



SW 198th Avenue Improvements (Tualatin Valley Highway to Farmington Road)

Open House Summary April 4, 2019

Washington County held a Meet the Contractor open house for the SW 198th Avenue improvement project on Thursday, April 4, 2019 from 5 to 7 pm at Edwards Aloha Community Center (4375 SW Edwards Place, Beaverton). No formal presentation was held. This was the fifth open house for the upcoming SW 198th Avenue road improvement project. Members of the public were invited to stop in at any time during the event to review displays, meet the contractor and design team staff, ask questions, inform staff of issues, and to submit comments.

To inform the public and interested parties of the event, Washington County sent out approximately 5,100 postcards to adjacent property owners and the surrounding neighborhoods, which included areas of CPO 6. County staff sent a media release to its standard list of local and regional newspapers and media outlets (television and radio). Signs announcing the open house time and location were installed underneath the project signs placed at the north and south ends of SW 198th Avenue project limits. An e-newsletter was sent out to project subscribers. The project web site included an announcement of the open house and other County web pages and newsletters advertised the event, including Washington County Roads (www.wc-roads.com) and the *LUT Weekly Update* e-newsletter.

The purpose of this open house was to present the contractor and their preliminary construction schedule for the scheduled improvements to SW 198th Avenue and the 198th/Kinnaman intersection to the public. An informal open house format was used at the meeting, allowing the members public to discuss the aspects of the design with the contractor and members of the project design team. Five members of the project design team and several additional staff from Washington County were available to answer questions. In addition, a representative from the Kerr Contractors, Inc was available at the meeting to answer questions concerning their anticipated schedule for the project. Over a 145 members of the public attended the open house, including a few members of the project's Interested Parties Group (IPG). Attendees were encouraged to meet the contractor, project team members, ask questions, and to record their comments on the open house comment form.

The following exhibits were available for review at the meeting:

- SW 198th Avenue proposed design strip map (North and South segments);
- SW 198th Avenue/SW Kinnaman Road proposed intersection design and realignment;
- SW 198th Avenue proposed 3-lane cross section;
- Proposed pedestrian crossing treatment alternatives;
- Proposed wall treatments examples of a sound wall and a retaining wall;

Open House Summary (cont'd)

Exhibits (cont.):

- Proposed street lighting example;
- Traffic volumes (existing – 2015 and forecasted – 2040);
- Fast Facts informational board with general project information (scope, cost, schedule)
- Right-of-Way acquisition process flow chart
- Contractor's Preliminary Construction Schedule

Handouts:

- "Fast Fact" sheet
- Comment forms
- Moving Because of Highway or Public Projects brochure
- Acquiring Lands for Highway and Other Public Projects brochure

Comment forms were available for those attending the open house. Seventeen (17) people submitted comments. The following is a summary of comments received at the open house and staff responses:

Comment(s)	Staff Response
All comments are typed verbatim and were reviewed by the project team.	
We were hoping for more bus pullouts, so traffic does not get so backed up during busy time of day. Generally we are quite happy with this project removing the ditches and adding sidewalks and bikeways will make this street much safer, plus the middle turn lane is a very big improvement.	
Myself and many other people in Farmington West Homeowners Association would like 2 or 3 of the big trees on Carlin Island closest to SW 199th Ct. and SW Skiver Dr. left. Please leave as many big trees as possible since it takes 20-30 years for a tree to grow big.	
I would appreciate your leaving as many trees on Carlin where it runs into 198th.	
Why is it necessary to remove trees from island on Carlin @ 198th? There is adequate space now for 2 vehicles e.b. on Carlin to be side by side @ 198th. Paint a right turn lane or a left turn lane onto street if you think people can't figure that out. There doesn't need to be any more space for a left turn lane.	

<p>The trees on the Carlin Blvd are scheduled to be chopped down. Those trees are beautiful and I see no good reason to get rid of them. You may have to chop 2 of them down to make room for the left-turn lane, but the neighborhood would definitely lose something, if all the remaining trees were chopped down! It's bad enough that trees have to be cut down to make room for houses, businesses, schools, etc, but is it really necessary to cut these trees down?!</p>	
<p>Would like the contactor to make sure their construction vehicles do not block side street mailboxes and driveways. This is a problem when the mailman WILL NOT deliver mail. Please have the sheriff patrol Rosa as many people are and will be using it as a detour which will make it more dangerous for people walking on this street to get to the bus stop on 198th or to the park at 196th.</p>	
<p>I am concerned with the ease of backing out of my driveway. Also all my trees will be cut down so I will lose shade and have no noise barrier. Although the workmen have been courteous I find myself waiting up to 15 minutes to get out of my drive.</p>	
<p>Our back fence is on a berm- when the 4 trees are removed and process occurs, will you be putting in a retaining wall to replace the dirt that is removed?</p>	
<p>Coming from Blanton (from west) that intersection often backed up south bound due to people turning left into Blanton. Currently Blanton (185th - 198th) is a major cut thru. Trying to cross the street to the west side of 198th is very dangerous with no real path between Shaw and Blanton is very risky. The new sidewalks will help. What about a pedestrian blinking light at Blanton, the kind you push.</p>	
<p>Traffic signal at 209th and Carlin?</p>	
<p>Very glad for the improvements. My concern is the increased traffic going east on Blanton St from 198th ave. However I am happy that at least the traffic signal at Kinnaman has "stayed in" the proposed plan. That allows a left turn at Kinnaman and I can manage a right turn at the Shaw St traffic there has been a heavy increase of traffic travelling down Blanton st. and the street is very dark and not safe for pedestrians.</p>	
<p>I'm glad to see a much needed improvement in safety for cyclist, pedestrians, and motorists. Many of the roads in the area are not friendly to alternative forms of transportation (bicyclists/pedestrians) making a bad problem worse. 198th needs these improvements and i'm glad to see the county making necessary improvements.</p>	

<p>I remain concerned about the trimming of the trees on our property. I was hoping to speak to the folks responsible for the trimming and would like the schedule. No one could assist. My primary concern at this point is PGE doing the trimming and not respecting our agreement or concern.</p>	
<p>We are against removing the trees on the island on Carling approaching 198th. I see no reason to remove all of them. The turn lane does not go all the way back to Skiver Dr.</p>	
<p>The island on Carlin there is no reason to cut down the trees on the island, they have been there the 28 years we have lived in the neighbor the don't block the view it doesn't flood and they do not and have not broken up the road. They have to be 50 years old or older. If your going to put an island back just leave the one that is there and leave the trees. enough big old trees will be taken off of 198th!!</p>	
<p>There is not a problem turning left from Carlin. So I feel a turn lane is not needed and the island can be left with trees. No need to cut trees that are existing in the island. It would only increase the through traffic from 209th trying to get around the light on Farmington.</p>	
<p>Problem-Rosa Rd-Pedestrian island will constrict traffic. Eastbound turn right on 198th then left room for one car without stopping traffic. Wesbound turn right then left to follow thrus on Rosa room for 1 car. The pedestrian island will bottleneck traffic. This will be a wreck area.</p>	
<p>The crosswalk at 198th and Rosa is going to cause severe backups of traffic going from Rosa to Rosa round the crosswalk cement barrier. I can see several accidents happening.</p>	
<p>Please leave the beautiful and historic trees on Carlin at the 198th intersection. There is NEVER a backlog of cars heading east on Carlin at 198th. The same area is already fairly wide and can be used to improve traffic flow if need be. If it's the leaves causing others to want the trees removed, that should fall on the homeowners association to help pick leaves up in the fall. We live in the neighborhood because of the beauty of nature that already exists. Please save our trees :-)</p>	
<p>Question 1- will there be any net reduction of bus stops along sw 198th between Farmington rd and TV Hwy? Question 2- are there enough "enhanced ped crossings" proposed for this road project? There are long stretches of this project without such ped enhancements and also do not have traffic control signals. This is particularly true on the southern segment between Farmington Rd and Rosa Rd.</p>	

<p>I experienced an issue with my car after driving over a metal plate, put there by the gas company. They were very nice and have paid to repair the car. However, I feel that more signage warning about the plates would be nice. I am now extremely cautious. Overall I think its a very beneficial idea to improve the road which is currently quite a scary road to drive on especially at night. My main concern for our property is the impact on the trees- but we have been assured they will not be impacted. However when the gas company dug a hole next to them, their welfare is a concern.</p>	

END OF COMMENTS