

ECI Design Charrette

MILESTONE

SUMMARY

October 3, 2016



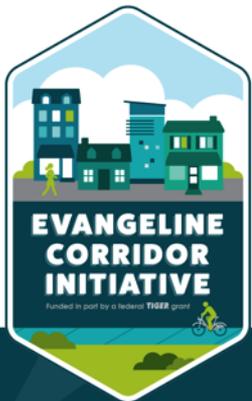
**EVANGELINE
CORRIDOR
INITIATIVE**

Funded in part by a federal **TIGER** grant



STRENGTHEN DISTRICTS HIGHLIGHT VIBRANT CENTERS

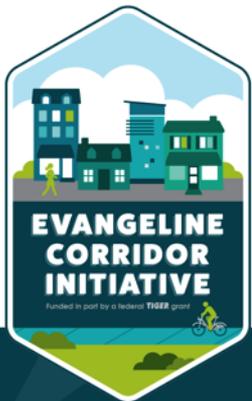
- Foster sense of community in strategic areas
- Embrace unique qualities
- Embrace mixed-use development (commercial/retail, residential, recreational, educational and civic)



STRENGTHEN DISTRICTS

DEFINE SECONDARY NODES

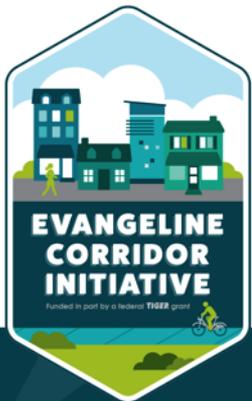
- Function like primary centers at smaller local scale
- Include pocket parks, dog parks, neighborhood gardens
- Create zones that foster interaction to reduce fears and improve safety
- Take advantage of existing infrastructure



STRENGTHEN DISTRICTS

MITIGATE LEVEL 2 TRANSITIONAL ZONES

- Mitigate impact Area Level 2 as crucial transitional space (500 ft. outside R.O.W.)
- Provide mixed-use buffer of developable real estate
- Foster community networking, walkable environment
- Provide safety for local multi-modal traffic including pedestrians



STRENGTHEN DISTRICTS

PLAN FOR INTERIM LaDOTD LAND USE

- Formal LaDOTD/LCG agreements for advantageous mitigation
- Alternative temporary uses create neighborhood connectivity and revitalization



Our voice. Our vision.

NEIGHBORHOOD-CENTRIC DESIGN and ROLE of CATALYST PROJECTS

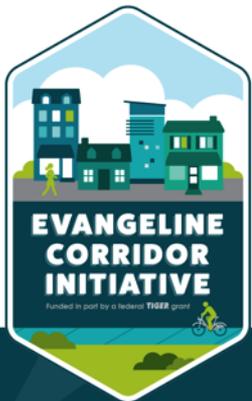
NEIGHBORHOOD AIMS

- Identify concerns, needs and hopes
- Focus on unique neighborhood qualities and opportunities
- Consider impacts of proposed Connector
- Translate neighborhood aspirations into planning concepts

CATALYST PROJECTS

Consider district nuances and complexities (including urban fabric and landscapes) to drive neighborhood interaction, spur development and influence investment through:

- Sweat-equity projects (tactical community collaboration)
- City-funded support (including signature projects)
- Grant awards (particular topics and efforts)



DISTRICT DESIGN STRATEGIES

GATEWAY



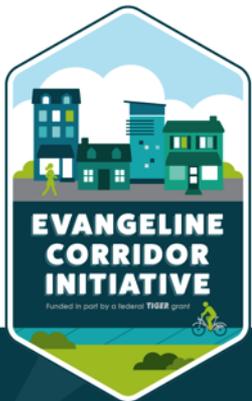
- Iconic Willow Street interchange can serve as an enhanced city entrance
- Formal recreational spaces and landscaping can serve as green buffer
- Promote potential commercial growth and mixed-use development around the interchange to activate street frontages
- Consider a ‘town center’ retrofit strategy for former Northgate Mall site
- Incremental infill strategies connect isolated retail nodes to neighborhoods



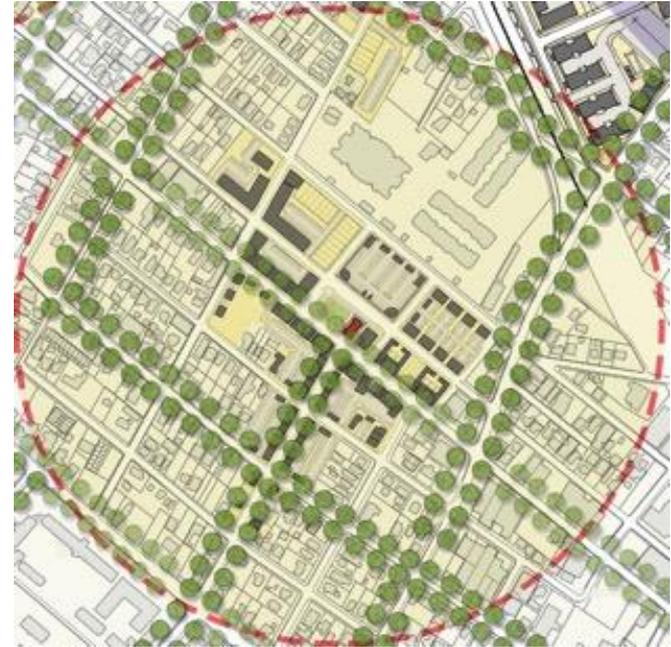
LAPLACE | STERLING GROVE | SIMCOE



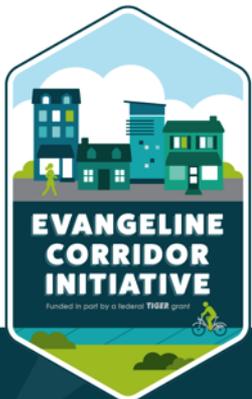
- Reclaim community hub – create activity to address challenges
- Provide revamped bus stops, streetscape features
- Provide strategic transition into neighborhoods along Congress St.
- Embrace historic, walkable, accessible center in Sterling Grove
- Encourage everyday activity through landscape features



DOWNTOWN | FREETOWN | PORT RICO



- Embrace Downtown as a primary economic driver
- Embrace Congress Street restriping project and previous local plans
- Reconfigure 2nd/3rd Street intersection - Address mixed-use development potential along street edge
- Create a vibrant Freetown/Port Rico community node
- Address mixture of housing, commercial, civic development



Our voice. Our vision.

MCCOMB-VEAZEY



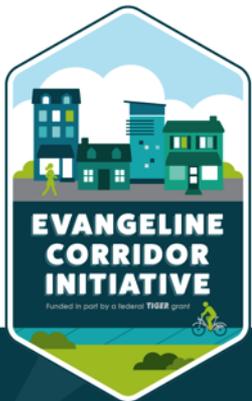
- Addresses current neighborhood projects (art murals, community garden, 12th Street local main street corridor)
- Create a larger district node at 12th St. and Surrey St.
- Embraces infill buildings to redirect investment – enhance streetscapes
- Creates secondary nodes at 11th Street and Pontiac Point to reclaim parking lots as developable space
- Embrace community identity, familiarity, and interaction to address crime and safety through design measures



BAYOU VERMILION



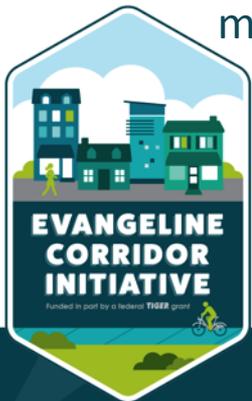
- Reimagine interface between McComb-Veazey, Heymann Park and Vermilion River
- Consolidates Heymann Park, eases maintenance / security, draws people to river's edge
- Promote small-scale commercial businesses
- Utilize pedestrian river crossings to connect Heymann / Beaver Park / Vermilionville to create thriving recreational network
- Envision Trappey Plant site for potential re-development



IMPACT OF CONNECTOR SCENARIOS

As directed by the ETRT, the ECI team evaluated the following considerations

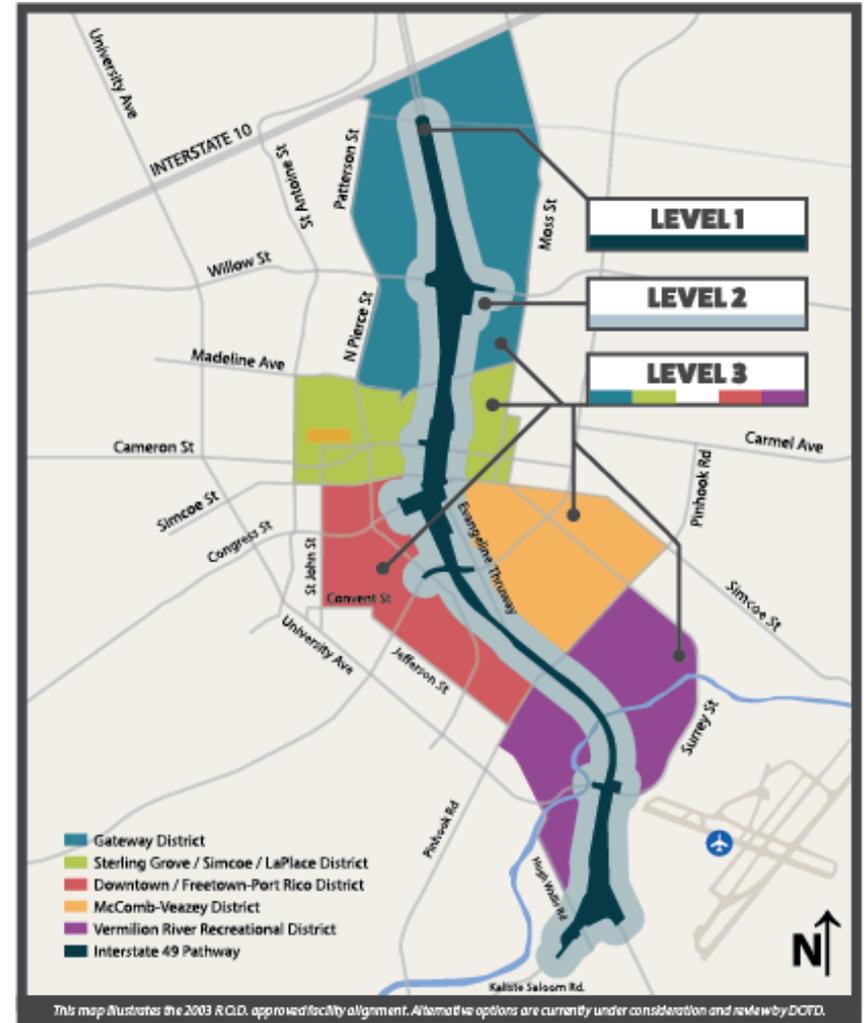
- Ability for residents to easily reach Rosa Parks using all modes of travel to provide access to job centers, medical services and recreational opportunities
- Impact of railroad underpasses on vehicles, pedestrians, and bicycles for travel parallel to and across the Interstate
- Impact of the depression of Simcoe Street on travel and the historic district
- Inclusion and elimination of at-grade, limited access frontage roads between the Downtown and McComb Veazey districts
- Character of the Evangeline Thruway as it relates to the potential for neighborhood-scale economic development
- How the respective geometric elements under consideration can be executed to maximize connectivity within the neighborhoods and between the neighborhoods



IMPACT OF CONNECTOR SCENARIOS

This framework helped inform the analysis on all LaDOTD Connector options which can be broken globally into two configurations:

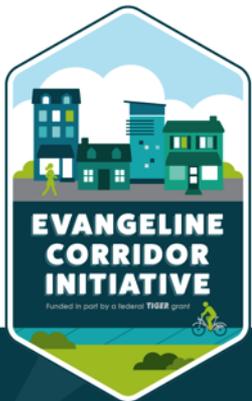
- An elevated mainline, series of signature bridges, reduced interchanges
- A semi-depressed mainline near Downtown core, strategically placed berm covers over roadway

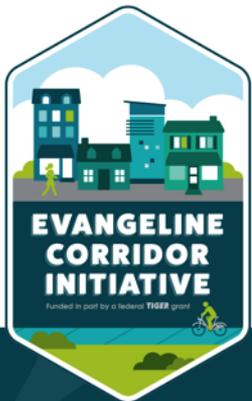


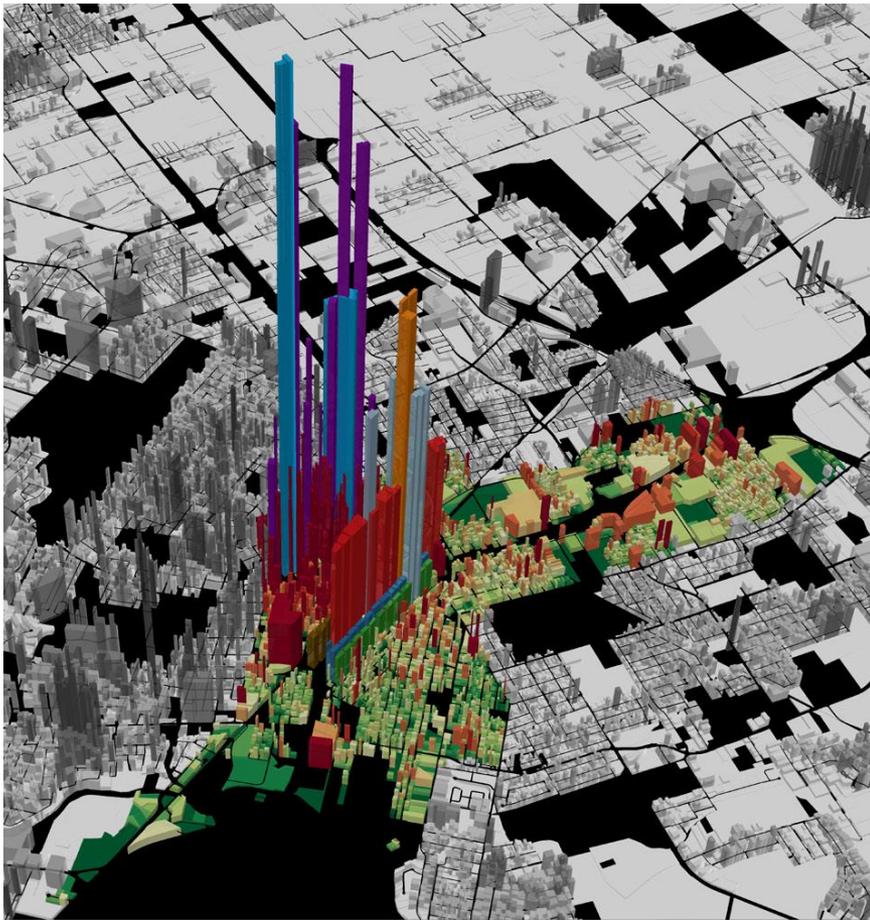
KEY ANALYSIS REVEALED

ECI consultants provided design and engineering expertise to address:

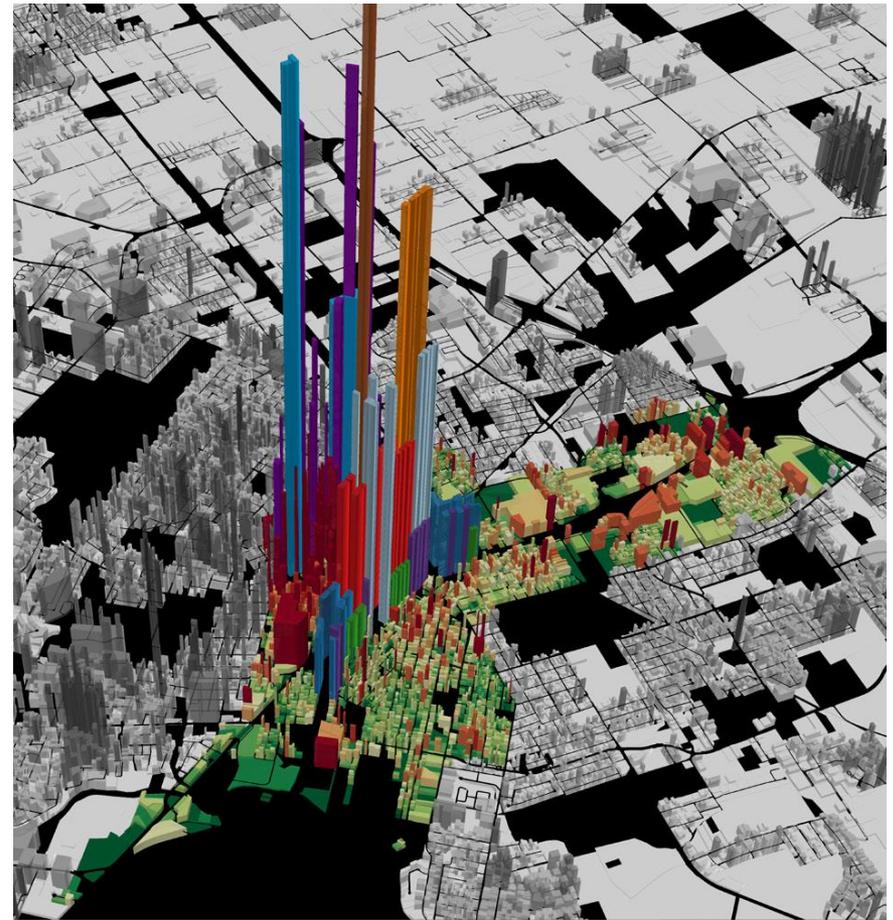
- Well-designed signature bridge potential
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
- Safety challenges of an elevated mainline
- Re-envisioning the remaining Evangeline Thruway stretch
- Greater development potential of semi-depressed option
- Challenges in each scenario lead to significant opportunities
- Corridor-wide design concepts will be refined to mitigate impacts and match project goals to spur neighborhood revitalization– specifically those connections identified by ETRT resolution 3 following the Charrette (Mudd Avenue, 12th Street, Taft/14th Street, Willow roundabout potential, Castille/Martin Luther King Jr. roundabout potential)





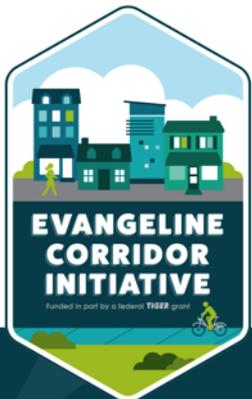


ECONOMIC MODEL
ELEVATED MAINLINE



ECONOMIC MODEL
SEMI-DEPRESSED MAINLINE

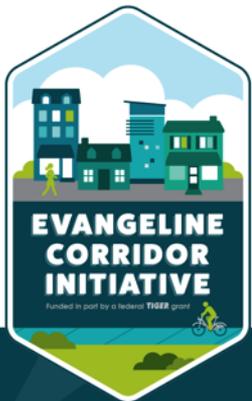
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and VALUE-ADDED DESIGN



Our voice. Our vision.

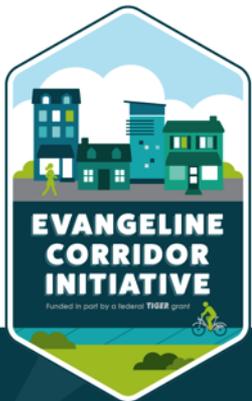
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and VALUE-ADDED DESIGN

- Reconnection of Neighborhoods strengthens development potential by leveraging existing assets (Heymann Park / Beaver Park / Vermilion River)
- Reimagining North Gateway enhances entrance into the city and fulfills economic/commercial potential for North Lafayette
- Economic modeling indicates growth potential to entice developers



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and VALUE-ADDED DESIGN

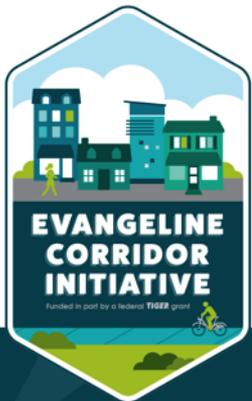
- Certain options make more land available around proposed interchanges demonstrating better performance than conventional designs
- Responsibly-designed Connector options enhance access between neighborhoods and generates significant tax value
- Alternative scenarios generate positive economic impacts on neighborhood property values



TRANSLATING KEY FINDINGS TOWARDS NEXT STEPS and FUTURE DELIVERABLES

Framework for the next level of design refinements includes:

- Consolidation and compilation of community and professional input
- Critical feedback loop with community leaders and residents
- Further engagement including catalyst project identification
- ECI Team response to next round of Connector concepts from LaDOTD



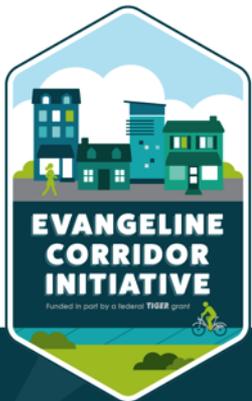
TRANSLATING KEY FINDINGS TOWARDS NEXT STEPS and FUTURE DELIVERABLES

Framework for the next level of design refinements includes:

- Consolidation and compilation of community and professional input
- Critical feedback loop with community leaders and residents
- Further engagement including catalyst project identification
- ECI Team response to next round of Connector concepts from LaDOTD

District Design Manuals guidelines for implementation

- Design Concepts and strategies ranging from neighborhood-centric to corridor-wide will be refined and translated into useful guidelines
- Catalyst Projects will be presented and described to outline systematic implementation
- ECI Team will host educational workshops to unveil and explain the benefit of manuals



TRANSLATING KEY FINDINGS TOWARDS NEXT STEPS and FUTURE DELIVERABLES

Framework for the next level of design refinements includes:

- Consolidation and compilation of community and professional input
- Critical feedback loop with community leaders and residents
- Further engagement including catalyst project identification
- ECI Team response to next round of Connector concepts from LaDOTD

District Design Manuals guidelines for implementation

- Design Concepts and strategies ranging from neighborhood-centric to corridor-wide will be refined and translated into useful guidelines
- Catalyst Projects will be presented and described to outline systematic implementation
- ECI Team will host educational workshops to unveil and explain the benefit of manuals

Comprehensive Final Report and Marketing Campaign

- ECI Team will produce a comprehensive report detailing analysis and strategies for revitalization throughout the corridor
- Marketing Campaign will share documents and results with community

