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**AGENDA FOR THE
CONCURRENT ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETINGS OF
THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COMMERCE AND
THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO
THE COMMERCE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
(HEREINAFTER "SUCCESSOR AGENCY")**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
5655 JILLSON STREET, COMMERCE, CALIFORNIA**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2013 – 5:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor/Chairperson Aguilar

ROLL CALL

Deputy City Clerk Alexander

PUBLIC COMMENT

Citizens wishing to address the City Council and Successor Agency on any item on the agenda or on any matter not on the agenda may do so at this time. However, State law (Government Code Section 54950 et seq.) prohibits the City Council/Successor Agency from acting upon any item not contained on the agenda posted 72 hours before a regular meeting and 24 hours before a special meeting. Upon request, the City Council/Successor Agency may, in their discretion, allow citizen participation on a specific item on the agenda at the time the item is considered by the City Council/Successor Agency. Request to address City Council/Successor Agency cards are provided by the City Clerk/Secretary. If you wish to address the City Council/Successor Agency at this time, please complete a speaker's card and give it to the City Clerk/Secretary prior to commencement of the City Council/ Successor Agency meetings. Please use the microphone provided, clearly stating your name and address for the official record and courteously limiting your remarks to five (5) minutes so others may have the opportunity to speak as well.

To increase the effectiveness of the Public Comment Period, the following rules shall be followed:

No person shall make any remarks which result in disrupting, disturbing or otherwise impeding the meeting.

SCHEDULED MATTERS

1. Final Landscape Concept for the Washington Boulevard Improvement Project

The **City Council** will receive a presentation on, and provide the appropriate direction as deemed necessary with respect to, approval of the final landscape concept for the Washington Boulevard Improvement Project.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION:

2. Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(a),

A. The **City Council** will confer with its legal counsel, and take the appropriate action, with respect to the pending litigation of City of Alhambra et al., v. County of Los Angeles et al., Supreme Court of the State of California (PTAF Case), Case No. S185347 (Appellate Court Case No. B218347, Superior Court Case No. BS116375).

3. Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(b),

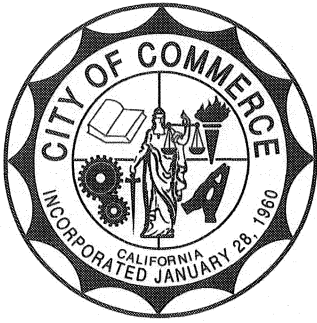
The **City Council** will confer with its legal counsel, and take the appropriate action, with respect to significant exposure to litigation in one potential case.

4. Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6

The **City Council** will confer with its labor negotiator, Jorge Rifá, with respect to labor negotiations pertaining to the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the mid-management and non-management full-time employees.

ADJOURNMENT

LARGE PRINTS OF THIS AGENDA ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST
FROM THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, MONDAY-FRIDAY,
8:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.



AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: November 19, 2013

TO: HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL
FROM: CITY ADMINISTRATOR
SUBJECT: FINAL LANDSCAPE CONCEPT FOR WASHINGTON BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve the final landscape concept for the Washington Boulevard Improvement Project.

MOTION:

Motion to approve the recommendation.

BACKGROUND:

RBF Consulting is preparing plans and specifications for the Washington Boulevard Improvement Project. The plans and specifications are approximately 98% complete and it is anticipated that the final project plans and specifications will be ready to bid out early Spring 2014. It is anticipated that construction contract award will occur by early Summer 2014 with commencement of construction by late Summer 2014. The duration of construction is expected to last from between 12 to 18 months.

A key component of completion of the project plans is the finalization of the landscape concept for the project. The project involves the complete reconstruction of the street and addition of a third travel lane for east bound and west bound traffic and as such there are confined opportunities for landscaping. The proposed project will involve the removal of the current street trees (the Palms) and replacement (where possible) with new street trees and landscape planters along with new landscape medians and color concrete treatment for the sidewalks at selected locations. In order to complete the project plans and specifications it is necessary to finalize the conceptual landscape design. Even with the more limited landscaping opportunities, the design of the landscape and hardscape are very important to the City. The City Council views this as an opportunity to beautify the public realm while achieving the goals of the project which are to relief traffic congestion.

Given this, staff from Development Services/Public Works and Parks and Recreation have met with the landscape architect at RBF and have agreed on the design concept presented which will integrate landscape and hardscape and looks to maximize opportunities where possible.

Staff from RBF including the project landscape architect Mr. Jeremy Franzini will present the final landscape concept for the project. If the City Council accepts the final design concept, the project landscape plans will be completed and fully integrated into the larger construction plans and specifications.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this agenda item report. The project contract and subsequent amendments include funding for the development and design of the project landscape plans.

RELATIONSHIP TO 2012 STRATEGIC GOALS:

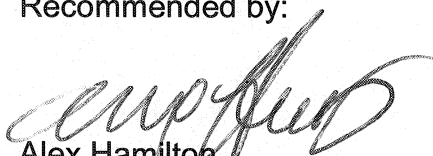
This agenda report relates to the 2012 strategic planning goal: "Protect and Enhance the Quality of Life in the City of Commerce". When complete, the project will improve traffic flow and provide for enhancement to the public realm.

Respectfully submitted:



Jorge Rifá
City Administrator

Recommended by:




Alex Hamilton
Assistant Director of Community Development

Fiscal impact reviewed by:



Vilko Domic
Director of Finance

Approved as to form:



Eduardo Olivo
City Attorney



Washington Boulevard Improvement Project

City Council – Landscape Improvements | November 19, 2013

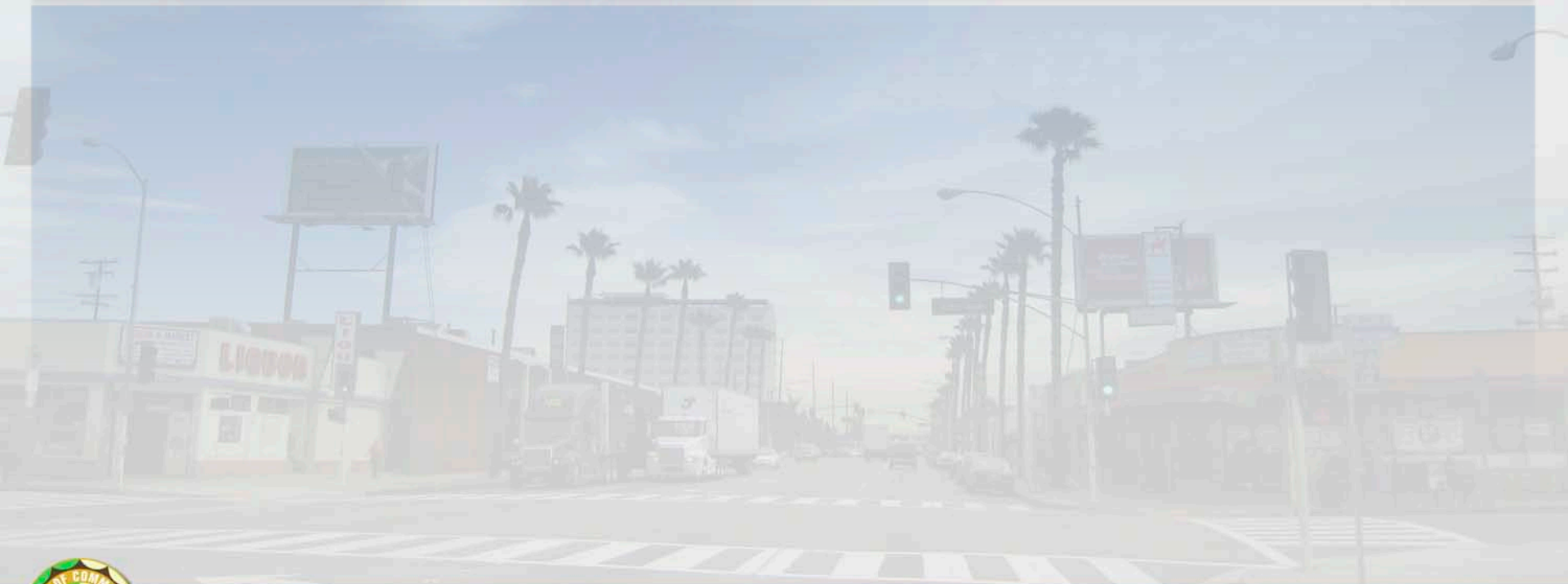


Presentation Outline

- Project Overview
- Median Landscaping
- Parkway Landscaping
- Decorative Paving
- “Before and After” Simulations
- Additional Potential Enhancements
- Questions



Project Overview



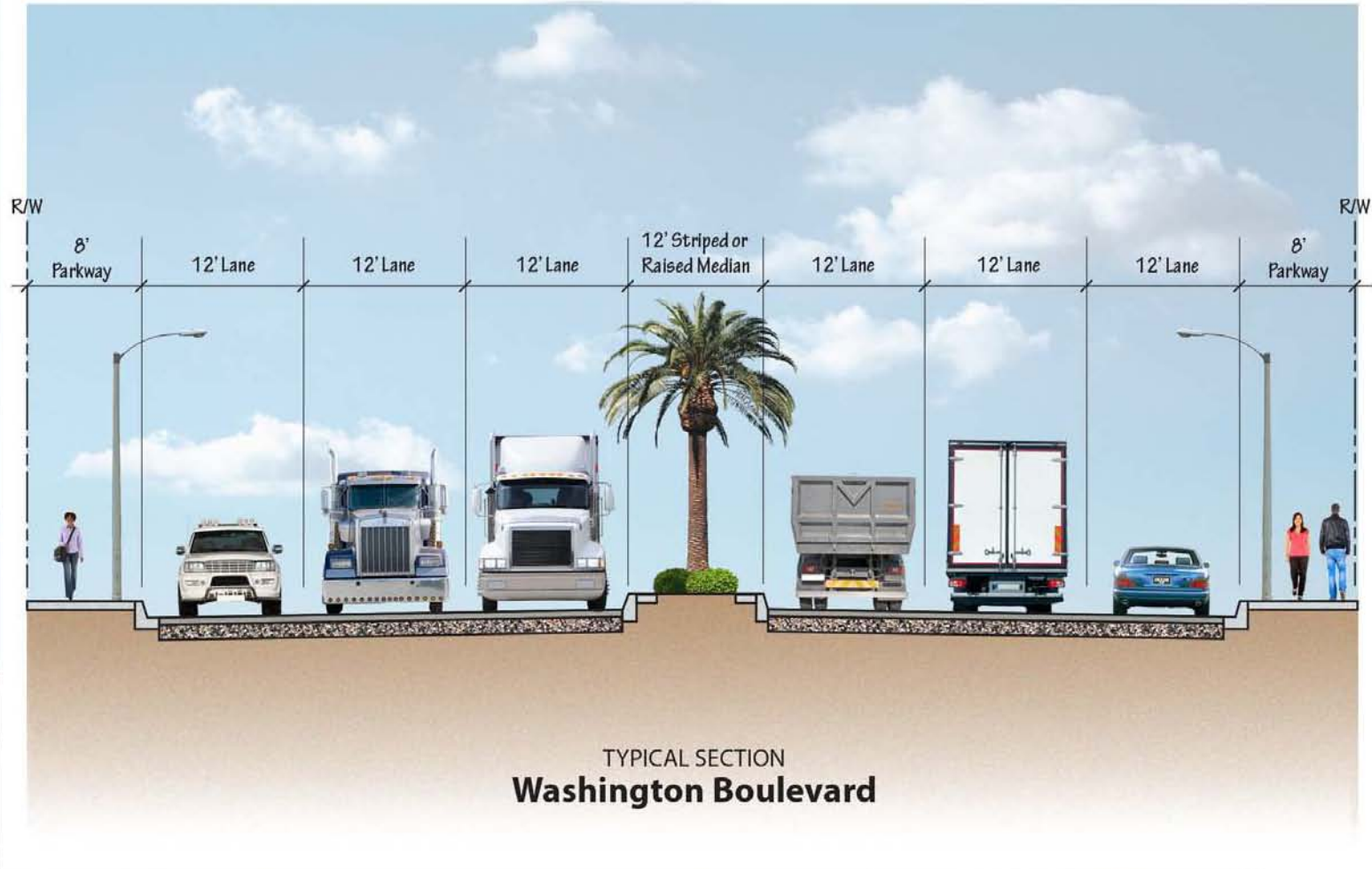
Washington Boulevard Improvement Project

Project Limits (Indiana Street to I-5 SB Ramps)

- From 4 to 6 Lanes
- Replacement to PCC Pavement
- Signal & Street Light Upgrades
- Landscape & Hardscape Improvements



Roadway Cross Section

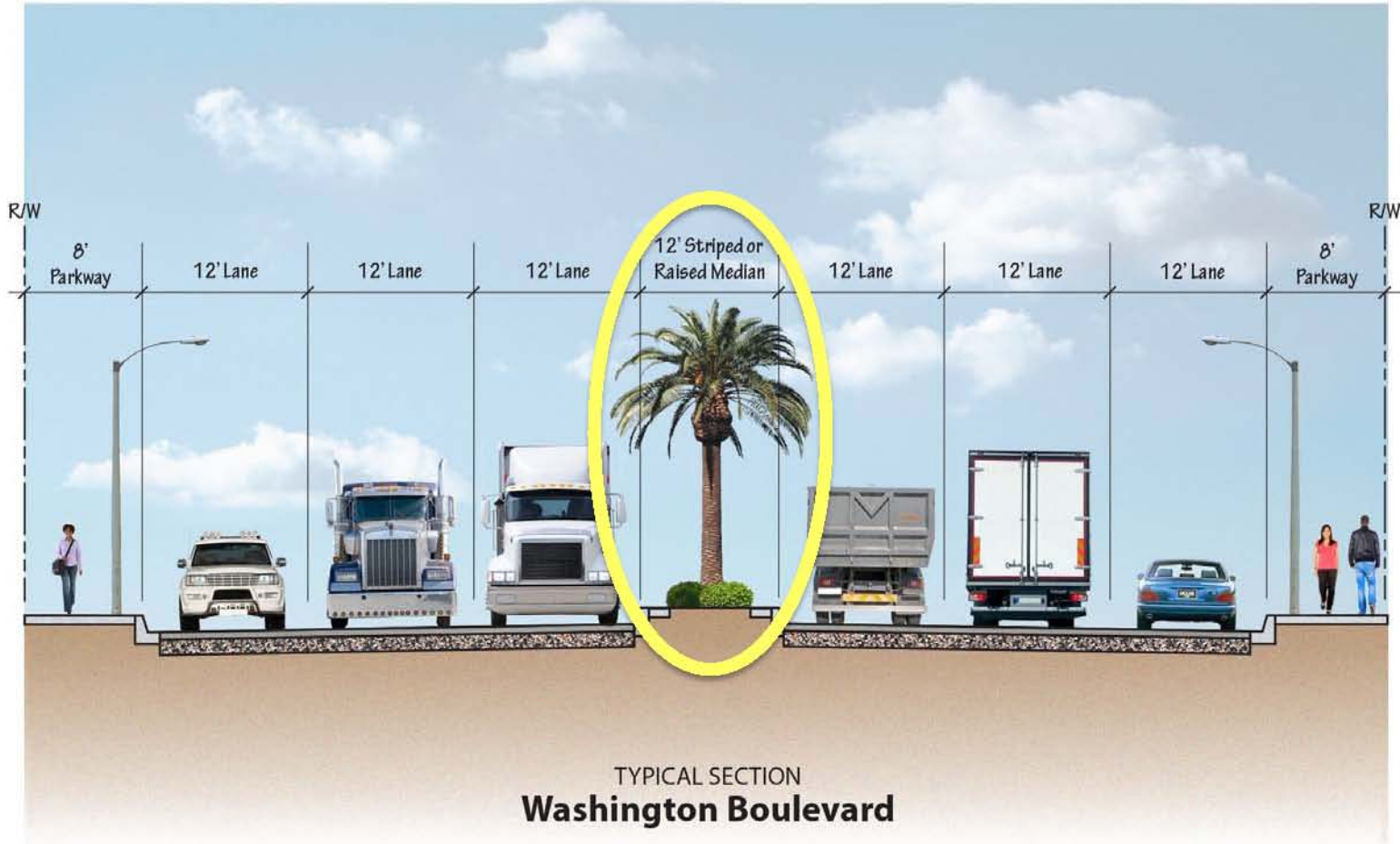


Median Landscape

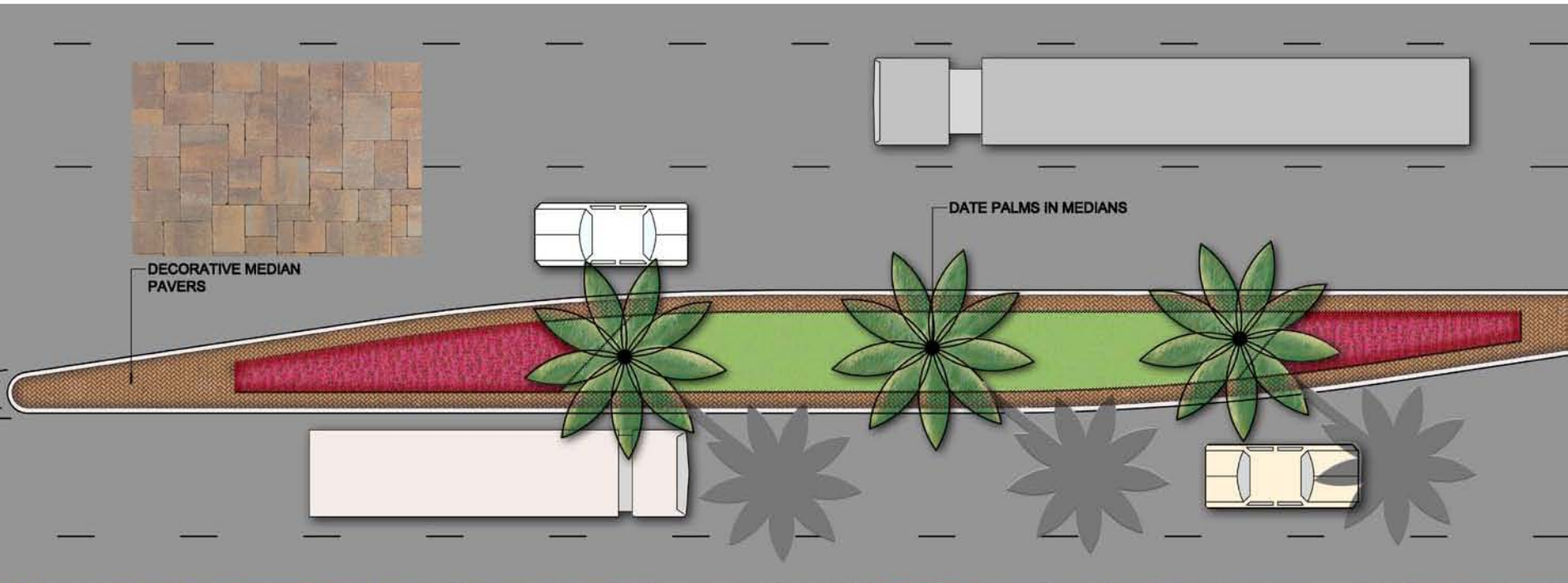


Washington Boulevard Improvement Project

Median Landscape



Median Landscape



Date Palm



Star Jasmine



Dwarf Natal Plum



Bougainvillea



Agave



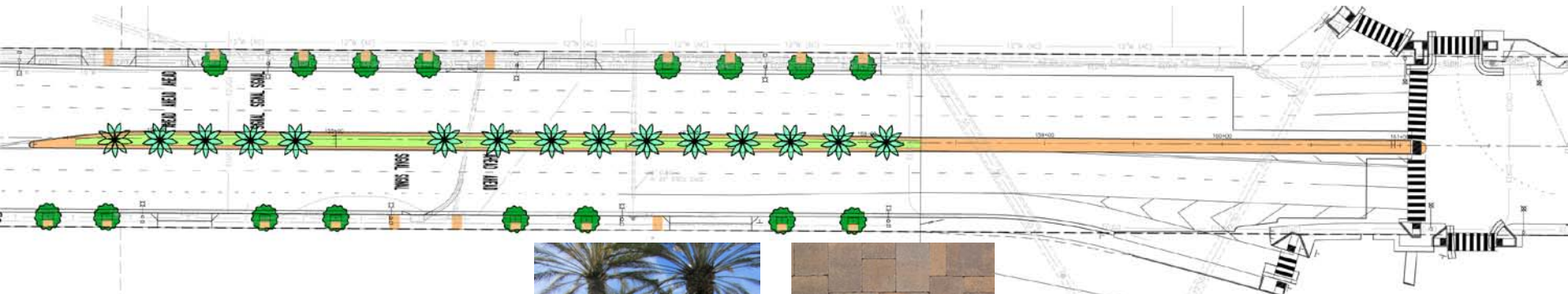
'Little John'
Bottlebrush



Bird of
Paradise

Median Landscape

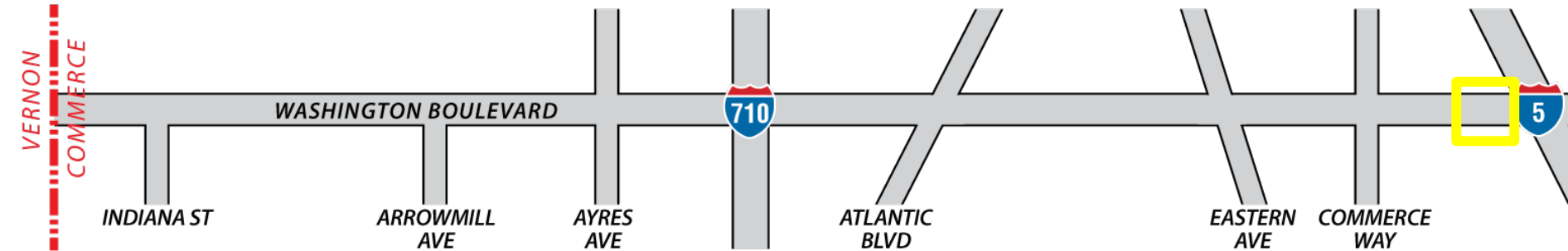
Eastern Gateway



Date Palm



Decorative Paving



VERNON
COMMERCE

INDIANA ST

ARROWMILL
AVE

AYRES
AVE



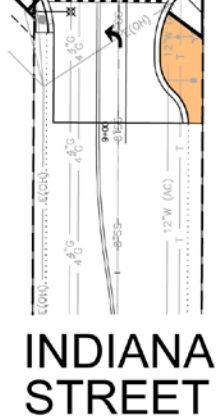
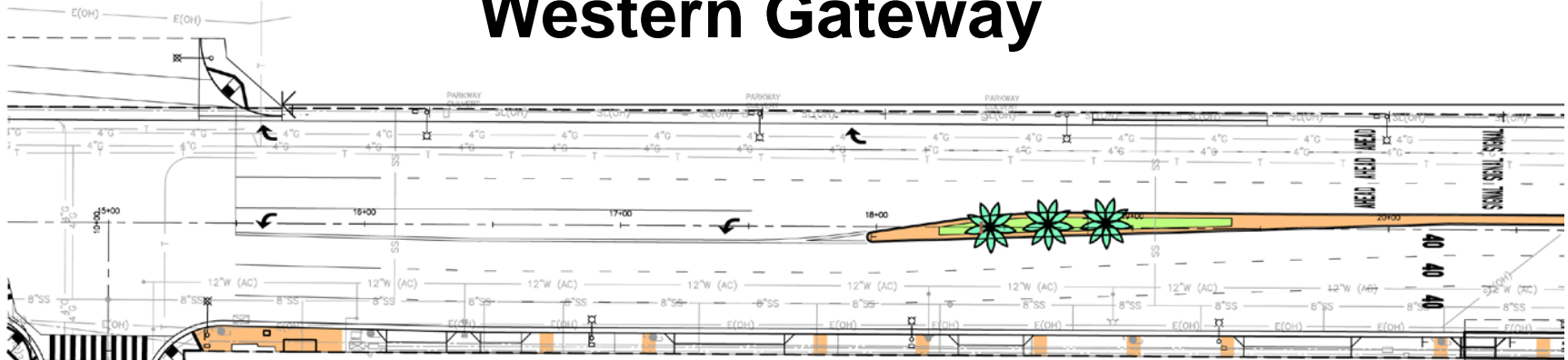
ATLANTIC
BLVD

EASTERN
AVE

COMMERCE
WAY



Median Landscape Western Gateway



Entry Monument



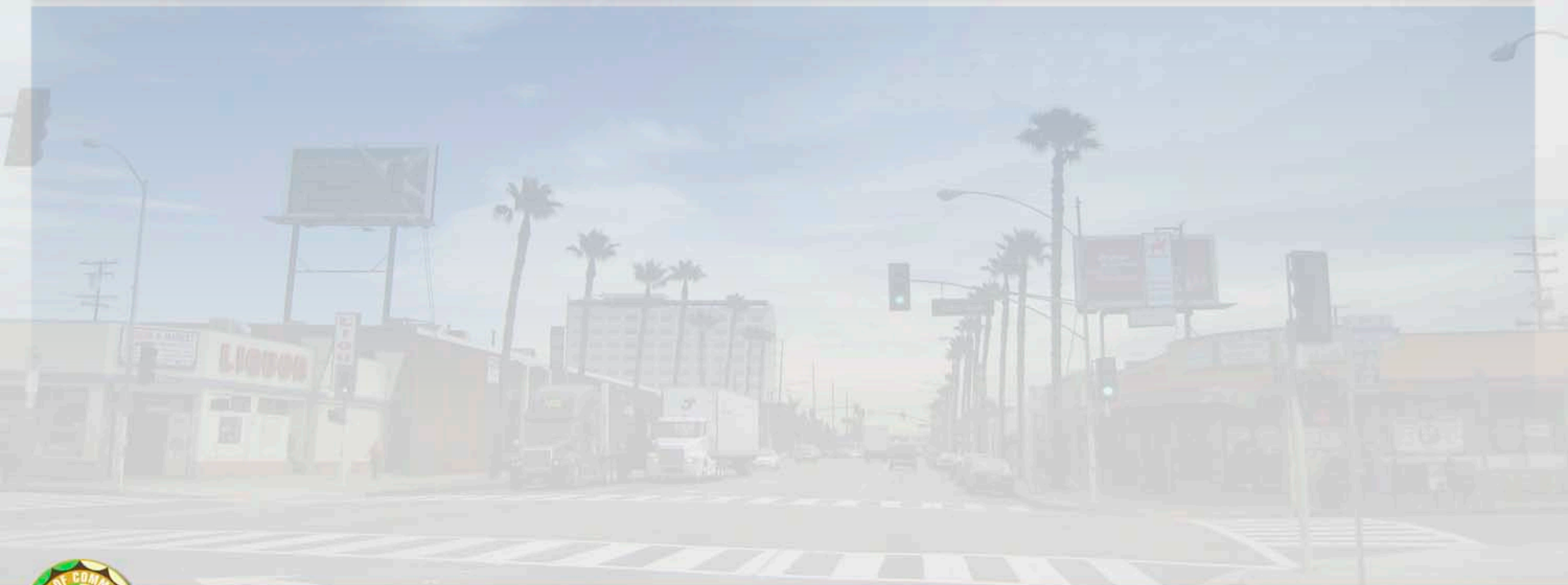
Date Palm



Decorative Paving

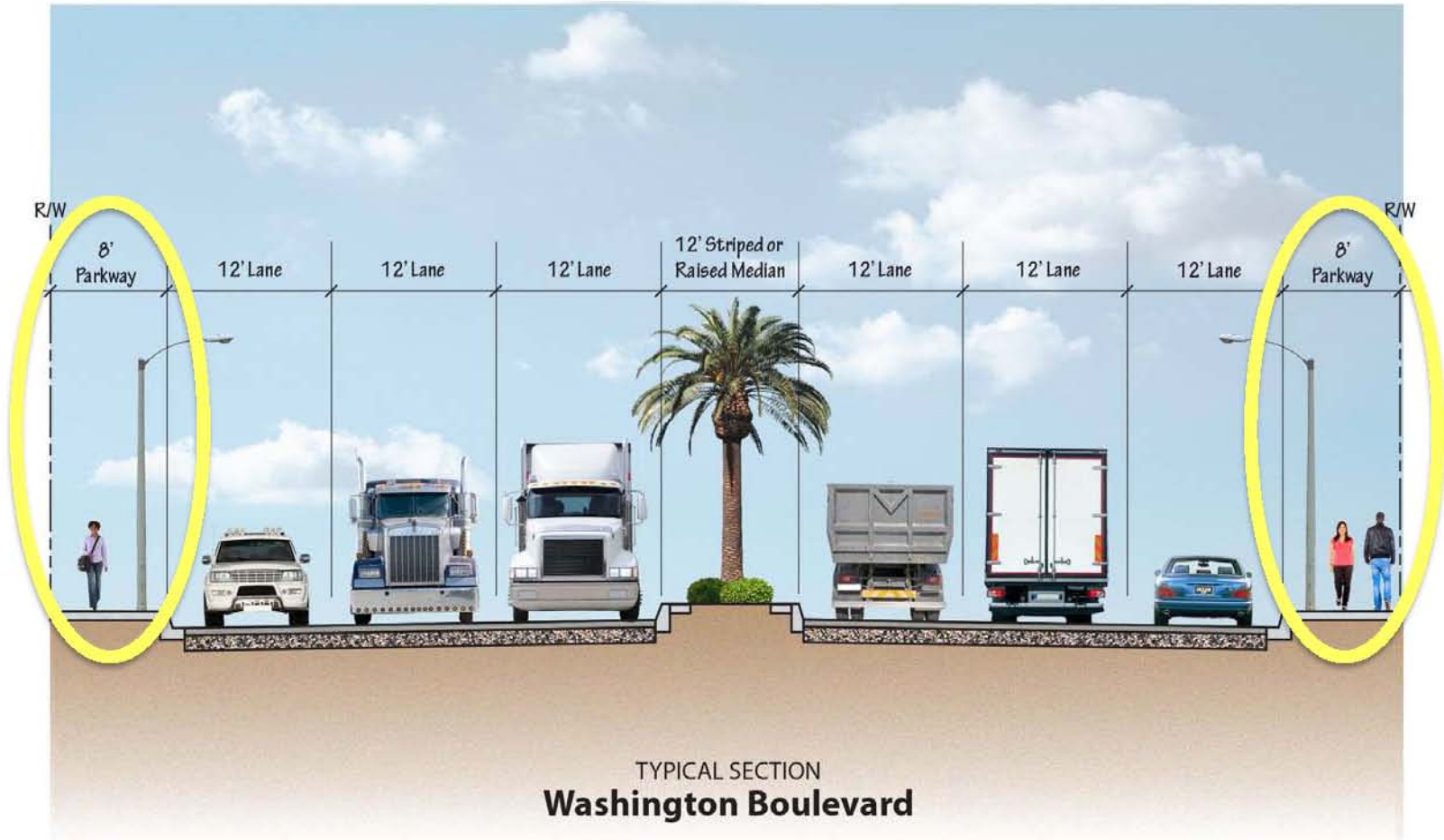


Parkway Landscaping



Washington Boulevard Improvement Project

Parkway Landscape



Parkway Landscape

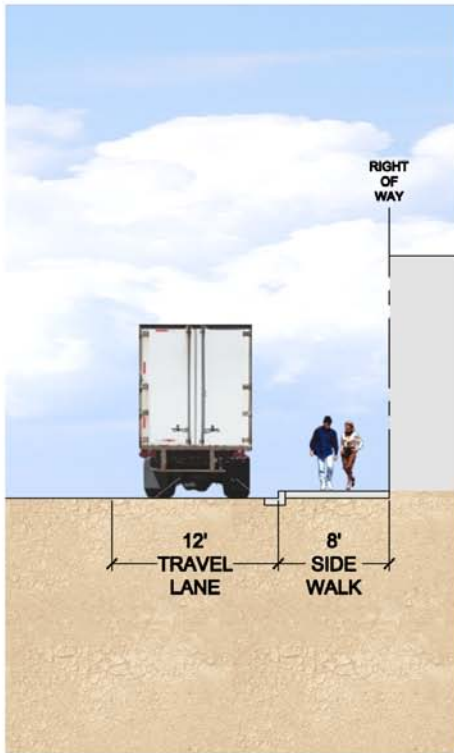
Benefits

- Creates buffer between pedestrians and roadway
- Enhances streetscape appearance

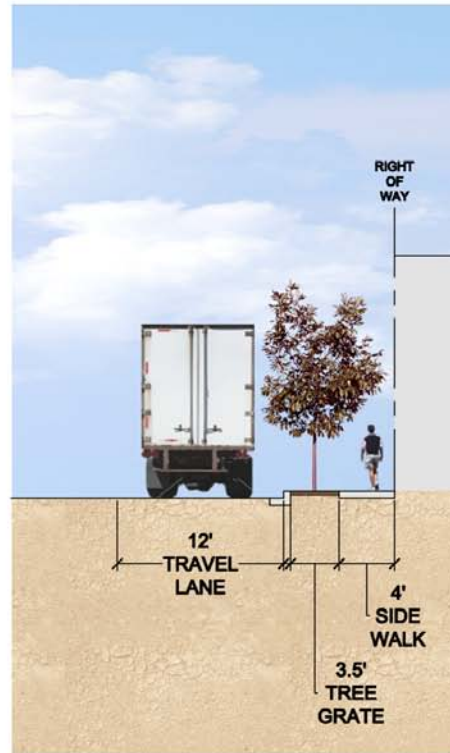
Challenges

- Shrubs and groundcovers conflict with on-street parking
- Increased maintenance for trees adjacent to truck traffic
- Tree canopy will be limited by adjacent truck traffic
- Creates narrow sidewalk width
- Sight distance impacts on drivers

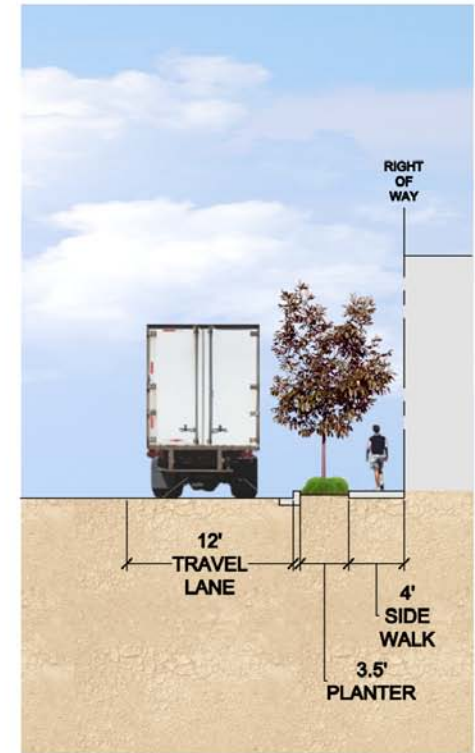
Parkway Landscape



Typical Parkway Treatment



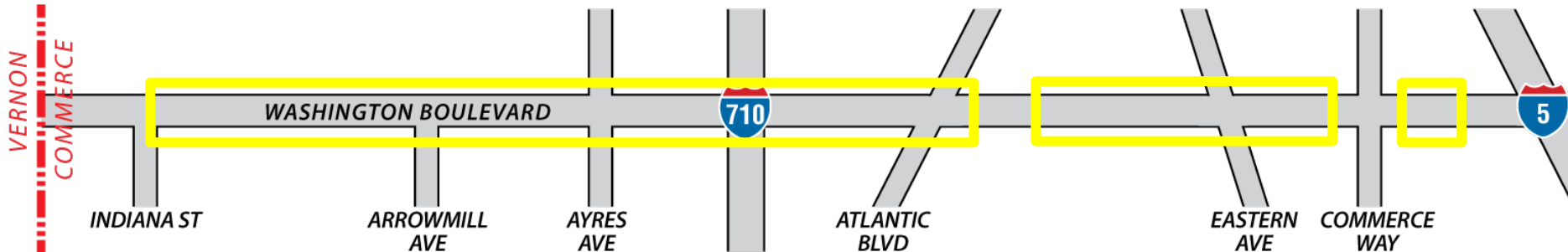
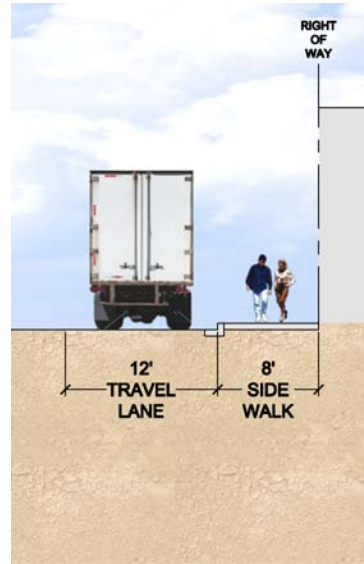
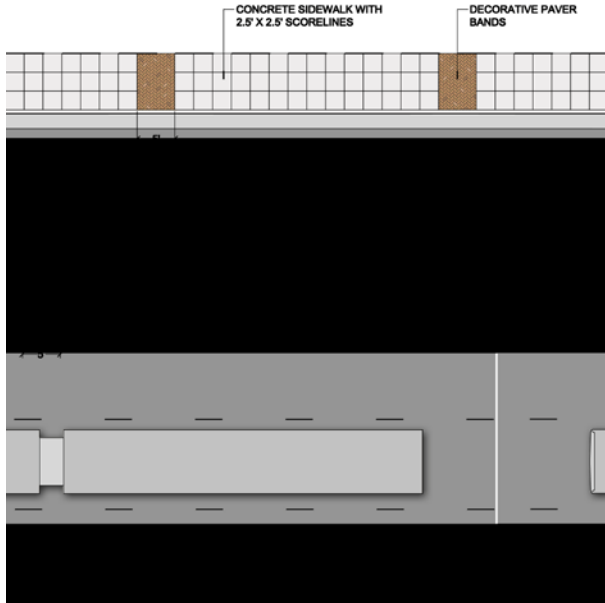
I-5 to Leo Avenue Parkway Treatment



Commerce Way and Strong Avenue Parkway Treatment

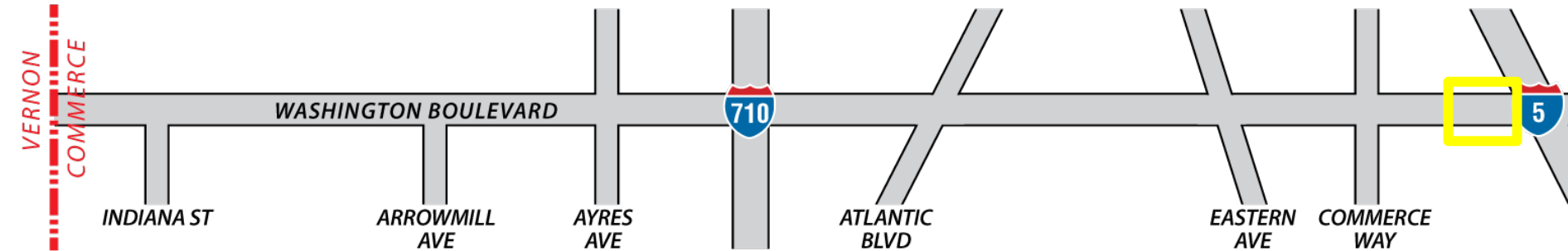
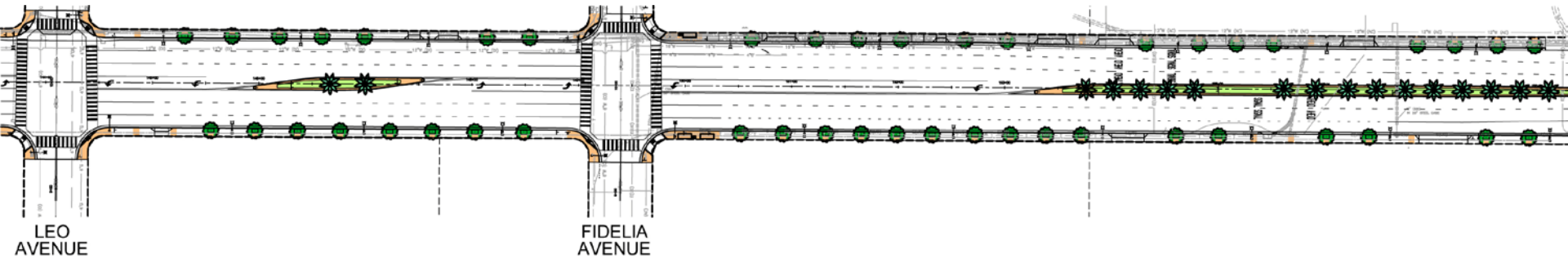
Parkway Landscape

Typical



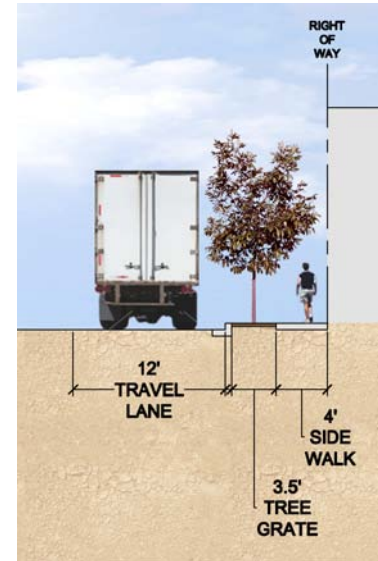
Parkway Landscape

I-5 to Leo Avenue



Parkway Landscape

I-5 to Leo Avenue



Crape Myrtle



Tree Grate

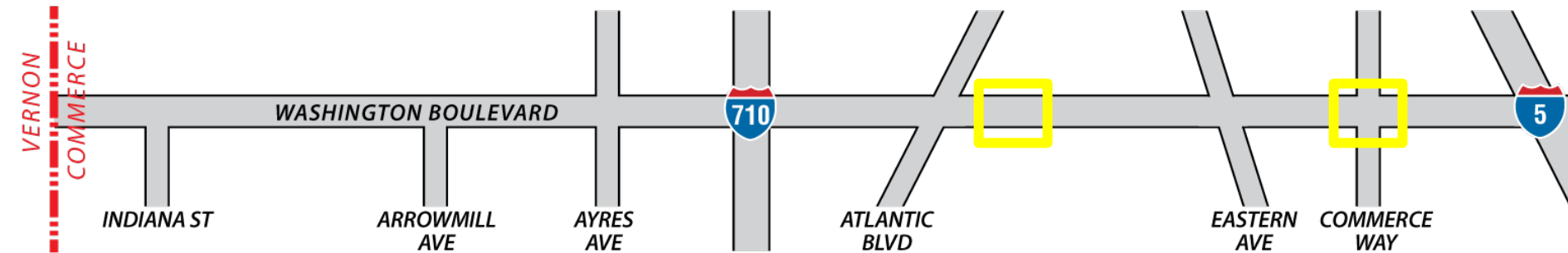
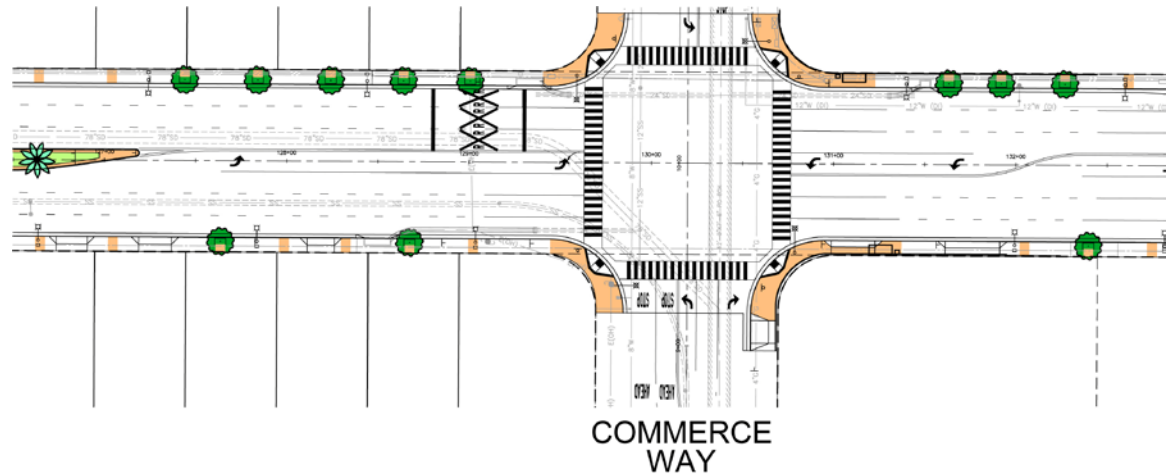
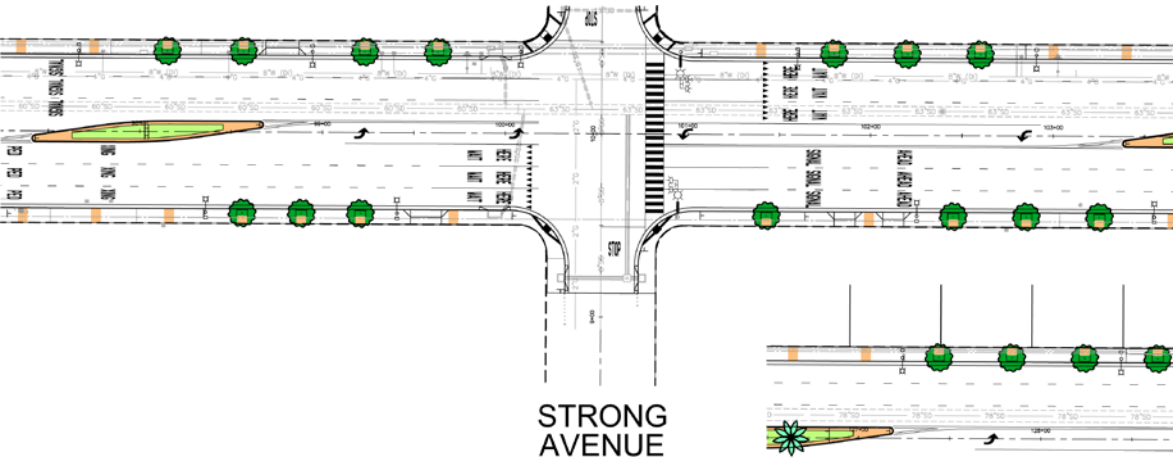


Decorative Paving



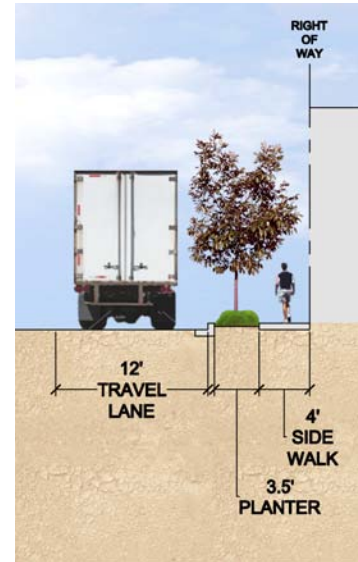
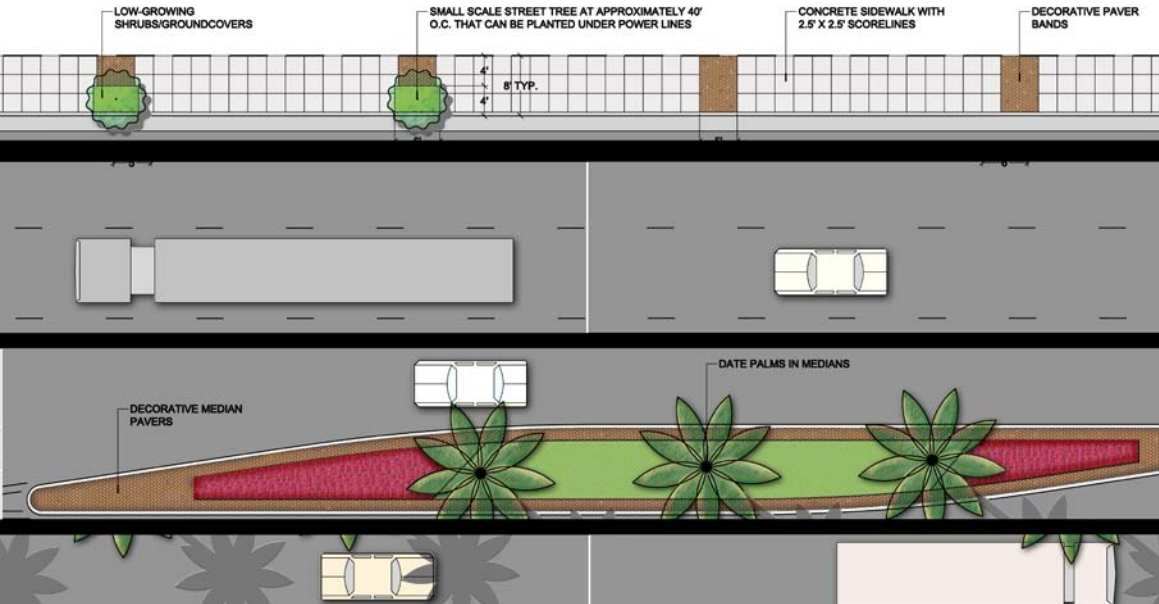
Parkway Landscape

Commerce Way and Strong Avenue



Parkway Landscape

Commerce Way and Strong Avenue



Crape Myrtle



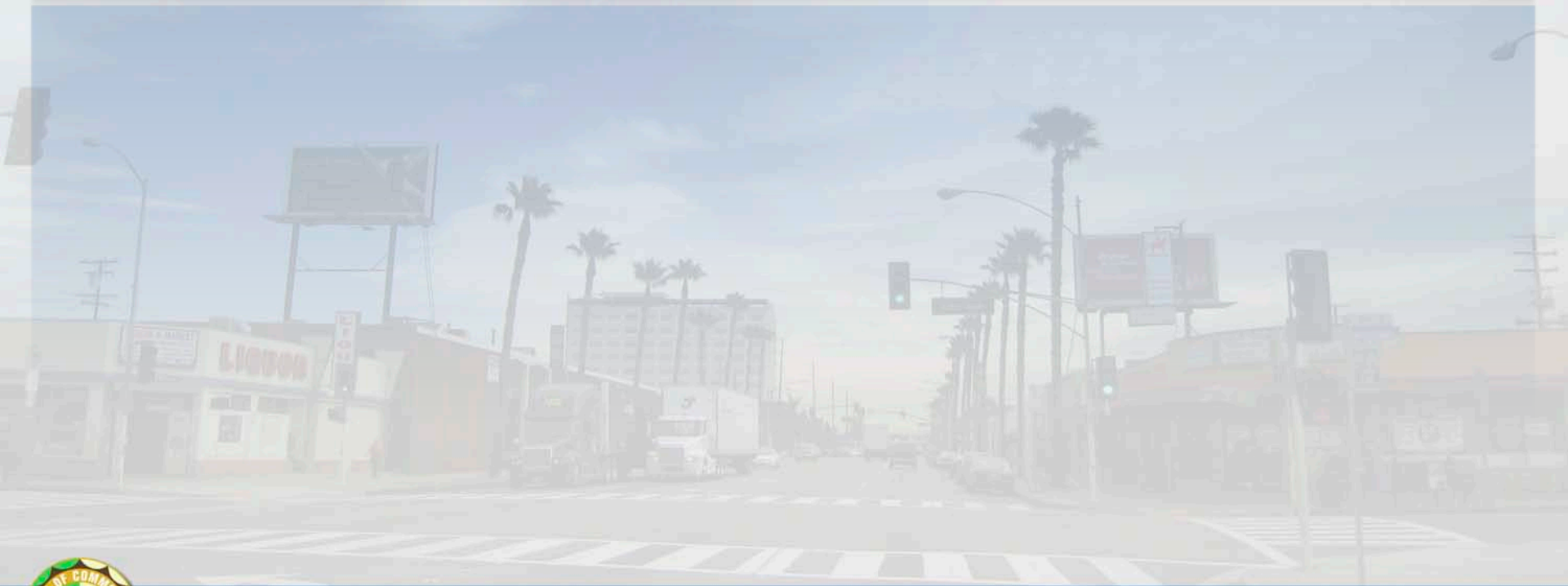
'Little John' Bottlebrush



Decorative Paving



Decorative Paving

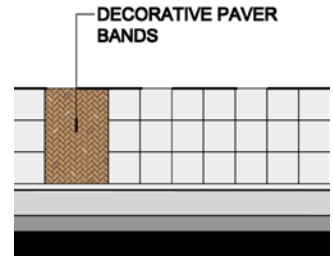
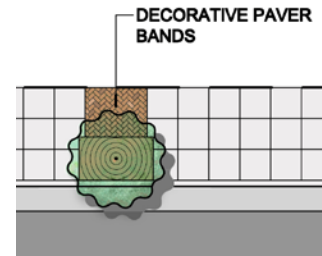
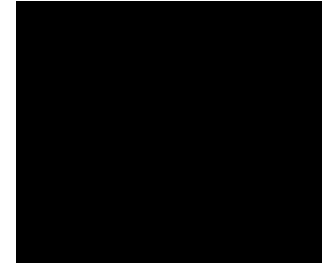


Washington Boulevard Improvement Project

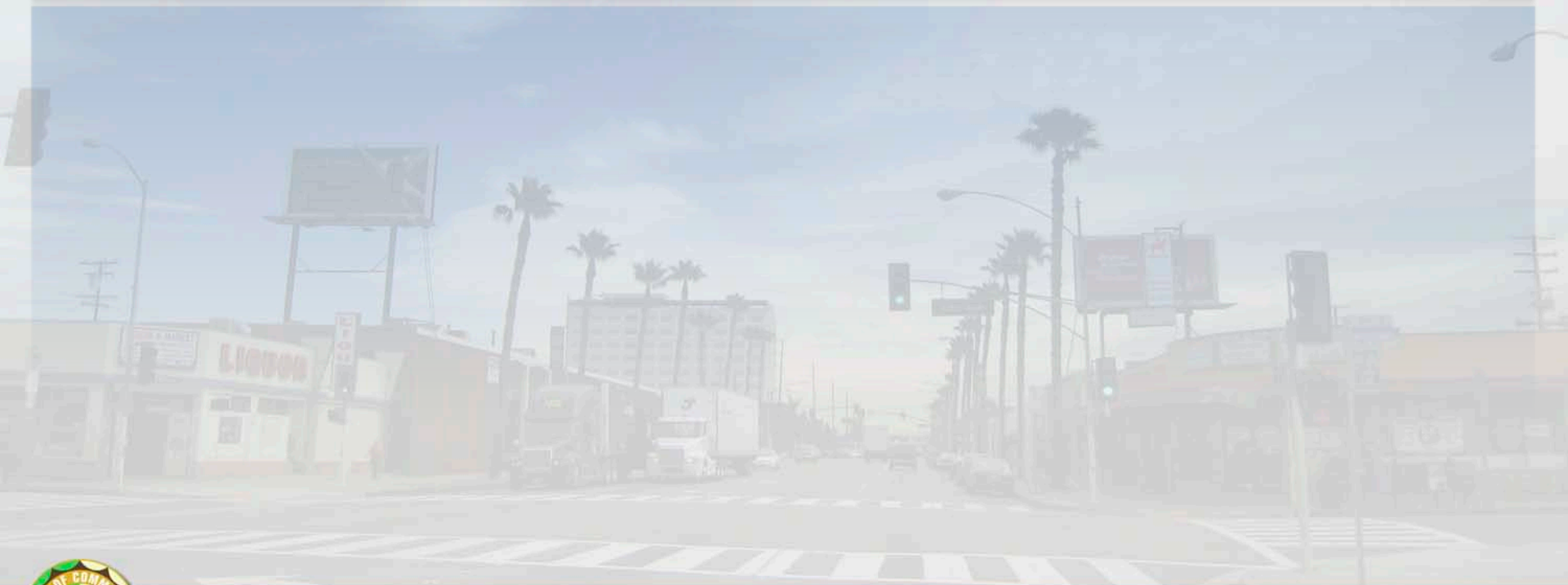
Decorative Paving

Locations

- Medians
- Bands in parkways
- Corners with bus stops



“Before and After” Simulations



Washington Boulevard Improvement Project

Looking West toward Leo Avenue



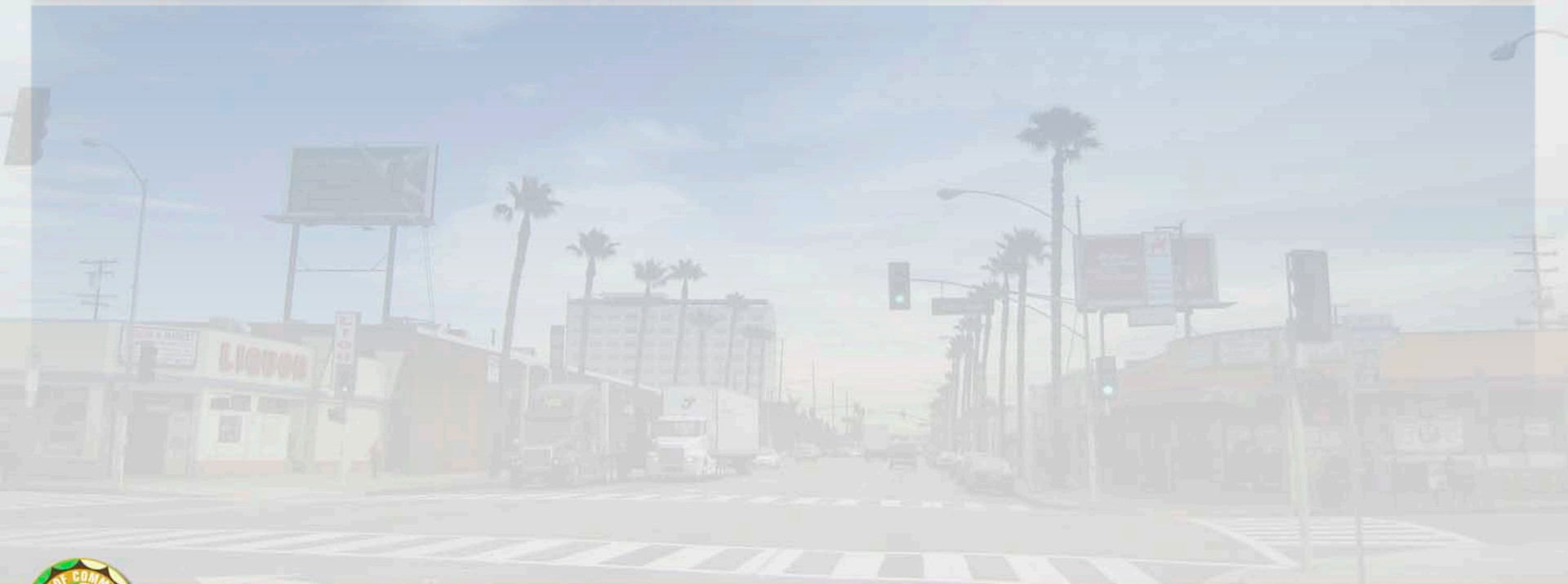
Looking West toward Strong Avenue



Looking East toward Cobb Street



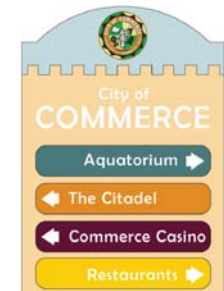
Additional Potential Enhancements



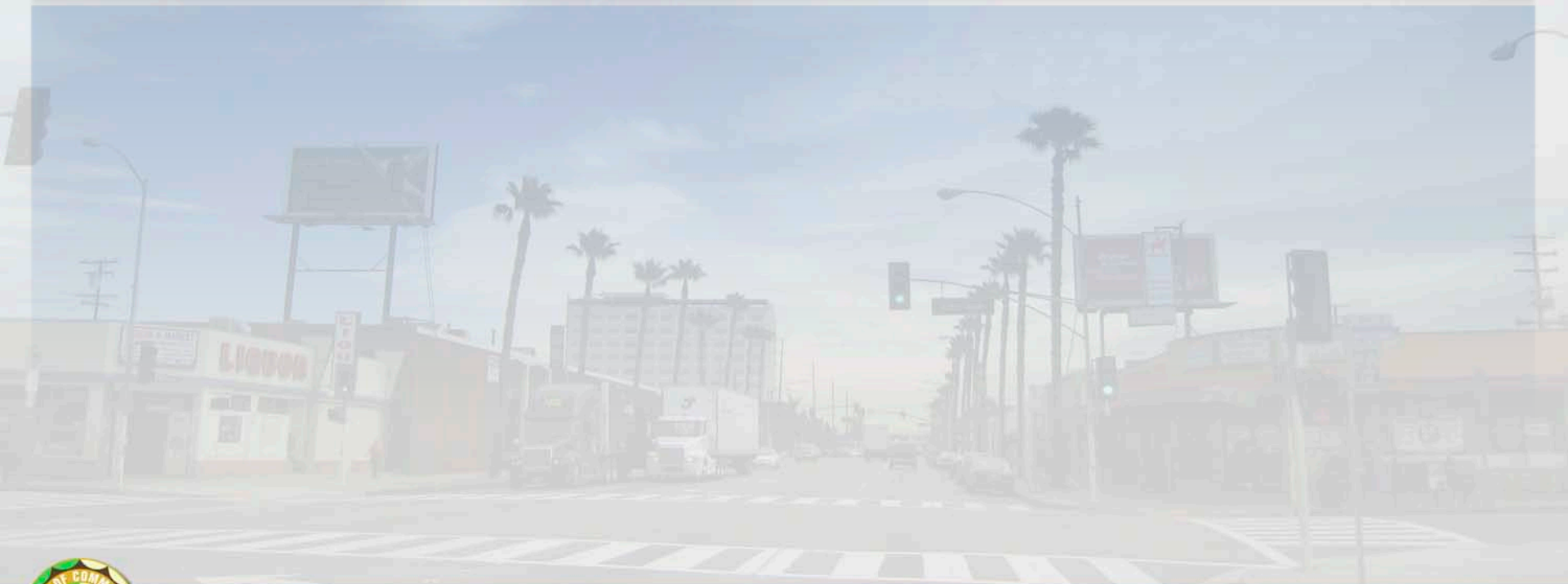
Washington Boulevard Improvement Project

Additional Potential Enhancements

- Palm tree (medians) uplighting and outlets for holiday lights
- Decorative banner poles
- Decorative clock
- Wayfinding signage to City attractions



Questions



Washington Boulevard Improvement Project