

# Wheeler Road Multimodal Safety and Access Project

February 2022

# Vision Zero

- Vision Zero is the District's plan to achieve **zero traffic deaths** and severe injuries
- Transportation related deaths and severe injuries are **preventable and unacceptable**
- Create safe conditions through **street design** so human mistakes are not deadly.
- Safe and accessible streets for **all users**
  
- The Wheeler Road project proposes to:
  - Redesign the road to slow vehicle traffic, increase stopping distance
  - Slow turning vehicles
  - Improve visibility
  - Provide safe street crossings for pedestrians
  - Shorten crossing distances for pedestrians



# Wheeler Road Project Background

- Wheeler Road identified as a high injury corridor
- Speeding is a major issue along Wheeler Road
  - All speed survey locations along Wheeler Road found that nearly one-quarter (20-25%) of drivers exceeded the speed limit by at least 11 MPH
  - One speed survey location found almost one-half (47%) of drivers exceeded the speed limit by at least 11 MPH
- Community outreach started in 2020
  - ANC 8C and ANC 8E
  - 2,500 door hangers distributed
  - Project website
  - Social Media
  - Survey - 165 respondents (132 Ward 8 residents/33 non-Ward 8)

**Wheeler Road**

DDOT wants to hear from you!

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) wants to hear from Ward 8 residents about safety improvements along Wheeler Road SE.

Your feedback is important as we work together to make Wheeler Road SE safer for pedestrians and drivers.

Please listen to the presentation at: [ddot.dc.gov/wheelerroad](https://ddot.dc.gov/wheelerroad)

Then, take the survey and provide your feedback at: <https://forms.gle/EQjiBkMv1kZwXilK9>

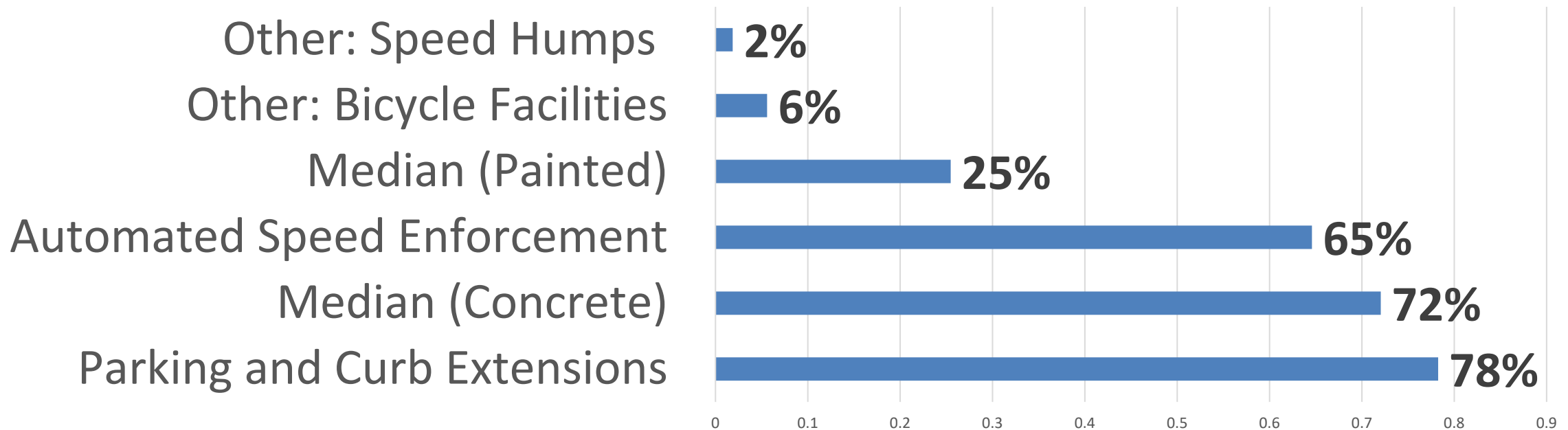
THE PRESENTATION TAKE THE SURVEY

For more information, please contact Karyn McAlister at 202-741-8520 or [karyn.mcalister@dc.gov](mailto:karyn.mcalister@dc.gov)

VISION ZERO GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

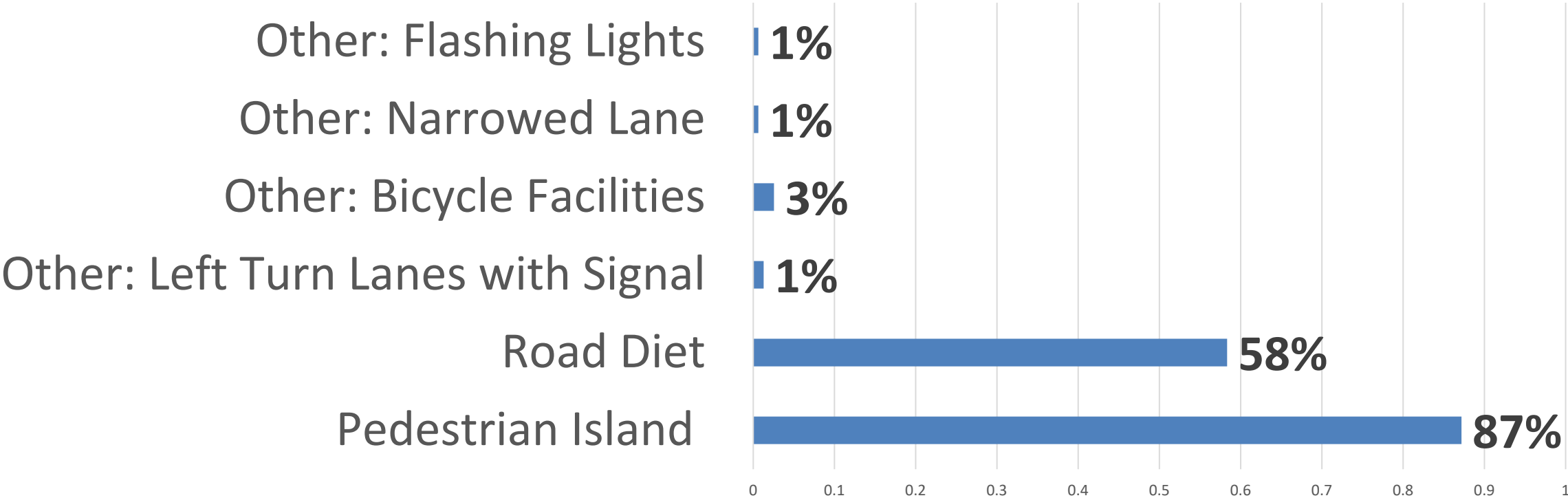
# Survey Results

**Q1 - Speed Reduction** - Please check the boxes of the photos of the Speed Reduction tools that you support for Wheeler Road. You may check more than one box.



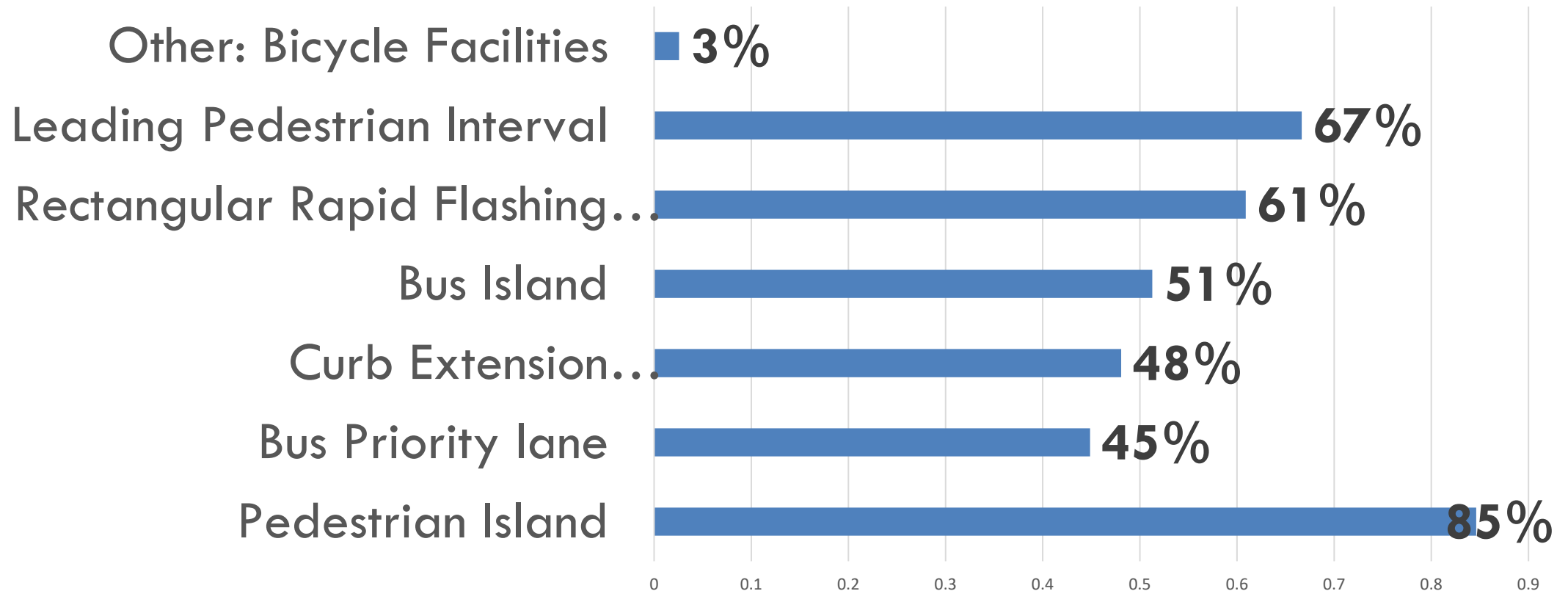
# Survey Results

Q2- Please check the boxes of the photos of the **Crash Reduction** tools that you support for Wheeler Road. You may check on more than one box.



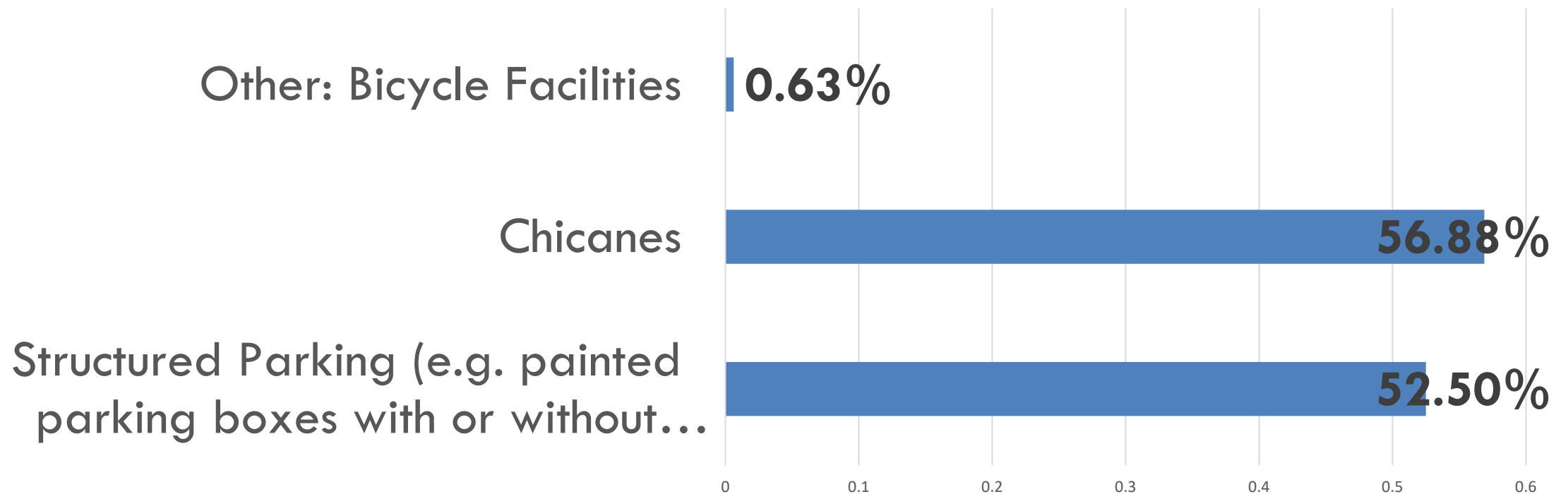
# Survey Results

**Q3-First/Last Mile Tools** - Please check the boxes of the photos of the First/Last Mile tools that you support for Wheeler Road. You may check on more than one box.



# Survey Results

**Q4- Curbside Tools** - Please check the boxes of the photos of the Curbside tools that you support for Wheeler Road. You may check on more than one box.



# Wheeler Road Project Renderings

## Mississippi Avenue to Alabama Avenue (Phase 1)



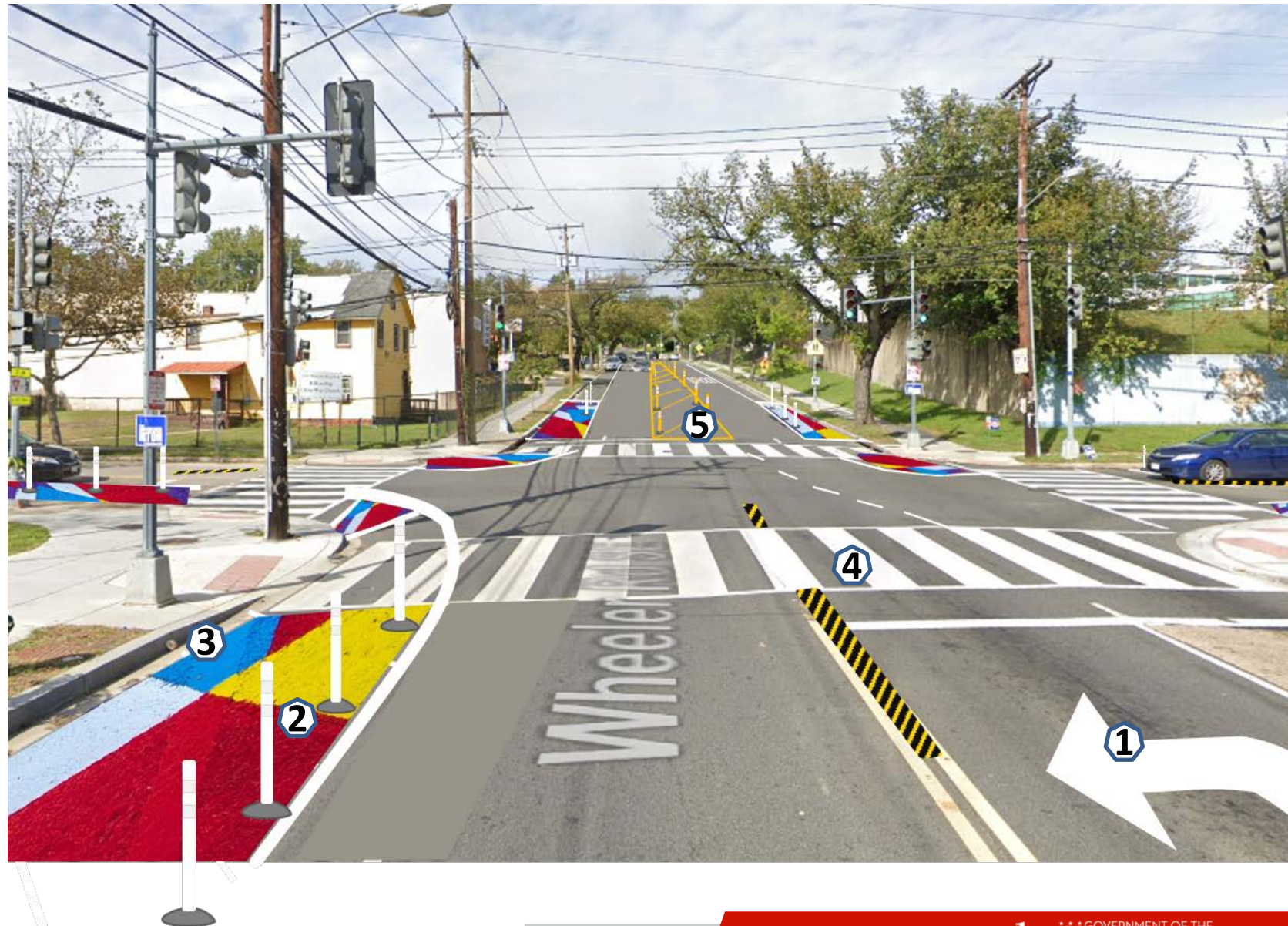
# Wheeler Road and Mississippi Avenue – Before



© Cyclomedia

# Wheeler Road and Mississippi Avenue – After Safety Improvements

1. Left turn pocket lane - *Reduces rear-end and left-turn crashes*
2. Flex post and painted curb extensions – *Slows right turning vehicles, improves visibility, shortens pedestrian crossing distances*
3. Art in the Right of Way (AROW) – *Defines pedestrian-only areas*
4. Left turn calming – *Slows left turning vehicles and prevents crossing double line*
5. Flex post and yellow painted median – *Narrows road and slows vehicles*
6. Updated signs (not shown) – *Communicates clear traffic laws to drivers*

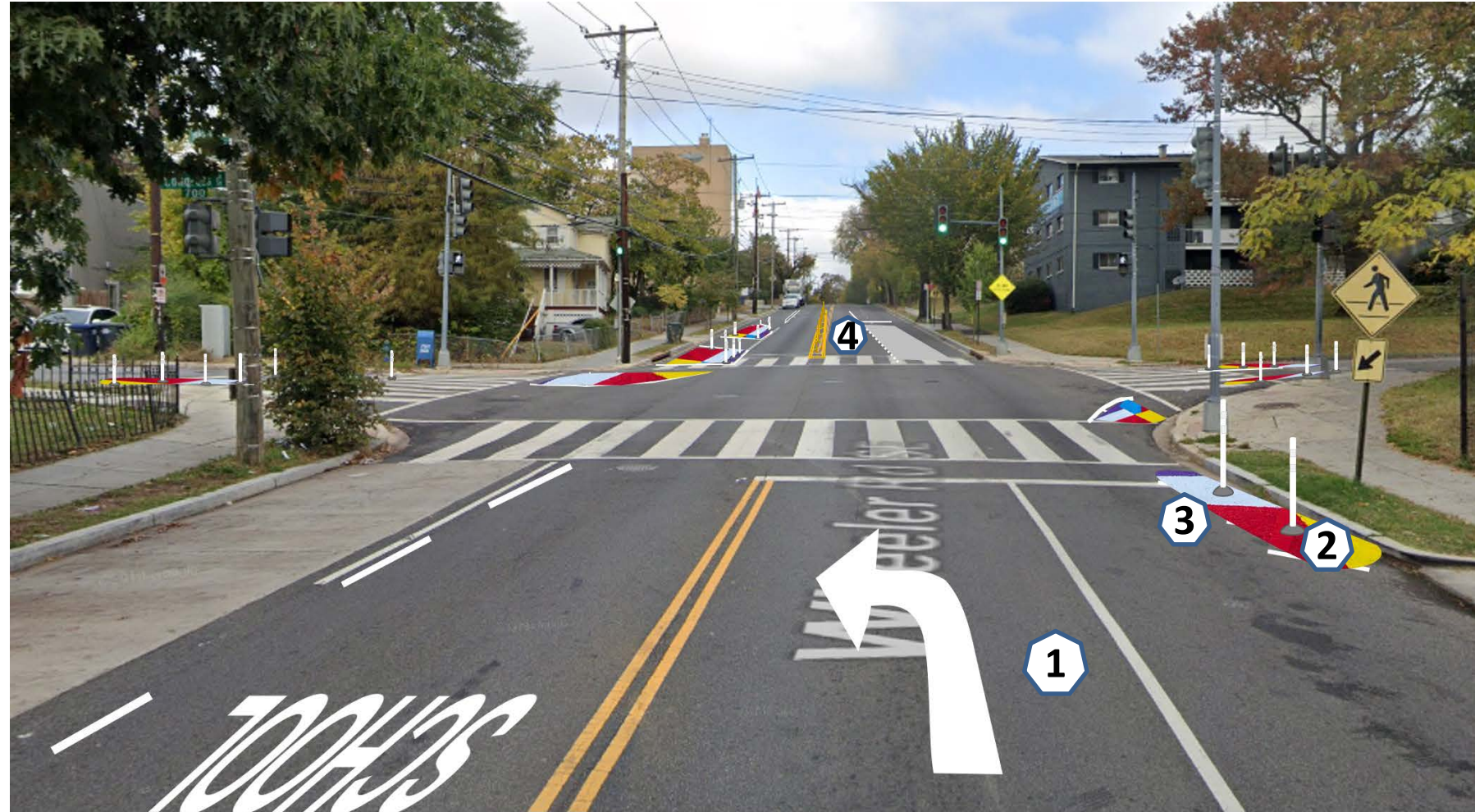


# Wheeler Road and Congress Street- Before



# Wheeler Road and Congress Road – After Safety Improvements

1. Left turn pocket lane - *Reduces rear-end and left-turn crashes*
2. Flex post and painted curb extensions - *Slows right turning vehicles, improves visibility, shortens pedestrian crossing distances*
3. Art in the Right of Way (AROW) - *Defines pedestrian-only areas*
4. Flex post and yellow painted median - *Narrows road and slows vehicles*
5. Updated signs (not shown) - *Communicates clear traffic laws to drivers*



# DC Kipp Somerset - Before



# DC Kipp Somerset – After Safety Improvements

1. Student pick-up and drop-off lane – *Reduces vehicle crashes by eliminating changing lanes*
2. Flex post and yellow painted median - *Narrows road and slows vehicles*
3. Painted parking boxes – *Prevents parking too close to crosswalks and obstructing visibility. Narrows road and slows vehicles*
4. Updated signs (not shown) - *Communicates clear traffic laws to drivers*



# DC Kipp Somerset – Before



© Cyclomedia

# DC Kipp Somerset – After Safety Improvements

1. High visibility crosswalk – *Improves pedestrian safety by alerting drivers*
2. Concrete pedestrian island – *Provides safe place for pedestrians to stop if they cannot cross both lanes*
3. Rectangular rapid flashing beacon – *Alerts drivers to pedestrians crossing*
4. Flex post and painted curb extensions - *Improves visibility, shortens pedestrian crossing distances*
5. Art in the Right of Way (AROW) - *Defines pedestrian-only areas*
6. Flex post and yellow painted median - *Narrows road and slows vehicles*
7. Painted parking box - *Prevents parking too close to crosswalks and obstructing visibility. Narrows road and slows vehicles*
8. Updated Signs (not shown) - *Communicates clear traffic laws to drivers*



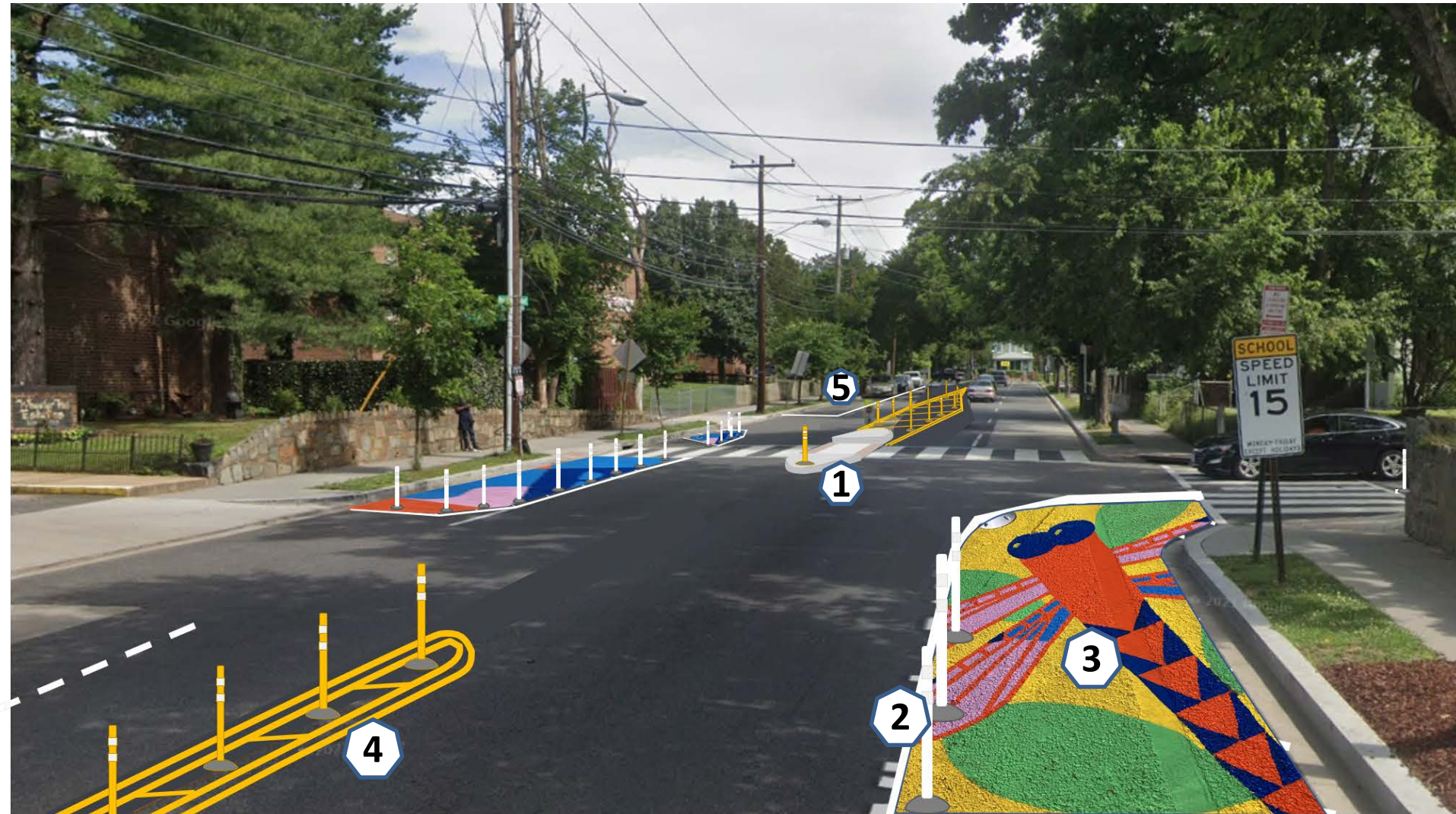


# Wheeler Road and Savannah Street – Before



# Wheeler Road and Savannah Street – After Safety Improvements

1. Concrete pedestrian island - *Provides safe place for pedestrians to stop if they cannot cross both lanes*
2. Flex post and painted curb extensions - *Slows right turning vehicles, improves visibility, shortens pedestrian crossing distances*
3. Art in the Right of Way (AROW) - *Defines pedestrian-only areas*
4. Flex post and yellow painted median - *Narrows road and slows vehicles*
5. Painted parking box - *Prevents parking too close to crosswalks and obstructing visibility. Narrows road and slows vehicles*
6. Updated signs (not shown) - *Communicates clear traffic laws to drivers*



# Wheeler Road Safety Improvements Summary

1. Create a consistent two travel lane configuration to reduce crashes and shorten pedestrian crossing distances
2. Install channelized student pick-up and drop-off to improve safety and provide more structure
3. Right turn in/out only at DC Kipp Somerset driveway to improve safety (no left turns)
4. New crosswalk at DC Kipp Somerset with pedestrian island and pedestrian activated Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB)
5. Concrete pedestrian island at Savannah Street and Upsal Street to provide a safe place to wait to cross
6. Paint and flex post no parking areas at crosswalks to improve visibility

# Wheeler Road Safety Improvements Summary

7. Paint and flex post curb extensions to slow vehicles and reduce pedestrian crossing distances
8. Painted parking boxes for better parking compliance and to slow vehicles
9. Paint and flex post median to narrow the roadway and slow vehicles
10. Dedicated left turn lanes to reduce rear-end and left-turn crashes
11. Updated traffic signs including speed limit signs, and Stop for Pedestrians DC Law in the road signs communicates clear traffic laws to drivers
12. Painted murals at curb extension areas define pedestrian-only areas

# Schedule and Next Steps

- Community Outreach - February and March
  - Presentation to Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.
  - Councilmember social media, newsletters, email listservs
  - Notice of Intent to ANC 8C (expires 3/4/22)
  - DC Kipp Somerset and Eagle Academy outreach
  - Presentation at ANC 8C 3/2/22
  - Presentations at ANC 8E 3/7/22
  - ANC social media, newsletters, email listservs
  - Distribution of door hangers
  - DDOT project website

# Schedule and Next Steps

- Phase 1 Quick Build (Alabama Ave to Mississippi Ave)
  - Construction – Striping & signs in March and concrete work week of April 11<sup>th</sup> (spring break)
- Phase 2 Quick Build (Mississippi Ave to Southern Ave)
  - Design – Spring 2022
  - Construction – Summer 2022
- Capital Improvement Project to replace flex posts/paint with concrete
  - Design – 2022 - 2023 (not currently funded)
  - Construction – 2025 (not currently funded)

# Capital Improvement Project Rendering

