



Lincoln, Irving Park & Damen Traffic Safety Meeting

10/11/23

The 47th Ward Office &
Chicago Department of Transportation

A Problem Intersection

The Issue:

- 47 crashes reported since 2020
(more than 1 every month)

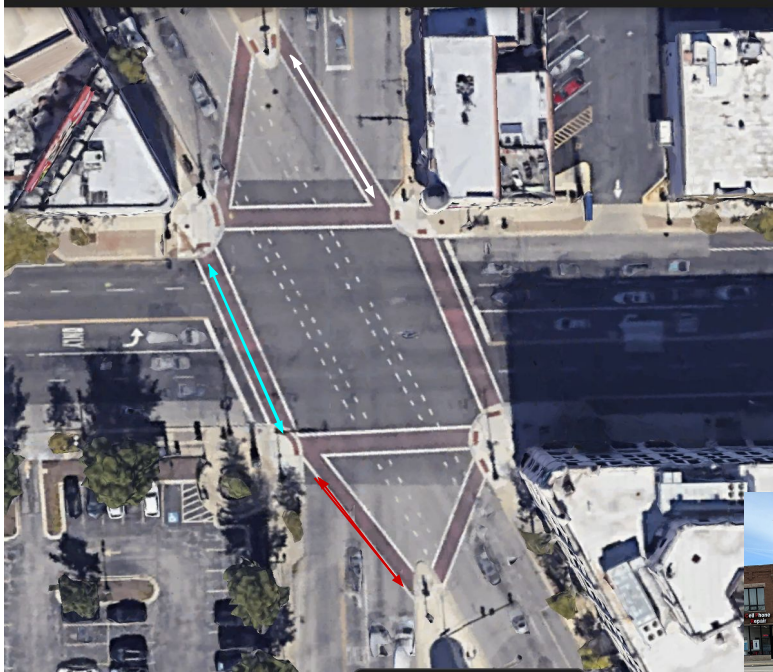
The Goals:

- Reduce the number of crashes
- Increase pedestrian, cycling, and traffic safety and comfort
- Create a comfortable connection between the north and south of sections of Lincoln business corridor

Crash Type	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total	%	Crash Rate
Angle	0	0	1	0	1	2.1%	0.2
Fixed object	0	0	1	0	1	2.1%	0.2
Head on	0	1	1	0	2	4.3%	0.4
Parked motor vehicle	0	0	1	0	1	2.1%	0.2
Pedalcyclist	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0
Pedestrian	0	0	1	1	2	4.3%	0.4
Rear end	7	9	4	1	21	44.7%	4.2
Sideswipe opposite direction	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0
Sideswipe same direction	1	3	3	1	8	17.0%	1.6
Turning	2	4	2	3	11	23.4%	2.2
Other object	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0
Other non-collision	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0
Overturned	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0
Total	10	17	14	6	47	100.0%	9.4
Percentage of Total	21.3%	36.2%	29.8%	12.8%			

Damen Avenue/Irving Park Road/Lincoln Avenue – Crash Data (CDOT)

Existing Conditions



- Long crossing distances for pedestrians
- Narrow sidewalk and crosswalks
- Damen bike lane disappears before the intersection
- Left-turning drivers without a dedicated signal turning after the light
- Drivers stopping on crosswalks



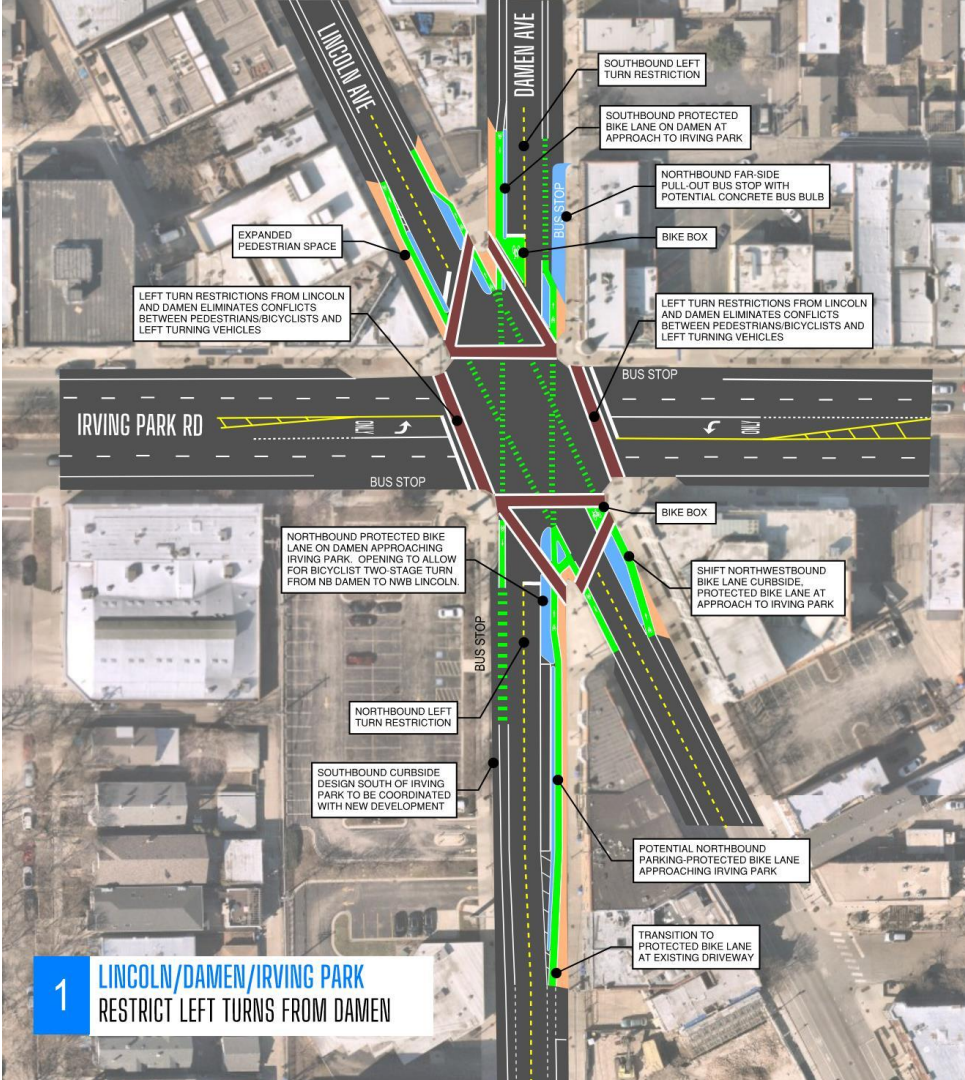
Solutions Explored

- **Left Turn Arrows on Damen – NOT FEASIBLE**
 - Traffic Study submitted to CDOT Fall 2021
 - The legally required minimum crossing time for pedestrians does not leave enough seconds to reallocate green time for left turn arrows.

- **New Stop Sign at Lincoln and Byron – SUPPORTED BY THE 47TH WARD**
 - Reports of multiple crashes and near crashes at this intersection.
 - Calm traffic on a pedestrian commercial corridor leading to the larger intersection

- **Today: Proposed Designs by CDOT**
 - Irving Park Rd. is under IDOT (State) jurisdiction, so possible changes are focused on Damen and Lincoln.

CDOT Alternative Concept #1

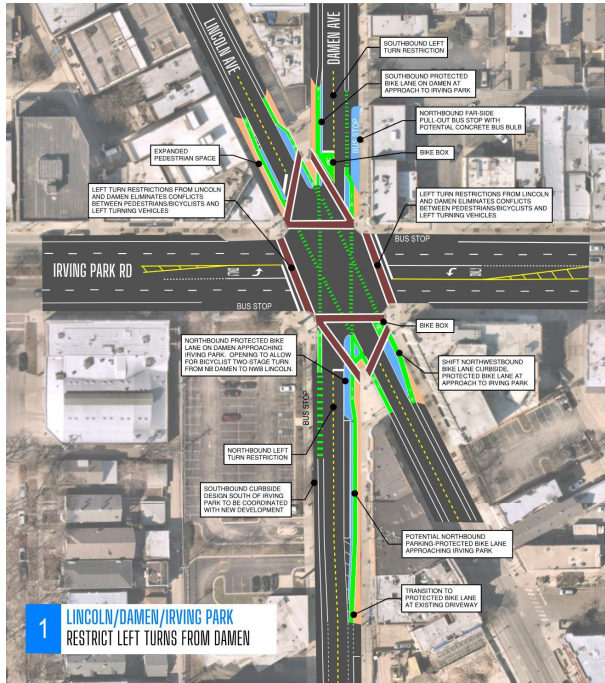


CDOT Alternative Concept #1

- **REMOVAL OF THE LEFT-TURN LANES FROM DAMEN ONTO IRVING PARK**
 - Because dedicated left-turn signals are not feasible, **left turn conflicts between drivers and other users cannot be eliminated without restriction of left turns.**
 - Left turns are **the most dangerous turns** (40% of serious pedestrian crashes ¹).
 - **Improves flow** of vehicular traffic.
 - **Space can be rededicated to other users**
- **LEFT TURN RESTRICTIONS ON LINCOLN ARE MADE FULL-TIME (INSTEAD OF PEAK HOUR)**
- **NO IMPACT TO ON STREET PARKING**

¹ (Chicago, 2017-2021)

CDOT Alternative Concept #1



- **PEDESTRIAN CURB EXTENSIONS**

- Crossing distances reduced by 30%+ across Damen and Lincoln

- **PROTECTED BIKE LANES**

- Entering the intersection from all directions
- Parking-protected on Damen south of Irving

- **BUS BULB**

- on Damen Ave north of Irving to speed up buses

CDOT Alternative Concept #1

What about left-turning traffic?

- Peak traffic counts in line with left turn restrictions at other intersections.
- Drivers plan alternate routes before the intersection, sending some out of the neighborhood.
- Speed humps and curb extensions to be added where needed to reduce and slow cut-through traffic (e.g. Grace St, Berceau Ave).

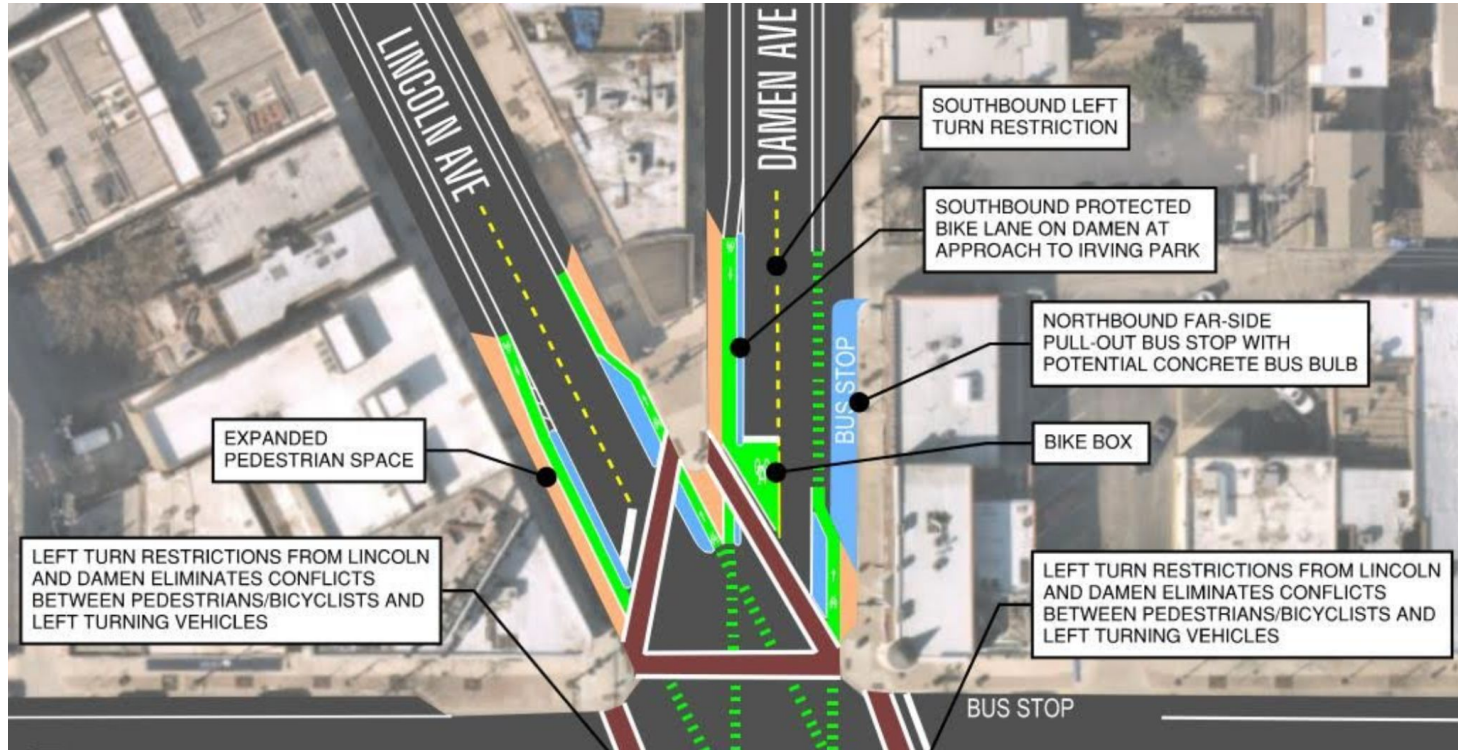
	SOUTHBOUND DAMEN	NORTHBOUND DAMEN
7:30 - 8:30 AM	41	32
4 - 5 PM	16	34

Peak hour left-turning vehicle counts (CDOT)

Zoom: North Side of the Intersection

Gray marks out concrete protections that can be built next year. Tan marks out other expanded pedestrian space.

Red and blue lines below compare distances pedestrians must cross today vs. in this concept.

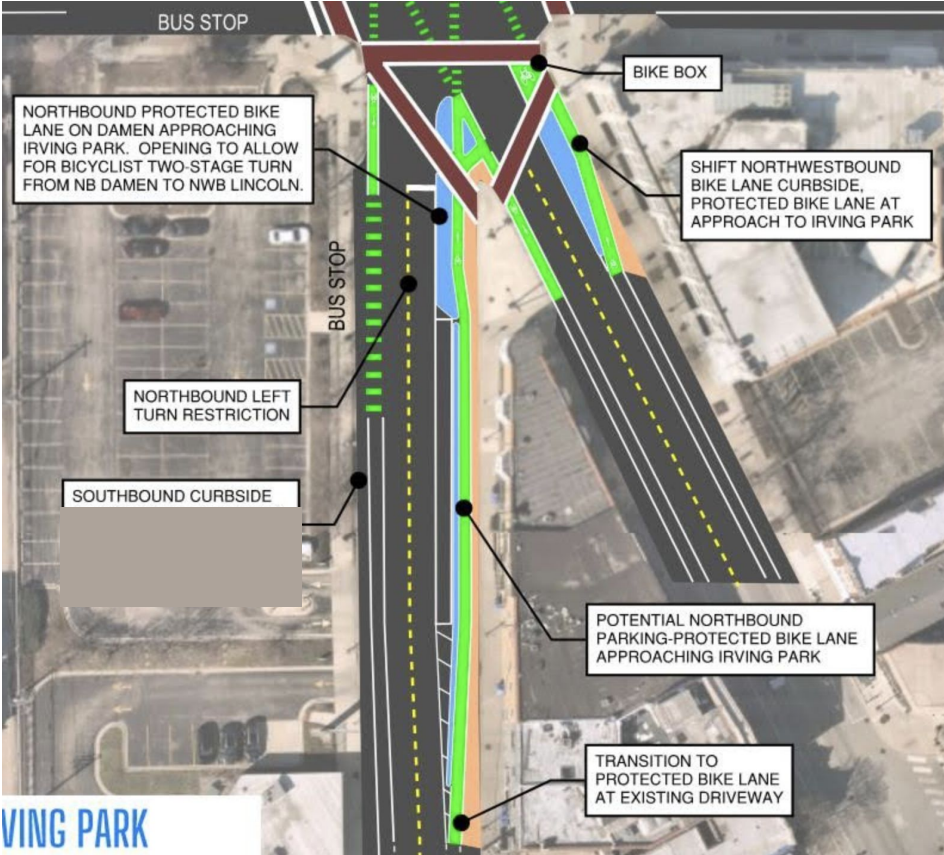


Existing crossing distance on Damen
Proposed crossing distance on Damen

Existing crossing distance on Lincoln
Proposed crossing distance on Lincoln

Zoom: South Side of the Intersection

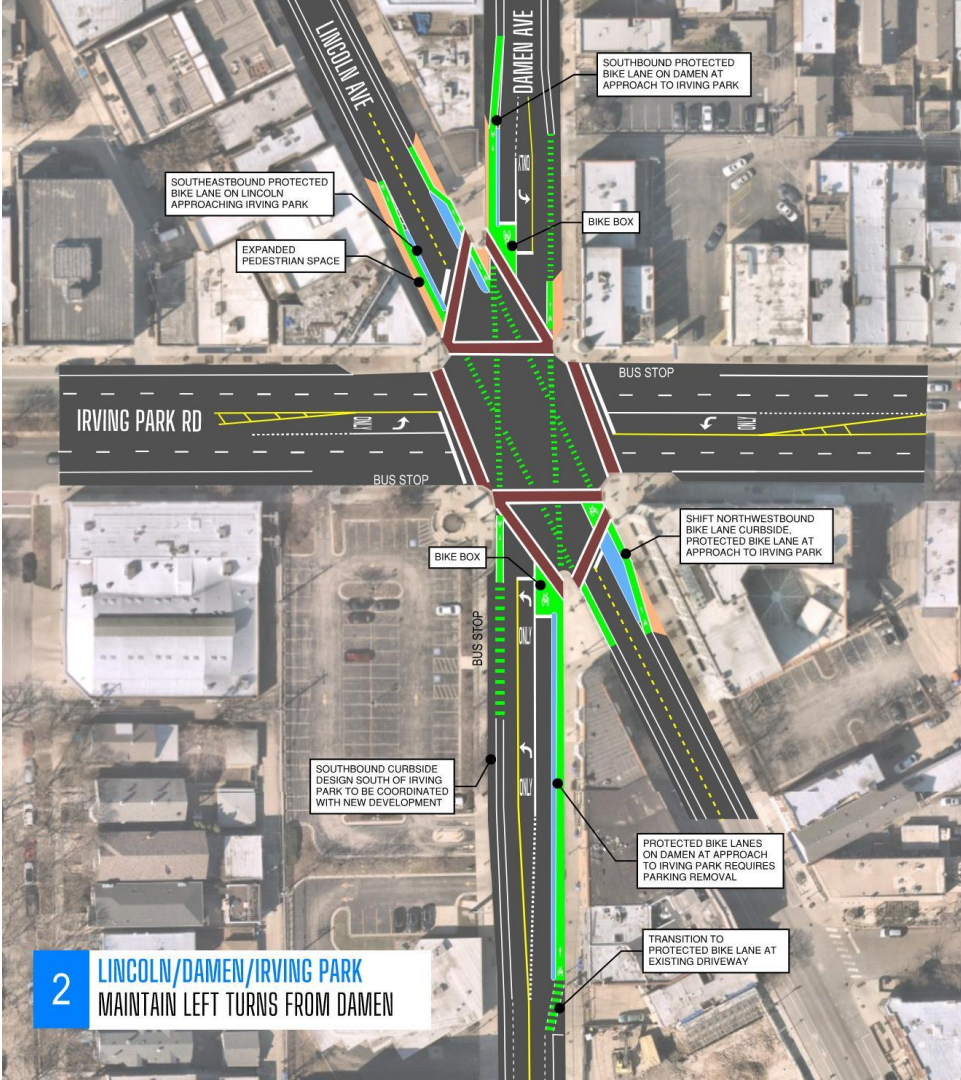
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Existing crossing distance on Damen
Proposed crossing distance on Damen

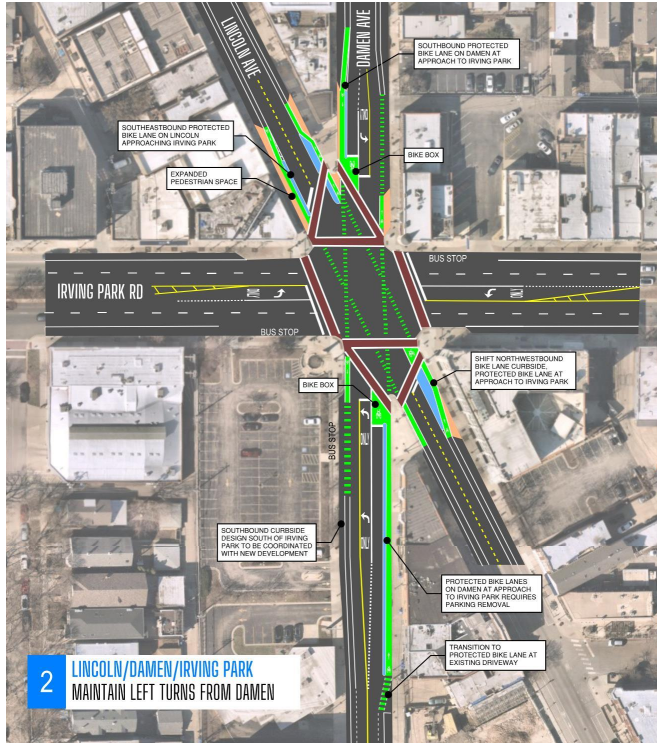
Existing crossing distance on Lincoln
Proposed crossing distance on Lincoln

CDOT Alternative Concept #2



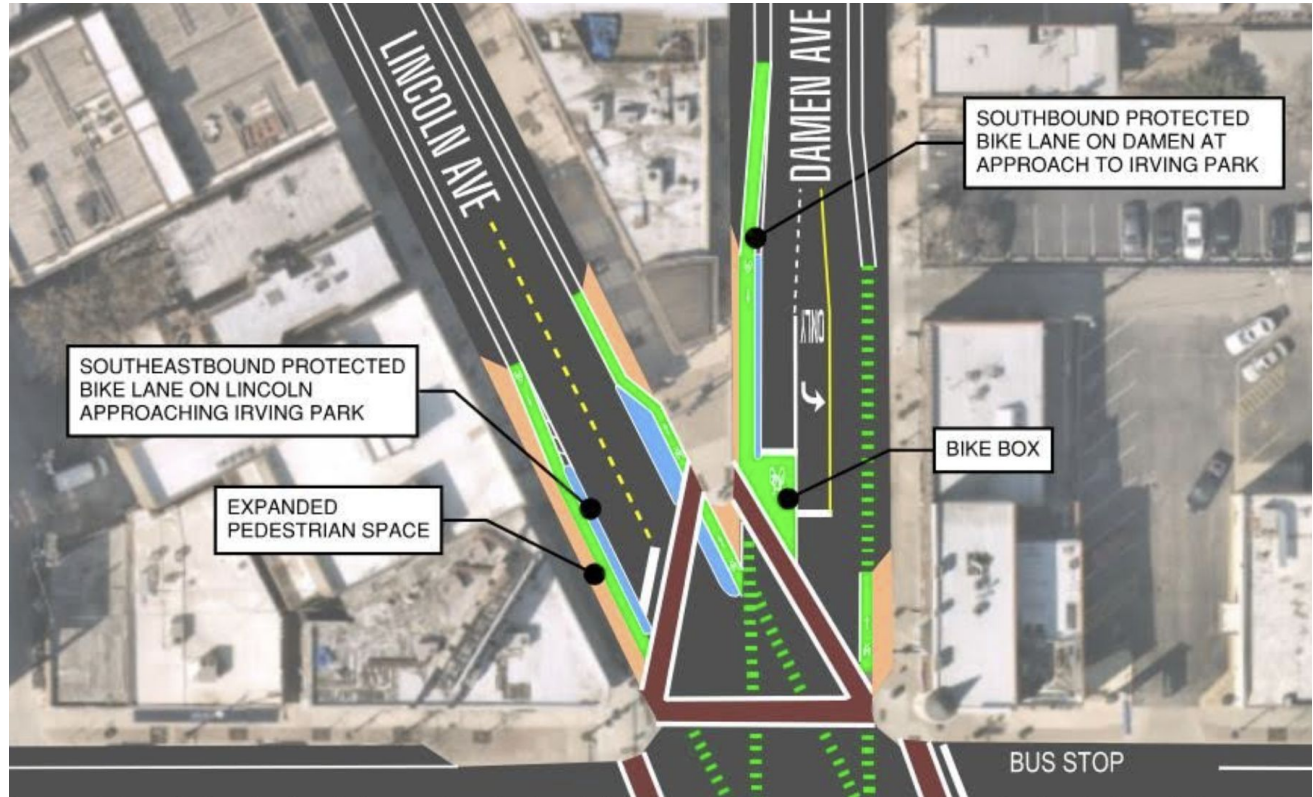
2 LINCOLN/DAMEN/IRVING PARK
MAINTAIN LEFT TURNS FROM DAMEN

CDOT Alternative Concept #2



- **NO IMPACT TO LEFT-TURN LANES**
- **PARKING REMOVED ON THE EAST SIDE OF DAMEN SOUTH OF IRVING PARK**
- **PEDESTRIAN CURB EXTENSIONS**
 - Narrower compared to Proposal #1.
 - Not possible on the south side of the intersection between Damen and Lincoln.
- **CURB-PROTECTED BIKE LANES**

Zoom: North Side of the Intersection



Red and blue lines below compare distances pedestrians must cross today vs. in this concept.

Existing crossing distance on Damen

Proposed crossing distance on Damen

Existing crossing distance on Lincoln

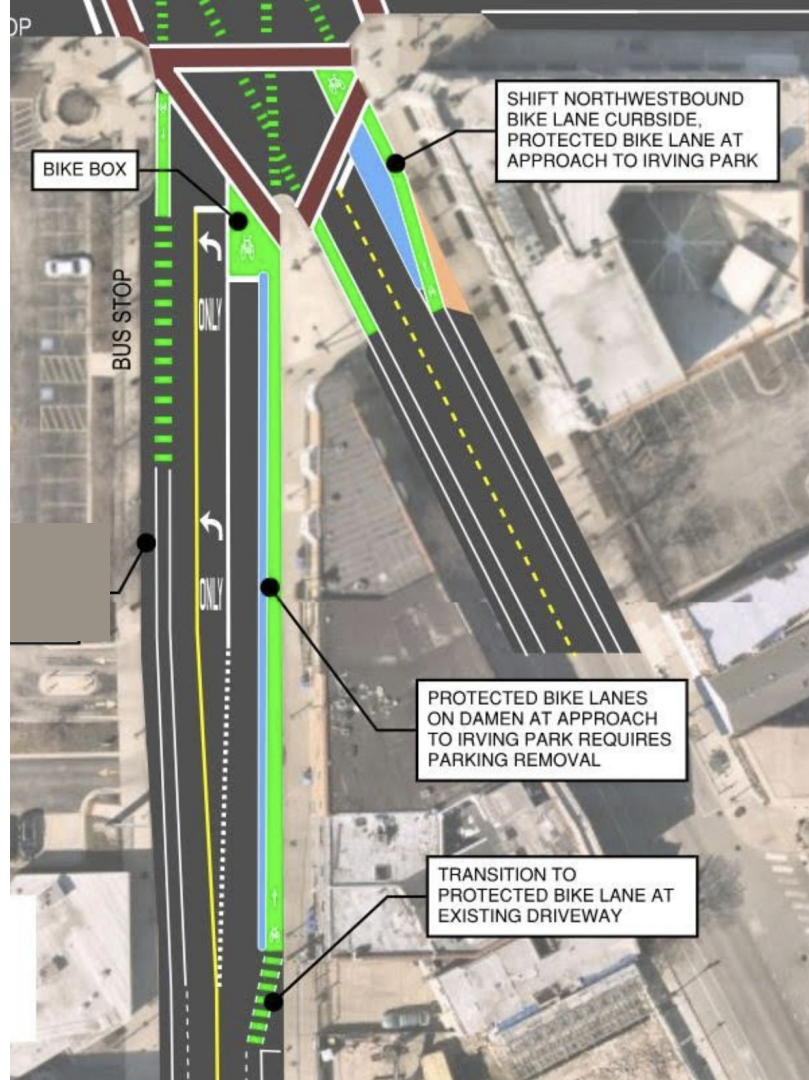
Proposed crossing distance on Lincoln

Zoom: South Side of the Intersection

Red and blue lines below compare distances pedestrians must cross today vs. in this concept.

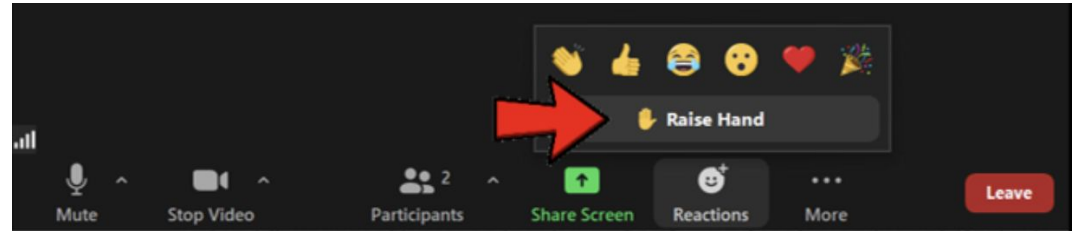
 Existing crossing distance on Damen
 Proposed crossing distance on Damen

 Existing crossing distance on Lincoln
 Proposed crossing distance on Lincoln



Questions & Comments

Use "Raise Hand" button



Or make yourself known in the Chat!

Fill out the Survey

Don't forget to fill out our survey at:

aldermanmartin.com/safer-intersection



Next Steps

- Walk-through + Online Presentation – October 11th
- Survey Opens – October 11th
- Survey Closes – October 25th
- Decision Announced – Week of November 6th
- Construction Takes Place – 2024



Survey: aldermanmartin.com/safer-intersection