

Converse Avenue Improvement Plan  
Public Meeting #1 – March 3, 2021

Question & Answer Summary

- **What do the dotted red, green yellow dots represent on the Future Land Use Map?**
  - Those are future roadway extensions. The dashed lines refer to future proposed roadways. The color refers to the functional classification of the road (i.e. collector, arterial). The functional classification will tell us how the road should be designed to accommodate future traffic volumes. You can see a larger version of this [map](#) on the MPO website.
  
- **The traffic is expected to double by 2045. Is there any plan for noise abatement?**
  - City Streets do not receive noise abatement. That type of treatment is usually only found on Interstates.
  
- **Is the intent of the 3-lane option also to center a new road in the right-of-way north of Mason Way and up where the greenway picks up north of Ogden?**
  - If the road is completely rebuilt, that would probably be preferred.
  
- **Does a raised center median increase traffic speed?**
  - FHWA is encouraging the addition of medians and refuge islands because they can increase both pedestrian and motor vehicle safety, helping to solve multiple challenges. They do this by allowing pedestrians to cross one direction of traffic at a time, often allowing them to focus on just one to two lanes rather than having to anticipate traffic for the entire width of the road. Medians also provide a space to install improved lighting at pedestrian crossing locations. Improved lighting has been shown to reduce nighttime pedestrian fatalities at crossings by 78%.
  - Raised medians provide additional benefits above and beyond reducing pedestrian crashes, including the following:
    - Reduce motor vehicle crashes by 15%
    - Decrease delays (>30%) for motorists
    - Increase roadway capacity (>30%)
    - Reduce vehicle speeds on the roadway
    - Provide space for landscaping within the right-of-way
  
- **Does this project plan end at Storey Blvd?**
  - The project ends between Ogden and Carlson, with the team looking into traffic signal warrants at Carlson and determining if pushing some of the existing roads on the east side of Converse through to Converse would be beneficial. We are looking at the traffic volumes all the way to Storey, however.

- **Is there a plan to connect the Greenway on Converse to the one across Dell Range? Is there a plan to connect the Greenway to the neighborhoods east of Converse?**
  - We'll be exploring opportunities to connect the Greenway to the neighborhoods east of Converse. As far as connecting to the Greenway across Dell Range, while this won't be part of this specific study, it is something that the City and MPO have studied in the past.
  
- **What are the intentions for the Carlson Road? Is it going to be developed for residential or commercial?**
  - Carlson Road between Powderhouse and Converse will be constructed as development occurs. The future land uses for this area include urban residential, mixed-use commercial, and mixed-use residential. More information can be found on the City's [Future Land Use and Transportation Map](#) on the MPO's website.
  
- **What happens with the bridge near Dell Range?**
  - This study includes the determination as to whether this bridge will need to be widened.
  
- **How does a raised median, etc. affect snow drifting and icing?**
  - A raised median does not cause significant drifting or icing. The traffic safety benefits outweigh the minor drifting.
  
- **Have roundabouts been considered?**
  - At this point in the plan, the project team has not analyzed potential intersection designs throughout the corridor. Once the traffic analysis is complete and intersections have been identified for potential improvements, the project team will analyze all potential designs.
  
- **When will the project start and what is the expected duration?**
  - This plan should be completed by the end of the summer. The City hopes to, soon after, start the design process, which would take at least a year. If the City decides to fund the project, construction could start as early as the Spring of 2023. At this time, there are no guarantees or funding commitments.
  
- **If a signalized traffic light is not installed at Ogden, will the plan consider flashing lights at crosswalks?**
  - This has yet to be determined or finalized.
  
- **They had "calming islands" on other streets, and they had to take them out because cars were running into them when the weather was bad, and the snowplows kept hitting them. Are raised islands really a good idea?**
  - They are great for providing refuge for pedestrian crossings, can be designed to accommodate drainage, and help slow the speed of cars, but there are some design features that can help address the weather and crash issues. See other comments above

regarding the many benefits of raised center medians.

- **When will this presentation be available?**
  - The presentation was made available on the MPO's Facebook page, as well as the [Converse Avenue Improvement Plan](#) page on the MPO's website on Monday, March 8, 2021.
  
- **Is a roundabout being considered on Dell Range and Converse?**
  - The intersection of Dell Range and Converse was studied in 2017. Recommendations from the study can be found here: [Converse / Dell Range Intersection Traffic Safety Plan](#).