



## CITY OF ALBANY CITY COUNCIL AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Agenda Date: October 2, 2023  
Reviewed by: NA

**SUBJECT:** Conceptual Design for Jackson Street Bikeway Between Buchanan Street and Monroe Street

**REPORT BY:** Justin Fried, Transportation and Sustainability Manager  
Jeff Bond, Community Development Director

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### **SUMMARY**

The action before the City Council is the approval of the conceptual design for the Jackson Street Bikeway in University Village and directing City staff to work with UC Berkeley on implementation.

### **TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION**

The Transportation Commission will consider a recommendation to City Council at their meeting on September 28 which will be reported to the Council as part of the discussion of this item.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That the Council approve the conceptual design for the Jackson Street Bikeway between Buchanan Street and Monroe Street and direct City staff to work with UC Berkeley on final design and implementation of the project.

### **CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)**

The project is Categorically Exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15304 "Minor Alterations to Land" of the CEQA Guidelines.

### **BACKGROUND**

In early 2021, University of California Berkeley staff began finalizing project plans and initial designs for graduate student housing in University Village at the corner of Jackson Street and Monroe Street. The housing project is being developed as a public-private partnership between the University and American Campus Communities (ACC), which is a private student housing development company.

Jackson Street between Buchanan Street and the Berkeley border is owned and maintained by the University - it is not a city street. Nonetheless, the City has an interest in completing active transportation connections for residents and has a history of productive collaboration with the University leading development of active transportation projects along Codornices Creek. Albany staff began working with UC staff to discuss the potential for completing segments of the active transportation network in relation to the housing project.

Parisi Transportation Consulting was tasked with developing an alternatives analysis which was presented to UC Berkeley staff. At UC Berkeley staff's request, south of Monroe is to remain as a future phase to allow flexibility for the alignment. Concurrently, the Alameda County Transportation Commission San Pablo Corridors Project began developing concepts for parallel bicycle route improvements which include Jackson Street through University Village.

On May 25, 2023, Alameda County Transportation Commission approved the 2024 Comprehensive Investment Plan, which included pre-construction funding for this project as part of the San Pablo Avenue Multi-Modal Corridor Project. In early June, the concept received tentative agreement from the UC Berkeley Rausser College of Natural Resources (which manages the Gill Tract) to utilize some additional frontage, enabling a path alignment that allows for a parallel parking lane.

Upon receiving tentative agreement on the Gill Tract frontage, staff began outreach to University Village residents in coordination with UC staff, including presenting to residents at University Village Albany Safety Day on August 19. City and UC Berkeley staff have also been coordinating this effort with the graduate student housing developer, American Campus Communities. With direction on the concept, we plan to accelerate design for the housing project frontage with the goal of it being incorporated into the project's offsite work in 2024. The remainder of the project would follow as a second phase.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Proposed Slow Bikeways network in the Active Transportation Plan (ATP) includes Jackson Street through University Village. The Jackson Street Safe Routes to School project (ATP Project 5) includes a proposed Class 1 shared-use path along the eastern side of Jackson Street. The proposed design advances this concept.

The proposed off-street facility along Jackson would serve several functions. It would improve the western north-south San Pablo Avenue parallel bicycle route, connecting to the 9<sup>th</sup> Street Bicycle Boulevard in Berkeley to the South and Jackson and on to Adams Street to the north. It would also provide a continuous off-street facility connection to the Buchanan Bikeway and Bay Trail for the 761 graduate students to be housed by the new project, along with extending recreational access for the rest of University Village residents. And with the planned continuation of the facility south to 8<sup>th</sup> Street, it will eventually provide a link to the Codornices

Creek trail and signalized crossing at Dartmouth Street, linking along the Dartmouth Bicycle Boulevard and Ohlone Greenway to access Berkeley campus.

***Conceptual Design***

The conceptual design (Attachment 1) provides an 8-foot wide shared use path with a 2-foot buffer from the fence line on one side and 6.5 feet from the parking lane on the street side for the segment between the Buchanan Bikeway and the graduate housing project on the east side of Jackson Street. This is similar to the Buchanan Bikeway segment west of Jackson adjacent to Ocean View Elementary and Ocean View Park. For the portion of this segment where there is currently angled parking, this would convert to parallel parking. South of Ohlone Avenue the path shifts toward the street and the parking lane is removed to avoid impacting the Village Creek culvert. Adjacent to the graduate housing, the path widens to 12 feet to accommodate greater pedestrian activity. The intersection of Jackson and Monroe is outside of the project limits of the housing project, so the team has identified an interim location to transition cyclists to on-street north of there, utilizing a fire-access driveway that aligns with the intersection of Riley Drive. Staff will continue to work with UC staff on options to incorporate changes to the Jackson and Monroe intersection in later phases. South of Monroe to 8<sup>th</sup> Street cyclists share the road, as they do to the south along the Bicycle Boulevard in Berkeley.

***Vehicle Parking***

The proposed facility utilizes a section of roadway adjacent to the graduate housing that was planned for a parking lane with 7 parking spaces after construction. The parking lane was temporarily removed as part of the current construction conditions. Along the Gill Tract frontage, the change from current angle parking to parallel parking removes approximately 9 vehicle parking spaces.

Table of Approximate On-Street Vehicle Parking Spaces

		Current	Planned	Bikeway Concept	Change from Current	Change from Planned
Monroe to Ohlone	E	0	7	0	0	-7
	W	8	8	8	0	0
Ohlone to Buchanan	E	31	31	22	-9	-9
	W	7	7	7	0	0
Total		46	53	37	-9	-16

Off-street parking at Ocean View Elementary includes approximately 26 staff vehicle spaces and 8 staff bicycle lockers added as part of the school reconstruction, along with the addition

of a pull-out lane for student pick-up and drop-off and the pre-existing lot in the southeast corner of the campus that accommodates 11 vehicles.

The graduate housing development plans provide 176 vehicle parking spaces and 300 long term bicycle spaces reserved for residents of the new project.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE**

The project is Categorically Exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15304 “Minor Alterations to Land” of the CEQA Guidelines, which exempts the minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation including creation of bicycle lanes.

### **SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

Providing cycling facilities separated from vehicle traffic along the Slow Bikeways Network improves cyclist safety, helping to support cycling as a viable alternative to short motor vehicle trips.

### **SOCIAL EQUITY AND INCLUSIVITY CONSIDERATIONS**

The project improves safety for vulnerable roadway users and improves access for those without motor vehicles.

### **CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVES**

Goal 3: Promote Streets That Support Safety & Transportation Mobility Options

This project implements cycling network improvements identified in the Active Transportation Plan.

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

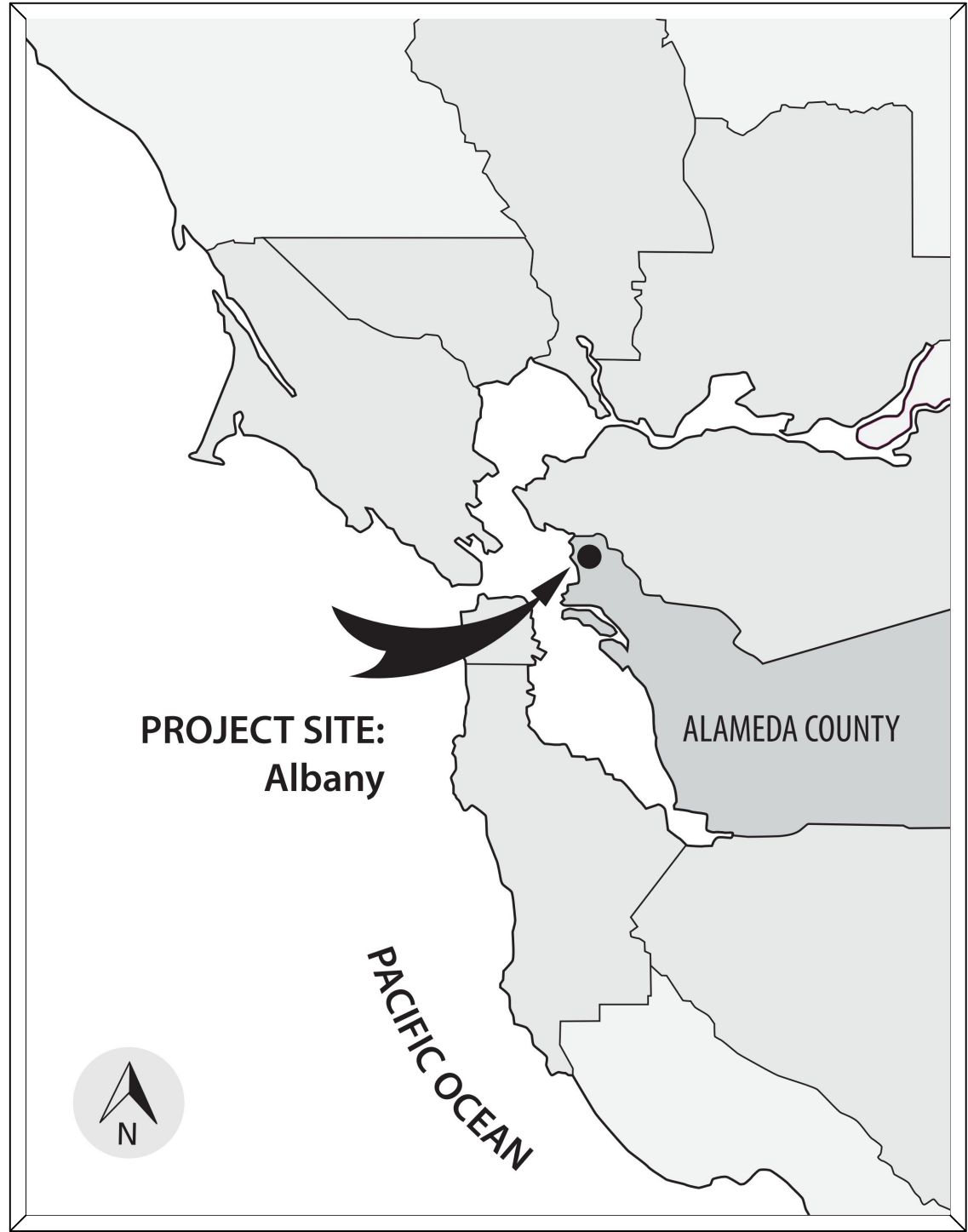
The next phase of design and project management is expected to be funded through an agreement with Alameda County Transportation Commission, to be brought for City Council consideration under separate action. Coordination with Alameda County Transportation Commission, University of California Berkeley, and consultant engineers will continue to require staff time under existing department budgets.

### **Attachment:**

1. Jackson Street Bikeway Conceptual Plan

# CITY OF ALBANY UC VILLAGE - JACKSON STREET BIKE GAP CLOSURE PROJECT

**VICINITY MAP**  
NTS



**LOCATION MAP**  
NTS



**INDEX OF PLANS**

SHEET	DRAWING	DESCRIPTION
1	T-1	TITLE SHEET
2	L-1	LAYOUT PLAN
3	L-2	LAYOUT PLAN
4	L-3	LAYOUT PLAN
5	L-4	LAYOUT PLAN

**PRELIMINARY**  
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION



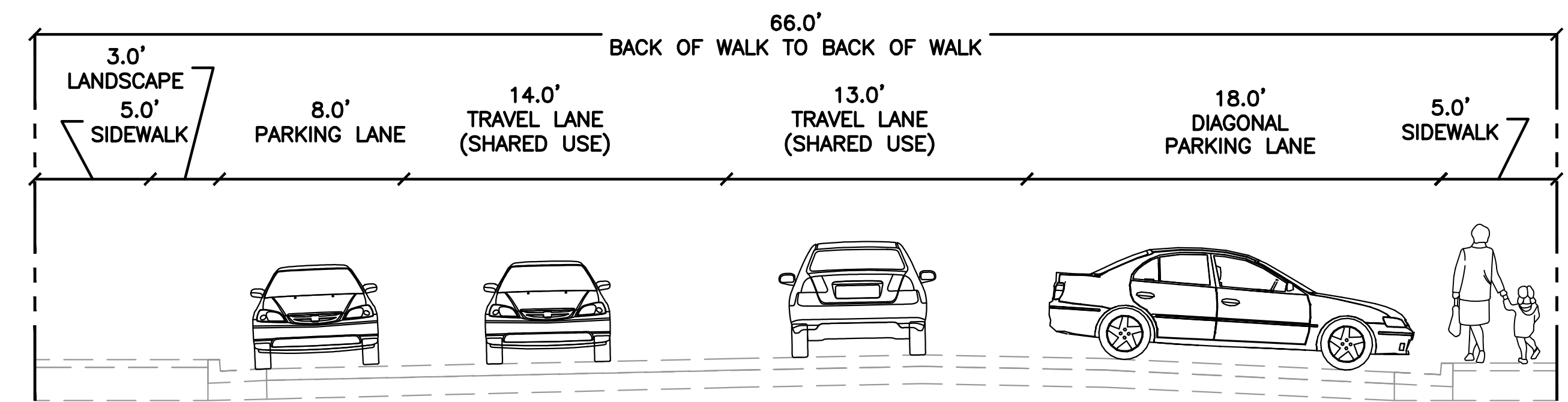
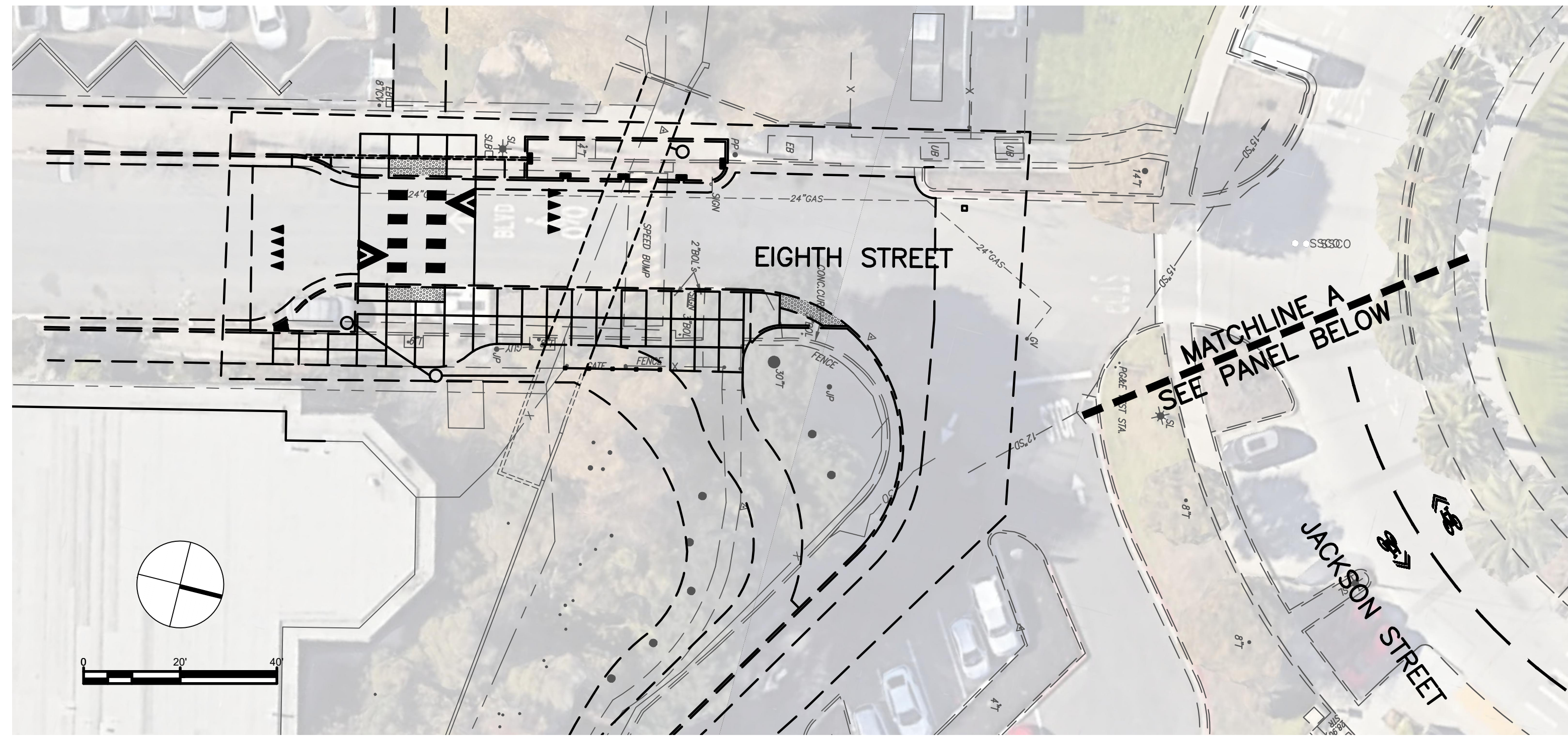
**Parisi** A DIVISION OF  
**Parametrix**  
TRANSPORTATION CONSULTING

<small>DRAWN:</small> ML, DH	<small>CHECKED:</small> AG	<small>ADDRESS:</small> 800 Bancroft Way, Ste 203 Berkeley, CA 94710 (510) 343-6400
<small>DESIGNED:</small> ML	<small>APPROVED:</small> AL	

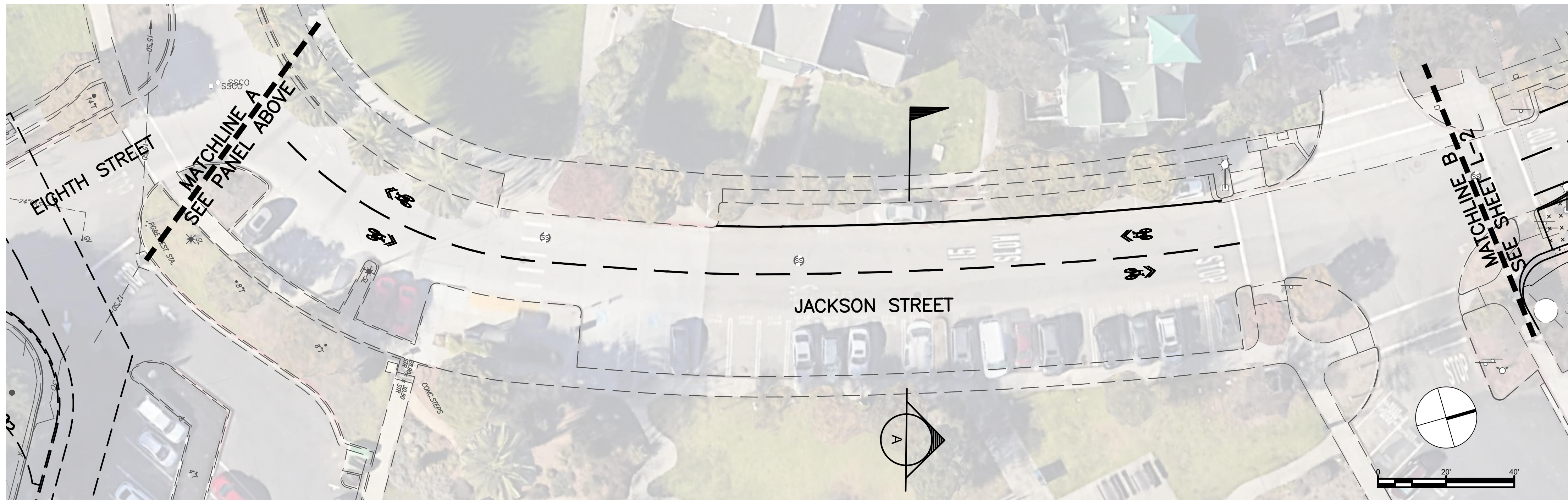
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**UC VILLAGE JACKSON STREET BIKE GAP CLOSURE**  
**TITLE SHEET**

REVISIONS		DATE	SCALE
		09/22/2023	NO SCALE
		<small>PTC PROJECT NO.</small> 18034	
		<small>DRAWING</small> <b>T-1</b>	
		<small>SHEET NO.</small> <b>1 OF 5</b>	
NO.	DESCRIPTION		





SECTION A  
PROPOSED CONDITIONS  
EIGHTH STREET TO MONROE STREET



PRELIMINARY  
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION



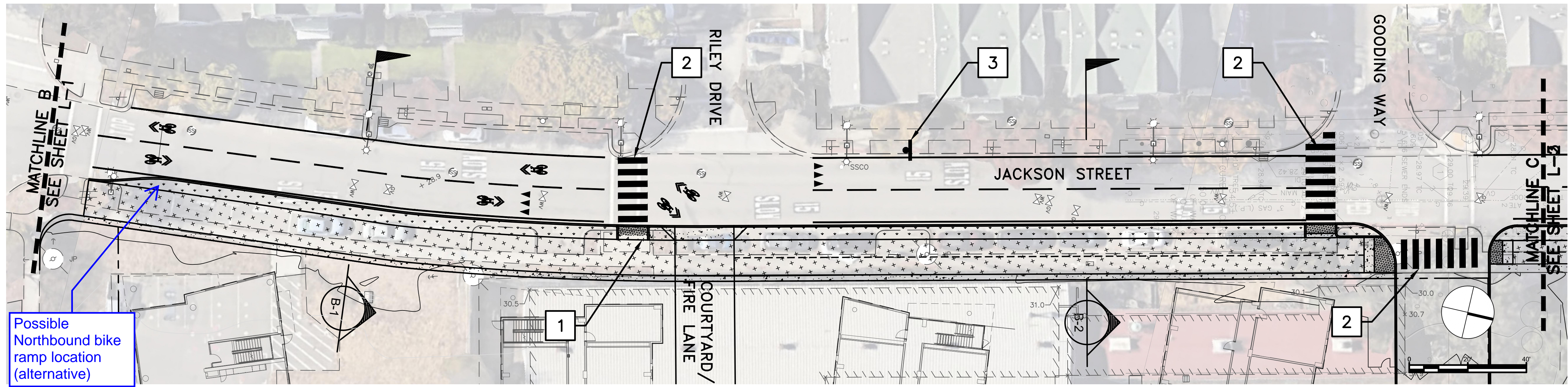
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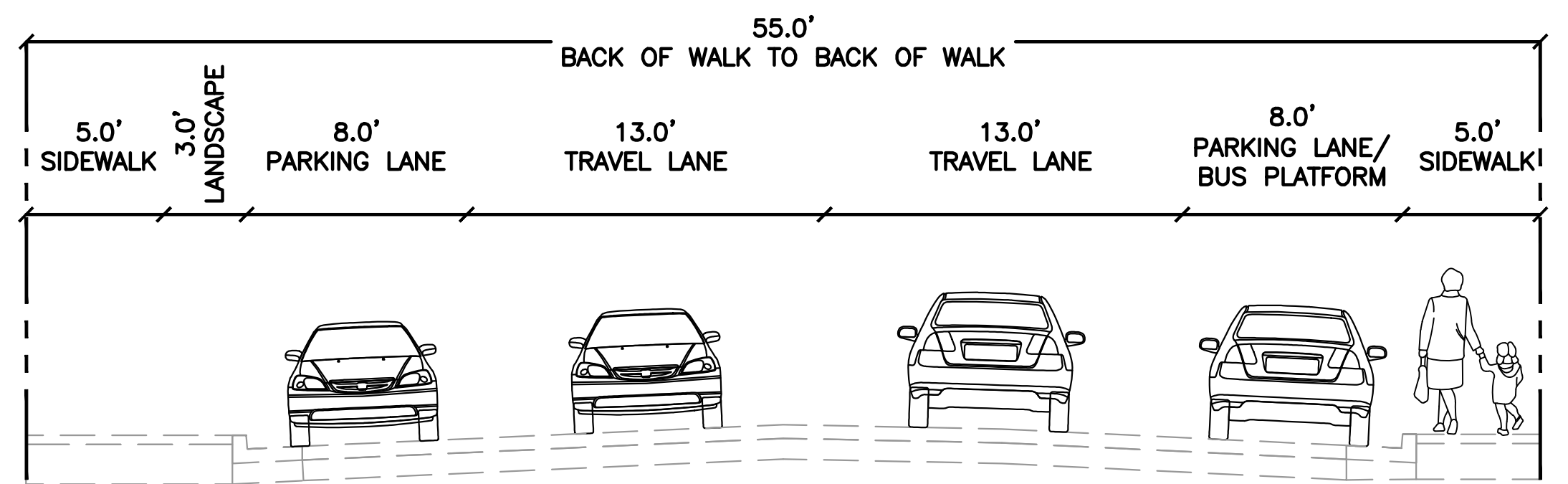
CITY OF ALBANY  
UC VILLAGE JACKSON STREET BIKE GAP CLOSURE  
LAYOUT PLAN

REVISIONS		DATE	SCALE
		09/22/2023	1" = 20'
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		DRAWING L-1	
		SHEET NO. 2 OF 5	
NO.	DESCRIPTION		

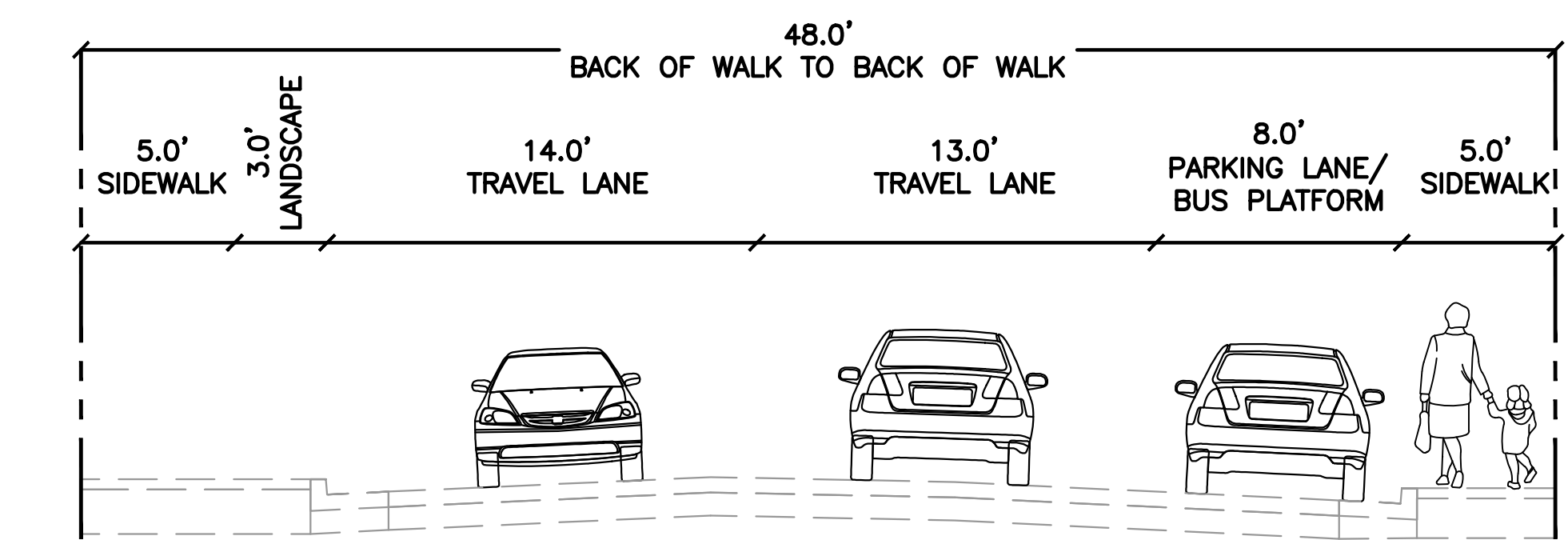




Possible Northbound bike ramp location (alternative)



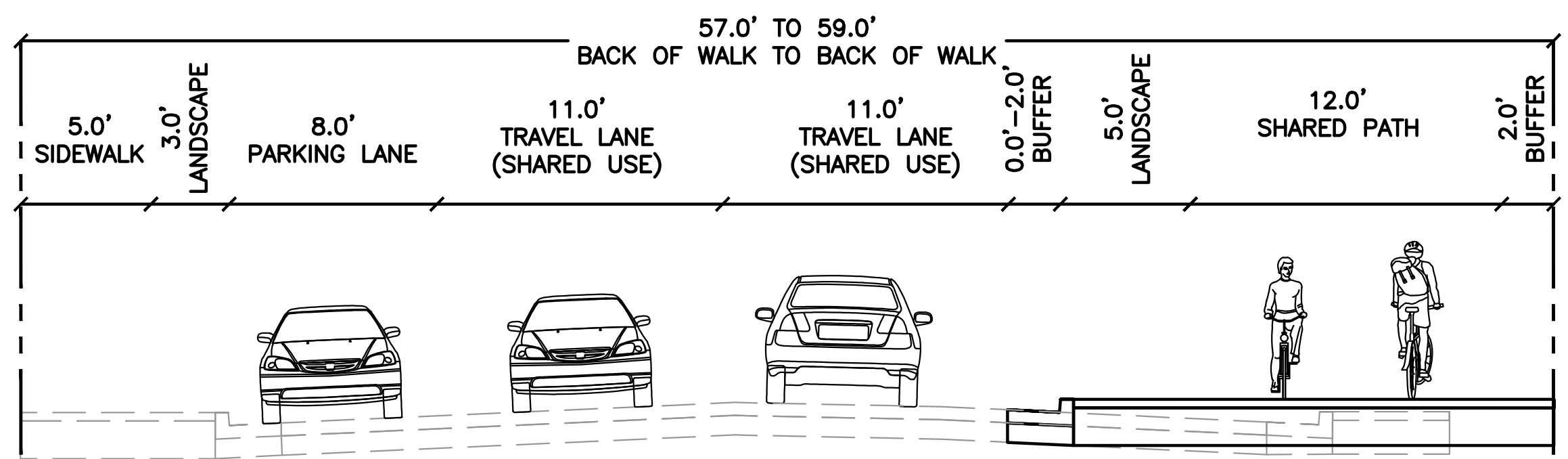
SECTION B-1  
EXISTING CONDITIONS  
MONROE STREET TO OHLONE AVE WITH WEST ON-STREET PARKING



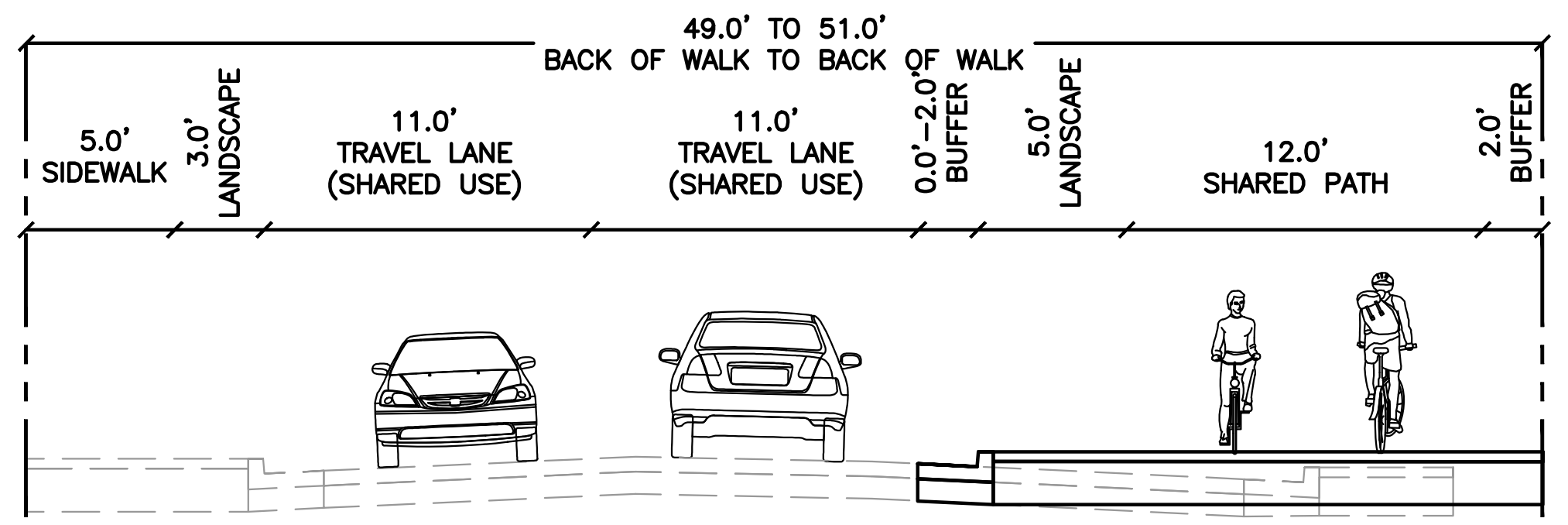
SECTION B-2  
EXISTING CONDITIONS  
MONROE STREET TO OHLONE AVE WITHOUT WEST ON-STREET PARKING

**CONSTRUCTION NOTES (THIS SHEET ONLY)**

- 1 REMOVE EXISTING BUS STOP
- 2 MODIFIED CROSSWALK
- 3 INSTALL BIKE CROSSING WARNING SIGN



SECTION B-1  
PROPOSED CONDITIONS  
MONROE STREET TO OHLONE AVE WITH WEST ON-STREET PARKING



SECTION B-2  
PROPOSED CONDITIONS  
MONROE STREET TO OHLONE AVE WITHOUT WEST ON-STREET PARKING

**LEGEND**

- ASPHALT CONCRETE PATH
- CONCRETE
- LANDSCAPE

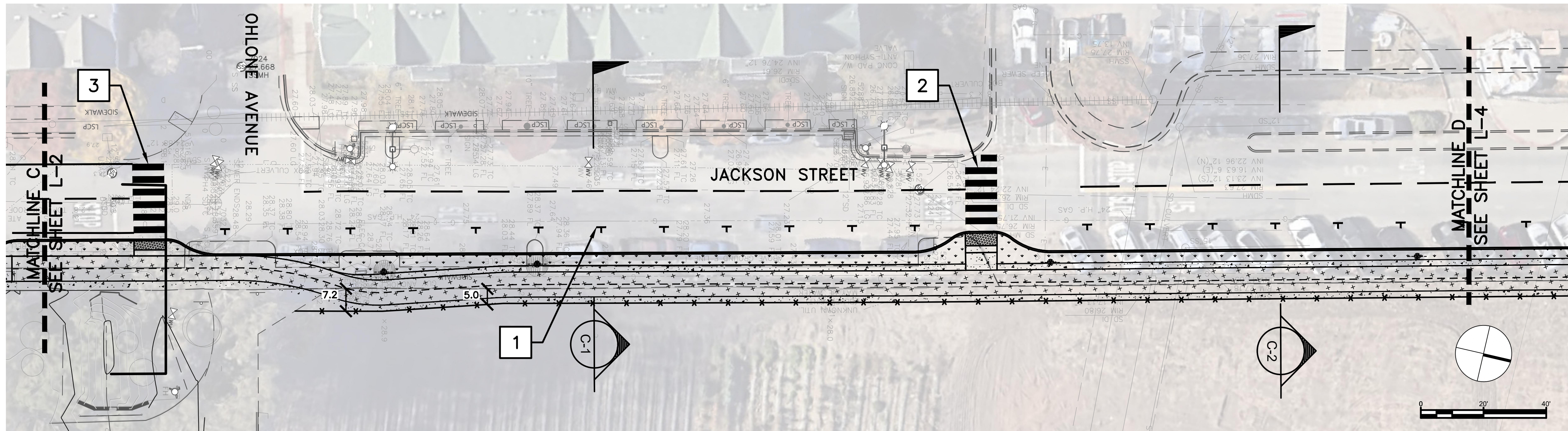
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REVISIONS		DATE	SCALE
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NO.	DESCRIPTION		

PTC PROJECT NO. 18034  
DRAWING L-2  
SHEET NO. 3 OF 5



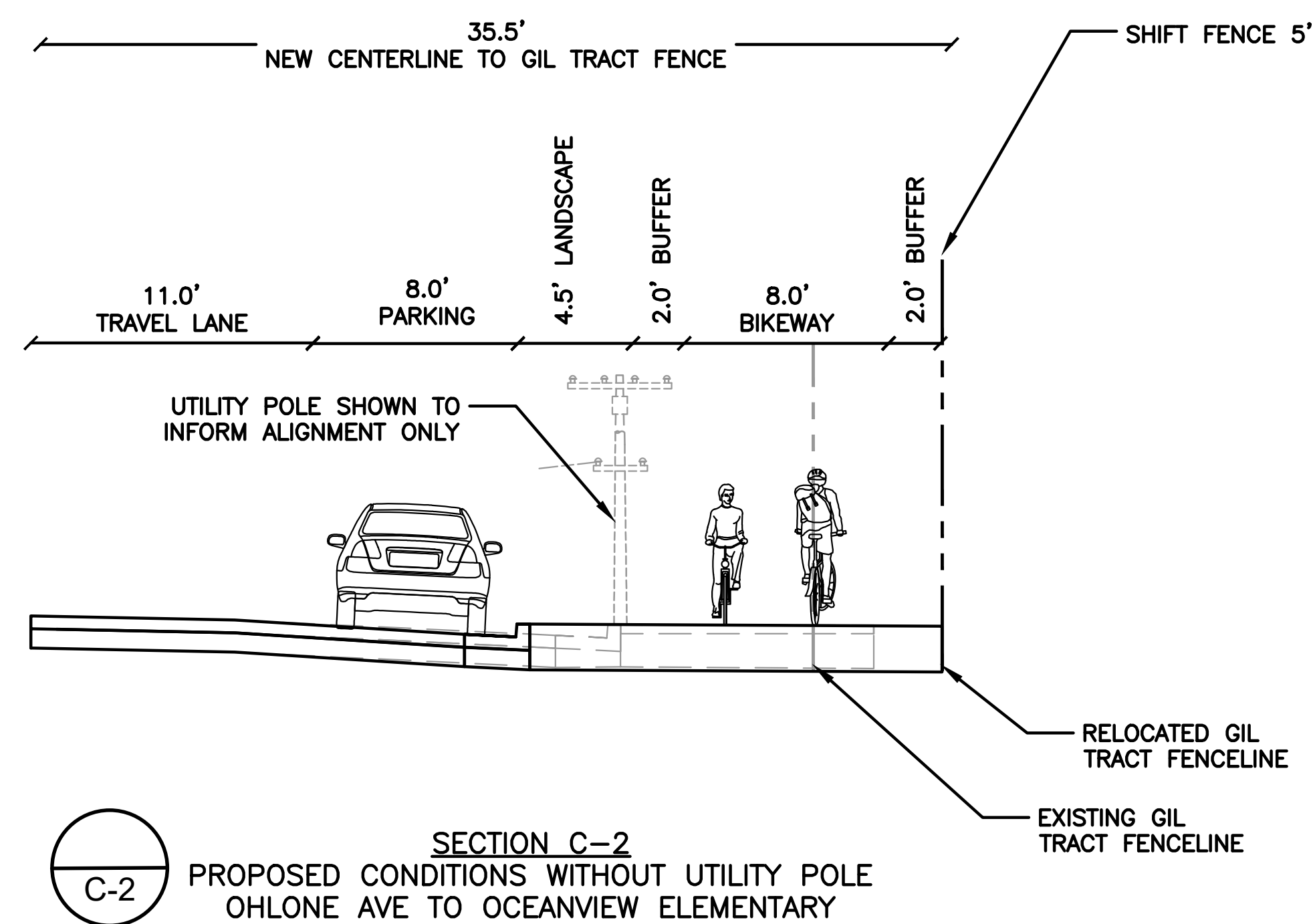
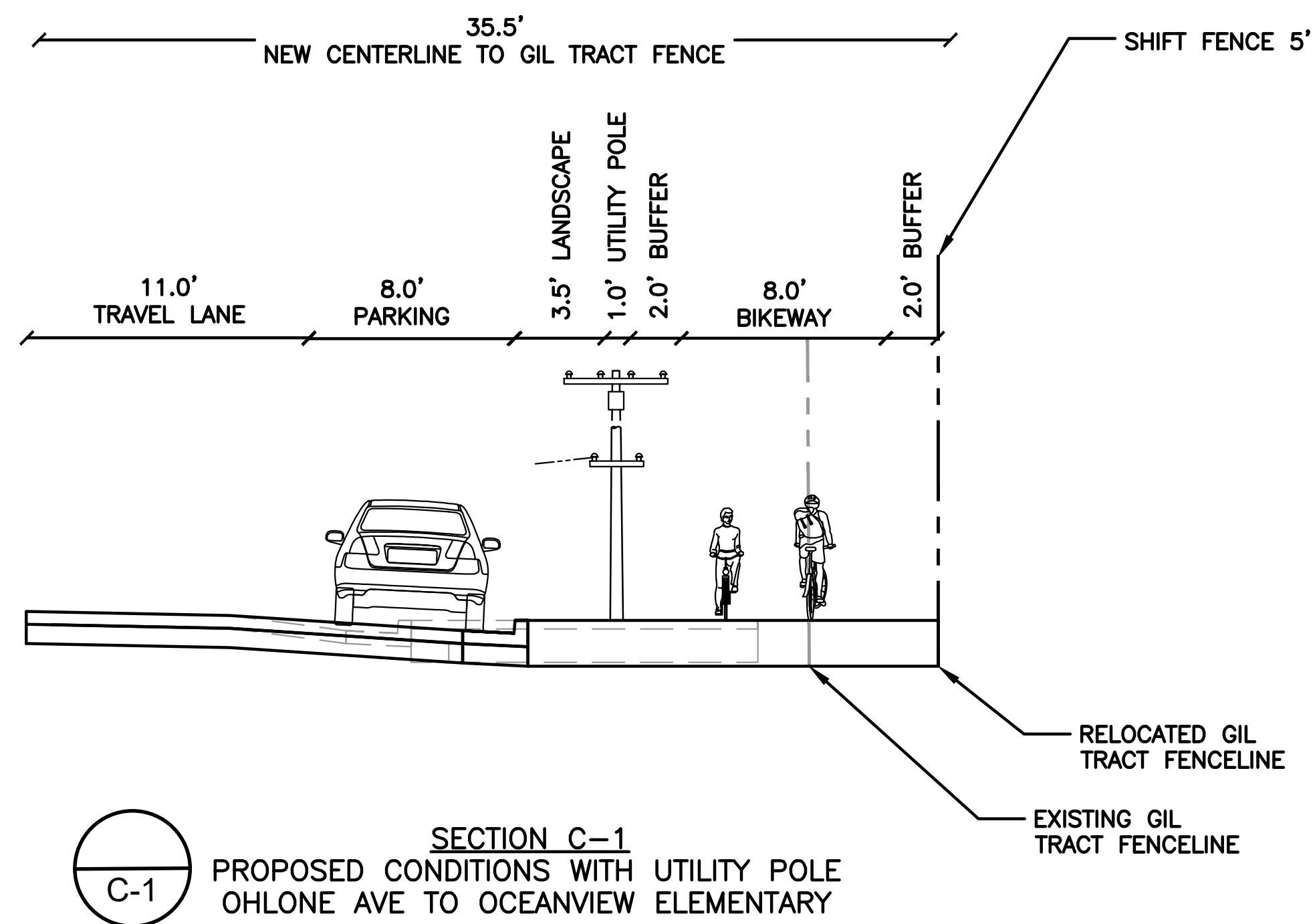


**CONSTRUCTION NOTES (THIS SHEET ONLY)**

- 1** 8' ON-STREET PARKING
- 2** MODIFIED CROSSWALK

**LEGEND**

- ASPHALT CONCRETE PATH
- CONCRETE
- LANDSCAPE



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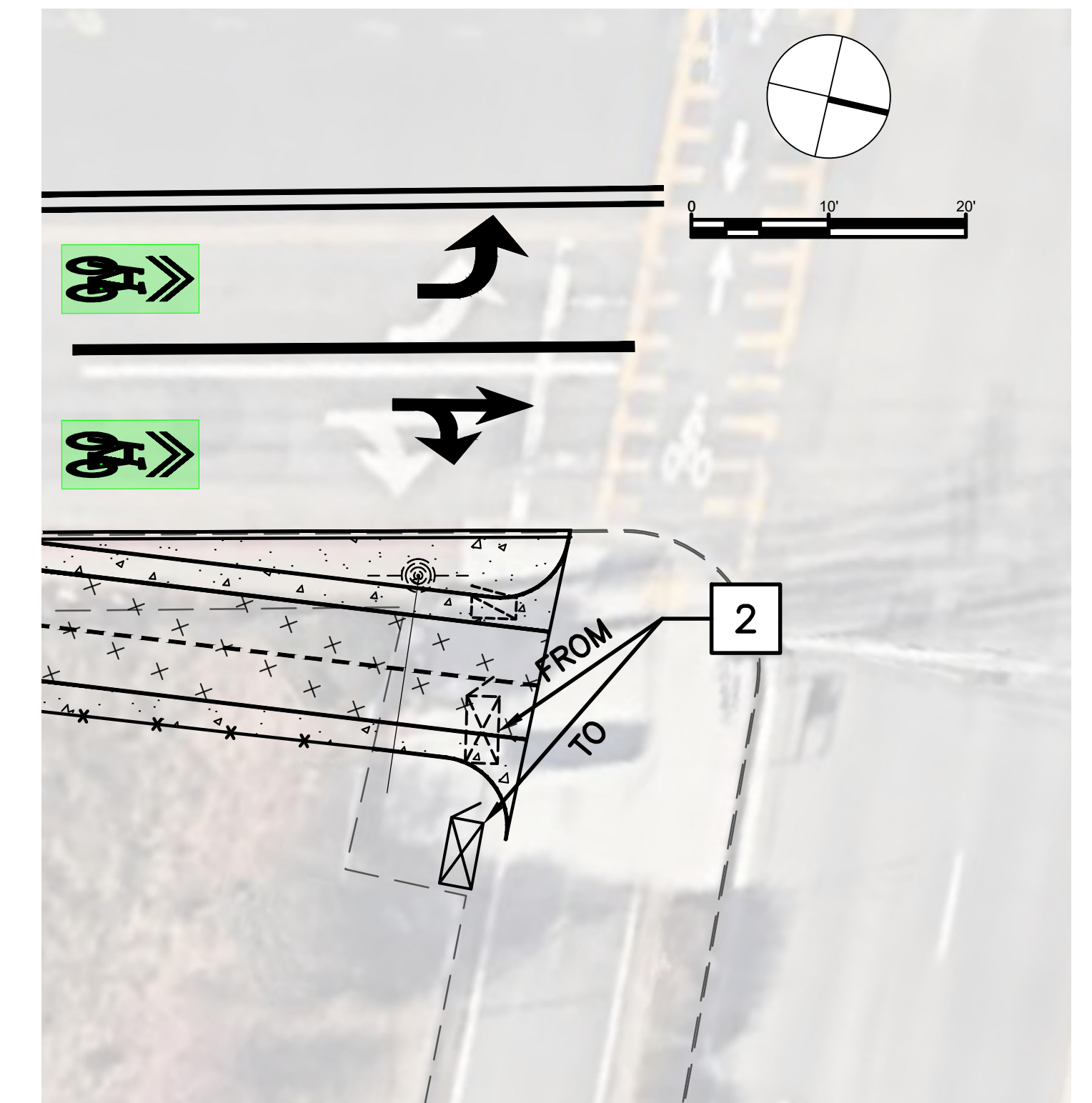
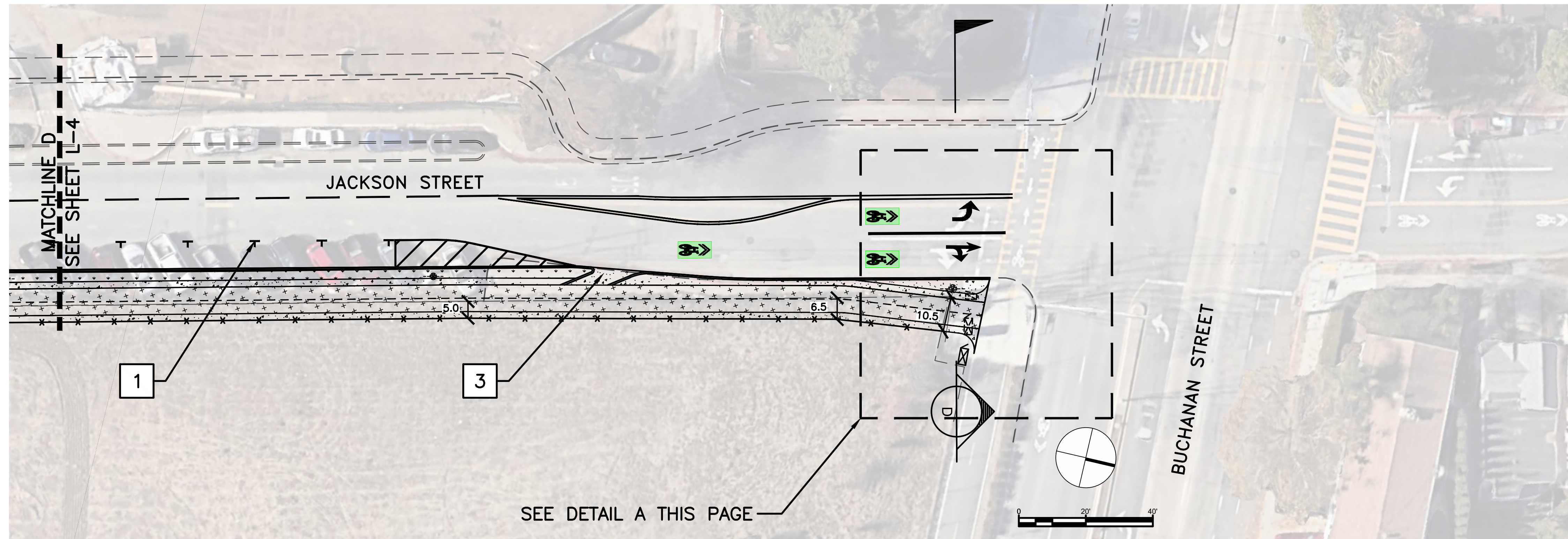
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**CITY OF ALBANY**  
**UC VILLAGE JACKSON STREET BIKE GAP CLOSURE**  
**LAYOUT PLAN**

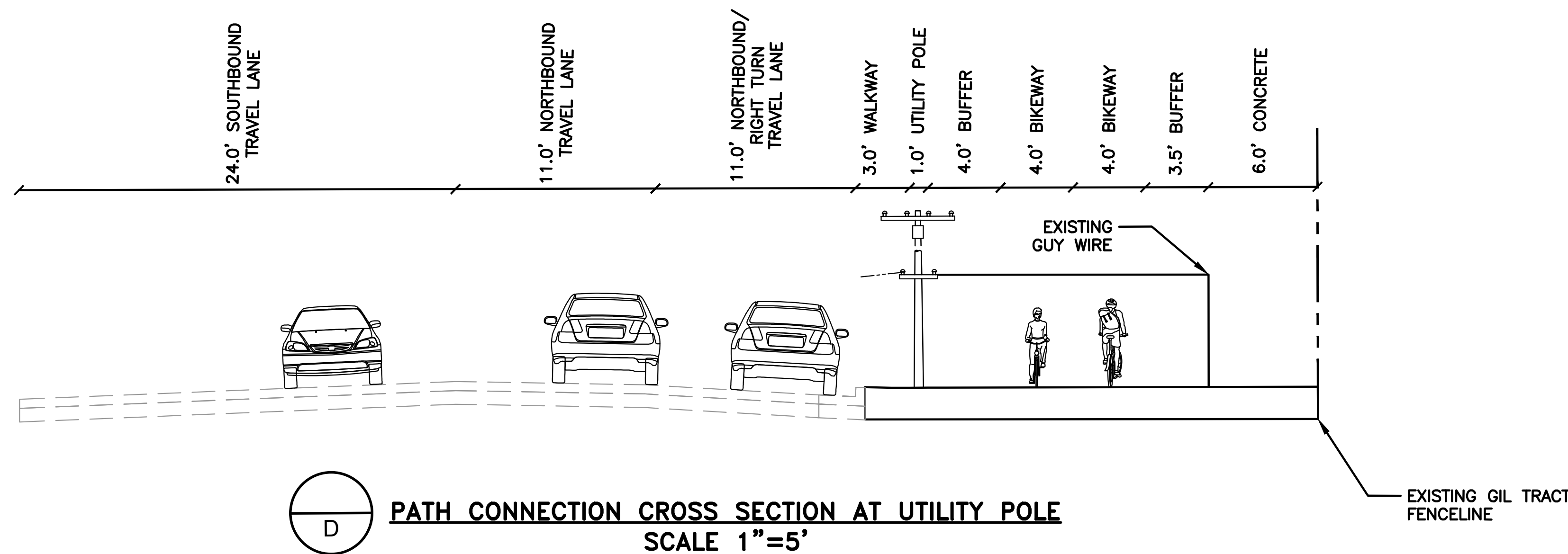
REVISIONS		DATE	SCALE
		09/22/2023	1" = 20'
NO.	DESCRIPTION		

PTC PROJECT NO.  
18034  
DRAWING  
**L-3**  
SHEET NO.  
**4 OF 5**





**DETAIL A**  
RELOCATE EXISTING TRAFFIC CONTROLLER



**CONSTRUCTION NOTES (THIS SHEET ONLY)**

- 1 ON-STREET PARKING
- 2 REMOVE AND RELOCATE EXISTING TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONTROLLER
- 3 CONSTRUCT NORTHBOUND BIKE RAMP

**LEGEND**

- ASPHALT CONCRETE PATH
- CONCRETE
- LANDSCAPE

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**LAYOUT PLAN**

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NO.	DESCRIPTION		

PTC PROJECT NO. 18034  
DRAWING L-4  
SHEET NO. 5 OF 5



# ALBANY CALIFORNIA



CITY OF ALBANY  
1000 SAN PABLO AVENUE  
ALBANY, CA 94706  
[www.AlbanyCA.org](http://www.AlbanyCA.org)

DATE: September 29, 2023

## MEMORANDUM

To: Albany City Council Members

From: Justin Fried, Transportation and Sustainability Manager  
Jeff Bond, Community Development Director

Re: Addendum to Staff Report on Conceptual Design for Jackson Street Bikeway Between Buchanan Street and Monroe Street

### TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

That the Council approve the conceptual design for the Jackson Street Bikeway between Buchanan Street and Monroe Street with the alternative route transition to on-street at Riley; that strong consideration be given to connecting to the path behind Sprouts along Village Creek; that the path be brought as close as possible to Monroe, and that signage reminding people of appropriate speeds and behavior be included.

### DISCUSSION

The Transportation Commission met on September 28, 2023, after submission of the Staff Report on this item. Prior to making a recommendation, the Commission discussed a number of design elements, including: the safety benefits of the path transitioning to on-street at the Jackson and Monroe intersection as soon as is feasible; options for cyclist transitions to on-street in the interim; providing a continuous off-street facility between the Dartmouth Street crossing and Ocean View Elementary; AC Transit stop coordination; and providing maximum space for turning and visibility at the junction of the Buchanan Bikeway and proposed Jackson Bikeway.