

Hello D Street Neighbors and Community Members,

Making our community's streets safe is a top priority, and our team is very busy planning, designing, and implementing traffic calming and safety improvements throughout our beautiful community.

I'm writing to share an update and next steps for the D Street Traffic Calming & Active Transportation Quick-Build Project. As you know, this project involves numerous proposed improvements that make the street safer, calm traffic, and enhance pedestrian/active transportation facilities throughout the neighborhood.

We have been sharing information about the project over the past few months, and we continue to welcome comments. This update is being provided to all who have expressed interest by signing up for project updates. Feel free to forward this message to neighbors and friends, and we encourage everyone to sign up for future updates by visiting our project website at: <https://cityofpetaluma.org/d-street-quick-build/>

WHAT WE'VE HEARD

I want to personally thank you and our community for taking time to share your thoughts and concerns about the proposed improvements. We have received an incredible amount of feedback, including nearly 400 survey responses, dozens of comments during our two virtual workshops that were attended by over 120 people, a presentation to the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee, and several emails to our staff and City Council. We have also talked with some of you in-person, walking portions of the project with you to gain a better understanding of various issues and concerns.

At our last workshop, our project team shared a proposed design that included traffic calming, pedestrian, and bicycling safety enhancements (bike lanes), the latter of which would be made possible by consolidating parking to one side of D Street. We have received strong opinions from the community, both for and against the proposal to consolidate parking on one side of the street. We recognize that further review and planning are necessary to evaluate how to best implement bike lanes in this area.

However, we have received positive feedback and tremendous support for the proposed traffic calming, pedestrian, and safety improvement elements. As a result, we are proposing to move forward with these improvements as a "Phase I" project yet this year.

NEXT STEPS: PHASE I QUICK-BUILD

I'm happy to share that we are moving forward with important safety and traffic calming improvements that have received strong support and consensus from the entire community as part of a "first phase" quick-build project.

We acknowledge that the bike lane/parking discussion requires a better understanding of our community's vision for the design and location of bikeways through this area of the City. We are doing this by collecting more feedback and information as we update the Active Transportation Plan, which is currently under development.

These **Phase I** improvements include:

- Installing **speed feedback radar signs** at the following locations:
 - Inbound at Windsor Drive

- Inbound between Laurel Avenue and 10th Street
- Outbound between 10th Street and Laurel Avenue.

I'm delighted to report that these installations are already underway, and the signs will be operational soon.

- Installing **new crosswalks** at Laurel Avenue and 10th Street.
 - Note: the Laurel Avenue crosswalk was previously proposed at 12th Street. We are recommending moving it to Laurel Avenue to provide a safe crossing that also serves people biking inbound on D Street who would like to turn left onto Laurel Avenue.
- **Adding curb extensions ("bulb outs")** at all intersections to improve visibility, shorten pedestrian crossing distances, and slow traffic while prohibiting parking to increase sightlines.
- **Adding median refuge islands** to crosswalks to improve visibility of pedestrians, shorten pedestrian crossing distances, and slow traffic at the following locations:
 - Laurel Avenue
 - 10th Street
 - 7th Street
 - 5th Street
 - 4th Street

We are also exploring costs to install **flashing beacons** at these crosswalks.

- **Installing a traffic diverter** at the 5th Street intersection, which will prohibit drivers from crossing D Street or turning left onto/off 5th Street. This is proposed to address high collision rates at the intersection that are a safety concern and support improved crossing conditions for the 5th Street Neighborhood Greenway project.
- **Installing bike lanes** in both directions on the blocks between 1) El Rose Drive/Sunnyslope Avenue and Laurel Avenue and 2) 4th Street and Petaluma Boulevard North, both of which do not currently provide on-street parking.
- Installing **speed reduction markings** where feasible. Speed reduction markings are transverse markings that are placed on the roadway within a lane (along both edges of the lane) in a pattern of progressively reduced spacing to give drivers the perception that their speed is increasing.

Our team is also exploring ways to slow traffic and improve bicycling conditions southwest of El Rose Drive/Sunnyslope Avenue to the city limits. Unfortunately, the pavement condition is deteriorated in some locations, so we may not be able to modify roadway markings in some areas. Our goal is to provide protected bike lanes along this stretch where feasible, along with speed reduction markings, that cue inbound drivers to reduce their speeds.

Please note that an exhibit of the Phase I project concept is attached for review and reference.

CONCLUSION

Design of the Phase I project is progressing, and we are doing our best to get the project out to bids as soon as possible, and we are *tentatively* planning to seek Council's authorization to proceed with construction in October. We expect to have more specific information about the timing of construction

June 28, 2023

here in the next few weeks. Our project team will continue to update the project website and send updates via email to those who have subscribed.

I sincerely thank you for championing Safe Streets in our community, and for your help in furthering our vision of having safe, calm, and accessible streets everywhere in Petaluma! Please stay engaged, and together we will make this iconic Petaluma street safer, calmer, and better for everyone!

Warmest regards,

Christopher

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