



WELCOME

METRORapid
University Corridor
Project

Public Meeting
July 2022



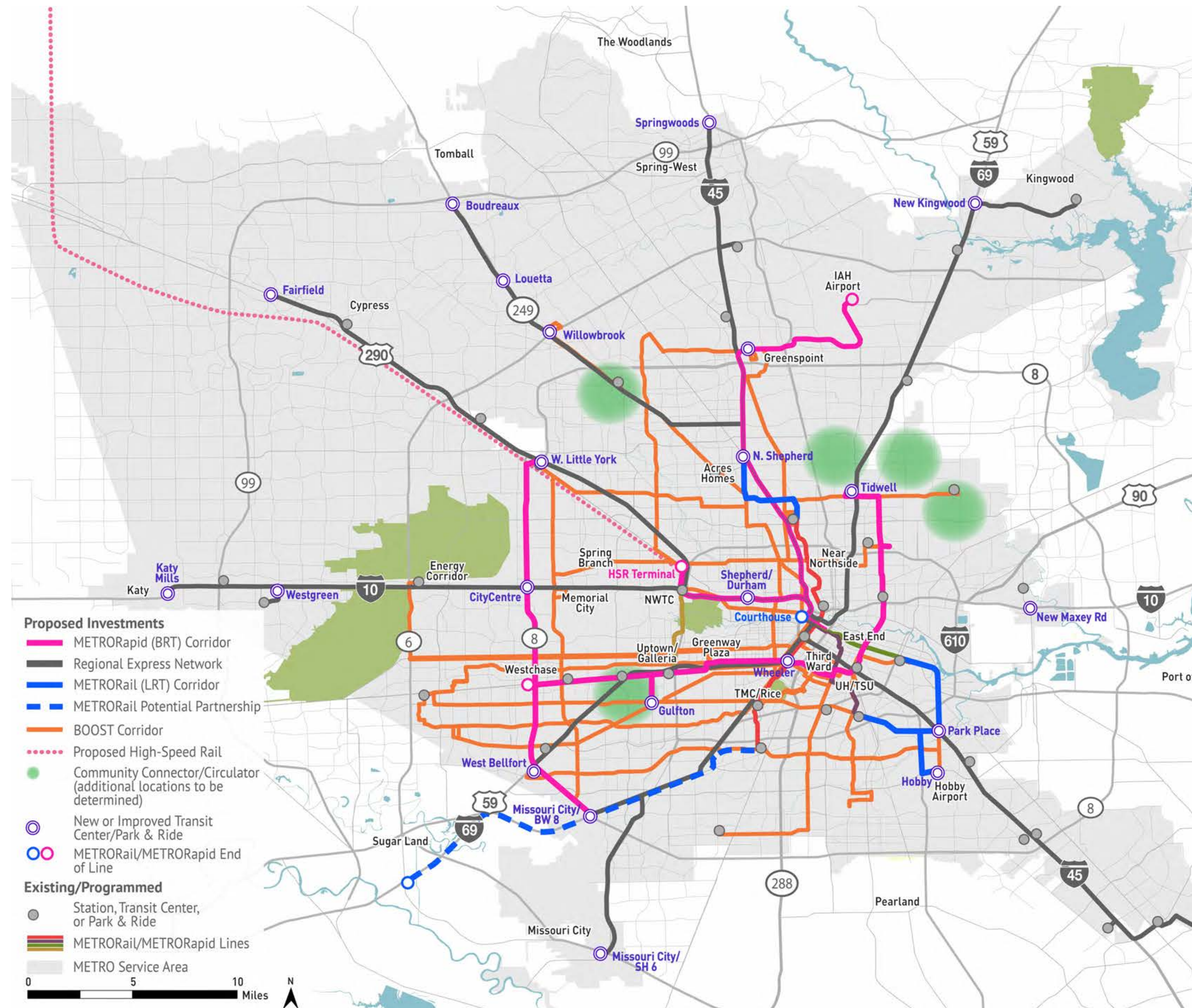
METRONext Moving Forward Plan



METRONext Moving Forward Plan

Multimodal long-range plan

- 75 miles of METRORapid service
- 16 miles of METRORail extensions
- 110 miles of new or improved Express Lanes
- 290 miles of BOOST and Signature Network service
- Systemwide enhancements



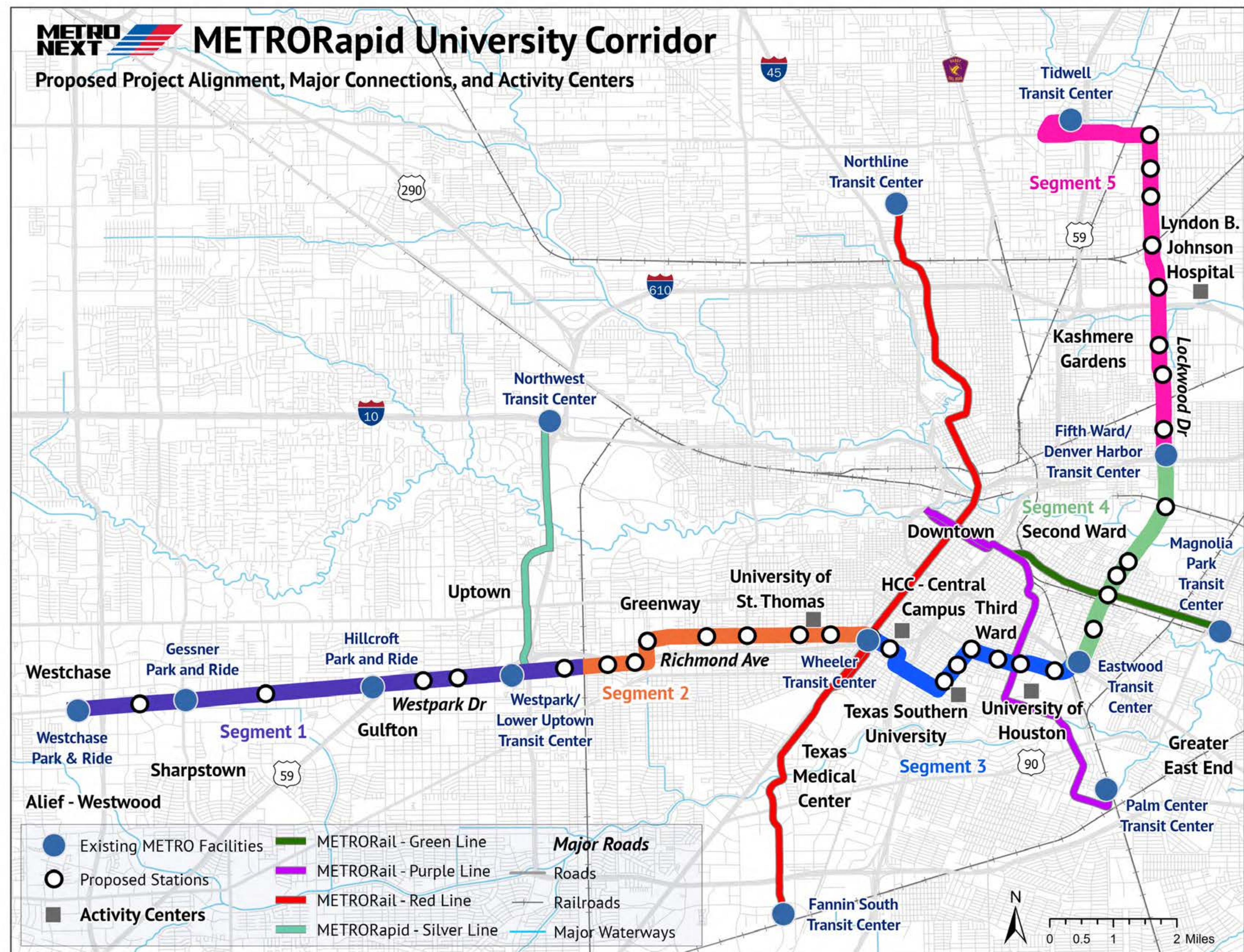
What is METRORapid?

- A bus rapid transit (BRT) system that provides fast and reliable **high-capacity service – similar to METRORail** – with dedicated stations and lanes
- METRORapid **stations and platforms** have the same look as METRORail
- The **METRORapid Silver Line** demonstrates the type of service that METRO will provide with this project



University Corridor Project

- 25.3-mile METRORapid Line
- More than 40 stations
- Dedicated bus lanes
- New and renovated transit centers
- New bus operating facilities
- First-mile/last-mile connections
- Operates mostly in METRO-owned Right of Way (ROW) in Segment 1
- Operates on City of Houston streets throughout Segments 2 - 5



Why METRORapid University Corridor Project?

- **More** transit service to accommodate growth and density
- **Improve** transit connectivity to activity centers and other transit services
- **Increase** access to jobs, education and health care
- **Respond** to existing and future development in the corridor
- **Support** and **sustain** a healthy future for the city
- **Provides** 100% accessibility with wider doors and level boarding



Better Access

- **Move more people** in **less space**
- **Invest** in communities across the region with **top-of-the-line service**
- **Improve access** to jobs, education, and economic opportunity
- **Increase connectivity** between METRO services

Connections to:

- METRORail Red, Green and Purple Lines
- METRORapid Silver Line
- 5 transit centers
- 3 Park & Rides
- 14 high frequency local bus routes

Stronger Communities

- Serve dense population and **employment centers** along the route
- Advance **transportation equity** with additional choices for the area
- Support a **sustainable, healthy** future for the region

Communities

- Westchase
- Gulfton
- Uptown
- Greenway / Upper Kirby
- Montrose
- Midtown
- Greater Third Ward
- Greater Eastwood
- Second Ward
- Greater Fifth Ward
- Kashmere Gardens
- Eastex / Jensen
- Denver Harbor

Universities/ Colleges

- Multiple HCC Campuses
- University of St. Thomas
- Texas Southern University
- University of Houston

NEPA Purpose and Intent



Is required
for any project that receives
federal funds or that requires
federal action



Provides a tool
to analyze how a project may
impact the natural and
human environment



**Helps decision makers
and the public** make an
informed decision on how to
proceed with the project

Environmental Impact Categories

**Air Quality &
Noise**

**Biological
Resources**

**Community,
Environmental Justice &
Social Impacts**

**Hazardous
Materials**

**Historic &
Archaeological
Resources**

**Land Use &
Parkland**

**Visual
Impacts**

Water Resources

Traffic

Environmental Process

Project Scoping

- Purpose and Need
- Alternatives Considered
- Issues Addressed in environmental document

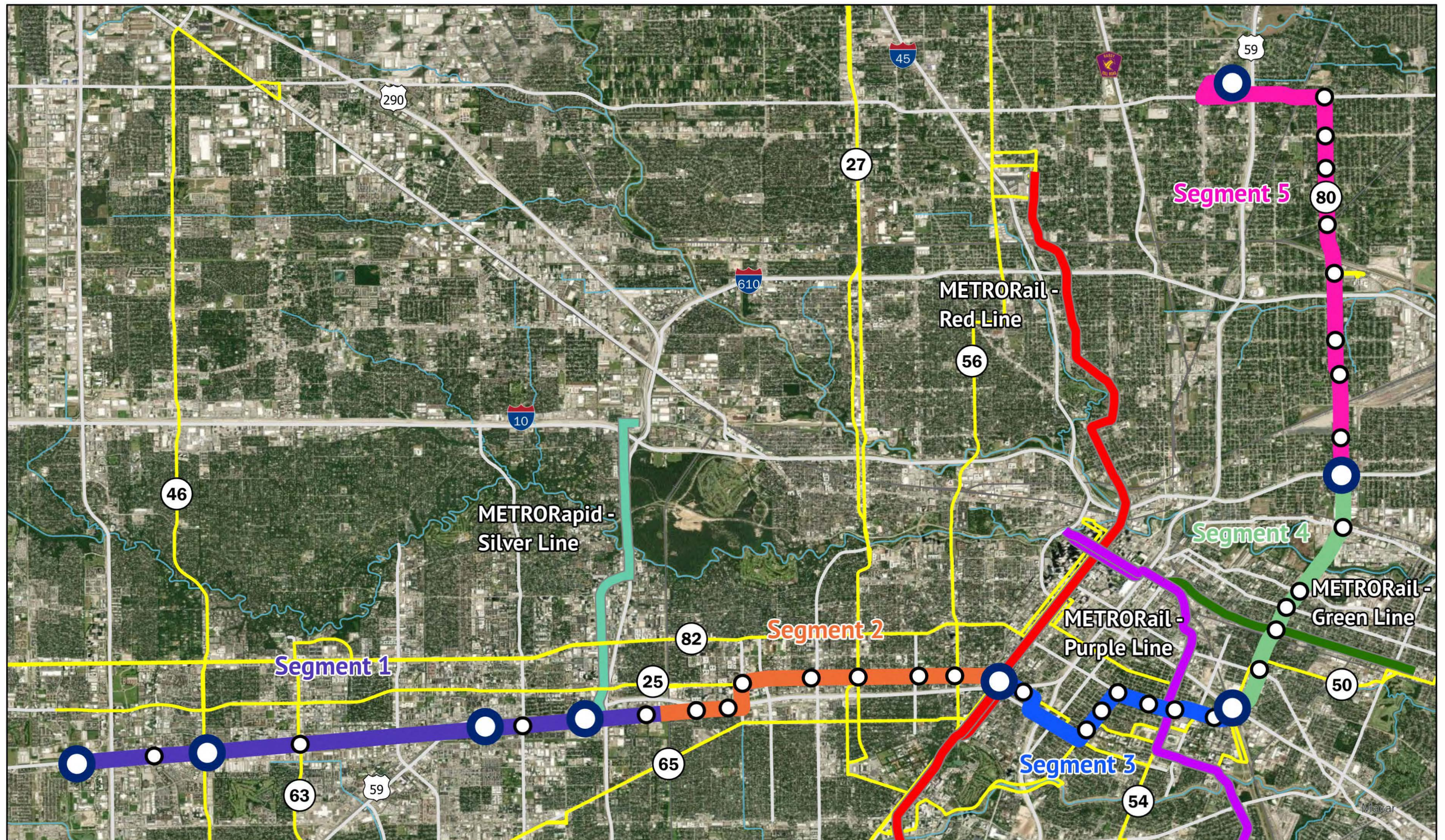
Impact Assessment

- Transportation
- Social, Community, and Economic
- Natural Environment

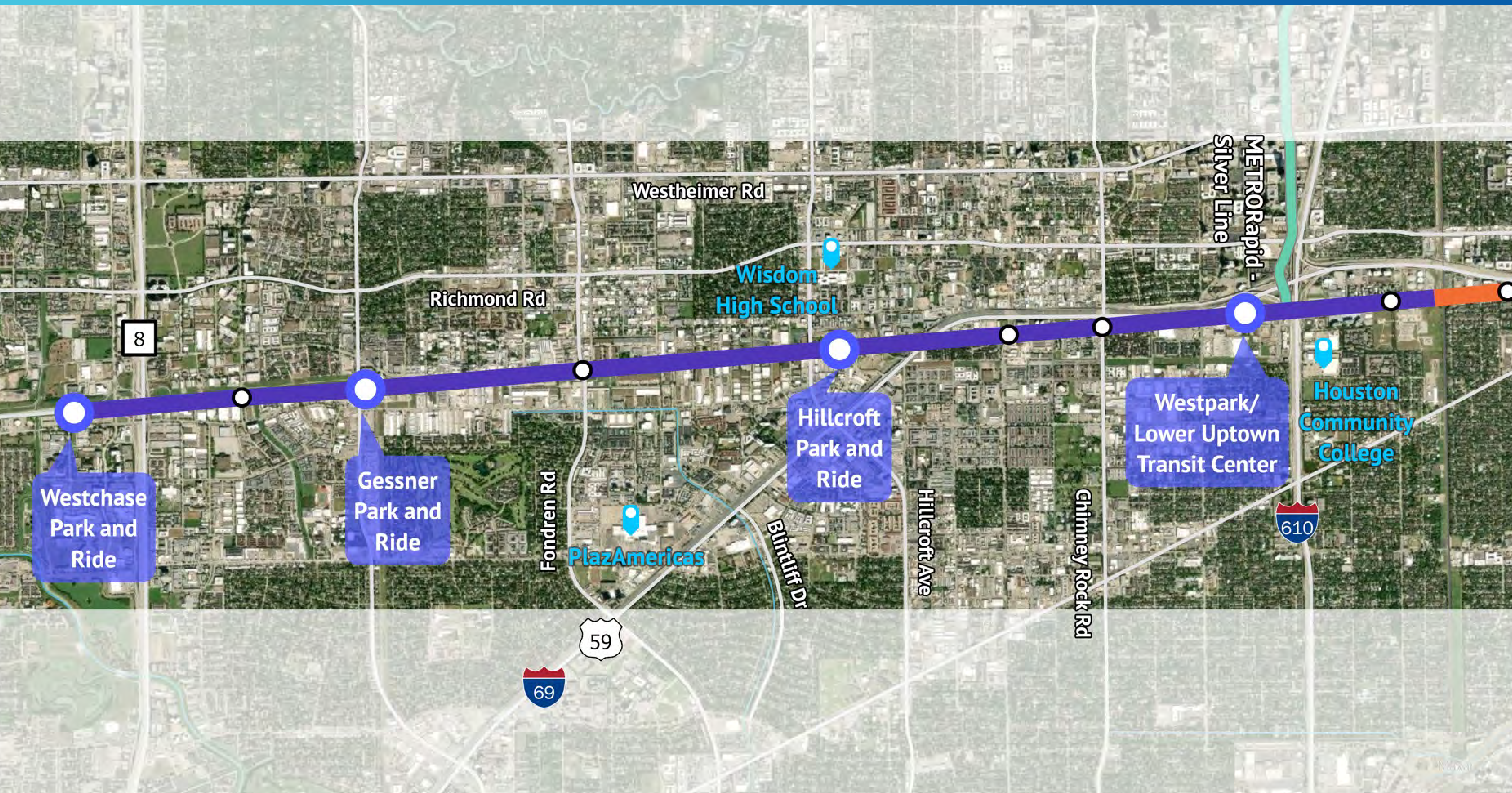
NEPA Document Review and Approval

- Affected Environment, Potential Impacts, and Mitigation
- Public and Agency Comments and Responses
- FTA Approval of Environment Review Process

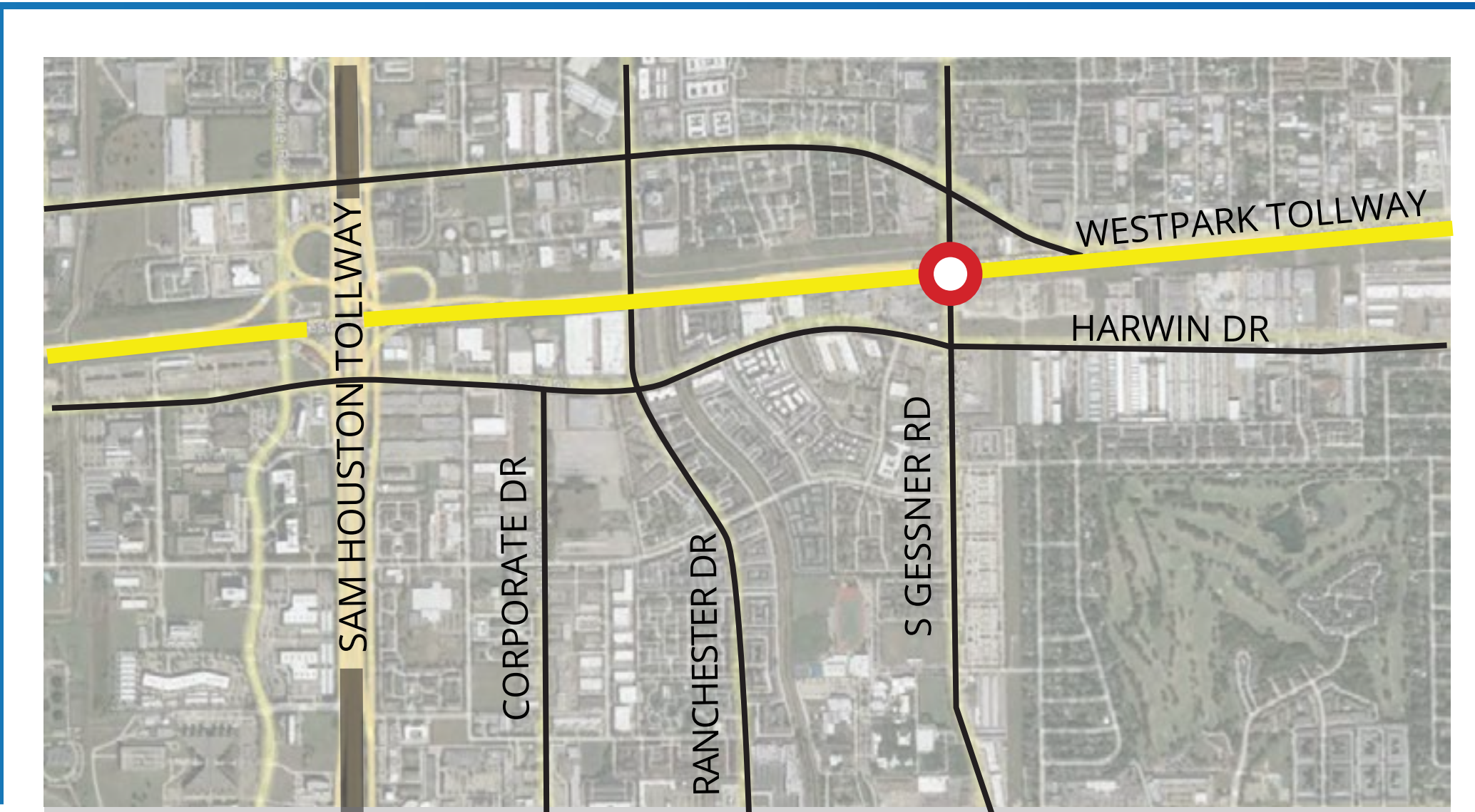
METRORapid University Concept Alignment



Segment 1



Segment 1



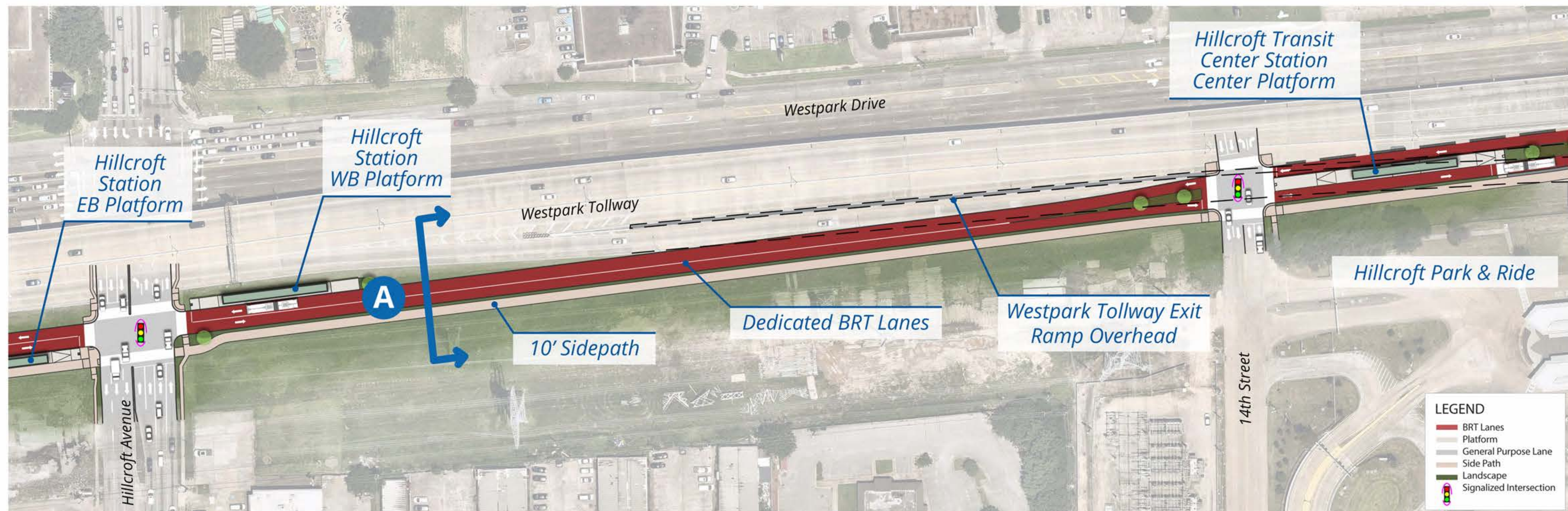
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WESTPARK TOLLWAY & S GESSNER ROAD
UNIVERSITY CORRIDOR - SEGMENT 1

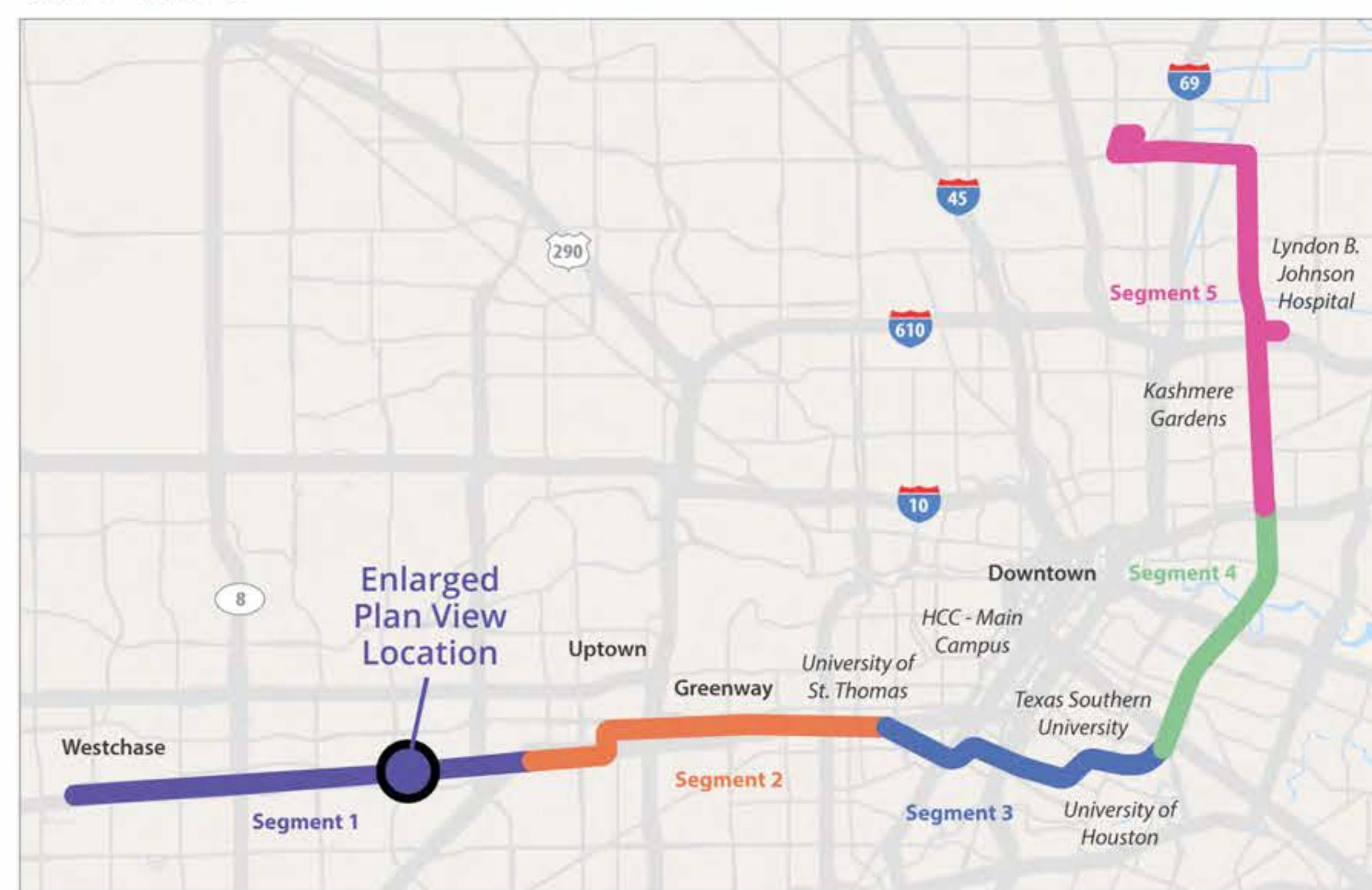


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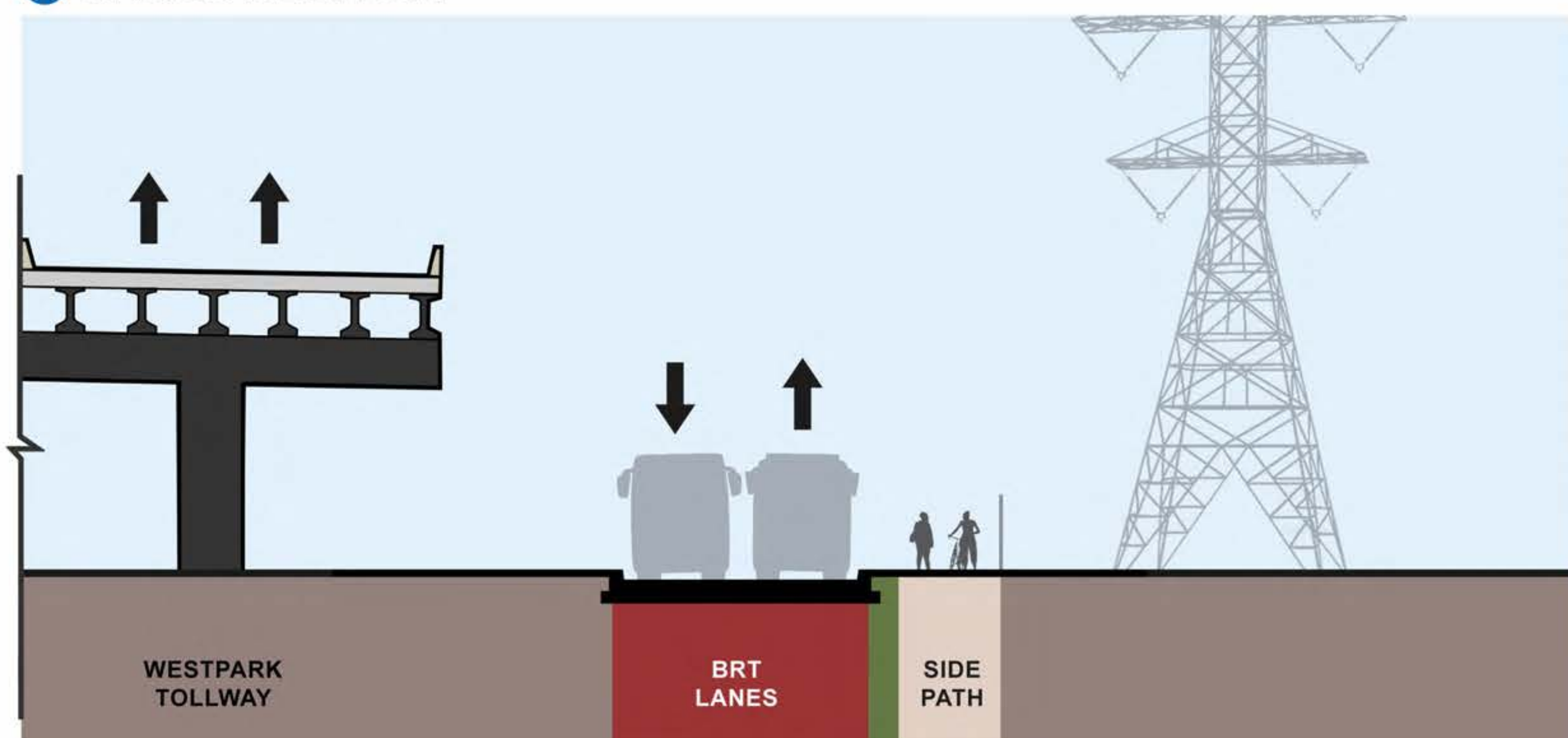
Segment 1 Plan Exhibits



KEY MAP



A CROSS SECTION



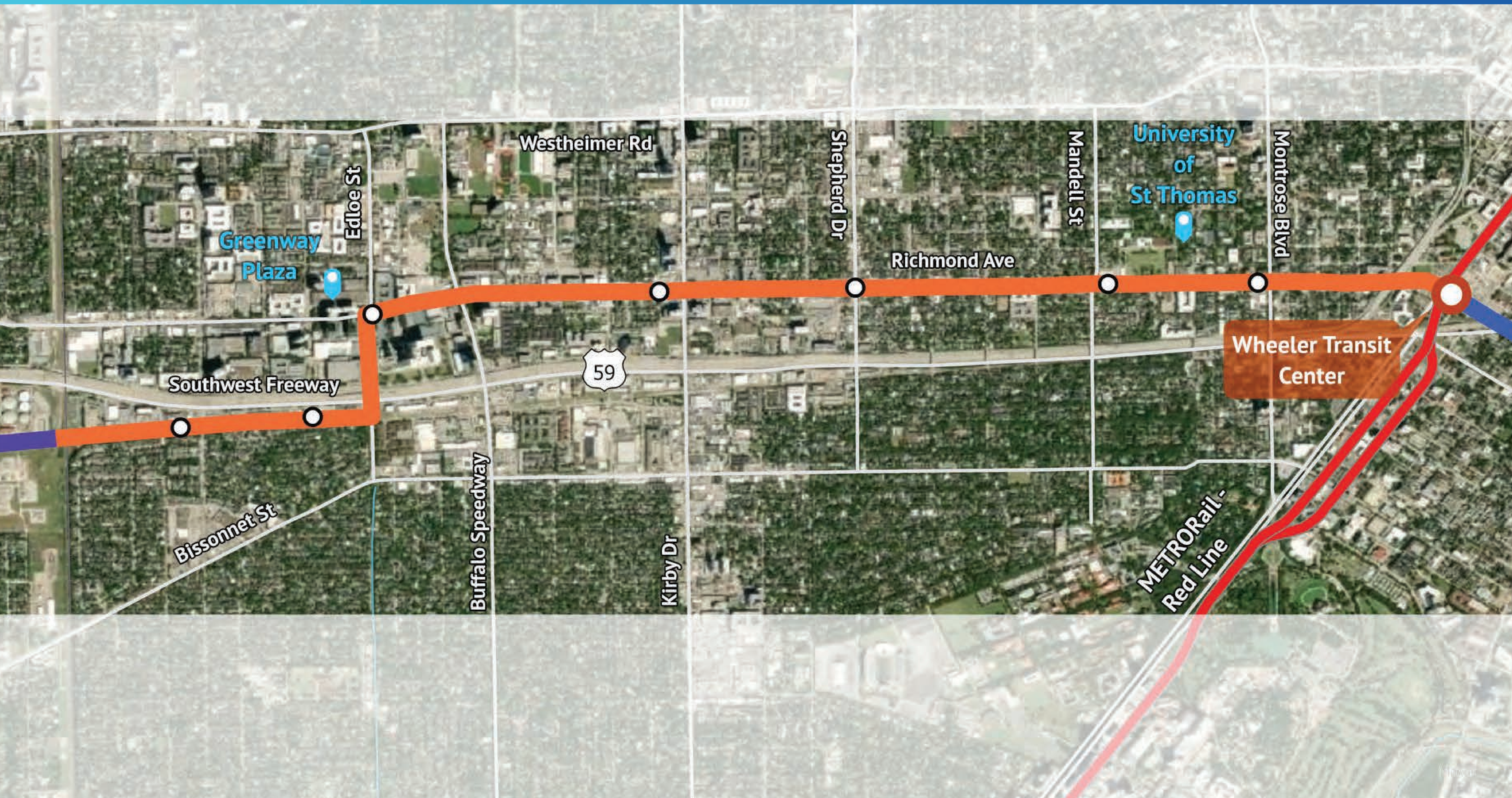
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Segment 1

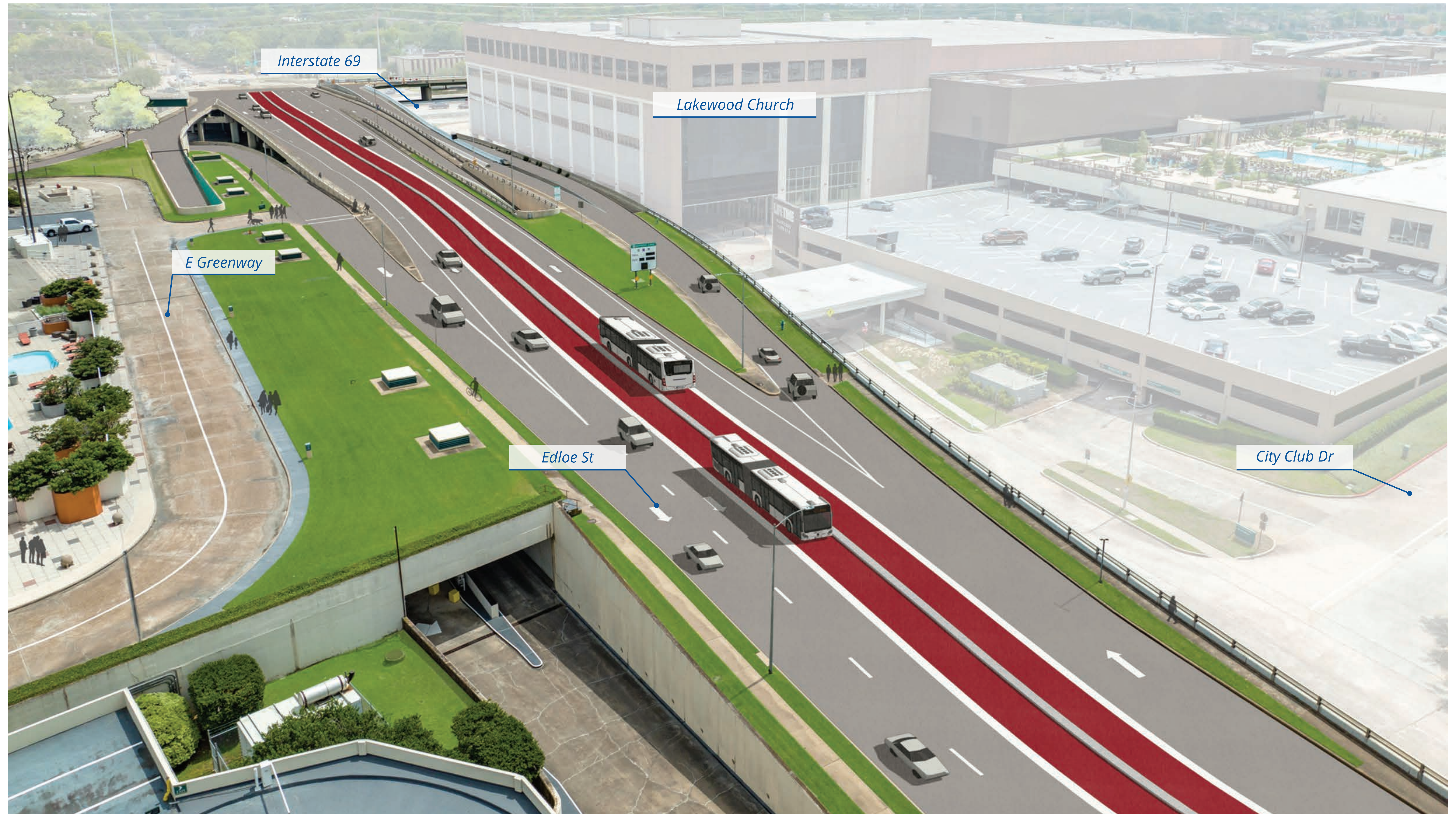
How does METRORapid benefit my community?

- Provides **frequent** and **reliable service** to densely populated and fast-growing neighborhoods like Gulfton and Sharpstown
- Offers Park & Ride riders **more destination choices via transit**
- Connects existing **METRO facilities**:
 - Westchase Park & Ride
 - Gessner Park & Ride
 - Hillcroft Park & Ride
 - Westpark/Lower Uptown Transit Center
- Connects to existing **METRO services**:
 - 46 Gessner
 - 63 Fondren
 - 47 Hillcroft
 - METRORapid Silver Line
 - 32 Renwick/San Felipe
 - 49 Chimney Rock/South Post Oak
 - 310 Gulfton Circulator
- Improves quality of life through associated **roadway safety, drainage and sidewalk improvements**

Segment 2



Segment 2



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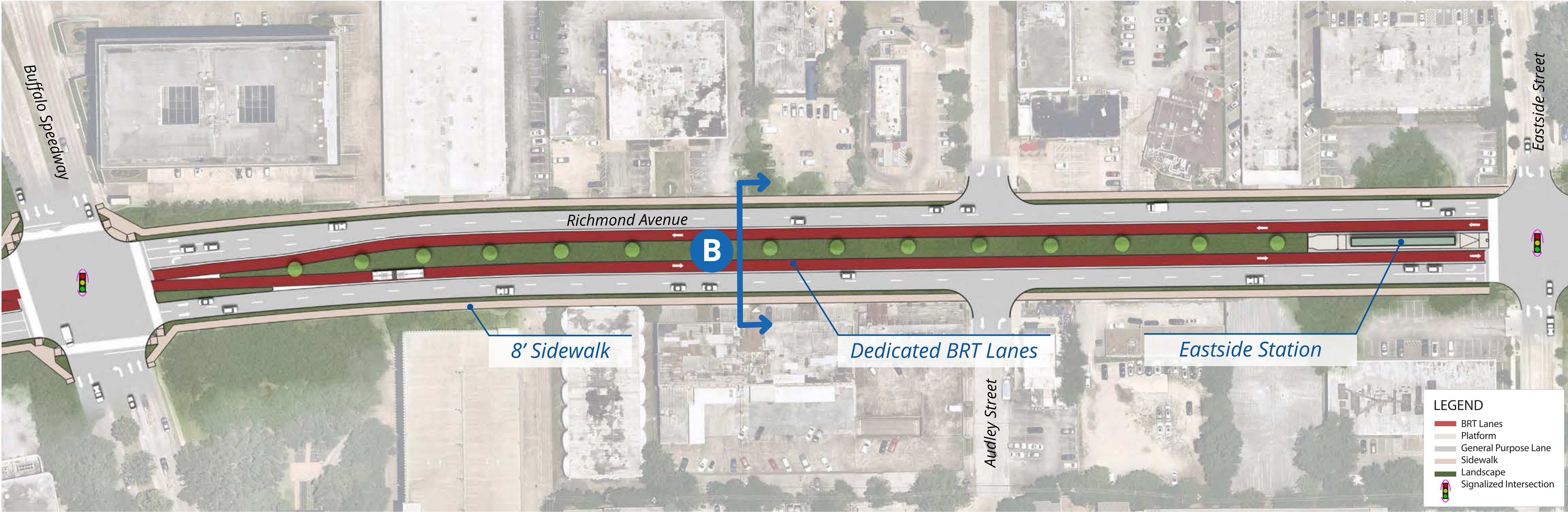
EDLOE ROAD AT INTERSTATE 69
UNIVERSITY CORRIDOR - SEGMENT 2



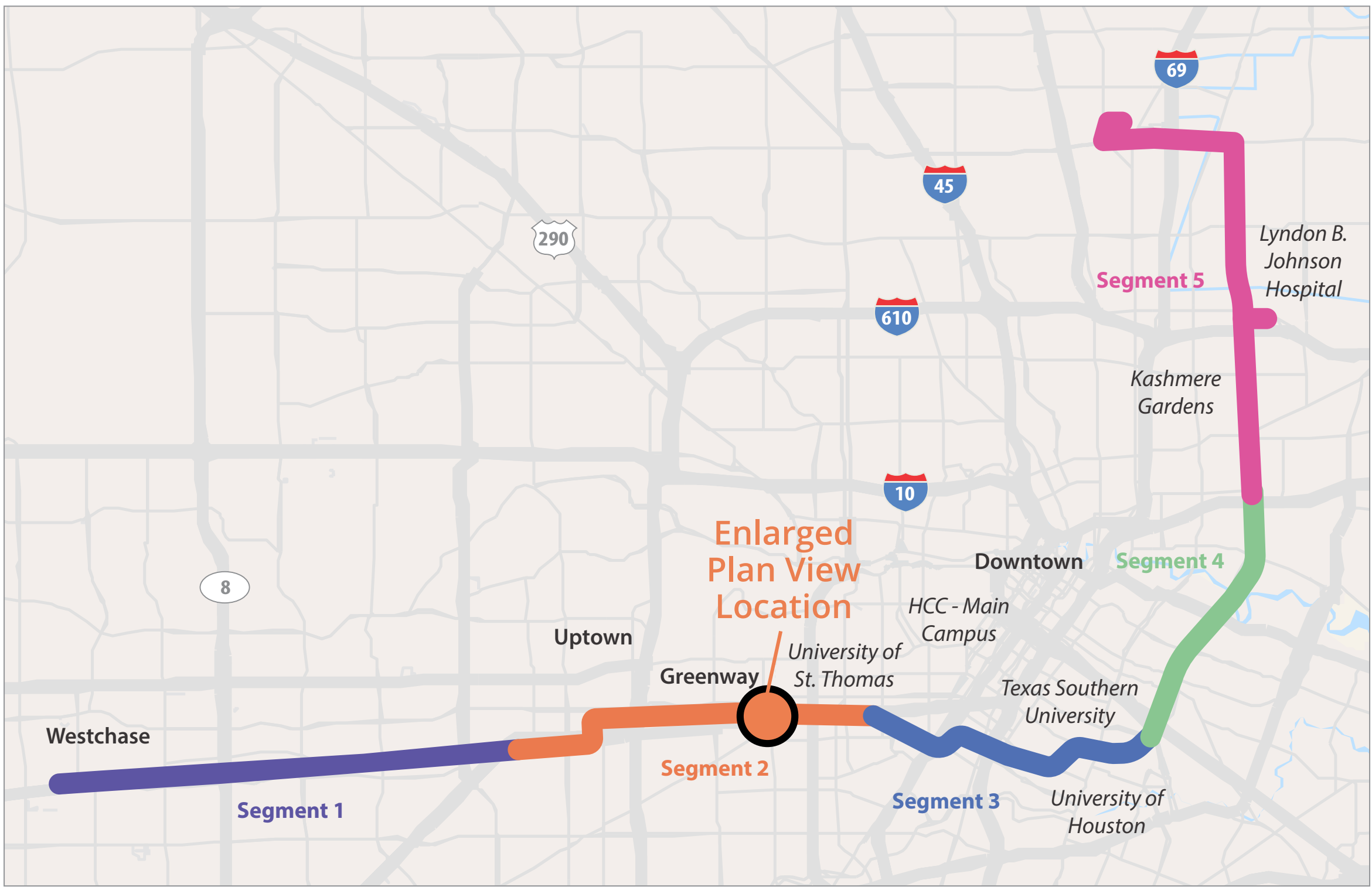
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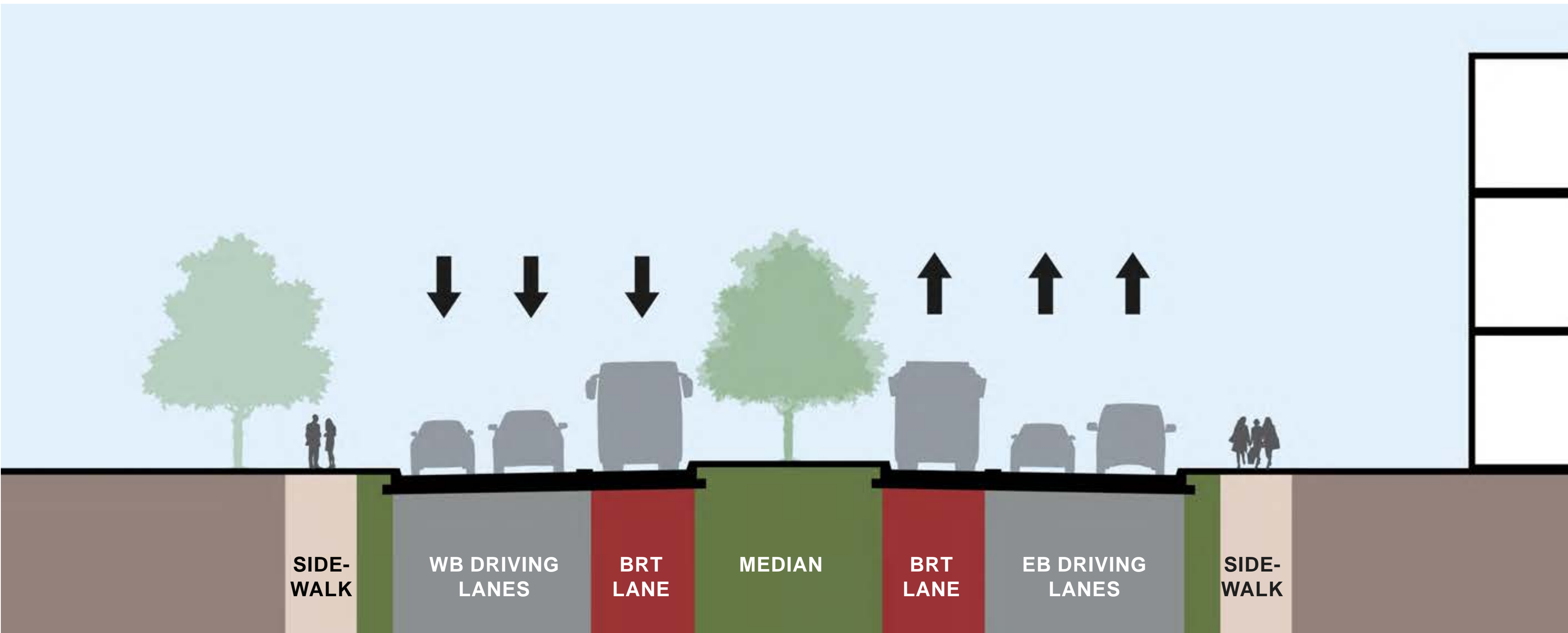
Segment 2 Plan Exhibits



KEY MAP



B CROSS SECTION



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Segment 2
University Corridor



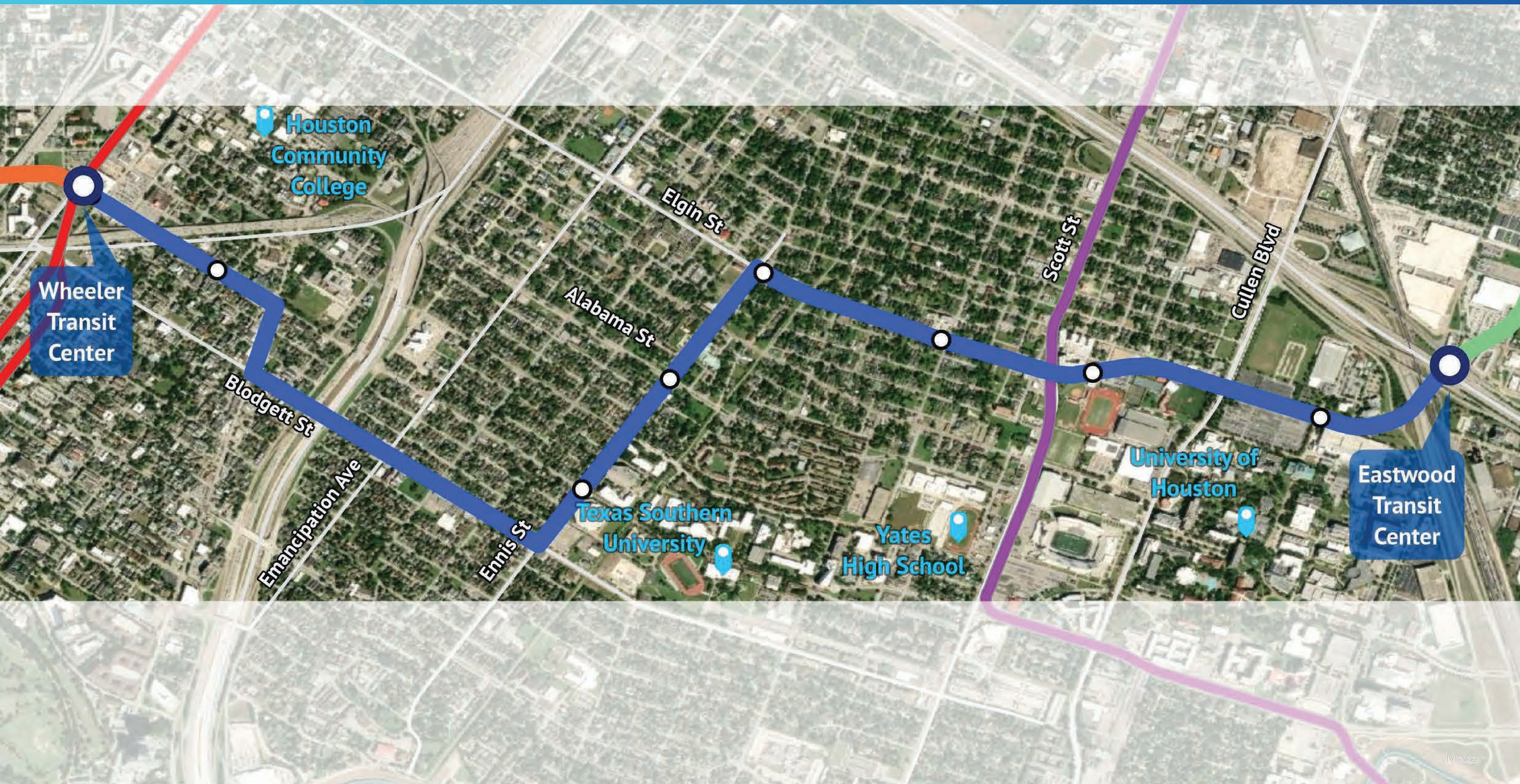
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Segment 2

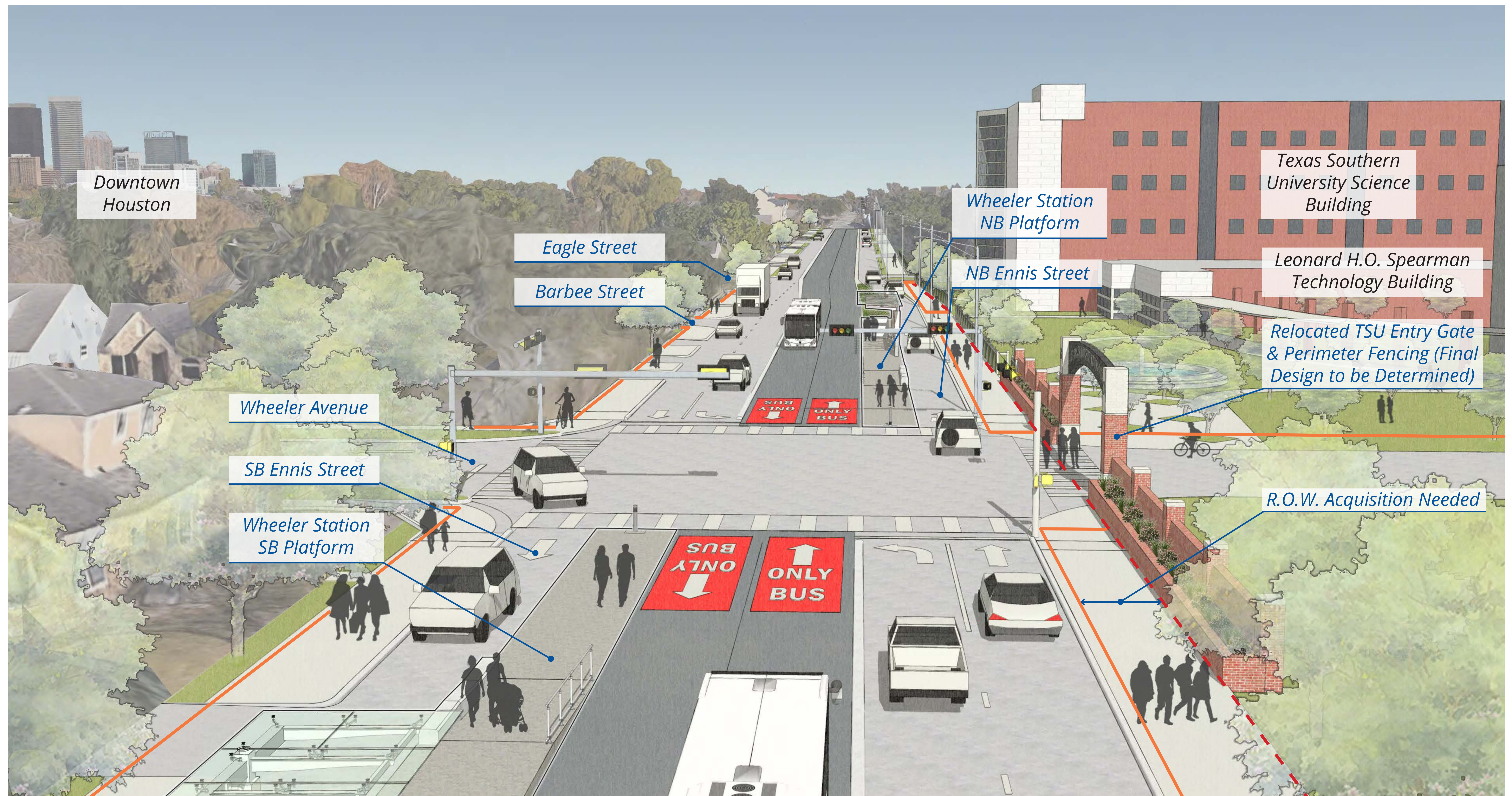
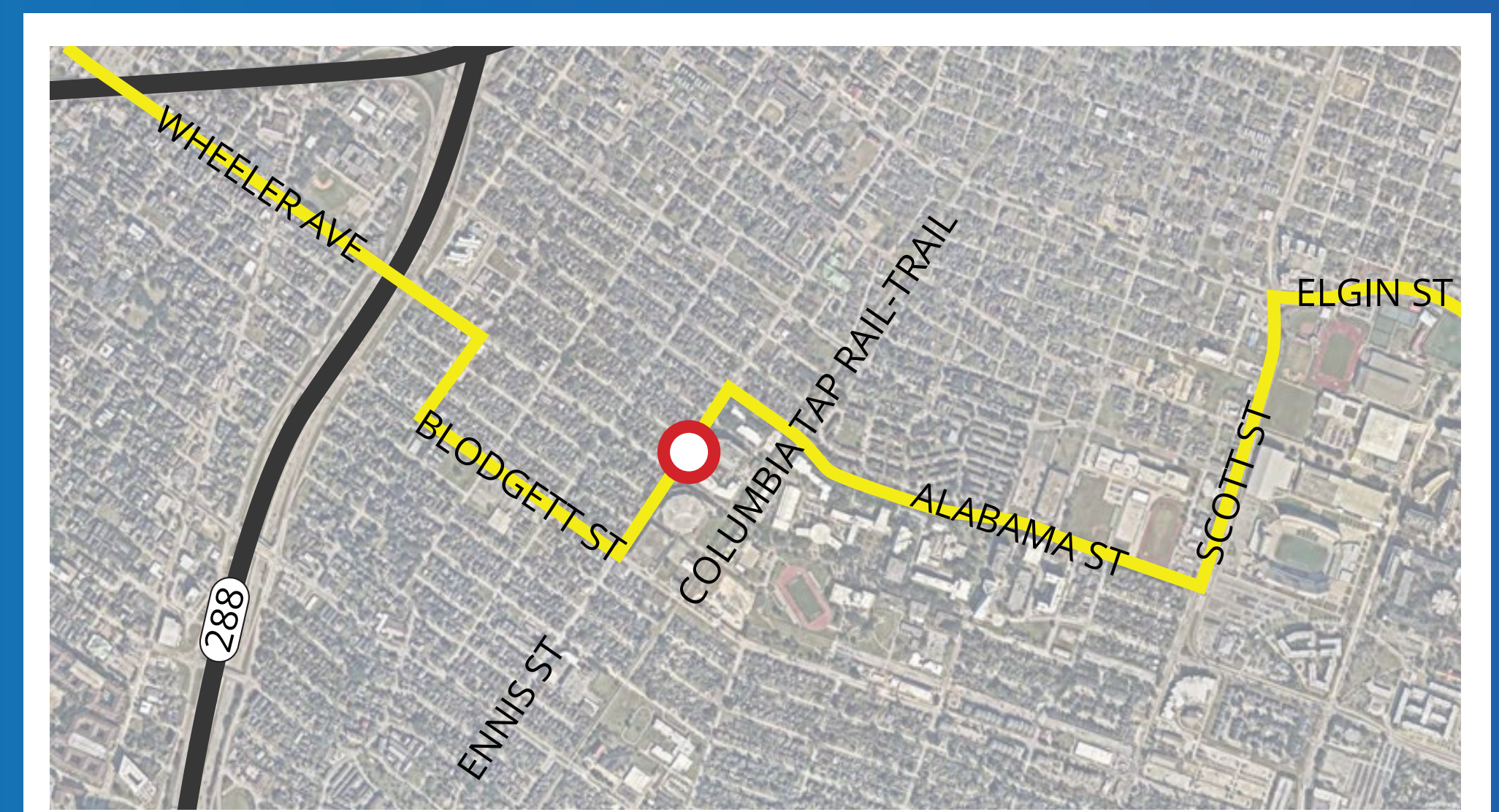
How does METRORapid benefit my community?

- Provides **frequent and reliable transit service** to densely populated, mixed-use neighborhoods like Montrose
- **Links Greenway Plaza** to other business districts like **Uptown** and the **Innovation District**
- **Connects** to other METRO bus routes, including:
 - 25 Richmond
 - 27 Shepherd
 - 41 Kirby/Polk
 - 65 Bissonnet
 - 56 Airline/Montrose
 - 84 Buffalo Speedway
 - 152/153 Harwin Express
- **Connects** to METRORail Red Line
- Improves quality of life with **roadway safety, drainage and sidewalk improvements**
- **Upgrades** facilities and operations at **Wheeler Transit Center** and opportunities for **Transit Oriented and Joint Development**

Segment 3

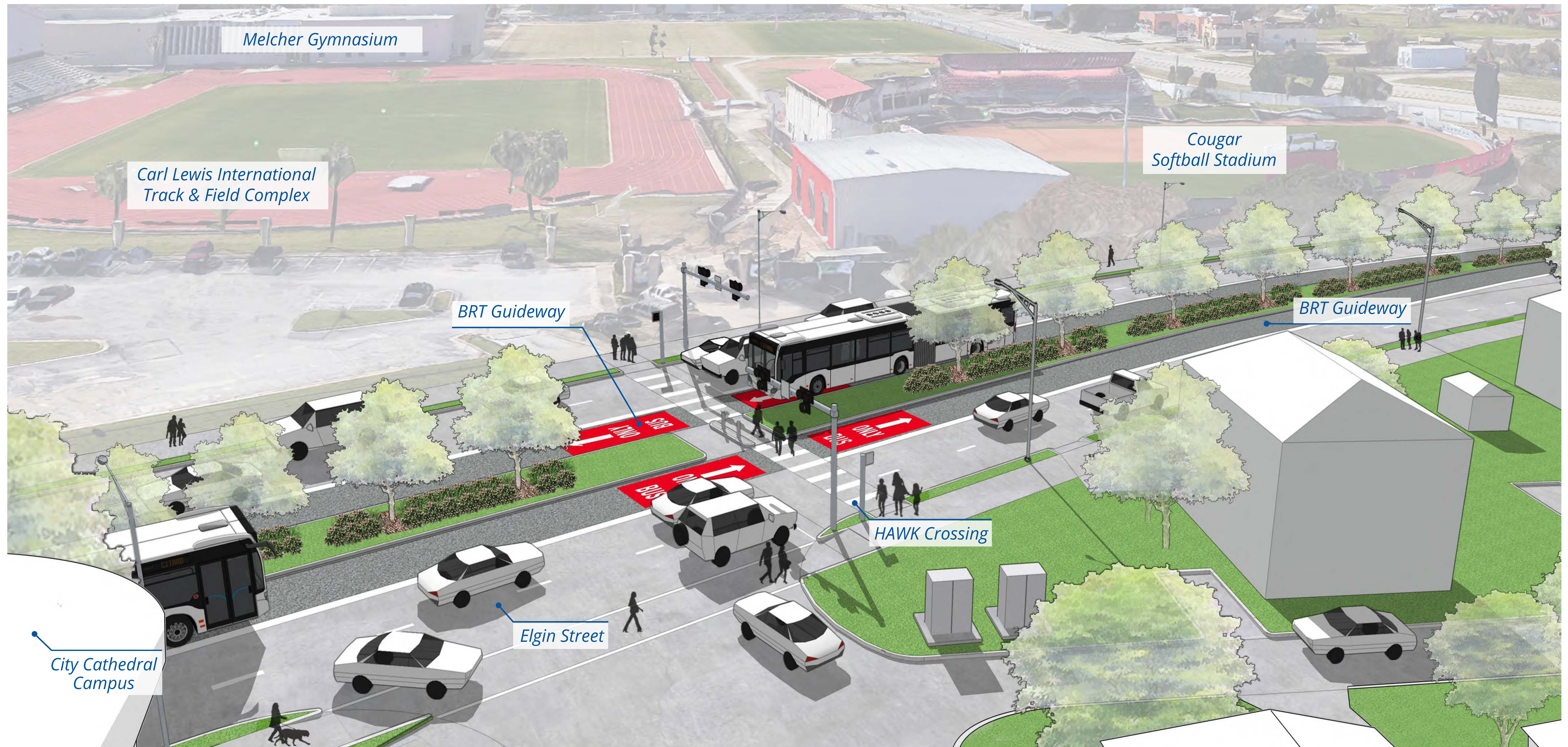
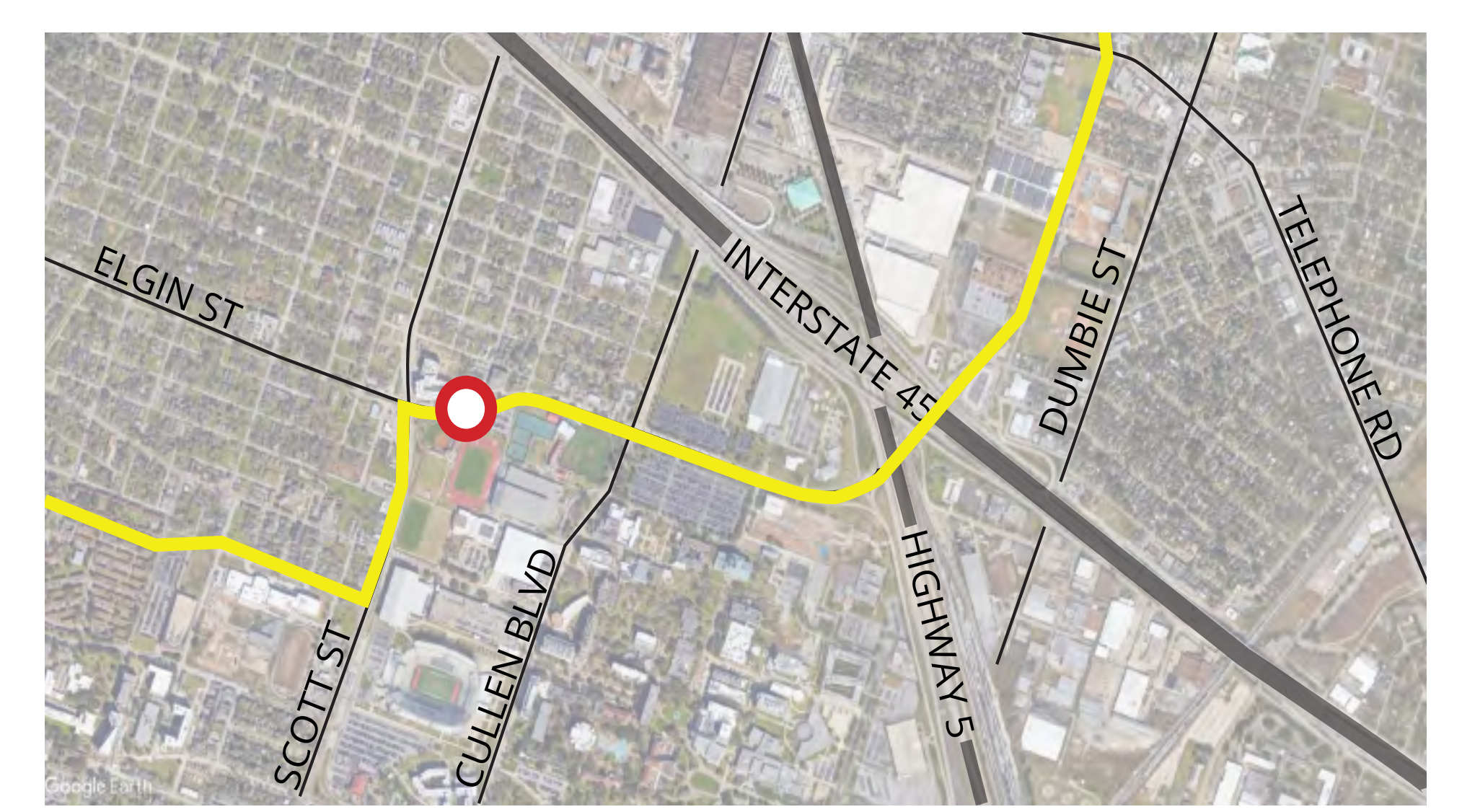


Proposed TSU Wheeler Station Rendering



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Proposed University of Houston HAWK Crossing on Elgin Street Rendering



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HAWK CROSSING ON ELGIN ST
UNIVERSITY CORRIDOR - SEGMENT 3

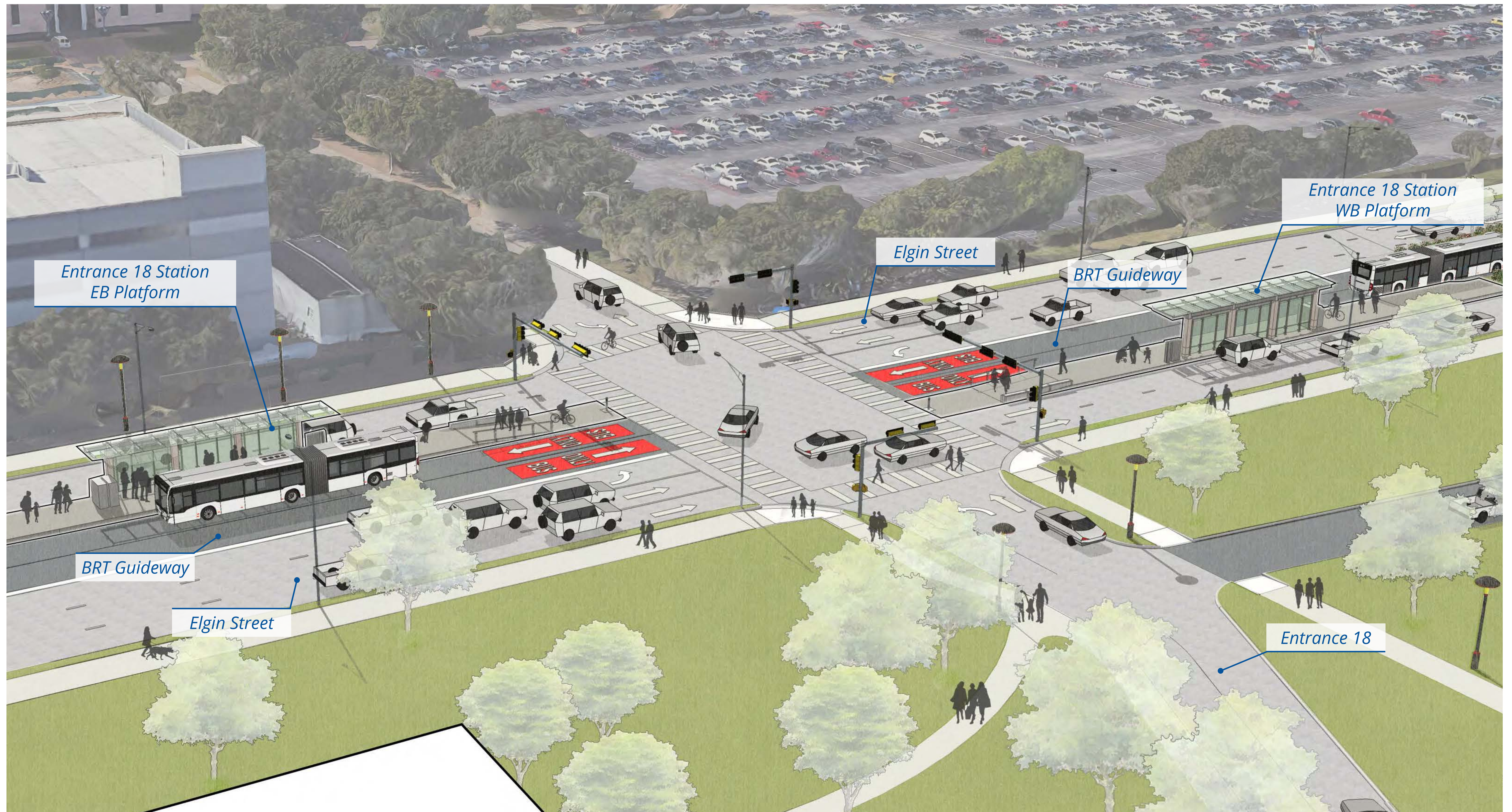
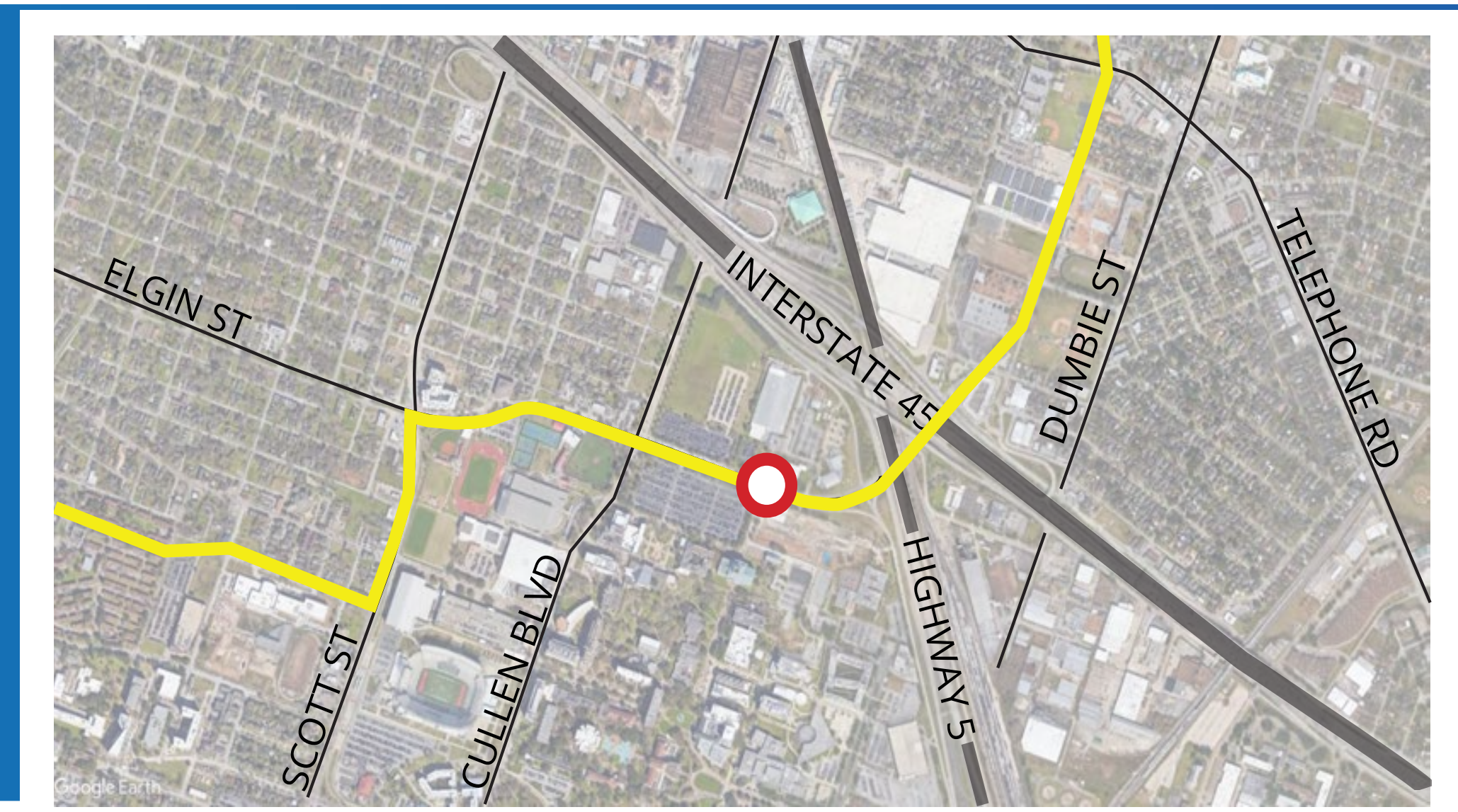


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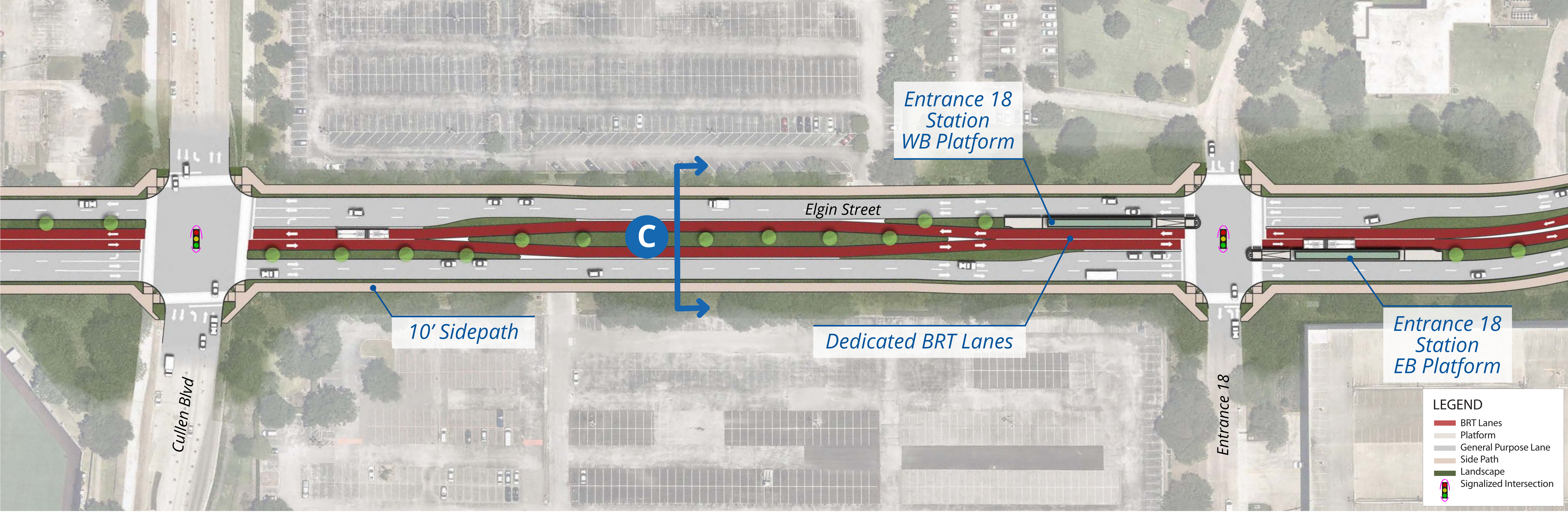
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Proposed University of Houston Entrance 18 Station Rendering



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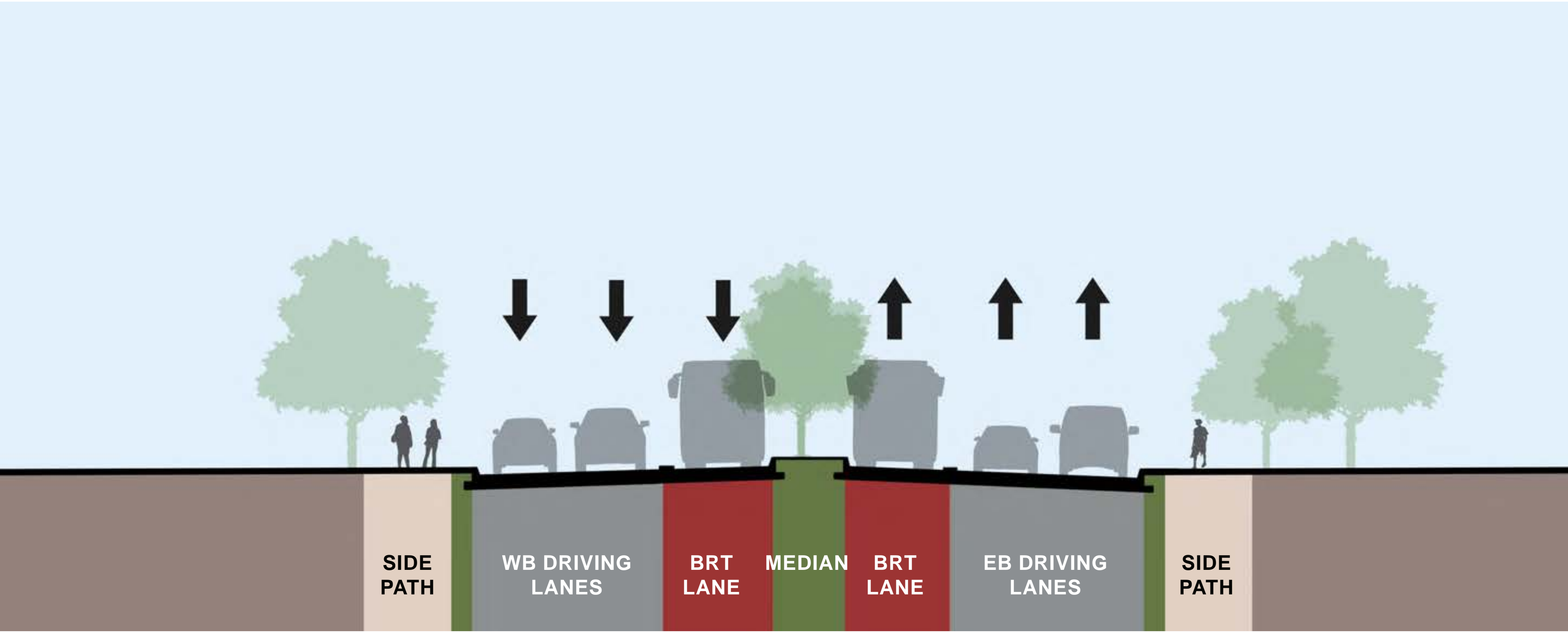
Segment 3 Plan Exhibits



KEY MAP



C CROSS SECTION



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Segment 3
University Corridor



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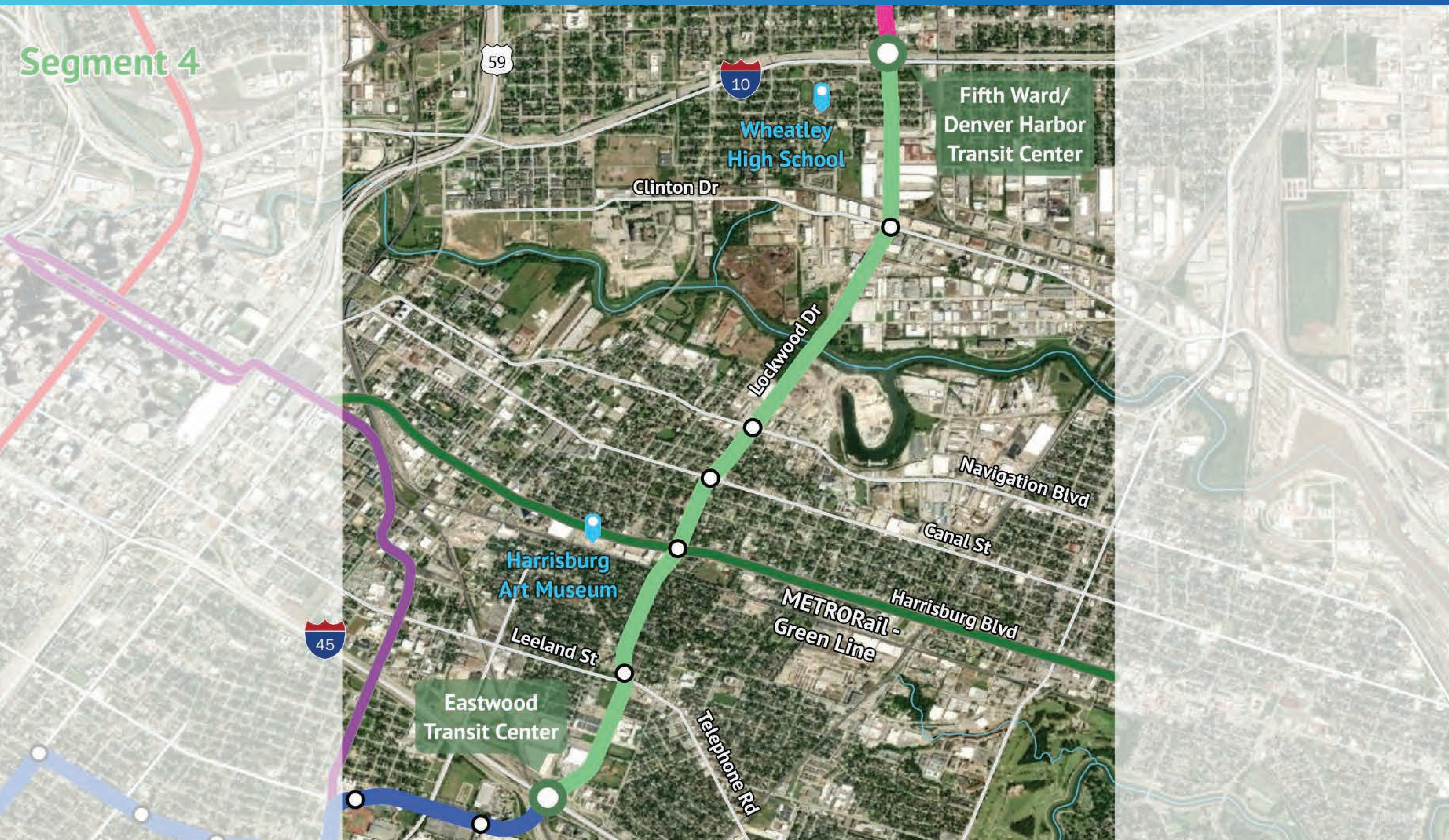
Segment 3

How does METRORapid benefit my community?

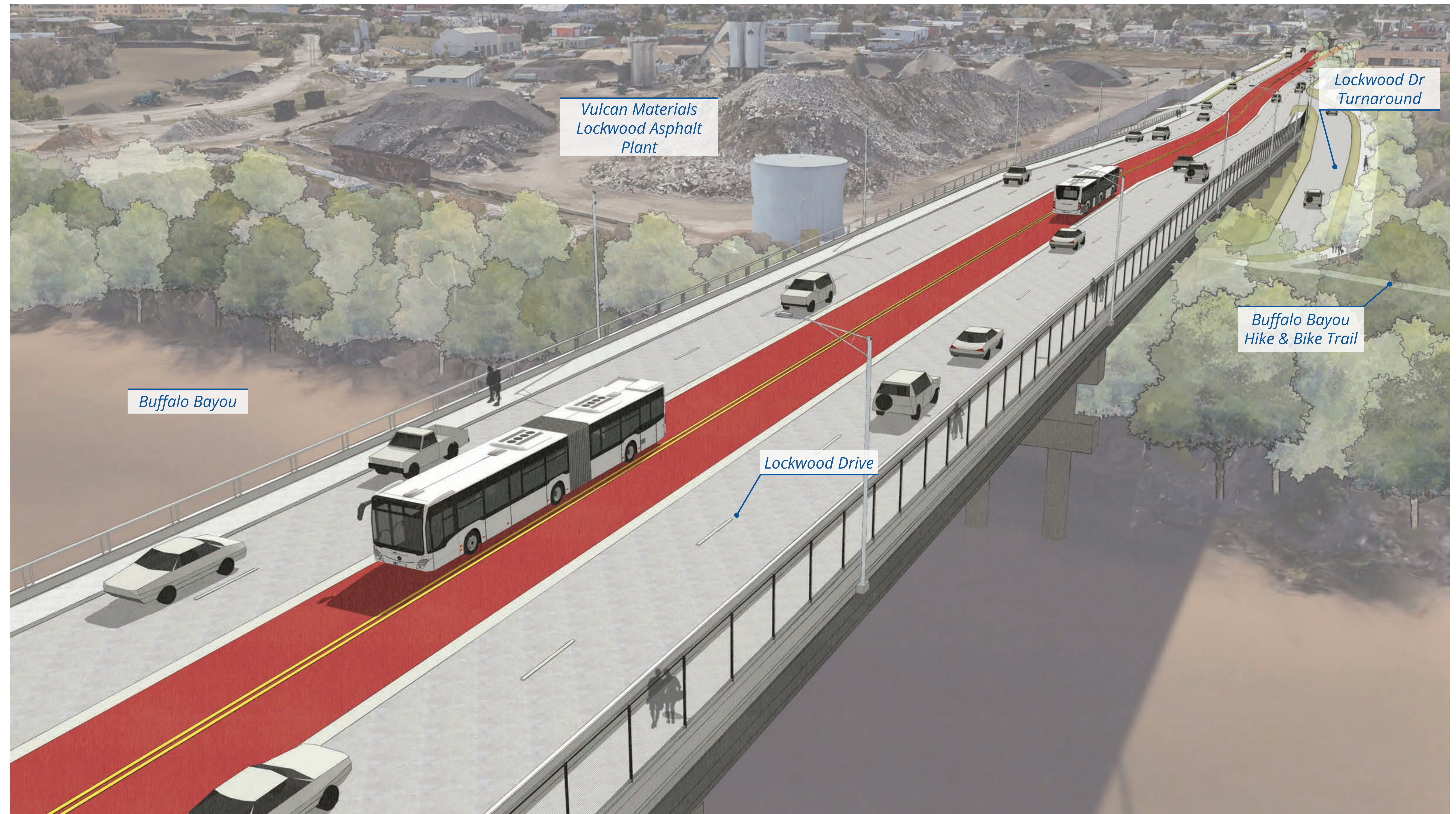
- Provides **frequent and reliable transit service** for residents between **home, school, and businesses**
- Connects to **local bus routes**, including:
 - 4 Beechnut
 - 11 Almeda/Lyons
 - 29 Cullen/Hirsch
 - 40 Telephone/Heights
 - 41 Kirby/Polk
 - 50 Broadway
 - 54 Scott
 - 80 MLK/Lockwood
- **Connects** to Gulf Freeway Park & Ride services at **Eastwood Transit Center**
- **Connects** to **METRORail Red Line** and **Purple Line**
- **Improves** quality of life through associated **roadway safety, drainage and sidewalk improvements**
- **Upgrades** facilities and operations at **Wheeler Transit Center**
- **Provides** front door service to **Texas Southern University** and **University of Houston**
- **Serves Cuney Homes**

Discussions and coordination with **Texas Southern University** and **University of Houston** are ongoing

Segment 4

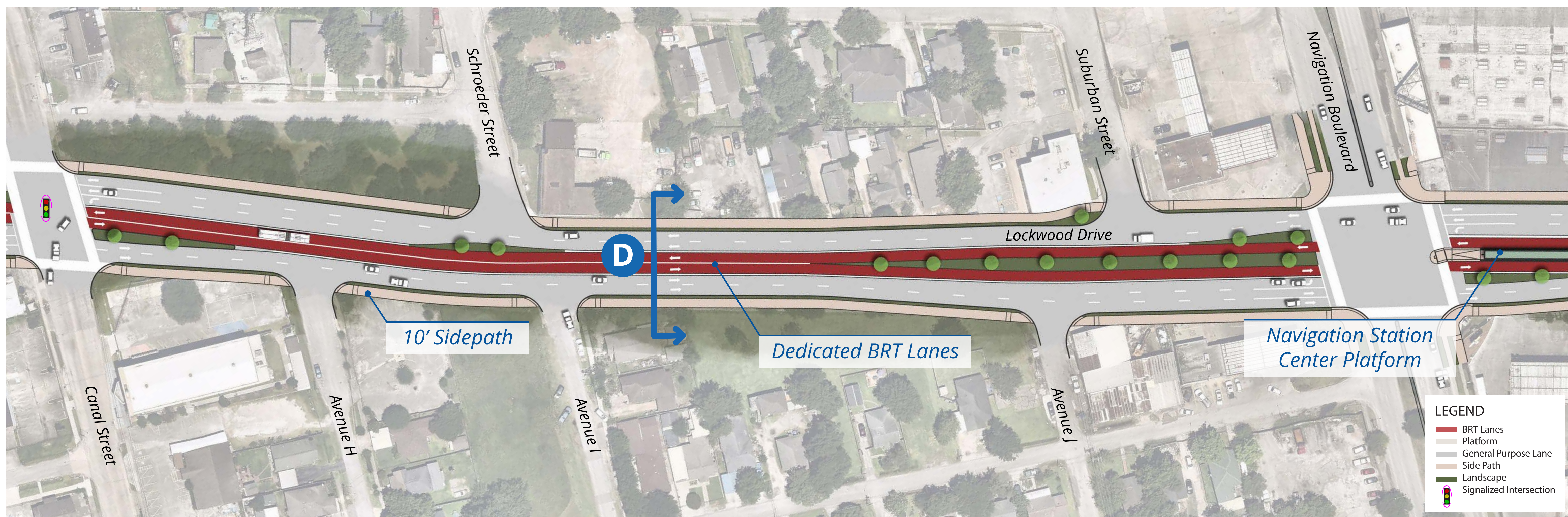


Segment 4



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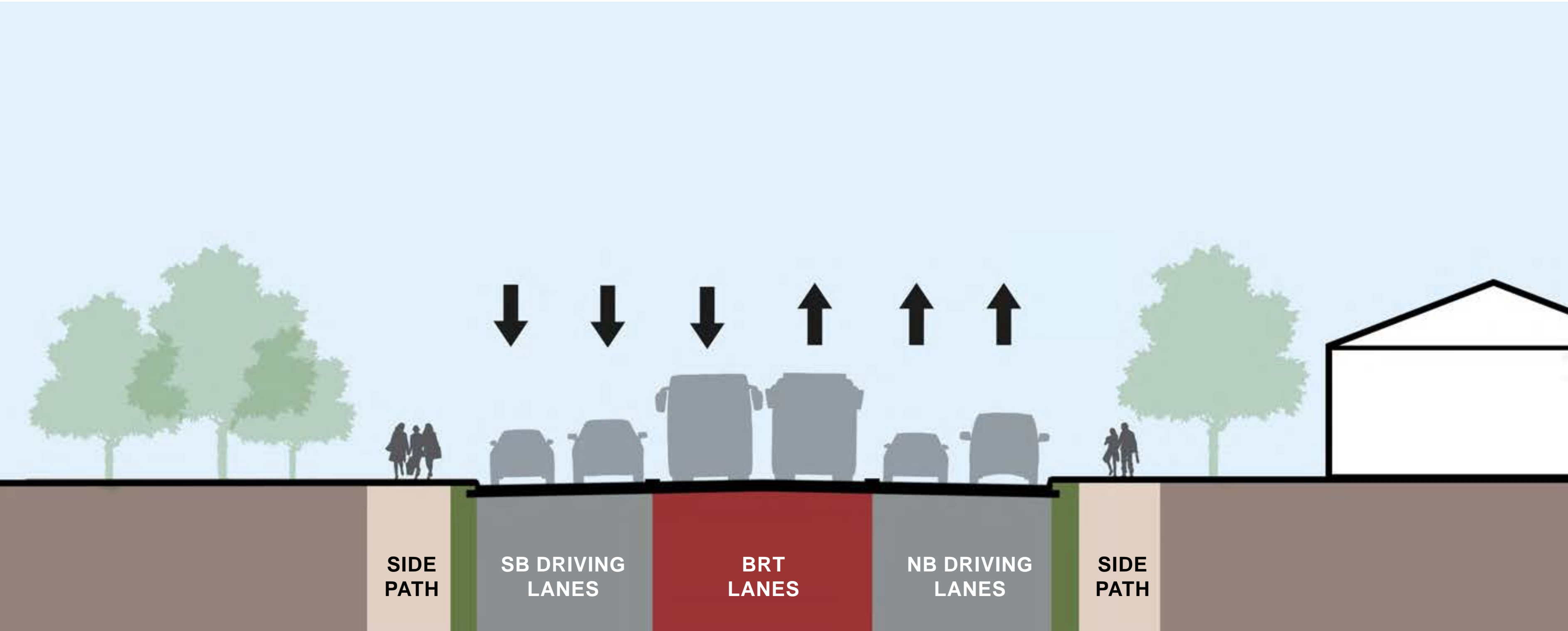
Segment 4 Plan Exhibits



KEY MAP



D CROSS SECTION



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Segment 4
University Corridor



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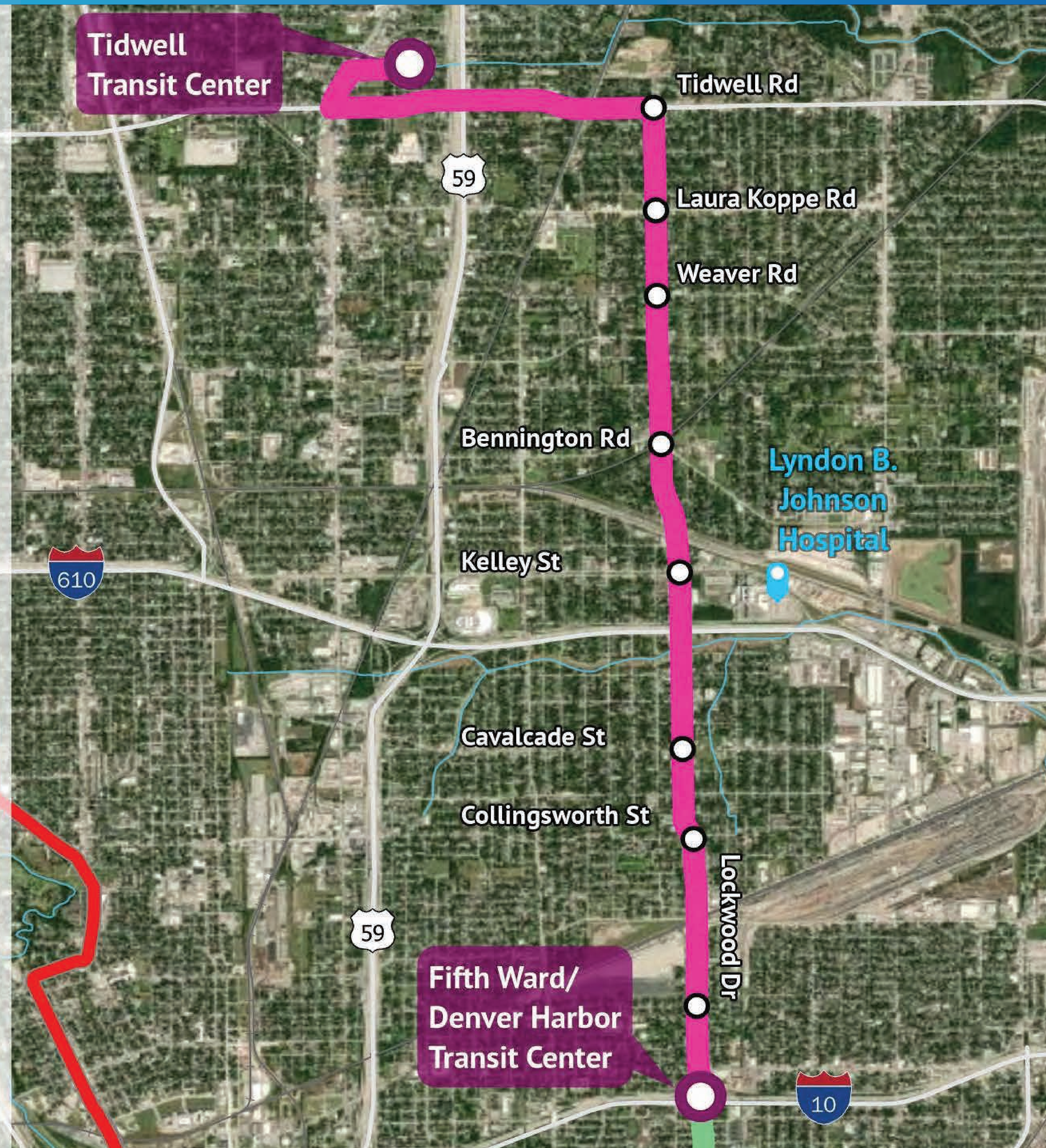
Segment 4

How does METRORapid benefit my community?

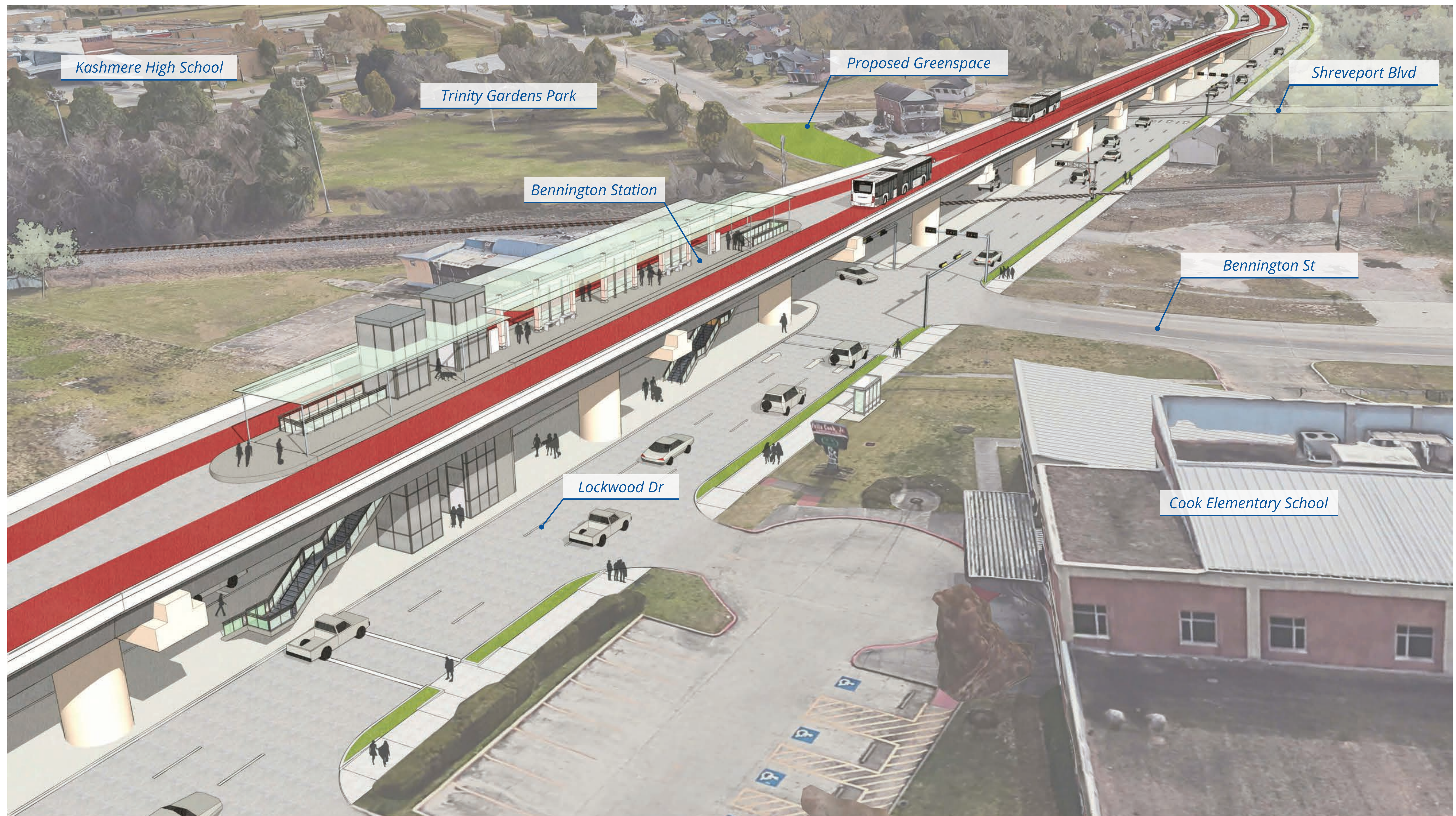
- Provides **frequent and reliable transit service** for residents and workers to **jobs, schools, and businesses**
- **Connects** to other **METRO bus routes**, including:
 - 20 Canal/Memorial
 - 30 Clinton/Ella
 - 40 Telephone/Heights
 - 41 Kirby/Polk
 - 48 Market
 - 50 Broadway
 - 80 MLK/Lockwood
 - 137 Northshore Express
- **Connects** to **Gulf Freeway Park & Ride** services at **Eastwood Transit Center**
- **Connects** to METRORail Green Line
- **Improves** quality of life through associated **roadway safety, drainage and sidewalk improvements**
- **Upgrades** facilities and operations at **Fifth Ward/Denver Harbor Transit Center**

Segment 5

Segment 5



Segment 5



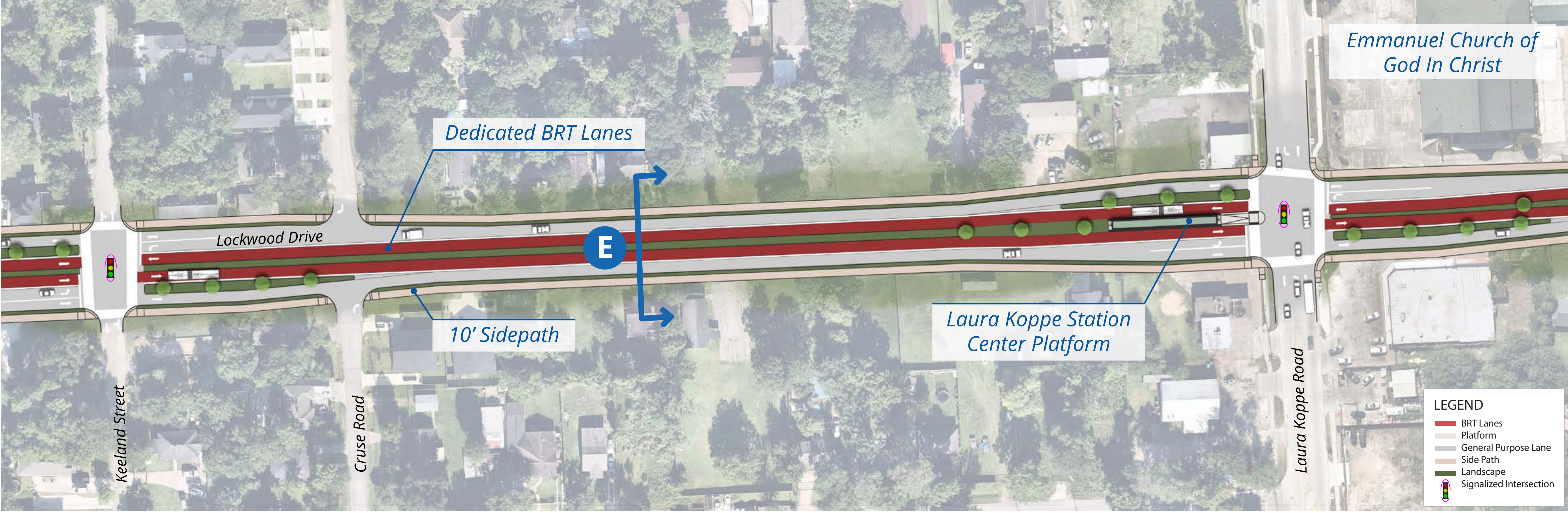
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Segment 5



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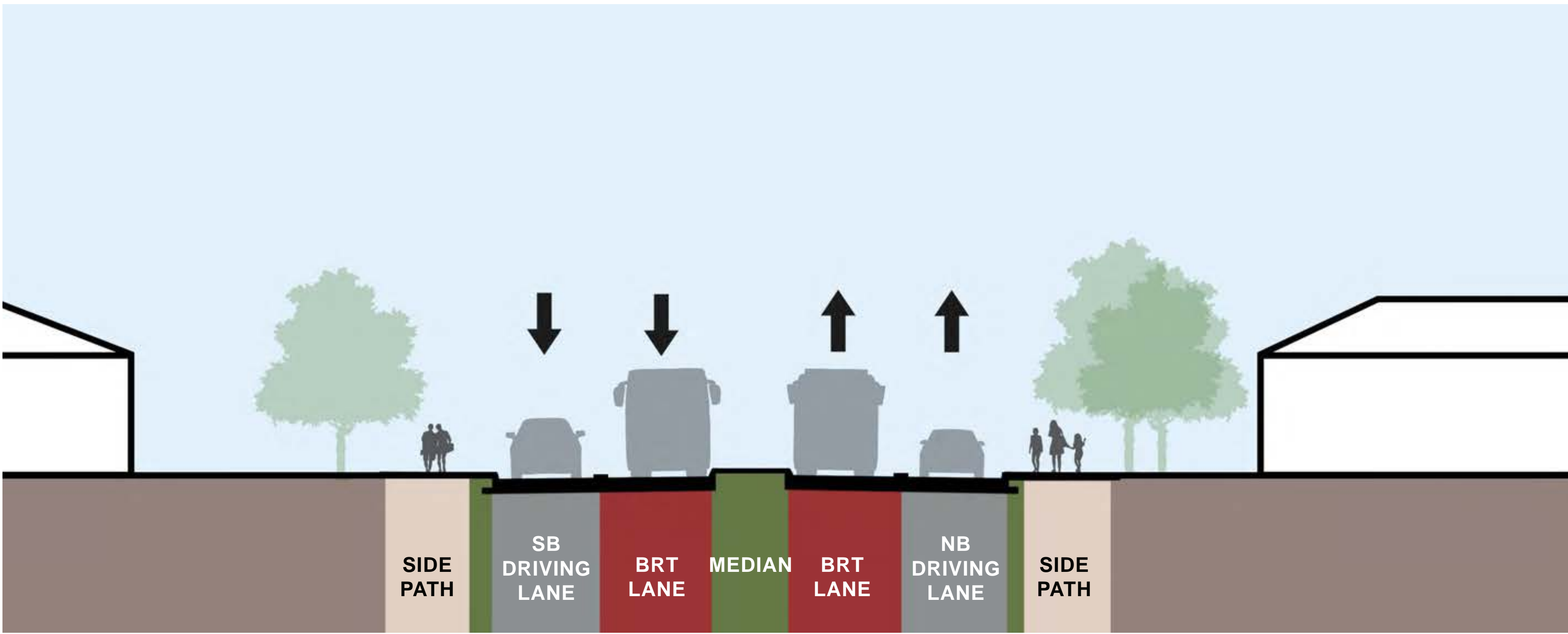
Segment 5 Plan Exhibits



KEY MAP



E CROSS SECTION



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Segment 5
University Corridor



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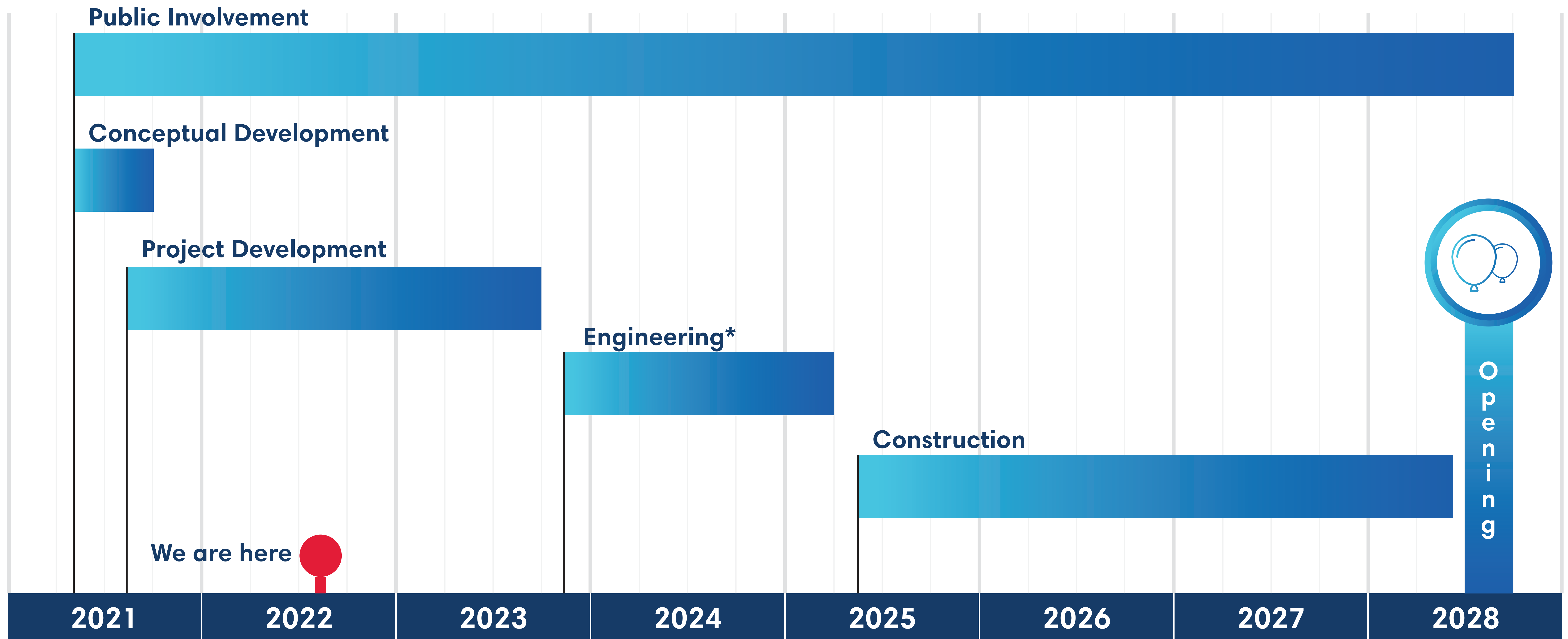
Segment 5

How does METRORapid benefit my community?

- Provides **frequent and reliable transit service** for residents and workers to **jobs, schools, and businesses**
- **Connects** to other **METRO bus routes**, including:
 - 3 Langley-Little York
 - 6 Jensen/Greens
 - 11 Alameda/Lyons
 - 45 Tidwell
 - 52 Hardy-Ley
 - 66 Quitman
 - 77 Homestead
 - 80 MLK/Lockwood
 - 83 Lee Road/JFK
 - 97 Settegast
- **Improves** quality of life through associated **roadway safety, drainage and sidewalk improvements**
- **Upgrades** facilities and operations at **Fifth Ward/Denver Harbor Transit Center** and **Tidwell Transit Center**

Discussions and coordination with **LBJ Hospital** are ongoing

Project Timeline



* Evaluating options for accelerated construction process

Get Engaged



Provide

comments at the
feedback station



Complete

a project survey on
your phone or tablet



Sign up

for project updates

Learn more at
RideMETRO.org/University