



PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA

Transportation Commission

MEETING DATE

Tuesday, September 10, 2024 from 7:30 to 9 a.m.

MEETING LOCATIONS

WebEx <https://tempe.webex.com/tempe/j.php?MTID=mc9ecbc67fbc8ecd62b7d7e221af182cc>

Join by phone +1-408-418-9388 United States Toll

Webinar Number: 2482 336 6738

In Person

Tempe Transportation Center

Don Cassano Community Room

200 E. Fifth Street, 2nd floor

Tempe, Arizona, 85281

AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER	ACTION or INFORMATION
1. Public Appearances The Commission welcomes public comment. There is a three-minute time limit per citizen.	Dawn Hocking, Commission Vice Chair	Information
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes The Commission will be asked to review and approve meeting minutes from the August 13, 2024 meeting.	Dawn Hocking, Commission Vice Chair	Action
3. ADOT I-10 Baseline Road TI Project ADOT will present on update on the I-10 Baseline Road Project.	Nikki Green, Arizona Department of Transportation	Information
4. College Avenue and University Drive Grade Separated Crossing Staff will present alternatives for a bike/ped separated crossing at University Drive and College Avenue.	Shelly Seyler and Chase Walman, Transportation and Sustainability Department	Action
5. Discussion about possible joint meeting with Sustainability Commission	Dawn Hocking, Commission Vice Chair	Action
6. Department & Regional Transportation Updates Staff and Commission members will provide information on relevant meetings and events.	Transportation and Sustainability Department Staff	Information

7. Future Agenda Items Commission may request future agenda items.	Dawn Hocking, Commission Vice Chair	Information
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According to the Arizona Open Meeting Law, the Transportation Commission may only discuss matters listed on the agenda. The city of Tempe endeavors to make all public meetings accessible to persons with disabilities. With 48 hours advance notice, special assistance is available at public meetings for sight and/or hearing-impaired persons. Please call 350-4311 (voice) or for Relay Users: 711 to request an accommodation to participate in a public meeting.



Minutes City of Tempe Meeting of the Transportation Commission August 13, 2024

Minutes of the meeting of Tempe Transportation Commission held on Tuesday, August 13, 2024 at 7:30 a.m. via Webex and at the Tempe Transportation Center located at 200 E. Fifth Street, Tempe AZ 85281.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Paul Hubbell
David Sokolowski
Stevie Milne
Dawn Hocking
Amanda Nelson
JC Porter
Pam Goronkin
Anthony Strait

Peter Schelstraete
Robert Miller
Claire Lauer
Jacob Cox
David King
Kelsey Files
James Dwyer

(MEMBERS) Absent:

City Staff Present:

Shelly Seyler, Deputy Transportation & Sustainability Director
Sue Taaffe, Senior Management Assistant
Cathy Hollow, City Traffic Engineer
Abel Gunn, Transportation Financial Analyst
Morgan Kennedy, Neighborhood Services Specialist
Mary Kate Nacke, Public Information Officer
Rebecca Rothman, Community Services Manager
Kip Carroll, Transportation Maintenance Manager

Chase Walman, Principal Planner
Lisette Camacho, Deputy City Manager
Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Program Manager
Eric Iwersen, Transportation & Sustainability Director
Ellie Volosin, Senior Civil Engineer
Corey Steele, Senior Civil Engineer
Brenda Clark, Neighborhood Services Specialist

Guests Present:

John Federico

Commission Chair Amanda Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

None

Agenda Item 2 – Minutes

Amanda Nelson introduced the minutes of the June 11, 2024 meeting of the Transportation Commission and asked for a motion for approval.

Motion: Commissioner Dawn Hawking

Second: Commissioner Kelsey Files

Decision: Approved by Commissioners

Paul Hubbell
Stevie Milne
Dawn Hocking
Amanda Nelson
Kelsey Files

Peter Schelstraete
Robert Miller
JC Porter
Pam Goronkin
Anthony Strait

Agenda Item 3 – Public Art Mill Underpass

Rebecca Rothman provided an update on the public art project located on Mill Avenue under the railroad. Topics included:

- Outreach process
- Daytime colors
- Nighttime color
- Site considerations
- Process
- Timeline

Agenda Item 4 – Back to School Campaign

Shauna Warner and Mary Kate Nacke provided an update on the annual Back to School campaign. Topics included:

- Purpose
- K-12 outreach
 - Youth Transit Pass Program
 - Vision Zero
 - Back to School web page
- ASU outreach
 - Flash
 - Student guides
- In-person outreach

Agenda Item 5 – Terrace and Rural Intersection

Cory Steele provided an update on proposed changes to the Rural and Terrace Intersection. Topics included:

- Existing conditions
- Existing challenges
- Recommended changes
 - Add receiving lane to prevent bus/bike conflict
 - Add green markings for bicycle path over tracks
 - Add skip markings to show path through intersection
 - Add symbols to clarify lanes

Discussion included green bike lanes and whether more signage would be included.

Agenda Item 6 – Department & Regional Transportation Updates

Staff liaisons and Commission members introduced themselves to the new commissioner, Anthony Strait. Eric Iwersen introduced the new Deputy City Manager, Lisette Camacho.

Agenda Item 7 – Future Agenda Items

Peter Schelstraete requested an update on the City's bike bait program. The following future agenda items have been previously identified by the Commission or staff:

- September 10
 - College Avenue and University Drive Grade Separated Crossing
 - Discussion about possible joint meeting with Sustainability Commission
 - ADOT I-10 Baseline Road TI Project
- October 8 – cancel?
- November 12
 - Annual Report
 - Streetcar Alternatives Analysis – Rio East Dobson Extension
 - Transit Prioritization Strategies
- December 10
 - 2024 Transportation Survey Results
 - Commission Business
- January 14
 - Commission Business
 - Transportation Plan & Transportation Equity
 - TMA/TDM, Personal Delivery Devices
 - Vision Zero Update
- February 11
- March 11
- April 8
- May 13
 - Bike Hero Award
- TBD: Alameda Drive Streetscape Project (before and after) & Speed Data
- TBD: Transit Revenue Study
- TBD: Prop 479

The next meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2024. The meeting adjourned at 7:53 a.m.

Prepared by: Sue Taaffe
Reviewed by: Shelly Seyler

The background of the slide is an aerial photograph of a large highway interchange. Interstate 10 runs horizontally across the middle of the frame. Baseline Road runs vertically, crossing I-10 from the bottom left towards the top right. The interchange is a complex multi-level structure with several ramps and overpasses. The surrounding area includes parking lots, commercial buildings, and some undeveloped land with sparse vegetation. In the far distance, a range of mountains is visible under a clear sky.

Interstate 10/Baseline Road Traffic Interchange Study

Tempe Transportation Commission
Sept. 10, 2024

Study Area and Partners

- Study Partners: Town of Guadalupe, City of Phoenix, City of Tempe, Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG)



Legend



Study Limits



Anticipated Construction Limits

Study Purpose & Need

- Reduce traffic congestion
- Improve traffic flow through the study corridor
- Reduce crashes
- Accommodate pedestrian and bicycle traffic, safety and connectivity concerns
- Develop design alternatives and recommend an alternative for final design



Study Process

Completed Steps:

- Public and agency scoping process
- Data collection and traffic modeling

Current/Upcoming Steps:

- Obtain public input
- Identify preferred alternative and prepare final Design Concept Report (DCR) and environmental documents
- Develop and refine preferred alternative
 - Engineering design and environmental analysis
 - Right-of-way and cost estimates

Public Involvement

Public Scoping*

- 18,000 mail pieces delivered
- 3 ads published in the Arizona Republic
- 1 ad published in Prensa (Spanish)
- 1 Arizona Republic eBlast
- 36 businesses canvassed
- 5 posts to ADOT social media (Facebook, X, Nextdoor, Instagram)
- 5 emails sent to 25,000 ADOT subscribers

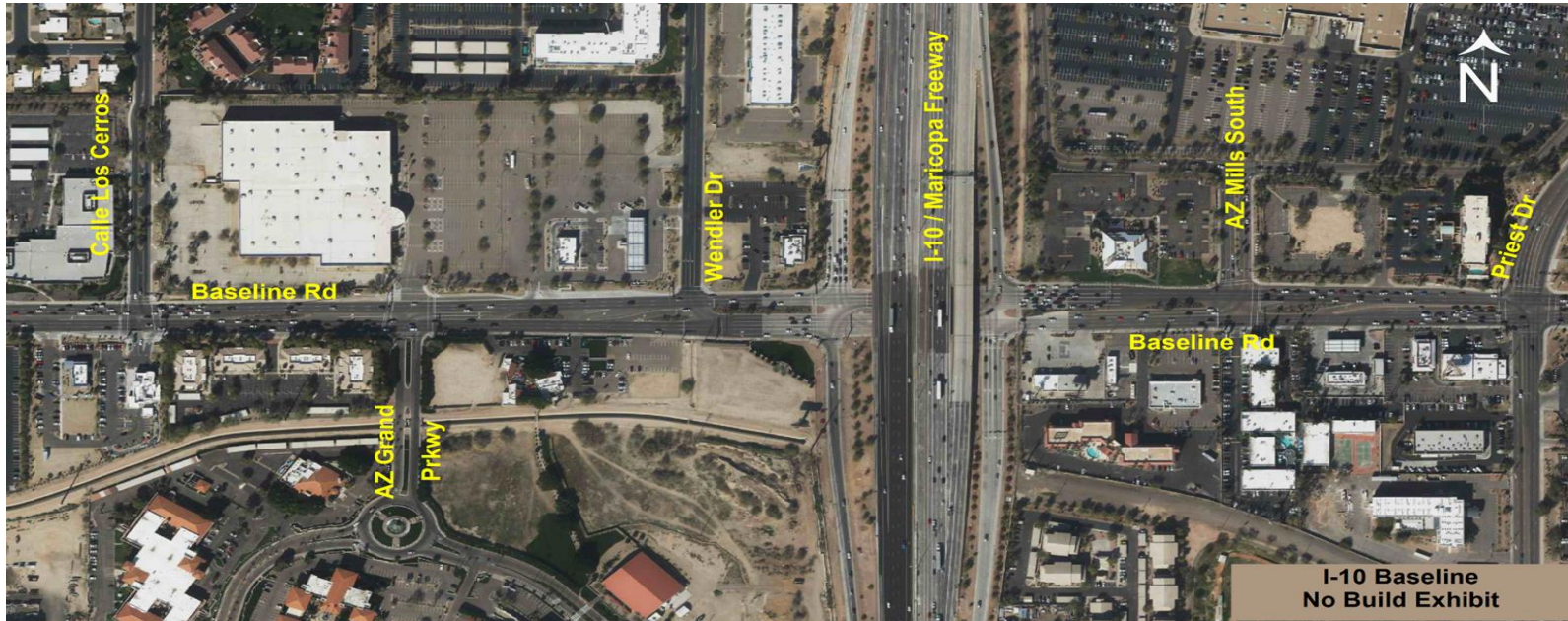
**figures provided are approximations*

Alternatives Public Meeting*

- 18,000 mail pieces delivered
- 2 ads published in the Arizona Republic
- 1 ad published in Buyer's Edge
- 1 ad published in Prensa (Spanish)
- 1 Arizona Republic eBlast
- 36 businesses canvassed (three canvassing trips)
- 12 community gathering locations received factsheets to distribute
- 5 posts to ADOT social media (Facebook, X, Nextdoor, Instagram)
- 6 emails sent to 25,000 ADOT subscribers
- 3 small group meetings with local businesses

No Build Scenario

- No improvements to the existing interchange or to Baseline Road
- Existing roadways and traffic signals remain unaltered



Modified Diamond Interchange (MDI) Alternative

- Keeps the interchange and ramp configuration as they are
- Adds right turn lanes on Baseline Road and I-10 on- and off-ramps to improve traffic operations

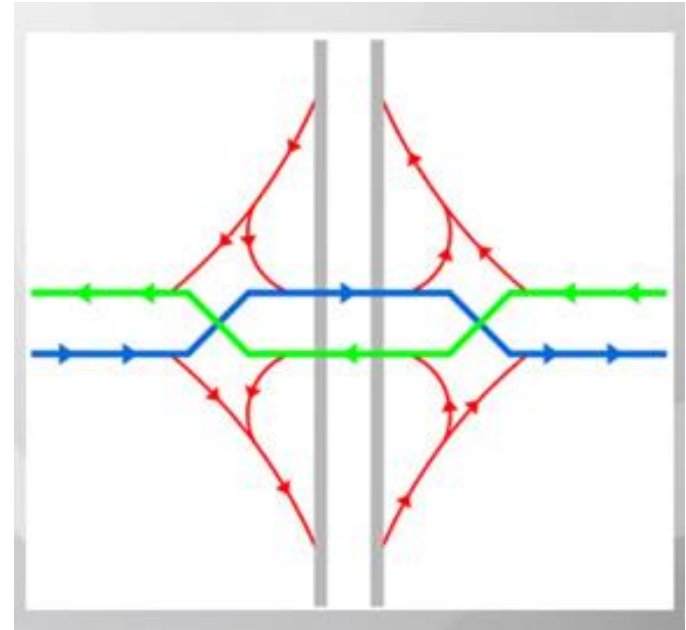


Modified Diamond Interchange (MDI) Alternative



Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) Alternative

- Converts the interchange into a new configuration
- Allows through and left-turning traffic to proceed simultaneously



Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) Alternative



I-10 Baseline
Diverging Diamond Exhibit

Modified Diamond Interchange (MDI) Alternative

Pros & Cons

Pros

- Driver and pedestrian familiarity
- Improves bicycle and pedestrian facilities
- Improves safety by reducing conflict points
- Fewer impacts to existing facilities (.45 acres of right of way)
- Least expensive (Estimated cost of \$16.1 million)

Cons

- Fewer benefits to traffic operations and safety
- Change in some business access from Baseline Road

Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) Alternative

Pros & Cons

Pros

- Improved traffic operations and safety
- Reduces conflict points between traffic
- Signal operation further decreases travel time

Cons

- More impacts to existing facilities (2.29 acres of right of way)
- Requires bicyclists and pedestrians to cross into median
- Challenges to I-10 incident management
- Most expensive of the build alternatives (Estimated cost of \$40.8 million)

Anticipated Study Timeline

January 2023
Study Began

May 9, 2023
Public Scoping
Meeting

May 2, 2024
Initial Design
Concept Report

August 8, 2024
Public Meeting for
Design Alternatives

December 2024
Completed Study

Spring 2025
Design Programmed

Not programmed
at this time
Construction Funding

Thank you for having us!

For more information about the project and to sign up for the mailing list, visit azdot.gov/i10baseline

MEMORANDUM

TO: Tempe Transportation Commission
FROM: Chase Walman, Principal Planner, 480-858-2072
DATE: September 10, 2024
SUBJECT: College and University Grade Separated Crossing
ITEM #: 4



PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memo is to provide the Commission with a review of four preliminary design alternatives for a grade separated crossing at College Avenue and University Drive.

RECOMMENDATION OR DIRECTION REQUESTED:

Action.

CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

- Performance Measure 3.26 - 20 Minute City
- Performance Measure 3.14 - ADA Transition Plan

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The College and University Grade Separated Crossing Project was first initiated as part of an ASU commissioned study that the City of Tempe participated in to explore grade separation at three high pedestrian volume intersections. The goal of the study was to provide a dedicated pedestrian crossing to address pedestrian/vehicular conflicts and reduce transit/vehicular congestion. After the study was complete in 2020, the City of Tempe pursued and were ultimately awarded federal grants to complete the final design and construction of the highest pedestrian volume intersection: College Ave and University Dr.

In December 2023, Bowman Group was selected to prepare the final plans, specifications, and estimate for the project. In May 2024, the project's design kicked-off. After data collection and receiving preliminary feedback from the directly adjacent property owners (ASU and Newman Center), four preliminary design alternatives have been developed that we are seeking feedback on:

- 1: Pedestrian Bridge
- 2A: Underpass on the West side of College Avenue
- 2B: Underpass in a SW/NE alignment
- 3: "Y" Underpass, providing entrances on both the northwest and northeast corners

Throughout September, staff will be seeking feedback from the Commission on Disability Concerns, Transportation Commission, Historic Preservation Commission, and City Council. Two broader public meetings are also anticipated to take place in late October. Additional outreach will be taking place from late 2024 through summer 2025 at the draft 30% and 60% design stages.

FISCAL IMPACT or IMPACT TO CURRENT RESOURCES:

Design:

Federal Grants: \$1,462,950

Local Match: \$88,429

Construction:

Federal Grants: \$4,506,798

Local Match: \$256,887

ATTACHMENTS:

PowerPoint

College & University Grade Separated Crossing

Commission on Disability Concerns – Sept. 9, 2024

Transportation Commission – Sept. 10, 2024

Historic Preservation Commission – Sept. 11, 2024





Project History

- Started in 2019 as part of an ASU commissioned study of grade separating three high pedestrian volume intersections.
- In 2022, the City applied for and were awarded federal grants to complete this project's final design and construction
- Project's design kicked-off in May 2024, with utility research, data collection, and stakeholder's meetings with the immediately adjacent property owners.





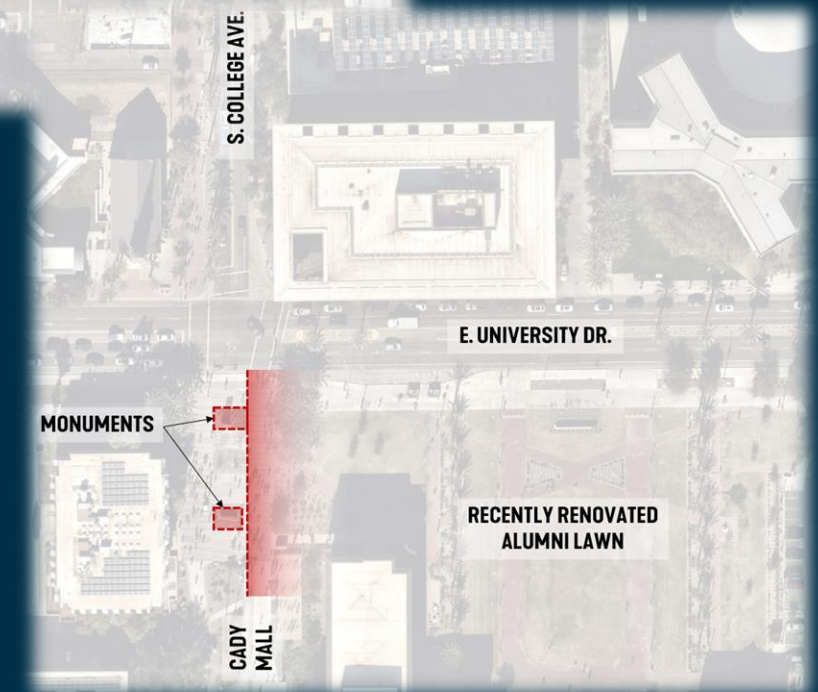
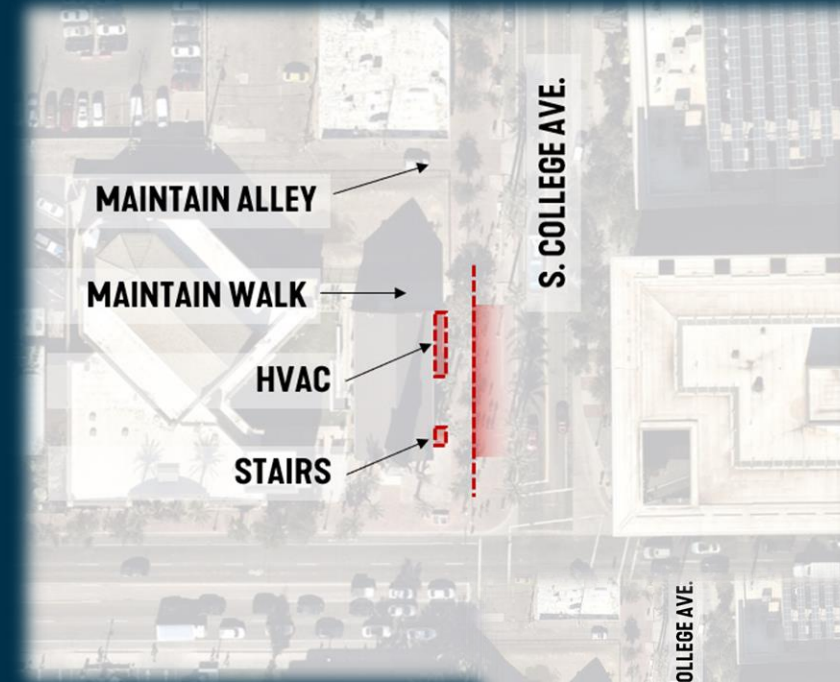
Stakeholder Feedback Themes

Newman Center:

- Maintain clear access to alley, College Ave entrance, College Ave staircase, HVAC equipment.
- Protect in place architectural features and elements of the church, with special consideration to construction impacts such as vibrations.
- Maintain visibility of Mary College and Newman Community Center

ASU:

- Protect in place and maintain clear visibility of landmark signage
- Ensure proposed bridge landings and/or underpass ramps are placed west of Cady Mall and Alumni Lawn
- Provide access for golf carts to circulate around improvements



PROJECT GOALS

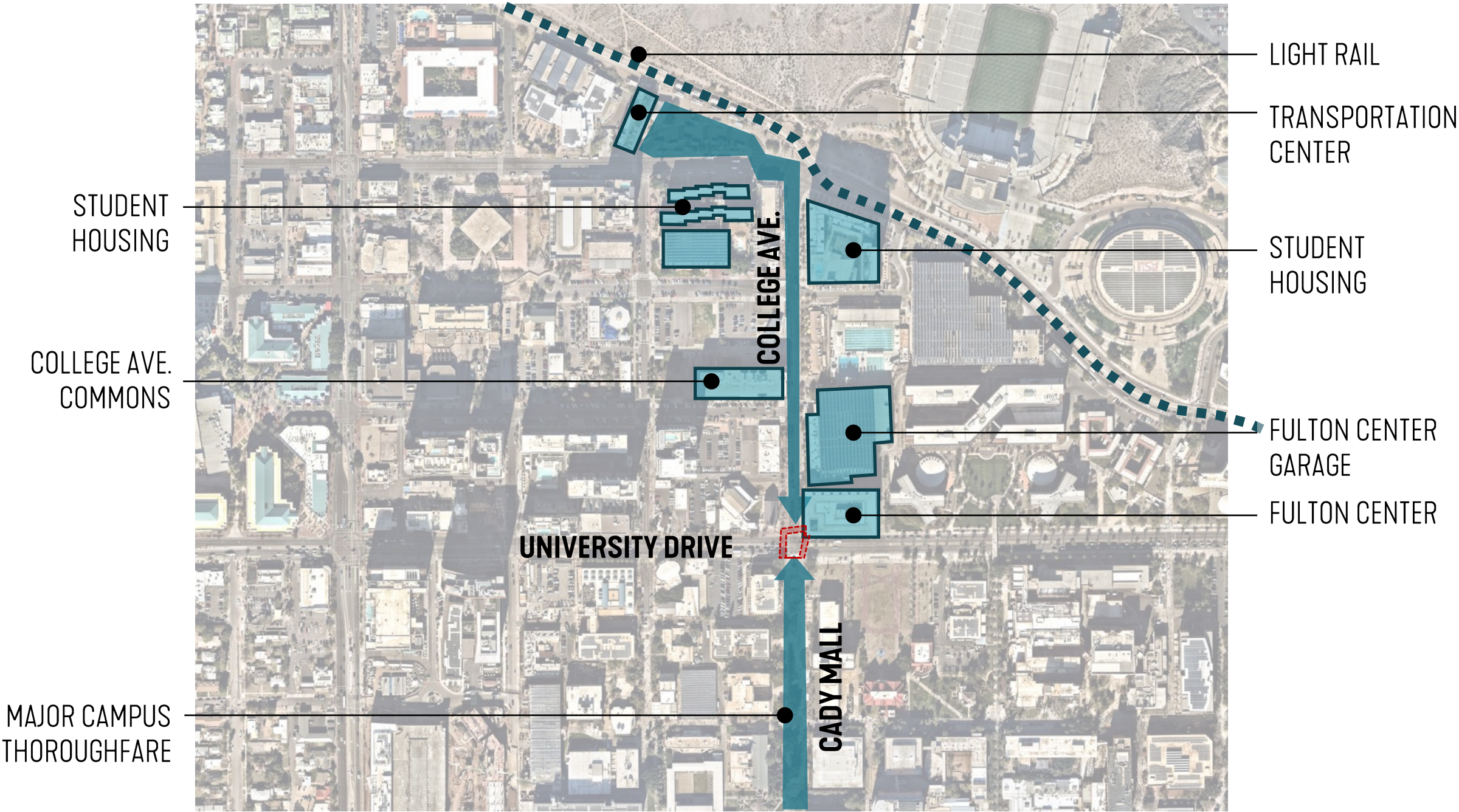
- CREATE A SAFE PEDESTRIAN/BICYCLE CROSSING
- IMPROVE VEHICULAR TRAFFIC FLOW
- ENHANCE CONNECTIVITY TO CHURCH
- POSITIVELY ENGAGE EXISTING LANDMARKS
- CREATE AN ENGAGING EXPERIENCE
- CREATE WAYFINDING/SAFETY THROUGH VISUAL CONNECTION
- CREATE POTENTIAL LANDMARK FOR TEMPE/ASU

S. COLLEGE AVE.

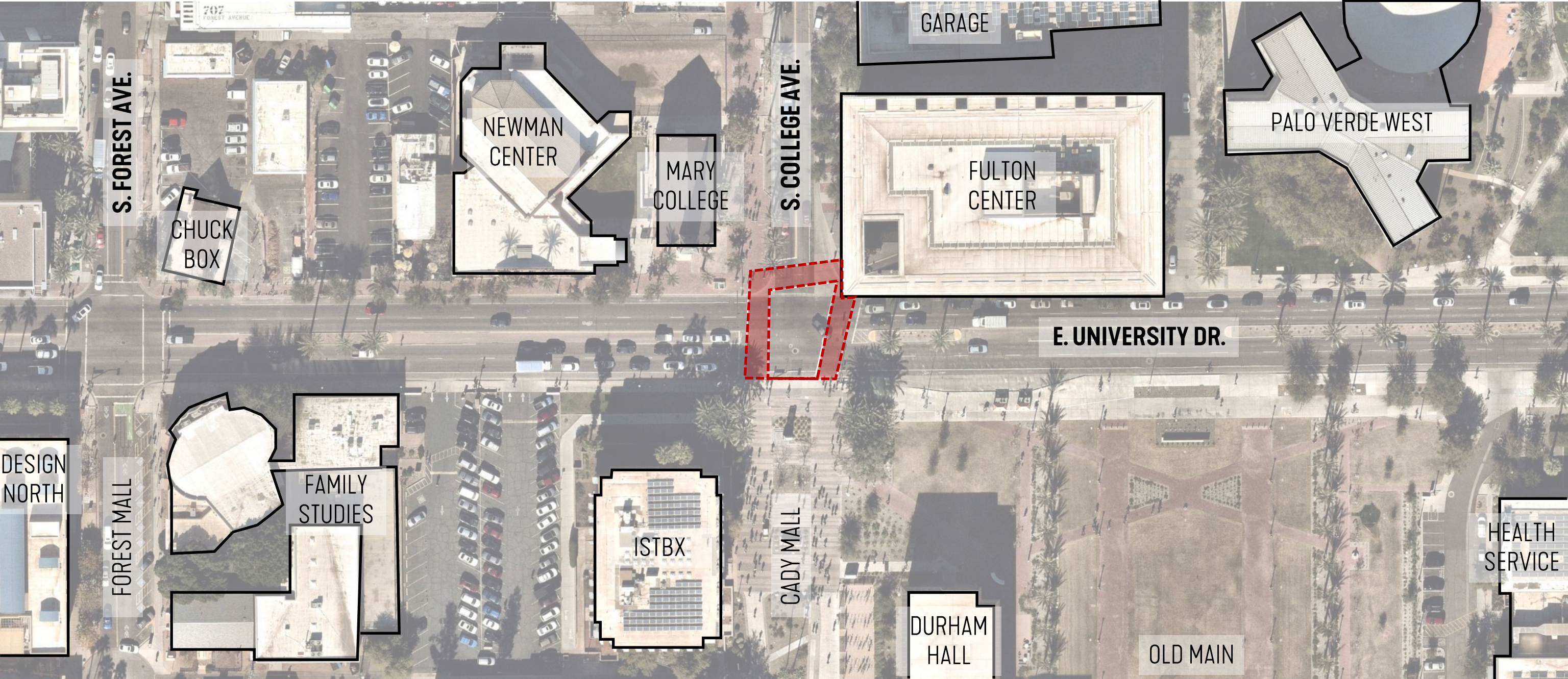


E. UNIVERSITY DR.

CAMPUS / DOWNTOWN CIRCULATION



SITE CONTEXT



SITE PHOTOS

MARY COLLEGE AT ASU



Bowman

SMITHGROUP

Jacobs

SITE PHOTOS

FULTON CENTER



SITE PHOTOS

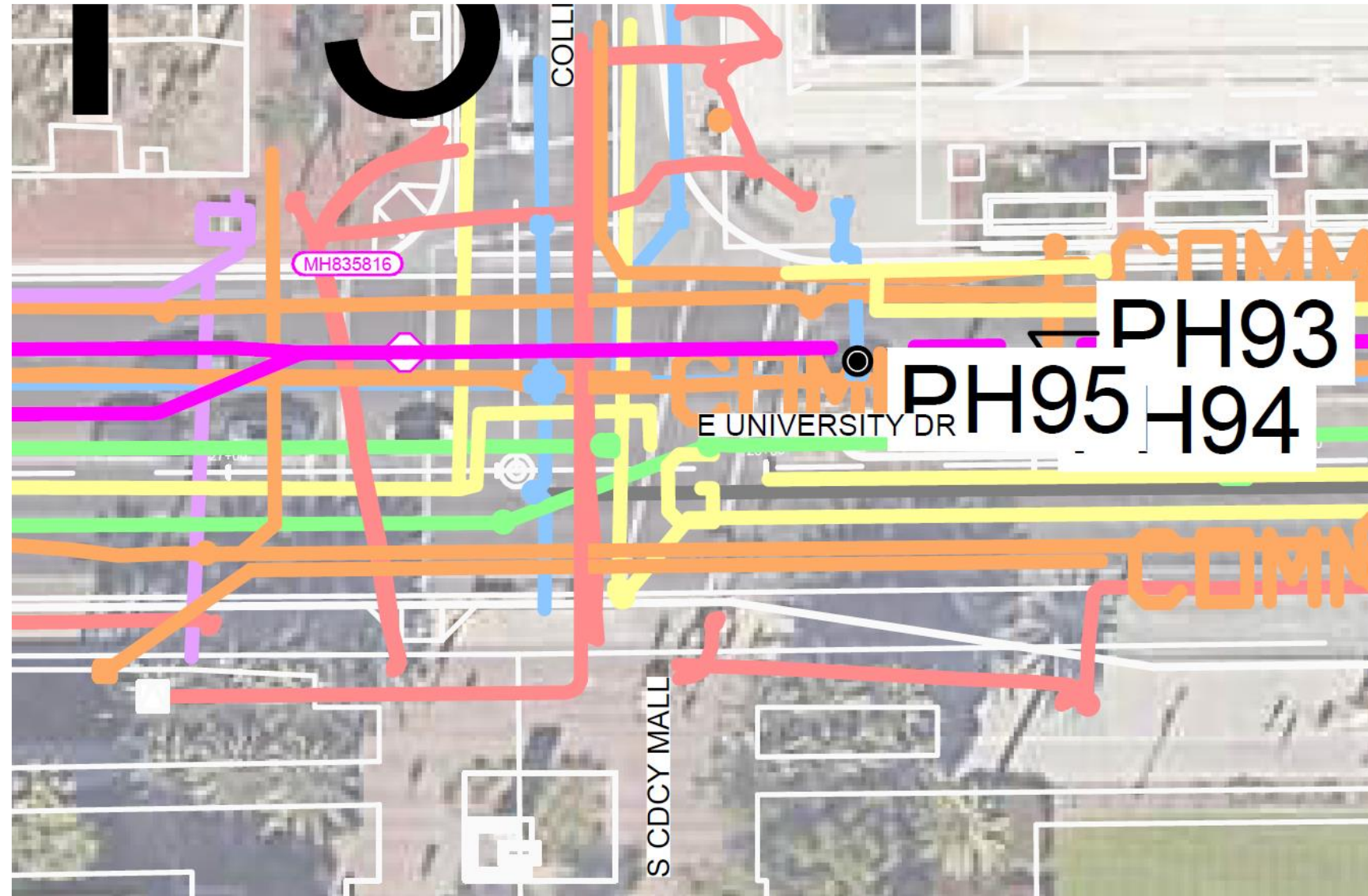
CADY MALL



UTILITIES

ALL KNOWN UTILITIES

1. AT&T – Coax and Fiber
2. APS Electric
3. Arizona State University
4. City of Tempe – Sewer, Traffic Signals, Water
5. City of Tempe Cable – CATV, Coaxial, Fiber Optics
6. Crown Castle Solutions – Fiber Optics
7. CenturyLink – Coaxial, Fiber Optics
8. Cox Communications
9. MCI (Verizon Business) – Fiber Optics
10. SRP – Communications, Electric, Fiber Optics, Irrigation
11. Southwest Gas – Gas & High Pressure Gas
12. Zayo Group – Communication, Fiber Optics



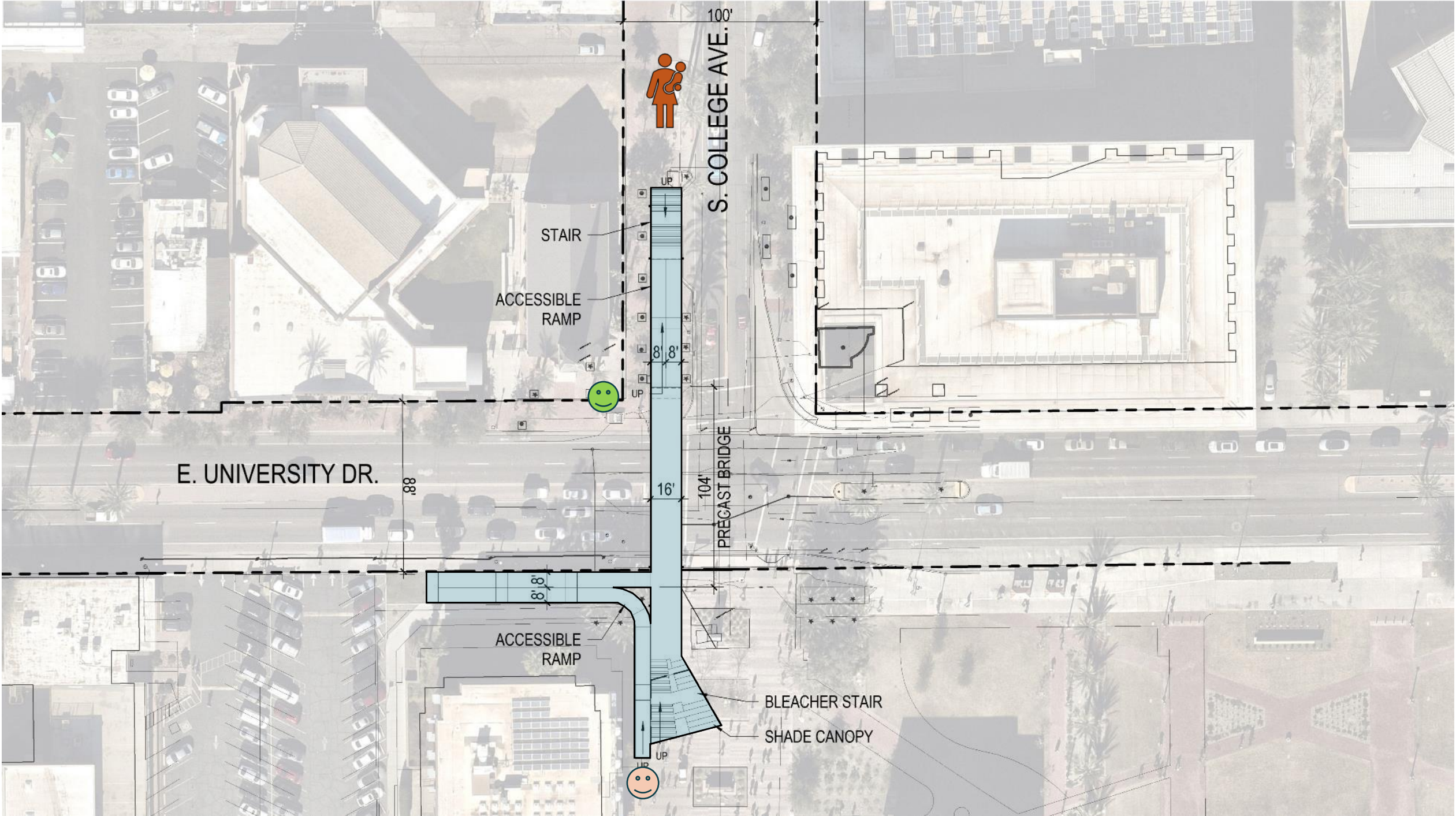


Option 1 / Bridge



1 | BRIDGE

SITE PLAN



1 | BRIDGE

SOUTH AERIAL



1 | BRIDGE

EAST FROM UNIVERSITY



1 | BRIDGE

NORTH END FROM EAST



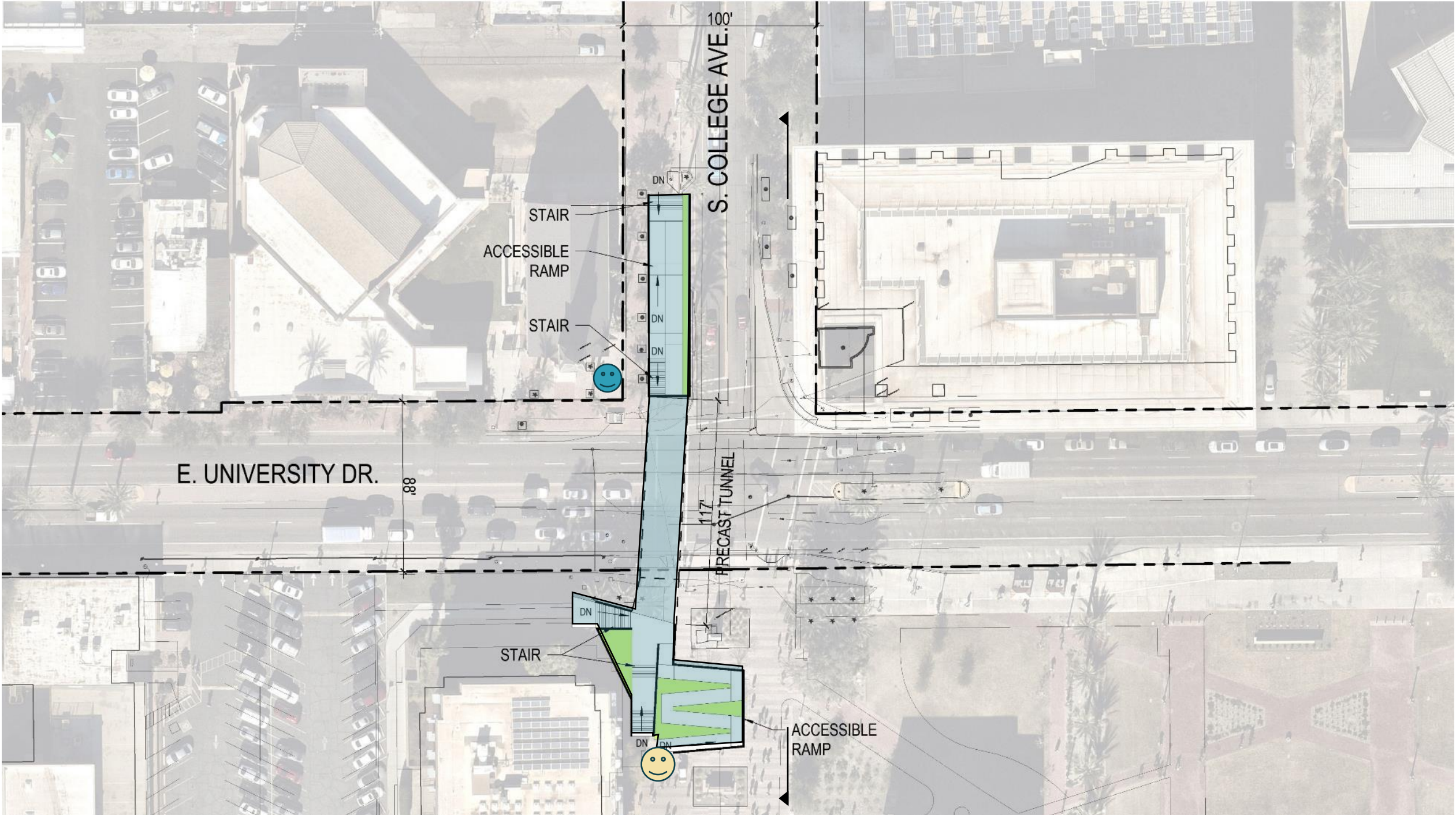


Option 2A and 2B Directional Underpass



2A | SINGLE TUNNEL – COLLEGE WEST

SITE PLAN



2A | WEST TUNNEL

AERIAL



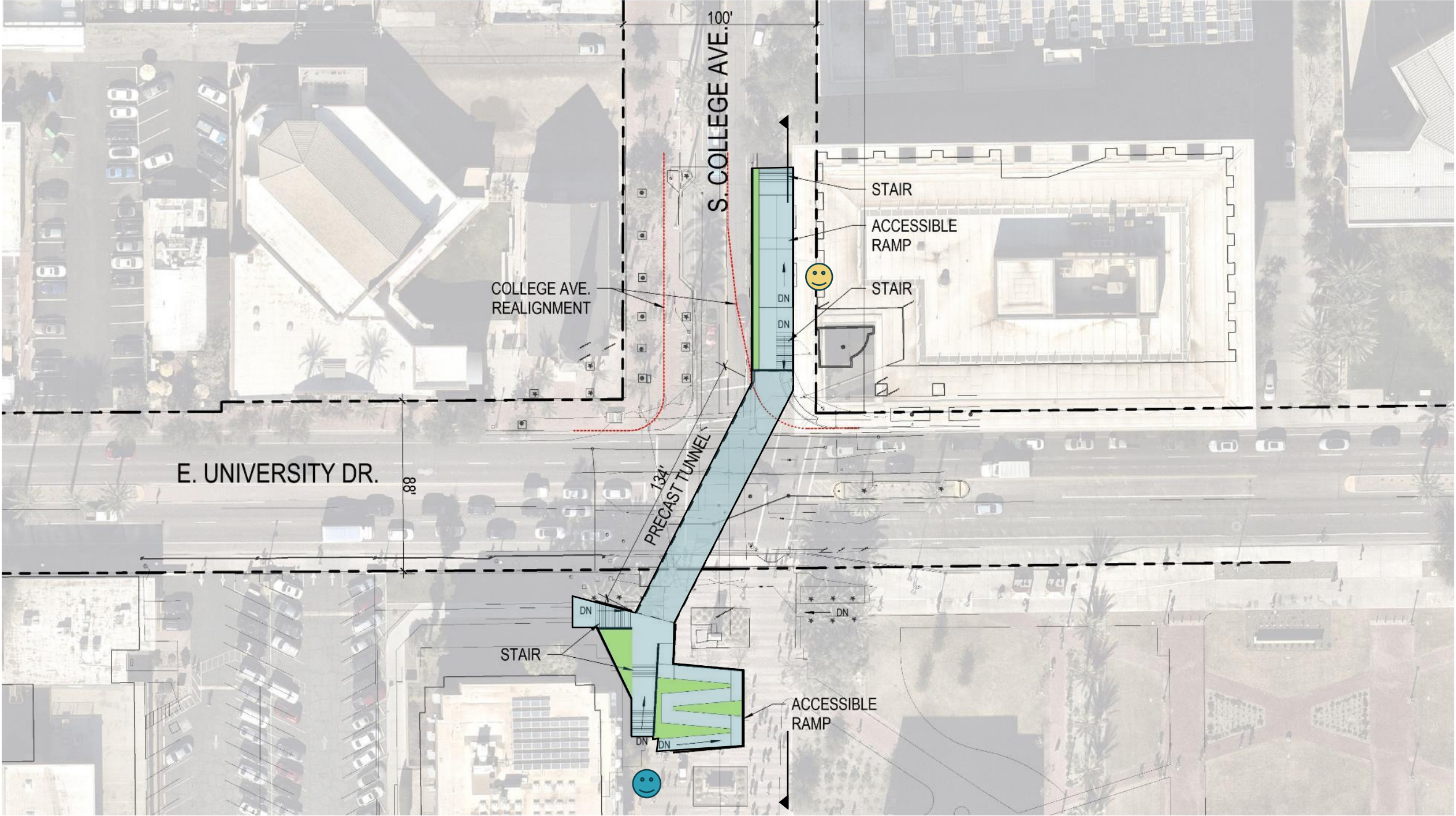
2A | WEST TUNNEL

NORTH RAMP



2B | SINGLE TUNNEL – COLLEGE EAST

SITE PLAN



2B | EAST TUNNEL

AERIAL



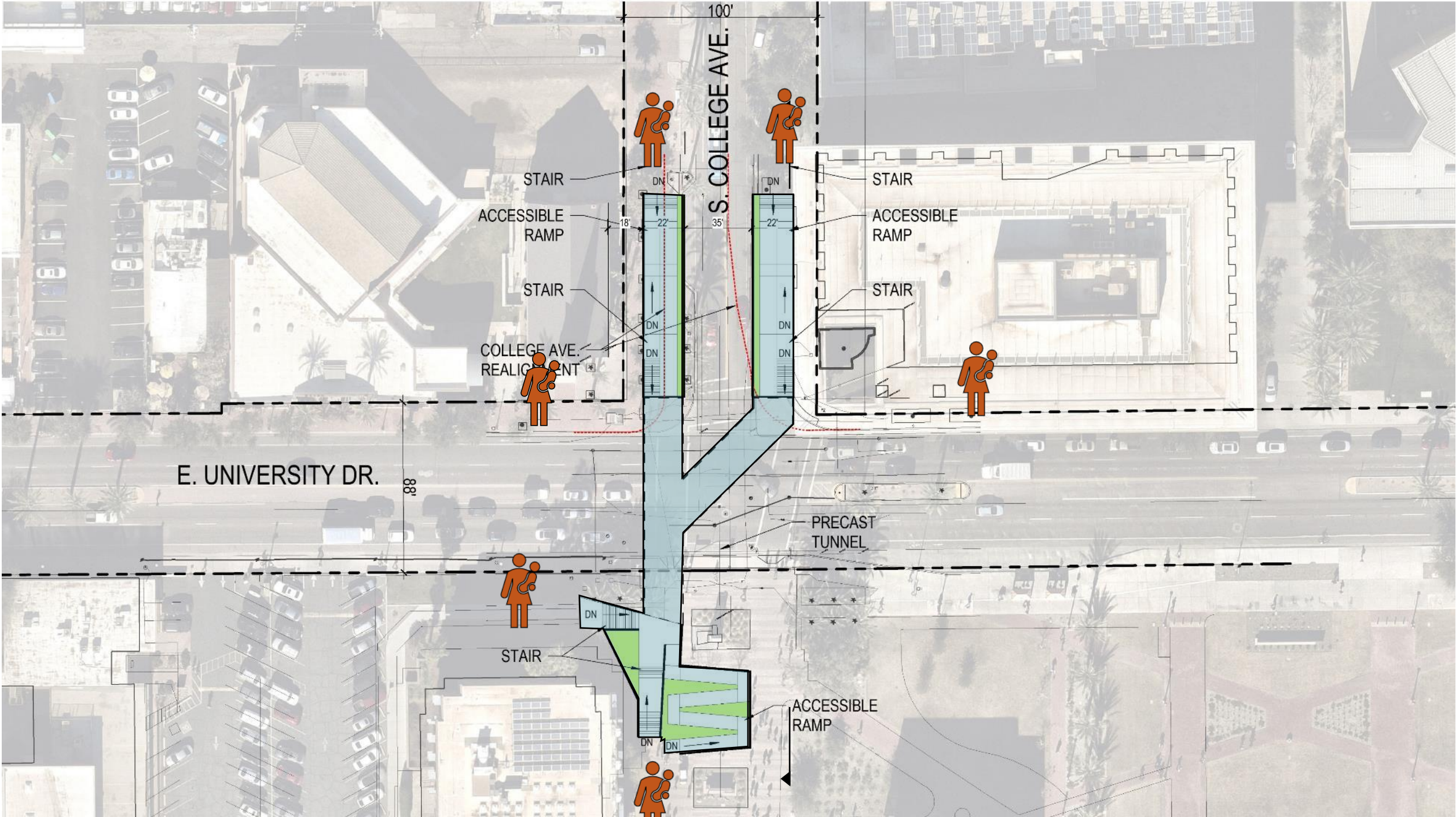


Option 3 – Y Tunnel



3 | 'Y' TUNNEL

SITE PLAN



3 | 'Y' TUNNEL

AERIAL

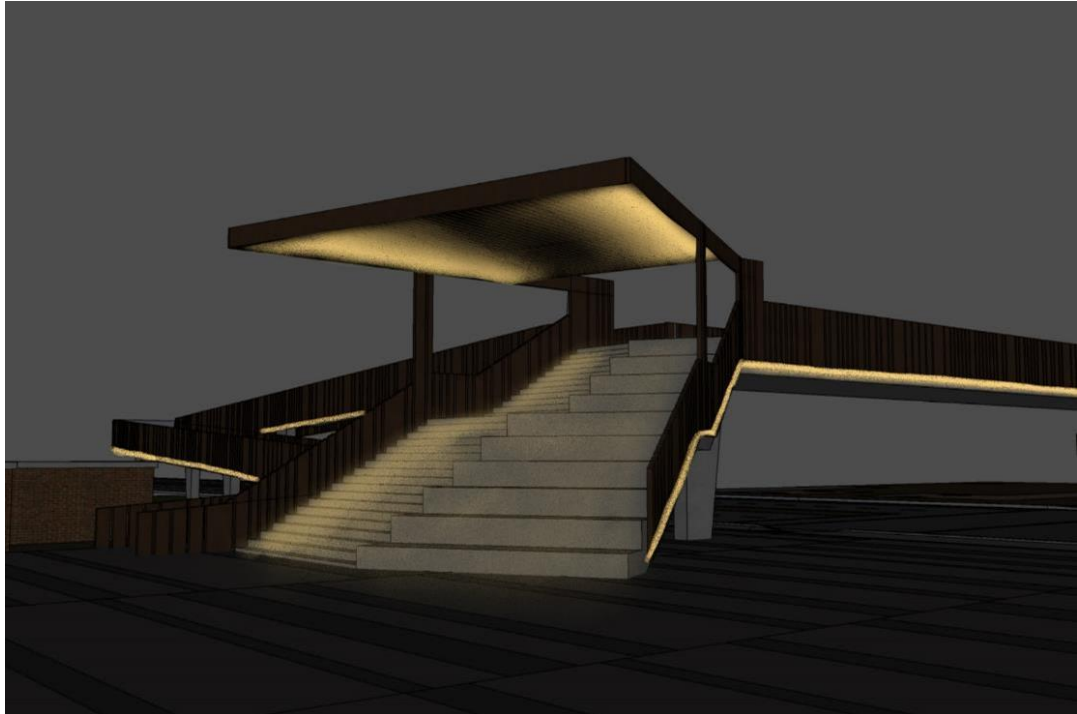


3 | 'Y' TUNNEL

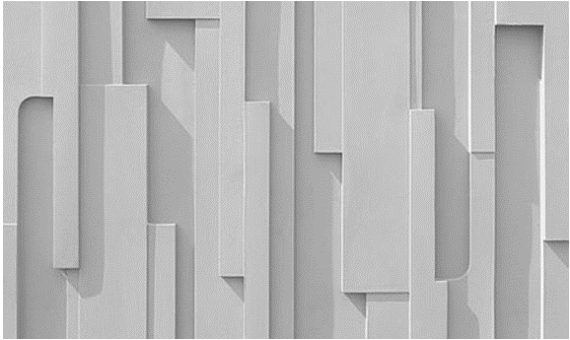
NORTH AERIAL



LIGHTING OPTIONS



LANDSCAPE CHARACTER





Upcoming Outreach

- Commission on Disability Concerns – **September 9**
 - Transportation Commission – **September 10**
 - Historic Preservation Commission – **September 11**
 - City Council – **September 17**
 - Public Meeting Round 1 – **October 22**
-
- Additional outreach to occur at draft 30% and draft 60% anticipated to occur late-2024 through mid-2025
 - Design anticipated to be complete late 2025, with construction mid-2026.



Thank You!
Questions?

Chase Walman
chase_Walman@tempe.gov

MEMORANDUM



TO: Tempe Transportation Commission
FROM: Shelly Seyler, Deputy Transportation & Sustainability Director
DATE: September 10, 2024
SUBJECT: Future Agenda Items
ITEM #: 7

PURPOSE:

The Chair will request future agenda items from the Commission members.

RECOMMENDATION OR DIRECTION REQUESTED:

This item is for information only.

- October 8
- November 12
- December 10
 - 1. Annual Report
 - 2. 2024 Transportation Survey Results
 - 3. Commission Business
 - 4. Streetcar Alternatives Analysis – Rio East Dobson Extension
- January 14
 - 1. Commission Business
 - 2. Transportation Plan & Transportation Equity
 - 3. TMA/TDM, Personal Delivery Devices
 - 4. College Avenue and University Drive Grade Separated Crossing
- February 11
 - 1. Vision Zero Update
 - 2. Transit Fund Revenue Analysis
 - 3. Bike Bait
- March 11
- April 8
 - 1. McKellips (Scottsdale to College) Streetscape
- May 13
 - 1. Bike Hero Award
- June 10
- July 8
- August 12
- TBD: Alameda Drive Streetscape Project (before and after) & Speed Data
- TBD: Prop 479
- TBD: Transit Prioritization Strategies