

Major Projects Division

7th Street Connection Project

BPAC Infrastructure Committee Meeting
January 11, 2024



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**DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION**

MAJOR PROJECTS DIVISION

PURPOSE:

To provide you with updates as we work to reflect the community informed transportation needs and priorities in the design and delivery of the 7th Street Connection project

OUTLINE:

1. Project location & history
2. Prior planning and engagement
3. Community engagement
4. Draft 7th Street streetscape designs
5. Next Steps
6. Q & A



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WHAT PROJECTS IS MPD WORKING ON?



PROJECT MAP: 7th Street Connection Project

The 7th Street Connection Project is located on **7th Street** from **Mandela Parkway** to **Martin Luther King Jr. Way**.



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HISTORY OF 7TH STREET: Racist Policies & Destruction

7th Street went through decades of upheaval by large infrastructure and industrial projects, namely the Cypress Freeway, the Oakland Main Post Office, the overhead BART trackway, the expansion of the Port of Oakland, and other major housing developments.



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PRIOR PLANNING AND ENGAGEMENT

Year	Major Event
1994	West Oakland Vision and Strategies
2002	Neighborhood Knowledge for Change: The West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project
2004	Seventh Street Concept and Urban Design Plan
2006	West Oakland Community Based Transportation Plan
2014	West Oakland Specific Plan calls for safer mobility on 7th Street
2017-19	Oakland Bike & Ped plans, West Oakland Community Action Plan
2020	Howard Terminal Transportation Plan, Survey, Equity Analysis, 7 th Street Connection Project submitted for ATP Grant funding

EQUITY ANALYSIS: *High Priority Neighborhoods*

The 7th Street project corridor is in highest priority equity census tracts.

This means the area has a high percentage of residents that are people of color and lower income.



Source: <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/57b194ffec8c4a7f949ec17682b819a1/>

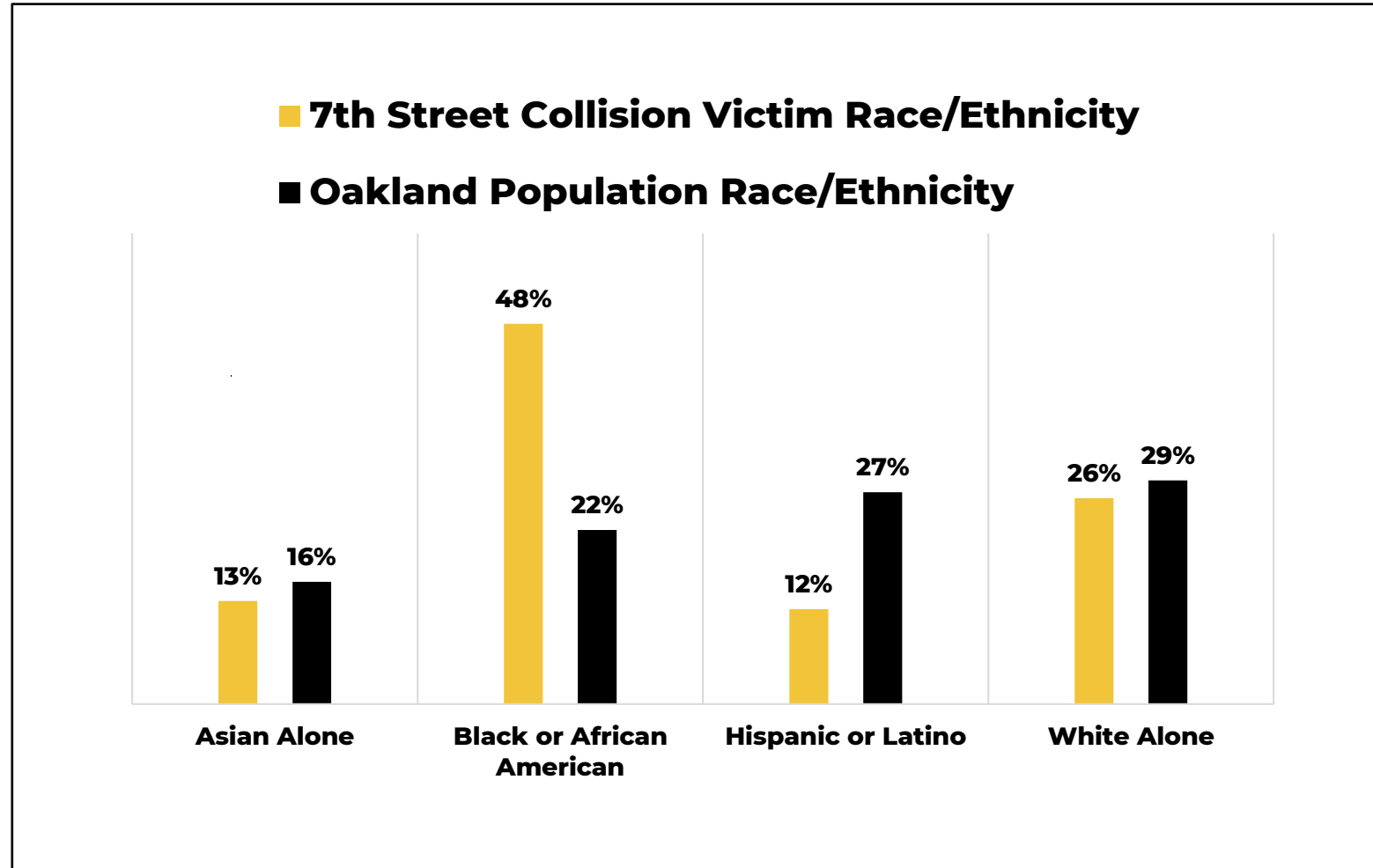


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EQUITY ANALYSIS: Race and ethnicity of collision victims

Almost half of all collision victims on the 7th Street project corridor were Black or African American. This is higher than the percentage of Oaklanders who identify Black or African American (22%).



PROJECT ADDRESSES EQUITY DISPARITIES

Existing Disparities

Project is in highest priority equity census tracts

30% of residents do not have access to a vehicle

Victims of traffic collisions on 7th Street are disproportionately Black (48%)

The project is in West Oakland, recognized by the CARB as a community most impacted by air pollution, per Assembly Bill 617.

How the project addresses disparities

Project brings benefits to highest priority tracts

Project makes walking, rolling, and taking transit safer and more comfortable

Improved safety for all road users, particularly vulnerable road users, such as pedestrians and people with disabilities.

Projects promotes sustainable mobility options and new greening and trees to improve air quality.

Community Engagement and Draft Project Designs

7TH STREET: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



- Aims** of this phase of community engagement:
- Build awareness about the project
 - Understand needs along corridor
 - Answer key questions about the project, including bike lane preferences, sidewalks, placemaking, green infrastructure
 - Engage people that reflect communities around 7th St



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7TH STREET: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Community Engagement Activities

- Walk & Talk (held on 2 different weekends)
- Tabled at West Oakland Farmers' Market
- Pop-up at West Oakland BART
- Distributed information during food distribution days at local schools
- Dropped off fact sheets to businesses along the corridor
- Attended Prescott Coffee Hour
- Open house
- Online survey
- Door hangers left on residences in project area

WHAT WE'VE HEARD FROM ENGAGEMENT

Key themes from engagement:

Protected bike lanes are needed

Vehicle speeds should be slower

Bus boarding islands should be improved



How the project incorporates feedback from engagement:

Protected bike lanes will be constructed

A road diet will help calm traffic and shorten the crossing distance for pedestrians

Adding amenities (bus shelters, trash cans) where feasible. Will address ADA access

WHAT WE'VE HEARD FROM ENGAGEMENT

Key themes from engagement:

Excitement for new trees and landscaping

Sidewalks need to be improved

Personal safety is a concern; more lighting is needed



How the project incorporates feedback from engagement:

New landscaping and trees will be added, and existing trees will be preserved, where feasible

The project team is exploring where it is feasible to widen sidewalks along the corridor

Adding pedestrian lighting along the corridor; the undercrossing under I-980 will be improved

7TH STREET: TODAY and in 2030

Today, 7th Street is a **wide, 4-lane** street, with **no bike lanes**.

In **2030**, 7th Street can be a **narrower street** with **physically protected bike lanes**.



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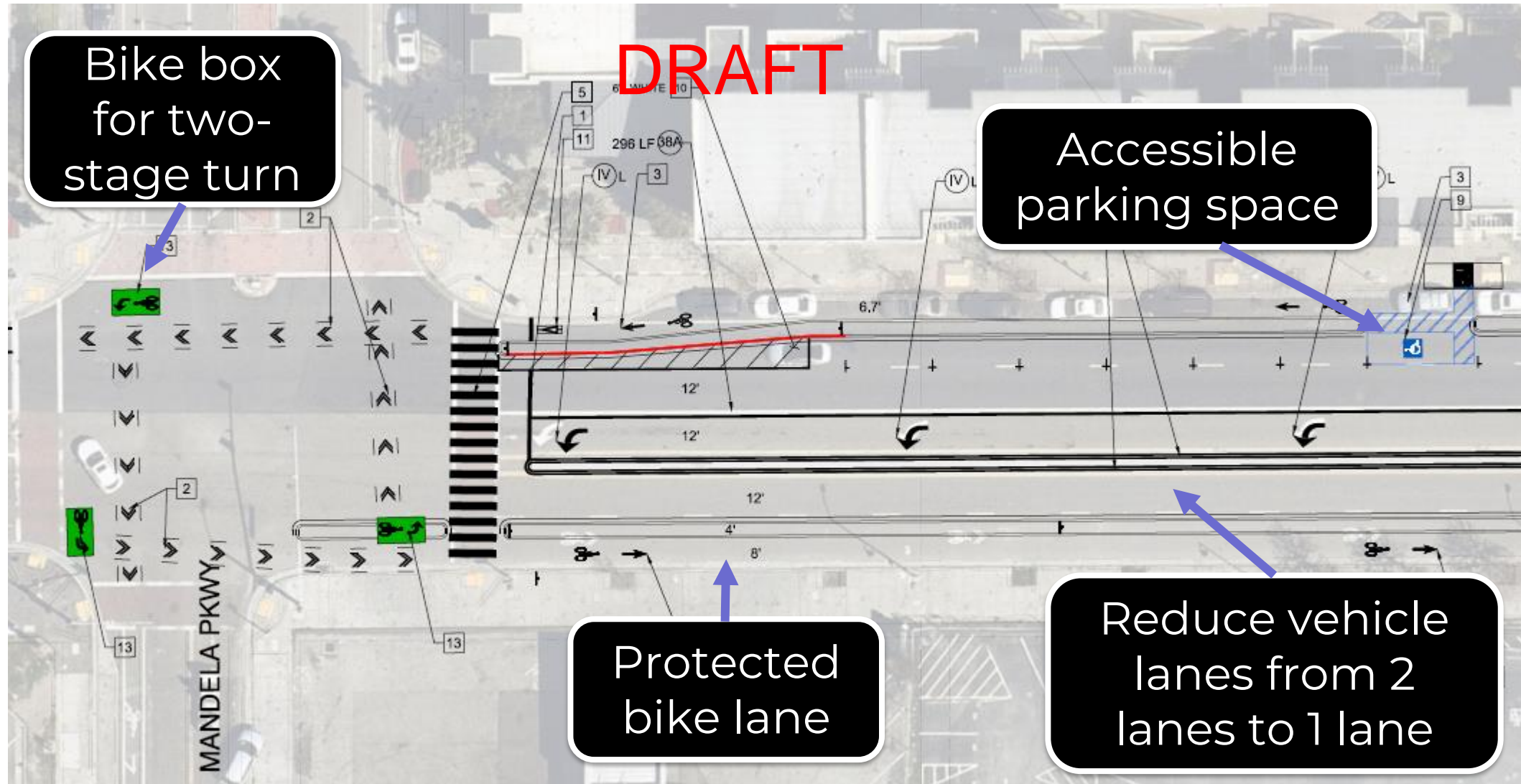
7TH STREET DRAFT STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS

Project Scope:

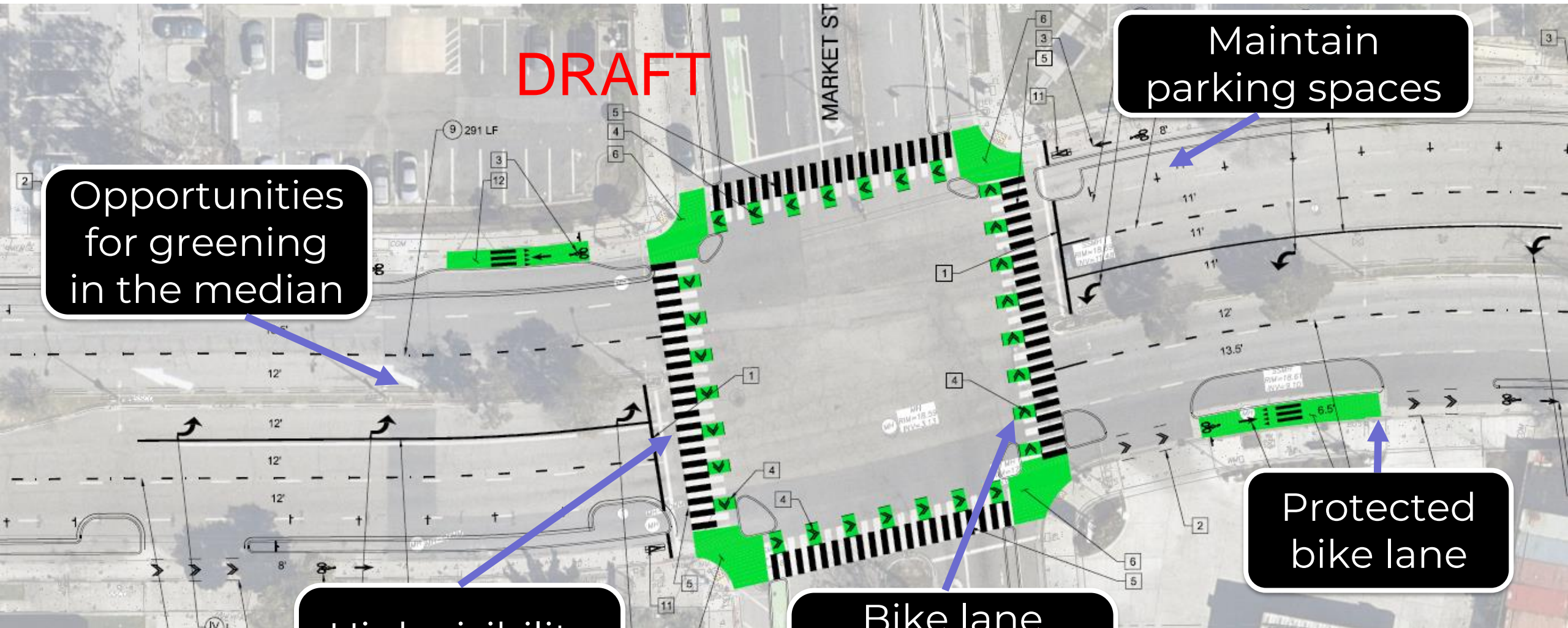
- Protected bike lane
- Pedestrian improvements, including crosswalk improvements
- Transit boarding islands
- Improved pedestrian lighting
- Street trees and landscaping



7TH STREET DRAFT STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS



7TH STREET DRAFT STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS



DRAFT

Maintain parking spaces

Opportunities for greening in the median

Protected bike lane

High visibility crosswalk

Bike lane intersection marking



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PROJECT IS FULLY FUNDED

Funding Source	Scope of Work	Timelines
Measure KK (Paving)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paving	
Active Transportation Program (Federal)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overall Corridor Improvements	Design by June 2025 Construction anticipated to start in 2027 and end in 2030
California State Transportation Agency (State)		
Regional Early Action Planning (REAP 2.0)		
Federal Earmark FY22		
Highway Safety Improvement Program (State)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partial improvements at 7th Street & Filbert intersection	Construction of HSIP scope of improvements by 2024

NEXT STEPS

Timeline	Actions
Mar 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 35% designs available for public comment
Mar 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community engagement summary report (for Phase 1 of engagement) will be published
Summer 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 65% designs
2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finalize 100% designs
2024-2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to keep the community engaged with project updates and what to expect during construction (Anticipated construction start in 2027)
2029-2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Construction is complete

CONTACT US



Project Webpage

www.oaklandca.gov/7thStreet

Team Webpage

www.oaklandca.gov/MPD

Contact:

mpd@oaklandca.gov

Questions?