



Route 44



# Concepts for Early Implementation

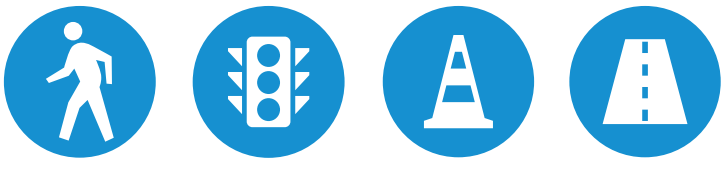
These Route 44 concepts will be constructed early to support the opening of the U District Link light rail station and Metro's North Link Connections Mobility Project.







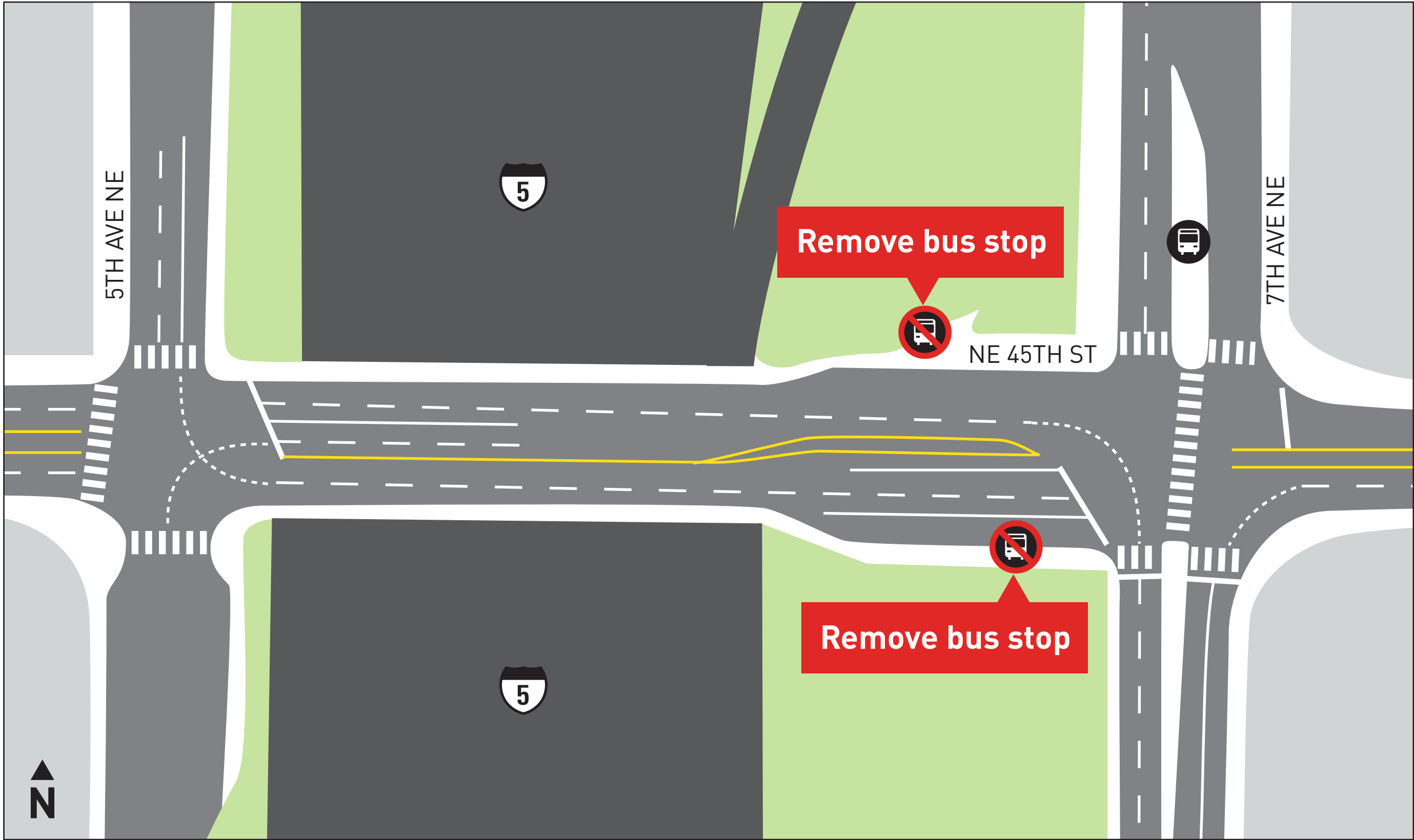
## Route 44



# NE 45th St and I-5 Interchange

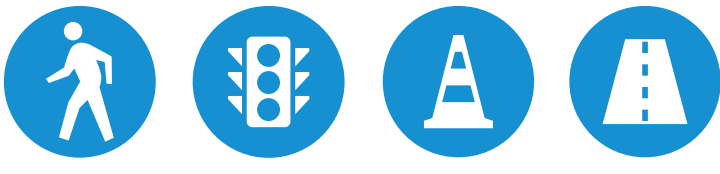
**Concept benefits:**  
This concept will improve traffic flow through this congested area for buses and through traffic. It will improve bus speeds and stop spacing along the corridor.

**This concept will:**  
In fall 2021, Metro plans to remove the westbound and eastbound bus stops on NE 45th St just west of 7th Ave NE. The removal of these stops is consistent with Metro, Sound Transit, and Community Transit’s service restructures planned for fall 2021 when Sound Transit’s North Link light rail extension opens. The restructure of Metro, Sound Transit, and Community Transit’s service will result in fewer opportunities for people to transfer between I-5 bus routes that use the I-5 on-ramp.





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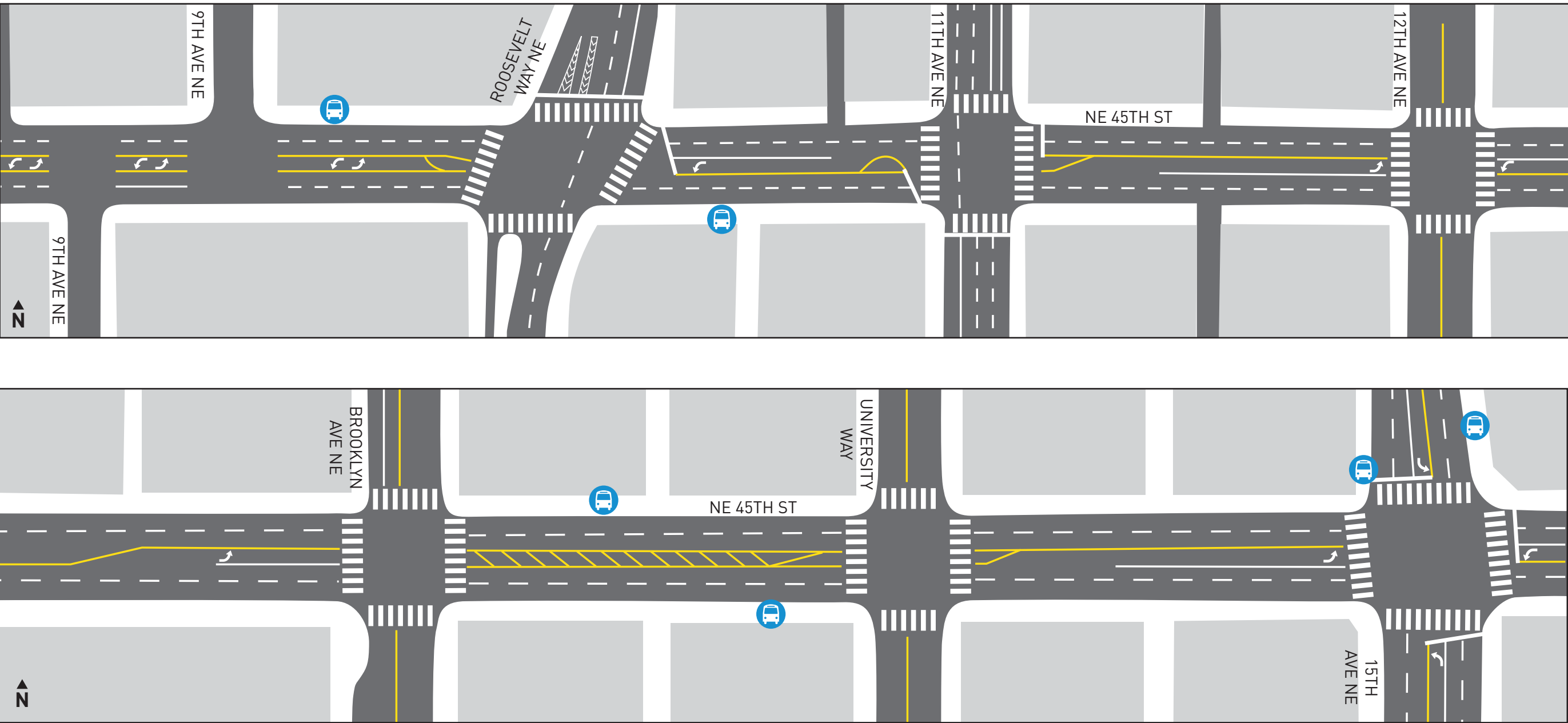


# U-District Segment, NE 45th St at 9th Ave NE to 15th Ave NE

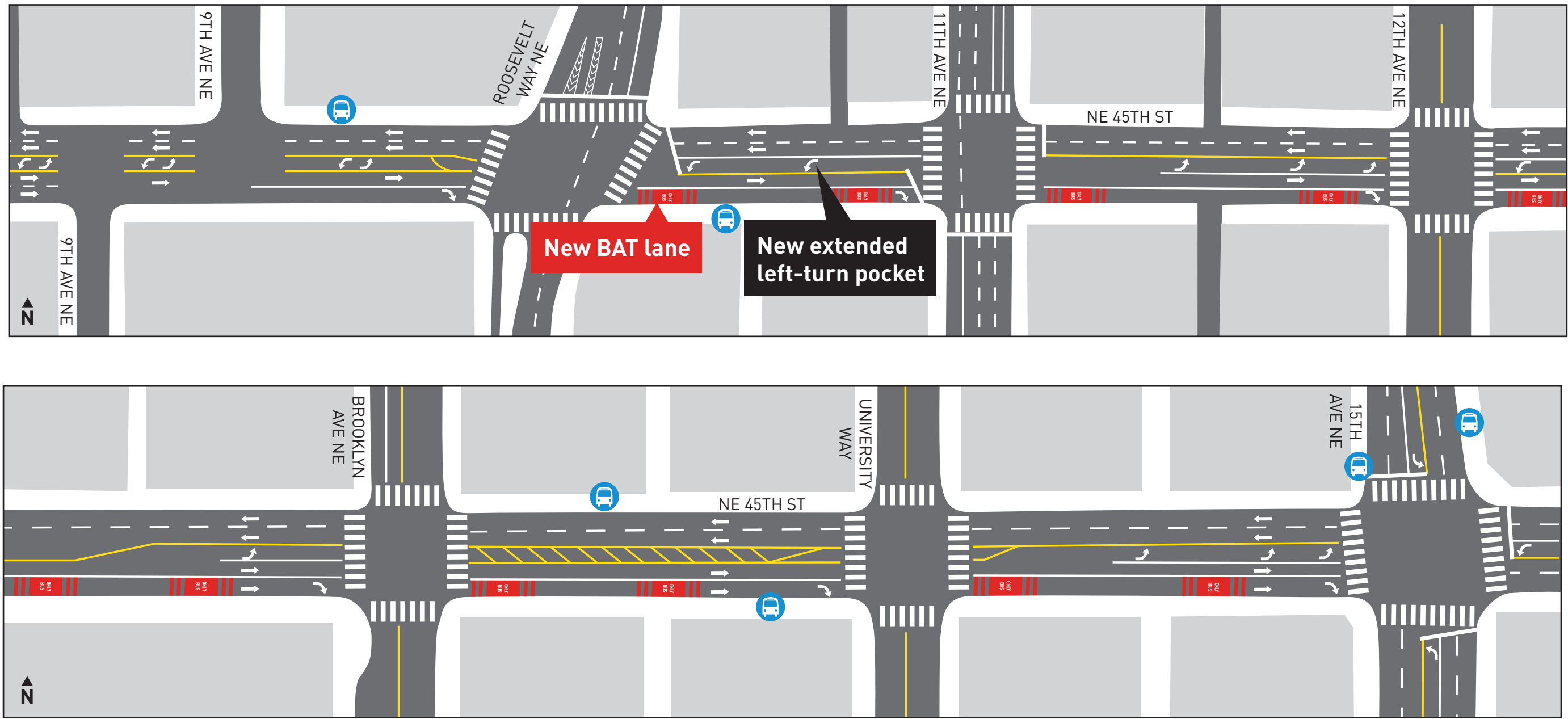
**Concept benefits:**  
Dedicated eastbound bus lane on NE 45th St will allow buses to move more efficiently through this congested area.

- This concept will:**
- Create an eastbound bus only lane installed between Roosevelt Way NE and 15th Ave NE
  - Remove one eastbound general-purpose lane
  - Extend westbound left turn pocket for Roosevelt Way NE farther east

## Before

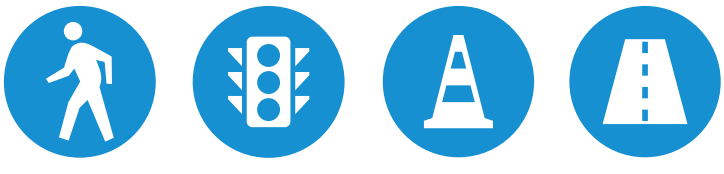


## After





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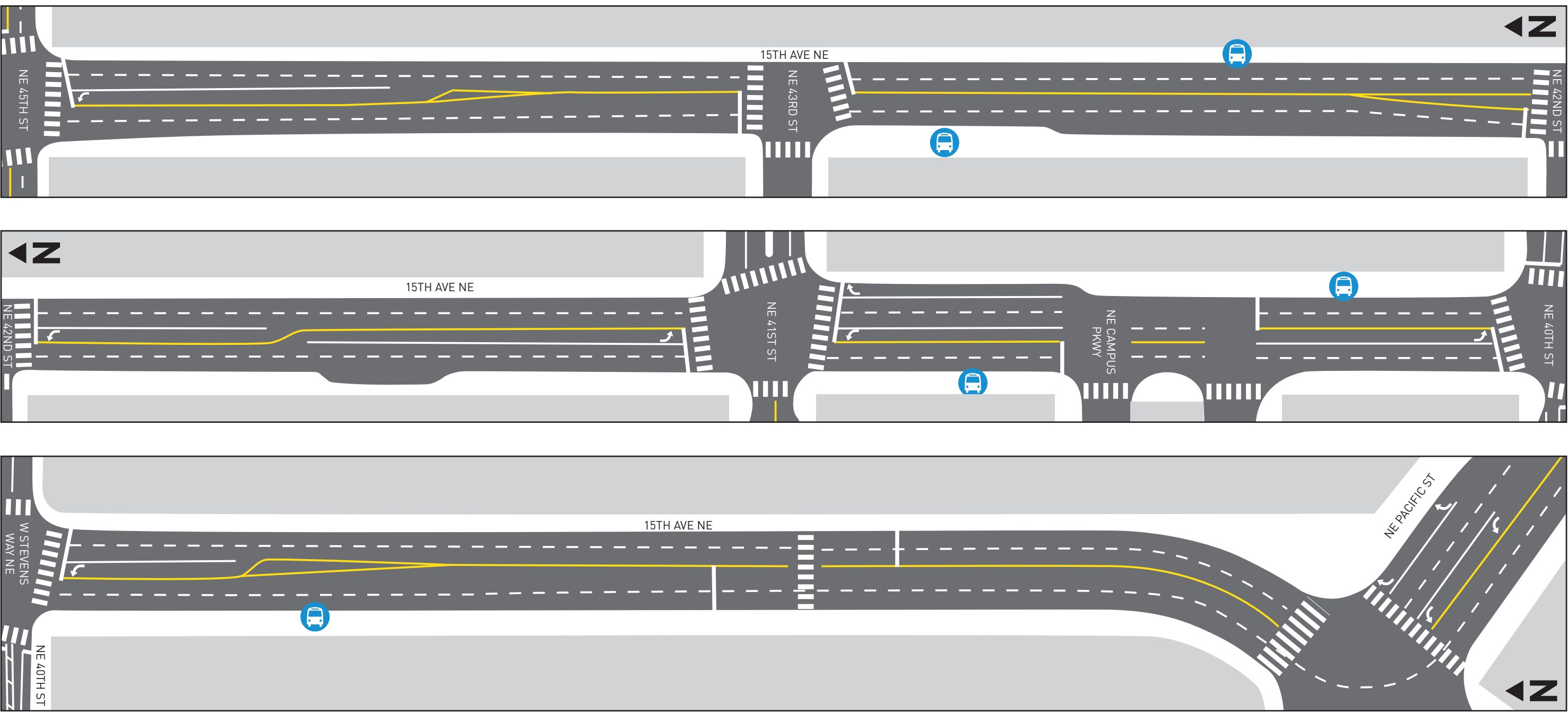
U-District Segment, 15th Ave NE at N 45th St to NE Pacific St

**Concept benefits:**  
Dedicated bus lanes will be added in the northbound and southbound directions between NE 45th St and NE Pacific St.

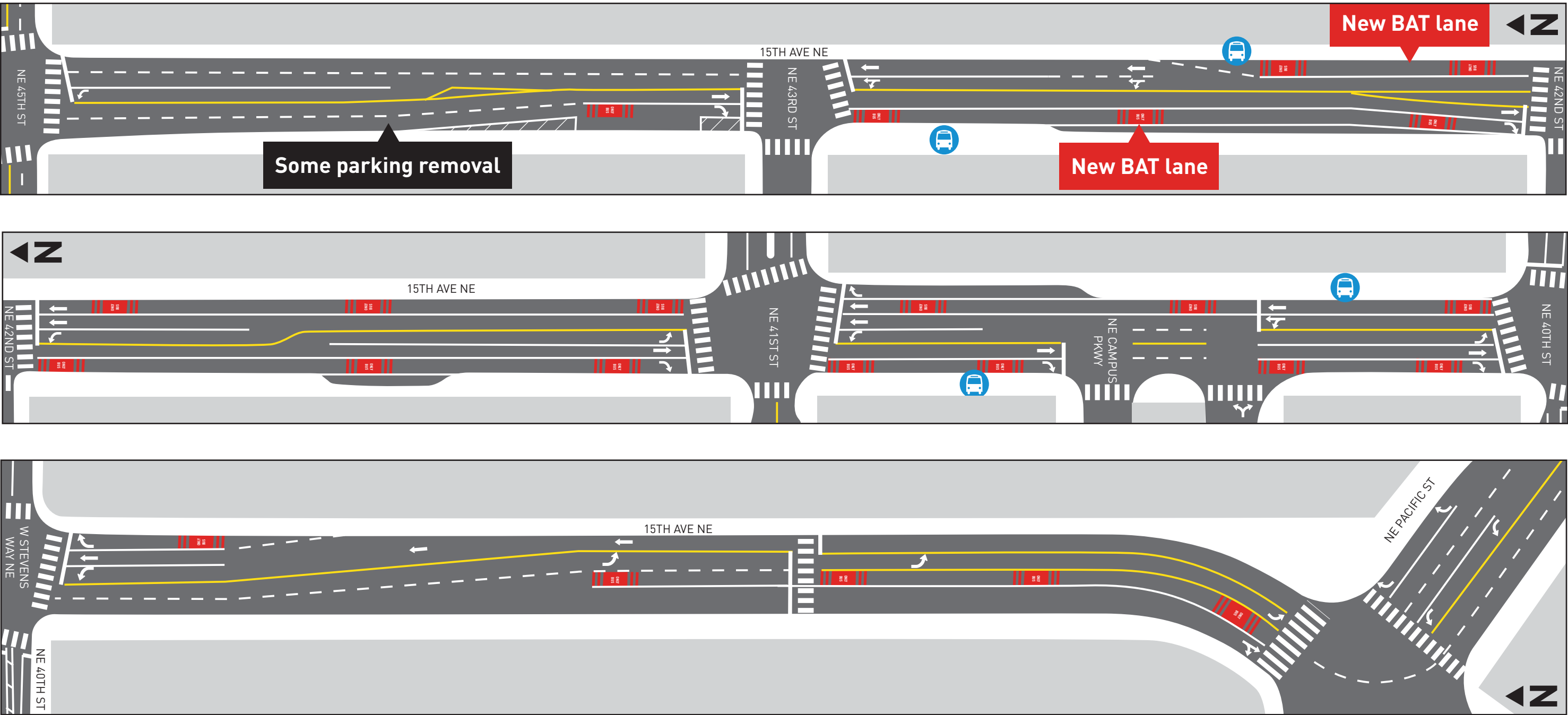
**This concept will:**

- Create a southbound bus only lane from NE 45th St to NE Pacific St
- Create a northbound bus only lane from NE Pacific St to just south of NE 43rd St
- Require trolley overhead wire modifications

Before



After

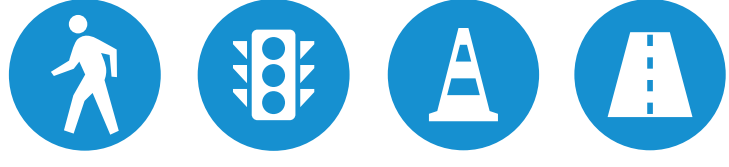


**Concept update:**  
The BAT lane between NE 43rd St and NE 45th St will be peak hour only rather than 24/7 to maintain the load zone just south of NE 45th St. From outreach it was determined that the load zone was needed at its current location.





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# U-District Segment, 15th Ave NE at NE Pacific St

### Concept benefits:

This concept will provide a dedicated lane for southbound buses to turn left onto NE Pacific St, improving their efficiency traveling through the intersection.

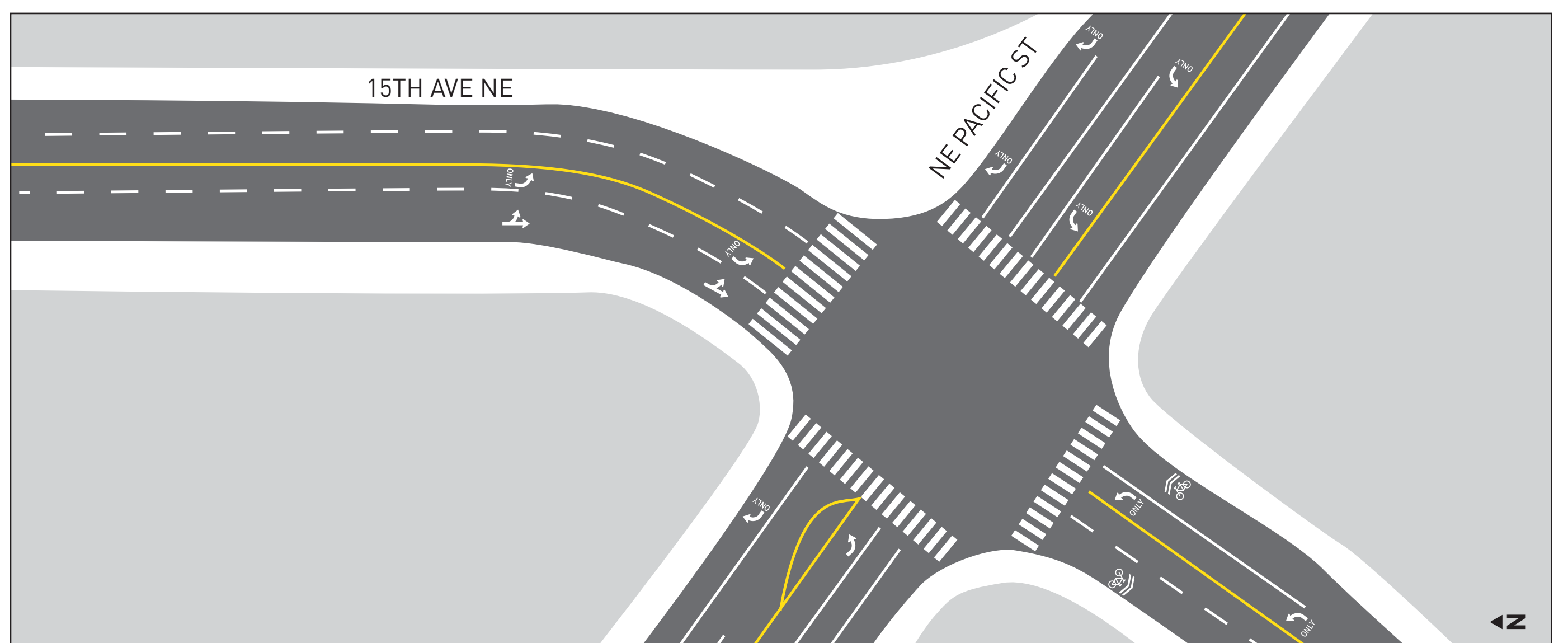
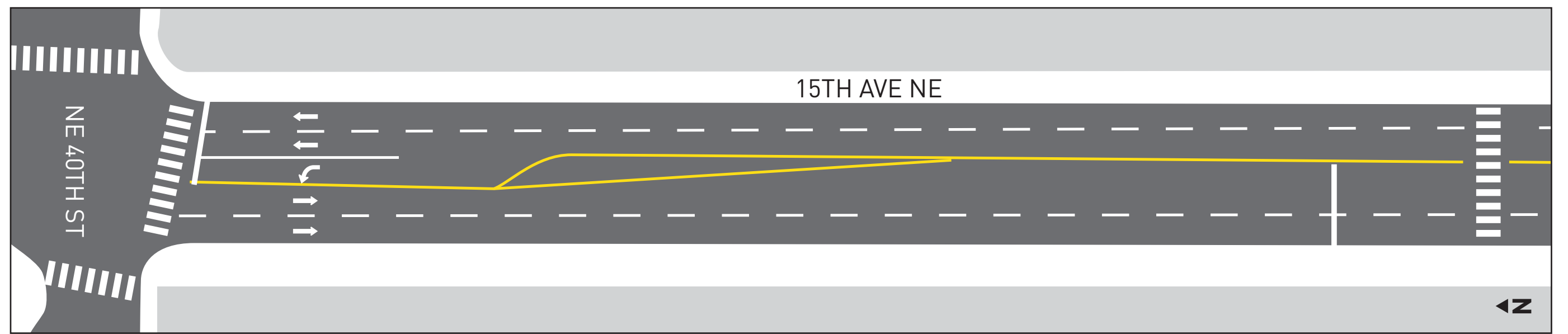
### This concept will:

- Add a bus only lane southbound through intersection at NE Pacific St
- Reduce 15th Ave NE northbound from 2 lanes to 1 lane north of NE Pacific St
- Require trolley overhead wire modifications

### Concept update:

In September 2021, King County Metro will add a bus stop on 15th Ave NE just south of the NE Pacific St intersection. The bus lane will be used by buses turning left onto Pacific St. Buses traveling south on 15th Ave past Pacific St will travel in the curb lane on 15th Ave as they approach Pacific St.

## Before



## After

