

WELCOME



**MD 328 (Matthewstown Road)
between US 50 (Ocean Gateway)
and Black Dog Alley
Planning and Environmental
Linkages (PEL) Study**

Public Open House

Easton Middle School
Thursday, April 25, 2024
5 - 7 p.m.

Meeting Format

Public Open House

*Team members will be available
at the displays to answer questions.*

We want your feedback!
Please fill out a survey.

About Tonight's Open House

What is the purpose of tonight's Open House?

- The Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration will discuss the MD 328 Planning and Environmental Linkages Study in Talbot County. At tonight's meeting, we will share the preliminary concepts and hear your input on improvements along the MD 328 corridor.

What should I expect at this meeting?

- This meeting will have an open house format and provide you an opportunity to view study details at your own pace. Maps and displays will highlight the study progress and preliminary concepts, and State Highway Administration representatives will be available to answer study-related questions. There will be no formal presentation.

What is the schedule for the study?

- Based on public open house feedback, surveys and stakeholder outreach, the study team will recommend potential stand-alone projects in summer 2024.

Let us hear from you!

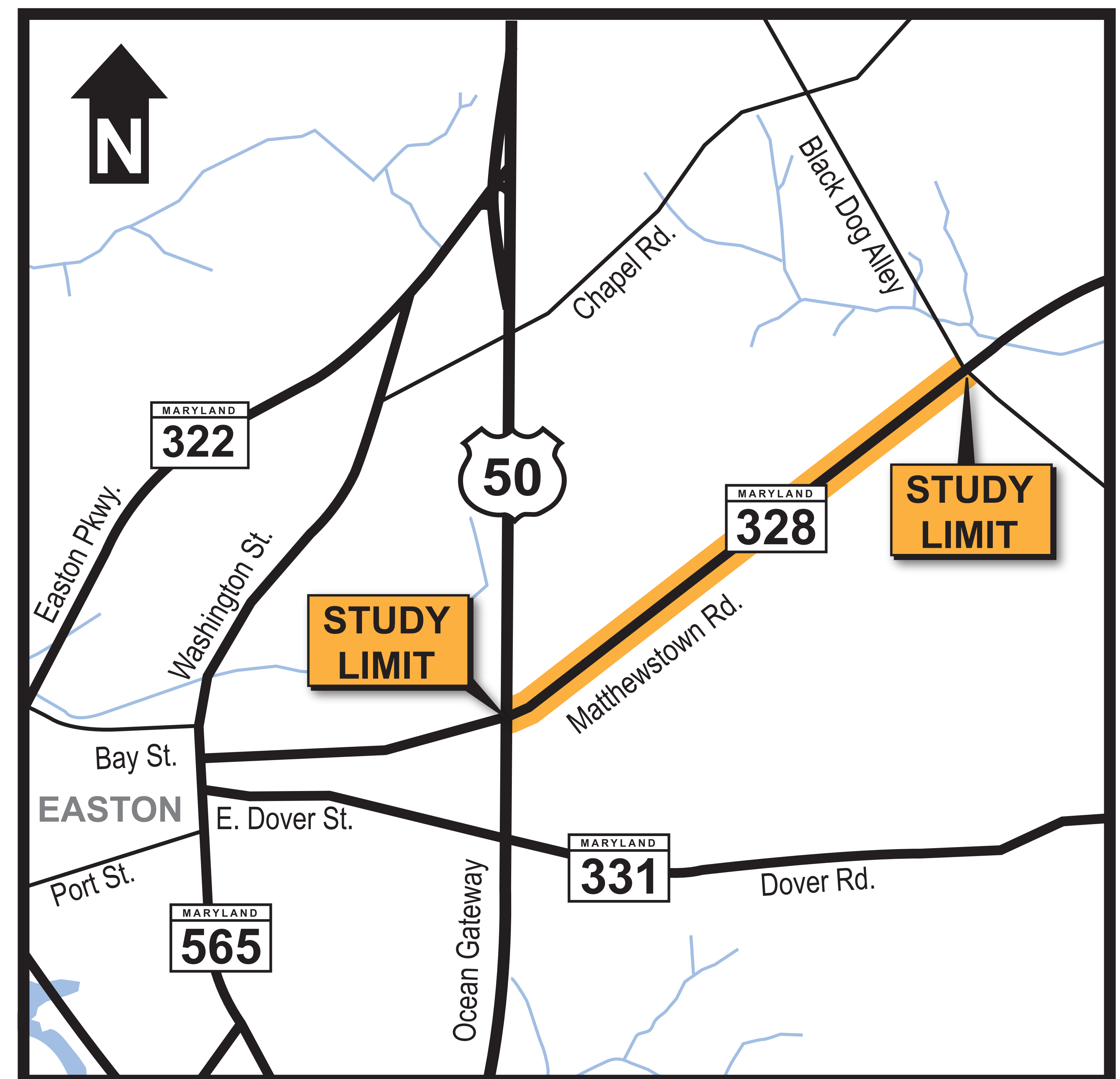
- The State Highway Administration team appreciates your feedback about the project. Please share your comments with staff and complete our survey.

MD 328 between US 50 and Black Dog Alley



SHA Study on MD 328

- The State Highway Administration is continuing the MD 328 Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study.
- The study limits are between US 50 (Ocean Gateway) and Black Dog Alley in Talbot County.
- The purpose of the study is to assess the transportation needs along MD 328, including traffic operations, safety, and pedestrian and bicyclist accommodations.
- The study team has identified the needs and developed preliminary concepts.



MD 328 between US 50 and Black Dog Alley



MD 328 Related Projects (1 of 2)

MD 328 geometric improvements and paving

- SHA District 2 project
- Resurfacing MD 328 from US 50 to Black Dog Alley
- Lane reconfiguration via signing and striping changes to improve traffic flow and intersection efficiency at US 50 intersection
- Overnight work hours to minimize public impacts
- Construction in spring/summer 2024

US 50 corridor pedestrian and safety project

- SHA District 2 project
- Project extends from Dutchmans Lane to Lomax Street
- US 50 median enhancements for slowing traffic and aesthetics
- New sidewalks along US 50 between MD 328 and MD 331
- Currently in design phase
- Not currently funded for construction

MD 328 between US 50 and Black Dog Alley



MD 328 Related Projects (2 of 2)

Black Dog Alley

- Talbot County project
- Project extends from MD 328 (Matthewstown Road) to MD 331 (Dover Road)
- Black Dog Alley enhancements include 11-foot travel lanes and 6-foot shoulders, drainage improvements and stormwater management
- Currently in design phase
- Not currently funded for construction

MD 328 between US 50 and Black Dog Alley



Existing Conditions

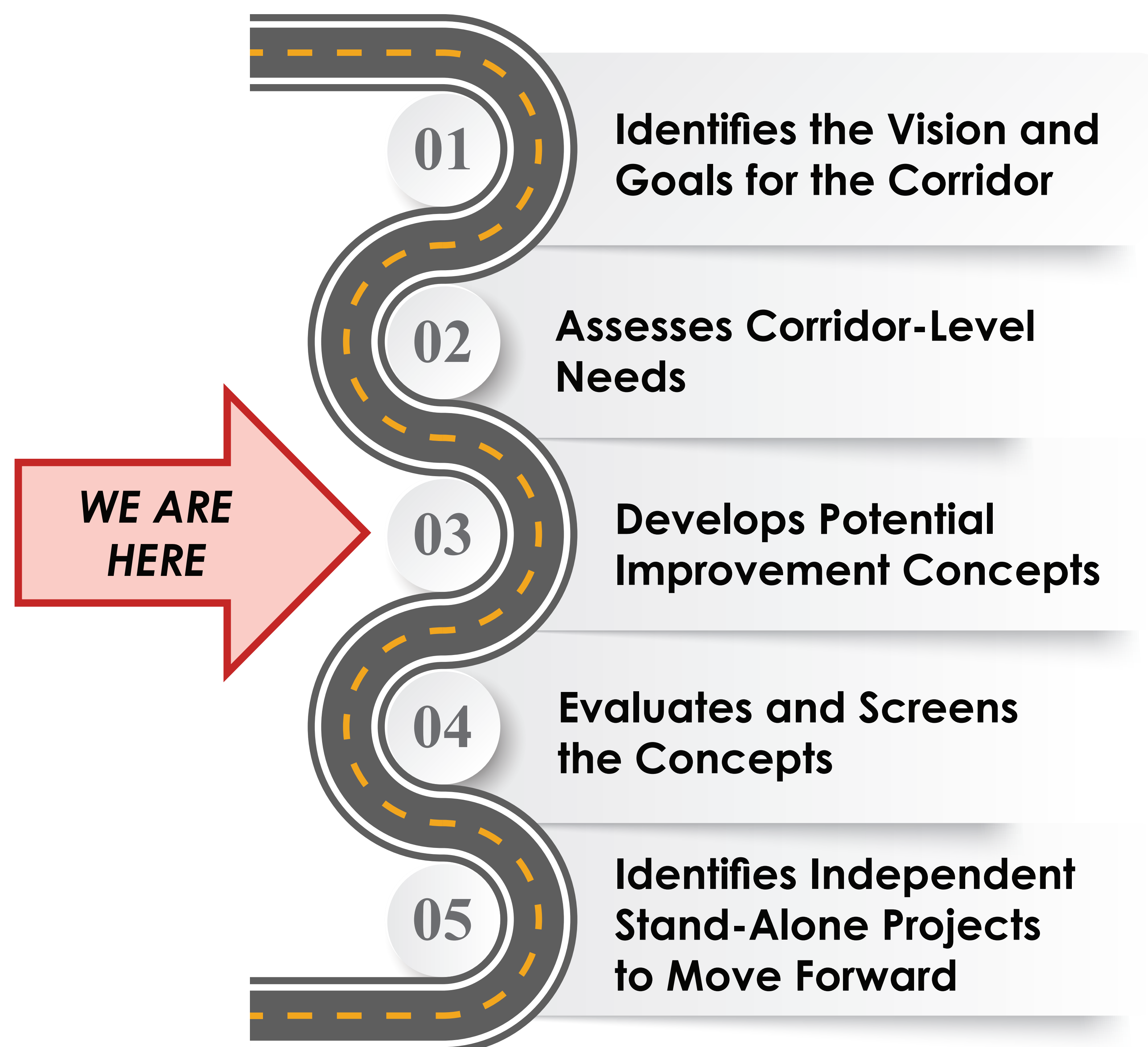
- Approximately 1.6 miles long
- Undivided cross-section
- East-west corridor, two lanes (one lane in each direction)
- Primary land use: low density residential and agricultural with some commercial



MD 328 at Black Dog Alley

Planning and Environmental Linkages

THE PEL PROCESS



ADVANTAGES OF THE PEL PROCESS

 **Early Public & Stakeholder Involvement**

 **Better Communication**

 **Elimination of Duplicate Work**

 **Accelerated Project Delivery**

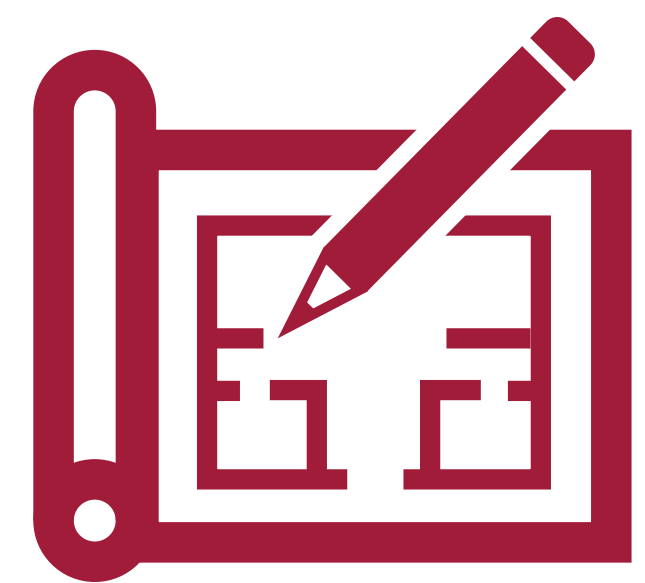
MD 328 between US 50 and Black Dog Alley



Activities Since December Open House



Analyzed survey responses, comments and discussions at public meeting



Developed preliminary concepts



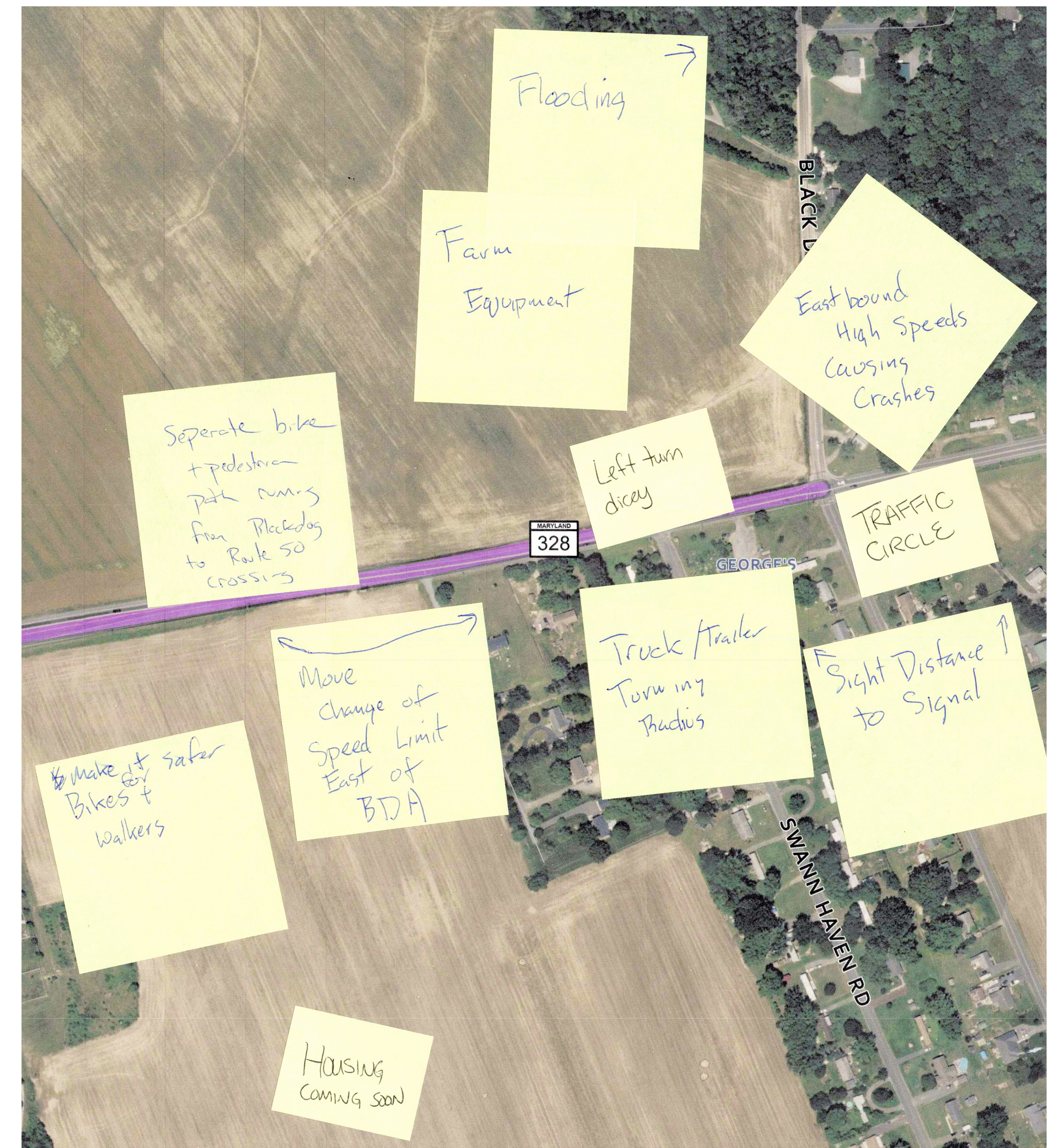
Held additional stakeholder meetings

MD 328 between US 50 and Black Dog Alley



Themes from December Public Open House and Surveys

- High speeds cause unsafe situations
- Road bottlenecks occur at left-turn locations
- No safe bicycle lanes
- Plan for future growth
- Limit impacts to farmland and private property
- Too much traffic/congestion
- Signal timing issues at Elliott Road
- Too much development
- There are no existing sidewalks

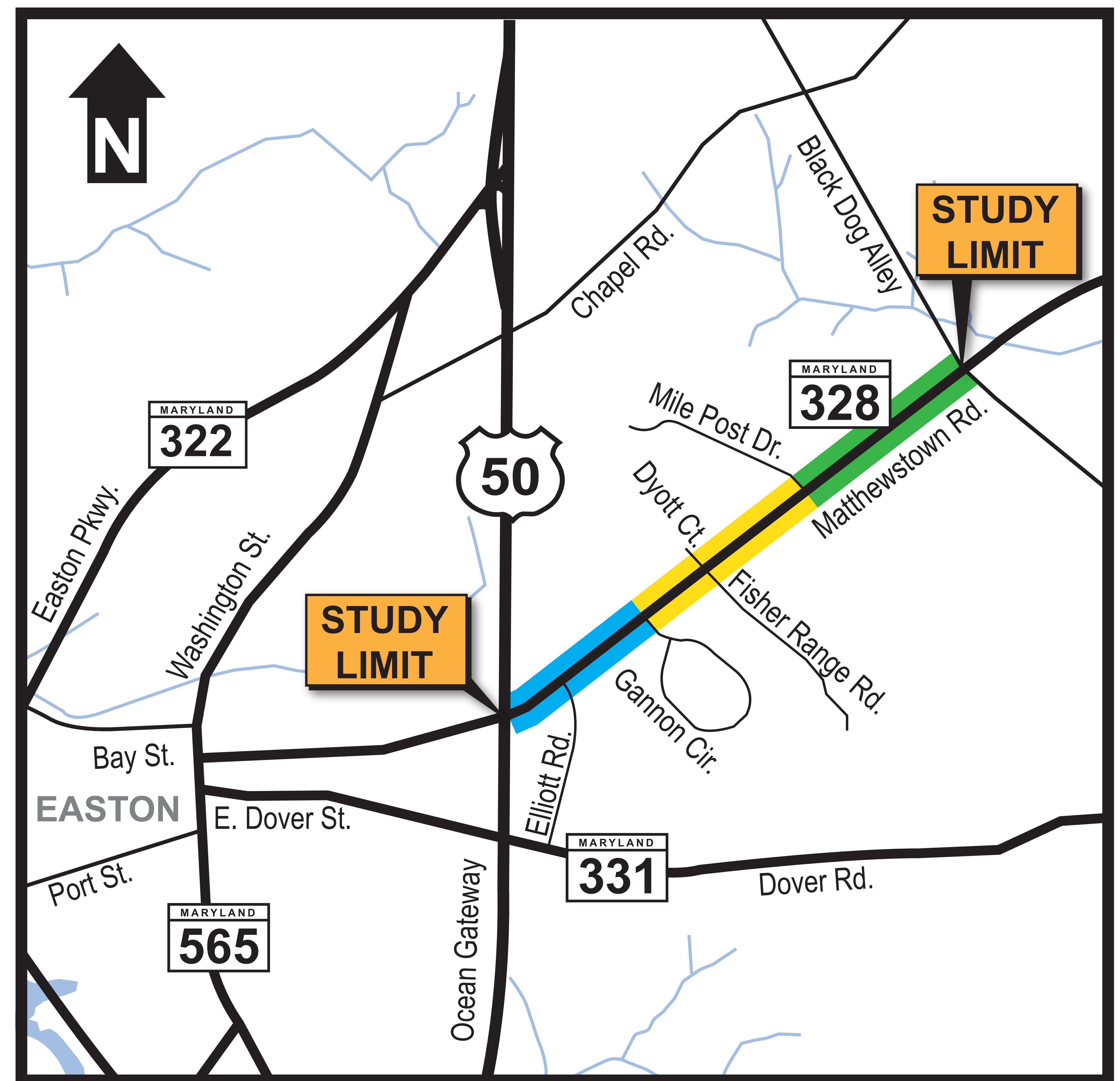


MD 328 between US 50 and Black Dog Alley



Corridor Character

- **MD 50 to Gannon Circle**
 - Commercial and higher density residential land use
 - Multiple entrances and driveways
- **Gannon Circle to Mile Post Drive**
 - Residential land use
 - Single point access roads to communities
 - One lane in each direction
- **Mile Post Drive to Black Dog Alley**
 - Residential land use
 - Farmland set for development
 - Higher speed

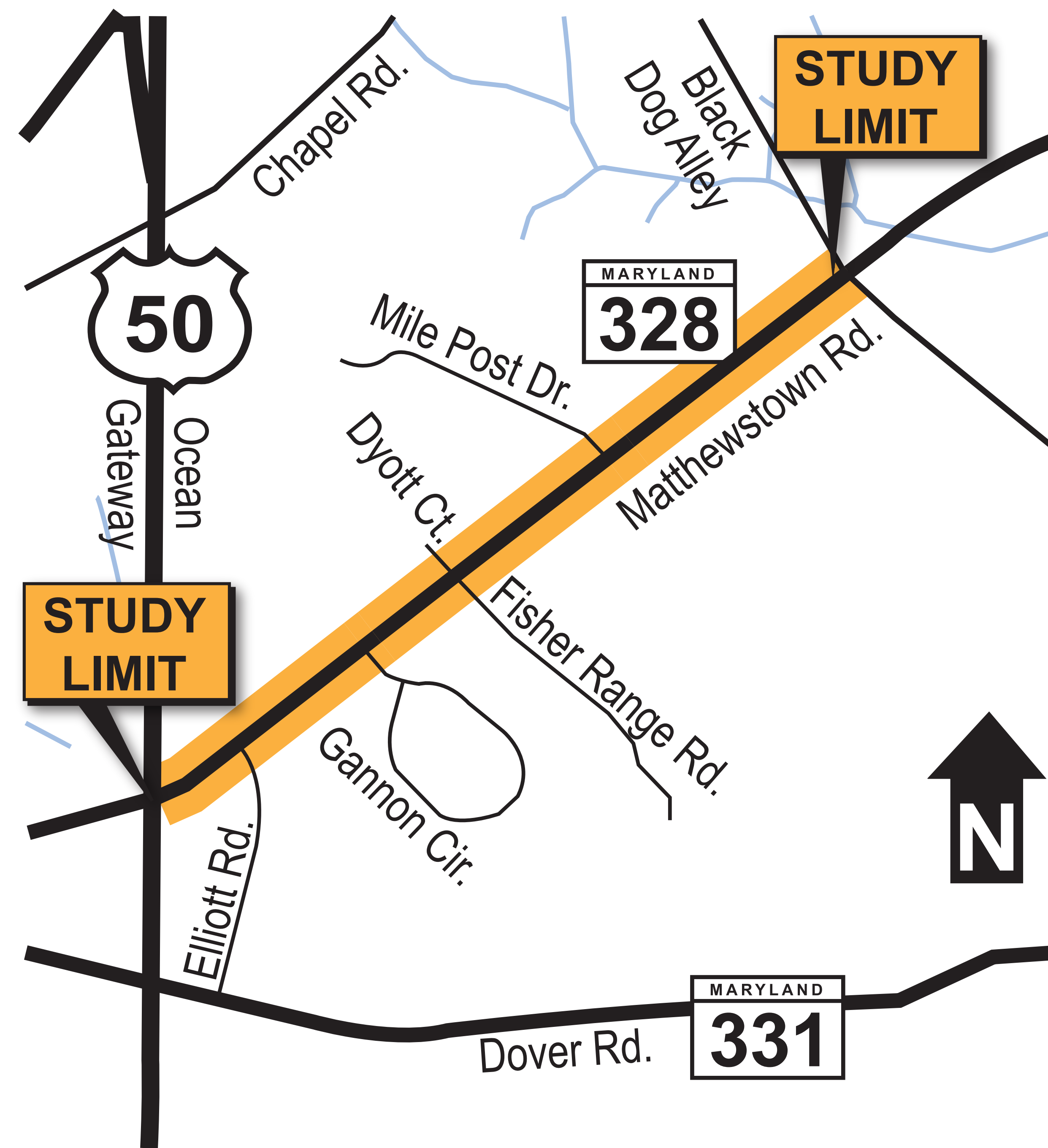


Intersection Concepts

- MD 328 at US 50 and Elliott Road
- MD 328 at Gannon Circle
- MD 328 at Mile Post Drive
- MD 328 at Dyott Court/Fisher Range Road
- MD 328 at Black Dog Alley

Corridor Concepts

- Pedestrian and bicycle routes
- Improved driveway access
- Lowering traffic speed



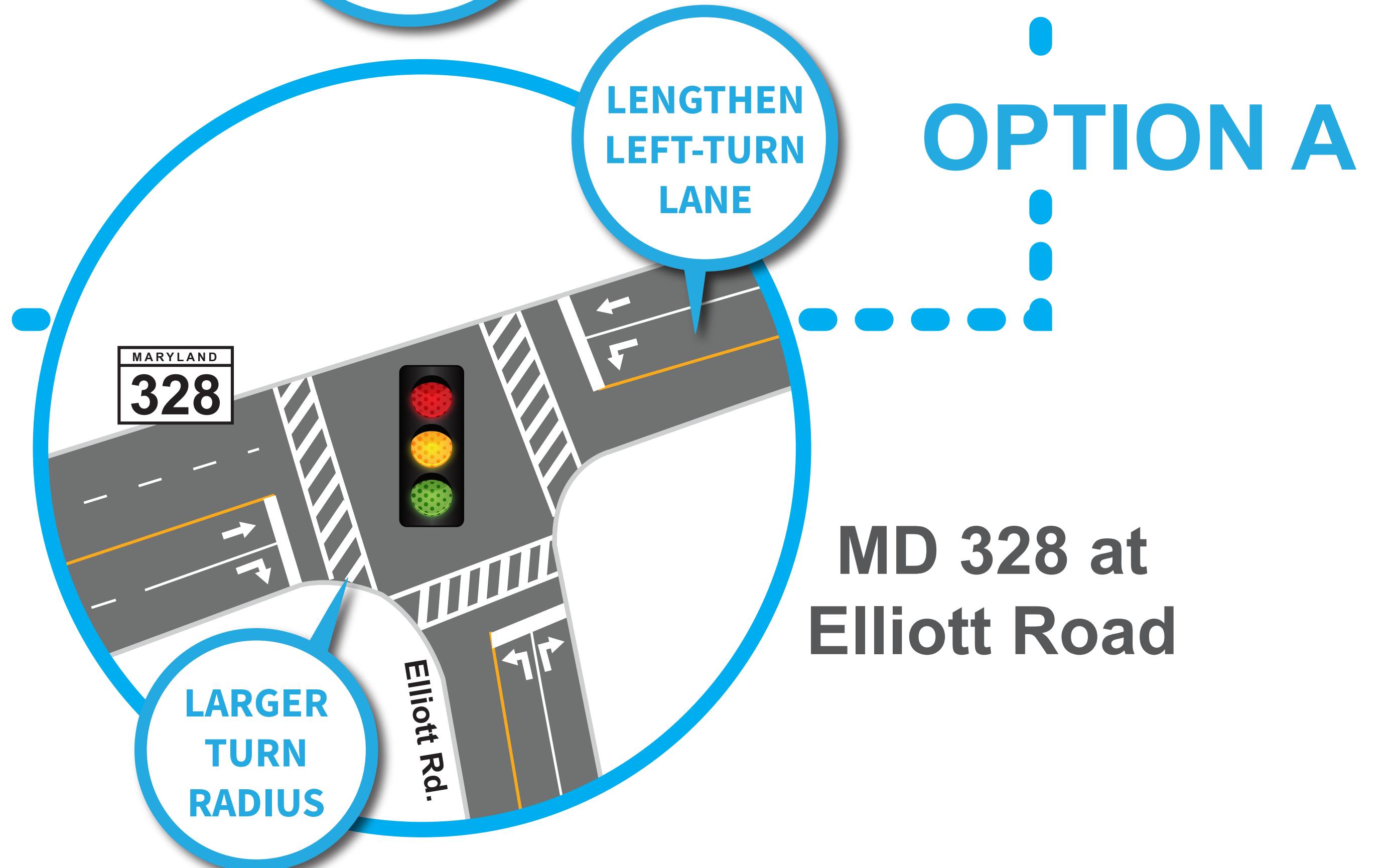
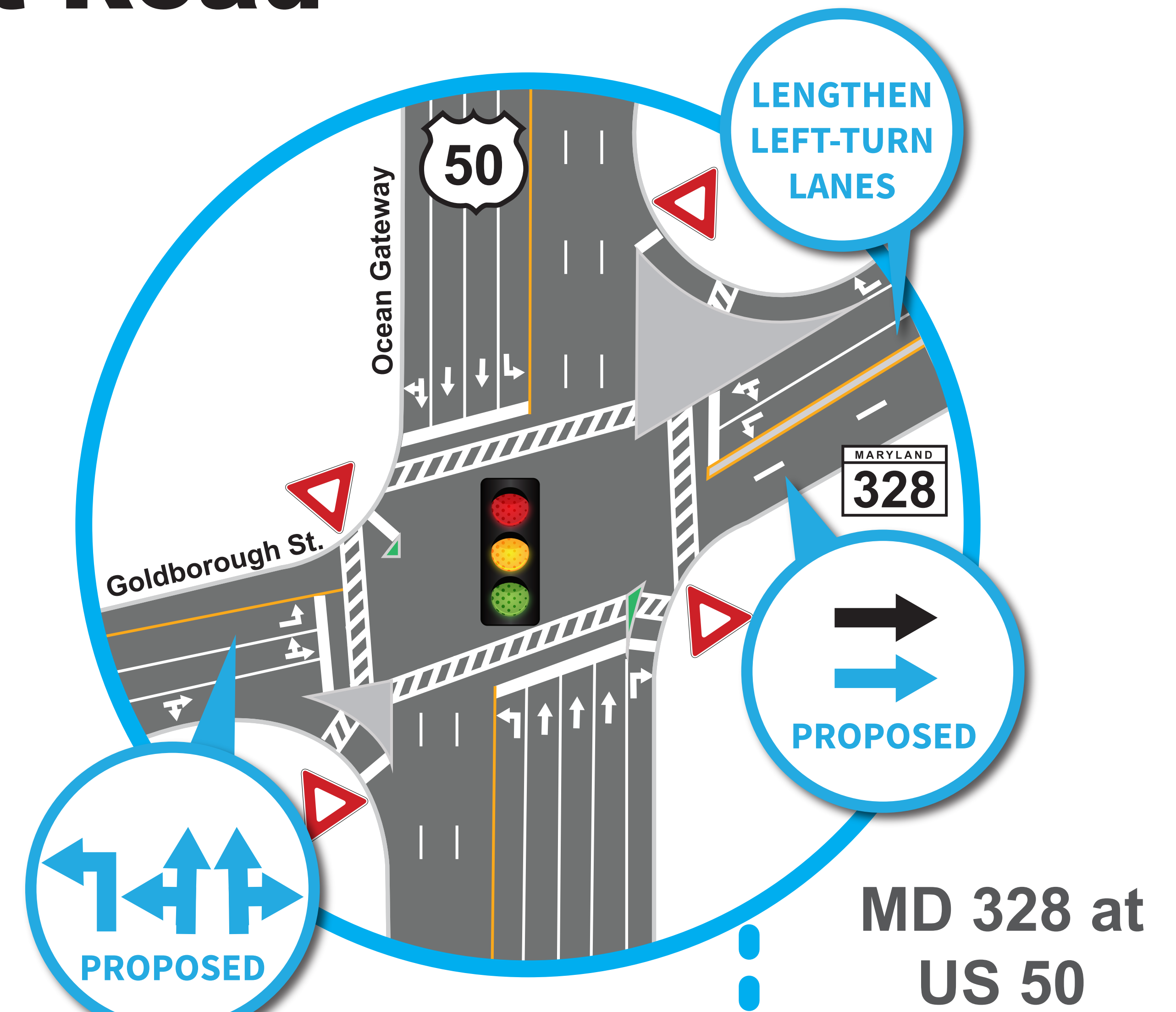
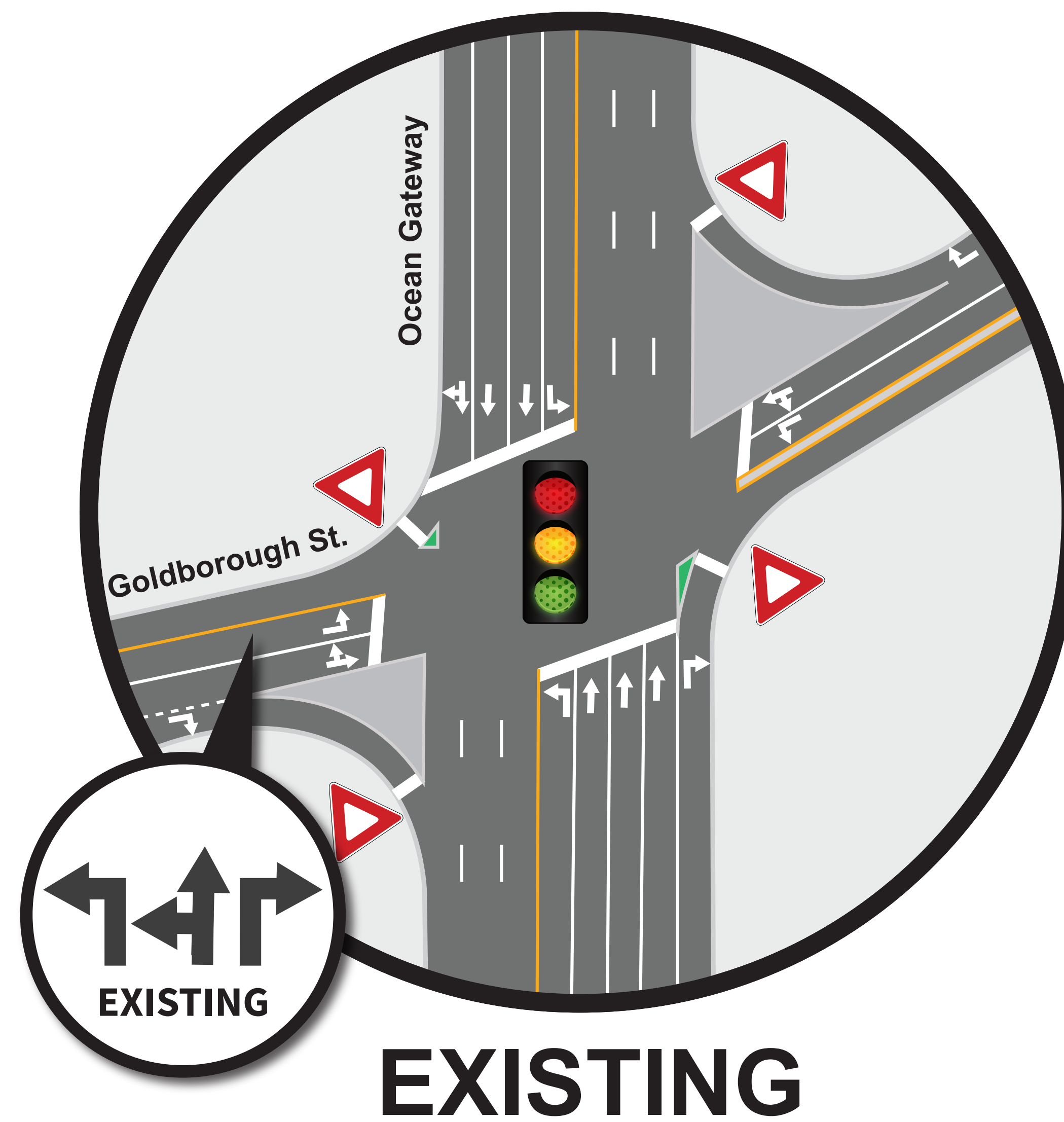
No-Build Concept

- Same as existing conditions
- Provides a baseline for comparison to other options and/or concepts
- Requires no major improvements
- Does not address the future traffic concerns
- Does not meet the Planning and Environmental Linkages Study purpose

Intersection Concept 1 MD 328 at US 50 and Elliott Road

OPTION A

- Lengthen left-turn lanes on westbound MD 328 at US 50 and at Elliott Road
- Construct dedicated left-turn, right-turn and through lanes on eastbound Goldsborough Road at US 50
- **Benefit:** decreases eastbound and westbound delay and queueing



Note: MD 328 geometric improvements and paving project will lengthen the westbound left-turn lanes at US 50 and Elliott Road in summer 2024.

US 50 corridor pedestrian and safety project will add sidewalks and crosswalks to US 50 in 2026.

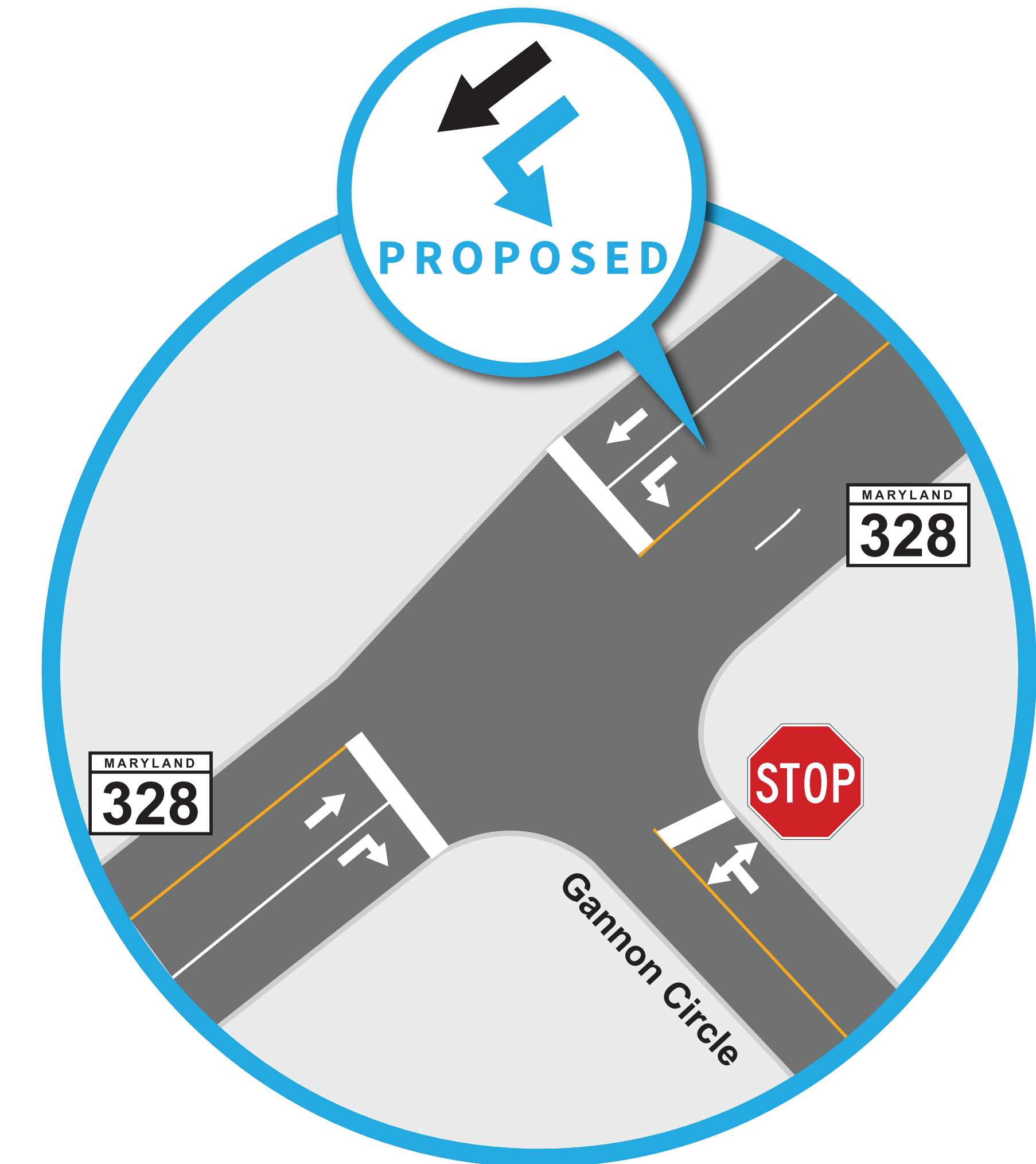
Intersection Concept 2 MD 328 at Gannon Circle

OPTION A

- Add dedicated left-turn lane on MD 328 in westbound direction
- **Benefit:** increases safety for left-turning vehicles



EXISTING

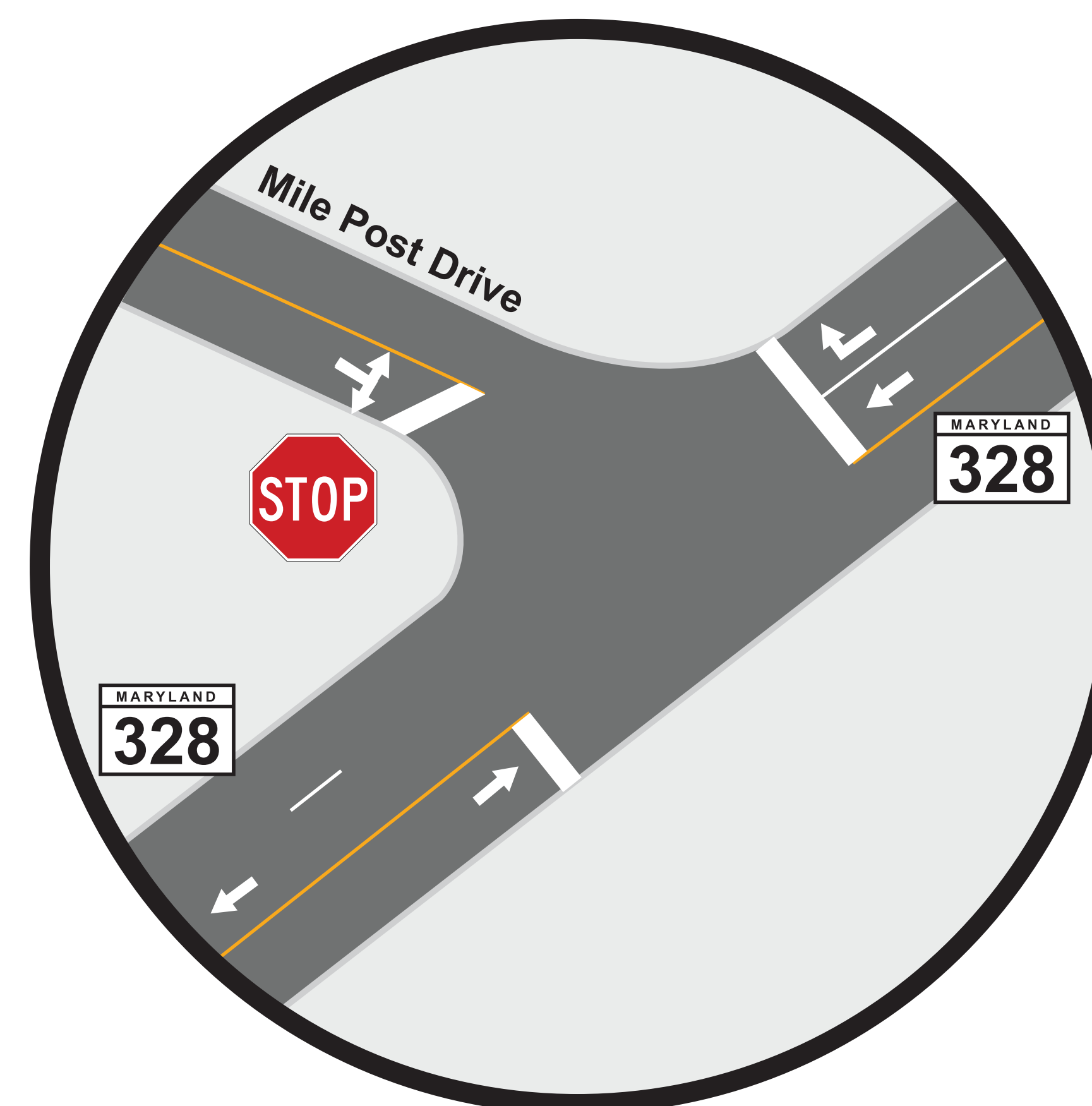


OPTION A

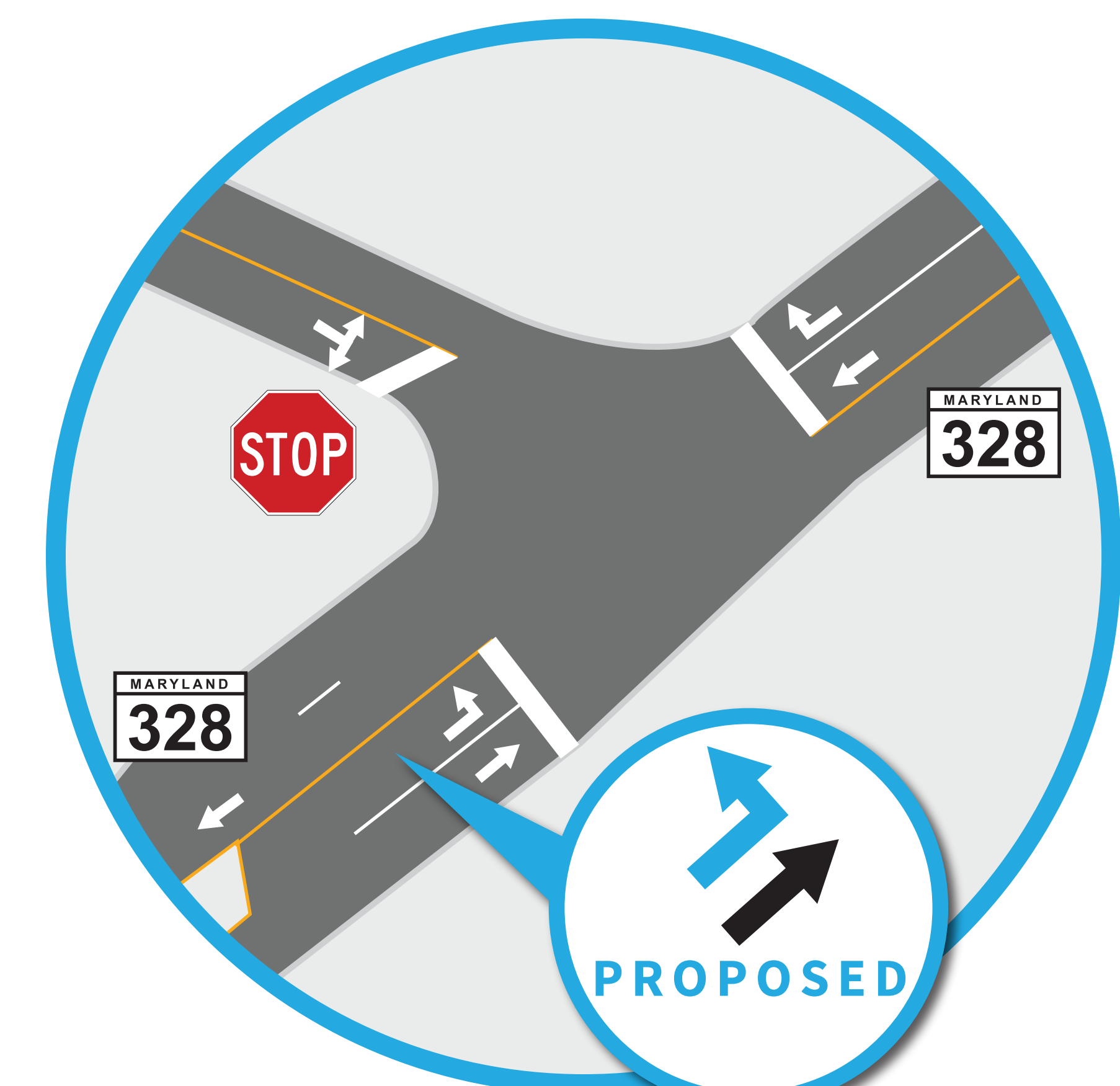
Intersection Concept 3 MD 328 at Mile Post Drive

OPTION A

- Add dedicated left-turn lane on MD 328 in eastbound direction
- **Benefit:** increases safety for left-turning vehicles



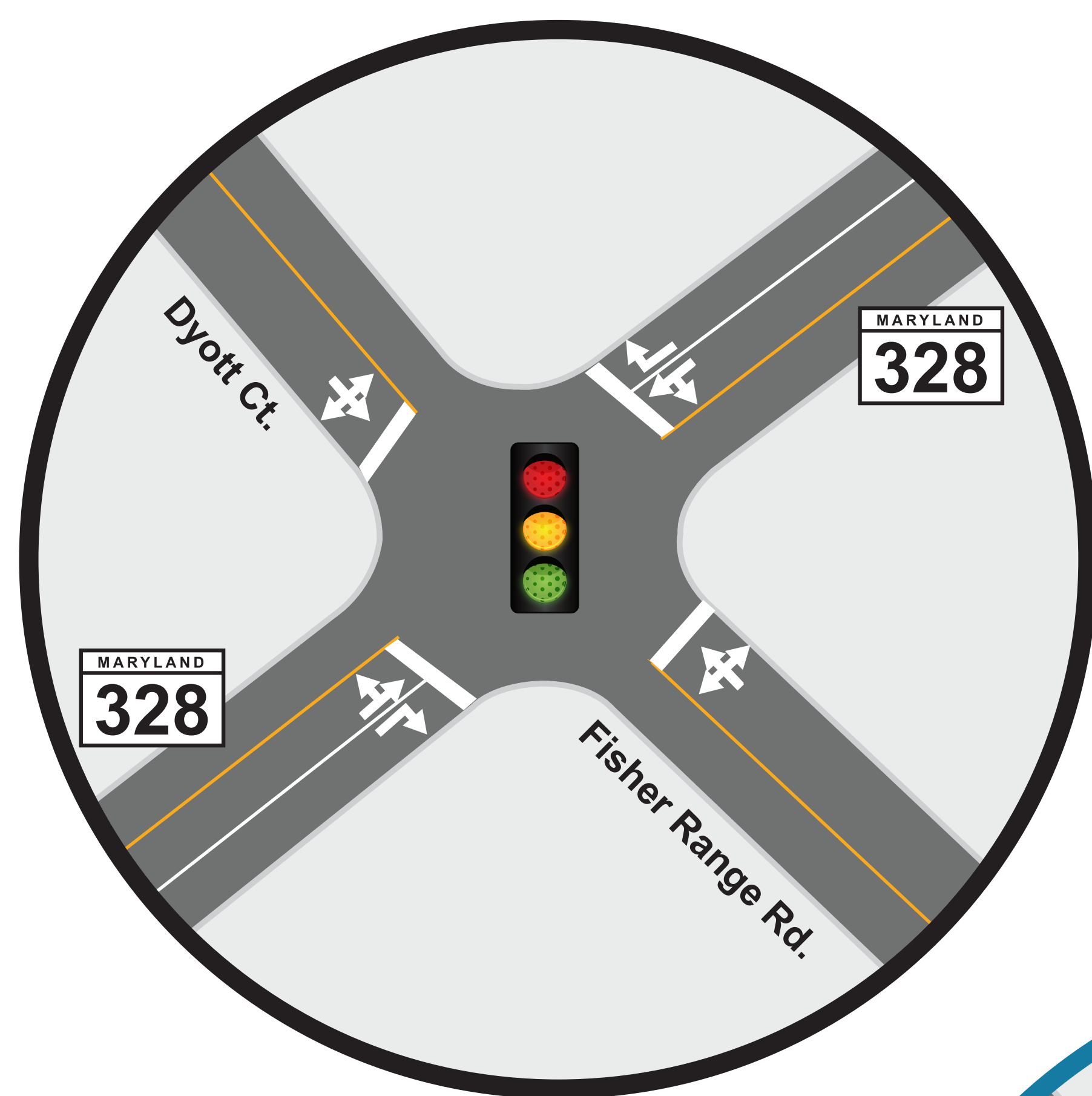
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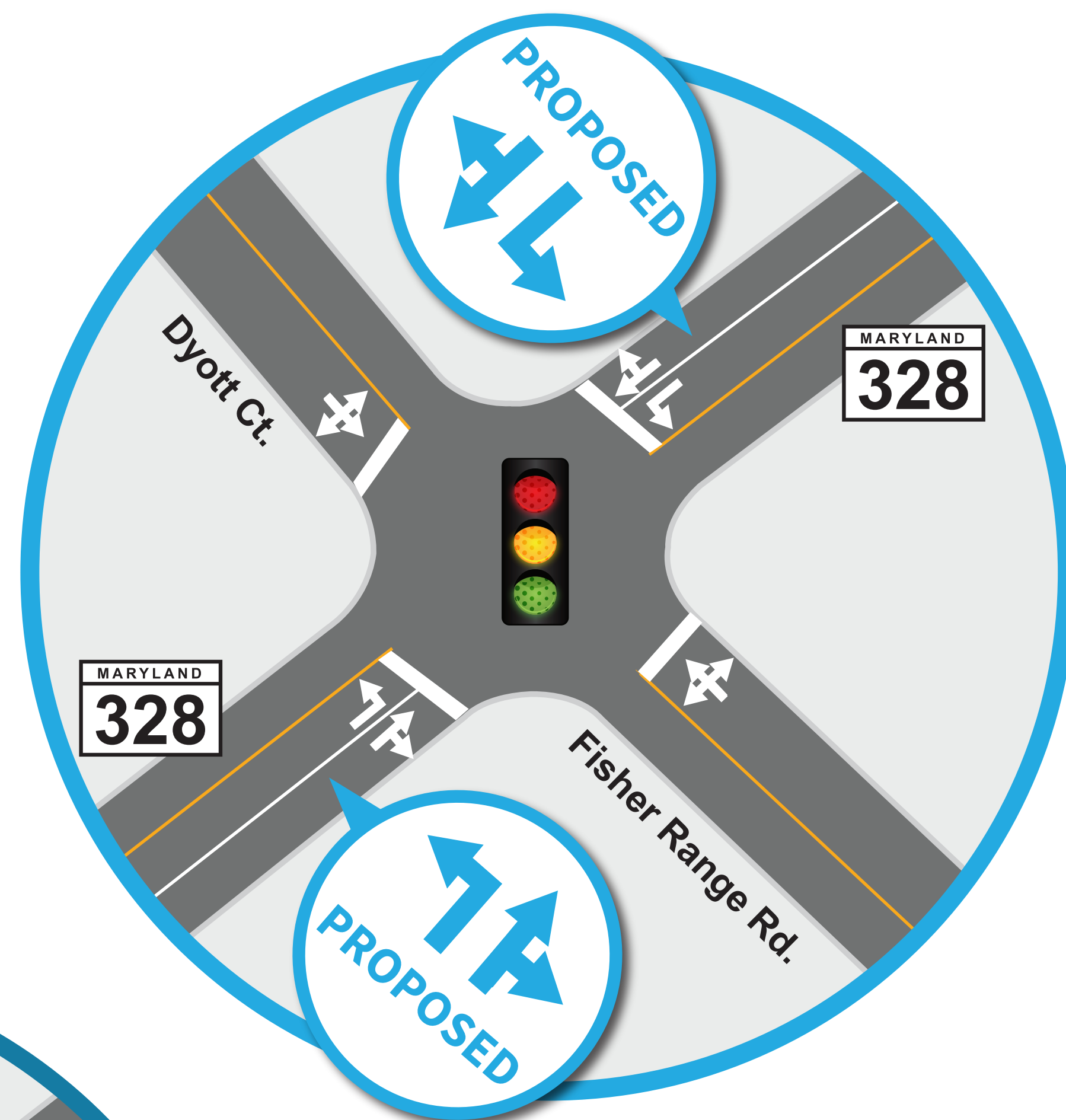
OPTION A

Intersection Concept 4

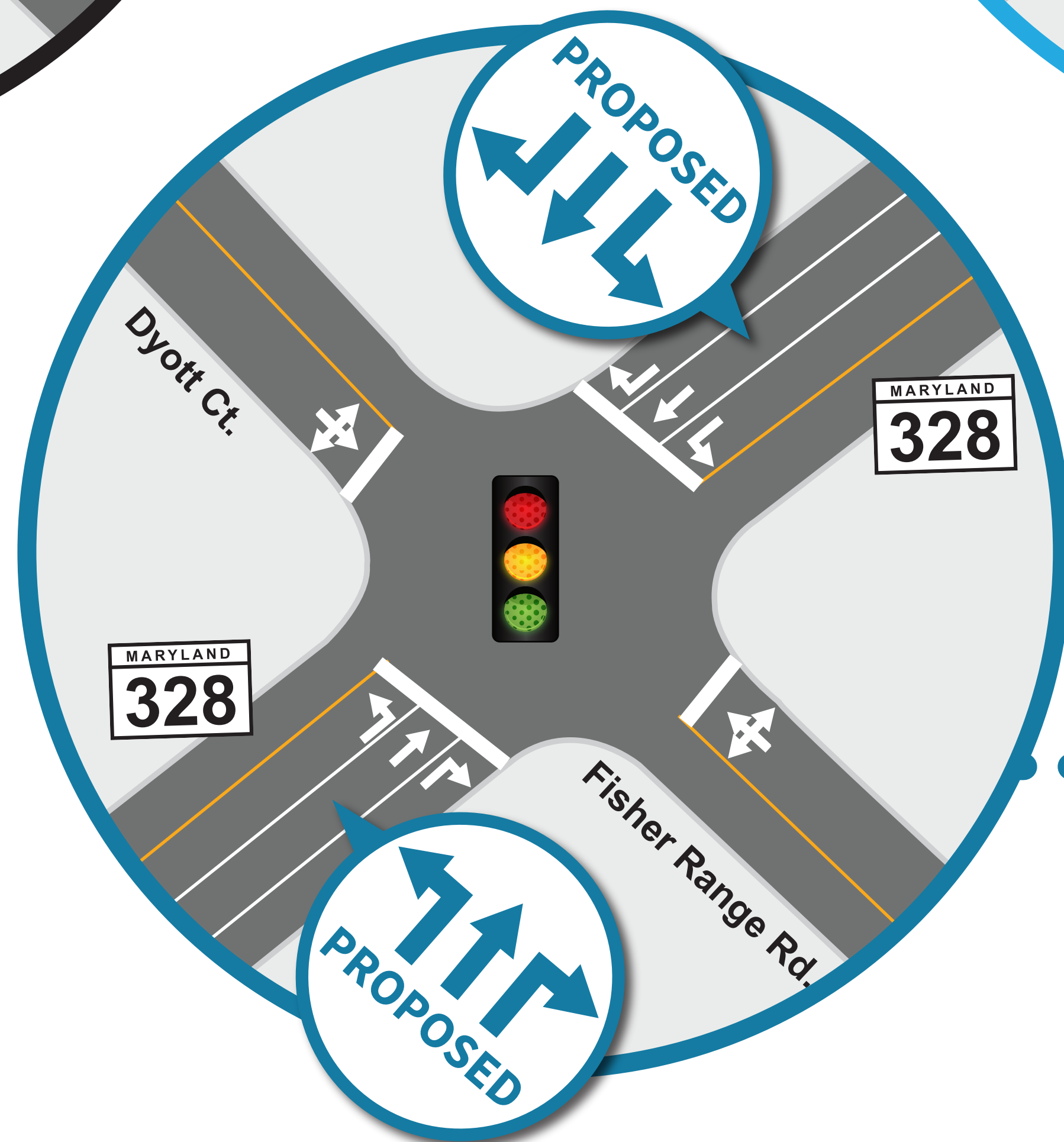
MD 328 at Dyott Court / Fisher Range Road



EXISTING



OPTION A



OPTION B

OPTION A

One dedicated turn lane concept

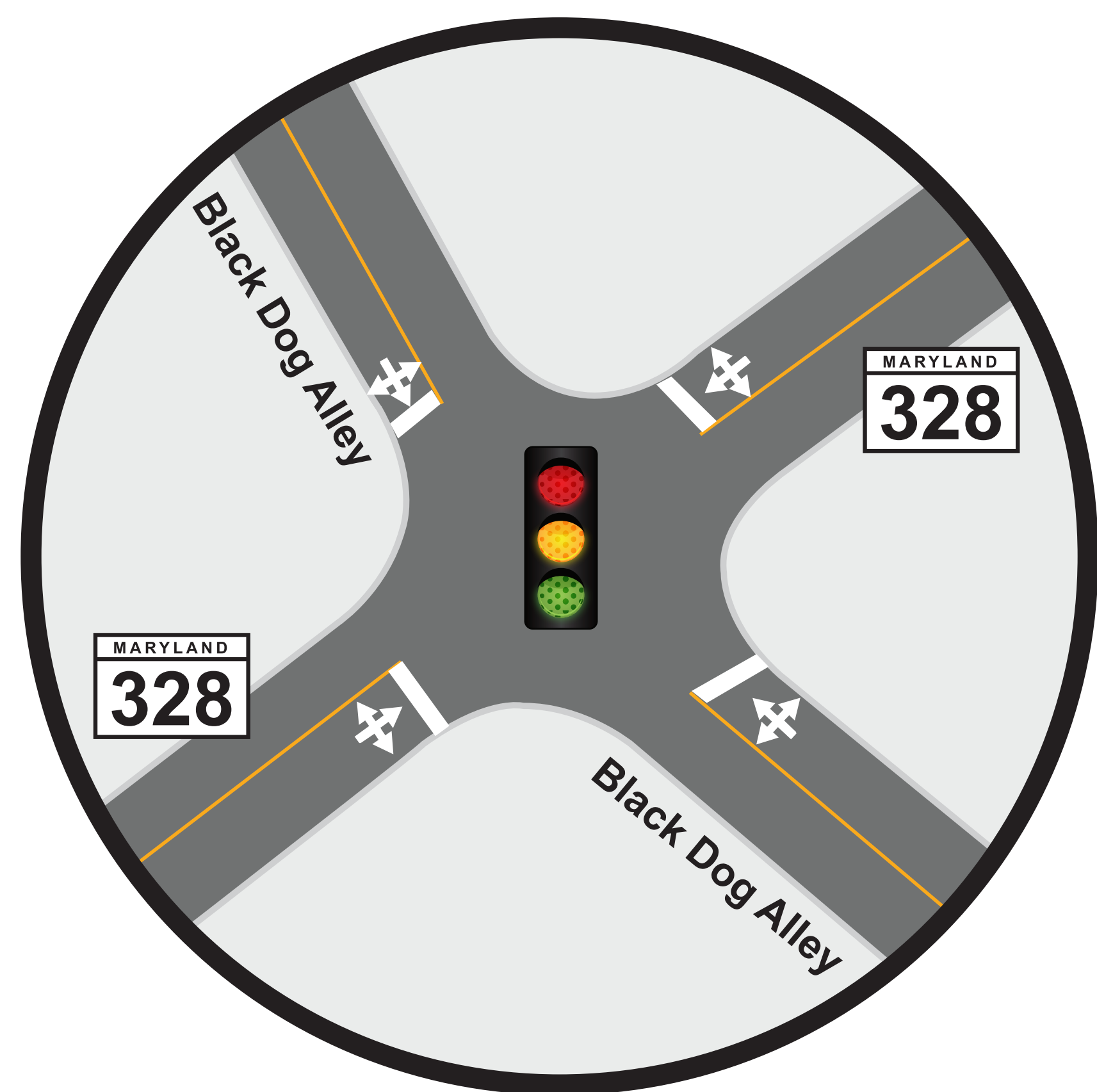
- Add dedicated left-turn lanes, and a combine through/right-turn lane on MD 328
- **Benefit:** increases safety for left-turning vehicles

OPTION B

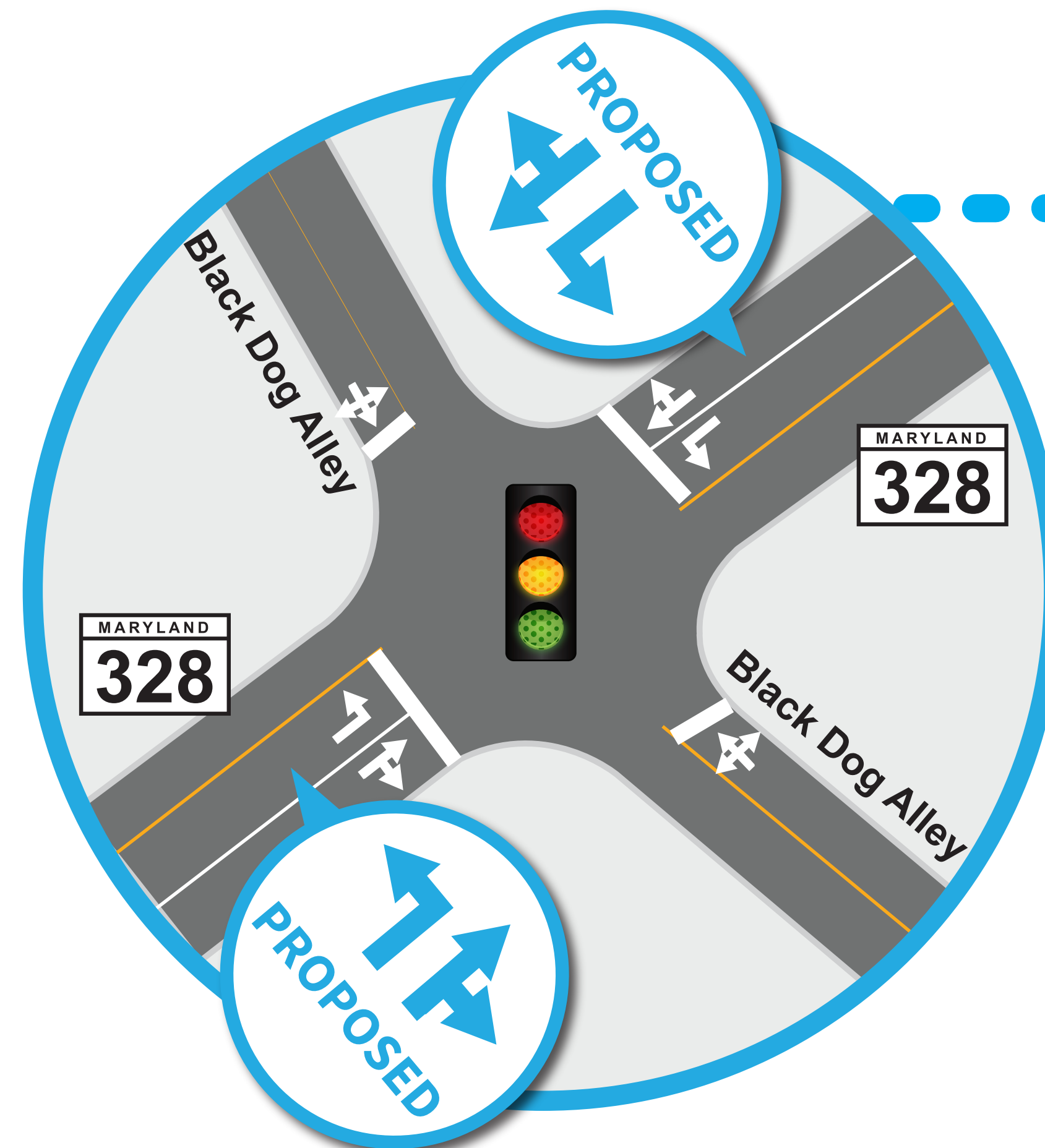
Two dedicated turn lanes concept

- Add dedicated left-turn, right-turn and through lanes on MD 328
- **Benefit:** increases safety for left-turning vehicles, reduces traffic delay

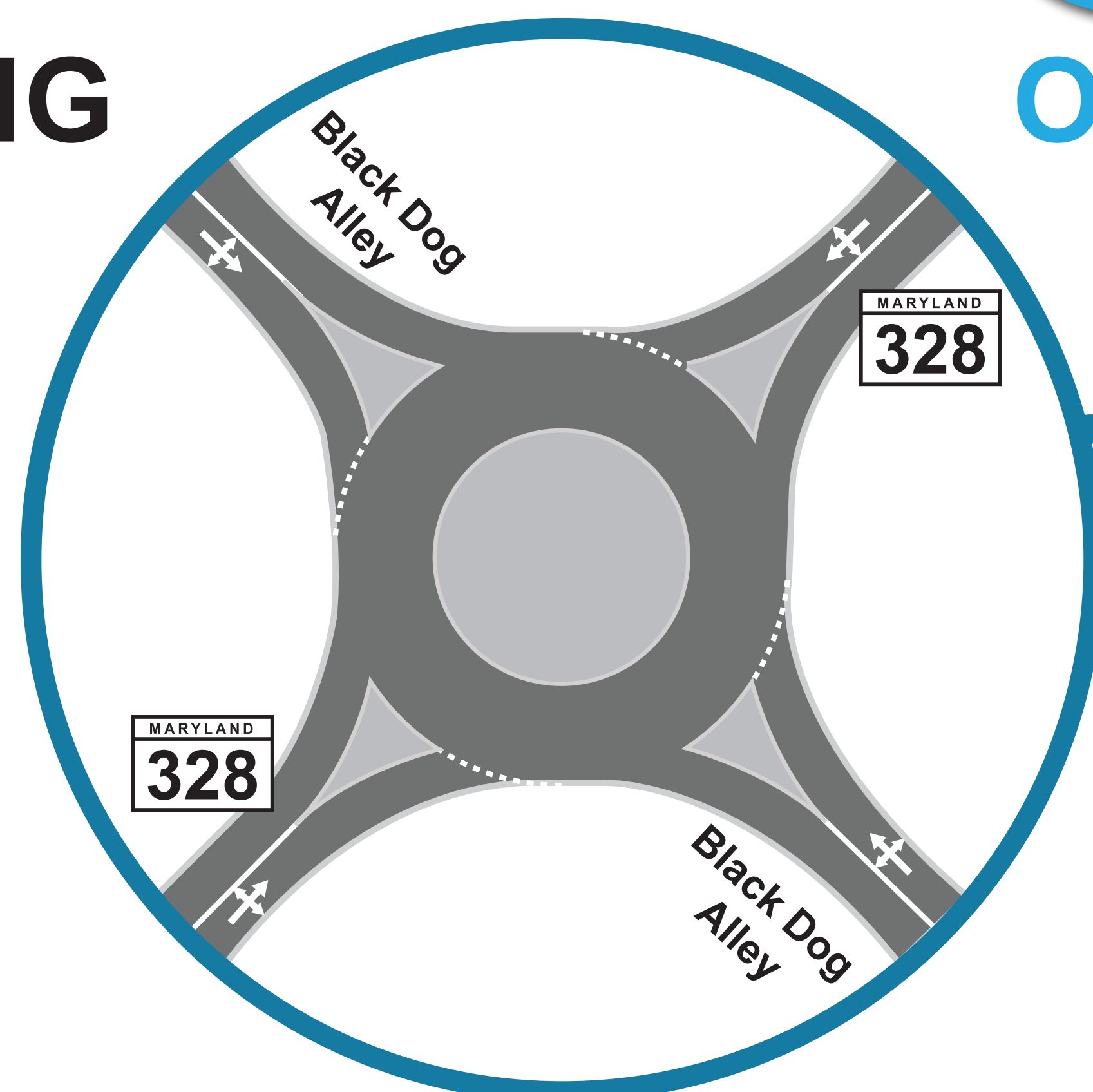
Intersection Concept 5 MD 328 at Black Dog Alley



EXISTING



OPTION A



OPTION B

OPTION A

Dedicated Turn Lanes

- Add left-turn lanes on eastbound and westbound MD 328 and widen turning radius on the southern leg of Black Dog Alley
- **Benefit:** increases safety for left- and right-turning vehicles, reduces traffic delay

OPTION B

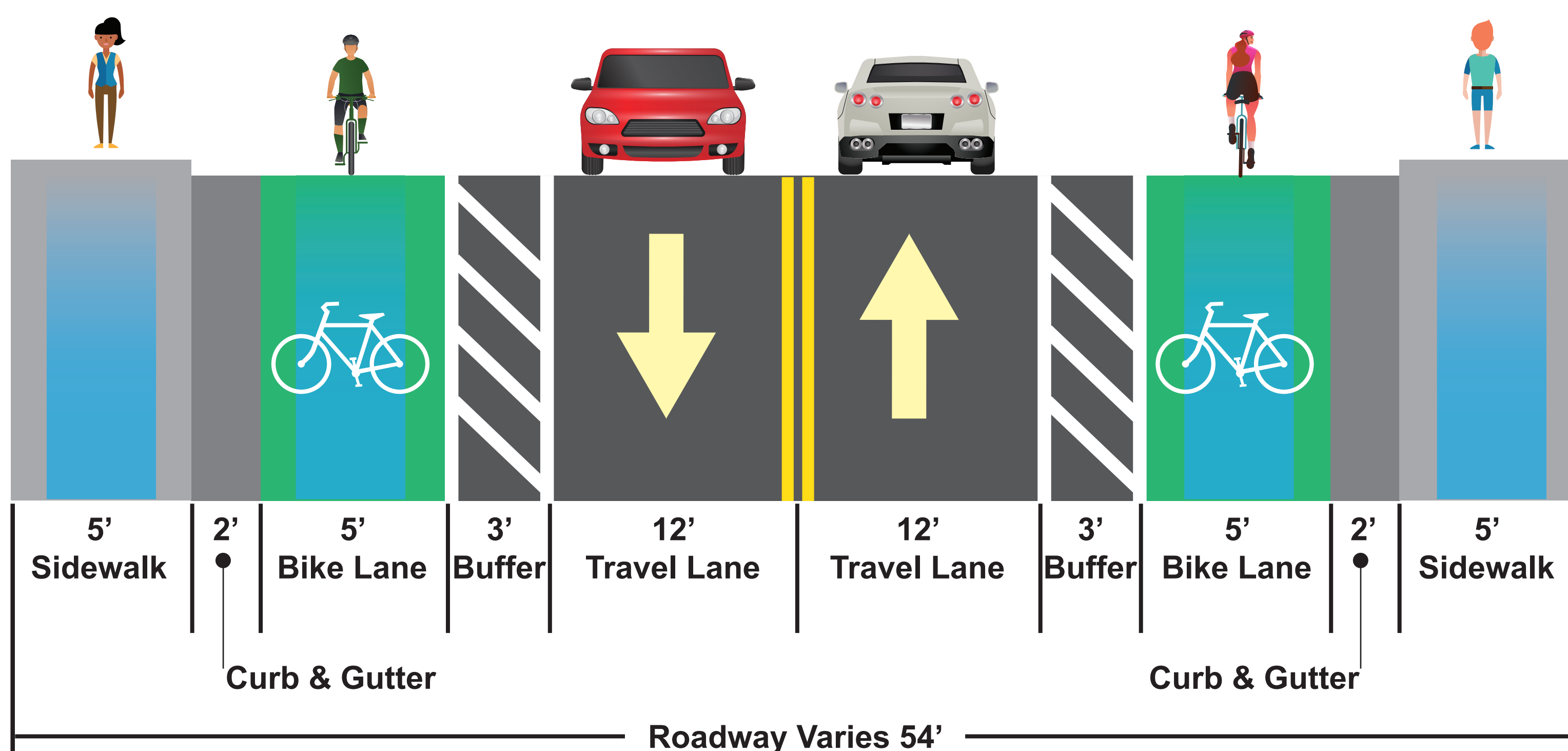
Roundabout

- Reconstruct as a roundabout
- **Benefit:** reduces traffic delay, lower traffic speed

Corridor Concept 1 (1 of 2) Bicycle and Pedestrian Routes

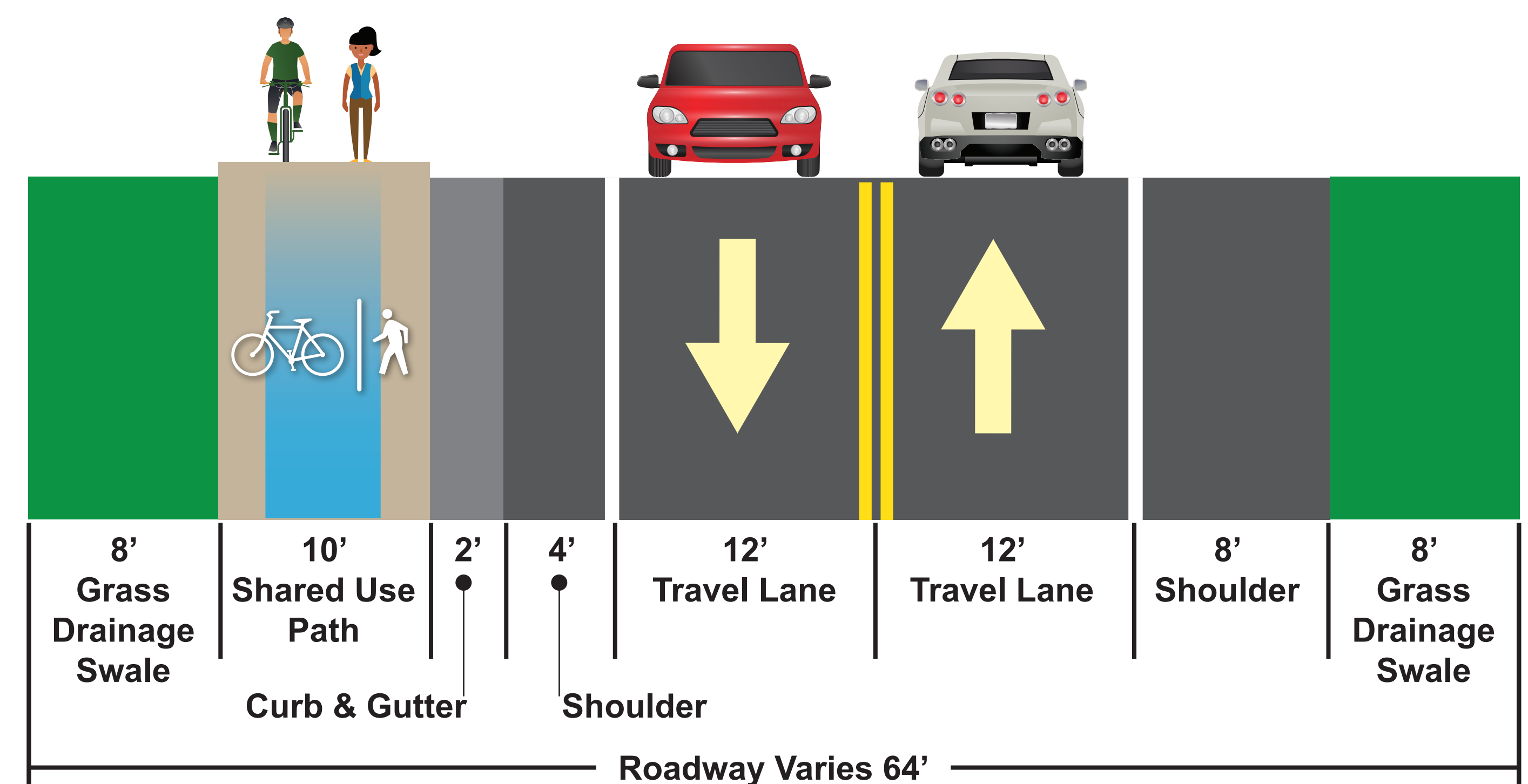
OPTION A

- Add sidewalks on both sides of MD 328, and bike lanes in the shoulders
- **Benefit:** provides separated safe pedestrian and bicycle access in a narrow footprint



OPTION B

- Add 10-foot shared-use path on the north side of MD 328
- **Benefit:** provides separated safe pedestrian and bicycle access, limits the widening to one side



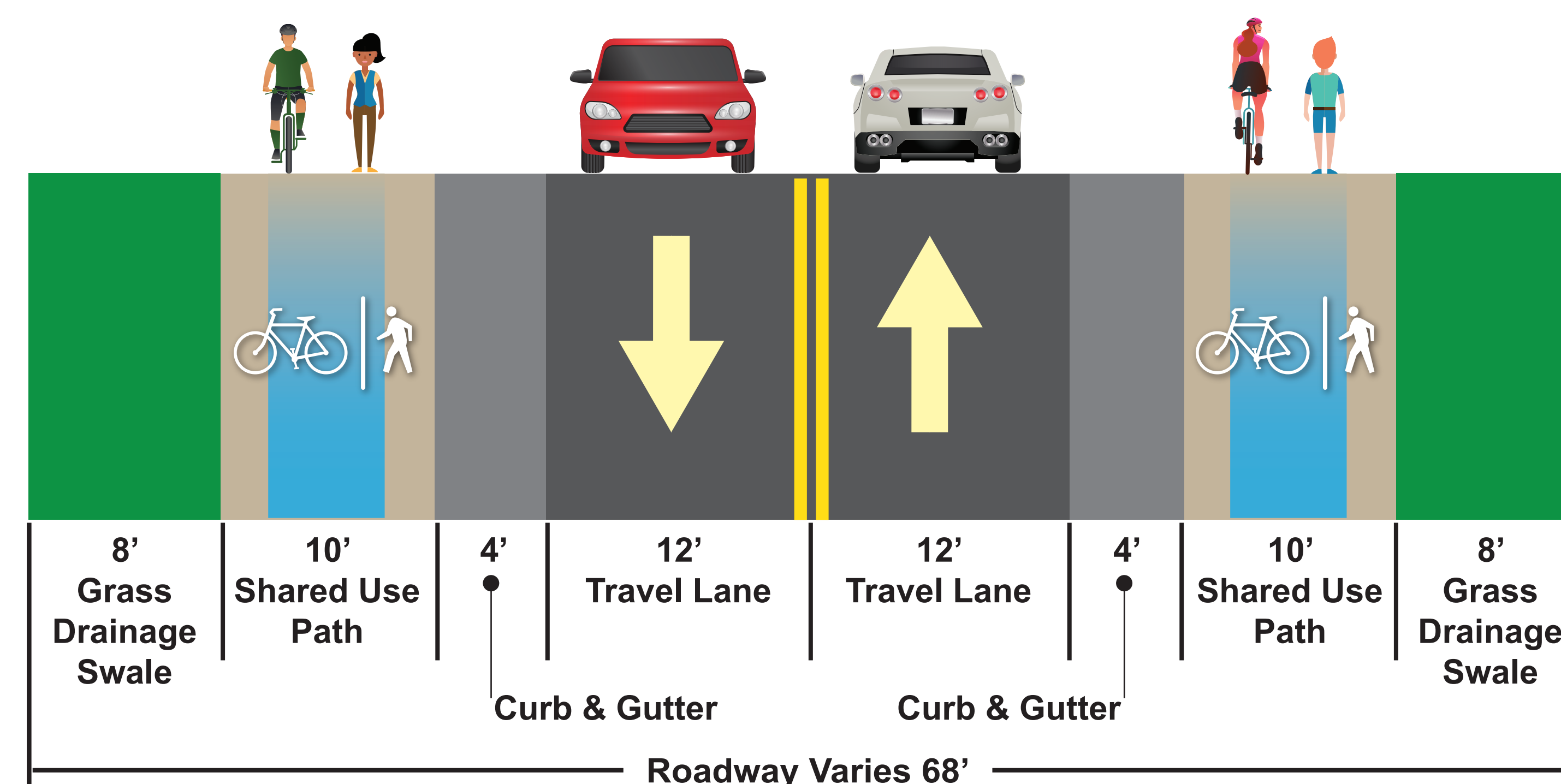
 = PROPOSED

Preliminary Concepts

Corridor Concept 1 (2 of 2) Bicycle and Pedestrian Routes

OPTION C

- Add 10-foot shared-use path on both sides of MD 328
- **Benefit:** provides separated safe pedestrian and bicycle access



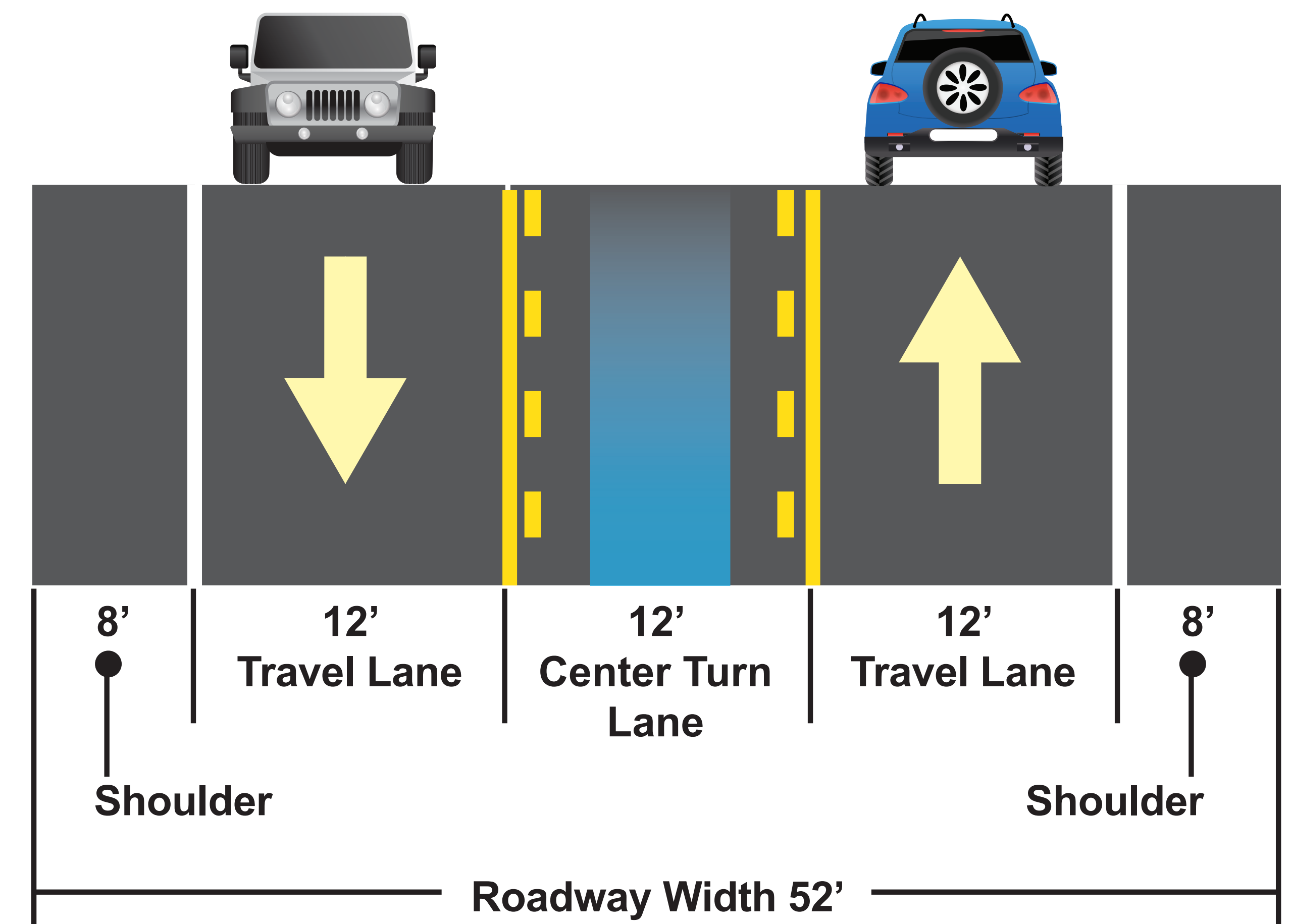
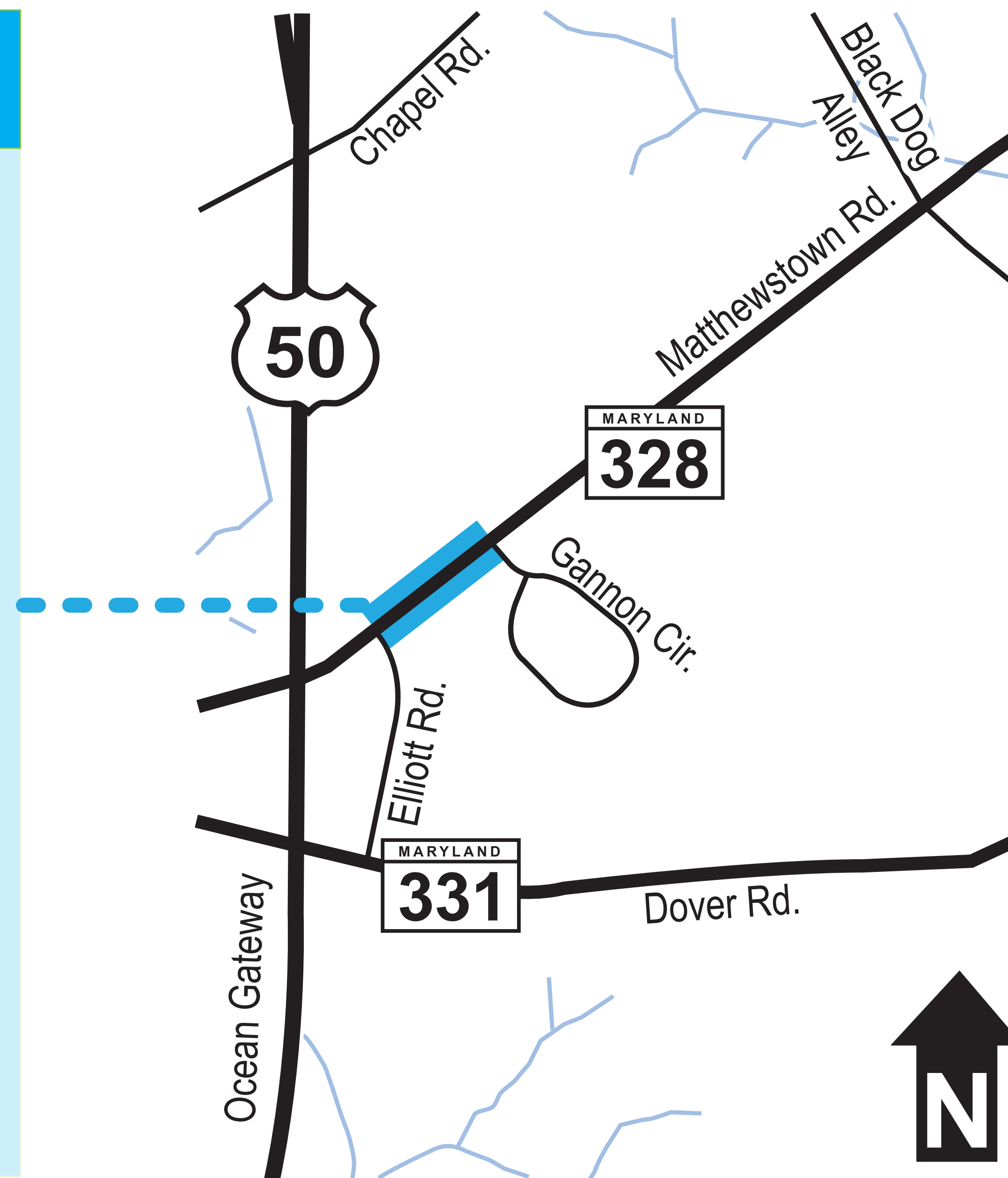
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Corridor Concept 2 Improved Driveway Access

OPTION A

Center two-way left-turn lane concept

- Add a left-turn lane in the center of the road from Elliott Road to Gannon Circle
- The existing road would be widened on both sides
- **Benefit:** Improves driveway access



*  Bicycle and pedestrian improvements will be considered in the design of the intersection improvements.

 = PROPOSED

Preliminary Concepts

Corridor Concept 3 Lowering Traffic Speed

OPTION A

Recommended Speed Reduction

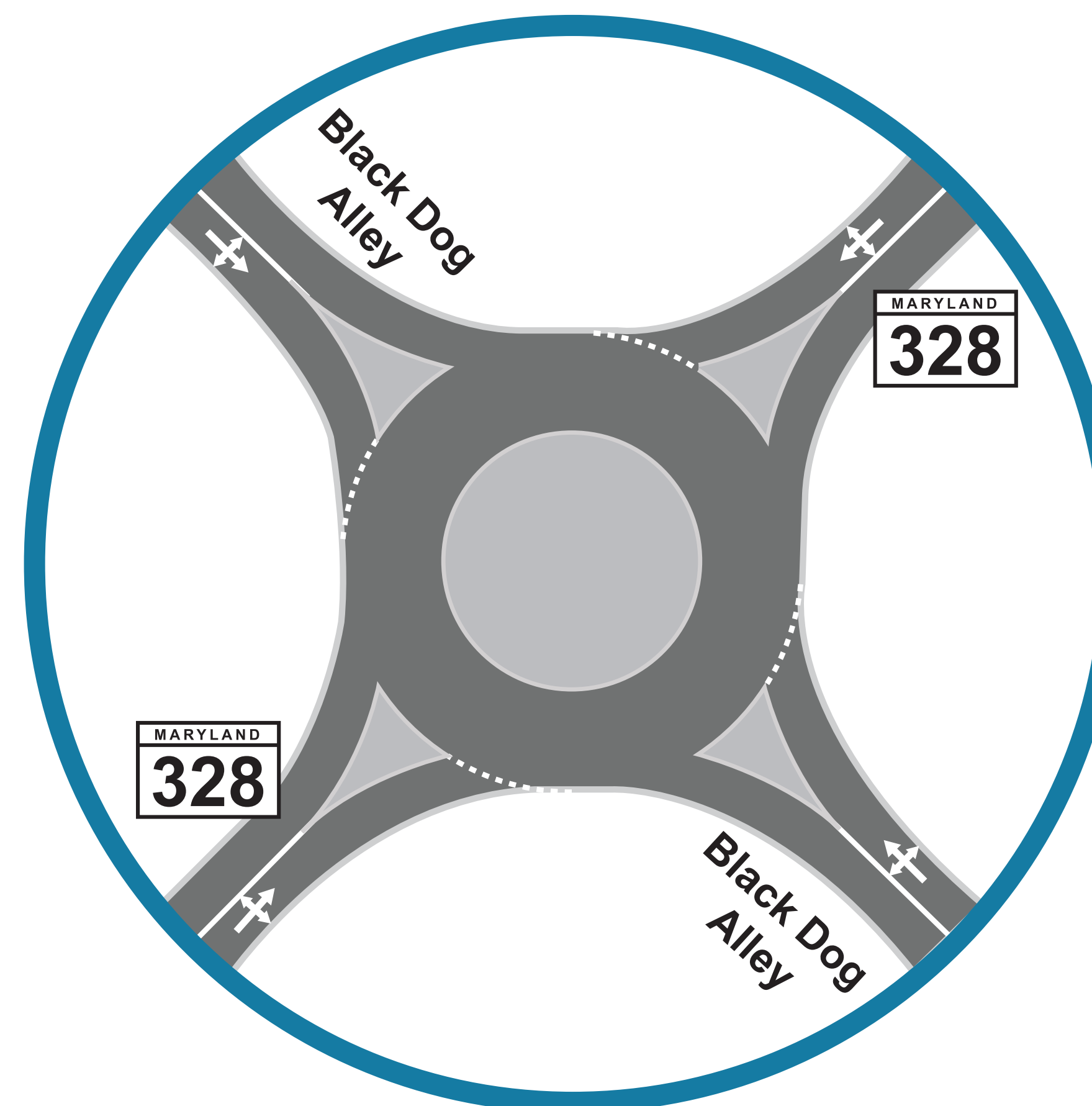
- Reduce the westbound speed limit to 40 mph east of Black Dog Alley
- **Benefit:** some vehicles will lower speed entering the corridor



OPTION B

Roundabout Intersection at Black Dog Alley

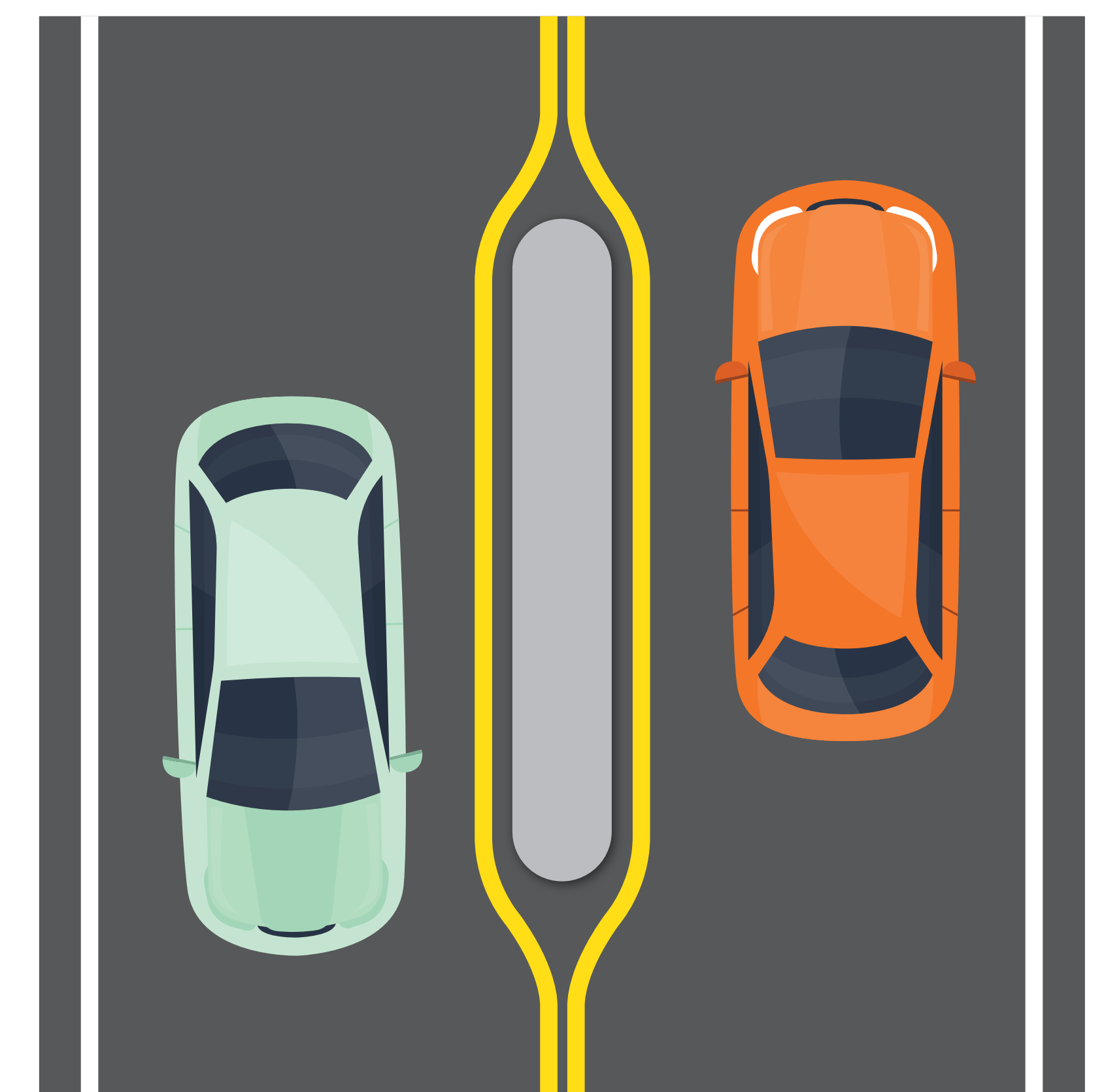
- Reconstruct as a roundabout
- **Benefit:** all vehicles will lower speed entering the corridor



OPTION C

Median Islands

- Creates a horizontal diversion of traffic to reduce speed by adding median islands
- **Benefit:** low-cost speed reductions throughout corridor



NATURAL RESOURCES

- **Aquatic Resources**
 - Wetlands
 - Waterways (rivers/streams):
 - Hosewells Branch, confluent to Kings Creek
 - Unnamed tributary to Hosewells Branch
- **Vegetation & Wildlife**
 - Forest
 - Green infrastructure
 - Forest interior dwelling species habitat (birds)
- **Protected Wildlife Species**
 - No currently listed species to note from the environmental inventory
 - Will coordinate with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Maryland Department of Natural Resources to identify federal and state rare, threatened and endangered species

CULTURAL RESOURCES

- **Historic Architecture**
 - No currently known historic properties within the study area
 - Properties within study area could be National Register eligible if within Area of Potential Effects
- **Archaeological Resources**
 - areas within the project limits were disturbed in previous projects
 - Further evaluation likely needed in areas outside the existing roadway if projects advance

Consideration of Environmental Resources (2 of 2)



CULTURAL RESOURCES

- **Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area**
 - Local designated & state certified, public and private partners
 - Caroline, Kent, Queen Anne's and Talbot counties
 - Focus on tourism and preservation of scenery, economic well-being, historic aspects of region

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

- **Commercial/Residential**
 - Commercial development along MD 328 and at west end of the study area
 - Major commercial development south of the corridor along US 50
 - Residential neighborhoods at central portion and east end of the corridor

4 E'S OF TRAFFIC SAFETY

THE CORNERSTONE OF MARYLAND'S STRATEGIC HIGHWAY SAFETY PLAN

Enforcement, Engineering, Education, Emergency Medical Services



DRIVERS

- Put down distractions and stay alert when driving.
- Obey the speed limit.
- Stay alert and slow down when driving in Work Zones.
- Move over when approaching ANY stopped, standing or parked vehicle displaying warning signals. It's the law!
- Stop for pedestrians in crosswalks and intersections.
- Allow three feet when passing bicyclists.
- Yield the right of way to bicyclists when turning right and watch for bicyclists on shared roads.

4 E'S OF TRAFFIC SAFETY

THE CORNERSTONE OF MARYLAND'S STRATEGIC HIGHWAY SAFETY PLAN

Enforcement, Engineering, **Education**, Emergency Medical Services



PEDESTRIANS

- Use sidewalks and marked crosswalks.
- Pay attention and put down distractions when walking.
- Always stop at the curb and look left, right and left again before crossing streets.
- Wear light or bright-colored clothing, especially if out walking after dusk.



BICYCLISTS

- Stop at all red lights and stop signs.
- Ride with traffic, never against it.
- Yield right of way to pedestrians.
- Use hand signals when turning or stopping.

MD 328 between US 50 and Black Dog Alley



Schedule

Fall 2023

- Present transportation needs regarding traffic operations, safety, and pedestrian and bicycle accommodations

Winter 2023-24

- Develop preliminary improvement concepts

Summer 2024

- Present preliminary improvement concepts for public feedback
- Finalize study recommendations and identify potential stand-alone projects



TITLE VI REQUIREMENTS

- **Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other nondiscrimination authorities ensures that people regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability receive:**
 - equal treatment,
 - equal access and
 - equal rights.
- **This means that everyone must receive:**
 - equal opportunities without regard to their race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability specifically to State Highway Administration program and activities.

Judith de Vastey, TITLE VI Manager for SHA

Email: shatitlevi@mdot.maryland.gov

Phone: 410-545-0404

Tell us about yourself by taking our survey here.



MD 328 between US 50 and Black Dog Alley



For More Information

Tonight's displays will be available on the project portal page.



Don't forget to take our online survey or fill out a printed copy tonight!

<https://bit.ly/MDOTSHA-MD328-US50-PEL>

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Find Us on the Web

