

Agenda Item: Decision on Application 2019-698 Elizabeth Lane

DATE: July 31, 2019
FROM: Jay Camp

Background/Issue:

- On July 23rd, Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend approval of the rezoning request. The proposed new afternoon dismissal plan for vehicular queuing and a 3-year extension of the sunset clause for the mobile units were part of the recommendation.
- A revised queuing plan with additional detail is attached to this memo.

Proposal/Solution:

- The school principal, Crystal Lail, and other Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools representatives will be in attendance to address any outstanding questions.

Financial Impact:

None

Related Town Goal(s) and/or Strategies:

Quality of Life

Economic Development/Land Use Planning

Recommended Motion/Action:

Approve Rezoning Application 2019-698

DRAFT---FOR APPROVAL

**STATEMENT OF CONSISTENCY WITH LOCAL ADOPTED GROWTH POLICIES
Final Decisions on Zoning-Related Issues**

ZONING APPLICATION # 2019-698

ZONING MOTION # _____

ADMINISTRATIVE AMENDMENT _____

Mathews Board of Commissioners adopts the checked statement below:

A) The requested zoning action, as most currently amended, is **approved**, and has been found to be **CONSISTENT** with the Mathews Land Use Plan (or other document(s)), and to be **REASONABLE**, as follows:

CONSISTENT: The proposed zoning change allows Mathews students to continue attending Elizabeth Lane Elementary School.

REASONABLE: the request allows for the continued usage of additional mobile classrooms at Elizabeth Lane Elementary and helps ensure that Mathews students attend a local school while CMS determines a best permanent solution for use of the mobile units.

OR

DRAFT – FOR DENIAL

B) The requested zoning action, as most currently amended, is **not approved**, and has been found to be **INCONSISTENT** with the Mathews Land Use Plan (or other document(s)), and **NOT REASONABLE**, as follows:

INCONSISTENT: The rezoning is inconsistent with the projected size of the school when the rezoning was first approved in 1995.

NOT REASONABLE: the use of mobile classrooms at Elizabeth Lane Elementary School have been used for over 20 years to assist with overcrowding.

(In each case, the Statement must explain why the Board deems the action reasonable and in the public interest (more than one sentence). Reasons given for a zoning request being “consistent” or “not consistent” are not subject to judicial review.)

Date: **August 5, 2019**



Updated Afternoon Dismissal Plan

Issue: Dismissal begins at 2:45, but vehicles begin arriving as early as 2:00 to wait in car line. Traffic blocks travel lanes along Elizabeth Lane and Highway 51. Vehicles frequently made illegal U-turns to enter queueing line.

Adjustment was made for 2018/2019 school year to allow car line to form in bus lot at 2:30. The adjustment addressed the issue of backup onto Highway 51, but not on Elizabeth Lane and increased number of U-turns.

2019-2020 Revised Dismissal Plan

- Cars will be allowed to enter the bus lot beginning at 2:15pm and will cue in two lanes to prevent backup on Highway 51 and Elizabeth Lane.
- An additional lane will be added to facilitate vehicle queuing.
- At 2:35, the first wave of cars will be directed to the car line, clearing space for arriving buses.
- Traffic officer will control main entrance 2:30-3:00 pm, staff will direct bus lot flow



2:15 pm
Sign placed to indicate
carpool waiting line
begins in bus lot.

Only daycare vans
and cars entering
to park allowed in
main lot.

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2:15: Cars arriving for afternoon carpool may begin queueing in the bus lot.

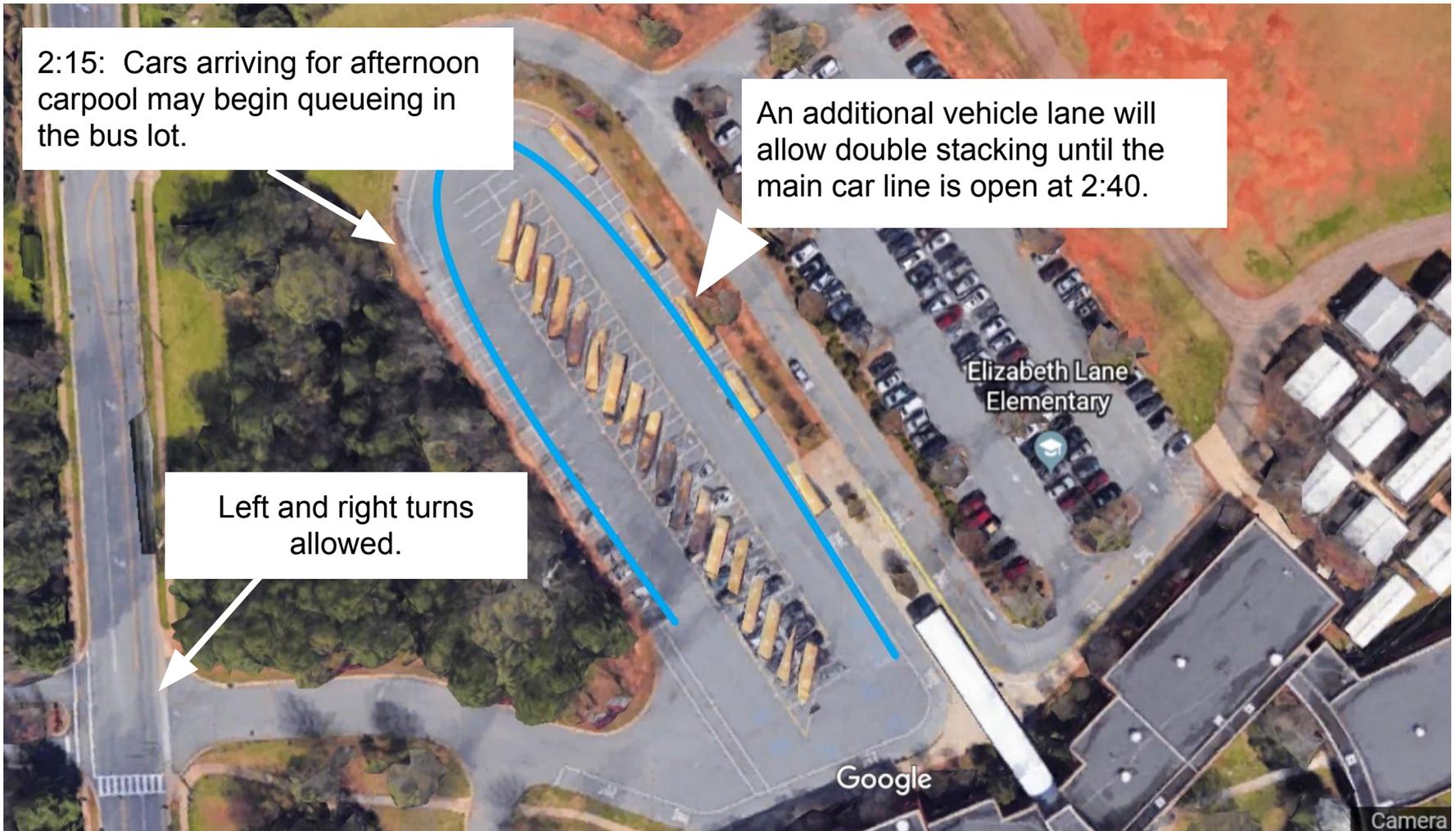
An additional vehicle lane will allow double stacking until the main car line is open at 2:40.

Left and right turns allowed.

Elizabeth Lane Elementary

Google

Camera



Main driveway remains open for daycare vans and vehicles entering to park in lot.

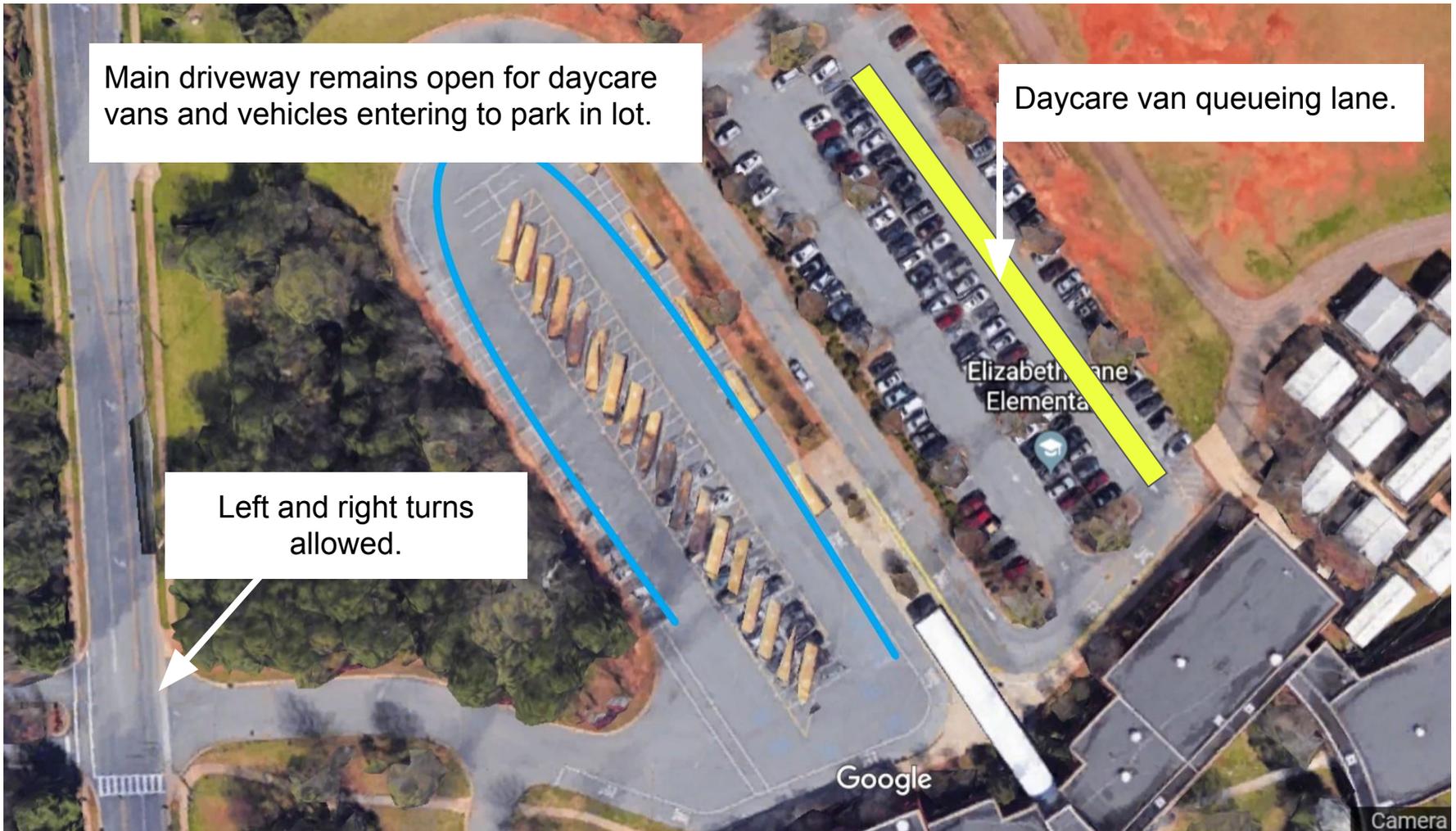
Daycare van queueing lane.

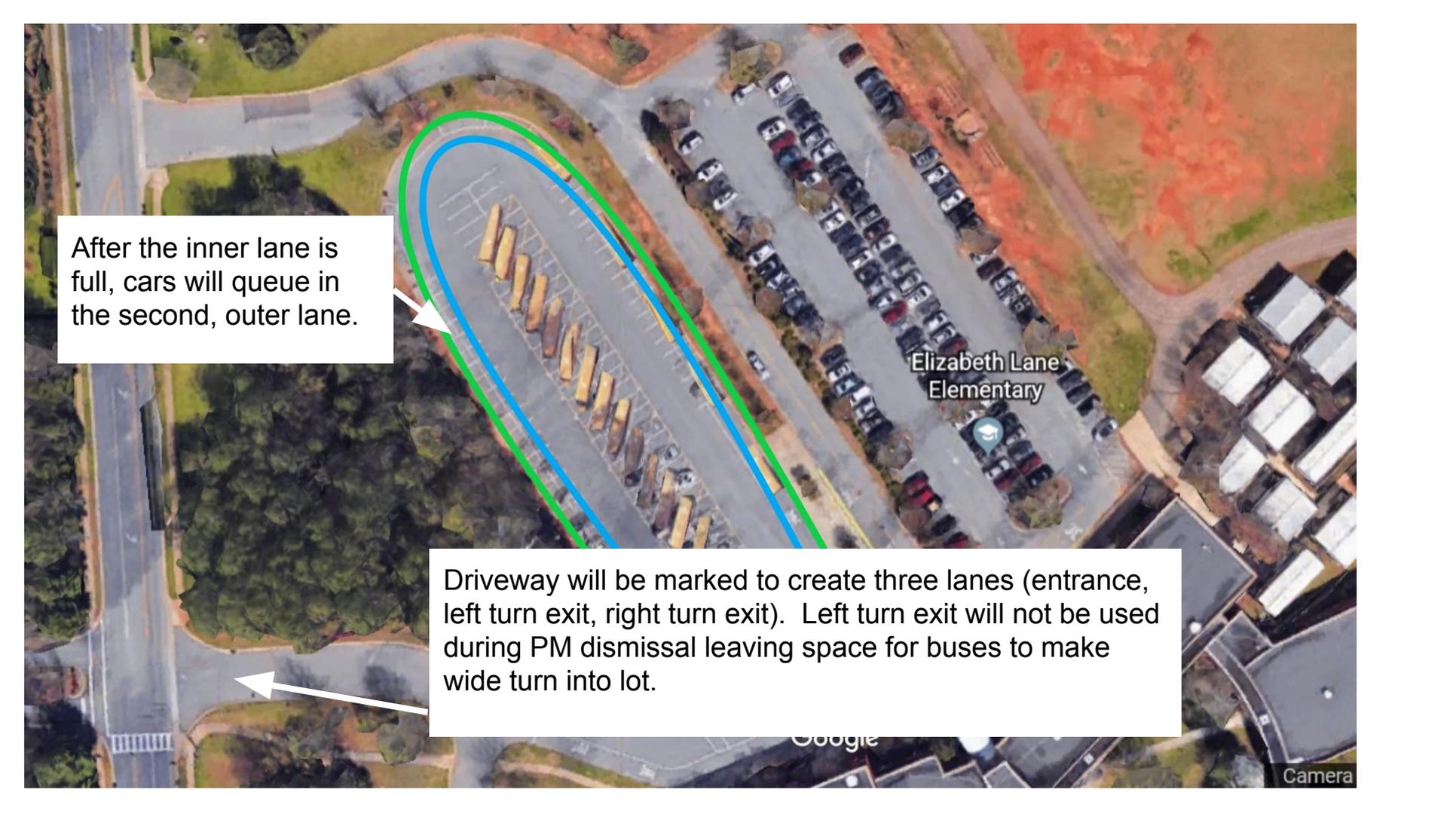
Left and right turns allowed.

Elizabeth Lane
Elementary

Google

Camera



An aerial photograph of a school parking lot. The lot is divided into several sections. A central section contains a row of yellow school buses. To the right, there is a large lot filled with cars. A road curves around the top and right sides of the lot. Two colored lines, one blue and one green, are overlaid on the road to indicate lane markings. A white arrow points from a text box to the blue line. Another white arrow points from a text box to the driveway entrance on the left side of the lot. The text 'Elizabeth Lane Elementary' is visible on the right side of the image.

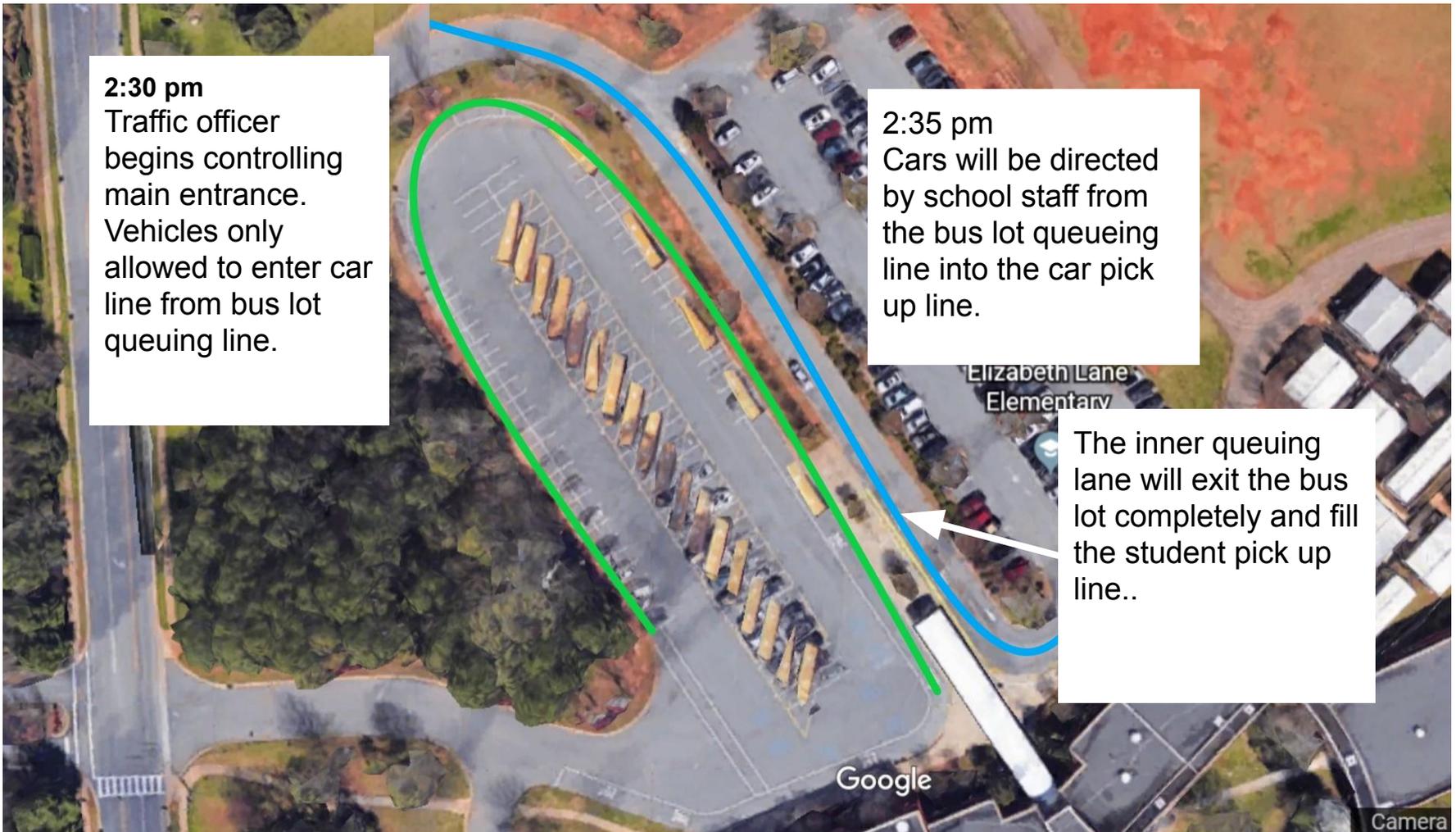
After the inner lane is full, cars will queue in the second, outer lane.

Driveway will be marked to create three lanes (entrance, left turn exit, right turn exit). Left turn exit will not be used during PM dismissal leaving space for buses to make wide turn into lot.

2:30 pm
Traffic officer
begins controlling
main entrance.
Vehicles only
allowed to enter car
line from bus lot
queuing line.

2:35 pm
Cars will be directed
by school staff from
the bus lot queuing
line into the car pick
up line.

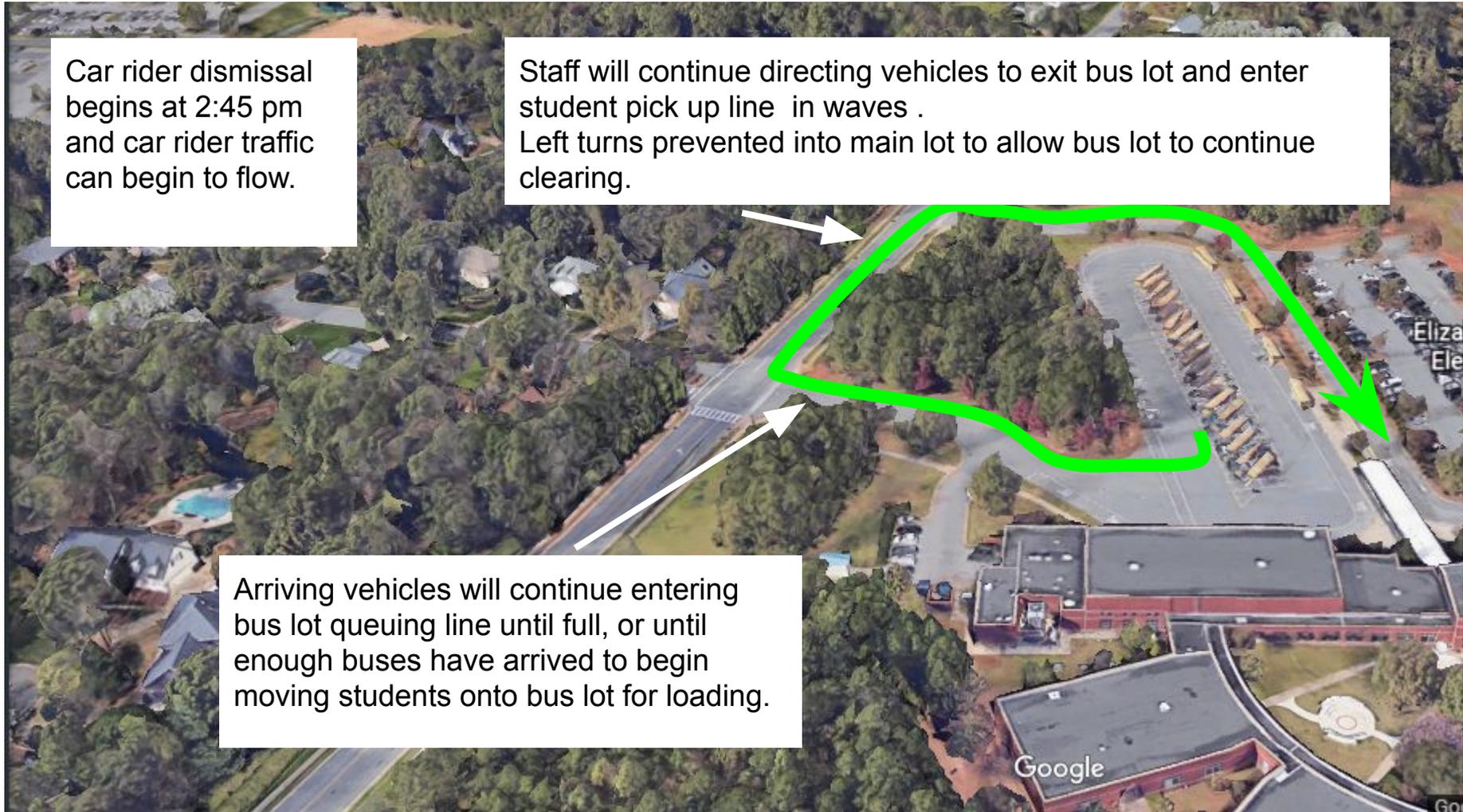
The inner queuing
lane will exit the bus
lot completely and fill
the student pick up
line..



Car rider dismissal begins at 2:45 pm and car rider traffic can begin to flow.

Staff will continue directing vehicles to exit bus lot and enter student pick up line in waves .
Left turns prevented into main lot to allow bus lot to continue clearing.

Arriving vehicles will continue entering bus lot queuing line until full, or until enough buses have arrived to begin moving students onto bus lot for loading.



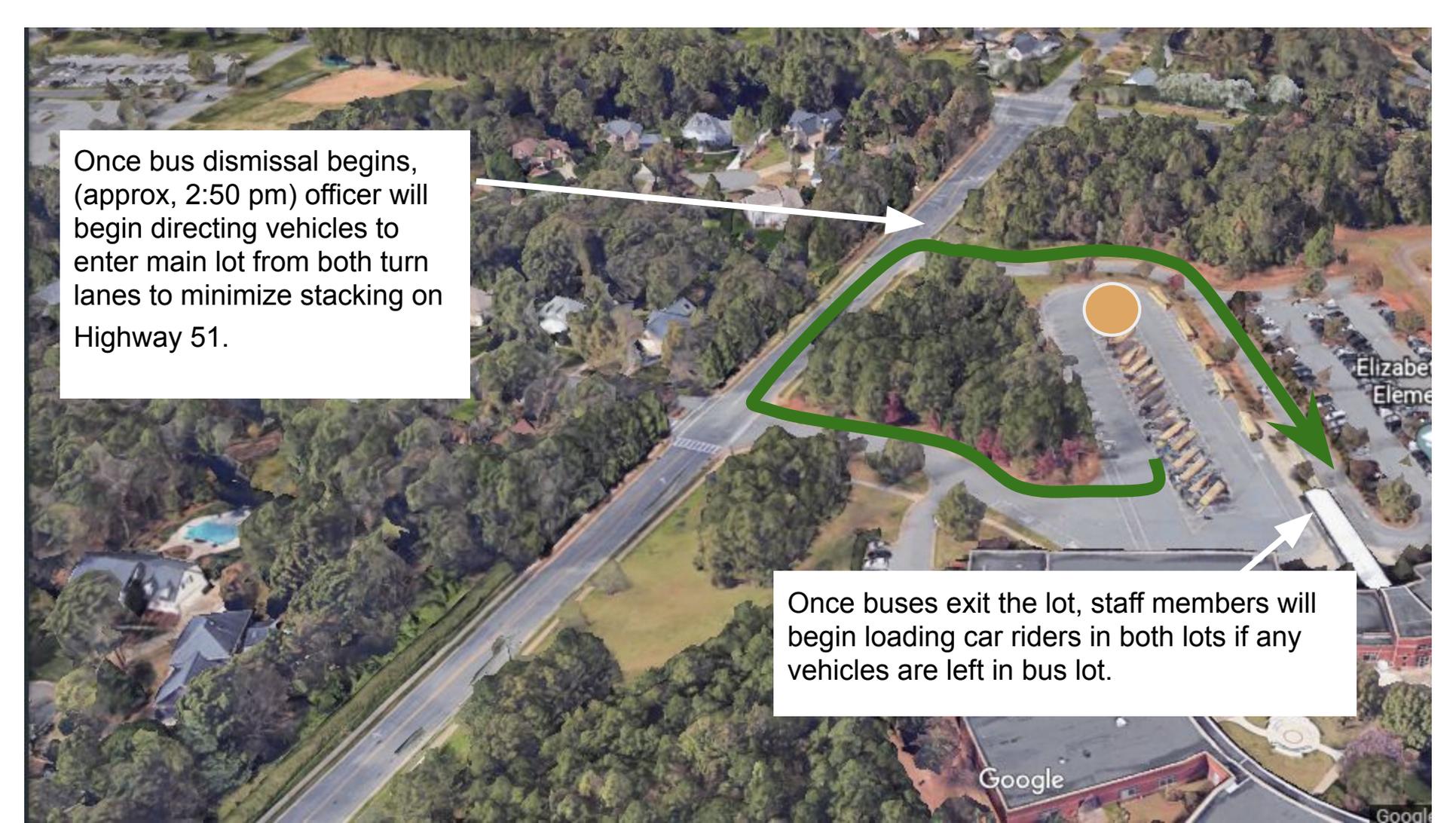
Any vehicles in the lane where student movement will occur will be moved to the double stack line behind buses. Staff will direct those vehicles to continue exiting lot as students load buses from front of lot.



Elizabeth
Elementary

Google

Google



Once bus dismissal begins, (approx, 2:50 pm) officer will begin directing vehicles to enter main lot from both turn lanes to minimize stacking on Highway 51.

Once buses exit the lot, staff members will begin loading car riders in both lots if any vehicles are left in bus lot.

Partnering for Success

ELE/CMS

- Allocate resources for updating bus lot striping to add queing lanes, move bus lane markings to front of spaces, continue funding for traffic officer, update on-campus signage
- Communicate plan to school stakeholders and neighbors
- Require parents to complete training on dismissal procedure to obtain car rider tag
- Train staff team to direct on-campus dismissal procedures
- Continue to encourage use of bus transportation and walking within safe zones

Request for Support from Town of Matthews

- Continue to assist in securing consistent traffic officer for AM and PM