

Project background

Constructed in 1941, the seven-span timber beam bridge over the BNSF railroad, spanning 142 feet in length and 51 feet in width, currently stands in a state of significant deterioration. Due to identified structural issues, the bridge underwent a temporary closure for vehicular traffic. Although repairs have been implemented to temporarily reopen the bridge, this interim solution highlights the crucial need for a full replacement to ensure sustained functionality and safety.

This project proposes to replace the Cedar Lake Road Bridge. The bridge replacement will include transportation infrastructure for vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists and follow the guidance outlined in the Transportation Action Plan and Street Design Guide.

Project goals:

- Improve pedestrian access and safety
- Improve bicycle connectivity
- Maintain vehicular access
- Coordinate project with agency partner plans and projects (MPRB and BNSF Rail)



Project history

2021

- Project starts: initially programmed for 2023 construction
- Concept development work
- **Fall:** virtual public engagement

2022

- **Spring:** budget constraints and construction cost inflation on other projects put this project on hold

2023

- **April:** structural issues identified during a routine inspection; temporary closure for vehicular traffic
- **September:** repairs implemented to temporarily reopen the bridge with weight limits

Temporary opening



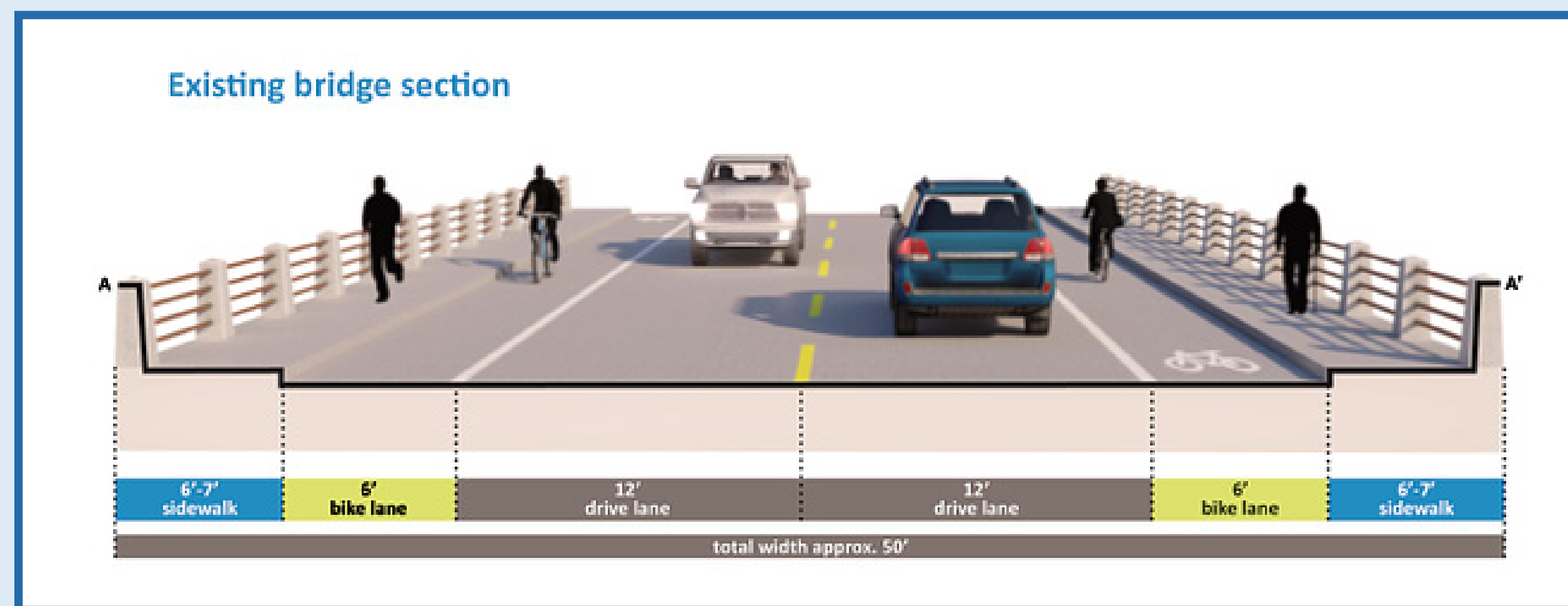
Interim solution highlights the crucial need for a full replacement to ensure sustained functionality and safety.

Cedar Lake Road Bridge Replacement

Existing conditions

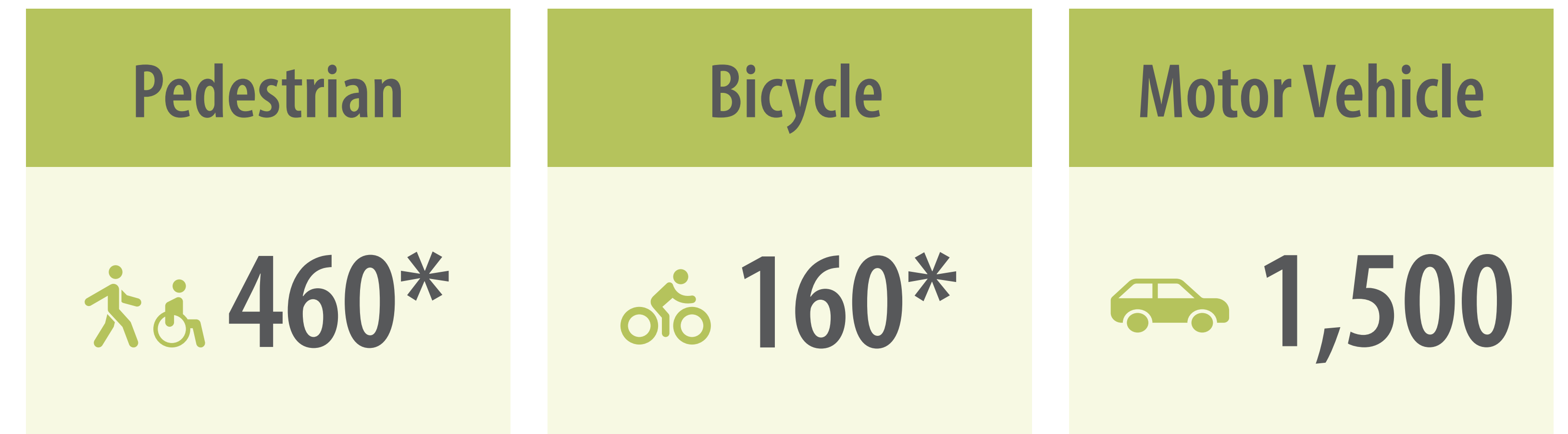


Image of project area



Existing bridge cross section

Estimated number of daily users



*2017 data obtained from Cedar Lake Road South, east of Penn Avenue South (0.2 miles from the project)

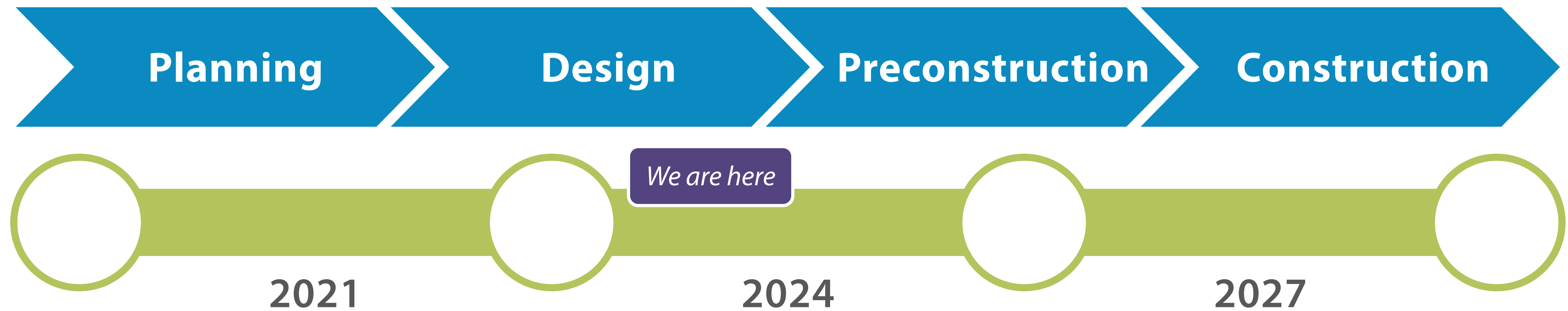
Reported crashes

There have been no reported crashes within the project area in the last ten years.

Source: MnDOT 2021

Timeline

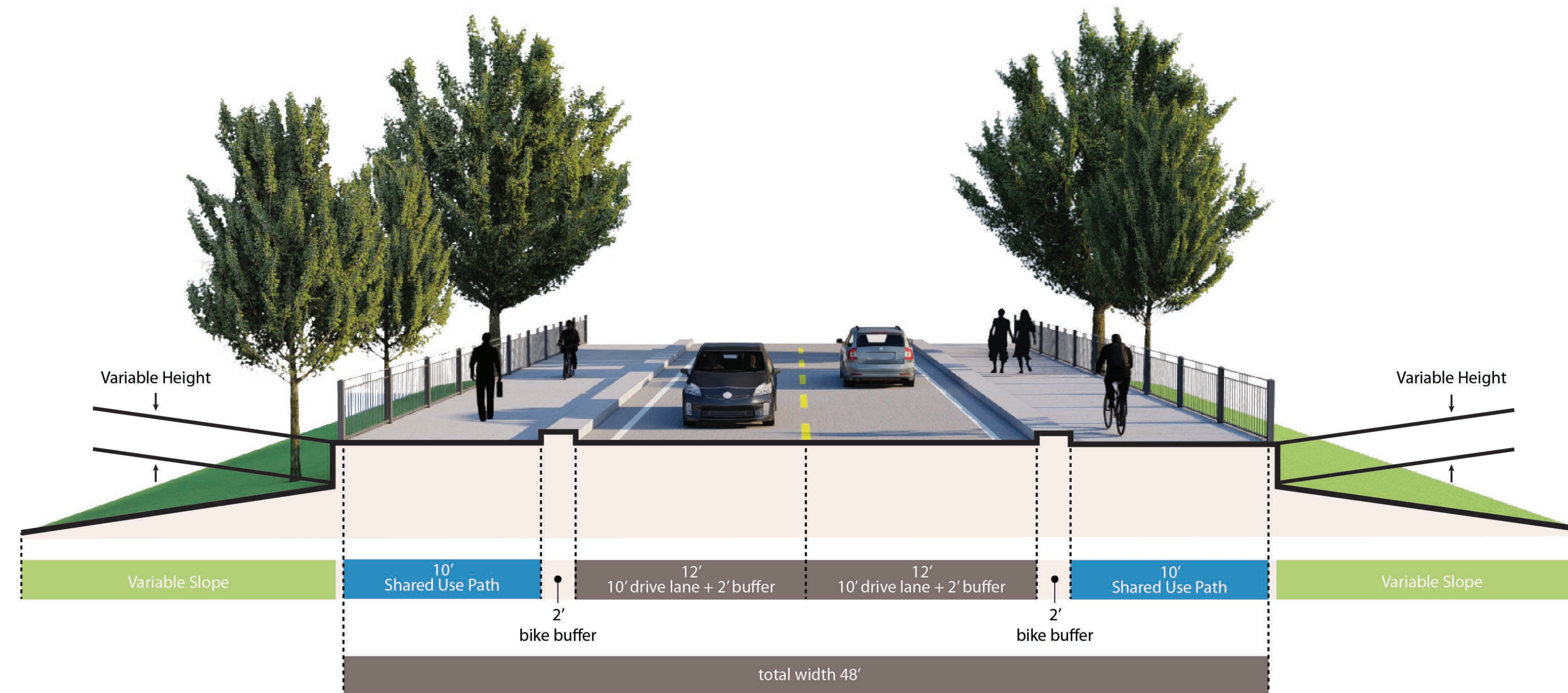
- City pursuing federal grant funding that may push up timeline
- Planning & Engineering process to be “shovel ready” by summer 2025



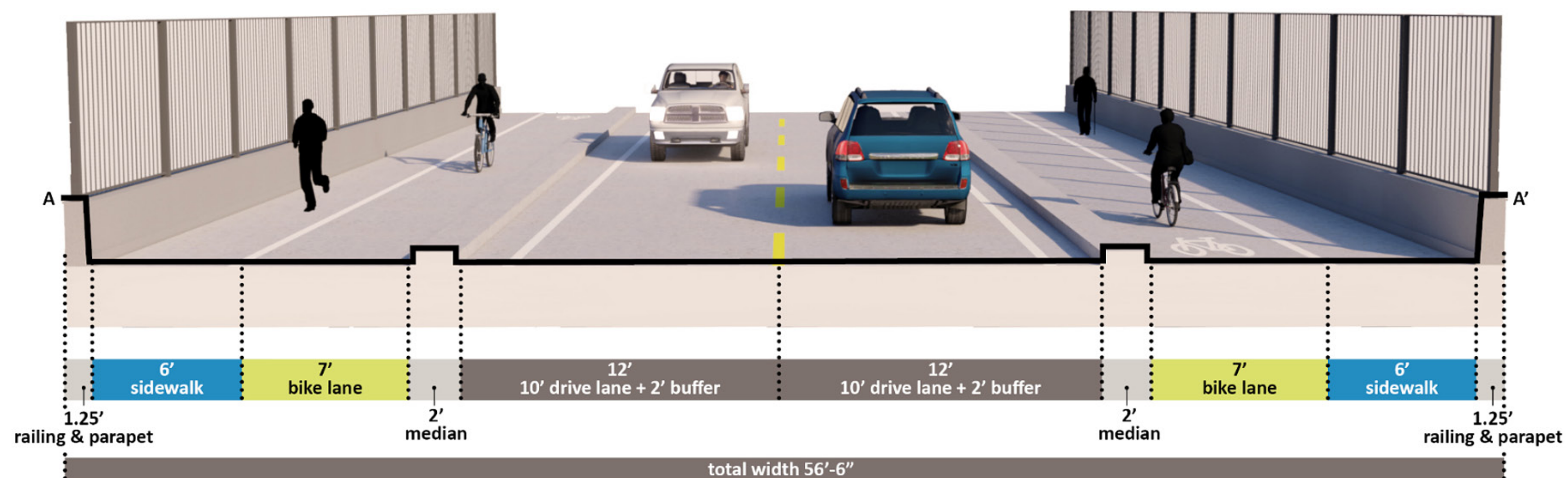
Cedar Lake Road Bridge Replacement

Proposed design concept

Proposed cross section north of bridge



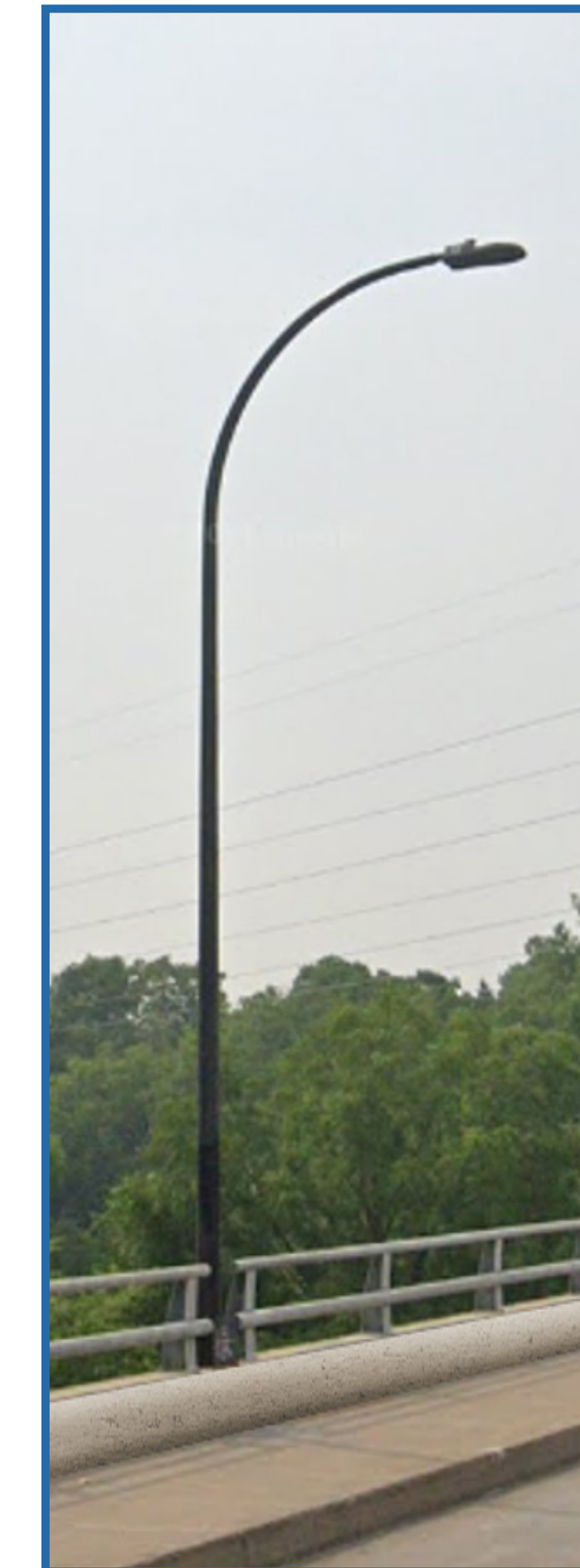
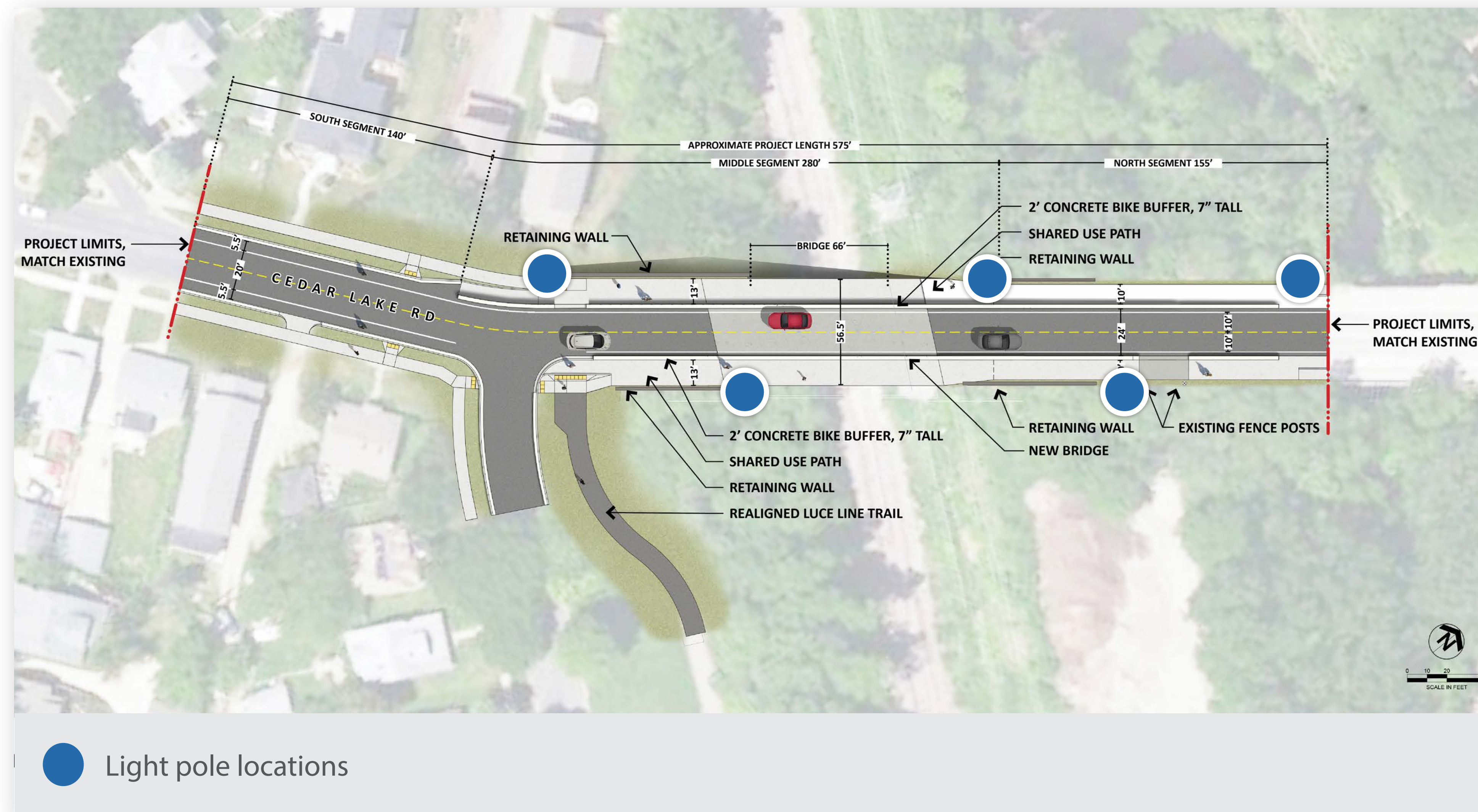
Proposed bridge deck cross section



Bridge deck to be raised 4 feet compared to today to meet latest rail standards

Concept lighting layout

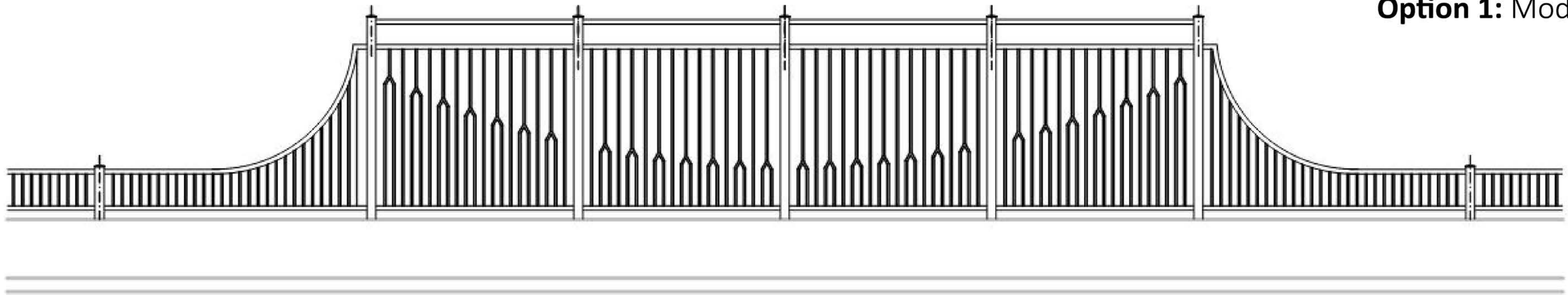
Proposed design concept – plan view



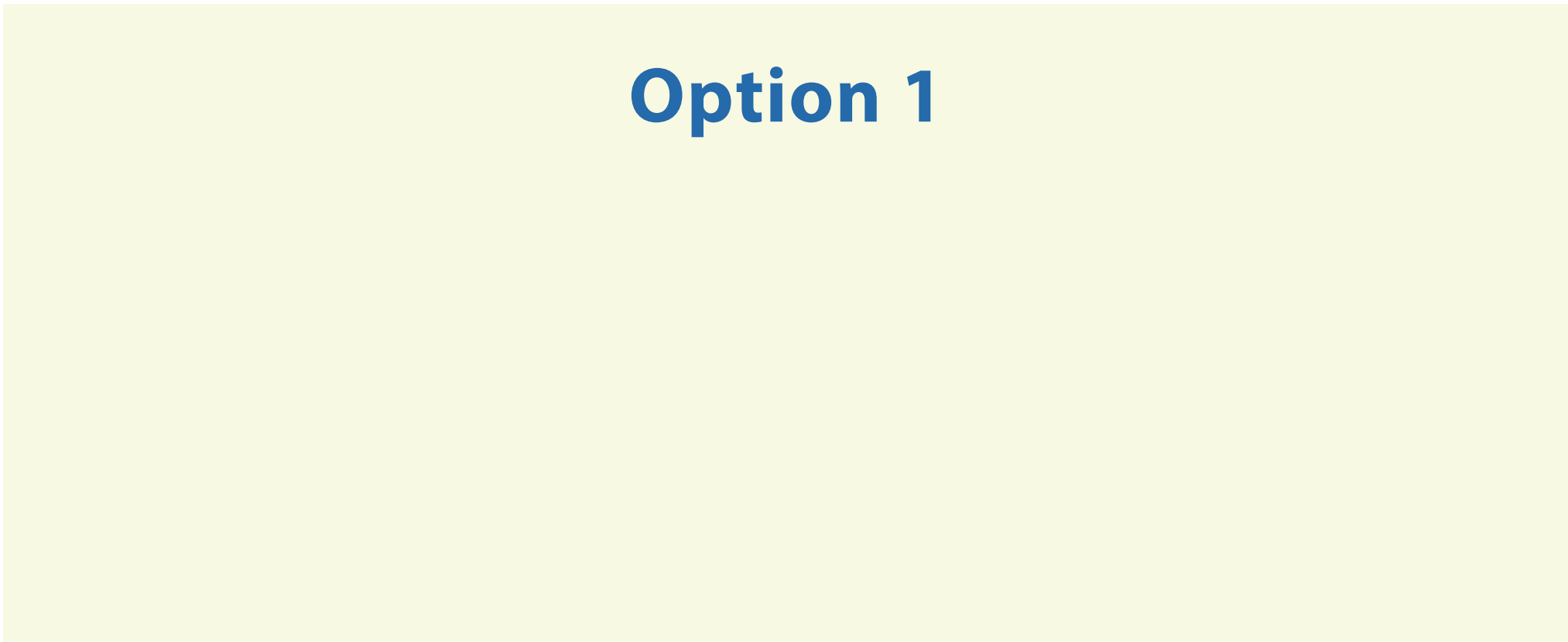
Proposed 30' lighting poles

Cedar Lake Road Bridge Replacement

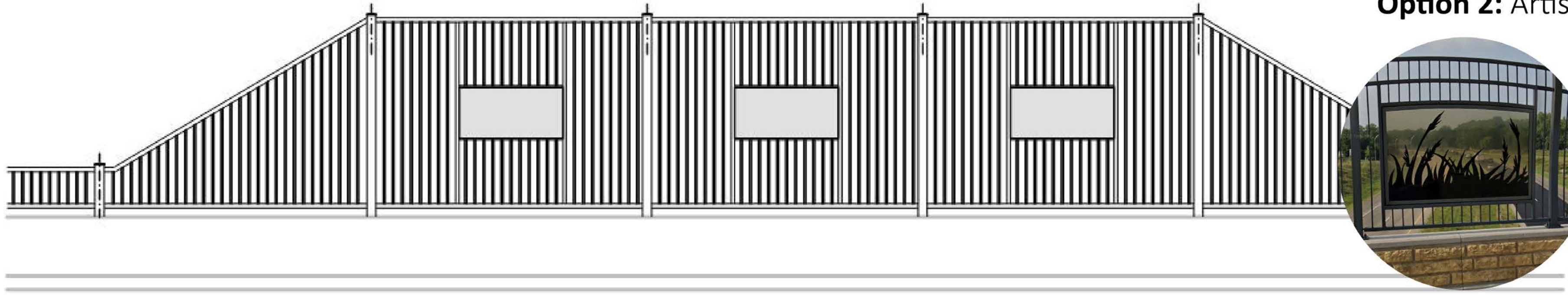
Which rail do you like best?



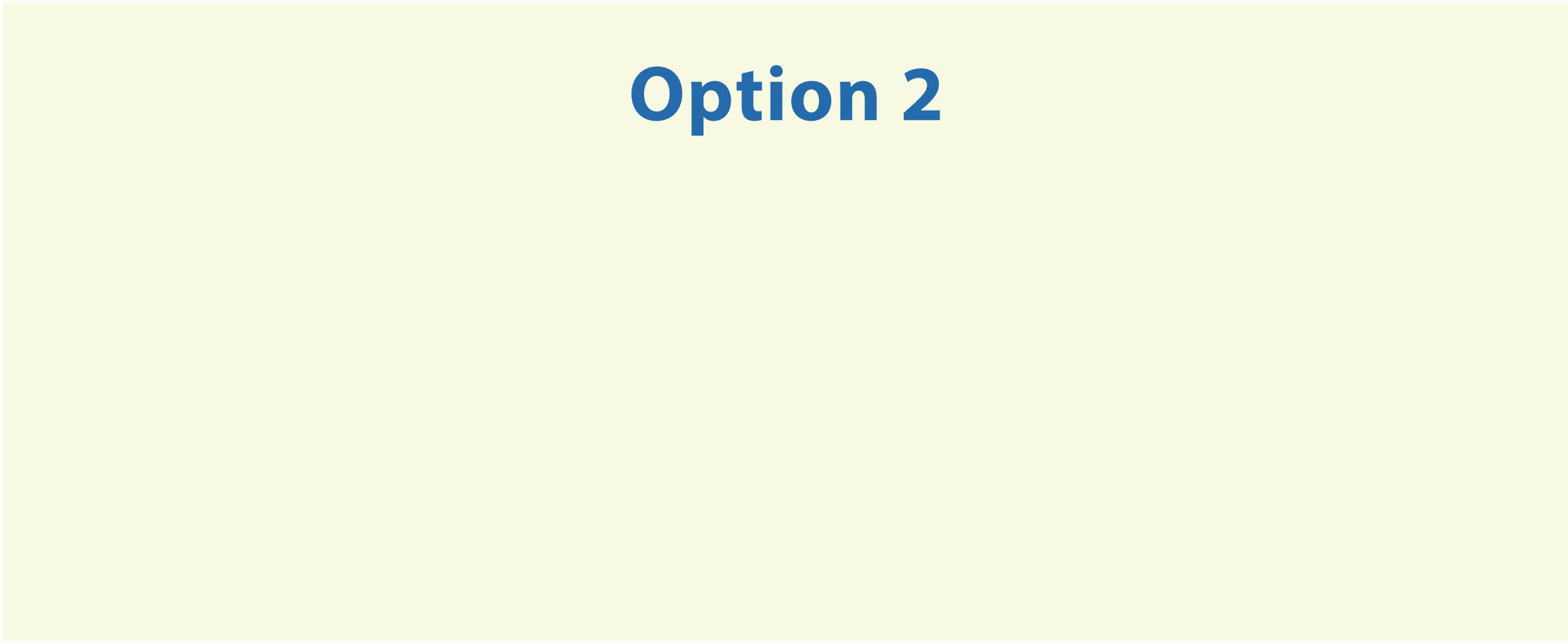
Option 1: Modern/Simple



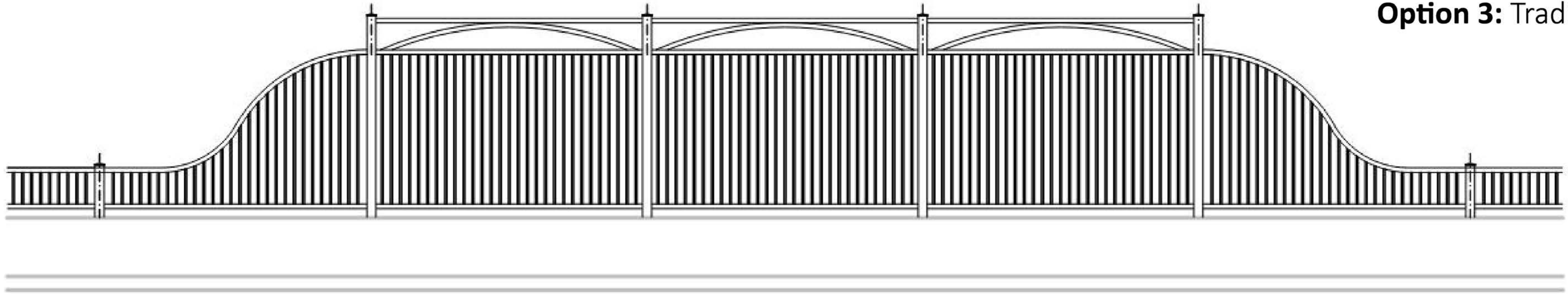
Option 1



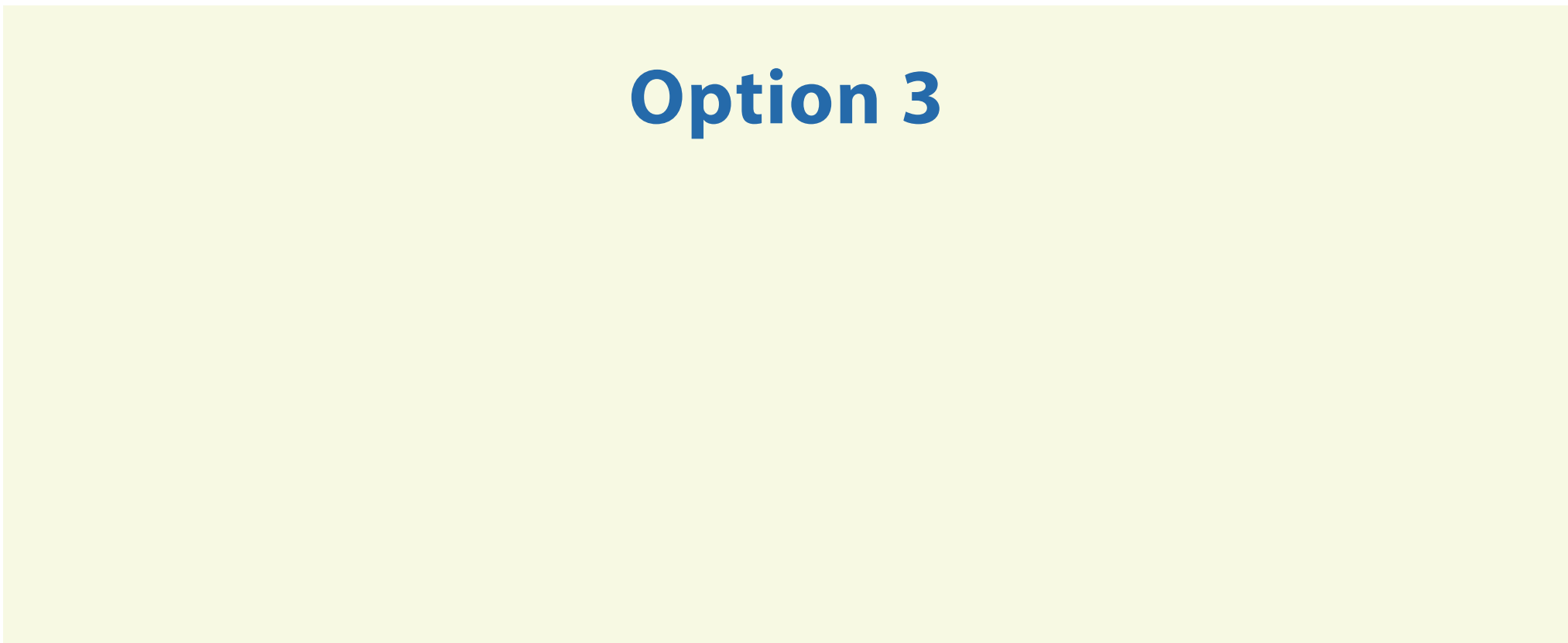
Option 2: Artistic/Geometric



Option 2



Option 3: Traditional/Formal



Option 3

Cedar Lake Road Bridge Replacement

Project contact

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project news

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