



# SW 198th Avenue Improvements (Tualatin Valley Highway to Farmington Road)

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## Open House Summary November 17, 2016

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Washington County held an open house for the SW 198<sup>th</sup> Avenue improvement project on Thursday, November 17, 2016 from 5 to 7 pm at Edwards Aloha Community Center (4375 SW Edwards Place, Beaverton). No formal presentation was held. This was the third open house for the upcoming SW 198th Avenue road improvement project. Members of the public were invited to stop in at any time during the event to review displays, meet the project team staff, ask questions, inform staff of issues, and to submit comments.

To inform the public and interested parties of the event, Washington County sent out approximately 7,200 postcards to adjacent property owners and the surrounding neighborhoods, which included areas of CPO 6. County staff sent a media release to its standard list of local and regional newspapers and media outlets (television and radio). Signs announcing the open house time and location were installed underneath the project signs placed at the north and south ends of SW 198<sup>th</sup> Avenue project limits. An e-newsletter was sent out to project subscribers. The project web site included an announcement of the open house and other County web pages and newsletters advertised the event, including Washington County Roads ([www.wc-roads.com](http://www.wc-roads.com)) and the *LUT Weekly Update* e-newsletter.

The purpose of this open house was to present the proposed design for SW 198th Avenue and the realignment of the 198th/Kinnaman and 198th/Blanton intersections to the public and to identify issues and concerns from area residents. An informal open house format was used at the meeting, allowing the public to discuss the aspects of the proposed design with members of the project team. Five members of the project team and several additional staff from Washington County were available to answer questions. In addition, a representative from the City of Hillsboro was available at the meeting to answer questions concerning the South Hillsboro development and improvements to SW 209th/TV Highway intersection. Approximately 90 members of the general public attended the open house, including members of the project's Interested Parties Group (IPG). Attendees were encouraged to meet the project team members, ask questions, and to record their comments on the open house comment form.

The following exhibits were available for review at the meeting:

- SW 198th Avenue proposed design strip map (North and South segments):
- SW 198th Avenue/SW Blanton Street proposed intersection design:
- SW 198th Avenue/SW Kinnaman Road proposed intersection design:
- SW 198th Avenue proposed 3-lane cross section:
- Proposed pedestrian crossing treatment alternatives:
- Traffic volumes (existing – 2015 and forecasted – 2040)

# Open House Summary (cont'd)

Exhibits (cont.)

- Fast Facts informational board with general project information (scope, cost, schedule)
- Right-of-Way acquisition process flow chart
- South Hillsboro Composite Map (City of Hillsboro)

Handouts:

- "Fast Fact" sheet
- Comment forms
- Moving Because of Highway or Public Projects brochure
- Acquiring Lands for Highway and Other Public Projects brochure

Comment forms were available for those attending the open house. The comment form asked residents to identify their preference for the three pedestrian alternatives that were presented at the meeting. The percentages of support from those in attendance were

Following is a summary of comments received at the open house and staff responses:

Comment(s)	Staff Response
<b>All comments are typed verbatim and were reviewed by the project team.</b>	
<p>Any Kinnaman alignment must involve signal lights. Northbound traffic on 198<sup>th</sup> goes very fast to climb the hill just before Kinnaman. I have been in 2 traffic accidents because people drive too fast.</p> <p>Also, traffic is backed up all the way to TV Highway because there is no traffic control to turn off 198<sup>th</sup> to Kinnaman and vice versa. To be safe we need a signal, please!</p> <p>Please have someone watch the traffic back up at Kinnaman and 198<sup>th</sup> during rush hour traffic. This intersection needs a traffic light. Please make this intersection safe.</p>	<p>We have completed an analysis of the Kinnaman intersection and it showed that a traffic signal did not currently meet the necessary criteria for installation; however, we will look further to see when a traffic signal would be warranted. If it is within the very near future, the County may reconsider installation of a signal.</p>

<p>Where I live is at Carlin and 199<sup>th</sup> Ct. The trees on the island at Carlin are apparently diseased. The leaves start falling by the first week of May. HOA says it is “dry leaf syndrome”. I disagree because in May, it is still wet weather. The leaves are not fully developed when they fall. I would like to have them all removed because of clogging street drains and causing standing water at those points – a hazard to driving.</p>	<p>We are aware some of the trees in the island will be impacted by the road improvement and will look at the health of the remaining trees. If it is determined that these are diseased, we could possibly remove and replant with new, younger, more street friendly trees.</p>
<p>Request allowing left turns from Shaw to proceed south on 198<sup>th</sup></p>	<p>Circulation to and from Shaw is still being evaluated, but traffic on 198<sup>th</sup> will benefit by limiting movements at Shaw.</p>
<p>Please do a survey on pedestrian and bike traffic on Blanton. I do not believe a sidewalk and/or bike lane is needed for the small portion showing on the map. Consider moving the entire plan 7-10 ft north where the properties sit 200 ft from the road. By taking out our front yard and eliminating street parking, we will be forced to move and have an unsellable home. It will no longer fit my family’s needs. Also, where would visitors park – the next block down Blanton? There is also a safety concern with walkers so close to our home and traffic so close to our house. It would be unsafe for our children and pets. Also, I am sure that we would feel the traffic in our home and the noise would be worse than it is now. We are talking about moving everything a small amount to the north and eliminating useless sidewalks and bike lanes which you could use the savings elsewhere.</p> <p>Please save our property value and do not take out our already small front yard. We just bought this house in March after searching 7-8 months for a home that suits our family.</p>	<p>We will re-evaluate the need for the sidewalk and bike lanes on both sides of this block of Blanton Street which may allow the parking area to be retained. However, the County standard is to have sidewalks and bike lanes on both sides of a collector, which Blanton is classified.</p> <p>Please understand that the existing road right-of-way line is approximately 10 feet from your front porch (approximately 8 feet from the back of the existing sidewalk). The existing parking area, sidewalk, and a portion of your front yard lies within the existing County right-of-way.</p>
<p>My home is located at 198<sup>th</sup> and Butternut St. My concerns are as follows: Road noise and vehicle speed. Currently when TriMet, rock/dump trucks and people driving over the speed limit drive past our windows and walls shake. We would like the speed limit on 198<sup>th</sup> to be reduced to 25mph and would like the County to consider building a wall along 198<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>To be honest, I am not thrilled about sidewalks along my house. I am worried about litter from pedestrian traffic. I’ve found hypodermic needles and trash in our yard. This concerns me as I have a child and pets that I don’t want coming into contact with needles. Maybe a wall would eliminate these items from finding their way into my yard.</p>	<p>The road section will be improved to better accommodate the weight of buses and larger vehicles utilizing 198<sup>th</sup>. Sidewalks and bike lanes are County design requirements for “collector” roadways, which 198<sup>th</sup> is classified. The speed limit will not change from what it currently is (35 mph).</p> <p>A noise analysis will be performed and TriMet bus stop locations will be evaluated for ridership and locations as the design progresses.</p>

<p>My concern is about the speed of the traffic on 198<sup>th</sup>. I feel that the speed limit should be 25mph. A large percentage of the traffic goes well over the current 35mph limit. Whenever a TriMet bus or a large truck go by, the whole house shakes and the window rattle. I feel that a concrete wall as a noise barrier is needed.</p>	<p>The road section will be improved to better accommodate the weight of buses and larger vehicles utilizing 198<sup>th</sup> helping reduce the ground vibrations.</p> <p>The speed limit will not change from what it currently is (35 mph).</p> <p>A noise analysis will be performed and TriMet bus stop locations will be evaluated for ridership and locations as the design progresses.</p>
<p>1. Crossing at Rosa – southbound 198<sup>th</sup> and left onto Road to go east, the proposed median would cause left turn onto Rosa to block 198<sup>th</sup> traffic.  2. Sound is a big issue. My property backs up to 198<sup>th</sup>. The noise level has substantially increased over the years. Traffic noise is 24/7 in my back yard. Bigger engines or racing causes noise inside my house. When I open the windows during the summer, I have constant noise inside the house.  3. Traffic signal needed at Kinnaman. Currently a car on Kinnaman heading west is unable to turn left to go south on 198<sup>th</sup>. They block Kinnaman and back up traffic on Kinnaman. I travel north on 198<sup>th</sup> each morning and can let people turning right onto 198<sup>th</sup> but left turn people get stuck for a long time.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We understand the location of the proposed pedestrian crossing could possibly back-up traffic on 198<sup>th</sup> and we are still evaluating the appropriate location and application of pedestrian crossing. It should be noted that Rosa Road serves as a neighborhood pedestrian route to local parks as well as being a major street bikeway.</li> <li>2. A noise analysis will be performed as the design progresses.</li> <li>3. We have completed an analysis of the Kinnaman intersection and it showed that a traffic signal did not currently meet the necessary criteria for installation; however, we will look further to see when a traffic signal would be warranted. If it is within the near future, the County may reconsider installation of a signal.</li> </ol>
<p>PLEASE NO MORE CARS ON ROSA.</p> <p>People drive 45 in a 25 mile zone. Someone has already been hit/runover by a car. We don't need more traffic.</p> <p>More sidewalks would be nice.</p>	<p>This project is not adding vehicular trips to any of the area roads. The number of through lanes will not change but the improvements will help to improve the safety of the road for all users and modes.</p> <p>If speeding continues after the construction, please contact the Washington County's Sherriff's Office (Traffic Safety Unit).</p>
<p>Two things I would like to comment on are: the final speed limit 25 mph would be preferable. Also, not too sure about formal process. That should be addressed.</p>	<p>The speed limit will not change from what it currently is (35 mph).</p>
<p>On the west side of 198<sup>th</sup> at SW Road Rd, there is a straight and left arrow lane marking. You can't go straight from that point! Even if you wanted to continue on Rosa, you have to turn right, then left. Save some paint!</p>	<p>The straight arrow is for the driveway across the street.</p>
<p>I am pleased with the progress. I hope that Rosa will a minimum increase of traffic since it is a residential street yet cars still drive about 45mph at this point, This results in a dangerous route used by people of all ages and has many blind corners.</p>	<p>This project is not adding vehicular trips to any of the area roads. The number of through lanes will not change but the improvements will help to improve the safety of the road for all users and modes.</p> <p>If speeding continues after the construction, please contact the Washington County's Sherriff's Office (Traffic Safety Unit).</p>

<p>Please do not destroy our property value by taking the front of our property. We searched for months for this home we bought in March. This was not disclosed to us at the time we bought the house. If you take our front yard, this will no longer work for our family as it will take all of our parking. Plus it will be unsafe as the road is practically at our front door.</p> <p>Please take the other side of Blanton as these houses have way more property than we do. This makes the most sense.</p>	<p>We will re-evaluate the need for the sidewalk and bike lanes on both sides of this block of Blanton Street which may allow the parking area to be retained. However, the County standard is to have sidewalks and bike lanes on both sides of a collector, which Blanton is classified.</p> <p>Please understand that the existing road right-of-way line is approximately 10 feet from your front porch (approximately 8 feet from the back of the existing sidewalk). The existing parking area, sidewalk, and a portion of your front yard lies within the existing County right-of-way.</p>
<p>Request allowing left turns from Shaw to proceed south on 198<sup>th</sup> Thanks!</p>	<p>Circulation to and from Shaw is still being evaluated, but traffic on 198<sup>th</sup> will benefit by limiting movements at Shaw.</p>
<p>I don't see a plan to deal with an existing traffic problem: travelling south on 198<sup>th</sup>, turning left onto Kinnaman, southbound traffic backs up while waiting for an opening in the northbound 198<sup>th</sup> traffic.</p>	<p>Breaks in the traffic flow would be created by the proposed traffic signal at Blanton Street.</p>
<p>Thank you for being sensible at last. However, I am very concerned about the lack of a signal at Kinnaman Rd and 198<sup>th</sup>. This has been an issue with the traffic volumes and number of wrecks at this intersection.</p>	<p>From reading the comments, you are not alone. We have completed an analysis of the Kinnaman intersection and it showed that a traffic signal did not currently meet the necessary criteria for installation; however, we will look further to see when a traffic signal would be warranted. If it is within the near future, the County may reconsider installation of a signal.</p>
<p>Bring back the roundabout for Blanton Street. Roundabouts are great</p>	<p>Unfortunately, this design impacted too many properties significantly.</p>
<p>I feel have the flashing beacon to catch drivers attention is a safer alternative (for the pedestrian crossing)</p>	<p>Thanks for your comment on the pedestrian crossing treatment.</p>
<p>PLEASE! Traffic comes north on 198<sup>th</sup> TOO fast not to have a traffic light at Kinnaman and 198<sup>th</sup>. We've been rear-ended waiting to turn. Posted speed signs don't work. Save lives!</p>	<p>We have completed an analysis of the Kinnaman intersection and it showed that a traffic signal did not currently meet the necessary criteria for installation; however, we will look further to see when a traffic signal would be warranted. If it is within the near future, the County may reconsider installation of a signal.</p>
<p>There must be a traffic signal at 198<sup>th</sup>/Kinnaman. This intersection is way too busy and has too many accidents. This intersection will not improve, but only get worse if a signal is not installed.</p>	<p>We have completed an analysis of the Kinnaman intersection and it showed that a traffic signal did not currently meet the necessary criteria for installation; however, we will look further to see when a traffic signal would be warranted. If it is within the near future, the County may reconsider installation of a signal.</p>
<p>No light on Kinnaman and 198<sup>th</sup>???</p>	<p>We have completed an analysis of the Kinnaman intersection and it showed that a traffic signal did not currently meet the necessary criteria for installation; however, we will look further to see when a traffic signal would be warranted. If it is within the near future, the County may reconsider installation of a signal.</p>

END OF COMMENTS