

# BELMONT CRAGIN NEIGHBORHOOD BIKE NETWORK

Neighborhood Taskforce  
Meeting #2

April 13, 2021



# GOALS FOR TODAY

- ▶ Recap what we heard at the last meeting
- ▶ Review short-term projects for Belmont Cragin
- ▶ Discuss potential designs for short-term projects
- ▶ Discuss outreach with the community

# INTRODUCTIONS

- ▶ Is there anyone new who could not join us for the first taskforce meeting?
- ▶ What initiatives is your group working on in Belmont Cragin? How can bicycling contribute to that effort?

# WHAT WE HEARD

## What's already going on in Belmont Cragin?

- ▶ Bicycling is a vital transportation option, especially for young people
- ▶ Youth Council pushing for transportation investment in Belmont Cragin

## How to engage with the community

- ▶ Trusted messengers are important when discussing biking with the community
- ▶ Engage with young people, especially through the schools
- ▶ Boots on the ground/meet people where they are
- ▶ The Taskforce is ready to help spread the word

# WHAT WE HEARD

## Perceptions of biking in Belmont Cragin

- ▶ Lots of young people already riding bikes
- ▶ Biking can be faster and more reliable than riding the bus
- ▶ Biking is a great way to stay healthy and get exercise
- ▶ Concern that bike infrastructure will remove parking and increase congestion

## Barriers to biking in Belmont Cragin

- ▶ Lack of bike infrastructure
- ▶ Lack of bike parking at destinations
- ▶ Many hesitant to get on a bike due to dangerous/unpredictable behavior by motor vehicles

# WHAT WE HEARD

## Streets and destinations important to Belmont Cragin

- ▶ Connect to schools, parks, transit, shopping, and other community assets
- ▶ Connect to Milwaukee Ave bike lanes and the bike network
- ▶ Belmont and Diversey commercial corridors are vital connections but don't feel safe

# WHAT WE'VE DONE SINCE LAST MEETING

- ▶ Developed a draft network of bike routes based on your feedback and identified what is possible on each street
- ▶ Looked at traffic crashes in Belmont Cragin
- ▶ Coordinated resources to provide more bike parking this year in Belmont Cragin
- ▶ Coordinating bike education events in Belmont Cragin
- ▶ Developed a survey to better understand how people get around in the neighborhood
- ▶ Created materials to help you start talking about this effort with your neighbors

# DRAFT BIKE NETWORK

- ▶ Short-term projects we can install in 2021 and 2022
- ▶ Long-term projects which need more collaboration and analysis before they can be installed

# TRAFFIC CRASHES IN BELMONT CRAGIN

**Belmont Cragin is a High Crash Area**

**In five years (2014-2018):**

- ▶ Over 14,000 traffic crashes (2,800 per year)
- ▶ 2,800 people injured (560 per year)
- ▶ 14 people killed (nearly three per year)
- ▶ Most crashes occur on arterial/commercial streets
- ▶ Belmont Ave a hot spot for crashes involving people walking and biking

# DEVELOPING THE NETWORK

## Over 16 miles of short-term projects in Belmont Cragin

- ▶ Street grid provides lots of options
- ▶ Narrow commercial streets limit opportunity for protected bike lanes in the short term

## Developed a network based on:

- ▶ Connections to important destinations and the existing bike network
- ▶ Geographical coverage in the neighborhood
- ▶ What designs are possible to install this year

# DEVELOPING THE NETWORK

	Streets	Bikeways	%
<b>Today in Belmont Cragin</b>	116 miles	4.7 miles	4%
<b>After Short-Term Projects</b>	116 miles	19.4 miles	17%
<b>Chicago Average</b>			8%

**PRIMARY STUDY AREA**

**Existing Bikeway Infrastructure**

- Bikeway

**Draft Potential Bikeway Projects**

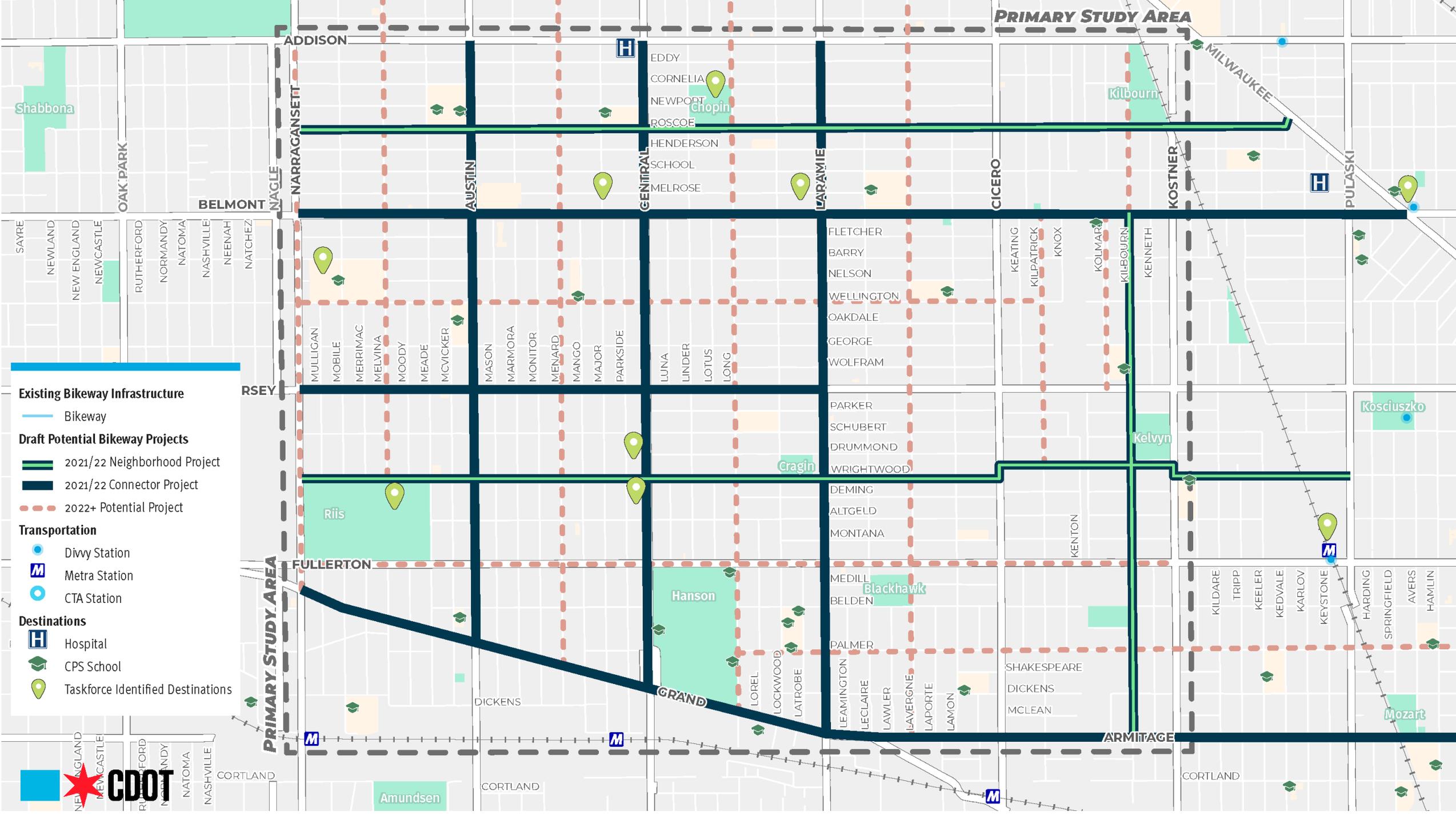
- 2021/22 Neighborhood Project
- 2021/22 Connector Project
- 2022+ Potential Project

**Transportation**

- Divvy Station
- Metra Station
- CTA Station

**Destinations**

- Hospital
- CPS School
- Taskforce Identified Destinations



# PROPOSED DESIGNS

- ▶ What can be designed and installed this year
- ▶ Does not mean we cannot upgrade these projects in the future
- ▶ Help us identify who we need to talk to for each route (block groups, churches, important businesses, etc)

# MAKING BIKE ROUTES MORE COMFORTABLE

## Separating Bikes from Cars

- ▶ Consolidating on-street parking to install protected bike lanes

## Reducing the Speed of Cars

- ▶ Lowering the speed limit to 20 MPH, installing speed humps and pedestrian bumpouts

## Reducing the Number of Cars

- ▶ Prohibiting cut through traffic on neighborhood streets

**Each strategy requires tradeoffs. Help us find the right balance for each street.**

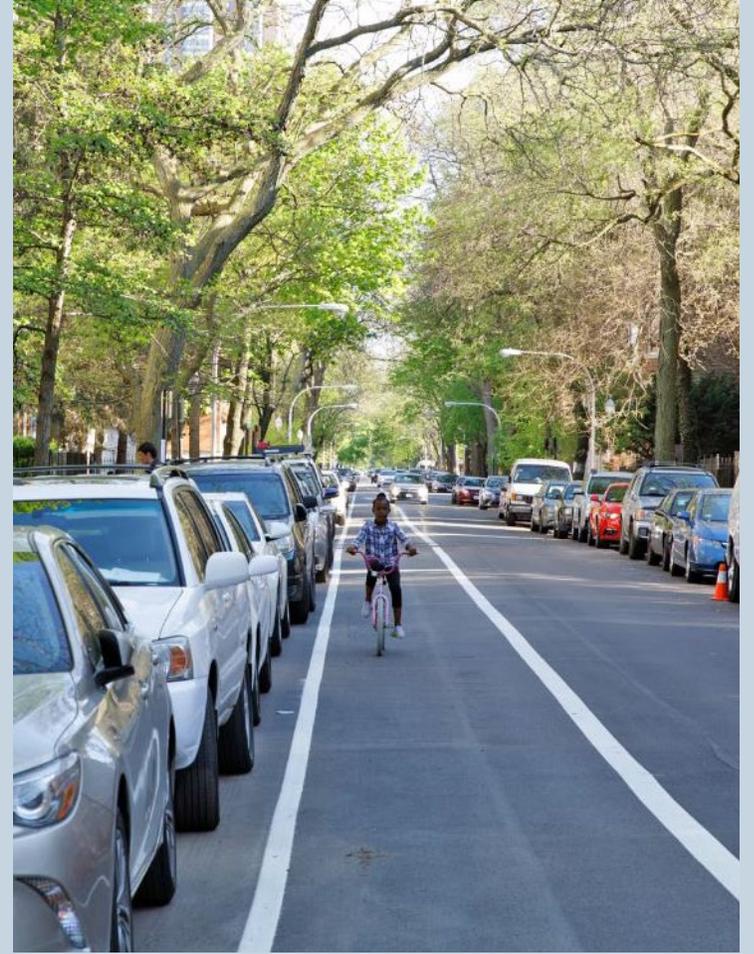
# NEIGHBORHOOD BIKE ROUTES

- ▶ Low-volume residential streets (side streets) that are designated for people biking
- ▶ Low-stress alternative to busy arterial streets
- ▶ Connect to community assets
- ▶ Traffic signals/stop signs to cross most busy intersections

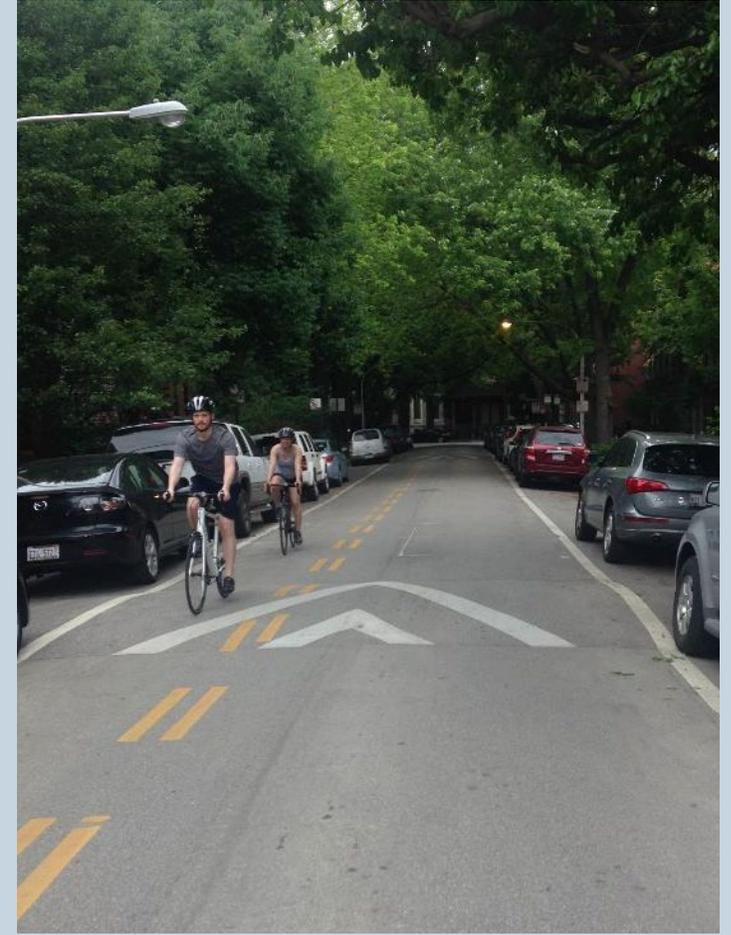
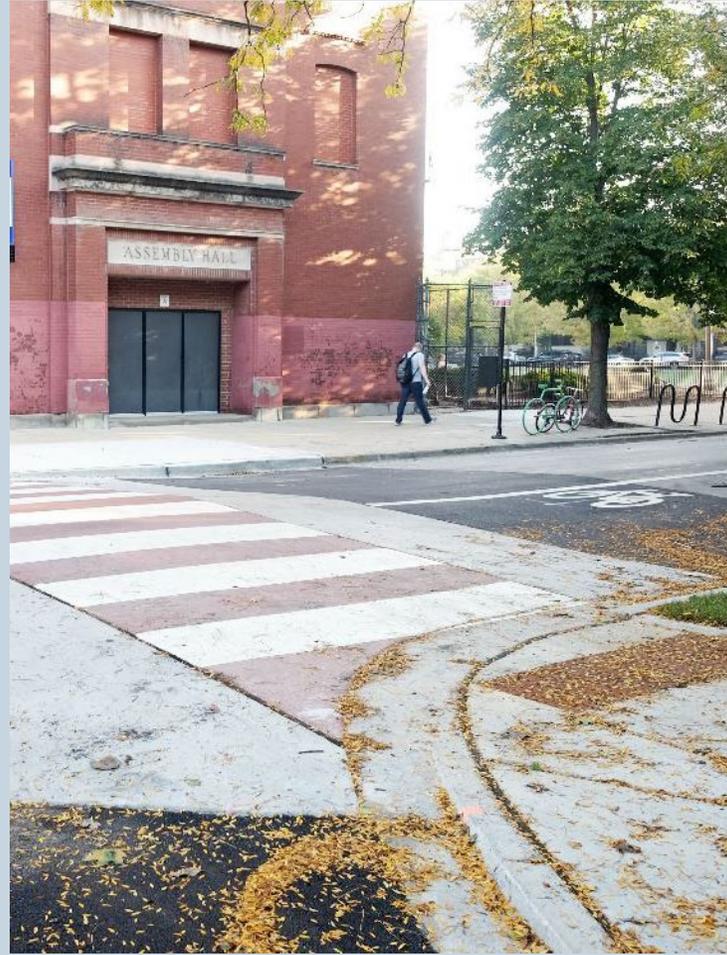
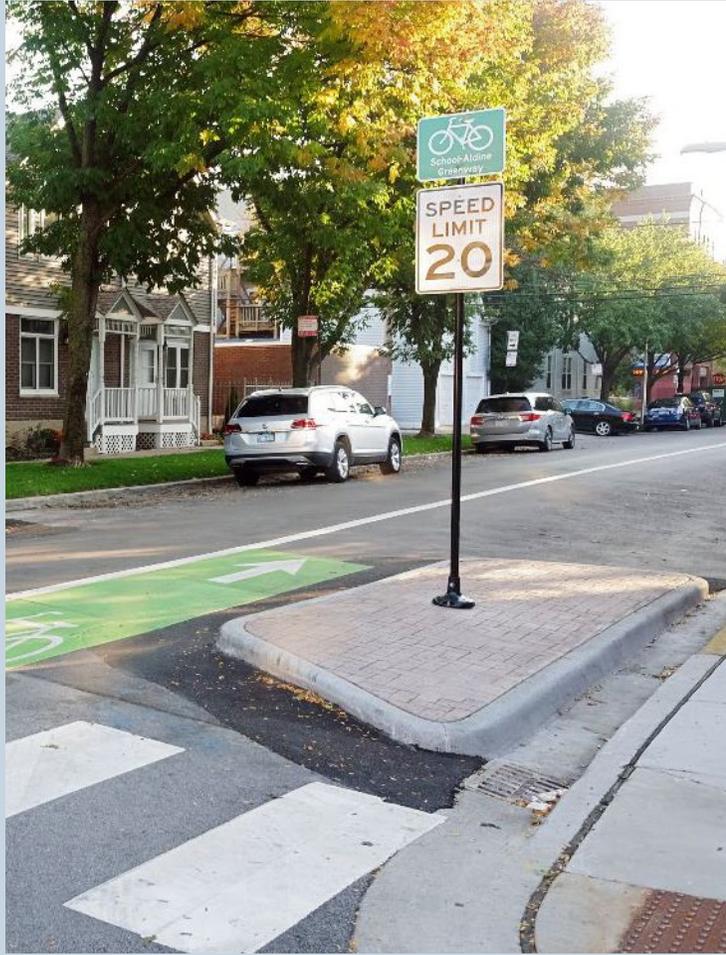
## Can be made more comfortable by:

- ▶ **Reducing the Speed of Cars** – Traffic calming elements to encourage safe travel speeds by people driving
- ▶ **Reducing the Number of Cars** – Prohibiting cut-through traffic at strategic locations

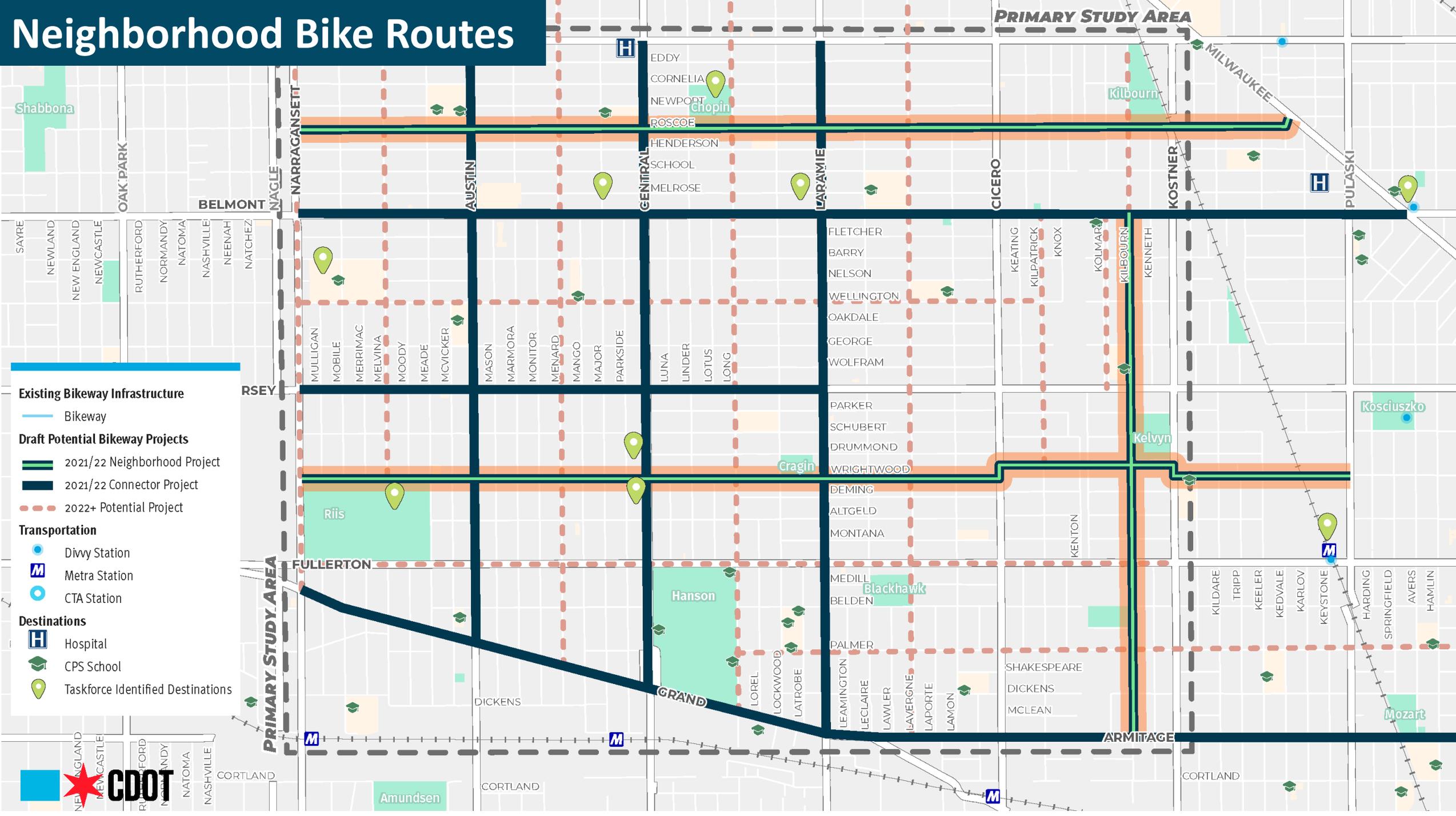
# NEIGHBORHOOD BIKE ROUTE



# TRAFFIC CALMING



# Neighborhood Bike Routes



**Existing Bikeway Infrastructure**

- Bikeway

**Draft Potential Bikeway Projects**

- 2021/22 Neighborhood Project
- 2021/22 Connector Project
- 2022+ Potential Project

**Transportation**

- Divvy Station
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- CTA Station

**Destinations**

- Hospital
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# BIKE LANES

- ▶ Commercial streets in Belmont Cragin are very narrow
- ▶ Limited opportunity for protected bike lanes in the short term without significant tradeoffs with on-street parking

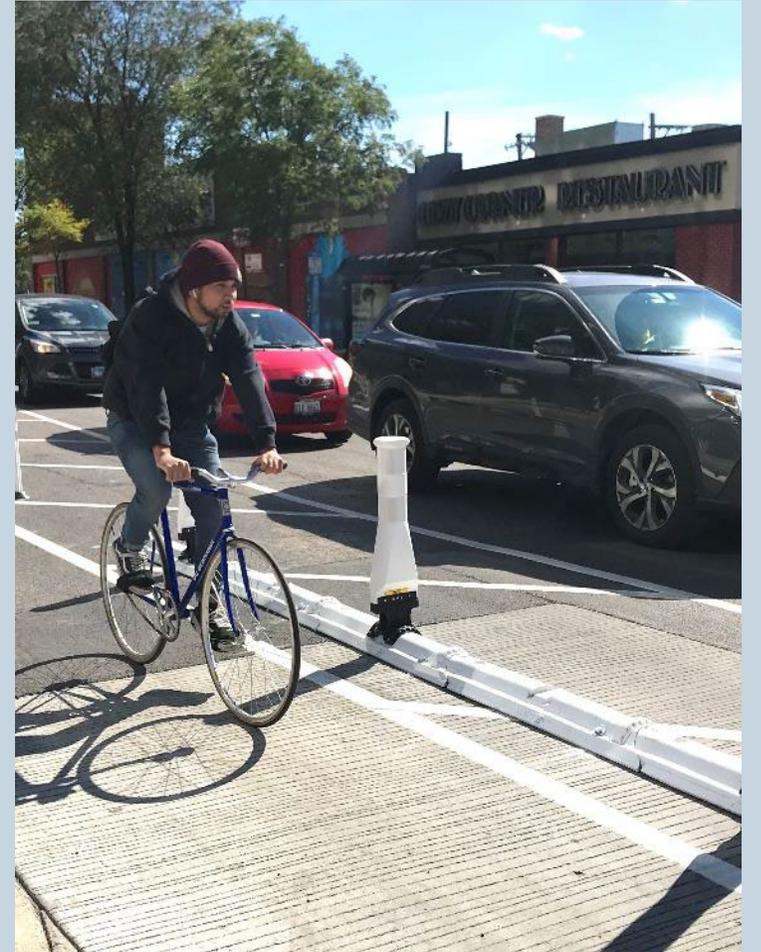
## **Streets can be made more comfortable by:**

- ▶ **Separating Bikes from Cars** – Consolidating on-street parking to install protected bike lanes
- ▶ **Reducing the Speed of Cars** – Traffic calming elements to encourage safe travel speeds by people driving

# BIKE LANES



# PROTECTED BIKE LANES

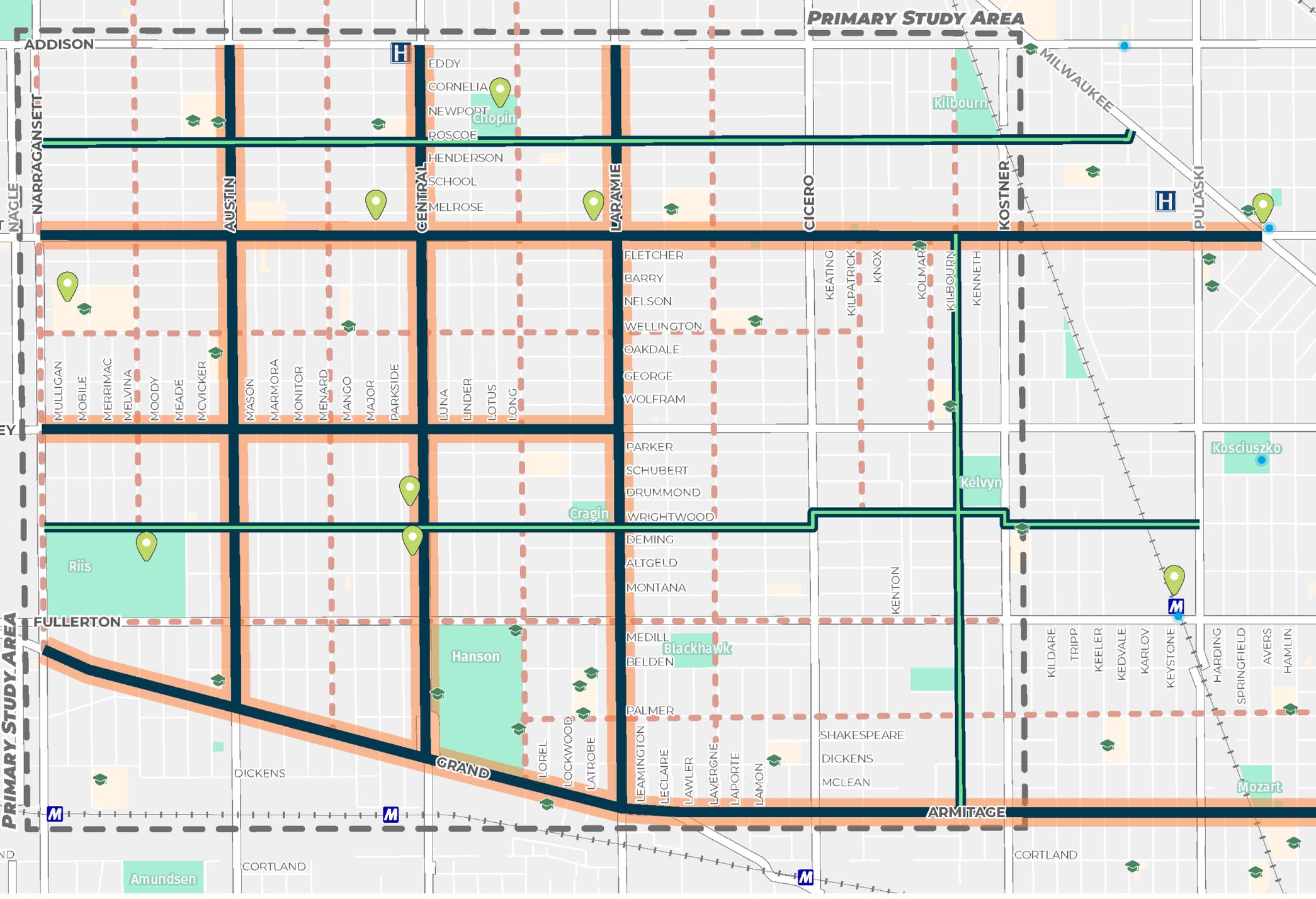


# Bike Lanes

PRIMARY STUDY AREA

SAYRE  
NEWLAND  
NEW ENGLAND  
NEWCASTLE  
RUTHERFORD  
NORMANDY  
NATOMA  
NASHVILLE  
NEENAH  
NATCHEZ

- Existing Bikeway Infrastructure**
- Bikeway
- Draft Potential Bikeway Projects**
- 2021/22 Neighborhood Project
  - 2021/22 Connector Project
  - 2022+ Potential Project
- Transportation**
- Divvy Station
  - Metra Station
  - CTA Station
- Destinations**
- Hospital
  - CPS School
  - Taskforce Identified Destinations



Shabbona

OAK PARK  
BELMONT  
NAGLE  
NARRAGANSETT

MULLIGAN  
MOBILE  
MERRIMAC  
MELVINA  
MOODY  
MEADE  
MCVICKER

MASON  
MARMORA  
MONITOR  
MENARD  
MANGO  
MAJOR  
PARKSIDE

LUNA  
LINDER  
LOTUS  
LONG

NEW ENGLAND  
NEWCASTLE  
RUTHERFORD  
NORMANDY  
NATOMA  
NASHVILLE  
CORTLAND

ADDISON  
NAGLE  
NARRAGANSETT

MULLIGAN  
MOBILE  
MERRIMAC  
MELVINA  
MOODY  
MEADE  
MCVICKER

MASON  
MARMORA  
MONITOR  
MENARD  
MANGO  
MAJOR  
PARKSIDE

LUNA  
LINDER  
LOTUS  
LONG

NEW ENGLAND  
NEWCASTLE  
RUTHERFORD  
NORMANDY  
NATOMA  
NASHVILLE  
CORTLAND

EDDY  
CORNELIA  
NEWPORT  
ROSCOE  
HENDERSON  
SCHOOL  
MELROSE

MASON  
MARMORA  
MONITOR  
MENARD  
MANGO  
MAJOR  
PARKSIDE

LUNA  
LINDER  
LOTUS  
LONG

DICKENS  
LOREL  
LOCKWOOD  
LATROBE

NEW ENGLAND  
NEWCASTLE  
RUTHERFORD  
NORMANDY  
NATOMA  
NASHVILLE  
CORTLAND

EDDY  
CORNELIA  
NEWPORT  
ROSCOE  
HENDERSON  
SCHOOL  
MELROSE

MASON  
MARMORA  
MONITOR  
MENARD  
MANGO  
MAJOR  
PARKSIDE

LUNA  
LINDER  
LOTUS  
LONG

DICKENS  
LOREL  
LOCKWOOD  
LATROBE

NEW ENGLAND  
NEWCASTLE  
RUTHERFORD  
NORMANDY  
NATOMA  
NASHVILLE  
CORTLAND

FLETCHER  
BARRY  
NELSON  
WELLINGTON  
OAKDALE  
GEORGE  
WOLFRAM

MASON  
MARMORA  
MONITOR  
MENARD  
MANGO  
MAJOR  
PARKSIDE

LUNA  
LINDER  
LOTUS  
LONG

LEAMINGTON  
LECLAIRE  
LAWLER  
LAVERGNE  
LAPORTE  
LAMON

NEW ENGLAND  
NEWCASTLE  
RUTHERFORD  
NORMANDY  
NATOMA  
NASHVILLE  
CORTLAND

KEATING  
KILPATRICK  
KNOX  
KOLMAR  
KILBOURN  
KENNETH

MASON  
MARMORA  
MONITOR  
MENARD  
MANGO  
MAJOR  
PARKSIDE

LUNA  
LINDER  
LOTUS  
LONG

SHAKESPEARE  
DICKENS  
MCLEAN

NEW ENGLAND  
NEWCASTLE  
RUTHERFORD  
NORMANDY  
NATOMA  
NASHVILLE  
CORTLAND

MILWAUKEE  
KOSTNER  
PULASKI

MASON  
MARMORA  
MONITOR  
MENARD  
MANGO  
MAJOR  
PARKSIDE

LUNA  
LINDER  
LOTUS  
LONG

KILDARE  
TRIPP  
KEELER  
KEDVALE  
KARLOV  
KEYSTONE

NEW ENGLAND  
NEWCASTLE  
RUTHERFORD  
NORMANDY  
NATOMA  
NASHVILLE  
CORTLAND

MILWAUKEE  
KOSTNER  
PULASKI

MASON  
MARMORA  
MONITOR  
MENARD  
MANGO  
MAJOR  
PARKSIDE

LUNA  
LINDER  
LOTUS  
LONG

HARDING  
SPRINGFIELD  
AVERS  
HAMLIN

NEW ENGLAND  
NEWCASTLE  
RUTHERFORD  
NORMANDY  
NATOMA  
NASHVILLE  
CORTLAND

# NEXT STEPS FOR OUTREACH

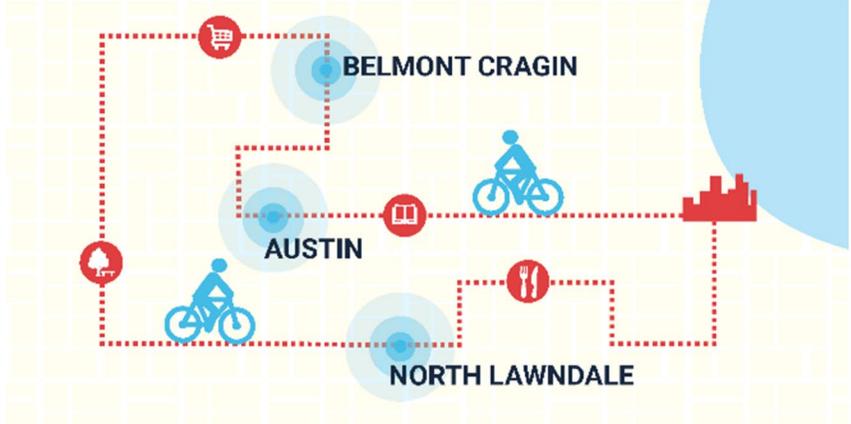
- ▶ Promoting the survey
- ▶ Conversations with youth organizations
- ▶ General outreach for the effort
- ▶ Targeted outreach for specific routes

# ONLINE SURVEY

- ▶ Will help us understand how people currently and want to get around and how bicycling is perceived
- ▶ Will help direct our outreach
- ▶ Need your help promoting the survey
- ▶ Flyers, text, and graphics you can distribute via email, social media, newsletters, and events
- ▶ We can send printed flyers to you



NEIGHBORHOOD BIKE NETWORKS



**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

The Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) is partnering with community members to identify and build a connected bicycle network in 2021 in the Austin, Belmont Cragin, and North Lawndale neighborhoods. This will include on-street bike routes linking together schools, parks, local businesses, and other important destinations so people have safe, healthy, and fun options for getting around the neighborhood. Making our streets more comfortable for biking will improve safety and accessibility for everyone.

Take a short online survey to help us understand how you choose to get around in your neighborhood, how bicycling is perceived in the community, and how a network of bike routes may impact you. This survey is your first opportunity to get involved in this exciting effort.



Scan the QR code on your mobile phone to take you directly to the survey.

Help us make biking safe, convenient, and better connected to the places you want and need to go in your community.

[bit.ly/CDOTBikes](https://bit.ly/CDOTBikes)

The survey is available in English and Spanish and will remain open until May 31, 2021.

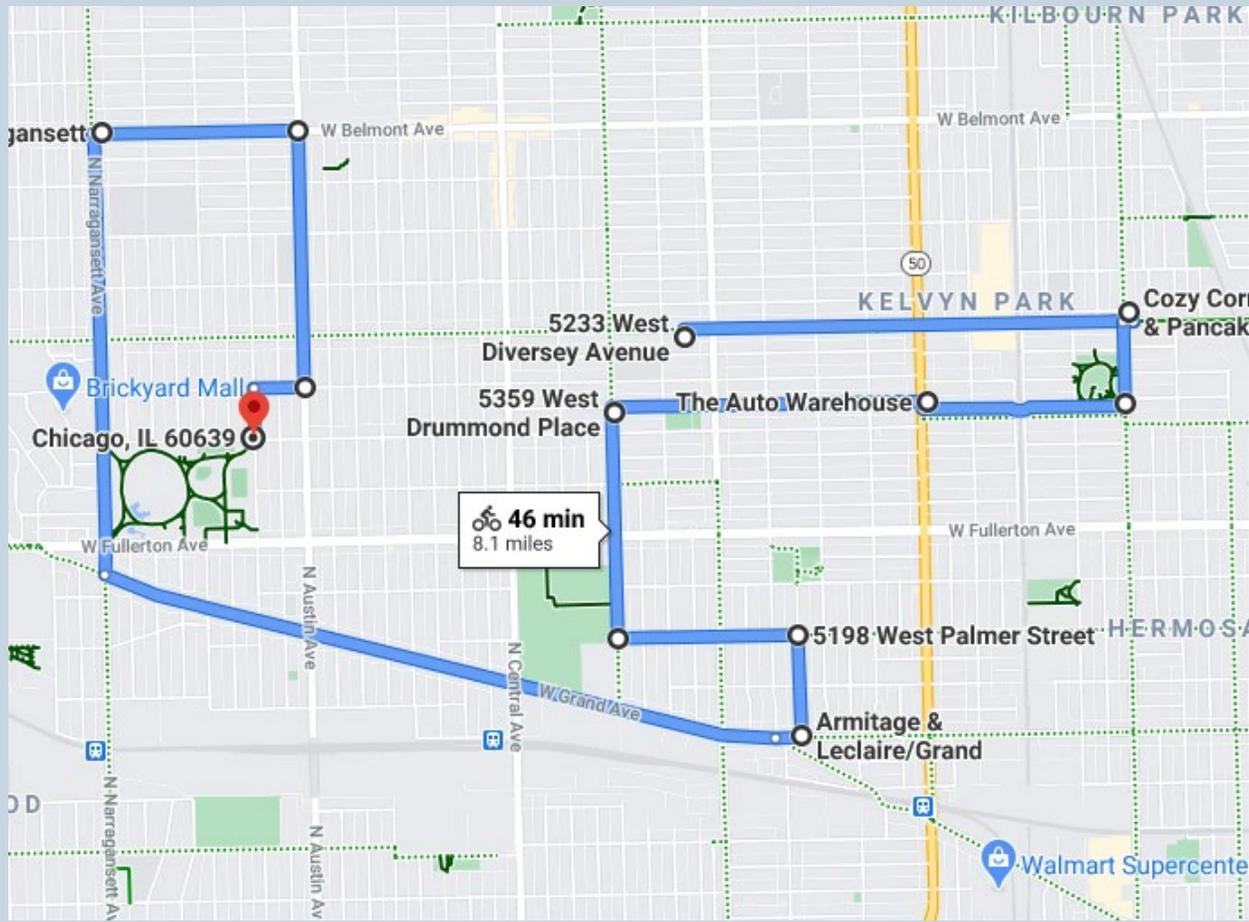
For questions related to the project or online survey, visit the project website at [chicago.com/completestreets.org/projects/active-projects/](https://chicago.com/completestreets.org/projects/active-projects/) or contact the Public Involvement Lead Berenice Alvarez at [balvarez@morrealecomm.com](mailto:balvarez@morrealecomm.com) or 773-413-9392.

April 2021

# OTHER OUTREACH

- ▶ Scheduling meetings with youth organizations to talk about these proposed projects
- ▶ What important community events are coming up in Belmont Cragin?
- ▶ How can we help you talk about this effort with the community?
- ▶ We want to begin targeted outreach with key stakeholders along each route
  - Block clubs, churches, important businesses, etc

# BELMONT CRAGIN RIDE



MAY 15 5233 W DIVERSEY  
11AM-2PM



# BIKES 4 BELMONT CRAGIN RIDE



## JOIN US

for a community bike ride & celebrate our biking campaign victories- like Divvy and new bike lanes coming to Belmont Cragin

Bikes available to borrow for ride

## REGISTER

[nwshc.org/events](http://nwshc.org/events)

## CONTACT

[jcuebas@nwshc.org](mailto:jcuebas@nwshc.org)  
773-580-2553



# THANK YOU!

- ▶ Let's continue the conversation. We can email, talk on the phone, or schedule a follow up virtual meeting.
- ▶ The third Taskforce meeting is planned for May
- ▶ Online map for feedback coming soon