

# Building a Better 82nd



## 82nd Avenue Glisan and Davis Signal Improvements Project

Summer and Fall 2023 Public Engagement Report

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## Overview

This report outlines the Portland Bureau of Transportation's (PBOT's) public involvement activities in summer and fall 2023 for the 82nd Avenue Glisan and Davis Signals Improvement Project. This project is a part of PBOT's Building a Better 82nd investments on the corridor.

### Project Overview

As part of this project, the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) will make critical safety improvements to 82nd Avenue, including rebuilding signals at NE 82nd Avenue at Glisan and Davis streets. The \$5.3 million project is funded by the Federal Highway Administration and the Portland Clean Energy Fund, and construction is scheduled to begin in fall 2025.

PBOT's 82nd Avenue Critical Fixes projects invest in near-term critical safety and maintenance repairs on 82nd Avenue through 2026. After making the most critical repairs, PBOT will invest additional funding in the Civic Corridor Investment Strategy to address additional community priorities on 82nd Avenue.

### Public Involvement Overview

#### Public Involvement Goals

In 2023, the Glisan and Davis Signal Improvements Project was in design, and the PBOT project team aimed to:

- **Build awareness** of the project and project design elements
- **Solicit feedback** early in the project design process from immediately affected property and business owners as well as the broader community
- **Understand how businesses and properties are accessed today**
- **Inform design refinements**

#### Public Involvement Summary

The project team engaged broadly with stakeholders and communities, including community-based organizations, agency partners, school representatives, business managers and owners, property owners and community members. In total, the project team engaged over 600 people.

### How did we gather input?

- 2 Opportunities to provide formal comments on the design**
- 1 Online survey**
- 1 In-person workshop**  
Available in **5 Languages** (English, Chinese, Spanish, Russian and Vietnamese)
- 5 Attended 11 Community Meetings**  
Tabled at **1 Community Event**
- 3 Email updates** sent to over 2,000 Subscribers
- 130+ Letters mailed** to businesses, property owners and residents
- 5 1-on-1 meetings** with property owners and Vestal Elementary
- 600+ Total people engaged**



*Above: Families with young children walk across NE 82nd Avenue at Davis Street, from Vestal Elementary to the Yard Food Carts. Red traffic lights hang on wires above the roadway and marked crosswalk.*

## **In-person and Virtual Comment Opportunities**

### **Fall 2023 Online Survey**

**October 1 – November 30, 2023**

As part of the design process, the project team invited public feedback on two early draft concept designs, released in October 2023.

Survey responses helped PBOT understand how Vestal Elementary School, adjacent neighborhoods and businesses are accessed today. Responses informed PBOT of issues currently facing the neighborhood and provided guidance on design elements and priorities.

The online survey received 375 responses.

#### **Who did we hear from?**

A large majority of the community members we heard from spend time on or near 82nd Avenue frequently and would be directly impacted by roadway design decisions.

- 82% of respondents live, work, attend school, or take a child to school near 82nd Avenue
- 55% of respondents' home zip code is adjacent to the project area
- 89% of respondents travel along 82nd Avenue
- 88% of respondents visit stores, restaurants, and/or services along 82nd Avenue
- 1.3% of respondents attend a place of worship on 82nd Avenue

Renters and Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) Portlanders were underrepresented in the survey data. People who identify as living with a disability were overrepresented in the survey data.

- Rent - 25.7% of respondents compared to 47% of Portlanders

- Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) - 18.6% respondents compared to 34% of Portlanders
- Identify as living with a disability - 20% of respondents compared to 12% of Portlanders

### **Option A: Full Access Management at Davis**

When asked what elements people liked about this design:

- 70% of respondents mentioned safety, with 46% of respondents mentioning specifically pedestrian safety
- 19% of respondents mentioned the design reflected needs of students and families attending Vestal Elementary School

Additional themes included: support or opposition for access management (medians), support for trees or other plantings, support for accessibility improvements

When asked about feedback regarding this design:

- 13.9% of respondents mentioned concerns about access to neighborhood and businesses
- 10% of respondents mentioned concerns about traffic diversion or detours
- Approximately 40% of respondents expressed either support or opposition for this design. Of those 135 respondents:
  - 77.7% expressed support for this option
  - 22.3% expressed opposition for this option

### **Option B: No Access Management at Davis**

When asked what elements people liked about this design:

- 20.9% of respondents mentioned maintaining vehicle access to neighborhoods or the food carts
- 14% of respondents said this design was an improvement over the current conditions
- 10% of respondents said they thought this design would be less safe than Option A
- 6.5% of respondents expressed this design was a good compromise

Additional themes included: predictability of design, support for trees or other plantings, support for accessibility improvements

When asked about feedback regarding this design:

- 64% of respondents said this design wouldn't make enough safety improvements
- Approximately 70% of respondents expressed either support or opposition for the design. Of those 203 respondents:
  - 37% expressed support for this option
  - 63% expressed opposition for this option

### **Overall Feedback and Comments**

Respondents made suggestions for further improvements, including:

- Adjust Davis traffic operations
- Reduce on-street parking on Davis
- Widen sidewalks on 82nd Avenue
- Plant sidewalk trees on 82nd Avenue
- Add a "No Right on Red" prohibition at Davis

- Include bike facilities
- Conduct additional outreach and education
- Remove the gap in the median for the driveway at Washman Car Wash
- Do more to reduce speeding on 82nd
- Use traffic signal phasing/signal timing to improve safety
- Consider a roundabout or traffic circle

## In-person Workshop

### Central District Workshop (July 20, 2023)

PBOT, Metro and TriMet partnered on three district workshops in summer 2023, and the Central District Workshop featured information about the 82nd Avenue Glisan and Davis Project.

Fifty-two (52) people attended the Central Workshop, writing comments post-it notes, comment cards and directly on maps, while staff members were available to field any questions and explain improvements in more detail. The in-person workshops were held in English (with Chinese/普通话, Spanish/Español, Vietnamese/Tiếng Việt, Russian/Русский, and American Sign Language/ASL translators).

## Community Events

### Vestal Elementary School’s Walk and Roll (October 4, 2023)

PBOT’s 82nd Avenue staff members greeted students and parents as they rolled into Vestal Elementary before school. Were able to speak with parents, kids, and Vestal Elementary staff about the Glisan and Davis Street improvements. Participants were able to take the Glisan & Davis survey and ask questions about the project.



*Above left and center: PBOT’s 82nd Avenue staff hold up outreach materials at a tabling event at Vestal Elementary. Above right: Families arriving to school on scooters and bikes stop by information tables.*

## Neighborhood Associations, Business Associations and Advisory Group Meetings

82nd Avenue Glisan and Davis Project team members presented to or attended 11 meetings.

- Joint Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (March 14, 2023)
- Critical Fixes presentation to the 82nd Avenue Community Advisory Group (March 22, 2023)
- Roseway Neighborhood Association (April 11, 2023)
- 82nd Avenue Business Owner Focus Group (April 19, 2023)
- Freight Advisory Committee (May 4, 2023)
- Annual 82nd Business Association meeting (May 25, 2023)
- Multnomah County Pedestrian Advisory Committee Walk (June 20, 2023)
- East Portland Chamber of Commerce (July 19, 2023)
- Vestal Parent Teacher Association (November 14, 2023)
- Montavilla Neighborhood Association Land Use Transportation Committee (November 6, 2023)
- 82nd Avenue Business Association Roundtable Presentation (November 30, 2023)

## Public Information Materials

### E-Newsletters

PBOT sent bi-monthly e-newsletters to subscribers with design updates, community event opportunities, and opportunities to comment. In total, three (3) e-newsletters were sent to our subscriber list of over 2,000 community members about the 82nd Avenue Glisan and Davis Project.

[View the e-newsletter archive online.](#)

## What's Next

The design phase for 82nd Avenue Glisan and Davis Signals Improvement Project will continue throughout 2024, and construction is anticipated to begin fall 2025.

## Learn More

To learn more about what's next for other Building a Better 82nd projects, visit:  
[portland.gov/82nd-critical-fixes](http://portland.gov/82nd-critical-fixes)

## Contact the Building a Better 82nd Team

82ndavenue@portlandoregon.gov  
503-865-8282