

North Hamilton Crossing (NHX) TOWN HALL MEETING

Hamilton, OH
August 28, 2023



North Hamilton
CROSSING

PROJECT TEAM INTRODUCTIONS

Butler County Transportation Improvement District

Dan Corey, P.E. – Butler County TID

City of Hamilton

Allen Messer, P.E. – City of Hamilton Project Manager

Ohio Department of Transportation

Keith Smith, P.E. – District Environmental Coordinator

Neighborhood Housing Services of Hamilton

Lorie DiStaola – Executive Director

Stantec

Steve Shadix, P.E., P.S. – Consultant Project Manager

PROJECT PURPOSE & NEED

To improve **east-west connectivity** north of SR 129 in the City of Hamilton in order to **reduce congestion** and **improve mobility** in support of current and planned economic growth in the City of Hamilton and western Butler County, as identified in Plan Hamilton.

PRIMARY NEEDS

(Must be addressed by the project)

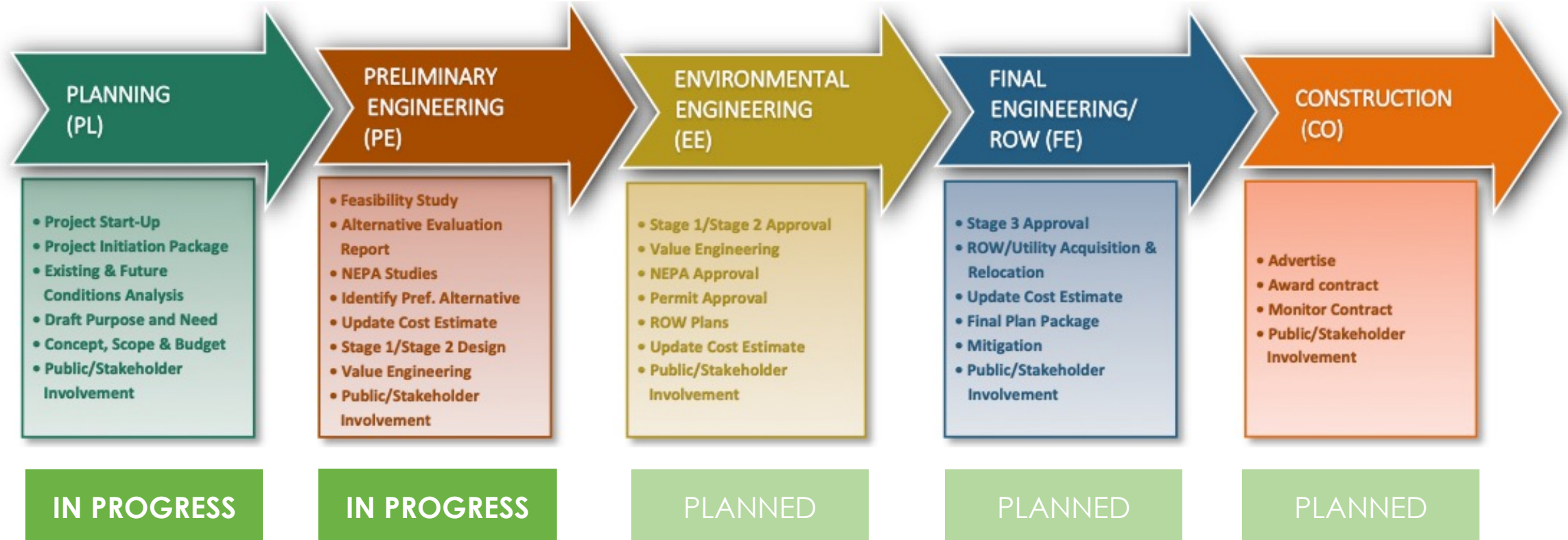
- Improve east-west connectivity
- Address insufficient crossings of the Great Miami River
- Address lack of grade-separated railroad crossings
- Address mobility/congestion on local road network
- Improve safety

SECONDARY NEEDS

(Should be considered by the project, pending availability of funding)

- Support economic development
- Improve bike/pedestrian connectivity
- Improve multimodal linkage

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS



↑
We are here

PUBLIC MEETING PARTICIPATION

In-Person Meeting

- Participants: 300+

Virtual Meeting

- Views: 9,100
- Participants: 880
- Responses received: 11,176
- Comments, questions, suggestions: 611

Email

- 36 emails received

Phone Calls

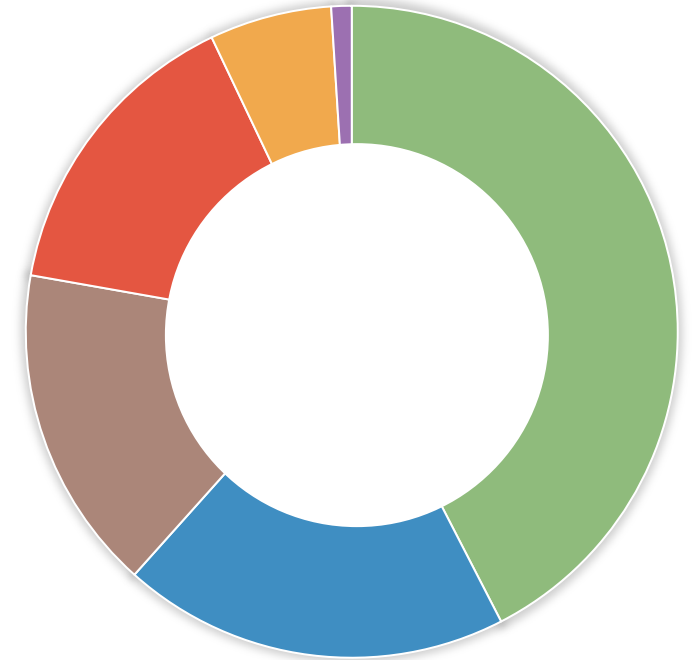
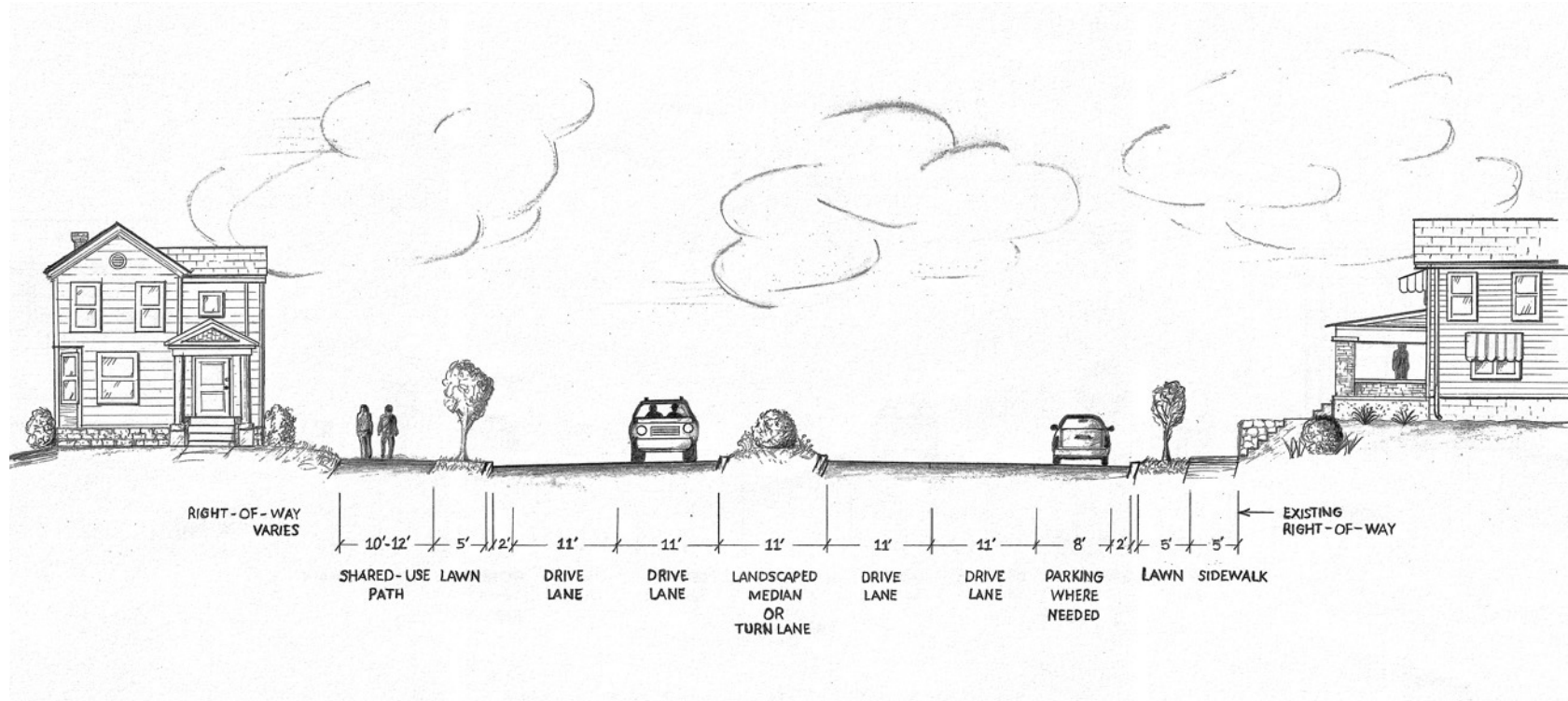
- 14 received



KEY FINDINGS FROM PUBLIC INPUT

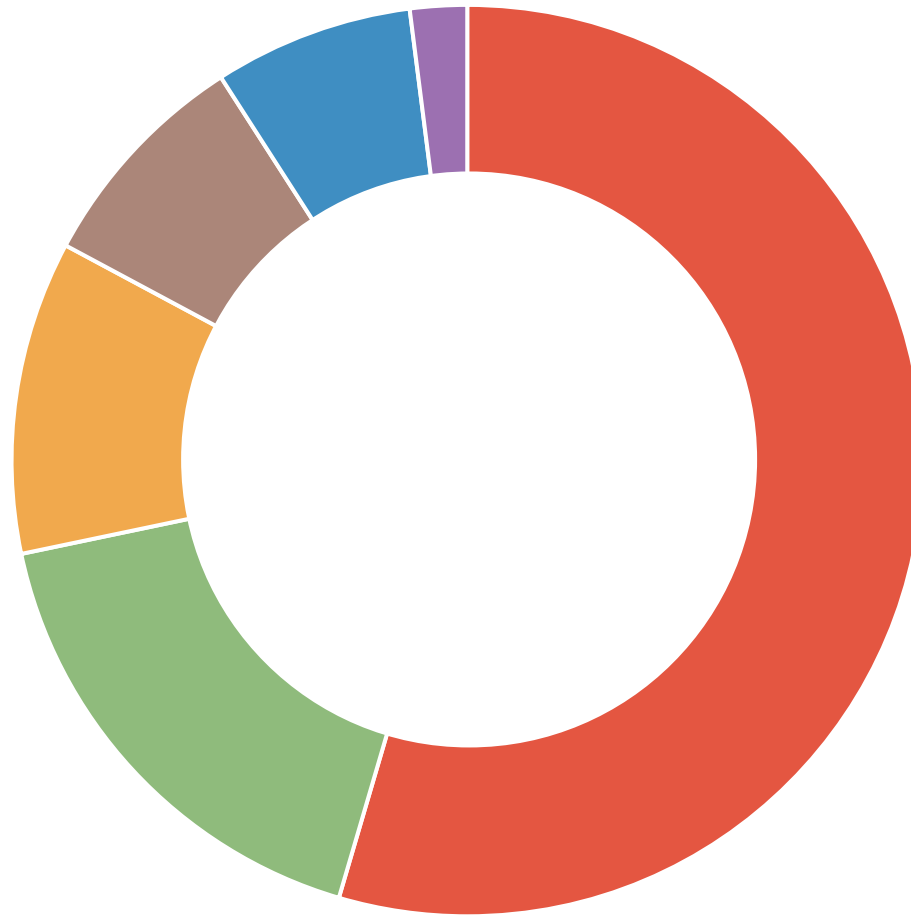
- **Concerns regarding potential impacts to the North End neighborhood**
 - Property purchases and relocations
 - Impacts to the Chem-Dyne property
 - Impacts to LJ Smith Park
- **Comments received were varied and often offered opposing views**
- **Frequent topics addressed:**
 - Butler County Fairgrounds and/or its equine programs
 - Greenwood Cemetery
 - Support for Alternative A
 - Potential impacts to historic areas
 - Suggestions for new routes
 - Acceptability of proposed alternatives

• What do you think of the proposed concept for NHX? (445 respondents)



- 42% I like it a lot
- 19% It's OK
- 16% I'm not sure yet
- 15% I don't like it at all
- 6% I don't particularly like it
- 1% I don't have a preference

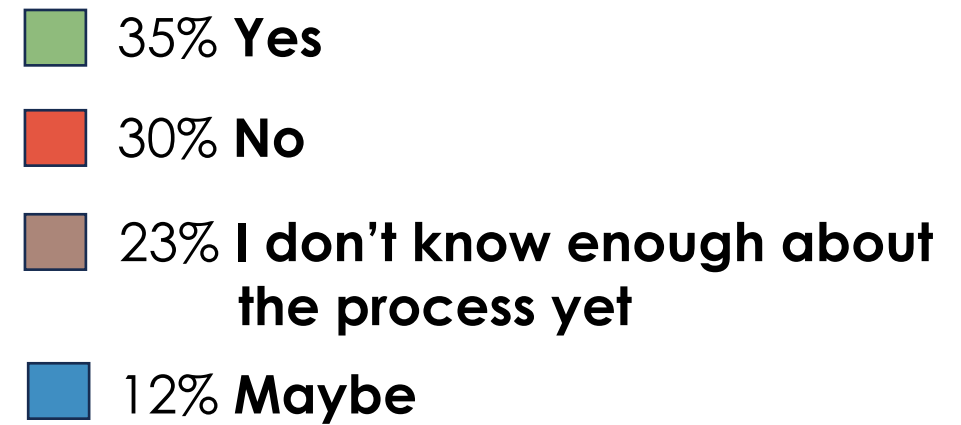
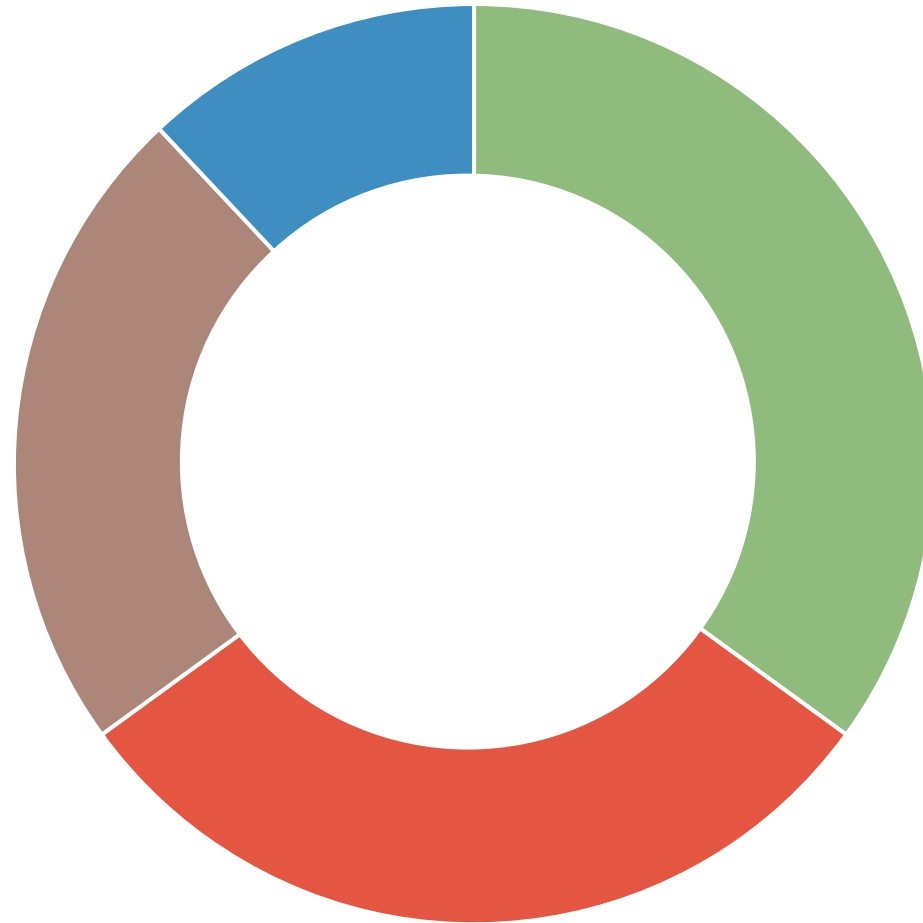
• **How interested are you in the no build alternative?**
(305 respondents)



- 54% I don't like it at all
- 17% I like it a lot
- 11% I don't particularly like it
- 8% I'm not sure yet
- 7% It's OK
- 2% I don't have a preference

- If impacted by the project, would you be interested in being bought out and relocated, if you receive a fair price?

(202 respondents)



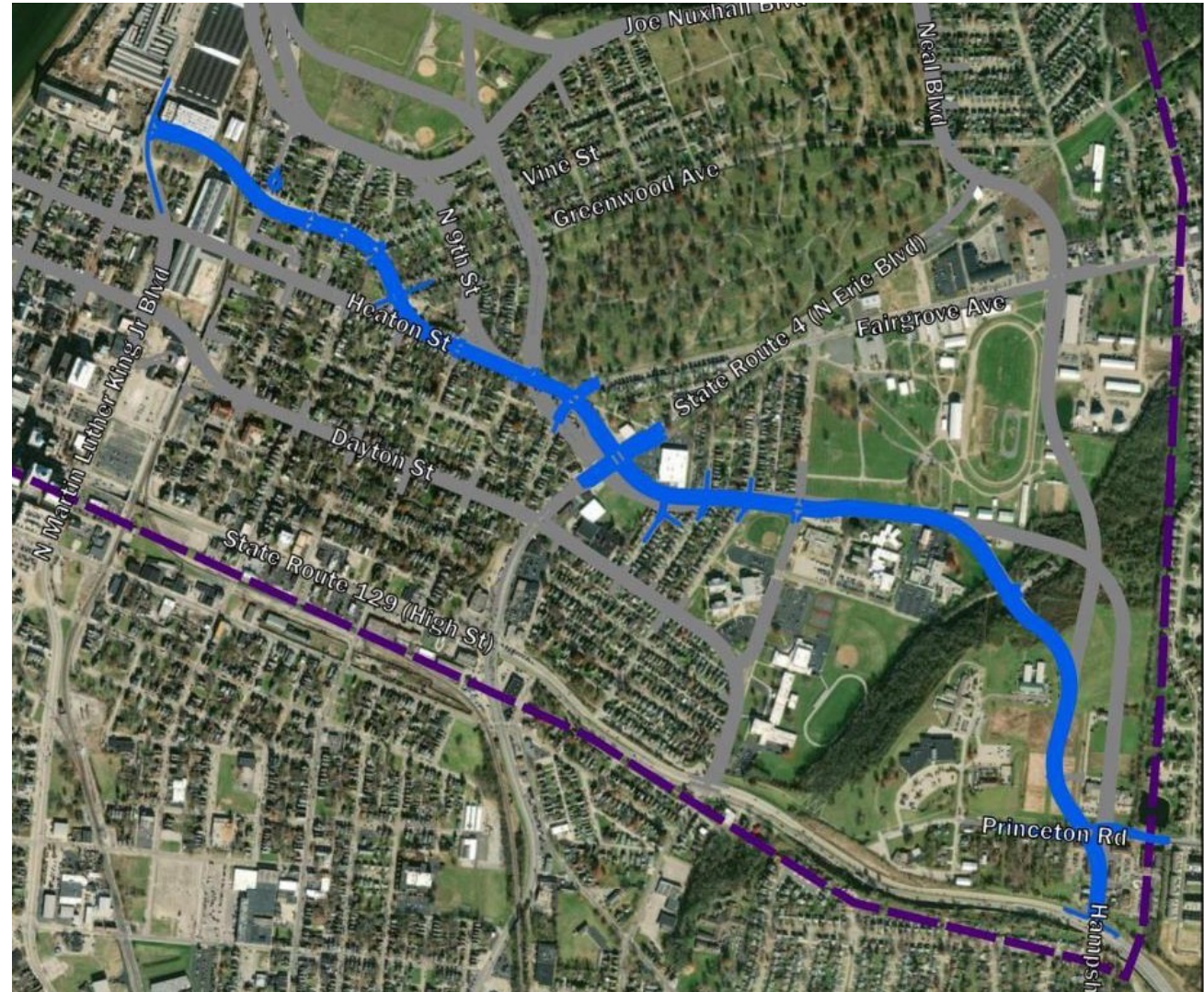
BASED ON PUBLIC INPUT RECEIVED: South Bridge Crossing Modification

- Skewed alignment modified to address the following issues:
 - Design complexity
 - Construction costs
 - Hydraulic dam impacts



BASED ON PUBLIC INPUT RECEIVED: NEW Central Section Alternative – Vine Street Connection

- Developed as a result of public suggestions
 - Connects US 127 just north of Vine Street to SR 4, generally following Vine Street and North 8th Street to Heaton Street
 - Avoids impacts to LJ Smith Park, Chem-Dyne, Bonham Farm, hydraulic canal
 - Design will minimize impacts, if any, to the German Village Historic District



FEASIBILITY STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVES

West Section Alternatives (North B St to US 127)

- North River Crossing
- South River Crossing

Central Section Alternatives (US 127 to North Fair Ave)

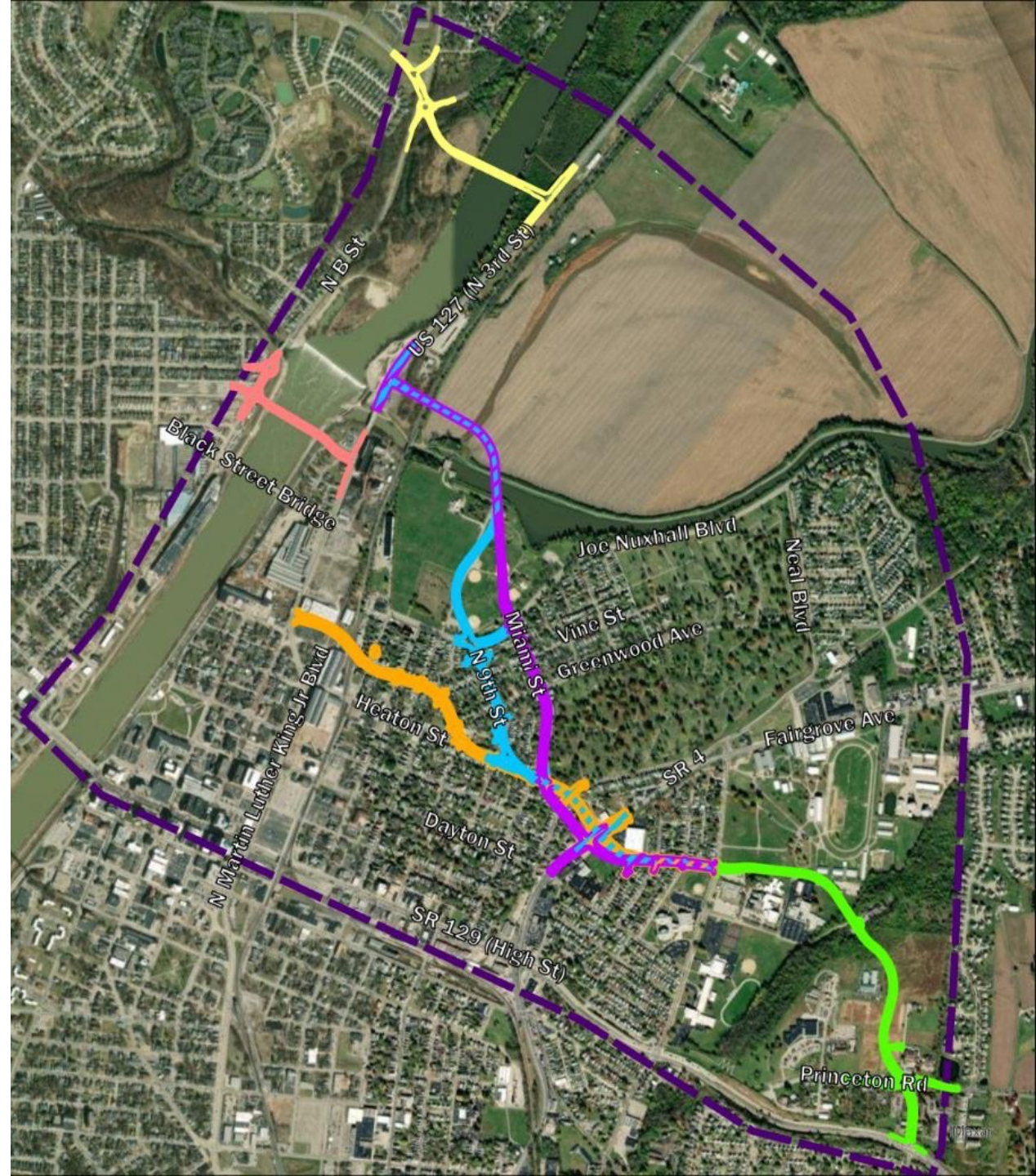
- Miami Street Connection
- North 9th Street Connection
- Vine Street Connection

East Section Alternative (North Fair Ave to SR 129)

- East Connection

Study Area

- Study Area



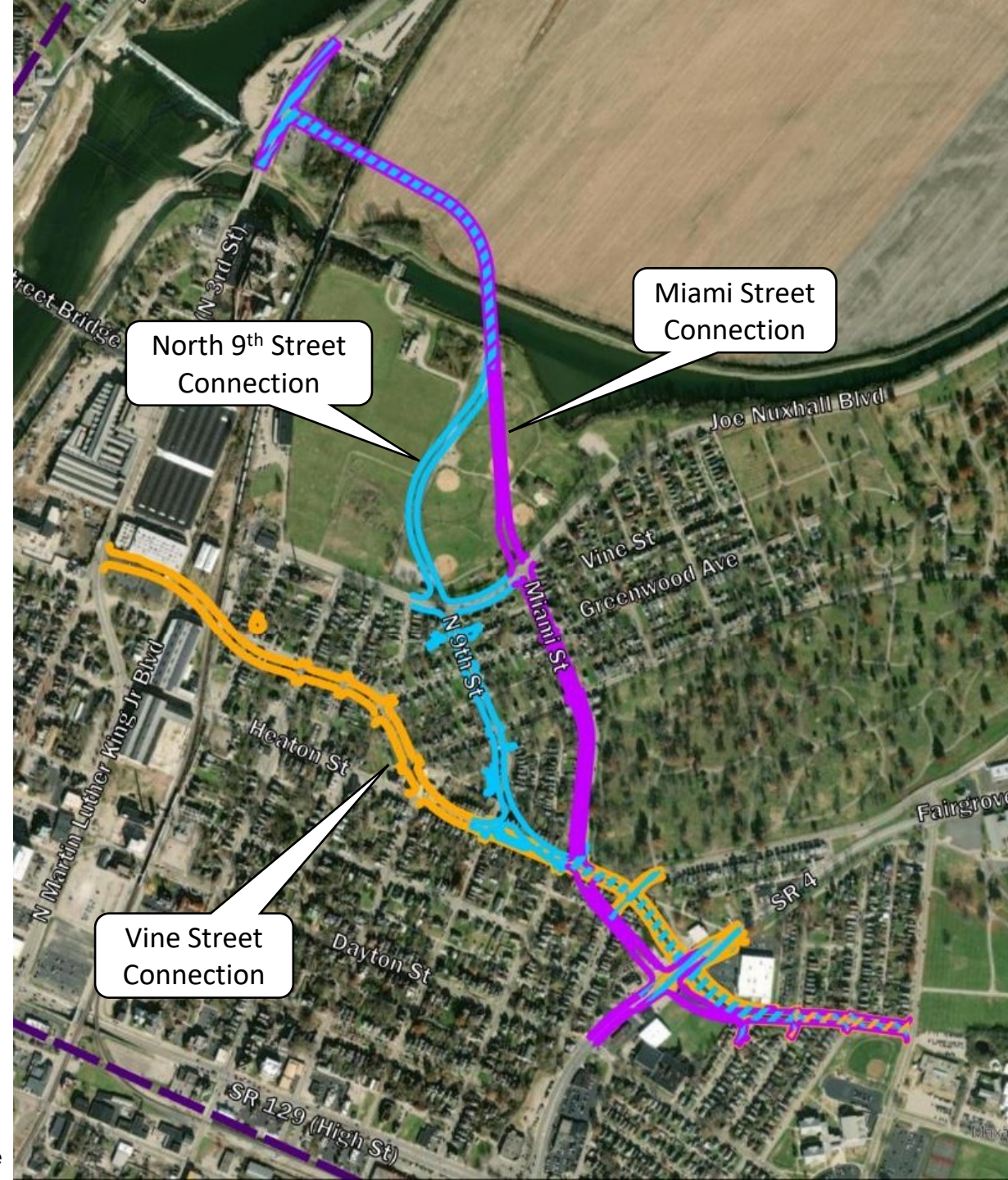
WEST SECTION ALTERNATIVES

- NW Washington Crossing
- Gordon/Rhea Crossing



CENTRAL SECTION ALTERNATIVES

- Miami Street Connection
- North 9th Street Connection
- Vine Street Connection



EAST SECTION ALTERNATIVE

- East Connection



ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION REPORT (AER)

Recommended alternatives will be advanced for more in-depth analyses and field surveys including:

Detailed Environmental Studies

- Hazardous materials
- Wetlands and streams
- Cultural and historic resources
- Noise and air quality
- Community impacts
- Parklands
- Farmlands
- Floodplains

Detailed Engineering Studies

- Additional Traffic Analysis
- Studies to refine alignments and minimize right-of-way impacts
- Structures studies to evaluate bridge crossings of railroads and waterways
- Evaluate street connections and parking needs
- Evaluate safe bicycle/pedestrian connections

Meetings with project area communities and stakeholders will be conducted throughout the AER to support technical studies.



**Neighborhood Housing Services
of Hamilton, Inc.**

100 South Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Hamilton, Ohio 45011
(513) 737-9301



NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES: History & Mission

- 501 (c)(3) non-profit
- Created in 1991 to serve low to moderate income households
- Created to address the lack of access to quality affordable housing opportunities (homeownership and rental) and revitalize neighborhoods

Mission Statement

Neighborhood Housing Services of Hamilton, Inc. is a nonprofit community development organization dedicated to building affordable, healthier, and stronger communities through partnerships with government, businesses, and local community leaders.

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES: Programs & Services

Lending Services

- Provides loans for home purchases, home improvements, and forgivable loans for down payment/closing costs.

Home Buyer Education/Housing Counseling

- Helps clients overcome obstacles needed to obtain and maintain homeownership
- Works with clients to help them qualify for homeownership
- Provides 8 hours of homebuyer education to low to moderate income prospective homeowners in Butler County
- Provides foreclosure prevention counseling to help distressed homeowners at risk for foreclosure

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES: Programs & Services

Down Payment/Closing Cost Assistance

- Administers the Down Payment and Closing Cost Assistance Program for the City of Hamilton
- Prospective homeowners at 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) or below can receive up to \$10,000 for down payment and closing cost assistance.

Real Estate Development

- Constructs/rehabs and manages affordable housing units – single family homes and multifamily units throughout Butler County Ohio, including the City of Hamilton

Also has an Emergency Repair Program and provides Cares Act Emergency Assistance

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES: New Construction



PUBLIC OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

Outreach efforts planned for the AER phase of study include:

- Meetings with project area communities
- Stakeholder meetings
- Project summary video
- Newsletters
- Website updates
- Social media/Digital outreach
- Public open house to share AER findings (in-person and virtual)

NEXT STEPS

- Public Meeting #3 (Town Hall Style) – August 28, 2023 ← TODAY
- Conduct AER study & environmental field studies
- Public Meeting #4 – Summer/Fall 2024
- AER study completed & recommended Preferred Alternative identified

QUESTIONS