

State & High Streets Two-Way Conversion Feasibility Study

Public Advisory Committee and Community Advisors Meeting

June 3, 2015



Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Meeting Agenda
- Study Background/Purpose and Need
- New Study Data
- Review of Findings
- What We Heard at Public Workshops
- Discussion
- Vote by Advisory Committee
- Next Steps



Study Background

- Route 77 Designation via Million Dollar Bridge to Danforth Street to Route 1 – Pre 1938
- Route 77 Designation to State Street – 1955
- State Street and High Street Converted to One-Way – 1972
- PACTS Deering Oaks Park Traffic Study (including two-way conversion of State and High) – 1999
- Portland Peninsula Transportation Study – 2005
- State Street & High Street Preliminary Feasibility Study – 2012



Purpose and Need Statement

The purpose of the State and High Streets Two-Way Conversion Study is to **study the effects of re-introducing two-way traffic flow on State and High Streets**. The study will evaluate whether changes in transportation infrastructure will support the existing mix of land uses and neighborhoods in the study area. Both streets need to serve automobiles, trucks, transit, pedestrians, and cyclists equitably, as well as serve both those who are traveling within the City as well as through the City. From a safety and health perspective, new infrastructure should be designed to accommodate pedestrian and cyclist safety and increase livability. From an urban design perspective, changes should provide a positive experience, and actively connect historic neighborhoods. Changes should also serve the transportation needs of those living off the peninsula by creating convenient access to city amenities and work places. Changes should be compatible and coordinate with other related City planning projects, including the redesign of Congress Square.

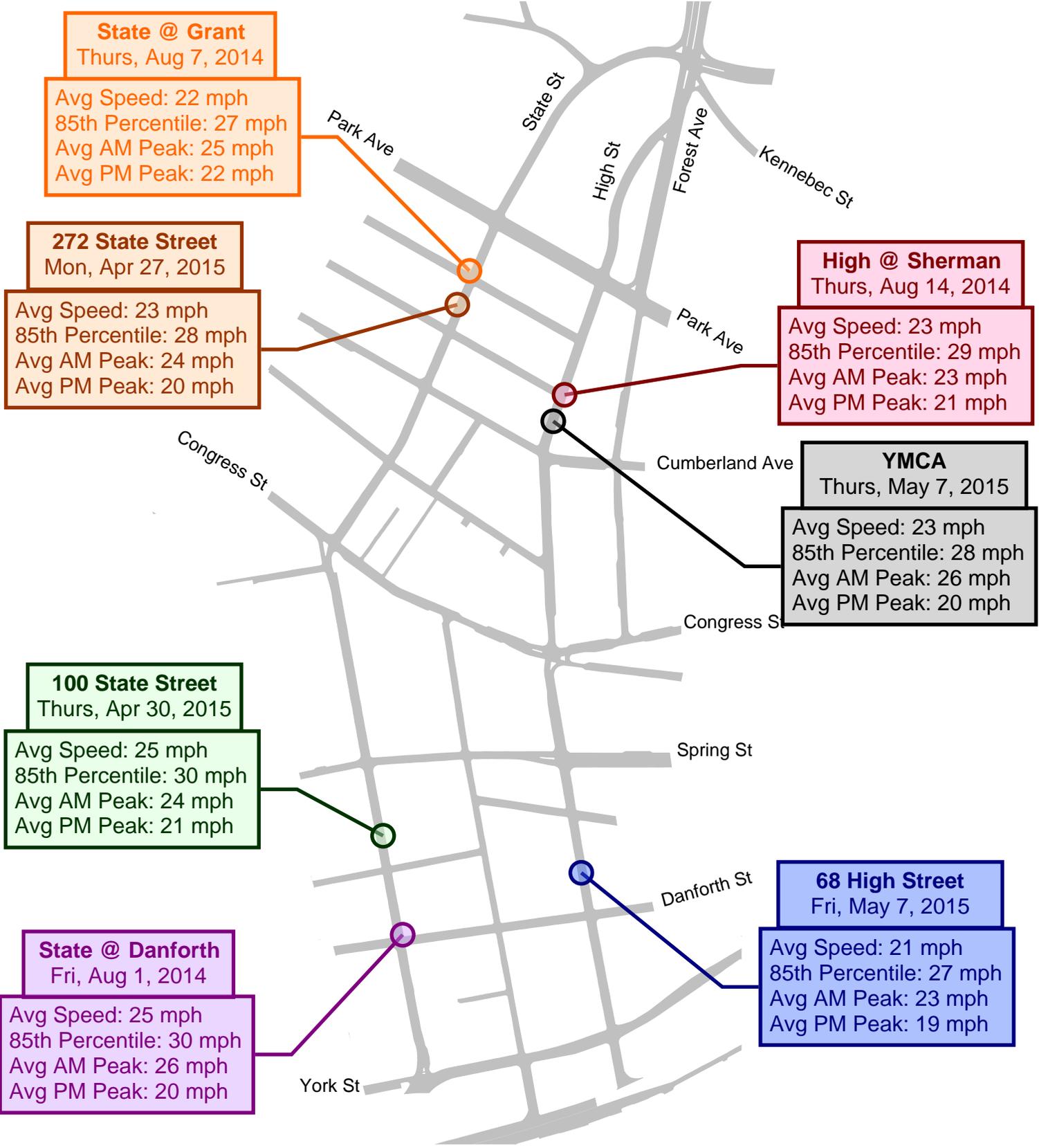


New Study Data

- Speed analysis
- Unsignalized intersection analysis
- Truck deliveries
- Cost of annual winter maintenance
- Total cost



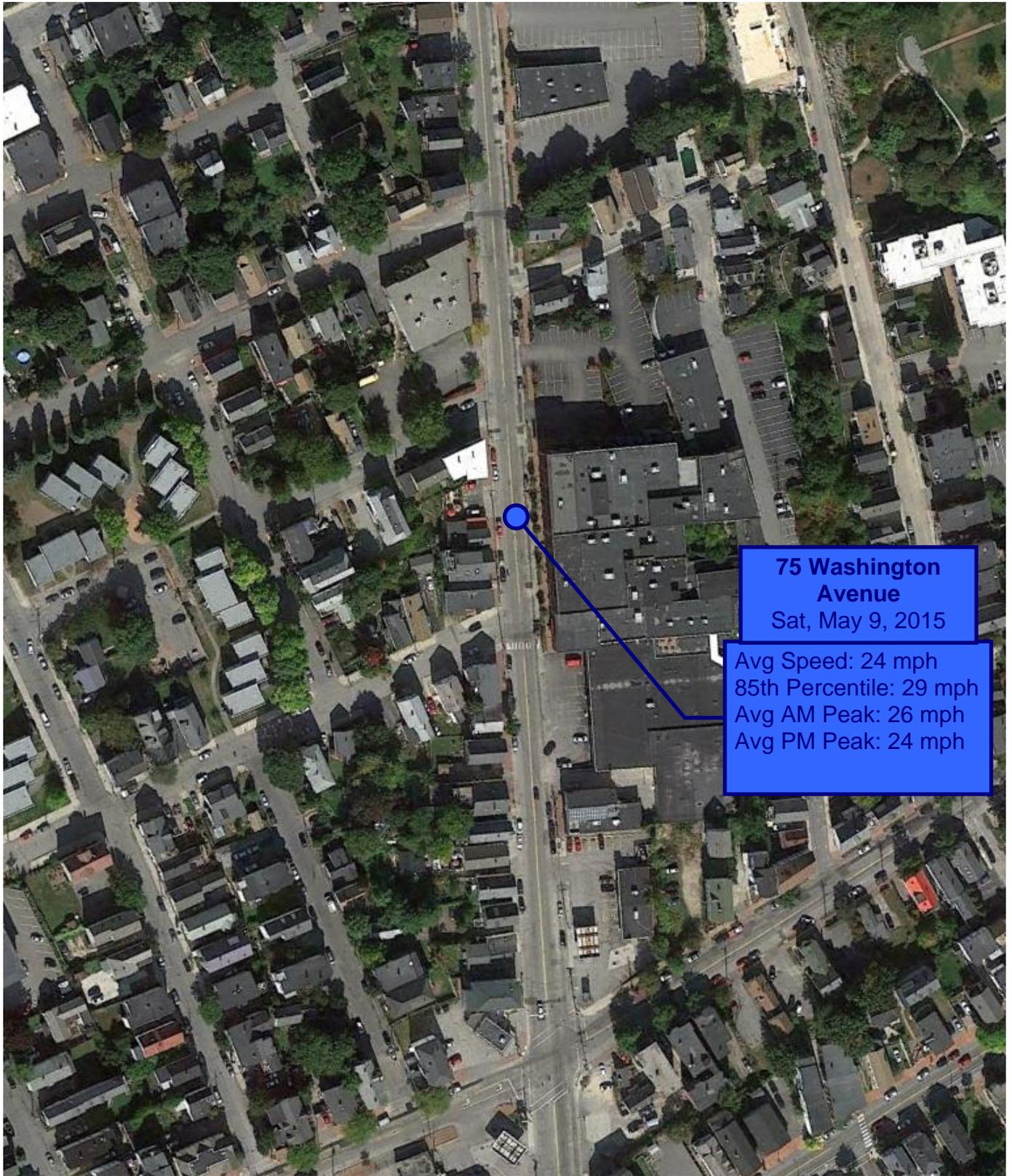
Speed Study (2014/2015)



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Speed Study (Washington Ave)



75 Washington Avenue
Sat, May 9, 2015

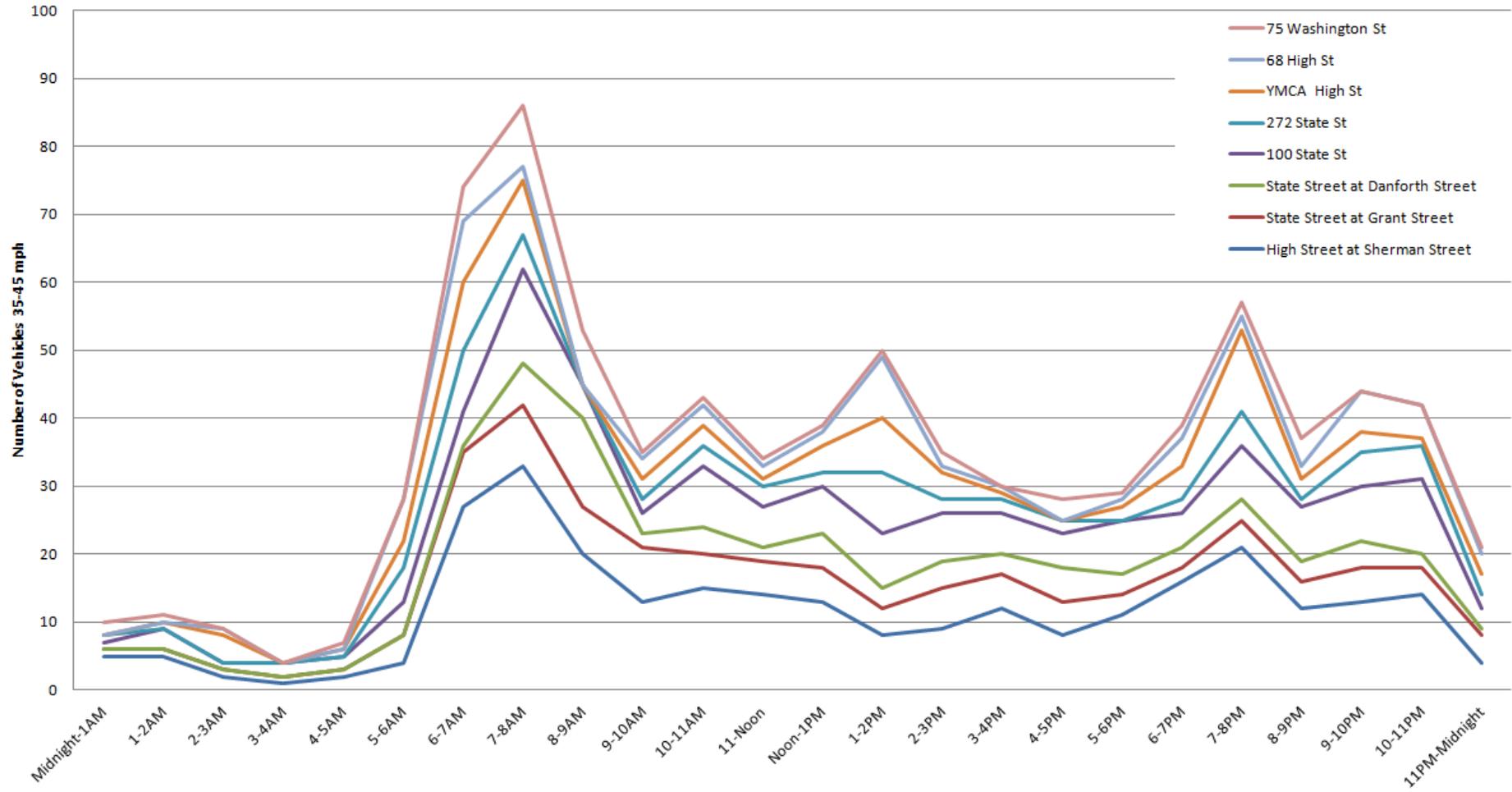
Avg Speed: 24 mph
85th Percentile: 29 mph
Avg AM Peak: 26 mph
Avg PM Peak: 24 mph



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Numbers of vehicles Traveling 35-45 mph by Hour



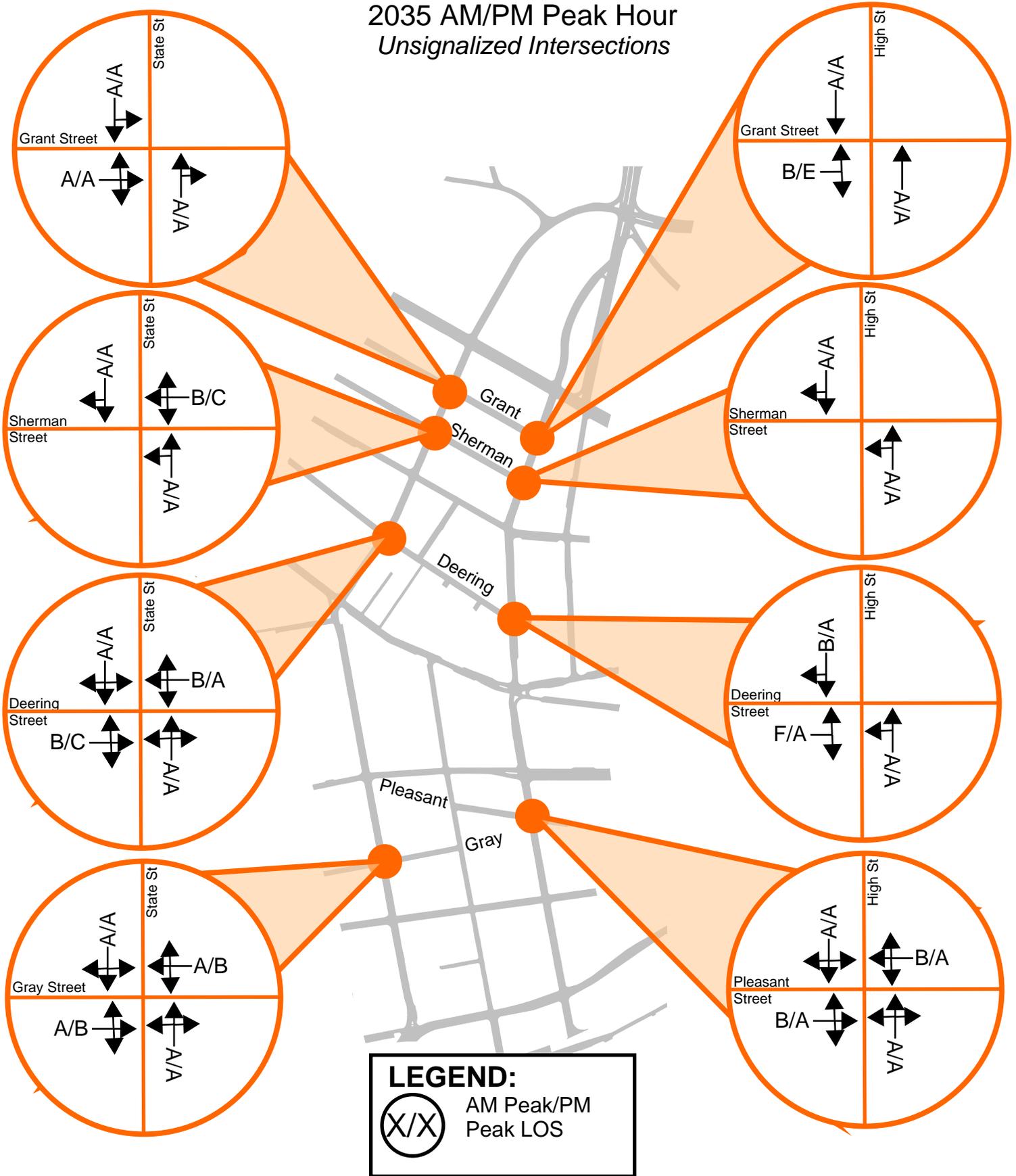
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SimTraffic Two-Way Vehicular Level of Service

2035 AM/PM Peak Hour

Unsignalized Intersections



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Loading and Deliveries

Loadings and Deliveries	
Location	Delivery Type/Location
Residences along State and High Street	UPS and Fed Ex drivers were surveyed; each park anywhere that is available – typically not legal parking and run out to deliver packages. If not parking is available they will go to side streets and use a hand truck – however it can be difficult with the one way flow to get back on their route. It was observed during spot counts that sometimes trucks will completely block lanes to make a delivery under the one way scenario.
King of the Roll	Deliveries from Congress or Vernon Place
1 Longfellow Square	Deliveries from Congress
184 State Street	Deliveries from Congress
188 State Street (Miyake)	Deliveries from Pine Street
190 State Street	Deliveries from Pine Street
The Frame Shop	Deliveries from Pine Street
The Portland Club	Deliveries from the parking lot or on street as needed
State Street Congregational Church/St. Luke's Cathedral/Episcopal Diocese of Maine	Deliveries from the front
Mercy Hospital	Deliveries from Parking Lot
St. Dominic's Roman Catholic Church	Deliveries from Gray Street
El Rayo Tacqueria	Deliveries from parking lot
The Little Tap House	Deliveries from Spring Street
The Cumberland Club	Deliveries from the rear parking lot
Portland Museum of Art	Deliveries from Spring Street
WCSH	Deliveries from the parking lot
Starbucks	Deliveries from Free Street
Namaste Salon and Spa	Deliveries from Congress Street or High Street as needed
The State Theater	Deliveries from High Street – block the road during deliveries
Immanuel Baptist Church	Deliveries from Deering Street or High Street as needed
The Eastland	Deliveries from High Street or Forest Avenue as needed
YMCA	Deliveries from parking lot
Citgo	Deliveries from parking lot



Added Winter Snow Removal \$\$

- Portland budgets for 8-10 major snow events and 22 smaller snow events
- Cost impact would be on major events only
- Per storm cost is \$9,100 for enhanced State & High work
- Total projected annual cost: \$72,800 - \$91,000



Total Project Cost

- Total project: \$3.225 million
- Needed upgrade to traffic signals: \$2 million
- Additional cost of two-way configuration: \$1.225 million



Review Study Findings

- Traffic Volume Changes
- Vehicle Mobility
- Vehicle Speed
- Heavy Vehicles/Truck Deliveries
- On-Street Parking
- Bicycle Safety/Mobility
- Pedestrian Safety/Mobility
- Intersection Geometry
- Winter Maintenance
- Cost

Volume Change 2035 AM Peak Hour Two-Way

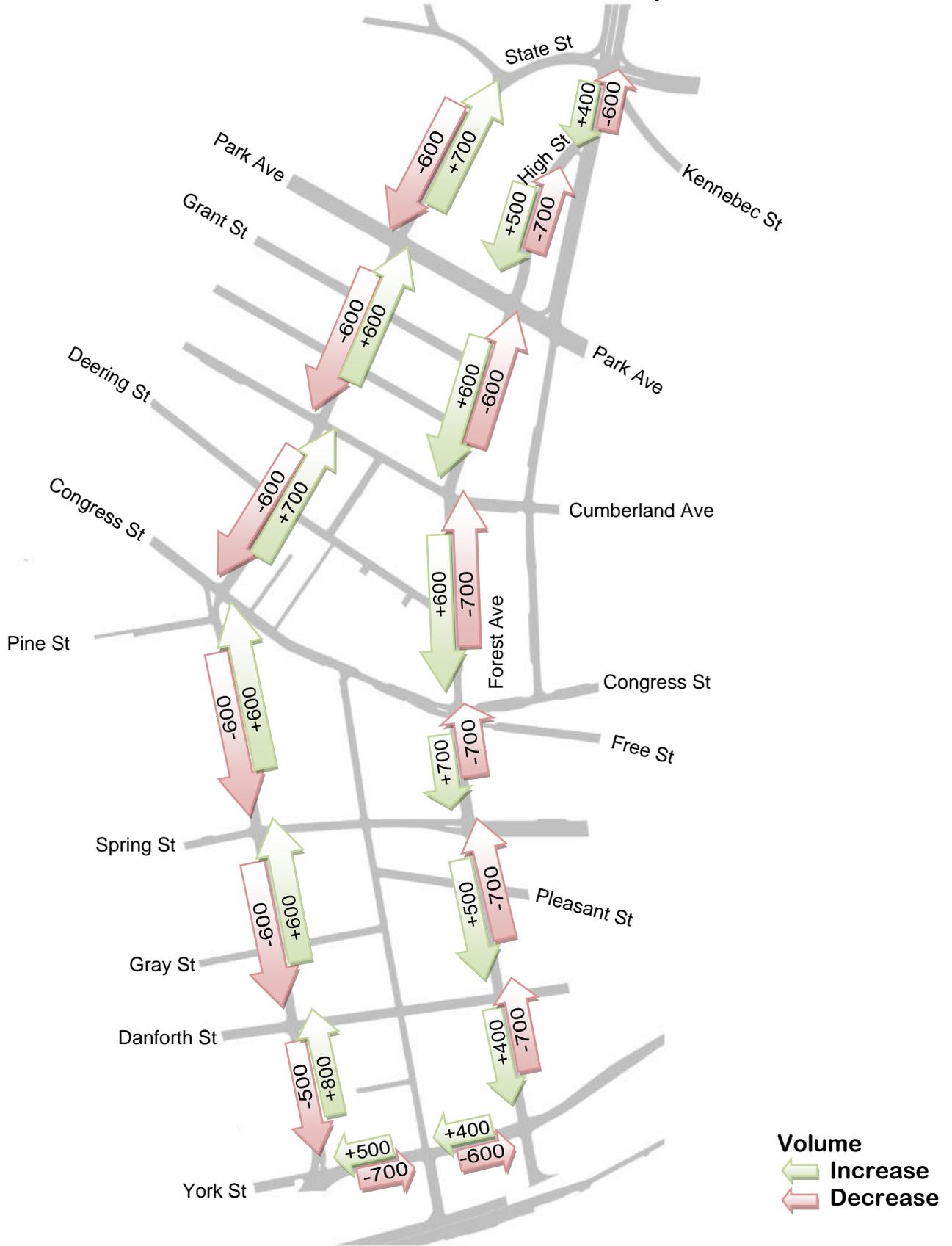


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Volume Change

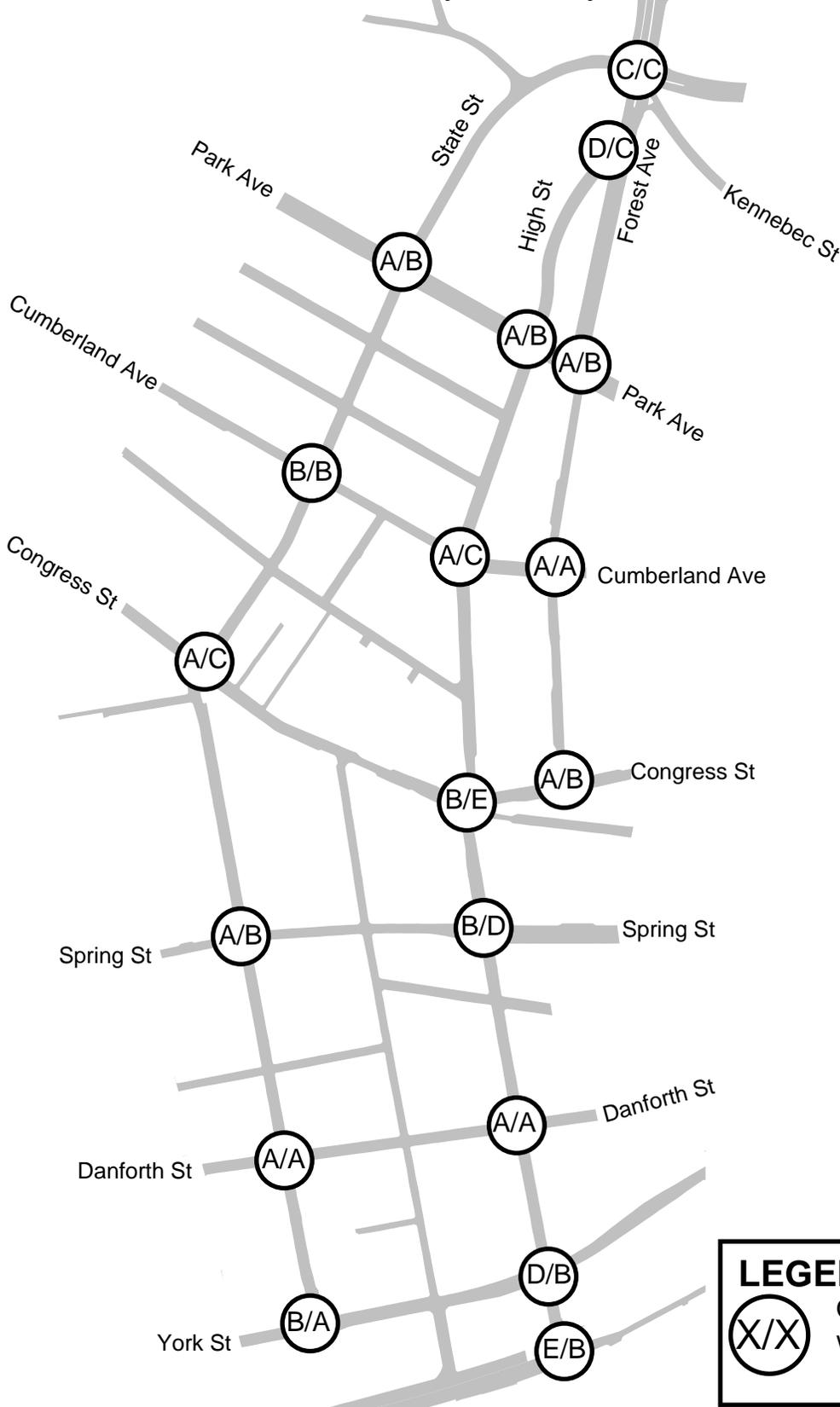
2035 PM Peak Hour Two-Way



SimTraffic Vehicular Level of Service

2035 AM Peak Hour

One-Way/Two-Way



LEGEND:
 One-Way/Two-way LOS



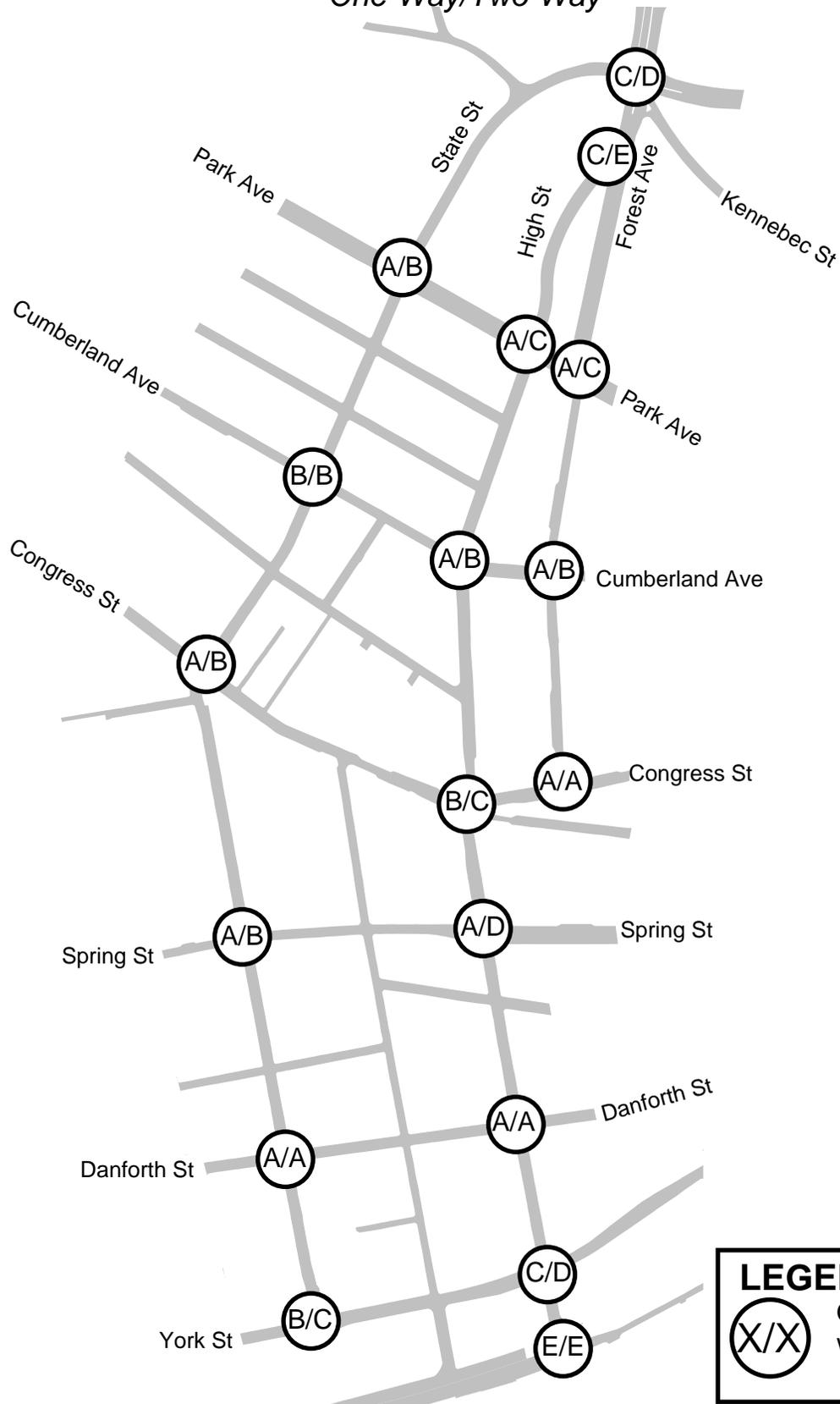
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SimTraffic Vehicular Level of Service

2035 PM Peak Hour

One-Way/Two-Way



LEGEND:

 One-Way/Two-way LOS

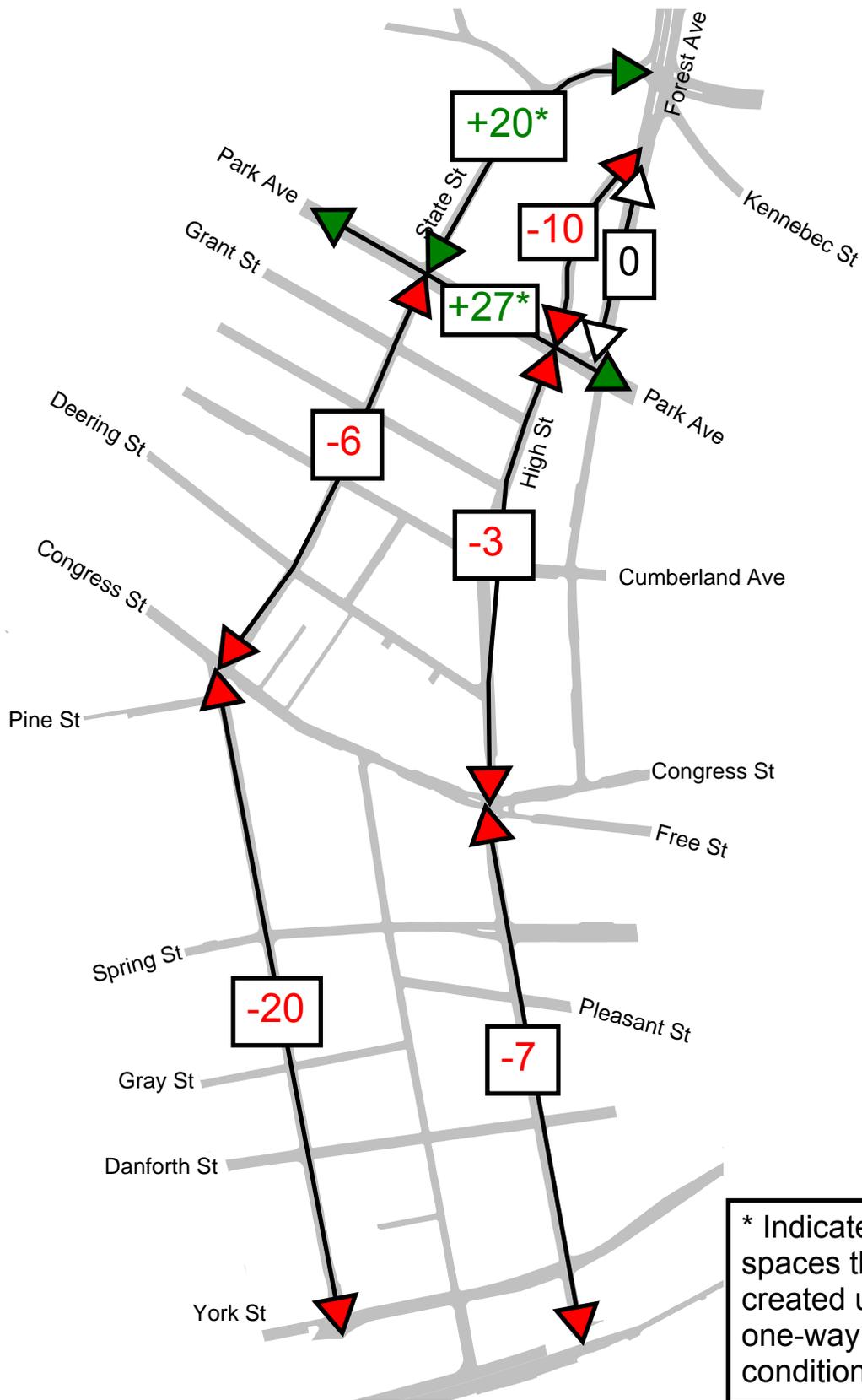


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On-Street Parking

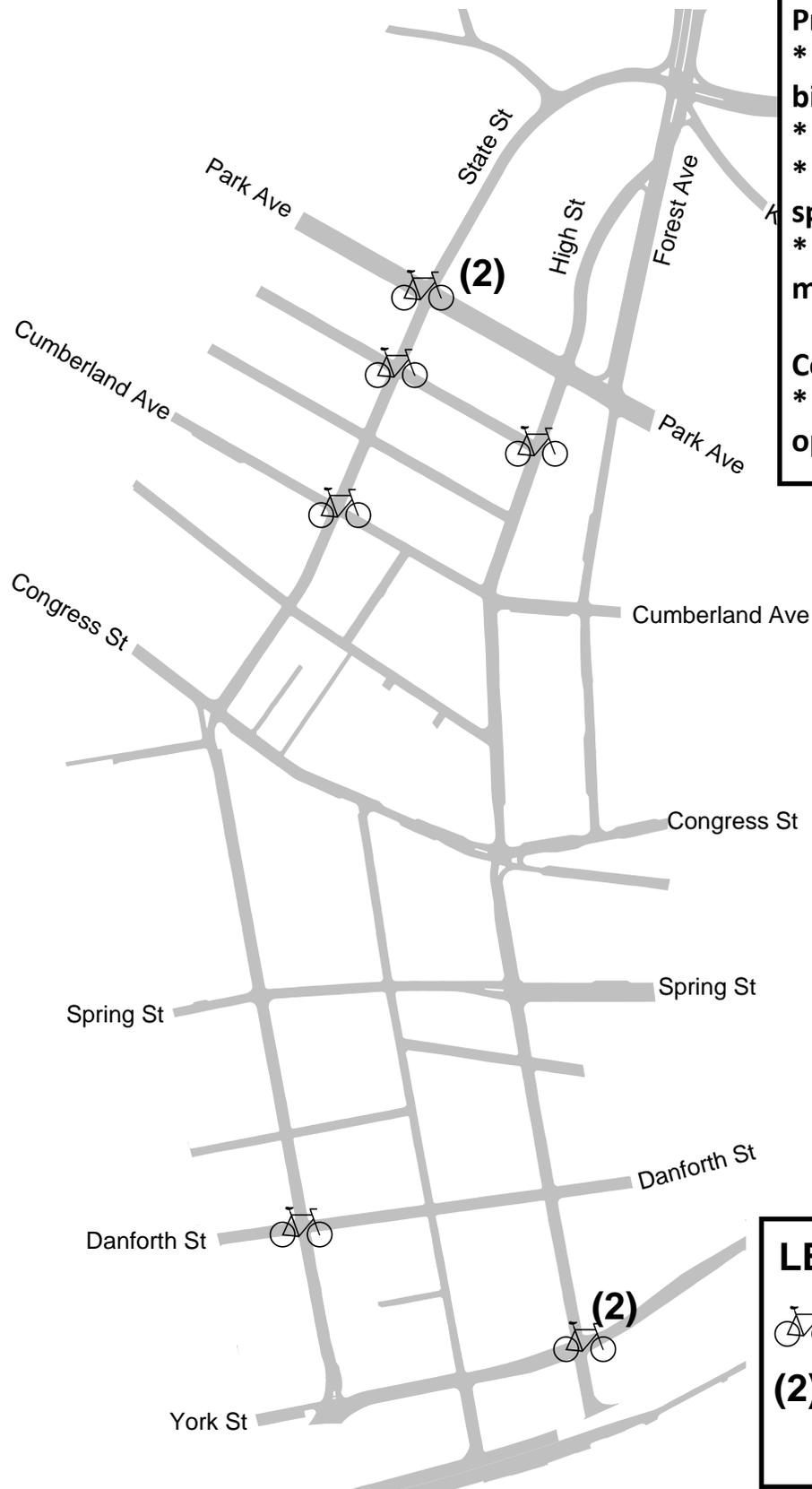
Change in Parking Between One-Way and Two-Way Conditions



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**Figure: Bicycle Crash History
(2011-2013)**



- Pros:**
- * Eliminates one way bicycle crashes
 - * More direct routing
 - * Reduced vehicle speeds may occur
 - * Safer left-turn movements
- Cons:**
- * Vehicle passing option reduced

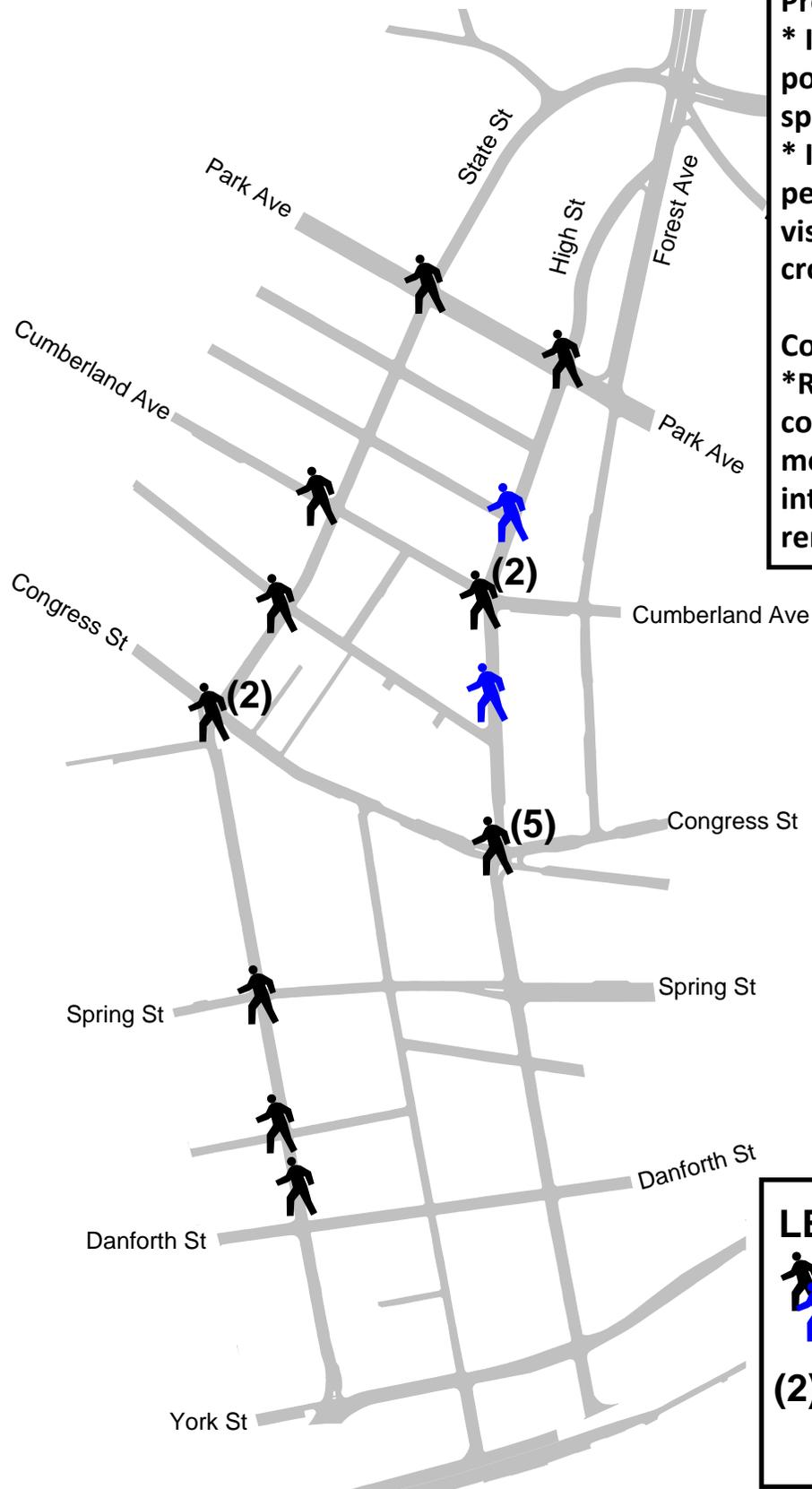
LEGEND:

 Bicycle Crash

(2) # Crashes (no # indicates 1 crash)



**Figure: Pedestrian Crash History
(2011-2013)**



Pros:
 * Improved safety with possible slower vehicle speeds
 * Improved pedestrian/vehicle visibility at unsignalized crossings

Cons:
 * Results in more conflicting vehicular movements at intersections (LOS remains unchanged)

LEGEND:

 Pedestrian Crash
 (Blue indicates midblock)

(2) # Crashes (no # indicates 1 crash)

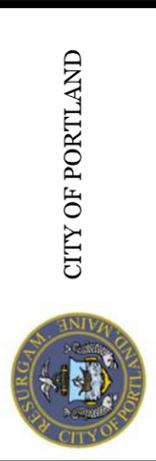


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Date: 4/27/2015



DESIGN-DETAILED	PROJ. MANAGER	T. Errico	BY	DATE	SIGNATURE
CHECKED-REVIEWED					
DESIGNS-DETAILED					P.E. NUMBER
REVISIONS 1					DATE
REVISIONS 2					
REVISIONS 3					
REVISIONS 4					
FIELD CHANGES					

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STATE AND HIGH STREET
CONVERSION STUDY

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What We Heard at Public Workshops

- Most attendees and comments were residents of study area or its surrounds
- Comments were mixed, but weighted somewhat toward the positive
- Biggest concerns overall were loss of parking. Potential increased congestion and effect of winter conditions also issues
- Biggest positives were safer, more historic and pedestrian-friendly atmosphere; ability to divert through-traffic



DISCUSSION



VOTE

“Given that the findings of the study indicate that a two-way conversion is feasible, does the committee support taking steps to move forward in implementing the conversion?”



Next Steps

1. Take findings and committee vote to Transportation, Sustainability & Energy Committee Meeting.
2. Take findings, committee vote and TS&E vote to City Council Meeting

