



Newport Avenue Bike Lanes Information

September 2019

- Council approved final design for Newport Avenue street project between 4th Street and Oak Park Boulevard on January 22, 2019 after three earlier meetings discussing potential street repair options on August 20, 2018, May 21, 2018, and August 7, 2017
- Council’s deliberation was informed by public input expressed both at the Council meetings and at four public workshops held in 2017 and 2016
- Street repair project design criteria included reducing maintained pavement, traffic calming, improved bicycle and pedestrian safety, consistency in street width and improvements, cost control, and other factors
- All Newport residents were notified this spring about upcoming project and all properties where significant changes were proposed received a special mailer with a copy of the plan and an invitation to meet with design staff
- There has been continual communication between City staff and contractors and Newport residents throughout the project through door hangers, emails, phone calls, and in-person meetings
- Buffered bike lanes recently installed between 12th and 10th Street and eventually west to 5th Street are designed to provide more protection for bicyclists and be a unique feature to encourage cycling on the street in addition to the traditional bike lanes elsewhere on the street
- Examples of buffered bike lanes can be found in various cities including Santa Monica and Long Beach in Southern California and are planned in San Luis Obispo
- Buffered bike lanes maintain a standard 11-foot travel lane next to a standard 8-foot parking lane with a protected area created by an asphalt barrier to minimize striping comprised of a 5.5-foot bike lane and 5.5-foot buffer for cars and gutter
- Garbage cans should be placed in the new parking lane similar to their placement in the current parking lane and mailboxes will be relocated by the City as needed on standard posts
- Given concerns expressed about the buffered bike lanes, staff will monitor the design in the coming weeks through temporary markings and have further dialogue with residents about the bike lanes and potential conflicts
- Staff will give the buffered bike lanes a “second look” during this time and identify the best approach on the bike lanes to provide to the Council and share with the public.