

# Blake Road Corridor Study

Hopkins City Council

May 19, 2015

## Study Partners:



# Blake Road Corridor Study

# Study Background

- Project Limits:  
Interlachen Boulevard to 36<sup>th</sup> Street
- Purpose:  
To identify and plan for transportation improvements in the Blake Road Corridor to support construction of the SWLRT line.



# Study Goals

- Facilitate access to future SW LRT station
- Create comfortable, safe roadway for all transportation modes
- Support redevelopment
- Improve access to/connectivity across Hwy 7
- Protect and enhance natural resources, including Minnehaha Creek
- Improve connections between Blake Road and neighborhoods, parks, and trails
- Improve connections to Minnehaha Creek

# Evaluation Criteria

- Traffic operations
- Safety and conflict points
- Pedestrian and bicycle crossings
- Bicycle facility safety and comfort for likely users
- Pedestrian safety and comfort
- Business/Residential Access
- Right of way impacts – Roadway cross-section width
- Economic development
- Construction cost
- Maintenance costs and ease of maintenance
- Environmental

# Public Involvement

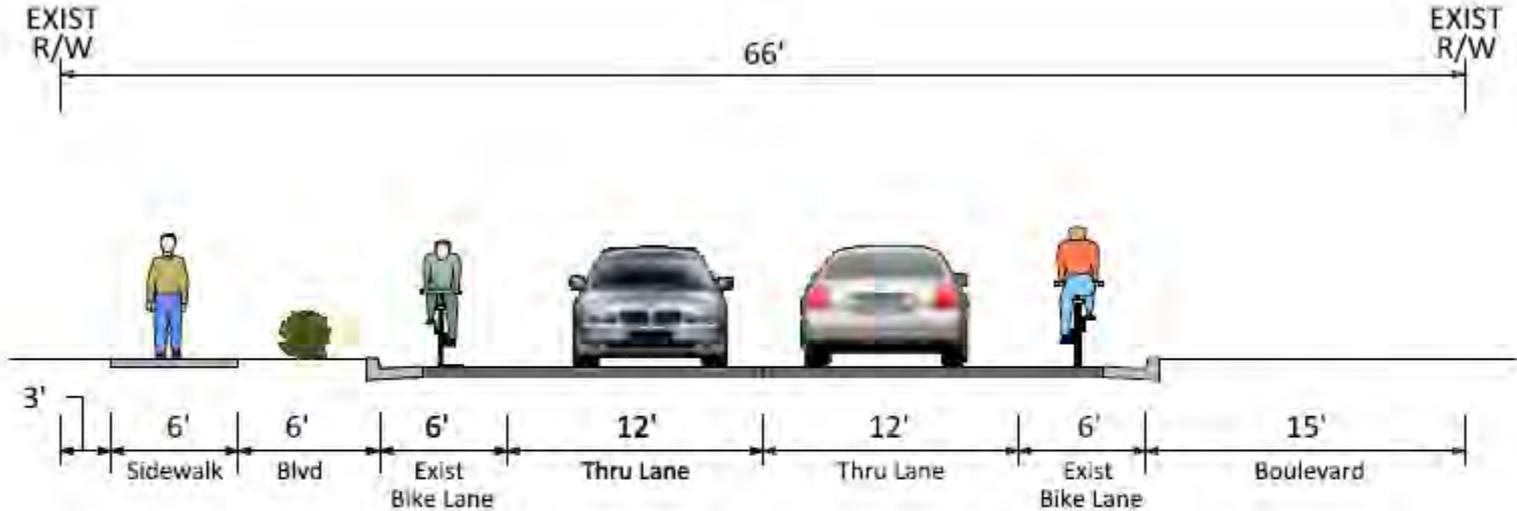
- Open Houses:
  - June 25, 2014
  - October 9, 2014
  - April 20, 2015
- Other Public Involvement Activities
  - Meeting with Westside Village Apartments
  - Cottageville Park – Movie in the Park
  - Meeting with Blake School
  - City Website

# Interlachen - Excelsior Boulevard

---

- Preserve existing conditions:
  - Two-lane roadway
  - 6 foot wide bicycle lanes
- Proposed 6 foot wide sidewalk on west side of Blake Road
- Proposed southbound right turn lane to Blake School entrance

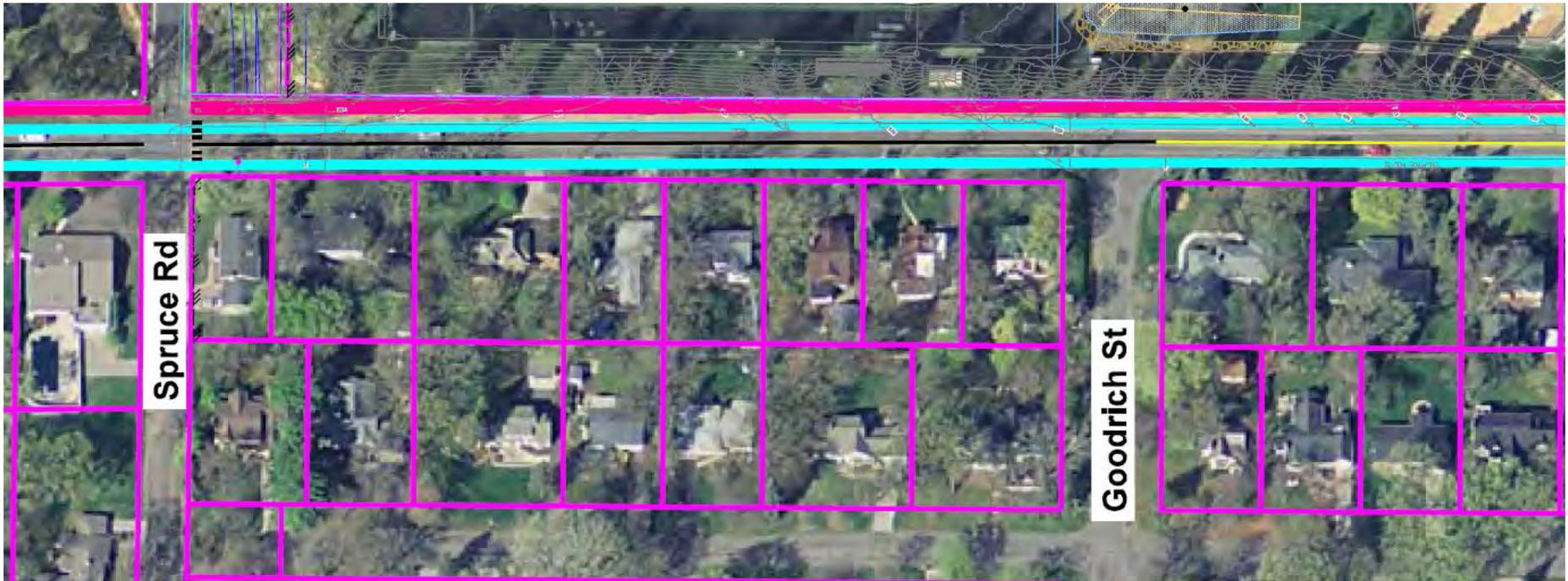
# Typical Section: Interlachen – Excelsior Boulevard



**Proposed Typical Section with Sidewalk**

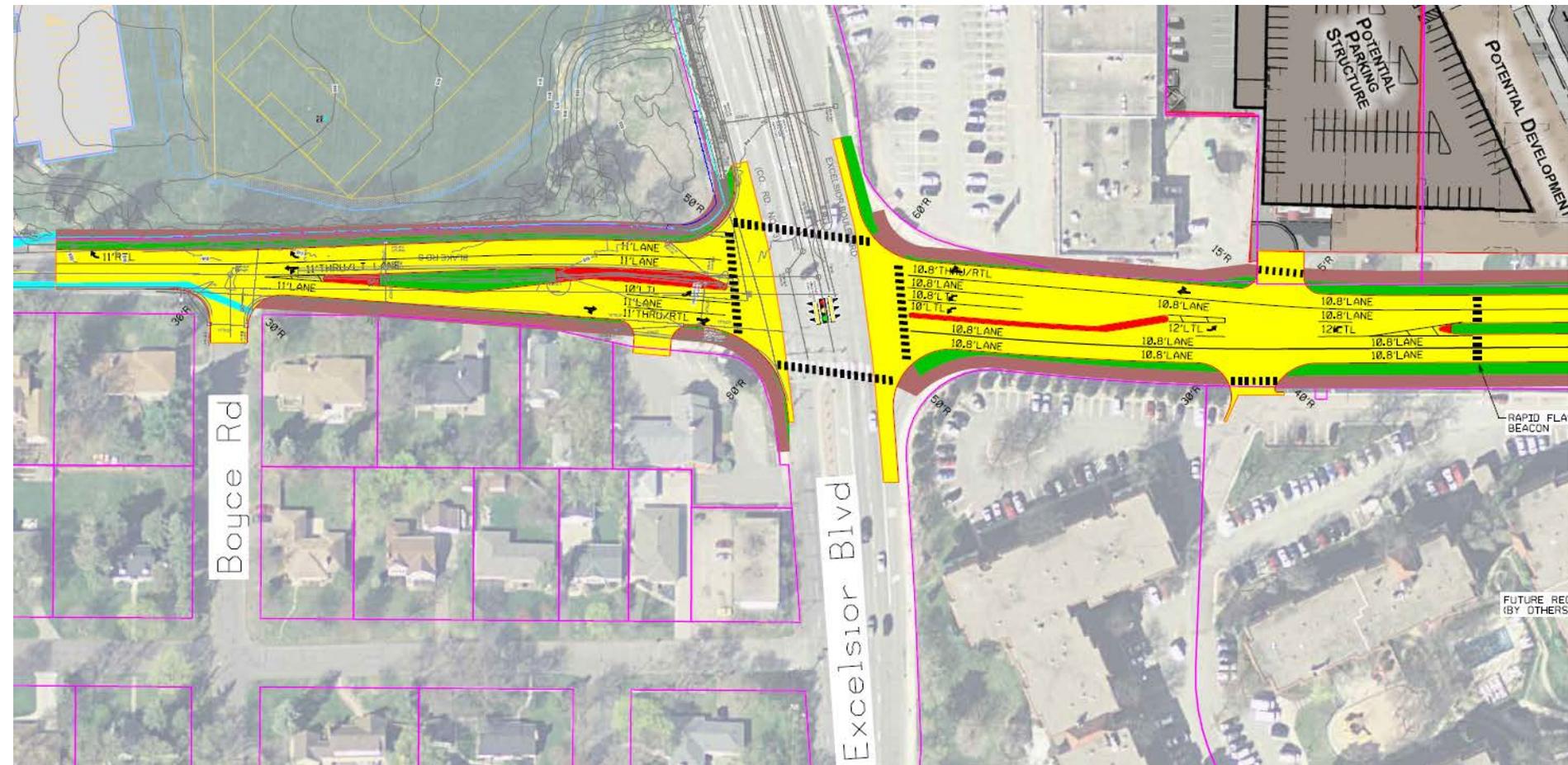


# Interlachen – Excelsior Boulevard



Blake Road Corridor Study

# Blake Road-Excelsior Boulevard Intersection

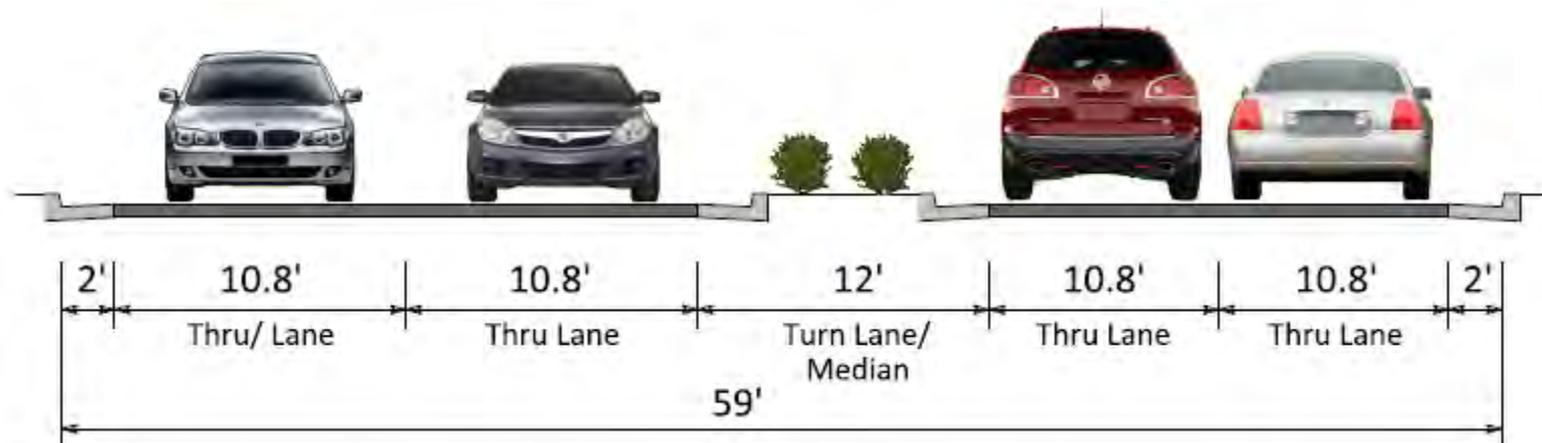


Blake Road Corridor Study

# Preferred Alternative: Roadway

## Four-lane divided roadway:

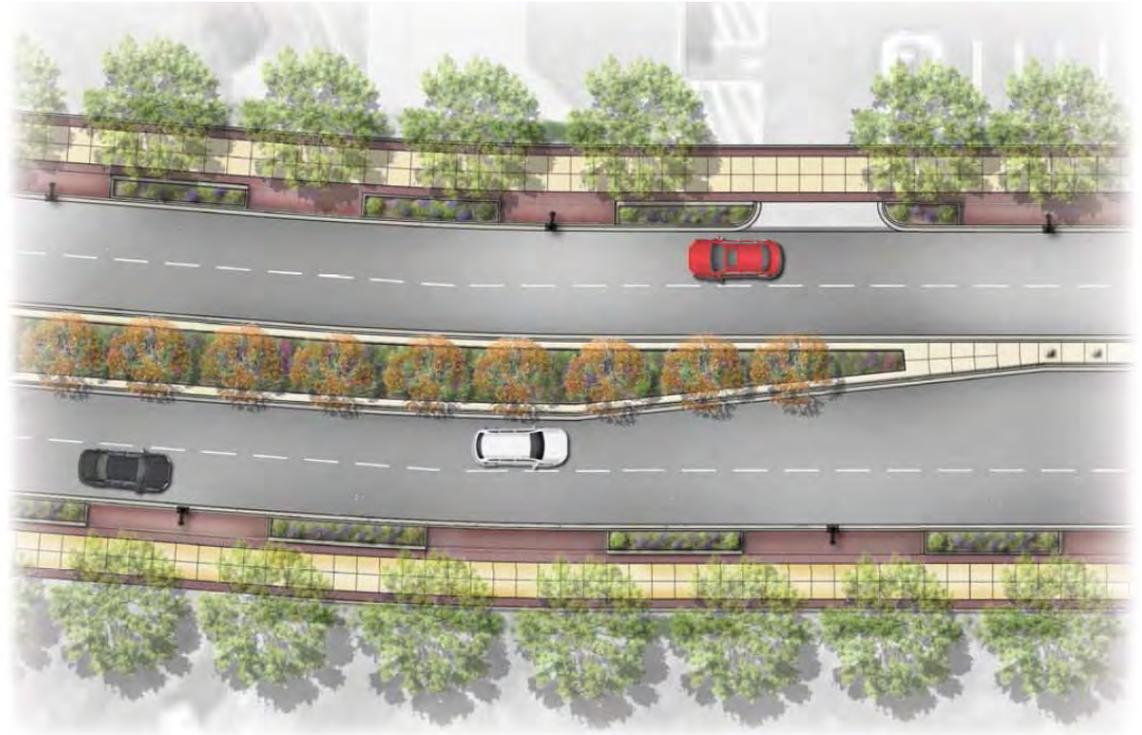
- Better safety and intersection operations
- Adequate capacity for future development
- Opportunity for landscaped median
- Provides pedestrian refuge locations



# Streetscaping Options

Streetscaping options will be refined through final design.

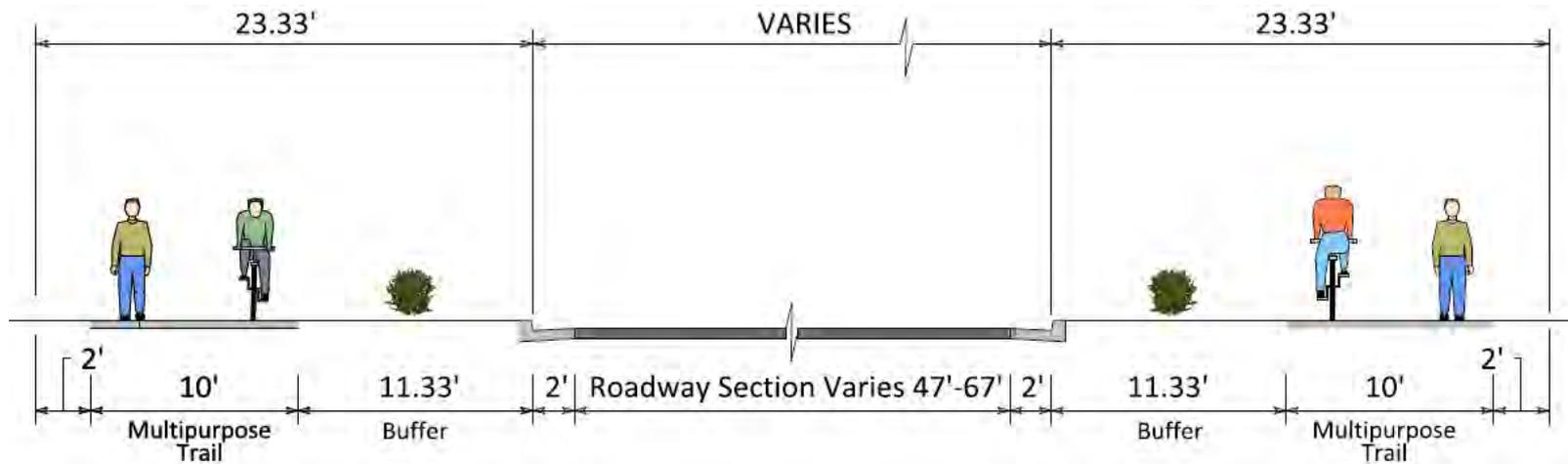
Plantings and surface materials will help give Blake Road a more urban and pedestrian-friendly feel



# Preferred Alternative: Bike/Ped

## Multi-use trail:

- Most comfortable for less experienced bicyclists
- Separates bicyclists and motor vehicles
- Two-way facility reduces need to cross road



# Pedestrian and Bicycle Crossings

---

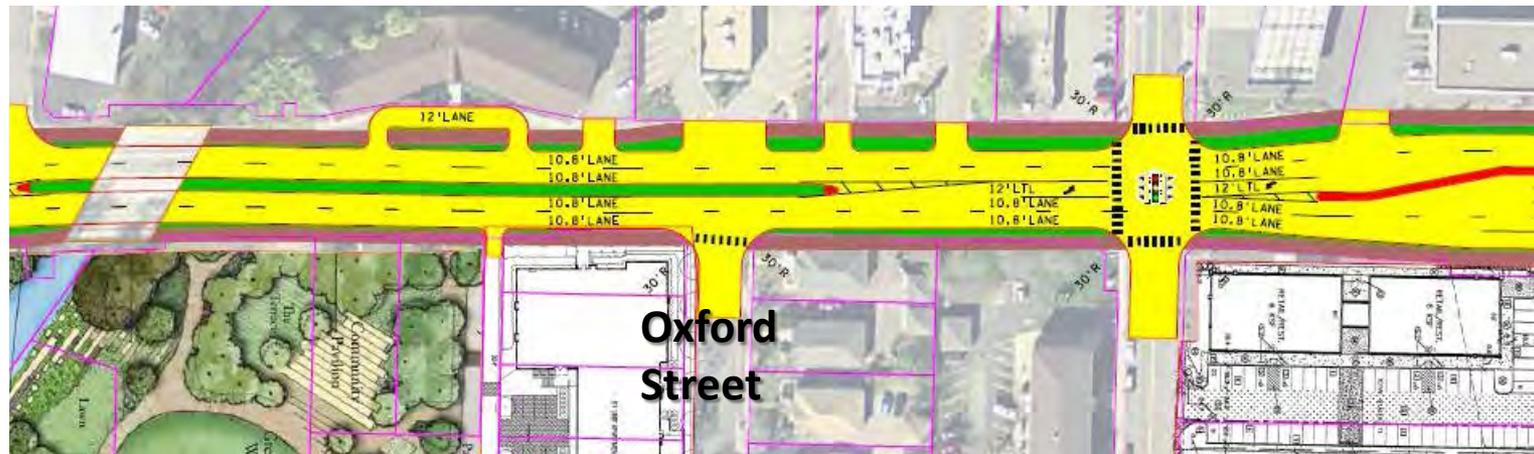
- Crossings recommended at:
  - All signalized intersections
  - Spruce Road
  - North of entrance to Westside Village Apartments
  - Cedar Lake Regional Trail – pending grade separation
  - Lake Street





# Oxford Street

- Closed median is recommended:
  - Improves traffic operations and vehicle/pedestrian safety
  - Requires less right of way
  - Minimizes potential use of Oxford Street as cut-through route
  - Allows space for landscaping in the median





# Approvals

---

- Hopkins
- Edina
- St. Louis Park

# Funding

- Hennepin County
- Hopkins
- Edina
- St. Louis Park
- Tiger Grant Application
- Other Grants