



# REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

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

**Preferred Agenda:** October 12, 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/22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Pedestrian Crossing Improvements

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## **Purpose of this RCA:**

The purpose of this RCA is to seek approval for an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation 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 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.

## **Background/Context:**

Over the past several years, the City has dealt with several complaints and requests to make the intersection of Main Street and 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 reached out to Representative Cate and Senator Girod to request 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. Funding from the state will go directly to ODOT to design and construct the improvements.

ODOT's proposed IGA requires the City to pay for electricity to the improvements, and maintain any improvements that are within City rights-of-way.

**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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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/22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue intersection.
2. Approve the proposed Intergovernmental Agreement with ODOT as proposed 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: Approve the proposed Intergovernmental Agreement with ODOT as proposed and authorize the City Manager to sign it.