

Central Square Renovation Second Community Meeting

July 27, 2010



Presented by

CITY OF BOSTON

Boston Transportation Department

Howard/Stein-Hudson Associates

Klopfert Martin Design Group

Chan Krieger/NBBJ



Central Square Renovation, East Boston

July 27, 2010

Agenda

- **Overview**
 - **Project Team**
 - **Process**
 - **Schedule**
 - **Goals**
- **Issues/concerns from March meeting**
- **Design concepts**
- **Q&A/Comments**



Project Team

- **Project Lead, Traffic, Civil**
 - **Howard/Stein-Hudson Associates**
- **Urban Design, Streetscape**
 - **Klopfer Martin Design Group**
 - **Chan Krieger Sieniewicz**
 - **Favermann Design**
 - **Lam Partners**
- **Bicycle Accommodation**
 - **Toole Design Group**



Project Development Process

- **Transportation Study**
 - **Concept Design**
 - **25% Design**
 - **75%, 100% Design and Bid Documents**
 - **Construction**
 - **Long-term Maintenance**
- ← WE ARE HERE



Schedule

<i>Task</i>	<i>Spring 2010</i>		<i>Summer 2010</i>		<i>Fall 2010</i>		<i>Winter 2010-2011</i>	
Concept Alternatives	■							
Preliminary Design			■					
Final Design/Bid Documents						■		

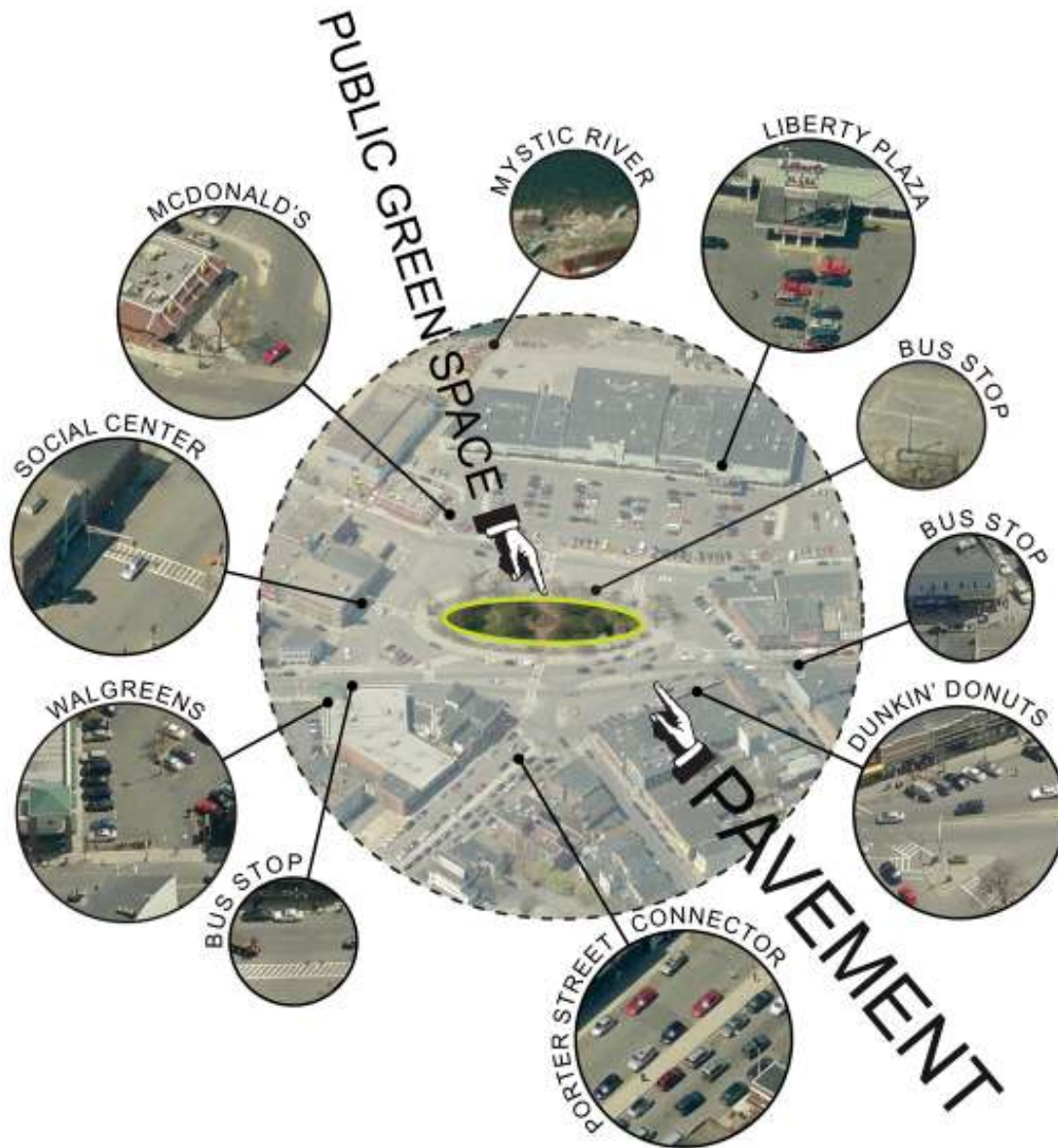
■ Task Work



Comments from 1st Public Meeting

- **Pedestrians**
 - **Safe crossings**
- **Pedestrian and vehicles follow same rules**
- **Parking and loading are important**
- **Open Space**
 - **Desire for more**
 - **Improve access**
- **Too much pavement**
- **Organize and improve traffic circulation**
- **Consolidate bus stops**





Existing Conditions

- Vibrant city district
- Commercial activity
- Urban form of East Boston dating to the mid 1830's
- Central Square green space dating back to 1850's with documented park design dating to 1913



1879

1879



VIEW OF
EAST BOSTON, MASS.
IN 1879

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NEW YORK AND NEW ENGLAND



image from 'Images of America' - Meridian St looking south

Existing Commercial Uses



Central Square South



Meridian Street



Meridian Street



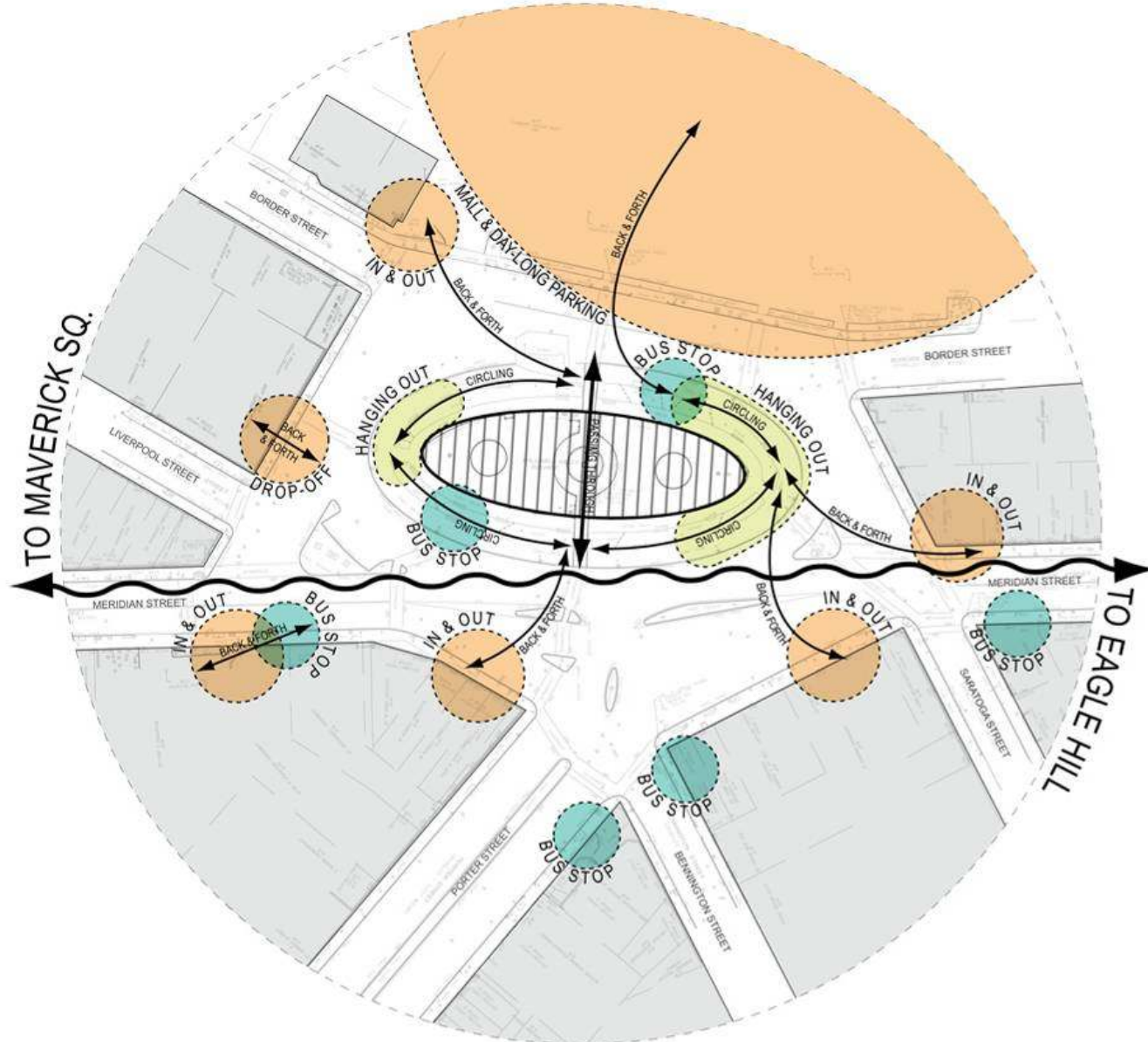


Connections and Open Space

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Pedestrian Circulation: Existing



Issues

- **Narrow sidewalks limit types of use**



Issues

- Large expanses of pavement disconnect park from commercial edges

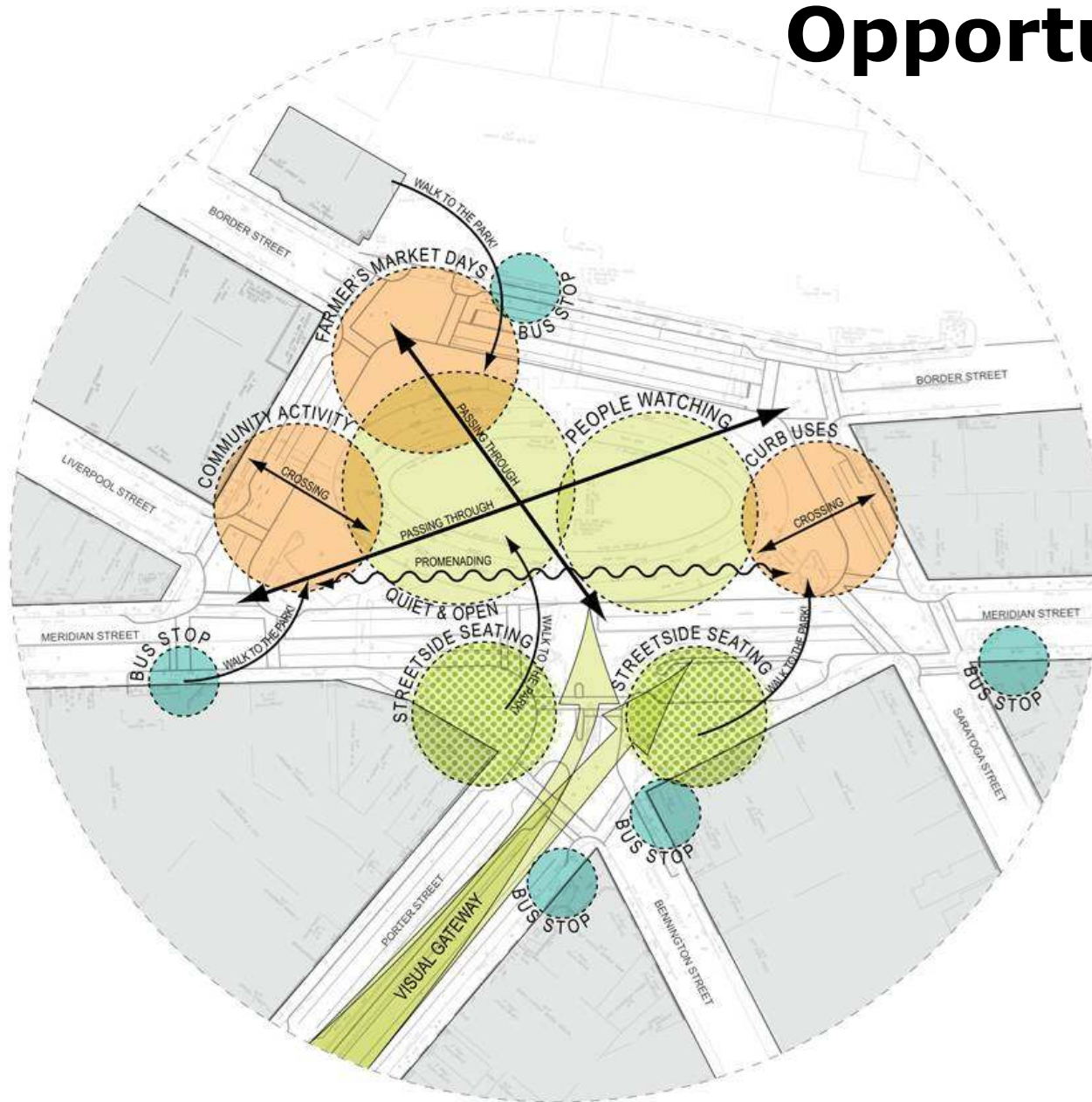


Issues

- **Fence limits circulation into and through park**



Opportunities



Opportunities

- **Wider sidewalks expand uses for café seating and other spill-out uses**



Opportunities

- **Wider sidewalks expand uses for café seating and other spill-out uses**



Opportunities

- **Connect park to the commercial edges**



Example: Roslindale Square



Opportunities

- Create more space for community activity



Opportunities

- **Provide parking where needed along edges**



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Proposal: End Streets 1-way

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Existing Parking

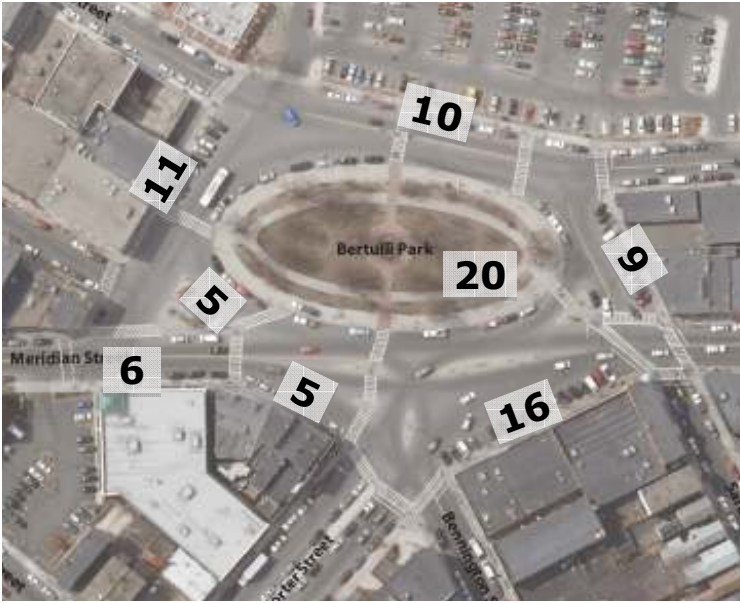
Location	Existing
In front of Dunkin' Donuts	16
Adjacent to Castillo Liquors	9
Border Street	10
Adjacent to Social Center	11
Adjacent to Walgreens (Meridian Street)	11
Around Bertulli Park	25
TOTAL on-street	82
Liberty Plaza (not including Shaw's)	151
Walgreens	41
TOTAL in Central Square	274

Additional Spaces within a 5 minute walk

City-owned lots	93
On-street spaces	900±
Shaw's	134



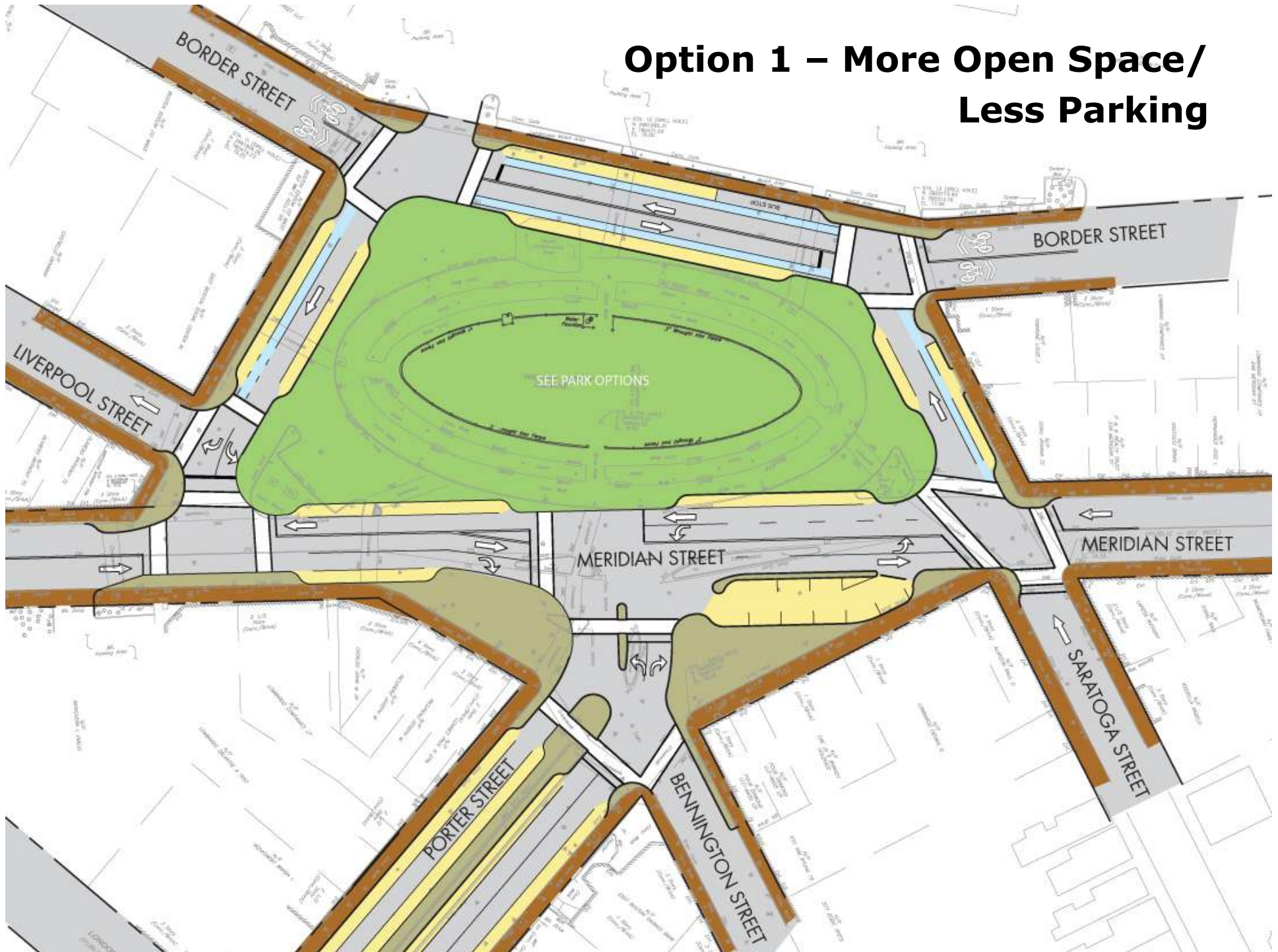
Existing Parking



Existing Crosswalks



Option 1 – More Open Space/ Less Parking



Parking Comparison

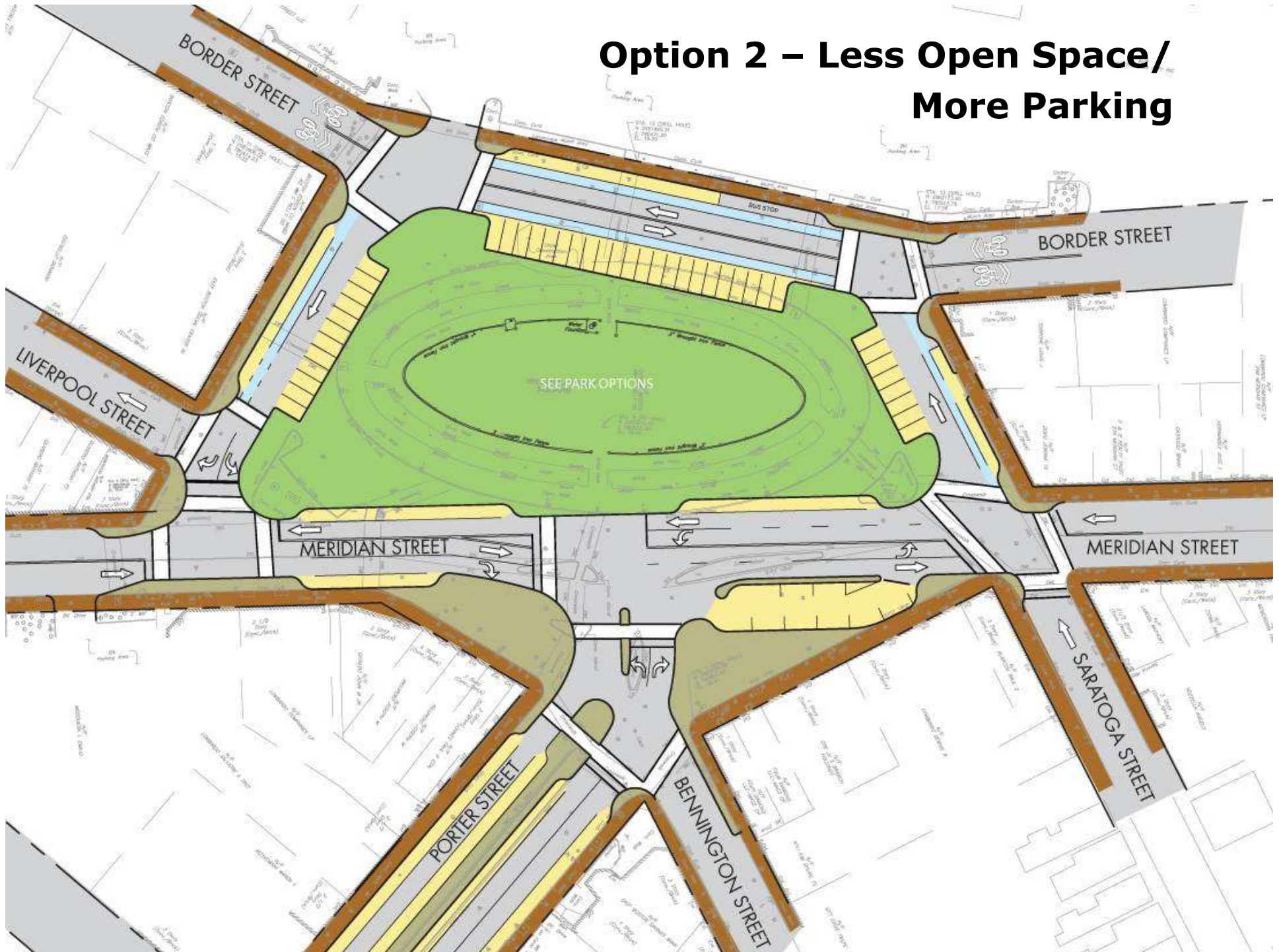
Location	Existing	Option 1
In front of Dunkin' Donuts	16	9
Adjacent to Castillo Liquors	9	4
Border Street	10	6
Adjacent to Social Center	11	5
Adjacent to Walgreens (Meridian Street)	11	4
Around Bertulli Park	25	26
TOTAL on-street	82	54
Liberty Plaza (not including Shaw's)	151	151
Walgreens	41	41
TOTAL in Central Square	274	246

Additional Spaces within a 5 minute walk

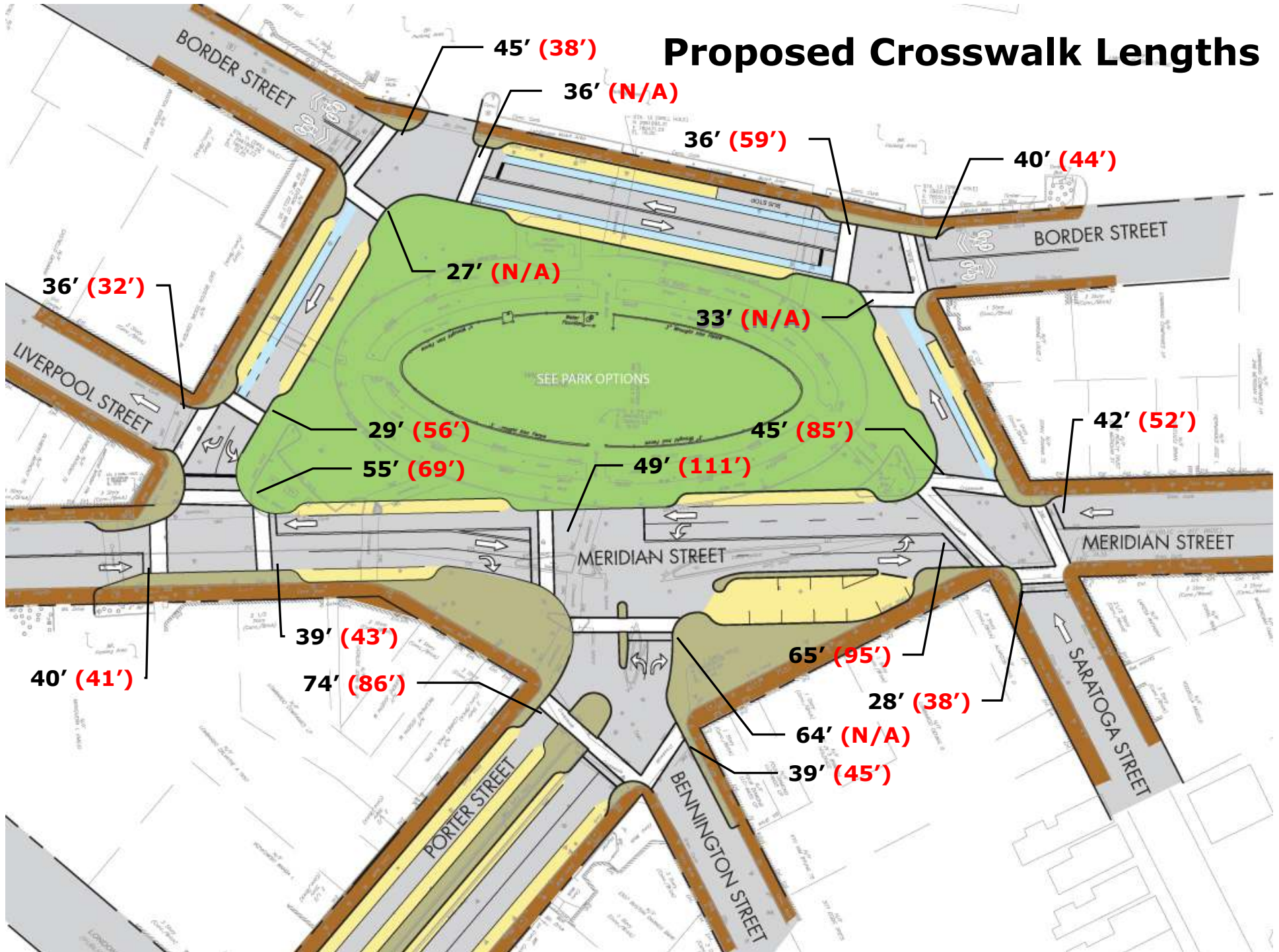
City-owned lots	93	93
On-street spaces	900±	900±
Shaw's	134	134



Option 2 – Less Open Space/ More Parking



Proposed Crosswalk Lengths



Parking Comparison

Location	Existing	Option 1	Option 2
In front of Dunkin' Donuts	16	9	9
Adjacent to Castillo Liquors	9	4	4
Border Street	10	6	6
Adjacent to Social Center	11	5	17
Adjacent to Walgreens (Meridian Street)	11	4	4
Around Bertulli Park	25	26	40
TOTAL on-street	82	54	80
Liberty Plaza (not including Shaw's)	151	151	151
Walgreens	41	41	41
TOTAL in Central Square	274	246	268

Additional Spaces within a 5 minute walk

City-owned lots	93	93	93
On-street spaces	900±	900±	900±
Shaw's	134	134	134



Park Options





Existing Conditions

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Option 1 – More Open Space/Less Parking

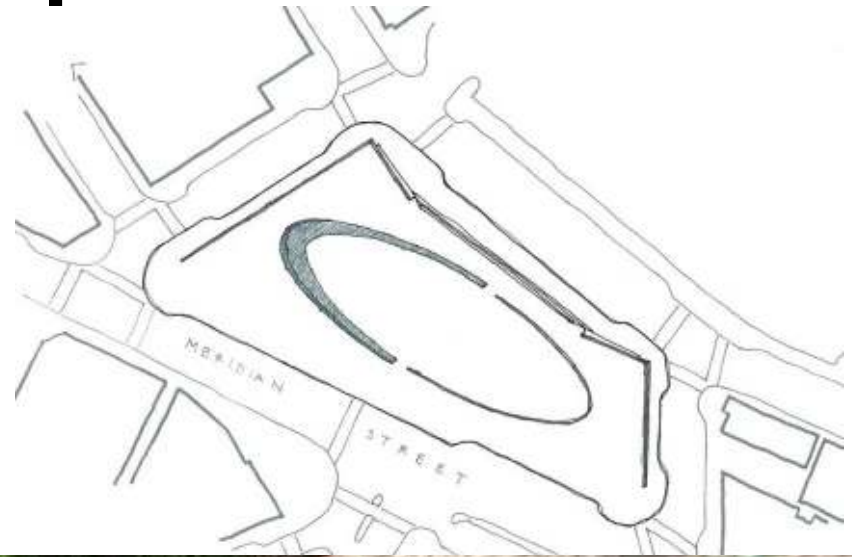
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Park Components: Allee



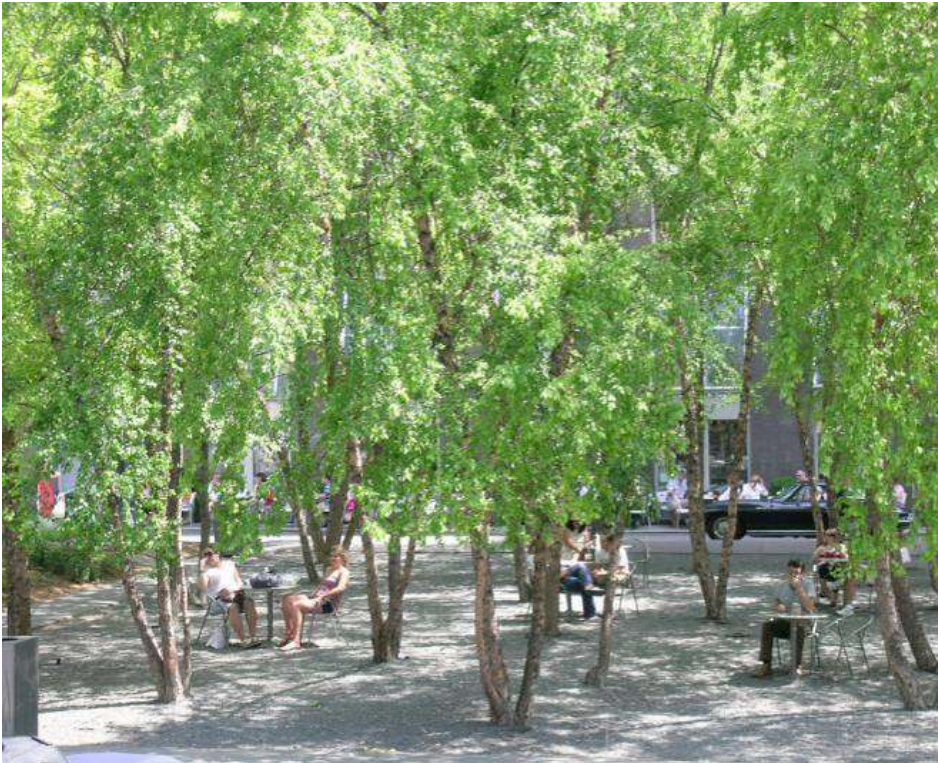
Park Components: Special Wall



Park Components: Lawn



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Park Components: Grove

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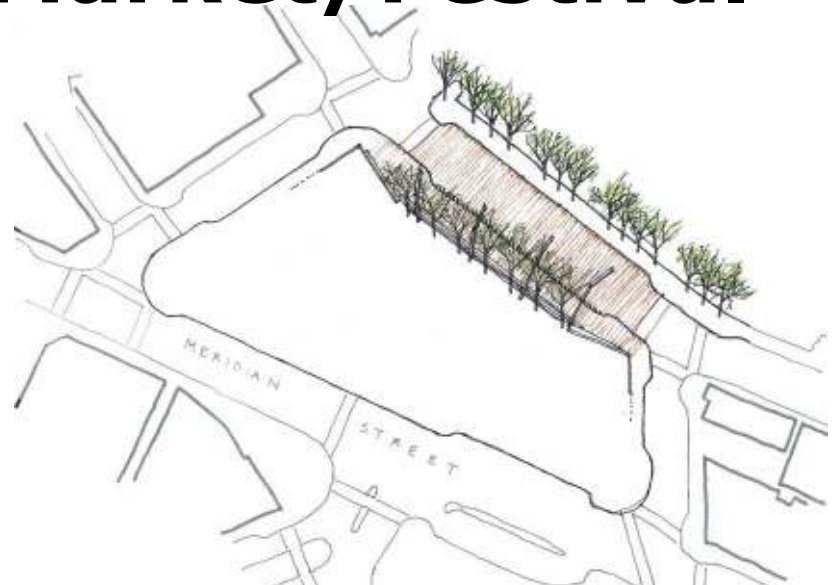
Park Components: Special Paving



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Park Components: Market/Festival

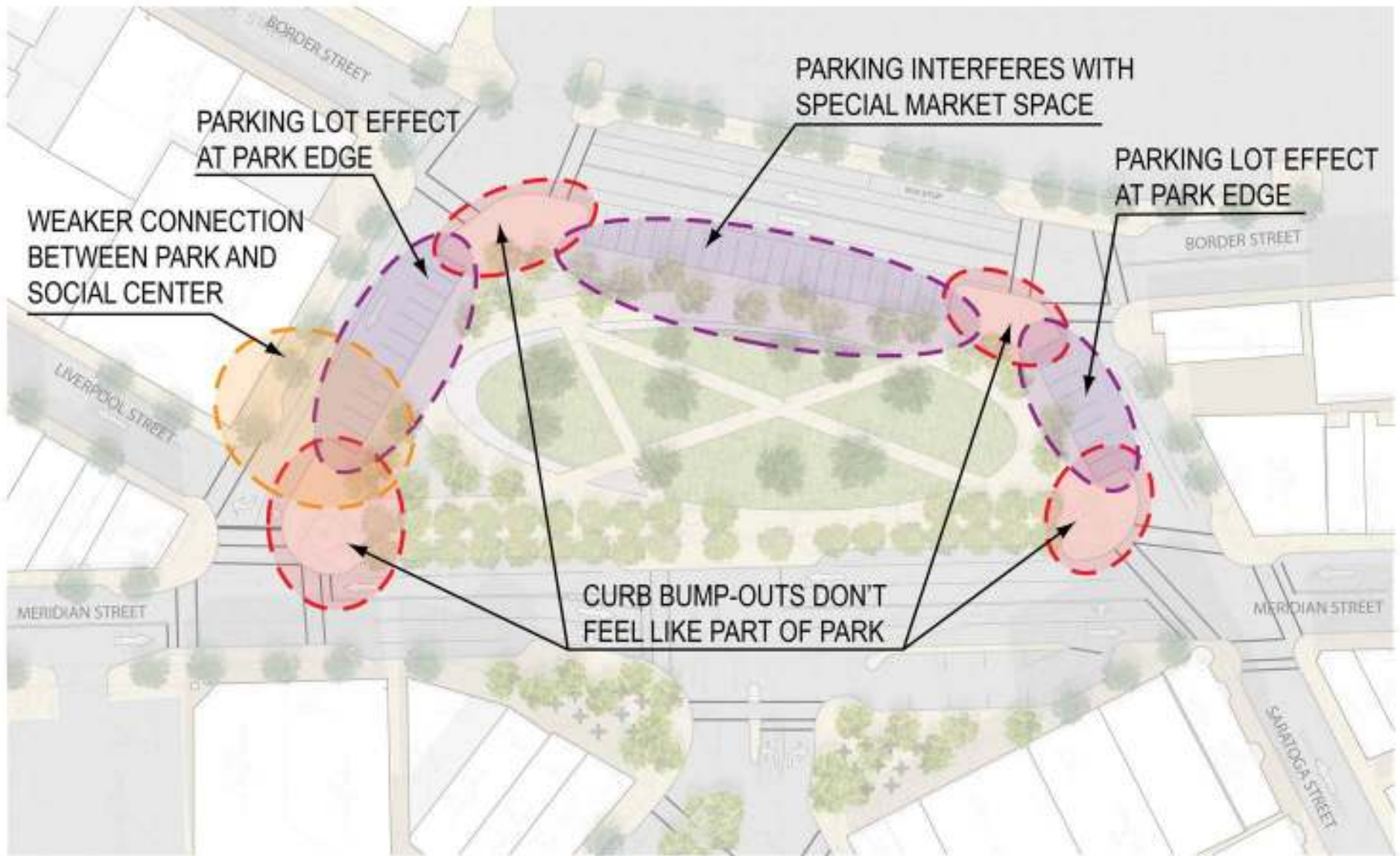




Option 2 – Less Open Space/More Parking

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Option 2 Disadvantages

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Option 1



Option 2



Comparison of Options

Option 1

- **More open space**
- **Large market/festival space**
- **Less parking**

Option 2

- **Less open space**
- **Loss of significant market/festival space**
- **Corner curb extensions don't feel like part of park**
- **More parking**





Porter Street Gateway

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Porter Street Gateway - Existing



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Porter Street Gateway - Proposed



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Questions/Comments?

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