



New Park Avenue Transit Area Complete Streets Study

Presentation to the Technical Advisory Committee

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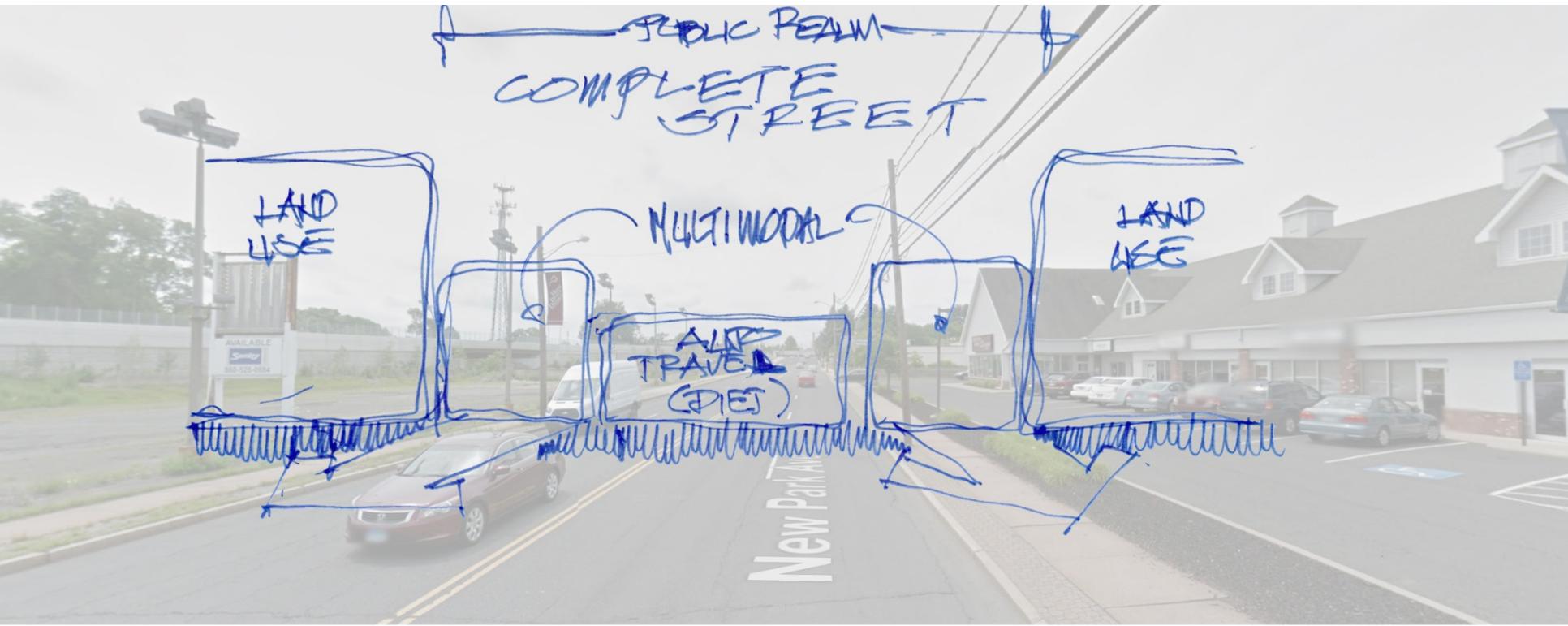
Project Corridor



Project Understanding

- **Historically autocentric road with excess capacity, high speeds**
- **New Park Ave is now a multi-modal “Gateway” to West Hartford**
- **Need Connectivity to CTfastrak stations, Trout Brook Trail, the Center, Elmwood**
- **Road diet will make better use of the traveled way**
- **Aesthetics and Placemaking will shift focus to other transportation modes**
- **Roadway improvements must integrate with land use strategies and adhere to zoning regs**
- **Zoning must be consistent with desired future development**

Transportation Planning Approach



Transportation Planning Approach

- **New CTfastrak stations and recent TOD have placed emphasis on alternative transportation modes**
- **Promote Bike/Ped Connectivity between stations, The Center, Elmwood, and Hartford**
- **Explore modifications to the physical roadway to calm traffic and enhance travel for all modes such as:**
 - **Reduced lane widths**
 - **Reduction in travel lanes from 4 to 3 with center turn lane or median**
 - **Addition of dedicated or shared bike lanes**
 - **Addition of on street parking**
- **Enhance pedestrian space through streetscape features, high visibility crossings**
- **Public involvement process and analysis results will help us vet this process**
- **Integrate transportation solutions with corridor land use goals**

Transportation Planning Approach

- **Why New Park?**
 - CTfastrak Redefining Regional Connectivity
 - Exploiting The Opportunities
- **Connectivity**
 - Regional / Multimodal
 - *Bike, Ped, Bus, Car, Live, Work, Play*
 - Connecting The Stations
 - Trout Brook And The Center Connection
- **Gateway Brand & Image**
 - Welcome To West Hartford
 - *Where Is It?*
 - Aesthetics, Built Form, Wayfinding
- **Land Use.....Type of Complete Street Treatment**
 - What Does It Want To Be?
 - *TOD / Mixed Use*
 - *Economic Development / Tax Base? Home Design District?*
 - *Niche Residential?*

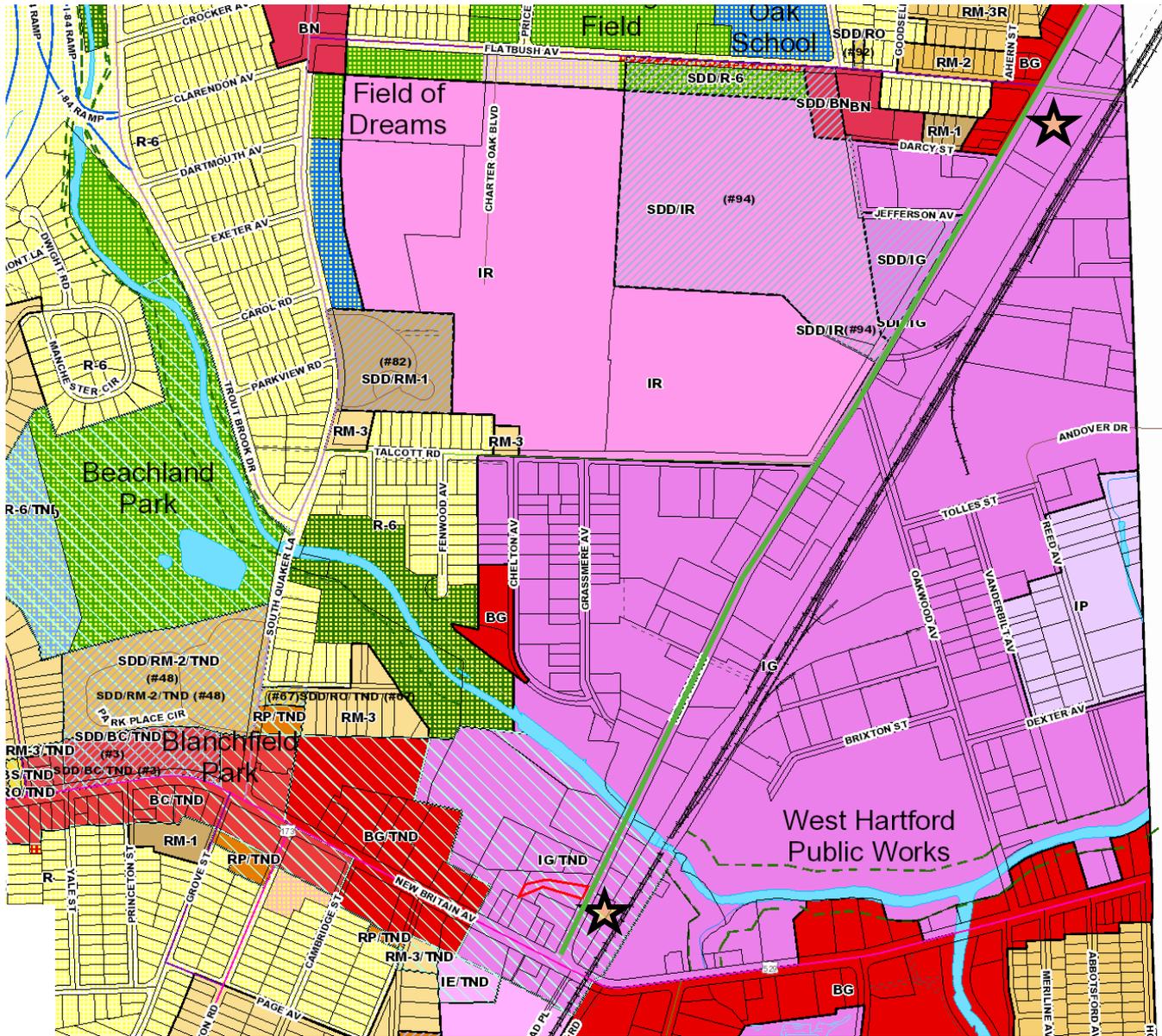
Transportation Analysis Approach

- **Existing Conditions**
 - Counts (car, bike, ped)
 - Collect parking and ridership data
 - Crash analysis
 - Roadway inventory
 - Review/collect data from other recent studies
- **Future Conditions**
 - Grow counts to 2030 design year
- **Capacity Analysis**
 - Existing and Future No Build Conditions
 - New Park Avenue, Flatbush Avenue, Talcott Roads and intersections

Transportation Analysis Approach cont.

- **Plan Development and Vision**
 - **Plan Concepts (Lane Repurposing, Traffic Calming Measures, New Pedestrian Crossings, Streetscape)**
 - **Analyze impacts to vehicular traffic operations**
 - **Identify appropriate lane arrangements**
 - **Identify pavement markings, signing, traffic signal revisions**
 - **Identify any right of way impacts**
- **Public Involvement/Stakeholder Coordination**
 - **Vet plan alternatives in up to 4 stakeholder meetings**
 - **Project website, surveys, media announcements**
- **Final Report and Presentation**
 - **Summation of Technical Memorandums prepared for each project phase**
 - **Phased Implementation Approach**
 - **Preliminary Cost Estimates**
 - **Zoning Recommendations**

Current Zoning



Zoning Analysis Approach

- **Existing Zone Challenges**
 - **Majority of corridor is industrial (IG)**
 - *Uses now predominantly auto-oriented retail/commercial*
 - *Screening along street required vs. buildings engaging/defining street*
 - *Parking requirements too high for smaller lots*
 - **TND Overlay**
 - *New Urbanist Approach but.....Underlying Zone Limitations*
 - **SDD Overlay**
 - *Requires Council approval, Commission approval, and a Public Hearing*
- **Other Zoning Issues Hampering New Park Ave. Complete Street**
 - **Building Wall / On Street Parking (for ground floor commercial)**
 - **Access Management and Shared Parking**
 - **Housing Density and Traffic Generation**
 - **Mixed-Use (vertical), Single Use, or Both**

Zoning Analysis Approach

- **Zoning To Support Desired Results**
 - Clarify existing regulations
 - *Ease of permitting (Site Plan Review by Planner)*
 - *Define “Home Design District” – boundary and requirements*
 - *Determine and incentivize desired development patterns*
 - Encourage Special Design District use
 - *Streamline Review/Permitting Process*
 - *Try to increase predictability of review timeline*
 - *Incentivize Use In New Park Avenue Corridor*
 - New Overlay
 - *Higher Density Mixed-Use - version of TND Overlay*
 - *Include Transit Area Sub Districts (1/4 mile of stations)*
 - *Form-Based Code (possibly incorporating architectural standards)*

Aesthetics and Placemaking

- Identity
- Branding
- Wayfinding



Aesthetics and Placemaking

New Park Avenue



New Park Avenue Housing - West Hartford, CT



Stakeholders

- **West Hartford municipal staff**
- **Elmwood Business Association**
- **Home Design District**
- **West Hartford Planning and Zoning Commission**
- **West Hartford Bicycle Advisory Committee**
- **Residents and business owners of New Park Avenue and surrounding neighborhoods**
- **West Hartford elected officials**
- **Affected Schools in the area**
- **CT Transit**
- **CTfastrak**
- **Others to be discussed with TAC**

Project Corridor

