



July 10, 2024

MIDTOWN SAFETY & CONNECTIVITY IMPROVEMENT DESIGN

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SEH



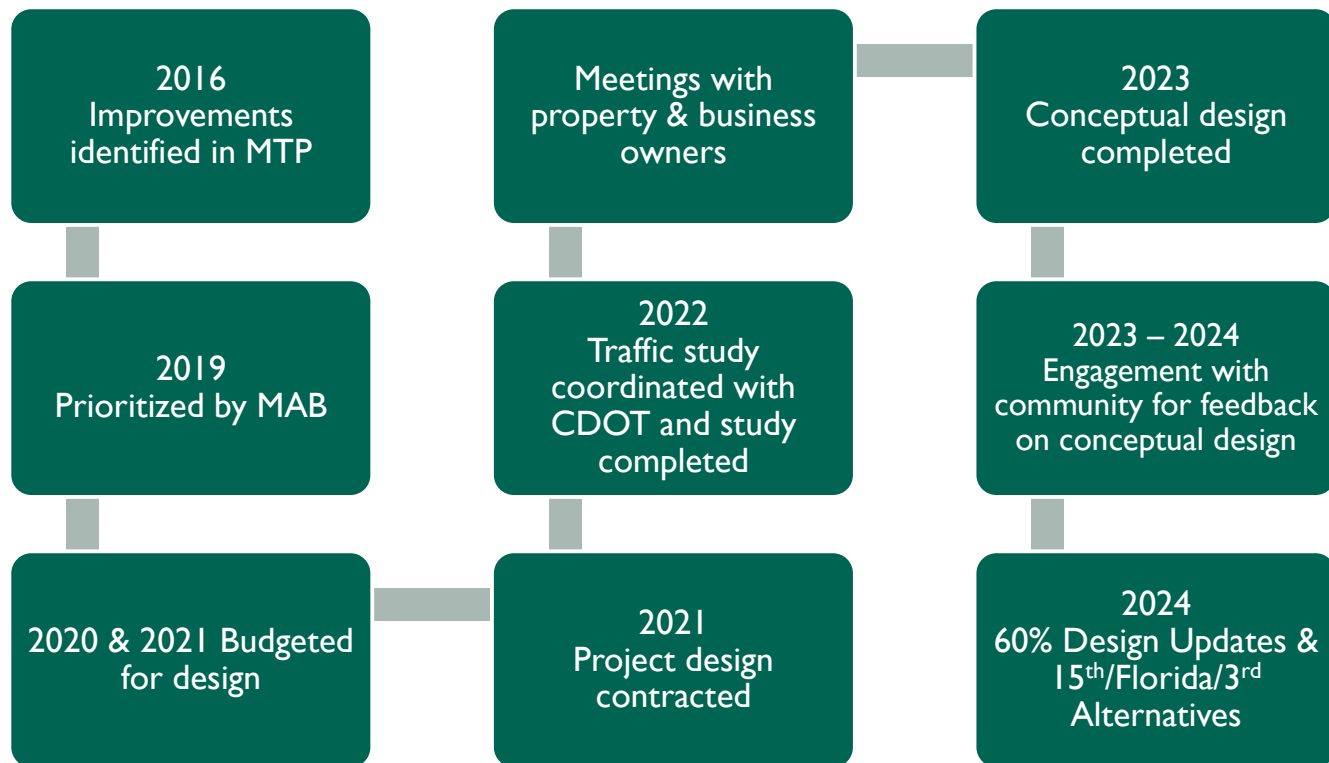
MEETING AGENDA

- Welcome and MidTown Project Background, Need, & Scope (10 minutes)
- 2 Major Project Components
 - 2nd Avenue Corridor
 - Design Updates (10 minutes)
 - Question & Answer (15 minutes)
 - 15th, Florida, 3rd Intersection
 - Design Alternatives (10 minutes)
 - Question & Answer (20 minutes)
- What's Next (5 minutes) and Open House Breakout (20 minutes)

MEETING PURPOSE

- The goal of this meeting is to get feedback on the 60% design plans for the MidTown Safety and Connectivity project -- which includes minor adjustments to the 2nd Ave Corridor -- and to get feedback about the community's preference for the treatment of the 15th/Florida/3rd Ave intersection.

BACKGROUND AND TIMELINE



NEED

- E 2nd Ave and 15th St is busiest surveyed intersection for cyclist & pedestrians
 - Serves as major bicycle connection to downtown

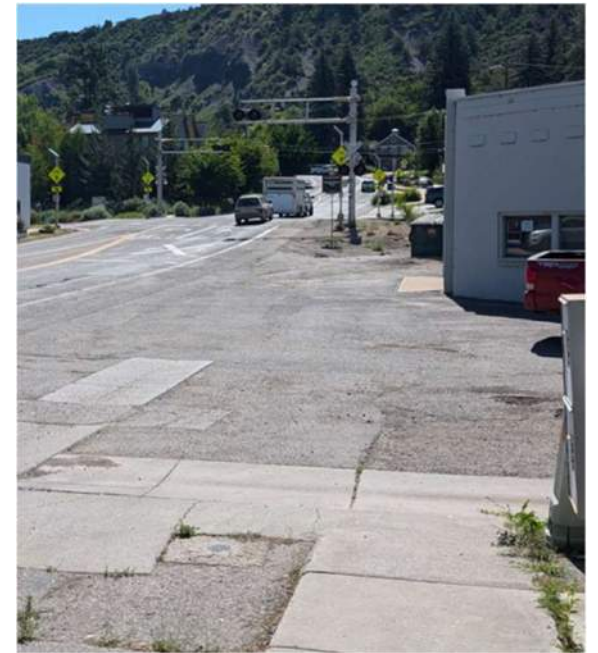
Overall Average Pedestrian & Bicycle Traffic (2009 – 2021)



NEED (CONTINUED)



- Lack of sidewalk connectivity
- Crashes and connectivity deficiencies at Florida/3rd/15th intersection



PROJECT SCOPE

Safety

- Traffic calming
- Intersection improvements
- Bicycle improvements

Connectivity

- ART to downtown
- Florida to downtown

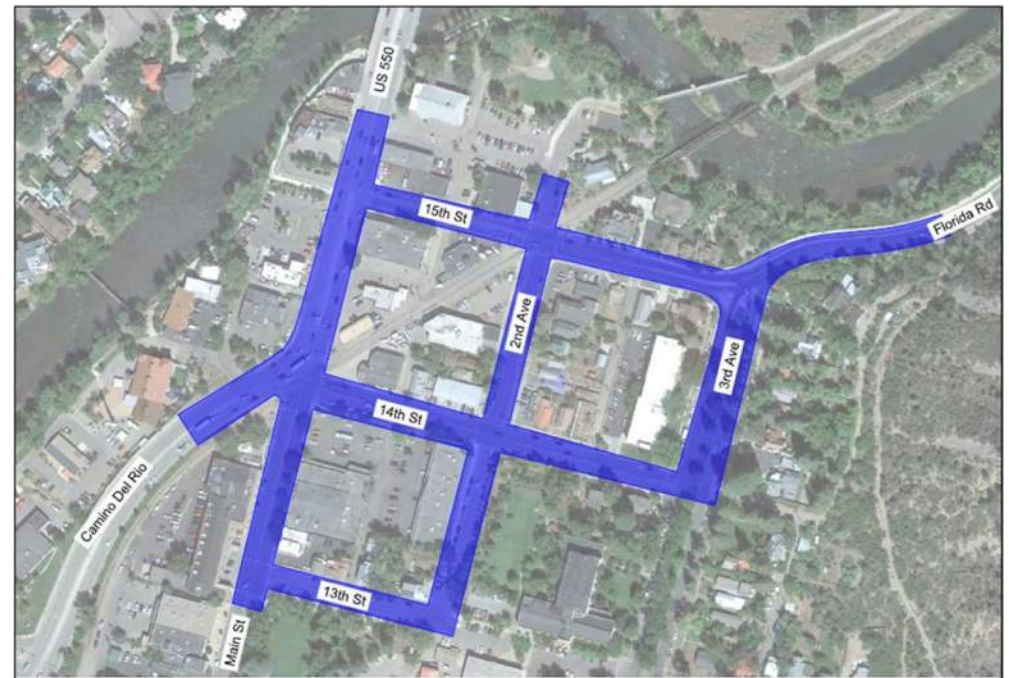
Accessibility

- Transit stop updates
- Update sidewalks and curb ramps

MIDTOWN TRAFFIC STUDY

Key Study Considerations:

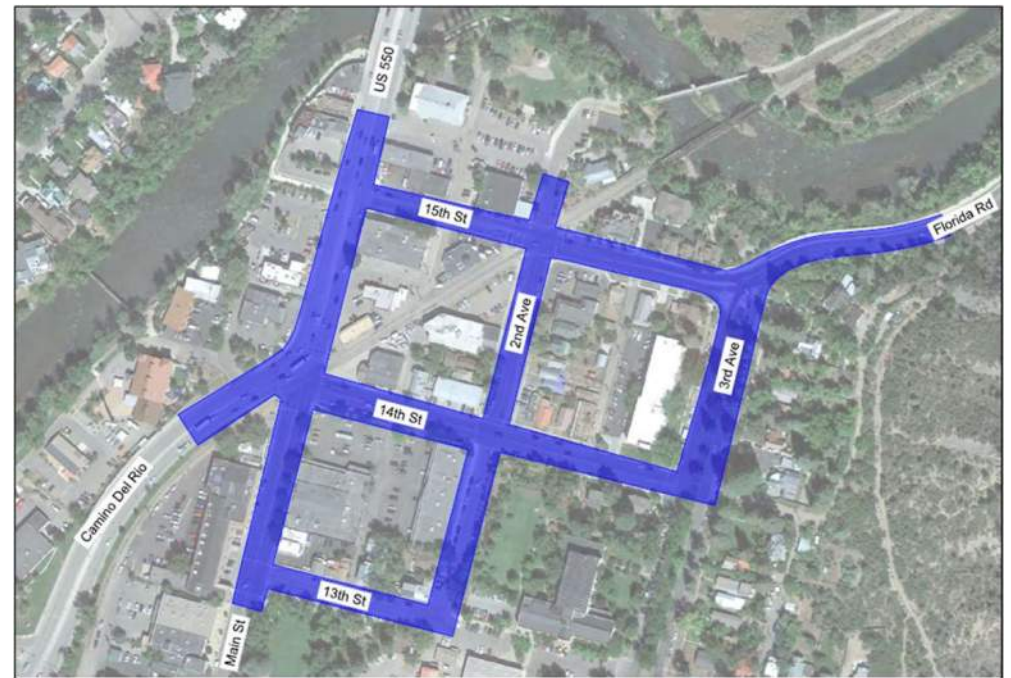
- Prohibition of Southbound Lefts onto 14th Street per US 550 Access Control Plan (as well as other CDOT improvements to 14th & Camino Intersection)
- Cycle Track on East 2nd Ave. to connect Downtown to Animas River Trail at Rotary Park
- Conceptual Options for 15th Street, Florida, and East 3rd Ave
- Maintain Business and Residential Access



MIDTOWN TRAFFIC STUDY

Traffic Study Findings & Recommendations:

- Camino & 14th Street will continue to have operational limitations, but elimination of SB left-turns will improve operations
- East 2nd Ave conversion to one-way SB (15th to 14th) improves operations
- Recommended exploration of Mini-RAB at East 3rd, Florida, and 15th Street with City Staff and Stakeholders
 - Mini-Roundabout was best option for safety & overall improvement
 - Left-turn at 14th Street was preferred by focus groups



PROJECT BENEFITS FOR 2ND AVENUE CORRIDOR

- **Increased pedestrian connectivity and safety**
- **Cycle track on East 2nd Ave will enhance connection and safety to Downtown from Animas River Trail at Rotary Park for cyclists**
- **Increased ADA compliance with improved sidewalks, ramps, and bus stops**
- **Curb extensions at intersections to calm traffic and shorten pedestrian crossings**
- **Accesses to business and residential properties maintained**
- **Add landscaping to existing and proposed landscape strips**

PAST ENGAGEMENT AND WHAT WE HEARD

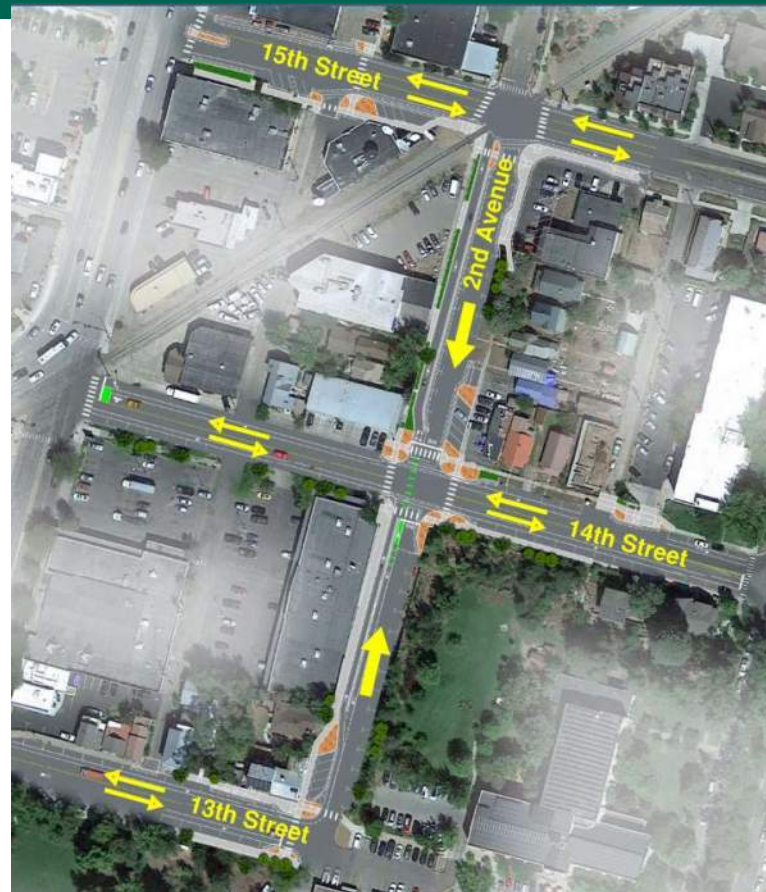
- Previous Public Engagement
 - May 23, 2023 Open House – 52 Attendees
 - 2 Farmer’s Market Booths – 56 Responses
 - 2 Days Tabling at Rotary Park – 34 Responses
 - Online Survey – 38 Responses
 - Focus Group – 5 Participants
- Multiple Meetings with Business & Property Owners
- What We Heard
 - Strong support for curb extensions
 - Support for cycle connectivity
 - Desire for maintaining parking
 - Mixed support for mini-roundabout

MIDTOWN 2ND AVENUE CORRIDOR DESIGN UPDATES

- 2nd Ave with two-way cycle track and parallel parking
- 2nd Ave one-way
 - NB from 13th St to 14th St
 - SB from 15th St to 14th St
- Proposed sidewalk connectivity within project area
- Curb extensions at 2nd Ave intersections
- Transit stop improvements at 14th St between 2nd Ave and 3rd Ave
- Parking Impacts
 - Approximately 108 existing spaces reduced by 20



MIDTOWN 2ND AVE CORRIDOR PROPOSED TRAFFIC PATTERN



MIDTOWN 2ND AVENUE CORRIDOR Q&A

- **Questions related to 2nd Avenue Corridor**
- **15th/Florida/3rd discussion and Q&A to follow**
- **Please provide input during Open House at conclusion of presentation**



15TH/FLORIDA/3RD ALTERNATIVES

- Alternative 1 – No Intersection Alignment Changes
- Alternative 2 – Mini-Roundabout
- Alternative 3 – Left-turn at 14th Street



15TH/FLORIDA/3RD ALTERNATIVES – ALTERNATIVE 1

- **Alternative 1 – No Intersection Alignment Changes**
 - **Benefits**
 - Low cost
 - Fewer construction impacts
 - Best at preserving historic features of 3rd Avenue
 - **Disadvantages**
 - Does not significantly address existing safety and operational issues at the 3rd and 15th intersection that are anticipated to worsen with projected increase in traffic volumes



15TH/FLORIDA/3RD ALTERNATIVES – ALTERNATIVE 2

■ Alternative 2 – Mini-Roundabout

■ Benefits

- Roundabout geometry serves both as traffic calming and operational enhancement for the 3rd and 15th intersection
- Best expected level-of-service (with historical growth trends)
- Removes higher-speed left-turn conflicts

■ Disadvantages

- Highest cost (Approximately \$3 million)
- Concerns with eastbound approach grades
- Risk of poor level of service if growth accelerates
- Largest traffic impacts during construction
- Concerns with current design impacts by Historic Preservation Board



15TH/FLORIDA/3RD ALTERNATIVES – ALTERNATIVE 3

■ Alternative 3 – Left-Turn at 14th Street

■ Benefits

- Improves safety and operations at 15th St intersection by removing westbound left-turn movement
- Opportunities for additional improvements at 3rd and 15th intersection

■ Disadvantages

- High cost (\$1.2 to \$2.5 million depending on modifications at 15th/Florida/3rd intersection)
- Impacts up to 18 trees in median between 13th & 14th
- Impacts to on-street parking
- Grade and shadowing concerns
- Strong negative reaction from Historic Preservation Board



15TH/FLORIDA/3RD ALTERNATIVES Q&A

- **Questions related to
15th/Florida/3rd Alternatives**
- **Please provide input during
Open House at conclusion of
presentation**

15TH/FLORIDA/3RD ALTERNATIVES POLL

Which alternative for the Florida, 15th, and 3rd intersection do you prefer based on the benefits and disadvantages of each? Please refer to the presentation for more information.

- Alternative 1 – No intersection alignment changes
- Alternative 2 – Mini-roundabout
- Alternative 3 – Left-turn at 14th Street



WHAT'S NEXT

Today's public meeting and community input

Staff presentation & Council decision for
15th/Florida/3rd Intersection

Finalize design and acquire clearances and temporary
easements

Advertise project in late 2026

Construction anticipated in 2027

OPEN HOUSE

- Presentation Boards for 2nd Avenue Corridor and 15th/Florida/3rd Intersection Alternatives
- Sticky notes are available for feedback and comment
 - Specific comments are preferred
- Staff is available for feedback and to answer questions
- Virtual attendees can provide comments on the link in the chat box



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we did!

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