



# Alternative #7: Change Transit Technology

- buses - mixed traffic
- buses - high occupancy, reserved lanes





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# Change Transit Technology *Background*

## *Facts*

- electric vehicles produce no pollution on street
  - at source; 83% less than buses
- buses carry fewer people → +41% more buses
- cost:
  - buses \$18 - \$25 million (none available)
  - garage space \$8 million (none available)
  - rebuild road without tracks ~ \$13 million
- transit users prefer streetcars (smoother, quieter ride)
  - attract more riders
- rail transit shows long-term commitment to community
  - inspires confidence, investment



# Change Transit Technology

## Team Evaluation:

- no improvement to transit quality, reliability, capacity
- no increase in transit ridership; possible decrease
  - reduced ride quality
- HOV lanes - improve travel time (worsen with congestion)
- less ability to accommodate future growth
- buses more adaptable to changing conditions, technology
- better sidewalk access to buses
- possible reduction in road capacity, on-street parking
- conflicts with OP objectives: transit, development



# Change Transit Technology

## Team Evaluation:

- possible loss of investment (downgrade transit)
- bus stops - on-street loading, deliveries, parking
- higher noise levels, worse air quality
- high capital costs ~ \$39 - \$46 million



# Change Transit Technology

## Community Workshop Evaluation:

- buses less attractive; people prefer streetcars
- buses: bumpy, “low class”
- look at hybrid, alternative technology buses
- might affect parking
- will increase pollution
- good -- remove unsightly overhead wires



# Change Transit Technology

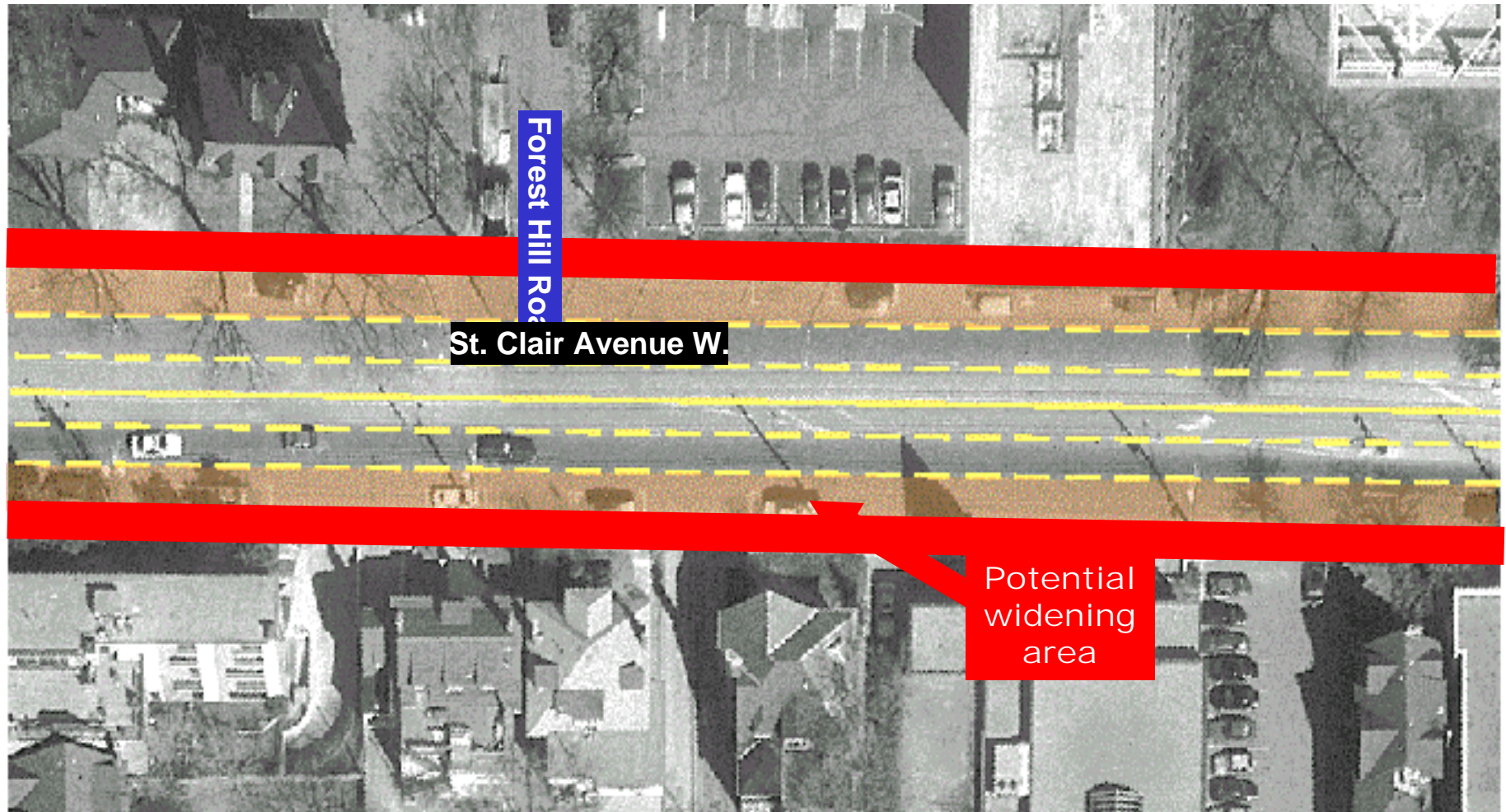
## Recommendation:

- little/no benefit: transportation, community, environment, costs
- drop “Change Transit Technology”
  - no further work



# Alternative #8: Widen Roads

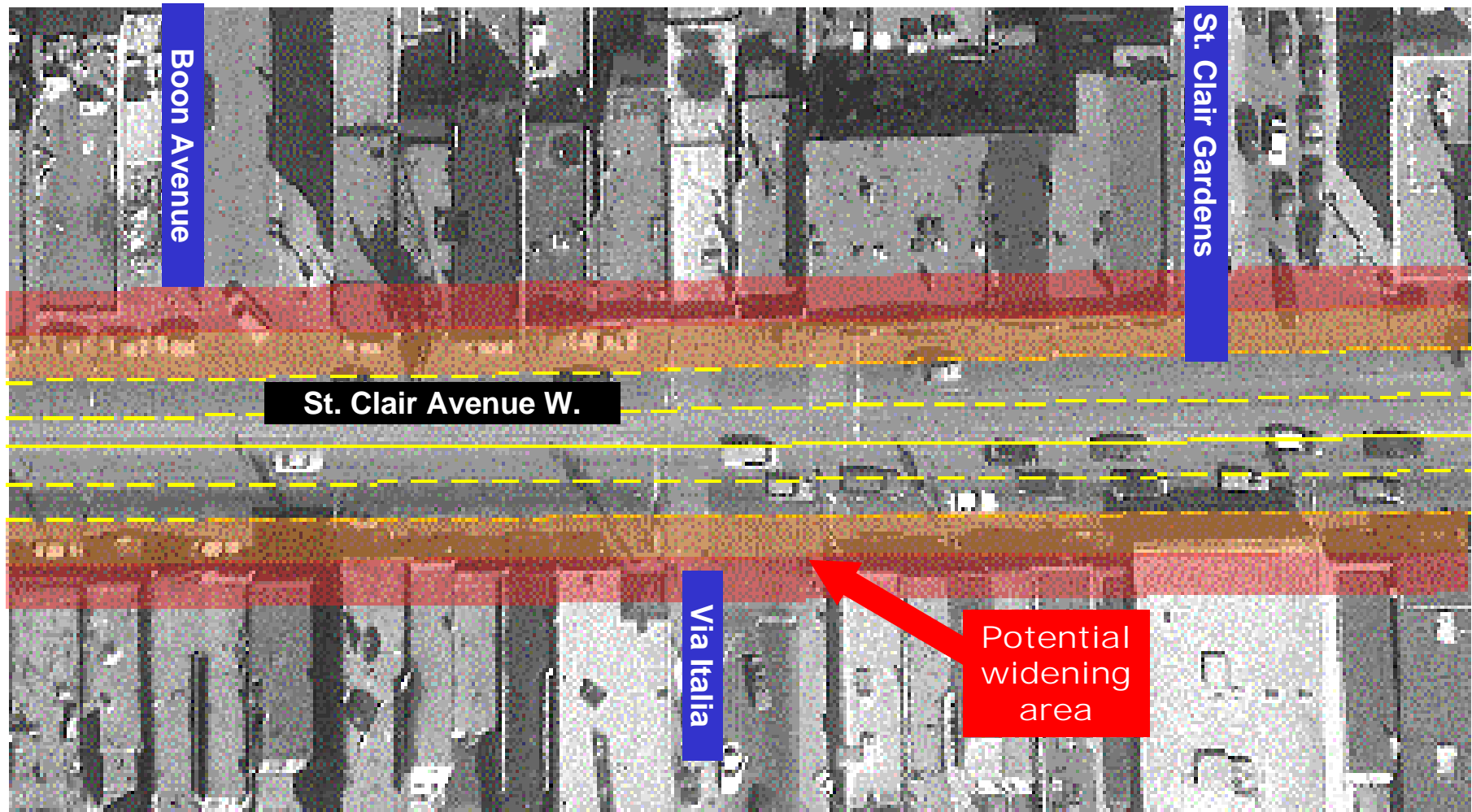
- St. Clair Avenue
- Davenport Road
- Eglinton Avenue
- Dupont Street
- Rogers Rd





# Alternative #8: Widen Roads

- St. Clair Avenue
- Davenport Road
- Eglinton Avenue
- Dupont Street
- Rogers Rd





# Widen Roads *Background Facts*

- inner-City roads: no room for widenings
- traffic increases to fill available capacity
- transit needs competitive ***advantage***



# Widen Roads

## Team Evaluation:

- initial improvement in traffic, transit--then degrade as traffic congestion increases
- transit speed, reliability, quality worsen with increasing traffic
- no ability to attract, carry more riders
- increased traffic → collisions
- worse: pedestrians, cyclists
- increase in traffic - local streets



# Widen Roads

## Team Evaluation:

- conflicts with OP objectives: transit, development
- loss of trees, streetscaping, sidewalks
- increase in noise levels, pollution
- high cost



## Widen Roads

### Community Workshop Evaluation:

- negative in every way
- not a serious alternative
- consider widening at Old Weston underpass
- businesses need sidewalks to display goods
- destroy street character



# Widen Roads

## Recommendation:

- no benefits for transportation, community, business, environment, cost
- drop “Widen Roads”
  - no further work



## Alternative 9: Combining Options

- different solutions for different sections
- recognizes diverse character, needs, constraints, physical characteristics
- recommended alternatives for detailed analysis:
  - #2: minor transportation improvements
  - #3: transit priority improvements
  - #6: exclusive transit lanes
  - #9: combinations of these
- modelling, testing, design



## Next steps

- We will use your comments finalize the list of preferred alternatives – **DEADLINE: April 21, 2004**
- The next meetings will be the last week in May.
  - Design concepts and evaluation will be presented
- Please check the website for further updates:  
<http://www.toronto.ca/planningstudies>
- Comments can be made via e-mail at [stclairwestea@toronto.ca](mailto:stclairwestea@toronto.ca) or by phoning Christine Iamonaco-Dagg at 416-392-4312, TTY: 416-397-0831, Fax: 416-392-2974.
- 24-hour comment lines in Italian: 416-392-3760 and Portuguese: 416-338-2850.

Please leave your comment sheet in the box and sign up for the mailing list to receive study updates.



## Ground Rules

- When someone is talking we are listening
- Speak respectfully to the study team (no swearing, shouting or name calling)
- Limit your question or comment to 2 minutes
- Speak once



## Discussion Period

Questions?

Comments