



Jim D. Hansen, President
Sara M. Baker, Vice President
Rebecca W. Arnold, Commissioner
Kent Goldthorpe, Commissioner
Paul Woods, Commissioner

**Re: State Street and Veterans Memorial Parkway
ACHD Project No. 611026**

Dear Interested Citizen,

Thank you for your interest in the State Street and Veterans Memorial Parkway (VMP) ThrU-Turn intersection project. The information and comments provided by you during and after the April 2, 2015 open house were greatly appreciated.

For your background, on March 27, 2013, the ACHD Commissioners voted on a 4-1 motion approving the ThrU-Turn concept for the intersection. The intersection improvement is one of many projects in ACHD's planning program to widen State Street to 7 lanes in the future. The following is a brief summary of what we heard from the public and next steps:

Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities

Most respondents felt that the existing intersection has inadequate bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Several noted personally witnessing pedestrians walking across State Street at locations other than the 36th/State/Veterans Memorial Parkway signal.

As part of the ThrU-Turn design, there will be signalized pedestrian crossings with refuge islands in the center of State Street approximately three blocks east and west of Veterans Memorial Parkway. This will improve access for pedestrians across State Street within the project limits. In addition, within the project limits, bike lanes will be added to State Street and Veterans Memorial Parkway.

Glendale Street Crossing

Most respondents supported a pedestrian crossing on Veterans Memorial Parkway across from Glendale Street. With that feedback, our team will proceed with the signalized pedestrian crossing at this location.

Traffic Signal Timing

One of the major concerns we heard at both the open house and through written comments was the addition of the combined U-turn and pedestrian signals on State Street east and west of Veterans Memorial Parkway, and the impact on vehicular delay. Our computer modeling shows the additional signals, combined with eliminating left turns directly from State Street reduces delay through the intersection by about 50%. These two improvements allow us to prioritize heavier traffic movements by providing a more efficient timing plan at specific times of day.

Our signal operations group will have a signal timing plan installed upon project completion and will continue to monitor and adjust them as needed.

Next Steps

Our team will finish the design and then start purchasing needed right-of-way later this year. Construction is currently scheduled for 2019, however, we are looking at the possibility to advance the construction date based on available budget and priority.

If you would like more information please visit our website, www.achdidaho.org. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 387-6100 or projects@achdidaho.org.

Sincerely,



Adam Zaragoza
Project Manager

Cc: ACHD Commissioners
Kathleen Lacey (City of Boise)
Daren Fluke (City of Boise)
Jacob Hassard PE (Valley Regional Transit)