

LITTLE  
TURTLE  
WAY

**IMPROVEMENTS**

SR 161 to FIREWATER LN

# Project Public Hearing

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7<sup>TH</sup> 2021

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

# **WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

**James Young, P.E.**

City Engineer/Administrator  
City of Columbus  
Department of Public Service

**Jim Pajk, P.E.**

Assistant Administrator  
City of Columbus  
Department of Public Service

**Jud Hines, P.E.**

CIP Program Manager  
City of Columbus  
Department of Public Service

# Agenda

- Project Purpose and Need
- Project Overview
- Project Cost Comparison
- Public Engagement Timeline
- Public Engagement Outcomes



# Purpose of Project

- The purpose of the Little Turtle Way project is to provide a reconstructed street as it has exceeded its service life. It was constructed in 1975 and resurfaced in 2004. The street cannot simply be resurfaced. In addition, the project will provide increase pedestrians facilities as there are none on the street or in the community.



# Need of Project

- Provide sidewalks and safe areas to walk and bike along Little Turtle Way
- Improve low visibility at the intersection of Longrifle Road and Little Turtle Way
- Decrease traffic delays and backups at the SR 161 interchange during the morning commute
- Provide for the forecasted growth of the region

# Project Overview

- Enhance the Little Turtle Way corridor from State Rt. 161 to Fire Water Ln.
- Reconstruct Little Turtle Way for an accommodating complete street for bicyclists, pedestrians and motorists
- Construct a roundabout at Longrifle Road to improve traffic flow, increase safety, and decrease speeds

# Project Overview

- Construct a new traffic signal at State Rt. 161 to effectively manage operations, reduce queues, and wait times southbound
- Add new sidewalks and a shared-use path to promote walking and bicycling
- Ensure emergency access for EMS and Fire services to the community

# Project Overview

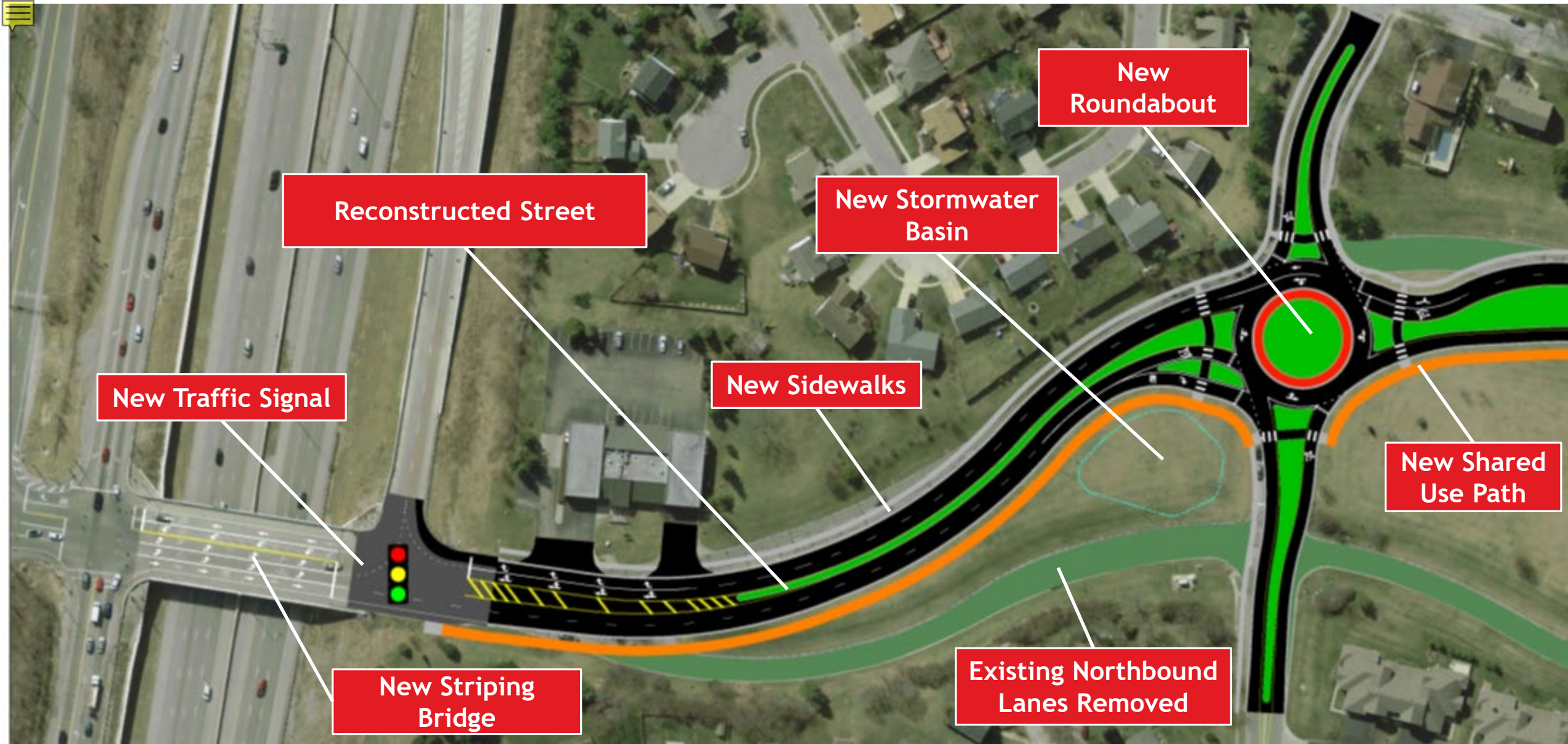
- Add street lighting for roadway and pedestrians to improve visibility and safety
- Provide over 100 new trees and landscapes while preserving as many existing trees as possible
- Update the storm system with new sewers and a stormwater basin to effectively manage storm water



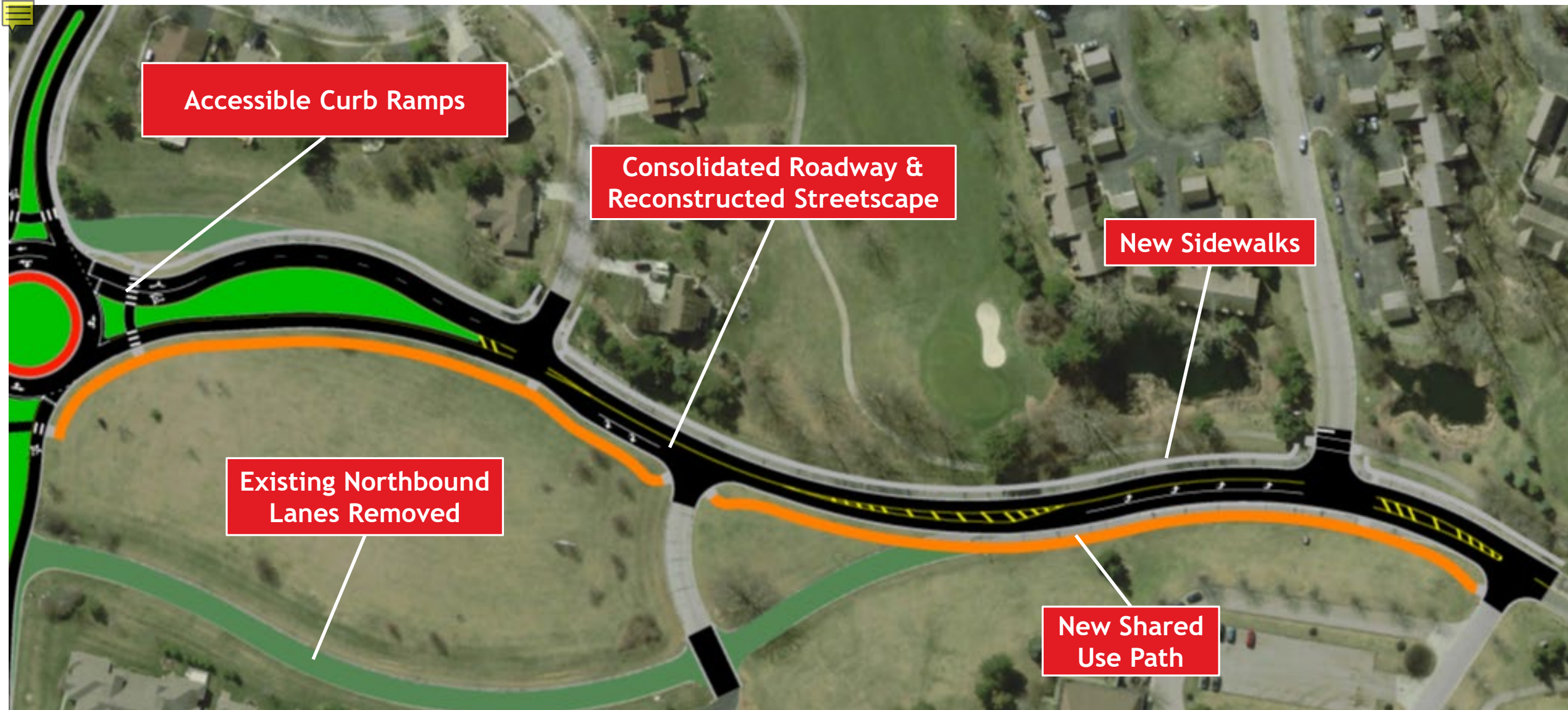
# Street Improvements Overview













# Cost Comparison

- Estimated construction cost for project as reconstruction
  - \$5,534,000 plus \$90,000.00 in right of way
  - Total Cost = \$
- Estimated construction cost to rebuild “in kind” and provide complete streets features required in purpose and need
  - \$6,470,000 plus \$370,000.00 in right of way
  - Total Cost = \$

# Public Involvement Process Timeline

- First Public meeting – August 29<sup>th</sup> 2019 - 5:30 -7:00 PM
  - Earliest design, based on purpose and need and traffic study.
  - Presented to community in person at Hondros College.
  - 118 participants signed into the meeting





# Public Involvement Process Timeline

➤ Little Turtle Civic Association meeting – September 1, 2020 - 5:30 – 6:30 PM

- Meeting held via webex with Little Turtle Civic Association Board members and other members.
- Discussed the list of concerns and requests submitted to the City by the association.
- 45 minutes used to discuss issues and 15 minutes for additional questions and discussion.

# Public Involvement Process Timeline

- Second Public meeting – October 28, 2020 - 5:30 to 7:00
  - Meeting held via webex and open to the public.
  - Presented the project in the final stages of design with establish right of way plans.
  - Talked through major topics of concern and questions received between the first meeting and this event.
  - During the Q&A portion of the meeting and in text responses there were 188 questions and comments received.
  - 117 Participants logged into this meeting.

# Public Involvement Process – Outcomes

- All public input was considered throughout the design. The Department of Public Service (DPS) received input at all public meetings. There were 388 - public comments from the meetings.
- In addition, DPS received 127 emails and seven (7) 311 requests.
- There were hours of phone calls and engagement to further discuss project with the Project Manager.



# Public Involvement Process – Outcomes

## List of changes based on public input:

- Tree protection plan for Little Turtle Oak tree.
- Additional landscaping to provide entry feature at southern end of the project.
- Addition of landscaping in the center island of the roundabout.
- Grading changes north of the roundabout to preserve the natural mounding west of the project.
- Grading changes and shifting the roadway along the south leg of Little Turtle way to preserve existing trees.
- Additional sidewalk along the west side of Little Turtle way from Longrifle south to the fire station for polling.
- Accommodation to change concrete medians to grass medians through out the project.
- Additional tree plantings, species, and increased caliper size for 30 out of the 100+ trees proposed on the project.
- Adjustments to the tree lawn along Longrifle East of the intersection with Little Turtle Way to preserve as many existing trees as possible.
- Improved construction for SUP between double Eagle Drive and Firewater Lane to serve as additional EMS access to north portion of Little Turtle Way/Cambria Way Neighborhood.
- City of Columbus has added the loop around Cambria Way to Blue Jacket Road to be evaluated for a pedestrian project to provide sidewalks/walking path around this loop.
- City of Columbus has conveyed the desire to complete the connection to Blendon Woods Metro Park to ODOT to complete the connection across the bridge over SR 161 in a future state funded project.

# Public Involvement Process – Outcomes:

## Elements supported by public input:

- Improved traffic flow in and out of Little Turtle way
- Rebuilding and resurfacing a deteriorating roadway facility
- Additional safety and speed calming through the intersection at Little Turtle Way and Longrifle Road
- Addition of multimodal access throughout the corridor
- Promotion of green space with included landscaping, tree lawns, and preserving existing trees in the neighborhood
- Improved storm water controls to control storm water runoff in the area
- Street lights for both roadway and sidewalk/shared use path illumination and improved safety
- Crosswalks and full ADA compliant pedestrian access to both sidewalks and shared use path through the roundabout
- Maintenance of Traffic can utilize existing northbound roadway to help reduce impacts to traffic during construction



FIN