

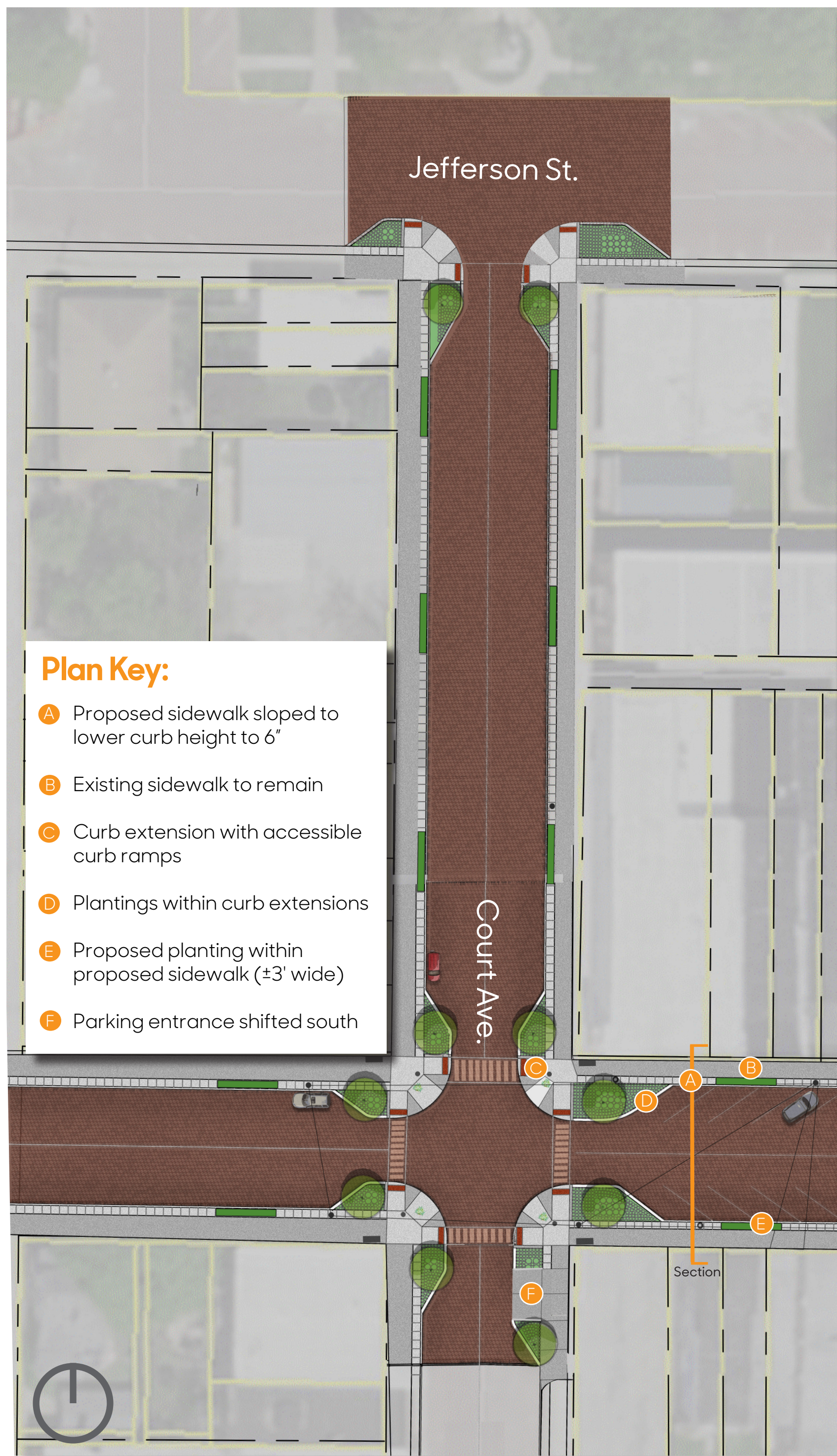
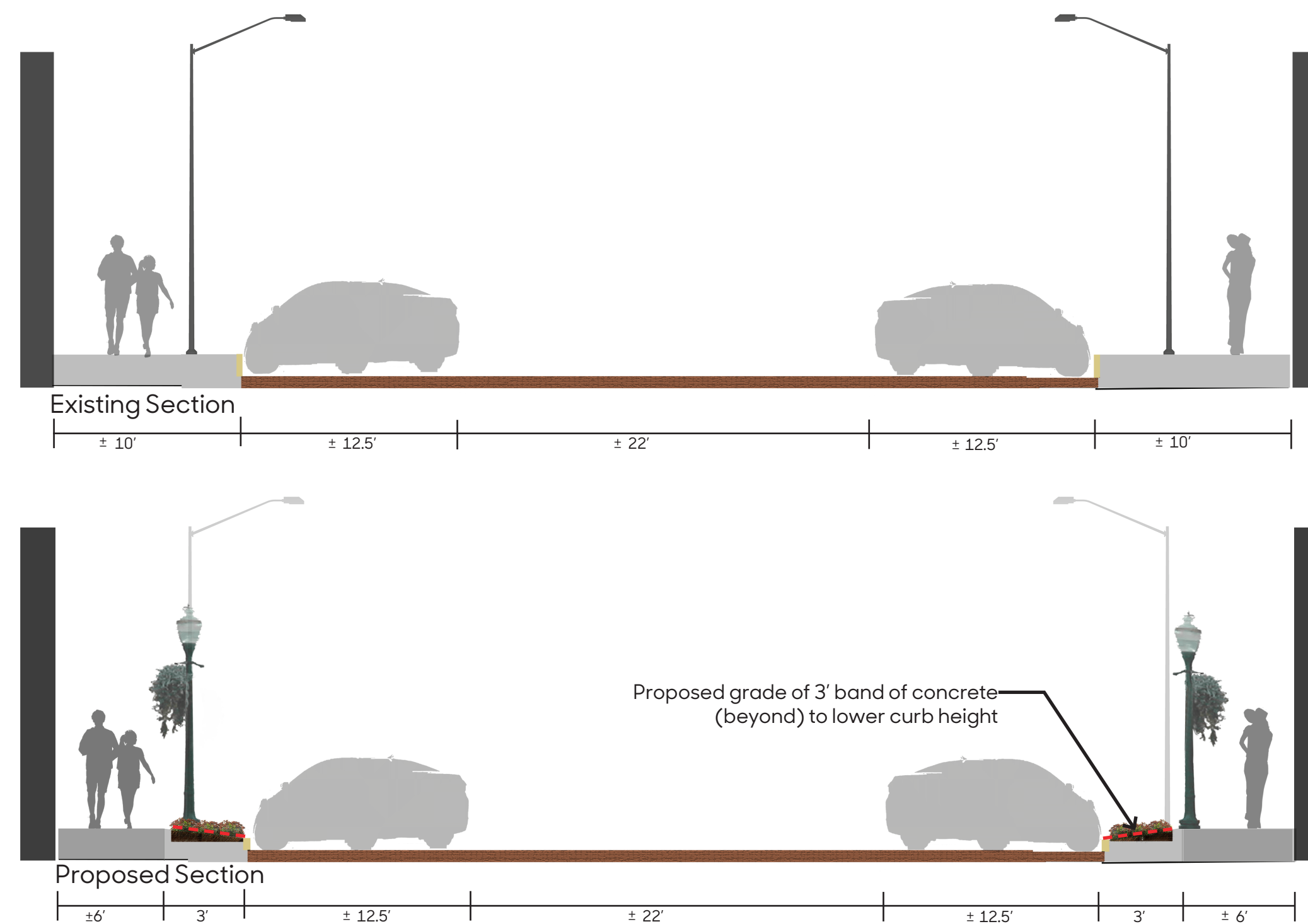


Downtown Improvements

As evidenced by the TAB information (see boards 3a and 3b), a significant accessibility concern in downtown Bedford is the tall height of existing curbs. Often exceeding 8" and in some cases greater than 12" in height, the existing curbs present obstacles for those with limited mobility and occasionally impede necessary clearance for opening doors on cars after parking.

The visioning concept lowers curb heights to a more standard 6" throughout much of downtown. To achieve this, the design team proposes that approximately 6' of the right-of-way be designated as sidewalk, and the slope of the last ~3' of concrete closest to the curb line be adjusted where necessary to lower the curb heights along Court Avenue and Main Street. To help mitigate slopes and bring more green space to downtown, 3'-wide planting bands are proposed intermittently along the street's edge.

Planted bump-outs, new curb ramps, and pavement markings are shown at all intersections to enhance accessibility and walkability. Bump-outs also provide additional shade and green spaces throughout the downtown commercial corridor.



- Plan Key:**
- A Proposed sidewalk sloped to lower curb height to 6"
 - B Existing sidewalk to remain
 - C Curb extension with accessible curb ramps
 - D Plantings within curb extensions
 - E Proposed planting within proposed sidewalk (±3' wide)
 - F Parking entrance shifted south

Downtown improvements plan view

Bedford

Downtown Improvements

Design Team

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Iowa State University | Trees Forever | Iowa Department of Transportation

