

# CITY OF CANTON

## TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN JANUARY 2023



## APPENDIX B EXISTING CONDITIONS



# APPENDIX B

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**CANTON TENETS**



Dear Canton Citizens, Businesses and Future Investors:

I am excited to have the opportunity to introduce you to the primary components of the City of Canton's Roadmap for Success. Our roadmap is a plan but also a call to action that organizes the steps of local leaders, private and non-profit organizations, residents, and businesses toward a shared vision for how our city operates through 2035. First and foremost, it is a community plan – one informed and guided by public input to empower our citizens to be co-creators for their city, strengthen local connections, and generate support and enthusiasm for how we will work together to build the Coolest Small Town in America.

This is an important time for the City of Canton, and its growth and development must reflect how our citizens and stakeholders choose to live, work, play, and serve to achieve its full potential. Decades of leadership and collaboration have positioned Canton for greatness, and continued partnerships in City and community building must enlighten our strategic path forward.

In addition to citizen input, I want to especially thank our dedicated City Council, City Manager, and City Staff for their hard work and commitment to moving Canton forward. As you can imagine, a strategic document of this scale is not created without a tremendous amount of thought, effort, research, and brainstorming. Most of all, I want to thank my colleagues and our citizens for their trust and confidence as we continue this partnership over the next 15 years. Our roadmap will make our decisions more efficient and help to clarify our calculated tradeoffs, but it will also be a work-in-progress. We will make mid-course modifications as needed, and we will hold developers and ourselves accountable to our long-term strategy.

In developing this strategic plan, we integrated the numerous goals and tactics into seven overall guiding principles, or tenets, for Canton's future success. Each tenet is a commitment from the Mayor & Council to our residents, businesses, and partners as a platform for thoughtful review when considering new development projects, establishing budget priorities, and approving local guidelines and procedures to optimize city operations. Our tenets are:

- Creating Great Neighborhoods
- Celebrating the Diversity of Our Community
- Advancing Regional Economic Success
- Enhancing Historic Downtown Canton
- Sustaining Our Natural Environment
- Connecting Citizens to Parks and Recreation
- Improving Infrastructure for Future Demands
- Leading with Excellence

The following pages summarize our initial goals and strategies for achieving each of these tenets, and we will continue to build on this foundation. The primary goal of our roadmap is to guide our leaders, citizens, businesses, and investors in the same direction. We will alter our route based on clear metrics and continual public input, but our destination will not shift as we attain our status as the Coolest Small Town in America.

Now, let's get to work!

Sincerely,







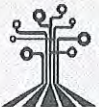

Mayor Bill Grant

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## The Tenets for Canton's Future

The City of Canton will follow eight tenets for the successful planning of our future. Each tenet is a commitment from the Mayor & Council to our residents, businesses, and partners as a platform for thoughtful review when looking at new projects, developing budget priorities, and approving local rules and procedures for operations in the City.

THE CANTON TENETS: Guiding Principles for Our Future	
<b>Creating Great Neighborhoods</b>	
	<i>Safe, attractive, connected, and inviting neighborhoods are the foundation of Canton's hometown appeal. All residents deserve quality housing that reflects our community character through thoughtful design and responsible development practices.</i>
<b>Celebrating the Diversity of Our Community</b>	
	<i>The diverse cultures and communities within Canton are vibrant and engaging. Economic, cultural, and social diversity is encouraged throughout the City.</i>
<b>Advancing Regional Economic Success</b>	
	<i>Utilizing existing business strengths in industry, healthcare, and an entrepreneurial spirit, Canton seeks to expand its economic footprint. Diverse and innovative business growth will support jobs, attract investment, and create tourism opportunities.</i>
<b>Enhancing Historic Downtown Canton</b>	
	<i>Preservation, entrepreneurship, arts and culture, and community-centric activities are cornerstones of economic development within Downtown Canton. Benefiting the entire City, downtown redevelopment creates jobs, attracts investment, increases property values, and generates tourism.</i>
<b>Sustaining Our Natural Environment</b>	
	<i>Canton residents appreciate our natural beauty, proximity to the mountains, ample green spaces, and the Etowah River. Projects in the City will promote interaction with nature through sustainability, stewardship of resources, and innovative design.</i>
<b>Connecting Citizens to Parks and Recreation</b>	
	<i>A healthy community provides access to nature. Residents should be connected with local parks through trails, sidewalks, and additional transportation options. Recreational opportunities should be available to and inclusive for all.</i>
<b>Improving Infrastructure for Future Demands</b>	
	<i>Citizens, businesses, and visitors need access to the Canton infrastructural network to succeed in their goals. Transportation, power supply, gas availability, water and sewer, and digital connectivity are part of building a great network for success.</i>
<b>Leading with Excellence</b>	
	<i>City Council, Staff, and Citizen Boards will foster civic participation and serve ethically, transparently, responsibly, and efficiently.</i>

## Creating Great Neighborhoods

Safe, attractive, connected, and inviting neighborhoods are the foundation of Canton's hometown appeal. All residents deserve quality housing that reflects our community character through thoughtful design and responsible development practices.

### Measurable Goals:

- Increase in owner-occupied single-family structures
- Reduce code compliance cases on residential property
- Reduce property crimes
- Increase housing authority units
- Increase downtown residential units
- Increase variety of housing through varied price-points, design, and construction
- Increase estate lots (2+ acres)

### Major Partners:

- Residents
- City Officials & Staff
- Homeowner Associations
- Canton Housing Authority
- Cherokee Co. Senior Services
- Residential Developers
- Landlords
- Property Managers
- Realtors
- Utility Providers
- Cherokee County

### How We Will Get There

- Improve development codes to reflect recommendations by the Thomas P. Miller Housing Study and other sources for enhancing thoughtful development
- Rezone properties as necessary in accordance with the Housing Study
- Review opportunities to create overlay zones to encourage positive housing development practices
- Require all residential developers to read the Canton Roadmap and complete a project self-assessment prior to application
- Establish clearly identified standards for right of ways in residential developments
- Create an opportunity for residents to voluntarily register home security camera video software with Canton Police to reduce crime
- Promote education of code compliance processes to reduce blight
- Highlight code compliance and City services through new resident welcome packets disseminated at City Hall and through real estate partners
- Promote the nature of and need for workforce housing options
- **Connect all neighborhoods to a Citywide sidewalk system**
- Establish incentives to increase diverse housing stock within projects
- **Implement Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) in Development Review Process**
- Encourage greenspace development with all new residential projects
- Review all City-owned properties for possible residential development
- Develop and incentivize solar standards for residential development
- Develop and implement a micro-cottage home program and other novel housing initiatives

### Specific Projects Underway

- Marietta Highway ULI-TAP Project
- Marietta Road Community Initiative/Sunnyside Area Plan
- New Diversity & Inclusion Task Force
- New City Website
- Thomas P. Miller Housing Study
- Masterplan Reviews for Riverstone
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion
- Water System Booster Pump Projects (Amos Road and Laurel Canyon)
- Canton Housing Authority Asset Review

### Materials/Supporting Documents:

- Rivermill Livable Centers Initiative
- Canton 2040 Plan
- City of Canton Housing Study
- Noell Consulting Canton Residential Rental Analysis
- Central City Plan
- Historic Preservation Commission Guidelines

## Celebrating the Diversity of Our Community

The diverse cultures and communities within Canton are vibrant and engaging. Economic, cultural, and social diversity is encouraged throughout the City.

### Measurable Goals:

- Improve communication pathways
- Increase diversity in elected positions and boards
- Growth in minority-owned businesses
- Add recreational programming inclusive of cultures
- Reduction in code violations as zoning codes change to meet cultural norms
- Increase participation in public meetings and events
- Increase in length of time utility accounts held by traditionally transitory non-English speaking customers
- Increase downloads of translated documents
- Increase participation in Citizens' Police Academy by diverse citizens
- Passage of ordinances and policies to promote diversity and inclusion
- Development participation in diversity and inclusion initiatives
- Increase use of incentives
- Completion of capital projects
- Greater Census participation in 2030

### Major Partners:

- Residents
- City Officials & Staff
- Diversity & Inclusion Task Force
- Minority-Owned Businesses
- Faith-based Organization
- Social Service Providers
- Developers
- Recreation Program Managers
- Media
- Utility Providers
- Translation Services
- Education Sector
- Healthcare Providers
- Local Non-Profits

### How We Will Get There

- Creation of Diversity & Inclusion Task Force
- Creation of CanTeen, a youth leadership program
- Meeting and working with faith-based organizations
- Hosting informational events with residents in communities
- Assist minority-owned businesses in gaining market reach within the region
- Hosting cultural celebrations and recognizing major holidays
- Providing access to documents in multiple languages
- Utilizing media to reach diverse populations
- Developing a strategy to attract diverse employment candidates
- Improving recreational offerings to better match cultural heritage of residents
- Exploring partnerships to improve community growth
- Celebrating culture through arts, food, and music
- Develop connectivity to parks
- Improve communication infrastructure, including the dissemination of information through minority businesses and non-profits
- Utilize overlays to accommodate specific zoning/code needs
- Assist diverse populations in promoting entrepreneurship
- Enact a Non-Discrimination Ordinance
- Actively promote diversity and inclusion through community marketing
- Creation of a newcomer packet and distribution plan
- Celebrate Diversity months
- Creation of a Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator position within the City
- Promote healthcare and social services assistance in low-to-moderate income areas, specifically non-English speaking communities
- Review and create policies to promote social justice

### Specific Projects Underway

- New Diversity & Inclusion Task Force
- Public Safety Citizens Advisory Board
- New City Website
- Marietta Road Community Initiative/Sunnyside Campaign
- Public WiFi in parks program
- Atlanta United Mini-Pitch Project at Harmon Park
- CDBG Grant Upgrades at Harmon Park
- Canton Police Department Hispanic Citizenship Workshop
- Official Canton Documents in Translation
- Recruiting Incentives for Bilingual Employees
- Police Department Public Outreach Events

### Materials/Supporting Documents:

- Rivermill Livable Centers Initiative
- Canton 2040 Plan
- City of Canton Housing Study
- Minutes of Diversity & Inclusion Task Force

## Advancing Regional Economic Success

Utilizing existing business strengths in industry, healthcare, and an entrepreneurial spirit, Canton seeks to expand its economic footprint. Diverse and innovative business growth will support jobs, attract investment, and create tourism opportunities.

### Measurable Goals:

- Increase business licenses
- Increase commercial permits
- Increase SPLOST revenues
- Increase jobs
- Increase HQ operations
- Increase media production permits
- Increase requests for Development Review Team
- Increase ribbon cuttings
- Reduce unemployment
- Increase requests for loan assistance
- Reduce commercial vacancies
- Increase minority owned businesses
- Increase and promote entrepreneurship
- Advance technology and innovation

### Major Partners:

- Residents
- City Officials & Staff
- Local Business Community
- Northside Hospital-Cherokee
- Canton DDA
- Canton Main Street
- Cherokee Office of Econ. Dev.
- Cherokee Co. Chamber
- Local Industries
- Commercial Developers
- Georgia Dept of Econ. Dev.
- Georgia Tourism
- Georgia Cities Foundation
- GDOT

### How We Will Get There

- Partner with Cherokee Office of Economic Development to increase light industrial land availability
- Establish a Canton Business Concierge position
- Partner with Cherokee Co. Chamber of Commerce to provide free membership and ribbon cutting for new Canton businesses
- Increase efficiencies in media production projects by restructuring existing staff to streamline film services
- Assist existing industries in growth strategies through incentives
- Develop a small business development program/task force
- Market the Development Review Team process
- Utilize the Housing Study to attract mixed use development
- Develop incentives to redevelop or occupy underutilized properties
- Recognize small business success through community marketing
- Partner with others to host employment events
- Simplify the business licensing process
- Work with community and Legislature on a liquor package referendum
- Work with large development to meet neighborhood commercial needs
- Attract tourism related projects
- Increase hotel inventory and attract a resort-level hotel
- Increase transportation options to limit congestion and increase connectivity
- Create a tourism position within the City
- Develop working groups to support entrepreneurship and business sectors
- Assure the health industry grows with population growth in the area

### Specific Projects Underway

- Marietta Highway ULI-TAP Project
- Marietta Road Community Initiative/Sunnyside Area Plan
- New City Website
- Knox Bridge Highway Corporate Park (COED)
- Highway 20 Widening Eastward
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion
- Masterplan Amendments at Riverstone
- Northside Hospital Expansion
- New Cherokee High School Land Purchase
- Georgia Tourism Product Development Study

### Materials/Supporting Documents:

- Rivermill Livable Centers Initiative
- Canton 2040 Plan
- Thomas P. Miller Housing Study/Cherokee Co. Housing Study
- Hickory Log Creek Reservoir Management Plan
- Small Business Development Guide

## Enhancing Historic Downtown Canton

Preservation, entrepreneurship, arts and culture, and community-centric activities are cornerstones of economic development within Downtown Canton. Benefiting the entire City, downtown redevelopment creates jobs, attracts investment, increases property values, and generates tourism.

### Measurable Goals:

- Increase downtown residential unit count
- Increase business licenses
- Increase jobs
- Reduce vacancies
- Increase sidewalk connectivity
- Increase hours of commercial activity
- Increase loan applications
- Increase HPC applications
- Increase façade grants
- Reduce code violations
- Increase event activities
- Increase arts offerings
- Increase murals
- Increase greenspace
- Increase media production permits
- Increase annual investment
- Expand downtown footprint

### Major Partners:

- Residents
- City Officials & Staff
- Canton Main Street
- Canton DDA
- Downtown Merchants
- Property Owners
- Developers
- Banks
- Georgia DCA
- Georgia Cities Foundation
- Georgia Council for Arts
- Fox Theatre Institute
- CCHS
- Cherokee Co. Arts
- Cherokee Co. Chamber

### How We Will Get There

- Improve development codes to reflect recommendations by the Thomas P. Miller Housing Study and other sources for enhancing thoughtful development
- Rezone properties as necessary in accordance with the Housing Study
- Develop a tax allocation district to prioritize areas for redevelopment
- **Improve downtown parking**
- Strengthen downtown boards and commissions
- Develop small business workshops
- Market incentive programs including the Downtown Development Revolving Loan Fund and façade grants
- Increase communication between downtown business community
- Review all City parcels for possible redevelopment projects
- Incentivize residential growth according to the Housing Study
- Establish marketing plan for downtown Canton
- Creation of an arts fund for public art projects
- Increase collaboration between local organizations to boost tourism
- Simplify the business licensing process
- Partner with Cherokee Co. Chamber of Commerce to provide free membership and a ribbon cutting for all new downtown Canton businesses
- Increase efficiencies in media production projects by restructuring existing staff to streamline film services
- **Improve downtown wayfinding signage**
- Build downtown public restrooms
- **Increase access to electric vehicle charging stations**
- Remove overhead utilities
- **Increase sidewalk capacity for outdoor dining and pedestrian flow**
- **Build connectivity between the historic downtown loop and The Mill on Etowah and Sunnyside**
- **Evaluate traffic solutions for downtown, including East Main and North Street traffic flows**
- **Create better connectivity between existing downtown and The Mill on Etowah and Etowah River Trail System**
- Consider ordinances related to specific ground-floor uses within downtown

### Specific Projects Underway

- Marietta Road Community Initiative/Sunnyside Area Plan
- Railroad Street Mural Project
- New Diversity & Inclusion Task Force
- New City Website
- Thomas P. Miller Housing Study
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion
- Public Parks WiFi Program
- Georgia Tourism Product Development Study

### Materials/Supporting Documents:

- Rivermill LCI
- Canton 2040 Plan
- City of Canton Housing Study
- Central City Plan
- Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) Guidelines

## Sustaining Our Natural Environment

Canton residents appreciate our natural beauty, proximity to the mountains, ample greenspaces, and the Etowah River. Projects in the City will promote interaction with nature through sustainability, stewardship of resources, and innovative design.

### Measurable Goals:

- Increase access to the Etowah River
- Reduce sludge hauling at WWTP
- Eliminate consent orders for discharge limits
- Increase LEED Certified facilities
- Increase alternative fuel City fleet
- Increase electric vehicle charging stations
- Increase solar project permits
- Decrease Ridge Rd methane
- Increase recycling tonnage
- Increase acreage of preserved space/greenspace throughout City and along Etowah River
- Increase tagged species
- Increase dual easements
- Increase trail options
- Reduce paper plan submissions
- Decrease water losses
- Decrease inflow and infiltration of stormwater system to WWTP

### Major Partners:

- Residents
- City Officials & Staff
- Homeowner Associations
- Advanced Disposal
- Local Industries
- Fleet service providers
- Georgia EPD
- Utility Partners
- UGA Cooperative Extension Services
- Tree Commission
- Private Developers
- Landlords
- Property Managers
- Utility Providers
- Upper Etowah River Alliance
- Scouts

### How We Will Get There

- Improve development codes to reflect recommendations by the Thomas P. Miller Housing Study and other sources enhancing thoughtful development
- Rezone properties as necessary in accordance with the Housing Study
- Implement efficiencies in the wastewater process reducing sludge hauling
- Increase wastewater treatment capacity to reduce overages in discharge components during seasonal weather changes
- Establish incentives for sustainable development projects
- Require all residential developers read the Canton Roadmap and complete a project self-assessment prior to application
- **Require electric vehicle charging stations in all commercial developments over 5 acres**
- Promote recycling opportunities throughout the City
- Identify opportunities for City fleet alternative fuel/hybrid options
- Review City-owned facilities for energy efficiency opportunities
- Develop dual easements for all utility areas for future pathways/trails
- Review water utility processes to reduce water losses and encourage customer efficiencies
- Create community gardens and orchards for citizen use
- Create spaces for hydroponic wall gardens
- Establish a Sustainability Commission
- Tag native plant species in City parks and trails
- **Increase access points for public use of the Etowah River and Hickory Log Creek Reservoir**
- Partner with local utilities to establish efficiencies in providing services
- Reduce paper processes within the City of Canton
- Achieve certification for ARC Green Communities Program
- Increase pollinators on City property and along Etowah River
- Continue Tree City certification
- Install AMI Meter Reading system to monitor water loss
- **Trail Connection with existing Scout trails**
- Add water bottle filling stations in parks

### Specific Projects Underway

- Marietta Road Community Initiative/Sunnyside Area Plan
- Etowah River Trail Eastward from ERP Oval under Interstate 575
- Etowah River Trail Westward connecting Heritage to Boling Park
- Hickory Log Creek Reservoir Management Plan Review
- New City Website
- Thomas P. Miller Housing Study
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion
- Georgia Tourism Product Development Study

### Materials/Supporting Documents:

- Rivermill Livable Centers Initiative
- Canton 2040 Plan
- City of Canton Housing Study
- Central City Plan
- HPC Guidelines
- Black & Veatch Water & Wastewater Masterplan

## Connecting Citizens to Parks and Recreation

A healthy community provides access to nature. Residents should be connected with local parks through trails, sidewalks, and additional transportation options. Recreational opportunities should be available to and inclusive for all.

### Measurable Goals:

- Increase trail length
- Increase parks acreage
- Increase City-owned property along Etowah River
- Sidewalk connectivity for all neighborhoods to a Citywide parks and trail network
- Increase recreation offerings
- Increase reservations of field spaces and facilities
- Increase participation in sports programs
- Increase enrollment in local gyms and recreation program providers
- Increase attendance at public events

### Major Partners:

- Residents
- City Officials & Staff
- Northside Hospital-Cherokee
- YMCA
- Boys & Girls Club
- Cherokee Co. Senior Services
- Cherokee Co. Parks & Rec
- Private recreation groups
- Developers
- Media
- Utility Providers
- Cherokee Co. School District
- Private Property Owners
- Canton Main Street
- Homeowner Associations
- Private Event Organizers
- Upper Etowah River Alliance
- Army Corps of Engineers
- GDOT
- Cherokee County
- Scouts

### How We Will Get There

- Purchase of property necessary to provide recreational opportunities for our growing community
- Development of a dog park
- Continuation of the Etowah Trail System along both sides of the river
- Increase opportunities for recreational access to Etowah River
- Increase opportunities for recreational access to Hickory Log Creek Reservoir, including boat uses
- Increase recreational opportunities connecting all neighborhoods
- Creation of a master sidewalk plan to connect all neighborhoods
- Increase multi-use pathways throughout the City
- Develop a free wellness program of classes for City residents
- Creation of community gardens and orchards for resident use
- Develop a biking program including facilities
- Develop outdoor fitness opportunities for residents
- Increase programming for all ages of Canton residents
- Mark all trails and pathways for easy navigation and emergency location
- Encourage recreation opportunities for all communities
- Utilize green development practices in all park projects
- Connect to neighboring trail systems
- Publish maps and create digital maps of various trail/walking paths throughout the City
- Explore pedestrian improvements and connectivity along State Route 140 with Cherokee County and Georgia Department of Transportation
- Increase playground equipment, including options for adults and all ability needs

### Specific Projects Underway

- Marietta Highway ULI-TAP Project
- New Diversity & Inclusion Task Force
- Public Safety Citizens Advisory Board
- New City Website
- Etowah River Trail Eastward from ERP Oval under Interstate 575
- Etowah River Trail Westward connecting Heritage to Boling Park
- Harmon Park CDBG Upgrades
- Harmon Park Atlanta United Mini-Pitch Project
- National Fitness Center Outdoor Gym

### Materials/Supporting Documents:

- Rivermill Livable Centers Initiative
- Canton 2040 Plan
- City of Canton Housing Study
- Hickory Log Creek Reservoir Management Plan
- Atkins Etowah River Trail Masterplan
- Etowah River Greenway Plan

## Improving Infrastructure for Future Demands

Citizens, businesses, and visitors need access to the Canton infrastructural network to succeed in their goals. Transportation, power supply, gas availability, water and sewer, and digital connectivity are part of building a great network for success.

### Measurable Goals:

- Improve Pavement Management Index
- Replacement of aging water and sewer lines
- Reduction in lost water
- Decrease downtime of signals
- Increase internet speeds
- Reduction in areas of limited cell service
- Reduction of unincorporated island parcels
- Increase clean water capacity
- Increase bicycle traffic
- Increase electric vehicle charging stations
- Increase solar projects

### Major Partners:

- Residents
- City Officials & Staff
- Homeowner Associations
- Ga Dept. of Transportation
- Cherokee County
- CCWSA
- CCMWA
- Atlanta Regional Commission
- Federal DOT
- Georgia Power
- Georgia EMCs
- Cable Providers
- Phone Providers
- Adjacent Municipalities

### How We Will Get There

- Improve the treatment of wastewater within the City of Canton
- Work with partners to provide access to an efficiently supplied water system
- Identify opportunities for road network improvements within the City of Canton and adjacent unincorporated pockets
- Reduce unincorporated islands within the City of Canton
- Develop a City-wide transportation plan
- Identify opportunities for transit options and coordination with other entities
- Increase internet connectivity options for residents
- Work with power providers to decrease system down time
- Improve cell communication throughout the City using private partners
- Develop a map outlining service areas for varied utilities
- Work with adjacent jurisdictions on signalization timing
- Improve road paving index through annual paving projects
- Develop new standards for paving cuts for utility repairs
- Review downtown traffic patterns for efficiencies
- Host annual transportation town hall with GDOT, ARC and Cherokee County
- LAP Certification for local control of federally funded projects
- Provide options for alternative fuel vehicles in the City's fleet
- Increase bike options and use throughout the City
- Identify alternative transportation options in neighborhoods
- Increase interconnectivity between neighborhoods and parks
- Improve parking options in historic neighborhoods with limited rights-of-way
- Create automated meter reading program
- Create solar project incentive

### Specific Projects Underway

- Marietta Highway ULI-TAP Project
- Public Parks Wi-Fi Program
- State Route 140 Engineering Plan
- Downtown Parking Deck Project
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion
- Water System Booster Pump Projects (Amos Road and Laurel Canyon)
- State Route 20 Eastward Expansion

### Materials/Supporting Documents:

- Rivermill LCI
- Canton 2040 Plan
- Water & Wastewater Master Plan by Black & Veatch
- State Route 140 Concept Study
- Thomas P. Miller Housing Study

## Leading with Excellence

City Council, Staff, and Citizen Boards will foster civic participation and serve ethically, transparently, responsibly, and efficiently.

### Measurable Goals:

- Increase in Citizen Participation Applications
- Increase views of City website
- Increase participation in Town Hall events
- Increase social media contacts
- Increase contacts with Homeowner Associations
- Increase automated bill pay participation
- Continue City of Ethics certification
- Increase participation in Citizens Police Academy
- Increase livestreaming opportunities for all boards and commissions
- Increase annual hours of staff training
- Increase opportunities for Council training
- Reduce staff turnover

### Major Partners:

- Residents
- City Officials & Staff
- Homeowner Associations
- InterDev
- Georgia Municipal Association
- Professional organizations for staff groups
- Local Media
- Boards and Commissions
- Social Media Platforms
- Webhosting Platform
- Local Higher Educational Institutions
- Carl Vinson Institute of Government

## How We Will Get There

- Retreat with Council and Management Staff twice annually reviewing the Roadmap, operations, and major projects
- Creation of new committees: CanTeen, Diversity & Inclusion Task Force, Public Safety Citizens Advisory Board
- Revise and implement Canton's Ethics Ordinance
- Reviewing Citizen Participation Applications assuring boards and commissions include the best and brightest Canton residents
- Establishing improved communications practices reaching larger audiences through various platforms and media
- Translating key documents to be more accessible to non-English speaking Canton residents
- Assuring that all public meetings are livestreamed and video-archived
- Utilizing analytics from JustFOIA to make the most routinely requested open records requests more readily available on the City website
- Researching other local government services and discussing innovation during staff level focus group meetings
- Providing time for all City staff to continue professional development training
- Judging all budgetary expenditures based upon the Roadmap
- Implement required exit interviews by Human Resources to learn more about staff turnover
- Develop a Citizen Academy to build ambassadors for the work of Canton
- Establish annual town hall meetings on each of the Canton Tenets
- Host meetings annually with Homeowner Association leaders
- Market efficiencies for application and utilization of paperless systems
- Recognize excellence in staff development and ethics
- Regularly review and ensure staff salaries and benefits are aligned with other like-sized municipalities
- Develop the next generation of professional leadership for our City

### Specific Projects Underway

- Website redevelopment
- Implementation of LAMA Development Software
- Creation of the Canton Roadmap
- Implementation of JustFOIA Open Records Software
- Review of Citizen Participation Applications

### Materials/Supporting Documents:

- Canton 2040 Plan
- Thomas P. Miller Housing Study
- Rivermill Livable Centers Initiative
- Archived Social Media Feedback
- Existing City of Canton Ethics Ordinance
- City of Canton Personnel Policy
- City of Canton Financial Policy

## Milemarkers for Implementation

- I. Creation of Tenets for Canton's Success (Mayor and Council Retreat—October 2020)
- II. Presentation of Draft Roadmap to Mayor and Council (November 2020)
- III. Public Input on Roadmap (November 20 to December 10)
  - a. Email Blast
  - b. Press Releases
  - c. Social Media Profiles
  - d. Website Feature
- IV. Council Adoption of the Roadmap (December 17)
- V. Develop communications plan
- VI. Monthly Staff Updates
- VII. Quarterly Roadmap Review at Council Work Session
- VIII. Annual Mayor and Council Retreats for Calibrating the Roadmap
- IX. Town Hall Meetings—one per year per tenet
- X. Annual Budget Documents include expense projections related to the roadmap

## How We Will Get There

- Require all developers seeking application for annexation, zoning, conditional use permits, land disturbance permits, master plan amendments, etc., to read the Roadmap prior to submission of application and identify how the changes meet the goals for making Canton the Coolest Small Town in America
- Require the City Staff Annual Employee Roadmaps outline opportunities for achieving measurable success in the tenet areas
- Outline budget priorities utilizing the Roadmap and highlight key projects, programs, and capital purchases by tenet
- Annual town hall meetings based on each of the tenets that outlines successes, concerns, and opportunities to recalibrate the vision
- Realign citizen boards and committees to further the City goals and achieve measurable success in progress
- **Utilize the Roadmap for staff recommendations on projects that come before the City Council**
- Market the Roadmap to potential partners, investors, and new residents, showcasing #thecoolestsmalltowninamerica
- Create a portion of the website related to the Roadmap, a page for each tenet and opportunities to hyperlink projects, aspirations, meeting notes, and design concepts
- Update the public on Roadmap successes monthly via newsletters and through social media
- Partner with local media to highlight the Roadmap and implementation

## Project Planning

- The City will categorize projects into the near-term (next 5 years), mid-term (second 5 years), and long-term (final 5-years)
- Projects will be identified as City-led, Partnership Projects, or Private-led based upon project initiation and funding
- Projects will be coordinated with special funding sources and cycles, such as SPLOST, Impact Fees, Tax Districts, and grant cycles
- Project signage will include a list of any tenets involved and copies of all plans related to projects will be available on that tenet page of the website

## Materials/Supporting Documents:

- All existing reports, studies, and plans will be catalogued and matched where possible to each of the tenets
- All future reports, studies, and plans will be linked within the website for the Roadmap based upon the areas of impact
- All development projects will be linked to the appropriate pages of the website for the areas of Roadmap impact
- All agenda items to Council will identify tenet impacts

# PLAN VISION AND GOALS



# CANTON TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN

## DRAFT VISION & GOALS

1/31/2022



CANTON



**DRAFT  
VISION**

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# **Master Transportation Plan Vision - DRAFT**

**“Provide the residents and visitors of City of Canton a plan that outlines safe access and enhanced connectivity to neighborhoods, recreation facilities, local businesses, and natural resources today, while envisioning future transportation solutions that ensure sustainability and implementable action steps”**

A background image showing a business meeting. Several hands are visible, pointing at a sunburst chart and documents on a table. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting an office environment. The text is overlaid on this image.

# **DRAFT GOALS**

---

**Connectivity & Accessibility**  
**Parking & Wayfinding**  
**Multi-Modal Commute Options**  
**Roadway Improvements & Safety**  
**Traffic Congestion Relief**  
**Community Engagement**

# Project Goals - DRAFT

- **Connectivity & Accessibility**

1. **Infill** and **improve** sidewalk connections between neighborhoods and destination centers such as, but not limited to, historic downtown loop, The Mill on Etowah, the Etowah River Trail System, and Sunnyside.
2. **Increase** sidewalk capacity for outdoor dining and pedestrian flow in mixed-use commercial areas and Main Street.
3. **Increase** opportunities for recreational access to the Etowah River and Trail System and Hickory Log Creek Reservoir.
4. **Enhance** walkability and bike-ability with new trail connections to existing Scouting Trails and neighboring trail systems, continuation of Etowah Trail system along both sides of the river, network of multi-use pathways through the City, and improved pedestrian safety along SR 140.
5. **Explore** sustainable practices for better design and greener implementation.

# Project Goals - DRAFT

- **Parking & Wayfinding**

1. **Improve** parking options in destination centers and historic neighborhoods.
2. **Identify** potential locations for Electric Vehicle charging stations.
3. **Identify** potential locations where wayfinding may improve traffic circulation.

- **Multi-Modal Commute Options**

1. **Provide** more transportation/commute options to limit traffic congestion.
2. **Identify** alternative transportation options in residential areas.
3. **Identify** key locations for bike program facilities.
4. **Identify** opportunities for transit options and/or transit partnerships.

# Project Goals - DRAFT

- **Roadway Improvements & Safety**

1. **Identify** opportunities for road network improvements within the City of Canton and adjacent unincorporated pockets.
2. **Identify** paving priorities within the existing road network.
3. **Incorporate** crime prevention design strategies.
4. **Explore and Identify** technology solutions and potential locations to enhance pedestrian safety and improve commute experience.

- **Traffic Congestion Relief**

1. **Review** downtown and destination centers' traffic patterns for efficiencies.
2. **Evaluate** traffic solutions for downtown and destination centers.
3. **Explore and Identify** technology solutions to alleviate congestion issues in these areas.

# Project Goals - DRAFT

- **Community Engagement**

1. **Improve** communication infrastructure and practices to successfully reach larger audiences through various media platforms including live streaming and video archiving all public meetings.
2. **Provide** regular engagement opportunities to minority-owned businesses, non-profits, and faith-based organizations.



# APPENDIX

(Goals highlighted from Canton Tenets)

---

# Project Goals (from Canton Tenets)

- Connect all neighborhoods to a Citywide sidewalk system
- Implement Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) in Development Review Process.
- Meeting and working with faith-based organizations
- Providing access to documents in multiple languages
- Improve communication infrastructure, including dissemination of information through minority businesses and non-profits
- Increase transportation options to limit congestion and increase connectivity
- Improve downtown parking
- Improve downtown wayfinding signage
- Increase sidewalk capacity for outdoor dining and pedestrian flow
- Build connectivity between historic downtown loop and The Mill on Etowah and Sunnyside
- Evaluate traffic solutions for downtown, including East Main and North Street traffic flows
- Create better connectivity between existing downtown and The Mill on Etowah and Etowah River Trail System
- Require electric vehicle charging stations in all commercial developments over 5 acres
- Increase access points for public use of the Etowah River and Hickory Log Creek Reservoir
- Trail connection with existing Scout Trails
- Continuation of the Etowah Trail system along both sides of the river.
- Increase opportunities for recreational access to Etowah River
- Increase opportunities for recreational access to Hickory Log Creek Reservoir, including boat uses.
- Creation of a master sidewalk plan to connect all neighborhoods

# Project Goals (from Canton Tenets)

- Increase multi-use pathways throughout the City
- Develop a biking program including facilities
- Mark all trails and pathways for easy navigation and emergency location
- Connect to all neighboring trail systems
- Explore pedestrian improvements and connectivity along State Route 140 with Cherokee County and Georgia Department of Transportation
- Identify opportunities for road network improvements within the City of Canton and adjacent unincorporated pockets
- Develop a City-wide transportation plan
- Identify opportunities for transit options and coordination with other entities
- Improve road paving index through annual paving projects
- Review downtown traffic patterns for efficiencies
- Increase bike options and use throughout the City
- Identify alternative transportation options in neighborhoods
- Increase interconnectivity between neighborhoods and parks
- Improve parking options in historic neighborhoods with limited rights-of-way
- Create automated meter reading program
- Establishing improved communications practices reaching larger audiences through various platforms and media
- Translating key documents to be more accessible to non-English speaking Canton residents
- Assuring that all public meetings are livestreamed and video-archived
- Utilize the road map for staff recommendations on projects that come before the City Council

# DATA COLLECTION PLAN



# CITY OF CANTON

## DATA COLLECTION PLAN - DRAFT

TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN  
JANUARY 2022



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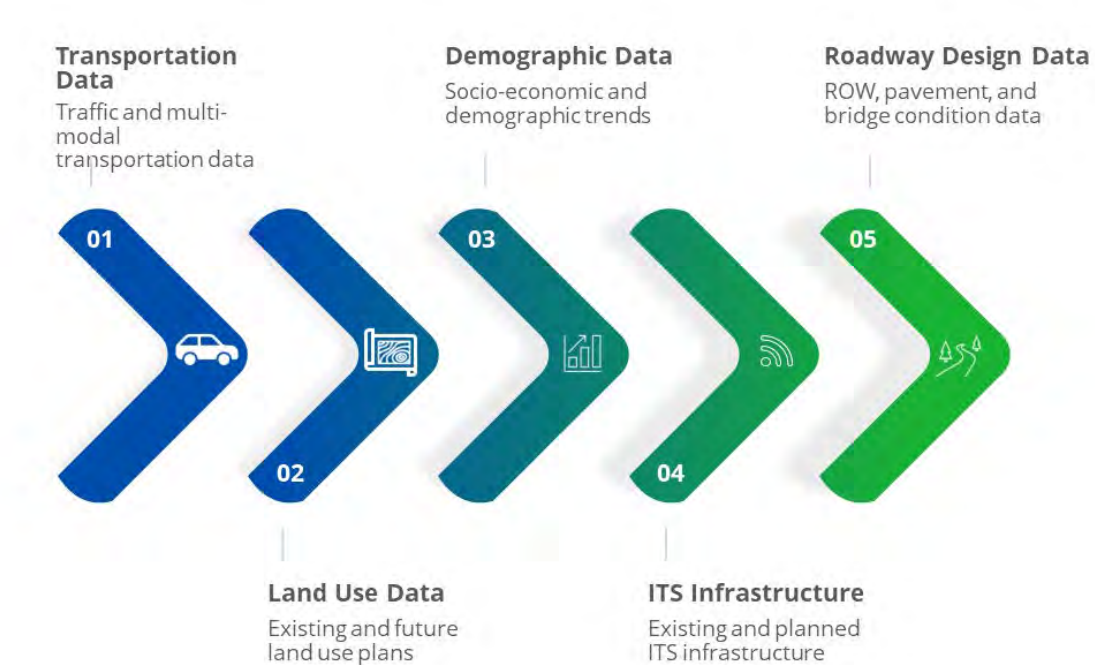
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# 1 INTRODUCTION

This Data Collection Plan summarizes the existing data that will be collected for the City of Canton (henceforth referred to as City) Transportation Master Plan (TMP), a study examining potential transportation improvement alternatives to address the City's traffic congestion, safety, accessibility, and connectivity among others. The purpose of this plan is to provide the City with a comprehensive list of data to be collected, which the Study Team will utilize to perform analyses of existing and future conditions as well as potential alternatives for transportation improvements within the city. This plan describes various data sets, sources, and high-level analysis results and how data will be used to evaluate the alternatives. This document will serve as a repository of all the data that is will be used for this study.

# 2 DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

The data sets collected for the assessment of existing and future conditions and potential alternatives include multi-modal transportation and traffic-related data, existing and future land use patterns, proposed future developments, socioeconomic and demographic trends, ITS infrastructure, and right-of-way (ROW) and roadway and bridge conditions. Previous studies and projects as well as relevant articles will also be included for reference. These data sets are illustrated in Figure 1 and described in the following sections.



## 2.1 Transportation Data Analysis

Transportation data incorporates information from a wide variety of existing sources. The existing data sources are described below, along with how the data will be used, and what format the data will be shared with the City.

### 2.1.1 Traffic Data and Analysis

#### 2.1.1.1 Data Purpose/Utilization

Traffic counts provide a snapshot in time of the amount of traffic utilizing the current and future network. This data also includes a breakdown between automobile and truck traffic, providing insight into freight movements and paths as well as historical counts that illustrate the growth of traffic. Historical counts will be particularly useful in looking at alternatives and future connections in the more detailed analysis.

Existing transportation studies, including the Canton 2040 Comprehensive Plan, Canton Capital Improvements Element, and Cherokee County Recreation, Parks, Green Space & Trails Master Plan will be reviewed for existing traffic counts for vehicles as well as other modes, including pedestrians and bicyclists. Additionally, Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) online traffic county system and Automated Traffic Signal Performance Measures (ATSPM) system, which provides real-time and historical data at signalized intersections, will be utilized to pull counts from GDOT roadways within the City.

The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) Activity-Based Model (ABM) will also be utilized to evaluate network performance in relation to congestion and traffic flow for the existing 2020 year. GDOT maintains an online database of crashes throughout the state.

The Georgia Electronic Accident Reporting System (GEARS) is paired with the Numetric system, which allows for an in-depth analysis of crash data and information.

#### 2.1.1.2 GDOT Traffic Analysis & Data Application (TADA)

Data Source	Data Date	Coverage Area	Data Format
GDOT TADA ( <a href="https://gdottrafficdata.drakewell.com/publicmultinode/map.asp">https://gdottrafficdata.drakewell.com/publicmultinode/map.asp</a> )	2011-2021	Georgia	GIS

GDOT TADA provides data collected from the Georgia Traffic Monitoring Program located on public roads. The web-based application uses a mapping interface to allow users to access data from the map in a variety of report, graph, and data export formats. The historical data includes traffic counts from 2011 to 2021. Truck traffic percentages can be found at many permanent count locations. Hourly counts by direction, weekly patterns, and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) vehicle classification percentages can be found at the website dashboard for each permanent location along major interstates, U.S. routes, and state routes.

Figure 2 shows a snapshot of the data dashboard for Count Station 057-0281 East Main Street in Downtown Canton. As an example, Figure 3 shows the traffic count locations for the City of Canton that are available. Data for all available count locations within the City will be obtained from the TADA website for the existing and future conditions analysis and alternatives analysis. Data will be evaluated to determine if 2020/2021



### 2.1.1.3 GDOT Automated Traffic Signal Performance Measures (ATSPM)

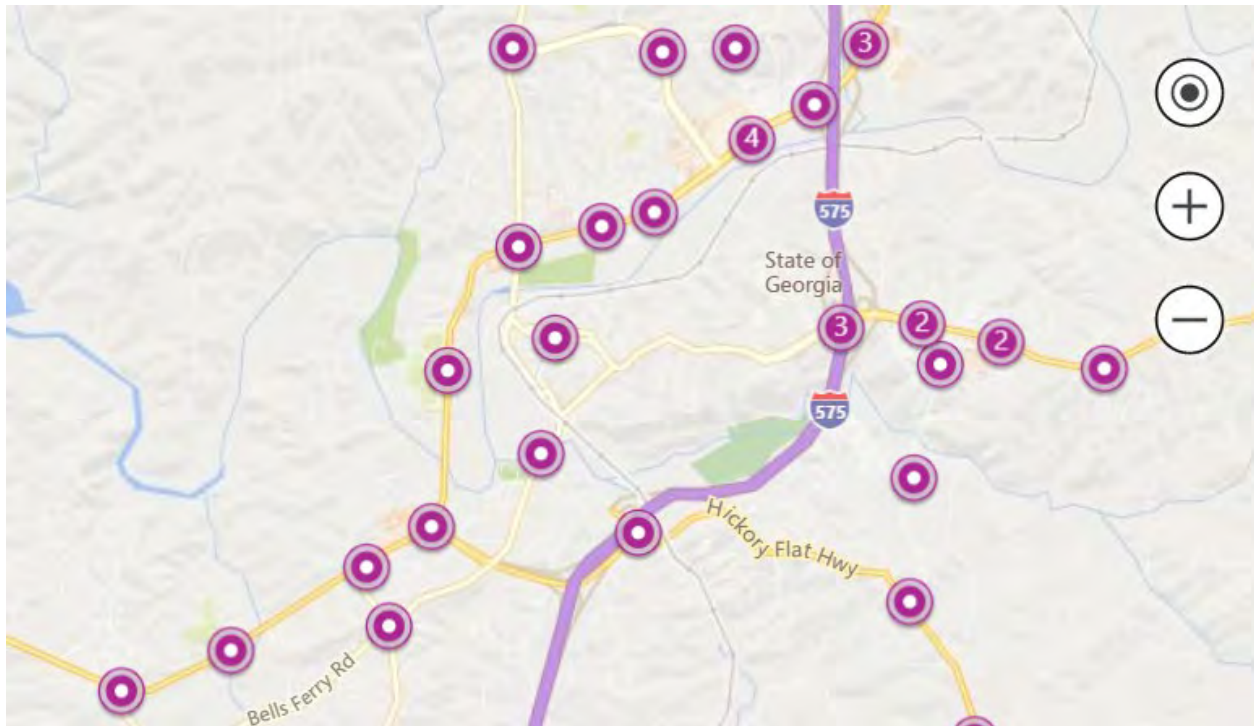
Data Source	Data Date	Data Coverage Area	Data Format
GDOT ( <a href="https://traffic.dot.ga.gov/atspm">traffic.dot.ga.gov/atspm</a> )	Real Time	Most signalized intersections in Georgia	GIS

Automated Traffic Signal Performance Measures (ATSPM) show real-time and historical performance at signalized intersections. The various measures evaluate the quality of progression of traffic along a corridor and display any unused green time that may be available from various movements. This information includes vehicle and pedestrian detector malfunctions, measures vehicle delay, and provides vehicle data such as volumes, speeds, and travel times. The measures are used to optimize mobility and manage traffic signal timing and maintenance to reduce congestion, save fuel costs, and improve safety. This allows traffic engineers to directly measure what previously could only be estimated and modeled.

The ATSPM platform displays and generates signal-related metrics. These metrics include:

- Purdue Phase Termination
- Split Monitor
- Pedestrian Delay
- Preemption Details
- Turning Movement Counts
- Purdue Coordination Diagram
- Approach Volume
- Approach Delay
- Arrivals On Red
- Purdue Split Failure
- Left Turn Gap Analysis

Not every signal has all metrics available due to the limitations of some signals. Users can generate reports for selected metrics. Figure 4 below shows the available signals in the City that can be utilized for the data listed above.



**Figure 4. Available City of Canton Intersection Counts from GDOT ATSPM**

In addition to metrics on individual signalized intersections, a performance summary on selected corridors is available on SigOps, a subtab on the ATSPM platform. SigOps generates the following performance metrics:

- Throughput
- Arrivals on Green
- Progression Ratio
- Queue Spillback Rate
- Peak Period Split Failures
- Off-Peak Split Failures
- Travel Time Index
- Planning Time Index

Users can select a corridor and generate plots for selected metrics. The corridor selection is limited, and not every corridor has all metrics available. Locations available for the City of Canton are shown in Figure 5.

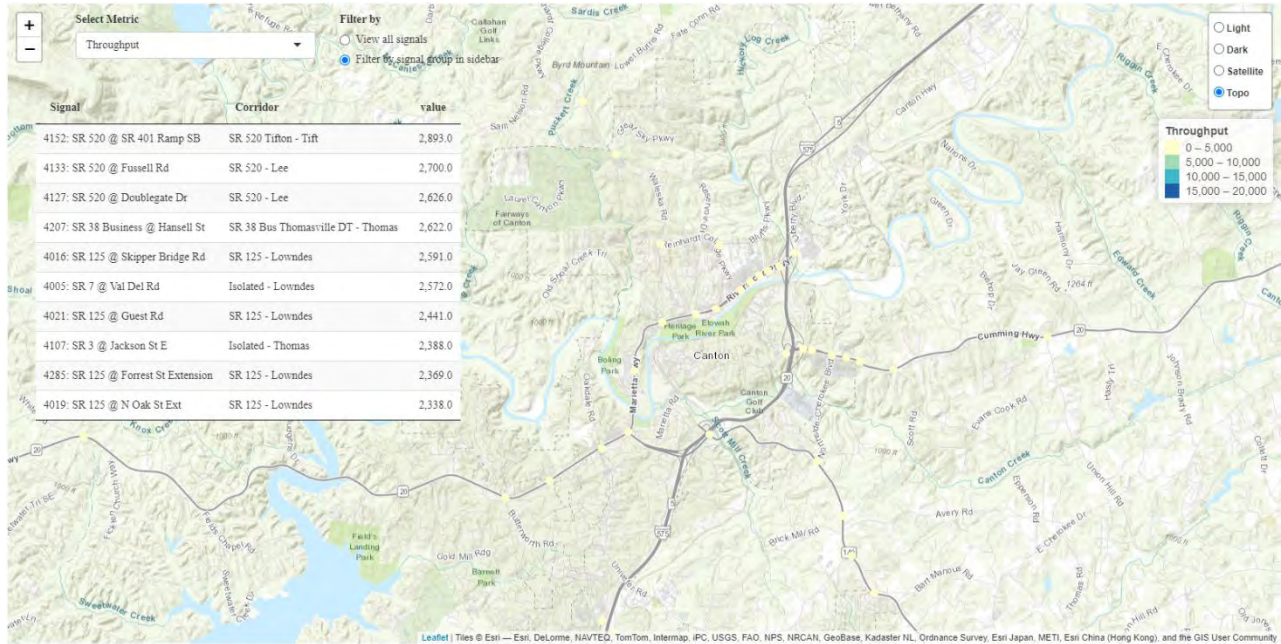


Figure 5. Intersection Locations on Available Corridors in Study Area on SigOps

#### 2.1.1.4 Traffic Counts from Previous Studies

Data Source	Date	Data Coverage Area	Data Format Shared
City of Canton 2040 Comprehensive Plan, Canton Capital Improvements Element, and Cherokee County Recreation, Parks, Green Space & Trails Master Plan	Various	City of Canton	Excel Tables, Historical Trends Analysis

Traffic counts collected for previous City plans, including bike and ped counts, will be utilized. Plan documents will be reviewed, and any additional counts from local staff surveys or other methods will be requested to fill in any gaps for local counts.

#### 2.1.1.5 NPMRDS Travel Time and Speed Data

Data Source	Data Date	Data Coverage Area	Data Type	Data Format
NPMRDS ( <a href="https://npmrds.ritis.org/analytics/">https://npmrds.ritis.org/analytics/</a> )	2021	Cherokee County	Hourly speeds at Traffic Message Chanel (TMC) segments	GIS

The National Performance Management Research Data Set (NPMRDS) is a database that monitors and reports vehicle speed and travel time data, which is available across the National Highway System (NHS). The Study Team will obtain hourly speed and travel time data for roads within the City. Figure 6 shows the NPMRDS coverage network for the City, focusing primarily on Marietta Highway/US /US 20 and I-575.

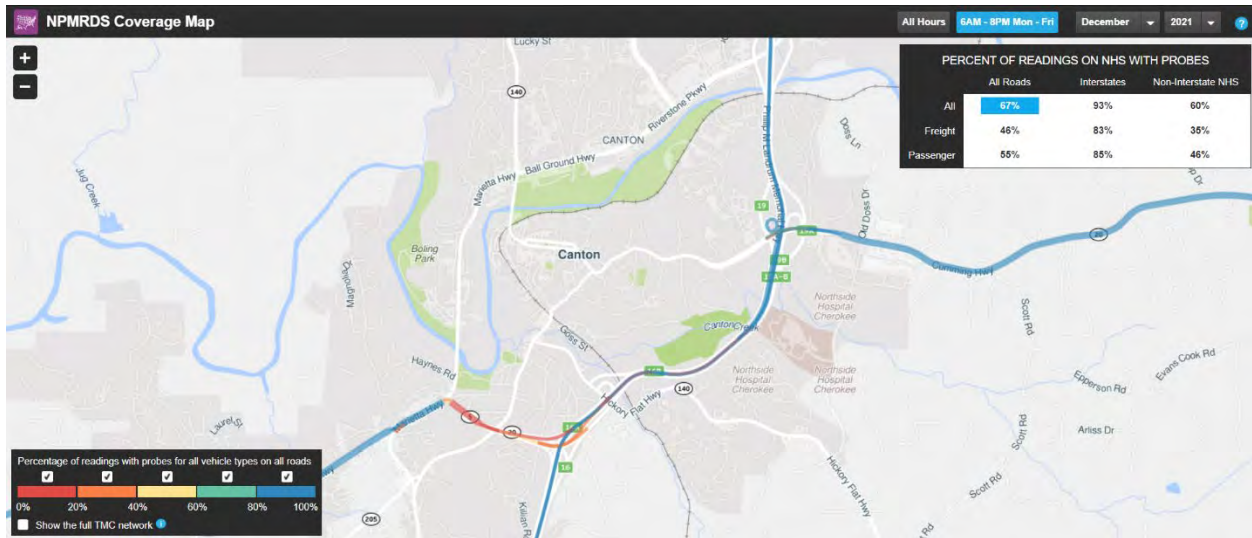


Figure 6. Coverage for NPMRDS within the City of Canton

### 2.1.1.6 Transit Data

Data Source	Data Date	Coverage Area	Data Format
Cherokee Area Transportation System (CATS), Atlanta Transit Link (ATL) ( <a href="https://www.cherokeega.com/transportation/">https://www.cherokeega.com/transportation/</a> )	2011-2021	Cherokee County	GIS

Transit information for CATS and ATL will be collected to understand how transit serves the city. Information collected will include:

- Route Information
  - o Route Frequency
  - o Hours of Operation
- Bus Stop Locations
  - o Bus Stop Amenities (benches, shelters, trash cans, etc)
- Ridership
- Future Expansion Plans

## 2.1.2 Crash Data and Analysis

### 2.1.2.1 Data Purpose/Utilization

GDOT maintains the Georgia Electronic Accident Reporting System (GEARS), an online database of crashes throughout the state. This system is paired with the Numetric system for an in-depth analysis of crash data and information.



## 2.1.3 Travel Demand Model Data and Analysis

### 2.1.3.1 Data Purpose/Utilization

Future travel demand forecasts can be useful in analyzing how traffic is expected to evolve over time for a region or city. Travel demand models allow users to interpret traffic patterns and issues in both the existing and horizon years. The ARCs Activity Based Model (ABM) will help guide the understanding of current traffic flows and congestion points as well as anticipated conditions in the future year.

### 2.1.3.2 ARC ABM

Data Source	Model Years	Model Area	Data Format
ARC	2020 and 2050	Cherokee County	GIS

Daily total traffic volume and Level of Service (LOS) maps for the existing year and future year will be mapped to show congestion within the City. Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) will be pulled from the 2020 and 2050 model to showcase existing and future AADT on local roadways. This information can be overlaid with the roadway type and capacity to get a Volume to Capacity (V/C) ratio, which can provide a Level of Service (LOS) for each roadway. While the ARC ABM does include demographic information, the US Census Bureau's 2020 Census will be utilized since this data is more recent.

## 2.2 Engineering and Technical Data

### 2.2.1 Data Purpose/Utilization

The project team will assemble a range of engineering data related to transportation, including sidewalk inventory, trail network inventory, ROW, roadway conditions and pavement conditions, and transportation network. This information will be critical in developing and evaluating potential alternatives.

### 2.2.2 Bridge Data

Data Source	Data Years	Data Coverage Area	Data Format
GDOT ( <a href="http://www.dot.ga.gov/BuildSmart/ResearchDocuments/task1Report_0501bridgestructures.pdf">http://www.dot.ga.gov/BuildSmart/ResearchDocuments/task1Report_0501bridgestructures.pdf</a> )	2020	Statewide	GIS

Bridge condition information will be obtained from GDOT to ensure all bridges within the City are currently in a state of good repair.

### 2.2.3 Pavement Data

Data Source	Data Years	Data Coverage Area	Data Format
GDOT ( <a href="https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tpm/reporting/state/condition.cfm?state=Georgia">https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tpm/reporting/state/condition.cfm?state=Georgia</a> )	2020	Statewide	GIS

Pavement condition information will be obtained from GDOT. Data is based on a review of the Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) data. GDOT utilizes its Computerized Pavement Condition Evaluation System (CoPACES) to perform pavement condition assessment. The data collected by this automated system includes additional information, such as transverse profile, rutting, faulting, cracking, and International Roughness Index (IRI).

### 2.2.4 ROW Data

Data Source	Data Years	Data Coverage Area	Data Format
City of Canton, GDOT	2020	City of Canton, Statewide	GIS

ROW data, as available, will be obtained from City of Canton staff and GDOT. ROW information will be mapped in GIS to showcase the extents owned by the City or GDOT for expanding the existing transportation network. ROW data can be difficult to collect, so where it is not available, ROW boundaries will be estimated.

### 2.2.5 Sidewalk/Trail Network Data

Data Source	Data Years	Data Coverage Area	Data Format
City of Canton	2022	City of Canton	GIS

Sidewalk and Trail Network data, as available, will be obtained from City of Canton GIS staff. Additionally, the Cherokee County Recreation, Parks, Green Space & Trails Master Plan will be utilized to document existing and planned trails within the City.

### 2.2.6 Transportation Network Data

Data Source	Data Years	Data Coverage Area	Data Format
City of Canton, Cherokee County, GDOT	2022	City of Canton	GIS

Roadway network data will be obtained from the City of Canton, Cherokee County, and GDOT. The Canton 2040 Comprehensive Plan will be utilized to document the existing and planned transportation network, including roadway, bike, and transit plans.

### 2.2.7 Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Network Data

Data Source	Data Years	Data Coverage Area	Data Format
City of Canton, Cherokee County, GDOT	2022	City of Canton	GIS

ITS data will be collected for a variety of functions, including:

- Traffic Signals
- Fiber Optic Cables
- MaxTime/MaxView Signal Software
- Dedicated Short Range Communications (DSRC) / Cellular Radios Locations
- Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations

- Public Wi-Fi Locations
- Pedestrian Flashing Beacons
- School Zone Flashing Beacons

Data will be utilized to evaluate what ITS infrastructure currently exists, and what improvements can be made to fill in the gaps. Data will be requested from City of Canton and Cherokee County GIS staff, as well as the GDOT District engineers. Data that isn't already mapped out, such as EV locations or Flashing School Beacons, will be sourced through online searches.

### 2.2.8 Green and Sustainable Infrastructure

Data Source	Data Years	Data Coverage Area	Data Format
City of Canton, Cherokee County, GDOT	2022	City of Canton	GIS

Project data information will be gathered for existing green and sustainable infrastructure within the City of Canton, either existing or proposed. The data will be used to map where projects have been implemented, and where future green infrastructure may make sense to be implemented. Project types can include:

- Bioswales
- Pervious Pavement
- Green Roofs
- Rain Gardens
- Underground Water Filtration

## 2.3 Land Use Data Analysis

### 2.3.1 City of Canton Zoning Data

Data Source	Data Years	Data Coverage Area	Data Format
City of Canton, Cherokee County	2022	City of Canton	GIS

Zoning data will be added to the GIS database to map out the existing zoning map or land use map, whichever is available from the City GIS staff. Additionally, the Canton 2040 Comprehensive will be utilized to look at future zoning changes being proposed, including needs and opportunities identified by the Stakeholders for Transportation and Land Use categories. The data will be used to summarize impacts on the transportation network.

### 2.3.2 Parks and Recreation

Data Source	Data Years	Data Coverage Area	Data Format
City of Canton, Cherokee County	2022	City of Canton	GIS

Park data, as well as other recreational areas such as open space, community facilities, and other activity areas will be mapped. These will be evaluated for their connectedness to the existing infrastructure network to understand how future projects can increase access to these land facilities. #CantonForward Etowah to the Loop Liveable Centers Initiative (LCI) Data

Data Source				Data Years	Data Coverage Area	Data Format
River	Mill	LCI	( <a href="https://www.tsw-design.com/portfolio-items/canton-forward-lci/">https://www.tsw-design.com/portfolio-items/canton-forward-lci/</a> )	2022	City of Canton	GIS

The #CantonForward Etowah to the Loop LCI data will be utilized to evaluate how proposed changes to this area will impact traffic in Canton. Proposed improvements from the LCI report will be mapped to ensure the development is taken into account.

## 2.4 Demographic and Socioeconomic Data Analysis

### 2.4.1 Environmental Justice Data

#### 2.4.1.1 Data Purpose/Utilization

Assessing the impacts on Environmental Justice (EJ) communities is important for transportation projects. With the presence of EJ communities adjacent to and throughout the study area, this analysis becomes even more important to evaluate the impacts of projects on EJ communities.

#### 2.4.1.2 EJSCREEN Reports

Data Source	Data Date	Data Type
EPA EJSCREEN V2019 ( <a href="https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen">https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen</a> )	January 2022	Reports
Data Area	Data Variables	Data Format Shared
1-mile buffer 5-mile buffer 10-mile buffer	EJ Indices for PM2.5, Ozone, NATA Diesel PM, NATA Air Toxics Cancer Risk, NATA Respiratory Hazard Index, Traffic Proximity and Volume, Lead Paint Indicator, Superfund Proximity, RMP Proximity, Hazardous Waste Proximity, and Wastewater Discharge Indicator	GIS

EJSCREEN is an environmental justice mapping and screening tool that provides a nationally consistent data set and approach for combining environmental and demographic indicators. EJSCREEN uses publicly available data to display and compare a study area's EJ indexes with regional, state, or national indexes. This report provides the EJ indexes on the air quality status within a 5-mile ring buffer around the City of Canton.

### 2.4.1.3 CDC/ATSDR Social Vulnerability Index (SVI)

Data Source	Data Date	Data Type
CDC/ATSDR SVI Maps ( <a href="https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/index.html">https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/index.html</a> )	January 2022	Reports
Data Area	Data Variables	Data Format Shared
City of Canton	Food, Water, Medicine, Bedding, Emergency Shelters, Evacuation Routes, Socioeconomic Status, Household Composition, Race/Ethnicity/Language, Housing, Transportation	GIS

The CDC/ATSDR SVI uses U.S. Census data to determine the social vulnerability of every census tract. The SVI ranks each tract on 15 social factors, including poverty, lack of vehicle access, crowded housing, and groups them into four related themes. Maps of these themes include socioeconomic status, household composition, race/ethnicity/language, and housing/transportation.

#### 2.4.1.4 U.S. Census American Community Survey (ACS) Data

Data Source	Data Date	Data Type
U.S. Census ( <a href="https://data.census.gov/cedsci/">https://data.census.gov/cedsci/</a> )	2020	Tabular ACS 5-Year Subject Tables
Data Area	Data Variables	Data Format Shared
City of Canton	ACS estimates for population, households, housing units, per capita income, land area, and water area. Population characteristics are broken down by race, sex, age, educational attainment, employment status, poverty status, disability, ability to speak English, and language spoken at home. Household characteristics include zero-vehicle access, linguistically isolated households, households by income, and occupancy tenure.	GIS

In addition to the EJSCREEN report, the team will perform an equity analysis using the 2021 ACS 5-Year data in Canton City, Georgia at the census tract-level. A list of equity analyses and their corresponding data source is shown in Table 1.

**Table 1. Equity Analyses and Corresponding Census Data Table**

Equity Analyses	Census Data Table
Percent of population below poverty level	S1701 Poverty Status in The Past 12 Months
Percent of households with zero-vehicle access	DP04 Selected Housing Characteristics
Percent of the total minority population	DP05 ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates
Percent of limited English-speaking households	S1602 Limited English-Speaking Households
Percent of population aged 65-and-over	S0101 Age and Sex
Percent of population with a disability	S1810 Disability Characteristics
Percent of population without a college degree	S1501 Educational Attainment

## 2.4.2 Environmental Data

### 2.4.2.1 Data Purpose/Utilization

To ensure any environmentally sensitive areas surrounding the City are not disturbed, natural and environmental features will be mapped in GIS. These environmental features include water/river-related resources and ecological resources on adjacent lands. Locating these features will help the team avoid and/or minimize the impacts on these resources.

### 2.4.2.2 List of Environmental Data

Table 2 lists the environmental data that provides background information of the study area. The Study Team will further analyze this data for environmental assessment of potential alternatives.

Table 2. List of Environmental Data

Data Source	Data Type	Data Date	Data Description
FEMA National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) ( <a href="https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/national-flood-hazard-layer">https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/national-flood-hazard-layer</a> )	Geodatabase (gdb)	2021	Layer containing flood hazard zones within the study area and surroundings
United States Geological Survey (USGS) ( <a href="https://www.usgs.gov/">https://www.usgs.gov/</a> )	Imagery (jp2)	2015	Aerial imagery within the study area and surroundings
United States Geological Survey (USGS) ( <a href="https://www.usgs.gov/">https://www.usgs.gov/</a> )	Geodatabase (gdb)	2015	State and county boundaries, roads, railroads, water bodies, and streams within the study area and surroundings
National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) ( <a href="https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/">https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/</a> )	Geodatabase (gdb)	2020	Geodatabase containing the wetlands within the study area and surroundings
Georgia EPD Hazardous Site Inventory 2020 ( <a href="https://epd.georgia.gov/about-us/land-protection-branch/hazardous-waste/hazardous-site-inventory">https://epd.georgia.gov/about-us/land-protection-branch/hazardous-waste/hazardous-site-inventory</a> )	WebMap	2020	WebMap containing the active and inactive landfills within the state of Georgia
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) ( <a href="https://www.epa.gov/">https://www.epa.gov/</a> )	Shapefile (shp)	2019	Layer containing the brownfields and potentially contaminated sites within the study area and surroundings
U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) ( <a href="https://www.eia.gov/">https://www.eia.gov/</a> )	Shapefile (shp)	2019	Layer containing active and inactive underground storage tanks sites in U.S.
OpenStreetMap ( <a href="https://www.openstreetmap.org/">https://www.openstreetmap.org/</a> )	Shapefile (shp)	2021	Layer containing gas stations within the study area and surroundings

## 2.5 Previous and Pertinent Studies and Projects

The following studies have been identified for review. These will be supplemented with additional plans and/or projects as the study progresses.

- Canton 2040 Comprehensive Plan, July 2019
- Canton Capital Improvements Element, March 2019
- Cherokee County Recreation, Parks, Green Space & Trails Master Plan, 2019
- #CantonForward Etowah To The Loop LCI Plan Update, June 2016
- City of Canton Housing Needs Assessment & Market Study, December 2020
- Rental Residential Market Analysis, City of Canton, November 2016
- Central City Urban Redevelopment Plan, June 2014
- Technology Ridge Urban Redevelopment Plan, June 2011

The team identified the existing and planned major projects, and a review will be conducted during the alternatives development and traffic analysis:

- SR 140 at SR 5 BU (Waleska Road at Riverstone Parkway): The intersection of SR 140 and Marietta Highway experiences peak hour delays. The AADT on SR140 in the vicinity of the Marietta Highway intersection is 17,579. The project includes the construction of additional lanes, concrete median, increasing right turning lane storage, right-in/right-out improvements at Walgreens Driveway and Hospital Road, signal improvements and realignment of Shoal Creek Road to align with Mary Lane. A schematic layout and previously completed traffic study is included as part of this package.
- SR 140 at SR 5 Conn (Waleska Road at Reinhardt College Parkway): The intersection of SR 140 and SR 5 Conn experiences peak hour delays. The AADT on SR140 in the vicinity of the SR 5 Conn intersection is 17,579 and AADT on SR 5 Conn in the vicinity of the SR140 is 11,160. The project includes the construction of a Continuous Green-T intersection. A schematic layout and previously completed traffic study is included as part of this package.
- Old Highway 5 Corridor Traffic Study: Old Highway 5 runs north-south through Cherokee County from the Cobb County line to the Pickens County line and through the cities of Woodstock, Holly Springs, Canton, and Ball Ground. It is maintained by the County and the respective jurisdictions as well as by the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT). Cherokee County is interested in completing a corridor study for a 14-mile section of Old Highway 5 that runs between the Cobb County line and the northern limits of the City of Canton.
- Reservoir Drive at Hickory Log Drive and Reservoir Drive at Reinhardt College Parkway: Improvements will be made at the intersection for the new schools in the form of signals or roundabouts.
- Etowah River Trail: The trail was recently extended a mile to the east of Etowah River Park, with plans to extend it further west beyond Heritage Park.

## **2.5.1 Field Reviews**


### **2.5.1.1 Site Visit**

The project team will conduct site visits during the existing conditions analysis to collect data on existing transportation infrastructure, validate any necessary information, and make observations on congestion, traffic flow, and pedestrian/bicycle activity during the day.


DRAFT


# EXISTING CONDITIONS MAPS


# Legend


 Canton City Limits

## Functional Classification

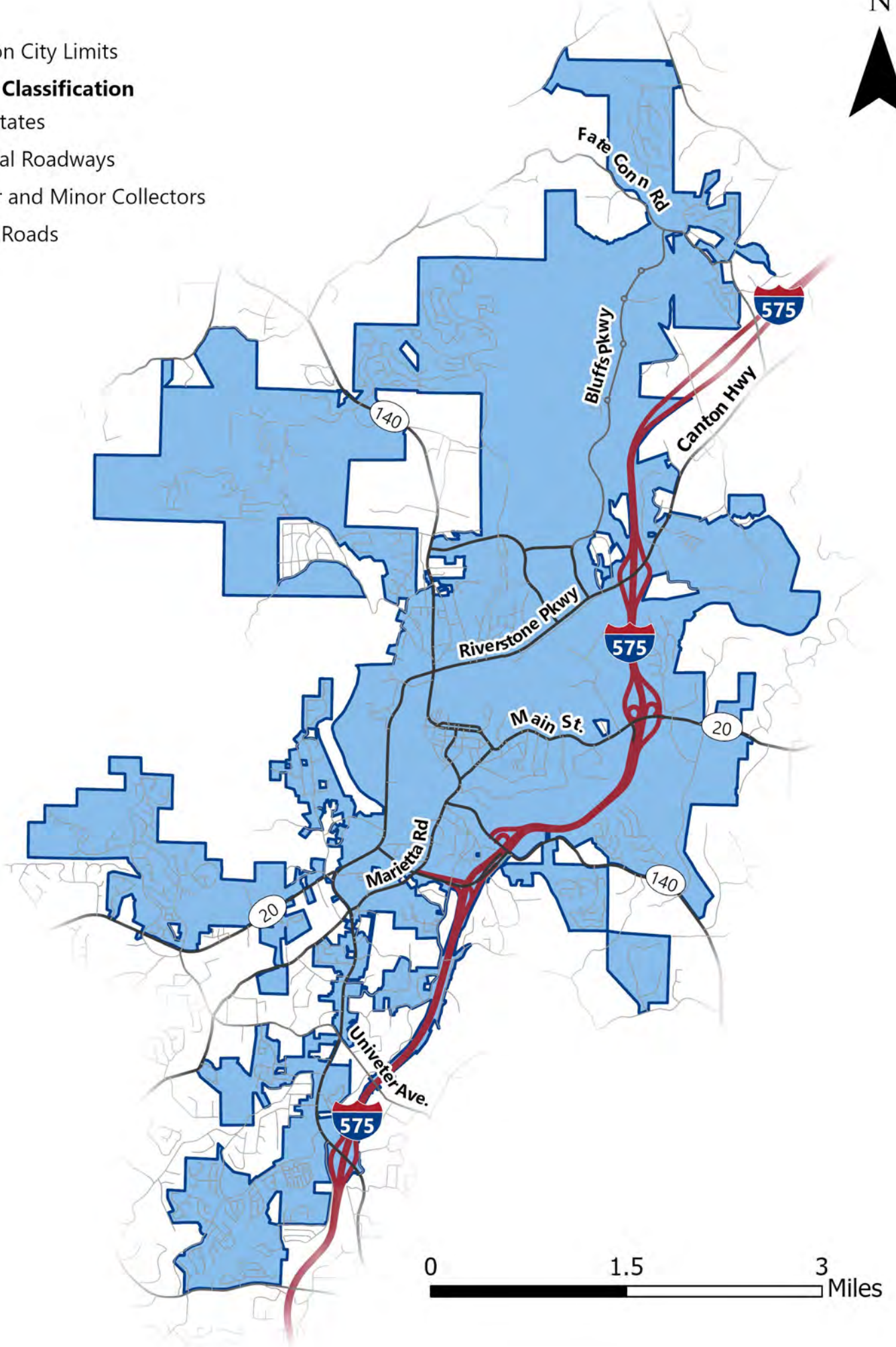
 Interstates

 Arterial Roadways

 Major and Minor Collectors

 Local Roads

N

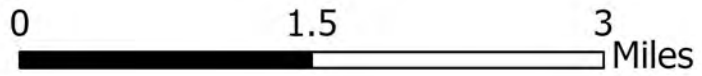
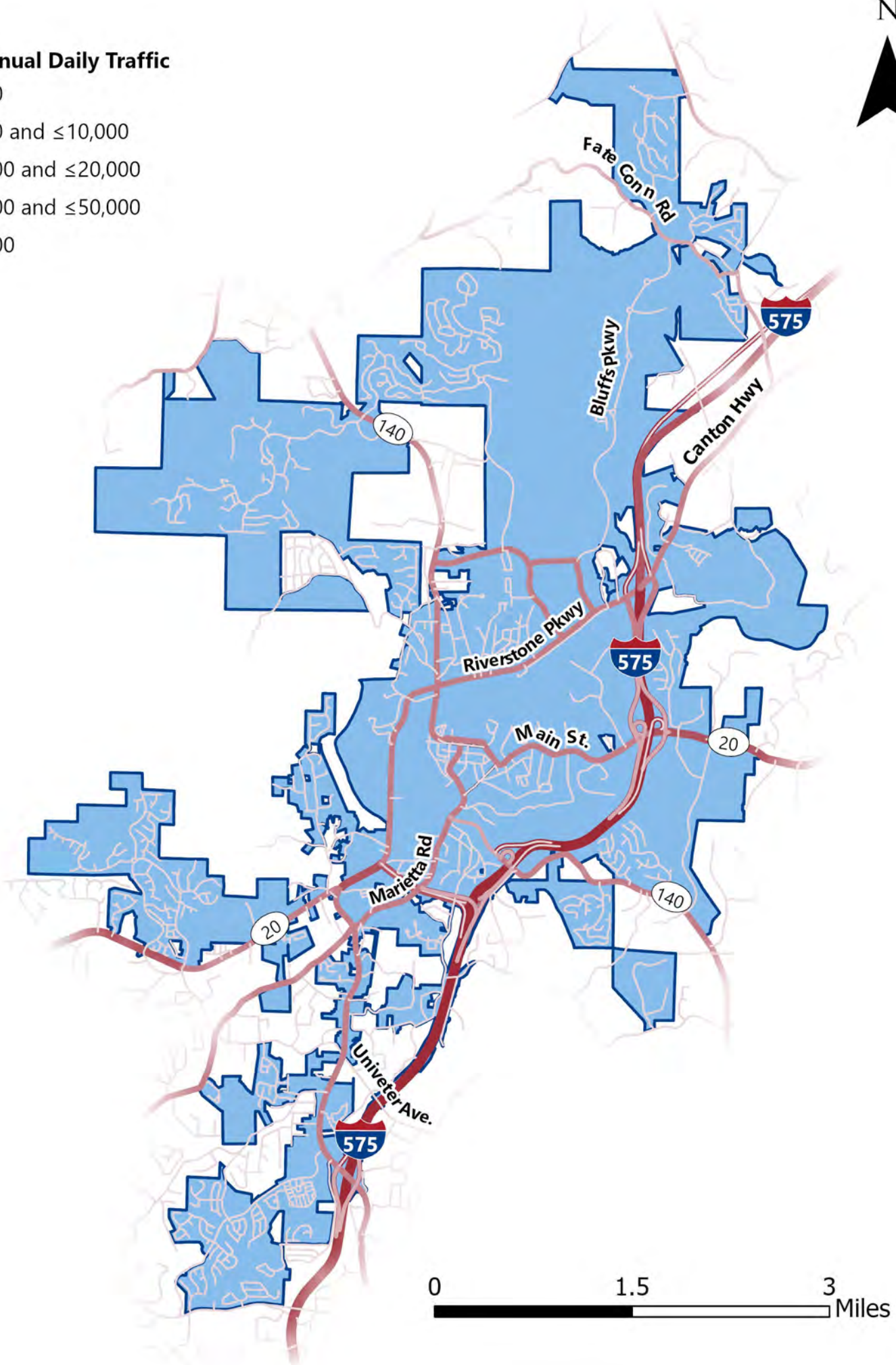


0 1.5 3 Miles



# Legend

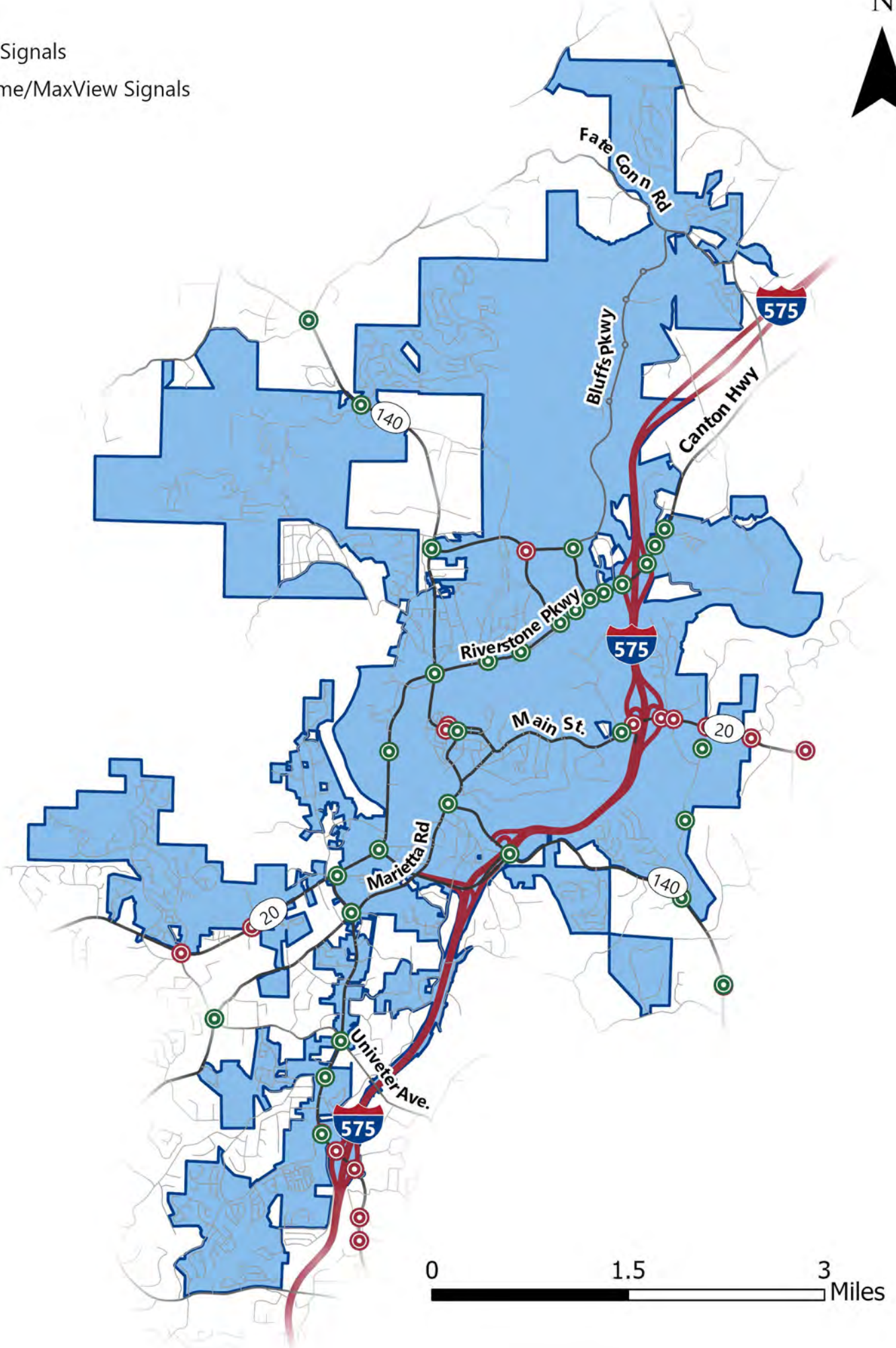
## Average Annual Daily Traffic

- ≤5,000
- >5,000 and ≤10,000
- >10,000 and ≤20,000
- >20,000 and ≤50,000
- >50,000



# Legend

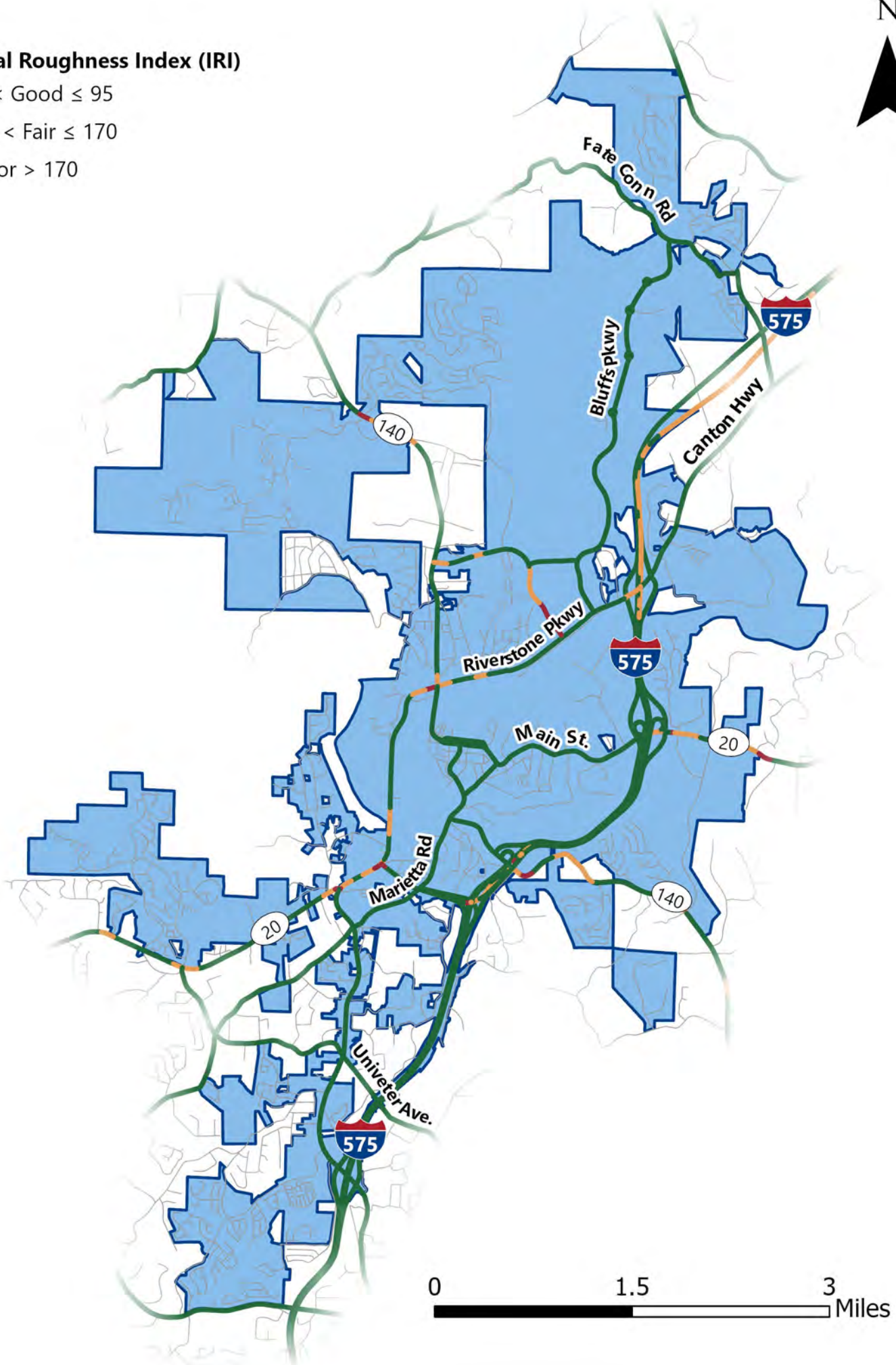
-  Traffic Signals
-  MaxTime/MaxView Signals



# Legend

## International Roughness Index (IRI)

- IRI,  $0 < \text{Good} \leq 95$
- IRI,  $95 < \text{Fair} \leq 170$
- IRI,  $\text{Poor} > 170$

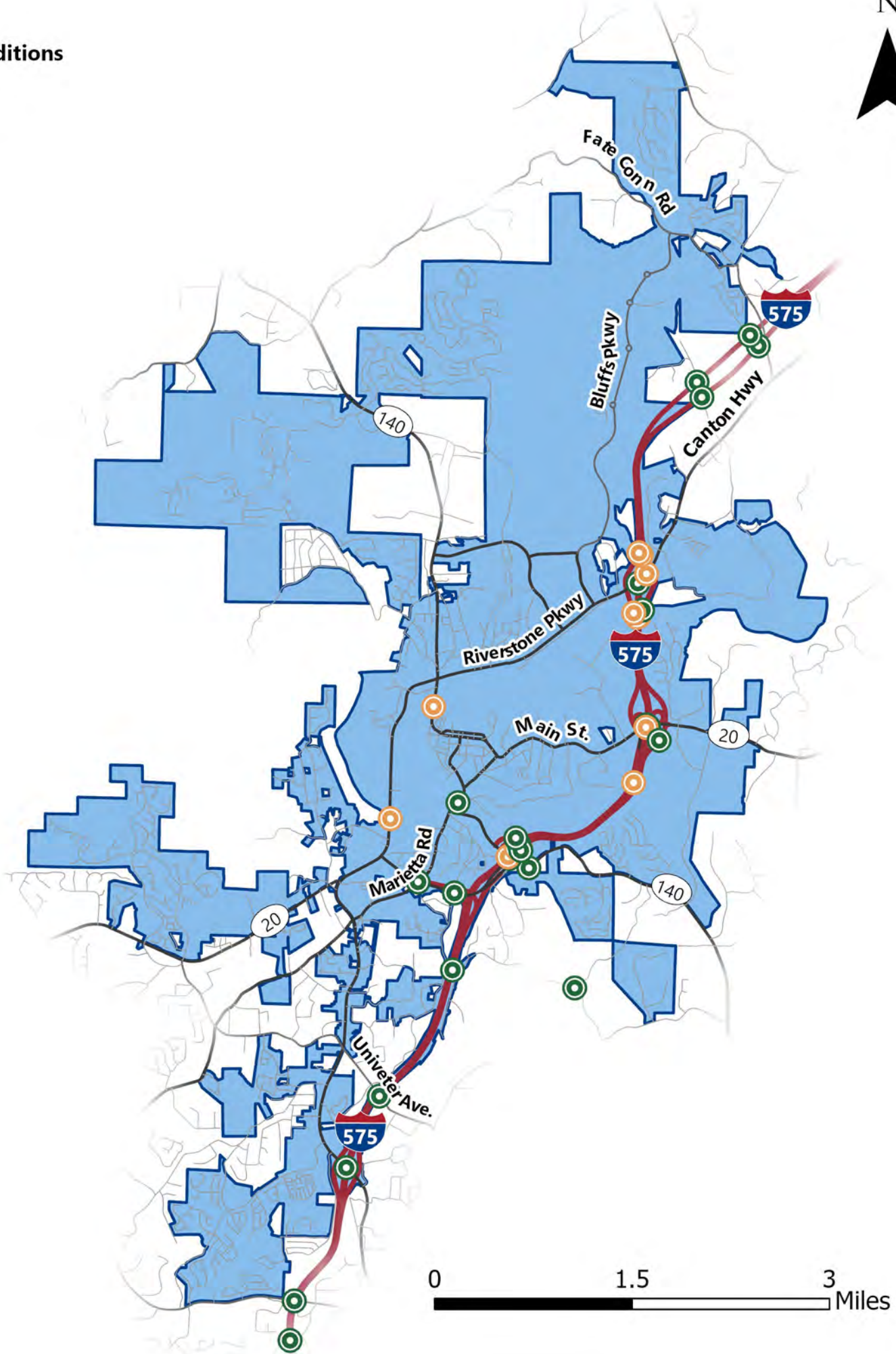


0 1.5 3 Miles

# Legend

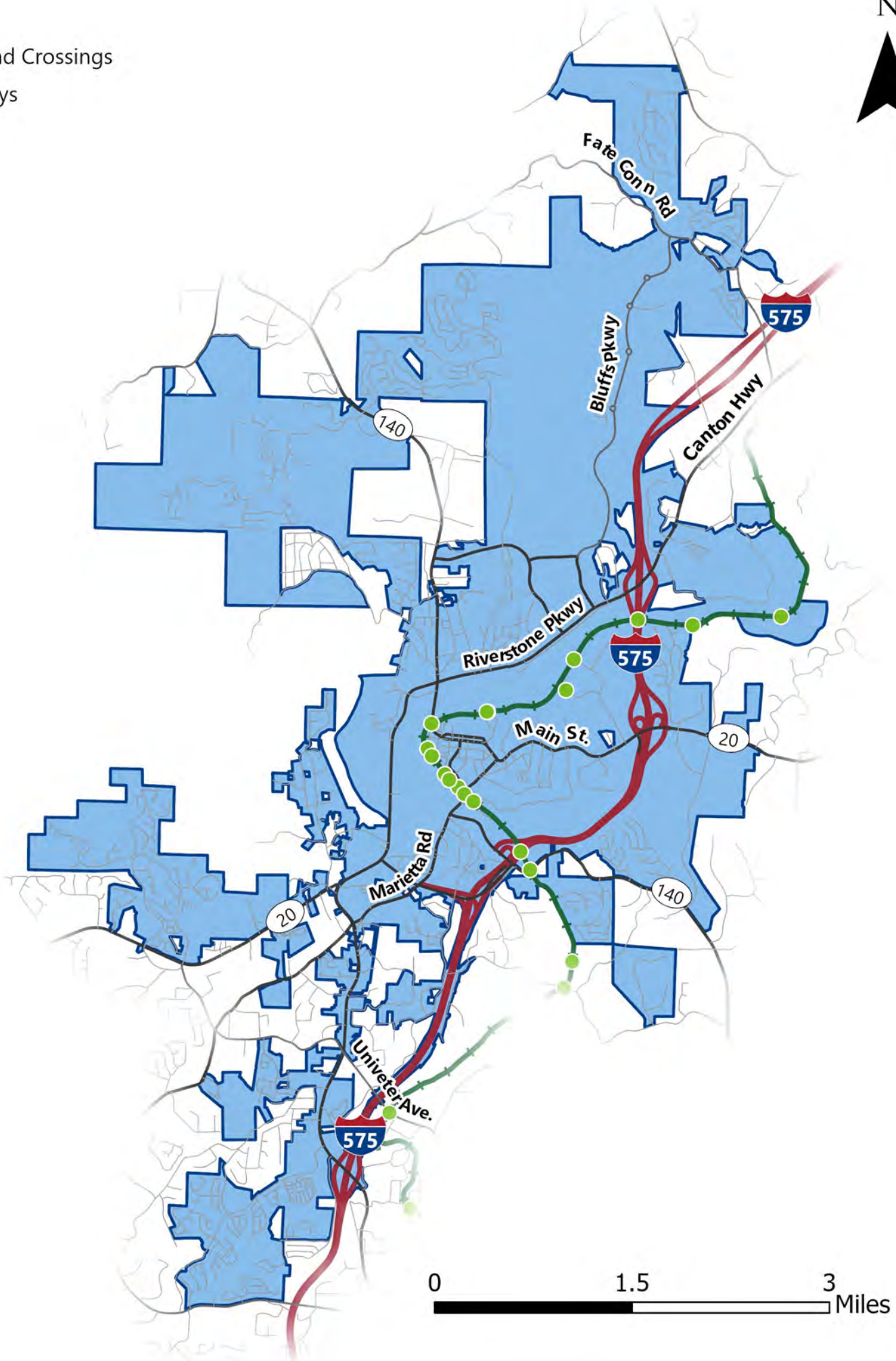
## Bridge Conditions

- Good
- Fair



# Legend

- Railroad Crossings
- Railways



0 1.5 3 Miles

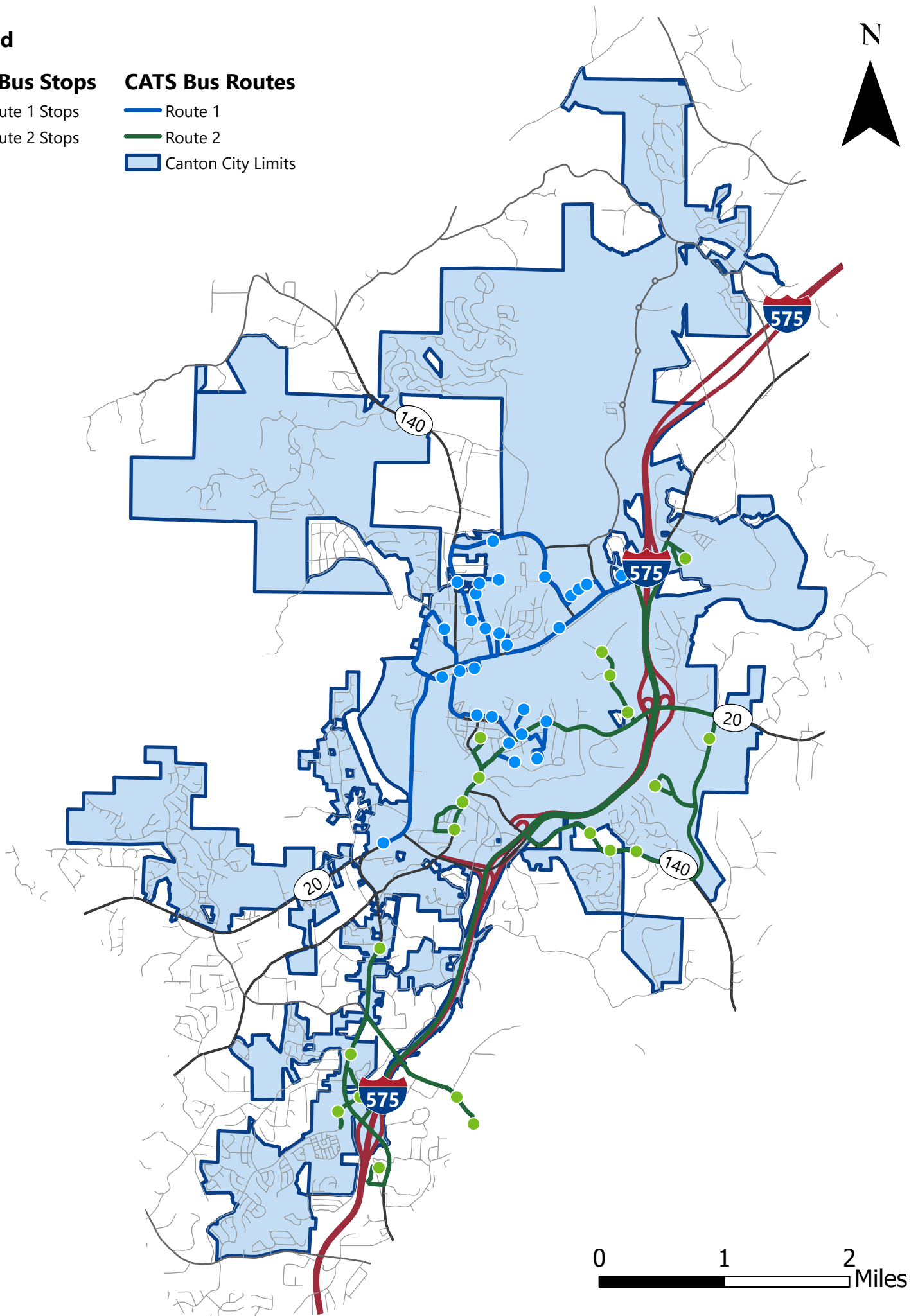
**Legend**

**CATS Bus Stops**

- Route 1 Stops
- Route 2 Stops

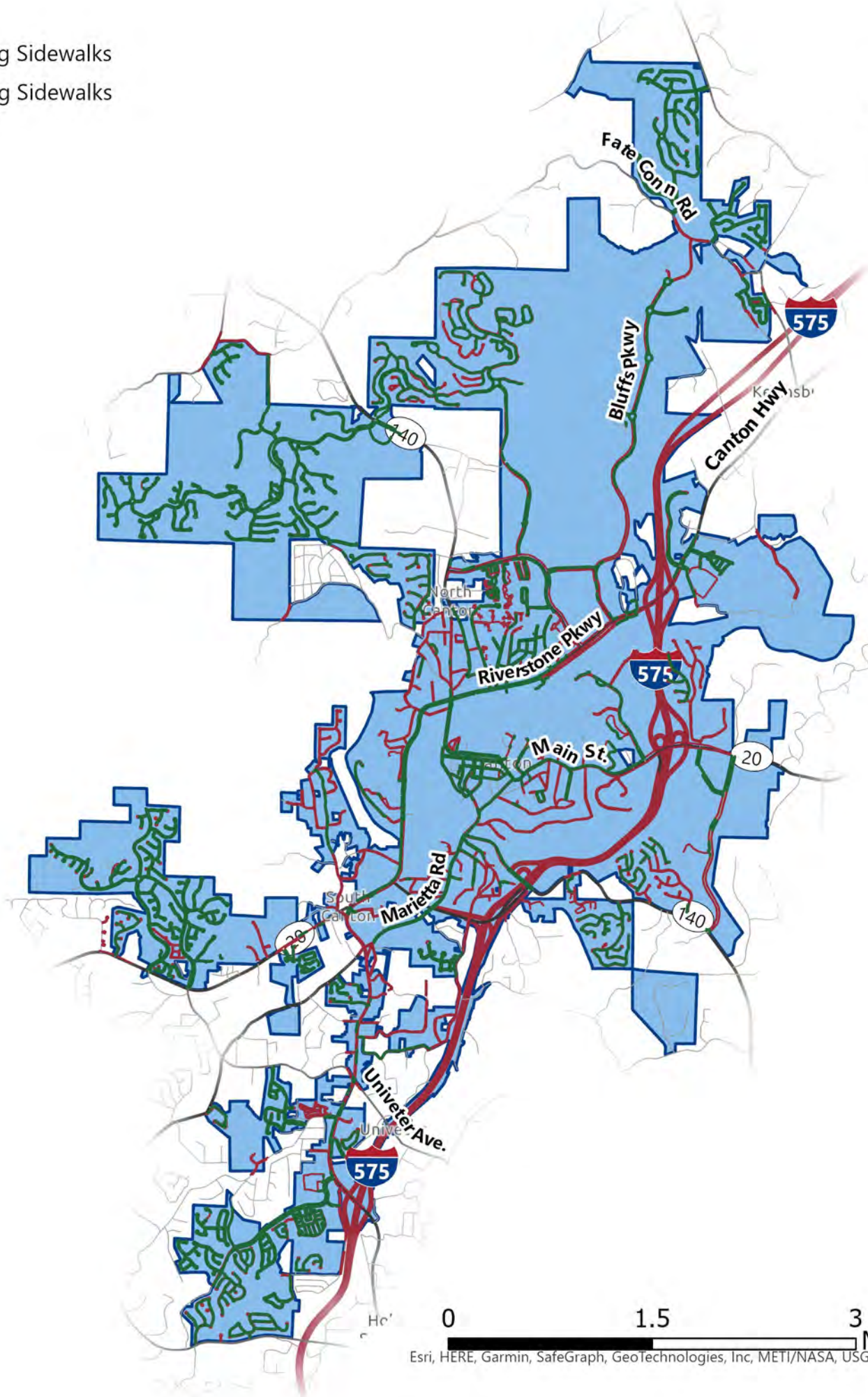
**CATS Bus Routes**

- Route 1
- Route 2
- ▭ Canton City Limits



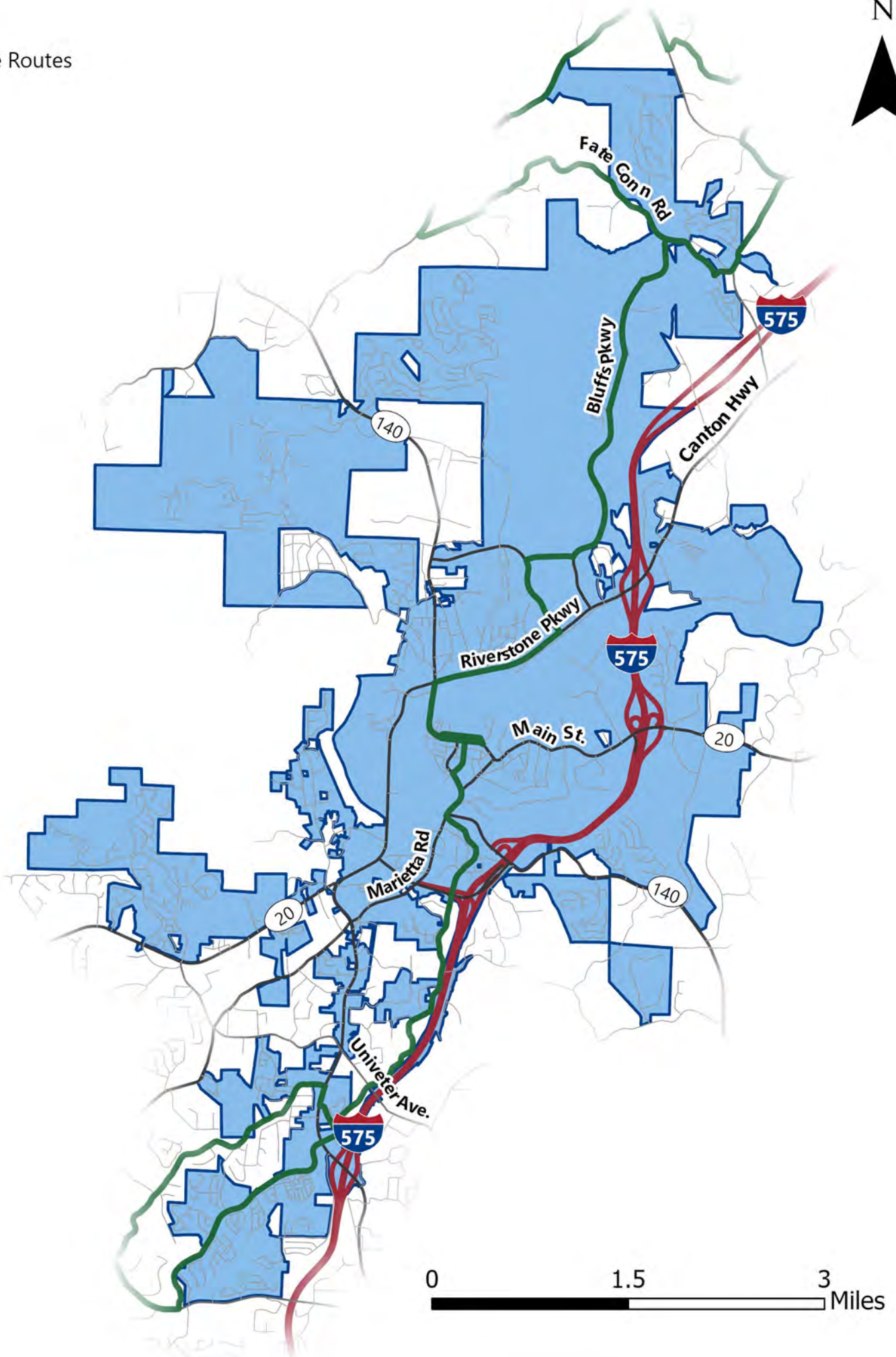
# Legend

- Existing Sidewalks
- Missing Sidewalks



# Legend

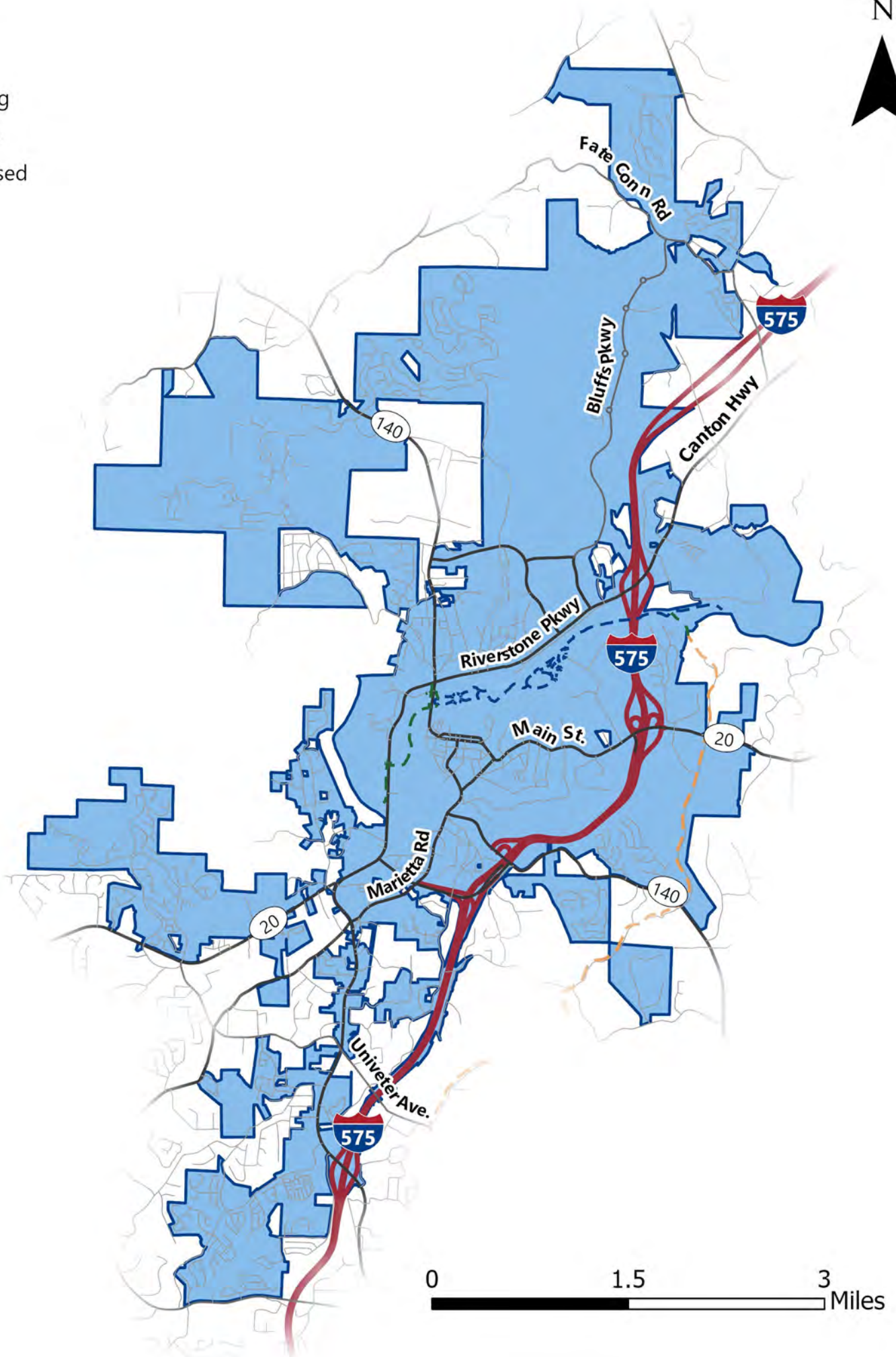
 Bicycle Routes



# Legend

## Trails

- - - Existing
- - - Future
- - - Proposed



0 1.5 3 Miles

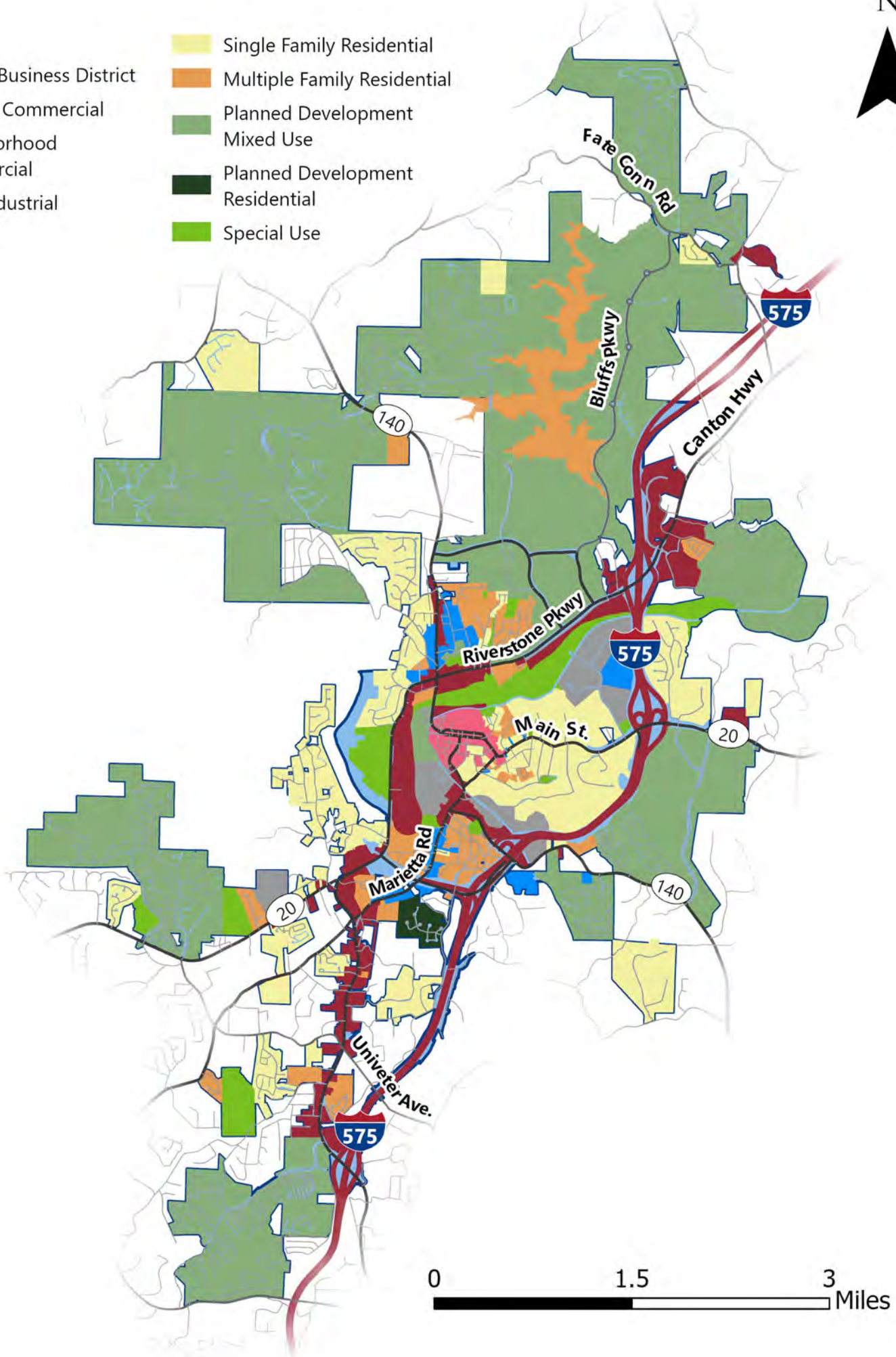
# Legend

## Zoning

- Central Business District
- General Commercial
- Neighborhood Commercial
- Light Industrial
- Office

- Single Family Residential
- Multiple Family Residential
- Planned Development Mixed Use
- Planned Development Residential
- Special Use

N

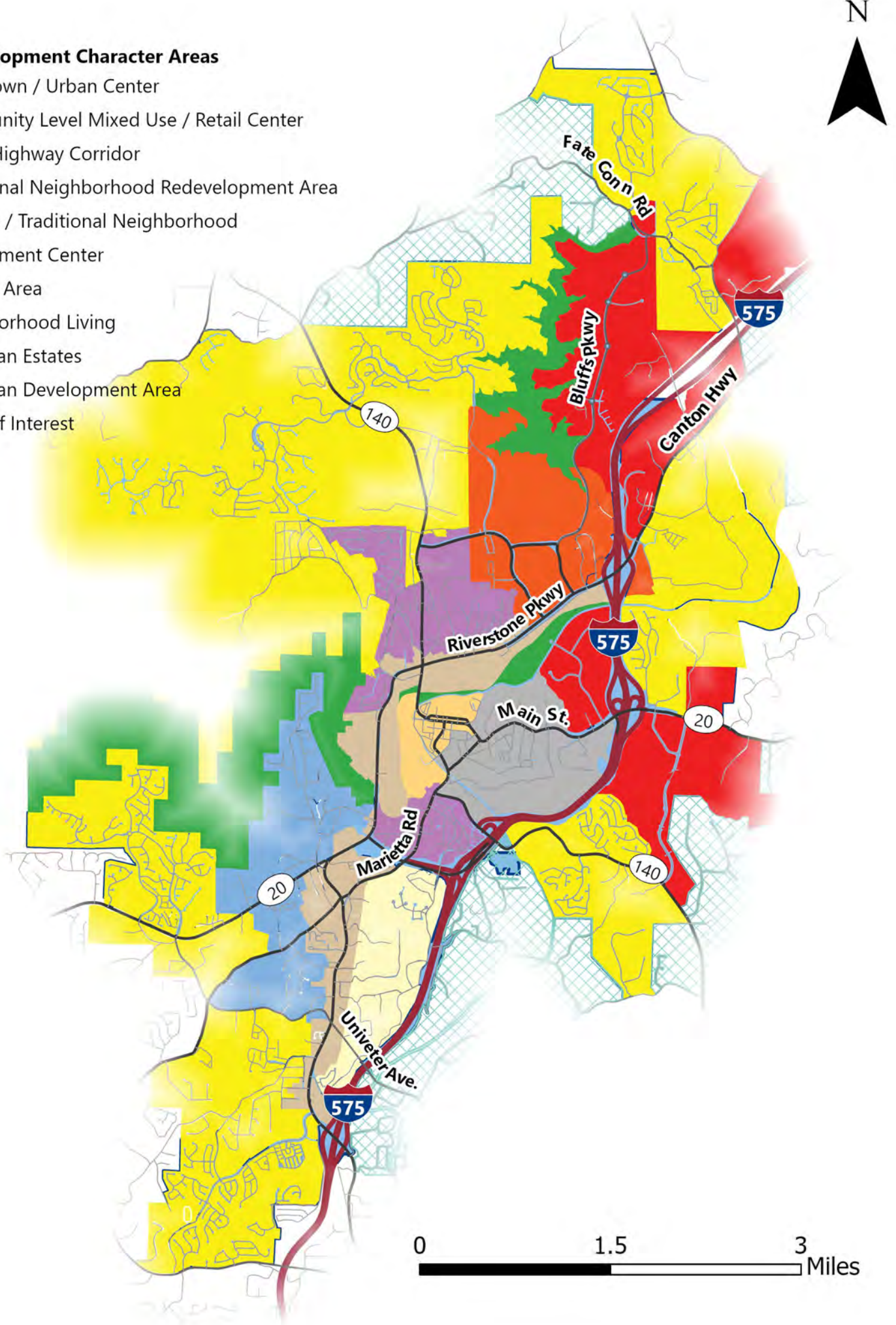


0 1.5 3 Miles

# Legend

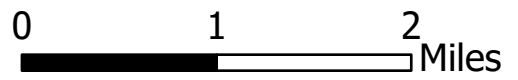
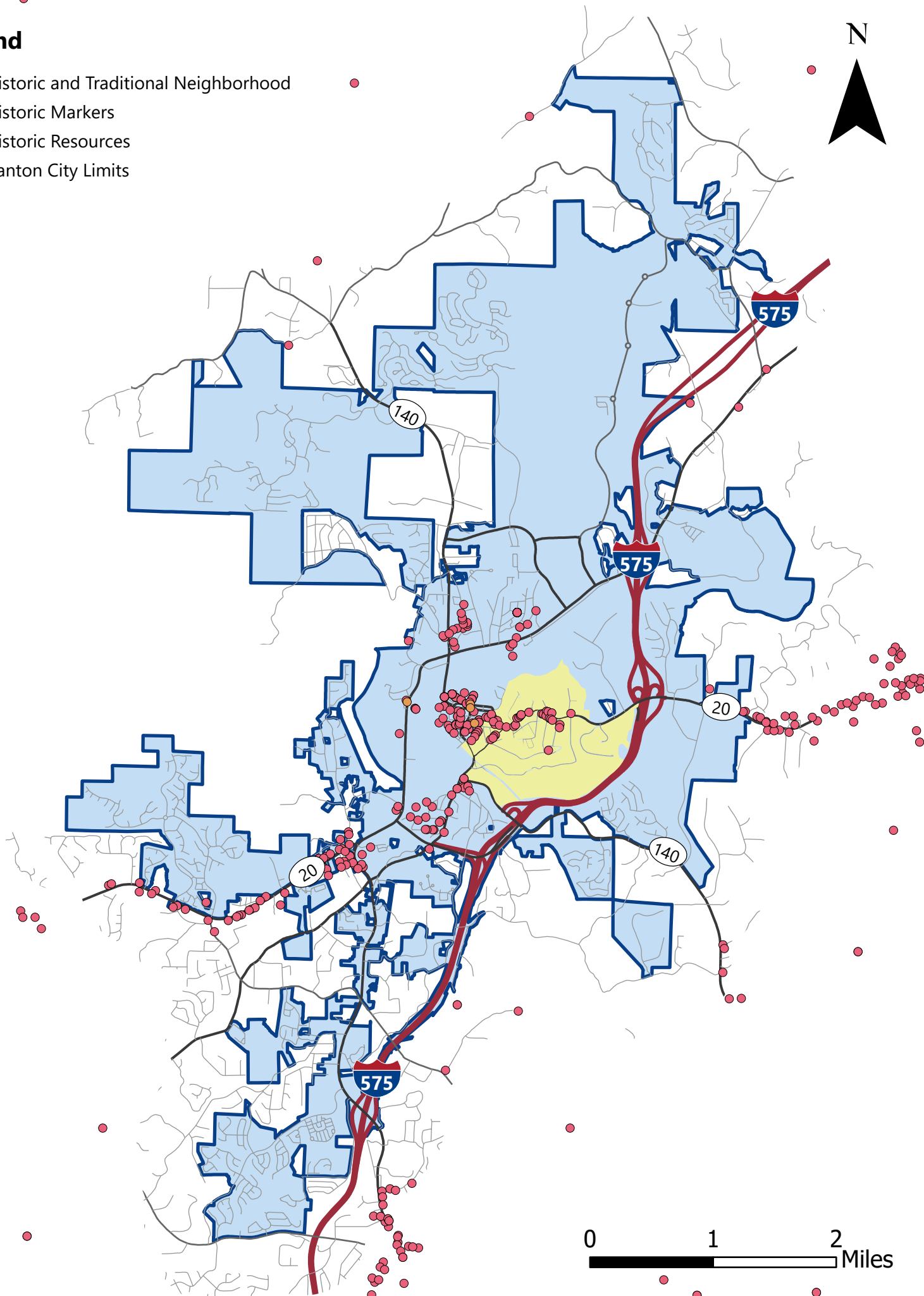
## Future Development Character Areas

-  Downtown / Urban Center
-  Community Level Mixed Use / Retail Center
-  Major Highway Corridor
-  Traditional Neighborhood Redevelopment Area
-  Historic / Traditional Neighborhood
-  Employment Center
-  Natural Area
-  Neighborhood Living
-  Suburban Estates
-  Suburban Development Area
-  Areas of Interest



# Legend

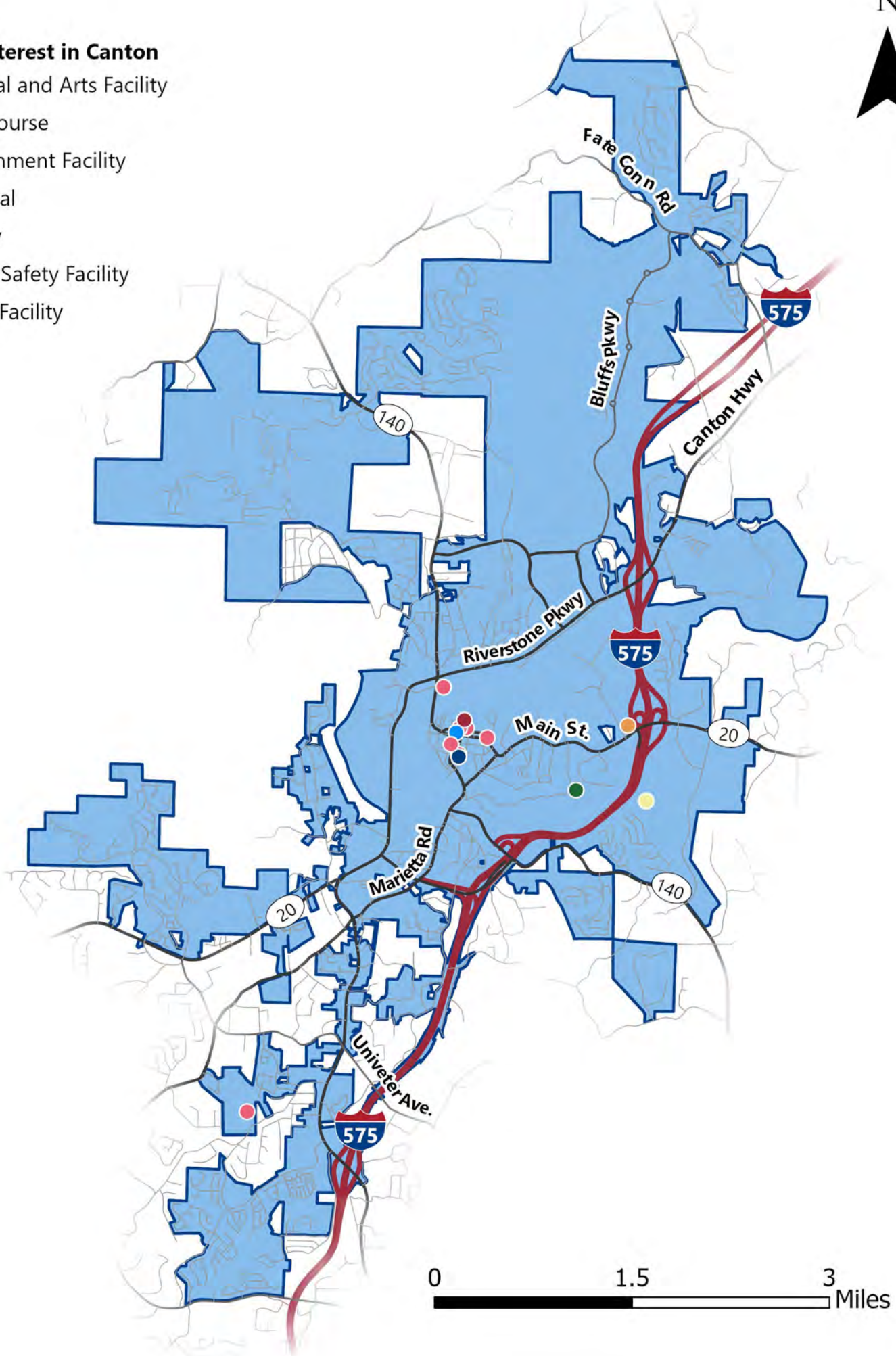
- Historic and Traditional Neighborhood
- Historic Markers
- Historic Resources
- Canton City Limits




# Legend

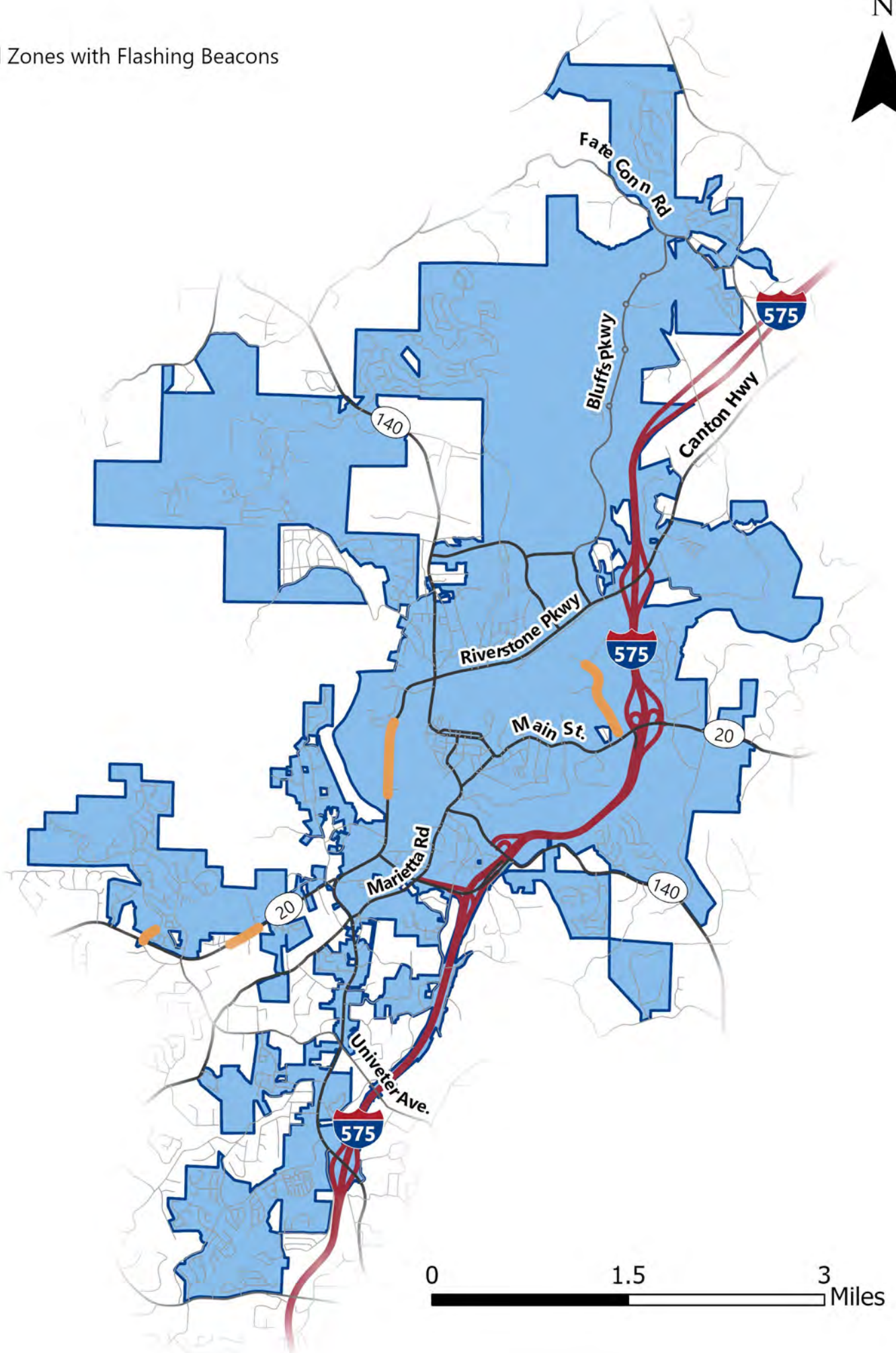
## Points of Interest in Canton

- Cultural and Arts Facility
- Golf Course
- Government Facility
- Hospital
- Library
- Public Safety Facility
- Utility Facility



# Legend

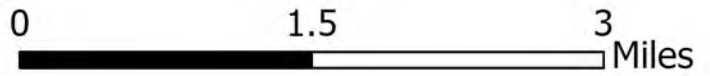
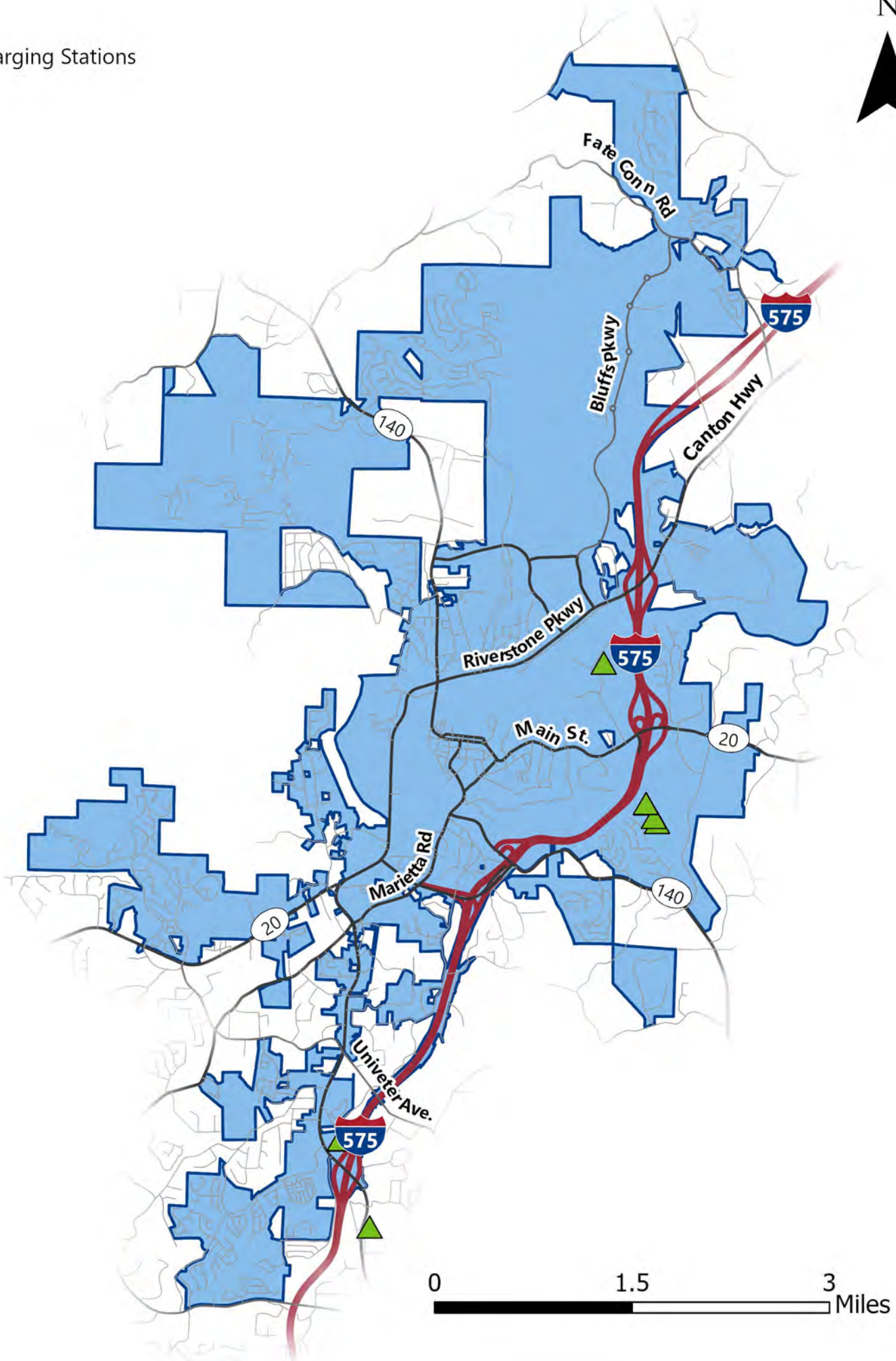
 School Zones with Flashing Beacons




# Legend

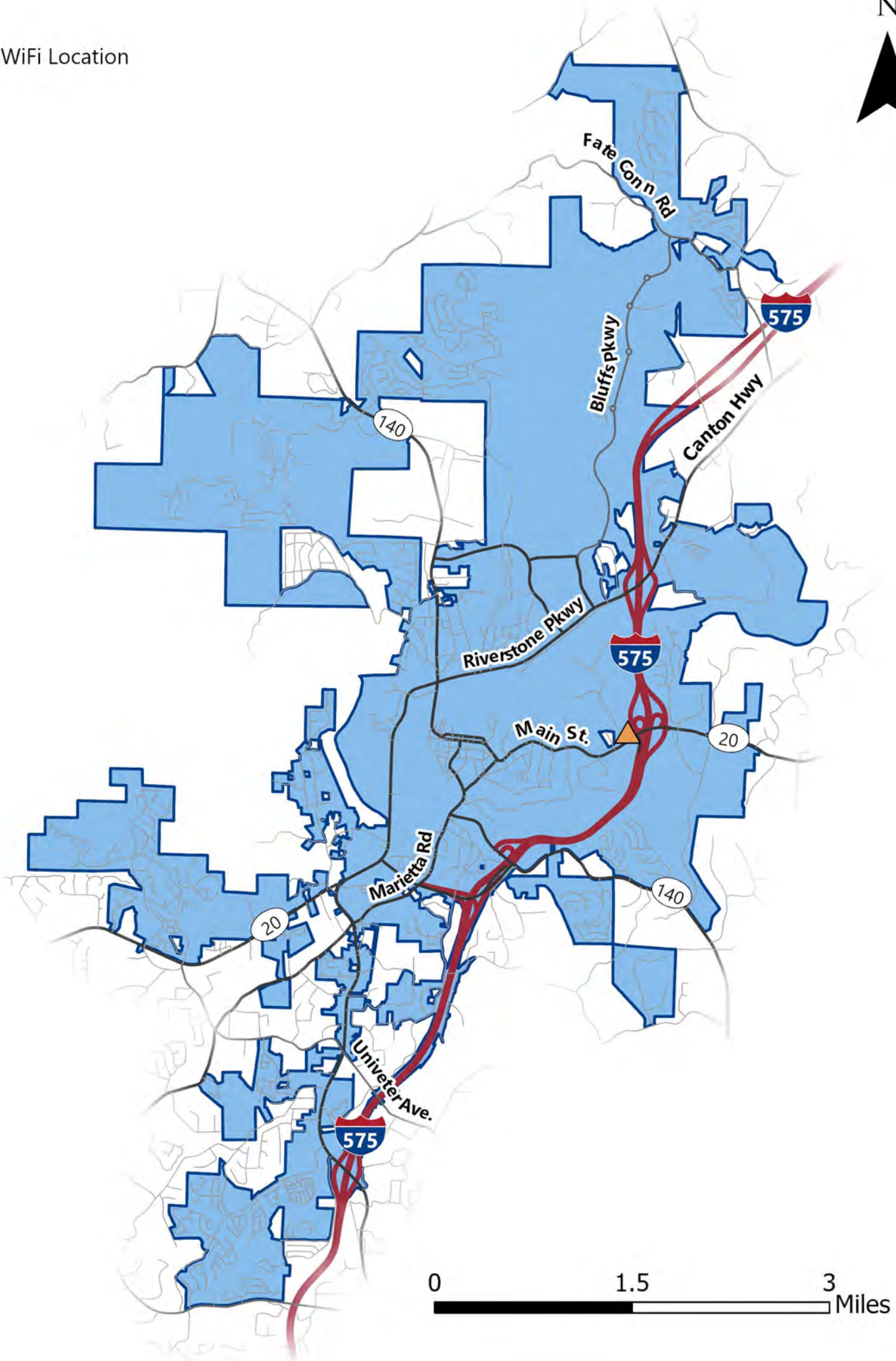
▲ EV Charging Stations

N



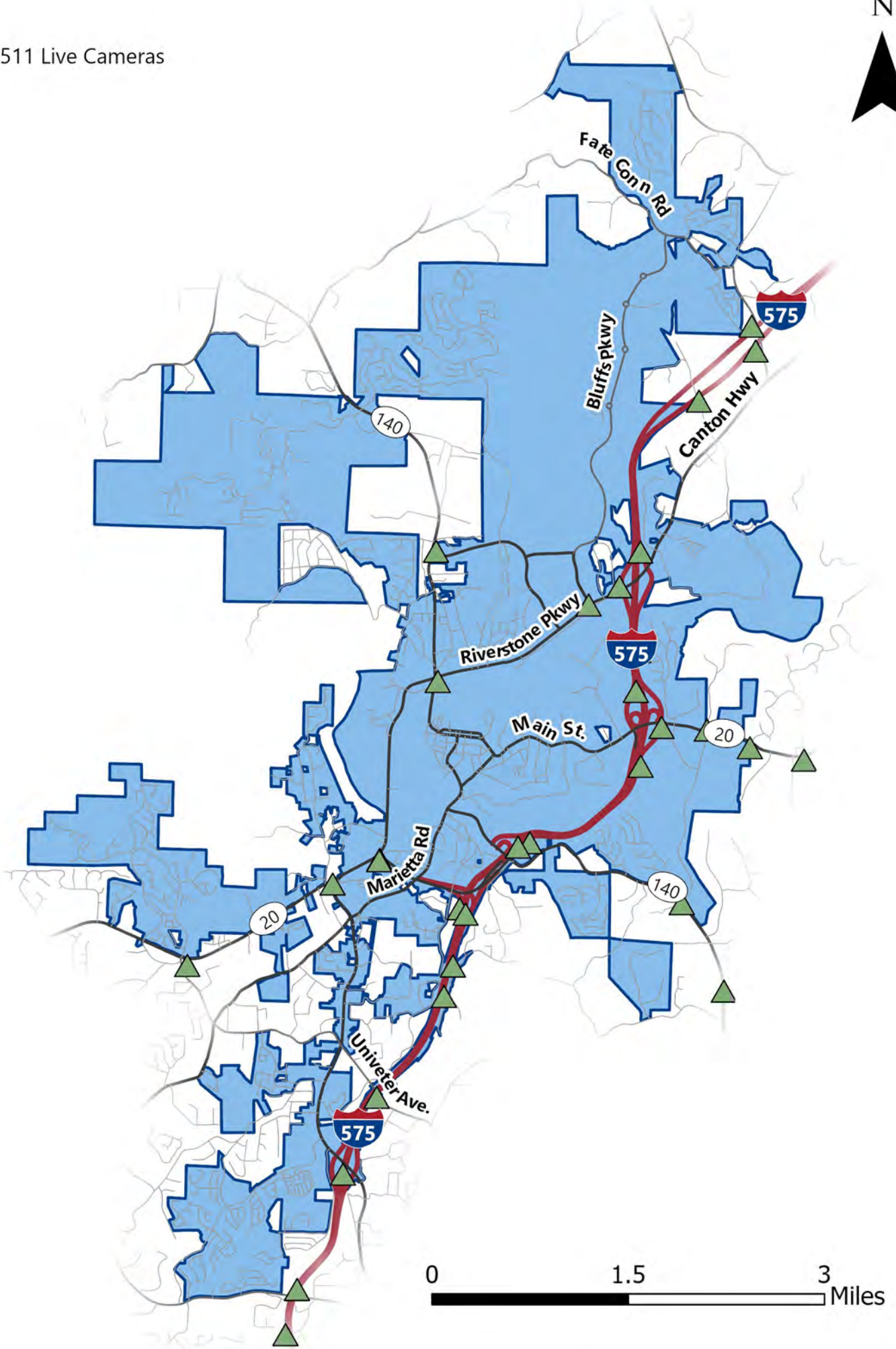
# Legend

 Public WiFi Location




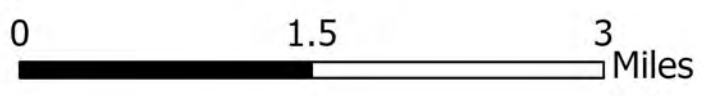
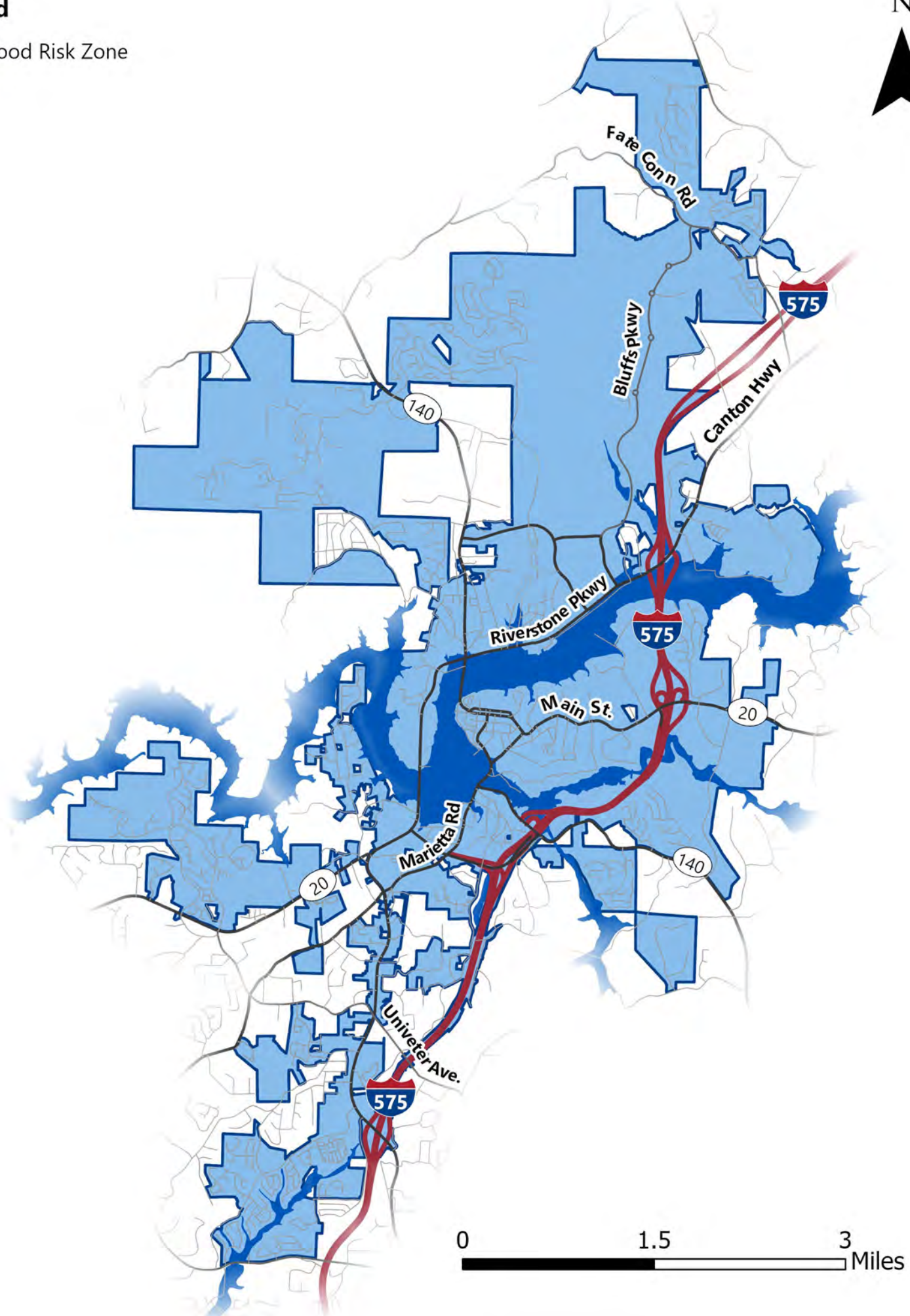
# Legend

▲ GDOT 511 Live Cameras



# Legend

 Flood Risk Zone



**FIELD VISIT**

- Historic Downtown Canton Cannon Park
- The Mill on Etowah, 225 Reformation Pkwy
- 13-1 Riverstone Pkwy, Canton, GA 30114
- Canton Hwy, Canton, GA 30114
- 1451 Riverstone Pkwy, Canton, GA 30114
- GA-140, Canton, GA 30114
- CHEROKEE COMPUTER, 2288 Marietta H
- 183-199 S Church St, Canton, GA 30114
- 1810 Cumming Hwy, Canton, GA 30115

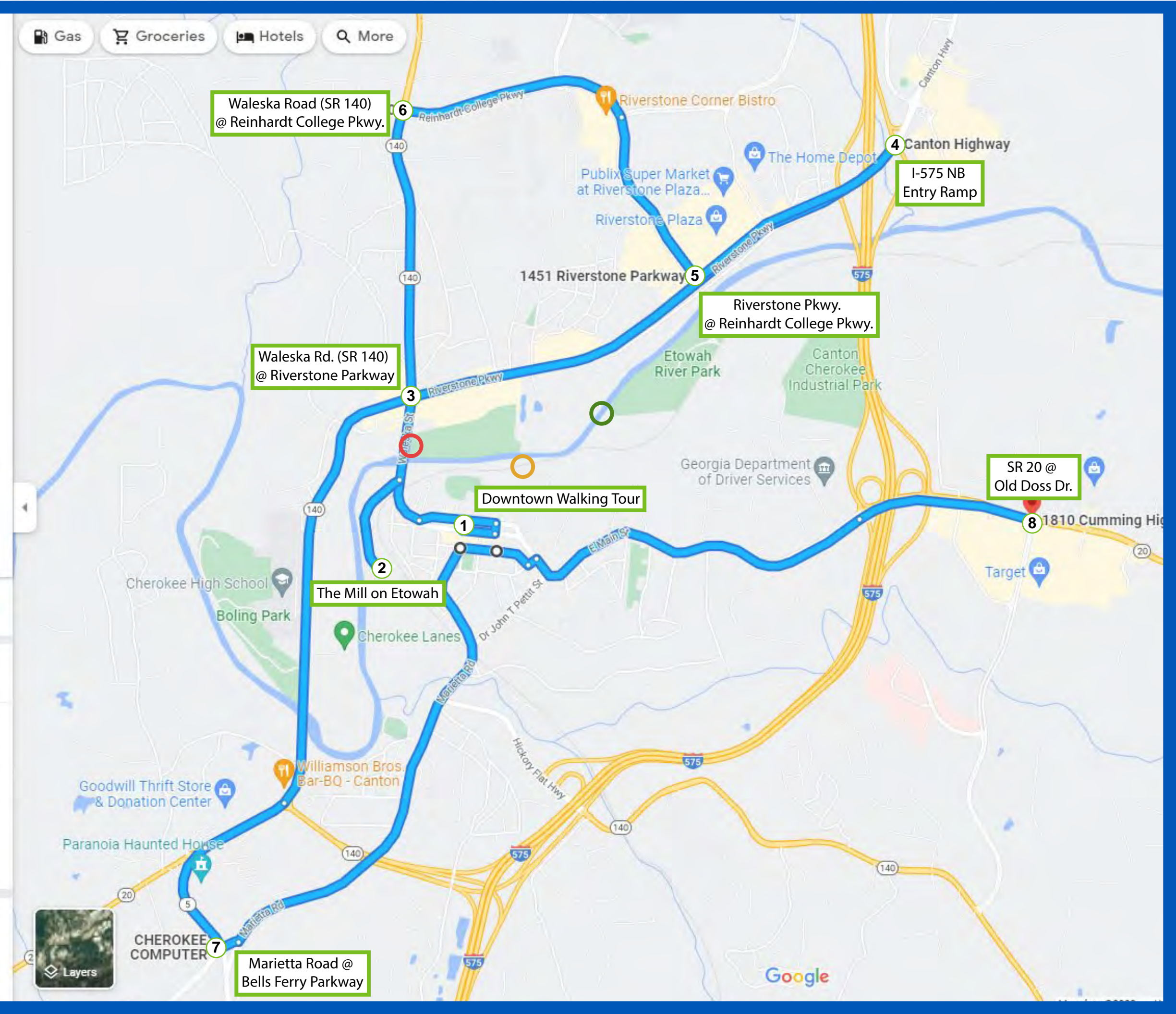
Add destination

Options

Send directions to your phone

via North St and Reformation Pkwy 34 min  
12.8 miles  
34 min without traffic  
⚠ This route has restricted usage or private roads.  
Details

Explore 1810 Cumming Hwy





- Local On North, 170 North St, Canton, GA
- 75 North St, Canton, GA 30114
- 291 E Main St, Canton, GA 30114
- Canton, Georgia 30114
- 151 Elizabeth St, Canton, GA 30114
- 270 E Marietta St, Canton, GA 30114
- Archer St, Canton, GA 30114
- 99-1 Academy St, Canton, GA 30114
- 195 E Main St, Canton, GA 30114
- Local On North, 170 North St, Canton, GA

Options

Send directions to your phone

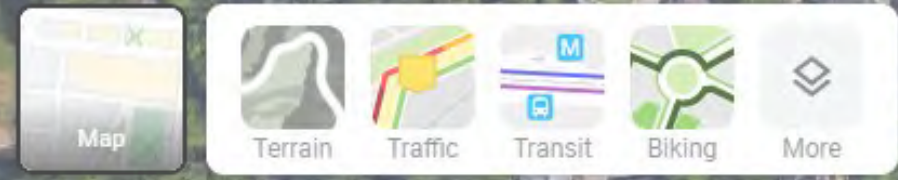
via North St 17 min

0.8 mile

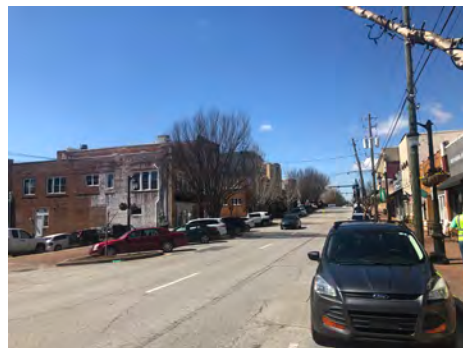
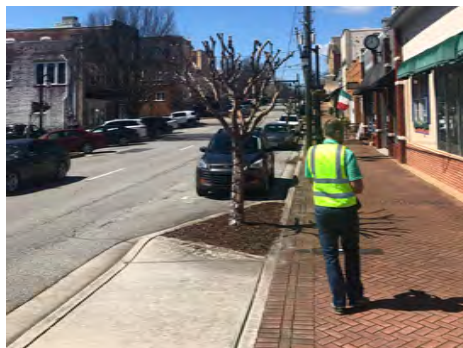
Details

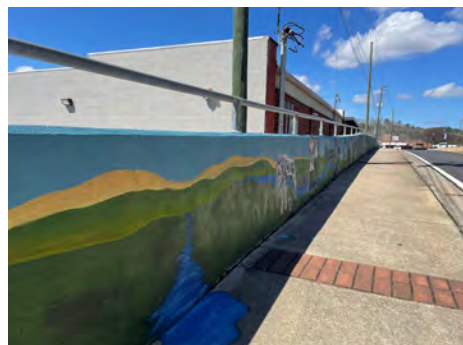
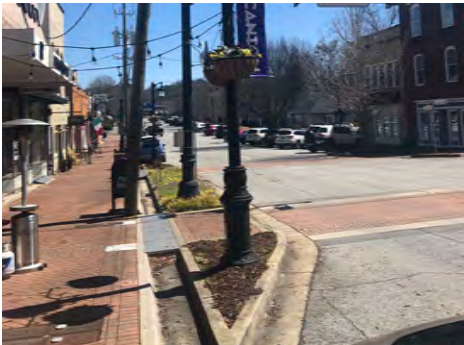
flat

# Downtown Canton Walking Tour



Google







## Site Visit Summary

### Canton Master Planning Field Visit

March 17, 2022 @ 1:00PM to 4PM  
City of Canton

#### **Attendees**

Bethany Watson – City of Canton  
Kirsten Mote – MMP  
Amber Berg – MMP  
Malaika Faciane – MMP  
Chirag Date – MMP  
Peyton Moran – MMP  
Ryan Sager – MMP  
Brad Robinson – Practical Design Partners (PDP)  
Ian Maxfield – Practical Design Partners (PDP)

- Walking Portion
  - Kirsten Mote asked about the flow patterns in the downtown area. The cut through street directions did not allow for concentric flow.
    - Bethany Watson stated that they City had done traffic studies in the past where they reviewed this. She said she would provide a copy of the study to MMP to review the results/recommendations.
  - Kirsten asked what the traffic is like in the downtown area.
    - Bethany stated that they have issues with the traffic backing up due to the limited amount of parking, delivery vehicles stopped on the street for drop offs and pedestrian traffic. She also noted that they have had several complaints about people speeding through the downtown due to the straight section of road and the fact vehicles have clear sight lines through the downtown.
    - Bethany noted that they are looking at several options along the downtown with the construction of the new parking deck. This included widening sidewalks and reducing on street parking/lane-age and using valet parking. They have discussed widening sidewalks in some areas to allow for more outdoor dining.
    - The city has also discussed installing roundabouts at each end of the downtown area and making North St and Main St two-way.
  - Kirsten asked if it was the Cities intent to install C&G at all new sidewalk locations.
    - Bethany stated that the City does want C&G installed on the new urban shoulder sections.
  - Kirsten asked about the City/Counties plans to move all the overhead utilities underground.
    - Bethany stated there was a plan to do this however there is no active work related to this goal currently.
  - Kirsten stated she thought that additional wayfinding signage could also be advantageous as you enter downtown as people may have to slow down and add to congestion trying to find parking or the location they are searching for.
  - Brad asked if it is the Cities intent to provide sidewalk connectivity for all the short sections of missing sidewalk in the downtown and repair ADA ramps.

- Bethany stated that they would like to wherever feasible and reasonable but that they can't fix every location and they would prioritize certain locations.
- Kirsten asked about the Cities thoughts on Bike facilities.
  - Bethany stated that the City is recommending them wherever new sections of trail are being installed but not through the downtown area. They are not sure how much they would be used.
  - Ryan stated that the age demographics show higher than statewide averages for younger adults
- Driving Portion
  - Cotton Mill Exchange
    - Lots of traffic on Waleska and Railroad street during the peak hours.
      - The railroad is still active and has a train at least once a day.
      - Bethany stated that there are approved permits to construct apartments on the east side of Railroad street north of Hill St, though the funding fell through. A developer also has plans to build four to five lots south of hill street as well as approximately ten town homes further south along Railroad St.
      - The Etowah River Trail is being extended along the west side of the Etowah River to Boling Park, but no current plans for a pedestrian bridge to access the Cotton Mill Exchange. There are also plans for additional apartments on the east side of the river.
  - Marietta Hwy/Riverstone Pkwy and Waleska St
    - Significant queuing for left turning vehicles on Marietta Hwy turning north onto Waleska street. This is causing accidents for vehicles trying to turn into CVS/Hardees/Cpt D's/Krystal's as the queuing vehicles back up towards Anderson Ave and crossing vehicles can't see through traffic when crossing the two lanes.
      - GDOT recommended installing raised median at the intersection, but the City Council rejected due to pushback from commercial stakeholders.
      - There is a GDOT project being completed by Michael Baker that proposes to widen the north leg of Waleska St to add an additional northbound receiving lane and a southbound right turn. This could allow for a second left turn lane on Marietta Hwy. The project still has to go through the ICE process which could change the proposed improvements.
    - Bethany noted access issues with pedestrians crossing Riverstone Pkwy at the Ingles. There has been a fatality and Atkins has completed a study that recommended installing a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon.
  - 575 Interchange at Riverstone Pkwy
    - Significant queueing for left turning vehicles on Riverstone Pkwy turning north onto 575.
      - The turn lane has a decent amount of storage however the signal has a short-left turn duration at least during off peak hours per Kirsten comments.
      - Kirsten asked Bethany if they have a TMC monitoring the intersection and adjusting timing. Bethany said she was not aware of one, but that

- Cherokee County may have one. Kirsten noted she could also pull traffic count information from GDOT but would need for the city to request access.
- There is only a single receiving lane on the ramps but room to widen.
  - Reinhardt College Pkwy and Junction (140 and 5)
    - Kirsten stated that there was a project planned for this intersection to construct a Florida T. Baker was recently awarded this project as well and is just getting started. ICE will be required which may change the proposed alternative.
      - She also noted one bus stop near the retirement village.
  - Bells Ferry Road and Marietta Hwy
    - Kirsten stated there was significant queuing on the Marietta Hwy Left turns. The left turn lanes do not have left turn arrows, so all movements appear to be unprotected. The Bells Ferry approach grade is very steep and there is a severe intersection skew.
      - Brad noted that the county recently completed a corridor study along Bells Ferry that ended near Marietta Hwy. The study recommended flashing yellow arrows and adjustments to the signal timing.
      - Brad also noted that the sight distance could be an issue and may not be adequate for permissive lefts
      - Malaika noted that it would be an ideal location for a roundabout.
    - The close intersection spacing, and heavy commercial makes queuing and storage difficult.
  - Target at Northside Cherokee Pkwy
    - Left turns from southbound Northside Cherokee Pkwy into Target are queuing up due to cars having to wait on pedestrian traffic exiting the target store and walking across the crosswalks
      - Discussed options including restriping the target driveway to add a second receiving lane for the southbound left turns in addition to a receiving lane for the northbound right turns.
      - Add a right-in/right-out to entrance. This could affect the traffic patterns along Northside Cherokee Blvd and SR 20.
      - Update target driveway to funnel vehicles into the parking lot and protect pedestrians at crosswalk. It may require additional parking lot updates to keep vehicles flowing.
      - Since the issue is on private property, it may be more difficult for the city to require these improvements.
  - Planned Projects (Brad's notes in red)
    - a. Riverstone @ Waleska GDOT intersection project. Canton has future project for more modifications after GDOT project to address left turn queuing on Riverstone from High School.
      - i. GDOT Project PI 0017789 – This is a locally administered project (LAP) by the city of Canton. Layout attached. Baker was awarded the project in the fall and is currently going through concept development.
    - b. Roundabouts on either end of downtown where Main St splits from 2 way to one way
      - i. I don't believe this is a planned project, but something the city has discussed and is open to. I took away that MMP could include this in the analysis in

addition to reconfiguring traffic patterns in the square and making downtown roads 2-way.

- c. SR 20 Widening
  - i. This project is currently under construction. SR 20 will continue to be widening through Cumming in subsequent projects.
- d. Pedestrian Crossings on Riverstone at Ingles (I sent this recommendation out yesterday)
  - i. In reading through, a pedestrian hybrid beacon is recommended. I do not know if the city is actively working to have this done.
- e. Intersection improvement at Reinhardt and Waleska (thinking Florida T design, but still has to go through ICE analysis)
  - i. GDOT Project PI 0017982 – This is a locally administered project (LAP) by the city of Canton. Layout attached. Baker was awarded the project two weeks ago and is currently going through concept development.
- f. Etowah trail expansion (some under construction, some still planned). I can't remember the extents
  - i. The trail is being extended currently to Boling Park along the west side of the Etowah River. A new access point to Waleska Street will be installed in the southwest side of the river crossing.
  - ii. Bethany mentioned previous discussions to install a trail on the east side as well, potentially a boardwalk with a pedestrian bridge crossing the river, but I do not know if this is an active project.
- g. Roundabout at Marietta and Hickory Flat Hwy (potential for additional road connection from roundabout to the Mill on Etowah through the sod farm (owners unwilling to sell at the moment)).
  - i. I had mentioned to Bethany how a secondary access to the mill may be beneficial and that is when she mentioned that they had previously investigated this. MMP may want to evaluate if there is another option for a secondary access point to minimize the driveway use off of Waleska Street. Bethany was not aware of any accidents from the driveway, but we experienced difficulty and safety concerns with turning out of the driveway.
- h. Marietta @ Bells Ferry (FYA and signal retiming) from Bells Ferry Rd Corridor Study
- i. Signal warrant under GDOT review at Reinhardt College and Reservoir Dr.
- j. SR 20 at SR 5 is another problem intersection that was not on our list. I asked Bethany about that one and she said GDOT is planning a roundabout there. This would also overlap with the Hwy 5 Corridor under evaluation by K&W.

**EXISTING  
CONDITIONS  
PRESENTATION**

# **CANTON TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN**

**Existing & Future  
Conditions**

**March 2022**

# Content

## Planning Overview

- Previous Studies
- Planned and Programmed Projects

## Existing & Future Conditions

- Study Area
- Demographics
- Land Use and Zoning
- Transportation Network
- Natural and Historic Resources

# Planning Overview

---



# Planning Overview

Recently completed studies and plans were reviewed to understand what efforts the City of Canton has made for capital improvements within the city. Each study's project list was evaluated to highlight major improvements planned for the City of Canton, which are listed for each study below.

## Previous Studies

- Canton 2040 Comprehensive Plan, 2019
- Canton Capital Improvements Element, 2019
- River Mill Livable Centers Initiative (LCI), 2008
- #CantonForward LCI Update, 2016
- Cherokee County Comprehensive Transportation Plan, 2015
- City of Canton Rental Residential Market Analysis, 2016
- City of Canton Housing Needs Assessment & Market Study, 2020

# Previous Studies

## Canton 2040 Comprehensive Plan

Emphasizes:



Housing



Diverse land uses and services



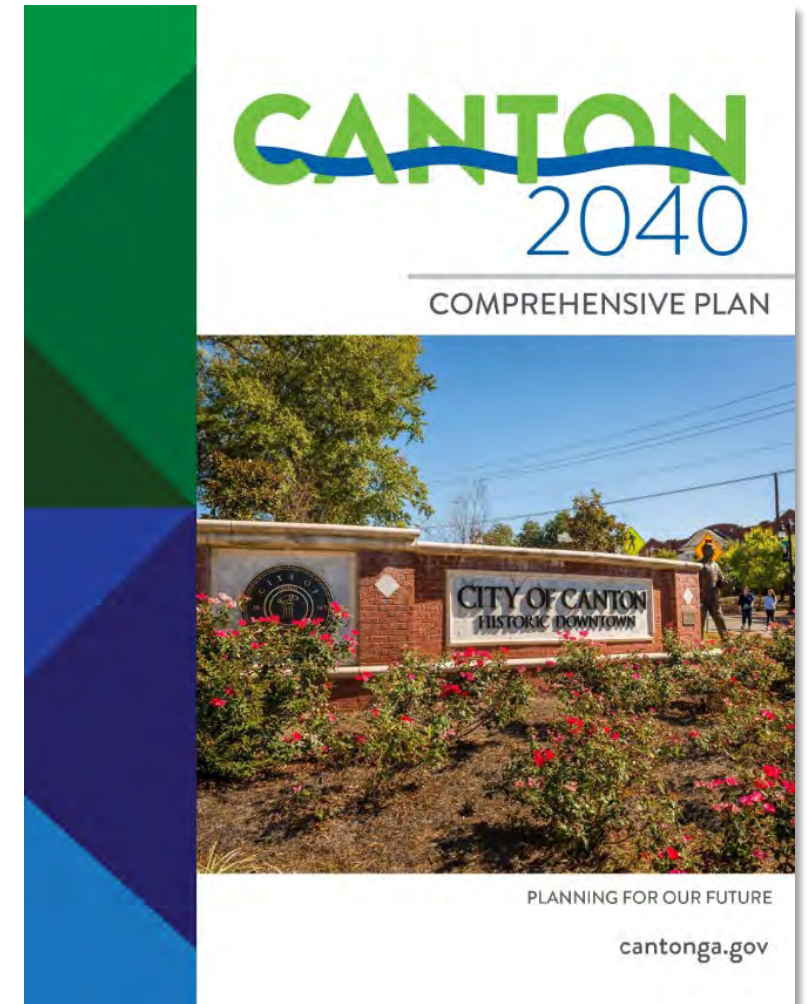
Density and rehabilitation of existing properties



Preservation of historic and cultural sites



Strengthening of zoning measures

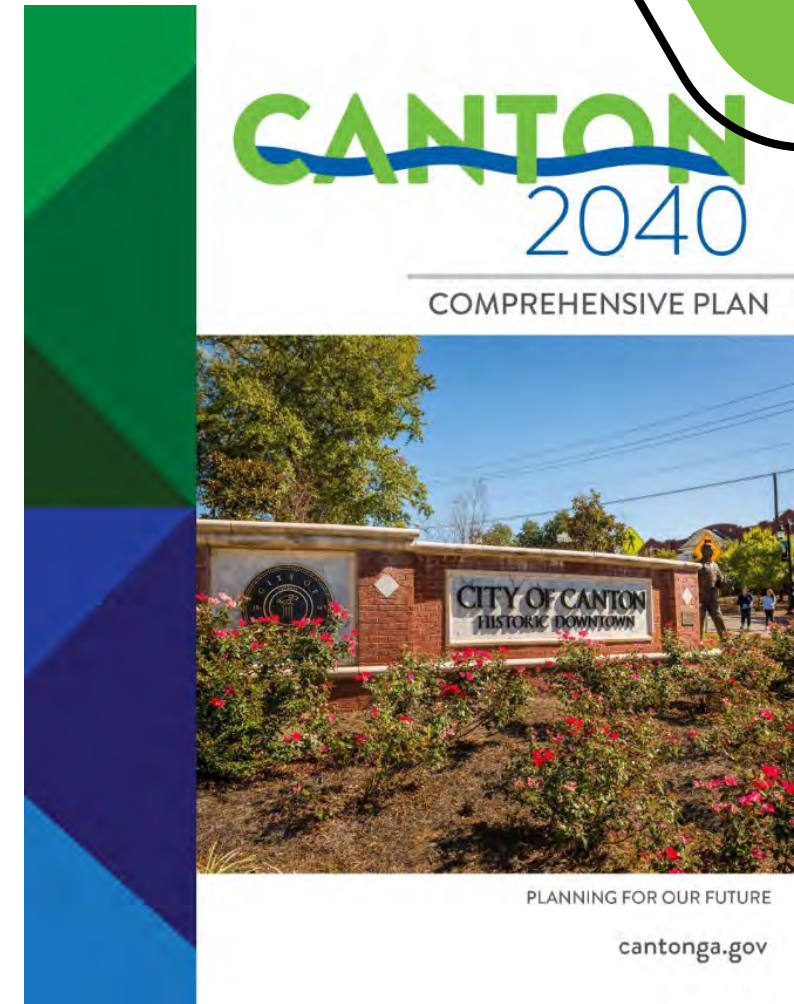


# Previous Studies

## Canton 2040 Comprehensive Plan




Recommendations:

- Bike signage through downtown Canton and Riverstone Parkway
- Wayfinding signage throughout the city
- Increase connectivity for sidewalks, bike lanes, and trails
- Research methods for reducing traffic congestion
- Provide additional transit options among others



# Previous Studies

## Canton Capital Improvements Element

-  Guides where and when capital improvements will occur
-  Based on identified needs and service areas, informed by data
-  Impact fee updates

### Impact Fee Program



**CANTON**



### Capital Improvements Element

City of Canton  
Georgia

Including the following  
public facility categories:

Fire Protection  
Police Services  
Parks and Recreation  
Road Improvements

March 21, 2019

**ROSS+associates**  
urban planning & plan implementation  
in association with Hatley Plans LLC

# Previous Studies

## Canton Capital Improvements Element Impact Fee Program


Project Name	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Reinhardt College Parkway Study	X				
Canton Transportation Plan	X	X			
Prominence Boulevard-Keeter Road Widening	X	X	X		
Business Highway 5 – Marietta Highway Widening			X	X	X
SR Business 5 Intersection Improvements	X	X	X	X	X
Heard Road Extension	X	X	X	X	X
Eastside Connector		X	X	X	X
Etowah River Park Trail Extension (Phase 1, 2, 4 A/B, 5 - 7)	X	X	X	X	X
Boiling Park Trailhead			X	X	

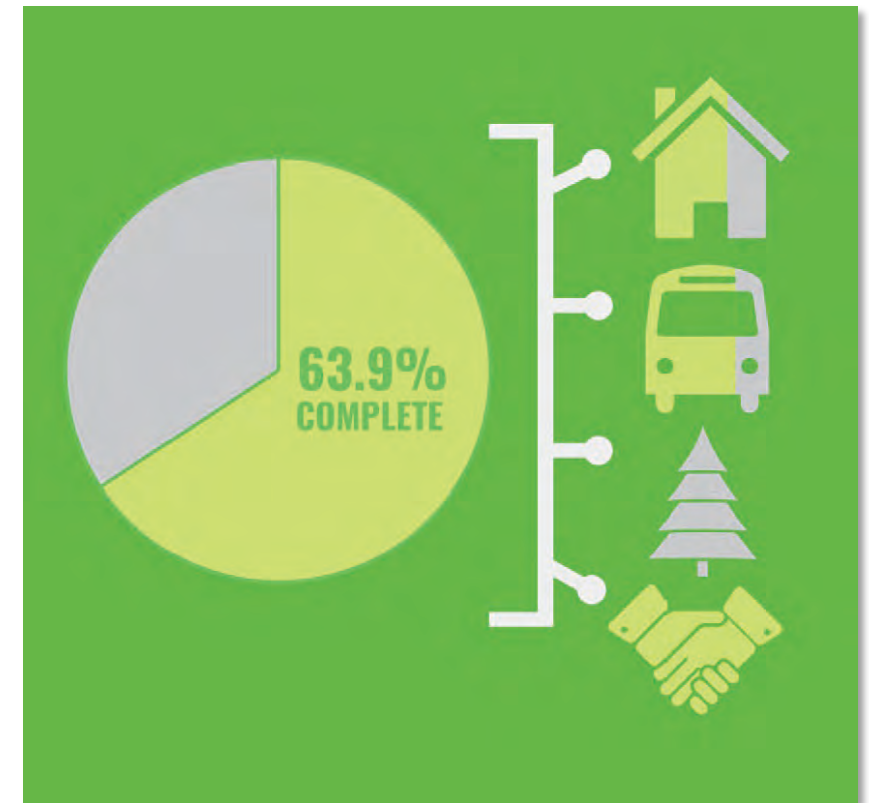
# Previous Studies

## River Mill Livable Centers Initiative (LCI)

Most recommended projects are completed

Projects still to be completed:

-  Hickory Flat Road Extension
-  E. Marietta Street Streetscape
-  Riverdale Circle Enhancements
-  W. Marietta and E. Marietta Intersection
-  Pedestrian Corridor
-  Commuter Rail & Train Station



# Previous Studies

## #CantonForward LCI Update



Bicycle and pedestrian improvements



Compact and mixed-use development



Arts and public space



Economic growth



Redevelopment and historic preservation






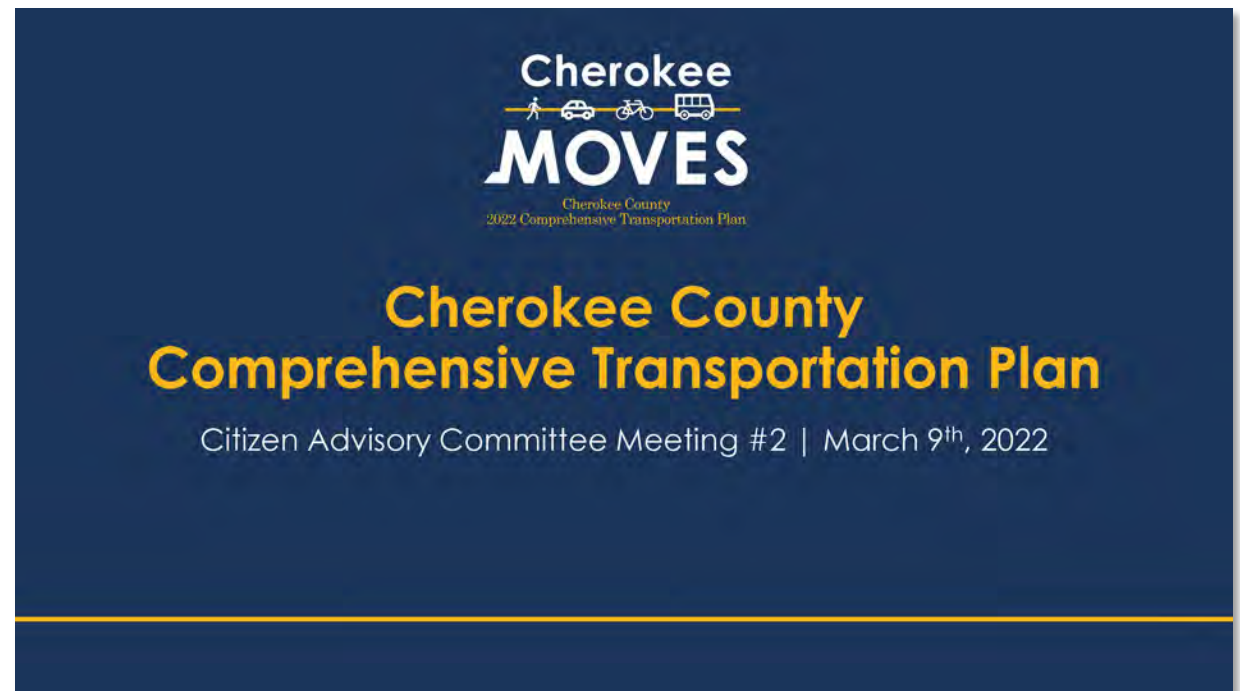
### LEGEND

- #CantonForward / 2015 LCI Boundary
- - - 2002 LCI Boundary

# Previous Studies

## Cherokee Moves: Cherokee County Comprehensive Transportation Plan

-  Countywide transportation improvements
-  Updated every 5 years
-  Update to CTP is ongoing and anticipated to be completed in summer 2022



# Previous Studies

## City of Canton Rental Residential Market Analysis

Many rentals are in car-dependent neighborhoods

To increase residential development, the analysis recommends:



Increasing job opportunities



Revitalizing the downtown area



Increasing walkability

“As development continues to push up I-575 and through Cherokee County, Canton has the opportunity to attract new developments and add population.”

# Previous Studies

## City of Canton Housing Needs Assessment & Market Study



Includes a summary of major planning and housing-related documents and key findings related to housing development in Canton



Covers major characteristics of current population, estimates future growth, and analyzes major household groups based on consumer profiles



Analyzes the current housing stock and uses population projection and market trends to estimate the future residential development demand

Demand for New Units	2010	2019	2024	2029
Total Based on Household Growth	4,466	2,723	1,287	1,433
Total new units Needed (Including units lost)	4,637	2,946	1,518	1,672
Annualized demand	464	368	304	334

Table 11: Total Projected Units for Canton, Rental vs. For-Sale

Demand for New Units	2010	2019	2024	2029
Total Based on Household Growth	26,250	16,419	10,093	11,058
Total new units Needed (Including units lost)	27,758	18,235	12,106	13,291
Annualized demand	2,776	2,279	2,421	2,658

Table 12: Projected Housing Demand for Cherokee County

Unit Type	2019-2024 Annual Total	2019-2024 5-Yr Total	2024-2029 Annual Total	2024-2029 5-Yr Total	2019-2029 Total
Own	1,855	9,274	2,036	10,181	19,454
Rent	567	2,833	622	3,110	5,943
<b>Total Units</b>	<b>2,421</b>	<b>12,106</b>	<b>2,658</b>	<b>13,291</b>	<b>25,397</b>

Table 13: Total Projected Units for Cherokee County, Rental vs. For-Sale

Potential Development Sites identified in the study:

1. The Marietta Road Corridor
2. Canton Market Place/Northside Hospital Area
3. Former Northside Hospital Site
4. Riverstone Area
5. Downtown Canton

# Planned & Programmed Projects

The City of Canton, Cherokee County, and Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) have several projects underway in various stages of planning, engineering, and construction. It will be important to acknowledge these efforts and understand what additional projects are needed in the City, but also to develop implementation strategies for planned and programmed projects.

## Planned Projects Underway

- Intersection improvements (multiple locations)
- Etowah Trail extension
- Downtown vehicle and pedestrian improvements
- Old Highway 5 Corridor Traffic Study
- SR 20 widening
- Pedestrian crossing on Riverstone Pkwy

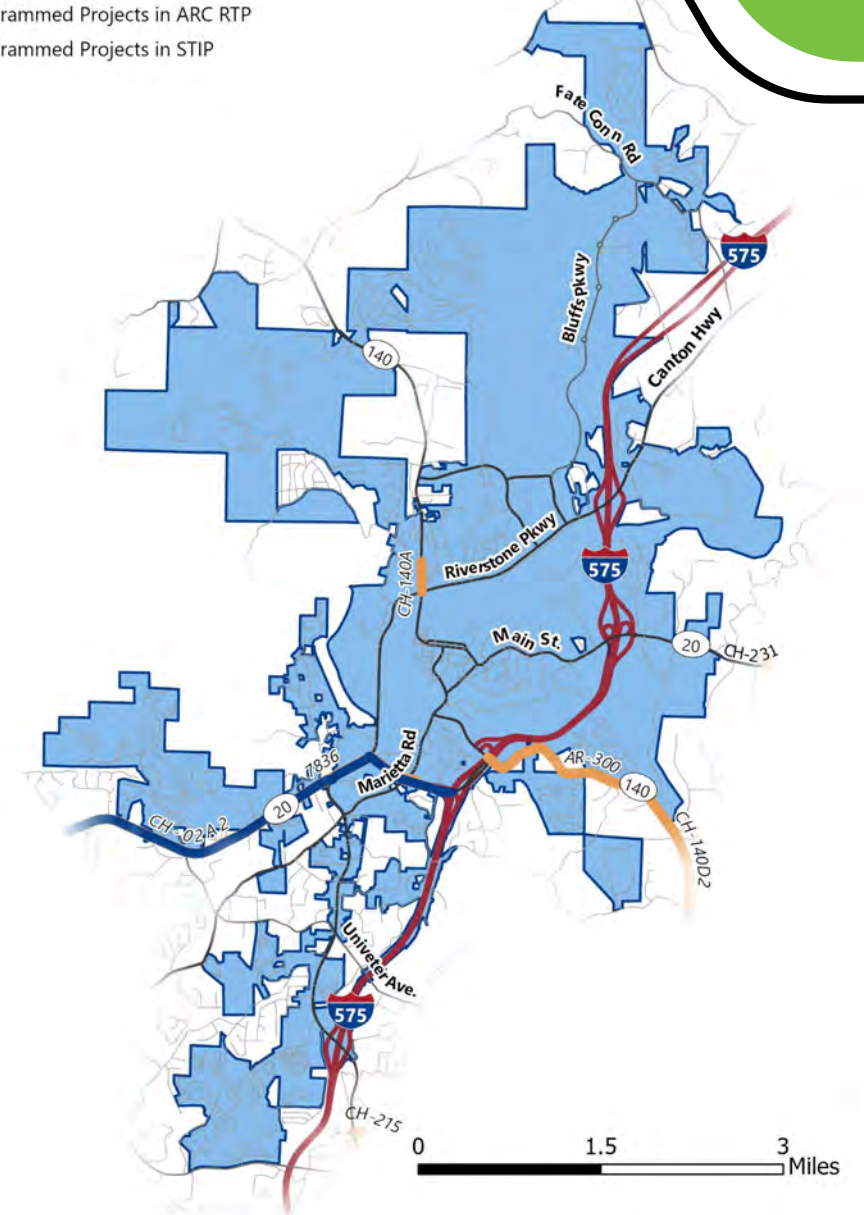
# Planned & Programmed Projects

## ARC TIP and GDOT STIP Projects

- There are 7 projects from the ARC RTP in the study areas
  - SR 140 Operational Improvements (CH-140A, CH-140B, AR-300)
  - SR 140 Widening (CH-140D2)
  - SR 20 Widening (CH-231, CH-020A2)
  - Hickory Springs Parkway Alignment (CH-215)
- Of those projects, only one was also listed in GDOT's FY 21-24 STIP:
  - SR 20 Widening from I-75 to I-575 (GDOT PI# 7836)

### Legend

- Programmed Projects in ARC RTP
- Programmed Projects in STIP



# Planned & Programmed Projects

## SR 140 (Waleska Rd) at SR 5 BU (Riverstone Pkwy)

- Extension of right turn lane on SR 140 southbound
- Reconfigure intersection and parcel access at Shoal Creek Rd
- Add medians on SR 5
- Upgrade Signals



# Planned & Programmed Projects

## SR 140 (Waleska Rd) at SR 5 Conn (Reinhardt College Pkwy)

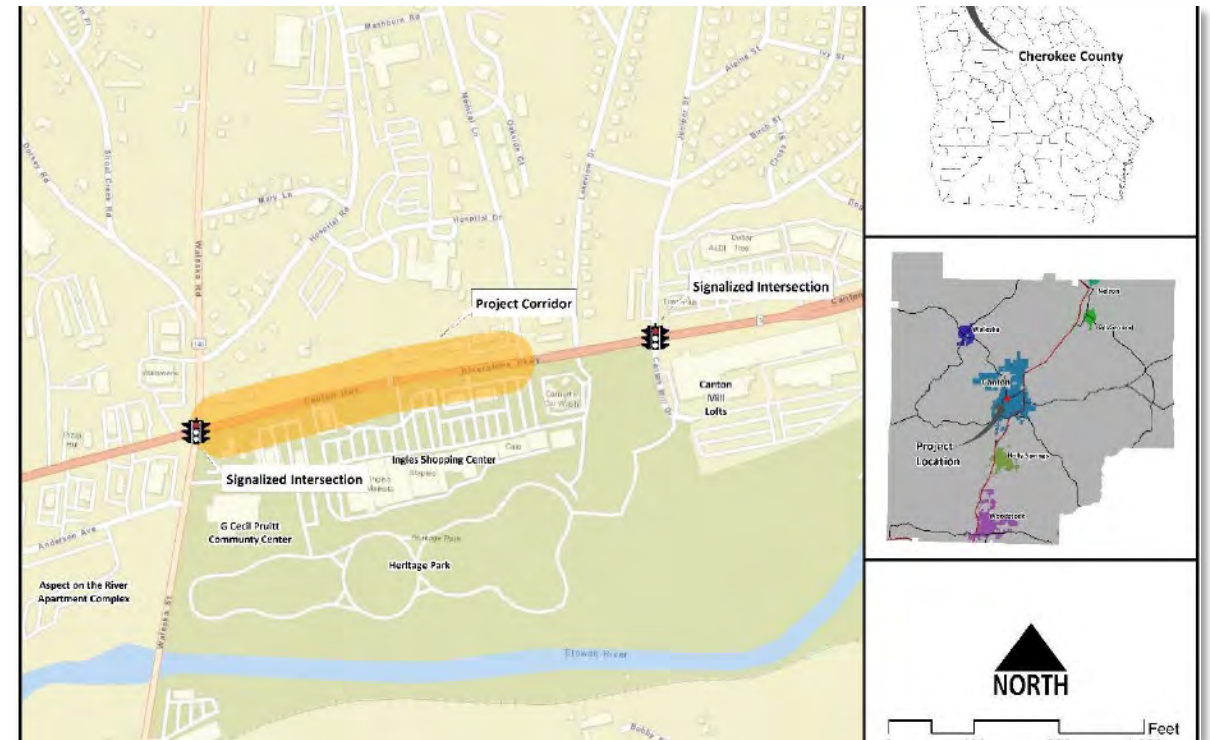
- Potential Continuous Green-T or Florida-T Intersection
- Right-in/right-out at SR 140/Mill St
- Right-in/right-out at SR 140/Vandiver Rd



# Planned & Programmed Projects

## Pedestrian Crossing on SR 5 BU (Riverstone Pkwy)

- Warrant analysis for Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon is underway
- 89 crashes from 2013-2021, including 4 pedestrians (one fatal)



# Planned & Programmed Projects

## **Reservoir Dr @ Hickory Log Dr & Reinhardt College Pkwy**

- Cherokee County High school relocating to Reinhardt College Pkwy and Reservoir Dr
- Adjacent to Teasley Middle School
- Intersection improvements to help with school traffic flow
- Signal warrant for Reservoir @ Reinhardt College Pkwy under GDOT review



Source: Atlanta Journal Constitution, December 2020

# Planned & Programmed Projects

## Marietta Rd at Hickory Flat Hwy

- Plans for a roundabout
- Additional road planned to extend to Etowah on the Mill
- No completion date scheduled



Source: Google Maps, November 2021

# Planned & Programmed Projects

## Marietta Hwy at Bells Ferry Rd

- Adjust signal timing
- Install Flashing Yellow Arrow (FYA) for the Marietta Hwy approaches
- No completion date scheduled



# Planned & Programmed Projects

## Downtown Improvements

- Convert west and east intersections to roundabouts
- Downtown traffic flow study completed, but no planned improvements
- Plan to use Tax Allocation District (TAD) funding to bury overhead utilities



Source: Google Maps, 2022

# Planned & Programmed Projects

## Etowah River Trail

- Train connects Heritage Park and Etowah River Park
- Trail extended 1.75 miles east in 2021
- Extension west 1.5 miles to Boling Park is under construction as a joint project with Water & Sewer (completion in 2022)



# Planned & Programmed Projects

## **Old Highway 5 Corridor Traffic Study**

- Cherokee County Study
- 14-mile corridor from norther limits of Canton south to Cobb County boundary
  - Includes Marietta Hwy to Riverstone Pkwy to Canton Hwy
- Includes signal timing, sidewalk/pedestrian study, and corridor capacity
- Study anticipated to be completed in late 2022

# Existing & Future Conditions

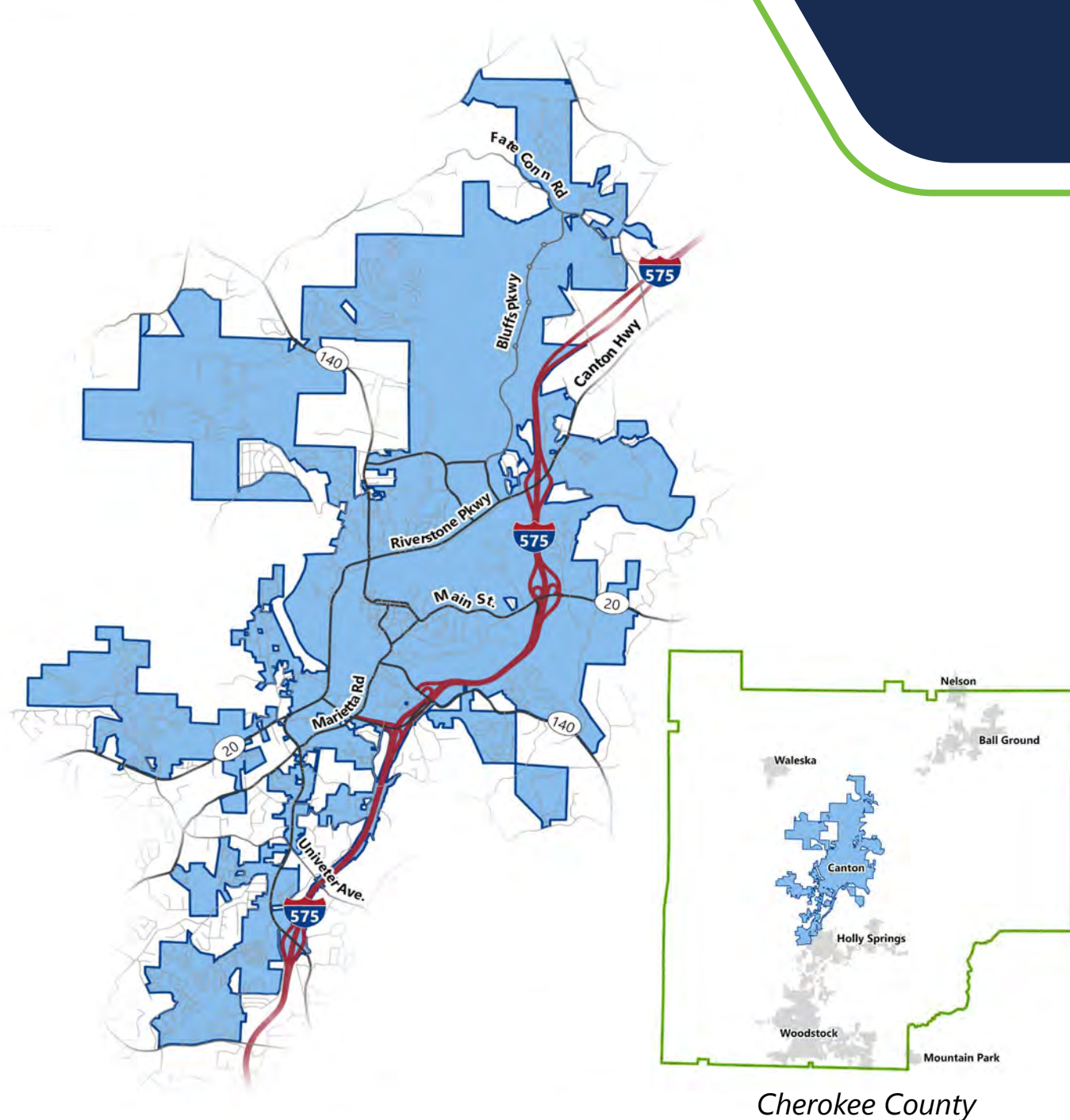
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# Existing Conditions

## Study Area

- The City of Canton is within Cherokee County
- The City of Canton is nearly an hour north of the City of Atlanta
- I-575 and the Etowah River run directly through the city limits

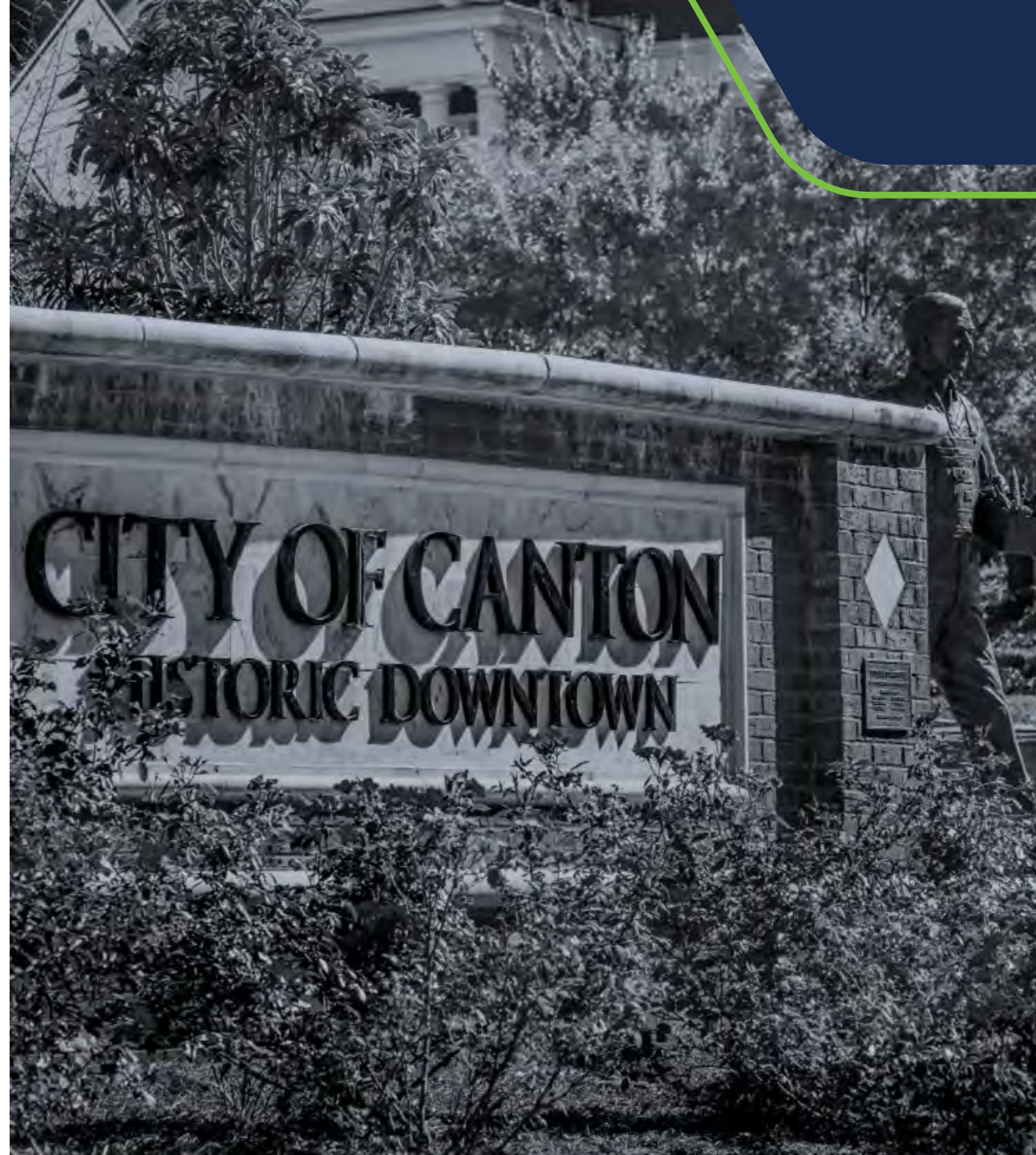


*Cherokee County*

# Existing Conditions


## Demographics

- Population
- Income
- Employment
- Moving Trends
- Household Characteristics




# Demographics

## Existing Population




**32,973**  
2020  
population\*




**34** is median age  
*Georgia median age: 37*



**12.8%** are 65+  
*Georgia 65 and older: 14.3%*


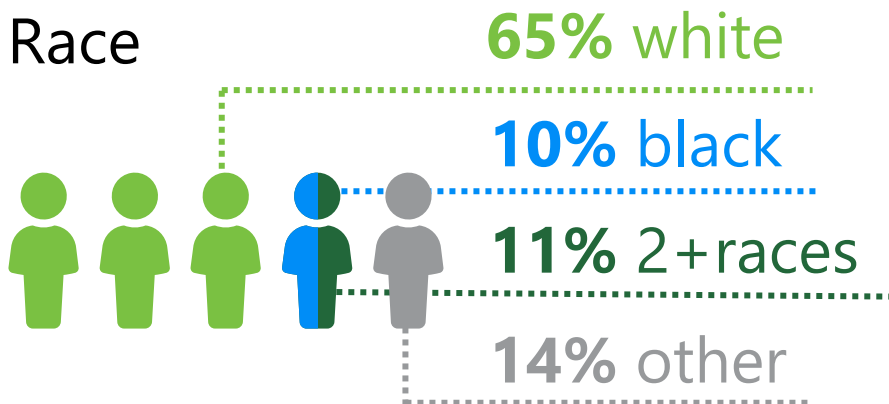


**11.1%** disabled  
population  
*Georgia disabled population: 12.6%*



**17.6%** without health  
insurance  
*Georgia population without health  
insurance: 13.2%*

### Race



**25.7%** speak a language other  
than English at home

**21.5%** speak **Spanish** at home

*Source: 2019 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates. U.S. Census Bureau.  
\*2020 Decennial Census. U.S. Census Bureau.*

# Demographics

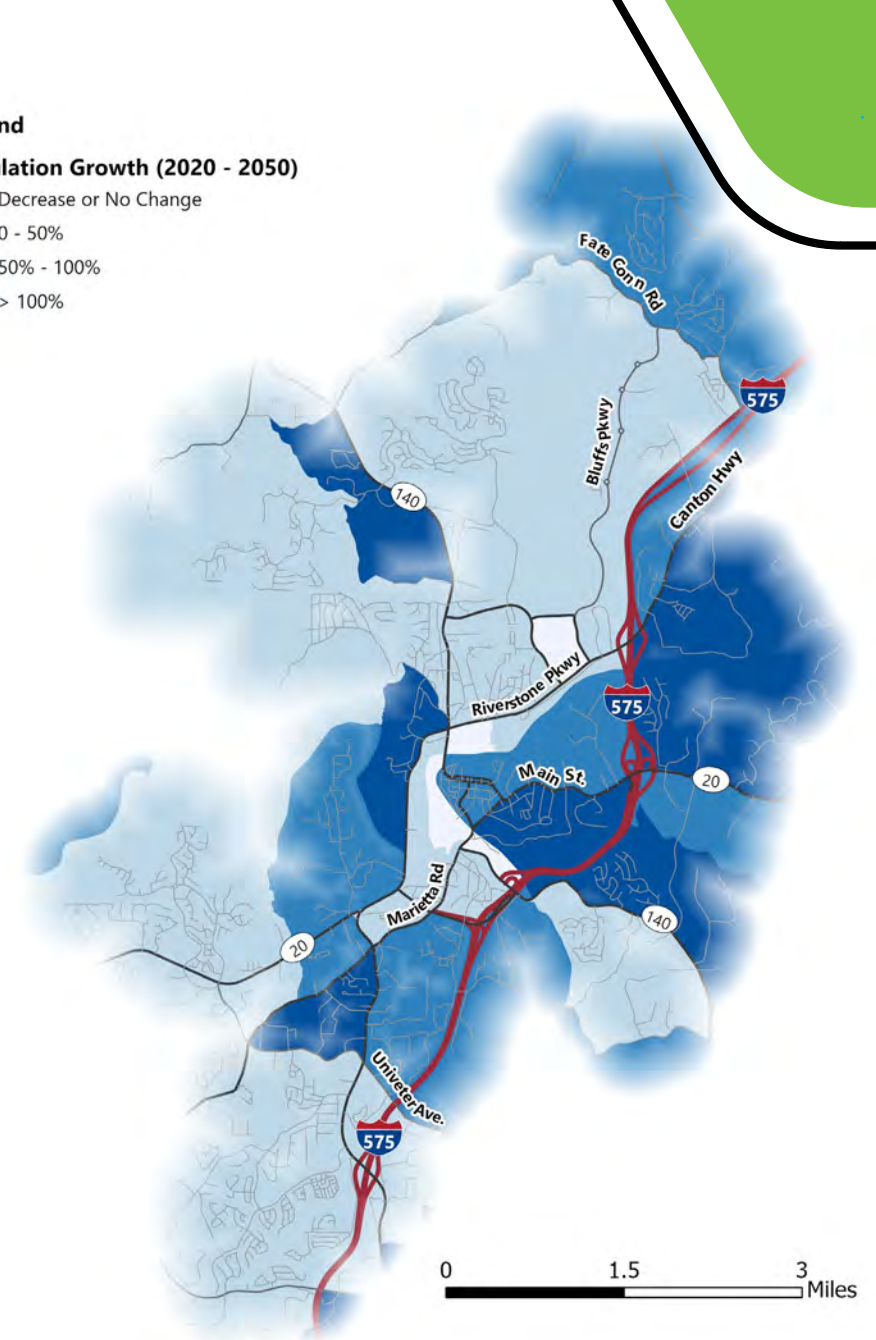
## Population Projections (2020-2050)

- The population growth between 2020 and 2050 is primarily expected to occur along I-575 (~50%)
- There is also expected growth along SR 20 and SR 40

### Legend

#### Population Growth (2020 - 2050)

- Decrease or No Change
- 0 - 50%
- 50% - 100%
- > 100%



# Demographics

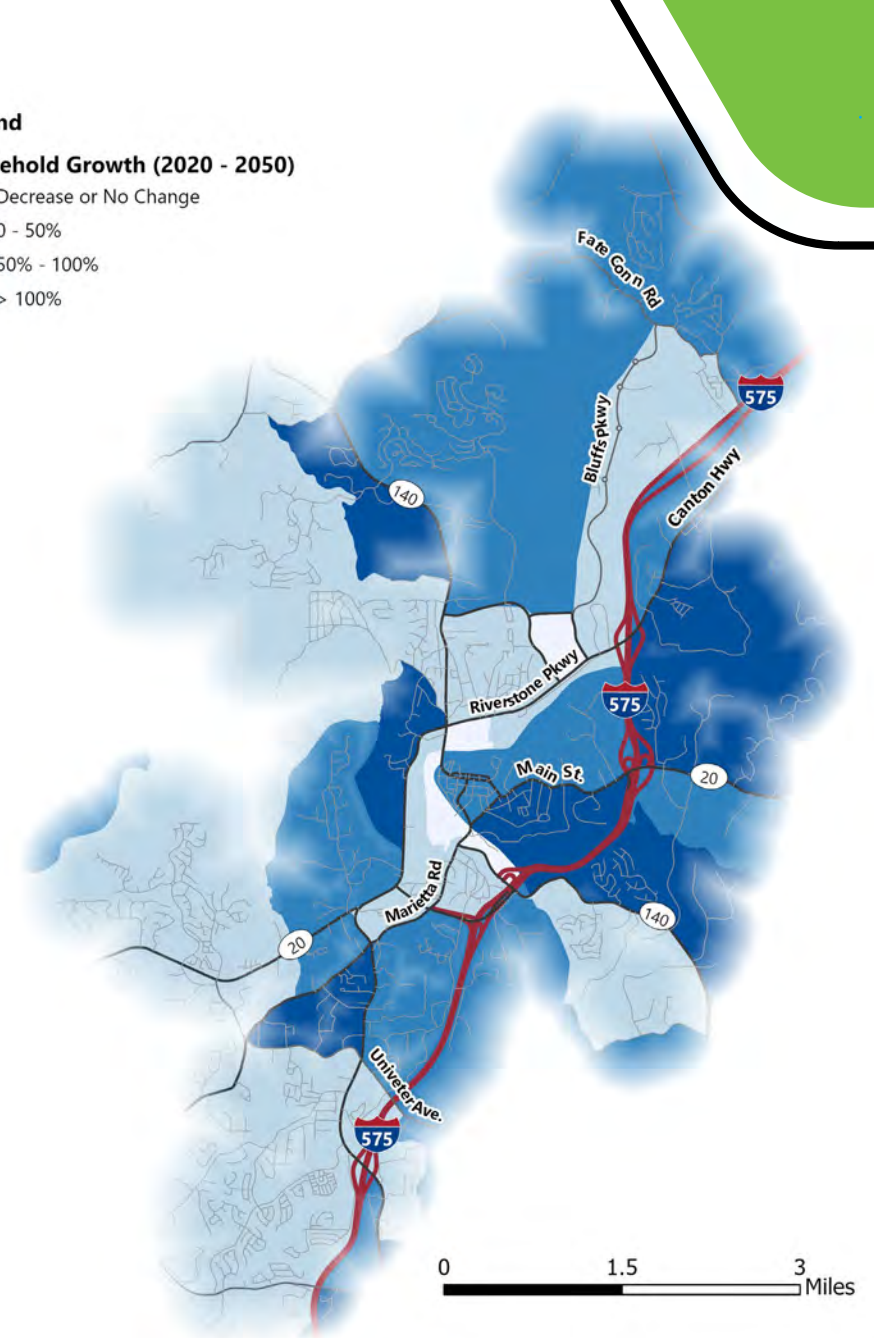
## Household Projections (2020-2050)

- Similarly, household growth between 2020 and 2050 mimics the population growth along I-575

### Legend

#### Household Growth (2020 - 2050)

- Decrease or No Change
- 0 - 50%
- 50% - 100%
- > 100%



# Demographics

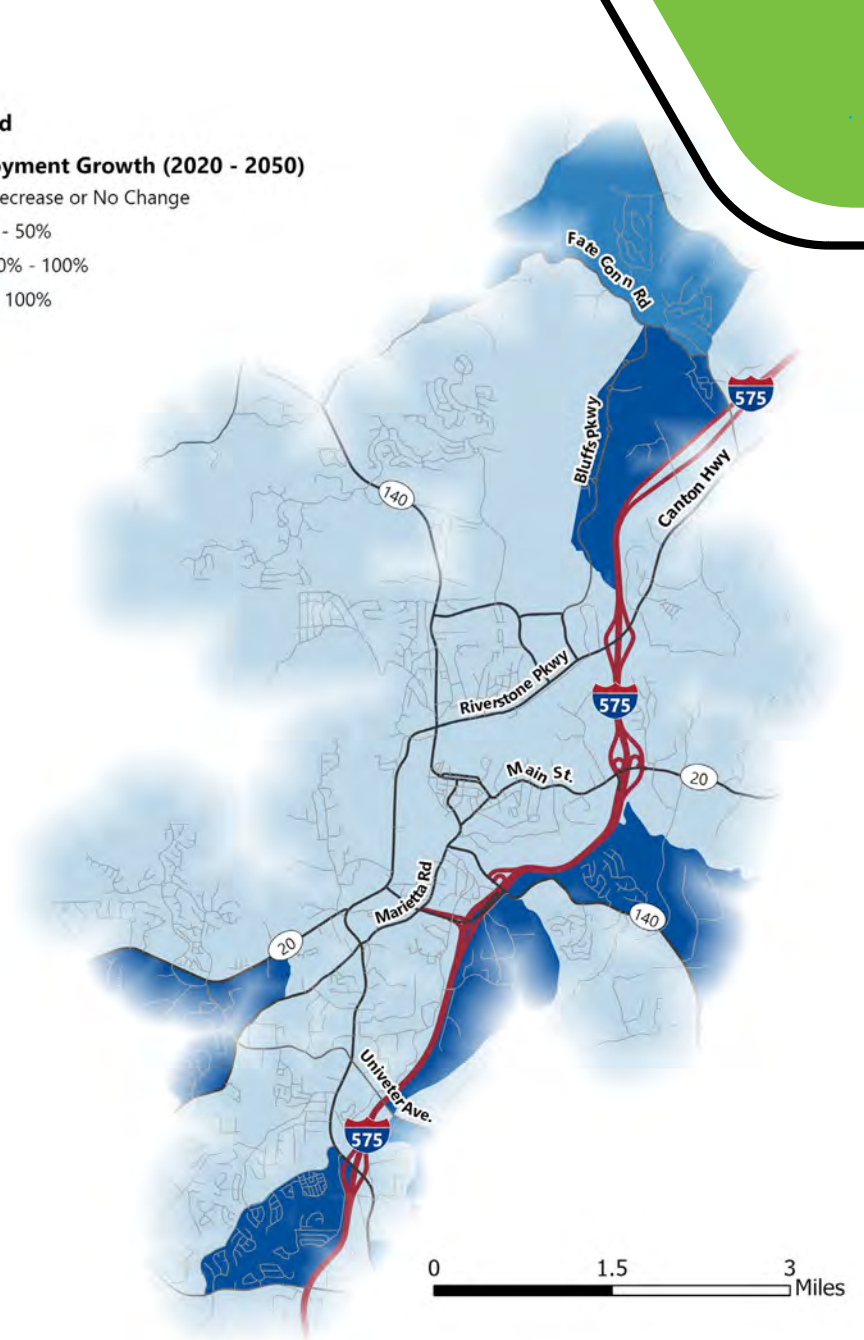
## Employment Projections (2020-2050)

- The employment growth between 2020 and 2050 occurs in targeted segments off I-575 along Bluffs Parkway, Fate Conn Road, Marietta Road, SR 140, and SR 20
- There is little employment growth expected in Downtown Canton

### Legend

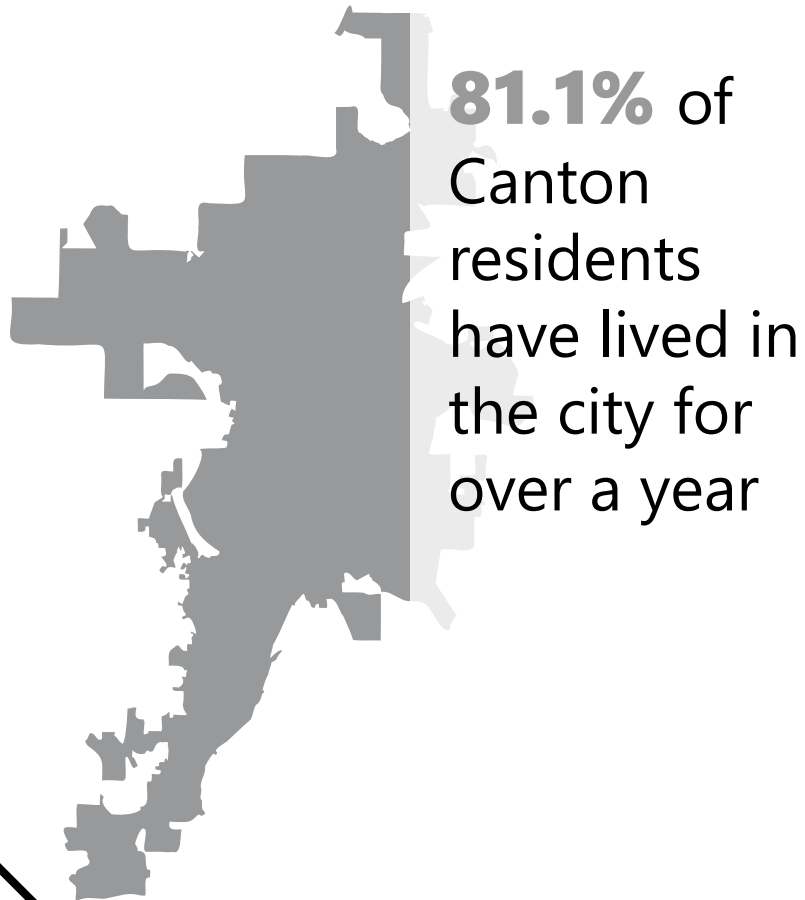
#### Employment Growth (2020 - 2050)

- Decrease or No Change
- 0 - 50%
- 50% - 100%
- > 100%



# Demographics

## Moving Trends



Of residents residing in Canton, 18.2% moved there within the past year (2018-2019):



**9.6%** moved to Canton from somewhere else in Cherokee County



**6.4%** moved to Canton from some other county in Georgia



**2.2%** moved to Canton from outside of Georgia



**0.7%** moved to Canton from outside of the U.S.

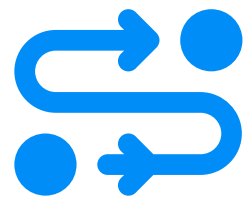
*Source: 2019 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates. U.S. Census Bureau.*

# Demographics

## Employment

Commute to work

work from home *Pre-pandemic*



**34.4 minutes**

average commute to work

*Georgia average commute: 29.3 minutes*



**65.2%**

employment rate

*Georgia employment rate: 59.6%*

# Demographics

## Income



**\$61,259**

median household income

*Georgia median household income: \$61,980*



**7.4%** zero car households

*Georgia zero car households: 6.4%*



**17.9%** poverty rate

*Georgia poverty rate: 13.3%*



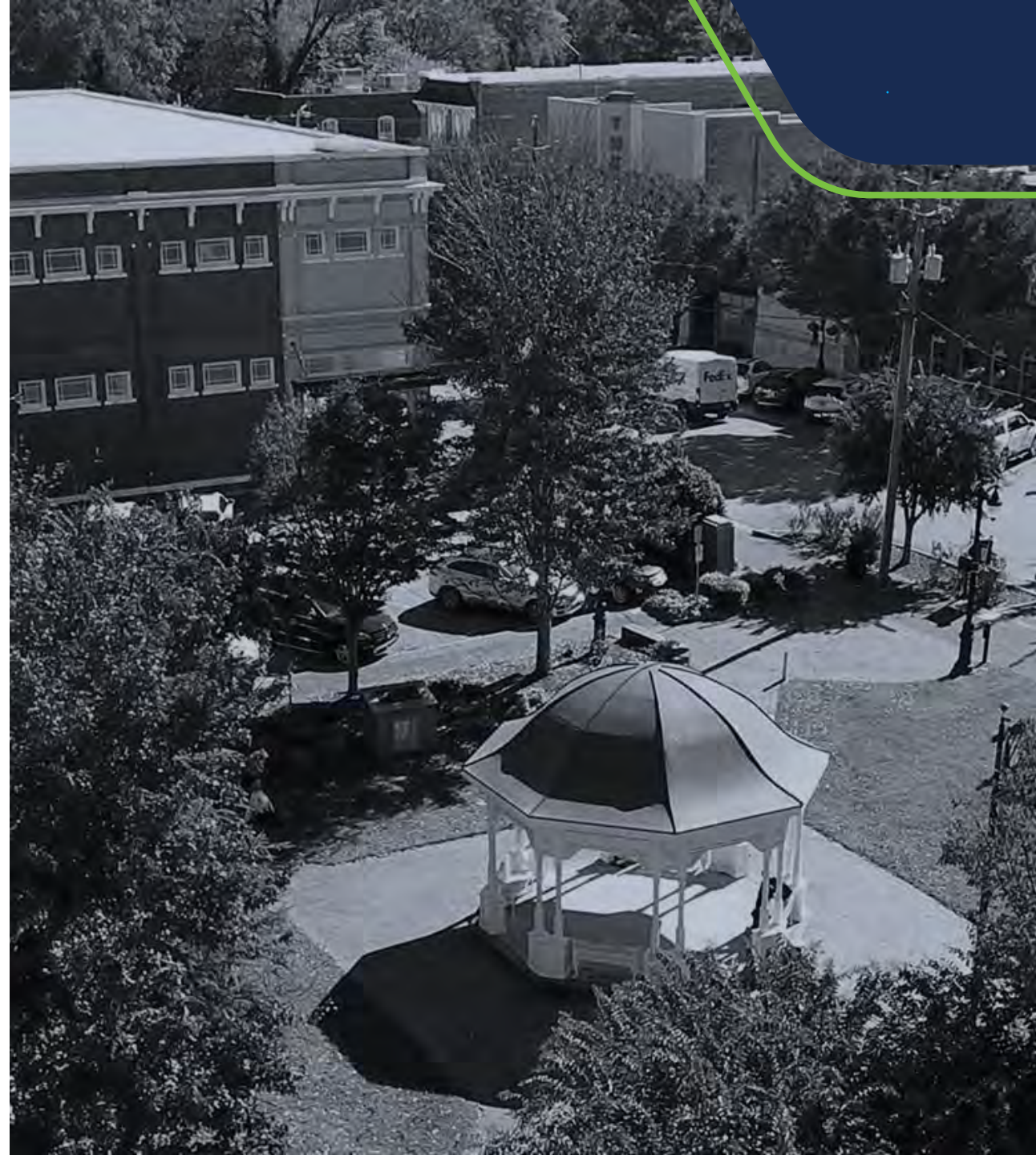
**29.0%** bachelor's degree or higher

*Those with bachelor's degree or higher in Georgia: 32.5%*

# Existing Conditions

## Land Use and Zoning

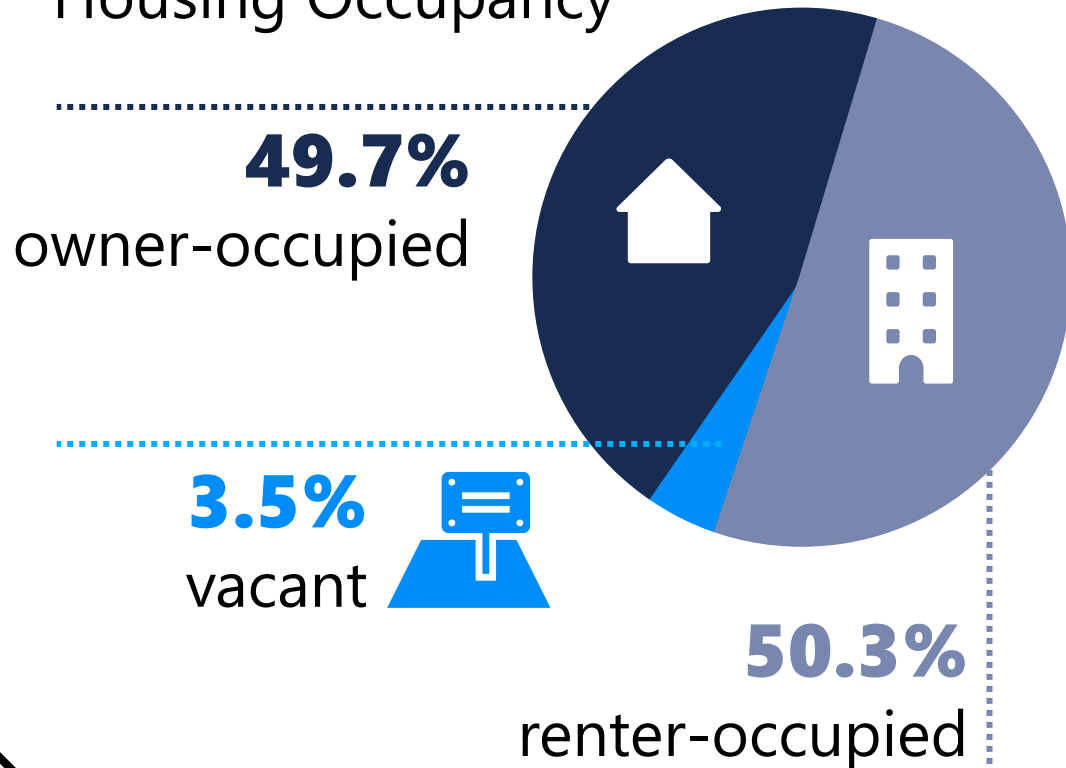
- Housing
- Points of Interest
- Existing Land Use
- Future Land Use
- Approved Development
- Public Wi-Fi



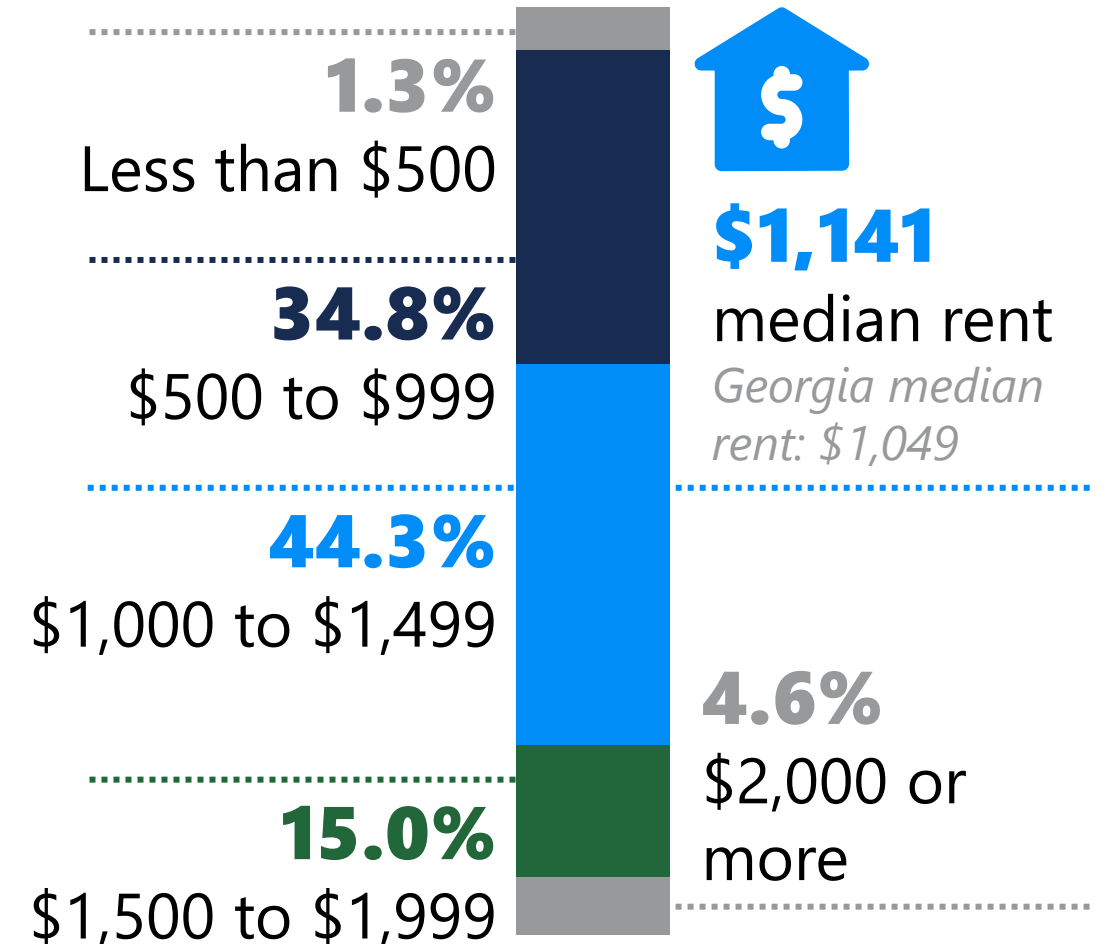
# Land Use and Zoning

## Housing

### Housing Occupancy



### Rents in Canton



Source: 2019 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates. U.S. Census Bureau.

# Land Use and Zoning

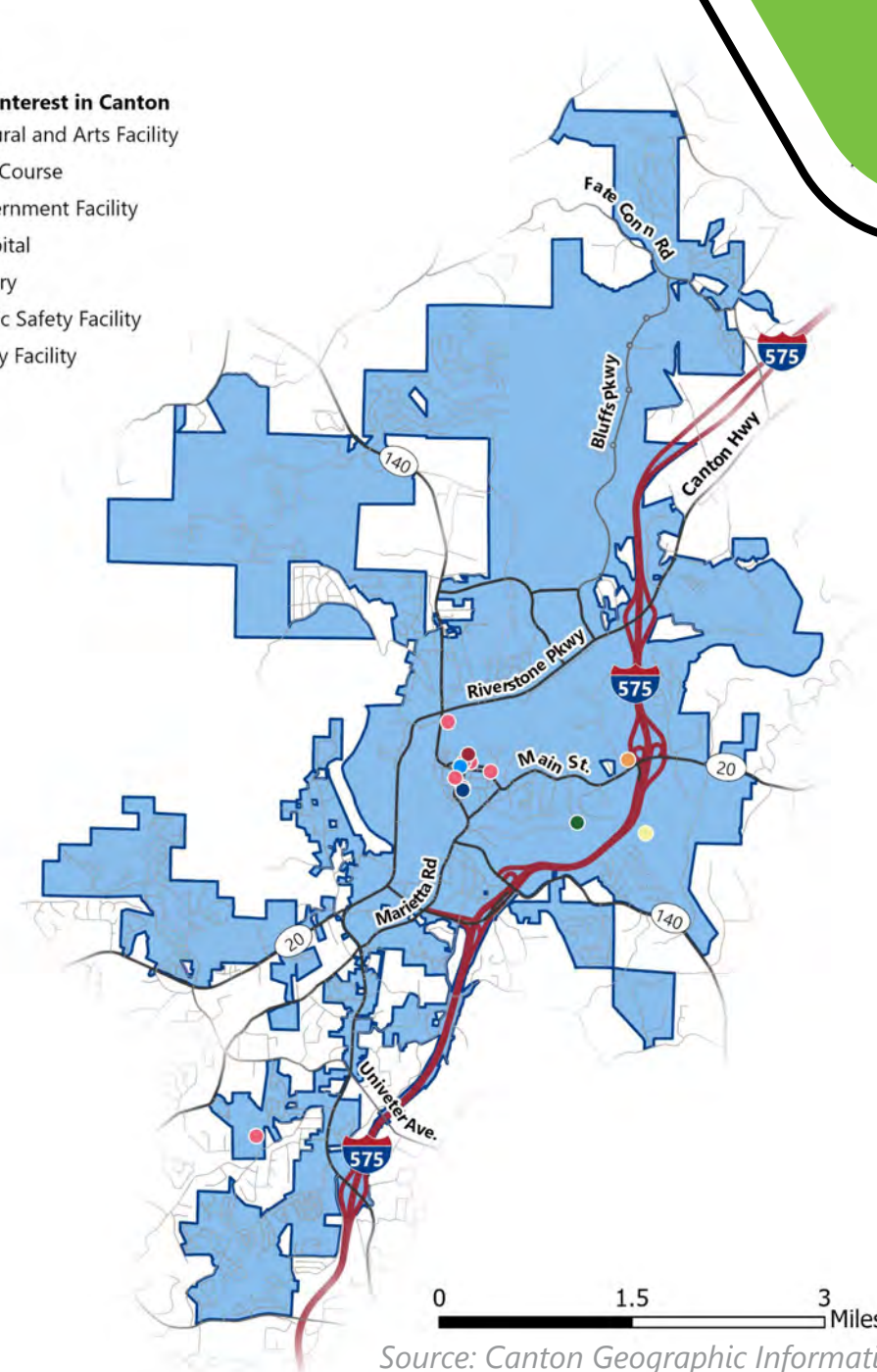
## Points of Interest

- There are many government and public service facilities in Downtown Canton
- The public library is located near the corner of I-575 and Main Street
- The Northside Hospital is located on the eastern half of Canton on Northside Cherokee Boulevard

### Legend

#### Points of Interest in Canton

- Cultural and Arts Facility
- Golf Course
- Government Facility
- Hospital
- Library
- Public Safety Facility
- Utility Facility



Source: Canton Geographic Information Systems, 2021

# Land Use and Zoning

## Existing Land Use

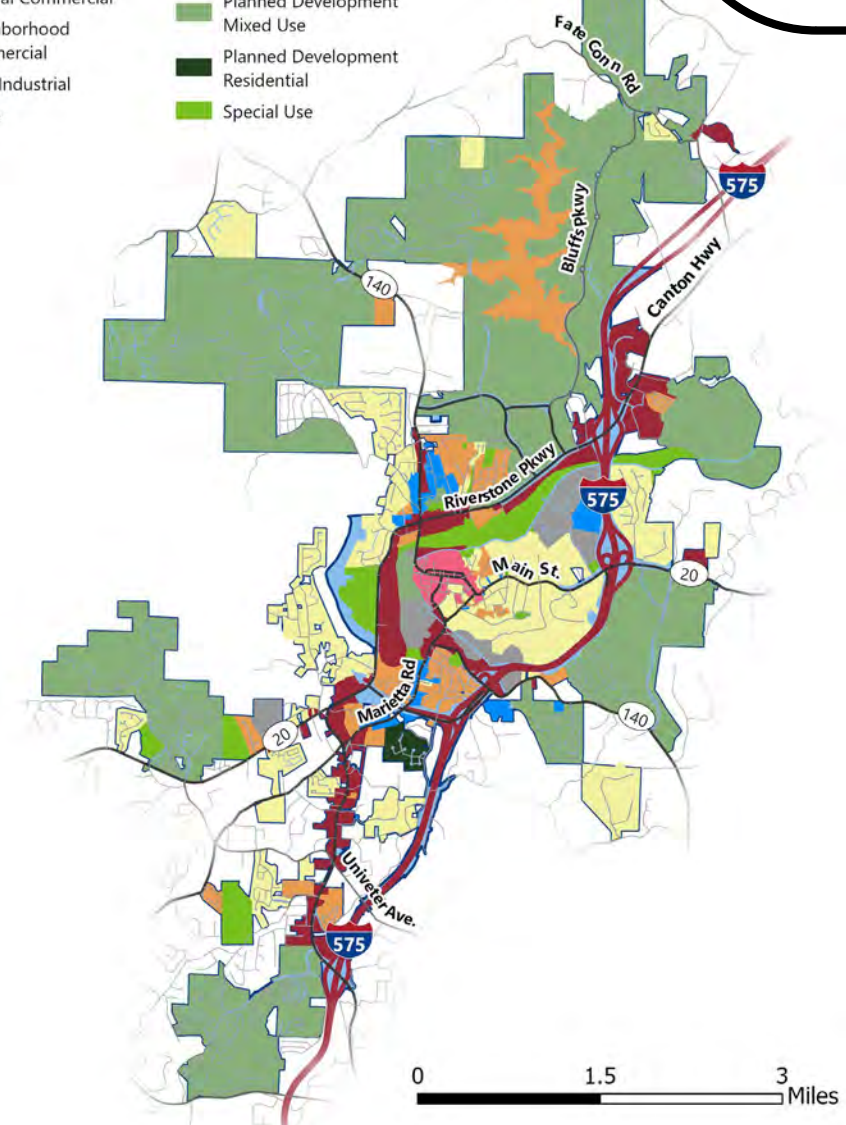
- The majority of land is **Planned Development** and **Residential**. Residential properties are primarily located on the outer edges
- The **Commercial** and **Industrial** areas run through the center of the city and along major roadways

### Legend

#### Zoning

- Central Business District
- General Commercial
- Neighborhood Commercial
- Light Industrial
- Office

- Single Family Residential
- Multiple Family Residential
- Planned Development Mixed Use
- Planned Development Residential
- Special Use



Source: Canton Geographic Information Systems, 2021

# Land Use and Zoning

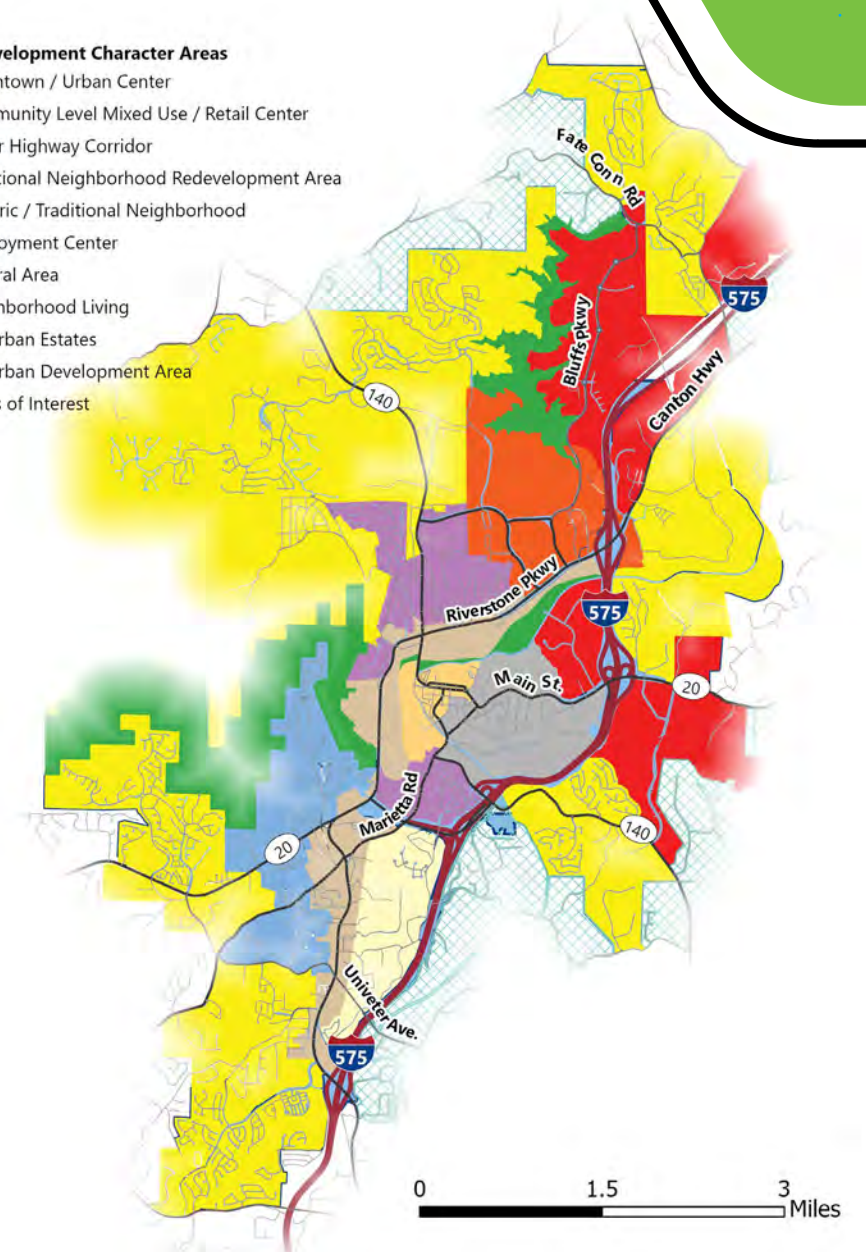
## Future Land Use

- There is significant **Employment Center** and **Community Mixed Use** development planned on eastern side along I-575
- The **Residential** is maintained on outer edges, particularly western side of city
- There is growth and preservation of **Traditional** and **Historic Neighborhoods** near Downtown Canton
- The **Natural Areas** are preserved outside City Limits

### Legend

#### Future Development Character Areas

- Downtown / Urban Center
- Community Level Mixed Use / Retail Center
- Major Highway Corridor
- Traditional Neighborhood Redevelopment Area
- Historic / Traditional Neighborhood
- Employment Center
- Natural Area
- Neighborhood Living
- Suburban Estates
- Suburban Development Area
- Areas of Interest



Source: Canton Geographic Information Systems, 2021

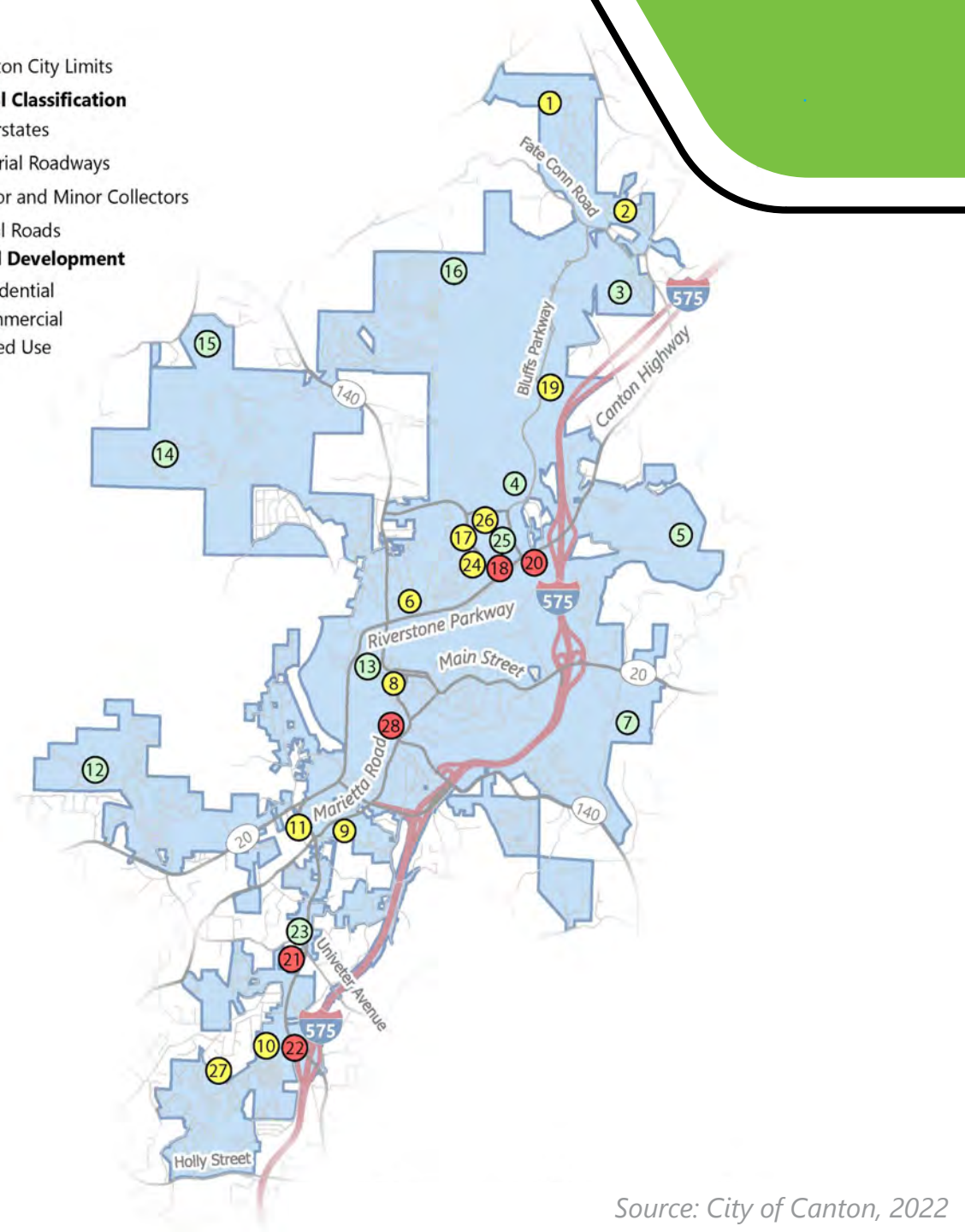
# Land Use and Zoning

## Approved Development

No.	Development Name	Total Residential (units)	Other Uses (SF)   Notes
1	Towne Mill	95 detached	
2	Summer Walk	134 attached	
3	Park Village	165	Commercial: 110,000 SF; Office/Industrial 330,000 SF
4	Riverstone	765 detached and attached; 371 multi-family	Commercial/Office: 592,017 SF
5	Etowah Shoals	1,200 detached and attached	Commercial/Office: 165,000 SF
6	Hospital Road	260 multi-family; 50 townhomes	
7	Canton Place	204 attached; 351 multi-family	Commercial/Office: 1,433,247 SF
8	Solis Canton	250 multi-family	
9	1010 Marietta Road	154 townhomes	

### Legend

- Canton City Limits
- Functional Classification**
- Interstates
- Arterial Roadways
- Major and Minor Collectors
- Local Roads
- Approved Development**
- Residential
- Commercial
- Mixed Use



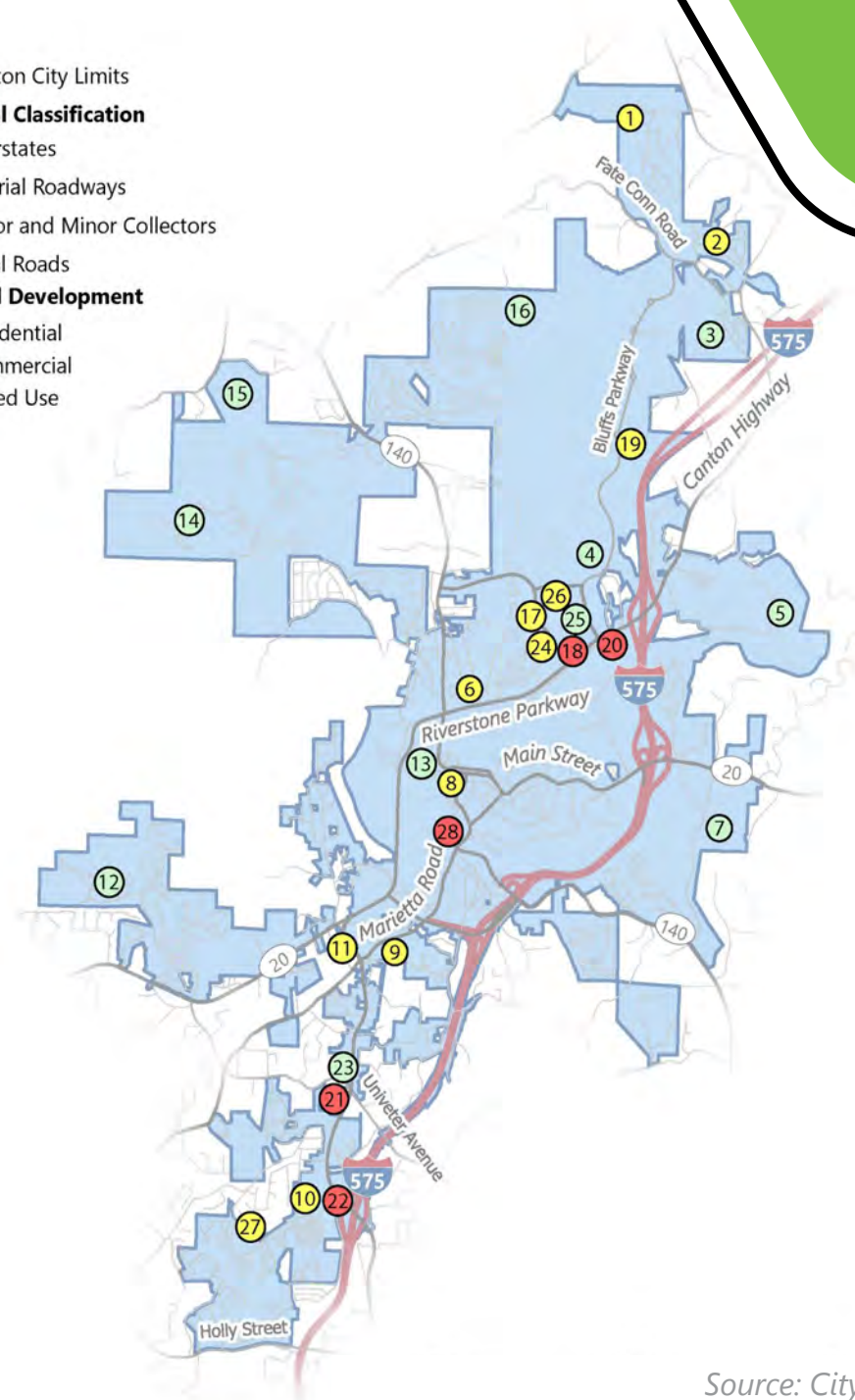
# Land Use and Zoning

## Approved Development (cont'd)

No.	Development Name	Total Residential (units)	Other Uses (SF)   Notes
10	Arris at Canton	168	
11	Jackie Moore Lane	252	
12	River Green	309 detached and attached	Commercial/Office: 17,500 SF
13	The Mill on Etowah	280	
14	Laurel Canyon	353 detached and attached	Commercial/Office: 537,552 SF
15	Great Sky	1,225	Commercial/Office: Undetermined Until Plan Submission
16	Bluffs at Technology Park	172	Office/Industrial/Commercial: 3,882,398 SF
17	Senior Apartments	120	Under Const. Complete by end of 2022

### Legend

- Canton City Limits
- Functional Classification**
- Interstates
- Arterial Roadways
- Major and Minor Collectors
- Local Roads
- Approved Development**
- Residential
- Commercial
- Mixed Use



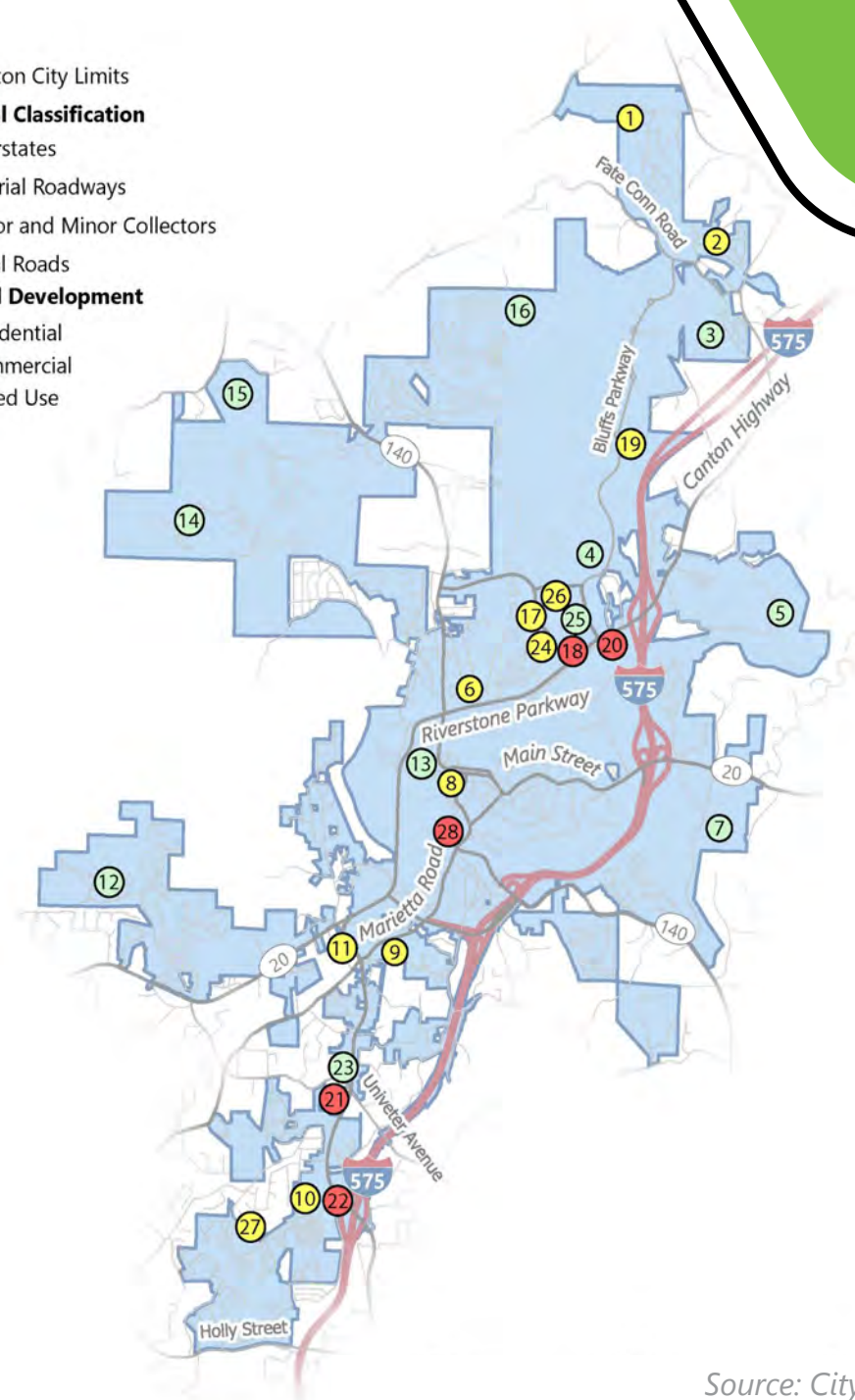
# Land Use and Zoning

## Approved Development (cont'd)

No.	Development Name	Total Residential (units)	Other Uses (SF)   Notes
18	Holiday Inn Express and Fairfield Inn & Suite		Under const. expected to be complete in 2022
19	Hickory Bluffs	Approved for 433, approx. 235 complete	Under const.
20	Retail/Office		11,500 SF and car lot; plans approved, expected to be under const. later this year.
21	My Georgia Plumber		10,800 SF; Plan Review
22	Urgent Care and Starbucks		6,000 SF; Under const. expected to be complete early 2023.
23	Office and Retail – 4 buildings		22,000 SF; Plan Review
24	Kimberly Crossing	26	Under const. expected completion 2023

### Legend

- Canton City Limits
- Functional Classification**
- Interstates
- Arterial Roadways
- Major and Minor Collectors
- Local Roads
- Approved Development**
- Residential
- Commercial
- Mixed Use



# Land Use and Zoning

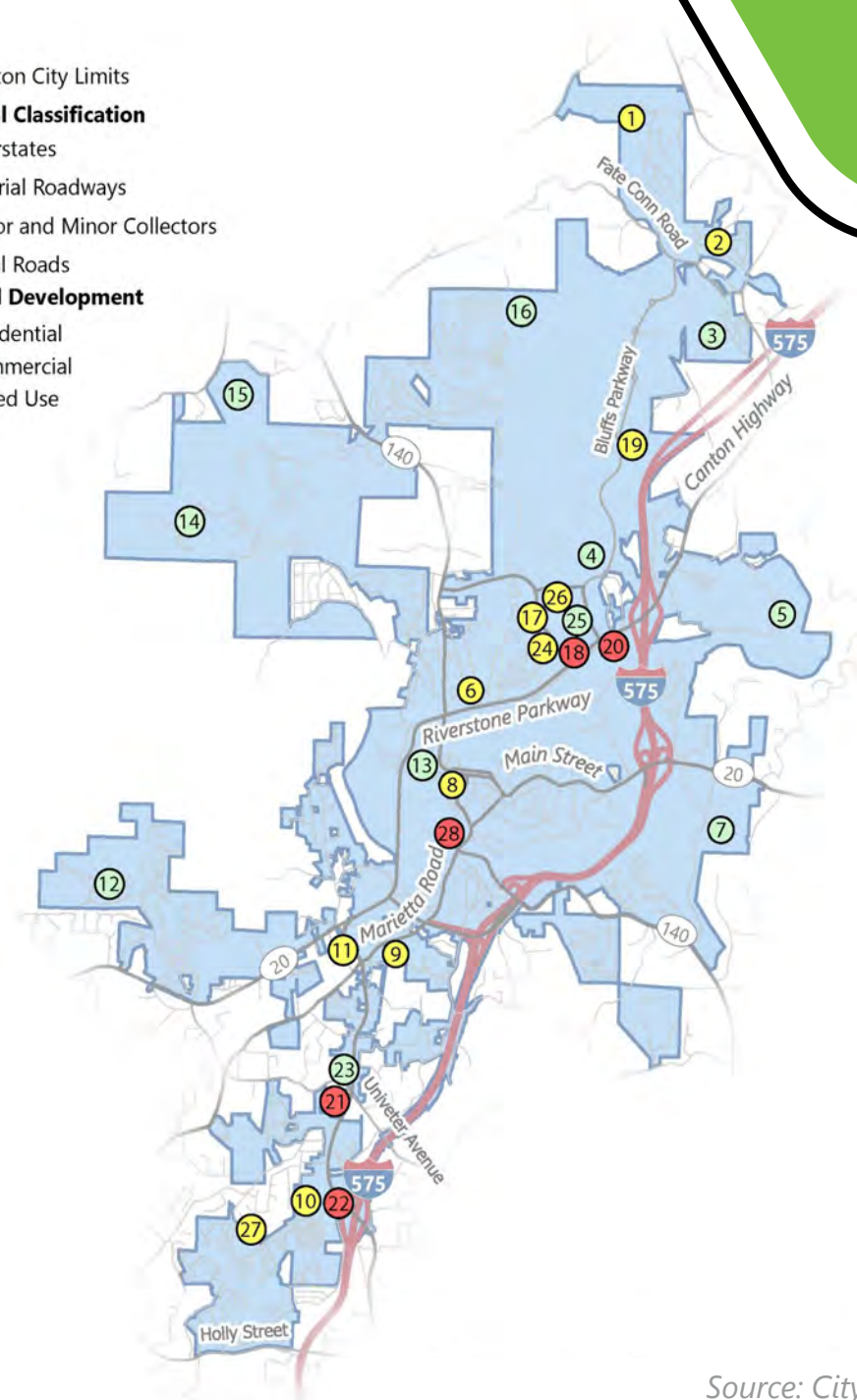
## Approved Development (cont'd)

No.	Development Name	Total Residential (units)	Other Uses (SF)   Notes
25	Crystal Lagoons	150 to 200 condos	2.57 ac. Public beach/recreation; approved master plan, no plans submitted.
26	Avanta Project	270 townhomes and single family	Approved master plan, no plans submitted
27	Missing Middle Housing (13-15 ac.)		Possible Projects
28	Climate Controlled Storage		Possible Projects; Plans approved in 2008.

Total Potential (approx.) Residential Development by 2027-32 (5-10 yrs.)	Total Potential (approx.) Commercial/Office/Industrial Development by 2027-32 (5-10 yrs.)
6000 units detached/attached units	Commercial: 126,800 SF
1200 multi-family units	Commercial/Office: 2,800,000 SF
500 townhomes	Office/Industrial: 4,000,000 SF
200 condos	

### Legend

- Canton City Limits
- Functional Classification**
- Interstates
- Arterial Roadways
- Major and Minor Collectors
- Local Roads
- Approved Development**
- Residential
- Commercial
- Mixed Use



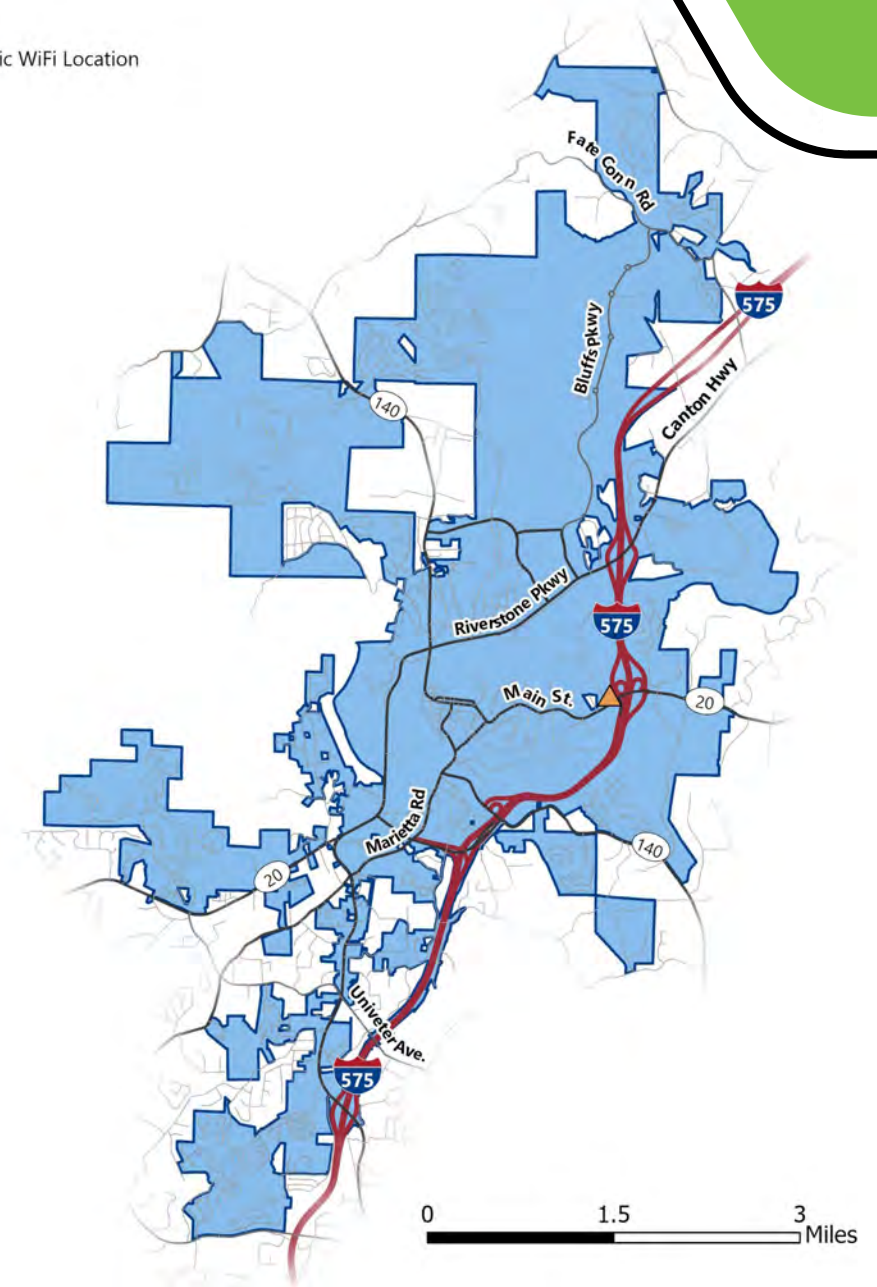
# Land Use and Zoning

## Public Wi-Fi

- Wi-fi locations help to attract people to certain areas and some municipalities provide wi-fi in downtown areas, parks, and public buildings
- There is one public wi-fi location at the R.T. Jones Memorial Library

### Legend

▲ Public WiFi Location



# Existing & Future Conditions

## Transportation Networks

- Roadways
- Crashes
- Traffic
- Roadway Congestion
- Railroad
- Transit
- Bicycle and Pedestrian



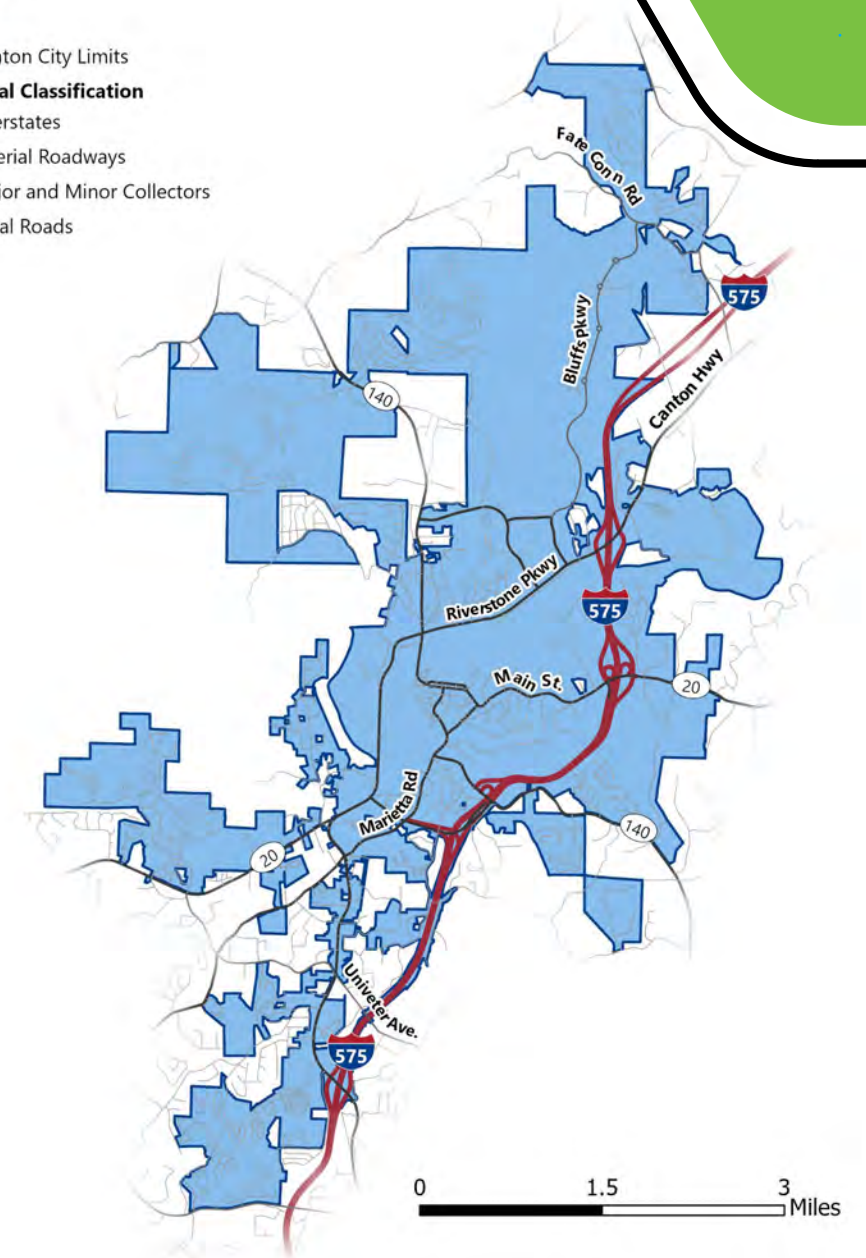
# Transportation Networks

## Roadways

- I-575 serves as the county's principal roadway
- The other major arterials include SR 20, SR 140, Riverstone Parkway, Marietta Road, and Main Street

### Legend

- Canton City Limits
- Functional Classification**
- Interstates
- Arterial Roadways
- Major and Minor Collectors
- Local Roads



Source: Georgia Department of Transportation, 2022

# Transportation Networks

## Crashes (Total Crashes 2013-2020)

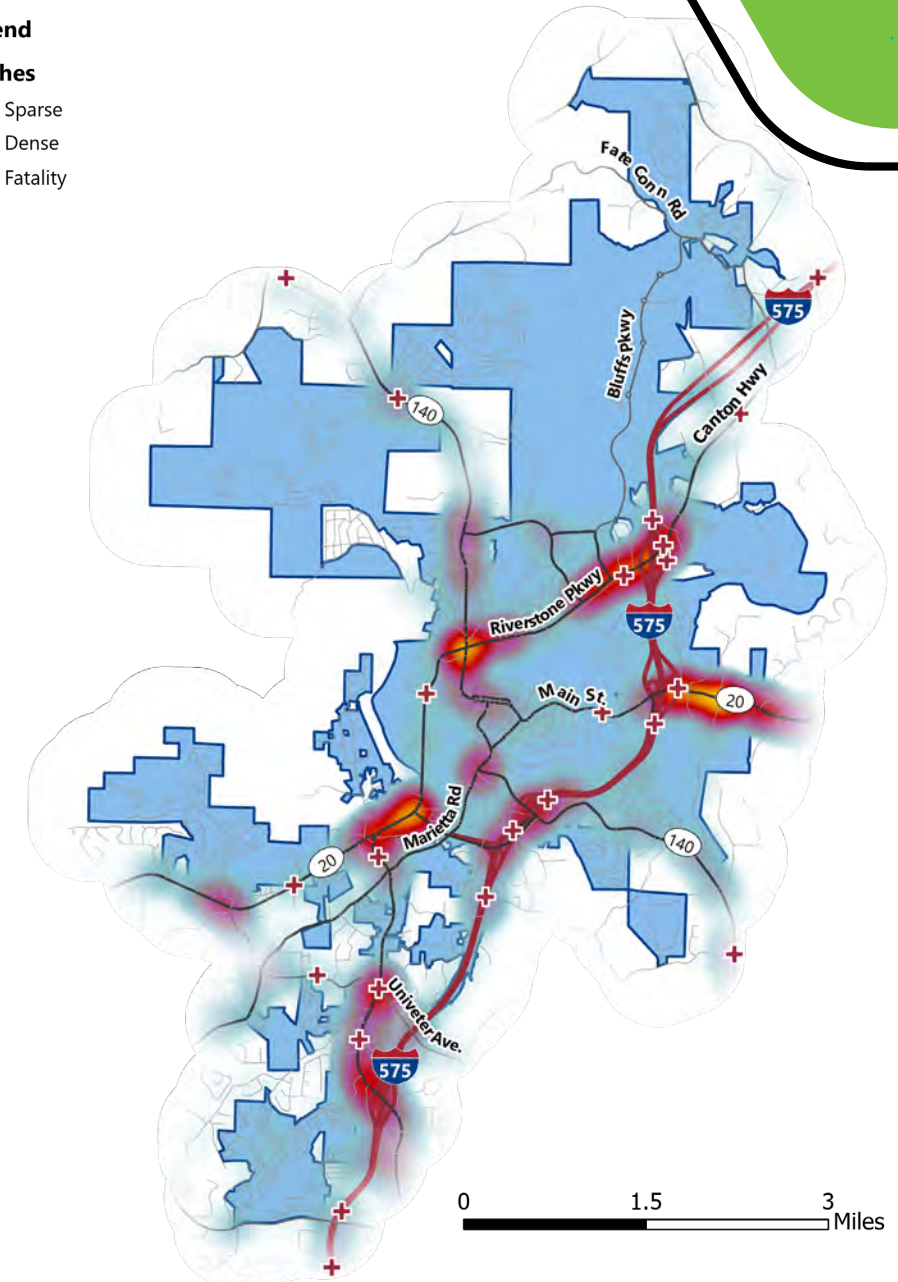
High crash locations (by volume) are located at:

- SR 20/Cumming Hwy between I-575 and Old Doss Dr
- SR 20/Marietta Highway between SR 5/Marietta Highway and SR 140/Hickory Flat Hwy
- Riverstone Pkwy between Reinhardt College Pkwy and I-575
- Riverstone Pkwy & SR 140/Waleska Rd
- SR 20/Knox Bridge Hwy & Pope Cir
- Marietta Hwy & Univeter Rd
- Marietta Hwy & Prominence Point Pkwy

### Legend

#### Crashes

- Sparse
- Dense
- +



Source: Georgia Department of Transportation, Numetric, 2013-2020

# Transportation Networks

## Traffic

The Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) is a measure of traffic volumes

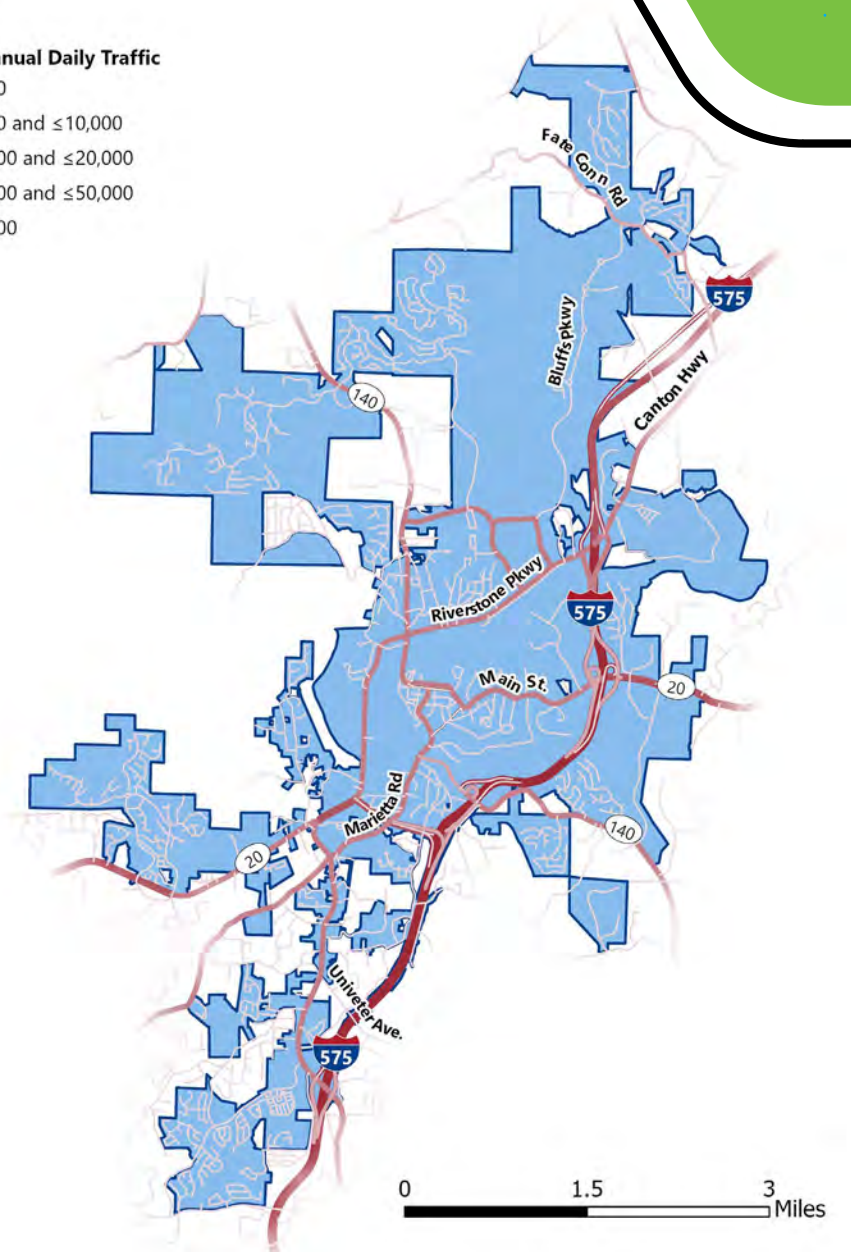
AADT are highest on:

- I-575: ~ 56,100
- SR 20: ~ 21,818
- Riverstone Pkwy: ~ 18,400
- SR 140: ~ 13,600
- Marietta Highway: ~ 11,800
- Main Street: ~ 11,079

### Legend

#### Average Annual Daily Traffic

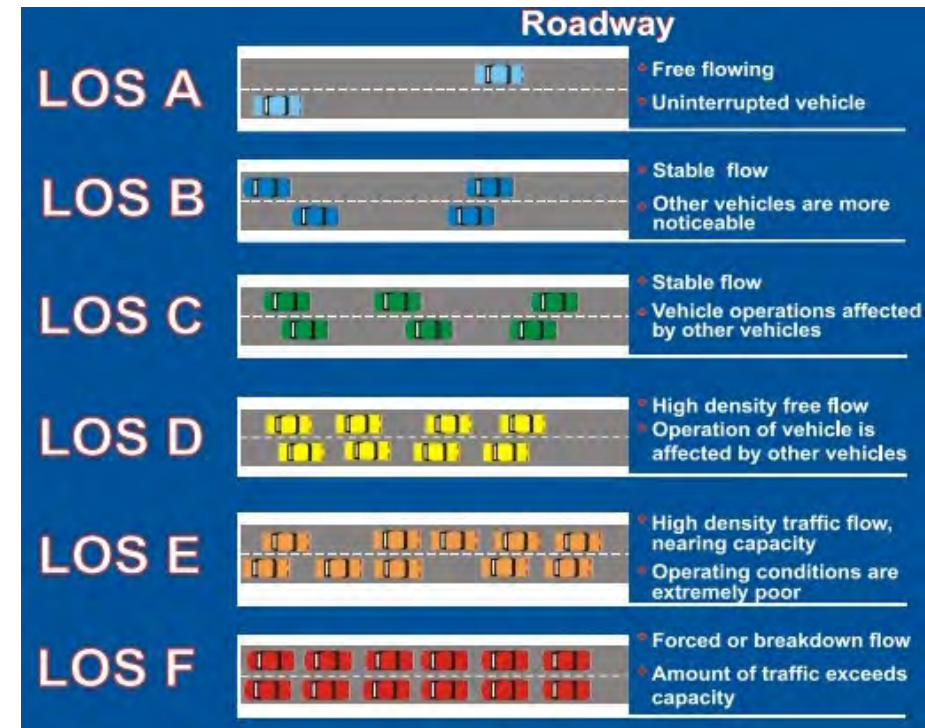
- ≤5,000
- >5,000 and ≤10,000
- >10,000 and ≤20,000
- >20,000 and ≤50,000
- >50,000



# Transportation Networks

## Roadway Congestion

- **Level of Service (LOS)** compares volumes along the roadway to the capacity of that roadway, with A as free flow and F as forced flow
- Morning Peak (7-10 AM) and Afternoon Peak (3-7 PM) LOS were derived from Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) activity-based travel demand model (ABM)



Source: Maryland Department of Transportation



# Transportation Networks

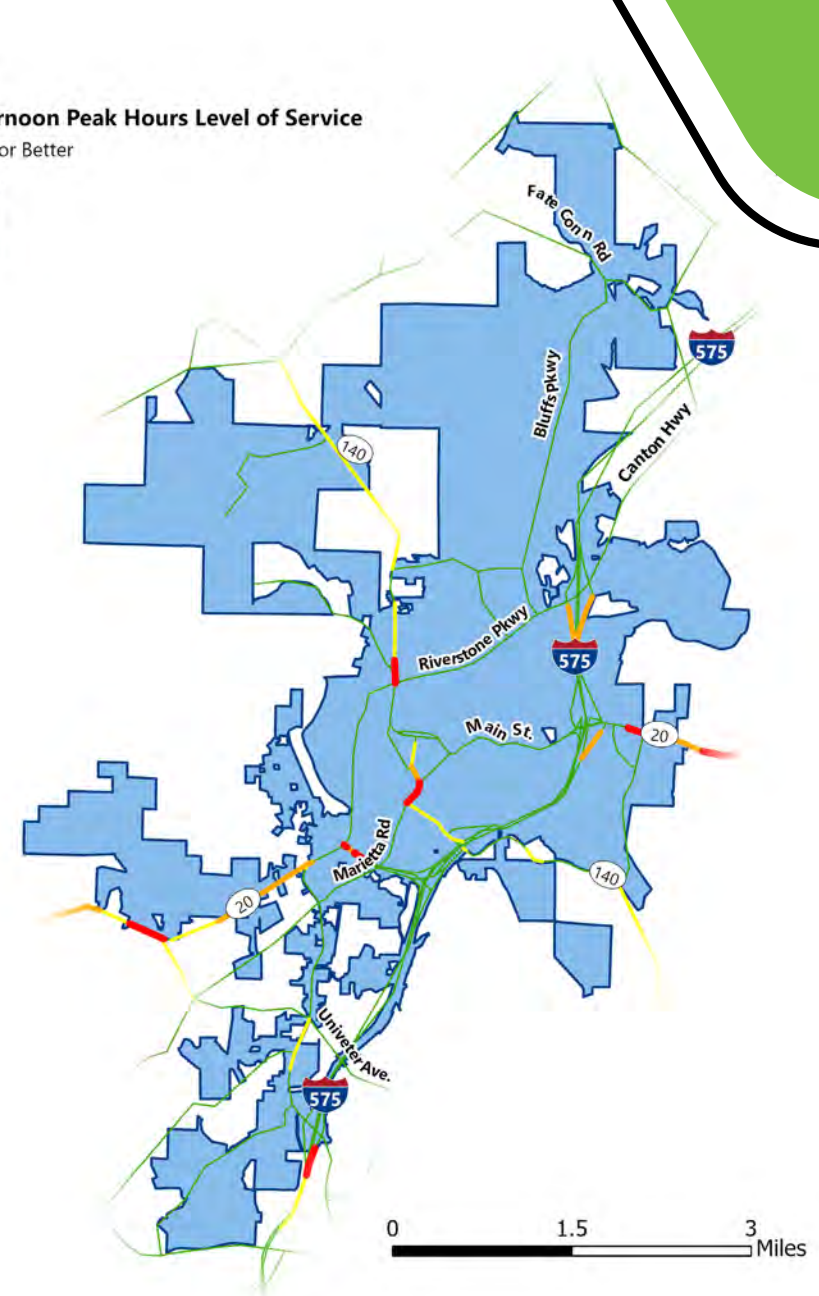
## Existing Roadway Congestion

- During afternoon peak hours in 2020, congested road segments expected to operate at LOS E or F:
  - SR 20/Cumming Hwy from Northside Pkwy to Canton City boundary
  - SR 20/Knox Bridge Hwy from Canton City boundary to Legend Creek Dr
  - SR 20/Knox Bridge Hwy from Riverbend Way to River Green Ave
  - SR 20/Knox Bridge Hwy from Dunn Ln to SR 5/Marietta Hwy
  - SR 140/Hickory Flat Pkwy from SR 20/Marietta Hwy to Marietta Rd
  - Marietta Road from Hickory Flat Hwy to W Marietta St
  - SR 140/ Waleska Rd from Hospital Rd to SR 140/Marietta Hwy
  - I-575 at Marietta Hwy
  - I-575 south facing ramps at Riverstone Pkwy
  - I-575 northbound exit ramp at SR 20/Cumming Hwy

### Legend

#### 2020 Afternoon Peak Hours Level of Service

- LOS C or Better
- LOS D
- LOS E
- LOS F



# Transportation Networks

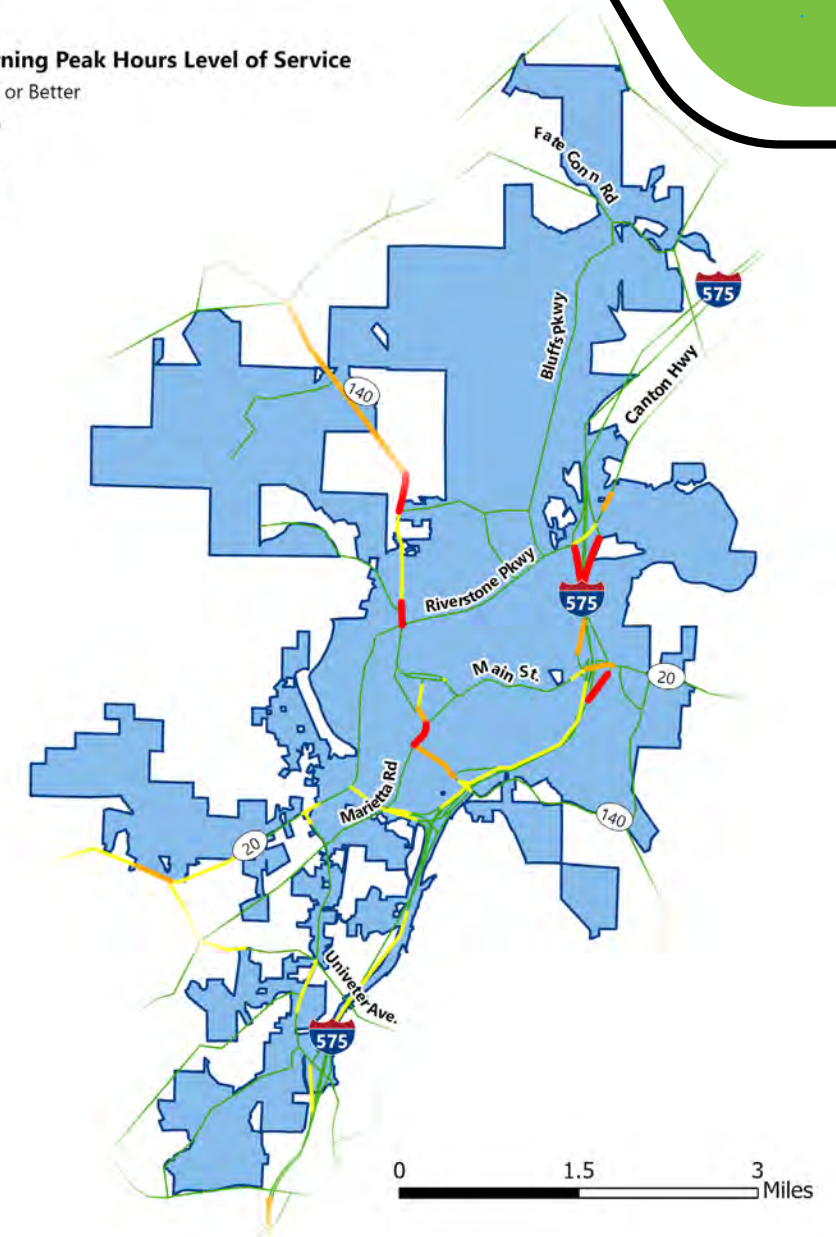
## Future Roadway Congestion

- During morning peak hours in 2050, congested road segments are expected to operate at LOS E or F :
  - SR 20/Cumming Hwy from I-575 southbound ramps to northbound ramps
  - SR 20/Knox Bridge Hwy from Riverbend Way to River Green Ave
  - Marietta Road from Hickory Flat Hwy to W Marietta St
  - SR 140/Waleska Rd from Puckett Creek Rd to Reinhardt College Pkwy
  - SR 140/Waleska Rd from Hospital Rd to SR 140/Marietta Hwy
  - Hickory Flat Hwy from Marietta Road to I-575 southbound exit ramp
  - Canton Hwy between Liberty Pkwy and Riverpoint Pkwy
  - I-575 south facing ramps at Riverstone Pkwy
  - I-575 southbound entrance ramp and northbound exit ramp at SR 20/Cumming Hwy

### Legend

#### 2050 Morning Peak Hours Level of Service

- LOS C or Better
- LOS D
- LOS E
- LOS F





# Transportation Networks

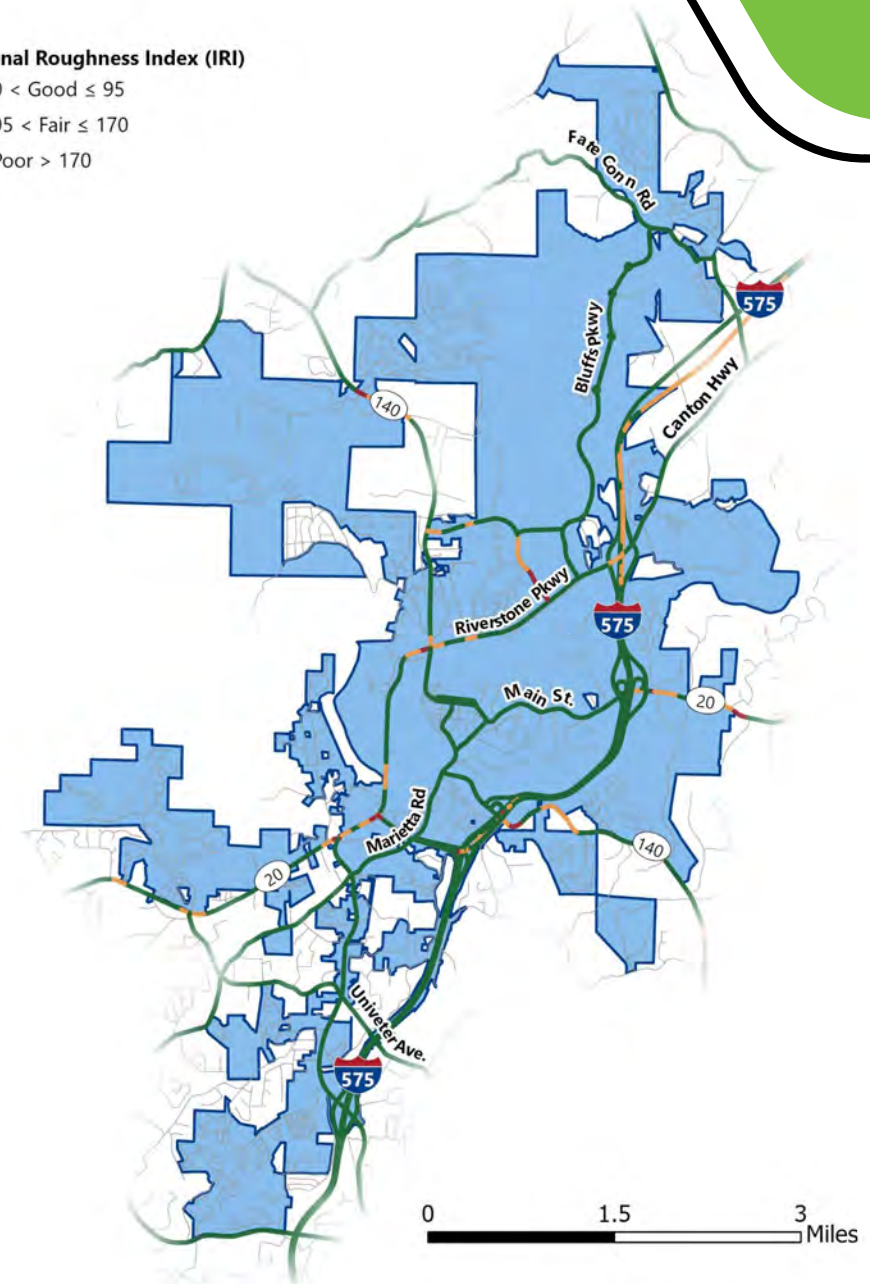
## Pavement Conditions

- The pavement conditions in Canton are relatively good indicating a good state of repair program
- Pavement in poor condition include:
  - SR 140 from Great Sky Parkway to McPherson Drive
  - SR 20 from SR 140 to Marietta Highway
  - Reinhardt College Parkway  
Riverstone Parkway to Riverstone Terrace

### Legend

#### International Roughness Index (IRI)

- IRI, 0 < Good ≤ 95
- IRI, 95 < Fair ≤ 170
- IRI, Poor > 170



Source: Highway Performance Monitoring System (HMPS)

# Transportation Networks

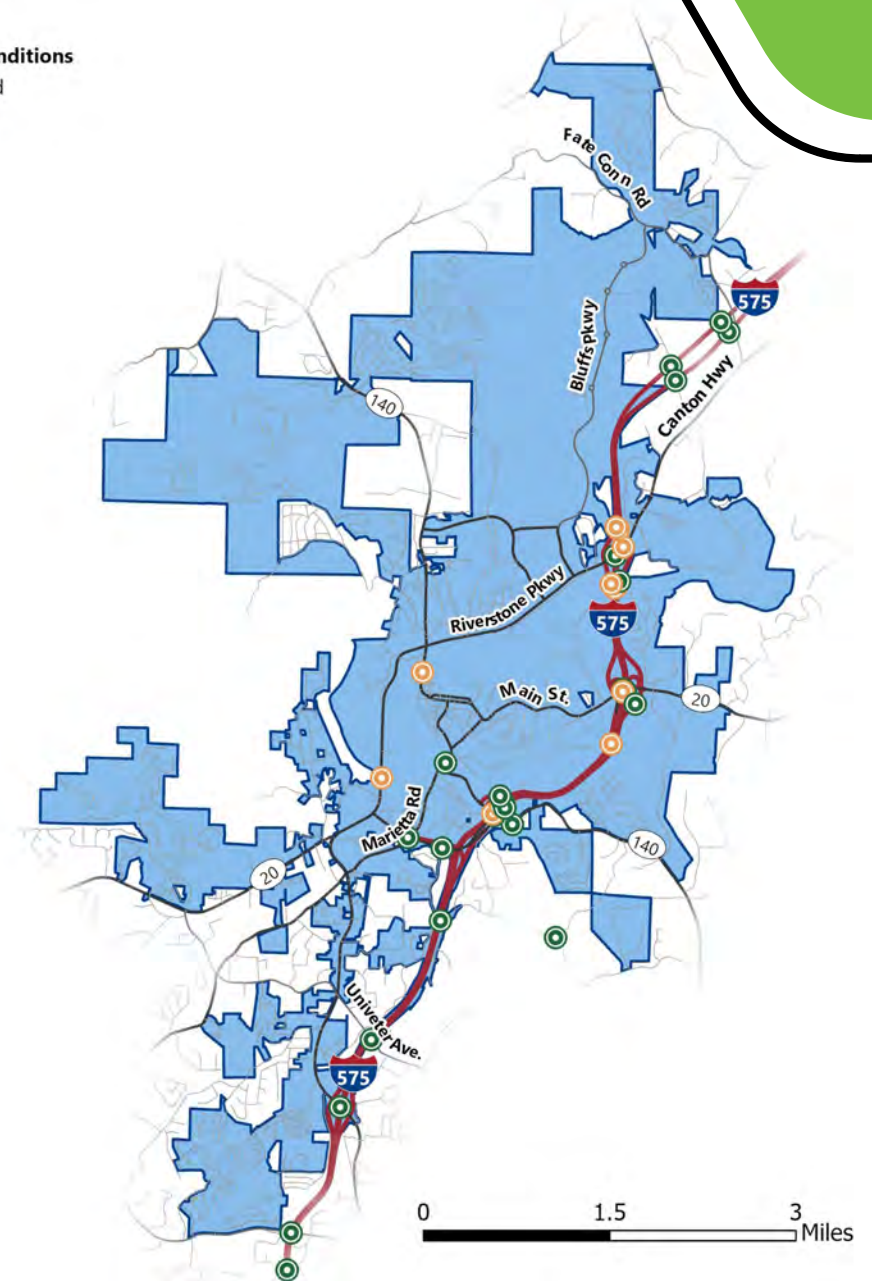
## Bridge Conditions

- There are 36 bridges within City of Canton
- 100% of the bridges are either in fair or good condition

### Legend

#### Bridge Conditions

- Good
- Fair



Source: National Bridge Inventory (NBI), 2021

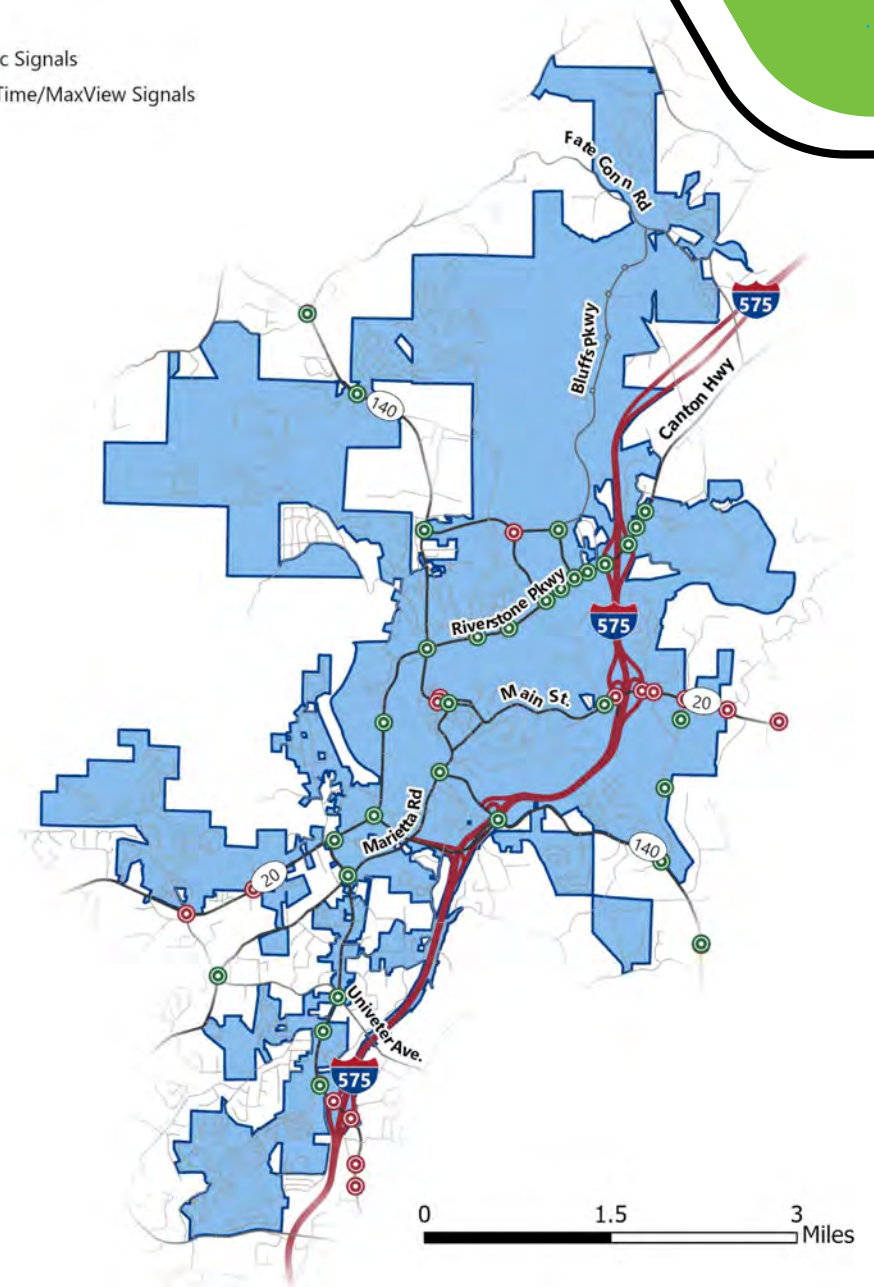
# Transportation Networks

## Traffic Signals

- There are 47 traffic signals in the City of Canton
- There are 16 traditional traffic signals and 31 traffic signals equipped with MaxTime/MaxView

### Legend

- Traffic Signals
- MaxTime/MaxView Signals



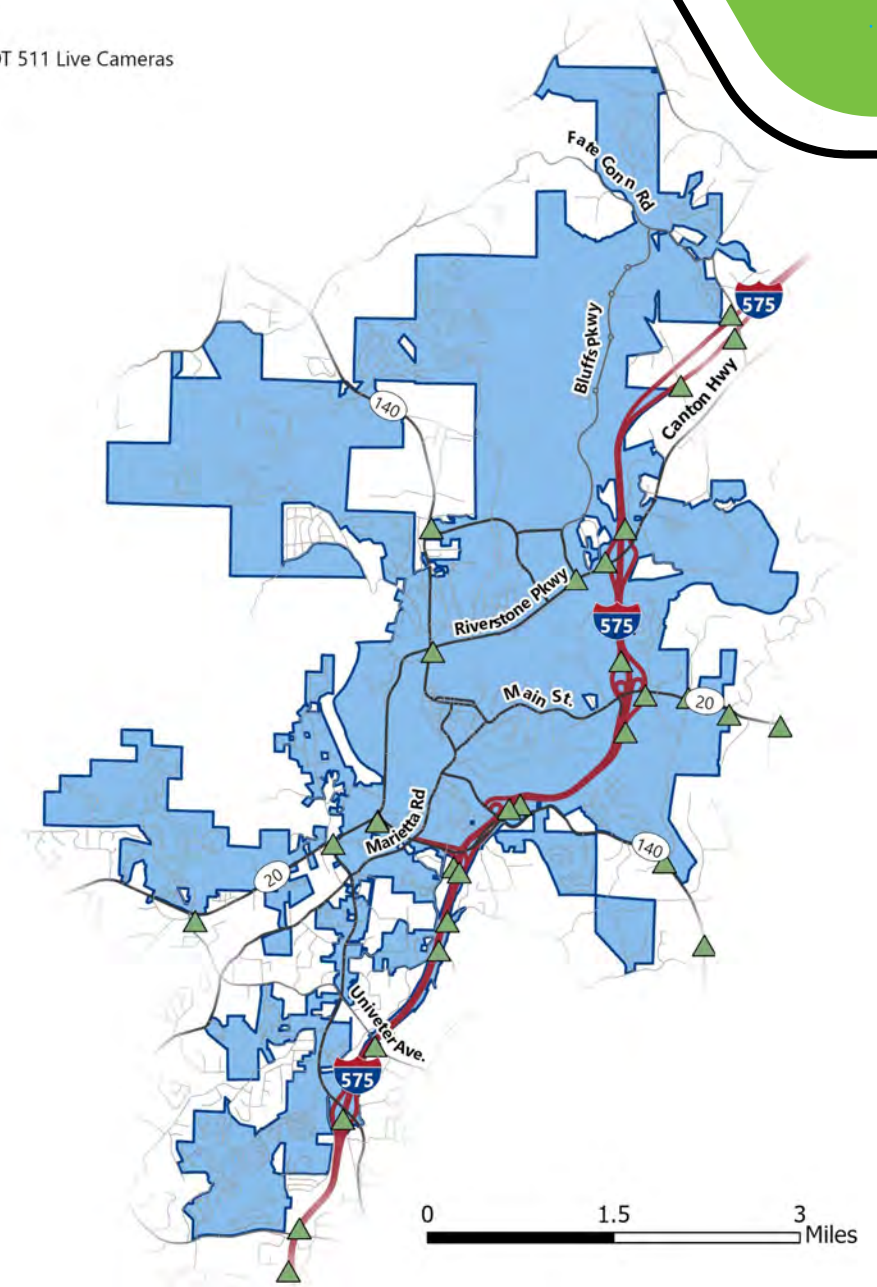
# Transportation Networks

## GDOT 511 Live Cameras

- There are 31 GDOT 511 Live Cameras in the City of Canton
- The live cameras are primarily located along I-575, SR 140, SR 20, and Riverstone Parkway

### Legend

▲ GDOT 511 Live Cameras



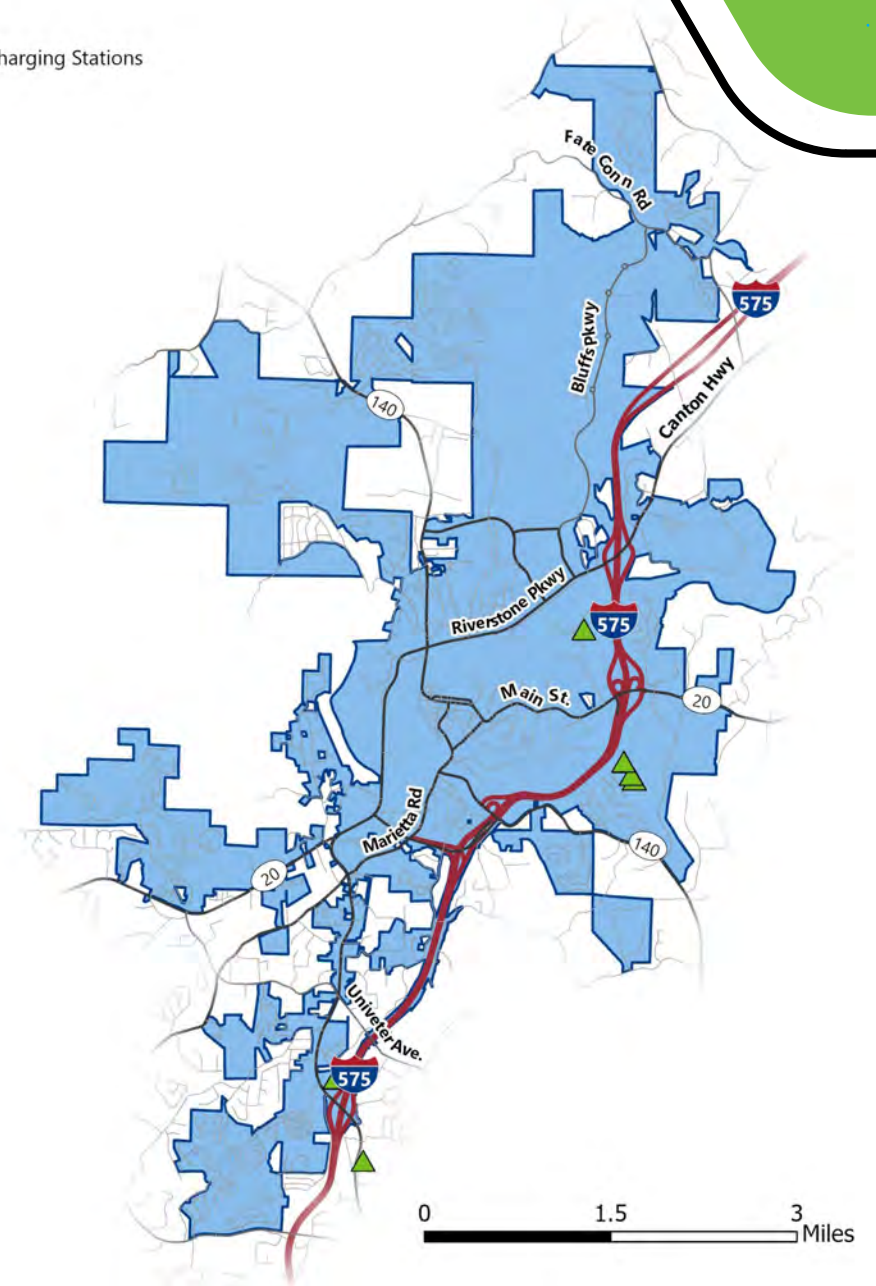
# Transportation Networks

## Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations

- There are 8 EV Charging Stations in Canton
- The EV Charging Stations are located at Northside Hospital, Piolax Corporation in Etowah Industrial Court, and near Cherokee Memorial Park
- There will be 10 EV charging stations at the new parking deck in downtown Canton

### Legend

▲ EV Charging Stations



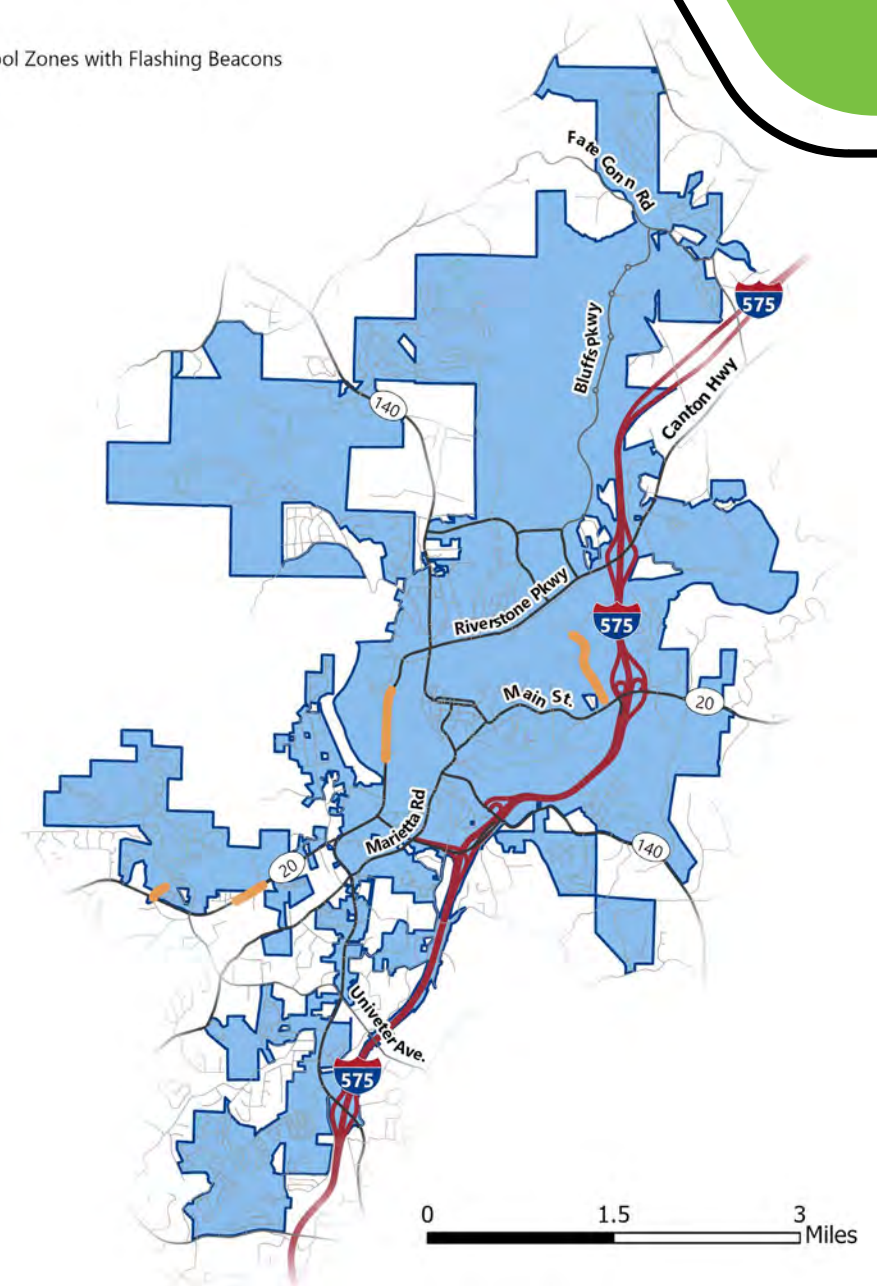
# Transportation Networks

## School Zones with Flashing Beacons

- There are four school zones with flashing beacons for Joseph Knox Elementary School, Hasty Elementary School, Teasley Middle School, and Cherokee High School
- Note: Cherokee High School will be moving to Reinhardt College Parkway next to Teasley Middle School

### Legend

— School Zones with Flashing Beacons



# Transportation Networks

## School Zones Speed Detection

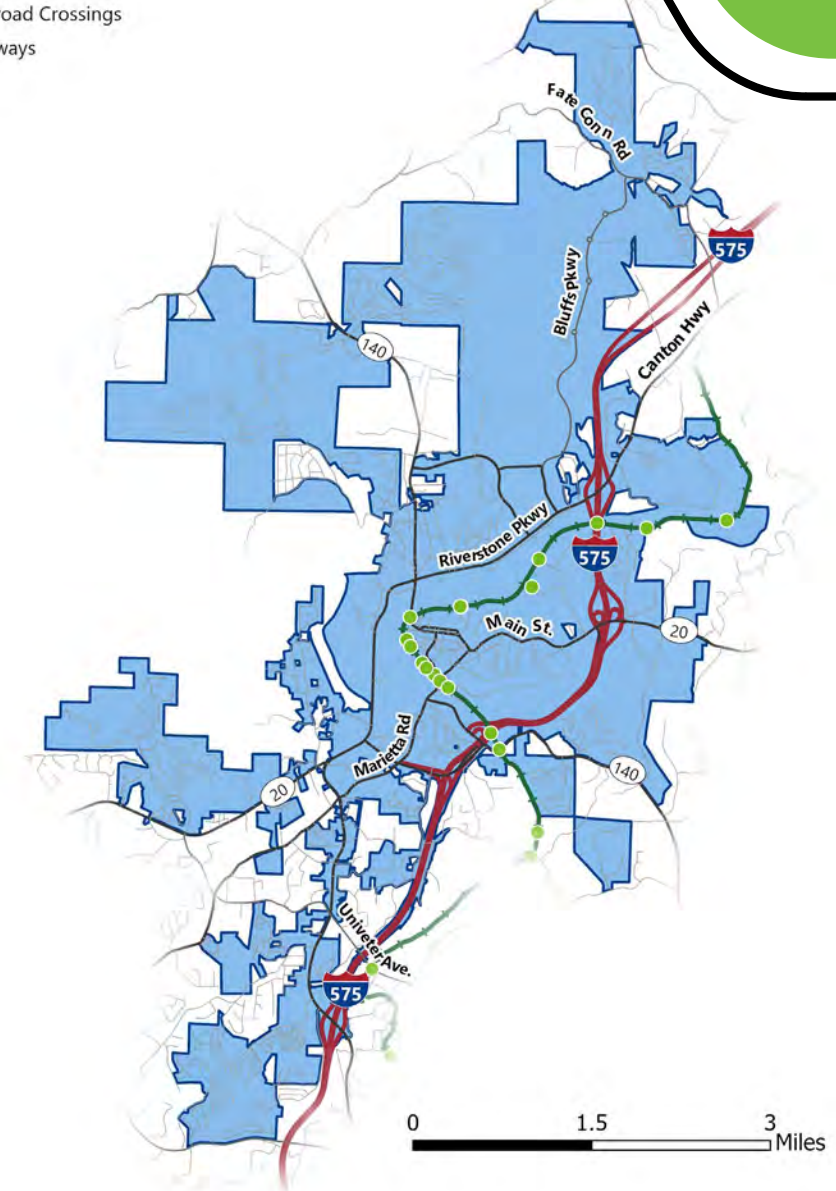
- The City of Canton utilizes automated cameras to enforce school zone speed limits
- There are cameras in use at Cherokee High School and Hasty Elementary School
- Cameras are enforced each day from 7:35am-4:30pm at Cherokee High
- Cameras are enforced each day from 6:35am-3:15pm at Hasty Elementary
- 11+mph over the speed limit will be enforced in the school zone whether the beacons are flashing or not during the enforcement hours
- The first violation is \$75 and \$125 for subsequent violations
- Cameras use multi-dimensional radar. Radar is accurate within 0.1 mph

# Transportation Networks

## Railroads

- There are 26 railroad-roadway crossings in the study area
- The railroad-railway crossings primarily run through center of city
- There are no documented railroad crashes in Canton between 2013 and 2020

Legend  
● Railroad Crossings  
— Railways

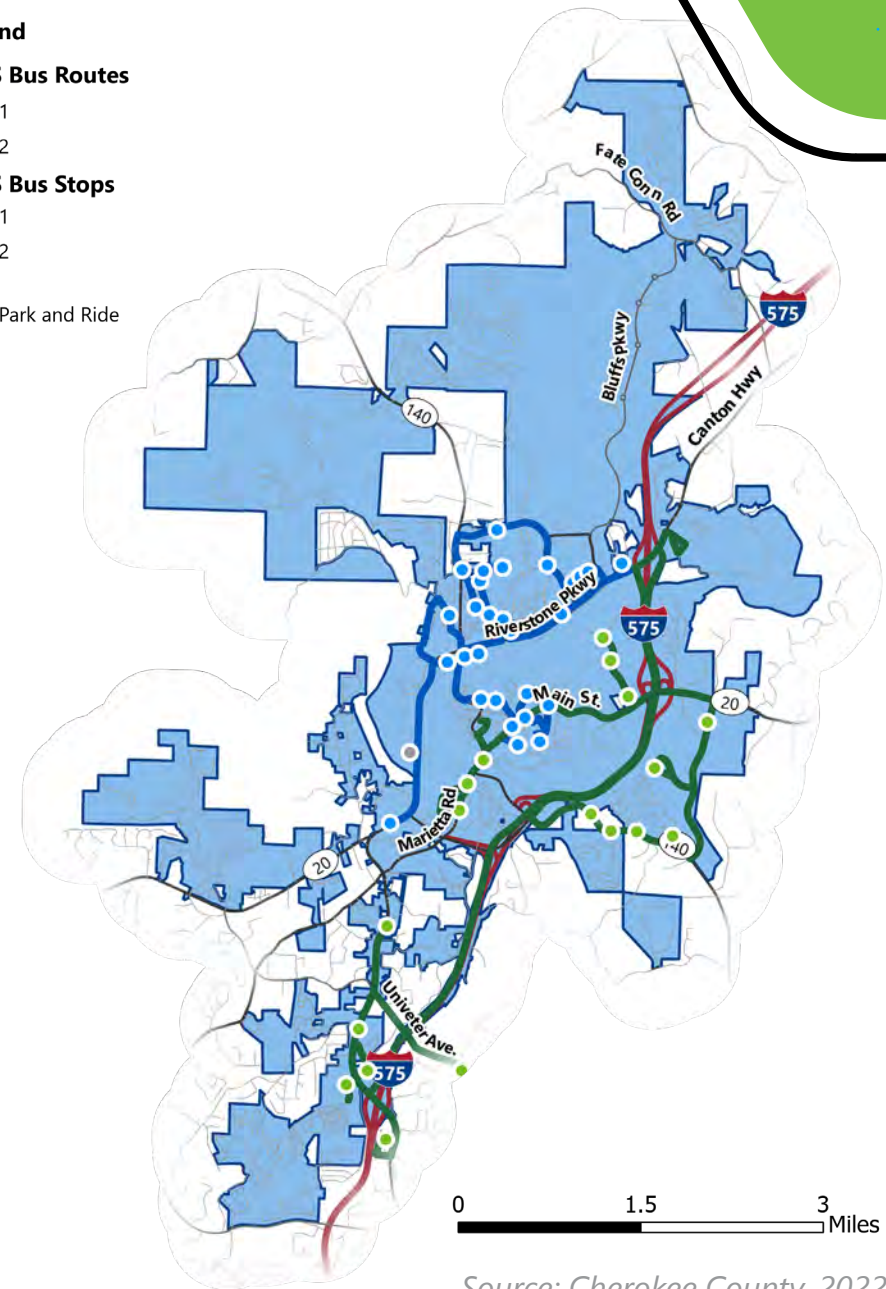
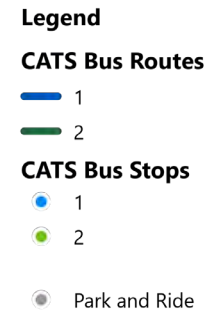


Source: National Transportation Atlas Database, 2021

# Transportation Networks

## Transit

- Cherokee Area Transit System (CATS)
  - Operated by Cherokee County
  - 2 fixed routes in the City
  - Paratransit and vanpool options are available
- Buses operate Mon. – Fri., 8am – 4pm
- Some stops have shelters and amenities, but many do not
- There is one park and ride lot in Boling Park
- There is Xpress Bus Service provided by ATL to downtown and midtown Atlanta



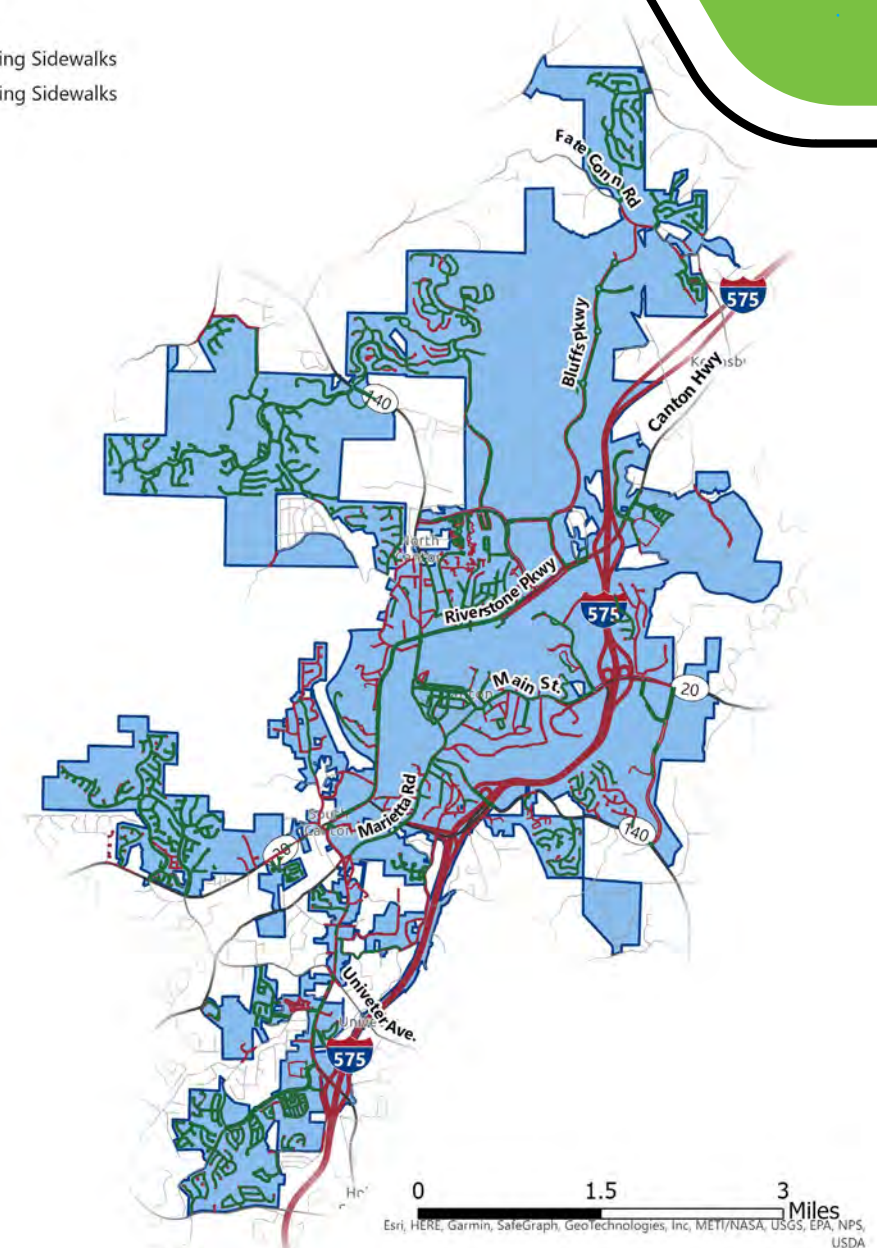
Source: Cherokee County, 2022

# Transportation Networks

## Sidewalk Network

- The city requires sidewalks on both sides of the street within city limits
- There are sidewalks on the majority of streets in the study area
- There is a need to install sidewalks at missing segments and upgrade sidewalk ramps to ADA Standards, particularly in downtown

Legend  
— Existing Sidewalks  
— Missing Sidewalks



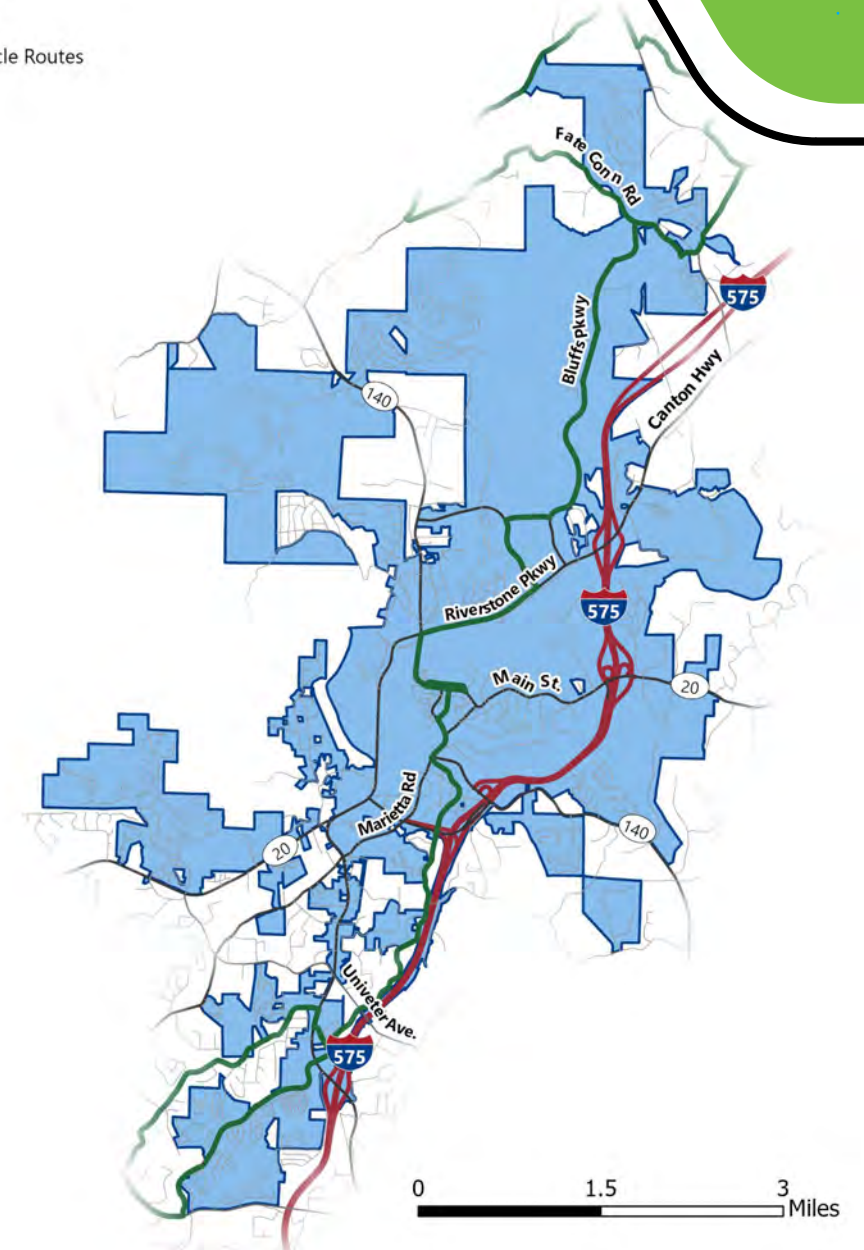
Source: Canton Geographic Information Systems, 2021; City of Canton, 2022

# Transportation Networks

## Bicycle Network

- There are no on-road bicycle facilities in the City of Canton
- The city recommends the indicated routes for bicyclists to use in order to avoid busy and unsafe roadways
- There is a desire for more bicycle and pedestrian connectivity between neighborhoods

Legend  
— Bicycle Routes

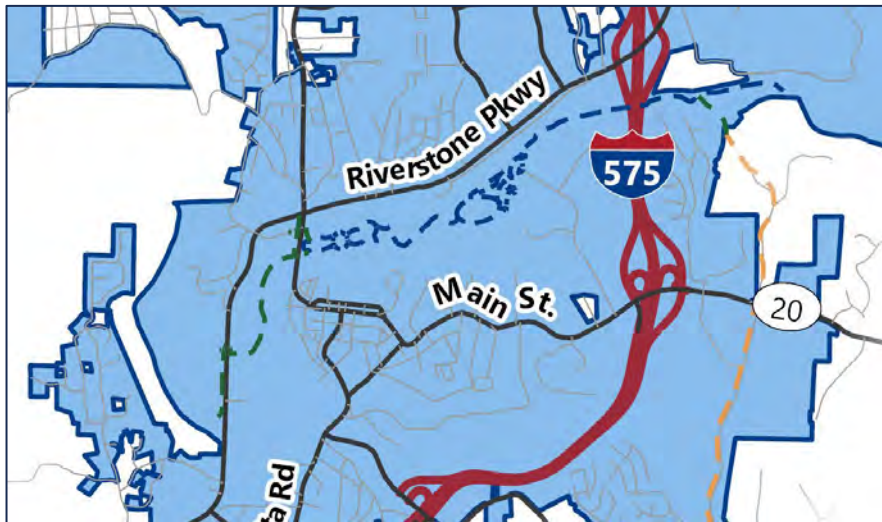


Source: Canton Geographic Information Systems, 2021; City of Canton, 2022

# Transportation Networks

## Trail Network

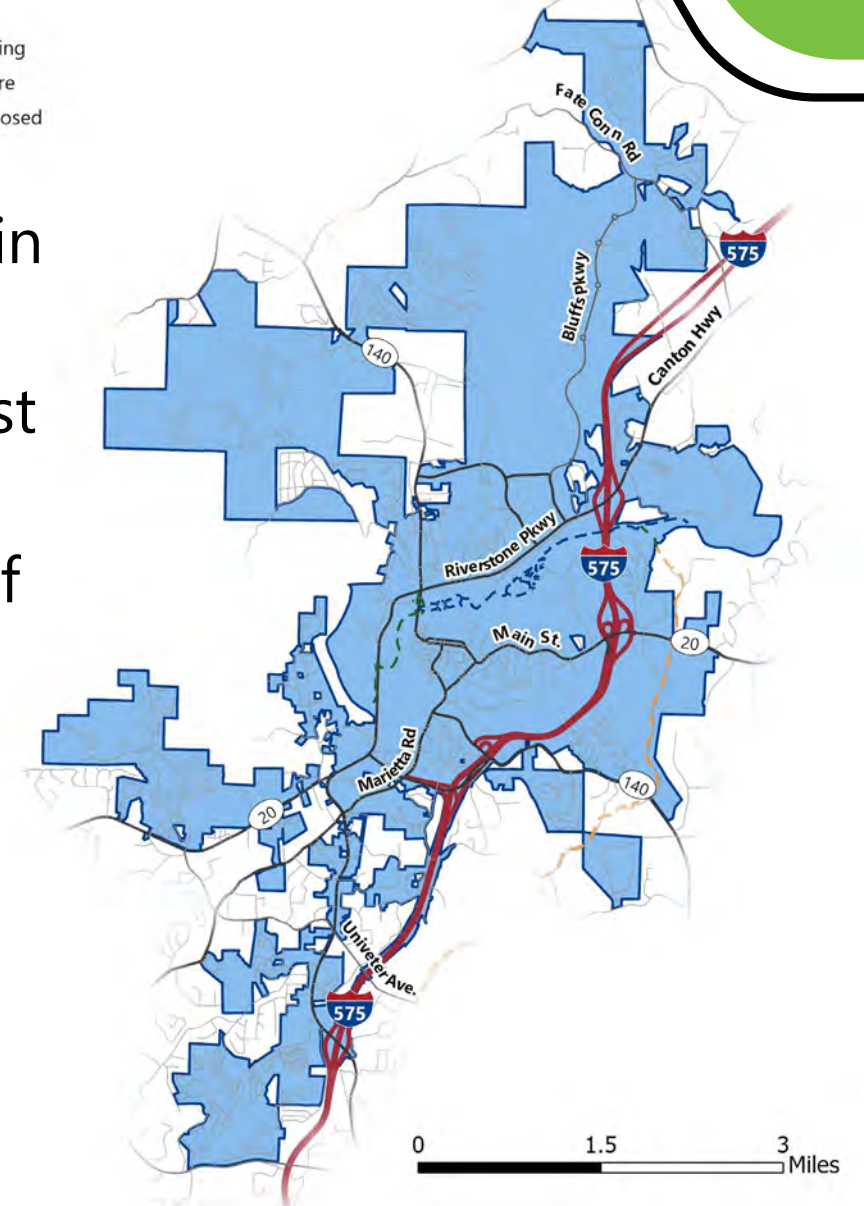
- There are trails along the Etowah River indicated in blue
- The city is currently expanding the trail to the west to connect to Boling Park
- There are proposed trails that extend southeast of the Etowah River Trail in yellow



### Legend

#### Trails

- - - Existing
- - - Future
- - - Proposed

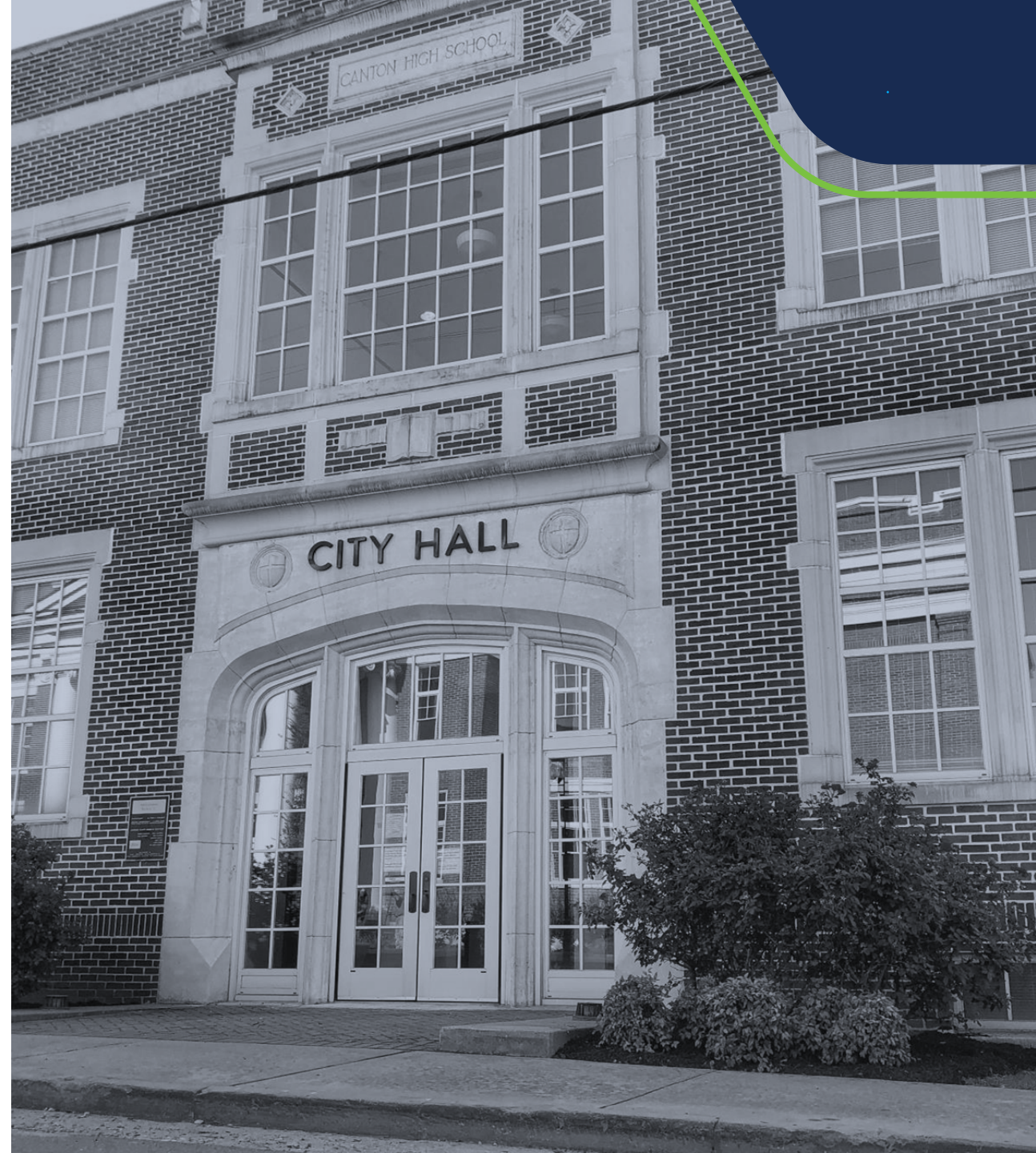


Source: Canton Geographic Information Systems, 2021; City of Canton, 2022

# Existing & Future Conditions

## Natural and Historic Resources

- Historic Preservation
- Greenspace
- Natural Element



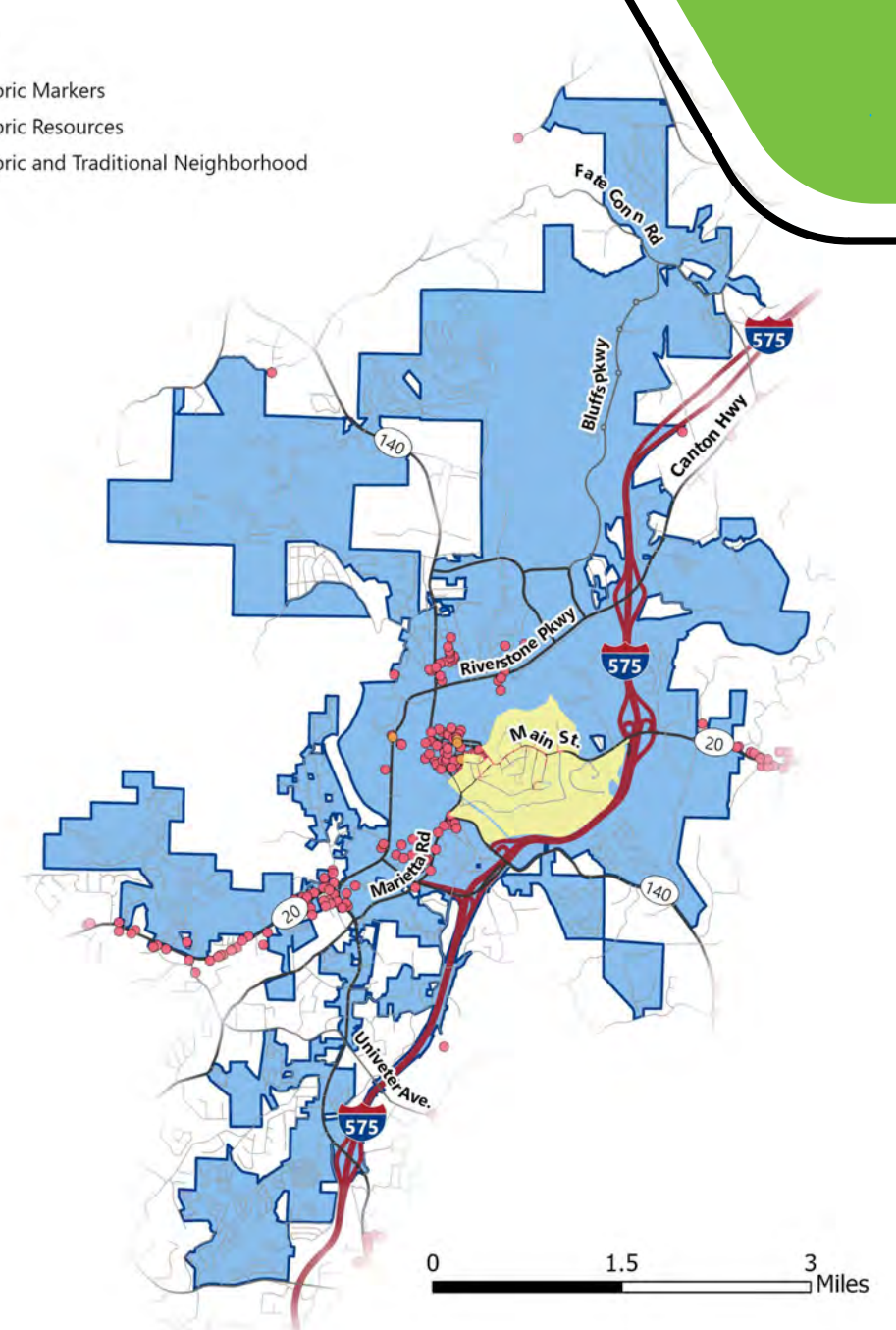
# Natural and Historic Resources

## Historic Preservation

- There are 327 historic resources in the city
- There are 4 historic markers
- The Historic District in Canton includes the Cherokee County Courthouse, Canton Cotton Mills No. 2, Crescent Farm, and Riverview Cemetery

### Legend

- Historic Markers
- Historic Resources
- Historic and Traditional Neighborhood



# Natural and Historic Resources

## Greenspace

There are 9 city parks totaling 275 acres.

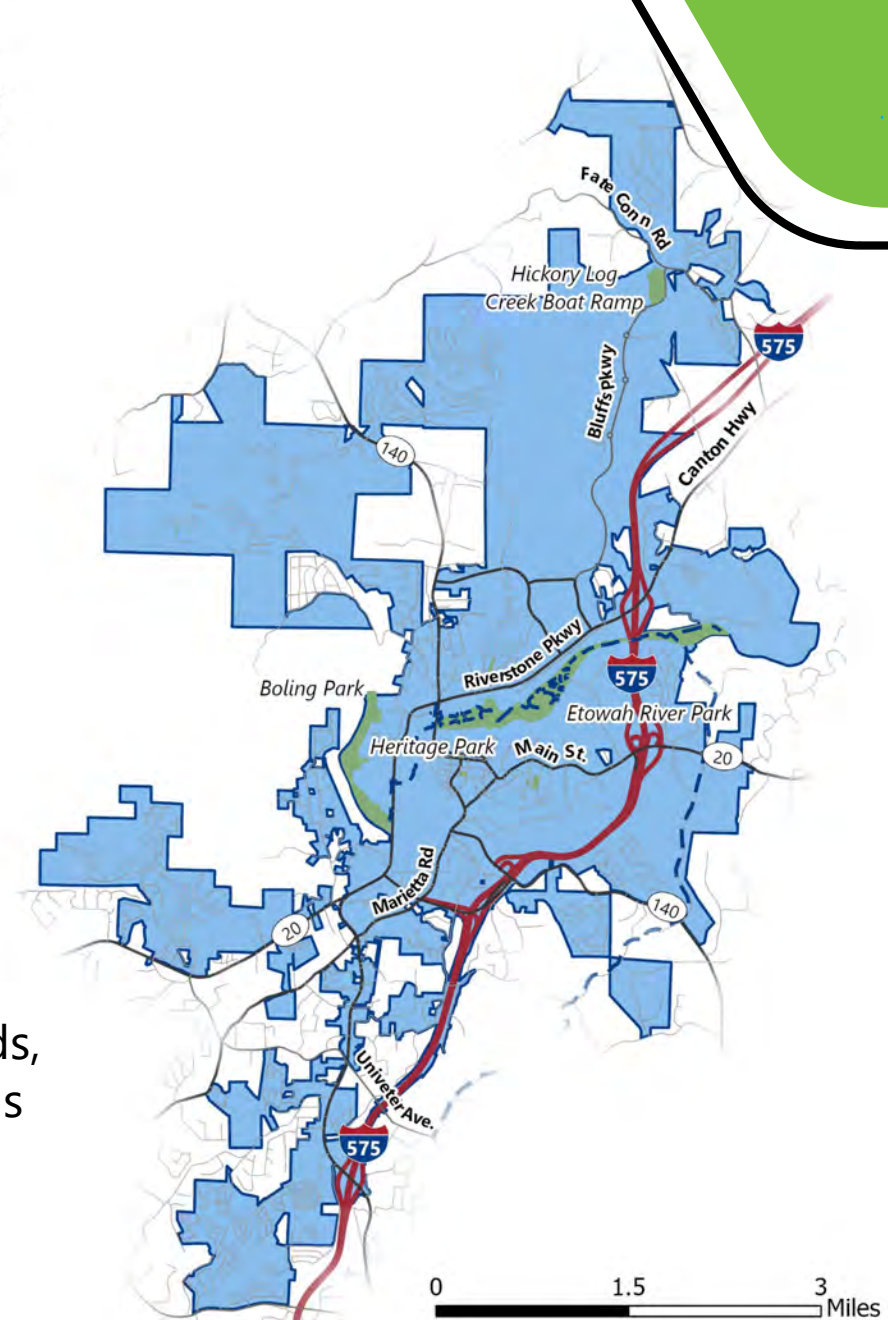
Largest parks include:

- **Etowah River Park:** 58 acres featuring an amphitheater, public bathroom, two community pavilions, inclusive playgrounds, public canoe launch, ½ mile concrete walking trail connecting to Etowah River Trail and Heritage Park, recreational field space, bridge crossing over Etowah River and many picnic tables
- **Boling Park:** 20 Acres with a one-mile gravel walking trail, covered pavilion with bathrooms, playground, baseball fields, tennis courts, racket ball courts, basketball court, bathrooms facility, soccer and lacrosse field space, picnic tables.
- **Heritage Park:** 48 acres featuring a one-mile concrete walking trail connecting to Etowah River Trail and Etowah River Park and recreational field space used for soccer.

### Legend

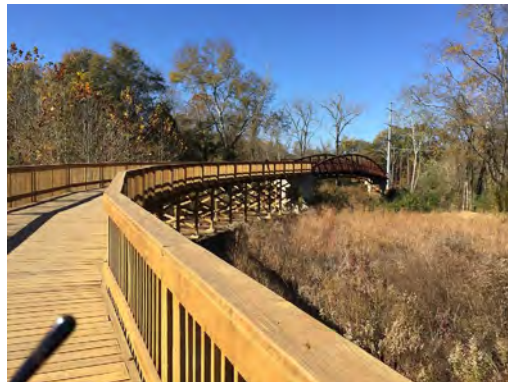
■ Parks

- - Trails



Source: Canton Geographic Information Systems, 2018  
& Parks and Recreation Department

# Natural and Historic Resources Greenspace



Etowah River Park

Boling Park

Heritage Park

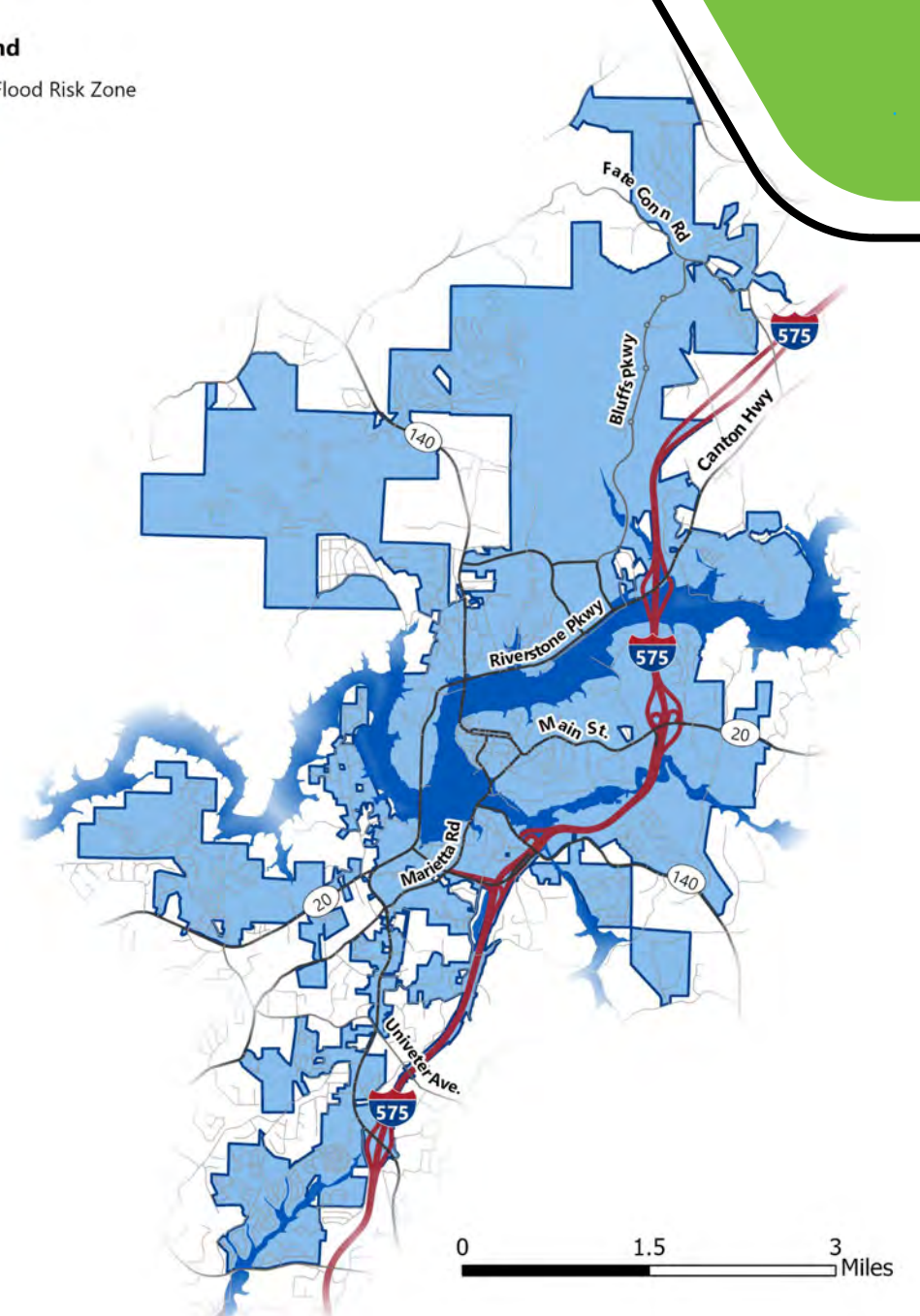
# Natural and Historic Resources

## Natural Element

- The City of Canton is at risk largely due to the presence of the Etowah River and other waterways such as Canton Creek and Scott Mill Creek
- The areas of higher risk are in dark blue and includes areas along Riverstone Pkwy and the Mill at Etowah

Legend

■ Flood Risk Zone



Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2021

# Natural and Historic Resources

## Natural Element

- The transportation pollution occurs due to near-road emissions along I-575
- The City of Canton is at risk of transportation pollution largely due to its proximity to major roadway in Cherokee County such as I-575, SR 20, and SR 140
- Highest risk areas are heavily residential

### Legend

#### Percentile of Traffic Proximity and Volume

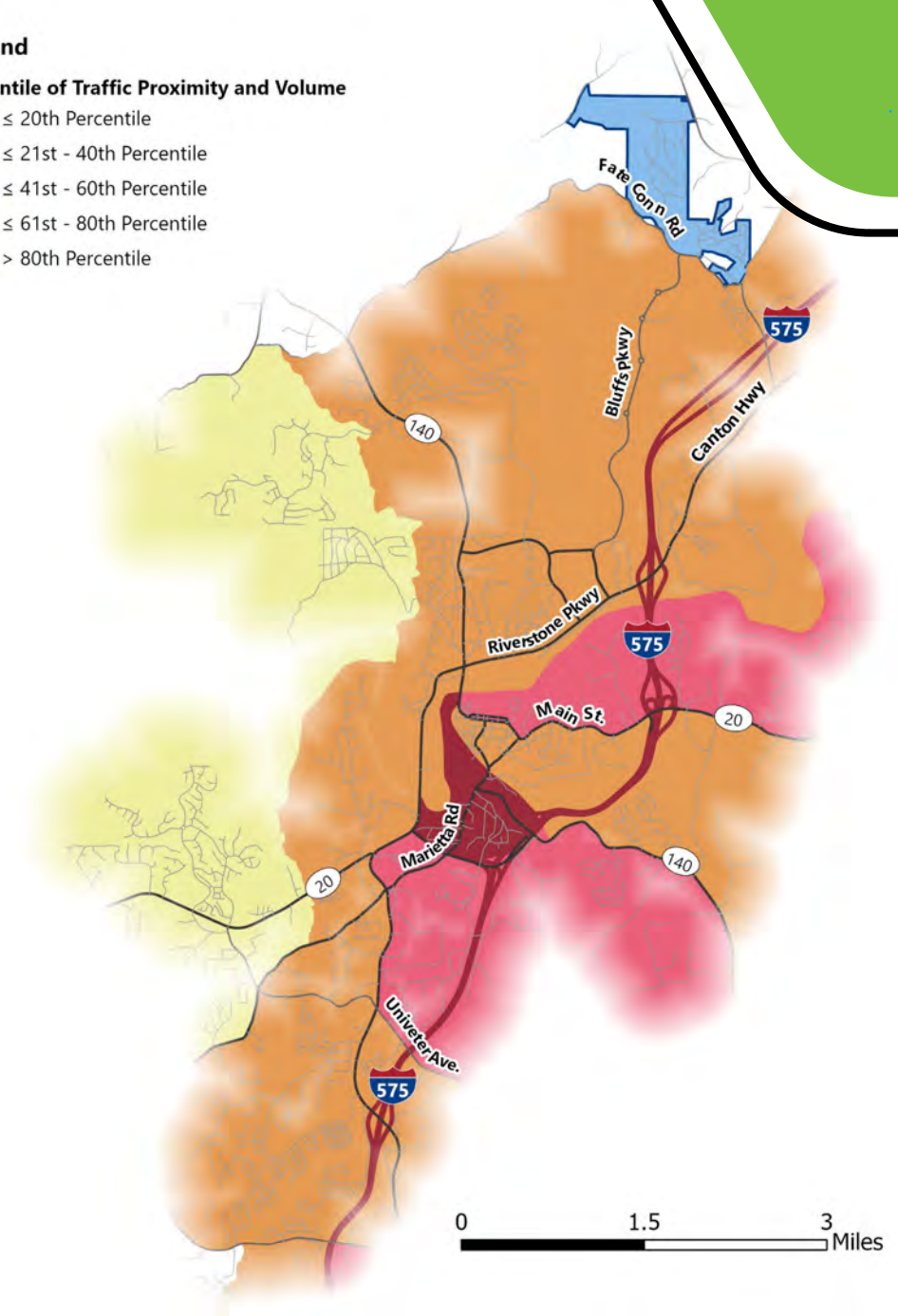
≤ 20th Percentile

≤ 21st - 40th Percentile

≤ 41st - 60th Percentile

≤ 61st - 80th Percentile

> 80th Percentile



Source: Environmental Protection Agency, 2020

# Field Observations

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# Downtown Canton

## Curbside Management

- North Street and E Main Street are both two-lane, single-direction roadways in Downtown Canton
- The deliveries to local businesses often leads to the blockage of one lane
- There are minimal locations specifically designed for deliveries or flexible curbside space



*View of North Street*



*Curbside Management on North Street for Local on North*

# Downtown Canton

## Traffic Flow

- Since North Street and E Main Street are both one-way streets with one-way connections around the Historic Downtown Park, visitors must travel to the end of downtown (or at least half the distance) to change their travel direction or use the services on the other street.



*Downtown Canton – Direction of Traffic Flow*

# Downtown Canton

## Traffic Flow

- North Street and Main Street are both eastbound and westbound one-way streets in Downtown Canton
- Often, drivers need to travel to the end of downtown just to make a U-Turn
- There is a need for the development of northbound and southbound connecting streets to provide opportunities to turn around



*One-Way Street on North Street*



*One-Way Street on E Main Street*

# Downtown Canton

## Parking

- The city is constructing a new parking deck at the corner of Archer Street and Church Street and will provide 586 spaces (including 10 EV chargers)
- There is both angled parking and parallel parking along roadways in Downtown Canton
- There are designated public parking lots just off downtown streets



*Construction Site of Parking Deck at Archer Street and Church Street*



*Angled and Parallel Parking along E Main Street*

# Downtown Canton

## Sidewalks

- The sidewalks are in relatively good condition in the area
- There are a few missing segments or areas lacking ramps that are up to par with ADA Standards
- There is some wayfinding primarily to parking
- The installation of underground utilities downtown will result in the reconstruction of many sidewalks

*Sidewalk on E Main Street*



*Missing Ramp at the corner of North Street and Academy Street*

# The Mill on Etowah

## Multiuse Development

- The Mill on Etowah is a multi-use development with key restaurants, stores, and greenspace in the community
- There are potential future issues with traffic on Reformation Parkway and the entrance to the Mill on Etowah
- Railroad Street at Waleska Street experiences long queuing behind the development



*Public Plaza at The Mill on Etowah*



*Wall Mural at the Mill on Etowah*

# City of Canton

## Traffic Congestion

- There are a few road segments in the City of Canton that are noted as congested areas
- The left turn lanes at the intersection of Waleska Street and Riverstone Parkway have long queues
- Railroad Street is severely congested, especially due to unsignalized intersection at Waleska
- There may need to be new signal timing at I-575 and Riverstone Parkway to address queuing at intersections



*Left Turn Lanes at Riverstone Parkway and Waleska Street Intersection*



*I-575 NB Ramps*

# Next Steps

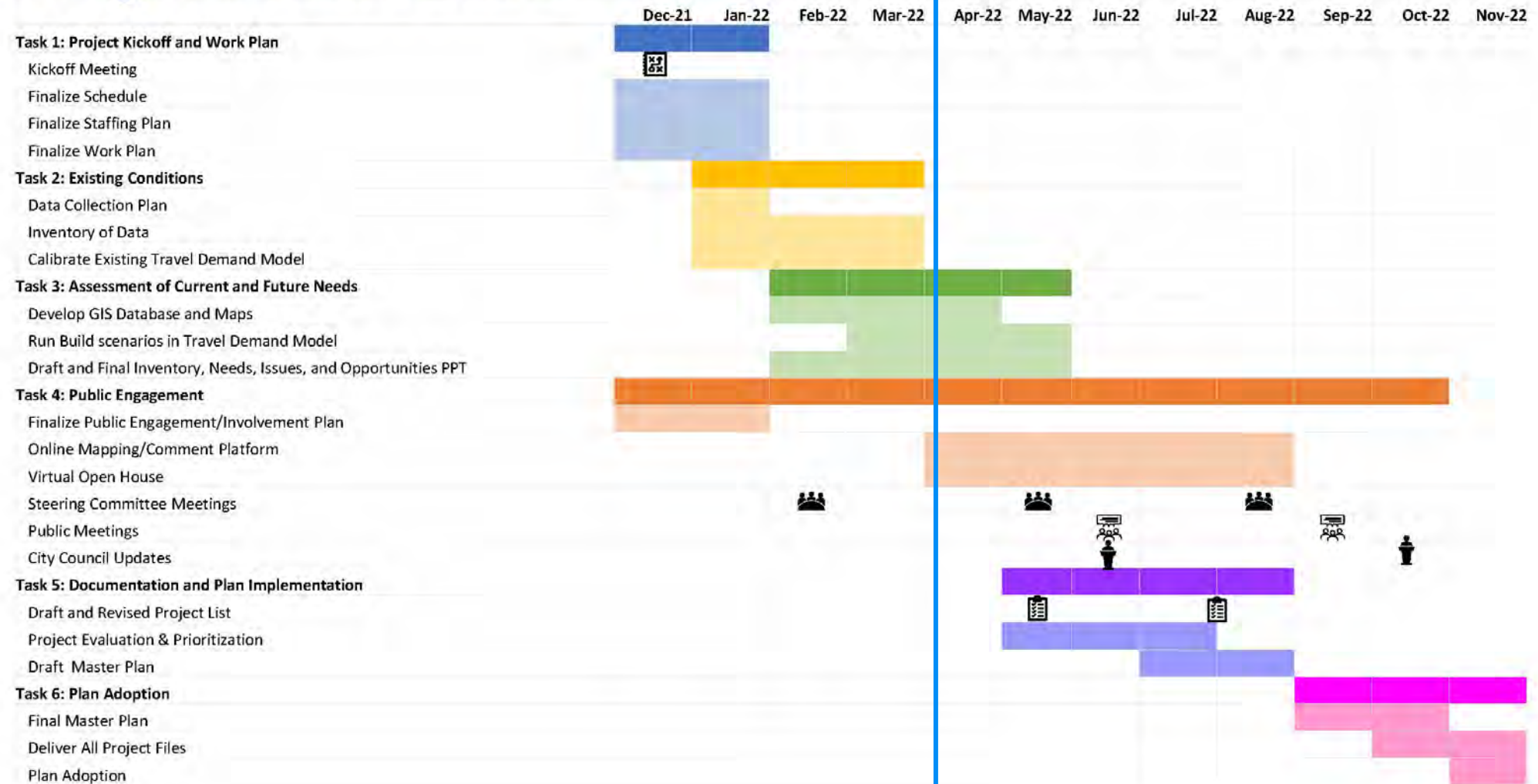
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# Next Steps

## Project Schedule

We are Here



# Contact Information

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