

DELAWARE AVENUE COMPLETE STREETS PROJECT PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING #2 SEPTEMBER 24, 2024

PIN 1761.68





BETHLEHEM SAFE STREETS . COM

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

FROM PROJECT DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Town of Bethlehem

David VanLuven

Town Supervisor

Robert Leslie, AICP

Town Director of Planning

Paul Penman, P.E.

Commissioner of Public Works

Eric Johnson, P.E.

Town Engineer

Nate Owens, AICP

Senior Planner

CHA Consulting, Inc.

Joe Cimino, P.E.

Project Manager

Michael Hurtt, P.E.

Lead Highway Engineer



TONIGHT'S AGENDA

I. Review of Project Overview & Objectives

II. Alternative Being Progressed

III. Next Steps

IV. Open House



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I - PROJECT OVERVIEW & OBJECTIVES

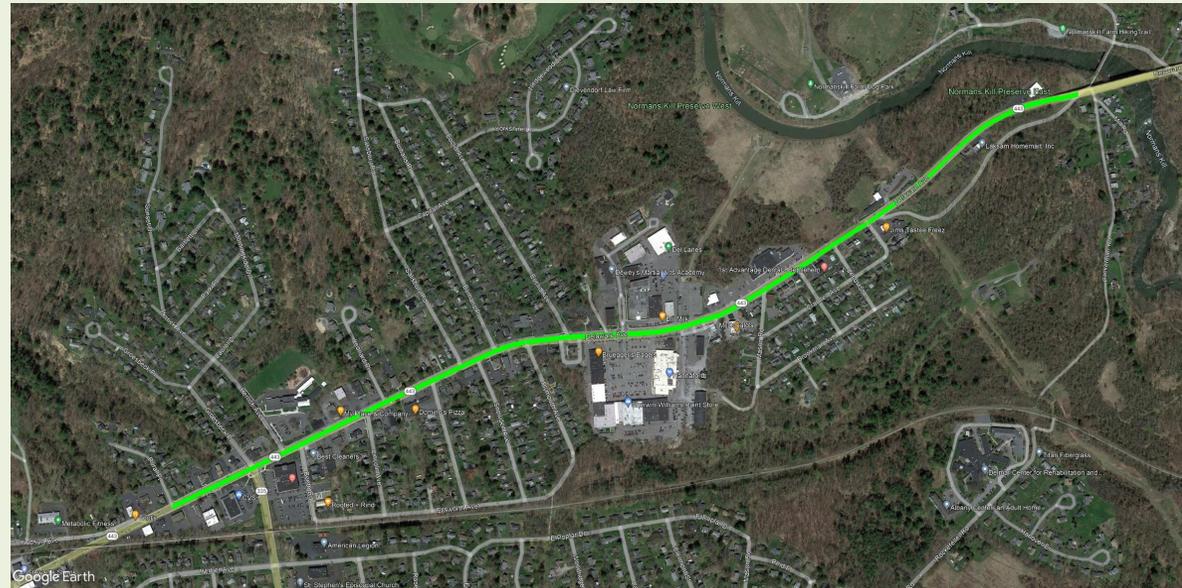
PROJECT LOCATION



I - PROJECT OVERVIEW & OBJECTIVES

EXISTING ROADWAY CONTEXT/CONDITIONS

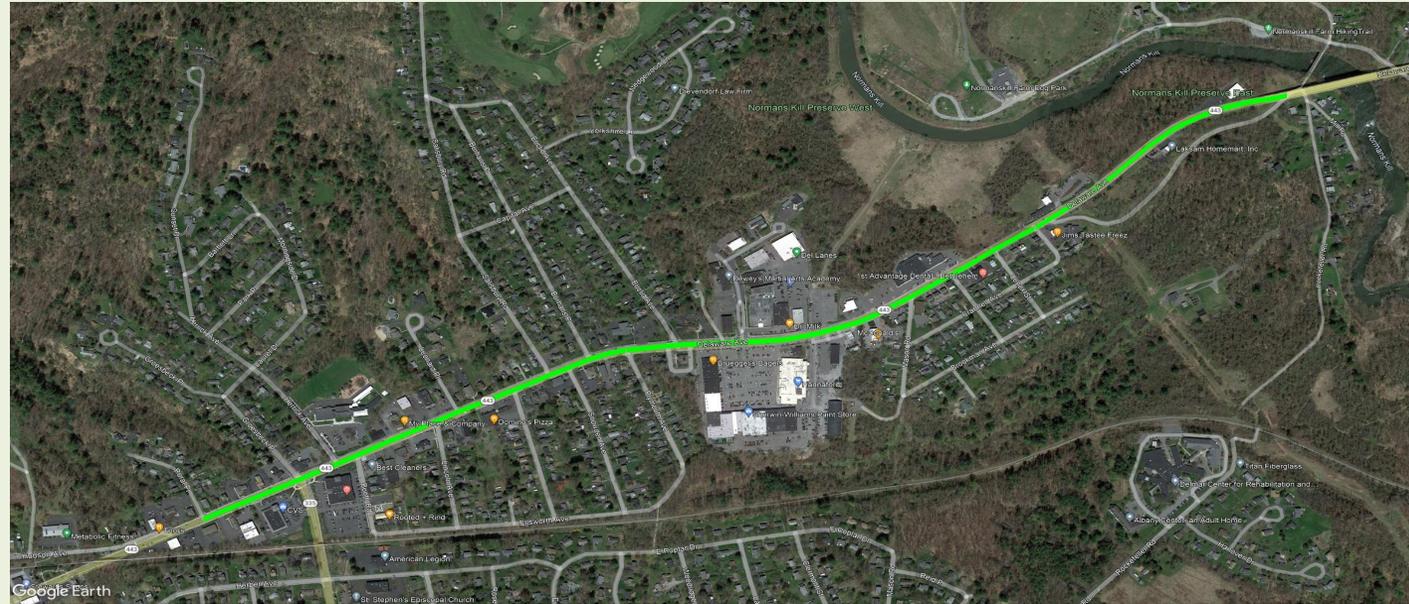
- Roadway Owner – NYSDOT: NYS Route 443 (Changes/Improvements Require NYSDOT Approval)
- Connects Town to City of Albany to the East & Rural Albany County to the West
- Widened to Four-Lane Undivided Roadway in Rural Setting in 1960's
- Roadway Character Has Changed - Now Recognized as a Community “Main Street”
- Adjacent Land Uses Have also Changed – Increasingly a Mixed-Use Corridor
 - Commercial Establishments
 - Elsmere Elementary School
 - Albany County Rail-Trail
 - Transit (CDTA Route 18)
 - Adjacent Neighborhoods



I - PROJECT OVERVIEW & OBJECTIVES

EXISTING ROADWAY CONTEXT/CONDITIONS

- Currently Difficult for Pedestrians, Bicyclists, & Transit
 - 40 mph Speed Limit (“Community” Streets should not Exceed 30-35 mph)
 - Relatively High Accident Rate – Mostly Right Angle & Rear-End
 - Few Safe Crossings Provided
- 15,000 to 18,000 veh/day



I - PROJECT OVERVIEW & OBJECTIVES

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

I. Restore Roadway Infrastructure

- Pavement Resurfacing (NYS DOT Funded - \$2.0M+)
- Sanitary Sewer / Water Line Work (Town Funded – \$0.70M)
 - Sanitary Sewer Work Completed This Past Summer
 - Limited Water Line Work Planned as Part of 2025 Construction:
 - Replace Side Street Waterline Connections to Delaware Ave at:
 - ❖ Elsmere / Booth / Lincoln / Bedell / Snowden / Plymouth / Euclid / Normanskill / Mason / Grant
 - Full Waterline Replacement along Delaware Ave:
 - ❖ From Mason Road to Grant Street

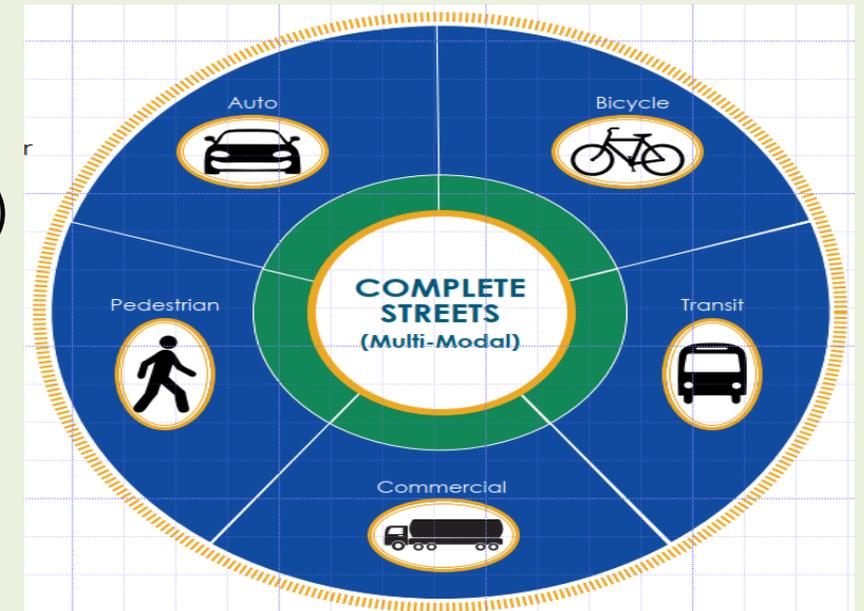


I - PROJECT OVERVIEW & OBJECTIVES

PROJECT OBJECTIVES (Cont'd.)

II. Implement “Complete Street” Concepts – (\$2.91M Federal Aid / \$0.73M Town Match)

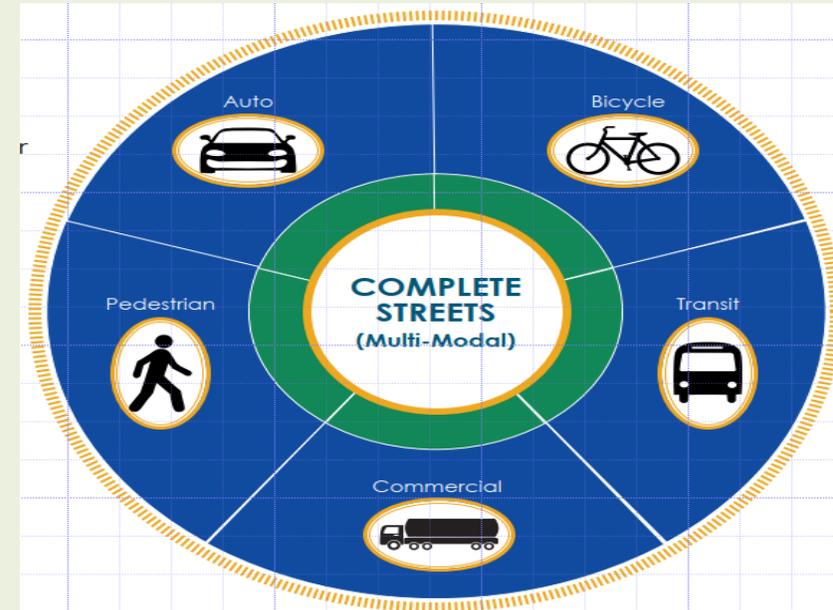
- Increase Safety for all Users (“Walkability”)
- “Calm” Traffic Speeds:
 - Potential Speed Limit Reduction (from 40 mph to 30 mph)



I - PROJECT OVERVIEW & OBJECTIVES

Project Development to Date

- Collected Traffic and Pedestrian Data
- Developed Preliminary Alternatives (1, 2, 2A) & Project Website
- Public Meeting # 1- June 2023
- After Public Meeting, continued:
 - Geometric Layouts (Alt 3)
 - Traffic and Pedestrian Studies
- Met with Numerous Property Owners
- Developed Draft Design Report
- Coordination Meetings with NYSDOT
- Began ROW Acquisition Process (NYSDOT Led)



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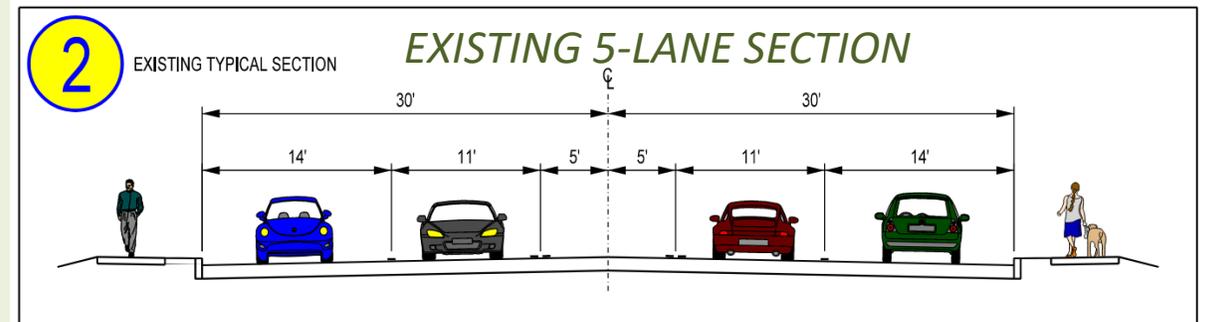
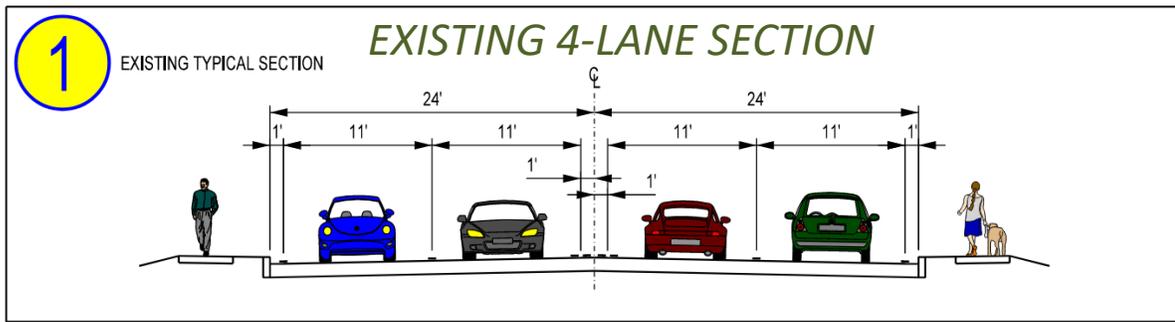
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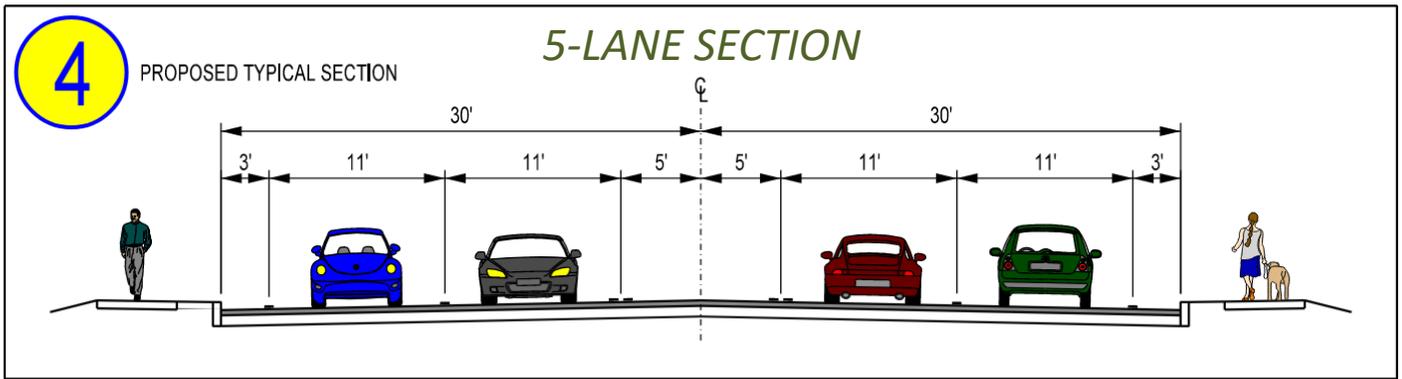
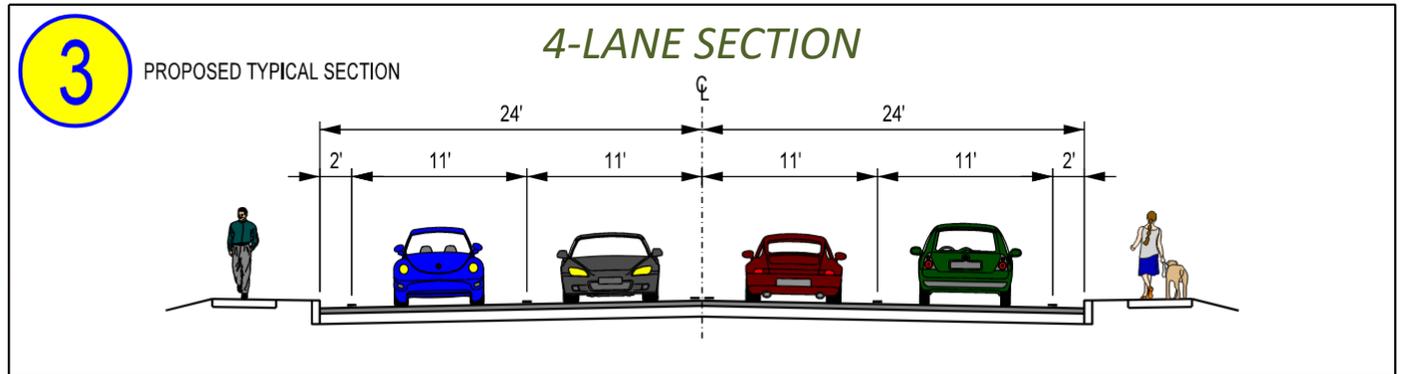
II – ALTERNATIVE BEING PROGRESSSED - ALTERNATIVE 3

EXISTING ROADWAY CONFIGURATION



II – ALTERNATIVE BEING PROGRESSSED – ALTERNATIVE 3

BASE IMPROVEMENTS



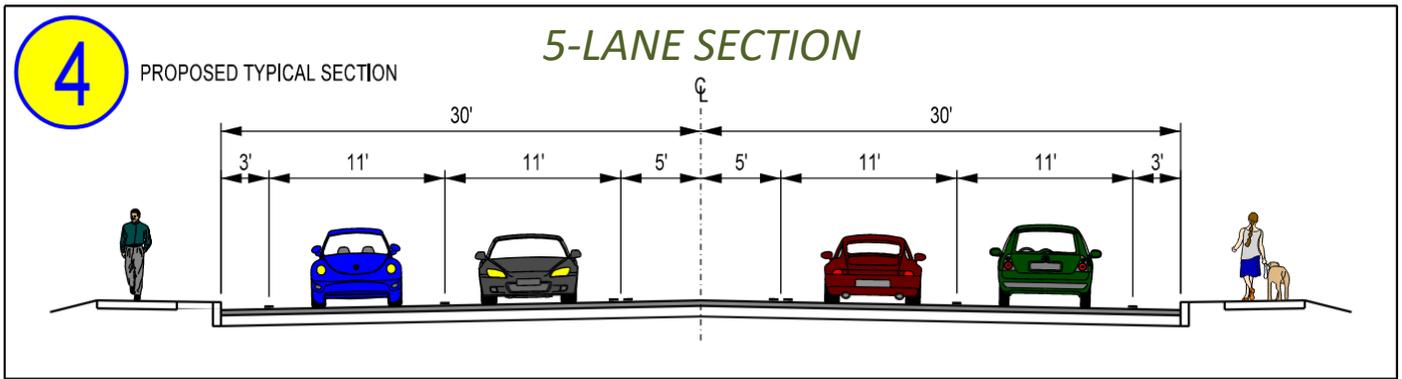
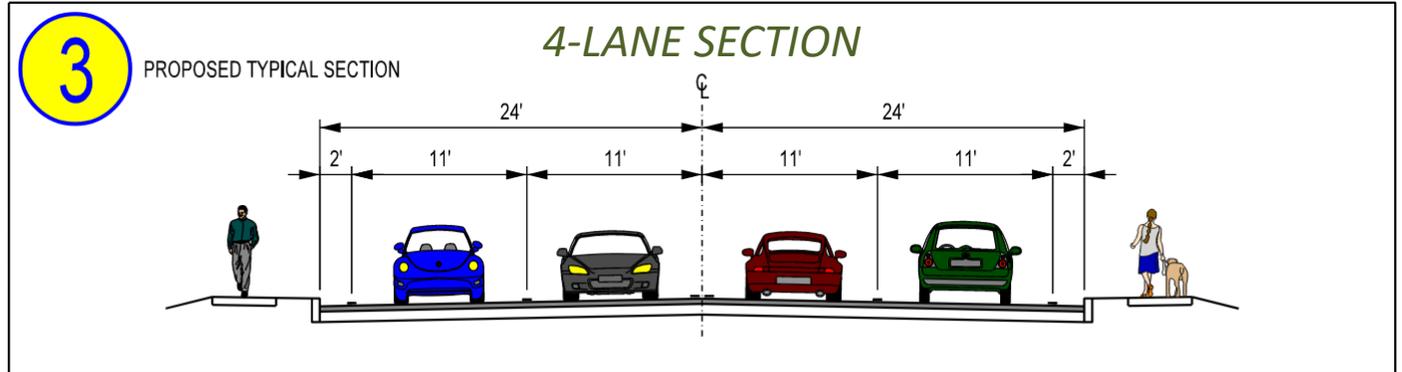
Key Highlights:

- Mill and Resurface Existing Roadway
- Restripe for consistent 11' wide lanes (remove 2' median)
- Lane offset from curb/sidewalk increased
- ADA Curb Ramps
- Significant Sidewalk Replacement



II – ALTERNATIVE BEING PROGRESSSED – ALTERNATIVE 3

BASE IMPROVEMENTS (CONT'D)



Key Highlights:

- Decorative, High Visibility Crosswalk Treatment Similar to Recent Hamlet Project
- Narrow & Better Define Driveways
 - Extending Concrete Across Driveways
- Upgrade Existing Pedestrian Traffic Signal Equipment including APS push buttons
- Waterline Improvements



II – ALTERNATIVE BEING PROGRESSED – ALTERNATIVE 3

BASE PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS PLUS...



Key Highlights (Base project improvements, PLUS):

- 2 Mid-Block Pedestrian Crossings (1/4 mile spacing between pedestrian crossings)
 - RRFB pedestrian beacon @ one location
- Extended 2-lane section with turn median
- East-end Gateway Treatment
- Potential Posted Speed Limit Reduction (*NYS DOT Consideration*)
- *No Changes at Elsmere Intersection – Significant Queuing Would Result*

II – ALTERNATIVE BEING PROGRESSED – ALTERNATIVE 3 *BASE PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS PLUS...*



Key Highlights (Base project improvements, PLUS):

- **2 Mid-Block Pedestrian Crossings (1/4 mile spacing between pedestrian crossings)**
 - **RRFB pedestrian beacon @ one location**
- Extended 2-lane section with turn median
- East-end Gateway Treatment
- Potential Posted Speed Limit Reduction (*NYSDOT Consideration*)



**MID-BLOCK CROSSING #1 (WITH RAISED MEDIAN AND RRFB)
(BETWEEN SALISBURY & SNOWDEN)**



II – ALTERNATIVE BEING PROGRESSED – ALTERNATIVE 3

Rectangular Rapid – Flashing Beacons (RRFBs)

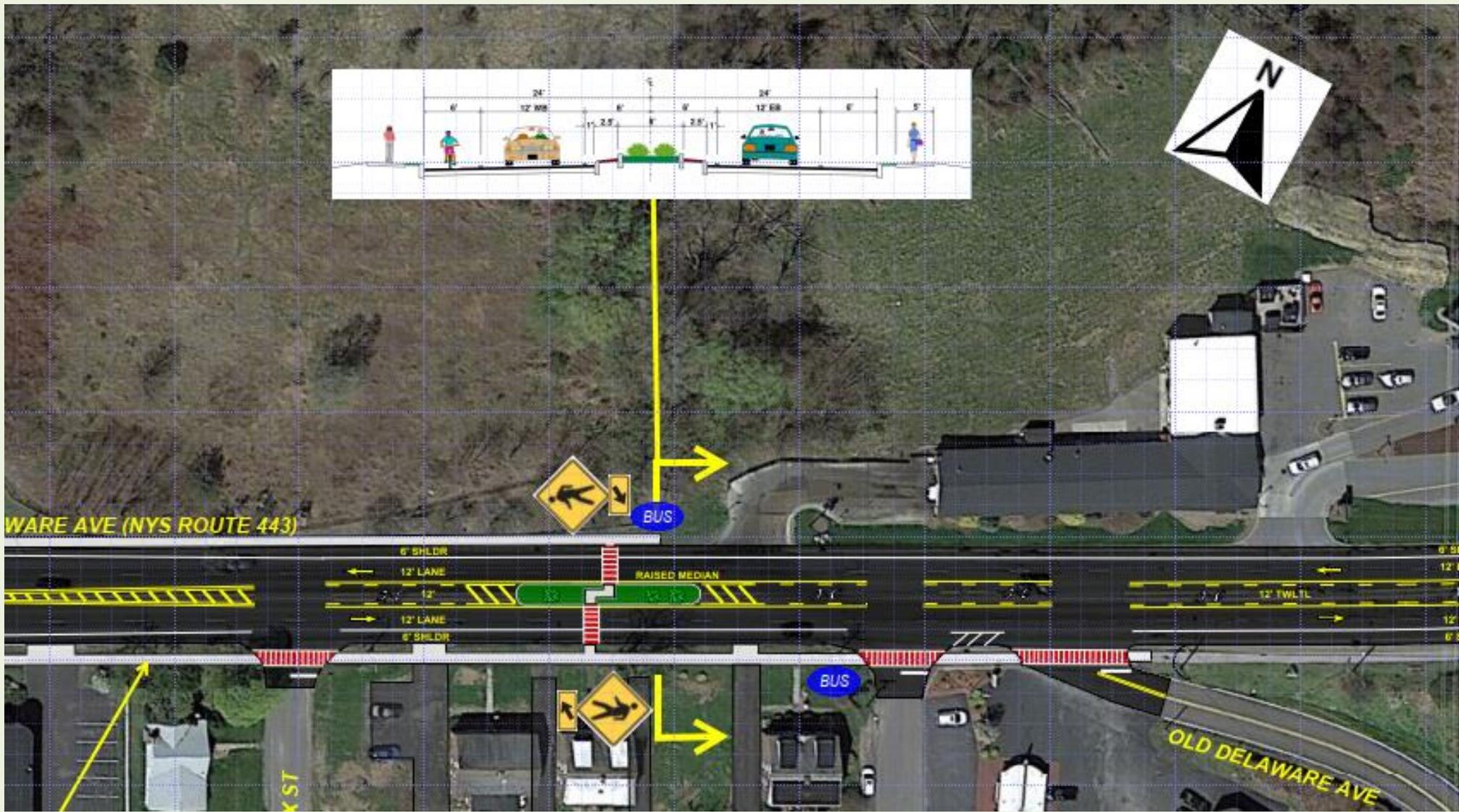


- Can make Crosswalks and Pedestrians more Visible
- Can result in Motorist Yielding Rates as high as 98%
- Can Reduce Pedestrian Crashes by up to 47%.



RENDERING OF MID-BLOCK CROSSING #1 (WITH RAISED MEDIAN AND RRFB)





**MID-BLOCK CROSSING #2 (WITH RAISED MEDIAN)
(BETWEEN LENOX & GRANT)**





RENDERING OF MID-BLOCK CROSSING #2 (WITH RAISED MEDIAN)



II – ALTERNATIVE BEING PROGRESSSED – ALTERNATIVE 3

BASE PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS PLUS...



Key Highlights (Base project improvements, PLUS):

- 2 Mid-Block Pedestrian Crossings (1/4 mile spacing between pedestrian crossings)
 - RRFB pedestrian beacon @ one location
- **Extended 2-lane section with turn median**
- East-end Gateway Treatment
- Potential Posted Speed Limit Reduction (*NYSDOT Consideration*)



EXTENDED 2-LANE SECTION WITH TURN MEDIAN

II – ALTERNATIVE BEING PROGRESSSED – ALTERNATIVE 3

BASE PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS PLUS...



Key Highlights (Base project improvements, PLUS):

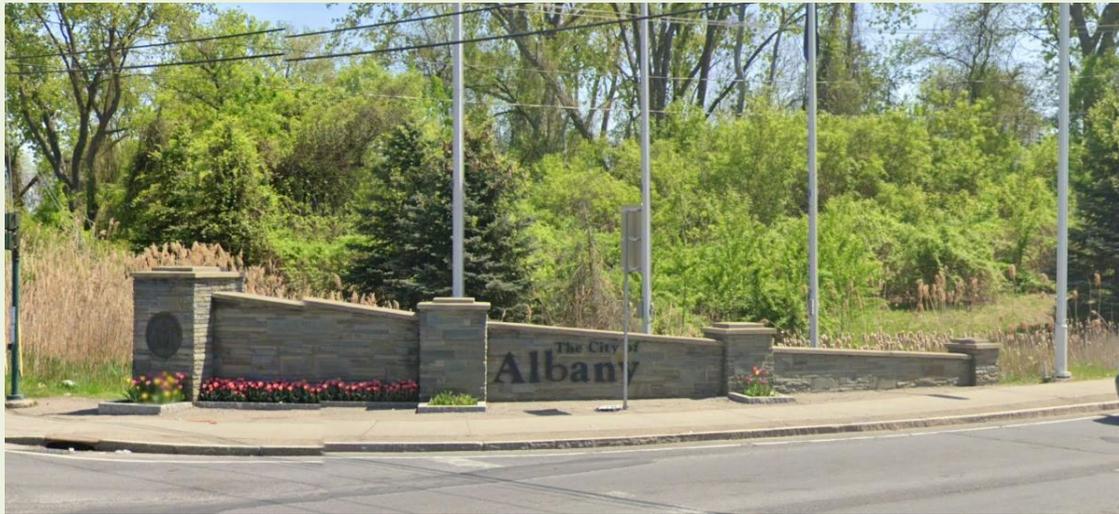
- 2 Mid-Block Pedestrian Crossings (1/4 mile spacing between pedestrian crossings)
 - RRFB pedestrian beacon @ one location
- Extended 2-lane section with turn median
- **East-end Gateway Treatment**
- Potential Posted Speed Limit Reduction (*Study Post Construction*)

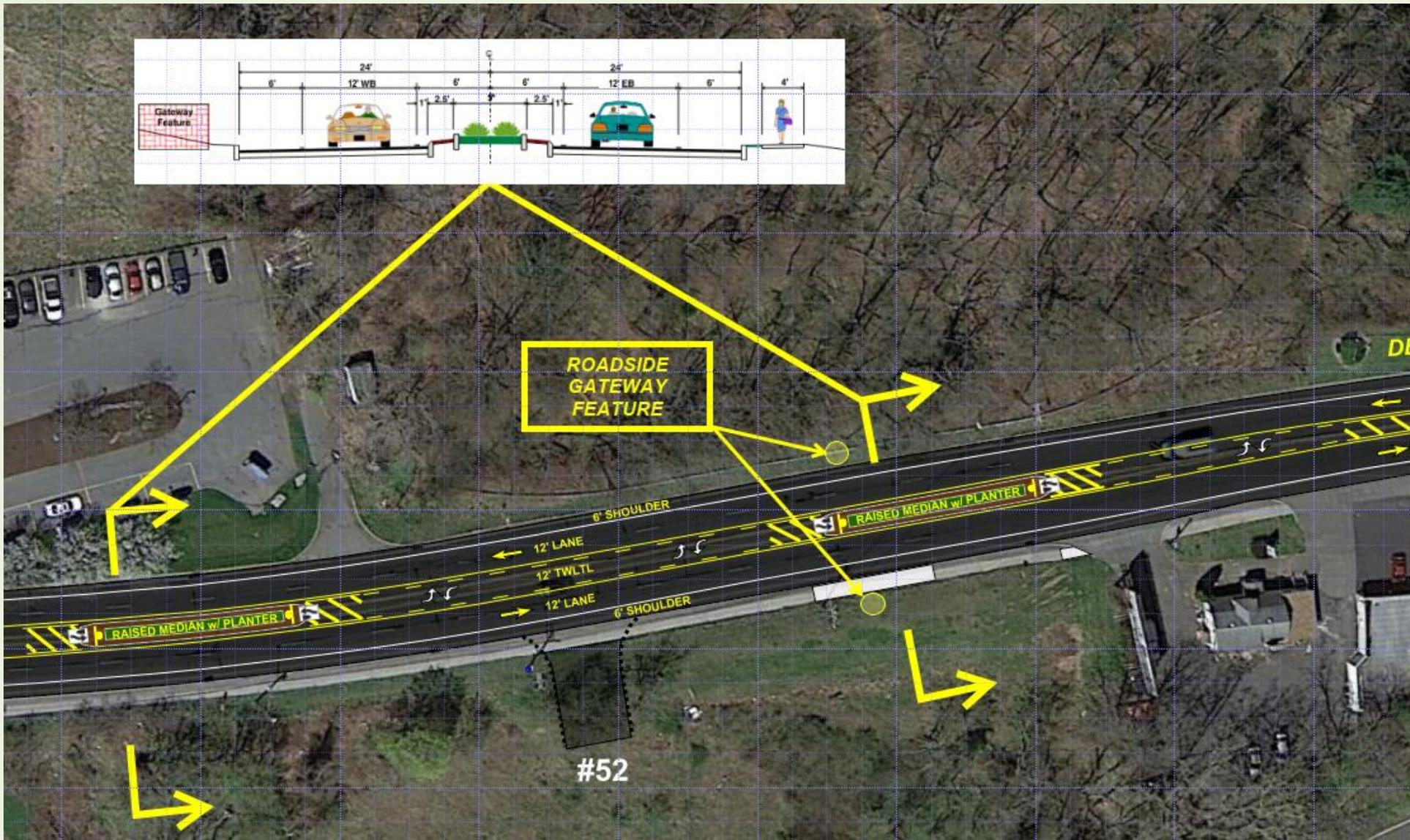
II – ALTERNATIVE BEING PROGRESSED – ALTERNATIVE 3

GATEWAYS



- Create an expectation for motorists to drive more slowly and watch for pedestrians when entering a commercial, business, or residential district
- Help to create a unique image for an area
- Can effectively demark the beginning point of a community







RENDERING OF EAST END GATEWAY TREATMENT (WITH RAISED MEDIAN)



II – ALTERNATIVE BEING PROGRESSED - ALTERNATIVE 3

BASE PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS PLUS...



Key Highlights (Base project improvements, PLUS):

- 2 Mid-Block Pedestrian Crossings (1/4 mile spacing between pedestrian crossings)
 - RRFB pedestrian beacon @ one location
- Extended 2-lane section with turn median
- East-end Gateway Treatment
- **Potential Posted Speed Limit Reduction (*NYSDOT Consideration*)**

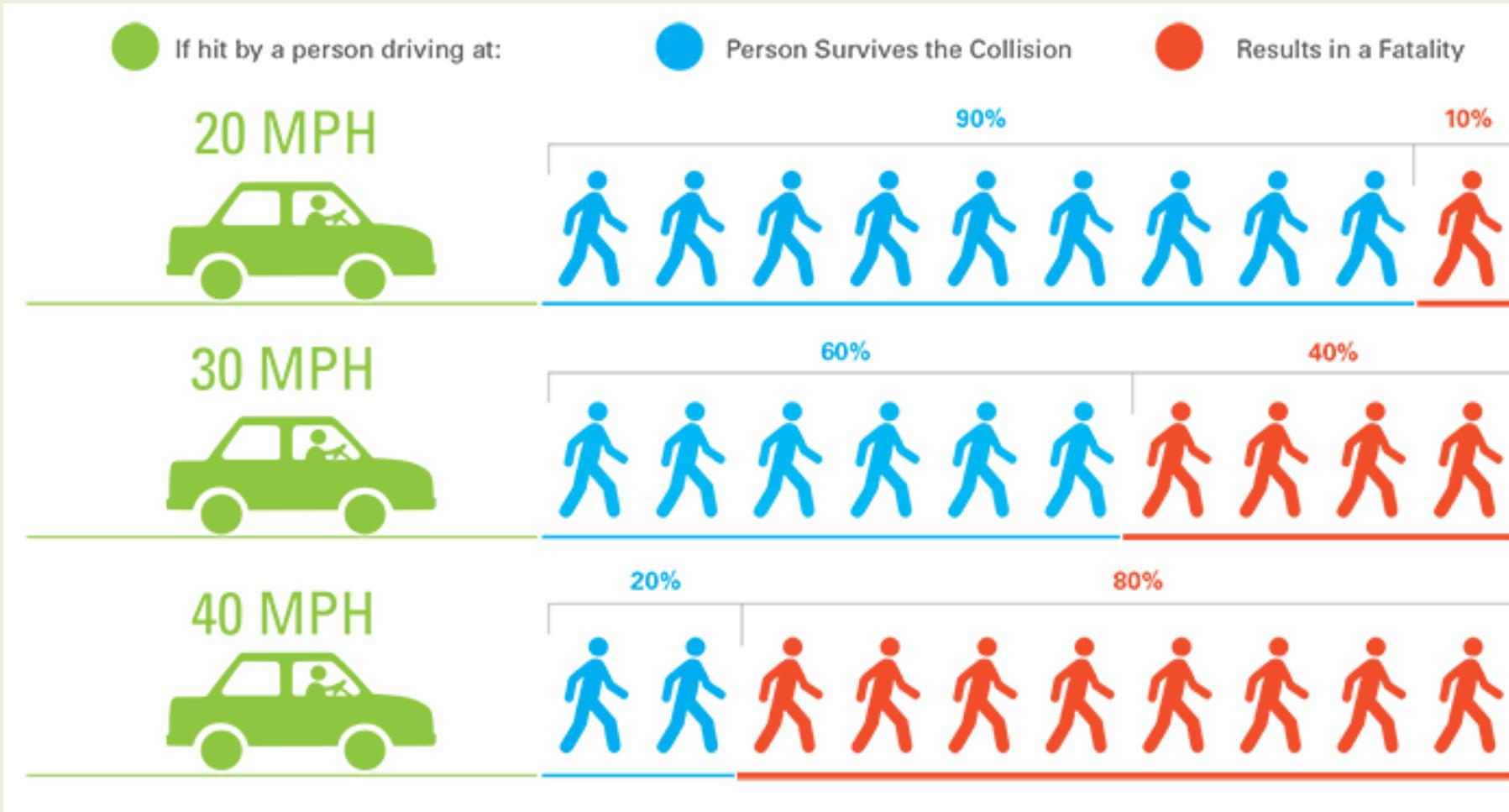
II – ALTERNATIVE BEING PROGRESSSED – ALTERNATIVE 3

POTENTIAL SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION



II - ALTERNATIVE BEING PROGRESSED – ALTERNATIVE 3

WHAT CAN SPEED REDUCTION DO?



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III - NEXT STEPS

- Complete Final Design Plans (November 2024)
- Complete Right-of-Way Acquisitions (November 2024)
- Advertise for Construction (December 2024)
- Project Letting (January 2025)
- Begin Construction (March 2025)
 - Construction Newsletter
 - Email/Social Media posts of Construction Status (March – December 2025)



PROJECT WEBSITE

www.DelAveCompleteStreets.com

Town of Bethlehem

Overview Schedule Plans Public Involvement

Town of Bethlehem NY

Delaware Avenue Complete Streets

Improving safety and accessibility on Delaware Avenue for all users

Project Details

Delaware Avenue is one of Bethlehem's primary main streets, connecting the town to the City of Albany to the east and the more rural parts of Albany County to the west. The primary goal of this project is to create a more balanced transportation system along Delaware Avenue to increase safety for users of all ages and abilities, otherwise known as Complete Streets.

[Overview](#) [Schedule](#) [Plans](#) [Public Involvement](#)



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VI - OPEN HOUSE

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!