

Richmond

Cochran Road Corridor Study

MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2025

7:00 PM



CHITTENDEN COUNTY RPC
Communities Planning Together



Project Team



Keith Osborne
Director of Planning and Zoning



Jason Charest, PE, PTP
Senior Transportation Planning Engineer

Erik Maki, PE, PTOE
Senior Director, Traffic Engineering



Annabelle Dally
Communications & Public Involvement Manager

Jenny Zhang
Urban designer



Agenda

- Project Context
- Project Goals
- Local Concerns Meeting Recap
- Purpose and Need Statement
- **Conceptual Alternatives Discussion**
 - Richmond, Jonesville concepts
 - Cochran Road
- Next Steps



Project Context – Cochran Road

- Scoping Study – for the two **25mph** village segments; Richmond, Jonesville.
- Feasibility Study – for the **45mph** middle section; build on the recommendations and alternatives presented in the *Town of Richmond Bike, Walk, and Trails Plan*.
- Traffic Calming – review the recently installed traffic calming measures and recommend supplemental devices, if needed.



Project Goals

1. Village segments - Identify new infrastructure such as sidewalks that can be incorporated
2. Corridor segment - Identify specific on-road and off-road improvements and multi-modal strategies that address safety, capacity and connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists
3. Evaluate the traffic calming measures and recommend additional solutions or devices.



Local Concerns Meeting- Recap

LCM meeting was held on April 9, 2024. Concerns included:

- *Unsafe conditions for all road users*
 - *The road is narrow and has no shoulders, sidewalks*
 - *Cars speed and there is limited sight distance*
- *Limited parking at trails and other recreation sites*
- *Potential flood plain issues*
- *Right-of-Way constraints*
- *Village areas lack sidewalks and parking*



Purpose and Need Statement

Purpose. The purpose of this project is to **develop and identify a recommended alternative for Cochran Road that improves safety, comfort, and mobility for non-motorized users** along the corridor and to expand access to recreational sites.

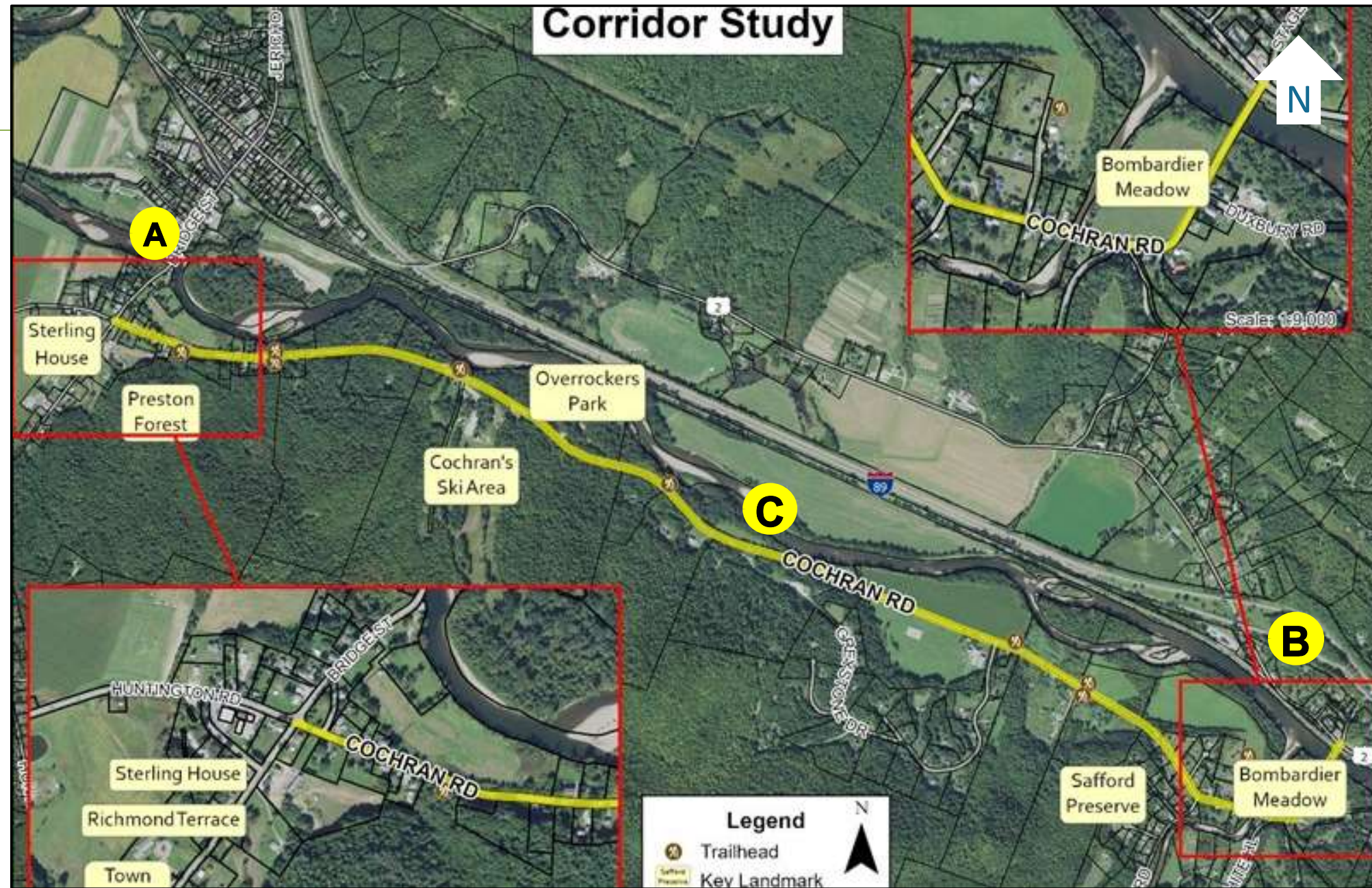
Need. Cochran Road is considered deficient based on the **narrow roadway width, vehicle speeds, and alignment.** The roadway has two travel lanes with no shoulders or sidewalks. The numerous recreational uses attract a variety of motorized and non-motorized users; however, **residents are concerned about high traffic speeds, lack of space for pedestrians and cyclists,** and limited parking at the recreational sites along the corridor.



Study Area

Project Limits:

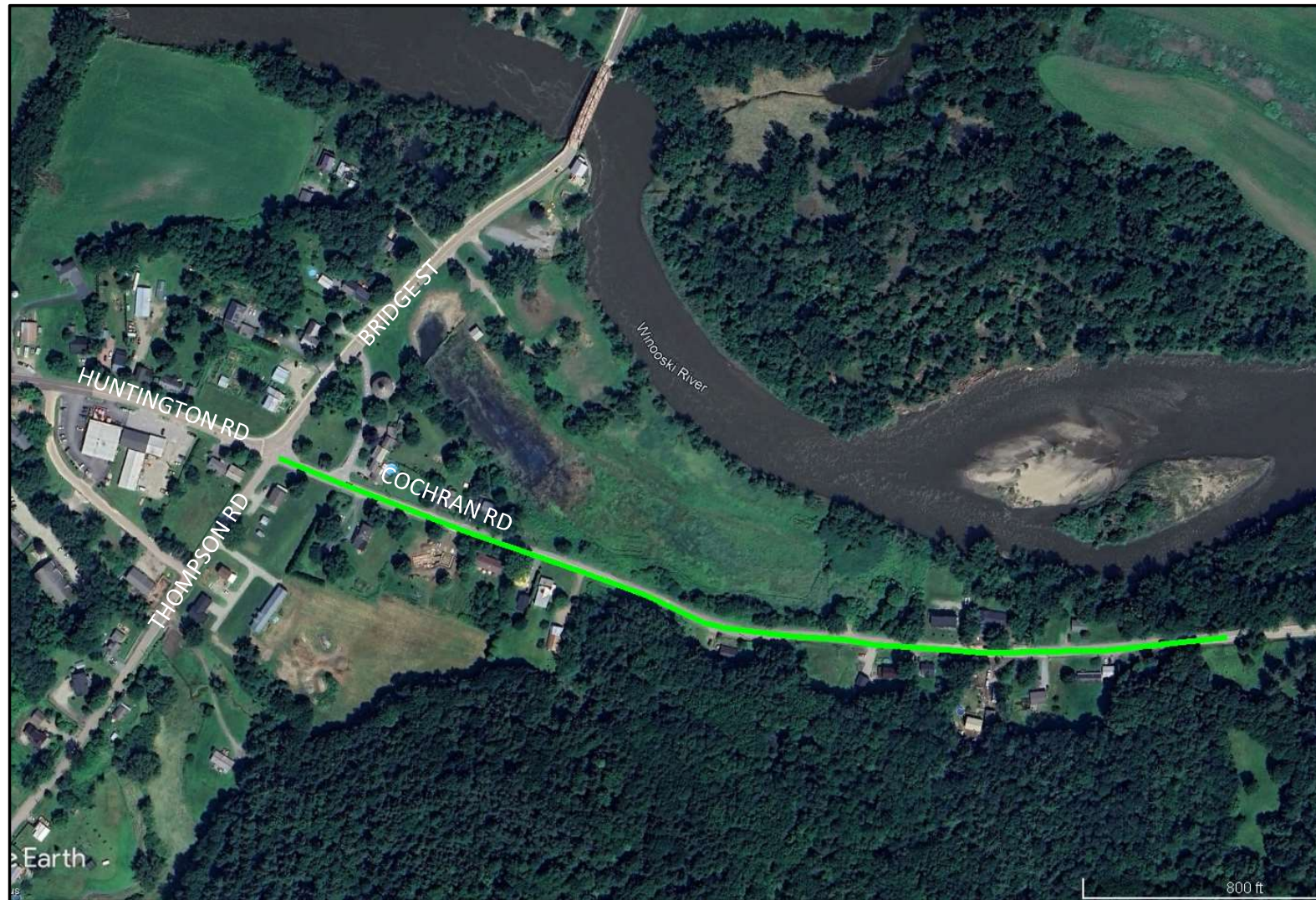
- A. Richmond Village
- B. Jonesville Community
- C. Cochran Rd corridor ~2.5 miles



CHITTENDEN COUNTY RPC
Communities Planning Together

WSP

Richmond Village Concepts



Cochran Road Looking East



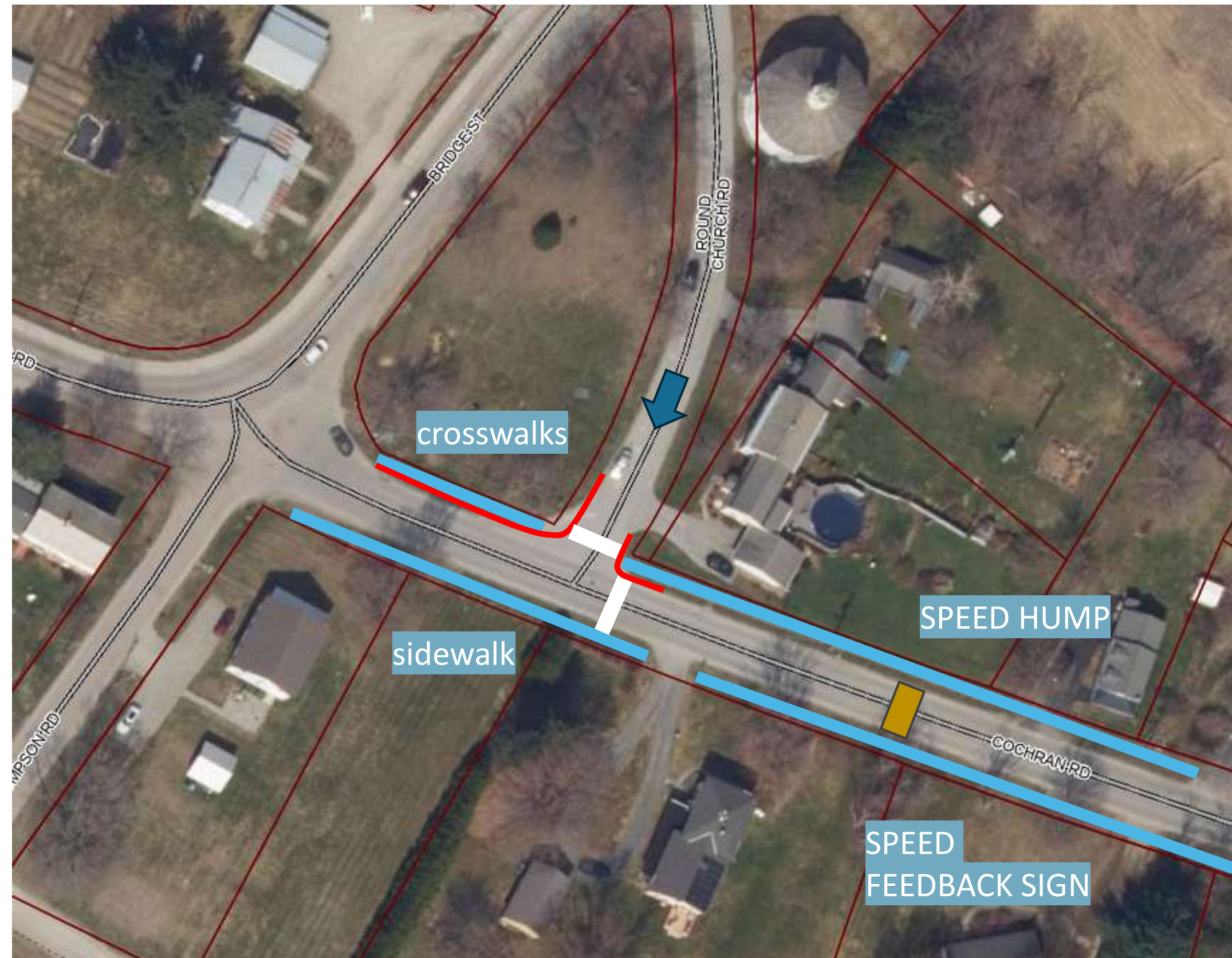
CHITTENDEN COUNTY RPC
Communities Planning Together

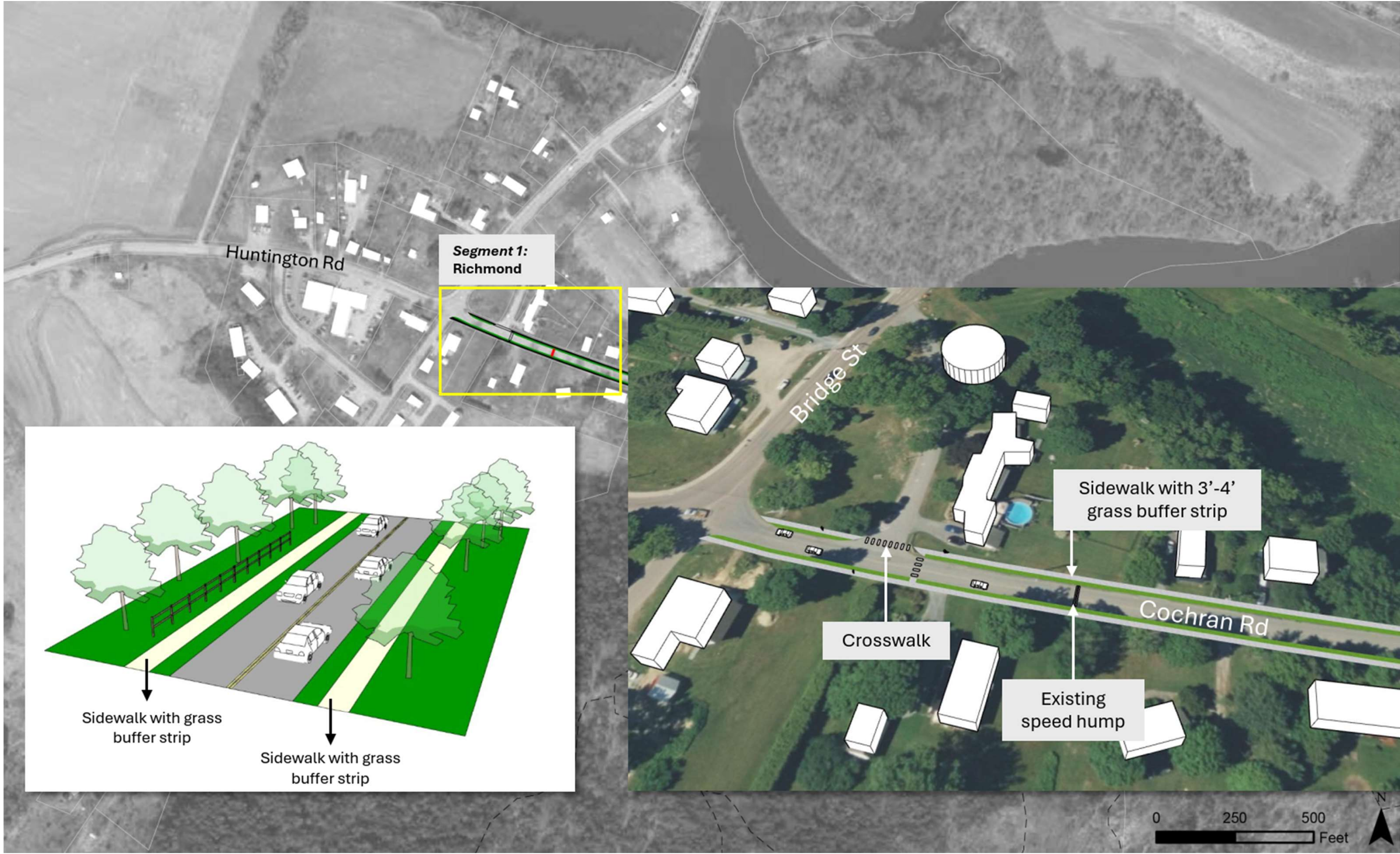


Richmond Village

Concept ideas:

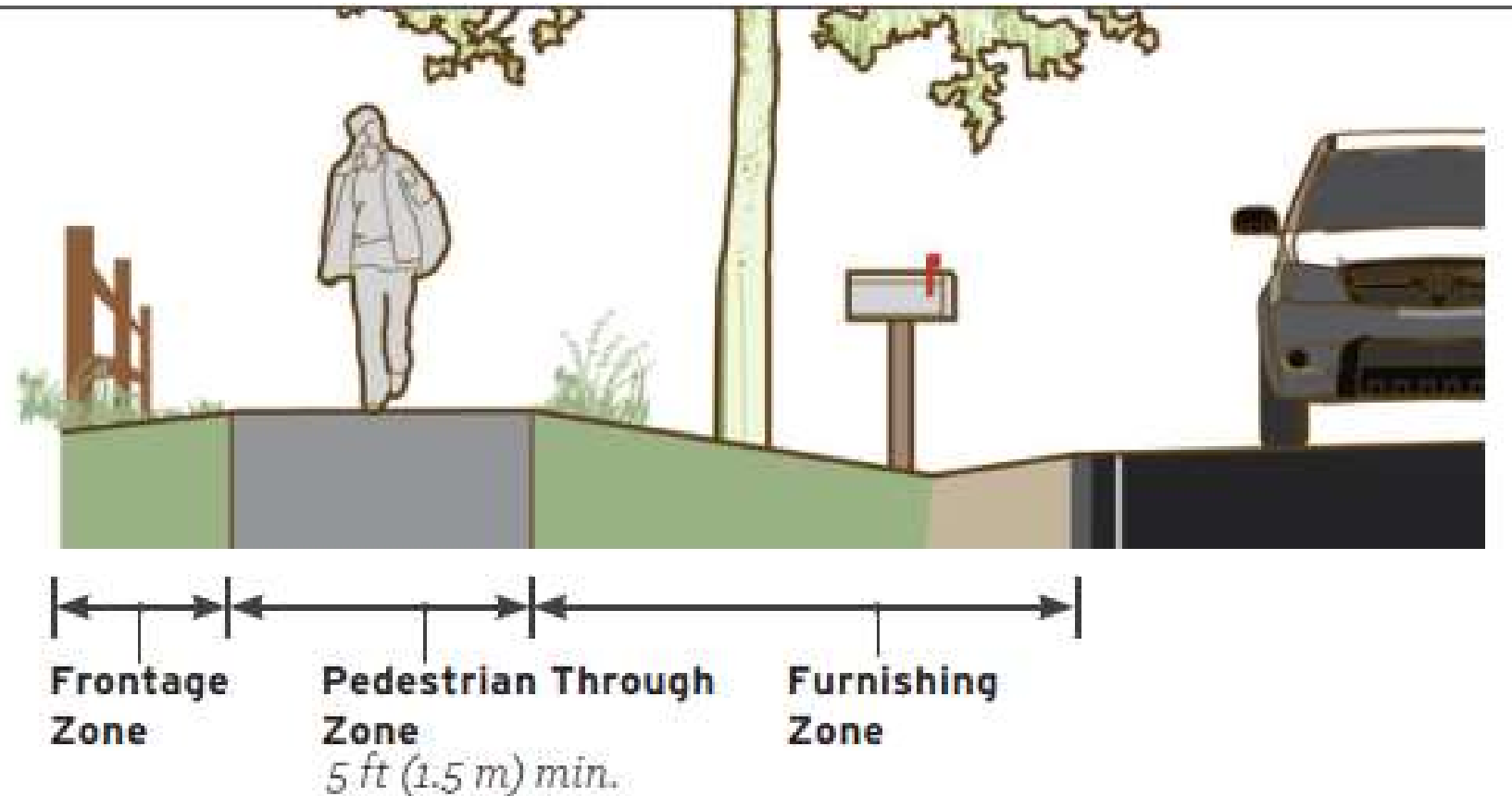
1. *Improve Pedestrian Safety and connectivity within the Village*
2. *Provide sidewalk on both sides of the road to reinforce village environment*
3. *Consider curb extensions and a crosswalk at Round Church Rd*
4. *Continue sidewalk on both sides of Cochran Rd to Preston Forest Trail at the cemetery*
5. *Maintain current traffic calming elements (humps, signs, etc.)*







Bridge Street

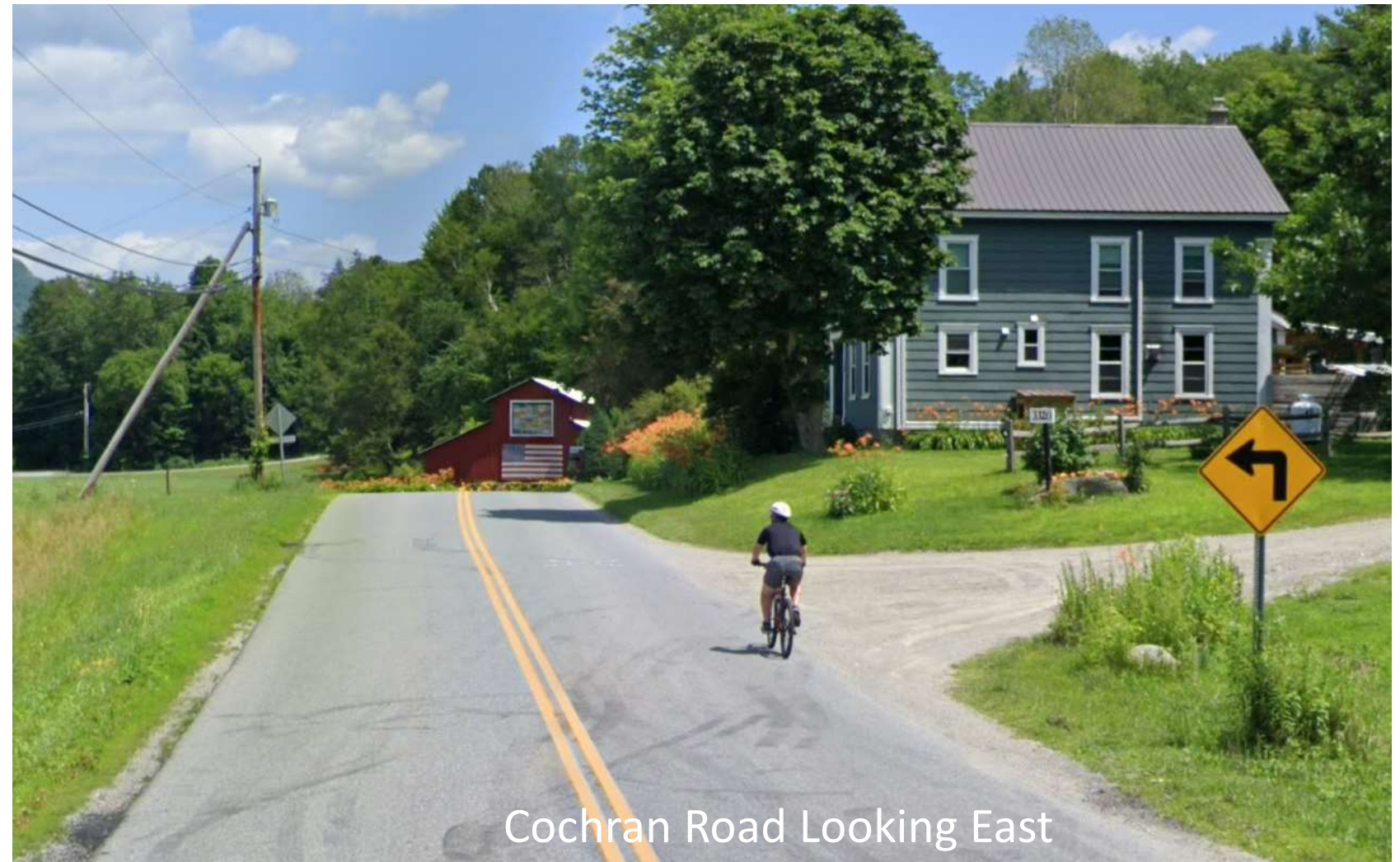
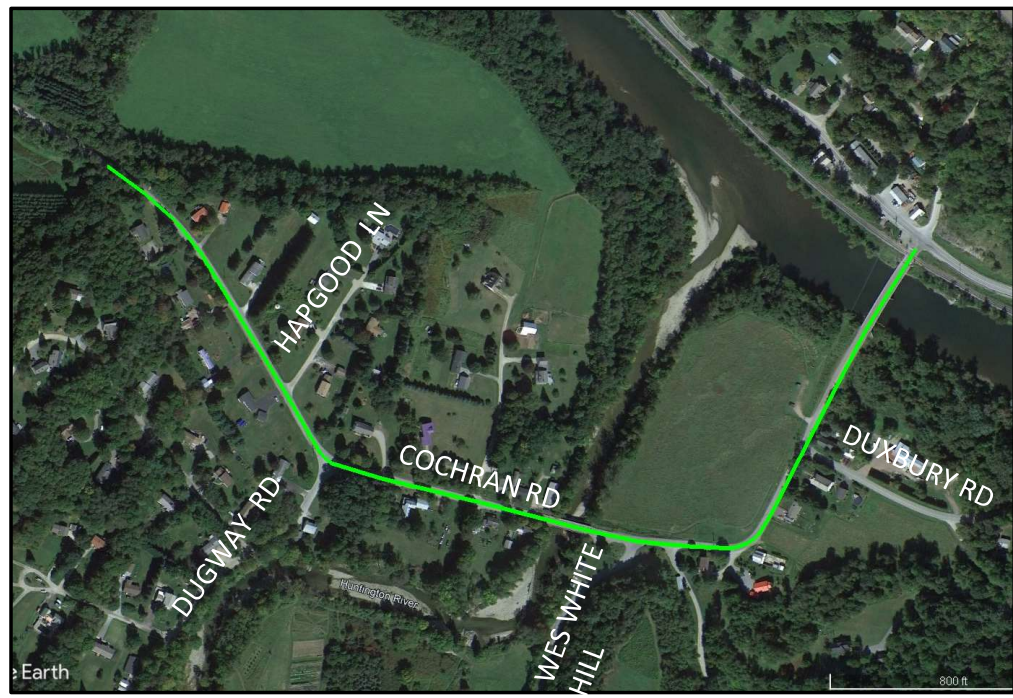


Cochran Road layout is 3 rods (49.5 ft) and should have about 13 ft. available on each side for sidewalks.

Table 4-3. Minimum recommended dimensions for sidewalks

Volume And User Mix	Frontage Zone	Pedestrian Through Zone	Furnishing Zone	Total Width
Constrained Minimum	1 ft (0.3 m)	5 ft (1.2 m)	2 ft (0.6 m)	8 ft (2.4 m)
Recommended Minimum	2 ft (0.6 m)	6 ft (1.5 m)	4 ft (1.2 m)	12 ft (3.6 m)

Jonesville Community Concepts

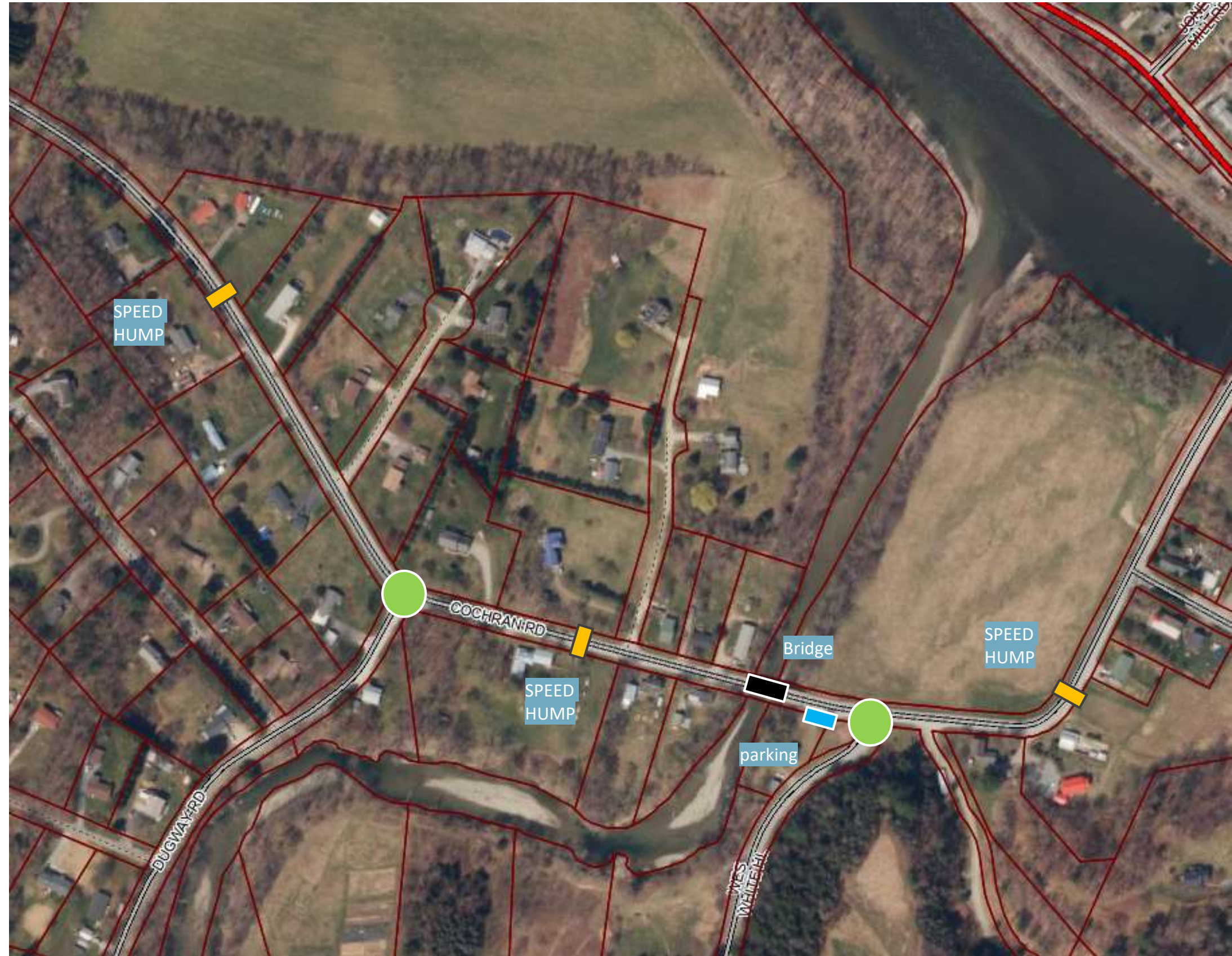


Cochran Road Looking East

Jonesville Community

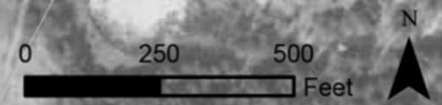
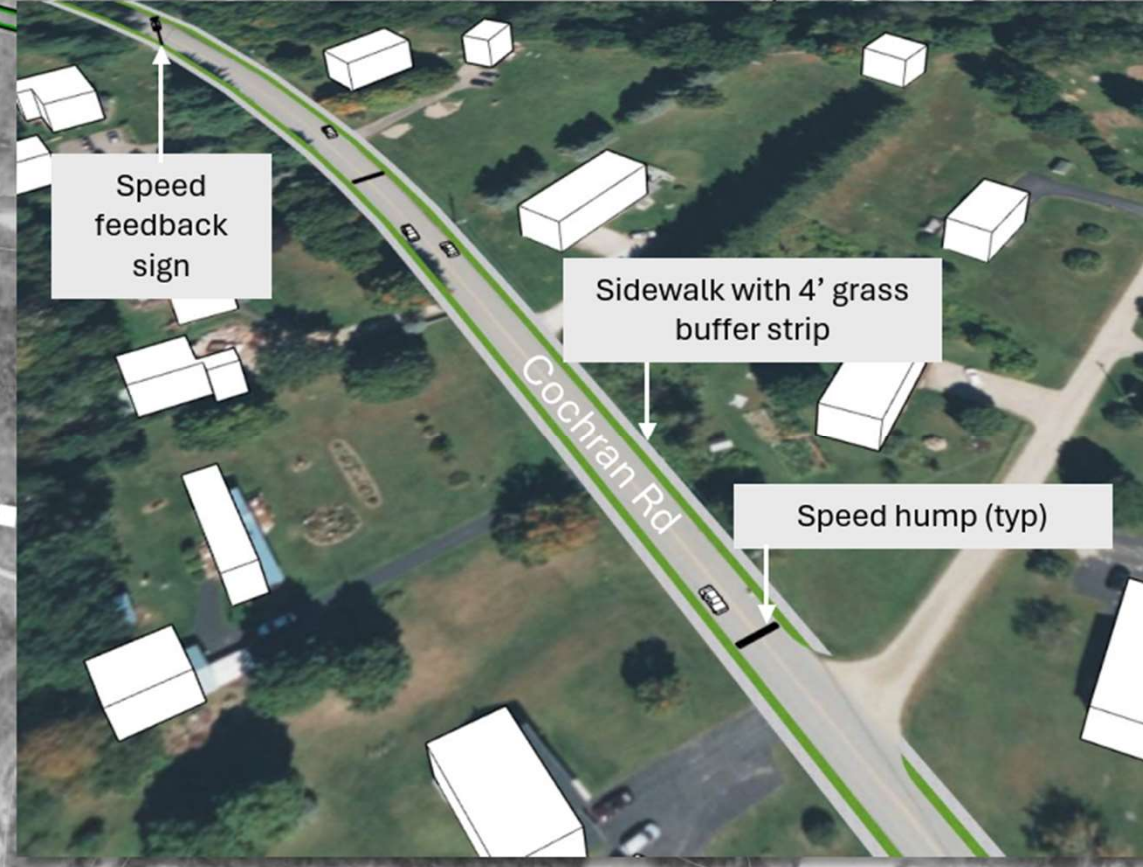
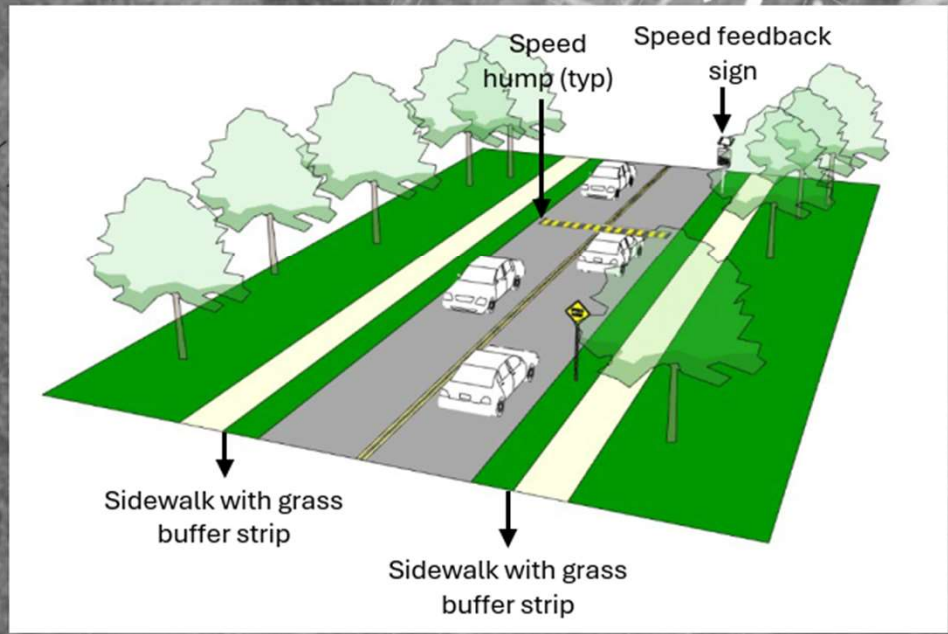
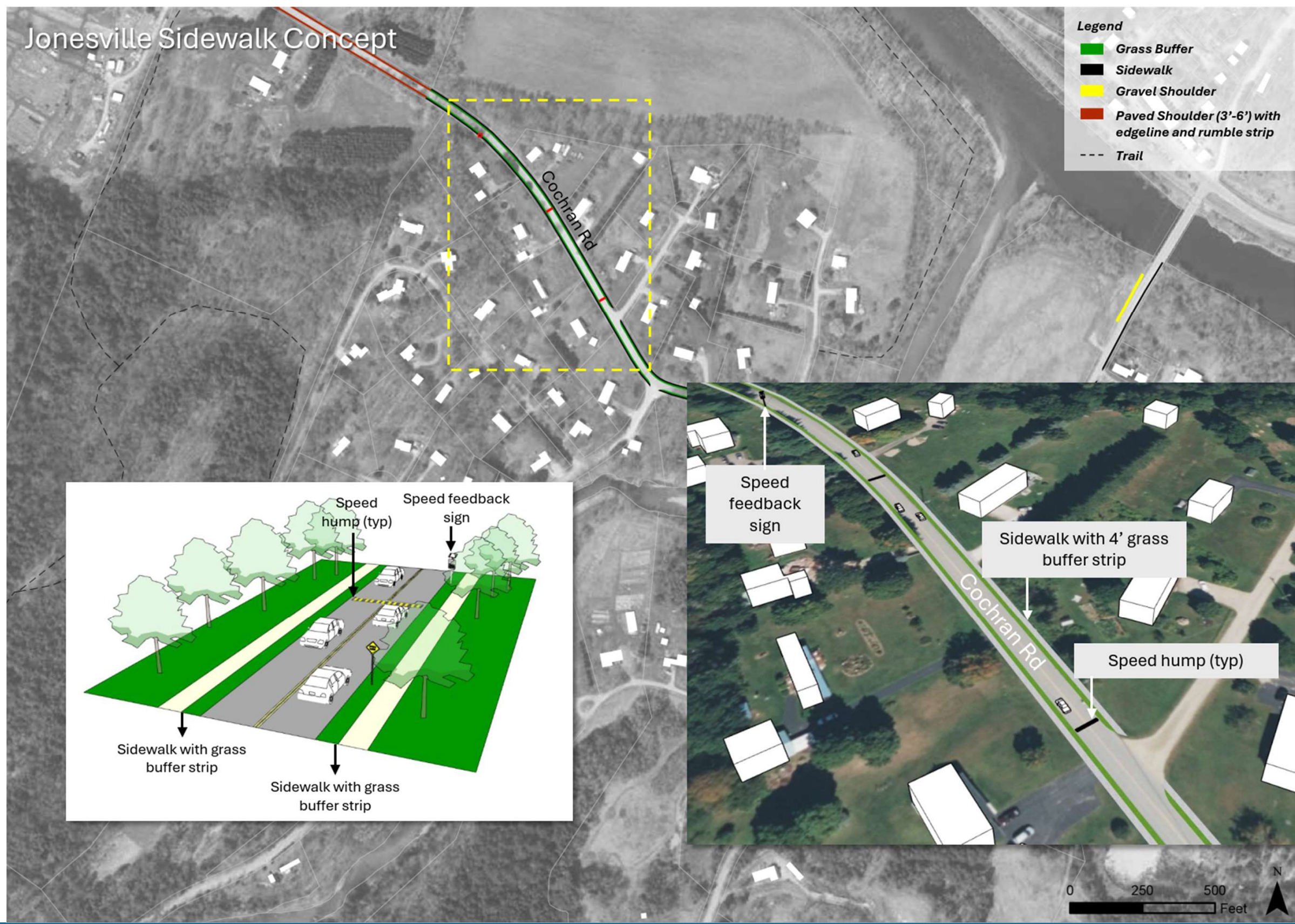
Concept ideas:

- 1. Improve Pedestrian Safety and connectivity within the Village*
- 2. Provide sidewalk on both sides of the road to reinforce village environment*
- 3. Consider intersection treatments for traffic calming & safety. Potential curb extensions; Dugway & Wes White Hill*
- 4. Consider additional street parking near the meadow and the river for recreational access*
- 5. Maintain current traffic calming elements (humps, signs, etc.)*

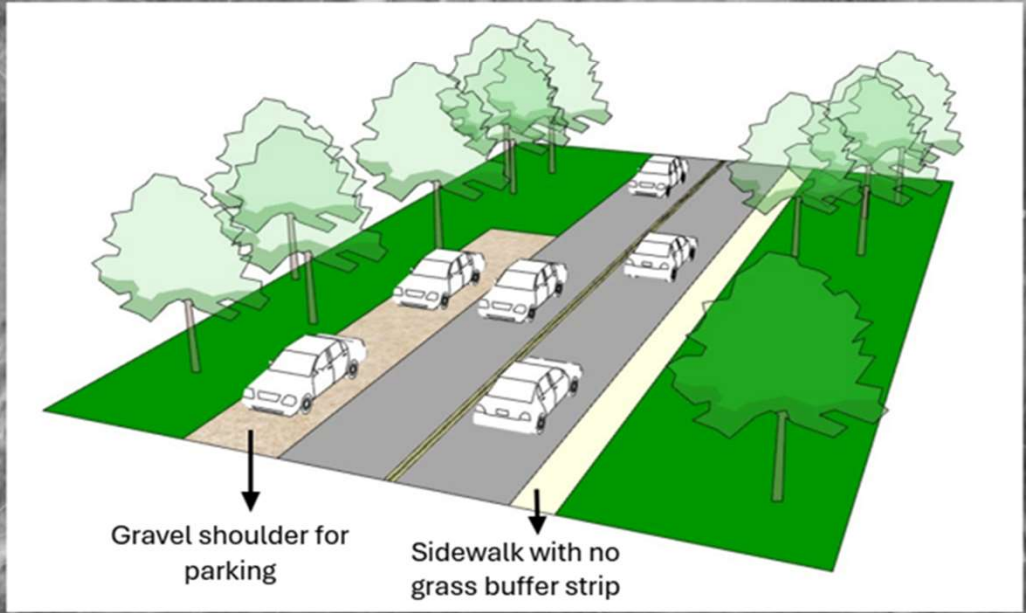
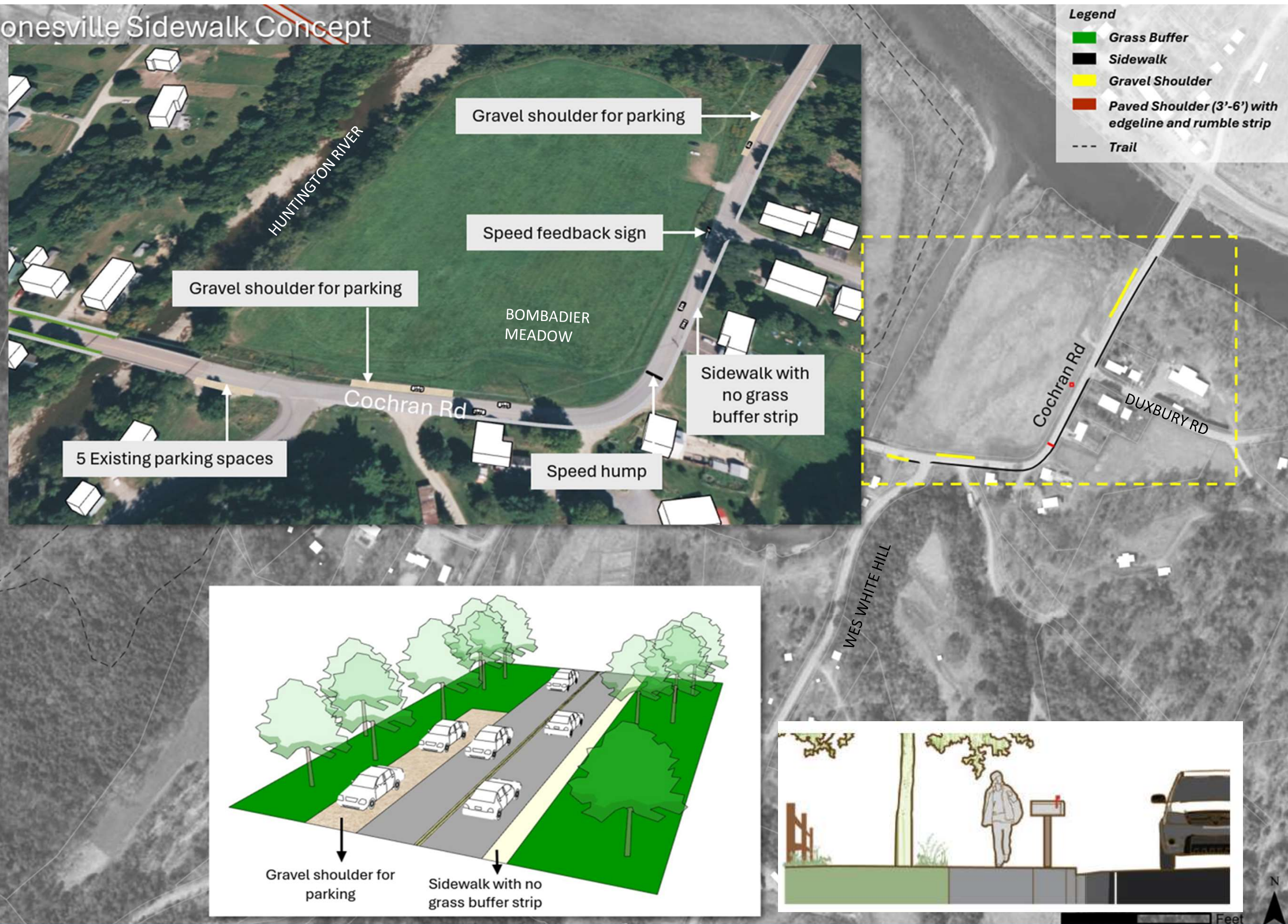


Jonesville Sidewalk Concept

- Legend**
- Grass Buffer
 - Sidewalk
 - Gravel Shoulder
 - Paved Shoulder (3'-6') with edgeline and rumble strip
 - Trail

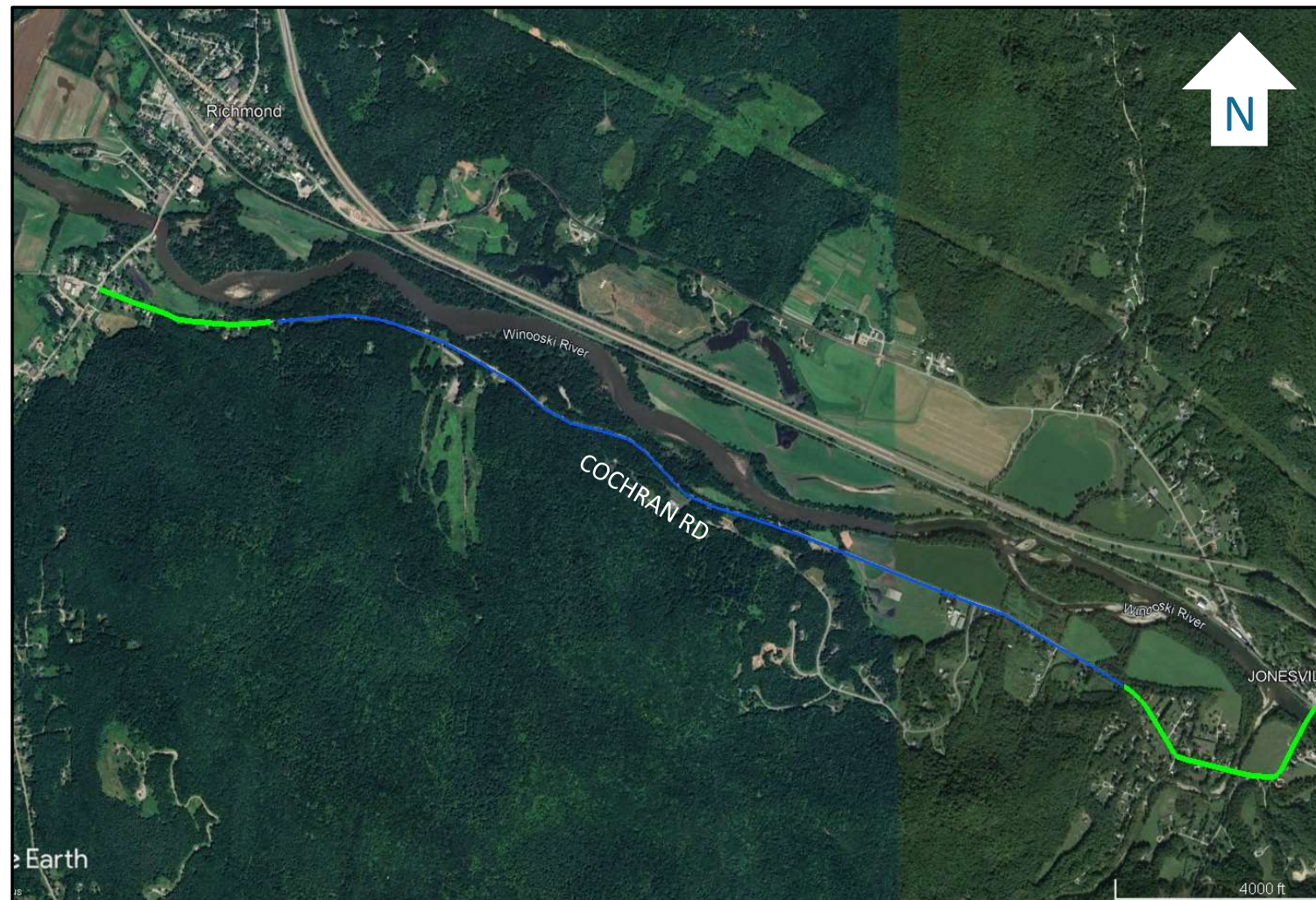


Jonesville Sidewalk Concept



Feet

Cochran Road – Feasibility Study



- Length: ~2.5 miles
- Classification: Minor Collector
- Right of way: +/- 49.5 feet (3 Rods)
- Pavement width: +/- 22-24 feet
- Lane width: +/- 11 feet (9/2)
- AADT (May-June 2023):
 - Daily total – **2,700 vehicles per day**
- Speed limit – 25/45/25 mph
- Truck Route (24,000-pound limit)



Cochran Road

Concept ideas:

- 1. Improve Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety and mobility along the roadway*
- 2. Provide connectivity between village centers*
- 3. Provide access to recreational areas such as Overocker Park and the Winooski river, ski area, etc.*
- 4. Allow for healthy transportation alternatives*



Cochran Road

Challenges:

- 1. Steep uphill grades on Mountain side (south side)*
- 2. 45 MPH speed limit*
- 3. Roadway curves and limited sight distance*
- 4. Ledge outcroppings*



Cochran Road

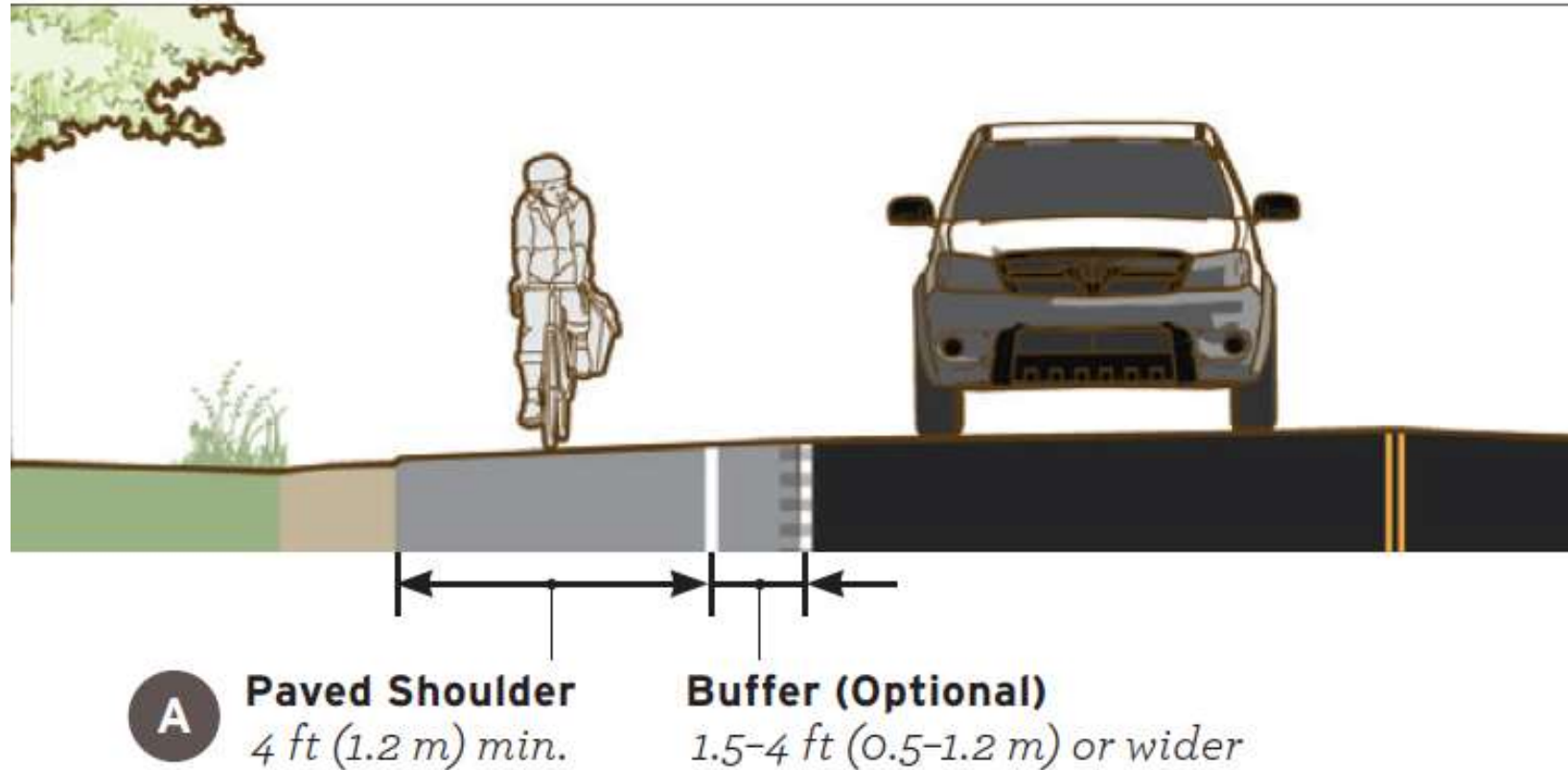
Challenges Cont'd:

- 1. Steep downgrades on River side (north side)***
- 2. Floodplain concerns***
- 3. 45 MPH speed limit***
- 4. Roadway curves and limited sight distance***



Paved Shoulder Concept

1. Expands current 22 ft Roadway
2. Adds a 6-8 ft Paved Shoulder to each side
3. Improves Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety



Functional classification	Volume (AADT)	Speed (Mi/h)	Recommended Minimum Paved Shoulder Width
Minor Collector	up to 1,100	35 (55 km/h)	5 ft (1.5 m)
Major Collector	up to 2,600	45 (70 km/h)	6.5 ft (2.0 m)
Minor Arterial	up to 6,000	55 (90 km/h)	7 ft (2.1 m)
Principal Arterial	up to 8,500	65 (100 km/h)	8 ft (2.4 m)

Next Steps – how to stay involved

Project Introduction – March 26, 2024

Task 1. Local Concerns Meeting – April 9

Task 2. Village Scoping Study – (Oct – Jan)

Public Meeting – Feb 2025 (TBD)

Task 3. Traffic Calming Priorities (April)

Task 4. Cochran Road Feasibility Study – (April – May)

Task 5. Study Recommendations (June 2025)



Contact Us!



Jason Charest, PE, PTP
*Senior Transportation Planning
Engineer*
CCRPC
(802) 861-0127
jcharest@ccrpcvt.org



<https://www.richmondvt.gov/>



Annabelle Dally
*Communications & Public Involvement
Manager*



<https://www.ccrpcvt.org/our-communities/richmond/>

