

# Diamond District Public Realm Design Standards

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OFFICE OF  
**SUSTAINABILITY**

# Project Context

- 66.7 acres of underdeveloped public property to become a mixed-use, mixed income urban destination anchored by a regional baseball stadium
- Emphasis to welcome visitors by foot, bike, car or transit
- Signature linear park, series of smaller parks and a public mews
- Hotel, office, retail, restaurants, public parking, residential

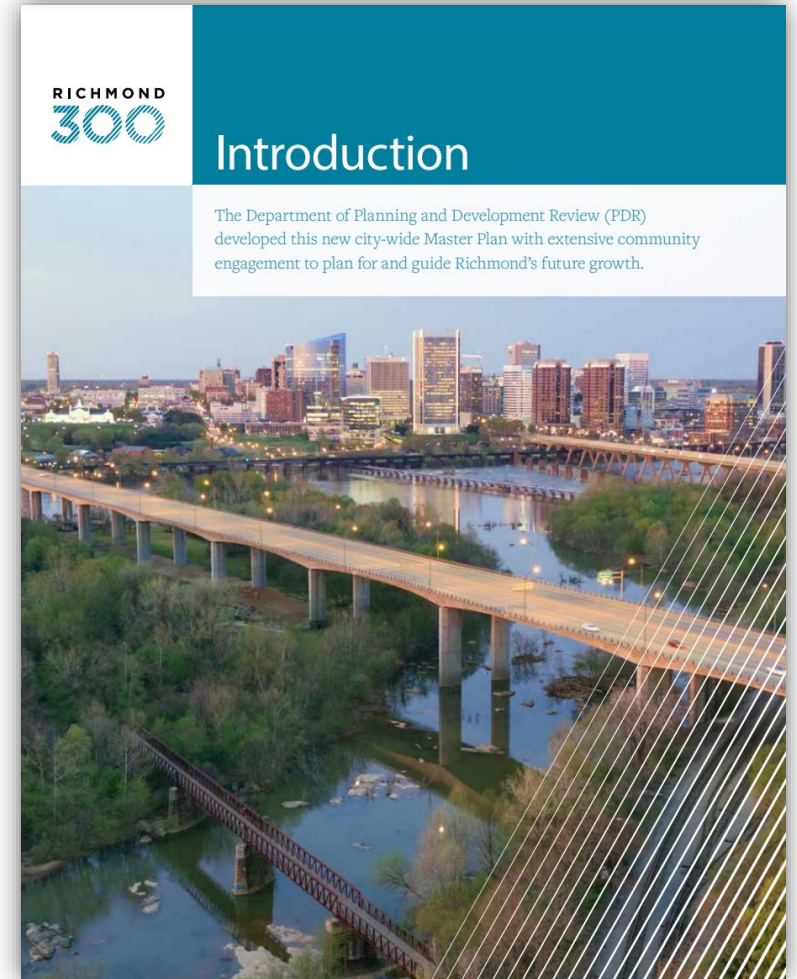


# Project Context

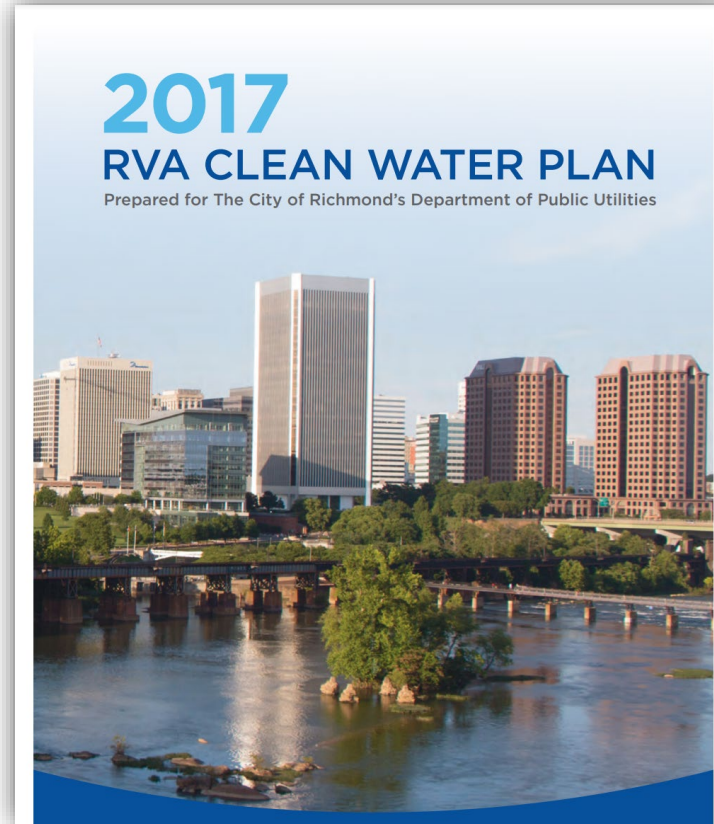
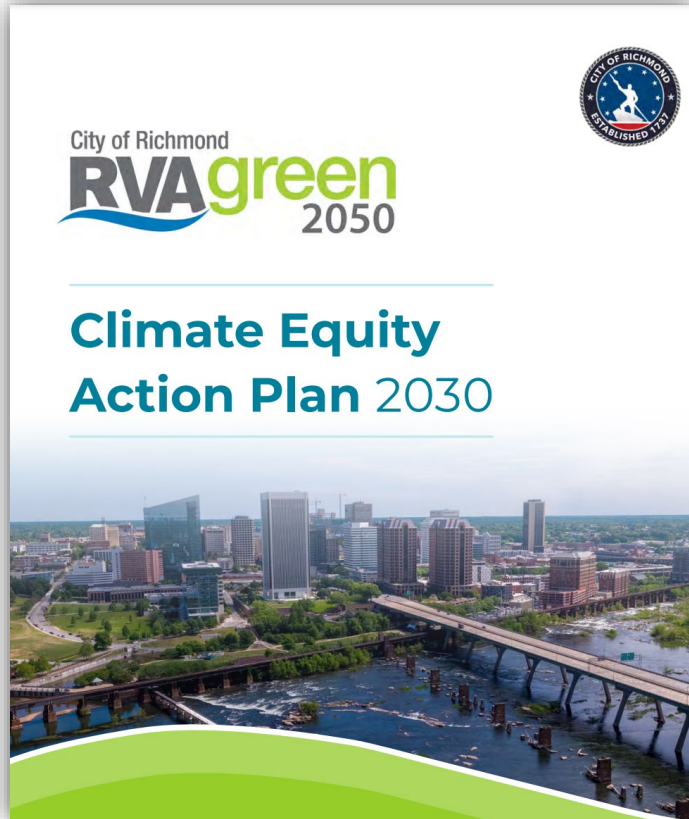
City-Wide Vision: In 2037, Richmond is a welcoming, inclusive, diverse, innovative, sustainable, and equitable city of thriving neighborhoods, ensuring a high quality of life for all.

Values: Welcoming, Inclusive, Diverse, Innovative, Sustainable, Equitable, Thriving

*Greater Scott's Addition Small Area Plan*



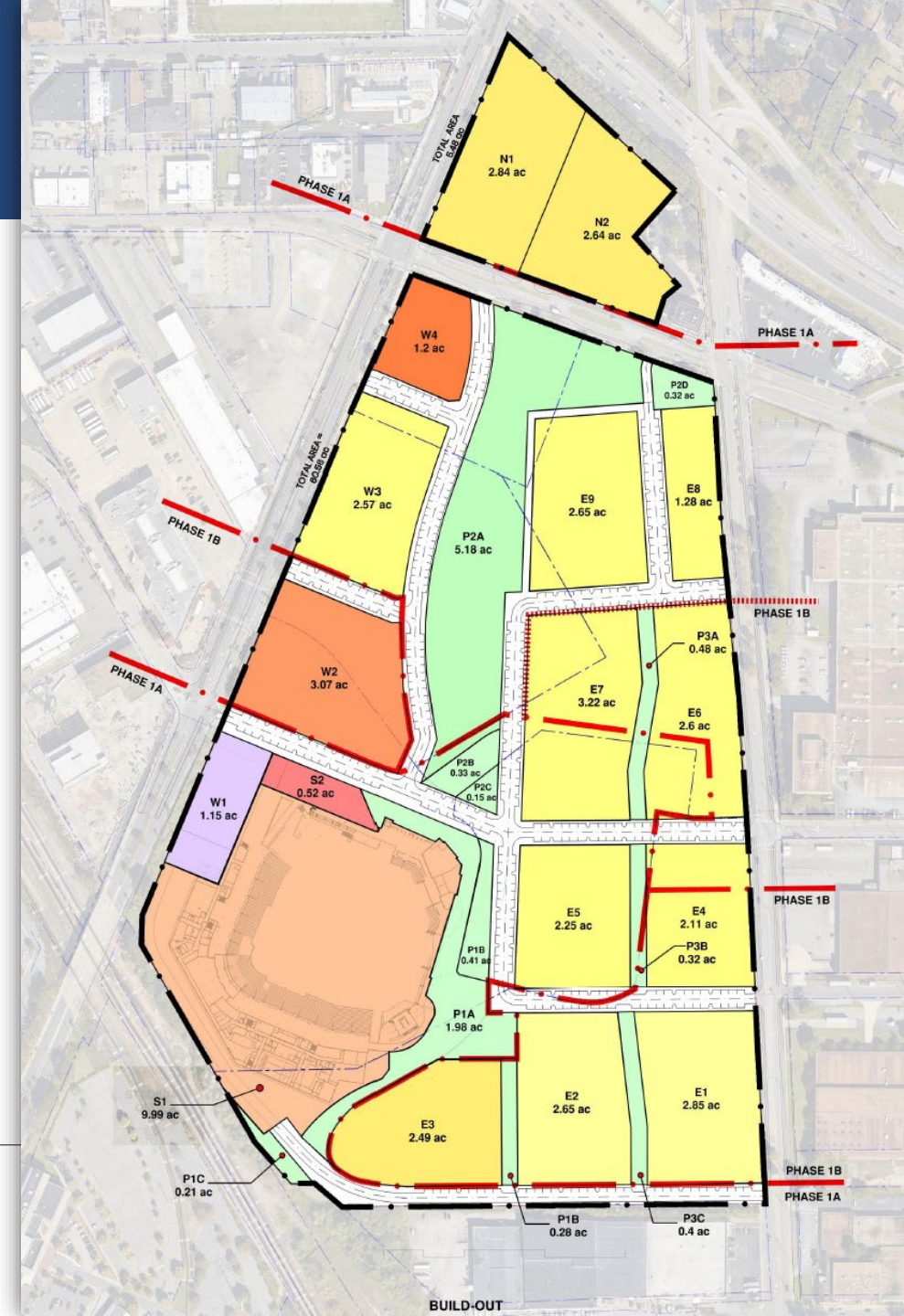
# Project Context



*Mayor's Goal: "Greenest City on the East Coast"*

# Project Context

- Mixed Income Residential Units: 2,500+
- Parking Garage: 1.3 M+ sqft
- Retail Sqft: 120k+
- Office Sqft: 190k+
- Hotel Sqft: 40k+
- Park Acreage: 10+
- City ROW: 9.95 ac



# Public Realm Design Standards

## What are Public Realm Design Standards?

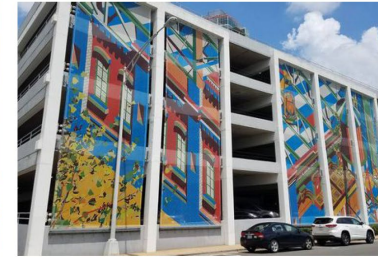
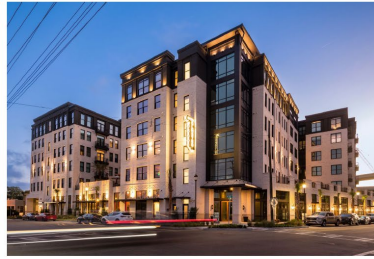
- Guidance for developers for spaces within the public realm, meaning those that fall within the Right of Way and any publicly owned open spaces
- *They create a vision for the public realm and design options that allow flexibility and creativity*



# Public Realm Design Standards

What *don't* Public Realm Design Standards cover?

- EDA owned property (Stadium)
- Indoor spaces (parking garage, housing, etc.)
- Tenants
- Site layout/building locations
- Project timeline
- Project phasing/financing



# Public Realm Design Standards establish the “look and feel” of the Diamond District



# Public Realm Design Standards

How will they be used?

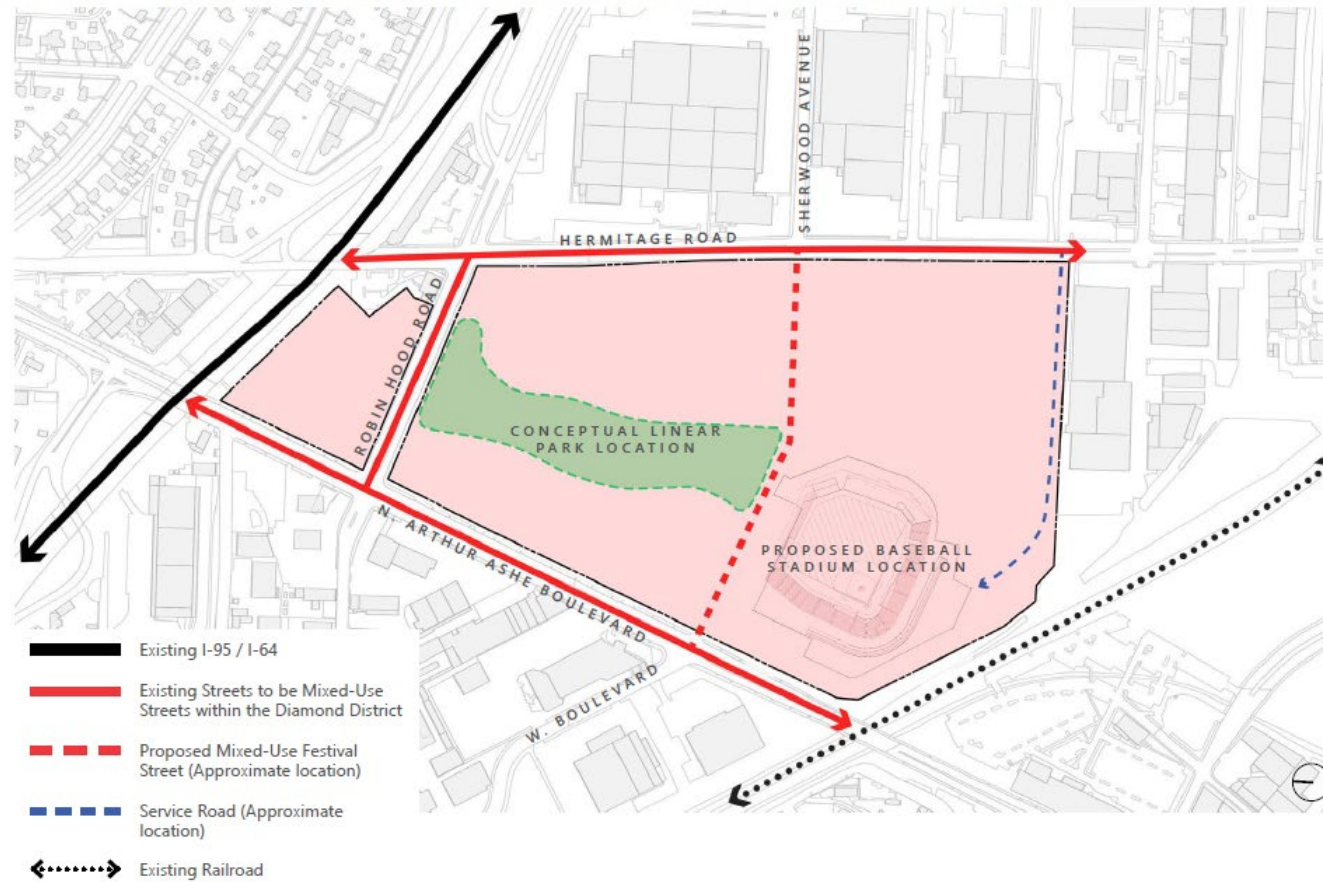
- Property owners
- The City of Richmond
- Developers
- Designers
- Community members
- Developers of other sites adjacent to/within the City



# Street Network & Standards

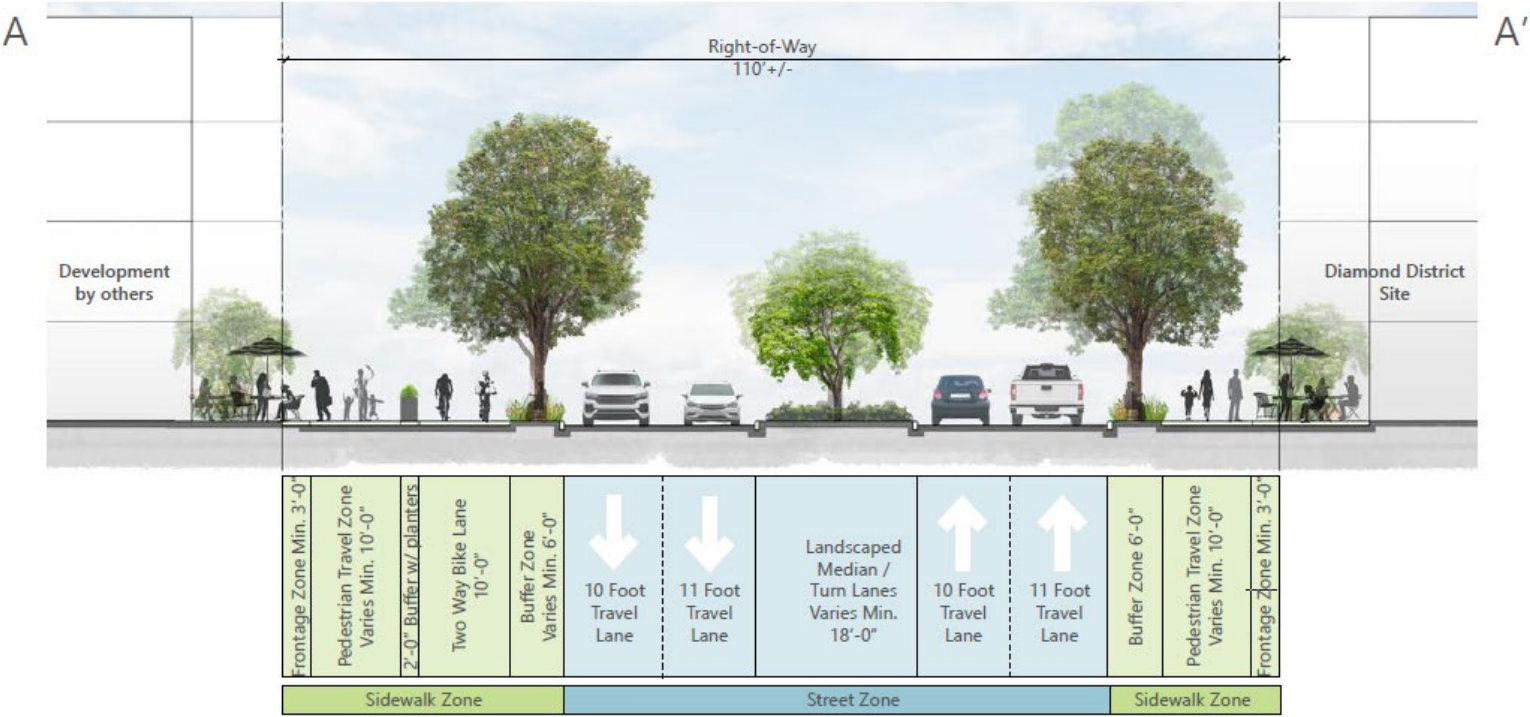
## CONCEPTUAL STREET NETWORK

Site plan is conceptual in nature and subject to change. Future roads internal to the Diamond District are not shown.



# Street Network & Standards

Conceptual Section & Plan A - N. Arthur Ashe Boulevard between the N. Arthur Ashe bridge and the Festival Street

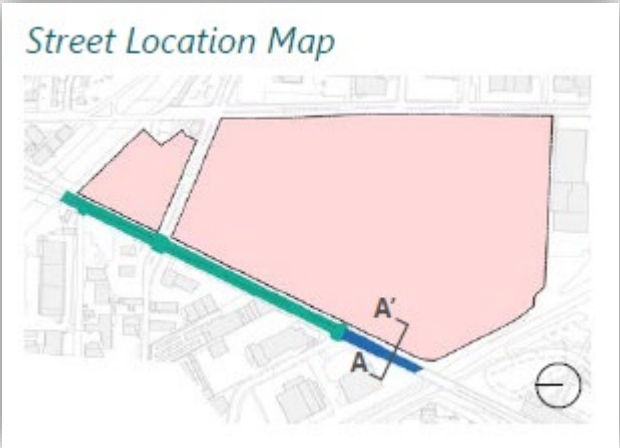
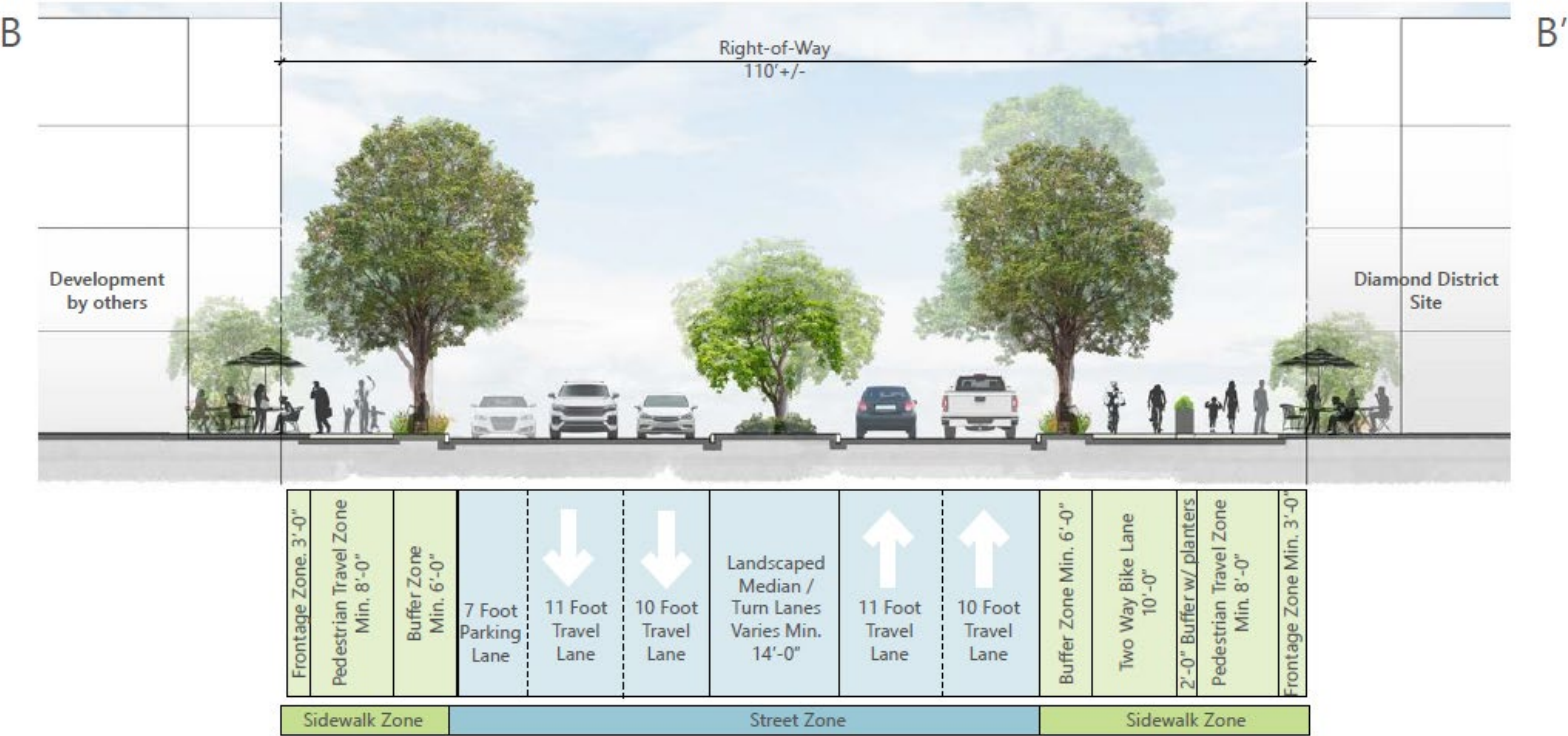


Street Location Map



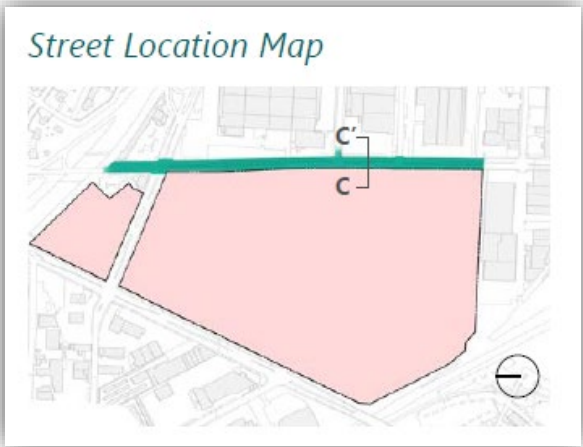
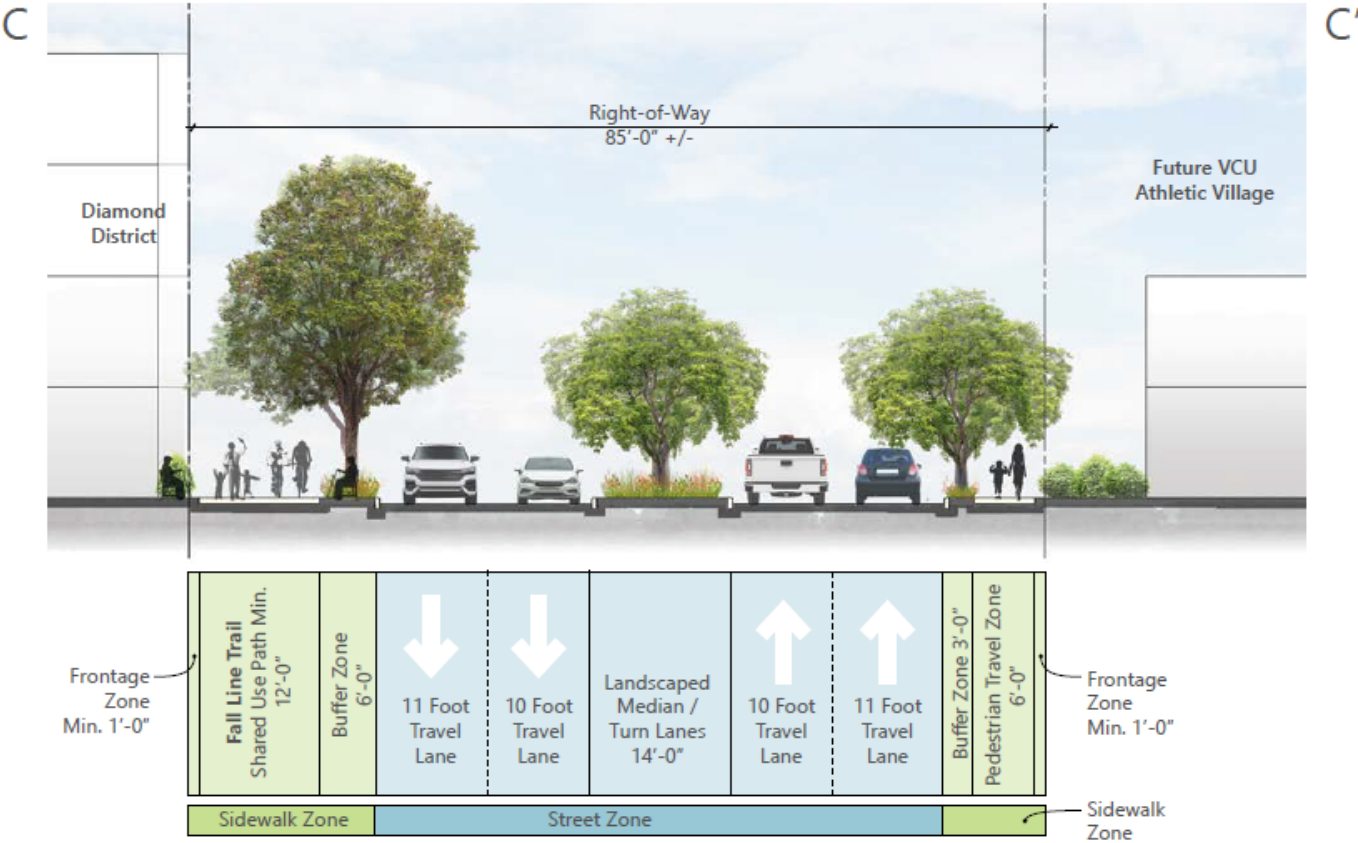
# Street Network & Standards

Conceptual Section & Plan B - N. Arthur Ashe Boulevard between the Festival Street & Interstate 95



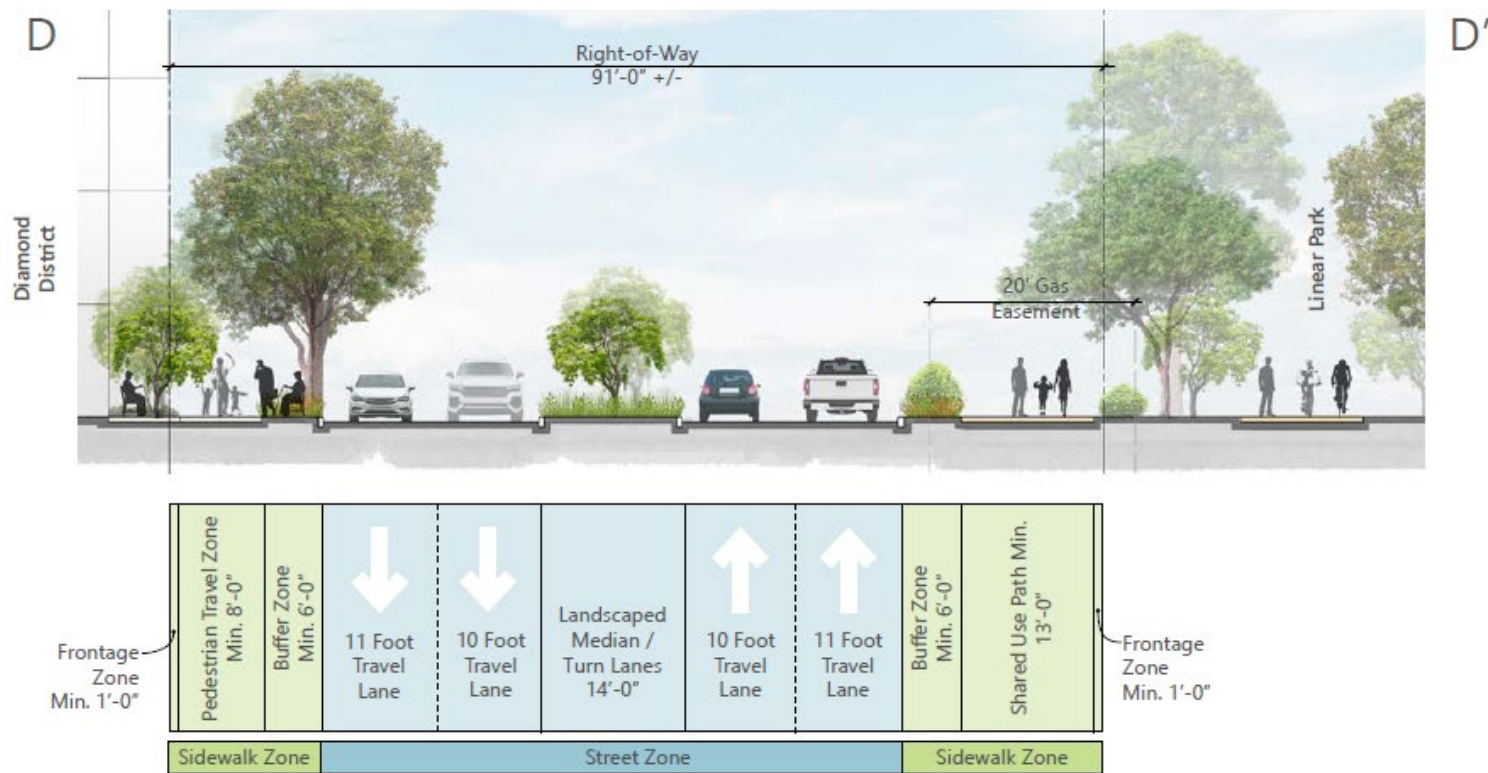
# Street Network & Standards

Hermitage Road Conceptual Section & Plan



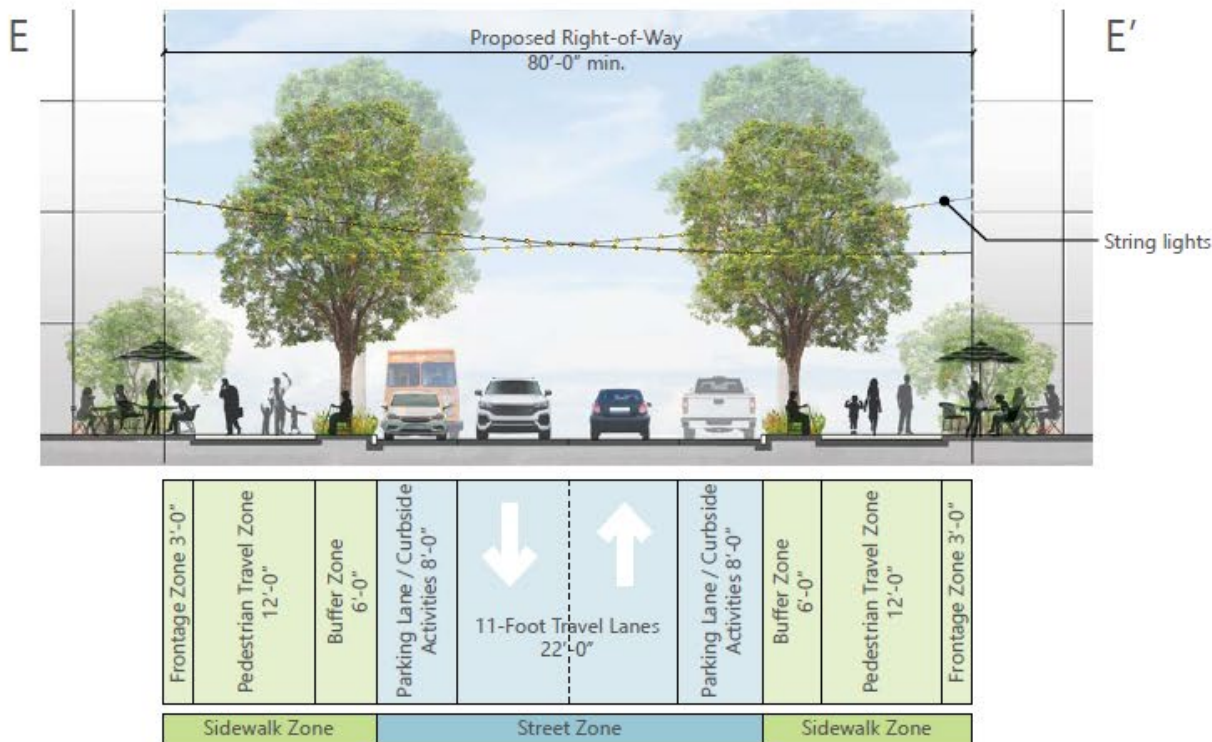
# Street Network & Standards

Robin Hood Road Conceptual Section & Plan

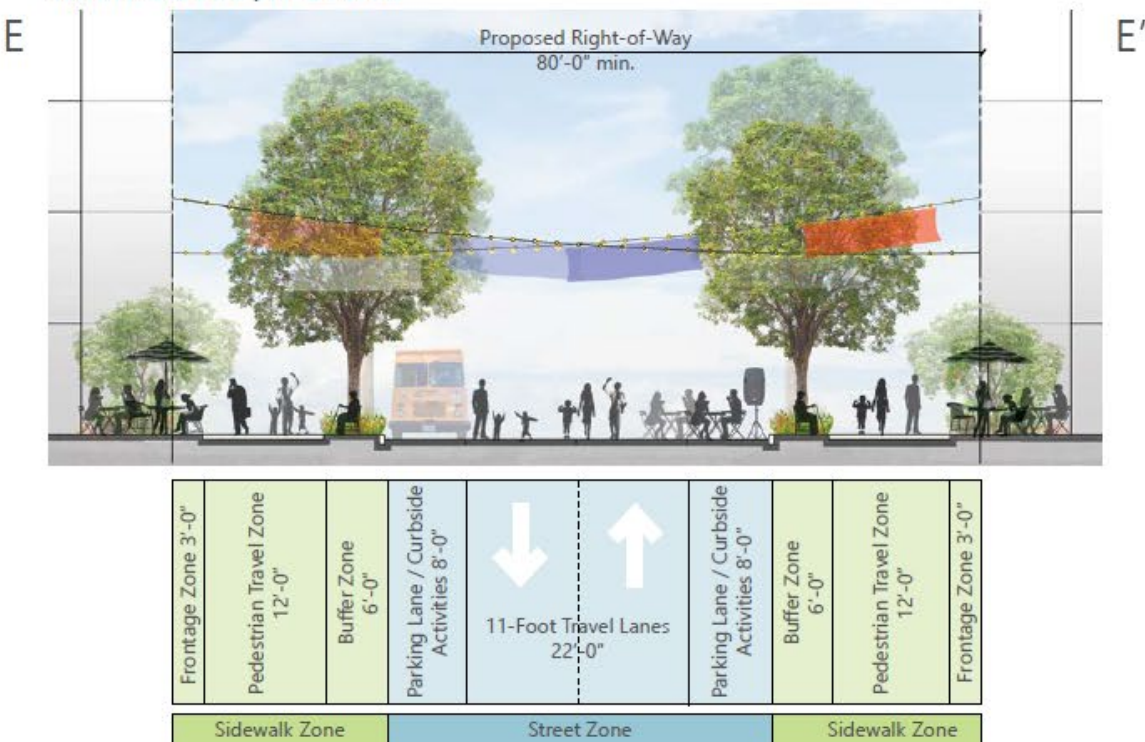


# Street Network & Standards

Festival Street Conceptual Section & Plan

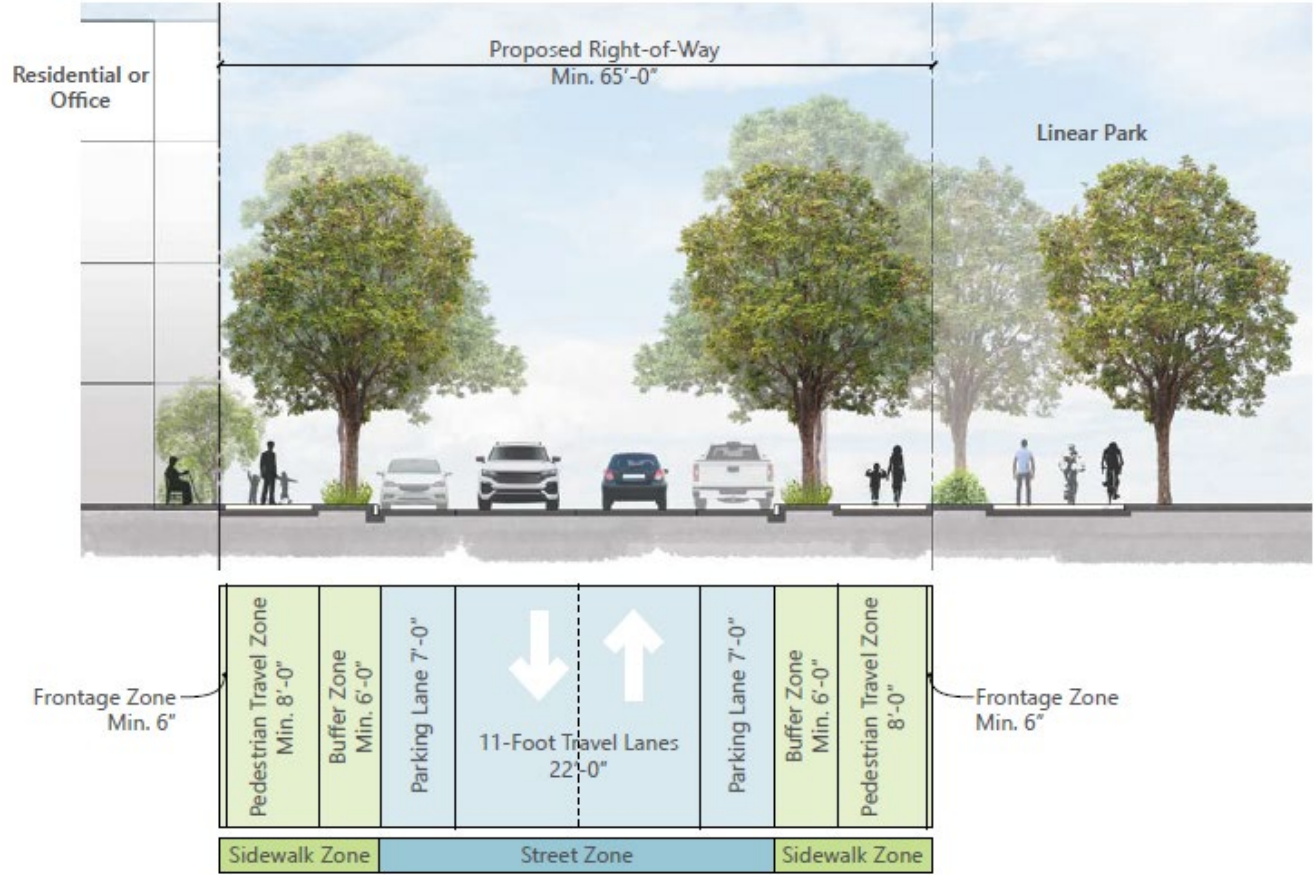


Festival Street Conceptual Section & Plan when Closed for Events



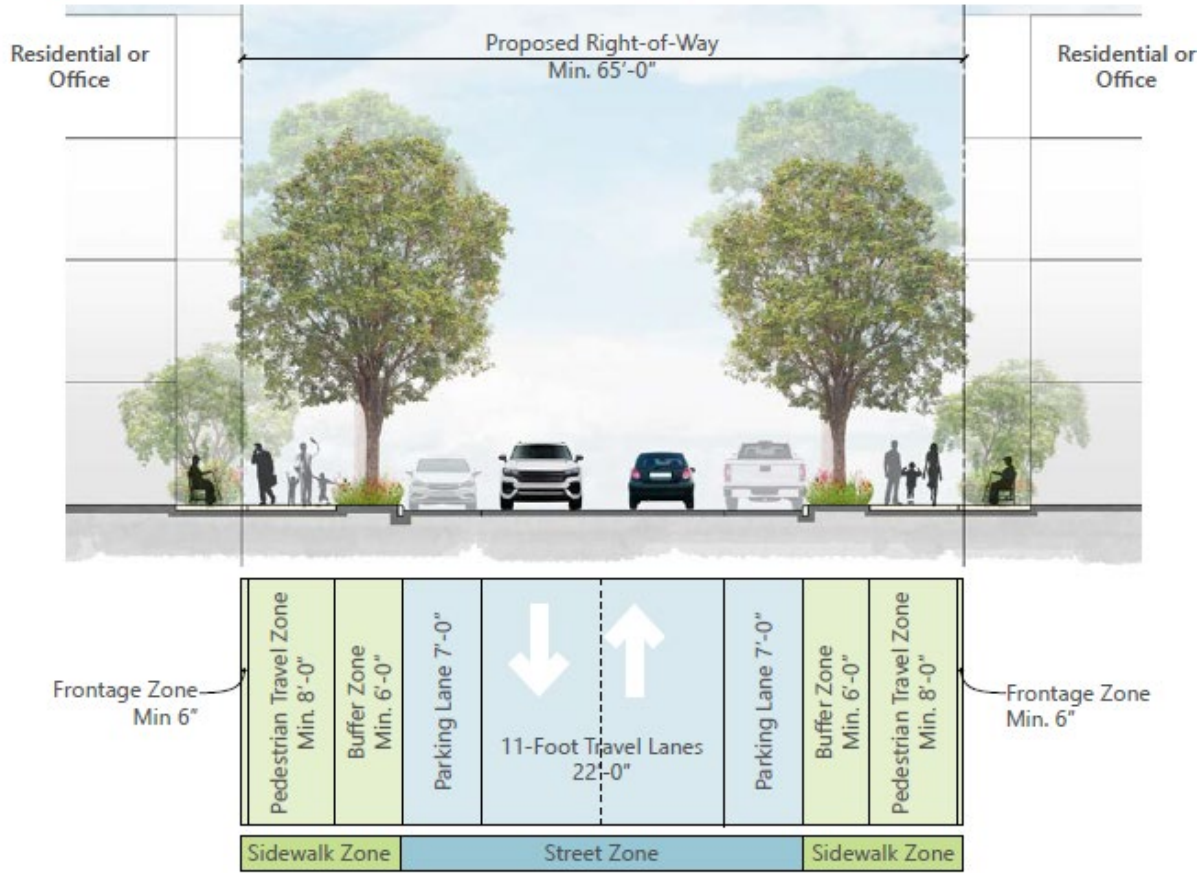
# Street Network & Standards

Linear Park Perimeter Streets Conceptual Section & Plan



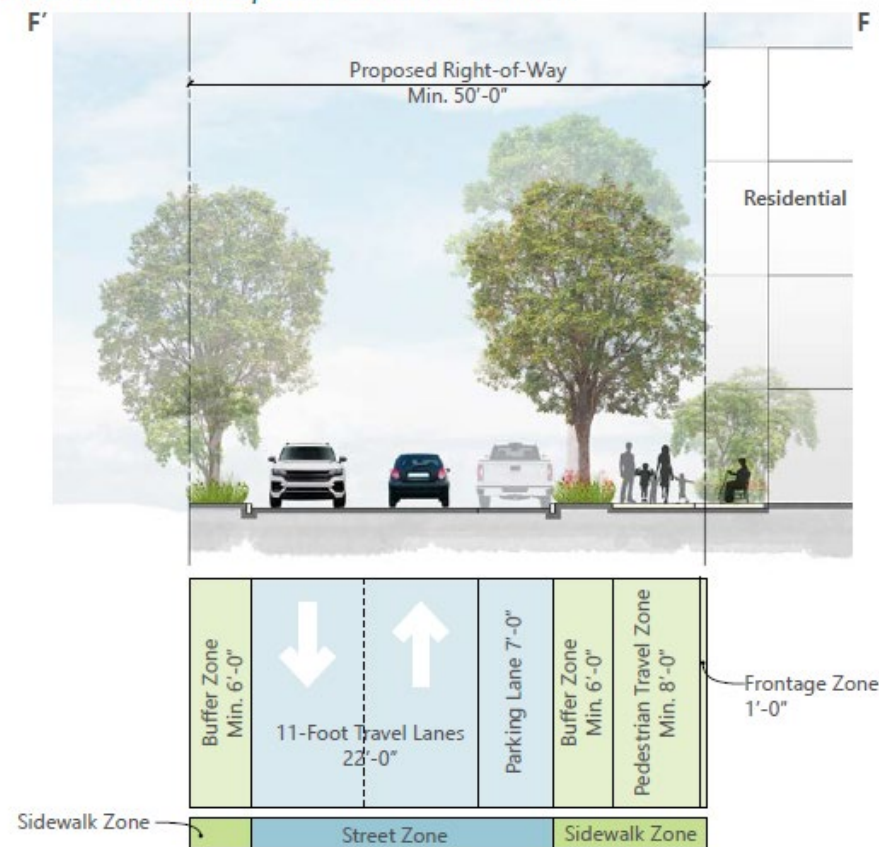
# Street Network & Standards

*Neighborhood Residential Street Conceptual Section & Plan*

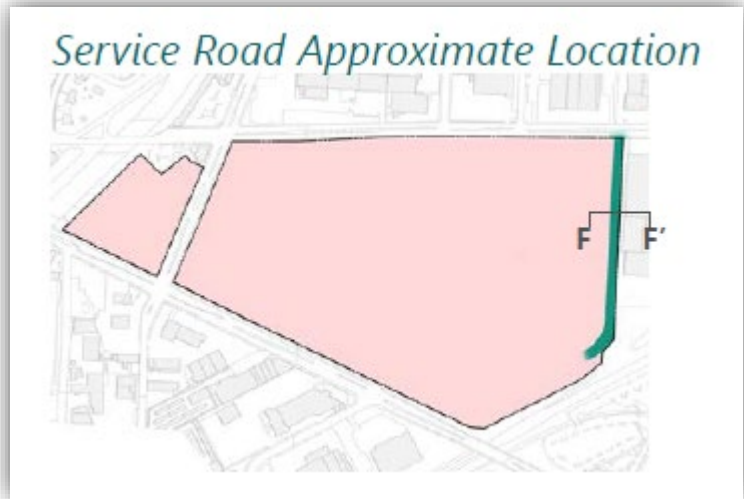


# Street Network & Standards

Service Road Conceptual Section & Plan

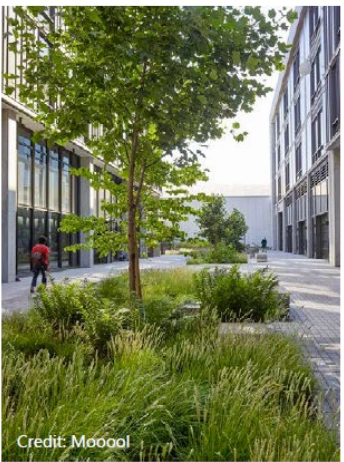
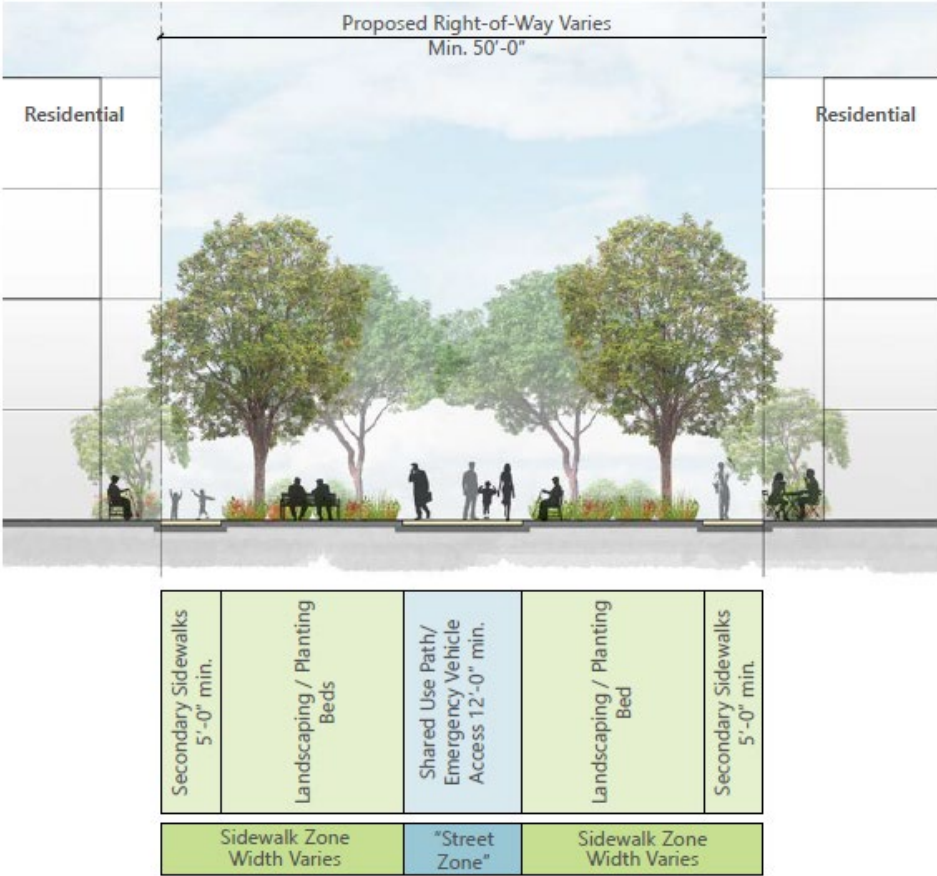


Service Road Approximate Location



# Street Network & Standards

Mews Conceptual Section & Plan



# Public Realm Elements

## Sustainability:

Low carbon and sustainable design elements/materials

- Regionally sourced and/or recycled materials and products
- Selecting high durable, low maintenance materials
- EV charging stations for vehicles and e-bikes
- Harvesting and reusing rainwater and greywater
- Installing pavement with high solar reflectance in sunny areas
- Using native plant species and removing invasive plant species
  - Increase tree canopy coverage
  - Limiting the use of turf grass
  - Using LED lighting and solar energy



Electric Vehicle Charging Stations



Solar Bench



E-bike Charging Stations

# Public Realm Elements

## Stormwater:

- Site-wide Stormwater Management Plan to be created
- Identify specific bio-retention facilities and swales including in the sidewalk zone and linear park
- Green Infrastructure to the maximum extent practicable
- May include bioretention basins, green/vegetated roofs, rainwater harvesting and reuse systems, permeable paver systems, infiltration basins, bioswales, tree box filters and other practices approved by the City.



Bioretention Planting



Bioretention Planting



Vegetated Swale



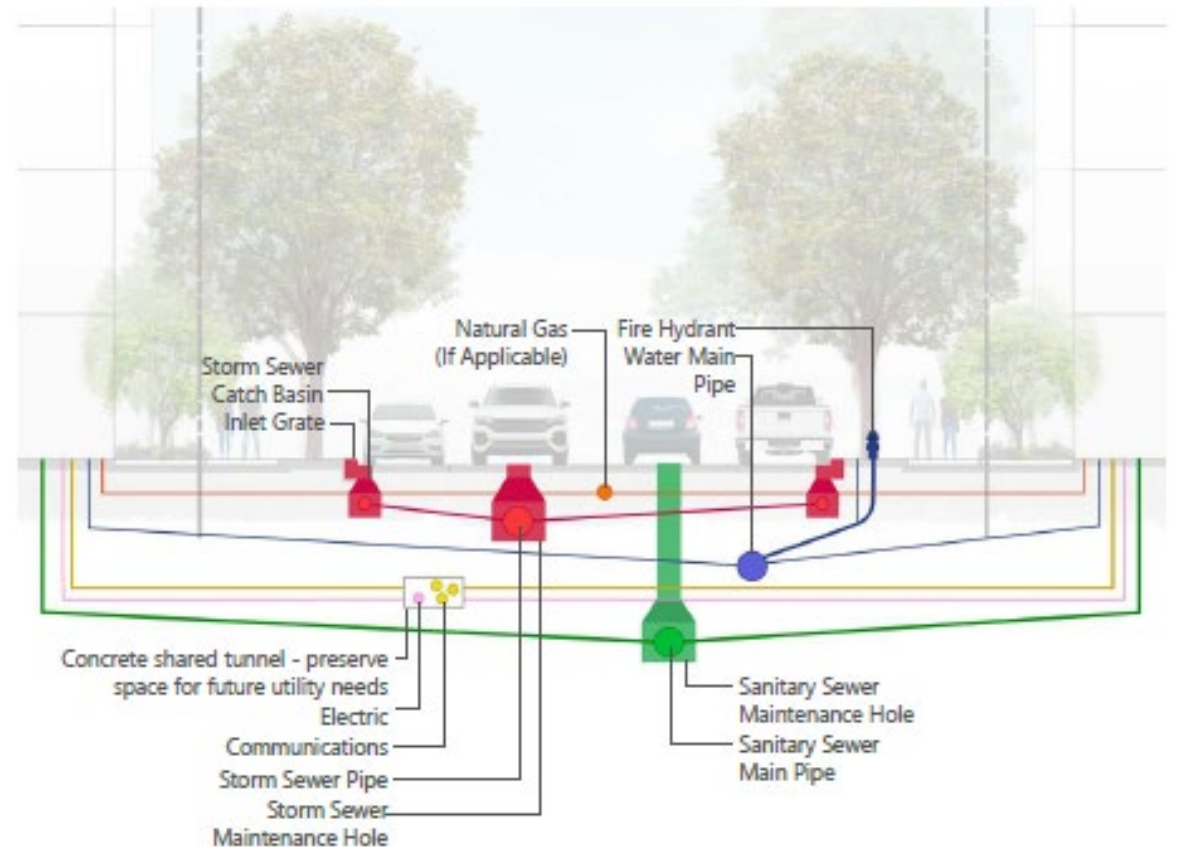
Vegetated Swale

# Public Realm Elements

## Utilities:

- All utilities shall be underground
- All utilities shall be in the roadway
- UDC's recommendation of a phased network of underground cable-ready infrastructure
- Ensure no interference with root systems
- Meters, transformers and other equipment discretely placed

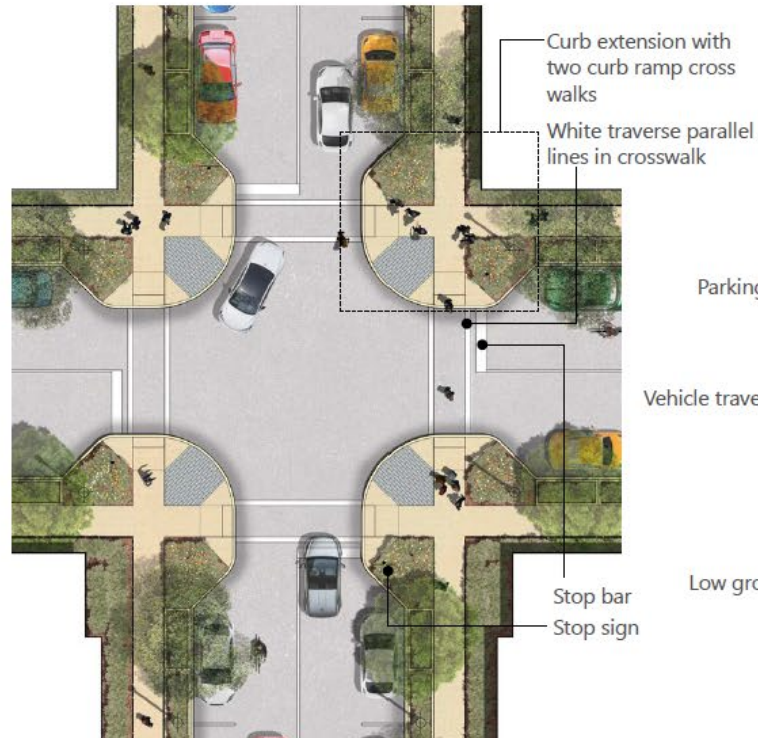
*Conceptual Utility Section*



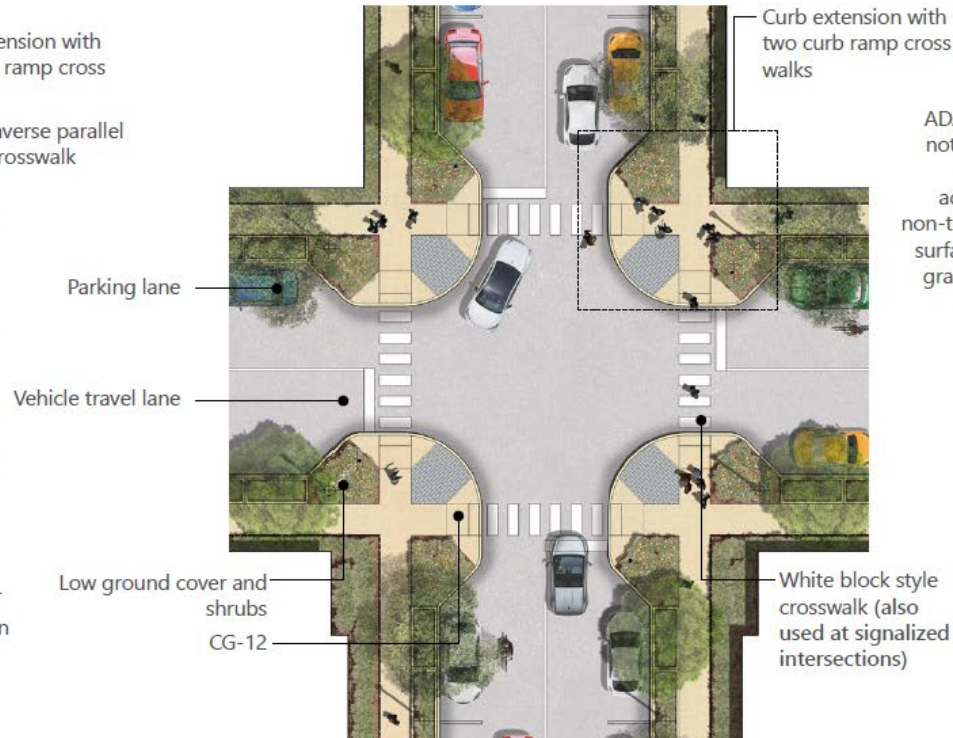
# Public Realm Elements

## Intersections & Crosswalks:

*Conceptual Intersection Plan -  
Unsignalized Intersection with Curb Extensions*



*Conceptual Intersection Plan -  
Festival Street Unsignalized Intersections*



ADA ramps do not need wing walls when adjacent to a non-traversable surface, such as grass or mulch



# Public Realm Elements

## Intersections & Crosswalks:

- Balance user needs : Most valuable user is pedestrian
- Curb extensions to the greatest extend possible
- Refuge island for 4 or more travel lanes
- High-vis crosswalks
- Pedestrian crosswalk signals at signalized intersections
- Bicycle lanes through intersections must be high-viz
- Roundabouts at certain intersections



White Block Style Crosswalk



Stamped Asphalt



Raised Crosswalk



Curb Extension



# Public Realm Elements

## Curbside Management:

- Balance of numerous curbside activities: parking long and short), passenger pickup, deliveries, transit, EVSE, stormwater, curb cuts, etc.
- Curbside Management Plan for each block
- Focus on multiple activities for the same space
- Need for clear and consistent signage
- High turnover spots strategically located
- EVSE parking (level 2 and 3)
- Festival street shall accommodate vendors



EV Charging Station



Fire Lane Markings



Food Trucks

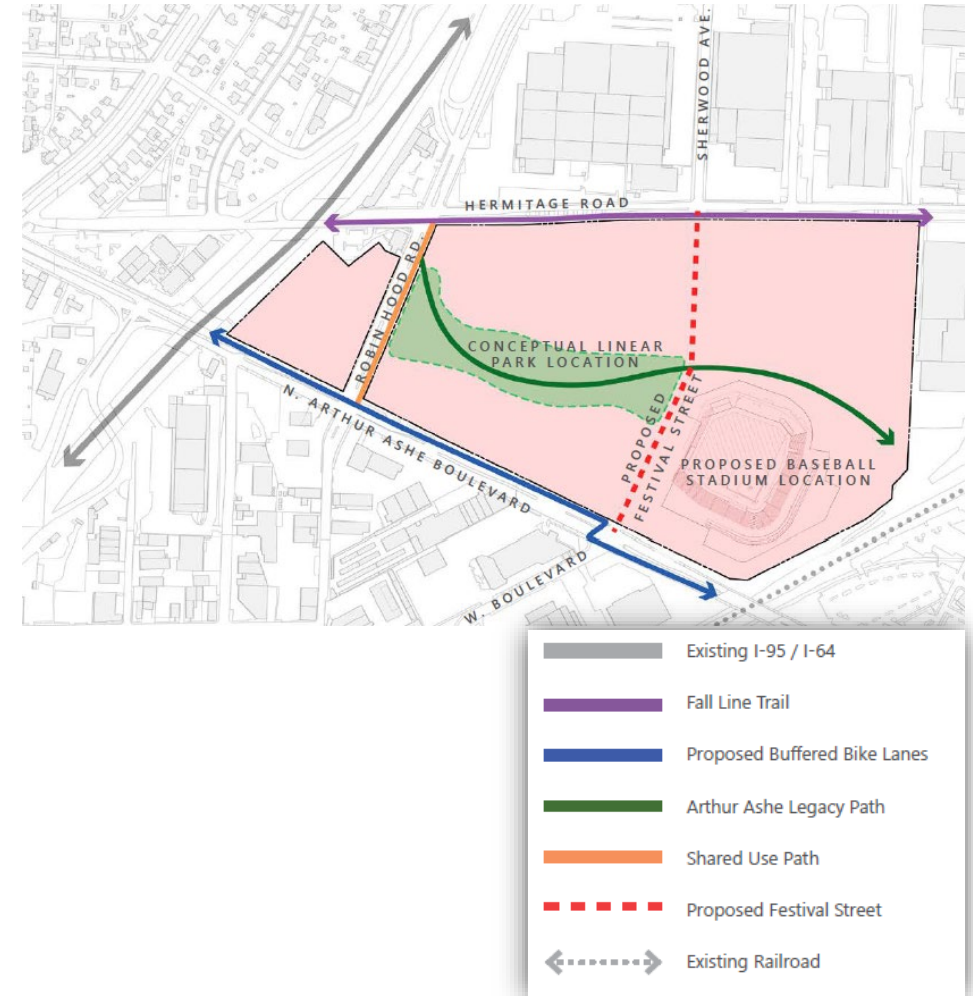


Curbside Dining

# Public Realm Elements

## Bicycle Considerations:

- The Fall Line Trail shall be located on the west side of Hermitage Road.
- Buffered bike lanes shall be provided along N. Arthur Ashe Boulevard.
- Per the Diamond District development agreement, the Arthur Ashe Jr. Legacy Path shall weave through the linear park.
- Bicycle lanes, including direction of travel, must be clearly marked with pavement markings and signage. Bicycle lanes through intersections must be made highly visible through the use of pavement marking and signage.
- Bike crossings shall be signalized.



# Public Realm Elements

## Smart City Integration Examples:

- Public wifi
- Device charging locations
- Smart, adaptive LED lights
- Environmental sensors
- Smart parking
- Align with the City's Smart Cities Initiative



# Public Realm Elements

## Sidewalk Zone:

- Poured concrete (natural)
- Concrete pavers used to the greatest extent possible
- Variable materials/scoring to represent different zones
- Diamond scoring for the Festival street

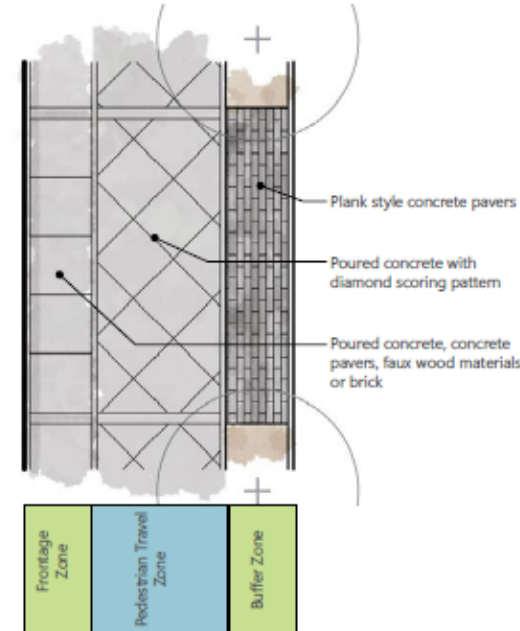


Scoring pattern differentiates the Buffer and Pedestrian Travel Zones

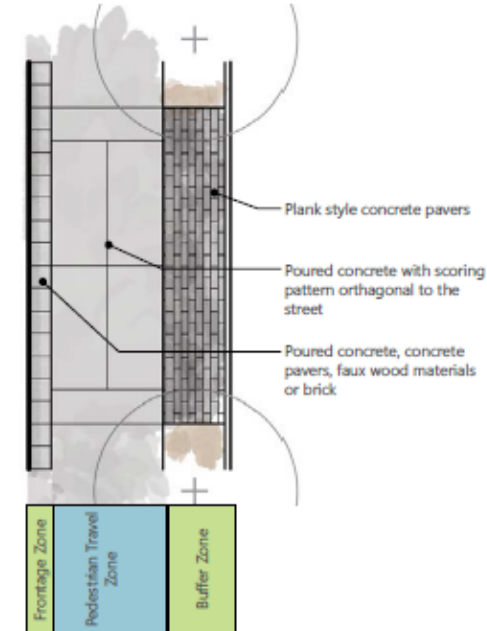


Materials and paving patterns differentiate the Buffer and Pedestrian Travel Zones

*Conceptual Paving Pattern - Festival Street*



*Conceptual Paving Pattern - Typical Street*



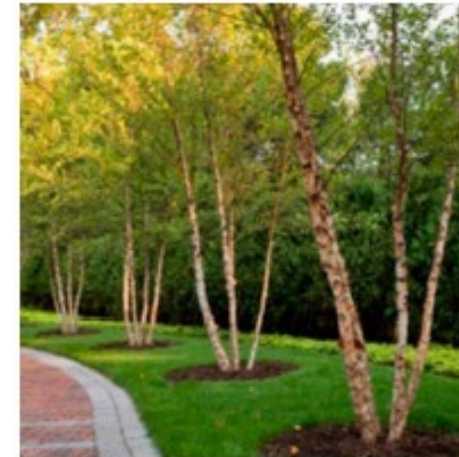
# Public Realm Elements

## Landscaping:

- Maximize urban canopy using mostly native species (exceptions for climate considerations)
- Maximize tree wells and use herbaceous cover
- Turf grass limited to park areas
- Largely native species for other plantings (similar exceptions)
- All invasives are prohibited
- Designed to reduce maintenance and increase survivability
- Edible landscaping where appropriate



Lacebark Elm



River Birch



Ginkgo

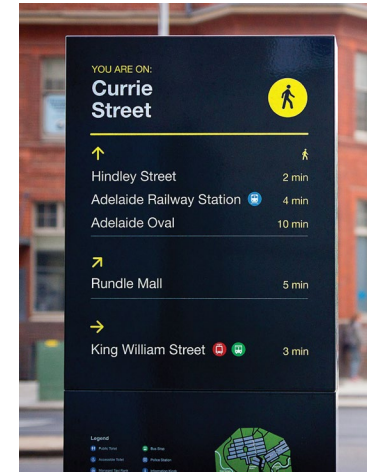


Fruitless Sweetgum

# Public Realm Elements

## Furnishings & Amenities:

- Creative seating options
- Metal & wood benches
- Streetlight and pedestrian specifications
- Wayfinding & Signage
- Bike amenities
- Waste receptacles
- Bollards & planters
- Screening & fencing
- Public art (future project)





# Q&A

An aerial photograph of a city development plan, overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The plan shows various building footprints, green spaces, and streets. Labels for '164 / 195', 'Sherwood Ave', 'Arthur Ashe Blvd', and 'CSX Tracks' are visible. The word 'QUESTIONS?' is centered in large, bold, white capital letters.

# QUESTIONS?



An aerial photograph of a city area, likely Richmond, Virginia, showing a mix of urban development and green spaces. Overlaid on the image are semi-transparent blue and green shapes representing planned developments, parks, and infrastructure. Labels for streets like '164 / 195', 'Sherwood Ave', and 'Arthur Ashe Blvd' are visible. A baseball field is also depicted in the lower right. The overall tone is professional and forward-looking.

# THANK YOU!

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