

SAFE: SE Linwood/ Monroe Intersection Safety Improvements

FAQ's (December 5, 2018)

Who designed the intersection Improvements at SE Linwood and Monroe?

The intersection updates were designed and approved by the City of Milwaukie and Clackamas County.

Why are the improvements necessary?

This project will restrict movements that have been some of the leading causes of crashes at this intersection. As traffic volumes on both Linwood and Monroe have increased so have the probability for crashes. The City and County are installing the project to address this safety issue and to directly respond to resident feedback.

Additionally, this was proposed as part of the [Monroe Street Greenway](#) design plan that was completed in June of 2015. We put the improvements on an accelerated timeline in response to ongoing crashes at this location.

Have you considered a 4-way stop at this intersection?

A 4-way stop was considered, but our engineers determined it was not the best solution because the two roads have different volumes of vehicles. SE Linwood Ave has significantly more traffic than SE Monroe at this intersection, by almost a factor of 10 to 1. Adding a 4-way stop would result in a very long backup of traffic on SE Linwood.

Additionally, SE Monroe is identified in Milwaukie's Transportation System Plan (TSP) as a potential "Neighborhood Greenway." Neighborhood Greenways need lower volumes of vehicles to be safe for people walking and biking.

Have you considered adding a traffic signal at the intersection?

A traffic signal was also considered, however traffic signals are expensive to install and would not address the need to reduce the traffic volume on SE Monroe. Therefore, our engineers eliminated it as an option for this location.

How much will the intersection improvements cost?

The project will cost between \$5,000 - \$7,000. The funding for this project will come from Milwaukie's SAFE Program.

What measures will be taken to help keep speeds down on other neighborhood streets (i.e. Jack and Stanley) that may get additional traffic after this project is completed?

The City of Milwaukie is committed to providing safe streets for everyone. We have heard that nearby neighbors are concerned that this project will cause more cars and higher speeds on other neighborhood streets. A traffic analysis completed as part of the Monroe Greenway Plan showed that about 50 - 150 vehicles will be diverted off Monroe Street between 42nd Avenue and 70th Avenue in the evening rush hour. Most of these trips will be diverted to King Road, with an increase also expected on Linwood Avenue and Railroad Avenue. Some evening rush hour traffic may also divert to Jack Road and Montgomery Drive. The Harrison Street/42nd Avenue intersection is also expected to see more traffic. The City and the County will do additional traffic analysis in four to six months to examine the volumes and speeds on

surrounding roads and work with neighborhoods to determine if other traffic calming measures are needed.

What can be done to prevent additional traffic congestion on King and other nearby arterials?

The expected increase at the King Road / Linwood Avenue intersection is within the applicable mobility standard. The City's Capital Improvement Plan includes funds to construct a signal at Harrison and 42nd Avenue to improve operations at that location.

Will emergency vehicles still be able to get through this intersection?

Emergency medical service providers have been notified of the proposed change. They will plan their routes accordingly. The median barrier can also be run over if an emergency vehicle needs to get through.

Did you consider reducing the traffic speed on SE Linwood?

This project should encourage drivers to slow down when approaching the intersection. The City is committed to monitoring the effectiveness of updates to the intersection of SE Linwood and Monroe and may consider reducing the speed on SE Linwood in the future, if needed.