

Walkability Audit

BBTA Road Show

Baltimore, MD

January 29, 2015





Part I.

Introduction

Tool Objectives

1. Understand the **value** of walking and the **role** of the built environment in preventing or encouraging it.
2. Identify **improvements** to the built environment that will enhance and encourage walking.
3. Build **relationships** among stakeholders with a variety of interests to improve the environment for walking.

The tool fits if a community...

- is concerned with how the **built environment** encourages and discourages walking.
- seeks to **identify specific improvements** to increase the walking as a mode of transportation.
- can **identify specific neighborhoods**, school zones, districts or corridors where increasing walking is desirable.
- has **multiple stakeholders** that support – or are likely to support - improvements to the pedestrian environment.

Instructors fit if they...

- **understand requirements** for pedestrian safety and comfort in the built environment;
- **recognize details** of the pedestrian environment in real time and explain their in pedestrian safety, convenience and attractiveness; and
- are **aware of policies and practices** that can be used to improve pedestrian environments in the technical assistance community (TAC).

Tool Elements

- 1. Workshop** for large group of stakeholders, may be open to the public, includes:
 - Presentation on the benefits of walkability and directions for walkability audit;
 - Walkability audit to identify barriers walkability in a given area; and
 - Review of audit results.
- 2. Next steps memo.**
- 3. Briefing** for elected officials or other relevant body, such as a planning commission or neighborhood business association.



Part II.

Technical Substance



Walkability: Making the Case

Walkable and Livable Communities Institute

Walkability: Why?



Understanding Walkability



Walkability: How comfortable an area is for walking



How Accessible?



▲
· Arterial



▲
· Arterial

How Accessible?



Which street moves more vehicles per day?

Example of a Complete Street

La Jolla Boulevard, San Diego, CA





78
Feet

STOP

AHEAD



14 Feet



How Welcoming?

Openly Hostile



Intolerant

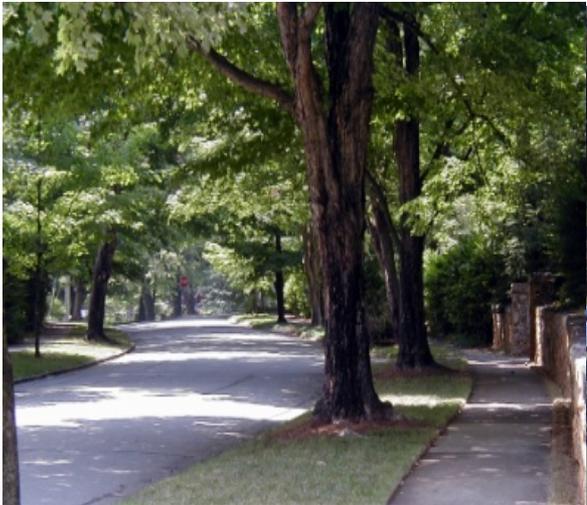


How Welcoming?

Tolerant



Supportive



How Welcoming?

Noteworthy





Part II: Deterrents to Walkability

Incomplete Streets



Improperly Placed Driveways



Missing Sidewalks



Lack of Marked Crossings





Part II: Tools to Encourage Walkability

Crosswalk Visibility



Pedestrian Refuge Island



Colorized Bike Lanes



Imagine Walkability - Before



Imagine Walkability - After





Practicing Assessment

Walkable OR Not Walkable?



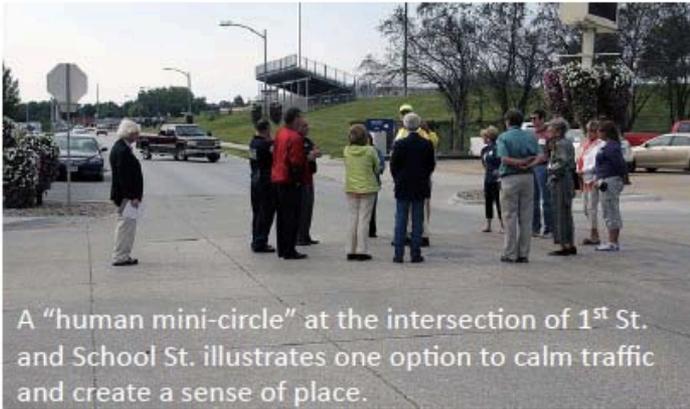
Walkable OR Not Walkable?





Walking Audit Survey Tool

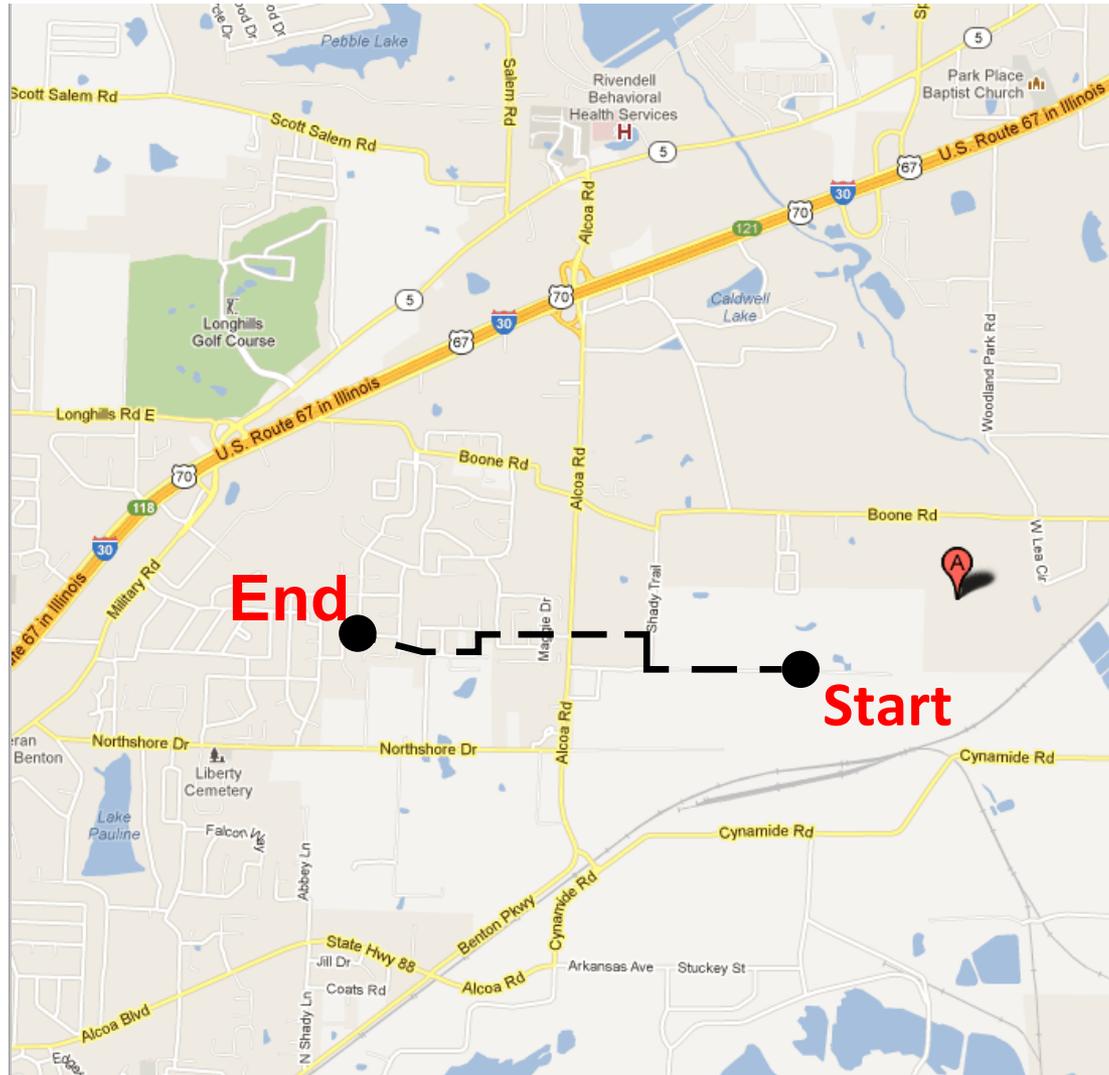
Audit



A "human mini-circle" at the intersection of 1st St. and School St. illustrates one option to calm traffic and create a sense of place.

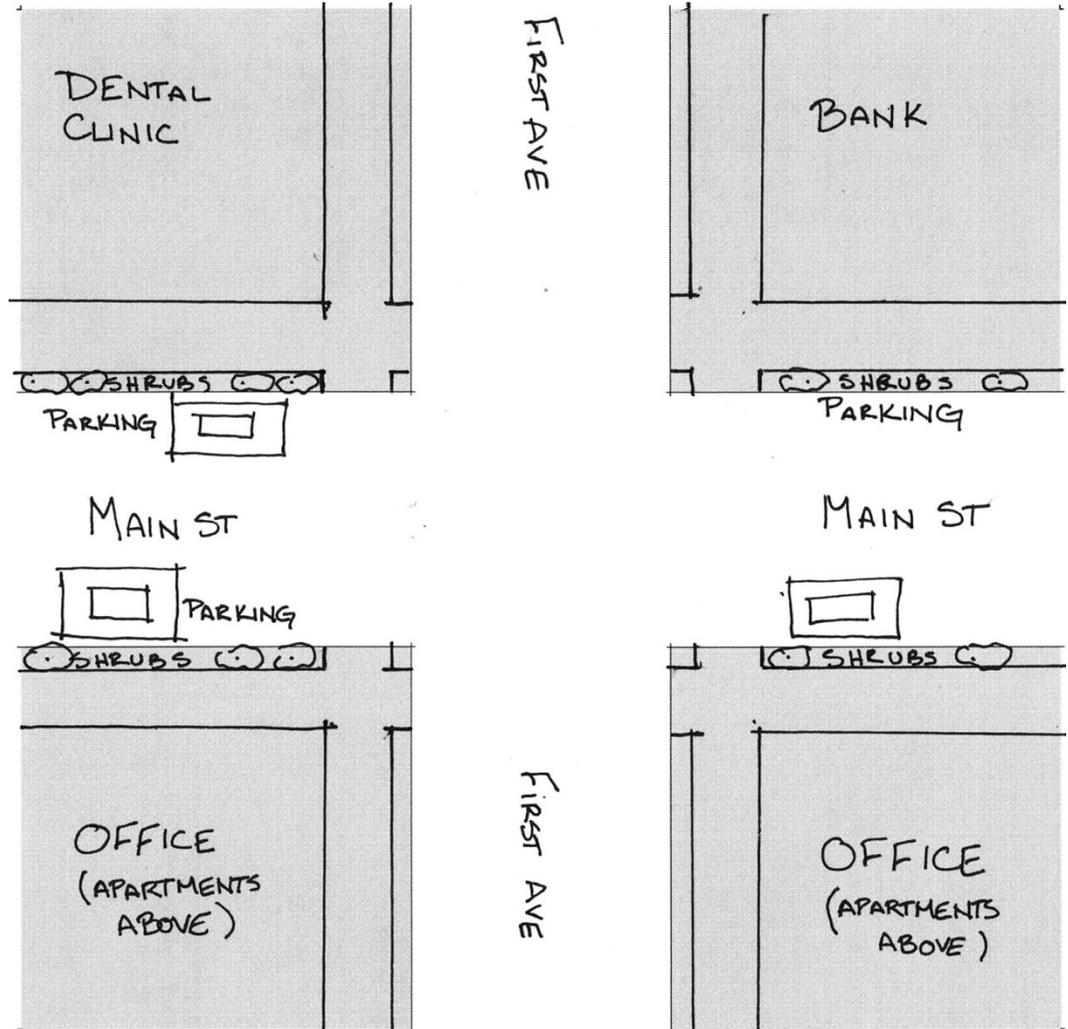


Walking Audit Route Map

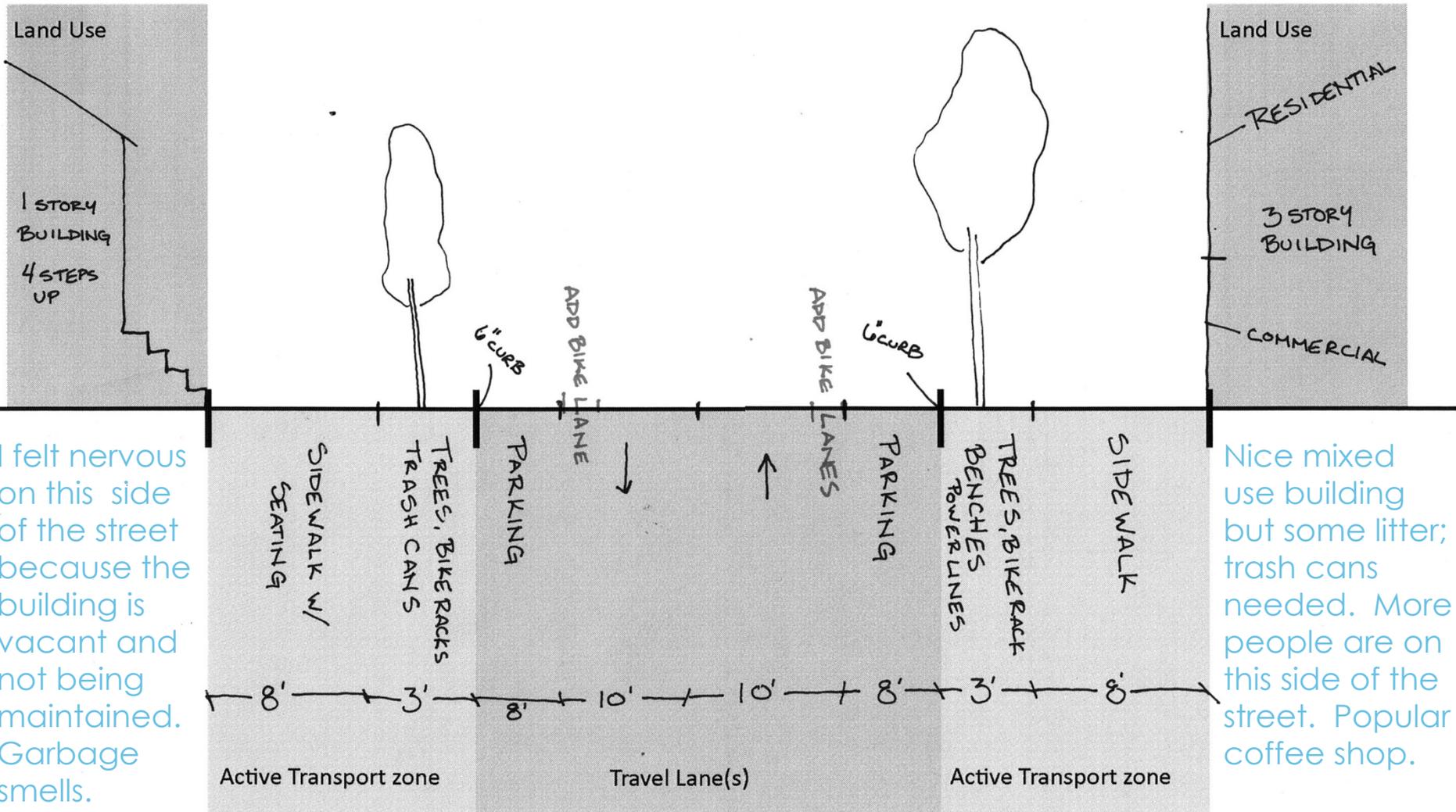


Intersection Sketch

- Layer in Observations



Street Sketch



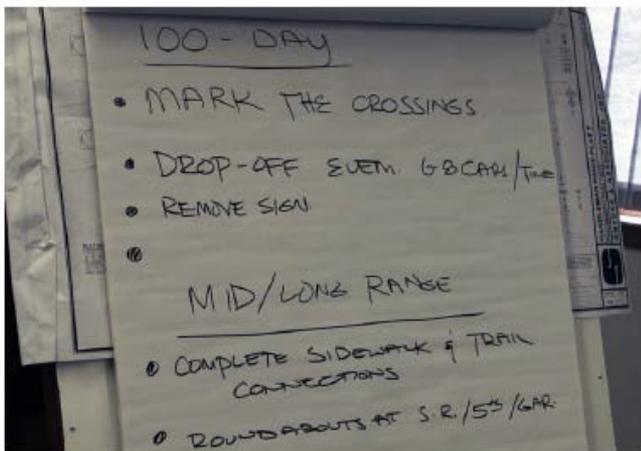
I felt nervous on this side of the street because the building is vacant and not being maintained. Garbage smells.

Nice mixed use building but some litter; trash cans needed. More people are on this side of the street. Popular coffee shop.

Survey Legend

	<i>Needs Improvement</i>	<i>N/A or Adequate</i>	<i>High Quality</i>	Notes and Observations
1. Street				
Sidewalk				
• Width_____				
• Condition				
• Maintenance				
• Materials				
• Buffer				
• Pedestrian Behavior				
Bike Lanes				
• Width_____				
• Condition				
• Maintenance				
• Materials				
• Buffer				

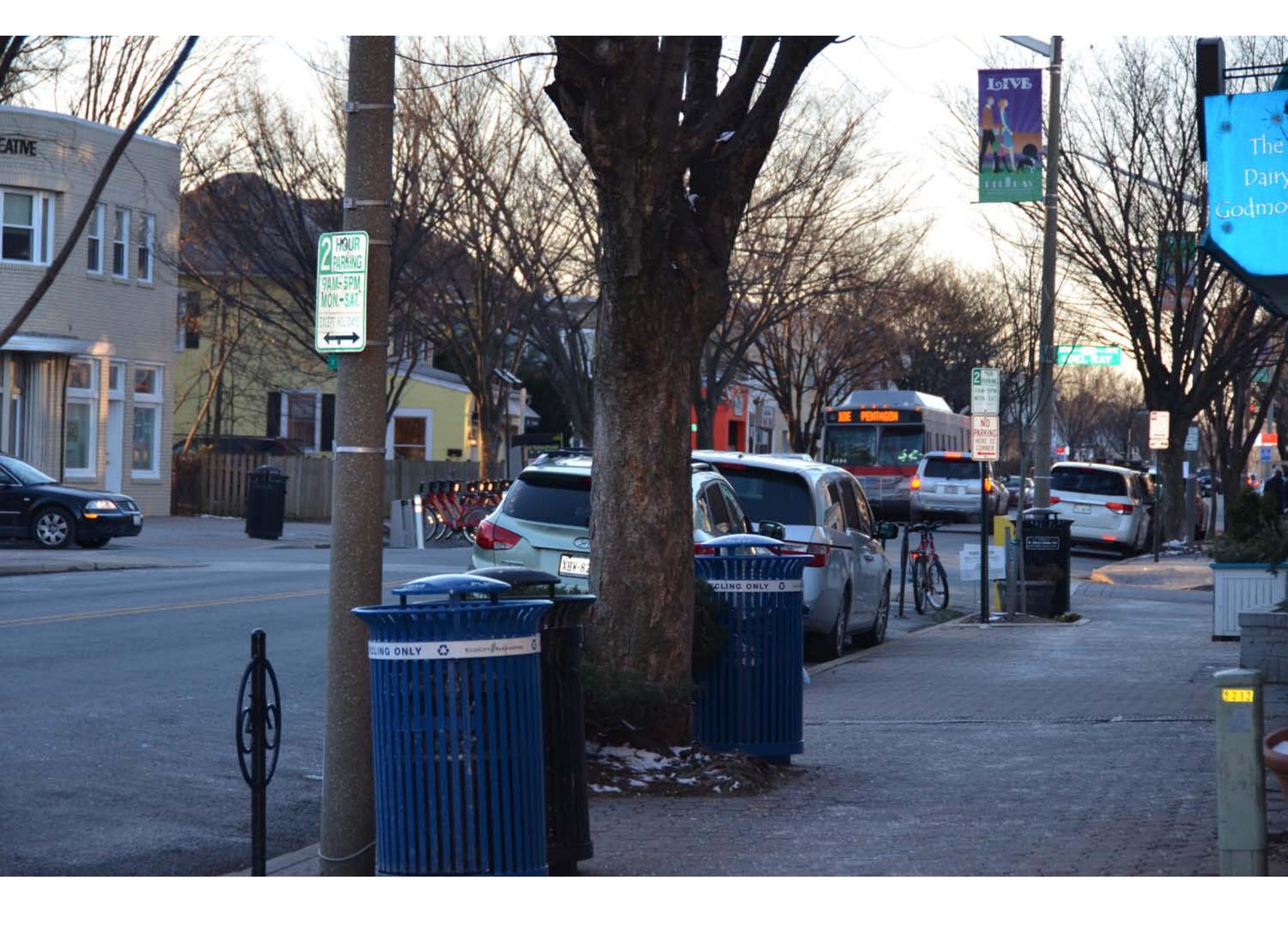
Discussing Audit Results





Part IV.

Your Turn



2 HOUR PARKING
9AM-5PM
MON-SAT
EXCEPT HOLIDAYS
← →

2 HOUR PARKING
9AM-5PM
MON-SAT
NO PARKING
HERE TO CORNER

LOVE
THE DOGS

The Dairy Godmo

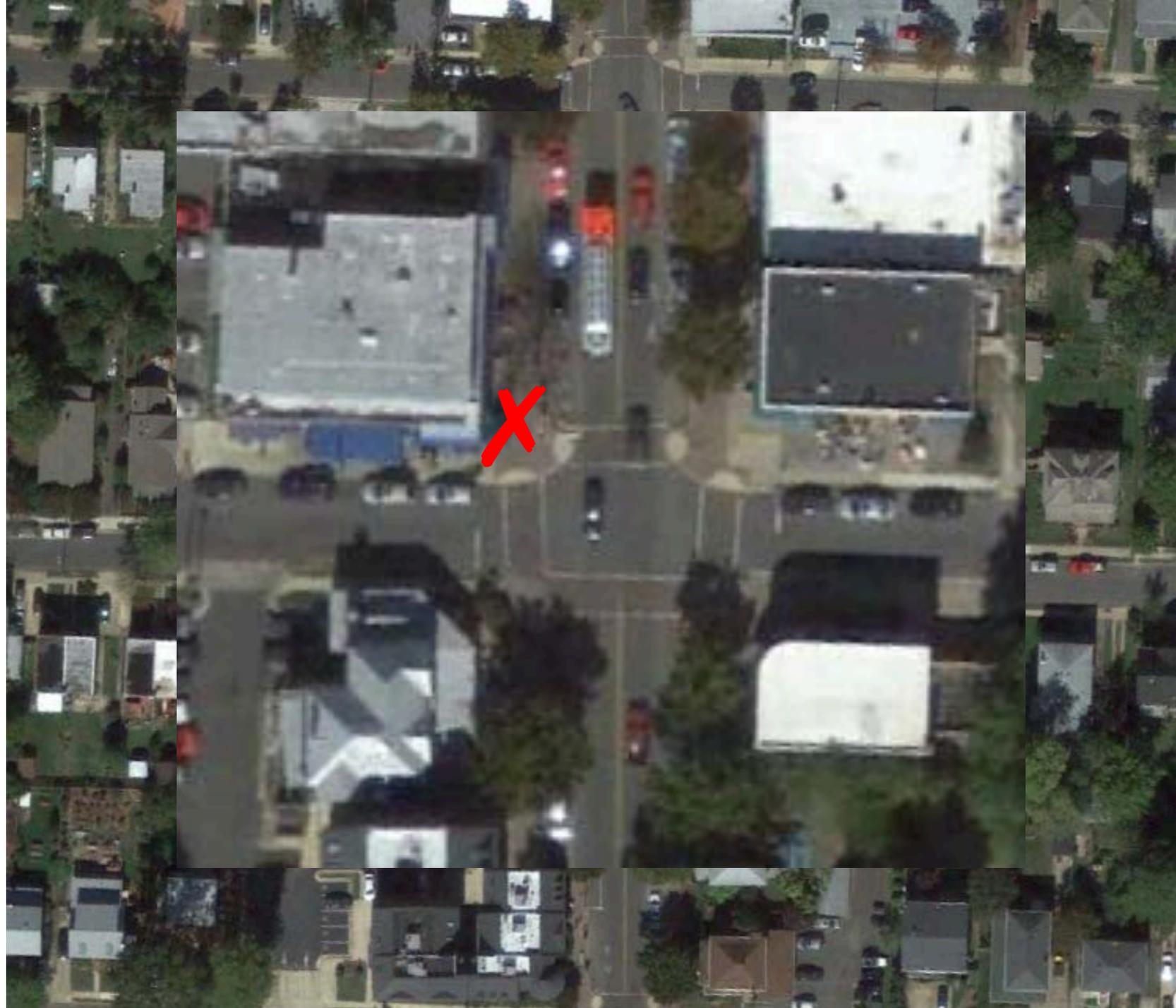
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THE POND

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