

# Chicago Avenue Improvements

## Kedzie to Latrobe

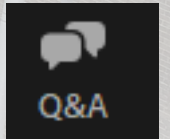
August 27, 2020



While you are waiting, please remember that:

- This webinar will consist of a presentation and question and answer session.
- Participant's microphones are muted and web cameras are turned off.
- This presentation will be recorded for public record.
- Each participant is provided a question and answer (Q&A) feature at the bottom of their screen. **Please test this feature by providing your name and organization/address and pressing "Send"!**
- Please type your questions throughout the presentation, rather than waiting until the end.

**Q&A Feature**

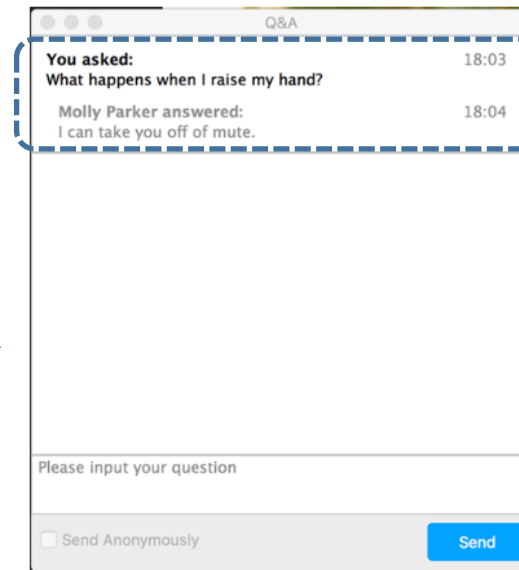
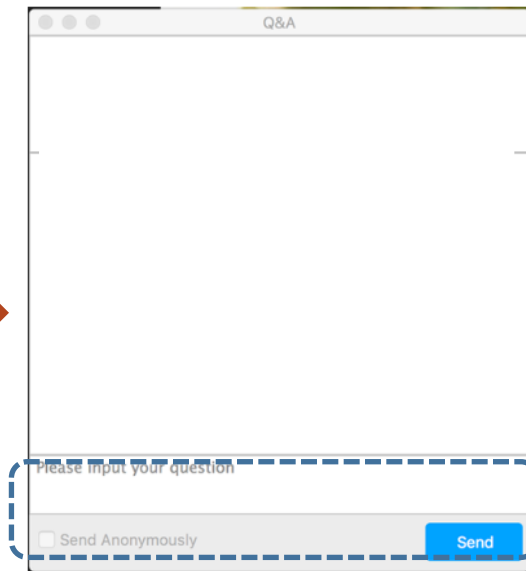
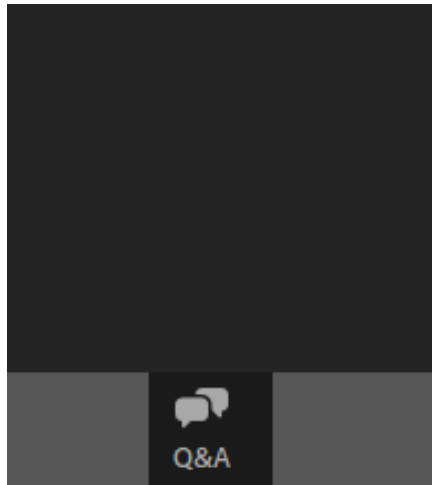




# Webinar Information

- Today's meeting will consist of a presentation and a question-and-answer session.
- Participants' microphones are muted and web cameras are turned off.
- This presentation will be recorded for public record *and will be available online*.
- Each participant is provided a question and answer (Q&A) feature at the bottom of their screen.

### How to ask a question



Please type your questions throughout the meeting, rather than wait.

Questions will be answered following the presentation.

**Please test this feature by providing your name and organization or address!**

Bottom center of the webinar find and click the Q&A symbol

Type in your question and press send

View any questions asked throughout the meeting

# Purposes of Meeting

- Introductions
- Present Existing Conditions
- Discuss Project Goals
- Show Proposed Concepts
- Present Project Schedule
- Obtain Stakeholder Feedback

# Introductions



**Alderman Walter Burnett**  
**27<sup>th</sup> Ward**



**Alderman Jason Ervin**  
**28<sup>th</sup> Ward**



**Alderman Emma Mitts**  
**37<sup>th</sup> Ward**



# Project Background

- Chicago launched Vision Zero initiative
- CDOT identified Chicago Avenue as a high crash corridor and applied for grant funding
- The Illinois Department of Transportation conducted a Roadway Safety Audit on Chicago Avenue
- CDOT has received federal money to design and construct safety improvements



# Questions to Consider

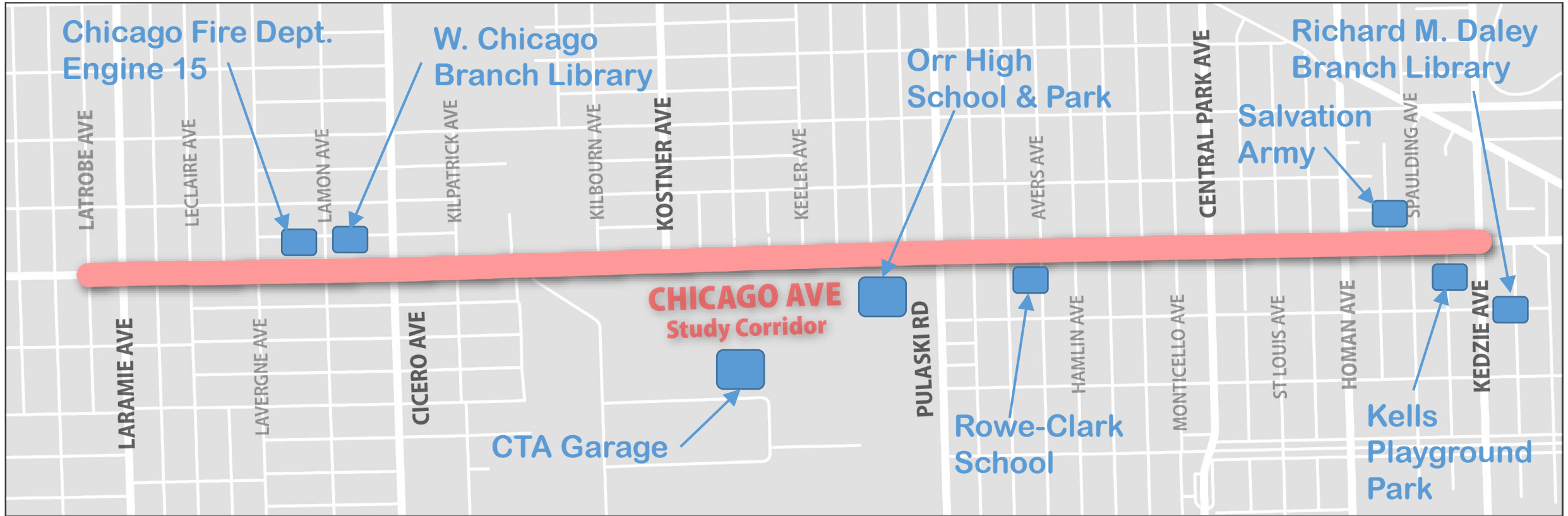
- What are your experiences on Chicago Avenue?
- How would you like to travel on Chicago Avenue?
- Are there any particular intersections you'd like us to focus on to improve safety?
- How important is Chicago Avenue on-street parking to you?
- How important is improving bus service to you?



# Project Location and Context



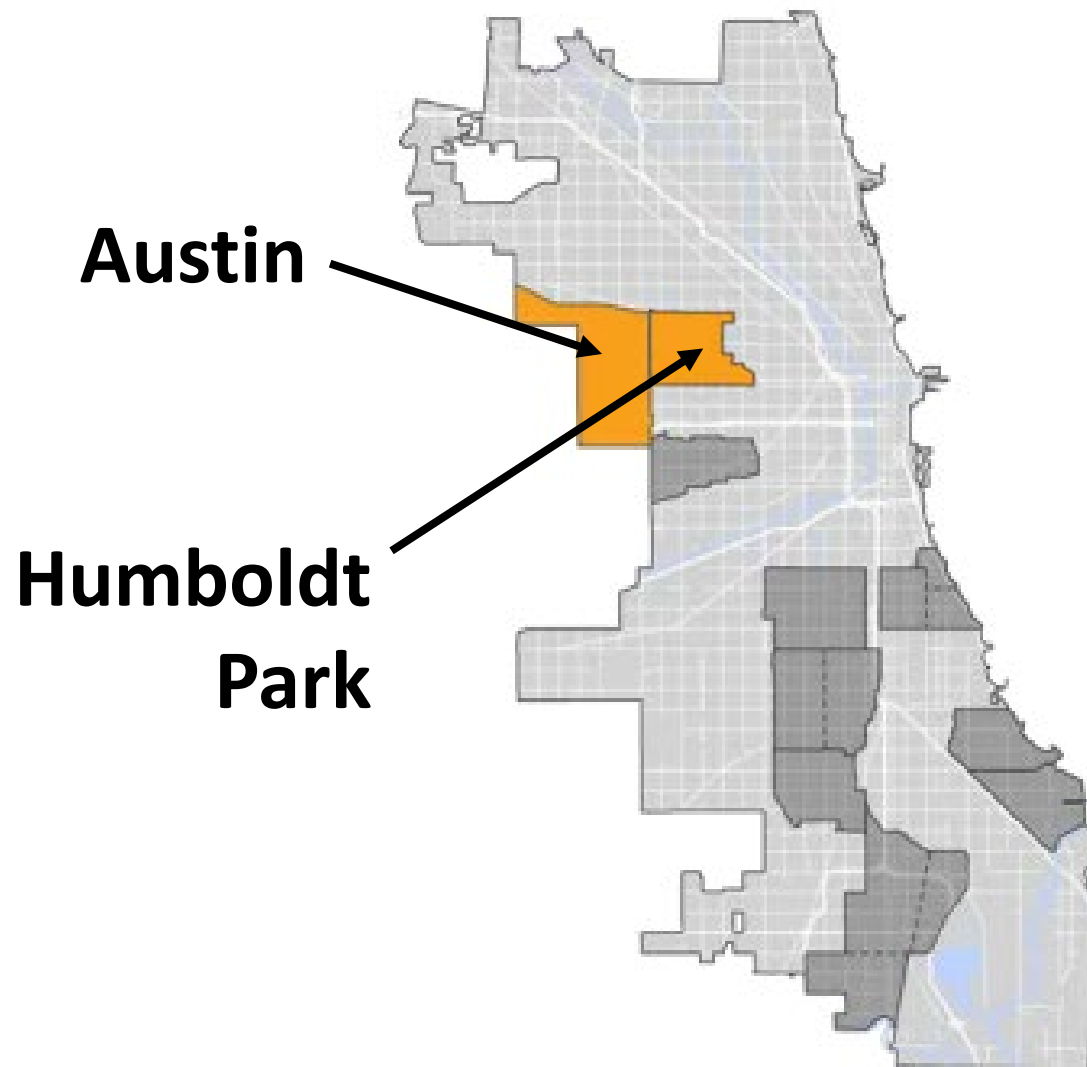
# Project Location and Context





# INVEST SOUTH WEST

- City initiative to reactivate 10 neighborhood cores
- Chicago Avenue is a priority corridor within the Austin and Humboldt Park Community Areas



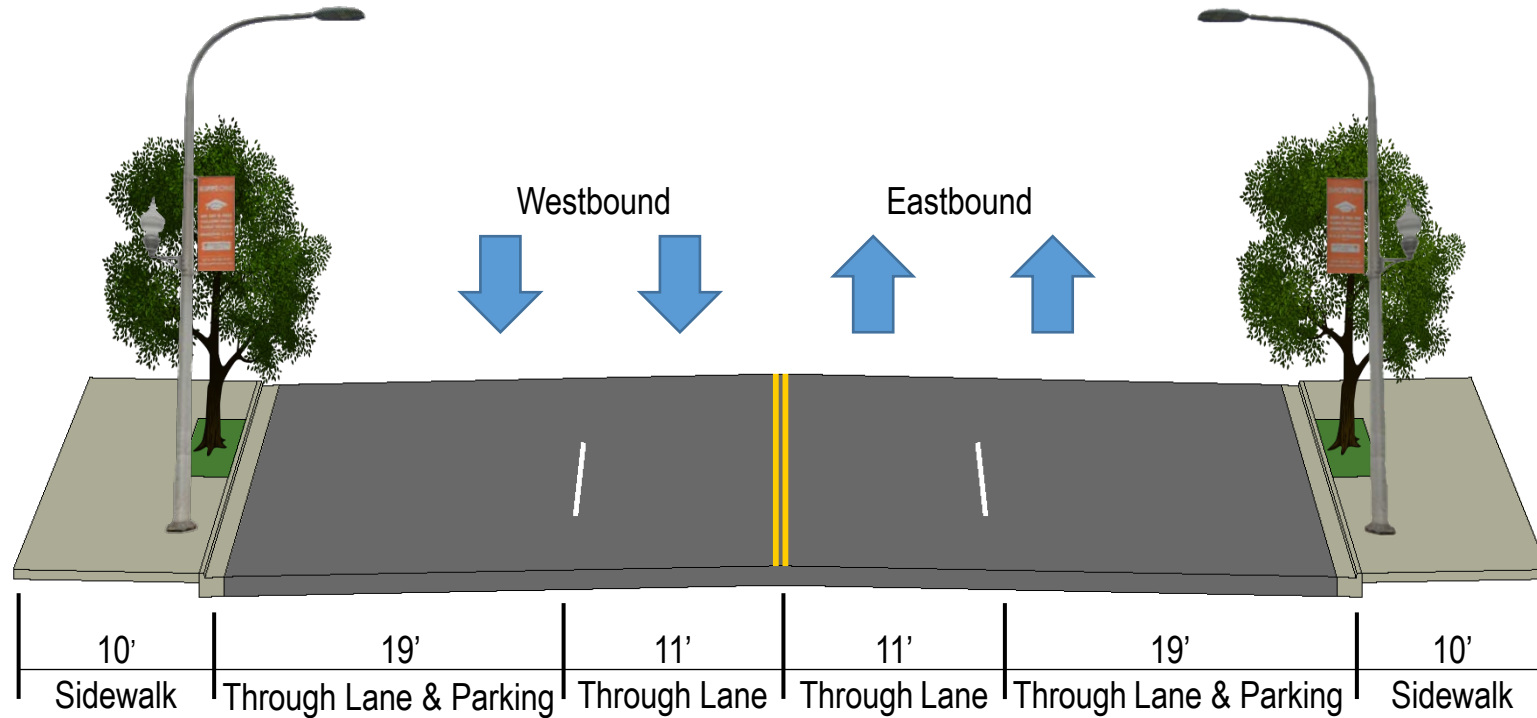


# Existing Conditions



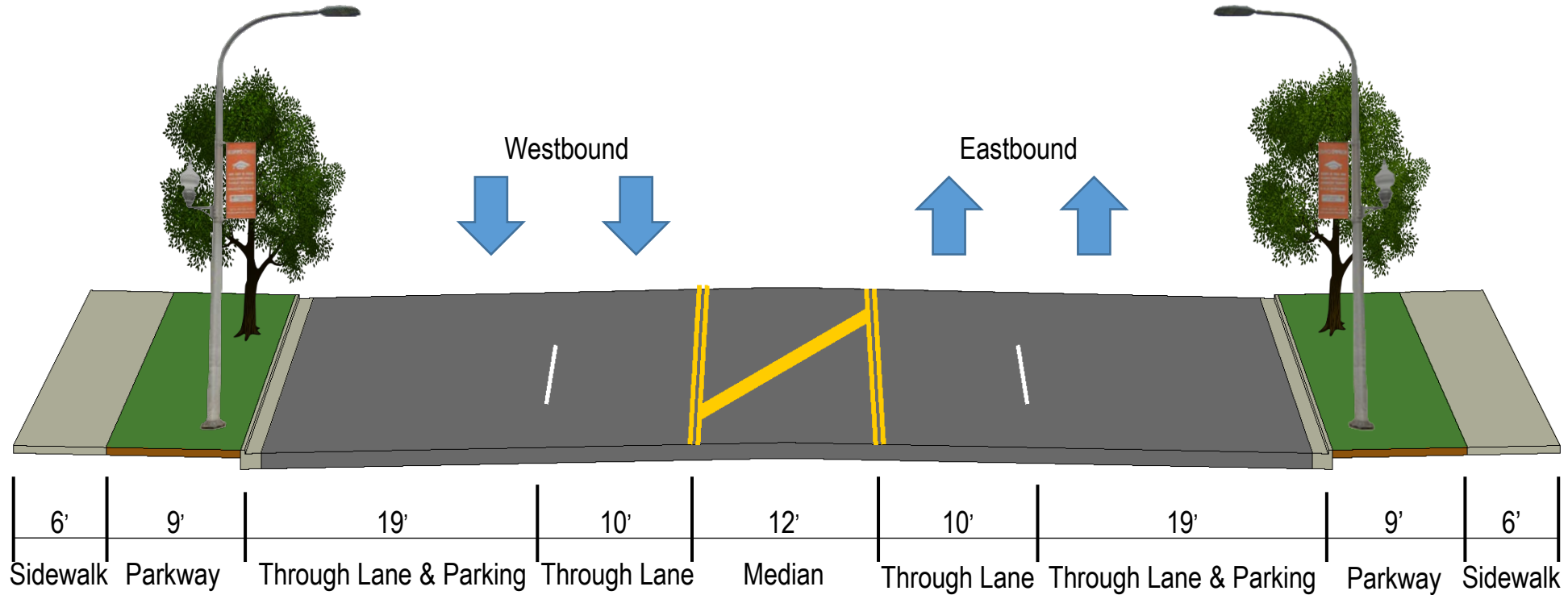
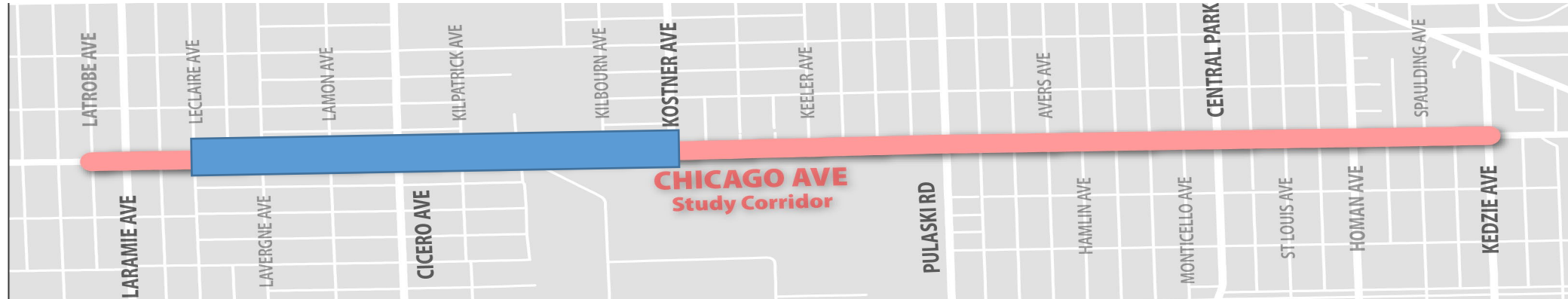


## Kedzie to Latrobe



**Laramie Avenue to LeClaire Avenue (Looking East)**

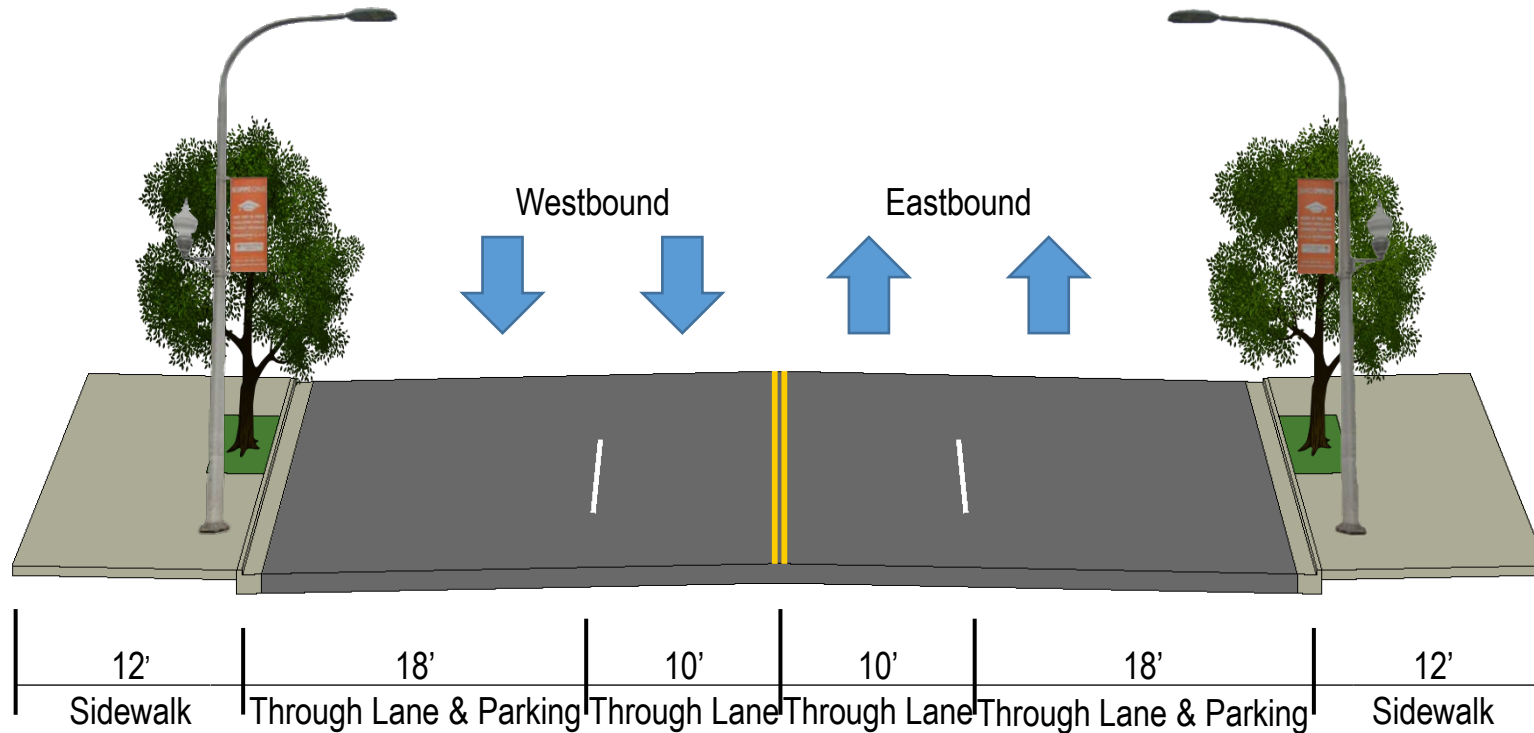
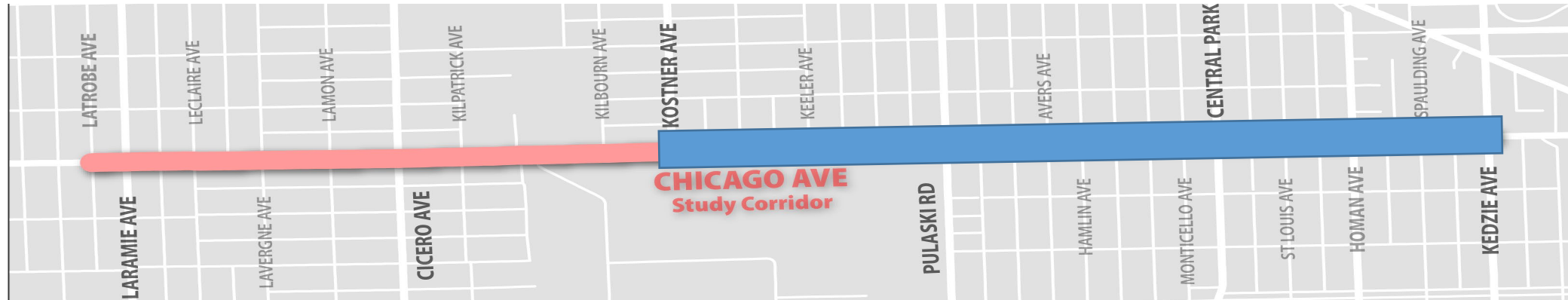
## Kedzie to Latrobe



**LeClaire Avenue to Kostner Avenue (Looking East)**



## Kedzie to Latrobe



**Kostner Avenue to Kedzie Avenue (Looking East)**

# Existing Conditions



Unorganized traffic flow



No left turn lanes at many intersections



# Existing Conditions

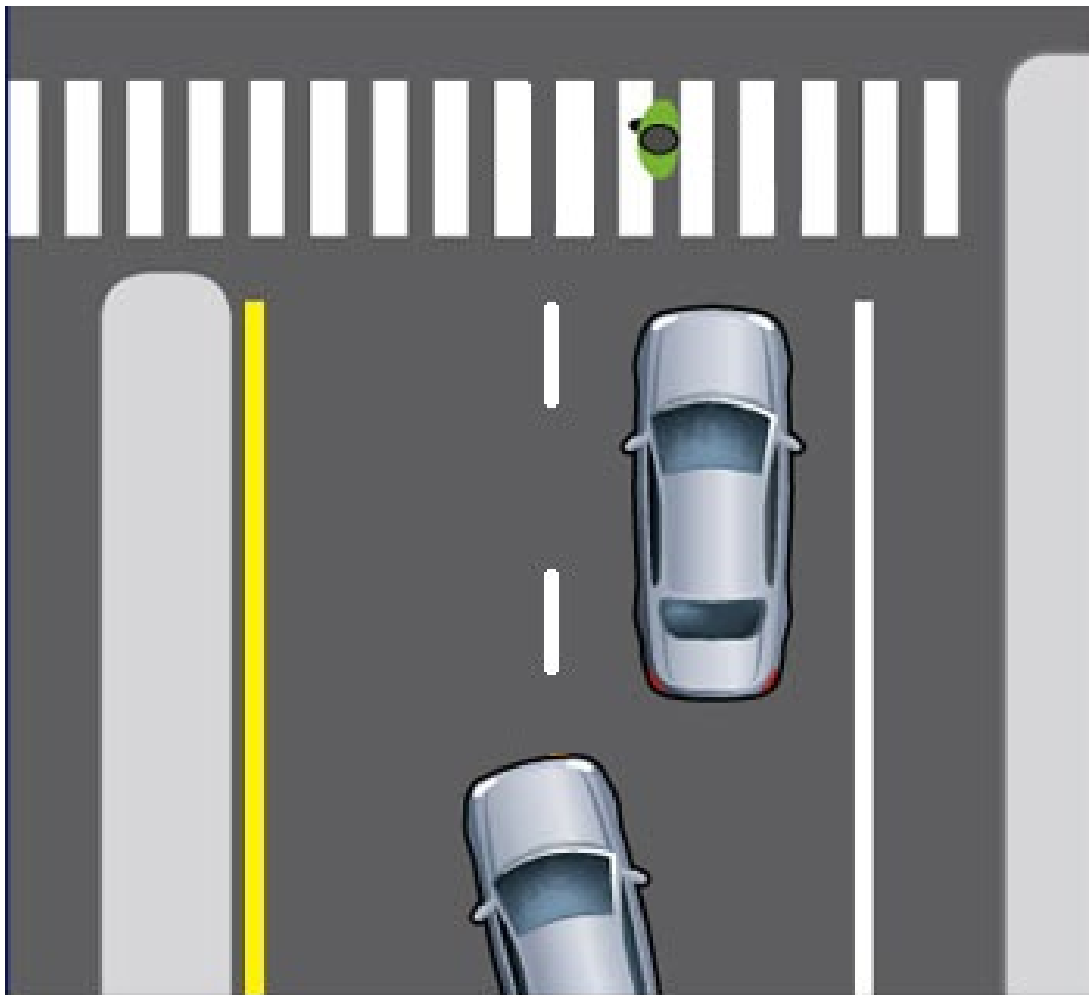


Long crosswalks





Pedestrians crossing multiple lanes of traffic



High number of multiple-threat pedestrian crashes



# Chicago Avenue Improvements

Kedzie to Latrobe

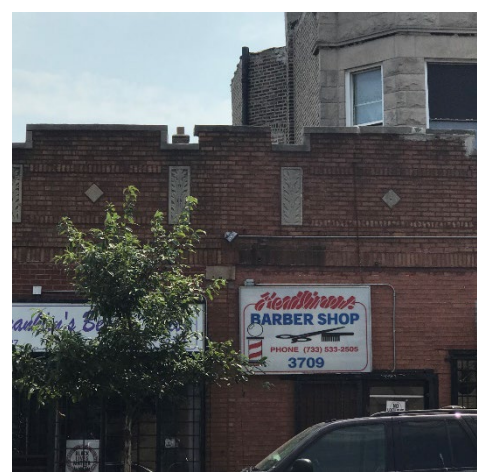
# Existing Conditions



People walk along and cross Chicago Avenue to access schools, parks, and libraries



# Existing Conditions



Chicago Avenue is an important corridor for neighborhood businesses



# Existing Conditions



People bicycling





High bus ridership



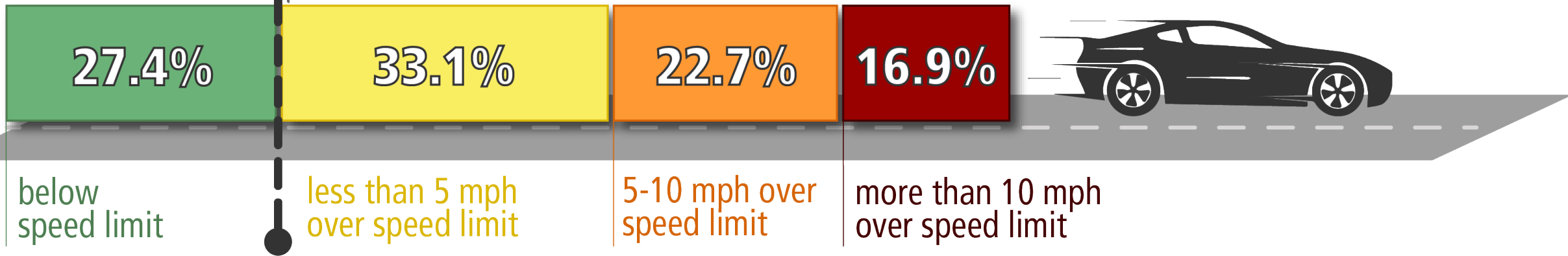
- Third highest ridership in entire system
- More than 10,000 boardings and alightings within the project corridor on a typical weekday
- Most people getting on and off at major intersections (Laramie, Cicero, Pulaski, Kedzie)
- Fastest bus speeds are between Cicero and Pulaski
- Slowest bus speeds are between Pulaski and Kedzie



# Existing Conditions-Speeds



Almost **3/4** of all drivers travel over the speed limit



Data gathered between  
Kilbourn and St. Louis

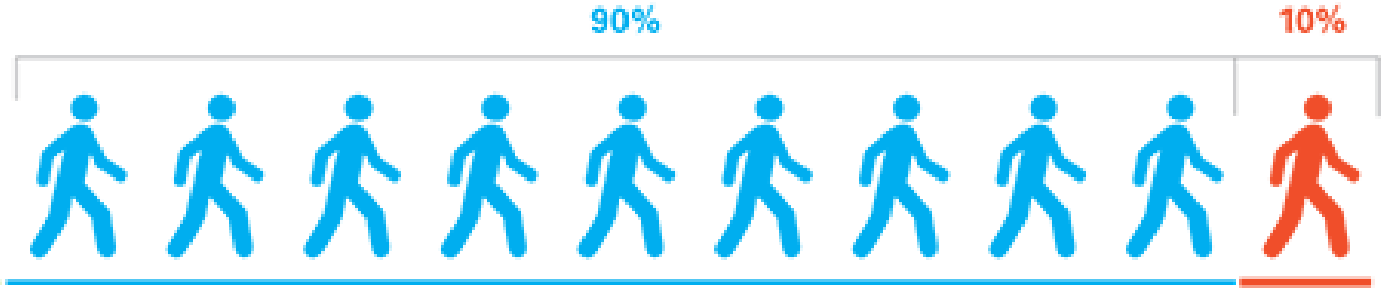
# Existing Conditions-Speeds

● If hit by a person driving at:

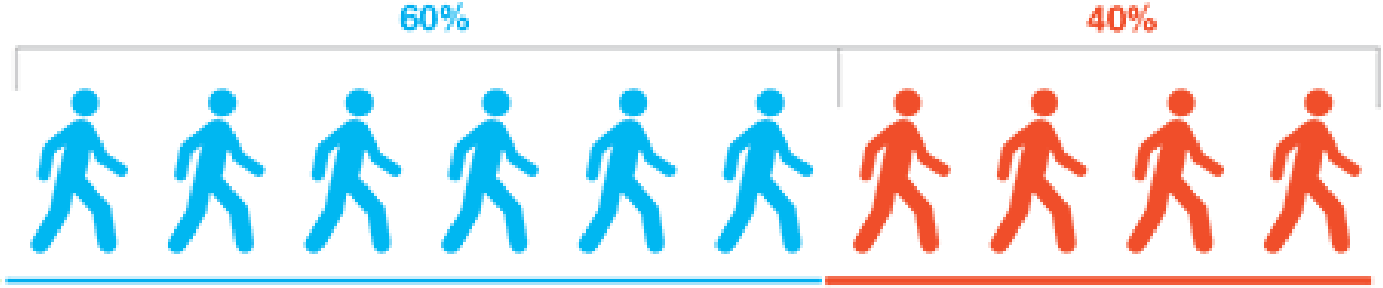
● Person Survives the Collision

● Results in a Fatality

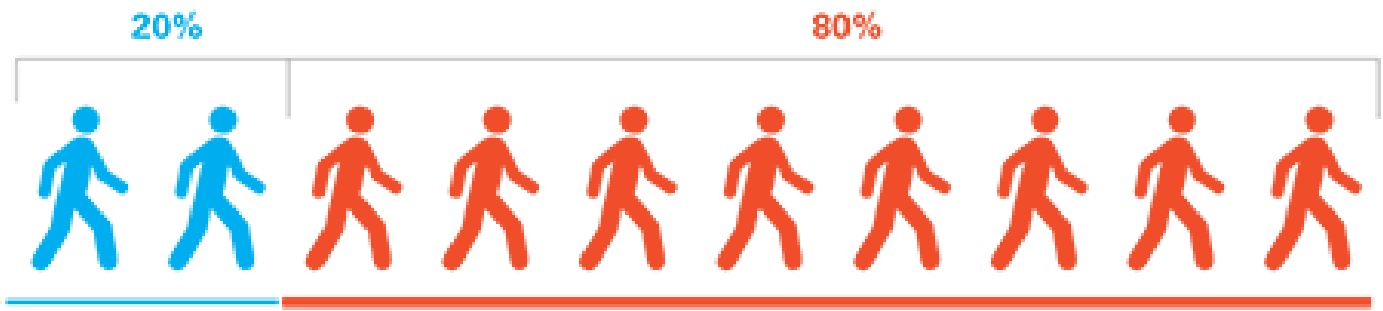
20 MPH



30 MPH

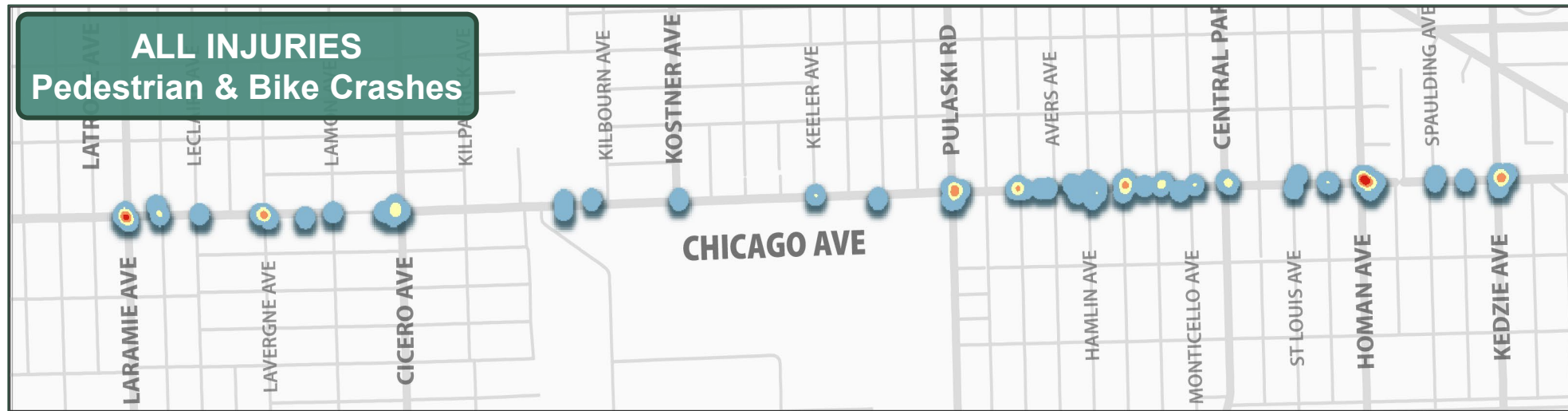


40 MPH

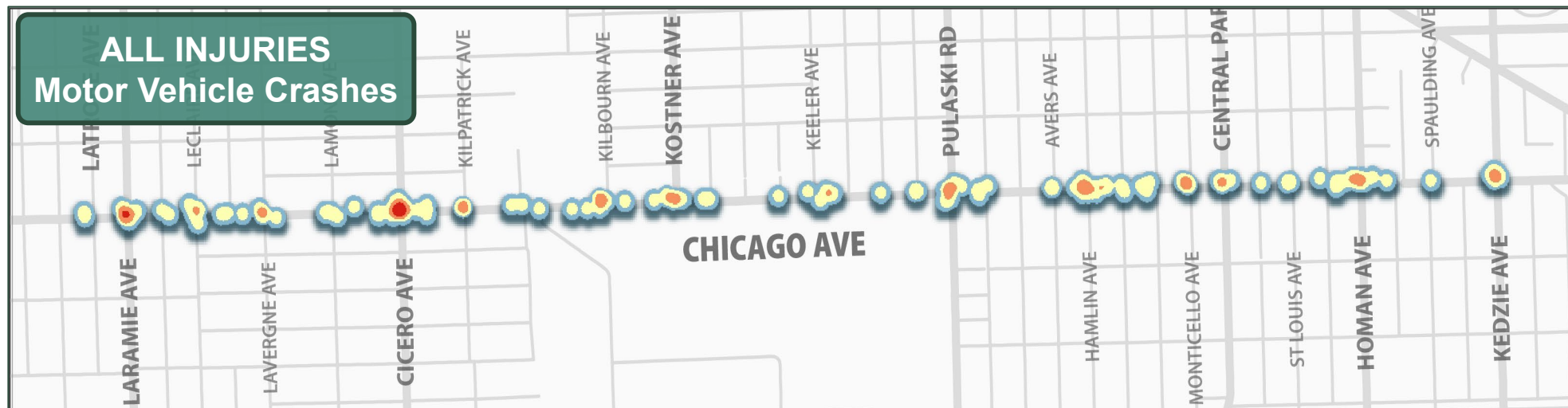


## Kedzie to Latrobe

### ALL INJURIES Pedestrian & Bike Crashes



### ALL INJURIES Motor Vehicle Crashes



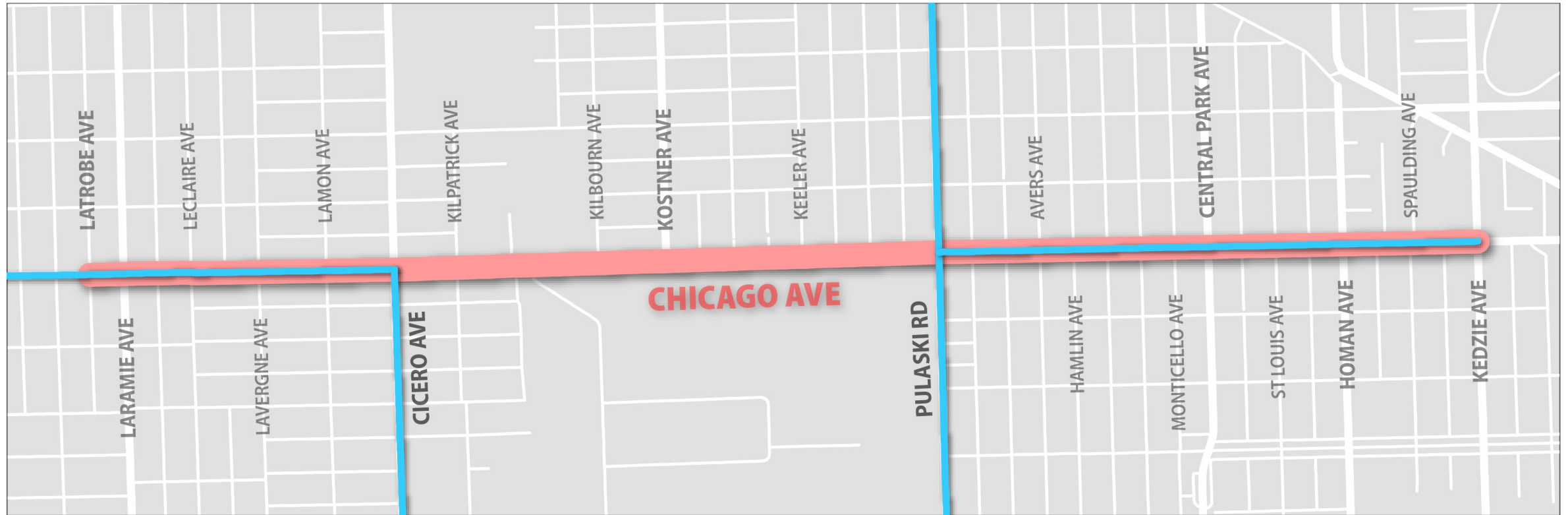
**1,487 Traffic Crashes (2014-2018)**



- 5 fatalities and 49 serious injuries
- 101 pedestrian crashes
- 24 bicycle crashes
- 44% of all serious crashes included a person walking or biking getting hit
- High proportion of rear-end, turning, and sideswipe collisions





# Safety - Vision Zero



-  Chicago Ave Study Corridor
-  Vision Zero High Crash Corridor

# Safety - Vision Zero

### AUSTIN

	QUALITY OF LIFE PLAN (LISC)	VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN	VISION ZERO HIGH CRASH CORRIDOR FRAMEWORK PLAN	NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
Implement & enforce safer speeds for all travel choices along Chicago Avenue.	●	●	●	●
Target safety improvements around public transit stops/stations.		●	●	
Advocate for traffic safety & air quality over truck traffic capacity on Cicero Avenue.	●			
Implement programs that encourage safe and active transportation to and from school.	●	●		●
Strengthen community and police partnerships.	●	●		



### 1. IMPLEMENT & ENFORCE SAFER SPEEDS AND PRIORITIZE INVESTMENT IN PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ALONG CHICAGO AVENUE

The Chicago Avenue commercial corridor would highly benefit from prioritizing investment to transform this street into a P-Street (see box). A Pedestrian Street (P-Street) includes sidewalks that are sufficiently wide for the full range of anticipated pedestrian activity, provides safe and short crossing opportunities, and includes features that contribute to pedestrian comfort and enjoyment, such as street furniture and trees.

# Project Goals

1. Create a safer Chicago Avenue for all users:
  - a) Pedestrians
  - b) Bicyclists
  - c) Motorists
  - d) Transit Users
2. Improve mobility along Chicago Avenue
3. Reduce vehicular speeds on Chicago Avenue
4. Support economic development on the corridor





Pedestrian Refuge Islands



Pedestrian Curb Extensions





Space for People to Bike





# Potential Infrastructure



Bus Lanes





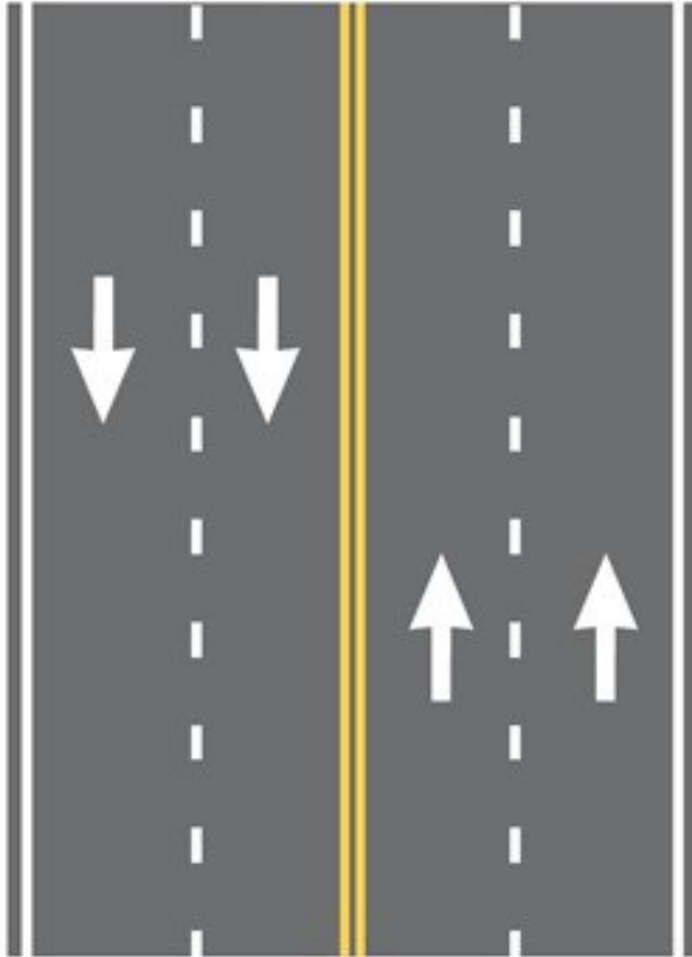
Traffic Signal Improvements



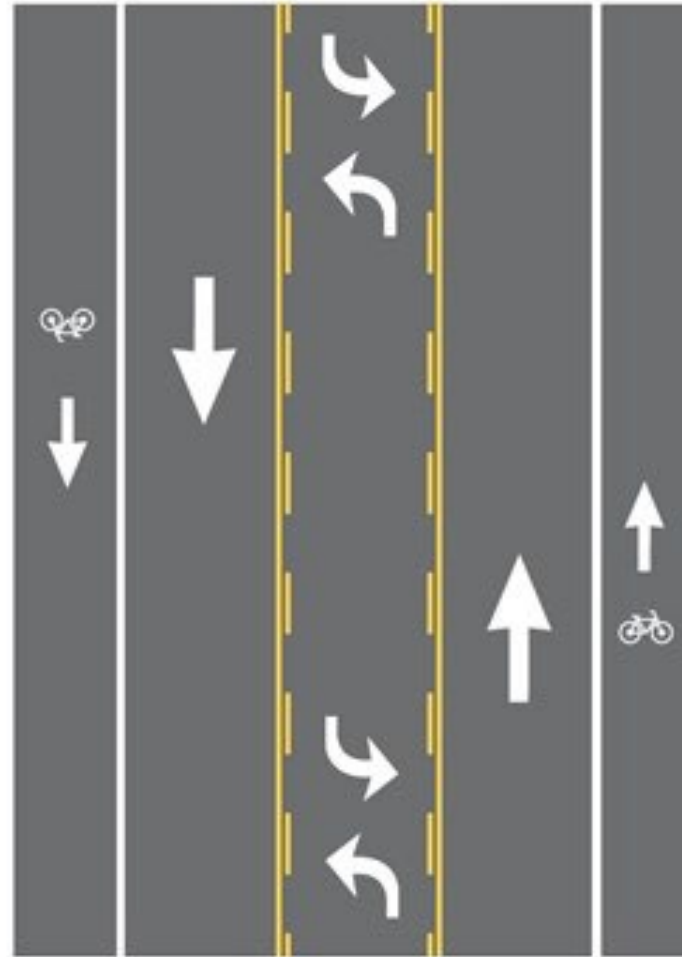
Repurpose Street Space

# Potential Infrastructure

## BEFORE



## AFTER



### Space from lane removal allows:

- New left turn lanes at 22 intersections plus driveways
- Pedestrian refuge islands to be installed at crosswalks
- Bicycle lanes to be provided

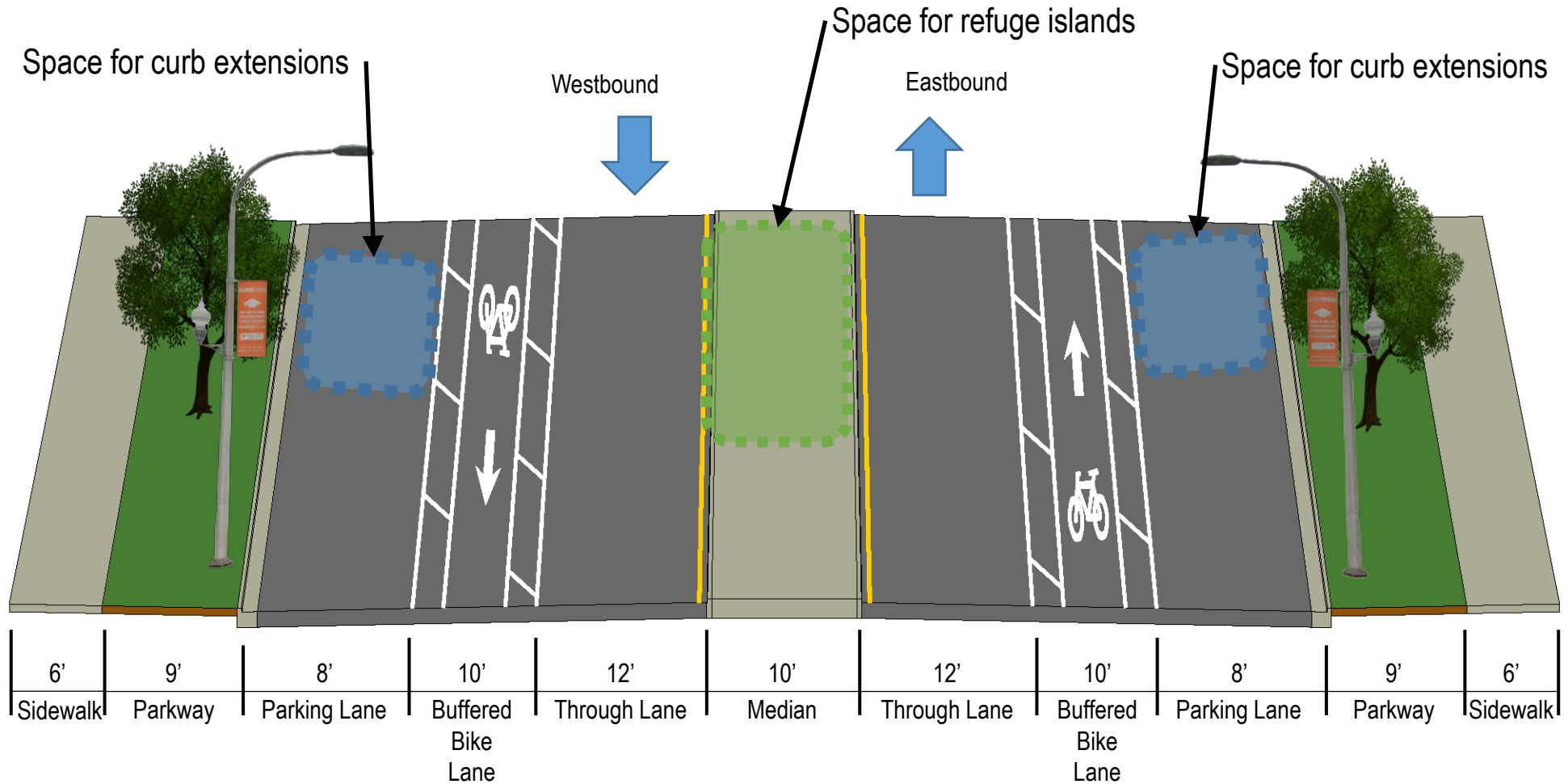
# Benefits of Repurposed Lanes

- Speeding will decrease
- Safety will improve for all modes of travel – up to 47% decrease in crashes
- Rate of severe crashes will decrease
- It will be easier to cross the street
- Walking along Chicago Ave. will be more comfortable
- Space could be provided for people bicycling
- Improve accessibility to local businesses



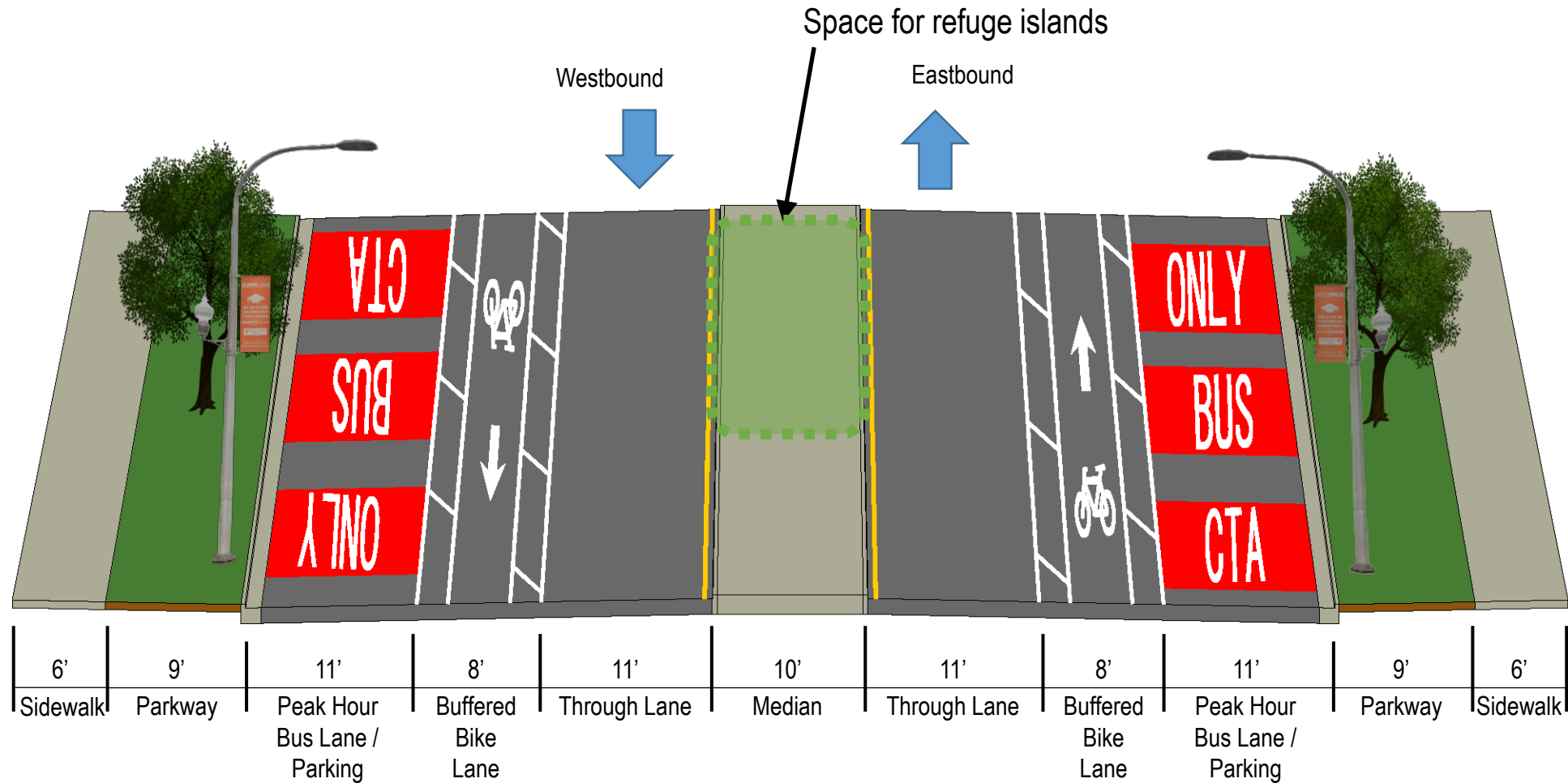
# Potential Improvements

## LeClaire Avenue to Kostner Avenue (Looking East)



# Potential Improvements

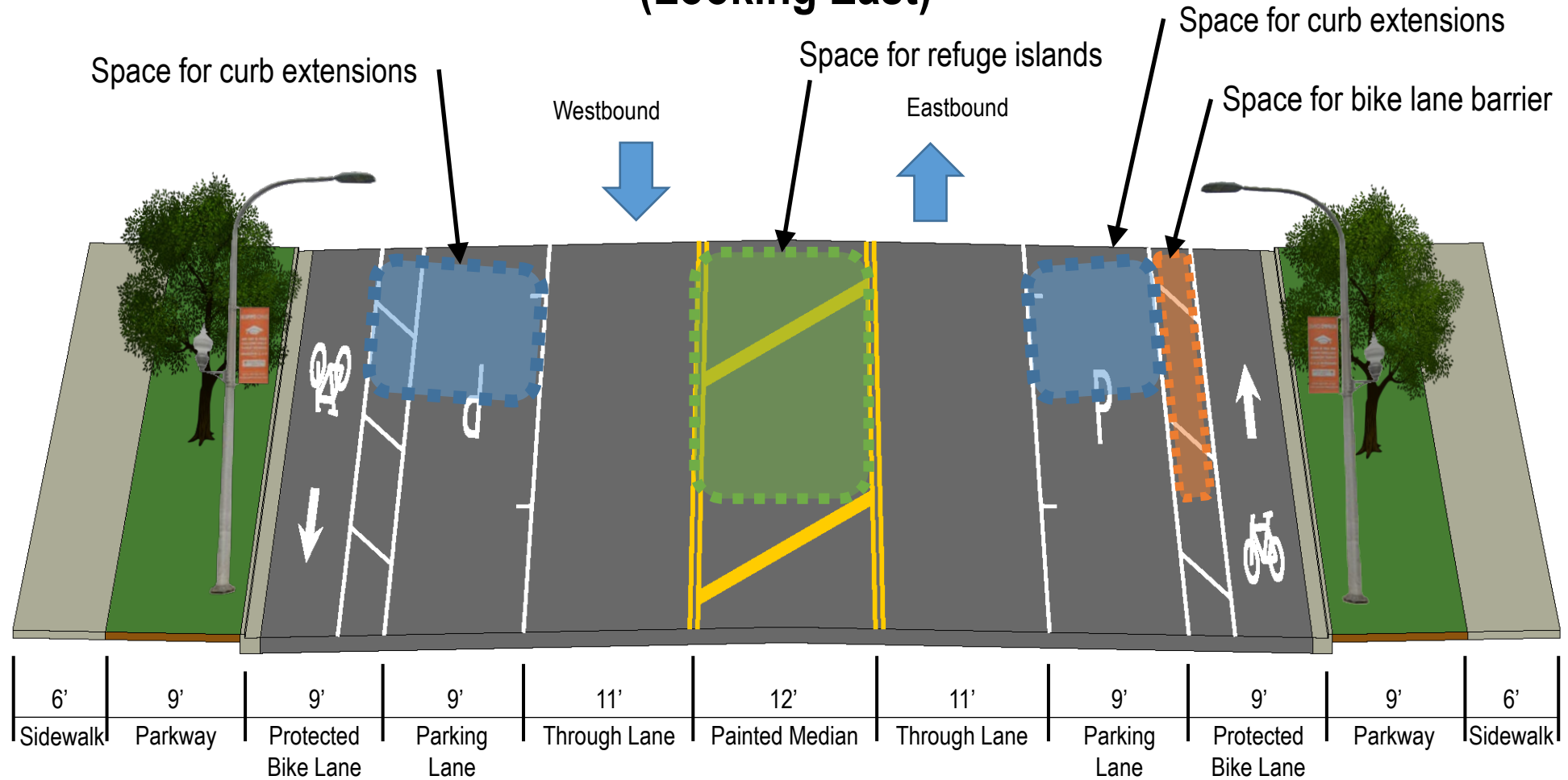
## LeClaire Avenue to Kostner Avenue (Looking East)





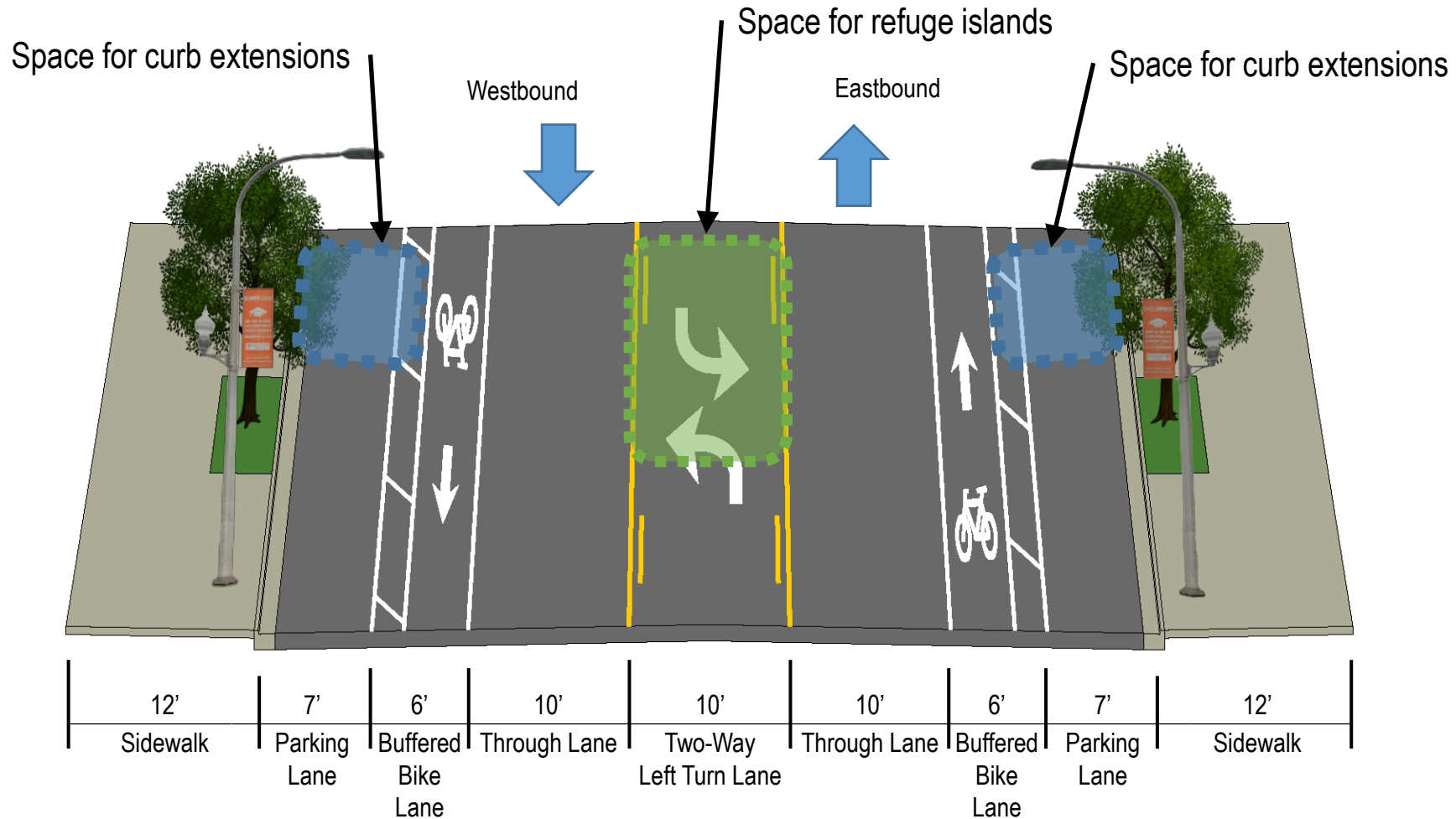
# Potential Improvements

## LeClaire Avenue to Kostner Avenue (Looking East)



# Potential Improvements

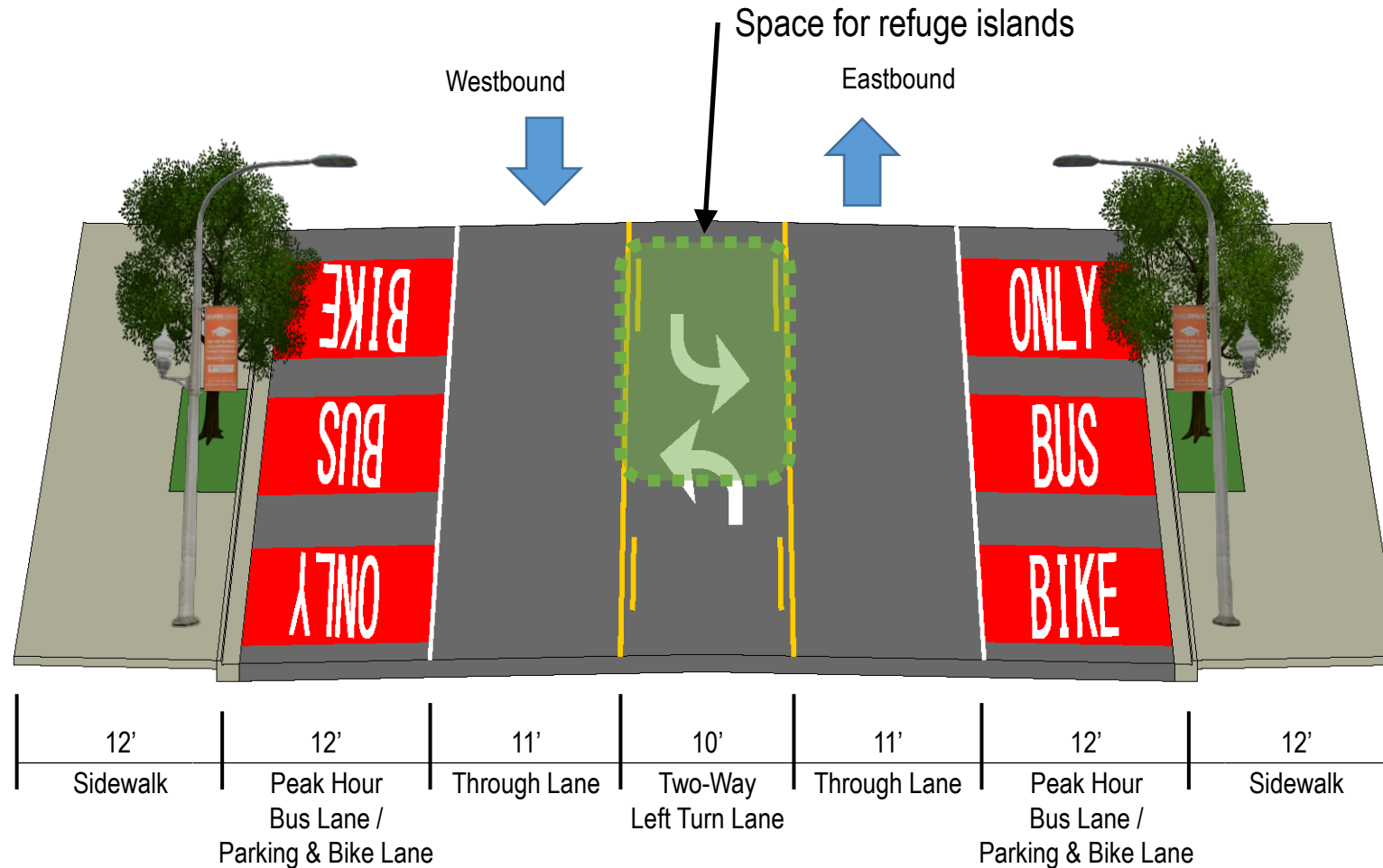
## Kostner Avenue to Kedzie Avenue (Looking East)





# Potential Improvements

## Kostner Avenue to Kedzie Avenue (Looking East)









# Schedule

**2020**

**Planning & Design**

**Community Engagement**

**2021**

**Development of Construction Documents**

**2022**

**Construction**



# We Want Your Feedback!

- All participants will receive an email with a link to take a survey about Chicago Avenue
- Comments may be emailed to [info@chicagocompletestreets.org](mailto:info@chicagocompletestreets.org)



# Discussion

- What are your experiences on Chicago Avenue?
- How would you like to travel on Chicago Avenue?
- Are there any particular intersections you'd like us to focus on?
- How important is Chicago Avenue on-street parking to you?
- How important is improving bus travel times to you?

# Thank You!

## Your comments are valuable to us.

We encourage comments throughout the course of the study. Comments received by **September 10, 2020** will be added to this public presentation record.

Comment forms are available at:

- 27<sup>th</sup> Ward Office-4 N. Western Ave.
- 37<sup>th</sup> Ward Office-4924 W. Chicago Ave.
- West Chicago Avenue Branch Library-4856 W. Chicago Ave.
- Richard M. Daley Branch Library-733 N. Kedzie Ave.



## Find us online.

Materials from this presentation will be posted to the City's website.

Please visit:

[www.chicagocompletestreets.org](http://www.chicagocompletestreets.org)



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