

7th-8th Street

Better Bus Stop Project

Project Introduction – Bella Vista Neighborhood Association

May 7, 2025



Office of
**Multimodal
Planning**



Meeting Agenda:

1. Project Background
2. Where is the bus slow, and why?
3. How can we make improvements?
4. Next Steps

Who here has ridden the
Route 47 bus?

Raise your hands



Who here regularly walks
on/across 7th or 8th Street?

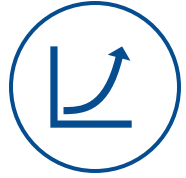
Raise your hands





Why We're Here

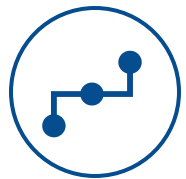
Why the Route 47?



SEPTA's highest ridership bus route

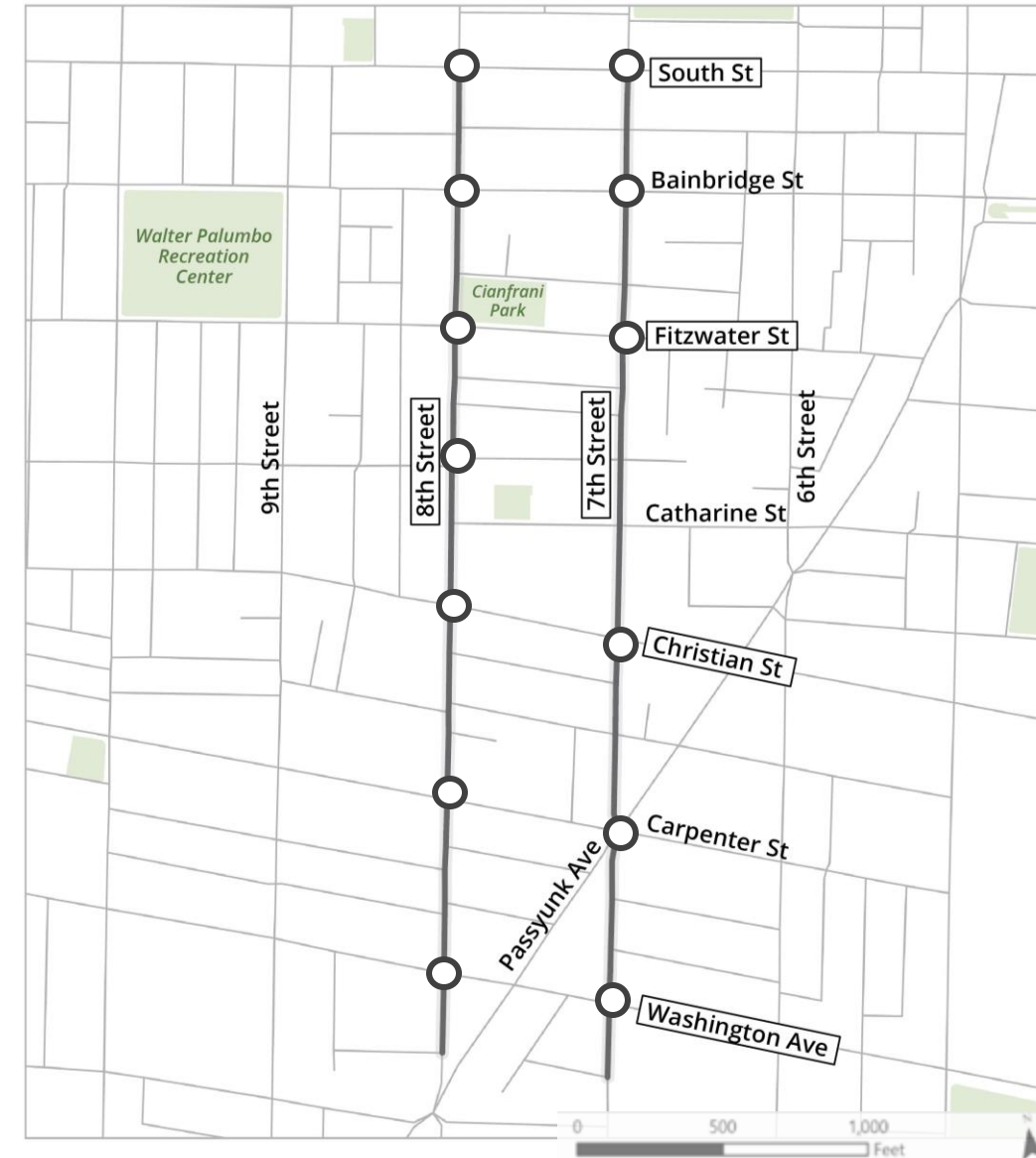


Data shows it's too slow, crowded, and unreliable



The 47 connects South and North Philadelphia through Center City, linking major resources.

Existing Bus Stops

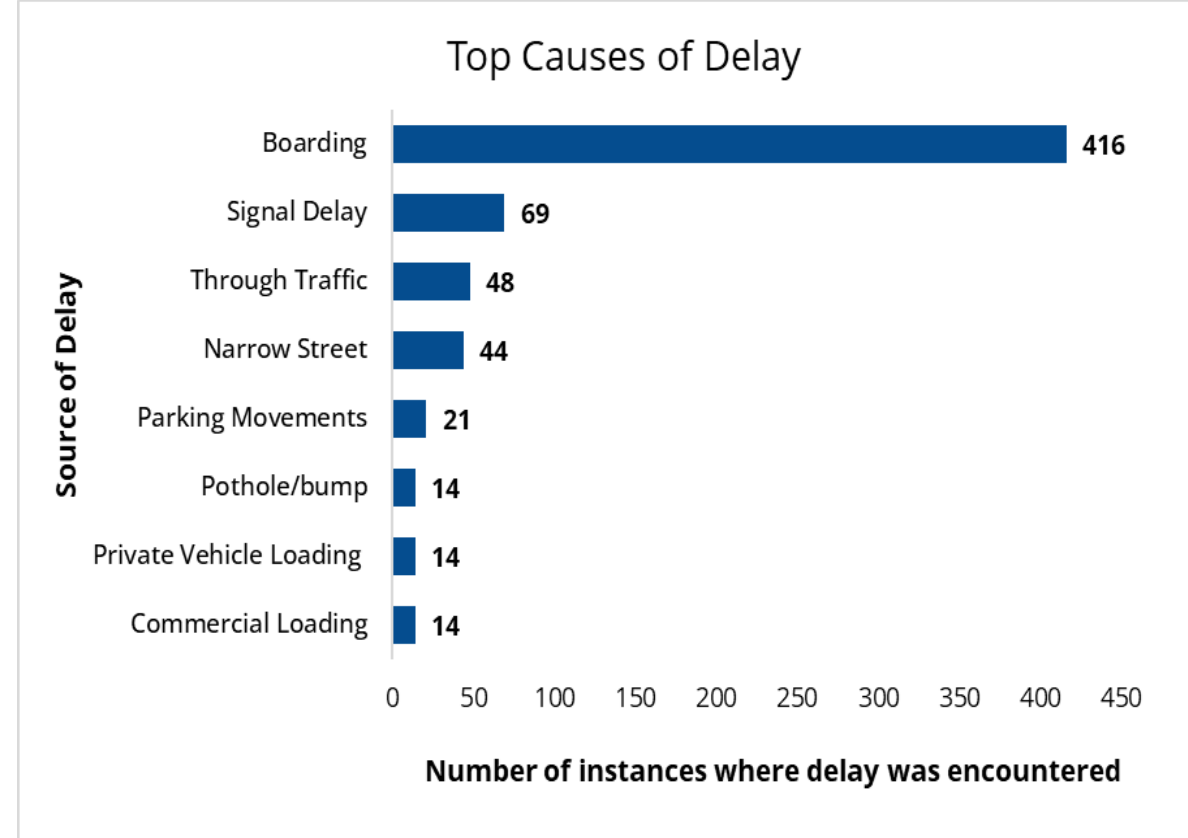


Transit Operations Study

The City and SEPTA worked together to study the Route 47 and identify issues with its service.

Two related issues:

1. The bus is *very* slow
2. Bus stops are inaccessible



Identified through bus GPS data, bus driver surveys, and on-bus observations.

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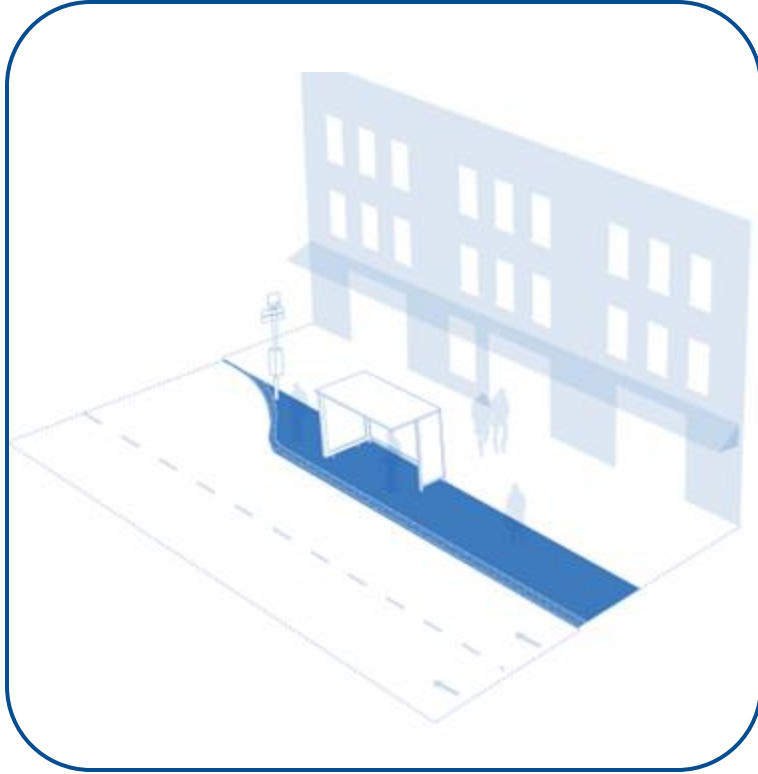
1. The bus is *very* slow
2. **Bus stops are inaccessible**



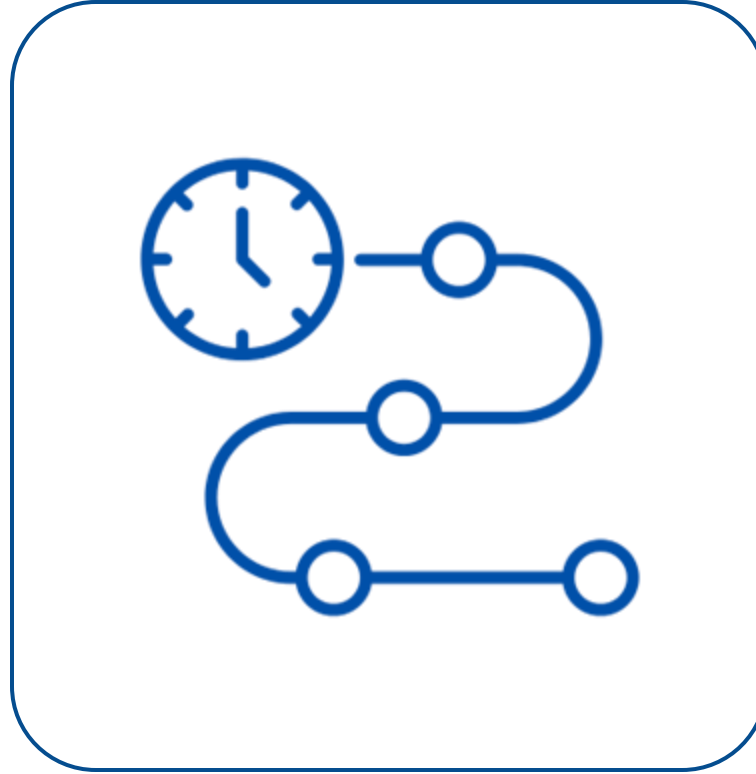
Parking at bus stops causes delays and limits accessibility, especially for people with disabilities, seniors, and children.

What Can We Do About It?

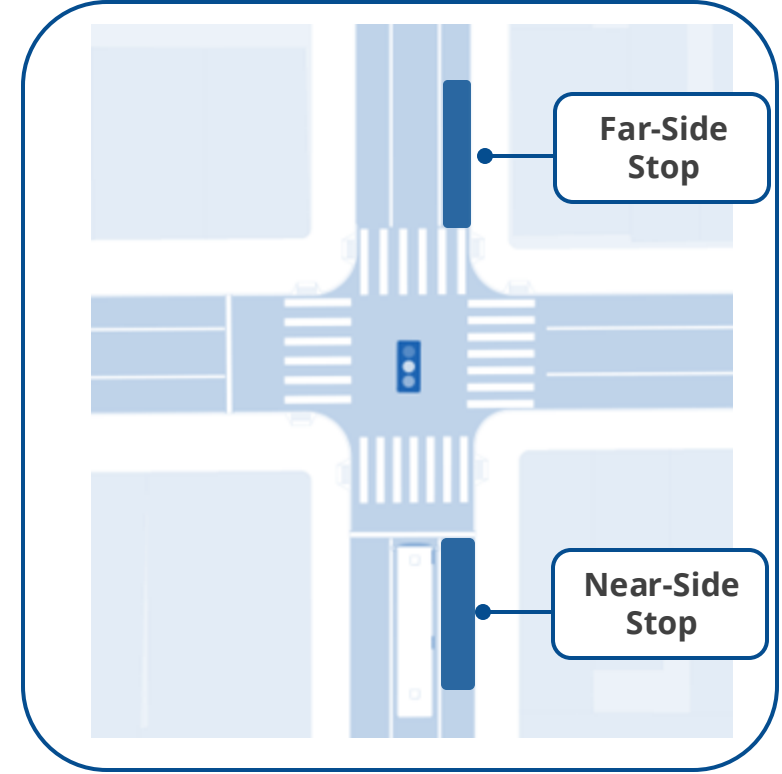
Tools to Fix These Problems:



Better Bus Stops



How Often the Bus Stops



Where the Bus Stops are located

Bus Bump-outs

What this does:

- Speeds up passenger boarding
- Prevent parking in the bus stop
- Increases pedestrian visibility
- Slows down turning vehicles

How this helps:

- Buses move faster
- Bus stops are ADA accessible
- Intersections are safer



Existing Situation



Proposed



Bus Stops Spacing

Current Situation: Buses stops at every block

Impact:

- Slows down the bus speed.
- Increases travel time.

National best practice for bus stop spacing:
1,300 ft or about every 3 blocks

○ Existing Bus Stops

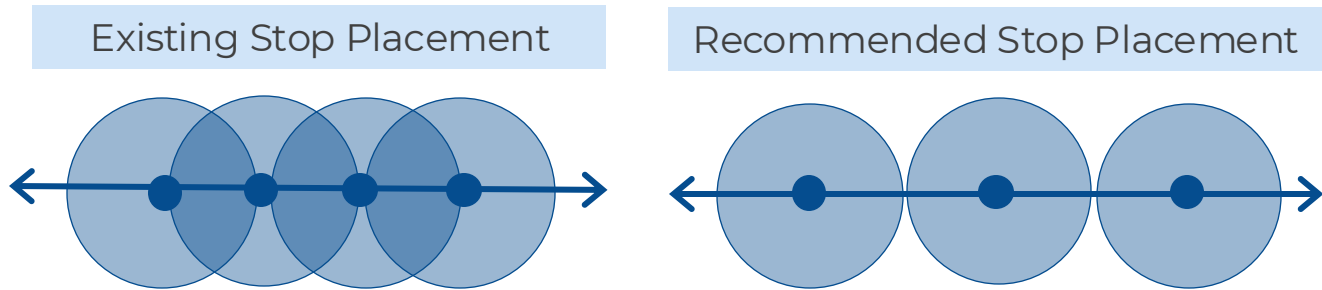


Bus Stop Spacing

Proposed: Upgrade stops every other block

Impact:

- Concentrate investment in fewer stops.
- Reduce impact on parking.
- Speeds up the bus.
- 3/4 bus riders will not be affected by stop consolidation.



Stop Placement

No Change

Proposed

Existing

Relocating some stops will support future transit signal priority improvements.



Stop Placement

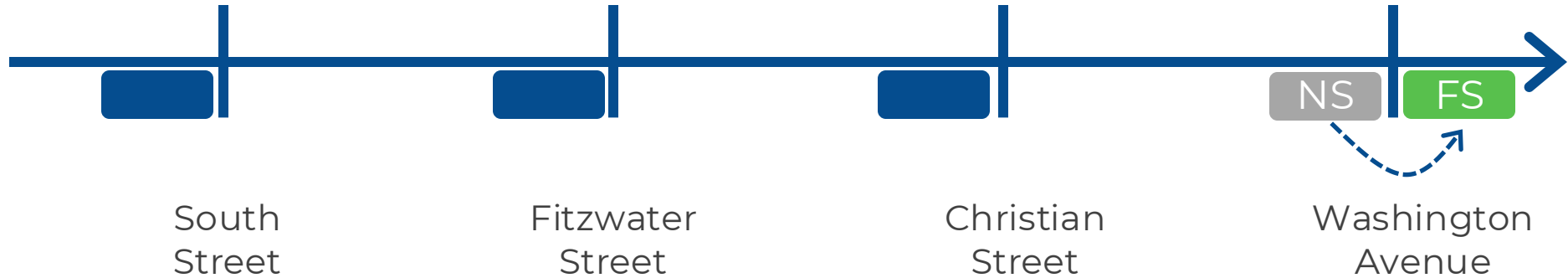
No Change

Proposed

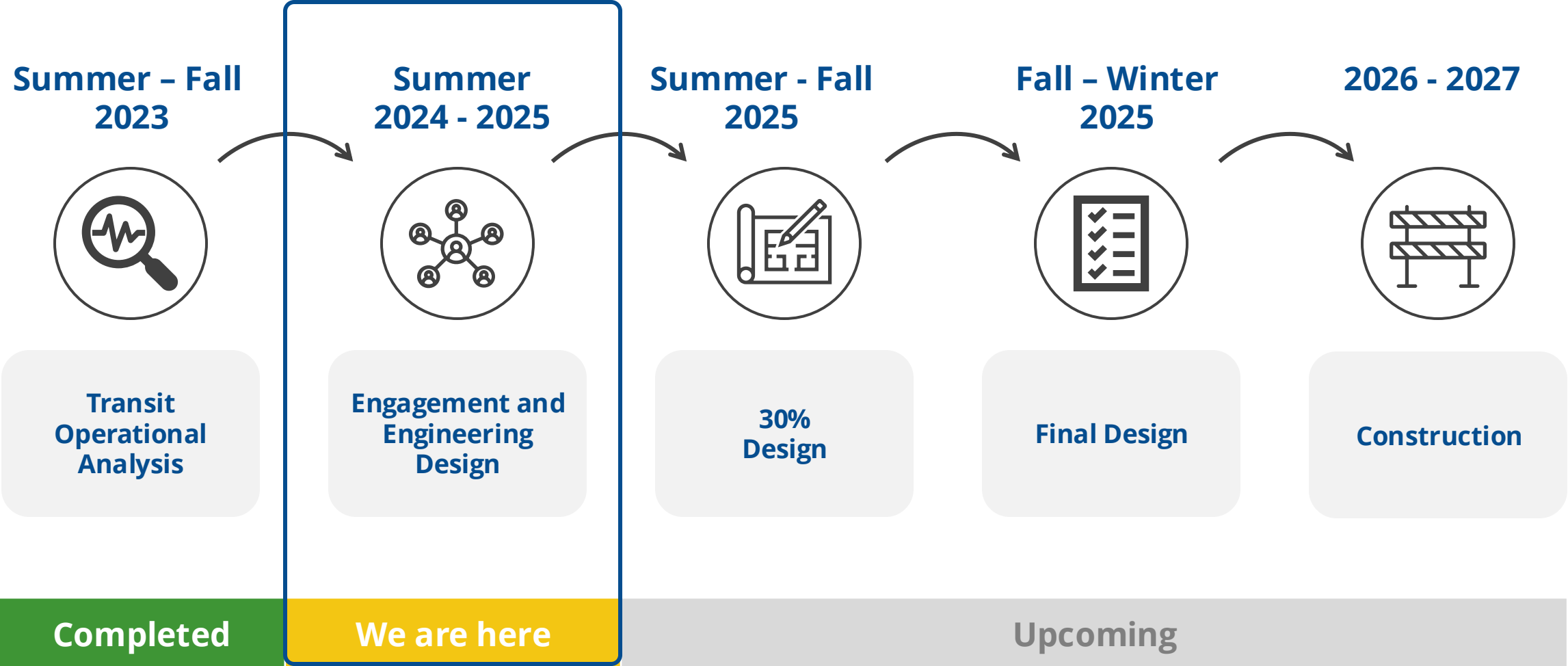
Existing

Relocating some stops will support future transit signal priority improvements.

8th Street
(Southbound)



Timeline



Next Steps

- Collect feedback from today's meeting.
- Develop design and inform the community about potential improvements.

For more information, email us at:
otis@phila.gov



Bus Stop at 8th & Washington Avenue