

INTERSECTION REDESIGN INTEGRATING TACTICAL URBANISM

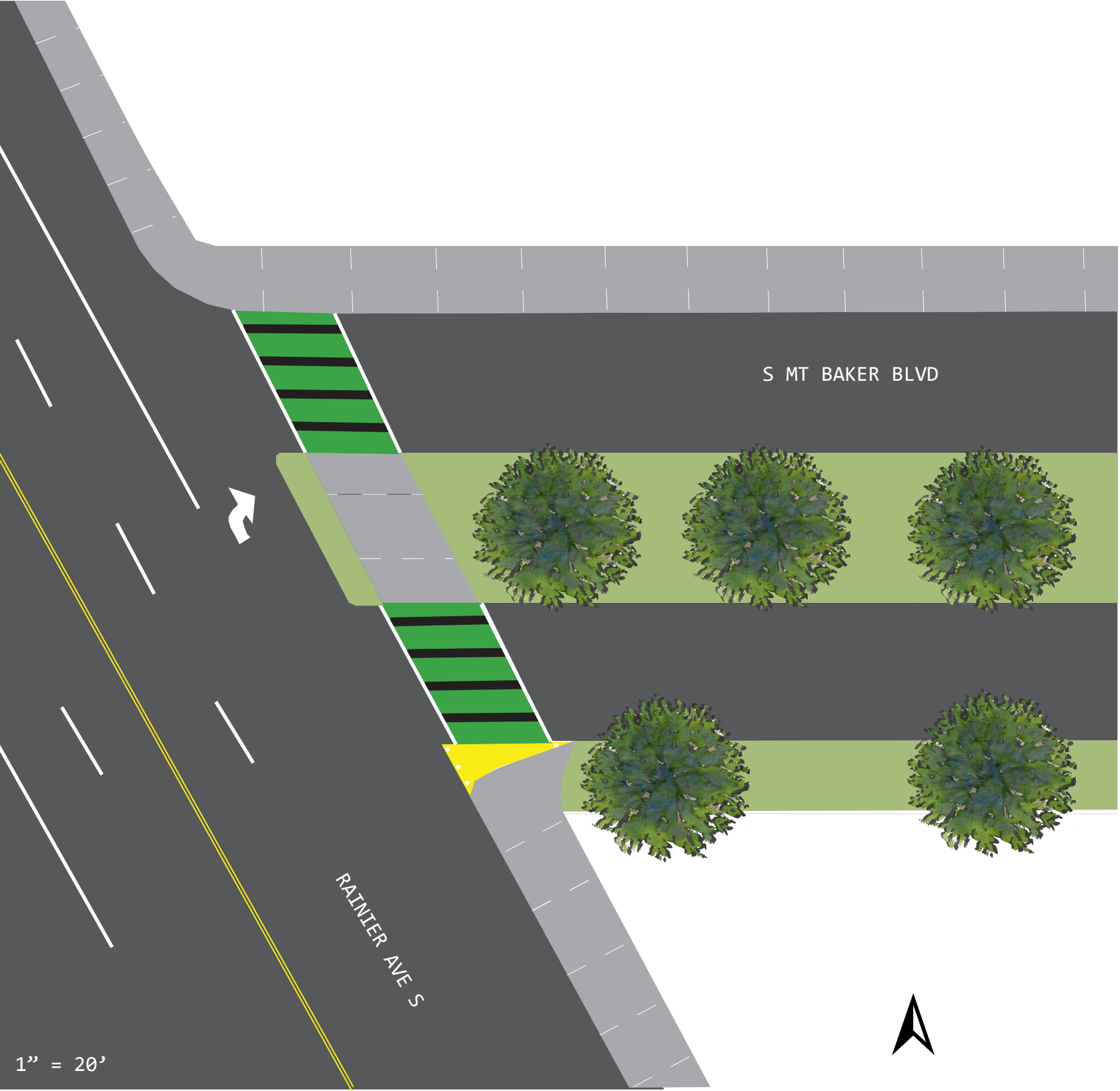
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CONTEXT MAP

The crosswalk at the intersection of Rainier Ave and Mt Baker Blvd is unsafe. The nearby pedestrian bridge pillar makes it difficult for northbound vehicles on Rainier Ave to see pedestrians crossing the intersection. Quick right turns onto Mt Baker Blvd could cause a serious or fatal accident. Thankfully, the Accessible Mt Baker project plans to redesign this intersection; however, in the meantime the crosswalk needs to be shortened and made more visible through additional infrastructure and tactical urbanism.



PLAN VIEW



PRECEDENT #1: AUSTIN, TX

The busy intersection of East Sixth Street and Waller Street in Austin, Texas needed some safety upgrades. There were 20 crashes there during 2015 alone. To mitigate further accidents, the city's Transportation Department installed an all-way stop along with more visible pedestrian markings. They used colorful polka dots and bollards to mark the pedestrian space.



Image credit: http://kxan.com/2016/01/27/new-4-way-stop-installed-at-busy-e-sixth-street-intersection/?cid=twitter_KXAN_News-content=twitter%20link

EAST FACING SECTION



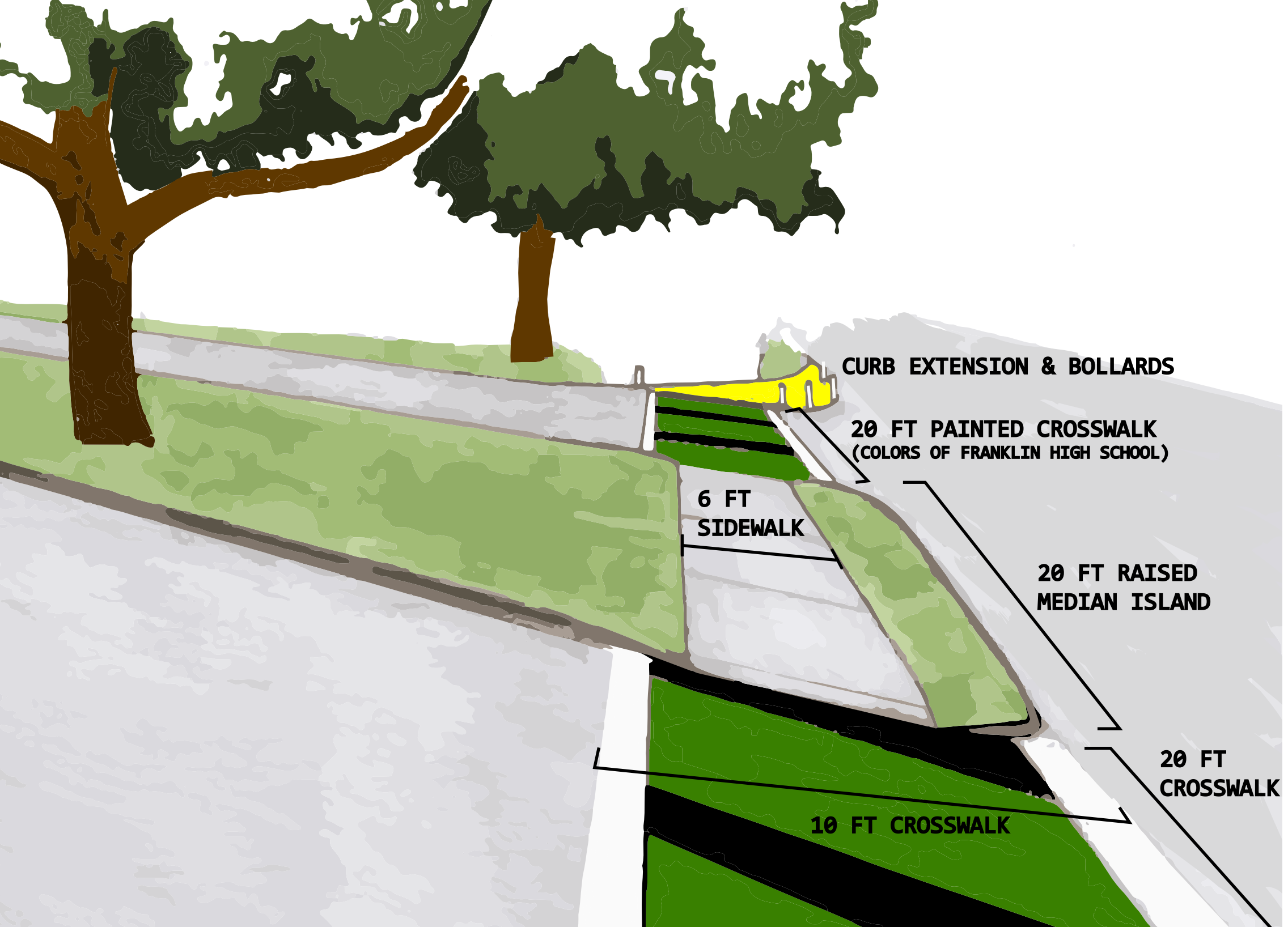
PRECEDENT #2: CHICAGO, IL

The Lincoln/Wellington/Southport intersection on Chicago's North Side was redesigned in 2015 using polka dots to mark expanded pedestrian space at street corners. Plastic bollards and large planters provided additional protection for pedestrians. The temporary dots are supposed to last for three years, at which point the city has planned a permanent improvement.



Image credit: https://archpaper.com/2015/06/chicago-beckons-pedestrians-dr-seussian-green-blue-dots/?utm_campaign=jun_04_2015&utm_medium=email&utm_source=cityterrain&utm_content=twitter%20link

SOUTHEAST FACING PERSPECTIVE



REDESIGN MATERIALS & COST

The tactical urbanism elements of the proposed design are low in price, while the median island will be more costly. Below is a cost breakdown of each element:

HIGH PERFORMANCE DELINEATOR POSTS
Typical Dimensions: 27 in. - 36 in. high
Estimated Cost: \$84 - \$90/per delineator
Overview: Place along edge of curb extension every few feet as desired. They remain flexible and can fully rebound even after 100 hits at 60 mph.

ACRYLIC ASPHALT PAINT
Typical Dimensions: Usually sold in 5 gallon containers
Estimated Cost: \$110/unit
Overview: Acrylic asphalt paint can be used to paint the interior of the crosswalk. Anyone can apply the paint, and it will last typically 1-3 years.

THERMOPLASTIC
Typical Dimensions: Can be ordered in 5 gallon bucket
Estimated Cost: \$14 - \$20/sq. ft.
Overview: Use white retroreflective thermoplastic pre-formed strips for borders of crosswalk.

MEDIAN ISLAND WITH TWO CURB RAMPS
Typical Dimensions: 6 ft. wide
Estimated Cost: \$535 - \$1,065/sq. ft.
Overview: The raised island is placed in the center of the street to protect pedestrians from motor vehicles. Typical total costs range from \$3,500 to \$40,00, depending on the design, site conditions, and whether the median can be added as part of a utility improvement or other street construction project.