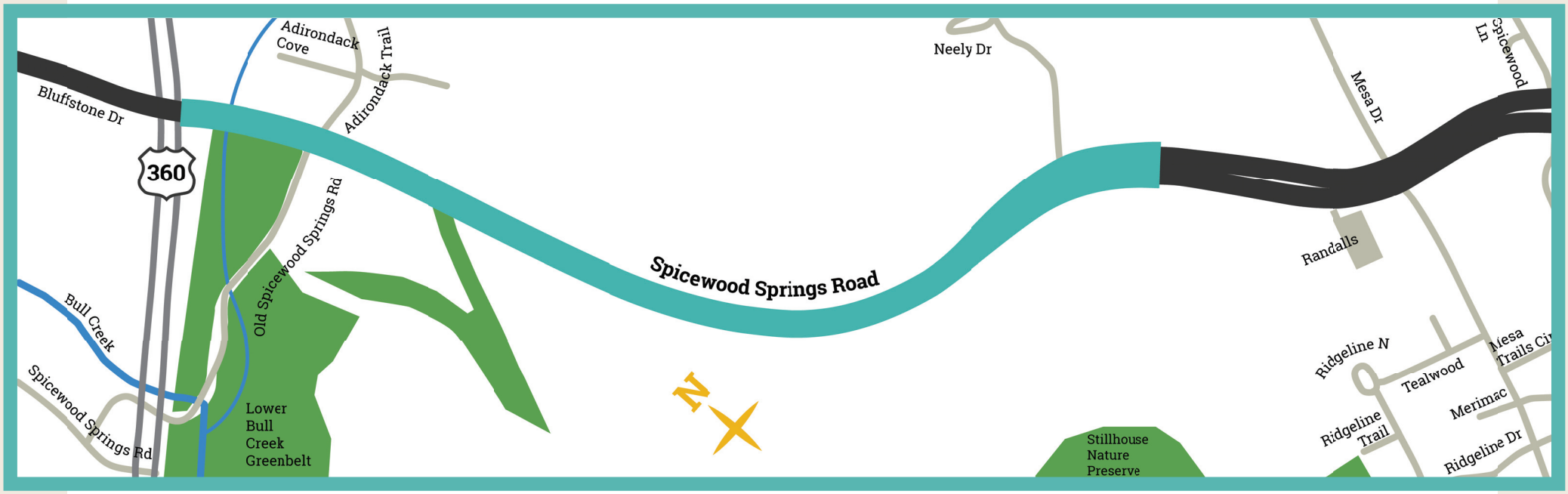
SPICEWOOD SPRINGS ROAD

REGIONAL MOBILITY PROJECT

CITY OF AUSTIN
austin MOTION
2016 MOBILITY BOND

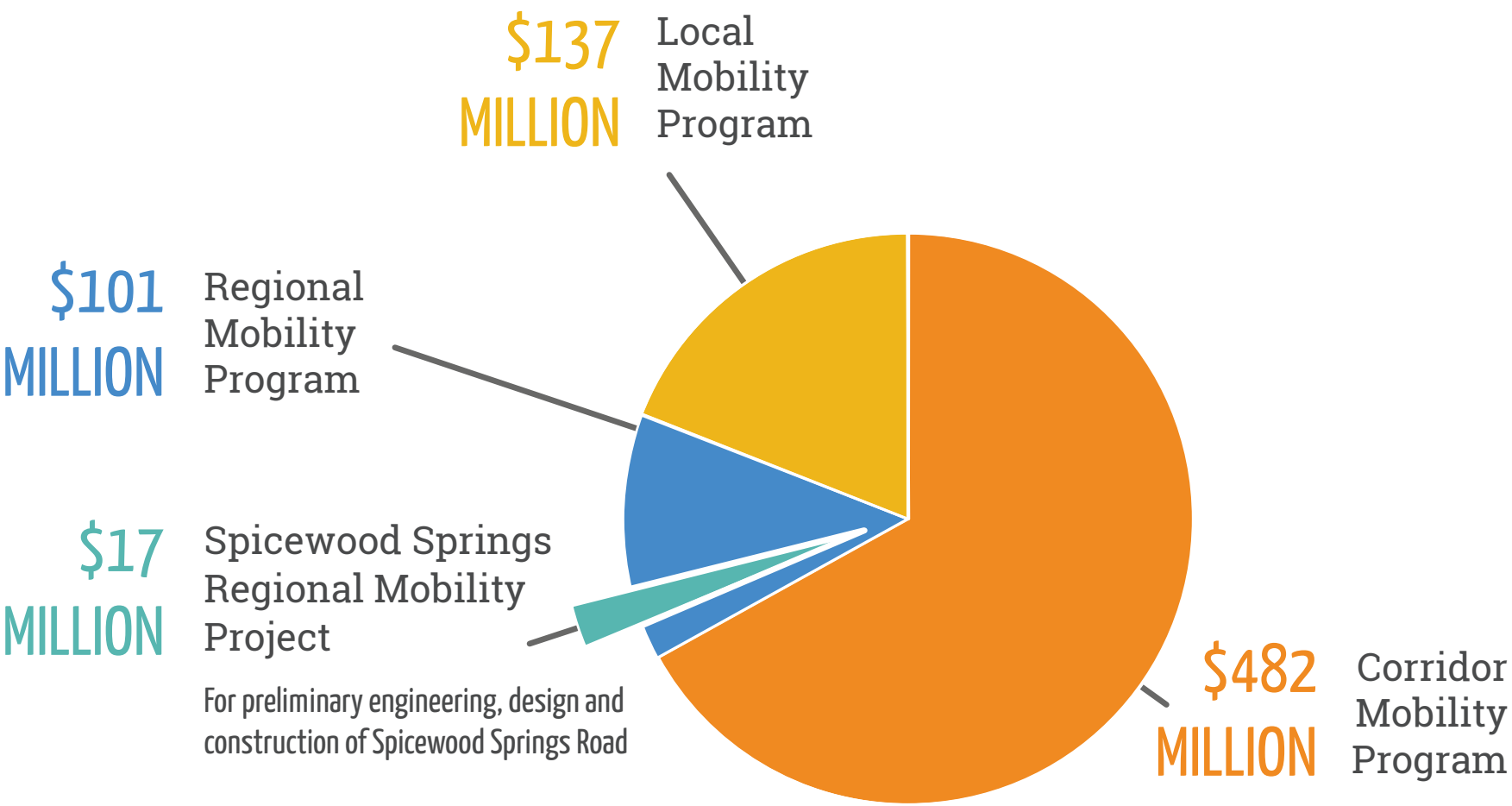
PROJECT LIMITS



Spicewood Springs Road from Loop 360
to 0.2 miles west of Mesa Drive

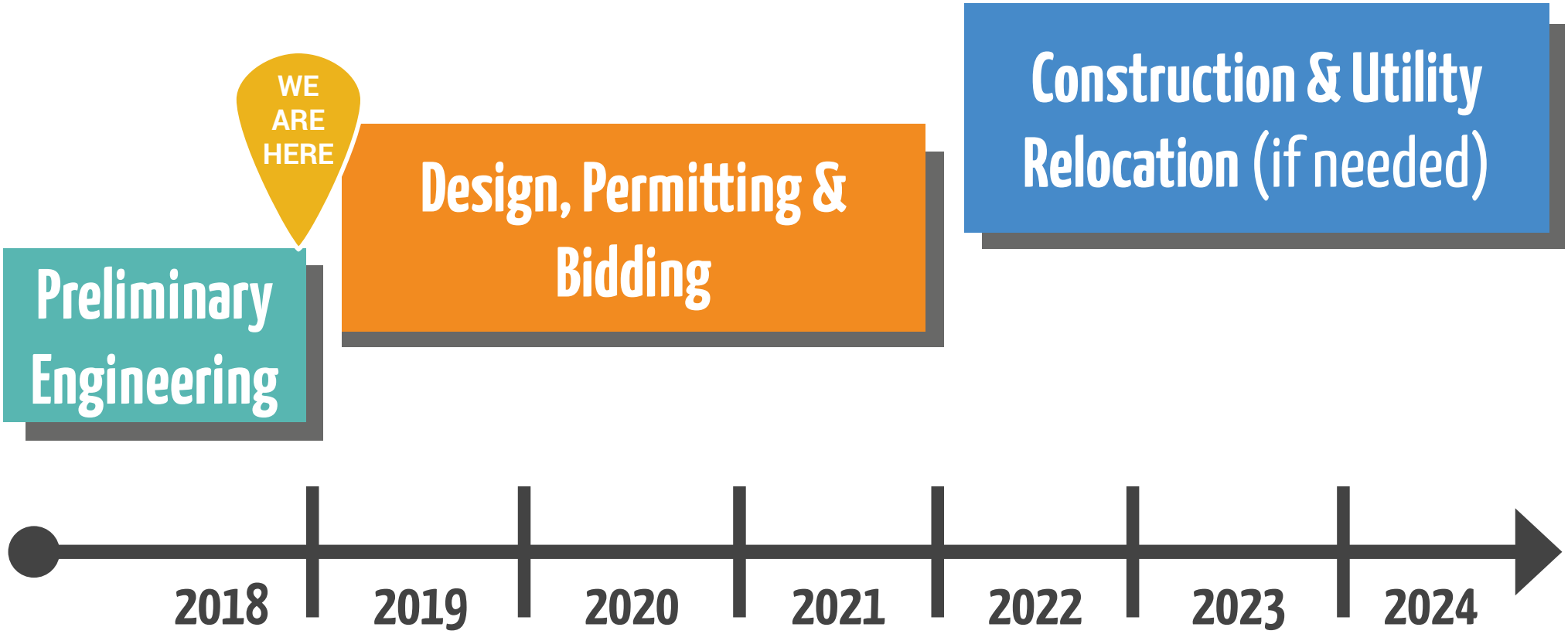
2016 MOBILITY BOND

$720 million for transportation and mobility improvements citywide



ANTICIPATED TIMELINE

(subject to change)



EXISTING CONDITIONS

- One vehicular travel lane in each direction (two eastbound lanes east of Loop 360)
- No continuous center turn lane
- Bicycle lane in eastbound direction only
- No continuous sidewalk facilities
- No curb or buffer zone
- Missing water quality facilities

WHAT WE'VE HEARD

CONNECTIVITY

Missing bike facilities

Concern about lengthy commute times

Concern about lack of sidewalks and ADA accessibility

Missing safe crosswalks

SAFETY

Concern about unsafe left turns

Desire for improved pavement conditions

Concern about speeding

QUALITY OF LIFE

Concern about impact on wildlife

Concern about impact on surrounding area roads

Concern about changing the character of Spicewood Springs Road

Concern about additional car collisions with area deer if road is widened

MOBILITY

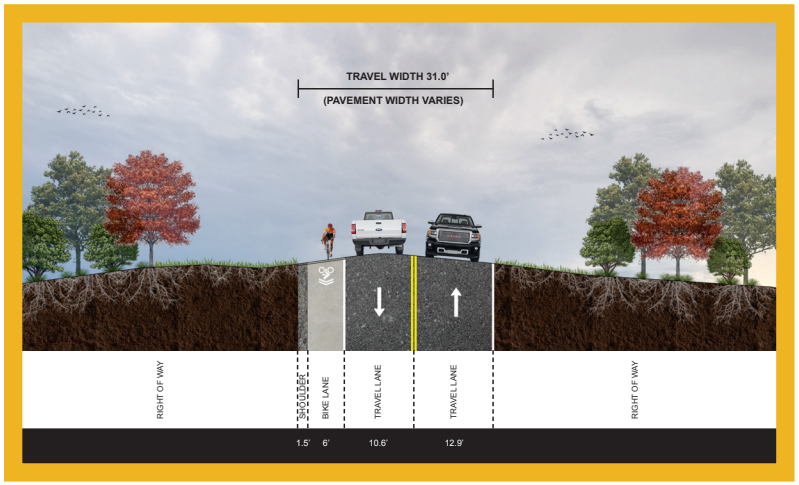
Concern about rush hour congestion

Challenging left turns into and out of driveways

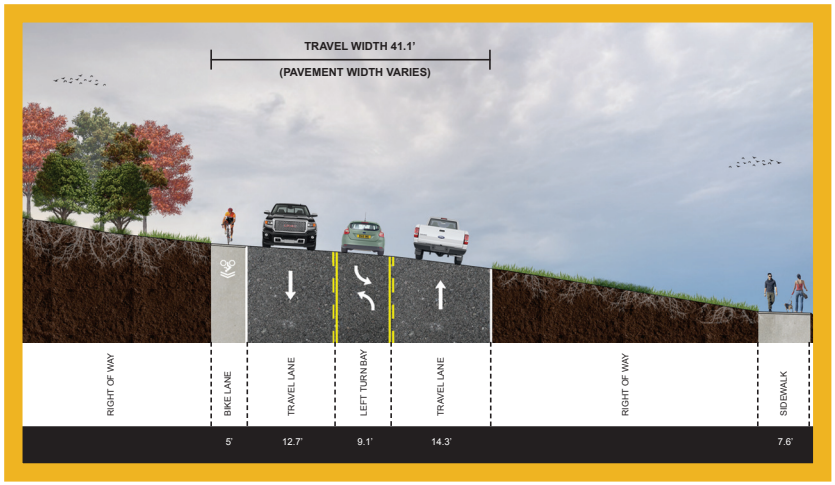
Desire to see more roadway signage

Concern about additional regional traffic

NO BUILD

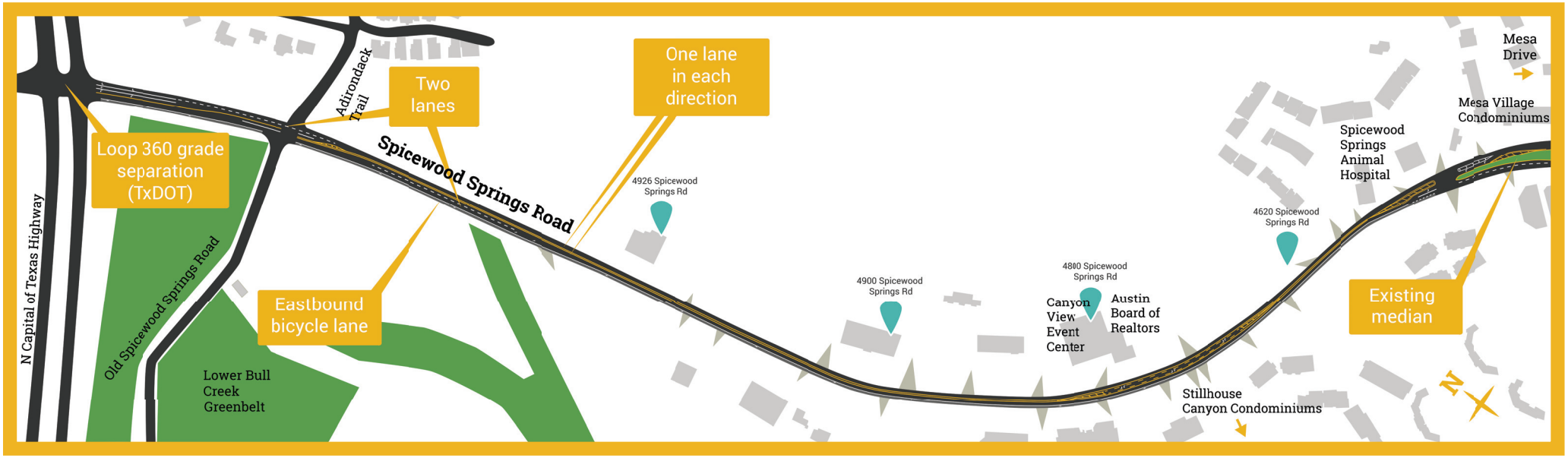


4900 - 4926 Spicewood Springs Rd



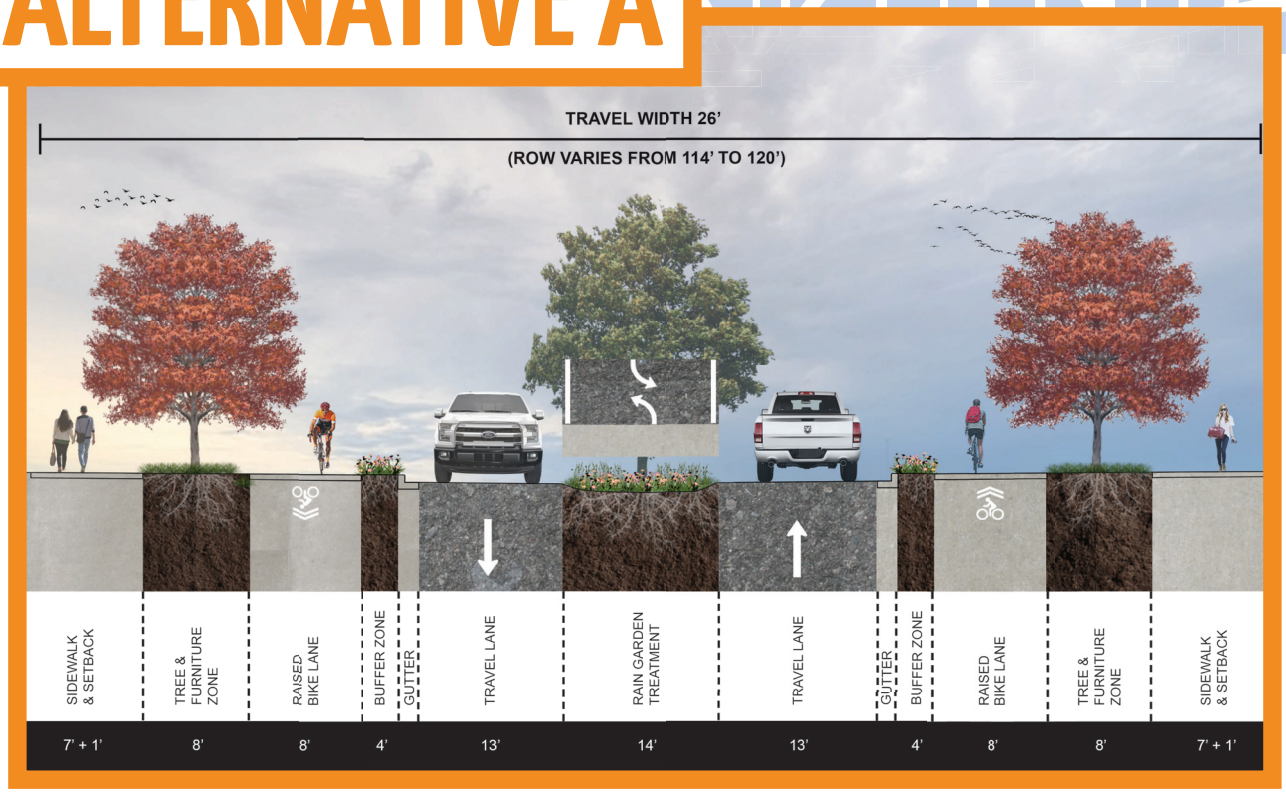
4620 - 4800 Spicewood Springs Rd

- No improvements made to current roadway
- Includes TxDOT's Loop 360 grade separation project

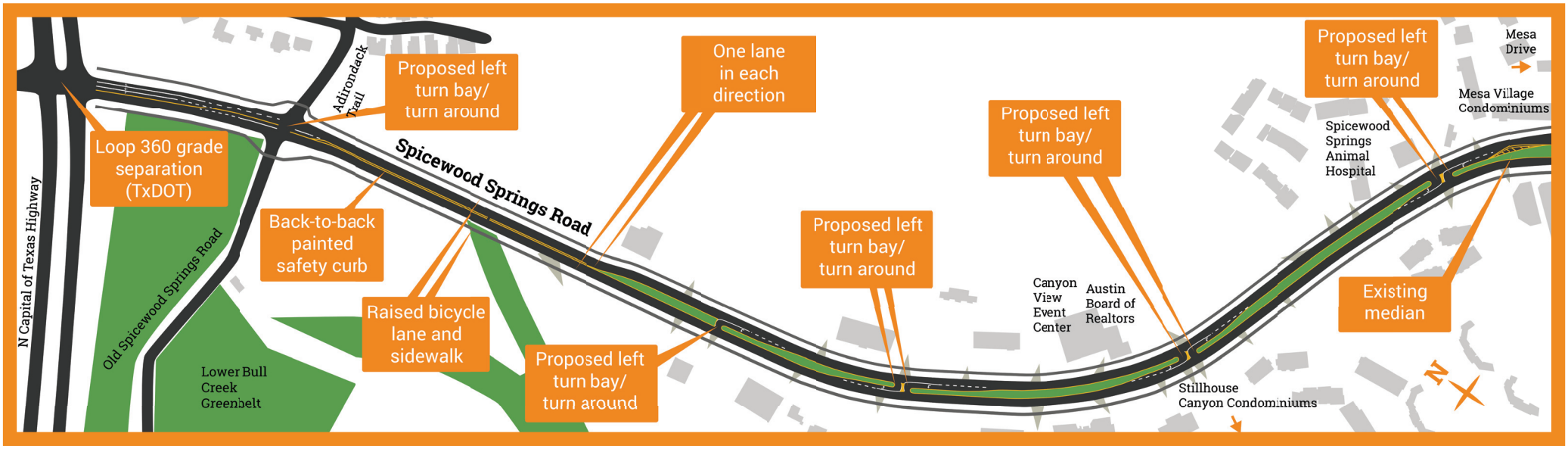


ALTERNATIVE A

POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS

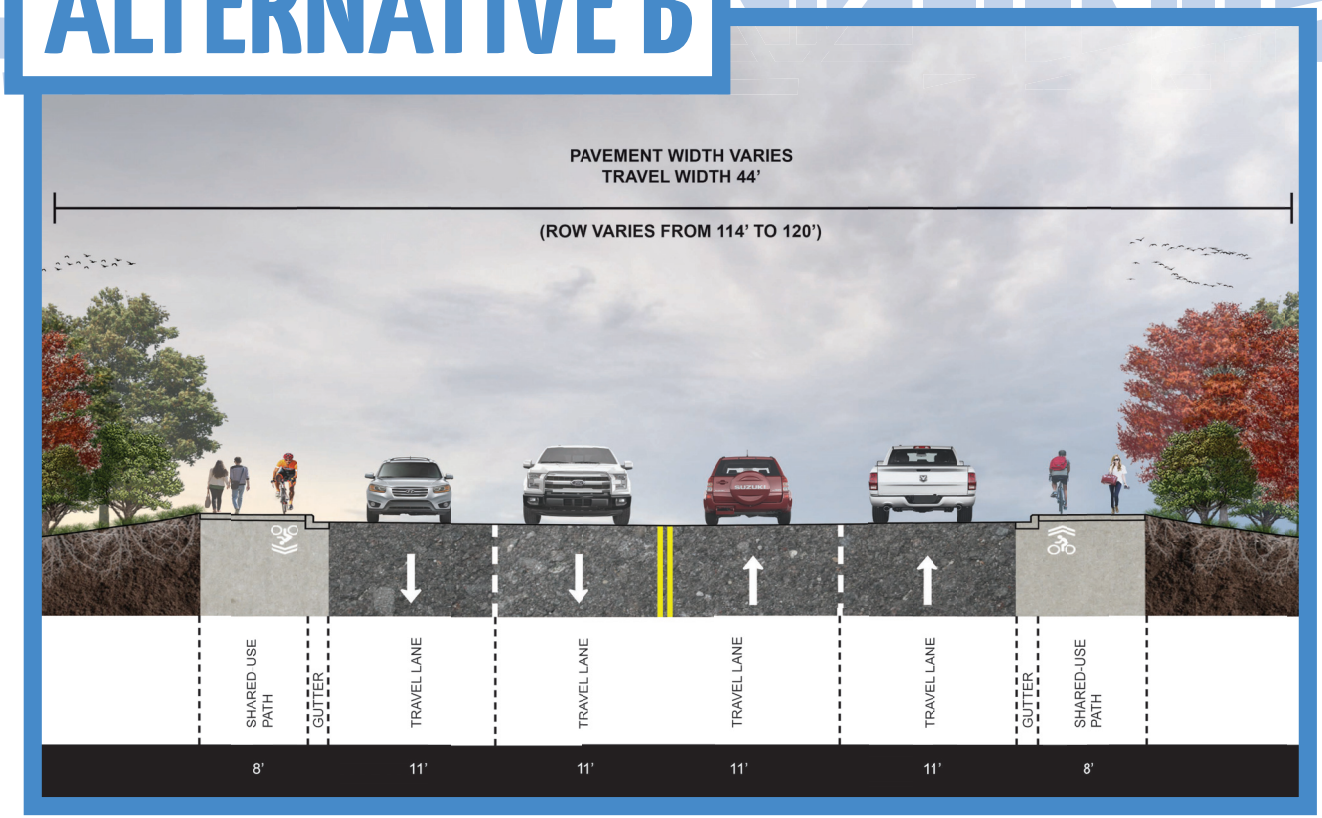


- One travel lane in each direction
- Center median with median gaps to allow left turns and U-turns at certain locations
- Separated raised bike lane and sidewalk facility
- New water quality elements in median

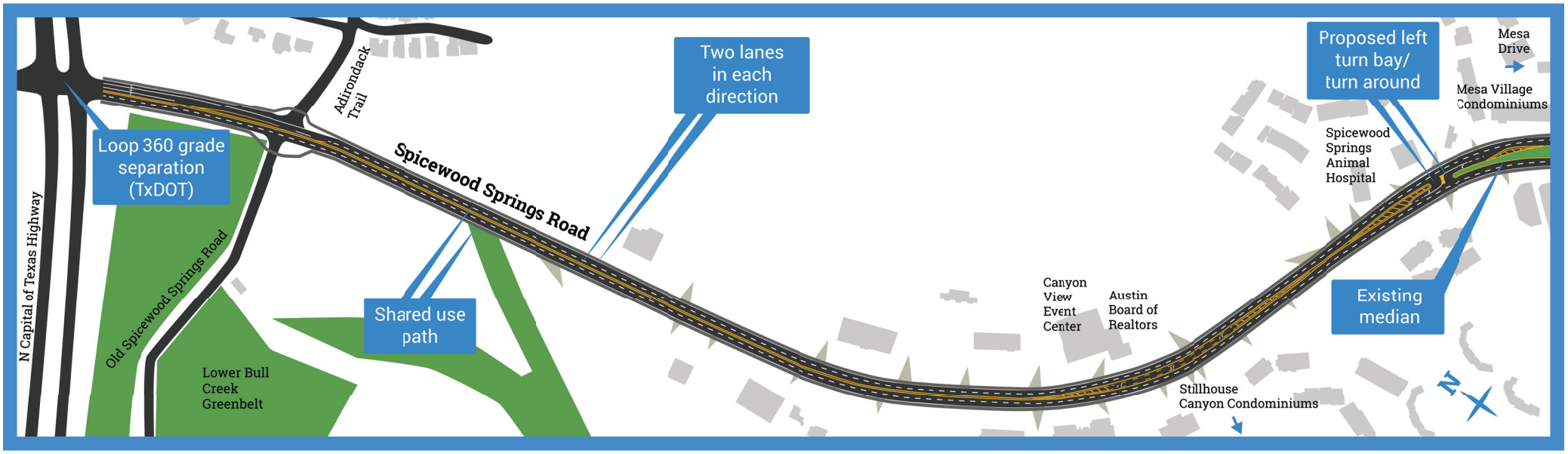


ALTERNATIVE B

POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS

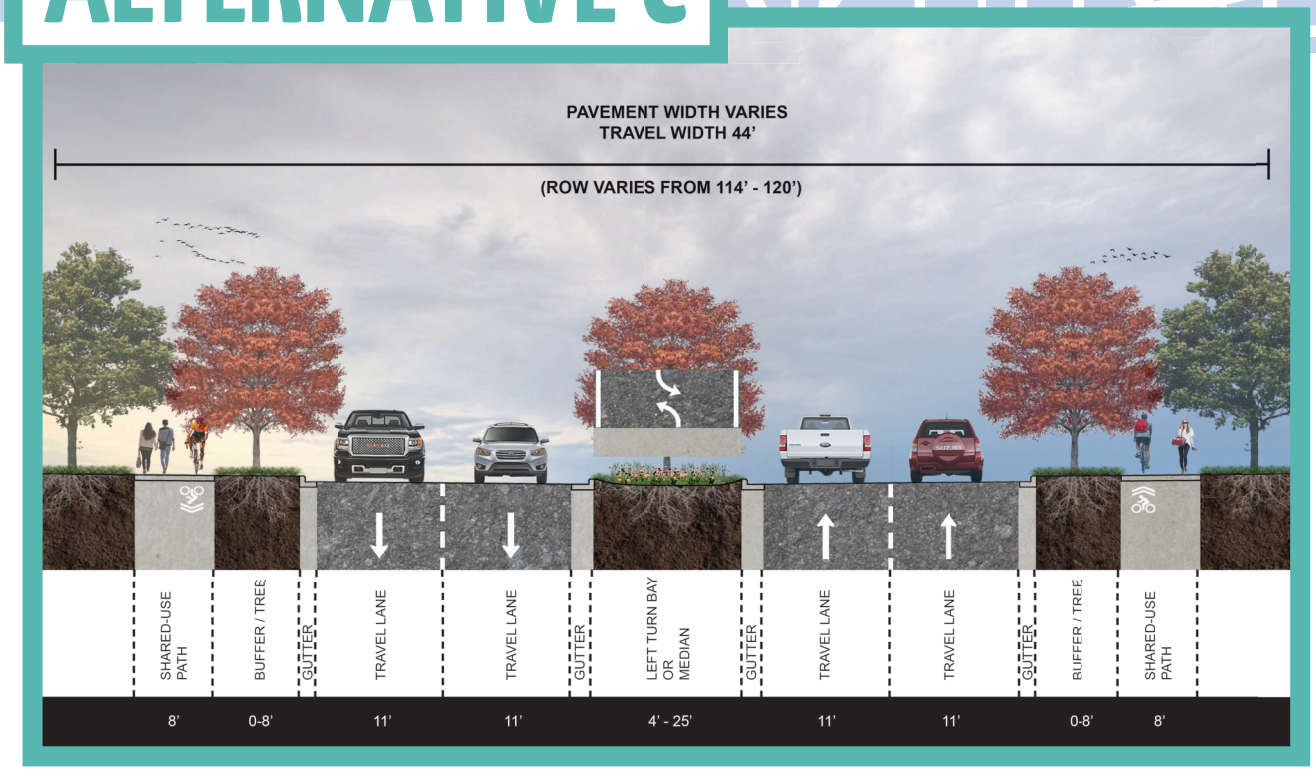


- Two travel lanes in each direction without a center turn lane or median
- Left and right turn access remain the same as present-day conditions
- Shared use path on both sides of the road for people walking, biking or using a wheelchair
- New water quality elements



ALTERNATIVE C

POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS



- Two travel lanes in each direction
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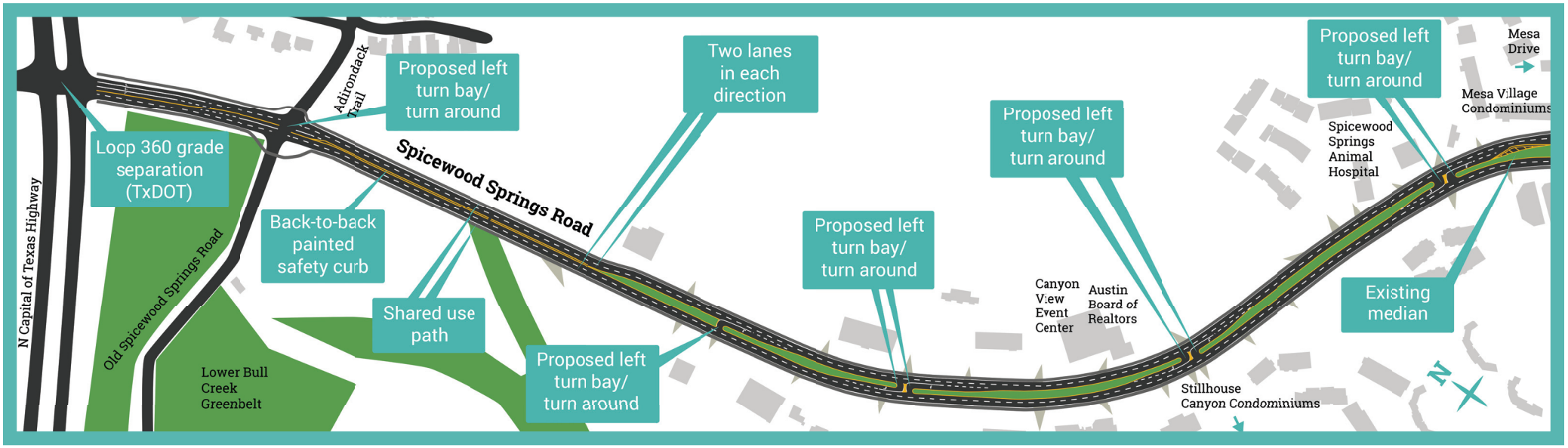
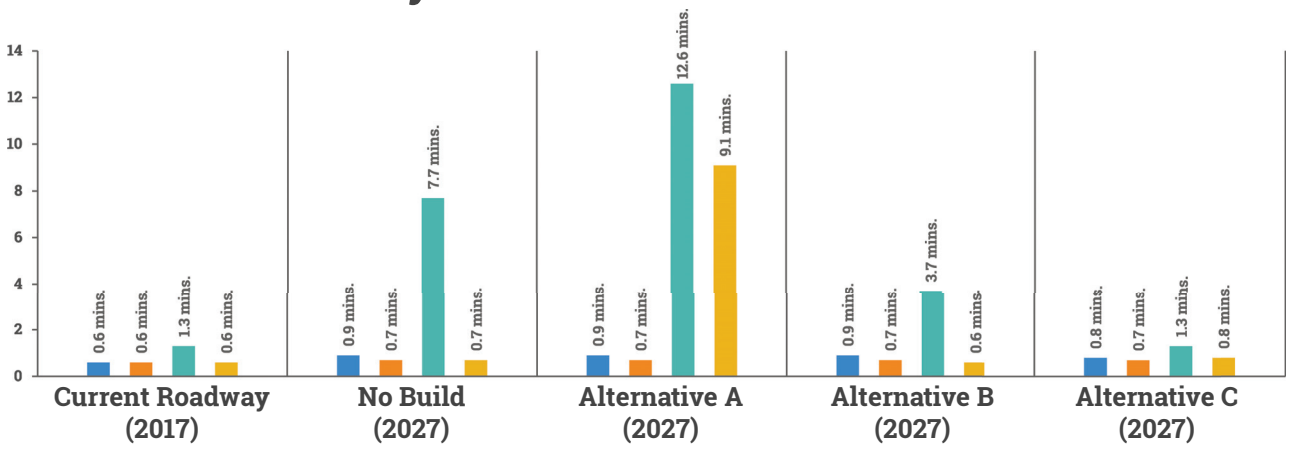


MOBILITY

Peak Hour Delay in Minutes



Time/Direction

- A.M. Westbound Commute
- A.M. Eastbound Commute
- P.M. Westbound Commute
- P.M. Eastbound Commute

Peak Hour Level of Service

Alternative	A.M. Westbound Commute	A.M. Eastbound Commute	P.M. Westbound Commute	P.M. Eastbound Commute
Current Roadway (2017)	C	C	D	C
No Build (2027)	C	C	F	C
Alternative A (2027)	C	C	F	F
Alternative B (2027)	C	C	F	C
Alternative C (2027)	C	C	D	C

Level of Service Grades

A = Free flow

B = Reasonably free flow

C = Stable flow

D = Approaching unstable flow

E = Unstable flow

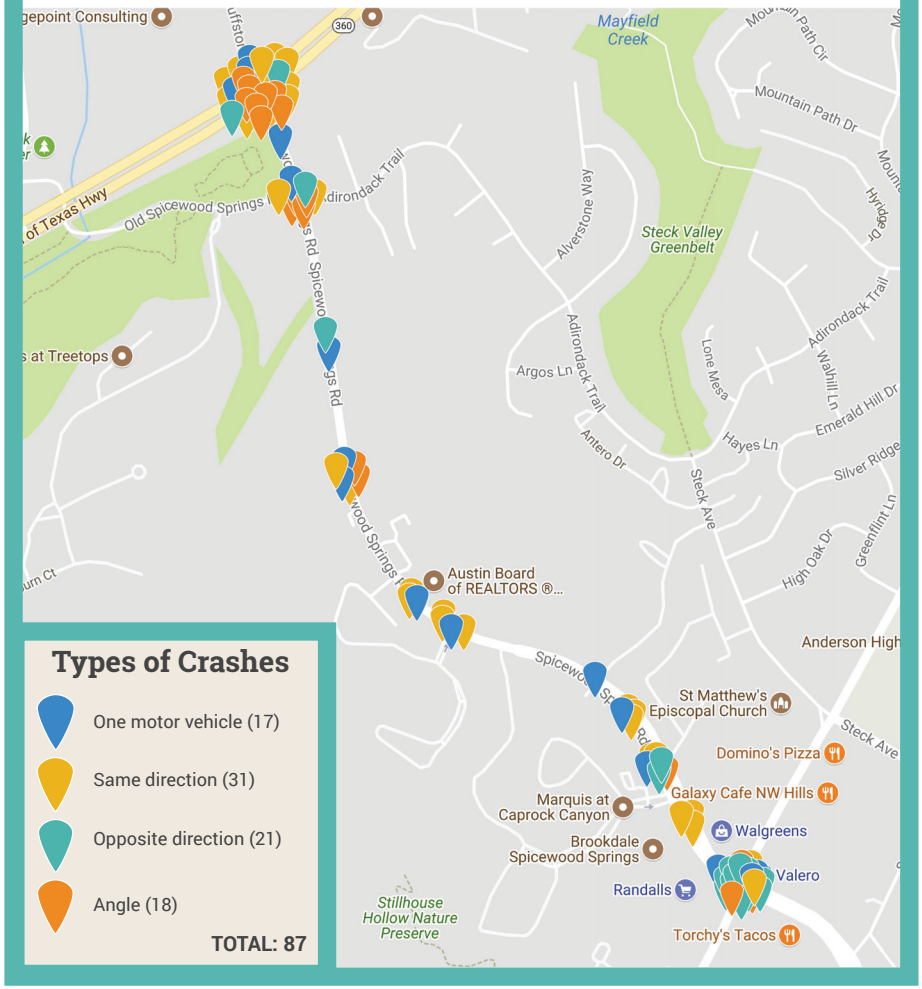
F = Gridlock

SAFETY

EXISTING ROADWAY

Vehicle Crash Locations

2012-2017



PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES

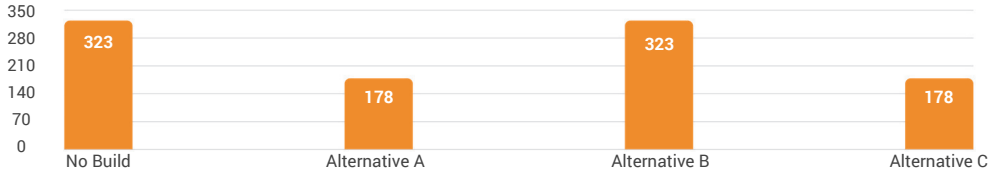
Potential Crash Reductions

- **Roughly 70%** fewer head-on crashes in **Alternative A** and **Alternative C** as a result of new medians*
- **Roughly 40%** fewer crashes of all types in **Alternative A** and **Alternative C** as a result of new medians*
- **25%** fewer bicycle and pedestrian-related crashes in **Alternative A, Alternative B** and **Alternative C** as a result of off-street bicycle and pedestrian facilities*

** CMF Clearinghouse (cmfclearinghouse.org) / USDOT FHWA*

Vehicle Conflict Points

Conflict points are points where the paths of two through or turning vehicles diverge, merge, or cross. They are associated with increased levels of roadway accidents.



PARTNER PROJECTS

Loop 360

- Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) studying Loop 360 and implementing improvements to increase pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular mobility and safety
- City of Austin contributing funding to four intersections along Loop 360, including Spicewood Springs Road/Bluffstone Lane
- Construction at Spicewood Springs Road/ Bluffstone could begin by FY2022

Learn more at Loop360Project.com

Old Spicewood Springs Rd Low Water Crossing

- City of Austin Watershed Protection Department recently completed feasibility study
- Study recommends closing low water crossing to motorized vehicular traffic for flood safety reasons
- Closure considered in conjunction with TxDOT's Loop 360 improvements

CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY

In late 2017, a Travis County Historical Commission member contacted the project team with information about possible historic sites and archaeological resources of significance in the Lower Bull Creek Greenbelt.

The City commissioned a Cultural Resource Survey to identify or rule out the existence of these items within the Spicewood Springs Road project limits, including any artifacts that may be buried below ground.

The Cultural Resource Survey found one possible historic resource within the project limits, which will be further evaluated during the design phase of the project.

NEXT STEPS

Community Feedback	Submit feedback on the draft alternatives: • At this open house • Online at **AustinTexas.gov/SpicewoodSpringsRd** from August 30 through September 14
Recommended Alternative	Staff will finalize one alternative for improvements this fall. This alternative will be carried into the design phase of the project.
Design Phase	The selected alternative will continue to be refined through the design phase of the project. This phase will last 1-3 years.
Construction	Construction will begin after the design phase and should be complete by 2024.
Continued Engagement	City staff will continue coordinating with stakeholders and the community throughout the life of this project.

CONNECT WITH US!

AustinTexas.gov/SpicewoodSpringsRd

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Facebook.com/ATXTransportation

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Capital Project Explorer: (Project ID 11880.001)

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