

Council work session agenda

Tuesc	lay, Mar	ch 12, 2019	2:00 PM	Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber								
2:00	Call to Order and Roll Call											
2:05	Safety	Briefing										
Work	Session	Topics:										
	2:10	Regional Street	and Trail Design Guidelines	<u>18-5180</u>								
		Presenter(s):	Lake McTighe, Metro Margi Bradway, Metro									
		Attachments:	<u>Work Session Worksheet</u> <u>Attachment 1</u> <u>Attachment 2</u>									
	3:10	Regional Invest	ment Strategy Bi-monthly Update	18-5181								
		Presenter(s):	Andy Shaw, Metro									
3:40	Legisla	tive Update										
3:45	Chief Operating Officer Communication											
3:50	Councilor Communication											

- 3:55 Adjourn

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សេចក្តីជូនដំណីងអំពីការមិនរើសអើងរបស់ Metro

ការកោរពសិទ្ធិពលរដ្ឋរបស់ ។ សំរាប់ព័ត៌មានអំពីកម្មវិធីសិទ្ធិពលរដ្ឋរបស់ Metro ឬដើម្បីទទួលពាក្យបណ្តឹងរើសអើងសូមចូលទស្សនាគេហទំព័រ www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights។ បើលោកអ្នកគ្រូវការអ្នកបកប្រែកាសនៅពេលអង្គ ប្រជុំសាធារណៈ សូមទូរស័ព្ទមកលេខ 503-797-1700 (ម៉ោង 8 ព្រឹកដល់ម៉ោង 5 ល្ងាច ថ្ងៃធ្វើការ) ប្រពំរឺរថ្ងៃ ថ្ងៃធ្វើការ) ប្រពំរឺរថ្ងៃ ថ្ងៃធ្វើការ) ប្រពំរឺរថ្ងៃ إشعار بعدم التمييز من Metro

تحترم Metro الحقوق المدنية. للمزيد من المعلومات حول برنامج Metro للحقوق المدنية أو لإيداع شكرى ضد التمييز، يُرجى زيارة الموقع الإلكتروني <u>www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights.</u> إن كنت بحاجة إلى مساعدة في اللغة، يجب عليك الاتصال مقدماً برقم الهاتف 1700-797-503 (من الساعة 8 صباحاً حتى الساعة 5 مساءاً، أيام الاثنين إلى الجمعة) قبل خمسة (5) أيام عمل من موعد الاجتماع.

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February 2017

Regional Street and Trail Design Guidelines *Work Session Topics*

> Metro Council Work Session Tuesday, March 12, 2019 Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

Date: February 26, 2019 Department: Planning and Development Work Session Date: March 12, 2019 Prepared by: Lake McTighe, x1660 lake.mctighe@oregonmetro.gov Presenters: Margi Bradway, Lake McTighe Length: 60 min

ISSUE STATEMENT

The Metro Council supports developing a regional transportation system which implements the land use of the 2040 Growth Concept and achieves the region's desired outcomes. Metro is in the final stages of updating the region's street and trail design guidelines to support Council's work connecting land use and transportation through better design. The guidelines provide a performance-based framework and recommend best practices in design to achieve desired outcomes. Performance-based design can be referred to by other names, including practical design, practical solutions, performancebased practical design and so on. For the purposes of this presentation to Council, the term "performance-based design" will be used.

As the guidelines near completion, staff seeks Council direction to proceed with the final draft. Staff seeks Council affirmation that the overall direction of the guidelines fulfills the Council's expectations for application to future transportation projects and future transportation funding opportunities.

ACTION REQUESTED

- Council's direction to proceed with the final draft of the street and trail design guidelines in preparation for the April 22 Policymaker's Forum on Transportation Design for Community Outcomes.
- Council direction on how the design elements, best practices and performancebased decision-making framework in the guidelines are applied regarding regionally funded projects

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

Metro Council has provided leadership on street design as a critical part of linking land use and transportation, and that street design:

- Be sustainable, context sensitive and performance-based
- Include ongoing and meaningful public engagement, especially for historically underserved communities
- Be fiscally responsible and employ practical solutions
- Use data, including predictive safety models, to inform design decisions
- Implement the 2040 Growth Concept and foster livable communities throughout the region
- Encourage walking, bicycling and the use of transit
- Reduce vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions

- Help achieve regional outcomes including safety (Vision Zero), social and racial equity, increased transportation options, efficient and reliable travel for all modes, healthy people and environment, security and resiliency, sustainable economic prosperity and fiscal stewardship
- Avoid, minimize or mitigate impacts on the natural environment

POLICY QUESTION(S)

- Are there additional policy outcomes or clarifications to those already identified, that the Council wish staff to reflect in the regional transportation design guidelines?
- Does the Council have further direction on the approach or content of the design guidelines?
- Is there additional direction the Council wants to provide in regards to applying regional street and trail design guidelines to future transportation funding?

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

Staff will provide an overview of the overall approach and content of the guidelines. The Metro Council may choose to affirm the overall approach as presented, or provide additional direction to be reflected in the final design guidelines. In addition to guidance provided at the January 24 and 31 work sessions, Council may choose to provide additional direction on how to apply regional street design guidance to future transportation funding.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends to proceed with finalizing the design guidelines prior to the April 22 Policymaker's Forum on Transportation Design for Community Outcomes.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

More than ever it is critical that transportation projects are designed and delivered to be cost effective and achieve regional outcomes. A growing population and economy is straining the transportation system while not all communities have the same level of safe access to transportation options, and negative impacts of transportation have not been eliminated. Transportation projects must deliver more with less funding. Therefore, it is essential that the design process for regional transportation projects uses a decision-making framework and design approach that is data-driven, performance driven, flexible and employs practical solutions.

The Metro Council provided policy direction at its January 24 and 31, 2019 work sessions that projects funded with regional investments must meet regional design guidelines and be designed using Performance Based Practical Design principles.

Metro Council President Lynn Peterson is hosting a policymaker's forum on transportation design on April 22. The purpose of the event is to provide an opportunity for local, regional and state policymakers' to discuss and enhance their understanding of the performance-based design guidelines and support shared understanding of terms and concepts. Councilors are invited to participate and share their perspectives.

The updated regional street and trail design guidance includes a performance-based design decision-making framework (see slides 9 and 10 in Attachment 1). The framework is a series of steps that helps ensure that transportation projects meet their stated needs and objectives and achieve system wide outcomes while employing tools such as practical and tactical design. A series of check-points and documenting design decisions is used to determine that projects will achieve intended outcomes, including racial and social equity, safety and climate action goals. The performance-based framework asserts a transparent decision-making process that meaningfully engages communities, especially those that have been historically underserved and disproportionately impacted.

A technical work group composed of city, county and agency engineering and planning staff, community members and transportation advocates has been meeting since 2017 providing technical guidance the guidelines (see slide 4 in Attachment 1). Additionally, public comments on policies related to street and trail design were provided during the updated of the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan. A majority of the comments focused on the need for multimodal safety and additional policies for green infrastructure.

Design was identified as one of eight key policies for the update of the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan. The Regional Transportation Plan includes street and trail design policy, including Regional Street Design Classifications which are applied to roadways with the throughway or arterial functional classification. Regional Design Classifications provide general guidance on number of lanes, modal priorities and street functions. The Regional Transportation Functional Plan states that local transportation system plans must allow for regional street design guidelines. Projects funded with regional flexible funds must be consistent with regional transportation design guidelines, but are currently not required to use a performance-based decision-making process.

Staff will provide an update with Council's direction to the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) on March 21. The April 22 forum will provide additional opportunities for policymaker's to provide input on the design approach and decision-making framework.

BACKGROUND

Since 1996, Metro has provided policies and tools to link transportation design and function to land use as a means to achieving the vision laid out in the 2040 Growth Concept and advancing Metro's core mission to preserve and enhance the quality of life and the environment for today and future generations. Metro developed a suite of handbooks - Creating Livable Streets, Green Streets, Trees for Green Streets, Wildlife Crossings and Green Trails - to support design to link land use and transportation.

Metro received a regional flexible fund grant to update the design guidelines. The project has been underway, though not continuously, since 2016 (see slide 3 in Attachment 1). A regional technical work group is providing review input throughout the process and periodic updates are provided to the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee (TPAC) and the Metropolitan Technical Advisory Committee (MTAC). The project was coordinated

with the update of the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan and provided minor policy updates. The guidelines will be completed in late summer 2019 and provided on an updated webpage with case studies linked to a map of the region, a photo library, schematics and street visualizations.

ATTACHMENTS

- Is legislation required for Council action? No
- What other materials are you presenting today?
 - Attachment 1: Presentation on regional street and trail design guidelines
 - Attachment 2: Annotated Outline for Designing Livable Streets and Trails





Designing Livable Streets and Trails Metro Council Work Session March 12, 2019

Updating design guidance for regional streets and trails

Q

Projects funded with Regional Flexible Funds must be consistent with the guidelines

A Metro

Parks + Venues Tools + Services What's Happening Metropedia

Guide to safe and healthy streets

Home > Tools for Partners > Guides and tools

GUIDES AND TOOLS

Local transportation system plans

Community Investment Toolkit

Guide to equitable housing

Guide to downtown revitalization

Economic Value Atlas

Guide to safe and healthy streets

Mobility Corridors Atlas

Safe Routes to School Framework

Guide to nature-friendly development

and transit, and ensure the well-being of wildlife.

Guides to safe and healthy streets explain how to integrate street design

with nearby land uses to minimize congestion, encourage walking, biking



46 take the whole intersection to make a turn

Street Corners

space where sidewalks come together.

Best Practices

Pedestrians leave the sidewalk to cross the street at street corners, and vehicles and trucks make turns around them. Transit stops are often located at or near them. Street corners, in conjunction with adjacent land uses, can also serve as a place for entertainment, gathering, speaking, or other activities – serving a placemaking function.

Every intersection in the transportation system creates street corners - the



Figure 37. The bulk-outs at NW Couch and NW 11th in downtown Pertiand ensure that people closing the street are visible to people driving. The bulk-outs also peoples pace for benches, pedertrine nealer lighting, newspaper bores and planters. The people-outloar close transmits also reactive pace and street mostly devices to come. The digit occurs is appopriate for this downtown setting and keeps turning movements of motor-whiches slow. Large tucks making deliveries

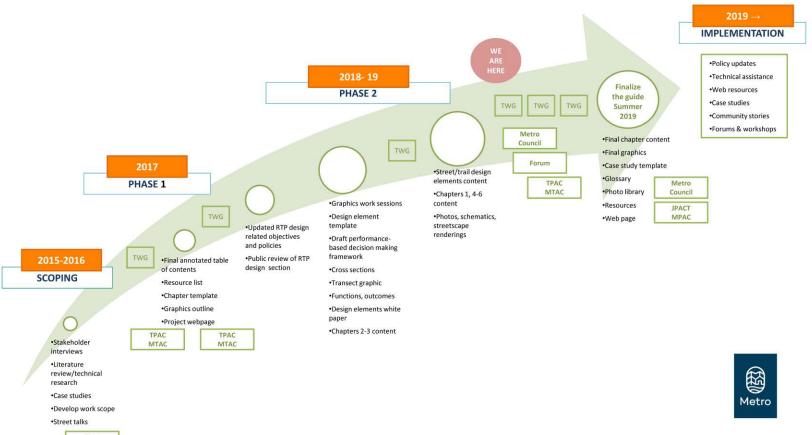
Safety: To increase safety, corner radii and the configuration of medians should be designed to shorten pedestrian crossing width. Minimizing corner radii creates compact intersections with safe turning speeds. Avoid design of channelized right-turn islands (pork chops), these decrease pedestrian safety.

✓ Vibrant communities: Bulb outs not only enhance safety, they support vibrant communities by providing valuable space for stormwater planters, art elements, benches, street lighting, way-finding and other placemaking activities.

Sustainable economic prosperity: In industrial areas and on industrial streets, wider curb radii support freight movement. On major freight notuse that are also regional boulevards and streets, truck aprons paired with bollards can be used to allow for wide truck turns while maintaining livability and safety.

✓ Social equity: Street corners must be designed in alignment with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidance to ensure that people of all abilities can safely navigate crossings at intersections. Perpendicular curb cuts are the preferred design.

Designing Livable Streets + Trails Project Timeline & Deliverables



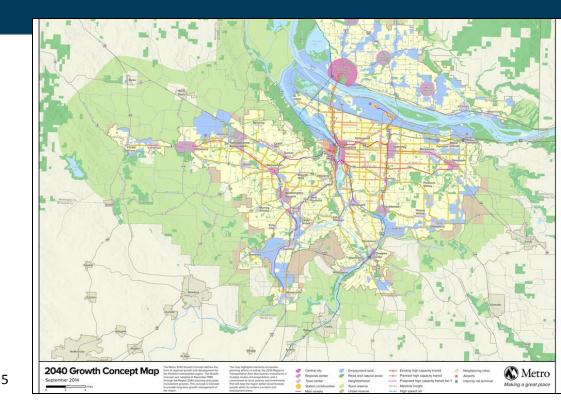
Agencies and organizations represented on the Technical Work Group

A Technical Work Group has provided review & input throughout the update

Clackamas County Planning and Engineering Multnomah County Transportation Planning Multnomah County - Public Health Washington County Planning and Engineering Metro Planning and Development Metro Parks and Nature Oregon Department of Transportation, Region 1 Oregon Department of Transportation, Salem TriMet US DOT Federal Highways Administration Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District MTAC alternate Sustainable Cities Initiative, U of O Better Blocks PDX City of Beaverton Transportation Planning City of Forest Grove Engineering City of Gresham Planning and Engineering City of Hillsboro Planning City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services City of Portland Bureau of Transportation City of Portland Parks and Recreation **City of Sherwood Community Development** City of Tualatin Engineering and Parks City of West Linn Public Works City of Wilsonville Engineering Audubon Society of Portland **Oregon Walks** Safe Routes to School National Partnership The Street Trust Landscape architect

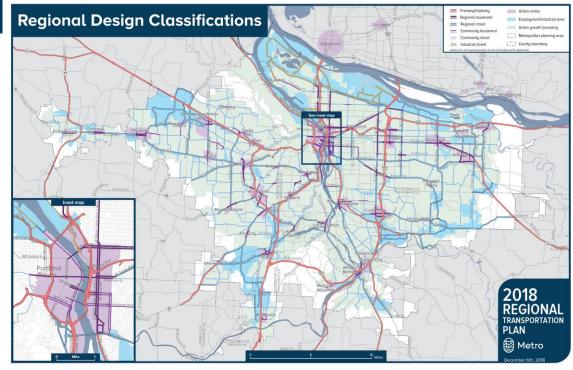
Guidelines link land use and transportation and implement the 2040 Growth Concept

The functions of streets and trails, and the design elements that support those functions, are determined by land use and adopted policies.



Regional street design policy in the Regional Transportation Plan

Regional street design classifications dictate how throughways and arterials in the RTP should be designed: number of lanes •priority functions design speed separation of modes •flex-zone uses •place-making/public space •green infrastructure



Street design classifications correspond to land use





51

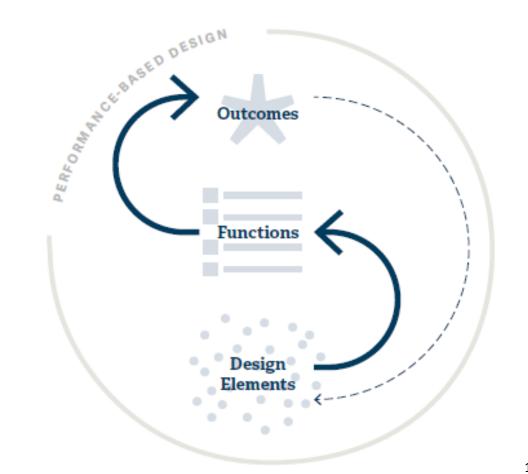
Design decisions are guided by desired policy outcomes/design principles



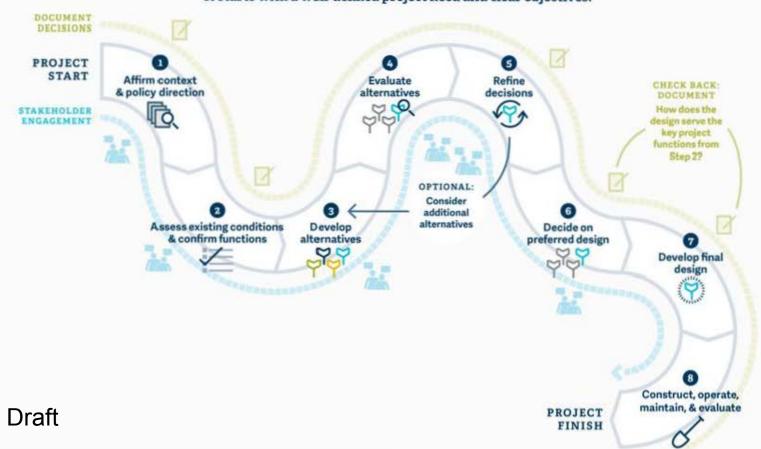
Design serves the different functions of streets

Desired functions are identified in modal plans and adopted policies





With performancebased design, design elements support street functions to achieve desired outcomes A performance-based design decision-making framework contributes to systemwide networks and regional outcomes. It starts with a well-defined project need and clear objectives.



What is in the guidelines?

An annotated outline describes what will be in the guidelines – content is being developed

- 1. Purpose and how to use the guidelines
- 2. Policy framework and desired outcomes
- 3. Design functions and classifications
- 4. Design elements, recommendations, considerations
- 5. Visualizations, street illustrations
- 6. Performance-based decision making framework
- 7. Implementation strategies and examples



The purpose of this memorandum is to provide a drst Annotated Outline combining the existing Control Juriobi Street, Green Streets, and Trees for Green Streets guides [Beferred to herein as "builting Metro Guide". This update is referred to as "New Metro Guide". The content for the New Metro Guide will be a combination of existing material from the Existing Metro Guides (Writ reference to the Green Trails and Wildly Cossing guides) and new information from current policies and bears partices. This memorandum build cont the completed Traile of Contem (Trailand provides a Draft Annotated Outline where the narrative in <u>this Inflan</u> indicates specific management team (PMIT) and technical working group (TWG). Percentages next to each Capter heading indicate the someth of assee declined to that section neithfort the whole document.

ATTACHMENT 2

METRO DESIGNING LIVABLE STREETS & TRAILS GUIDE DRAFT ANNOTATED OUTLINE

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION [5%]

- 1.1 Purpose
 - Making a Great Place
 - Describes how diverse people, education, land use, transportation choices, job choices, green infrastructure, access to parks and natural areas, housing choice and affordability, etc. come together to create a great place.
 - Regional 2040 Growth Concept
 - Overview of the concept and how transportation helps achieve in
 - Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Vision and Goals
 - Overview of the goals and reference the Regional Transportation Plan for additional details.
 - The Regional Transportation Plan, Chapter 2, Section 2.4 Regional System Definition will be used as a reference for developing this section.

1.2 Who Will Use the Guide

- This subsection will describe the audience the New Metro Guide is intended for and guide them to the areas that might be most useful:
- Planners, landscape architects, and engineers for best practices.
- Public sector practitioners for best practices and project development auidance.
- It will be public-facing and lay-person friendly
- Technical appendices (e.g., Trees for Green Streets) will provide more detail.
- This section will use information from the current guides, but require major updates.

Design element example: Motor vehicle travel lanes

The number and width of motor vehicle travel lanes is one of the most important design elements of a transportation project.

A variety of factors should guide decisions on how existing or new road right-of-way is divided up:

- •Safety of all users
- •Mobility/capacity for all users
- •Serving priority functions
- •Travel Speeds
- •Right-of-way width needed



Design element example: Motor vehicle travel lanes

Guidance on number of travel lanes is provided by the Regional Design Classifications



Design element example: Motor vehicle travel lanes

Lane widths guidance is based on national best practice (NCHRP 880) and recommends starting with lower widths

		Motor Vehicle Travel Lanes								
Regional Design Classifications	<10' lanes	10' lanes	11' lanes	12' lanes	>12' lanes	two-way left- turn lanes	turn lanes at intersections	Transit or BAT Lanes		
Freeways										
Highways			\bigcirc		\bigcirc	\bigcirc				
Regional Boulevard			\bigcirc			\bigcirc	\bigcirc			
Community Boulevard	\bigcirc		\bigcirc	\bigcirc		\bigcirc	\bigcirc	0		
Regional Street				\bigcirc		\bigcirc	\bigcirc			
Community Street				\bigcirc		\bigcirc				
Industrial Street					0			0		
		Preferred condition								
Typical condition (preferred in some conditions, as discu						scussed)				
Not a typical/preferred condition										

15

Draft



March 21- Update to JPACT

April 22 – Policymaker's forum on design June/July – Preview final draft of guidelines

Metro Council policy questions

•Are there additional policy outcomes or clarifications to those already identified, that the Council wish staff to reflect in the regional transportation design guidelines?

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The purpose of this memorandum is to provide a draft Annotated Outline combining the existing Creating Livable Streets, Green Streets, and Trees for Green Streets guides (Referred to herein as "Existing Metro Guide". This update is referred to as "New Metro Guide"). The content for the New Metro Guide will be a combination of existing material from the Existing Metro Guides (with reference to the Green Trails and Wildlife Crossings guides) and new information from current policies and best practices. This memorandum builds on the completed Table of Contents (TOC) – text shown in black – and provides a Draft Annotated Outline where the narrative in *blue italics* indicates specific information anticipated for each chapter and section based on discussion and themes from the project management team (PMT) and technical working group (TWG). Percentages next to each Chapter heading indicate the amount of space dedicated to that section relative to the whole document.

METRO DESIGNING LIVABLE STREETS & TRAILS GUIDE DRAFT ANNOTATED OUTLINE

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION [5%]

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 - Public sector practitioners for best practices and project development quidance.
 - It will be public-facing and lay-person friendly.
 - Technical appendices (e.g., Trees for Green Streets) will provide more detail.
- This section will use information from the current guides, but require major 0 updates.

1.3 How to Use the Guide

- This subsection will describe that this New Metro Guide is a tool for creating a great place and implementing the 2040 Growth Concept and the Regional Transportation Plan.
- Describe on-line resources.
- Reference the Regional Transportation Functional Plan (RTFP) and highlight that the RTFP is the regional implementation plan that jurisdictions follow.
- This section will use information from the current guides, but require major updates.

1.4 Chapter Highlights

- Includes key features and "take-aways" presented in each chapter of the New Metro Guide.
- A graphic will illustrate how outcomes, design functions, design classifications and design elements relate to each other. The graphic will be used as a device to throughout the document to remind the reader of the flow/structure.
- This section introduces and defines the themes and structure of the following chapters by clearly communicating the following:
 - **Chapter 2:**
 - **Desired Outcomes** what are the things that make our region a great place?
 - Chapter 3:
 - **Design Functions** how do our transportation corridors contribute to the **outcomes?**
 - Design Classifications what **functions** are typically served by each regional classification?
 - Chapter 4:
 - **Design Elements** which **elements** serve the core **functions** for each type of travelway?
 - Chapter 5:
 - How can the elements be combined to create the different regional design classifications in different land use contexts?
 - Chapter 6:
 - How do practitioners make design decisions using a performance-based design approach?
 - Chapter 7:

• What implementation strategies can help the region move towards the envisioned system?

Notes: The project team anticipates Metro leading the development of this upfront content.

CHAPTER 2: DESIGN POLICY AND DESIRED OUTCOMES [8%]

Introduction

Chapter 2 will describe the "story" of the Existing Metro Guides and what has changed over the years. It includes some history, lessons learned, emerging trends, desired outcomes, policies to achieve those outcomes (performance-based design), as well as how the design policy relates to other regional, state, national, and local policies.

2.1 Street and Trail Design in a Land Use Context

This section puts this edition of the guidance (New Metro Guide) in a historical context, acknowledging that the core idea of linking land use context and design is one of the key original ideas of the Existing Metro Guides. It will articulate a design approach that takes a broad perspective of all users and desired outcomes, and connects the land use (existing and future) context and the function(s) of the street.

Lessons Learned

Describes what we as a region have learned since the 2040 Growth Strategy was adopted and the Existing Metro Guides were completed, along with many transportation projects.

- Street design is not "one size fits all"
- Nature can be part of the street, and designs need to concurrently maintain wildlife corridor connectivity and remove barriers for wildlife, and use best practices to mitigate hazards for wildlife from lighting, sound barrier walls, etc
- Green infrastructure leads to improved environmental and public health outcomes
- Regional trails are part of transportation system
- Protecting water quality and stormwater management are responsibilities of transportation planners and engineers
- Street design can reduce serious and fatal crashes
- Economic impacts of livable street design
- Past 15 years of significant green street applications have occurred regionally and design standards/guidelines are continually evolving
- Emerging Trends

Describes emerging trends that are influencing how we design streets:

- *Population growth and demographic shifts (diversity and aging population)*
- Climate change and extreme weather events and the need for building community and environmental resiliency
- Autonomous and driverless vehicles/connected vehicles, ride-hailing Lyft, Uber, etc.
- *Rising use of e-shopping and door-to-door delivery of goods*
- Rising severe crashes, especially for non-motorized users (pedestrians and bicyclists)
- Growing demand for Safe Routes to School, transportation options, trails, bicycle commute options
- Green street design standards and guidelines are being incorporated holistically in a project and not necessarily treated in isolation, as well as being applied for all design classifications

2.2 Desired Outcomes: Designing for Today and the Future

Desired Outcomes are the results we want to support (e.g. healthy people, sustainable economy) through street and trail design.

This section will clearly show how design functions relate to desired outcomes, e.g., the design function of providing space for physical activity is related to the design outcome of increased public health. Desired outcomes are overarching and will not be organized for each street and trail design type. Each bullet (in black text below) will be elaborated with a sentence, short paragraph, and/or references, but will not be an extensive discussion.

- Safety– Vision Zero
 - Summarize that the Vision Zero's objective it to eliminate serious and fatal crashes.
 - Highlight that street design can contribute to the elimination of serious and fatal crashes, including slowing auto traffic speeds and providing more separation of modes, as well as discouraging undesired human behavior.

• Transportation Choices

- More people have ability to choose to walk, bike, take transit, use rideshare safely and efficiently.
- o Efficient and Reliable Travel
 - People can get to where they need to go efficiently and reliably by any mode.
- Healthy People
 - Through more opportunities for physical activity
 - Increased bicycle, pedestrian, and transit mode share

- Lower asthma rates through reduced GHG , and through increased tree canopy and reduced heat island effect
- Through increased access to nature, parks and greenspaces
- By eliminating traffic fatalities and severe injuries
- Decreased stress through quieter, safer, well lit and greener streets
- Security
 - Personal security through "eyes on the street,"
 - Awareness of other users regardless of their mode choice.
- Healthy Environment

(Draw on Existing Green Streets Guide: section 2.0 Why Green Streets?)

- Reducing and mitigating environmental and/or natural resource impacts, including hazards related to light pollution by adhering to best practices in lighting design and incorporating green infrastructure in design stage to ensure and maximize compatibility
- How design may influence mode choice and the environmental impacts it may have by reducing single occupancy vehicles (SOV) trips.
- How management of the stormwater run-off in the street design benefits street users
 - Mitigates downstream water quality and flow control problems
 - Protects urban natural resources.
 - Mitigates urban heat island effect through strategic tree planting.
 - Maintains and restores natural processes
 - *Conserves, protects and restores habitat quantity and quality*
- Reduced Green House Gas Emissions
- Sustainable Economic Prosperity
 - Business benefits from walkable and bicycle-friendly areas
 - Freight access to industrial jobs and growth in export and import activity
 - Employees have transportation choices to access jobs
 - Tourism
- Social Equity
 - Consider racial equity in transportation design process as a way to address equity for all vulnerable groups: lower income, low English proficiency, older adults, youth, people with disabilities
 - People empowered process
 - Looking carefully for unintended biases
 - Preventing displacement through gentrification
 - Streets are intuitive and easy to use regardless of age, ability, cultural background, language

- Streets and trails are welcoming and safe and comfortable for all and provide transportation options to jobs, schools, health care, food, nature, etc.
- Impacts and access to benefits of infrastructure are equitable

• Vibrant Communities

- Efficient urban form (supported by transportation)
- Quiet noise mitigation
- Traffic calming
- Light pollution mitigation
- Place-making
- *"Right-sizing" transportation facilities*
- Resiliency
 - Resiliency during natural disasters, during extreme weather events and other major events
- Fiscal Stewardship
 - Speak to asset management, return on investment

2.3 Performance-Based Design

This section is the KEY overarching design policy from Metro.

- Describe the need for flexibility in design and context sensitive solutions through performance-based design¹
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and State Policies are supportive of design flexibility and establishing similar guidance. Describe the relationship between adopted standards and flexibility, and when diverging from standards is a smart choice.

2.4 Policy Context

(Draw on Existing Green Streets guide: section 3.4 – Regulatory Context) Regional Policy

Provides a succinct overview of the key regional policies and provide references to specific policy documents for additional details. Discusses how policies support innovative and flexible design, while also limiting what can and cannot be done. Could be presented in a table.

¹ **Performance-Based Design** is an approach for understanding the desired outcomes of a project and selecting performance measures aligning with those outcomes. This approach provides a framework for practitioners to track design decisions, which can support practitioners in implementing flexible designs. This outcome-oriented framework helps identify the design elements that will achieve identified goals, e.g., increase bicycle/pedestrian mode share. Those elements that help achieve goals are used.

- 2040 Regional Land Use Types 2040 Growth Concept
- *RTP Regional Design and Functional Classifications, outcomes based planning, moving people*
- Regional Transportation Functional Plan (RTFP) jurisdictions must allow use of guidelines
- Urban Growth Management Functional Plan including Title 2 (Parking), Title 6 (Centers and Corridors), Title 13 (Nature in Neighborhoods)
- Goal 5 Nature in Neighborhoods, fish and wildlife protection
- Regional Modal and Topical Plans
- Climate Smart Strategy
- Regional Transportation Safety Strategy: Vision Zero
- Strategic Plan to Advance racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Cap and Trade SB 557 if passed through legislature

State Policy

- This subsection will highlight State agency support of design flexibility through performance-based design. References to specific state policies will be included.
- Include discussion about Oregon Highway Plan, Policy 1B, which describes that transportation serves the land use.
- This will be coordinated with Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) as the Urban Design Initiative (UDI) progresses.
- Depending on timing, may note certain statewide policies and/or guidance that is under revision or is being updated.
- Reference to the "Bicycle Bill" and State Land-Use and Transportation Goals, Transportation Planning Rule
- ODOT's policy code of building all regional trails 16 feet wide (12 with two 2foot shoulders)
- Potential to include pull-out quotes from state legislators, Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC), or ODOT

National Policy

- This subsection will highlight FHWA support of design flexibility that includes the direction of national guidance and evolution toward performance-based design compared to code-based design.
- It will note key legislation that impacts how streets are designed: National Highway System designations, Federal Clean Water Act, Title VI, Executive Order Environmental Justice, Americans with Disability Act (ADA), Architectural Barriers Act (limits what can be done on trails in parks)

• Potential to include pull-out quotes from transportation secretary or United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) officials

Relationship to Local Policies

This subsection will explain how local agencies should use Metro design guidance:

- Local jurisdictions often take the new lead with innovative design (e.g., Portland bike boxes, Gresham stormwater) – their initiative in design makes it easier for other jurisdictions.
- Following this design process and guidance is required for projects competing for Regional Flexible Funds Allocation (RFFA) funding.
- Local agencies should use this design guidance in shaping the documents that influence design in local jurisdictions. This section will describe types of local document and discuss how they influence design. These influencing documents include:
 - Development Code
 - Engineering Design Manuals/Standards
 - Comprehensive plans land use elements/contexts
 - Transportation system plans functional classifications, cross sections, etc.
 - "Action Plans" (e.g. safety action plan, climate action plan)
 - Specific ordinances (e.g. lighting ordinance, green street ordinance)
- Potential to include pull-out quotes from Metro-area agency leaders.

Notes: The project team anticipates Metro leading the development of specific sections in this chapter.

CHAPTER 3: DESIGN FUNCTIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS [20%]

Introduction

Chapter 3 will introduce and describe the functions of streets and trails, and how they relate to the desired outcomes in Chapter 2. It will then introduce the Regional Design Classifications (captured in the policy chapter of the Regional Transportation Plan) and which functions each should be designed to serve. The Design Classification Map in Chapter 2 of the RTP is a policy map which identifies the design concepts that need to be considered to address federal, state and regional transportation planning mandates. While regional trails and some local and collector roadways are part of the regional bicycle and pedestrian networks, the design classification map identifies design concepts only for major roadways because it is these roadways where the greatest trade-offs in design must be considered.

3.1 **Design Functions**

Design Functions describe the universe of uses (e.g. physical activity, moving goods) that streets and trails can serve and thereby contribute to the desired outcomes.

- This subsection will provide a brief description of design functions (~2-3 sentences each).
- Will include a matrix that connects the functions to the desired outcomes from the previous chapter.
- Discuss how Regional Mobility Corridors serve functions within the corridor, and that not all functions necessarily need to be served on one street. There are twenty-four overlapping Regional Mobility Corridors in the region. Each is several miles wide and long and encompasses many highways, streets and trails.

• Pedestrian Access and Mobility: People walking and people using a mobility device

- Describe the importance of walking and walkability to the thriving places
- Brief discussion of destinations where it is most critical to prioritize pedestrian access (transit, schools, etc.)
- Bicycle Access and Mobility: People riding bicycles
 - Brief discussion of destinations where it is most critical to prioritize bicycle access (transit, schools, etc.)
- Transit Access and Mobility: People accessing and using transit
 - Include various transit modes and brief discussion of the functions/destinations served by each. (light rail, bus, bus rapid transit, enhanced transit, frequent bus, paratransit, and standard bus).
 - This will include mention of potential for future driverless transit.
- Truck Freight Access and Mobility: Moving Goods, deliveries, e-commerce
 - Discussion of situations where it is critical to prioritize truck/freight.
- Auto Access and Mobility: People driving, ridesharing, automated and driverless vehicles/connected vehicles
 - Currently the most "complete" network this function is constrained by congestion/delay, rather than completeness like the other modes.
 - Include discussion of need for safe spaces for rideshare drop-off and pick-up that do not impede the flow of other modes of traffic.
 - Will include discussion of autonomous vehicles/connected vehicles and how access considerations may differ for them. Later sections will note specific design considerations related to that type of vehicle.
- Place-Making and Public Space

- Describe how streets/trails can be a place for recreation, civic life, public space, or a canvas for public art
- Public enjoyment of street trees and green street elements (such as rain gardens).
- o Corridors for Nature and Stormwater Management

(Draws on Existing Green Streets guide: Section 1.2, What is a Green Street, 3.2, Understanding the hydrologic cycle, and Section 4.2, Factors related to location and design)

- Sustainable stormwater solutions in the public right-of-way protects downstream water quality and flow control problems protecting urban natural resources.
- Discussions of wildlife habitat and corridors, wildlife crossings, and crossing stream corridors, including lighting mitigation and other hazard mitigation practices, which will impact the functional utility of those corridors.
- Utilizing tree canopy to reduce urban heat island effect and provide stormwater management benefits.
- Discussion of how site conditions (soil, infiltration, slopes, utilities, contamination and other right of way improvements) impact green street design solutions in various applications.
- Discuss management goals for green street applications (volume reduction, flow control, water quality) and approach (regional vs. distributed)
- Street trees benefits: runoff reduction and detention; conveyance attenuation, water quality mitigation
- Green communities and provide access to nature
- Utility Corridors
 - Brief description of the need to design for power, water, communication, data, etc. infrastructure, and the benefits of coordination

Stationary Space

- Stationary space is a function that can correspond to each travel mode, and streets/trails may include this function for 1 or more modes:
 - auto parking (autos), storage of personal property;
 - ride hailing pick-up and drop-off (autos)
 - loading zones (freight/trucks);
 - bicycle parking, bikeways behind transit stop (bicycle);
 - transit stops/stations (transit);
 - *benches/seating (pedestrian)*
- Physical Activity

• Discussion of how streets/trails serve as a place for physical activity. Potential to move mention of "recreation" to this section instead of, or in addition to, in "Place-making and public space".

• Emergency Response

- Describe the function of providing emergency access and the different needs of emergency vehicles.
- Describes "Designated Emergency Routes"
- Include discussion of "evacuation routes"

3.2 Regional Functional and Design Classifications

- This section will briefly describe the modal networks and functional classifications in the policy chapter of the Regional Transportation Plan.
- Link to maps: <u>https://gis.oregonmetro.gov/rtp/</u>
- Arterial and Throughways Network and Functional Classifications
- Transit Network and Functional Classifications
- Freight Network and Functional Classifications
- Bicycle Network and Functional Classifications (includes Trails)
- Pedestrian Network and Functional Classifications (includes Trails)
 - This section will provide a description of the regional design types assigned to Arterials and Throughways and shown on the Regional Design Classification map in the policy chapter of the Regional Transportation Plan. Not all streets, and no trails, identified on the bicycle and pedestrian modal networks will have a regional design type assigned to them. Bicycle and pedestrian elements, including regional trails within the right-of-way, are part of the design type description.
 - Link to Design Classification map: <u>https://gis.oregonmetro.gov/rtp/</u>
 - Metro will work with agency partners and key stakeholder's to finalize the design classifications and update the Regional Design Classification map.
 - Design types are general by nature; in practice the ultimate design and function of Regional Boulevards, for example, will be different based on context and desired outcomes.
 - This section will include a matrix that describes which functions should typically be served by which design types. (Potentially specifying primary, secondary, and "optional" functions.) For example: An Industrial Street's primary function may be freight access, with optional stationary space, while a Regional Boulevard's main function is multi-modal access and place-making, with optional freight access. It will point to Regional Mobility Corridors and the corridor approach to serve different functions within a corridor (e.g. Industrial Street with nearby regional trail).
 - This will review how adjacent land uses impact design classifications.

- May acknowledge and/or draw on the functional classification system described in "National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) 15-52: Developing a Context-Sensitive Functional Classification System for More Flexibility in Geometric Design" to note the national trends for functional classification.
- Throughways: propose to no longer separate into "freeways" and "highways." This design type is for grade separated limited access facilities. Defines number or lanes. Essential function is throughput and mobility.
- Regional Boulevards: propose to no longer distinguish between "regional" and "community" boulevards. This design type would be for major and minor arterials that serve as a "main street" and are typically located in centers and activity centers. Discuss number of lanes, when boulevards are couplets. Balancing access and mobility. Further discussion needed on name. "boulevard" may not be the correct name.
- Regional Streets: propose to no longer distinguish between "regional" and "community" streets. This design type would be for major and minor arterials that serve as commercial corridors and connect centers, employment, industrial areas and activity centers. Discuss number of lanes, couplets. Balance between mobility and access.
- Industrial Streets: propose to eliminate design classifications on roads outside of the Metropolitan Planning Area boundary. Propose to assign the "industrial streets" design classification to streets identified as Intermodal Connectors on the regional freight map. Essential function of these streets is access to intermodal facilities, while balancing safety and access to transit and other destinations.

Note: In Phase II, the development of the guide, the Technical Work Group will have further discussion on design classifications and determine an approach for this guide that accounts for trails and bicycle boulevards. Work Group, TPAC and MTAC will have opportunity to weigh in.

CHAPTER 4: DESIGN ELEMENTS [20%]

Introduction

Chapter 4 includes the lowest-level (1000-foot view; most down-to-earth) content, discussing onthe-ground physical design elements and design considerations.

4.1 Performance-Based Design

• Performance-based design is an approach to designing streets and trails that starts with the desired functions and outcomes of the project and then selects

the design elements to support achieving those functions and outcomes performance based design is the key principle underlying the selection of elements and design of streets and trails.

- Communicates the importance of the interaction between design elements based on the context and the need to evaluate how different combinations may contribute to the overall performance of the street.
- Embraces the interaction of safety, operations and design together rather than focusing on design elements and their respective dimensions.
- o Discusses balancing overall width with serving desired functions

4.2 **Design Elements**

Design Elements are engineering and design solutions (e.g. wide sidewalks, freight aprons) used to support the various functions (e.g. physical activity, goods movement) and desired outcomes of livable streets and trails (e.g. healthy people, sustainable economy).

Information in this subsection will be based on some of the information in the Existing Creating Livable Streets Guide (Chapter 3), the Existing Green Streets Guide, and the resources identified in the Resource List (e.g., Reference Designing for Truck Movements and other large vehicles in Portland (October 2008)), and will emphasize best practices (e.g. protected bikeways).

- Intended to include design elements that support the desired outcomes and design functions described in Chapter 2 and 3, respectively.
- Each element will be covered in approximately 2-3 pages, and will include the following sections:
 - Basic description/definition
 - Functions which does it serve? (The "benefits" of this design element)
 - Design Guidance
 - Design Considerations/Challenges (will replace much of the envisioned content from "Design Considerations in Context"; design considerations will frequently include discussion of Green Streets infrastructure options)
 - Additional Resources
- Will not give prescriptive dimensions or detailed design guidance, but will provide ranges and brief guidance for selecting appropriate dimensions depending on context.

Introduction: The Travelway Realm

• Describe the on-street/travelway realm, transition realm, pedestrian realm, land use realm. Note that modal facilities may appear in more than one of these realms depending on the street and context. (e.g., bicycles and transit may have dedicated space in the travelway or in the transition realm – therefore each of these have their own organizational section)

- Will include an overarching 3D graphic/illustration that shows the different realms, and also shows how some areas overlap.
 - Intersections and Crossings (Nodes) are discussed in their own section.
 - Trails are discussed in their own section
 - Additional elements for "all realms" included in final section

Land Use Realm

(Existing guide: Adjacent Land Use, page 44-53, minimal modifications)

- This section will not include separate "elements" but will treat the land use realm as an "element" since this guide is not focused on architectural design.
- Adjacent land-use (current and planned) guides transportation design.
- Brief discussion of building frontage impacts/relationship to key functions of the street; include references with more detail.
- Best practices: transparency, edge treatments, etc

Pedestrian Realm (Sidewalk)

This section will include elements that are primarily found in the pedestrian realm on the sidewalk side of the curb. Numbered entries are the "elements".

(Existing guide: Pedestrian Realm, page 29, minimal modifications)

- 1. Frontage Zone of buildings and adjacent parking lots
 - Signage (businesses)
 - Sidewalk cafes, seating
- 2. Pedestrian Through Zone (Existing guide: Sidewalks, page 30-35, significant reorganization/modification)
 - ADA Universal design
 - Range of widths for different land use contexts and street types
 - Option for shared space: Reference to trails section in some cases this is an appropriate design for the pedestrian realm adjacent to streets and in street corners.
- 3. Street Furniture Zone (Existing Guide: Streetscape features and Landscaping and Planter Strips, page 42-43, significant modification)
 - Street furniture
 - Utility vaults (limits other pedestrian facilities that can be offered, interfere with other design elements)

- Transit stops and shelters (reference transit section)
- Reference wayfinding and lighting (in final section)
- o Bikeshare stations
- Street trees (Existing Guide: Street Trees, page 36-37; minimal modifications)
 - Include seven roles of urban street trees (Street Design the Secret to Great Cities and Towns)
 - Desirable characteristics (wide spread canopies, tolerate urban pollutants, etc)
 - Climate resilient
 - Preservation of existing tree resources (especially large form trees) by allowing flexibility in design (retrofitting street with existing trees)
 - Sidewalks around existing trees species that would not damage sidewalk
 - Include Appendix with updated Green Trees Guide content.
- Flow through or infiltration stormwater planters
- 4. Street Corners
 - Curb extensions
 - Curb ramp design
 - Inclusion of ADA elements
 - Bus pullouts
 - Flow through or infiltration stormwater planters on curb extensions
 - Reference Crossings (discussed in "Nodes" section)

Transition Realm

This section will include elements that are found in the on-street curbside area. This area has the most variation in different contexts and different streets. Additional mode-specific detail is found in the "bikeways" and "transitways" sections. Numbered entries are the "elements."

- 5. Planters, swales, and basins for stormwater management
 - Discuss site conditions (infiltration, slopes, utilities, contamination)
 - Management goals (volume reduction, flow control, water quality)
 - Stormwater approach (regional vs. distributed)
 - Manufactured technologies (structural soils; tree filter systems)
 - Maintenance
- 6. Curb: On-Street Parking and Other Uses

(Existing guide: On-Street Parking, page 38-39, some modifications, significant additional information)

- Diagonal (front and back-in)
- Parallel
- Publicly shared vehicle parking
- Management strategies for flex-space
- Loading and unloading zones
- Pick-up / drop-offs
- Electric vehicle charging
- Bicycle corrals
- Bike-share stations
- Transit stops (reference transit section for further transit-related design)
- Pervious pavement and structural soils (green street infrastructure considerations)
- 7. Surface Stormwater Conveyance and Detention
 - Inlets, runnels
 - Management approaches
 - Detention pools
 - Considerations: should include stormwater infrastructure type: combined sewer, UIC, or MS4. Design requirements (design storm size; water quality and flow control requirements) can vary substantially for each type.
- 8. Other buffer elements
 - Between pedestrians and travelway (bicycle or auto)
 - Between bicycle and auto
 - Buffers to visually narrow the lanes
 - Street seats
 - Noise mitigation sound walls (use of materials that minimize collision hazards, i.e., specification of marked glass or other non-transparent, bird safe material); Light pollution mitigation/shielding to prevent light trespass, which has potential to impact human health; use of green walls when possible that provide secondary benefits in addition to noise mitigation.

Center Travelway Realm

Include discussions on what types and general widths of facilities are needed depending on the context of vehicular activity (e.g. speeds, volumes, number of

lanes, heavy vehicles). A discussion how to treat couplets and number of lanes will be included. Numbered entries are the "elements".

- 9. Motor-Vehicle Travel Lanes (existing guide: Travel Lane Width, page 15, with significant modifications)
 - Widths and attributes for:
 - Transit
 - Freight
 - Emergency vehicles
 - o Autonomous/driverless vehicles/Connected Vehicles
 - Outlines challenges and considerations, starting with list developed by Urbanism Next
 - Turn-lanes
 - Shy distance
- 10. Medians (existing guide: Medians, page 16-18, minimal modifications)
 - Landscaped or hard surface
 - Consider flow through or infiltration stormwater planters
- 11. Traffic Calming
 - Vertical Speed Controls
 - Horizontal Speed Controls
 - Include overall discussion that reducing speeds does not always mean the creation of congestion. Some discussion on how lower speeds does not always mean a significant increase in travel times (particularly over shorter distance trips).
- 12. Access Management/Driveways
- 13. Shared Streets
 - Auto/bicycle shared lanes
 - Bus/bicycle lanes
 - All modes (woonerf-style)
 - Traffic diversion

Bikeway Design

This section will include elements related to on-street bikeways. Bikeway intersection design is covered under the Intersections section. Multi-use paths in the right-of-way are covered under the trails section. Numbered entries are the "elements".

14. Dedicated bicycle facilities (Existing guide: Bicycle Lanes, page 21-22, significant modifications

- Protected bikeways (consideration, driveways)
- Buffered bicycle lanes
- Standard bicycle lanes
- Bicycle-specific Signing and Markings
 - Striping options
 - Bicycle boxes
 - Reference wayfinding element
- 15. Shared spaces
 - Bus and Bikeway Interactions
 - Freight, bicycle, and pedestrian interactions
 - Mixing zones (e.g., right turns and bicycles)
 - Shared travel lanes
 - greenways, bike boulevards, neighborhood bikeways, etc. routes that are parallel to major streets

Transitway Design

This section will include elements related to transit access and mobility. Numbered entries are the "elements".

Existing guide: Public Transit, page 40-41, significant reorganization, modification)_

- 16. Transit stops (show design in conjunction with bicycle facilities, shared and separate spaces)
- 17. Transit priority treatments
 - Lanes (Business Access & Transit (BAT), Pro-time transit, shoulder, etc.)
 - Queue jumps
 - Signal priority
 - Enhanced transit treatments (Portland developing toolkit)
- 18. Transit in travelways
 - High Capacity Transit (HCT) bus
 - High Capacity Transit (HCT) rail
 - Streetcar
 - Center-running / side-running

Intersections and crossings (nodes)

This section will include elements related to intersections and crossings for all facility types and modes. Numbered entries are the "elements". Will include considerations for inclusion of green streets infrastructure described in other elements. (Existing guide: Intersections, page 23-26, significant reorg of info)

19. Midblock crossings (Existing guide: page 19-20, significant modifications)

Pedestrian

- Bicycle
 - Discuss the interaction of pedestrians/bicycles using crossings and how crossings span the pedestrian realm and the center travelway; also discuss serving potential transit at crossings
- Trail
- Wildlife Crossings
 - This section will primarily reference the existing Wildlife Crossings Guide (which will not be updated through the New Metro Guide process), noting considerations of lighting impacts on wildlife and hazard mitigation (e.g. marked glass)
 - Consideration: hazard mitigation, including addressing of lighting.
- Consider flow through or infiltration stormwater planters (discussed under street corners)
- 20. Un-signalized intersections
 - Crosswalks
 - Bicycle crossings
 - Stop controls
 - Reference traffic diversion from shared streets element
 - Curb radii
 - Driveway crossings
- 21. Signalized intersections
 - Crosswalks
 - Bicycle crossings
 - Signalization considerations
 - Turn lanes
 - Conflict points Multimodal Considerations at Complex Intersections
 - Curb radii / freight aprons
- 22. Roundabouts/mini-roundabouts
 - including mountable curbs for freight trucks
 - Planter strips/central island design opportunities
- 23. Unique / Gateway / Transition Contexts
 - Raised intersections/treatments

Regional Trails and On-Street Multi-Use Paths

This section will describe the different regional trail typologies in different contexts. A graphic will depict a trail moving through different land use contexts from rural/sparsely populated to dense urban core to illustrate how different trail

typologies respond to context.² The focus of the regional trails discussion is on trails for **transportation**. Numbered entries are the "elements".

24. Multi-use paths on independent alignment

- On levees, along railroads, utility corridors
- Widths for different contexts and users
- Separating modal users lane striping, pavements, etc
- Consideration of maintenance and emergency vehicles
- Multi-use paths in riparian corridors (reference to Green Trails guidance, lighting impacts, Clean Water Services guidance)
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design approaches
- Special considerations for trails: ADA, slope (running and cross slope) Architectural Barriers Act, maintenance

25. Multi-use paths in roadway right-of-way

- Adjacent to roadway >35 mph
- Adjacent to roadway < 35 mph
- Attached to roadway
- Widths and separation for different contexts and users
- Consideration of maintenance and emergency vehicles

26. Connections to other facilities

- Transitions between on- and off-street facilities
- Detour due to road closure
- Access points
- 27. Bridges, boardwalks and structures
 - consider load factor resistance design
 - rails, walls and fences use of materials that minimize collision hazards (i.e., specification of marked glass or other non-transparent, bird safe material) and/or green walls
- 28. Trail Crossings
 - \circ mid-block
 - end block
 - intersections

² For example the graphic could show a trail moving from a soft surface trail in a dense forest, to a shared multi-use path alongside a rural road, to a slightly wider multi-use path through a small suburban along an active rail line, to a shared path through a utility corridor, to a wide shared use path alongside a riparian corridor in a dense inner city neighborhood, to a shared use path with separation between walking and bicycling in the ROW alongside a busy arterial, to a 20ft wide shared use path in a dense city center along a major river with a separate protected bikeway.

- driveways
- Undercrossing/ culverts
- Rail road
- Overcrossing
- Mixing zones (to address conflict points)
- Bollards

Design Elements for All Realms

This section will provide an overview of design elements that apply in various realms.

- 29. Street and Trail Surfaces
 - Pervious surfaces where can they be applied
 - Permeable pavers
 - Varying surfaces to separate users
 - Materials options specific to Metro region

30. Lighting

- Types of lighting and best practices
- When and where to use lighting
- Lighting for safety
- Pedestrian scale lighting
- Wildlife sensitivity
- Dark skies
- 31. Wayfinding
 - Signing and striping for wayfinding
 - Trails
 - Bicyclists and pedestrians
- 32. Place-making Amenities
 - Art
 - Water-fountains
 - Seating

4.3 **Design Considerations Checklist**

Section 4.3 is a checklist of design considerations that may influence design. These considerations are described in above sections, so this is a "summary" that will help practitioners easily identify the elements they need to consider. Some of these considerations have an influence on design even if they are not contributing to the core function of the street.

How is emergency vehicle access provided? Is this an emergency vehicle route?
 Evacuation route?

- Is this street within ¼ mile of a school? (Safe Routes to School Access)
- Is this a transit route?
- Is this a Metro freight route? Is it an ODOT "Hole in the Air" route (i.e., ORS 366.215)?
- Is this an National Highway System (NHS) route?
 - Reference the Guide for Integrating Goods and Services Movement by Commercial Vehicles in Smart Growth Environments.
- Are there environmental constraints? (parks, wetlands, streams, sensitive wildlife habitat) Are there opportunities to protect natural resources, improve natural resources, and increase access to natural resources?
- Cultural or historical constraints or influences?
- What is the topography / Slope and structures? (Retaining Walls, Bridges)
- Do we need to design for automated and driverless vehicles/connected vehicles, emerging technologies?
- How would this street be impacted by extreme weather events? (heat, more rain, street trees, shade, shelter, pavement)
- What are the maintenance needs above and underground?
 - this can be a particular challenge in areas with low home-ownership (e.g., street trees, bioswales)
- Traffic diversion (from street calming, bicycle boulevards, etc)
- What are the Public Input and Community Desires?
 - may include perception of design strategies, such as "road diets" or trails.
- Are there conflicting policies from different jurisdictions?
- Are there parallel routes to serve certain functions (e.g. parallel bicycle routes)?

CHAPTER 5: VISUALIZING DESIGN CLASSIFICATIONS IN CONTEXT [12%]

Introduction

Chapter 5 will provide illustrative examples of what the design elements look like for the design classifications and in a variety of contexts (e.g., existing, constrained Regional Boulevard in a dense older neighborhood, new Regional Street in a new development, retrofit/incremental change). The examples will include several schematic drawings for each design type to illustrate that one size does not fit all and flexibility in design. Photos of existing streets and trails in the region (that people recognize!) and show different design elements on the various street types can also be used to illustrate how the design elements come together o create livable streets and trails.

 This chapter will focus on "visualization" of the classifications through schematics and crosssections. Photos may also be used to show existing examples.

- Visualizations and cross sections represent design classifications from Section 3.2 and include elements from Chapter 4: how treatments fit within the different contexts; including stormwater and trees treatments; Potential to show some sample metrics about performance.
 - Throughways
 - Below grade in urban area, four motor-vehicle travel lanes, bus rapid transit lanes, concrete divider, adjacent multi-use path with lighting, trees and stormwater treatments and green elements on embankments.
 - Below grade, six vehicle motor-travel lanes, concrete separator, adjacent light rail, trees stormwater treatments and green elements on embankment.
 - At grade in suburban area, greenway separation, pedestrian/bicycle over and undercrossings.
 - Regional Boulevards
 - One to four story mixed use development, frequent transit corridor, bicycle and pedestrian parkway, four motor-vehicle travel lanes, transit priority lane, median with trees, turn lane, roundabout at intersection, adjacent multi-use path with two way bikeway and pedestrian zone, ADA.
 - Intersection with bicycle treatments, paving treatments, raised crosswalk, roundabout, ADA.
 - Two to four story mixed use development, frequent transit corridor, bicycle and pedestrian parkway, freight route, four motor-vehicle travel lanes, separated two-way bikeway, planted buffer with bikeshare station and bioswales, wide sidewalk, ADA.
 - One to two story mixed use development and single family housing, frequent transit corridor, pedestrian parkway, two motor-vehicle travel lanes, median and turn lane, planted buffer with electric vehicle charging and bio-swales, wide sidewalk, bicycle boulevard one street over, ADA.
 - One to four story mixed use development, frequent transit corridor, bicycle and pedestrian parkway, freight route, four motor-vehicle travel lanes, median with trees, turn lane, separated bikeways, wide sidewalk with transit stations, regional trail one street over, ADA.
 - Similar to examples above but with couplet.
 - Regional Streets
 - Commercial development, big box, mixed use at intersections, frequent transit, freight route, bicycle and pedestrian parkway. Four motor-vehicle travel lanes, transit priority lanes, median, turn lane, wide sidewalk with transit stations, bicycle boulevard one street over, ADA.

- Commercial development, big box, frequent transit, freight route, bicycle and pedestrian parkway. Two motor-vehicle travel lanes, transit priority lanes, buffered bikeway, planted buffer with bikeshare station and bio-swales, wide sidewalk, freight aprons at curb, , ADA.
- Commercial development, big box, mixed use at intersections, frequent transit, and pedestrian parkway. Two motor-vehicle travel lanes, median and turn lane, planted buffer with electric vehicle charging and bio-swales, wide sidewalk, ADA.
- Similar to examples above but with couplet.
- Industrial Streets
 - Industrial development, large lots, access to intermodal facility. Four motorvehicle travel lanes, wider streets, wider turning radii at intersections and driveways, adjacent multi-use path separated from street by planted buffer, ADA.
 - Two lane roadway through town center connecting to intermodal facility.
 wider turning radii at intersections and driveways, adjacent multi-use path separated from street by planted buffer, ADA.
 - Intersection with freight apron, mountable curbs.

CHAPTER 6: DECISION-MAKING IN CONTEXT [18%]

Introduction

Chapter 6 is intended to provide practitioners with a framework to guide decision-making. Ultimately, the decision-making guidance in this chapter will need to be flexible enough that a variety of jurisdictions can use it to make decisions, and also use it to explain their decision-making process to other agency stakeholders, members of the public, elected officials, etc.

- Will emphasize consistency with previous chapters policies focus on desired outcomes (6.1), and the performance-based design process (6.2) is based on serving design functions by combining design elements.
 - 6.1 **Policy Guides Decision-Making**
 - Policy Guidance
 - Policies and desired outcomes should guide transportation design
 - *Restate Metro's overarching policy from Chapter 2, Section 2.4 performance-based design.*
 - Focus on Desired Outcome
 - Emphasize that desired outcomes and functions must be clearly determined prior to embarking on design.

 Also acknowledge that streets and trails are not developed in a "perfect world". Funding constraints, competing policy objectives, existing infrastructure and traditional approaches to designing streets are part of the reality in which street designs are developed.

6.2 Performance-Based Design: Decision-Making

This subsection will outline a decision-making process or flow-chart for travelway design, drawing on NCHRP 785: Performance-Based Analysis of Geometric Design of Highways and Streets.³ The process/flow will draw on content from earlier chapters in this New Metro Guide, with practitioners guided through a series of questions (the following questions are examples/possibilities).

• Developing Complete Networks to Serve the Design Functions

- What is the land use context and regional (or local) classification of the travelway?
- For which networks is this travelway critical? For which networks are there alternate/parallel routes that can serve?
 - Walking?
 - Biking?
 - Driving?
 - Driverless vehicles?
 - Transit?
 - Freight?
 - Nature/habitat corridors?
 - This subsection will highlight how function and modal priorities can be evaluated in the context of the greater transportation network. This is intended to help practitioners decide when trade-offs can be made given the nature and presence of parallel routes.
 - Safety considerations will be included in this section. If the project team states that a street is going to serve a particular mode, then it should include safety-related design treatments for that particular mode.
- o Defining Priorities and Needed Functions for Each Travelway

³ Reference NCHRP Report 785, Performance-Based Analysis of Geometric Design of Highways and Streets, as well as direction from Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) encouraging states to implement performance-based practical design to address system performance, mobility, and safety needs in the current era of financial limitations.

- What design functions must be included or improved to further the desired outcome?
 - And/or: What design functions must be maintained...?
 - And/or: What design functions are not carrying us towards the desired outcome?
 - Potentially specify primary, secondary, and "optional" functions.
- What metrics will be used to evaluate the function of existing (if applicable) and future design options?
- Flexibility in Design Combining Elements
 - Based on answers to above and guidance outlined within the design elements, what design elements or design solutions should be considered (develop alternatives)?
 - How well do the design elements serve the desired functions?
 - How do these alternatives compare to the available right-of-way (ROW)?
 (Are you designing for a travelway that has the opportunity to obtain more ROW, or is it constrained to the existing ROW?)
 - This subsection would provide guidance (e.g., range of dimensions) for different travelway design types.
 - What are the key design controls and influences? (speeds, sight distance)
- Data to support decision making
 - Include discussion of typical data that would be available or that can be collected to support decision-making and evaluate the impacts of the selected design (before/after implementation).
- Evaluating Trade-offs
 - If right-of-way is constrained, insert series of questions/process that will help identify trade-offs to guide the practitioner, e.g.:
 - Can an alternate/parallel route within this corridor serve one or more of the desired functions (typically bicycle mobility)? – If alternate/parallel routes are identified those parallel routes must be included in the overall project, including:
 - Access to the parallel travelway; distinctive bicycle parking and wayfinding for intuitive access
 - For walking and biking, special consideration must be given when walking and biking routes intersect with travelways and when people walking and biking access destinations on that travelway. This is especially important if the travelway has a high traffic volume with high speeds, as people walking and biking may be less visible to people driving

- Can widths of particular design elements be minimized without sacrificing the function? (and/or is more research needed to determine appropriate widths?)
- Is there an existing function that can be removed from this travelway, keeping in mind the desired outcomes?
- Can the travelway space be allocated in different ways depending on time of day?
- Can a particular mode be de-emphasized?

CHAPTER 7: IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES AND EXAMPLES [17%]

Introduction This chapter will consider implementation strategies illustrated with actual implemented projects to describe the project development and how the design comes together following the decision-making process in Chapter 6. This chapter will rely heavily on case studies, which will cover a range of topics and projects, aiming to show a variety of themes that different agencies can relate to. Each case study will be 1-2 pages and will include images and potential diagrams as well as explanatory text. Case studies will be either completed, or based on potential redesigns of existing streets.

7.1 New Streets and Trails

- Discussion of balancing overall width with achieving desired outcomes and serving desired functions. Note that the maximum width for new streets/trails is not necessarily the optimal even if it serves the most functions, due to impacts on the surrounding land uses and nature and the potential for it to be a barrier.
- Include case study of new street that is successful at this.
- Trail case study: South waterfront example of separating bicycles and pedestrians into two facilities. Good design for the context, but not appropriate for all regional trails. The point is that one size does NOT fit all.

7.2 Retrofit / Redesigns

- Temporary/Pilot Implementation
 - Moving the curb with paint
 - Parklets
 - Temporary street closures
 - Pilot bus lanes (suburban example: Everett, Massachusetts and urban example: Pittsburgh, Liberty Avenue)
 - Interim public plazas
 - Include a case study illustrating these methods.
 - Discuss who needs to be involved, what type of code allows these, what potential barriers to consider.

Low-cost

- Will discuss low-cost strategies for improving outcomes in the near-term. Include discussion of:
 - Metro policy on constructing active transportation facilities – fill gaps first
 - Low-cost does not need to mean low-quality
 - Outline different examples of low-cost changes and discuss how they change the function of the travelway.
 - How might a low-cost/near-term implementation impact the potential for a larger project in the future?
- Discuss strategies that leverage routine repaving and maintenance to make improvements.
- Include a case-study of a project that has been implemented with re-striping / paint only.
- Incremental change (e.g. lot-by-lot through development)
 - Discussion of factors that influence whether incremental change is feasible (e.g., street frontage improvements)
 - What types of design elements provide benefit when they are constructed incrementally (e.g. sidewalks)
 - Discussion of best practices for timing of construction (including consideration of nature, e.g. Avoiding Impacts on Nesting Birds— Vegetation and Construction projects
 - Include a case-study of a street that has gone through incremental change over time, with each parcel redeveloping, or dedicating ROW. (?)
 - Multi-use path construction

7.3 Intersection Project

• Urban and suburban example

7.4 Evaluation: Before and After Implementation

- Discuss the importance of documenting before and after metrics. Evaluation should be included in all implementation.
- Include summary of relevant performance measures and include references with more detail.
 - Include a matrix of project-level performance measures that align with the RTP system performance measures (though they will not be the same measures in most cases.)

Regional Investment Strategy Bi-monthly Update *Work Session Topics*

> Metro Council Work Session Tuesday, March 12, 2019 Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber