

Contacts

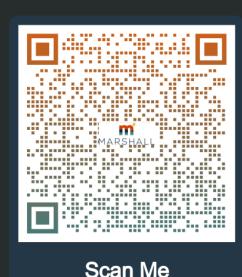
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Website Updates

Public Works → Engineering Website

https://ci.marshall.mn.us/public_works/engineering/index.php



Southview Lane Adjustments



BACKGROUND

The City of Marshall has received a Federal grant to install Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacons (RRFB's) and pedestrian refuge islands, pictured above, next to various schools in Marshall. Included in the project will be Dynamic Speed Feedback signs that show a driver's speed compared to the speed limit. Ideally, Engineering staff aims to improve safety for school-aged children walking and biking to school by providing these improved crossings. This project is planned for construction in 2022.

PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS

In preparation of next year's project, Engineering staff is proposing to make adjustments to the lanes on Southview Drive. Staff is proposing to change the current layout of 2-lanes with bike and parking lanes on both sides into a 3-lane (with center left-turn lane) and a parking lane on the south side of the street. Parking would be removed from the north side of the street as the school will have off-street parking space. Biking will be planned to be off-street on the new widened sidewalk constructed by the new school project. SEH performed a traffic analysis of Southview Drive for the elementary school project and their report also recommends a 3-lane configuration as proposed by Engineering staff.



Engineering staff feels that a 3-lane configuration will accomplish a number of improvements on Southview Drive between Saratoga Street and Main Street. Mainly, this will allow space for the new pedestrian refuge islands to be installed at the new school crossing. By having the island in a center lane, this avoids the need for thru traffic to shift around the island in a 2-lane layout. This will be safer for crossers in the event of distracted drivers or impaired driving conditions where the driver may not be able to shift. Another large benefit for this layout is the ability for left turning traffic to wait in the center turn lane for space to cross opposing traffic. With turning traffic in their own lane, thru traffic will be able to continue their trip without having to wait for turning traffic to clear the lane. This will be very noticeable at the new elementary school, HyVee, Brau Brothers and the strip mall. If there are comments or concerns with the proposed lane layouts, please contact Jessie Dehn, Assistant City Engineer, by e-mail at Jessie Dehn@ci.marshall.mn.us or by phone at (507) 537-6773. Thank you!

