

# **I-35 & Route 152: A New Application of Displaced Left-Turns at an Interchange**

Mike Wahlstedt, PE, PTOE – TranSystems  
May 12, 2023  
Southeast Florida FSUTMS Users Group

**TRANSYSTEMS**

# Speaker Info

Mike Wahlstedt, PE, PTOE, TranSystems

Mike is the leader of the Traffic Engineering and Planning Group at TranSystems. He has an extensive background as project manager and project engineer with a wide range of transportation related projects, including both operations and planning. He has worked extensively on alternative intersections and interchanges, including nine DDIs that are either in design or open to traffic. Mike is a member of the TRB Access Management Committee and the TRB Alternative Intersections Working Group and served on the TRB review panel for NCHRP Project 20-05; Alternative Intersection Design and Selection.



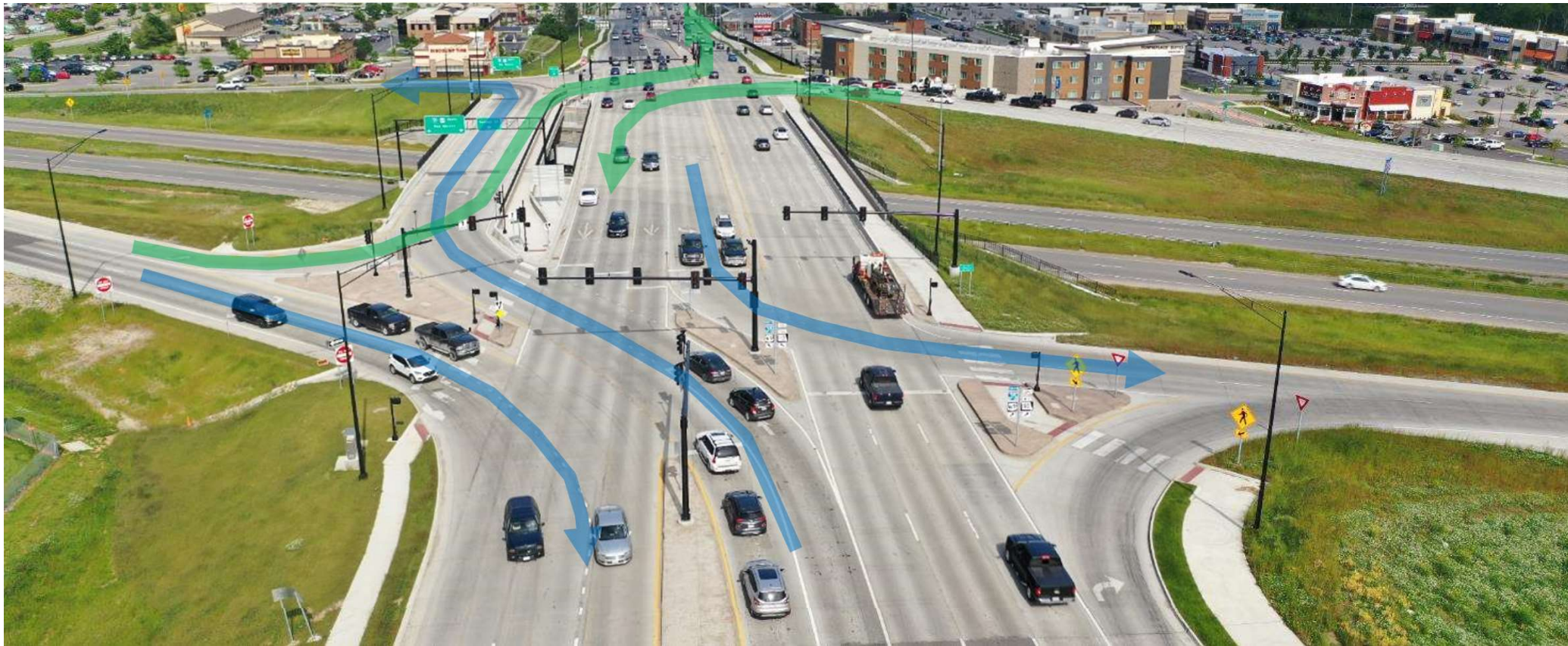
Acknowledgement:

Ryan Hale, PE, MoDOT

Ryan has an extensive background in the development and analysis of alternative intersections and interchanges and worked jointly with TranSystems on the development of this project.



# What is a Displaced Left-Turn Interchange?



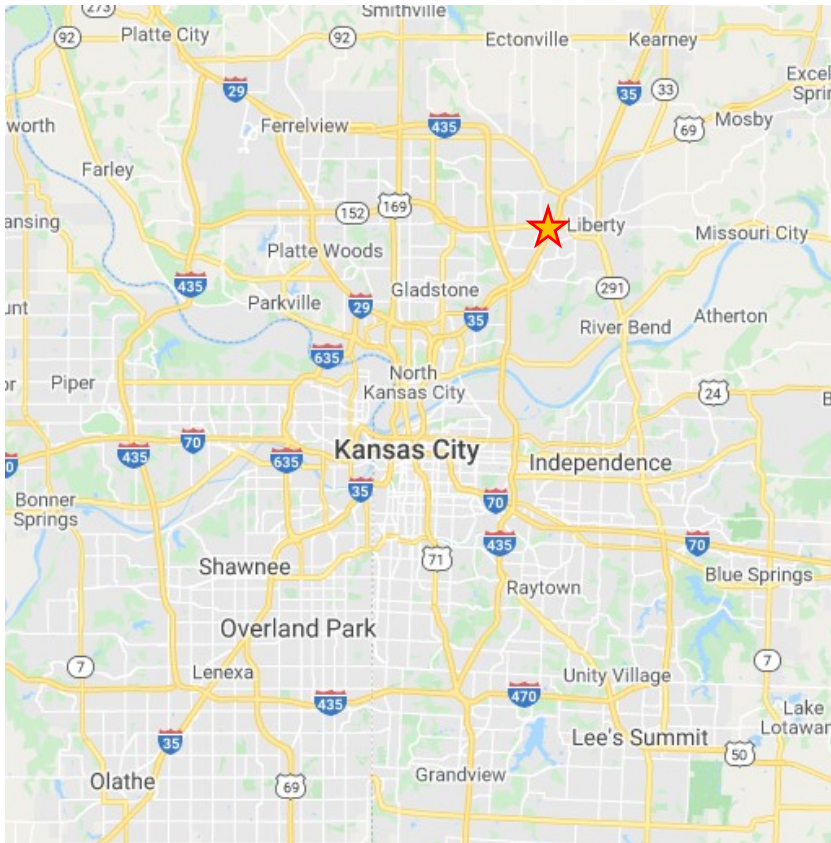


# What is a Displaced Left-Turn Interchange?





# Project Location



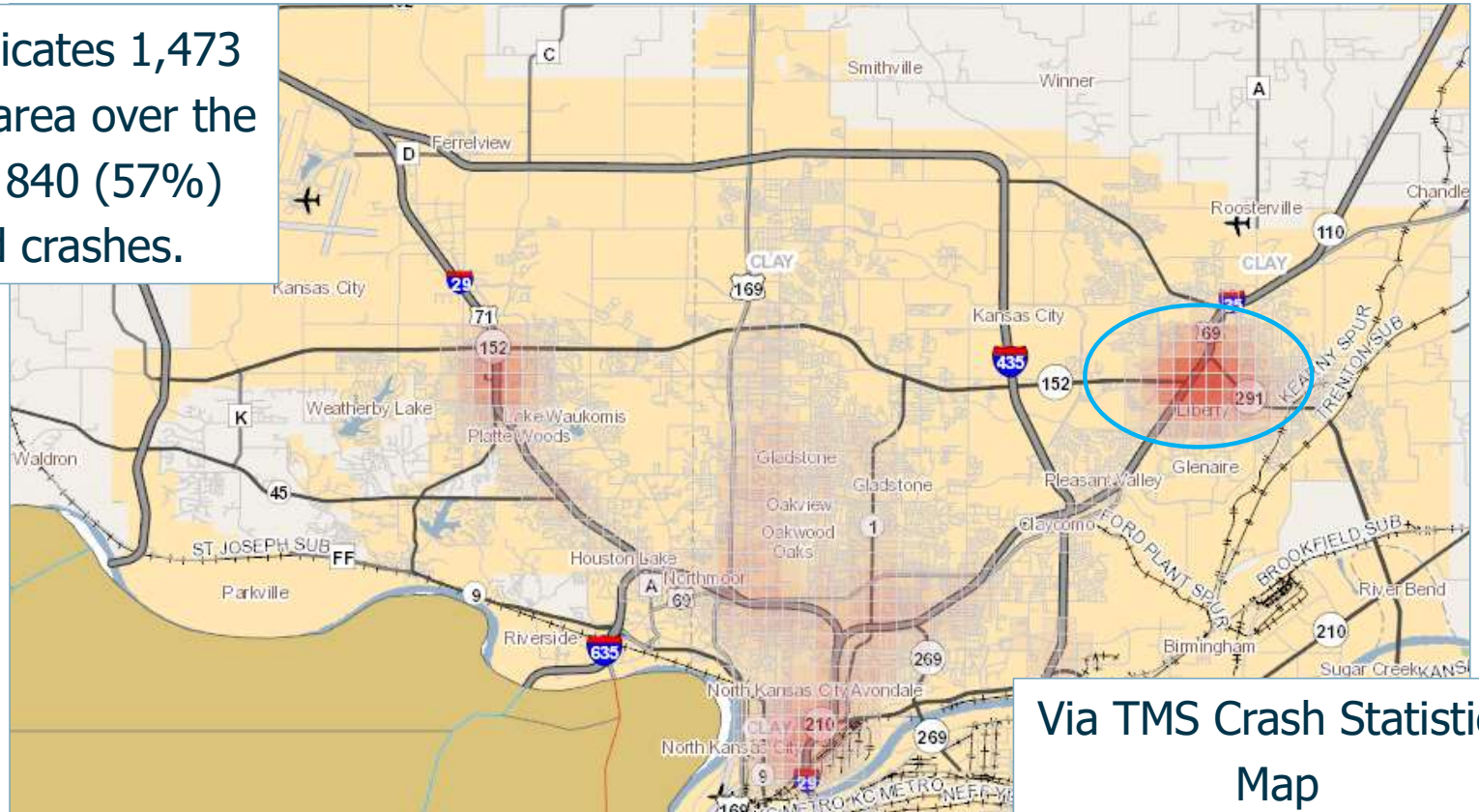
# Project Information

- Three Tied Projects
  - Interchange \$15,263,000 (MoDOT)
  - Kansas Street \$3,442,000 (City Funded)
  - Route 291 \$7,518,000 (MoDOT)
  - Combined Total \$26,223,000
- Schedule:
  - Design: September 2017 – November 2018
  - Construction: January 2018 – August 2020
    - Substantially complete since fall 2019



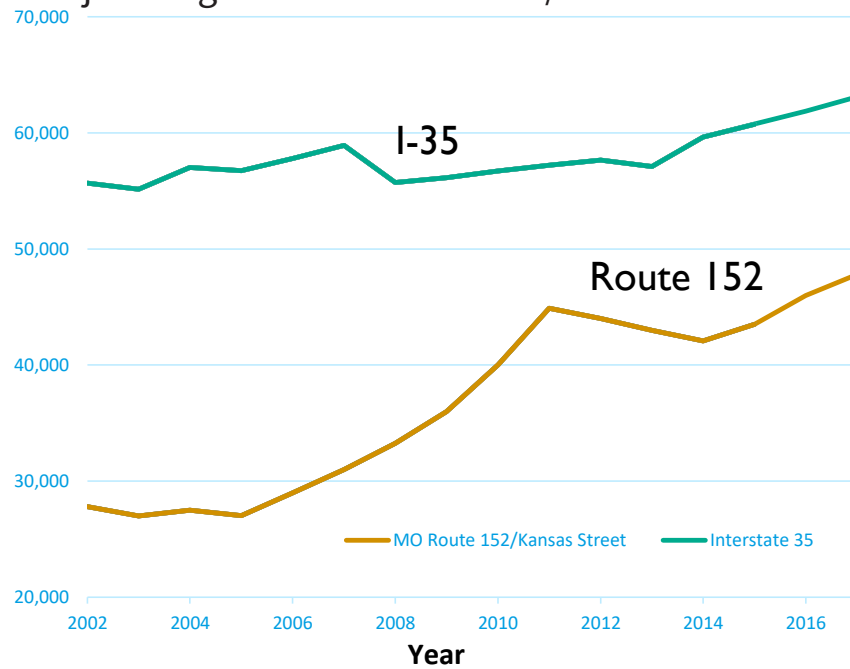
# Project Challenges

FHWA report indicates 1,473 crashes in study area over the last five years. 840 (57%) were rear-end crashes.



# Project Challenges

Major congestion on Route 152/Kansas Avenue





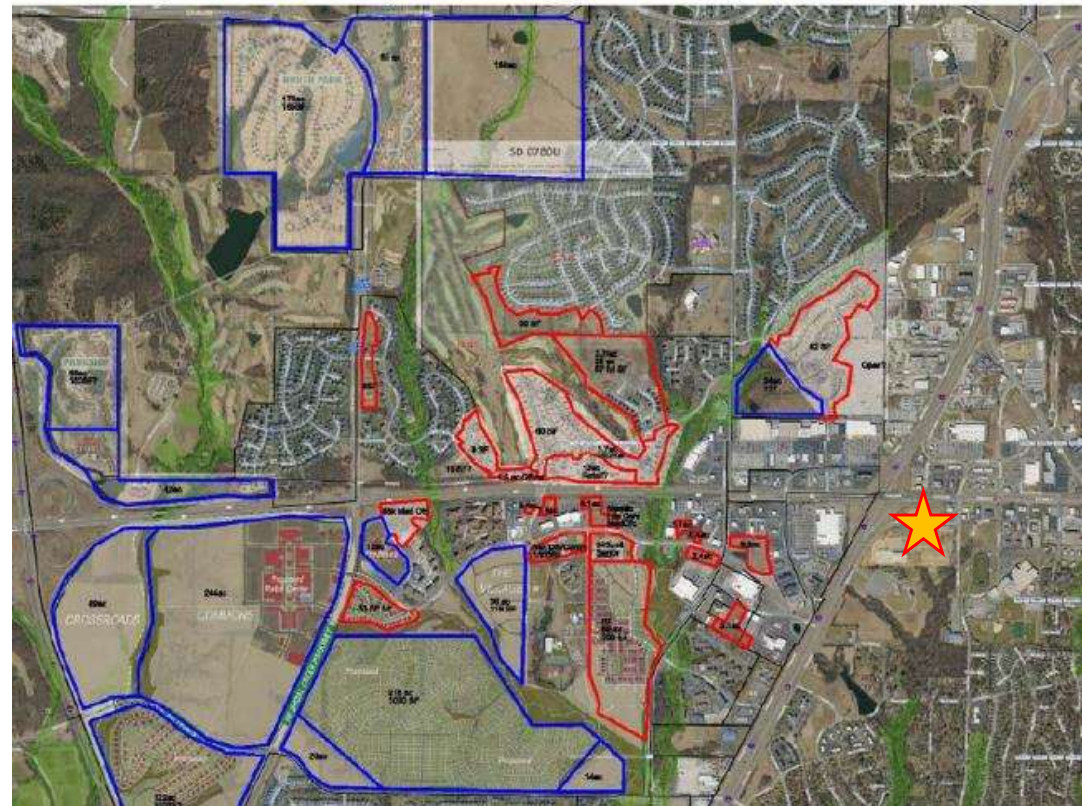
# Traffic Forecasts

- Major new development planned west of the interchange
  - Platted areas

## Regional traffic forecasts

- Utilized MPO model
- Generated sub-area refinements
  - Subdivided zones
  - Refined network
  - Updated socec data

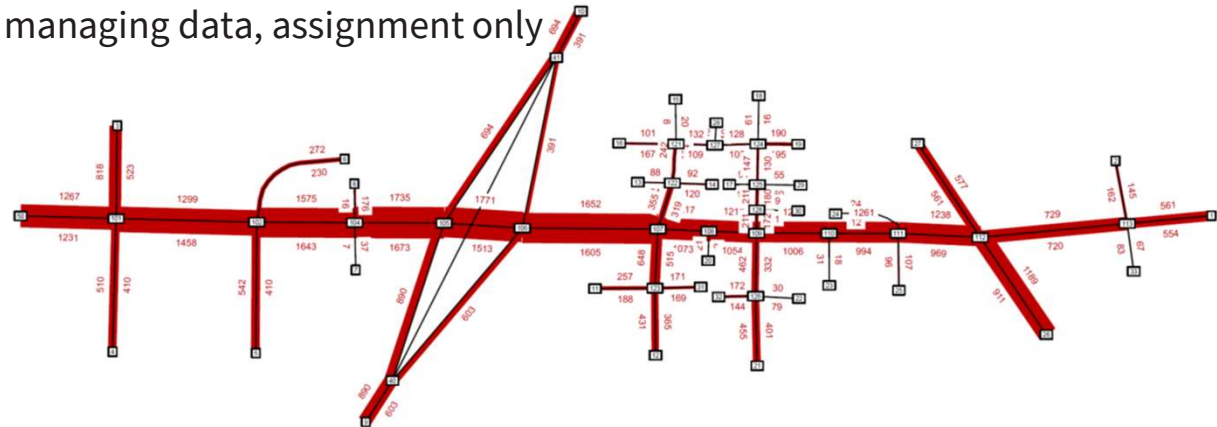
**Figure 2-3: Undeveloped Areas along Route 152 Corridor West of I-35**



# Traffic Forecasts

## Detailed Corridor Forecasts

- Generate intersection level turning movement forecasts using:
  - Counted traffic volume
  - Regional model growth
  - Corridor based O-D (StreetLight Data)
- Generates external volumes and vehicle routing for Vissim
- Visum “sketch” model – container for managing data, assignment only

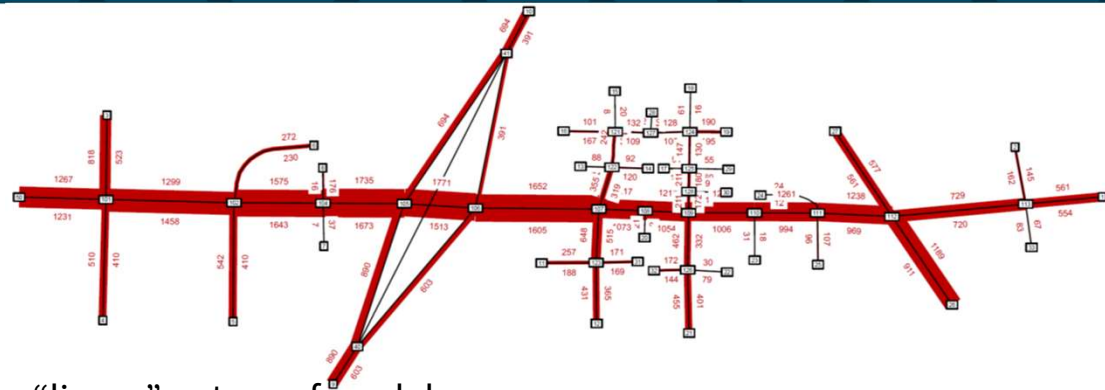




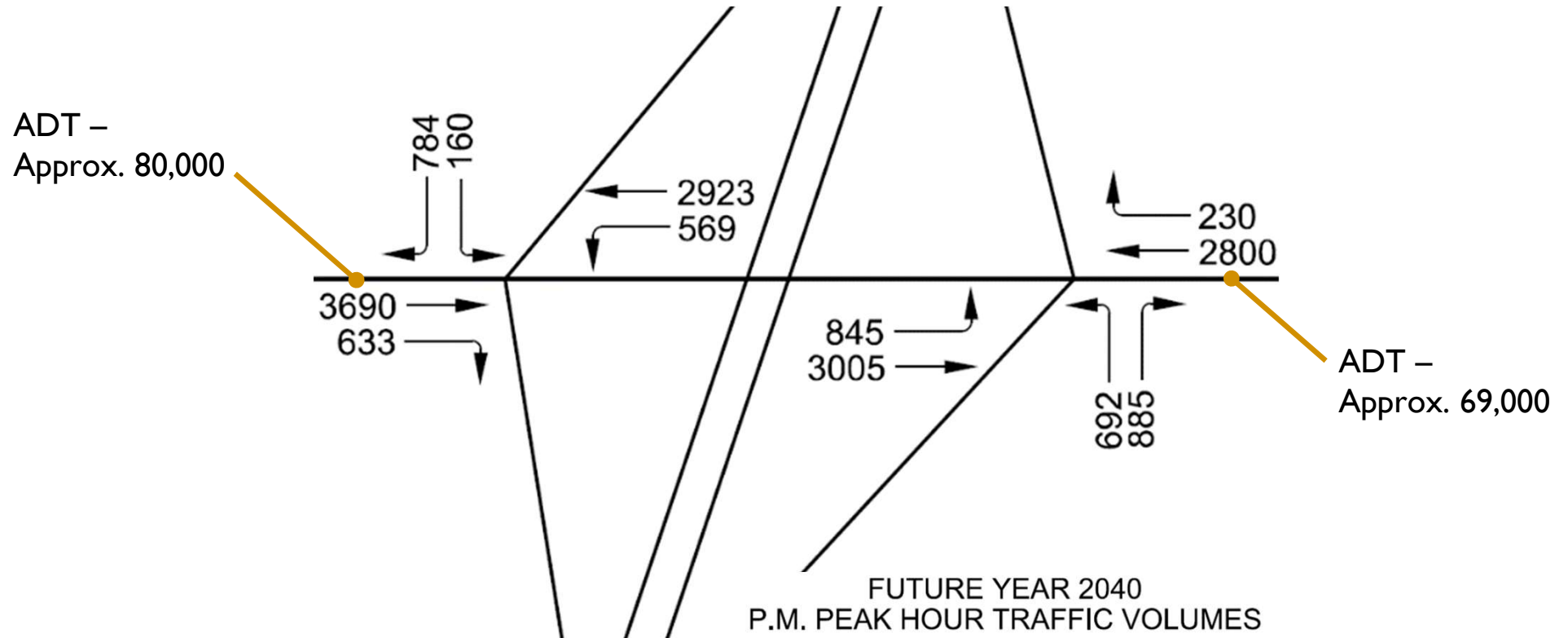
# Traffic Forecasts

## Detailed Corridor Forecasts

- Load Visum model
  - Network
  - Turn-restrictions
  - Counted turn volumes
  - Zones – external points of network
  - Note capacities, etc., not necessary due to “linear” nature of model
- Generate base O-D matrices (AM, PM)
  - Generate O-D from StreetLight Data – same zone structure as model
    - Why StreetLight Data as a source vs. regional model?
  - Use matrix projection to adjust model externals to match external count volumes
  - Apply matrix estimation (tFlow) to adjust matrix to match internal turn volumes
- Generate future volumes/O-D
  - Apply growth at externals based on regional model link growth using matrix projection
  - Apply matrix estimation using link growth at selected internal links, if needed

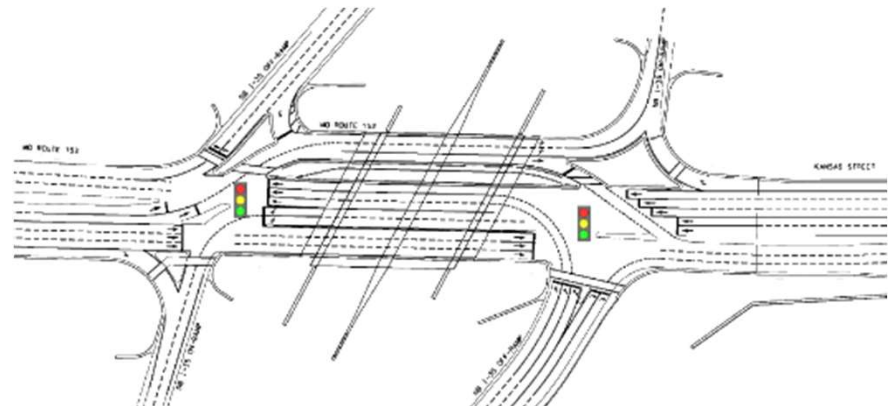
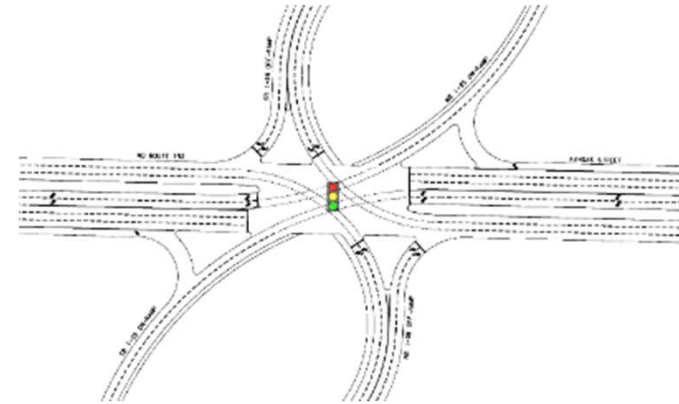
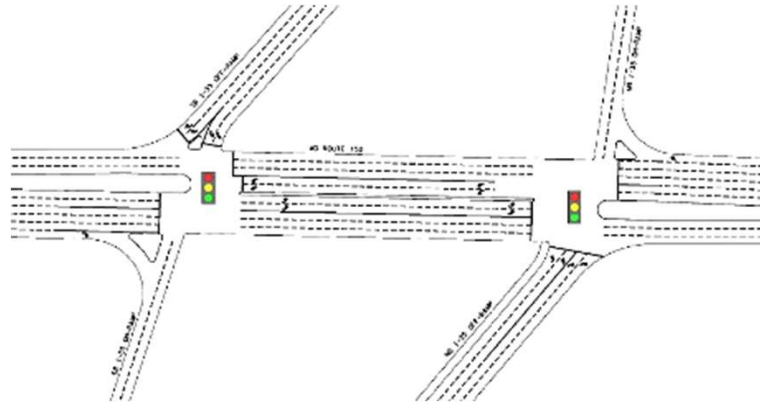


# Capacity Challenges





# Options Considered



# Capacity Challenges



Traditional diamond interchange struggles:  
high through volumes (EBT, WBT) combined with high left-turn volumes lead to queues at signals

SPUI struggles:  
left-turn volumes aren't balanced so signal isn't efficient

DDI struggles:  
through volumes (EBT, WBT) are so high that the signals cannot provide enough green time for each direction



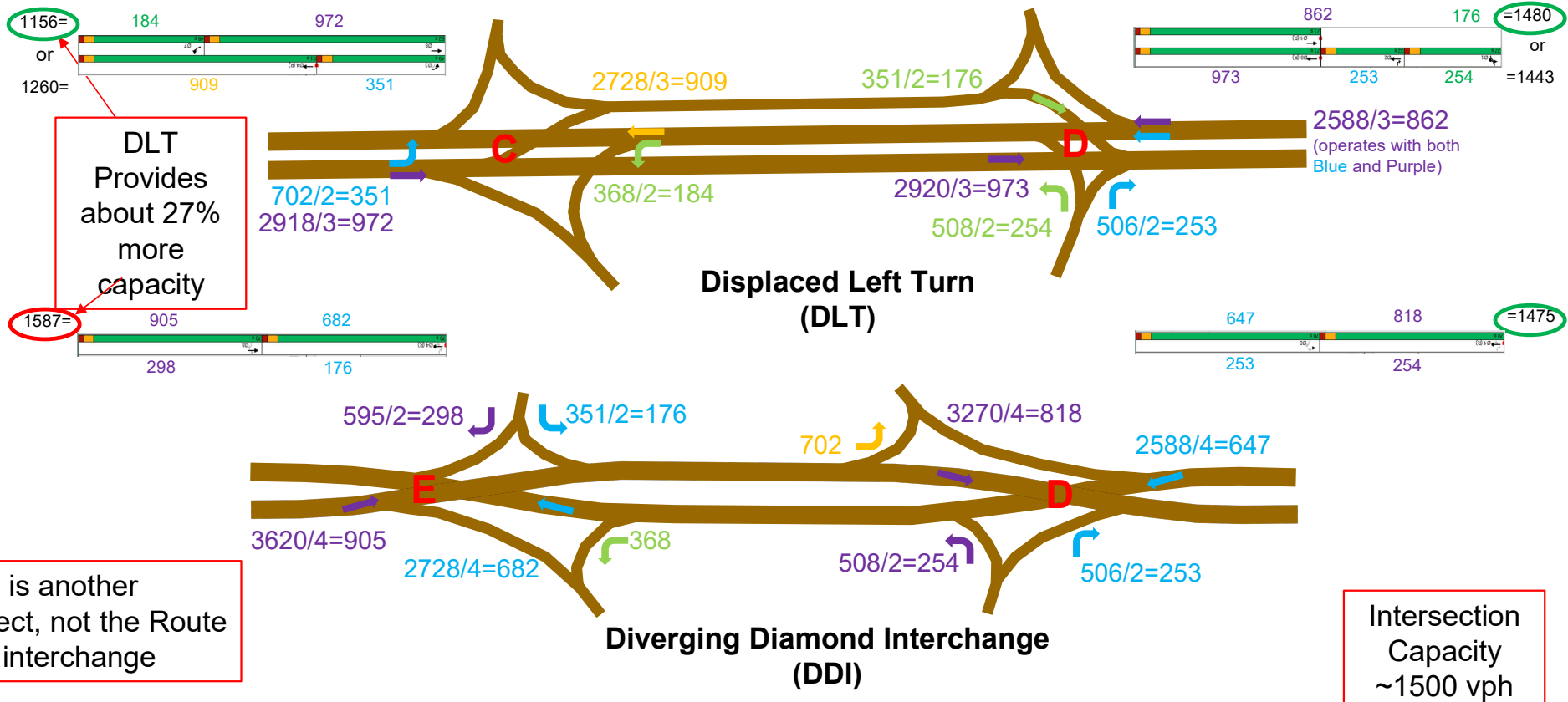
# Displaced Left-Turn Concept



Compared to the traditional diamond in the peak hour, this geometry results in about:

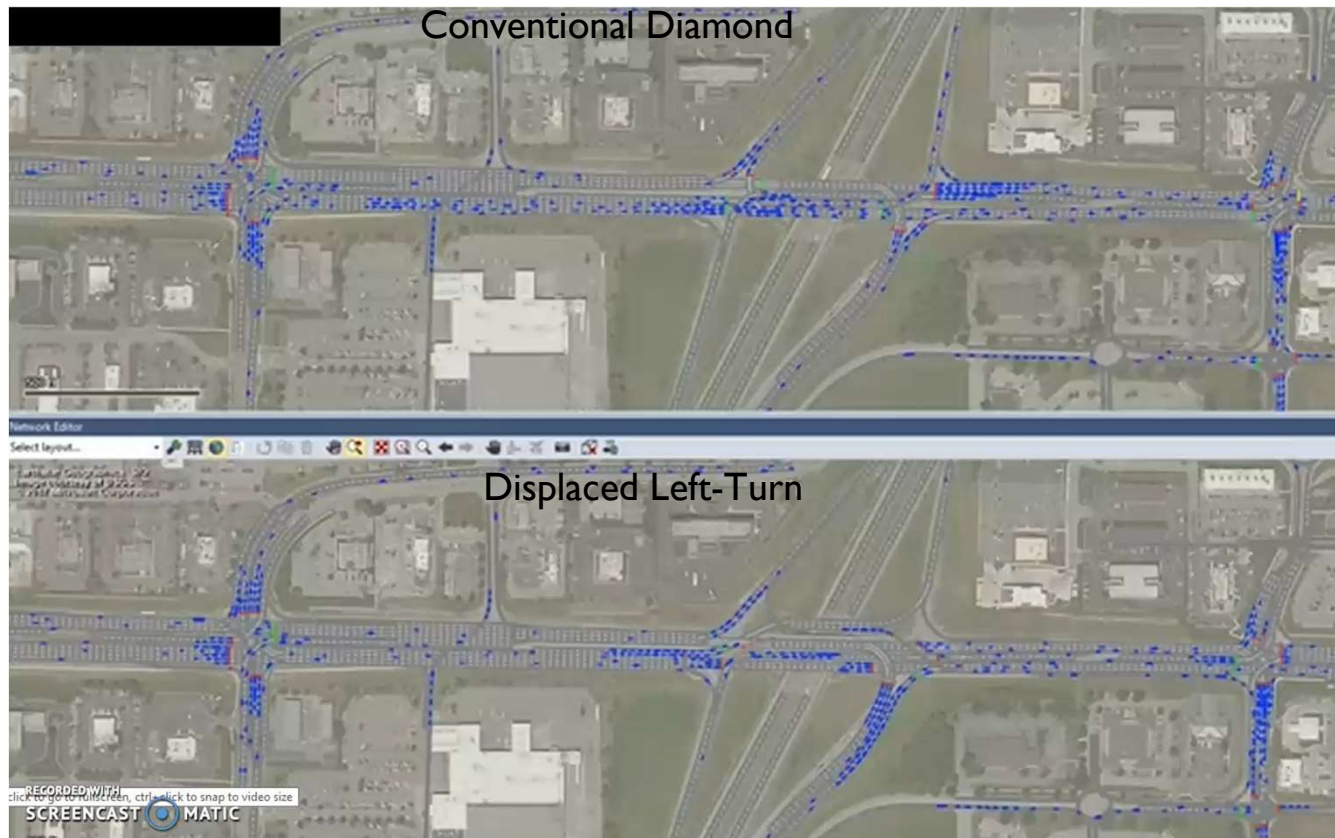
- 1,500 more vehicles served
- 30% less travel time
- 45% less delay

# Critical Movement Comparison



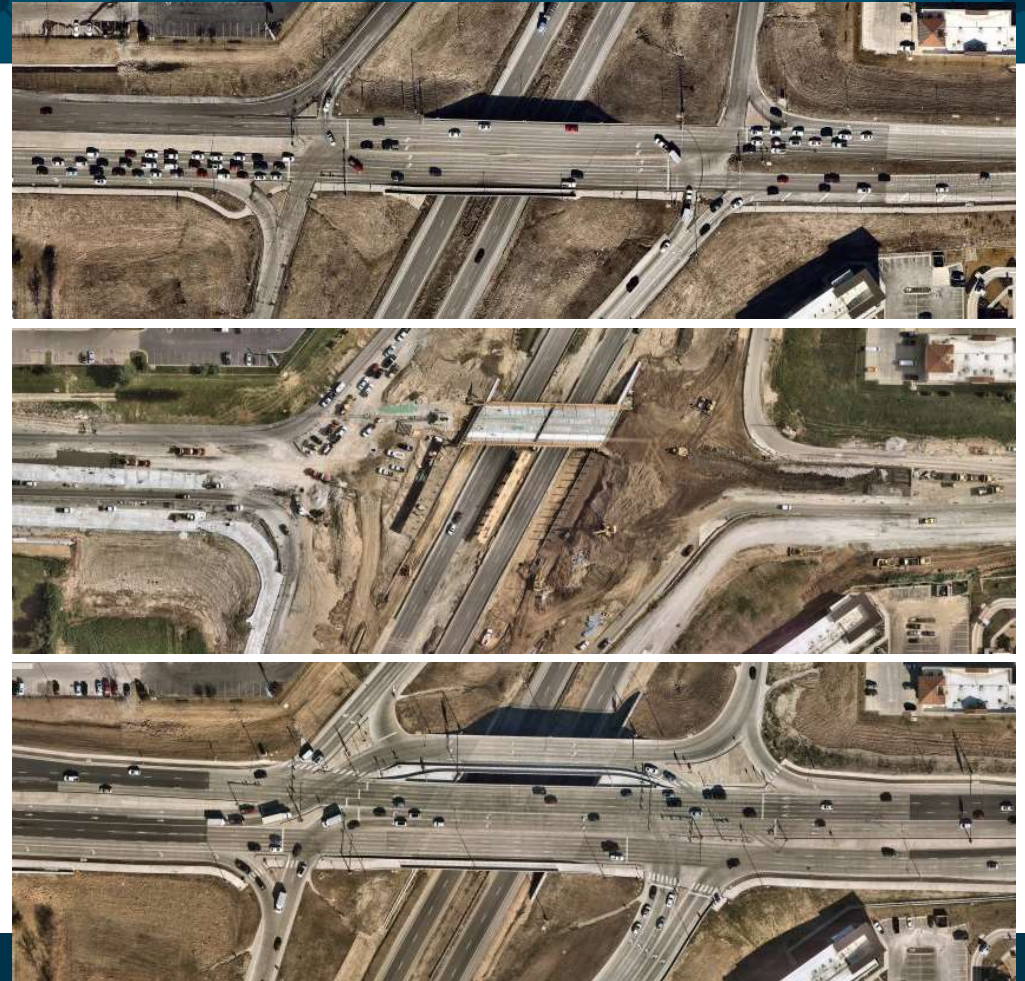


# Operational Comparison



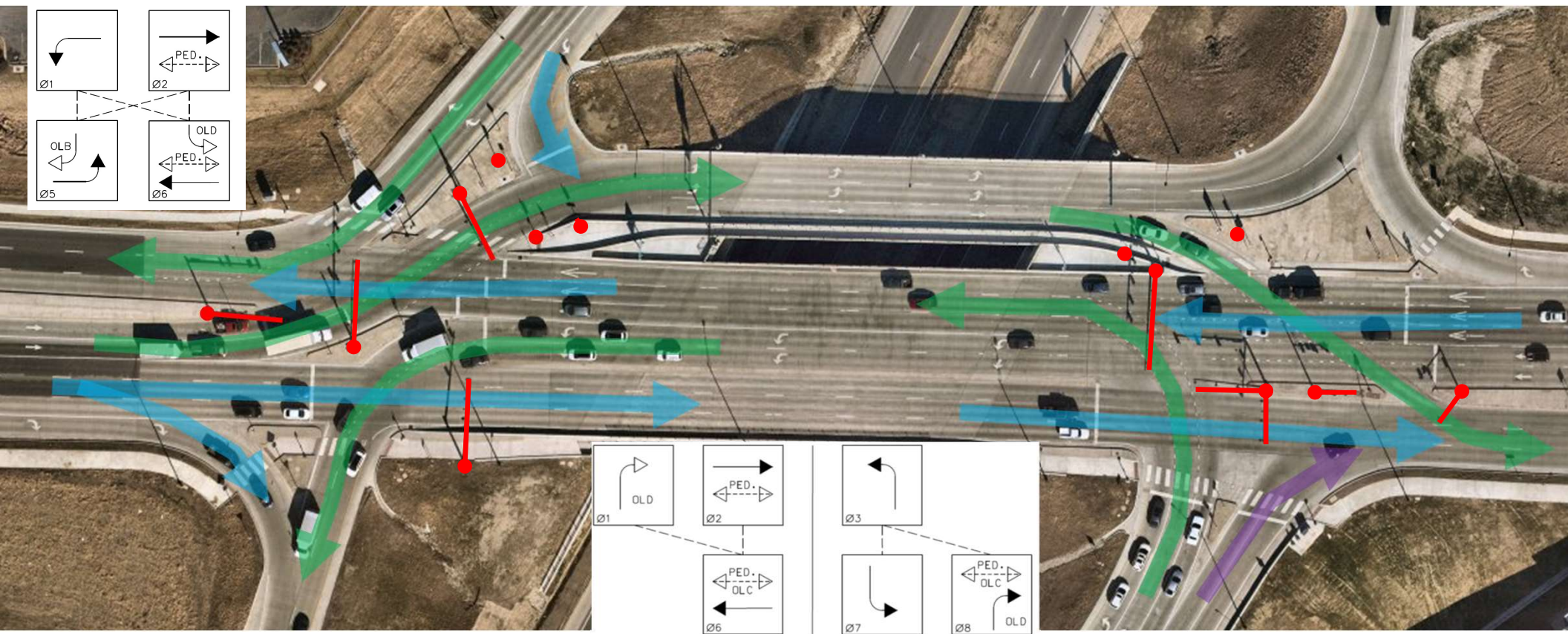
# Construction Challenges

- Major Retail Area – heavy Christmas traffic
- High School on corridor
- Consultation with stakeholders
- Get work done before shoppers find new destinations
- Learning curve for detour routes
- Close bridge and replace in 3 months (108 days)
- Incentive/Disincentive \$25,000 per day





# Traffic Signal Operation



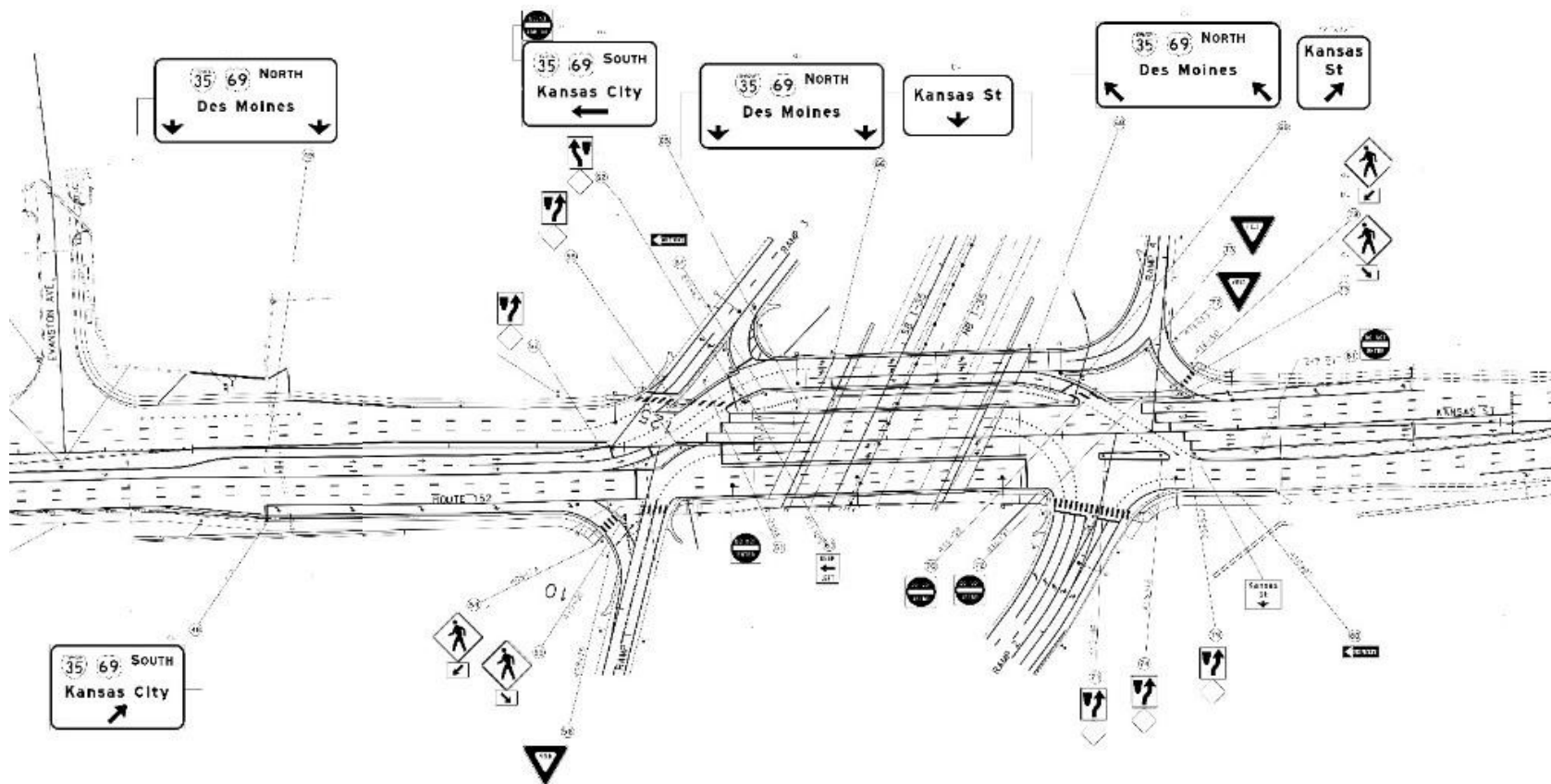


# Traffic Signal Operation





# Signing Plan



# Questions?

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