



# Cave Creek | Carefree Transportation Framework Study

## PUBLIC MEETING

September 10, 2014

Presented for:





# Welcome!

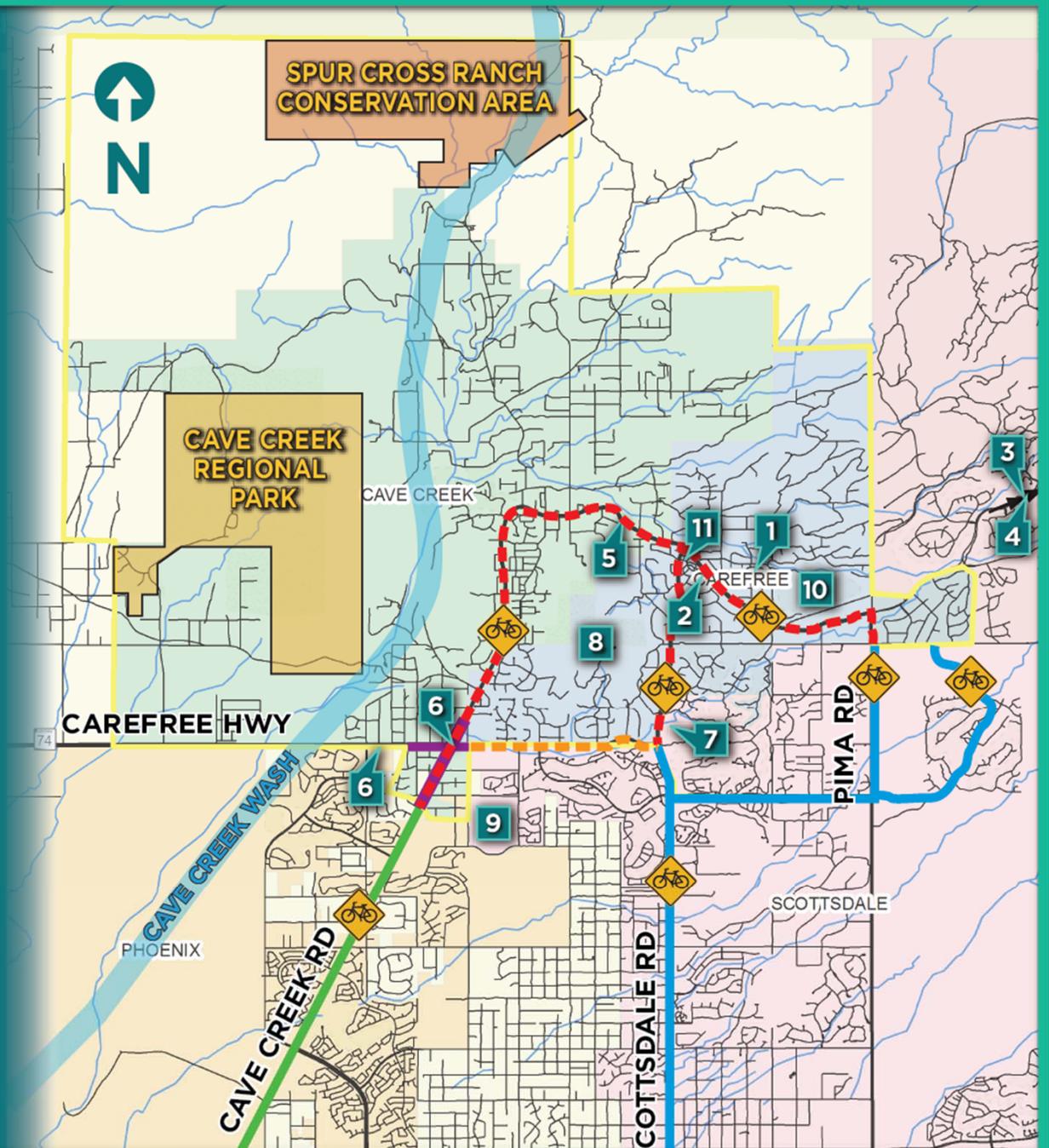
- Introductions/Housekeeping
- Meeting Purpose
  - Present recommendations
  - Opportunity for comment
- Agenda
  - Presentation
  - Open House



# Study Area

- 1 - Carefree Resort
- 2 - Spirit in the Desert
- 3 - Seven Springs
- 4 - Bartlett Lake
- 5 - Cave Creek Town Center
- 6 - Commercial Services Area
- 7 - The Boulders
- 8 - Black Mountain
- 9 - Cave Creek Schools
- 10 - Sky ranch
- 11 - Carefree Town Center

-  Phoenix Sonoran Bikeway
-  Scottsdale Shared Use Path
-  Future Bike Lane
-  Future Bike & Roadway Improvements
-  Commercial Services Area
-  Study Boundary





# Study Purpose

- **Create a transportation master plan (play book)**
  - Builds on existing plans and studies
  - Includes future short- and long-term projects
  - *New funding needed for implementation*
- **Includes all modes of travel**
  - Roadway
  - Bicycle and pedestrian links, safety
  - Special event travel, parking and safety





# Study Goals and Objectives

- Balanced transportation system
- Expand regional bicycle network
- Improve bicycle and pedestrian connections between Town centers
- Enhance cycling tourism/economic opportunities
- Improve special event access, parking and pedestrian safety
- Improve sense of entry and sense of place in Town centers





# Transportation Priorities





# Communities' Transportation Priorities

- Ped safety/connections: sidewalks/paths, crosswalks
- Bike safety: bike lanes
- Increase parking for businesses and events
- Local detour route
- Reduce speeding/reckless driving
- Maintain local streets





# Other Suggestions

## Transit

- Increase service for elderly and disabled
- Seasonal shuttle for visitors



## Roadway/Signage

- Fix elements causing driver confusion, safety issues
- Better sense of entry



# Transportation Options Considered Community Input Received





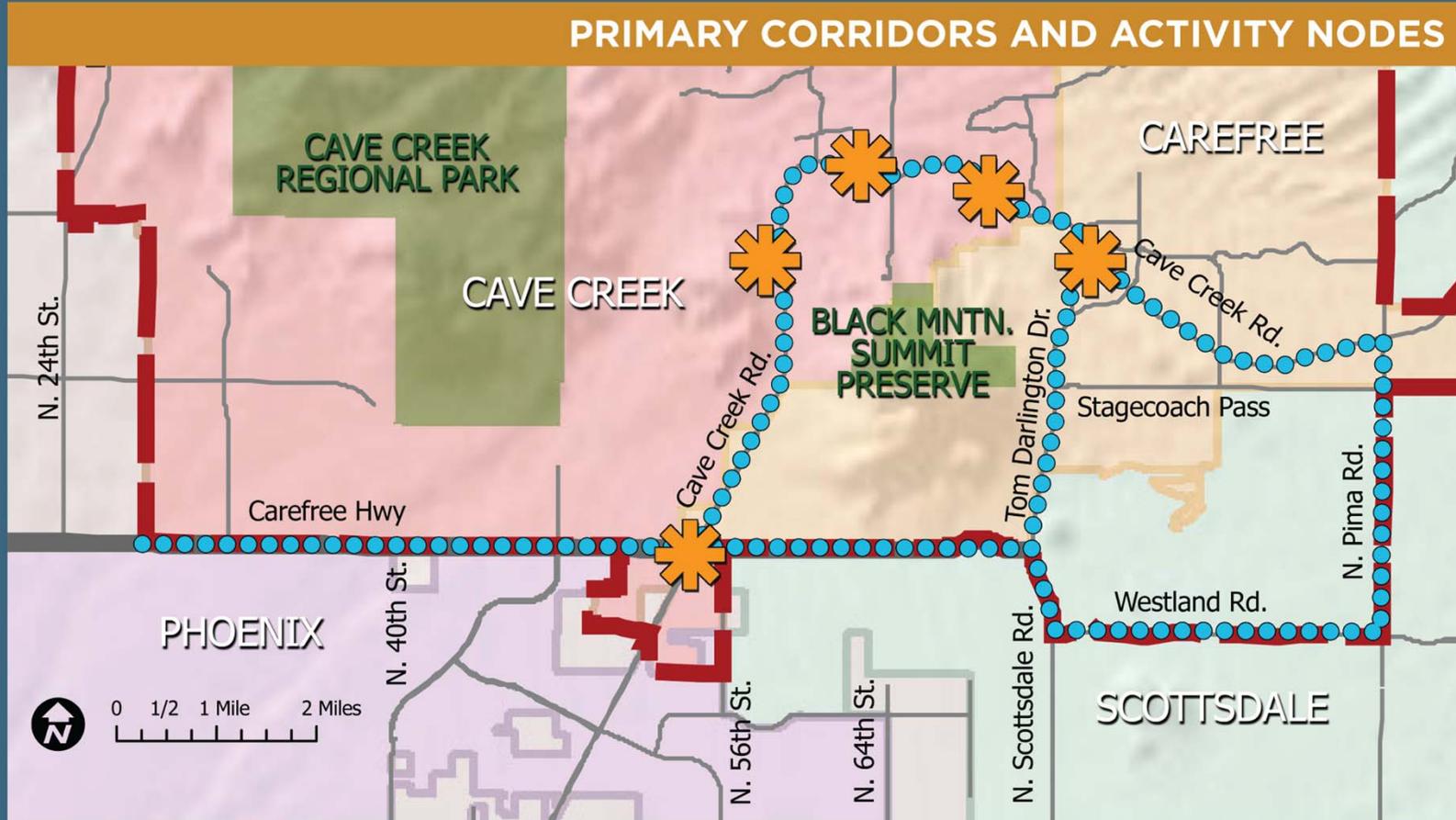
# Transportation Options Identified to Address Priorities, Outreach Conducted

- Presented options at public meeting April 2014
- Online community survey (266 responses)
- Web/email comments





# Nodes & Corridors



## LEGEND

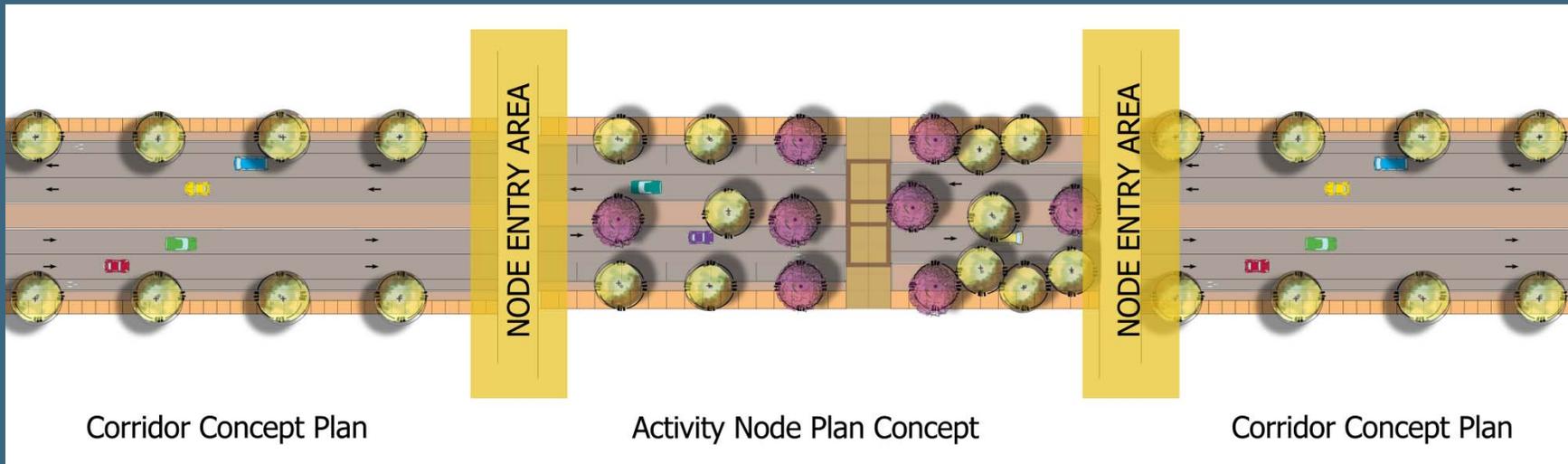
Study Area

Primary Corridor

Primary Activity Node



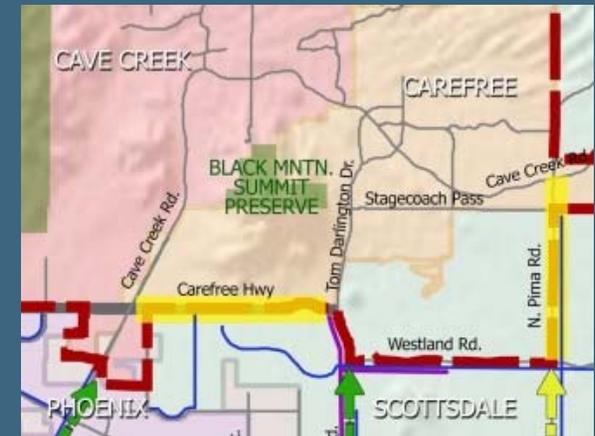
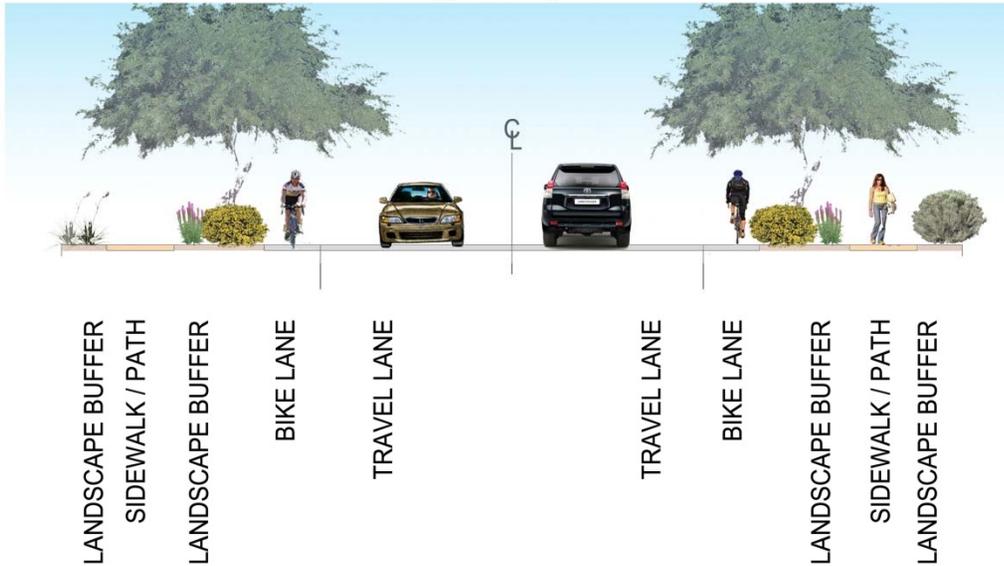
# Corridor and Node Concept





# Corridor Configurations Considered

## Interim Carefree Highway and Pima Road



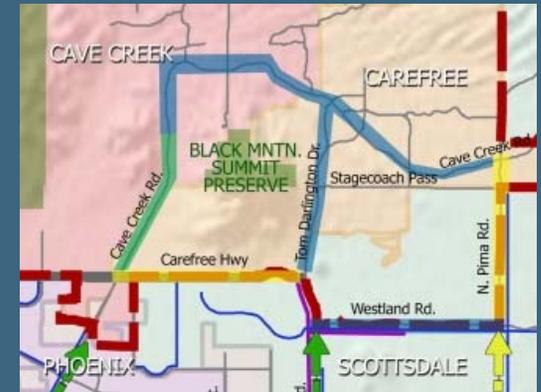
Location map

## Community Preferences

- 59% support
- 22% neutral/addl. suggestions, 18% did not support

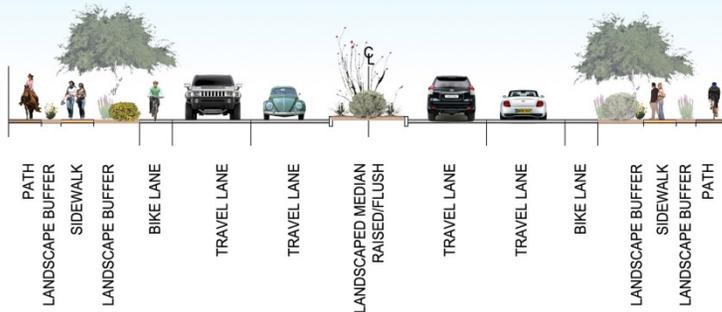


# Corridor Configurations Considered

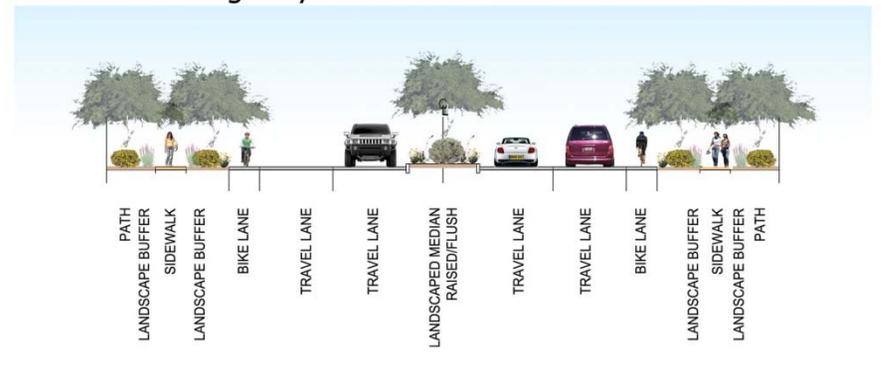


Location map

Cave Creek Road (Carefree Highway to Civic Node)



Cave Creek Road-Tom Darlington Drive-Westland Road  
Carefree Highway east of Cave Creek Road - Pima Road



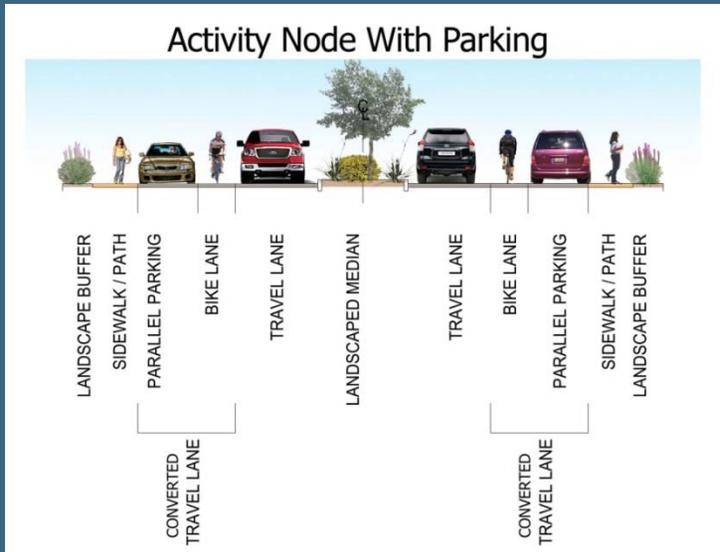
## Community Preferences

- 65% support
- 21% neutral/additional suggestions, 14% did not support

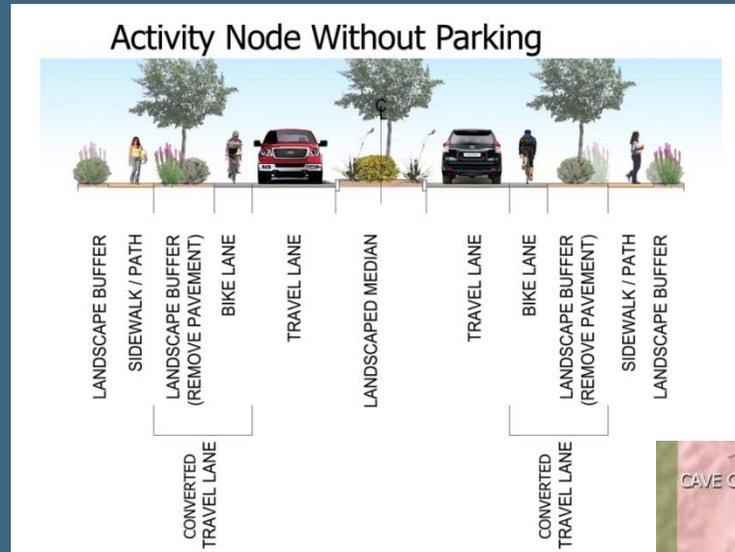


# Activity Node Options Considered

### Activity Node With Parking



### Activity Node Without Parking



Location map



## Community Preferences

- 48% - Without On-Street Parking (49% Carefree/48% CC)
- 22% - With On-Street Parking (25% Carefree/16% CC)
- 30% - Maintain 2 Lanes ea. Direction (26% Carefree/36% CC)



# Carefree Highway/Cave Creek Road

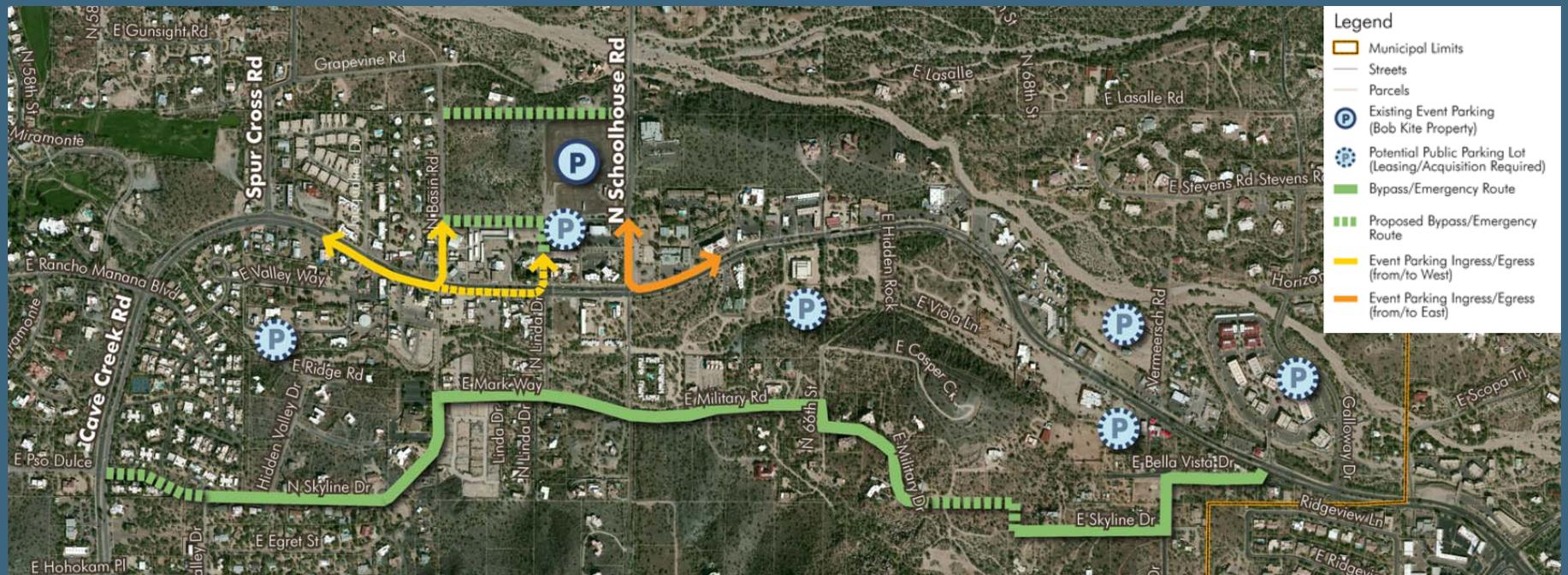
- High traffic location, existing/future commercial and schools
- Considered multi-use grade separated crossing
  - Mixed support - not recommended
- Improvements
  - Bike lanes
  - Sidewalks
  - Crosswalk improvements
  - Signal improvements



Location map



# Events/Parking - Cave Creek



## Community Preferences/Input

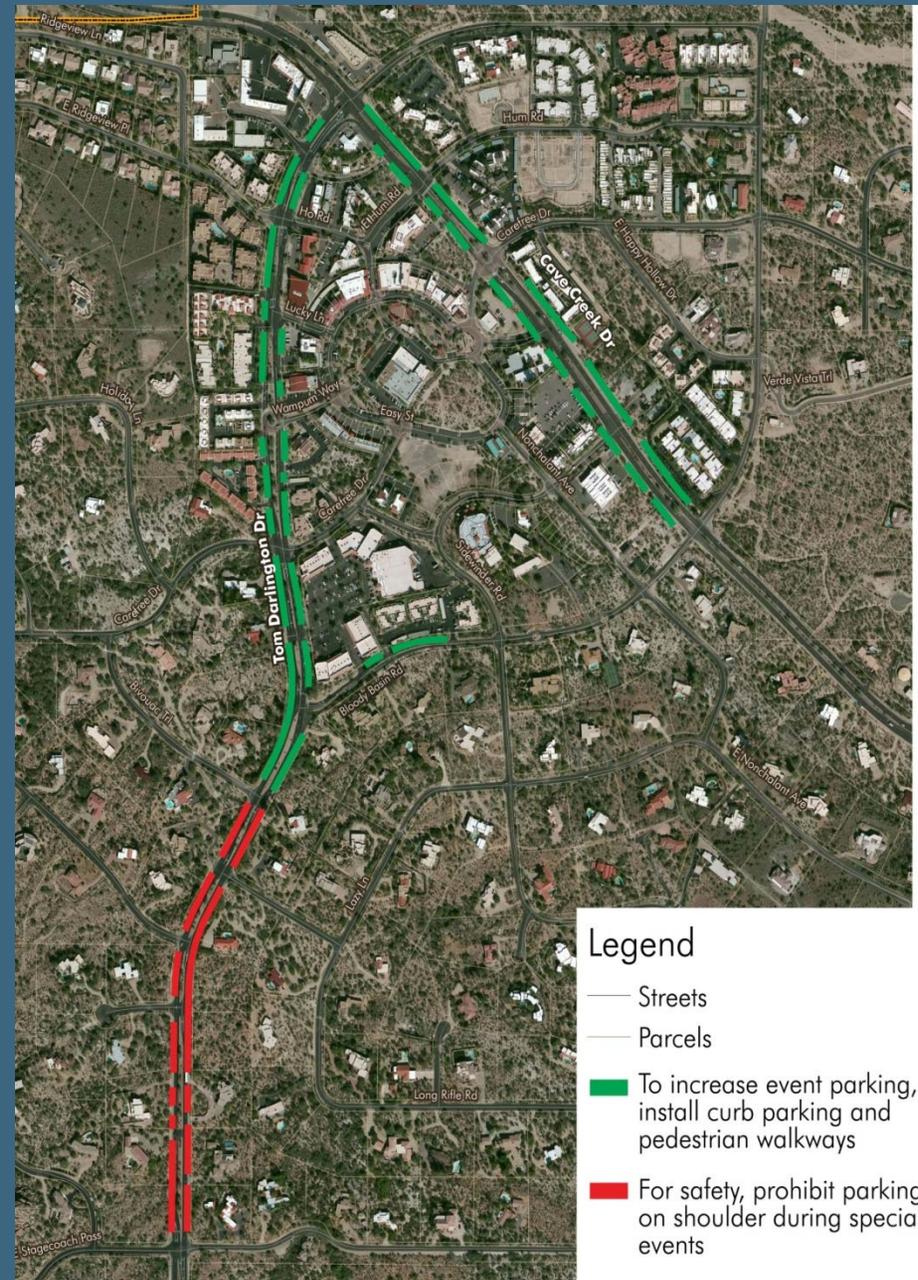
- Support for overall recommendations, particularly bypass route and parking locations
- Traffic management critical



# Events/Parking *Carefree*

## Community Preferences/Input

- Support for overall recommendations
- Need more parking options for largest events (e.g., Christmas Festival)





# Corridor & Node Feature Preferences

- Sticky dot exercise at public meeting
- Online survey
- Not a design project, but results shared with other projects





# Corridor Features

- **Paths/Sidewalks**
  - Prefer soft paths with landscape buffer
- **Bike Lanes**
  - Prefer wide lane with striped buffer





# Activity Node Features

- **Paths/Sidewalks**
  - Pedestrian sidewalks with tree buffers
- **Crosswalks**
  - Colored, stamped asphalt
- **Bike racks/storage**
  - Painted lane borders with vehicle lane separation
  - Vendor-manufactured bike racks





# Activity Node Features

- Seating/Site Furnishings
  - Seat walls
  - Rural character
  - Natural finishes
- Shade/Landscaping
  - Shade structures, minimal footprint
  - Native trees/shrubs
- Signage
  - Local materials





# Input on Transportation Options

- Prefer “complete street” approach
- Balance traffic needs with ped/bike needs
- Want pedestrian improvements in CBDs
- Want buffer from traffic
- Want more parking off-street
- Context sensitivity

# Recommendations



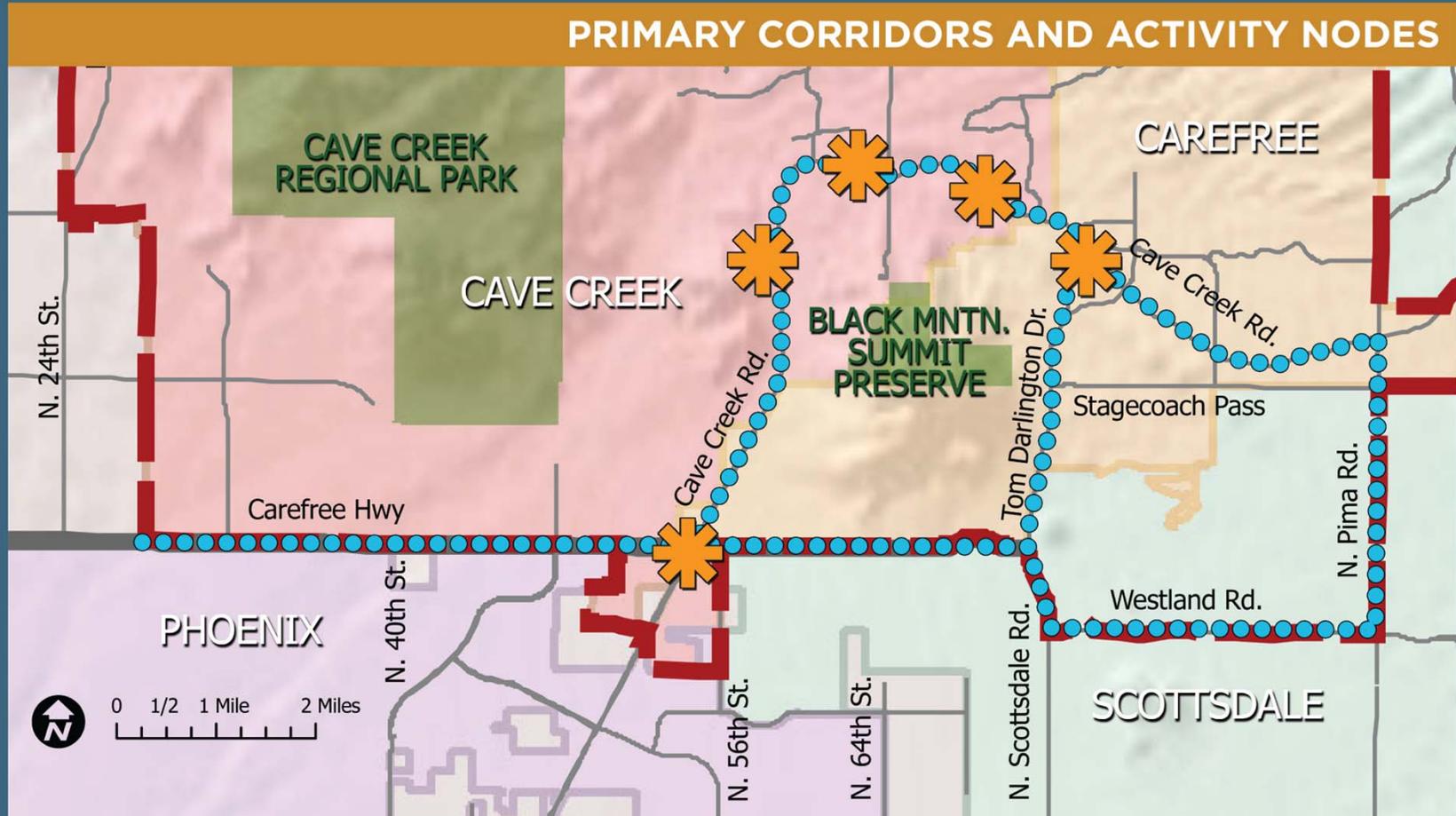


# Considerations

- Community's input
- Technical analysis
- Right-of-way
- Federal, regional requirements
  - Roadway
  - Bike
  - Pedestrian
  - Transit
- Realistic assumptions regarding funding levels



# Recommendations – Corridors & Nodes



## LEGEND

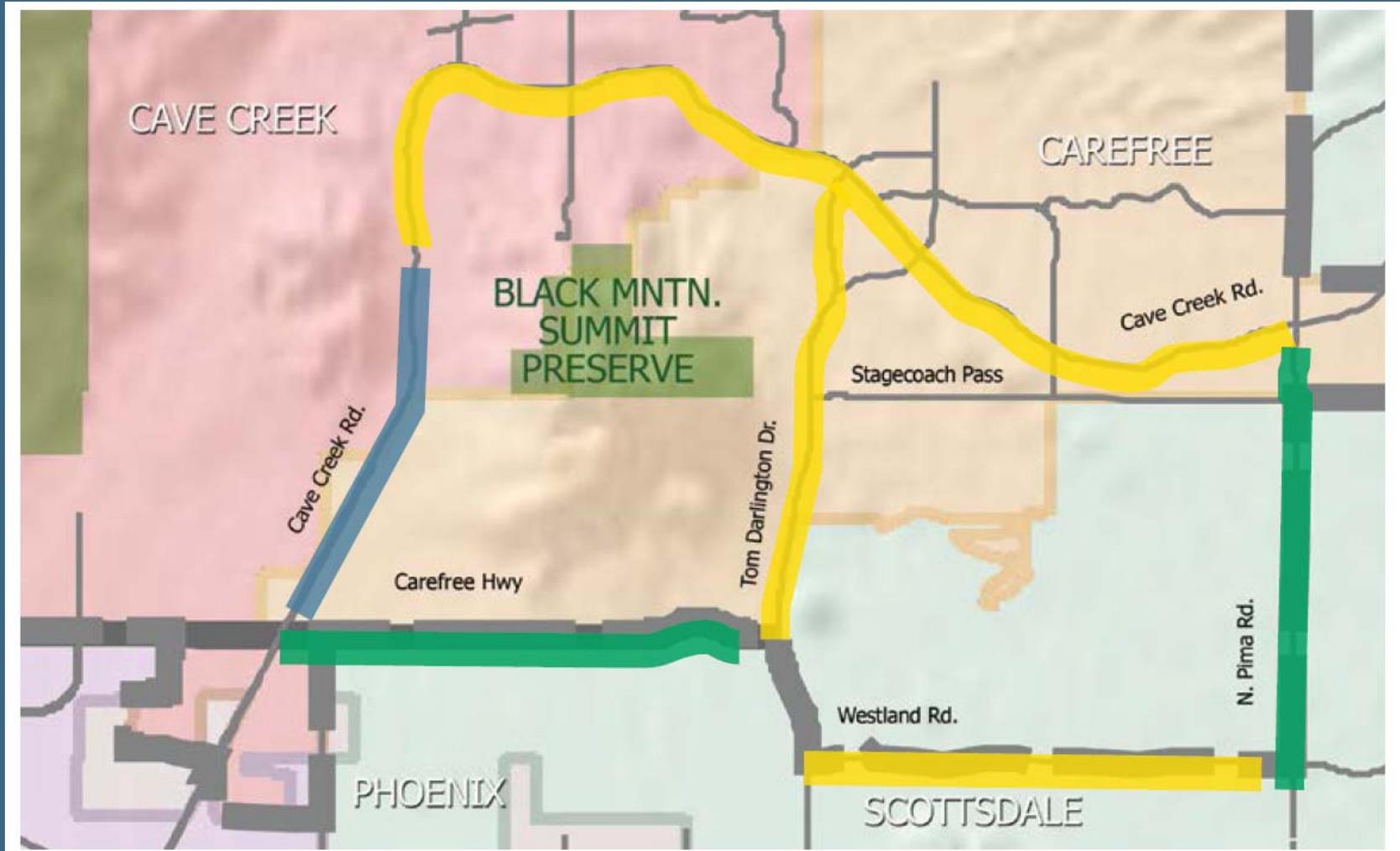
Study Area

Primary Corridor

Primary Activity Node



# Recommendation Locations – Corridors





# Interim Carefree Hwy & Pima Rd Corridors



## Interim Carefree Highway and Pima Road



LANDSCAPE BUFFER  
SIDEWALK / PATH

LANDSCAPE BUFFER

BIKE LANE

TRAVEL LANE

TRAVEL LANE

BIKE LANE

LANDSCAPE BUFFER

SIDEWALK / PATH

LANDSCAPE BUFFER



# Cave Creek Rd, Tom Darlington Dr, Westland Rd, Carefree Hwy, Pima Rd.

## *Ultimate Configuration*



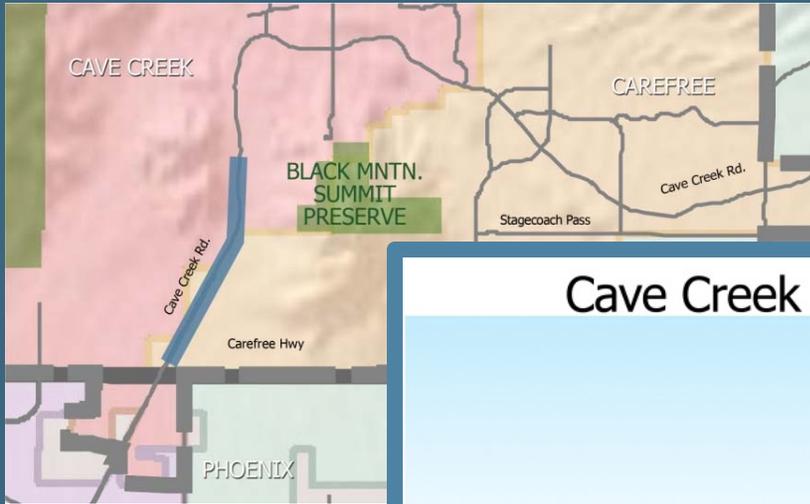
Cave Creek Road-Tom Darlington Drive-Westland Road  
Carefree Highway east of Cave Creek Road - Pima Road



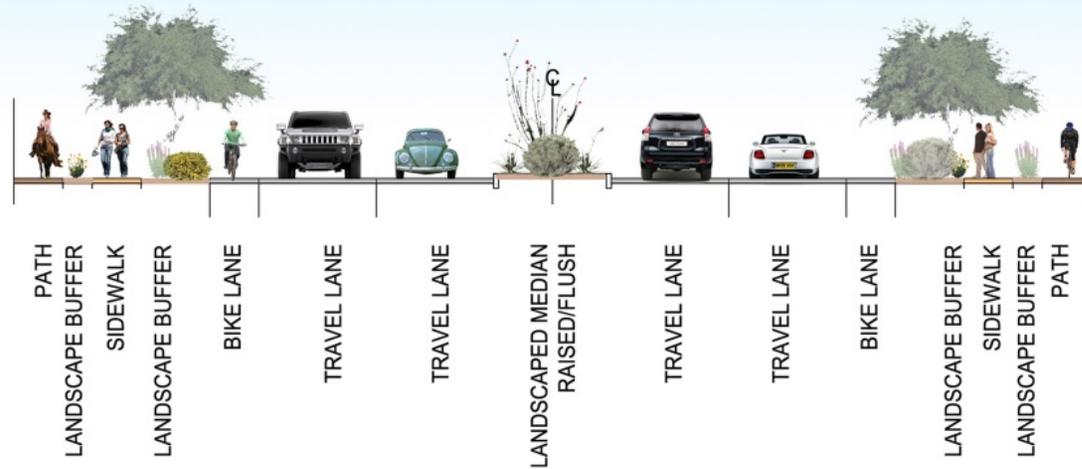
- PATH
- LANDSCAPE BUFFER
- SIDEWALK
- LANDSCAPE BUFFER
- BIKE LANE
- TRAVEL LANE
- TRAVEL LANE
- LANDSCAPED MEDIAN  
RAISED/FLUSH
- TRAVEL LANE
- TRAVEL LANE
- BIKE LANE
- LANDSCAPE BUFFER
- SIDEWALK
- LANDSCAPE BUFFER
- PATH



# Cave Creek Rd (CFH to Civic Node)



## Cave Creek Road (Carefree Highway to Civic Node)



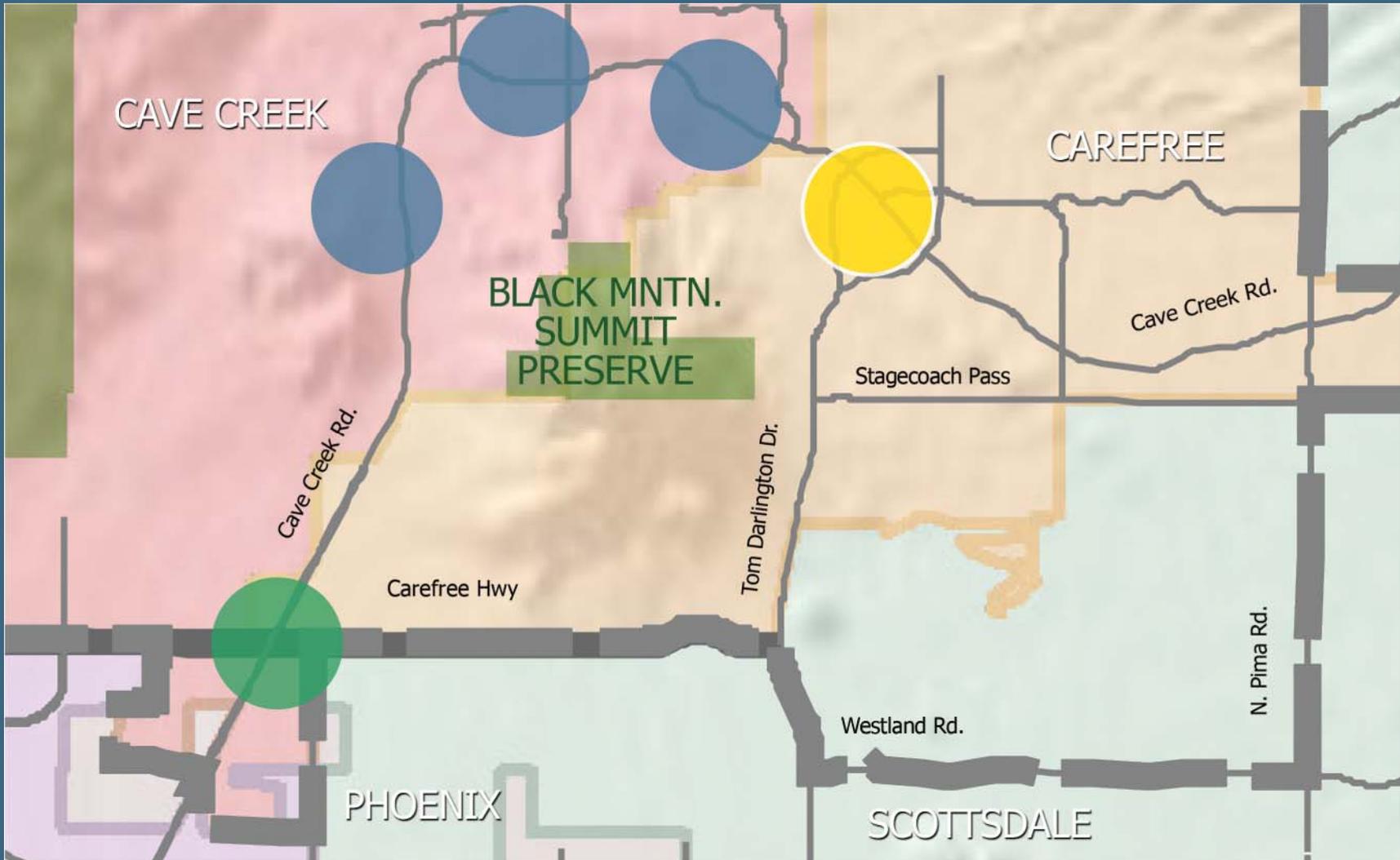


# Recommendations - Corridors

- **One lane per direction**
  - Interim Carefree Hwy. east of Cave Creek Rd, Interim Pima Rd.
- **Two lanes per direction**
  - Cave Creek Rd., Tom Darlington Dr., Westland Rd.
  - Ultimate Carefree Hwy. (east of Cave Creek Rd.) and Pima Rd.
- **Three lanes per direction**
  - Carefree Highway west of Cave Creek Road
- **Bike lanes & sidewalks (optional soft path in some locations)**
- **Optional shared-use path**
- **Raised and/or landscaped median**



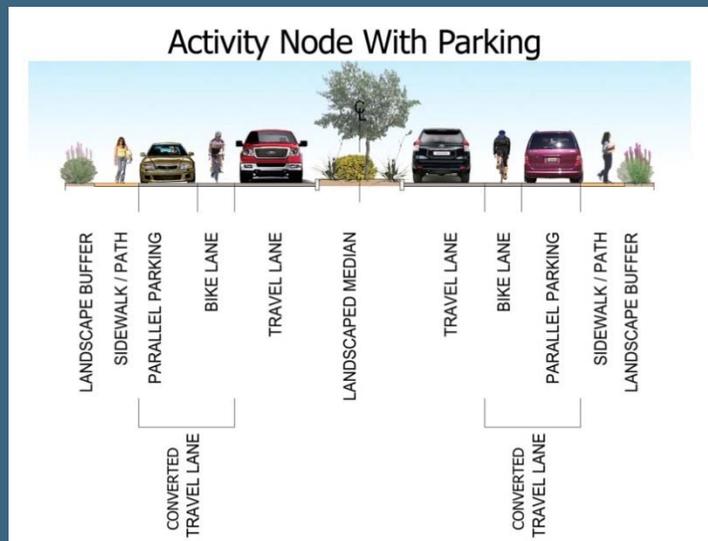
# Recommendation Locations – Activity Nodes



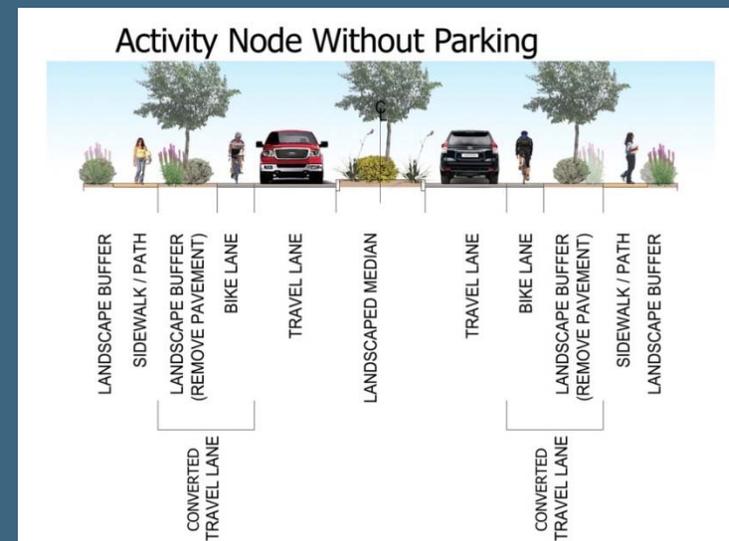


# Recommendations – Activity Nodes

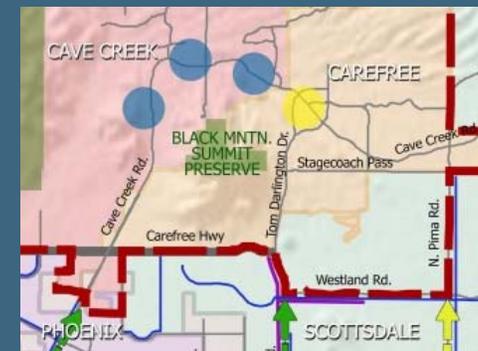
## Carefree



## Cave Creek



- One lane per direction
- Bike lanes and sidewalks
- Entry feature, traffic calming and sense of arrival
- Additional pedestrian and bike amenities
- Additional parking – Off-street only in Cave Creek, accommodated on-street in Carefree

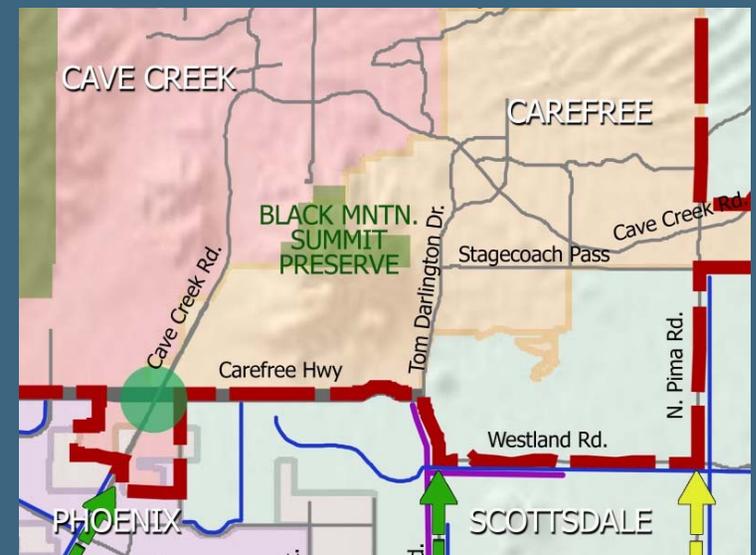




# Recommendations – Activity Nodes

## Carefree Highway and Cave Creek Road

- Bike lanes
- Sidewalks
- Crosswalk improvements
- Signal improvements





# Recommendations – Parking and Events

- Bypass route
- Additional off-street parking
- Carefree: on-street parking allowed
- Improve manual traffic management
- Signage/wayfinding





# Transit Considerations

- Not a high community priority
- Demand too low for fixed routes
- Seasonal visitor shuttle
  - Not eligible for funding



## Recommendations

- Continue funding for seniors/people with disabilities (e.g., Foothills Caring Corp.)
- Possible participation in Valley Ride Choice to link service to more east Valley destinations
- Future transit study to define demand, service options and cost



## Recommendations – Equestrians

- Accommodate outside the roadway
- Expand existing trail system where needed
- Separate from bicyclists





## Near-Term Improvements

### ■ Bike lanes

- Cave Creek Road (Town limits), Tom Darlington and Pima Rd (Carefree limits)
  - Currently in design, construction early 2016

### ■ Cave Creek Pedestrian Connector

- Multi-modal path
- Cave Creek Road between Town Hall and Schoolhouse Road
- Currently 15% designed
- Funding needed to construct

### ■ Downtown Carefree Revitalization Plan



## Mid-Term Improvements

- 5-10 years
- Currently unfunded, but planned in RTP
- Carefree Highway improvements (widening, bike lanes)
- Pima Road improvements

## Long-Term Improvements

- 10-20+ years
- Unfunded, not currently in RTP
- Cave Creek Road Corridor and Activity Node Improvements
- Tom Darlington Drive Corridor and Activity Node Improvements
- Westland Drive Corridor Improvements



## Next Steps

- Develop policies and standards and identify funding needed to implement improvements
- Finalize the study report
- Present to Councils and MAG for acceptance



# Framework Recommendations

- Planning level - provides a “play book” for future transportation improvements
- No funding available for improvements, except bike lane
- Completed study will allow towns and MAG to seek funding



# How to Comment

- During open house
  - Comment forms
  - Talk to study team
- Comment online: [cavecreekcarefree.azmag.gov](http://cavecreekcarefree.azmag.gov)
- Contact Eileen Yazzie, MAG Project Manager
  - eyazzie@azmag.gov
  - 602-254-6300
- Return comment form