



Northwest in Motion

Public Review Draft Feedback Summary

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Northwest in Motion is a collection of new projects and programs to make **walking, biking, and taking transit safer, more accessible and more reliable** in Northwest Portland.

After spending the last two years engaging with hundreds and hundreds of Northwest residents, business owners and key neighborhood stakeholders, the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) is excited to share the public review draft of *Northwest in Motion*.

This plan identifies **10 prioritized projects and 10 programs** that can be delivered in the next five years. The types of improvements recommended include **safer crossings**, a comprehensive network of **traffic calmed streets for walking and biking**, and spot improvements to help make **transit better in Northwest**.

FALL 2019 - WINTER 2020 ENGAGEMENT

During the fall and winter, PBOT conducted the final phase of public engagement. This round focused on further project development, refining the implementation strategy, and getting feedback on the public review draft. Key engagement milestones were:

- **Nov 14th, 2019: Northwest in Motion Public Review Draft Open House**
- **Dec '19 - Jan '20: Online Open House** (same content as in-person event)
- **Ongoing stakeholder engagement** with the Northwest in Motion Community Advisory Group, Northwest District Association, Northwest Business Association, Northwest Parking Stakeholder Advisory Committee and other key stakeholders in the neighborhood.

This brief report summarizes the feedback we heard during this phase of engagement and how these key themes will influence the final draft of the plan .



PBOT
PORTLAND BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION

**NORTHWEST IN
MOTION**

AREA + PROJECT PLANNING

What did we hear?

Public support for Northwest in Motion was strong at both the online and in-person open house events. Most participants expressed support for traffic calming throughout the neighborhood. Many spoke positively about the tools the plan identifies to strengthen the district-wide 20mph slow zone. In particular, participants shared enthusiasm for improved crossings, removal of parking at intersections to improve visibility, and the recommended neighborhood greenway network.

While the majority of survey participants expressed support for the plan, there were respondents who expressed reservations. Some respondents shared that they felt that the plan did not go far enough to promote active transportation in the neighborhood and called for additional traffic calming tools including more traffic diverters to limit car volumes on local streets in the district. Alternatively, some felt that the plan did not consider the needs of those who are automobile dependent and expressed concerns about the loss of parking.

Some projects received specific attention by respondents who called for changes to the project as proposed in the public review draft. Many participants expressed enthusiasm about the NW Johnson and NW 24th Ave Neighborhood Greenways. Alternatively, the proposed closure of NW Westover at NW 23rd Ave garnered more attention than any other project with requests for changes. Some participants expressed concerns about the success of activating a small public plaza at this location without adequate eyes-on-the-street or commercial store frontage. Others highlighted the utility of the vehicle connection at this location in relieving congestion at the busy intersection of NW Everett St and NW 23rd Ave.

FEEDBACK BY THE NUMBERS

120+

PEOPLE ENGAGED at the
Fall 2019 In-Person Open House

HUNDREDS of unique visitors to
the online-open house with

135

**COMMENTS
RECEIVED**

Of all comments received,

80%

WERE SUPPORTIVE of the
plan's recommendations

"Low-stress bike paths are a must since traffic stress is the only thing keeping me from biking instead of driving right now."

"As a NW resident for the last ten years, I have often felt unsafe walking or biking around my neighborhood and appreciate these projects focused on quality of life, safety, and livability."

"The poor lighting along the streets makes it very difficult to be visible - if you are a pedestrian -- or to see pedestrians/cyclists when you are in a car."

- Online Open House Survey Participants



Attendees browse project boards and talk with PBOT staff at the Fall 2019 Public Review Draft Open House held at Chown Hardware (left)



Northwest in Motion Community Advisory Group at their final meeting (below)

How will feedback shape this plan?

The Northwest in Motion team values and appreciates the feedback we've received in the past months regarding the public review draft. It is important that the projects and programs included in this plan reflect the priorities of Northwest Portlanders. The feedback we've heard largely confirms this. However, there are a handful of changes we are incorporating as we move to the final draft of the plan.

Some notable changes to recommended projects include continuing to keep one-way vehicle access at NW Westover Rd and NW 23rd Ave, green street treatment on NW Savier between NW 19th and 20th Ave, and the addition of on-street parking at NW Overton near NW 9th Ave. All major changes are outlined in an extended memo which provides an itemized list of changes along with a rationale for each.



REDESIGN OF NW WESTOVER CONCEPT

A revised recommendation for NW Westover and NW 23rd Ave replaces a full-closure with a raised crossing to improve crossing safety and driver yielding behavior.



What will happen next?

Over the next two months, the Northwest in Motion team will continue to receive input from neighbors and key stakeholders as we make final revisions to the plan.

A tentative council date is anticipated for this spring and initial project implementation is likely to begin as early as this summer on upgrading the NW Johnson and NW Marshall Neighborhood Greenways as well as traffic calming on NW Westover Rd, NW 25th Ave, and NW 24th Ave.

Questions or comments about Northwest in Motion?

Reach out to **Zef Wagner**, Transportation Planner and Northwest in Motion Project Manager at the Portland Bureau of Transportation.

Email: zef.wagner@portlandoregon.gov
Phone: 503.823.7164

The City of Portland is committed to providing meaningful access.

To request translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, or other auxiliary aids or services, contact 503-823-5282, Relay: 711.



PBOT
PORTLAND BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION

NORTHWEST IN
MOTION

AREA + PROJECT PLANNING