S Dobson Street Pedestrian and Emergency Vehicle Evaluation

City Council April 21, 2025





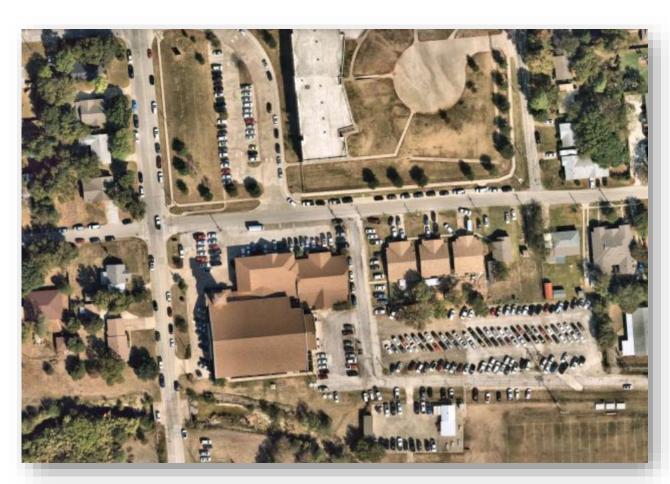
Background

Staff has received several citizen concerns

- Pedestrian safety
- Off-street parking

Mayor Pro Tem McClendon requested an evaluation of the surrounding and provide recommendations

Professional Services contract approved by City Council August 5, 2024



Existing Conditions

Dobson is a minor collector connecting E. Renfro Street and Hidden Creek Parkway

Pavement width

- 40 feet From E Renfro Street to E. Miller Street
- 30 feet E Miller to just south of S. Dobson Street bridge
- Reduces to less than 30 feet south of Town Creek to Hidden Creek Parkway

Parallel parking on both sides from E Ellison Street to E. Miller Street

- Utilized for drop off and pick up for Nola Dunn Elementary School
- Members of Open Door Church utilize during church services

Scope

Study area

- North E. Ellison Street
- South Town Creek
- West S. Commerce Street
- East S. Scott Street

Evaluate and provide recommendations for the following –

- Pedestrian safety
- Off street parking

Evaluation will include identifying potential additional parking opportunities



KIMLEY HORN PRESENTATION



Outline

- Purpose and Need
- Study Area and Approach
- Observations and Considerations
 - Parking
 - Access
 - Pedestrian Activity

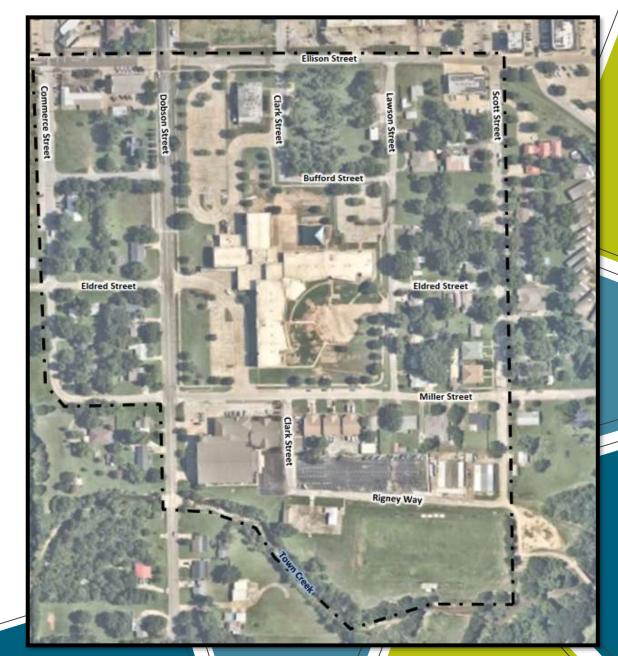
Purpose and Need

- Evaluating pedestrian safety and emergency vehicle access for the study area
- Performed observations during high utilization of on-street parking
 - 1. Weekday from 2 8:30 PM
 - 2. Sunday from 8 AM 12 PM
- Study area considerations based on observations regarding parking, access, and pedestrian activity



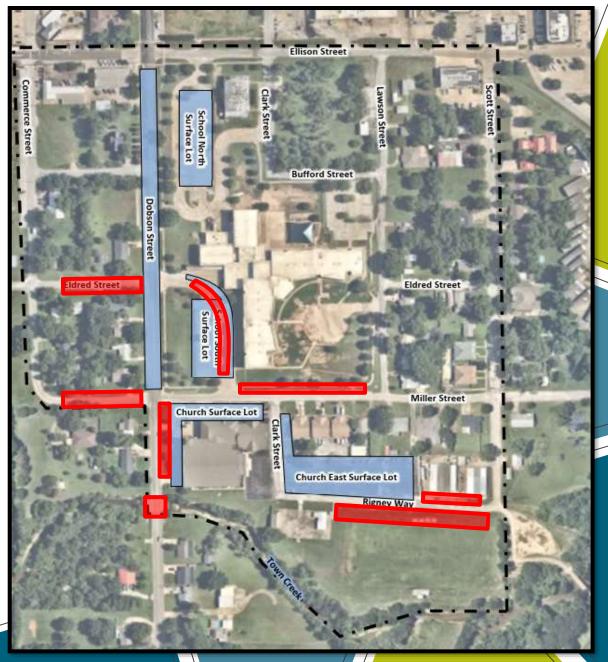
Study Area

- Overall area bounded by Ellison, Scott, Town Creek, and Dobson/Commerce
- The Academy at Nola Dunn and OpenDoor Church are primary generators for vehicular and pedestrian traffic



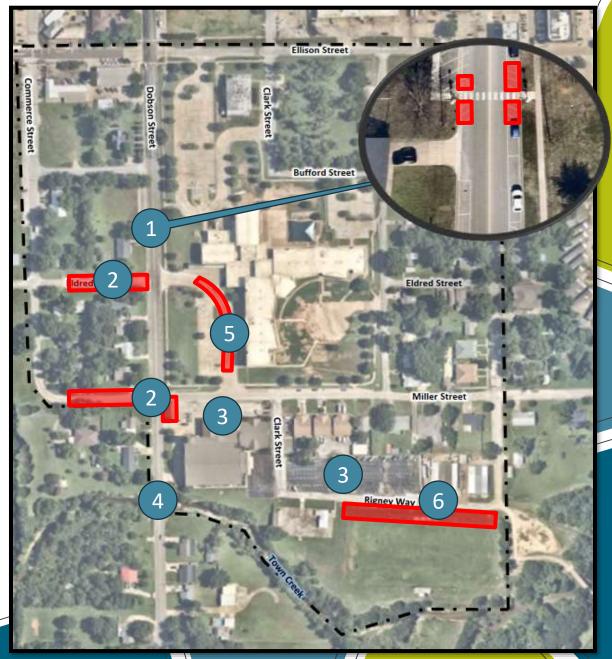
Observations – Parking

Location	Parking Supply	Parking Demand					
		School Peak			Church Peak		
	Spaces	Occupied Spaces	% Occupied	Surplus/ Deficient	Occupied Spaces	% Occupied	Surplus/ Deficient
Dobson St	55	55	100%	0	22	40%	33
School North Surface Lot	93	20	22%	73	21	23%	72
School South Surface Lot	57	37	65%	20	57	100%	0
Church Surface Lot	39	22	56%	17	39	100%	0
Church East Surface Lot	134	12	9%	122	134	100%	0
Other	0	12	N/A	-12	64	N/A	-64
Total	378	158	42%	220	337	89%	41



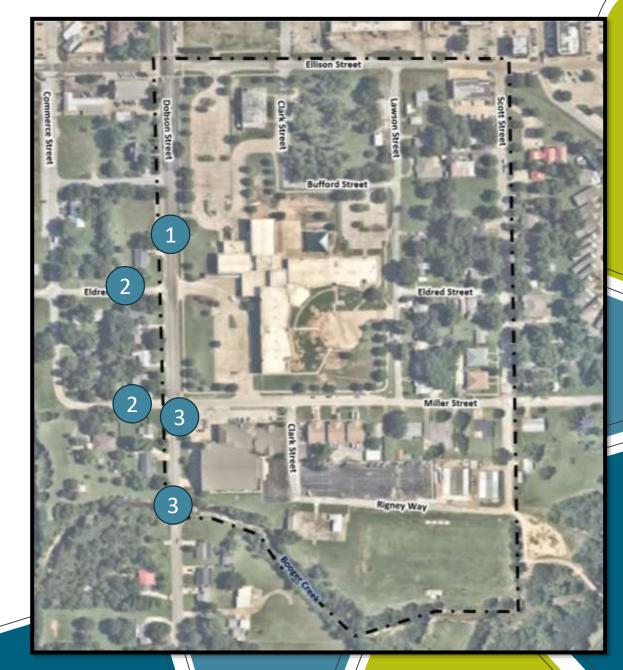
Observations – Parking

- 1. Parking along Dobson in prohibited areas
- 2. Parking along Eldred and Miller impacts sight distance
- 3. Existing parking areas full
- 4. Parking along bridge
- 5. Parking along fire lane
- 6. Parking impacts two-way operations along Rigney



Considerations – Parking

- 1. Restrict parking through:
 - Striping, curb extensions, bulb-outs, delineators, turtle domes, etc.
- 2. Formal "No Parking" signage
- 3. Prohibiting parking



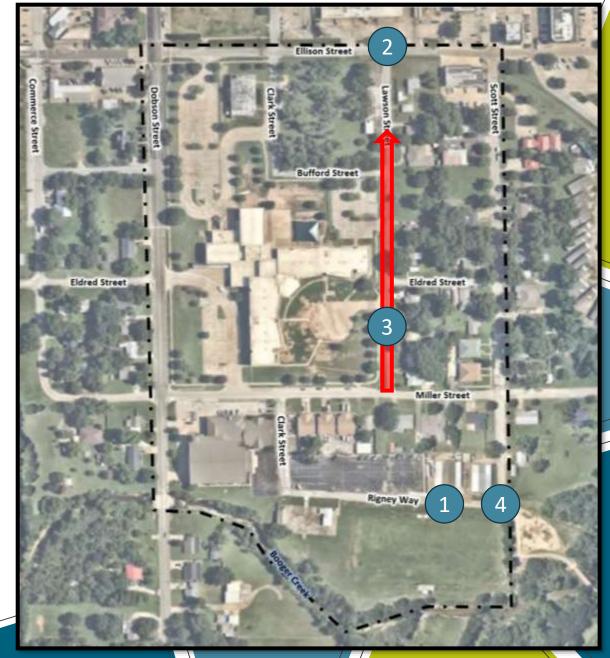
Observations – Access

- 1. School North Surface Lot queue
- 2. School South Surface Lot queue
- 3. Southbound Do Not Enter Signage visibility from Ellison
- 4. Queue impacts two-way operations
- 5. On-street parking impacts twoway operations
- 6. Intersection layout makes maneuvering difficult



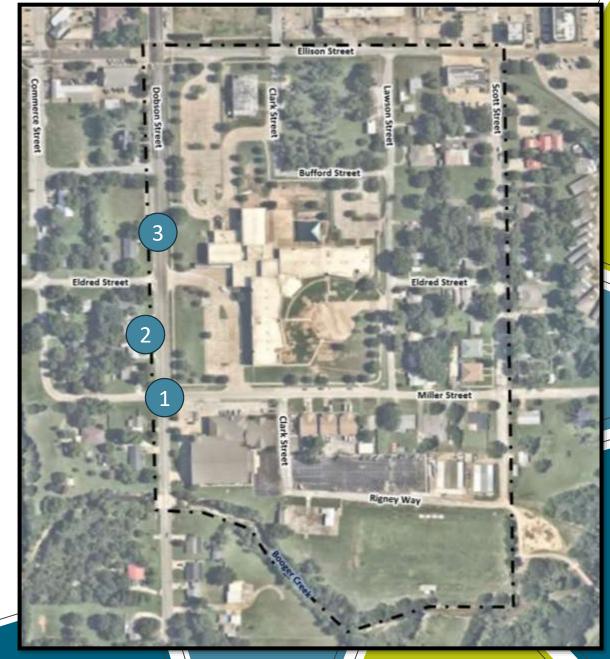
Considerations – Access

- 1. Formalized on-street parking
 - Alternatively, could consider oneway conversion
- 2. Additional signage to improve one-way operations visibility
- 3. Widen to a cross-section similar to Scott
- 4. Reconstruct intersection to improve maneuverability



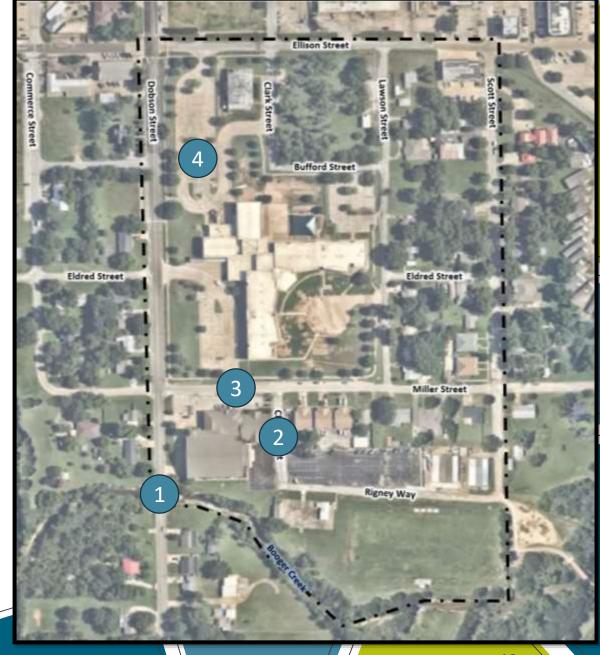
School Peak Hour Observations – Pedestrian Activity

- Ramp on NE corner with no receiving ramps/ infrastructure
- 2. No continuous sidewalk along west side of Dobson
- 3. Pedestrian crossings along Dobson at locations other than RRFB



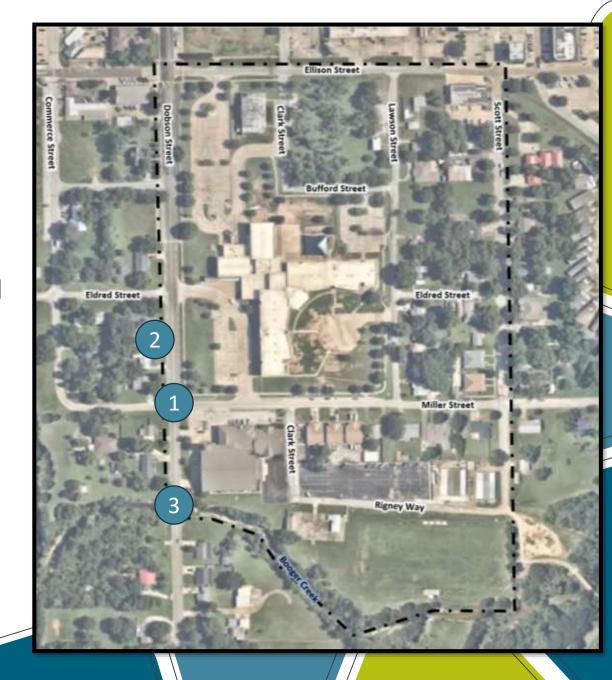
Church Peak Hours Observations – Pedestrian Activity

- 1. Pedestrian activity due to parking in bridge section with no pedestrian infrastructure
- 2. Church staff present to facilitate crossing pedestrian traffic
- 3. No striped crosswalk and no receiving ramp/infrastructure
 - Two church staff members facilitate
- 4. Golf cart shuttle provided



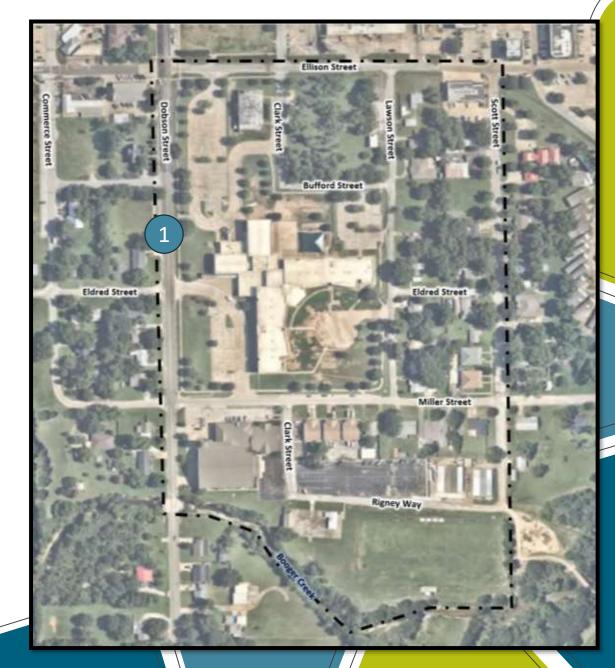
Considerations – Pedestrian Activity

- 1. Construct receiving ramps/infrastructure
 - Consideration for additional Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB)
- 2. Continuous sidewalk along Dobson's western frontage
- 3. Construct barrier along bridge to prevent parking
 - Potential future pedestrian path project along Dobson



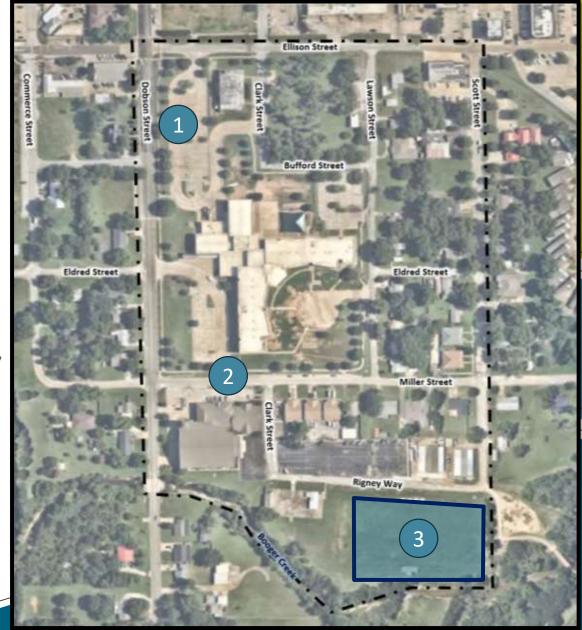
School Considerations – Pedestrian Activity

- 1. City request BISD staff to encourage use of RRFB
- 2. Other considerations:
 - Crossing guards and location
 - Additional RRFB



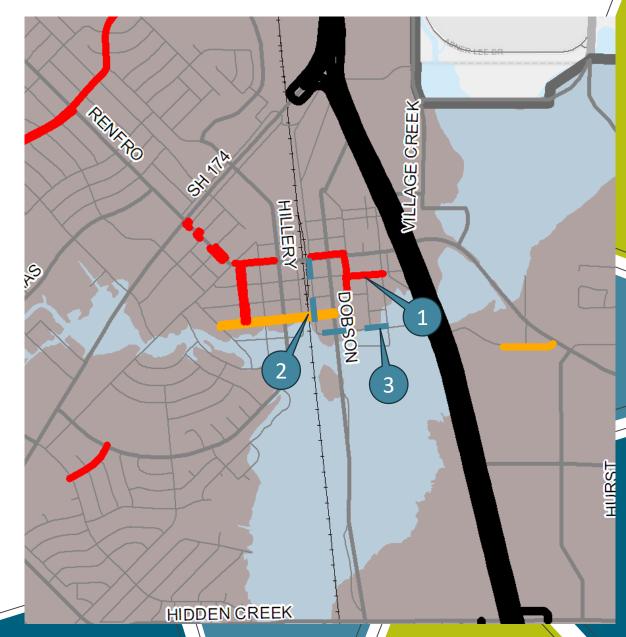
Church Considerations – Pedestrian Activity

- 1. Church staff encourage members to utilize parking to north and golf cart shuttle
- 2. Consider providing funding for RRFB and associated signage and striping
- 3. Add additional parking



Considerations – Mobility Plan

- Three projects identified within study area
 - 1. Ellison Street sidewalk gap
 - 2. Eldred Street sidewalk
 - 3. Commerce Street and Miller Street
 - Identified with proposed shared-use path
- 2 and 3 could be constructed in lieu of adding "No Parking" signs



Questions

