

July 18, 2023

WARE HOUSE ROAD SHARED USE PATH FEASIBILITY STUDY

PUBLIC MEETING #1



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



GLOUCESTER COUNTY, VIRGINIA

www.VirginiaDOT.org/WareHousePathStudy

PURPOSE OF THIS PRESENTATION

- Introduction
- What is a Feasibility Study?
- Study Overview
- Anticipated Benefits
- Potential Barriers
- Potential Alignment Options
- How to Provide Input
- Next Steps

INTRODUCTION

What is the Ware House Road Shared Use Path Feasibility Study?

- Initiated by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and Gloucester County
- Study funded by the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization's (HRTPO) Regional Surface Transportation Program
- Evaluates the feasibility of a separated, paved path along Ware House Road (Route 621) in Gloucester, VA

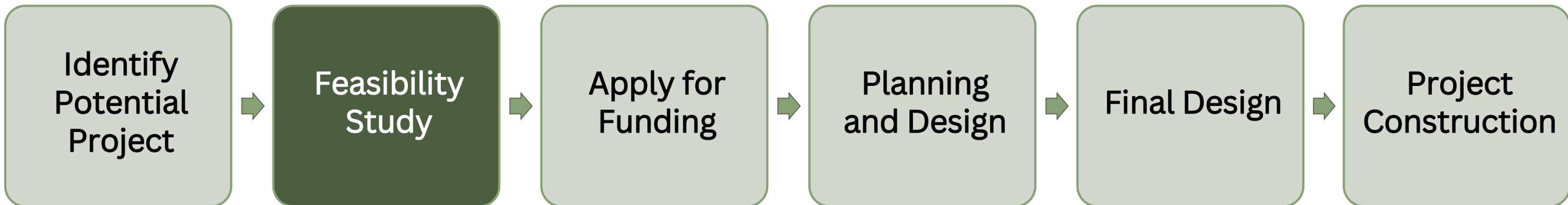


Example of a paved path:
The Capital Trail – Jamestown to Richmond, VA

WHAT IS A FEASIBILITY STUDY?

- An **early step** in the planning process to assess if an idea is practical and constructible
- Takes place **before** applying for additional funding, planning, and detailed designs

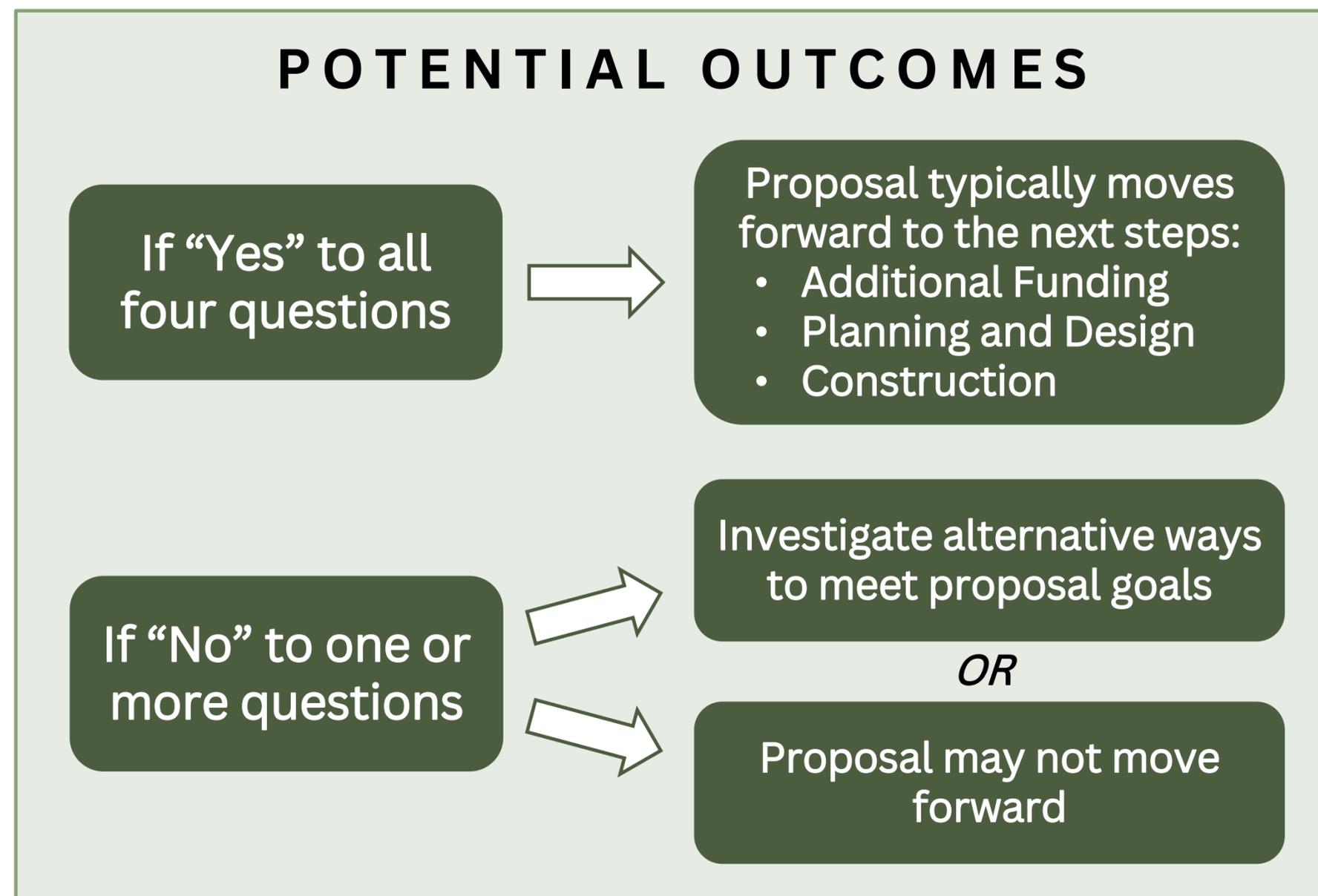
TYPICAL PROJECT TIMELINE



WHAT IS A FEASIBILITY STUDY?

A feasibility study aims to answer four primary questions. The answers to these questions will determine whether the proposal moves forward.

1. Is the proposal technically possible?
2. Can the proposal be designed to meet community needs and goals?
3. Do the anticipated benefits outweigh the cost of the proposal?
4. Does the community support the proposal?



STUDY OVERVIEW

Study Area: Ware House Road (Route 621)

- Local road, about 1.8 miles long
- Connects Main Street (Business 17) to the Ware River
- Used by large vehicles with boat trailers accessing Ware House Landing
- Narrow roadway and blind curves create a potential safety concern for people walking and biking



STUDY OVERVIEW

Gloucester County has identified the following needs:

- Reduce the safety conflicts that exist for people walking, biking, and driving in the same space along Ware House Road
- Help connect people walking and biking to Gloucester Village and the greater Gloucester County bicycle and sidewalk network



ANTICIPATED BENEFITS

Anticipated **benefits** of a potential separated, paved path along Ware House Road include:

SAFETY

Separate people walking and biking from motorized vehicles & provide a safe transportation alternative

CONNECTIVITY

Tie into the planned Main Street Shared Use Path along Business 17 and form part of a connected network of walking and biking routes envisioned for Gloucester Village

MOBILITY

Create safer walking and biking access to the restaurants, shops, and other attractions in Gloucester Village

COMMUNITY PLANNING

Align with past local planning efforts: *Gloucester County Comprehensive Plan* and *Multimodal Transportation Study*

POTENTIAL BARRIERS



The Ware House Road corridor is narrow and typically densely wooded

POTENTIAL BARRIERS



Challenging topography can increase cost and complexity

POTENTIAL BARRIERS



Utilities and drainage lining the roadway can be costly to move or replace

POTENTIAL BARRIERS



The built environment limits available space, especially near Main Street

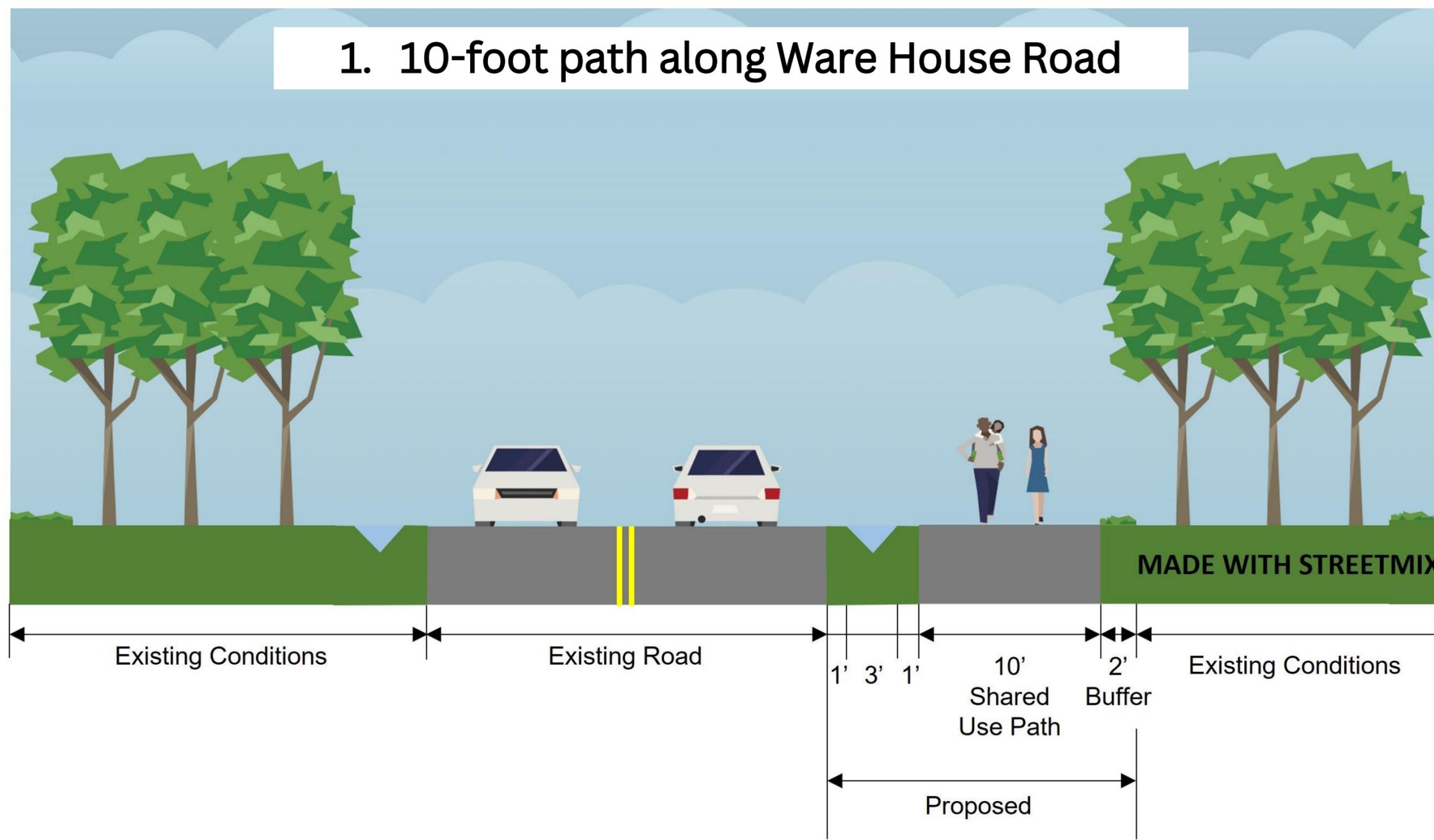
POTENTIAL BARRIERS



The western end of the corridor is in the Gloucester Downtown Historic District

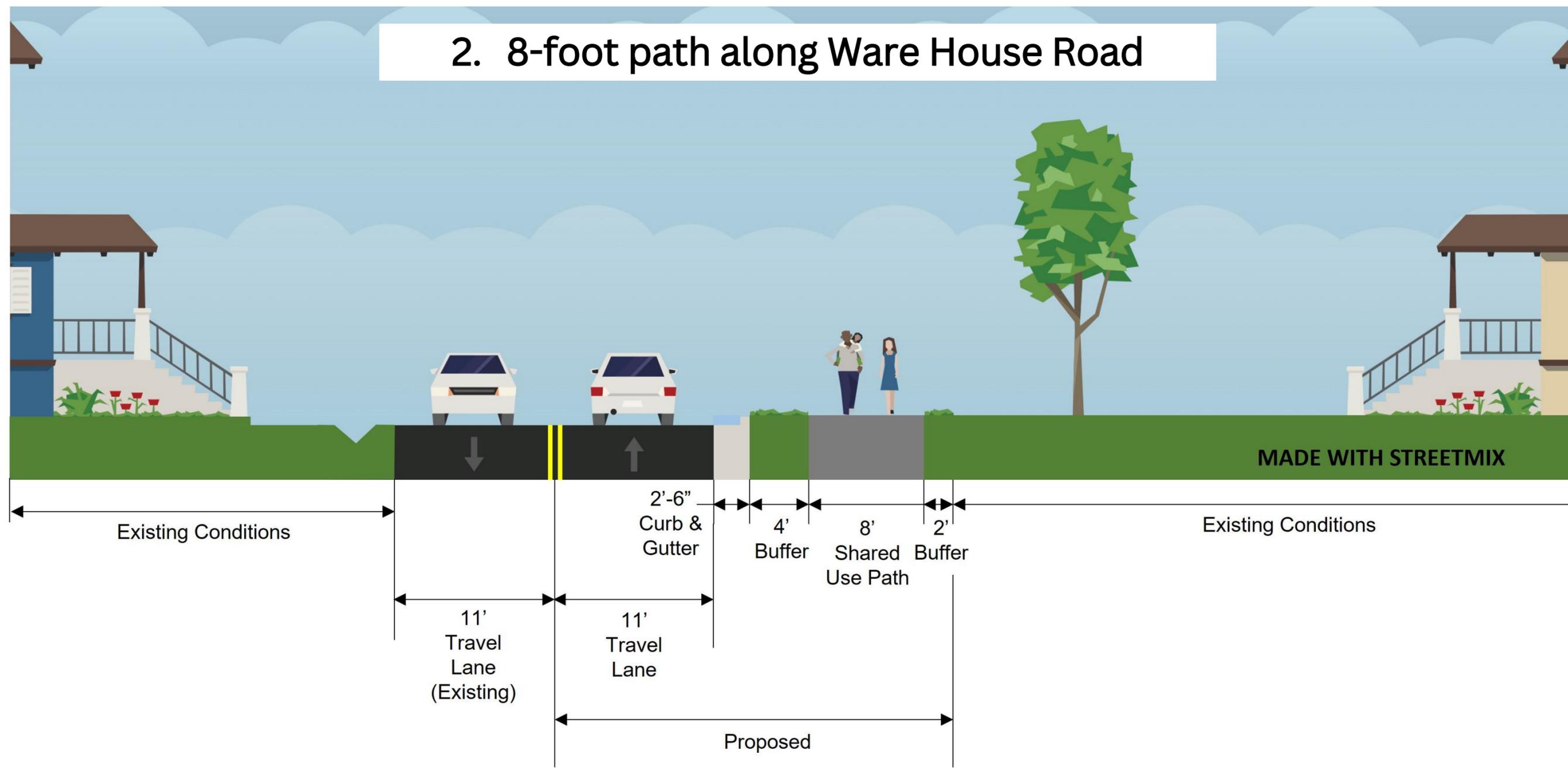
POTENTIAL ALIGNMENT OPTIONS

A potential Ware House Road path could use a combination of one or more Typical Sections



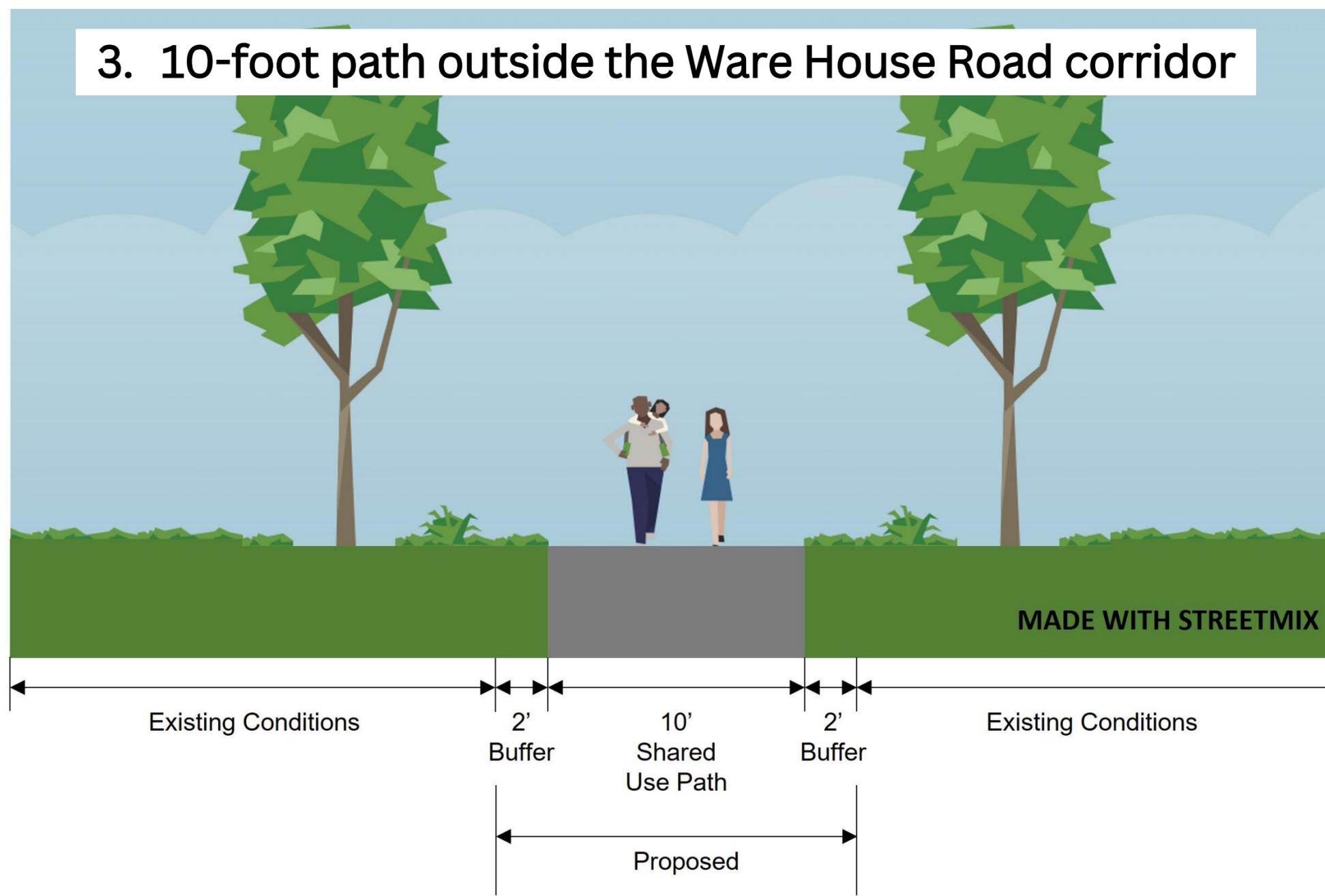
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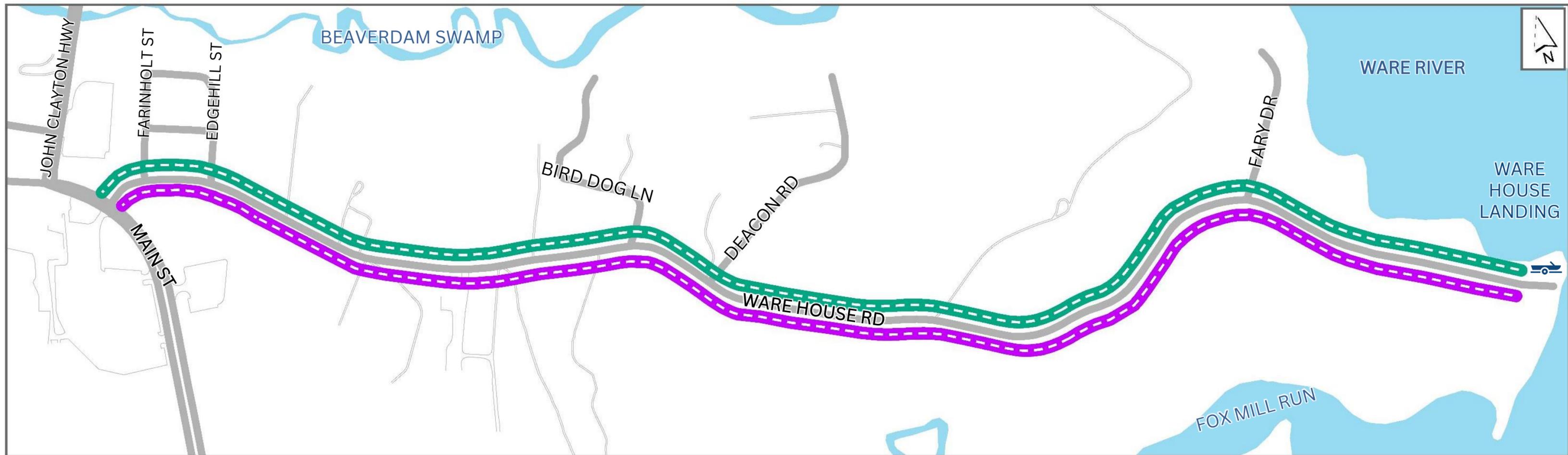
A potential Ware House Road path could use a combination of one or more Typical Sections



POTENTIAL ALIGNMENT OPTIONS

Two preliminary alignment options
on either side of Ware House Road:

-  North Alignment
-  South Alignment



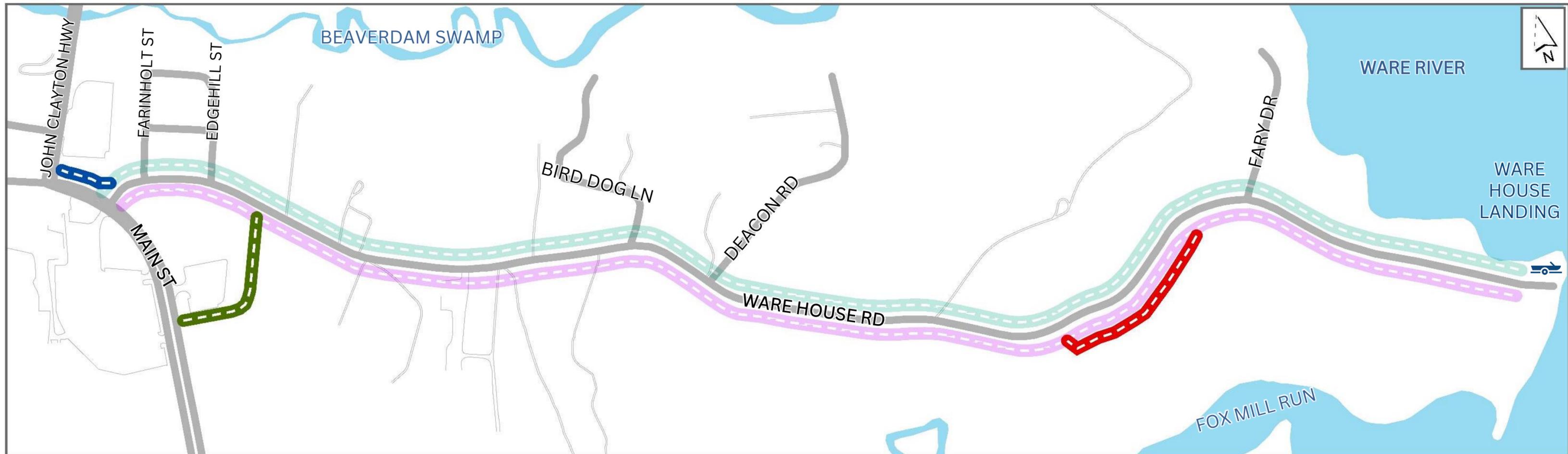
POTENTIAL ALIGNMENT OPTIONS

Two preliminary alignment options on either side of Ware House Road:

-  North Alignment
-  South Alignment

Three potential options that deviate from Ware House Road:

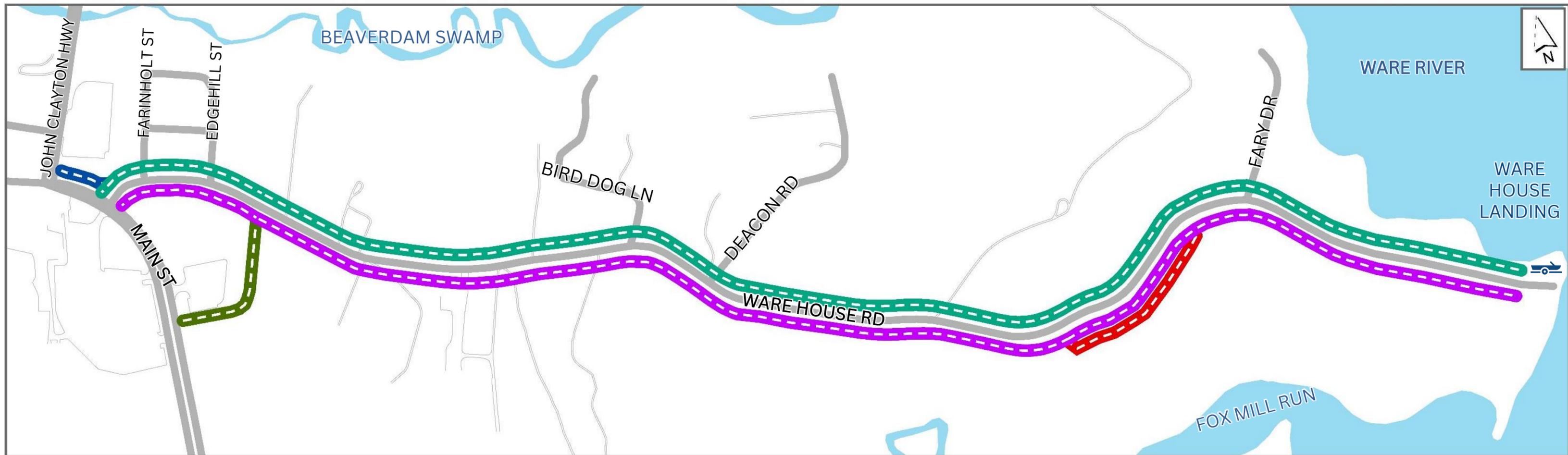
-  Option A
-  Option B
-  Option C



POTENTIAL ALIGNMENT OPTIONS

Combining potential alignments

- Potential benefits: avoid barriers to potential construction, minimize costs
- Potential drawbacks: mid-block crossing safety concerns, limited visibility in some areas



HOW TO PROVIDE INPUT

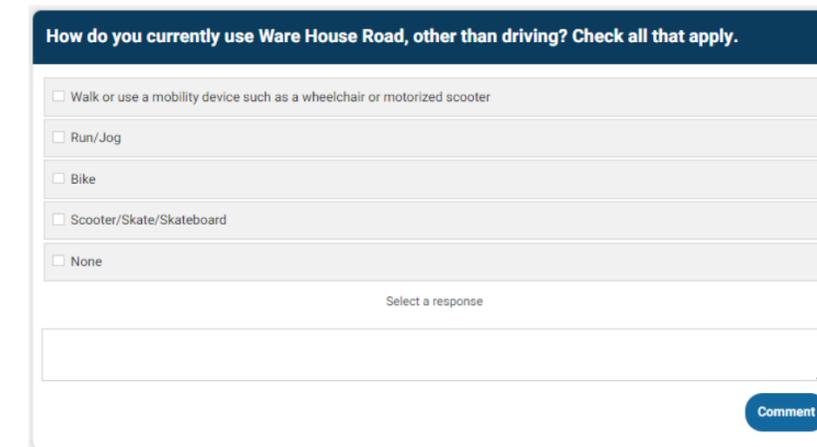
We want to hear from you!

You can provide your input in any of the following ways.

Please submit comments and survey responses by July 28, 2023

1. Fill out a comment card at this meeting
2. Complete the online survey at www.PublicInput.com/WareHousePathStudy
3. Mail your written comments to:
Linda LaSut, VDOT Project Manager
87 Deacon Road
Fredericksburg, VA 22405
4. Email comments to Linda.LaSut@VDOT.Virginia.Gov
(Include “Ware House Road Study Comment” in the subject line)
5. Add comments to the roll plot maps at this meeting

Survey link, address, and email are included on the informational handout



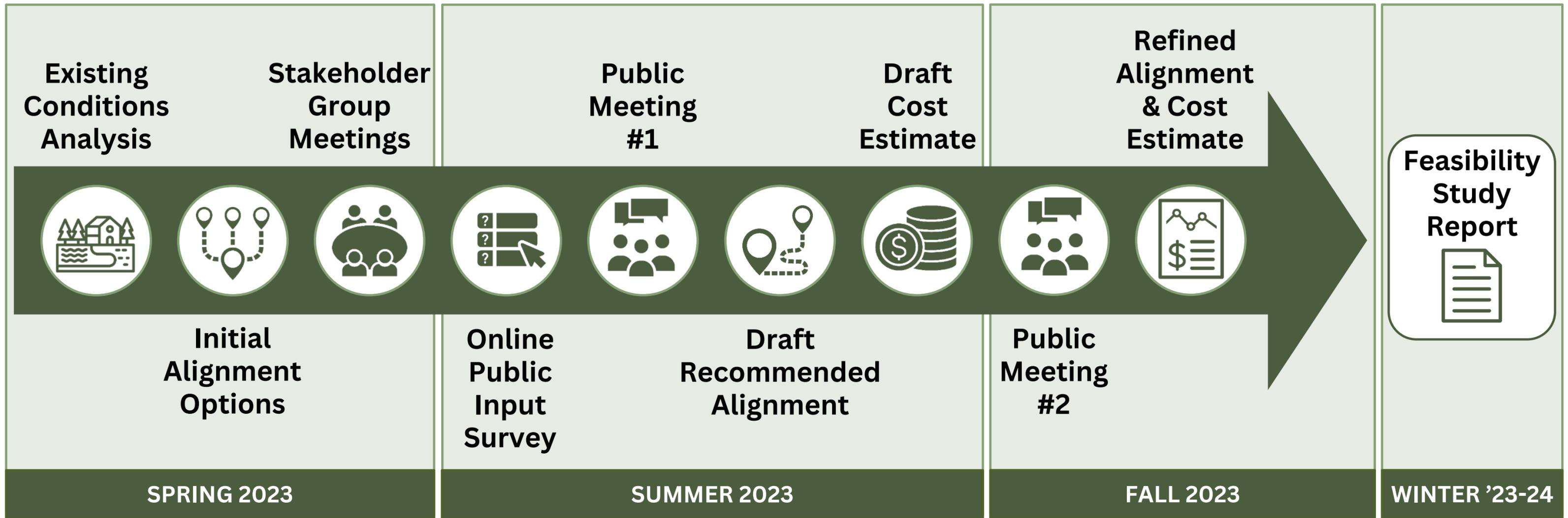
Screenshot of Online Survey



Roll Plot exercise example

NEXT STEPS

WE ARE
HERE



THANK YOU!



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GLOUCESTER COUNTY, VIRGINIA

