



West End Bridge Connectors Expansion

Pittsburgh, PA

Steering Committee Meeting
September 24, 2025

Riverlife

Merritt Chase
Landscape
Architecture

TOOLE
DESIGN

Goal

Get feedback on final designs

Agenda

Review project schedule

Review purpose of project

Recap feedback on options

Present final designs

Discussion

West End Bridge Connectors Expansion

Phase 1: West End and Manchester
Neighborhood Connections Concept Designs

- Project Kick-off and Stakeholder Tours - 1 Month (Feb/March)
- Inventory and Analysis - 2 Months (Mar - Apr)
- Conceptual Design Options - 3 Months (May - July)
- Final Conceptual Design - 2 Months (Aug - Sept)

We are here →

Phase 2: West End Connections
Schematic Design Documentation

- Survey
- Schematic Design Documentation
- Cost Estimate

Why does this project matter?

The West End Bridge, despite it’s prime location, provides little protection for people walking and biking.

Multi-modal options are uncomfortable, indirect, and unsafe. Driving remains the only practical option for most people.

Neighborhoods immediately surrounding the West End Bridge are multimodal, with residents walking, biking, and riding transit at rates that surpass the citywide average.

However, the West End Bridge itself remains difficult to navigate without an automobile and congestion creates a pinch point for those traveling through the area.

Accommodating those who walk, bicycle, and take transit will relieve congestion pressure and expand capacity.

Investments in safer, more accessible connections that make the bridge easier to navigate without an automobile will have a positive impact on quality of life, stress levels, and overall physical and mental health.

The West End Bridge projects will connect the West End and Manchester neighborhoods to their riverfronts.



West End Bridge Connectors are the first step to create connections to the West End Bridge.



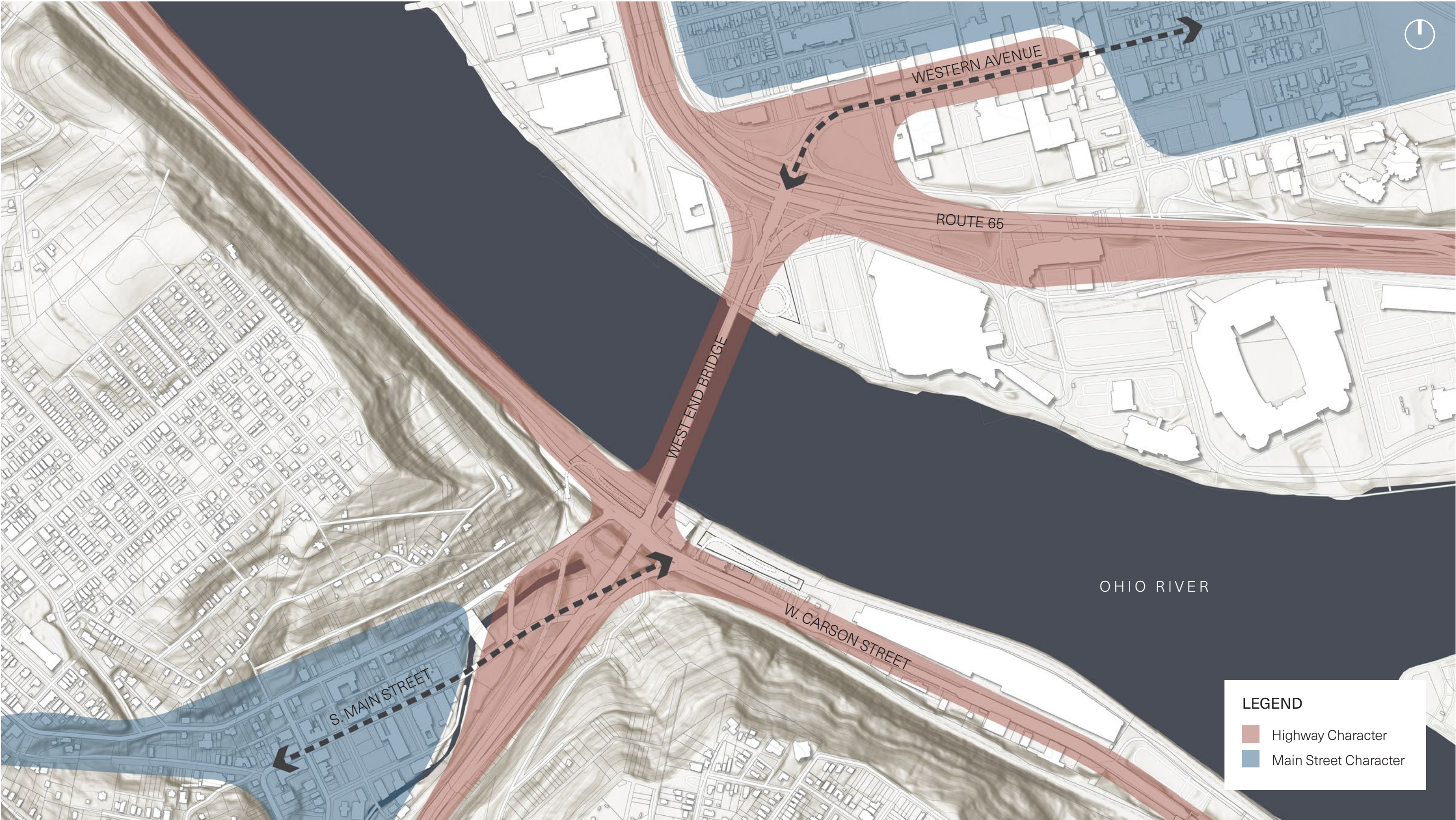
West End Bridge Connectors are the First Step to Create Connections to the West End Bridge.



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West End Bridge Connector Expansions will expand access into the neighborhoods and help break down the “Highway Character vs. Main Street Character” divide.



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Highway Character

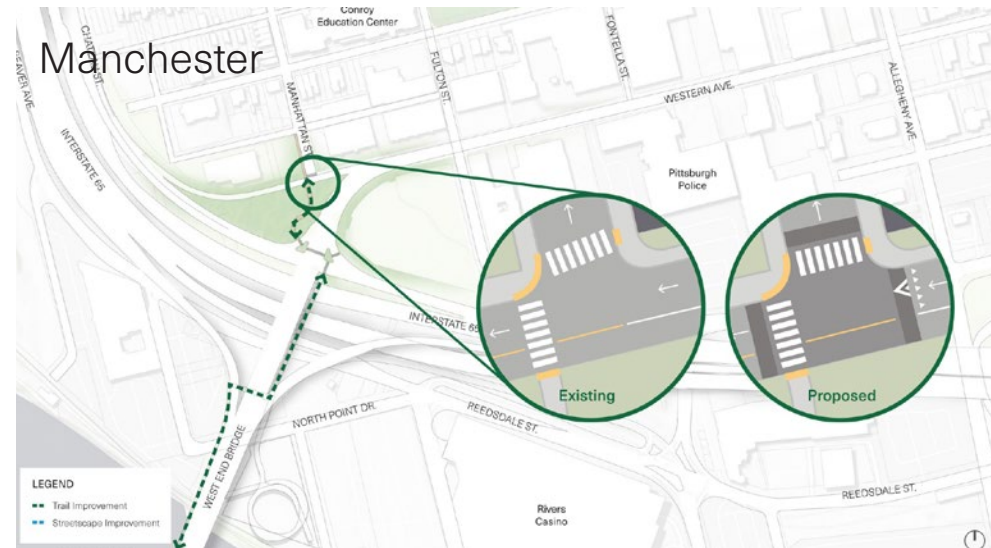


Main Street Character

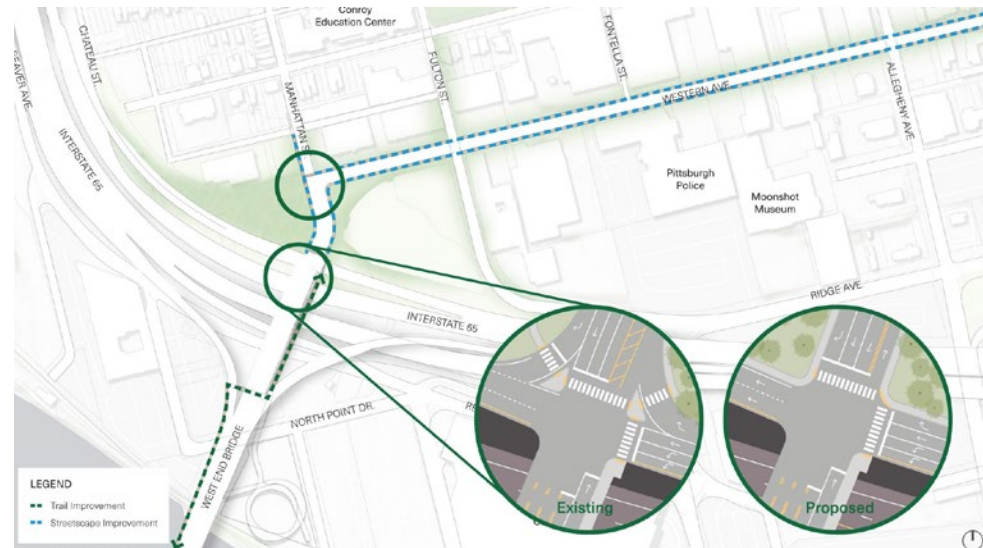
At the last Steering Committee Meeting, we reviewed site histories, existing conditions, and three scales of potential improvements.

SMALL/SHORT-TERM

Build Safe, Accessible Path

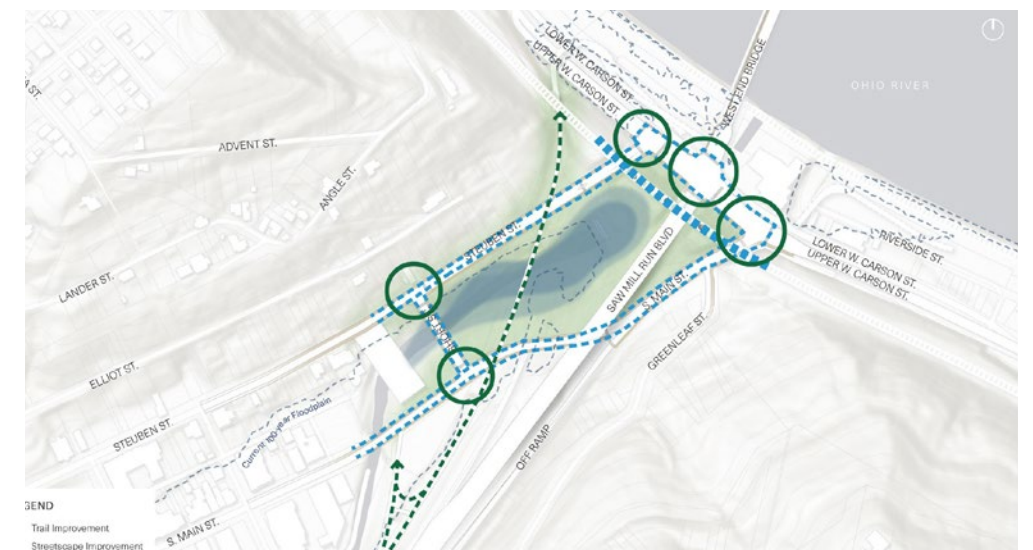
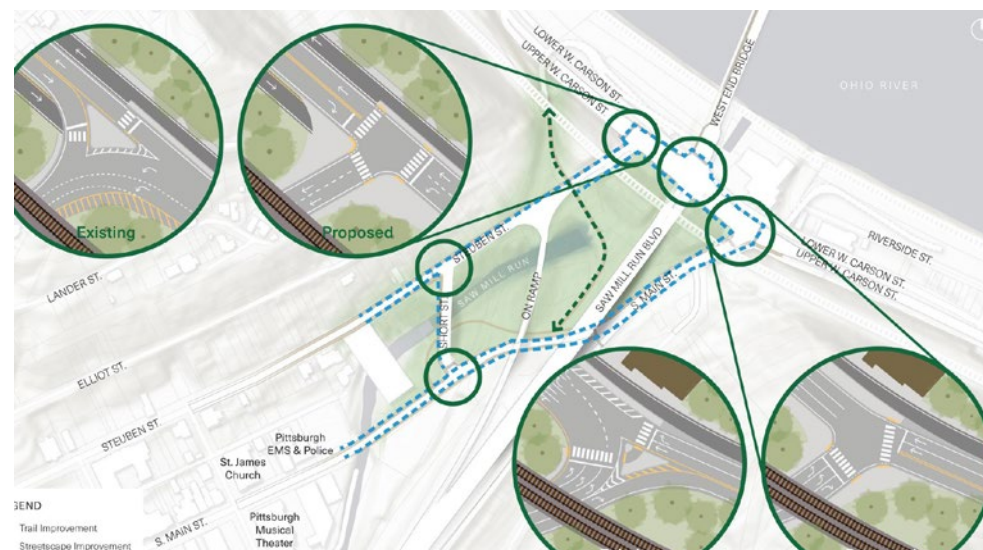
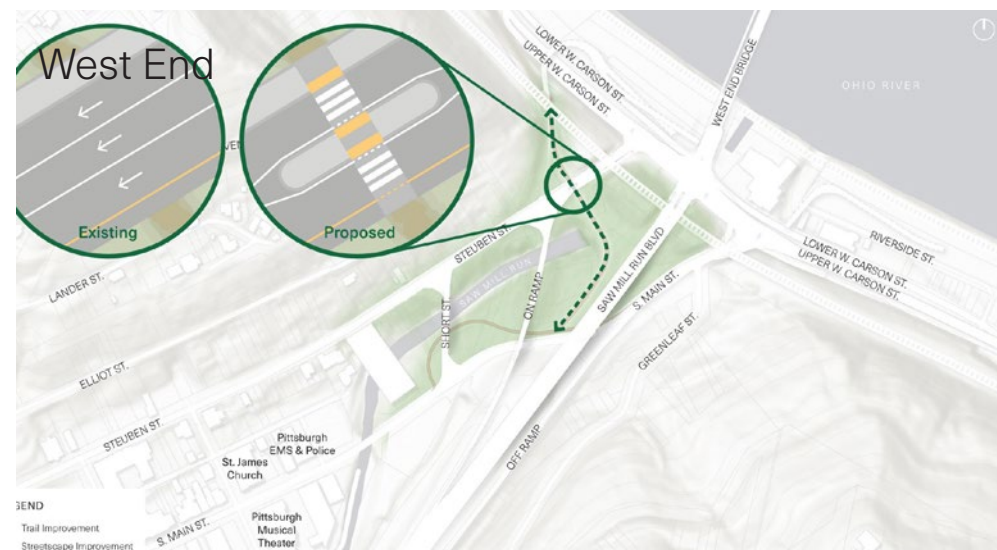


MEDIUM/MID-TERM
Re-establish Neighborhood Street Grid



LARGE/LONG-TERM

Address Regional Issues

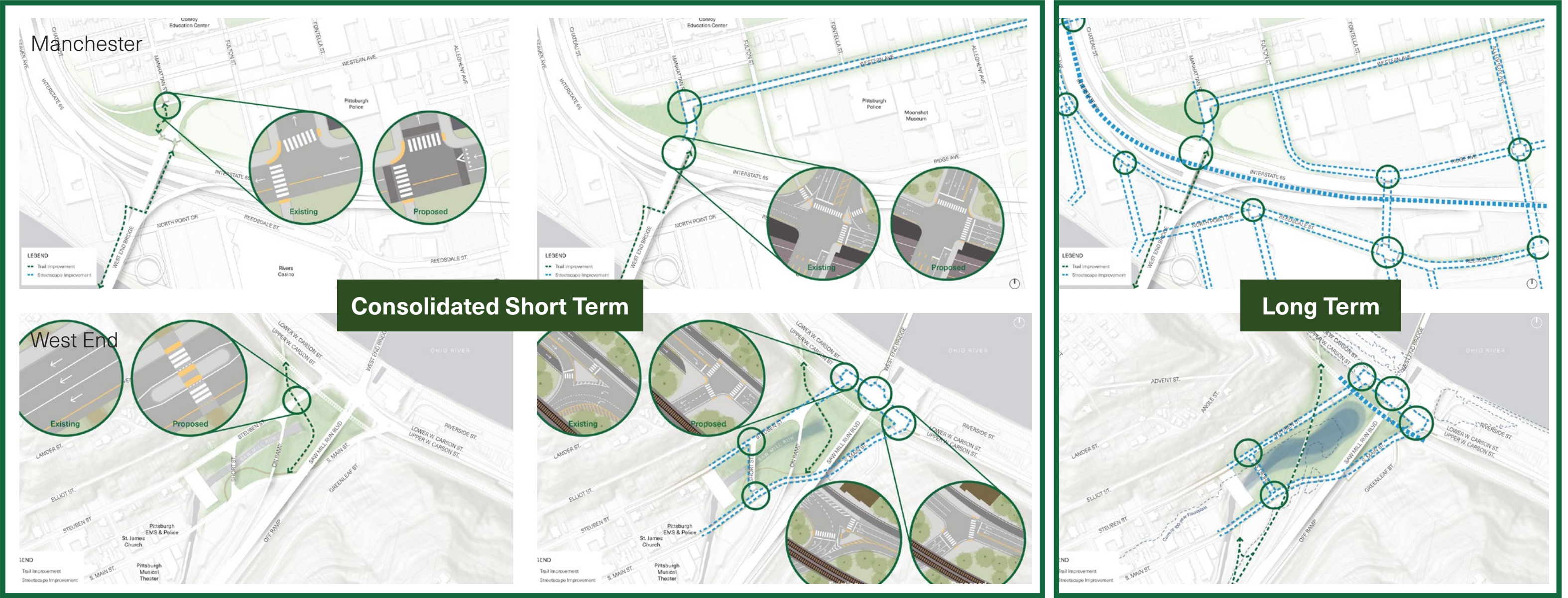


The three scales of improvements have been consolidated to two options — short-term and long-term.

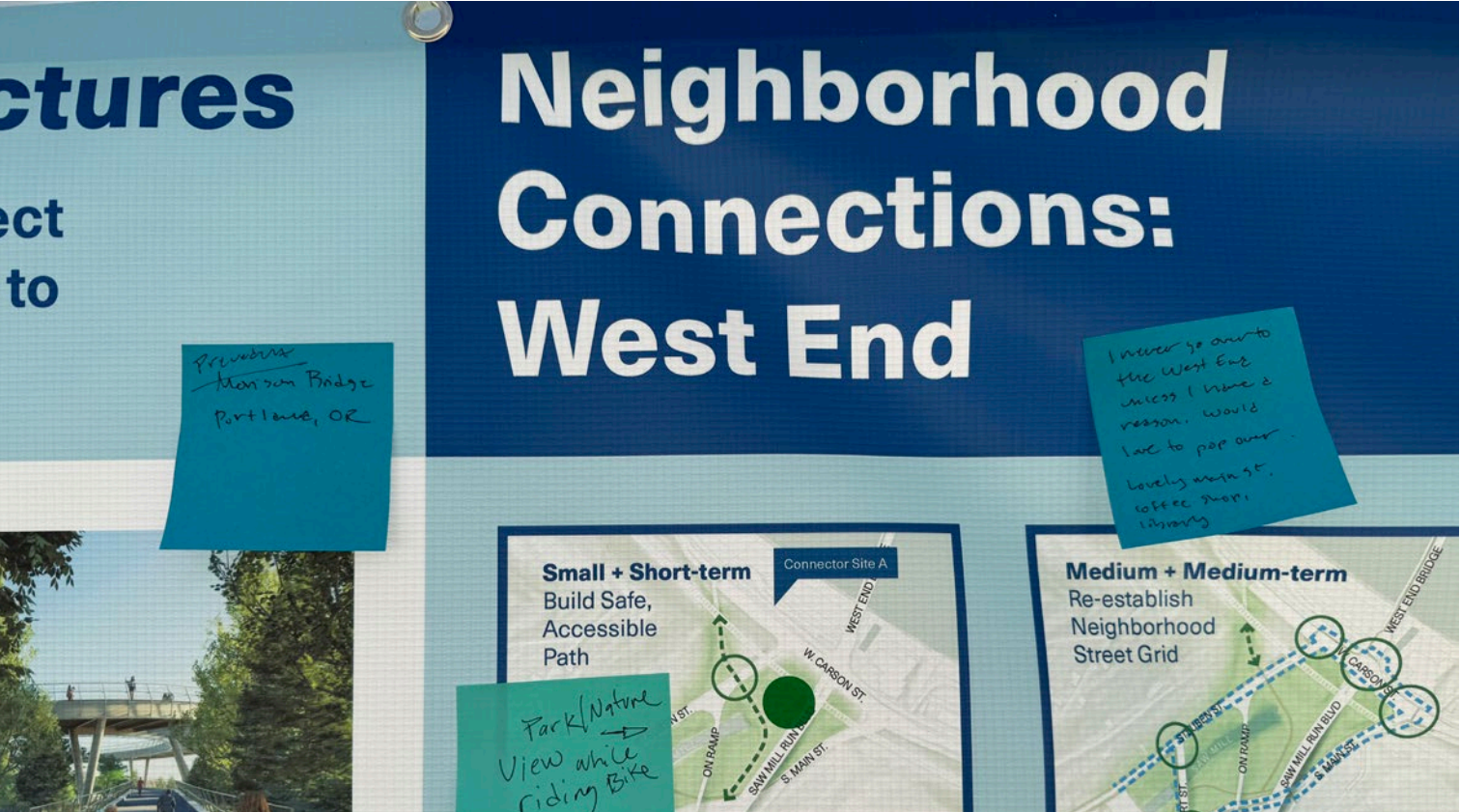
SMALL/SHORT-TERM
Build Safe, Accessible Path

MEDIUM/MID-TERM
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LARGE/LONG-TERM
Address Regional Issues



Feedback was collected from the public in June 2025.



Additional feedback was collected through the City of Pittsburgh’s Engage online portal.

Survey
60+ Responses

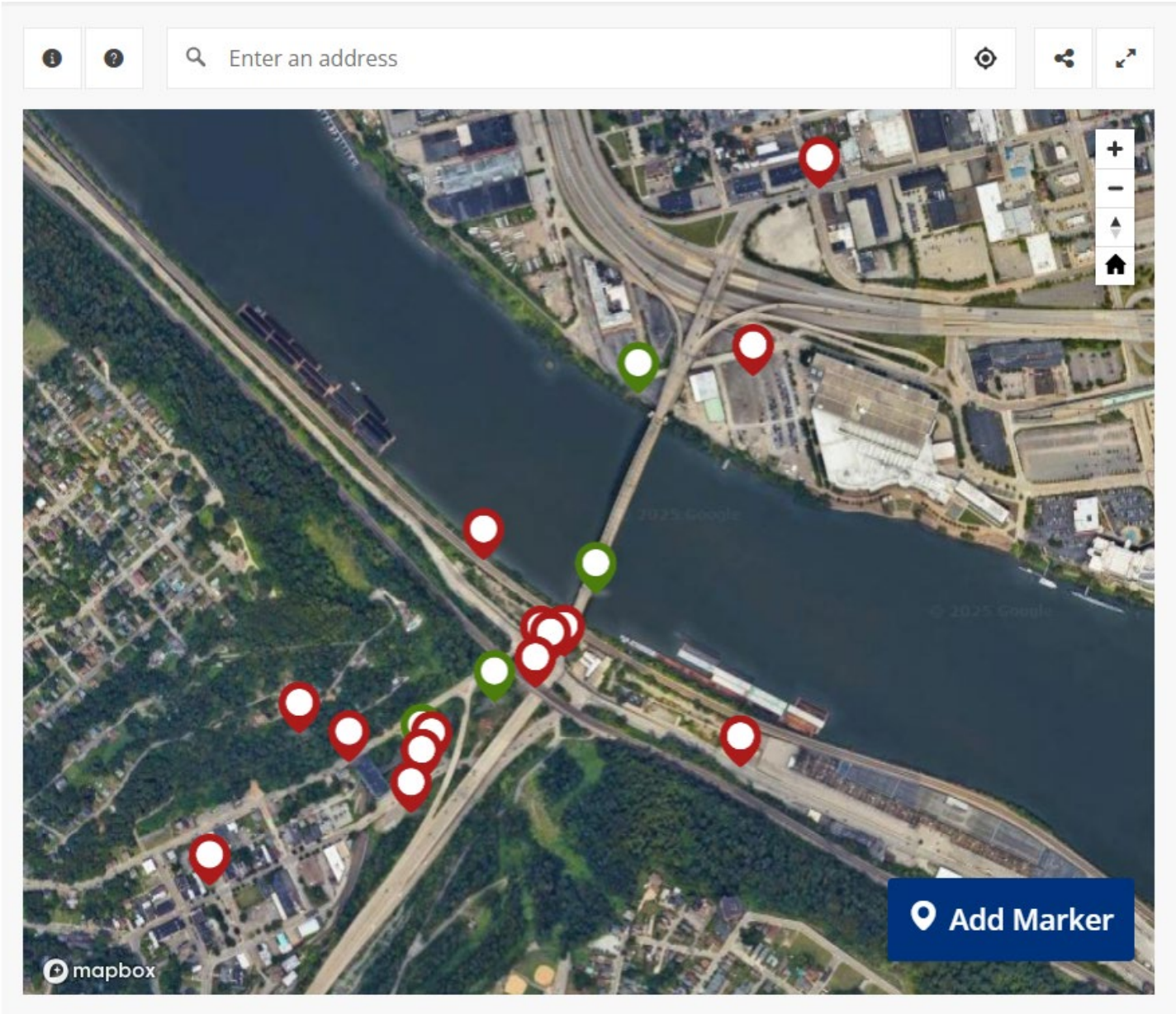
What do you love?

- Manchester’s historic homes and architecture
- West End business district charm
- Views
- Riverfront

What would you improve?

- Pedestrian and cyclist safety
- Maintenance and trash collection
- Wider sidewalks
- Recreational “loops”
- Removing 65 “the great wall of Manchester”
- Signage
- Trolley Trail connections
- South Hills connections

Mapping
21 Responses



The West End Bridge projects will connect the West End and Manchester neighborhoods to their riverfronts.



West End

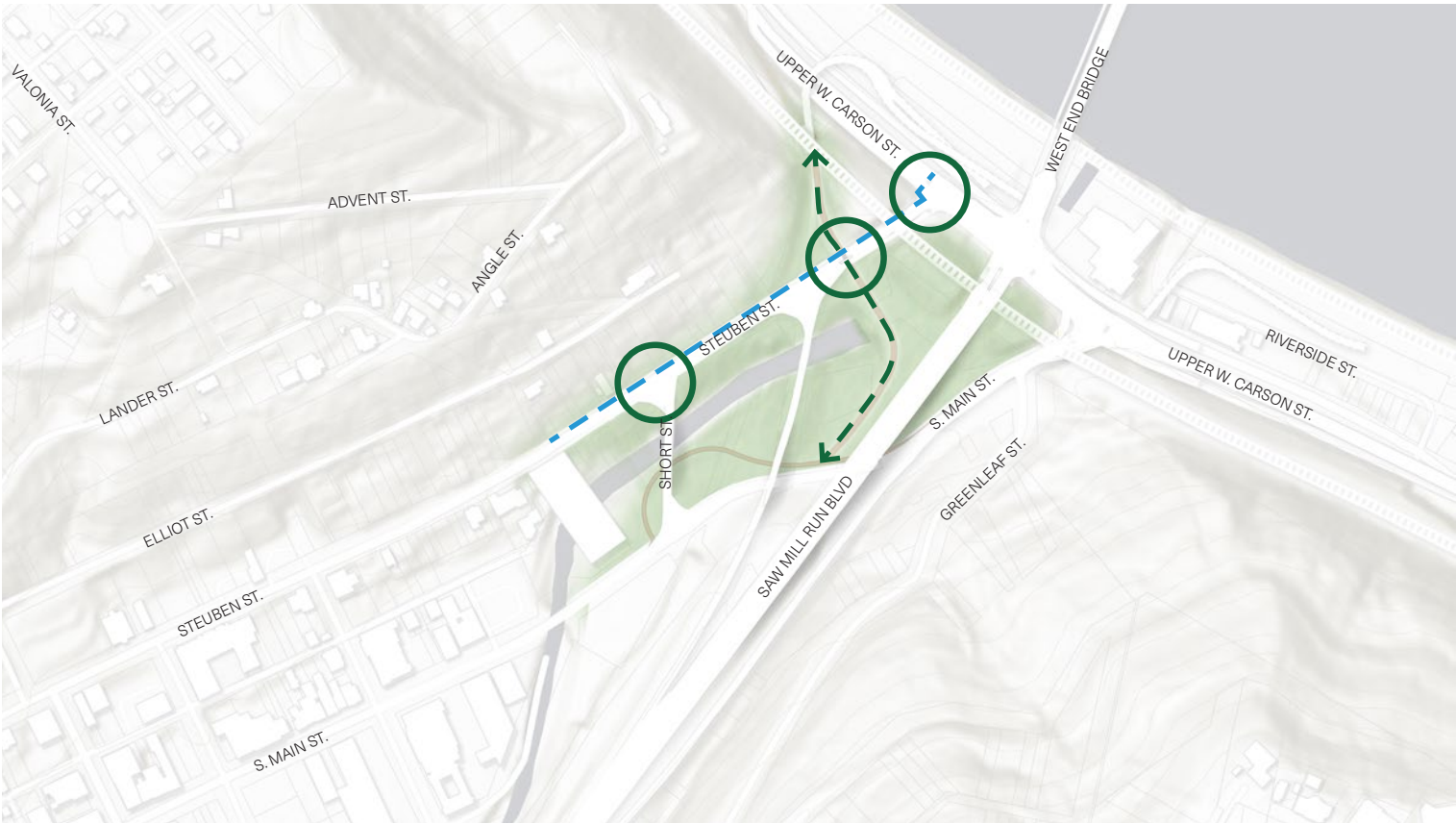
Short Term Plan

Long Term Plan

SHORT-TERM PLAN
Build Safe, Accessible Path and Re-establish Street Grid

Elements

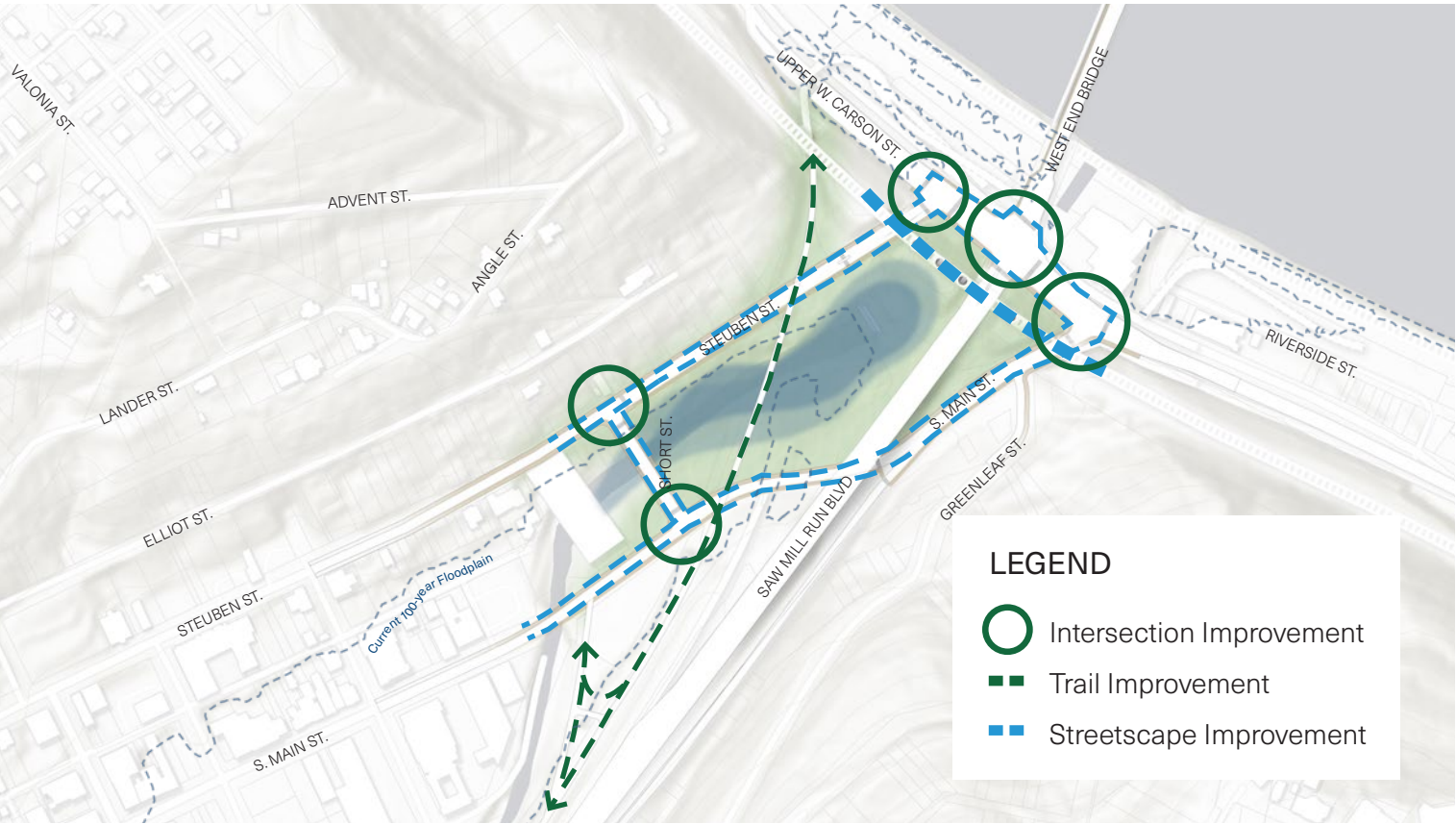
- Shorten crosswalks
- Add inexpensive, accessible paths
- Widen sidewalks
- Incorporate street trees
- Add green space, seating areas, and planting
- Remove traffic islands and redundant roads
- Introduce smaller turning radii
- Improve wayfinding and gateways



LONG-TERM PLAN
Address Regional Issues

Elements

- Remove railroad embankment in West End to increase visibility and address floodplain to create opportunities for development on Main Street
- Restore hydrologic and ecologic connection of Saw Mill Run and the Ohio River
- Provide options for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers.



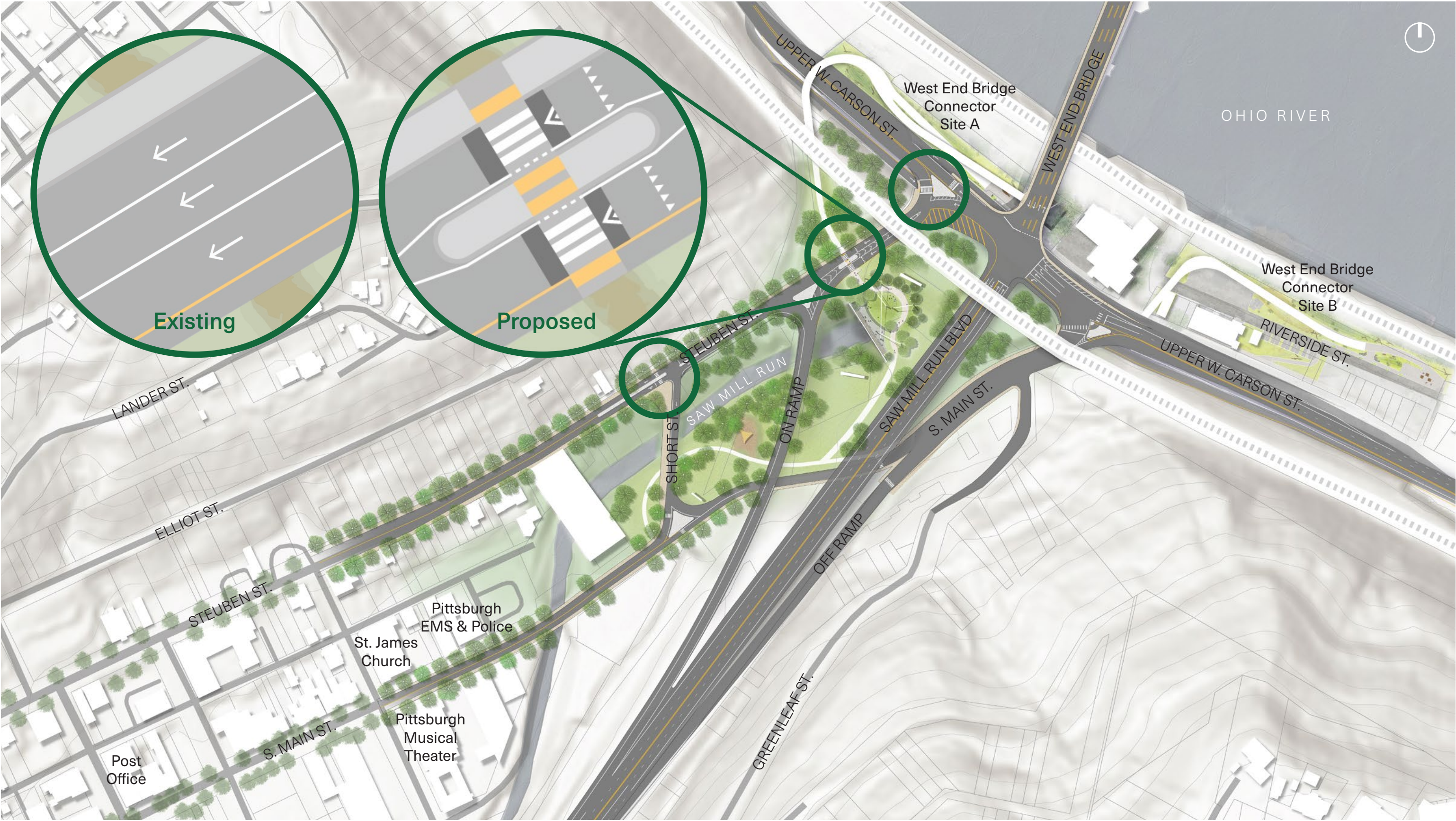
Final Concept Design

West End Short-Term Plan Build Safe, Accessible Path and Re-establish Street Grid



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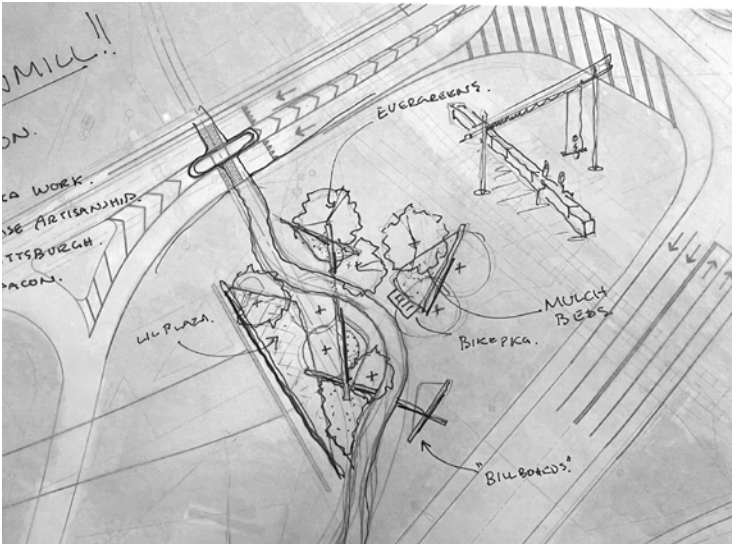
Final Concept Design
West End Short-Term Plan | Steuben Street Before



Final Concept Design
West End Short-Term Plan | Steuben Street After

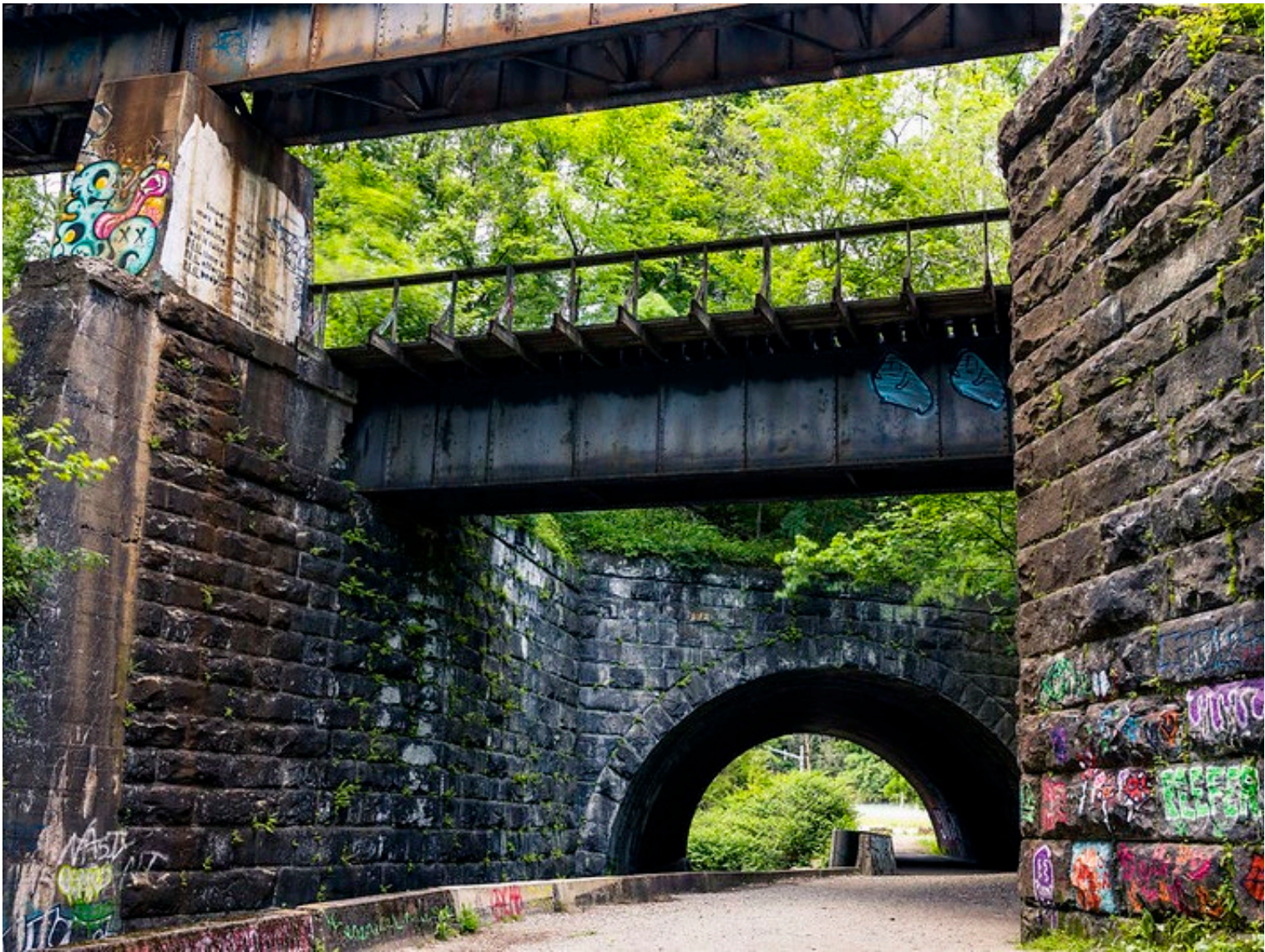


Final Concept Design
West End Short-Term Plan | Saw Mill Run Overlook



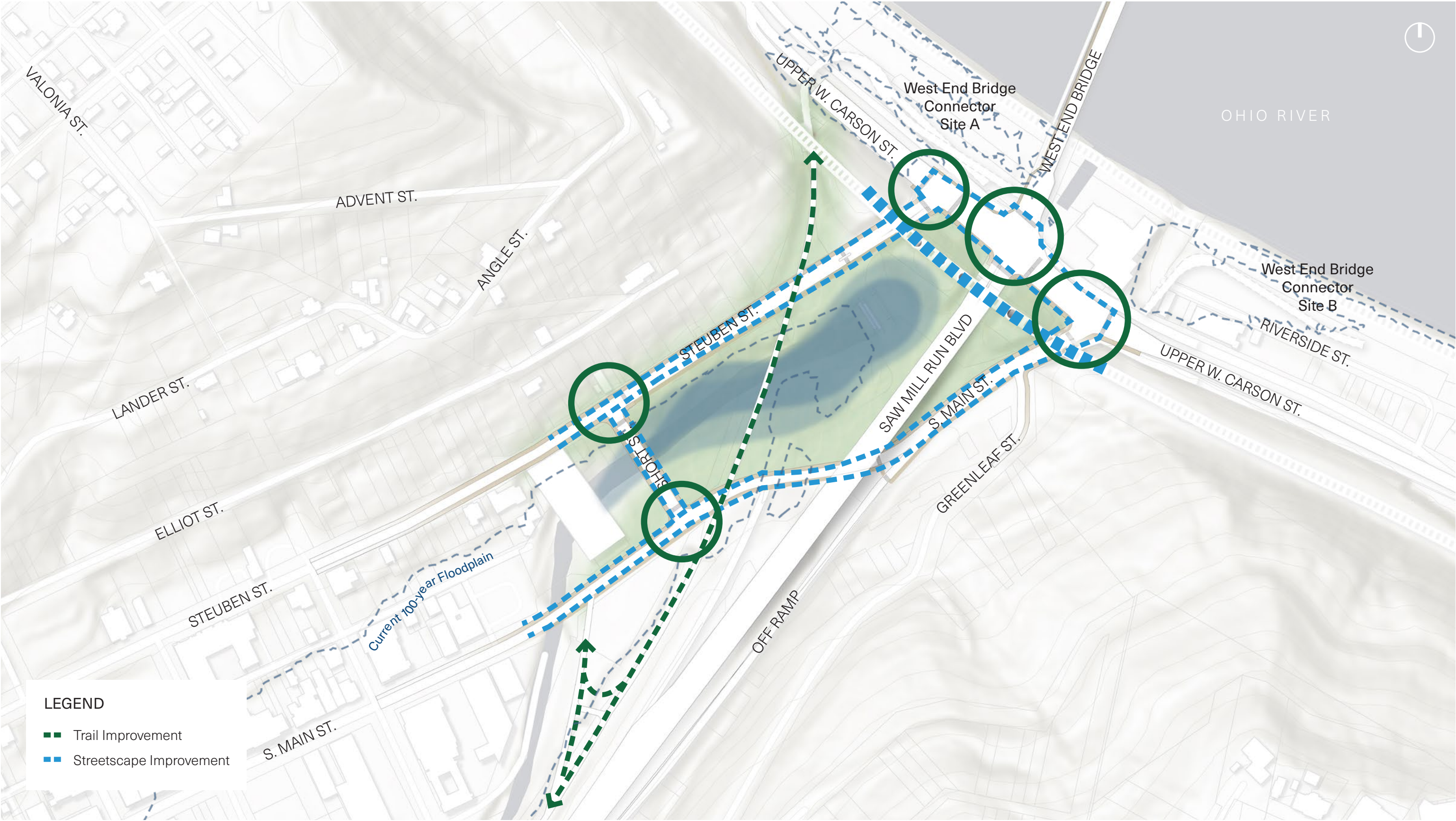


Saw Mill Run and Rail Road Trestle

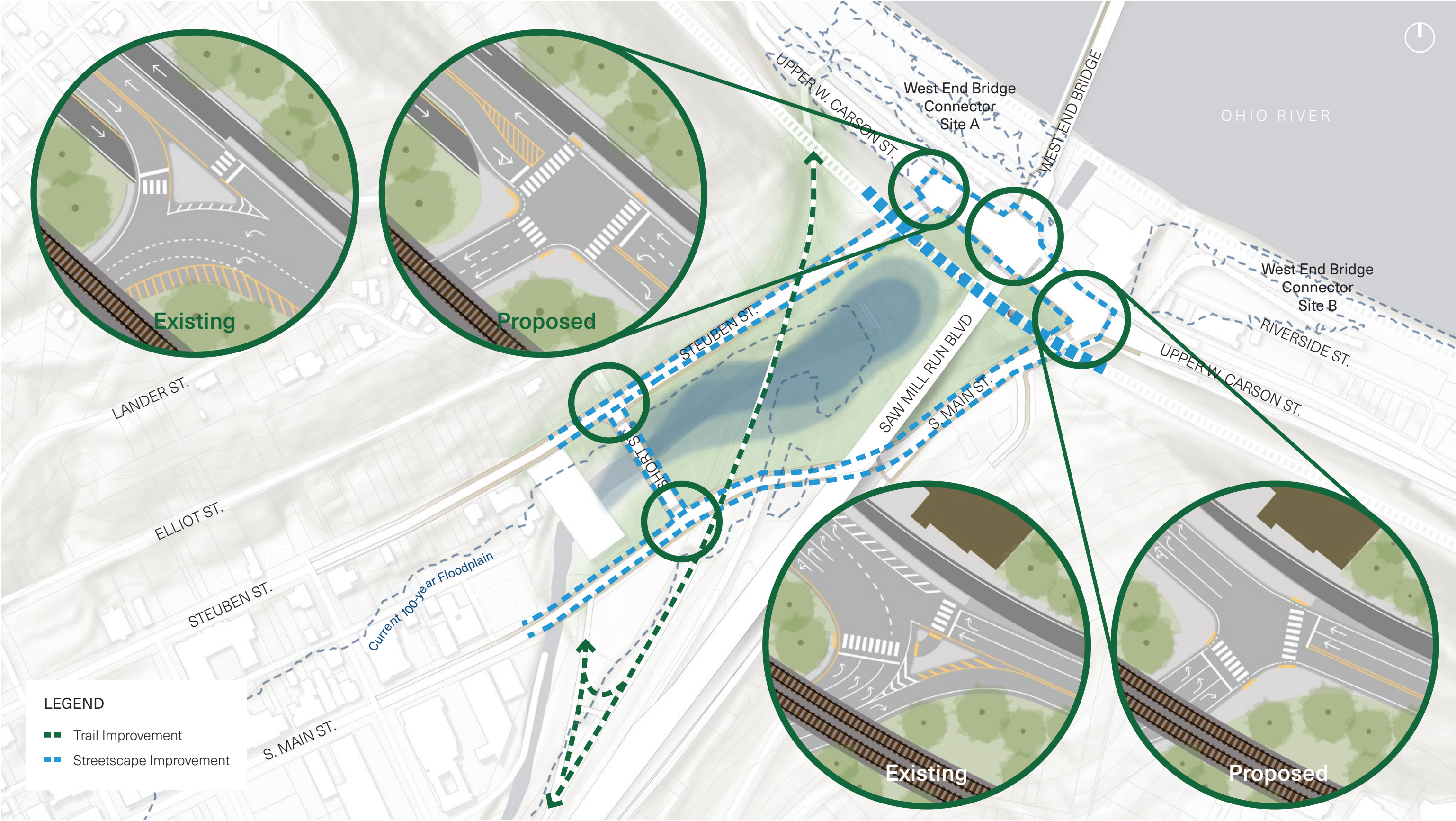


Seldom Seen Tunnel

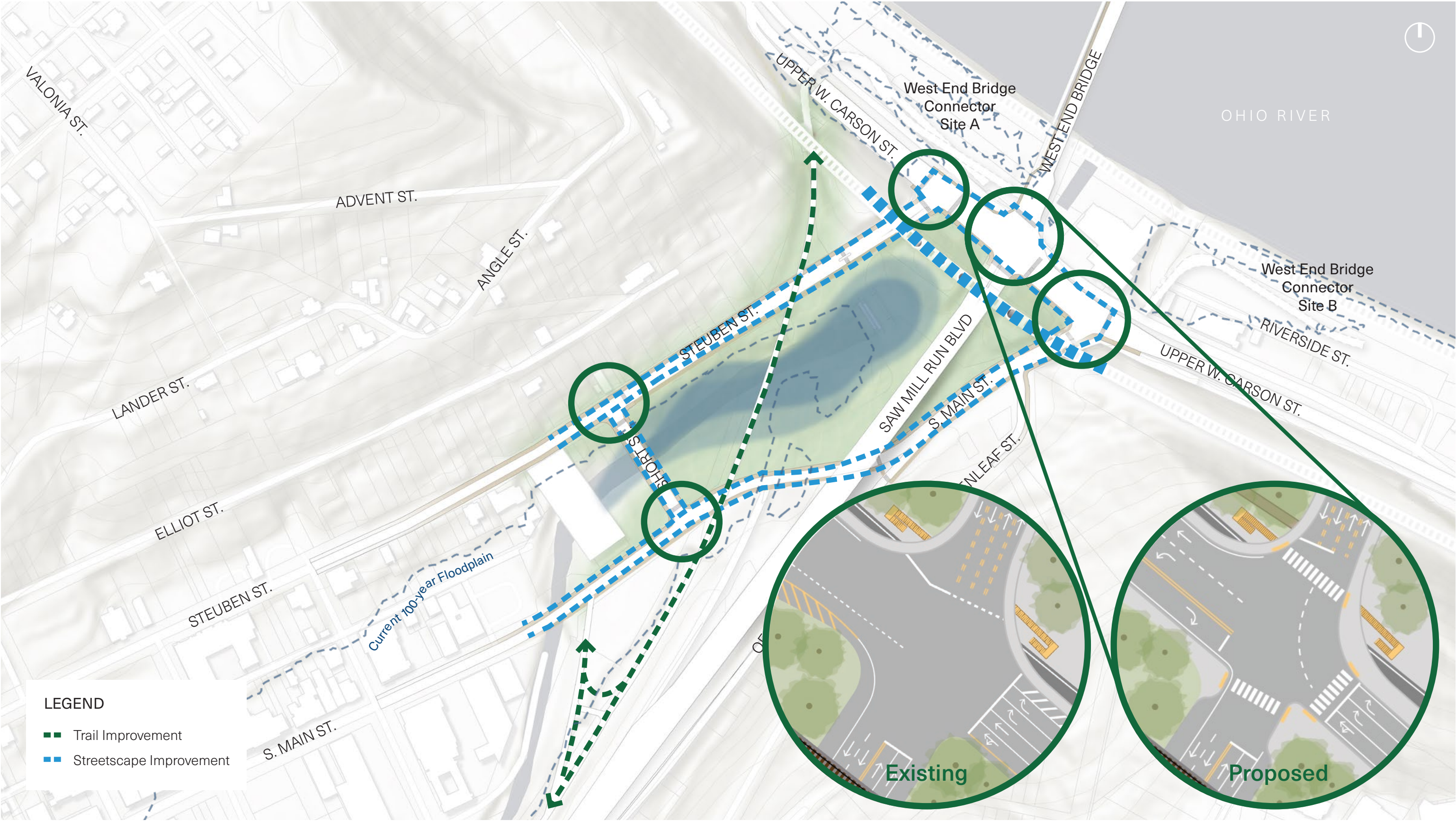
Final Concept Design
West End Long-Term Plan Address Regional Issues



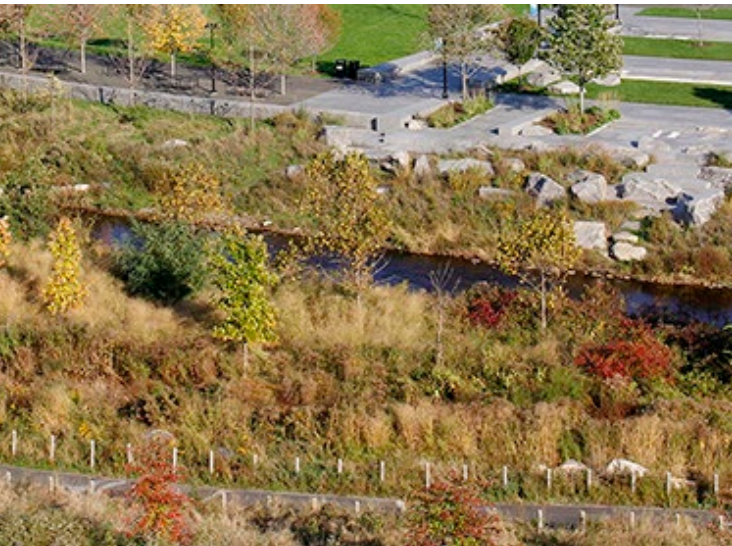
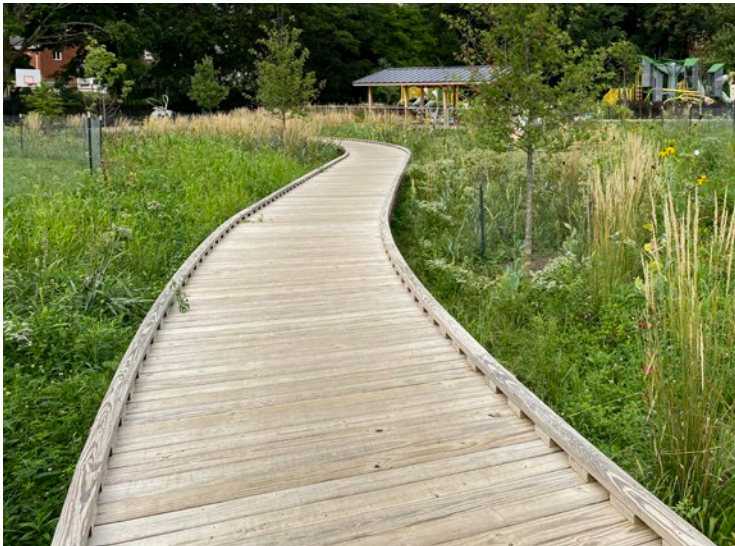
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West End Long-Term Plan Address Regional Issues



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Final Concept Design
West End Long-Term Plan | Precedents





Buffalo Bayou Park, Houston, TX





Corktown Commons, Toronto



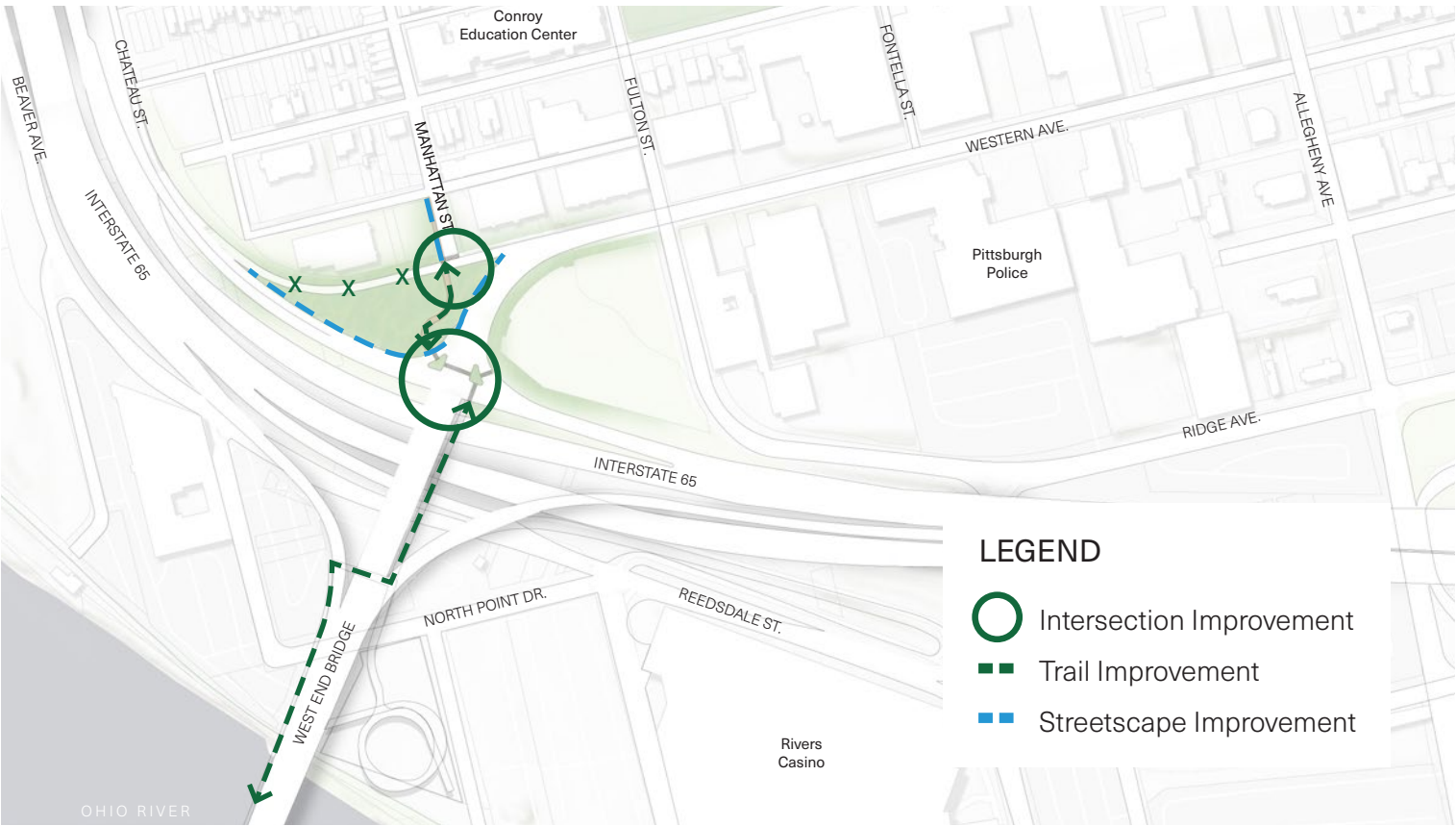
Manchester

Short Term Plan

Long Term Plan

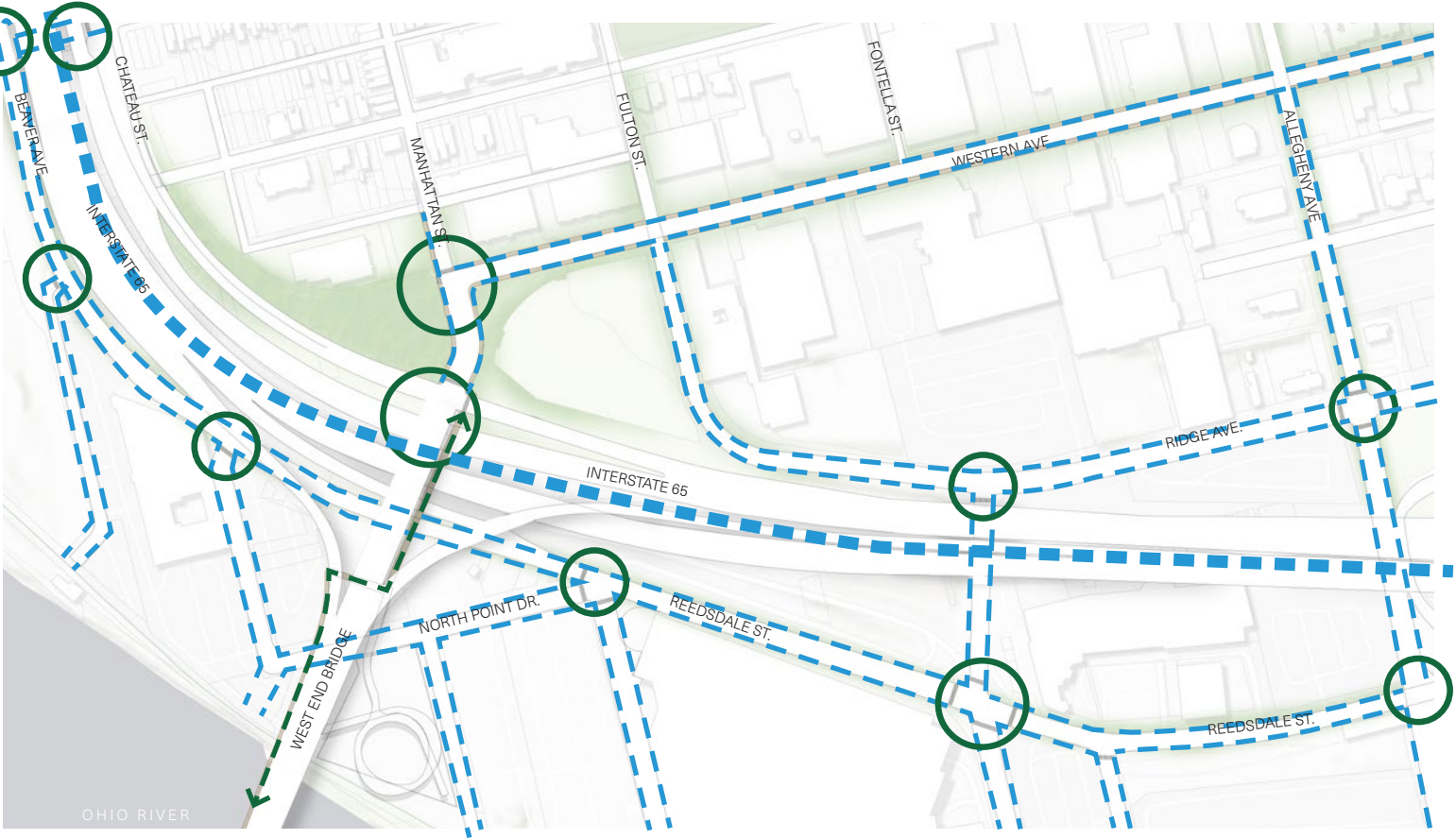
SHORT-TERM PLAN
Build Safe, Accessible Path and Re-establish Street Grid

- Elements
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LONG-TERM PLAN
Address Regional Issues

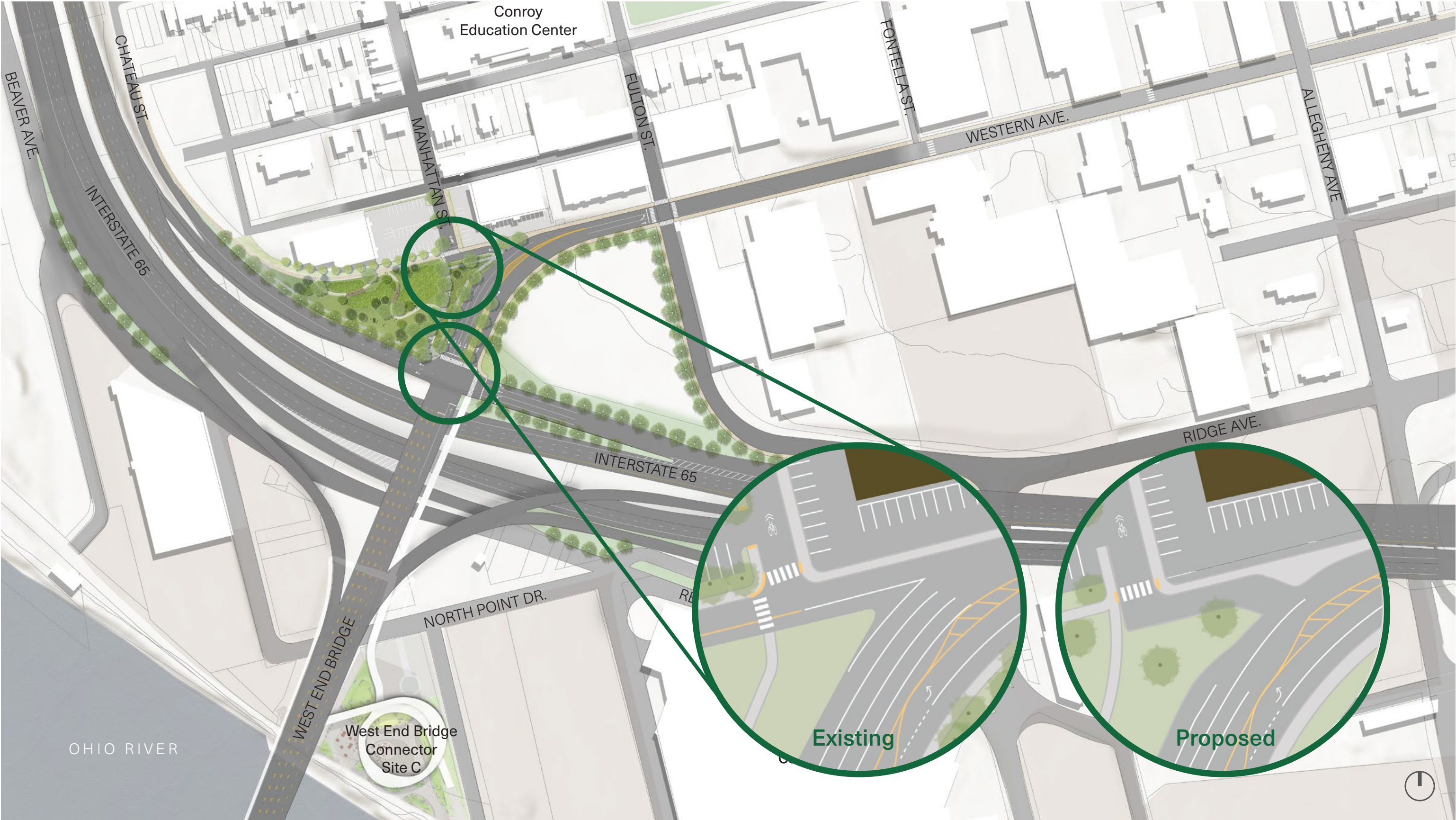
- Elements
- Reconnect neighborhood streets under Route 65
 - Recreate neighborhood street grid between Route 65 and the riverfront, along Beaver Avenue and Reedsdale Street
 - Provide options for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers.



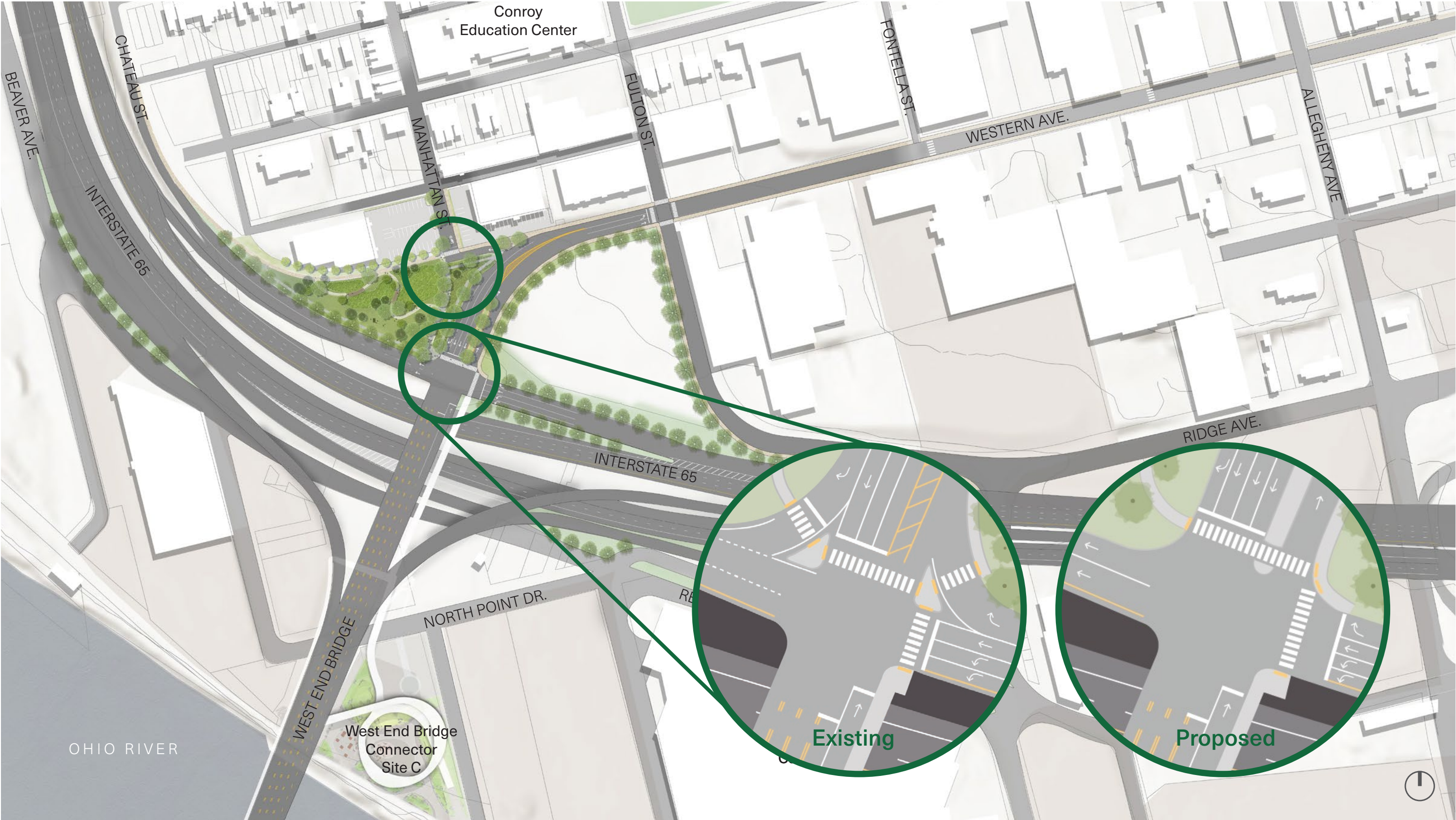
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Manchester Short-Term Plan Build Safe, Accessible Path and Re-establish Street Grid



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Manchester Short-Term Plan Build Safe, Accessible Path and Re-establish Street Grid



Final Concept Design
Manchester Short-Term Plan | Precedent



Final Concept Design
Manchester Short-Term Plan | Western Avenue Before



Final Concept Design
Manchester Short-Term Plan | Western Avenue After



Final Concept Design
Manchester Short-Term Plan | Manchester Gateway Park



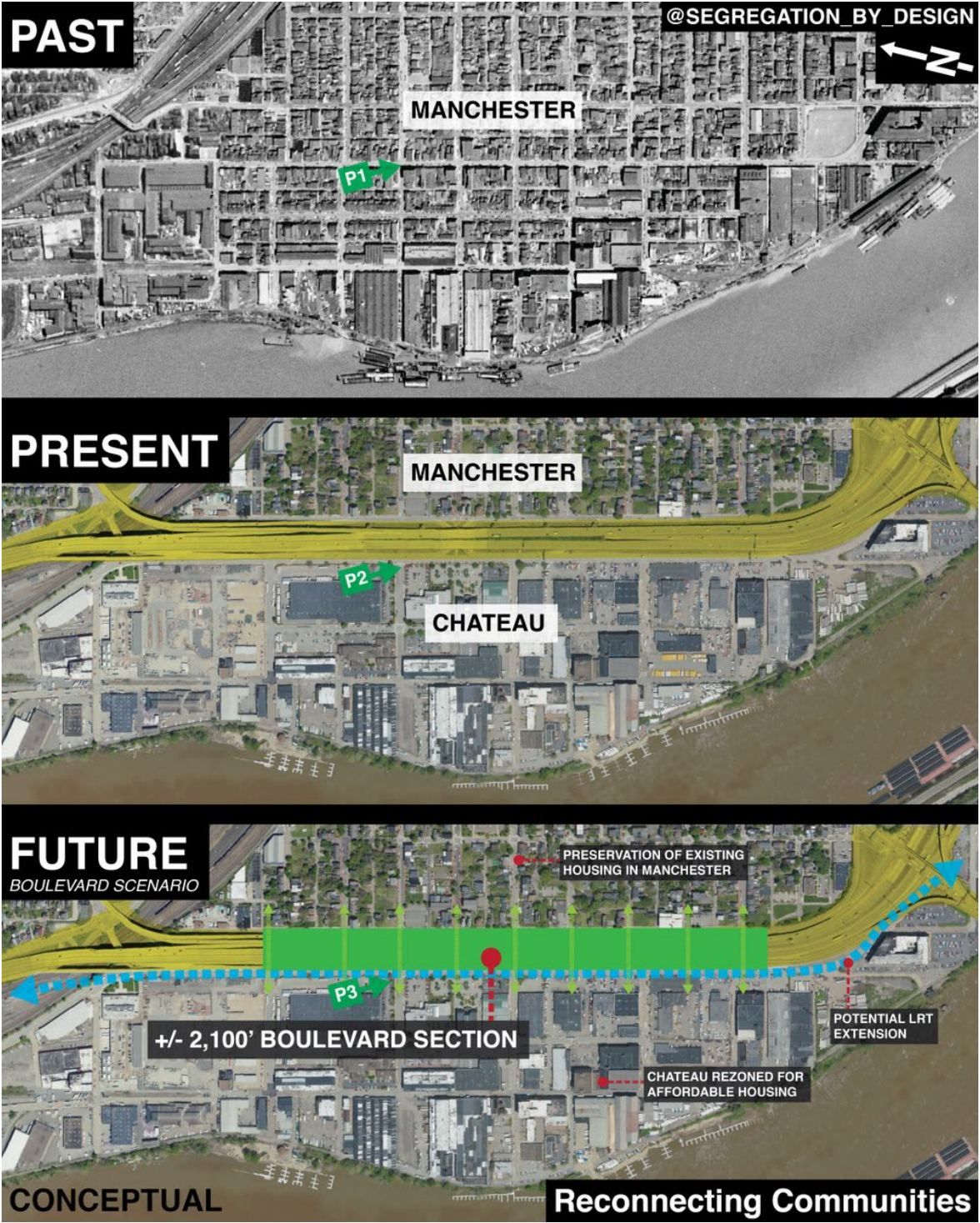
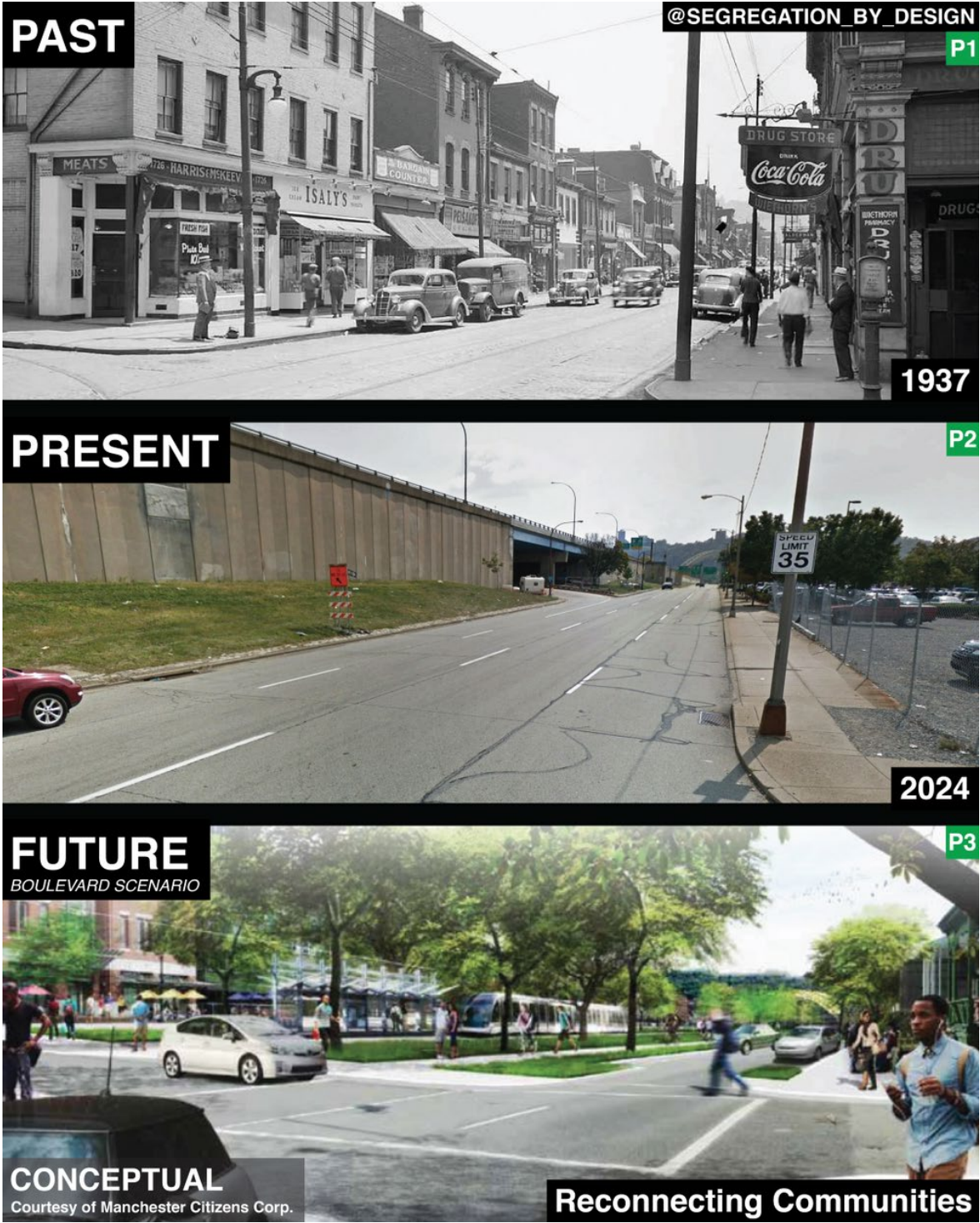
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Manchester Short-Term Plan | Manchester Gateway Park



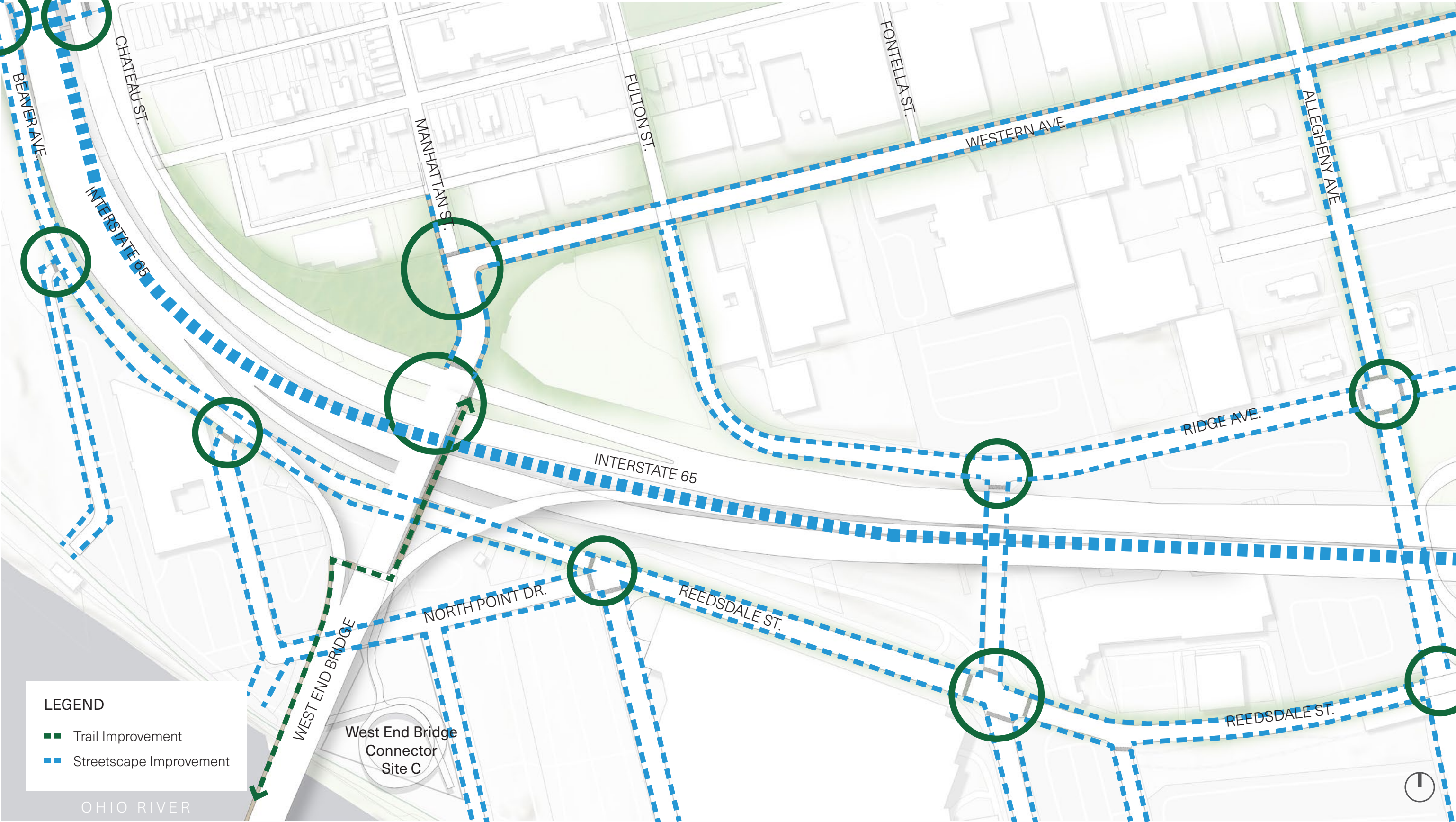
Final Concept Design
Manchester Short-Term Plan | Mezzanine



Final Concept Design
Manchester Long-Term Plan Address Regional Issues



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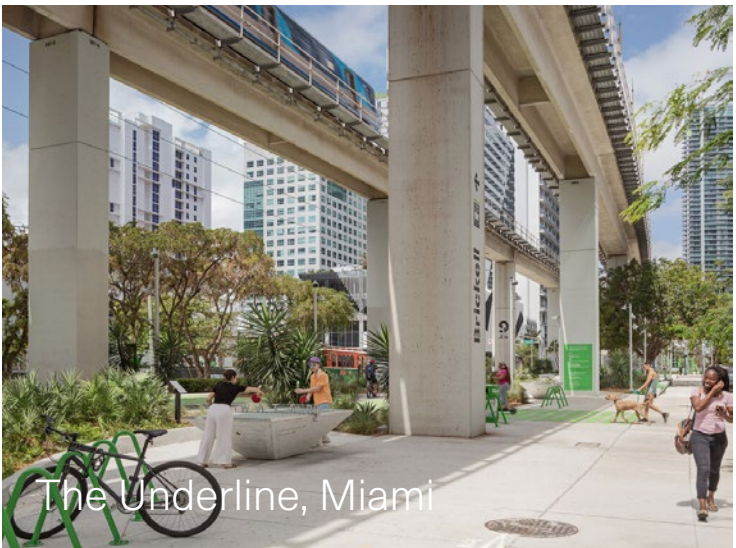
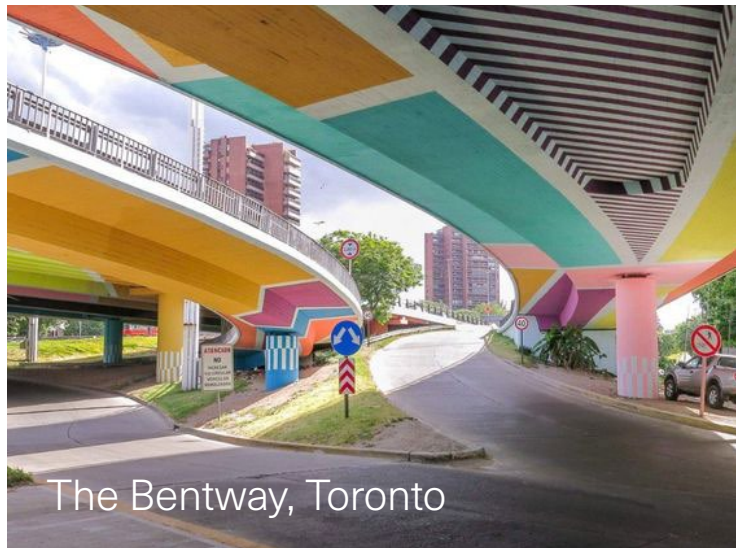
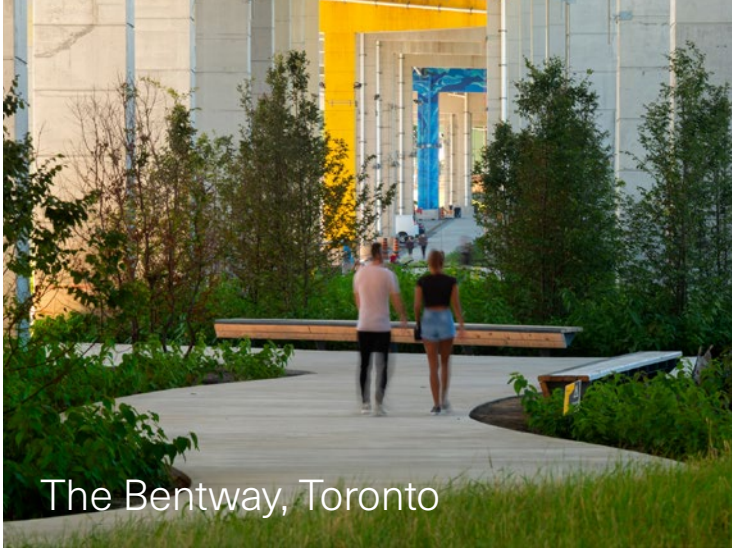
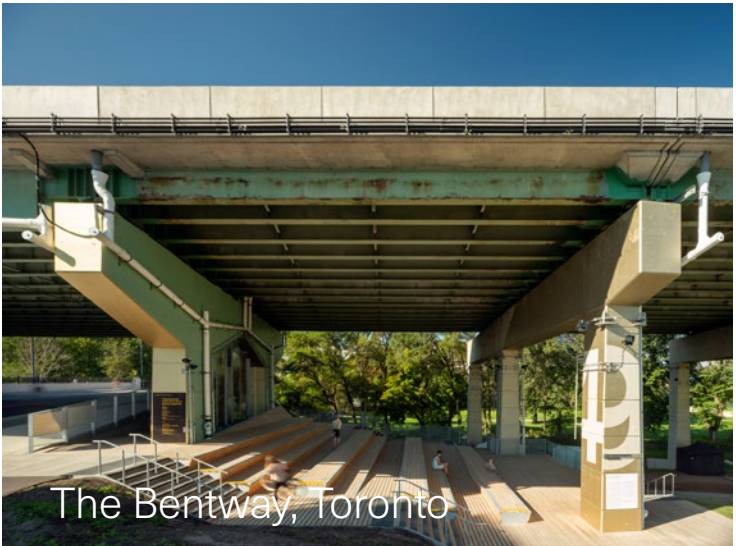
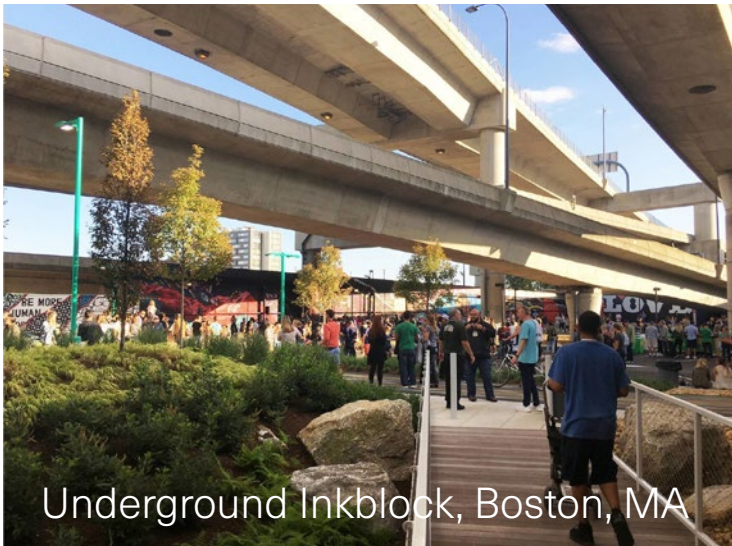


The Bentway, Toronto



Seattle Waterfront, Seattle, WA

Final Concept Design
Manchester Long-Term Plan Address Regional Issues



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