Old Arcata Road Design Project
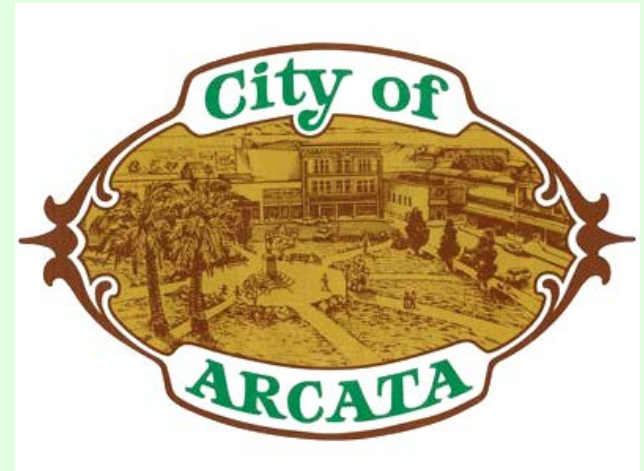
Arcata City Council
November 16, 2016

Project Partners

Old Arcata Road Design Project

- City of Arcata
- Arcata TSC
- Consultant Team
  - SHN
  - RCAA
  - Streamline Planning
  - Omni Means
  - DZC Consulting

Project Area

Old Arcata Road from Buttermilk Lane to Jacoby Creek Road

Old Arcata Road Design Project

- Previous Project Attempts

- Measure G funds used to embark on a community planning process for OAR

- RFP released in February, Project Team selected in April, project began August

Request for Proposals

for

Design Charrette and Preliminary Concept Design

Consultant Services

for

Old Arcata Road Improvements

Optional Pre-Proposal Conference & Site Visit: February 18, 2016; 2:30PM

RFP Deadline: Friday, March 11, 2016; 4PM

Engineering Department

City of Arcata

February 4, 2016

Project Goals

Old Arcata Road Design Project

- Provide multiple ways to share ideas

- Create a community-driven plan for Old Arcata Road improvements

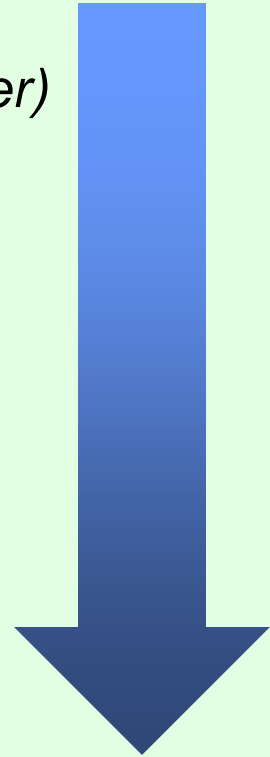- Develop draft plans to assist with implementation fund seeking

Project Timeline

- **Community and School Outreach** *(August and September)*
- **Kickoff Workshop (***September 12***)**
- **Walkability Assessment (***September 26***)**
- **Develop Draft Concept Alternatives**
- **Install Pop-Up Demonstration** *(October 18)*
- **Community Open House** *(October 19)*
- **Online Community Survey** *(October 20 – November 4)*
- **Present Update to TSC and City Council** *(this week)*
- **Prepare Project Report**
  - *November - December 2016*

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Outreach Conducted

- Flyers at local businesses and home with students at Jacoby Creek School

- Radio PSAs and interviews

- Social media

- Press releases, school newsletters

- Project website updates

- Emails to workshop participants

- Changeable message sign along OAR

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Community Engagement Opportunities

- 3 charrette workshops

- Pop-up demonstration

- On-line survey

- Website

- More than 285 participants!!!

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Event #1
Kickoff Workshop

- 90+ attendees
- Small group community input
- Discuss existing challenges
- Identify opportunities

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Event #2
Walk Audit

- Over 40 participants
- Observed Jacoby Creek School Pick-Up
- Guided walk along roadway
  - Identified challenges
  - Identified opportunities
- Small group discussion & concept design

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Event #3 Pop-Up Demonstration

- Simulate potential improvements
  - School frontage
  - JC Road Intersection
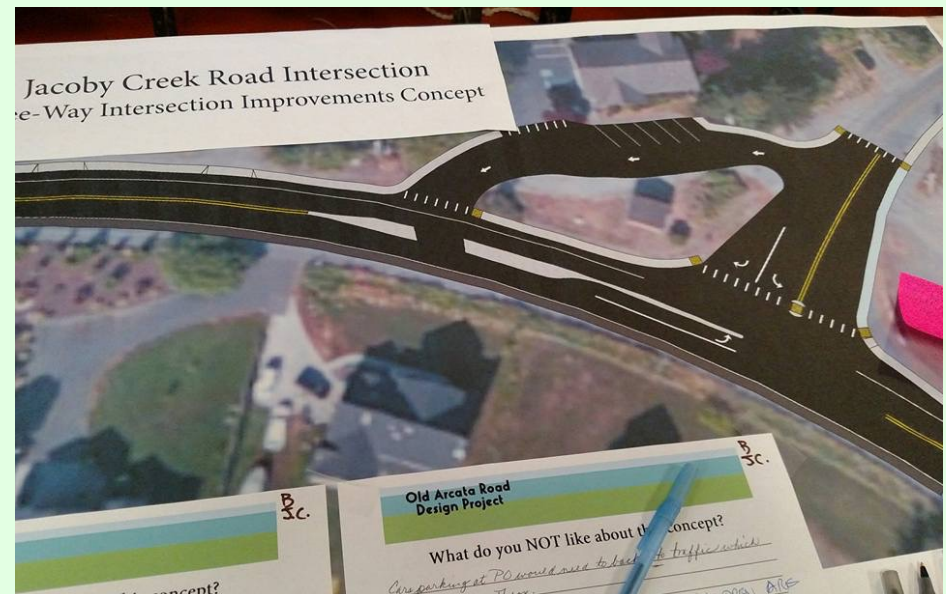- Comments from 40+ people; seen by many more

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Event #3
Pop-Up
Demonstration
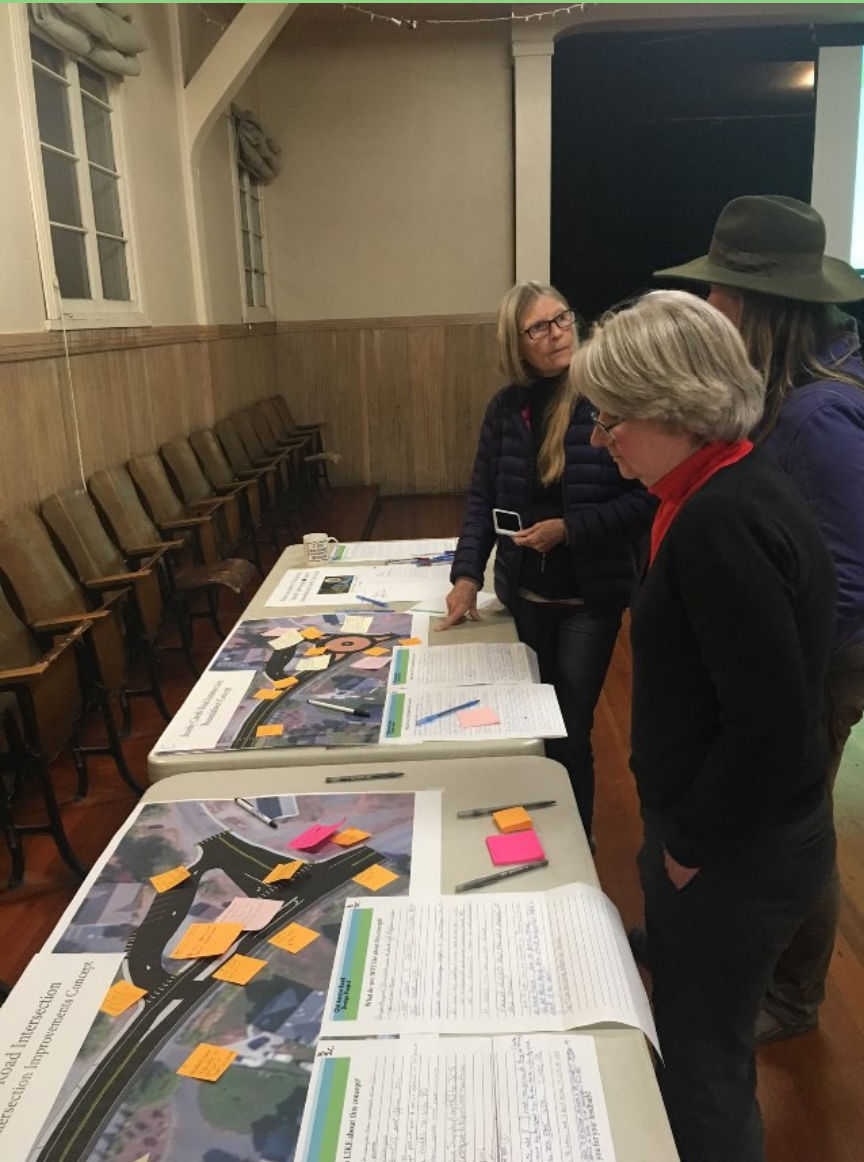
Event #4
Open House

- 60+ attendees
- Showcased draft concepts based on community input

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Event #4
Open House

■ Community feedback helped refine draft concepts

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Online Survey

- Sought feedback from those who could not attend events

Key Feedback

- **Maintain rural character**
- **Improve safety**
- **People like and use the existing**

Desired Improvements

- Traffic calming
- Pedestrian walkways
- Double yellow centerline
- Safer crosswalks
- Pedestrian safety at school crossing
- Improved signage/pavement markings for school zones
- Improve Jacoby Creek Rd intersection
- Bike friendly improvements

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Recent Maintenance

- Patched roadway
- Restriped roadway to narrow travel lanes & widen bike lanes
- New crosswalks soon at Golf Course Road and Anderson Lane
- School speed sign for Mistwood
- There has been a lot of positive feedback on these improvements!

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Concept Alternative #1: Leave as-is

- Improvements limited to current maintenance project
- Annual maintenance will continue
- < 10% of respondents wanted this alternative

Zane Middle School

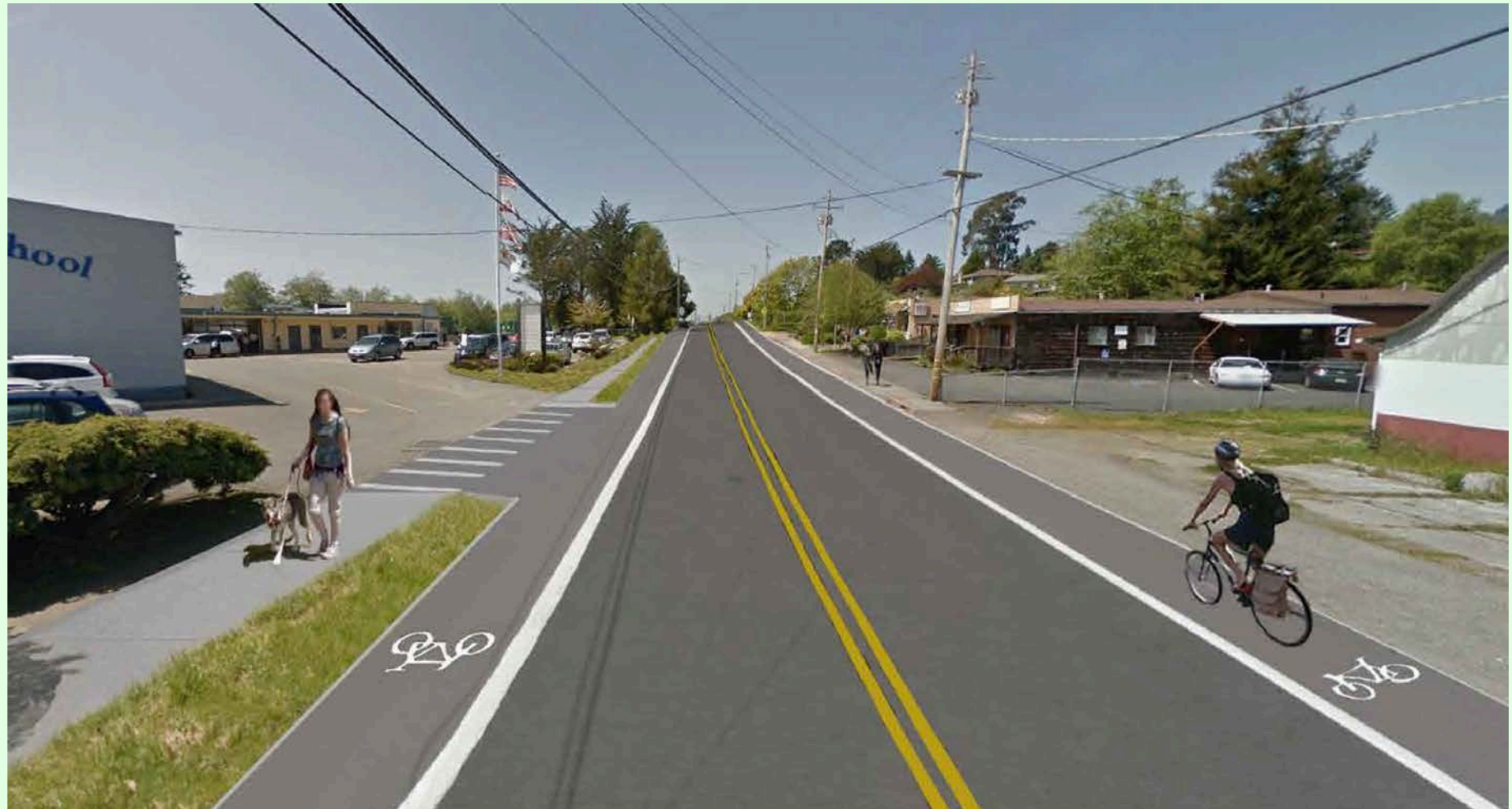# Concept Alternative #2: Separated Path

Old Arcata Road Design Project

- Preferred by more than 60% of respondents
- Separated path along west side of Old Arcata Road for entire project length

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Concept Alternative #2: Separated Path

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Concept Alternative #2: Separated Path

Concept Alternative #3: Sidewalk in front of JC School

- Preferred by about 20% of respondents
- Raised sidewalk just along Jacoby Creek School frontage
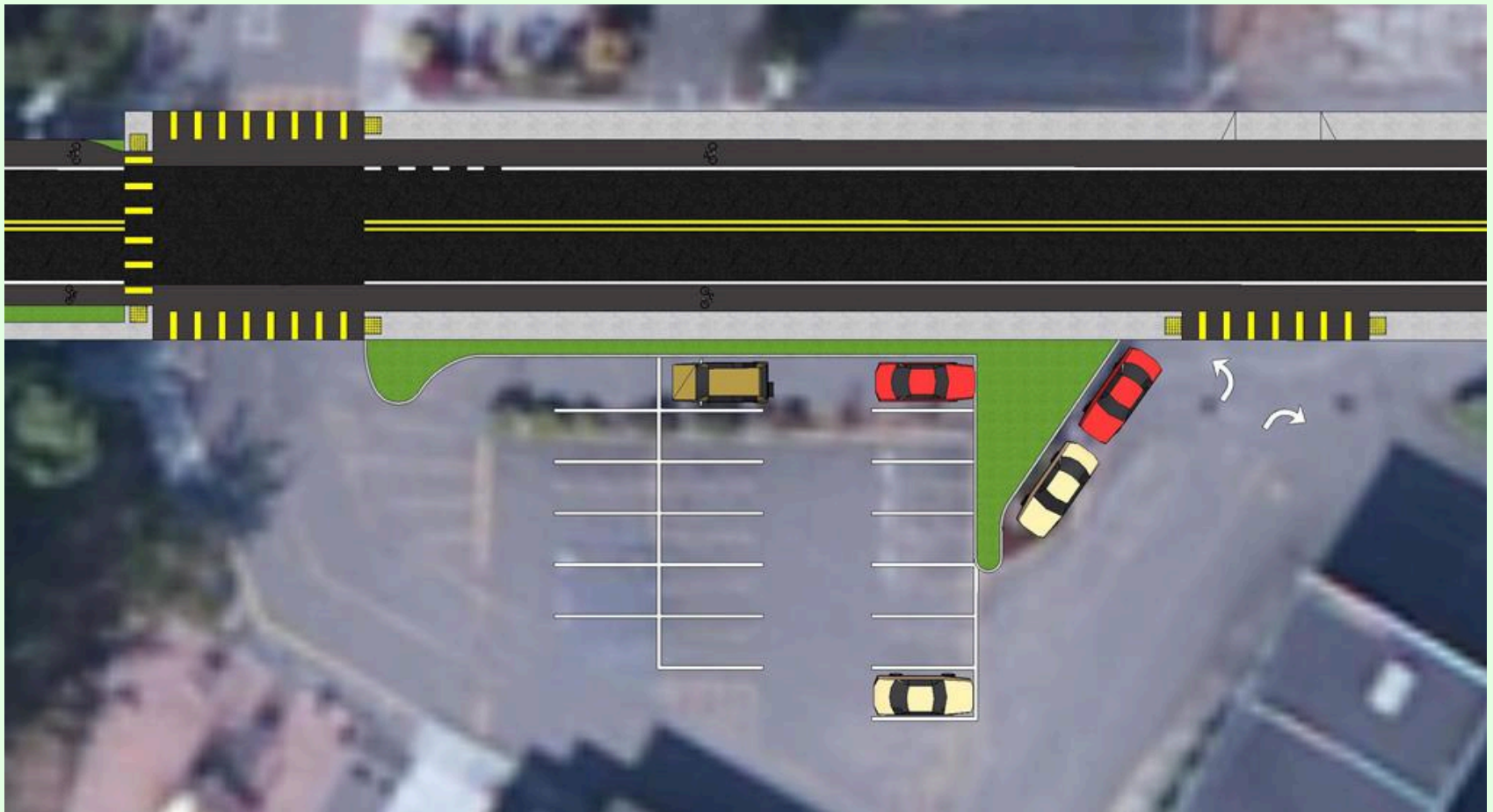- Separated path continuing south of school

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Concept Alternative #3

Old Arcata Road Design Project

Concept Alternative #3: Sidewalk in front of JC School

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Intersection Concept Alternative #1: Narrowed intersection

- Preferred by about 45% of respondents

- Narrow Jacoby Creek Road intersection

- Additional sidewalks

- Safer road crossing

- Aesthetic improvements at City pump house site

- Modifications to Post Office parking lot

Intersection Concept Alternative #1: Narrowed intersection
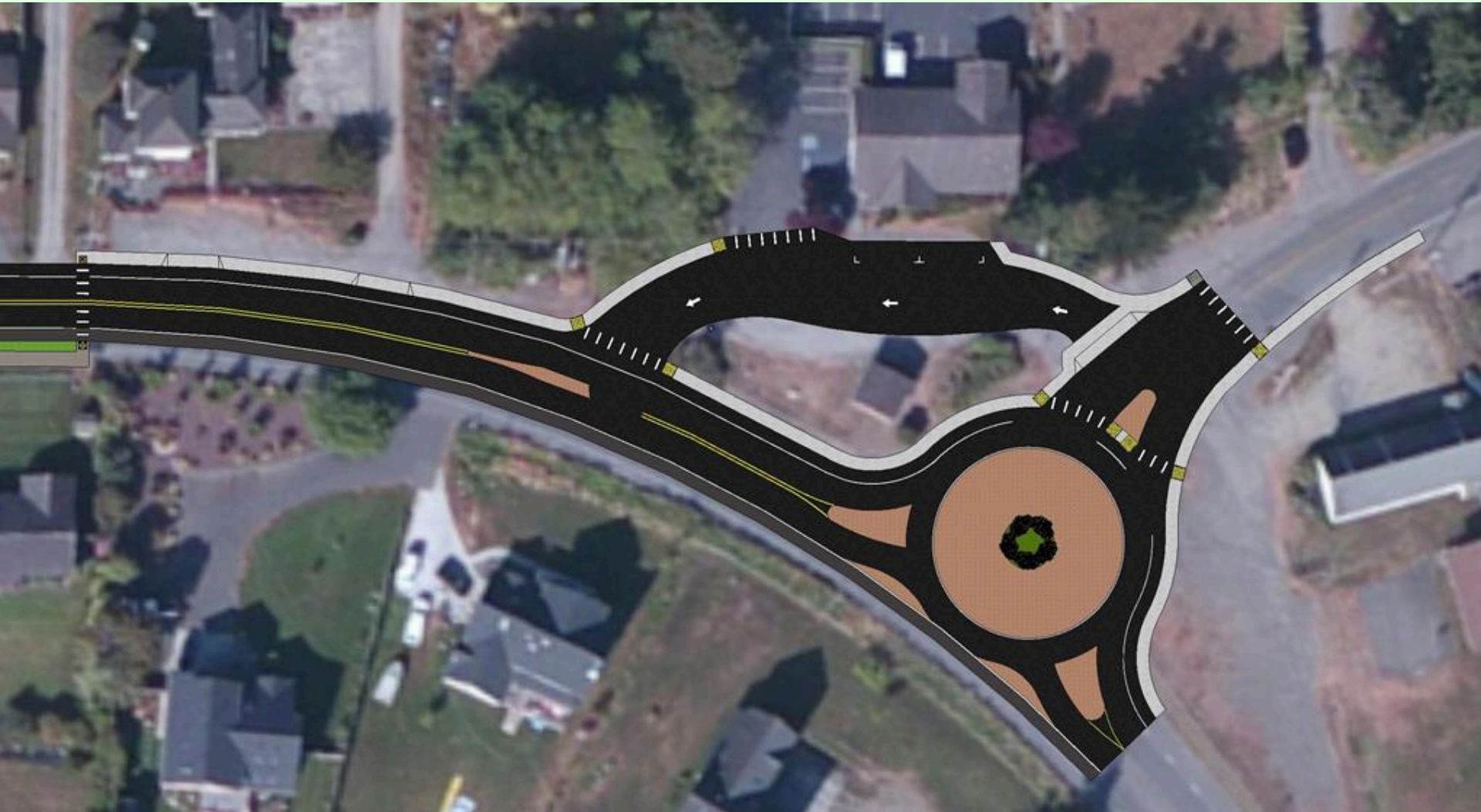
Intersection Concept Alternative #2: Roundabout

- Preferred by about 30% of respondents
- Similar walking facilities as Intersection Concept #1
- Roundabout for traffic calming
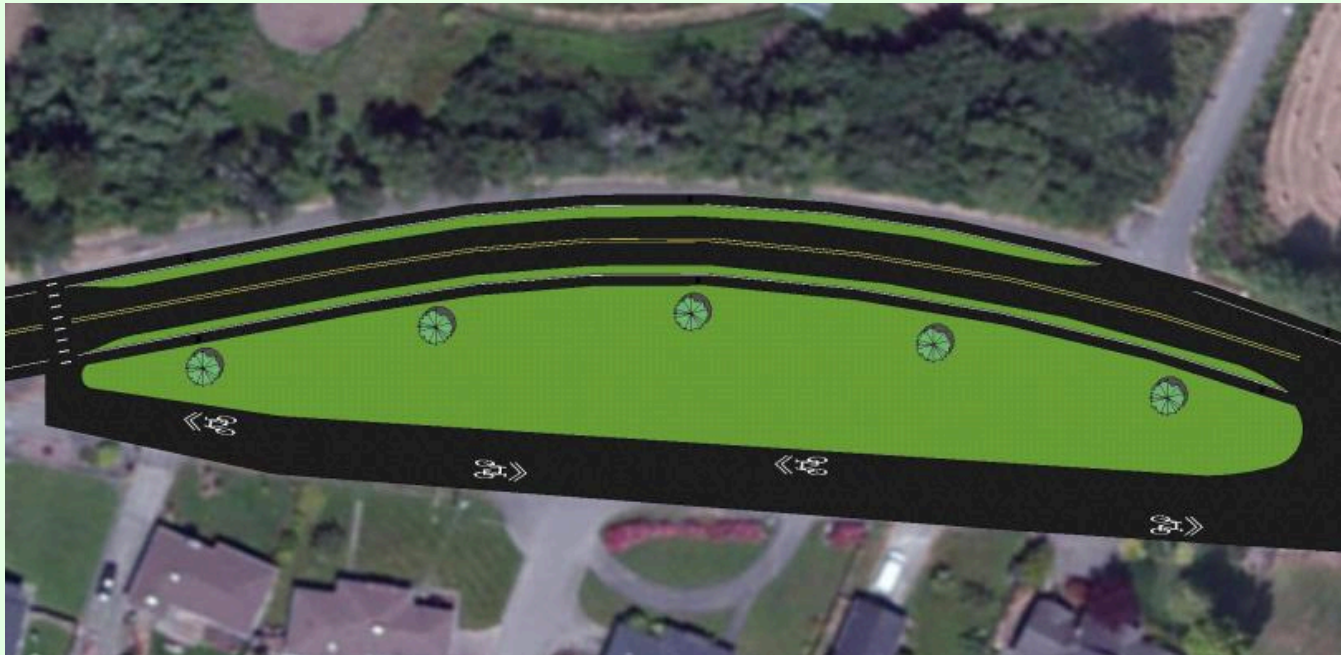
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Intersection Concept
Alternative #2:
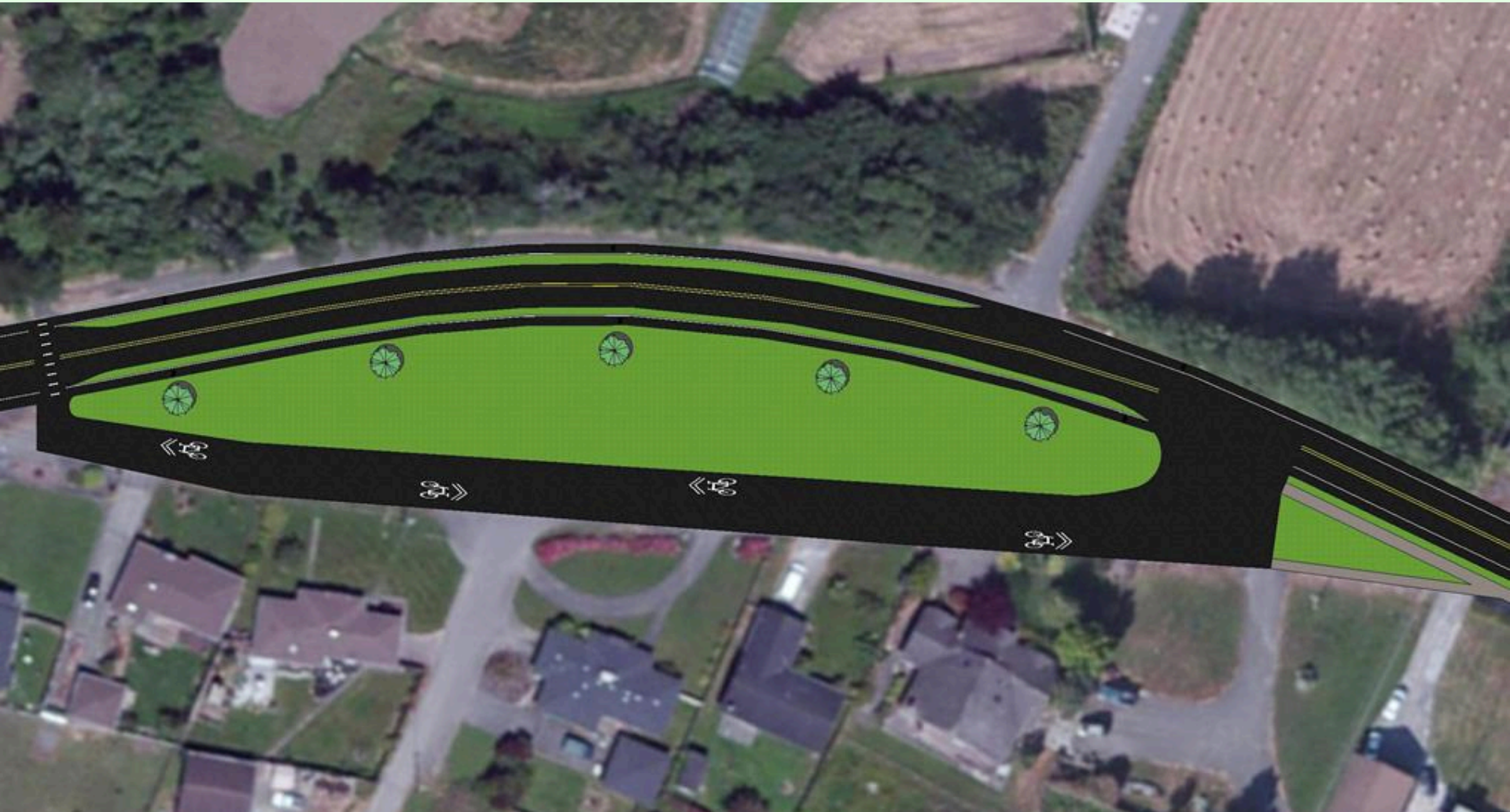Roundabout

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- Supported by about 45% of respondents
- Improve existing path to Old Bayside Road
- Formalize shared use for walking and biking along Old Bayside Road
- Create park and school remote-drop off in grassy area

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North Segment Concept:

Overall Desires of Community

- A few individuals wanted to leave the roadway as-is

- Most wanted to see some improvements

- Pedestrian and bike safety are a priority

- Reducing vehicle speed is desired

- Separated path was preferred

- JC School parking needs to be

Potential Short Term Improvements

- Pedestrian Flashing Beacon at raised crosswalk south of Buttermilk

- Repairs to existing path

- Aesthetic improvements at pump station

- Sharrows on Old Bayside Road

- Explore additional school parking

- Enhance education and encouragement at Jacoby Creek School, Mistwood and Sunnybrae Middle School

Next Steps

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- Receive feedback from City Council
- Prepare Project Report by end of the year
- Utilize report to seek implementation funding
- Pursue low hanging fruit improvements

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Thank you!