

SIX FORKS ROAD CORRIDOR STUDY



Draft Vision Document
January 8, 2013



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Objective:

The overall objective of the Six Forks Road Kick-off Workshop is to develop a clear vision for the character of the roadway and adjacent land uses into the future. The information gathered in preparation for and during the workshop will provide a framework of data, observations and community input that will be used to generate momentum toward a fully funded corridor study to occur in 2013.

Outcome:

The outcome of the workshop is intended to provide a clearly documented vision for the corridor and summary report that will be used to generate funding sources, including potential grants, to facilitate a more detailed study.

Scope of Work:**1. Baseline Data Report (Briefing Handbook)**

Staff will prepare a report that contains background information on the study area. This book will not include a detailed inventory and analysis, which will be completed in later phases of work, but will include base maps and general information about the corridor and the overall project area.

Contents:

- a. Study Area
- b. Maps (zoning, land use, aeriels, thoroughfare, etc.)
- c. Existing Conditions Photo Inventory
- d. Draft Vision Statement
- e. Preliminary summary of themes and issues

2. Visioning Workshop

A public workshop will be scheduled, preferably for a venue in or near the proposed study area, to brainstorm ideas and develop a guiding vision for the corridor study. Participants will have been invited to review the scope and baseline data report in advance, and copies will be available at the meeting. A brief presentation of the scope and existing conditions will be followed by a facilitated discussion to address the issues, opportunities and vision for the study area.

Typical Workshop Agenda:

- a. Opening remarks and agenda
- b. Manage expectations: Public and Private Sector responsibilities
- c. Presentation highlighting issues
- d. Goal of design workshop
- e. Virtual walking tour
- f. Breakout groups (with facilitators)
 - Develop summary of issues, opportunities and ideas
 - Communicate issues, opportunities and ideas on maps
 - Identify quick fixes, if any
 - Revise draft vision statement
- g. Team report out
- h. Wrap-up
- i. Discuss next steps

3. Vision Document

The outcome of the workshop will be compiled into a summary report that will contain: a list of study priorities, a refined study area limits and a vision statement that will describe the future opportunity of the area and guide the project through future phases of work.



Public art installation along the Sugar Creek Greenway in Charlotte, NC

Six Forks Road Corridor Study

2011 Aerial Photo

The proposed Six Forks Road Study Area is defined by a specific boundary outlined in red. The study area runs from the intersection of Six Forks Road and Ramblewood Drive north to the intersection of Six Forks Road and Sandy Forks Road and is one property to a block deep to the east and west. A wider area around at the intersection of Millbrook Road encompasses additional commercial and multi-family uses along Millbrook Road.

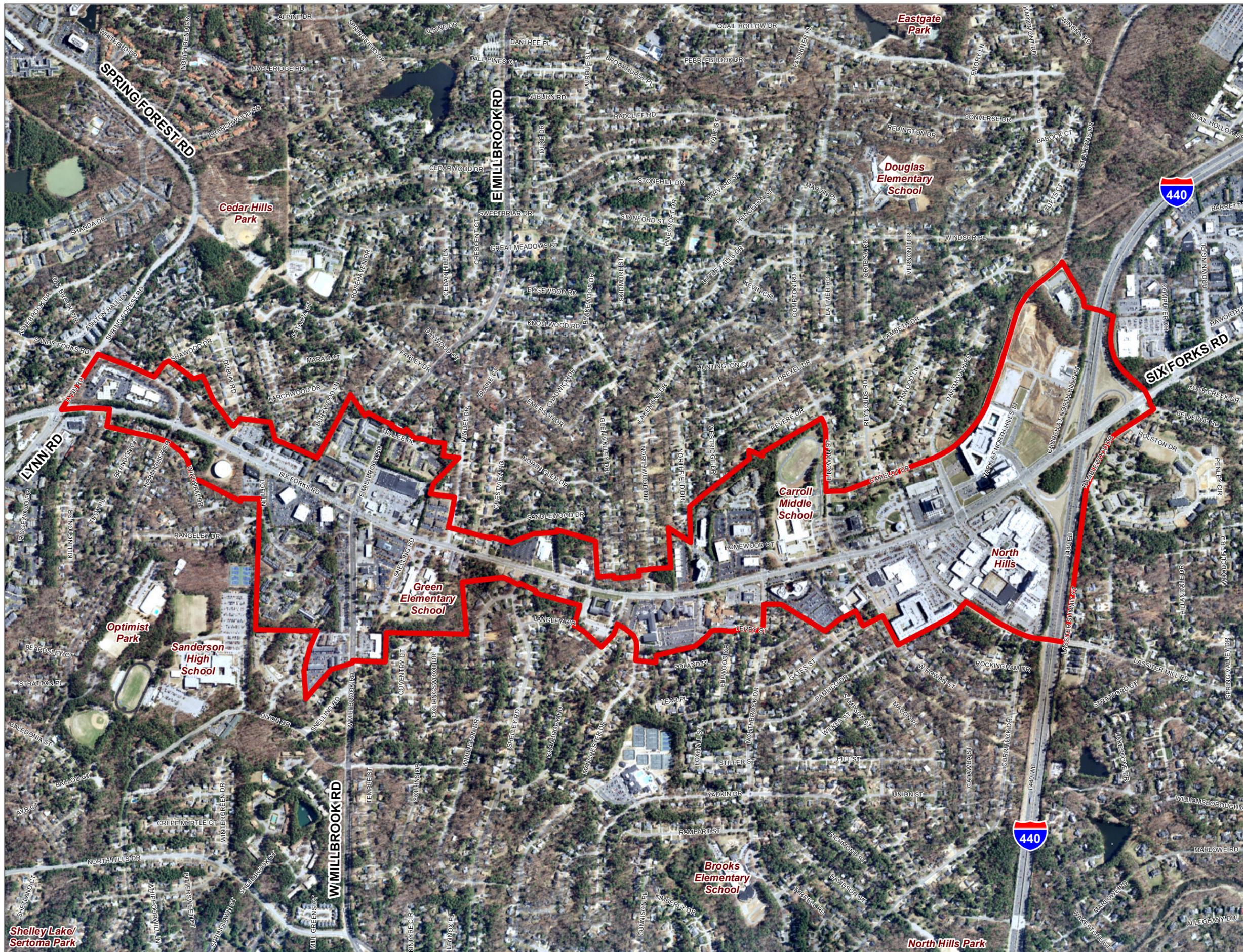
Legend

 Proposed Study Area

09/12/12

Scale - 1" = 1000'

0 500 1,000
Feet



VISIONING WORKSHOP

Special thanks to First Citizens Bank and the Midtown Raleigh Alliance

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The workshop began with a City Staff presentation on existing conditions and streetscape treatments used in other cities



Participants developed lists of issues and opportunities, as well as alternate concepts for the future, while in one of eight break out groups during the session



Staff prepared maps of existing conditions and current plans to be used as resources and the workshop

Executive Summary

Introduction

Staff from the Planning and Development Department and Public Works Department met with area business and institutional representatives and neighborhood residents Saturday, September 22 at First Citizens Center for a visioning workshop to discuss the Six Forks Road Corridor. The group participating in the work session consisted of city staff from the Planning and Development Department and Public Works Department as well as over 60 business and institutional representatives, design professionals and community members.

Vision Statement (Draft - 12/4/12)

Our vision is to enhance the Six Forks Road corridor in a way that defines a unique sense of place with enhanced fluidity of movement, environmental sensitivity, and connectivity for residents, workers, students, and visitors using transportation modes of all types, including cars, bikes, pedestrian, and public transit. The corridor should enable an active pedestrian life and integrate residential, commercial, recreational, educational, faith, and retail uses. Safety and accessibility are paramount in designing a distinctive streetscape that is uniquely Midtown with unifying features and green space that make it both an attractive urban thoroughfare and an irresistible gathering place.

The Vision Statement draft was developed using comments received at the workshop:

- Vision-an urban destination, one of the main streets, multiple centers, mini centers have created mini-urban environments. Recognize everything-have suggested improvements
- Feel good statement: North Hills focus is an issue...should be less commercially oriented, more people oriented
- Address air quality, emissions, and environmental in vision statement
- Neighborhood connectivity
- More of layering of different types of public transit
- Public mass transit
- De-commercialize the statement
- First line in vision statement too long

Process

During the one day workshop the group listened to a presentation and then was divided into smaller break out groups to review and comment on the draft vision statement, generate lists of issues and opportunities, and develop alternate concepts for the future of the area. The workshop yielded a great deal of active discussion between staff and community members

Each group presented its concept to the larger group and was reviewed. City staff has evaluated each concept and subsequent analysis from the workshop and has compiled this information in the following summary report.

Key Findings

Recommendations produced through the eight breakout groups were categorized by six themes:

- Public Realm /Streetscape
- Multimodal Transit Infrastructure
- Neighborhood Character
- Roadway Capacity
- Building Form and Height
- Land Use/Future Land Use and Zoning

Quick Fixes

From the recommendations, action items, or "quick fixes" to address more immediate issues were identified:

- Trim overgrown vegetation in street rights-of-way and overgrown grass in medians
- Fix broken streetlights in the study area
- Adjust traffic signal timing and pedestrian signal timing to prioritize pedestrian flow
- Add landscaping/plantings in existing medians
- Perform a Safe Routes to School Evaluation for access opportunities to schools
- Develop and install wayfinding signage for bicycle, pedestrian and vehicular users along the corridor
- Analyze opportunities for access management along the corridor
- Amend City's Future Land Use Map to help facilitate future mixed use development along corridor
- Relocate bus stop locations closer to intersections
- Install additional bus stop shelters
- Conduct access control analysis – improve access to North Hills from shopping center, eliminate multiple driveways on single properties
- Install sidewalk in gaps on streets in the study area, including the portion of Six Forks Road in front of Carroll Middle School



Multi-modal streetscape concept

Issues

Breakout groups at the workshop generated a list of area features they viewed as issues or weaknesses that needed to be addressed. They are grouped into themes based on public realm and streetscape improvements, multi-modal infrastructure, neighborhood character, roadway capacity, building form and height, and land use and zoning.

Public Realm/Streetscape

- Narrow sidewalks without adequate separation between pedestrians and vehicle travel lanes
- Lack of sidewalk along Six Forks Road in front of Carroll Middle School
- Unpleasant experience trying to walk or bike the corridor
- Lack of sidewalks on periphery of study area and in surrounding neighborhoods
- Poor sidewalk conditions in certain areas
- Pedestrian safety
- Pedestrian crossing signal timing at intersections and pedestrian crossings
- People are crossing midblock at the Food Lion near Millbrook Road
- Hard to cross Six Forks Road to reach churches from senior living and condominiums
- Lack of marked crosswalks and signal countdown timers
- Pedestrian safety at right in/right out driveways along corridor
- Pedestrian and bicycle safety on I-440 bridge over Six Forks Road
- Pedestrian crossings at ramps/exits to Six Forks Road at I-440
- Pedestrian and bicycle safety on I-440 bridge over Lassiter Mill Road
- Poor street lighting along corridor and at intersections
- Broken street lights in locations
- Poor street lighting in locations on nearby streets
- Poor visibility and obstructed sidewalks due to overgrown vegetation in rights-of-way
- Inconsistent street planting and gaps in plantings along corridor

Multi-Modal Transit Infrastructure

- Frequency of bus service
- Lack of bus shelters
- No crosstown expressway transfer from Downtown

Neighborhood Character

- Lack of connectivity and street grid system to provide alternative routes
- Lack of transitions from development on Six Forks Roads to surrounding neighborhoods
- Reduction of buffers to adjacent residential neighborhoods
- Aesthetics of rear areas of commercial and institutional development toward neighborhoods
- Gates Street missing speed bumps
- Lack of connection to area greenways

Roadway Capacity

- Traffic congestion on Six Forks Road, including additional seasonal congestion at North Hills
- School traffic on Gates Street and Rowan Street
- Traffic congestion along Lassiter Mill Road
- Traffic bottlenecks at certain intersections
- No right turn lanes back up traffic at locations
- Cut through traffic concerns
- Vehicular conflicts in front of North Hills
- Speeding problems
- Inconsistent speed limits
- Accidents along corridor
- Long delay for minor street movements
- Turning lane issues to/from side streets and driveways
- Egress issues – vehicular traffic entering and exiting individual driveways on corridor
- Tight turning radii at certain intersections
- Limited sight distance visibility in locations
- Lack of vehicular access onto Millbrook Road for Green Elementary School
- Inconsistent street width along corridor
- Lack of width for designated transit lanes
- Lack of bike lanes along corridor
- Traffic signals along corridor are poorly timed and not well coordinated
- Signals have long delay for side streets and major street left turns
- Lack of wayfinding signage
- Users avoid corridor and choose alternatives

Building Form and Height

- Current development pattern is generally suburban in nature
- Several single-family houses front directly on Six Forks Road
- Size and depth of single-family lots fronting on Six Forks make it difficult to redevelop them for non-residential uses

Land Use/Future Land Use and Zoning

- Shift in development character along corridor
- Inappropriate Future Land Use Map (FLUM) designations for some properties along Six Forks Road



Pedestrian crosswalk at Six Forks Road and Lassiter Mill Road



Lack of sidewalk on Six Forks Road in front of Carroll Middle School

Opportunities

Participants were asked to identify opportunities for improvements for the area:

- Make the corridor pedestrian and bicycle friendly
- Enhance streetscape features and pedestrian amenities
- Engage neighborhoods and residents in planning process
- Increase multi-modal transportation choices
- Enhance connection to surrounding neighborhoods, encouraging walking and bicycling
- Ensure appropriate transitions to surrounding neighborhoods
- Increase capacity of corridor while keeping it pedestrian friendly
- Enhance ability for pedestrians and bicyclists to safely cross Six Forks Road
- Delineate connections to area greenways
- Create connections to mass transit/light rail
- Enhance connection to Duke Raleigh/Wellness and Wake Forest Road
- Help ensure better traffic flow on corridor
- Create better connections to schools, parks and institutions
- Improve street gridding and connectivity in the area
- Help encourage walking and biking at periphery of study area and within neighborhoods
- Encourage walking to schools through Safe Routes to School implementation
- Increase residential density to foster mass transit
- Develop guidance for future land use designations and development along corridor
- Address environmental concerns
- Create a streetscape that is uniquely Midtown with common design elements



Office and mixed use development in North Hills East



Office development along Six Forks Road near Sandy Forks Road



Shopping center at Six Forks Road and Lassiter Mill Road



New office building along Six Forks Road

Development and Program Ideas

Ideas developed at the workshop were compiled and categorized into the six project themes.

Public Realm/Streetscape

- Wider and continuous sidewalks along the corridor or a multi-use path that connect to surrounding neighborhoods
- More street trees between street and sidewalks
- Introduce consistent, low impact, decorative street lighting and additional street trees
- Incorporate pedestrian crossings for multiuse/bike pathway
- Install median along entire corridor with trees and landscaping
- Incorporate public art in median
- Alternate paving treatment (or raised pavers) for crosswalks
- Place utilities underground
- Additional sidewalks in neighborhoods to connect to Six Forks Road
- Greenway connections to Anderson Drive/Lassiter Mill Road, Shelly Road, Northbrook Drive, North Hills East
- Install bike lanes on Six Forks Road
- Adjust signal timing to give pedestrians priority during off peak hours (weekends and school hours)
- Install crosswalks and signal countdowns at appropriate intersections
- Create a separated bike/pedestrian facility on the I-440 bridge, including rail between sidewalk and travel lane
- Construct pedestrian walkway under or bridge across Six Forks Road in vicinity of North Hills
- Bike share stations, including North Hills
- Incorporate Sunday pedestrian crossings between churches and senior housing
- Install traffic light loop detectors for bikes along corridor
- Install bike boxes near North Hills

Multi-Modal Transit Infrastructure

- More frequent bus service – 15 minute headways
- Faster bus service (or shuttle) from North Hills and Downtown
- Locate bus stops in cut outs that are outside of the right-of-way for buses along Six Forks instead of widening
- Potential transit hubs at North Hills and Millbrook Road intersection
- More bus shelters, including a bus shelter in front of senior housing
- Make bus stop shelters attractive facilities with possible public art pieces
- Relocate bus stops closer to intersections to discourage midblock crossings
- People in area do not use existing transit-provide smaller buses with shorter routes
- Connect Six Forks Road and Wake Forest Road with same bus route
- Connectors across town, including North Hills to Glenwood South
- Circulators for neighborhoods
- Interest in a people mover from North Hills to future transit station

Neighborhood Character

- Enhance connections to surrounding neighborhoods
- Additional sidewalks in neighborhoods to connect to Six Forks Road
- Wider sidewalks on existing neighborhood streets
- Greenway connections to Anderson Drive/Lassiter Mill Road, Shelley Road, Northbrook Drive, and North Hills East through neighborhoods
- Potential pocket park locations along Six Forks Road and along west side of Camelot Drive

- City could purchase property on Six Forks south of Honey Baked Ham and convert homes into a park
- Open space or park in place of residential properties fronting on Six Forks Road

Roadway Capacity

- Widen outer lanes on Six Forks Road
- Reduce speed limit on corridor and near schools
- Six Forks Road in front of Carroll Middle School could be widened
- Incorporate variable lane directions on Six Forks Road
- Intersection at Windel Dr need southbound extra right turn lane for Honey Baked Ham/Baskin Robbins
- Want protected left turn phase at northbound Rowan Street/Six Forks Road
- Need to widen Rowan Street and add turn lanes
- Do not want 7 lanes along entire corridor
- More consistent lanes...6 lane widening would be preferred
- Need additional southbound turn lane between Millbrook Road and Northbrook Drive
- Need third southbound through lane between Millbrook Road and Northbrook Drive
- Need safe left turn lane onto eastbound Northbrook Drive west of Six Forks Road
- Median needs to be cut at North Hills
- No turn on red at Landmark Center
- Adopt Transportation Plan - width of 7 lanes (3 way with 1 turning lane)
- Add speed humps on Gates Street
- Turn lane from Six Forks Road south onto Lassiter Mill Road
- Add vehicular access onto Millbrook Road for Green Elementary School
- Please do not widen Six Forks Road. This will be bad for our neighborhood
- Put police at Intersection
- Is it possible to open Atlantic Avenue to the Beltline to provide an alternative route?

Building Form and Height

- Use of moderate building setbacks can make road feel less intimidating
- Recommend taller buildings located closer to road with parking in the rear
- Incorporate higher density for residential

Land Use/Future Land Use and Zoning

- Future Land Use Map (FLUM) - single residence land use not appropriate along corridor
- Northbrook Street to Millbrook Road – recommend mixed use, 4-5 story buildings closer to the street with live/work units and parking behind
- North of Millbrook Road – recommend 2-3 stories with suburban character
- Mixed Use FLUM/development North of Windel Drive

Redevelopment Opportunities

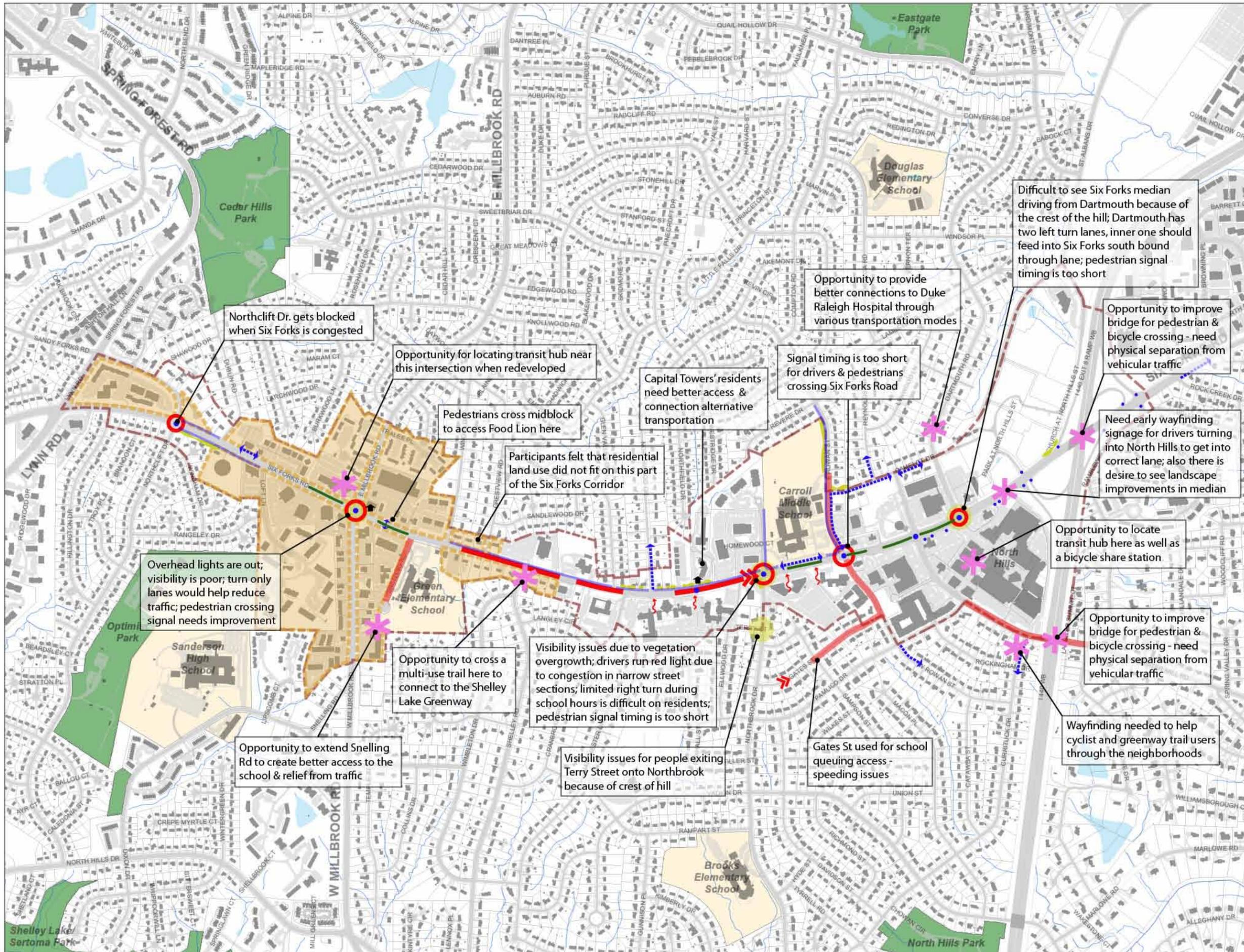
- Possible redevelopment opportunities at Millbrook Road and Six Forks Road (all four corners)
- Shopping center at Millbrook Road intersection should grow up, not out
- Potential large redevelopment site at apartment property on Loft Lane
- New retirement center at North Hills East

Program Ideas

- Expand study area to east side of Camelot Drive and south side of Rowan Street
- Develop community seal
- Promote carpooling
- Develop wayfinding signage for bicycle, pedestrian and vehicular users
- Provide development incentives for mixed use development
- Develop bike share program

Six Forks Road Corridor Study

Workshop Summary Diagram



LEGEND

Issues

- Lacks Sidewalk Connection
- Sidewalk Too Narrow
- Illegal Pedestrian Crossing
- Substandard Pedestrian Crossing
- Blocked Visibility
- Overgrown Shrubbery
- Street Too Narrow
- Congestion off Six Forks Rd
- Traffic Signal or Lane Issue
- Speeding
- Illegal Cut-Through Use

Opportunities

- Mixed Use Redevelopment
- Proposed Improvement
- Add 14' Median
- Add Shelter at Bus Stop

11/02/2012

0 500 1,000 Feet



Appendix

The appendix contains the comments and maps generated by the various breakout tables at the visioning workshop.

Visioning Workshop Breakout Table 1

Vision Statement:

- No Changes

Issues

- Lynn Road to Millbrook Road traffic bad at certain times
- Traffic signal have long delay
- Signals along corridor are not well coordinated
- Signals along Lead Mine Road/Millbrook Road poorly timed
- Bus shelters not a major factor in choosing transit but they make it more attractive
- Connect Six Forks Road and Wake Forest Road with same route
- Bus not a major carrier for journey-to-work trips
- Intersection at Windel Drive needs southbound extra right turn lane for Honey Baked Ham/Baskin Robbins
- Want protected left turn phase at northbound Rowan Street/Six Forks Road
- Need to widen Rowan Street and add turn lanes
- Long delay for minor street movements at Six Forks Road/Rowan Street and Six Forks Road/Northbrook Drive
- Landscaping along Six Forks Road is good
- Do not want 7 lanes along entire corridor
- Not enough separation between vehicle travel lanes and adjacent sidewalk
- Need rail between sidewalk and travel lane on I-440 bridge
- Would like a pedestrian bridge over Six Forks Road
- Would like public art/trees in median
- Need additional southbound turn lane between Millbrook Road and Northbrook Drive BUT not without wider sidewalks greater separation between curb and sidewalk
- Would like medians to be vegetative, not monolithic concrete
- Moderate setback, greenway make a big difference in attractiveness; also pedestrian amenities

Opportunities

- Moderate setbacks - make road feel less intimidating
- Signals have long delay for side streets and major street left turns
- People in area do not use transit-provide smaller buses
- Sidewalks to narrow-not enough separation between pedestrians and vehicle travel lanes
- Landscaping very important to character of the corridor - medians must be planted or public art (not monolithic concrete)
- Need third southbound through lane between Millbrook Road and Northbrook Drive

Visioning Workshop Breakout Table 2

Issues

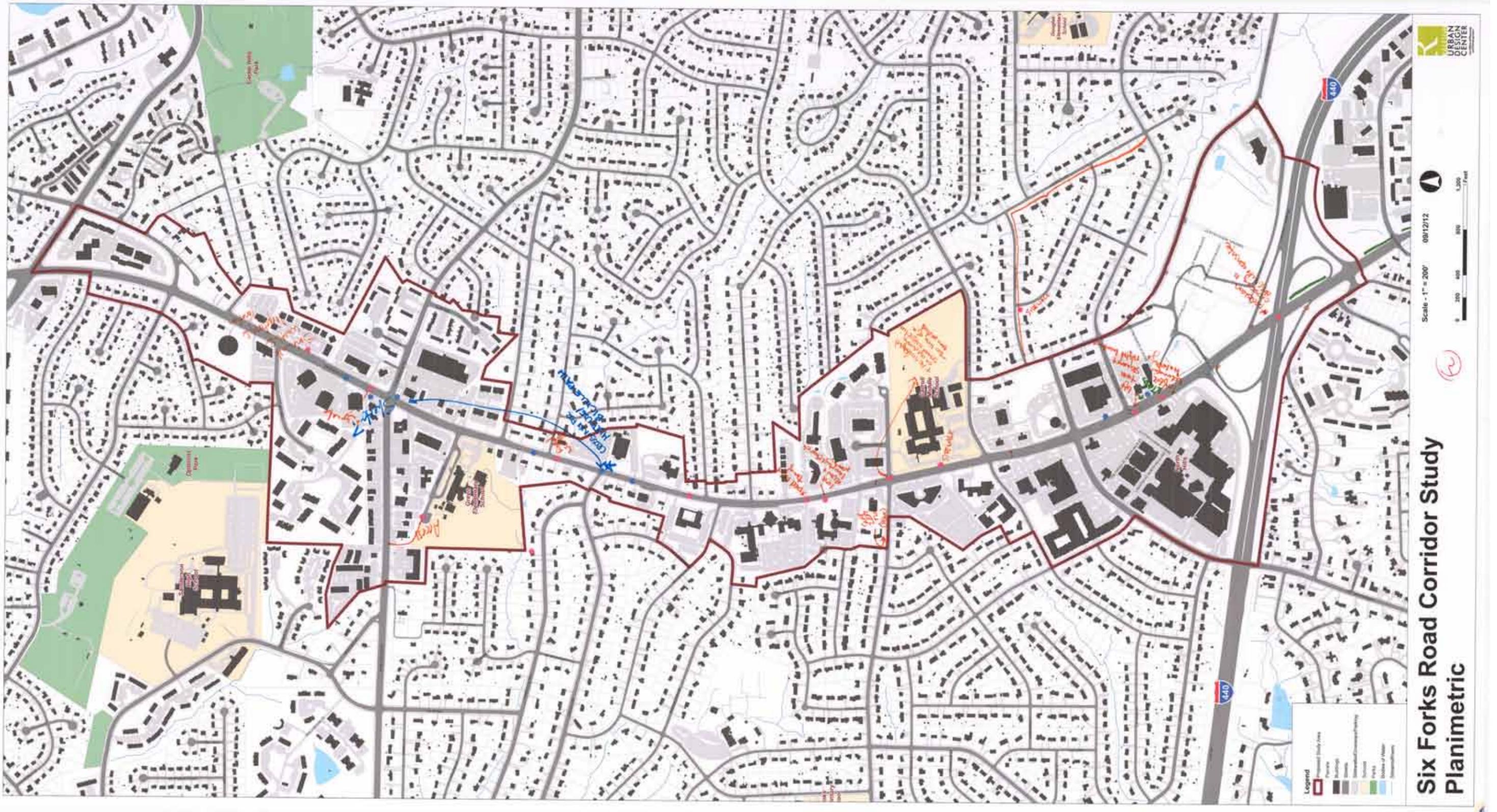
- Not enough room for designated transit lane, shared-perhaps
- Flexible timing between signals
- Inconsistent speed limit along corridor – I-440 to Millbrook Road
- Dartmouth has two left lanes, the inside lane should feed into through lane
- Signage for North Hills at Dartmouth street two left turns
- By Trinity Church right-of-way street widening into church parking...center turn lane backs up- restrict left turns in narrow street section
- Green Elementary School needs through street access to Millbrook Road
- Trees by North Hills are a pedestrian concern
- Better pedestrian access to North Hills
- Underground utilities at North Hills
- Seasonal traffic congestion at North Hills
- Millbrook Road to Lynn Road backed up traffic
- Church traffic at Terry Street and Northbrook Drive sight distance issue visibility limited
- Reynolds Road - sidewalk and pedestrian connection to get to North Hills
- Lack of sidewalk along Six Forks Road in front of Carroll Middle School
- Sidewalk on east side of Six Forks Road south of I-440
- Pedestrian crossings at ramps to Six Forks Road at I-440
- Left turn signal and right turn location – southbound on Six Forks Road from Dartmouth Street
- Lack of street trees along east side of Six Forks Road between Front at North Hills Street and Lassiter Mill Road
- No turn on red during school time, too long a time period at Six Forks Road and Northbrook Drive
- Need safe left turn lane onto eastbound Northbrook Drive west of Six Forks Road
- No sidewalk on Reynolds Road and Lambeth Drive east of Six Forks Road
- Lost right-of-way and limited church parking between Northbrook Drive and Northwood Drive
- Pedestrian crossing light timing
- Lack of vehicular access onto Millbrook Road for Green Elementary School
- Traffic north of Millbrook Road
- Sidewalk width and lighting on east side of Six Forks Road north of Millbrook Road

Opportunities

- More trees between street and sidewalk
- Decorative lights
- More consistent lanes...six lane widening would be preferred
- First phase-consistent street lights and trees between Northbrook Drive and North Hills
- Greenway signage connected to North Hills
- Faster bus service from North Hills and Downtown
- Bike lanes on Six Forks Road not great because moving traffic, Replace with multi use pathways
- Heavily used bus stops need shelters
- Connection to light rail
- Street trees along east side of Six Forks Road between Front at North Hills and Lassiter Mill Road
- Pedestrian crossings for multiuse/bike path

FLUM Issues/Opportunities

- FLUM-single residences land use not appropriate



Visioning Workshop

Breakout Table 3

Issues

- Make sure residents are a part of this process
- Accidents at Six Forks Road and Northbrook Drive, people do not stop for red light, people speed up, street width
- Northbrook Drive and Six Forks Road - bushes block vision and cars do not look for pedestrians
- Overgrown bushes on west side of Six Forks Road south of Northbrook Drive
- Broken lights at Six Forks Road and Northbrook Drive on east side
- Heavy traffic on Six Forks Road
- Pedestrian crossing timing at Six Forks Road and Lassiter Mill Road
- No sidewalk in front of Carroll Middle School
- Lighting at Six Forks Road and Millbrook Road
- Can't walk across Six Forks Road at churches and condos south of Northwood Drive
- Walk signals at Six Forks Road and Millbrook Road are too short
- Vehicle traffic coming in/out of old IBM office buildings north of Millbrook Road
- No left turn signal at Northcliff pool

Opportunities

- Can't change signals, speed limits or walking times
- No turn on red at Landmark Center
- Put police at Intersection
- Lower speed limits
- Walking-Biking at back of building instead of along Six Forks Rd
- Lassiter Mill Road should have longer walk time
- More neighborhood sidewalk connectivity to Six Forks Road, encourage walking
- More walking to/from North Hills
- Sidewalk at Carroll Middle School should go all the way through
- More pathways from residence to Six Forks Rd.
- Widen road at Six Forks and Northwood
- Better lighting at Six Forks Road and West Millbrook Road
- Northcliff-heavy traffic at pool - DO NOT BLOCK INTERSECTION sign should be added
- Median needs to be cut at North Hills
- Need railing for pedestrian safety across I-440 bridge
- Bush trimming all along Six Forks Road
- Put cut outs for buses along Six Forks vs. widening
- Shuttle from North Hills to Downtown
- Bike share stations, including North Hills
- Bike lanes on Six Forks Road
- Biking along eastern edge of study area

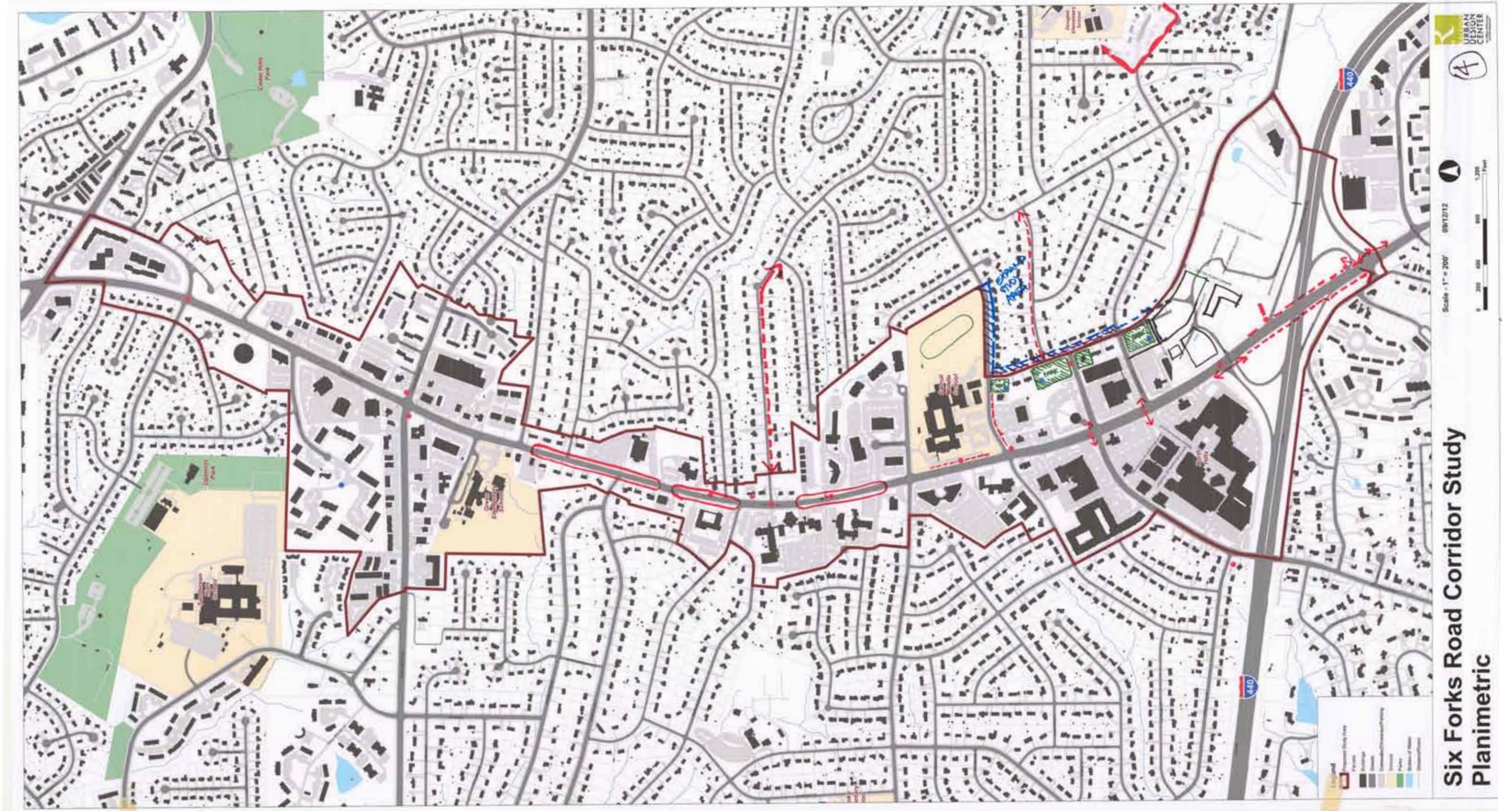
Visioning Workshop Breakout Table 4

Issues

- Poor sidewalks
- Over hanging vegetation
- Egress issues
- Needs landscaping in median
- No right turn lanes which backs up traffic
- Signage about greenways needs to be added
- Transitions to neighborhoods
- Lack of/poor condition/width of sidewalks along SF:
 - I-440 bridge
 - East side of Camelot Drive
 - North side of Reynolds Road
 - South side of East Rowan Street to Camelot Drive
 - Six Forks Road in front of Carroll Middle School
 - South side of Northwood Drive
- Street widths between Northbrook Drive and Northwood Drive, Cranbrook Road and Windel Drive
- Pedestrian crossings at Dartmouth Street, Lassiter Mill Road, Front at North Hills Street/on ramp, Millbrook Road, and Northcliff drive

Opportunities

- Transit- more shelters, more frequent service
- Possible pocket park locations
- Park/open spaces west of Camelot Drive
- Possible large redevelopment of properties at Millbrook Road and Six Forks Road (all 4 corners)
- Expand study area to east side of Camelot Drive and south side of Rowan Street
- Redevelopment site – apartment on Loft Lane



Visioning Workshop Breakout Table 5

Vision Statement

- Vision-an urban destination, one of the main streets, multiple centers, mini centers have created mini-urban environments. Recognize everything-have suggested improvements
- Feel good statement: North Hills focus is an issue...less commercially oriented, more people oriented

Issues

- Users avoid corridor now and choose alternative
- Gates Street missing speed bumps - safety issues generally for the corridor
- Six Forks Road backed up to beltline
- School traffic on Gates Street and Rowan Street
- Traffic bottleneck at SF and Northbrook
- Turning radii at SF and Northbrook
- Cut through traffic through Trinity Baptist Church property
- Turning radii at Kelly Road

Opportunities

- How to reduce traffic? Adopt Transportation Plan - width of 7 lanes (3 way with 1 turning lane)
- Six Forks Road - major connector with no crosstown express way transfer from downtown
- North Raleigh to beltline (Falls of Neuse Road. Six Forks Road/Sandy Forks Road)
- De-Commercialize the statement
- Environmental concerns, visibility
- North Hills is a great area, fortunate, support, wonderful area, enhance and consider our future
- Mixed use
- Increased capacity is essential
- Visibility environmental concerns, median landscaping
- Community seal
- Multi-modal transport
- Widen outer lanes
- Low impact lighting
- Connectivity (not easy way to get to other places, burden on Six Forks Road)
- Buffer and transition to neighborhoods around buffer reduction is a concern
- Live/Work units
- Safety
- Parking locations
- Air quality and environmental in vision statement
- Cut through traffic concerns
- Community of sidewalks and bike paths
- Health and Air quality
- Six Forks Road south-sidewalks on one side-pedestrian over bridge
- Speed humps on Gates Street
- Enhance streetscape along Six Forks Road
- Improve street gridding and connectivity
- Positioned in great location
- Bike lanes/amenities
- Pedestrian friendly focus
- Landscaping to soothe traffic impacts
- Improve street gridding
- Transitions to surrounding neighborhoods
- Median preferred
- Schools to integrate connection to corridor

FLUM changes

- Northbrook Drive to Millbrook Road – Mixed Use, 4-5 stories w/ live/work, parking behind and buildings closer to the street
- North of Millbrook Road – 2-3 stories with suburban character

Visioning Workshop Breakout Table 6

Vision Statement - would like to see these things added to statement

- Emissions
- Neighborhood Connectivity
- More of layering of different types of public transit
- Public mass transit

Issues

- Pedestrian crossing
- Signal light count
- Dangerous crosswalk at Northbrook drive
- Vehicular conflicts in front of North Hills
- Do not add bike lanes on Six Forks Road
- Need bike lanes along Six Forks
- Need to keep Midtown pedestrian friendly
- Don't want Midtown to become "Capital Blvd"
- Pedestrian crossing across I-440 on Lassiter Mill Road, raise bridge barriers on Lassiter Mill Road
- No railings for pedestrians along I-440 bridge
- Pedestrian crossing across I-440 bridge
- Signage...way finding signs
- Connection to greenway (North Hills and parks)
- Reduce speed limits near schools
- Visibility bad because of shrubs (needs to be maintained)
- Signal timing at Dartmouth and Camelot Drive
- Missing crosswalk and signal countdown at Lassiter Mill Road at Six Forks Road
- Character shift at Rowan Street
- Dangerous for pedestrians at Northbrook Drive and Six Forks Road, adjust signal timing
- Congestion on Six Forks Road north of Northbrook Drive
- Eyesores for single-family houses fronting on Six Forks Road
- Snelling Road and Six Forks Road intersection

Opportunities

- Greenway connection at Lassiter Mill Road
- Bridge system to connect at Lassiter Mill Road/Country Club Hills
- Change nature of pavement (raised pavers) to help reduce speeding
- Would be nice if City of Raleigh could purchase property on Six Forks Road south of Honey Baked Ham and convert homes into a park (greenway to Shelly Lake)
- Change lighting...more of a urban feel (Northbrook/Ramblewood/Six Forks)
- Create pedestrian overpasses/crossovers
- Promote carpooling
- Circulator for neighborhoods
- Connector to mass transit
- Greenway connection along Lassiter Mill Road
- Wayfinding around North Hills
- Variable lane direction on Six Forks Road
- Greenway connection along Shelley Road
- Open space/park in place of residential properties fronting on Six Forks Road
- Alternate paving treatment at Six Forks Road at Millbrook Road intersection

Visioning Workshop Breakout Table 7

Vision Statement

- First line in vision statement is too long

Issues

- I-440 bridge over Six Forks Road sometimes feels like you may fall over
- Narrow sidewalks (walking south)
- Bridge safety – pedestrian crossing on I-440 bridge
- Bridge safety – Lassiter Mill Road
- Bus stop/traffic congestion along Lassiter Mill Road
- Pedestrian crossings/pedestrian light timing at Dartmouth Street and Six Forks Road and Lassiter Mill Road at Six Forks Road
- Lighting along Camelot Drive behind First Citizens Bank (round building)
- Median on Dartmouth Street
- Pedestrian crossing at Dartmouth Street and Rowan Street
- Fenced area behind Carroll Middle School – aesthetics
- Overgrown bushes at Rowan Street and Camelot Drive
- Pedestrian safety at right in/right out at Shopping Center
- Pedestrian light timing and no crosswalk button at Six Forks Road and Rowan Street
- Street width between Northbrook Drive and Windel Drive
- Pedestrian safety at Millbrook Road intersection

Opportunities

- Connectors from North Hills to Glenwood South
- Potential hub at North Hills
- Circulators for neighbors to get around North Hills
- Connectors across town
- Connection(s) to light rail opportunities
- More bus shelters
- 15 minute headways
- Capital Towers
- Six Forks Road can be used as a transit corridor
- Capital Towers-pull off on frontage
- High density will foster mass transit
- Higher density for residential
- Wayfinding signage issues for greenway, neighborhoods
- Closer to road, taller height, parking lot in back
- Office parking in back/visitor parking in front for buildings along Six Forks Road
- Median along entire corridor
- Wider sidewalks on north side of Rowan Street along Carroll Middle School
- Buffered pedestrian area at Pamlico Drive and Lassiter Mill Road idea good for other intersections
- Street in front of Carroll Middle School could be widened
- Sunday pedestrian crossings between churches and senior housing
- Bus shelter in front of senior housing at east side of Six Forks Road
- Bus stops located outside of right-of-way
- Shopping center at Millbrook Road should grow up, not out
- Bus hub at Millbrook Road intersection
- Underground utilities

Visioning Workshop

Breakout Table 8

Issues

- Terrifying experiences trying to walk or bike the corridor
- I-440 Bridge is a barrier for all modes of traffic
- The area lacks a grid system to provide alternative routes for travel
- Crossing Six Forks is really challenging as a pedestrian—signal timing doesn't allow enough time to cross safely
- Would be interesting to study the schools and the number of students that live close enough to walk or bike to school
- There is no sidewalk in front of Carroll Middle School
- People are crossing midblock at the Food Lion near Millbrook Road - very dangerous
- There is a speed problem, traffic needs to slow down
- No sidewalk along Six Forks Road in front of Carroll Middle School
- Pedestrian connections along Six Forks Road at intersections
- Senior living access to churches

Opportunities

- Possible to open Atlantic Avenue to the Beltline to provide an alternative route?
- Need wayfinding signage to existing greenway trails
- Interested in a people mover from North Hills to future transit station
-St. Albans Drive to New Hope Church Road
- Suggest mixed use zoning from Windel Drive to Spring Forest Road
- Need streetscape project—more buildings closer to the street with landscaping and wide medians
- Not convinced on-street parking will work on Six Forks Road with the number of lanes and the amount of traffic currently on Six Forks Road. Good idea, just not sure it will be safe
- Please concentrate on traffic flow along the corridor
- Opportunity to give pedestrian priority in signal timing during off peak hours (weekends and school hours)
- Interested in protected bike lanes or separated bicycle facilities
- Need for a separate bike/ped facility on the I-440 bridge
- Greenway connection to Anderson Drive, Lassiter Mill Road
- Greenway connection to Shelley Lake along Northbrook Drive
- Connection to light rail down Six Forks Road
- Connection to Duke Raleigh/Wellness
- New retirement center at North Hills East
- Safe Routes to School

FLUM changes

- Mixed Use FLUM/development North of Windel Drive

Short Term Opportunities/Quick Fixes

- Wayfinding Signage—bicycle, pedestrian and vehicular
- Access control—improve access to North Hills from shopping center; eliminate multiple drive-ways on single properties
- Signal timing—prioritize pedestrian flow
- Sidewalks—install missing sidewalk gaps on local/residential streets
- Incentives—provide development incentives for mixed use development North of Windel
- Safe Routes to School Evaluation—determine access opportunities to the school, infrastructure and non-infrastructure recommendations
- Bus stop shelters—Attractive facilities, possible public art pieces, such as Athens, GA; relocate bus stops closer to the intersections to discourage midblock crossings

Additional Comments Received Outside of the Workshop

Comment

- Bike lanes on Six Forks Road. (6 people suggested this)
- Pedestrian Walkway over Six Forks Rd. (4 people suggested this)
- Pedestrian Walkway under Six Forks Rd. (1 person suggested this)
- Traffic light loop detectors for bikes (2 people suggested this)
- Traffic light loop detectors for bike-they should be everywhere (1 person suggested this)
- Turn lane from Six Forks Rd. North south onto Lassiter Mill Rd. (2 people suggested this)
- "North Hills Only" exit from 440 (1 person suggested this)
- Bike boxes on Dartmouth @ Six Forks Rd and on the east side of Lassiter Mill Rd. @ Six Forks Rd. (1 person suggested this)

Comment

- A continuous sidewalk on at least one side of Six Forks Road from I-440 to Wake Forest Road. I have walked it several times, usually relating to car maintenance. It is scary crossing Six Forks at points where the sidewalk ends.
- A sidewalk along Six Forks Road in front of Carroll Middle School.

Comment

- I think a walking bridge over Six Forks was talked about way back at the early stages of the new North Hills mall. This idea should be considered again and put in place even before you widen parts of Six Forks Road.

Comment

- Build a walking bridge across Six Forks Suggest between Rowan Street and Dartmouth Street
- Make it a pedestrian-friendly bridge. No steps Wide enough to have a bicycle path in the middle of it and walking section on each side of the bike path.(Make it wide enough for two wheel chairs to be pushed in both directions.
- Have it 100 % screened in to eliminate people from jumping and throwing items on to Six Forks.
- Put up lighting for security. Maybe add a Welcome to Mid Town Raleigh, NC sign. No commercial signs
- Put up security cameras with the possibility of North Hills Police monitoring them.
- Put up a few emergency phones to 911 operator.
- I would not put any seating (benches etc) on the Bridge.
- Cost is always a concern
- Ask for donations. Stores and restaurants on both sides will benefit from the bridge.
- Maybe put a section in brick and have people purchase them.
- North Hills Mall could have a Bridge Sale with a percentage of sales going to the Bridge fund.

Comment

We live on Shelley Road close to Six Forks Road. My children attend Brooks Elementary, I am a teacher at St. Timothy's School, and we shop at North Hills (most often Target!). I would love to walk to these destinations, but I am usually limited by time and distance. With two young children, book bags, work clothes, shopping bags, etc., walking through the neighborhood makes the journey too long. If we do decide to walk we take a long route through the neighborhood or cut through church parking lots, more than doubling the route "as the crow flies". Walking would be so much more achievable if Six Forks road were more pedestrian friendly. The sidewalk is too close to the road and the heavy traffic mixed with high speeds prevents me from wanting to subject my children or myself to this dangerous area. I do regularly run on Six Forks early in the mornings, prior to 6:30 AM when the traffic is light, but this is the only time of day that I feel safe from traffic. Moving the sidewalk back from the street and working in room for bikers would greatly improve the quality of this sought after midtown area.

When Harris Teeter moved across the street, this also prevented many people from the North Hills neighborhood from walking or riding a bike to the grocery store. Crossing Six Forks Road takes quite a bit of courage. I have often thought that an above street walking/ biking bridge would be so nice at the intersection of Dartmouth Street and Six Forks Road.

Comment

Please don't widen Six Forks Road. This will be bad for our neighborhood. There is already too much traffic noise from this road. It will not ease traffic. Cars will come to fill the available space, as you already know. And people will avoid using I-540. which is already designed for heavy traffic.

Comment

Thanks for your efforts in studying this major connector that can only become more crowded as development of land at the Shopping Area continues.

This will call your attention to a seemingly simple means to improve traffic flow near the intersection of Six Forks Road and Northbrook Drive while also greatly improving safety further south in front of St. Timothy School.

Perhaps 30 to 50 yards north of the intersection, a driver traveling South is directed (by white lines on the pavement) to move toward the center of the road into a middle lane as a third (outside) lane is painted into existence. Many (most?) drivers ignore the symbol (one white line) directing movement to the center lane. Rather, they remain on course, which moves them to the "new" outside lane. This creates both an unnecessary traffic impediment and a safety issue.

The traffic impediment is that Eastbound drivers on Northbrook that could otherwise turn "right on Red" onto Six Forks Road are fearful that Southbound traffic on Six Forks Road move from what becomes the center lane into the new curbside lane with potential disastrous results. The result, traffic that might otherwise flow freely from Northbrook South onto Six Forks is impeded and lengthy lines of vehicles needlessly result.

The safety issue is perhaps a hundred or so yards south of the intersection where vehicles are often stopped in this curb lane, waiting for access into St. Timothy's to deliver or drop off children.

Perhaps 200 yards south of the intersection, at the entrance to St. Timothy School, is the safety issue. Southbound traffic on Six Forks moves briskly. Parents' vehicles are often stopped dead in line in the curb-side lane of Six Forks. Were southbound vehicles (not planning to turn right onto Northbrook) forced to remain in their designated (now the center) lane, the only curb-lane traffic would be cars having turned right off of Northbrook Drive. These would necessarily be moving more slowly as they approach the line of standing cars waiting to deliver or pick up their children.

So, to me, the question is why is the "new" third, curbside lane of southbound Six Forks Road not designated a "Right Turn Only" lane? The two lane Southbound traffic would not be impeded, cars could move more readily from Northbrook Southbound onto Six Forks and cars approaching the line of stopped cars in front of St. Timothy would be traveling much slower. Win,win,win,win????

Again, thanks for your efforts to improve all aspects of Six Forks Road, the main gateway to the world for many of us residents in the North Hills area.