McKinley Hill
Neighborhood Planning

Walkability Committee – Meeting #3

March 2, 2023
AGENDA

• Introductions
• Walkability Committee Recap
• E Division Ln and McKinley Intersection
• Streetscape Enhancement project
• Next Steps
PROJECT COMMITTEES

• **Arts Committee:**
  • **Focus:** Spaceworks mural project
  • **Future:** Placemaking Plan

• **Open Space Committee:**
  • **Focus:** Tree planting outreach, East 1 Street landscaping, McKinley Overlook activation/design

• **Walkability Committee:**
  • **Focus:** Intersection traffic calming; red curb painting; other quick wins
  • **Future:** Streetscape enhancement design
BACKGROUND

- **Spring – summer 2022**: McKinley Ave and E Division Ln intersection identified as a priority for calming
- **September 2022**: Community selected project
- **November 2022**: Walkability Committee meeting 1
- **December 2022**: Site visit
- **February 2022**: Walkability Committee meeting 2
- Follow-up survey sent February 2022
E Division Ln and McKinley Ave Intersection – Traffic Calming

- Narrowing roadway to calm traffic into business district
- Artist-designed mural (coordination with Arts committee)
- 190+ votes collected in-person and online
- This project selected as the priority
Quick-Build Examples with Art
2 conceptual design options reviewed at February meeting, based on community goals:

- Calm speeding traffic by narrowing the roadway
- Make it easier for people walking to cross the street
- Enhance neighborhood identity at the southern end of the McKinley business district by adding a street mural

- Group requested third option
- Sent survey to group
Option 1 includes:

- mural bulb-outs at all 4 corners
- new striping in the median on the north
- plastic posts
- the northwest corner has a **smaller bulb-out** to avoid overlap with the driveway on McKinley
- the **open driveway and smaller bulb-out** leave more space for turning vehicles, but do less to narrow the width of the roadway
Option 2 includes:

- mural bulb-outs at all 4 corners
- new striping in the median on the north
- plastic posts
- the northwest corner has a **larger bulb-out**, which overlaps with the driveway on McKinley
- the **driveway would be closed** to allow for a **larger bulb-out** and provide more traffic calming
Option 3 includes:

- mural bulb-outs at all 4 corners
- new striping in the median on the north
- plastic posts
- the northwest corner has a smaller bulb-out to avoid overlap with the driveway on McKinley
- the open driveway and smaller bulb-out leave more space for vehicles and provide less traffic calming
- an additional mural bulb-out with plastic posts on the north side of the driveway (UNDER THE TREE) to slow traffic before the driveway
## SURVEY RESULTS

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1st Choice:  
- Option 3: 5 votes
MURAL SELECTION & REVIEW

- Artist will be selected from City’s Mural Roster
- Preference for artists connected to McKinley
- Panel will select artist and review design
- 5 person selection panel will include:
  - Walkability Committee member
  - Arts Committee member
  - Tacoma Arts Commissioner
  - 2 Community Members
MURAL TIMELINE

Preliminary Schedule:

- Week of April 3 – Call to Artists released to mural roster
- Week of May 8 – Preliminary scoring by panel
- Week of May 15 – Artist selection
- May/June – contracting & orientation
- July – review design
- September – install project and artwork
STREETSCAPE ENHANCEMENT

- Preliminary design is funded in City budget!
- Our Town Grant proposal submitted to NEA
- McKinley Ave between E 34th St and E Division Ln
- Goals:
  - Strengthen sense of place with artwork, traffic calming, more usable sidewalk and public space
  - Add lighting, street furniture, and other amenities
  - Accommodate bicycles and address parking
  - Create neighborhood “gateway” open spaces
**STREETSCAPE ENHANCEMENT**

**Actions**

McKinley Ave Safety and Usability

1. Install new speed limit signage to reduce the speed limit to 25 MPH as part of Vision Zero (€).
2. Enlarge existing business district crosswalks (€).
3. Enhance safety at the southwest end of the business district at the E Division Ln and McKinley Ave intersection with temporary or permanent bulb-outs and speed humps. Design in such a way that this intersection becomes a street gateway into McKinley and reflect McKinley’s unique identity (see Placemaking Strategy, BV7, Fund via Community Booster Project)).

3.1. Permanent enhancements

- Construct new bulbouts on all corners of the intersection with curbs, incorporating pedestrian elements and integrate with other neighborhood business district gateway elements (align with McKinley Streetscape Design, TA).

**McKinley Ave Streetscape Enhancement**

4. Design and construct streetscape upgrades for McKinley Ave (E Wright Ave to south of E Division St), with consideration of the following:

4.1. Expand sidewalk width and/or create bulb-out (consistent with land-use coded to support increased pedestrian density and calm traffic through curb bulbouts at select intersections, including East Harrison St, East Mortland St., and East Division Ln (TA)).

4.2. Accommodate bicycles through infrastructure upgrades.

4.3. Deploy pedestrian-flourishing tools, e.g., parked bike racks, loading/unloading zones for deliveries and on-street use, and designated ADA parking (DA).

4.4. Improve visibility of fire at intersections.

4.5. Ensure consistent and damage-proof pedestrian-scale lighting.

4.6. Add street trees such as seating, trash cans, bike, and bicycle parking (BV).

4.7. Add parking in key locations.

4.8. Develop north and south gateway open space (CS-4).

4.9. Include green stormwater infrastructure where possible.

4.10. Integrate the street design with new art connected with themes and elements from the Placemaking Strategy (see BV7).

4.11. Align with wayfinding strategies (BV1-13.2), including Lushroiled stamps and signs.

**Opportunities, issues, questions**

1. Wright Ave. gateway plaza [4.8]
2. Coordinate w/34th project—add intersection treatment? [4.11]
3. Address drainage with rain garden [4.9]
4. Explore extended speed tables and/or curbless segment [4.1-7, 4.9-11]
5. Activate edges, facades/"missing teeth" [4.10,BV7]
6. Celebrate Green Power @ EV
7. Parcel access/property issues at gateway intersection [4.1, T3.1]
8. Safety/speed reduction @ Morton-Division w/intersection redesign [4.1, T3.1]
9. Wedge RoWay landscape + big rock [4.7, 10]
10. South gateway @ Memorial Park w/Sidewalk café “streetery” [4.8]
STREETSCAPE ENHANCEMENT

Steps Ahead – this year

• Urban Design Studio + Public Art + MAKERS Consultants
• Coordinate with Public Works/Transportation and Environmental Services/Green Stormwater Infrastructure
  • Spring/Summer: Design concept updates and input with community
  • Fall: Advance a design enough to estimate a budget for final design + construction
  • Make budget request

• Looking down the road to 2024-25
  • Final Design and Construction (tbd)
Thank you!

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Sign Up & Learn More
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Walkability Committee:

• Project Limits
  • McKinley Ave
  • Side streets

• Outreach (example to right)
  • Letter/Door hangers
  • Perception of parking loss

• Painting day
  • City staff to oversee painting and to provide materials/equipment
  • Weekend, one day, weather dependent
• **Community-identified goals:**

  • **Business district vitality**—a strong business district with McKinley’s unique sense of place, public art, and amenities for all ages.

  • **Transportation**—to have safe, accessible connections in and out of the neighborhood for people walking, rolling, biking, and on transit.

  • **Open space**—to have abundant, active, and well-maintained greenery and public spaces that contribute to neighborhood identity.

  • **Development**—growth that adds options for food, housing, services, and amenities in the neighborhood.