

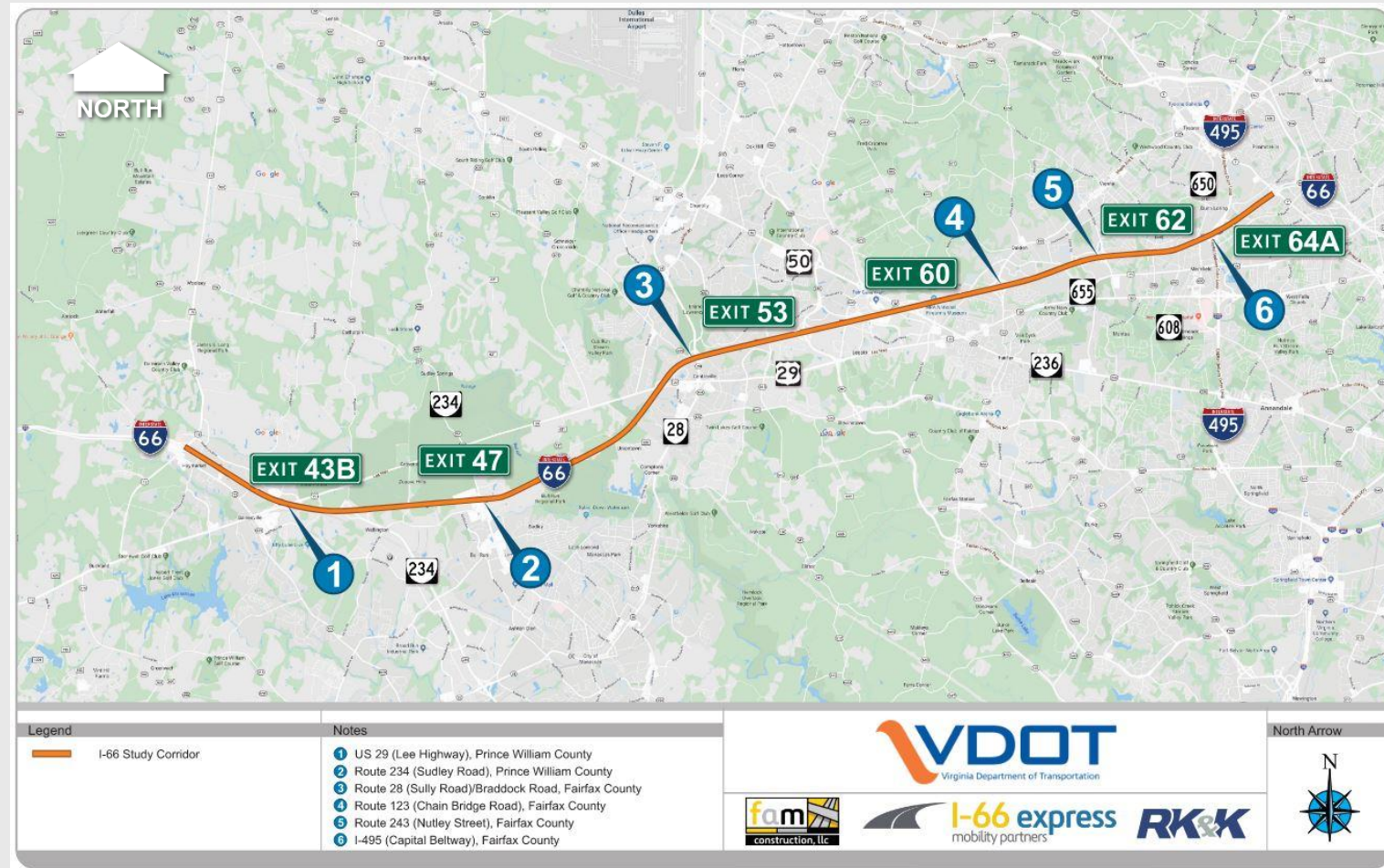
TRANSFORM I-66 OUTSIDE THE BELTWAY: I-66/NUTLEY STREET INTERCHANGE

Richard Clifton, PE, PTOE,
Rakesh Mora, PE, PTOE.

RK&K

PROJECT INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

- ▶ Transform I-66 Outside the Beltway P3 project – 23 Miles
 - ▷ 18 Miles of shared-use-path
 - ▷ 4000+ Park-and-Ride spaces
 - ▷ Up to 12 interchanges rebuilt/modified
 - ▷ Approximately \$3.7-billion
- ▶ Original IJR in 2016
- ▶ Developers IJR in 2019
- ▶ Supplemental IJR in 2021

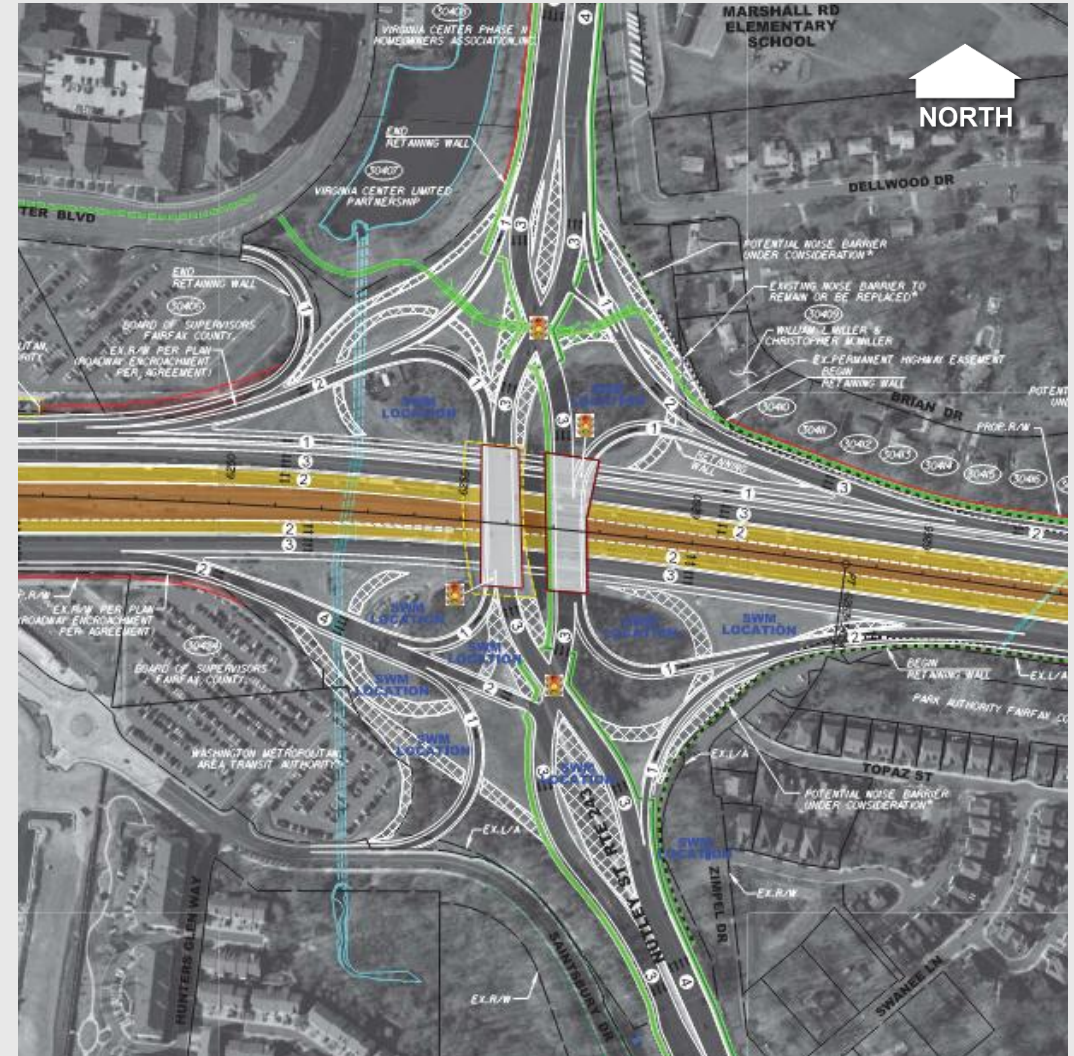


PROJECT INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND / cont'd

I-66 at Nutley Street RFP Concept Plan:

Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI)

- ▷ Nationally recognized to improve safety and efficiency at an interchange
- ▷ Accommodates heavy left-turning volumes (>600+ vph)
- ▷ Two phase signals reduce overall delay compared to traditional signalized interchange designs
- ▷ ***Reconstruct the existing bridge***
- ▷ ***Requires additional bridge over I-66 and the WMATA Orange Line tracks***
- ▷ ***Adds two new traffic signals***



ALTERNATIVE DESIGN

Partial Cloverleaf with Roundabouts

- ▷ Reuses existing bridge
- ▷ Eliminates the need for a second bridge
- ▷ Does not add traffic signals
- ▷ Less ROW impacts
- ▷ Less impervious area
- ▷ Can maintain cell tower in Northwest quadrant
- ▷ But will it work?



ALTERNATIVE DESIGN

Multi-lane double roundabout interchange proposed by EMP during the procurement process (ATC #6)

Rejected by VDOT

- ▷ The ATC presents a design configuration that leads to lane choice confusion
- ▷ Pedestrian and bike crossing connections to the roundabout present unresolved conflict points
- ▷ The ATC presents a design configuration which demonstrates lane imbalance, resulting in an increase in conflict points at the exit curves



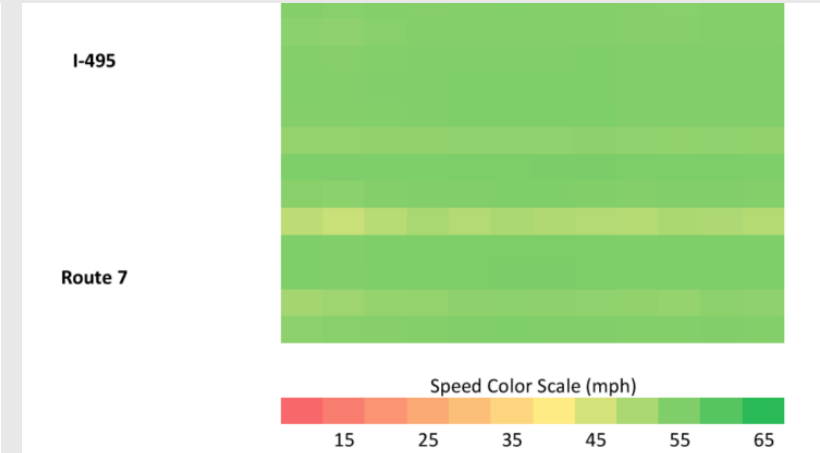
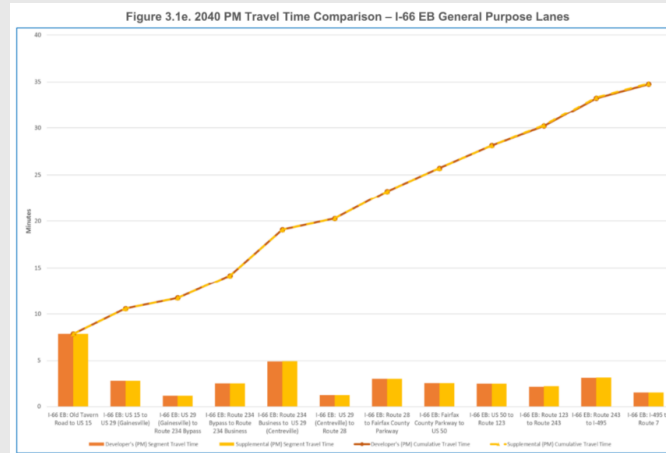
CURRENT DESIGN & BENEFITS

- ▶ Double Teardrop Roundabouts with Bypass lanes
 - ▷ Provides directional ramps in all quadrants
 - ▷ *Added bypass lanes to accommodate free-flow movements for all I-66 bound traffic, removing the need for lane changes between ramp terminals*
 - ▷ *Reduced vehicle conflict points*
 - ▷ Grade separated the SUP throughout the interchange and provided connectivity to the I-66 Parallel Trail
 - ▷ *Fewer pedestrian crossings (3 crosswalks) compared to DDI design (9 crosswalks)*



OPERATIONAL ANALYSIS - METHODOLOGY

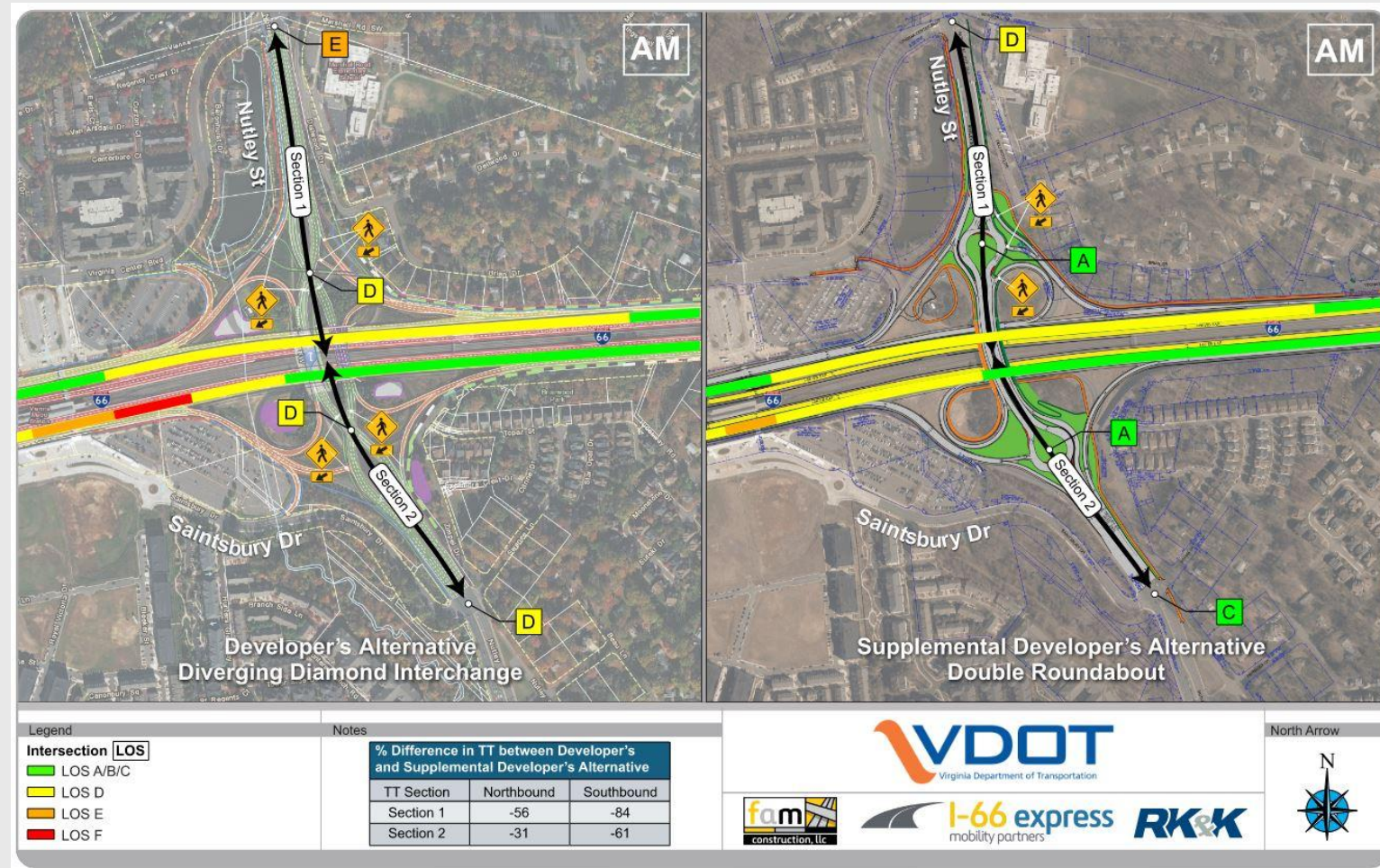
- ▶ VISSIM 5.4
- ▶ Vehicular routing
 - ▷ By vehicle class
 - ▷ Origin – Destination
- ▶ Measures of Effectiveness (MOEs)
 - ▷ Travel Time
 - ▷ Volumes
 - ▷ Freeway Density
 - ▷ Speed
 - ▷ Delay & Queue Length (Intersections)



Description	Type	Developer's Alternative - AM				Supplemental Alternative- AM			
		# Lanes	Volume (vph)	Density (veh/mi/ln)	Speed (mph)	# Lanes	Volume (vph)	Density (veh/mi/ln)	Speed (mph)
I-66 EB, Between Route 123 & Route 243	Basic	4	7,336	34.5	53	4	7,359	34.2	54
	Basic	4	7,327	38.5	49	4	7,364	36.0	52
I-66 EB, Off-Ramp to Route 243	Diverge	4	7,162	39.7	47	4	7,201	34.1	53
	Diverge	4	7,293	46.8	42	5	7,330	32.6	47
I-66 EB, Upstream of Route 243SB On-Ramp	Basic	3	4,534	27.8	54	3	4,548	27.7	55
I-66 EB, On-Ramp Merge from Route 243SB	Merge	5	5,622	20.4	55	4	5,130	24.0	53
I-66 EB, On-Ramp Merge from Route 243NB	Merge	N/A				5	5,828	21.2	54
I-66 EB, East of Route 243 Ramps	Basic	4	5,631	25.7	55	4	5,832	26.6	55
I-66 EB, East of Route 243 Ramps	Basic	4	5,636	25.7	55	4	5,821	26.6	55
I-66 EB, Off-Ramp to I-66 EB EL	Diverge	5	5,645	20.6	55	5	5,833	21.4	55

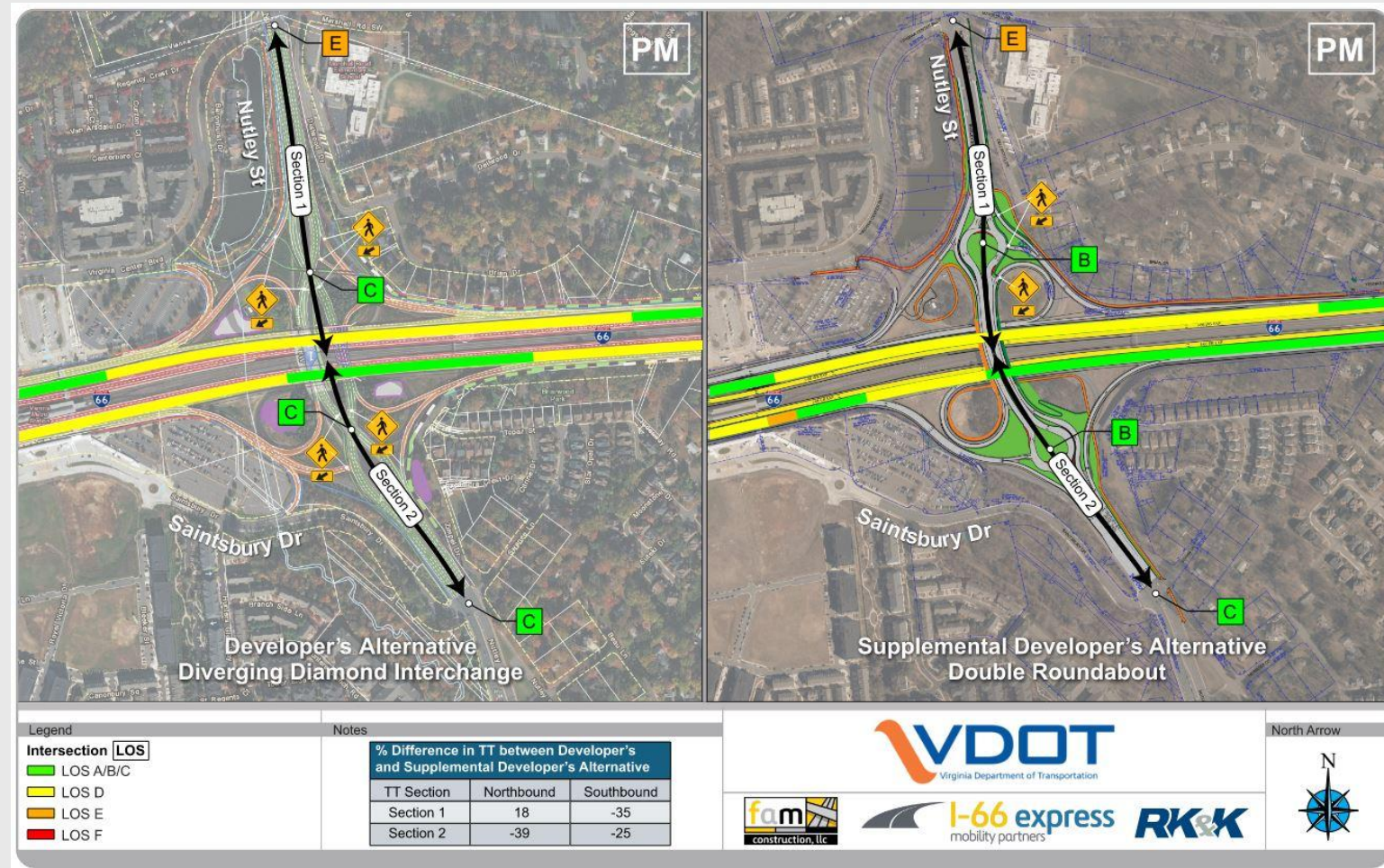
BENEFITS – OPERATIONS – 2040 AM

- ▶ Intersection Operations
 - ▷ Improves from LOS D to LOS C or better
- ▶ Travel Times
 - ▷ Section 1: 55-85% reduction
 - ▷ Section 2: 30-60% reduction
- ▶ Mainline I-66 Operations
 - ▷ EB: Improves from LOS E/F to LOS D or better
 - Increased speeds up to 6MPH
 - Nearly identical throughput
 - ▷ WB: Diverge section similar or better
 - Short (~500-feet) diverge section LOS E of F
 - Overall speeds remain similar
 - Nearly identical throughput



BENEFITS – OPERATIONS – 2040 PM

- ▶ Intersection Operations
 - ▷ LOS similar or better
- ▶ Travel Times
 - ▷ Section 1: ~12% reduction overall
 - ▷ Section 2: 25-39% reduction
- ▶ Mainline I-66 Operations
 - ▷ Nearly identical LOS, speeds, throughput

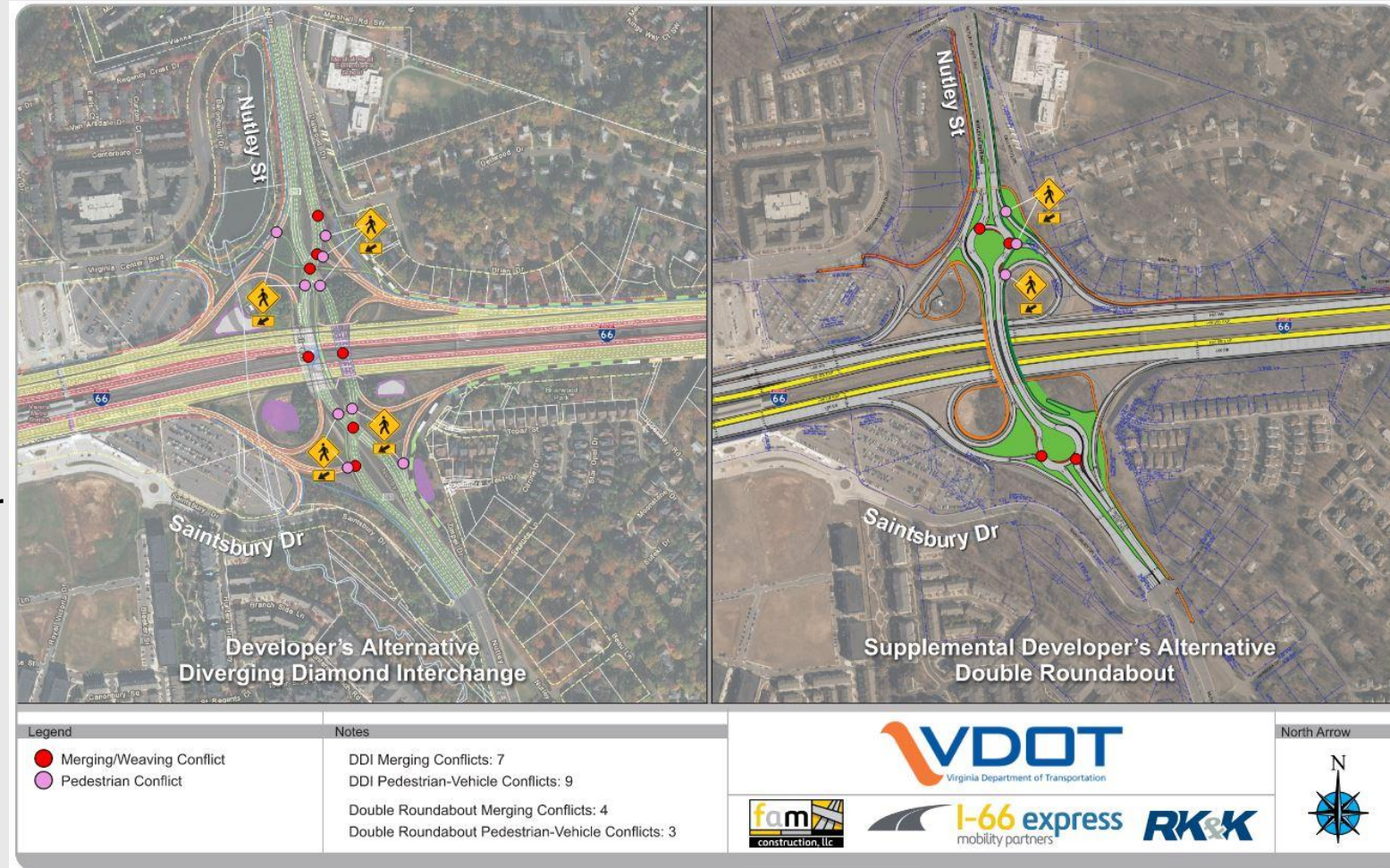


BENEFITS – SAFETY

- ▶ Fewer vehicle-vehicle (3) and vehicle-pedestrian (6) conflict points
- ▶ Fewer stops for 66-bound traffic
- ▶ Signal → Roundabouts
 - ▷ CMF: 0.33-0.52

ISATe – I-66 Predicted Crashes/Year

Crash Severity	Developer's	Supplemental
Fatal	0.4	0.5
Injury	43.8	44.5
PDO	107.1	108.9
Total	151.3	153.9

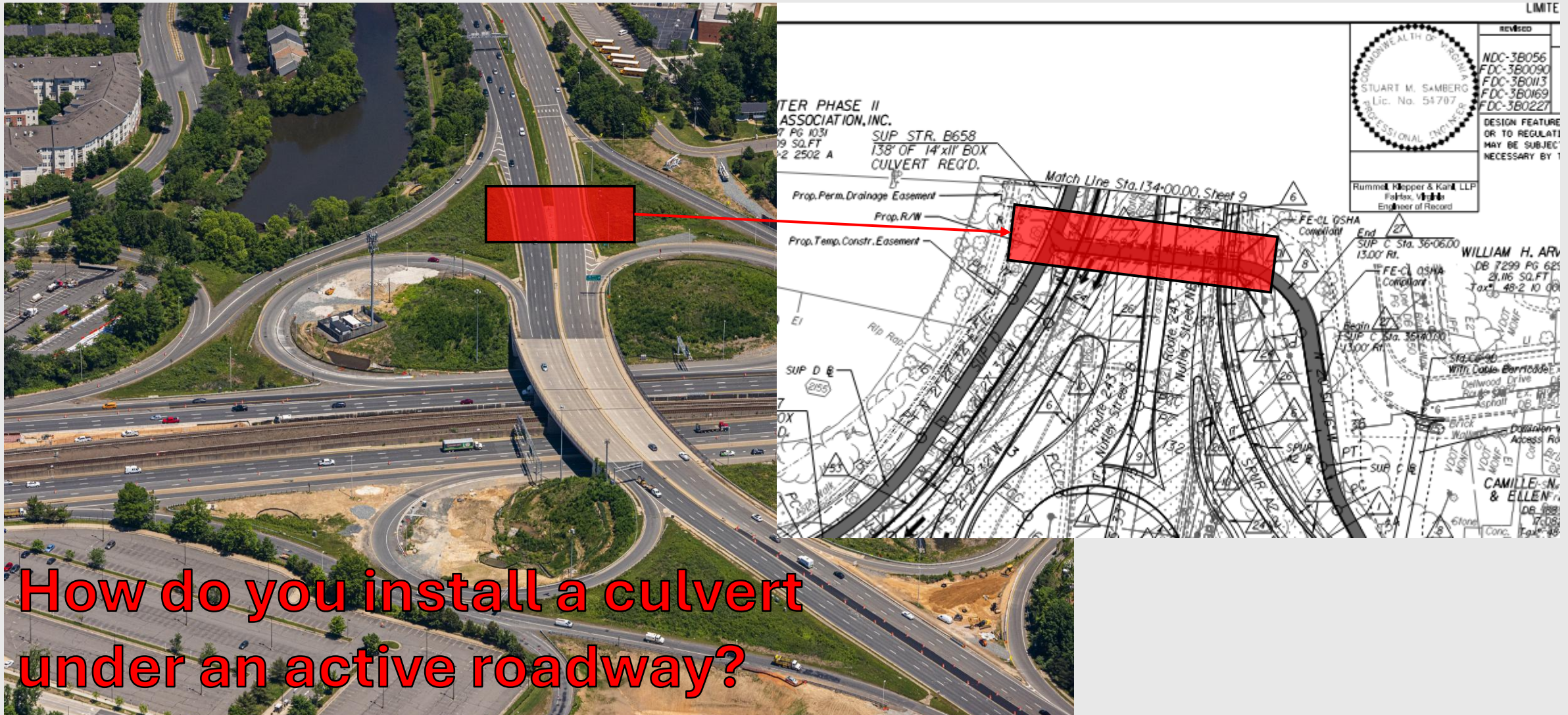


MAINTENANCE OF TRAFFIC (MOT) ANALYSIS

- ▶ VISSIM 5.4, Synchro, SIDRA, HCS
- ▶ Streetlight
- ▶ Transit and detour routing analyses
- ▶ Temporary traffic signal timings
 - ▷ Temporary clearance interval calculations
 - ▷ Timing plans using Synchro
 - ▷ Semi-actuated / Video detection
 - ▷ Actuated pedestrian signals
 - ▷ Coordination with adjacent intersections



CONSTRUCTABILITY CHALLENGES – PED CULVERT

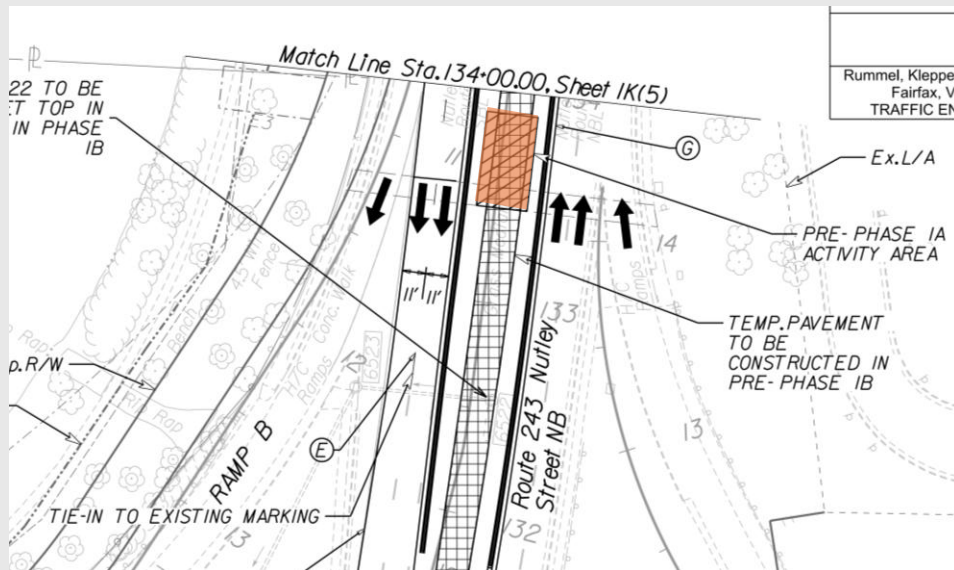


CONSTRUCTABILITY CHALLENGES – PED CULVERT

- ▶ Planned a series of weekend long lane closures as the first phase of the interchange reconstruction

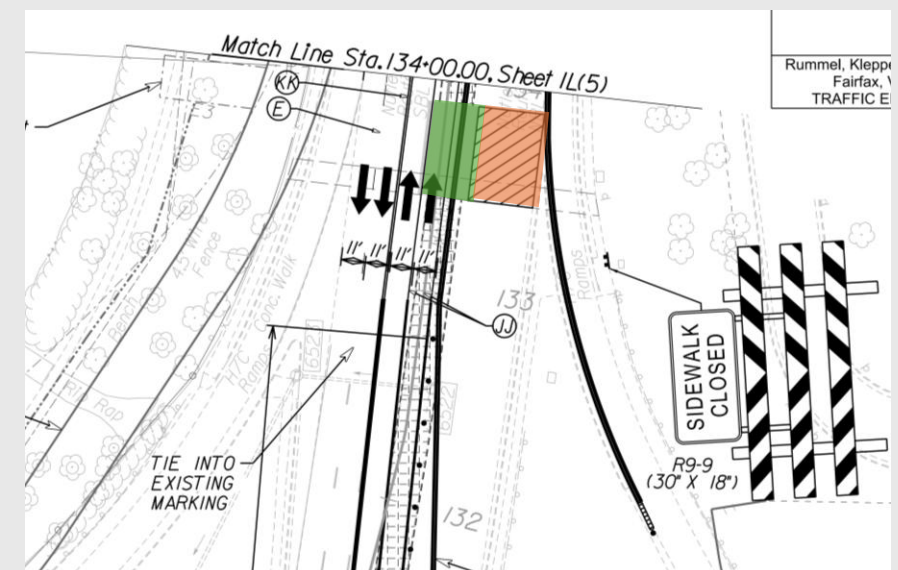
Weekend 1: lane closure in each direction (3 to 2):

- Install the middle, in the median
- Temp pave over the median



Weekend 2: lane closure in each direction (3 to 2):

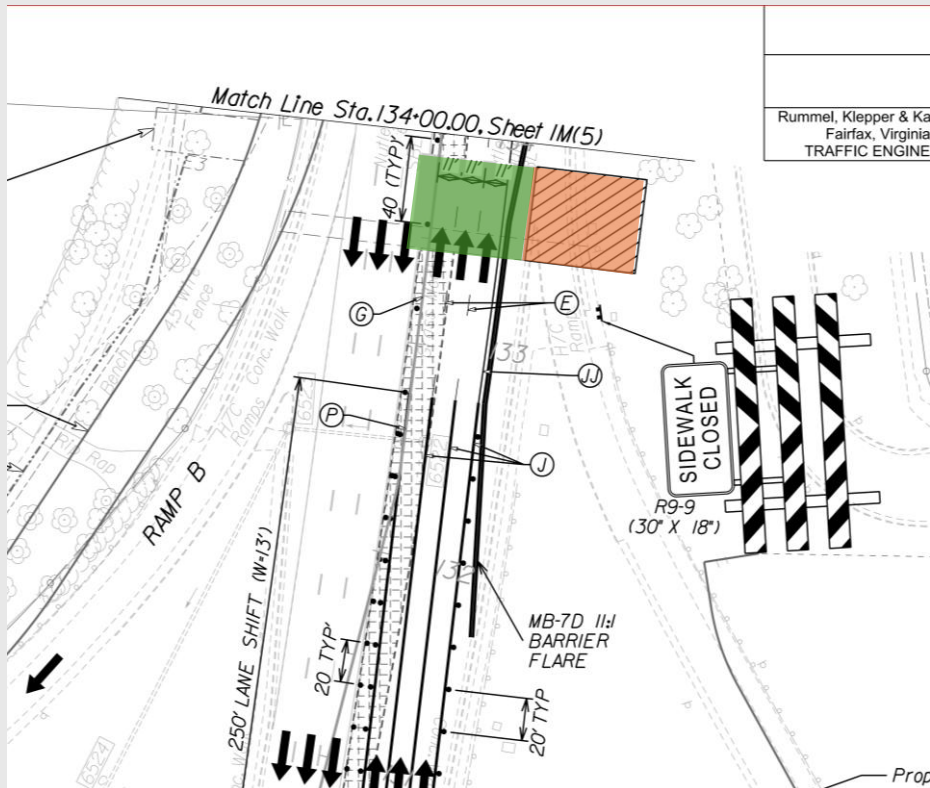
- Cross NB traffic over median
- Install mid-east piece (directional ramp open)



CONSTRUCTABILITY CHALLENGES – PED CULVERT

Weekend 3:

- Detour ramp traffic thru ex. cloverleaf
- Install the easternmost piece of culvert



Weekend 4: lane closure each direction (3 to 2):

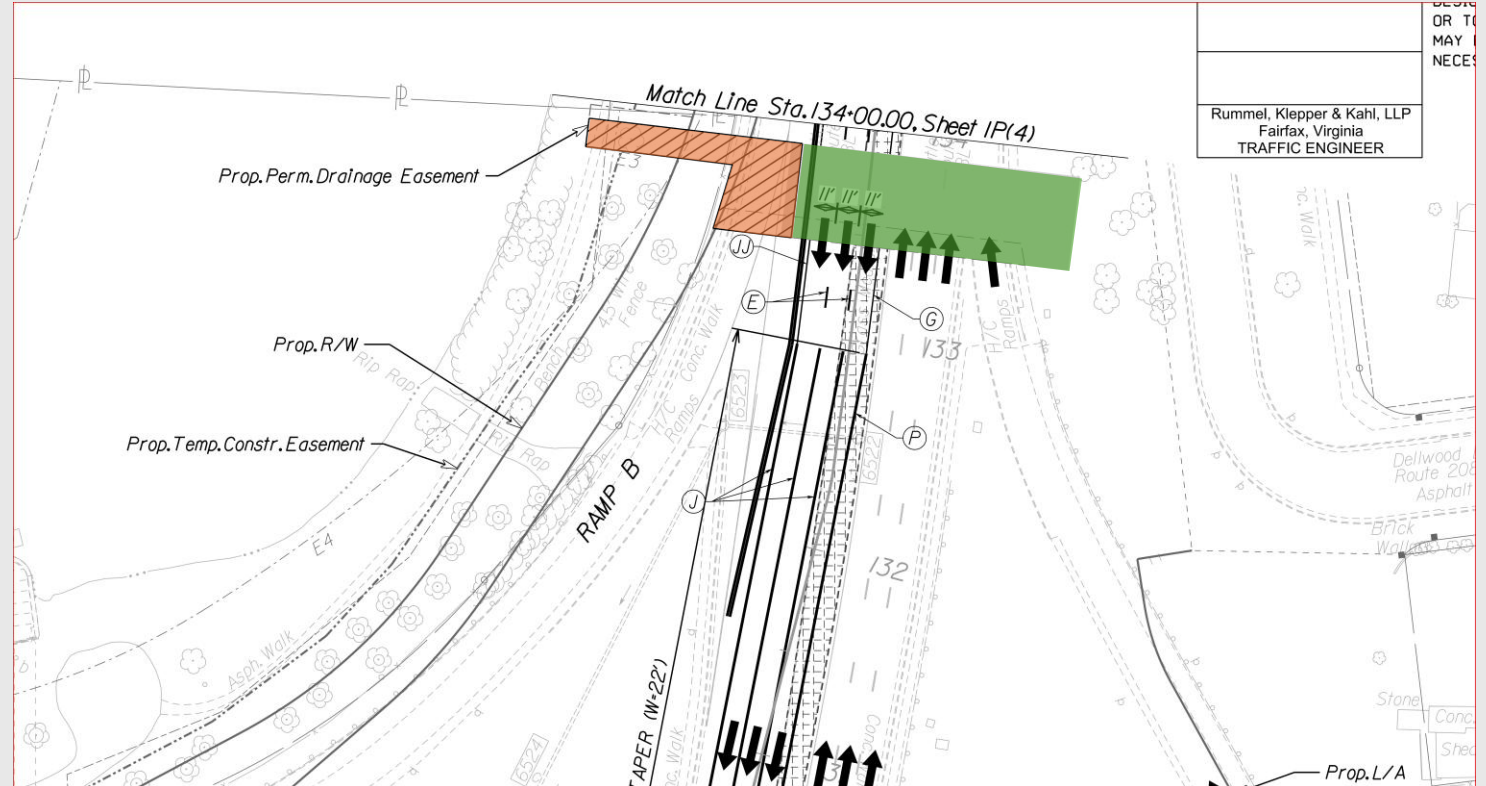
- Cross SB traffic over median
- Install mid-west piece (directional ramp open)



CONSTRUCTABILITY CHALLENGES – PED CULVERT

Weekend 5:

- Detour ramp traffic thru ex. cloverleaf
- Install the westernmost piece of culvert

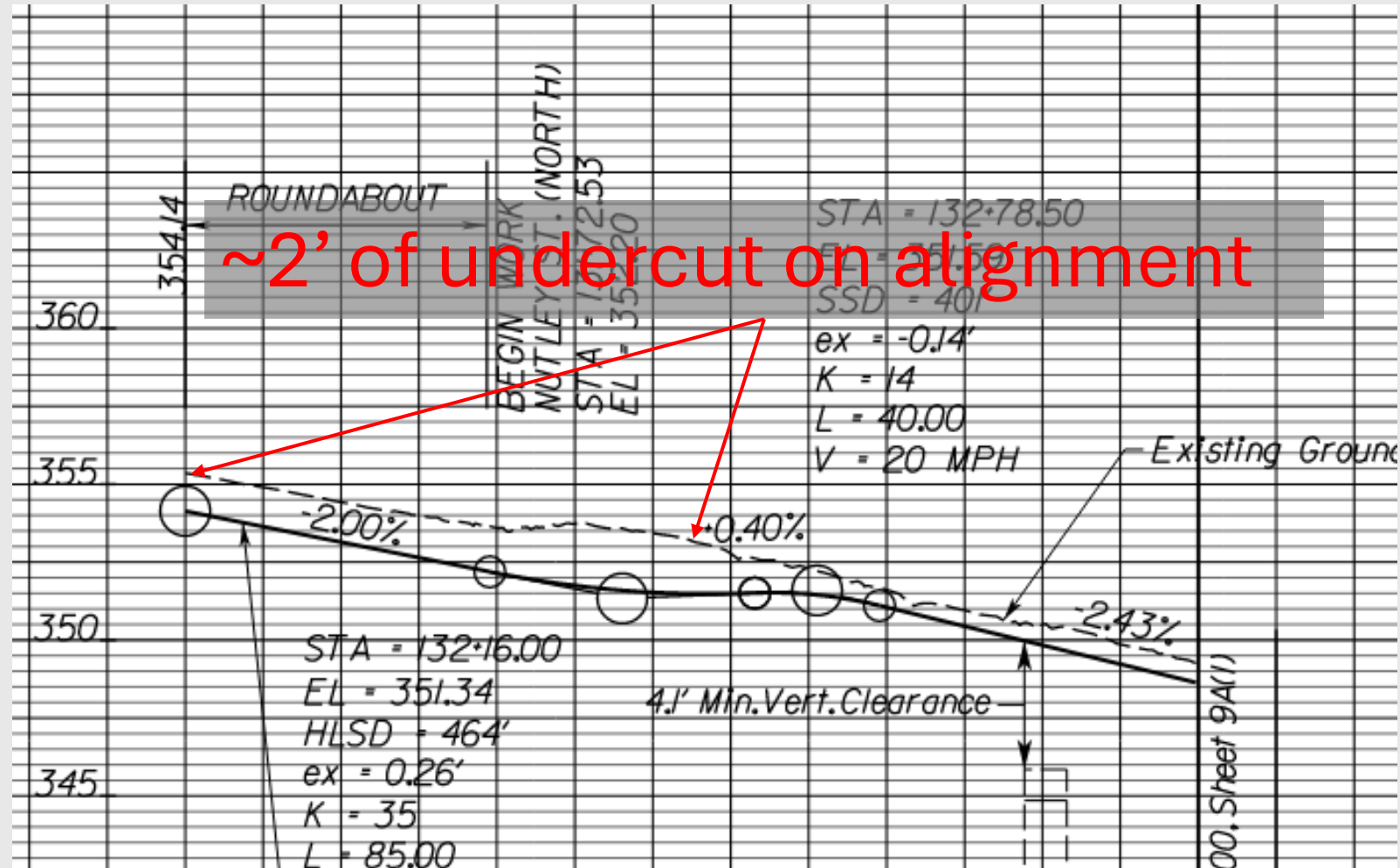


CONSTRUCTABILITY CHALLENGES – PED CULVERT

- ▶ Contractor delayed start of ped culvert work
 - ▷ Initially much more complicated but was simplified by reduced volumes due to COVID – able to reduce Nutley to 2 lanes in each direction

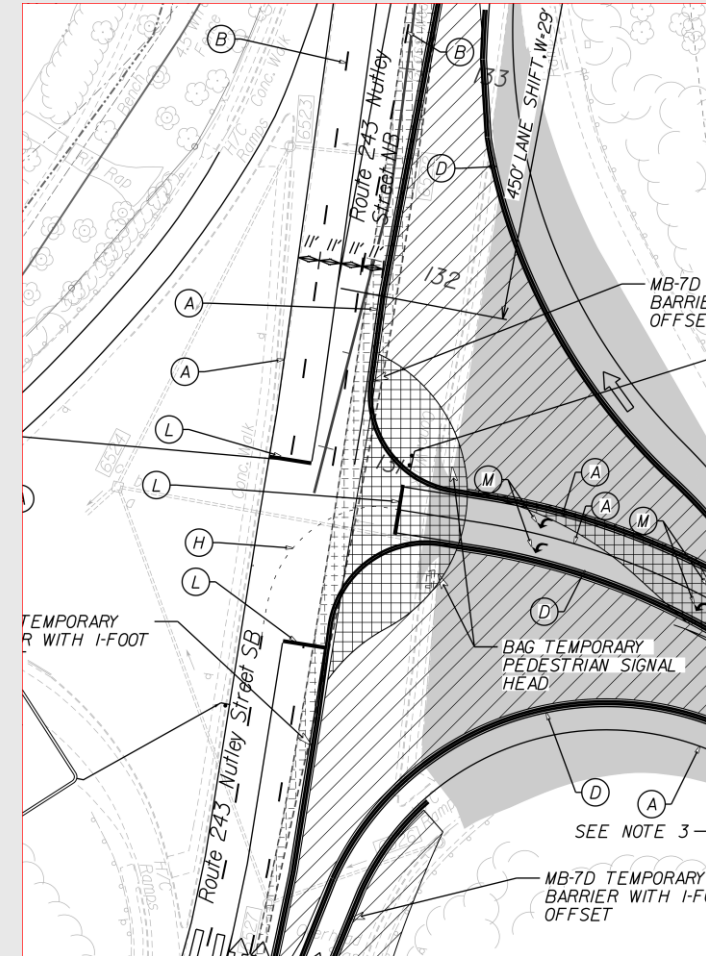


CONSTRUCTABILITY CHALLENGES – ROUNDABOUT PROFILE



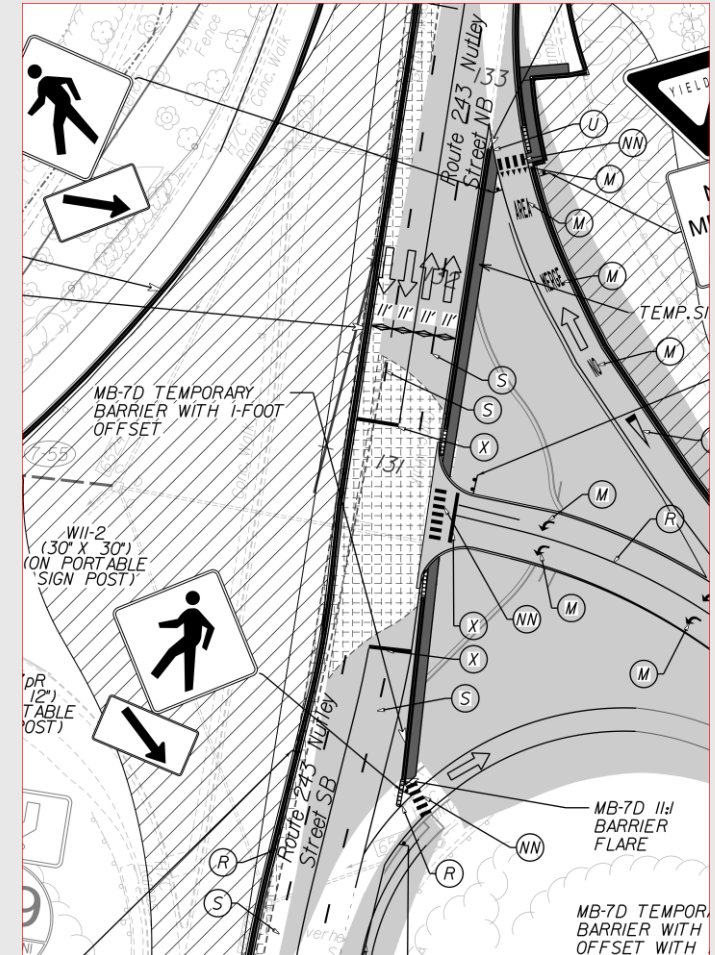
CONSTRUCTABILITY CHALLENGES – ROUNDABOUT PROFILE

- ▶ Temporary pave the center island
- ▶ Build temporary ramps
- ▶ Utilize temporary signals
- ▶ Shift traffic all the way west



CONSTRUCTABILITY CHALLENGES – ROUNDABOUT PROFILE

- ▶ Adjust ramps
- ▶ Shifts heads on span wires
- ▶ Shift traffic all the way east



CONSTRUCTABILITY CHALLENGES – PED CULVERT UNDER SB TO WB RAMP

- ▶ Contractor was allowed to shift the SB to WB movement onto the NB to WB loop ramp using a connector at the existing temporary signal
- ▶ Allowed for construction of the pedestrian culvert and the western half of the roundabout



CONSTRUCTABILITY CHALLENGES – FINISHING THE ROUNDABOUTS

- ▶ Converted the temporary signals to continuous green-T intersections
 - ▷ Traffic on Nutley was introduced to the roundabout geometry
 - ▷ Provided workspace to build the bottoms of the tear-drops



INNOVATIVE TRAFFIC DESIGN – RRFBS WITH PASSIVE PEDESTRIAN DETECTION

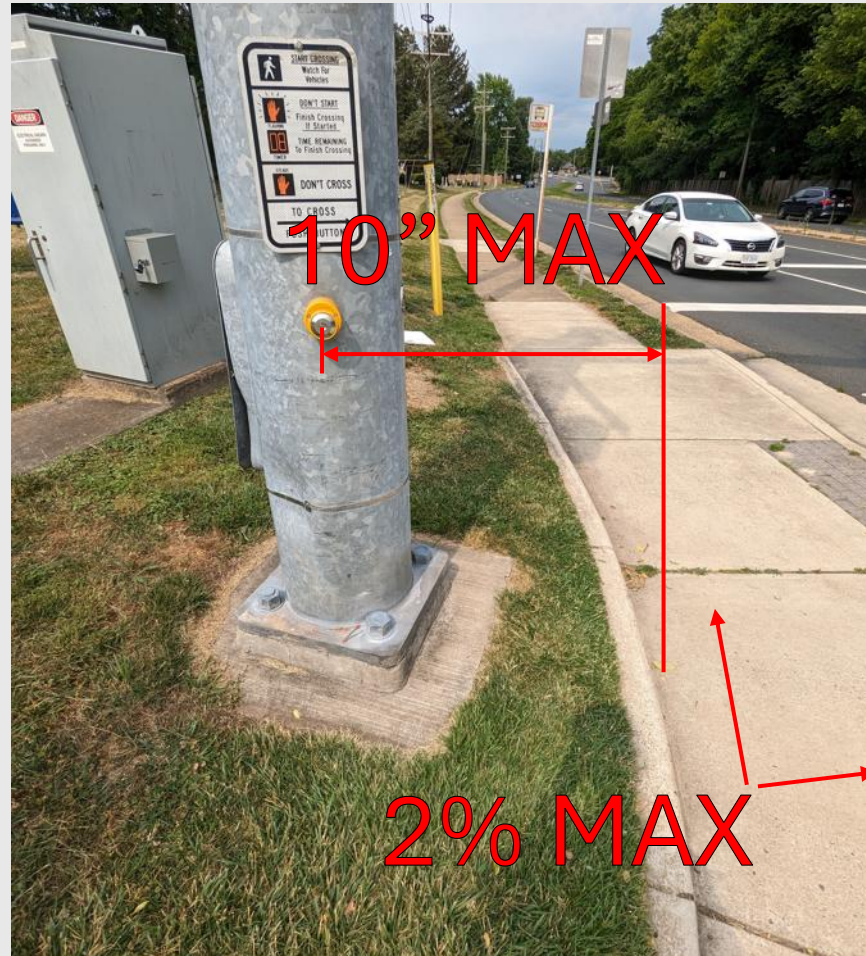
► How?

- ▷ Thermal sensor programmed detection zone
- ▷ Call to controller activates both beacons



INNOVATIVE TRAFFIC DESIGN – PASSIVE PEDESTRIAN DETECTION

- ▶ Why?
 - ▷ Improved accessibility – no need to worry about PROWAG reach requirements
 - ▷ More accommodating – does not rely on a physical input by the user
 - ▷ Can dynamically adjust crossing times for slower user
- ▶ Why not?
 - ▷ More \$\$\$
 - ▷ May present a challenge to blind/visually impaired users



CONCLUSION

- ▶ Double Roundabout Parclo Interchange Design with Bypass Lanes
 - ▷ Enhances mobility within the interchange and improves overall operations
 - ▷ Provides free-flow access from both directions of Nutley Street to both directions of I-66
 - ▷ Reduces total number of vehicular conflict points compared to DDI
 - ▷ Fewer crossings reduce vehicular-pedestrian conflicts while providing better connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists
 - ▷ Nearly 1 acre less ROW and eliminated ROW acquisition from 3 parcels
 - ▷ Reduced the impervious area by more than 1 acre compared to the DDI
 - ▷ Helped to avoid impacts to a privately owned pond in the northwest quadrant
 - ▷ Allowed the existing cell tower to remain in the northwest quadrant
 - ▷ Reduced coordination with and impacts to WMATA
 - ▷ Reduced construction costs
 - ▷ **Most importantly, the reduced scope allowed FAM to focus work on completing I-66 and opening the Express Lanes ahead of schedule**

Concept to completion in 5 years!