Tillamook US101/OR6 Traffic Improvement Project
March 4, 2015 Open House Summary

Overview

ODOT held a public open house from 4:30-6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 4, 2015 at the Tillamook 911 Center in Tillamook. The purpose of the open house was to:

- Provide the opportunity for impacted and interested stakeholders to be updated with the latest construction schedule and information, learn about downtown streetscape improvements, the design of the U.S.101 bridge, and other related city projects; and
- Answer questions and provide an opportunity for participants to share ideas and concerns with the project team.

About 75 people attended the event. The open house was advertised by an announcement posted on the project website (January 30); a postcard notice mailed to the project interested parties list and to property addresses within the Tillamook downtown core (700 addresses, submitted for print on February 11); a press release issued by ODOT Region 2 (February 18); display ads placed in the Tillamook Headlight Herald (February 25 and March 4) and Tillamook County Shopper (February 24); an email to the 160-person interested parties list (February 19), a PSA submitted to KTIL radio and an interview with the KTIL Tillamook Today Show (February 11).

Meeting Format

The event was structured as a drop-in style open house with no formal presentation. Participants could provide comments and feedback via comment forms. Station areas included:

- **Welcome** – Attendees were greeted and encouraged to sign in. Participants were given an overview of the event layout. Informational handouts and comment forms were available for participants to pick up. A display board described the project purpose and the goals of the open house. As visitors left the open house, they were asked if their questions had been answered or their concerns addressed.
• **Project Overview** – The display boards were intended to give an overview of the project purpose, history and next steps. A construction phasing diagram provided a high level overview of the project’s next steps.

• **Project Area: North** – Boards showed the project area and the latest design renderings for the replacement U.S. 101 bridge over Hoquarton Slough. A preliminary design for interpretive signage at Hoquarton Interpretive Park was also shown.

• **Project Area: South** – Boards showed the southern project area, renderings of streetscape improvements, options being considered for a new plaza to the north of Pioneer Museum, and a new multi-use path between Hoquarton and Goodspeed Parks.

• **City Efforts** – The Tillamook Mayor, City Manager, and City Planner were present to answer questions about the City's role in downtown improvements, particularly pertaining to streetscape.

• **Comment Area** – A space was provided for visitors to sit and fill out comment cards.

• **Refreshments**

**Staff**

The meeting was attended by members of the project team: **ODOT** - Ken Kohl, Bill Johnston, Lou Torres, Ryan Brown, Tim Potter; **Quincy Engineering** – Karen Tatman, Russ Norton; and **JLA Public Involvement** – Kalin Schmoldt, Jamie Harvie; as well as by **Tillamook** Mayor Suzanne Weber, City Manager Paul Wyntergreen, City Planner David Mattison and Urban Renewal District representative Debbie Reeves.

**Feedback Summary**

Nine comment forms were submitted during the open house. Based on the written comments and conversations during the open house, most respondents indicated that they were glad the project is happening, as it addresses significant transportation issues in the downtown. Many people liked the downtown updates that are being planned in conjunction with the project, though some provided suggestions for design revisions and improvements. Several visitors were concerned about how impacts to businesses would be mitigated during construction; most attendees who said that they were not happy with the project cited the perceived impacts to downtown during construction as the main reason.

Full comments are included below.
Do you have any comments or questions about the U.S. 101/OR 6 Traffic Improvements Project?

Comments by Subject

General Comments

- Thank you! We have lived here over 35 years and are pleased with the design, including widening of streets.

- Looking good – will look great when completed. “Saves the mirrors” “Short term pain – long term gain”

- No concerns – looks well thought out.

U.S. 101 Bridge Comments/Questions

- Is the Hoquarten Slough Bridge really in need of replacement?

Hoquarton Park Comments/Questions

- Is access to Hoquarten Park only from northbound direction?

- Good that access to park will be convenient.

Changes to Downtown Design/Streetscape

- Place all utilities underground in Pacific & Main street improvement areas.

- Line of sight safety improvements, especially with narrower sidewalks

- Make first street one way westbound in future

- I am in favor of widening the streets, but I feel that 101 Main and Pacific should be widened all the way south to the edge of town.

- The corner of Main and lot west bound should be adjusted to make it easier for truck and RV to negotiate the turn – same with 3rd.

- I think it would make sense to have parking for trucks and RVs on both sides of the highway on the old Safeway property and the “Wayne Deake wayside”. Then they could pull in on either side of the highway depending on what direction they are traveling.

- I don’t believe trees should be planted on Main thoroughfare as they are not trimmed and present a problem to park close to the curb as possible, so to not obstruct traffic flow.

- I would like to see good clear signage for our parks. The 9th street park is beautiful, but no one knows it’s there and what amenities are available at the park. We want people to stay and play, not drive by and leave.
Construction and Schedule Related Comments/Questions

- How will you keep the business entries open during sidewalk work?
- Is there a way to cut back on the length of time to complete the project?
- Is there a completed timeline ready yet?
- Maintain wide enough walkways during construction.
- Provide adequate parking for loading and unloading of our furniture etc.
- Prefer construction at night to cut down on noise and dust, especially because our open doors are our only air flow.

Multi-Use Trail

- Love the trail extending to Good Speed.

Did you find this open house useful?

- Yes, very much so!
- Somewhat - I'll reserve judgment until I see the finished product.
1. I am a part owner of Madeline’s Vintage Marketplace right next door to the “Blue Moon” Café. We feel it would be of great benefit to our business during construction on our street if: 1. There is a wide enough walkway, 2. Parking for loading and unloading our furniture etc. and 3. We would prefer construction at night to cut down on noise and dust, especially because our open doors are our only air flow.
   Secondly I would like to see good clear signage for our parks. The 9th street park is beautiful, but no one knows it’s there and what amenities are available at the park. We want people to stay and play, not drive by and leave.

2. Thank you! We have lived here over 35 years and are pleased with the design, including widening of streets. Good that access to park will be convenient.

3. Looking good – will look great when completed.
   “Saves the mirrors”
   “Short term pain – long term gain”
   Place all utilities underground in Pacific & Main street improvement areas.
   Line of sight safety improvements, especially with narrower sidewalks

4. How will you keep the business entries open during sidewalk work?

5. Ken, please call me – my concerns:
   Is there a way to cut back on the length of time to complete the project?
   Is the Hoquarten Slough Bridge really in need of replacement?
   Is there a completed timeline ready yet?

6. Make first street one way westbound in future

7. Place all utilities underground in Pacific & Main street improvement areas.
   Line of sight safety improvements, especially with narrower sidewalks

8. I am in favor of widening the streets, but I feel that 101 Main and Pacific should be widened all the way south to the edge of town.
   The corner of Main and lot west bound should be adjusted to make it easier for truck and RV to negotiate the turn – same with 3rd.
   I think it would make sense to have parking for trucks and RVs on both sides of the highway on the old Safeway property and the “Wayne Deake wayside”. Then they could pull in on either side of the highway depending on what direction they are traveling.
   I don’t believe trees should be planted on Main thoroughfare as they are not trimmed and present a problem to park close to the curb as possible, so to not obstruct traffic flow.

9. No concerns – looks well thought out. Only minor thought is access to Hoquarten Park only from northbound direction? Love the trail extending to Good Speed.