

TRAFFIC & PARKING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

October 25, 2021



October 25, 2021

- Announcement of deferrals and withdrawals
- Virtual Meeting Resolution
- Staff Liaison Appreciation
- Approval of September 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes
- Public Discussion Period
- Consent Items
- Public Hearing
- Staff Updates

Virtual Meeting Resolution

Written Staff Updates

- Duke Street Truck Traffic
- FY 2023 Budget Priorities

Public Discussion Period

Public Hearing Follow-Up

100 Block of King Street Closure

- Planning Commission Approval, Oct. 5
- City Council Approval, Oct. 16

Permanent Parklet Program

- Planning Commission Approval (Zoning Text Amendment)
Oct. 5
- City Council Approval, Oct. 16

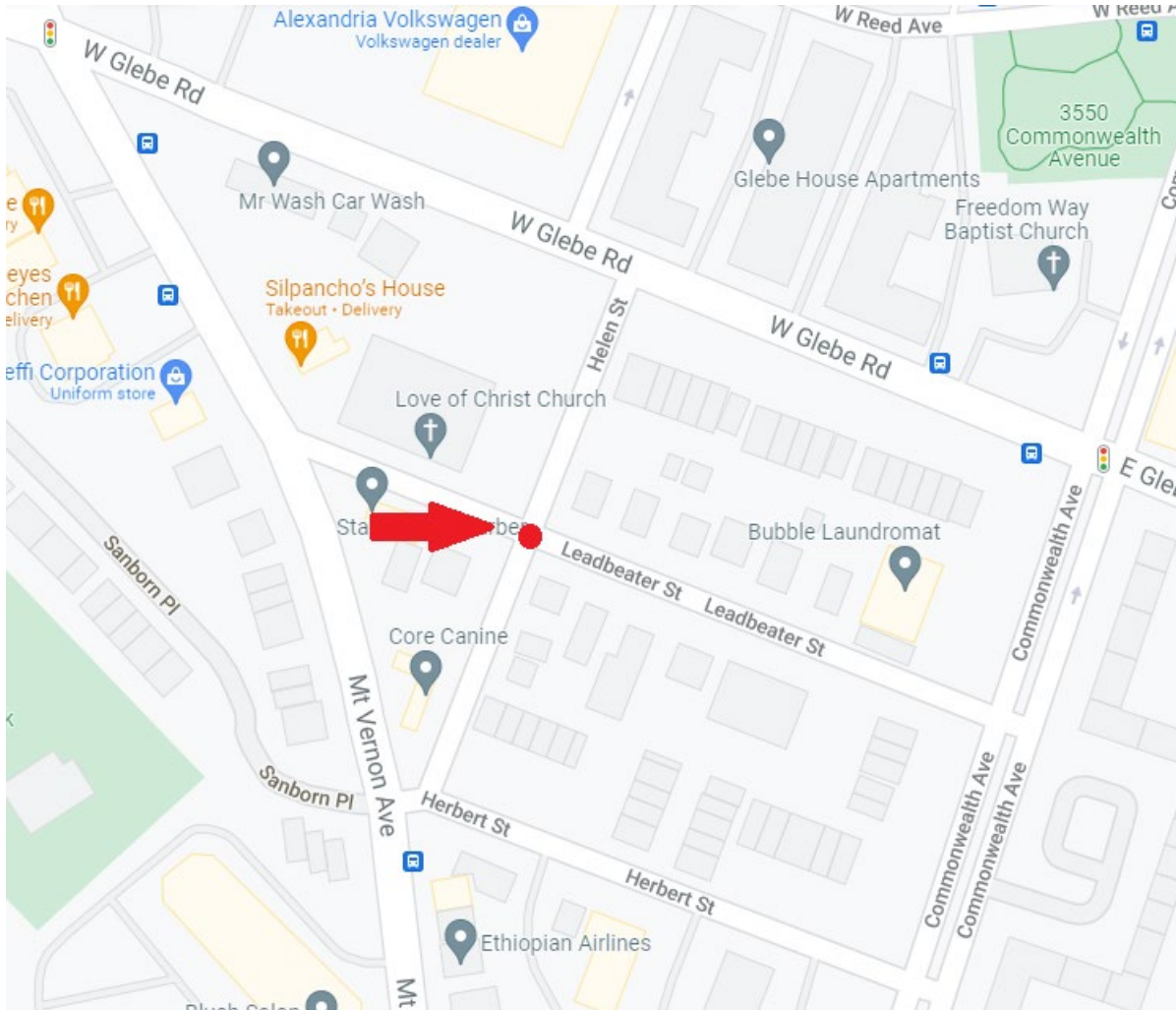
Removing a 20 ft of parking at the intersection of Helen Street and Leadbeater Street

Agenda Item 6

Presenter: Mr. Nguyen



Location



Street View



Modifying On-street Parking on Rayburn Avenue and Reading Avenue for Safety Improvements

Agenda Item 7

Presenter: Ms. Carroll



Background

2017 John Adams Elementary Safe Routes to School Walk Audit

- Recommended at the following locations:
 - New and upgraded high-visibility crosswalks
 - New and upgraded curb ramps
 - Median refuge areas

Rayburn Avenue & Reading Avenue Safe Routes to School Project

- Supports Complete Streets Policy by completing improvements in coordination with street resurfacing
- Project objectives based on existing plans and community input:
 - Make crossing the street safer and more convenient
 - Implement Safe Routes to School and Transportation Master Plan recommendations
 - Improve safety around John Adams Elementary, especially for children
 - Add and improve curb ramps for people using strollers or wheelchairs
 - Fill sidewalk gaps, where feasible
 - Balance safety and access improvements with residents' parking needs

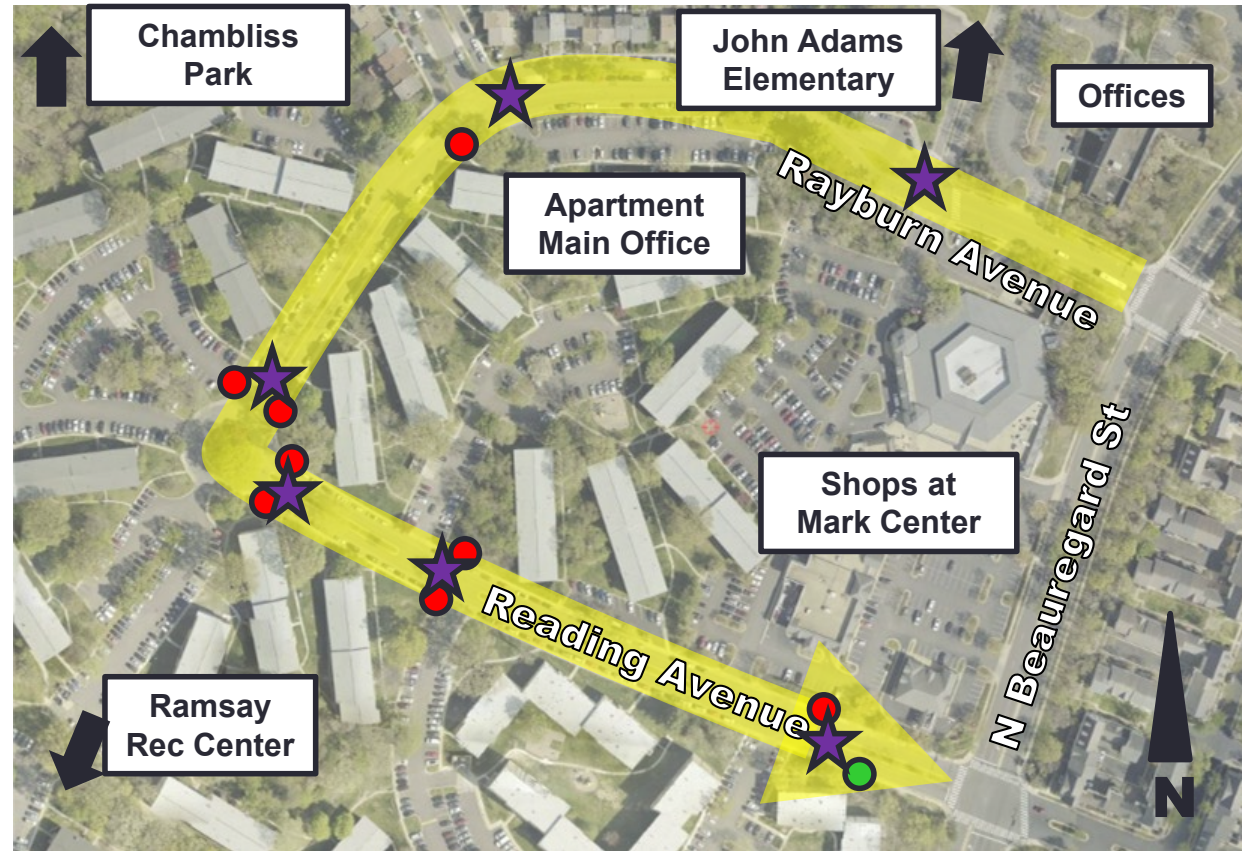
Locations

Summary

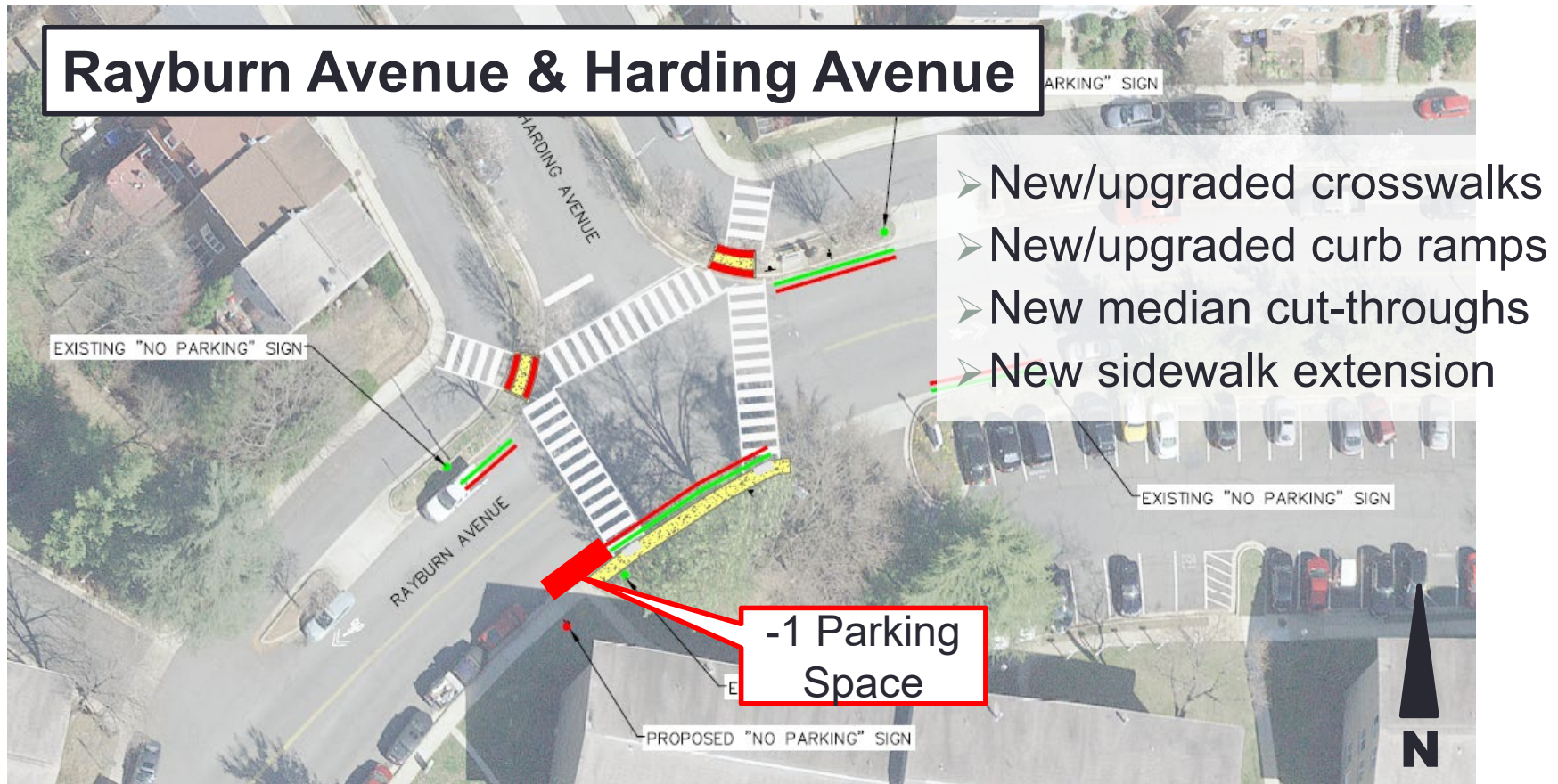
+5 parking spaces added
 -9 parking spaces removed
 = **Net reduction of 4 spaces**

Map Legend:

- Project Area
- Parking Removed
- Parking Added
- New Crosswalks



Locations



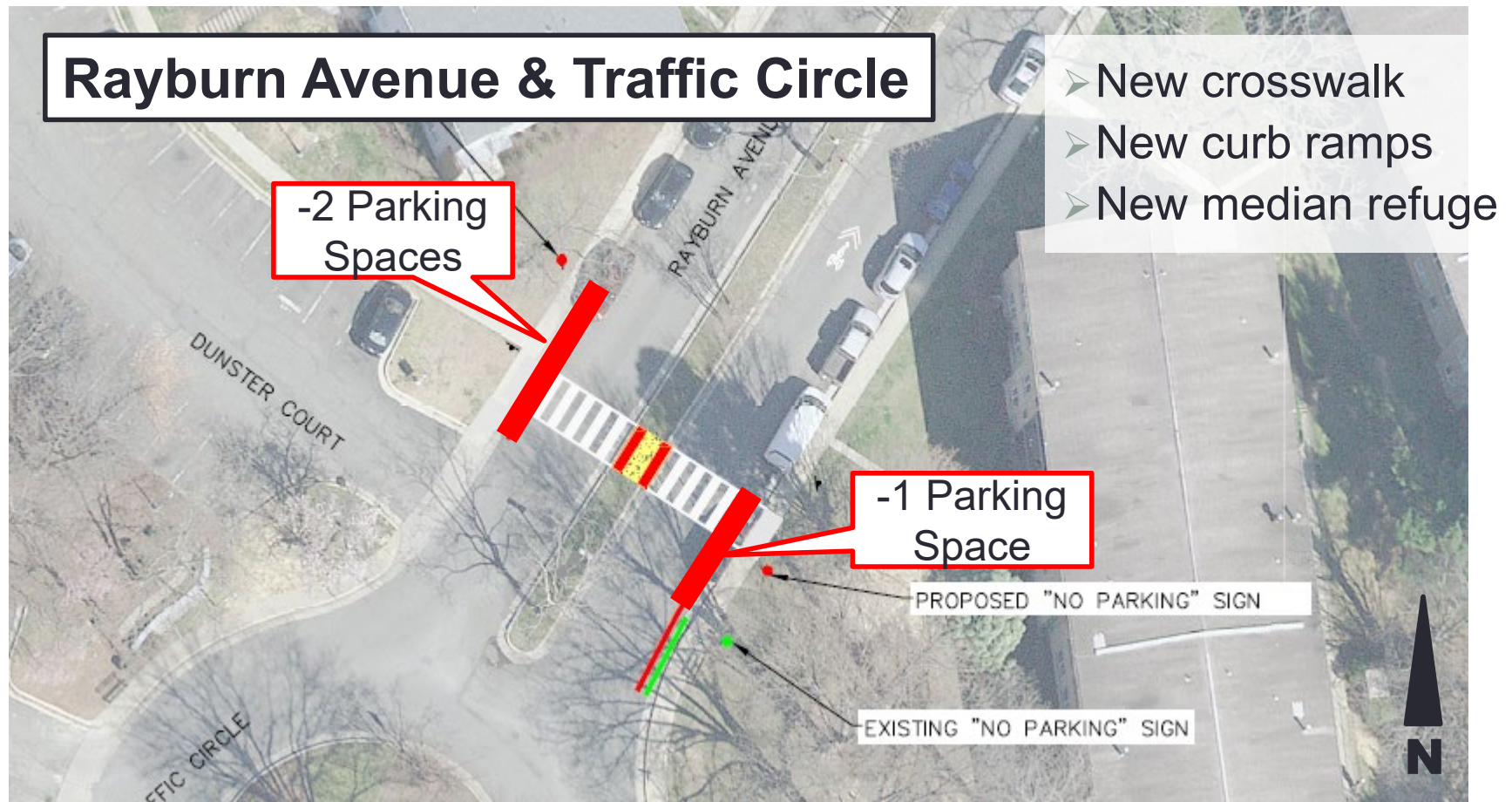
Legend

— Existing No Parking

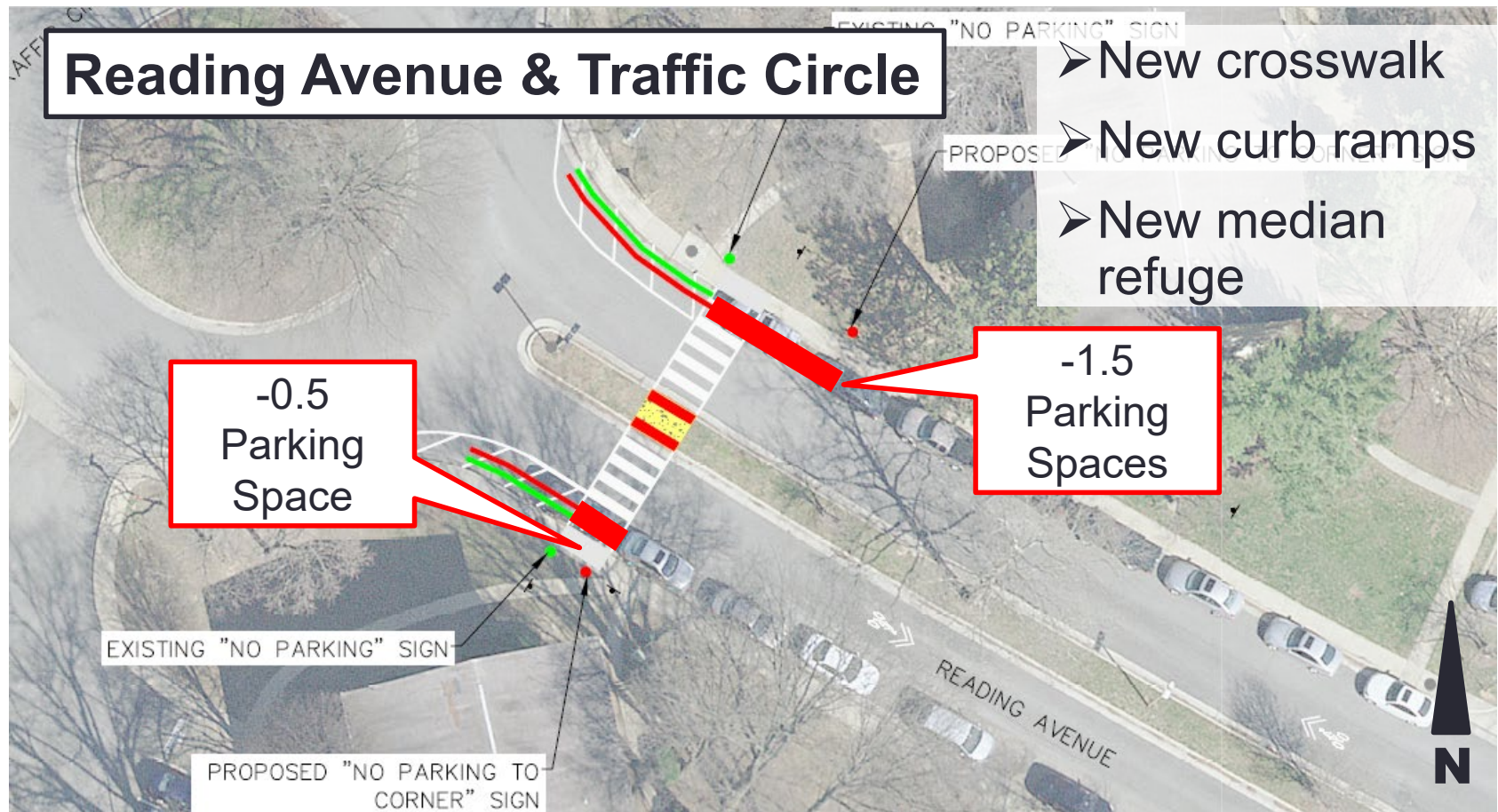
— Proposed No Parking

— Parking Removed

Locations



Locations



Legend

— Existing No Parking

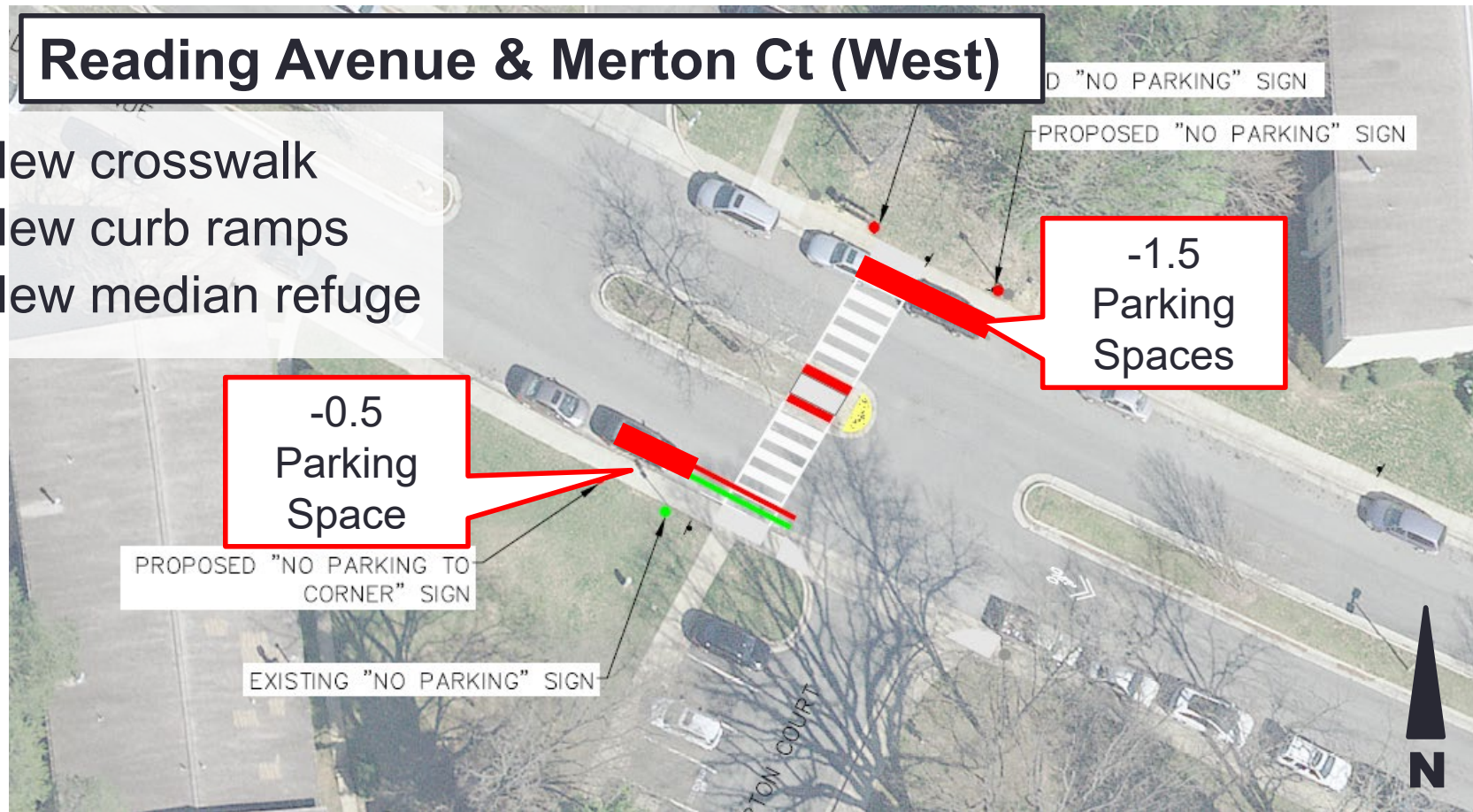
— Proposed No Parking

■ Parking Removed

Locations

Reading Avenue & Merton Ct (West)

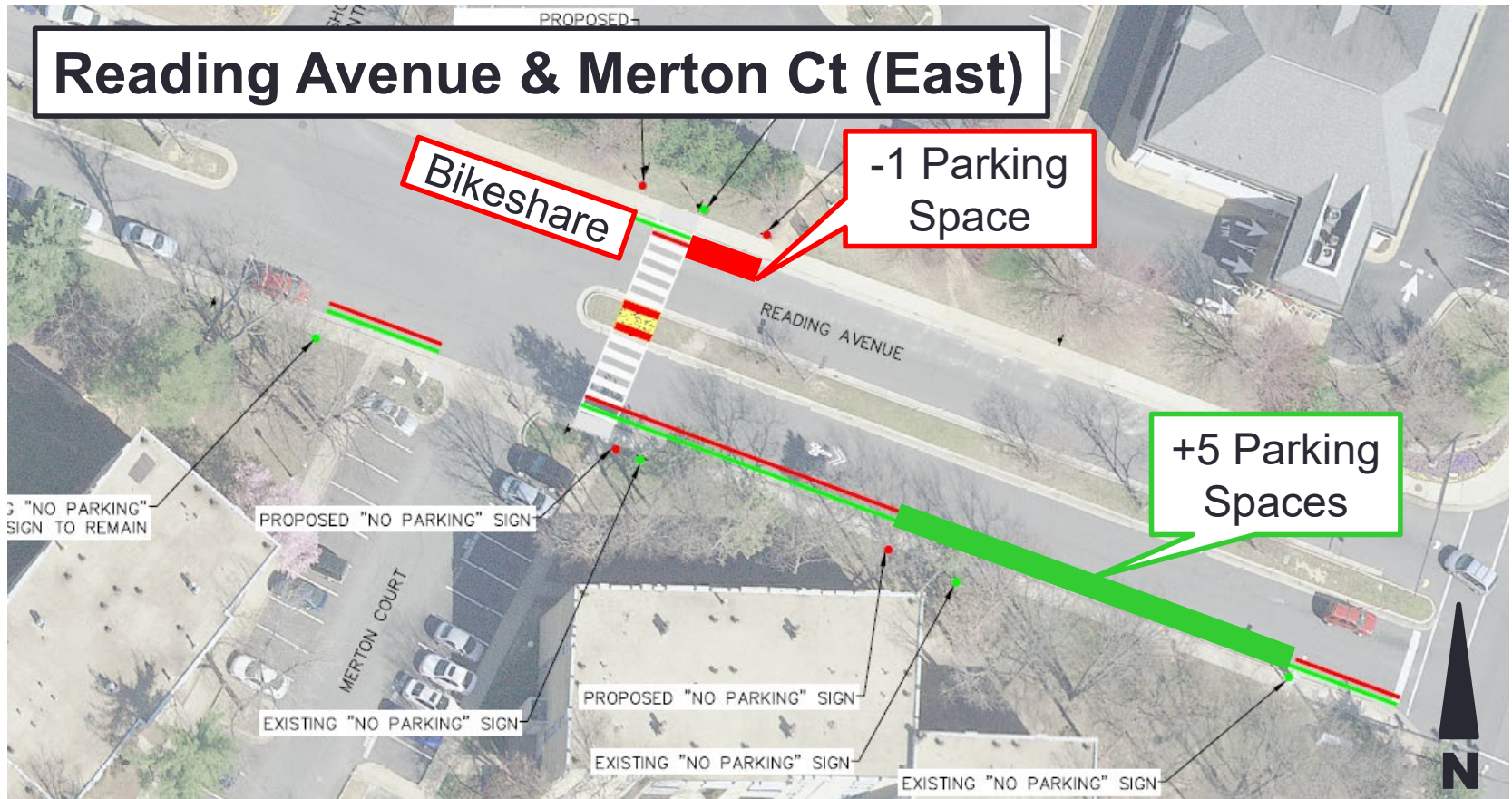
- New crosswalk
- New curb ramps
- New median refuge



Legend

- Existing No Parking
- Proposed No Parking
- Parking Removed

Locations



Legend



Existing No Parking

Proposed No Parking

Parking Removed

Parking Added

Community Engagement

Parent Travel Survey (2020)

Repaving Feedback Form
(2020)

Draft Design Feedback Form
(2021)

Direct Outreach to Property
Owner and Apartment Manager

Takeaways:

- Safety of intersections and crossings is a concern
- Some concern expressed regarding parking changes
- Of 10 respondents, most agreed that it was worth removing parking to add new crosswalks and that the project would improve safety for children and families

Staff Recommendation

Remove 9 parking spaces and add 5 parking spaces, for a **net reduction of four spaces** across the 0.5 mile project area to support pedestrian safety and access improvements

Staff Updates



▼ Duke Street Traffic Mitigation Pilots



What's Happening Now?

Proposed short term traffic pilots to move traffic on Duke Street and reduce cut-through traffic on neighborhood streets

Test scenarios to see what happens to traffic when we make changes and monitor behavior and response to changes

Why Now?



Community feedback from Alexandria Mobility Plan and Duke Street in Motion input processes



Availability of data platform to more easily analyze what happens when we make changes



Longer term projects exist but take time



Because the community asked for action – and we've been talking about this for 10+ years!

What's Happening Later?

Duke Street Bus Rapid Transit



Smart Mobility – Adaptive
Signals Project



Duke Street Access Ramp to Telegraph
Road



What's the Plan?

Pilot 1 – January through March 2022

- 4pm to 7pm – PM Peak period
- Increase signal timing for traffic on Quaker Lane and along Duke Street to get onto Telegraph Road
- Decrease signal timing on side streets to make cutting through the neighborhood a less attractive (and less fast) option

Pilot 2 – August 2022 through January 2023

- If Pilot 1 is a success, reinstall AND
- Prohibit direct access to Telegraph Road from West Taylor Run Parkway

Goal – Keep cut-through traffic on the arterials and off neighborhood residential streets



What does this mean?

In the first few weeks, more vehicles could queue on neighborhood streets until they realize those routes are not faster

If you live in the neighborhood and want to access Duke Street before 4pm and 7pm, it could take you longer

More traffic might cut through Alexandria from 395 if it is the fastest route to Telegraph Road and Fairfax County

Ultimately, less traffic might cut-through neighborhood streets



How will we measure success?

Travel Times:

- Decrease travel times on arterial routes and increase travel times on neighborhood streets

Origin-Destination:

- Decrease percent of vehicles turning left onto Janney's Lane and using neighborhood streets to access Telegraph Road (i.e. from 50% to 30%).

Volume:

- Increase volume of traffic on Quaker Lane and decrease traffic on neighborhood streets

Pilot 1 Timeline

Fall 2021: Targeted community outreach, Board and Commission briefings

December 2021 – Broad community & Regional outreach and notification

January – March 2022: Signal timing changes go into effect

January – February: Staff monitoring and tweaking signals as needed

March: Staffing using data to make additional tweaks

March 30, 2022: Signal timing goes back to previous conditions

May: data processing and evaluation*

June: Report on findings



Pilot 2 Timeline

Winter 2022: Community engagement on intersection design & criteria for success

Spring 2022: Board & Commission input and public hearings

April/May 2022 Traffic and Parking Board consideration of pilot

June/July 2022: City Council consideration of pilot

August 2022 through January 2023: If approved, implement Pilot

February through March 2023 – data processing and evaluation*

April 2023: Report on findings & develop proposed path forward

*Data lags 6 weeks



Community Participation – Civic Association Leadership

Input & agreement on BEFORE data period

Input & agreement on criteria for success

Input & agreement on measures of success



Our Promise

Transparency

- Frequent communication
- Website and social media updates
- Project email updates

A pilot is a PILOT only

- Clear start and end dates
- Clear data driven criteria and measures for success

Timely actions and response

- Report on data findings within a month after all data is available



Questions & Comments