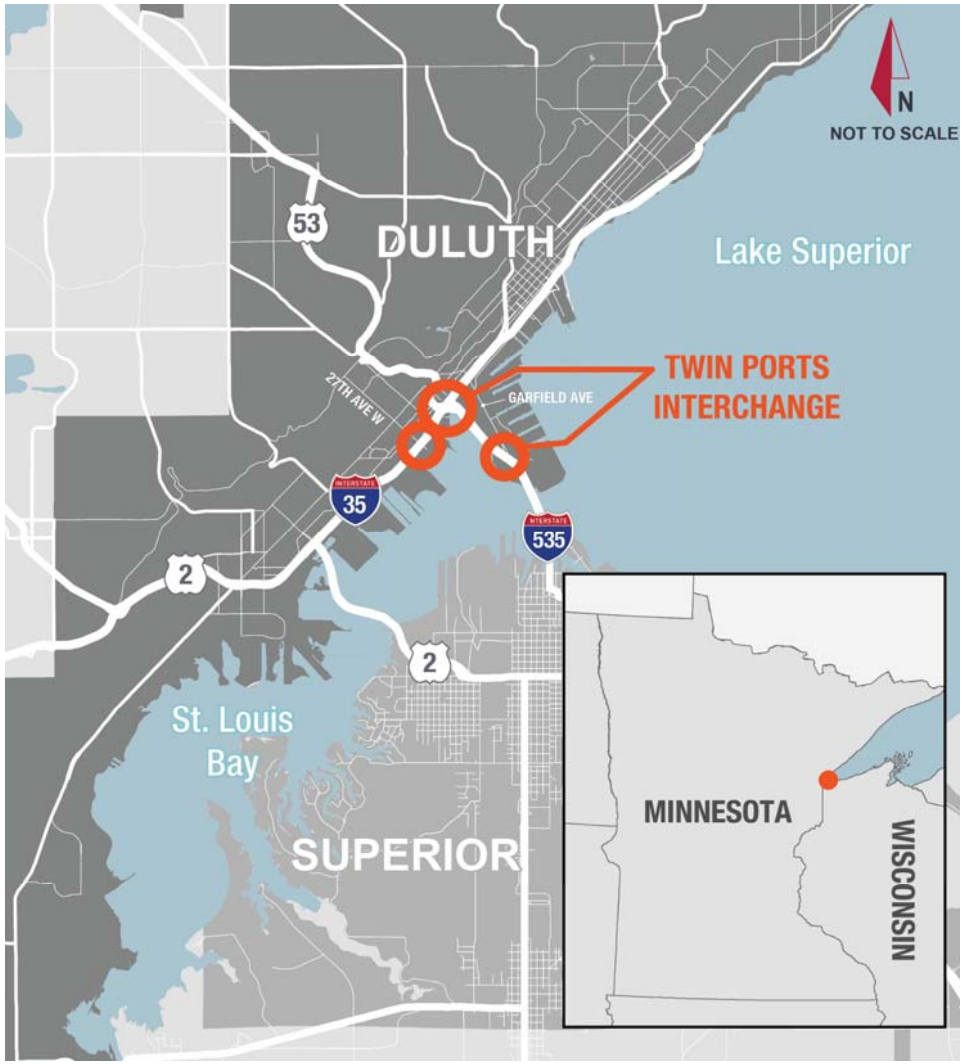
Twin Ports Interchange Reconstruction Project

Public Open House – November 13, 2017

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Project Area



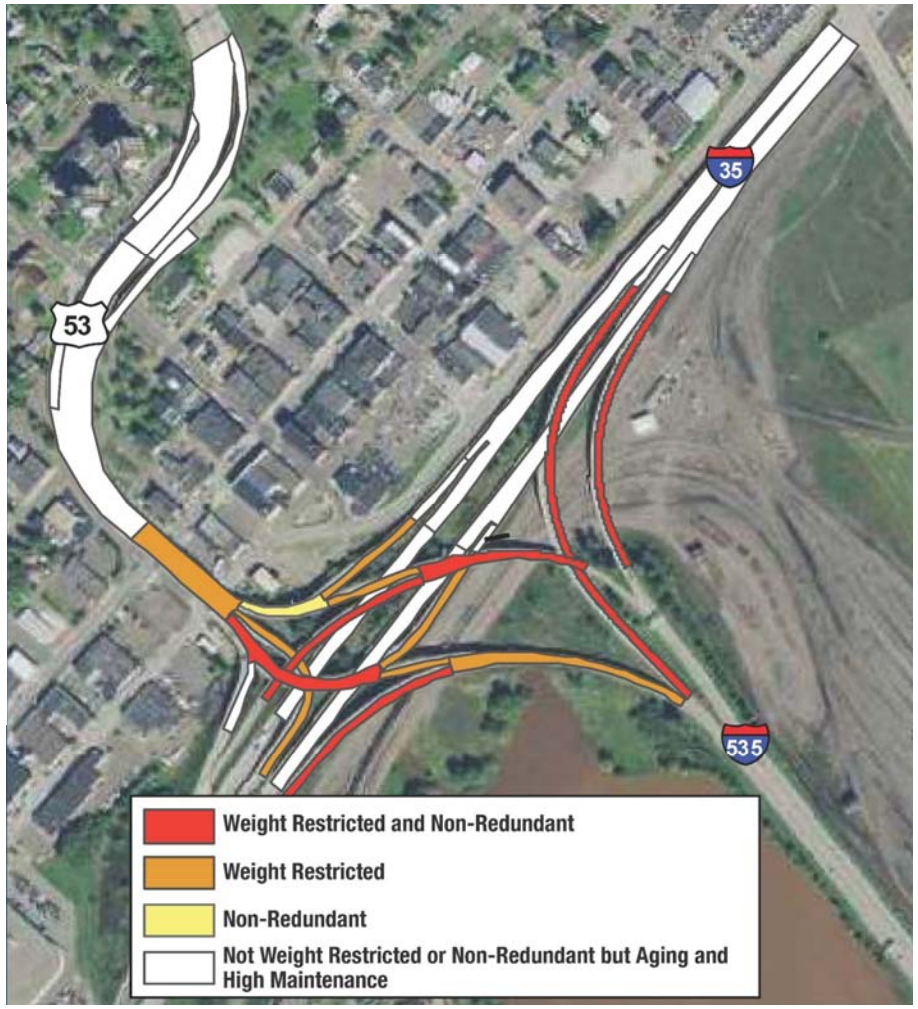
LINCOLN PARK
TWIN PORTS INTERCHANGE
WLSSD
COFFEE CREEK
MILLER CREEK
ST. LOUIS BAY
GARFIELD INTERCHANGE
CLURE PUBLIC TERMINAL
CN INTERMODAL FACILITY
LAKE SUPERIOR
BAYFRONT PARK
DECC
CANAL PARK
DOWNTOWN DULUTH
Date: 9/27/2017
Data Source: ESRI and City of Duluth
0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Miles
Twin Ports Interchange Base Map

Roadway Deficiencies

- 2 left exits, 5 blind merges, and short weave distances
  - → Interrupt traffic flow
  - → Increase conflict points

Load Restrictions and Freight Mobility

- Aging infrastructure (1960s)
- 33 bridges
  - 16 weight restricted
  - 7 non-redundant



Load Restrictions and Freight Mobility

- Freight diverts to local routes
  - → Many OSOW loads using local streets
  - → Longer travel times and higher cost
  - → Roadway wear and tear
  - → Traffic diversions
  - → Interruptions to local businesses

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Public Outreach to Date

- Public presentations (summer/fall 2016)
  - June, July, August, September, November
- Lincoln Park fall open house (2016, 2017)
- Meetings with affected stakeholders (fall 2017)

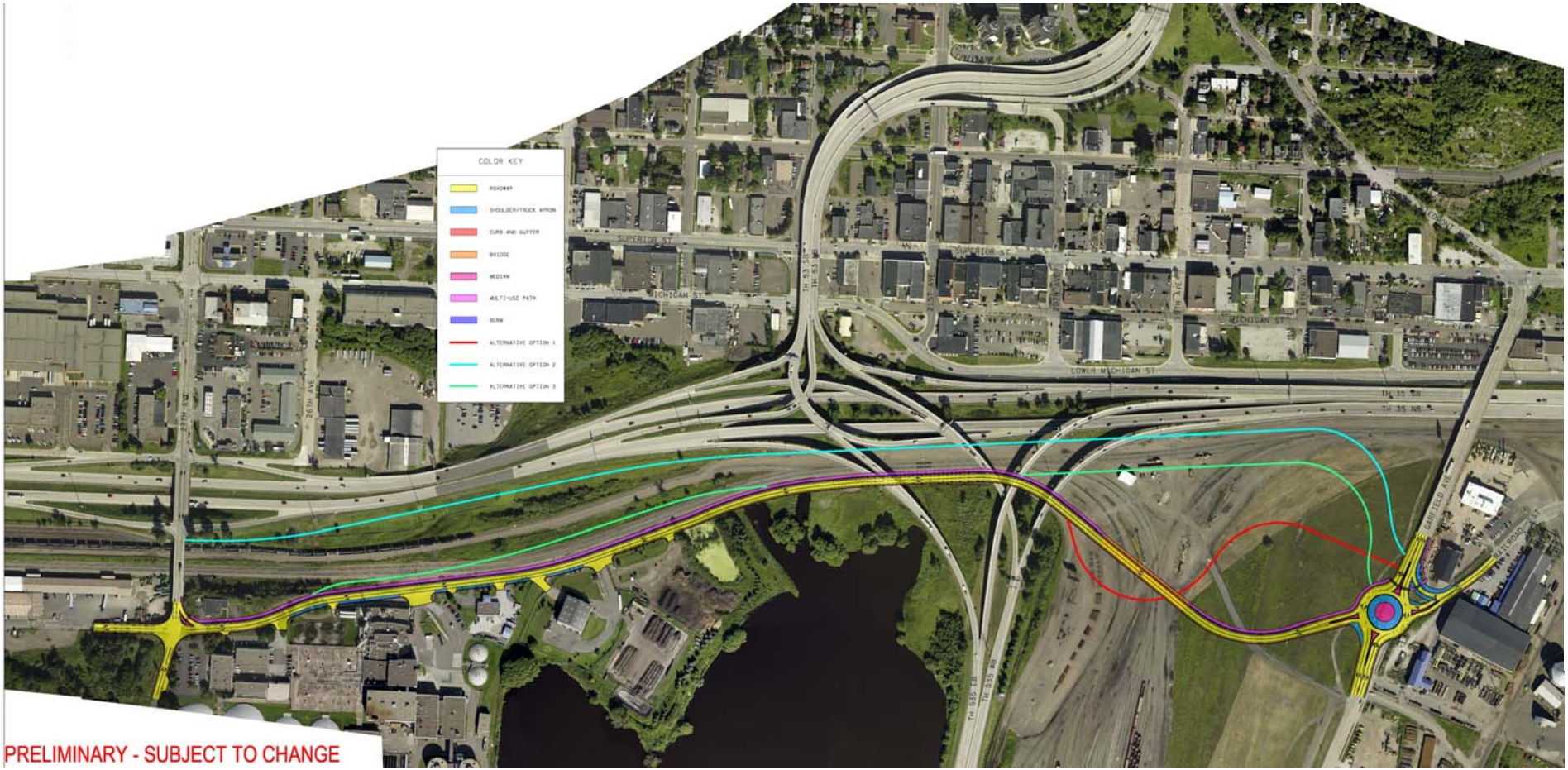
What We've Heard

- Blind merges
- Unexpected location for traffic signal
- Greater connections to waterfront
- Mesaba area – "Kentucky Derby" merge
- US 53 – access to Lincoln Park, safety

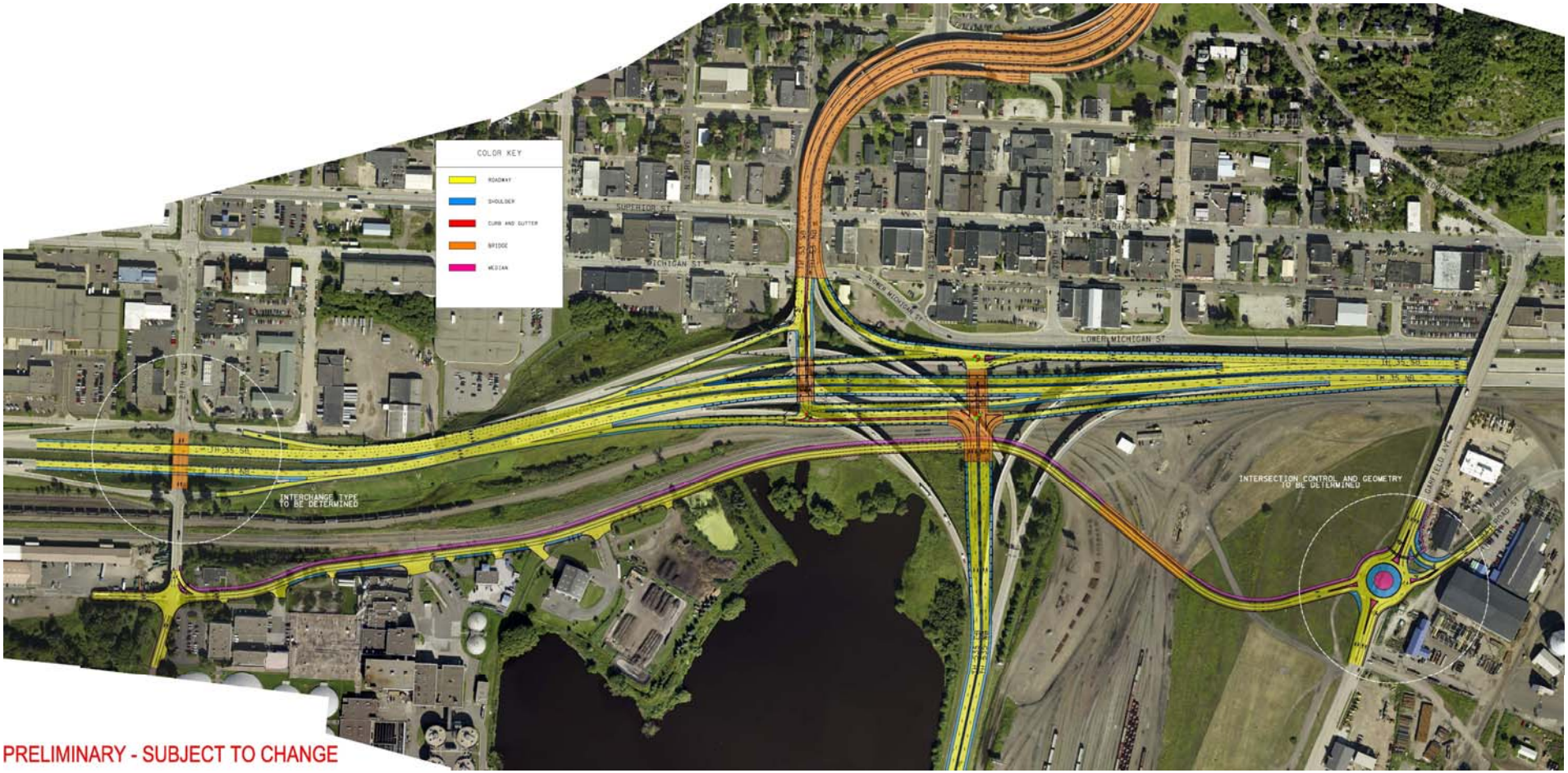
Design Framework

- Maintain traffic movements
- Unimpeded movements between interstates (I-35 and I-535)
- Reduce surface area of bridges
- Minimize right-of-way impacts
- Minimize blind merges, weaves, and left exits

Courtland Street Concept

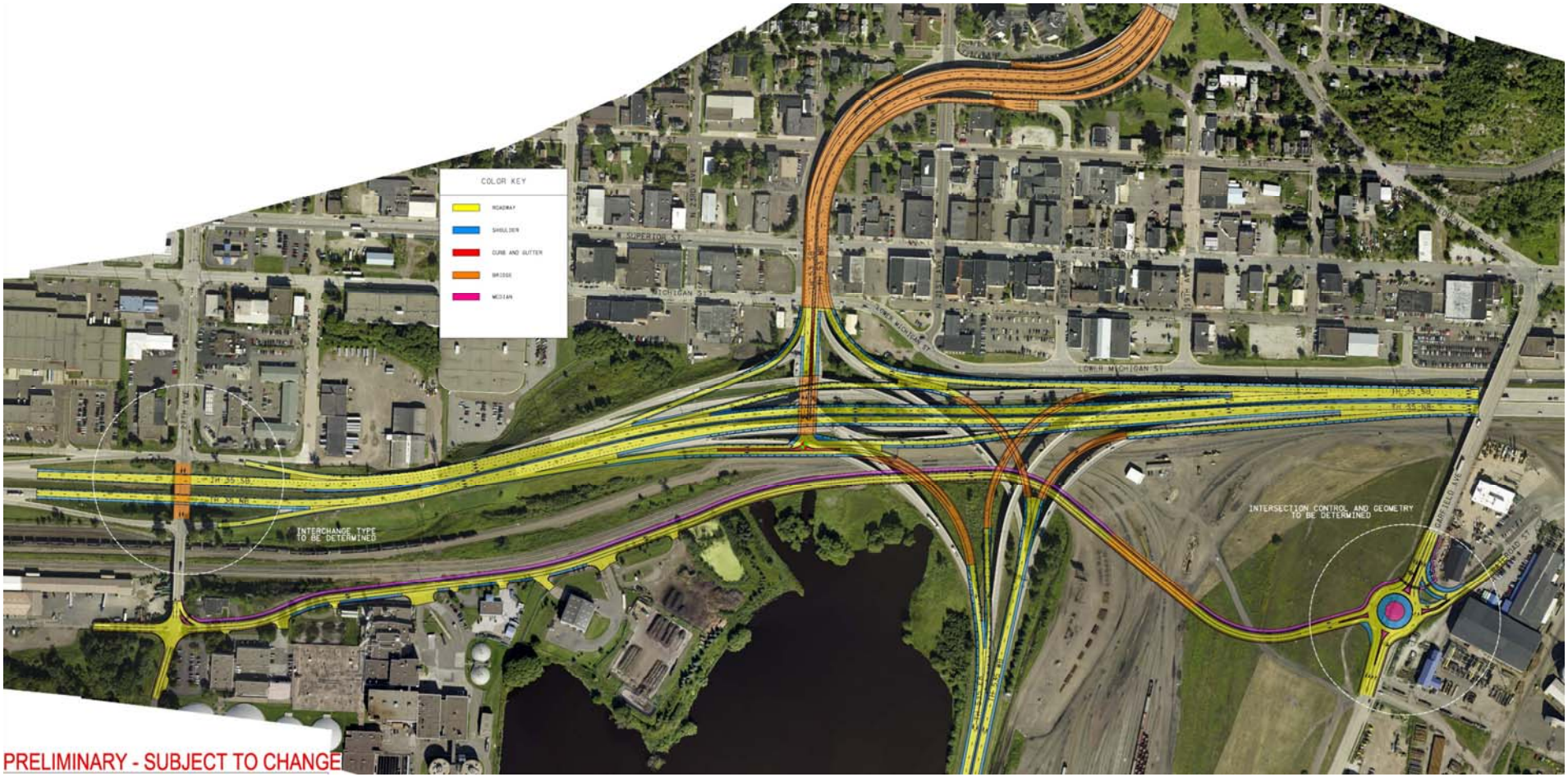


Concept B

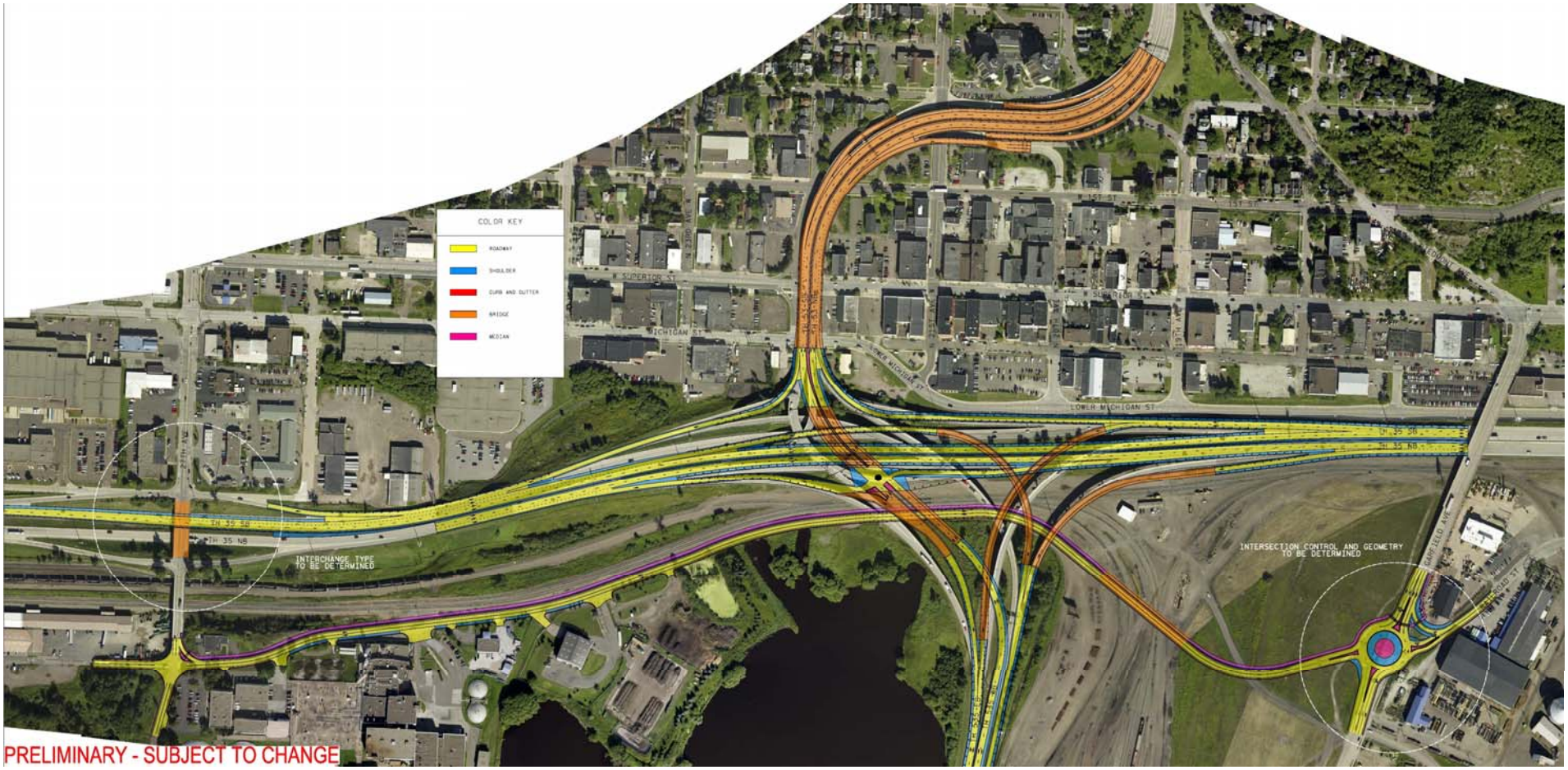


PRELIMINARY - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

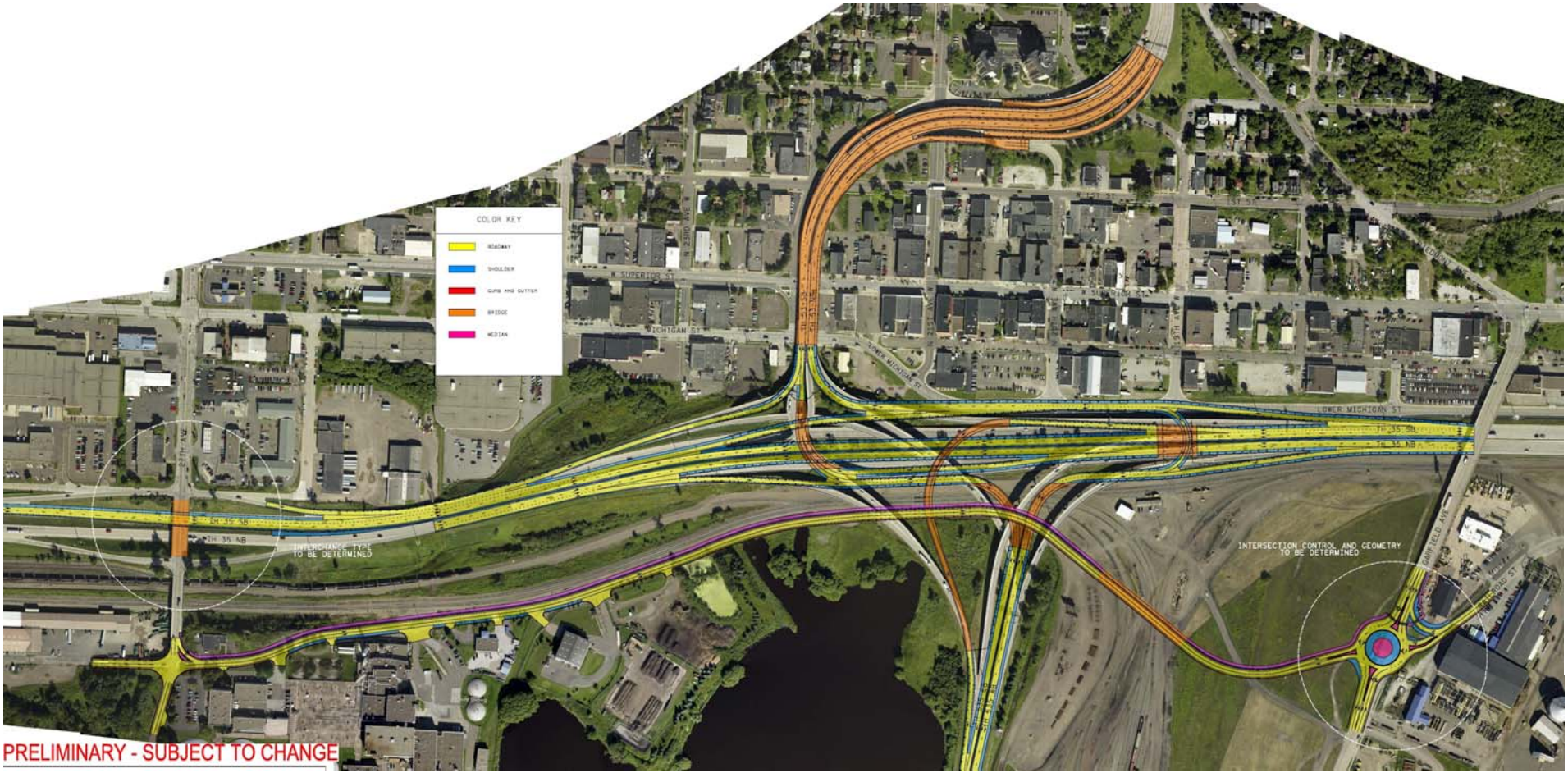
Concept C


COLOR KEY
ROADWAY
SHOULDER
CURB AND GUTTER
BRIDGE
MEDIAN
SUPERIOR ST
MICHIGAN ST
LOWER MICHIGAN ST
INTERCHANGE TYPE
TO BE DETERMINED
INTERSECTION CONTROL AND GEOMETRY
TO BE DETERMINED
GARFIELD AVE
PRELIMINARY - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Concept I


COLOR KEY
ROADWAY
SHOULDER
CURB AND GUTTER
BRIDGE
MEDIAN
K SUPERIOR ST
MICHIGAN ST
LOWER MICHIGAN ST
TH 35 SB
TH 35 NB
INTERCHANGE TYPE TO BE DETERMINED
INTERSECTION CONTROL AND GEOMETRY TO BE DETERMINED
PRELIMINARY - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Concept O


COLOR KEY
ROADWAY
SHOULDER
CURB AND GUTTER
BRIDGE
MEDIAN
W SUPERIOR ST
MICHIGAN ST
LOWER MICHIGAN ST
TH 35 SB
TH 35 NB
INTERCHANGE TYPE TO BE DETERMINED
INTERSECTION CONTROL AND GEOMETRY TO BE DETERMINED
PRELIMINARY - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

US 53 At-Grade Option

- Traffic volumes similar to Central Entrance & Arlington Avenue
- Steepness similar to Mesaba Avenue (7% grades)
- Unable to cross US 53 at Michigan Street

US 53 At-Grade Option

US 53 At-Grade Option

Project Timeline

- Selection of Alternative (Spring 2018)
- Environmental Documentation (2018)
- Design (2018 – 2020)
- Construction (2019 – 2022)

Estimated cost: $204 million

Next Steps

- Commuter survey
- Monthly update meetings
  - Starting in January 2018
- Selection of preferred alternative

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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LEARN MORE ONLINE

http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d1/projects/twin-ports-interchange

Thank You!