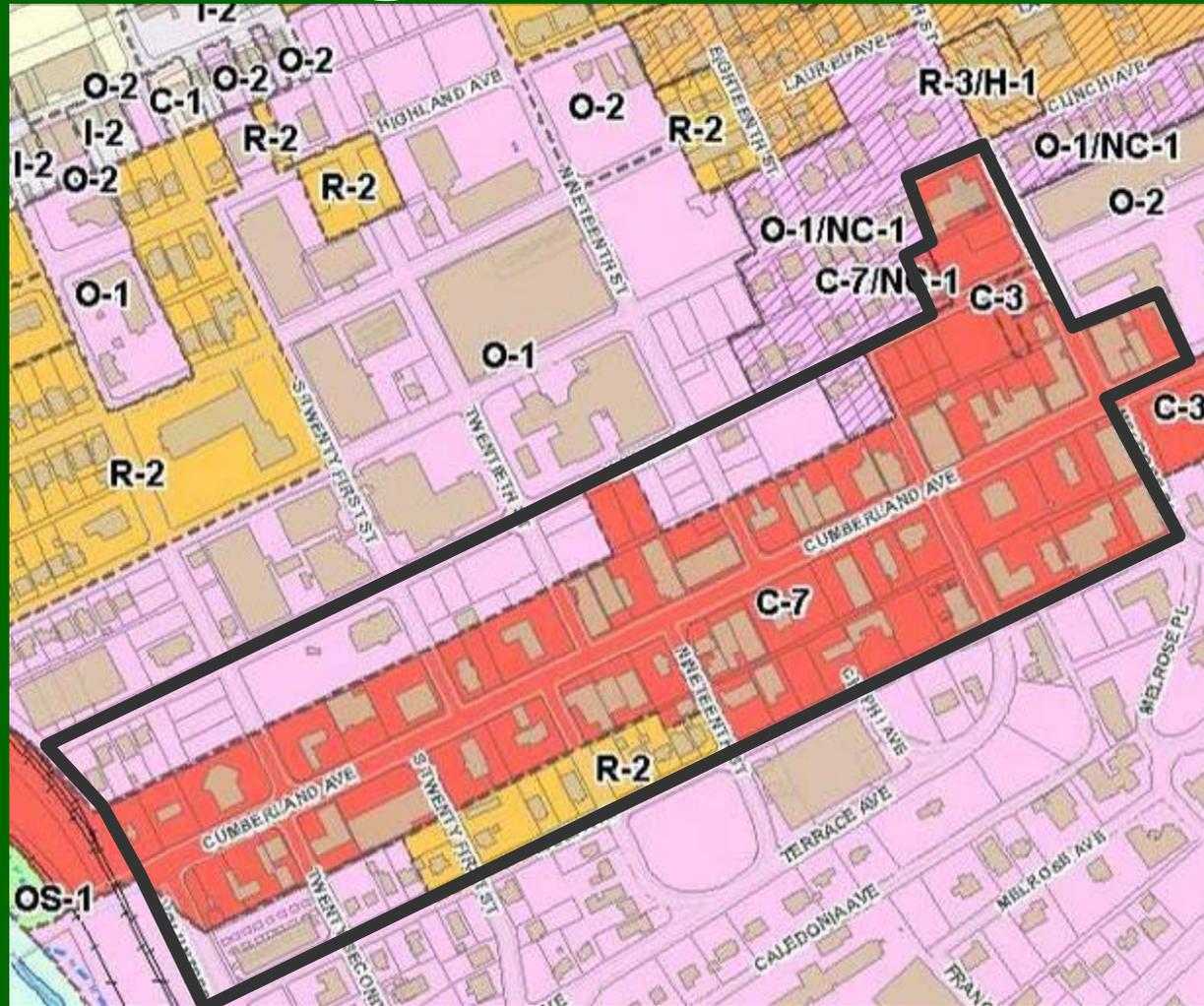
## Form Based Code

- Built form to sidewalk
- Increased height
- Pedestrian orientation
- Sign controls

## Pedestrian Amenities

- Wider sidewalks
- Designated Crosswalks
- Street trees

# Urban Design Plan



**Proposed Form District Boundary &  
Existing Zoning**

# Form Code – Building Develop.



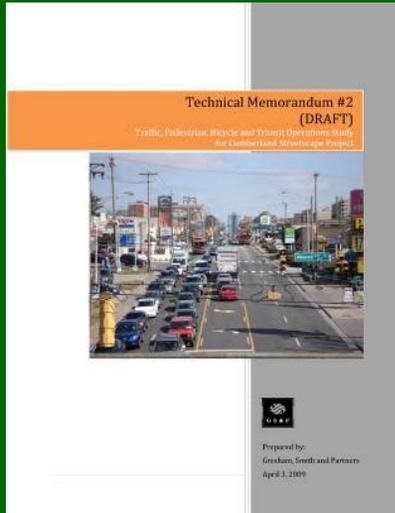
- Building Entry Doors & Windows
- Building Facades
- Building Projections
- Building Roofs & Parapets
- Exterior Building Materials
- Existing Buildings & Additions
- Site Lighting
- Mechanical Equipment

# Streetscape Project - Goals

- Implement the “Road Diet”: three-lane road reconfiguration
- Provide wider sidewalks, street trees, and a pedestrian & bicycle friendly environment
- Accommodate transit and delivery trucks
- Relocate utilities off of Cumberland Avenue



# Streetscape Project - Actions



- Obtained TDOT contract for project and funding for design work
- Selected consultants for design work:
  - Vaughn & Melton, CRJA, GS&P, Fulghum MacIndoe and S&ME
- Detailed Right of Way Survey of corridor
- Expanded Traffic Studies for the corridor
- Received Environmental Clearance from TDOT and Notice to Proceed



# Streetscape Project – Challenges

## Access Management:

- 36 driveway curb cuts in 12 blocks
- Vision plan assumed closure of all curb cuts

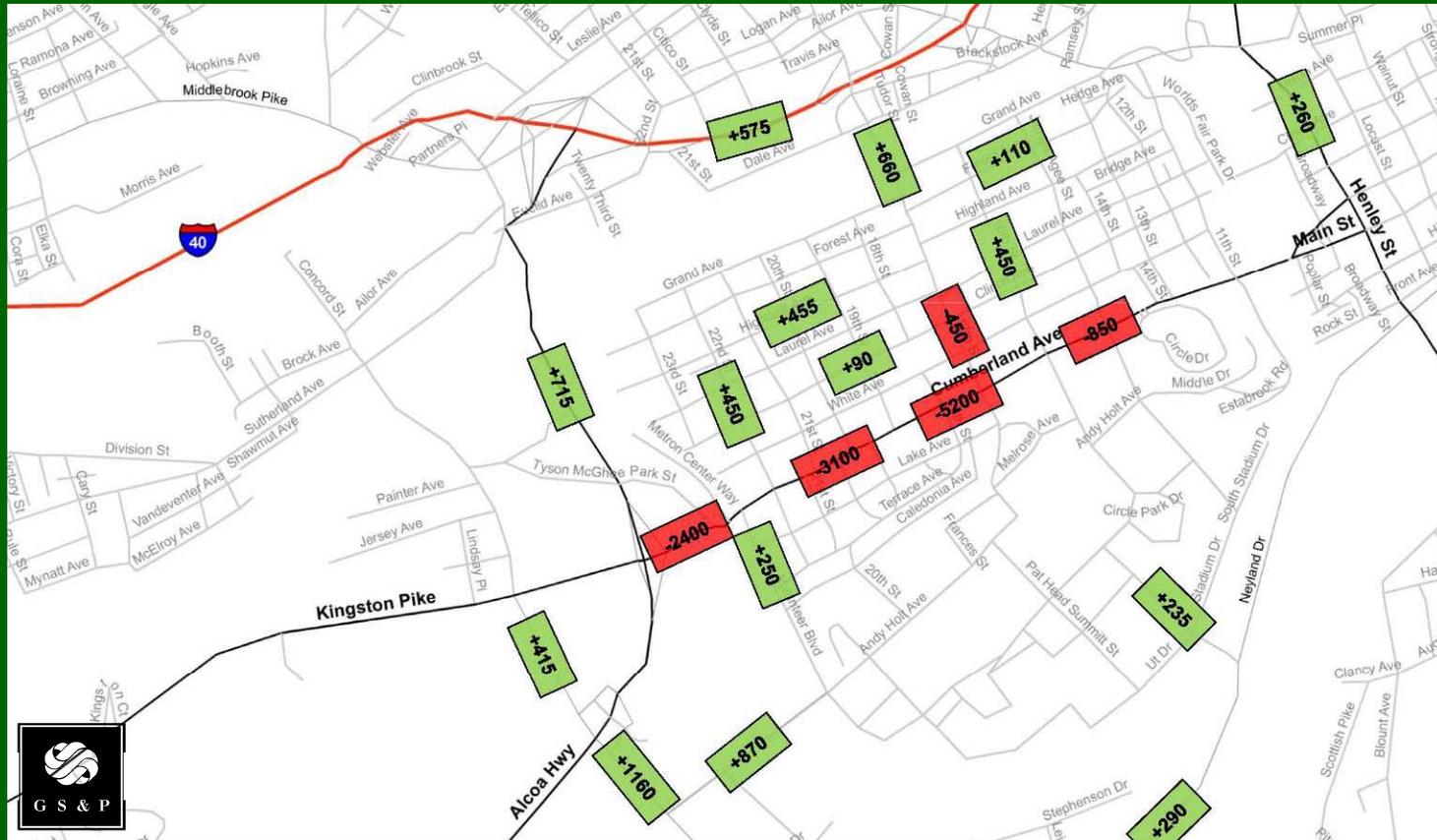


- All driveway curb cuts cannot be closed
- Center turn lane conflicts due to curb cuts
- Commercial loading zones for delivery trucks

# Streetscape Project – Challenges

## Delay/Diversion:

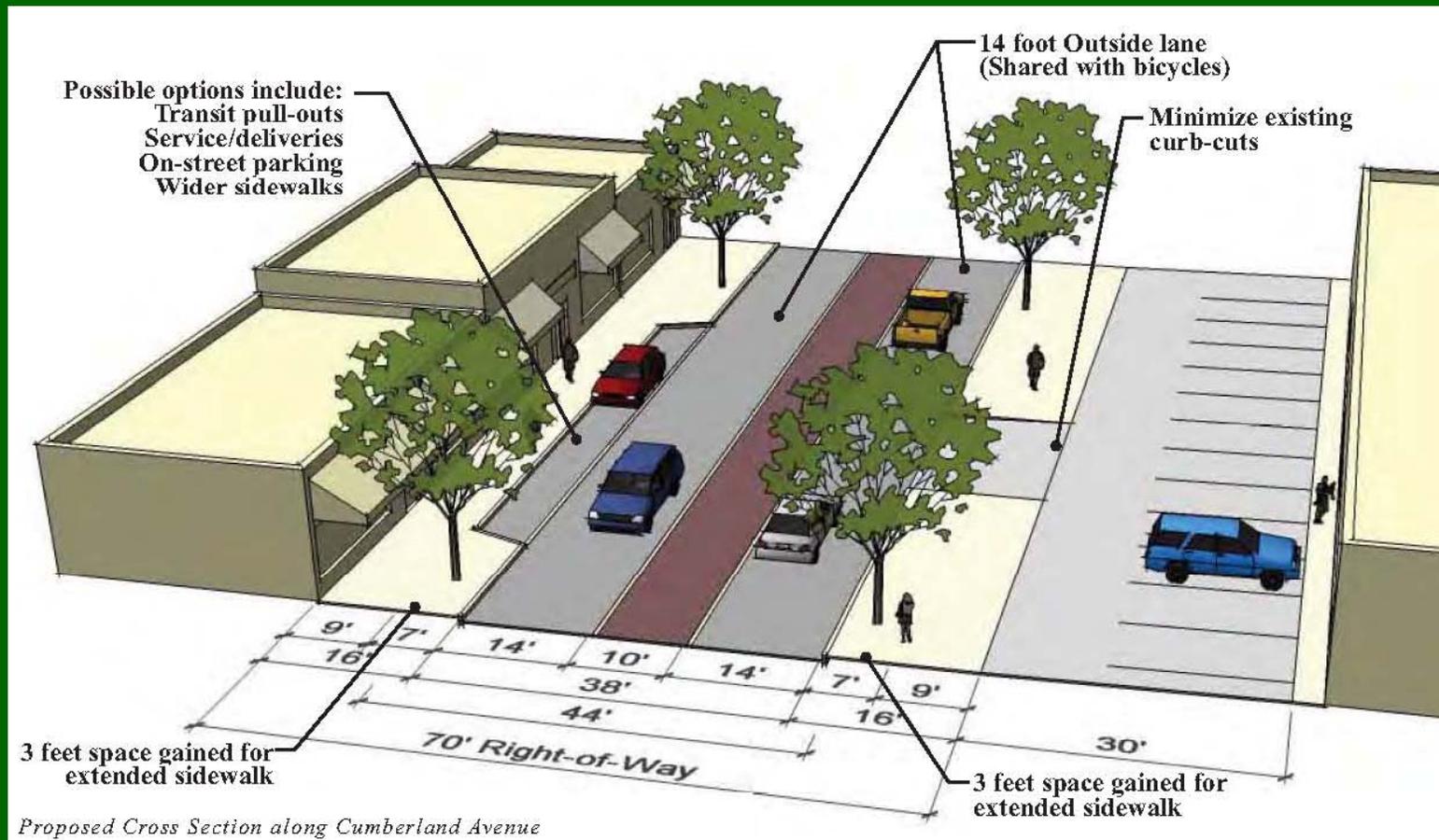
- Delay from 60 seconds to 150 seconds during afternoon rush hour
- Diversion from 5-10% to 15-20%



# Streetscape Project – Challenges

## Typical Roadway Width

- Estimated at 70 feet wide to reality of 65 feet wide



# Streetscape Project - Concepts

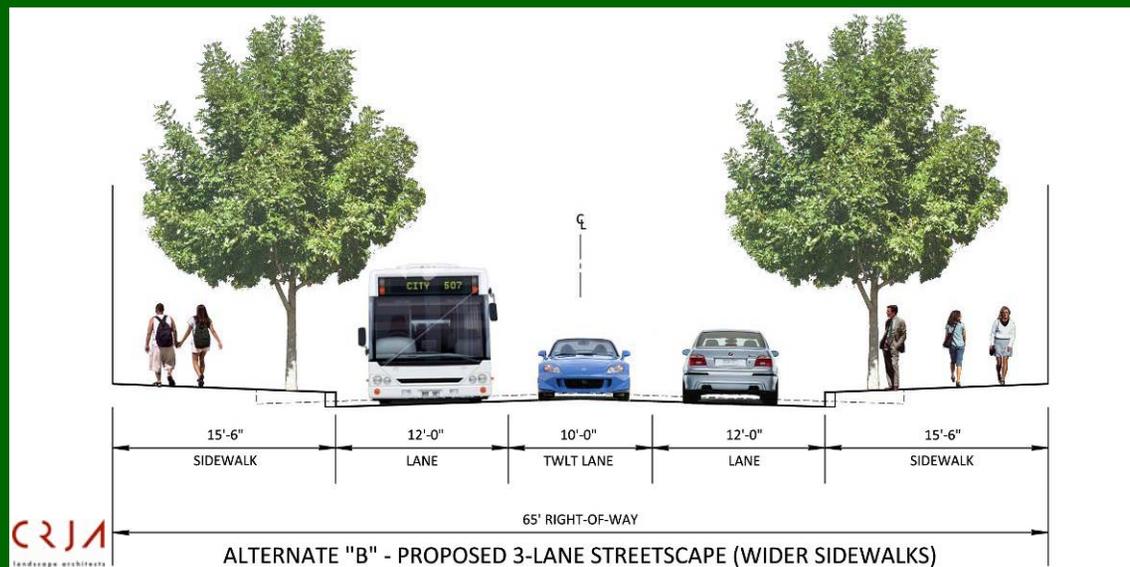
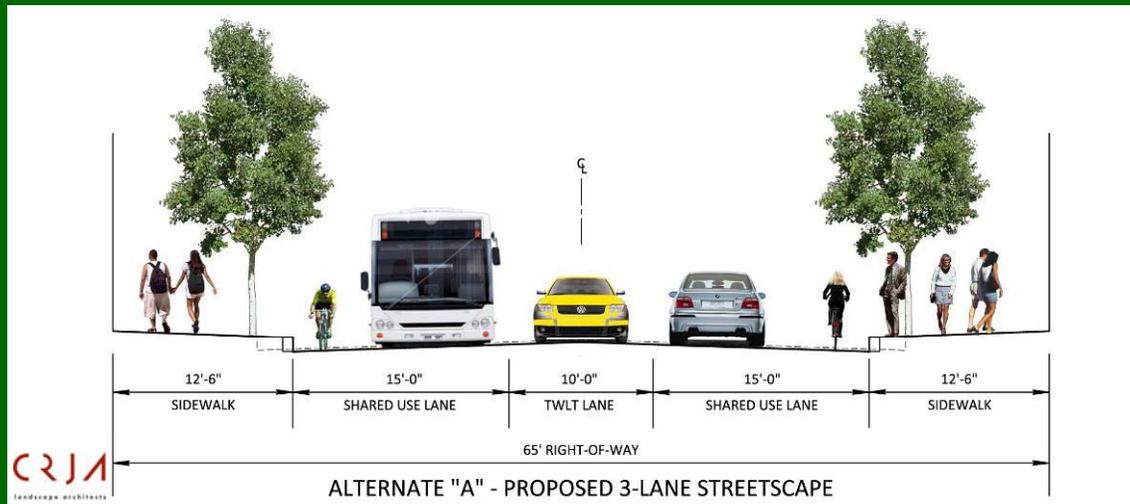
## Option 1: 3-Lane Cross Section with Center Turn Lane



- Change street cross section to 3 lanes
- Widen sidewalks and provide street trees
- New crosswalks and bus shelters
- Change side streets to two-way (north/south)
- Removal of utility poles

# Streetscape Project - Concepts

## Cross Section of Opt. 1: 3-Lane Cross Section with TWLTL



# Streetscape Project - Concepts

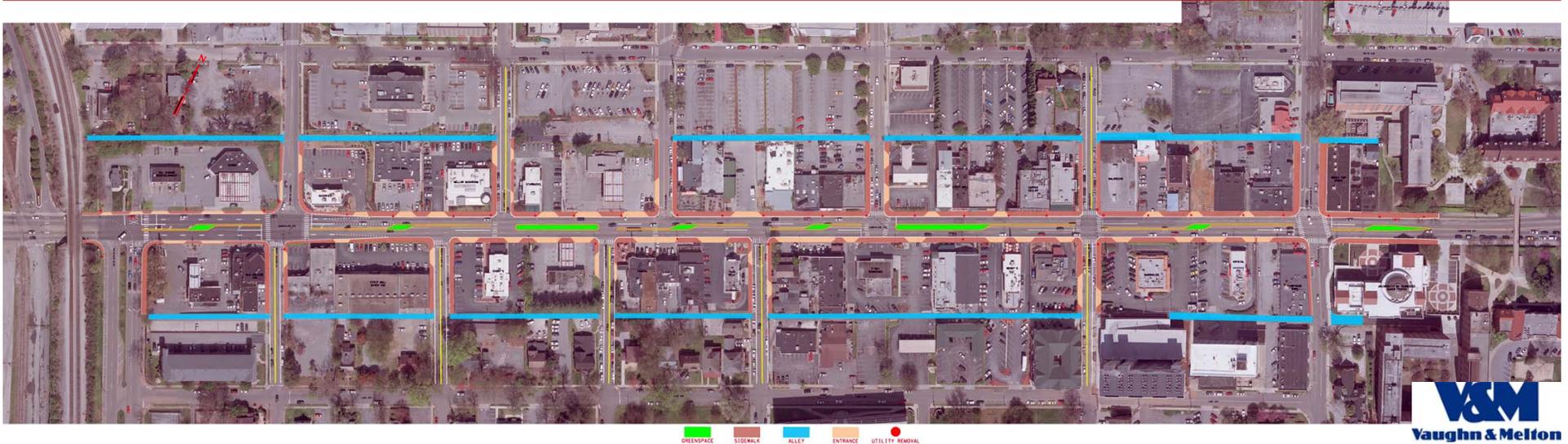
## Option 1: 3-Lane Cross Section with Center Turn Lane

- Transforms look and operation of the street
- Improves user experience
  - Reduces crossing distance
  - Widens sidewalks
  - Removes utility poles
  - Improves street aesthetics
- Increases delay and diversion
- Allows left turn movements through corridor – conflicts within TWLTL
- 2-way side streets:
  - Increases circulation
  - Reduces parking



# Streetscape Project - Concepts

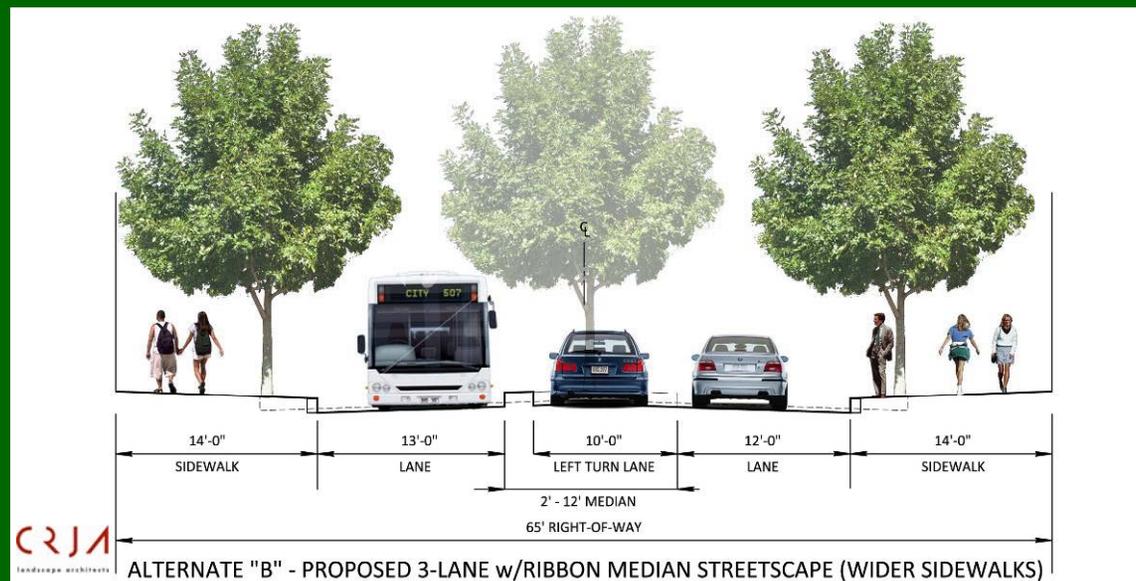
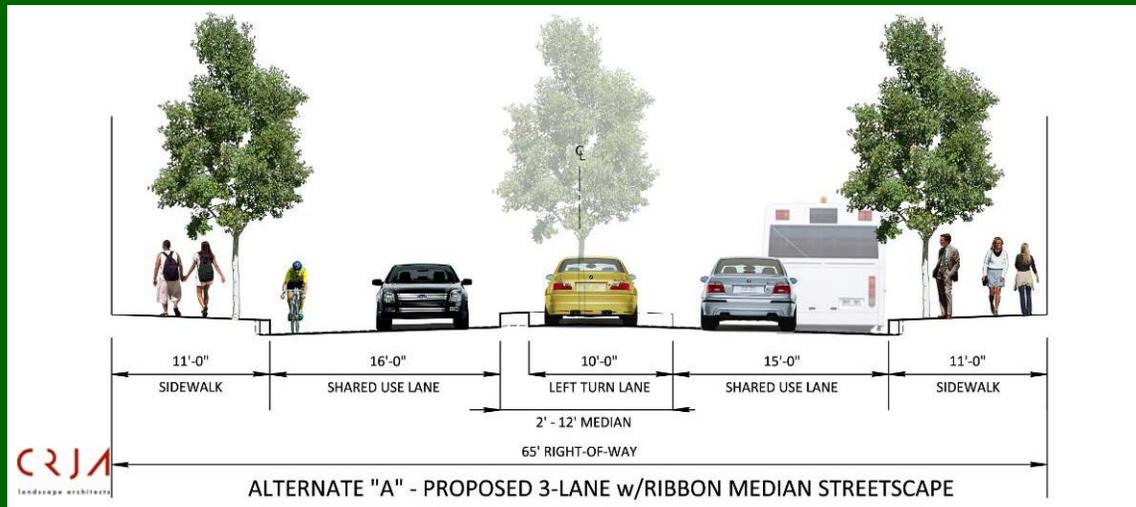
## Option 2: 3-Lane Cross Section with Median



- Change street cross section to 3 lanes and include a median to control turn movements
- Widen sidewalks and provide street trees
- New crosswalks and bus shelters
- Change side streets to two-way (north/south)
- Removal of utility poles

# Streetscape Project - Concepts

## Cross Section of Opt. 2: 3-Lane Cross Section with Median



# Streetscape Project - Concepts

## Option 2: 3-Lane Cross Section with Median

- Transforms look and operation of the street
- Improves user experience:
  - Reduces crossing distance
  - Widens sidewalks
  - Removes utility poles
  - Improves street aesthetics
- Increases delay and diversion
- Channels left turn movement to intersections
  - decreasing conflicts
  - increasing safety
  - limits access to businesses
- 2-way side streets:
  - Increases circulation
  - Reduces parking



# Streetscape Project - Concepts

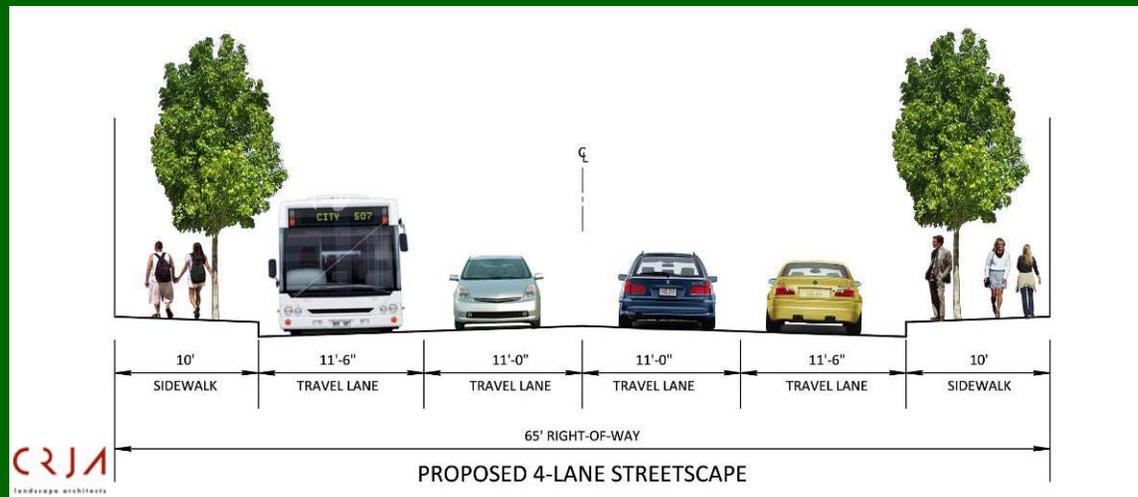
## Option 3: 4-Lane Cross Section with Utility Removal



- Maintain street cross section, 4 lanes
- Replace existing sidewalks
- Provide trees and landscaping where possible
- New crosswalks and bus shelters
- Change side streets to two-way (north/south)
- Removal of utility poles

# Streetscape Project - Concepts

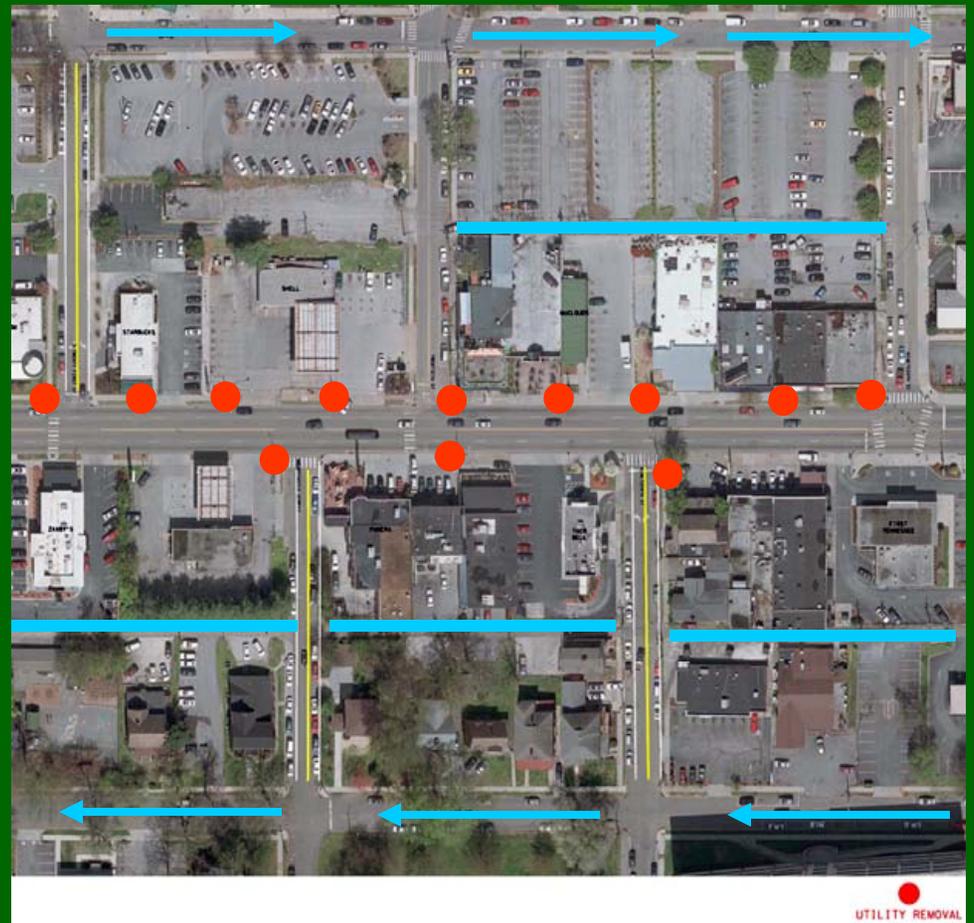
## Cross Section of Opt. 3: 4-Lanes with Utility Removal



# Streetscape Project - Concepts

## Option 3: 4-Lane Cross Section with Utility Removal

- Maintains the current operation of the street
  - Does not increase vehicular delay and diversion
  - Does not increase turning movement conflicts
  - Maintains current access to businesses
- Improves existing sidewalks
- Removes utility poles
- Some opportunities for landscaping
- 2-way side streets:
  - Increases circulation
  - Reduces parking



# Next Steps

- Process for Streetscape Detailed Design
- Form Base Code Consultant Review and Public Comment
- Continue to work with Property Owners, Merchants, Neighborhood Associations, KUB, UT & Hospitals
  - Advisory Board Meetings
  - Public Meetings

# Streetscape Project – Summary

<b>Option 1:</b> <b>3-lane w/</b> <b>TWLTL</b>	Alternate A:	Lane: 15' TWLTL: 10'	Sidewalks: 12'-6"
	Alternate B:	Lane: 12' TWLTL: 10'	Sidewalks: 15'-6"
<b>Option 2:</b> <b>3-lane w/</b> <b>Median</b>	Alternate A:	Lanes: 15' & 16' Turn lane: 10'+2'	Sidewalks: 11'
	Alternate B:	Lanes: 12' & 13' Turn Lane: 10'+2'	Sidewalks: 14'
<b>Option 3:</b> <b>4-lane</b>		Lanes: 11' – 11'6" Turn Lane: None	Sidewalks: 10'

# Cumberland Avenue

## CORRIDOR PROJECT

## Questions and Comments

For more information please visit our Websites:

[www.cityofknoxville.org/cumberland](http://www.cityofknoxville.org/cumberland)

[www.cumberlandconnections.blogspot.com](http://www.cumberlandconnections.blogspot.com)

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