

The Carlisle Road Diet



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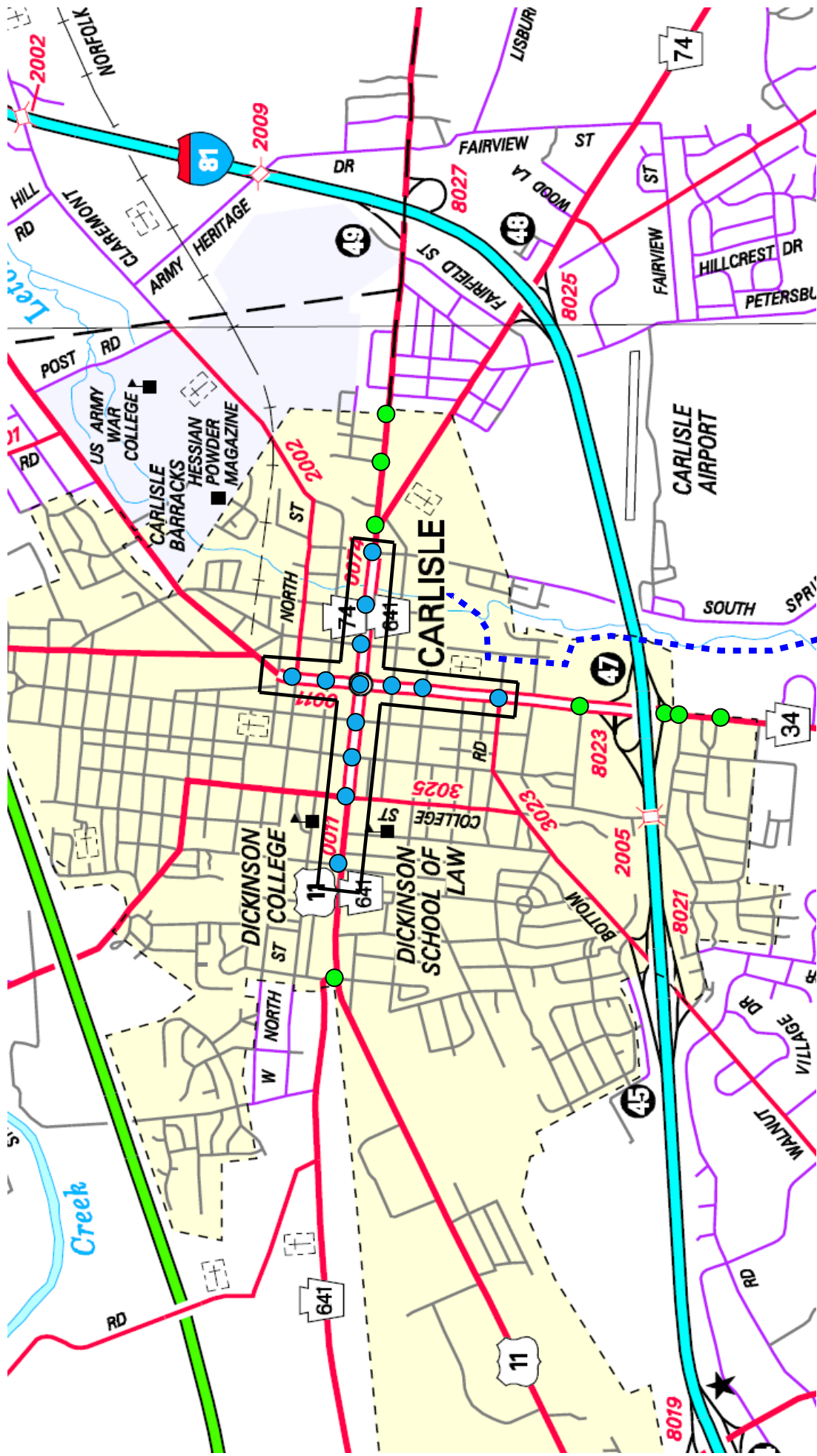
Carlisle's downtown was troubled by excessive vehicle speeds and long crosswalks. The two four-lane highways that intersected at the Square created an auto-dominance that made it difficult for bicyclists and pedestrians to navigate through town. This project helped Carlisle recreate the thriving, walkable downtown that it once had. Today, transportation engineers are planning and designing roadways that meet the needs of all users and modes of transportation including pedestrians, bicyclists, and motor vehicles.

The primary objective of this traffic calming project was to implement traffic pattern changes to accomplish the following:

- Calm traffic and enhance Carlisle's small town feeling
- Reduce accidents and enhance safety
- Promote walking and bicycling
- Reduce air and noise pollution
- Maximize downtown business success
- Improve parking access and safety
- Reduce truck traffic in Downtown Carlisle

The primary traffic pattern change was a traffic calming "Road Diet" for High and Hanover Streets. Road Diets have been proven to reduce vehicle speeds by up to five mph and to significantly reduce the number of accidents at intersections. The Road Diet converted the existing four lanes to three lanes with the addition of a five foot wide bike lane in each direction. A dedicated left turn lane was provided for High and Hanover Streets at each intersection in the Downtown to improve traffic flow. Significant upgrades to the existing traffic signals included an adaptive traffic signal system, emergency vehicle preemption, and audible countdown signals to better serve pedestrians. A Truck Mitigation Signing Plan was implemented to direct trucks away from Carlisle's downtown. Curb extensions at intersections were built to shorten the crossing distance for pedestrians to reduce their exposure to vehicles. The proposed bike lanes serve as a buffer to make parallel parking easier and to make entering and exiting your vehicle safer.

PROJECT LOCATION MAP



Road Diet Project Limits (13 intersections)



InSync System/Pedestrian Accommodations Improvements (13 intersections)



InSync Traffic Adaptive System Upgrade only (8 intersections)



Letort Trail Improvements

Downtown Carlisle Improvements
Cumberland County, PA
PennDOT District 8-0