

PHASE 1:

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

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OVERVIEW

Stakeholder input and feedback are critical to creating a community-supported vision for the Concord Pike (US 202) Corridor Master Plan. Public participation ensures that the plan addresses community concerns and ideas, fosters an inclusive and transparent planning process, identifies key opportunities and priority areas, and builds momentum to move the plan towards adoption and implementation.

In June 2018, the consultant team led by Design Collective, Inc. was engaged by WILMAPCO and New Castle County to begin the Corridor Master Plan. The process approach was structured on a series of three phases to effectively examine, envision, and create a set of planning recommendations for the study area.

A critical task in Phase 1 was to gather stakeholder input. This engagement was conducted through a variety of outreach methods.

WILMAPCO and New Castle County hosted a Public Information Session in July 2018 to provide a project overview and begin the public engagement process. Over 200 community members attended.

In November 2018, the consultant team, WILMAPCO and, New Castle County held a Public Visioning Workshop to outline a vision for the future of Concord Pike with public input and guidance. Approximately 100 attendees participated.

Following the Workshop, the consultant team conducted focused stakeholder interviews, engaging agency representatives, county and state representatives, developers, business owners, residents, and other stakeholders to further understand their viewpoints.

Additionally, a WikiMap (an online mapping tool) was launched to provide an opportunity for the community to provide additional input.



PHOTOS FROM THE PUBLIC VISIONING WORKSHOP (ABOVE) AND PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION (BELOW)

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PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION JULY 2018

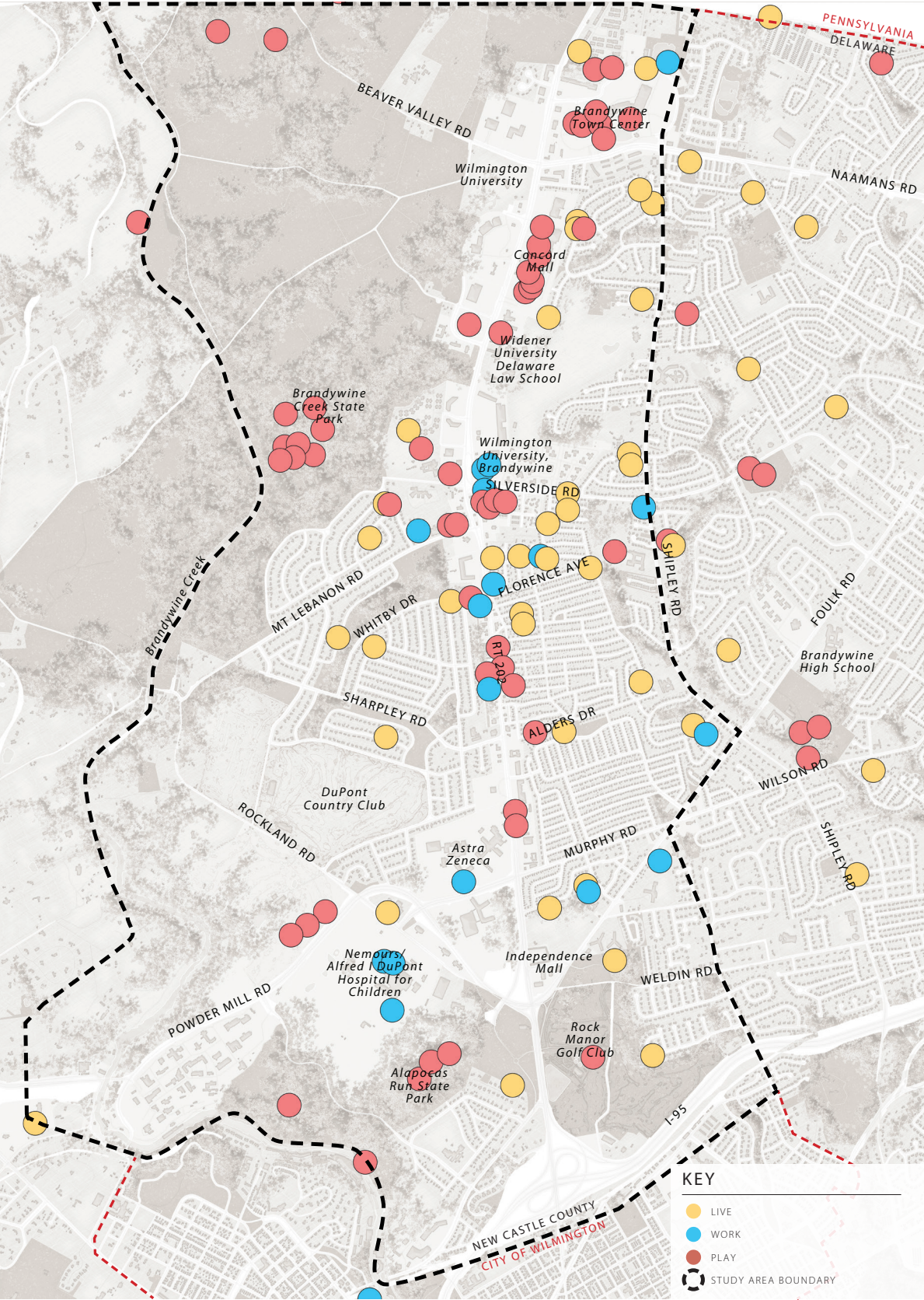
Comments from the Public Information Session are consolidated below.

CONCERNS

- » Increased development will exacerbate traffic, school overcrowding, and crime
- » Roads are heavily traveled and intersections are dangerous. Intersections/locations mentioned include:
 - Concord Pike at Silverside Road
 - Concord Pike at Naamans Road
 - Shipley Road at Naamans Road
 - Concord Pike (headed North) from access points to Fairfax Shopping Center
 - I-95 to Foulk Road
 - Park Drive at Rockland Road
 - Concord Pike at Mt Lebanon Road
 - Concord Pike at Brandywine Boulevard
 - Thompsons Bridge Road at proposed Wilmington University entrance/exit
 - Concord Pike at Murphy Road
- » A percentage of the retail (particularly in strip malls) is declining and underutilized

VISION/ PRIORITIES

- » Create more walkable environments, both in between businesses on Concord Pike and to/within surrounding neighborhoods
- » Consider senior living and 55+ communities
- » Establish strategies to reduce speeding and relieve heavy traffic
- » Incorporate additional pedestrian and bicycle trails and crossings
- » Protect natural amenities and wildlife
- » Integrate stormwater management systems



LOCATOR MAP (LEFT), PUBIC INFORMATION SESSION (ABOVE), AND PUBLIC INPUT RECEIVED (BELOW)

The Public Information Session offered the community an opportunity to meet the consultant team, understand the project scope and timeline, and provide their feedback regarding strengths, and weaknesses of the Concord Pike Corridor. To better understand specific interests and ensure participation throughout the study area, a locator map asked attendees to identify where they "live, work, and/or play". The community was encouraged to give specific feedback by providing comments on detailed maps of the corridor.

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PUBLIC VISIONING WORKSHOP NOVEMBER 2018

Comments from the Public Visioning Workshop are consolidated by topic below.

CHARACTER OF EXISTING CORRIDOR

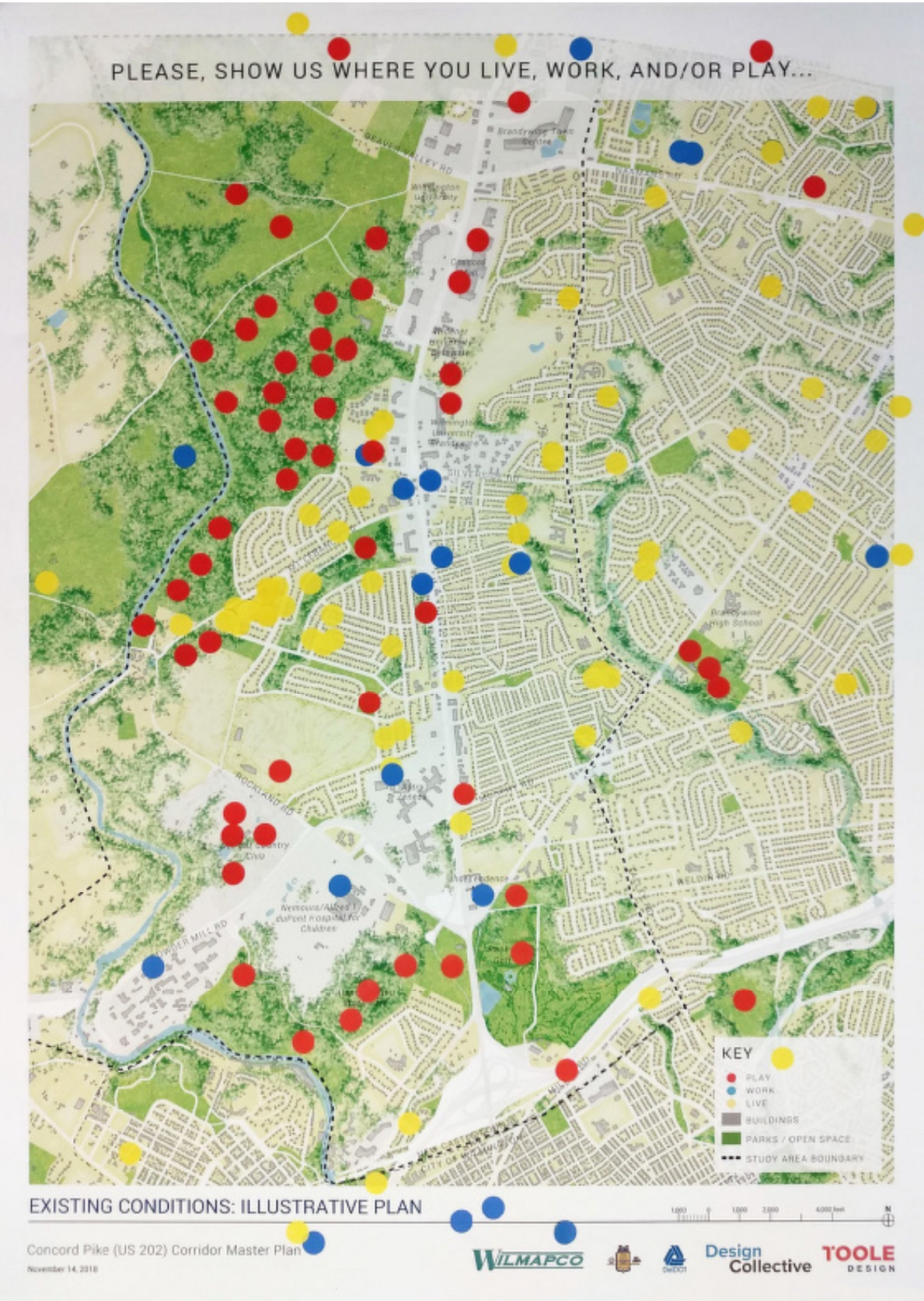
- » Convenient access to a wide-range of commercial amenities and services, including retail, restaurants, grocery stores, and medical facilities
- » Expansive network of natural features, open spaces, parks, and trails throughout, offering opportunities for passive and active recreation
- » Desire for more public, programmable spaces for community activities (farmers markets, outdoor movies, festivals, etc)

LAND USE

- » Residential development patterns are not sustainable, feasible, or necessarily desirable for future housing needs
- » Senior living is in high demand to create opportunities for residents to age in place
- » Maintain existing open spaces and encourage development which respects the natural landscape of the area

TRANSPORTATION

- » Pedestrian and bicycle facilities are not well connected to the natural amenities along the western edge of the study area
- » Create safer environments for pedestrian access throughout
- » Bus ridership and access to safe and convenient facilities are lacking
- » Vehicular traffic on Concord Pike forces bypass use of Shipley
- » Reconfiguration of traffic lights to keep 202 moving
- » Negotiate the amount of right turn lane entries



PUBLIC INPUT RECEIVED ON BASE MAPS (LEFT), TABLE DISCUSSIONS (ABOVE), AND PRECEDENT IMAGE SHEETS (BELOW)

The Public Visioning Workshop offered the community an opportunity to review the analysis work produced by WILMAPCO and the consultant team and provide input regarding their observations and visions for the corridor referencing existing base maps and precedent image boards.

