SW 257th Dr. Corridor Safety Improvement Project

BPCAC Update

Department of Community Services
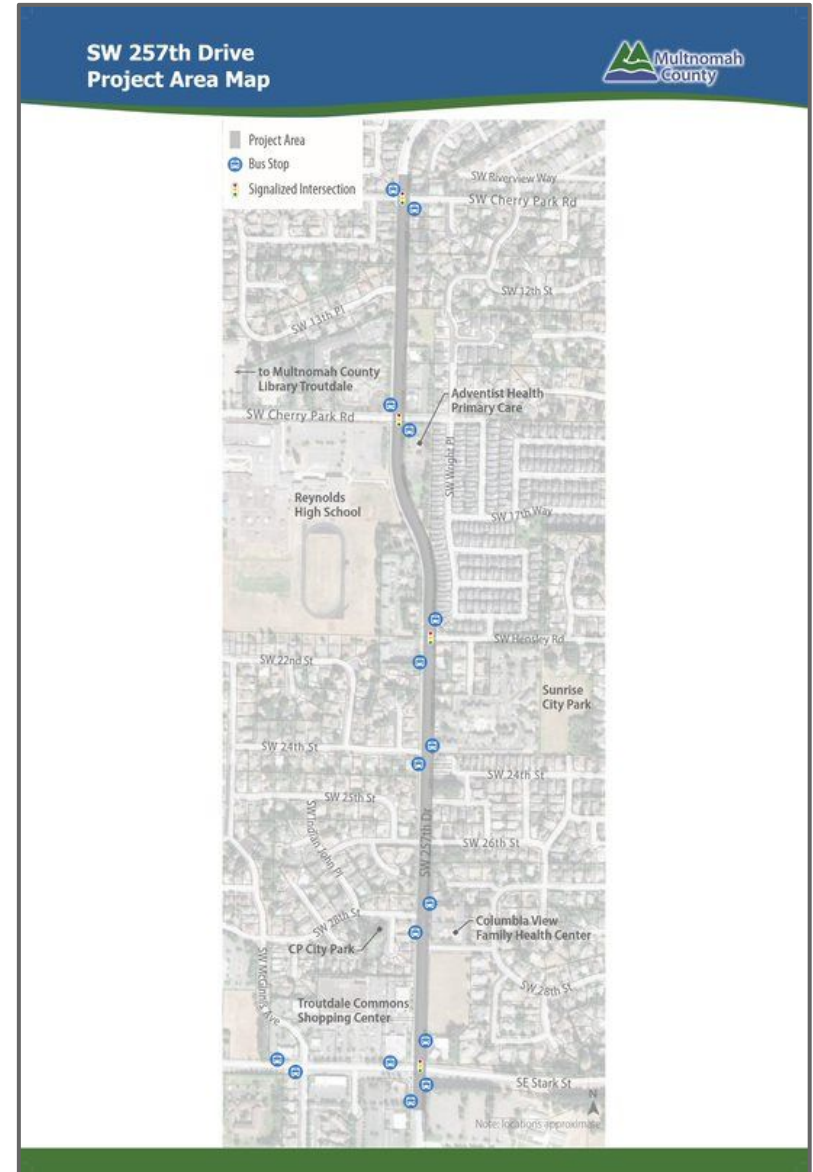Transportation Division

November 8, 2023

Emily Miletich
Sarah Hurwitz

- Brief Project Overview

- Community Engagement Refresher

- Final Corridor Improvements

Project Overview

- Multimodal safety improvements from SW Sturges Drive to SE Stark Street

- Ranked no. 8 in the CIP

- Average daily traffic is 18,000 vehicles per day, 60% cars, 40% trucks/busses

- Limited multimodal facilities

- Estimated Cost: Approx. $8M

  - $45,000 in Grant Funds
  - $600,000 from Mid-County Lighting District
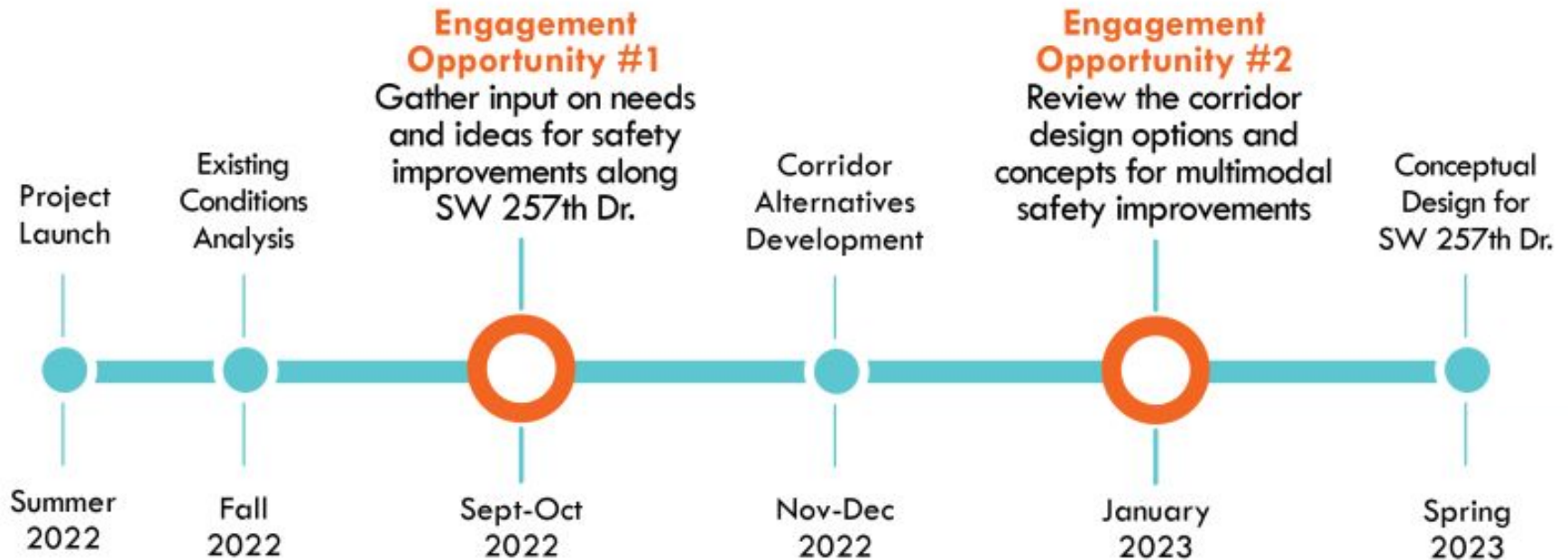

SW 257th Drive
Project Area Map

Project Goals

- Improve safety for everyone who uses the corridor, including those walking, using a mobility device, bicycling, driving or using the bus.

- Create comfortable space for people walking, using a mobility device, bicycling or using the bus.

- Develop a public outreach strategy that ensures voices of the underserved are heard.

- Maximize community benefits by building the highest priority improvements.

- Build community support through early outreach with the 257th community.

- Maintain County roads for user safety and freight access.

Project Timeline

- ROW impacts identified
- Expect design completion early Summer 2024
- Onsite construction late Fall 2024

- BPCAC Presentation, October 12th, 2022
  - Invitation to Phase 1 survey
- Community Walking Tour, October 13th, 2022
- Email inviting BPCAC members to participate in Phase 2 survey, January 2023

Community Outreach – **Phase 1 Summary**

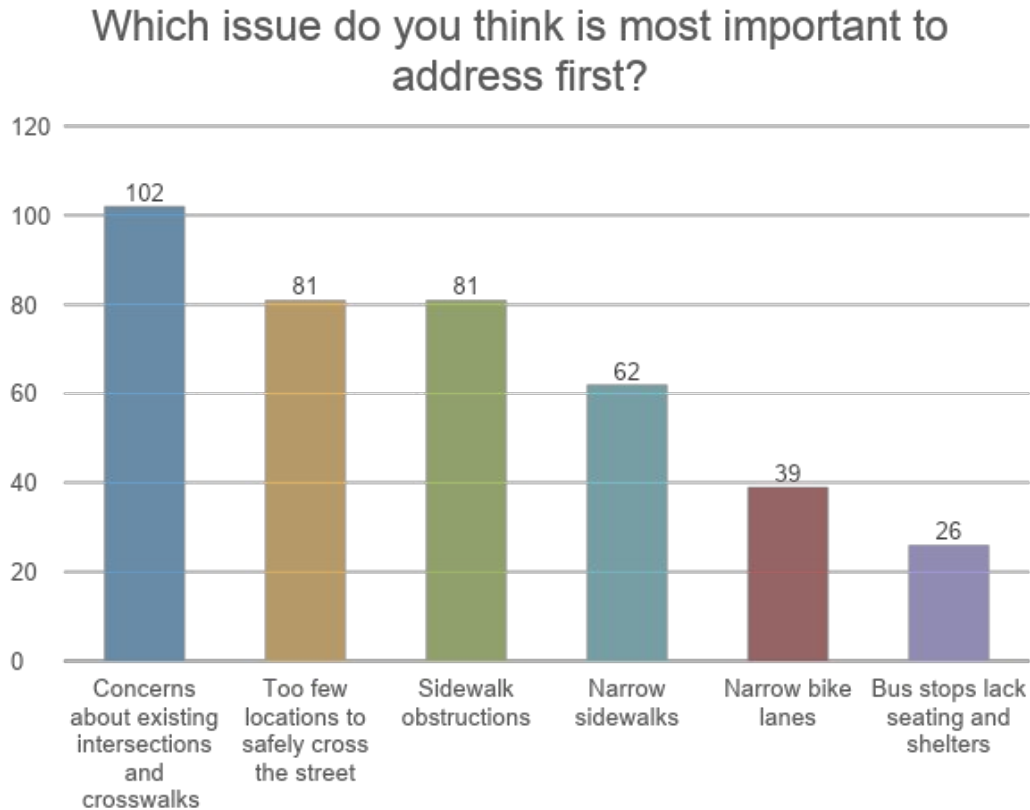**Methods and by the numbers…**

Communications
- ✔ **3,045** postcards mailed to residents along the corridor
- ✔ Over **200** flyers distributed
- ✔ **490** web page views, many public comments
- ✔ Online survey with **227** responses, in English and Spanish

Events
- ✔ **2** walking tours with over **20** participants
- ✔ **4** focus groups with East County residents – in Spanish, Arabic, Russian and Vietnamese
- ✔ **6** project briefings with interested committees and organizations
- ✔ **2** community tabling events

Which issue do you think is most important to address first?

Chart values:
- Concerns about existing intersections and crosswalks: 102
- Too few locations to safely cross the street: 81
- Sidewalk obstructions: 81
- Narrow sidewalks: 62
- Narrow bike lanes: 39
- Bus stops lack seating and shelters: 26

Top concerns: **crossings and intersections, too few places to safely cross the street.**

- **227 total unique responses**
- Most survey participants travel 257th daily or several times a week (86%)
- Most participants drive (88%), with smaller portions who regularly walk (16%), bike (9%) and take transit (6%).
- Most feel uncomfortable biking the corridor or would choose not to bike.
- Most are at least somewhat comfortable with walking, but many are not.
- Respondents were 79% white, 89% speak English at home, and 20% have a disability

Phase 1 – **Focus Groups Discussion**

What we heard…

- Nearly all participants drive exclusively

- Top issues include better lighting, address speeding, widen sidewalks, replace curb ramps

- Strong support for better crossings with ped-activated signals

- Opposition to Glisan and Division safety projects – reduce number of lanes, add center median, on street parking

- Concerns about traffic congestion and accidents on 257th

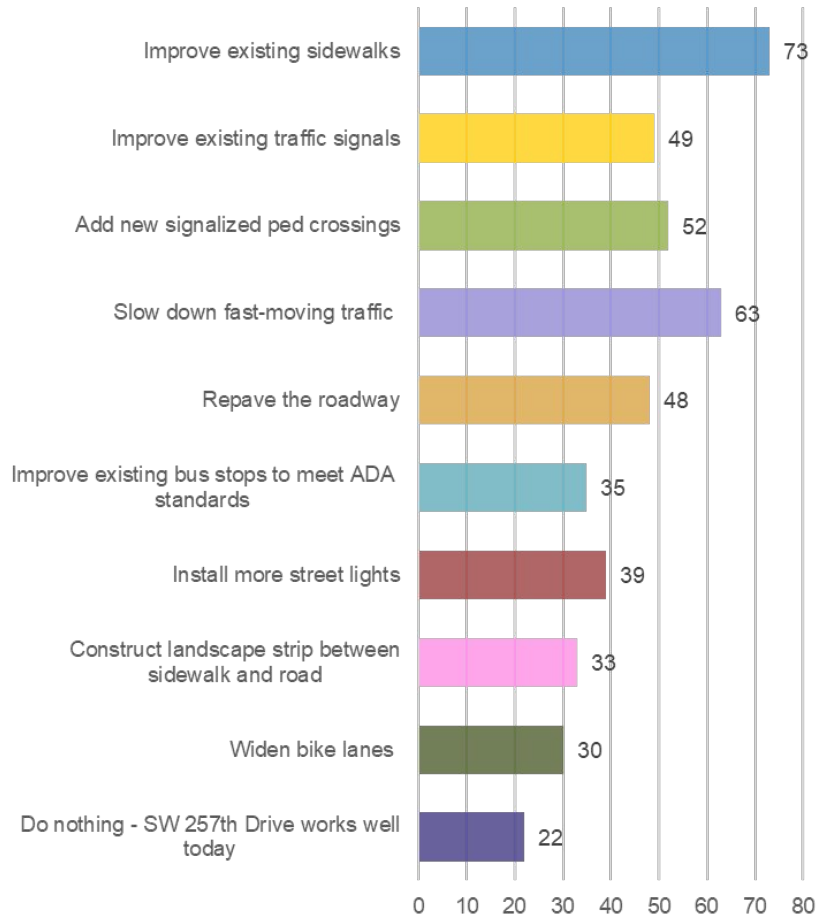- Desire for tech solutions to speeding (in place of police enforcement) – red light cameras, radar feedback signs

✔ **Four events in October 2022**
✔ **Held in Vietnamese, Arabic, Spanish, Russian**

Which improvements do you think are most important to making SW 257th Drive safer for people walking, rolling, biking and driving?

Improvement	Value
Improve existing sidewalks	73
Improve existing traffic signals	49
Add new signalized ped crossings	52
Slow down fast-moving traffic	63
Repave the roadway	48
Improve existing bus stops to meet ADA standards	35
Install more street lights	39
Construct landscape strip between sidewalk and road	33
Widen bike lanes	30
Do nothing - SW 257th Drive works well today	22

Top improvements:
1. **Improve existing sidewalks**
2. **Slow down fast-moving traffic**
3. **Add new signalized pedestrian crossings**
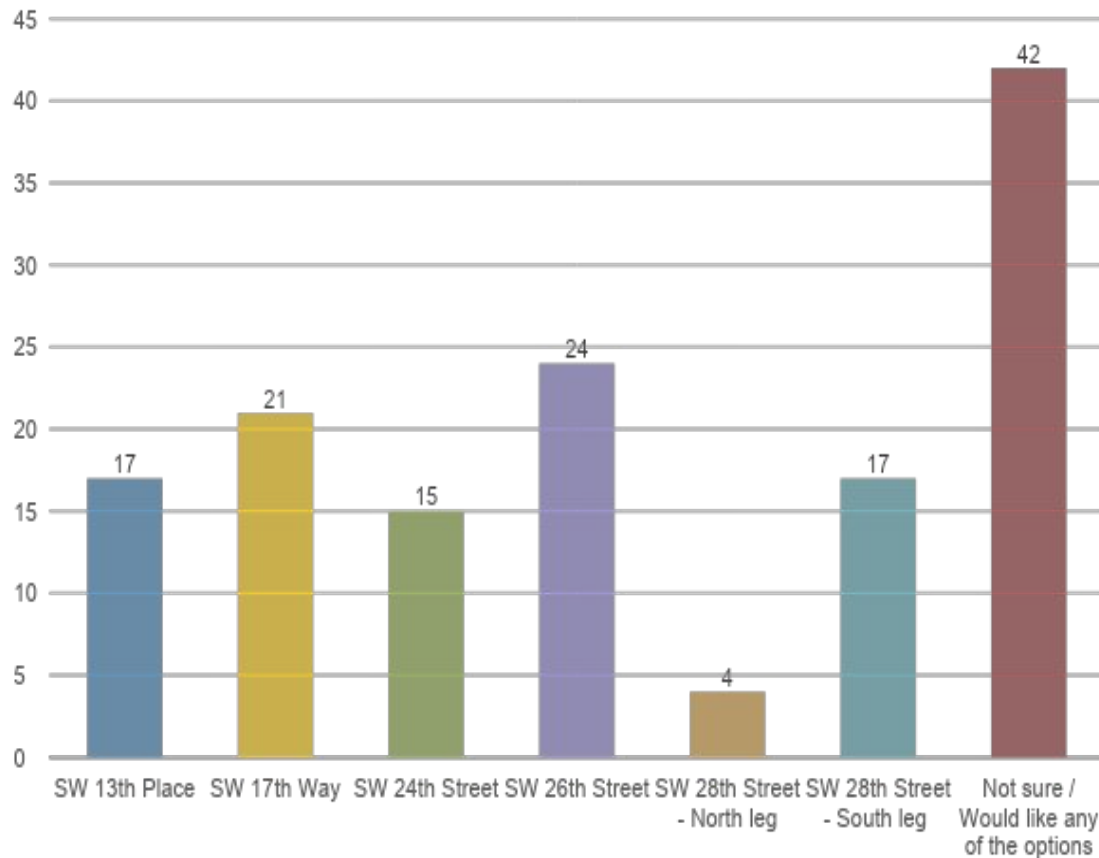4. **Improve existing traffic signals**
5. **Repave the roadway**

- **860** webpage views, many public comments
- Online survey with **152** responses
- Limited English proficiency survey assistance yielded **36** responses

Based on top three ranking choices

If the County has the funding available to add a signalized crossing on SW 257th Drive, where should this new crossing be located?

Top crossings:
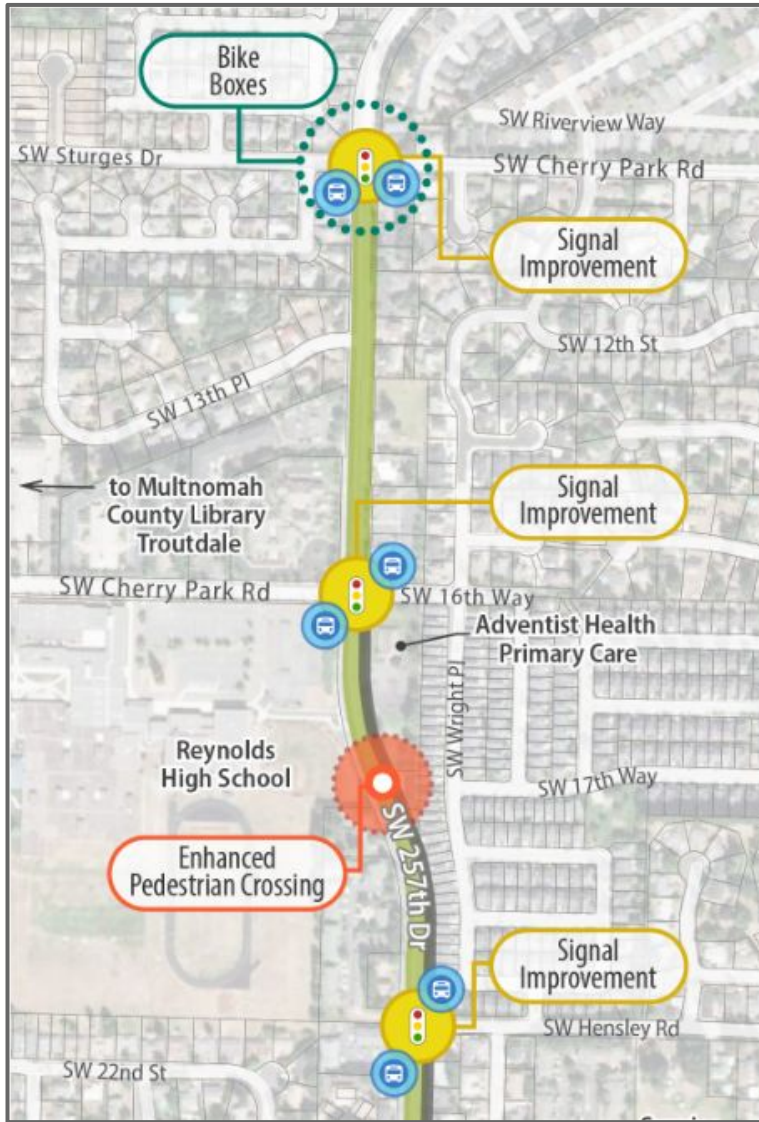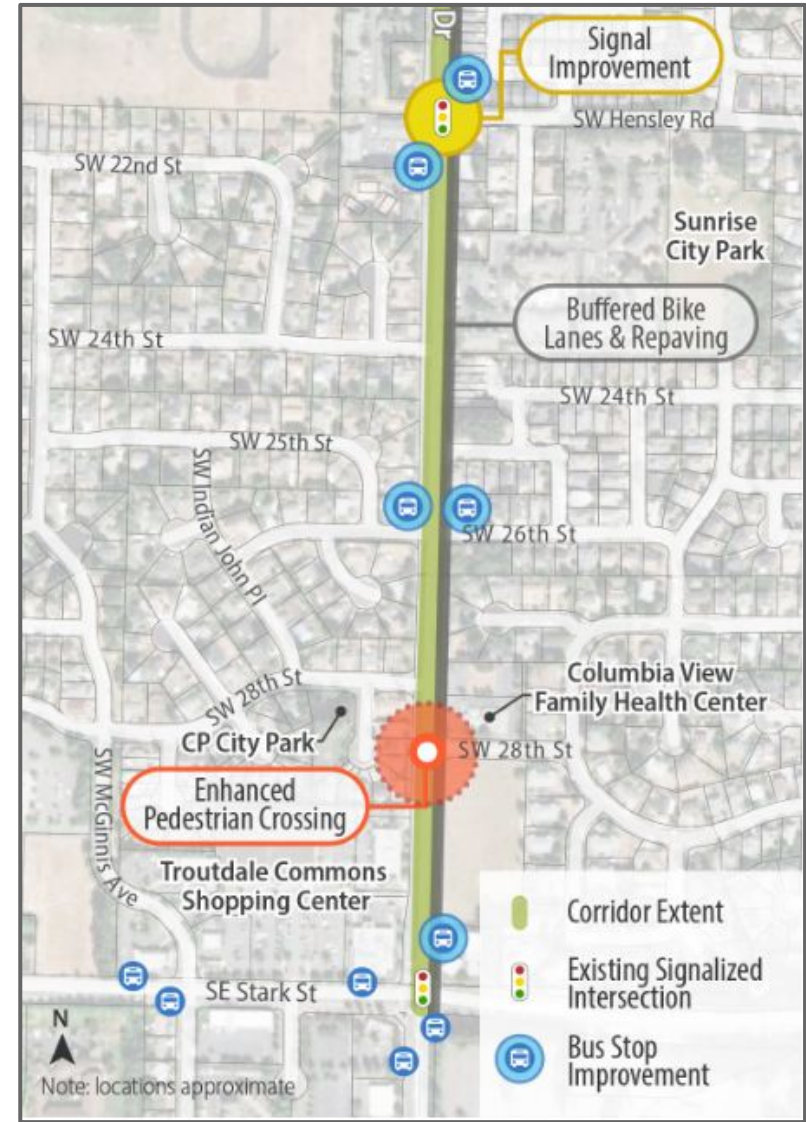1. **Any of the Options**
2. **SW 26th Street**
3. **SW 17th Way**

Safety Improvements

Northern Project Extent

Southern Project Extent

Safety Improvement Examples

Bike Box

Enhanced Pedestrian Crossing

Pedestrian Push Button

Radar Feedback Sign

Thank you!