

DATE: January 25, 2022

TO: Chair Ramos and Transportation and Mobility Commission members
CC: Rebecca Kennedy, Community Development, Ryan Lopossa, Public Works

FROM: Jennifer Campos, Community Development

RE: **SE 34th Street Safety and Mobility Project**

In the 2021-22 biennial budget process, four roadway segments were approved for funding as part of the City's ongoing Complete Streets Program, and a fifth project was added via an interim process. The resources provided for these projects are to study potential safety and mobility improvements that could be completed in partnership with upcoming pavement work on the different street segments. The five streets include:

1. Fourth Plain Boulevard - Main St to Andresen Rd, 2023
2. SE 34th Street - SE 162nd Ave to SE 192nd Ave/city limits, 2022
3. Fort Vancouver Way - Mill Plain Blvd to Fourth Plain Blvd, 2023
4. NE 112th Avenue - Chkalov Dr/SE Mill Plain Blvd to NE Fourth Plain Blvd./city limits, 2024
5. SE McGillivray Boulevard - Chkalov Dr to SE 162nd Ave, 2024

There are three major overriding Complete Streets goals for these projects, with more specific goals developed for each individual project based on the context of each one and different safety and mobility needs. These three major goals include:

- Complete a community outreach and design alternative process that identifies improvements to advance safety, mobility, and equity in each corridor segment in preparation for pavement treatment planned for the coming years.
- Analyze each project to identify a suite of safety and mobility improvements that can be applied to each individual corridor, including potentially repurposing a travel lane in each direction and adding other safety enhancements such as traffic signal modifications, pedestrian crossing and lighting improvements, traffic calming, and street tree enhancements.

- Include stakeholder engagement with impacted groups as appropriate, including residents, businesses, corridor users, neighborhood associations, community-based organizations, historically excluded and underserved communities, and the Transportation and Mobility Commission.

The focus of the workshop today is the SE 34th Street Safety and Mobility Project, which is intended to improve safety and mobility for all users of the corridor between SE 164th and SE 192nd Avenues, regardless of how they choose to travel. The project includes community engagement, analysis, design, and implementation through forthcoming pavement treatment.

The project will evaluate potential changes to the street to improve safety and mobility for all users. It will consider repurposing a travel lane in each direction to add mobility lanes for people walking, biking, rolling, and using mobility-assistance devices, and other safety improvements in the corridor for all users, including drivers. It will also include a community engagement process to inform right-of-way use and design decisions and improve equity, safety, and mobility along the SE 34th Street corridor.

The project analysis will aid in developing and evaluating potential design concepts that improve safety and mobility, and final concepts will be incorporated into pavement treatment scheduled for summer of 2020. Pavement treatment will include striping and signing included in the final design concept, with other capital improvements likely to occur the following year.

Along with the overriding Complete Streets project goals, several corridor specific goals have been identified for the SE 34th Street project process:

1. Goal 1: Improve comfort and mobility for all users, regardless of how they choose to travel
 - a. Provide an east-west connection that serves cyclists of all ages and abilities
 - b. Improve accommodations for existing transit, as well as future planned service
 - c. Add landscaping, art or other amenities to the corridor
 - d. Avoid adding substantial delays to people driving
2. Goal 2: Prioritize safety for all users
 - a. Improve corridor safety by reducing driver speeds
 - b. Address identified conflict points/collision locations
 - c. Support safe pedestrian crossings especially around schools, retail hubs, transit stops, and the Vancouver Innovation Center campus
3. Goal 3: Make improvements quickly & efficiently
 - a. Use low-cost solutions
 - b. Maximize efficiency of pavement treatment opportunity
 - c. Utilize eligible grants, impact fees, or state/federal investment

Pavement treatment is currently scheduled for summer 2022, which requires that project analysis and design concept development are completed by April of this year, which is just a few months away. In order to meet this timeline, the following project schedule has been developed:

- January through February 2022 – Gather Community Feedback & Analyze Options

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- March 2022 – Identify Potential Improvements & Design Concepts
- April 2022 – Safety & Mobility Study Concludes
- Summer 2022 – Pavement Microsurfacing Treatment Starts
- Summer 2022 through summer 2023 – Implementation of other capital improvements

During the February 1st workshop, the TMC will receive an overview of the SE 34th Street Safety and Mobility Project, goals, design considerations, and the community engagement process. Staff will come back to the TMC on April 5th to review design concepts to improve safety and mobility on the corridor.

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