

South Walter Reed Drive Complete Streets Project

Progress Update

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Outline

- Project Goals – 3
- Project Background – 6
- Final Design – 11
 - Summary – 12
 - Project Walk-through - 13
- Construction Update – 20

Project Goals



Project Goals

- Provide better connectivity for people walking and biking by improving bike facilities and pedestrian crossings
- Reduce complexity at 9th Street South by realigning the intersection
- Allow controlled access to and from 9th Street South by signaling the intersection
- Improve safety and access from apartment driveways on 8th and 9th Streets
- Remove channelized right turn at 6th Street to slow turning speed and improve safety
- Improve transit facility



Scan here or visit arlingtonva.us and search "South Walter Reed Drive Complete Street" for project information.

Project Area



■ Current

- S Walter Reed Drive and 9th Street S Intersection

■ Future

- South Walter Reed Drive (5th St S to 9th St S; 9th St S to Columbia Pike)

■ Completed (Spring 2021)

- 5th Street S/S Fillmore Street/S Walter Reed Drive intersection

Project Background



Project Background

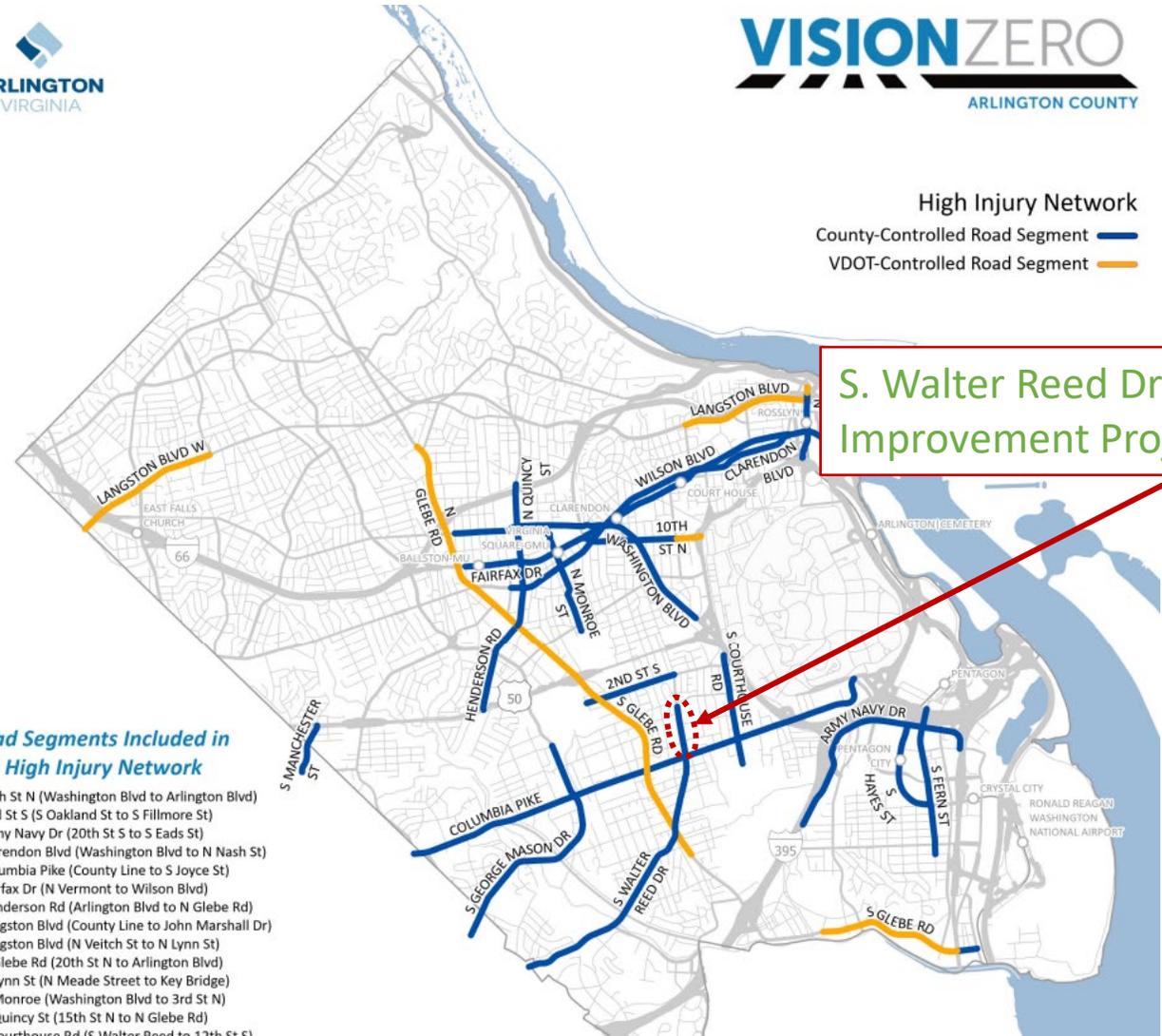
- The MTP Streets Element: Enhance the transportation network by including appropriate facilities to meet and balance the needs of all modes; Accommodate travel growth through shifts to non-auto modes.
- The MTP Bike Element: Develop an enhanced bicycle facility on Walter Reed Drive and Fillmore Street between Pershing Drive and S. Monroe Street.

Project Background

Vision Zero policies call on County staff and the Arlington community to take a proactive approach to safety to eliminate severe and fatal crashes from our transportation network by 2030.

High Injury Network (2023-2025): S. Walter Reed Drive (6th Street S to County Line) is identified in Arlington County's High Injury Network.

- These corridors experience relative high number of serious and fatal crashes compared to other corridors in Arlington.



Community Engagement



Fall 2020

Existing Conditions Engagement

- Asked for feedback on **people's experiences** using the street today



Spring 2021

Concept Design Engagement

- Feedback from existing conditions engagement was used to create a concept design
- Asked for **feedback on the concept design**



Spring 2022

Revised Concept Design Engagement

- Feedback from the concept design engagement was used to create the revised concept design
- Asked for **feedback on the revised concept design**



Winter 2022

Final Design Communication

- Project team shared an **update on the final design**, informed by community feedback



Winter/Spring 2023

Final Design Update Communication

- As detailed design continued, project team shared an **update on the final design**



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Themes from Community Feedback

- Interest in **reducing vehicle speeds**
- Interest in **clarifying movements for all modes of transportation**, particularly at intersections
- Support for **improving pedestrian crossings** and increasing pedestrian space
- Support for **protected bike lanes**
- Some interest in **increasing green space/bioretention**
- Some interest in **consolidating bus stops** to improve transit service
- Support for **continued coordination with Arlington Public Schools**

South Walter Reed Drive – 5th Street South to Columbia Pike

Final Design



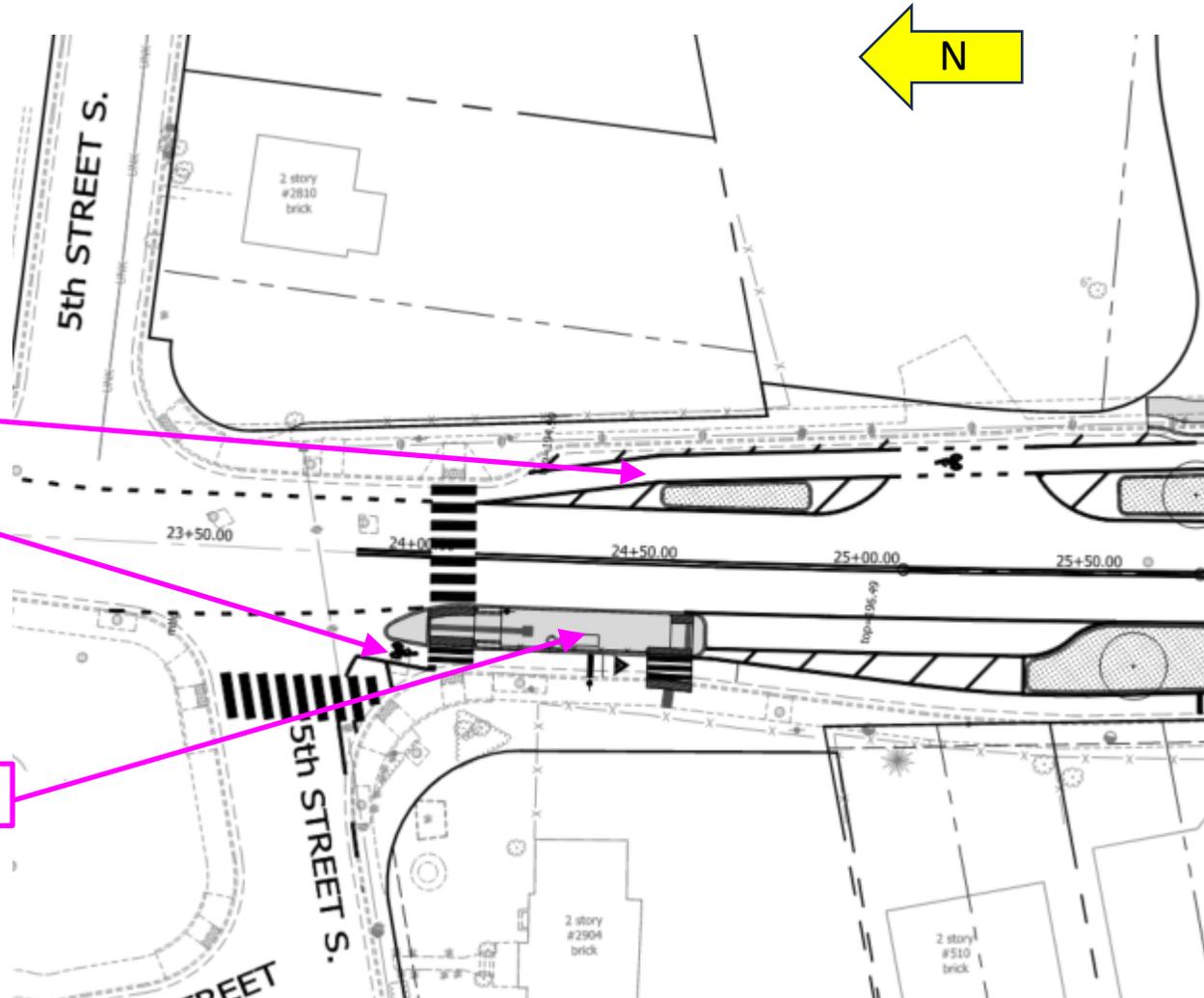
Final Design Summary

- **Four new bus boarding islands:** Located at 5th St S (southbound), 8th St S (pair), and near Columbia Pike (northbound)
- **Safety and access enhancements:**
 - Realigned and signalized 9th Street South for a safer travel movements and to shorten crossing distances for people walking.
 - Reconfigured driveway access near 8th and 9th Streets S for safer access to private parking.
- **Enhanced green spaces:** New landscaping throughout, plus two rain gardens at 6th Street S and 9th Street S.
- **Improved safety for people walking & biking:**
 - Crosswalk at westbound 6th Street S.
 - Raised crossing islands for additional protection and safer turn movements.
 - Protected bike lanes from 5th Street S to Columbia Pike.
 - Two-way cycle track on westbound 6th Street South to connect cyclists to S Walter Reed Drive.
 - Wider sidewalk on west side of SWRD from 6th St to 7th St
 - Wider sidewalks from 9th Road to Columbia Pike
- **Parking:** Provides 89 parking spaces across the corridor (104 existing spaces)

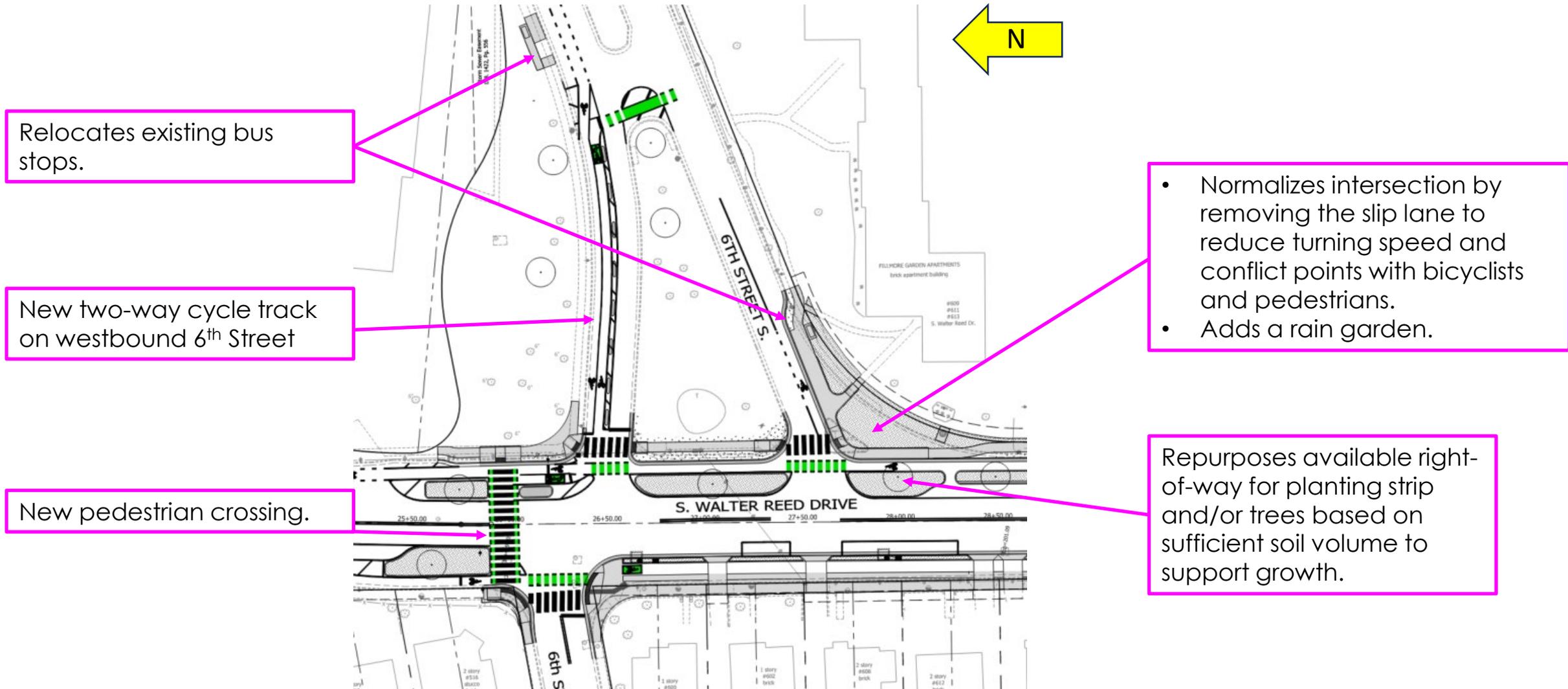
South Walter Reed Drive at 5th Street South

New protected bike lanes on both sides of S. Walter Reed Drive.

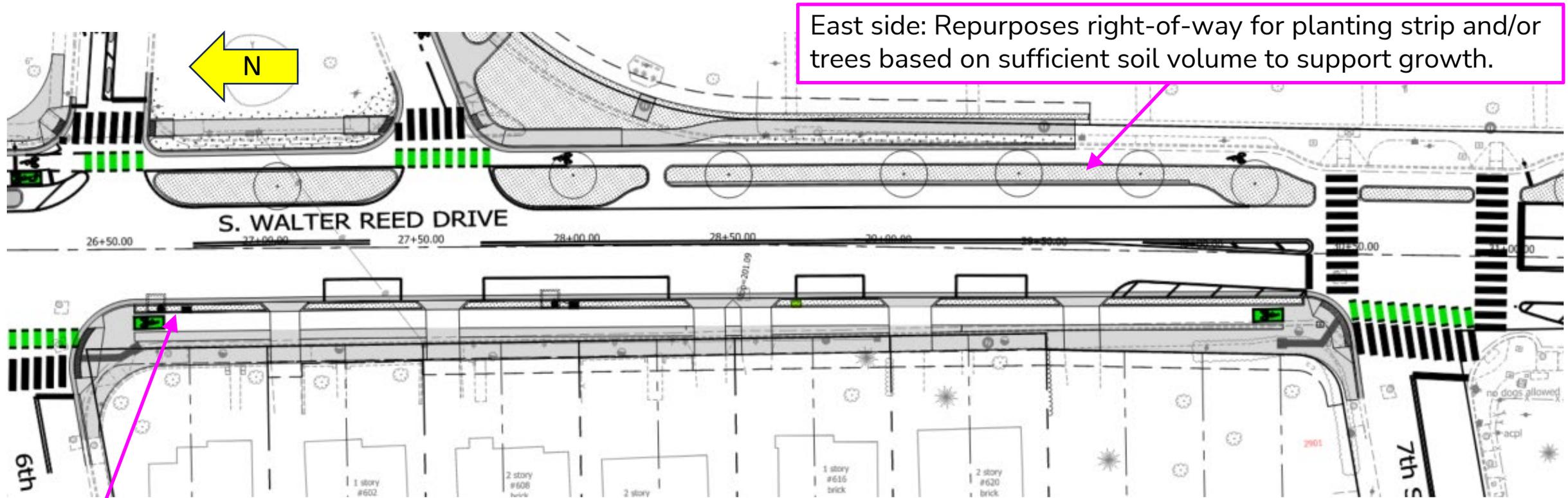
New bus boarding island



South Walter Reed Drive at 6th Street South



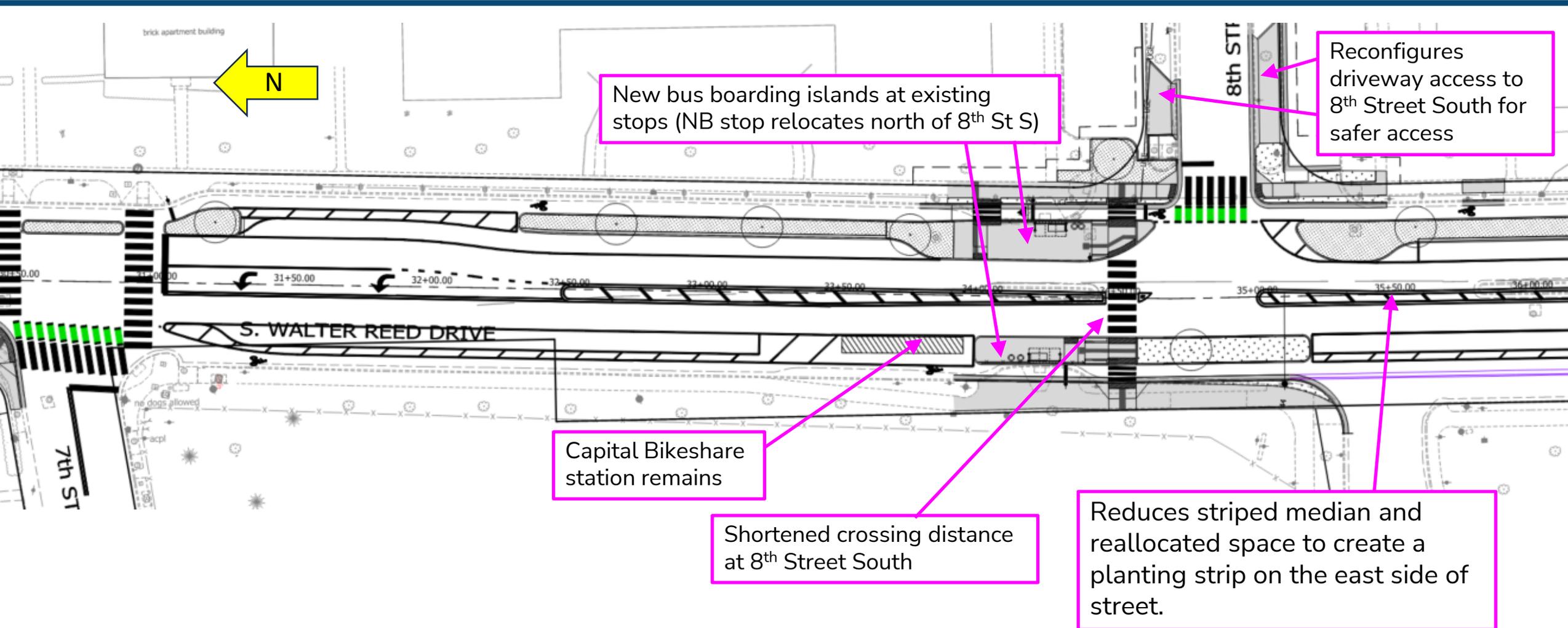
South Walter Reed Drive, 6th – 7th Streets South



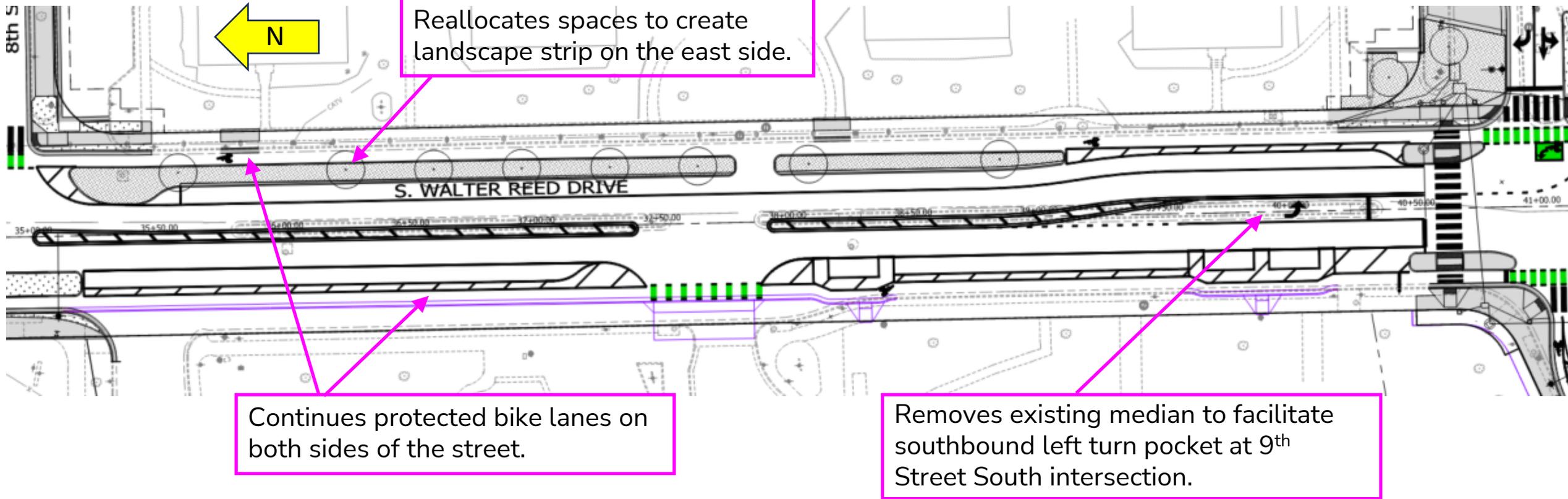
East side: Repurposes right-of-way for planting strip and/or trees based on sufficient soil volume to support growth.

West side: Includes a protected bike lane at the same level as sidewalk with brick paver buffer between asphalt bike lane and concrete sidewalk.

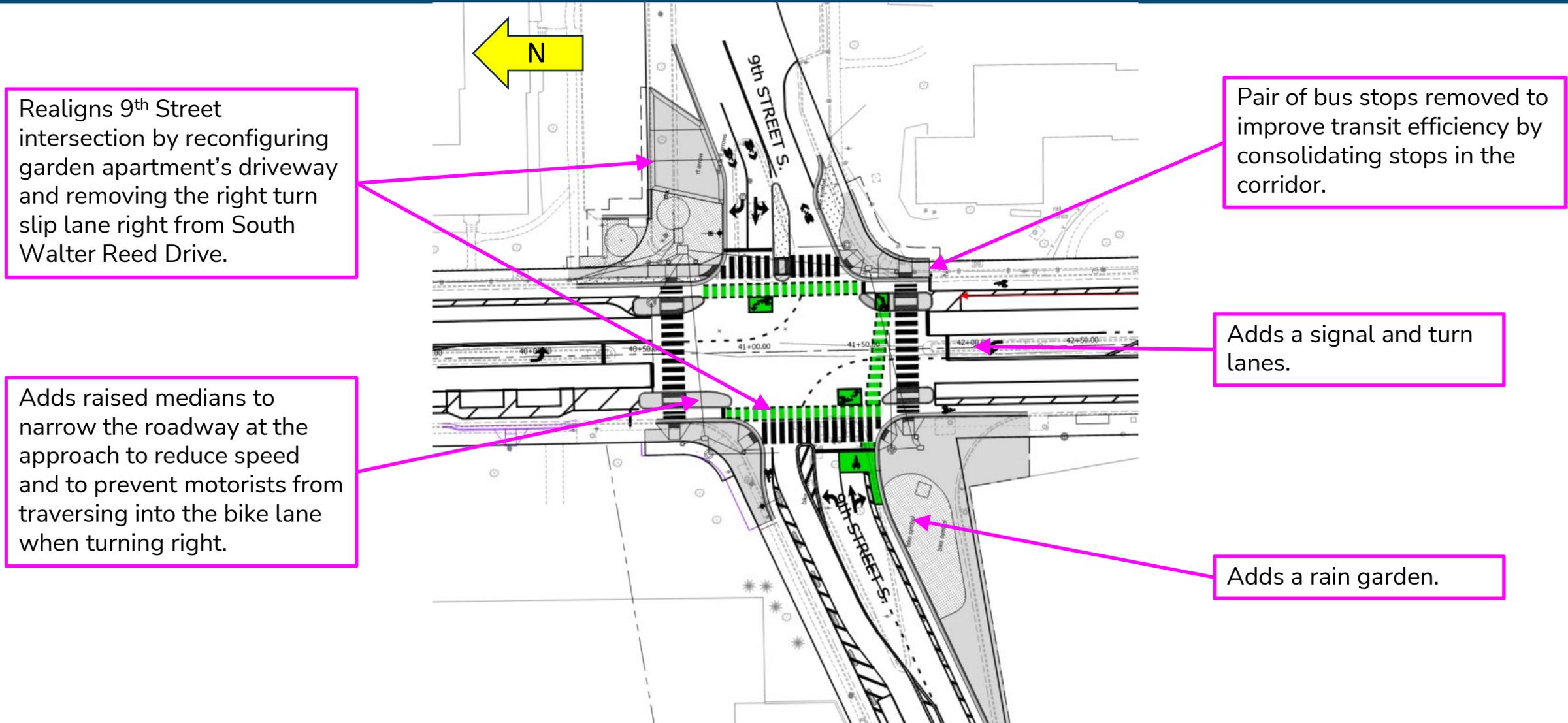
South Walter Reed Drive, 7th Street – 8th Street S



South Walter Reed Drive, 8th Street – 9th Street S



South Walter Reed Drive at 9th Street South



Realigns 9th Street intersection by reconfiguring garden apartment's driveway and removing the right turn slip lane right from South Walter Reed Drive.

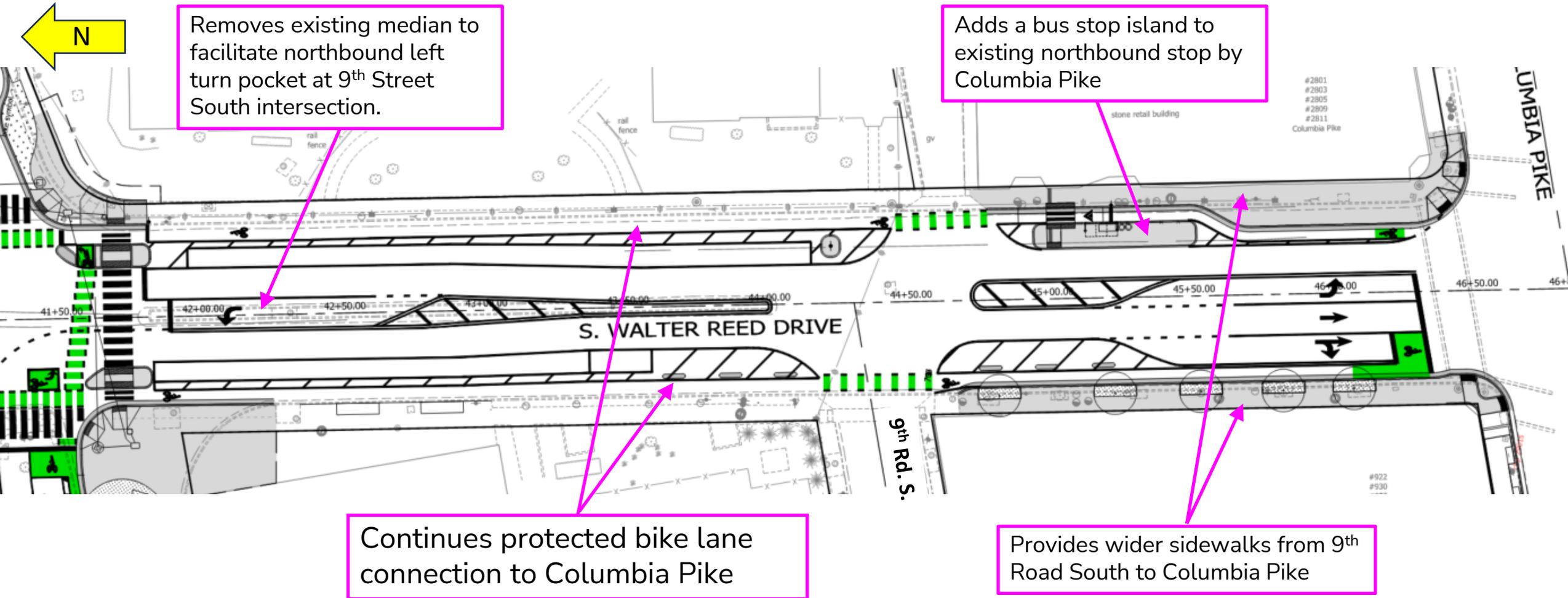
Adds raised medians to narrow the roadway at the approach to reduce speed and to prevent motorists from traversing into the bike lane when turning right.

Pair of bus stops removed to improve transit efficiency by consolidating stops in the corridor.

Adds a signal and turn lanes.

Adds a rain garden.

Walter Reed Drive, 9th Street South – Columbia Pike

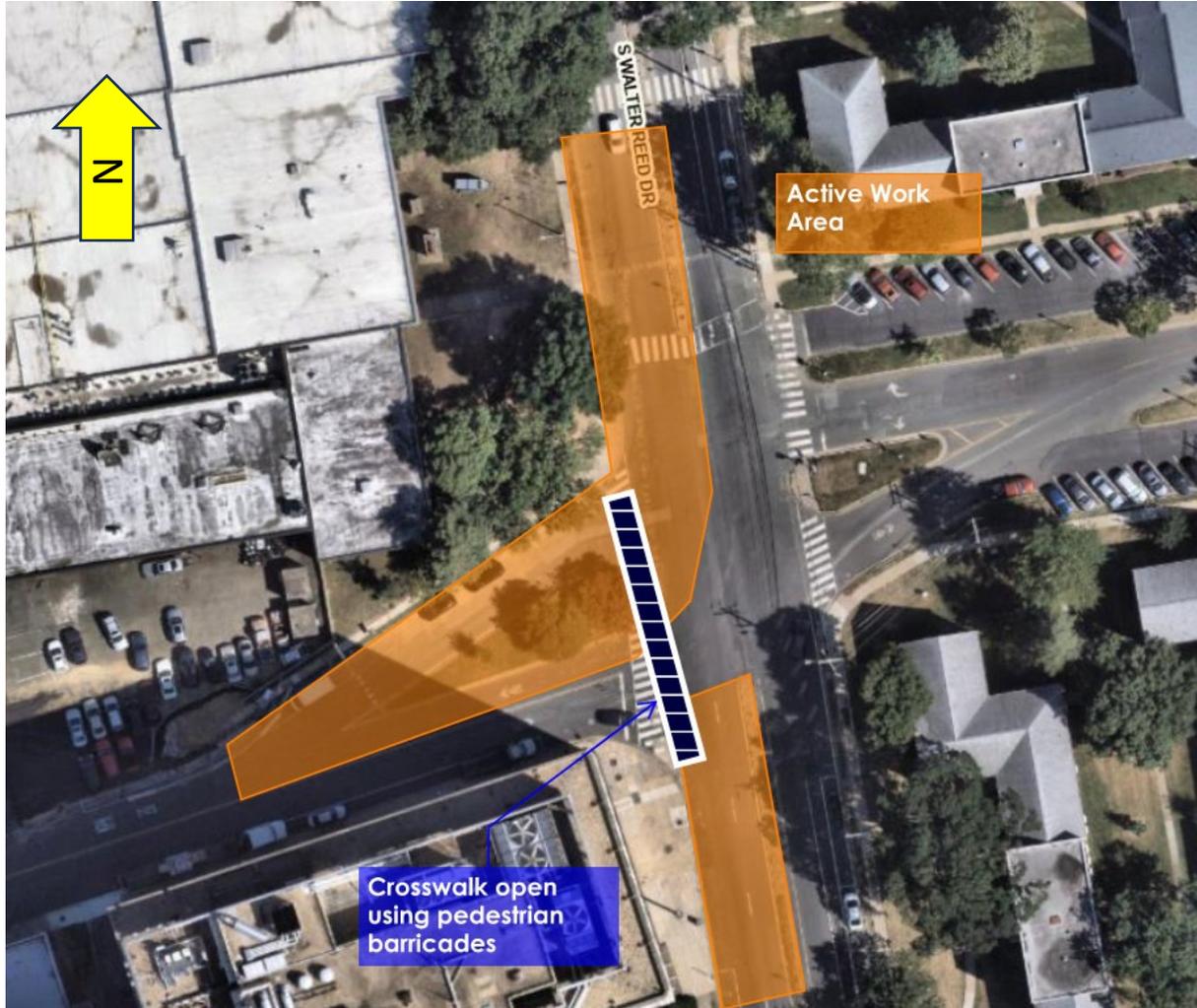


Construction

January 2026



Intersection at 9th Street South (Phase 1)



- **Phase 1: January 2026-August 2026**
- **Crews are working on the west side of the intersection. (~3 months)**
 - The southbound lanes of SWRD are closed; all traffic flows on the northbound lanes
 - The southbound bus stop at 9th Street South has moved south of 9th Road South
 - The northbound bus stop at 9th Street South is closed
 - Sidewalks remain open
- **Spring 2026: Work will shift to east side of the intersection (~3 months)**
- **August 2026: Intersection work complete and traffic signal operational**
- **Phase 2 (Fall 2026 – Summer 2027):**
Remainder of the project from 5th Street South to Columbia Pike



Sign up for newsletter updates. Visit [Arlingtonva.us](https://www.Arlingtonva.us) and search “[South Walter Reed Drive Complete Streets](#)” or scan here.

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