

Memorandum

Date: January 2, 2024

To: Devin King; City of Durango
Steve Pavlick, PE; PST Engineering

From: Fehr & Peers

Subject: Junction Street Traffic Calming Design – Community Meeting #2 and Alternatives Survey Summary

UT23-2460

Overview

Fehr & Peers, together with the City of Durango and PST Engineering, held a community meeting at Miller Middle School (2608 Junction Street) on December 12th, 2023, at 5:00 PM. The goal of the meeting was to gather input from the community on the proposed concept design for traffic calming and design improvements along Junction Street, between W. 2nd Ave and Dalla Mountain Park. The recommended concept was developed following a previous community meeting and an online community survey, which asked respondents to evaluate and prioritize four alternative street sections. 122 people responded to the survey and 26 attended the latest community meeting.

The community meeting included a 30-minute presentation, a question-and-answer period, followed by several small-group discussions focused on gathering input regarding community members' review of the recommended corridor design. The conversation focused on large-format prints (roll plots) of the proposed design, showing the extents of the project in plan view to identify areas of concern from community members and opportunities for further refinement.

Survey Summary

Following Community Meeting 1, hosted on October 26th, at which attendees shared their input on what they want to see in a redesigned Junction Street, the project team launched an online survey to gather feedback on four alternative, conceptual cross-sections. Following opportunities to provide qualitative feedback on each alternative, survey respondents were asked to rank the alternatives. The four alternatives included in the survey are presented below in **Figures 1 – 4**.



Figure 1

Alternative 1





Figure 2

Alternative 2





Figure 3

Alternative 3





Figure 4

Alternative 4





Survey Results

The ranking portion of the community survey resulted in Alternative 2 being the highest scoring. Alternative 2 received fewer first-place votes than Alternative 3, but also fewer last-place votes than Alternative 3. Assigning four points for a first-place vote, three points for a second-place vote, two points for a third-place vote, and one point for fourth-place vote, results of the alternatives ranking exercise are presented below in **Figure 5**.

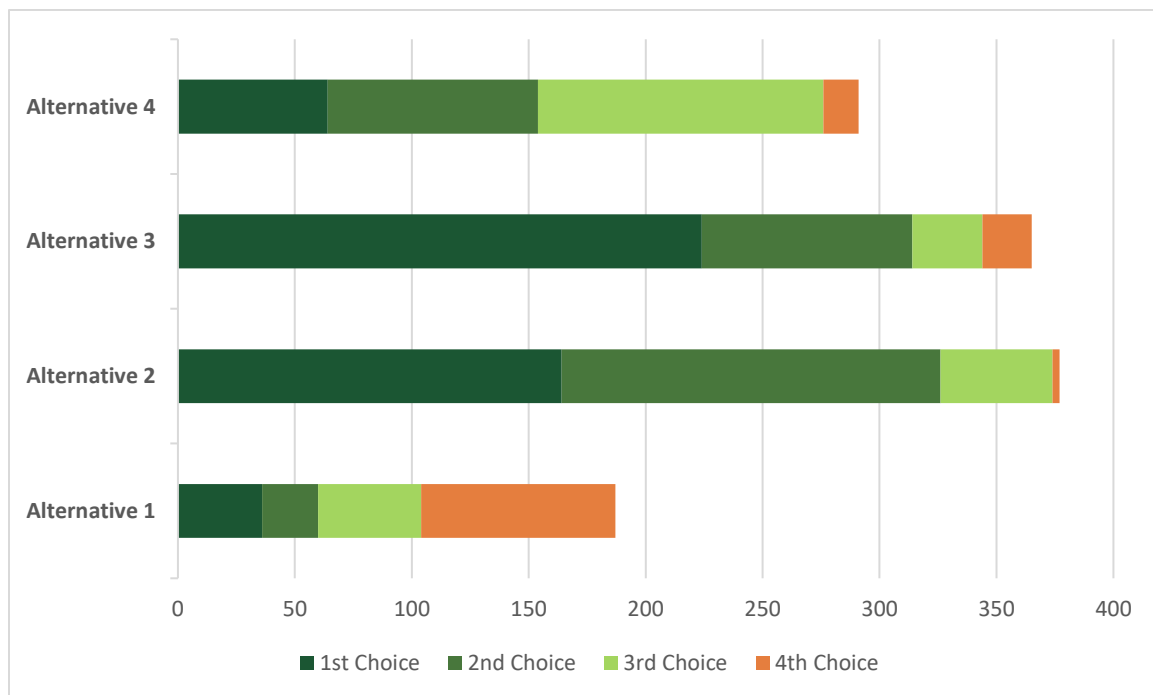


Figure 5: Community Ranking of Conceptual Alternatives

Second Community Meeting

The project team presented their recommended concept design at a community meeting on December 14th. The concept design includes:

- A continuous, 12-foot-wide multiuse path along the eastern curb of Junction Street
- Two 11-foot-wide travel lanes (one in each direction) throughout the corridor
- Inbound left-turn lanes serving the planned Miller Middle School driveways
- Additional marked crossings across Junction Street at Virginia Drive, Clovis Drive, Hocker Drive/Birket Drive, Pleasant Drive, and Sunnyside Drive
- Splitter islands and raised medians in key locations along the corridor
- An enlarged school zone extended northwards towards Clovis Drive
- An option for a mini roundabout at the Clovis Drive intersection

Alternative 2 was selected for a variety of reasons, including:



- It aligns with the project's goals of discouraging vehicular speeding and improving multimodal facilities along Junction Street
- The multiuse path will strengthen walking and cycling connections to Miller Middle School, serving a key destination and target user group
- The design largely fits within the existing street footprint (back of sidewalk to back of sidewalk) and avoids major utility and tree conflicts
- Winter maintenance of the multiuse path will be managed by the City with existing equipment

The project team conducted their own assessment of the four alternatives before comparing their results with those from the survey. Alternative 2 was selected by both groups.

Design Feedback

The project team requested feedback on all aspects of the design with some key areas of focus. Those included the portion of Junction Street adjacent to the school, the intersection of Junction Street and Clovis Drive, and the connection to Dalla Mountain Park. The following items summarize feedback from the community:

- The alternative selected, with a continuous multiuse path along the east curb was supported by meeting attendees
- The inclusion of turn lanes to facilitate inbound left turns at both planned driveways serving the reconstructed Miller Middle School was supported with the inclusion of raised elements in the median to discourage speeding and other "bad behavior"
- A miniature roundabout at Clovis Drive was shown as a possible intersection treatment and received much more support than opposition
- There was interest in raising the proposed crossing at Sunnyside Drive to act as additional traffic calming, especially for southbound traffic entering Durango
- There was widespread support for ensuring the ultimate design includes a comfortable walking and/or cycling connection to Dalla Mountain Park

In both the online survey and second community meeting, there was notably little feedback requesting that on-street parking be provided, and no feedback at the community meeting suggesting that the recommended alternative was misaligned with community needs.