

# Tactical Transit

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Bus & Paratransit Conference





# Tactical Urbanism for Transit: **Using Parklets as Bus Stops**

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Transportation Planner

AC Transit

Oakland, CA

# AC Transit



# Oakland CA



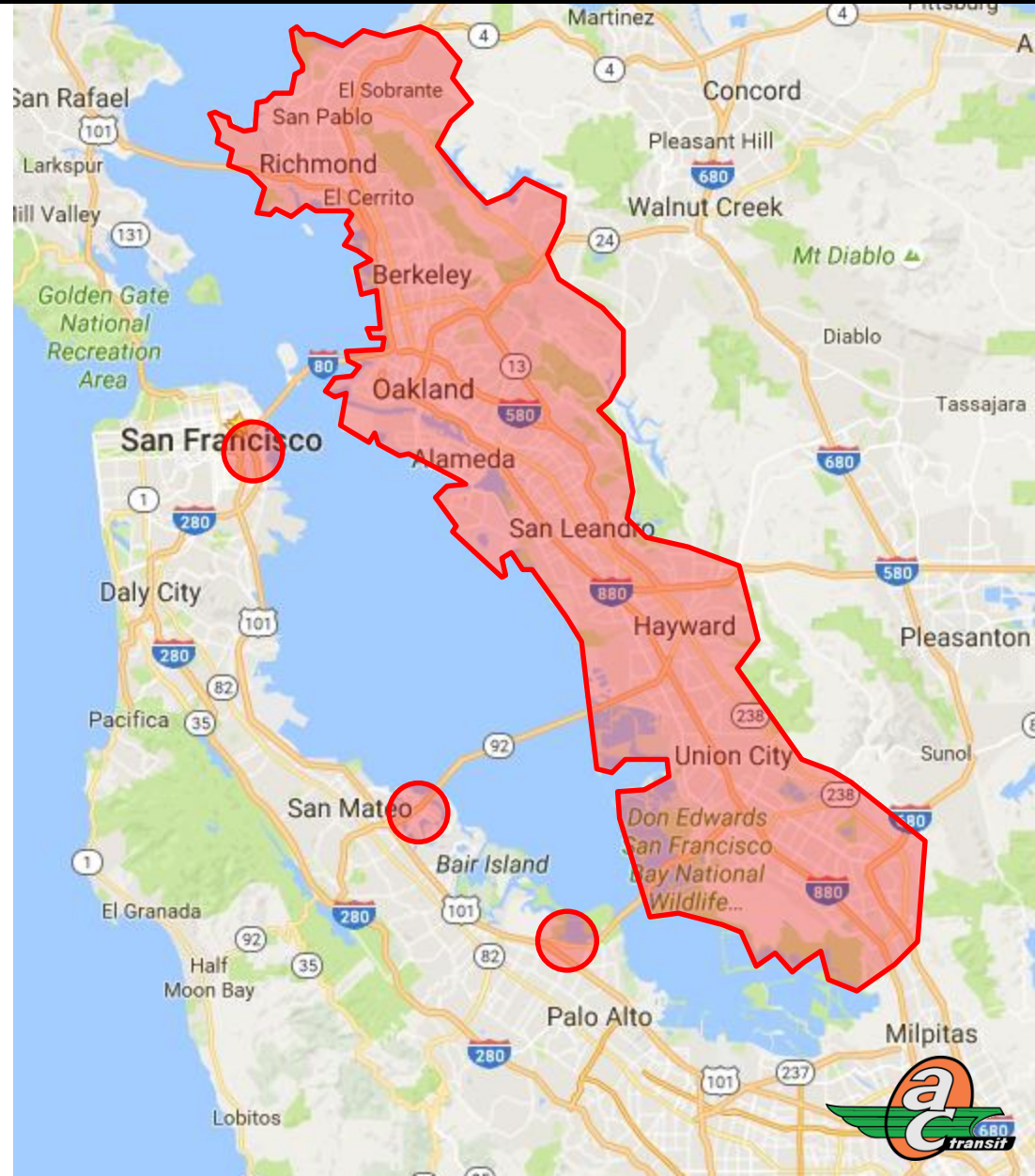
# 550 Peak



**360+ mi<sup>2</sup>**



# 16 Cities



We look like this...





...because we feel like this.



# An (emerging) approach



## Tactical Urbanism

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Low Cost



Low Impact



Low Risk

# Consider the humble bus stop





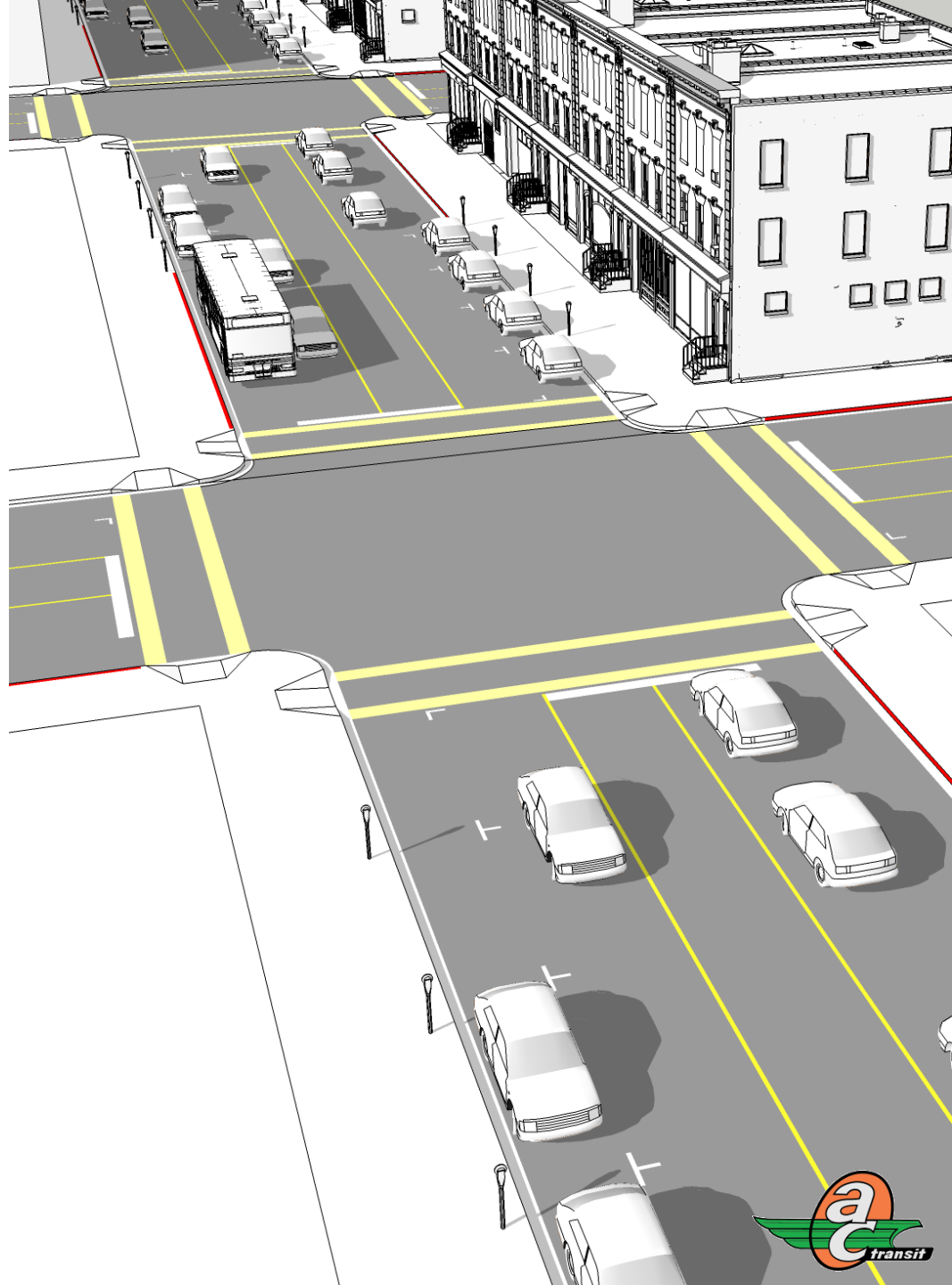
# Consider the humble bus stop





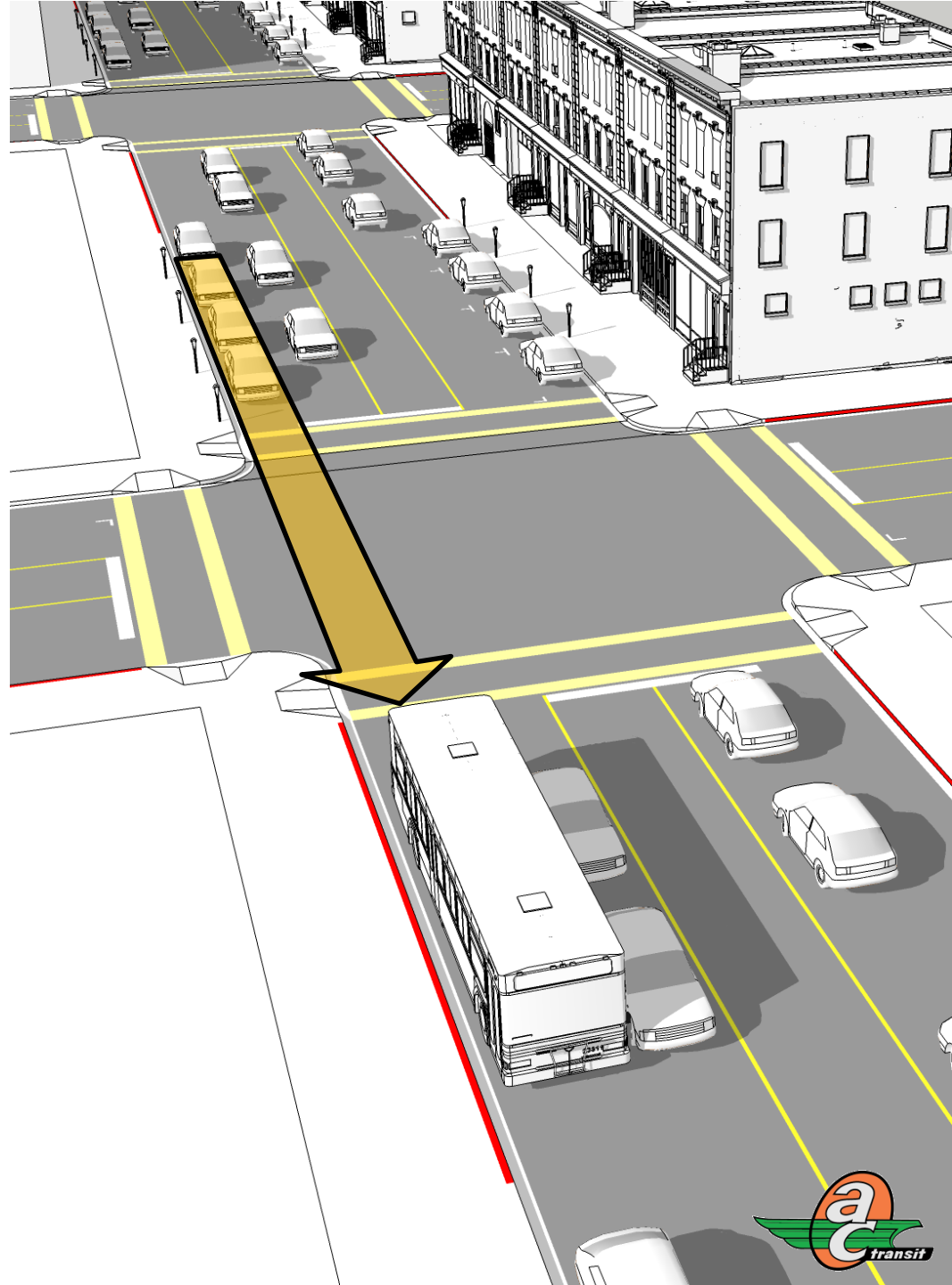
# Existing Conditions

-  
-  
-  
-  
-  
-  



# Improved Condition

-   Reduces Signal Delay
-  
-  
-  
-  
-   Community Opposition



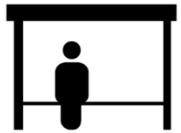
# Ideal Condition



Reduces  
re-entry delay



Reduces  
dwell



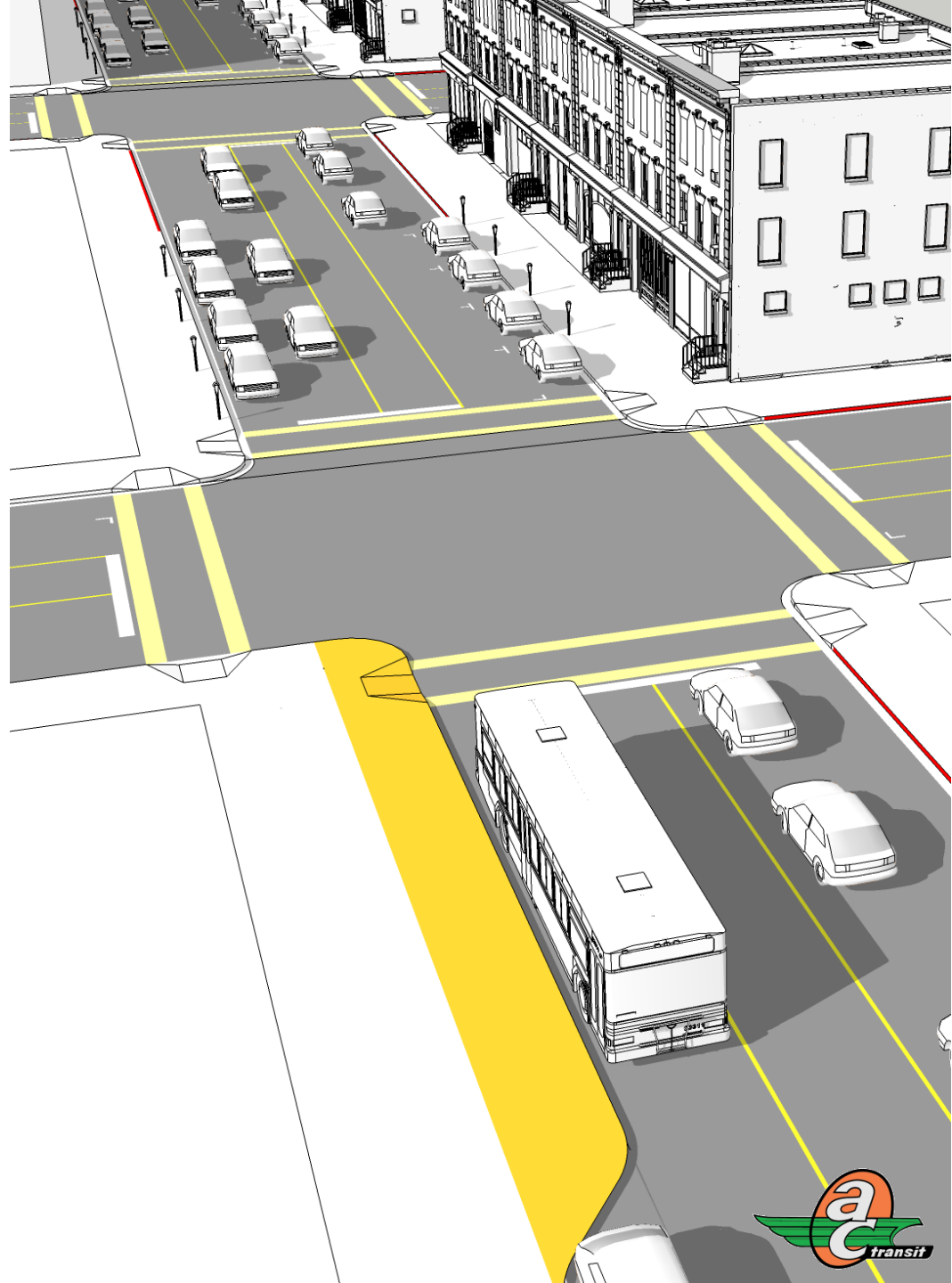
May provide  
new amenities



Expensive



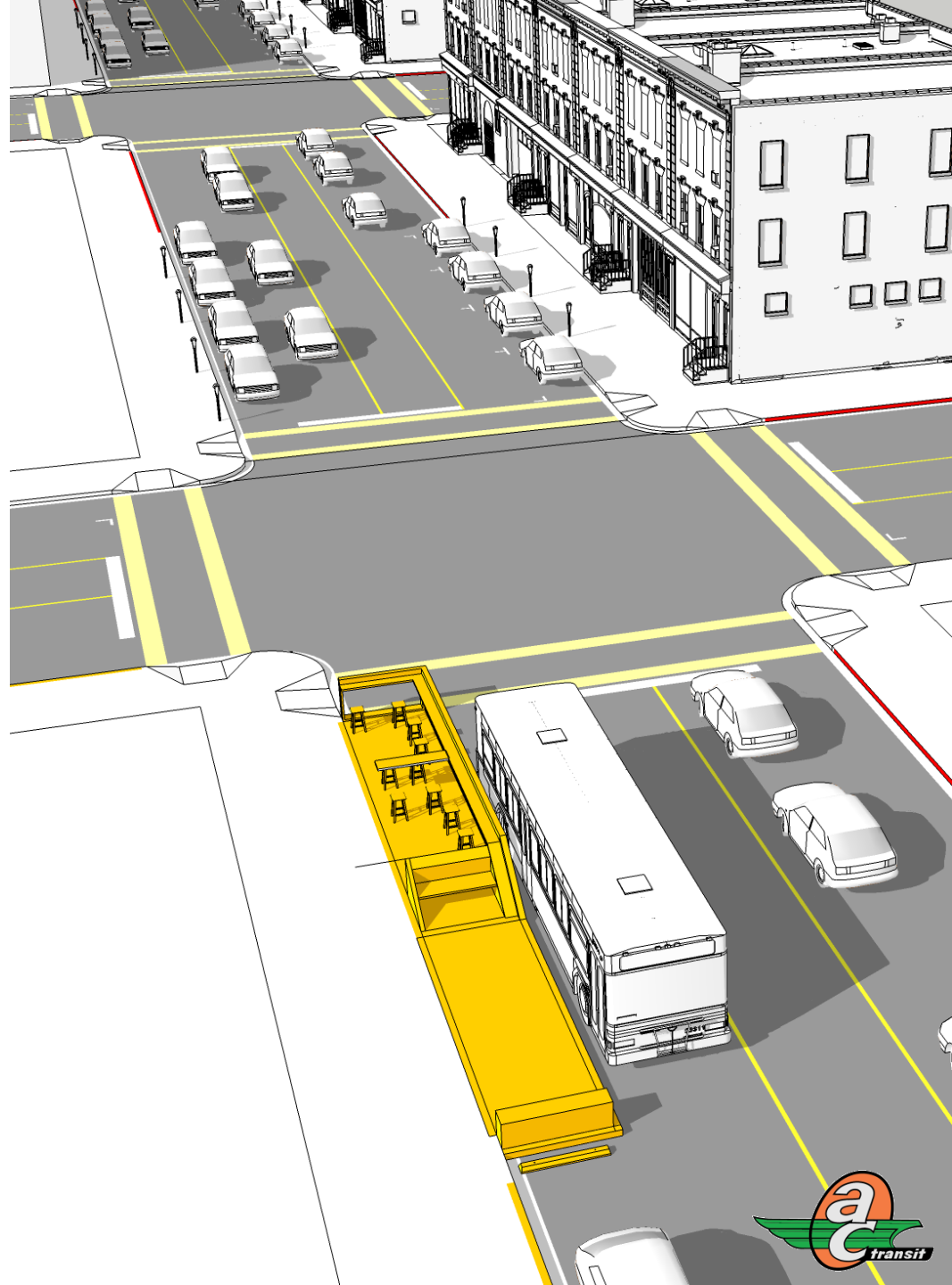
All parking  
is local!





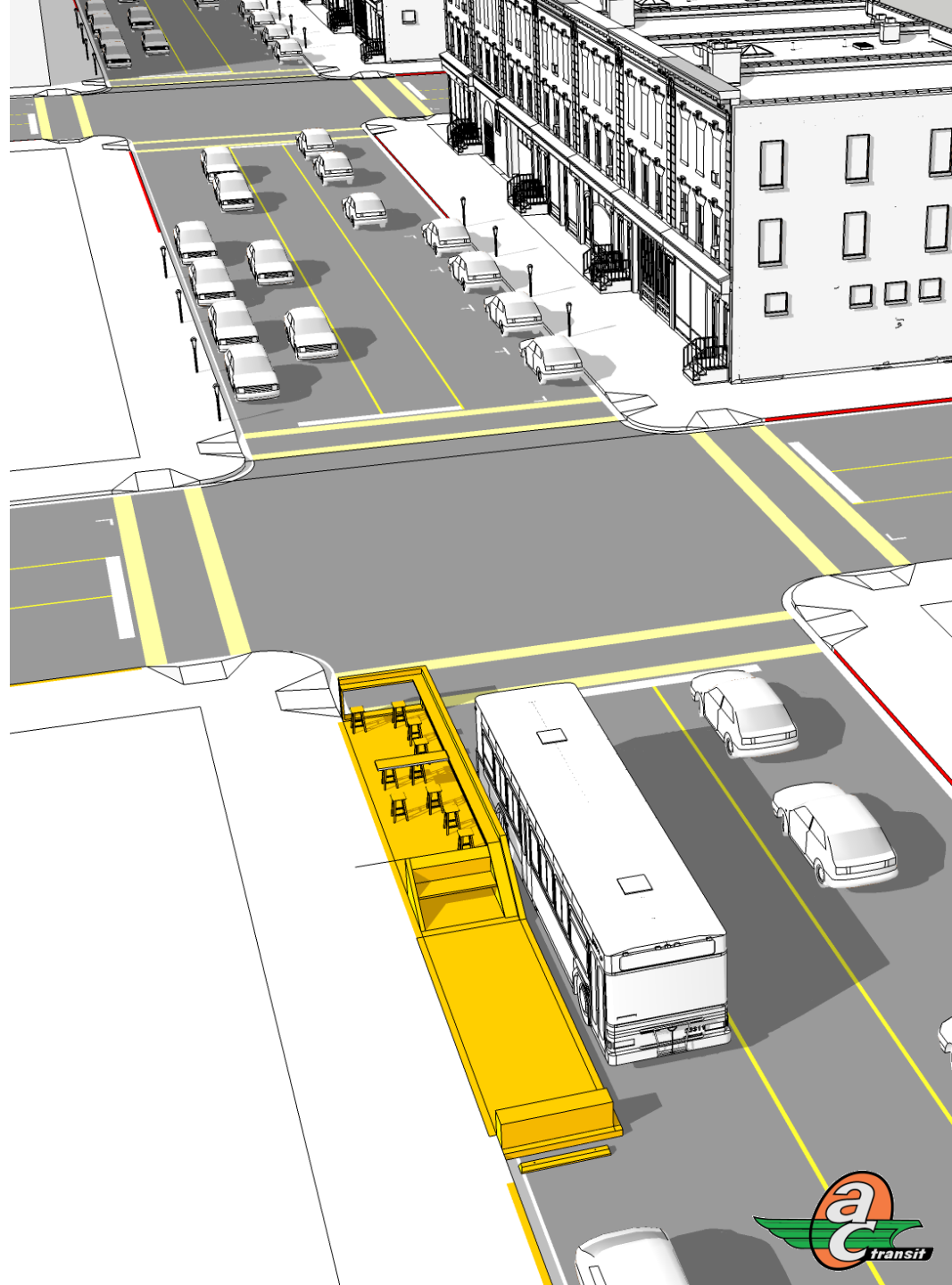
# Proposed Condition

-  
-  
-  
-   Stimulating waiting area
-   Less expensive
-   Reduces opposition



# Proposed Condition

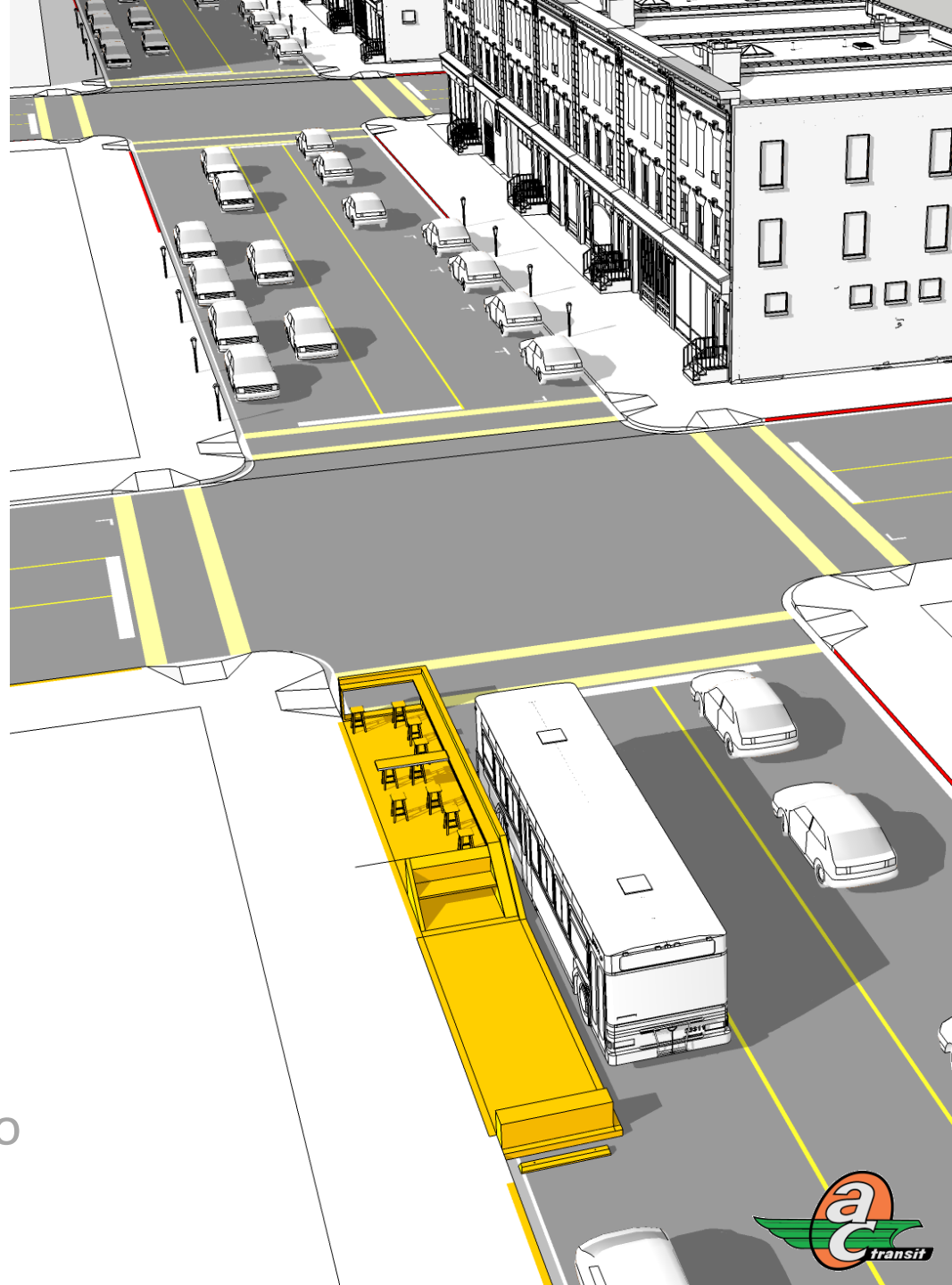
-  
-  
-  
-  
-   Shared costs?
-  



# Proposed Condition

-  
-  
-  
-  
-  
-  

Convert  
opposition into  
advocates?





# What is a parklet?



# Not a huge leap...





# Parklets exist on transit corridors...





...and not just rail corridors...

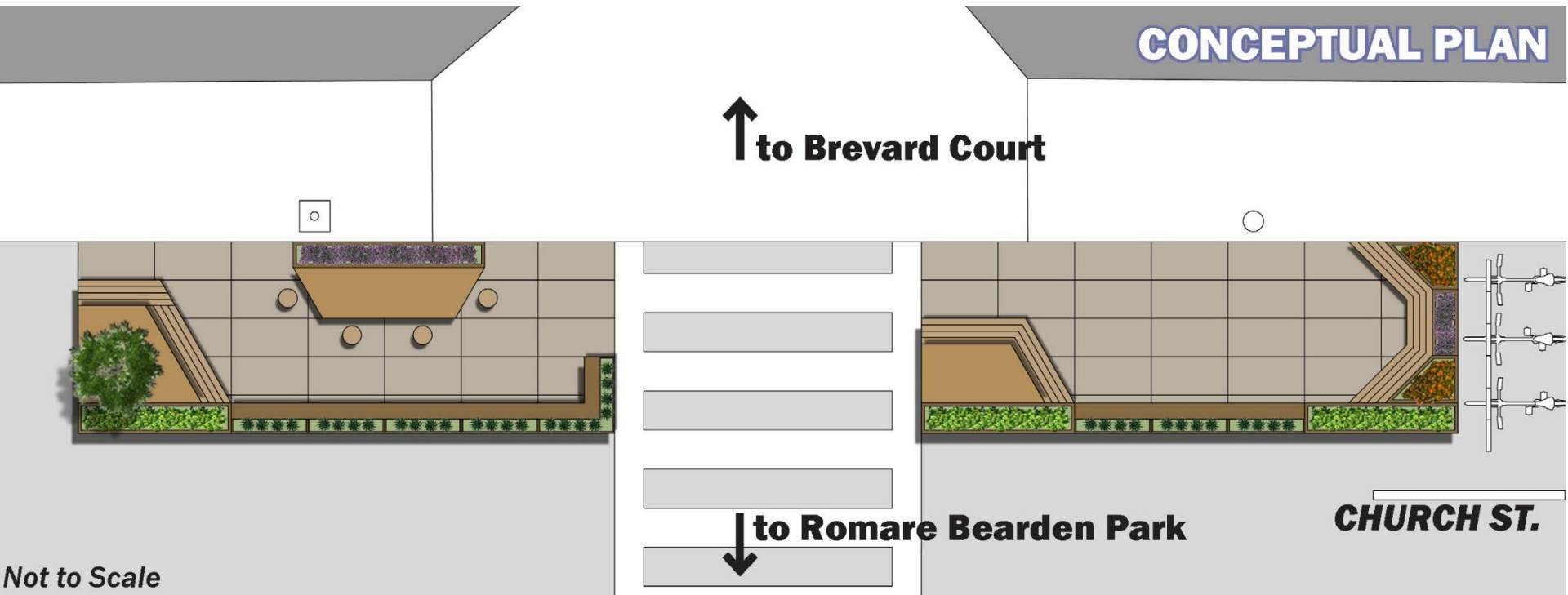




...Iconic bus corridors...



# ...and include permeable boundaries





# We have a precedent...





But can we go beyond clean-up...



# ...to make bus stops more 'lovable'

## Transit Stops need to be 'lovable'

Posted 09/02/2016 by Kim Cella

CMT welcomed Nidhi Gulati, a fellow for Project for Public Spaces and Program Manager for Emerald Network at Livable Streets Alliance, as the keynote for the 32nd Annual Meeting on September 1. With a sold out crowd in attendance, Ms. Gulati talked about the importance of making transit stops – bus stops and train stops – 'lovable'.



*Nidhi Gulati, was the keynote at CMT Annual Meeting*



...more fun...





...more stimulating...



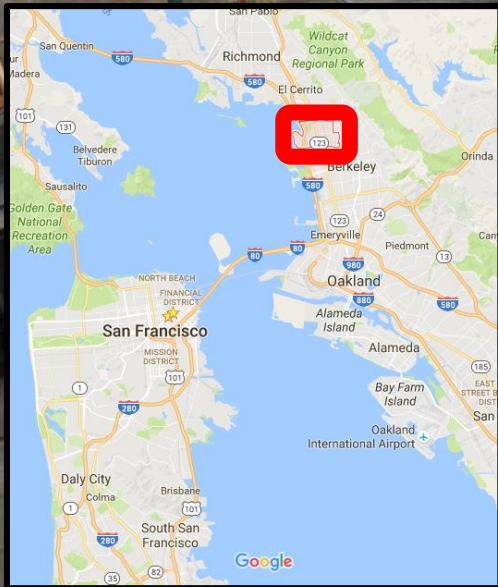
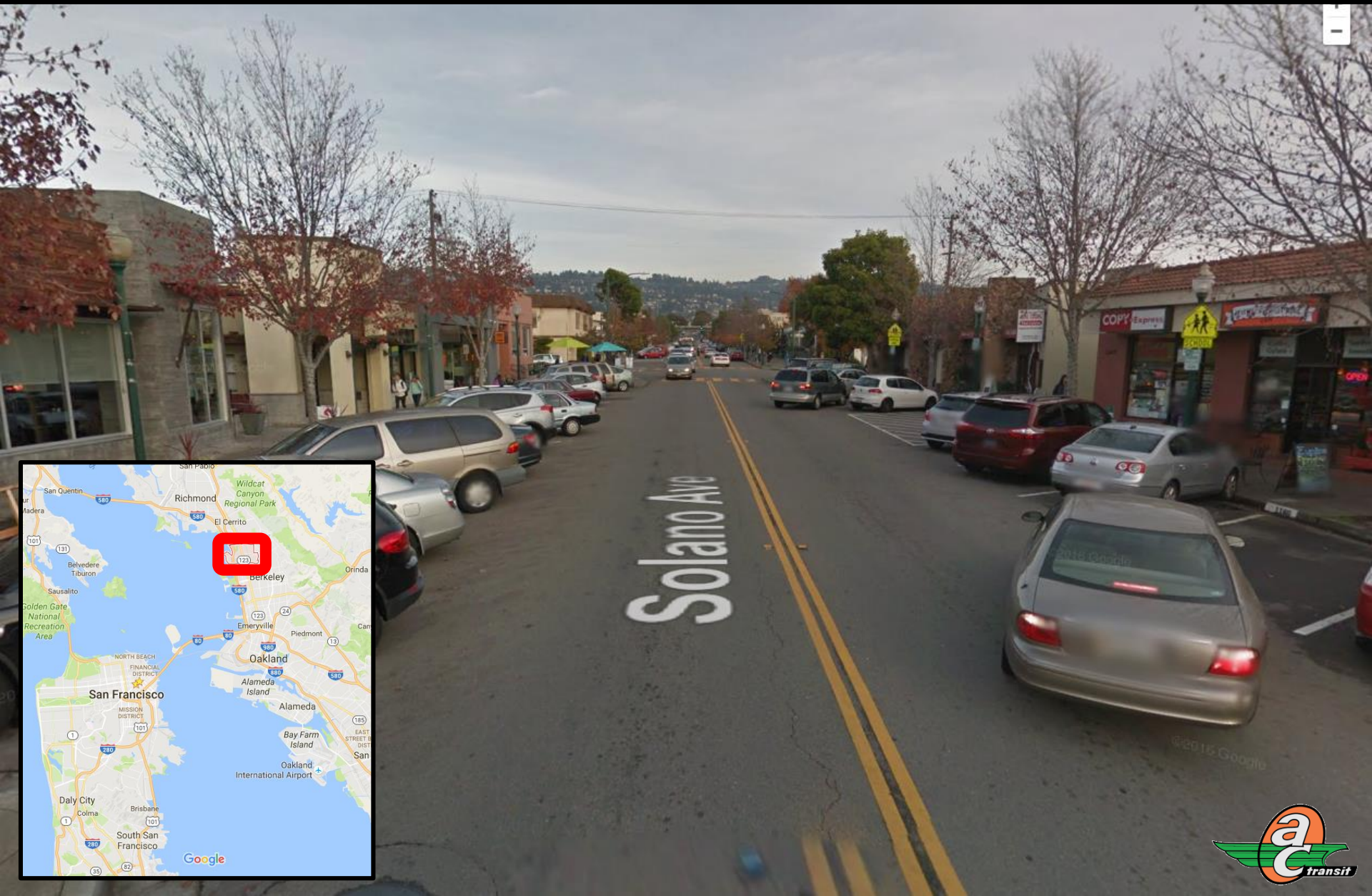


...and better integrated?





# Case Study





# Case Study



Every 15 min



~200 On+Off/Day

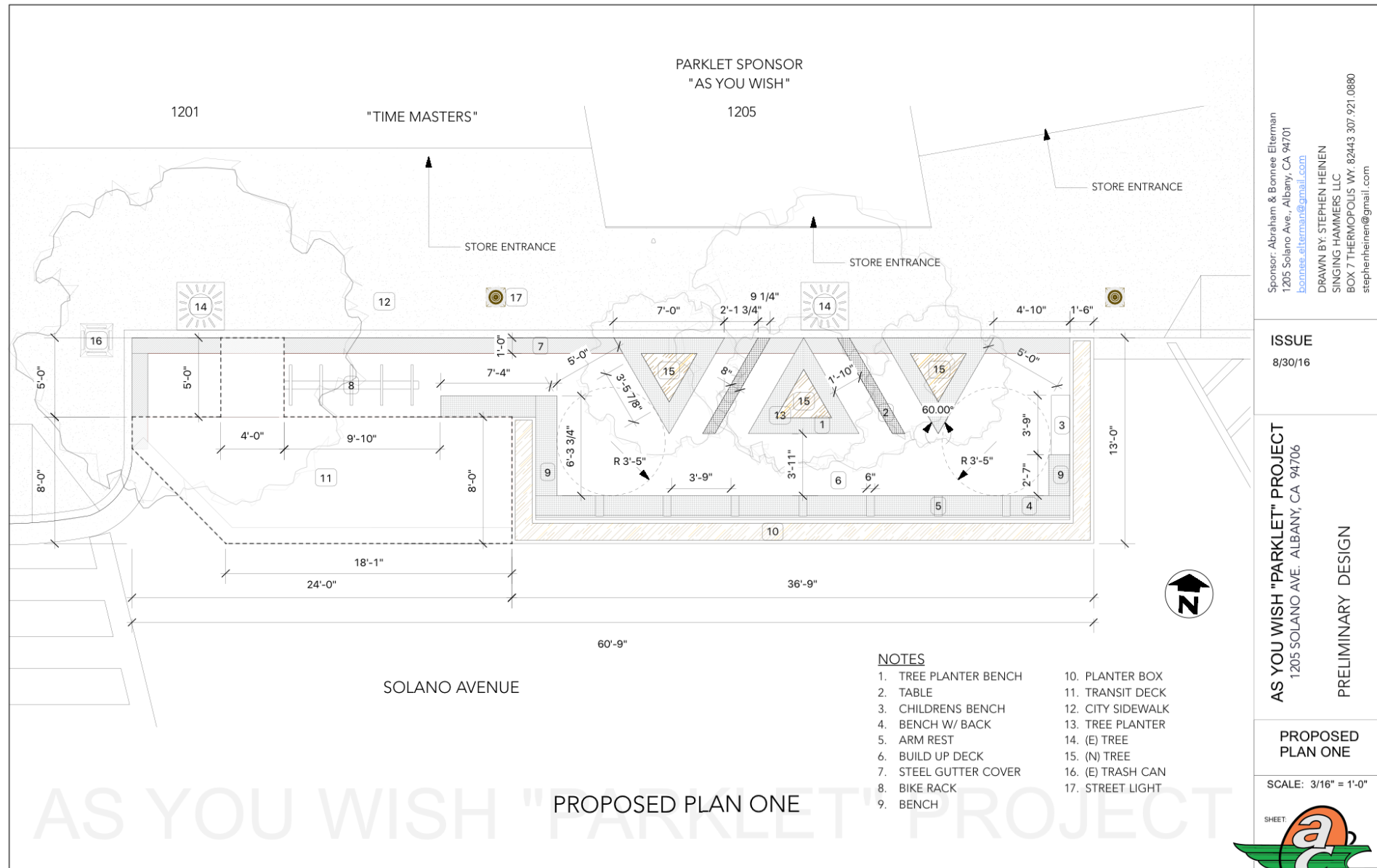


# Case Study

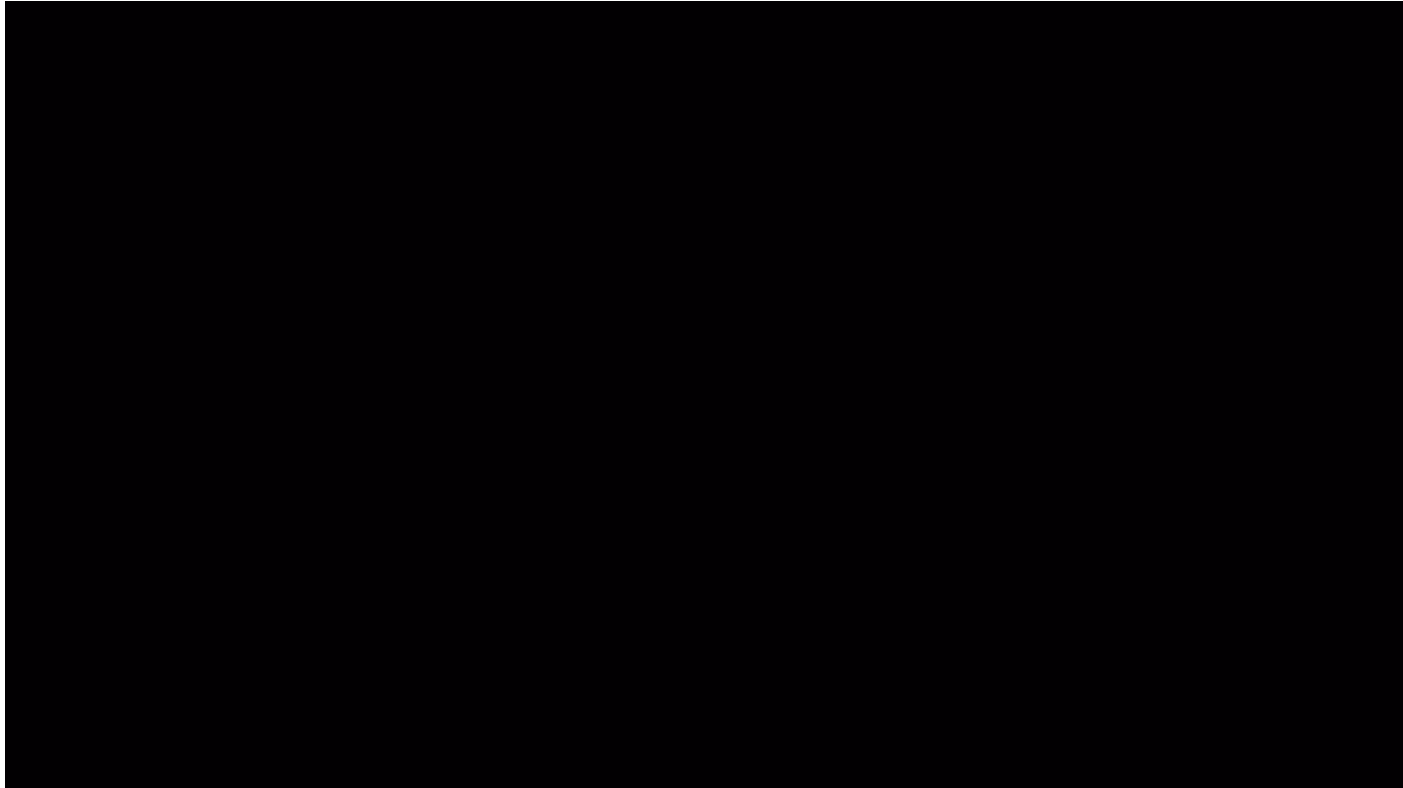




# Case Study



# Case Study



[AC-Parklet.com/Kickstarter](https://ac-parklet.com/kickstarter)

# AC-Parklet.com/Kickstarter

ct

About us

KICKSTARTER



## Hal's Office Cafe Parklet

By Hal's Office  
First created

Transforming an AC Transit bus stop into a the City of Albany's first parklet!



**\$102**

pledged of \$20,000 goal

1

backer

44

days to go

Back this project

★ Favorite

➦ Share

All or nothing. This project will only be funded if it reaches its goal by Mon, June 19 2017 10:17 AM PDT.



Civic Design Albany, CA



# AC-Parklet.com/Kickstarter



# Next Steps



Refine Design



Detailed Cost Estimates



Outreach



Construction

# Appropriate Application



Iterative process



Commercial Corridor



Narrow right-of-way



Parking and Seating Valued

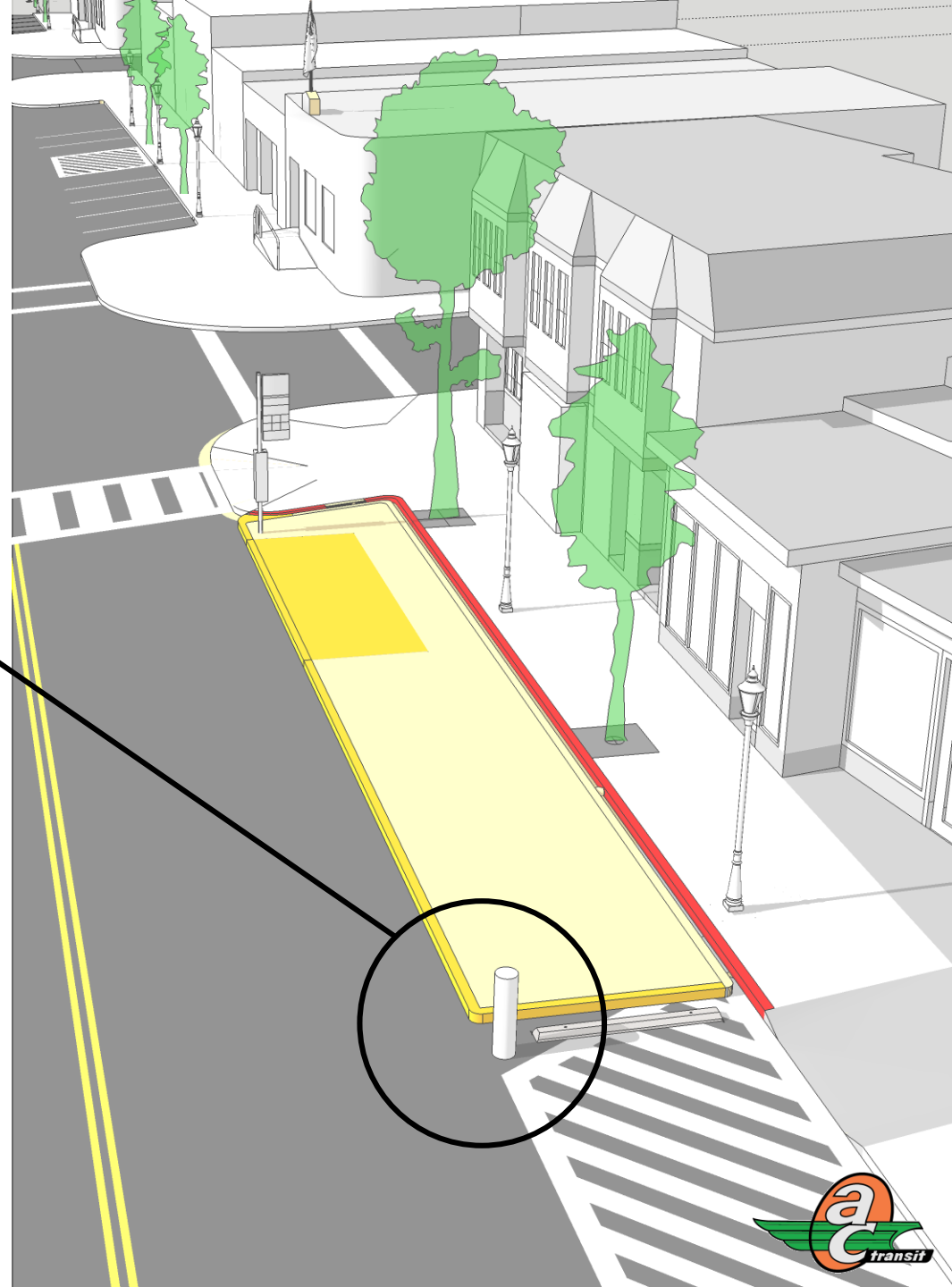


# Design Constraints



## Structural Integrity

- Impact

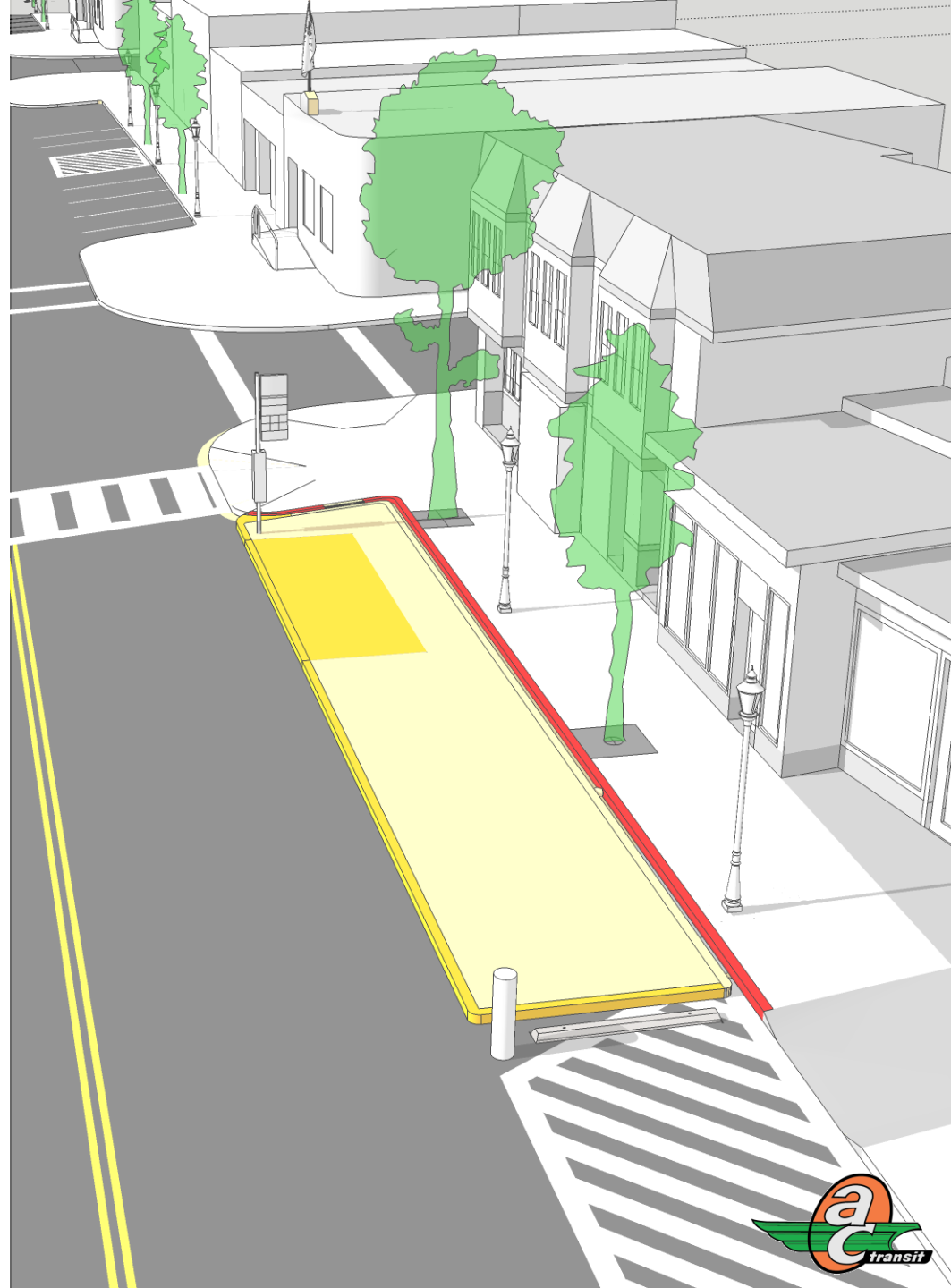


# Design Constraints



## Structural Integrity

- Impact
  - Parked cars

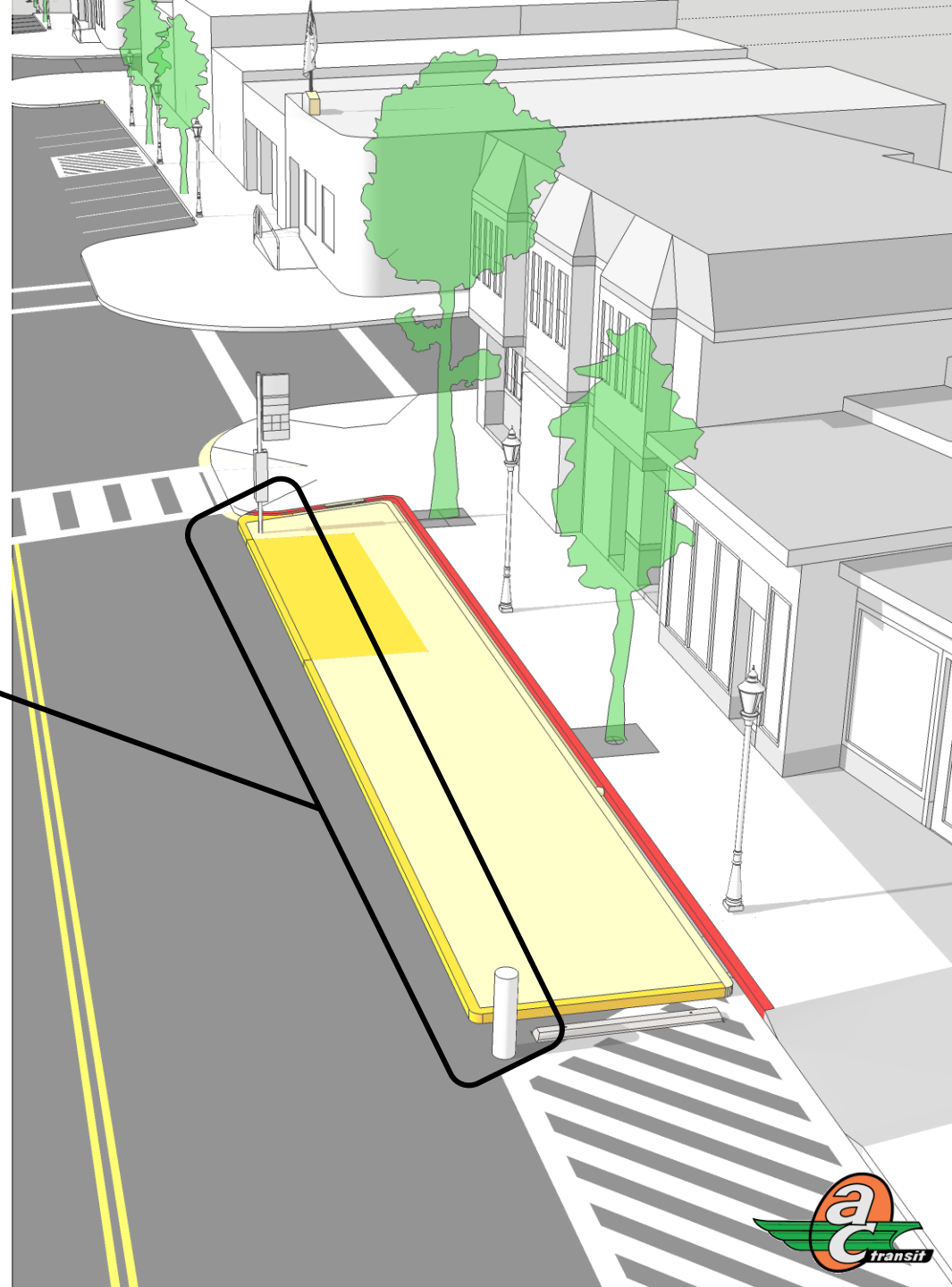


# Design Constraints



## Structural Integrity

- Impact
  - Parked cars
  - Concrete curb framing



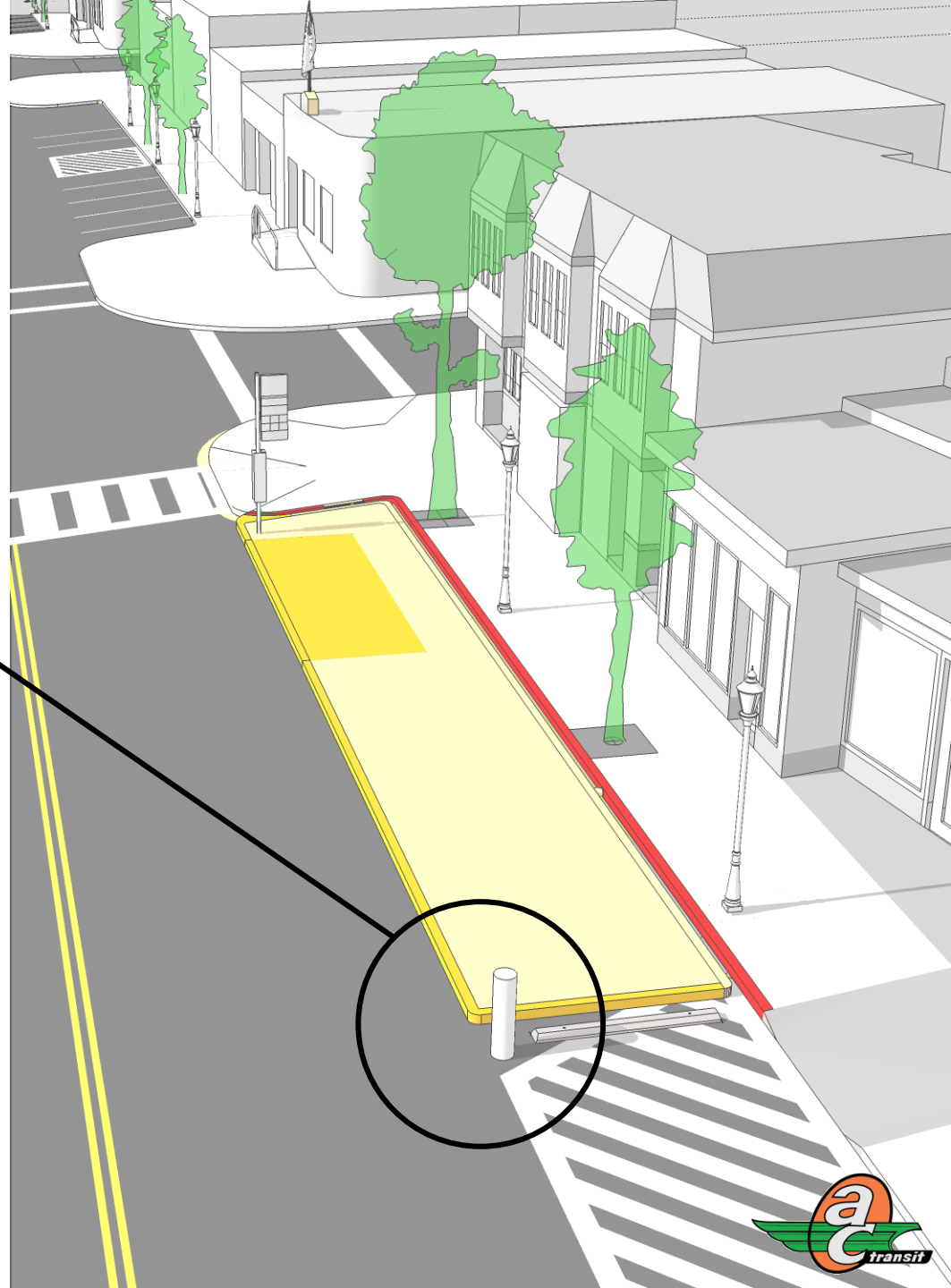


# Design Constraints



## Structural Integrity

- Impact
  - Parked cars
  - Concrete curb framing
  - Bollard

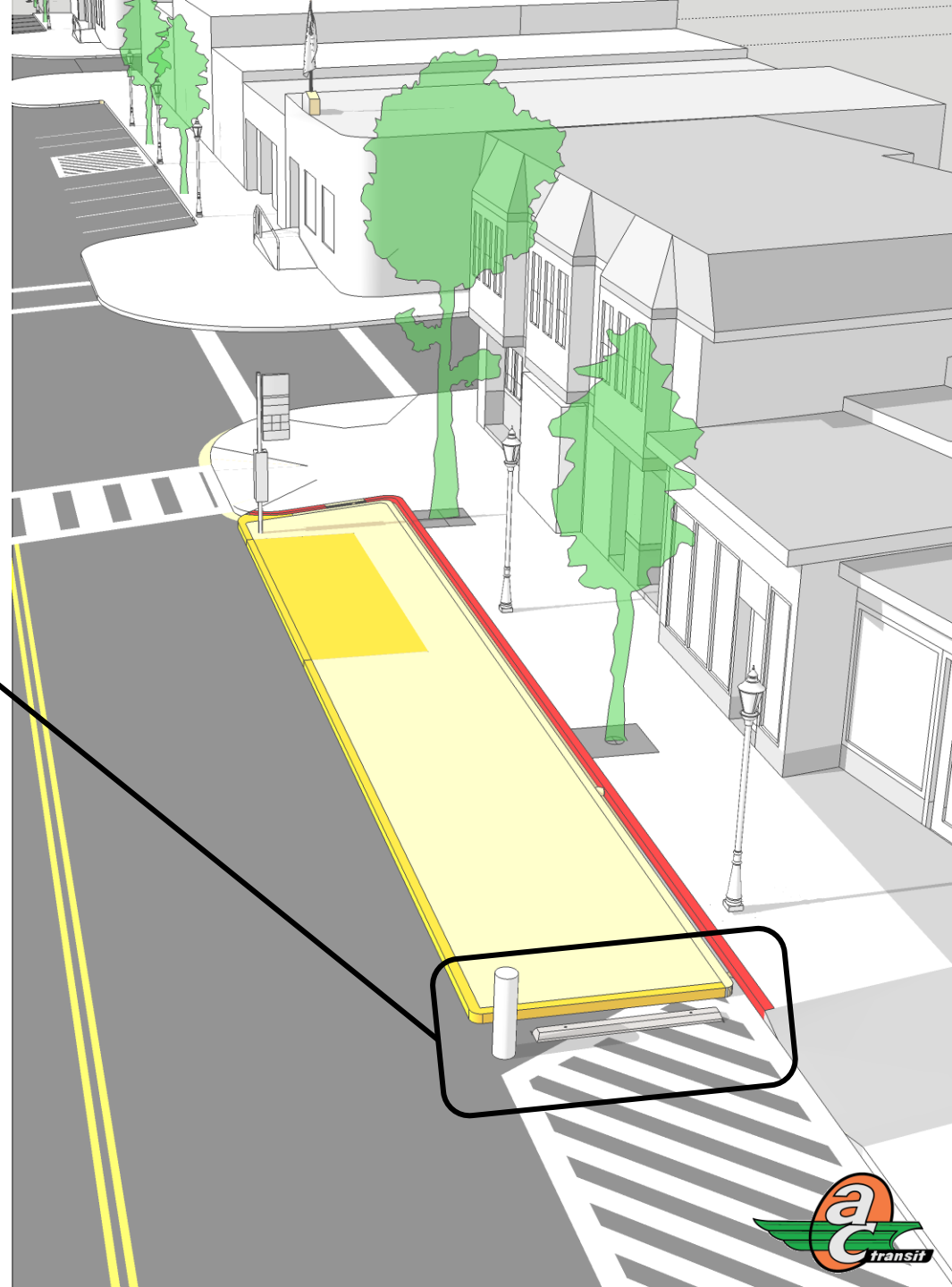


# Design Constraints



## Structural Integrity

- Impact
  - Parked cars
  - Concrete curb framing
  - Bollard
  - Wheel stop

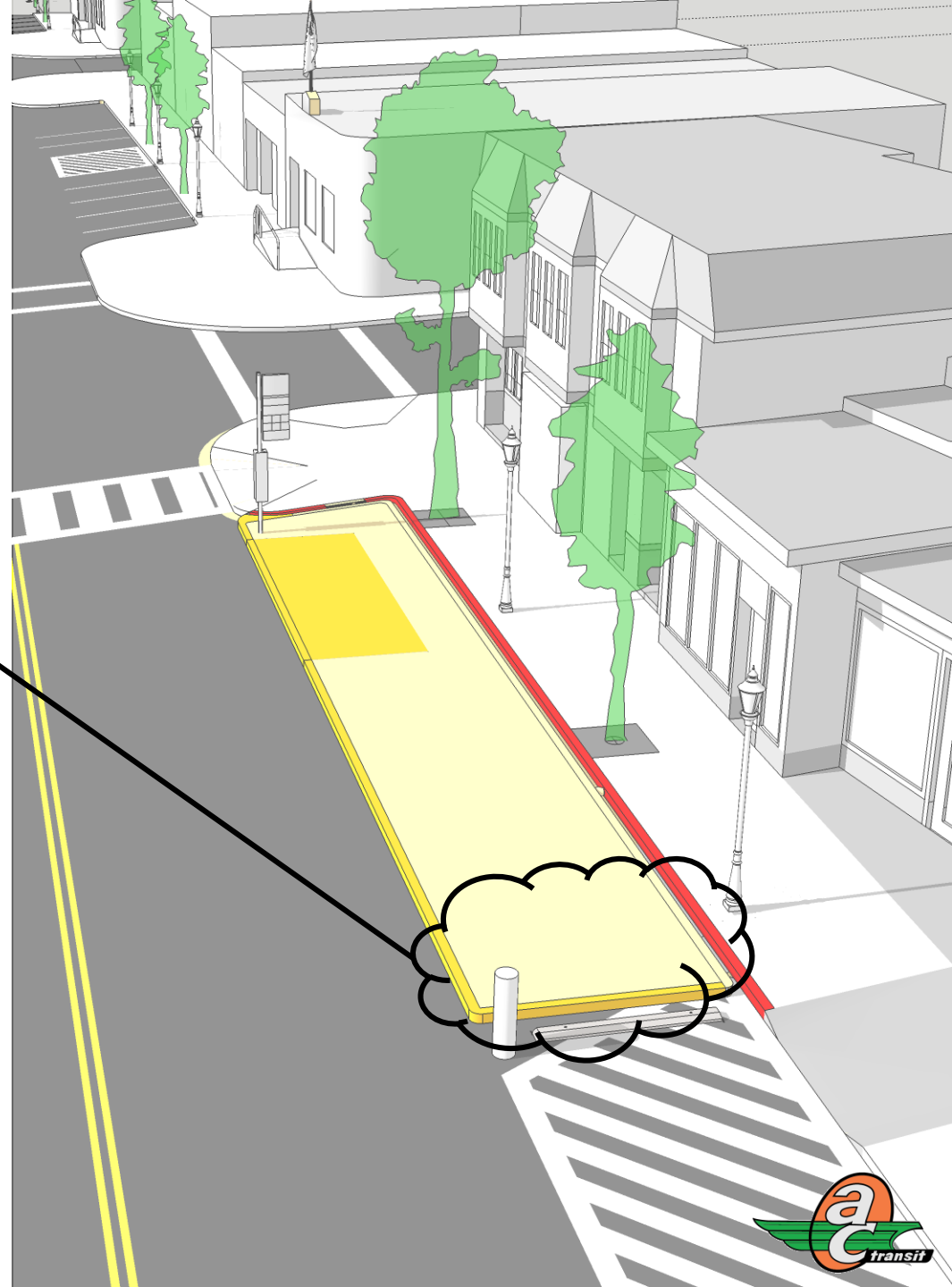


# Design Constraints



## Structural Integrity

- Impact
  - Parked cars
  - Concrete curb framing
  - Bollard
  - Wheel stop
  - Heavy-duty planters



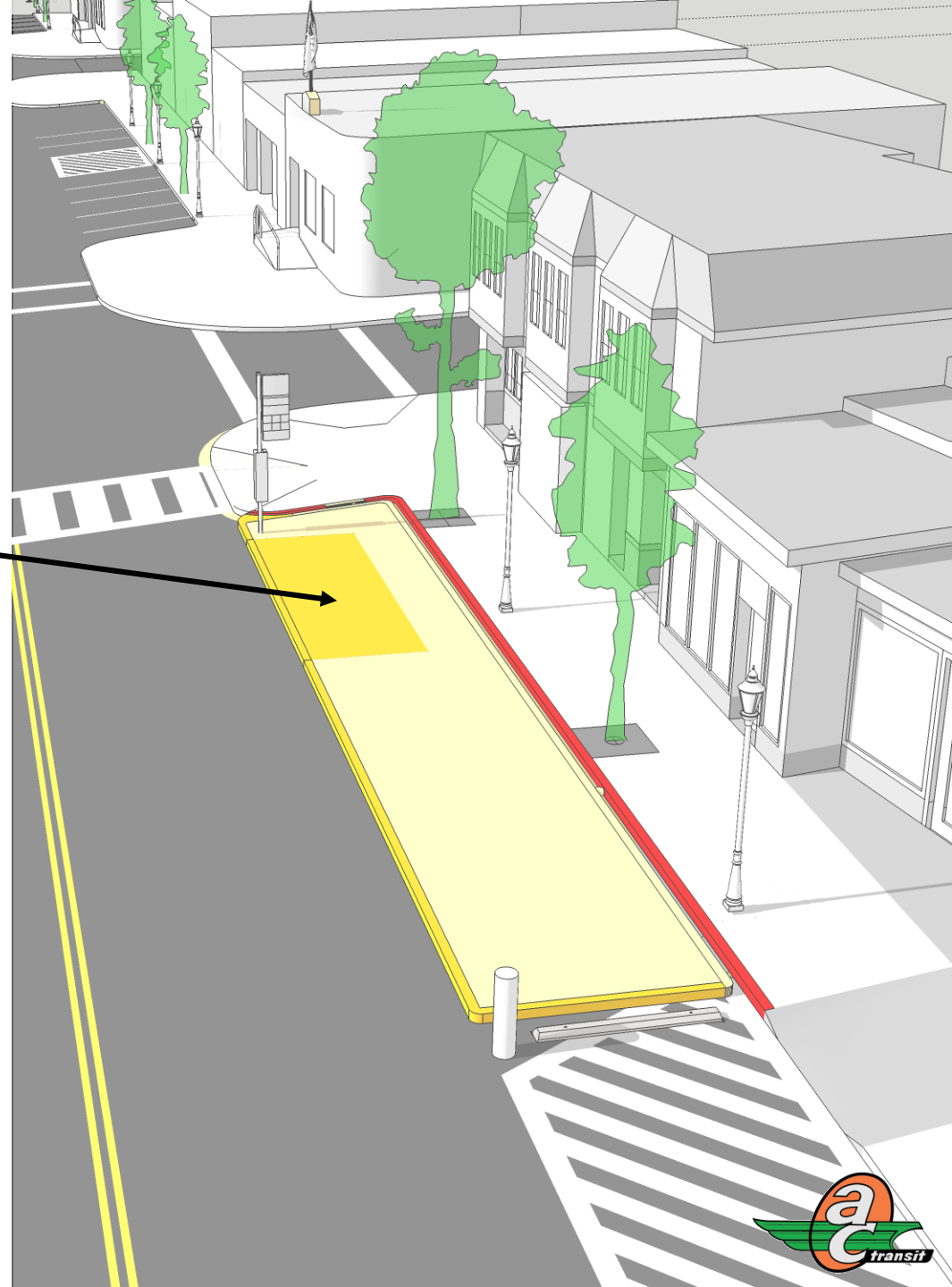


# Design Constraints

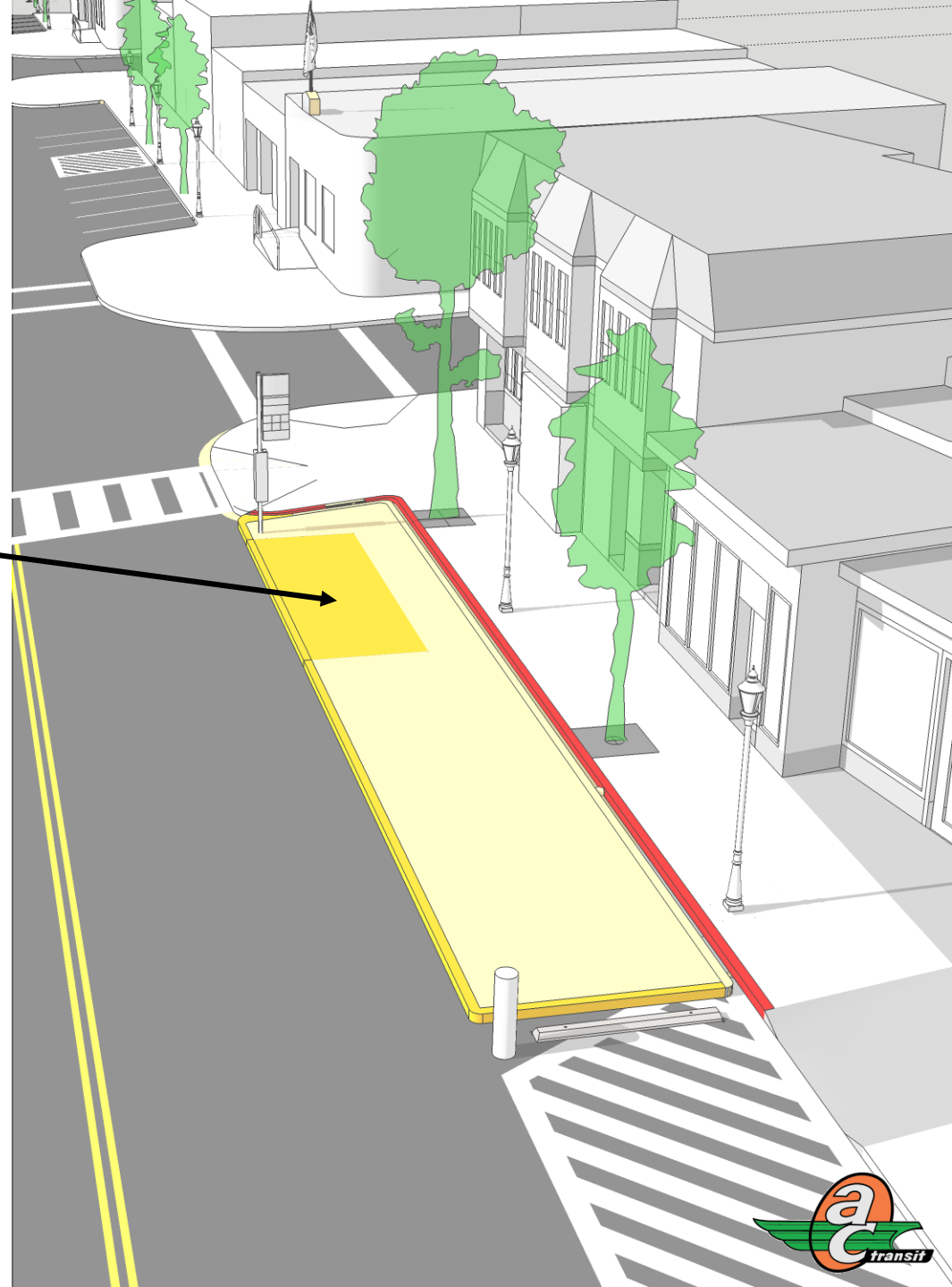


## Structural Integrity

- Impact
- Load
  - Durable Material



# Design Constraints



## Structural Integrity

- Impact
- Load
  - Durable Material
  - Modular materials?

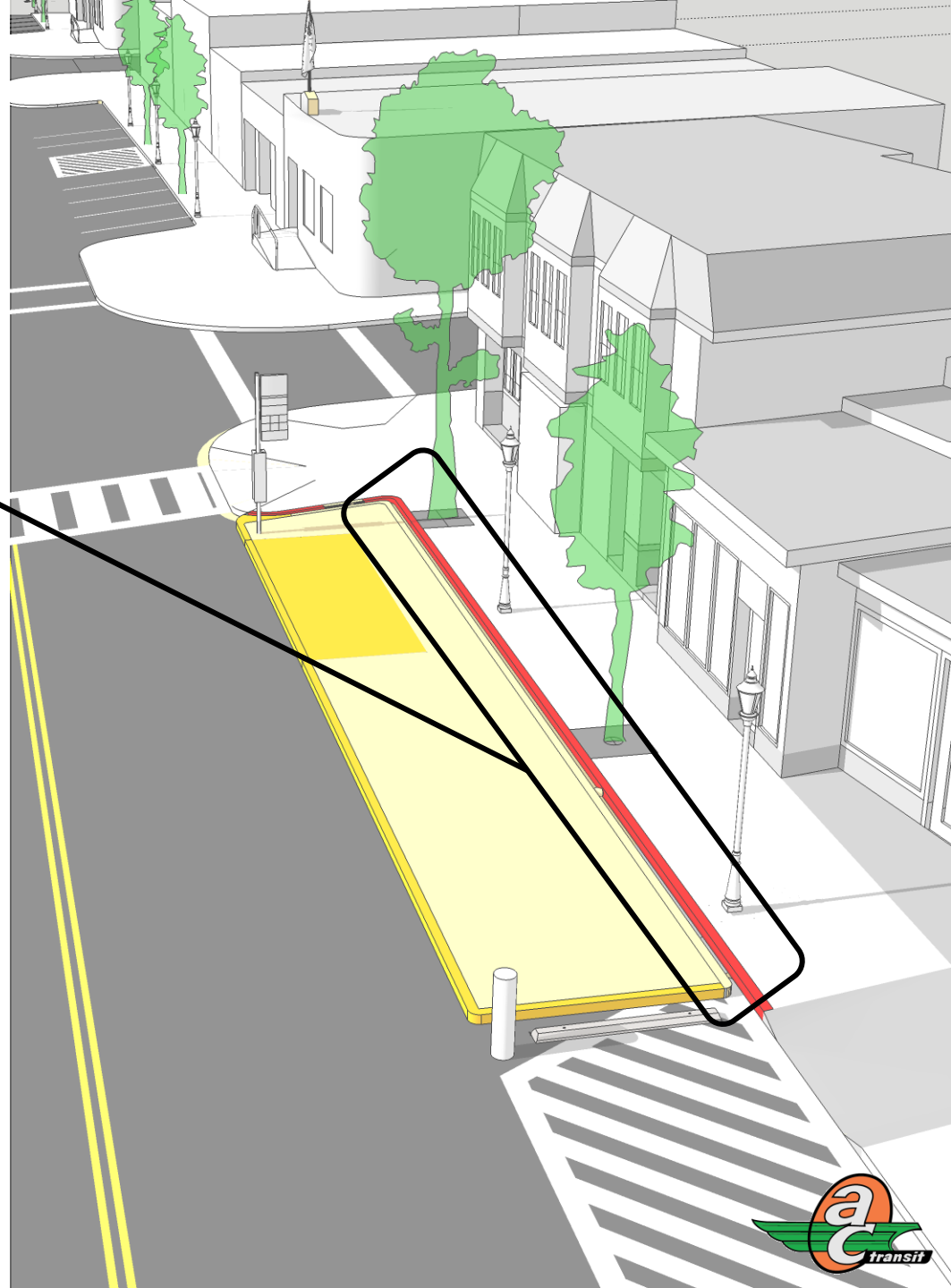


# Design Constraints

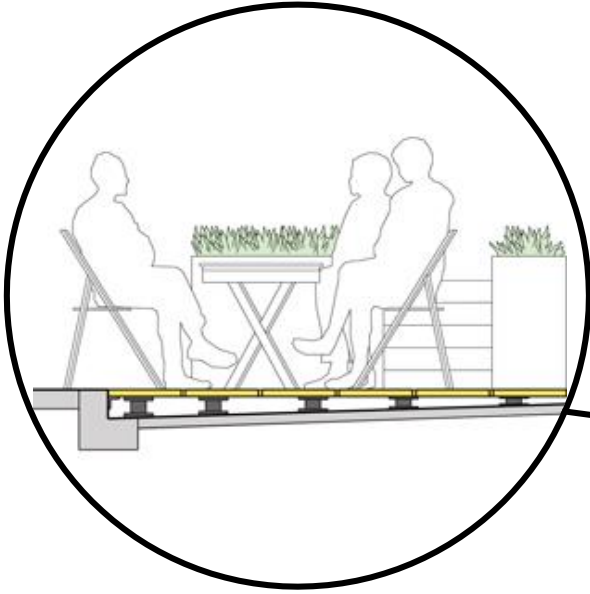


## Weather/Debris

- Rain
  - Storm water channel
  - Tie spouts to drain inlet

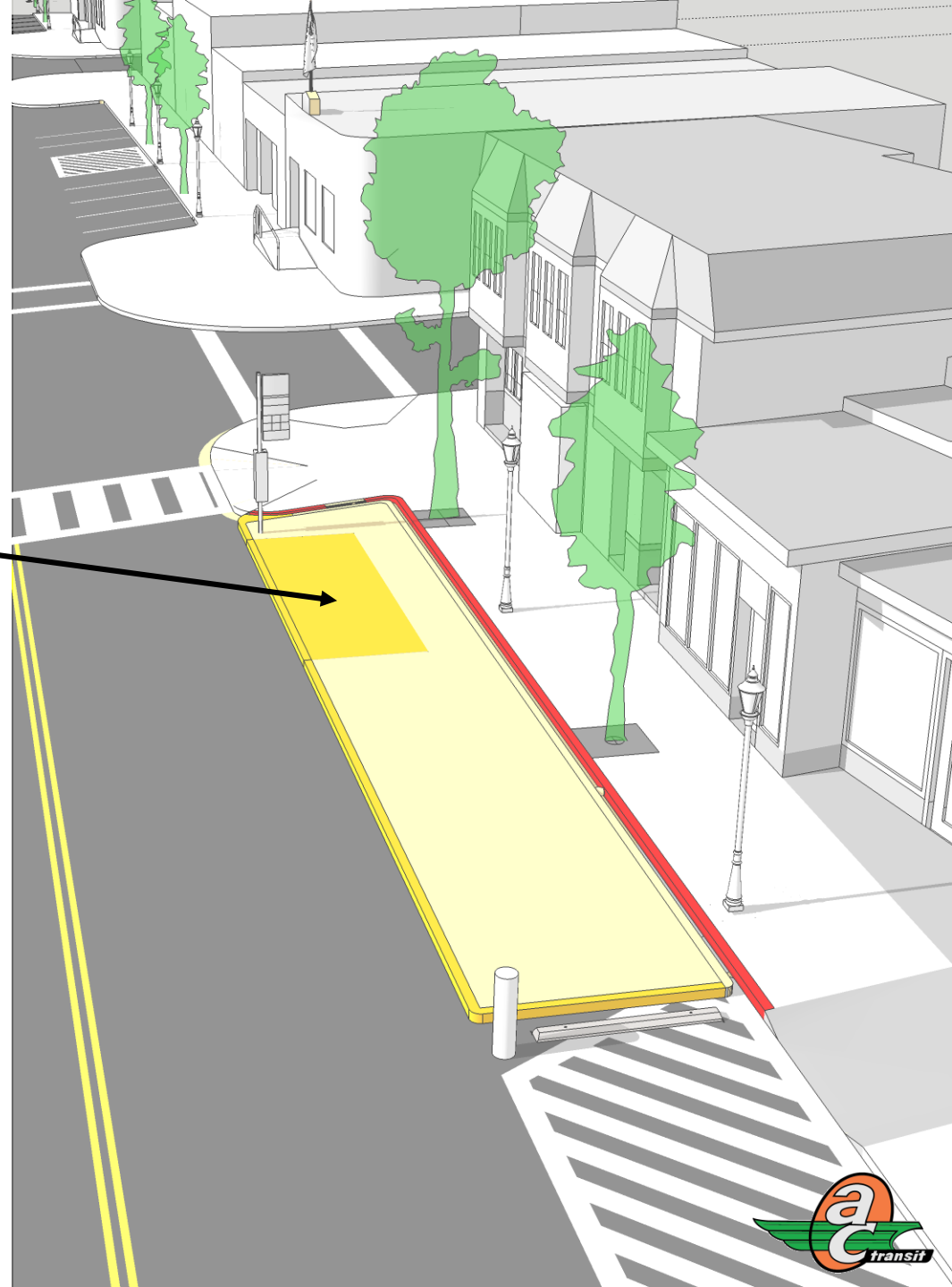


# Design Constraints



## Weather/Debris

- Rain
  - Storm water channel
  - Tie spouts to drain inlet
  - Raised platform?



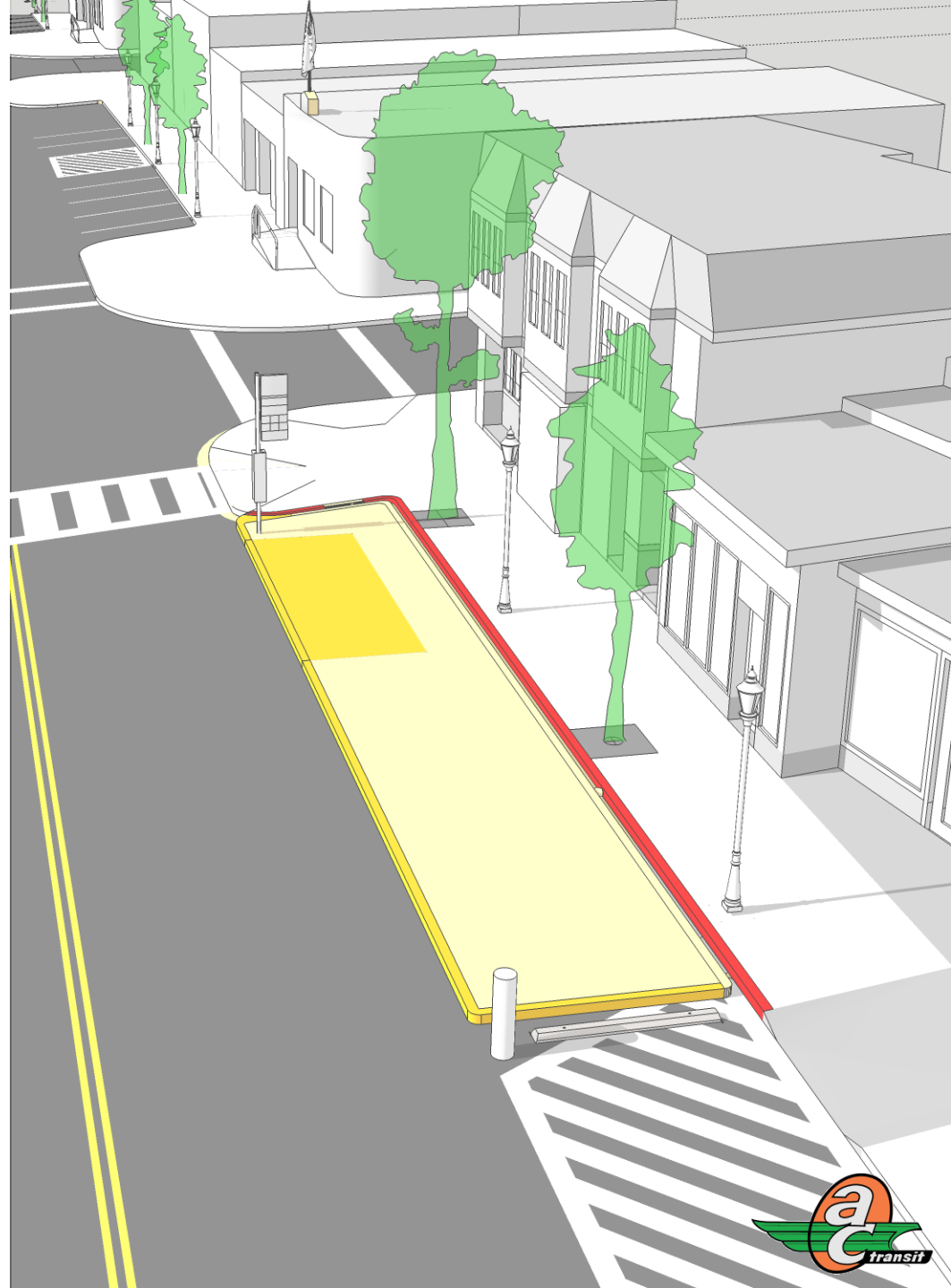


# Design Constraints



## Weather/Debris

- Rain
  - Storm water channel
  - Tie spouts to drain inlet
  - Raised platform?
- Leaves/Debris
  - Grate and access panel



# Design Constraints



## Access vs Programming

- ADA-accessible zone
  - 24' x 8'
  - Slope



# Design Constraints



## Access vs Programming

- ADA-accessible zone
  - 24' x 8'
  - Slope
  - Curb height?





# Considerations



**Maintenance**  
**Liability**  
**Hours of Use**



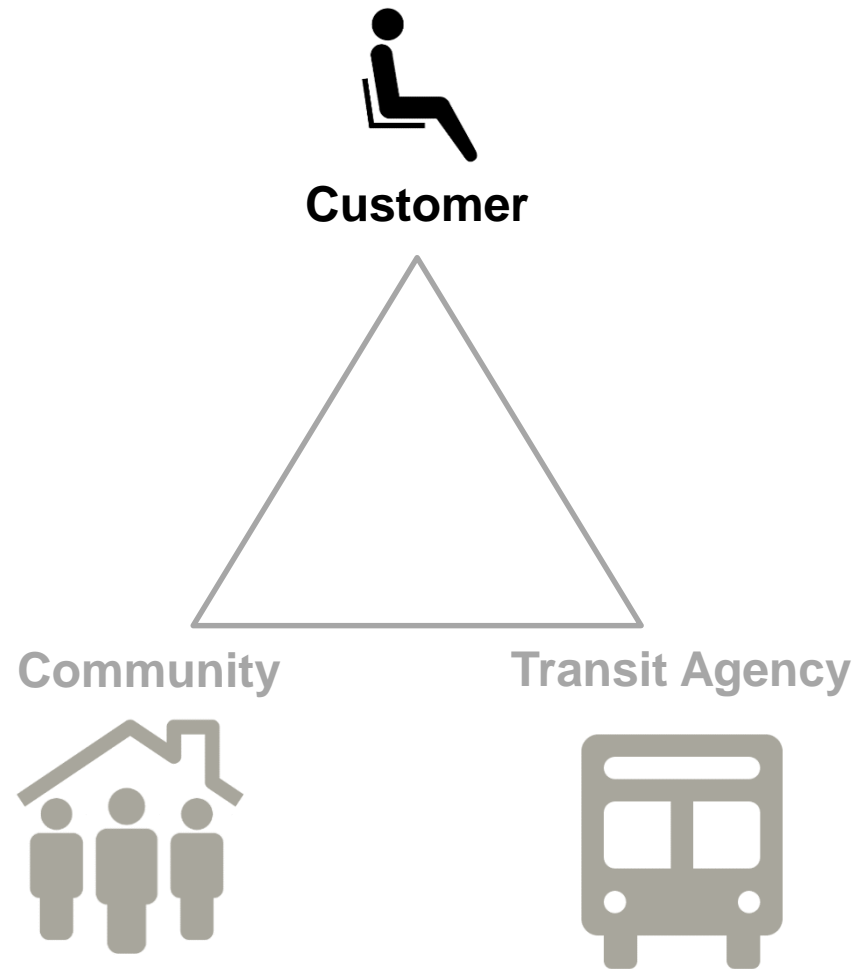
# A true win-win-win

## Sense of Place

- More comfortable, convenient, and stimulating environment

## Space for Amenities

- Larger footprint for seating, way-finding, and shelter.



# A true win-win-win

## Context-Sensitive

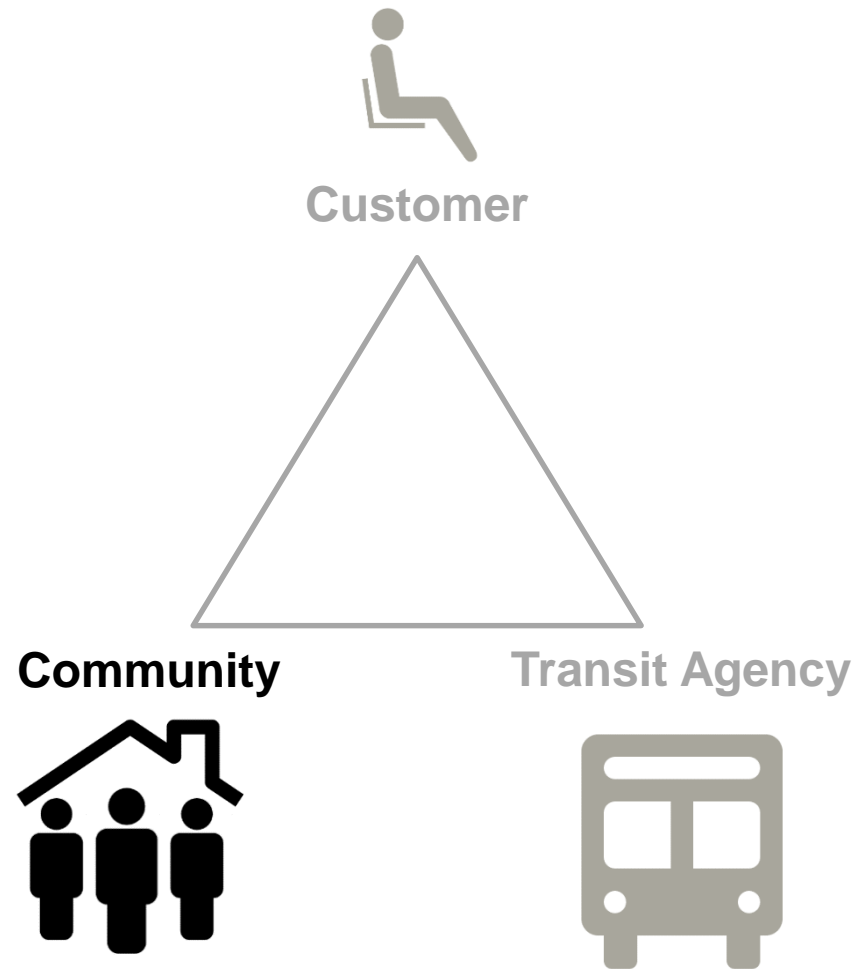
- Reflects the needs and desires of the neighborhood

## Integrated

- Integrated into the neighborhood fabric

## Low-Impact

- Net-neutral (or even net-positive) parking impacts
- Increase in pedestrian flow





# A true win-win-win

## Operations Improvements

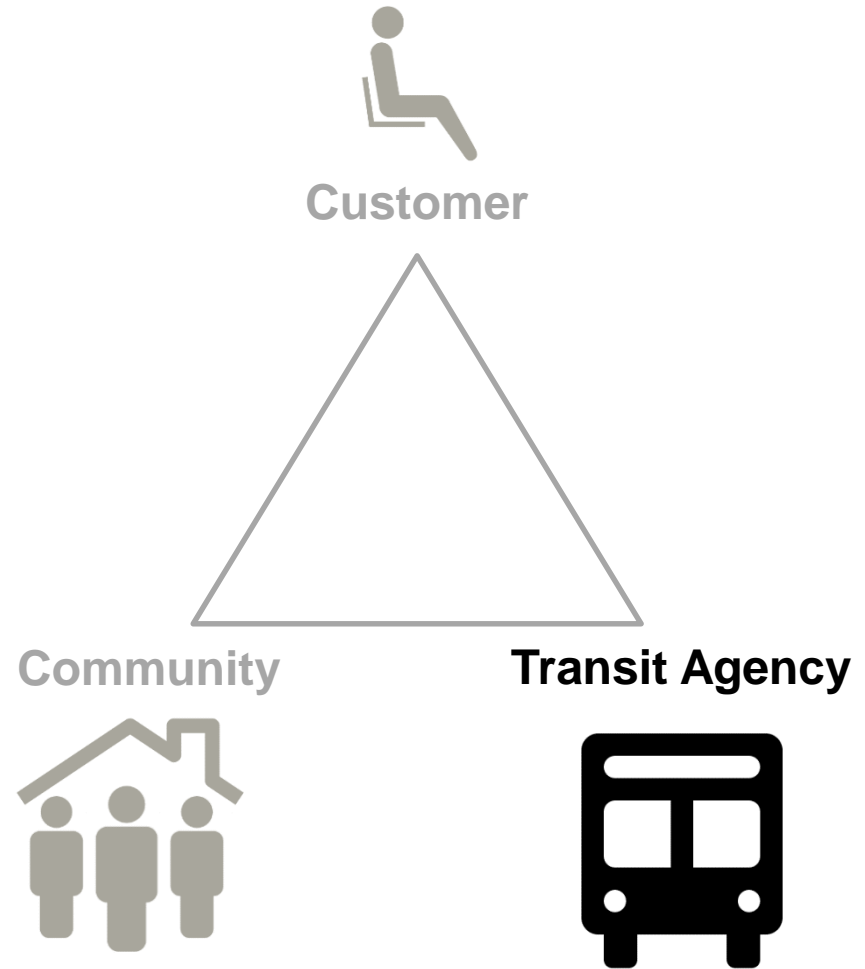
- Reduces delay
- Facilitates stop relocation or consolidation
- Increases avg travel speed

## Process

- No environmental review
- Quicker implementation

## Cost

- >50% less expensive than traditional bus bulb



# Summary



Take the **lead**



**Do not fear** failure



**Fund** the projects



**Iterative** process



Find **Win-Wins**



Have **Fun!**



**Design** Constraints  
& Considerations

Less of this...





...and more of this!



# AC-Parklet.com/Kickstarter

## Thank You

Stephen Newhouse

Transportation Planner

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