

# **Phoenix Bus Rapid Transit Program**

35th Avenue and Van Buren Street Corridor Public Meeting





#### What is BRT?

Bus Rapid Transit - or BRT - is a high capacity bus service that provides a fast, reliable, and convenient transit experience...and this new transit option is coming to Phoenix.

#### **Elements of BRT**

BRT is unique because there are no universal standards. This means it can be planned and designed to best meet our community's needs. However, there are six recurring elements found in successful BRT systems.

### **BRT 101 – Elements**



**Advance fare collection** 



**Custom buses** 



**Transit spot improvements** 



**Dedicated lanes** 



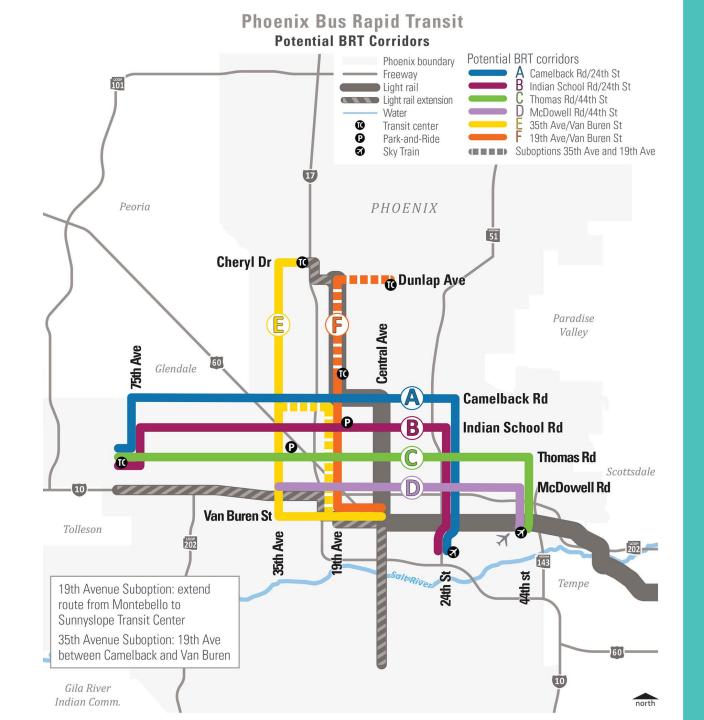
**Enhanced stations** 



**Unique branding** 

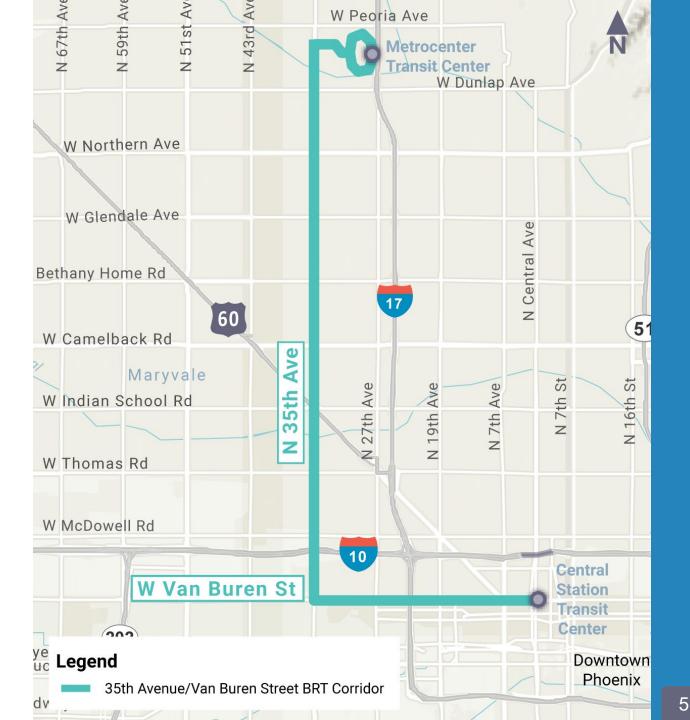
#### Where We've Been

- In 2019, the project team reevaluated the BRT corridors identified in the Transportation 2050 (T2050) plan.
- In 2020, the team completed a <u>transit analysis</u> and 11 months of community outreach.
- In October 2021, Phoenix City Council <u>unanimously approved</u> the initial Bus Rapid Transit corridor of 35th Avenue and Van Buren Street.



#### Where We Are Now

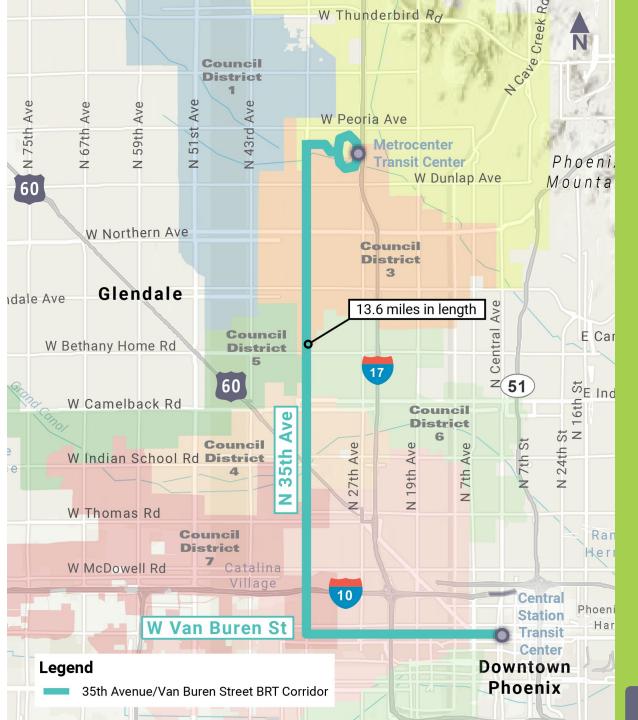
- In April 2022, Phoenix City Council approved the Phoenix BRT Program to continue community and stakeholder engagement, alternatives analysis and 15 percent design plans for the initial BRT corridor of 35th Avenue and Van Buren Street.
- The BRT Program is currently conducting an <u>Alternatives Analysis</u> and developing conceptual designs for this corridor.



### **The Corridor**

#### 35th Avenue and Van Buren Street

- **13.6** miles
- 16 proposed stations
- 44 signalized intersections
- 7 correlating projects
- 4 Phoenix Council Districts (1, 4, 5, 7)
- 2 transit centers



### **Concurrent Projects**

- City of Phoenix 35th Avenue BUILD Grant
- 2. <u>City of Phoenix 35th Avenue</u> <u>Improvements</u>
- 3. Central Station Development
- 4. <u>City of Phoenix /Valley Metro</u> <u>Metrocenter Transit Center</u>
- 5. ADOT Grand 35 Study
- 6. Valley Metro West Phoenix HCT AA
- 7. Valley Metro CAPEX and 10WEST LRT



### **BRT Program Schedule**

**WE ARE** HERE



**Detailed Transit Analysis Corridor Planning** 

Final Design

Construction

Spring 2020 - Spring 2022

Initial transit analysis

- Approval of corridor
- Approval to begin corridor planning

Alternatives analysis

Fall 2022 - Fall 2024

- 15% design
- Station planning
- Corridor alignment
- Preliminary right-of-way (ROW)
- Traffic analysis

Final design plans

- Corridor refinement
- ROW refinement
- Bus procurement/design

Fall 2024 - Winter 2026

Fall 2026 - Winter 2028

- Station development
- Traffic signal improvements
- Roadway enhancements
- Vehicle testing

Community and stakeholder engagement

### **Community Outreach Phase I – Fall 2022**

Here's what we heard from you...









Pedestrian access to stations is critical



Prioritize public transit



Implement dedicated lanes



Expand connections



Overall support for bus rapid transit

# BRT Corridor Priorities We heard you...

Through your input, agency and key stakeholder input and early transit analysis we identified five critical priorities that are the foundation for how we develop the 35th Avenue and Van Buren Street corridor.



Develop a "showcase"
BRT corridor

Provide safe and accessible multimodal connections



Phoenix BRT Program



Support meaningful and equitable community engagement

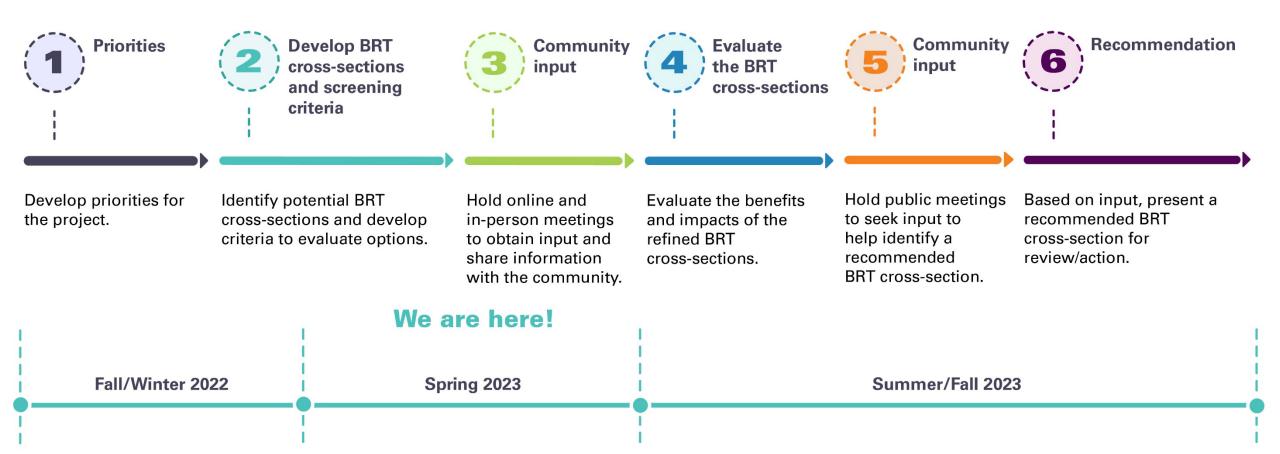
Improve travel times and reliability





Collaborate with concurrent projects

#### **Process to a Recommended BRT Cross-Section**



### What Could the Roadway Look Like?

We have developed four initial cross-sections as a starting point: two for a center-running BRT and two for a side-running BRT.

For both center-running and side-running, we considered what could fit within the existing roadway (Minimum Right-of-Way [ROW] BRT) and what it could look like if there were no constraints on roadway width (Maximum ROW BRT).

#### **Minimum ROW BRT:**

Requires <u>very little</u> additional property purchases

#### **Maximum ROW BRT:**

Requires <u>a lot</u> of additional property purchases

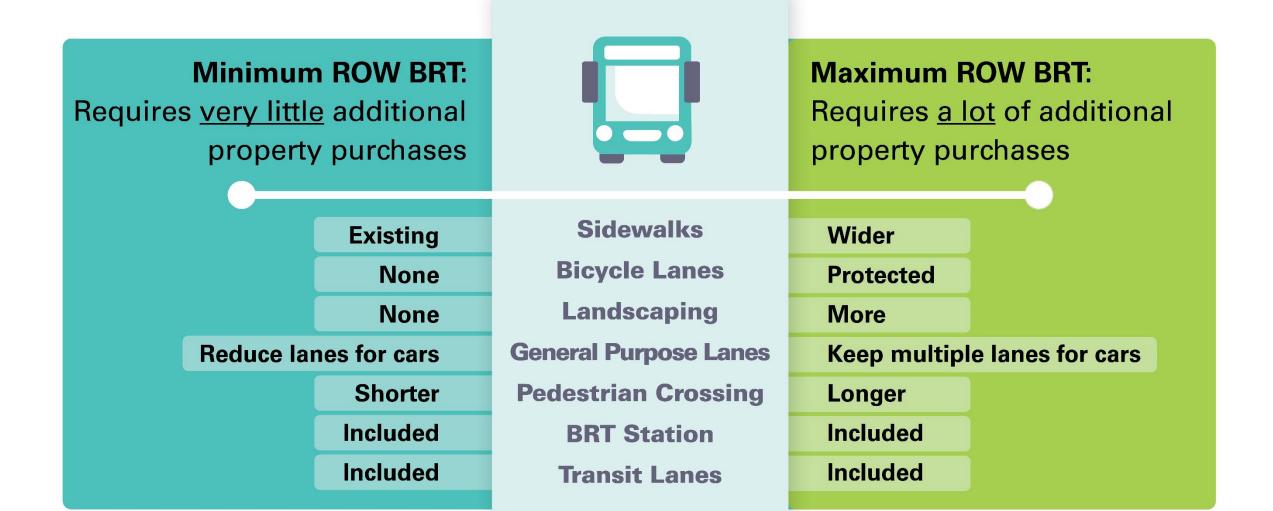
These explore both ends of the spectrum, but we realize that our ideal BRT cross-section is somewhere in-between.

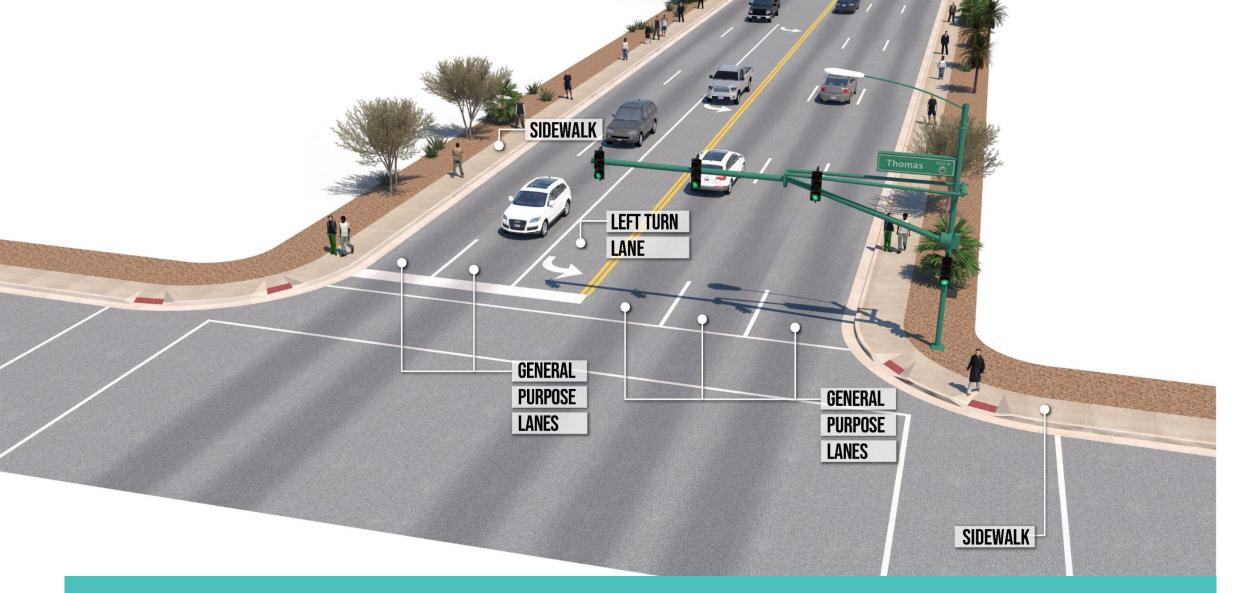
#### That's where we need YOU!

We need your help to evaluate the BRT cross-sections and tell us what you think!

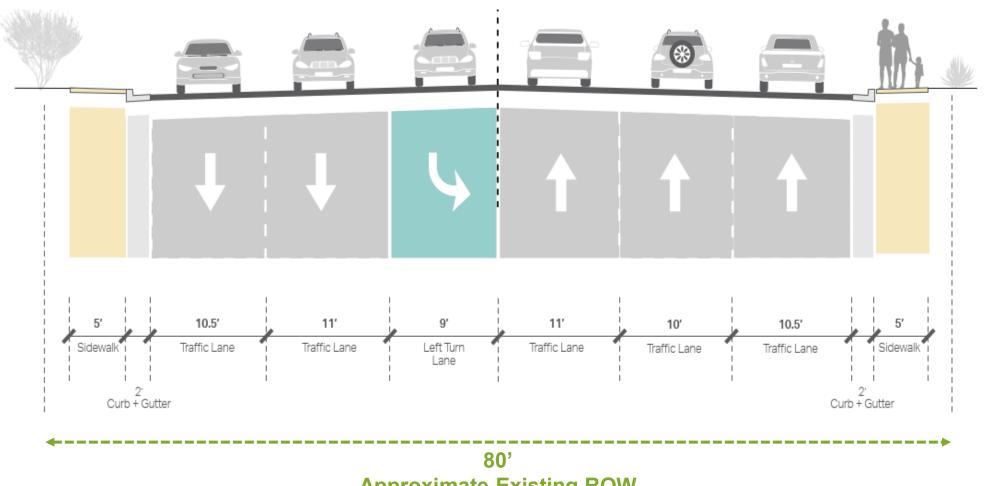
We will use your input as we refine the cross-sections to best meet the needs of the community.

### Minimum ROW vs. Maximum ROW



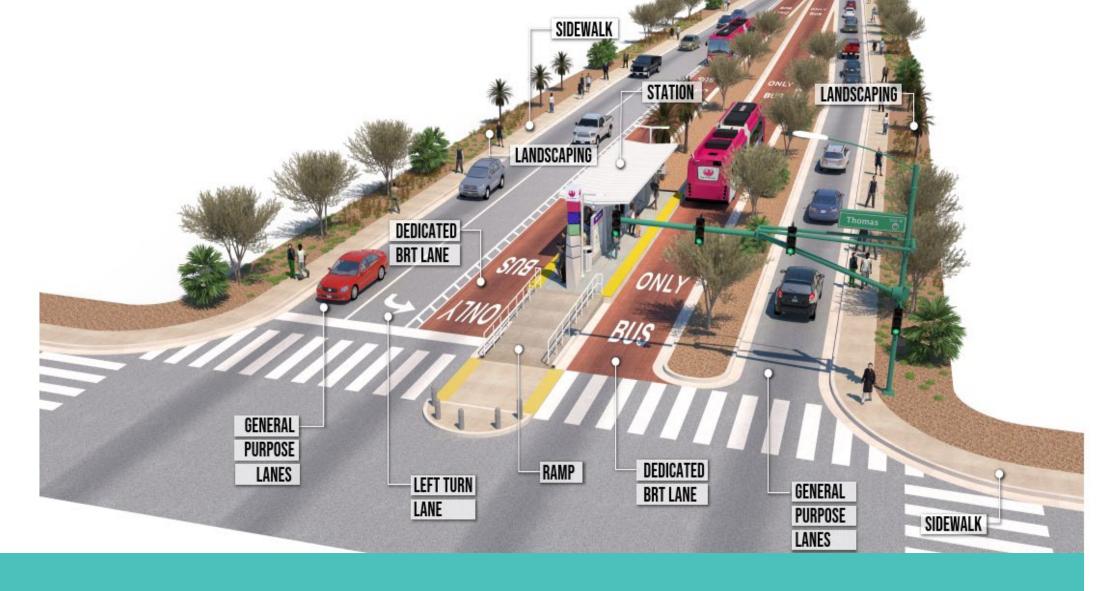


# **Existing Roadway**

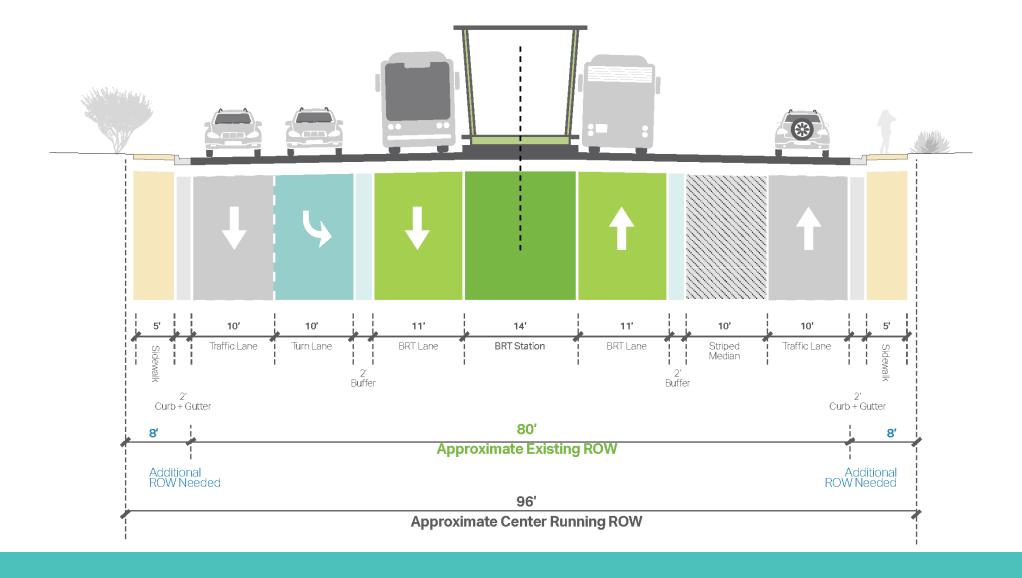


**Approximate Existing ROW** 

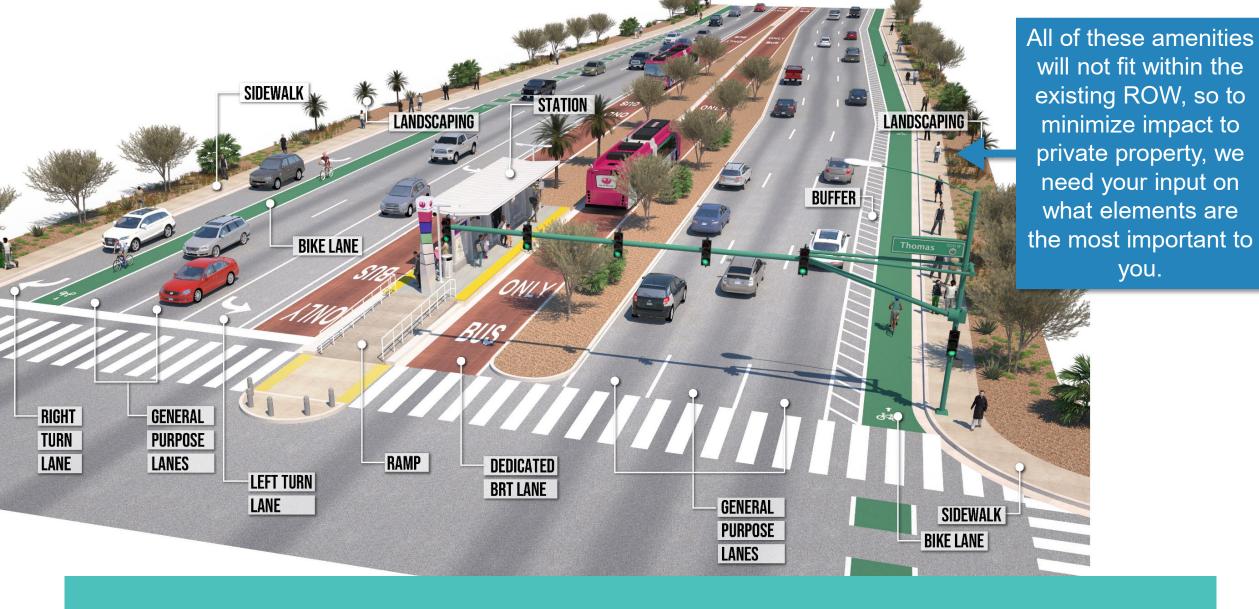
# **Existing Roadway**



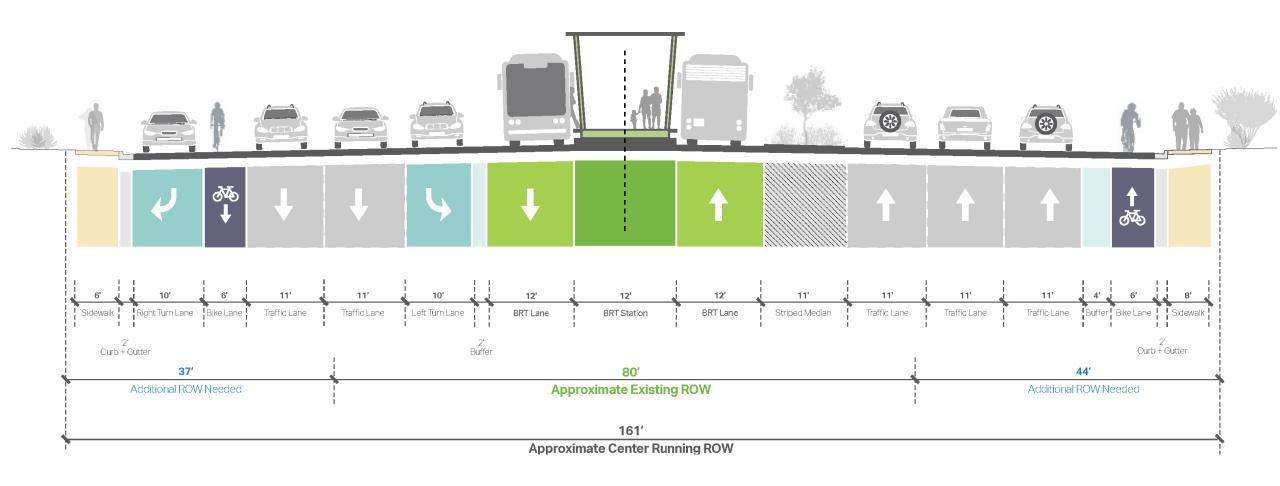
### Minimum ROW BRT: Center-Running



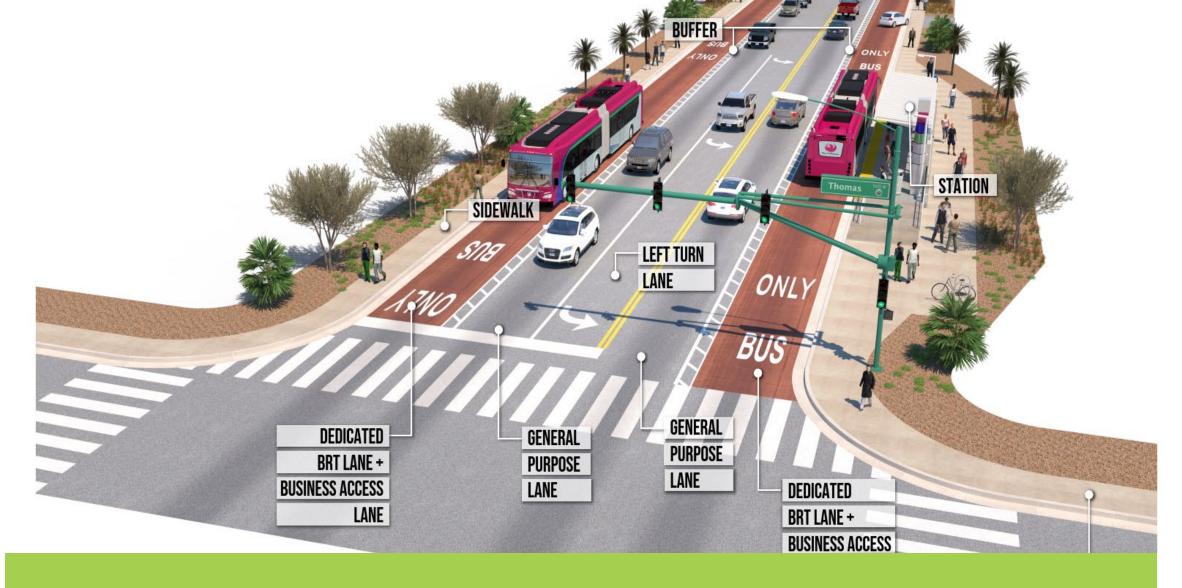
# Minimum ROW BRT: Center-Running



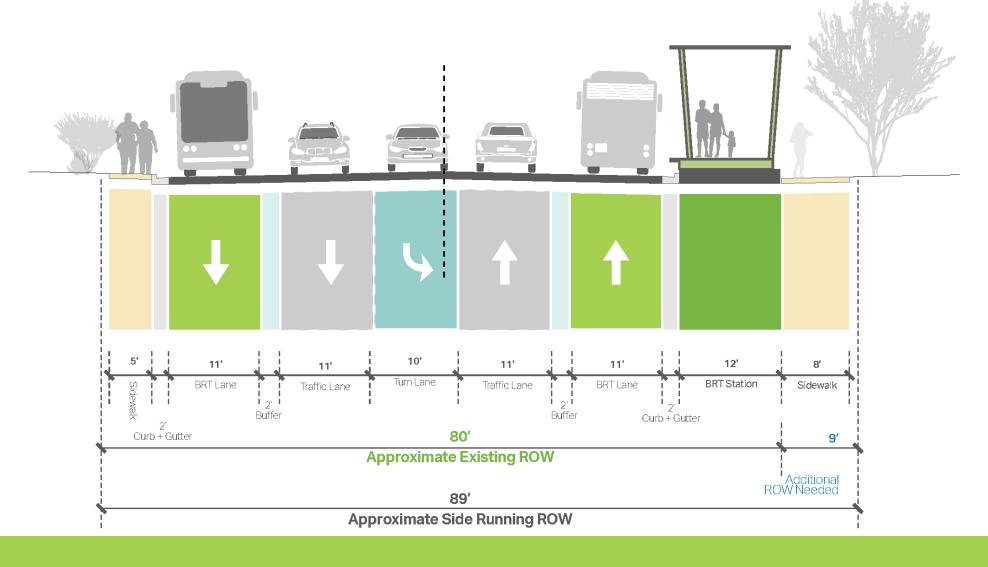
### **Maximum ROW BRT: Center-Running**



## **Maximum ROW BRT: Center-Running**



Minimum ROW BRT: Side-Running

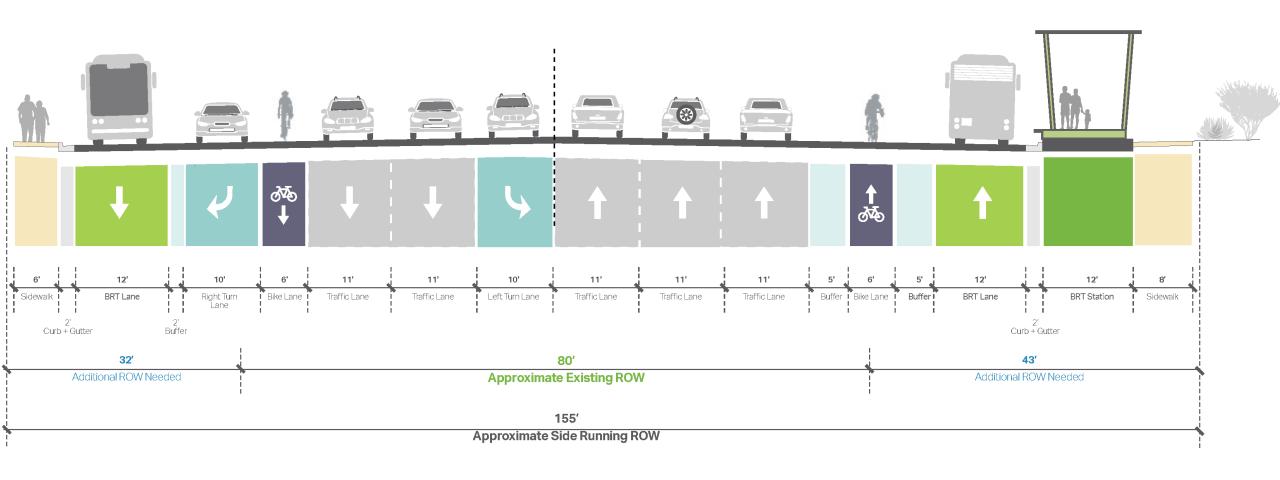


### Minimum ROW BRT: Side-Running



All of these amenities will not fit within the existing ROW, so to minimize impact to private property, we need your input on what elements are the most important to you.

### **Maximum ROW BRT: Side-Running**



# Maximum ROW BRT: Side-Running

### Center-Running vs. Side-Running Considerations

#### **Center-Running**

Allows only BRT buses in the center dedicated transit lanes, creating faster BRT bus travel times.

BRT buses would only use the center-running stations and the local buses would only use their existing stops.

Allows left turns at signalized intersections only.

Provides a safe place for pedestrians to stop when crossing the street.

#### **Side-Running**

Allows both BRT buses and vehicles (or bicycles) that are turning right to use the side dedicated lane, potentially resulting in slower BRT bus travel times.

Allows local buses and BRT buses to use the side stations.

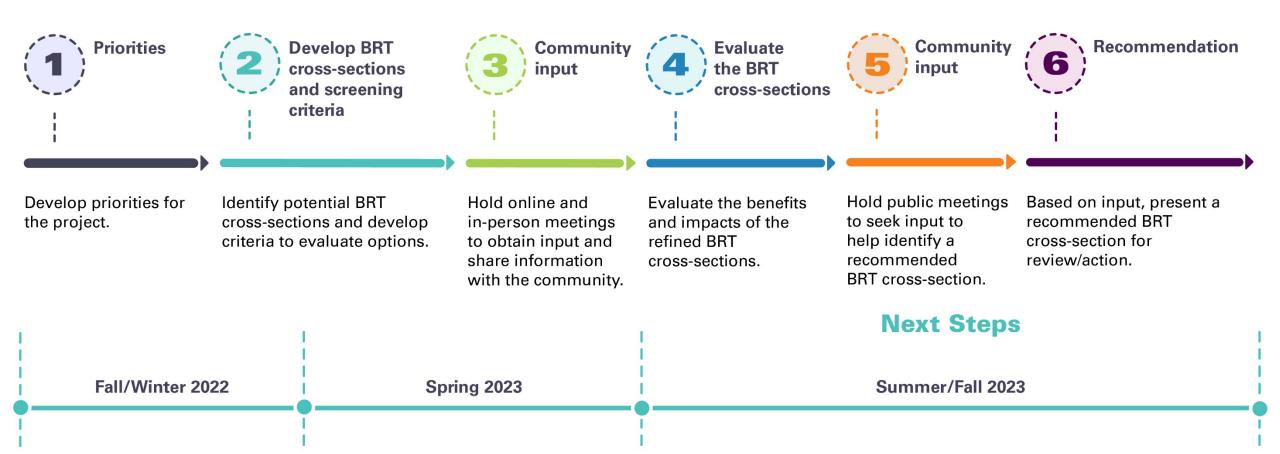
Creates multiple conflicts with driveways but maintains median left turns throughout the corridor.

Creates a longer distance for pedestrians crossing the street at intersections but allows direct boarding from the sidewalk.

### **How Will We Evaluate?**

CRITERIA	FOCUS
Travel Time (During Peak Hours)	<ul><li>Minutes of transit travel time</li><li>Minutes of personal vehicle travel time</li></ul>
Pedestrian and Bike Connections	Access to BRT stations
Transit Network Compatibility	<ul> <li>Compatibility with existing local bus service</li> <li>Connectivity to other high-capacity transit</li> </ul>
Ridership	Average daily ridership (weekdays)
Traffic Operations	<ul> <li>Vehicle delays by hour</li> <li>Number of people traveling through the corridor</li> <li>Understanding traffic impacts on surrounding streets</li> </ul>
Right-of-Way	<ul> <li>Number of total property takes (whole parcel)</li> <li>Number of partial takes (part of a parcel)</li> </ul>
Parking	Number of affected parking spaces
Access	<ul> <li>Number of affected property access points</li> <li>Number of affected left/right turn movements</li> </ul>
Conceptual Costs	Estimated cost of improvements
Community Input	Community preference for the transit improvement

### **Next Steps**





Share your thoughts today and together, we can create a successful BRT corridor that meets the needs of the Phoenix community!

Take our survey: www.meetphoenixbrt.com

Drop a pin on the online comment map: www.meetphoenixbrt.com

Fill out a comment form (online or print)

Send us an email: <a href="mailto:connect@meetphoenixbrt.com">connect@meetphoenixbrt.com</a>

Give us call: 602.262.7242

