

Walkability



A Definition of CSS:

Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) is a philosophy wherein safe transportation solutions are designed in harmony with the community.

CSS strives to balance environmental, scenic, aesthetic, cultural and natural resources, as well as community and transportation service needs.

Context sensitive projects recognize community goals, and are designed, built and maintained to be sustainable while minimizing disruption to the community and the environment.

Why is it important to be designing for pedestrians/alt modes? What does “context sensitive” mean when we are planning and designing transit, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, given that most attention has been focused on streets? (CSS Manual)

SIMPLIFICATION OF HIGHWAY TRAFFIC

WILLIAM PHELPS ENO

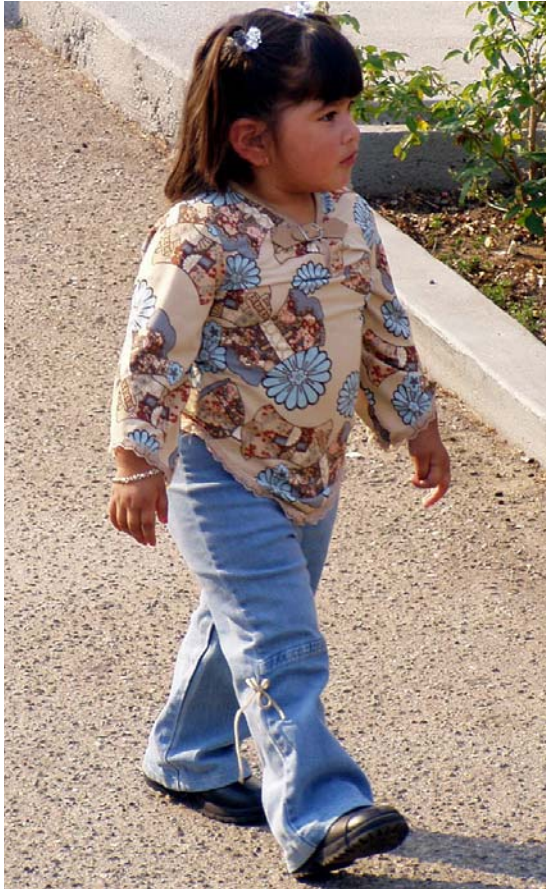


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1929

Many of our suburban and country highways are being improved for motorists. Most of them are now unfitted for all other users. It is no longer safe to walk, ride or bicycle on roadways, especially at night when it is extremely perilous. The entire width of some highways is taken up by the roadway and on others what is not needed for roadway is left ungraded or so rough that it is useless for pedestrians, equestrians or cyclists.

No highway should be permitted to be without due provision for pedestrians and where practical for equestrians or bicyclists.

There should be a sidewalk or reasonably well made foot-path on one side at least of every highway. There should of course be two sidewalks or foot-paths on important highways.







Choosing a Preferred Alternative



Scenario A: Low Density



Scenario B: Baseline



Scenario C: Walkable Neighborhoods



Scenario D: High Infill





Not Walkable

High Car Dependency

Serious Congestion

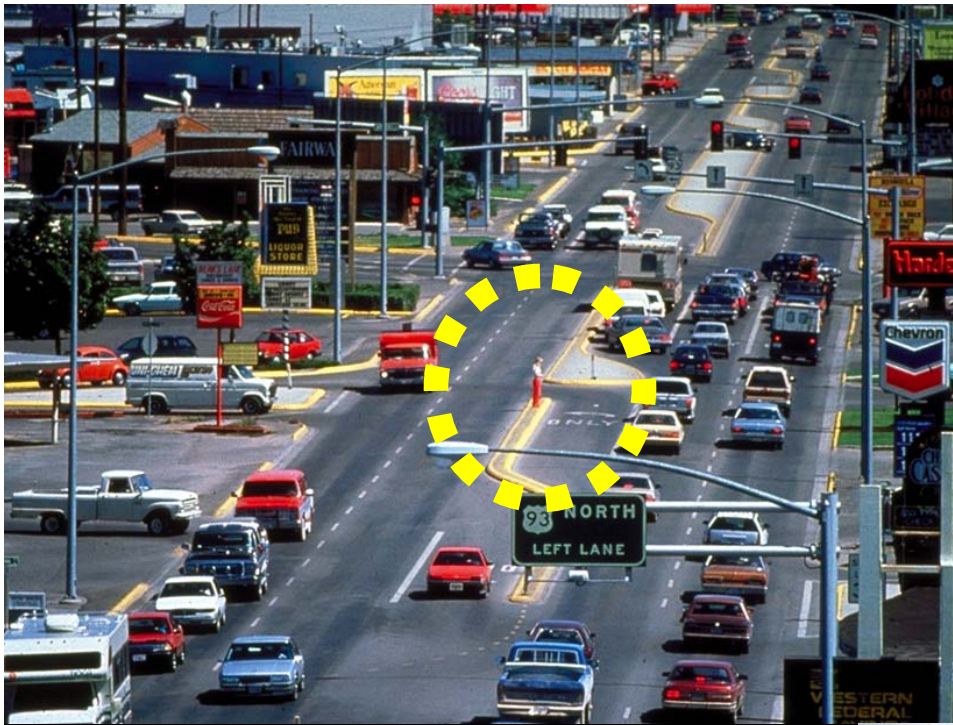


Walkable

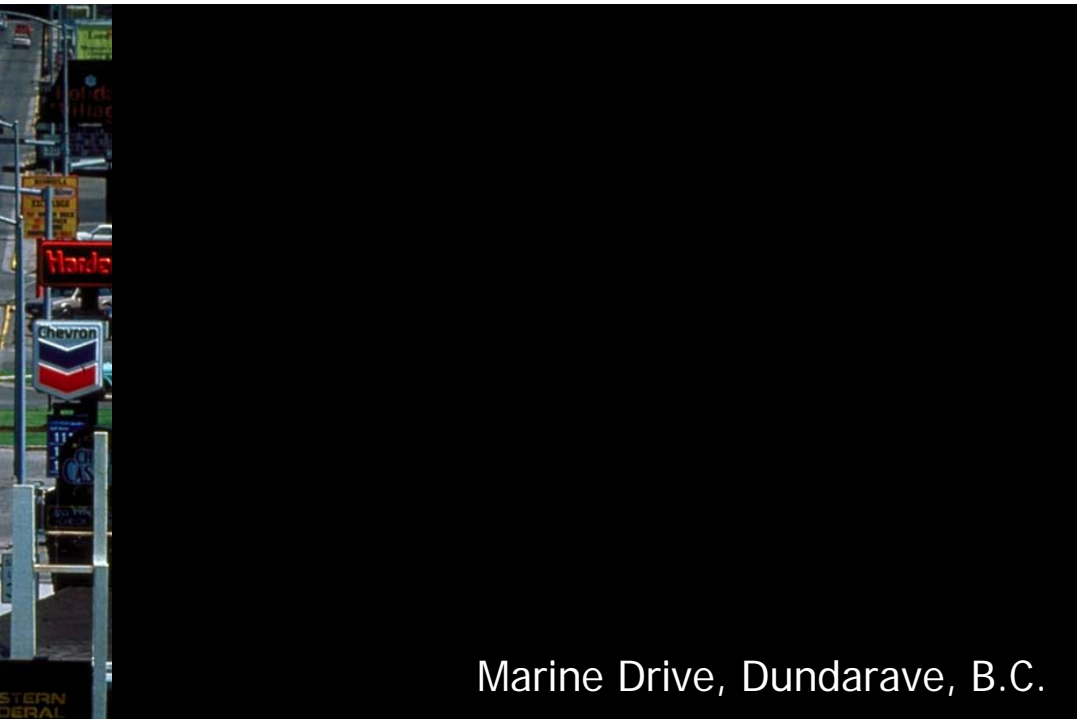
Low Car Dependency

Moderate Congestion





Highway 93, Missoula, Montana



Marine Drive, Dundarave, B.C.





Claremont, California





Anywhere, USA



Route 30A, Walton County, Florida











Is this a City?

Residential

Office

Retail

Retail

Residential

Tyson's Corner, VA

A City!

Office

Residential

Retail

Historic Architecture

Trees

Civic Statue

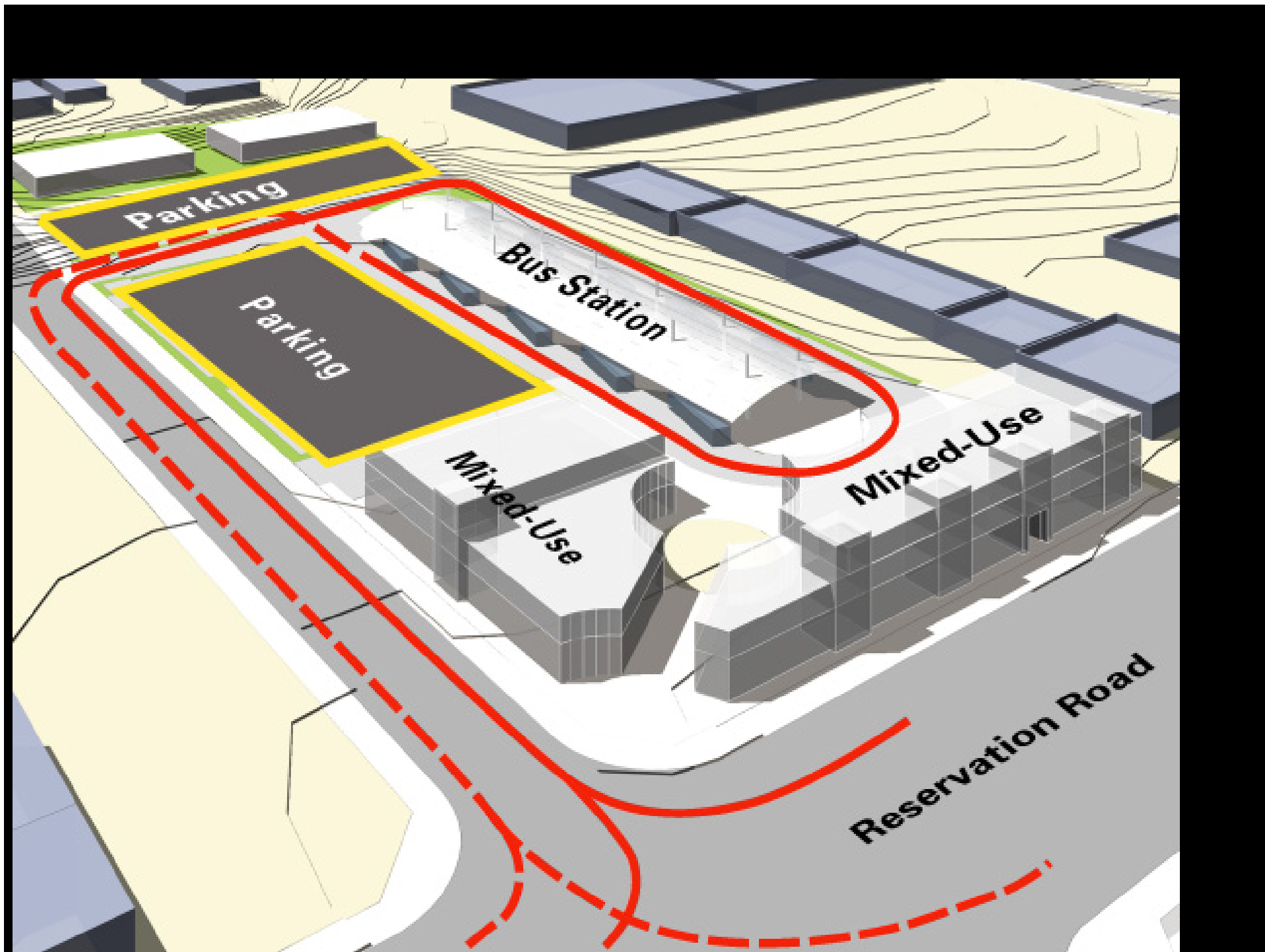
Sidewalks

Public Space

Washington, DC









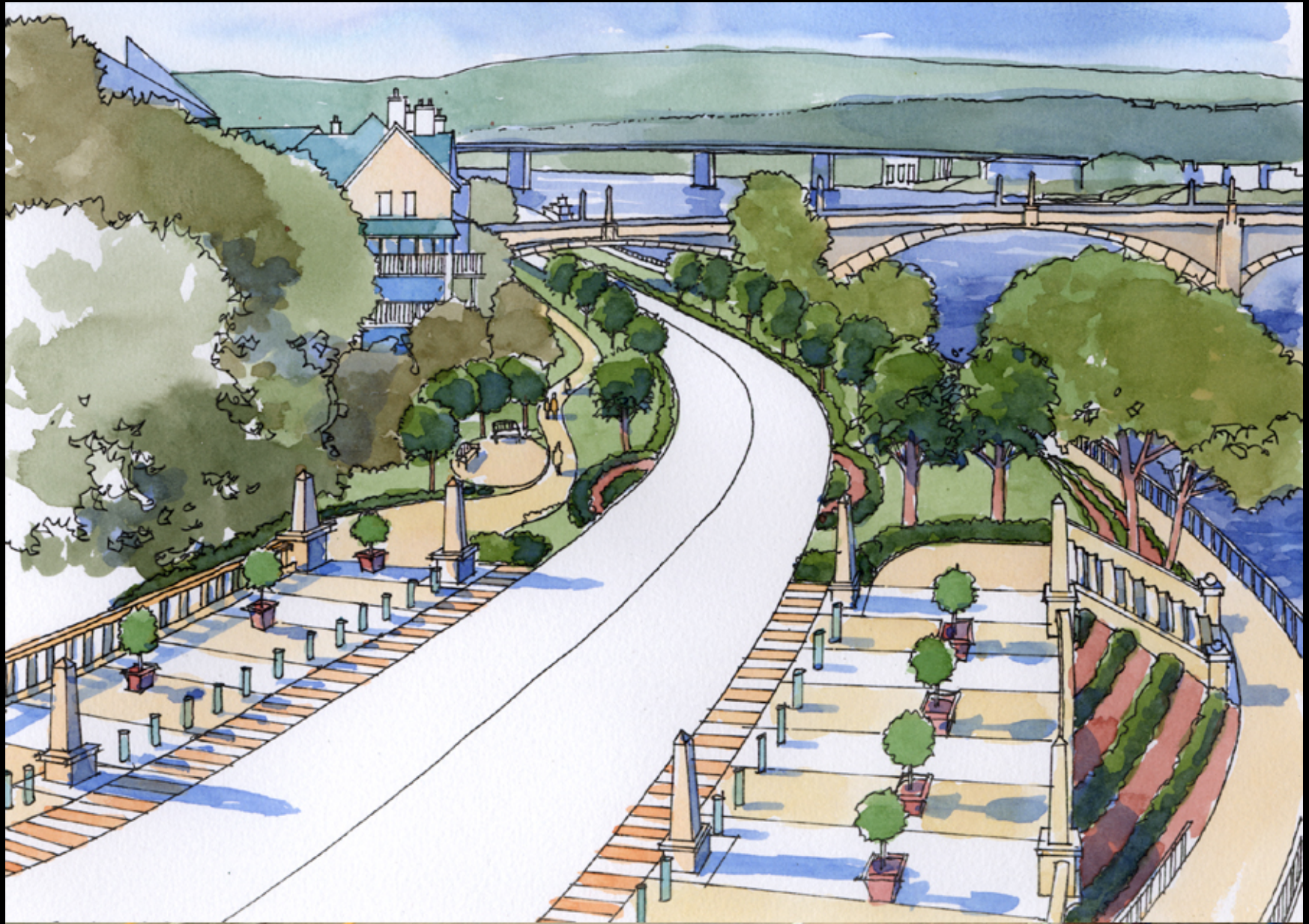






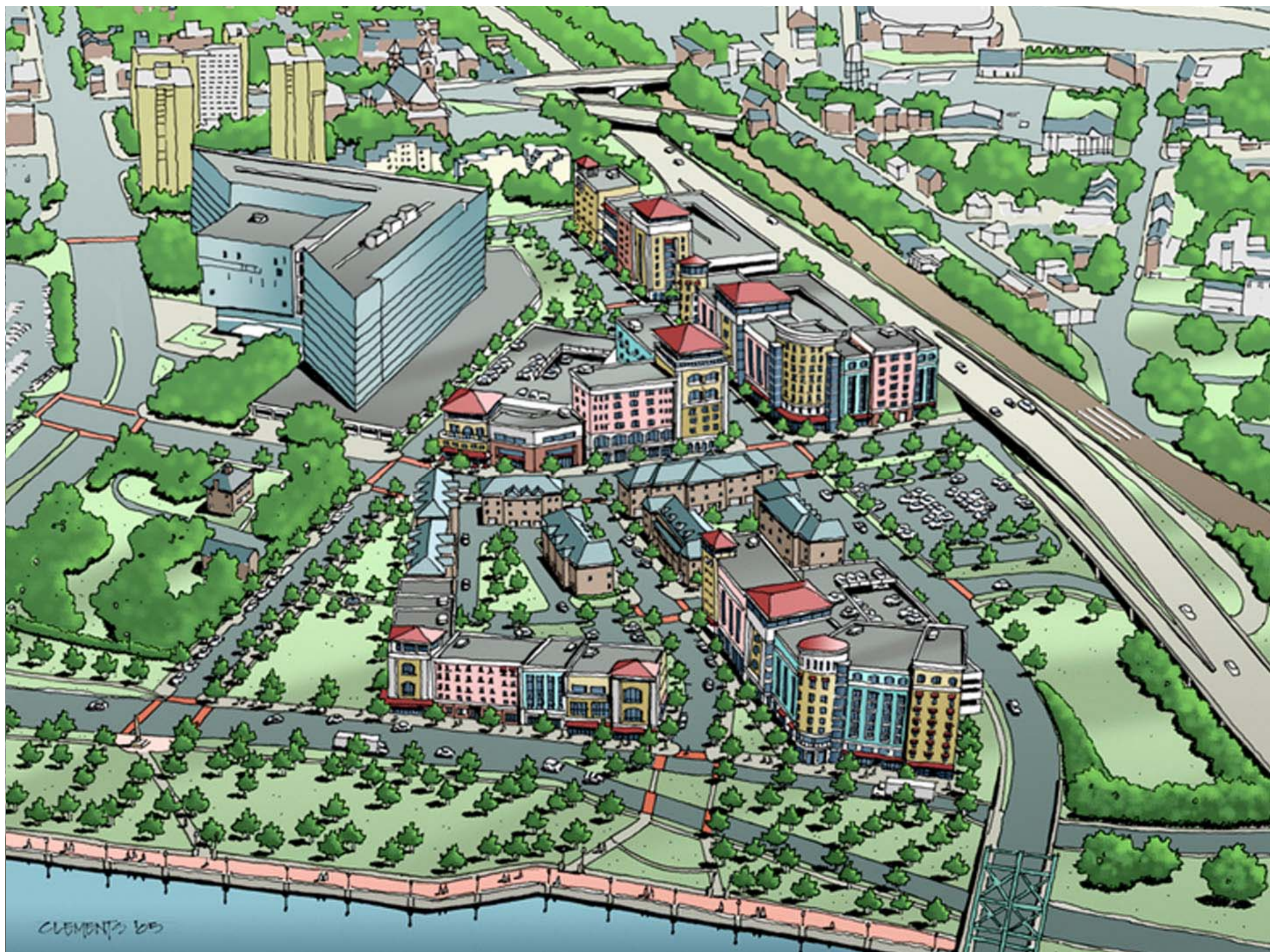


















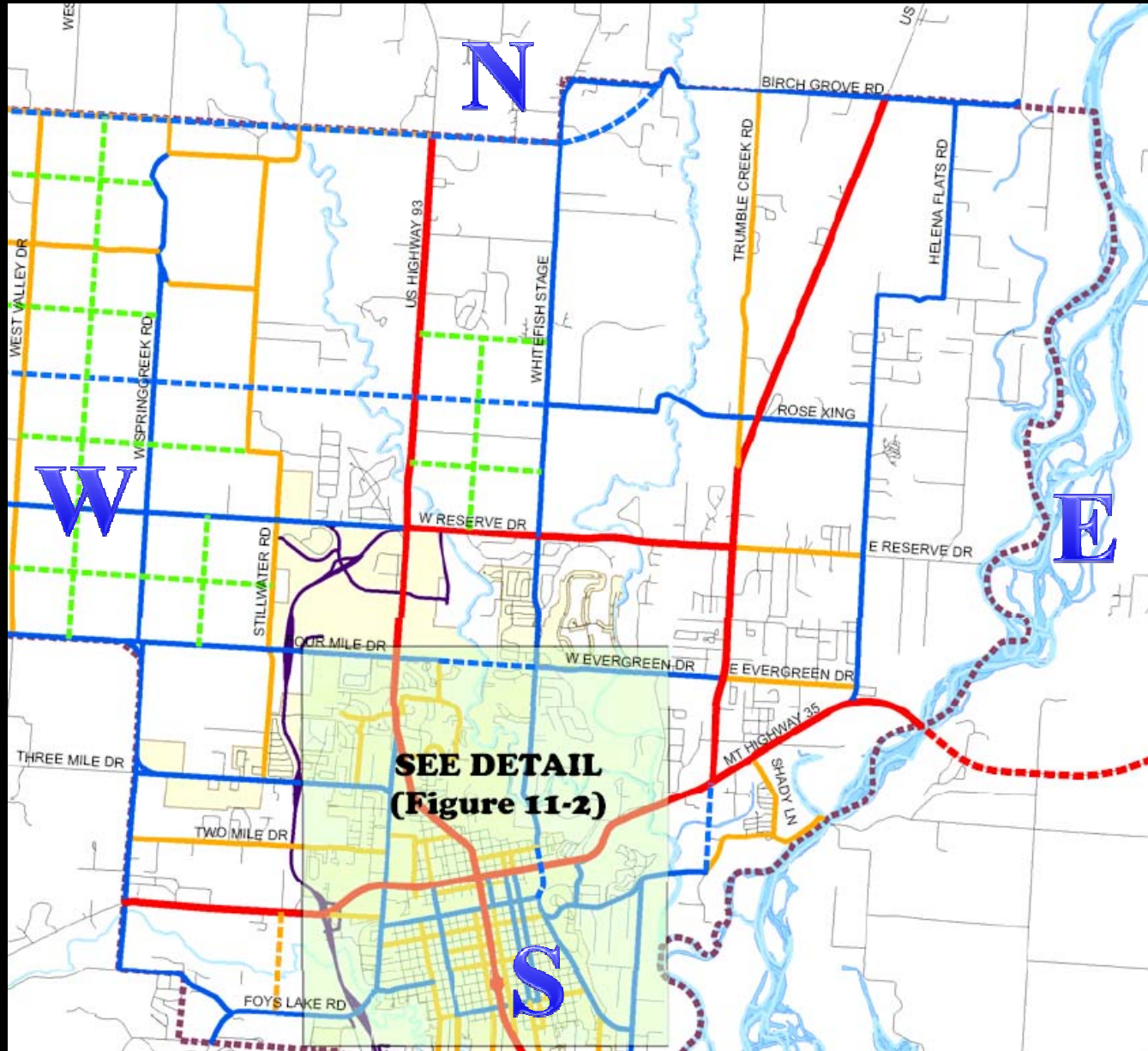
West Lafayette, Indiana (Home of Purdue University)

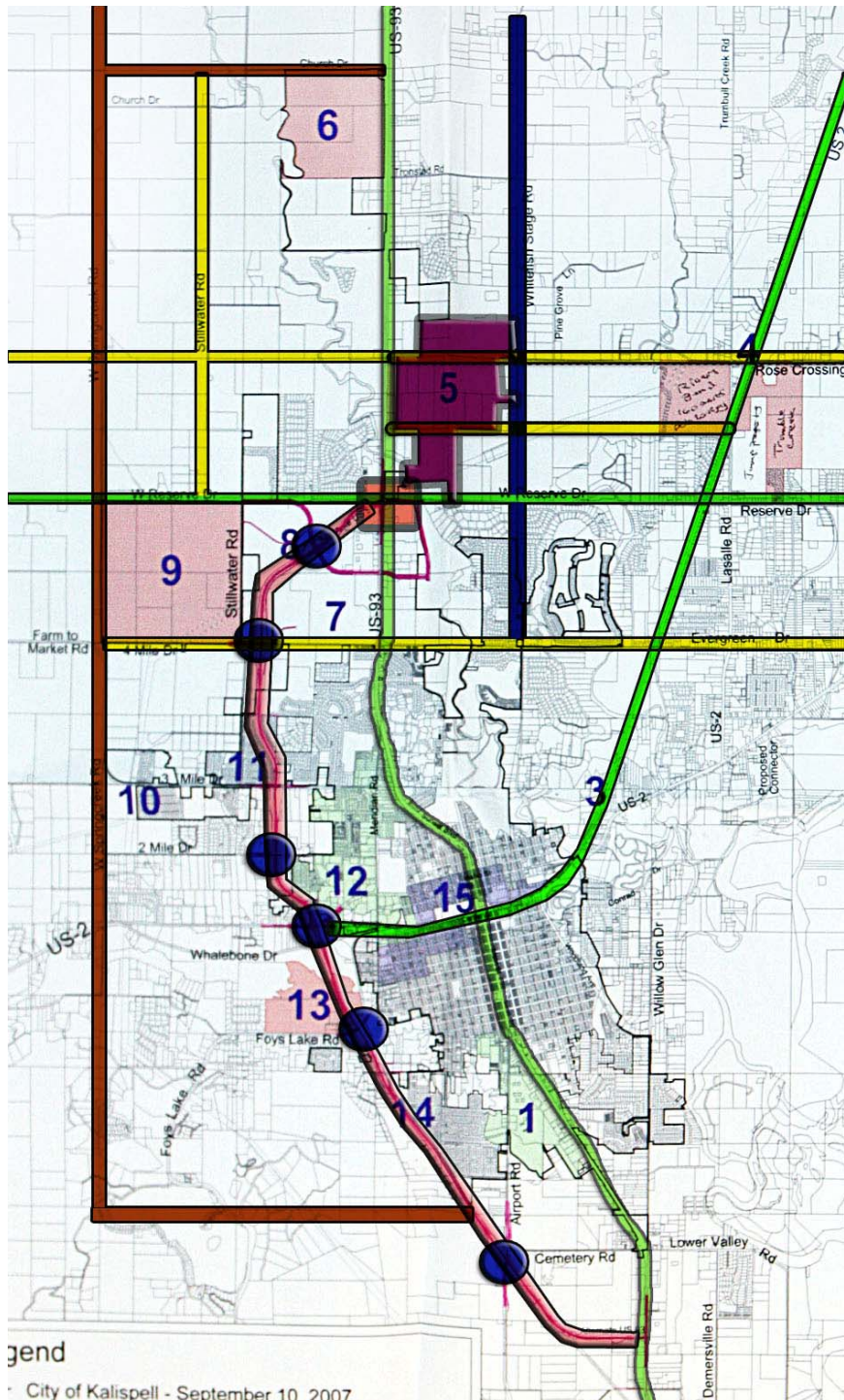


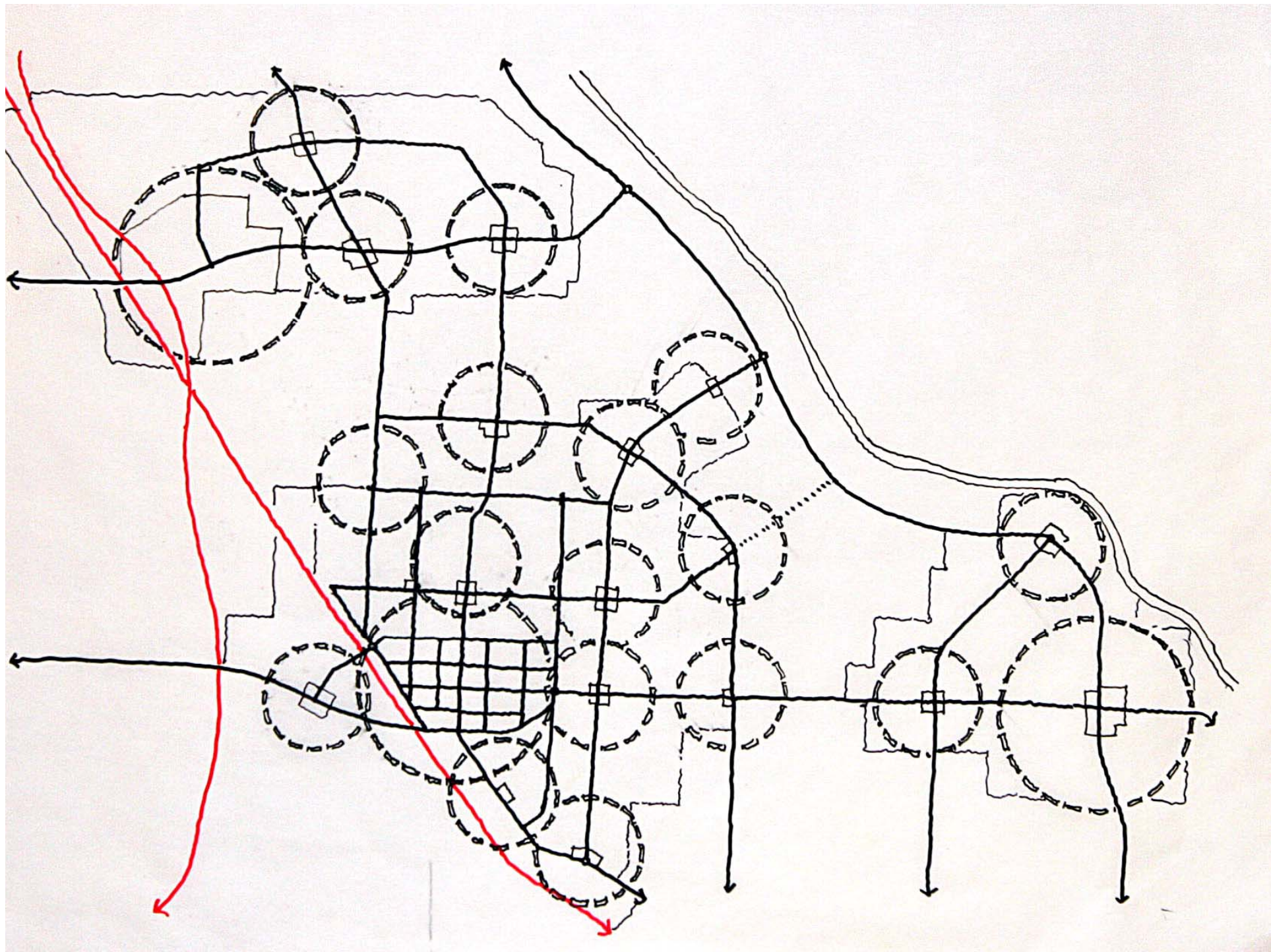
Visuals by Marcel Steve Price, Urban Advantage

Town Making









Streets that Work



Complete Streets





A walkable place is ... Comfortable

Tree canopies can help slow traffic, which increases ability to stop and shop

People will pay 12 cents more on the dollar inside main streets with green canopies

West Hartford, Connecticut



Moves traffic safely
and adds value to
homes

Houston, Texas

Neighborhood



Neighborhood



Moves traffic with less
safety and subtracts
value from homes

Anywhere in USA

The desire to walk, bike or use transit
in places like this plummets





Land Value

(Mixed Use \$25-35/ sq foot)





Castro Street, Mountain View, California



Attractive lamps

Eyes on street

Shore line

Parking buffer

Furniture zone
4-8 feet

Walk/Talk Zone 15-25 feet
(comfortable width)

Properly scale
signs

Great Street



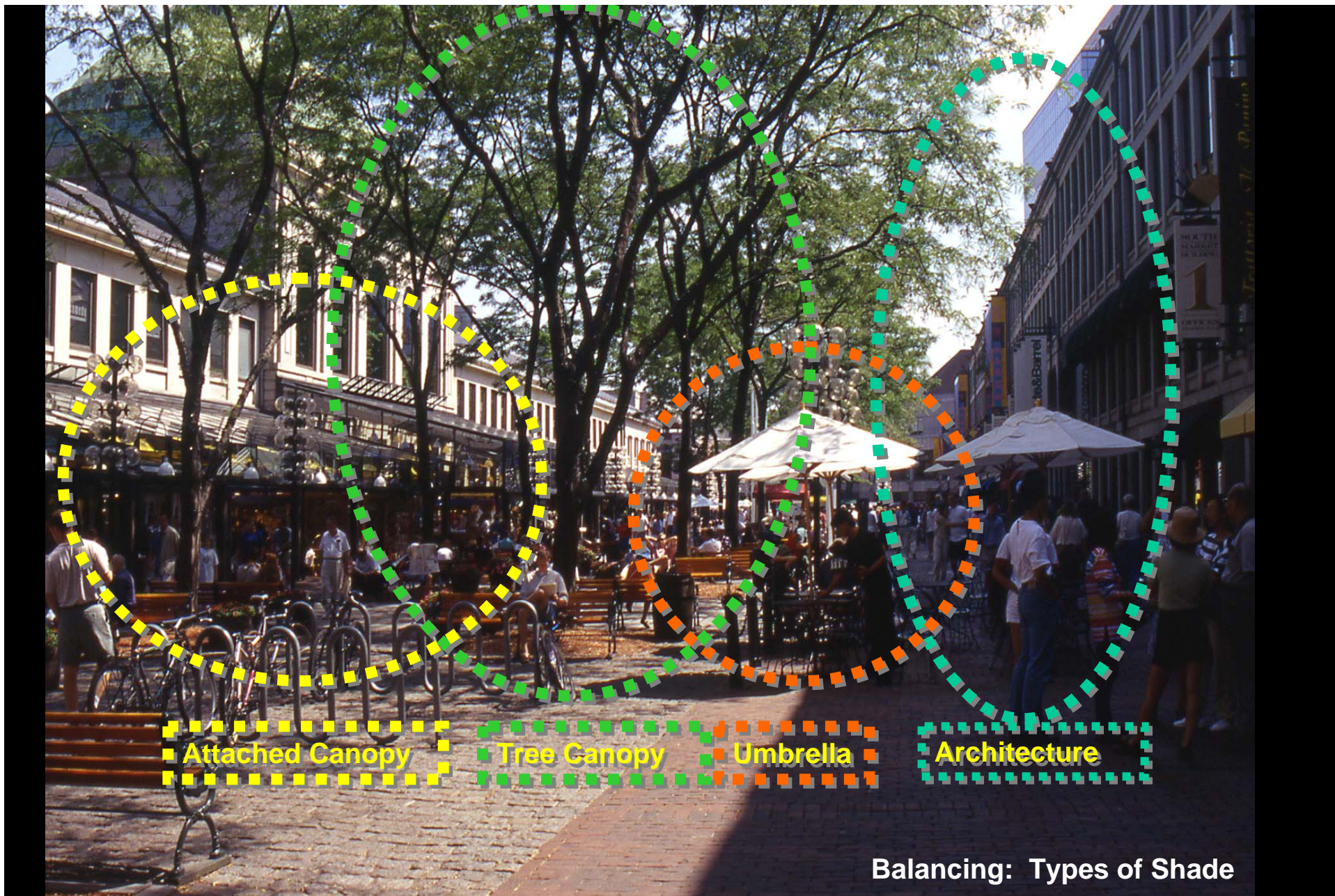
Personal choices of where to sit or recreate are not accidental. Balance of sun and shade are determinant in active and passive activities. In warm climates like Florida, shade is a critical asset to the comfortable year round use of a space.



Why did this person choose this spot?

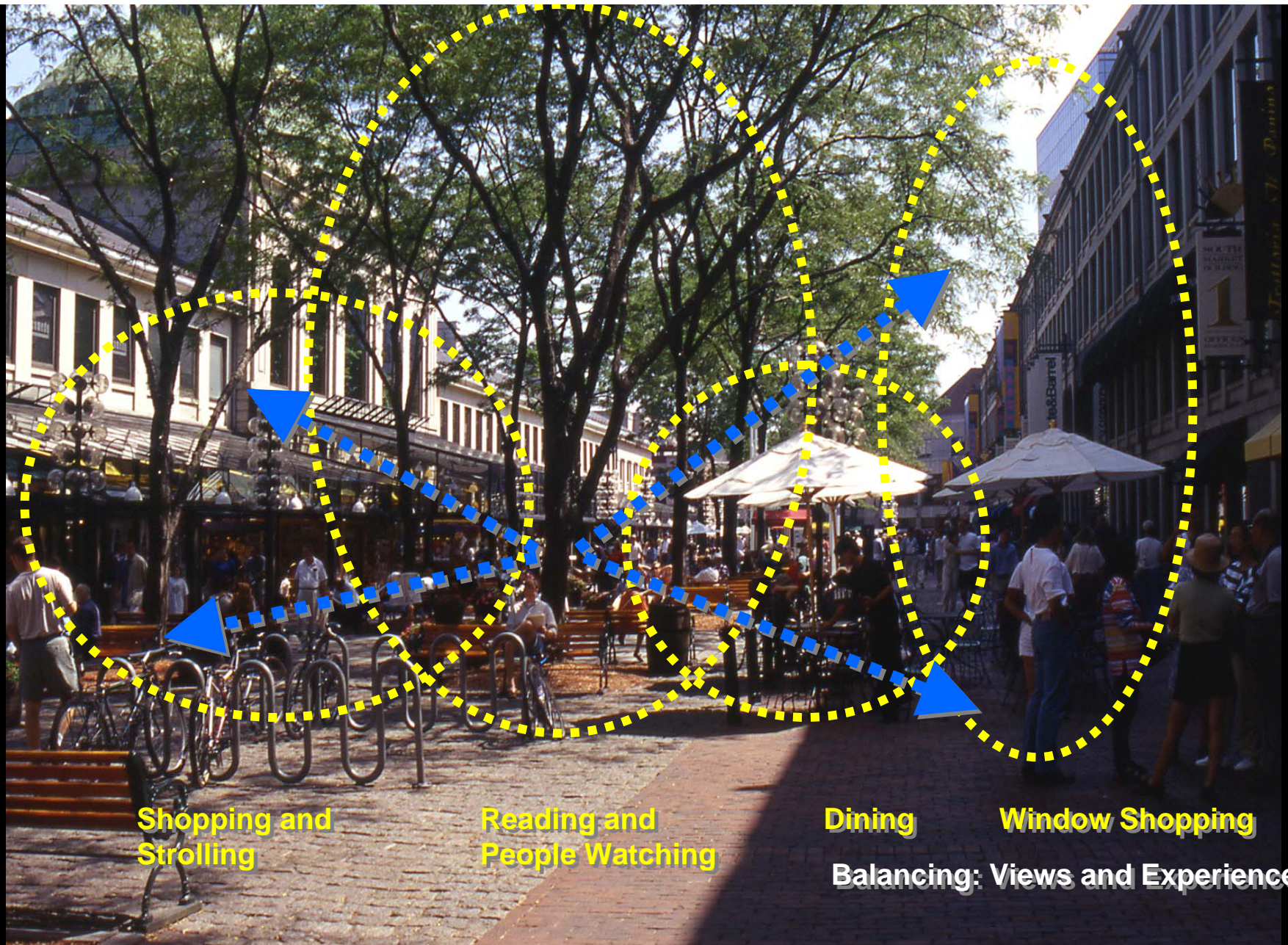


Why are these the only three empty tables at this restaurant?



Balancing: Types of Shade

Shade can come in many forms including architectural shade (determined by annual sun angles, attached canopies, freestanding umbrellas and landscape. Balance of sun and shade are determinant in active and passive activities. In warm climates like Florida, shade is a critical asset to the 12 month use of a space.



Shade should be balanced with views to maintain a degree of perceptual control of the space, allowing unfettered visual and physical access to all the passive and active choices of activity

COMPOSITION

Intersections that Work



Michigan Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois



Sustainable and walkable

A residential complex
in an auto dominated
area.

Redevelopment of the site in
compliance with a sustainable
urbanization model.

People learn to Walk
where conditions are
pleasant

People learn to
“Don’t
Walk” where
conditions are
unpleasant



Illustrations by Steve Price: Urban Advantage

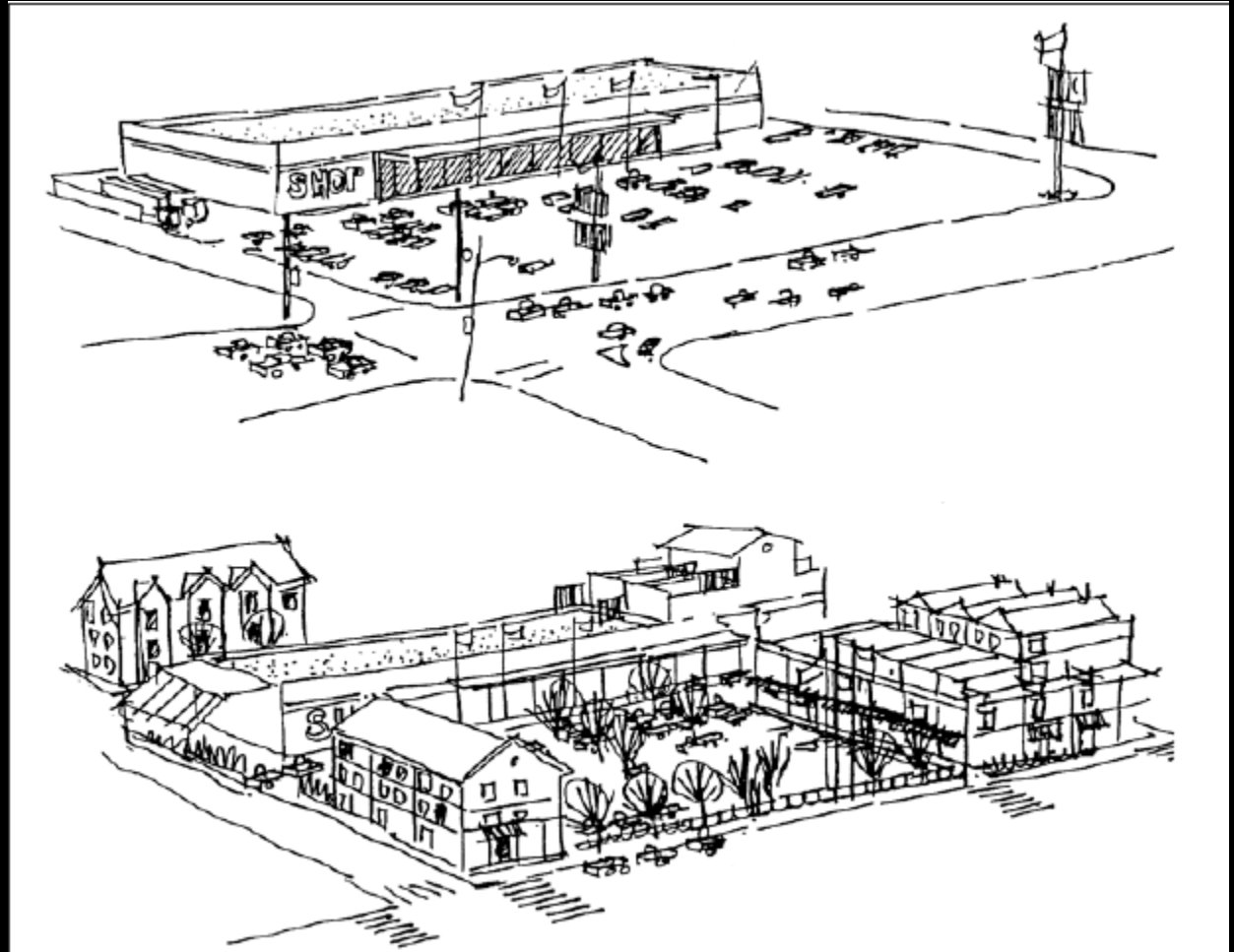
Which site is more
pleasing to drive
past?
Which site is more
walkable?

Which site is more
durable?

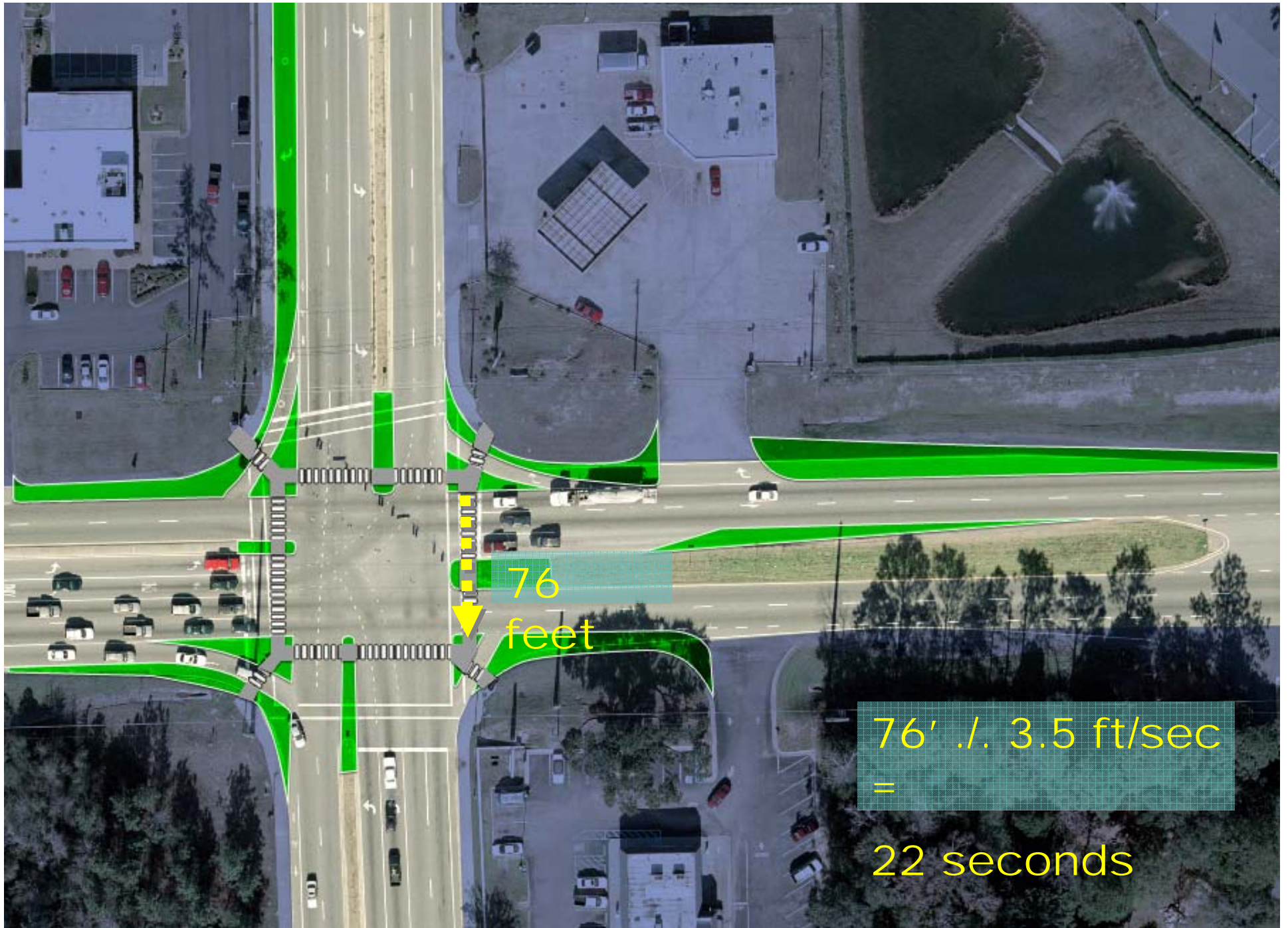
Which site is more
secure?

Which site is more
balanced?

Which site is more
prosperous?



Which site is more
sustainable?



$$76' \div 3.5 \text{ ft/sec} =$$

22 seconds



Olive Avenue, West Palm Beach, Florida – Former 3-lane, One-Way 36 Feet

Charlotte, NC



Hurley looking west near Fulton Avenue



Hurley looking west near Fulton Avenue



Hurley looking west near Fulton Avenue



Hurley looking west near Fulton Avenue



Steve Price Urban Advantage

Case Study: Mountain View



The project is in harmony with the community and it preserves the environmental, scenic, cultural and natural resources of the area. The project satisfies both transportation and community needs as agreed to by a full range of stakeholders i. e. local governments, community groups, facility users, other agencies and the Department. The project incorporates early, effective and continuous Public Involvement.

The project identifies and addresses community issues using an ongoing, structured format as appropriate for information exchange (citizens' workshops, advisory committees, etc.), and active partnership with municipal or other state/local agencies.

The project incorporates innovative and safe technical solutions that add value for the user and community.

The project shows measurable success in improving the community's environmental, scenic, aesthetic, historic, and natural resources, above and beyond mitigation requirements.









