



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

Open House Summary June 2, 2016

Washington County held an open house for the SW 198th Avenue improvement project on Thursday, June 2, 2016 from 5 to 7 pm at Edwards Aloha Community Center (4375 SW Edwards Place, Beaverton). No formal presentation was held. This was the second 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 project 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 7,000 postcards to 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 various design alternatives for SW 198th Avenue and the realignment of the 198th/Kinnaman and 198th/Blanton intersections to the public, to solicit design preferences, and to identify issues and concerns from area residents. An informal open house format was used at the meeting, allowing the public to discuss the various project designs with members of the project team. Seven members of the project team and several additional staff from Washington County were available to answer questions. Approximately 105 members of the general public attended the open house, including members of the project's Interested Parties Group (IPG). Attendees were encouraged to meet the 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 (percent support from attendees):

- SW 198th Avenue design alternatives:
 - Alternative 1 - County standard 3-lane widened equally about the roadway centerline (31%)
 - Alternative 2 - Reduced 3-lane widened equally about the roadway centerline (24%)
 - Alternative 3 - Reduced 3-lane shifting of the roadway centerline (45%)
 - Alternatives Scoring Matrix

Open House Summary (cont'd)

Exhibits (cont.)

- SW 198th Avenue/SW Blanton Street intersection design alternatives:
 - Alternative 1 - West leg realignment (81%)
 - Alternative 2 - East leg realignment (15%)
 - Alternative 3 - Standard roundabout (4%)
 - Alternatives Scoring Matrix
- SW 198th Avenue/SW Kinnaman Road intersection design alternatives:
 - Alternative 1 - West leg realignment (71%)
 - Alternative 2 - East leg realignment (27%)
 - Alternative 3 - “Dog-bone” roundabout (2%)
 - Alternatives Scoring Matrix
- Fast Facts informational board with general project information (scope, cost, schedule)
- Traffic volumes (existing – 2015 and forecasted – 2040)
- Right-of-Way process

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. The comment form asked residents to identify their preference for the various design alternatives. The percentages of support from those in attendance are listed after each design alternative identified above. Of the 57 comment forms submitted, the largest percentage, roughly 45%, were in favor of Alternative #3 for SW 198th Avenue improvement (reduce 3-lane shifting of the roadway centerline) while 81% and 71% were in favor of the west leg realignments for SW 198th Avenue/SW Blanton Street and SW 198th Avenue/SW Kinnaman Road intersections, respectively.

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.	
<p>I don't see a lot of information about sidewalks or TRIMET bus stops. The buses need a pull out to let traffic flow while the buses pick up & drop off passengers. Wash County needs to take hard look of the 209ave and TV Hwy intersection. Traffic in the mornings blocks for at least 1/2 mile waiting turn west off of 209th, Big gravel trucks can barely make the turn. They are also tearing up the roadway at the intersection.</p>	<p>All of the design alternatives for SW 198th have continuous sidewalks on both side of the road. Alternative 1 has a landscape strip between the sidewalk and road. Alternatives 2 and 3 have the sidewalk adjacent to the road to minimize impacts to adjacent properties</p> <p>TriMet bus stop locations will be evaluated for ridership and location as the design progresses. On collector roadways, which SW 198th Ave is classified as, TriMet prefers to locate stops within the travel lanes due to buses having a difficult time re-entering the traffic stream.</p>
<p>When is 209th going to be addressed?</p>	<p>The 209th Ave/TV Highway will be improved in the near future (construction is still several years out). The project is just beginning the preliminary design process. Local agencies (City of Hillsboro, Washington County, ODOT, ODOT Rail) are meeting to kick off this design.</p>
<p>The center turn lane between Rosa and Rosa seems inadequate. I can see many crashes happening when someone going north and turning west meets someone going south turning east, or someone going around a stopped bus meeting someone who wants to turn. The left turn light west onto TV Hwy is too short. Usually takes 2-3 cycles before I can get thru. Signal needs to be longer or add 2nd turn lane.</p>	<p>We understand the concern with overlapping left turn lanes. This will be evaluated as the design progresses.</p> <p>We are looking at improving the storage for the left turn lane on SW 198th and increasing the left arrow timing for better traffic flow.</p>
<p>I think plans to re-align Kinnaman Road and Blanton Avenue should be suspended, and downgraded in priority, especially since funding is falling short. The first should be safety improvements along 198th - sidewalks & center turn lane.</p>	<p>We agree but if funds become available, these would be some additional improvements that could be made.</p>
<p>We would have liked this to be done 35-40 years ago. 198th has always been so dangerous we wouldn't let our children walk or ride their bikes along. When this project is complete. 198th will be safe for children and for people walking along the road. It can't be complete too soon.</p>	<p>Thanks for the comment. We are working to complete this project as quickly as possible (and yes, it would have cost a lot less 35-40 years ago).</p>
<p>I think crosswalk signals blinking yellow light - walk/don't walk signals) at Kinnaman or Blanton and 198th. I would like better sidewalks and bike lanes.</p>	<p>We are looking at locations for installation of one or more Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFBs) within the project corridor.</p>
<p>Need fewer TriMet bus stops along 198th. With the addition of sidewalks and bike lanes, there won't be a need for the bus to stop so frequently</p>	<p>TriMet bus stop locations will be evaluated for ridership and location as the design progresses.</p>

<p>As property owner we do need sidewalks. We don't need bike lanes - one lane for bikes - kids - would sustain amount of bike traffic. A temporary blinking turn lane needs to be installed for 1-month on 209th & TV Hwy - then during that time the traffic on 198th - recounted. You would find a majority of traffic would be reduced in 198th as they are using 198th to commute through to Hillsboro.</p>	<p>Bike lanes are a County road standard and will be installed as part of the project. Commuting cyclists prefer to use bike facilities rather than sidewalks and it is safer for both pedestrians and cyclists.</p> <p>The 209th Ave /TV Highway intersection will be improved in the near future. This project is just beginning the preliminary design process.</p>
<p>I live between 198th and 209th so 198th is one of my main routes to get to TV Hwy or Farmington. I am concerned about the road closures during the process (and the noise level from construction). If more traffic has to take 209th to get to TV Hwy, that will be a huge problem with the existing intersection at 209th & TV Hwy because it already cannot handle the current load of traffic and will only get worse with planned development in the area. The intersection at 209th & TV Hwy needs to be redone before you start closing down 198th for construction.</p>	<p>Because we are still early in the design, looking at various design alternatives, specific road closures and detours are unknown at this time.</p> <p>Usually when road construction is allowed on County roads, lane closures and restrictions are limited to non-commute hours (8:30 am -4:00 pm).</p>
<p>We do NOT want a turn lane in front of our house on Rosa. We are the corner house and the only time there is a build- up of cars to turn left onto 198th is when there is a bus stopped there.</p>	<p>Turn lanes are not just for side streets but also for private driveways.</p>
<p>I am concerned about noise factor. You will be removing all the trees along the west side of my house at 198th & SW Sweet Gum Ct. Is the County going to help with noise control being you will be removing the trees? There will only be room for a taller fence. Need to replace street trees that you are removing but be sure they are not cotton woods. Washington County needs to maintain the trees. No roundabouts!!</p>	<p>Trees and vegetation will be removed as part of the improvement project because the road prism is being widened to accommodate the center turn lane, sidewalks, and bike lanes.</p> <p>Trees and vegetation have shown to offer little benefit in terms of noise reduction.</p> <p>Street trees will be added where right-of-way allows.</p>
<p>1- Bus lane & make sure there is no traffic blockage behind 2- Garbage trucks? Same as #1 3- Rain harvesting drains - to steep & dangerous - fix them</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On collectors like SW 198th, TriMet prefers to keep stops within the travel lanes due to buses having difficulty re-entering the traffic stream. 2. Garbage trucks will be able to utilize a portion of the bike lane for pick-up. 3. The roadside ditches will be eliminated as part of this project. The storm water will be collected and conveyed in a closed piped, system.
<p>Please check property lines on east side of 198th between SW Oak St. and SW Prospect. Proposed map at Edwards Center does not match County plan map for Deepwell #2 subdivision. It just happens I live between 2 streets, my backyard faces 198th.</p>	<p>There are two subdivisions in that stretch. The lot on the SE corner of Oak and 198th is in Deepwell #1. The lots south of there are in Deepwell #2. Deepwell #1 dedicated 25' which is reflected in the mapping, and property corner irons were located on the NE corner confirming this. There were no property survey markers located for Deepwell #2 but by description they dedicated a total of 40' which is what is shown on the map. None of the fence lines along 198th coincide with the property line for either subdivision.</p>

<p>Glad the drainage issue from Celebrity Creek will be addressed. I am still concerned about the noise issue but hopefully raising the road will help. Am happy heavy trucks will not be able to use 198th. Am hoping a little landscaping can be included to make the road attractive. Am concerned with improved roadway folks will travel faster than the 35 mph posted now.</p>	<p>Trucks are supposed to use 209th Ave which is the local truck route</p> <p>Landscaping will be added to the road project where additional right-of-way allows.</p> <p>If speeding continues after the construction, please contact the Washington County's Sherriff's Office (Traffic Enforcement section).</p>
<p>Check property lines on east side of 198th between SW Oak & SW Prospect. Proposed map at Edwards Center does not match County Platt Map for Deepwell 2 subdivision.</p>	<p>There are two subdivisions in that stretch. The lot on the SE corner of Oak and 198th is in Deepwell #1. The lots south of there are in Deepwell #2. Deepwell #1 dedicated 25' which is reflected in the mapping, and property corner irons were located on the NE corner confirming this. There were no property irons located for Deepwell #2 but by description they dedicated a total of 40' which is what is shown on the map. None of the fence lines along 198th coincide with the property line for either subdivision.</p>
<p>Roundabouts as proposed will displace too many people. The County should better be able to afford the #1 selection as the impact the fewest homes and will mostly go across land without buildings on it (homes). #2 & #3 impact too many homes that are being lived in. Our property has been "as-is" for 60+years the home was bought in 1955 by my husband. I have lived there 50+ years with him. Being disabled, moving would be really difficult. The County has been encouraging in-fill and multi-story homes. I can't do stairs nor can most older folks. 198th mail boxes need to be moved to the side of the street that the home it goes with is on. Now it's impossible to get to the west side of 198th most times of the day.</p>	<p>Thanks for the comments. The roundabouts are just one of several design alternatives being considered and the impacts to homes and properties are being considered during the design alternative evaluation.</p> <p>Mailboxes will be proposed to be installed on the same side of the street as the residence so people won't need to cross 198th to get their mail. We will coordinate the relocation of mailboxes with the US Postal Service.</p>
<p>This project is long overdue. The Aloha study hi-lighted this as an extreme area of concern</p>	<p>Thanks for the comment. We are working to complete this project as quickly as possible.</p>
<p>I'm glad this road improvement is happening. It will make 198th safer for cars, bikes, pedestrians. It will also be a huge improvement to align Kinnaman and have a turn lane so we don't have to stop in long lines to wait for people to turn. What about mail boxes? Right now the postman stopped in the road is a hazard.</p>	<p>Thanks for the comments.</p> <p>Mailboxes will be proposed to be installed on the same side of the street as the residence so people won't need to cross 198th to get their mail. We will coordinate the relocation of mailboxes with the US Postal Service.</p>

<p>No bus turnouts? It's not right to have to follow a bus all the way from Farmington to Baseline. Need a bus turnout at least every 1/3 mile. Left turn lane at Rosa Rd offset. Shared left turn lane is way too short and will be dangerous. Rosa Rd is a thoroughfare, lots of traffic trying to turn, 2,3 or more cars at a time is typical both ways. Opposing left turn traffic will back up into through lanes. Much safer to not have this shared left lane at all. Very concerned about impact of St Mary's property development on various east/west thoroughfares. Work on 209th & 198th at same time would be bad.</p>	<p>On collectors like SW 198th, TriMet prefers to keep stops within the travel lanes for 2 and 3 lane roads due to buses having difficulty re-entering the traffic stream. We will share your comment with TriMet.</p> <p>Left turn configuration at Rosa Rd will be evaluated as the preferred design alternative progresses.</p> <p>We will coordinate construction of 198th and 209th to minimize disruptions to the community.</p>
<p>Can (we need) a Slow Down disabled child sign? NO roundabout!!</p>	<p>We will discuss this request with our Traffic Division.</p>
<p>I am concerned about the detours during the construction and planning my route to work. When will the detour plan be available?</p>	<p>Because we are still early in the design phase, looking at various design alternatives, specific road closures and detours are unknown at this time. When one is developed, they will be presented at an open house as well as posted on the project's web site. Usually when road construction is allowed on County roads, lane closures and restrictions are limited to non-commute hours (8:30 am -4:00 pm)</p>
<p>Far more emphasis needed on public transportation. Spending more money on expanding pavement when we have insufficient funds to maintain existing pavement is ludicrous. "Fixing" pinch points (points of congestion) merely shifts congestion from one location to another. Expanding pavement displaces housing/business and causes people to drive further (longer distances). Continuing to address transportation by relying on mode that is very efficient in use of territorial space is not the answer.</p>	<p>The road improvement will be improving the safety of the corridor for all modes by adding a continuous center turn lane, continuous bike and pedestrian facilities and enhancing transit stops.</p>
<p>It would be a great benefit to have some form of drainage for surface water on an owner's property. I currently use a sump pump to help drain water from a portion of my land. A pipe connection to the new storm drains would be helpful. If it can accomplish gravity flow that would be ideal.</p>	<p>The primary focus of the road improvement is to address the drainage of the roadway and sidewalks. We try and accommodate some additional connections, to address adjacent ponding and drainage issues.</p>
<p>Like sidewalks and bike lanes - very needed!</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment.</p>
<p>I would add bus pull out spots. Reduce the size of bike lanes or make a wider sidewalk and let ped & bikes share. Keep the jog on Blanton street.</p>	<p>On collectors like SW 198th, TriMet prefers to keep stops within the travel lanes for 2 and 3 lane roads due to buses having difficulty re-entering the traffic stream. We will share your comment with TriMet.</p> <p>The size of the bike facility is a County standard and will be installed as part of the project. Commuting cyclists prefer to use bike facilities rather than sidewalks and is safer for both pedestrians and cyclists.</p>

<p>1- I am concerned about the ability to get out of the neighborhood (specifically Blanton/209th/198th) while work is being done on 198th. People will re-route to 209th northbound, which is already a mess at TV HWY. It is almost impossible to turn left (westbound) from 209th at TV HWY without running a red light as it is. With the addt'l traffic on 209th it will definitely be impossible. I would like to suggest re-timing the existing stoplight so that northbound traffic has a green light while all other lights at the intersection on 209th are red.</p> <p>2- 2- Please no roundabouts! There is too much traffic on 198th, I don't know how long we would have to wait to go from Blanton Eastbound to 198th northbound.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Because we are still early in the design phase, looking at various design alternatives, specific road closures, detours, and delays are unknown at this time. Usually with road construction, the County limits lane closures and restrictions to non-commute hours (8:30 am -4:00 pm). 2. Thanks for the comment about the roundabout at Blanton.
<p>Love bike lanes, sidewalks, 3 lanes including storm. Realignment of the Kinnaman and Blanton - like that your goal is continuous! - whichever has the less impact on a homeowner.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments.</p>
<p>I will be sending a more in depth comment to the address below</p>	<p>Thank you. You can also submit it electronically to our general mailbox which (lutproje@co.washington.orus) which is checked regularly.</p>
<p>I am very concerned about 209th being our only access to TV Hwy other than 209th! 209th is dangerous. Many large gravel trucks go thru that intersection. At busy times I have waited 5-6 lights changes to turn west onto TV Hwy. I have been rear-ended turning right (south) onto 209th because the person behind me was going too fast to stop. How about a turn lane? This must be addressed before there are 198th construction closures and yes, I know, not your prospect but it impacts all who live between 198th & 209th greatly!</p>	<p>The County understands the issue you described about the 209th intersection at TV Highway. A future intersection improvement project is scheduled that will address these issues and we will coordinate with that project as we move closer to the construction phase of this project.</p>
<p>Finish this project before starting 209th.</p>	<p>Thanks. We understand the coordination issue because of the limited access to TV Highway heading west.</p>
<p>The roundabouts will not help traffic at all. I only see more & more accidents as people are not willing to wait. I have a friend that will be directly impacted by this widening. Thanks for having these open houses. Need more of them.</p>	<p>Thanks for the input. Roundabouts are design alternatives for consideration.</p>
<p>I have concerns about how side roads west of 198th will be impacted during construction/improvements. What steps are being taken or proposed to address increased traffic flow and the inherent safety issues that will be a result of this project? Additionally, if 209th and the south Hillsboro project commence ground breaking/construction PRIOR to 198th/209th - Farmington / TV Hwy quadrant, we are all facing nothing but years-long negative impact on our property values, safety, tranquility, ease of coming and going, stress levels, etc.</p>	<p>Accommodations will be made to allow you to get you out during the construction phase. Because we are still early in the design phase, looking at various design alternatives, specific road closures, detours, and delays are unknown at this time. Usually with road construction, the County limits lane closures and restrictions to non-commute hours (8:30 am -4:00 pm).</p> <p>As you can see from some of the other comments, you are not alone with concerns about the timing of this project and the 209th project.</p>

<p>1- The Rosa Road bus stops should be eliminated - dangerous and very confusing traffic flow in that area</p> <p>2- All bus stops should remove the bus from the travel lane</p> <p>3- Bike and pedestrians travel adds little to the local commerce in the area since it is not a shopping or manufacturing or educational center. Thru truck traffic and commuting traffic should be primary on this street. Hence the absolute minimum should be spent on bike and ped facilities, since right-of-way is a major project expense.</p> <p>4- Great thanks for not including expensive-to-maintain beauty plantings in the project.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. TriMet will evaluate their bus stop locations for ridership and location as the design progresses. 2. On collectors like SW 198th Ave, TriMet prefers to keep stops within the travel lanes due to buses having difficulty re-entering the traffic stream. 3. This project isn't about commerce but connectivity and safety for all modes of transportation. Please note that there are two elementary schools and a high school in the immediate area too. 4. We're not finished designing yet, but if landscaping is installed, we will select drought-tolerant plants that require little maintenance.
<p>At minimum - signal at Kinnaman & 198th</p>	<p>We are evaluating to see whether a traffic signal at Kinnaman & 198th Avenue meets the County warrants (criteria).</p>
<p>No roundabout!!</p>	<p>Thank you.</p>
<p>No roundabouts. Keep 198th straight.</p>	<p>Thank you.</p>
<p>No roundabouts</p>	<p>Thank you.</p>

END OF COMMENTS