



MONROE NEIGHBORHOOD STREET DESIGN PLAN

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT PLAN

May 27, 2015

Purpose of Community Outreach and Engagement

The purpose of the Community Outreach and Engagement Plan is to share information and gather input regarding the needs and issues of the public, stakeholders and interested parties. The public involvement goals are to:

- Communicate complete, accurate, understandable and timely information to the public, stakeholders and partners throughout the project.
- Actively seek public and stakeholder input prior to key milestones during the project.
- Provide meaningful public involvement opportunities and demonstrate how input has influenced the process.
- Seek participation of all potentially affected and/or interested individuals, communities and organizations.
- Ensure that the public involvement process is consistent with applicable state and federal laws and requirements, and is sensitive to local policies, goals and objectives.

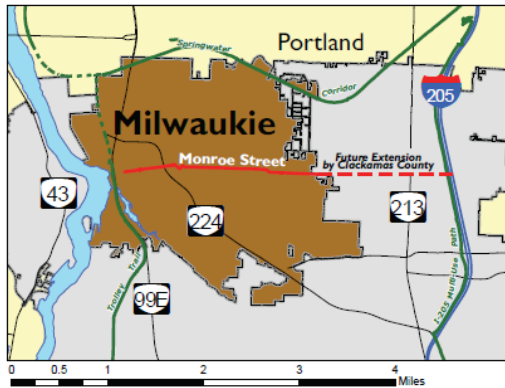
Project Purpose and Overview

The purpose of the Monroe Neighborhood Street Design Plan project is to develop a plan to improve the walking, bicycling and driving conditions for people for all ages and abilities along the Monroe Street corridor in unincorporated Clackamas County, as well as a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) plan for Whitcomb Elementary School.

Adding bikeways, pedestrian facilities and traffic calming to Monroe Street is a Tier 1: High Priority Project in the 2014 Clackamas County Transportation System Plan (TSP). Monroe is also identified as a Principal Active Transportation route in the County's Active Transportation Plan and is cited in the Bicycle Transportation Alliance *Blueprint for World-Class Bicycling* as a "much needed east-west route" in Clackamas County.

The project will be guided by a Public Advisory Committee (PAC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). It is funded by a grant from the State of Oregon Transportation and Growth Management (TGM) Program.

Project Area



The project area is bounded by King Rd on the north; the I-205 Multi-Use Path on the east; Harmony Drive/Causey Ave on the south and SE Linwood Ave on the west.

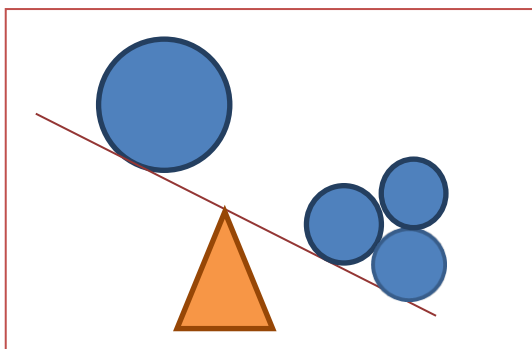
The *project area* is within unincorporated Clackamas County between Linwood and I-205.

* The Monroe Street corridor includes these streets:

- Monroe St between Linwood Ave and Fuller Rd;
- 72nd Ave and Thompson Rd between Monroe St and Fuller Rd;
- SE Boyer Dr between SE Fuller Rd and the I-205 Multi-Use Path, and
- SE Causey Ave between SE Fuller Rd and the I-205 Multi-Use Path.

Key Messages

- **What:** The result of the Monroe Neighborhood Street Design Plan project will be a conceptual street plan for future improvements to the Monroe Street corridor in unincorporated Clackamas County to provide safe roads for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists, and a Safe Routes to School plan for students at Whitcomb Elementary School.
- **Why:** Create safe travel options.



- Tip the scales toward a transportation system that functions safely for multiple modes - automobiles, pedestrians and bicyclists.

- Provide a safe travel route for area residents, students and other roadway users.
- Extend the planned function of Monroe Street as a route suitable for pedestrians and bicyclists from Linwood Avenue east to I-205. (The City of Milwaukie is working on improvement plans for walkers and bicyclists for the portion of Monroe Street between Linwood Avenue and the Trolley Trail.)
- Provide safer streets and communities to support an active lifestyle for improved personal health.

Where: Clackamas County will continue the planning process on Monroe (and SE Thompson) east of Linwood Ave. to Fuller. East of the intersection of Monroe St. and Fuller Rd., routes to the I-205 Multi-Use Path and the MAX Green Line will be evaluated.

How: A team of county staff and consultants will work with the community to determine current and future needs for travelers, and how the street design can be improved to meet those needs. The team's work will be supported and informed by a Public Advisory Committee (PAC) and a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

The SRTS Plan will be created through a team-based process involving the school principal, a parent volunteer, a representative from the school district's transportation office, community members and county staff. Creating and completing the plan will include area walking and biking assessments, identifying the safest routes to school, clarifying the challenges and barriers to walking and biking to school and identifying solutions. The main goal is to provide safe routes for students to Whitcomb Elementary School and offer solutions that will achieve this goal.

Who: Community members, especially those who live along and use Monroe St, are encouraged to provide input and become involved in the plan development. The Project Management Team will consist of staff from Clackamas County, with support from the Oregon Department of Transportation and a consultant team from CH2MHill.

When: The year-long project will be completed by June 2016.

Public Involvement Methods and Tools

A key component of the project will be outreach to community representatives, residents of Monroe St, Whitcomb Elementary students and parents, and other community and transportation stakeholders. The community outreach plan will be designed to:

- provide a transparent decision-making process conducted through equitable and constructive public discussion and input;
- provide early and ongoing opportunities for community members to raise issues and concerns;
- proactively inform and engage a wide range of stakeholders in the planning process;
- encourage the participation of all stakeholders regardless of race, ethnicity, age, disability, income or primary language.

Public Advisory Committee: A 12-15-member group of area residents and people representing stakeholder interests will meet at least four times to review materials, and provide input and advice. The PAC will include residents of Monroe Street and Thompson Street; business owners; seniors, youth, a representative of the Whitcomb Elementary PTO; transportation-disadvantaged interests, and pedestrian and bicycle interests.

Technical Advisory Committee: This 8-12 member group will meet at least three times during the project to guide technical development of the plan, reviewing and commenting on materials, and providing feedback on draft recommendations. The TAC will include representatives from the North Clackamas Revitalization Area, County Engineering and Planning divisions, City of Milwaukie, Oregon Department of Transportation, County Water Environment Services, Clackamas County Fire District #1, the North Clackamas School District and regional pedestrian and bicycle groups.

Web Page: A project web page will be created to provide an online resource and input opportunity for interested parties. The site will include project background documents and materials; meeting notices, agendas and minutes; links to related sites, and an opportunity for people to provide comments and ask questions. This web page will be available through the County's web site.

Public Workshops: Two public workshops or open houses will be conducted over the course of the project to help the public learn about the project, review and discuss draft documents, and provide input. The public workshops will be publicized through the web page and other methods, including emails, news releases, presentations, social media and articles in County publications.

Community Groups: Key community groups -- including the area Citizen Planning Organizations (CPOs), business organizations, parent organizations, organizations representing historically under-represented populations in the community and others -- will be kept informed of the progress of the project and asked for input through presentations, email notifications and other targeted outreach from County staff.

News Releases/Articles/Flyers/Fact Sheets/Social Media: Material for the media, web sites, email, County print and electronic publications, and distribution at meetings will be prepared as needed by County staff to inform the public about upcoming events, the progress of the project and opportunities for input.

Commission Meetings and Hearings: Information about the plan will be presented to the Clackamas County Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners at public work sessions and public hearings to update commission members and the public during the course of the project, and to make final recommendations and ask for action at the end of the project.

Key Audiences

- Roadway users
 - Motorists
 - Bicyclists
 - Pedestrians

- Area residents, property owners, community members and business owners
 - Residents of Monroe St, Thompson Ave. and other streets in the study area – Fuller Rd, Boyer, Harmony and Spencer
 - Southgate CPO
 - Whitcomb Elementary School – parents, teachers and students
 - County advisory boards and commissions
 - **Community organizations**, including community-based organizations/advocates for historically underrepresented communities, health and equity interests, environmental and land use advocacy organizations, and transportation advocacy groups
 - **Historically underserved populations**, including low-income and minority communities and people with disabilities
 - Other community groups

- Elected officials
 - Board of County Commissioners
 - Milwaukie City Council
 - Happy Valley City Council

- Appointed boards and commissions
 - Clackamas County Planning Commission
 - Clackamas County Pedestrian/Bikeway Advisory Committee
 - Clackamas County Traffic Safety Commission

- General public in Clackamas County, Milwaukie and Happy Valley

Final decisions related to adoption of the plan will be made by the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners, after public hearings and receiving recommendations from the Planning Commission, the project's Stakeholder and Technical Working Groups, and staff.

Time Line and Outreach Strategies

PHASE ONE: PROJECT PUBLICITY (April - September 2015)

- **Goal:** Provide information about the project with community members and other stakeholders so they understand the project's purpose and know how to be part of the process.

- **Messages**
 - Project purpose: Plan improvements on SE Monroe Street in unincorporated Clackamas County to ensure that the roadway provides a safe and consistent route for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists
 - Help people understand the *Neighborhood Greenways* concept being applied on the Milwaukie portion of the street as a low-traffic, low-speed route that provides safe, quiet travel options for motorists, pedestrians and bicycles.
 - Safe multi-modal travel options support livability, health, the economy, the community and the environment
- **Strategies**
 - Initial informational mailings (letters to Monroe / Thompson residents sent on April 14, 2015 and April 23, 2015)
 - Meeting with staff and parent representatives from Whitcomb Elementary School (May – August 2015)
 - Brief Planning Commission (schedule summer work session–Aug. 10, 2015 or Aug. 24, 2015)
 - News release(s)/social media posts
 - Project flyer/fact sheet (June 2015)
 - Door hangers for special events – “Public Workshop #1”
 - Website
 - Emails blasts to interested parties list
 - Article in *Citizen News* (September 2015)
 - GovDelivery postings
 - Presentations to key groups, including
 - Clackamas County Pedestrian/Bike Advisory Committee (June 2, 2015)
 - Traffic Safety Commission
 - Committee for Citizen Involvement (CCI) and/or Community Leaders Meeting (CLM)
 - Southgate CPO
 - Clackamas Regional Center Working Group
 - North Clackamas County Chamber of Commerce (Public Policy Committee)

PHASE TWO: SEEK INPUT

(April 2015 – June 2016)

- **Goal:** Learn what travel improvements the community would like to see on Monroe Street. Actively involve and engage the community throughout the planning process.
- **Messages**
 - The community is encouraged to provide input on the Monroe Neighborhood Street Design Plan.
 - The school and school district are encouraged to provide input on safe routes to school options for students.
 - The County needs input to help identify design improvements – signage, pavement markings, intersection treatments, curb extensions, traffic calming,

etc. that could be added to Monroe and/or Thompson to meet the community's multi-modal travel needs.

- **Strategies**
 - Public Workshop #1
 - Provide comment cards at public workshop
 - News release (print media, online media, social media)
 - Website
 - Outreach to Whitcomb Elementary School community
 - Input form on website to encourage comments, suggestions, questions and requests to be placed on an interested parties list
 - Emails to interested parties list
 - PAC meetings

**PHASE THREE: SHARE AND GAIN UNDERSTANDING FOR FINAL PLAN DEVELOPMENT
(January 2016 - Summer 2016)**

- **Goal:** Help neighborhood, school community and other interested parties understand the recommended Monroe Street plan and next steps.
- **Messages**
 - Your input was valuable and helped shape the Monroe Neighborhood Street Design Plan, including providing safe routes to schools for students.
 - The planning process is just the first step to improving safety and conditions for all modes of travel on Monroe Street.
 - Next steps include Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners public hearings; applying for grant funding and proceeding with low cost improvements (e.g. sharrows; wayfinding signage).
- **Strategies**
 - Public Workshop #2
 - News release(s)
 - Emails to interested parties list and community leaders
 - Outreach to Whitcomb Elementary School community
 - Social media
 - Website (ongoing)
 - Presentations to interested community and business groups
 - Work session with Clackamas County Planning Commission
 - Work session with Board of County Commissioners