



Public Meeting: Lortz Lane Pedestrian Alley and Outdoor Dining Project March 21, 2023



Introductions & Agenda

Planning Team

- Councilman Mark Conway, 4th District
Council Office
- Sandi McFadden, Govans
Elementary School & Mid-Govans
Neighborhood
- Malik Jordan, Loyola University
Maryland
- Donna Blackwell & Dan Pontious, Co-
chairs YRP Housing & N'hood Devt.
- Will Ethridge, Department of
Transportation
- Marie M. Anderson & Jaffa Weiss,
Department of Planning
- Graham Coreil-Allen & Melvin
Jadulang, Graham Projects

Agenda

- Introductions: New Faces
- Agenda & Meeting Goals Review
- Timeline: January to March
- DOT Data & Observations
- Feedback Review
- Scope of Work
- Next Steps
- Intro to Graham Projects &
Community Engagement

Active Participation:

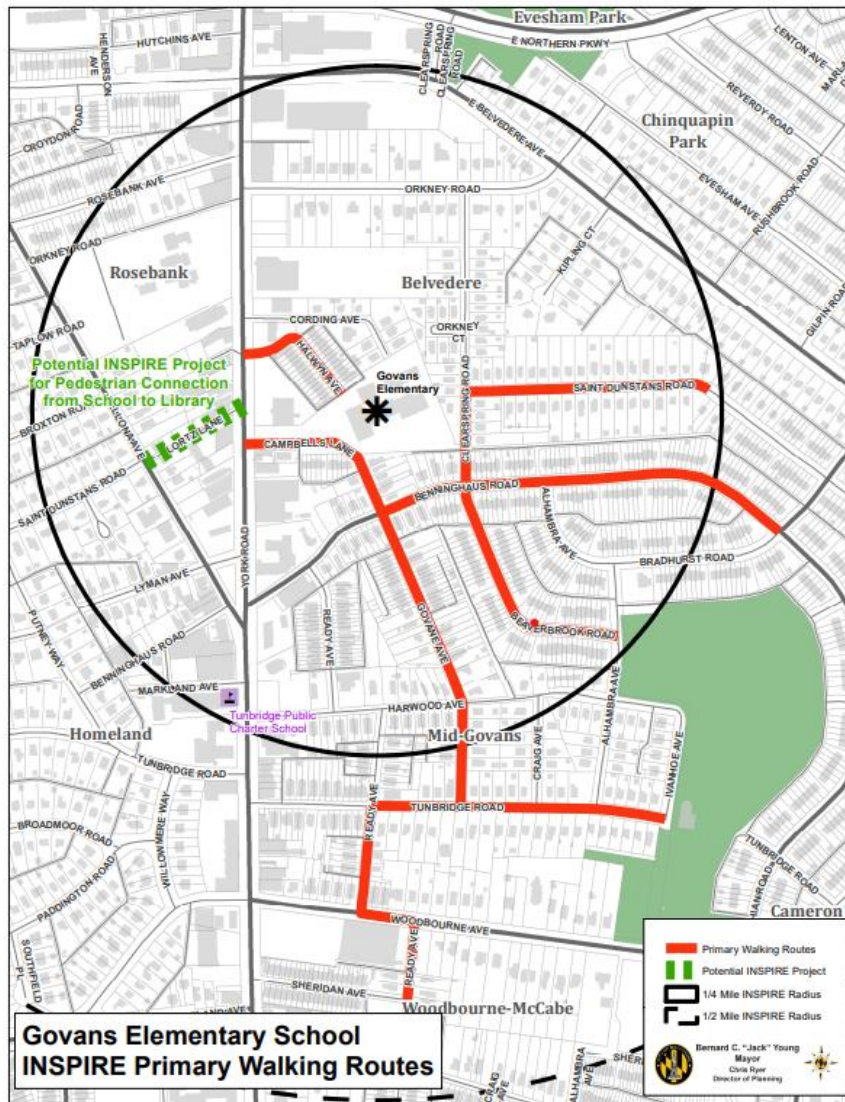
- Question & Answer Table with DOT &
DOP
- Design Activity with Graham Projects

Meeting Goals

- Review: what happened between January & now
- Understand data from DOT & observations
- Understand next steps moving forward
- Meet the design team and continued design ideation
- Get questions and feedback answered



Grounding



PROJECT GOALS

- Safety
- Connection
- Commercial Activation



Current Timeline

JANUARY 26: COMMUNITY MEETING

Share INSPIRE process and idea origin, funding source, collected feedback and share alternate routes.

FEB 2 – MAR 6: PILOT CLOSURE

Temporary street closure, traffic observations, follow up conversations, contract with Graham Projects, consents gathered.

MARCH 21: COMMUNITY MEETING

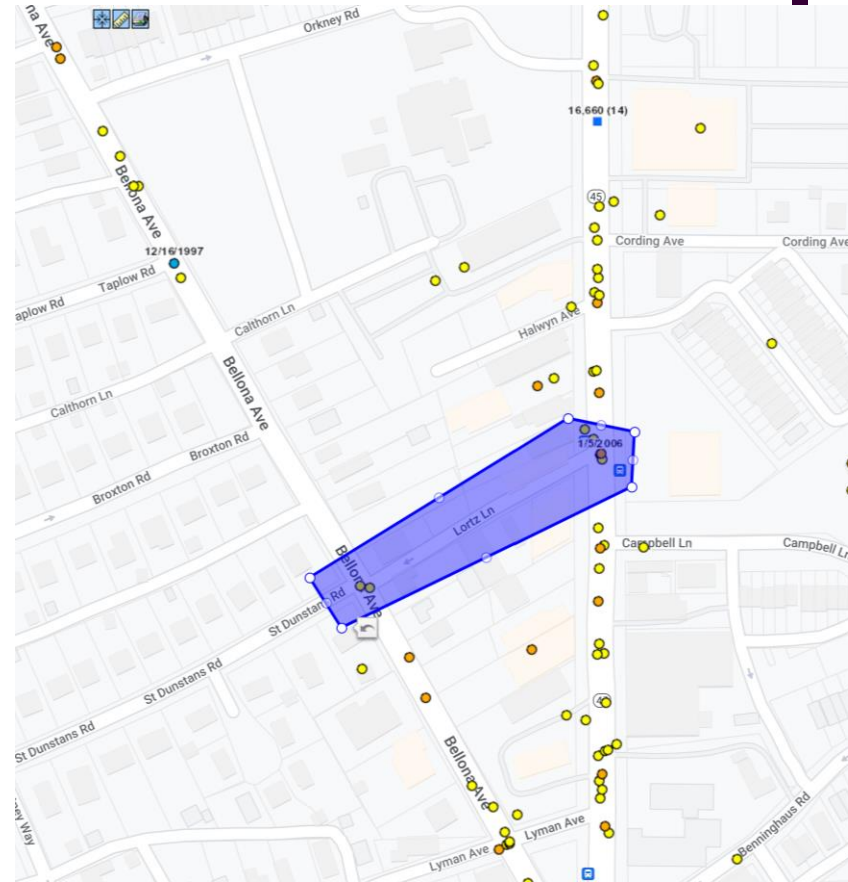
Next steps, community engagement, and ongoing processes.

DOT Observations

- Will Ethridge, DOT
 - Made two site visits; 2/16 (5-6pm) & 2/21 (530-630pm)
 - On 2/16, drove from Benton Bldg NE toward Clifton Park, then N via The Alameda to Northern Pkwy, then went SB on York Rd, and turned right onto Bellona (entire trip took 50 minutes due to an accident on The Alameda)
 - On 2/21, took ride share (Uber) to/from YRP meeting
 - Utilized the crosswalk at Lortz on both occasions, verified that the push to cross button was working on both sides of York Rd (12 secs to cross, +16secs of flashing, 28 secs total)
 - Observed no significant delays on York NB or SB between 5pm and 7pm
- Mikah Zaslou, DOT
 - Conducted two site visits at Lortz/Bellona; 3/9 (840-930am) & 3/10 (752-845am)
 - 3/9 – Observed seven (7) illegal turns onto St. Dunstons ((five (5) SB, two (2) NB))
 - 3/10 – Observed seventeen (17) illegal turns onto St. Dunstons ((fourteen (14) SB*, and three (3) NB)) *Caused a noticeable backup on SB Bellona traffic
 - Also observed one (1) vehicle travel the wrong way down Lortz despite “Do Not Enter” signs

DOT Observations

- Crash DATA (2016-2021*)
 - MS2 system indicated a total of five (5) crashes at the Lortz Ln / York Rd intersection, and three (3) crashes at the Lortz Ln / Bellona Ave intersection
 - Metadata showed no statistical pattern to the crashes
 - No pedestrians or bicyclists were hit or killed
 - Four fender benders, (inattentive driver accidents), three head on collisions (2*), one crash involved a stationary object
- Conclusions
 - Recommend additional traffic speed/camera enforcement on York Rd near the Lortz Ln intersection to enhance pedestrian safety
 - Recommend additional traffic camera at Bellona Ave / St Dunstans intersection to dissuade illegal turns and drivers purposely going the wrong way on Lortz Ln

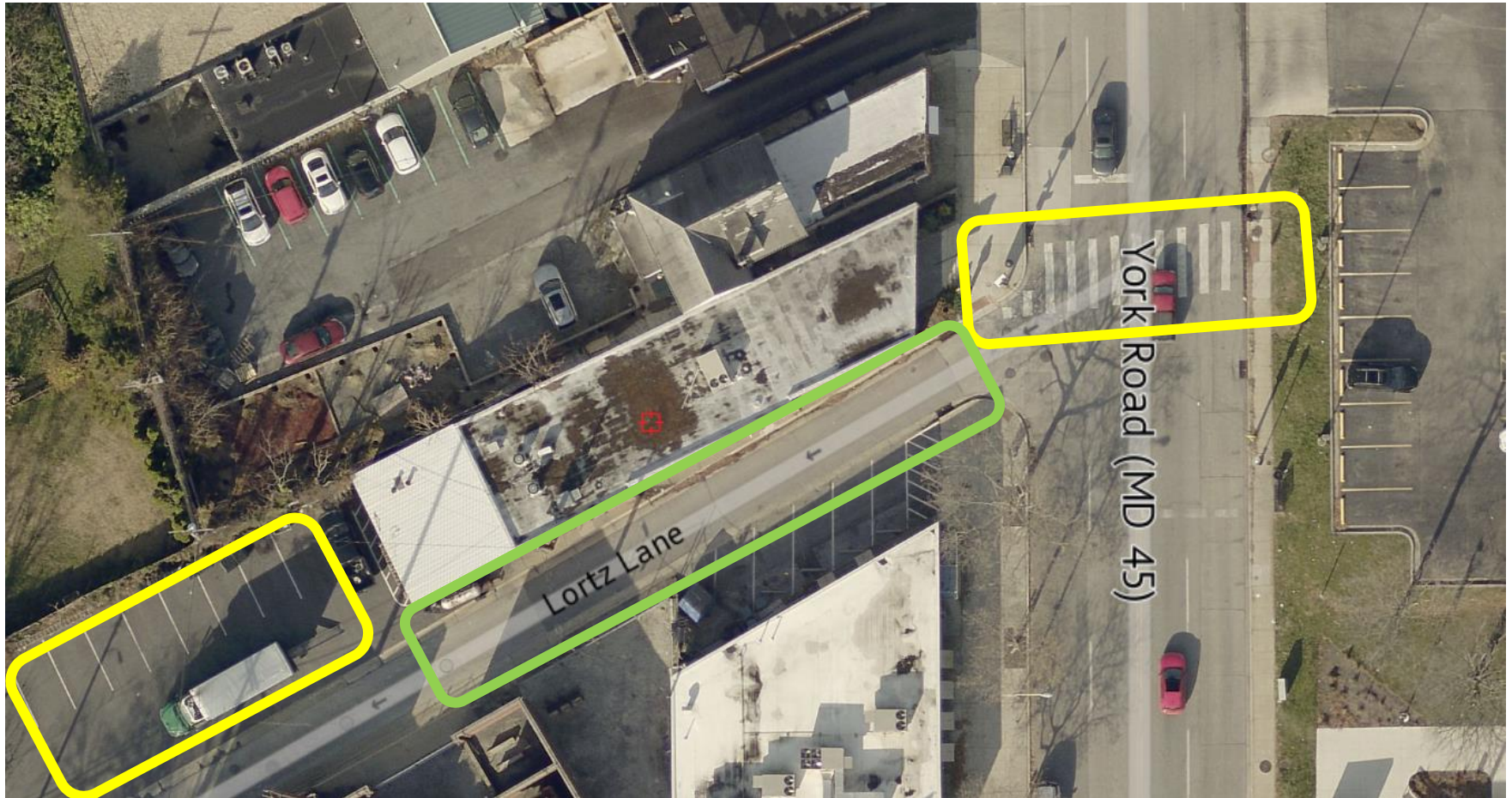


*Crash data is provided to BCDOT from MDOT and does not capture all crashes

Feedback

What we heard	What we did
Fully close Lortz Lane for multipurpose use or keep open to vehicular traffic	Series of conversations with designers, planners, and industry folks – changed the scope of the project for the long term.
Explore opportunity for both car usage and outdoor dining pathway	Looked at different configurations and models – Lortz is narrow so car lane would be less than city req. & ped ln would not meet ADA.
Idea: hopscotch and interactive opportunities for kids	This is an idea we've heard from multiple folks, including Heritage. Games need to be low to no clean up/durable and easy to store.
Remove time restriction signs turning into Homeland on Bellona/St. Dunstons and Springlake. Bellona & Northern Parkway left turn lane.	Due to the origin of why the signs are in place (prevent cut throughs) this would need to be addressed by the Homeland Association. Additionally, there is a request for a left-hand turn lane from Northern Pkwy to Bellona.

Phase 1: Scope of Work



Green = Phase 1 Implementation

Yellow = Phase 2 Future Implementation

Current & Ongoing Work

- **Community Feedback**
 - Follow up conversations with community and local businesses
 - 56 unique comments from residents and participants
 - Information will be publicly available via Govans INSPIRE webpage
- **Consent**
 - $\frac{3}{4}$ property owners have provided consent forms
 - Currently working with BGE to ensure site access
- **Design Research**
 - Follow up on community ideas
 - Planning Department Design Planner
 - Site evaluation by Graham Projects
 - Conversations with commercial property owners

Next Steps



Spring: Community Engagement & Design

* Design Proposals Feedback and Voting in May



Summer: Consent, Legal & Permitting



Fall & Beyond:

Implementation & Site Activation

Grounding: Funding

Loyola University received Federal Earmark funding for York Road commercial corridor improvements. These funds must be used by September 2023.



- **Available Funding for this Project:**
 - \$30,000 for project management & public art design/install
 - \$20,500 for lighting, outdoor furniture, and landscaping
- **Contractors:**
 - Graham Projects

Prepared March 21, 2023



Lortz Lane Pedestrian Plaza

Graham Coreil-Allen, Public Artist
info@grahamprojects.com | grahamprojects.com
[@grahamprojects](https://www.instagram.com/grahamprojects) / [#grahamprojects](https://www.facebook.com/grahamprojects)



Graham Projects is a Baltimore-based creative agency making cities more inclusive and livable through public art and civic engagement. Building on his background in public art, urban planning, and advocacy, Public Artist and Founding Principal Graham Coreil-Allen and the Graham Projects team produce participatory projects and lead social initiatives in the service of pedestrians and places.



Graham Coreil-Allen, MFA
Founding Principal
& Public Artist, he/him

Melvin Jadulang, MA
Director of Operations &
Engagement, he/him

Isabelle Conover, BA
Communications Associate &
Placemaker, she/her

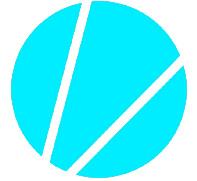
Mar Braxton,
Studio Coordinator
& Installer, he/him

JaVon Townsend, LCSW-C
Social Worker, Artist,
& Facilitator, she/her

Q Batts, MASD
Social Impact Designer
& Installer, he/him

Zoe Roane-Hopkins, MA
Landscape & Project
Designer, she/her

COMMUNITY PLACEMAKING





Design for Distancing Curbside Commons, 4700 block Harford Rd, Baltimore, MD, November 2020



Design for Distancing Curbside Commons community gathering, November 2020



Towanda LaneScape, East Wabash Avenue & Grantley Avenue, Baltimore, MD, October 2021



Remington, 27th Street & Remington Avenue, Baltimore, MD, August 2022



Remingtopo, Rem fest 2022 Community Event, Baltimore, MD, September 2022

COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT
PROCESS



IN-PERSON POP-UPS AND WORKSHOPS



RESIDENTS SHARE IDEAS ONLINE



Lake 2 Lake
MONTEBELLO DRUID

**Lake Montebello
Neighbors & Friends!**

Share your ideas for for
traffic calming crosswalk art
at 33rd Street at Hillen Road!

makeplacehappen.com/montebello



Back

COLORoW: Lake 2 Lake Montebello

COLORoW is a coloring book-like tool for drawing your own artistic crosswalk or mural. What inspires you? Draw it and we will Make Place Happen!

Baltimore City Department of Transportation (DOT) and community partners Bikemore, Black People Ride Bikes, and Graham Projects are collaborating on the MACTO grant funded "Lake to Lake" project to increase visibility and access to Druid Hill Park and Lake Montebello. Lake to Lake will include traffic calming, pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements, and public art at 33rd Street at Hillen Road. Complete this form to share your ideas for street art. Draw artwork on the sidewalks and within the light blue "bump outs" at each crosswalk corner, write a description, and/or attach a few photos for inspiration.

Using everyone's drawings, ideas, and images as inspiration, the Graham Projects team will develop crosswalk art design options for you and other stakeholders to vote on your preferred choice.

Click on the 'Submit Your Artwork' button to upload your drawing and images that inspire you and/or share your ideas as a written response.

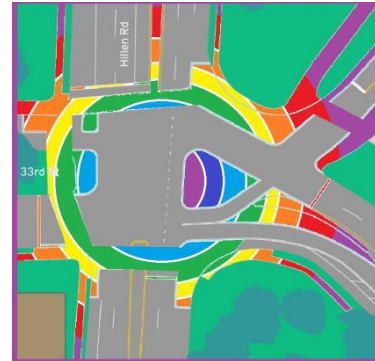
Please share your art ideas by October 8, 2021.

Final traffic design pictured is a preliminary design to be shared by DOT.

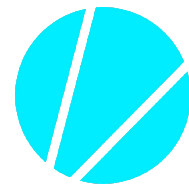
SUBMIT YOUR ARTWORK!



NOTE: DOT's final traffic calming engineering may differ.

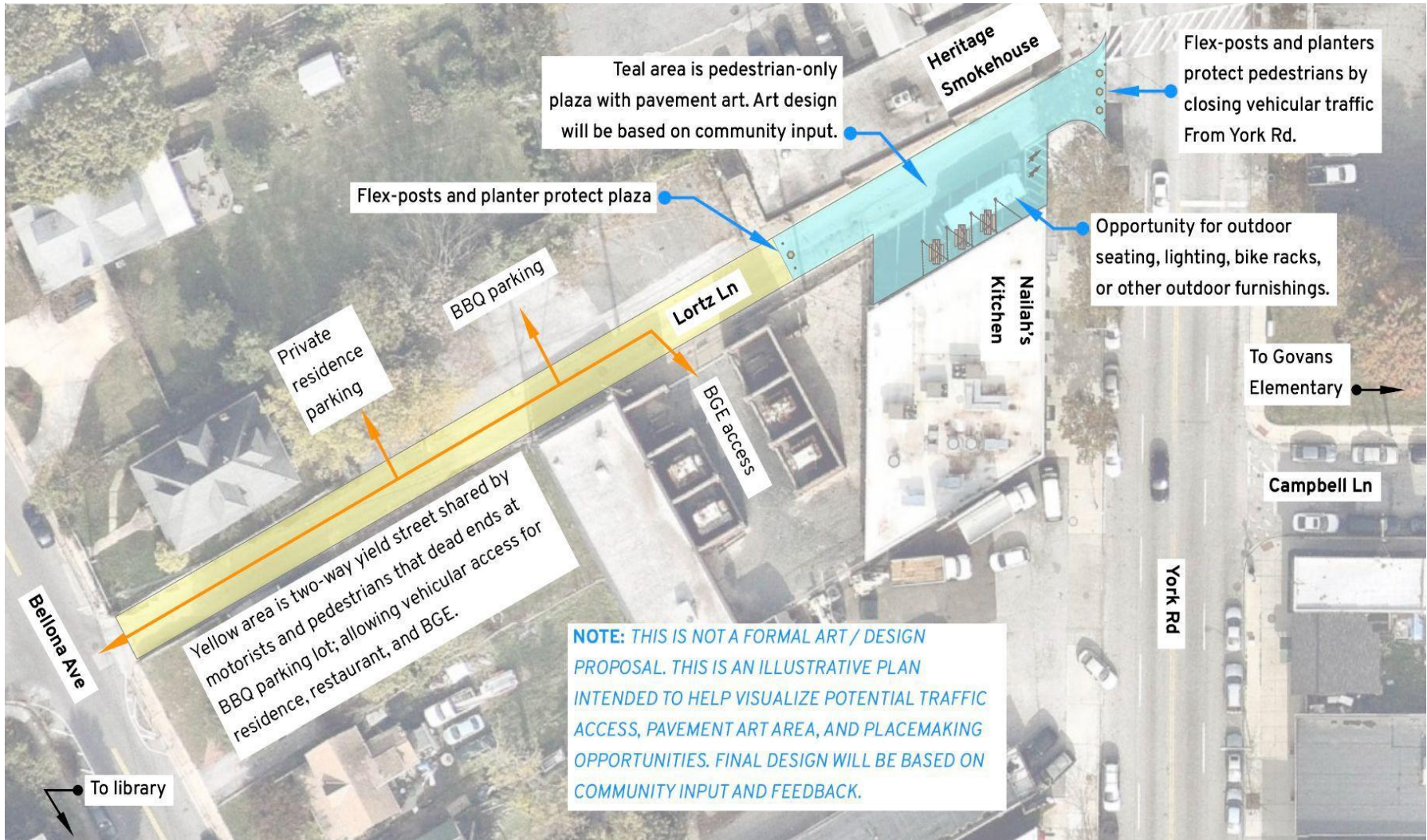


LORTZ LANE
PEDESTRIAN
PLAZA



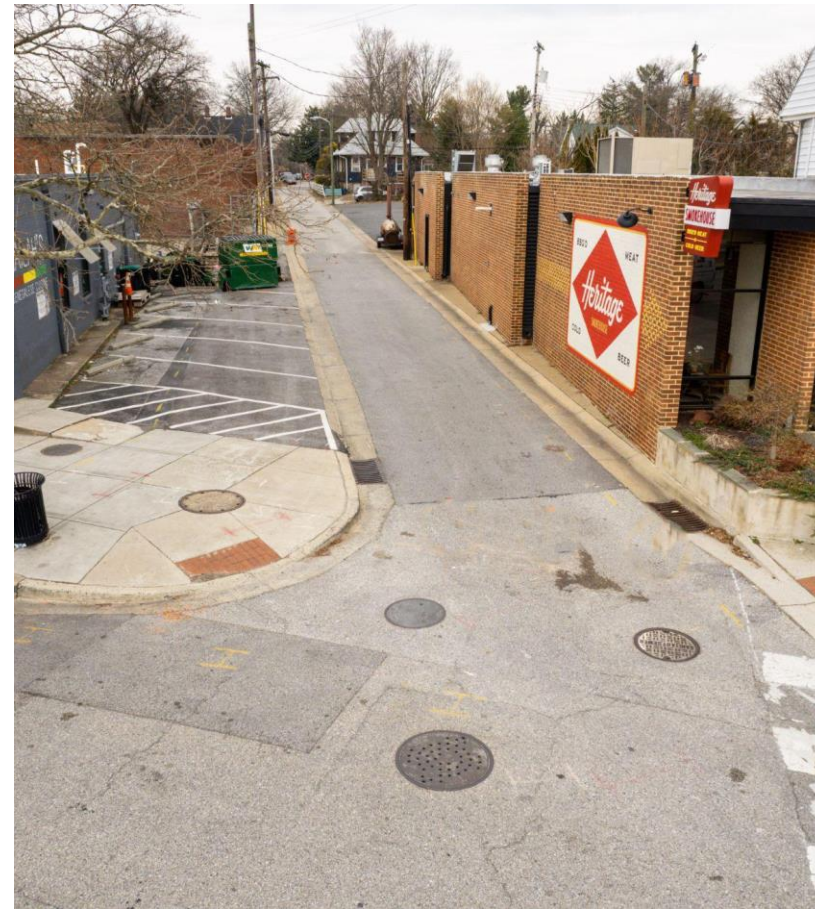
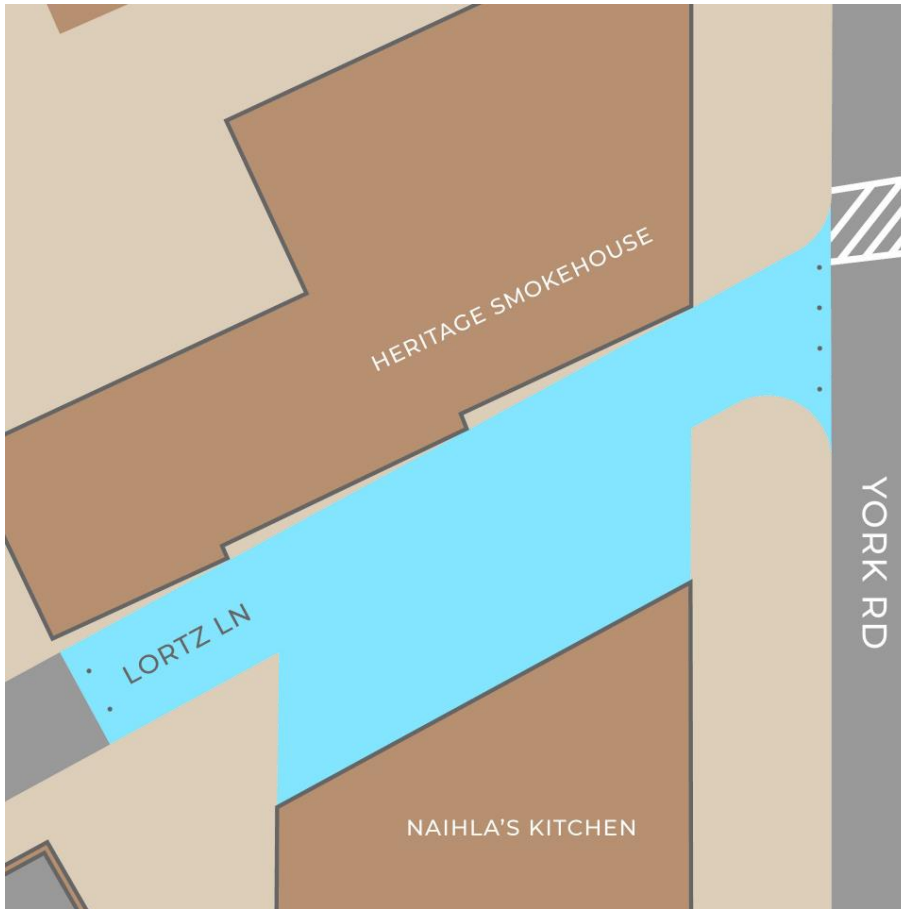
LORTZ LANE PEDESTRIAN PLAZA

Pavement art areas highlighted in teal

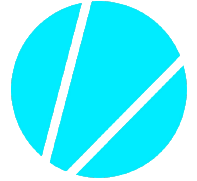


LORTZ LANE PEDESTRIAN PLAZA

Pavement art areas highlighted in teal



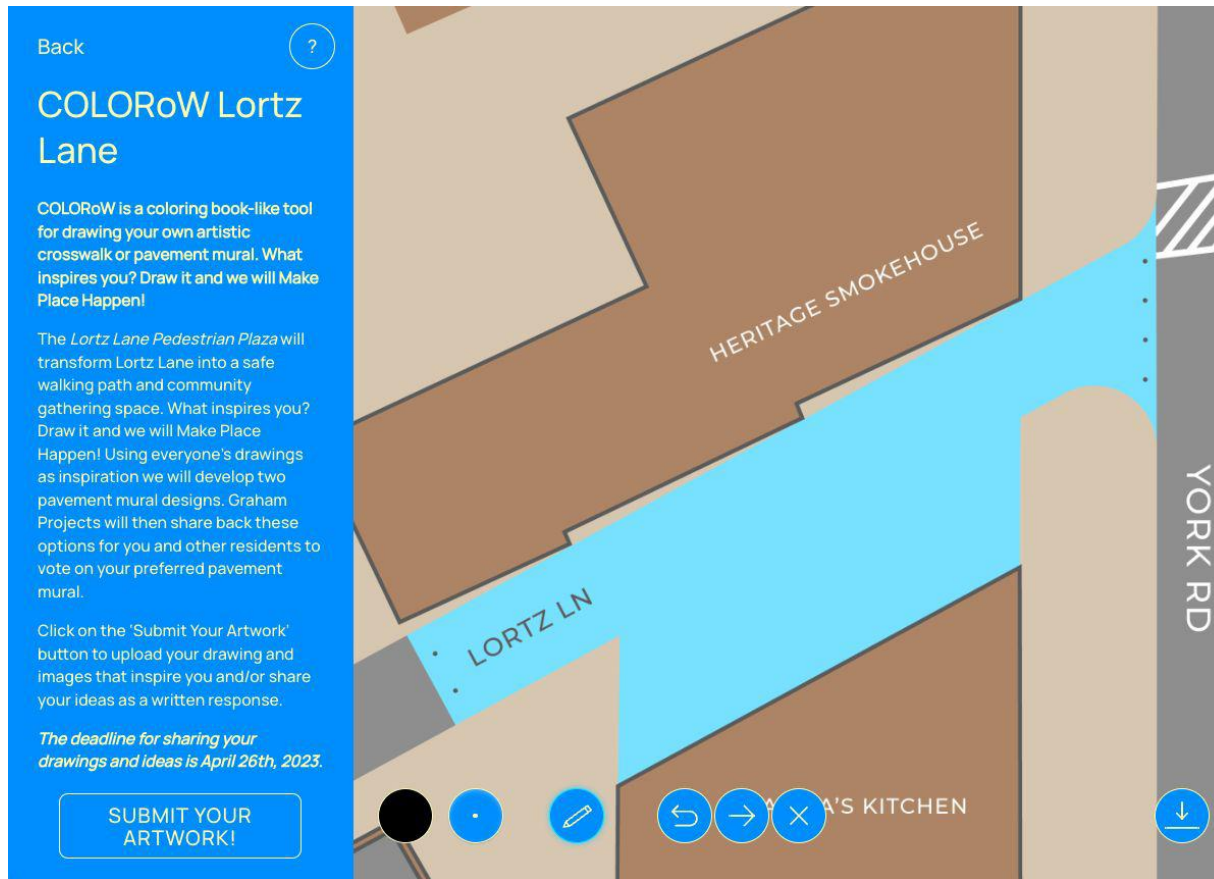
LORTZ LANE
NEXT STEPS



Process

- March - Project Introduction and Input
- April - In Person Pop Up and Online Input
- May - Design Announcement and Voting
- June - Design Selection
- Summer - Permitting
- Fall - Installation

ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

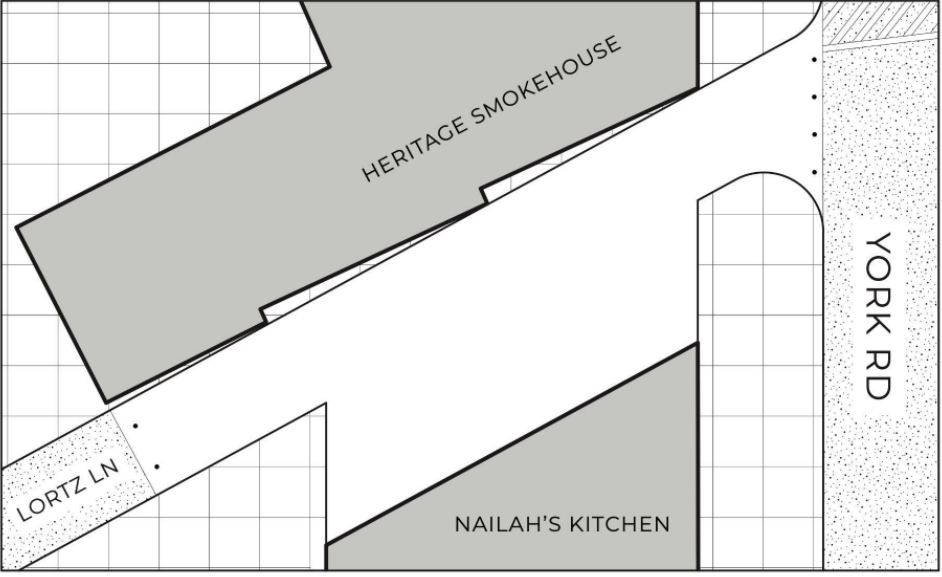


Starting Today
makeplacehappen.com/lortz/


IN PERSON ENGAGEMENT

MEET THE ARTISTS AND SHARE YOUR IDEAS

Color Your Own Lortz Lane Pedestrian Plaza!


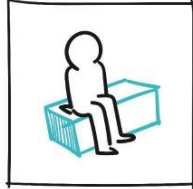
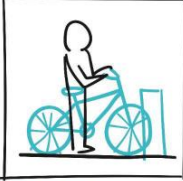
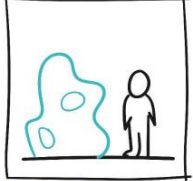

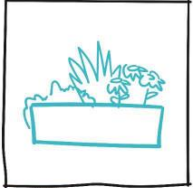


Artist Name: _____ Date: _____



Public Space Features

Pick what **you** want to see most in **your** community spaces!

 <p>SHADE Shade cools you off in the summer heat.</p>	 <p>SEATING Seating provides places for people to rest and gather.</p>
 <p>BIKE PARKING Bike parking offers a secure and convenient place to secure your bicycle.</p>	 <p>SCULPTURE Sculptures adds color and visual interest while strengthening a place's identity.</p>
 <p>TABLES Tables create a communal surface for work, games, eating, and visiting with friends.</p>	 <p>PLANTERS Planters bring plants into a place and can act as barriers between pedestrians and traffic.</p>

April Date to be announced:
Community Design Pop-Up

Contact Information

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Govans INSPIRE Website:

<https://planning.baltimorecity.gov/govans-elementary-school>

