



## Final Design Open House Summary

January 10, 2019

### Overview

On January 10, 2019, the City of Lake Oswego hosted a drop-in open house event for the Boones Ferry Road Project. The meeting took place at the Lake Oswego Maintenance Center from 6:30pm – 8:30pm. Around 130 people attended the event and were able to talk directly to project staff through the self-guided open house format. City staff, consultants, and several community members who serve on the Project Advisory Committee helped share information and answered questions about the project design details.

Construction is anticipated to begin in early summer 2019; the City wanted to make sure all neighbors and businesses know the scope of the project in advance of construction and have access to the latest information.

The purpose of the meeting was to:

- Share final designs for the Boones Ferry Road Project.
- Provide a venue for the public to talk to staff and committee members and learn about the designs.
- Show maps and graphics of what the road and sidewalk improvements will look like.
- Share plans for tree removals and new plantings, landscaping, and community-inspired artistic elements.
- Answer questions about construction methods, general staging, and traffic control in advance of construction. (More information about construction and schedule will be refined after the City has hired a contractor.)

At the sign-in table, there was a large map where attendees placed colored dots on the locations where they either lived or worked/operated a business. There were four main information stations:

- **Background/History:** Information was shared on the project purpose, the history and longevity of the planning process behind the project, community involvement and project advisory committee (PAC) leadership and vision.
- **Project Components/Design Overview:** Design details were shared for the length of the project corridor, from Madrona Street to Lanewood Street on a large map. A sample cross section was shown, along with features of the new street. Sample renderings of a new traffic signal, mid-block crossing and two waysides were displayed. There was information on tree removal, protection and planting.

- **Streetscape Features/Enhancements:** The graphics showed sample imagery of landscaping, planting palettes, artistic elements, and other visual concepts such as sidewalk materials and street furnishings (benches, bike racks, trash cans, drinking fountain). A large (20 ft.) map showed the streetscape features for the entire corridor, including call outs for the expanded sidewalk areas (waysides).
- **Construction/Schedule:** A general project schedule, how to stay informed, and what to expect during construction were shared. General information about lane closures and traffic impacts were highlighted.

PDF files of all January 2019 open house displays are available online at [www.boonesferryproject.org](http://www.boonesferryproject.org).

## Outreach and Notification

A newsletter was mailed to 5,300 properties around the project area in December 2018. The newsletter described the project, shared sample images, and announced the open house date in January. A project update and open house announcement was also published in the December 2018 and January 2019 issue of *Hello LO*, which is distributed city-wide. City of Lake Oswego sent an email to 450 on the interested parties list and shared information via Facebook, Nextdoor, Twitter, and Instagram. City staff also attended the December 2018 and January 2019 Lake Grove Business Association meeting. The Lake Oswego Chamber of Commerce also shared the open house date through two of their weekly e-newsletters

## What We Heard – Key Topics

In general, attendees were aware of and excited about the project and appreciative of the level of graphic information available at the meeting. The following summarizes the topics and questions raised by the community at the meeting.

- **Traffic Impacts / Traffic Flow:** Community members expressed concern about how traffic patterns would change as a result of the road project improvement. Some of the feedback included:
  - Some community members wanted to change the configuration of the turn lanes at Oakridge Road intersection.
  - Community members responded positively to adding a dedicated left and right turn lane on Bryant Road.
  - Increasing U-turn opportunities was positively received; most community members were happy with the medians and ability to perform a U-turn.
  - Just a handful of people were interested in the right turn out of Quarry Road with the intent of turning left on Bryant Road. Some were wishing this movement would be restricted.
  - Some community members expressed concern that road project changes would limit access to the Post Office.

- **Construction Impacts:** Overall most community members were supportive of the design and recognized the need for the project. However, many are still concerned about how neighbors and businesses will be affected by construction. Issues of concern were:
  - In addition to overall construction dates and duration, several community members wanted to know the timing of potential road or lane closures and anticipated traffic detours (if planned).
  - There were concerns with night time work and noise for those living in the corridor.
  - Some community members expressed concern about impacts to nearby businesses and how they will survive the two-and-a-half year project implementation.
  - Upper Drive, Lakeview Boulevard, Lanewood Street, Quarry Road and Waluga Drive were identified by several attendees as key side streets that would be impacted by cut-through traffic during construction.
  
- **Safety:** Community members were supportive of the street and sidewalk improvements and some offered additional suggestions to the designs. Overall, community members agreed that the medians and signals will help make Boones Ferry Road safer and help capacity.
  
- **Bike and Pedestrian Issues:** Many community members were excited about bike lanes and were curious about how well the mid-block crossings would serve pedestrian needs. Community members were interested to see enhancements for pedestrians, such as improving the quality and continuity of sidewalks.
  
- **Tree Protection, Removal, and Planting:** The landscaping related displays received a lot of feedback; most frequently discussed was the number of trees that would be removed as a result of the project. There was specific concern about the removal of the Western Ponderosa Pine at the Olson Memorial Clinic due to PGE vaults. Community members were generally curious about the variety of trees and shrubbery that would be planted; questions fielded by staff included answering what *specific* trees and plants would be planted. Some community members were disappointed about the number of trees that would be removed and felt that the plans for replanting were not enough.
  
- **Arts & Culture:** The dichroic glass intersection monument markers gained community interest and positive feedback.
  
- **Other feedback:** Overall, there was generally positive feedback and support of the project designs. Community members appreciated the visuals and graphics prepared for the meeting. Many shared their long history of interest and involvement in improving Boones Ferry Road and were in support of the project and level of community involvement.

Moving forward, some community members suggested the project staff should involve the students/youth through Lake Oswego School District. Engagement could take form as a class field trip to learn about city engineering improvements and construction.