

Olson Memorial Highway Multimodal Study

Policy Advisory Committee

Meeting #4 – August 8, 2024, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting Tips

- Audio issues: Select the audio setting in the left-hand corner.
- Additional assistance needed, call:
 - Stephanie Falkers, 763-249-6790 | sfalkers@srfconsulting.com
- If connected by phone:
 - *6 to mute/unmute
 - *9 to raise/unraise your hand
- PAC members:
 - Please mute your microphone and turn off your video when not speaking



- 1.Study and Corridor Update
- 2. Alternatives Engagement Overview and Outcomes
- 3. Alternative Analysis Process
- 4. Upcoming Engagement and Next Steps

Policy Advisory Committee Members

Representative	Governing Body
Representative Esther Agbaje	MN House
Senate President Bobby Joe Champion	MN Senate
County Board Chair Irene Fernando	Hennepin County Commissioner
Council Member Jeremiah Ellison	Minneapolis City Council
Park Board Member Becka Thompson	Minneapolis Park Board
Council Member Yassin Osman	Metropolitan Council
Khani Sahebjam (PAC Chair)	MnDOT

Roles of the PAC

- Guide policy and funding decisions about the Olson Memorial Highway Multimodal Study
- Assist with identifying important community issues related to the corridor
- Communicate with neighboring constituents on project decision points/major milestones and encourage public participation





Study and Corridor Update

Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Planning Grant

- MnDOT received a federal planning grant to support:
 - Additional planning and design in Minneapolis
 - Additional coordination between transportation and land use in Minneapolis
 - Develop a corridor vision in suburban cities



Local non-profit Our Streets also received a planning grant for MN 55 in Minneapolis

Study Process & Questions/Discussion



Establish a Foundation

Enter the Community

My S

Invite Input:
Purpose &
Need

Invite Input: Alternatives

Inform Community

Sept 2022 - March 2023

March 2023 - May 2023

June 2023 - Oct 2023

March 2024 - April 2024

May 2024 - Sept 2024





Alternatives Engagement Overview and Outcomes

Alternatives Engagement Activities (Spring 2024)

Community Workshops

2 Events

Community Leader Outreach

16 Organizations

Community and Neighborhood Meetings
5 Events

Door Knocking 400 Doors

Pop-up Events

3 Events

Survey
Nearly 1,800 Responses

Olson Memorial Highway Alternatives



Alternative 1: 4-lane, Mixed transit



Alternative 3: 5-lane, Center bus lanes



Alternative 2: 4-lane, Curbside bus lanes



Alternative 4: 2-lane, Bus-way

Who we heard from



404 Walkers



571 Bikers



1,358 Drivers



656 Neighbors



Support for change:

- Increased safety for all users
- Improve mobility for walkers and bikers
- Focus on community and future investment

Engagement Themes: Crossing



- Crossing elements
 - Driving lanes
 - Bikeways
 - Bus-ways



BIKING

- Separated oneway bikeway
- Separated twoway bikeway
- Separated onstreet bikes lanes



BUS

- Mixed transit
- Curb side bus lanes
- Center bus lanes
- Separated busway



- Number of vehicle lanes:
 - 5 lanes
 - 4 lanes
 - 2 lanes

Engagement Themes: Crossing

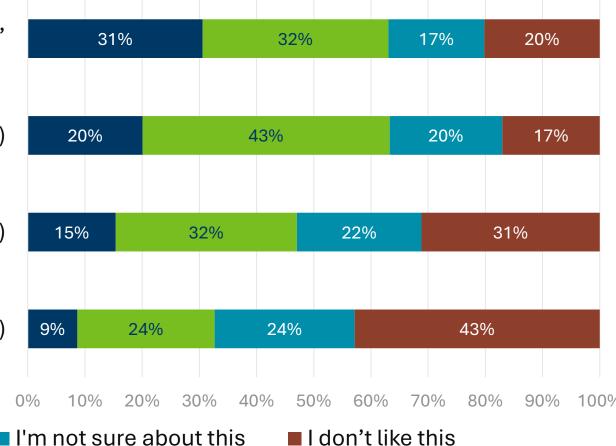


People walking/biking to cross two car driving lanes, bikeway, and two bus only lanes (Alt 4)

Four lanes to cross for people walking/biking (Alt 2)

Four lanes to cross for people walking and biking (Alt 1)

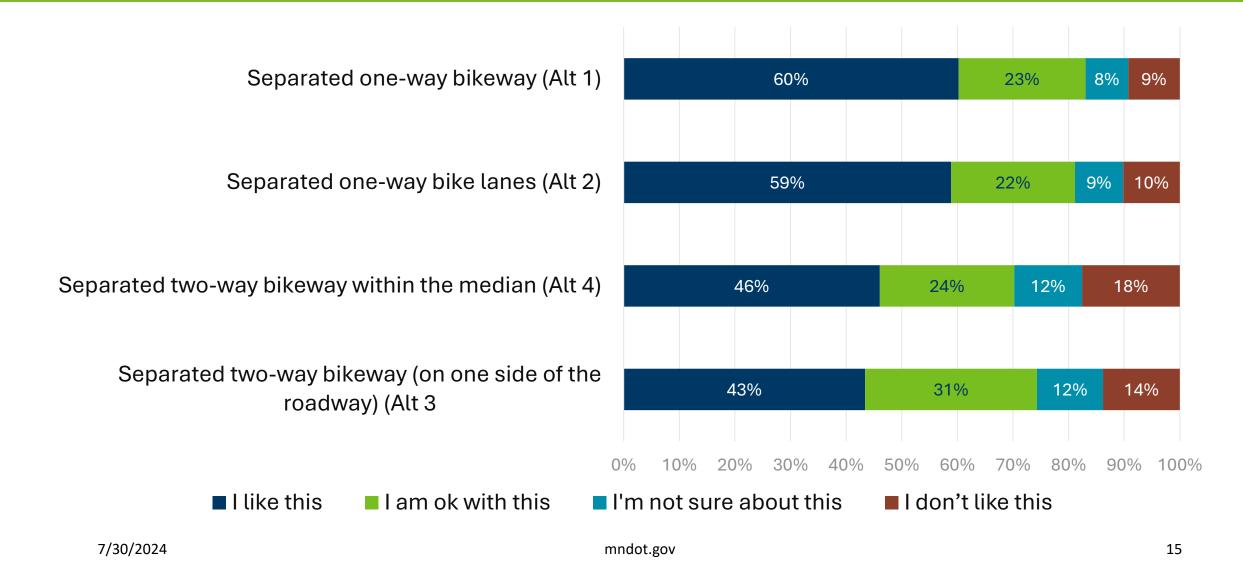
Five lanes to cross for people walking/biking (Alt 3)



■ I like this I am ok with this I'm not sure about this

Engagement Themes: Biking





Engagement Themes: Transit





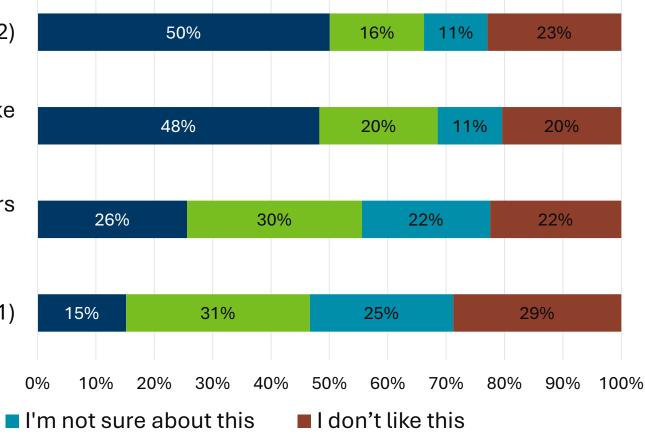
Two bus only lanes (separated from vehicles and bike lanes) (Alt 4)

Center bus lanes: greater separation of transit from cars (Alt 3)

■ I like this

Buses and vehicles use same lanes (Alt 1)

I am ok with this



Engagement Themes: Driving

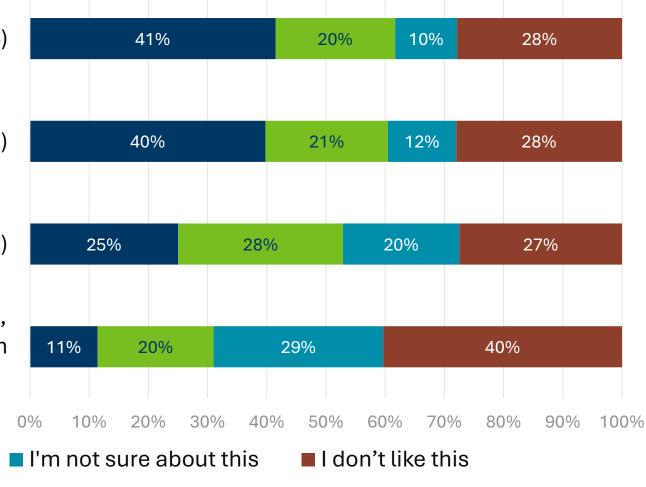




One vehicle lane in each direction (Alt 2)

Two vehicle lanes in each direction (Alt 1)

Two vehicle lanes for drivers going towards downtown, one vehicle lane for drivers going away from downtown (Alt 3)



■ I like this ■ I

I am ok with this

Questions/Discussion



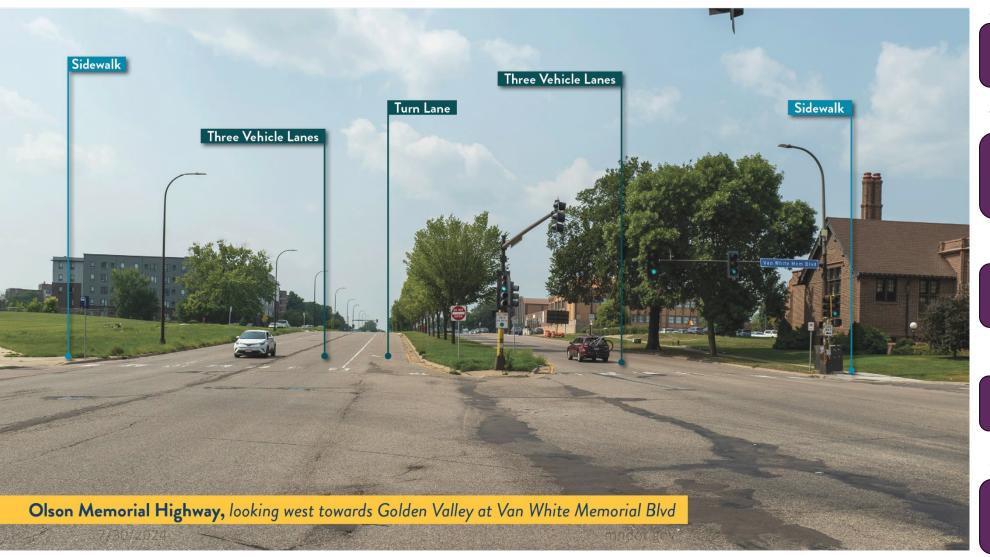






Alternatives Analysis Process

No Build Alternative: 6-lane, Mixed transit



SAFETY

High crash rates
Long crossing distances

WALKING/BIKING

No consistent bike facilities; Sidewalk for much of the corridor

BUS

Buses shares driving lanes with vehicles

DRIVING

6-lane roadway

GREEN SPACE

Existing trees and green space in median and sides of road

Primary and Secondary Needs

Primary Needs: Main transportation problem

- 1. Walkability/Bikeability Safety
- 2. Vehicle Safety
- 3. Walkability/Bikeability Mobility
- 4. Pavement Condition

Secondary Needs:

Other transportation problems and opportunities

- 1. Infrastructure Conditions
- 2. Vehicle Mobility Transit
- 3. Vehicle Mobility Vehicle
- 4. Vehicle Mobility Freight

Alternatives Analysis Process

- 1. Do the design elements meet the four Primary Needs (Yes/No)?
- 2. How do the design elements perform (Good/Fair/Poor) on 45 performance measures?
 - Transportation Needs
 - Social, Environmental, and Economic
 - Additional Considerations

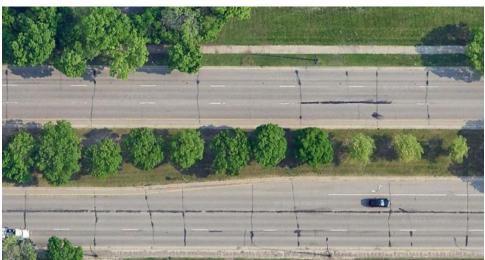
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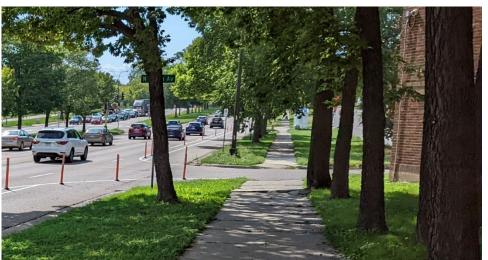
Design Elements

23









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Design Elements



DRIVING

- Vehicle lanes:
 - 6 lanes
 - 5 lanes
 - 4 lanes
 - 3 lanes
 - 2 lanes



WALKING

Sidewalks



BUS

- Mixed transit
- Curb side bus lanes
- Center bus lanes
- Separated bus-way



BIKING

- Separated oneway bikeway
- Separated twoway bikeway

Design Elements Screening Results









BUS

BIKING

- Vehicle lanes:
 - 6 lanes
 - 5 lanes
 - 4 lanes
 - 3 lanes
 - 2 lanes

Sidewalks

- Mixed transit
- Curb side bus lanes
- Center bus lanes
- Separated bus way
- Separated oneway bikeway
- Separated twoway bikeway

Refining Design

PLANNING STUDY

"Planning level" design includes:

 Options for each mode of travel between intersections

PRELIMINARY DESIGN

"Layout level" of design includes:

- Intersection design
- Connection to local streets/frontage roads
- Stormwater treatment
- Land use considerations
- Roadway maintenance considerations
- Much more

Developing Preliminary Designs



Alt 1: 4-lane, Mixed transit



Alt 2: 4-lane, Curbside bus lanes



Alt 3: 5-lane, Center bus lanes

Intersection design
Connection to local streets
Frontage roads
Stormwater treatment
Land use considerations
Roadway maintenance considerations
Much more

Preliminary
Design to be
developed
under next
phase of work

Questions/Discussion









Upcoming Engagement and Next Steps

Final Engagement Activities



PAC Meeting (today)

Community Leader Conversations

Community
Connector
Collaboration Session

Pop-up Events

Engagement Approach

Join us at an event this month!



August 14 – 6-7pm

Theater in the Park @ Harrison Park

August 26 – 7pm

Music in the Park @ North Commons Park

Study Outcomes

Study Goal

Identify transportation problems

Identify process to assess projects

Introduce project to the public

Introduce project to partner agencies

Identify design elements

How Study Addressed This

Purpose and Need Statement

Developed Evaluation Criteria

Held multiple rounds of public engagement and started building relationships with community organizations

Collaborated with Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Metro Transit, Park Board throughout study

Carry forward or eliminate design elements that do/do not meet purpose and need

Questions/Discussion





Thank you!

Project Contacts

Mike Samuelson, Project Manager

michael.samuelson@state.mn.us

Christina Perfetti, West Area Coordinator

christina.perfetti@state.mn.us

Find out more about the study here:

mndot.gov/metro/projects/olsonmemorialhwystudy