



**Fourth Plain Blvd and Fort Vancouver Way  
Safety and Mobility Project**  
Project Update  
Transportation & Mobility Commission  
March 7, 2023



**Kate Drennan, Principal Planner, CDD, City of Vancouver**  
**Ryan Farncomb, Consultant Project Manager, Parametrix**

# Agenda

- Project Overview and Updates
- Recommendations and Alternatives Evaluation
- Next Steps



# Project Overview

The Fourth Plain Blvd and Fort Vancouver Way Safety and Mobility Study is:

- Considering how to **repurpose existing road space** to make the corridor safer for all
- **Looking at ways to make the streets safer for everyone** – including people who drive, walk, ride a bike, use a mobility device, or ride the bus
- **Identifying other potential safety improvements**

# Alignment with City Strategic Priorities

Council Values	Proposed Solutions
Safety	Safety improvements along Fourth Plain repurpose road space for transit and active transportation, including Business Access and Transit (BAT) lanes, expanded buffered mobility lanes, and narrowed vehicle lanes.
Equity	Equity-focused outreach showed strong community and business support for lane reconfiguration and transit improvements; transit serves a broad group of users
Climate	Improvements reallocate road space for transit and widening mobility lanes, providing supportive infrastructure for lower-carbon travel modes.

# Project Overview

- We have consulted with community members and local businesses about improving safety for all on Fourth Plain Blvd.
- Re-paving of Fourth Plain and Ft. Vancouver Way will take place in two phases:
  - **2023:** Fourth Plain from F Street to Fort Vancouver Way and Fort Vancouver Way between Mill Plain and Fourth Plain
  - **2024:** Fourth Plain from Fort Vancouver Way to Andresen Rd.
- Today, the project team brings recommendations for Phase 2 – Fourth Plain between Ft. Vancouver Way and Andresen – which will be repaved in 2024 – and additional investments.

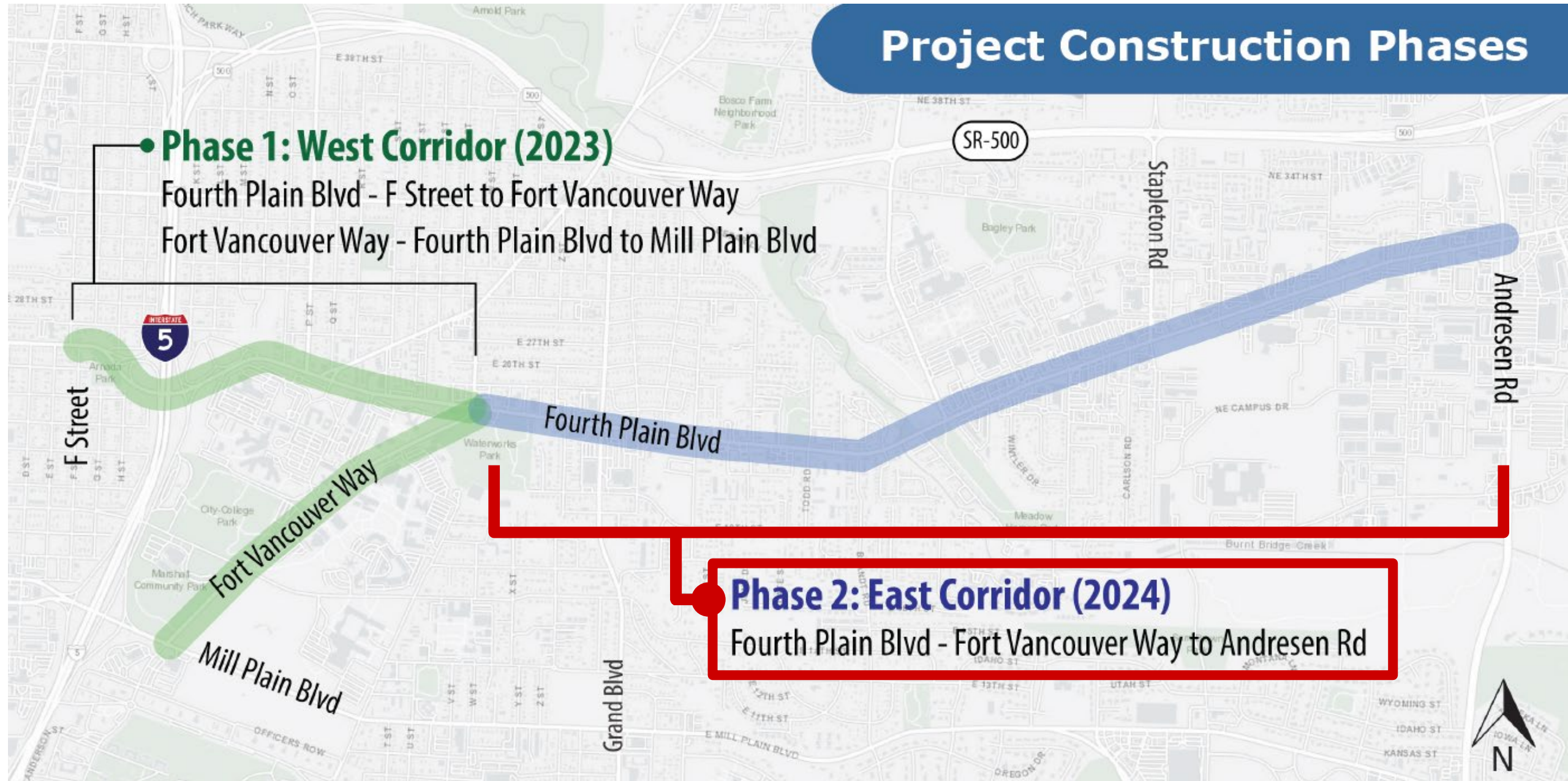
# Project Construction Phases

## Phase 1: West Corridor (2023)

Fourth Plain Blvd - F Street to Fort Vancouver Way  
Fort Vancouver Way - Fourth Plain Blvd to Mill Plain Blvd

## Phase 2: East Corridor (2024)

Fourth Plain Blvd - Fort Vancouver Way to Andresen Rd



# Prior Review: Council & TMC review since 2022

Meeting	Group	Topics	Actions
April 5, 2022	TMC	Issues and needs on Fourth Plain; traffic analysis results;	Design options feedback
June 7, 2022	TMC	Issues and needs on Fort Vancouver Way; traffic analysis results	Design options feedback
July 11, 2022	Council	Updates on Phase 1 public outreach	Feedback on public outreach approach and corridor issues
Sept 6, 2022	TMC	Reviewed Phase 1 design options	Design refinement feedback
Oct 3, 2022	Council	Reviewed Phase 1 recommendations for Fourth Plain cycle track and Fort Vancouver Way lane reconfiguration (Phase 1); Phase 1 and 2 outreach	Council Review
Oct 4, 2022	TMC	Evaluation of Phase 1 designs; second phase of public outreach	Phase 1 recommendation
Oct 24, 2022	Council	Reviewed design recommendations for Phase 1; Outreach updates	Approved Phase 1 design recommendations
Nov 1, 2022	TMC	Reviewed Phase 2 design options; reviewed full public feedback received in second phase of outreach	Design refinement feedback
Nov 14, 2022	Council	Reviewed preliminary recommendations for Fourth Plain (Phase 2)	Project alternatives feedback
Feb 7, 2023	TMC	Project Updates; Phase 2 Recommendations and Alternatives Evaluation	Feedback on Phase 2 recommendation
Feb 26, 2023	Council	Project Updates; Phase 2 Recommendations and Alternatives Evaluation	Feedback on Phase 2 recommendation

# Council and TMC Values:

- Emphasis on safety, equity and climate
- Maintain transit travel times
- Improve corridor for mobility users
- Strive for consistency and legibility of facilities
- Desire for placemaking and community celebration of Fourth Plain Blvd as a prosperous and vibrant place.



# Corridor Constraints

- This project can address many - but not all - corridor needs and issues.
- There are important constraints and tradeoffs.
  - **Constraints** include:
    - Working within the existing “curb to curb” pavement. Some parts of the corridors are narrower than others, and a single cross section won’t be possible
    - Prior obligations made by C-TRAN as part of the funding agreement for The Vine with the federal government; “in lane” bus stops for speed and reliability
    - Available funding and deadlines for use
    - Concurrency ordinances require maintaining a minimum level of traffic flow

# Community Engagement Timeline

## Outreach Milestone 1

2022	February	March	April	May	June
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tabling events</li> <li>• Canvassing</li> <li>• BeHeard launch</li> <li>• Online open house and Survey launch</li> <li>• Presentation to Fourth Plain Forward Community Advisory Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phone outreach</li> <li>• One-one stakeholder meetings</li> <li>• Neighborhood Association presentations, many including Fourth Plain Forward</li> </ul>

## Outreach Milestone 2

July	August	September	October	November	December
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tabling event in coordination with Fourth Plain Forward</li> <li>• Meeting with Fourth Plain Forward</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BeHeard launch</li> <li>• Online open house and Survey launch</li> <li>• Tabling events</li> <li>• Focus groups</li> <li>• Meeting with Fourth Plain Forward Healthy Communities Advisory Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business canvassing</li> <li>• Mailer to households and businesses</li> <li>• Tabling events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neighborhood Association presentations, many including Fourth Plain Forward</li> </ul>	

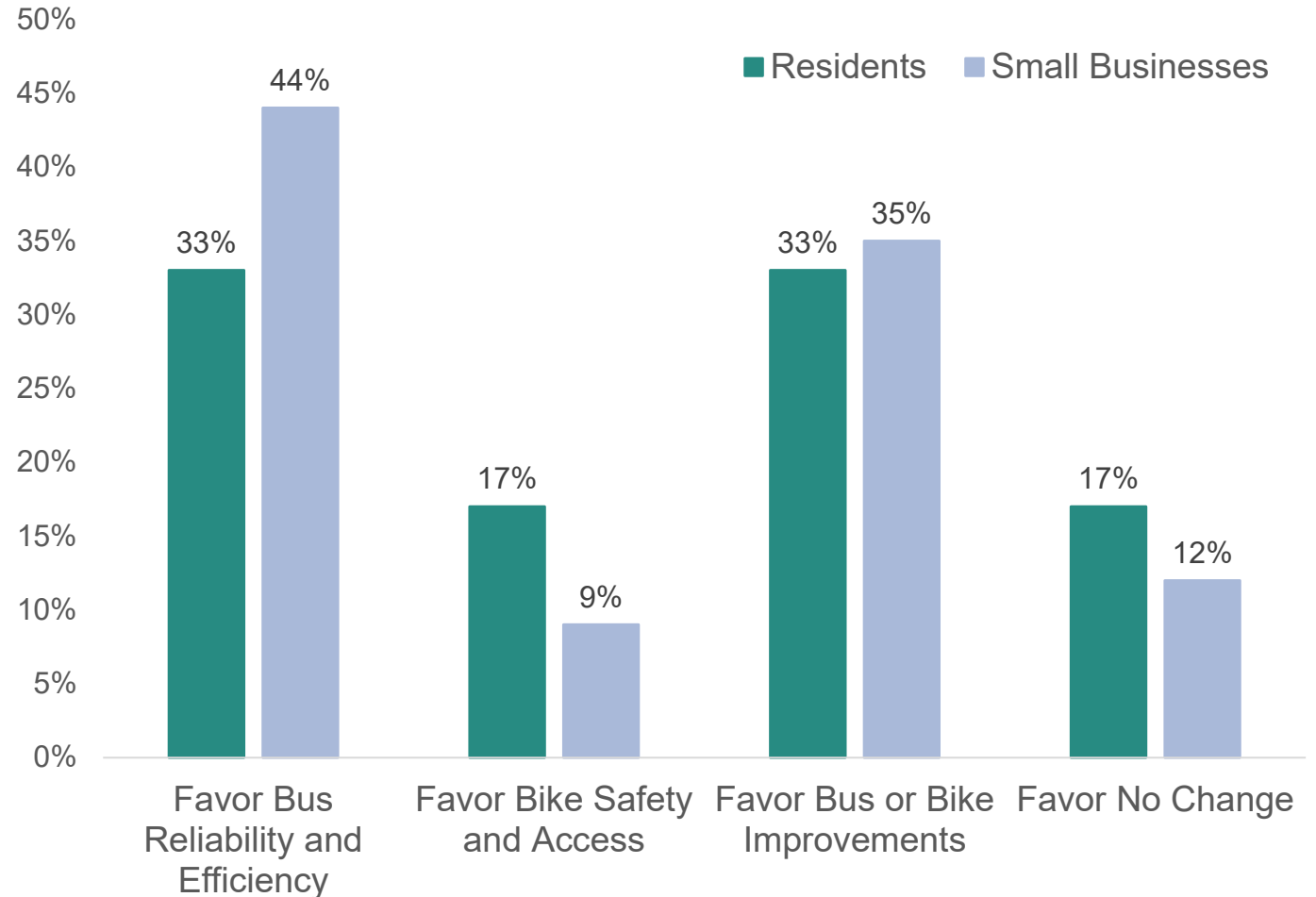
# Community Engagement: Residents & Small Businesses

## Residents:

- Phase 2 *in-person* outreach to community members at several events
- Spoke to 211 people and received responses from 162 people
- **83% were in favor of repurposing a lane**

## Small Businesses:

- Phase 2 *in-person* outreach – business canvassing, prioritizing BIPOC community businesses and organizations
- Spoke to 34 people at 28 businesses
- **88% were in favor of repurposing a lane**
- BIPOC business owners found a strong preference for bus-focused improvement



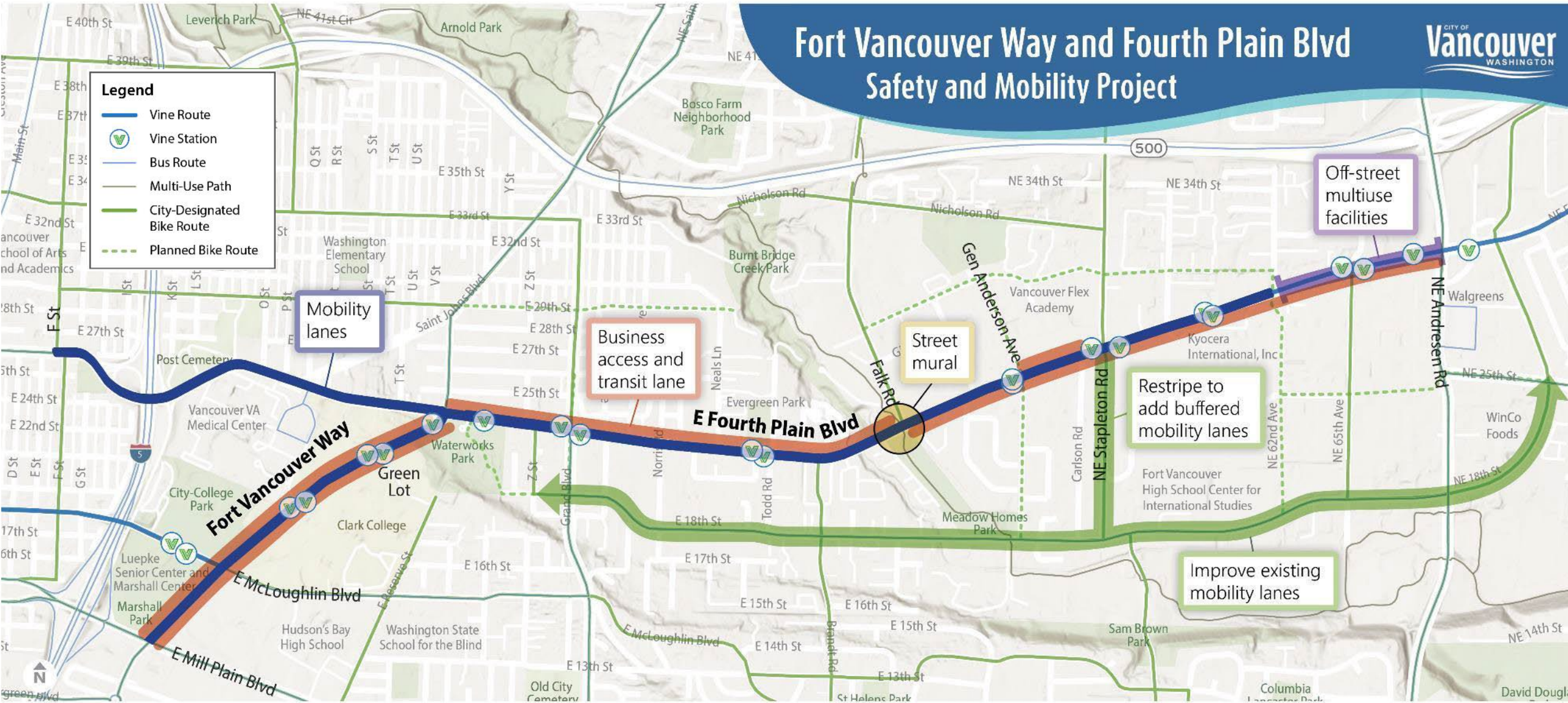
# Recommendations from the Project Team

Enhanced transit & mobility lane reconfiguration for 2024 repaving effort

3 new mobility-focused TIP projects for placemaking and improved bike network

New capital project to add multiuse facility along Fourth Plain between 62<sup>nd</sup> and Andresen

# Recommendations from the Project Team

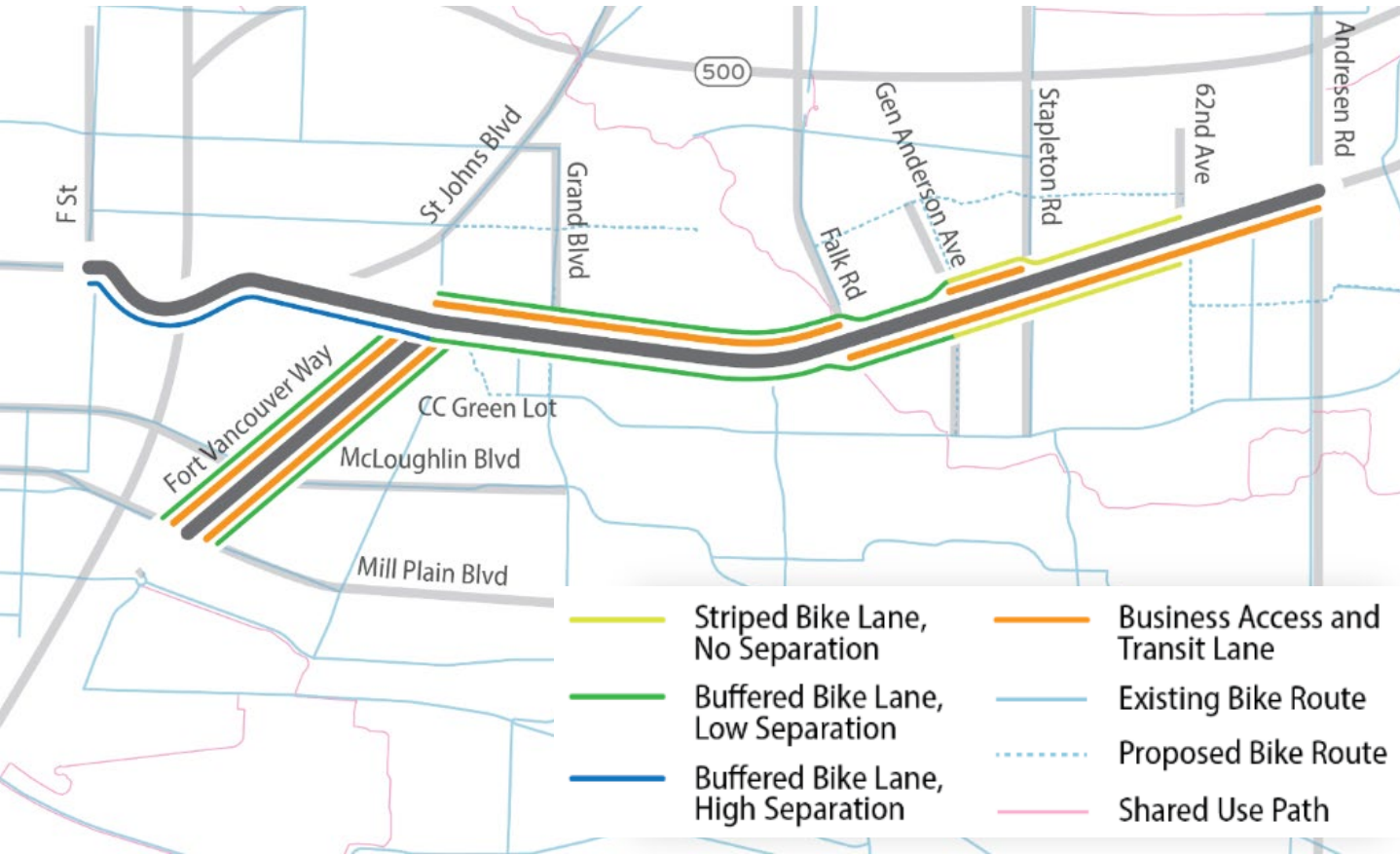


# Recommendation 1: Enhanced Transit Mobility Lane Reconfiguration

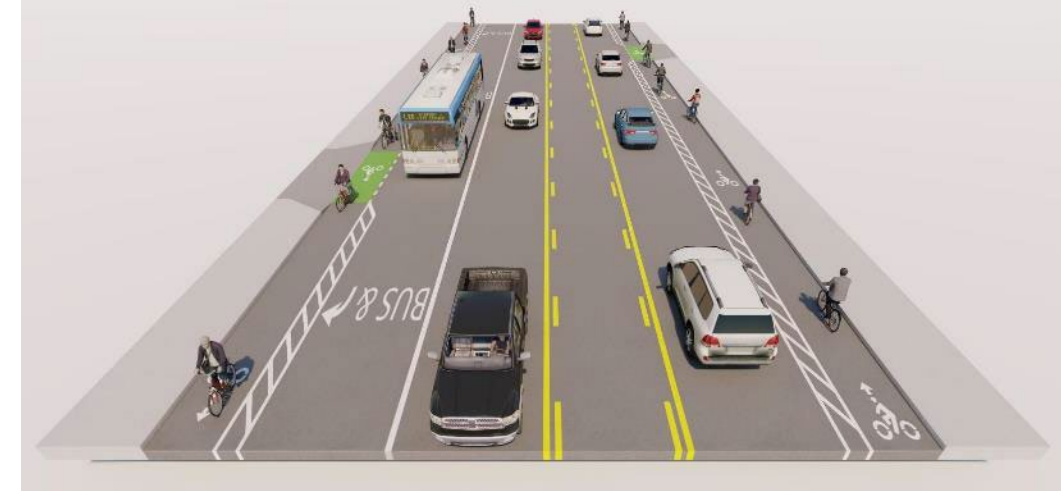
- The team recommends a design for the 2024 paving project that preserves transit travel time reliability and includes improvements for mobility users.
- Design repurposes a travel lane in each direction to add a Bus Access Transit lane; east of Stapleton, maintain two vehicle lanes.
- Includes buffered mobility lanes between St. Johns and Fort Vancouver Way and expanded striped mobility lane from General Anderson to 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.
- Vehicle lanes will be narrowed to reduce speeds and reallocate space.

# Recommendation 1: Enhanced Transit Mobility

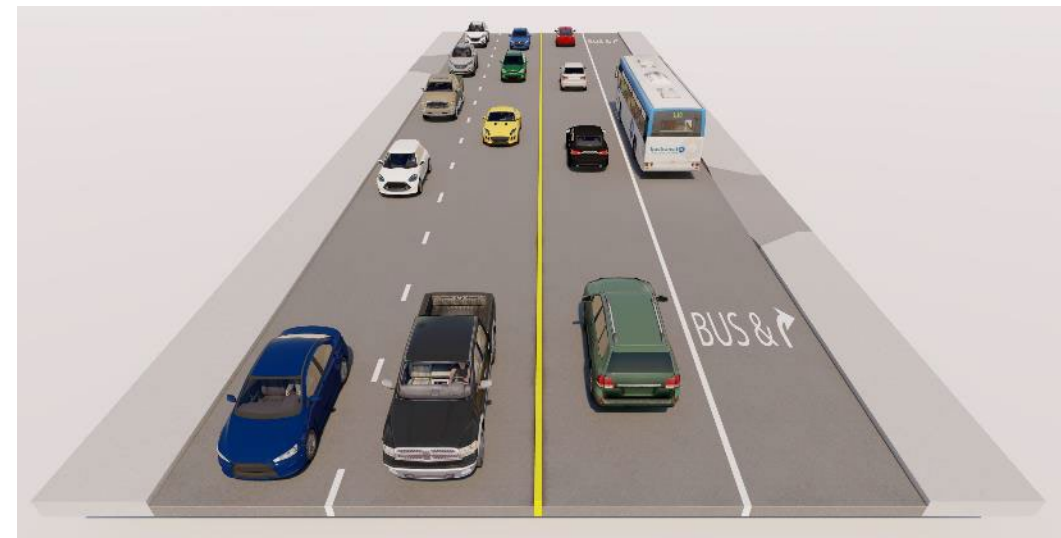
## Lane Reconfiguration



Ft. Vancouver Way to Falk, facing east



62<sup>nd</sup> to 65<sup>th</sup>, facing east



# Recommendation 2: TIP Projects for Placemaking and Expanded Mobility Network

- The team recommends adding **three new capital projects** to the Transportation Improvement Program to create quality mobility lane connections to parallel east-west corridors.
  - **Restripe Stapleton to add buffered mobility lanes** between Fourth Plain and 18<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - **Improve existing mobility lanes on 18<sup>th</sup> Street** with buffers and vertical delineators, connecting to future projects on NE Burton Road, evaluate appropriate traffic calming for Brandt Road and Grand Blvd.
  - **Intersection street mural at Fourth Plain and Falk** where Burnt Bridge Creek Trail crosses the corridor; traffic calming and celebration of culture and community of the International District on Fourth Plain.



# Recommendation 2: TIP Projects for Placemaking and Expanded Mobility Network



# Recommendation 2: TIP Projects for Placemaking and Expanded Mobility Network



# Recommendation 3: **Capital Project for New Multiuse Facility via 10 Year Investment Strategy**

- **Off-street shared use facilities between 62nd and Andresen** to serve mobility users
- City will coordinate with property owners to purchase right of way, relocate utilities, remove trees, other mitigation
- Given project complexity, this is recommended for community prioritization in the forthcoming 10 Year Investment Strategy for Fourth Plain now named **Fourth Plain For All: Investing in our Future**

# Recommendation 3: Capital Project for New Multiuse Facility via 10 Year Investment Strategy



# Evaluation – Fourth Plain *Fort Vancouver Way to Andresen*

Evaluation Criteria	No Action	Alternative 1 Enhanced Mobility Lane Focus	Alternative 2 Enhanced Transit Mobility Focus	Package: Hybrid Mobility and Transit Solutions
Mobility improvement for people walking, using a mobility device, bicycling, or using the bus	○	●	●	●
Safety improvement for all users of the corridor	○	●	◐	●
Greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction	○	●	●	●
Equitable outcomes	○	◐	●	●
Access to businesses, jobs, services, parks and recreation, education	○	●	●	●

# Action / Recommendation

## **Endorse the proposed project recommendations that include:**

- a reconfiguration of the roadway striping on Fourth Plain Boulevard
- adding capital projects to the Transportation Improvement Program that focus on placemaking, expanding the mobility network and calming traffic
- recommending the addition of a new multiuse facility for consideration in the Fourth Plain For All: Investing in our Future investment process

# Next Steps

- **March 20, 2023** – Fourth Plain Phase 2 is presented to City Council for endorsement on the Consent Agenda
- **Summer/Fall 2023** – Fourth Plain Phase 1 and Ft. Vancouver Way are constructed in conjunction with pavement preservation work
- **Summer 2024** - Fourth Plain Phase 2 roadway reconfiguration is constructed in conjunction with pavement preservation work

# Thank You

Kate Drennan, Principal Planner, Comprehensive Planning  
*Kate.Drennan@cityofvancouver.us*

