

# THE CROSS STREET REJUVENATION PROJECT

## THE FUTURE OF GALWAY STREETS

**Galway City Council intends to enhance Cross Street, Middle Street, Buttermilk Lane, Buttermilk Walk and Abbeygate Street Lower as part of the Cross Street Rejuvenation Project.**

This project seeks to enhance Cross Street, Middle Street, Buttermilk Lane, Buttermilk Walk and Abbeygate Street Lower in line with the vision of the Galway Public Realm Strategy. This Strategy, first published in 2019, sets out a vision for improvement of Galway's unique streetscape and network of public and green spaces. The Strategy will also guide investment and development into the future. In enhancing these specific streets, the reach of the city centre core is extended beyond the Pedestrianised Core of Shop Street. To extend this reach, the Public Realm Strategy identifies a series of Principal Streets to support this objective and these are highlighted within the project area below.

BDP have been appointed by Galway City Council to develop the proposals for the Cross Street Rejuvenation Project in line with the Galway Public Realm Strategy. The project is in the first stage and will progress through planning, detailed design, tender and delivery.

### HAVE YOUR SAY!



Where we are now:

#### Engagement at commencement

A series of workshops to acknowledge the project's start. The goal is to ask for thoughts on what's most important to the scheme.

**1ST STEP**

#### Engagement at options development

Make a basic design from initial research. Hold workshops to check if it's on track and get feedback to inform design development.

**2ND STEP**

#### Engagement at prelim design

Show the final draft designs prior to Part VIII proposal to ensure the design developed from Step 1 and Step 2's feedback meets project expectations.

**3RD STEP**

WE ARE HERE

#### Statutory Engagement as part of Part 8

Show the final design proposed for Part VIII planning that incorporates feedback and addresses concerns collated along the process.

**4TH STEP**

Stage 1 - Inception and Feasibility

→ Stage 2a - Preliminary Design and Planning

Stage 2b - Detailed Design

Stage 3 - Tender

Stage 4 - Construction

Stage 5 - Handover

You can email any thoughts to: [Urbanism@galwaycity.ie](mailto:Urbanism@galwaycity.ie)



Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
**2040**



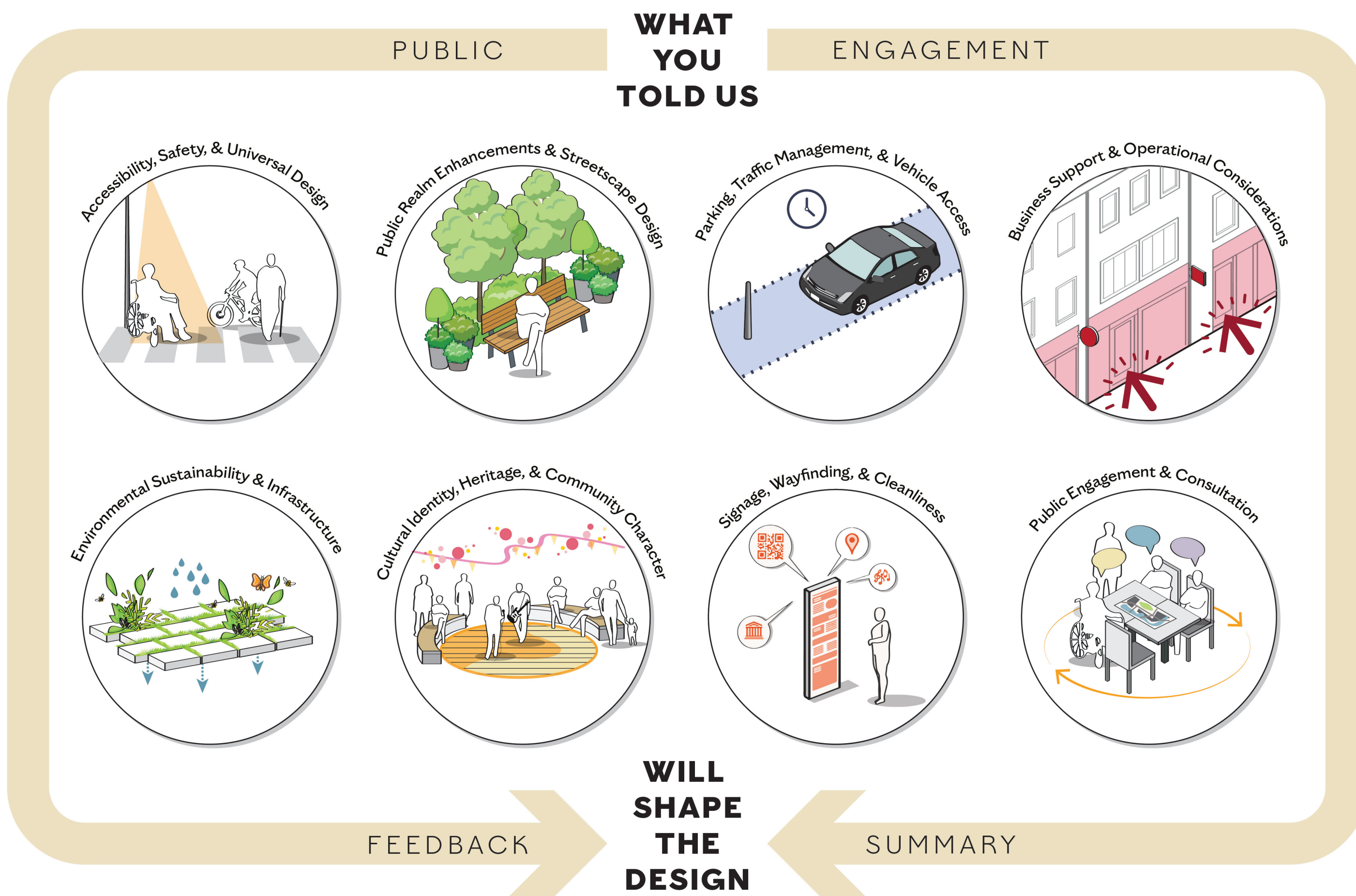
Comhairle Cathrach  
na Gaillimhe  
Galway City Council

**BDP.**



# THE CROSS STREET REJUVENATION PROJECT

## RECAP OF ENGAGEMENT EVENTS



1st Public Engagement Event 23. August 2024



2nd Public Engagement Event 28. January 2025

Feedback received from locals and those with vested interests in the scheme will form the basis of the initial design in the next stages. It provides a clear benchmark of where the streets and spaces are currently and what we want to achieve. Prior to today's event, two in-person Public Engagement Events have been held across on the 23rd of August 2024 and the 28th of January 2025. The results from both engagement events are summarised below:

### 45% Cross Street Rejuvenation Specific Feedback (91 Comments Identified)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Accessibility, Safety, and Universal Design
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Realm Enhancements and Streetscape Design
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Parking, Traffic Management, and Vehicle Access
- 4<sup>th</sup> Business Support and Operational Considerations
- 4<sup>th</sup> Environmental Sustainability and Infrastructure
- 6<sup>th</sup> Cultural Identity, Heritage, and Community Character
- 7<sup>th</sup> Signage, Wayfinding, and Cleanliness
- 8<sup>th</sup> Public Engagement and Consultation

### 32% General Feedback (66 Comments Identified)

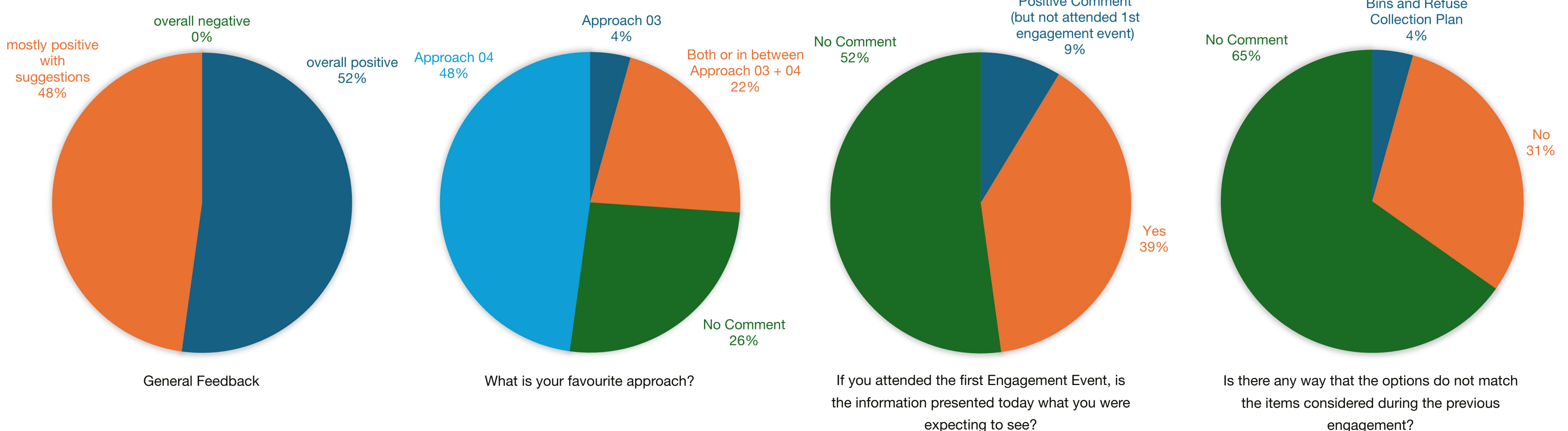
- 1<sup>st</sup> Heritage, Cultural Identity, and Historical Preservation
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Realm Improvements, Accessibility, and Community Atmosphere
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Infrastructure, Environmental, and Accessibility Concerns
- 4<sup>th</sup> Tourism, Wayfinding, and Public Space Use
- 5<sup>th</sup> Safety, Public Order, and Anti-Social Behaviour
- 6<sup>th</sup> Economic Activity and Business Mix

### 23% Galway City Wider Considerations (49 Comments Identified)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Public Amenities, Sanitation, and Cleanliness
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Management, Traffic Control, and Accessibility
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Safety, Security, and Surveillance
- 4<sup>th</sup> Noise Management and Public Space Use
- 4<sup>th</sup> Cultural Identity, Community Spaces, and Building Enhancements
- 4<sup>th</sup> Infrastructure and Climate Resilience

## Event 01

## Event 02



You can email any thoughts to: [Urbanism@galwaycity.ie](mailto:Urbanism@galwaycity.ie)



Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
2040



Comhairle Cathrach  
na Gaillimhe  
Galway City Council

BDP.



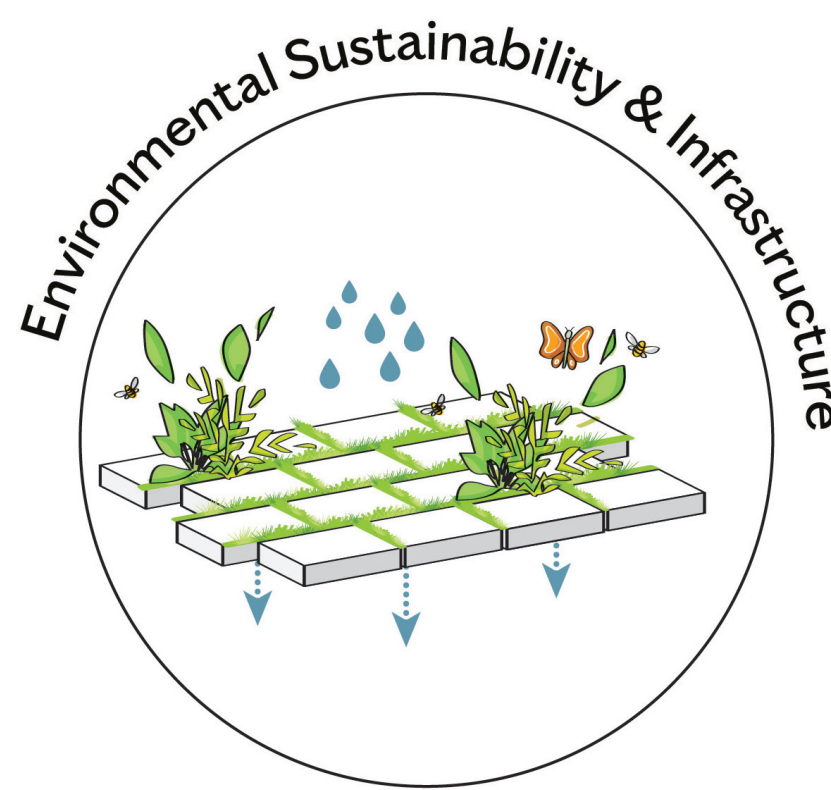
# THE CROSS STREET REJUVENATION PROJECT

## RECAP OF ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

### SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED FOR CROSS STREET REJUVENATION



- A significant concern for most stakeholders is ensuring that the area is accessible and safe for all users.
- This includes making sure that crossings are flat for wheelchair users and tactile for the visually impaired, improving footpaths to prevent slips and falls, and enhancing street lighting to ensure safety at night.
- Stakeholders also emphasized the need for universal design principles to be applied throughout shared spaces to accommodate both pedestrians and cyclists without compromising safety.



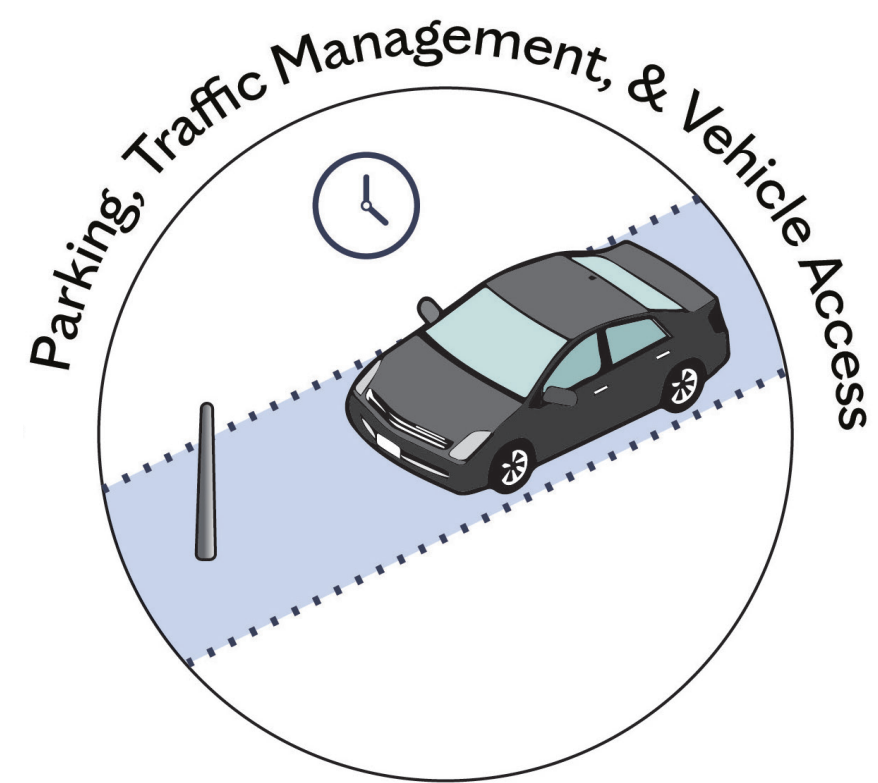
- The stakeholders are keen on integrating sustainable practices into the project, such as using climate-friendly materials, managing urban heat islands, and implementing permeable paving solutions.
- The need for future-proofing utilities, protecting building façades during works, and managing overhead wires by placing them underground were also highlighted.



- Enhancing the public realm through improved streetscape design is a priority for stakeholders.
- Feedback highlights the need for more greenery, better quality finishes, accessible and comfortable seating options, and integrating cultural and historical landmarks into the streetscape.



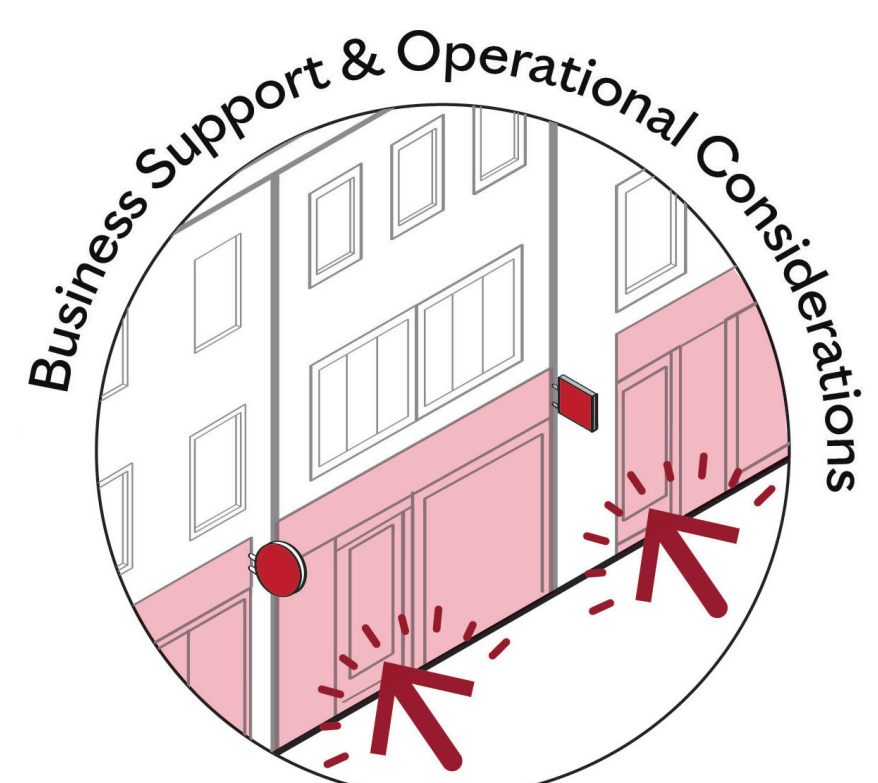
- Maintaining and enhancing the cultural identity and heritage of the area is seen as essential. Feedback suggests incorporating historical narratives, such as the story of Buttermilk Lane, and creating a unique identity similar to the “Latin Quarter.”
- Emphasizing cultural landmarks and heritage features can enhance the area’s character and appeal to both locals and visitors.



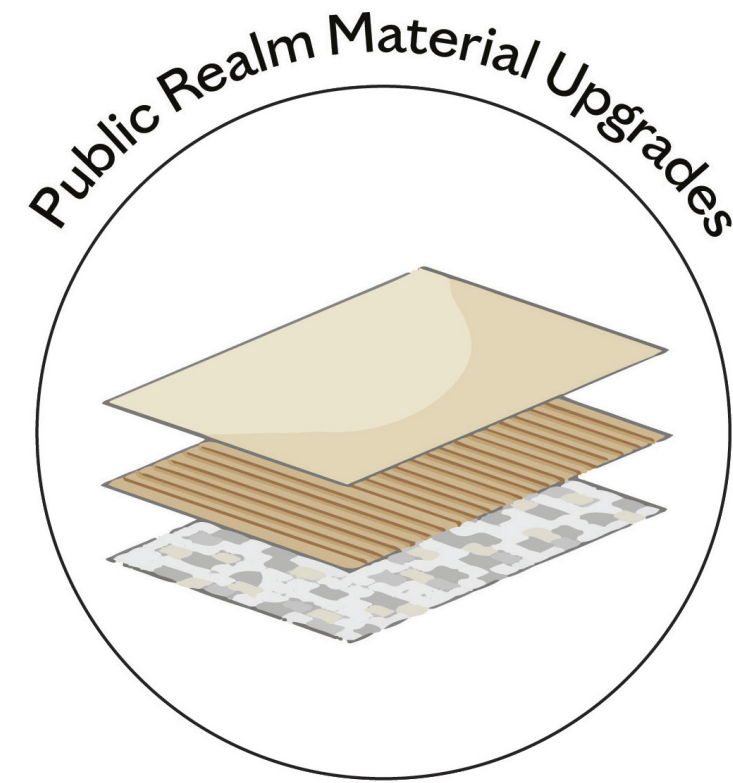
- There is strong feedback around maintaining adequate parking for residents, businesses, and visitors, including age-friendly parking and drop-off points for the elderly.
- Concerns were raised about the impact of removing vehicle drop-offs, particularly for service-oriented businesses like salons and opticians.
- Additionally, managing the dominance of cars in shared spaces and ensuring emergency vehicle access, such as with smart bollards and clear demarcations, are critical considerations.



- Clear signage and wayfinding are essential to guide pedestrians and traffic flow effectively.
- There is also a call for more litter bins and strategies to maintain cleanliness and enhance the pedestrian experience.



- Many Stakeholders stress the importance of supporting small and independent businesses, maintaining a diverse mix of shop styles, and managing delivery logistics to prevent blockages and disruptions.
- Considerations for waste management, such as accommodating refuse collection for restaurants, and the impact of street furniture and outdoor dining on business operations.



- A long list of design studies has been carried out exploring a range of possibilities and changes.
- To enable a quantifiable assessment, the public engagement theme will be swapped for material upgrades and how it responds to the Galway Public Realm Strategy.
- The public engagement theme and consultation process will continue throughout the project development.



# THE CROSS STREET REJUVENATION PROJECT

## PROPOSED DESIGN

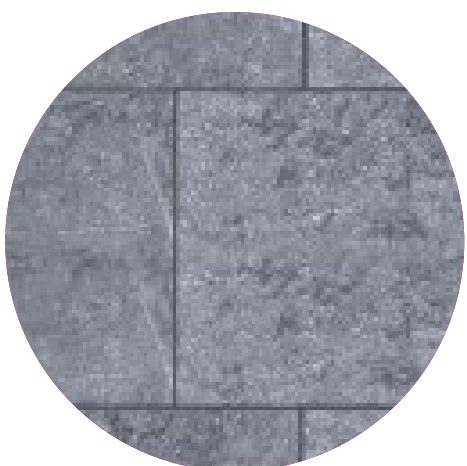
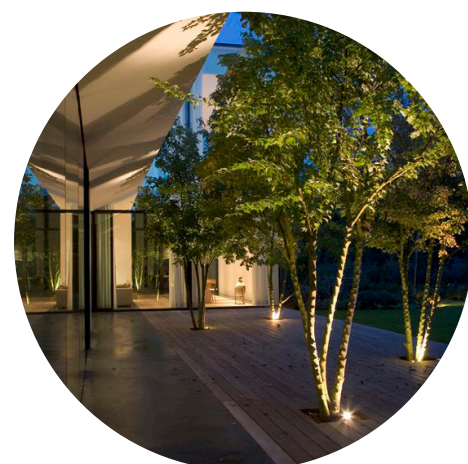
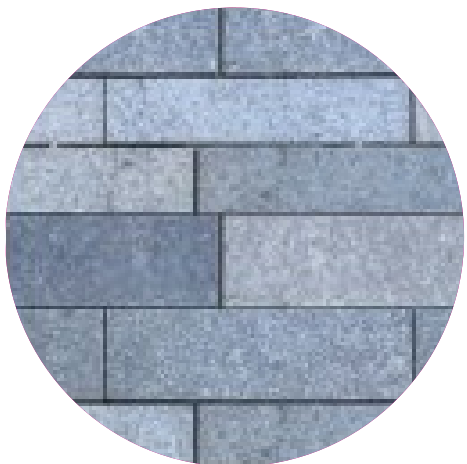


Materials

Street Furniture

Lighting

Soft Landscape



You can email any thoughts to: [Urbanism@galwaycity.ie](mailto:Urbanism@galwaycity.ie)



Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
2040



Comhairle Cathrach  
na Gaillimhe  
Galway City Council

BDP.



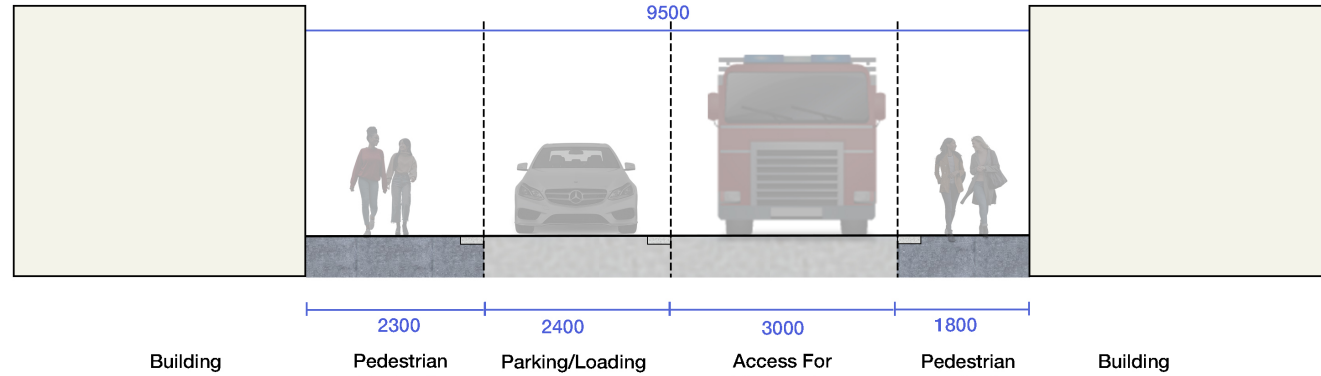
# THE CROSS STREET REJUVENATION PROJECT

## TYPICAL SCENARIOS AND LAYOUTS

Day To Day Layout (1/2)



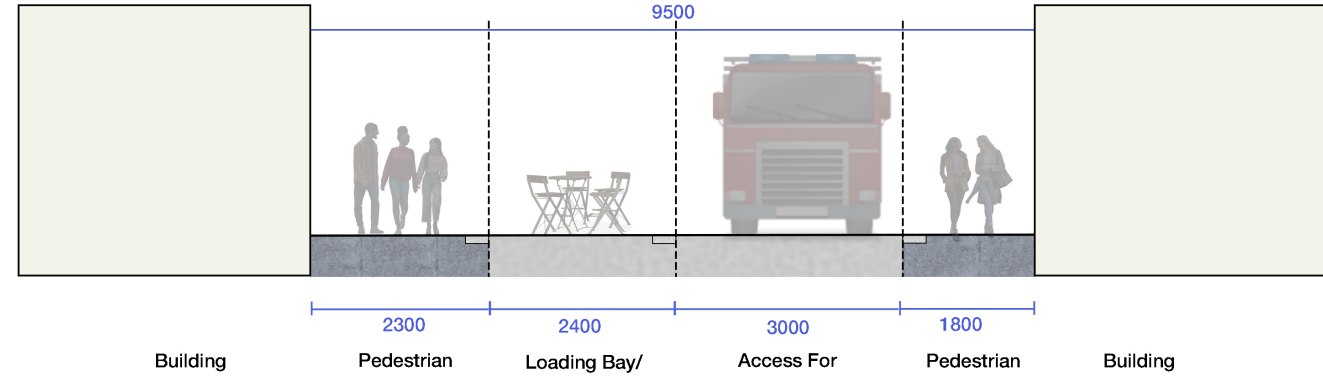
Section Middle Street (AA')



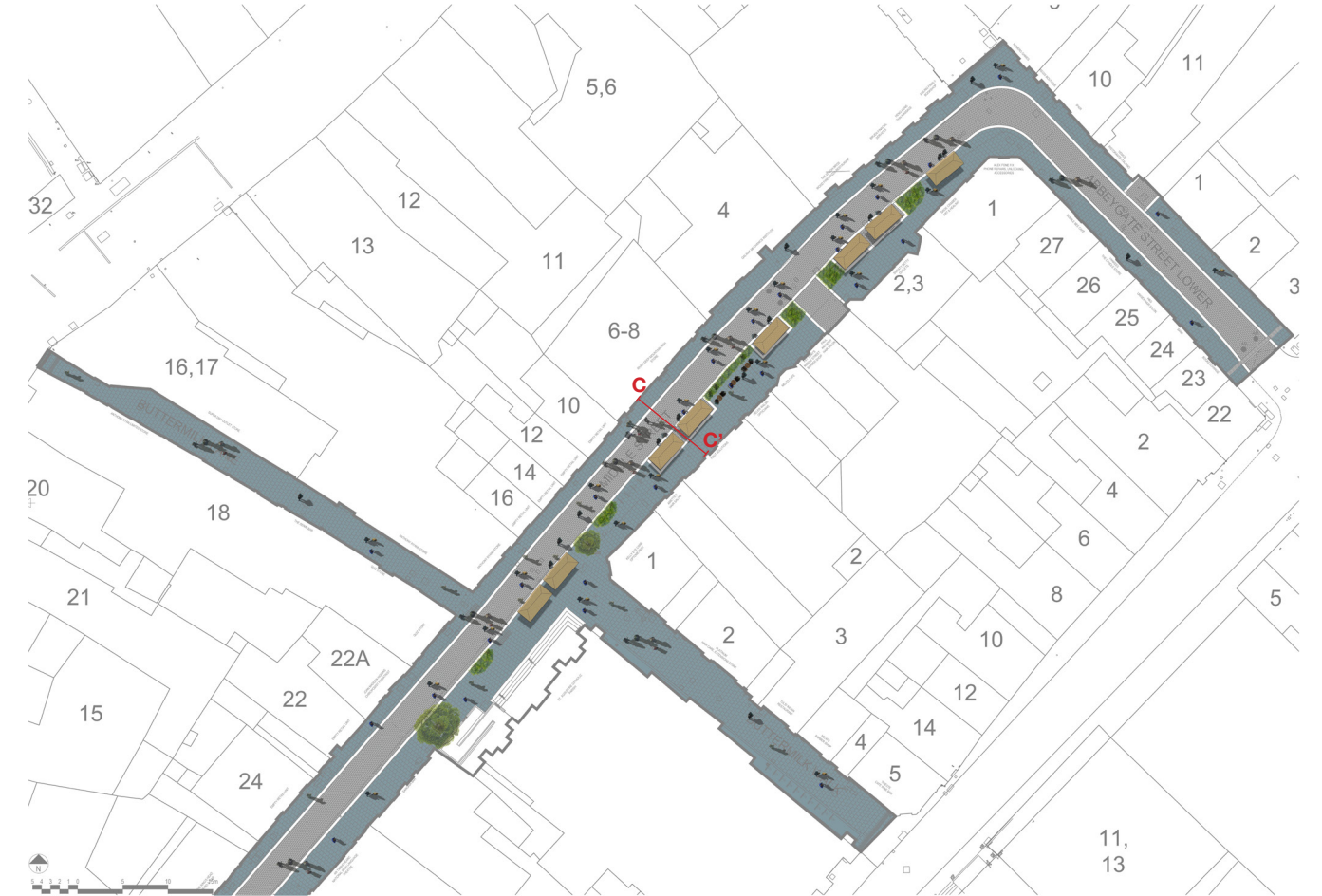
Pedestrianised Layout (1/2)



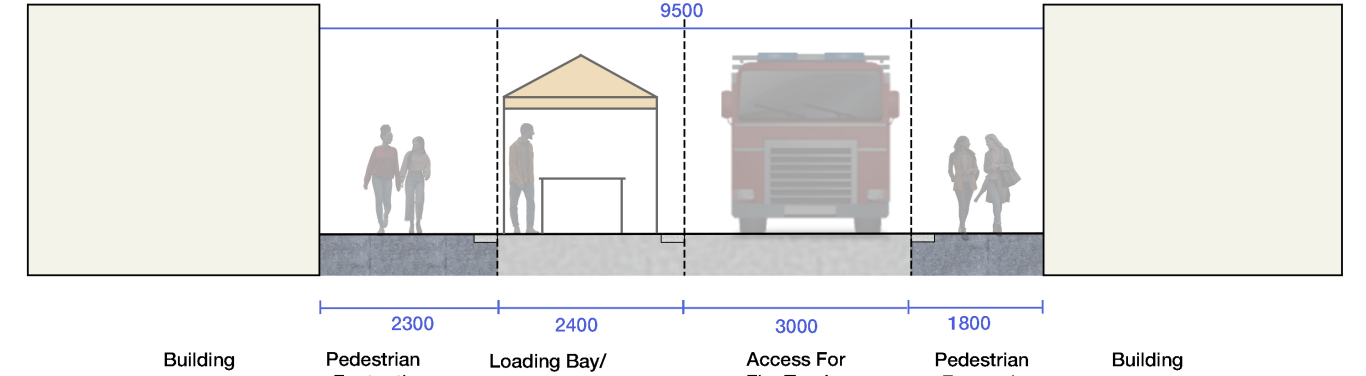
Section Middle Street Pedestrianised (BB')



Market/Event Layout (1/2)



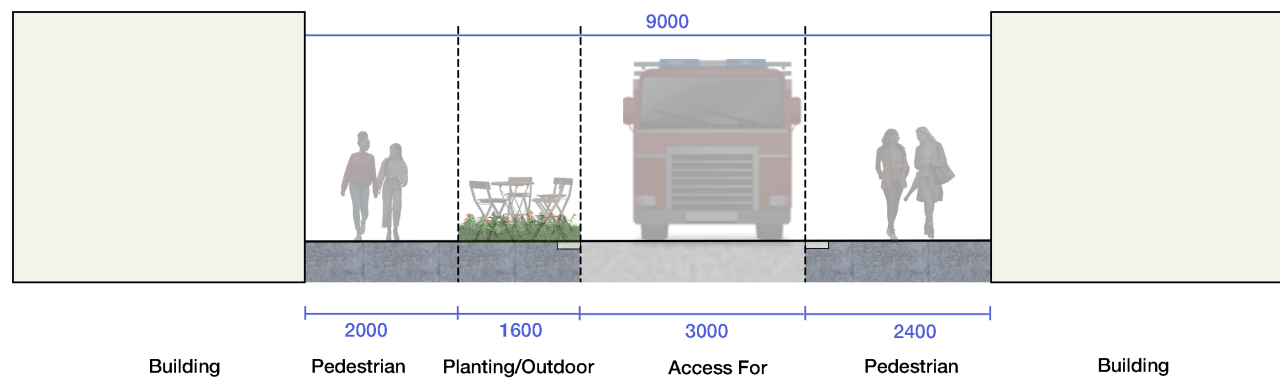
Section Middle Street Market/Event (CC')



Day To Day Layout (2/2)



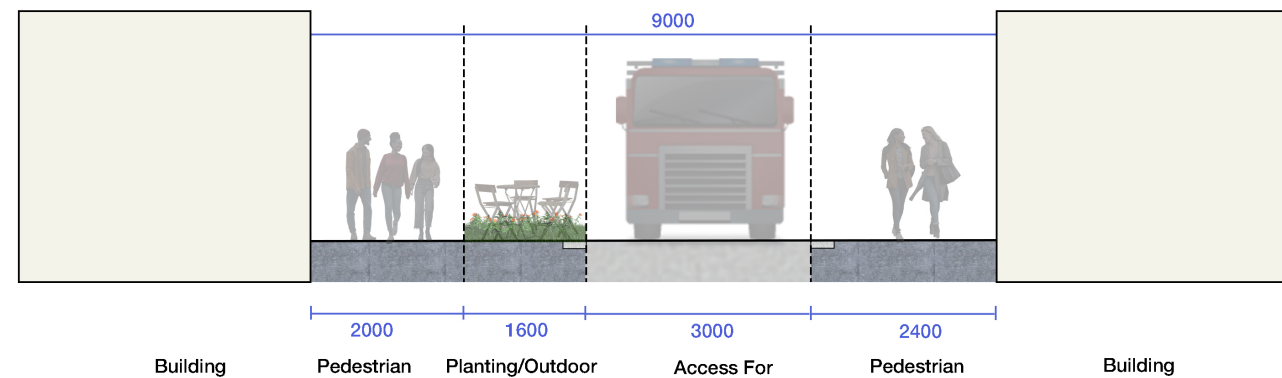
Section Cross Street (DD')



Pedestrianised Layout (2/2)



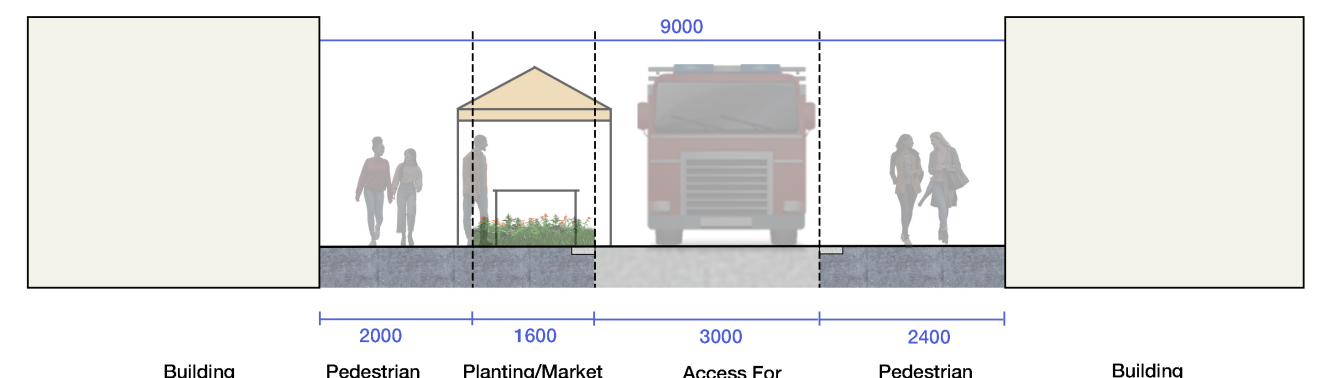
Section Cross Street pedestrianised (EE')



Market/Event Layout (2/2)



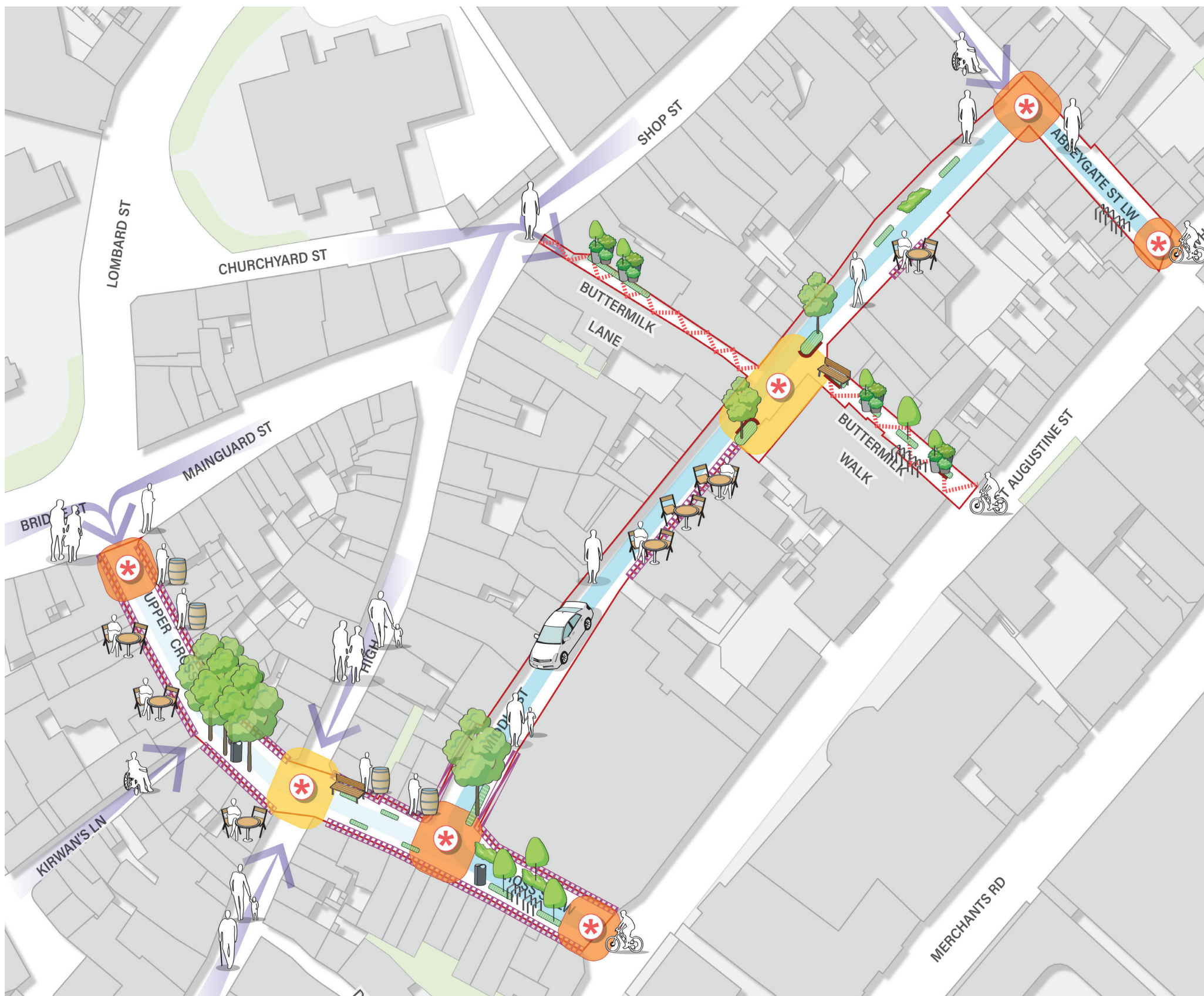
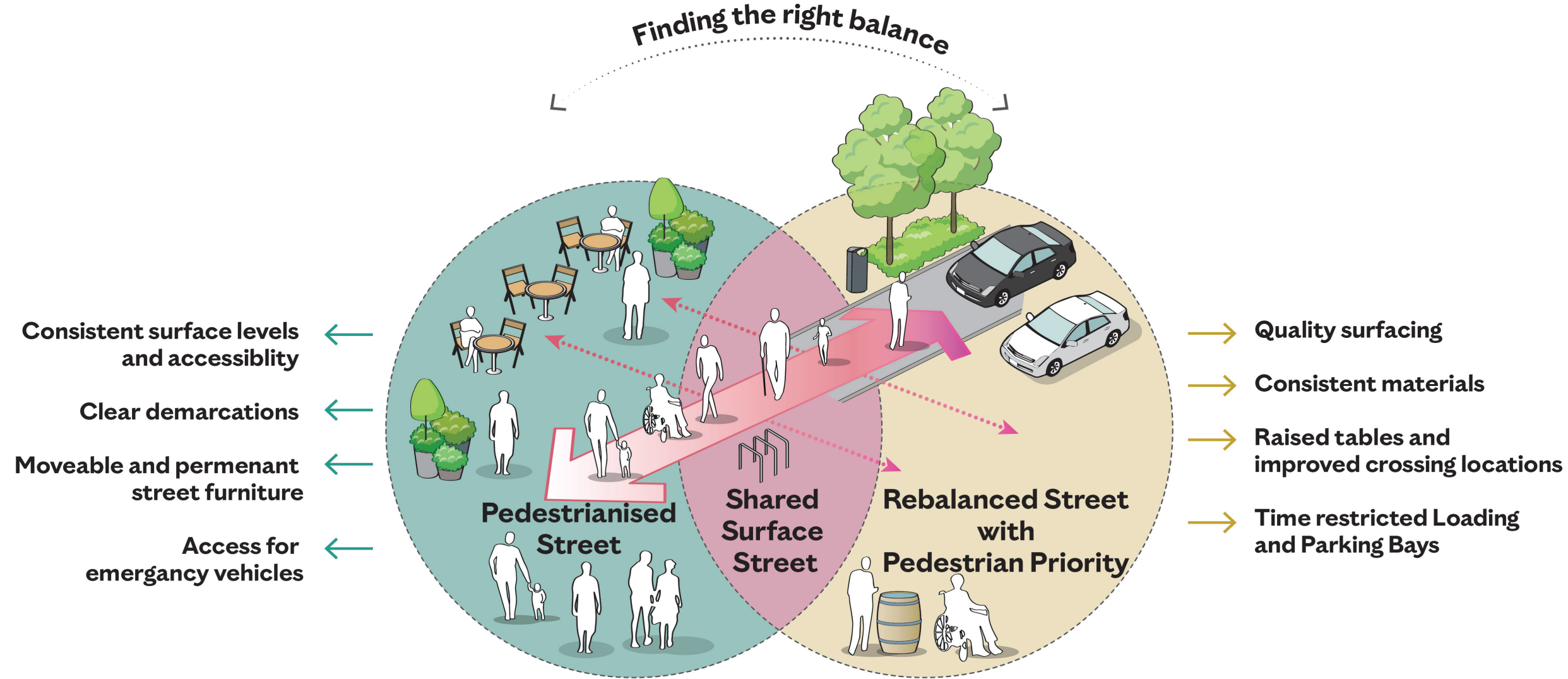
Section Cross Street Market/Event (FF')



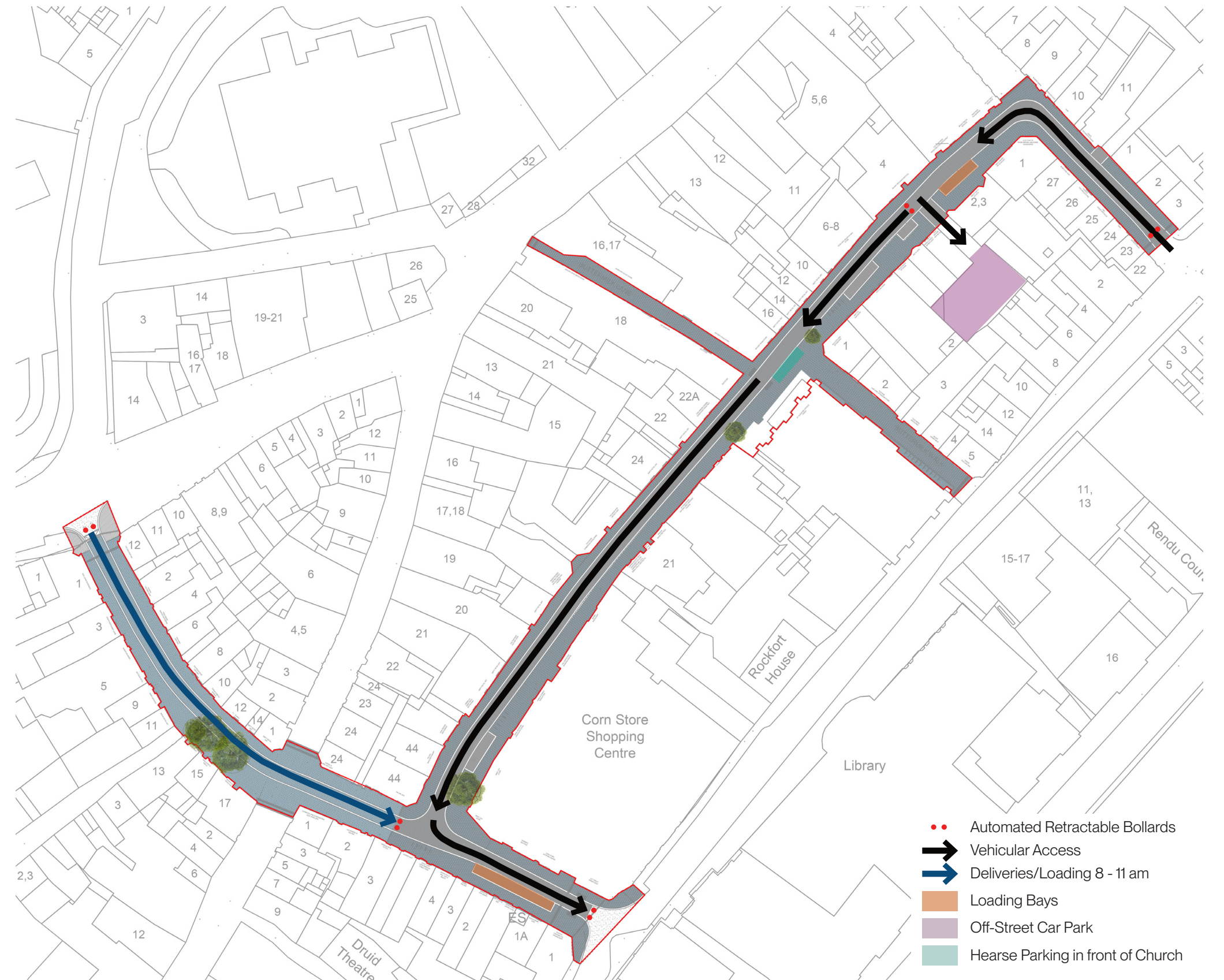


# THE CROSS STREET REJUVENATION PROJECT

## OPPORTUNITIES



Opportunities



Traffic Management



Available Space Analysis (1/2)



Available Space Analysis (2/2)

You can email any thoughts to: [Urbanism@galwaycity.ie](mailto:Urbanism@galwaycity.ie)



Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
2040



Comhairle Cathrach  
na Gaillimhe  
Galway City Council

BDP.



# THE CROSS STREET REJUVENATION PROJECT

## MULTI-CRITERIA ANALYSIS

### A Multi-Criteria Analysis and Detailed Appraisal of All Options

The project is undergoing a Multi-Criteria Analysis (MCA) as part of its Preliminary Business Case. This MCA, based on the Department for Transport Appraisal Framework Guidelines for Capital Investment In Transport (July 2024), aims to appraise four shortlisted options for the scheme.

The project began with a comprehensive Communication and Engagement strategy, including two public engagement workshops. The first workshop sought community priorities and explored the initial public realm typologies at a high level:

- Do Nothing
- Minimal Change
- Improvement of Key areas
- Rebalance of Streets, and
- Pedestrianisation.

From 206 individual comments, eight key community priorities emerged:

1. Accessibility, Safety, and Universal Design
2. Public Realm Enhancements and Streetscape Design
3. Parking, Traffic Management, and Vehicle Access
4. Business Support and Operational Considerations
5. Environmental Sustainability and Infrastructure
6. Cultural Identity, Heritage, and Community Character
7. Signage, Wayfinding, and Cleanliness
8. Public Engagement and Consultation

The second workshop assessed these priorities against the typologies. It revealed strong public support for Approach 4 (Pedestrianisation) at 48%. Notably, 22% favoured elements of both approaches, and there was increased support for pedestrianisation compared to the first workshop, although the specific form (events only, timed, or full-time) remained undecided.

Based on the engagement feedback, a long list of options was refined.

- Do Nothing” (Approach 00) was retained as a baseline.
- Minimal Change” (Approach 01) and “Improve Key Areas” (Approach 02) were discarded for not meeting community priorities or Public Realm Strategy objectives.
- Approaches 03 (“Rebalance Streets”) and 04 (“Pedestrianisation”) were recognized as involving the same physical infrastructure but differing in operation.

Consequently, four viable options were shortlisted for detailed appraisal:

- 4a: No traffic restrictions (equivalent to Approach 03 Rebalance Streets)
- 4b: Timed traffic restrictions (a sub-option of Approach 04 Pedestrianisation)
- 4c: Full pedestrianisation (a sub-option of Approach 04 Pedestrianisation)
- 4d: Flexible Street This new sub-option addresses the complexities of varied operational demands (residential, commercial, tourism) and allows for adaptability in public realm space.

MCA Criteria	Critéir Tionchair MCA	Approach 00 Do Nothing	Option 4A: Shared Surface with no Traffic restrictions	Option 4B: Shared Surface with Timed Traffic Restrictions	Option 4C: Full Pedestrianisation	Option 4D: Flexible Street
Accessibility impacts	PRS Objective 2:					
	PRS Objective 5:					
	Tourism and Night-time Economy Objectives					
	Accessibility to the Urban Centre.					
	Accessibility to services, retail, community and recreational spaces.					
	Nighttime Economy Action Plan 2024-2025:					
	Galway City DEDP2025-2029:					
	Galway City DEDP2025-2029:					
	Galway City DEDP2025-2029:					
	Galway City DEDP2025-2029:					
	Galway City DEDP2025-2029:					
	Galway City DEDP2025-2029:					
Social impacts	Change in quality of public realm - PRS Objective 9:					
	Gender Impacts					
	Transport Users with Different Mobility Needs					
	Tourism and Night-time Economy Objectives					
	Tourism and Night-time Economy Objectives					
	Tourism and Night-time Economy Objectives					
Land use impacts	Change in quality of public realm - PRS Objective 1:					
	Change in quality of public realm - PRS Objective 3:					
	Change in quality of public realm - PRS Objective 4:					
	Change in quality of public realm - PRS Objective 6:					
	Change in quality of public realm - PRS Objective 7:					
	Change in quality of public realm - PRS Objective 8:					
Safety impacts	Vulnerable Road Users					
	Pedestrians					
	Cyclists					
	Vehicular					
	Event Space					
	Event Space					
Climate change impacts	Nighttime Economy Action Plan 2024-2025;					
	Modal Shift					
	GCC CAP 2024-2029					
	GCC CAP 2024-2029					
	GCC CAP 2024-2029					
	GCC CAP 2024-2029					
Local environmental impacts	Air Quality					
	Noise and Vibration					
	Biodiversity					
	Water Resources					
	Landscape and Visual Quality					
	Landscape and Visual Quality					





# THE CROSS STREET REJUVENATION PROJECT

## ARTIST'S IMPRESSIONS



1 Middle Street View South



2 Middle Street View South



3 Lower Cross St / Middle Street Intersection



4 High Street / Upper Cross Street Intersection

You can email any thoughts to: [Urbanism@galwaycity.ie](mailto:Urbanism@galwaycity.ie)



Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
2040



Comhairle Cathrach  
na Gaillimhe  
Galway City Council

**BDP.**