# SHORT AND MEDIUM TERM SOLUTIONS FOR VISION ZERO **COMPLETE SIDEWALK NETWORK & ENHANCE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND COMFORT**

### **Problems:**

- » The pedestrian environment is poorly separated from fast moving traffic.
- » Sidewalks are not continuous.
- » Driveways and pedestrian ramps are often not ADA compliant.
- » Existing sidewalks are narrow and poorly maintained.
- » Continuous right turn lanes that function as through lanes bring fast/weaving traffic near to the edge of the roadway.

## **Potential Solutions:**

- » Create continuous ADA compliant sidewalks by filling sidewalk network gaps.
  - » Some areas may require short retaining walls due to grading issues.
- » Create a landscaped buffer between curb and sidewalk / sidepath wherever possible.
- » Plant shade giving street trees wherever space allows, to create a pleasant environment, provide a buffer and slow traffic.
- » Retrofit driveways and pedestrian ramps to make them ADA compliant. At driveways, short ramps can enable sidewalks to remain at one level.
- » Add pedestrian scale lighting and improve maintenance protocols to ensure full sidewalk is passable for its whole length.

### **FILL IN SIDEWALK GAPS**

- » Create continuous ADA compliant sidewalks.
- » Create a landscape buffer between curb and sidewalk / sidepath wherever possible.
- » Plant shade giving street trees wherever space allows.



Conceptual Sketch

### **SIDEWALKS GAPS**



# **RETROFIT DRIVEWAYS TO MAKE THEM ADA COMPLIANT**

- - -Street Trees (Wherever Possible)
  - Landscape Buffer (Wherever Possible)
  - idewalk or Sidepath (Corridor-wide)
  - 2-Way Separated Bike Lane using existing shoulders (where applicable)

- » Use short driveway ramps to create continuous ADA compliant sidewalks / sidepath
  - » Route the level sidewalk behind this ramp.
- » Creating a short ramp can reduce speeds of turning vehicles.



Conceptual Sketch

## **BETTER MAINTAIN EXISTING SIDEWALKS**





Existing sidewalks obstructed by landscaping debris or showing a lack of maintenance

Short Ramp ( Approximately 3' deep)

Sidewalk remains level

Sidewalk or Sidepath

# ADD CURB EXTENSIONS TO DISCONTINUE RIGHT TURN LANES

- its use as through travel lane.
- » Curb extensions help reduce speed of turning vehicles.
- » Curb extensions help shorten crossing distance for pedestrians.



**Conceptual Sketch** 

» Interruptions in right turn lane created by curb extensions prevents

Extend sidewalks to fill in

Enhanced bus stops - with shelters and other amenities

Add trees in medians -as a traffic calming technique

Painted or rubber curb extensions to discontinue continuous right turn

# **SHORT AND MEDIUM TERM SOLUTIONS FOR VISION ZERO CREATE SAFE, COMFORTABLE, AND FREQUENT CROSSINGS**

### **Problems:**

- » The pedestrian environment is poorly separated from fast moving traffic.
- » Many driveways and pedestrian ramps are not ADA compliant.
- » Un-signalized crossings across 6-7 lanes.
- » Matthew Henson Trail crossing design and timing.
- » Channelized right turn lanes at Connecticut Ave.
- » Lack of pedestrian refuge islands at many intersections.
- » Many bus stops have no crossing opportunities.
- » Top traffic speeds are high.

## **Potential Solutions:**

- » Retrofit existing and add new pedestrian curb ramps to be ADA compliant.
- » Create direct and short crossings.
- » Reduce top speeds with traffic calming techniques.
- » Add pedestrian refuge islands to shorted crossings.

# ADD PEDESTRIAN REFUGE ISLANDS AND SIGNAL CONTROL TO ALL PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

- » At each un-signalized intersection study the feasibility of adding a traffic signal.
- » Add signal controls similar to the Matthew Henson Trail crossing to mid-block crossings as well as any new crossings.



Conceptual Sketch

# **PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE CROSSING OPPORTUNITIES**



# » Eliminate left turn lanes (where feasible) to create wider refuge islands. » Use temporary material such as paint to stripe out lanes that are not

- required.
- » Add signal/beacon at any location with marked crosswalk.

Conceptual Sketch

# **RETROFIT EXISTING INTERSECTION CROSSINGS MATTHEW HENSON TRAIL** CROSSING

# **ADD RAISED CROSSWALKS ON CHANNELIZED RIGHT**

- » Helps reduce speeds for turning vehicles.
- » Keeps crosswalks at sidewalk level and prioritized pedestrians.
- » Could be signal controlled with Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon.



**Conceptual Sketch** 

### » Create short direct crossing.

- » Reduces crossing distance from 240 feet to 115 feet.
- » Keeps signal control as is existing.





Conceptual Sketch Crossing Distance = 115 Feet

# **SHORT AND MEDIUM TERM SOLUTIONS FOR VISION ZERO CREATE CONTINUOUS BICYCLE FACILITY**

# **Problems:**

» Bicycling along a high traffic, high speed road is unsafe and/or uncomfortable for most riders

# **Potential Solutions:**

- » Transform wide shoulders into 2-way separated bike lanes where applicable.
- » In constrained sections, widen existing sidewalk to create minimum 8' wide sidepath, or create new sidepaths where no sidewalks exist and where there is no frontage road or shoulder.
- » Convert frontage roads to two-way bikeways, including a "sharrow" marking in the direction of traffic and contra-flow bike lane in the opposing direction.
- » Create a neighborhood greenway on parallel residential streets. Neighborhood greenway treatment can include traffic calming devices, bicycle pavement markings, enhanced signs and way-finding, etc.

# **SIDEPATHS**

» Widen existing sidewalk to create minimum 8' wide sidepath, or create new sidepaths where no sidewalks exist and where there is no frontage road or shoulder.



Conceptual Sketch



## **POTENTIAL BICYCLE FACILITIES**



Example of a Sidepath Source: www.urbanofile.com

- Street Trees (Wherever Possible) – Enhanced Bus Stops Retaining Walls (Where Necessary) -Sidepath

- Landscape Buffer (Wherever Possible)

# **SHARROWS AND CONTRA-FLOW BIKE LANES ON** FRONTAGE ROADS

» Stripe frontage roads as shared roads with sharrow markings and contra-flow bike lanes



Conceptual Sketch

# **TWO-WAY SEPARATED BIKE LANES ON SHOULDERS**

# **NEIGHBORHOOD GREENWAY ON PARALLEL STREETS**

- » Create a neighborhood greenway on parallel residential streets. Neighborhood greenway treatments can include traffic calming devices, bicycle pavement markings, enhanced signage and wayfinding, etc. -Street Trees
- -Add new sidewalks where none present
- -Existing Driveway
- -Contra-flow bike lane
- -Shared Lane with Sharrow markings

Street Trees (Wherever Possible) Buffer

Sidewalk or Sidepath 2-way separated

bike lanes



Example of a 2-way Separated Bike Lane Source: www.movabilityaustin.org



Example of a 2-way Separate Bike Lane behind bus stops Source: NACTO / Dongho Chang



Typical Parallel Residential Street to Veirs Mill Road



Example of a Neighborhood greenway (Source: NACTO)