

Comprehensive Plan and Code Amendments, File No. 2018-07

June 3, 2019

City of Hood River Planning Commission

June 3, 2019 Hearing - File No. 2018-07

- Streets and Transit Framework
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Framework



BACKGROUND - File No. 2018-07

- The Westside Area Concept Plan Report recommends amendments to the City's Comprehensive Plan, Transportation System Plan, Capital Facilities Plans, Zoning Map, Subdivision Ordinance and Zoning Ordinance.
- The Planning Commission is reviewing Westside Area Concept Plan Report, and refinements will be made prior to sending recommendations to the City Council.
- Policy and code updates identified in the process may not be limited to the Westside, and could be applied throughout the City and Urban Growth Area.

BACKGROUND - File No. 2018-07

- Tonight's hearing is a continuance of the legislative amendments hearing from May 20, 2019.
- Tonight's discussion is expected to include deliberation on two of the framework plans from the Westside Area Concept Plan Report including the Streets and Transit Framework, and the Pedestrian and Bicycle Framework.

Westside Area Concept Plan Process Roadmap, Meetings 12-14

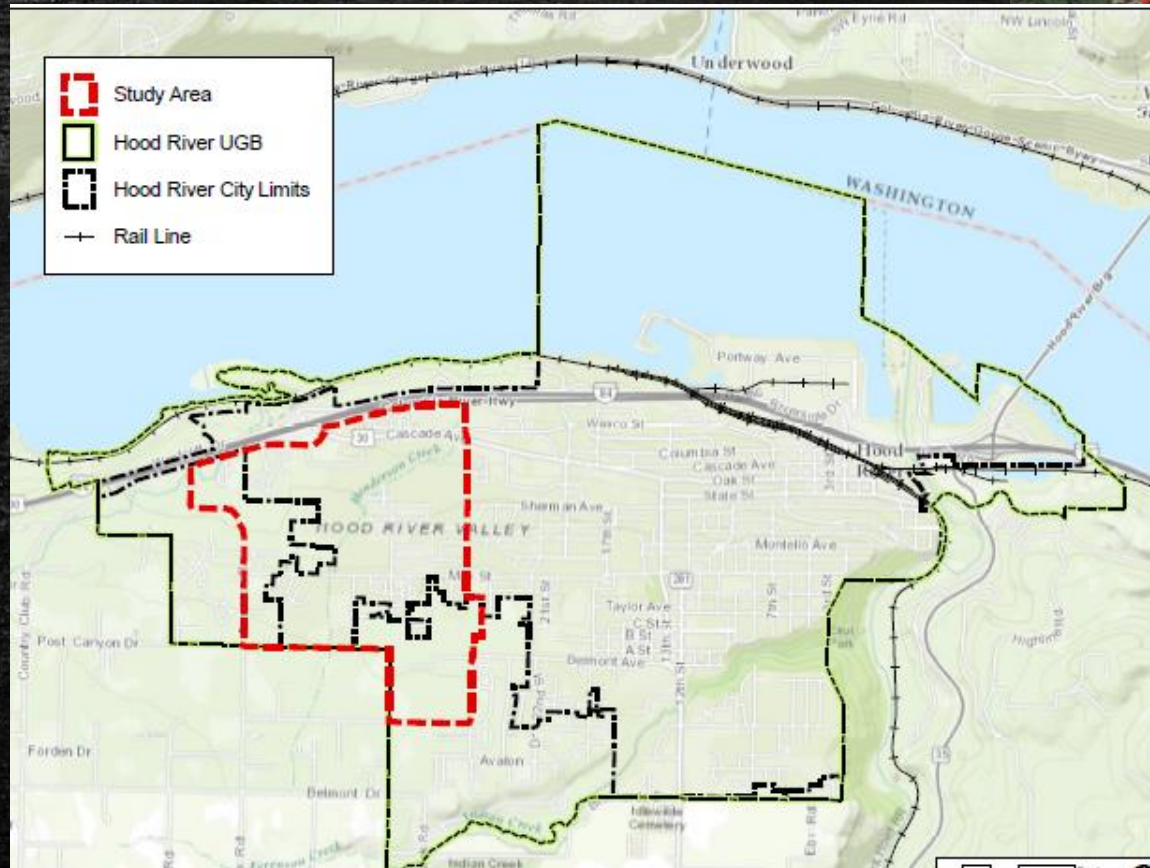
Step	Meeting	Topic
12	April 1, 2019 Planning Commission Public Hearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Planning Commission deliberation • Neighborhoods and Districts Framework
13	April 15, 2019 Planning Commission Public Hearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Planning Commission deliberation • Streets and Transit Framework • Pedestrian and Bicycle Framework (subject to time constraints)
14	May 20, 2019 Planning Commission Public Hearing, tentative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Planning Commission deliberation • Pedestrian and Bicycle Framework • Parks and Open Space Framework (subject to time constraints)

Westside Area Concept Plan Process Roadmap, Meetings 15-16

15	June 3, 2019 Planning Commission Public Hearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• City Planning Commission deliberation<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Streets and Transit Framework• Pedestrian and Bicycle Framework
16	Tentative June 17, 2019 Planning Commission Public Hearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• City Planning Commission deliberation<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pedestrian and Bicycle Framework (if not completed on June 3)• Parks and Open Space Framework

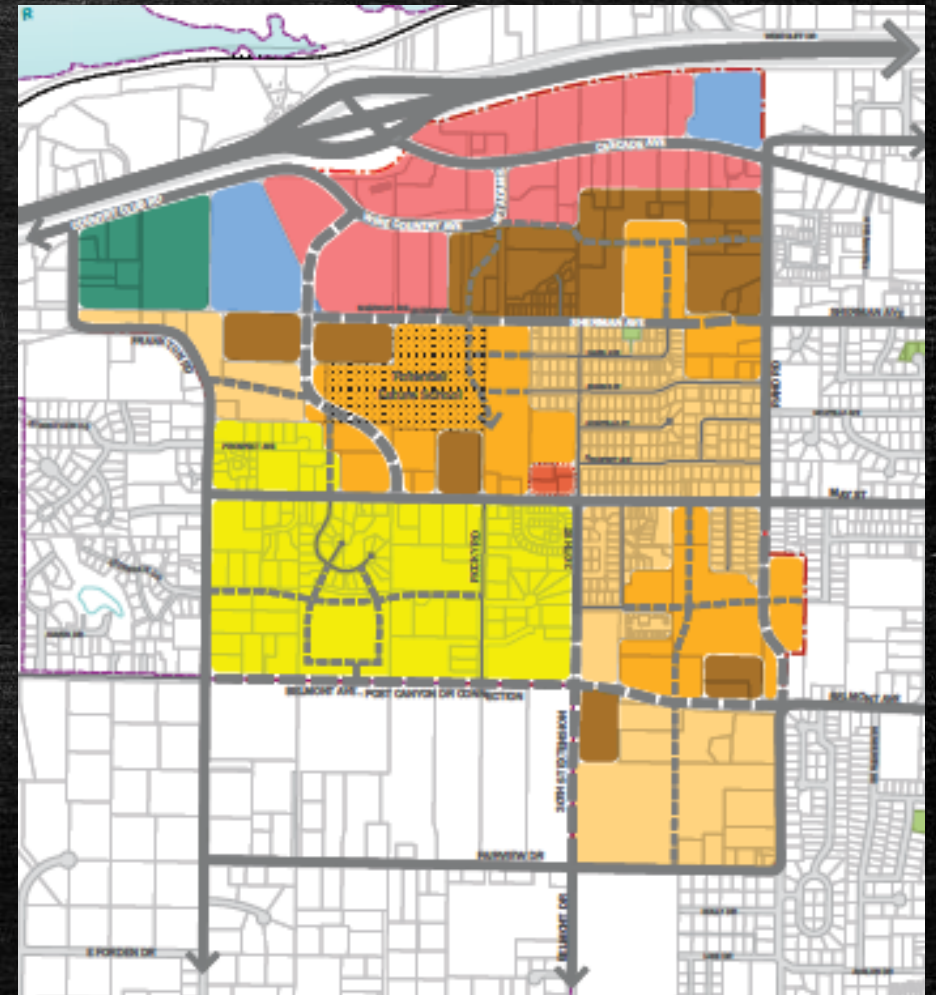
Westside Area Concept Plan Report Study Area

Study area,
approximately 450 acres



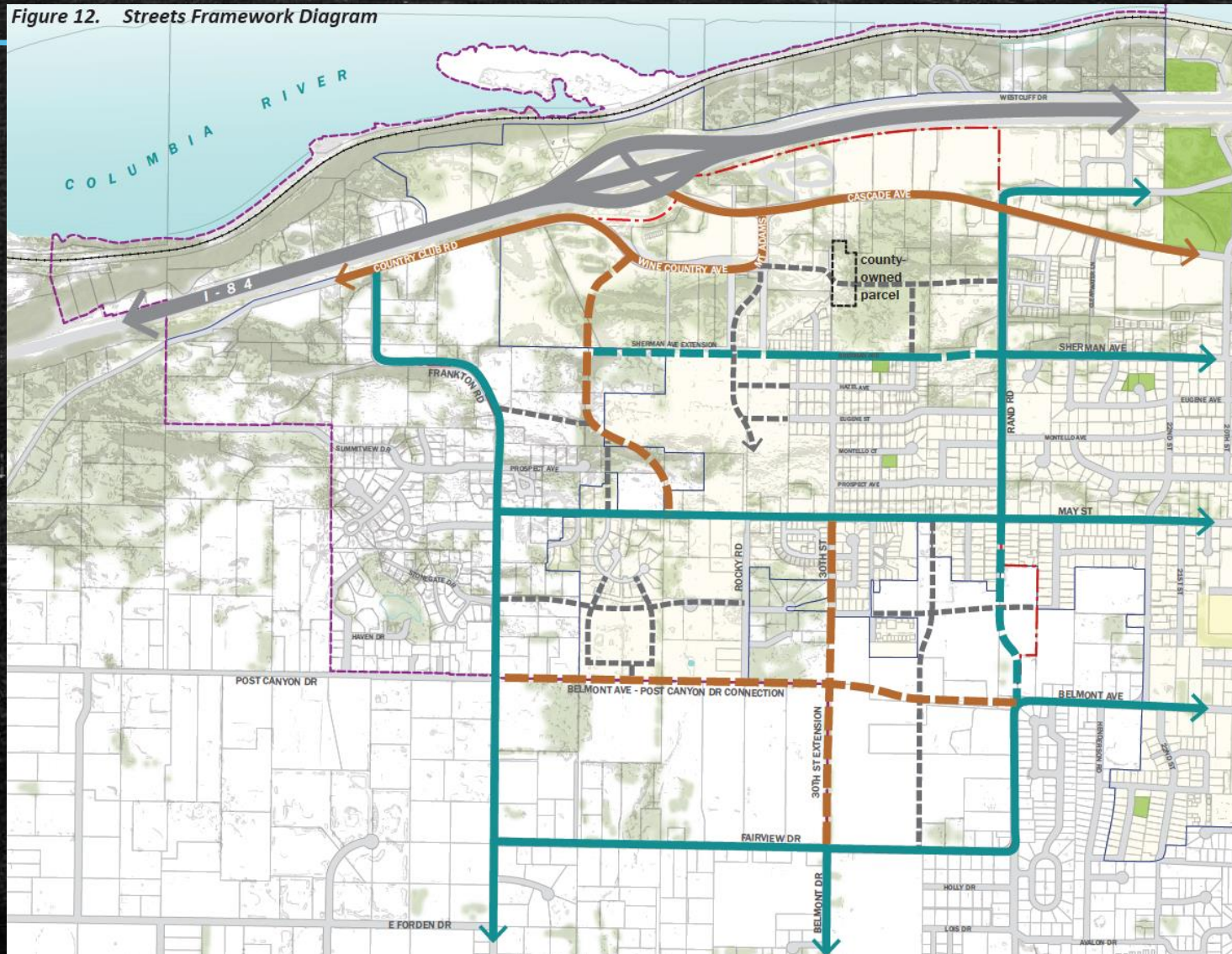
Westside Area Concept Plan Report Framework Plans

- Neighborhoods and Districts
- Streets and Transit
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Connections
- Parks and Open Space
- Land Use (three scenarios drafted)



Legislative File No. 2018-07 Planning Commission Deliberation Streets and Transit Framework – April 15, 2019

Figure 12. Streets Framework Diagram



Westside Area Concept Plan Report

Streets and Transit Framework

- Intended to implement the vision to create an interconnected community that includes streets, trails, and paths that are “walkable, connected, and green.”
- Depicts the hierarchy of street types for the Westside Area, consistent with the street classifications used in the City’s Transportation System Plan (TSP).
- Also depicts proposed “Neighborhood Connector” Streets - local streets that are intended to be continuous through neighborhoods, providing direct and convenient connectivity with wider planter strips to better accommodate stormwater treatment.

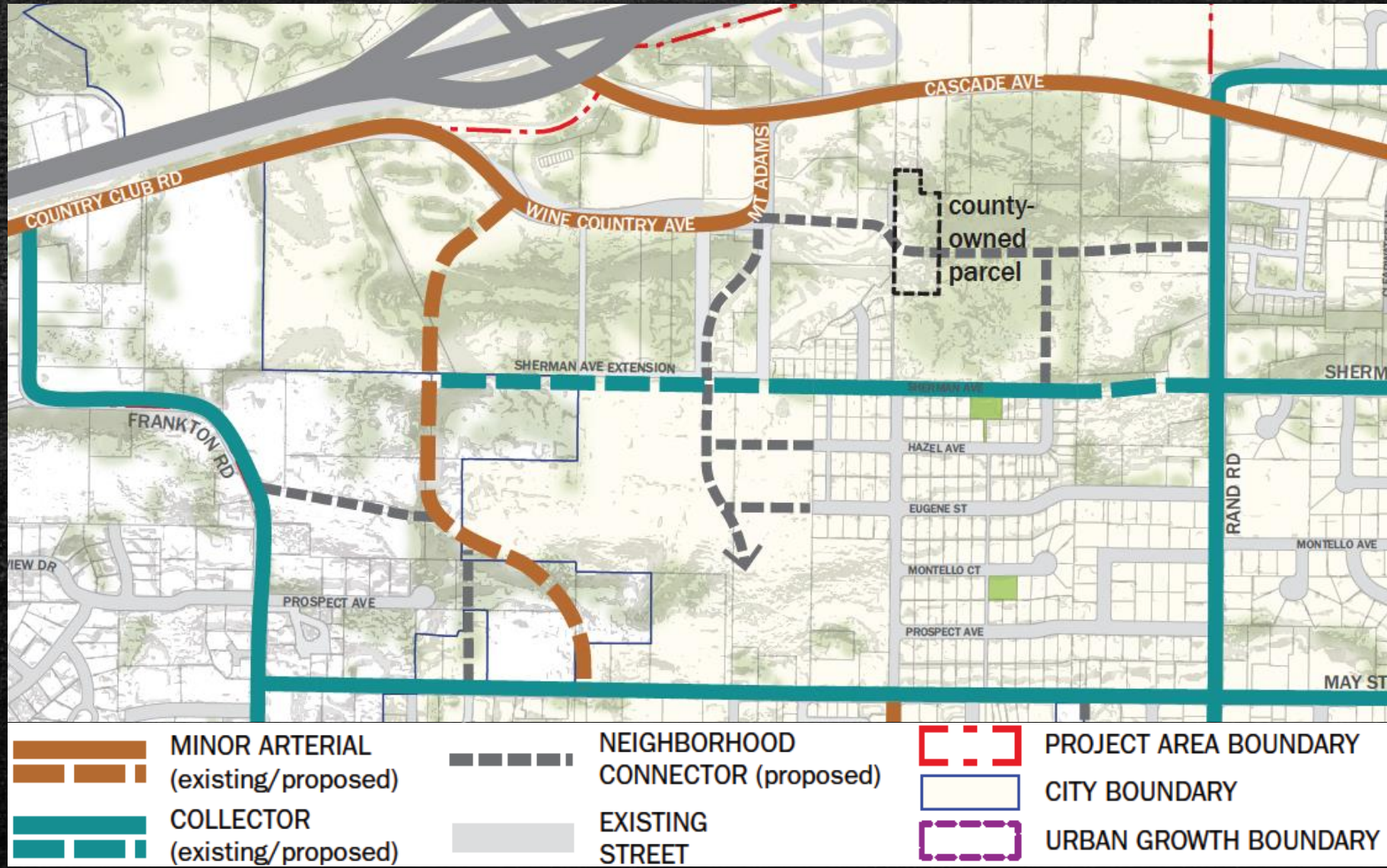
Westside Area Concept Plan Report

Streets and Transit Framework

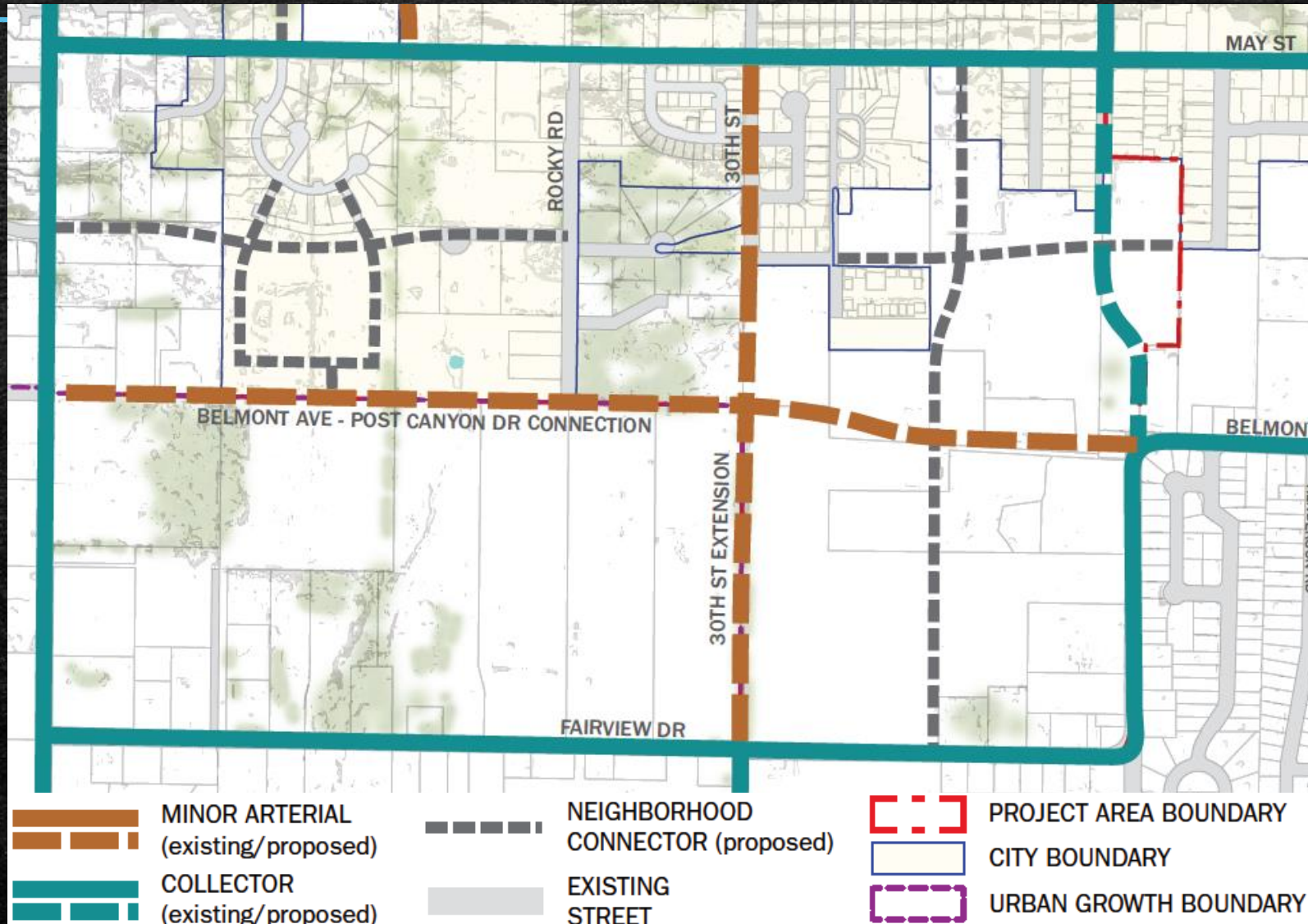
Policy Issues for Planning Commission input:

- Relocation of “Mt. Adams extension” (to Alignment D), including signals
- Refinement of traffic control method at intersection of Wine Country Ave./Mt. Adams Ave.
- Refinement of Neighborhood Connector locations
- New cross sections for Minor Arterial, Neighborhood Connectors and Local Streets to apply throughout City
- Traffic signal vs. roundabout at Cascade Ave./Mt. Adams Ave.
- Transportation system design and land use affect Transit feasibility
- 30th Avenue north of May St. traffic calming
- 30th Avenue south of May St. where temporary on street parking is to be converted back to bike lanes
- Update of the Transportation System Plan Financially Constrained List

Westside Area Concept Plan Report Streets and Transit Framework – North of May St.



Westside Area Concept Plan Report Streets and Transit Framework – South of May St.



Deliberation regarding the Streets and Transit Framework

Summary of May 20, 2019 hearing:

- Staff sought recommendations to update the Transportation System Plan project list by moving already identified transportation projects into a funded list

Planning Commission Recommendation:

- Fund projects already identified in the Transportation System Plan and add intersection improvement to May St. and Rand Rd.

Deliberation regarding the Streets and Transit Framework

Summary of May 20, 2019 hearing:

- Staff sought recommendations to update to the Motor Vehicle System Plan of the City's TSP to be consistent with the Streets Framework subject to intersection design alternatives at Mt. Adams/Cascade and Mt. Adams/Wine Country, modifications to certain proposed Neighborhood Connector Streets, etc.

Planning Commission Recommendations:

- Update the proposed street layouts and street classifications along with the alignments; consider the use of roundabouts at arterial intersections

Deliberation regarding the Streets and Transit Framework

Summary of May 20, 2019 hearing:

- Staff sought recommendations to update to the Pedestrian System Plan and Bicycle System Plan of the TSP to be consistent with Pedestrian and Bicycle Framework, and a recommendation that certain trails be included in the TSP .

Planning Commission Recommendation:

- Add bicycle and pedestrian facilities into capital facilities plans that allows opportunities for transportation and open space/parks funding opportunities.

Deliberation regarding the Streets and Transit Framework

Summary of May 20, 2019 hearing:

- Staff sought recommendations to update cross-sections of City streets including Minor Arterials (to apply not only to "Alignment D") and a new Neighborhood Connector street.

Planning Commission Recommendations:

- Requested more information about Hood River truck routes prior to making a recommendation on the Alignment D cross-section
- Consider the use of roundabout at intersections of Alignment D at May St. and Wine Country Ave.
- Relocate bicycle facilities from on-street to off-street shared paths, prioritizing the needs of recreational or novice ability cyclists over advanced commuter needs.

Deliberation regarding the Streets and Transit Framework

Summary of May 20, 2019 hearing:

- Staff sought recommendations to incorporate traffic calming on 30th Street north of May Street

Planning Commission Recommendation:

Incorporate traffic calming measures consistent with the Concept Plan Report and reinstall bike lanes south of May Street where parking has been allowed temporarily

Deliberation regarding the Streets and Transit Framework

Summary of May 20, 2019 hearing:

- Staff sought recommendations for the method of traffic control at the Mt. Adams Ave. /Wine Country Ave. intersection, an alternative to a center median barrier. Alternatives may include a roundabout or signal such as being considered at Mt. Adams Ave./Cascade Ave.

Planning Commission Recommendations:

- Consider mass evacuation

ODOT Emergency Response:

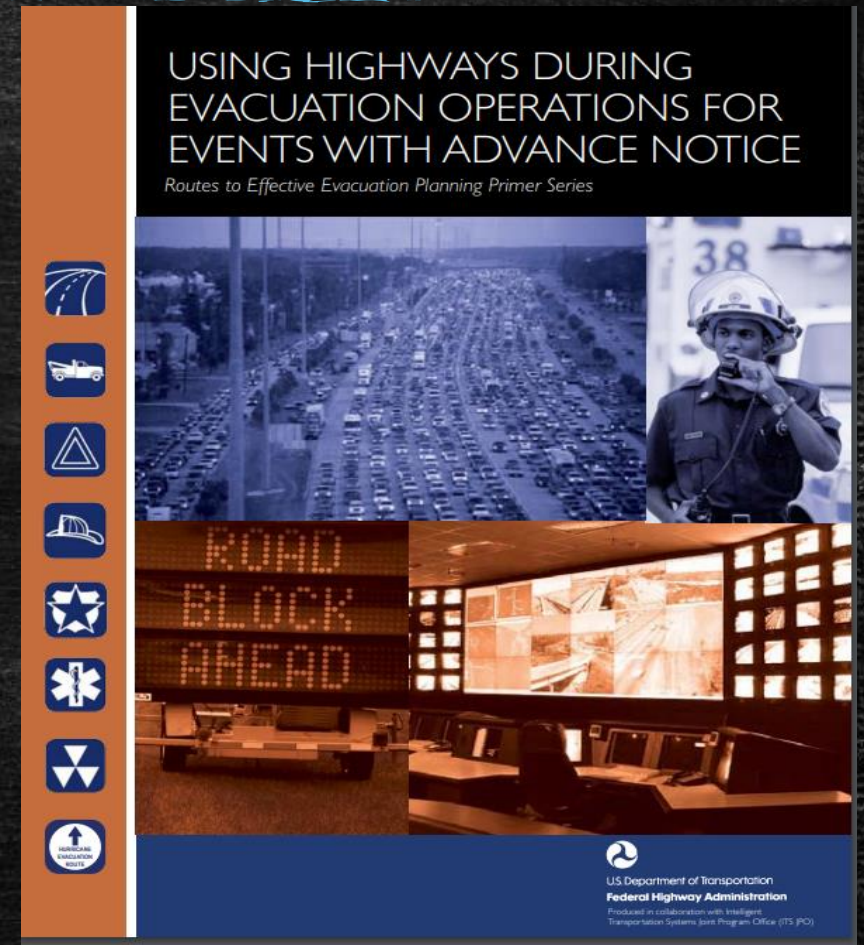
If an event of this nature was to happen, ODOT would coordinate response with the Oregon Office of Emergency Management, the Oregon State Police and the Hood River County officials. ODOT would provide support and assistance to the county and the city with the implementation traffic evacuation routes and traffic control out of the area. Deciding what routes would be used to accomplish the task would be entirely dependent on the nature of the emergency and what routes have been impacted and made unusable by the event which caused the evacuation. Those decisions would have to be made in a unified command at the time of the emergency based on the information available. It would all have to be decided on what the nature of the emergency is, what roads have been compromised and what routes we have available to effect the evacuation. It would have to be a unified effort for City, County and State agencies to accomplish the task.

Deliberation regarding the Streets and Transit Framework

Mass Evacuations

“Access Management: access management is a set of techniques that state and local governments can use to control access to highways, major arterials, and other roadways. The benefits of access management include improved movement of traffic, reduced crashes, and fewer vehicle conflicts. Access spacing increases the distance between traffic signals, thereby improving the flow of traffic on major arterials and reducing congestion. Dedicated left- and right-turn lanes, indirect left-turns and U-turns, and roundabouts keep through-traffic flowing. Roundabouts represent a potential solution for intersections with many conflict points. Two-way, left-turn lanes and non-traversable, raised medians are examples of some of the most effective means to regulate access and reduce accidents, these practices can increase the roadways' capacity, which is important in an evacuation.”

Using Highways during Evacuation Operations for Events with Advance Notice, pg. 47



Deliberation regarding the Streets and Transit Framework

Planning Commission Recommendations

- Would Like to open up the programmatic agreement with SHPO and ODOT to develop an alternative cross section along Cascade to improve bicycle and pedestrian flow and safety.
- Without suspending the Concept Plan, this action would need to be carried out by staff.

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Background slides:

Westside Area Concept Plan Report Streets and Transit Framework

Existing Transportation System Plan (TSP) Street Classifications

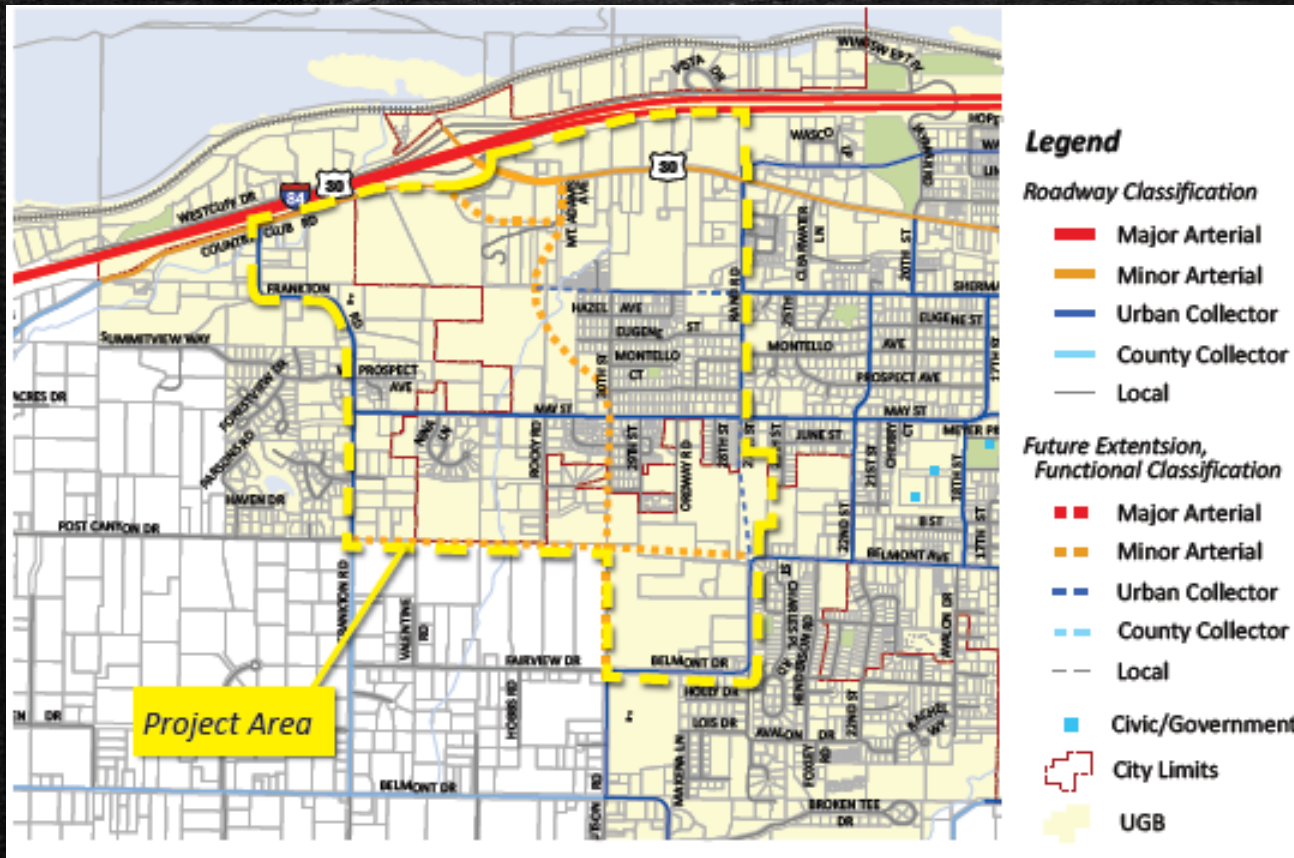
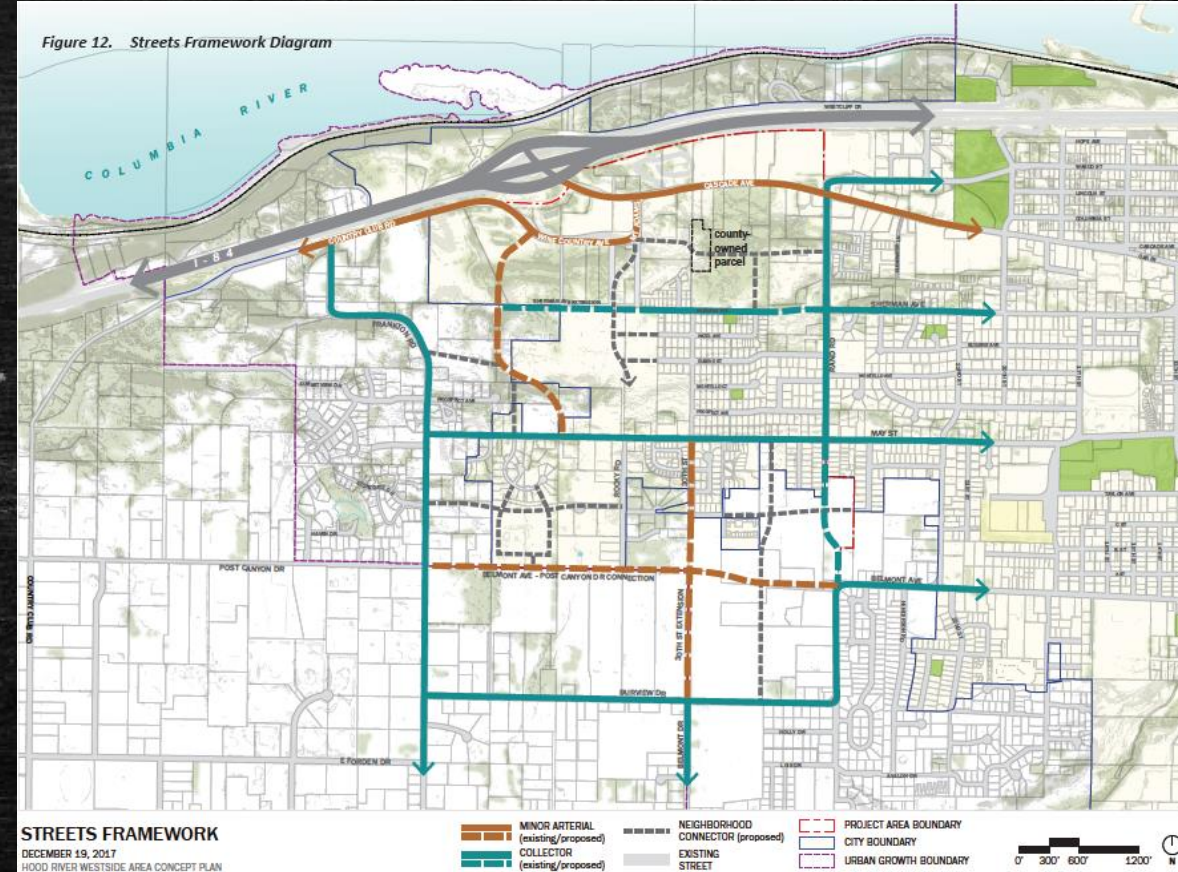


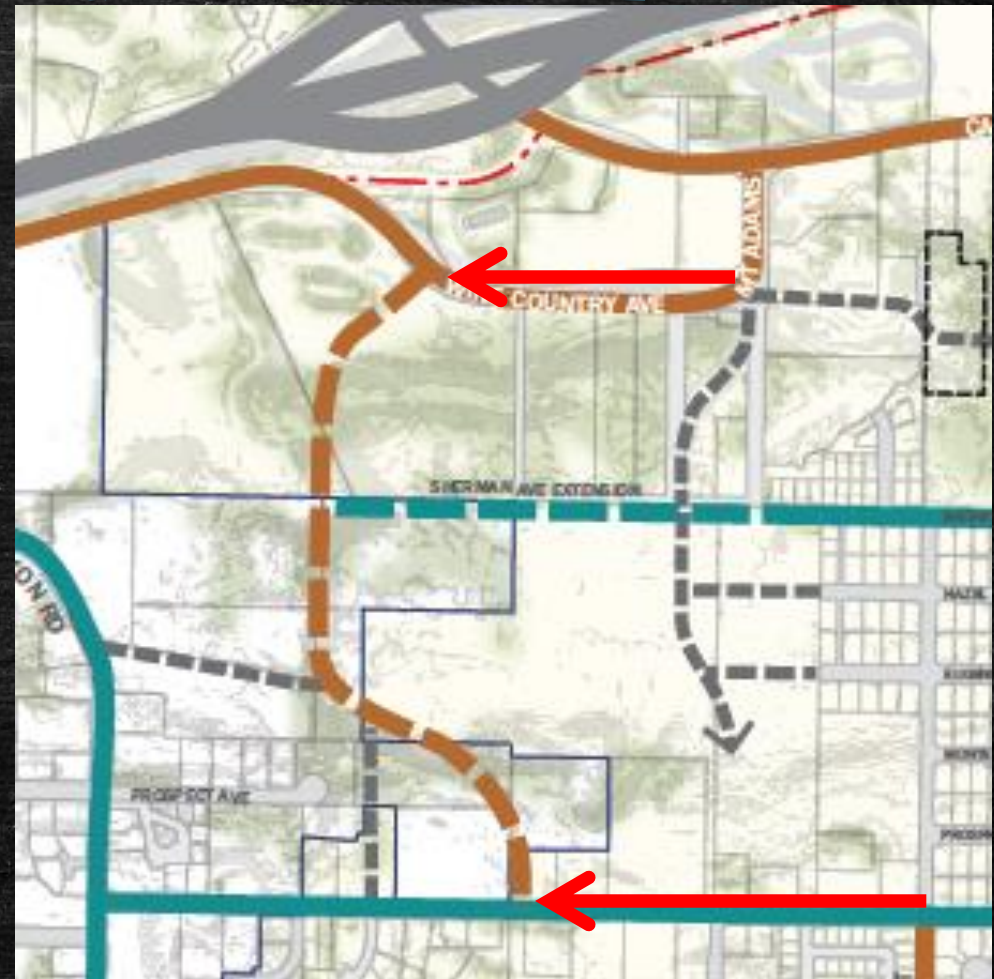
Figure 12 – Proposed Framework Will Require Amendments to TSP



Westside Area Concept Plan Report Streets & Transit Framework – Mt. Adams Ave.



2011 TSP Alignment



Westside Area Concept Plan Report "Alignment D"

Westside Area Concept Plan Report

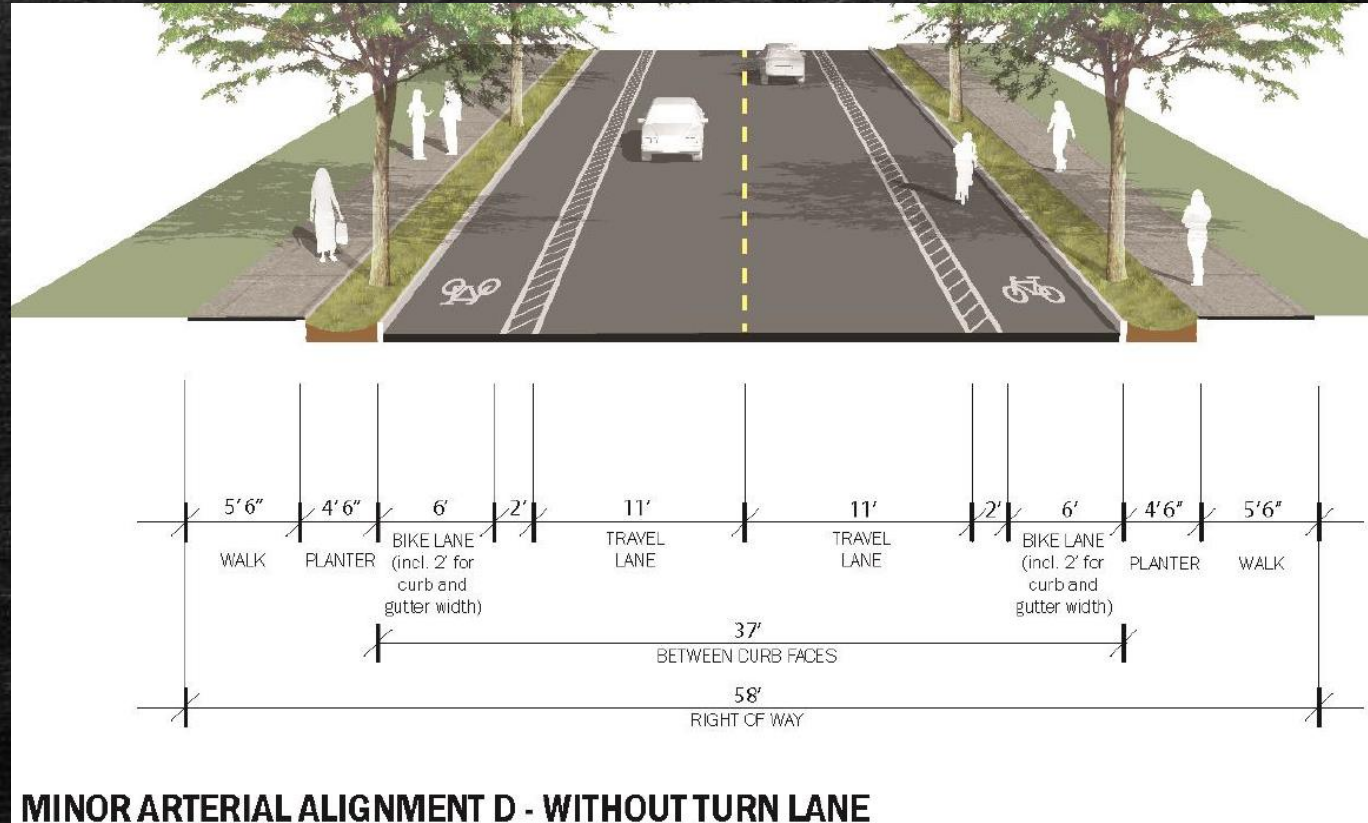
Streets and Transit Framework - “Alignment D”

- Balances the multiple needs of active transportation, north-south mobility, neighborhood impacts, street connectivity, physical constraints, and cost.
- It will serve the function of a Minor Arterial, but must be the most “people-friendly” Minor Arterial that can be implemented.
- A new minor arterial cross-section is recommended, for “Alignment D” and it could be used on other minor arterial connections in the City.
- The project team recommends following elements:

Westside Area Concept Plan Report

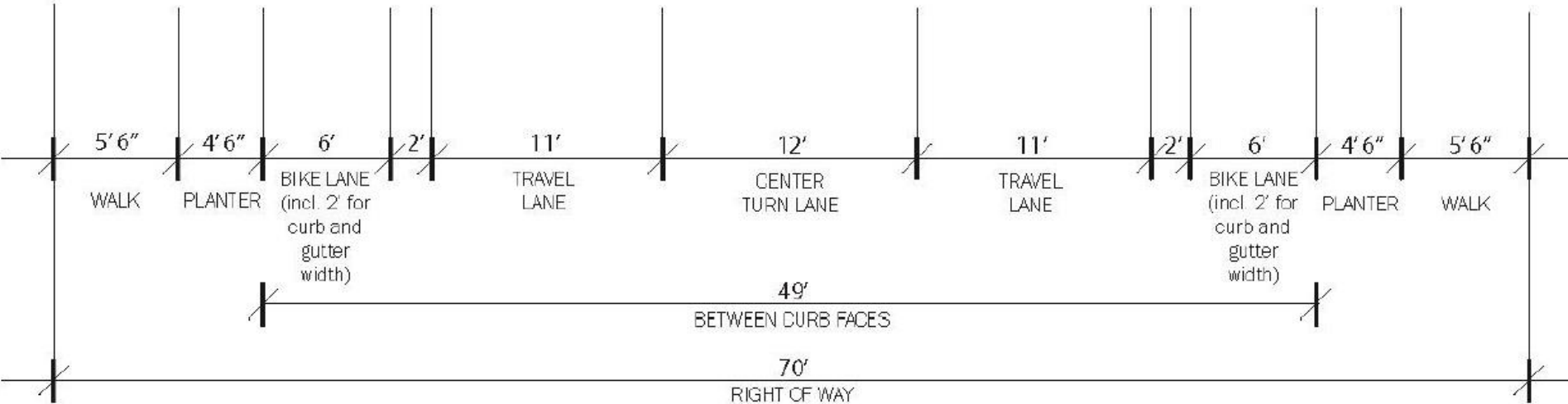
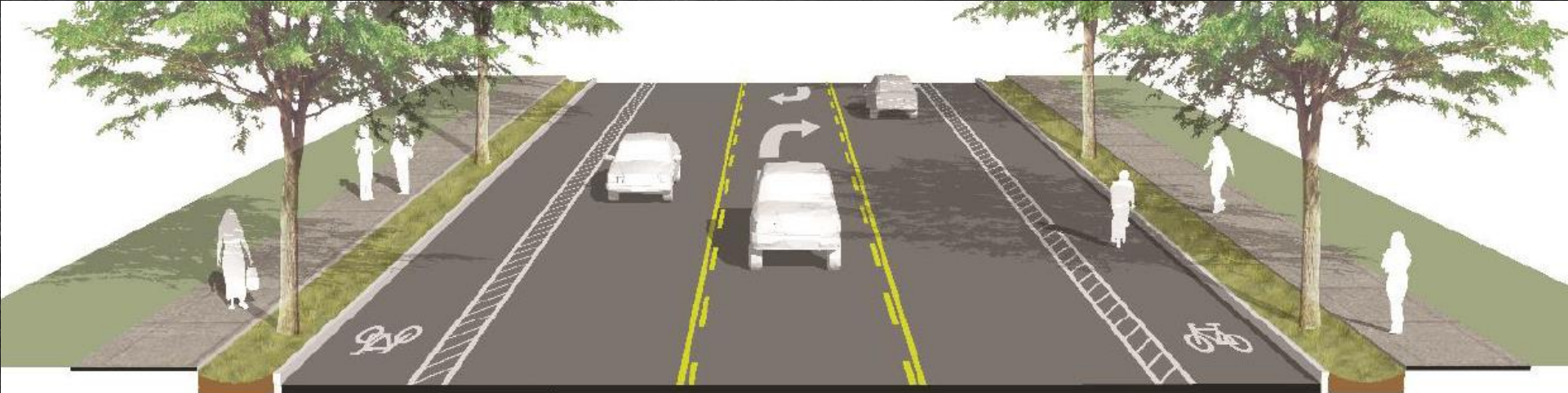
Streets and Transit Framework - "Alignment D"

- **Center turn lane:** Not continuous; turn pockets where needed. Result is a 2-lane street instead of the typical 3-lane street.
- **Auto lane widths:** 11 feet instead of the typical 12 feet.
- **Buffered bike lanes:** A striped 2-foot buffer and 6-foot bike lane is recommended
- **Design speeds and curve radii:** Consider designing to accommodate slower speeds.
- **Storm water:** Incorporate low-impact designs.



Westside Area Concept Plan Report

Streets and Transit Framework - "Alignment D"

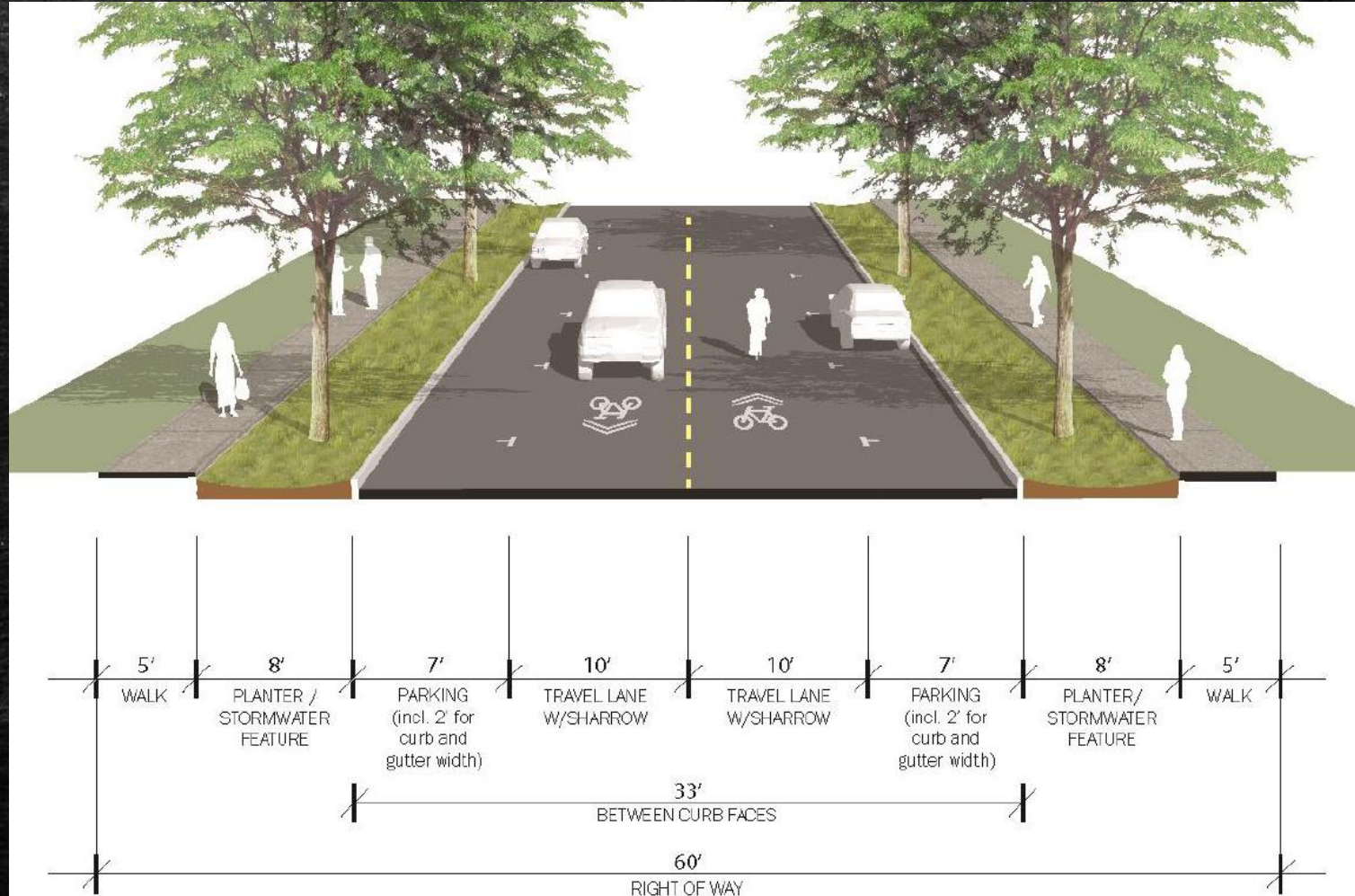


MINOR ARTERIAL ALIGNMENT D - WITH TURN LANE

Westside Area Concept Plan Report

Cross Section – Neighborhood Connector

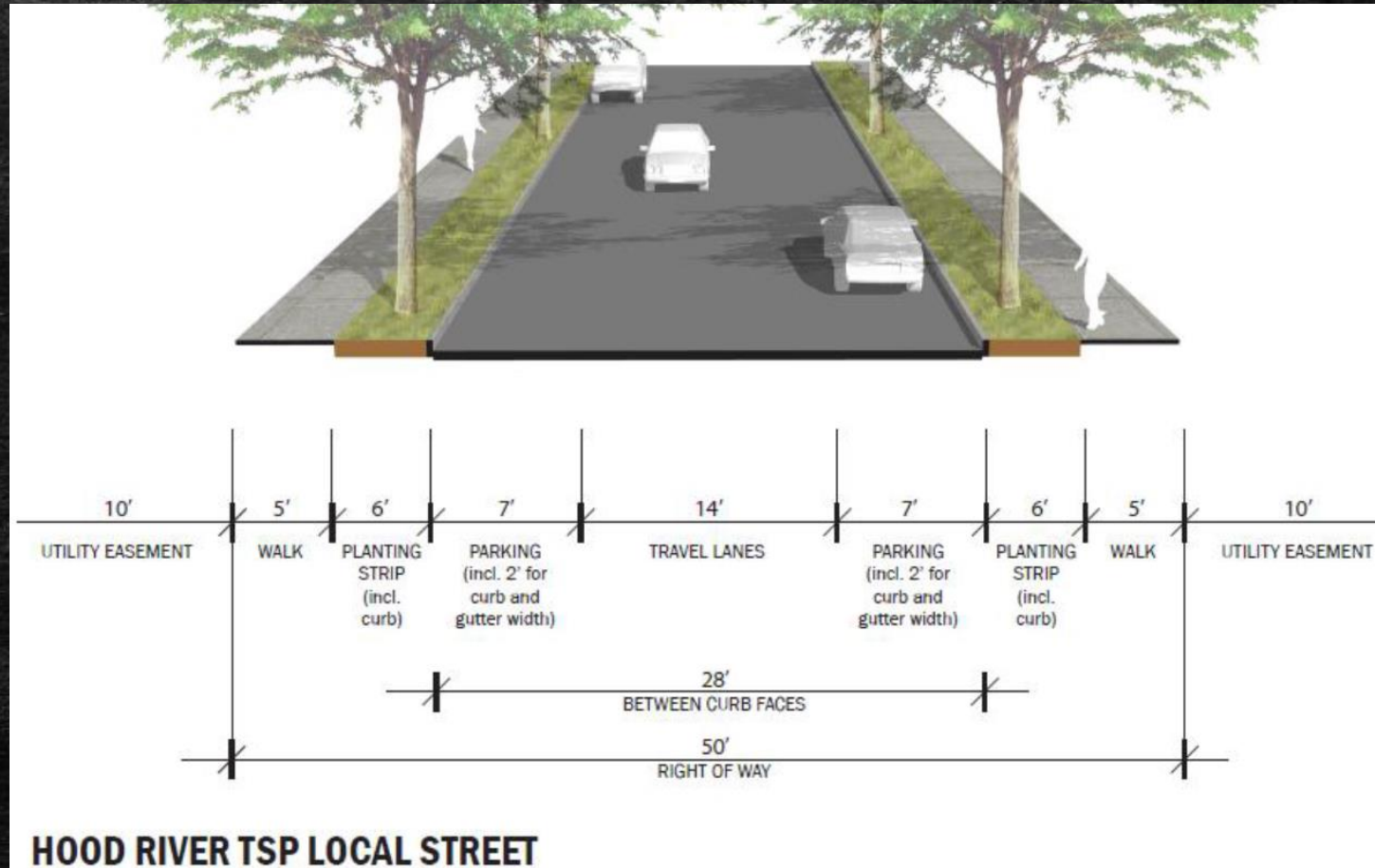
- 60-foot-wide right-of-way
- 33-foot curb-to-curb
- On-street parking
- Travel lanes with Sharrows
- 8-foot-wide planter strips, stormwater features
- 5-foot-wide sidewalks
- **Add utility easements**



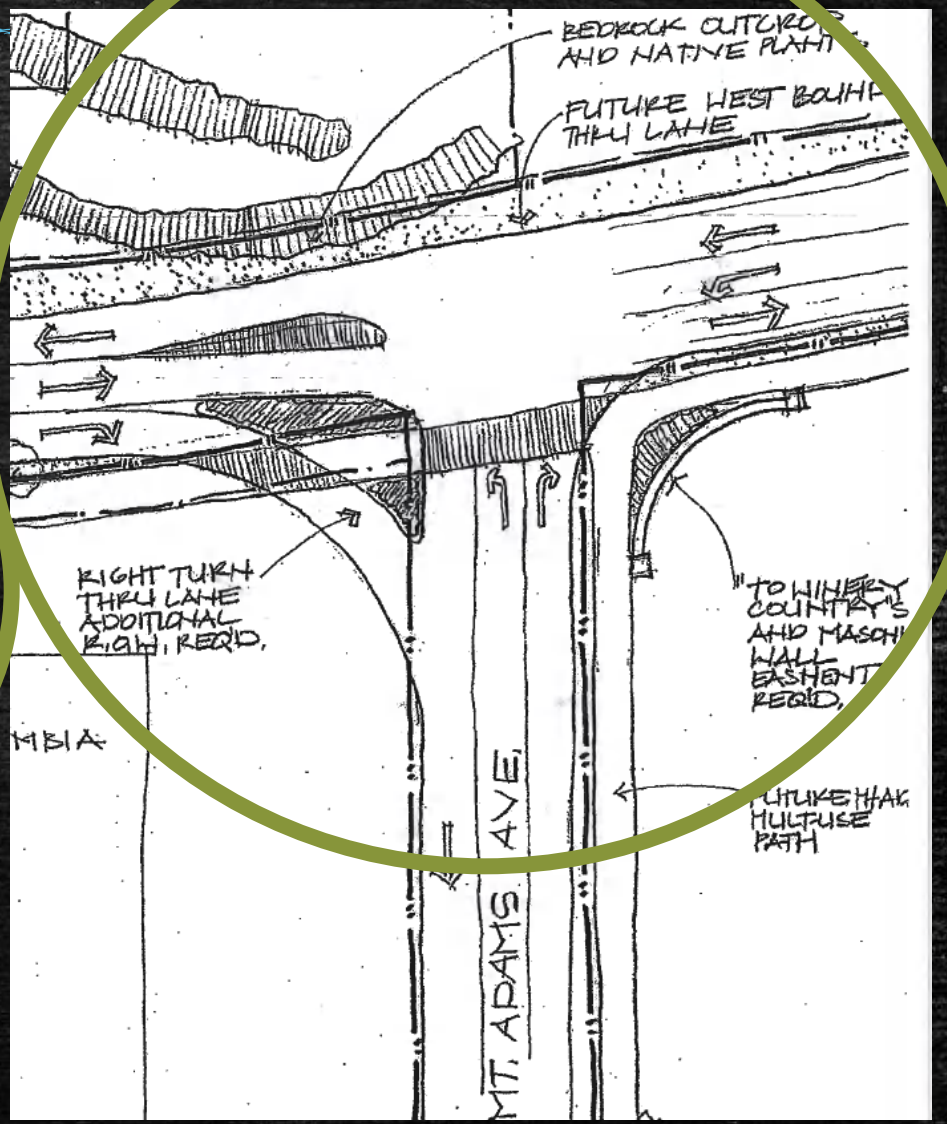
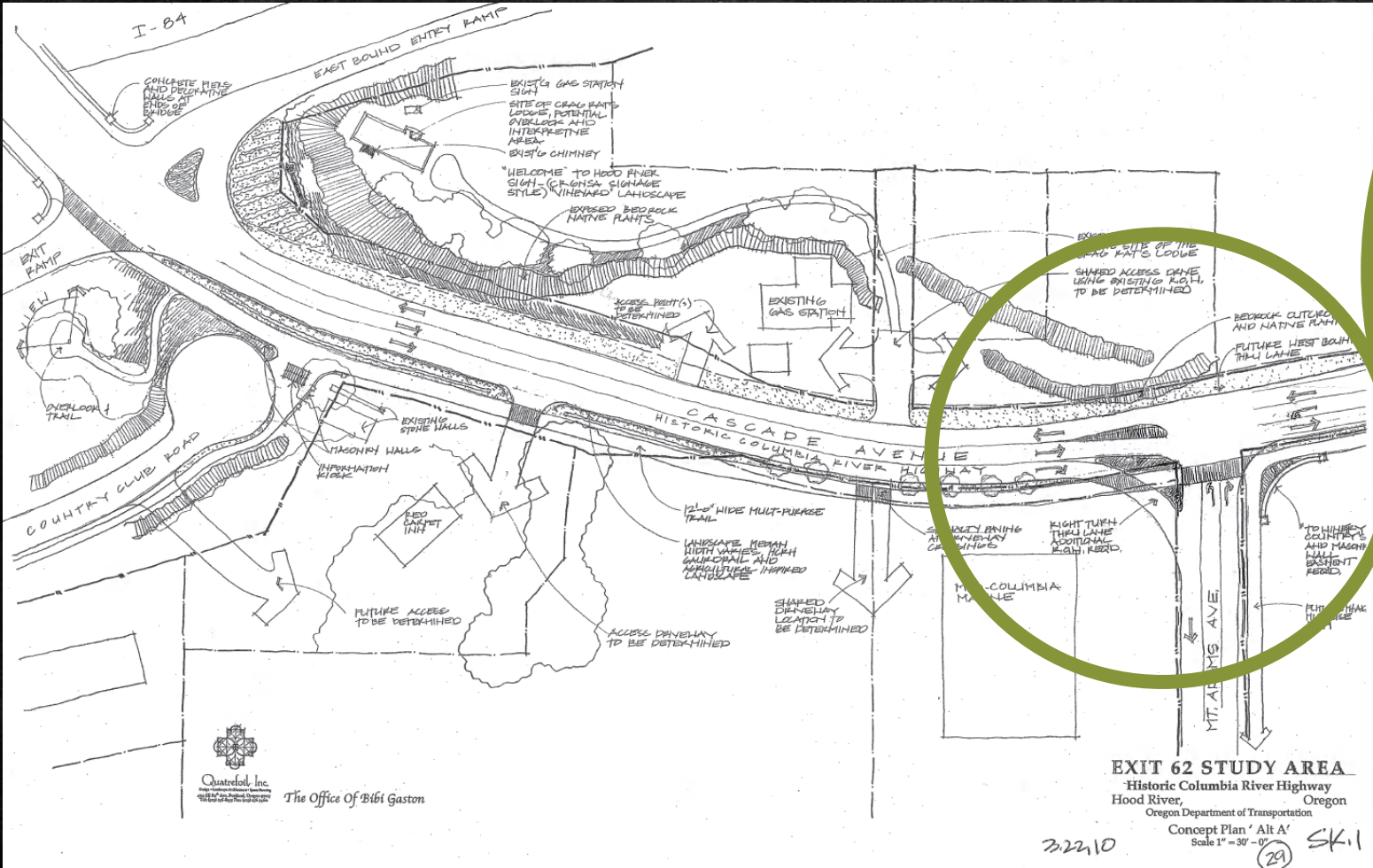
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Cross Section – Updated Local Street

- 50-foot-wide right-of-way
- 28-foot curb-to-curb
- On-street parking with staggered driveways
- 5.5-foot-wide planter strips between curb and sidewalks
- 5-foot-wide sidewalks
- 10-foot utility easements



Background Historic Columbia River State Highway Gateway Design



Westside Area Concept Plan Report Streets and Transit Framework – Gateway “Option A”



Westside Area Concept Plan Report Streets and Transit Framework – Gateway “Option B”



File No. 2018-07

Staff suggests a motion
to continue the Planning Commission's hearing
for File No. 2018-07
to Monday, June 17, 2019
at 5:30pm in the City Council Chambers
for further hearing and discussion.