

# Practical Implementation Strategies

Local Planning & Design for  
Active Transportation



Charlier Associates, Inc.

# Outline

- Introduction
- Local Planning
  - ✓ Pedestrian Environments
  - ✓ Bicycling & Non-Motorized Systems
- “Intermodal” Examples

# 3 Popular Planning Myths

...and how to dispel them



We don't have time to do it right.

(But we will have time to do it over.)



Planning Myths



We need to finish this plan  
once and for all.



Planning Myths





Planning is iterative...

...it is never finished or complete.



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Never start planning or design until you know for sure you have the money to build the project.



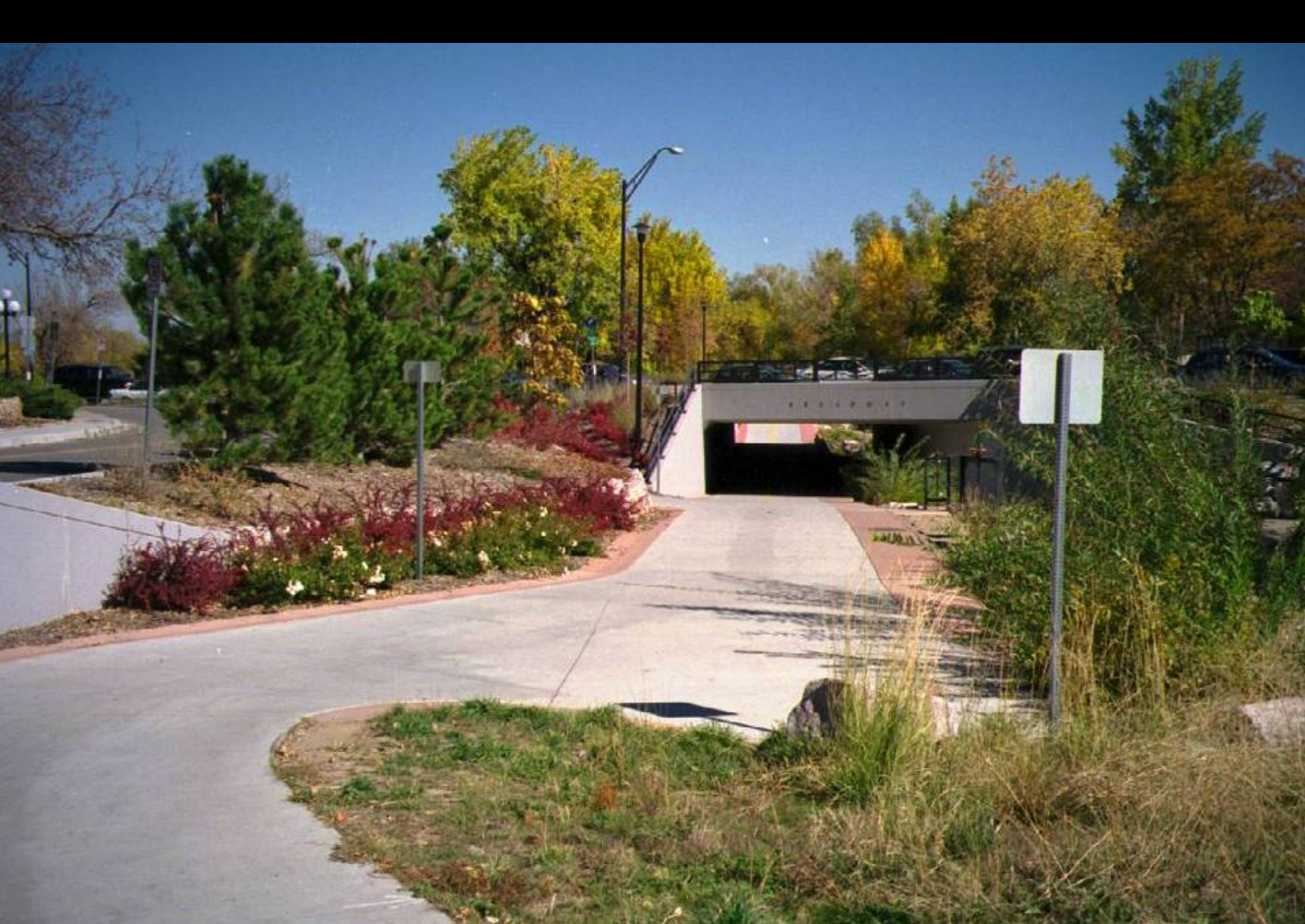
Planning Myths



Money comes to plans...

...much faster than plans come to  
money.

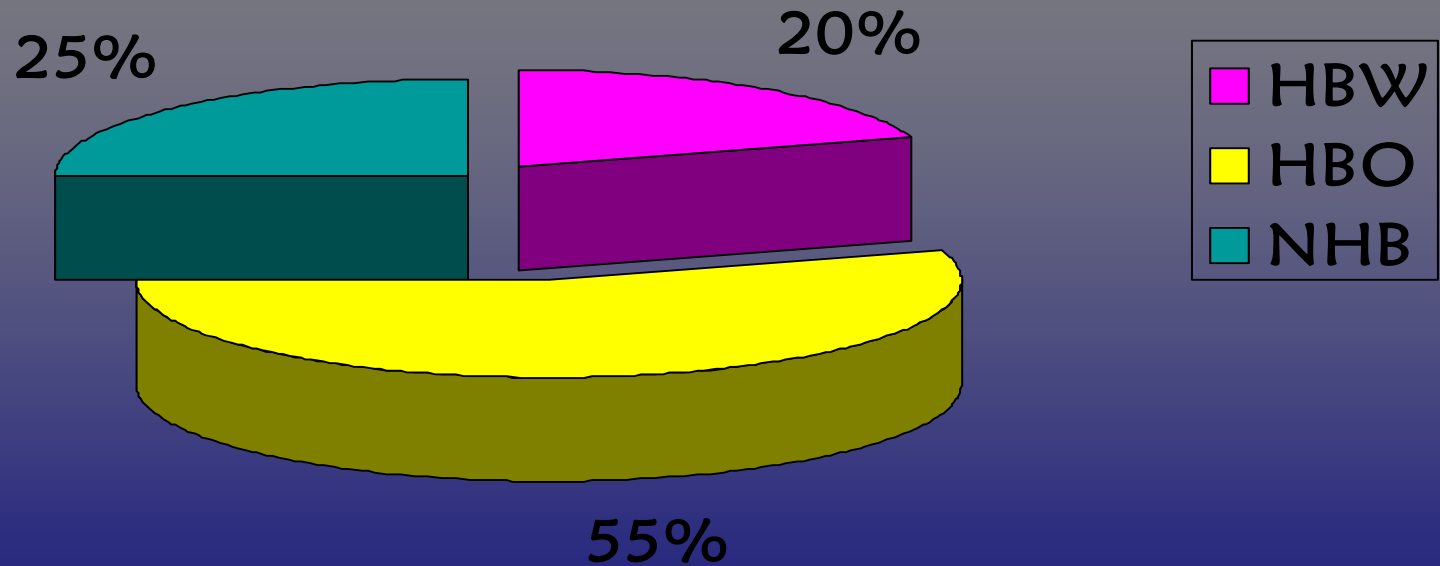




# Terms and Concepts

- Trip purpose
- Travel mode

# Typical Urban Trip Purpose Distribution

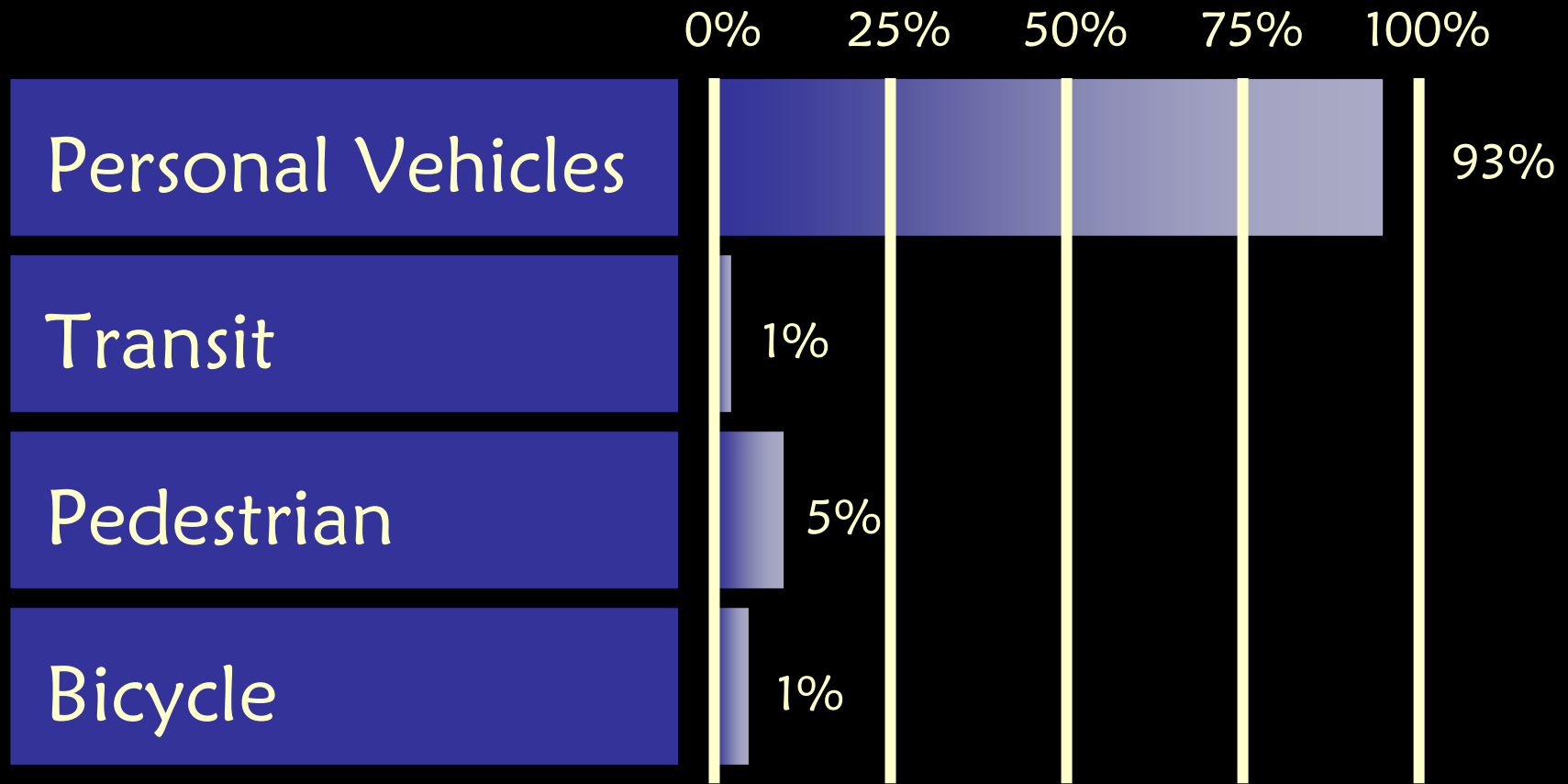


HBW = Home-Based Work (Commuting)

HBO = Home-Based Other (Shopping, Recreation, “Mommy 500”)

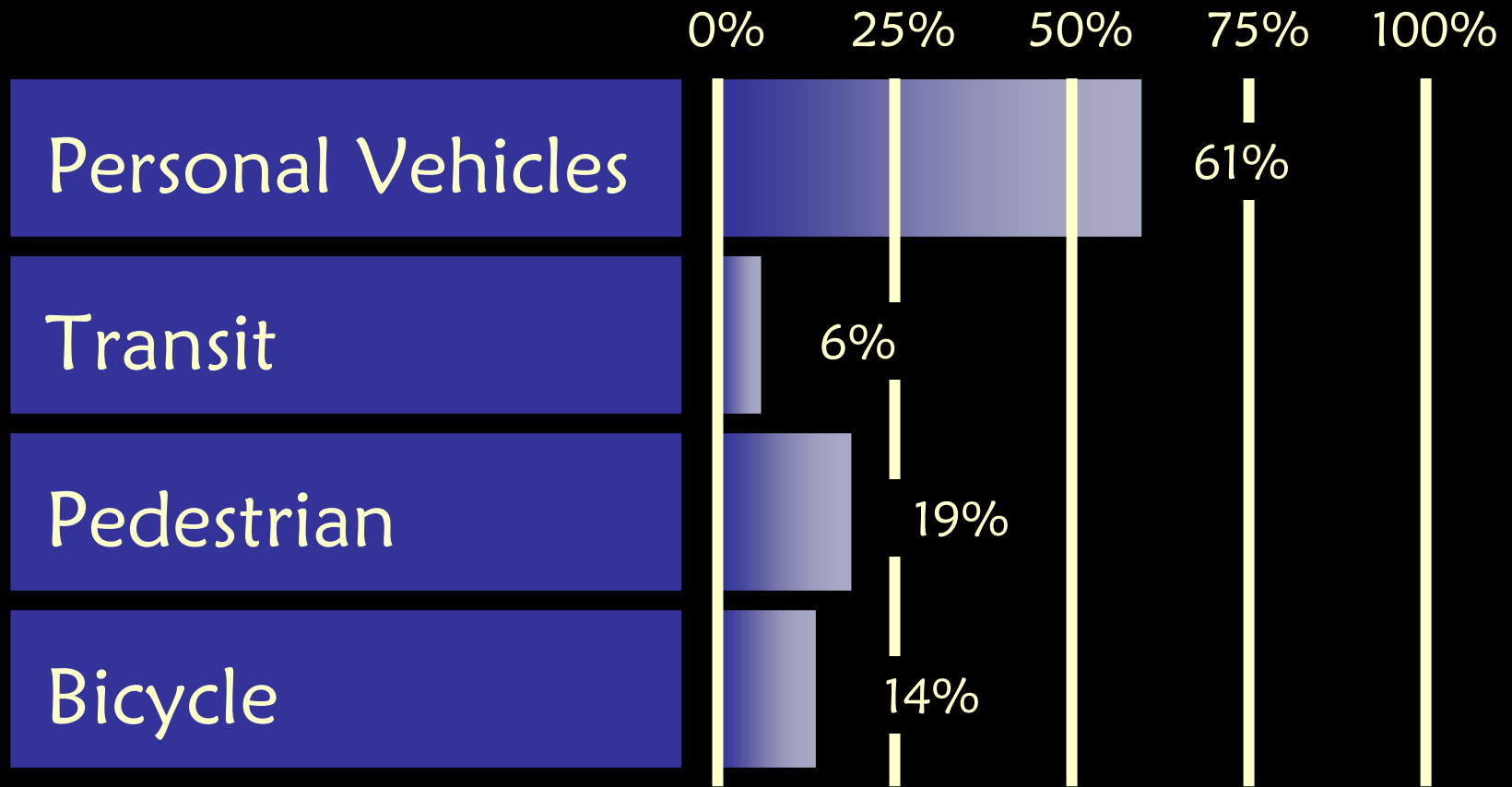
NHB = Mid-Day Trips, Deliveries, Work Trips, Other

# Mode Share\* – Typical Small City



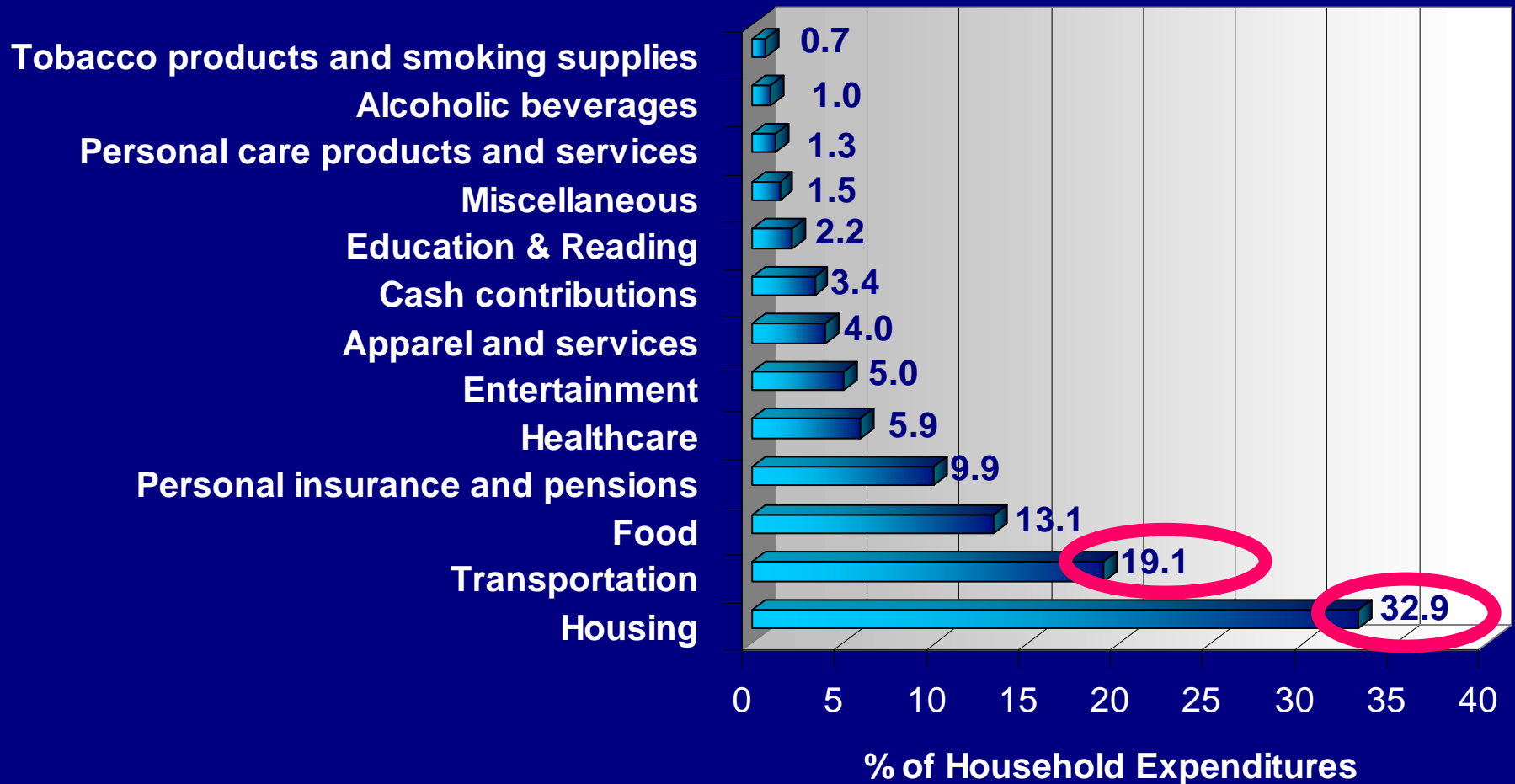
\* % of trips

# Mode Share\* – Boulder



\* % of trips

# Household Expenditures





# Three Car Family

---

	Mom	Dad	Daughter
Monday	SOV	SOV	SOV
Tuesday	SOV	SOV	SOV
Wednesday	SOV	SOV	SOV
Thursday	SOV	SOV	SOV
Friday	SOV	SOV	SOV
Saturday	--	SOV	--
Sunday	varies	varies	varies

# Two Car Family

---

	Mom	Dad	Daughter
Monday	SOV	Transit	SOV
Tuesday	SOV	SOV	Bike
Wednesday	SOV	Transit	SOV
Thursday	SOV	SOV	Bike
Friday	Bike	Transit	SOV
Saturday	--	SOV	--
Sunday	varies	varies	varies

# Local Planning

- Pedestrian Environments
- Bicycle & Non-Motorized Networks

# Pedestrian Environments

- What are pedestrians?
- Types of pedestrians
- Types of pedestrian environments
- Setting clear priorities
- Distinguishing urban from suburban design
- Understanding the crossings challenge
- Safe routes to school

# Types of Walking

- Rambling
- Utilitarian Walking
- Strolling, Lingerling
- Promenading
- Special Events



# The Pedestrian Environment



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# The Street Room





Shoes  
ANTIQUE  
JEWELRY

Club 21

Club 21

WEAR  
MILK

NO  
PARKING  
ANY  
TIME

ARK ASSOCIATES



# Elements of the Street

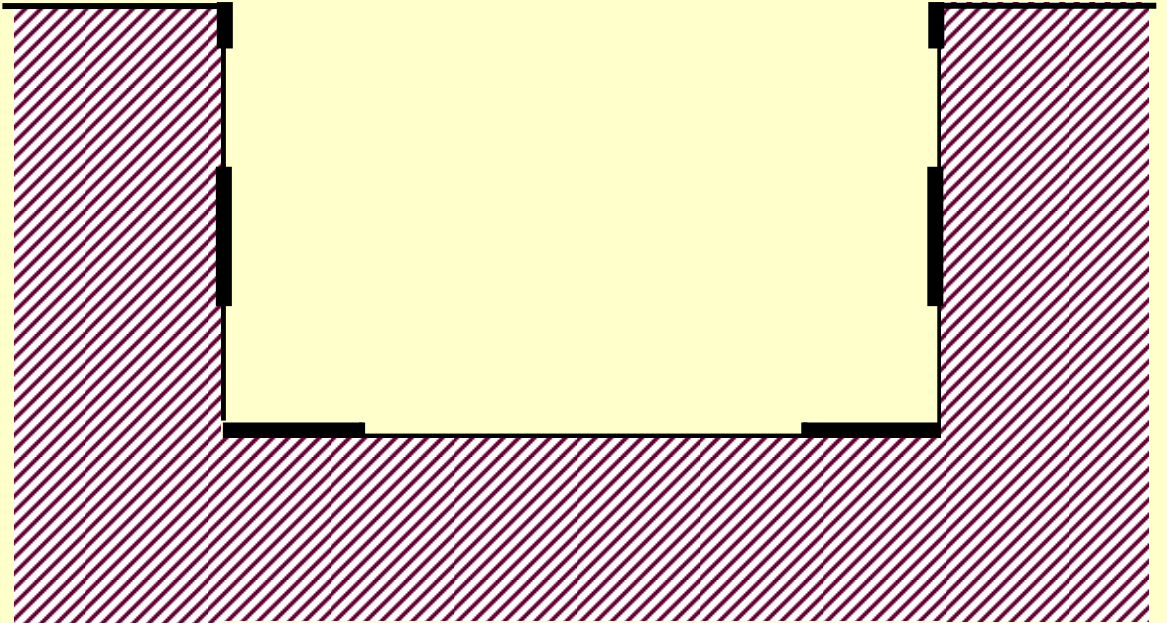
1. Street Wall

2. Pedestrian Realm

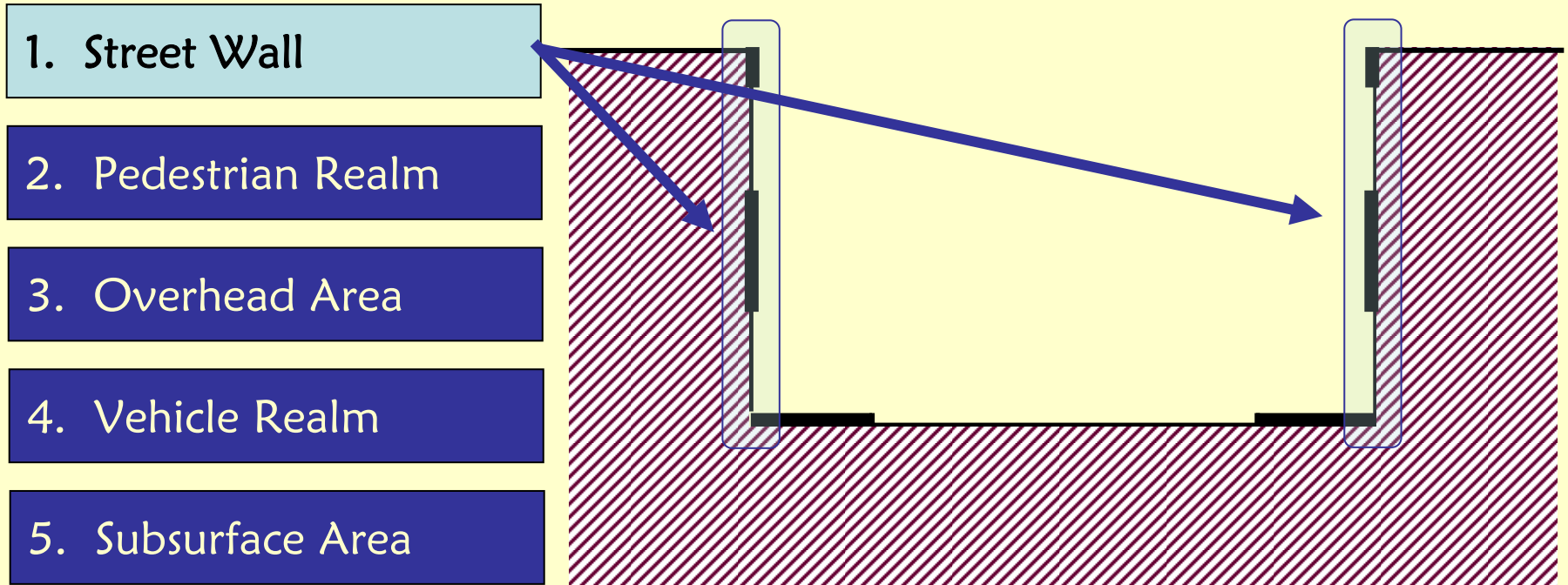
3. Overhead Area

4. Vehicle Realm

5. Subsurface Area



# Elements of the Street



# Elements of the Street

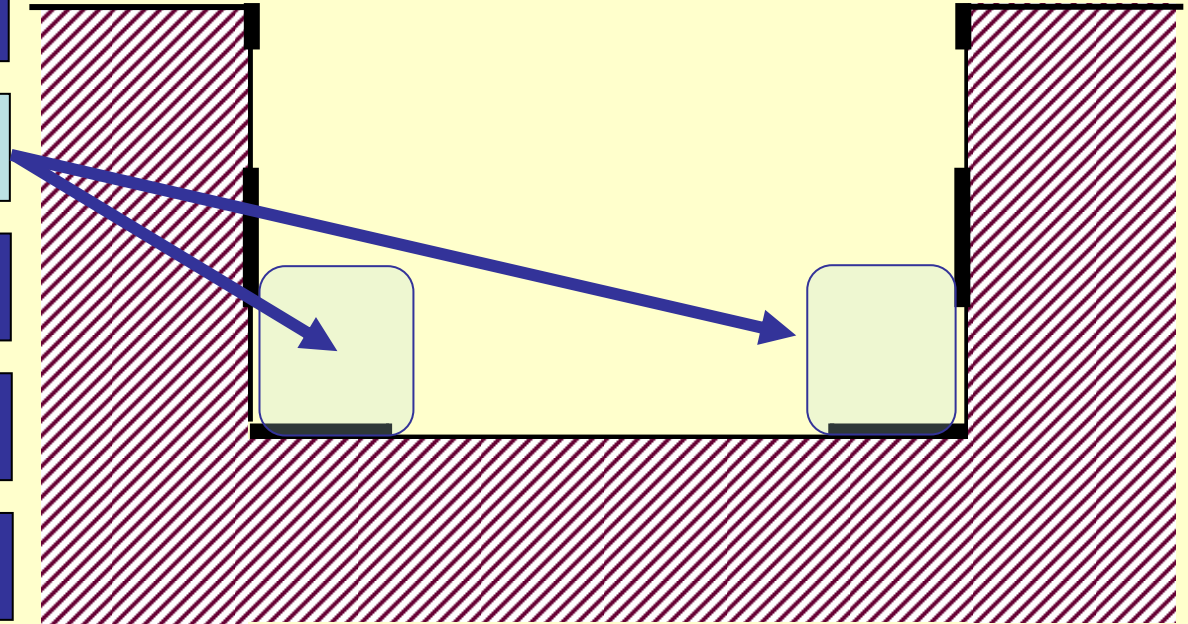
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# Elements of the Street

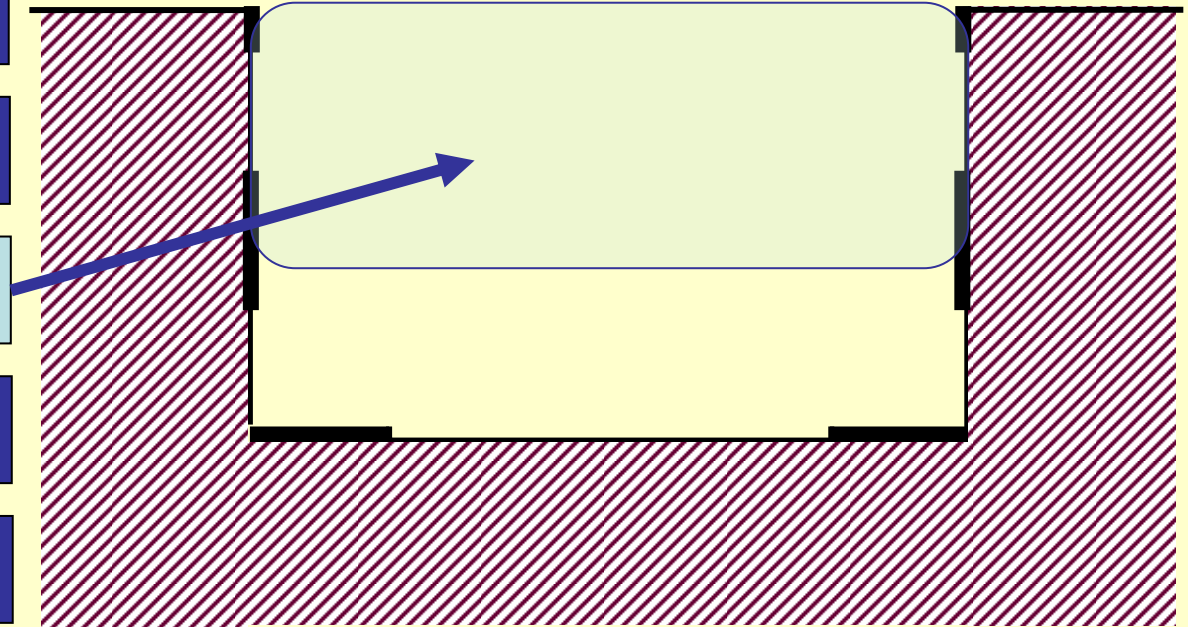
1. Street Wall

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# Elements of the Street

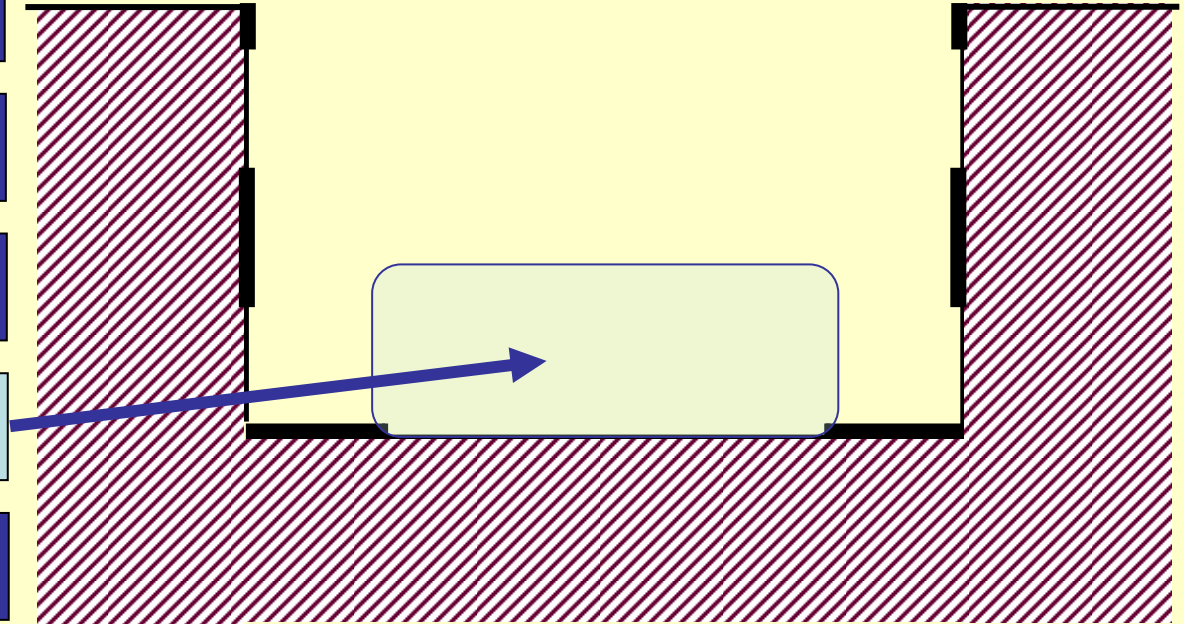
1. Street Wall

2. Pedestrian Realm

3. Overhead Area

4. Vehicle Realm

5. Subsurface Area





# Elements of the Street

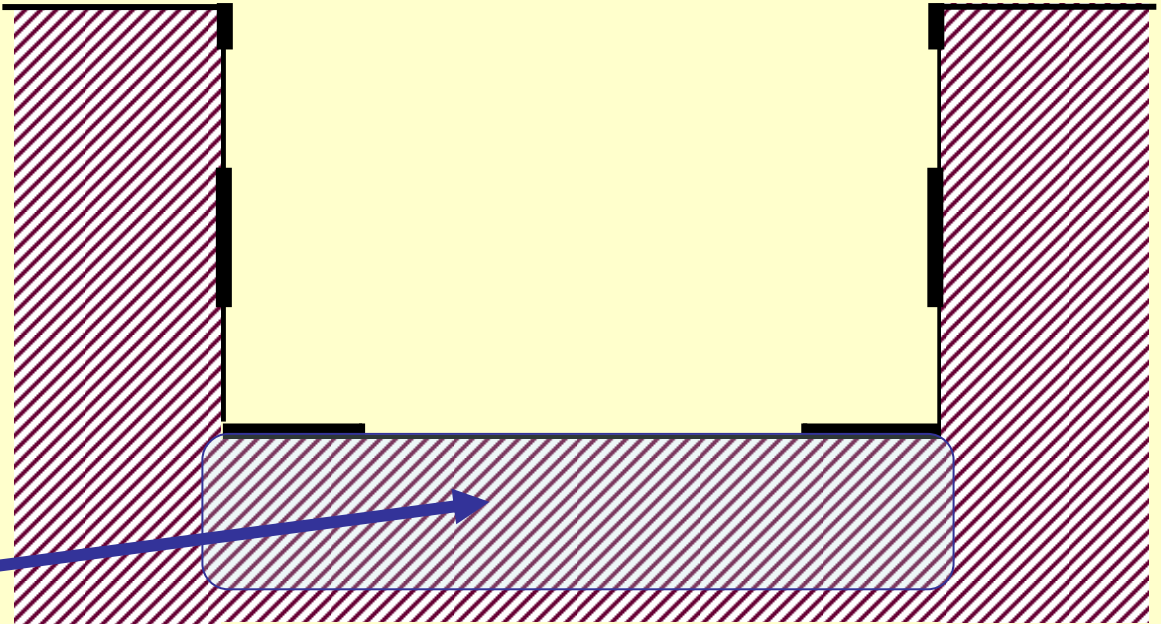
1. Street Wall

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4. Vehicle Realm

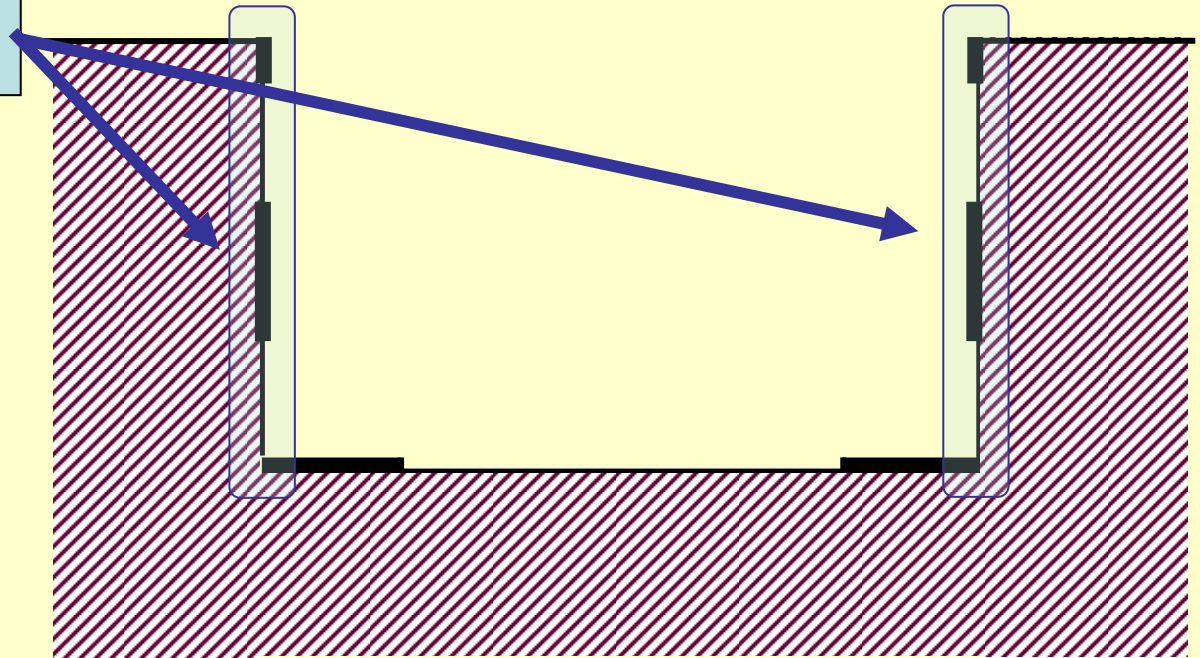
5. Subsurface Area





# Characteristics of Street Elements

## 1. Street Wall



Characteristics:

Height

Building Articulation

Entry Frequency

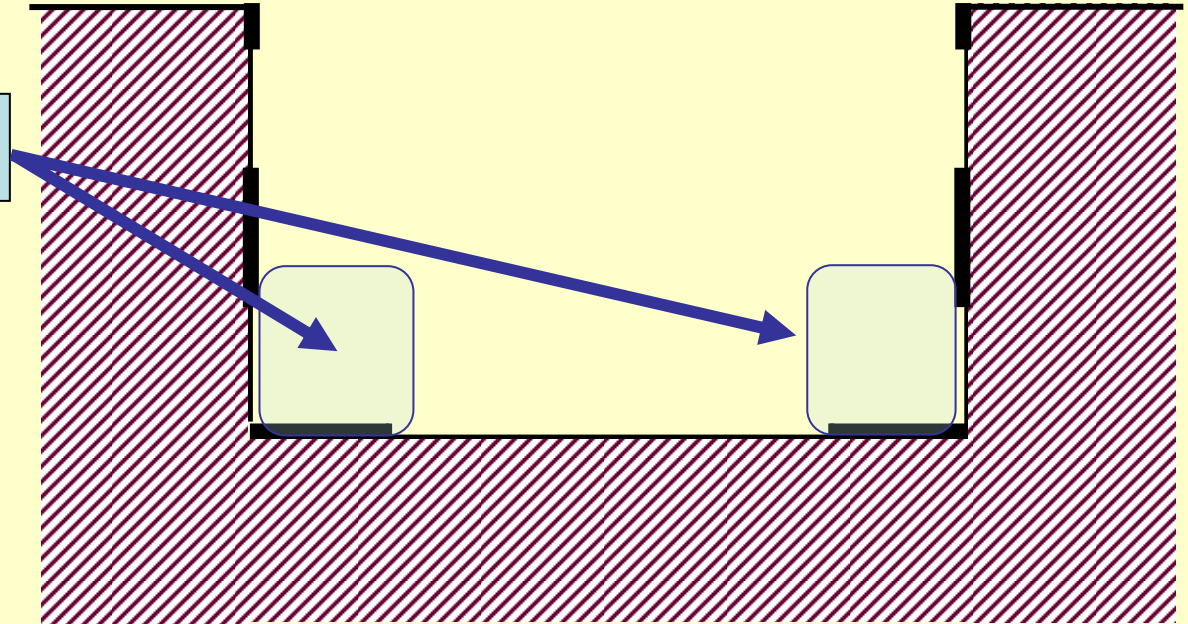
Urban Scale

Transparency/Glazing

Canopies & Arcades

# Characteristics of Street Elements

## 2. Pedestrian Realm



Characteristics:

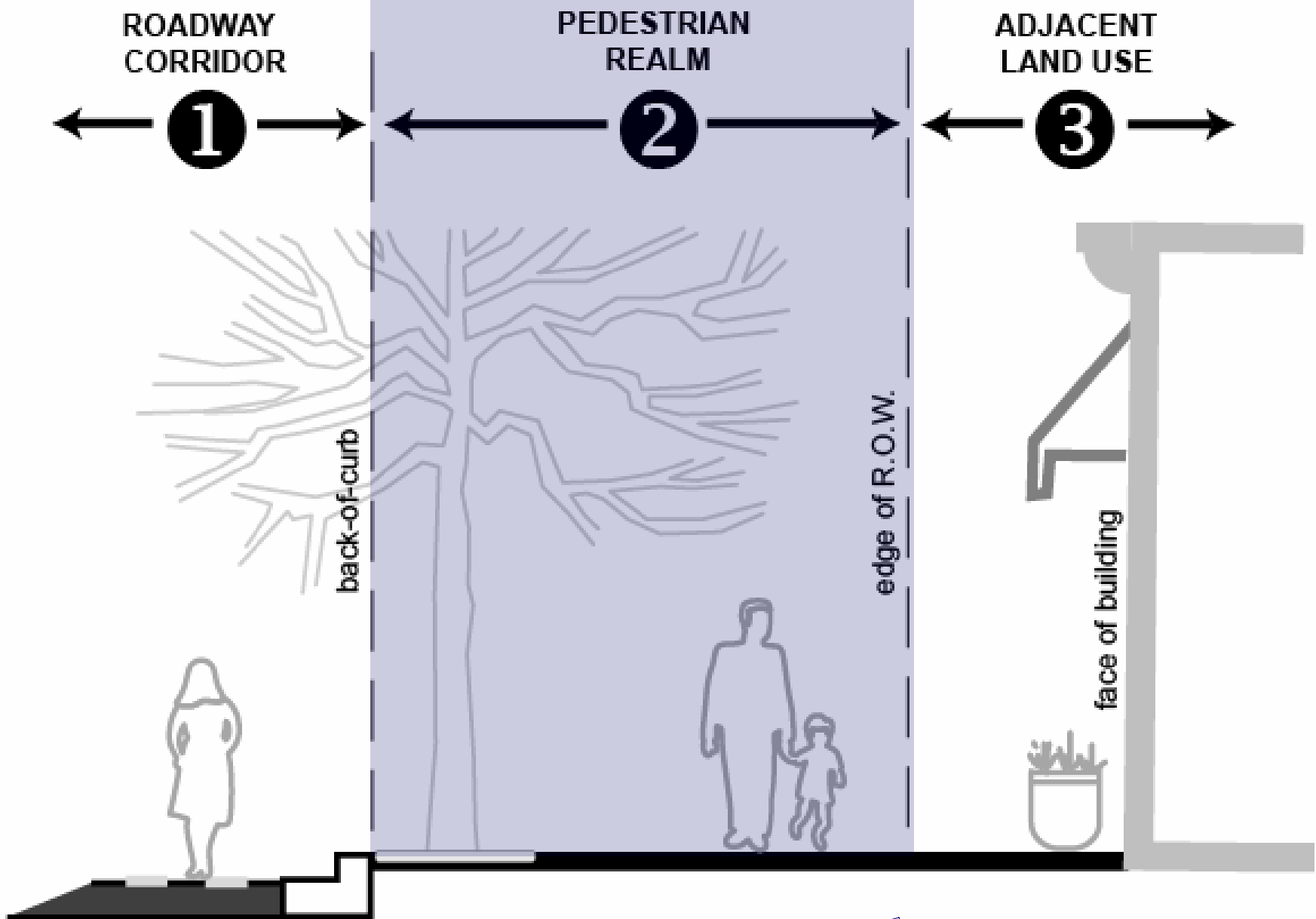
Cross Section

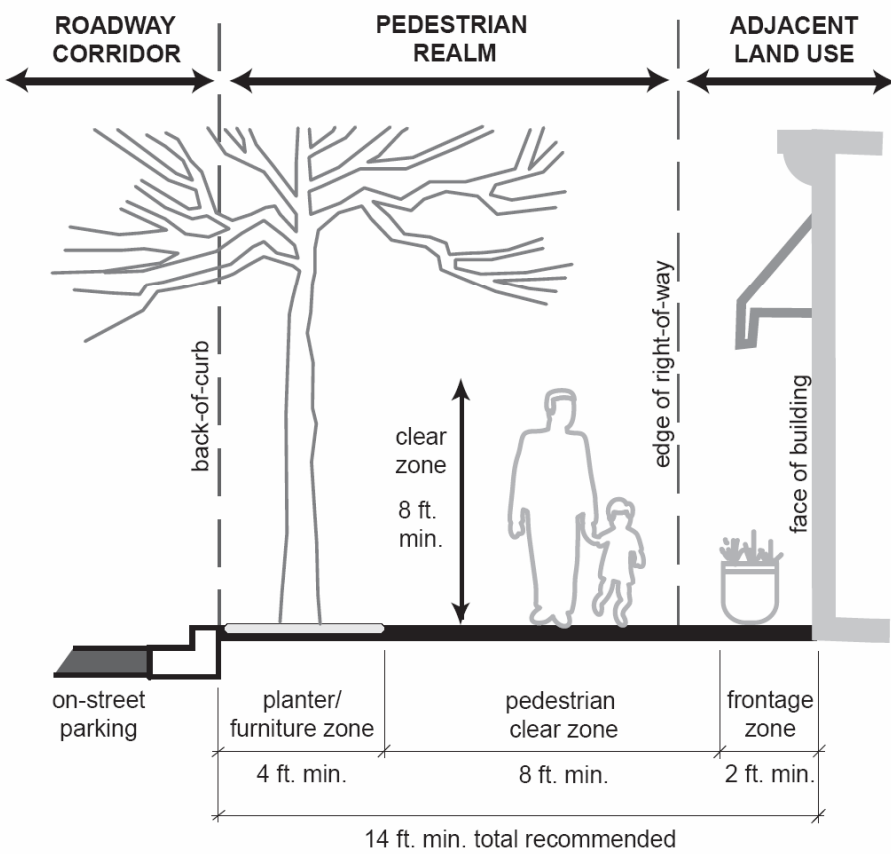
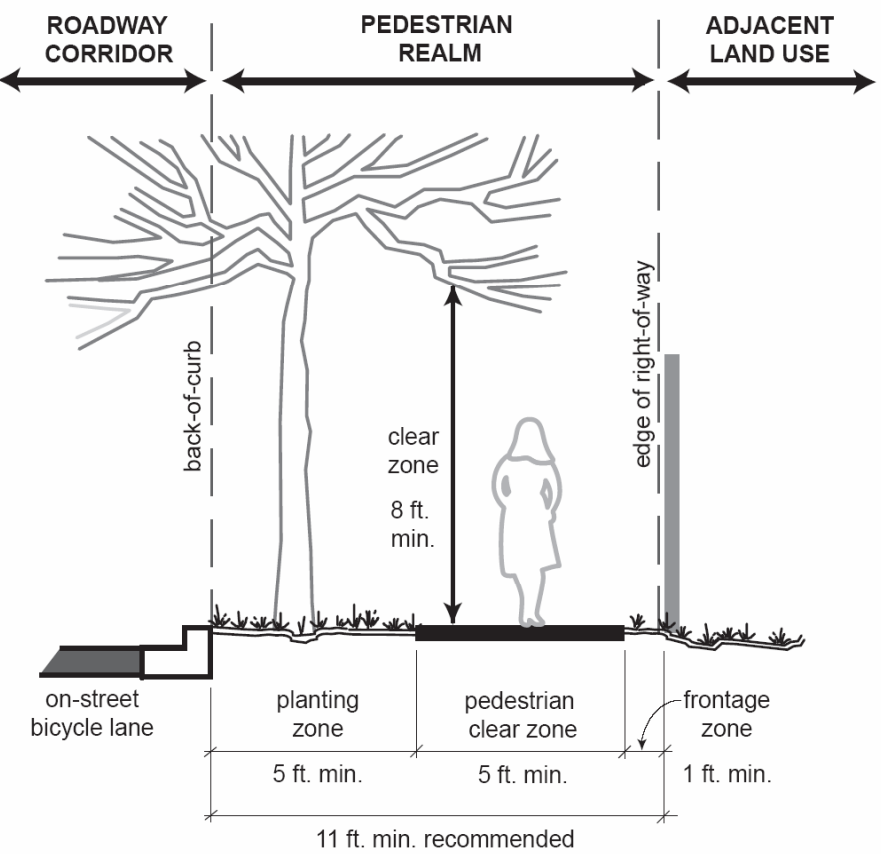
Amenities

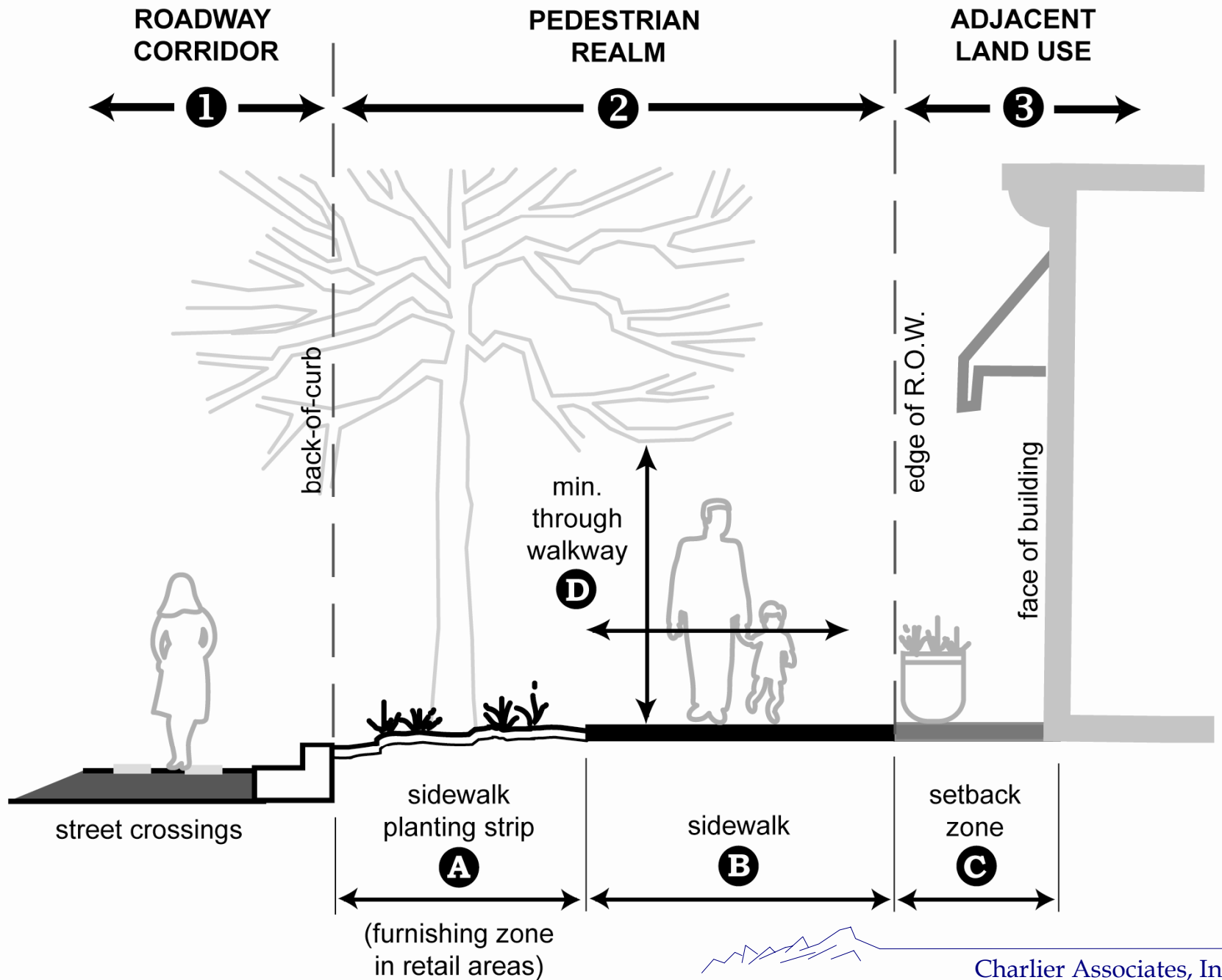
Street Trees

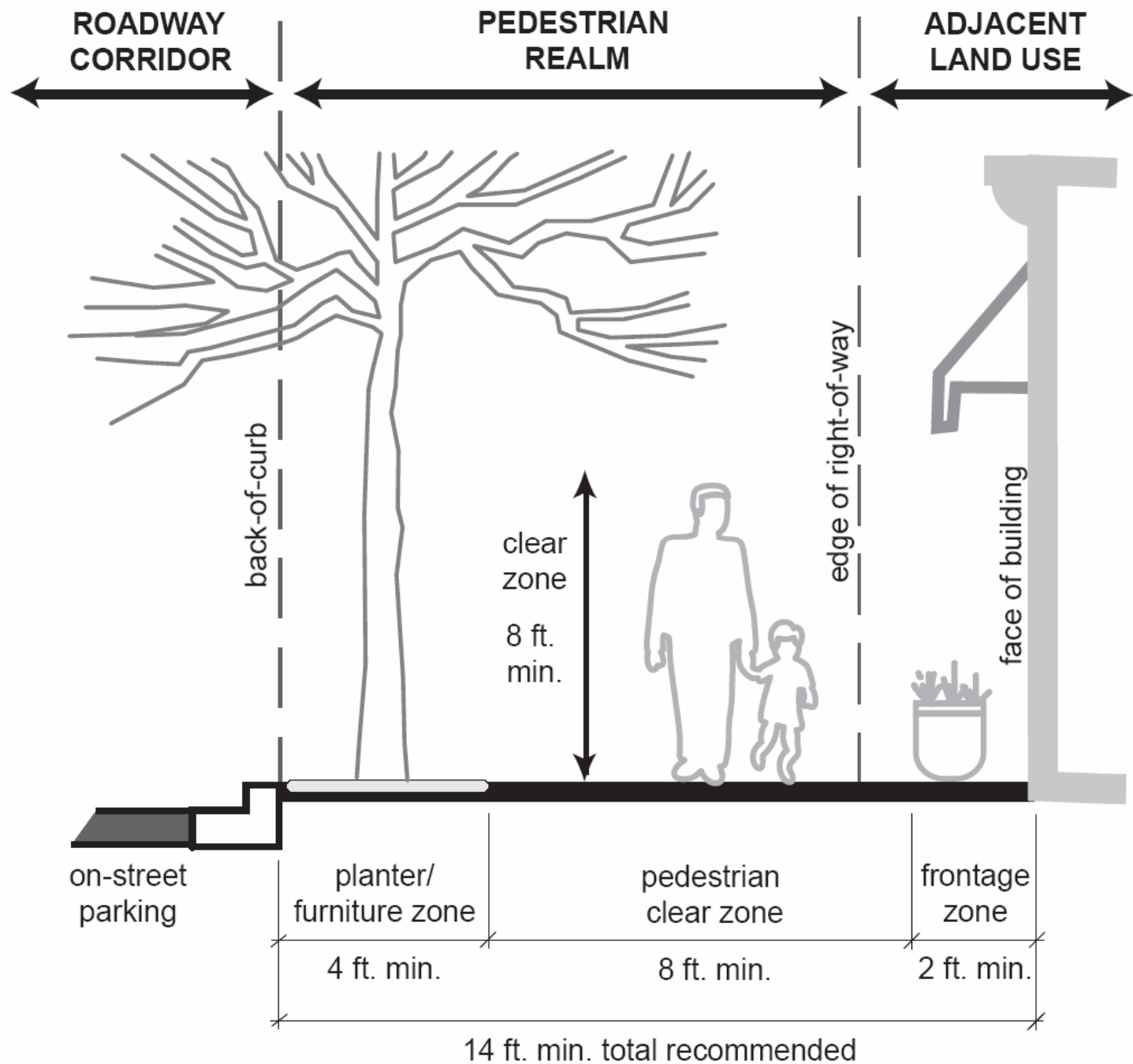
Canopies & Arcades

Crosswalks

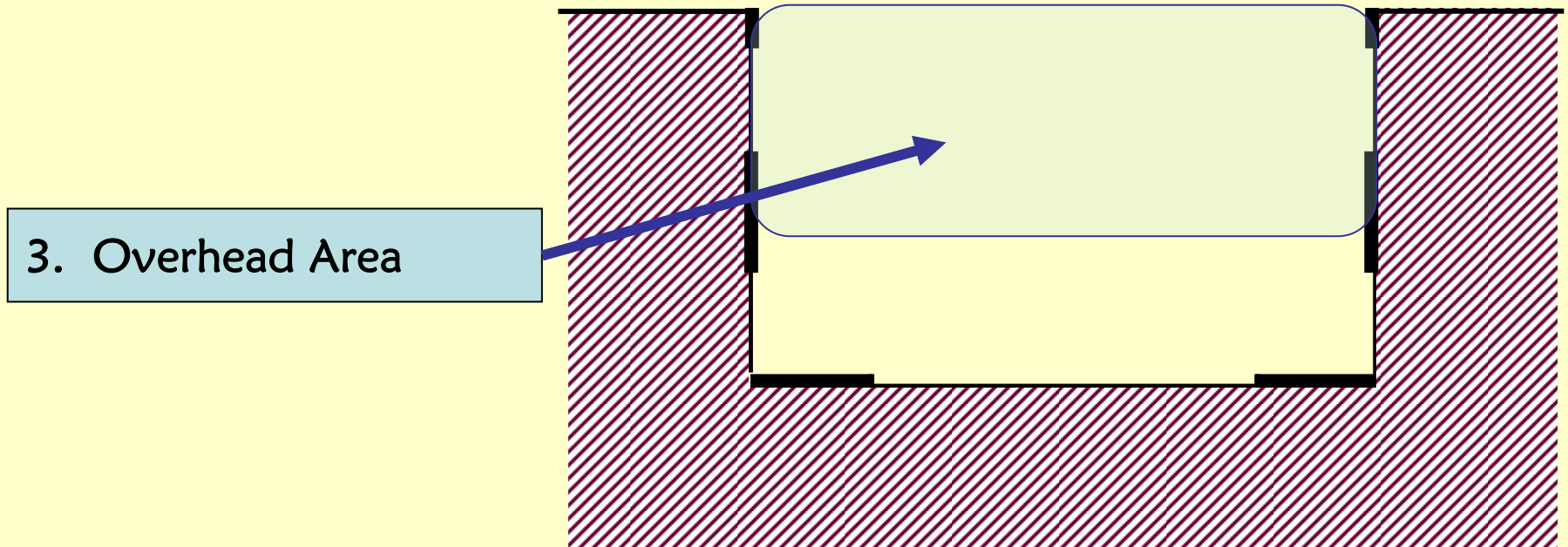








# Characteristics of Street Elements



Characteristics:

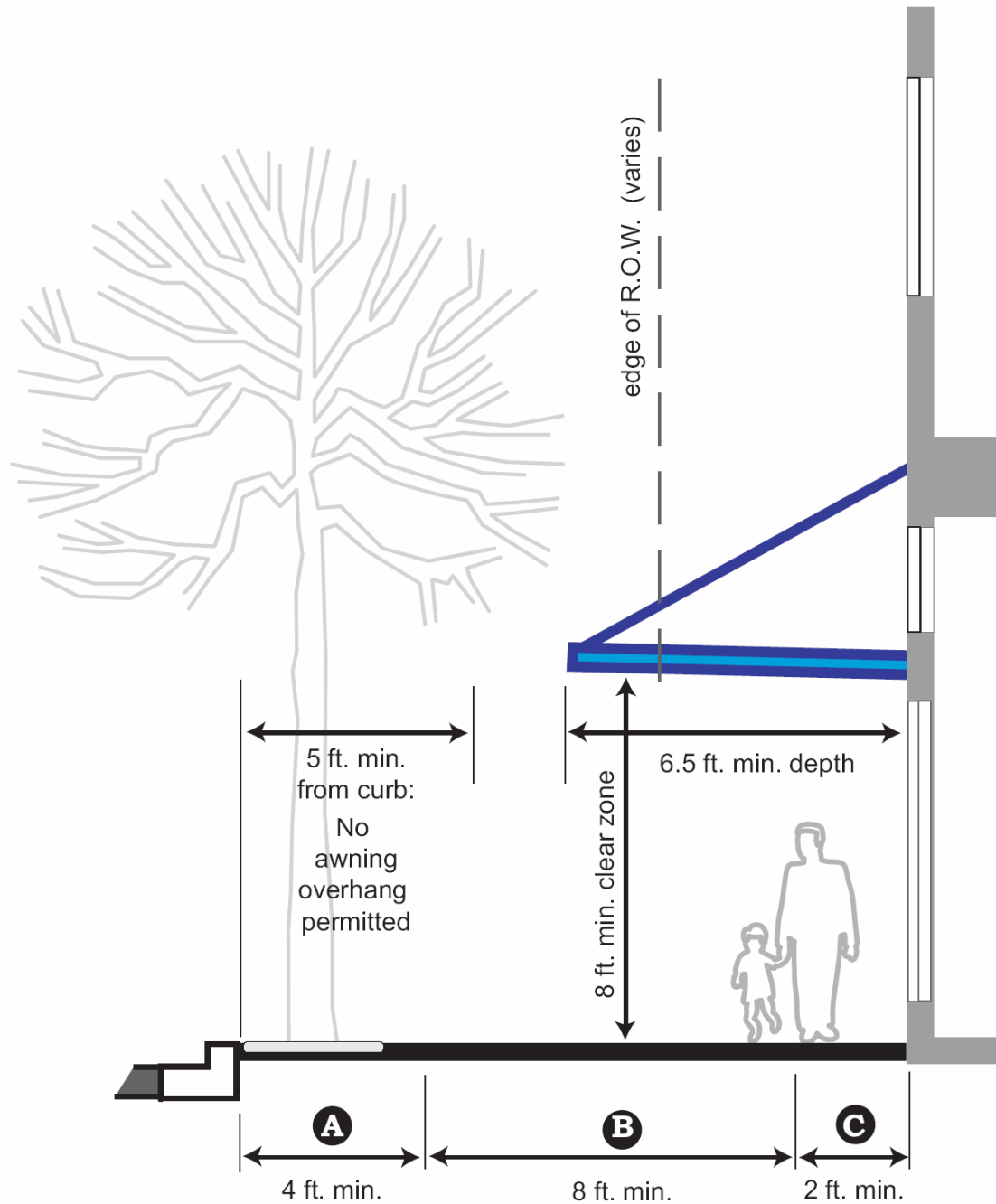
Utilities

Street Trees

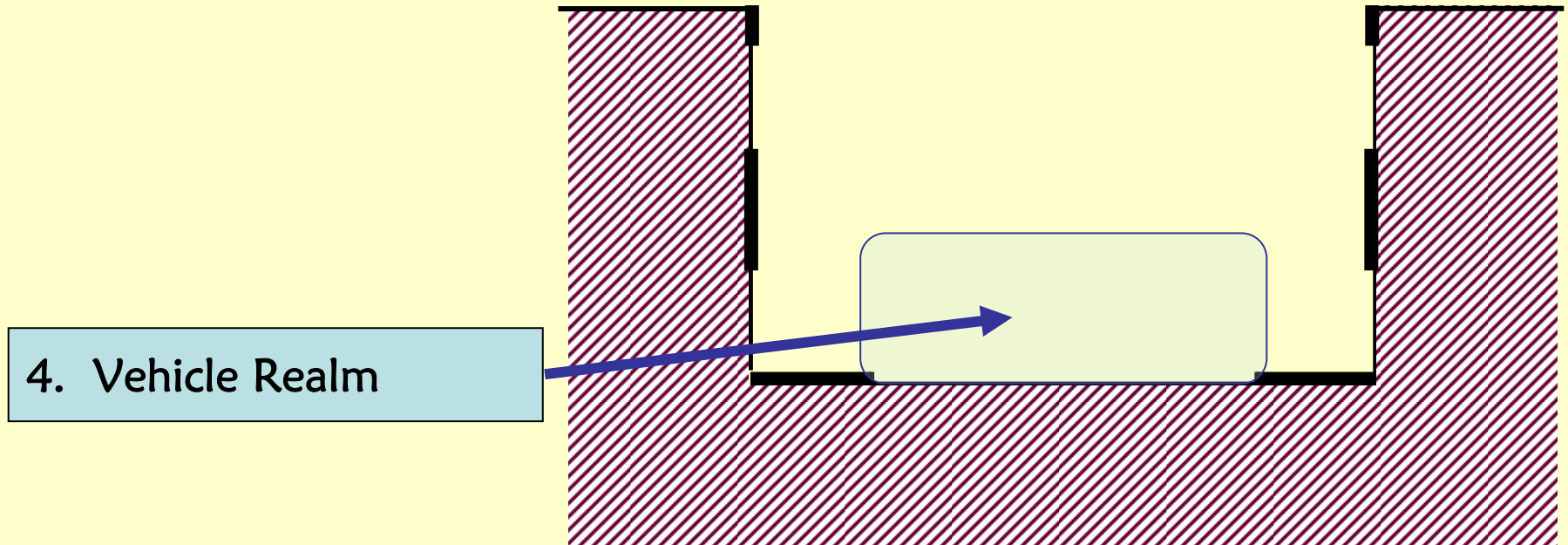
Lighting

Canopies & Arcades





# Characteristics of Street Elements



## 4. Vehicle Realm

Characteristics:

Number of Lanes

On-Street Parking

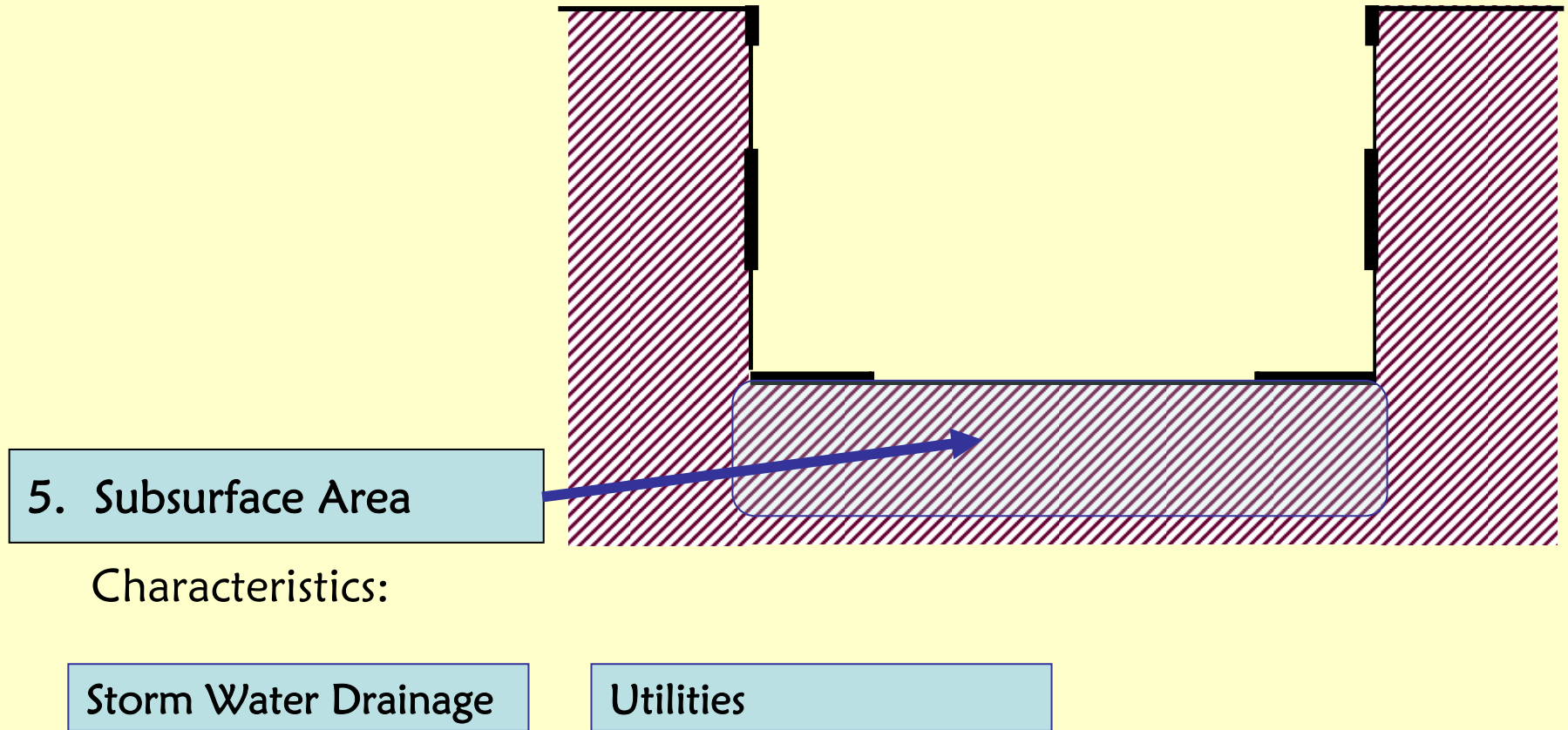
Traffic Volume

Lane Width

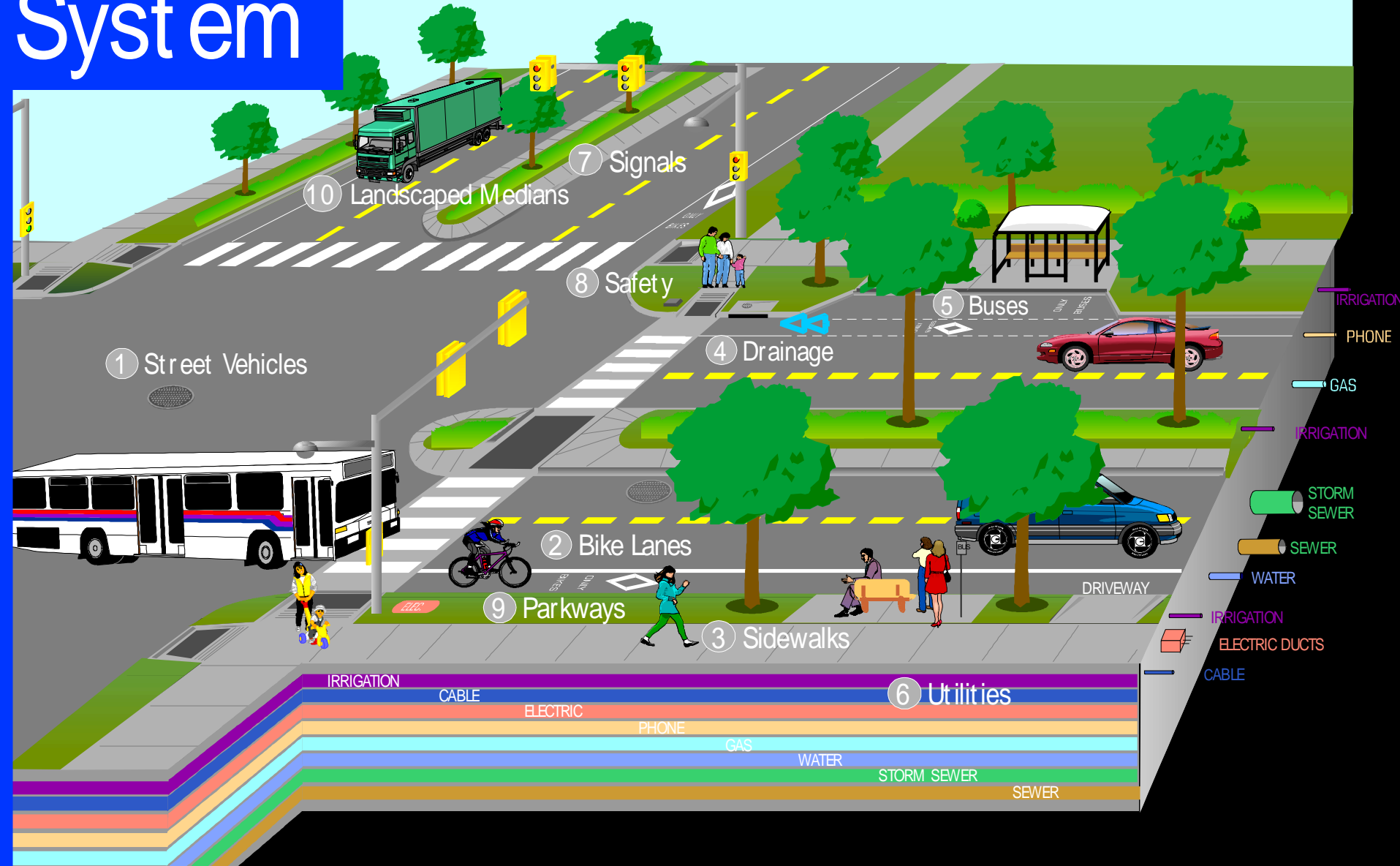
Traffic Speed

Traffic Control Systems

# Characteristics of Street Elements



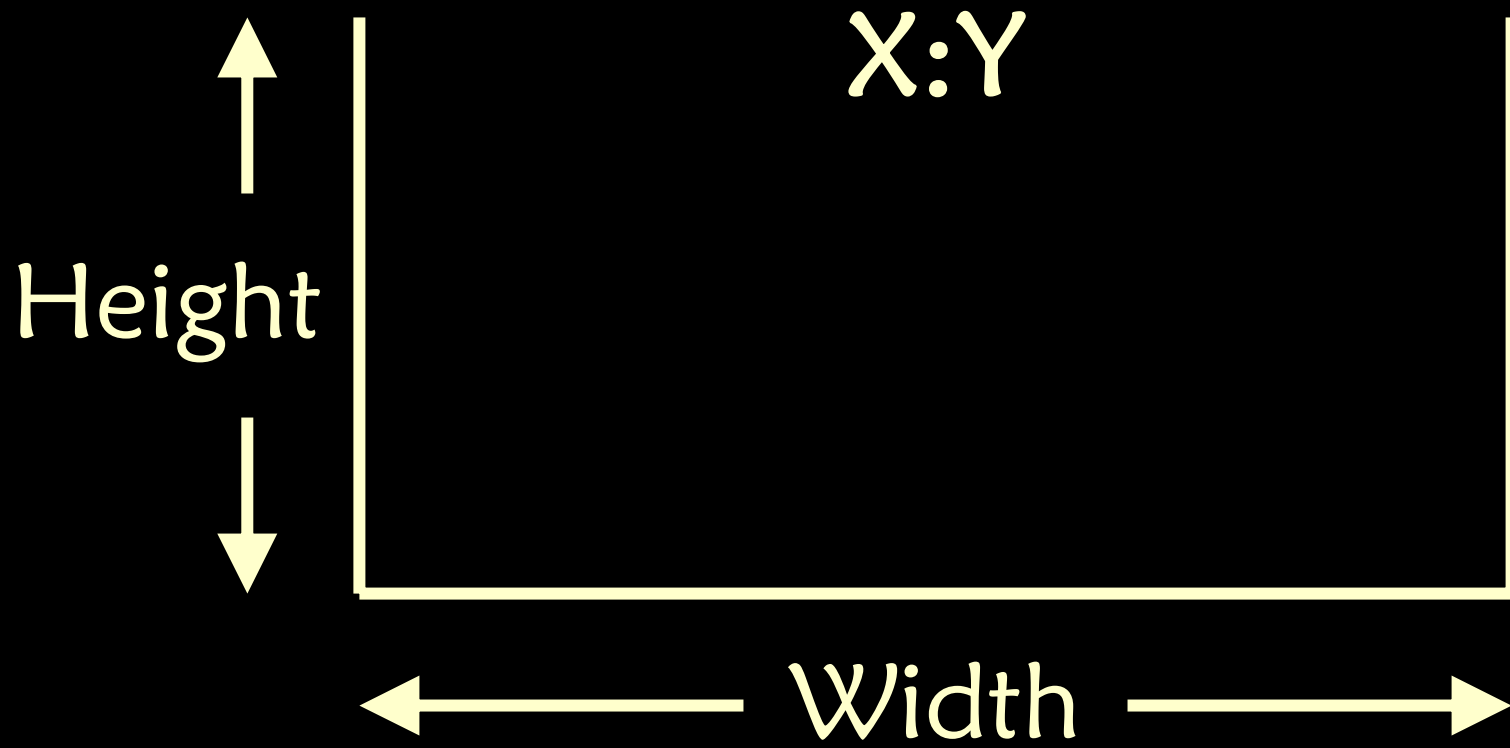
# Street System



# Urban Scale

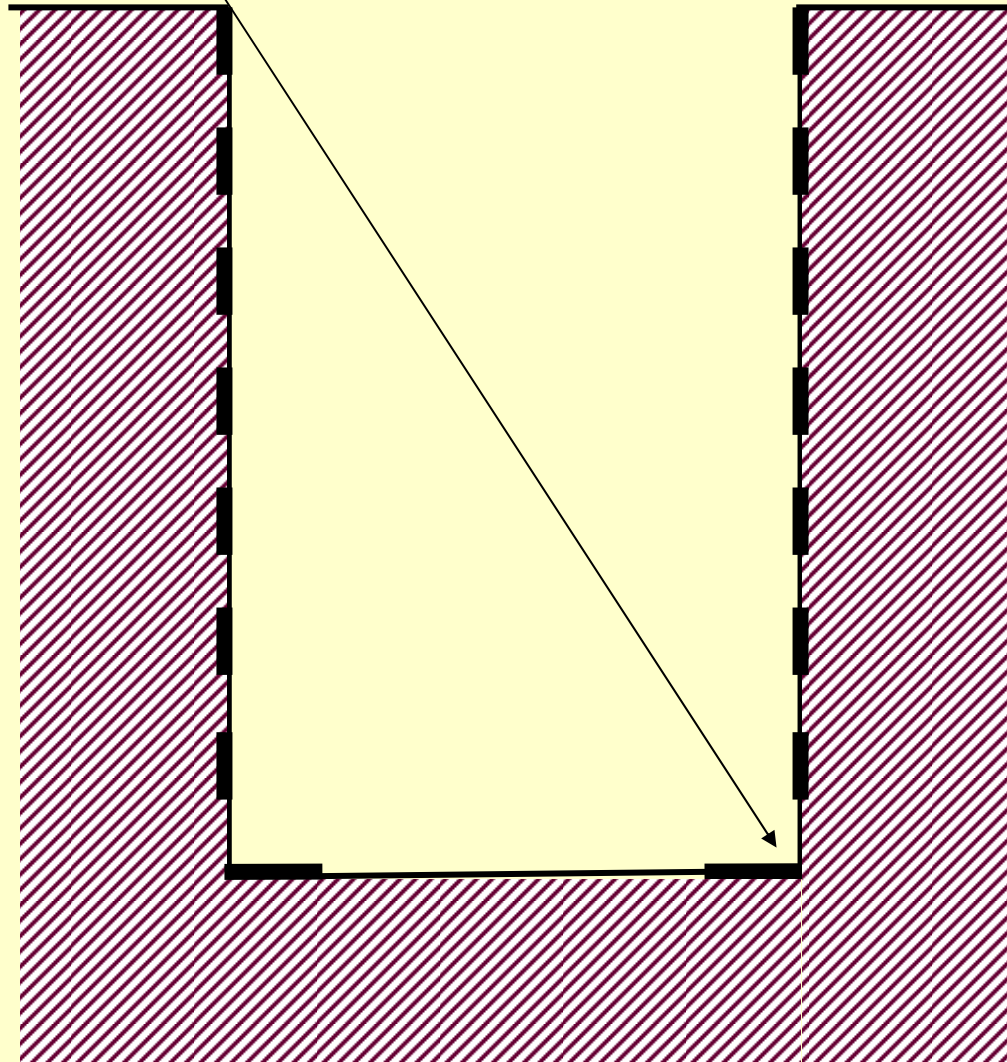
Urban Design Concepts

# Height to Width Ratio



# Urban Scale

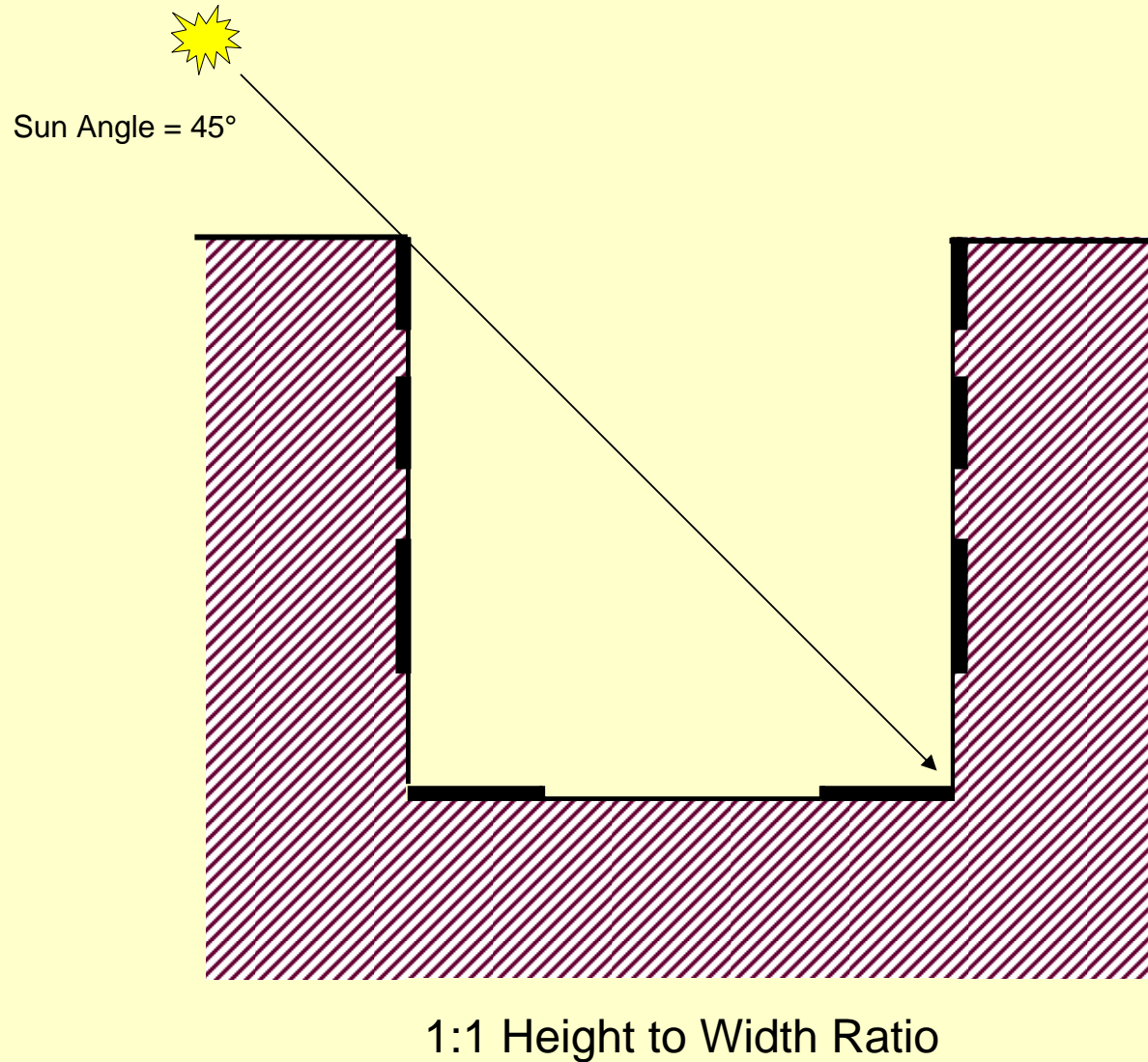
Sun Angle =  $66^\circ$



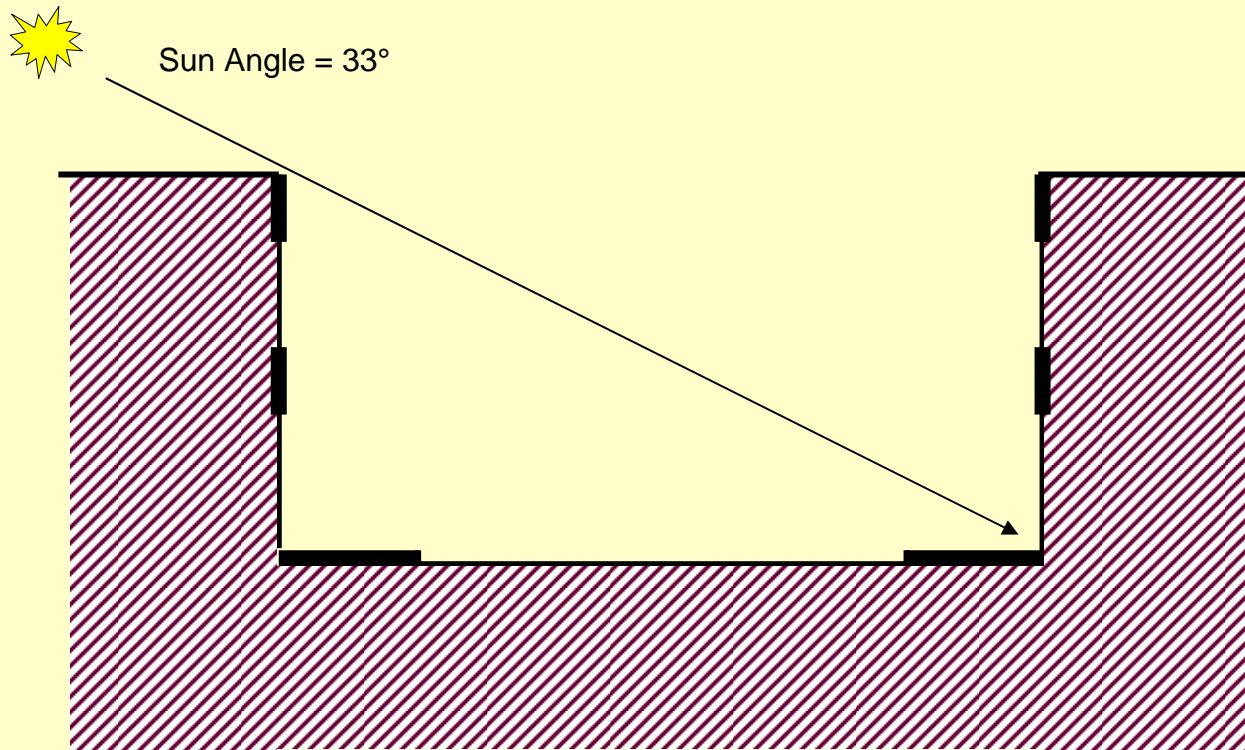
3:2 Height to Width Ratio



# Urban Scale

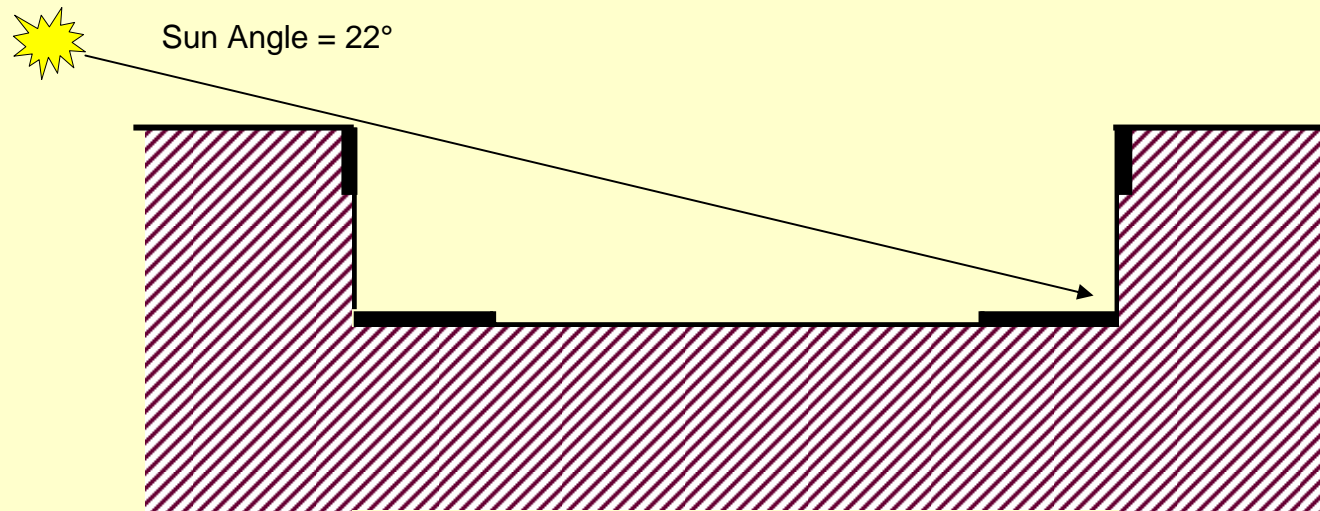


# Urban Scale



1:2 Height to Width Ratio

# Urban Scale

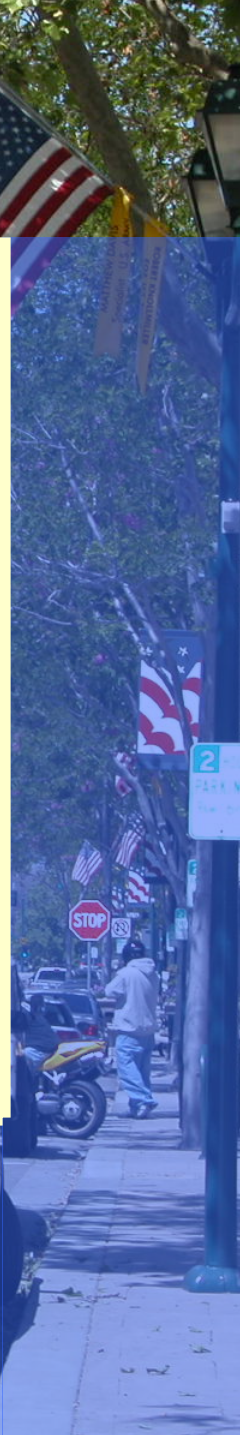


1:4 Height to Width Ratio

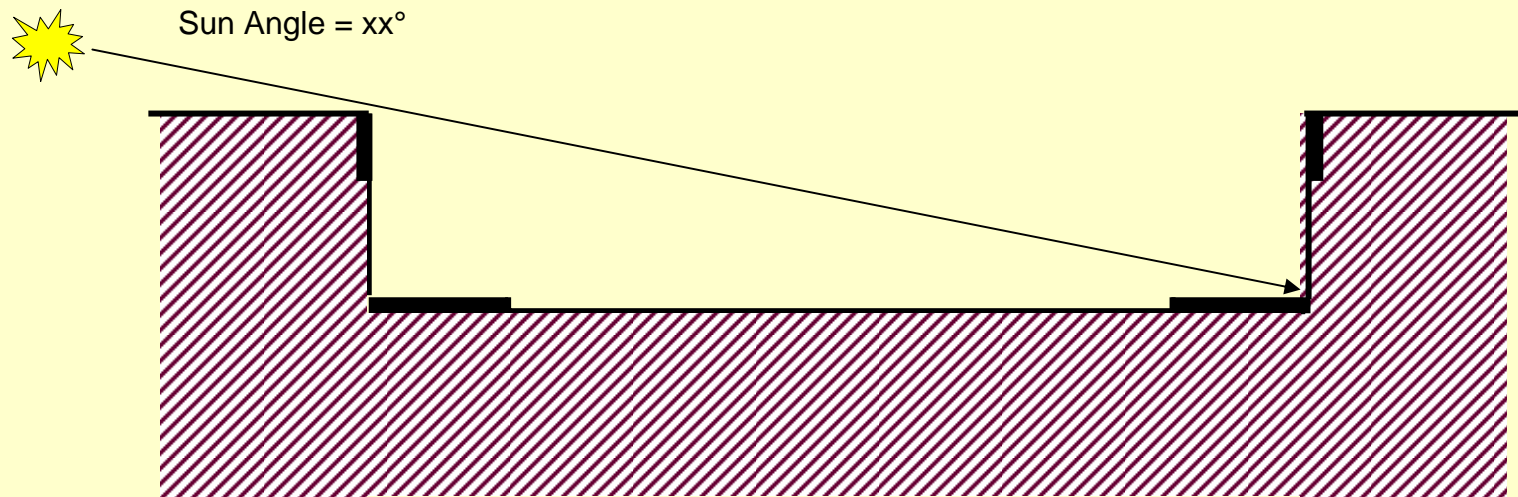








# Urban Scale



1:5 Height to Width Ratio





# Pedestrian Environments

**“Pedestrian Friendly”**



# Pedestrian Environment Continuum



# Pedestrian Place/District

- Mixed use with retail
- Gathering place – identifiable as a PLACE
- Significant pedestrian presence
- Motor vehicles present, do not dominate
- Supportive transportation required (parking, transit, bike)



# Pedestrian Supportive

- Mixed use including residential
- May include gathering PLACES
- Pedestrians present at busy times
- Motor vehicles present, do not dominate



# Pedestrian Tolerant

- All land uses except freeway & certain special uses (airport runway, garbage dump, etc.)
- Utilitarian walking & rambling only
- Motor vehicles present, may tend to dominate

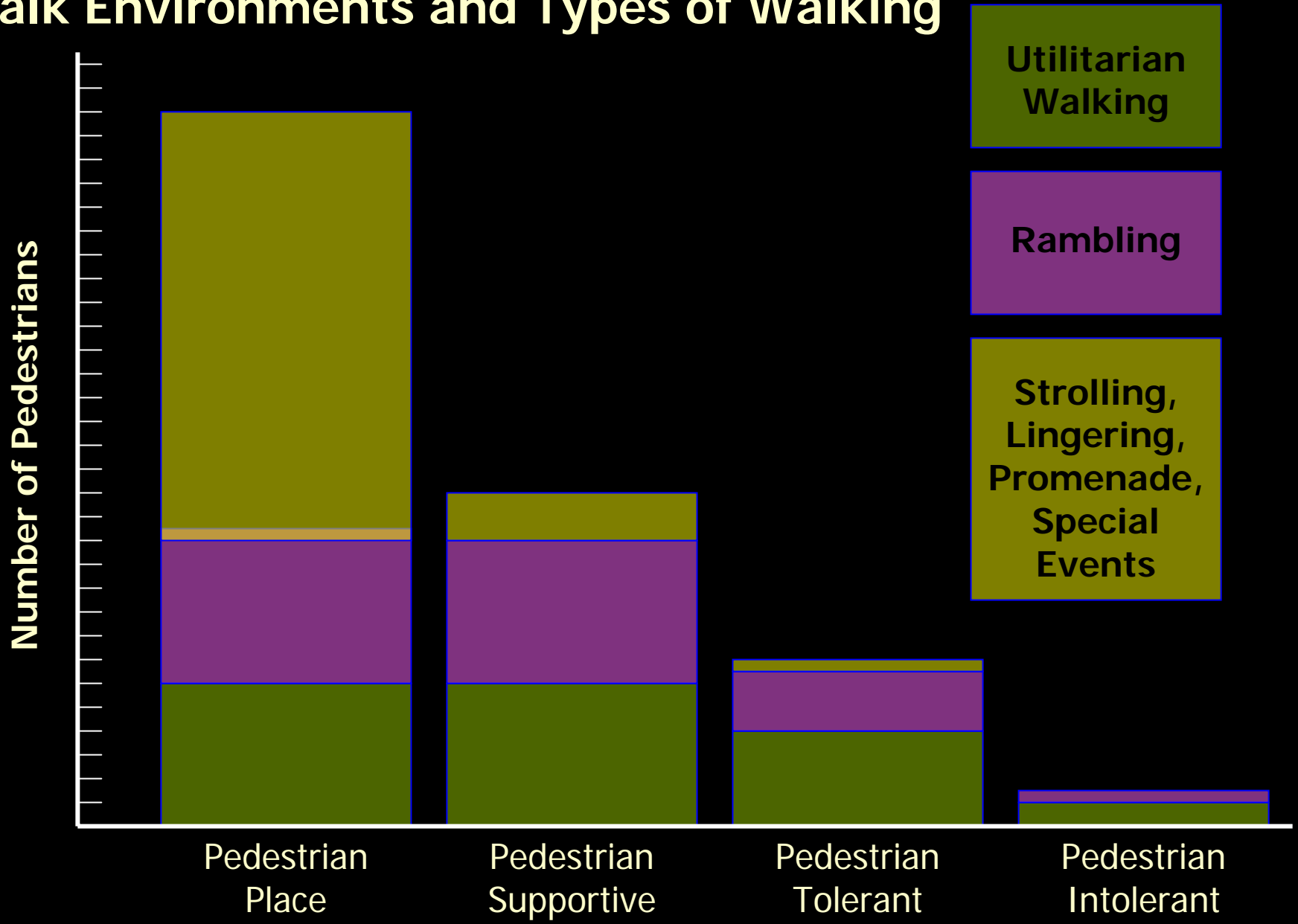


# Pedestrian Intolerant

- Any land use
- Little or no walking
- Motor vehicles dominate
- Unsafe, unpleasant



# Walk Environments and Types of Walking



# Practical Pedestrian Strategies

- Adopt “complete streets” design standards
  - Private development
  - Public works projects (context sensitive)
- Apply concurrency/adequate public facility requirements to development projects
- Designate “safe routes to school”
- Focus public investment in high priority pedestrian districts and school routes
- Get serious about maintenance

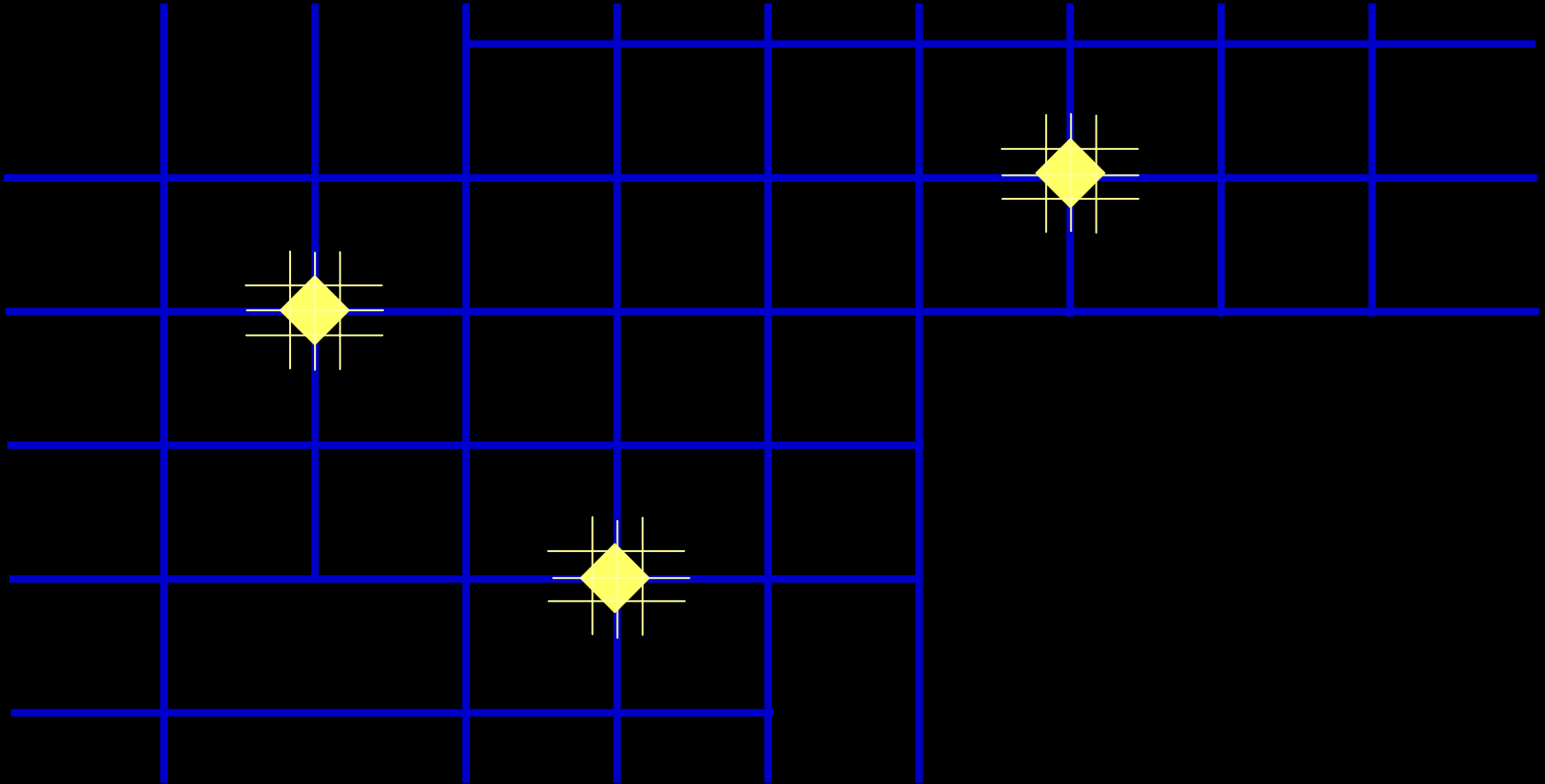
# Setting Priorities

## Practical Implementation Strategies





# Real-World Pedestrian Structure (Nodes and Corridors)



# Complete Streets – Design Standards

Practical Implementation Strategies



An ITE Proposed Recommended Practice

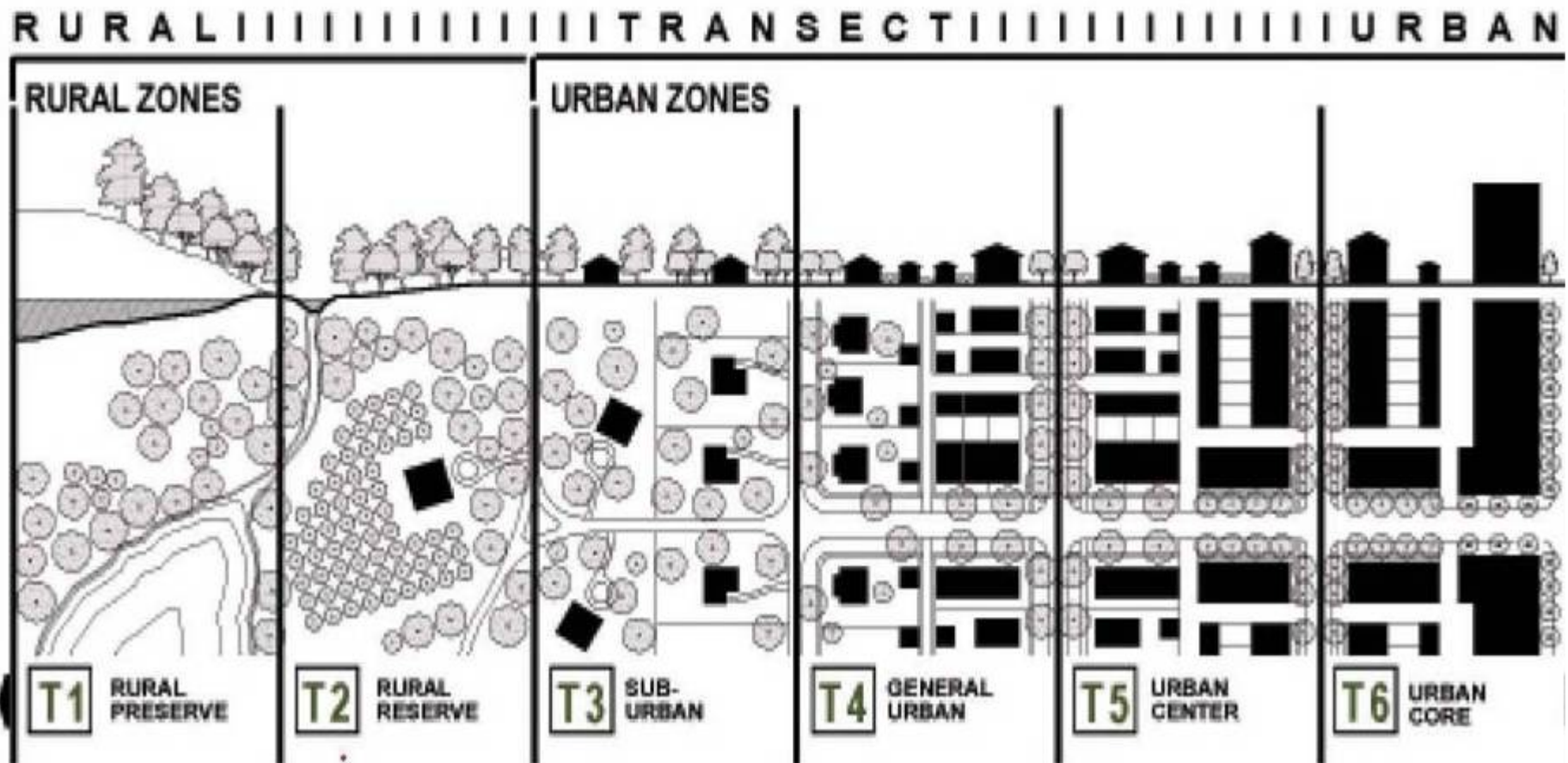
Context Sensitive Solutions  
in Designing Major Urban Thoroughfares  
for Walkable Communities



Institute of Transportation Engineers

● 32 Vel  
□ 16 Per

# Design Reflecting Context




# Pedestrian & Streetscape Guide

Sponsored by the  
**Georgia**  
Department  
of  
Transportation



September 2003

Prepared by:  
Otak, Inc. 

# Top 3 Pedestrian Design Issues

1. Continuous sidewalks – both sides of street
2. Street crossings
  - Shorten crossings
  - Slow traffic
3. Modern curb ramps

# 1. Continuous Sidewalks





Sidewalks should be on both sides of the street and continuous



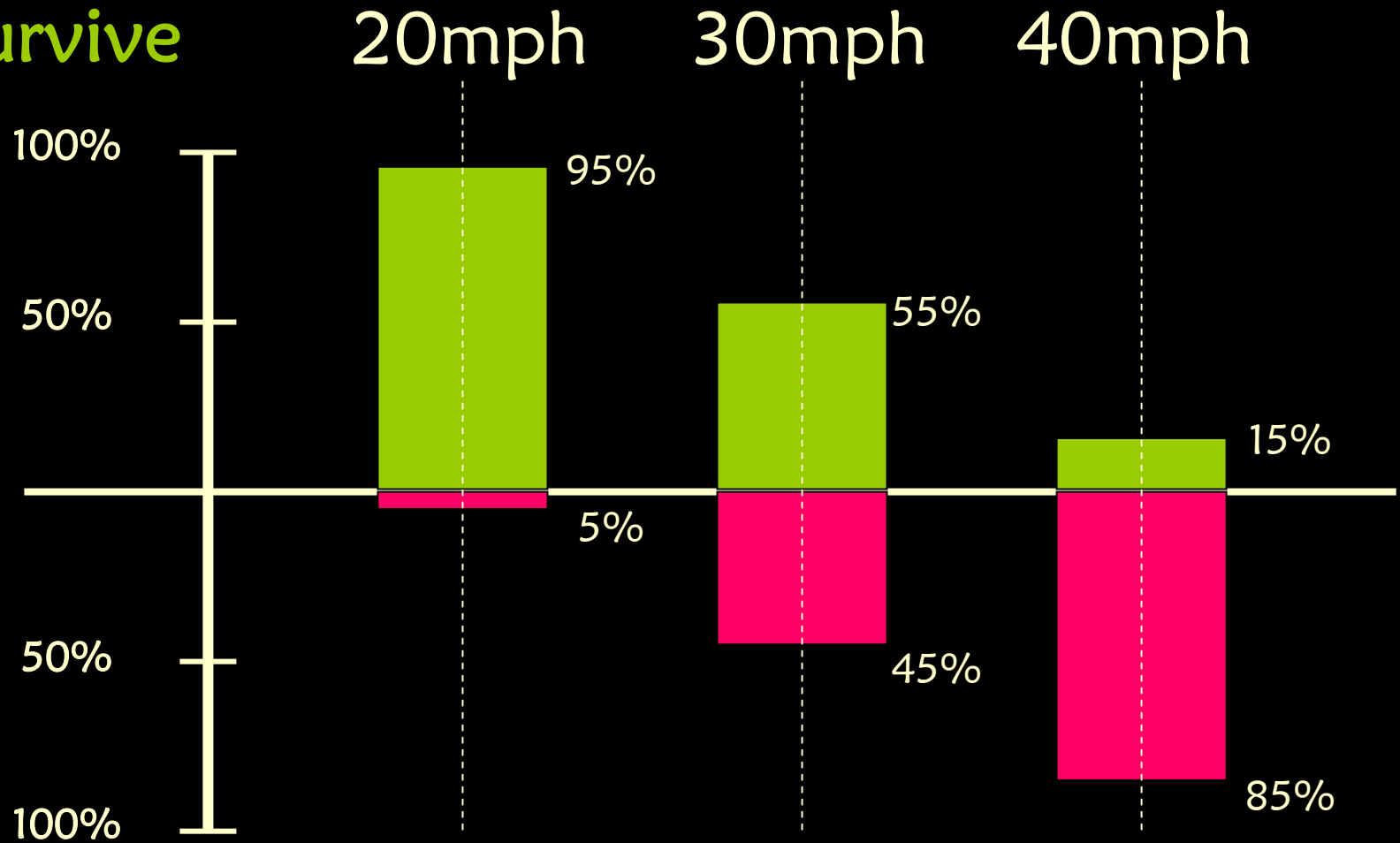


## 2. Street Crossings



# Pedestrian Survival Rates – Vehicle Speeds

% survive



% die



# Pedestrian Crossing Time

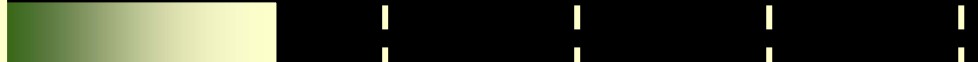
Curb Extensions: **YES**

Lane Width: **12 ft**

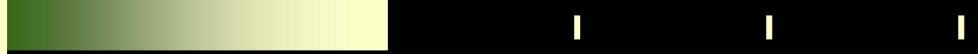
Walk Speed: **250 fpm**

**Seconds: 5 10 15 20 25**

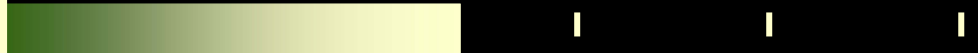
2 lane w/ parking



3 lane w/ parking



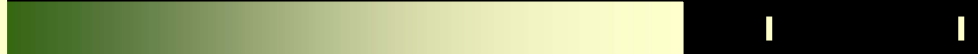
4 lane no parking



4 lane w/ parking



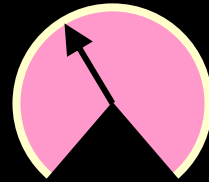
6 lane no parking



8 lane no parking



# Vehicle Approach Time



25 mph

**Feet:**

200

400

600

800

1000

1200

1400

2 lane w/ parking

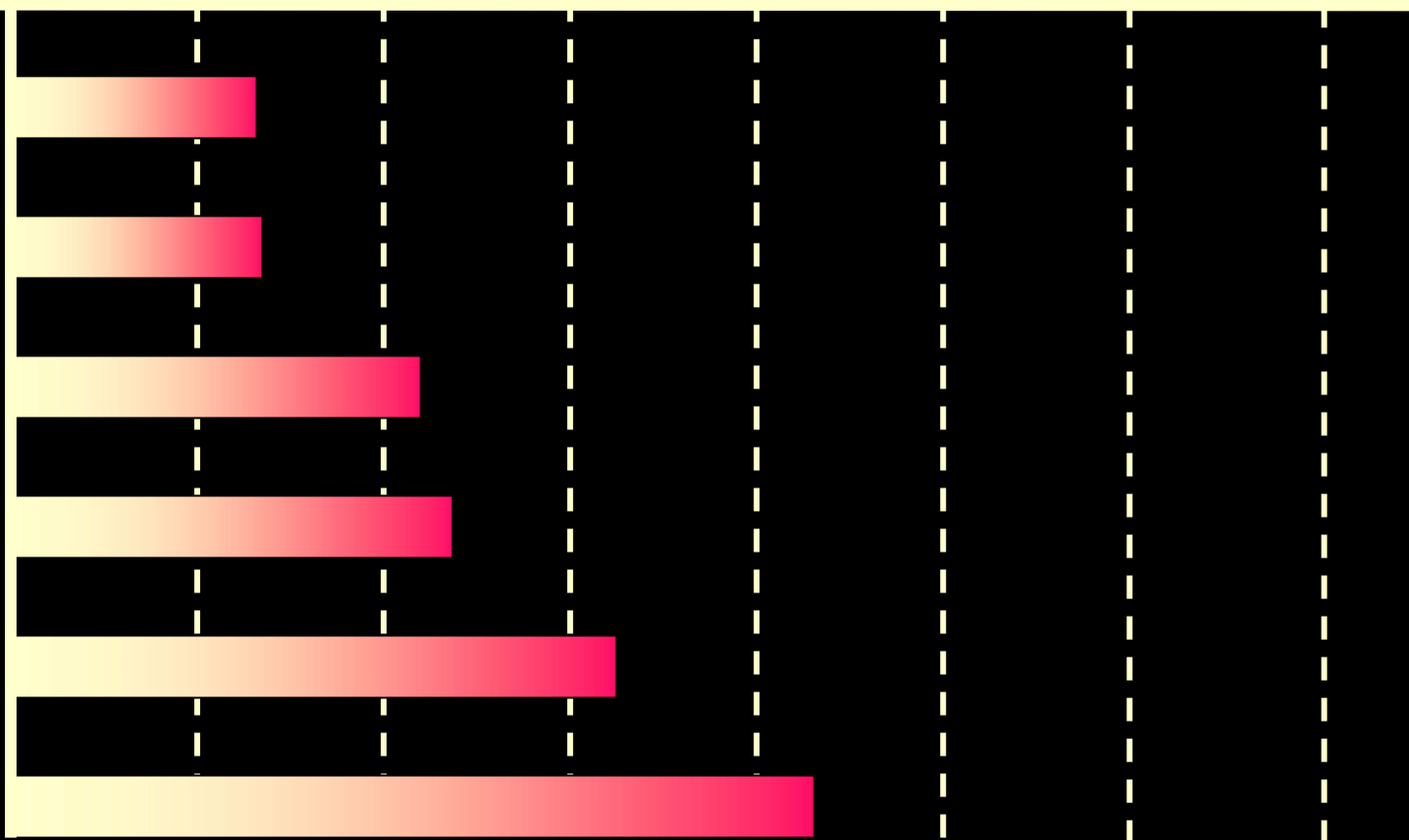
3 lane w/ parking

4 lane no parking

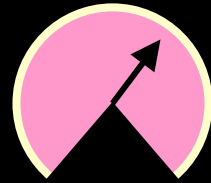
4 lane w/ parking

6 lane no parking

8 lane no parking



# Vehicle Approach Time



45 mph

**Feet:**

200

400

600

800

1000

1200

1400

2 lane w/ parking

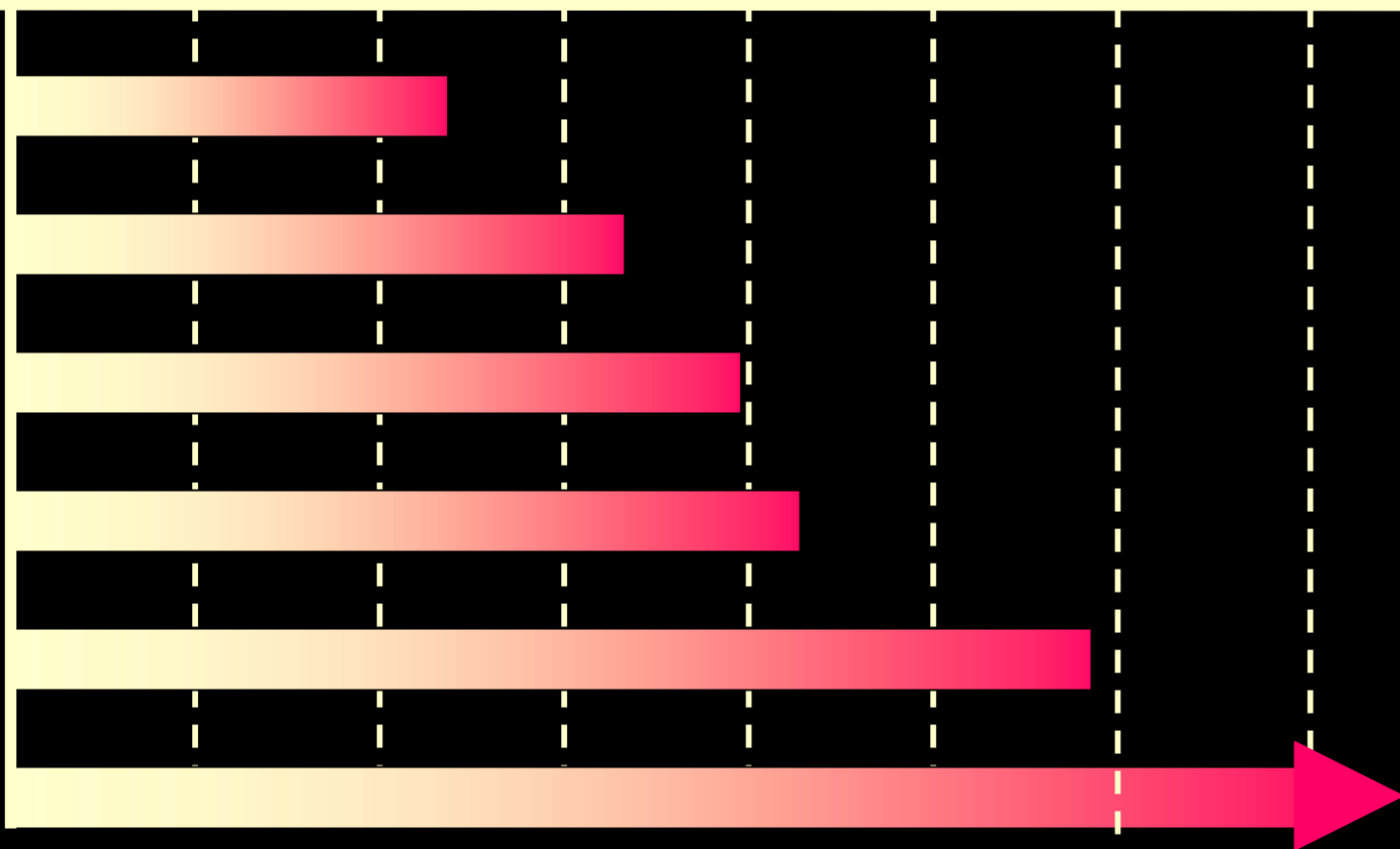
3 lane w/ parking

4 lane no parking

4 lane w/ parking

6 lane no parking

8 lane no parking





The diagram shows a top-down view of a road intersection. A central vertical yellow dashed line represents the road's centerline. Two horizontal yellow dashed lines represent the road's edges. In the top-left and top-right corners, there are dark green circular areas representing obstacles. Red dashed arrows show a path starting from the top, curving sharply to the left and then to the right, staying close to the obstacles. In the bottom-left and bottom-right corners, there are teal circular areas representing obstacles. Blue dashed arrows show a path starting from the bottom, curving sharply to the left and then to the right, staying close to the obstacles. The text "Keep Turning Radii Tight" is centered in the middle of the diagram.

Keep Turning Radii Tight

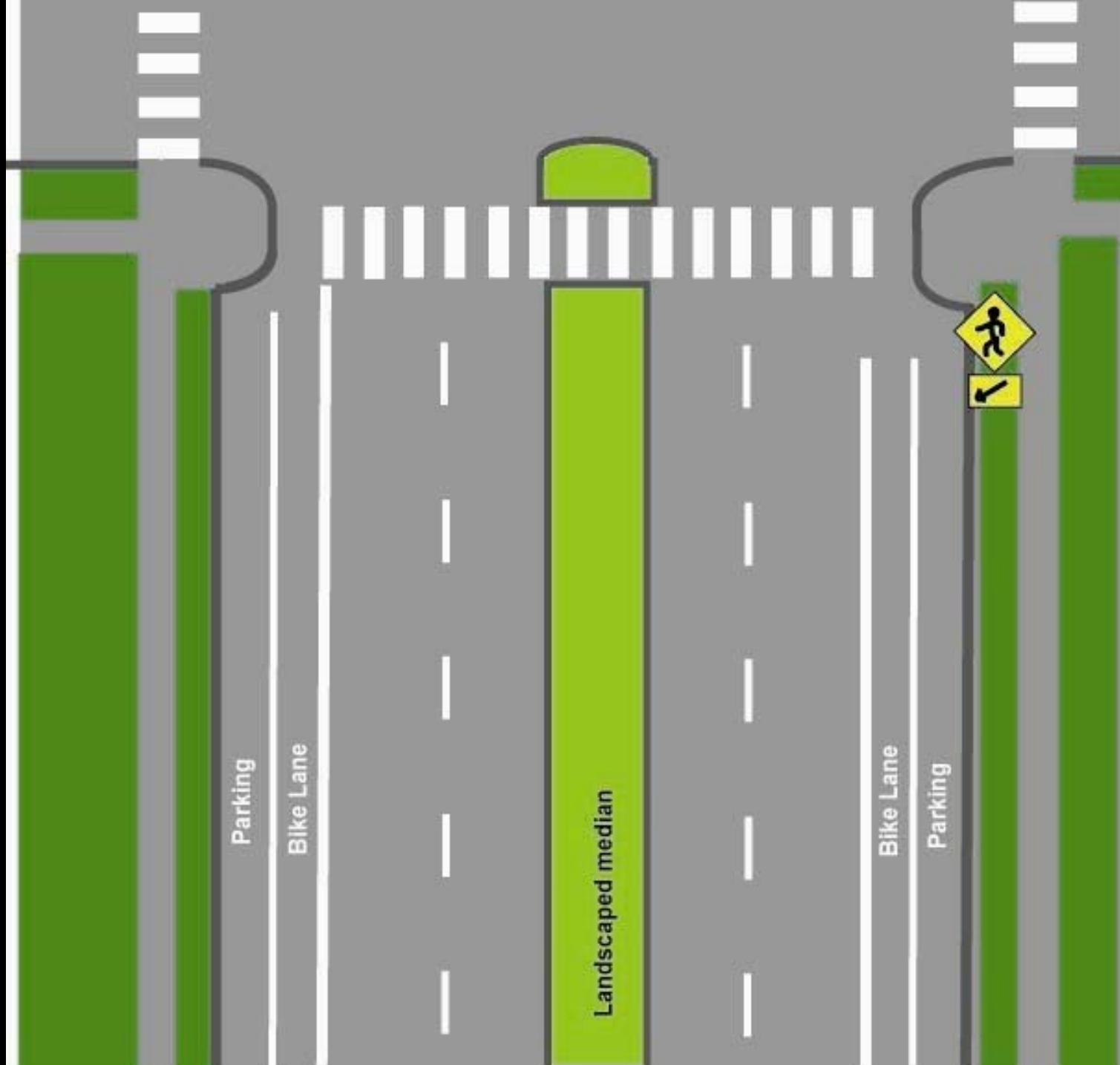


# Effect of large radius on crosswalk:



**Additional area to cross  
+ Higher speed turns**

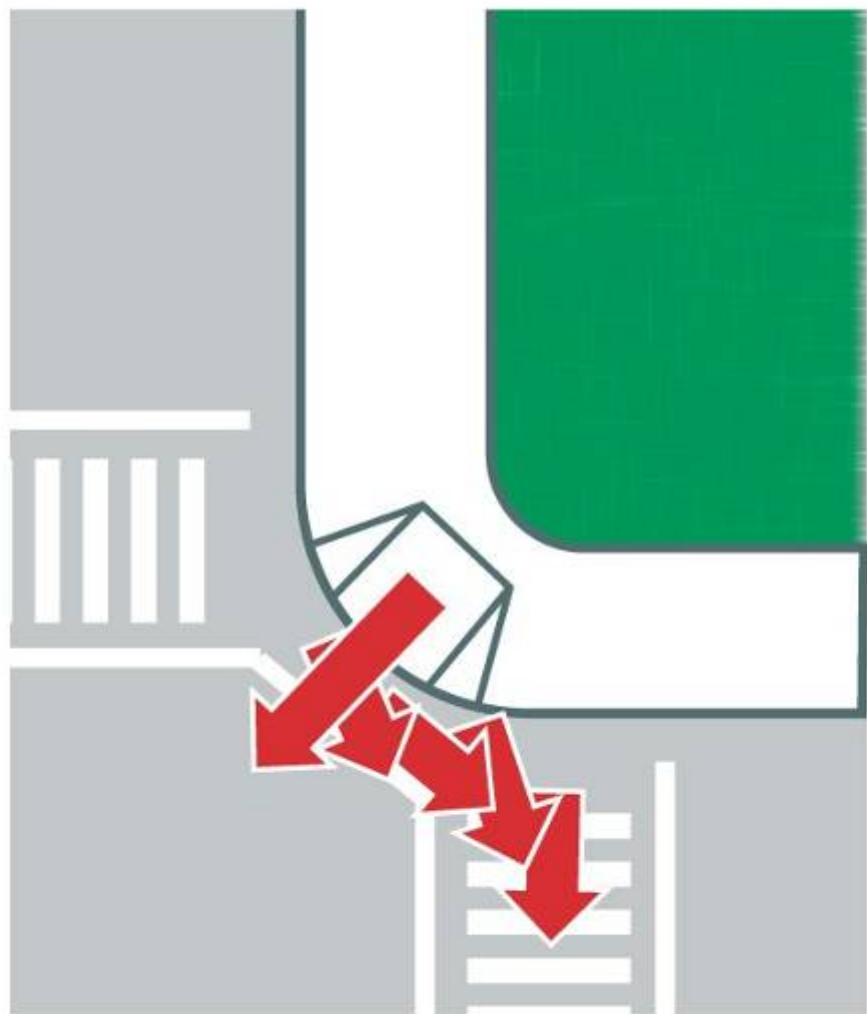




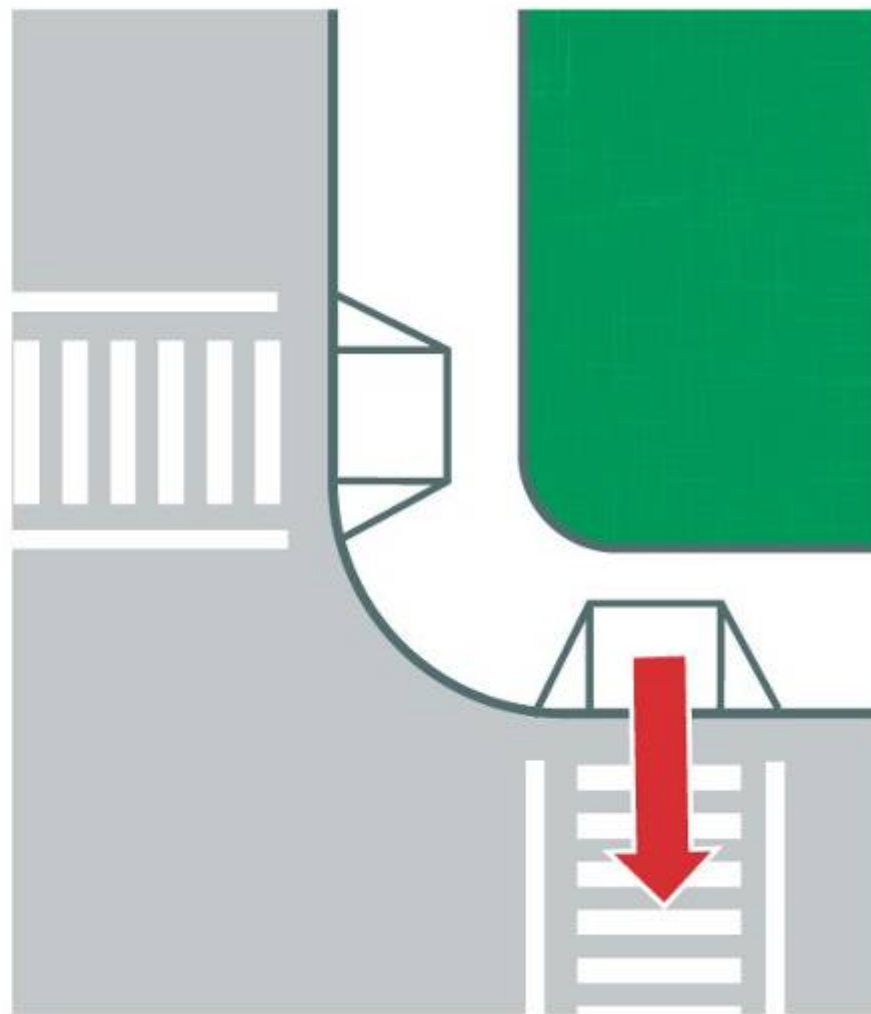
# 3. Modern Curb Ramps

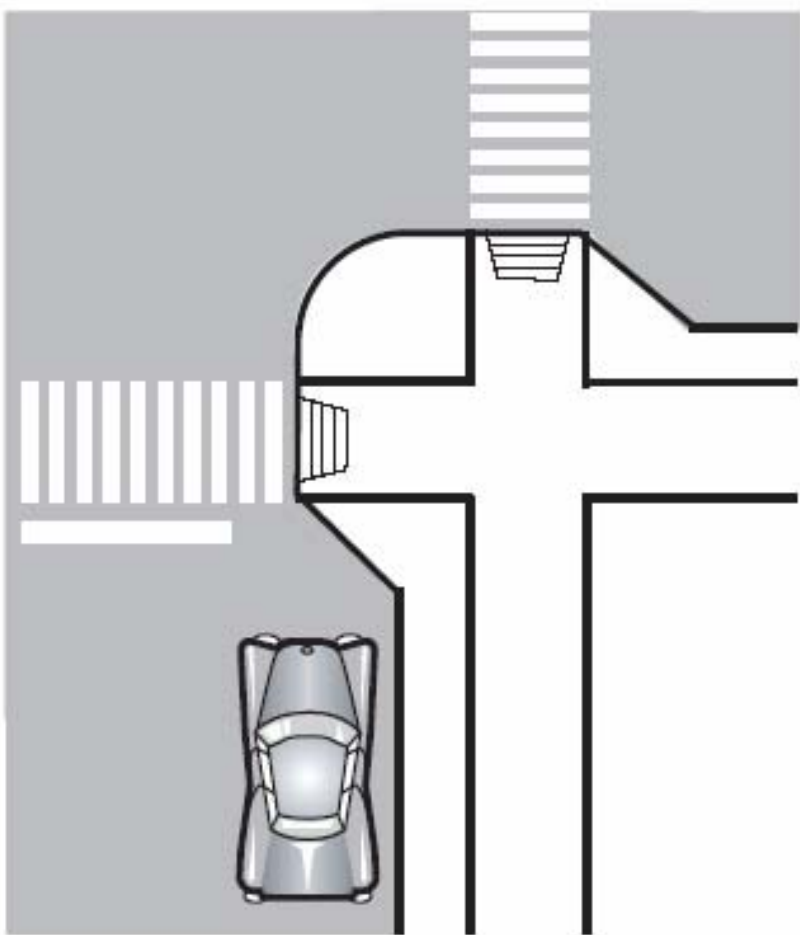


Diagnoal Curb Ramp

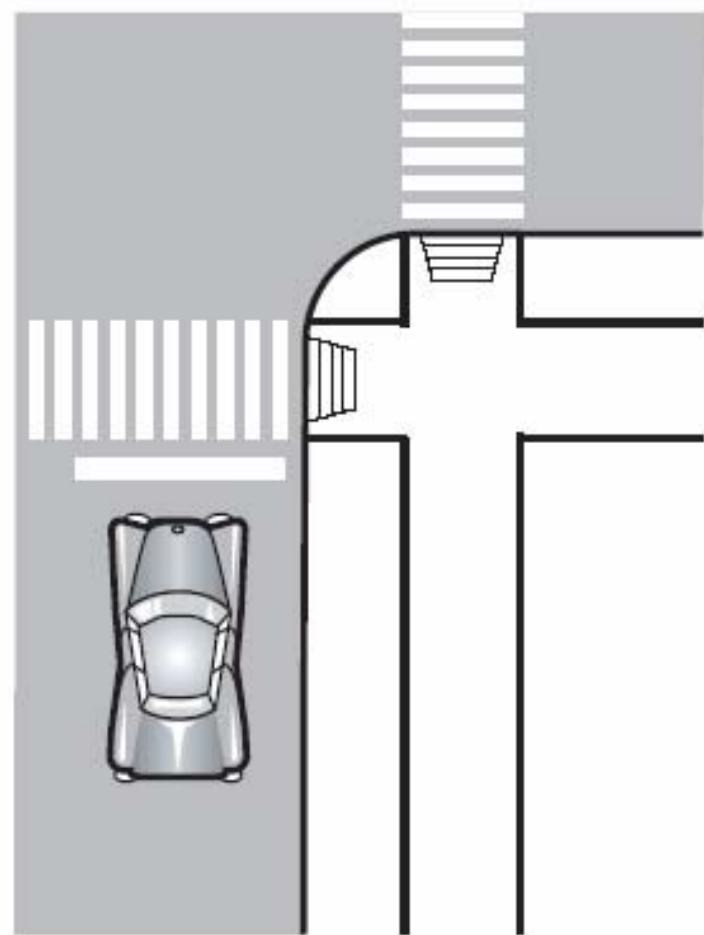


Perpendicular Curb Ramp





Pair of perpendicular curb ramps with curb extensions and on-street parking



Pair of perpendicular curb ramps aligning with crosswalks

# Bicycle & Non-Motorized Systems

Practical Implementation Strategies



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# Practical Non-Motorized Strategies

- Build a spine route – an iconic corridor
- Formally approve parallel redundancy
- Designate primary & secondary bike corridors and prioritize public spending
- Map missing links
- Create route IDs for primary corridors
- Take advantage of modern design
- Consider road diets
- Get serious about maintenance
- Use the Web to map/promote bicycling

# Build a Spine Route (Iconic Corridor)

## Practical Implementation Strategies



# Formally Approve Parallel Redundancy

Practical Implementation Strategies







## “Type A” Cyclist:

- comfortable in traffic
- prefers direct but safe routes
- rides with or without bicycle facilities present

## “Type B/C” Cyclist:

- less skilled adults and children
- intimidated by traffic
- prefer designated facilities (bike lanes and multi-use paths)



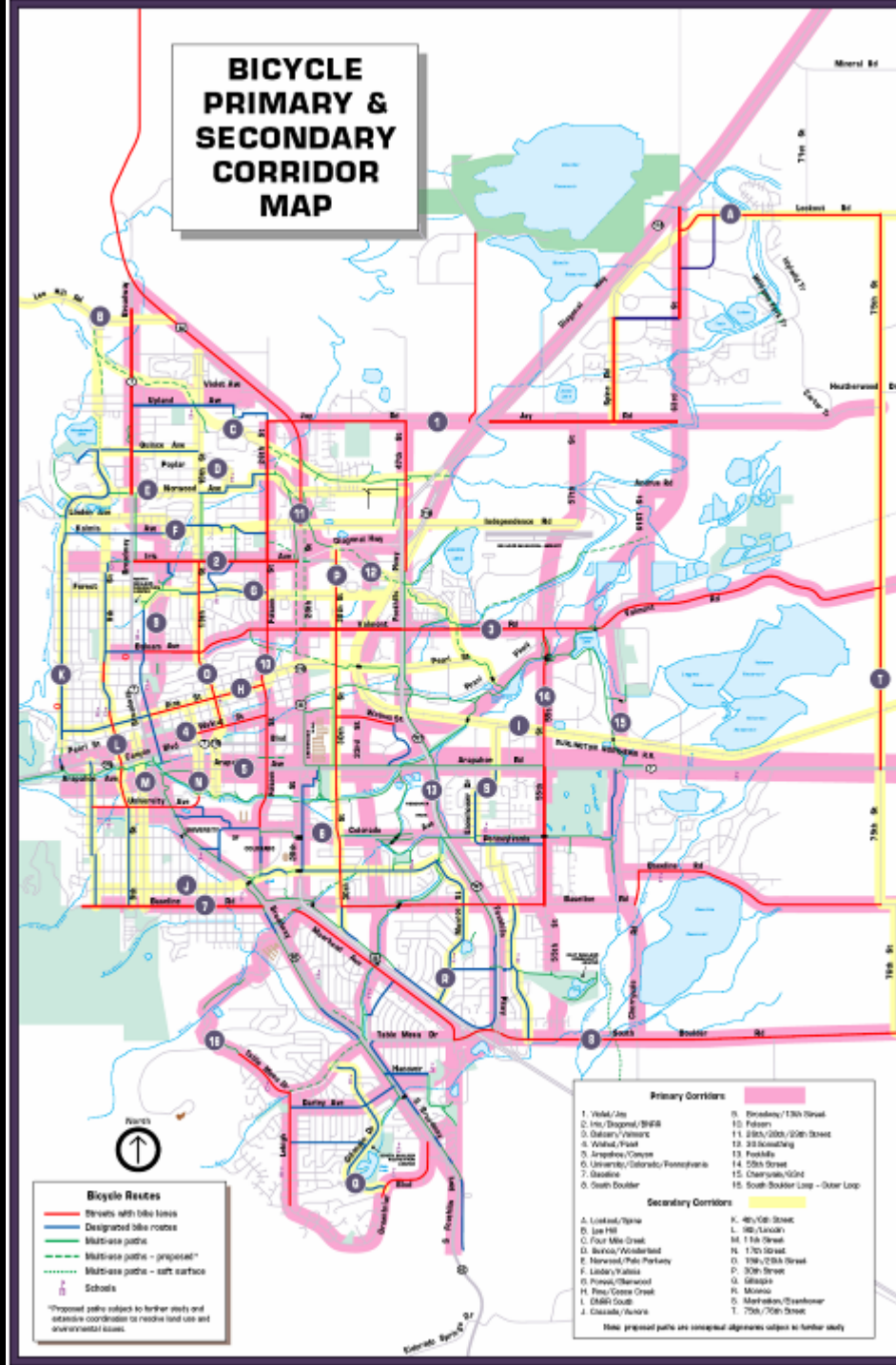
# Designate Primary & Secondary Corridors & Prioritize Funding

## Practical Implementation Strategies



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# Boulder Transportation Master Plan



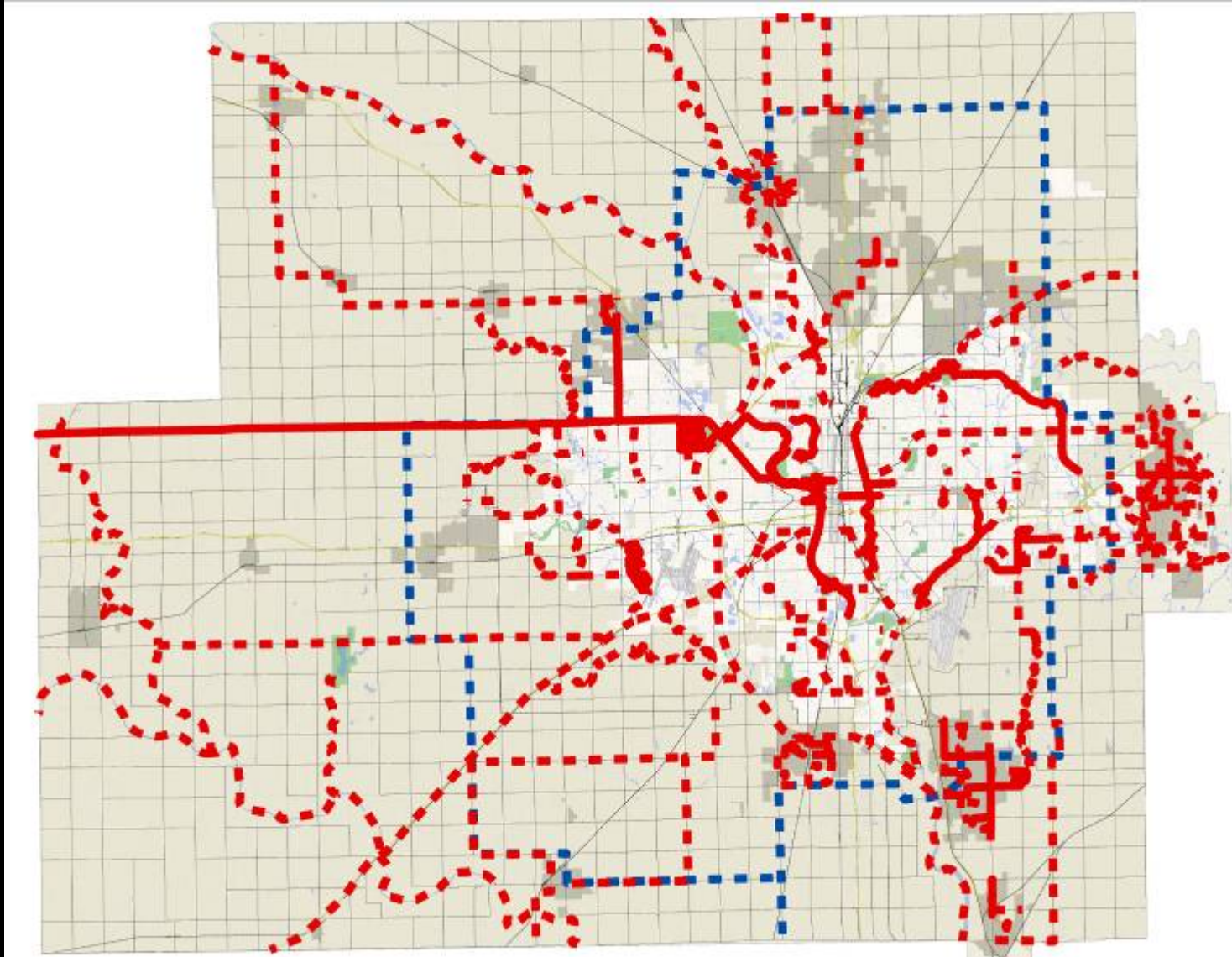




# Previously Proposed Facilities

Wichita

- 421 miles off-road paths
- 0 miles on-street bicycle lanes
- 0 miles paved shoulders



# Importance of Network Connectivity:



- distance and safety impediments are the major obstacles to overcome
- facility type may change based upon context
- transitions need to be seamless

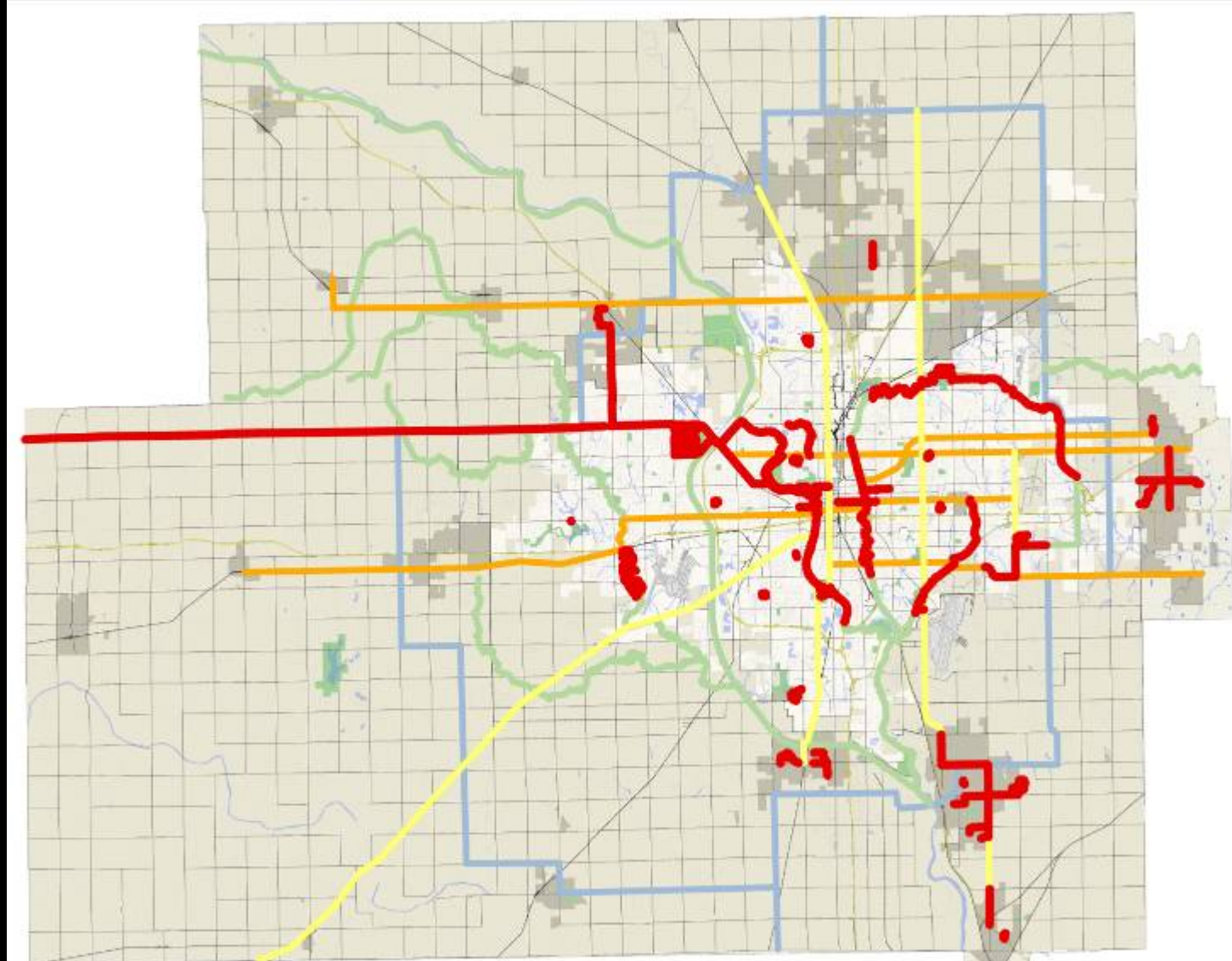




# Primary Corridor System

Wichita

- 164 miles off-road paths
- 67 miles on-street bicycle lanes
- 18 miles paved shoulders



# Map Missing Links

## Practical Implementation Strategies

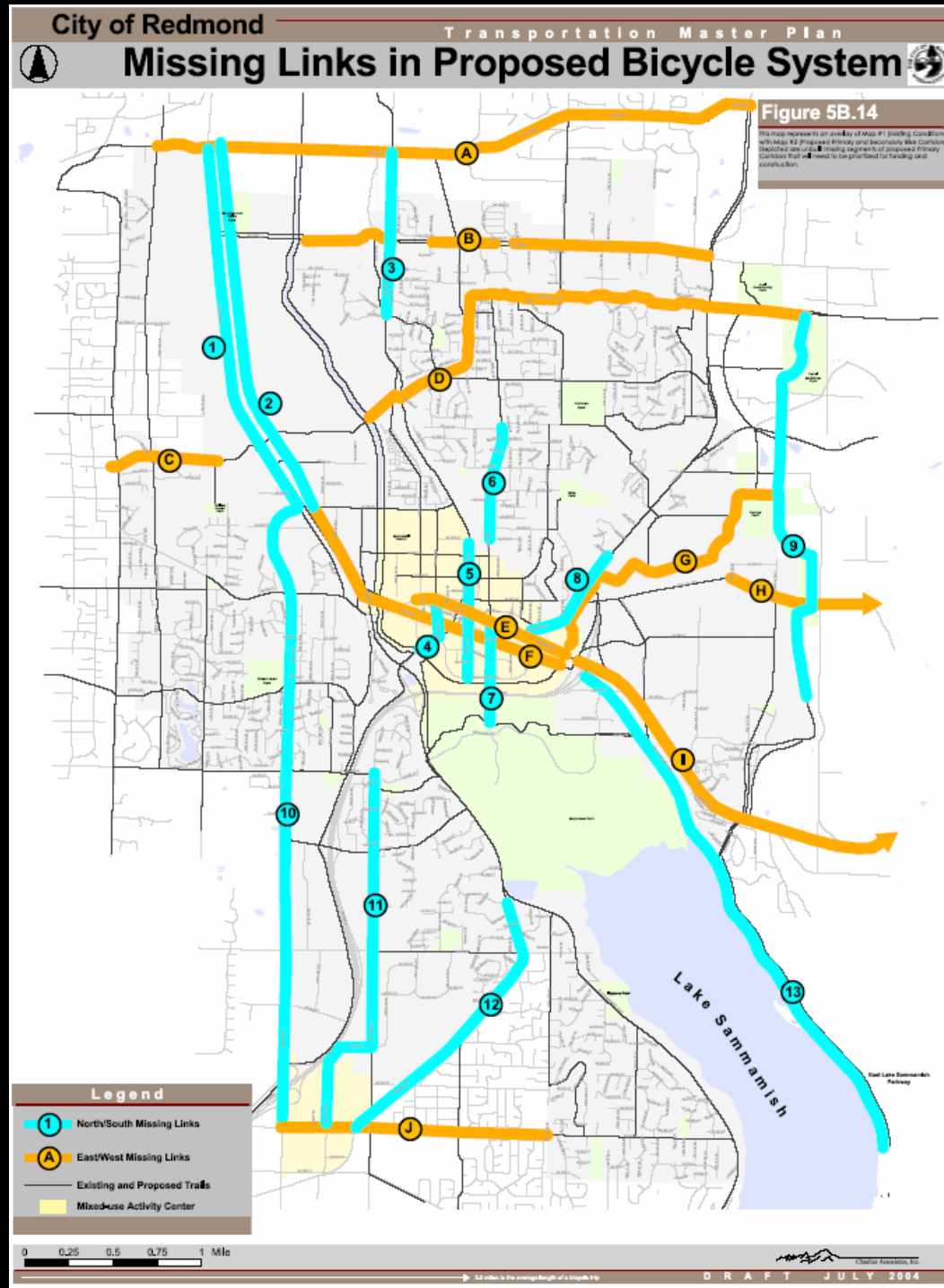






pathway users focus group

# Boulder Transportation Master Plan





### Legend

**Missing Links**

- Existing Facilities Strategies #1 & #2
- Missing Off-Road Trail Links Strategy #3
- On-Street Bicycle Lanes to Link Trails Strategy #4
- Community Connections

**Focus projects**

Local and Collector Streets

Arterial Streets

Highway or Interstate

Rail

Streams

Water Bodies

Parks

Airport

Schools

Major Employer

Minor Employer

WAMPO Boundary

Wichita Urban Growth Boundary

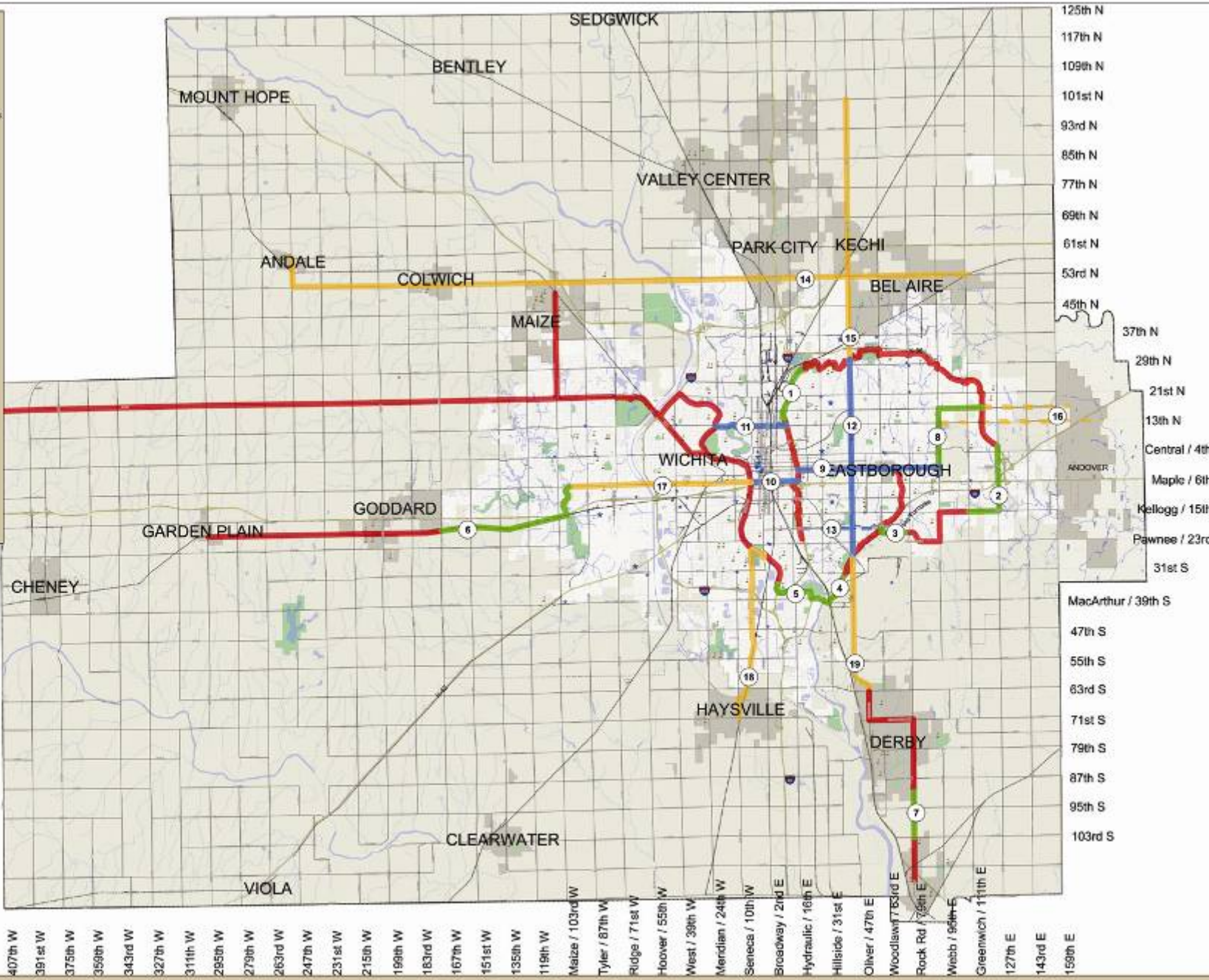
Sedgwick County

Wichita

Surrounding Communities

It is understood that while the City of Wichita City Center Department of Information Systems Department has no intention and does not intend that this map be used as a substitute for a professional engineering or architectural drawing, the City Center Department of Information Systems Department does not warrant, represent, or otherwise, or any other person or entity, for any use of this map or any other information contained herein.

This map is not a legal document and should not be used for legal purposes.



# Missing Links Map

# Create IDs for Primary Corridors

## Practical Implementation Strategies







# Apply Modern Design

## Practical Implementation Strategies



# Paved Shoulders, Pathways or Bike Lanes?

- AASHTO & MUTCD guidelines
- Drop or dash bike lane striping in advance of intersections
- Position bike lanes to left of right-turning vehicular lanes



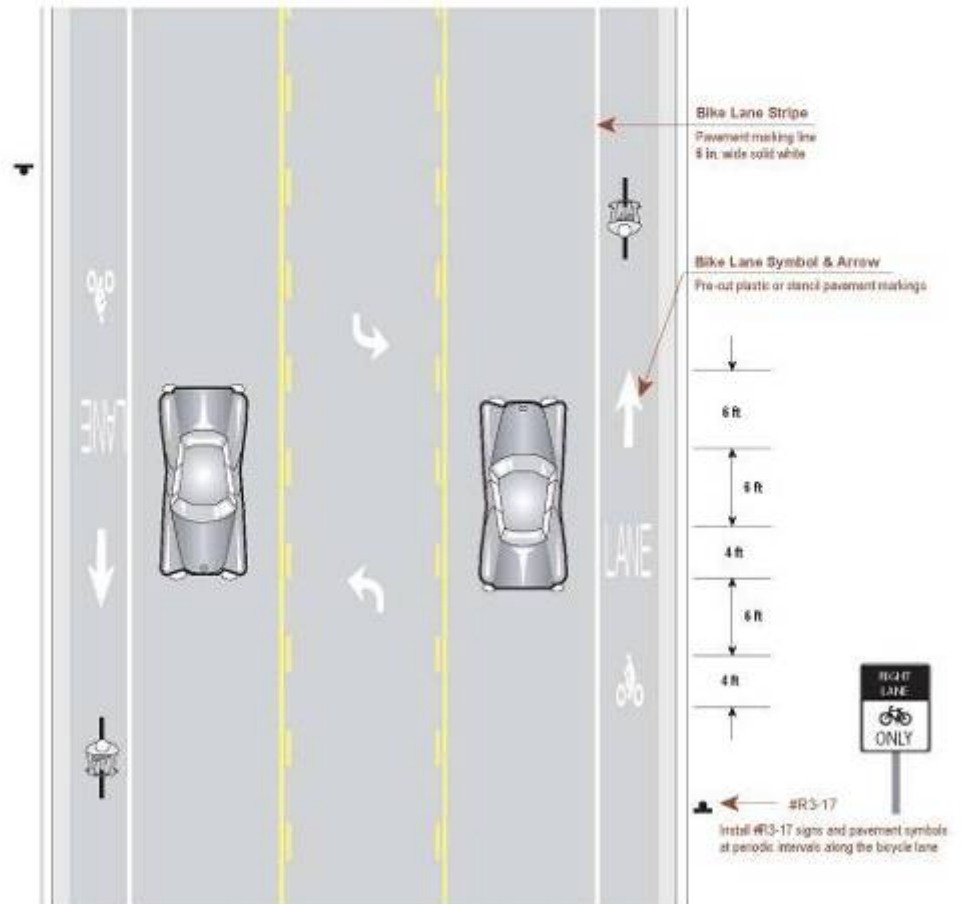
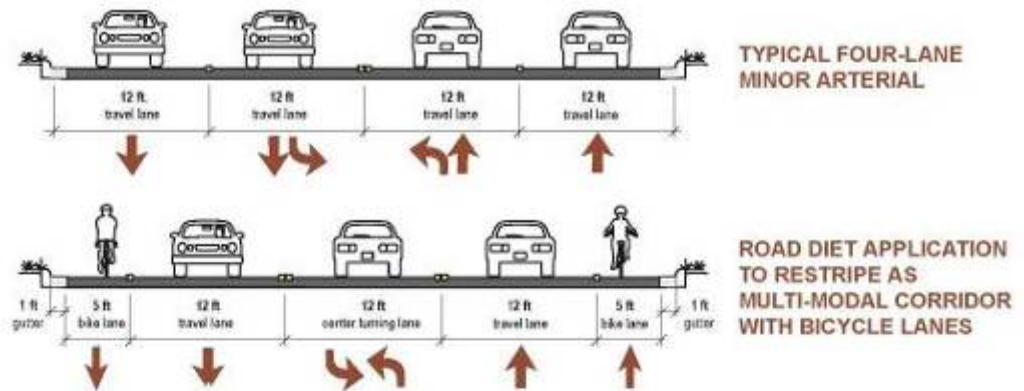
# Consider Road Diets

## Practical Implementation Strategies





# “Road Diet”



**Crash Studies:  
Vehicle-Vehicle**

# U.S.DOT FHWA

## Highway Safety Information System -- Before and After Testing

---

Crash frequency

Road diets: 6% lower

Crash severity

No difference

Crash type

- Road diets had a higher percentage of angle crashes
- Road diets had a lower percentage of rear-end crashes

# University Place, WA

## Bridgeport Way: 5-lane to 4-lane

before



after



### Results

The City has analyzed speed, accident, and economic development data collected before and after the construction of the Bridgeport Way improvements between 35th and 40th Streets. The project's traffic calming features reduced speeds and crashes while increasing business activity. Average speed decreased by 13 percent and traffic accidents were reduced by 60 percent (see table below).

Safety Measures	Before	After	Change
Posted Speed Limit	6 km/h (35 mi/h)	56 km/h (35 mi/h)	Same
Average Actual Speed	1 km/h (37.6 mi/h)	52 km/h (32.6 mi/h)	-13 %
Average Annual Crashes	19	8 (first year)	-60 %

Table 1. Data from before and after the Bridgeport Way redesign.



# “Road Diets” Capacity Comparisons

Lane Reductions of Select Street Conversions-- Volume Changes				
Roadway Section	Change	ADT (Before)	(After)	Notes
1. Lake Washington Blvd., Kirkland, Washington South of 83	4 lanes to 2 + TWLTL + bike lanes	23,000	25,913	
2. Lake Washington Blvd, Kirkland, Washington Near downtown	4 lanes to 2+ TWLTL + bike lanes	11,000	12,610	
3. Electric Avenue, Lewistown, Pennsylvania	4 lanes to 2 + TWLTL + bike lanes	13,000	14,500	
4. Burcham Road, East Lansing, Michigan	4 lanes to 2 + TWLTL + bike lanes	11-14,000	11-14,000	
5. Grand River Boulevard, East Lansing, Michigan	4 lanes to 2 + TWLTL + bike lanes	23,000	23,000	
6. St. George Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada	4 lanes to 2 + bike lanes + wide sidewalks	15,000	15,000	
7. 120th Avenue, NE Bellevue, Washington	4 lanes to 2 + TWLTL	16,900	16,900	
8. Montana (commercial street) Bellevue, Washington	4 lanes to 2 lanes + TWLTL 4 lanes to 2 + median + bike lanes	18,500	18,500	
9. Main Street Santa Monica, California	4 lanes to 2 lanes + TWLTL 4 lanes to 2 + median + bike lanes	20,000	18,000	

# Iowa DOT

## 4-lane to 3-lane Conversions

Roads with less than 20,000 vehicles per day:

- 20%-30% reduction in crashes (due to reduced conflict points and improved sight distance)
- More user friendly to elderly drivers
- LOS remained the same (intersection delay increased from 6.2 sec/veh to 6.7 sec/veh)
- Improved emergency response time
- Improved pedestrian safety

# Get Serious About Maintenance

## Practical Implementation Strategies



Charlier Associates, Inc.

# Maintenance

- Spot improvement program
  - Standard reporting and responsibility assignment
- On-street facility maintenance
  - Sweep right hand edges
  - Maintain drainage grates
- Off-street facility maintenance
  - Remove loose material from pathway surface
  - Fix rough surfaces and post warning signs
- Prioritize snow removal



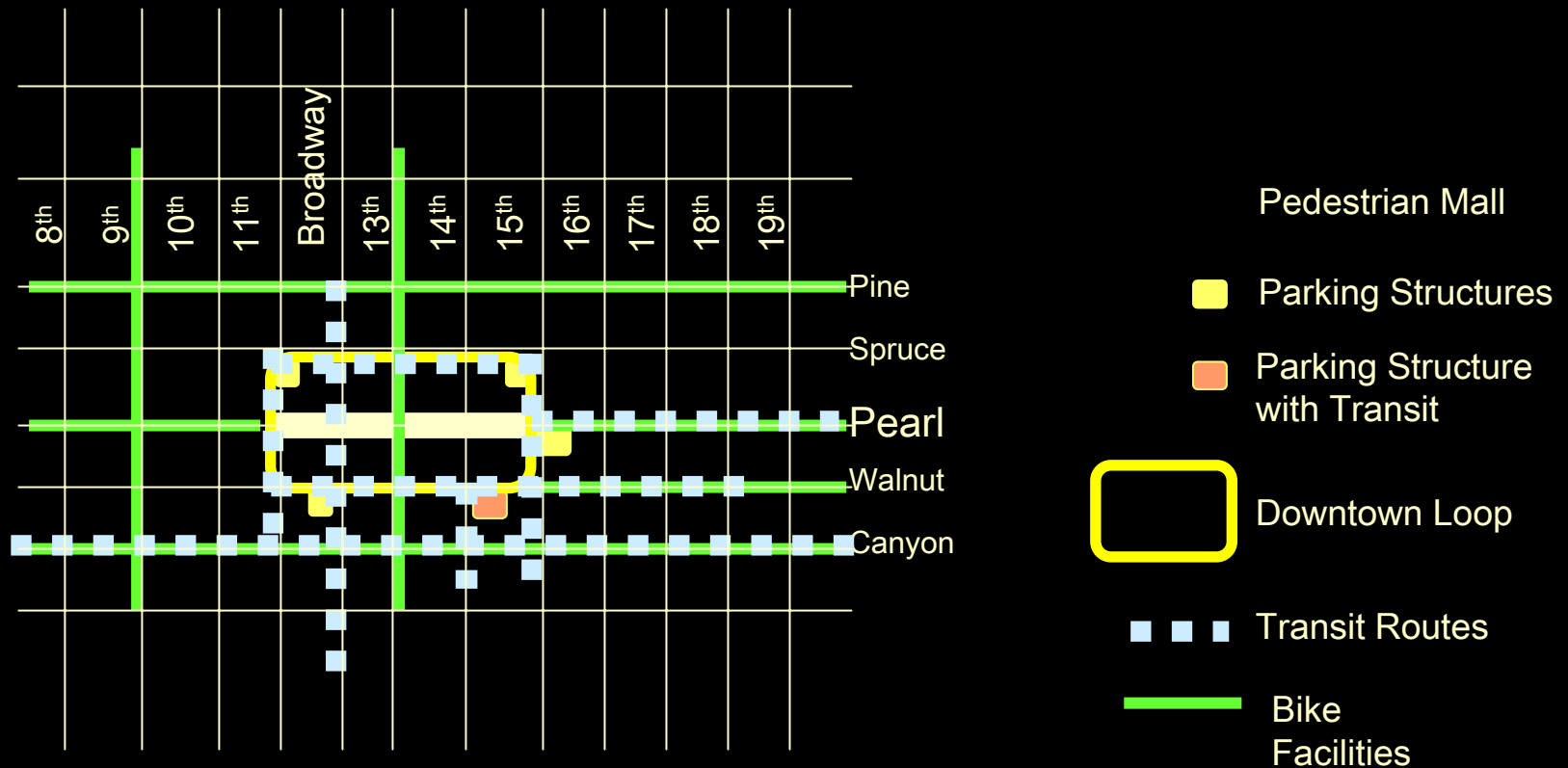
# An “Intermodal” Example

## Practical Implementation Strategies





# Pearl Street “Pedestrian Mall”



Boulder's  
“pedestrian mall”  
works because ...

... it is an integral part of  
an intermodal system