

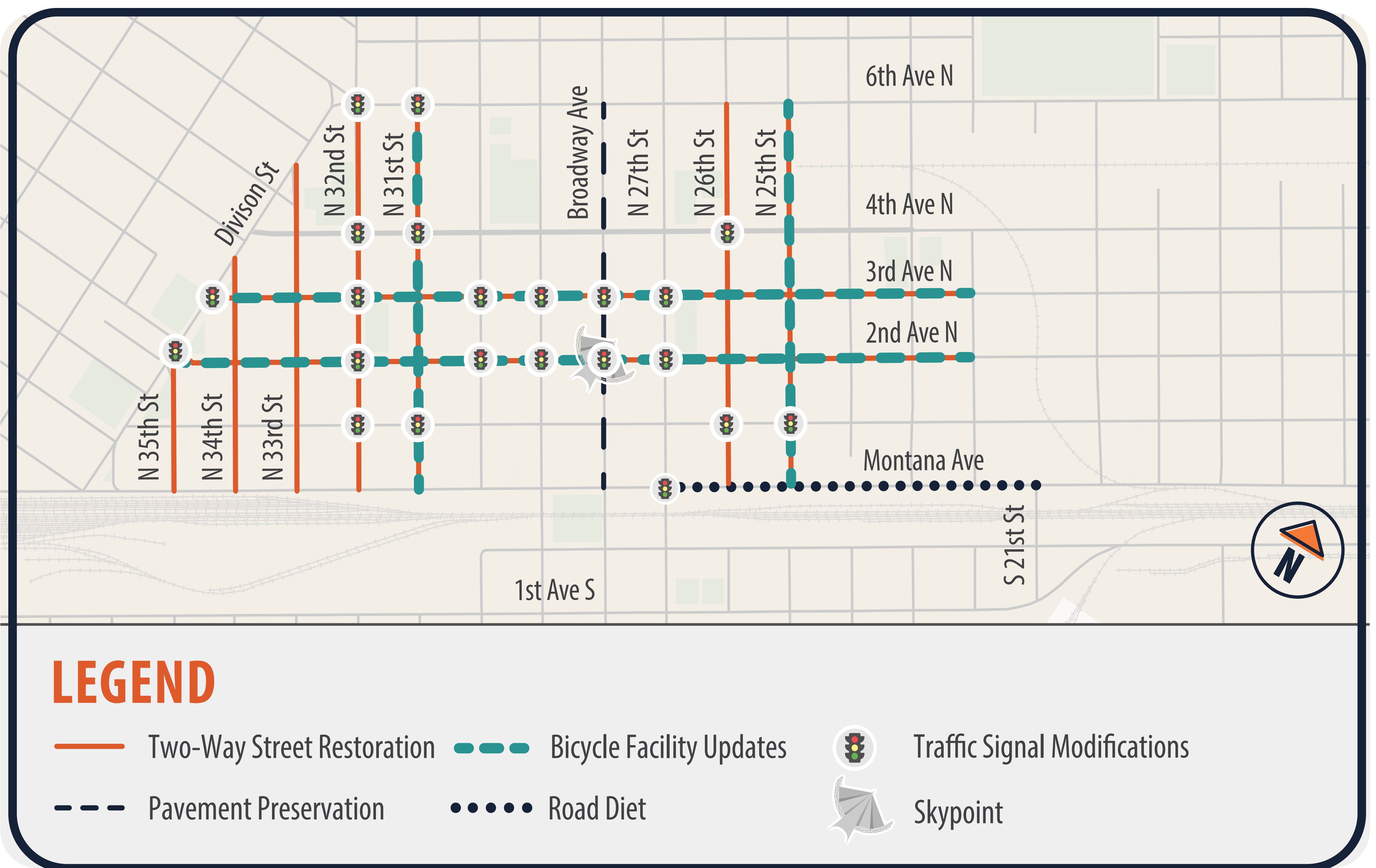
PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Downtown Billings Alliance (DBA) and the City of Billings are working together to improve downtown Billings by restoring several one-way streets to two-way.

This collective effort aims to:

- Preserve the roadways
- Optimize business access
- Promote multi-modal activities such as biking and walking

Another component of this project includes the review and design of a road diet on Montana Avenue (east of 27th Street) for consideration in a future Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) pavement preservation project.



PROJECT TEAM

PROJECT LEADS



CONSULTANTS



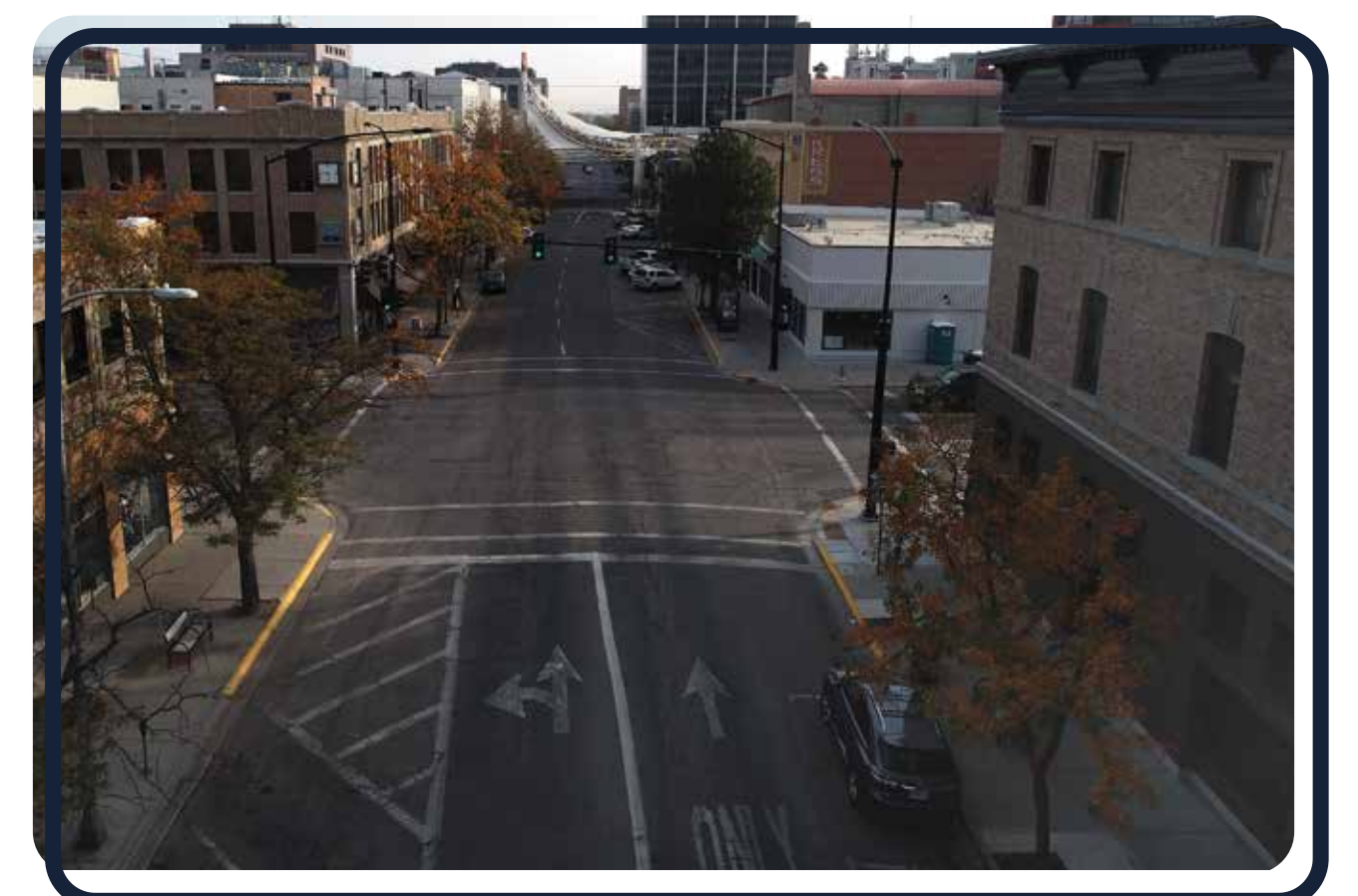
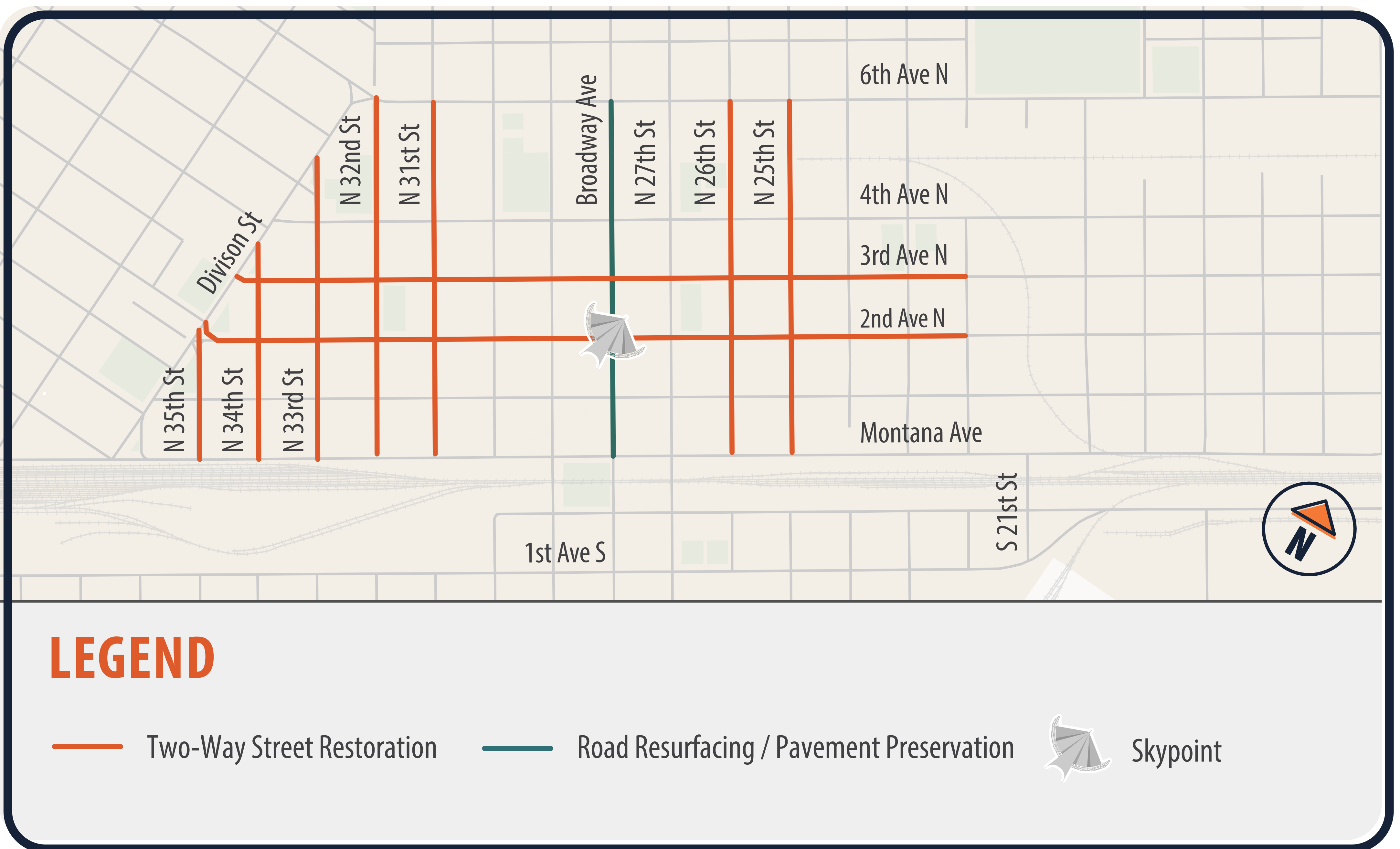
PARTNERS



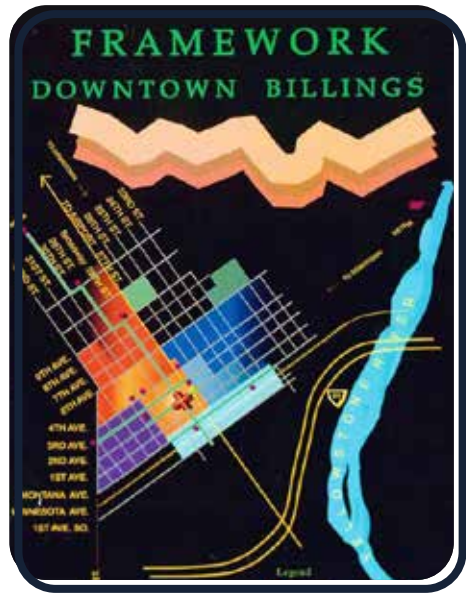
TWO-WAY RESTORATION

The purpose of this project is to resurface and extend the life of several roadways in downtown Billings while simultaneously improving access, safety, and connectivity.

Restoring the roads to their original, two-way form will make downtown Billings easier to navigate, ultimately improving business exposure and making it more inviting for visitors.



PROJECT BACKGROUND



1997

Downtown Billings Framework Plan

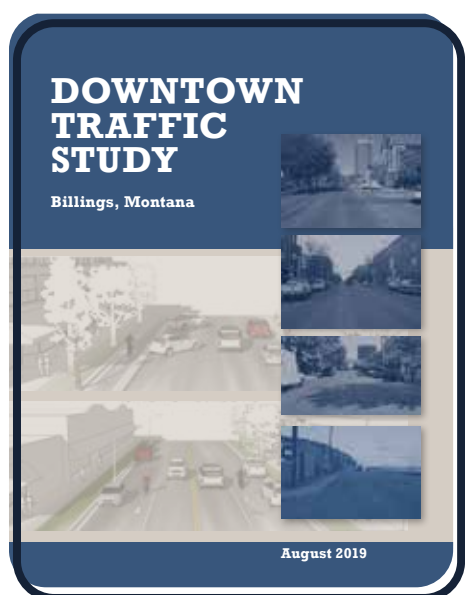
- “Everyone’s Neighborhood” community group developed a plan to enrich downtown and make it the “heart and soul” of Billings
- Identified two-way streets as a way to increase access and balance pedestrian and bicyclist needs with those of drivers



2018

DBA Strategic Plan

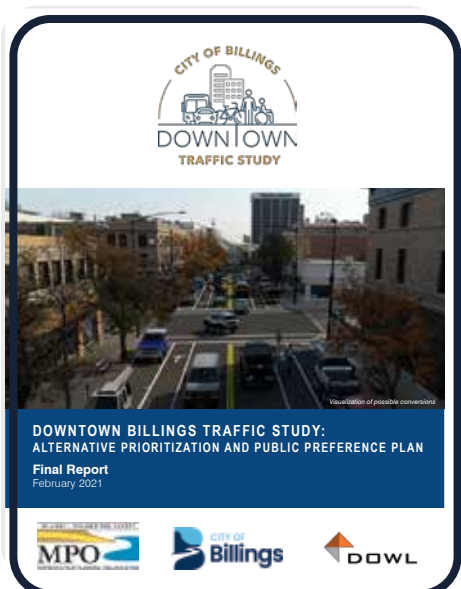
- Identified the need for increased connectivity in downtown Billings



2019

Downtown Billings Traffic Study (DBTS)

- Found that two-way streets and a Montana Avenue road diet are feasible in downtown Billings



2021

Downtown Billings Traffic Study: Alternative Prioritization and Public Preference Plan

- Solicited public feedback on the transportation network alternatives vetted in the DBTS
- Results indicated general public support for the two-way restoration and Montana Avenue road diet



2022 – 2023

• Planning and Design (In progress, 30% design)

- Project has been presented to DBA boards, Billings City Council, and downtown business owners

• Bidding (Upcoming, TBD)



SUMMER 2024

Two-Way Restoration construction begin (tentative; based on availability of materials)



UPCOMING

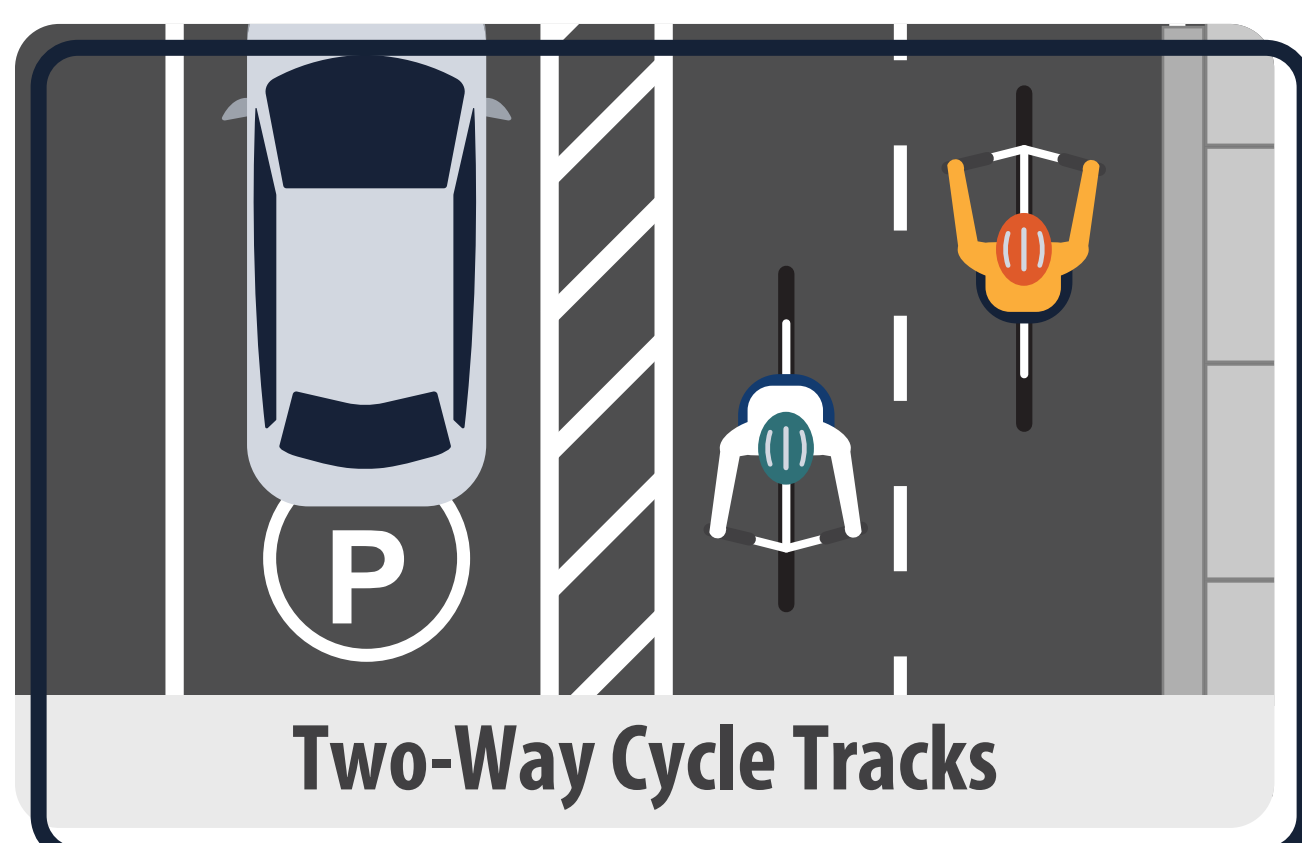
Montana Avenue road diet (based on MDT schedule; separate construction timeline)

PROJECT GOALS

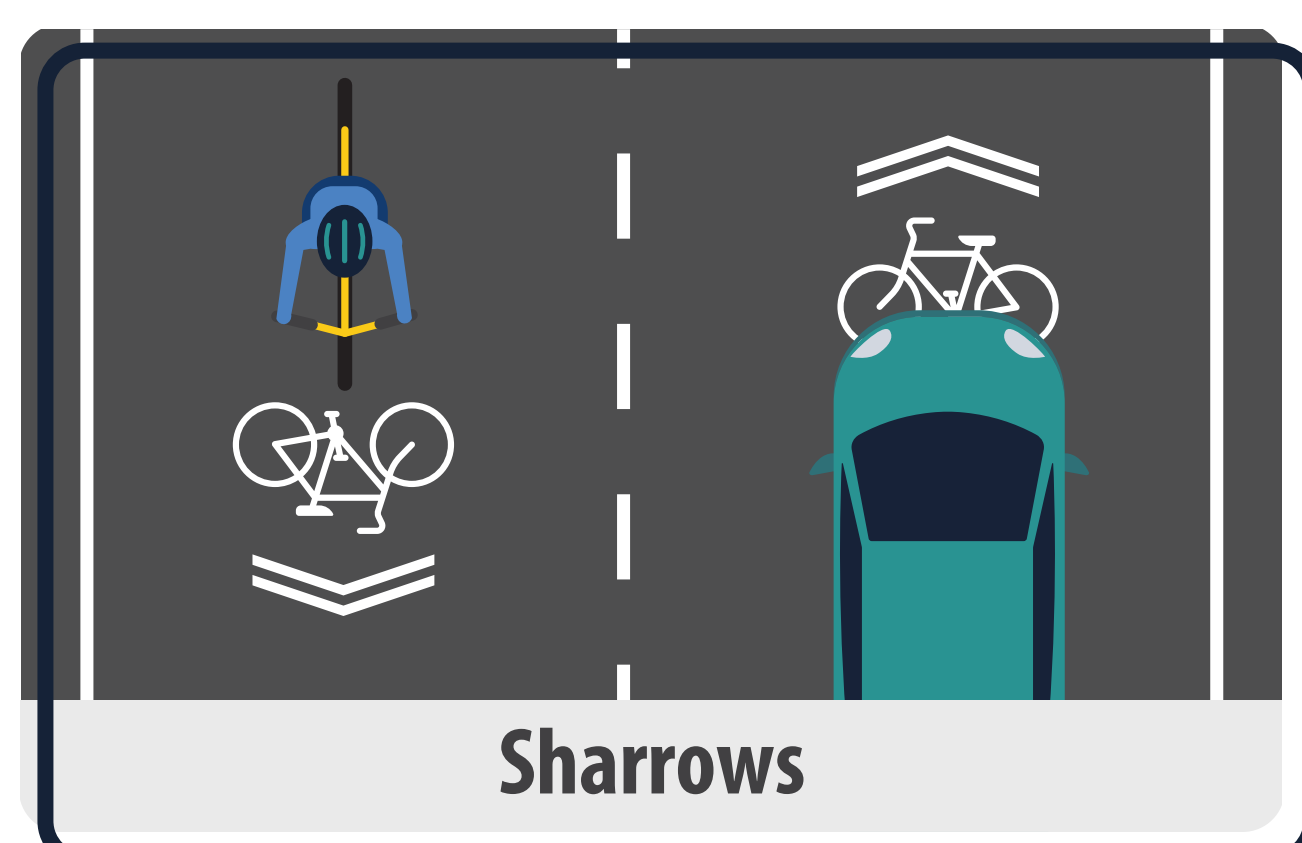
- 
- Promote safety
 - Support the vitality of downtown Billings
 - Increase accessibility and multi-modal connectivity (e.g. biking, walking, etc.)
 - Preserve existing roadways

BICYCLE INFRASTRUCTURE

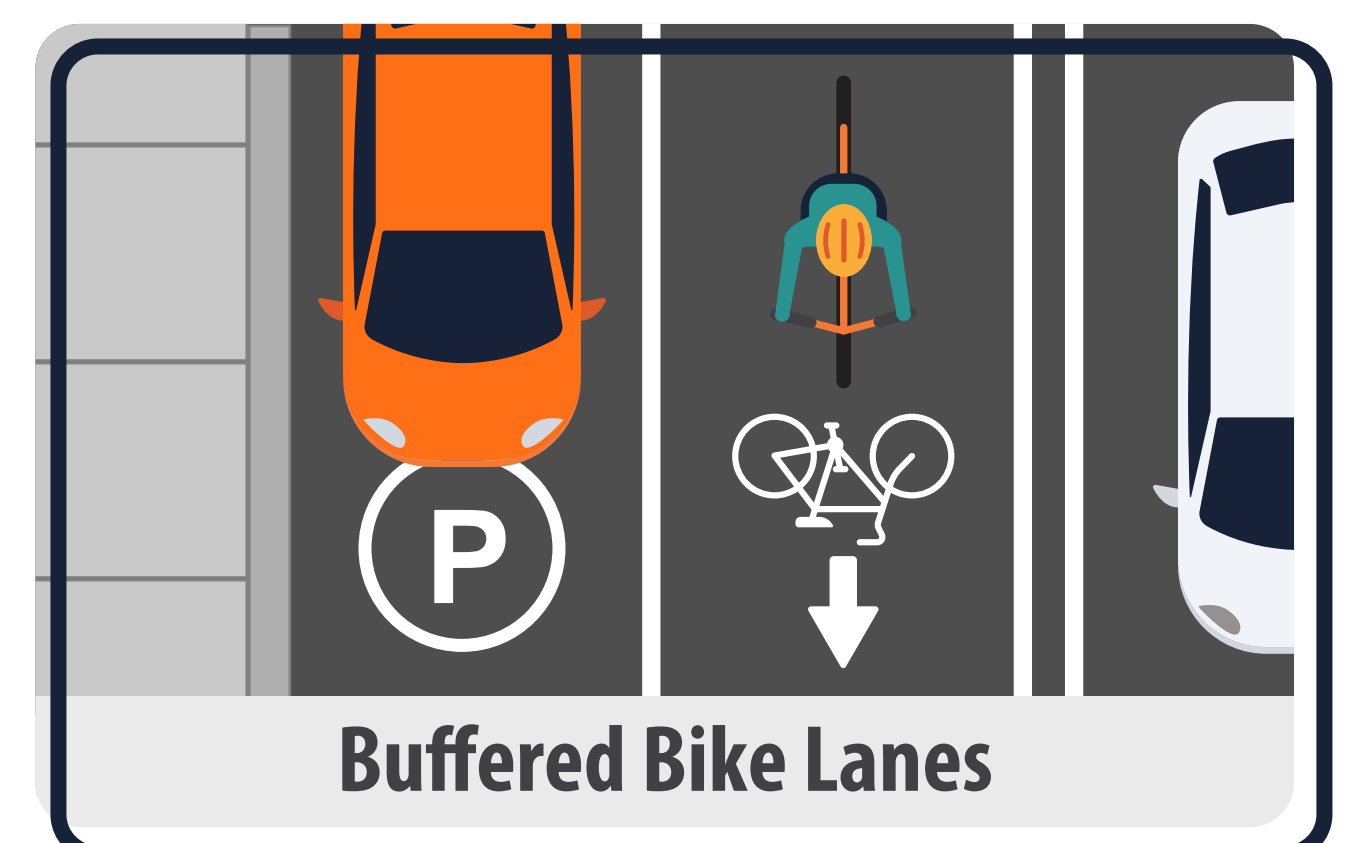
Upgrading existing bicycle infrastructure in downtown Billings is an important component of this project. Project plans include two-way cycle tracks, sharrows, and buffered bike lanes to promote a safer multi-modal environment downtown. The proposed upgrades vary based on the dynamics of each block.



- North 31st Street (between Montana Avenue and 6th Avenue North)
- 3rd Avenue North (between Division Street and North 22nd Street)
- Provides protected facility for bicyclists
- Visible separation from driving lanes, parking spaces, and sidewalk
- 7-10 feet wide with 3-foot buffer



- 2nd Avenue North (between North 32nd Street and North 24th Street)
- North 25th Street (between 1st Avenue North and 4th Avenue North)
- Typically marked by two chevron arrows above a bicycle icon
- Promotes shared use of the roadway by bicyclists and motorists

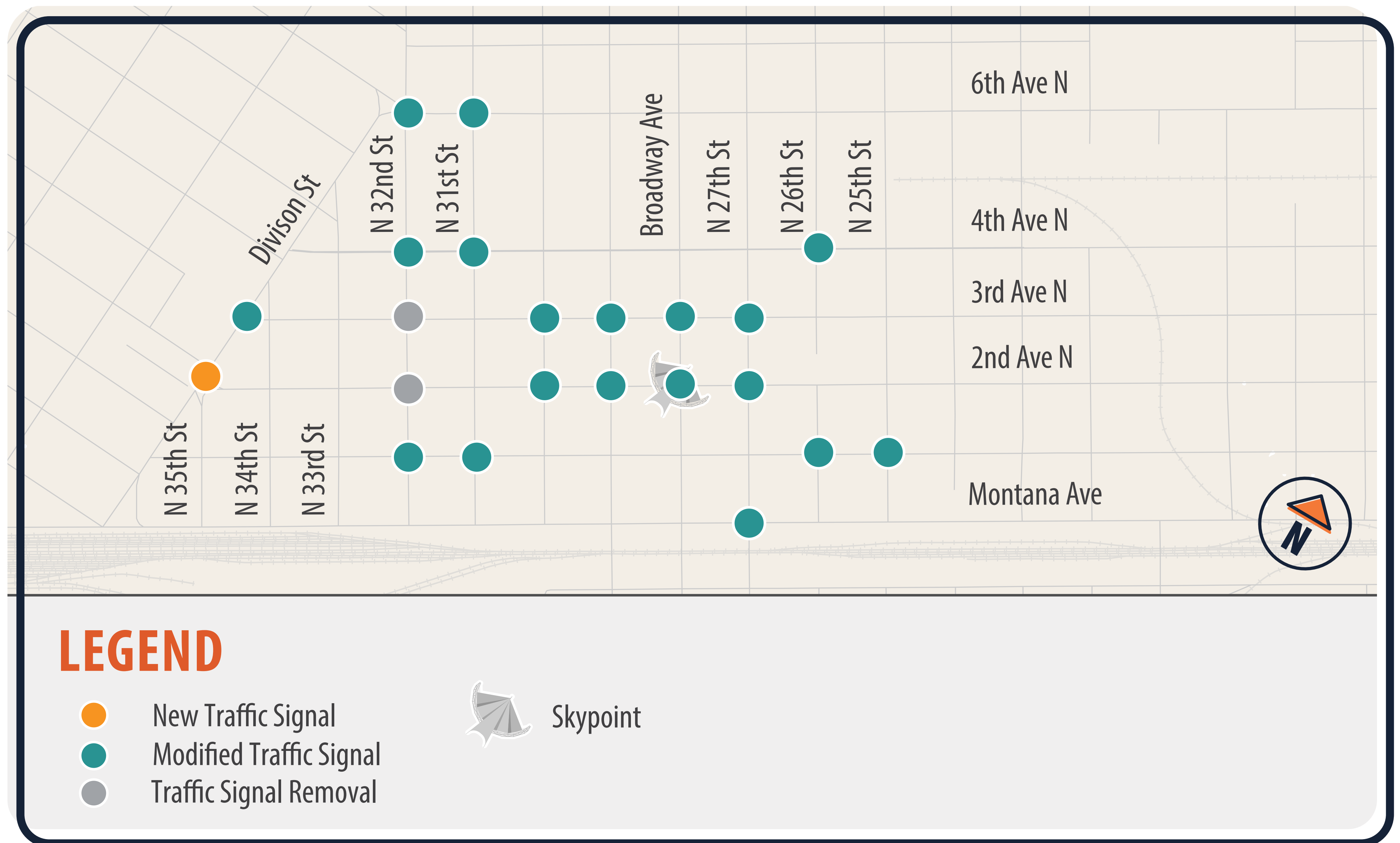


- 2nd Avenue North (between Division Street and North 32nd Street)
- 2nd Avenue North (between North 24th Street and North 22nd Street)
- 1.5-foot buffer to delineate bicycle lane from driving lane

INTERSECTION MODIFICATIONS

Based on a recent traffic study, the following intersection modifications are being recommended for safety and traffic flow purposes:

- One new traffic signal
- Two traffic signals will be removed and replaced with stop-controlled intersections
- 19 traffic signals will be modified



Traffic signals will be removed and replaced with stop-control devices at North 32nd Street/3rd Avenue North and North 32nd Street/2nd Avenue North.



A new traffic signal will be installed at Division Street and 2nd Avenue North.

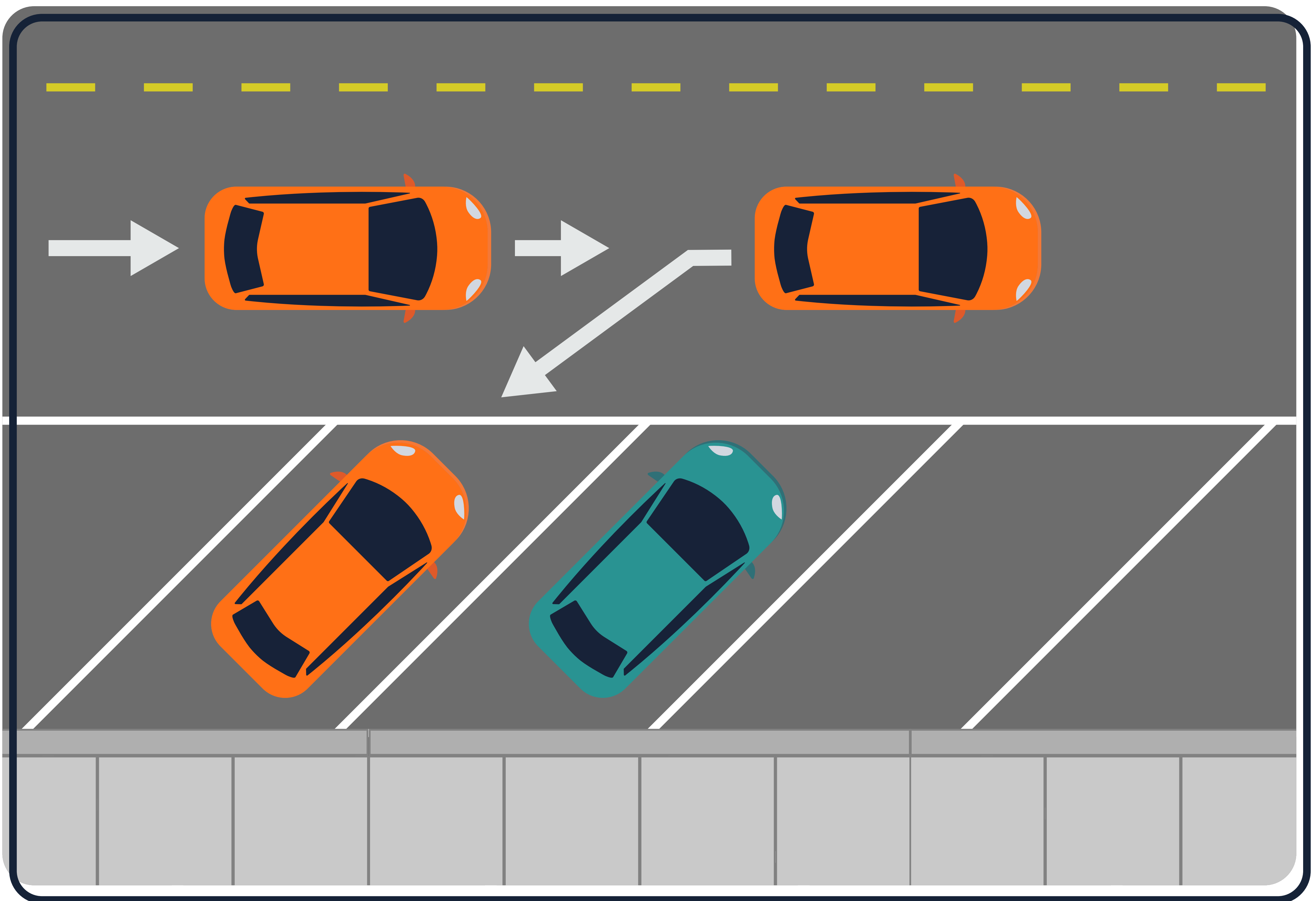


Several traffic signals will be modified including the ones at the intersection of North 31st Street and 4th Avenue North, near First Interstate Bank.

PARKING

Existing front-in angle parking will be converted to back-in angle parking within the projects limits. Parallel parking and parking spaces within parking garages will remain.

The addition of two-way cycle tracks will result in a reduction of parking in areas of the project where existing angle parking is expected to change to parallel parking.



Safety benefits of back-in angle parking include more visibility when exiting the parking spot and safer unloading/loading from the sidewalk.



Existing parallel parking will be preserved through a majority of the proposed project area.

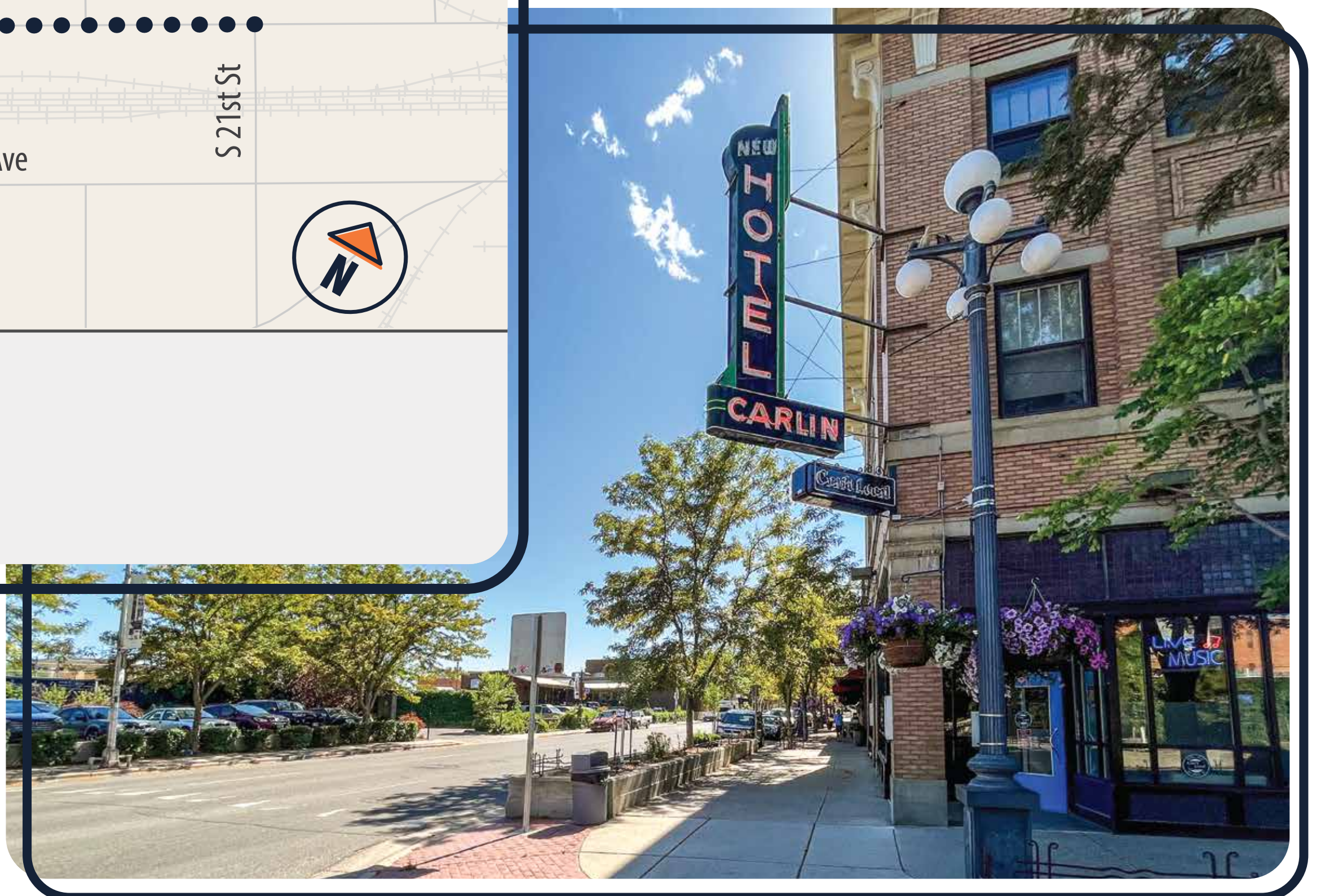


Back-in angle parking can also lower the risk of collision with bicyclists and pedestrians and provide a safer experience for passengers when entering and exiting a vehicle.

MONTANA AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS

This project includes the review and design of a future “road diet” on Montana Avenue (east of 27th Street) to identify opportunities to improve safety and accessibility. A road diet is a technique in transportation planning where the travel lanes and/or the width of the road are reduced to make room for improvements.

Any improvements on Montana Avenue would occur in coordination with a future MDT pavement preservation project (date TBD).

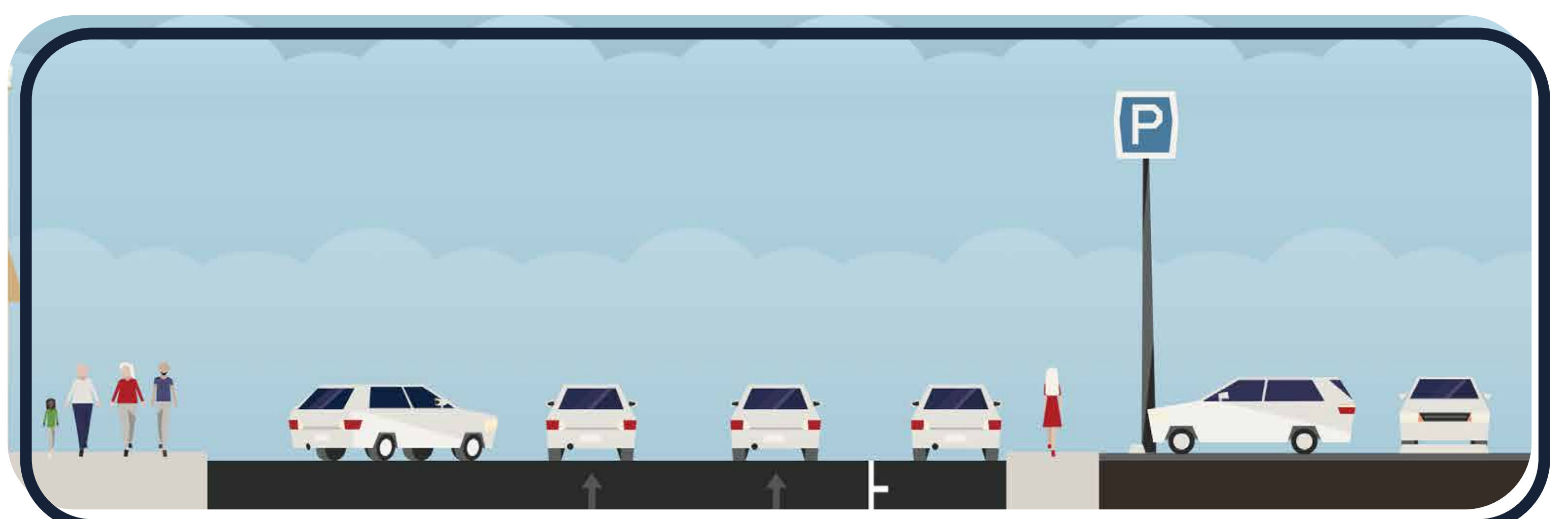


Current Configuration of Montana Avenue



*Illustration made with StreetMix.

Proposed Configuration of Montana Avenue with road diet



*Illustration made with StreetMix.

STAY CONNECTED

Feel free to contact us with any questions or comments you may have!

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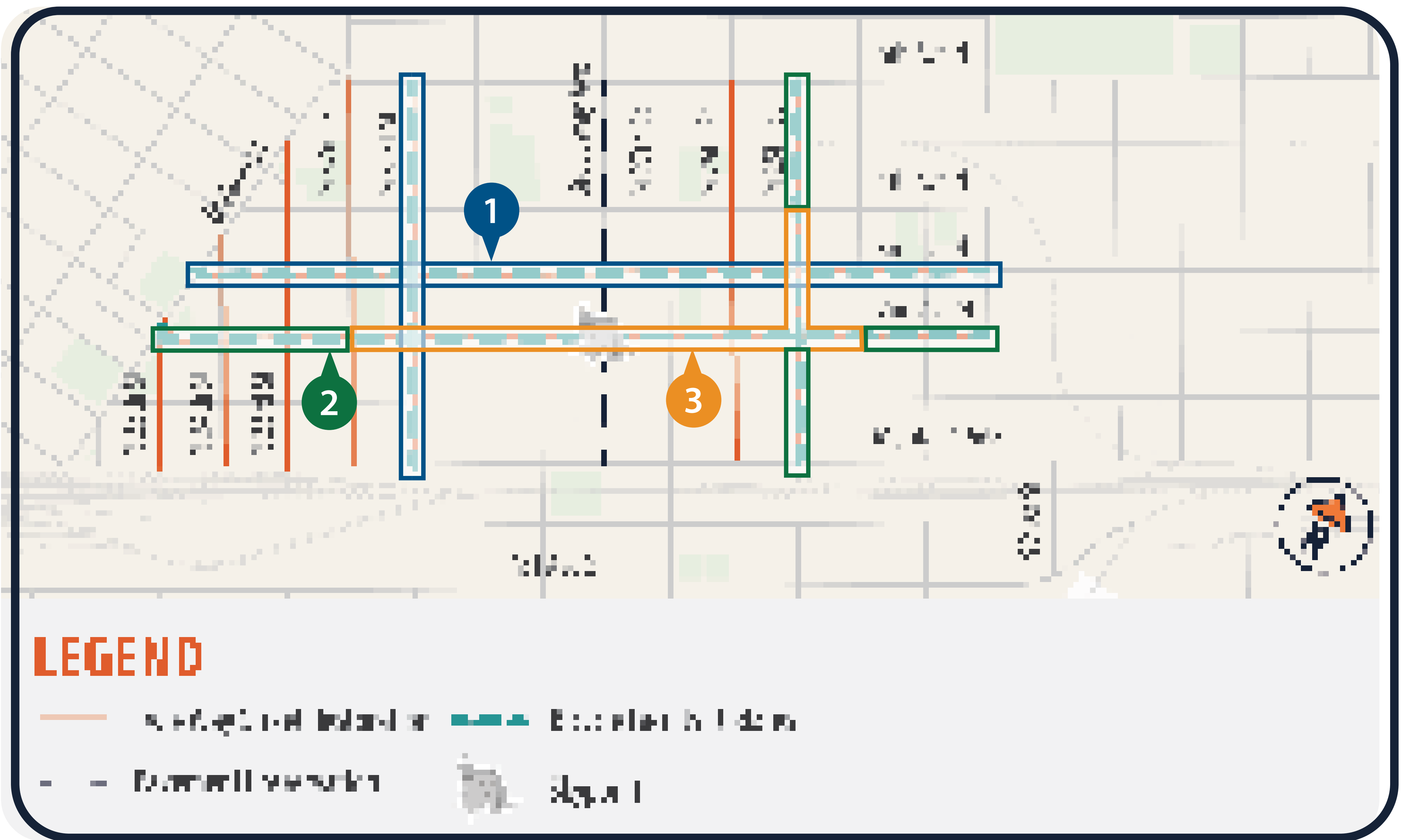
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Visit the project website
for more info and to sign
up for email updates:
<https://Billings2Way.com>

PROPOSED STREET CONFIGURATIONS

Below are two-dimensional illustrations of the proposed changes to some of the streets in the project area.



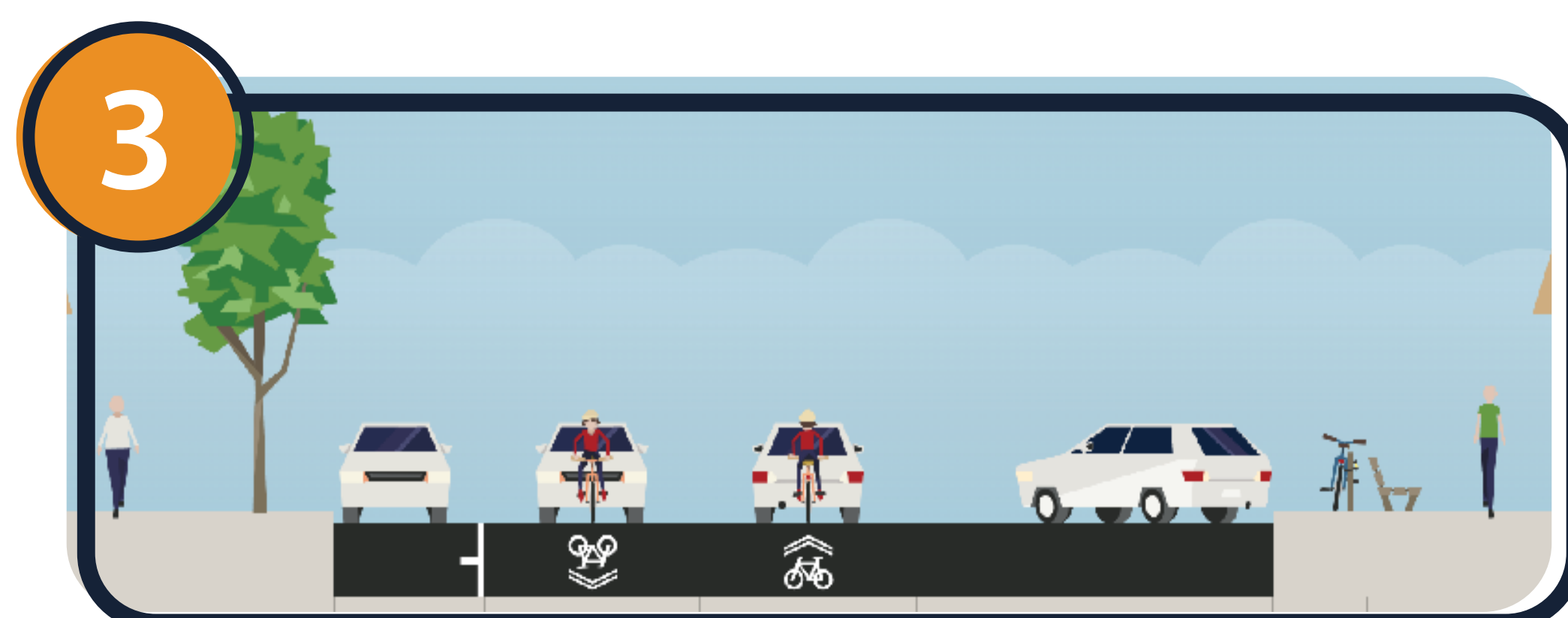
*Illustration made with StreetMix.

- 3rd Avenue (Division Street to North 22nd Street)
- North 31st Street (Montana Avenue to 6th Avenue North)



*Illustration made with StreetMix.

- North 25th Street (Montana Avenue to 1st Avenue North)
- North 25th Street (4th Avenue North to 6th Avenue North)
- 2nd Avenue North (Division Street to North 32nd Street)
- 2nd Avenue North (North 24th Street to North 22nd Street)



*Illustration made with StreetMix.

- 2nd Avenue North (North 32nd Street to North 24th Street)
- North 25th Street (1st Avenue North to 4th Avenue North)

OPEN HOUSE

**DOWNTOWN BILLINGS
TWO-WAY RESTORATION PROJECT**

