

Welcome!

The 16th Street Mall Project aims to create a safe, welcoming space for everyone in the heart of downtown.

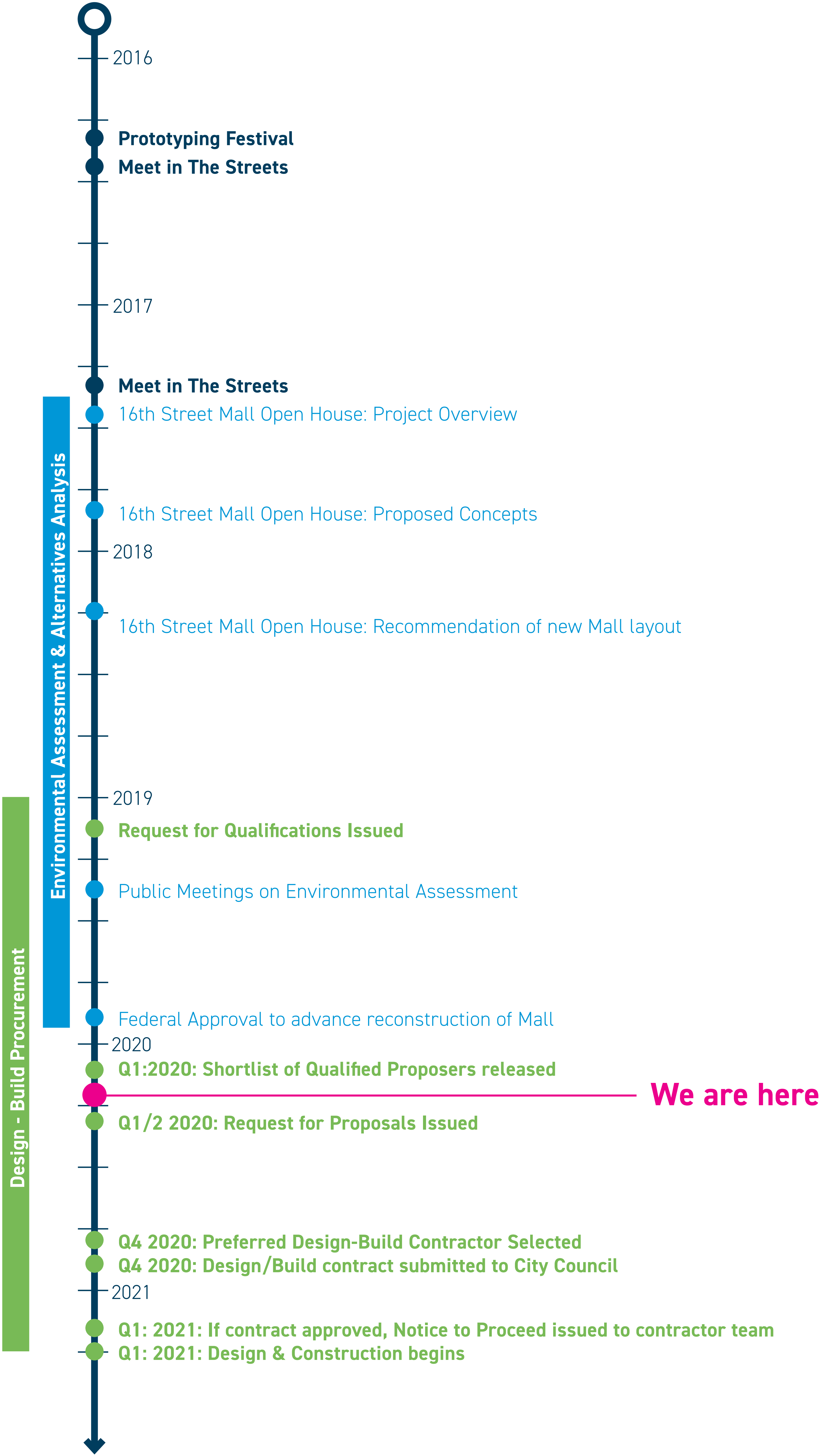
In addition to improving aging infrastructure, the mall project offers opportunities to improve the experience of everyone who visits the mall.

Follow the boards to see what's coming, why it's needed, and to share your thoughts.

Stay up to date at denvergov.org/themallexperience

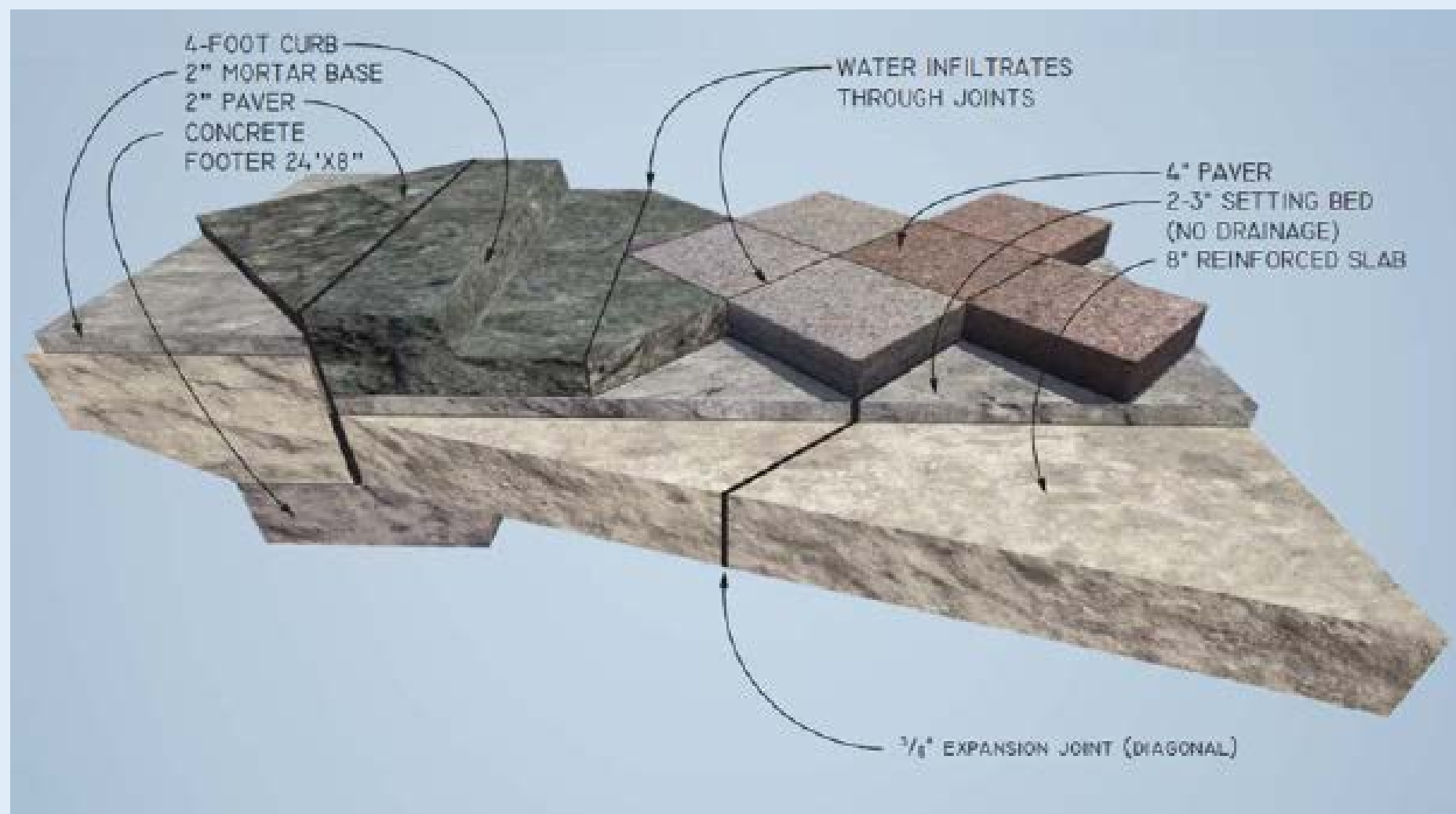


Procurement Schedule



Today's Challenges

Failing and outdated infrastructure causes frequent, disruptive maintenance



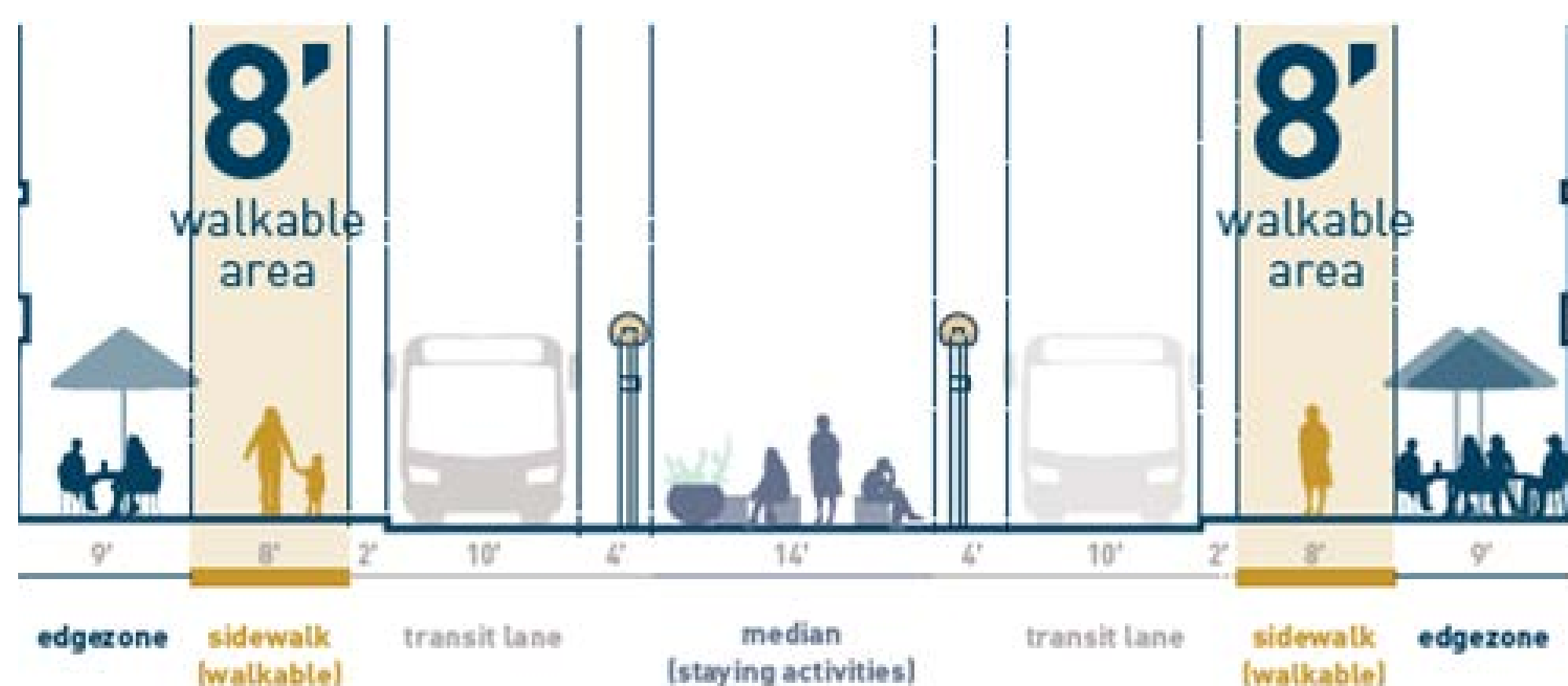
Pavement system traps water, causing paver failure.

A poorly constructed and failing pavement system is unable to handle the wheel loads (weight of buses) and lacks drainage under the pavers.

Narrow sidewalks and frequent maintenance no longer support the number of people using the mall today.

Over capacity sidewalks are unable to accommodate current and projected pedestrian volumes on weekdays. By 2040, downtown employment will grow by 32% and population by 137%.

Frequent maintenance disrupts transit shuttle operations. Shuttle ridership will nearly double by 2035.



3,840 people/hour on two 8-foot walks

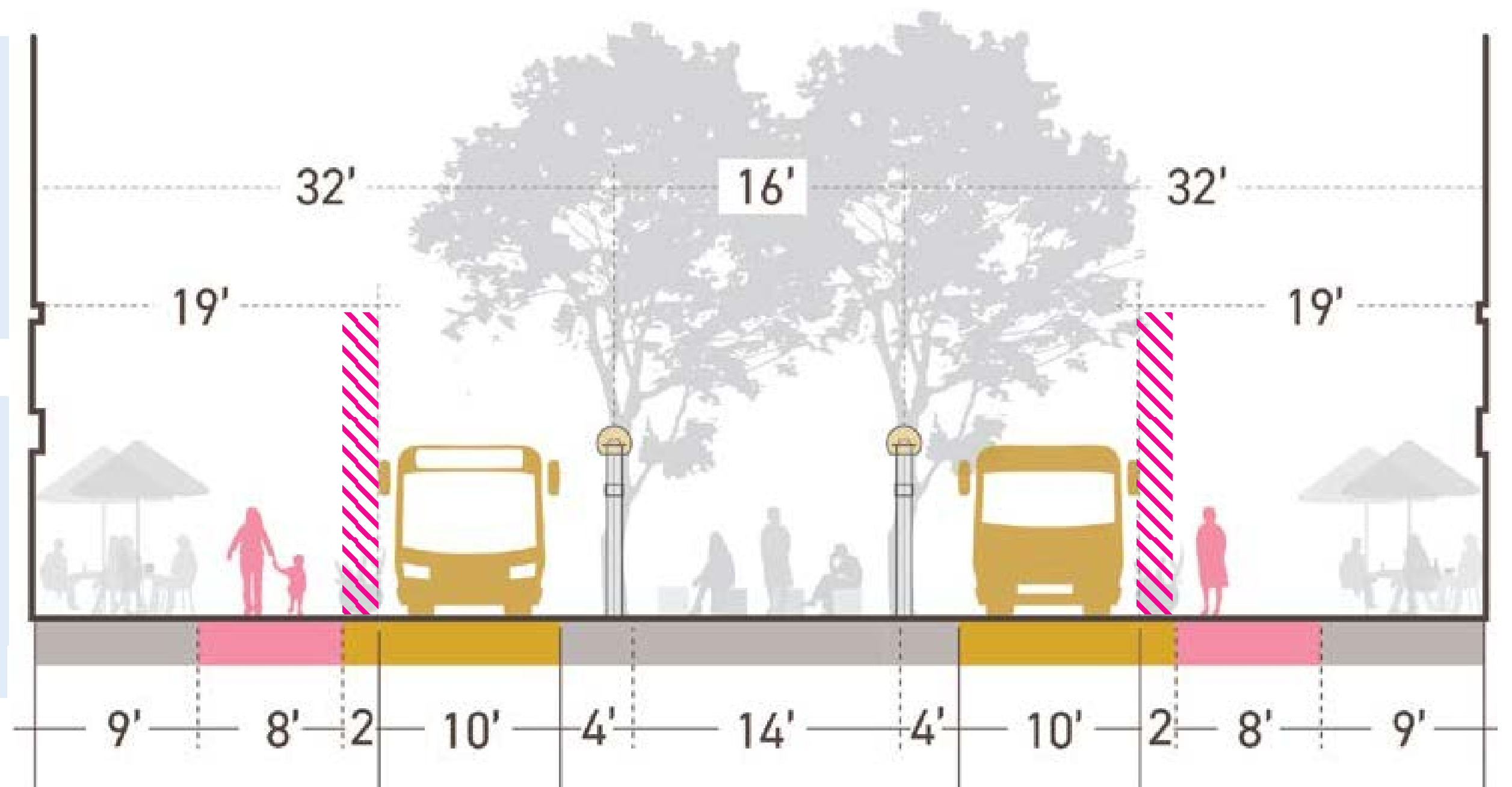
8' walks narrower than 10' recommended width for pedestrian volumes and individuals with disabilities

Today's Challenges

Safety issues due to layout and surface

Pedestrian paths are narrow and immediately adjacent to transit lanes, causing pedestrian/vehicle conflicts

Because the pavers used on the mall are aging, they are slick and cracked in many places -- causing people to slip/fall and preventing buses from keeping traction.



Our public spaces can be safer, more comfortable, and more engaging.

Median spacing, size, and frequent shuttle service on either side discourages public use.

Less than 1% of weekday users stop to spend time on the Mall

If pedestrian areas were widened within the current layout, there would not be enough room for patios-which draw more people to gather on the mall than any other activity.

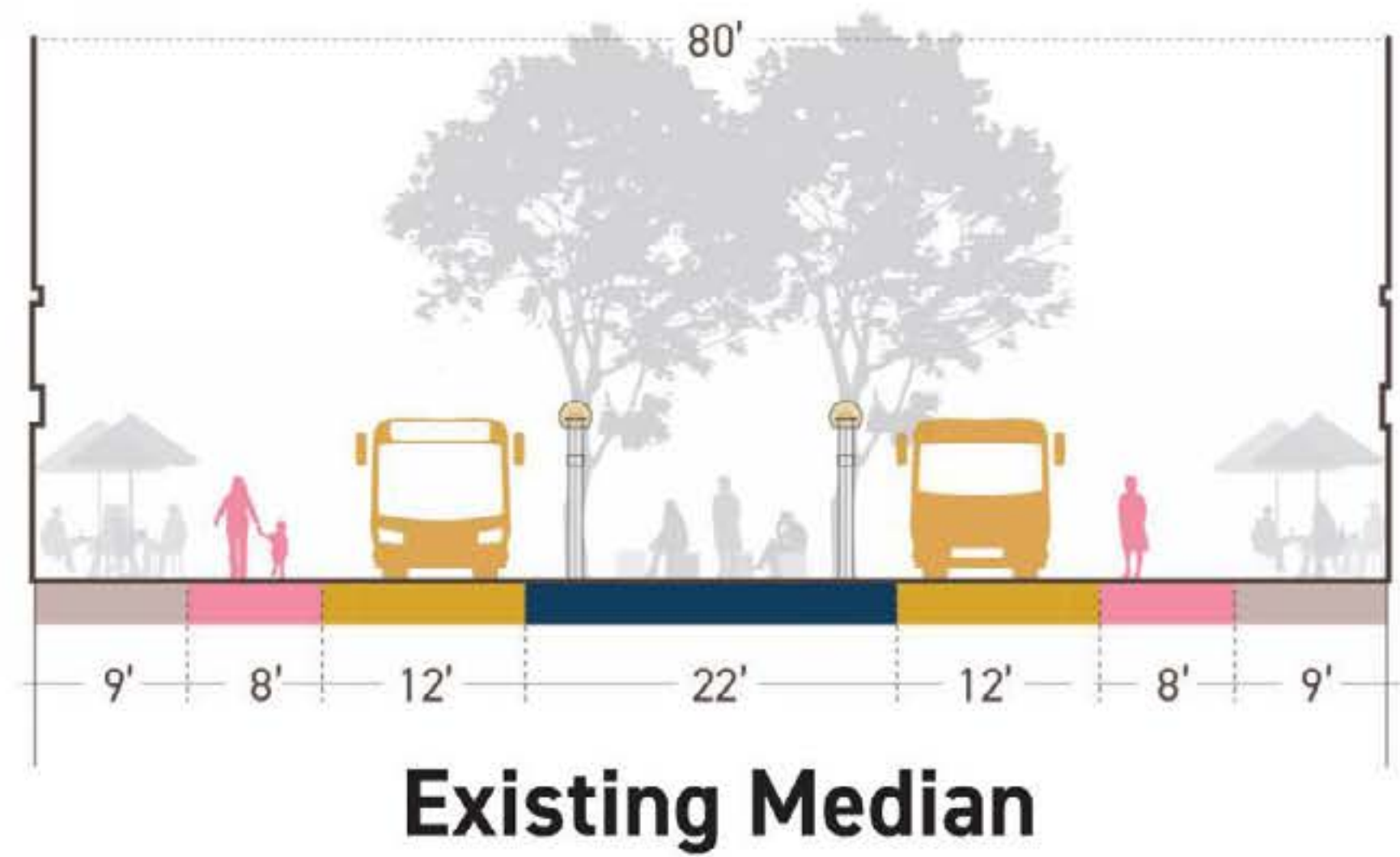
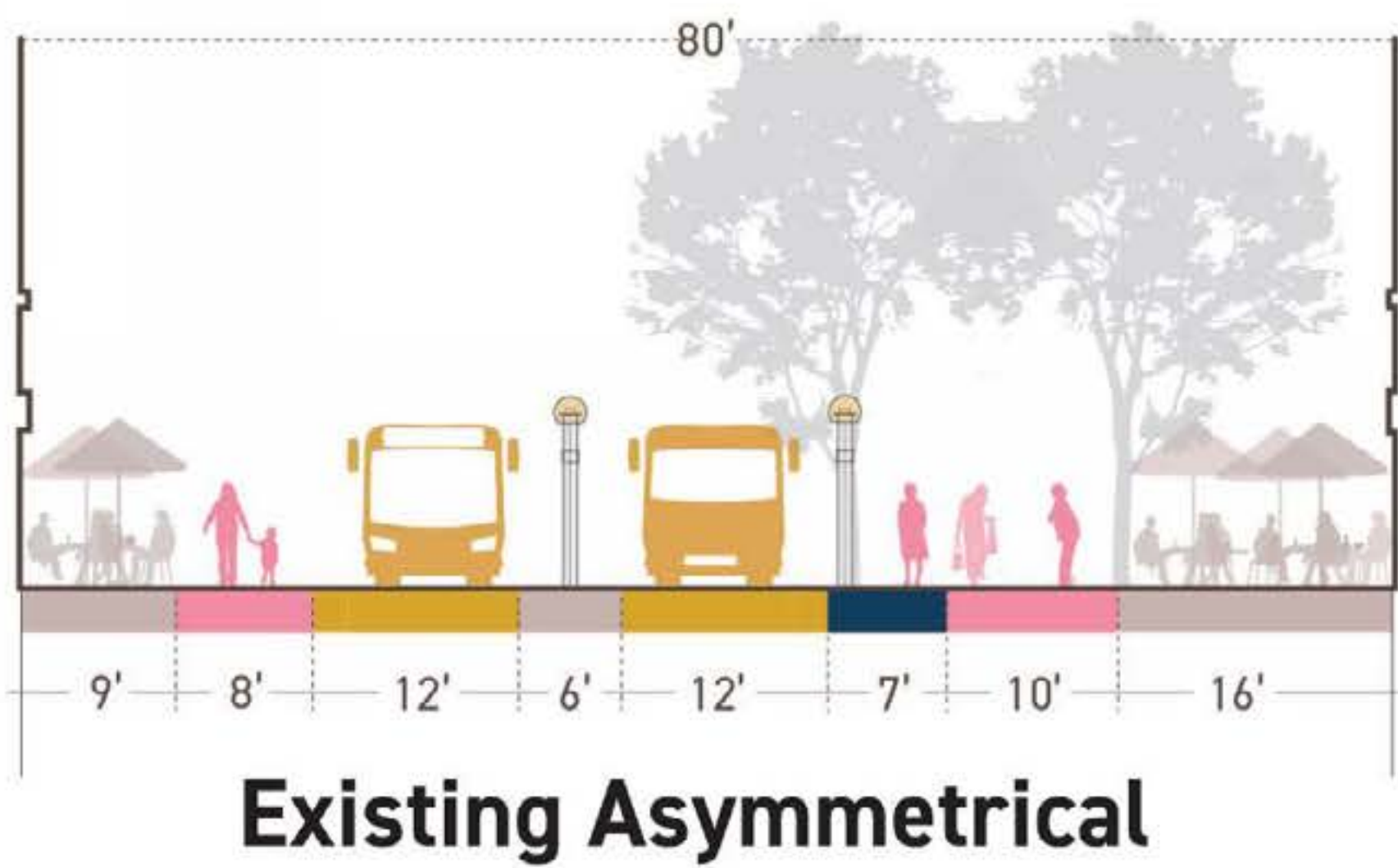
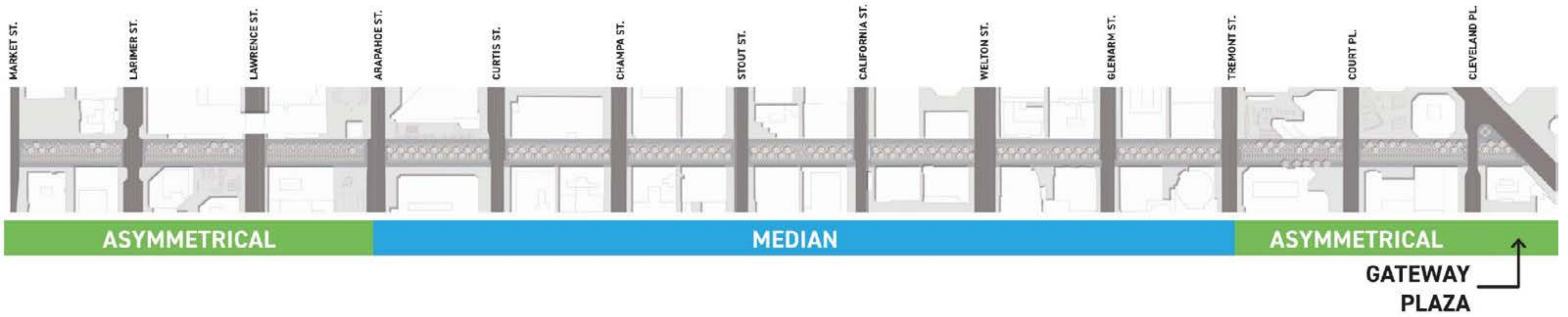


Less than 3' clear at median fountain

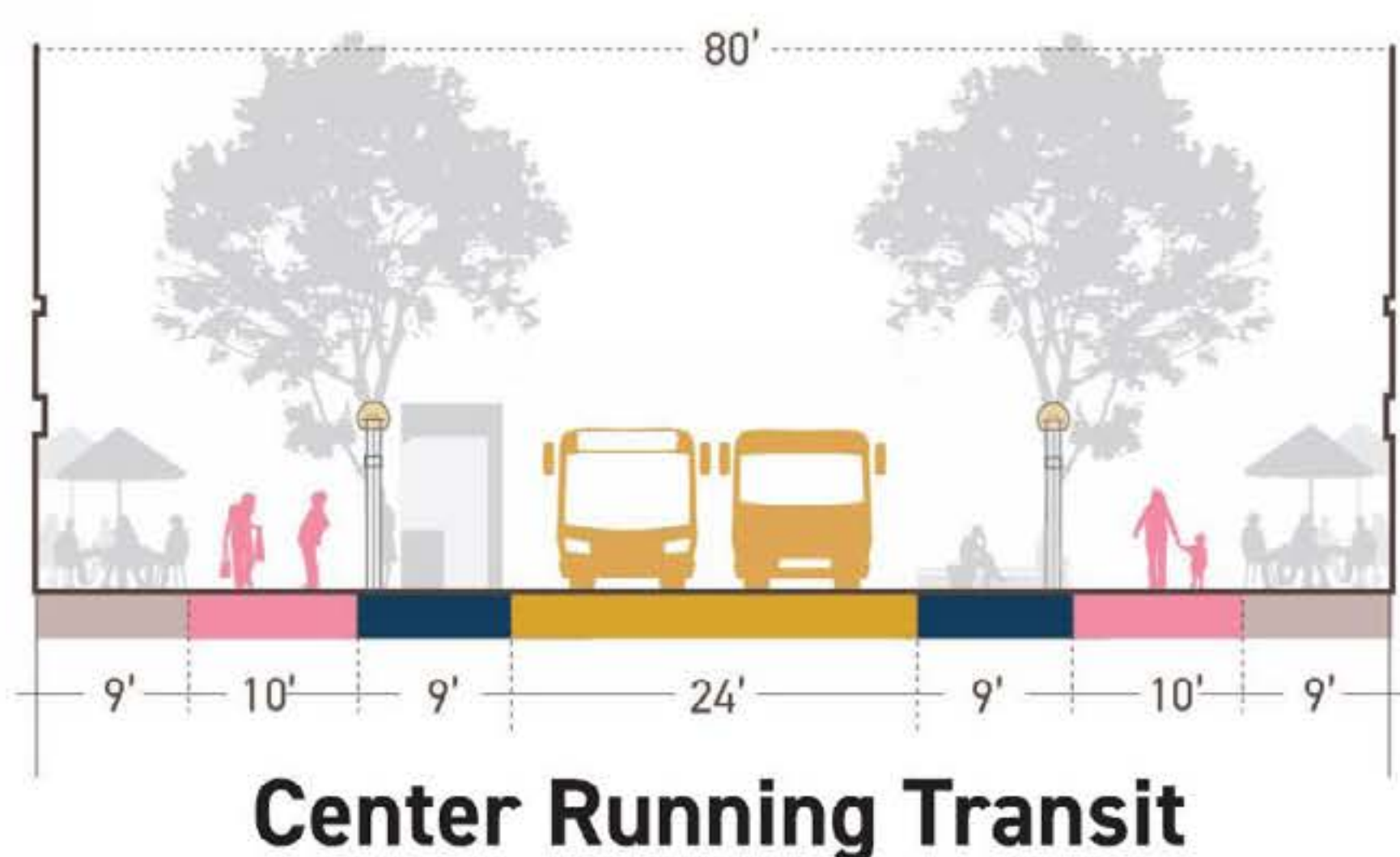
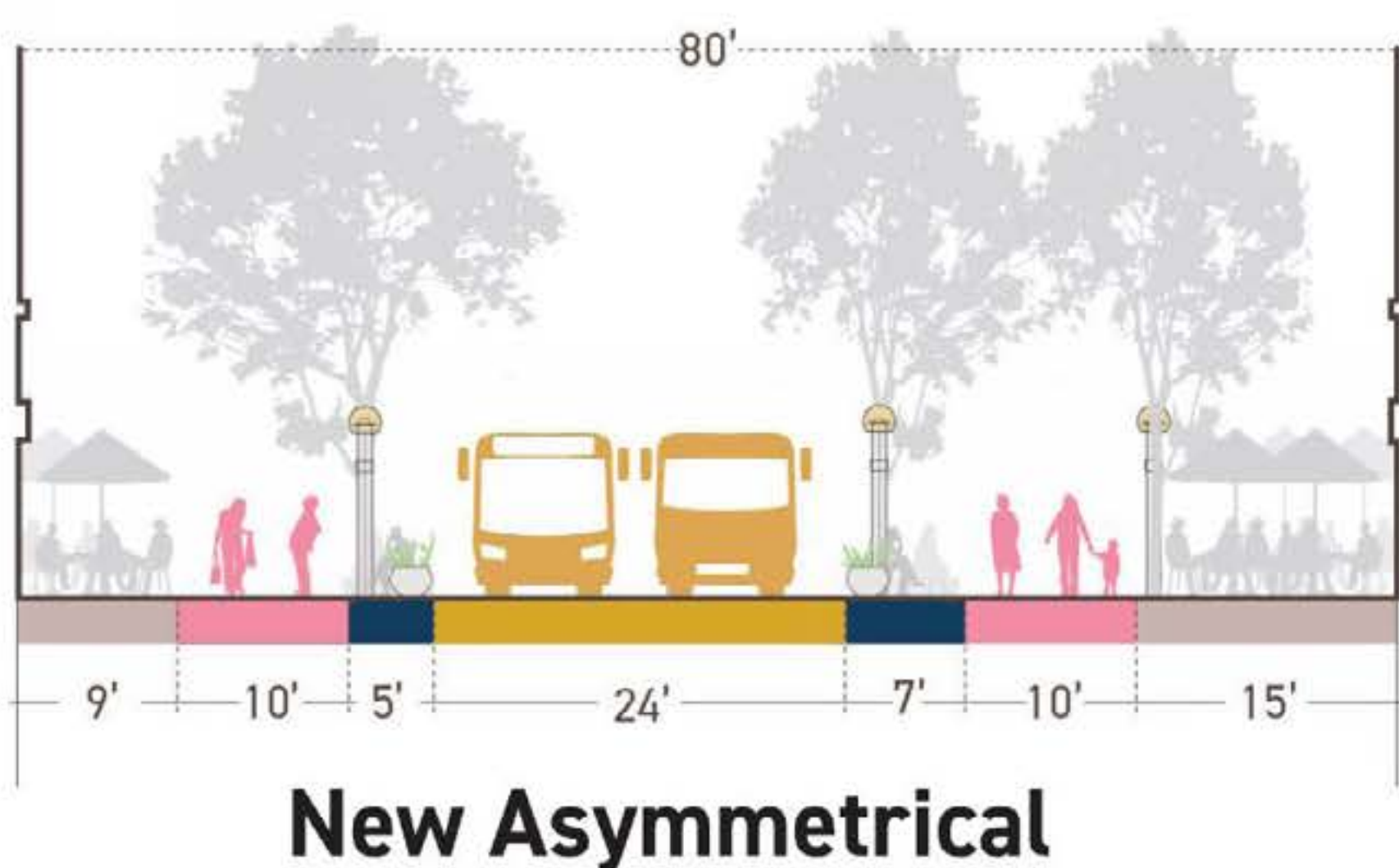
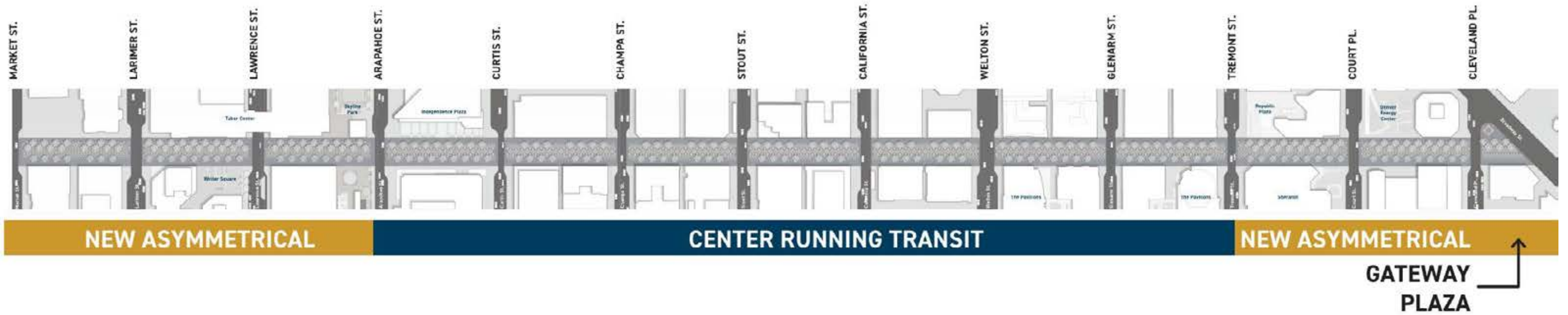
Proposed Concept

This preliminary design was developed through years studying the mall and how people interact with it - and with countless hours of public input and feedback from 2016-2019.

The Mall Today



Proposed Concept

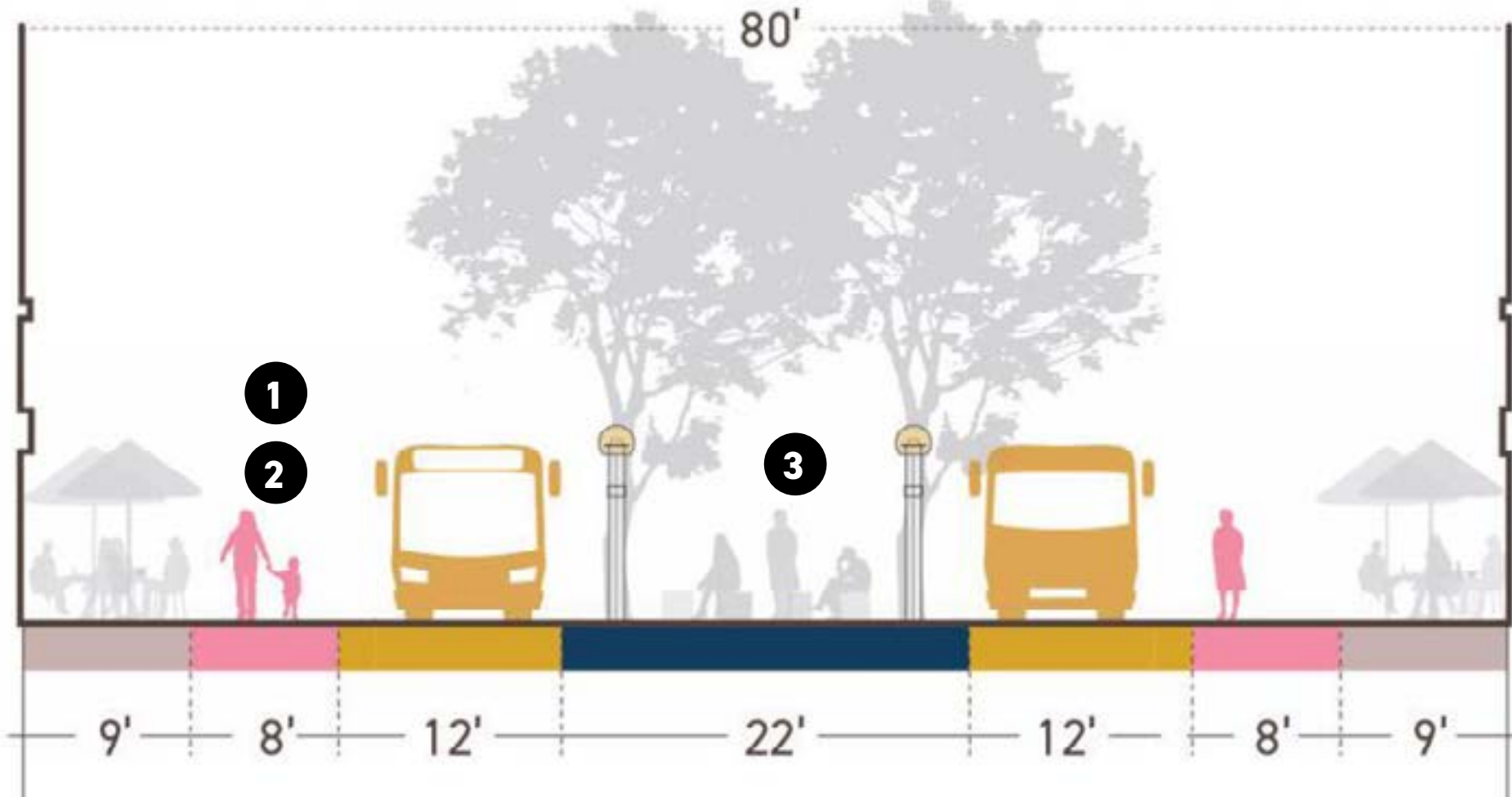


Proposed Concept

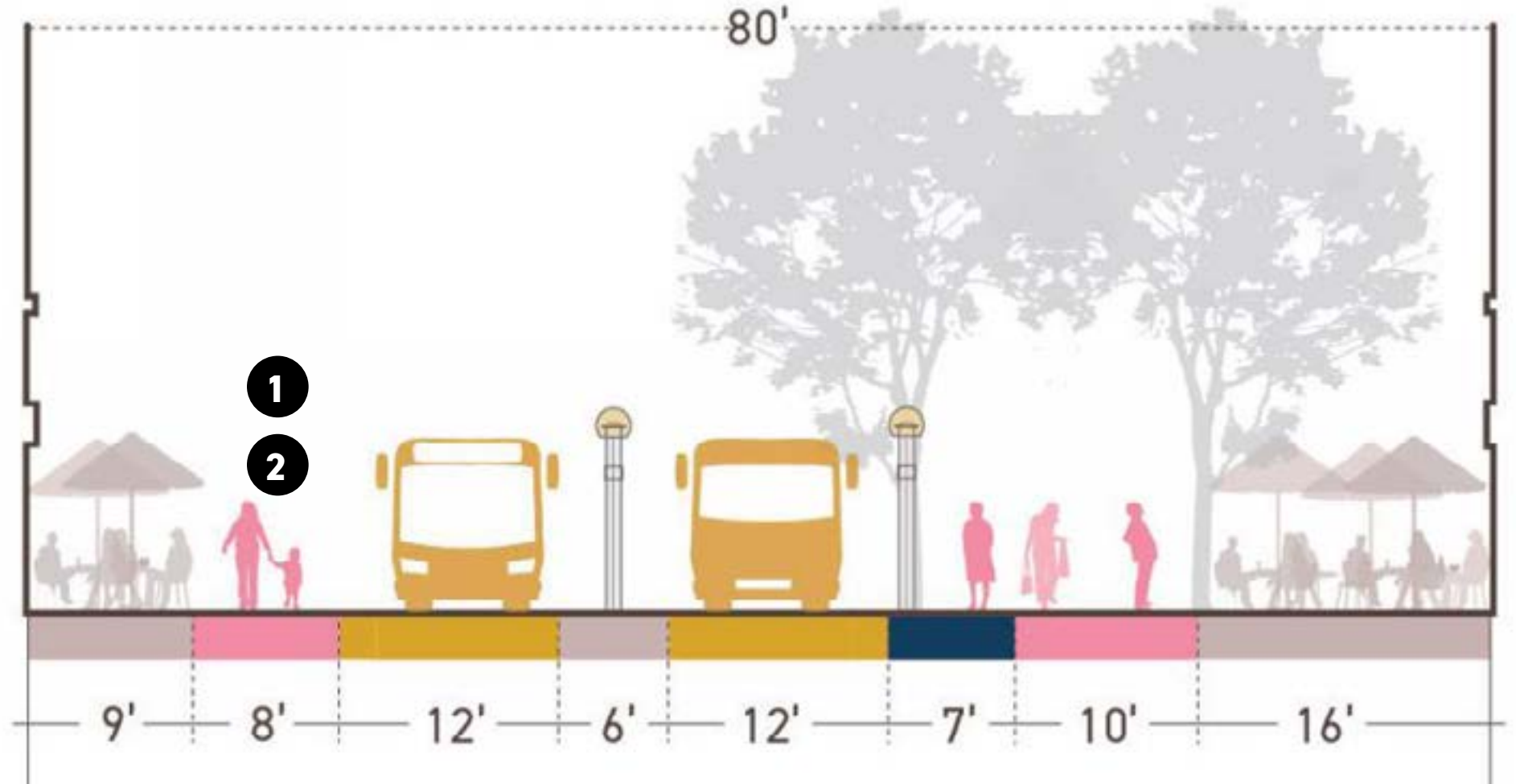
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- ❶ 8' pedestrian zone is too narrow for pedestrian volumes
- ❷ Pedestrians directly adjacent to transit lane
- ❸ Median area underutilized
- ❹ Pedestrian area increased to 10 feet
- ❺ Amenity areas separate pedestrians from transit lanes and provide space for public use
- ❻ Additional row of tree's added

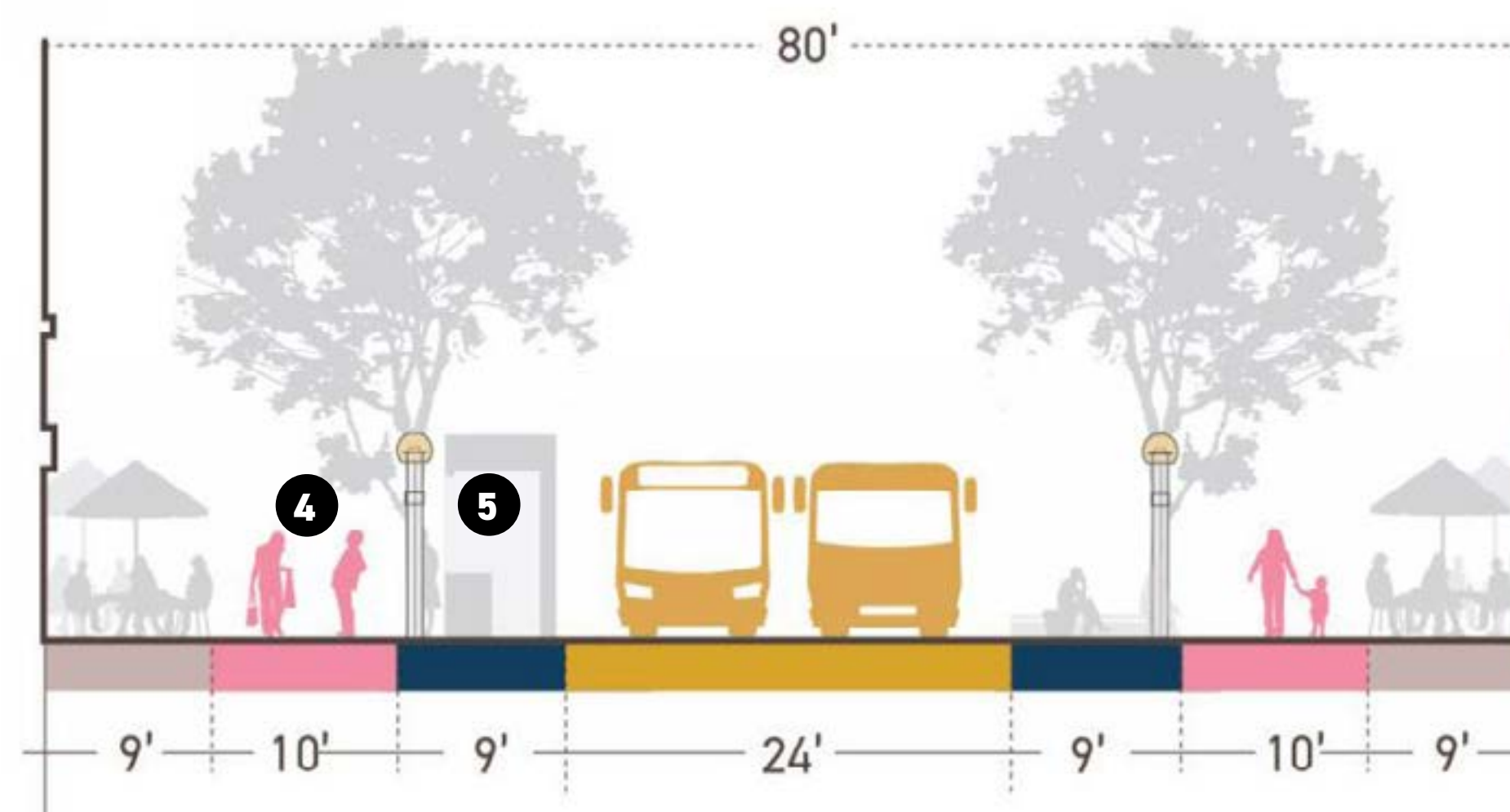
EXISTING MEDIAN



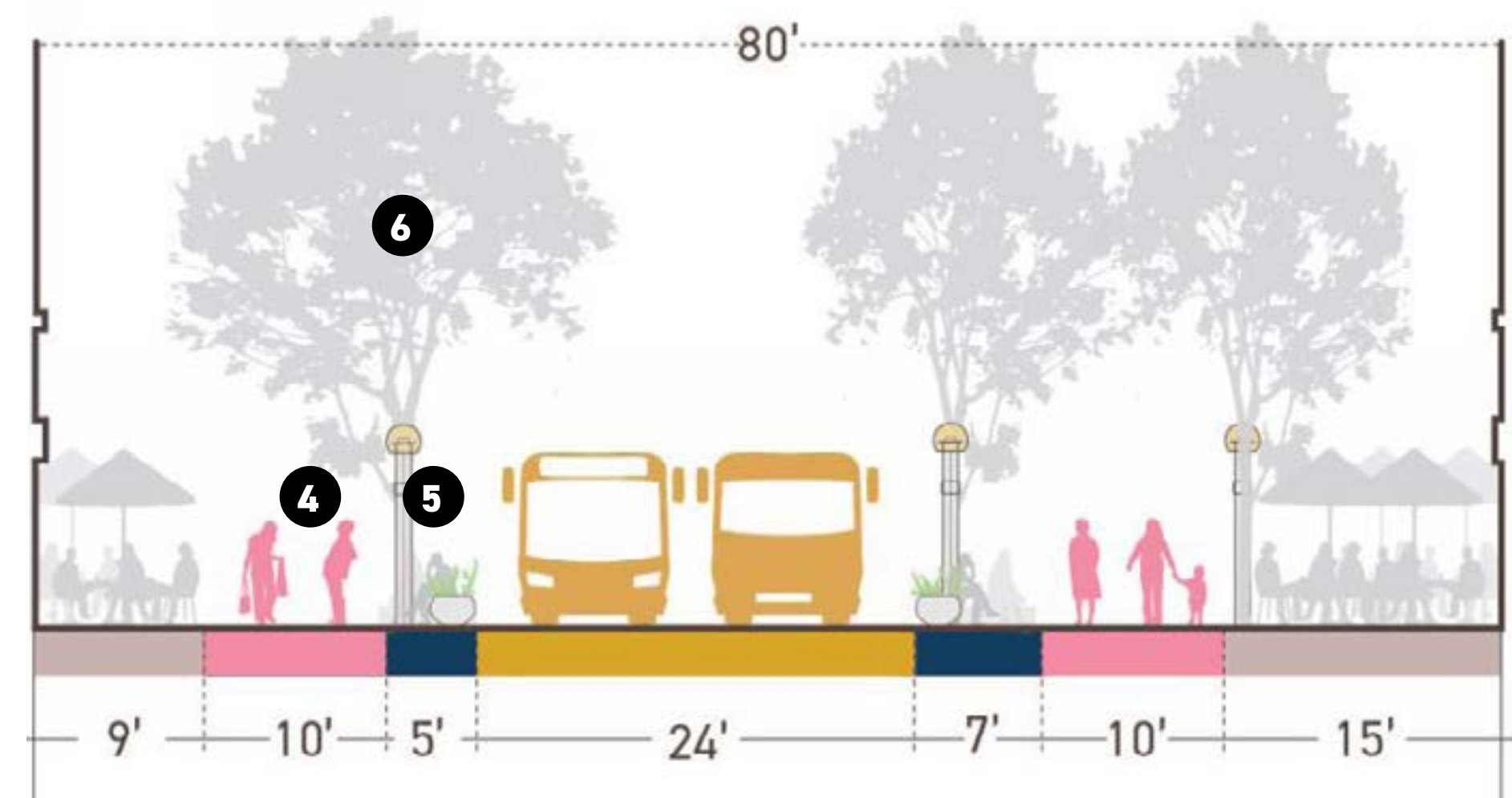
EXISTING ASYMMETRICAL



NEW CENTER RUNNING



NEW ASYMMETRICAL



Conceptual rendering of New Asymmetrical layout on a typical block

Project Benefits

The 16th Street Mall today is one of the most successful in the U.S. Originally designed for a 30-year life span, the Mall is now approaching 38 years of use. Our goal with reconstruction is to address deteriorating infrastructure, provide equitable and sufficient space for high-quality public gatherings, improve pedestrian and transit safety, and continue the reliable two-way Free MallRide service while honoring the iconic design.

Improvements are needed to:

Address deteriorating infrastructure to allow reasonable maintenance frequency and costs to businesses & taxpayers

Improve safety for pedestrians and transit users

Maintain mobility for desired transit operations, & all users

Increase opportunities for public use of the Mall as an iconic civic space for leisure, commerce & tourism

Add more trees and create a healthy environment for them to thrive

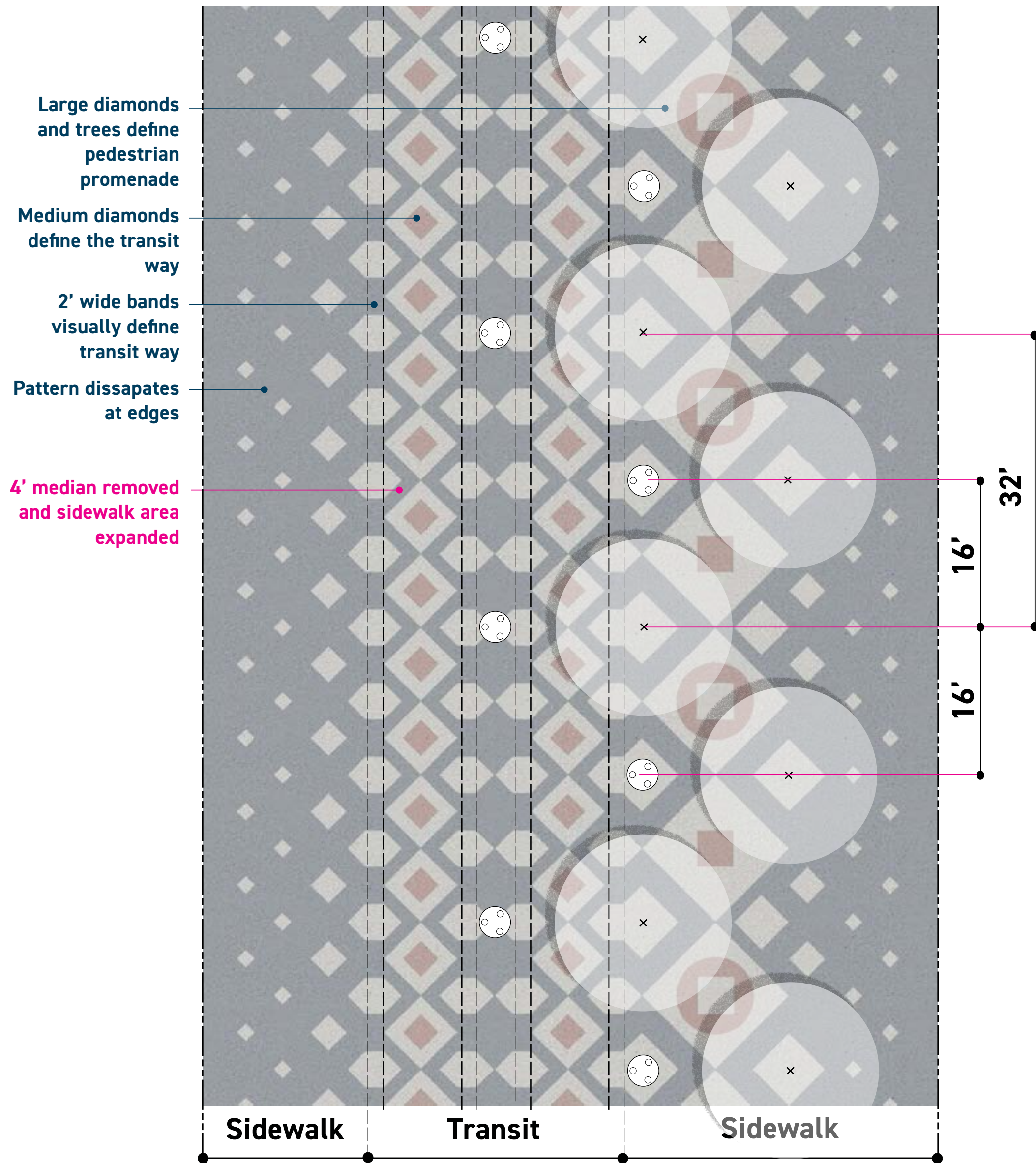
Add technology infrastructure and prepare the Mall for future technological innovations.



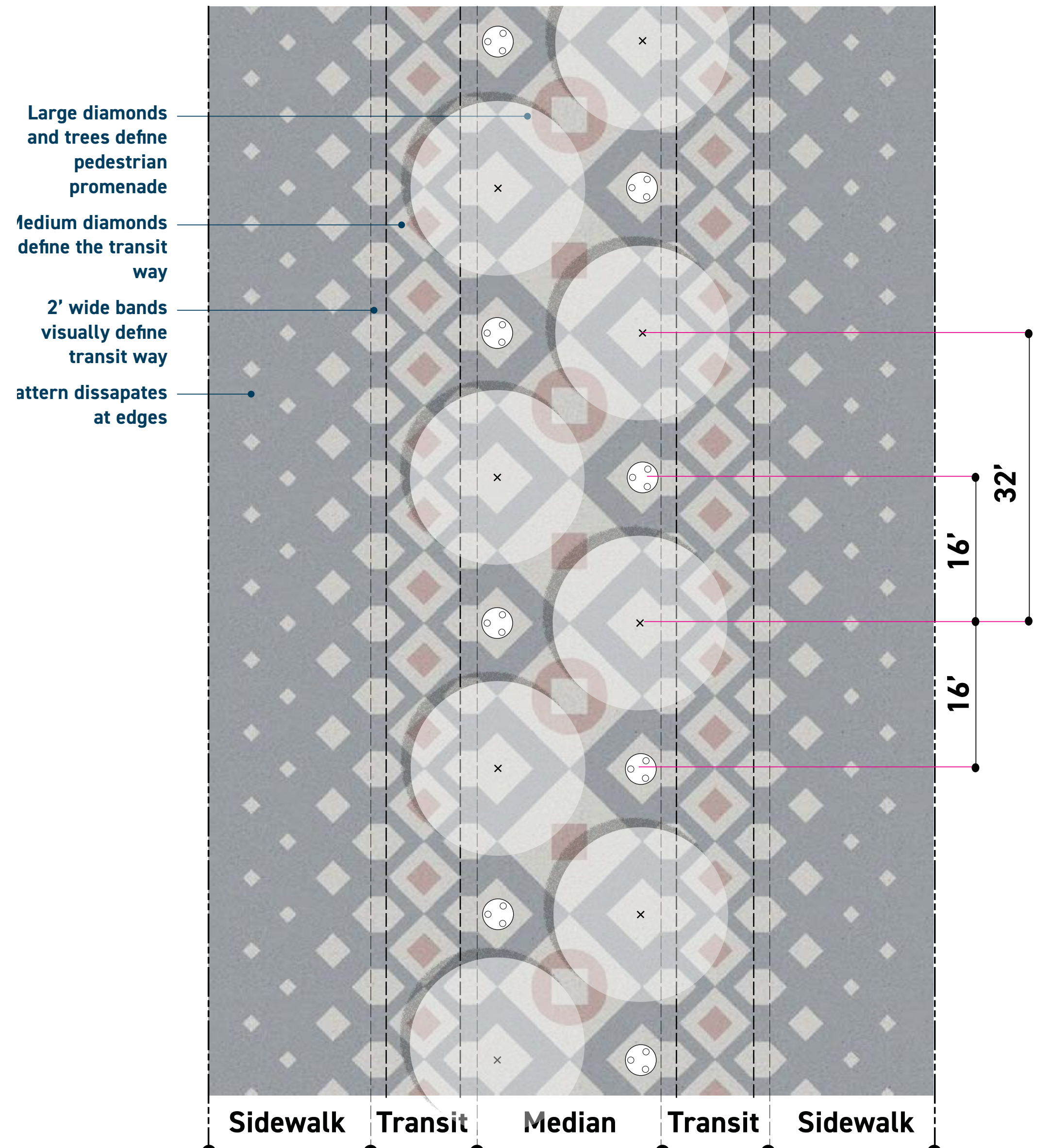
Honoring the History

The existing paving pattern and organization of trees and lights is a signature element of the 16th Street Mall, and an iconic part of Denver's history. The proposed concept honors and retains these key historic elements.

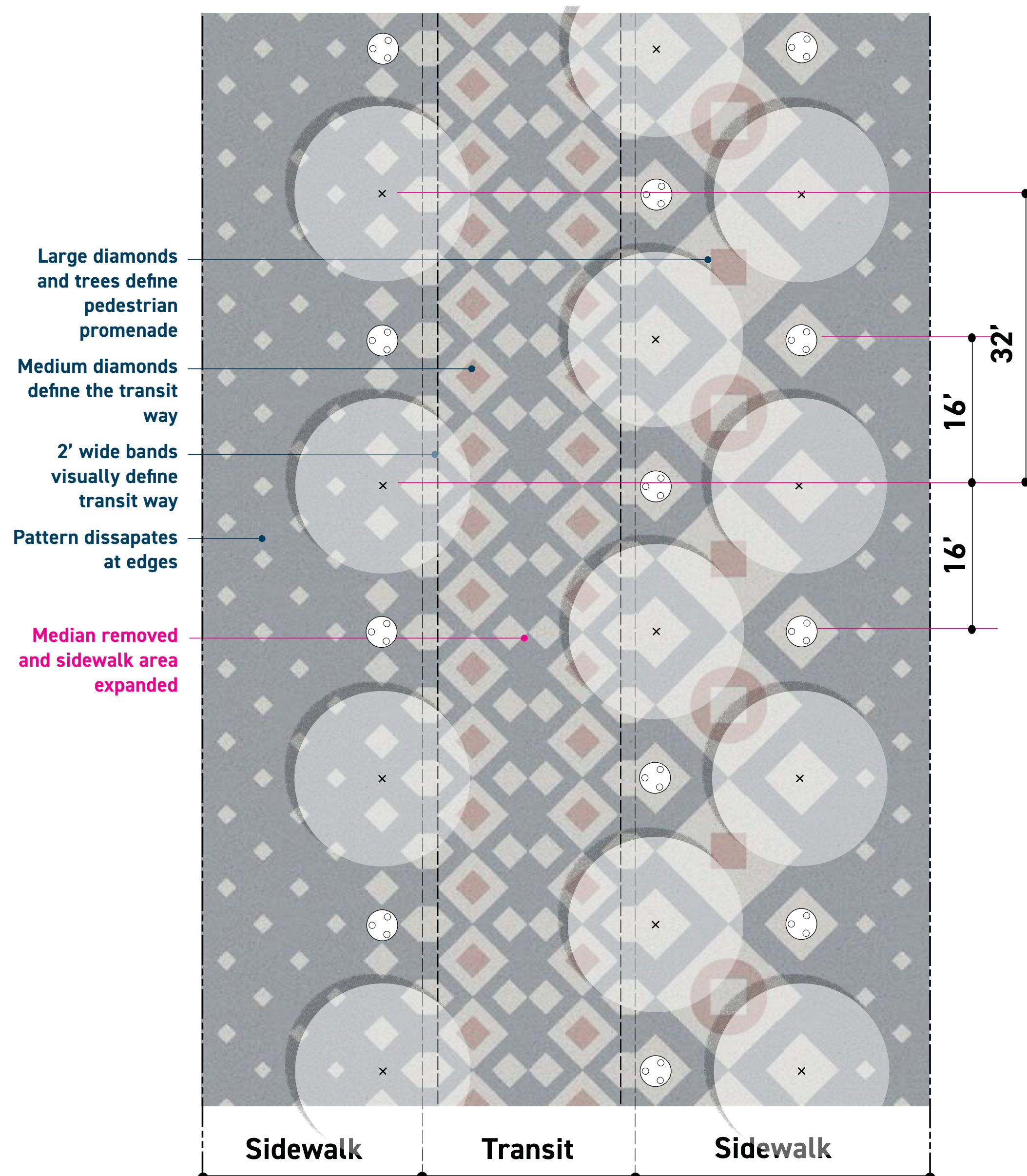
Existing Asymmetrical



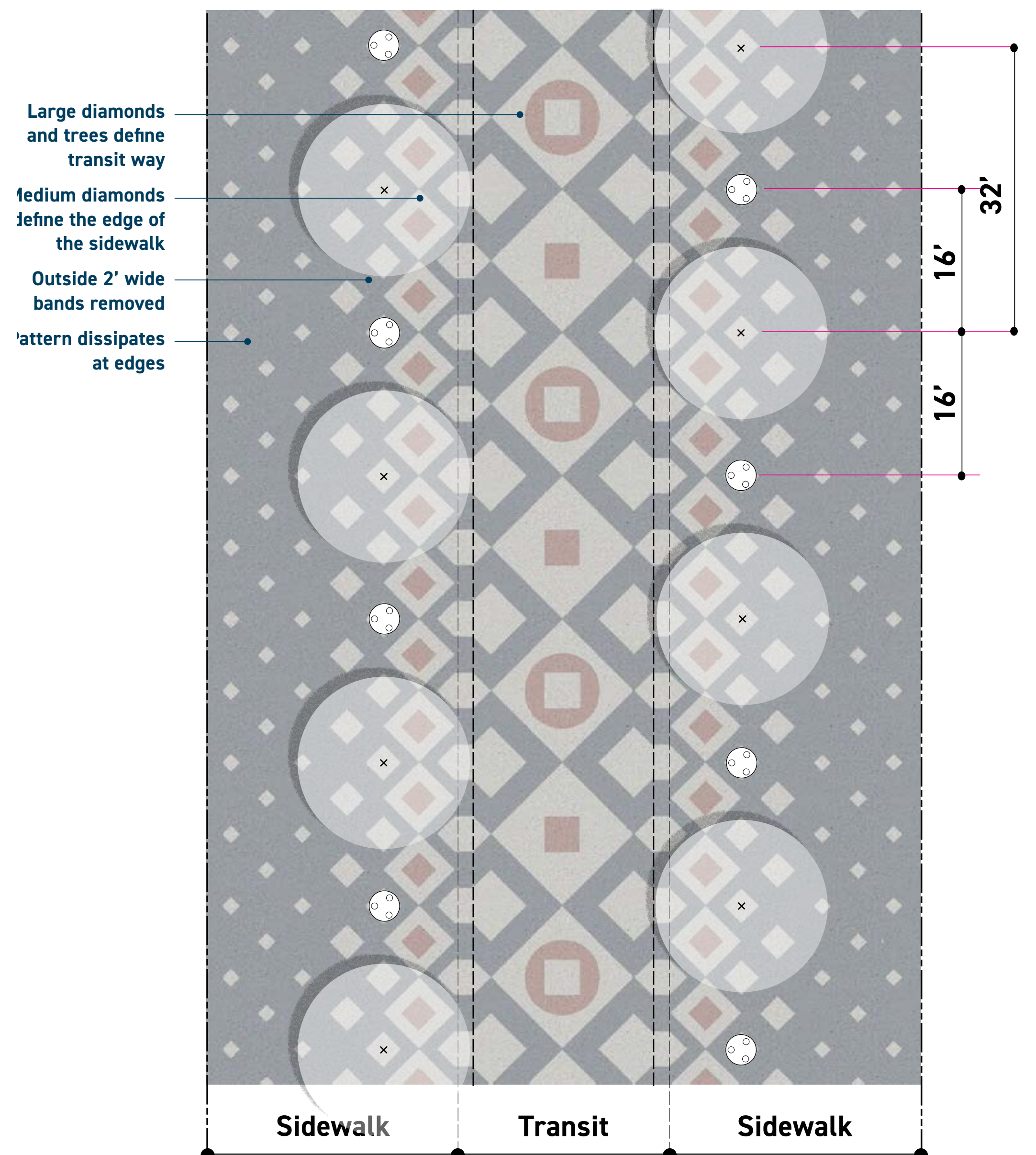
Existing Median



New Asymmetrical



New Center Running



Existing Tree Canopy

The original Mall had **199** trees. 55 have been removed due to disease or damage, and **144 remain**



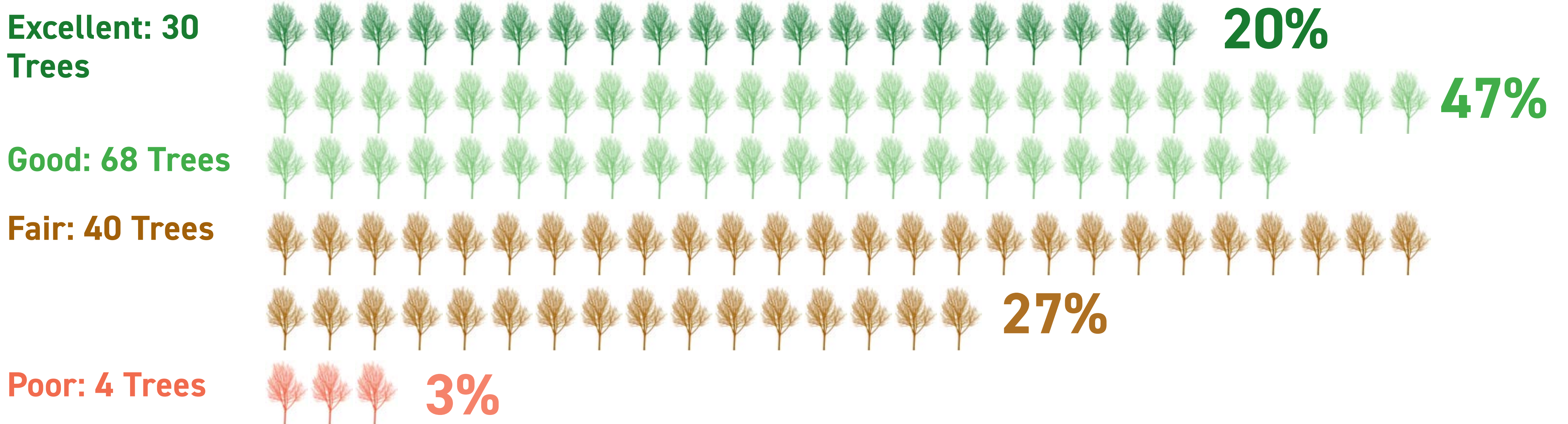
Growth Rate is a good predictor of ability to recover from stress.

For the surviving Honeylocust, the average increase in trunk diameter is .15 inches per year. **This is very low.** A good growth rate is 0.5 inches per year.

Vigor: Leaf Density & Color **predicts short-term survival**



Vigor is what people see when they say "the trees look good in the mall."

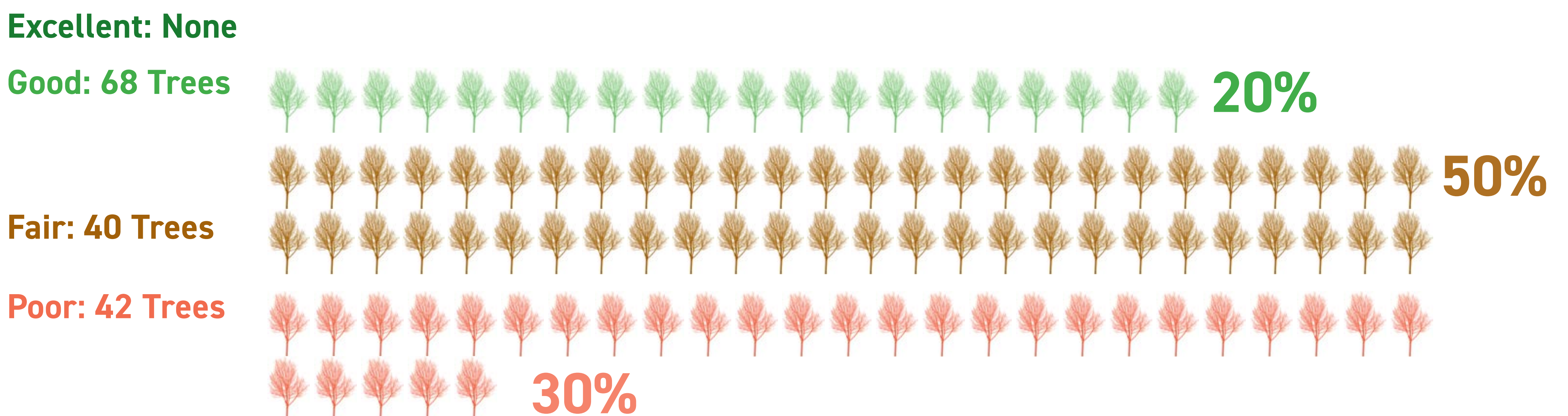


Structure: Branch & Trunk condition **predicts long-term health**



NOTE: The majority of the down grades from Excellent to Good were due to poor nursery pruning or trunk wounds from buses and tree grate damage.

74% of the remaining trees have fair to poor structure, and very low growth rates. Over the long term, losses in Honeylocust trees are likely to increase



Building the Tree Canopy

These trees will be on the Mall!



City and County of Denver Forestry Department, Downtown Denver Partnership, and design team staff selecting trees to be planted on the 16th Street Mall

How can we establish a resilient canopy as quickly as possible?

Tree Planting System: The tree planting system provide approx. 1,000 cu. feet of uncompacted soil for each tree - state of the art for tree growth & health

Tree Species Diversity: The new design will include 9 different tree species, to reduce the risk of canopy loss due to disease or other factors.

Tree Procurement and Contract Growing: The City and County of Denver has partnered with a Tree Procurement contractor to provide large caliper trees for installation on the mall. The City team inspected over **5,000 trees** at 10 nurseries in **4 states** (including Colorado).

The Tree Procurement contractor will transport the trees to two nurseries on the Front Range in spring 2020, and acclimate, grow and prune the trees for installation in the 16th Street Mall.

The proposed design includes 220 trees: an increase of 76 trees

Next Steps

Up next, we will use your feedback and input from other mall users to guide the selection of a team to work together to finalize design and construct the project.

Three teams have been selected based on their expertise and qualifications to compete to design and build the project:

AMES

Kiewit

PCL

Selection of the preferred contractor is expected to take place in late 2020. Thank you for your interest in the future of the 16th Street Mall!

**Stay engaged with us at
denvergov.org/themallexperience**