



**OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**JOHN R. KASICH, GOVERNOR**

**JERRY WRAY, DIRECTOR**

**State Route 309 (Elida Road)  
Safety Improvement Project  
Spring through Fall 2011**

**Kirk Slusher, P.E.  
ODOT District 1  
Deputy Director**

# Why is ODOT Proposing Improvements to SR309 (Elida Road)?

- ① ODOT prioritized its highway corridors statewide that either had safety and/or congestion concerns
- ① In Allen County, the priorities were:
  - ① Elida Road (State Route 309 west)
  - ① Bellefontaine Avenue (State Route 117/State Route 309 east)
  - ① Allentown Road (State Route 81 west)

# **Why is ODOT Proposing Improvements to State Route 309 (Elida Road)?**

- ① ODOT is dedicated to improving the safety and efficiency of the state highway system for the benefit of the motoring public**
- ① ODOT is sponsoring this project since a majority of the corridor is located outside of the City of Lima corporation limits**



# Study Area

- ① **Study limits for the project are from Eastown Road to Robb Avenue**
- ① **Limits were established based upon the concentration of accidents as well as logical beginning and ending points**

# Facts about the Corridor

- ① Numerous accidents (typically rear-end and angle types) are occurring throughout the corridor
- ① Corridor crash rate of 7.21 accidents per million vehicle miles traveled (MVMT) compares to a statewide rate of 3.34 (MVMT)
- ① Existing traffic volumes are approximately 22,870 average daily traffic (ADT)
- ① Design year traffic (2027) is approximately 32,600 ADT
- ① Nearly 100 percent of adjacent land is currently zoned commercial

# Purpose of Improvements

- ① **Provide a safer and more efficient corridor that balances the needs of local access with the through movements**



# Need for Improvements

- ① **Ranked in the top 200 statewide in high accident locations as identified through ODOT's Highway Safety Program (HSP)**
- ② **This corridor has ranked as high as 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state -- it is currently ranked 14<sup>th</sup>**
- ③ **Rear-end and angle accidents are frequent throughout the corridor, specifically at high volume driveways**



# Need for Improvements (Cont.)

- ④ **Angle type accidents are numerous throughout the mid block due to the excessive number of existing driveways accessing State Route 309**
  - ④ Currently there are approximately 64 driveways per mile; ideal number is less than 32 driveways per mile
- ④ **Some driveways are currently located too close to intersections**
- ④ **Currently there are over 110 driveways accessing State Route 309 between Robb Avenue and Eastown Road**



# Observations

- ① **Access Management techniques must be employed**
- ① **Left-turn movements must be reduced or eliminated due to the high number of potential conflicts throughout the corridor**



# What is Access Management?

- ① **... a more efficient way of dealing with problems associated with traffic congestion and safety caused by motorists turning at driveways and intersections**
- ① **Examples:**
  - ① Elimination of driveways
  - ① Relocation of existing driveways
  - ① Prohibiting left-turn movements to and from driveways

# Why Access Management?

- ① **Managing access points helps in maintaining the efficiency of the through route**
- ① **Increased efficiency of corridor means broader market area**
- ① **Fewer conflict points creates a safer overall corridor**



# Proposed Work

Darren Schimmoeller, P.E.  
ODOT District 1  
Construction Engineer



# Proposed Work

- ① **Construct a six-inch high, raised curb median to prohibit left turning movements in and out of driveways along State Route 309 from Eastown Road to Robb Avenue**
- ① **Width of the curb will vary from 2 feet to 13 feet**

# Example of Raised Curb Median



# Proposed Work

- ④ **Construct service roads where appropriate**
  - ④ Extend Arthur Avenue to American Avenue
  - ④ Extend American Avenue to the east from Cable Road
  - ④ New connector road just east of the Verizon store
- ④ **Align the west mall drive with Hartzler Road and widen Hartzler Road to three lanes**

# Proposed Work

- ④ **Create the opportunity to perform U-turns at appropriately spaced locations throughout the corridor in order to accommodate both east and west State Route 309 access into businesses**
  
- ④ **U-turn locations will be located at:**
  - ④ Aldi's/IHOP (unsignalized west to east only)
  - ④ American Avenue
  - ④ Hartzler Road
  - ④ New connector road near the Verizon store
  - ④ Arthur Avenue
  - ④ Robb Avenue



# Proposed Work

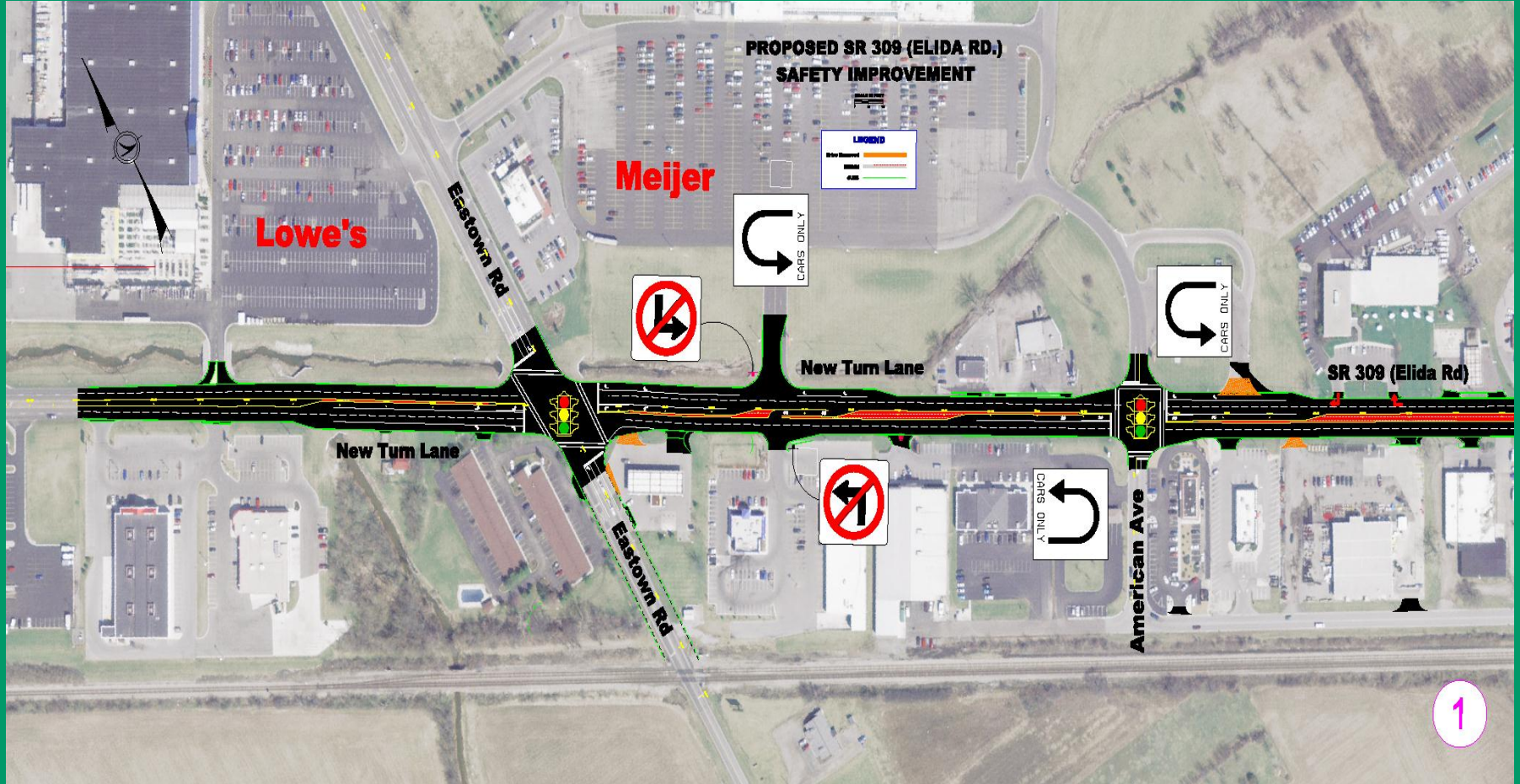
- ① **Eliminate/reduce the number of driveways for individual properties (shown on displays)**
- ① **Add right-turn lanes along State Route 309 at Cable Road and at Eastown Road**



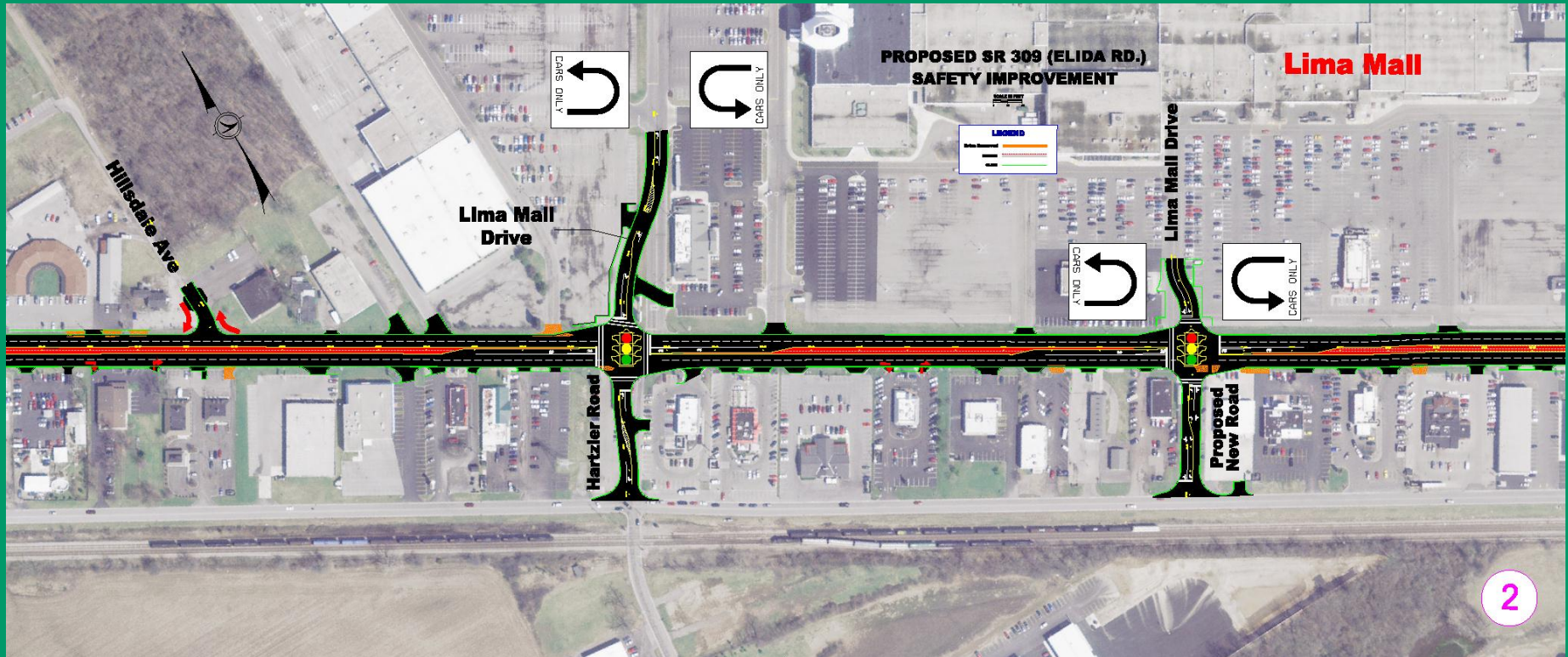
# Proposed Work

- ① Upgrade or install new traffic signals at the following locations:
  - ① Eastown Road
  - ① American Avenue
  - ① Hartzler Road
  - ① New connector road next to the Verizon store
  - ① Cable Road
  - ① Arthur Avenue
  - ① Robb Avenue

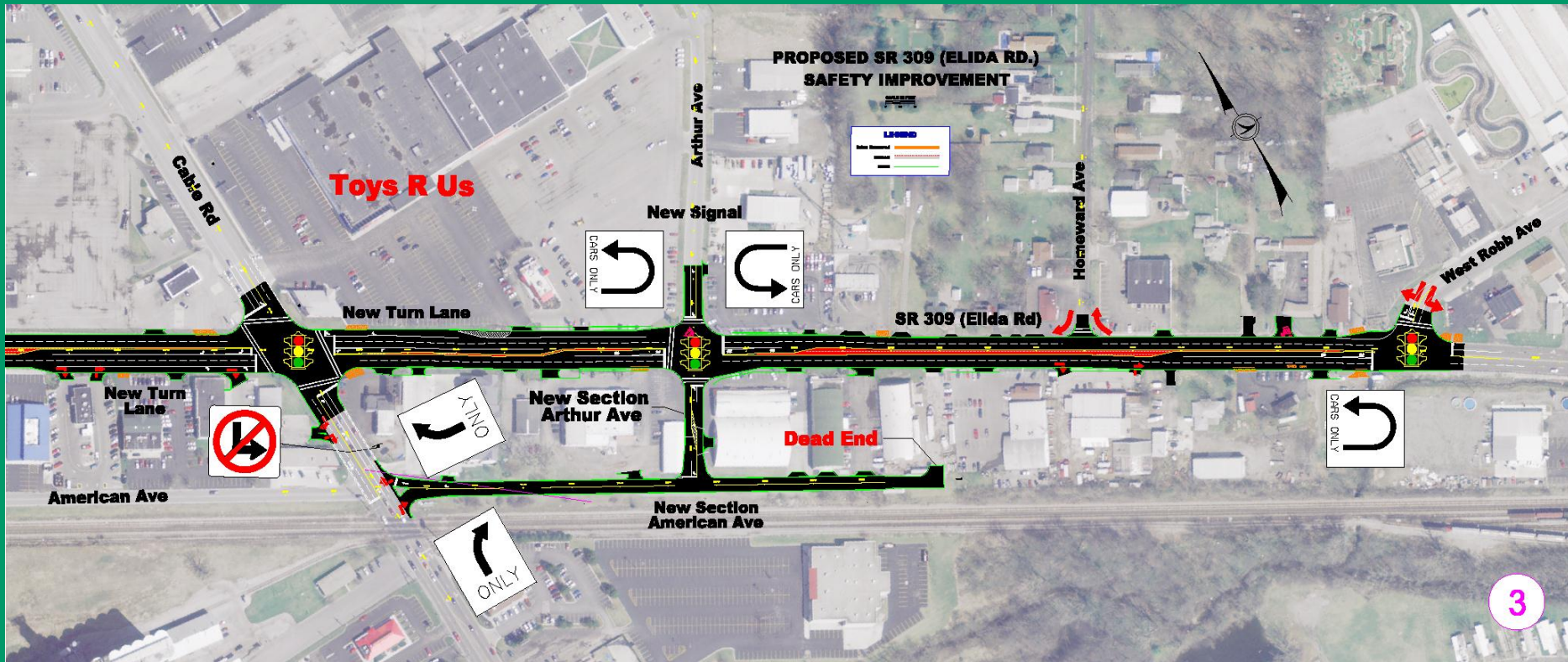
# Project Area



# Project Area



# Project Area



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# Construction Timelines

- ① Project scheduled completion date is October 1, 2011
- ① Weather days will extend this date per ODOT standard specifications



# Construction Time Lines

- ① All work on west and east Lima mall drives, the new connector road and Hartzler Road must be completed by August 15, 2011
- ② East Lima mall drive and the new connector road must be completed before work on west Lima mall drive and Hartzler Road begins



# Construction Time Lines

- ① East Lima mall drive can be closed for a maximum of 14 days
- ① Total construction time for the west Lima mall drive may not exceed 30 days.  
Traffic will be maintained at this drive at all times



# Construction Time Lines

- ☐ Access to all adjacent properties will be maintained
- ☐ Project personnel will communicate closely with residents and businesses regarding work that will affect your access



# Project Updates

- ④ Project updates will be made weekly through reports issued to the media
- ④ Project Web site will provide updates at the following link:  
<http://www.transportation.ohio.gov/districts/d01/sr309>
- ④ Those interested in receiving updates directly may provide their email contact to ODOT at the address provided on the project fact sheet, or on the sign-in sheets



# Maintaining Traffic During Construction

**S.E.T., Inc.  
Contractor**



# Personnel

- **Superintendent:** **Scott Rodgers**
- **Asst. Superintendent:** **Jeff Susany**



# Construction

- Proposed in three main phases of work
- Phase 1 to include all work in eastbound curb lane of State Route 309
- Phase 2 to include all work in westbound curb lane of State Route 309
- Phase 3 to include construction of raised median



# Maintaining Access

- Parcels with two or more means of access may experience temporary closure of one of the drives during construction of related phase
- Parcels with 1 entrance may be provided a temporary aggregate or steel road plate entrance, or experience part-width closures during construction



# Maintenance of Traffic

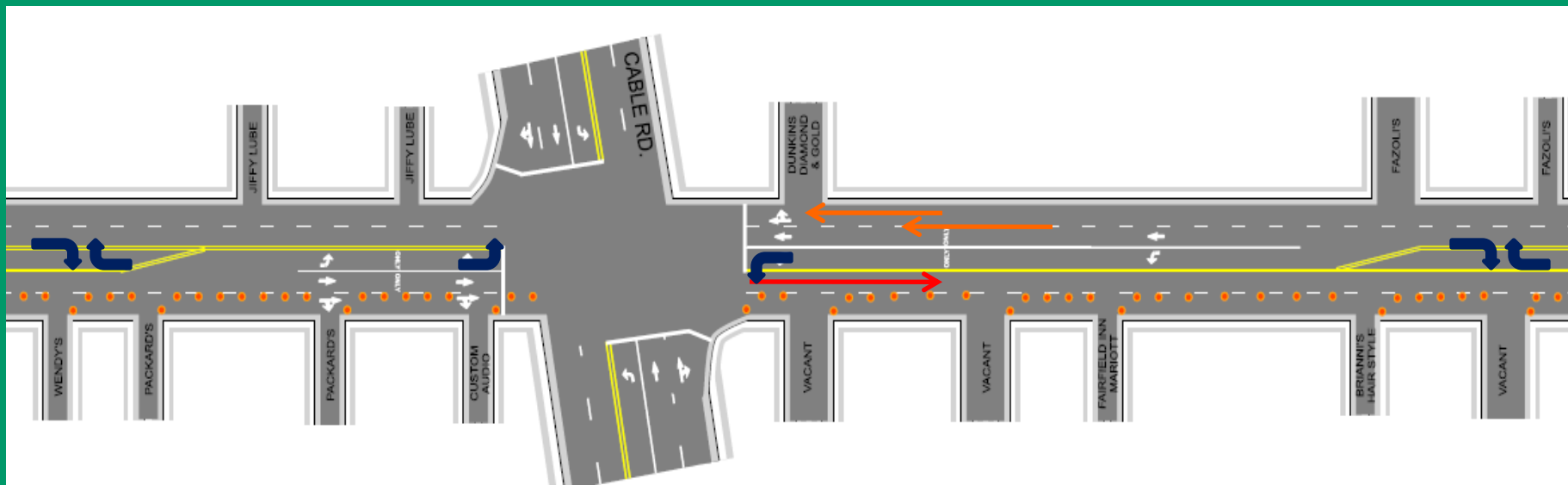


# Phase 1

- Will occur mid March through mid June
- Eastbound curb lane closed
- One eastbound travel lane, two-way left turn lane, two travel lanes westbound



# Phase 1

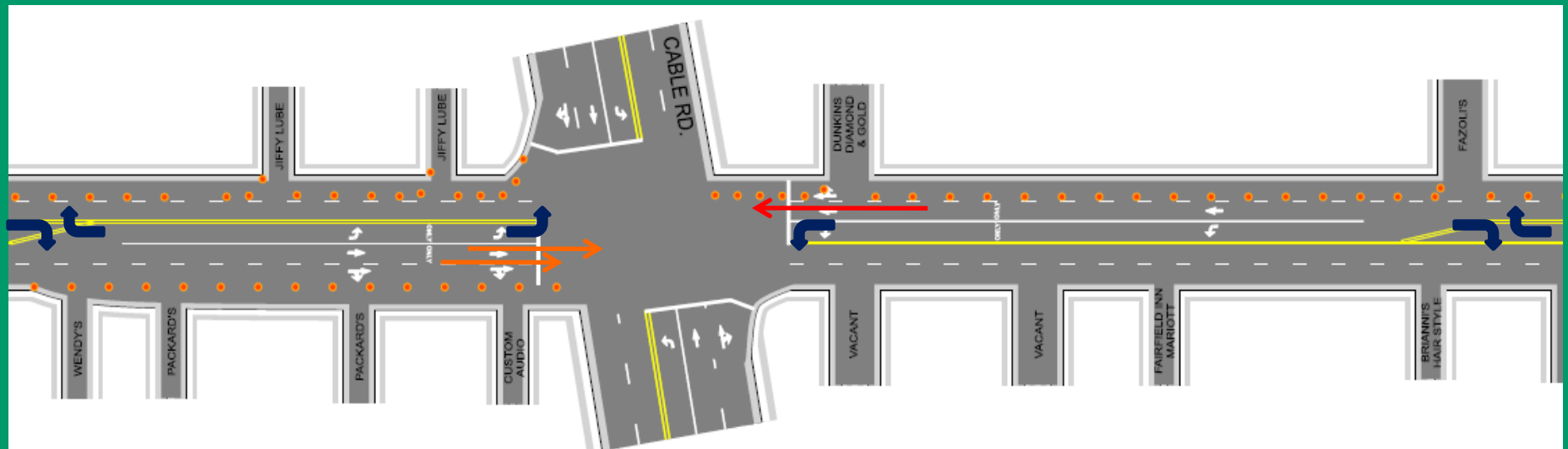


# Phase 2

- Will occur mid June through mid August
- Westbound curb lane closed
- One westbound travel lane, two-way left-turn lane, two travel lanes eastbound



# Phase 2

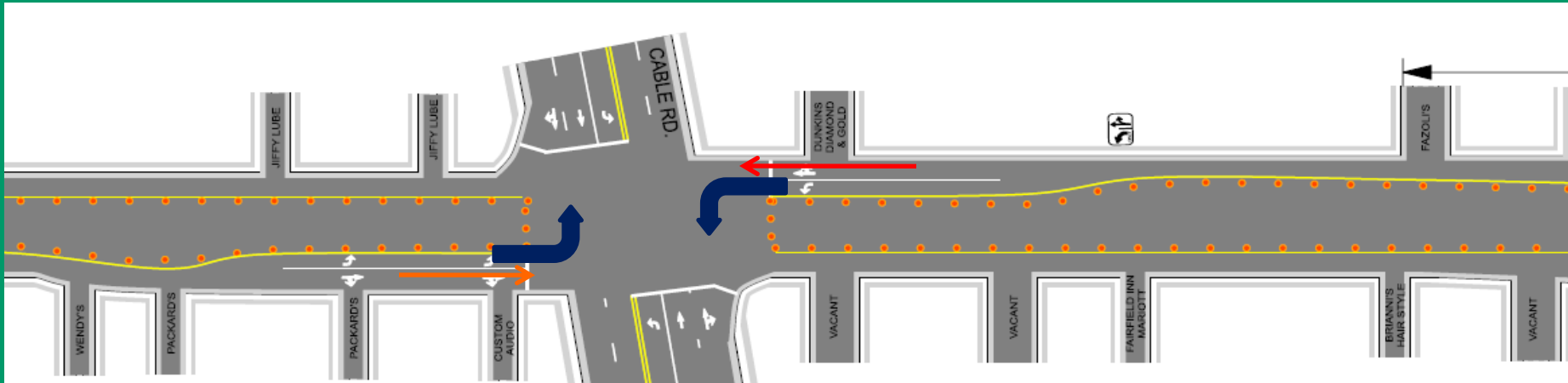


# Phase 3

- Will occur mid August through mid September
- Two-way left-turn lane and adjacent travel lanes closed
- One travel lane in each direction, left-turn lanes at signalized intersections



# Phase 3



# Questions?

## Remember . . .

- Project updates will be made weekly through reports issued to the media
- Project Web site will provide updates at the following link:  
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- Those interested in receiving updates directly may provide their email contact to ODOT at the address provided on the project fact sheet, or on the sign-in sheets

*Thank you for attending*

