



North Valley Passenger Rail Strategic Plan

Project Development Team Meeting #2

Thursday, December 15, 2022

Agenda

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Project Update and Schedule (Chris Devine/Jon Clark, BCAG)
- 3) Update on Initial Planning Development (Daniel Krause and Daniel Hartman, AECOM)
 - a. Caltrans Network Operations Modeling Results
 - b. UPRR Analysis Update
 - c. Chico Station Facility Evaluation Update
 - d. Sacramento Valley Station Facility Evaluation Update
 - e. Ridership Analysis Update
- 4) Overview of Public Outreach Process and Schedule (Gladys Cornell, AIM Consulting)
- 5) Next Steps/Next PDT Meeting (Chris Devine/Jon Clark, BCAG)

Project and Schedule Update

Progress To-Date

- Determined preferred alignment
- Determined station locations (note: exact site for station in Chico still being evaluated)
- Conducted rail networks modeling with Caltrans
- Initiated regular coordination with Union Pacific
- Conducted service planning and produced initial service timetable
- Extensive stakeholder outreach effort



Current Work

- Evaluate station options in Chico
- Ridership
- Planning for a possible connection to Sacramento Valley Station
- Develop marketing materials
- Continuation of stakeholder outreach effort
- Initial planning for engagement with the general public

NORTH VALLEY PASSENGER RAIL STRATEGIC PLAN PROJECT SCHEDULE

1 Project Initiation and Management

- Project Kick-off Meeting
- PMT Meetings (monthly except during RTC modeling)
- PDT Meetings (approx. quarterly)

2 Public Outreach

- Other Stakeholder Outreach
- Public Participation Process
 - Virtual Public Meetings
 - Pop-Up Events (On-site in Disadvantaged Communities)
 - Project Updates for BCAG website (as needed)
 - Online Survey

3 Strategic Plan Development

Initial Planning

- Initial Service and Operations Planning
- Rail Network Operations Modeling
 - Caltrans (Runs Inputs Through Modeling Tools)
 - AECOM (Analysis of Outputs/Update Operating Assumptions)
- Chico Station Option Analysis
- Potential Sacramento Valley Station Access Analysis
- Freight Capacity Analysis
 - Union Pacific (Rail Corridor Capacity Analysis)
 - AECOM (Analysis of Union Pacific Outputs)
- Development of Conceptual Plans of Improvements
- Operating and Capital Improvements and Costs
- Select Final Conceptual Timetable and Preferred Station Locations

Detailed Planning

- Ridership Forecasts
- Fare Structure and Pricing Plan
- Revenue Forecasts
- Station Visualizations
- Funding and Financing Plan
- Project Description

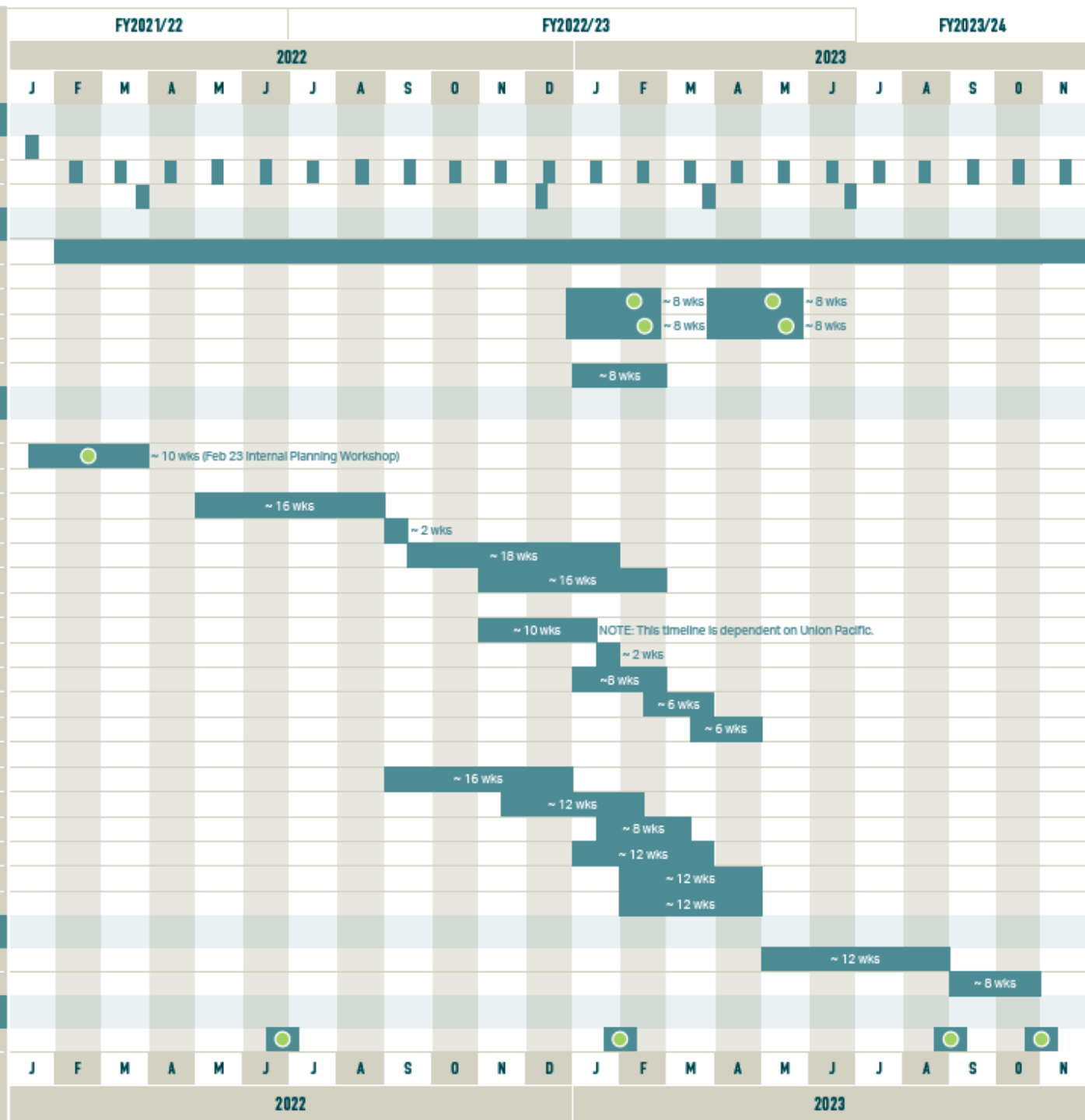
4 Draft and Final Strategic Plan

- Draft Document
- Final Document

5 BCAG Board of Directors Review/Approval

- BCAG Board of Directors Meetings

● Key Meeting or Event



Caltrans Network Operations Modeling Results

Caltrans Modeling and Timetable Refinement

**Initial
timetable
concept
(AECOM)**

- HSR connections at Merced
- Lathrop to Ceres / Merced Extension
- Sacramento Extension (Natomas)
- San Joaquins increased service (12 roundtrips/day)

**Operations
modeling
(Caltrans +
DB)**

- Isolated analysis in Viriato for North Valley trains only
- Simulate actual running times based on train performance, topography, etc.

**Final
timetable
concept
(AECOM)**

- Expand and adjust modeling results to reflect systemwide operations (service south of Natomas)
- Finalize siding improvement locations

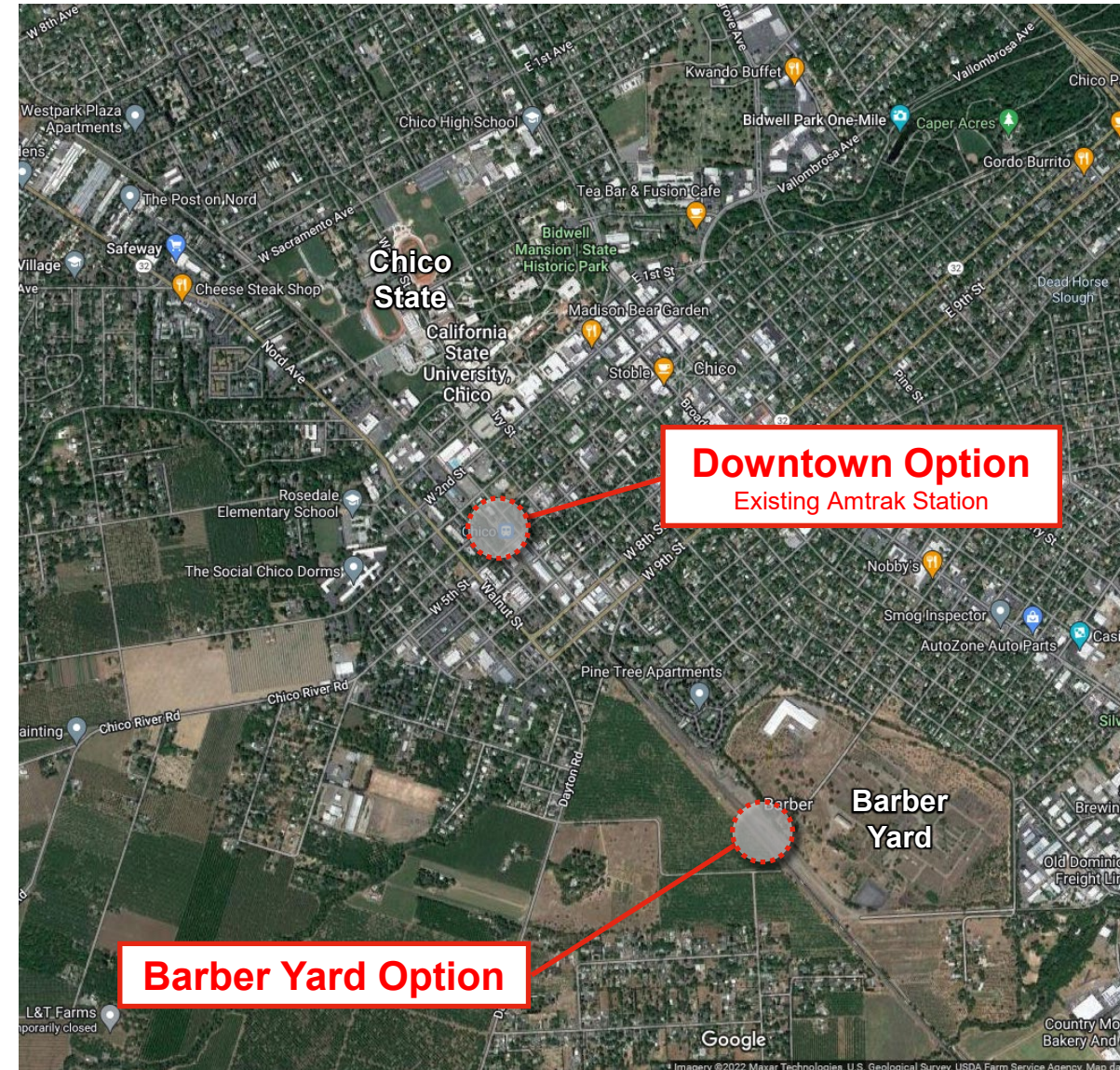
UPRR Analysis Update

- Previously project envision having UP conduct Rail Traffic Control (RTC) railroad simulation modeling, but this has evolved into a series of coordination meetings to get feedback on the project as it evolves. RTC will take place in future phases of the project development.
- Provided project assumptions and results of the Caltrans's rail network modeling results.
- Prepared a preliminary evaluation of potential track improvements provided to UPRR for initial feedback

Chico Station Facility Evaluation Update

Purpose

- Evaluate 2 potential Chico station options
 - Downtown/existing Amtrak station site
 - Barber Yard site
- Produce initial station/layover configurations



Chico Station Facility Evaluation Update

Evaluation Criteria

| Topic | Option 1 (Existing Downtown Station) | | | Option 2 (Barber Yard) | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------|----------------|------------------------|-------|----------------|
| | Pros | Cons | Overall rating | Pros | Cons | Overall rating |
| Infrastructure complexity and costs | | | | | | |
| Key infrastructure requirements | • ... | • ... | | • ... | • ... | |
| Order-of-magnitude cost | • ... | • ... | | • ... | • ... | |
| Station access | | | | | | |
| Transit access | • ... | • ... | | • ... | • ... | |
| Walk / bike access | • ... | • ... | | • ... | • ... | |
| Automobile access | • ... | • ... | | • ... | • ... | |
| Parking | • ... | • ... | | • ... | • ... | |
| Operational considerations | | | | | | |
| Operational flexibility | • ... | • ... | | • ... | • ... | |
| Station facilities | • ... | • ... | | • ... | • ... | |
| Layover facility | • ... | • ... | | • ... | • ... | |
| Land use | | | | | | |
| Land use conflicts | • ... | • ... | | • ... | • ... | |
| TOD and revitalization potential | • ... | • ... | | • ... | • ... | |
| Equity | | | | | | |
| Impacts to burdened communities | • ... | • ... | | • ... | • ... | |
| Benefits to equity | • ... | • ... | | • ... | • ... | |
| Community impacts | | | | | | |
| Traffic | • ... | • ... | | • ... | • ... | |
| Noise | • ... | • ... | | • ... | • ... | |
| Public safety / security (e.g., loitering, crime) | • ... | • ... | | • ... | • ... | |
| Road closures | • ... | • ... | | • ... | • ... | |
| Community opposition | • ... | • ... | | • ... | • ... | |

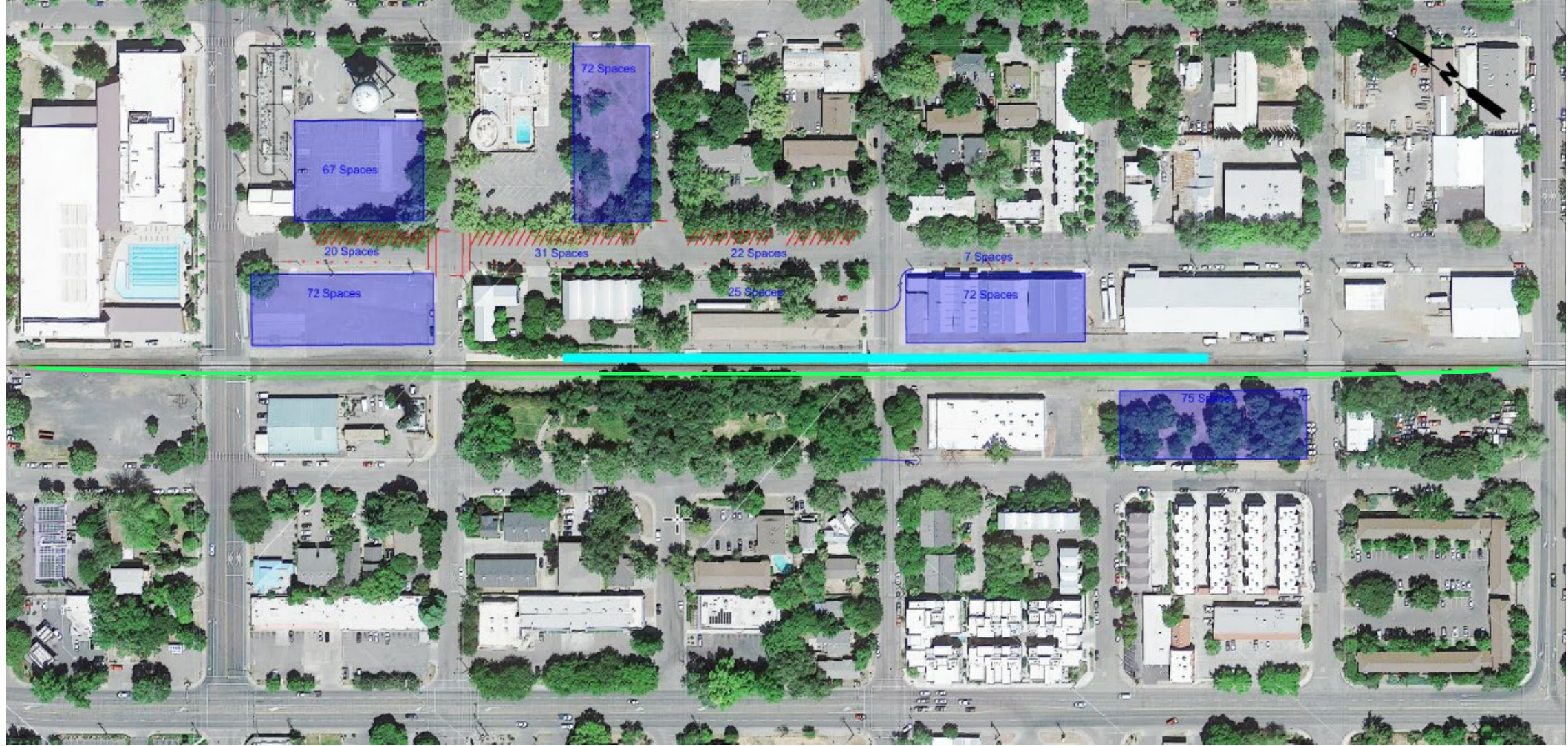
Chico Station Facility Evaluation Update

Downtown/Existing Station Site – Station Configuration (Option 1)



Chico Station Facility Evaluation Update

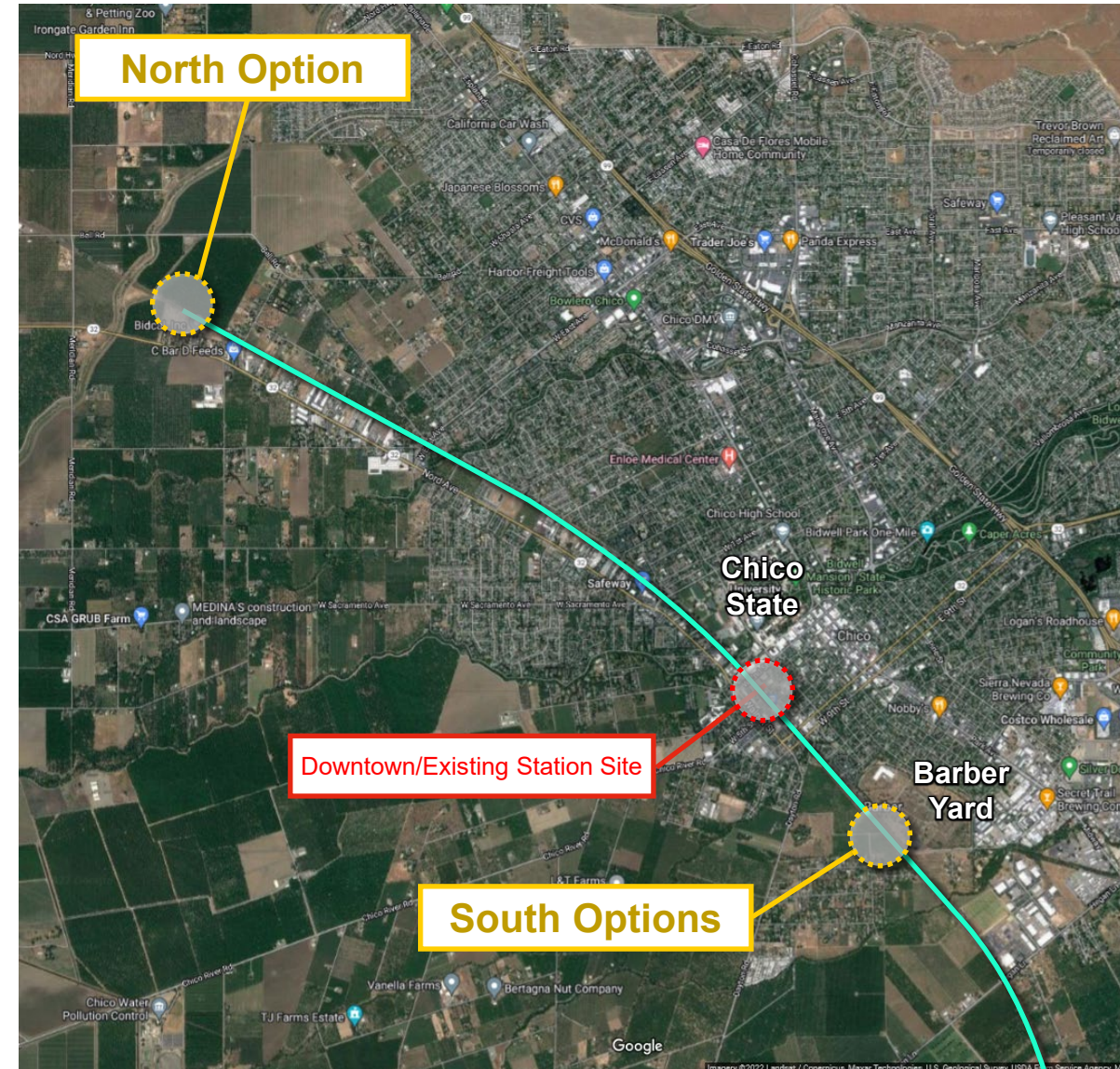
Downtown/Existing Station Site – Station Configuration (Option 2)



Chico Station Facility Evaluation Update

Downtown/Existing Amtrak Station Site: Possible Layover Facility Sites

- Options for layover facility sites
 - North of the station (approximately 4 miles to the north)
 - South of station in vicinity of Barber Yard (short distance but requires back tracking, which could require expensive improvements)



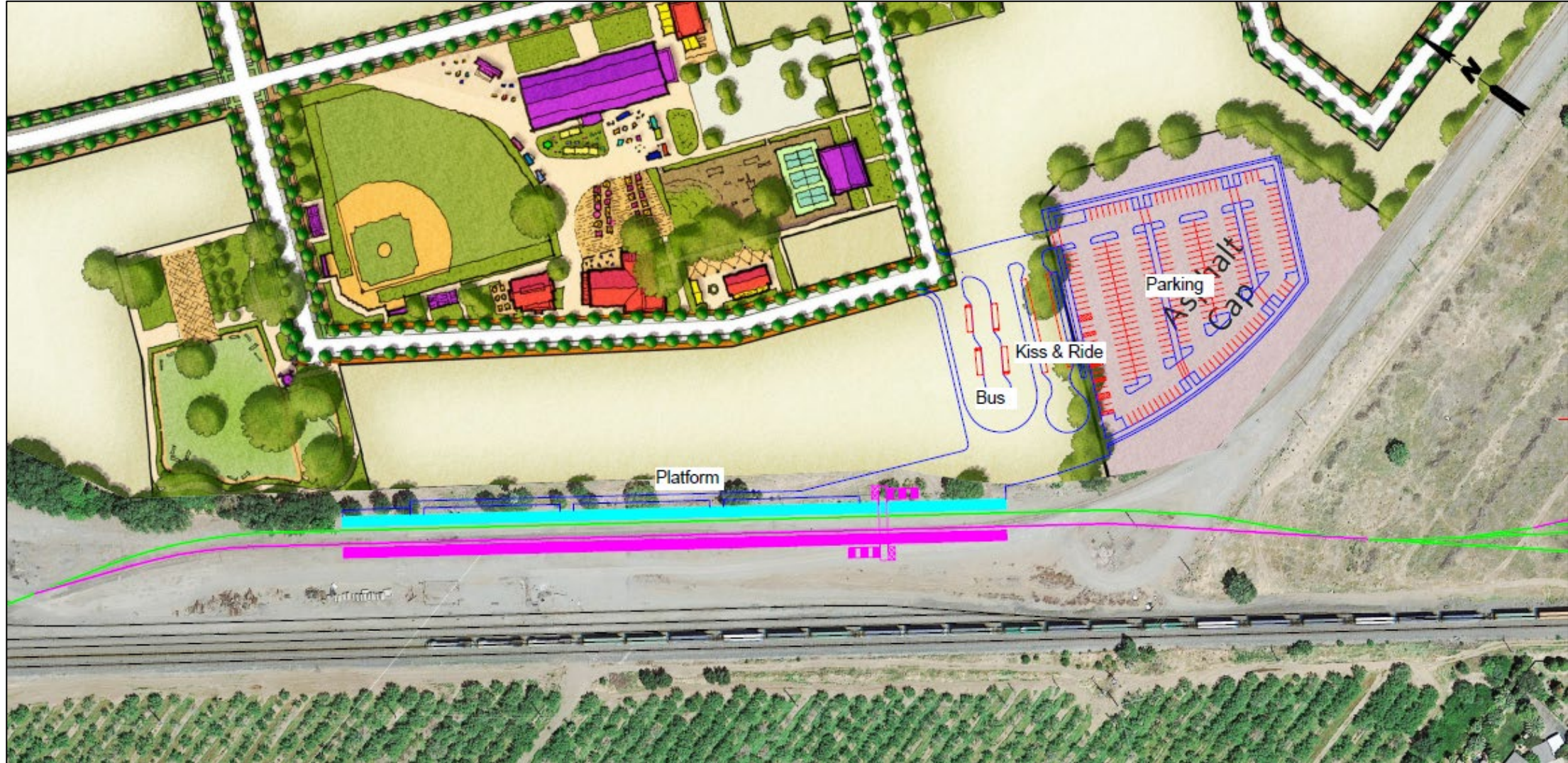
Chico Station Facility Evaluation Update

Barber Yard Site – Station and Layover Facility Configuration (Option 1)



Chico Station Facility Evaluation Update

Barber Yard Site – Station and Layover Facility – Close-Up of Station (Option 1)



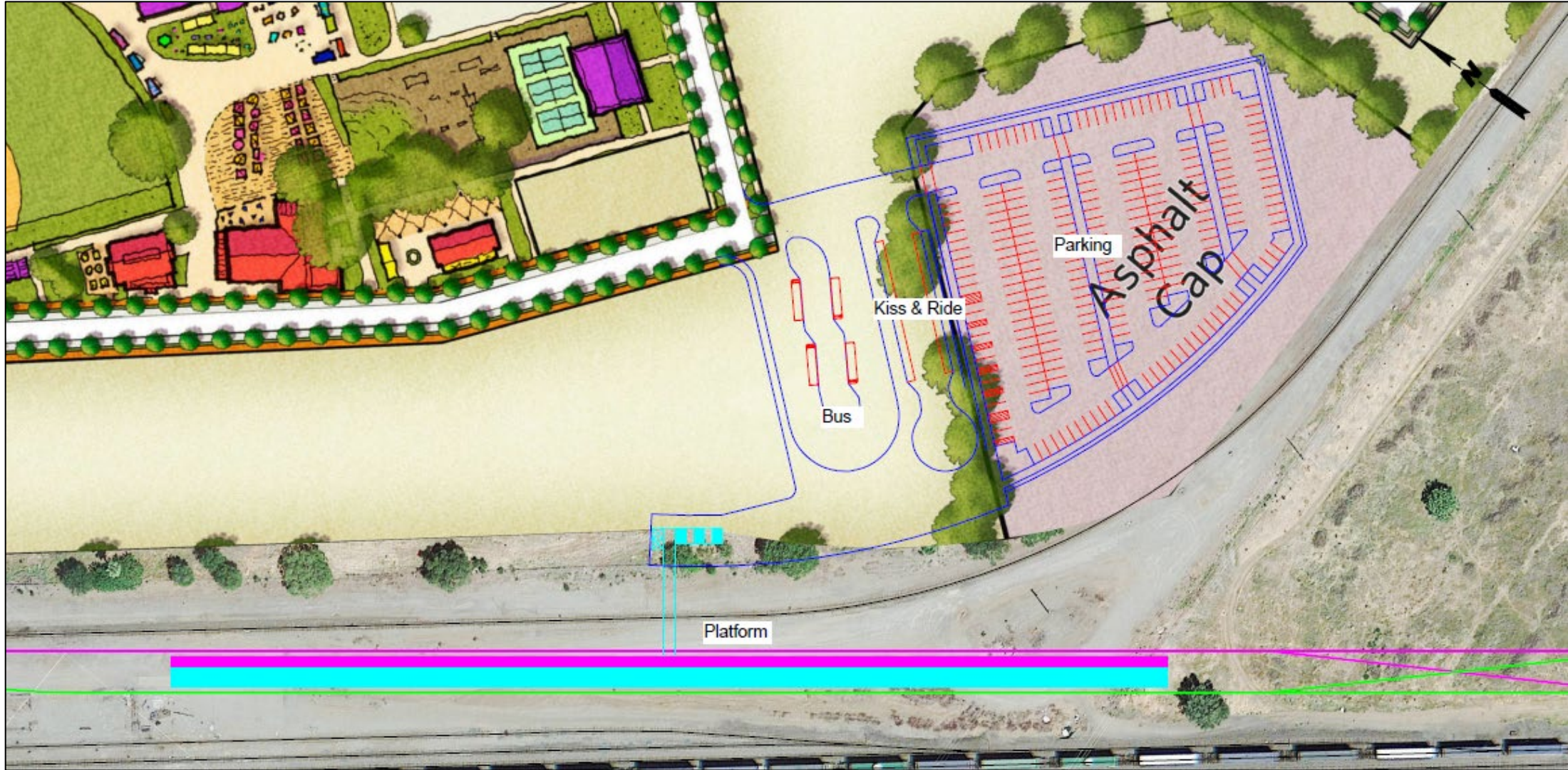
Chico Station Facility Evaluation Update

Barber Yard Site – Station and Layover Facility Configuration (Option 2)



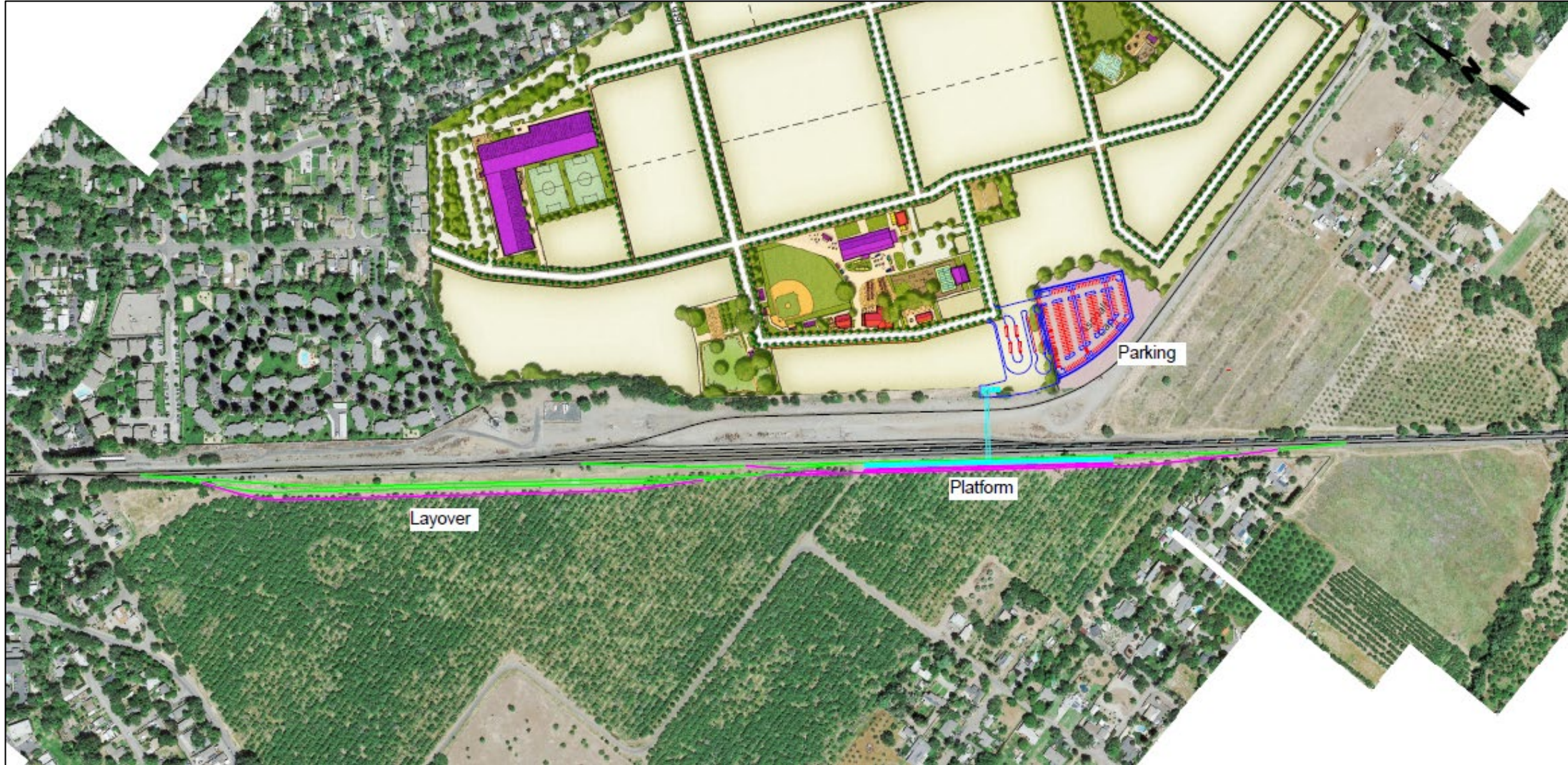
Chico Station Facility Evaluation Update

Barber Yard Site – Station and Layover Facility – Close-Up of Station (Option 2)



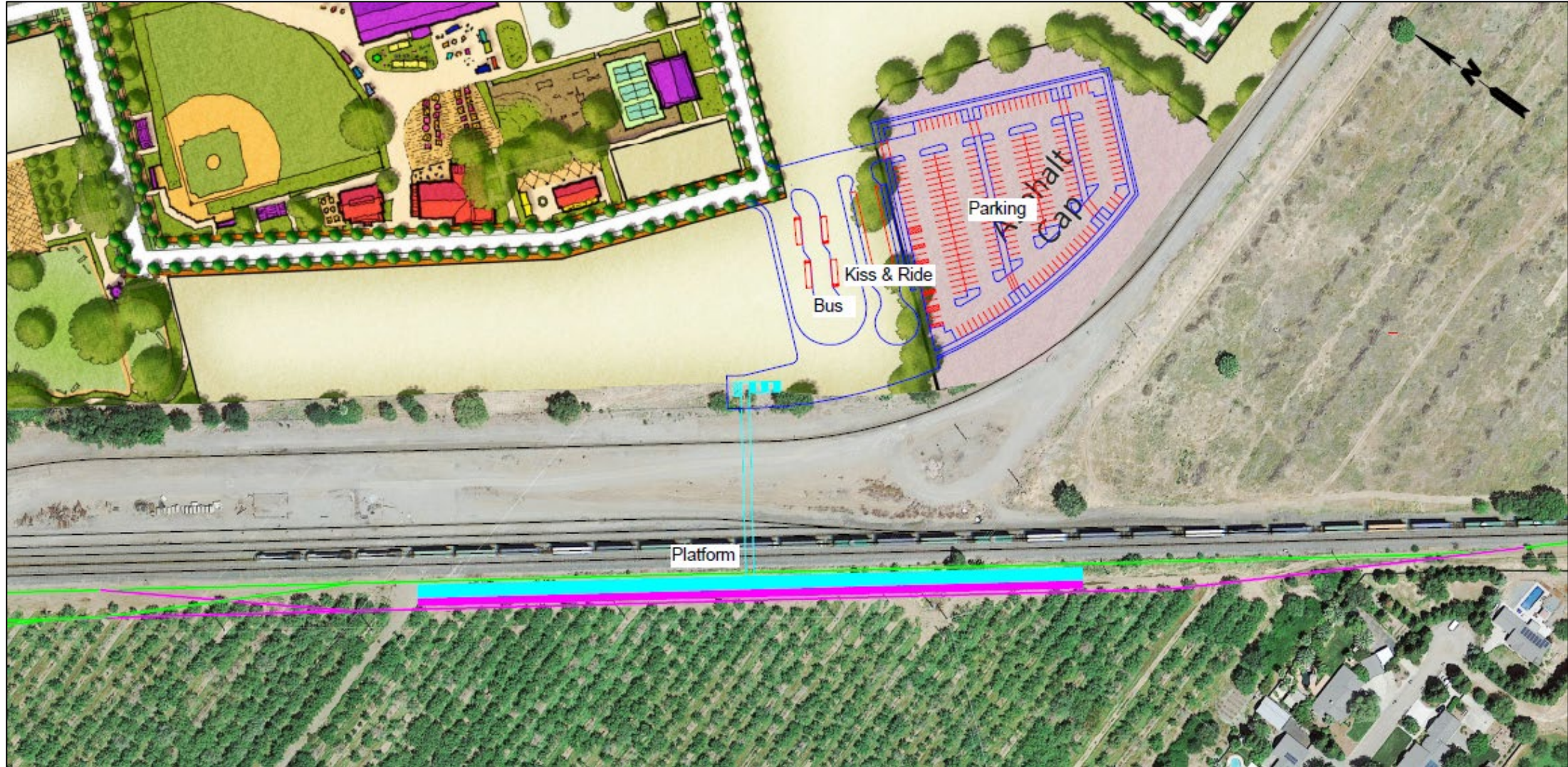
Chico Station Facility Evaluation Update

Barber Yard Site – Station and Layover Facility Configuration (Option 3)



Chico Station Facility Evaluation Update

Barber Yard Site – Station and Layover Facility – Close-Up of Station (Option 3)



Sacramento Valley Station Facility Evaluation Update

Initial Work Underway and Includes:

- This potential improvement would be for the long-term
- Began evaluation of track improvements needed between the Sacramento Valley Station and the Sacramento Subdivision.
- Anticipate 1 additional mainline track (triple track)
- Beginning evaluation of operations within the Sacramento Valley Station, including identification of location for layover space for North Valley Rail trains



Work Underway and Includes:

- Coding of the model complete, including new North Valley Rail station and timetable for 4 daily round trips
- Model run to be conducted shortly
- Draft ridership results targeted to be completed this month

Overview of Public Outreach Process and Schedule

Planned Activities for Outreach

- 2 Virtual public meetings – Target dates of February 2023 and May 2023
- 2 Pop-up events on-site in disadvantaged communities – Timing of these events is currently being determined
- Multi-lingual online community survey

Project Information

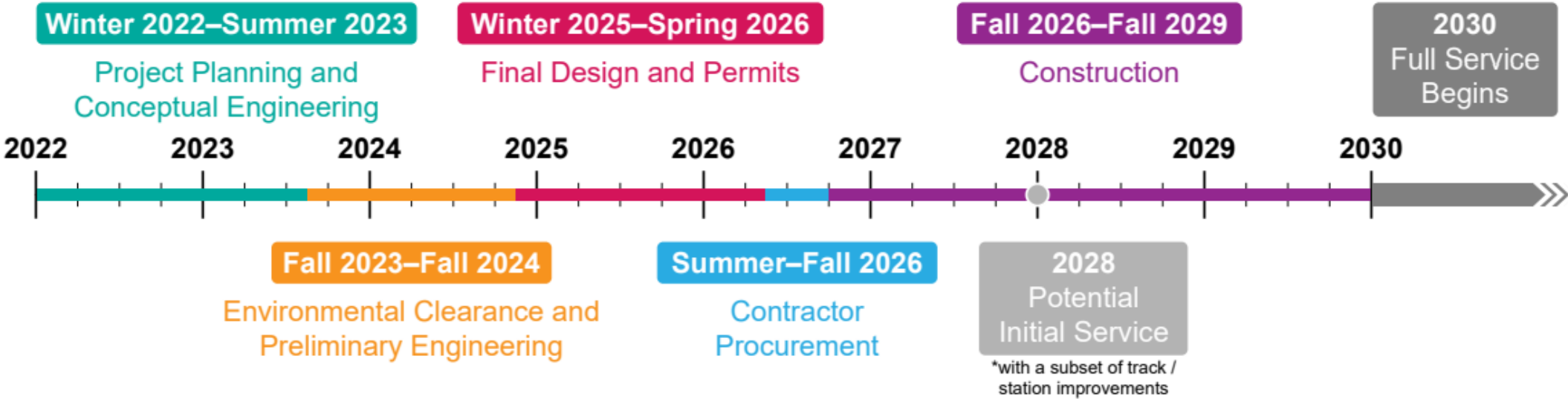
- Project webpage
- Project fact sheet

Upcoming Project Work and Project Development Activities

- Conduct public outreach process
- Complete detailed planning and conceptual design work for the project
- Begin in earnest funding efforts for future phases of the project development process.

Next Steps

Project Development Timeline



Next PDT Meeting

- Targeting a date for the Project Development Team (PDT) Meeting #3 in late March/early April