

# North Monroe Advisory Board

13 July, 2016

**Attendance:** Ed Ardiss, Brianna Musser, Jill Leonetti, Michael Trautman, Megan Kennedy, Karen Stratton, Lisa Key, Amy Mullerile, Andrew Worlock, Matt Lower, Jay Cousins, Marcia Davis, Marlene Feist, Brandon Blankenagel, Boris Borisov, Katherine Miller

## Comments From Board and Public of Support and Concern

- People don't understand road diets
- Businesses interested in traffic calming,
- Business impacts during construction
- Bottleneck concerns
- A desire to make Monroe more walkable
- Storm water/environmental impacts
- Traffic safety, particularly with older drivers and poorly marked turn lanes

## Project Overview

### The project came from 2007 Comprehensive Plan

- Identified as important corridor
- Workshopped through various public sessions 2013-2015
- Added into Neighborhood Plan in 2015

### Funding

- Three Grants of \$4.6M
  1. 2014 Highway Safety Improvement: \$3.8 M
  2. 2014 WA State Bicycle and Ped Safety: \$326k
  3. 2015 Congestion mitigation and Air quality: \$475k
- City Investment of \$2.5 Million

### Vehicle Collisions in Past 5 Years

- 5 Pedestrian Collisions, all with injury or fatality
- 23 Angle Collisions
- 4 Fixed-Object
- 3 Side Swipes

### Road Diets

- Balance between Vehicular Service and Livability
  - It may take longer to get through the corridor, but is that a worthy trade off?
  - Do we value the rush hour times over the other 22 hours of the day?
- Monroe at 5 lanes compares closely with Country Homes and Regal at 3 lanes.
- A 3 lane Monroe would have the capacity to hold current peak traffic
  - Slight expansion of commute time
  - 15% reduction at peak traffic time

### **The Project Details**

- 10 foot sidewalk
- 11 foot travel lanes with 12 foot turn lane
- 3-4 Pedestrian Islands
- Monroe From 5 to 3 lanes
- Street Trees
- Improved storm water management
- Benches
- Decorative pedestrian lighting
- Transit shelters

### **Construction Details**

- Early 2017 Engineering + Design
- 2018 construction date
- Planning will work on strategies to maintain business with a construction ombudsman

### **Questions and Concerns from the Board and Public About Project Overview**

- Concerns about ambulances, garbage trucks
- Could the utilities go underground?
- What are the ratings of the roads that would absorb the capacity lost on Monroe?
- Would we be pushing the pedestrian problem two blocks over?
- Comparison to Country Homes may not be valid given the different uses on each road (apples to oranges). Country Homes is residential not commercial with entrances every 50 ft. or less.
- What is the LOS on Division, Maple/Ash, and Post?
- What info exists on the bus impacts during the transition towards high performance transit?
- Would ADA and bikes on the bus slow traffic even more?
- Would traffic increase through the residential streets?
- How would snow removal work?
- What is the City of Spokane's financial investment?

## **Public Outreach**

### **Goals**

- Objective information- comprehension of project and issues
- Collect meaningful input to refine project
- Broad engagement
- Education- connections, traffic calming, surviving construction, long term management

### **Target Audience**

- Neighborhood stakeholders
- Public sector services

### **Messaging and Content**

- Informing- broad, educational components
- Involving- asking audience for input on defined, specific pieces