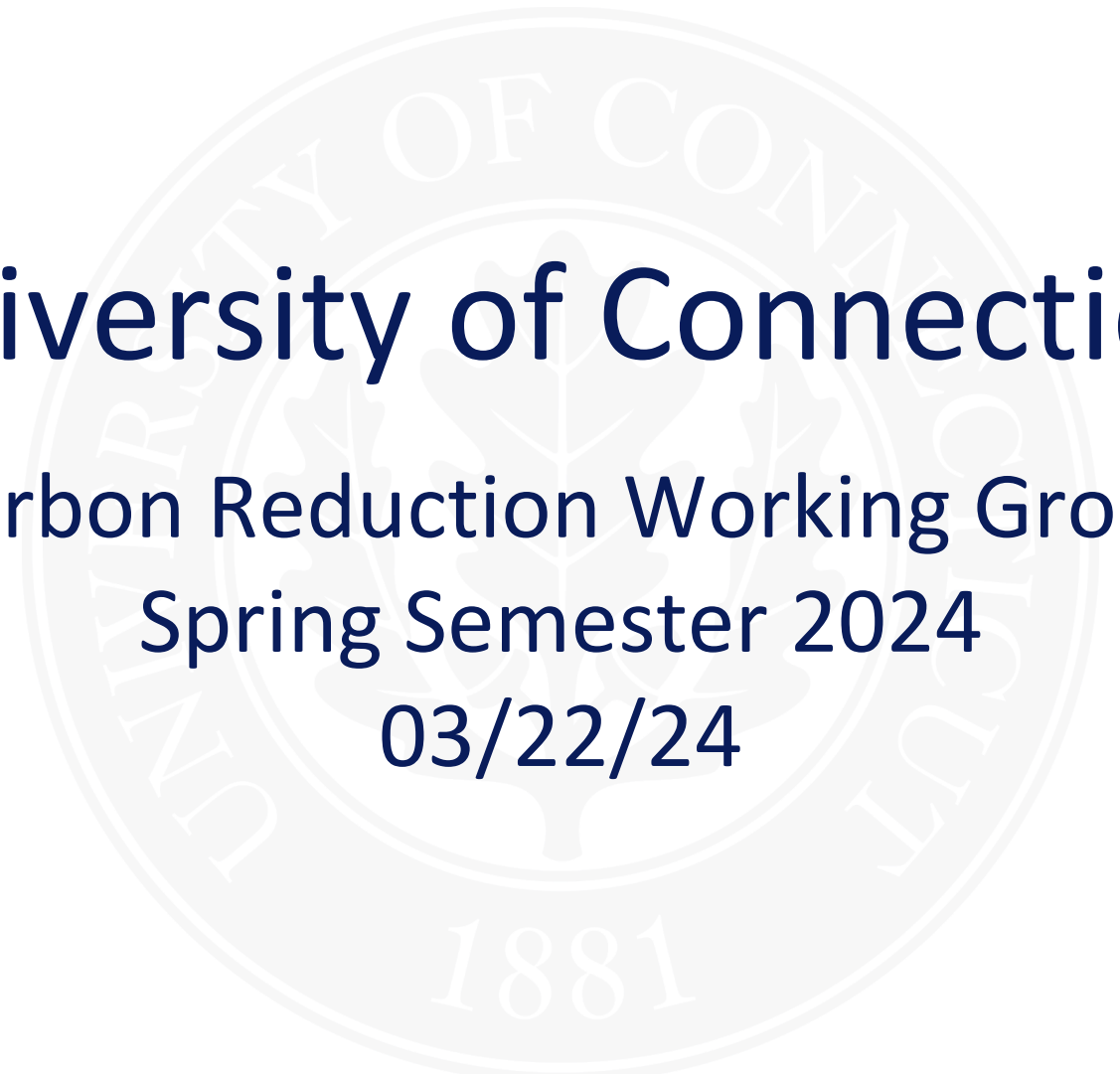


# University of Connecticut

Carbon Reduction Working Group

Spring Semester 2024

03/22/24



## Agenda

- UPDC Active Transportation Plan
- Sustainability Action Plan



# UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN Overview and Priority Projects

**“Active transportation is human-powered mobility, such as biking, walking, or rolling. Active transportation directly replaces motor vehicle miles traveled, so these modes are effective at conserving fuel, reducing vehicle emissions, bridging the first- and last-mile gap, and improving individual and public health. “**

**United States Department of Energy: Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**

## ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

## TIMELINE/PROGRESS TO-DATE

<b>2021</b>	<p>Active Transportation Planning (ATP) Project initiated and funded SLR Consulting selected to lead the project under the direction of UPDC ATP <b>Working Group</b> Assembled from diverse groups across the University</p>
<b>2022</b>	<p>UPDC creates a dedicated Web Site for the Active Transportation Three Public Input Sessions held with the Campus Community Draft Active Transportation Plan Submitted for Comments <b>Pilot Project: Temporary Closure of Hillside Road</b> Active Transportation Plan Completed in October</p>
<b>2023</b>	<p><b>Seven Priority Projects</b> Identified Schematic Design and Estimates completed for the Seven Priority Projects</p>
<b>2024</b>	<p>UPDC Submits an application in February to the Federal Department of Transportation for a Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (<b>RAISE</b>) <b>Planning Grant</b> Applicants to be notified of RAISE Grant Award in mid-June</p>
<b>2026</b>	<p>RAISE Grant, if awarded, completed in July</p>
<b>ONGOING</b>	<p>Submit Applications for other Grant Opportunities as available including Safe Streets Four All (SS4A) with the Town of Mansfield, Capital Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) and others@@!</p>

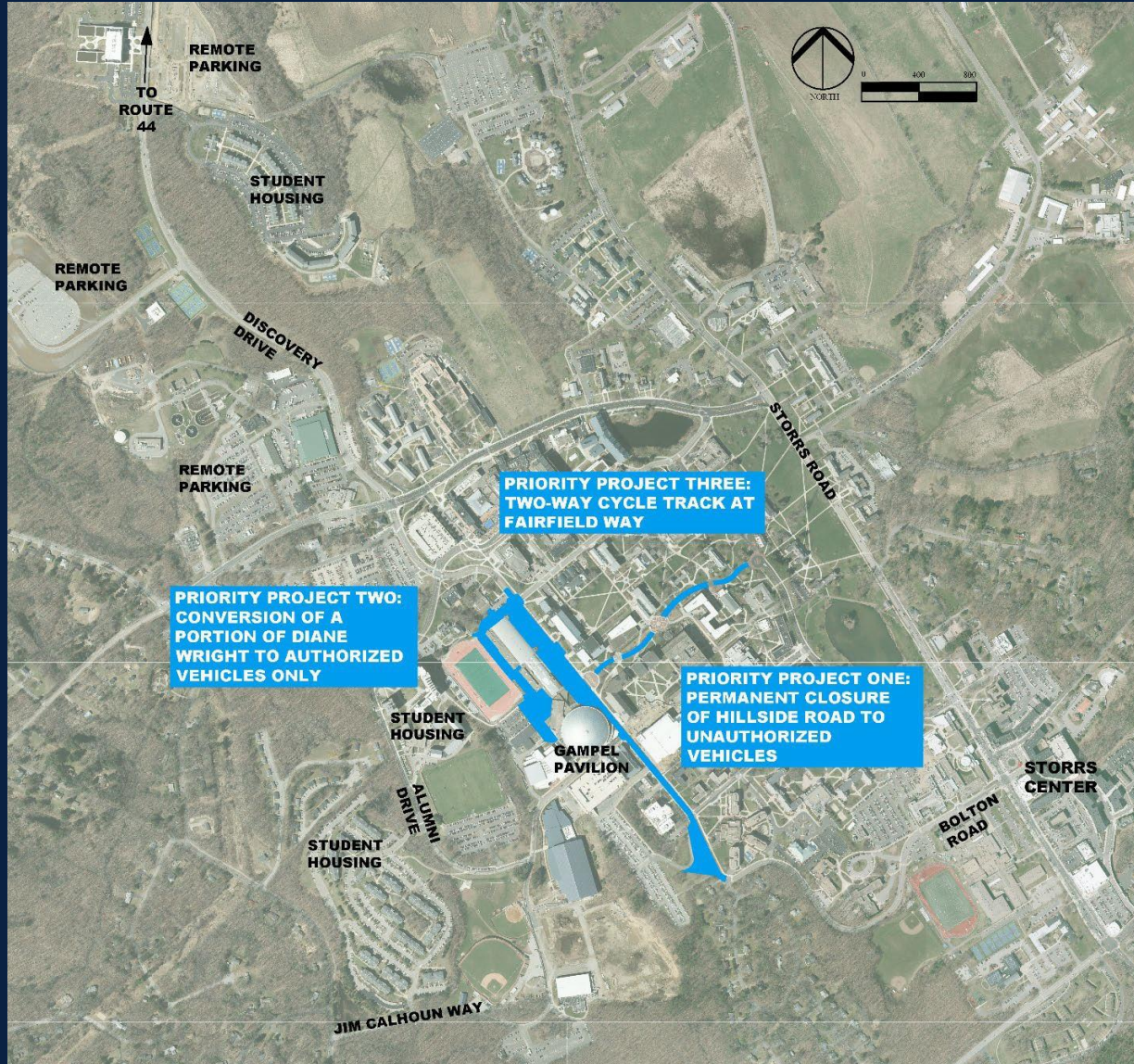
## OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The University of Connecticut Active Transportation Plan **engaged the campus community** by surveying faculty, staff, students, and town residents to identify **barriers to a connected and safe active transportation network** for the University's flagship campus at Storrs. The network will serve pedestrians, bicycles, and Personal Transportation Vehicles (PTVs) which include motorized and non-motorized skateboards, scooters and e-bikes. **Fifty-nine projects** and policies were proposed and placed in near, mid-, and long-term categories. From these, **seven projects** were identified as priorities.

The seven priority projects share common themes. In the **core of the campus**, we will continue our decades long initiative to promote a **pedestrian friendly, car free campus core** by studying and making recommendations for the closure of two routes to authorized vehicles only. Also in the core, we will implement a two-way cycle track to **delineate areas for pedestrians separated by areas for PTVs** on one of our busiest pedestrian ways.

On the **edges of the campus core** this project will ensure that **the "last mile" connections** from remote parking and housing meets federal, state and the University's standards for safety and accessibility. Improvements to pedestrian crossings including **ADA compliant** curb cuts, installation of rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs), new nighttime lighting where needed, conversion of dirt desire paths and off-street parking to paved surfaces and **road realignments** for improved pedestrian safety. PTV travel lanes will be striped to meet current best practices.

# OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN: PROJECTS IN THE CAMPUS CORE



## Permanent Closure of Hillside Road to Unauthorized Vehicles:

Hillside Road is in the heart of the campus and home to many student services. For years it has been clogged with vehicles creating a barrier to safe pedestrian movement. In the Fall of 2022, a portion of Hillside Road was closed to **authorized vehicles only, i.e. Emergency Vehicles, Buses, and Service Vehicles**. The closure has successfully reduced the number of vehicles on the road and created a welcoming pedestrian space.

## Conversion of a Portion of Diane Wright Drive to Authorized Vehicles Only:

Diane Wright Way is a narrow north-south driveway behind the Hillside Road athletic facilities providing access for parking and loading. The driveway has become **an unsafe shortcut between Jim Calhoun Way and Hillside Road** and a major pedestrian route crosses Diane Wright Way providing a link from the Hilltop Dormitories to the campus core. Over **3000 students** live in the Hilltop Dormitories and walk, scoot and roll daily across the driveway to the campus core. This project will create a pedestrian safe area on Diane Wright Way by eliminating parking and restricting pass-through vehicular traffic to emergency and service vehicles only.

**Two-way Cycle Track at Fairfield Way:** Add two-way cycle track on asphalt portions of Fairfield Way.

Fairfield Way is a dynamic pedestrian corridor on the UConn Storrs campus. Previously a street with head-in parking, it was converted to a pedestrian way in 1999. University wide outdoor events, food trucks and impromptu gatherings occur in this area daily. The influx of bicycles and Personal Transportation Vehicles (PTVs) has created a chaotic and potentially unsafe area. A two-way cycle track is proposed to **direct bicycles and PTVs into designated areas** to allow for safe use by all.

# ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Priority Project One

*Subject to Funding for Design and Construction*

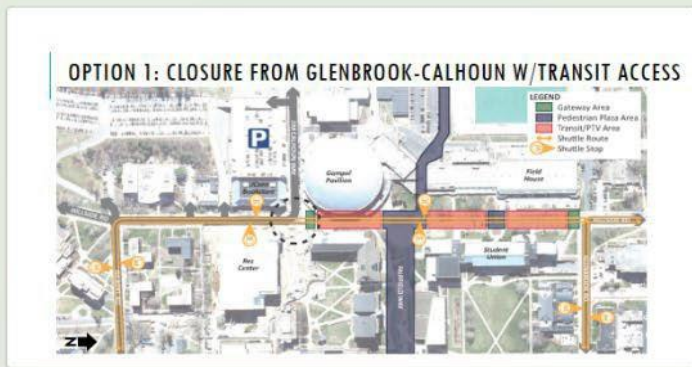
Permanent Closure of Hillside Road to  
Unauthorized Vehicles

# REDEFINING CORE CAMPUS

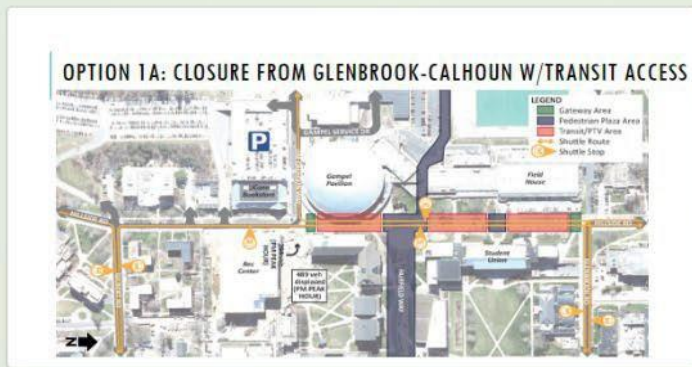
- To pass through or not
- Transit routes & lanes
- Traffic study
- DOT analyses in progress



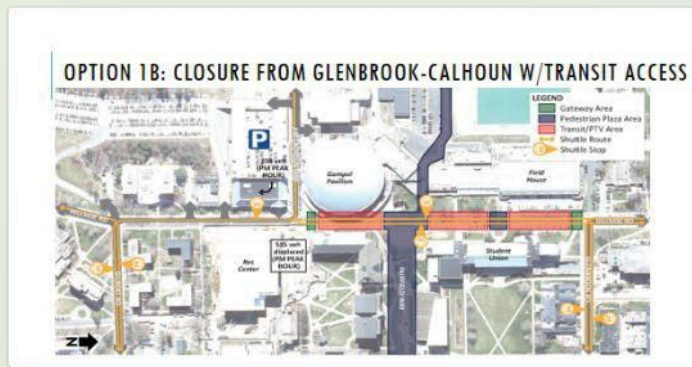




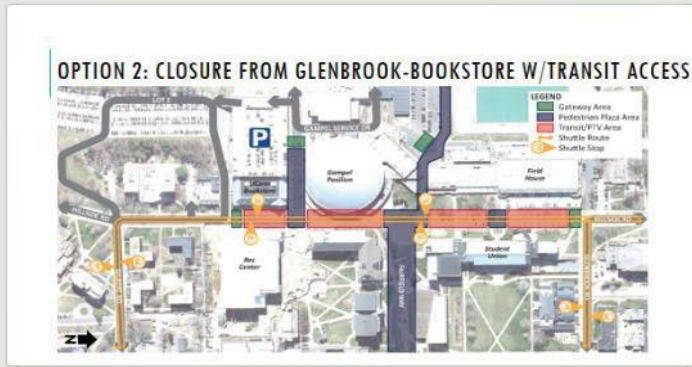
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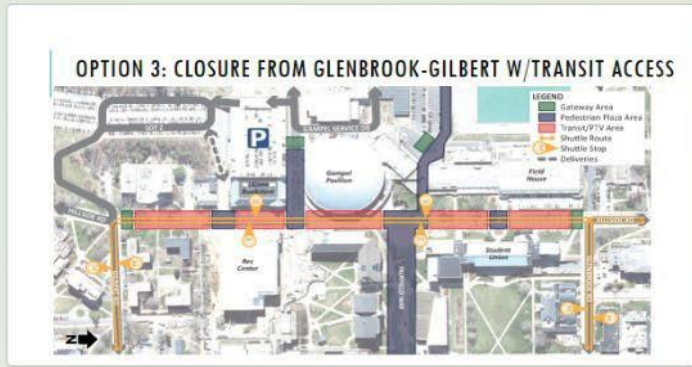
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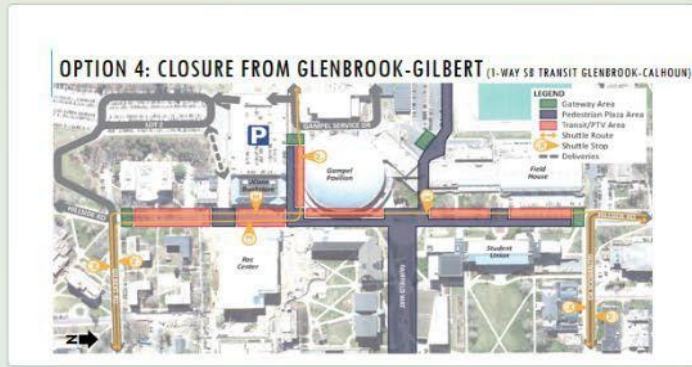
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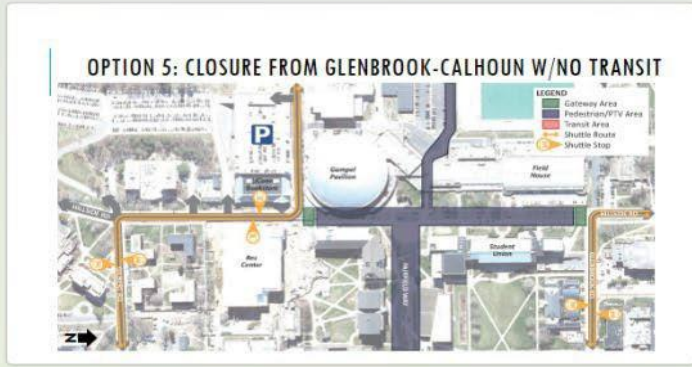
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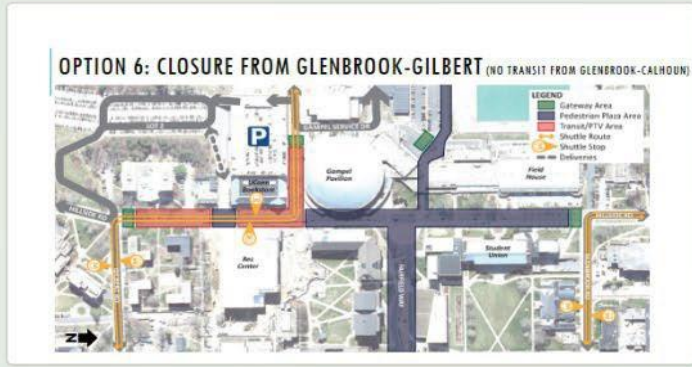
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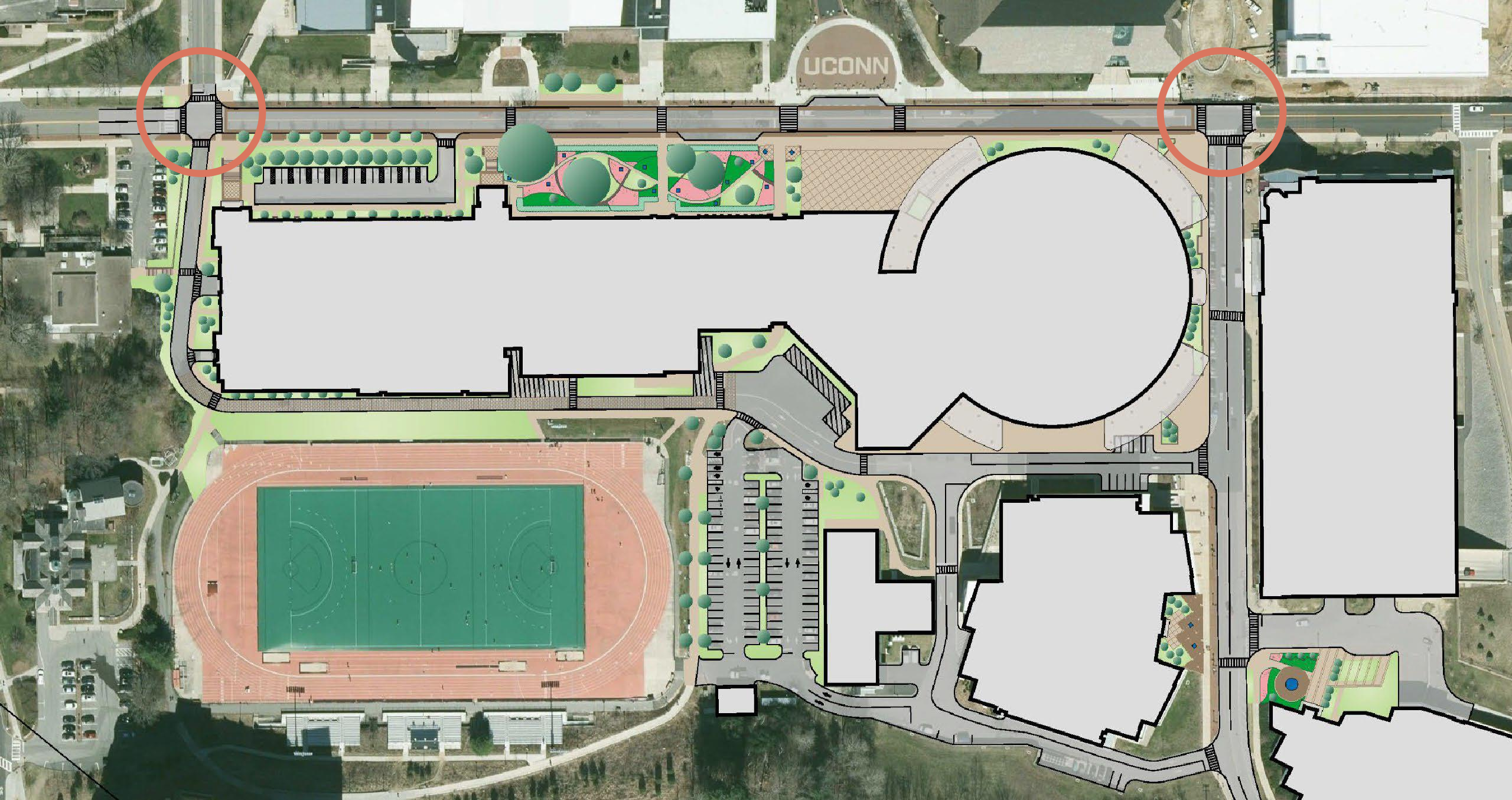
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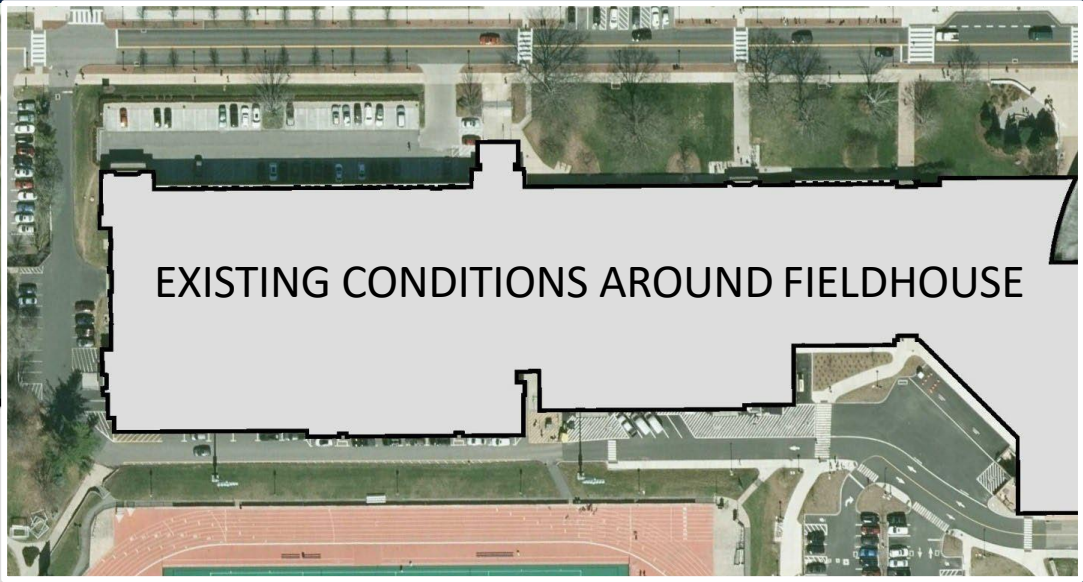


# **ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

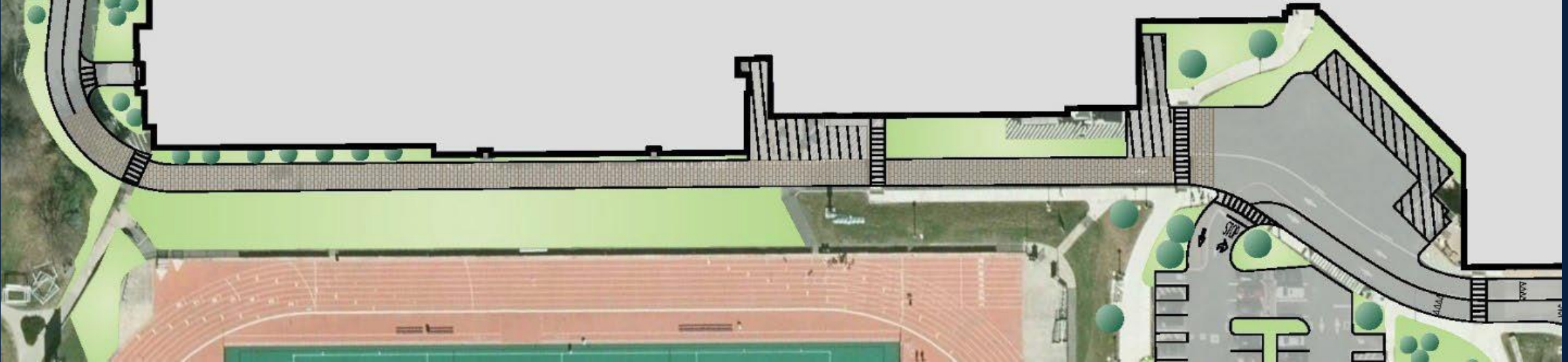
Priority Project Two

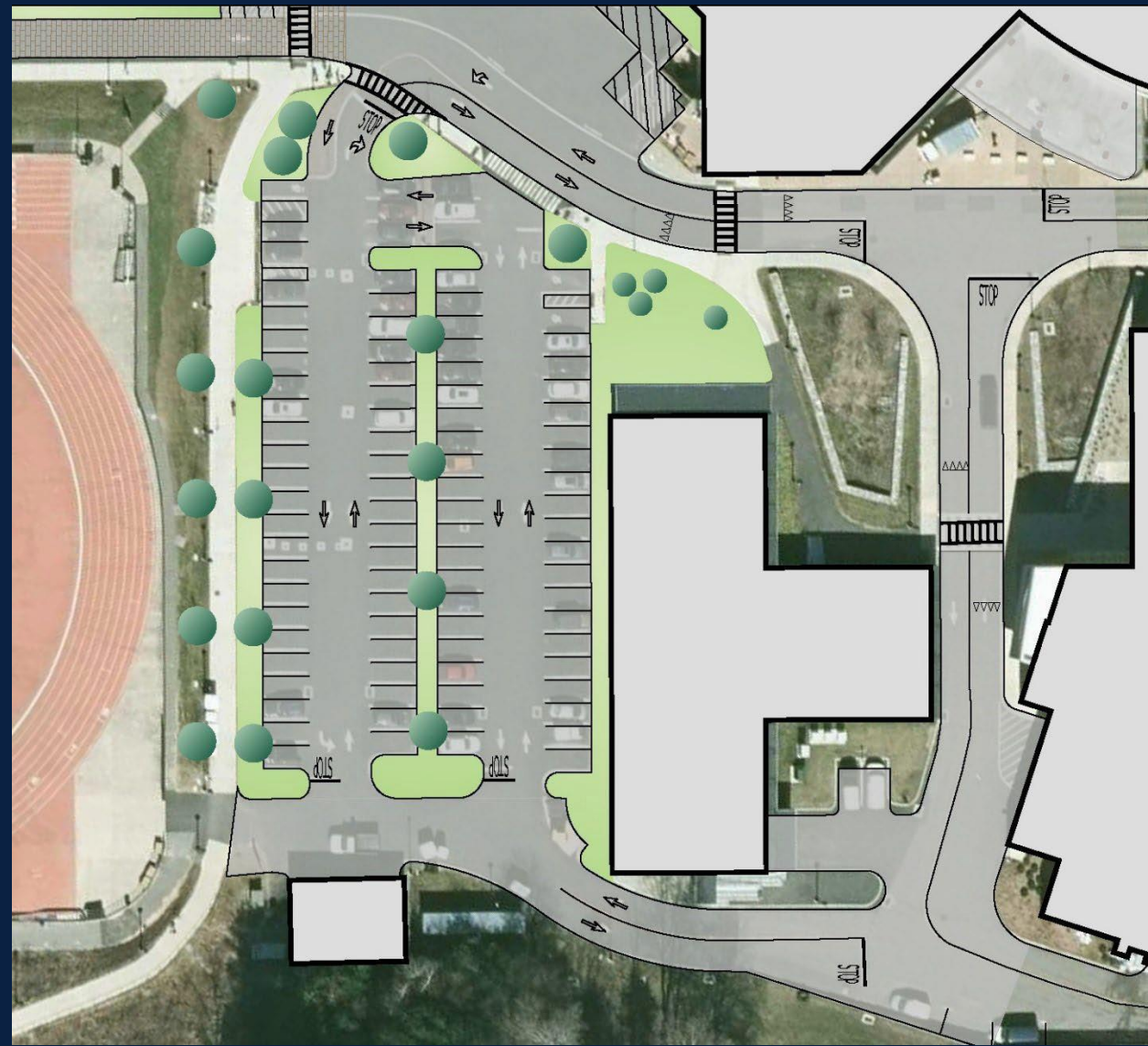
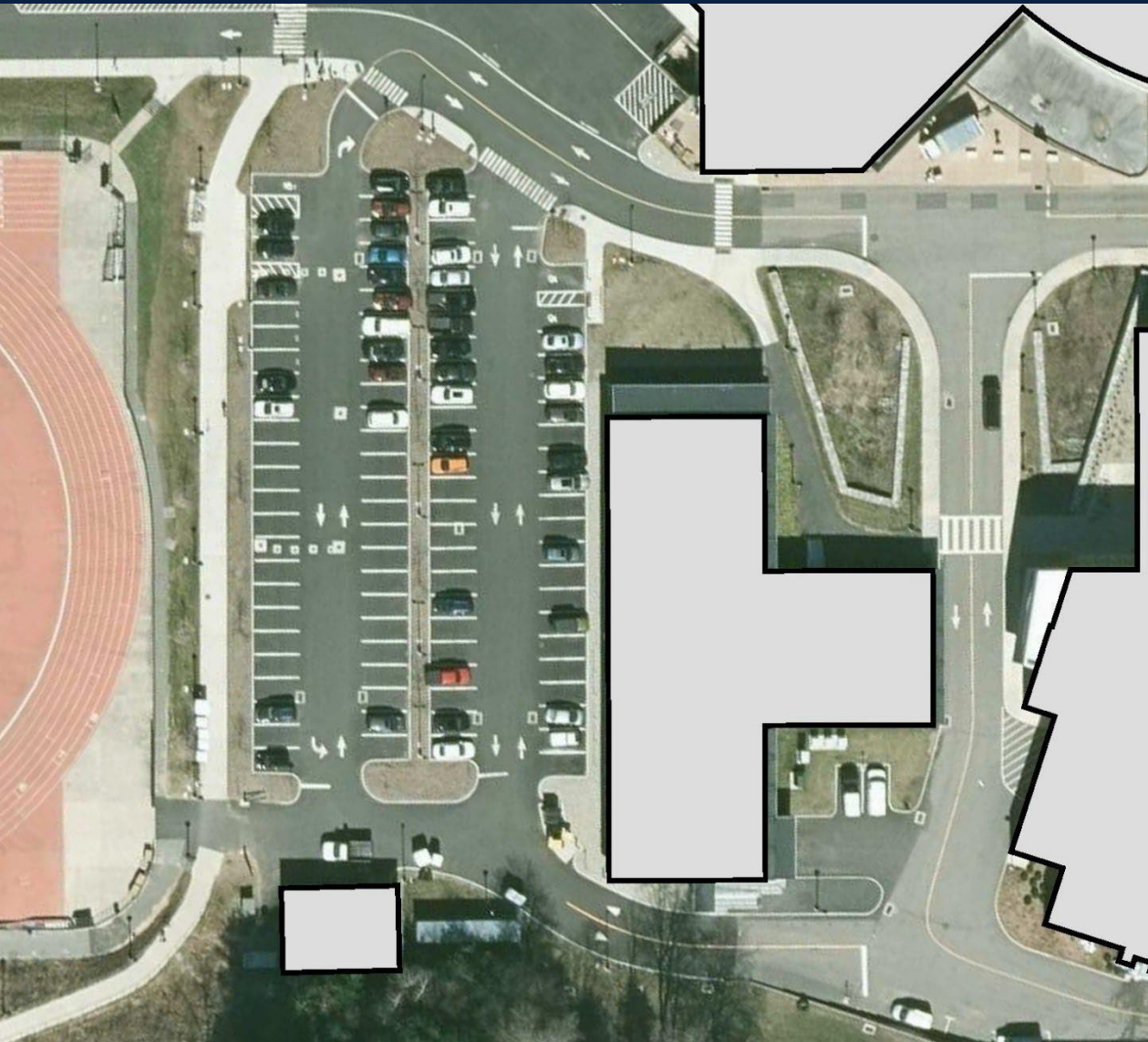
*Subject to Funding for Design and Construction*

**Conversion of a Portion of Diane Wright Drive  
to Authorized Vehicles Only**



PROPOSED CONDITIONS AROUND FIELDHOUSE





EXISTING CONDITIONS AT LOT G

PROPOSED CONDITIONS AT LOT G

# ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Priority Project Three

*Subject to Funding for Design and Construction*

Two-way Cycle Track at Fairfield Way

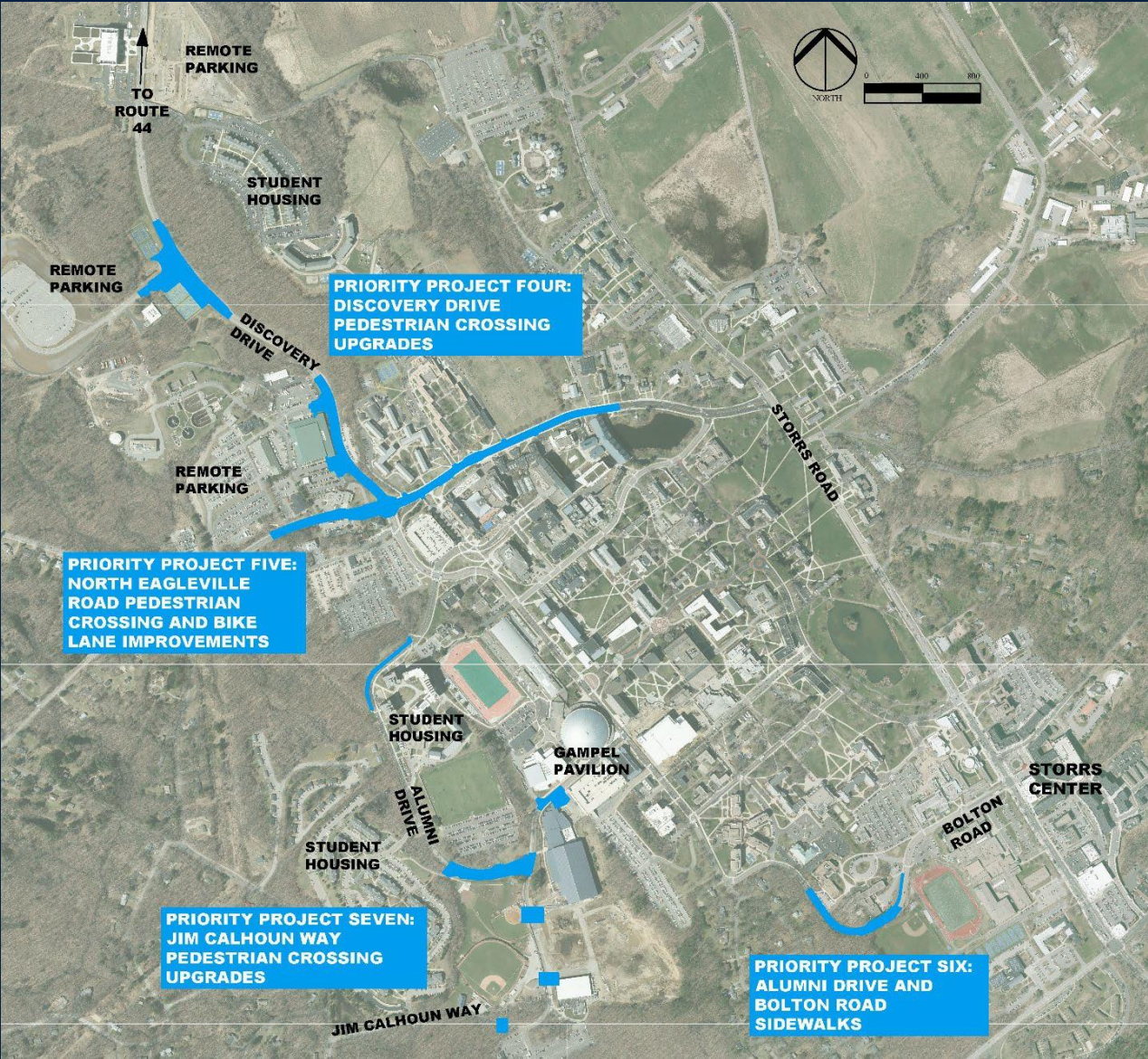


**OPTION A**



**OPTION B**

# OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN: PROJECTS OUTSIDE THE CAMPUS CORE



### Discovery Drive Pedestrian Crossing Upgrades:

Proposed improvements will improve conspicuity of crosswalks on Discovery Drive at three main intersections. The driveway intersections will be updated to standards for safe pedestrian crossing including new sidewalks, a three-way stop, rectangular rapid flashing beacons, pedestrian refuge islands where possible, updated bus loading areas and striping upgrades.

### North Eagleville Road Pedestrian Crossing and Bike Lane Improvements:

Proposed improvements will upgrade the bicycle striping along North Eagleville Road and install ADA compliant sidewalk, nighttime lighting, new curb cuts and crosswalks, rapid rectangular flashing beacons, and a dedicated bus pull-off area.

### Alumni Drive and Bolton Road Sidewalks:

This project will address safety gaps in the sidewalk network on two perimeter roadways. The project will add lighting, sidewalks, ADA curb ramps, rapid rectangular flashing beacons, and improved roadway striping. The intersection of Alumni Drive and Jim Calhoun Way will be realigned for a safer pedestrian crossing.

### Jim Calhoun Way Pedestrian Crossing Upgrades:

Proposed improvements will improve conspicuity of crosswalks in the Athletic District along Jim Calhoun Way. A site inventory and survey will be conducted at all pedestrian crossing areas and proposed improvements will include ADA compliant crosswalks, rapid rectangular flashing beacons, and striping.



# ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

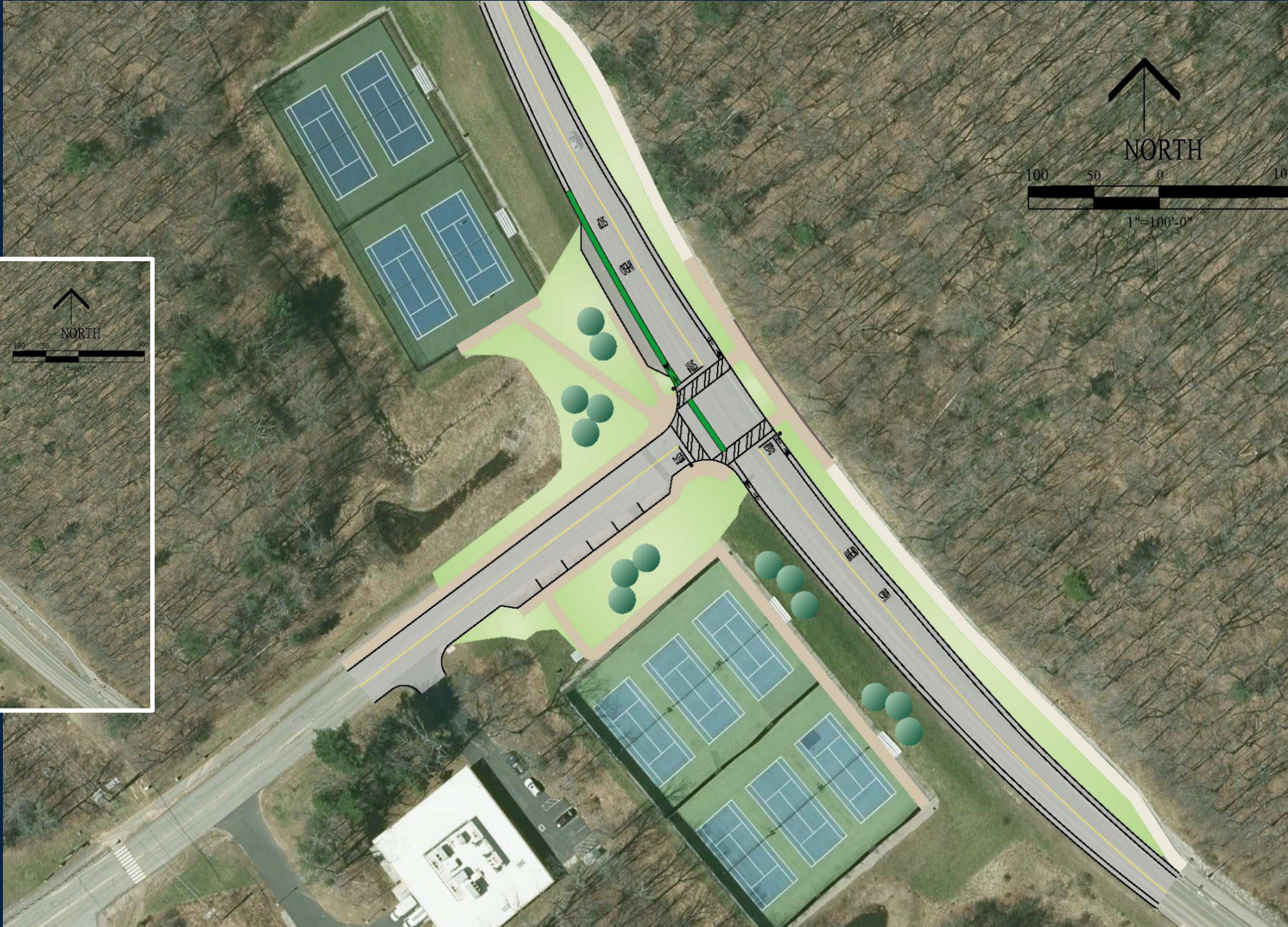
Priority Project Four

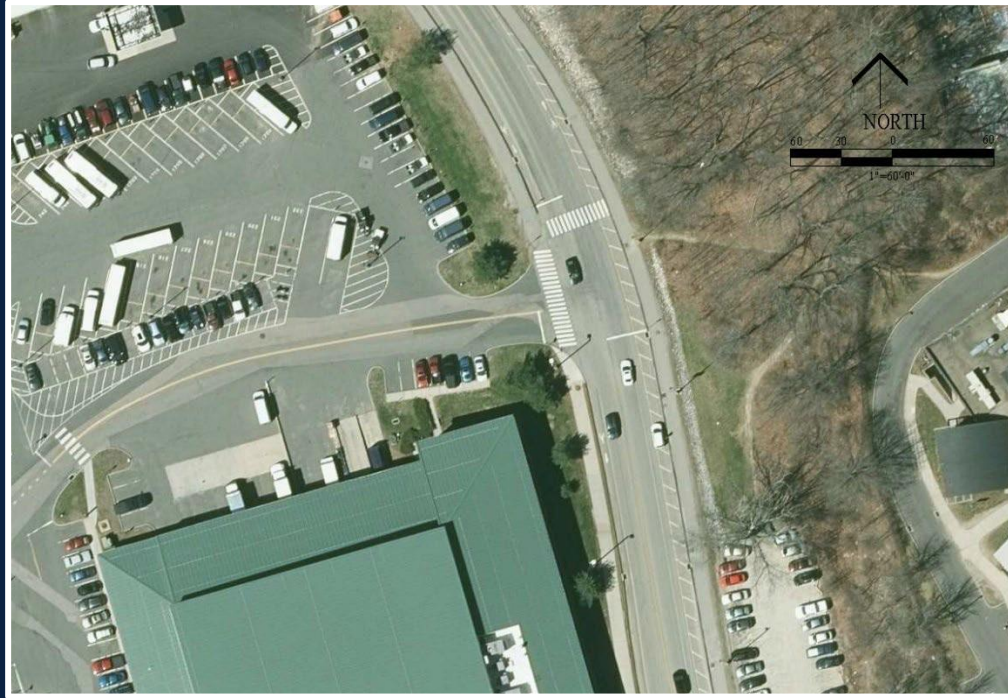
*Subject to Funding for Design and Construction*

Discovery Drive Pedestrian Crossing Upgrades

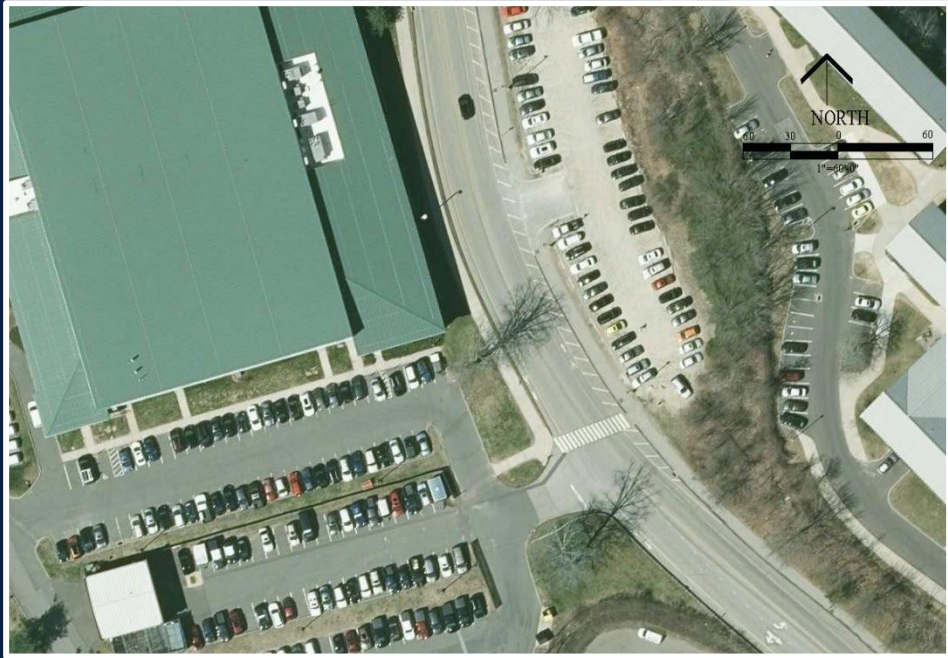


DISCOVERY DRIVE AT  
AVALONIA WAY

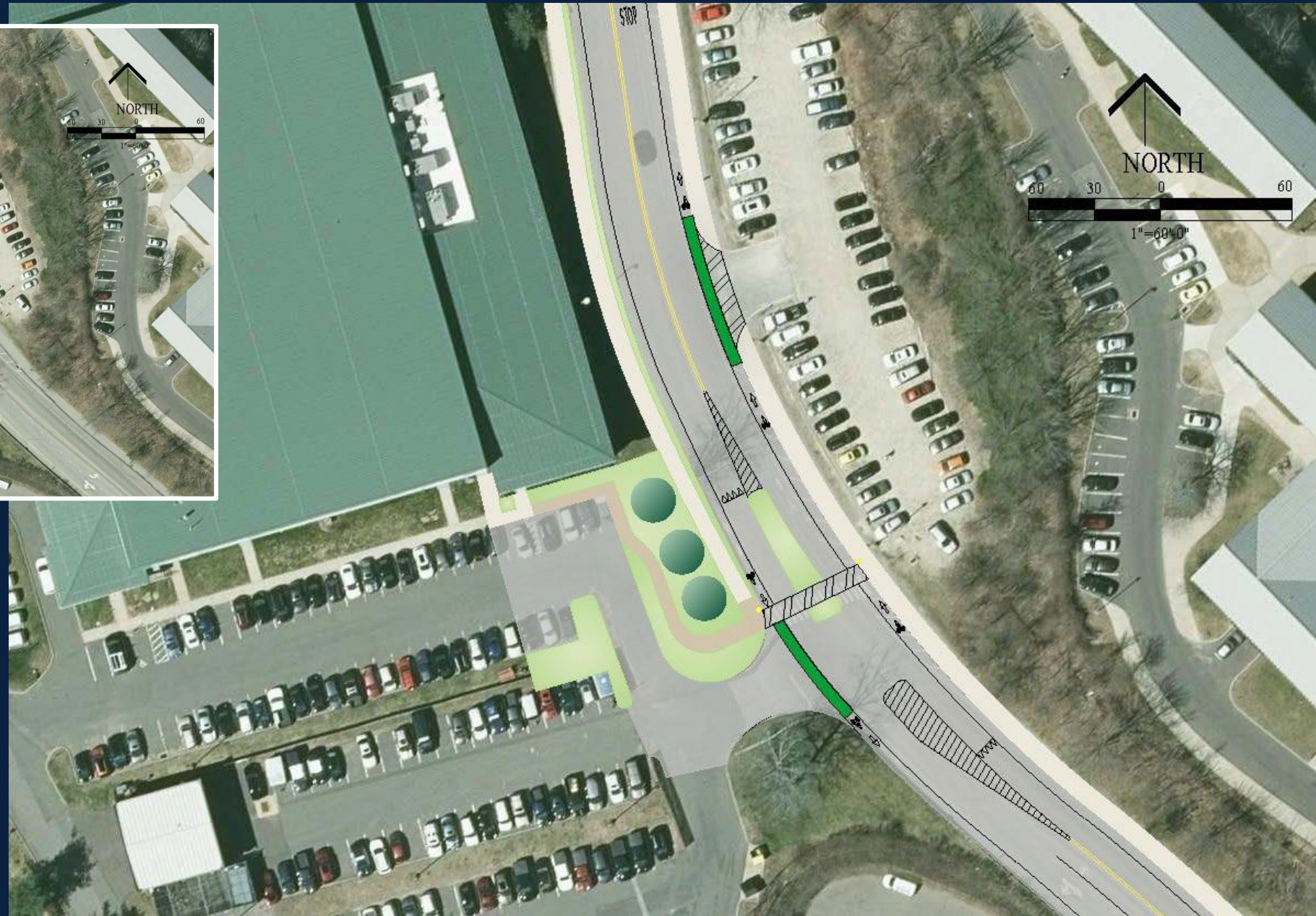




DISCOVERY DRIVE AT  
LEDOYT ROAD



DISCOVERY DRIVE AT  
UBS DRIVEWAY



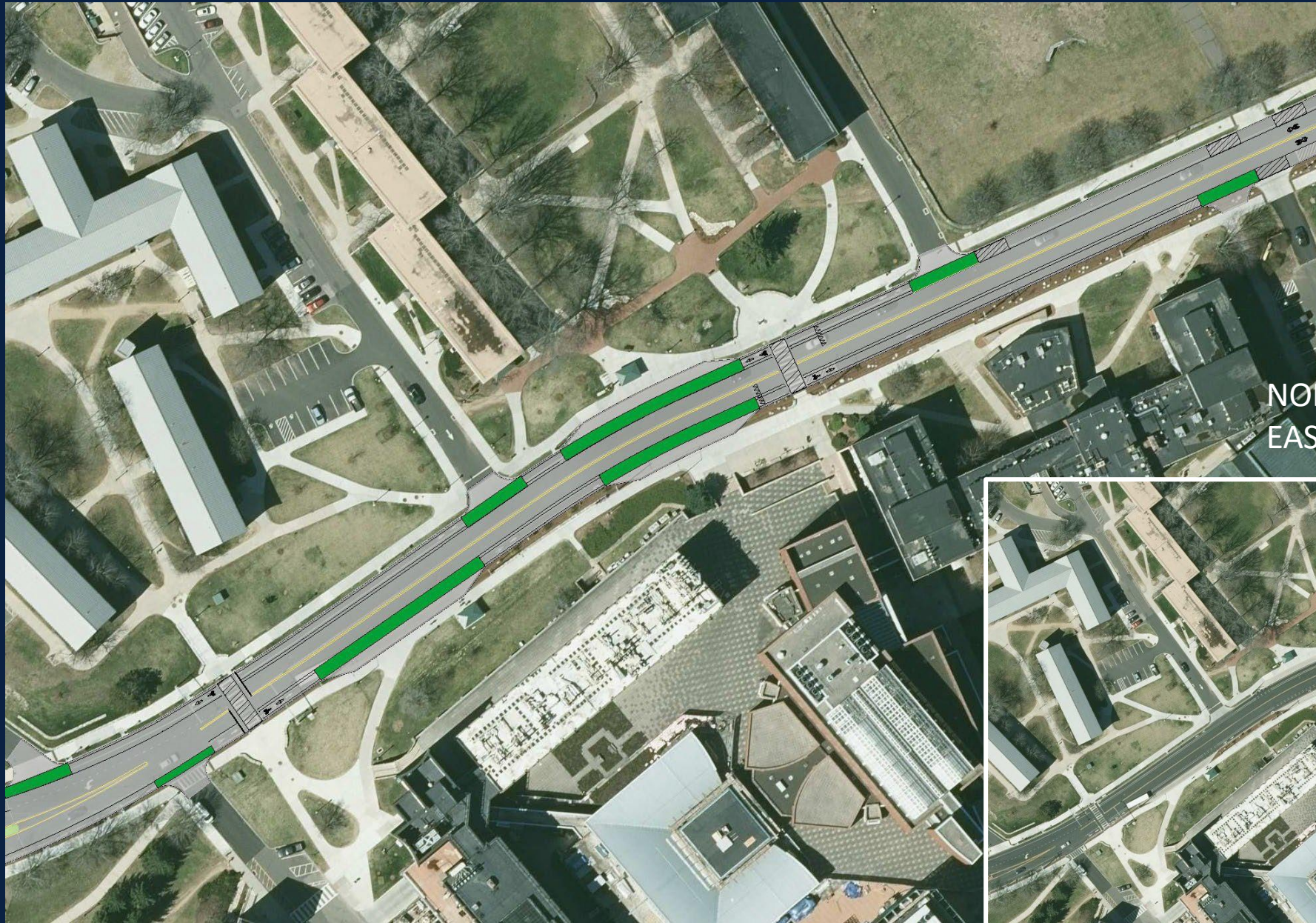
# ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Priority Project Five

*Subject to Funding for Design and Construction*

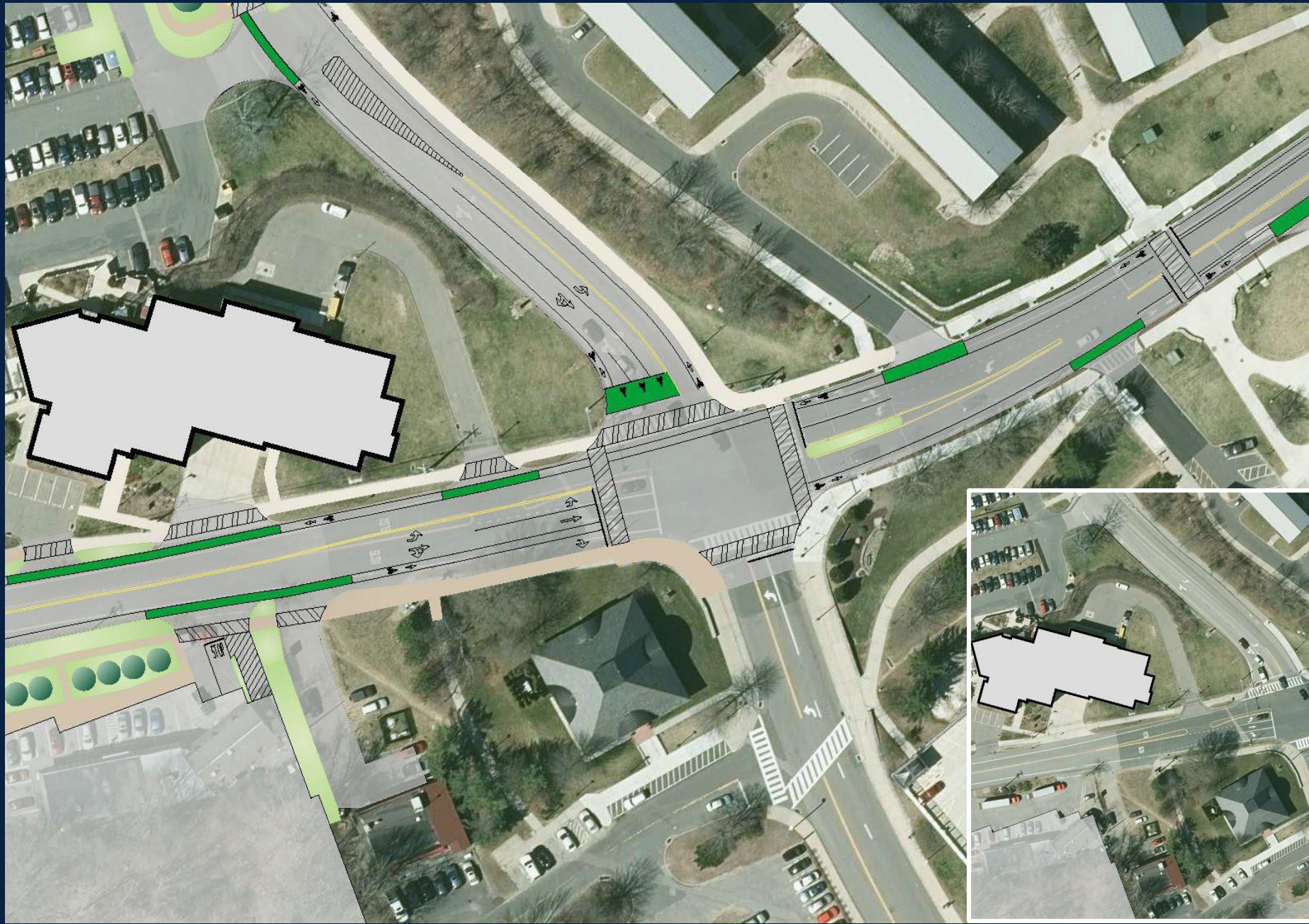
North Eagleville Road

Pedestrian Crossing and Bike Lane Improvements

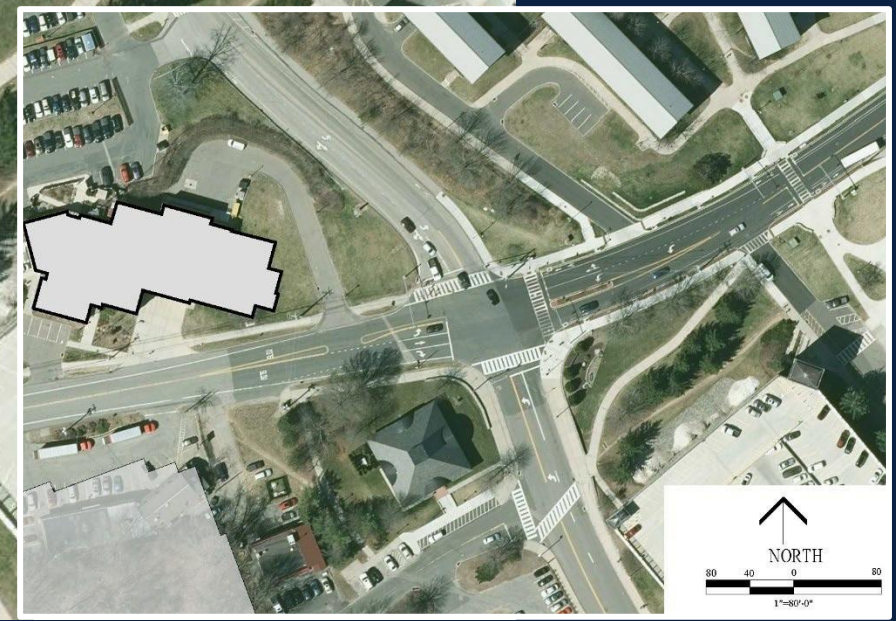


NORTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD  
EAST OF DISCOVERY DRIVE



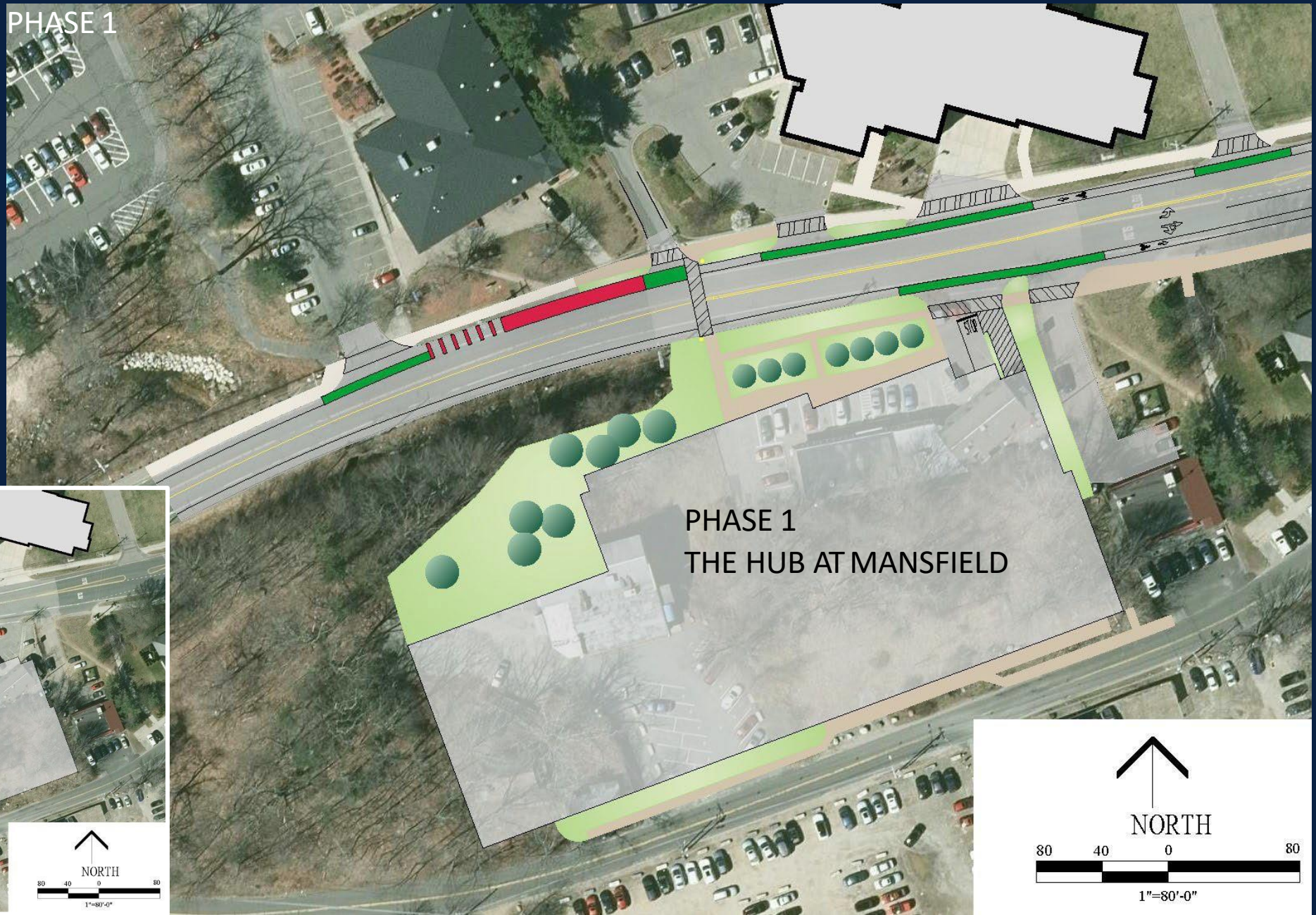


**NORTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD  
AT DISCOVERY DRIVE**



NORTH EAGLEVILLE  
ROAD AT THE PROPOSED  
DEVELOPMENT "THE  
HUB AT MANSFIELD"  
PHASE 1

PHASE 1





# **ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

Priority Project Six

*Subject to Funding for Design and Construction*

## **Alumni Drive and Bolton Road Sidewalks**



ALUMNI DRIVE



**BOLTON ROAD**

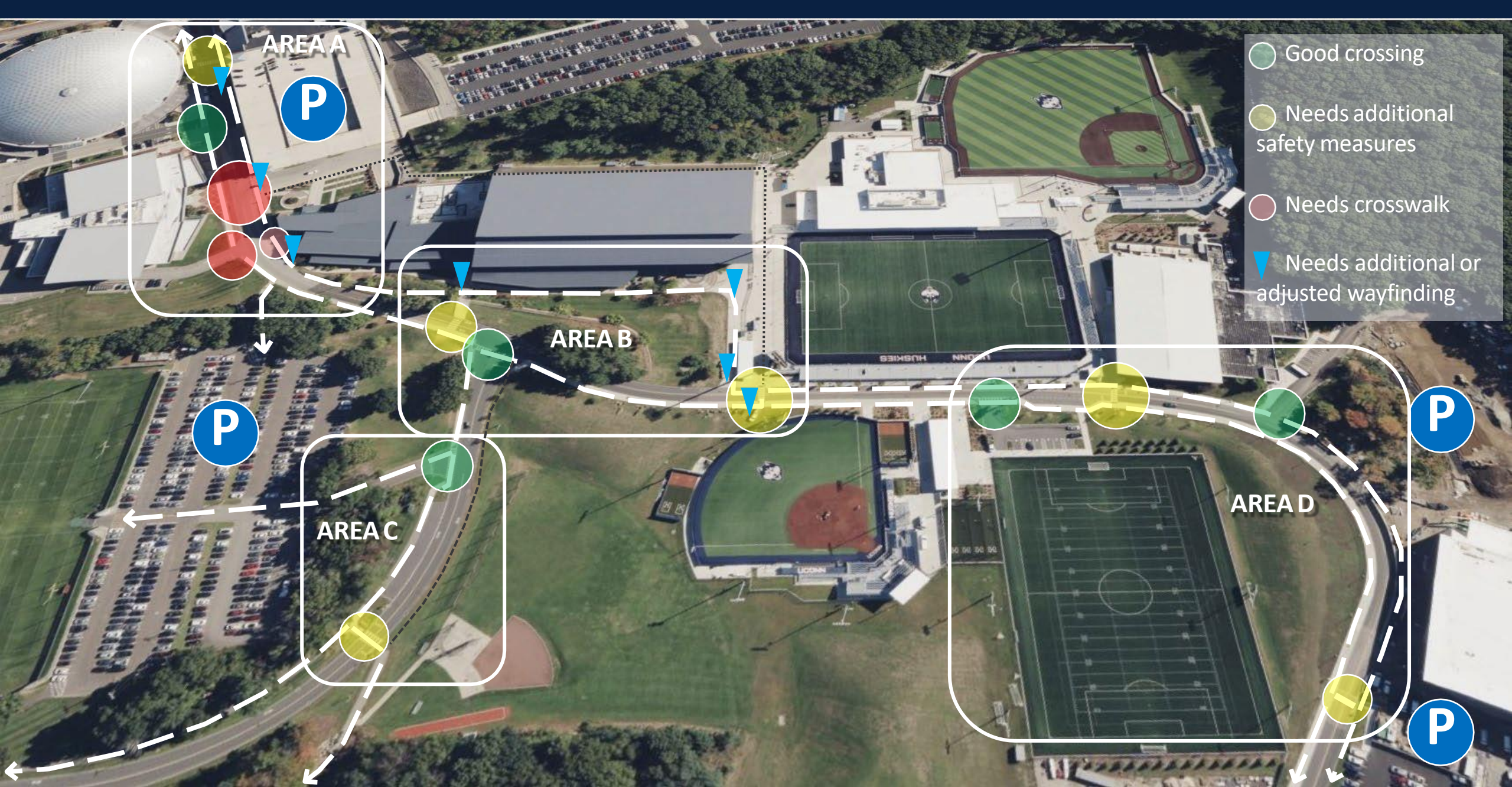


# ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Priority Project Seven

*Subject to Funding for Design and Construction*

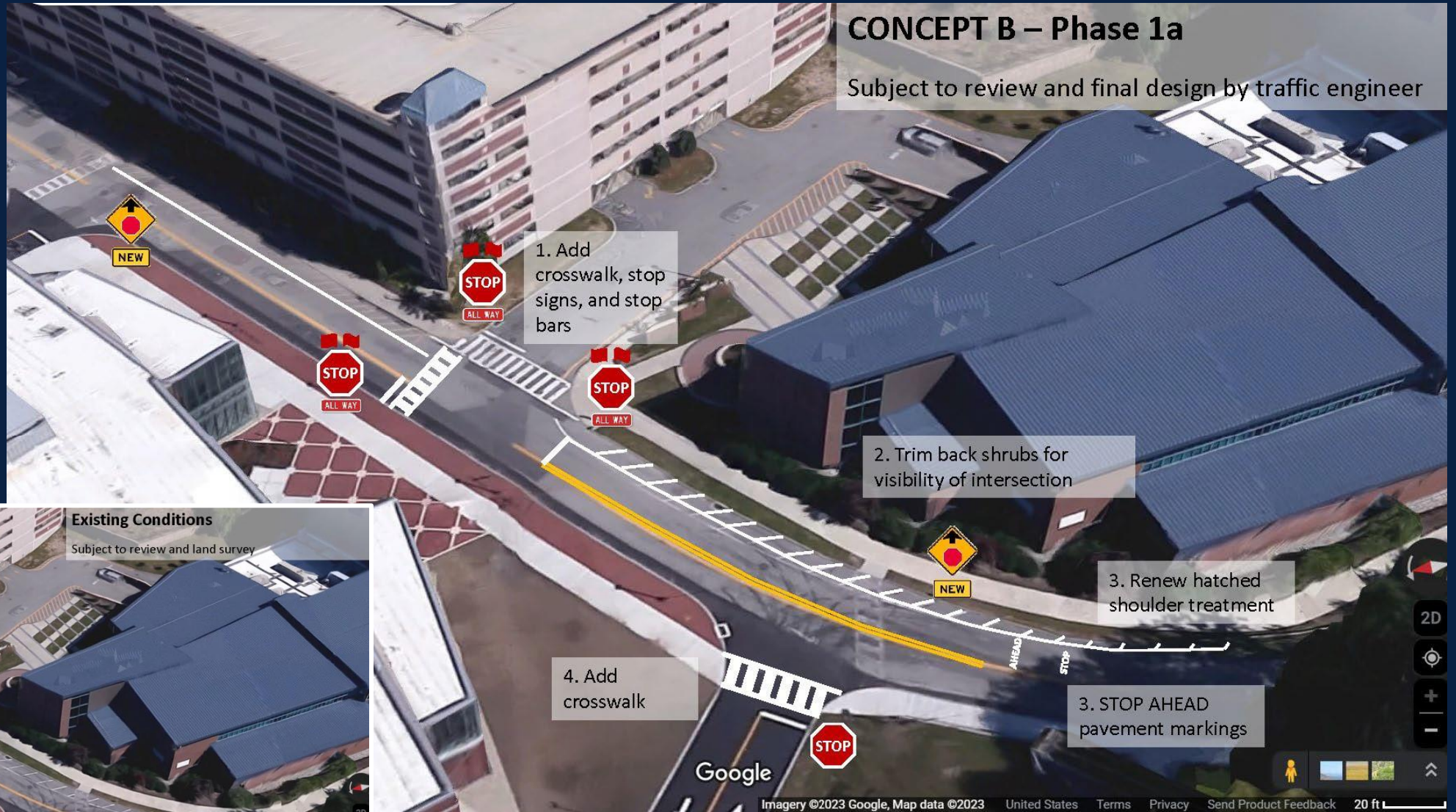
Jim Calhoun Way Pedestrian Crossing Upgrades



AREA A  
IMPROVEMENTS TO  
BE IMPLEMENTED  
SPRING SEMESTER

CONCEPT B – Phase 1a

Subject to review and final design by traffic engineer



<https://sustainability.media.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/2041/2024/03/2024-Sustainability-Action-Plan-Final.pdf>



## Biweekly Meetings:

- Meeting #5 - 4/5, Margaret Feeney, Strategic Planning
- Meeting #6 - 4/19, Recap and Closing meeting

## Events:

- Spring Fling – 4/17





# Open Discussion

