

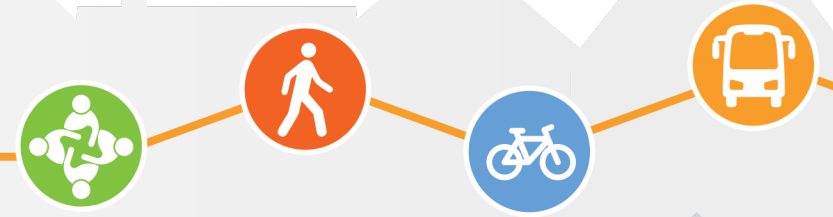
**NORTH
FAIR OAKS**

**BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN RAILROAD CROSSING
AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS STUDY**



Open House Event

Fair Oaks Community Center
December 14, 2023



Why are we here today?

The purpose of this presentation is to:

- Share the findings of our Study, including an update on the most recent activity
- Develop a shared understanding of constraints and trade-offs
- Allow for discussion and feedback



Meeting Agenda

- Project Recap
- Major Construction Constraints
- Conclusions
- Open Discussion

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Project Recap



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Planning Context and Study Goals

Study Purpose:

To build on prior County plans exploring the feasibility for a new bicycle and pedestrian crossing of the Caltrain tracks with safety and access improvements in the adjacent neighborhoods

- **2011 North Fair Oaks Community Plan**
- **2021 Unincorporated San Mateo County Active Transportation Plan**

Project Goals

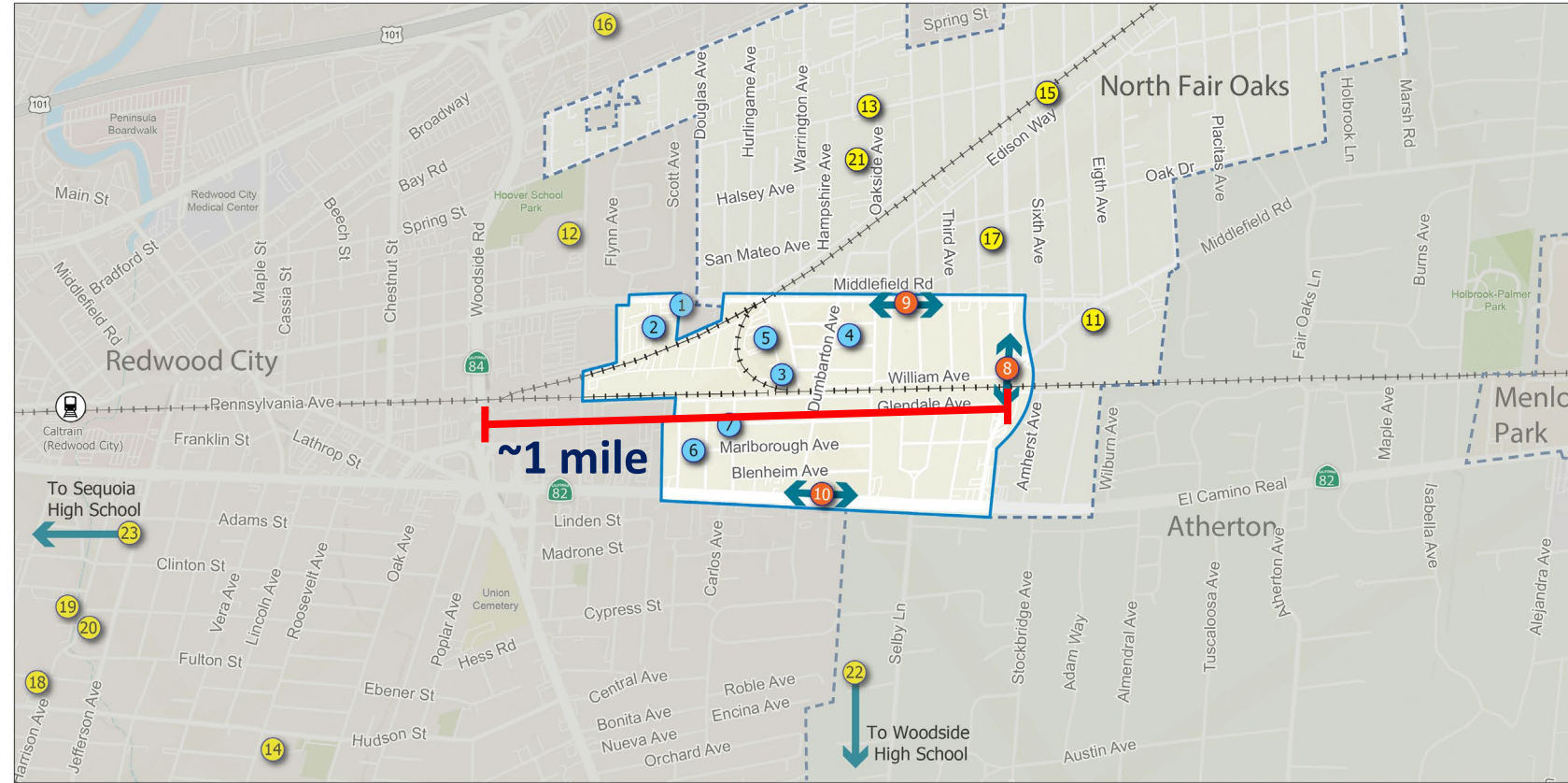




Project Need

Caltrain tracks cut through North Fair Oaks, limiting neighborhood connections.

There is only one crossing at 5th Avenue, the next closest crossing is a mile away at Woodside Road.



KEY DESTINATIONS

LEGEND

- Study Area
- Rail Corridor
- Caltrain Station
- City Boundary

KEY DESTINATIONS

- 1 Fair Oaks Community Center
- 2 North Fair Oaks Library
- 3 Middlefield Junction
- 4 Friendship Park
- 5 Fair Oaks Health Center
- 6 Siena Youth Center
- 7 St. Francis Center
- 8 5th Ave Corridor Commercial Area
- 9 Middlefield Rd Commercial Area
- 10 El Camino Real Commercial Area

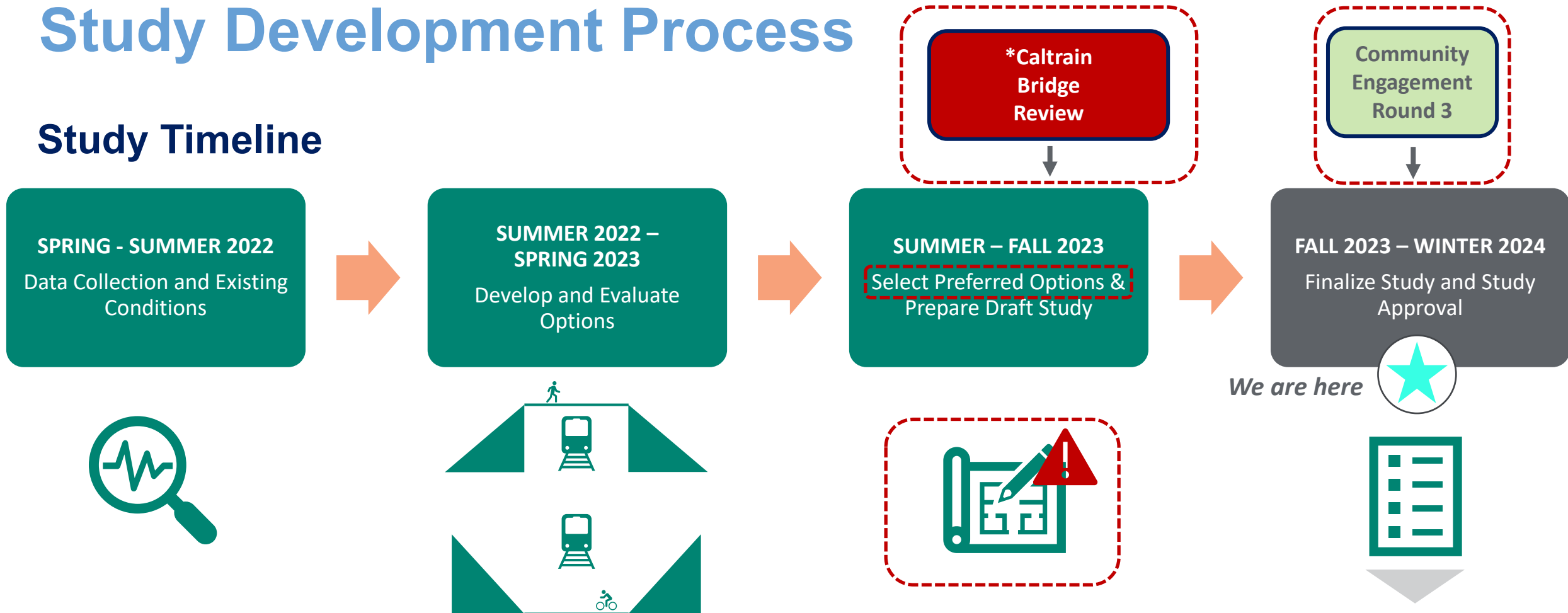
SCHOOLS

- 11 Garfield Community School
- 12 Hoover Elementary School
- 13 Kipp Excelencia Community Prep
- 14 Rocketship Redwood City Prep
- 15 Synapse School
- 16 Summit Preparatory Charter High School
- 17 Summit Everest Public High School
- 18 Redeemer Lutheran School
- 19 North Star Academy/McKinley Inst. of Technology
- 20 Montessori Community and Family School
- 21 Connect Community Charter School
- 22 Woodside High School
- 23 Sequoia High School

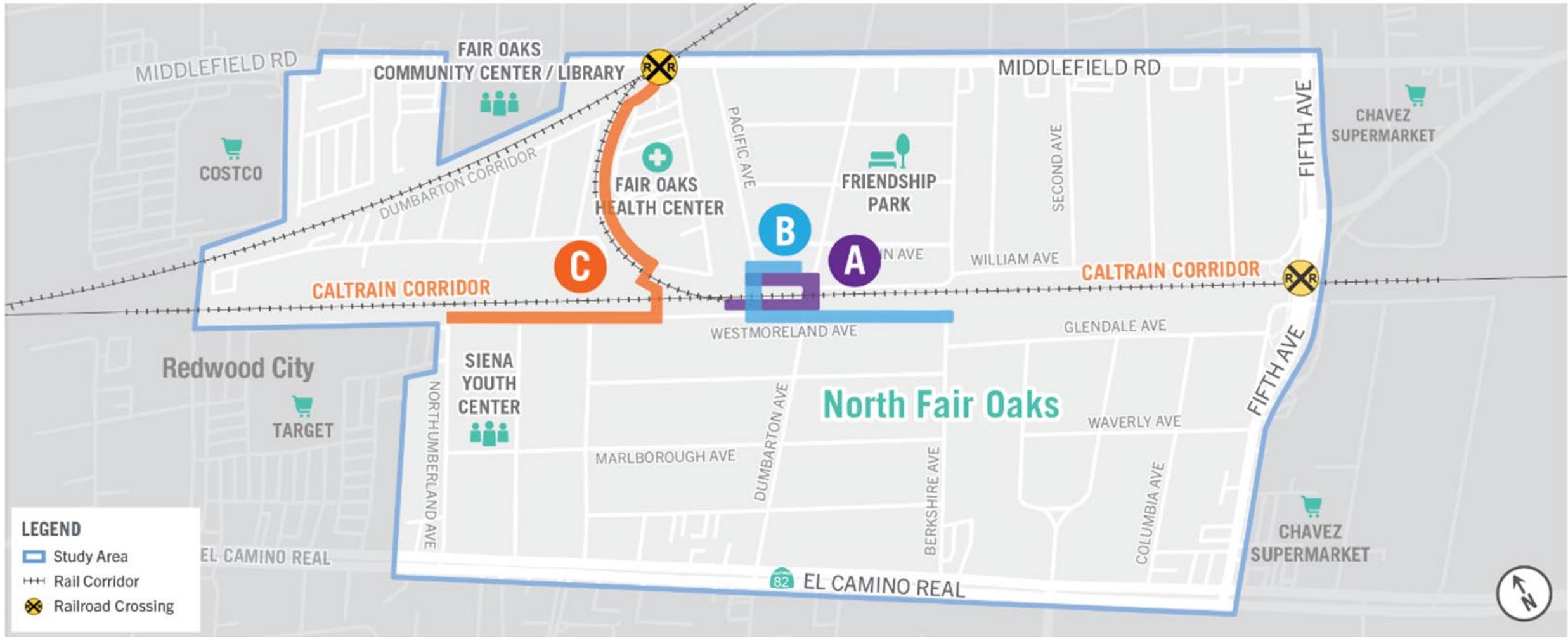


Study Development Process

Study Timeline



Study Area Rail Crossing Options





Rail Crossing Options

A - Dumbarton Avenue Tunnel



B - Dumbarton Avenue Bridge



C - Middlefield Junction Bridge





Community Connections Improvements

Bicycle and pedestrian surface street improvements can provide improved access and mobility to local destinations in the neighborhoods on both sides of the tracks and can be implemented separate from a rail crossing.

Sidewalk & Crosswalk Lighting



High-Visibility Crosswalk



ADA Curb Ramps



Community-preferred improvements based on feedback collected in Community Engagement Round 2.

Note: All community connections improvements require further study, design, and coordination. Recommended improvements must be evaluated and approved by the Department of Public Works.



Curb Bulb-outs



Raised Crosswalk



Traffic Circle



Chicanes




Speed Humps





Other potential community connections improvements.

Note: All community connections improvements require further study, design, and coordination. Recommended improvements must be evaluated and approved by the Department of Public Works.


Existing and Planned Infrastructure in North Fair Oaks


- Legend
- 


Standard Crosswalk
- 


High-Visibility Crosswalk*
- 


Traffic Signal
- 


Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon (RRFB)*
- 


Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB)*
- 


Bus Stop**
- 


Grade-Separated Railroad Crossing
- 


At-Grade Railroad Crossing
- 


Class I Bikeway
- 

Class II Bikeway*
- 

Bicycle Boulevard
- 

Planned Pedestrian Pathway
- 

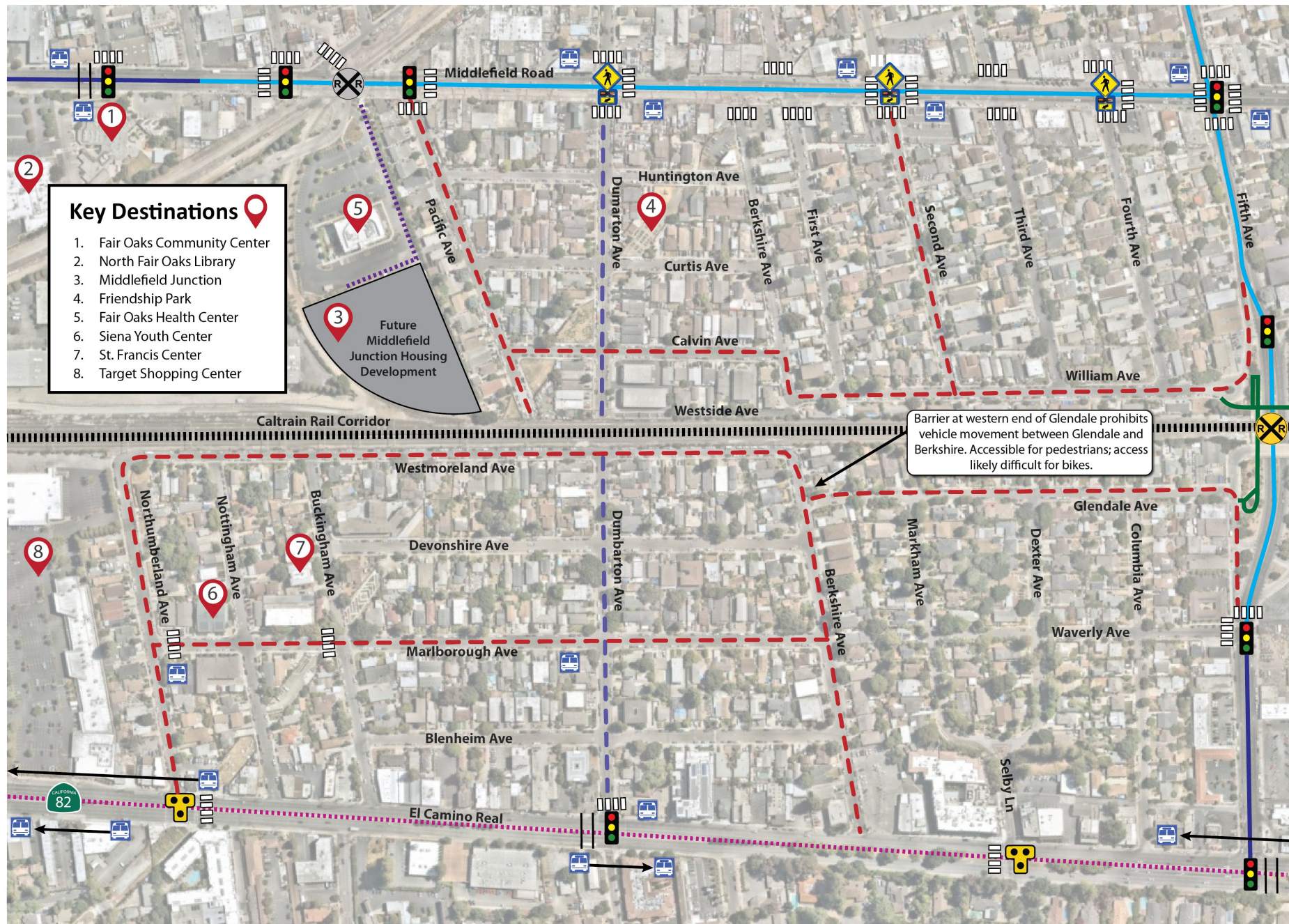
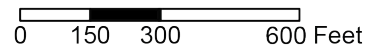
Planned Bikeway (mix of Class II & IV)
- 

Recommended Bikeway – San Mateo County ATP
- 

Recommended Bikeway – North Fair Oaks Community Plan

*Includes Under-Construction and Funded Improvement Projects

**Some existing bus stops proposed to be moved or consolidated by the ECR Bus Speed & Reliability Study



Community Connections

Recommendations - All Options

- Bike/Pedestrian Railroad Crossing
- Option A
- Option B
- Option C
- Bike Boulevard, including Signage, Markings, and Traffic Calming
- Improve Street Lighting
- Curb Bulb-outs and ADA Ramps
- Two-Stage Turn Queue Box (Bikes)
- Traffic Circle with ADA Ramps
- High-Visibility Crosswalk and ADA Ramps
- Raised, High-Visibility Crosswalk and ADA Ramps

Existing Infrastructure

Shown with Semi-Transparency

- Traffic Signal
- Existing Crosswalk*
- Bus Stop
- At-Grade Railroad Crossing
- Grade-Separated Railroad Crossing
- Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB)*
- Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon (RRFB)*
- Class I Bikeway
- Class II Bikeway*
- Bicycle Boulevard
- Planned Bikeway (mix of Class II & IV)
- Planned Pedestrian Pathway

*Includes Under-Construction and Funded Improvement Projects

0 150 300 600 Feet





Community Engagement Findings

Key Survey Takeaways

Outreach Round 1 - Summer 2022



37%



37% drive to destinations on the other side of the tracks but would prefer to walk or bike

30%



30% walk, bike, or take the bus to the other side of the railroad tracks but find it challenging

22%



22% don't travel to places on the other side of the tracks or do so less often because it is difficult

Top safety issues: High car speeds, street/sidewalk lighting and unsafe street crossings



Top priorities: convenience, personal security, and access





Community Engagement Findings

Key Survey Takeaways

Outreach Round 2 - Spring 2023



85% voted for a bridge rail crossing option

78%

78% said they would use a new crossing frequently



Many residents shared concerns regarding personal security



Many residents are concerned about parking impacts



Top 3 neighborhood street improvements: sidewalk/crosswalk lighting, high visibility crosswalks, and accessible curb ramps



Discussion/Questions on Recap Slides

Rail Crossing Options

- Did we accurately reflect community preferences and concerns for a new crossing?



Discussion/Questions on Recap Slides

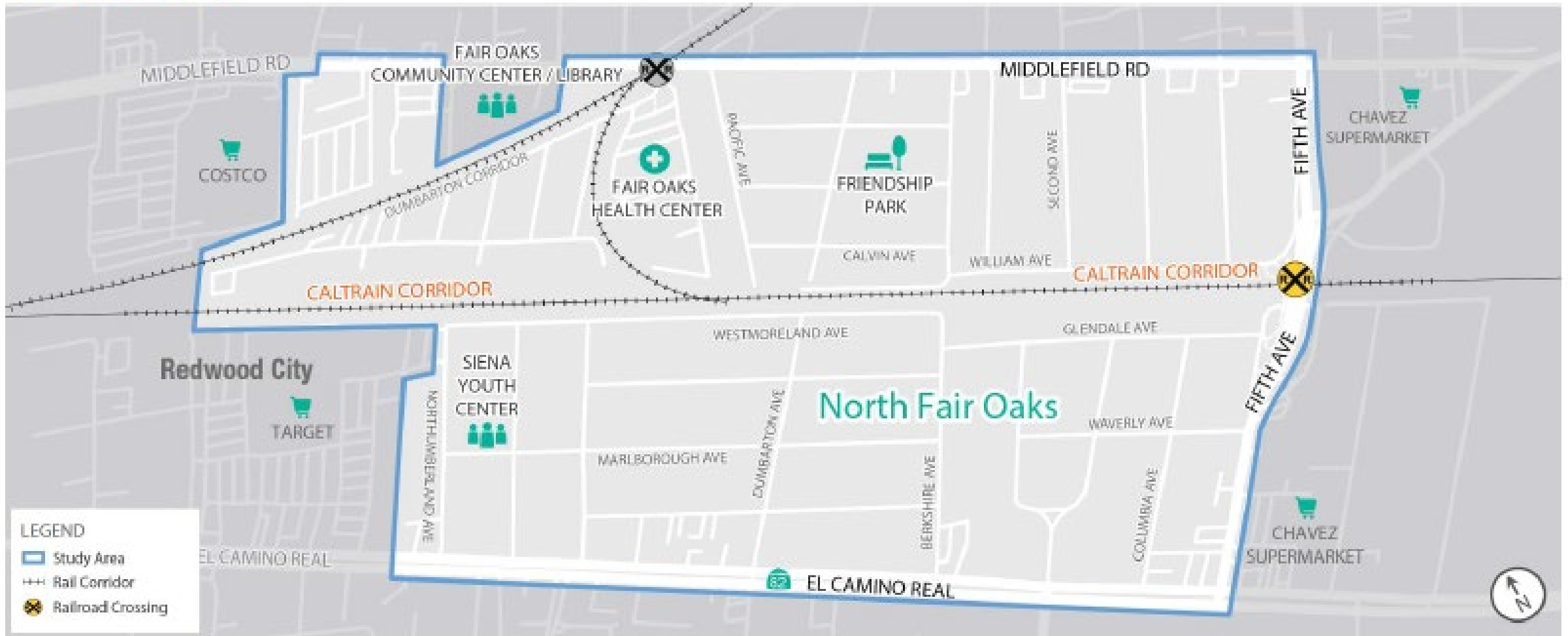
Community Connection Options

Facilities to make it easier to walk and bike may be built separate from a rail crossing, pending design review and funding

- Did we hear community preferences correctly?
- Are there any type of improvements or locations in the Study area that would be priorities for you?



Study Area Map



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Major Construction Constraints



Caltrain Electrification

Relevant Options

- B** Dumbarton Avenue Bridge
- C** Middlefield Junction Bridge

Caltrain's new electrification system poses a challenge to construction over the Caltrain corridor.





Caltrain Review

Why was it needed?

Bridge Options B and C pose potential conflicts with electrification equipment, presenting risks to Caltrain.

B - Dumbarton Avenue Bridge



C - Middlefield Junction Bridge



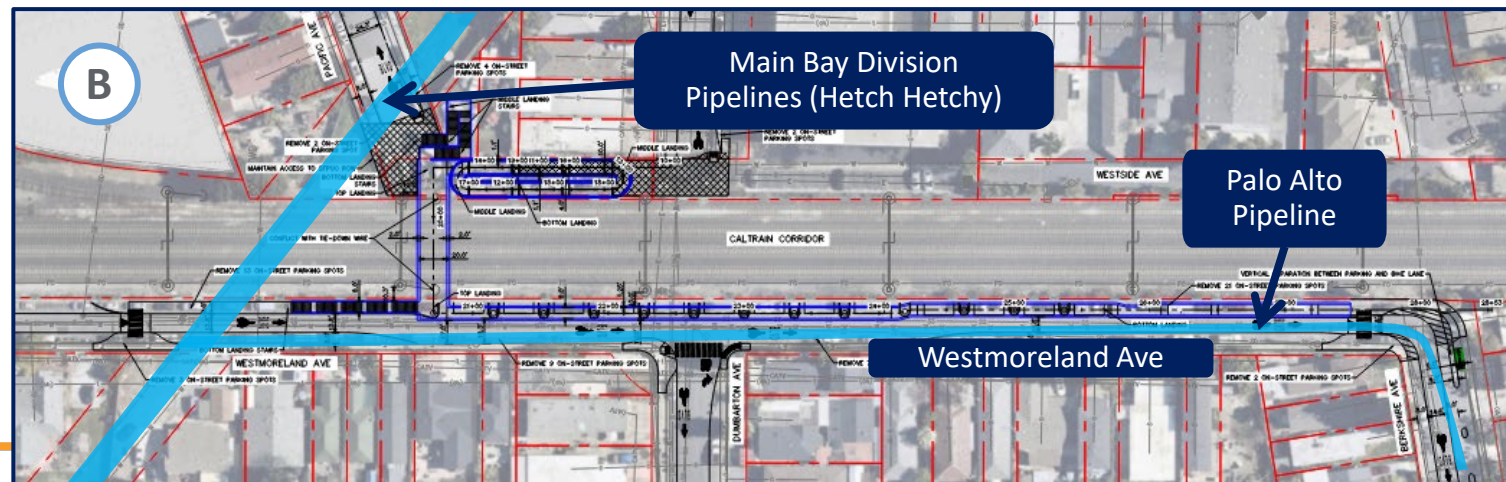
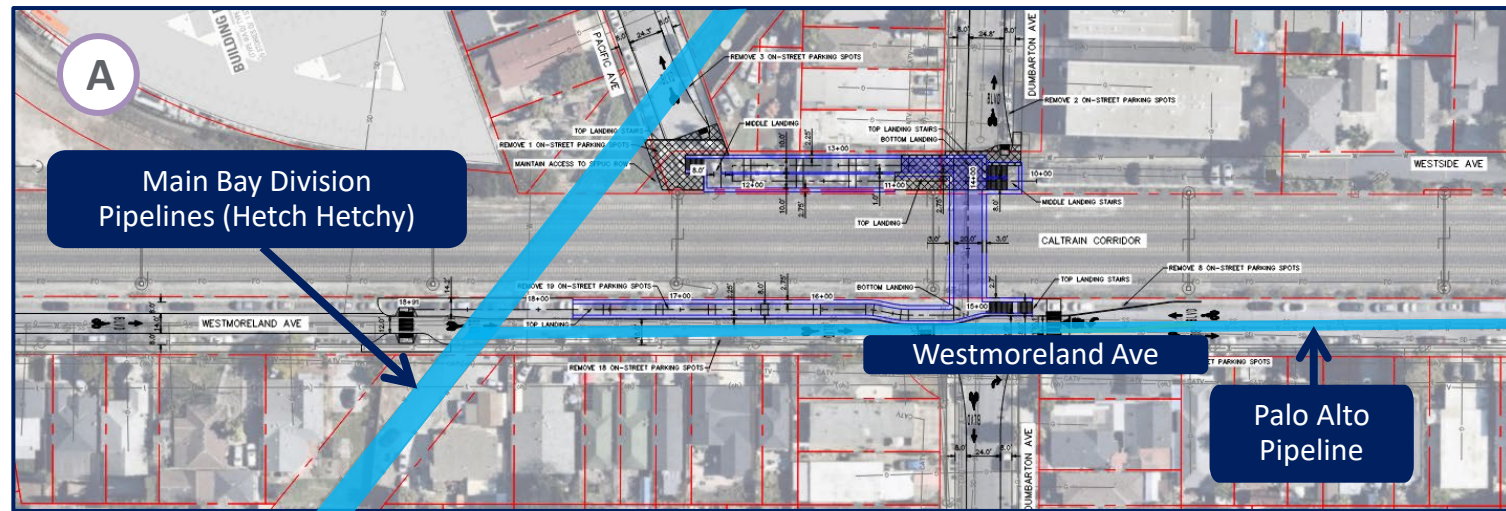


Water Pipeline Constraints

Relevant Options

- A Dumbarton Avenue Tunnel
- B Dumbarton Avenue Bridge

Two major water pipelines are likely to be impacted by construction of Option A or B



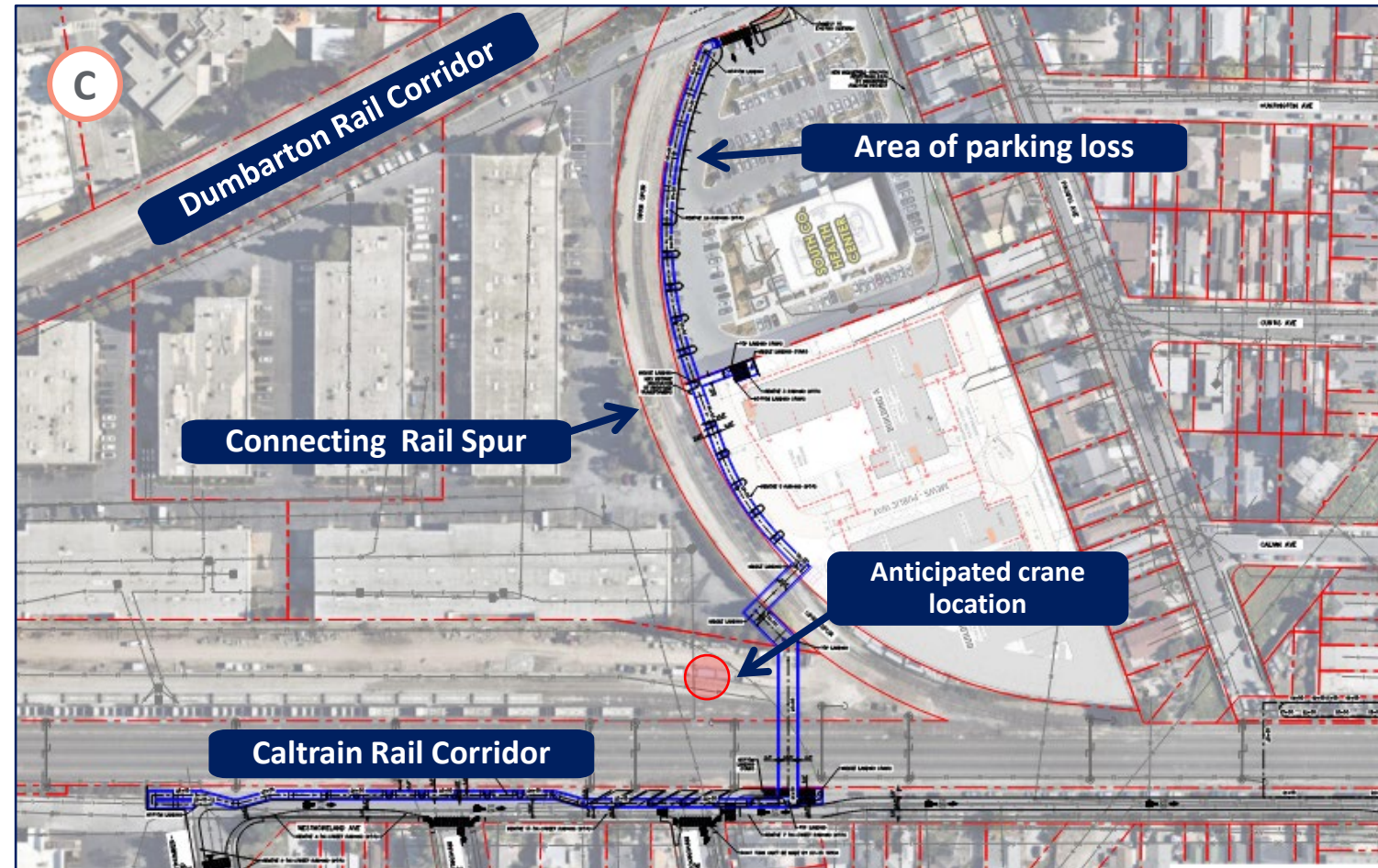


Middlefield Junction Constraints

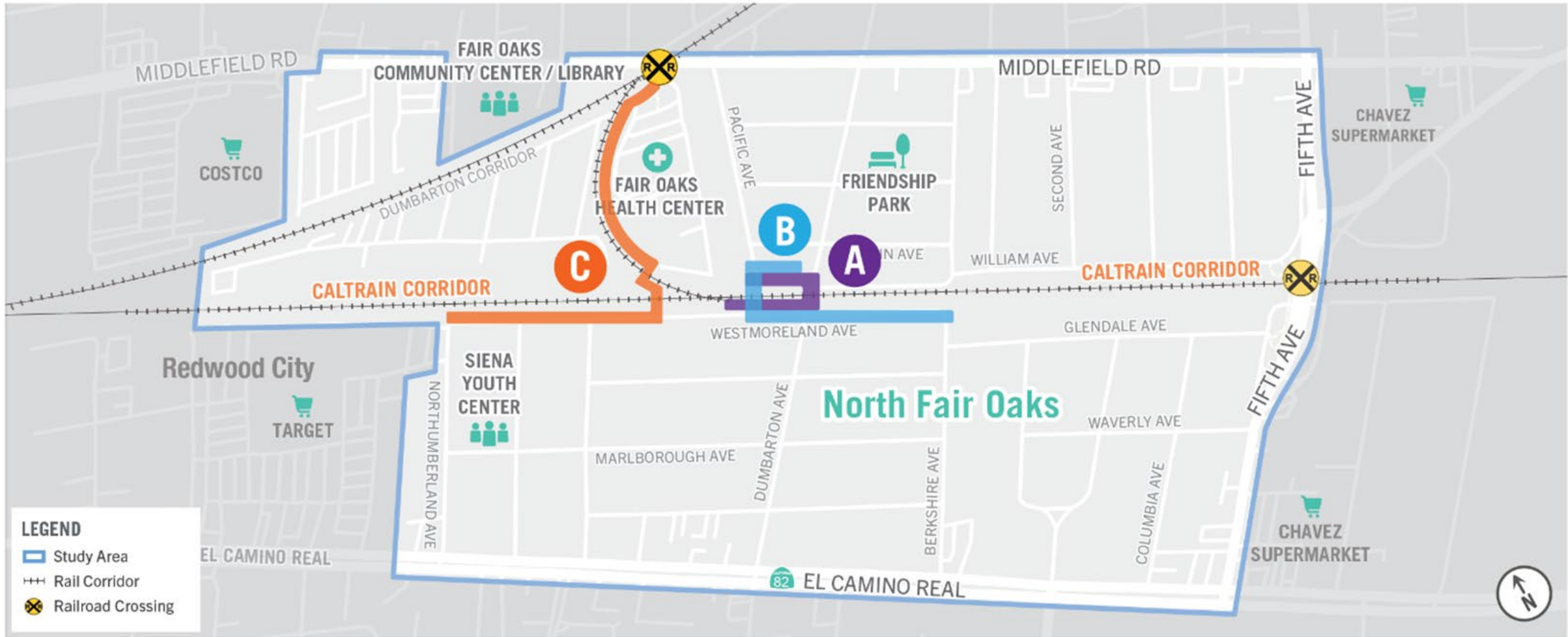
Relevant
Options

C Middlefield Junction Bridge

The location of Option C at Middlefield Junction features several unique conflicts and risks





















Study Area Rail Crossing Options





Option Constraints - Summary

 = Relevant consideration
or impact for Option
implementation

	SFPUC 	Caltrain 	Spur Conflicts 	Construction 	Engagement 	Parking 
Option A						
Option B						
Option C						

Each of the three Options presents complications that could not be adequately addressed within the scope of this study



Discussion/Questions on Construction Constraints

- Is there anything you would like to hear more about regarding these constraints?
- Have your thoughts about a rail crossing changed, hearing more about these challenges?

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Conclusions



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Conclusions

- ➔ An array of complexities associated with each crossing option prevents the selection of a preferred alternative
- ➔ The community expressed support for a new bridge crossing and a preference to do something as opposed to nothing
- ➔ Some community connection improvements could be implemented separate from a rail crossing



Remaining Study Activities

DATES	MILESTONE
December 2023	Community Engagement Round 3
January 2024	Finalize Public Report
February 2024	Final Report to County Advisory Bodies (NFO Community Council, Planning Commission, BPAC)
March 2024	Final Report to County Board of Supervisors



Questions/Comments?

E-mail: OOS_NFOwalkbikesmc@smcgov.org

Website: NFOwalkbike.org

Draft Study currently
open to comment
through January 2, 2024.
We would love to hear
from you!



Joel Slavit, AICP
County Project Manager



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Open Discussion



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Appendix Slides



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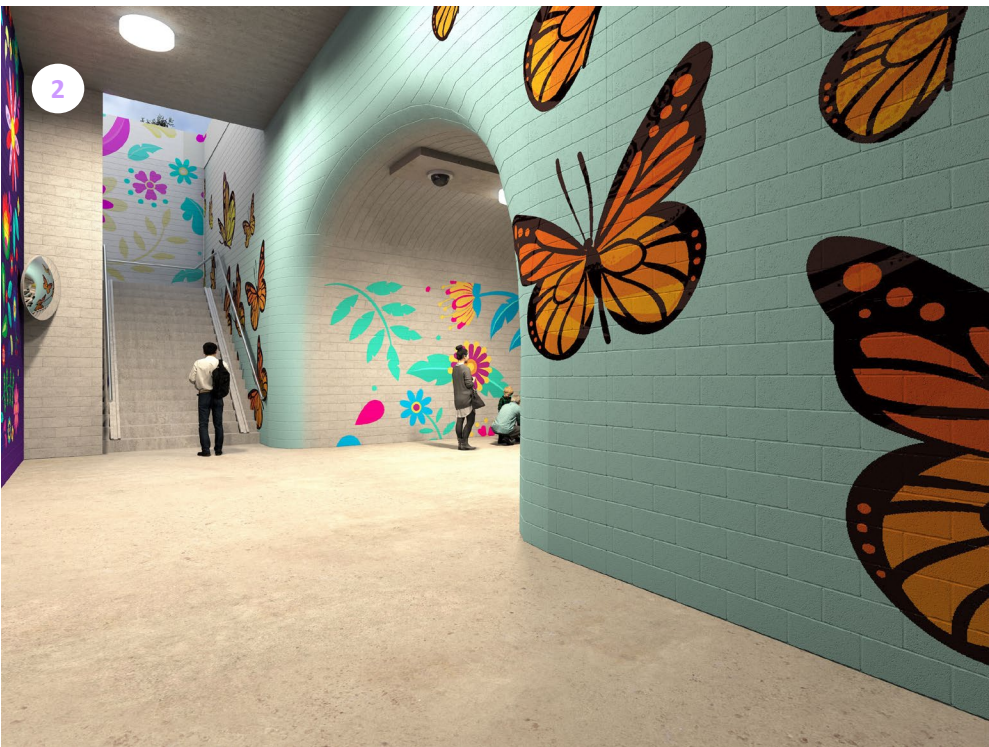
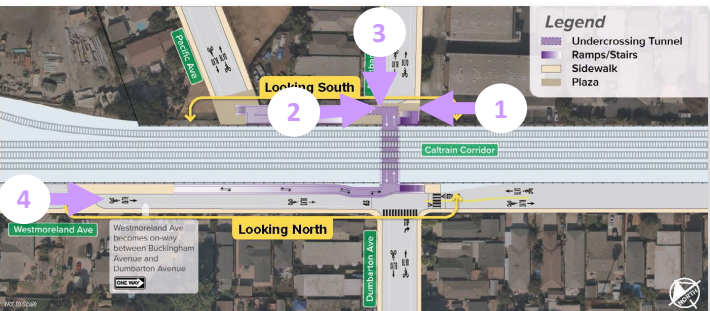
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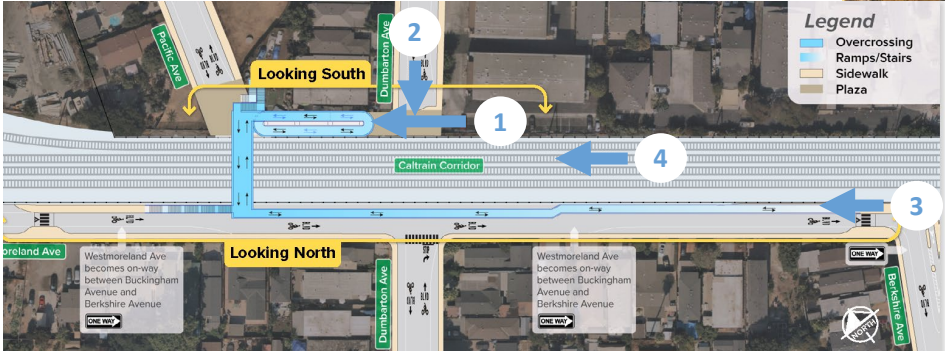
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Option A Dumbarton Tunnel Renderings



Option B Dumbarton Bridge Renderings



Option C Middlefield Junction Bridge Renderings

