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*Lima St & Wesley Ave Sidewalk Widening Project*

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Agenda

• Project Background
• Design overview
• Right-of-Way and Easements
• Frequently asked Questions
• Schedule
• Comments/Questions
Background

- In June 2017 and June 2018, Public Works received an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodation request from a resident in the Eastridge Community
  - Law that protects people with disabilities, signed into law in 1990

- The sidewalks along Lima Street and Wesley Ave do not meet current standards (they were built prior to ADA laws)

- The ADA accommodation request included widening the existing 3-ft sidewalks for about ½ mile along Lima St and Wesley Ave to the Eastridge Community School where a park is located.
  - Per ADA, the minimum sidewalk width is 5-ft
  - Sidewalks can be narrower around obstructions
Background

• April 2019 – Staff met with the requesting resident to discuss request and scope of a future project, noting that construction funds were not currently available
• June 2019 – Public Works contracted with a consulting firm to begin the design
• September 25, 2019 – Public meeting was held at the Eastridge Community School
  • 2 primary design alternatives were presented
  • Alternative that showed widening towards properties was presented as preferred alternative
  • Construction schedule was not presented because construction funds were not yet identified.
• 2021 – Construction funds identified
• Now – Finalizing plans for construction
Project Design

- Widen sidewalks from 3-ft to 6-ft, **staying within existing City Right-of-Way**
- Avoid impacts to features like trees as much as possible
Existing Cross Section

- Existing Right-of-Way
- Existing Curb

~7'

3' Parking lane
8' 4' Drive lane
11' Drive lane
11' Drive lane
4' 8' Parking lane
3'
Proposed Cross Section

- Existing Right-of-Way
- Existing Curb

- 6' Sidewalk
- 8' Parking lane
- 4' Drive lane
- 11' Drive lane
- 4' Parking lane
- 3'
Project Design

• Invited residents to this meeting who live adjacent to impacts
• Will reach out to individual property owners after this meeting to discuss impacts and easements
• Project will restore landscaping and improve driveways as needed
• Permanent ROW not needed, but temporary easements needed during construction to build sidewalk and restore landscaping
• Permanent easements needed at a few properties to relocate water meters
Answers to frequently asked Questions

• **Why is this project happening?**
  • The goal of this project is to provide sidewalks that meet ADA requirements based on a resident request. The proposed sidewalk width will meet current City standards for a local road.

• **Will you restore my landscaping?**
  • Yes, the project will pay for landscaping and driveway restoration

• **Will I have to remove extra snow?**
  • Yes, snow removal will be the responsibility of each property owner

• **Will property owners be compensated for impacts?**
  • Property owners will be compensated for easements
  • Details to be discussed in coming months

• **Will traffic calming be included with the project?**
  • The City plans to install a radar speed sign on Lima St for traffic calming. This will be done later this summer
• **Why aren’t you widening towards the road?**
  - Two alternatives were presented at the first public meeting. One showed widening towards properties and one showed widening towards the road.
  - The alternative that included widening towards the properties was described as preferred due to utility and grading conflicts with widening into the road.
  - On-street parking would be impacted
  - Cost was approximately double
  - **Most residents were supportive of the preferred alternative,** so staff proceeded with the design

• **Why is 6-ft needed? Doesn’t ADA law say 5-ft?**
  - 6-ft sidewalks are the current City standard on local roadways such as Lima and Wesley
  - City owned right-of-way is currently available for this width
  - The resident who made the accommodation request uses a mobility device that needs as much space as possible
  - The sidewalk will be narrower in some short locations to avoid conflicts with existing features, such as mature trees
Answers to frequently asked Questions (continued)

- **Will this project decrease my property value?**
  - There is no evidence that wider sidewalks decrease property value
  - Generally, neighborhoods with higher walkability ratings have higher home prices, not lower
Project Schedule

• Design: Completing now
• Outreach for easement discussions: Spring 2022
• Construction: Summer/Fall 2022
Questions/Comments?