

OUR MAIN STREET SPRINGFIELD



MAIN STREET SAFETY PROJECT | 20th Street to 72nd Street

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Main Street Safety Project

Summary of Results from Third Round of Community Engagement

The third round of community engagement occurred from December 2020 through February 2021 to capture feedback on the proposed solution "toolbox" and range of recommended safety tools. Specifically, roundabouts, raised medians, sidewalks and biking lanes.

The third round included a Strategic Advisory Committee meeting, presentations to community organizations, targeted focus groups with community members, and Local Access Forums with business and property owners adjacent to Main Street within the project corridor. Additionally, the project team received correspondence from individual community members providing their feedback on the proposed solution "toolbox" and range of recommended safety tools. After the third round of community engagement wrapped up, staff compiled and analyzed the feedback received.

Overall, community members reconfirmed they want to see safety improved on Main Street. Additionally, they confirmed they like the proposed solution "toolbox" and the range of recommended safety tools to address safety as it provides the flexibility to implement infrastructure that will accommodate different segments of the corridor instead of a "one-size-fits-all" approach. There were several high-level consistent themes heard across all engagement points when feedback was sought on the recommended toolbox of solutions to address the safety problem on Main Street. Those consistent themes were:

Project & Process

Largely heard -

- **excited** about and understand need for project
- **appreciate process** and outreach efforts
- questions regarding **data, deliverables, stages, outcomes**

Some shared -

- **frustration** with project speed or outreach approach
- questions regarding **project cost and funding**
- feedback regarding **phased implementation**

Toolbox & Recommendations

Largely heard -

- positive feedback on toolbox & recommendations:
 - **roundabouts** good way to improve safety
 - pairing **roundabouts with medians** is critical
 - **medians** may require driving farther but worth it to improve safety and save lives
 - in favor of **sidewalk upgrades** and more **bike separation**
- concerns about **access** and **site usage impacts** for adjacent residences, businesses and property owners
- questions on elements, potential **property impacts**

Some shared -

- concerns about **medians** and **roundabouts**:
 - people not knowing how to **walk or drive through roundabouts**
 - it takes time for public to learn how to **safely navigate roundabouts**
 - concern with **out-of-direction travel** with medians
 - concern with **freight delivery** with medians
- phasing and design flexibility will minimize impacts

Other

Largely heard -

- observations of behavior types at **pedestrian crossings**
- desire to **increase traffic enforcement** for all
- desire to **decrease posted speed limit**, especially in eastern segment
- need for improved **lighting**

Some shared -

- hope for **transit design integration**
- **utility relocation** questions

Read more about the results from the third round of community engagement on the [project's document, meeting and events page](#).

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Next Steps

Based on this feedback, we know that the community continues to want to address safety on Main Street, but the implementation of infrastructure elements needs to reflect a balanced approach to improve safety and support business/economic development on the corridor.

The project team will present the results of the third round of community engagement to the City's Planning Commission, the Main Street Governance Team and then City Council. As part of these presentations, the project team will ask several questions including:

- Do the toolbox recommendations meet their expectations and direction to date?

Below are details for each of those meetings.

Upcoming Meetings

- Planning Commission Work Session - Tuesday, Apr. 6 from 6 pm to 7 pm

- Governance Team - Tuesday, Apr. 20 from 3 pm to 4:30 pm
- City Council Work Session - Monday, May 10 from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm

We will send out another e-update once these meeting agenda packets are finalized.

Share with Others

Forward this email to other community members you know who may like to be informed about the Main Street Safety Project and receive email updates automatically. They can use the button below to sign up!

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Project Purpose

Springfield's Main Street is consistently ranked as one of the most unsafe city streets in Oregon based on the severity and frequency of traffic crashes. The Oregon Department of Transportation and the City must address this problem to save lives, reduce injuries, and lessen property damage due to crashes. The purpose of the Main Street Safety Project is to select infrastructure solutions that will make Main Street safer for people walking, biking, driving, and taking transit.

The selected safety improvements will provide for the movement of goods and people, support the economic viability of the corridor, accommodate current bus service and future transit solutions, and complement traffic safety education and enforcement.



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