CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

TO: Parking and Public Improvements Commission

FROM: Richard Thompson, Director of Community Development
Nhung Madrid, Management Analyst
Steve Finton, City Engineer

BY: Jack Rydell, Traffic Engineer

DATE: June 9, 2011

SUBJECT: **2011 Federal Safe Routes to School Grant Application**

RECOMMENDATION:
It is recommended that the Parking and Public Improvements Commission conduct a public meeting, and recommend proceeding with the Safe Routes to School grant application currently being prepared by City Staff in coordination with schools within the City of Manhattan Beach.

BACKGROUND:
On April 15, 2011, Caltrans issued a call for projects for the Cycle 3 Federal Safe Routes to School grant. The call is for $42 Million in projects for a two-year cycle of funds to be adjusted as needed pending a new Transportation Act which is currently in progress. Applications are due by July 15, 2011.

This grant is a reimbursement funding program for reducing injuries and fatalities through capital (engineering) projects that improve safety for children in grades K-8 who walk or bicycle to school and through non-infrastructure projects that incorporate education, encouragement, and enforcement activities that are intended to change community behavior, attitudes, and social norms to increase the numbers of children walking and bicycling to school. Evaluation is a key component of the program and is required for both infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects.

Each Caltrans District is apportioned funds based upon student enrollment. District 7, which Manhattan Beach is located within, has been apportioned approximately one-third of the available statewide funds ($14 Million). District review committees score and rate the applications using standardized evaluation forms furnished by Caltrans Headquarters. Once projects are selected and prioritized, Districts will submit their list to Caltrans Headquarters who validate the District selections and compile a statewide list of selected projects for Director approval, at which point applicants are notified of the results.

Any local or regional agency is eligible to apply for Safe Routes to School funds. Unless an agency is extremely large and has many schools (such as Los Angeles City or County), it is recommended that only one application per agency be submitted. Capital projects must fall under the broad categories of pedestrian facilities, traffic calming measures, installation of traffic control devices, construction of bicycle facilities, and public outreach/education/enforcement. Up to 10% of the

construction cost can fund an education/encouragement/enforcement element in an infrastructure project. Stand alone non-infrastructure projects may include: conducting Safe Routes to School workshops, walkability audits, conducting student assemblies for pedestrian and bicycle safety, and developing walking school bus or bicycle train programs to name a few. There is no local match required. $1,000,000 is the maximum amount that can be requested for an infrastructure project and $500,000 for a non-infrastructure project.

This grant is different from the State Safe Routes to School grant program, which Manhattan Beach successfully submitted on in 2009. Although both grant programs are similar, there are specific differences between the two such as project eligibility, city match and available funding amount. The next State safe routes to school grant call for projects should occur in Fall 2011.

DISCUSSION:

The Safe Routes to School program is unique in its overriding emphasis on community participation in the development and implementation of a project. By involving the public, schools, parents, teachers, students, local agencies, public health agencies, pedestrian and bicycle advocates, the business community, law enforcement, engineering professionals, and others, a comprehensive and integrated solution to improve safety and facilitate more walking and bicycling is likely to develop and be sustained beyond the life of the project. Successful applications are those that clearly demonstrate how the project was initiated through community participation and how the project will incorporate key elements referred to as the **5 E's - Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Engineering,** and **Evaluation.**

To fully understand the requirements of the grant application and learn about successful strategies for obtaining funding, the City Traffic Engineer attended a workshop at Caltrans District 7 headquarters on May 3. At this workshop, several points were clearly expressed by Caltrans Staff and the presenters, including:

- The grant process has become much more competitive recently and the guidelines and instructions contained in the grant application process must be closely followed for an applicant to be successful.
- Projects must be driven by the local stakeholders, such as parents, PTA teachers and school administration as opposed to developed independently by City Staff. The projects should be the result of stakeholders identifying specific problems at specific locations and then having the Traffic Engineer and other City Staff suggest possible improvements.
- Substantial City Staff effort is required both in the application process and, if awarded, in follow-up activities.
- A comprehensive school and City partnership is required to ensure that any grant award includes the 5 E's and is sustainable, both in terms of effort and resource allocation.

To prepare the grant application and adhere to the suggestions made at the workshop, The Traffic Engineer and City Staff conducted meetings in May with school administration and key school stakeholders at the following schools that expressed interest in being included:

- American Martyrs School;
- Grandview Elementary School;
- Manhattan Beach Middle School;
- Meadows Elementary School;

- Pacific Elementary School; and,
- Robinson Elementary School.

At this meeting the grant purpose, process and application were explained. Follow-up action from each school was identified, which generally consisted of identifying problem locations, specific problems and student walking/bicycling characteristics.

After obtaining this information, follow-up field meetings were conducted with the stakeholders from each school to evaluate the conditions that prevented or hindered students walking/bicycling to school and specific improvements were discussed. Primary concerns from the stakeholders included the speed of traffic along routes to school, crossing safety, poor motorist driving behavior and separation between vehicles and children. After obtaining consensus from the stakeholders on the potential improvements, the City Engineer was consulted to determine the feasibility of each item. The attached sketches identify specific improvements for each school. The design and location of the improvements are shown at a conceptual level only – if the grant application is successful it will include funding for preparation of final design. Furthermore, improvements may still be added or removed prior to submittal of the application pending final cost estimate, constructability or feasibility issues. Typical improvements include:

- Radar speed feedback signs;
- Curb extensions and center islands;
- Flashing beacons on "STOP" signs;
- Enhanced pedestrian pathway markings and separation;
- Signage and markings; and,
- Bike facilities.

The preliminary construction cost estimate for the items identified on the attached sketches is $400,000. The total grant request will also include 10% for non-infrastructure activities, funding for right-of-way and utility evaluations, design activities, construction engineering and contingencies. A rough estimate of the total grant request is $600,000.

New to the grant this year is the ability to include a request for funding up to 10% of the construction for education, encouragement and enforcement activities. This will be done and may include some of the following:

<u>Education</u>
- Safety training for children;
- School websites;
- Presentations, assemblies and newsletters;
- Parent education; and,
- Neighborhood outreach.

<u>Encouragement</u>
- Walking school bus;
- Individual and class competitions with prizes;
- Health Fairs;
- Events (such as walking Wednesdays); and,
- Park and Walk sites.

Enforcement

- Neighborhood speed watch;
- Regular meetings between school, City and police representatives; and
- Patrol schedules.

Meetings were also held with the key personnel from the Police Department to identify their enforcement and education efforts around the schools. Information obtained in these discussions will be included in the application to assist in highlighting the ongoing efforts to enhance pedestrian and bicyclist safety, as well as coordinate future efforts and ensure sustainability.

As mentioned, the Safe Routes to School program is unique in its overriding emphasis on community participation in the development and implementation of a project. Successful applications are those that clearly demonstrate how the project was initiated through community participation by involving the public, schools, parents, teachers, students, local agencies, public health agencies, pedestrian and bicycle advocates, law enforcement, engineering professionals, and business community and how the project will incorporate the 5 E's - Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Engineering, and Evaluation. All stakeholders have been notified of the meeting and have been encouraged to attend tonight's Parking and Public Improvements Commission Meeting.

Exhibits:

A. American Martyrs School Improvements
B. Grandview Elementary School Improvements
C. Manhattan Beach Middle School Improvements
D. Meadows Elementary School Improvements
E. Pacific Elementary School Improvements
F. Robinson Elementary School Improvements

EXHIBIT A
PPIC Mtg 6/9/11

American Martyrs Elementary School
Cycle 3 SRTS Grant Application
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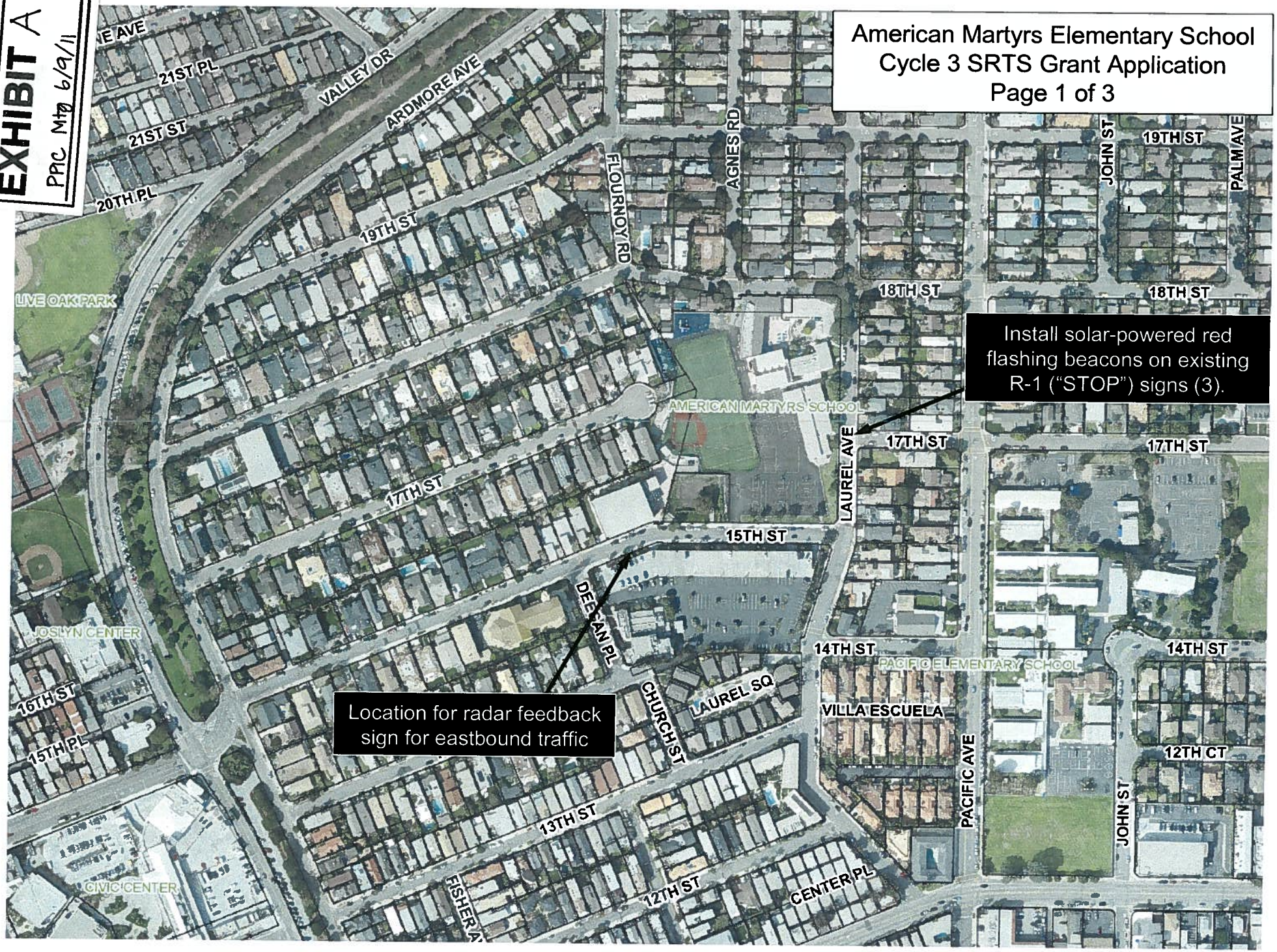
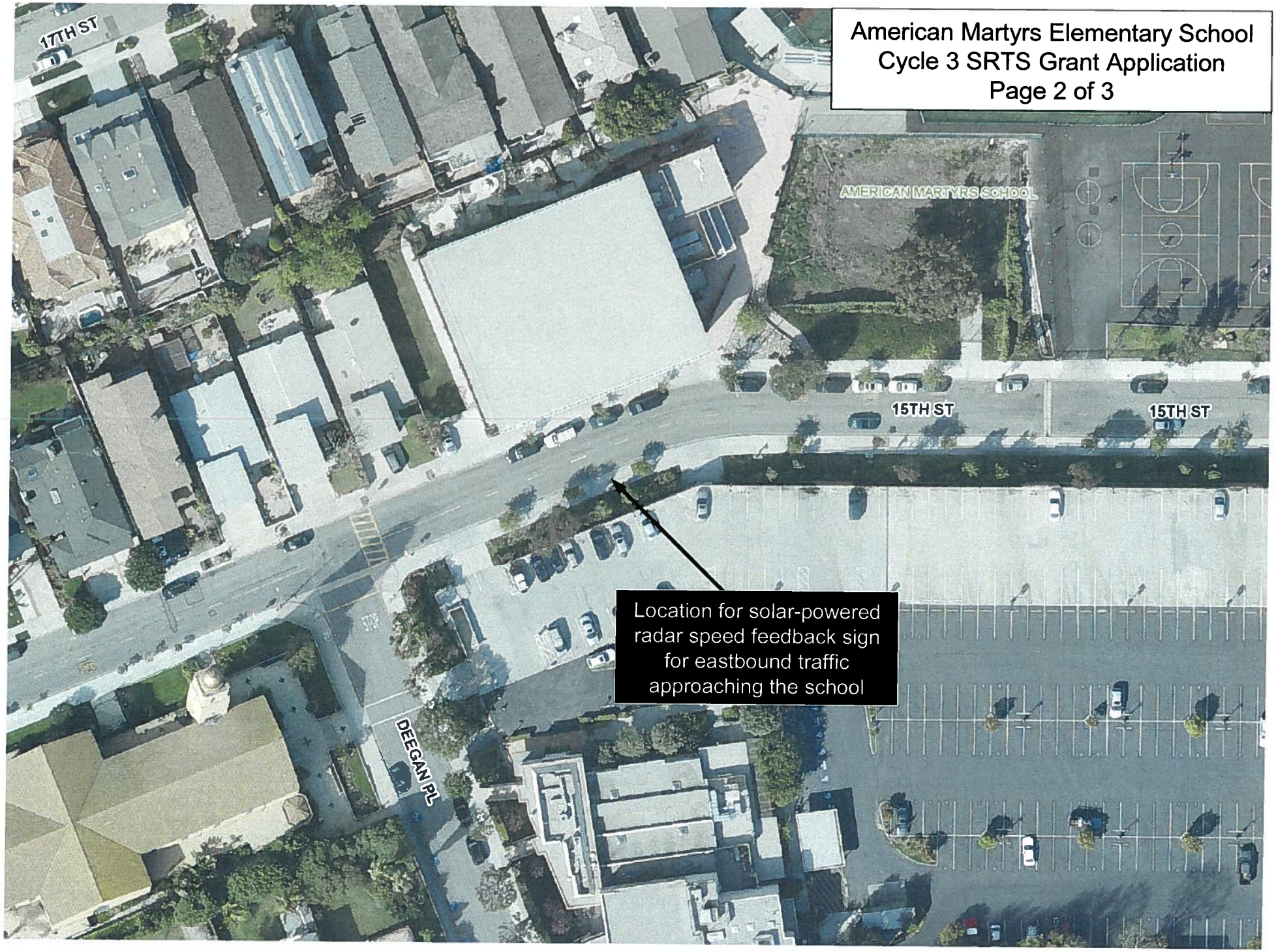


American Martyrs Elementary School
Cycle 3 SRTS Grant Application
Page 2 of 3



American Martyrs Elementary School
Cycle 3 SRTS Grant Application
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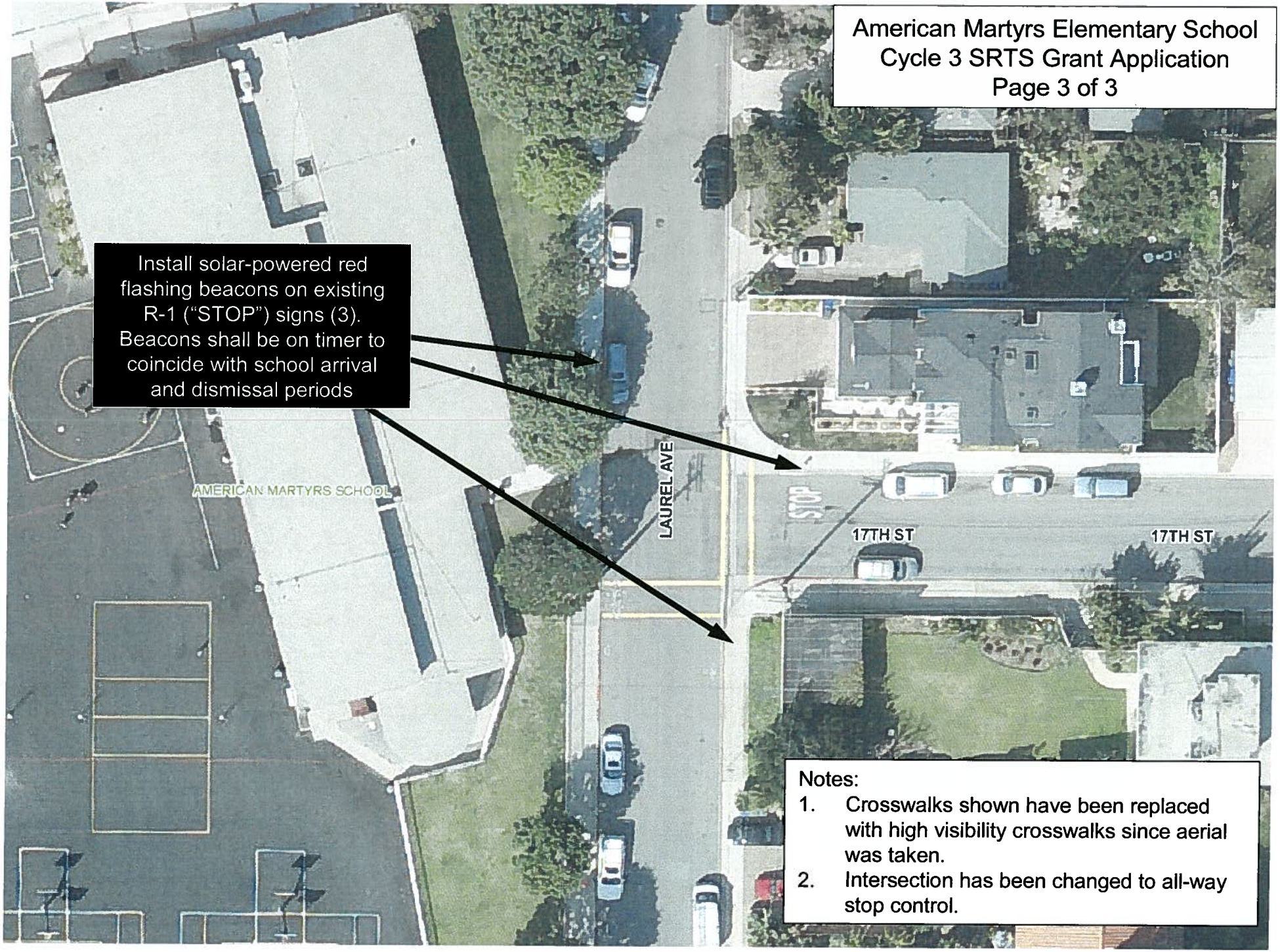
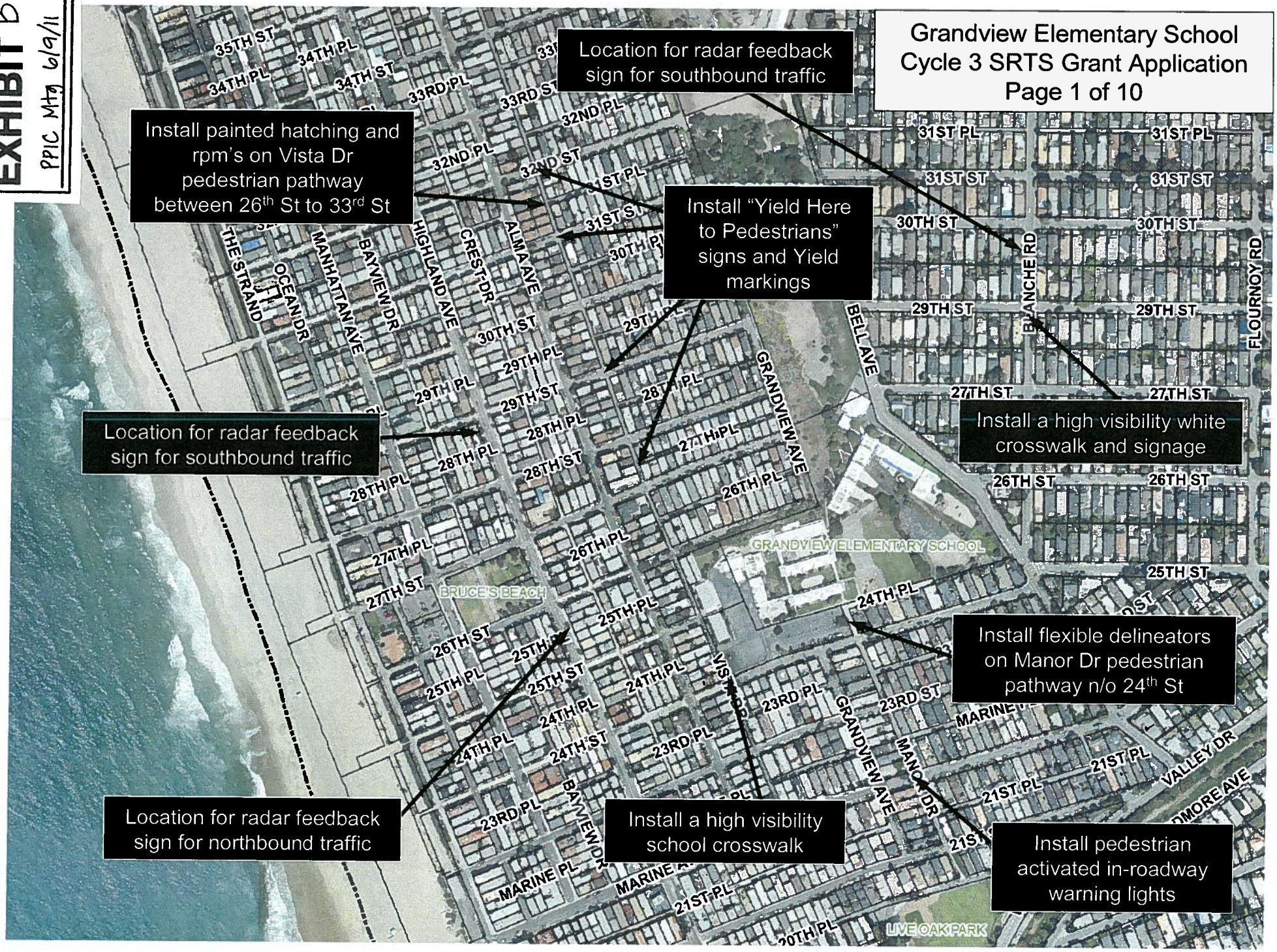


Notes:

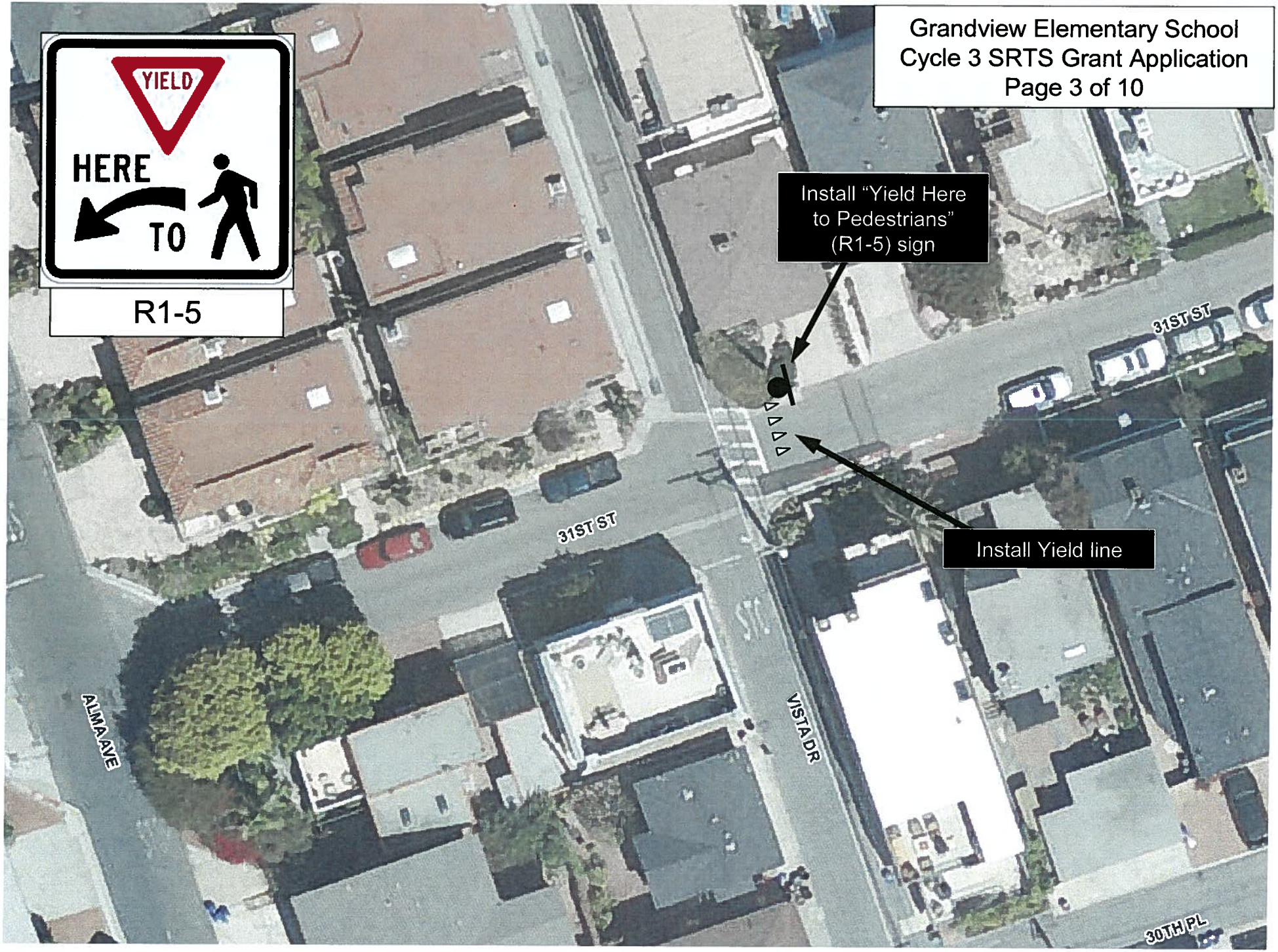
1. Crosswalks shown have been replaced with high visibility crosswalks since aerial was taken.
2. Intersection has been changed to all-way stop control.

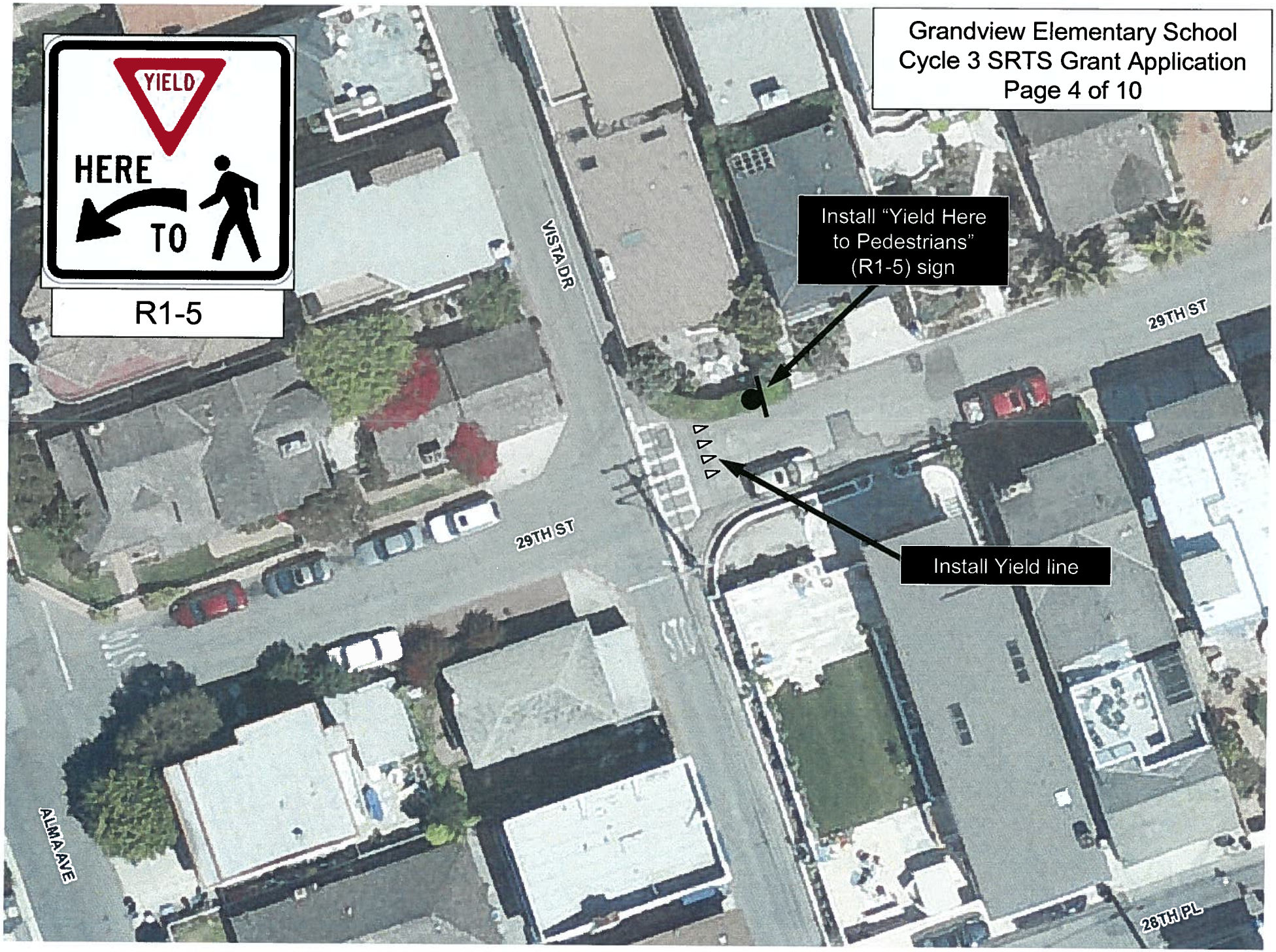
EXHIBIT B
PPIC Mtg 6/9/11

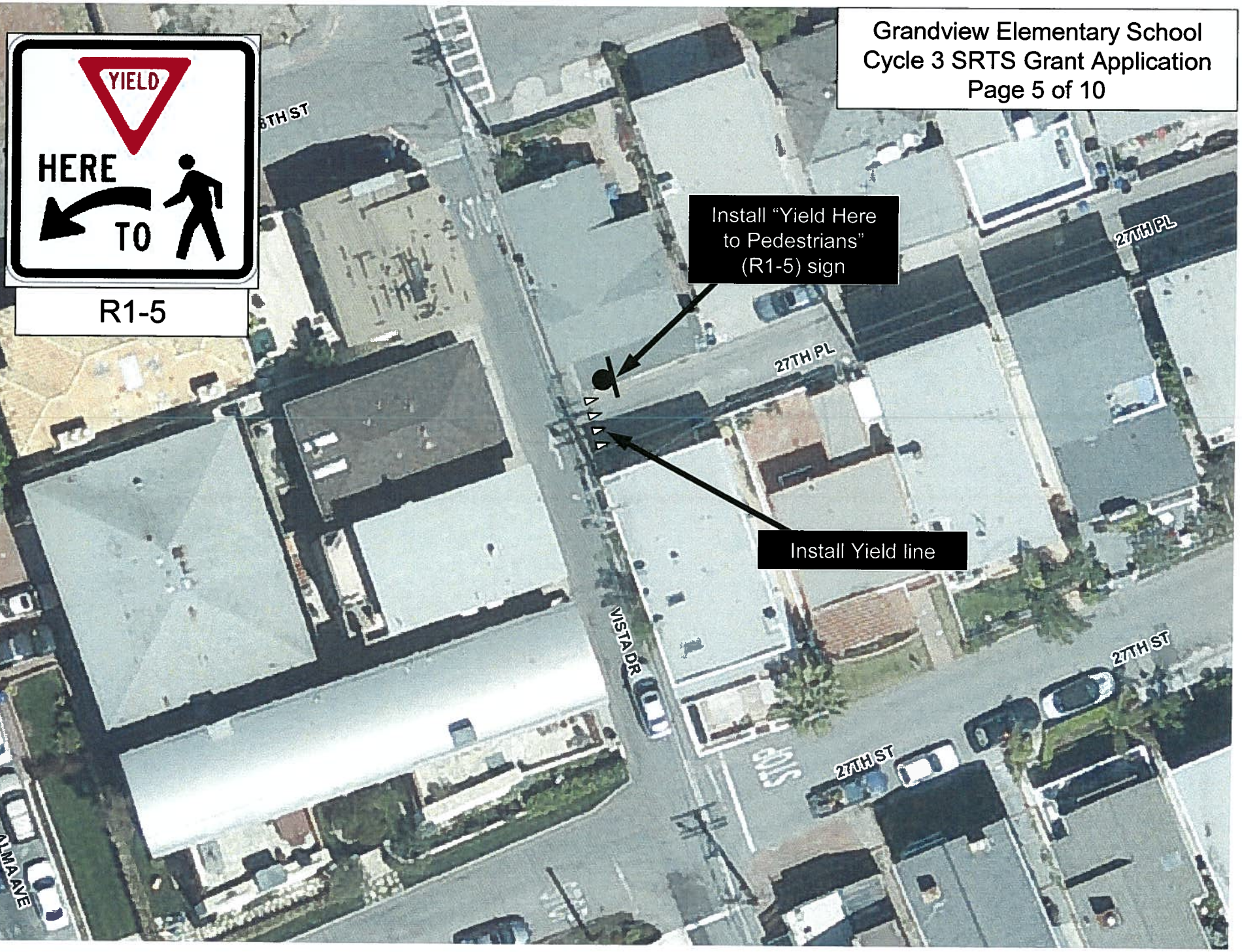
Grandview Elementary School Cycle 3 SRTS Grant Application

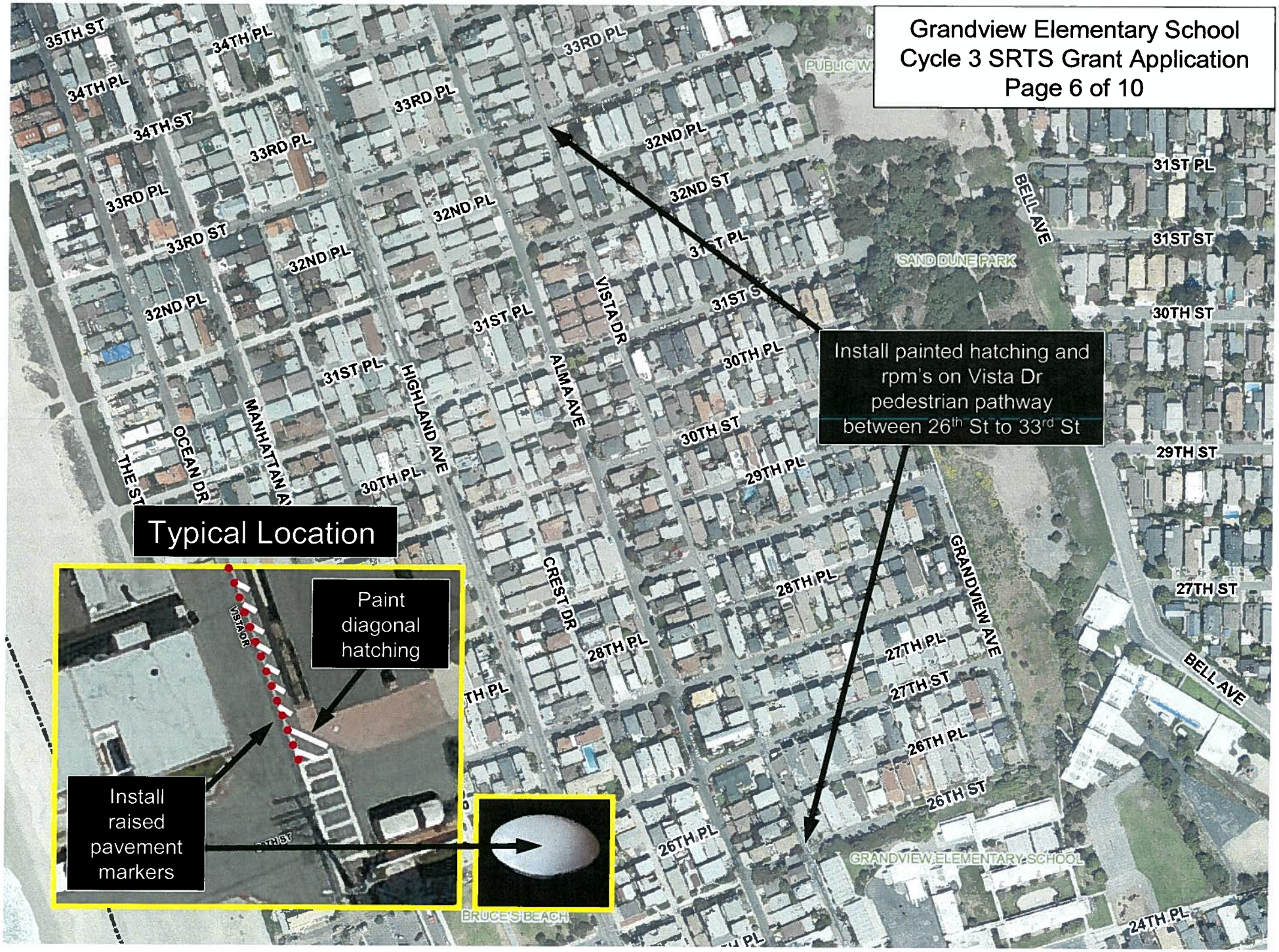



YIELD
HERE
TO
R1-5
Install "Yield Here to Pedestrians" (R1-5) sign
Install Yield line
VISTA DR
32ND ST
32ND ST
ALMA AVE
31ST PL


YIELD
HERE
TO
R1-5
Install "Yield Here to Pedestrians" (R1-5) sign
Install Yield line
31ST ST
31ST ST
ALMA AVE
VISTA DR
30TH PL

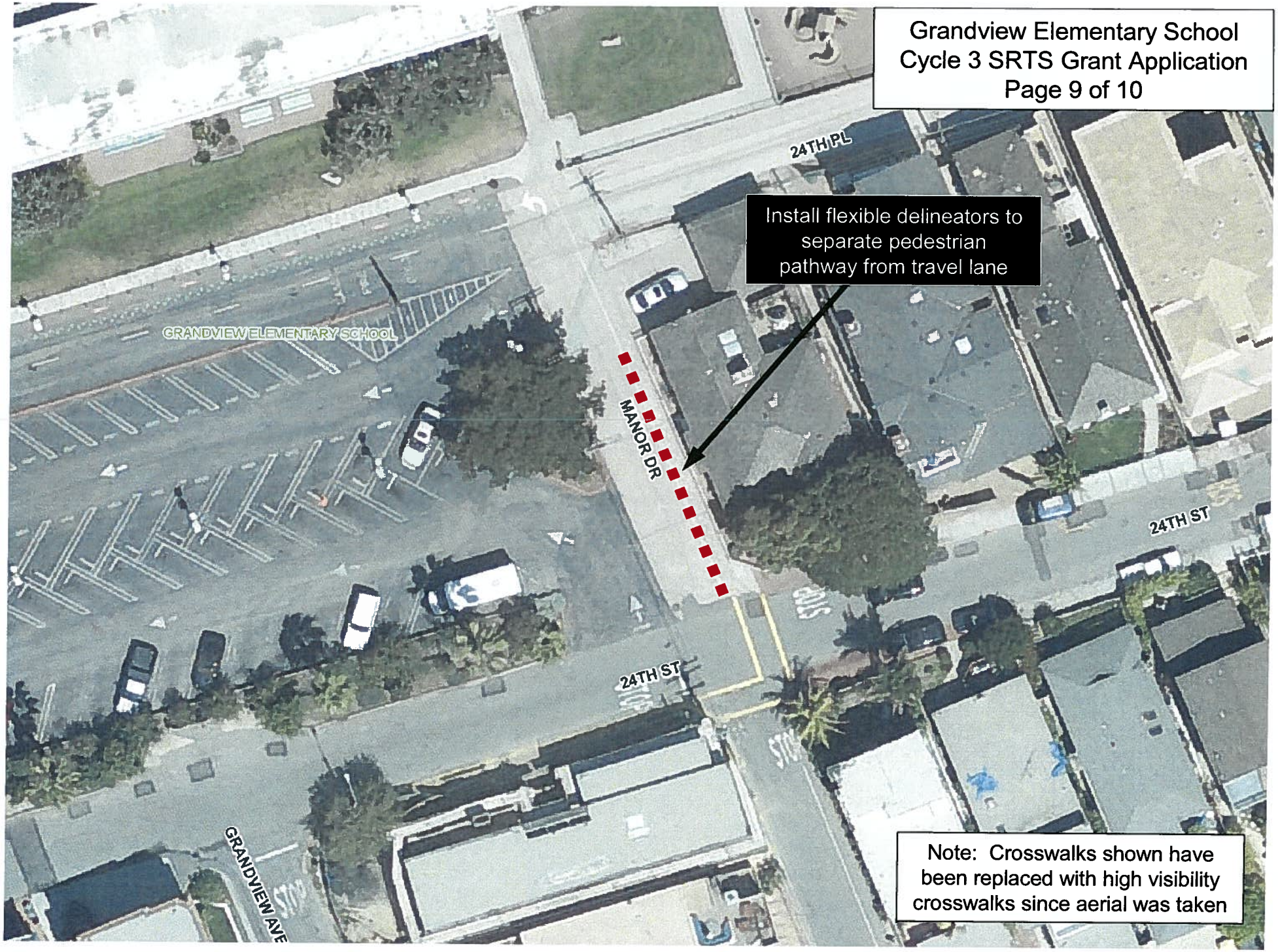

YIELD
HERE
TO
R1-5
Install "Yield Here to Pedestrians" (R1-5) sign
Install Yield line
VISTA DR
29TH ST
29TH ST
ALMA AVE
28TH PL


YIELD
HERE
TO
R1-5
Install "Yield Here to Pedestrians" (R1-5) sign
Install Yield line
8TH ST
27TH PL
27TH PL
VISTA DR
27TH ST
27TH ST
ALMA AVE


Install painted hatching and rpm's on Vista Dr pedestrian pathway between 26th St to 33rd St
Typical Location
Paint diagonal hatching
Install raised pavement markers
35TH ST
34TH PL
34TH ST
33RD PL
33RD ST
32ND PL
32ND ST
31ST PL
31ST ST
30TH PL
30TH ST
29TH PL
29TH ST
28TH PL
27TH PL
27TH ST
26TH PL
26TH ST
24TH PL
VISTA DR
ALMA AVE
HIGHLAND AVE
MANHATTAN AVE
OCEAN DR
CREST DR
GRANDVIEW AVE
BELL AVE
SAND DUNE PARK
GRANDVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
BRUCE'S BEACH

Note: Crosswalk shown has been replaced with high visibility crosswalk since aerial was taken

Note: Crosswalk shown has been replaced with high visibility crosswalk since aerial was taken


Grandview Elementary School
Cycle 3 SRTS Grant Application
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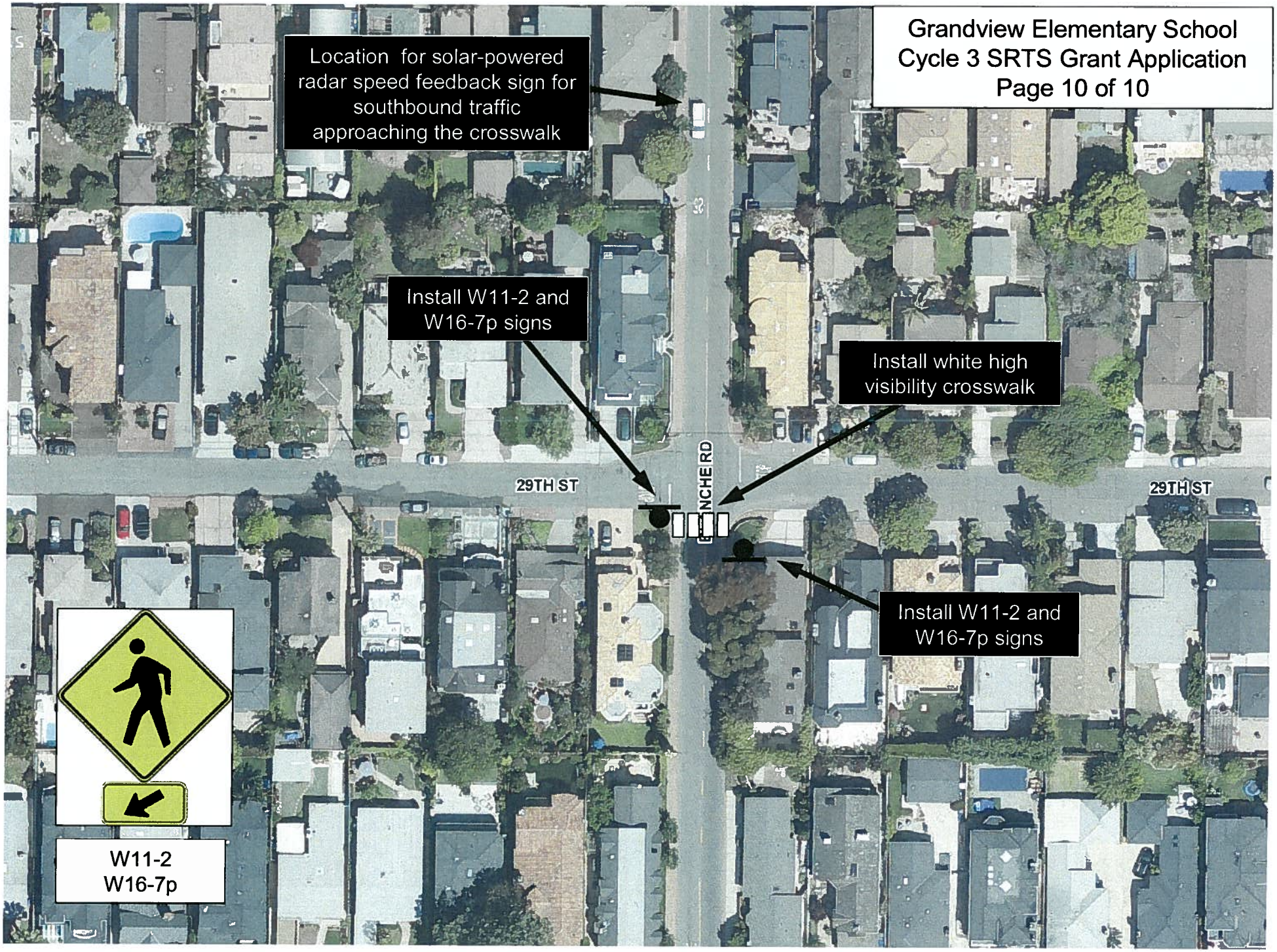
24TH PL
Install flexible delineators to separate pedestrian pathway from travel lane
GRANDVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
MANOR DR
24TH ST
24TH ST
GRANDVIEW AVE
Note: Crosswalks shown have been replaced with high visibility crosswalks since aerial was taken


Location for solar-powered radar speed feedback sign for southbound traffic approaching the crosswalk
Install W11-2 and W16-7p signs
Install white high visibility crosswalk
29TH ST
29TH ST
NCHE RD
Install W11-2 and W16-7p signs
W11-2
W16-7p

Manhattan Beach Middle School
Cycle 3 SRTS Grant Application
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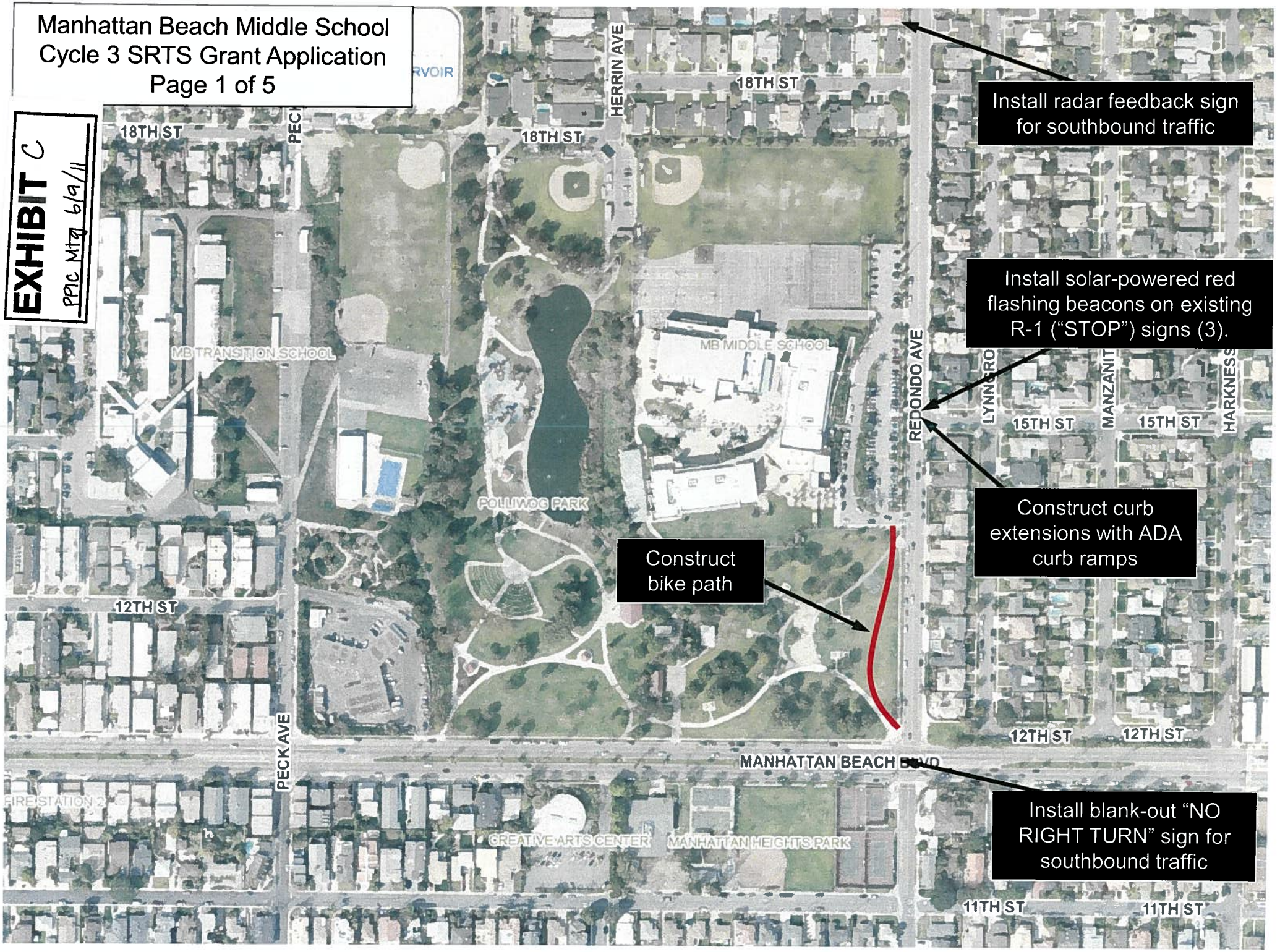
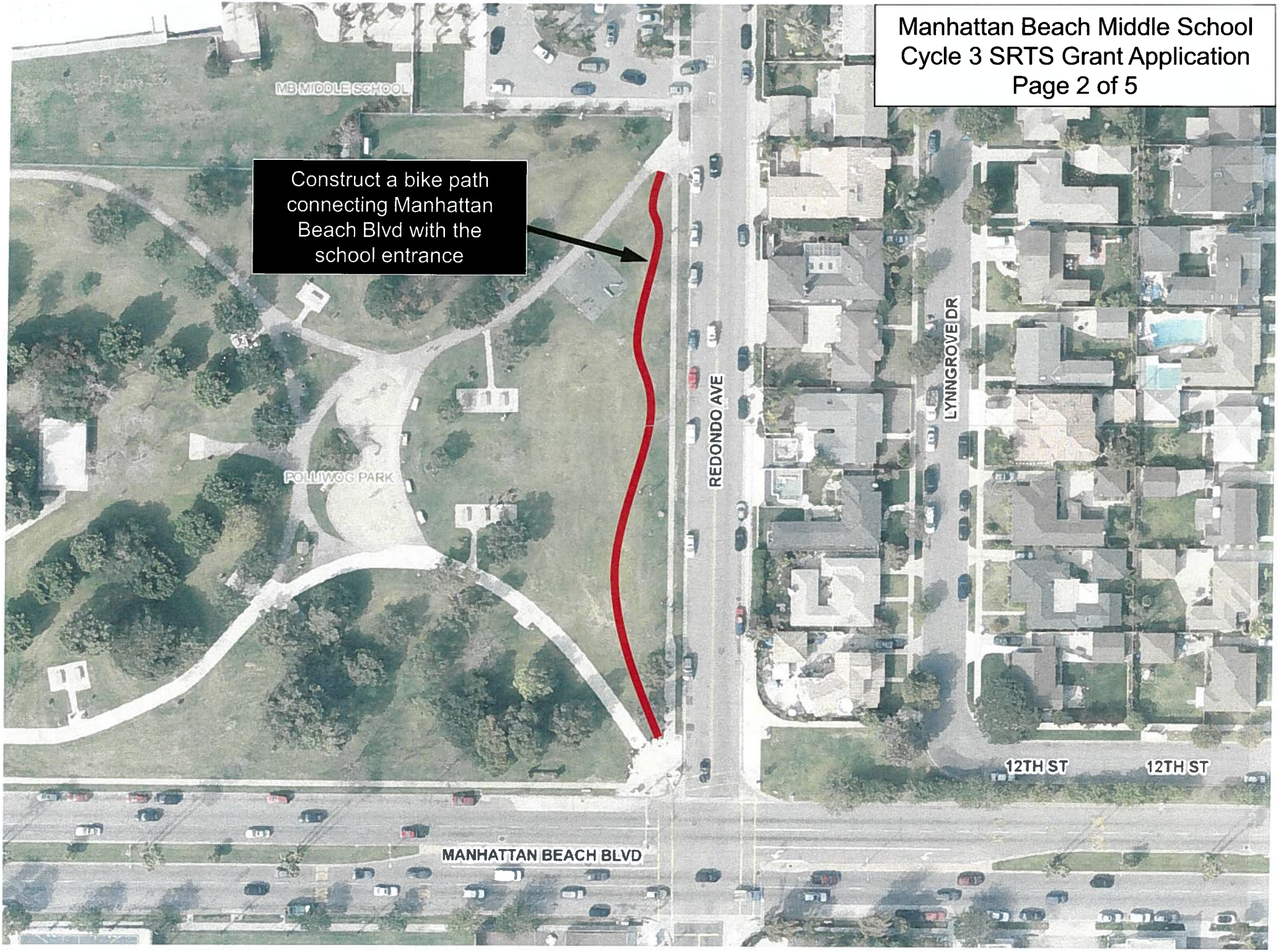
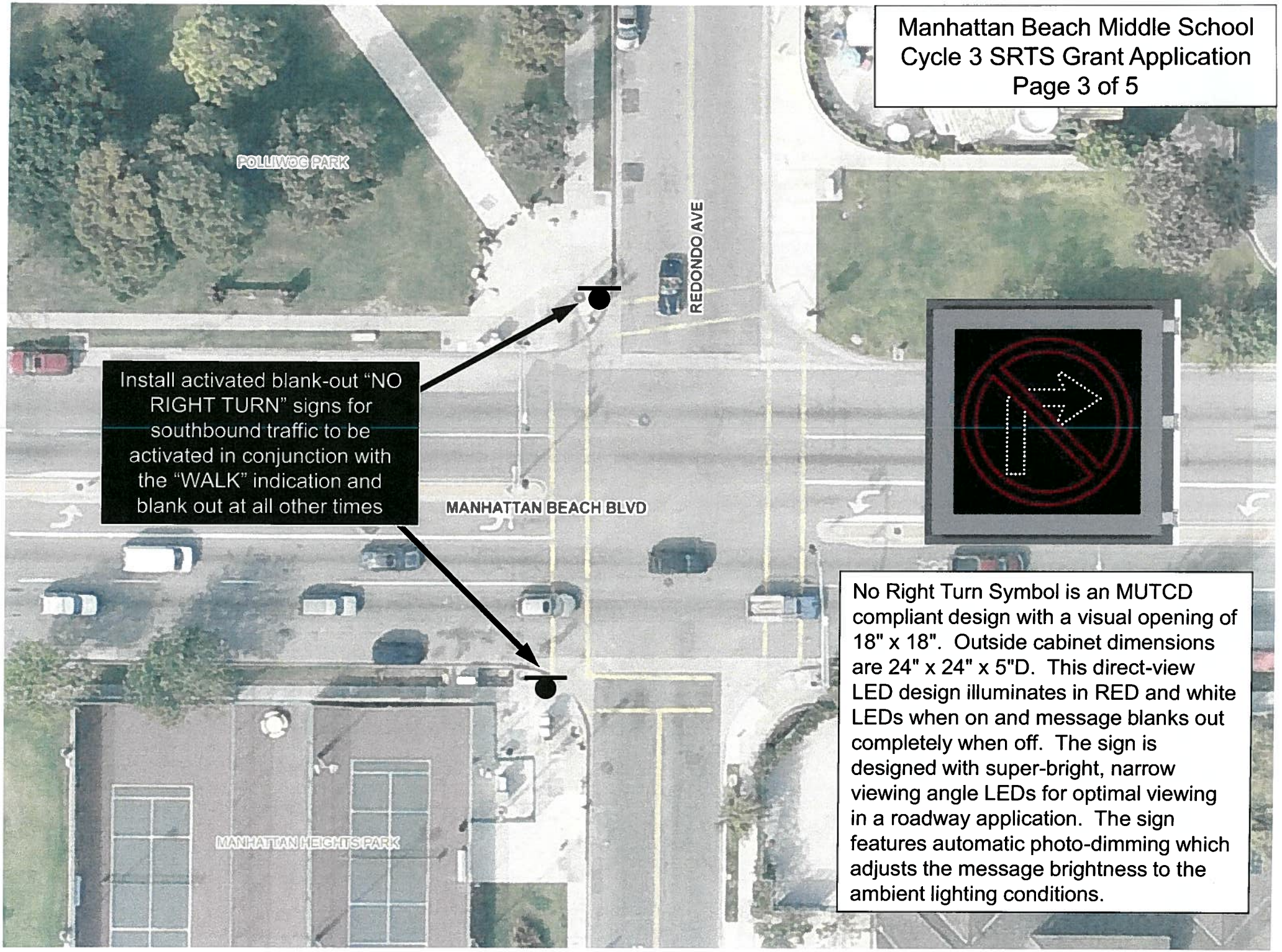
EXHIBIT C
PPIC Mtg 6/9/11

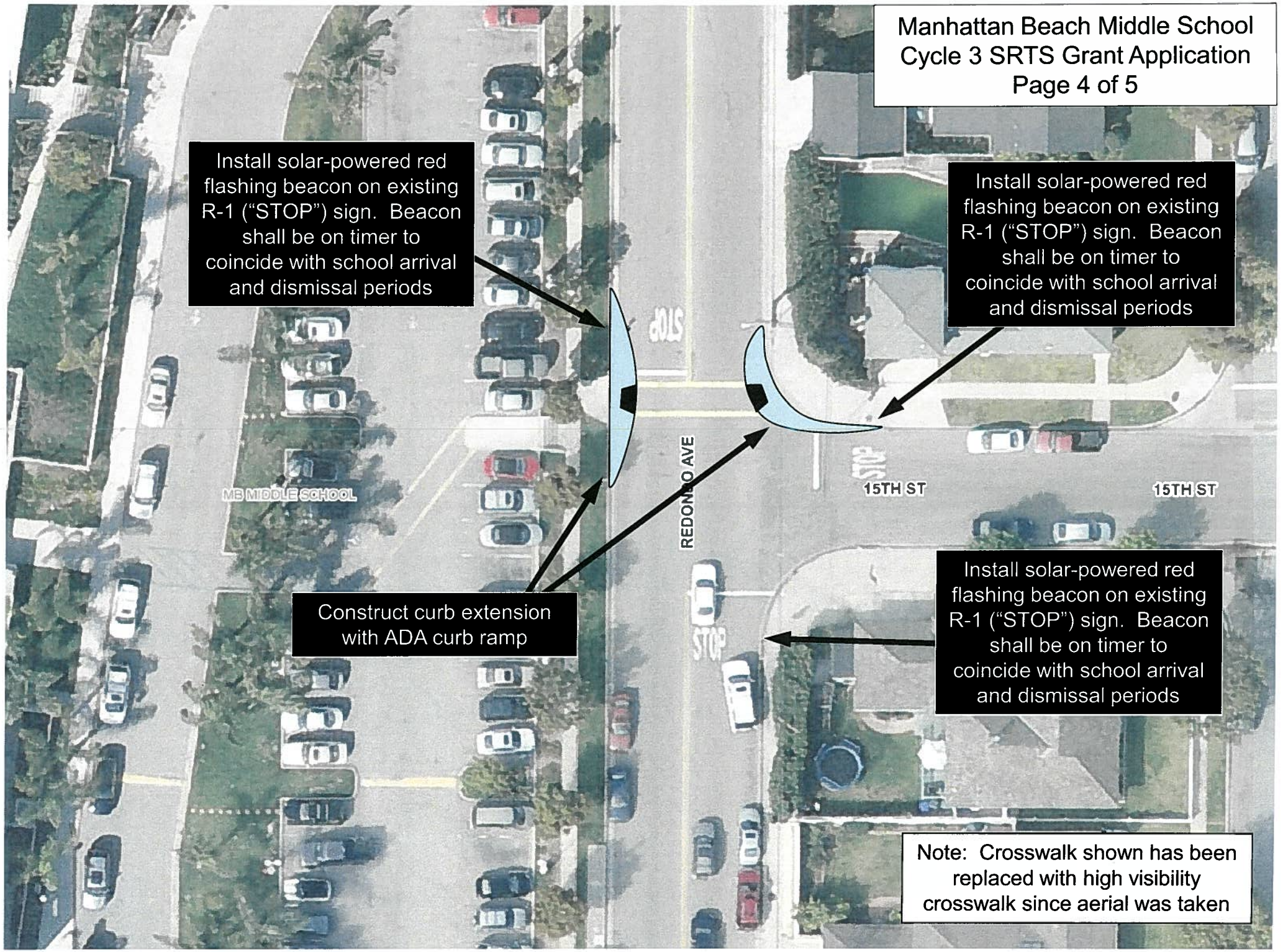



Construct a bike path connecting Manhattan Beach Blvd with the school entrance
MB MIDDLE SCHOOL
POLLIWOG PARK
REDONDO AVE
LYNNGROVE DR
12TH ST
12TH ST
MANHATTAN BEACH BLVD



Install activated blank-out "NO RIGHT TURN" signs for southbound traffic to be activated in conjunction with the "WALK" indication and blank out at all other times

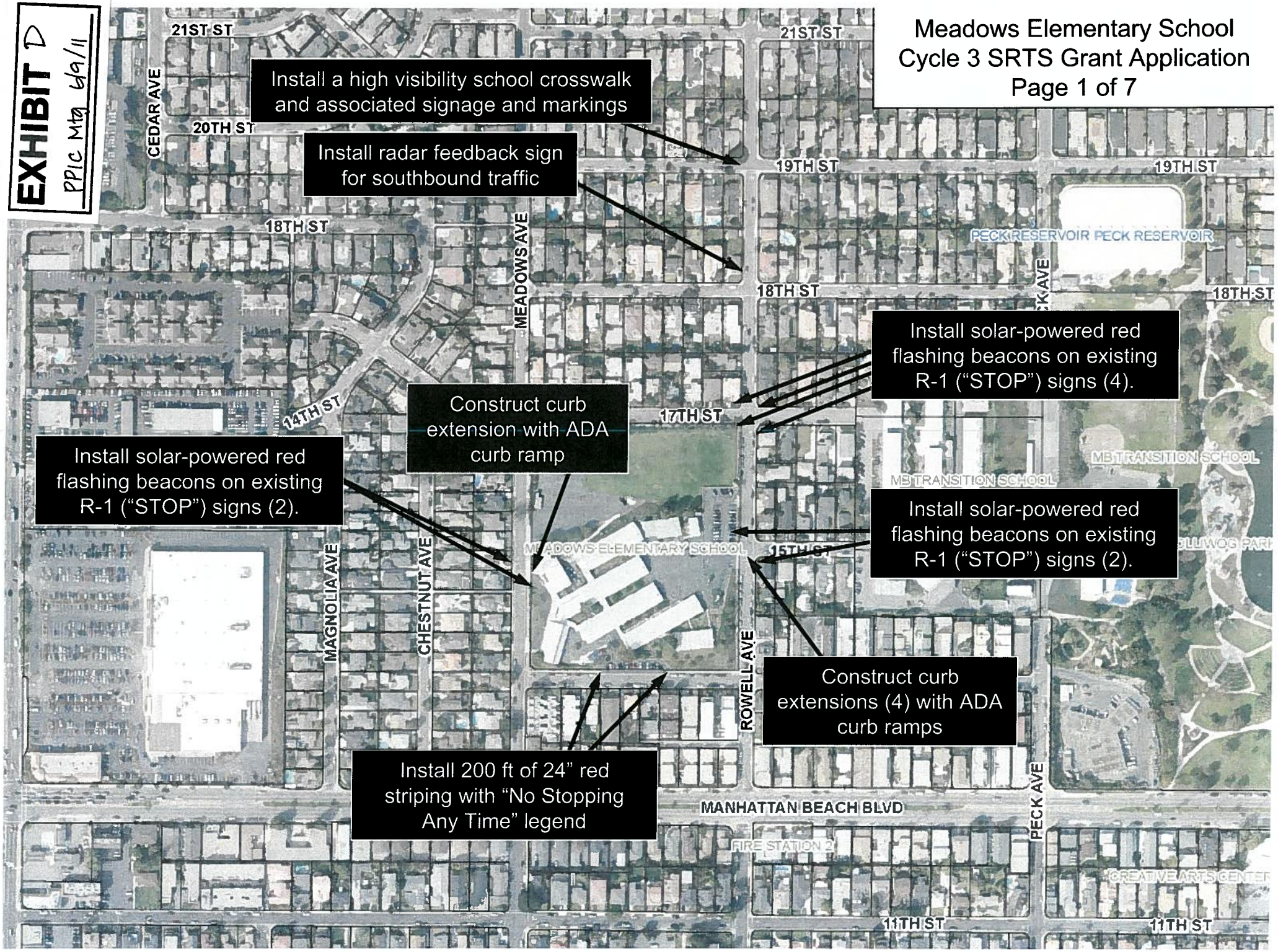
No Right Turn Symbol is an MUTCD compliant design with a visual opening of 18" x 18". Outside cabinet dimensions are 24" x 24" x 5"D. This direct-view LED design illuminates in RED and white LEDs when on and message blanks out completely when off. The sign is designed with super-bright, narrow viewing angle LEDs for optimal viewing in a roadway application. The sign features automatic photo-dimming which adjusts the message brightness to the ambient lighting conditions.

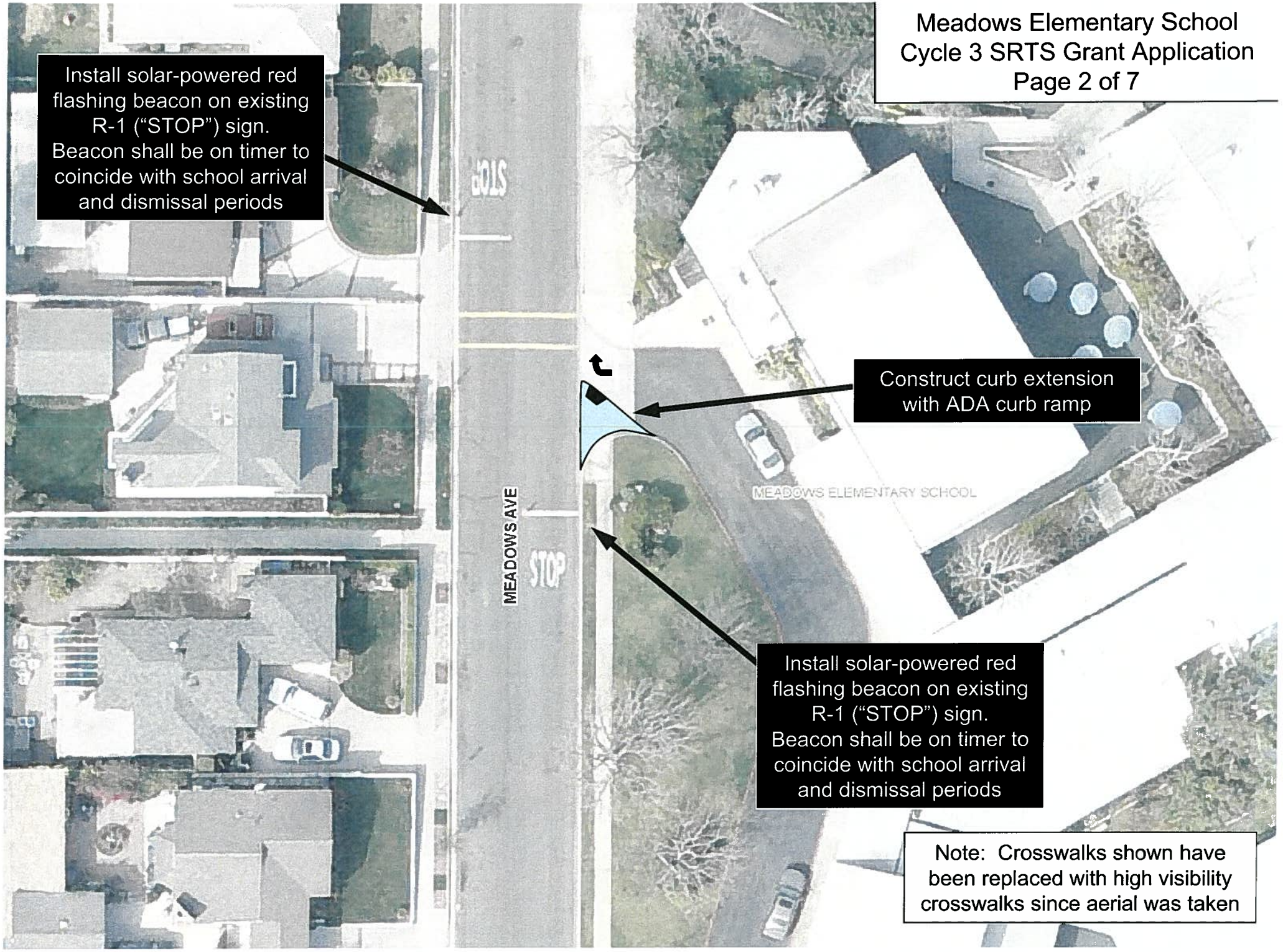

Install solar-powered red flashing beacon on existing R-1 ("STOP") sign. Beacon shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
Install solar-powered red flashing beacon on existing R-1 ("STOP") sign. Beacon shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
Construct curb extension with ADA curb ramp
Install solar-powered red flashing beacon on existing R-1 ("STOP") sign. Beacon shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
Note: Crosswalk shown has been replaced with high visibility crosswalk since aerial was taken
MB MIDDLE SCHOOL
REDONDO AVE
15TH ST
15TH ST
STOP
STOP

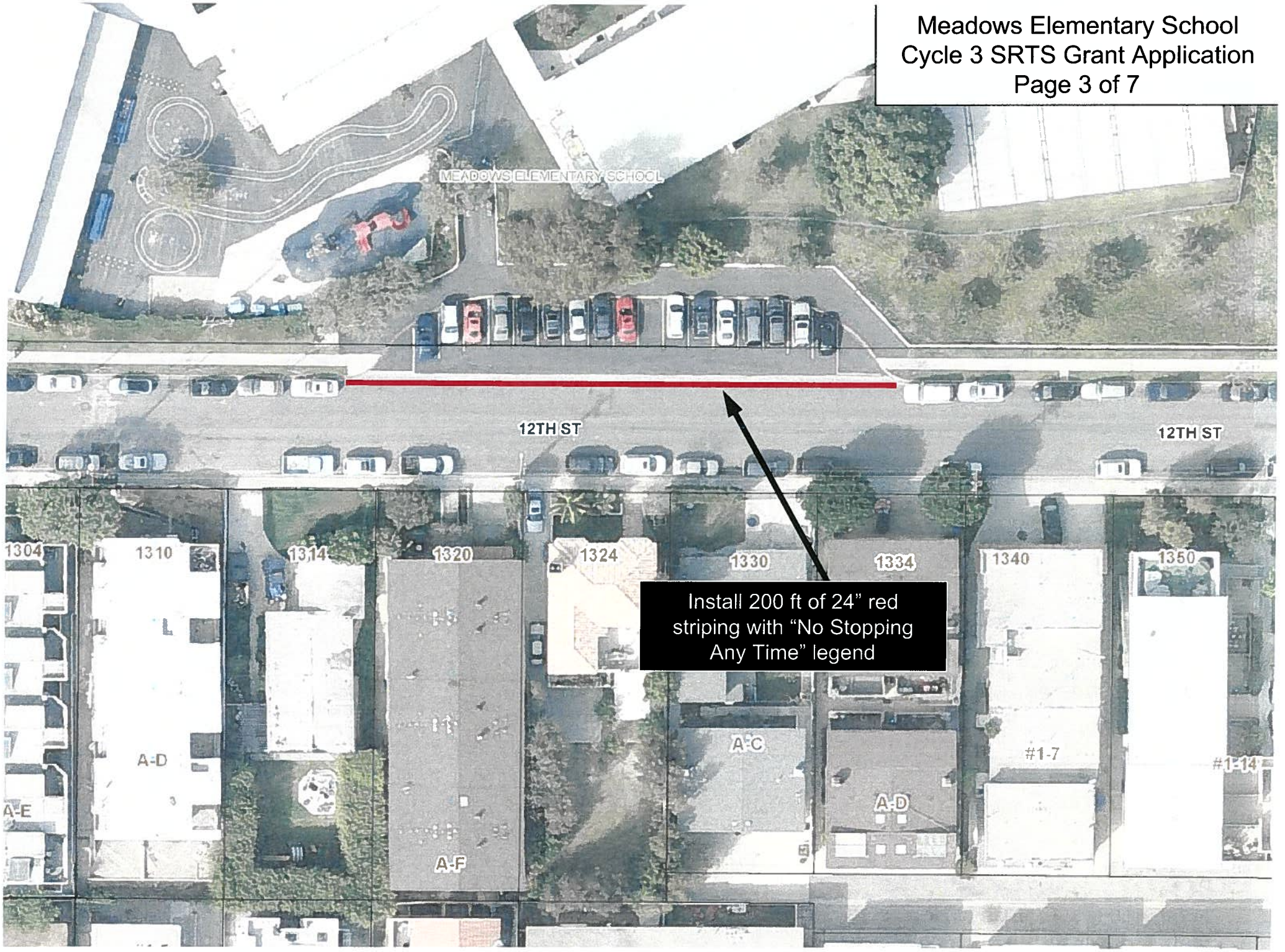

19TH ST
19TH ST
HERRIN AVE
18TH ST
REDONDO AVE
LYNNGROVE DR
MANZANITA LN
Install solar-powered radar speed feedback sign for southbound traffic approaching the school
POLLIWOG PARK
MB MIDDLE SCHOOL

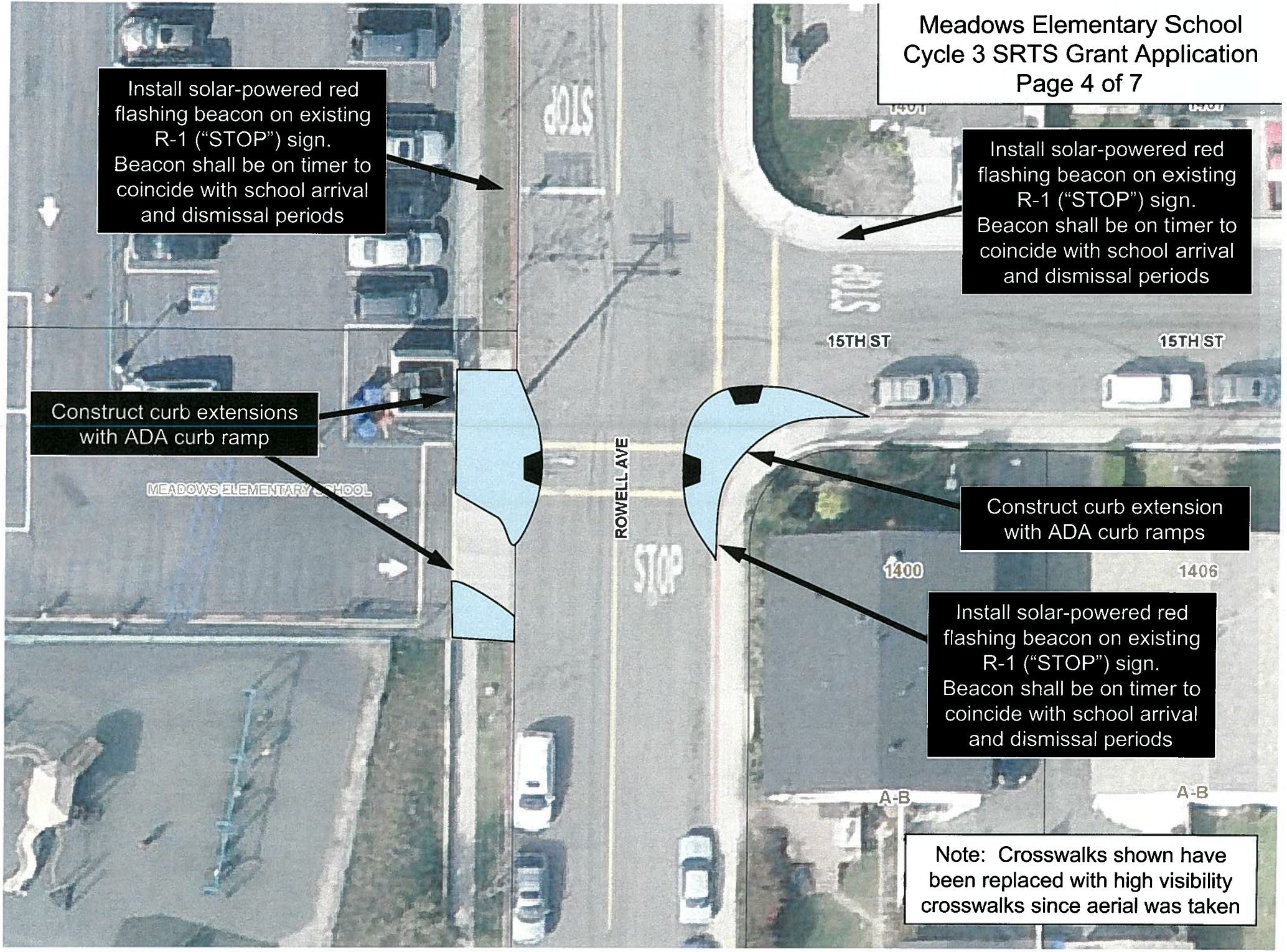
EXHIBIT D
PPIC Mtg 6/9/11

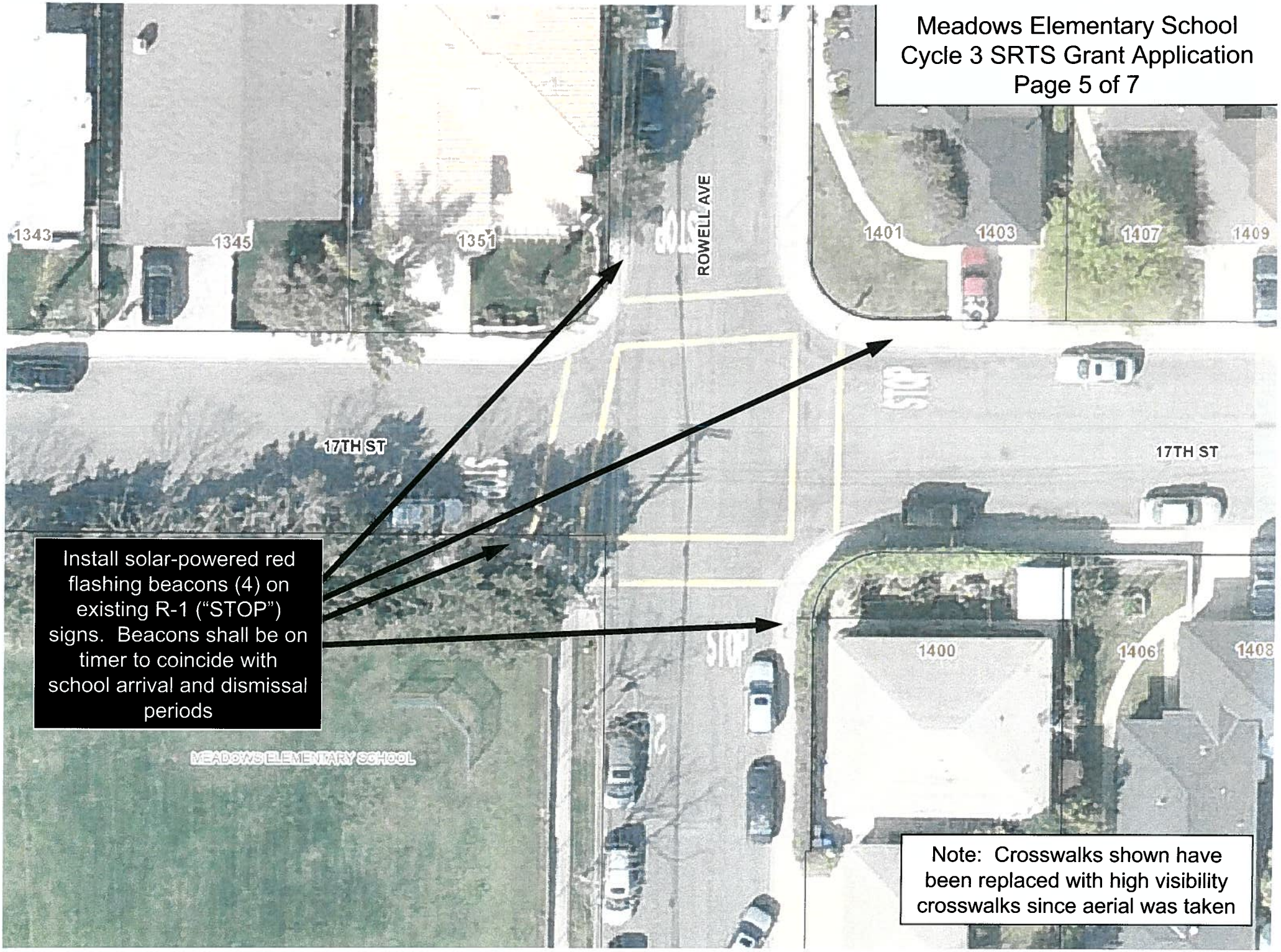
Meadows Elementary School
Cycle 3 SRTS Grant Application




Install solar-powered red flashing beacon on existing R-1 ("STOP") sign. Beacon shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
STOP
MEADOWS AVE
STOP
Construct curb extension with ADA curb ramp
MEADOWS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Install solar-powered red flashing beacon on existing R-1 ("STOP") sign. Beacon shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
Note: Crosswalks shown have been replaced with high visibility crosswalks since aerial was taken

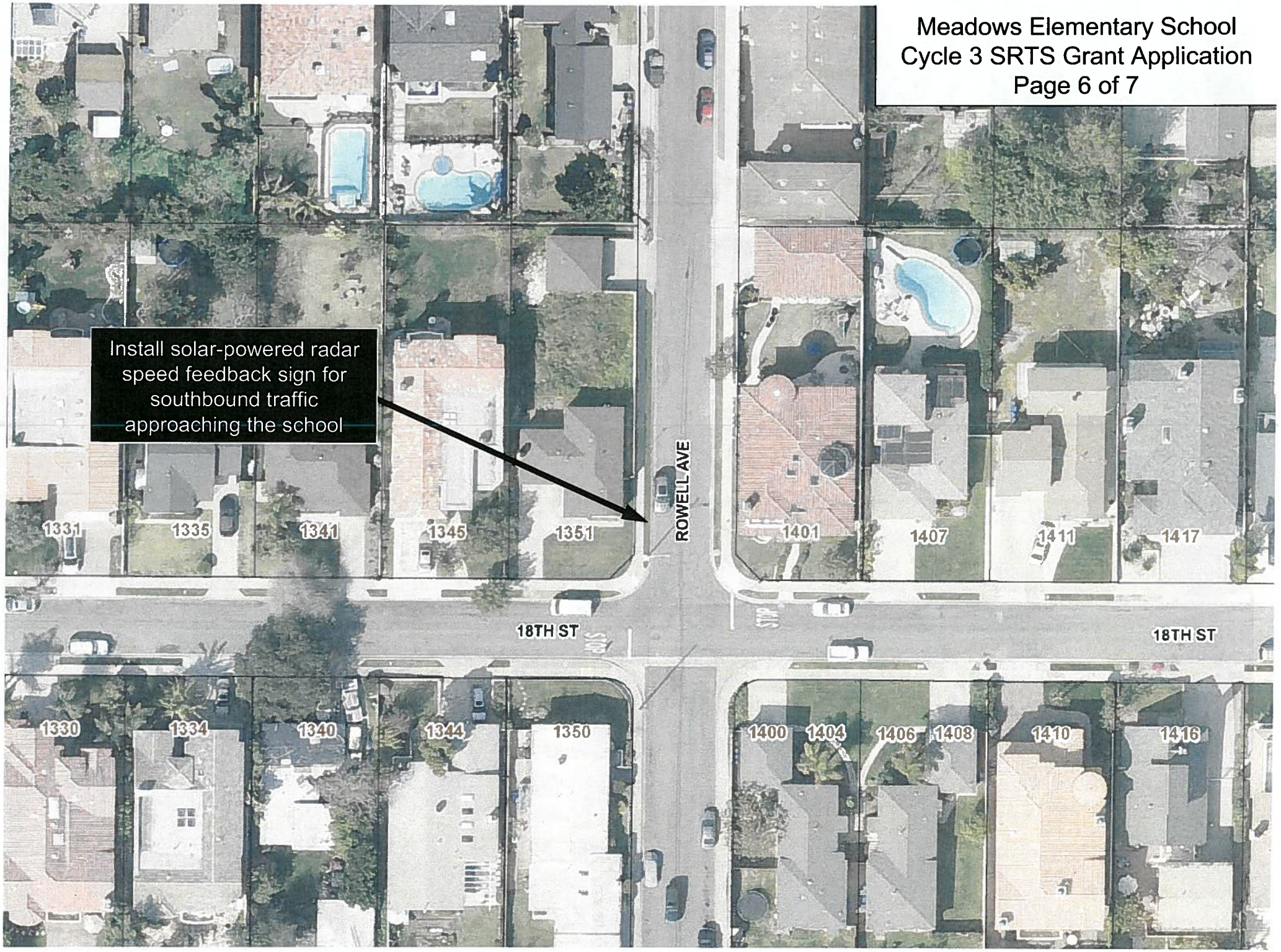

MEADOWS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
12TH ST
12TH ST
Install 200 ft of 24" red striping with "No Stopping Any Time" legend
1304
1310
1314
1320
1324
1330
1334
1340
1350
A-D
A-E
A-F
A-C
A-D
#1-7
#1-14

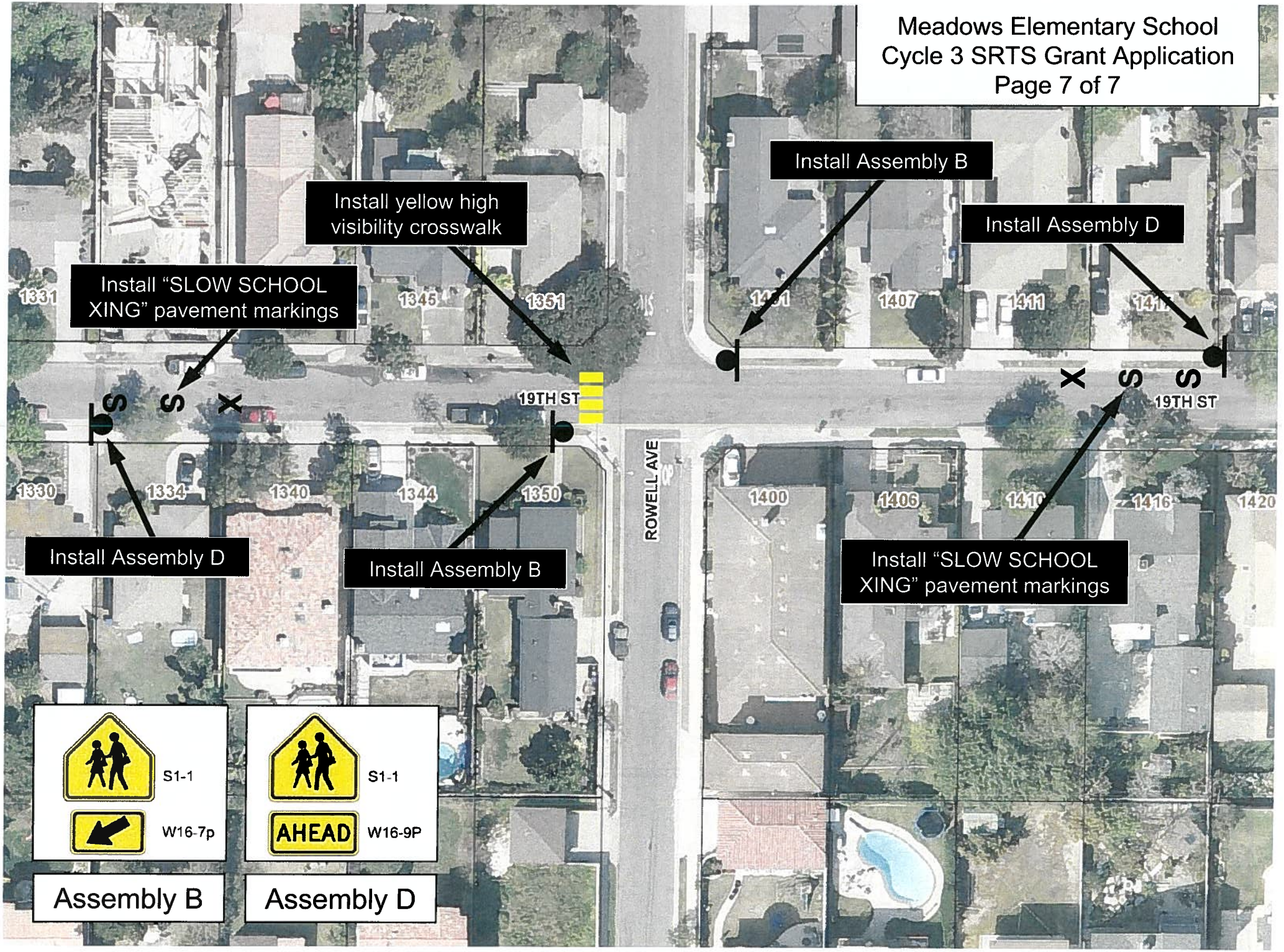

Install solar-powered red flashing beacon on existing R-1 ("STOP") sign. Beacon shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
Install solar-powered red flashing beacon on existing R-1 ("STOP") sign. Beacon shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
Construct curb extensions with ADA curb ramp
Construct curb extension with ADA curb ramps
Install solar-powered red flashing beacon on existing R-1 ("STOP") sign. Beacon shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
STOP
15TH ST
15TH ST
ROWELL AVE
MEADOWS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
1400
1406
A-B
A-B
Note: Crosswalks shown have been replaced with high visibility crosswalks since aerial was taken



Install solar-powered red flashing beacons (4) on existing R-1 ("STOP") signs. Beacons shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods

Note: Crosswalks shown have been replaced with high visibility crosswalks since aerial was taken


Install solar-powered radar speed feedback sign for southbound traffic approaching the school
ROWELL AVE
18TH ST
18TH ST
1331
1335
1341
1345
1351
1401
1407
1411
1417
1330
1334
1340
1344
1350
1400
1404
1406
1408
1410
1416


Install yellow high visibility crosswalk
Install "SLOW SCHOOL XING" pavement markings
Install Assembly B
Install Assembly D
Install Assembly D
Install Assembly B
Install "SLOW SCHOOL XING" pavement markings
19TH ST
19TH ST
ROWELL AVE
1331
1345
1351
1330
1334
1340
1344
1350
1400
1406
1410
1416
1420
S1-1
W16-7p
S1-1
AHEAD
W16-9P
Assembly B
Assembly D


Pacific Elementary School
Cycle 3 SRTS Grant Application
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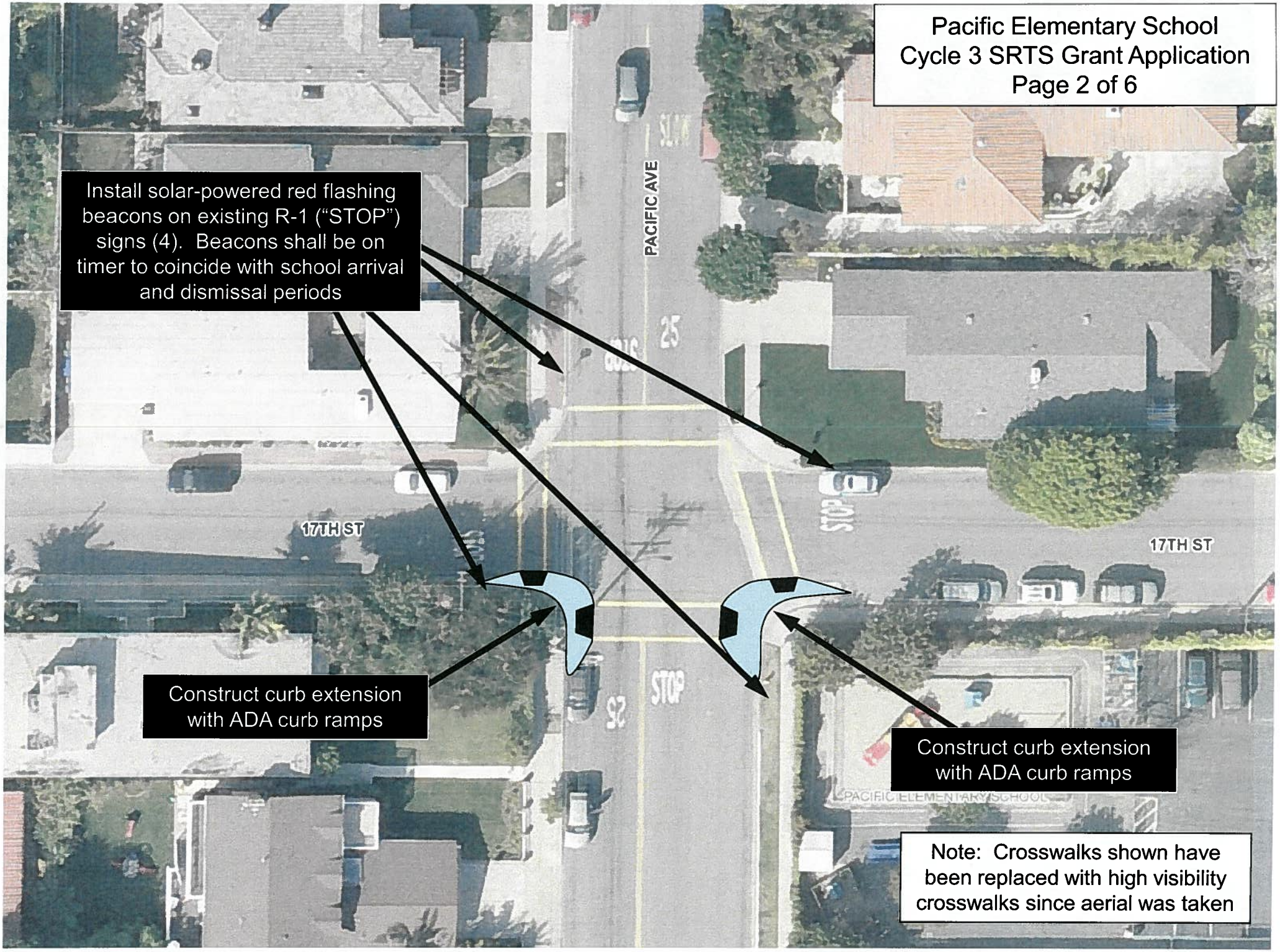
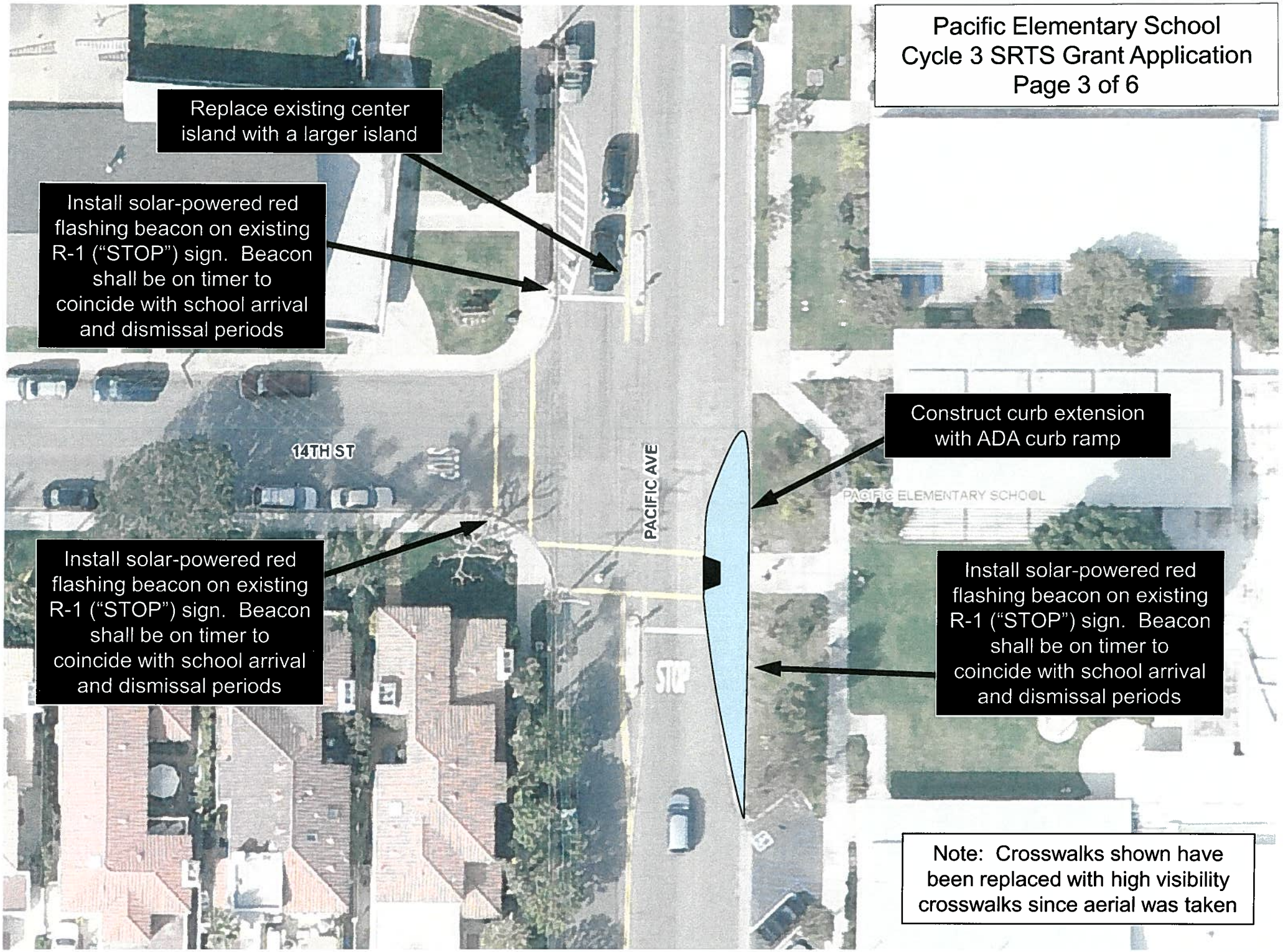
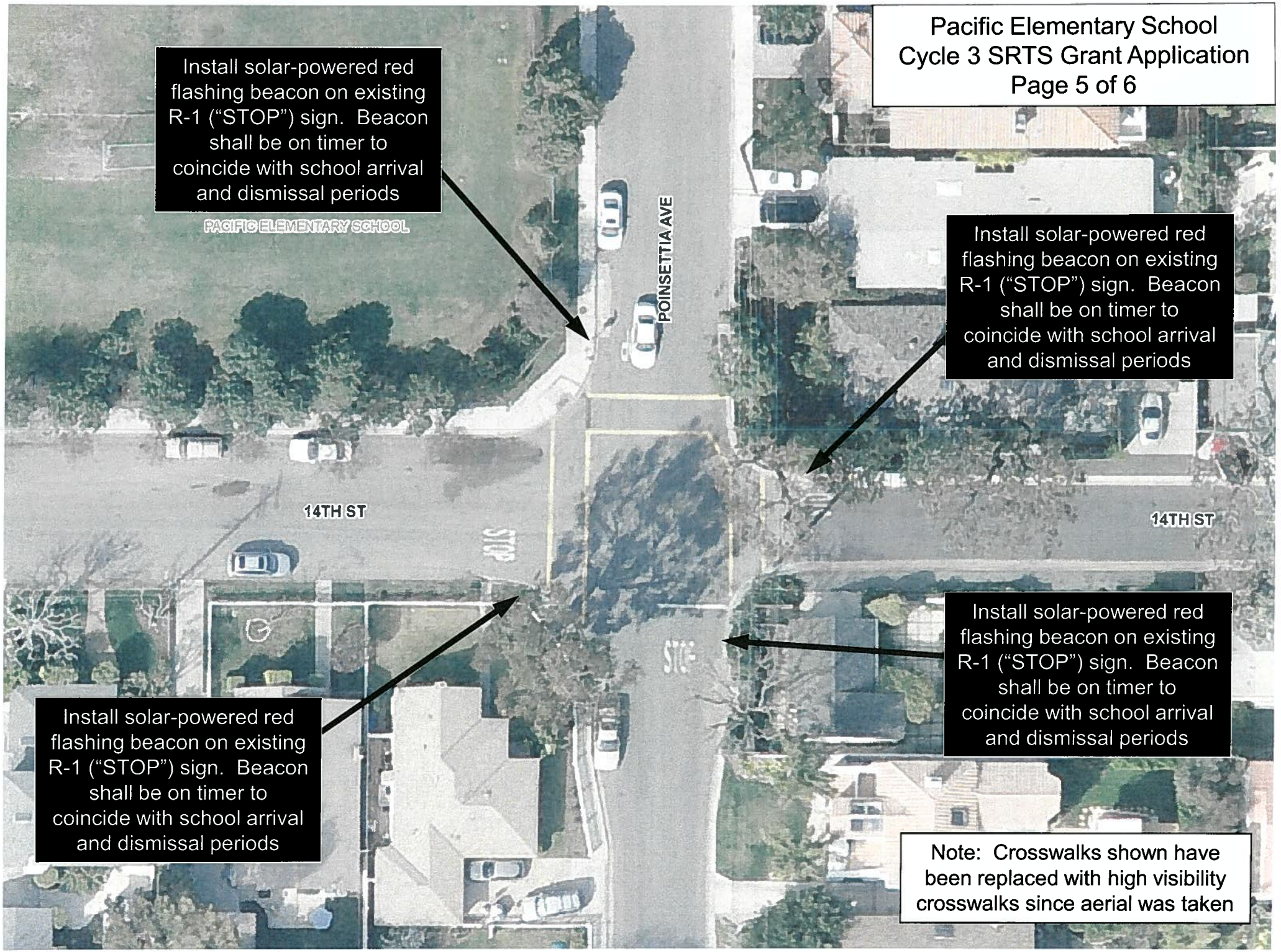
Construct curb extensions with ADA curb ramps
Install solar-powered red flashing beacons on existing R-1 ("STOP") signs (4).
Construct curb extension with ADA curb ramps
Install solar-powered red flashing beacons on existing R-1 ("STOP") signs (4).
Install solar-powered red flashing beacons on existing R-1 ("STOP") signs (3).
Construct curb extension with ADA curb ramps
Construct curb extension with ADA curb ramps
Install solar-powered red flashing beacons on existing R-1 ("STOP") signs (4).
Install radar feedback sign for northbound traffic
EXHIBIT E
PPIC Mtg 6/9/11
19TH ST
LAUREL AVE
18TH ST
17TH ST
15TH ST
14TH ST
12TH CT
ARBO LADO CT
VILLA ESCUELA
CENTER PL
12TH ST
MANHATTAN BEACH BLVD
11TH ST
11TH PL
FISHER AVE
PACIFIC AVE
PACIFIC PL
HIGHVIEW AVE
RAILROAD PL
ARDMORE AVE
10TH ST
9TH ST
POINSETTIA AVE
DIANTHUS ST
WALNUT AVE
PINE AVE
OAK AVE
SEPULVEDA BLVD
AMERICAN MARTYRS SCHOOL
PACIFIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL


Install solar-powered red flashing beacons on existing R-1 ("STOP") signs (4). Beacons shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
PACIFIC AVE
17TH ST
17TH ST
STOP
STOP
Construct curb extension with ADA curb ramps
Construct curb extension with ADA curb ramps
PACIFIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Note: Crosswalks shown have been replaced with high visibility crosswalks since aerial was taken


Replace existing center island with a larger island
Install solar-powered red flashing beacon on existing R-1 ("STOP") sign. Beacon shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
14TH ST
PACIFIC AVE
Construct curb extension with ADA curb ramp
PACIFIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Install solar-powered red flashing beacon on existing R-1 ("STOP") sign. Beacon shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
STOP
Install solar-powered red flashing beacon on existing R-1 ("STOP") sign. Beacon shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
Note: Crosswalks shown have been replaced with high visibility crosswalks since aerial was taken


LAUREL SQ
14TH ST
LAUREL AVE
VILLA ESCUELA
13TH ST
ARBO LADO CT
PACIFIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
12TH CT
PACIFIC AVE
Install solar-powered radar speed feedback sign for northbound traffic approaching the school
12TH ST
CENTER PL
MANHATTAN BEACH BLVD


Install solar-powered red flashing beacon on existing R-1 ("STOP") sign. Beacon shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
PACIFIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
POINSETTIA AVE
Install solar-powered red flashing beacon on existing R-1 ("STOP") sign. Beacon shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
14TH ST
14TH ST
STOP
STOP
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Install solar-powered red flashing beacon on existing R-1 ("STOP") sign. Beacon shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
Note: Crosswalks shown have been replaced with high visibility crosswalks since aerial was taken

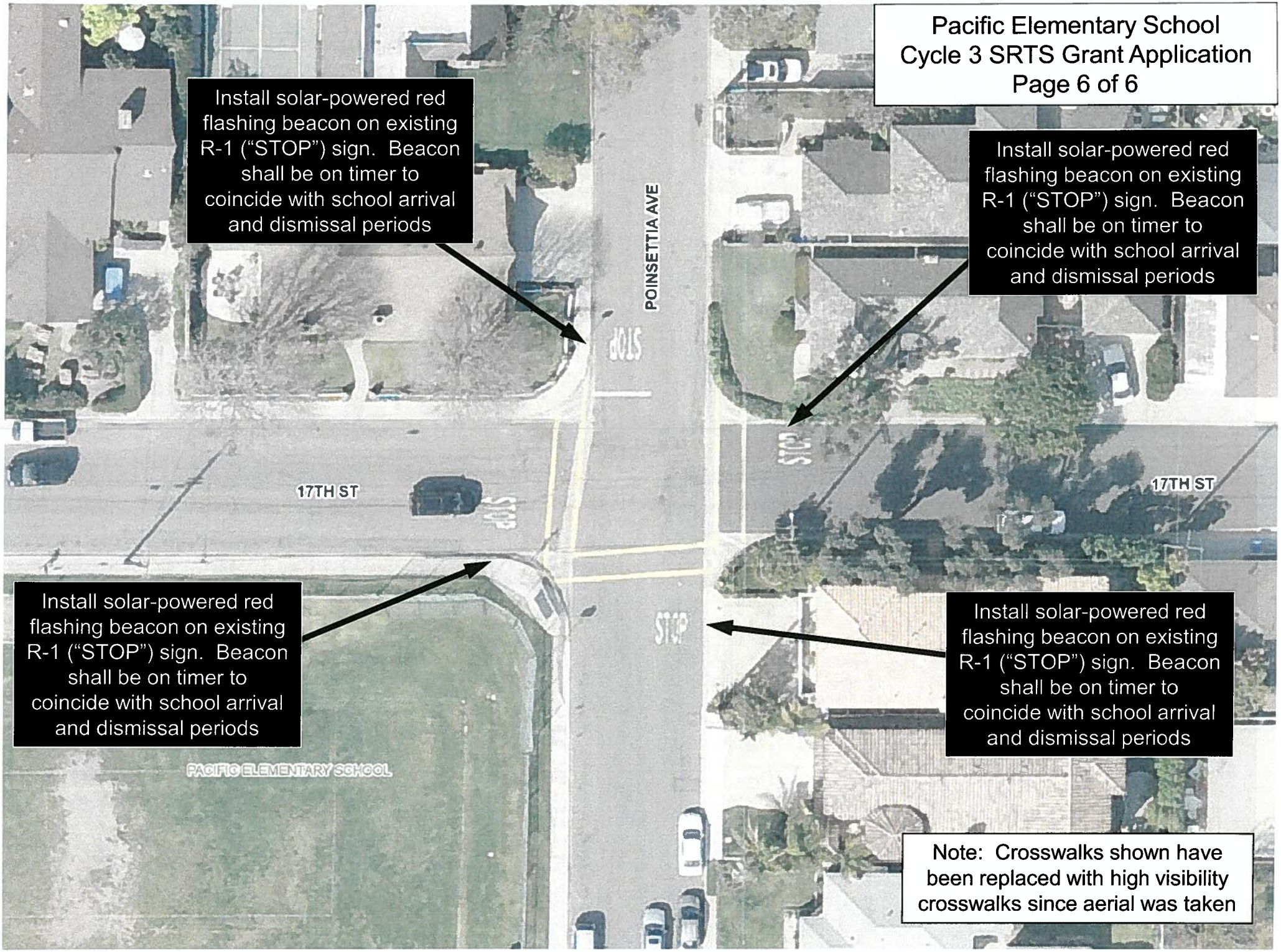
Install solar-powered red flashing beacon on existing R-1 ("STOP") sign. Beacon shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
POINSETTIA AVE
STOP
17TH ST
Install solar-powered red flashing beacon on existing R-1 ("STOP") sign. Beacon shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
STOP
17TH ST
Install solar-powered red flashing beacon on existing R-1 ("STOP") sign. Beacon shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
STOP
Install solar-powered red flashing beacon on existing R-1 ("STOP") sign. Beacon shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
PACIFIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Note: Crosswalks shown have been replaced with high visibility crosswalks since aerial was taken

EXHIBIT F
PPIC Mtg 6/9/11

Robinson Elementary School
Cycle 3 SRTS Grant Application
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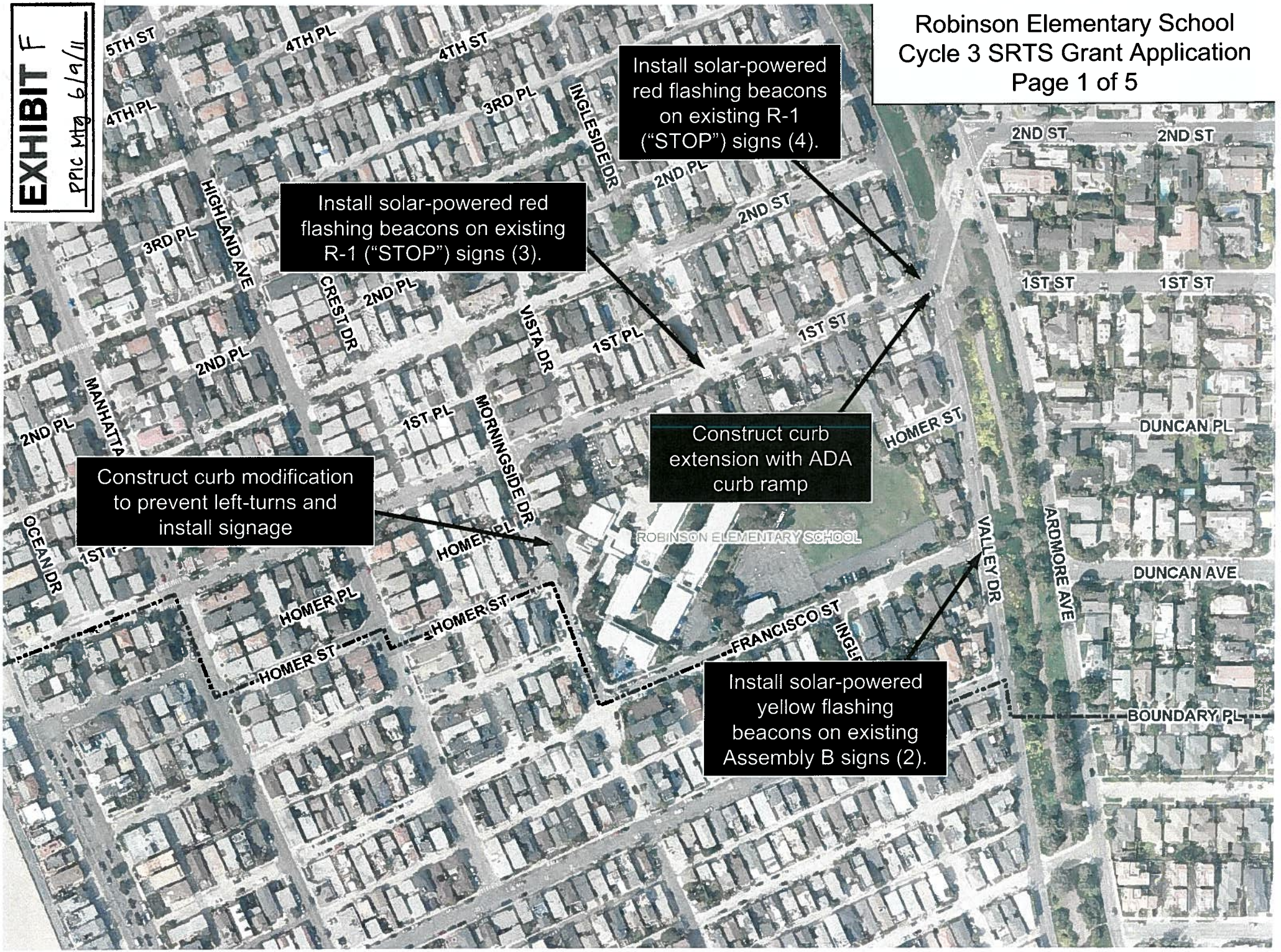
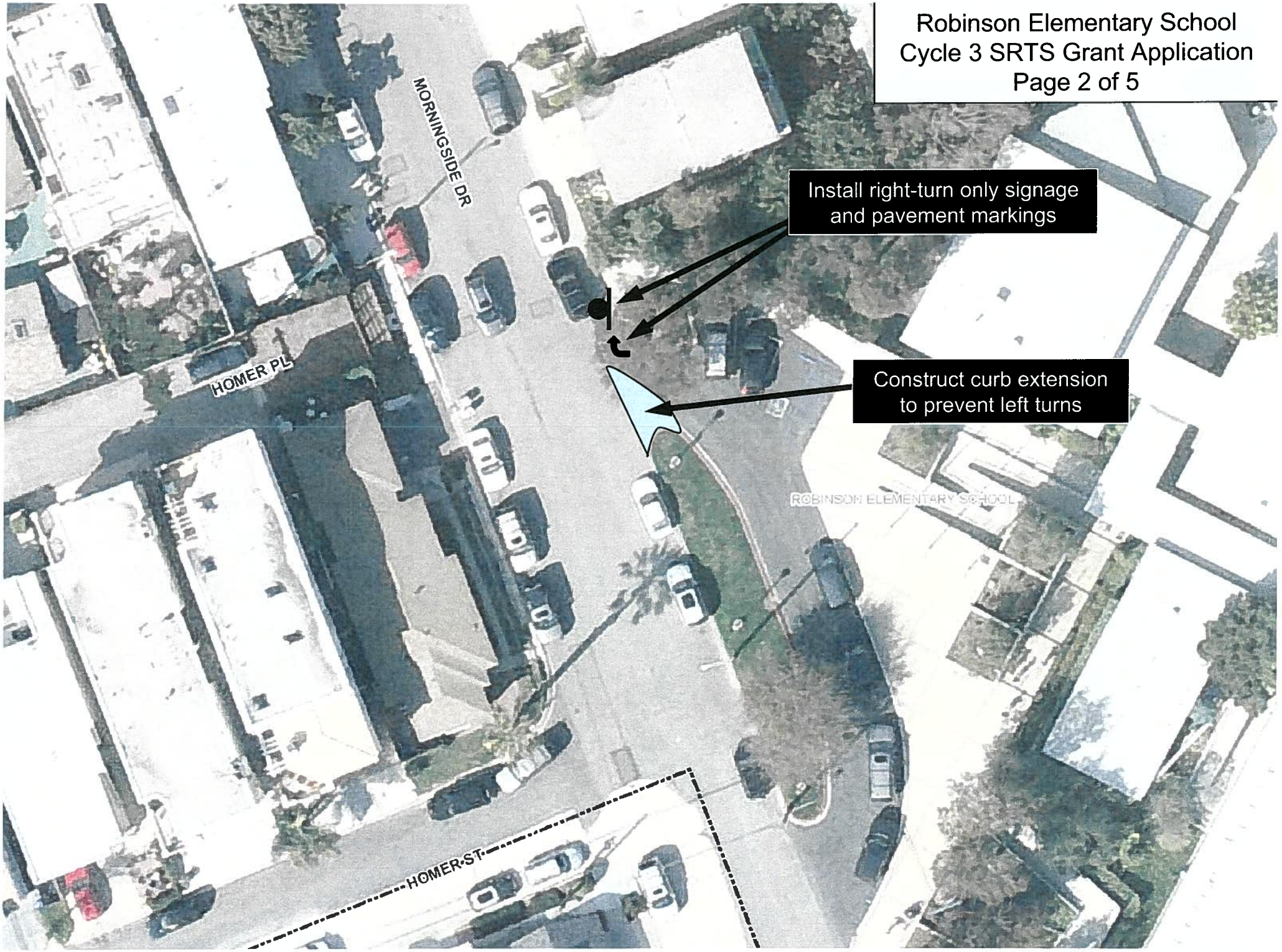
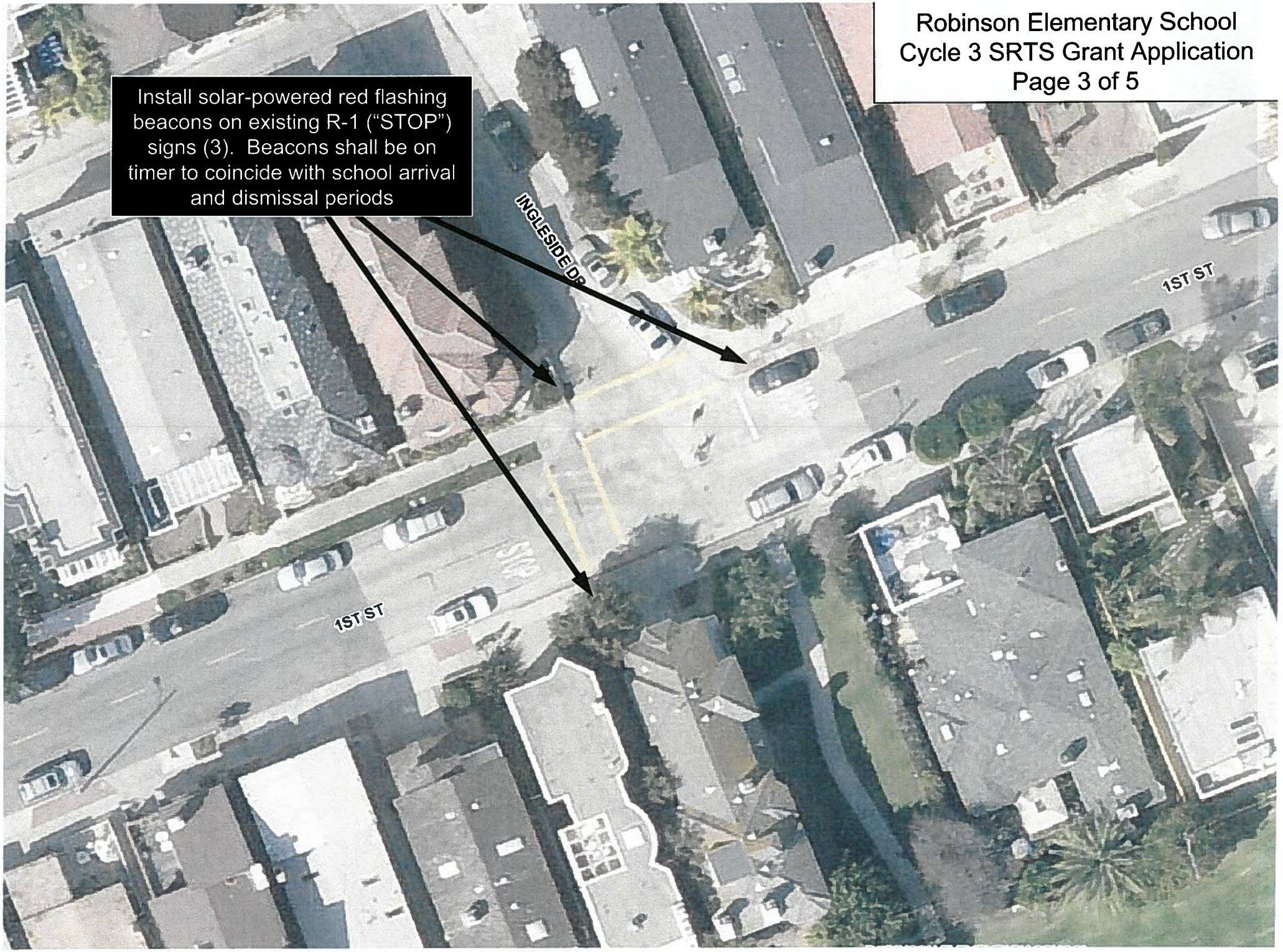
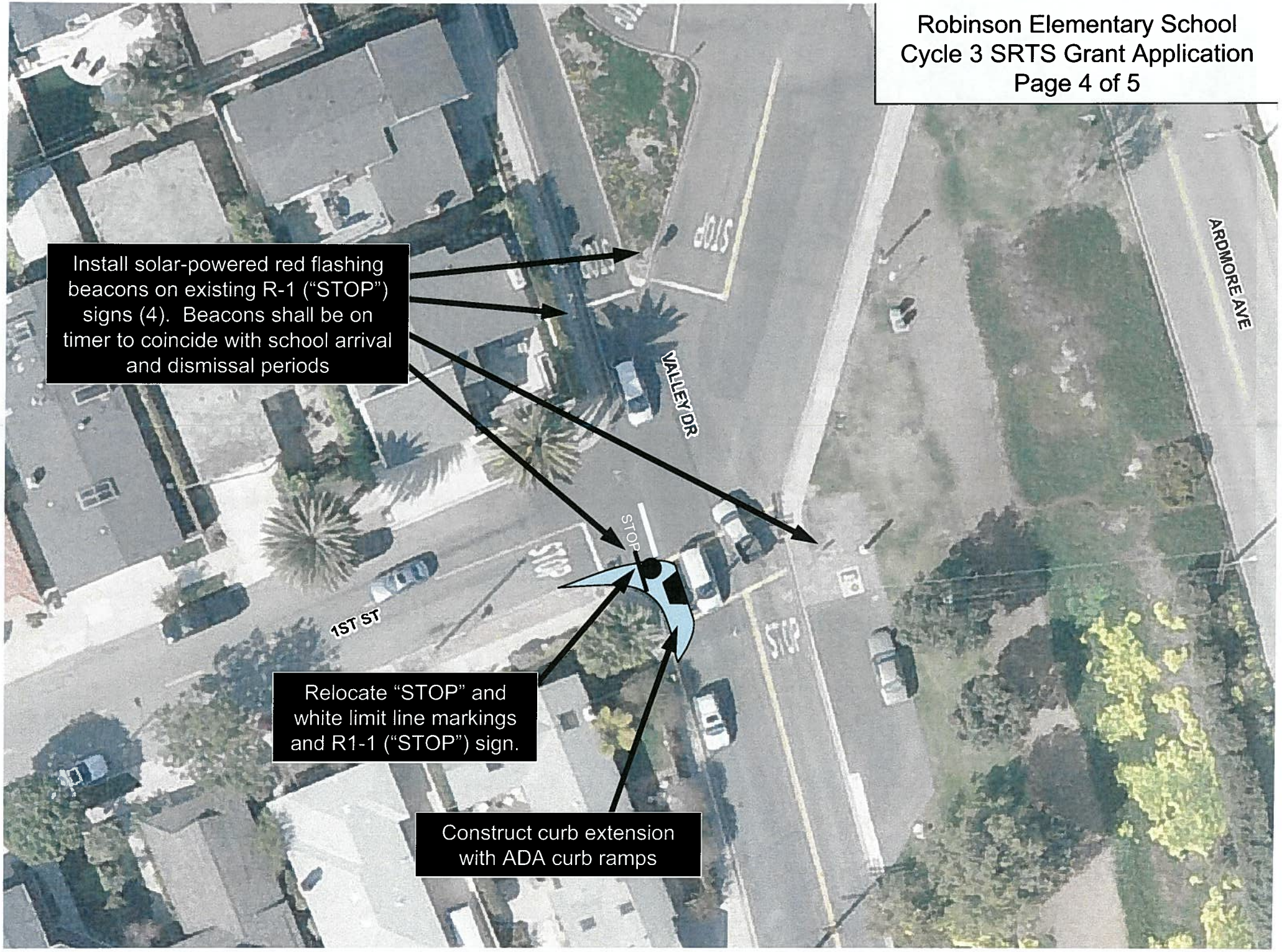



Install right-turn only signage and pavement markings
Construct curb extension to prevent left turns
MORNINGSIDE DR
HOMER PL
HOMER ST
ROBINSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL


Install solar-powered red flashing beacons on existing R-1 ("STOP") signs (3). Beacons shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
INGLESIDE DR
1ST ST
1ST ST


Install solar-powered red flashing beacons on existing R-1 ("STOP") signs (4). Beacons shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods
Relocate "STOP" and white limit line markings and R1-1 ("STOP") sign.
Construct curb extension with ADA curb ramps
VALLEY DR
1ST ST
ARDMORE AVE
STOP
STOP
STOP
STOP


ROBINSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
VALLEY DR
FRANCISCO ST
Install solar-powered yellow flashing beacons on existing Assembly B signs (2). Beacons shall be on timer to coincide with school arrival and dismissal periods