



BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN PATH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

8:15-9:30 AM

**2nd floor Conference Room
3 Washington St, City Hall**

Members:

Drew Bryenton, Chair
Todd Horner, Vice Chair
Andrew Madison, Councilor
Dillon Benik
Jan Manwaring
Michael Davern
Dr. Rowland Russell

Dr. Chris Brehme, Alternate
Charles Redfern, Alternate
Janelle Sartorio, Alternate
Sam Jackson, Alternate
Autumn DelaCroix, Alternate

- 1) Call to Order and Roll Call
- 2) May 10, 2023 Minutes
- 3) Jeff Speck Workshop opportunity follow up
- 4) Kiosk Map Updates
- 5) Downtown Infrastructure Project Discussion
- 6) Old Business
Volunteer Opportunities
Trail clean ups (planned)
Bike Friendly Community
- 7) Regular Project Updates
- 8) New Business
- Items to be included for next meeting
- 9) More Time
Public Art and the Trails Update
Project Priorities
BPPAC Website
Wayfinding/Amenities: North and South Bridge Signage
Bike/Pedestrian Counts
- 10) Adjournment
Next meeting date – July 12, 2023

1 **City of Keene**
2 **New Hampshire**

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5 **BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PATH ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
6 **MEETING MINUTES**
7

Wednesday, May 10, 2023

8:15 AM

**2nd Floor Conference Room,
City Hall**

Members Present:

Drew Bryenton, Chair
Todd Horner, Vice Chair
Jan Manwaring, Member
Michael Davern, Member
Dr. Rowland Russell, Member
Charles Redfern, Alternate
Autumn Delacroix, Alternate
Sam Jackson, Alternate

Staff Present:

William Schoefmann, GIS Technician
Andy Bohannon, Parks, Recreation,
Cemeteries and Facilities Director
Kürt Blomquist, Public
Works/EMD/ACM

Guests:

Mike Kowalczyk, Panelist (zoom)

Members Not Present:

Andrew Madison, Councilor
Dillon Benik, Member
Dr. Chris Brehme, Alternate
Janelle Sartorio, Alternate

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10 **1) Call to Order and Roll Call**

11 Chair Drew Bryenton called the meeting to order at 8:17 AM. Roll call was made. It was noted
12 that Mr. Charles Redfern will be sitting as a member.
13

14 **2) Approval of April 12, 2023 Minutes**

15 Chair Bryenton asked for corrections for the April 12th minutes. Dr. Rowland Russell requested
16 the title Mr. be corrected to Dr. With no other edits, Chair Bryenton requested a motion to
17 approve the minutes. Mr. Todd Horner moved to approve the minutes from April 12th, 2023 and
18 the motion was seconded by Mrs. Jan Manwaring.
19

20 **3) Jeff Speck Workshop Opportunity**

21 Mr. Horner informed that Mr. Roger Weinrich, owner of Good Fortune, reached out to him last
22 week informing him that Mr. Weinrich had reached out to Mr. Jeff Speck. Mr. Speck is a
23 walkability expert and speaks and works around the world. As the city continues to consider
24 what should be done about public space and infrastructure in the downtown area, it would be
25 great to bring someone with Mr. Speck's experience and insight in to consult on the project. Mr.

26 Horner had a preliminary call with the Mayor and City Manager and both seemed supportive, but
27 Mr. Horner shared that it was made clear that fundraising will be required in order to support Mr.
28 Speck's fee of \$12,000. While substantial, this includes a downtown walking tour with key
29 decision makers, a reception before the event with key stakeholders, a public session with
30 members of the general public and a follow up breakfast session the following morning with key
31 decision makers.

32 Alternates Janelle Sartorio and Sam Jackson joined the meeting.

33 Both Mr. Weinrich and Mr. Horner think his time and expertise is well worth the investment.

34 They added that his presentation and recommendations would not be cookie cutter as he would
35 tailor them specific to Keene. Currently, Mr. Horner is in fundraising mode. The Keene
36 Downtown Group is sponsoring the event and kicking in \$1,000. They are launching a campaign
37 on the Local Crowd Monadnock and they will be kicking in \$1,000. The Monadnock Co-Op has
38 agreed to match up to \$2,000 in donations. Mr. Weinrich is also starting some fundraising with
39 local businesses. He has already conversed with The Works, who are willing to donate and have
40 also agreed to cater the event.

41 The idea is to approach the city to match dollar for dollar of what they can raise from the
42 community. Mr. Weinrich was able to get on the Finance, Operations and Personnel (FOP)
43 committee agenda. He and Mr. Horner will be attending their meeting this Thursday evening to
44 ask for their contribution of that \$5,000.

45 Mr. Redfern asked if they had considered an appearance on radio shows with Chris Coates or
46 Dan Mitchell. Mr. Horner said they had discussed reaching out to Dan Mitchell.

47 Mr. Horner shared one challenge is Mr. Speck's schedule in that the only day he has available
48 for the foreseeable future is June 12th. This creates a situation where they are fundraising and
49 promoting the event at the same time.

50 Mr. Horner asked the group for assistance and help in identifying organizations or businesses
51 that might be willing to kick in smaller amounts of money. He also requested members'
52 assistance in getting the word out about the Local Crowd Monadnock campaign and of the event
53 itself.

54 Mr. Horner explained that if this group might consider voting to support the event, he could
55 utilize that in promoting and trying to garner support from the FOP committee this Thursday.

56 Chair Bryenton asked if the Mayor and City Manager were supportive of the event and potential
57 match. Mr. Horner said he thought they were supportive, but that they wanted to see community
58 and city council support as well. Chair Bryenton asked if Mr. Horner had any pulse of where the
59 city council stood. Mr. Horner shared that he would gather that from the Thursday meeting.

60 Mr. Kürt Blomquist joined the meeting.

61 Dr. Rowland Russell asked Mr. Horner if he needed help planning. Mr. Horner responded yes
62 and thanked him for the offer. Dr. Russell asked if he had approached bike shops yet and
63 suggested Mr. Horner do that. Mr. Davern offered to reach out to both shops and the Monadnock
64 Cycling club, to which Mr. Horner thanked him.

65 Mr. Mike Kowalczyk shared that in general, Dan Mitchell seems to be opposed to bike
66 infrastructure. He thinks it would be a good thing to get on his show and possibly sway him. He
67 also suggested Chris Coates and John McGauley.

68 Chair Bryenton asked if Mr. Horner wanted a motion or a letter. Mr. Horner requested a letter
69 from BPPAC supporting the agenda. Mr. Bryenton put forth a motion stating, “BPPAC supports
70 Jeff Speck coming to Keene to discuss improvements in walkability and multimodal
71 transportation solutions and encourages the City of Keene to support a financial contribution of
72 \$5,000 for the visit”.

73 With unanimous support from the committee, the motion was approved. Chair Bryenton thanked
74 Mr. Horner for his work on this topic and event.

75

76 **4) Downtown Infrastructure Project Update**

77 Mr. Blomquist stated he thought those were all great ideas and that the committee should pursue
78 them. He informed the committee that on Monday, May 15th, 2023, at 6PM in Council
79 Chambers, the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure (MSFI) committee starts their
80 special review of the downtown projects and one of the decisions the chair has identified is
81 multi-use facilities. Mr. Blomquist suggested members reach out to Councilors.

82 Mr. Blomquist provided some background information on what options are on the table for the
83 committee. Mr. Schoefmann said Monday is a key decision point and urged everyone to show
84 up.

85 Chair Bryenton asked for clarification on his understanding that this was a fairly binary decision
86 of whether to include or eliminate the infrastructure and that this committee was a subset of City
87 Council, but that they had potential to influence City Council.

88 Mr. Blomquist supported his understanding and added that it would require 8 votes to overturn
89 the committee’s recommendation.

90 Mr. Redfern suggested Mr. Horner ask the committee to explain the exact routes they are
91 purposing and to hold them accountable for the fact that the alternatives really have not been
92 properly researched, identified or planned. Mr. Schoefmann added he thought that it really has
93 not been well thought out.

94 Mr. Andy Bohannon noted three points. First being that the University of New Hampshire study
95 focused on bringing bikes downtown and the council accepted that.

96 Secondly, because of that report the city received \$35,000 from the rotary club for
97 wayfinding/amenities signs to get people to downtown and council accepted that \$35,000.

98 Thirdly, they accepted a donation from Pathways of Keene of \$30,000 to help build the
99 infrastructure of the trail system. He questioned what it says to an organization that has donated
100 over \$700,000 to the City, By shutting the trail system down into the footprint. In his opinion, if
101 he was a donor and heard this, it would be disappointing and unfortunate to say the least.

102 Mr. Schoefmann said it is on the people of the committee to mobilize support.

103 Chair Bryenton asked for any other questions or comments. He asked if folks had councilors in
104 mind for who to contact. Dr. Russell offered to reach out to Antioch. Mr. Schoefmann suggested
105 reaching out to Keene Pride.

106 Mr. Redfern asked if the biggest sticking point was parking. Mr. Blomquist responded that
107 parking is always an issue, but the thirteen lost spaces will likely be made up. It is an argument
108 being used but is not a primary driver.

109 Mr. Russell circled back to Mr. Bohannon’s discussion of funding in support and pointed out that
110 another to add to the list is the transportation heritage trail and all the funding being used for that.

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Project Priorities

Chair Bryenton welcomed Ms. Autumn Delacroix and Ms. Sam Jackson to the conversation and said this portion is a great opportunity to understand the priorities of the group.

Mr. Schoefmann explained the BPPAC project priority assessment tool and how he came up with his pre-ranking.

Chair Bryenton asked Mr. Schoefmann if the ID and the BPPAC numbering were the same as last year. Mr. Schoefmann stated there were some that were consolidated, which likely affected the numbering.

Cheshire Rail Trail is grant supported with TAPP grant funding along with some congressionally directed spending. Once a project agreement is completed, they will amend it with the congressionally directed spending. Mr. Redfern said he believed that should remain a high priority.

The Roundhouse T Widening is a project looking at sidewalks between Emerald and School. The project proposes widening them to 8-foot sections rather than the current 6-foot section. The group rated that as a low priority.

The Jonathan Daniels Trail Maintenance includes drainage, brush clearing, tree cutting, grading and stone dust resurfacing. Mr. Blomquist said it is slated to happen in summer depending on estimates. The group agreed to keep that as a high priority.

Mr. Schoefmann explained that Cheshire Rail Trail North/ Stone Arch Bridge is in the third phase. Mr. Blomquist explained that both bridges will likely be built at the same time in the future and the crossing over Swanzey Factory Road will be done sometime after. Mr. Schoefmann explained the committee should be ready to help support if those opportunities arise. This has been placed on a historical registry so creating a subcommittee might be a way the committee can support this endeavor.

Mr. Redfern shared that in writing grants, he has been getting questions from donors asking what the money is going to and what is the order of the phases. He suggested remaining as flexible as possible in the specifics of the grant writing. Mr. Schoefmann explained that the bridges were conceptualized as phase two. The Swanzey Factory Road portion would be phase three.

Mr. Mike Kowalczyk shared that they are making significant improvements to those trails. The committee agreed to keep that as a high priority.

The Cheshire Rail Trail Swanzey Factory Road is planned for further down the road. Chair Bryenton suggested that this be placed as a medium priority. Mr. Schoefmann explained there are a couple of things that need to happen for this to be considered a usable project. It was agreed to keep it as a medium priority.

The Cheshire Rail Trail Victoria Street Extension is down off of Marlboro St. There have been thoughts over the years to connect Victoria to Marlboro to address the fact that Victoria is industrial and surrounded by residential. It was suggested and agreed to keep that project as a medium priority.

The Appel Way Assessment and Maintenance was suggested as a low priority.

The Marlboro Line Trail is an old concept with low priority as it is fragmented. It was explained that this is a right-of-way system owned by Antioch.

153 Mr. Kowalczyk said he is starting to get asked about the Keene to Nashua line that comes off
154 Carpenter Street. It is not a lot of momentum, but he is starting to get some questions. He does
155 not think it is going to go anywhere anytime soon but wanted to bring it to the attention of the
156 committee.

157

158 **5) Old Business**

159 **A) Public Art and the Trails Update**

160 Dr. Russell updated that he is still waiting to get go ahead from city. In the meantime, they are
161 meeting at May 10th at 5pm to do an inventory of possible mural and potentially sculptural
162 sights as well.

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164 **B) Volunteer Opportunities**

165 **i) Earth Day (recap)**

166 Mr. Redfern shared the tabling went well, but thinks more promotional material is definitely
167 needed for future.

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169 **ii) Greenup Keene/ Trail Clean Up (recap)**

170 Dr. Russell shared that only 3 people showed, but they picked up 13 bags of garbage.

171

172 **iii) Bike Friendly Community**

173 Mr. Schoefmann will look at the application and try to segment out material and items that need
174 background or research to bring it to the next meeting.

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176 **6) Regular Project Updates**

177 **A) Safe Streets for All Grant**

178 Mr. Schoefmann shared he has a meeting with Mr. Jesse Rounds later today and can share status
179 later.

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181 **7) New Business**

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183 Mr. Redfern mentioned Mr. Peter Ponessa and Dr. Russell were planning a fixture for the Rail
184 Trail. Dr. Russell explained that Mr. Ponessa is quite busy, but he will reach out to him for an
185 update for next month.

186

187 **8) More Time**

188 **A) BPPAC Website**

189 Mr. Schoefmann got a request for the original bike plan from 1996 and is still trying to find that.
190 He plans to ask Ms. Rebecca Landry for editing permissions to move forward with other website
191 changes.

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193 **B) Wayfinding/ Amenities: North and South Bridge Signage**

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196 C) **Bike/ Pedestrian Counts**

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198 D) **Kiosk Map Updates**

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201 E) **Covered Bike Parking Demonstration Opportunity**

202 Mr. Schoefmann shared there is not a lot of traction from the city with this. Mr. Schoefmann
203 suggested reaching out to other area organizations.

204

205 9) **Adjournment**

206 A) **Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, June 14th, 2023**

207 There being no further business, Chair Bryenton adjourned the meeting at 9:43 AM.

208

209 Respectfully submitted by,
210 Amanda Trask, Minute Taker

211

212 Reviewed and edited by,
213 Will Schoefmann, Community Development Staff

Project	PRIORITY	Master Plan Project #	Status	Budget *		Schedule			Updates (status changes and project notes)	
				Cost	Status	Start	Finish	Status		
Master Plan	N/A	N/A	Delayed	City Staff	\$5K	N/A	Spring 2014	Fall 2021	Behind	Revised scope of work developed submitting CIP to complete the plan in 2024/5. Annual project evaluation by BPPAC.
Complete Streets			Working			N/A	2018	N/A	Behind	GIS Tech working with Highway to inventory in street bike markings for budget purposes. Bike Boxes, Downtown Sharrows remarked.
Bike Racks	AMENITIES	P21	Working	N/A	N/A	N/A	ongoing	N/A	N/A	DPW Highway have put out some racks, Will is confirming rack locations for summer/fall 2022. Gaps in where historically placed.
Appel Way Trail Paving	MAINTANANCE	P22	Planning	\$	104,900.00	Even	2025	N/A	Behind	Appel Way repaving project, CIP Budgeted in Parks and Rec Trail Maintenance Program. Pushed out to 2025
Safe Streets for All Grant	N/A	N/A	Planning	NA	N/A	N/A	Spring 2023	N/A	N/A	Engineering division of DPW is managing this grant opportunity.
NHDOT TAP Grant 2018 - Marlboro Street	N/A	BE22	Hold	\$674K	N/A	N/A	Winter 2018	Summer 2022	Behind	City of Keene has been selected as a TAP grant recipient for Complete Street improvements to Marlboro Street that tie into other planned improvements, infrastructure, economic development goals and the Cheshire Rail Trail. Project is ongoing - trail/sidewalk connector in Engineering Design phase.
Arts and Culture Corridor	NA	N/A	Working	N/A	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	N/A	N/A	Arts Alive, Jess Gelter, have taken on a scaled down version of the Arts and Culture Corridor concept Gilbo Avenue to School Street still part of the scope.
League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly Program & other community ranking programs	N/A	N/A	Planning	-	N/A	N/A	Winter 2022	Spring 2023	N/A	City of Keene's designation as a "Bicycle Friendly City" has lapsed and needs to be renewed. The process includes data gathering for a report/application. Application Due August 30, 2023
Sidewalks	N/A	N/A	Submitted	CIP	Even	N/A	Spring 2022	N/A	On Schedule	Summer 2022 expecting to replace approx. 2,000 LF of asphalt sidewalk, including Colby St. and Adams St. The CIP will request funding for about 2,000 LF / year beginning in 2023.
Downtown Infrastructure Project (MAIN STREET)	AMENITIES	P14	Planning	CIP	Even	N/A	Summer 2023	Fall 2027	N/A	Open letter from Vice Chair Horner out for promotion; Square expansion, bikelanes, roundabout options recommended from Steering Committee - Council. Council Workshops on going. Jeff Speck visit and presentation upcoming June 12, 2023
Lower Winchester Street (Roundabout - City Line)	N/A	N/A	Planning	CIP	Even	N/A	Summer 2024	Fall 2027	N/A	Potential for bike/pedestrian improvements to the Route 10/Lower Winchester Street Corridor and Gateway area via Swanzey into Keene. Listening sessions held Oct 24/25.

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Project									
Jonathan Daniels Trail Maintenance	TOP 7	P3	Planning	\$25K	Even	Summer 2020	2022	N/A	CIP Budgeted in Parks and Rec Trail Maintenance Program.
Wayfinding Signage Facilities and Plan	TOP 7	P11	Working	City Staff, \$42,000	N/A	Planning	N/A	On Schedule	BPPAC Considering overall wayfinding plan with Parks/Rec, DPW and Comm Dev Departments. UNH Downtown Trails Initiative completed. Next steps signage design and placement in conjunction with City branding effort.
↓Transportation Heritage Trail ↓									
THT Phase 1 - CRT Eastern Ave to NH 101 (Transportation Heritage Trail)	TOP 7	P1	Planning	\$ 386,400.00	Even	2024	2025	N/A	Project includes from Eastern Ave - 101, Bridge to Span 101, improvements to Old Stone Arch Bridge and potential crossing at Swanzey Factor Rd. Notice of Award for TAP project received 9/1. Federal Earmark funds for this project.
THY Phase 2 - Prowse Bridge - CRT NH 101 Overpass to Stone Arch Bridge (Transportation Heritage Trail)	TOP 7	P4	Planning	\$ 381,685.00	N/A	2027	N/A	N/A	Installation of the Historic Prowse Bridge at NH Route 101 and connecting the Cheshire Rail Trail to the Old Stone Arch Bridge and safety improvements (railings) to Old Stone Arch Bridge. Promotional website and video released with funding donation from PFK.
THT Phase 3 - Old Stone Arch Bridge - (Transportation Heritage Trail)	TOP 7	P4	Planning	\$ 321,195.00	N/A	2025	N/A	N/A	Collaboration with Heritage Commission to conduct research and assist with Historic Resources LCHIP application for railing/abutment design. PFK funding conceptual visuals. LCHIP grant planned for 2022 to fund Planning Study phase. Promotional website and video released with funding donation from PFK.
THT Phase 4 - Island Street Bailey Bridge - Swanzey Factory Road to Town Line (Transportation Heritage Trail)	TOP 7	P4	Planning	\$ 1,862,310.00	N/A	2027	N/A	N/A	Installation of the Historic Island Street Bailey Bridge at Swanzey Factory Road to create a safe overpass for trail users and creating continuity of the Cheshire Rail Trail towards the Swanzey Town line. Promotional website and video released with funding donation from PFK.
West Street - Complete Street	TOP 7	P19	Planning	\$ 785,275.00	N/A	2027	N/A	N/A	Designated as a Gateway Street in the Complete Street Design Guide. BPPAC discussing interim and long range solutions for bike/ped facilities along the corridor. Spring, Summer and Fall Counts completed for 2020. City submitted West Street improvement project into the DOT 10 Year Plan.
AMENITIES	TOP 7	P21	Working	City Staff, Facility and Maintenance Costs	Under	Planning	N/A	On Schedule	Staff should establish a base line of existing amenities and propose types and locations of future amenities in a plan. These should include Kiosk/Trailhead facilities, Trailside Facilities such as bathrooms, potable water and tune up stations and efforts should be made to engage the artist community to create spots along the trails for public art which will enhance the unique qualities of our system. Survey work incorporated into UNH Downtown Trails Initiative. TRAIL LIGHTS NOW INCLUDED HERE

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Cheshire Rail Trail - Park Ave. Loop	N/A	N/A	Completed	\$411,615.51	Over	Spring 2019		Fall 2022	N/A	Engineering division of DPW is managing this project now. Repaving and striping of Park Ave completed. Trail work completed. Grand opening ceremony occurred Sept 14. Monitor for Winter/Spring maintenance.
NHDOT TAP Grant 2018	N/A	BE22	Hold	\$674K	N/A	Winter 2018		Summer 2022	Behind	City of Keene has been selected as a TAP grant recipient for Complete Street improvements to Marlboro Street that tie into other planned improvements, infrastructure, economic development goals and the Cheshire Rail Trail. Project is ongoing - trail/sidewalk connector in Engineering Design phase.
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MASTER PLAN PROJECTS									
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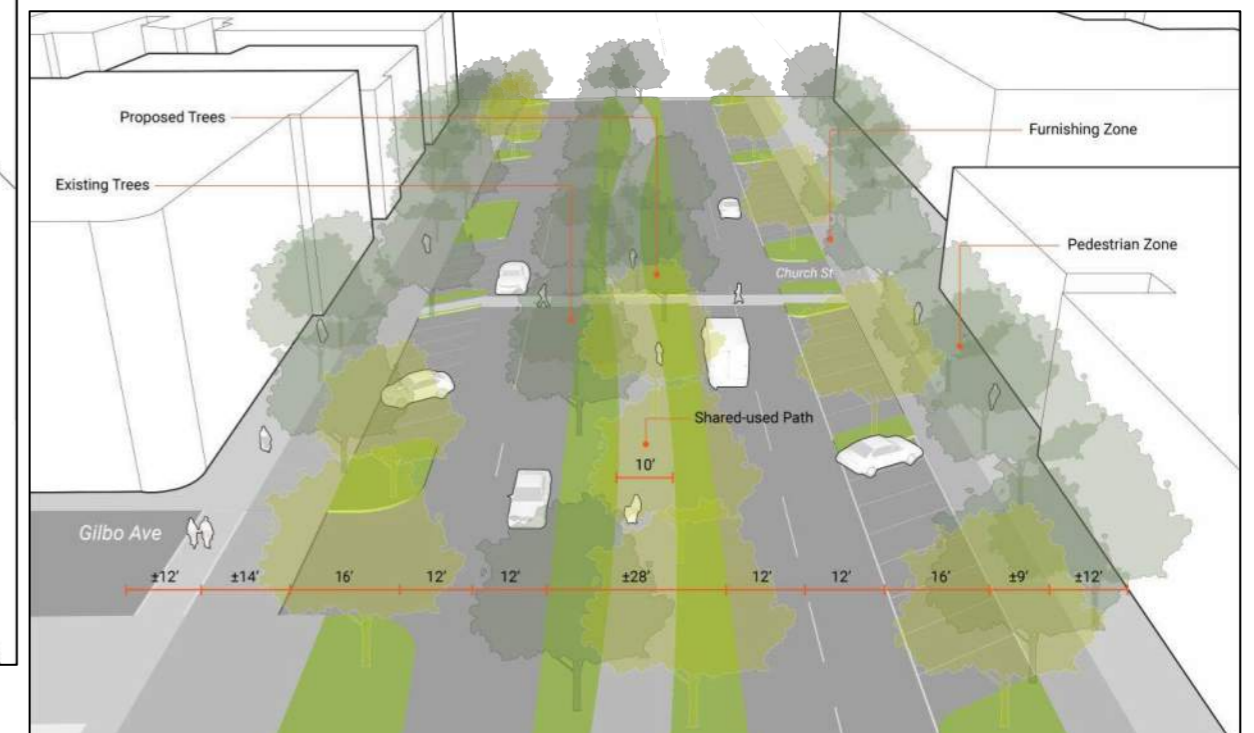
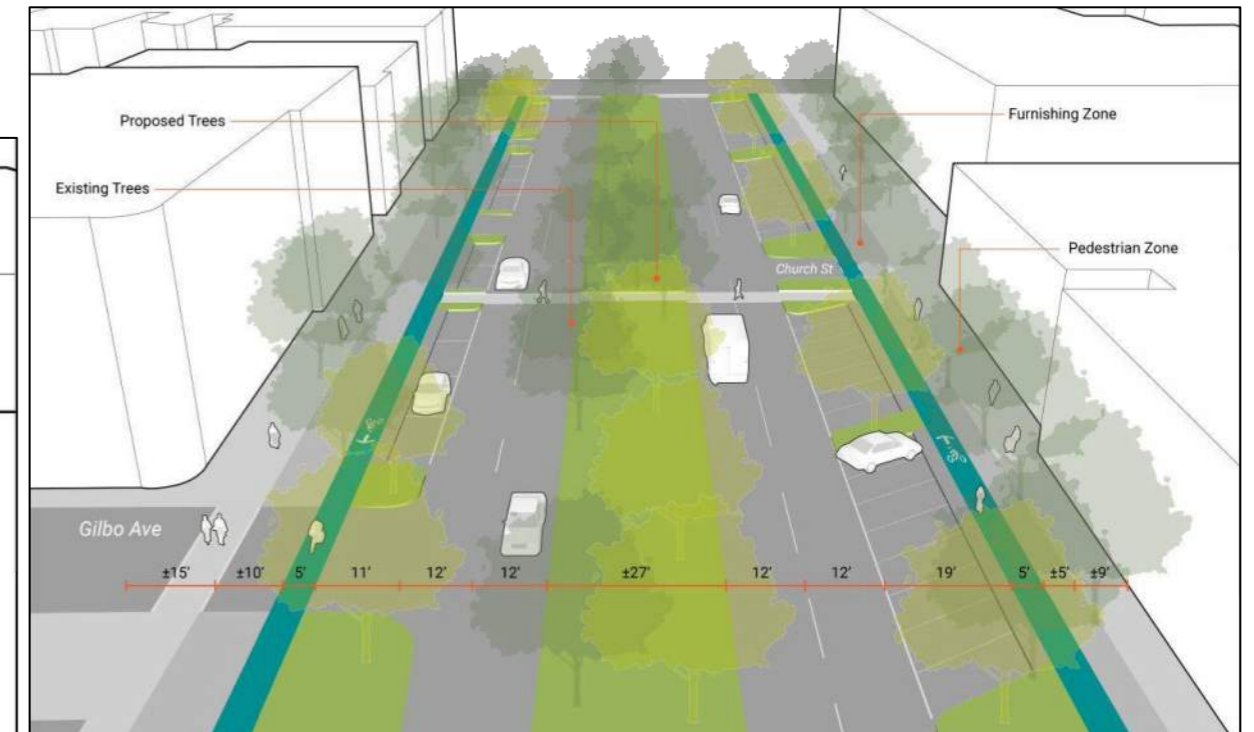
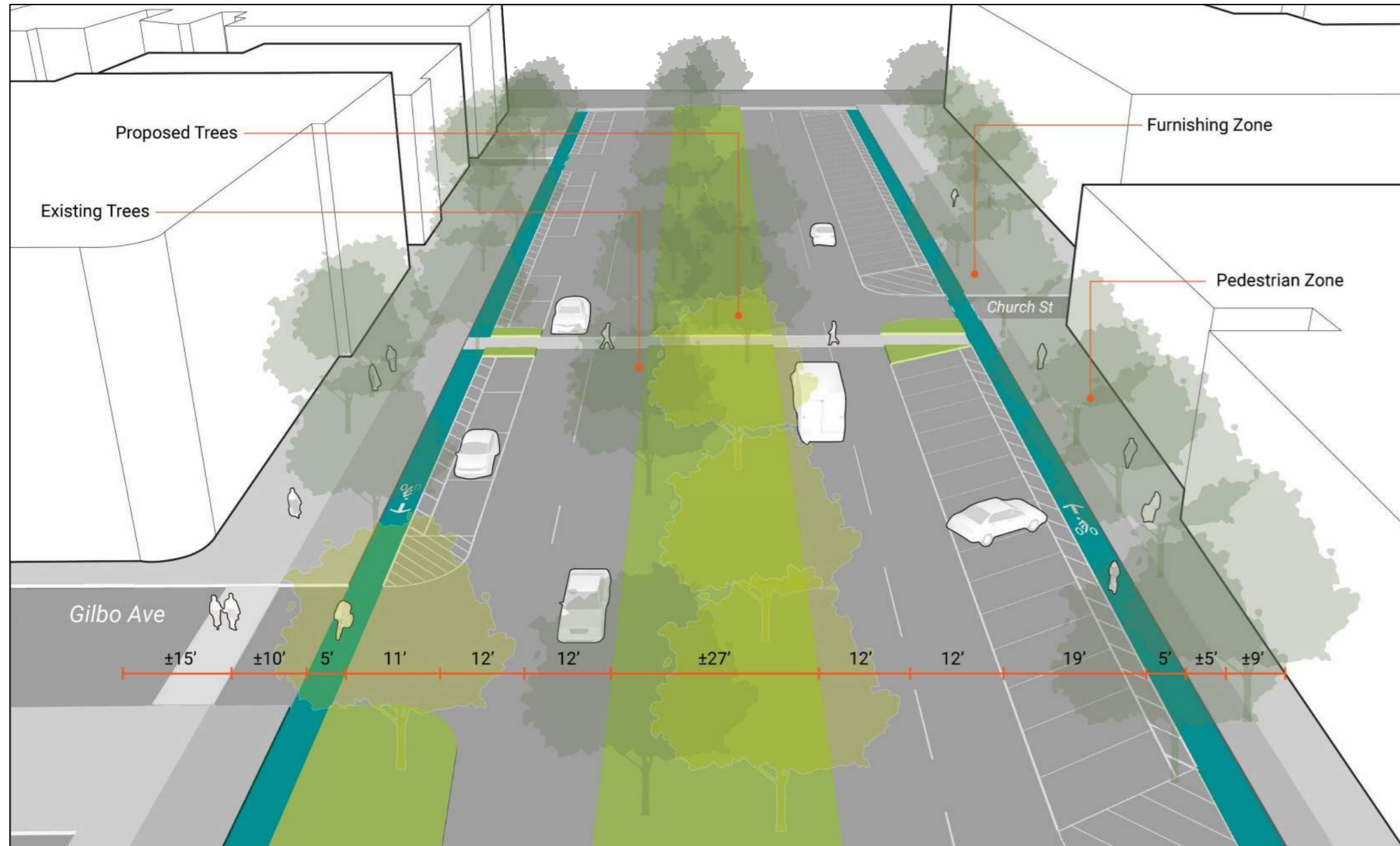
Estimated Cost

Component	Option 1 “Optimize Existing”	Option 2 “5-leg Signal”	Option 4 “5-leg Roundabout”
Drainage Infrastructure	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000
Water Infrastructure	\$2,900,000	\$2,900,000	\$2,900,000
Sewer Infrastructure	\$2,400,000	\$2,400,000	\$2,400,000
Utility Project Costs	\$8,800,000	\$8,800,000	\$8,800,000
Streetscape (landscaping, furnishings, lighting)	\$1,200,000	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000
Roadway & Sidewalk	\$1,660,000	\$1,660,000	\$1,560,000
<i>Raised Intersection</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$250,000</i>	<i>\$250,000</i>
Construction Administration	\$300,000	\$350,000	\$350,000
Contingency	\$450,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
Construction Total	\$12,410,000	\$13,260,000	\$13,160,000
Preliminary Design	\$570,928	\$570,928	\$570,928
Final Design	\$1,140,000	\$1,140,000	\$1,140,000
Project Total	\$14,120,928	\$14,970,928	\$14,870,928

KEENE DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENTS

OPTION 2 MULTI-MODAL | PERSPECTIVE SECTION – Bike Lanes on Road, Sidewalk, Center

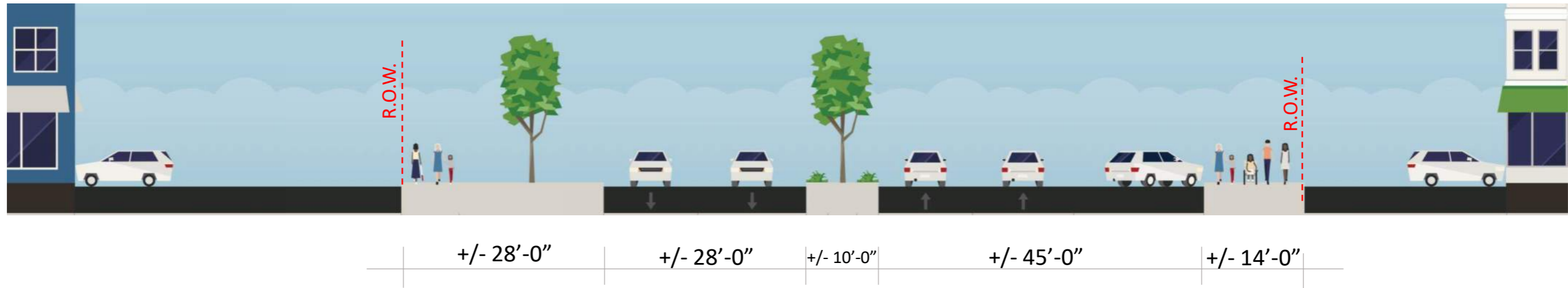
Expanded Pedestrian Zone | Angled Parking | Protected Bike Lanes | Planted center median



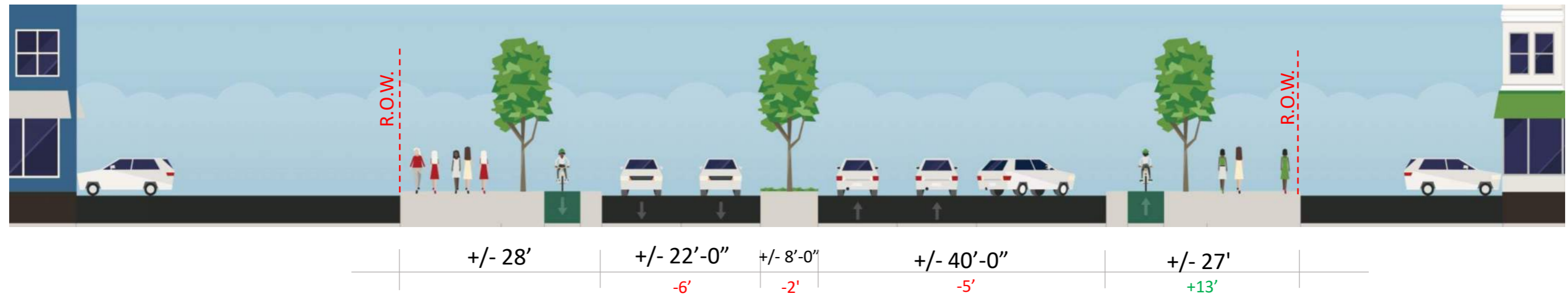
KEENE DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENTS

SECTIONS - DUNBAR TO EAGLE

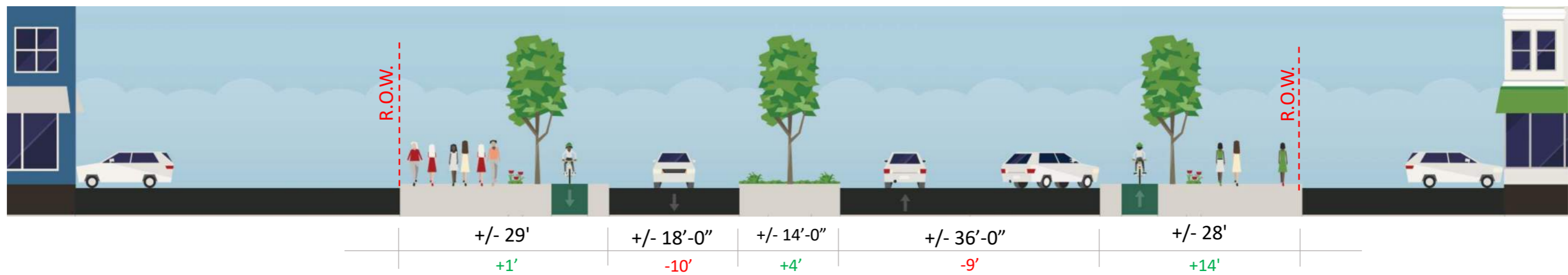
EXISTING



PROPOSED - Multi Lane



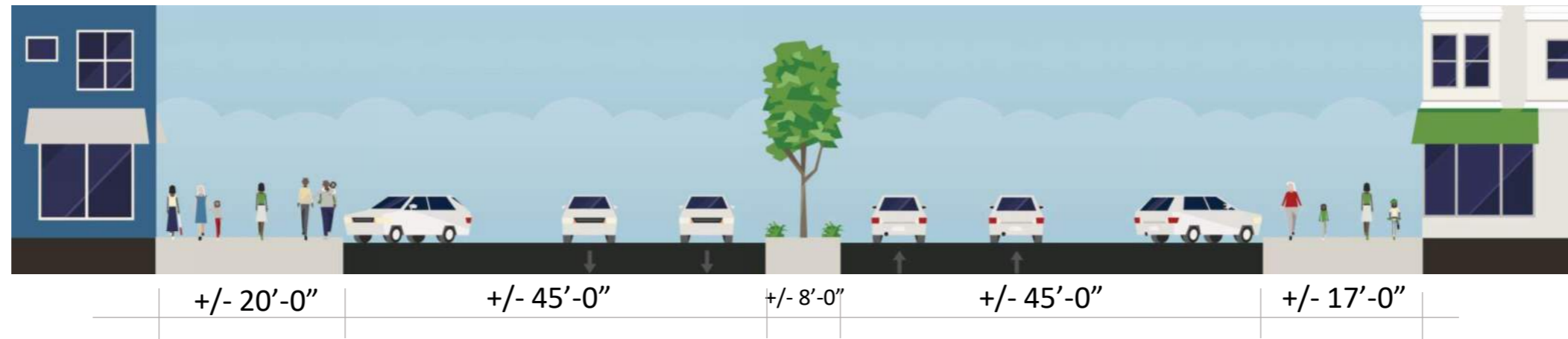
PROPOSED - Single Lane



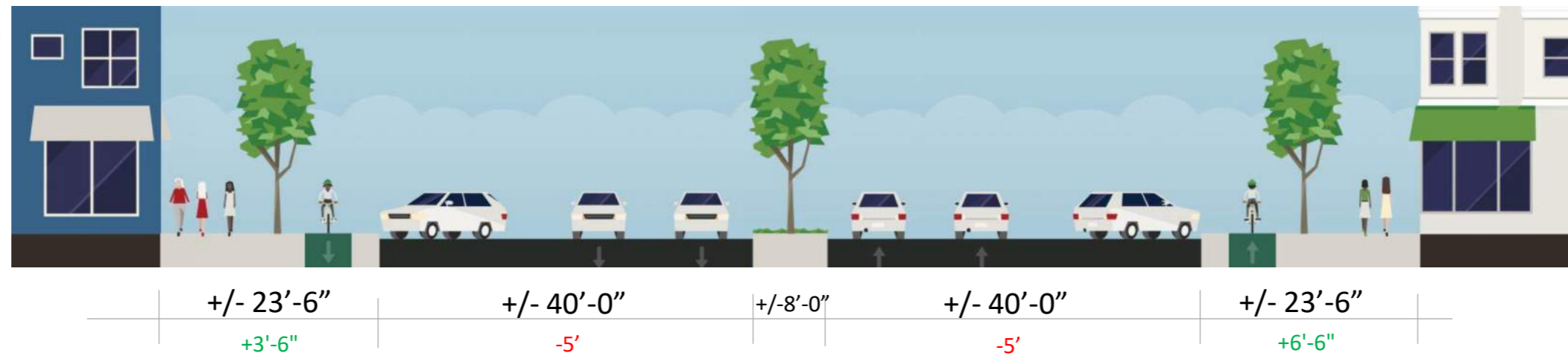
KEENE DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENTS

SECTIONS - EMERALD/EAGLE TO COMMERCIAL/CYPRESS

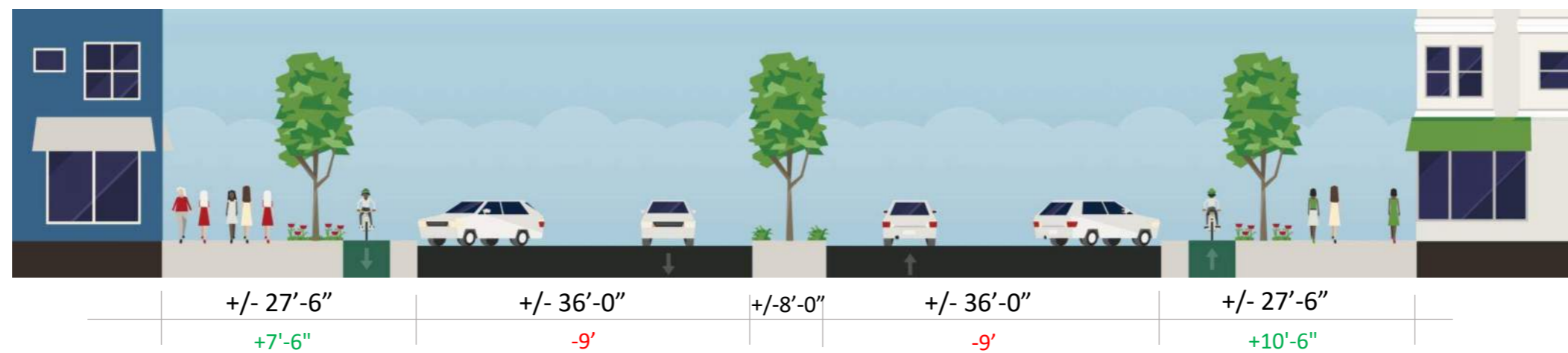
EXISTING



PROPOSED - Multi Lane



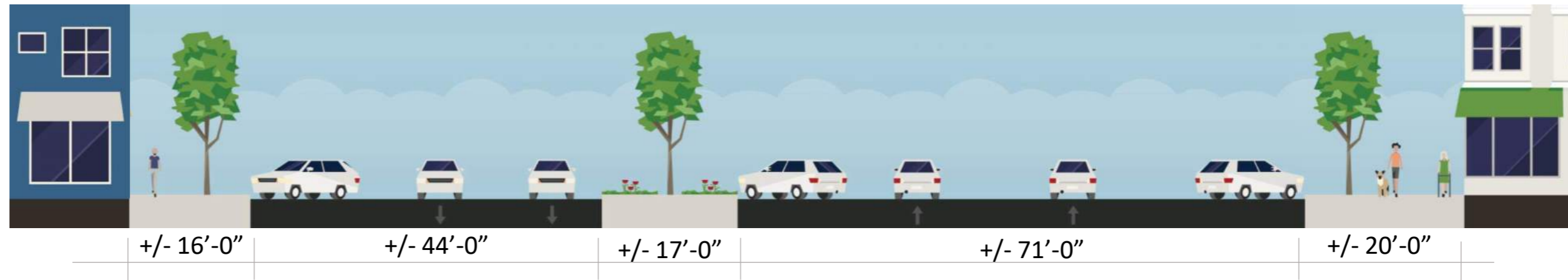
PROPOSED - Single Lane



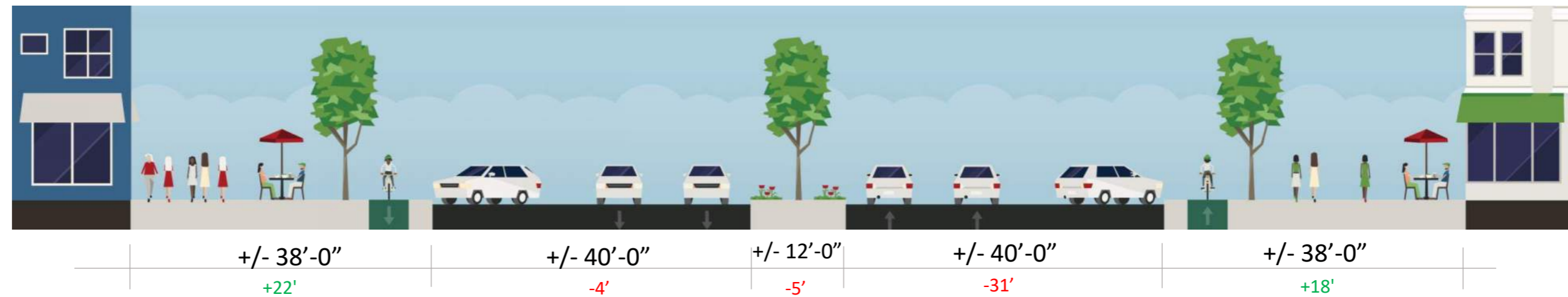
KEENE DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENTS

SECTIONS - GILBO TO WEST/ROXBURY

EXISTING



PROPOSED - Multi Lane



PROPOSED - Single Lane

