



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Title: Intergovernmental Agreement for ODOT US 20/OR 228 ADA Curb Ramps Project and Presentation on Current ODOT Projects

Preferred Agenda: October 26, 2021

Submitted By: Blair Larsen, Community & Economic Development Director

Reviewed By: Ray Towry, City Manager

Type of Action: Resolution ____ Motion __X__ Roll Call ____ Other ____

Relevant Code/Policy: N/A

Towards Council Goal: Goal 3.2: Community Safety

Attachments: Proposed Intergovernmental Agreement US 20/Oregon Route 228 Region2 ADA Curb Ramps
Plans for Proposed Main Street/22nd Avenue Pedestrian Crossing Improvements

Purpose of this RCA:

The purpose of this RCA is to seek approval for an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) regarding the US 20 / OR 228 ADA Curb Ramps project, which will incorporate pedestrian crossing improvements at the intersection of Main Street (US 20) and 22nd Avenue.

Background/Context:

ODOT is methodically working to update ADA ramps to meet current guidelines throughout the state. Sweet home is next on the list, so to speak. Additionally, over the past several years, the City has dealt with several complaints and requests to make the intersection of Main Street and 22nd Avenue safer for pedestrians. Because this crossing is within the Main Street right-of-way, it is within ODOT's jurisdiction, and must comply with ODOT requirements. Staff has been working with ODOT to solidify designs. The pedestrian crossing will include an island ("pedestrian refuge") in the middle of Main Street, and a user-activated flashing beacon.

Recently, Councilor Sanchez worked with our state representatives, Representative Cate and Senator Girod, to obtain ARPA funding for this project. Because ODOT is already in the midst of a project in this area, to replace ADA ramps on Main Street, the desired pedestrian improvements have been added to that project. The ARPA funding for the 22nd Avenue pedestrian safety project from the state will pass through the City to ODOT to design and construct the improvements.

ODOT's proposed IGA requires the City to maintain any improvements that are within City rights-of-way, and maintain and pay for power to the 22nd Avenue pedestrian crossing, which consists of a flashing beacon and a concrete pedestrian refuge in the middle of US 20.

The Challenge/Problem:

Should the City enter into an IGA with ODOT for the construction, future maintenance, and electricity costs of a pedestrian crossing at the intersection of Main Street and 22nd Avenue?

Stakeholders:

- Sweet Home City Council – The City Council is responsible for approving agreements with other governmental agencies, and for authorizing the work that will accomplish its goals.
- Sweet Home Residents – Residents deserve pedestrian crossings that are safe for both pedestrians and motorists.
- Sweet Home Staff – Staff work to address residents' concerns and accomplish the Council's goals.
- ODOT– ODOT has jurisdiction over any improvements made within the US 20 right-of-way.

Issues and Financial Impacts:

The construction of the improvements will not require any City funding, however, under the proposed agreement, future maintenance and electricity will be a City responsibility. The City currently pays for street lighting along Main Street, and staff estimate that the flashing beacon will cost no more than a typical streetlight.

Elements of a Stable Solution:

A stable solution includes an approved agreement with ODOT that will improve the safety of the Main Street and 22nd Avenue intersection for pedestrians.

Options:

1. Do Nothing – The agreement will not be approved, and ODOT will not construct any pedestrian crossing improvements at the Main Street/22nd Avenue intersection.
2. Approve the proposed Intergovernmental Agreement 34892 with ODOT as presented and authorize the City Manager to sign it – Approving the agreement as proposed will allow ODOT to move forward with the project, and construct a new pedestrian crossing.
3. Approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with ODOT with changes and authorize the City Manager to sign it – Approving the agreement with stated changes, if they are acceptable to ODOT, will move the project forward, and ODOT will construct a new pedestrian crossing.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends option 2: Motion to approve the proposed Intergovernmental Agreement 34892 with ODOT as presented and authorize the City Manager to sign it.