

3.6 Access Control Plan

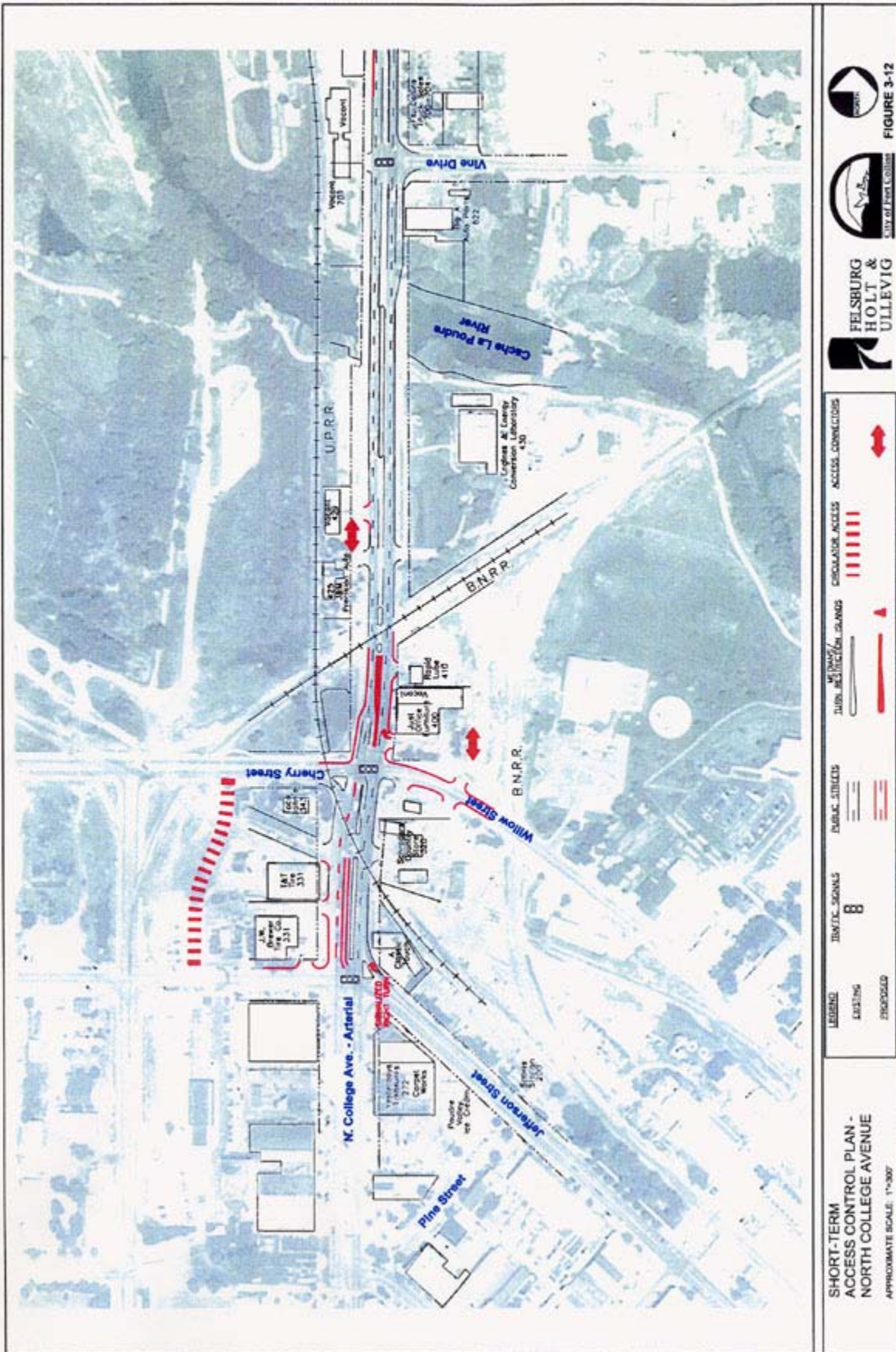
This section presents the Access Control Plan which has been formulated through the considerable input of the governing agencies, organized business owner and homeowner groups, individual property owners and the public. After considering both existing and future conditions in the corridor, the plan defines how access for future development should be planned. The Access Control Plan is prepared in two sub-sections, a Short-Term plan and a Long-Range plan. Existing access conditions along North College Avenue compelled the project team to look at immediate improvements that could reduce the accident potential of the corridor as well as long-range improvements that would change the character of North College Avenue.

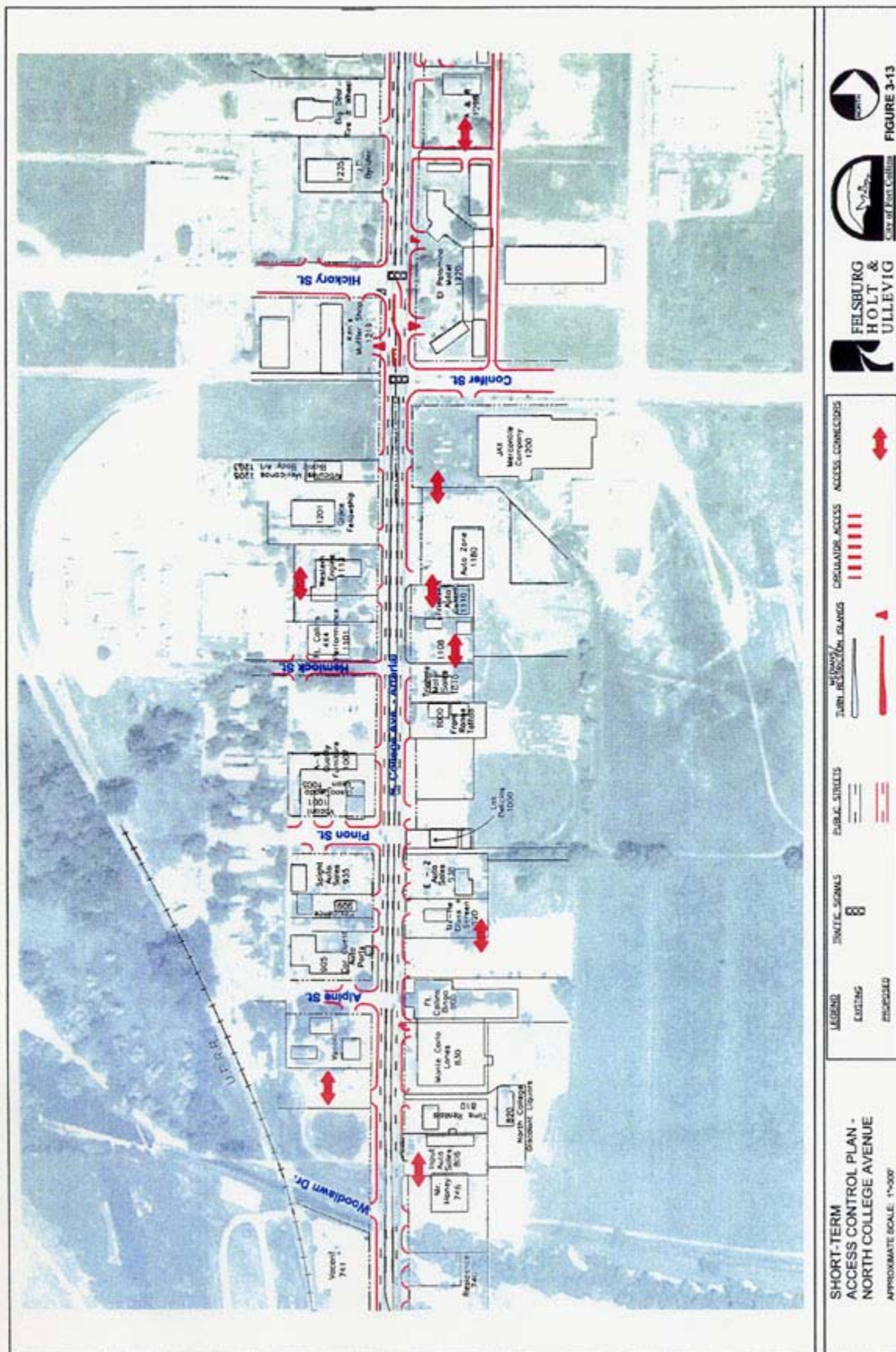
Conceptual level cost estimates for the recommended access improvements have been prepared, and the relative priority for each improvement along the corridor is documented. The narratives included in this chapter are meant to serve as a summary of the key features of the plan. A detailed explanation of every access change in the corridor is presented in the Intergovernmental Agreement. The Access Control Plan is also illustrated on aerial photographs (Short-Term on Figures 3-12 through 3-15 and Long-Range on Figures 3-16 through 3-19).

Short-Term Plan Recommendations

The more significant improvements along North College Avenue for the Short-Term plan are listed below. The list is not a complete list of all of the recommended improvements, however. Other improvements have been shown on the aerial photographs and typically include improvements to a specific access such as combining/sharing access, closing an access or providing other means of accessing the state highway system. All of the recommended access changes and corridor improvements are listed in the IGA in Appendix A. The improvements are listed in order from the south end of the project to the north end.

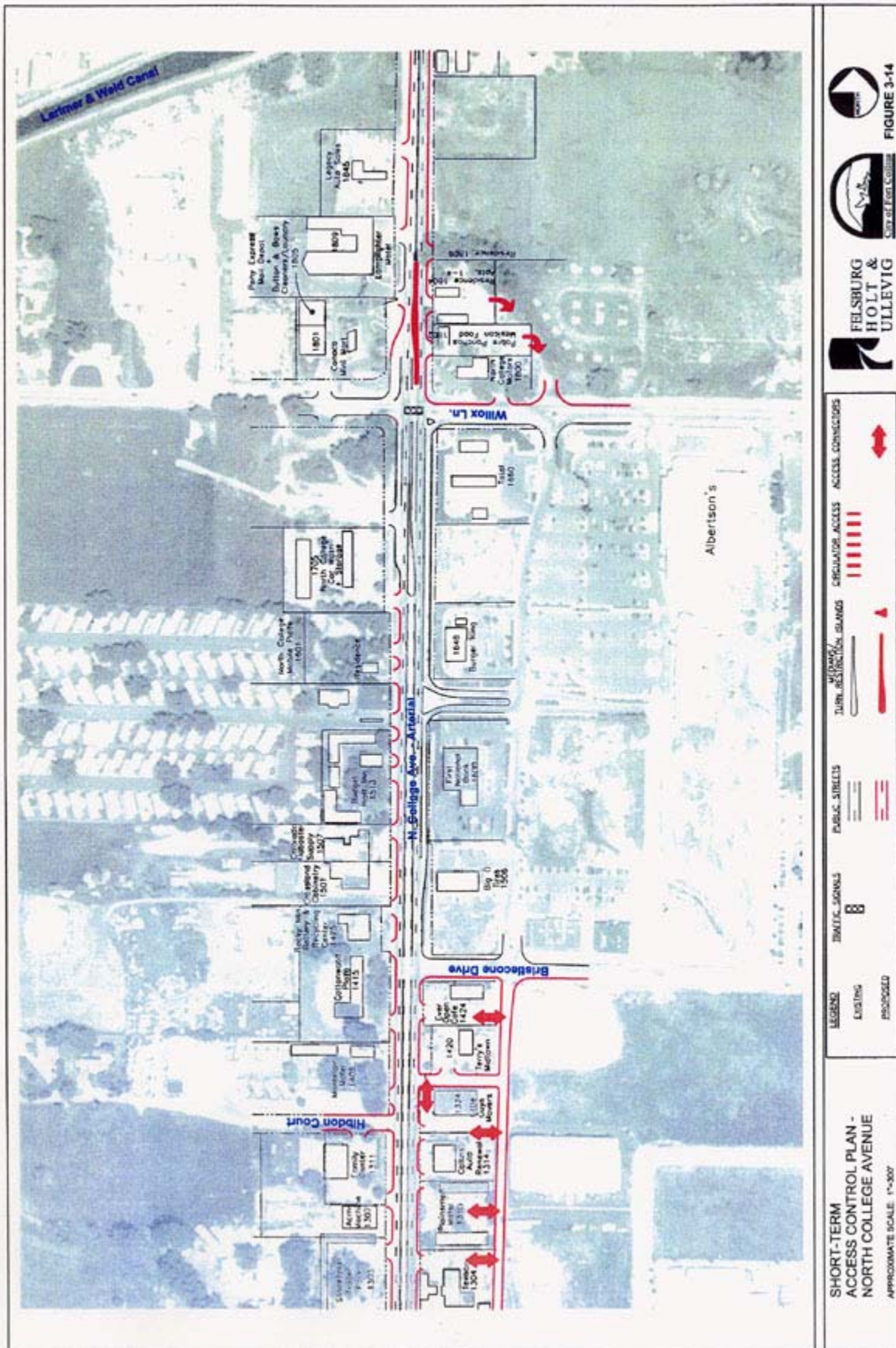
- Construct a second southbound left turn lane at Jefferson Street. In addition, modify the existing traffic signal to signalize the westbound Jefferson Street right turn movement. This modification will eliminate vehicle weaving between this movement and the northbound left turn lane at Cherry Street; however, consideration should be given to parking restrictions and right-of-way requirements.
- Construct a raised median on North College Avenue directly to the north of Cherry Street/Willow Street. Medians in this location would connect existing medians to the north and south and provide an almost continuous median between Jefferson Street and the Cache La Poudre River. A “back access” connection to Willow Street should be provided for affected properties along the east side of North College Avenue, specifically, Rapid Lube and Just Office Furniture.
- Construct a definitive access at the JAX Mercantile Company. Currently, access is provided along the entire frontage of this parcel and a high accident history exists. By defining a specific access location, turning movements can be concentrated at one location, thereby reducing the accident potential.





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FIGURE 3-13



- Construct a RIRO turn restriction island at Ken’s Muffler Shop to limit vehicle movements to right turns only.
- Establish via pavement marking changes separate northbound and southbound left turn lanes between Hickory and Conifer Streets on North College Avenue.
- Construct turn restriction islands at the El Palomino Motel to limit vehicle movements to only RIRO at the south access (nearest Conifer Street) and to ¾ movements at the northern access (directly north of Hickory Street).
- Improve the area between Terry’s Midtown and Little Guys Movers to establish an “alley-type” access between North College Avenue and the public alley behind these properties. This area could be used for improved access; however, legal constraints regarding actual property ownership are in question.
- Pave the public alley that is directly to the east of North College Avenue, and between Bristlecone Drive and Conifer Street. Improvements to the alley would promote back access to eight separate parcels in this area.
- Construct a raised median along North College Avenue directly to the north of Willox Lane. In addition, provide an alternative “back access” to Willox Lane for affected properties along the east side of North College Avenue, specifically, the Pobre Ponchos restaurant and the residential apartments at 1804 North College Avenue.

Long-Range Plan Recommendations

The recommended improvements for North College Avenue are listed below. The character of North College Avenue is anticipated to change dramatically and the recommendations reflect the projected transportation improvements necessary to accommodate the expected traffic volumes. All of the recommended access changes and corridor improvements are listed in the IGA. There are improvement recommendations that are common along the corridor and they are listed first. The improvements are listed in geographical order, from south to north.

Corridor-Wide Improvements

- Construct the City of Fort Collins arterial street cross-section which consists of four through lanes (2 each direction), a 19' raised, landscaped median, bike lanes, sidewalk and a 10' parkway within a 115' right-of-way. Parts of the median will have been constructed during the Short-Term improvement phase, however, the majority of the raised median would still require construction. Raised medians should not be constructed until appropriate segments of the parallel street system are constructed so that alternate routes are available.