



University Drive Traffic Calming



City Council Work Session

May 8, 2018

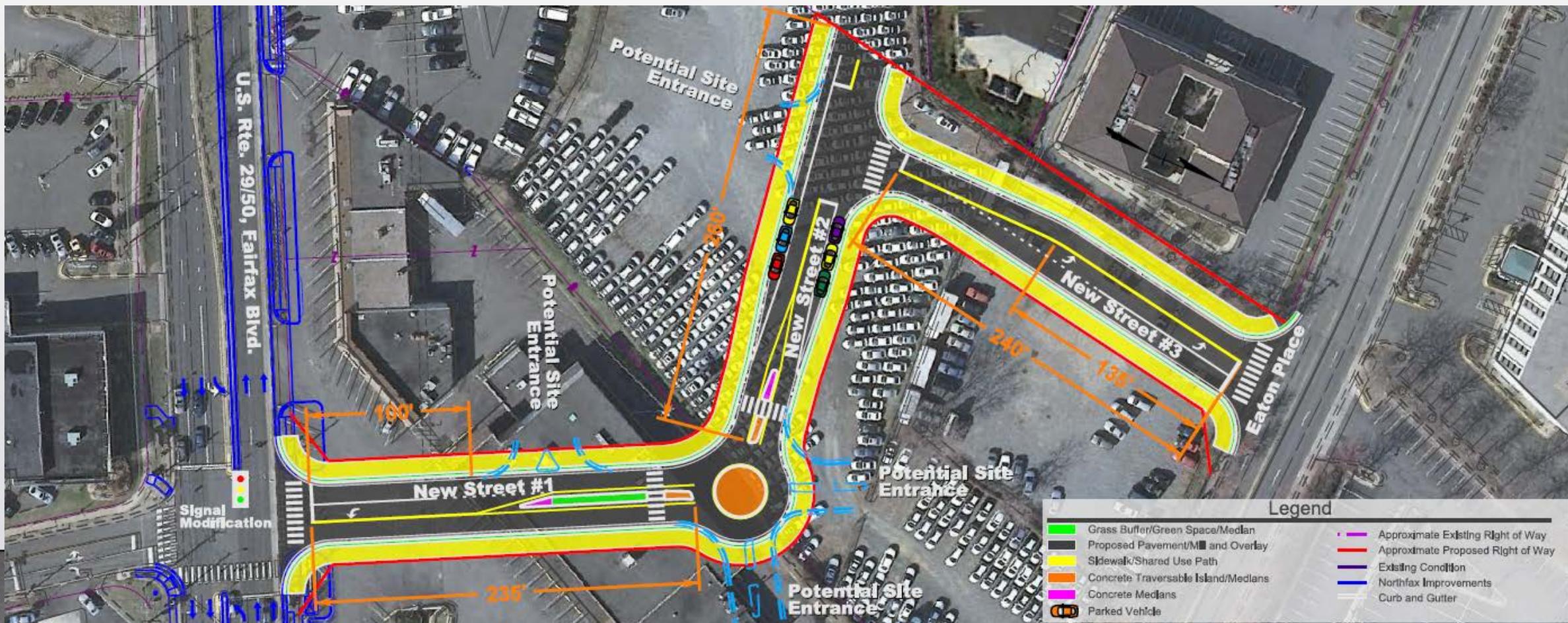


Tonight's Agenda

- Project Background
- Community Concerns
- Traffic Calming Concepts
- Next Steps – Public Meeting May 21, 2018
- City Council Discussion

Background

Planned new Northfax road between Fairfax Blvd and Eaton Place





Community Concerns

- Concerns about the current conditions and the impacts of the new street:
 - Traffic through the neighborhood
 - Speeding
 - Parked cars (specifically mirrors) being hit by passing cars
 - Crossing safely at intersections and midblock
- Request: Address the potential future impacts with neighborhood traffic calming measures



Project Goals

- Develop concepts that will improve safety and calm traffic along University Drive between Kenmore Drive and Fairfax Blvd
- Present a menu of feasible options to the community
- Use community feedback to identify preferred calming measures
- Implement traffic calming improvements

Actions Already Taken

- Advance warning signs to alert vehicles of pedestrian crossing locations
- Mid-crosswalk signs on University Drive at Stratford to increase visibility of crossing location
- New stop sign on southbound University Drive at Stratford





Improvement Options

- Intersection Treatments
 - Curb Modifications or Extensions/Bulb-Outs
 - New Crosswalks
- Speed Calming
 - Mid-Block Bulb-Outs
 - Community Signage
 - On-Street Parking
- Additional Pedestrian Enhancements
 - Construct missing link of sidewalk
 - Lighting improvements



Intersection Treatment: Curb Modification (Kenmore Drive)

Existing



With Curb Modification



Intersection Treatment: Curb Modification (Kenmore Drive)



Benefits:

- Reduces turning speed
- Signals entry into residential neighborhood
- Removes excess pavement markings from intersection to reduce confusion

Intersection Treatment: Curb Extension/Bulb-Out (Ford Road)

Existing



With Curb Extension/Bulb-Out



Intersection Treatment: Curb Extension/Bulb-Out (Ford Road)



Benefits:

- Narrows pedestrian crossing distance/time
- Improves ability of pedestrians and motorists to see each other
- Buffers parking
- Reduces turning speeds by 6 to 8 mph
- Reduces through traffic speeds by 1 to 3 mph

Tradeoff:

- May affect bicyclists traveling along the edge of the street

Intersection Treatment: Curb Extensions/Bulb-Out (Stratford Avenue)

Existing



With Curb Extensions



Intersection Treatment: Curb Extensions/Bulb-Out (Stratford Avenue)



Benefits:

- Narrows pedestrian crossing distance/time
- Improves ability of pedestrians and motorists to see each other
- Buffers parking
- Reduces turning speeds by 6 to 8 mph
- Reduces through traffic speeds by 1 to 3 mph

Tradeoff:

- May affect bicyclists traveling along the edge of the street



Intersection Treatment: New Crosswalk (Jean Street)

Existing



With Crosswalk



Intersection Treatment: New Crosswalk (Jean Street)



Benefits:

- Relocates midblock crossing to be located just north of Jean Street intersection

Tradeoff:

- Only appropriate if a sidewalk is constructed along the west side of University Drive



Speed Calming: Mid-Block Bulb-out (Ford Road to Stratford Avenue)

Existing



With Mid-Block Bulb-Out (Chicane)



Speed Calming: Mid-Block Bulb-out (Ford Road to Stratford Avenue)



Benefits:

- Adds greenery
- Narrows lane when parking is not present
- May help “protect” parked cars
- Introduce a S-shape travel path on a straight section of street that compels vehicles to slow down
- Reduces through traffic speed (by 3 to 9 mph)

Tradeoff:

- Removes approximately 1 to 2 parking spaces per raised island
- Presents a fixed object within the travel-way that may be struck by vehicles or snow plows



Speed Calming: Mid-Block Bulb-out (Ford Road to Stratford Avenue)

Existing



With Mid-Block Bulb-Out (Choker)



Speed Calming: Mid-Block Bulb-out (Ford Road to Stratford Avenue)



Benefits:

- Adds greenery
- Narrows lane when parking is not present
- Protects parking and defines a parking area
- Reduces through traffic speed (by 1 to 4 mph)

Tradeoff:

- Removes approximately 1 to 2 parking spaces per raised island
- Narrows travel lane for bicyclists
- Presents a fixed object within the travel-way that may be struck by vehicles or snow plows

Speed Calming: Community Signage

Examples:



Speed Calming: Community Signage



Benefits:

- Attractive addition to community
- Announces to motorists that they are entering a community where there is a significant change in the driving environment
- Reduces through traffic speed (by about 2 mph)

Tradeoff:

- Requires ongoing maintenance such as painting, renewing and watering the vegetation or possibly repairs



Speed Calming: On-Street Parking (Mason Street to University Drive)

Existing



With Striped Parking



Speed Calming: On-Street Parking (Ford Road to Wood Road)

Existing



With Striped Parking



Speed Calming: On-Street Parking



Benefits:

- Narrows lane widths even when parking is not present
- Non-intrusive; does not impose speed restriction on emergency or transit vehicles
- May help “protect” parked cars
- Quick implementation
- Reduce through traffic speed (by 0.5 mph)

Tradeoff:

- Maintenance and restriping requirements
- Ford Road to Wood Road - Removes the ability to park along the east side of the street (approximately 20 parking spaces removed)

Additional Pedestrian Enhancements: Construct Missing Link of Sidewalk (Wood Road and Stratford Avenue)

- Existing



- With Sidewalk



Additional Pedestrian Enhancements: Construct Missing Link of Sidewalk (Wood Road and Stratford Avenue)



Benefits:

- Completes sidewalk on west side of road
- Improves pedestrian mobility

Tradeoff

- Requires easements from residents
- Requires retaining wall for portions of construction



Additional Pedestrian Enhancements: Lighting Improvements

Existing



With Lighting Improvements



Additional Pedestrian Enhancements: Lighting Improvements



Options:

- Increase number of “Cobra head” lights to address locations of inadequate lighting
- Replace or supplement “Cobra head” lights with “Acorn” lights

Benefits:

- Increases visibility
- Enhances safety
- Encourages walking with pedestrian-scale lighting

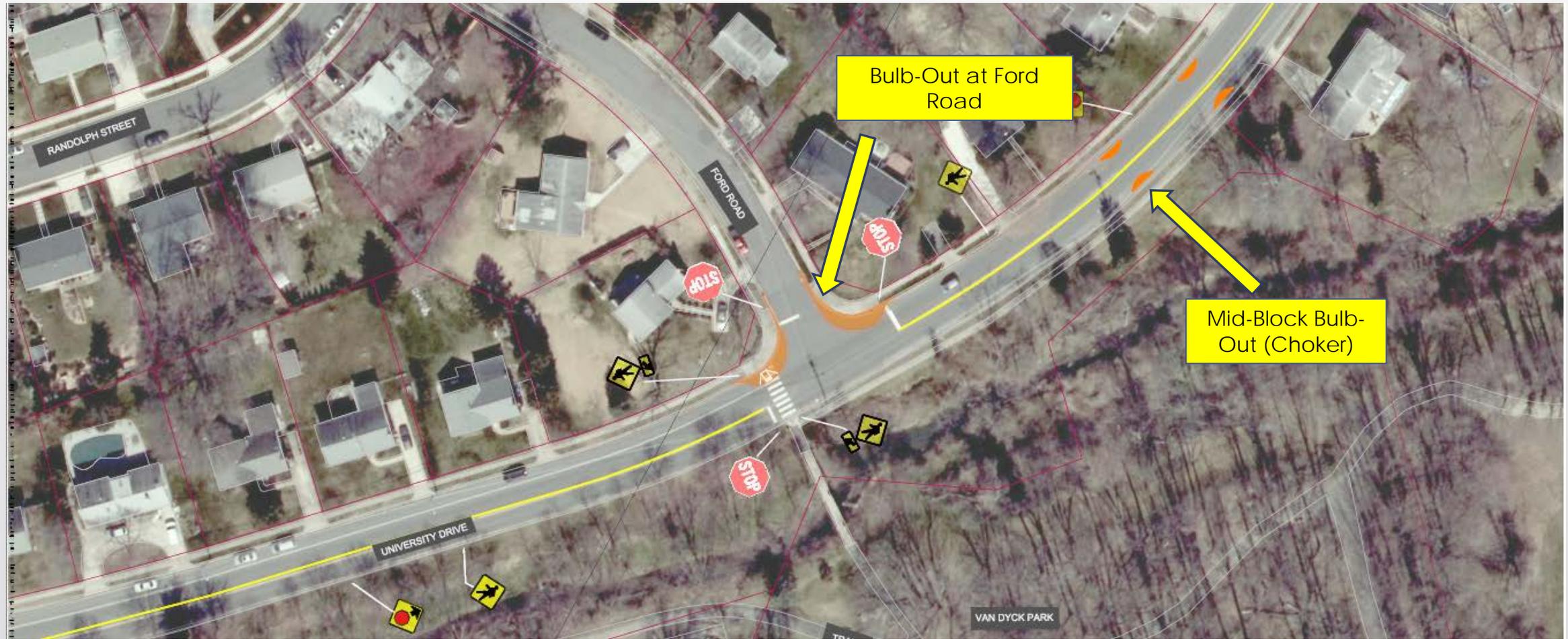
Traffic Calming Concepts



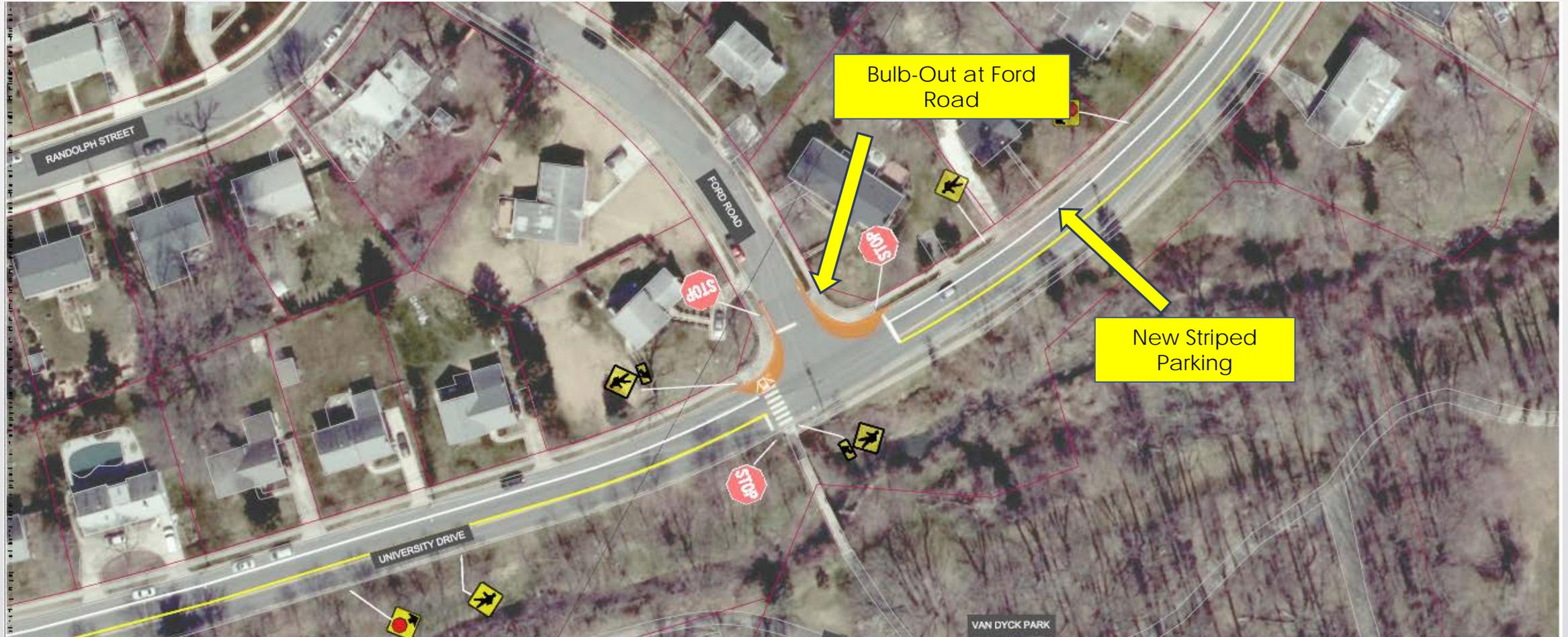
Traffic Calming Concepts



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Traffic Calming Concepts



Traffic Calming Concepts





Next Steps

- Public Input Meeting: May 21, 2018, 7 PM, City Hall
- Staff will return to City Council with summary of public meeting and recommended next steps



Funding

- City expected to receive \$500,000 in FY 19/20 Revenue Sharing Funds
- Revenue Sharing funds require a 50% local match



Questions?