

## **Outline**

Where We Are

Where We've Been and What We've Heard

Revised Recommendations

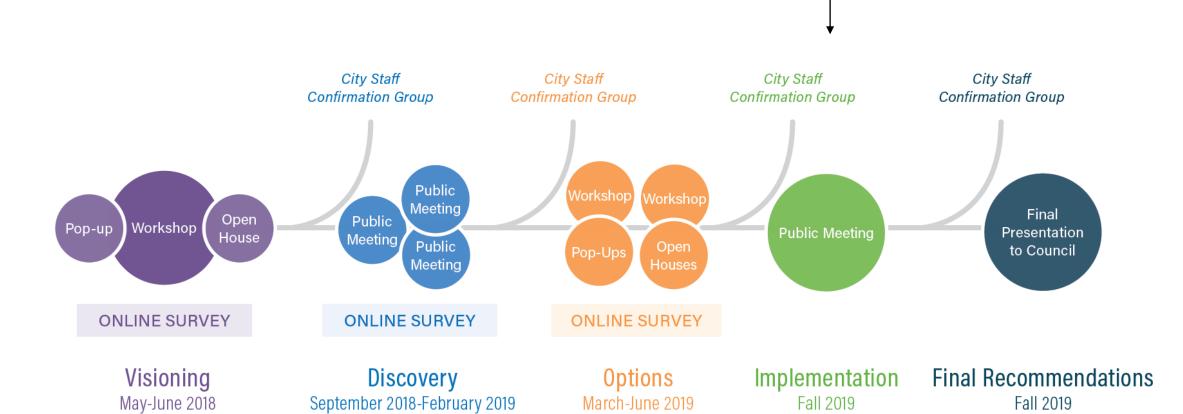
Prioritization Exercise

## **Meet the Project Team**

- Raleigh City Staff
- Confirmation Group appointed by Raleigh City Council
  - Role
    - Ensure an inclusive process
    - Engage relevant stakeholders
    - Received input matches plan recommendations
- Consultant Team
  - VHB
  - JDavis Architects
  - 1/1 Studio
  - Rose and Associates

#### **Process to Date**

#### We are here!

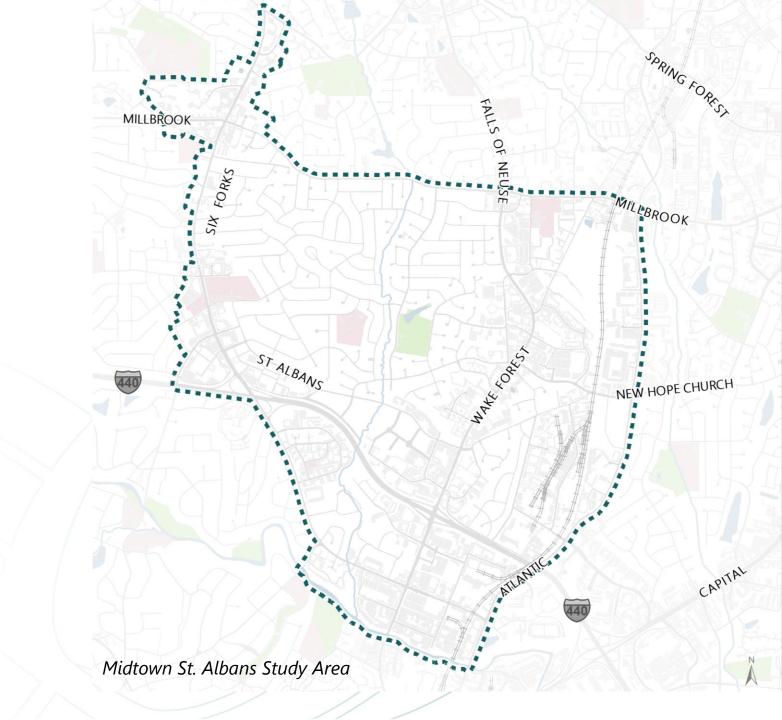






## Where We've Been and What We've Heard

## The study area



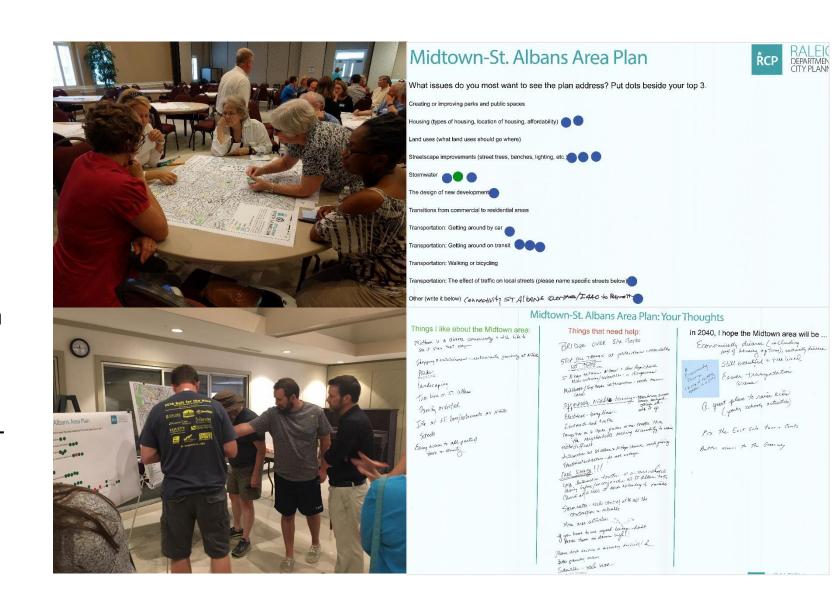
## Visions for the Future

#### May & June 2018 Meetings

- Beginning of the process
- Short staff presentation
- Participants marked up maps in small groups to highlight areas with assets and issues

#### Goal of the Meeting:

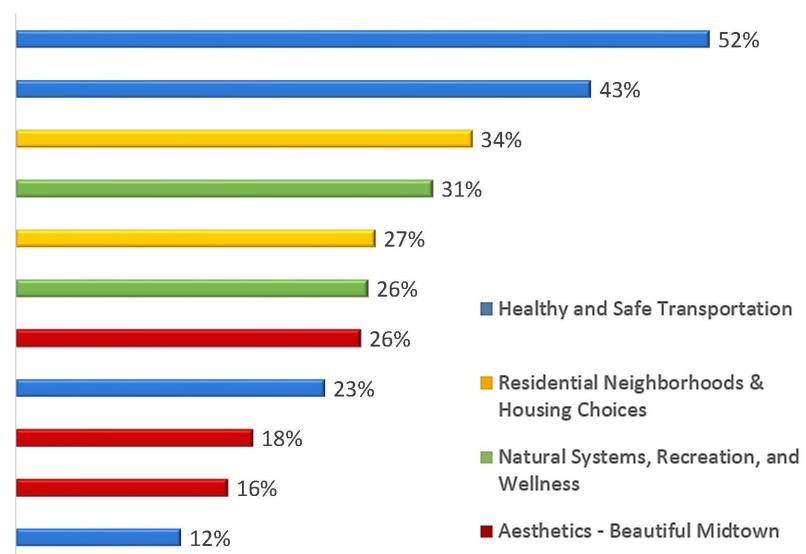
 To create a rich base of communitysourced knowledge about the area



## Overview Answered: 370 of 614

## Of the following issues, which are the top three the Midtown plan should address?

Safety/Comfort for walking or bicycling Effect of traffic on neighborhood streets Preserving residential neighborhoods Stormwater/Flood reduction Housing affordability Parks and open space Streetscape improvements Getting around by car The design of new development Use transitions Getting around in public transportation



## Understanding the Area

#### December 2018 Meetings

- Short Presentation
- 7 Timed activity stations to identify key issues and opportunities
- Staff and participants wrote down notes on maps and notepads.

#### Goal of the Meeting:

 To understand what people like and don't like in the area.



Midtown-St. Albans Area Plan – Feedback Form	
	Are the traffic/land use/development issues described during this meeting the same issues
	that you experience? (Describe why or why not) Yes. Particular peoplems a other
	Out of neighborhood onto Six Forksa Lett-hand turns impossible
	Crequires reend-shoot rent. ) and even right turns can be chillenging
	Which issues resonate the most with you? (List your top three) Weighter head quality
	(tear dawas) Mc Mansions), impressed transit.
	Was anything surprising to you? Proposed greenway along Greek near
	Quail Hellow - great idea, but I den't like there.
	What issues are missing? Affordable bousing -including maintaining
	affordability of existing neighborhoods (continue on back if needed)
	Viidtown-St. Albans Area Plan – Feedback Form
	Are the traffic/land use/development issues described during this meeting the same issues
	that you experience? (Describe why or why not) \\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\
	all connections are laring Made between loss of trees  and green space and effects on noise neighborhood heat and  Which issues resonate the most with you? (List your top three)
	and green space and effects on noise neighborhood heat and
	With 155 des resolute the most with just just just just just just just just
	OEffective egress from neighborhood, including through biking and greenway access @ Tree cover @ Gate through draw Afforduble
	Was anything surprising to you?
	What issues are missing? Noise and heat is land effects of Dlanned

## **Planning Principles**

#### Midtown Moves: Healthy, Safe, and Reliable Transportation

- Better walkability
- Improved <u>safety</u>
- Addressing <u>reliability</u> and adding new connections
- Adding travel <u>options</u>

### Midtown Living: Residential Neighborhoods/Housing Choices

- Provide more housing options for residents at different stages of life
- Respect the **scale** of existing neighborhoods

### Midtown Green and Blue: Parks, Trees, and Stormwater

- Improve stormwater infrastructure and use it as a connected natural network
- Create new public spaces focused on natural areas

## Midtown Works: Innovation and Opportunity

• Allow outdated uses to transition into areas that meet **employment** and **housing** needs.

#### Aesthetics: Beautiful Midtown

- Create <u>attractive streetscapes</u> and public places
- Ensure **transitions** between taller areas and lower-scale neighborhoods

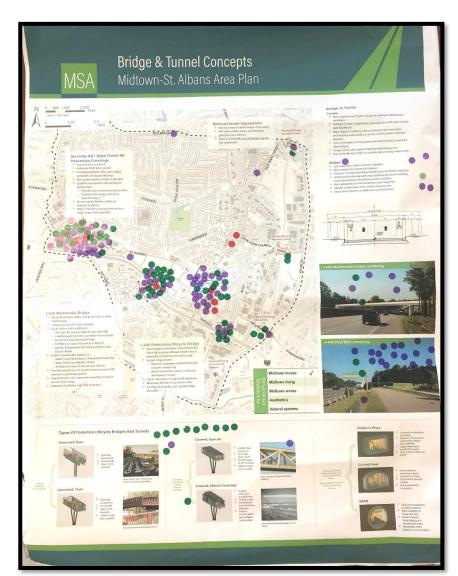
## Testing Ideas

#### May 2019 Meetings & Survey

- Drop in meetings with "rolling presentations" on the hour
- Meetings spread across area and two weeks with shorter pop-ups
- Online survey for those unable to attend physical meetings

#### **Outreach Goal:**

 Capture feedback on proposed improvement concepts

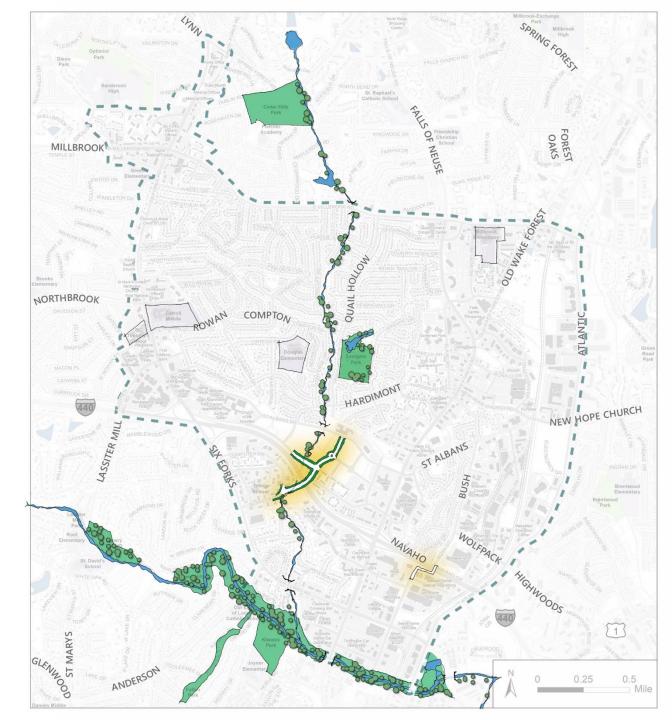




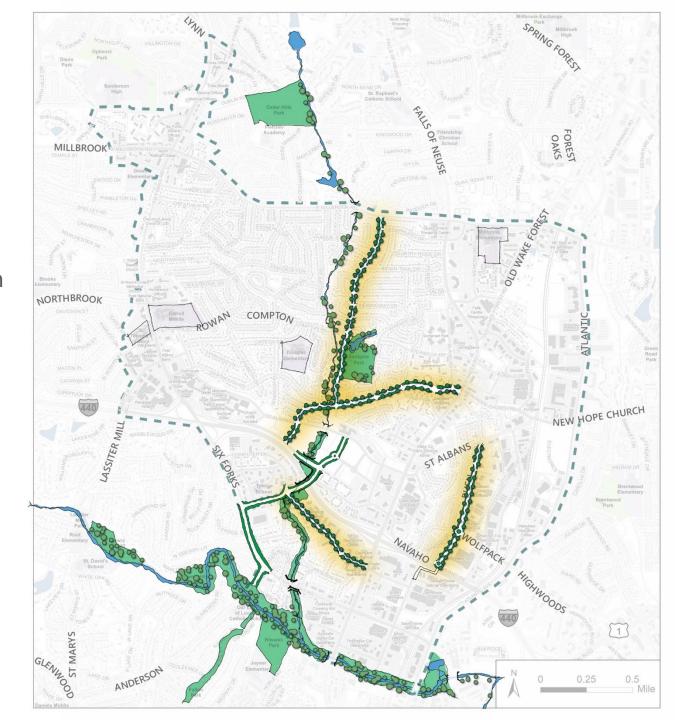
- **1. The Beltline crossing**. A new bridge over I-440 between Six Forks Road and Wake Forest Road.
- **2. Green streets**. Slower speeds, safer streets, green infrastructure on Quail Hollow and other key streets
- **3. A connected street network**. Creating or expediting other key Midtown transportation links.
- **4. Serious Transit.** A high-frequency bus network now, future BRT link as ridership demands.
- **5. The Midtown Ring**. An uninterrupted loop of safe, comfortable facilities for people walking and biking.



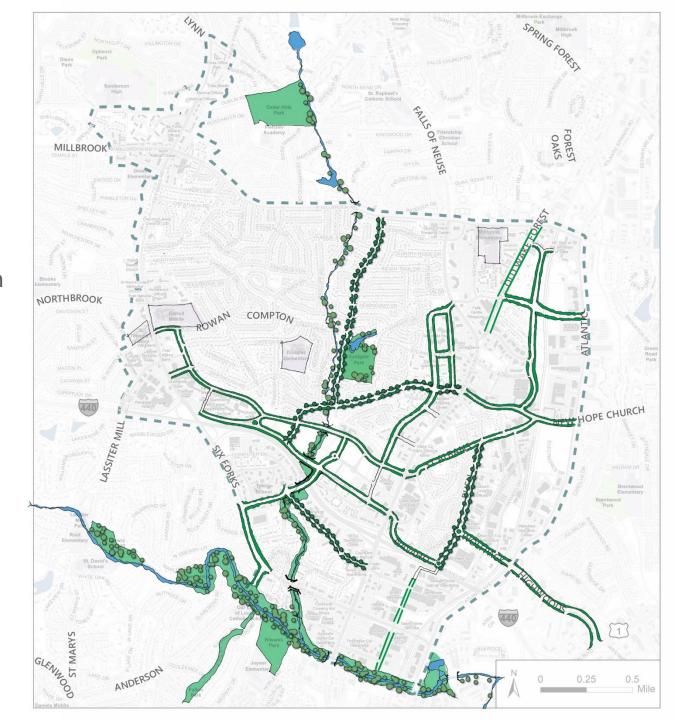
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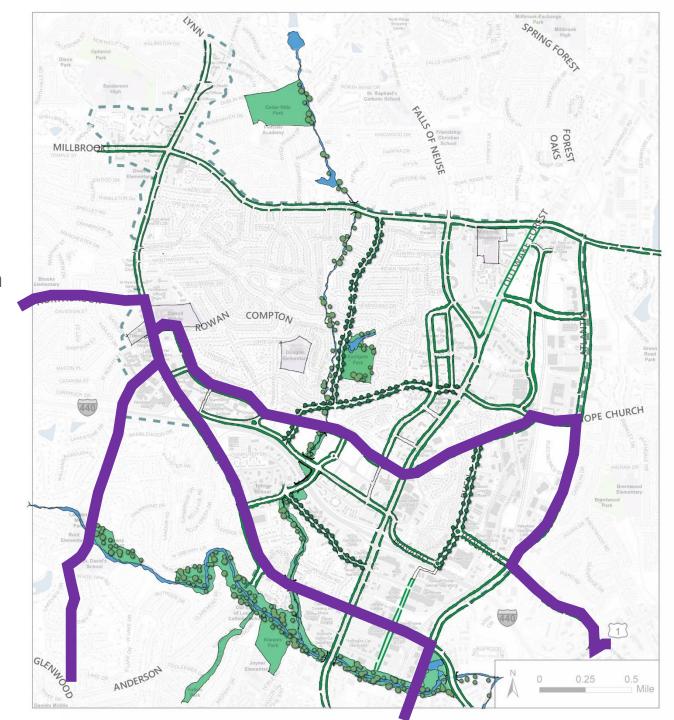
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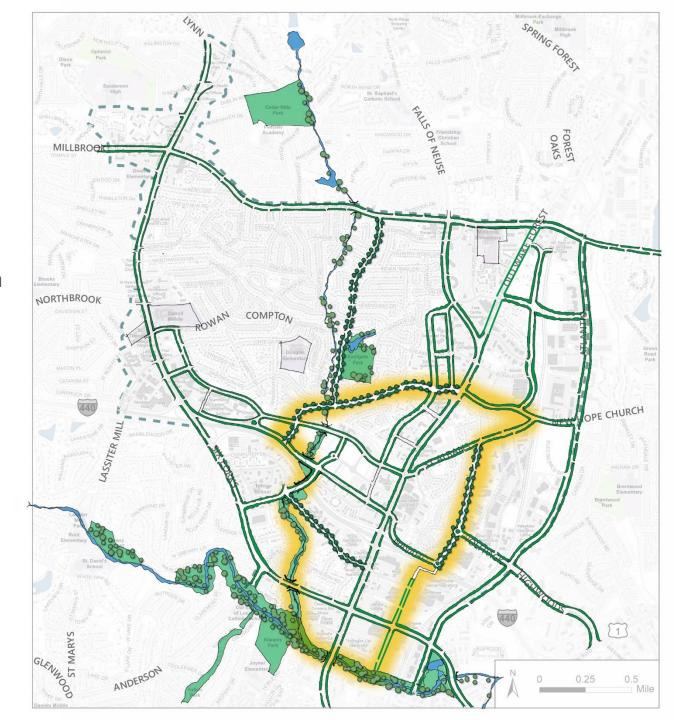
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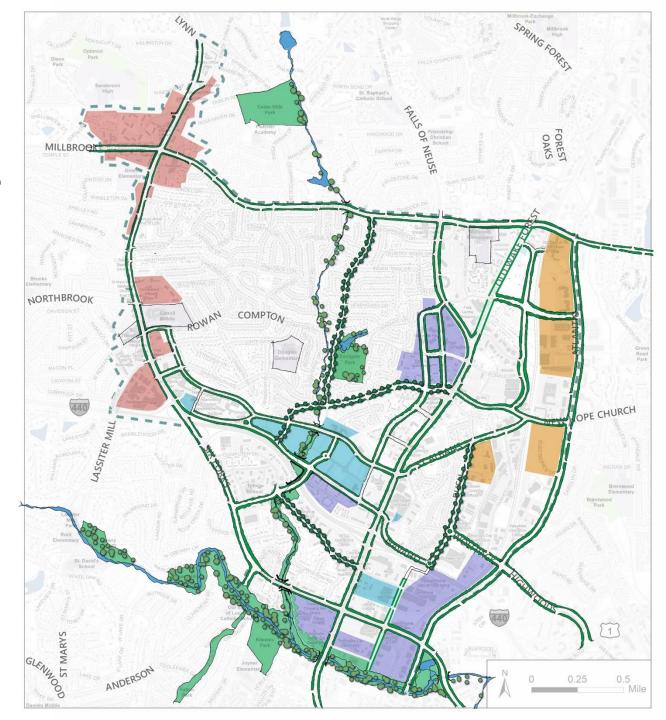
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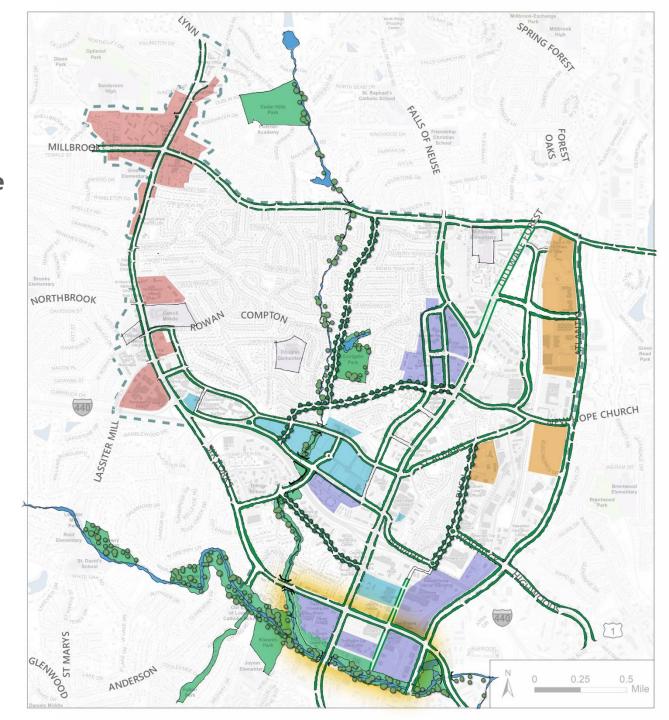
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- **6. Midtown Living and Midtown Works: Land Use Guidance**. Specifying uses and scale in key areas.
- **7. The Midtown Waterfront District**. Creating a more active edge along the north side of the Crabtree waterway



- **6. Midtown Living and Midtown Works: Land Use Guidance**. Specifying uses and scale in key areas.
- **7. The Midtown Waterfront District**. Creating a more active edge along the north side of the Crabtree waterway



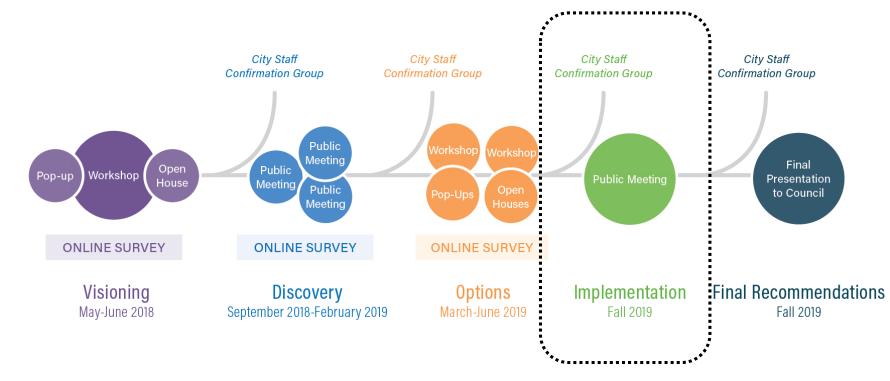




## **Revised Recommendations**

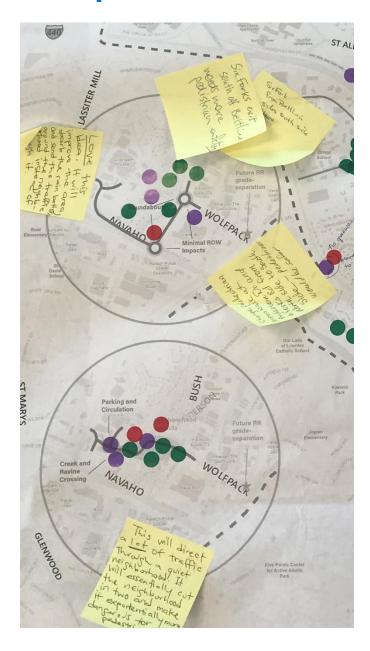
### For a Project to Move Forward, It Needs:

- Money/Funding
- Technical Feasibility
- Champion (Responsible Party)
- Community Support



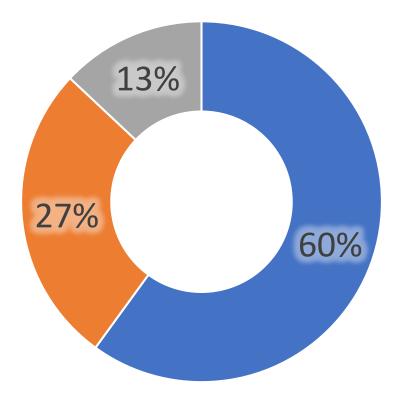
- Conducted additional analyses
- Removed projects from consideration
- Modified and refined projects
- Developed costs estimates, assessed project performance, and initial prioritization

## Wolfpack-Navaho

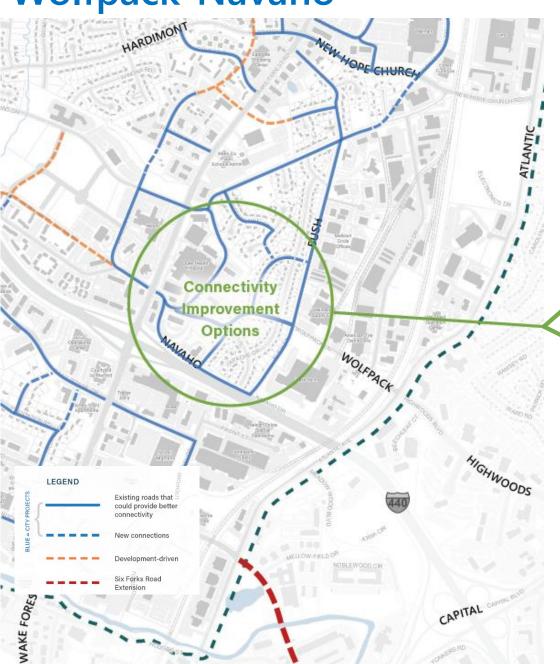


#### **Survey - Mobility Near Duke Raleigh Hospital**

- Roundabouts on Bush St
- Road Connection via Pinecrest Dr
- Neither



## Wolfpack-Navaho





#### **Road Connection via Pinecrest Drive**

- 2-lane road with sidewa
- Bike lanes possible but costly; bikes could travel in traffic or use Navaho Drive
- >> Improves bike/walk access, but this could be achieved with less cost & disruption

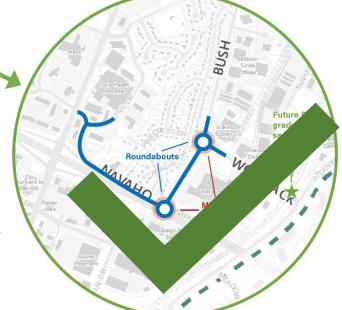


- Added route separates eastbound/westbound
- conflicts, helping hospital access
- Reduces hospital access time to/from Wolfpack Ln by about 45" at 25 mph)
- Reduces Wake Forest Rd access time to/from Wolfpack Ln by ~30" at 25 mph)



- Bisects neighborhood, taking property & at least 1 home.
- Crosses creek & ravine, adding structure/culvert & fill
- Impacts hospital parking & roads
- Relatively expensive for distance & benefit
- Critical delay is still at Wake Forest Rd intersection, regardless of route; a more direct connection could actually increase traffic and congestion here.

# Roundabouts on Bush Street Reduces "friction" of 2 turns, resulting in smoother traffic flow Could include bypass lanes to increase capacity & reduce delay Minimal ROW or neighborhood impacts Helps maintain steady traffic flow at moderate speeds Avoids creek & ravine crossing; relatively easy to implement Minimal impact on hospital parking & roads Minor travel time reduction Does not reduce eastbound/westbound conflicts & congestion at hospital





I-440 Multimodal Bridge

I-440 Pedestrian & Bicycle Bridge

**Green Streets** 

**Greenway Connector** 

Improved Transit service

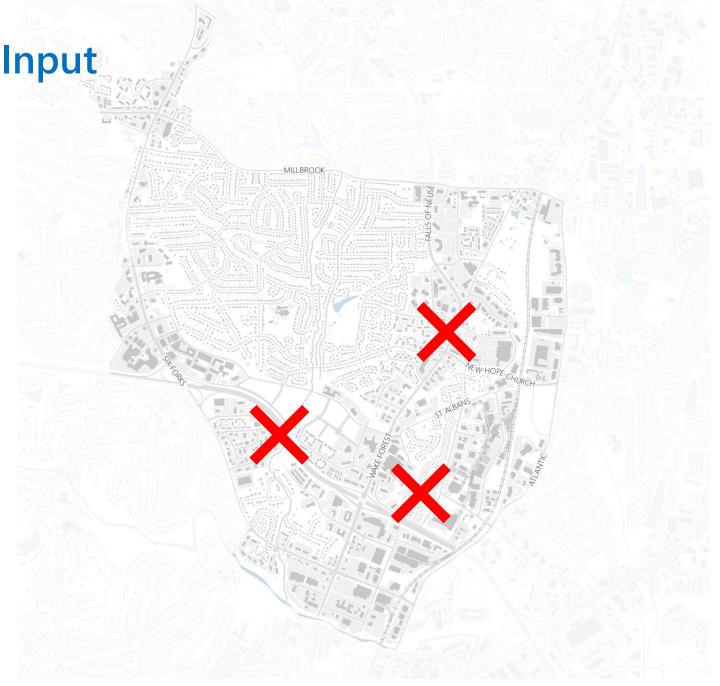
Crabtree Creek Park Area

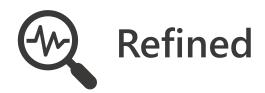
Land Use





Wake Forest / Bland Pair
Pinecrest Drive Connection
I-440 Tunnel





Pedestrian X-ings on Millbrook/Anderson Drive

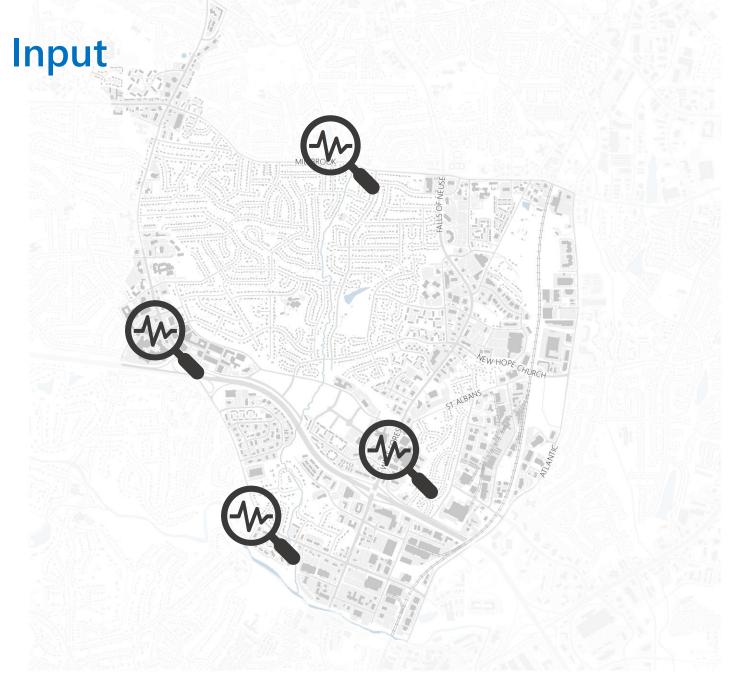
Pedestrian Bridge @ North Hills

Northfield/Westridge area study recommendation

**BRT Future Route** 

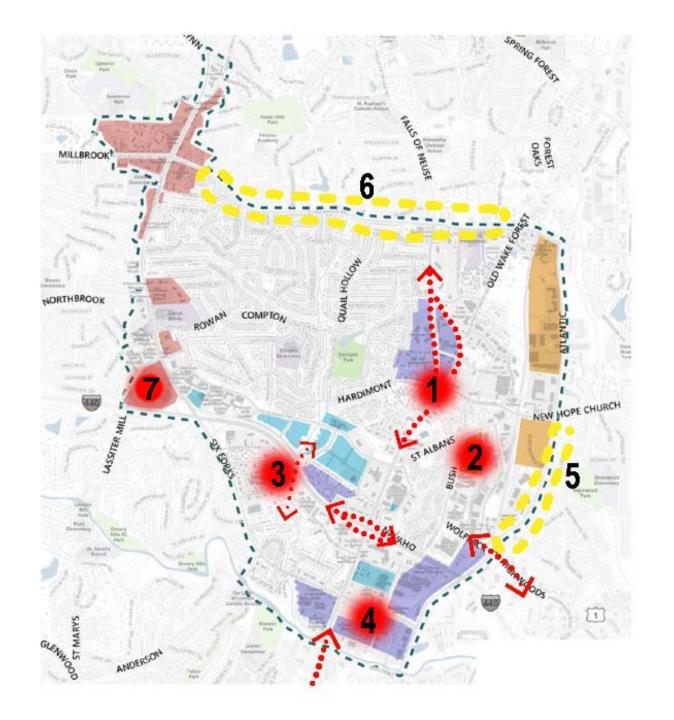
Duke Raleigh / Wake Forest Road / Navaho intersection

Land Use / Intensity

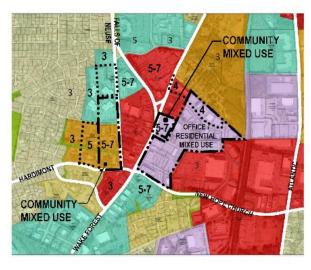


#### **Land Use Recommendations**

- New Development linked to infrastructure improvements
- Address housing affordability
- Development height takes into account its surrounding context



#### **Land Use Recommendations**





#### Wake Forest / Falls of Neuse

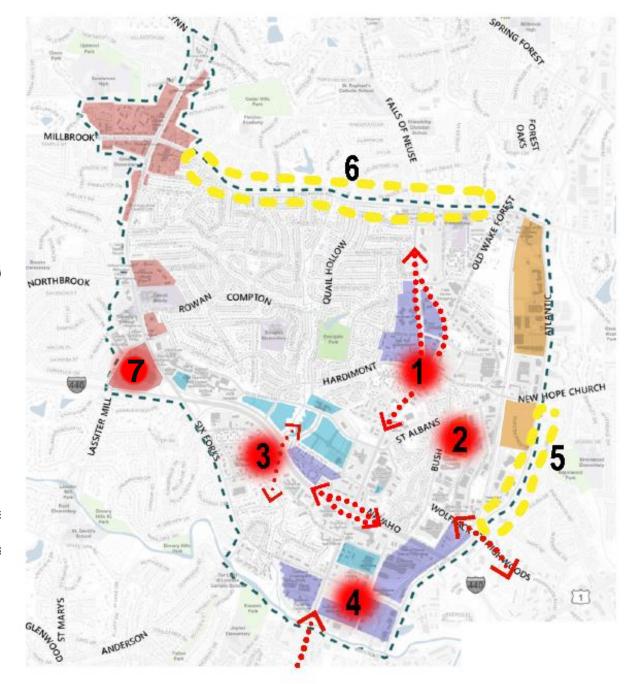
- » Greater mix of land uses
- » Higher land use Intensities
- » Retail focus area
- » Improved walkability / Mobility





#### Atlantic / St. Albans

- » Convert industrial land use to housing
- » Additional housing options nea employment center
- » "Missing middle" opportunities



#### **Land Use Recommendations**





#### I-440 Crossing / Six Forks

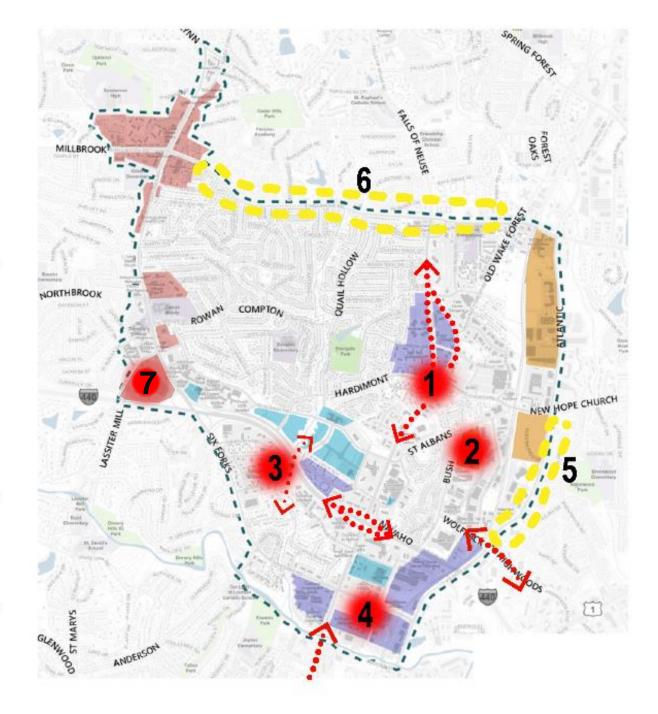
- » Employment focus
- » High intensity office
- » Improved mobility / access
- » Improved walkability
- » Green corridor edge





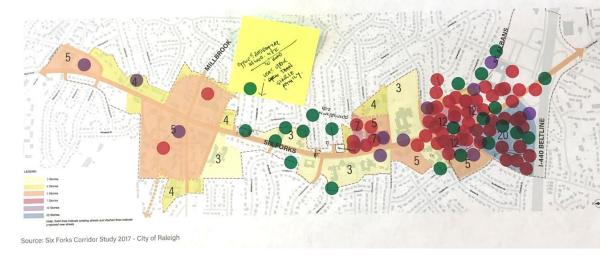
#### Crabtree / Wake Forest

- » High intensity housing with green space
- » Floodplain / stormwater enhancement
- » Improved access to employment center
- » Improved walkability with a "main street"



## **Height Transitions**

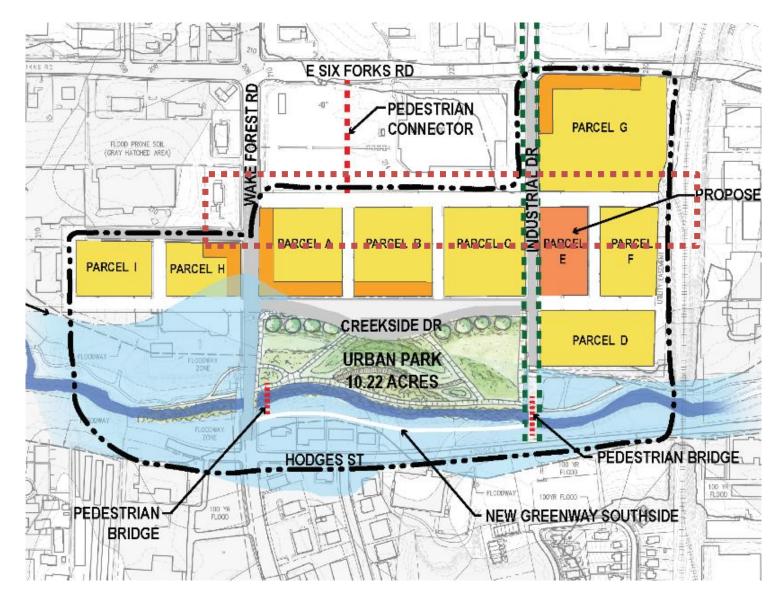
Six Forks Recommendations Revisited





#### **Crabtree Creek Park**

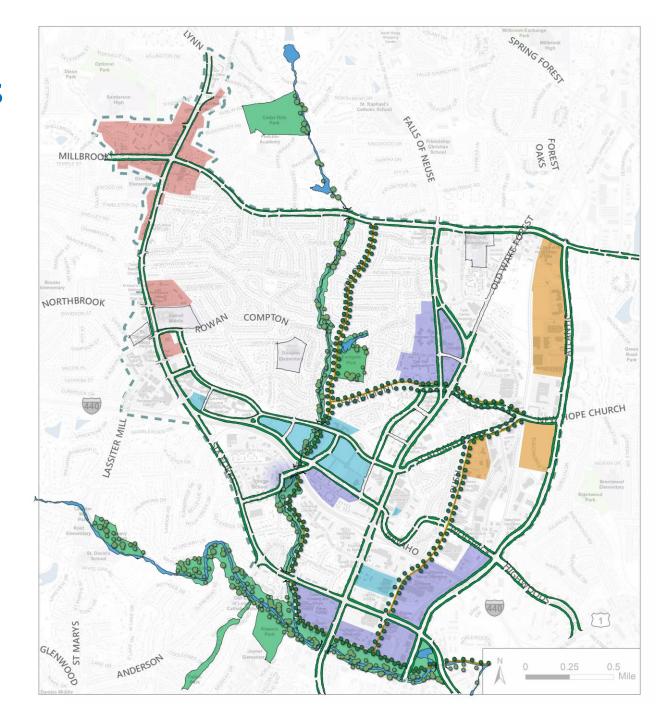
- New 10+ Acre Park and Stormwater management facility
- New Housing to create a new gateway to Midtown from the south
- Opportunity for integrated affordable housing
- Improved connections to Crabtree Creek Greenway
- Easy Access to Transit





## **Transportation Improvements**

- Improve network and connectivity for cars, bicycles, and pedestrians
- Improve the efficiency of movement throughout Midtown with intersection improvements, key new connections, and transit routing options.
- Tie future development to infrastructure improvements in order to lessen the impact of development intensity



## **Tunnel & Bridge**



# I-440 Bridge

#### **RELATIVE COST**











### Description

This project is a new bridge over I-440 that connects Navaho Drive and Barrett Drive. This bridge has 2-lanes, sidewalks, and bike lanes, is intended for vehicles, transit, pedestrians, and bicyclists.





#### CONTINGENCY

This project is contingent upon the realignment of Navaho Drive and Barrett Drive.

#### PROJECT CATEGORY

√ Midtown Moves

#### **PROS**



Improved Comfort



Shorter Connections



Enhanced transit access and efficiency



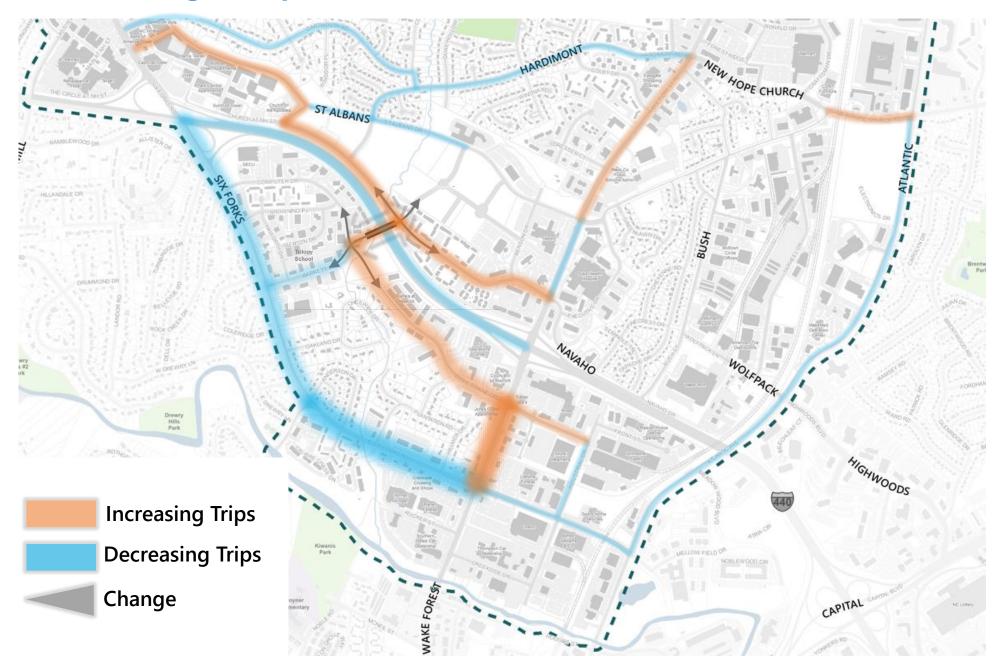
More Bike & Pedestrian **Options** 

#### CONS





# **I-440 Bridge Impacts**



### **Green Streets**

#### RELATIVE COST









#### CONTINGENCY

This group of projects is not contingent on other projects, but it benefits from new bridges across I-440.

#### PROJECT CATEGORY

√ Midtown Moves

√ Midtown Green and Blue

#### PROS





More Bike & Pedestrian Options



Reduc ed Carbo

CONS



Parking



#### Description

This is a group of Green Street projects on the following roads: Quail Hollow Drive, Bush Street, Wake Towne Drive, and Hardimont Street. Green Street improvements reduce stormwater, decrease vehicle speeds, and include a mix of expanded sidewalks, shared-use paths, and bicycle facilities.







# Pedestrian & Bicycle

#### RELATIVE COST









#### CONTINGENCY

This project is contingent upon two I-440 bridge crossings, green streets, new greenway connector, and improved bicycle facilties.

#### PROJECT CATEGORY

√ Midtown Moves

√ Midtown Green and Blue

#### PROS



Pedestrian Options

Carbon

**Emissions** 



Calming

#### CONS



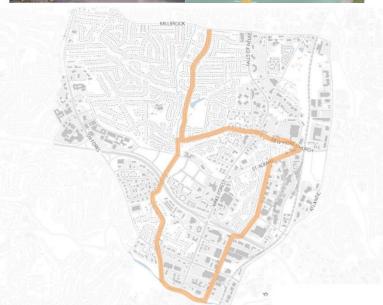


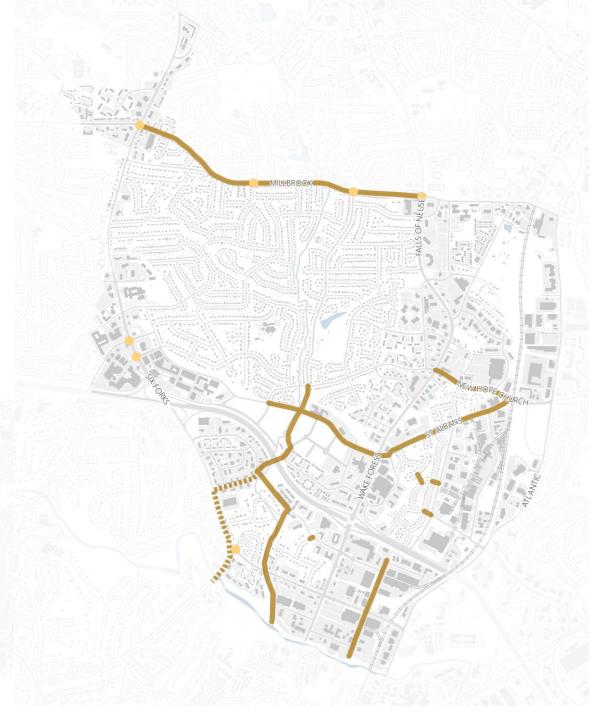


#### Description

This project is a group of greenway, green street, bridge, and improved bicycle and pedestrian facilities that create a 5+ mile circuit for low stress walking and bicycling. The ring connects greenways, parks, commercial areas, and community resources north and south of I-440.







# Connectivity

#### RELATIVE COST









#### CONTINGENCY

None.

#### PROJECT CATEGORY

√ Midtown Moves

#### PROS











#### CONS

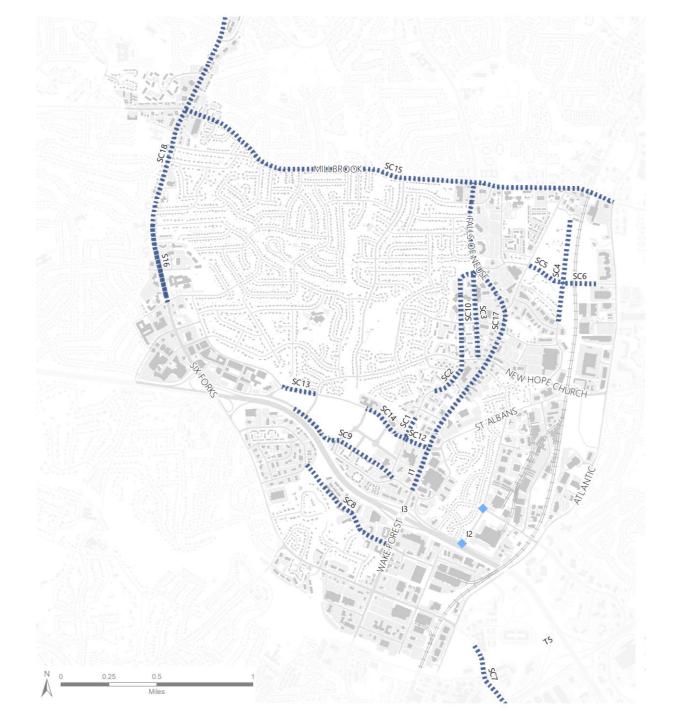


#### Description

This project is a 2000' extension of Six Forks Road from just east of Atlantic Avenue to Capital Boulevard. The new road extension is 4-Lanes with a median, and it is intended primarily for vehicles and transit with the potential for sidewalks and bicycle facilities.

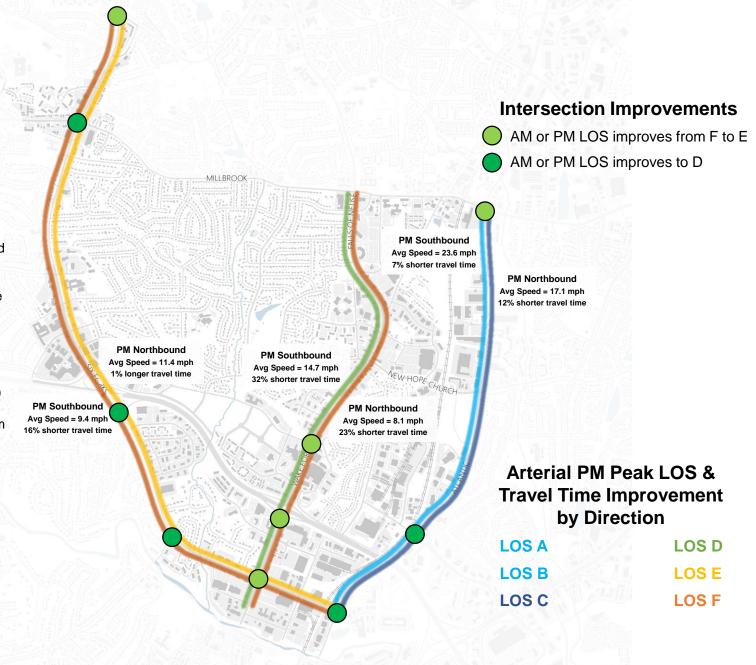






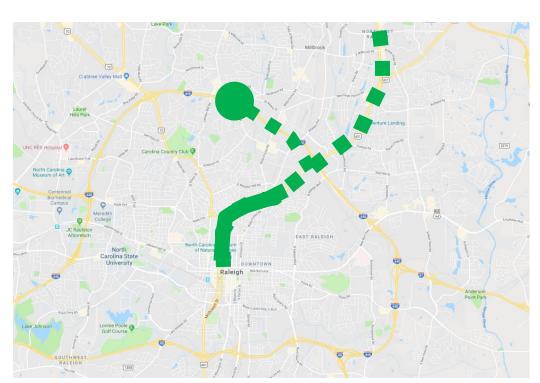
# Traffic Benefits 2030 Build vs 2030 No-Build

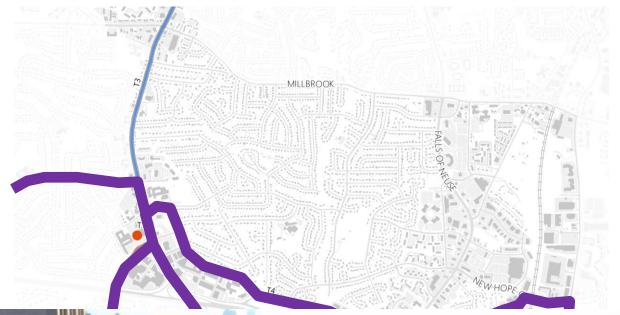
- Level of service in peak hours in the busier direction is currently D/E/F for most of Wake Forest, Six Forks, and Atlantic.
- As Midtown emerges as a place of its own, rather than a place to
  pass through quickly on the way to another destination, speeds
  tend to slow down. The goal of this plan is to aim for consistent and
  reliable travel speeds, rather than maximizing speed through the
  area.
  - Increasing travel speeds benefit external/through trips more than local trips
  - Additional widening would be costly, disruptive to environment, neighborhoods, and development; inhibit pedestrian safety & convenience; and attract additional through-traffic.
  - Plan provides alternatives/choices (both modes and routes)
- This analysis may understate the future shift in trips to Atlantic from Wake Forest, where there is more available capacity, fewer conflicts, and no interchange. This will be encouraged by better east-west connections, railroad grade separations, Six Forks Extension, Capital Blvd improvements, and less traffic-intensive development in the corridor.
- Plan goals also place safety as a top priority.
- A realistic goal is to manage congestion and add to reliability, not to eliminate congestion. Technology will help accomplish this through more efficient operations, with both vehicles and traffic control systems (signals) adapting better/faster to real-time conditions.



# **Transit**

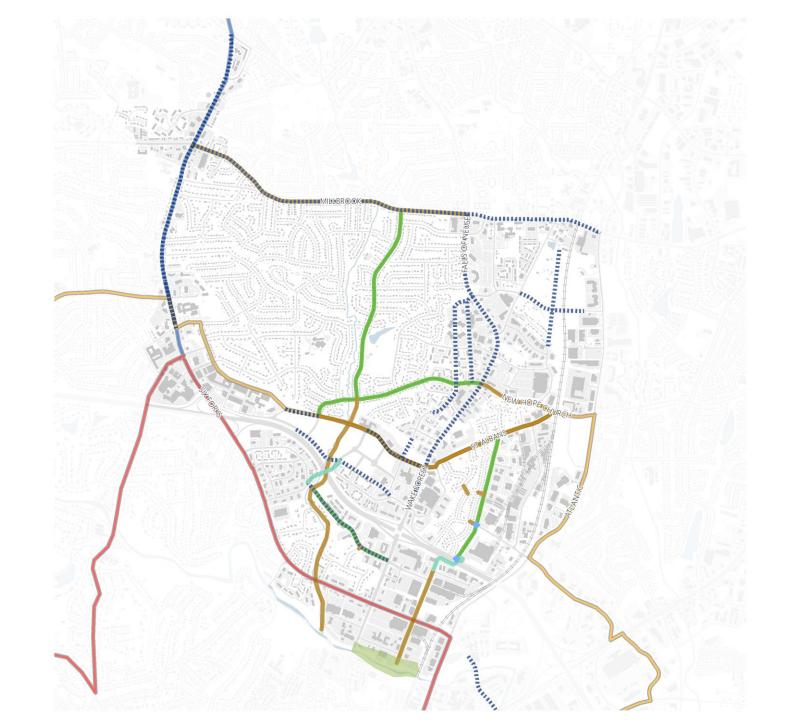
- Phase 1: Multiple high-frequency routes
- Phase 2: Future BRT connection to downtown



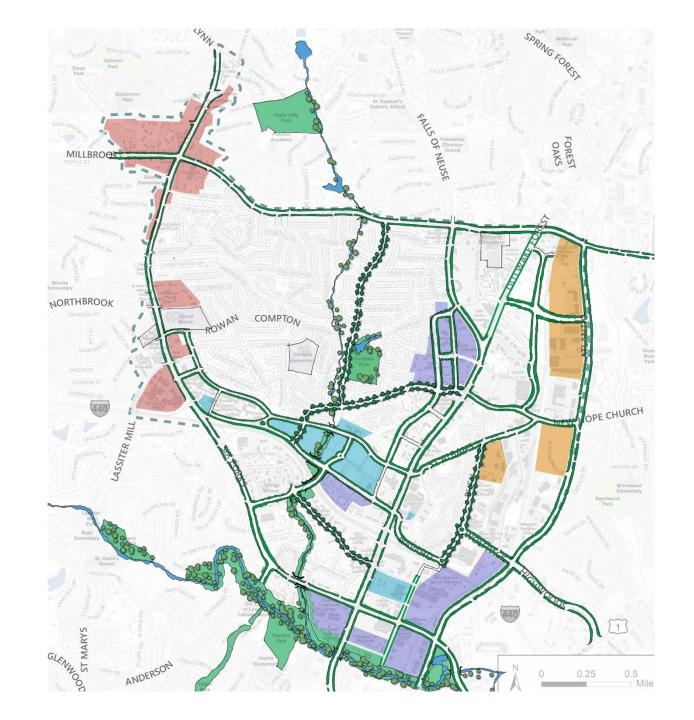




# **Proposed Projects**



# **Proposed Projects**







# **Prioritizing Projects**

# **Prioritization Exercise – Step 1**

### Objectives

- > Understand *what the community priorities are*
- > Understand why those are priorities

### Format

- > Small table groups
- Step 1: As a table, select your top seven (7) projects.
   Record your results. ~15 minutes



# **Prioritization Exercise – Step 2**

### Objectives

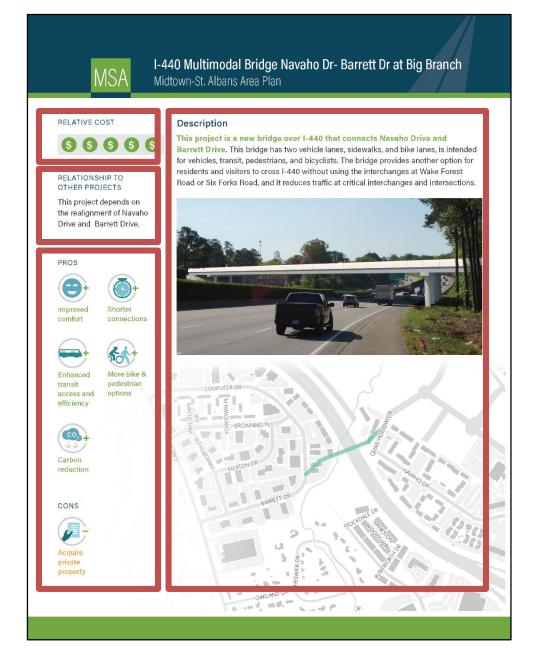
- > Understand what the community priorities are
- > Understand why those are priorities

### Format

- > Small table groups
- Step 1: As a table, select your top seven (7) projects.
   Record your results. ~15 minutes
- Step 2: Use your table's "Midtown Bucks" to pay for projects. Record your results. Your budget is \$25.
  ~15 minutes

### Feedback

- > Each group will report out results after Step 2
- > Results incorporated into the plan



# **Next Steps**

Sept/Oct

Hold final community meetings on draft recommendations

Oct

Incorporate community findings and complete draft report

Nov

Complete report

Dec

Planning Commission report review

Early 2020 Presentation to City Council









# THANK YOU!!!!

# **Green Streets**



#### **RELATIVE COST**











#### CONTINGENCY

This group of projects is not contingent on other projects, but it benefits from new bridges across I-440.

#### PROJECT CATEGORY

√ Midtown Moves

√ Midtown Green and Blue

#### PROS





Improved Comfort









Flooding



Traffic Calming

Reduced Carbon **Emissions** 

#### CONS



On-Street Parking

#### Description

This is a group of Green Street projects on the following roads: Quail Hollow Drive, Bush Street, Wake Towne Drive, and Hardimont Street. Green Street improvements reduce stormwater, decrease vehicle speeds, and include a mix of expanded sidewalks, shared-use paths, and bicycle facilities.





# The Midtown Ring



#### RELATIVE COST









#### CONTINGENCY

This project is contingent upon two I-440 bridge crossings, green streets, new greenway connector, and improved bicycle facilties.

#### PROJECT CATEGORY

- √ Midtown Moves
- √ Midtown Green and Blue

#### PROS







Improved Safety







Calming

#### CONS

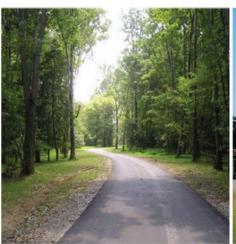






#### Description

This project is a group of greenway, green street, bridge, and improved bicycle and pedestrian facilities that create a 5+ mile circuit for low stress walking and bicycling. The ring connects greenways, parks, commercial areas, and community resources north and south of I-440.







# **A Connected** Street Network











Connections

CONS





#### **RELATIVE COST**











#### CONTINGENCY

None.

#### PROJECT CATEGORY

√ Midtown Moves

#### **PROS**



Enhanced transit access and efficiency





Connections

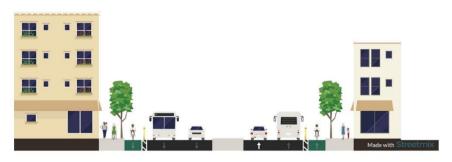
#### CONS

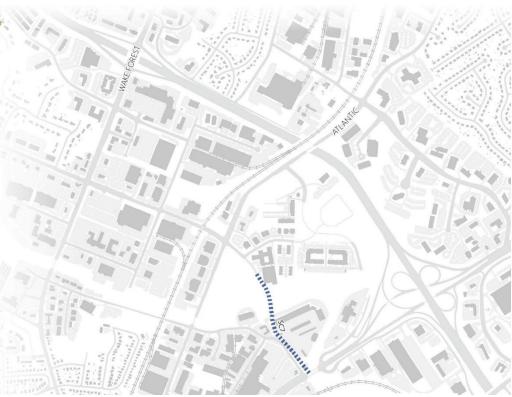


Acquire private property

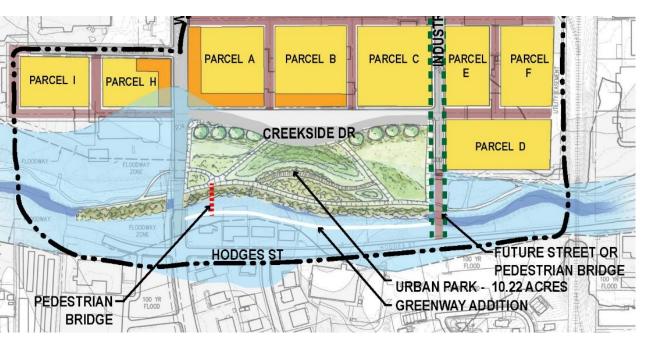
#### Description

This project is a 2000' extension of Six Forks Road from just east of Atlantic Avenue to Capital Boulevard. The new road extension is 4-Lanes with a median, and it is intended primarily for vehicles and transit with the potential for sidewalks and bicycle facilities.





# The Midtown Waterfront District



#### RELATIVE COST









#### CONTINGENCY

This project is contingent upon redevelopment of the area north of Crabtree Creek and private public partnerships.

#### PROJECT CATEGORY

- √ Midtown Green and Blue
- √ Midtown Beautiful
- √ Midtown Living

#### **PROS**





Supports

Floodina



More Bike & Pedestrian **Options** 

#### CONS



Susceptible To Flooding



#### Description

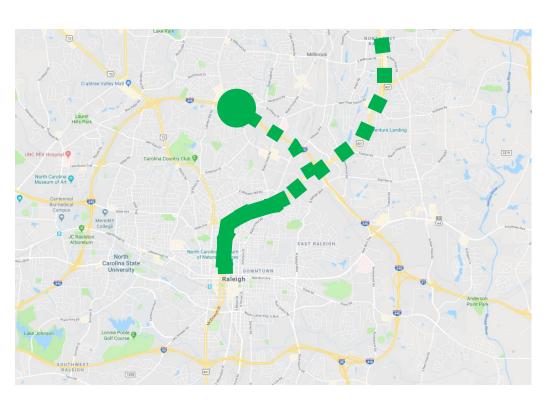
This project is the redevelopment of the area north of Crabtree Creek between Wake Forest Road and Atlantic Avenue. This includes restoration of Crabtree Creek, improvements to the existing greenway, and new mixed-use development with affordable housing options and new public park space.

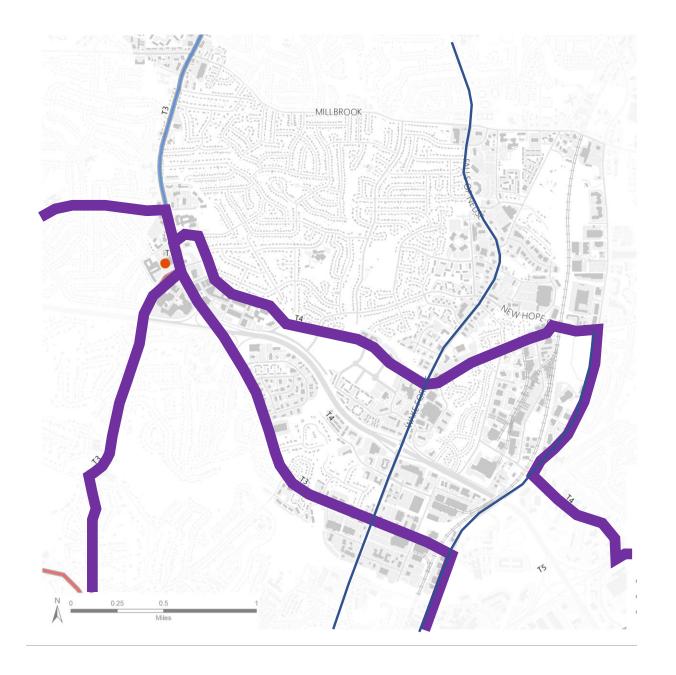




# **Serious Transit**

- Phase 1: Multiple highfrequency routes
- Phase 2: Future BRT connection to downtown





# Midtown Living/Midtown Works: Housing and Jobs

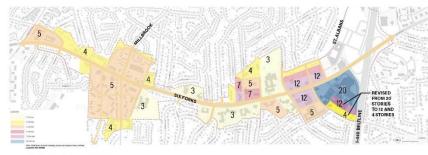
- Specifying uses and scale in key areas where major projects or changing conditions exist
- Five Midtown areas + Six Forks

#### BUILDING HEIGHTS

Urban Design Frameworks

As redevelopment occurs along and adjacent to Six Forks Road, the urban design standards that guide this development will play a role in the overall character and sense of place of the Corridor.

Building Height Standards
To better create a fenorable urban
image and oddress adjacency to
sensing regularbooks, building
sensing regularbooks, building
form 3-5 stories along residential
edges and 4-50 stories along residential
edges and 4-50 stories along fiss
Forks Road. The map to the right will
building heights a part of future
rezoning requests in the Corridor, o
When next to a low or moderate
dersity erees with a maximum of
heights of more than seven stories
should include gradual height
ranktons. Building heights in the
taller area should not increase at
taller areas should not increase at



Source: Six Forks Corridor Study 2017 - City of Raleigh

#### FRONTAGE TYPES

Urban Design Frameworks

Building Frontage Types
The City of Relaigh Unified
Development Ordinance describe
how building frontage are to be
developed so that a lavorable set of
contact-sensitive usuan design relationships are created between
the building and for street. The
existing and proposed sheets should
building for the street. The
existing and proposed sheets should
building for fortage types that address
neigh brohoods gateways, where
parriag should be locate, and the
nature of the building's relationships
to the street.



# MSA

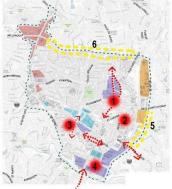
# Land Use Focus Areas Midtown - St. Albans Area Plan



During the public engagement phase, community members expressed support for recommending appropriate land use transitions, providing more housing options and promoting walkable mixed used districts.

The Future Land Use Map is a planning tool and policy document used by the City to shape the future development of the City. As the Midtown-St. Albars study area continues to shift from suburban character to a more intense urban character with greater land use intensity, a mix of integrated and supportive land uses in policy, strategies are needed.

Public engagement early in the study emphasized the need for recommendations to guide this transition to conserve neighborhoods, enhance height/scale/density transition adjacent to neighborhoods, encourage transit/mobility and support a mix of complementary land use for walkable



#### COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PAIRED WITH HIGHER INTENSITY DEVELOPMENT

- When height ranges are shown, the expectation is that the higher end of the range would require provisions that go beyond the norm in some way, either in terms of public amenities, affordable housing, stormwater, or other considerations. When next to a love or moderate density areas with a maximum of three stories, area with building height of more than seven stories should include gradual height transitions. Building heights in the faller area should not increase at more than a 45-degree angle from the lower-scale area. When the stallar area is separated from the lower-scale area by a street of tweer than hour lanes, building faces along the frontage facing the residential area should not record three stories.
- Rezoning proposals within a floodplain should include stormwater management measures and green space allocations that go beyond code requirements and ideally contribute to a connected public space along the Crabtree.
- Rezoning proposals that request seven or more stories of height and include a residential component should include affordable units. If the site includes existing units that are affordable to residents at 60 percent of the area median income, then those units should be replaced on a one-for-one basis. If not, then 10 percent of the units should be affordable units.

#### "MISSING MIDDLE" IN HOUSING

One of the findings of the public process has been an interest in promoting housing diversity. Missing middle is a term that has emerged to address the need for more housing products that are mid-level in pricing, typically attached units including duplex, triplex, quadplex and townhomes in form, and are located strategically in areas that might otherwise support only single family homes. This housing type can also be used effectively as a transition between more intense land uses and/or major roadway corridors as a buffer for single family ineptibothoods.

Generally, it has been the policy of the City to zone single family areas with single family zoning. However, the City also has a longstanding Comprehensive Plan policy of discouraging single family lots on major streets, preferring to promote development types where multiple units can share a common driveway. Major corridors in the study area matching this criteria are found on sections of Millbrock Road and Atlantic Avenue. There may be other examples as well.

#### WAKE FOREST / FALLS OF NEUSE

- GREATER MIX OF LAND USES
- HIGHER LAND USE INTENSITIES
- RETAIL FOCUS AREA
- IMPROVED WALKABILITY / MOBILITY



1

#### ATLANTIC / ST. ALBANS

- CONVERT INDUSTRIAL LAND
   USE TO HOUSING
- ADDITIONAL HOUSING OPTIONS NEAR EMPLOYMENT CENTER
- "MISSING MIDDLE"
   OPPORTUNITIES



2

#### I-440 CROSSING / SIX FORKS

- EMPLOYMENT FOCUS
- HIGH INTENSITY OFFICE
- IMPROVED MOBILITY /
   ACCESS
- IMPROVED WALKABILITY
- GREEN CORRIDOR EDGE



3

#### CRABTREE / WAKE FOREST

- HIGH INTENSITY HOUSING WITH GREEN SPACE
- FLOODPLAIN / STORMWATER
   ENHANCEMENT
- IMPROVED ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT CENTER
- IMPROVED WALKABILITY
   WITH A "MAIN STREET"



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