

STAKEHOLDER AND PUBLIC MEETING NO. 1

**Arena Drive (CR 620) and S Broad Street (CR 524)
Multimodal Safety Improvements**

**From S Olden Avenue (CR 622) to Yardville-Hamilton Square
Road (CR 609)**

**Local Concept Development Study
Mercer County
With NJDOT & DVRPC**

October 24, 2024



**Michael Baker
INTERNATIONAL**

Project Team Members



Mercer County

- Dan Benson – County Executive
- Christopher R. Marion – County Administrator
- Sharon Shinkle Gardner – County Administration Chief of Staff

- Maria Connolly – County Planning Director
- Basit Muzaffar – County Engineer
- Matthew Zochowski – Principal Planner & County Project Co-Manager
- Jason Mildenberg – Assistant County Engineer & County Project Co-Manager
- Caitlyn Skocypec – County Traffic Engineer
- Matthew Lawson – County Assistant Planning Director



Consultant Team (MBI & CtD & Others)

- Martin Wade – Michael Baker Project Manager
- Tom DiBiase – Michael Baker Deputy Project Manager
- Alec L'Amoreaux – Michael Baker Project Engineer
- Pati Codina & David Sims – Connect the Dots (Public Outreach)



NJDOT

- Arnab Biswas – NJDOT Local Aid
- Sean Ream – NJDOT BEPR
- Ishita Malhotra – NJDOT BEPR



DVRPC

- John Coscia – Manager of Transportation Services

Opening Remarks

Welcome to the first stakeholder and public meeting



Agenda

1. **Welcome & Introductions**
2. **Opening Remarks**
3. **Meeting guidelines and public feedback**
4. **Project Overview**
 - a) Goals
 - b) Project Location
 - c) Local Concept Study Process
 - d) Existing Conditions
 - e) Opportunities for Improvements
 - f) Purpose and Need Statement
5. **Community Input Survey**
6. **Q&A**
7. **Key Takeaways and Next Steps**



Welcome

Interactive activity. Code 5673 9229



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Meeting Goals

- Introduce the **Arena Drive & S Broad St Local Concept Development Study**
- Review **Existing Conditions** and Issues identified along the corridor
- Review **Opportunities for Improvements**
- Gather **feedback** from Stakeholders and the public on the key issues and needs on the corridor.



Online Meeting Guidelines

- This meeting is being recorded for posting on the project website: <https://www.mercercounty.org/arenabroadsafety>
- Please keep all phones/microphones muted and cameras off during the presentation.
- If you have questions during the presentation, please type them into the Q&A box.
- After the presentation, questions in the Q&A box will be read aloud in order of receipt, and a Project Team member will respond.
- After the Q&A questions are read, attendees may use the Raise Hand feature and un-mute to ask questions. By phone: *6 = mute/un-mute and *5 = raise/lower hand
- Q&A will end at 7:45 p.m. for next steps and closing remarks; the meeting will officially close at 8:00 p.m.
- If any questions remain after 7:45 p.m., they can be submitted via the project email – ArenaBroadSafety@gmail.com, or letter (address at end of presentation) and responses will be provided by the Project Team.



Public Feedback

We want your Feedback!!

If you have additional questions or comments after this meeting, **please submit via the methods listed below to be accepted as public record documentation:**

- Email to ArenaBroadSafety@gmail.com or

- Mail a written letter to:

Jason Mildenberg, P.E.,
County Co-Project Manager
Mercer County Engineering Division
640 S Broad Street, P. O. Box 8068,
Trenton, NJ 08650

Comments will be accepted through **Friday, November 22, 2024.**

Public Meeting Presentation and Recording posted to:

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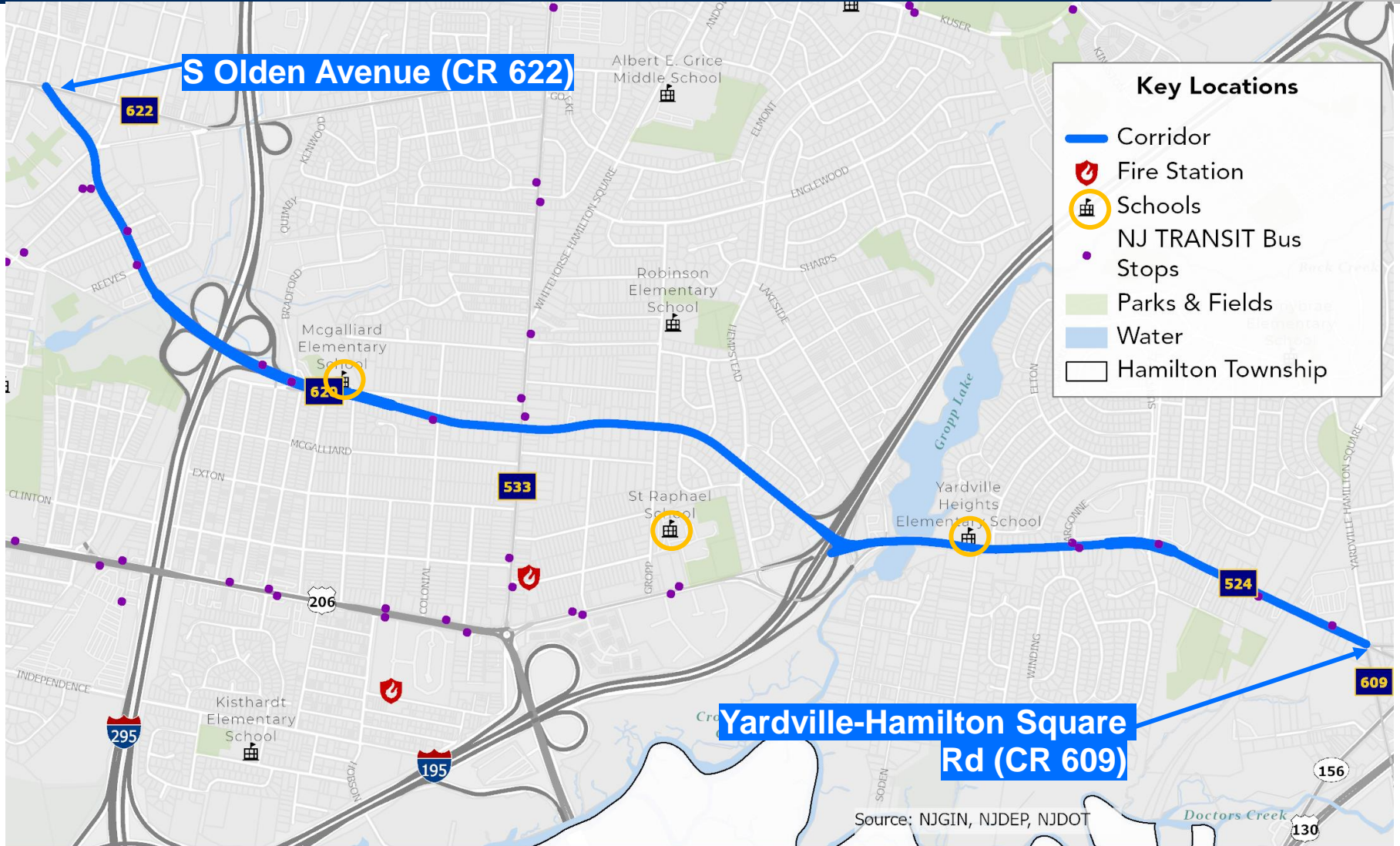


Project Overview: Purpose

- Mercer County is conducting a Local Concept Development (LCD) study on Arena Drive and South Broad Street to **improve safety and mobility for all users**, including pedestrians, cyclists, and transit riders.
- The purpose of the project is to improve safety while establishing a multimodal transportation network that is **safe, walkable, bikeable, and transit-friendly**.



Project Overview: Study Area Map



0 0.2 0.4 0.6 Miles



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Local Concept Study Process

	Local Concept Development	Local Preliminary Engineering	Final Design	Construction
Summer 2024	Data Collection and Environmental Screening Report	Preliminary Design Plans	Final Design Plans Environmental Reevaluations	Completed Construction
Fall 2024	Final Purpose and Need Statement	Cost Estimates (Final Design, Right of Way & Construction)	Environmental Permits	As-Builts Close-out Documentation
December 2024	Alternatives Development	Approved Project Plan	Acquisition of Right of Way	
February 2025	Recommendation of Preliminary Preferred Alternative (PPA)	Approved Design Exception Report	Construction Contract Documents, and Plans, Specs. & Estimates	
April 2025	Local Concept Development Report	Approved Environmental Document Preliminary Engineering Report		
Duration	Approximately 1 year	Approximately 2 years	Approximately 2 years	Design Dependent

Community Involvement & Public Outreach ongoing in each phase throughout the process.



Meeting Schedule

Summer 2024

Local Officials Briefing No. 1

Topic: Meet & Greet; Review Local Concept Development
Process & Schedule

Fall 2024

Stakeholders & Public Meeting: Public Information Center (PIC) No. 1

Topic: Existing Conditions and Purpose and Need Statement

Winter / Spring 2025

Briefing to Local Officials No. 2, Stakeholders Meeting No. 2

Topic: Present concepts

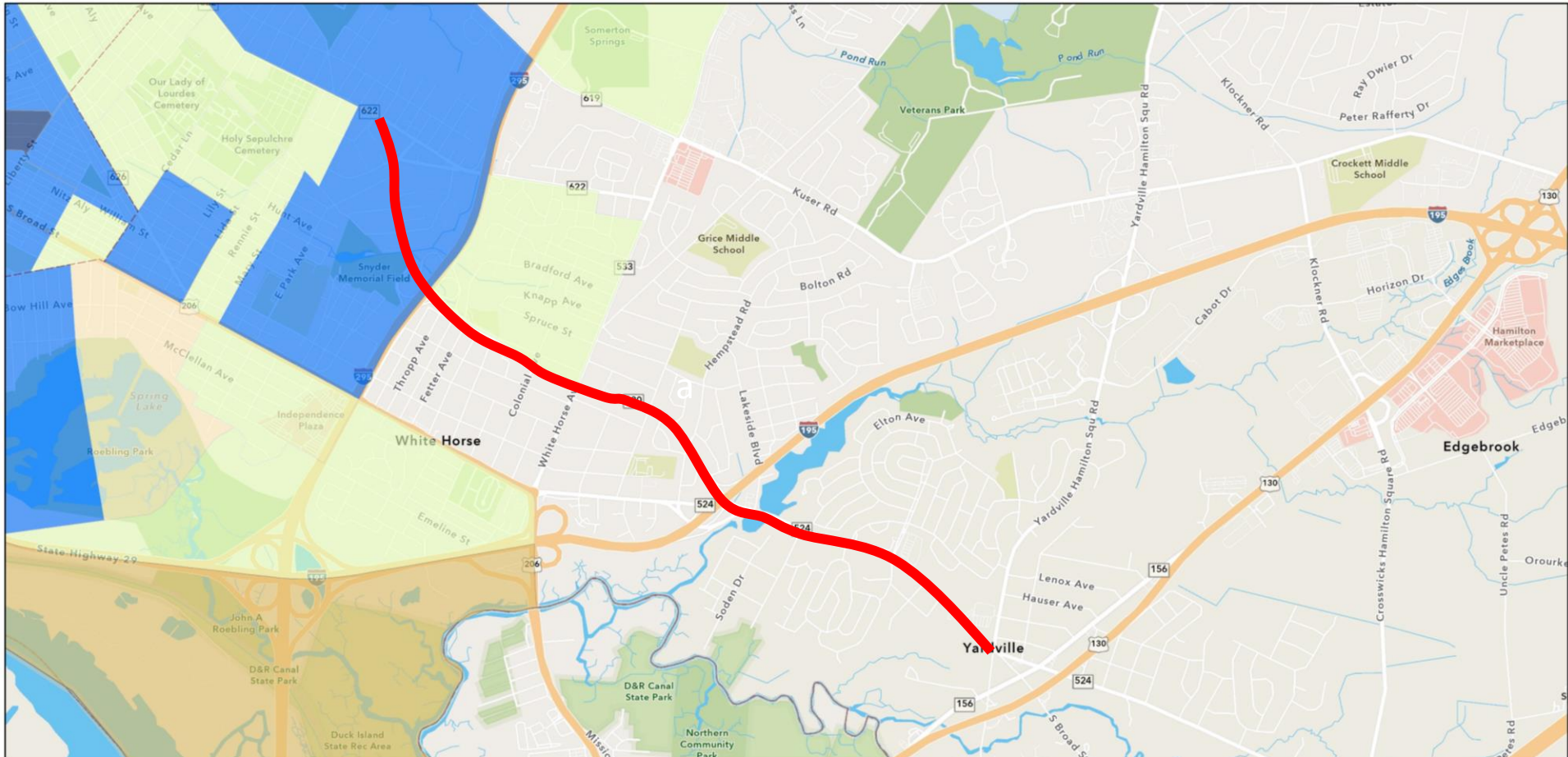
Public Meeting: Public Information Center (PIC) No. 2

Topic: Present Preliminary Preferred Alternative (PPA) at PIC No.2

** After presentation of Preliminary Preferred Alternative, formal Resolutions of Support will be requested from Hamilton Township and Mercer County



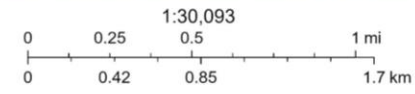
Existing Conditions: Community Context



7/15/2024, 3:14:03 PM

Overburdened Communities by Criteria (2022)

- Low Income, Minority, and Limited English
- Adjacent
- Low Income
- Low Income and Minority
- Minority
- Counties
- Municipalities



New Jersey Office of GIS, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS

Existing Conditions: Key Issues



- Roadway Design Encourages **speeding** at:
 - Highway interchange ramps
 - Intersections with wide roadway cross-sections
 - Below I-95, with wide and single-direction lanes



- Roadway conditions are inadequate or feel **unsafe to cyclists**



- **Unsafe Pedestrian Crossings** throughout
 - Long crossings with no pedestrian signal heads
 - Large corner radii make pedestrian/cyclist crossings difficult
- **Poor Sidewalk conditions** and disconnected pedestrian network throughout



Roadway Design Enables Speeding

Arena Dr below I-295, looking northwest



Arena Dr at Bradford Ave, looking northwest, near MacGalliard Elementary



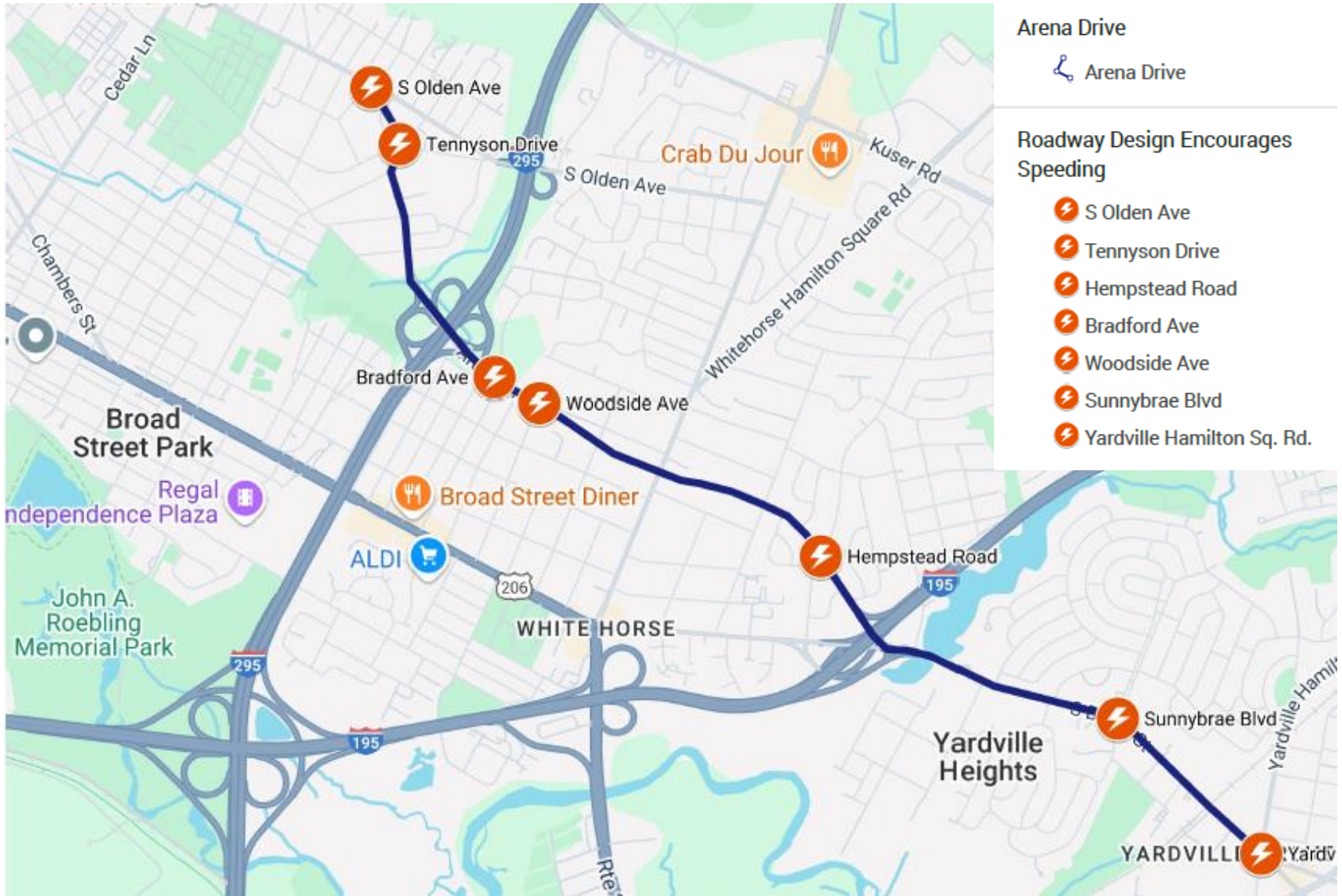
Arena Dr below I-195, approaching South Broad St



3 Types of issues Identified:

- Highway interchange ramps enter Arena Drive at Angles that encourage highway-type speed
- Intersections with wide roadway cross-sections
- 22-ft wide single-direction roadways beneath I-195

Roadway Design Enables Speeding



Inadequate conditions for cyclists

South Broad Street at Highland Avenue



Roadway conditions are inadequate or feel unsafe to cyclists throughout the corridor

Unsafe Pedestrian Crossings



S Broad St at Sunnybrae Blvd.

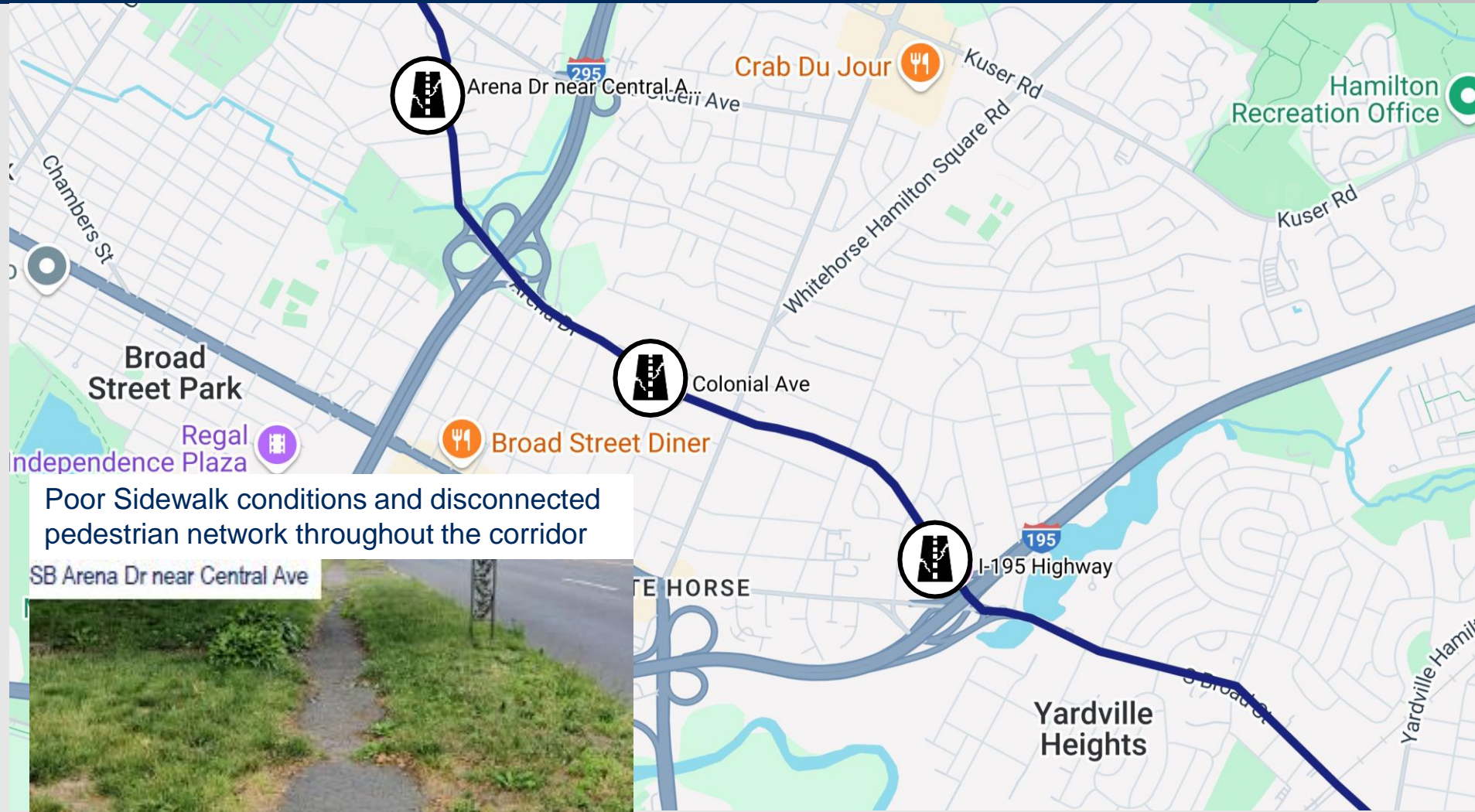
Long crossing distances with no ped signal heads make crossing difficult

S Broad St at Yardville-Hamilton Sq. Rd

Large corner radii make pedestrian/bicyclist crossings difficult



Poor Sidewalk Conditions

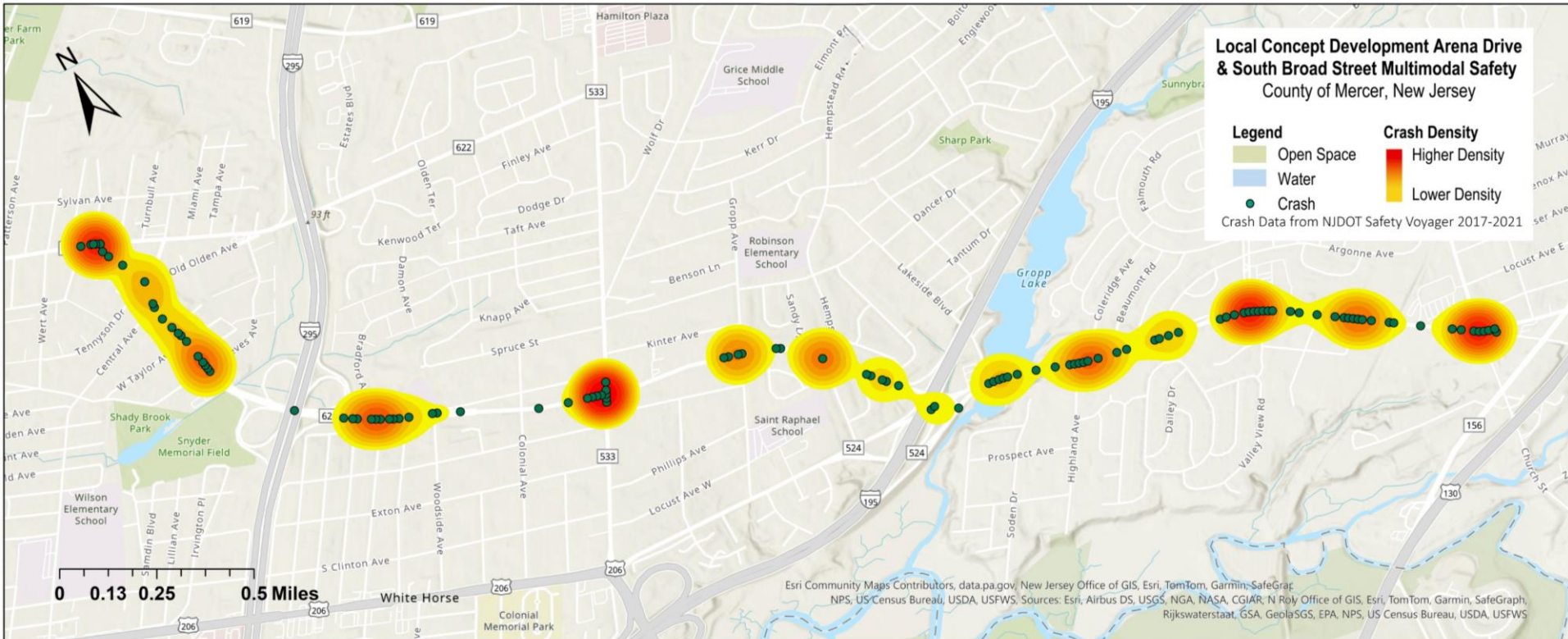


Poor Sidewalk conditions and disconnected pedestrian network throughout the corridor

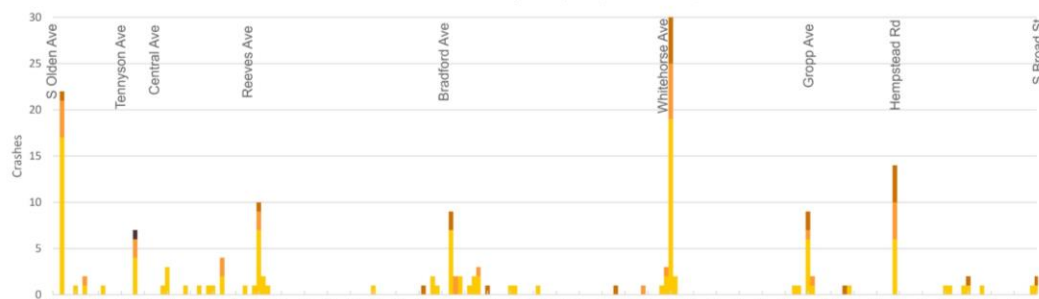
SB Arena Dr near Central Ave



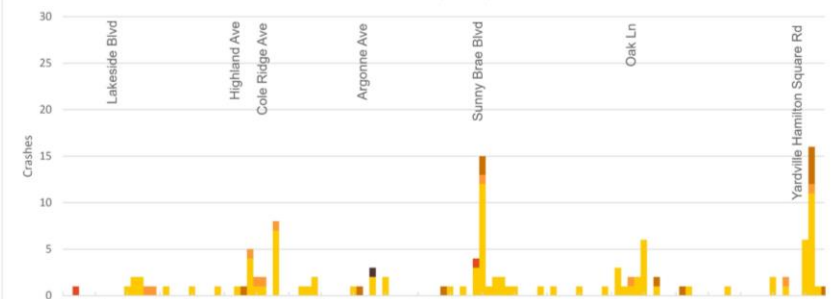
Crash Hotspots



Arena Drive Crashes by Milepost (2017 - 2021)



South Broad Street Crashes by Milepost (2017 - 2021)

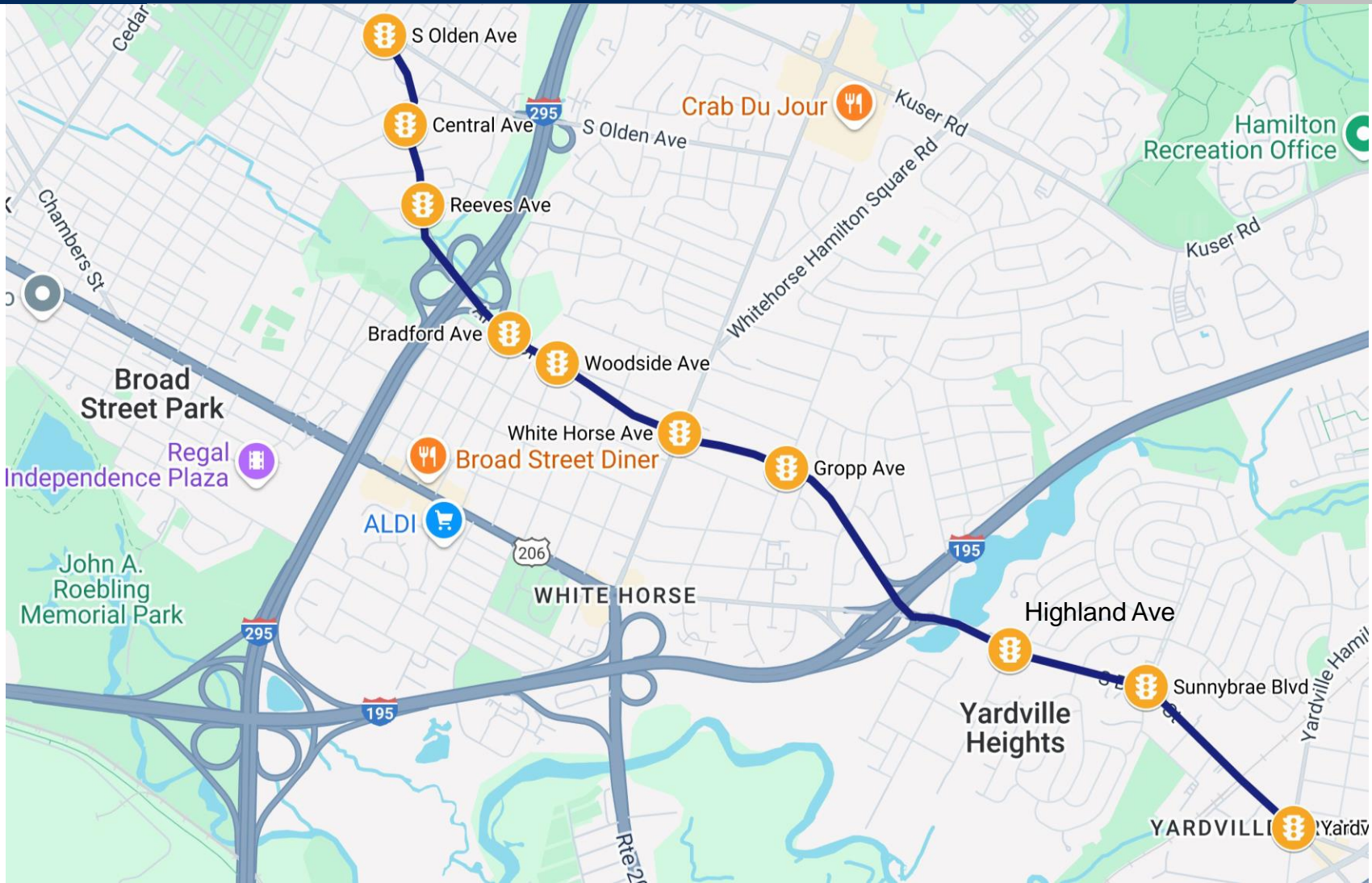


Using Data to Inform Solutions

Crash Severity	Crash Type	Lighting	Location
Fatal	Left Turn / U Turn	Dark – Street Lights on	Central Ave / Tennyson Ave
Fatal	Pedestrian	Dark – Street Lights on	Argonne Ave
Serious Injury	Fixed Object	Daylight	East of Lakeside Blvd
Serious Injury	Pedestrian	Dark – Street Lights on	Sunny Brae Blvd



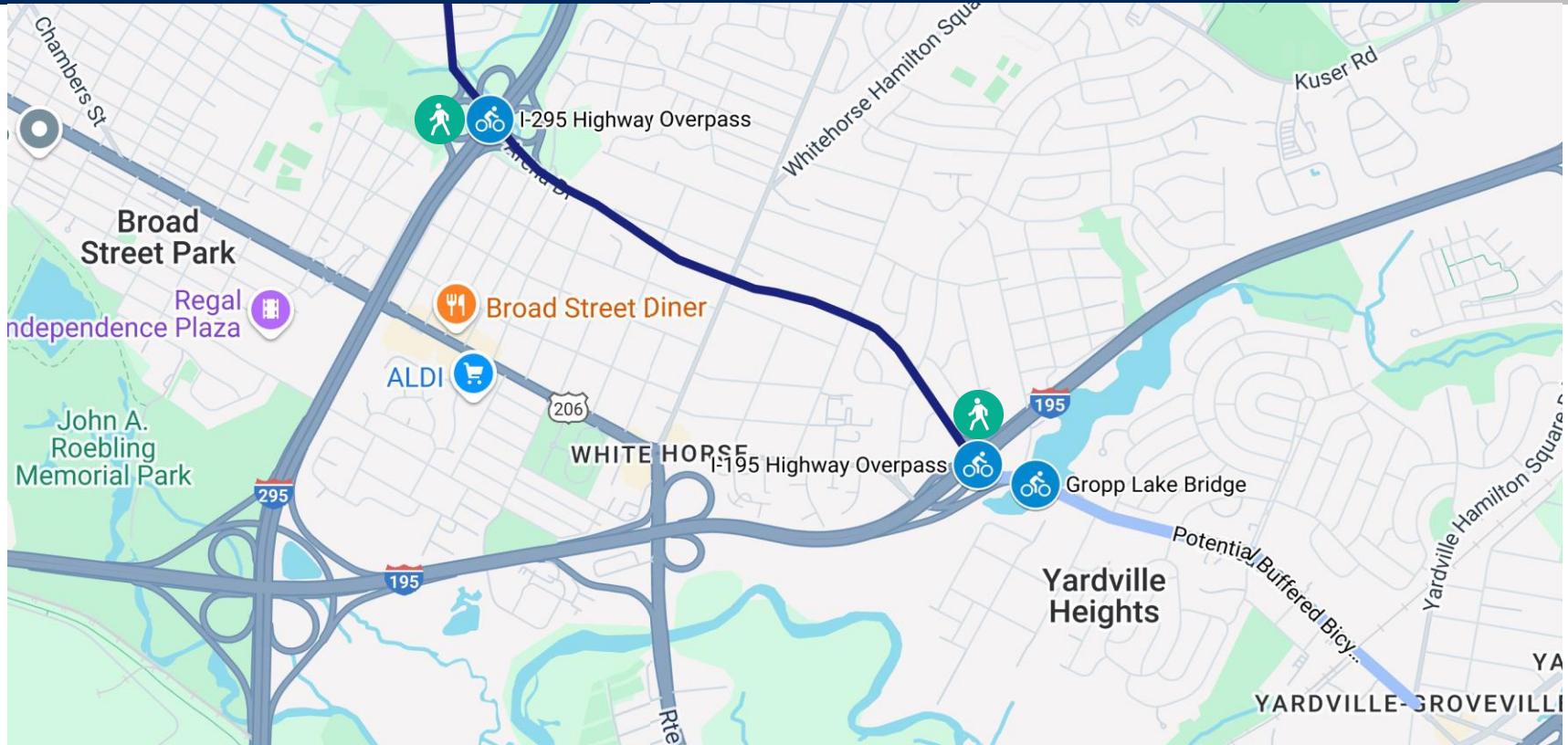
Opportunities: Traffic Signals



Traffic Signal Improvements



Opportunities: Pedestrian and Bicycle Infrastructure



Bicycle Infrastructure, including:

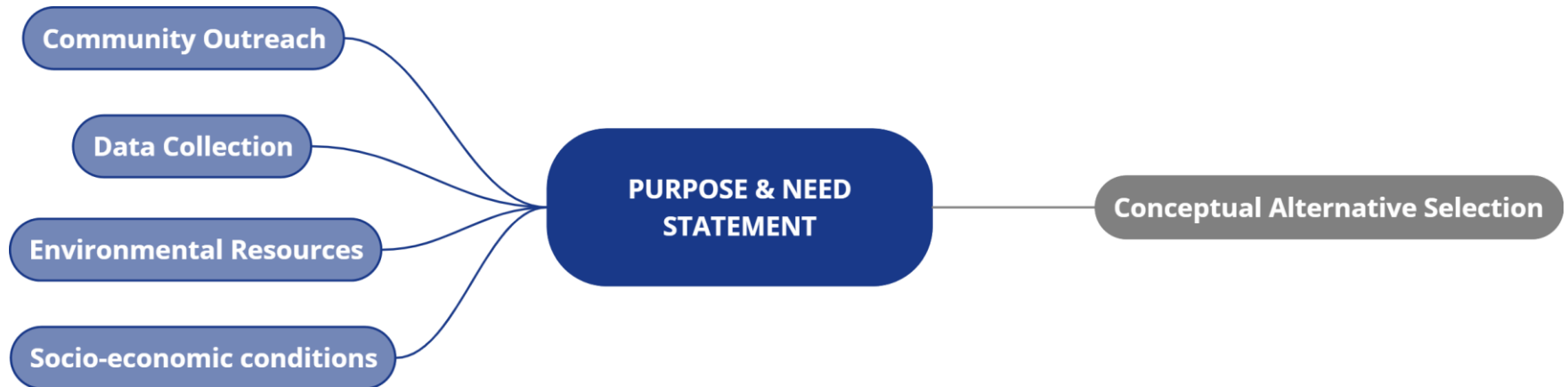
- Off-street bicycle facilities or shared-use paths
- Intersection elements for safe pedestrian and bicycle crossing



Purpose & Need

*“The Local Concept Development Phase involves drafting a well-defined and well-justified Purpose & Need Statement focusing on the **primary transportation need** to be addressed.”*

The Purpose & Need Statement will be used to develop and evaluate potential alternatives



Purpose & Need Statement

Purpose:

The purpose of the study is to address safety deficiencies on Arena Drive & S Broad Street while establishing a multimodal transportation network that is safe, walkable, bikeable, and transit-friendly.



Purpose & Need Statement

Goals & Objectives:

- Address roadway deficiencies **to improve multimodal safety**
- **Implement FHWA-proven safety countermeasures** to enhance safety for all users, particularly at locations with high-crash incidence
- Reduce excessive vehicular speeds where feasible through traffic control measures
- Implement Complete Streets and design solutions to **improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety and create continuous facilities for pedestrians and cyclists**
- Provide ADA-compliant pedestrian facilities and crossings
- Provide access management along the corridor to the extent feasible
- Minimize disruptions to traffic operations and road user costs during construction to the extent feasible
- Improve traffic operations at signalized intersections where feasible
- **Avoid or minimize impacts on social, economic, and environmental resources**



Community Input Survey

- **Community Input Survey to be published today (October 24, 2024) on project website:**

<https://www.mercercounty.org/arenabroadsafety>

- **Will request input on:**

- Your experience traveling on the project corridor
- Your relationship to the project corridor (nearby resident, work nearby, etc.)
- Top issues for the corridor (speeding, congestion, lack of safety etc.)
- Project goals
- Suggestions

- **Results will be summarized and included in project report**



Feedback and Q&A



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