

EAST NINTH COMPLETE STREET CONCEPT PLAN:

RECEIPT OF COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK

OCTOBER 14, 2015

PUBLIC TRANSIT

- There are upcoming changes and additions to bus service on East 9th. Consider future bus route strategies along East 9th in project proposal.

STREET LANES

- East 9th Street is a designated truck delivery route. Given the pedestrian and bike transit focus of this project proposal, should it remain one?
- If East 9th remains a designated truck route, 12ft wide lanes are recommended.
- Project proposal currently represents bike lanes at 4ft wide. AASHTO recommends 5' or wider.
- Confirm that all intersections must be radiused to accommodate turning movement of a 49' fire apparatus.
- Semi trucks currently deliver goods to businesses along the alley between New Jersey and Pennsylvania Streets. Turning radiuses to East 9th Street should account for this.

BIKE TRANSIT

- Is it safe for cars and bikes to travel together without a barrier?
 - Does a barrier create a maintenance issue with snow removal?
- The Bicycle Advisory Committee is currently working on a proposal for bicycle parking downtown.
 - One of the proposed bike corral locations is across the street from the Bourgeois Pig.
 - The location shown in the plan is the designated taxi stand – which could present a conflict.
- Additional secure bicycle parking in areas where vehicle parking is provided is encouraged.
- Consider bike boxes at intersections where right turns can right hook bicyclists in the bike lane.

PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC

- Crosswalks should be colored concrete or another material for lower long-term cost and maintenance, not pavement marking.
- All amenities should be accessible.
- Consider Safe Route to School proposed routes.
- Should all sidewalks be replaced to meet ADA standards?
- The addition of low level lighting could allow the route to feel safer

PARKING

- Reverse angle parking along the corridor could be considered as a safety measure for bicyclists and pedestrians.
- The reduction in street parking could create inconvenience for area businesses/organizations.

STREET PAVERS

- Concrete street pavers will need to be designed and specified to hold up to bus and truck traffic? All road surfaces must be capable of supporting a minimum of 88,000 lbs.
- Concrete pavers should be selected such that they are smooth surface for biking.
- Concrete pavers should be designed and installed to hold up to snow/ice removal.

LANDSCAPING

- Street trees must not interfere with traffic and must have a minimum of 13'6" overhead clearance.
- Trees in bioswales will have a hard time surviving if water does not drain out properly.
 - Bioswales have the potential to become a collector of trash after each storm.
 - Road pollution issues such as snow removal and salt may impact the health of the trees.
- Careful tree selection is important for a sustainable and presentable landscape.
- Trees need to be contained in medians with curbs and medians need to be appropriate width for tree maintenance and health
- The proposed public orchard component of the plan could pose problems with pest management, considerable pruning, planting, watering, harvesting, and other maintenance activities – which are not supported by any City budget. A long-term partnership with another organization/ institution would need to be established for fruit tree maintenance
- If ladders are required for fruit tree access, ladders used by volunteers are dangerous near existing power lines and on a truck route.
- In some areas, there is limited space available for City maintenance vehicles to park for servicing landscaping.
- The next phase of project development should identify bench and trash container locations.
- There is currently no budget for additional landscape maintenance. Depending on the landscaping proposal, more city personnel could be required.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- WOW Cable has a fiber splice point at 9th and New York that will be costly and labor intensive to move.
- Design Development plans should be sent to gas, power, telephone and cable companies.
- Reference and follow City standards for pavement sections and other City standard specifications
- The following sewer upgrades have recently been completed:
 - Sewer in alley between Mass and New Hampshire has been lined with CIPP.
 - Sewer in alley between New Hampshire and Rhode Island has been replaced with PVC.
 - Sewer in alley between Rhode Island and Connecticut has been lined with CIPP
- Trees should not be planted closer than 8' from an existing line (this code applies to water and sewer lines as well)
- The City needs civil engineering public improvement plans prior to approval of final design.
- Adding fiber infrastructure would be supported.

MAINTENANCE

- Narrow lanes, extra curbs, bends in the street, and medians or barriers are of significant concern for snow removal and for Police and Fire vehicles.
- Fire trucks generally require 20'-0" for their trucks and outriggers.
- The idea of storm water management is well-received, but there are concerns about maintenance and the collection and removal of pollutants such as road salt.
- How is maintenance for amenities financed?
- Westar and others typically require at least one year of lead time for projects like this in order to budget and schedule accordingly.

HISTORIC RESOURCES

- Historic brick or stone curb discovered in the project should be reused in the present location.
- Any uncovered brick that is not reused should be salvaged and palletized for future City use.
- The curve in the road at Turnhalle falls in a historic district and deviates from the historic, straight, street grid.
- Narrowing the road at Turnhalle changes the relationship of the building with the road, which requires a review process for approval if the existing curb changes in relation to the edge of Turnhalle.
- Paver patterns and colors should be carefully examined in relation to historic brick pavers.

ARTIST COLLABORATIONS

- Though unintended by the artist, the art installation introducing a " front porch" for East 9th Street could be considered a stage.
- Who controls who can be on the porch and when?

BUDGET

- Irrigation needs to be added to the budget for all green spaces.