

Policy and Planning Background

Street Design in Cambridge

What Guides Our Street Design

We design for people of all ages and abilities.
This includes:

- People who may not have access to a car.
- Safe and accessible facilities, including bike lanes, that can be used by a wide range of people.

The focus is on moving people and goods,
not their vehicles.

- Biking and riding transit are more efficient uses of limited street space.
- Keep access for trucks and local deliveries, but safely.

What is a Quick - Build Project?

- Quick-build projects allow us to make improvements to our streets more quickly.
- Involves no construction or coordination with utility companies.
- Fewer impacts to residents during implementation.
- More limited toolbox (i.e. no changes to curbs, drainage, or sidewalk materials).



Policies That Support This Work

- Vision Zero
- Cambridge Bicycle Plan
- Envision Cambridge



Policy and Planning Background

The Bicycle Network Vision & The Cycling Safety Ordinance

The Cycling Safety Ordinance

The Cycling Safety Ordinance (CSO), passed by the Cambridge City Council, requires Cambridge to install about 25 miles of separated bike lanes by November 2026. This includes:

- All of **Massachusetts Avenue**
- **Garden Street** (eastbound Huron Ave to Berkeley St, westbound from Mason St to Huron Ave)
- **Broadway (Quincy St to Hampshire St)**
- **Cambridge Street** (Oak St to Second St)
- **Hampshire Street** (Amory St to Broadway)
- **11.6 miles on other streets** (from within the Bicycle Network Vision)

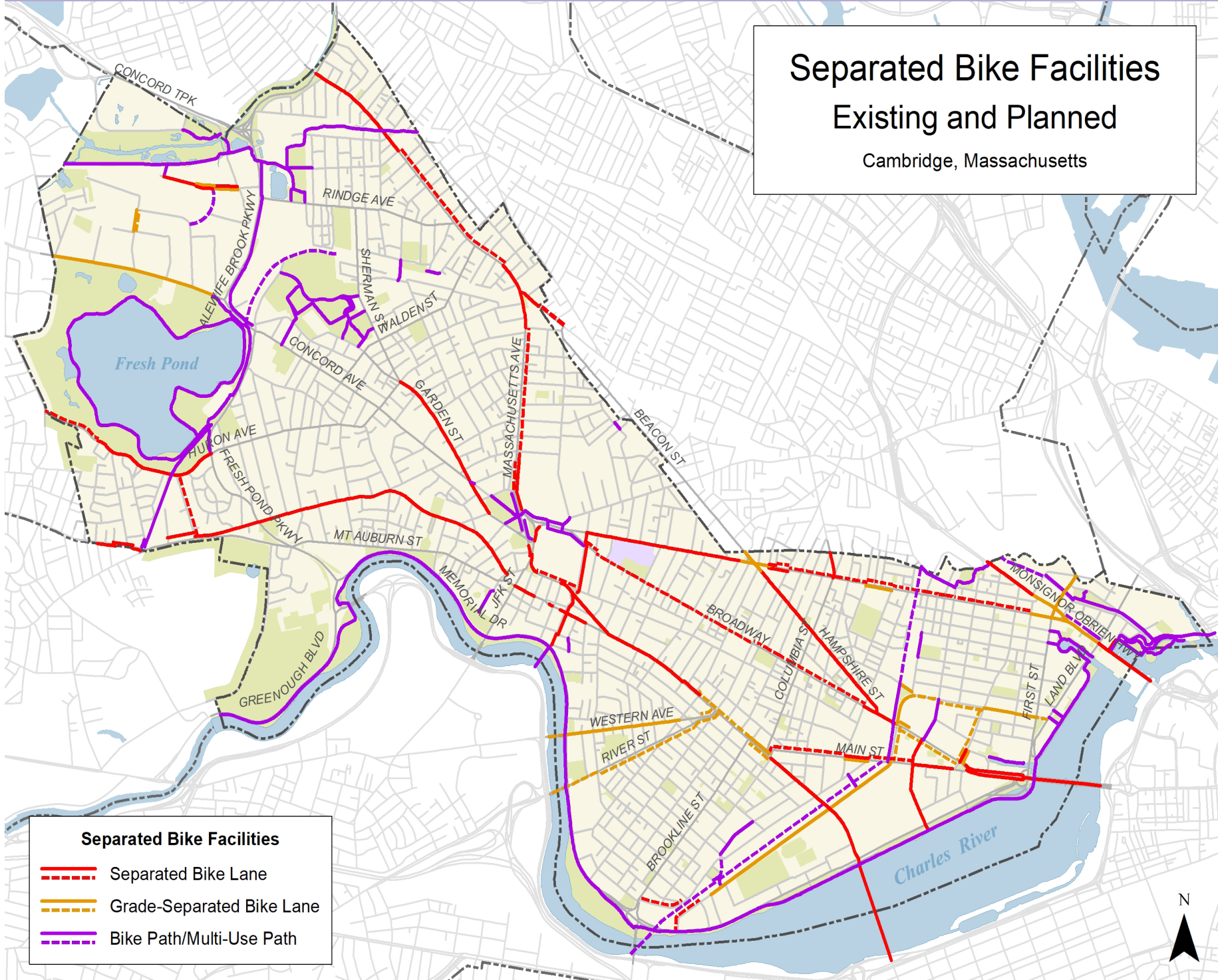


Scan to learn more about the CSO

What is the Cambridge Bicycle Plan?

- A vision for a city where all streets and destinations are accessible by bike.
- Bike lanes and other infrastructure is designed for people of all ages and abilities.

cambridgema.gov/2020bikeplanupdate



Brattle Street Safety Improvement Project 2023

Project Overview

Timeline and What to Expect

Project Area

Amherst Alley to Memorial Drive

Project Timeline

Installation Late Summer 2025



What To Expect

Separated bike installation

Bike lanes along the curb, separated from vehicles by white flex-posts or other physical barriers.

Changes for people walking and taking the bus

CT2 bus stops will be moved to more accessible and convenient locations on Vassar St, and pedestrian safety enhancements will improve crosswalks.

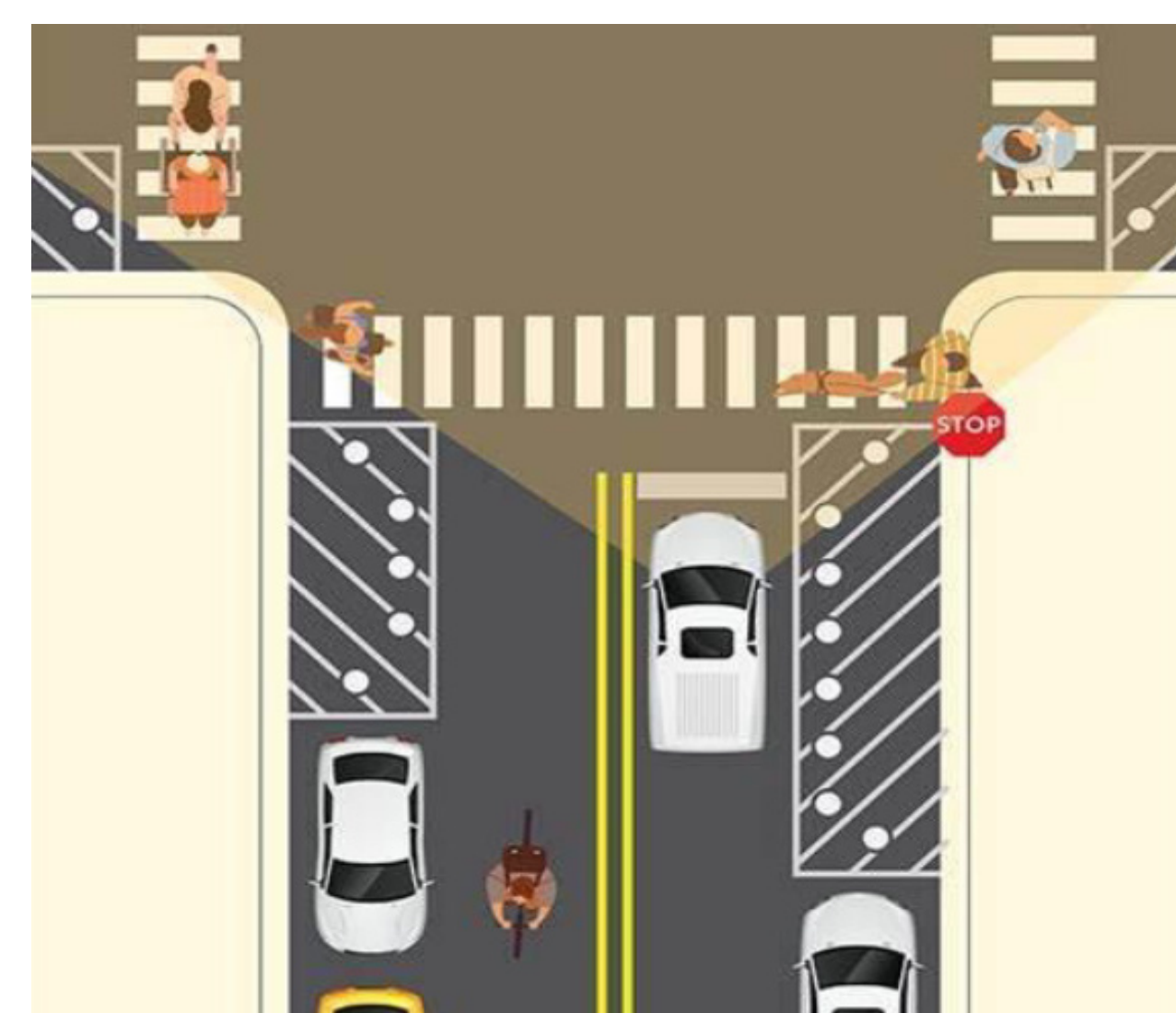
Reduce parking

Parking spots will be removed to create space for safety improvements and improve pedestrian visibility. Review parking changes at the Roll Plan station.

Intersection Daylighting

Flex-posts will be installed near intersections to improve visibility for drivers and people walking.

Photo on right: Example of intersection daylighting, which improves visibility for all users.



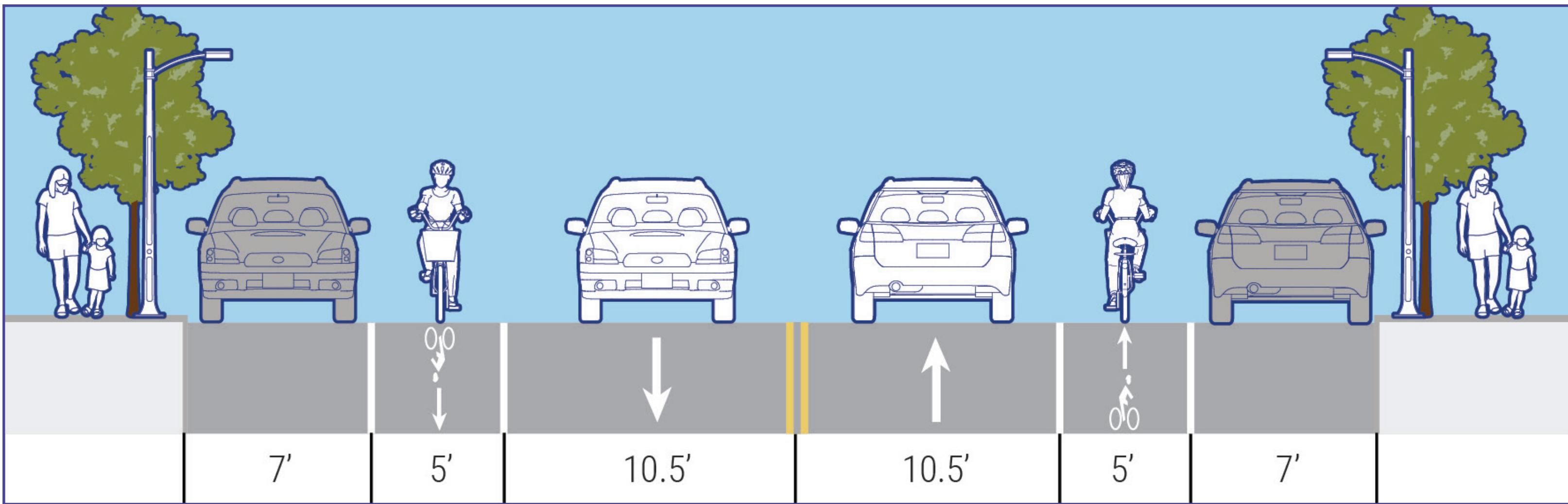
Project Overview

Current Street Layout

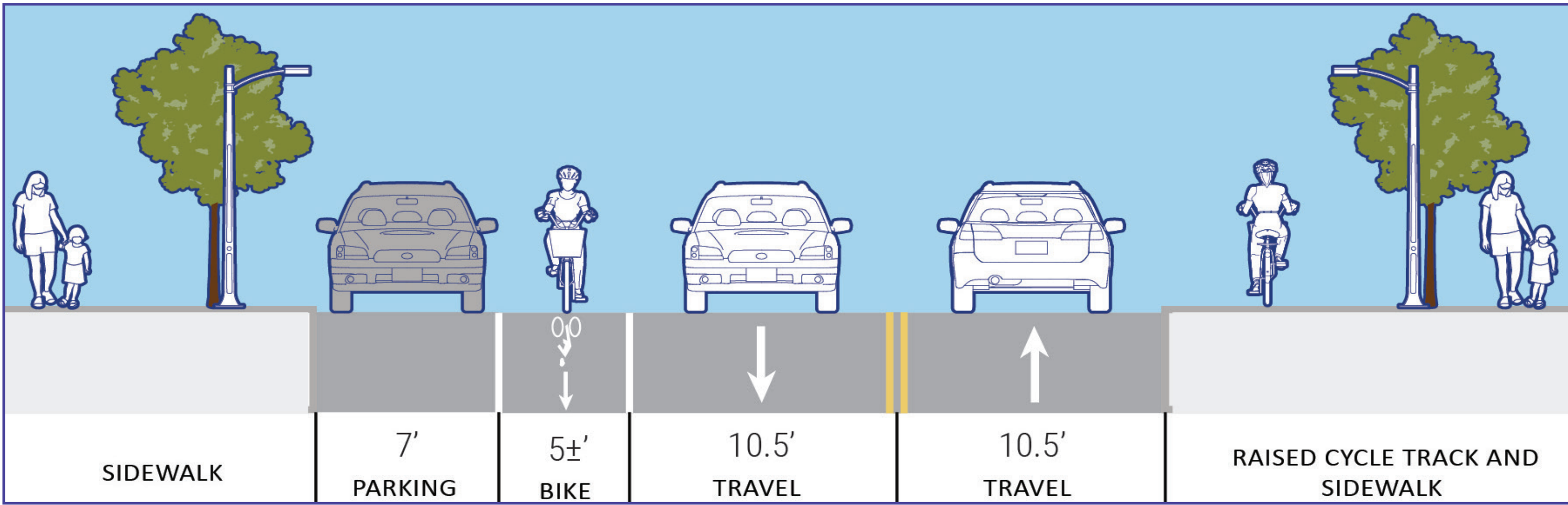
Current Street Layout

- Painted bike lanes between parked cars and moving cars
- Parking on one or both sides of the street depending on width
- Bike lanes connect east to raised cycle track

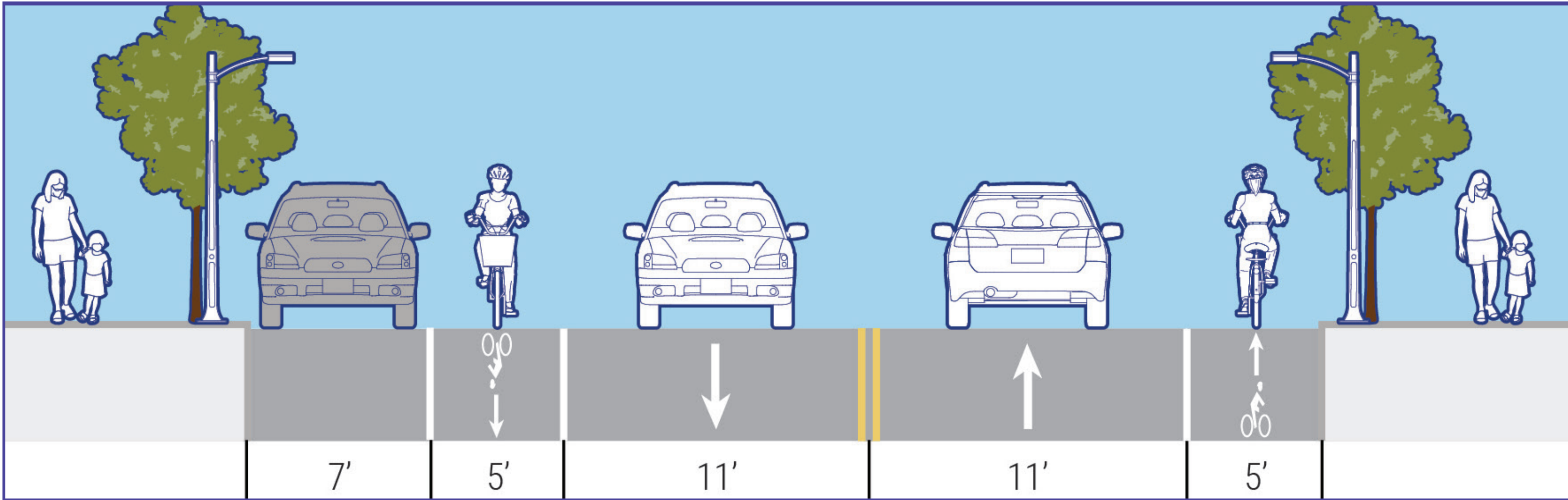
Existing Vassar St Layout - 353 Vassar St to Amesbury St



Existing Vassar St Layout - Amesbury St to Amherst Alley



Existing Vassar St Layout - Memorial Dr. to 353 Vassar St



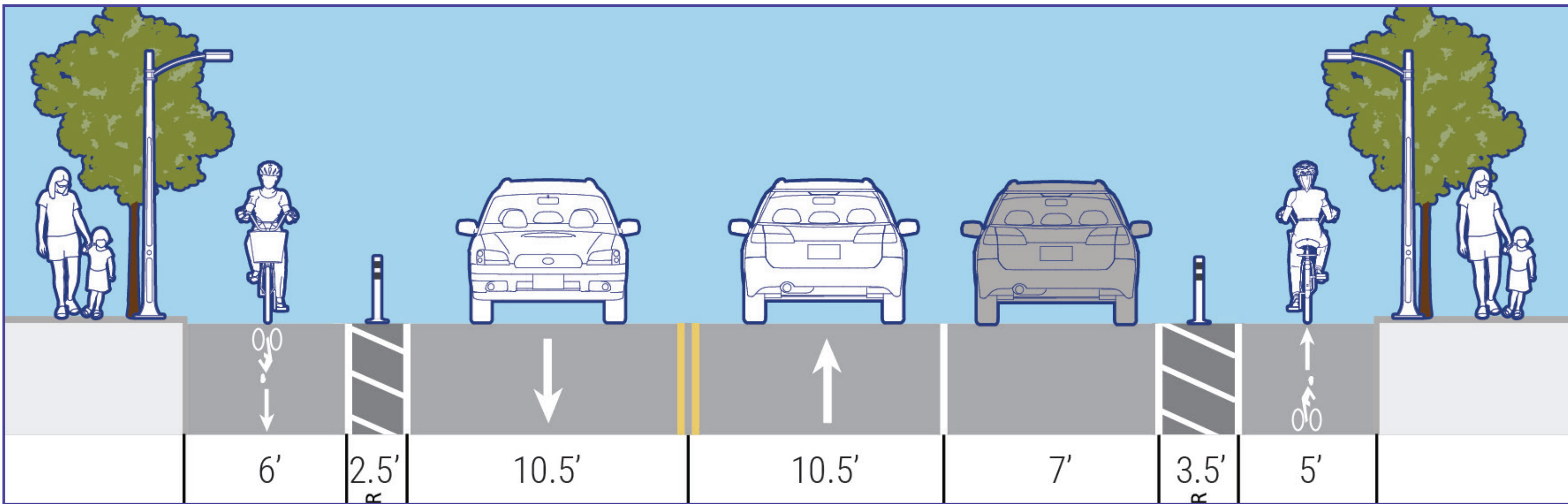
Project Overview

Proposed Street Layout

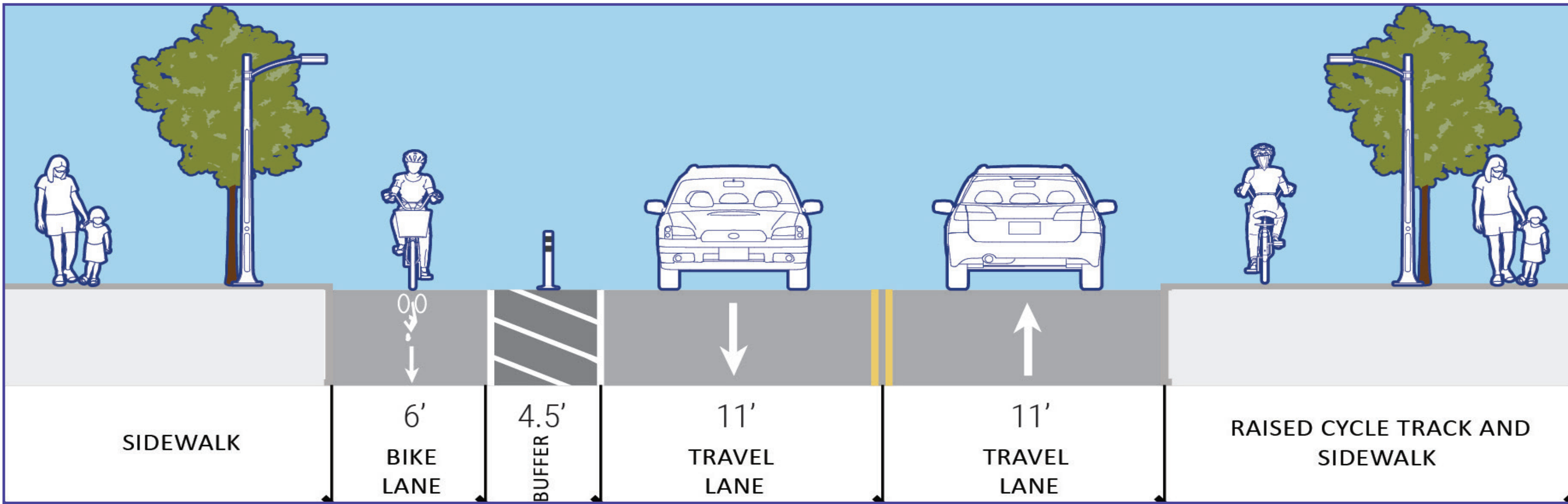
Proposed Street Layout and Improvements

- Bike lanes in each direction separated by white flex-posts or other physical barriers
- Metered street parking retained on north side of Vassar Street
- Layout matches the rest of Vassar Street, improving safety and predictability

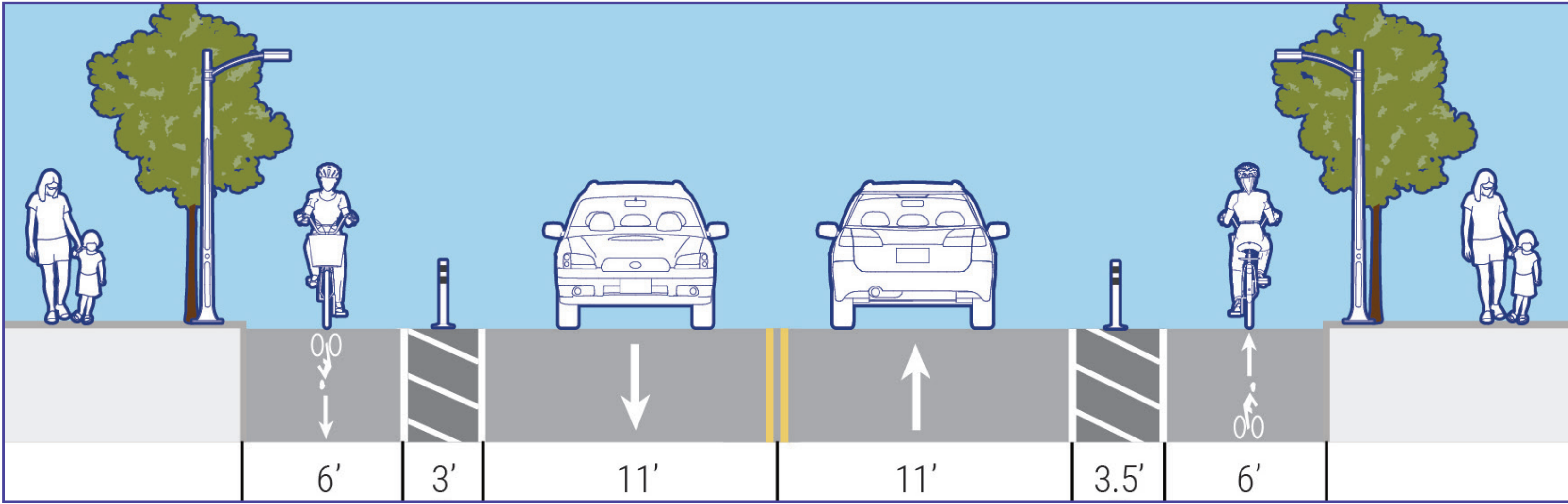
Proposed Vassar St Layout - 353 Vassar St to Amesbury St



Proposed Vassar St Layout - Amesbury St to Amherst Alley



Proposed Vassar St Layout - Memorial Dr. to 353 Vassar St



Ways to Share Feedback



Sign up for Email Updates!

Scan the QR code to stay updated on future project events and installation by joining the project email list.



General Project Feedback Form

Scan the QR code and give us general feedback on the project.



Visit The Project Website

Scan the QR code to learn more about the project and access high-resolution images and maps of the design.

Contact The Project Manager

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