City of Ashland Transportation System Plan Update WP Group #3

February 24, 2011









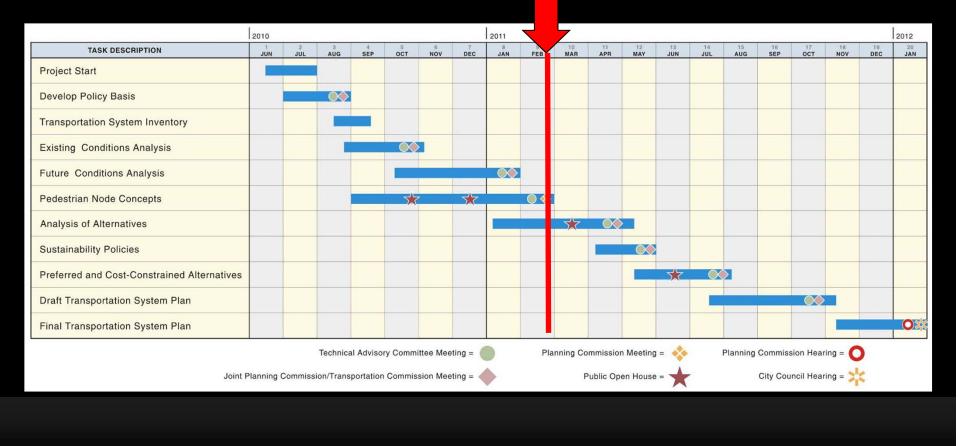
Meeting Agenda

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

- Attendance and Project Status
- Review Results of Group #2 of White Papers
- Discuss Group #3 of White Papers
 - Funding Programs
 - Transit/Rapid Transit
 - Will Dodge Way
 - Multiuse Trails
 - Safe Routes to School

Project Status

- 8 months remaining to Draft TSP
 - 2 White Paper Discussion Meetings Remaining
 - 5 TAC and PC/TC Meetings Remaining
 - 2 Public Workshops Remaining



Results from White Paper Group #2

- > 17 Respondents
- PC 5 of 6 Commissioners
- TC 8 of 9 Commissioners
- > TAC 7 of 20 Members

- Roundabouts
 - 79% Strongly agree roundabouts should be explored in Ashland
- Top Locations of Interest (50%+ Definitely Explore)
 - Ashland Street (OR 66)/E Main Street/Oak Knoll Drive
 - North Main Street (OR 99)/Helman Street
 - Lithia Way Siskiyou Boulevard/ East Main Street
 - Along North Main Street Helman Street to northern City Limits
- Additional Locations Suggested
 - Sutton Place/Ashland Street (OR 66)
 - Wimer Street-Hersey Street/North Main Street
- Next Steps:
 - Consensus regarding suggested locations?
 - High level feasibility assessment for locations above
 - Incorporate locations above into TSP update

- Bicycle Routes and Connectivity Bicycle Lanes
 86% Strongly agree more bicycle lanes in Ashland
- Top Locations of Interest (50%+ Definitely Explore)
 - North Main Street from northern City Limits to Helman Street
 - Helman Street from North Main Street to Nevada Street
 - Ashland Street from I-5 Off-Ramps to East Main Street
 - Tolman Creek Road City Limits to Siskiyou Boulevard
- Additional Location Suggested B Street from 8th Street to Oak Street
- General Comments
 - Interest in slowing vehicle speeds and shared roadways on narrower streets rather than bicycle lanes
- Next Steps:
 - Consensus regarding suggested location?
 - Incorporate locations above into TSP update

- Protected Bikeways
 - 57% Strongly Agree protected bikeways should be explored in Ashland
 - 29% Agree
 - 14% Disagree

Street	Definitely Explore	Possibly Explore	Eliminate
Main Street (Downtown)	42%	42%	16%
Lithia Way	33%	50%	16%

- Additional Suggested Locations
 - Siskiyou Boulevard and/or Ashland Street
- Next Steps
 - Suggest exploring striped buffered bicycle lanes in downtown in interim
 - Long-term explore protected bikeways in downtown, Siskiyou Boulevard and Ashland Street

- Bicycle Boulevards
 - 100% Strongly Agree or Agree bicycle boulevards should be explored in Ashland

Street	Definitely Explore	Possibly Explore	Eliminate
B Street	57%	36%	7%
8 th Street	50%	33%	17%
1 st Street	50%	25%	25%

- Additional Suggestions
 - Grandview and Scenic Drive to access Wright's Creek Area
 - Helman Street
 - Focus on lower vehicle volume roadways
- Next Steps
 - Should suggested locations be considered?
 - Identify three streets listed above as bicycle boulevard locations to be explored

- Bicycle Path/Greenways
 - 100% Strongly Agree or Agree bicycle path/greenways should be explored in Ashland
- Top Locations of Interest (50%+ Definitely Explore)
 - Along rail line between Oak Street and Mountain Avenue
 - From Dead Indian Memorial Road to Nevada Street adjacent to Bear Creek
 - Along rail line north of Helman Street
 - Between Walker and Normal Avenue adjacent to Ashland Middle School
- General Comments
 - Extend bicycle path to Emigrant Lake
 - Find ways to reduce or eliminate conflicts with cross vehicle traffic when pathways cross streets
- Next Steps
 - Identify extensions above as TSP projects

- Shared Streets
 - 38% Strongly Agree Shared streets should be explored in Ashland.
 - 54% Agree
- Top Locations of Interest
 - A Street 54% Definitely Explore, 46% Modify and Explore
 - Windburn Way 45% Definitely Explore, 45% Modify and Explore
- Additional Suggestions
 - Village Square Drive
 - Fordyce Street
 - Beach Street
 - Millpond Area
- Next Steps
 - Thoughts regarding suggestions above?
 - Identify locations above as potential Shared Street projects

- Alleyways
 - 50% Strongly Agree Alleyway enhancements should be explored in Ashland.
 - 43% Agree
- Top Locations of Interest
 - Will Dodge Way 87% Definitely Explore
 - Enders Alley- 69% Definitely Explore
 - Alley between B Street and C Street 54% Definitely Explore
- Additional Suggestions
 - Alley between Gresham and Morton Street
- Next Steps
 - Thoughts regarding suggestions above?
 - Identify projects to enhance Will Dodge Way, Enders Alley, and Alley between B Street and C Street

- Green Streets
 - 100% Strongly Agree or Agree Green streets belong in Ashland.
- Strong support for definitely and/or modify and exploring all treatments discussed
- Next Steps
 - Identify opportunities to incorporate green streets treatments into transportation projects
 - Provide input to Stormwater Master Plan effort

Group #3 of White Papers

- Group #3 of White Papers
 - Funding Programs
 - Transit/Rapid Transit
 - Will Dodge Way
 - Multiuse Trails
 - Safe Routes to School

Scorecard for Group #3

- Scorecard Tallies
 - Input will be summarized and tallied
 - Summary of results will be provided about one week after scorecards are received
- Submit Scorecards
 - Deadline: March 1, 2011
 - *ONLINE at <u>http://www.ashlandtsp.com/statics/draft_documents</u>*
 - Email: Erin Ferguson at <u>eferguson@kittelson.com</u>
 - Mail:
 - Turn-in to City Staff

Page 1 of Scorecard

Scorecard Topics

Funding

- Types of revenue sources the City should explore

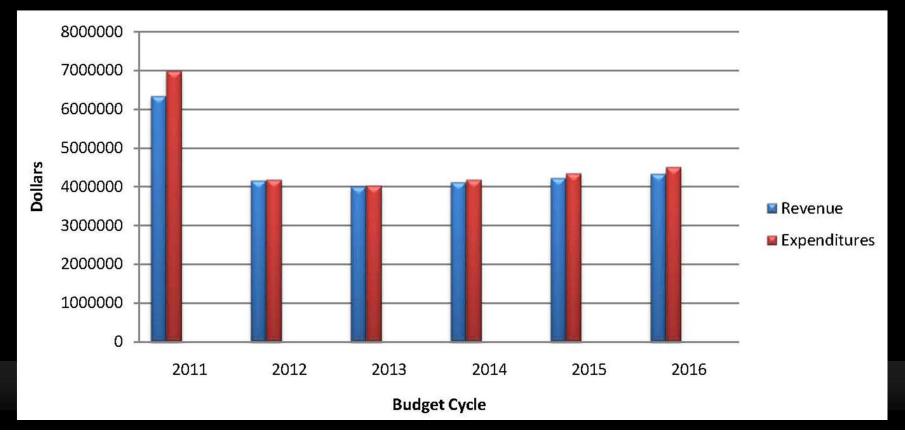
Below:						
1) V Check the yellow boxes to indicate the revenue sources you'd like the City to explore; and 2) Rank (1 = highest priority) the priority of potential revenue sources.						
Funding Topics and Questions	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	General Comments		
The City should explore alternative revenue sources to fund transportation projects and improvements.						
Would you like the following revenue sources to be explored to fund capital improvement projects in the City?	Yes, Definitely Explore	Possibly, Modify and Explore	No, Eliminate from Consideration	Rank (#)	General Comments and/or Suggestions for Modifications	
Multimodal Level System Development Charges						
User Fees						
Local Fuel Tax						
Traditional Transportation System Development Charges						
Local Sales Tax						
Optional Tax						
Parking In-Lieu Fees						
Sponsorship						
Incentives						

- > Purpose of White Paper
 - Present options for different funding sources for Ashland transportation projects
- Topics
 - Overview of Historical Funding Sources
 - Future Funding Trends
 - Potential Funding Options for the Future

- Historical and Existing Funding Sources
 - Oregon State Gasoline Taxes
 - City Franchise Fees
 - City Transportation System Development Charges
 - City Transportation User/Utility Fees assessed to property owners
 - City Local Improvement District charges
 - State and Federal Grants

- Future Funding Trends
 - Expenditures > Revenue
 - Ashland CIP contains \$14.8 million in unfunded transportation and LID projects.

Forecast for 2011 through 2016



- Potential Funding Sources for Capital Projects
 - Multimodal Transportation System Development Charges
 - Creates multimodal funds
 - Creates opportunity to move away from traditional mobility standards
 - User Fees
 - Local Fuel Tax
 - Traditional Transportation System Development Charges
 - Local Sales Tax
 - Optional Tax
 - Parking In-Lieu Fees
 - Sponsorship
 - Incentives
 - Congestion Pricing
 - Public/Private Partnerships
 - Tax Incremental Financing

- Potential Funding Sources for Operations and Maintenance
 - User Fee
 - Street Utility Fees/Road Maintenance Fee
 - Local Sales Tax
 - Incentives
 - Congestion Pricing
 - Public/Private Partnerships

> Questions/Comments?

Page 3 of Scorecard

Scorecard Topics

Transit

- Priorities for Improving Transit
- Customer Market Areas

Below:						
Transit Related Topics and Questions	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	General Comments		
Additional transit service should be explored for Ashland.						
The City should continue to look for ways to fund fareless to the user service within Ashland even if it prohibits other changes to the service (e.g., increased the span of service).						
Mark below which of the customer market areas you think should be pursued for better transit service.	Yes, Definitely Explore	Possibly, Modify and Explore	No, Eliminate from Consideration	Rank (#)	General Comments and/or Suggestions for Modifications	
Employees working non-traditional hours						
Low income households in which bus fare is a financial burden						
Tourists traveling in the evening and on the weekend						
Southern Oregon University students taking evening or weekend classes						
Residents who'd like to live in Ashland without a car but need to travel regionally (e.g., Medford) on a weekly or monthly basis						
Other						
Based on your thoughts for the market areas above. Mark below the types of changes to the service you think should be made to the transit service.	Yes, Definitely Explore	Possibly, Modify and Explore	No, Eliminate from Consideration	Rank (#)	General Comments and/or Suggestions for Modifications	
Increase Frequency of Existing Service (How Often)						
Increase Span of Service (How Long)						
Increase Service Coverage Area (Where)						
Decrease Cost of Ridership to the User						

- Purpose
 - Present considerations and options for improving transit service in Ashland
- White Paper Topics
 - Overview of the Role of Transit and Types of Transit
 - Transit Access vs. Efficiency
 - Transit Subsides and Ridership Costs
 - Next Steps for Consideration

- Role of Transit (Types of Transit Riders)
 - Captive Riders
 - Captive-by-Choice Riders
 - Choice Riders
- Types of Transit
 - Demand Response Transit
 - Fixed Route Transit







- Access to Transit
 - Continuous sidewalks to transit stops
 - ADA compliance
- Access vs. Efficiency
 - Transit Access
 - How Often Frequency of Service
 - How Long Span or Duration of Service
 - Where Coverage of Service
 - Efficiency
 - Concentrating on high (or higher) ridership corridors

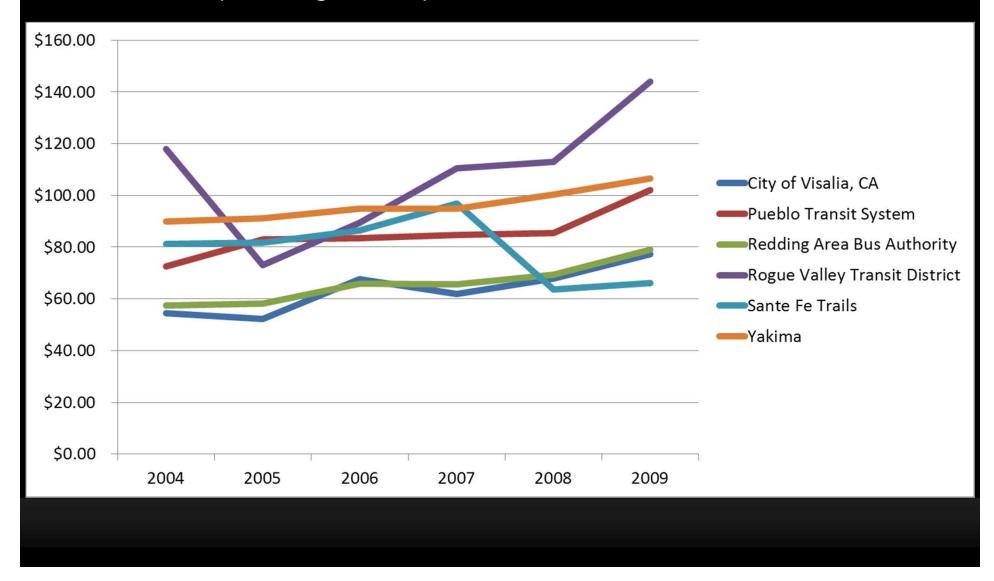
- Current Transit Subsidies and Ridership Costs
 - Current subsides reduce passenger fares in Ashland to \$1
 - City also provides bus vouchers to low income residents through Ashland Low Income Energy Assistance Program

Fareless Service

- Examples of Fareless Service
 - Downtown Service
 - Local Taxes Fund Service
 - Free Transfers/Group Pass Programs
 - Fare Revenue Offset by Cost of Fare Collection
- Hidden Costs
 - Increase unnecessary trips
 - Draw trips from walking and bicycling rather than automobiles

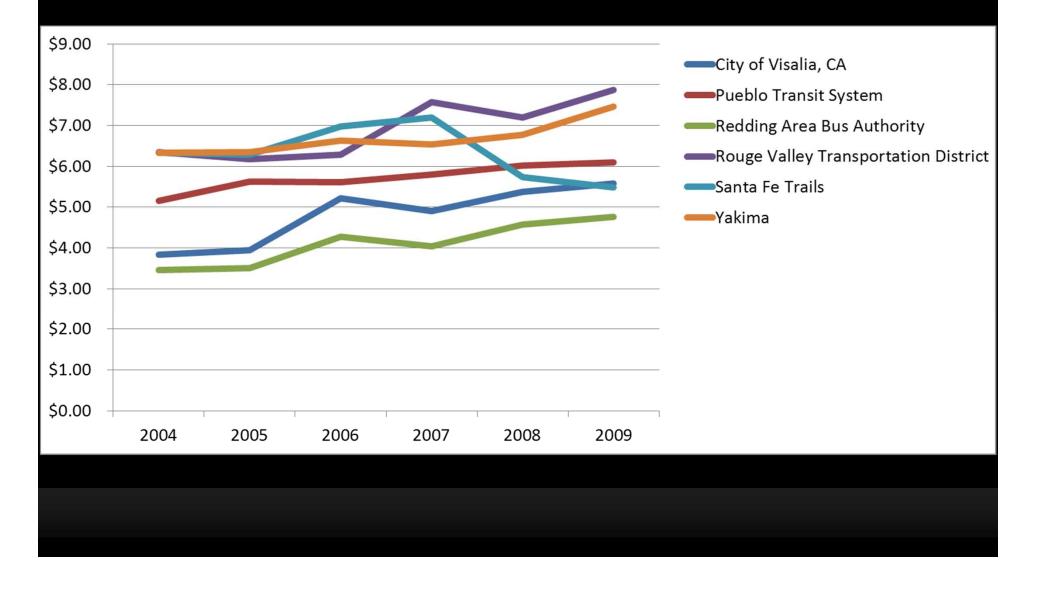
RVTD Operating Costs Peer Comparison

> RVTD Operating Costs per Revenue Hour



RVTD Operating Costs Peer Comparison

> RVTD Operating Costs per Revenue Mile



- Next Steps
 - Identify targeted customer market
 - Employees non-traditional hours
 - Low income households unable to afford an automobile and who are burdened by the cost of ridership
 - SOU students taking evening classes, going to evening campus activities, and/or weekend trips
 - Tourists attending evening and weekend Oregon Shakespeare Festival
 - Resident who would like to live in Ashland without owning a car
 - Identify priorities to improve transit supportive amenities and land use
 - Consider opportunities to collaborate with partnering agencies and institutions

> Questions/Comments?

Page 5 of Scorecard

Scorecard Topics

- Should the City improve Will Dodge Way, and if so, in what form?
- What security improvements would be necessary?

Topics and Questions	Your Input to Help Guide the Alternatives Analysis					
Will Dodge Way						
Below: 1) ✓ Check the yellow boxes to indicate your response to the questions and statements below; and 2) Rank (1 = highest priority) the priority of the suggestions/ideas presented.						
Will Dodge Way Topics and Questions	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	General Comments		
The City should explore opportunities to make Will Dodge Way a pedestrian alley/boulevard.						
The City should explore opportunities to make Will Dodge Way a bicycle alley/boulevard.						
The City should explore opportunities to make Will Dodge Way a green alley.						
The City should pursue policies to encourage development and redevelopment to orient towards the alley as well as the street.						
Mark which, if any, types of security improvements you think would be needed along Will Dodge Way if converted to a pedestrian and/or bicycle alley.	Yes, Definitely Explore	Possibly, Modify and Explore	No, Eliminate from Consideration	Rank (#)	General Comments and/or Suggestions for Modifications	
Natural Surveillance (from existing business owners and patrons)						
Territorial Reinforcement (physical presence)						
Natural Access Control (attractive but controlling gateways)						

- > Purpose of White Paper
 - Present potential enhancements to Will Dodge Way.
- Main Topics
 - Existing conditions
 - Enhancement strategy
 - Security
 - Other considerations

- Existing Conditions
 - Business front and rear door access
 - Parking access
 - Service functions
 - Generally meets the criteria in the shared streets and alleys WP
 - Natural surveillance from storefronts, entrances, parking, existing pedestrian activity
 - Intersections with Pioneer Place, N 1st Street, and N 2nd Street have limited sight distance

- Strategy:
 - Pilot your Project
 - Don't create standards right away
 - Allow flexibility to address specific concerns and opportunities
 - People Power
 - Engage business owners and downtown stakeholders
 - Promote, Promote, Promote
 - Tell people about this exciting opportunity through various media
 - Program it
 - Develop future programs from successful pilot

- Security
 - General:
 - Attractive and useable both day and night
 - Even and continuous lighting
 - Eliminate "hiding places"
 - Clean and litter free environment

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

- Natural surveillance:
 - Visibility discourages illegitimate activities
 - Landscaping and lighting are important
- Territorial Reinforcement:
 - Keep intended activities in the space and undesired activities out
 - Use design elements such as parking, landscaping, etc.
- Natural Access Control:
 - Gateway treatments

- Other Considerations
 - Improve Pedestrian Environment:
 - Paving materials, lighting, landscaping, street furniture
 - Screen trash enclosures
 - Correct drainage problems
 - Green Alleys
 - Extend Green Streets program to include alleys
 - Explore feasibility of green street treatments on Will Dodge Way

– Fill in the Gaps

- Encourage new development to fill "gaps"
- Maintain mix of uses for natural 24-hour surveillance
- Connect alley to Main Street and Lithia Way

Will Dodge Way

> Questions/Comments?

Page 6 of Scorecard

Scorecard Topics

- Interest in expanding the multi-use trail system in Ashland
- Potential locations of future trails

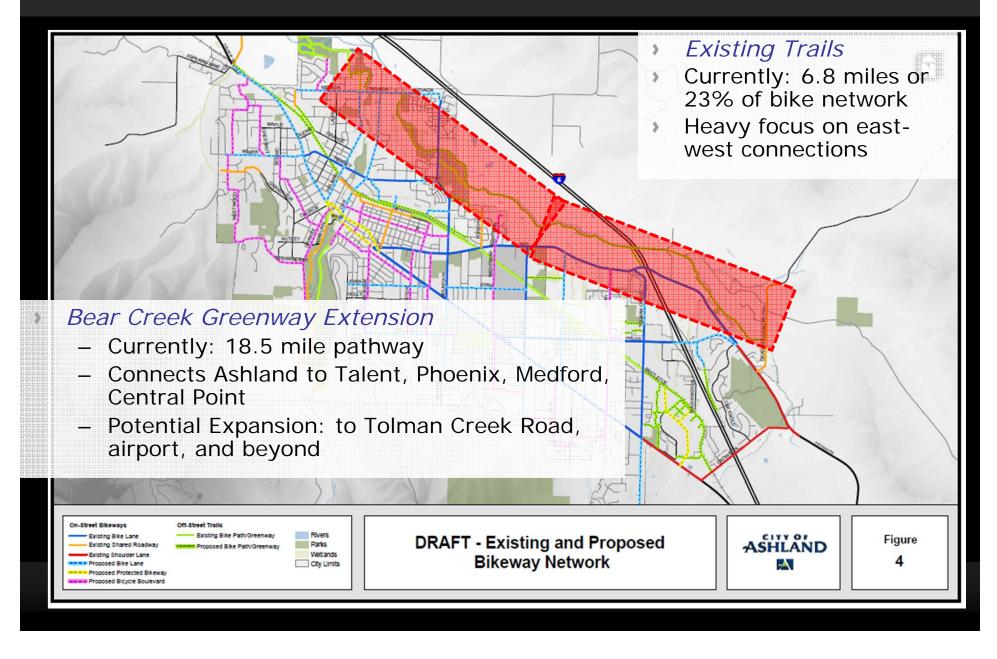
Topics and Questions	Your Input to Help Guide the Alternatives Analysis							
Multiuse Trails								
Below								
1) V Check the yellow boxes to indicate your response to the questions and statements below; and 2) Rank (1 = highest priority) the priority of the suggestions/ideas presented.								
Multiuse Trails Topics and Questions	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	General Comments				
The City should explore expanding the multiuse trail system in Ashiand.								
Would you like the City to explore the ideas below?	Yes, Definitely Explore	Possibly, Modify and Explore	No, Eliminate from Consideration	Rank (#)	General Comments and/or Suggestions for Modifications			
Extend the Central Bike Path to Oak Street and Main Street								
Extend the Central Bike Path to the Croman Mill Site (when site redevelops)								
Extend Bear Creek Greenway to Tolman Creek Road								
Provide Public Access along TID Trial in City of Ashland Limits								
Formalize the TID trail within the City's limits from Wrights Creek to Tolman Creek								
Develop north-south shared use pathways along Ashland Creek and Roca Creek Corridors								
Develop shared use pathways or wide natural surface trails along Wrights Creek and Clay/Hamilton/Tolman Creek corridors to complete a loop trail system around Ashland.								
•								

- > Purpose of White Paper
 - Present pros and cons of multi-use trails and potential applications in Ashland.
- Main Topics
 - Attraction to riders
 - Existing multi-use trails in Ashland
 - Proposed facilities in the 2006 Trails Master Plan
 - Implementation priorities

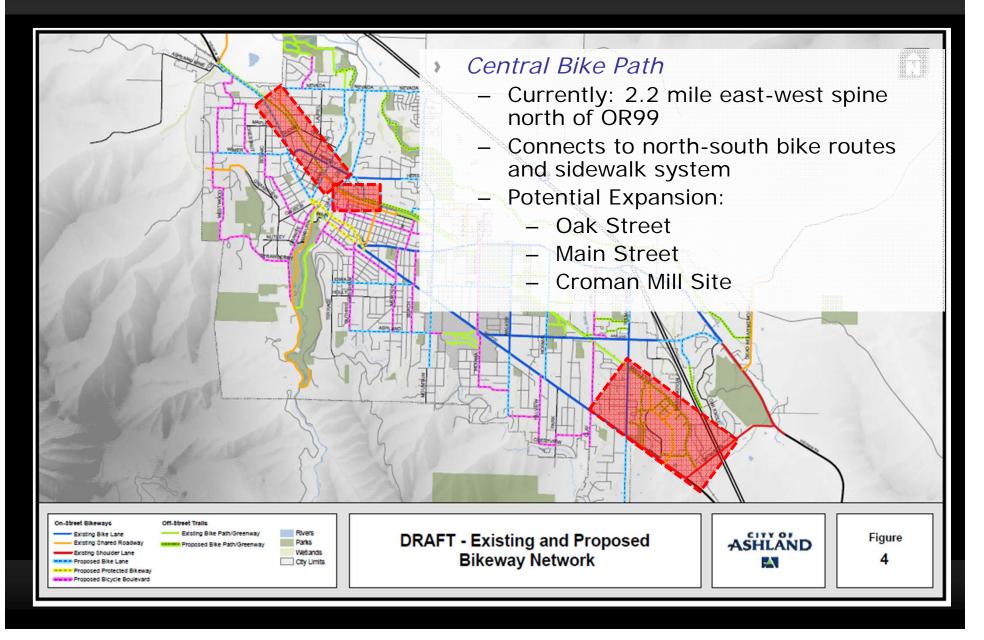
- Any paved or unpaved trail that allows multiple users
 - Shared-Use Path: generally paved or hard surface
- Shared-use paths are attractive to:
 - Interested but concerned cyclists:
 - Recreational cyclists
 - School children
 - Novice cyclists
 - Protection from traffic and traffic noise
 - Direct and fewer crossing points
 - Safety emphasis needed at major crossings



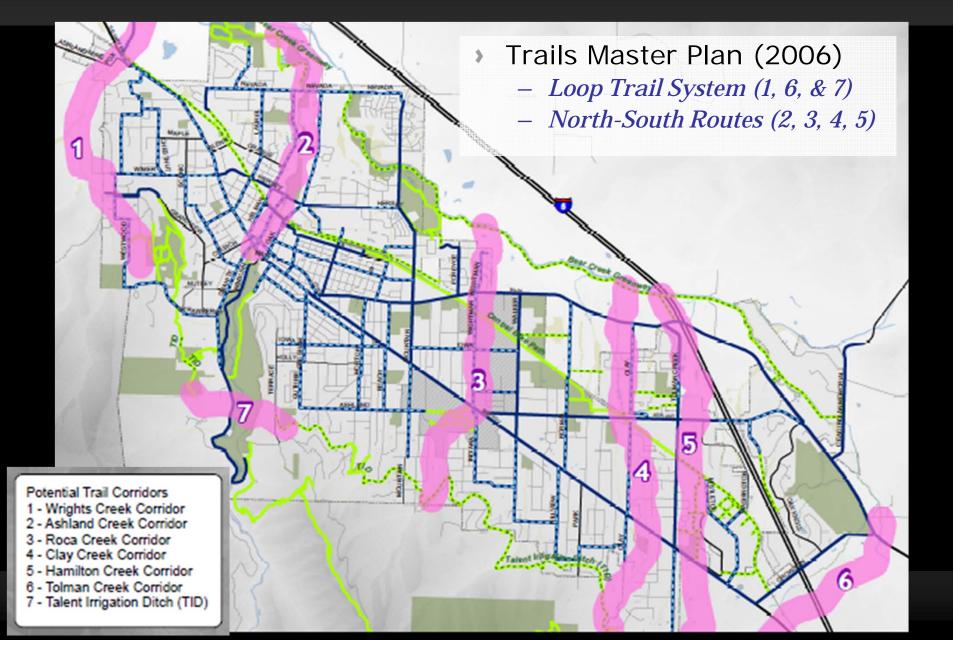
Multi-Use Trails – Extension of Existing



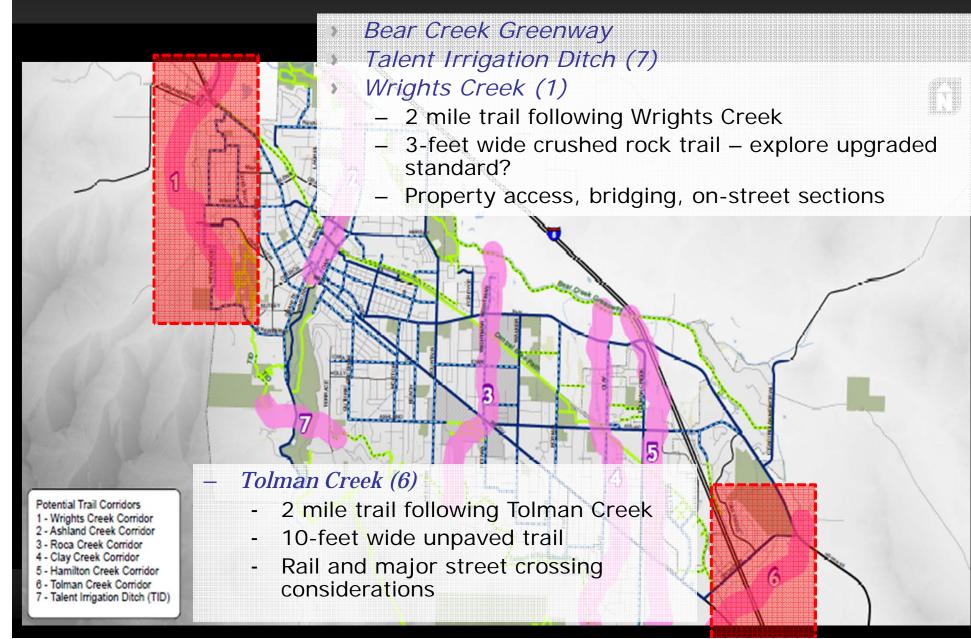
Multi-Use Trails – Expand Existing



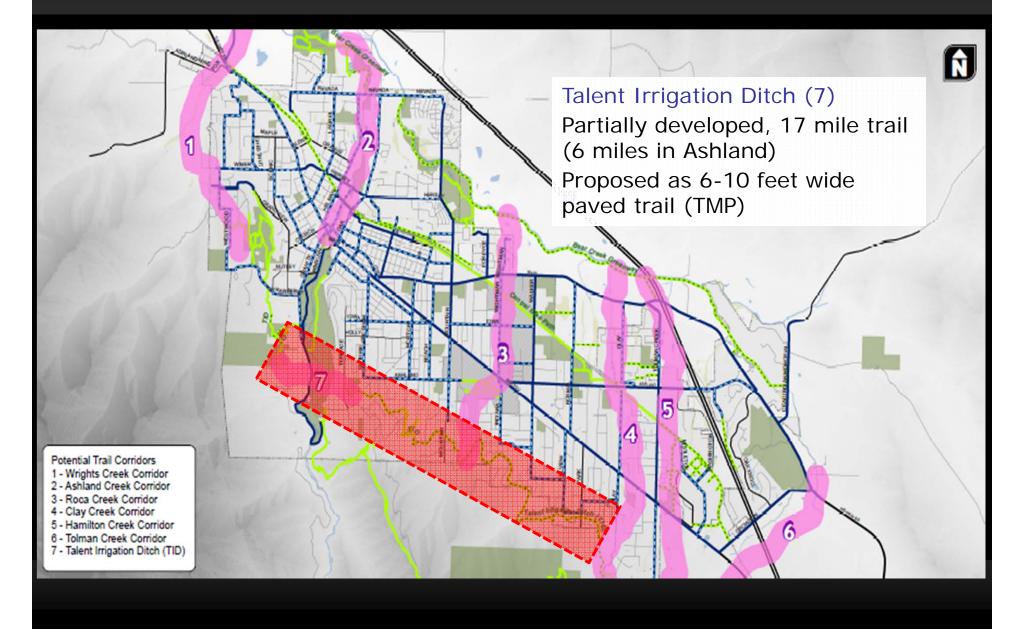
Multi-Use Trails – New Trails



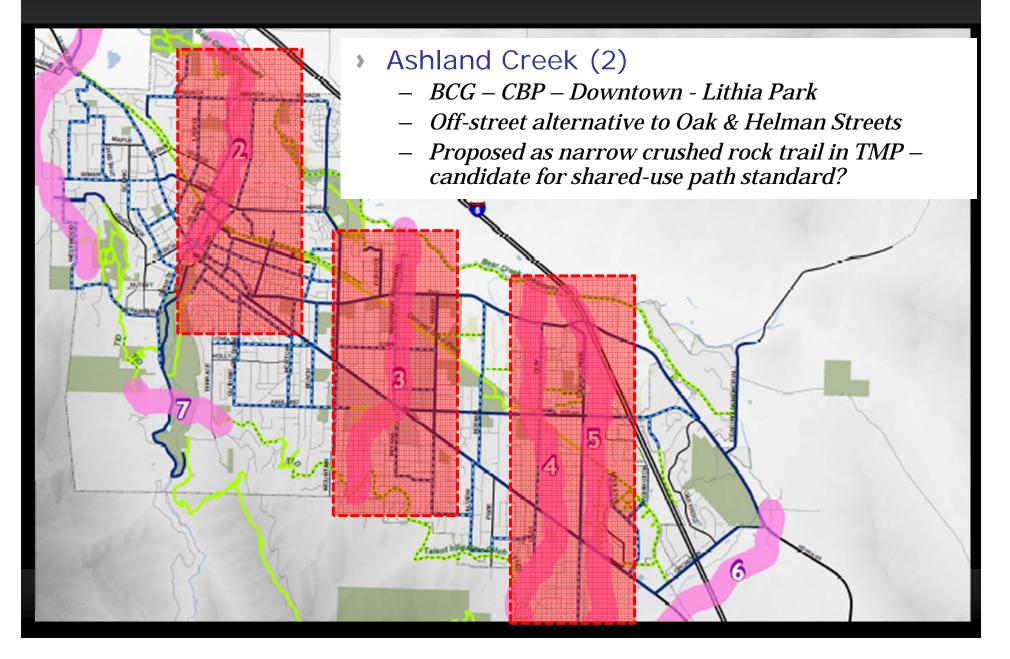
Multi-Use Trails – Loop Trail System



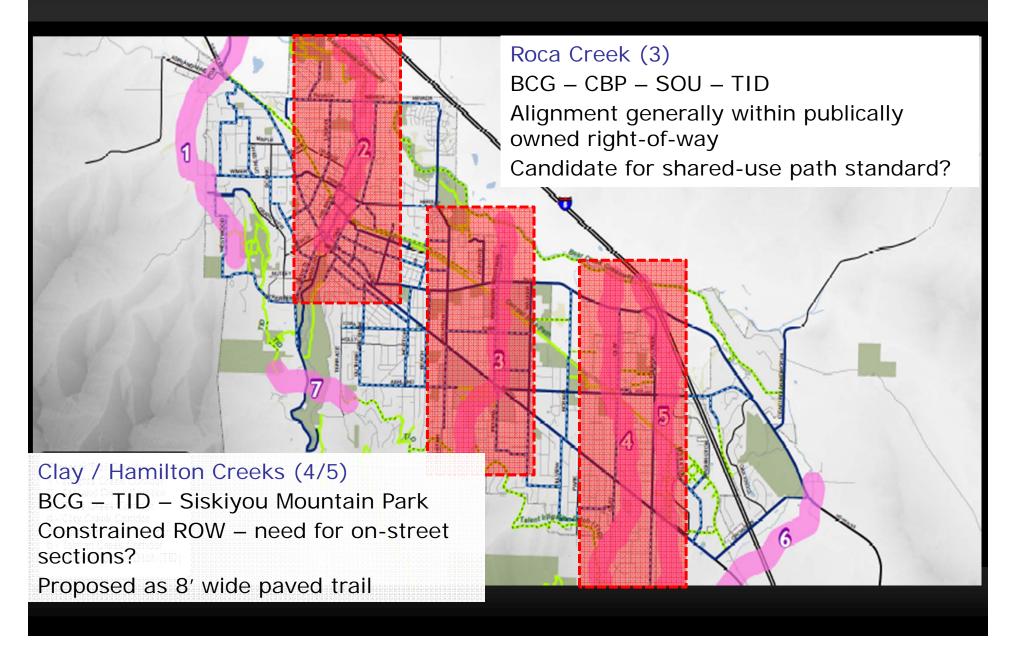
Multi-Use Trails – Talent Irrigation Ditch



Multi-Use Trails – North-South Routes



Multi-Use Trails – North-South Routes



- Your Input:
 - Which extensions of existing trails should Ashland pursue?
 - Should planning and investments be made to create a loop trail? Additional north-south routes?

> Questions/Comments?

Safe Routes to School

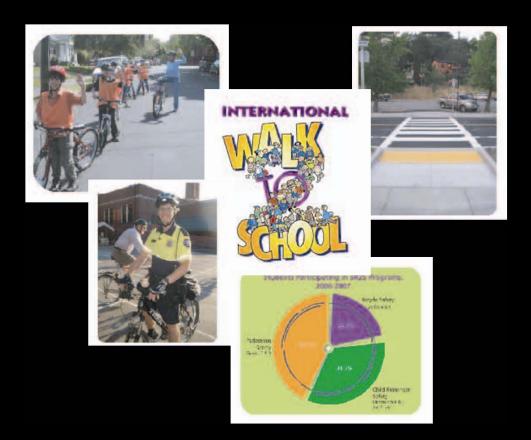
- Page 7 of Scorecard
- Scorecard Topics
 - Introduce programs and treatments that make up Safe Routes to School plans



Topics and Questions	Your Input to Help Guide the Alternatives Analysis							
Safe Routes to School								
Below:								
1) V Check the yellow boxes to indicate your response to the questions and statements below; and 2) Rank (1 = highest priority) the priority of the suggestions/ideas presented.								
Safe Routes to School Topics and Questions								
Mark below the programs and treatments you'd like the City to explore as part of the Safe Routes to School plans for Ashland schools.	Yes, Definitely Explore	Possibly, Modify and Explore	No, Eliminate from Consideration	Rank (#)	General Comments and/or Suggestions for Modifications			
Bicycle Safety Education for K-12 th Grade								
Pedal Power Program (or something similar)								
Pedestrian Safety Education for K-12 th Grade								
Child Passenger Safety			0					
Walking School Bus								
International or School-Wide Walk Day/Week/Month								
Additional Traffic Calming near Ashland Schools								
Additional Crosswalks near Ashland Schools								
Additional Pedestrian Refuge Islands near Ashland Schools								
Additional Curb Extensions near Ashland Schools								
Additional Signing and Striping to Slow Drivers								
Additional Police Enforcement (Traffic Laws)								

Safe Routes to School

- Purpose of White Paper
 - Present safe routes to schools plan elements and suggested programs.
- Main Topics
 - Education
 - Encouragement
 - Engineering
 - Enforcement
 - Evaluation



SRTS - Education

- > Teach:
 - Students: pedestrian, bicycling, and traffic skills
 - Drivers: how to share the road safely
- Example programs:
 - Bike Safety Education
 - Pedal Power
 - Pedestrian Safety Education
 - Child Passenger Safety





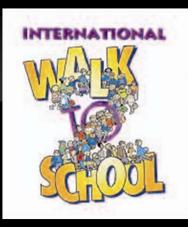


SRTS - Encouragement

- Activities and events that encourage more walking and cycling
 - Special events, clubs, contests, activities, incentives, etc.
- > Example programs:
 - Walking School Bus
 - Walk-to-School and/or Bike-to-School Days







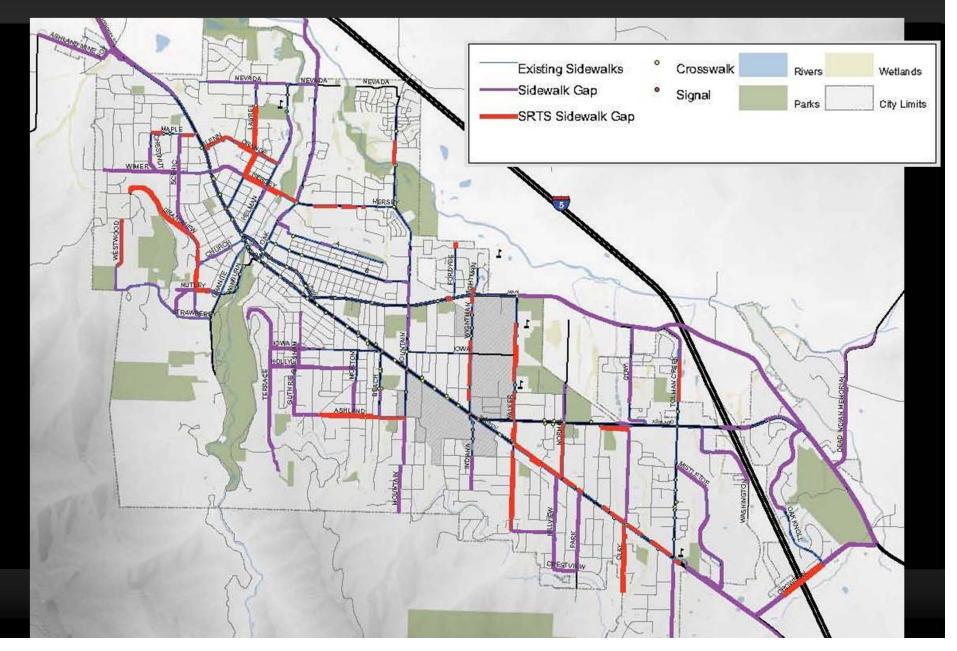


SRTS - Engineering

- Engineering solutions that remove barriers to walking and cycling
- > Example treatments:
 - Traffic calming
 - Additional/enhanced crosswalks
 - Pedestrian refuge islands
 - Curb extensions
 - Prioritize sidewalk and bike route gaps on identified school travel routes



SRTS - Engineering



SRTS - Enforcement

- Work with agencies to enforce road rules or encourage safer driver, bicycling, and walking behavior
- Enforcement programs:
 - Increased police enforcement
 - Police involvement in education programs
 - Parent charter

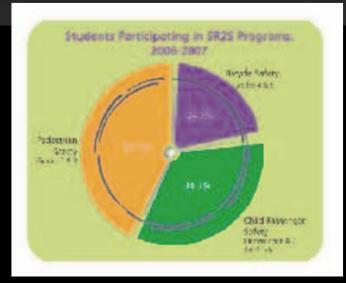






SRTS - Evaluation

- Monitoring effectiveness of programs
- Evaluation programs include:
 - Travel to school counts: before and after
 - Parent / student surveys
 - Stakeholder meetings







Safe Routes to School

- Your Input:
 - What programs and treatments should be the top priorities for ensuring safe travel to school?
 - Education
 - Encouragement
 - Engineering
 - Enforcement
 - Evaluation

Safe Routes to School

> Questions/Comments?

Overview of Upcoming Work Activities







White Papers – Groups #4 and #5

- Group #4 March 10th
 - Passenger Rail and Commuter Rail
 - Streetcar
 - High Density Housing
 - Access Management Plan
 - Downtown Plan
 - Safety Focus Intersections
- Group #5 March 17th
 - Freight
 - Airport
 - Special Transportation Area
 - Addition of an I-5 Exit
 - Traditional vs. Alternative Development Review Process

Key Near Term Dates and Work Items

- March 9th Public Workshop #3 Transportation System Plan
- March 10th White Paper Discussion Group #4
- March 17th White Paper Discussion Group #5
- March 29th TAC Meeting #4 Pedestrian Places Planning
- March 29th PC Meeting for Pedestrian Places Planning
- April 26th TAC Meeting #5 and Joint PC/TC Meeting #4 White Paper Wrap-Up/Alternatives Analysis Technical Memorandum

Comments/Questions/Input?