



MEMORANDUM

Date: 03-10-2015

To: Council and Mayor

From: Staff

Subject: NW 6th and Norwood Improvements – Roundabout Discussion

The purpose of this memo is to provide additional information to assist Council in determining the preferred intersection traffic control alternative at NW 6th and Norwood. In the February 17th presentation to Council, benefits of a roundabout were provided as well as a cost comparison with a traffic signal.

As a point of clarification, the \$2.7 million dollars in bond proceeds discussed at previous meetings is sufficient to fund the replacement of water and storm mains on 6th Avenue, grinding and repaving of 6th Avenue from Adams to Norwood, installation of new pedestrian signal upgrades at Ivy Street and Fargo Street, and full construction of a roundabout with landscaping and monumentation amenities.

While mobility through the construction area of a roundabout is challenging and delays are to be expected, access to local businesses and to residential areas on both the north and south sides of the intersection can and would be maintained during construction.

It is anticipated that completion of either a roundabout or a signal at the 6th and Norwood intersection would not be completed until 2016. However, it can be expected that design and construction of a signal would generally be completed sooner than design and construction of a roundabout. Regardless of the decision of a roundabout or signal at 6th and Norwood, it is staff's intention to complete the water and storm main improvements as well as paving from Adams Street to Logan Street in 2015.

The following information provides a critical path timeline for commencing the design of roundabout in order to substantially complete construction by the end of summer 2016:

4/1/15 – 4/30/15 (1 Month)

- Additional Topographic Survey
- Refined/Updated Traffic Analysis
- Geotechnical Analysis (Including Infiltration Testing)

5/1/15 – 5/31/15 (1 Month)

- 30% Preliminary Plans and Preliminary Estimate
- Preliminary Striping Plan
- Determination of SR-14 Ramp Impacts

6/1/15 – 6/15/15 (2 Weeks)

- City of Camas Review
- Potential Open House

6/16/15 - 8/15/15 (2 Months)

- Roundabout Analysis Report
- Intersection Plan for Approval
- 60% Plans and Estimate
- Preliminary Stormwater Design/Report
- SEPA Checklist

8/16/15 - 8/31/15 (2 Weeks)

- City of Camas and WSDOT Review

9/1/15 - 10/31/15 (2 Months)

- 90% Plans, Specs, and Estimate
- Final Stormwater Report

11/1/15 - 11/15/15 (2 Weeks)

- City of Camas and WSDOT Review

11/16/15 - 12/15/15 (1 Month)

- 100% Plans, Specs, and Estimate

12/16/15 - 12/22/15 (1 Week)

- City of Camas Final Review

12/23/15 - 1/8/16 (2 Weeks)

- Final Plans, Specs, and Estimate to City for Bidding

1/9/16 - 3/15/16 (9 Weeks)

- City of Camas Bidding Process
 - o Bid Advertisement (1/25/16 – 2/14/16)
 - o Bid Opening (2/15/16)
 - o Start Construction (3/15/16)

3/15/16 – 9/15/16 (6 Months)

- 6 Months of Construction to Substantial Completion

Public Comments

Staff has received relatively few comments in general from the public regarding either a signal controlled intersection or roundabout controlled intersection at 6th and Norwood. We have been monitoring comments in the Camas-Washougal Post record, and to date, most comments seem positive toward construction of a roundabout. Comments received directly by staff have been centered around the need for some type of intersection control, but not necessarily a strong preference for either option. Staff is continuing to discuss the roundabout option with stakeholders and will provide an update for the Council at the March 16th Workshop.

Fire/EMS Comments regarding a Roundabout at 6th and Norwood

From a practical standpoint the department and its members are not overly concerned with 'roundabouts'. In the area that the device is proposed, our speeds are such that it would have minimal impact on our response. The concern comes when we discuss the size of the device. Some roundabouts tend to be too small for larger vehicles, such as our engines. Fortunately our current fleet has a short wheel base but the time will come when we have a longer aerial apparatus and the roundabout would require much more careful navigation.

Statistically, nationwide roundabouts have decreased intersection accidents involving emergency vehicles since there is no longer cross traffic.

There is definitely a learning curve with these devices for both responders as well as the public but I would contend that our response to motor vehicle incidents did not increase due to the installations around Union St.

I will add that it is our preference not to have traffic calming devices such as speed humps as these do greatly impact our response, but, to my knowledge, roundabouts do not drastically impact our ability to respond to calls.

Let me know if I can further assist.



Kevin Bergstrom
Fire Captain / Safety Officer
Camas-Washougal Fire Department
(360) 834-2262

Police Comments regarding a Roundabout at 6th and Norwood

From: Mitch Lackey

Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 12:07 PM

To: Curleigh (Jim) Carothers

Cc: Shyla Nelson; Steve Wall; Phil Bourquin

Subject: RE: NW 6th & Norwood Roundabout Discussion

Curleigh,

Thanks for the PowerPoint slides. They helped to understand the proposal and the safety benefits of the roundabout over a standard traffic signal intersection. After looking over your material, I have no safety concerns from the police department perspective.

Mitch