



PORTLAND CITY COUNCIL

Ted Wheeler Mayor
Chloe Eudaly Commissioner in Charge
Amanda Fritz
Jo Ann Hardesty

PBOT PROJECT TEAM

Mauricio Leclerc

Supervisor, Area & Project Planning

Karla Kingsley

Project Manager

Bryan Poole

Planning team

Zef Wagner

Project Manager

Shane Valle

Planning team

Paul Belton

Planning team

Maggie Derk

Planning team

Dan Layden

Capital Delivery

Wendy Cawley

City Traffic Engineer

Matt Kelly

Vision Zero Team

Matthew Machado

Traffic Design and Safety

Mark Haines

Signals and Traffic Engineer

CITY PARTNERS

Debbie Caselton

Community Outreach, Environmental Services





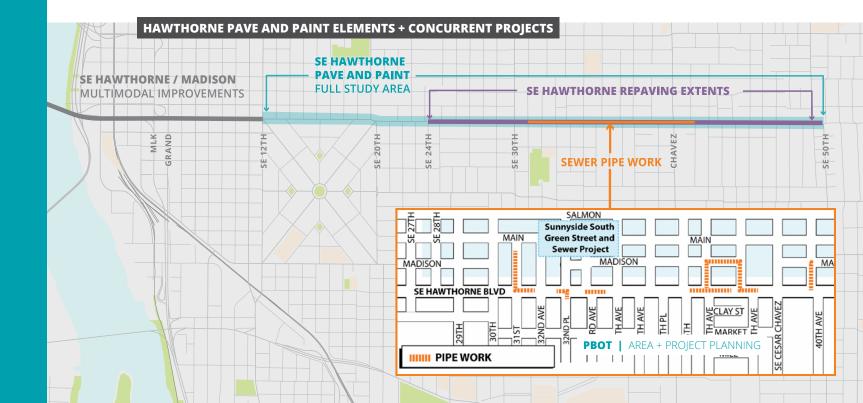
AREA + PROJECT PLANNING

WHAT DOES OUR ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION TELL US?

From earlier community feedback and technical analysis, we developed three alternatives to take through a detailed evaluation.

SE Hawthorne Boulevard from 24th Ave to 50th Ave is due for maintenance paving in the summer of 2021. The SE Hawthorne Pave and Paint project was initiated to consider ways to leverage maintenance paving as an opportunity to improve safety, reduce transit delay, and make other changes to better serve people and businesses on Hawthorne.

Based on previous community feedback and analysis, three possible alternatives were developed for further evaluation. This summary describes the key differences and trade-offs among the alternatives and the process for selecting a cross section to move into design.



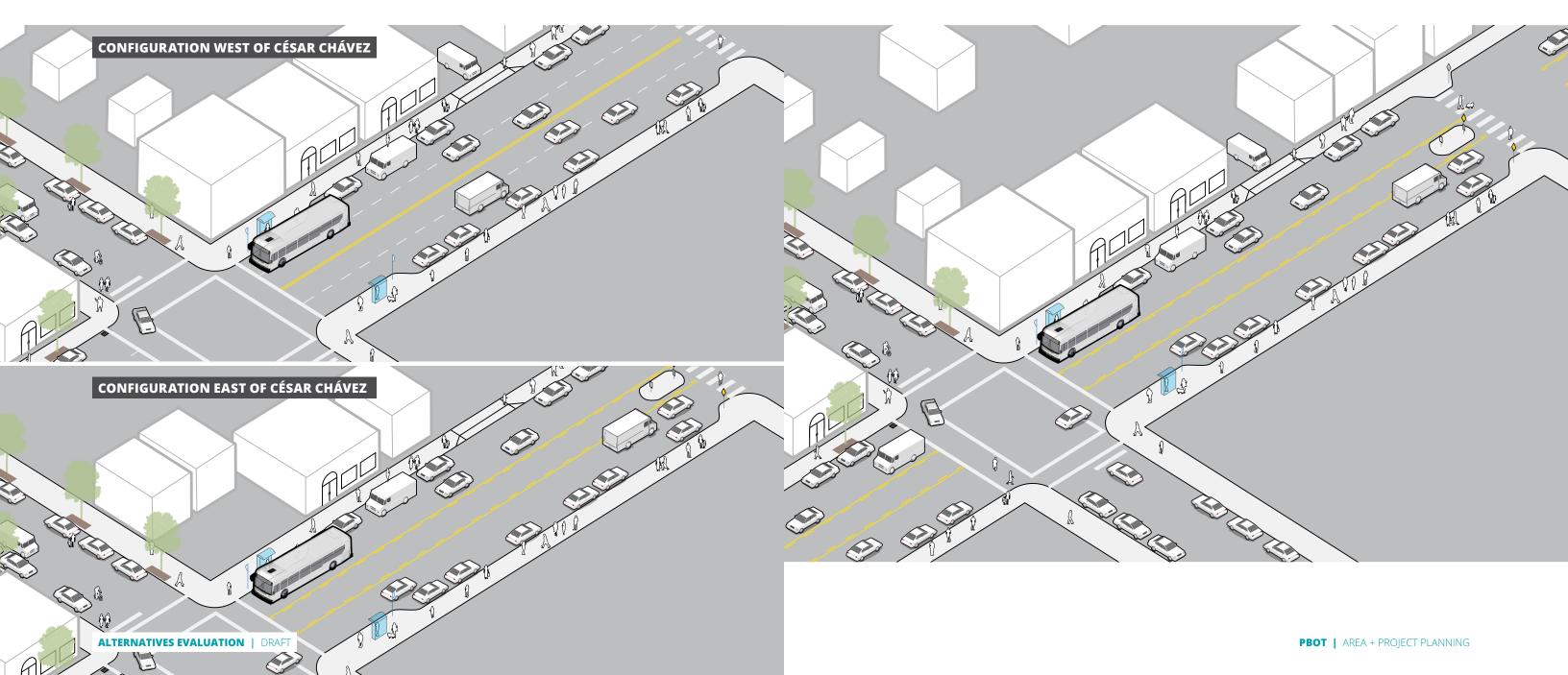
Summary of alternatives

Alternative 1 street configuration summary

Alternative 1 maintains the existing lane configurations, with four general travel lanes west of Cesar E Chavez Blvd and three general travel lanes east of Cesar E Chavez Blvd. This alternative also includes space for on-street parking on both sides of the street.

Alternative 2 street configuration summary

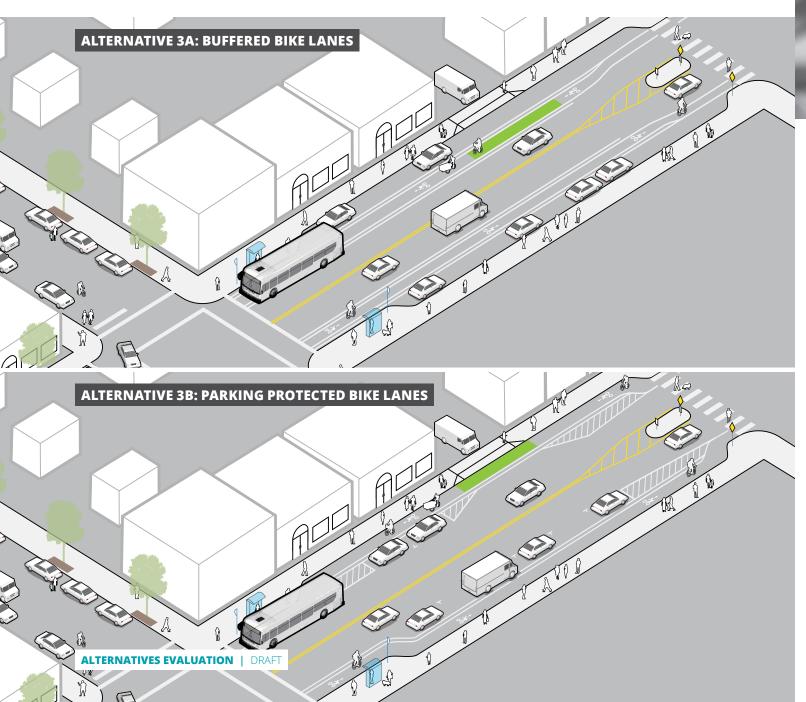
Alternative 2 extends the three-lane configuration currently in place east of Cesar E Chavez Blvd west to 22nd Ave, with right turn (except bus) lanes provided at Cesar E Chavez Blvd. This alternative also includes space for onstreet parking on both sides of the street.



Alternative 3 street configuration summary

Alternative 3 reconfigures the street from 22nd Ave to 50th Ave to include two general travel lanes and two bike lanes, with no center turn lane. This alternative also includes space for on-street parking on both sides of the street, though a significant amount would have to be removed to accommodate bike lanes at crossings. Within Alternative 3, the project team is considering two sub-options:

- Alternative 3a maintains space for on-street parking at the curb, with buffered bike lanes between parking and the general travel lanes
- Alternative 3b considers the potential to shift the bike lane to the curb, creating "parking-protected bike lanes," with a significant portion of the on-street parking removed to provide visibility.





One of the goals of the Hawthorne Pave and Paint Project is to take advantage of a planned street paving project to improve safety and address other needs along the corridor at the same time, saving the city money and businesses and residents disruption. We collected many street design suggestions from public outreach but the above alternatives were selected because they can be built within the project timeline and budget. However, the added complexity and material costs for Alternative 3b would likely require additional funding. Our team evaluated the three alternatives, looking at the benefits and impacts related to these project goals:

- Improve safety
- Support Hawthorne's Main Street function and help people get to destinations there
- Connect people to other parts of the city

The criteria used to analyze each goal were developed with input from the community during workshops held in early March 2020. Workshop attendees

were asked to think about their top priorities for Hawthorne and vote for the criteria they felt were most important. The top evaluation criteria included number of safe crossing opportunities, ability to address vision zero crash types, top end speeding, spacing of enhanced crossings, and travel time for transit. In some cases, the alternatives have little variation between them. However, some key areas of difference stand out.

In addition to the project-related goals and criteria, PBOT's citywide goals direct us to consider two questions with every action:

- Will it advance equity and address structural racism?
- Will it reduce carbon emissions?

ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS SUMMARY

BENEFIT / IMPACT SCALE	Likely high	Likely moderate	Likely moderate	Likely high
	impact	impact	benefit	benefit
	$\nabla\nabla$	∇	Δ	ΔΔ

	Alternative 1 Existing lane configuration	Alternative 2 Three-lane configuration	Alternative 3a Two lanes with buffered bike lanes	Alternative 3b Two lanes with parking- protected bike lanes
1. IMPROVE TRAFFIC SAFETY	Υ			
Crashes Reduce number of crashes along Hawthorne	∇	ΔΔ	Δ	Δ
High end speeding Reduce high-end speeding (10+ mph above speed limit)	$\nabla\nabla$	ΔΔ	ΔΔ	ΔΔ
Neighborhood Greenways Minimize impacts to nearby Neighborhood Greenways	Δ	Δ	$\nabla\nabla$	$\nabla\nabla$
Ped crossings Improve safety of existing crossings and add new ones	$\nabla\nabla$	ΔΔ	Δ	Δ
2. SUPPORT HAWTHORNE'S	MAIN STREET F	UNCTION		
Crossing spacing Ability to add new enhanced crossings for pedestrians and bicyclists	∇	ΔΔ	Δ	Δ
Bike & Scooter Parking Impacts to existing and ability to add new bike and scooter parking	Δ	Δ	∇	∇
Car parking Ability to retain on-street parking, particularly short-term and loading zone parking	Δ	Δ	∇	$\nabla\nabla$
Loading & deliveries Access and ease of loading and deliveries for businesses	∇	Δ	∇	$\nabla\nabla$
Landscaping & placemaking Opportunities for landscaping and placemaking	∇	ΔΔ	Δ	Δ
3. CONNECT PEOPLE TO AND FROM HAWTHORNE				
Pedestrian access Opportunities for improving pedestrian access along Hawthorne	∇	ΔΔ	Δ	Δ
Bicyclist access Opportunities for improving bicyclist access along Hawthorne	∇	∇	Δ	ΔΔ
Transit Impacts to transit speed and reliability	∇	Δ	$\nabla\nabla$	$\nabla\nabla$
Driving Impacts to travel time for drivers	Δ	∇	$\nabla\nabla$	$\nabla\nabla$
4. SUPPORT CITYWIDE GOALS				
Equity Opportunity to advance equity and address structural racism	∇	Δ	$\nabla\nabla$	$\nabla\nabla$
Climate Potential to reduce carbon emissions	∇	Δ	∇	∇

1. Improving traffic safety

From PBOT's Vision Zero initiative, we know Hawthorne is one of the most dangerous streets in the city. The alternative street design that PBOT builds must improve the safety of our streets for all users. Safety benefits were determined by the anticipated impact of each alternative on reducing crashes, reducing high motor vehicle speeds, the impact on nearby Neighborhood Greenways, and the impact to pedestrian safety.

Crashes -

Alternative 2 is anticipated to have the most significant near-term reduction of crashes by providing a center turn lane, which helps address turning movement crashes and improves safety for pedestrians crossing the street. Alternative 3 could also reduce crashes by reducing the number of vehicle lanes, but it does not offer the same crash reduction benefits of a center turn lane and could increase conflicts at intersections. Alternative 1 is not expected to offer significant crash reduction benefits because it retains the current street design throughout the project area.

EVALUATION AT A GLANCE

A1	MODERATE IMPACT
A2	HIGH BENEFIT
АЗа	MODERATE BENEFIT
A3b	MODERATE BENEFIT

ALTERNATIVES SAFETY BENEFITS

	Does it reduce crashes?	Is there opportunity for new crossing islands?
ALTERNATIVE 1 EXISTING	No	Only east of Cesar E Chavez
ALTERNATIVE 2 THREE-LANE	Yes, all crash types	Yes
ALTERNATIVE 3A BUFFERED BIKE	Yes, bicycle crashes only	Yes
ALTERNATIVE 3B PROTECTED BIKE	Yes, bicycle crashes only	Yes

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Speeding

Alternatives 2 and 3 are expected to reduce high-end speeding by reducing the number of general-purpose travel lanes in the same direction and adding median islands at some intersections. High-end speeding remains a problem in Alternative 1, since the street design would remain mostly unchanged.

Impact to Neighborhood Greenways -

Alternatives 1 and 2 would likely cause little to no diversion to nearby neighborhood greenways. While Alternative 3 would improve safety for bicyclists on SE Hawthorne Blvd itself, it is likely to divert car traffic onto nearby neighborhood greenways that currently serve most bicycle trips in the vicinity such as SE Salmon St, SE Ladd Ave, SE Harrison St, and SE Lincoln St.

Neighborhood greenways and local streets are intended to serve relatively low volumes of slower moving motor vehicle traffic. On the other hand, neighborhood greenways are classified as Major City Bikeways and are intended to serve high volumes and all types of bicyclists. Well-performing neighborhood greenways should have 85th percentile motor vehicle speeds no higher than 20 mph and average daily traffic of 1,000 motor vehicles or fewer. The map below shows the existing and planned neighborhood greenway network immediately surrounding Hawthorne, along with the motor vehicle volumes, where data is available. Portions of both the Lincoln-Harrison greenway and the Salmon-Taylor greenway exceed PBOT's thresholds for motor vehicle volumes, while other areas are in an acceptable range. Between these two greenways, approximately 6,000 bicyclists per day travel east-west in the area.

EVALUATION AT A GLANCE

HIGH IMPACT
HIGH BENEFIT
HIGH BENEFIT
HIGH BENEFIT

EVALUATION AT A GLANCE

A1	MODERATE BENEFIT
A2	MODERATE BENEFIT
A3a	HIGH IMPACT
A3b	HIGH IMPACT

VEHICLE VOLUMES ON ADJACENT EXISTING AND PLANNED NEIGHBORHOOD GREENWAYS TAYLOR HAWTHORNE HAWTHORNE HARRISON LINCOLN LINCOLN



Pedestrian safety at crossings -

Alternative 2 provides significant safety benefits along the corridor as it provides the most opportunities for crossing islands and visibility. Even at unmarked crosswalks, safety would be improved because pedestrians would only have to cross one lane of traffic at a time. Alternative 3 also provides some benefits to pedestrians by reducing the number of lanes to cross, but it provides fewer gaps for pedestrians at unsignalized crossings, requires narrower refuge islands at marked crosswalks, and removes the ability to have two-stage crossings at unmarked crosswalks. Alternative 1 does not significantly improve safety for pedestrians as it retains two travel lanes in each direction and makes it too expensive to add or improve pedestrian crossings in the section west of Cesar E Chavez Blvd within the scope of this project. That said, crossings could still be added east of Cesar E Chavez Blvd in Alternative 1.

EVALUATION AT A GLANCE

A2 HIGH BENEFIT	
A3a MODERATE BENE	
A3b MODERATE BENE	

NUMBER OF CARS TRAVELING ON GREENWAY EACH DAY

0 1,000 1,500 2,000 NO DATA

2. Support Hawthorne's Main Street function and help people to get to destinations there

Hawthorne is one of Portland's iconic main streets, home to a thriving collection of local businesses and a destination for the surrounding neighborhoods, people from other parts of the city, and visitors to Portland. The Transportation System Plan reflects this by classifying Hawthorne Blvd as a Civic Main Street, meaning we should place a high priority on business access, curbside uses such as parking, loading, or seating, and aesthetic elements like landscaping and public spaces. As the selected alternative needs to support Hawthorne's Civic Main Street function, the criteria used to evaluate this goal focused on providing access to destinations, supporting businesses' customer access and loading needs, and providing opportunities for greening, landscaping, and placemaking.

Number of crossings for people walking and biking -

Alternative 2 offers the greatest opportunity for crossing improvements, using pedestrian refuge islands within the 3-lane configuration throughout the project. Alternative 3 also provides the opportunity to add pedestrian refuge islands, though the islands would have to be narrower than preferred and on-street parking would have to be removed at those locations. Alternative 1 offers more limited opportunities for crossings, mainly east of Cesar E Chavez Blvd which has a 3-lane configuration. The segment west of Cesar E Chavez Blvd would require more significant crossing treatments (signals or flashing beacons) that are outside the scope of the project.

EVALUATION AT A GLANCE		
	A1	MODERATE IMPACT
	A2	HIGH BENEFIT
	АЗа	MODERATE BENEFIT
	Δ3h	MODERATE BENEFIT



Parking for bikes, scooters, etc. -

None of the alternatives under consideration would require removal of bike/scooter parking or bike share stations from Hawthorne or the intersecting streets. Alternative 1 and 2 slightly reduce the curb zone space and maintain the most opportunities to convert on-street parking spaces to bike corrals or other types of uses supporting bikes and scooters. Alternative 3 reduces the curb zone space which results in fewer opportunities for bike and scooter parking.

EVALUATION AT A GLANCE

A1	MODERATE BENEFIT
A2	MODERATE BENEFIT
АЗа	MODERATE IMPACT
A3b	MODERATE IMPACT



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Parking retention -

Both Alternative 1 and 2 have little impact to the current space available on Hawthorne Blvd for on-street parking (removal of about 15 spaces). Alternative 3a would have 15 - 20% reduction in on-street parking supply (approximately 75 parking spaces), and 3b would reduce the parking supply by 50-60% (approximately 225 parking spaces). A significant reduction in the parking supply along Hawthorne would likely increase the occupancy rate—currently an average of 77%—making it more difficult for people visiting the Hawthorne Business District to find parking and creating spillover parking to nearby neighborhood streets. While some reduction in on-street parking supply could be mitigated through improved parking management practices to improve turnover, there could still be a significant impact to some main street businesses that rely on short-term vehicle access.

Impact to loading and deliveries EVALUAT

Alternative 2 would widen the loading zones in curbside parking lanes and the center turn lane and would provide easier truck turning movements. Alternative 3a creates more spacious curbside loading zones but the overall curbside space available for loading and parking would be reduced. Removal of the existing turn lane east of Cesar E Chavez Blvd would require significant changes to delivery patterns and traffic operations. Alternative 3b has the most significant impact, as it would pull loading zones/parking away from the curb and reduce the overall amount of on-street space for deliveries. This would require drivers to deliver goods across the bike lane and/or change delivery patterns and traffic operations. Alternative 1 retains narrow travel and parking lanes for deliveries, particularly west of Cesar E Chavez Blvd.

EVALUATION AT A GLANCE

A1	MODERATE BENEFIT
A2	MODERATE BENEFIT
АЗа	MODERATE IMPACT
A3b	HIGH IMPACT

EVALUATION AT A GLANCE

A3b	HIGH IMPACT
A3a	MODERATE IMPACT
A2	MODERATE BENEFIT
A1	MODERATE IMPACT

MORE THAN ONE UNOCCUPIED SPACE PER BLOCK ←

ALL SPACES

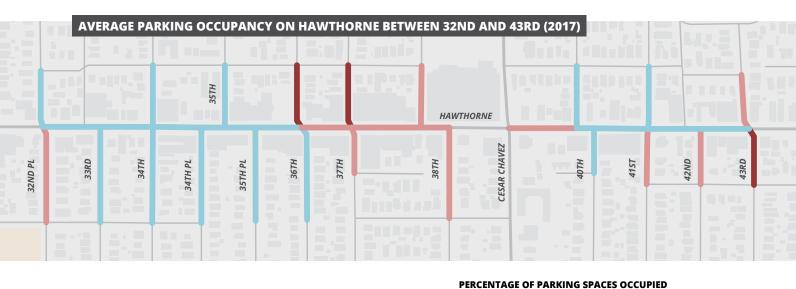
Potential for landscaping and placemaking

Alternative 2 presents the most significant opportunities for landscaping and placemaking, with the center turn lane and curbside spaces providing opportunities for greenery, street seating, street trees, and other treatments including future sidewalk widening. Alternative 3a may provide the most comfortable option for street seating as the seating would be adjacent to the bicycle lane rather than a motor vehicle lane but would not allow for a planted median or future sidewalk widening. Alternative 3b would make street seating more challenging since it would be away from the sidewalk between the bike lane and travel lane and would not allow for planted medians or sidewalk widening without additional changes. Alternative 1 offers very few opportunities for landscaping or placemaking, especially west of Cesar E Chavez Blvd.

EVALUATION AT A GLANCE

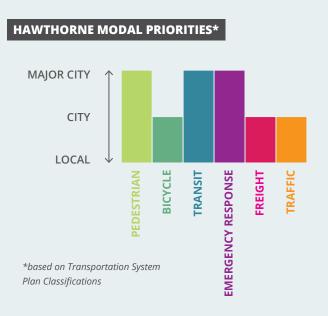
A1	MODERATE IMPACT
A2	HIGH BENEFIT
АЗа	MODERATE BENEFIT
A3b	MODERATE BENEFIT





ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION | DRAFT

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3. Connecting people to other parts of the city

Hawthorne is not just a main street, but also a major corridor for people traveling through the neighborhood or accessing it from other parts of the City. Hawthorne Blvd is classified as a Major Transit Priority Street and serves as the route for the frequent Line 14 bus connecting Downtown Portland at the west to the Lents neighborhood to the east. Hawthorne Blvd is also classified as a Major City Walkway, a City Bikeway, and a District Collector for traffic. Therefore, according to policy the street should put a high emphasis on pedestrian and transit mobility, and a medium emphasis on bicycle and traffic mobility. The criteria used for this evaluation were based on the context of the intended street classifications.

Pedestrian access along Hawthorne -

Alternative 2 has the highest opportunity to improve pedestrian access along Hawthorne Blvd over time by providing the opportunity for continuous wider sidewalks and/or more curb extensions in the future. Alternative 3a and 3b would not allow for wider sidewalks in the future where pedestrian crossings are added unless the bike lanes and/or median islands are narrowed significantly. Alternative 1 does not offer any significant improvement to pedestrian movement along Hawthorne. Because Hawthorne Blvd is a Major City Walkway, this criterion is highly significant in selecting an alternative.

EVALUATION AT A GLANCE

A1	MODERATE IMPACT
A2	HIGH BENEFIT
АЗа	MODERATE BENEFIT
A3b	MODERATE BENEFIT

Bicycle access along Hawthorne

Alternative 3 provides bike lanes along a portion of Hawthorne Blvd but turning conflicts will remain a safety risk and the bike lanes would not connect to the surrounding bike network at each end. Alternative 3a will likely have safety risks associated with parked vehicles and their passengers; Alternative 3b reduces this risk, though passengers will still need to cross the bike lane to reach the sidewalk. Alternative 3b also has significant visibility and safety risks associated with the need to weave around curb extensions and drainage systems. While bike lanes are not a part of Alternative 2, slower vehicle speeds and wider travel lanes would provide some safety improvement for cyclists that choose to take the lane. Alternative 2 could also be paired with enhancements to the surrounding bike network to provide more access points to destinations on Hawthorne Blvd. Alternative 1 offers no improvement to the bicycle network, leaving the existing configuration in place. While Hawthorne's City Bikeway classification indicates policy support for adding bike lanes if possible, it also indicates that bicycle travel is a lower priority on Hawthorne compared to parallel Major City Bikeways like the Salmon and Lincoln/Harrison neighborhood greenways, and needs to be balanced against the needs of the higher transit and pedestrian classifications.

EVALUATION AT A GLANCE

A1	MODERATE IMPACT
A2	MODERATE IMPACT
АЗа	MODERATE BENEFIT
A3b	HIGH BENEFIT

ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION | DRAFT

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Transit speed and reliability -

Alternative 2 offers the most benefit for bus travel time and reliability, resulting from bus priority improvements at Cesar E Chavez Blvd, stop optimization along the corridor, providing left-turning vehicles places to turn without blocking the bus, and significantly reducing mirror strikes by providing standard-width travel lanes. With these changes, we expect average transit travel time to remain largely consistent before and after the project, but with greatly improved reliability, reducing the variability in travel time that can be a major impact to transit riders, which may deter people from riding transit in the first place Alternative 1 only offers limited potential travel time savings for buses, resulting from stop optimization alone, and would retain the narrow lanes and mirror strike risks that affect reliability. Alternative 3 is expected to add significant delay to bus travel time, increasing transit delay during peak hours by 50% (8 minutes) if we assume 25% of traffic diverts to other routes, or by 100% (16 minutes) if we assume only 15% traffic diversion. Modeling indicates 25% traffic diversion could be a reasonable assumption, though it would take some time for traffic to adjust, and these levels of diversion would impact adjacent local and collector streets. Alternative 3 could also significantly impact bus reliability, since turning vehicles would be blocking the through lane and would have difficulty finding gaps in oncoming traffic. Since Hawthorne Blvd is classified as a Major Transit Priority Street, this kind of travel time increase and reliability impact for the Line 14 would be very concerning.

EVALUATION AT A GLANCE

A1	MODERATE IMPACT
A2	MODERATE BENEFIT
АЗа	HIGH IMPACT
A3b	HIGH IMPACT

Auto impacts -

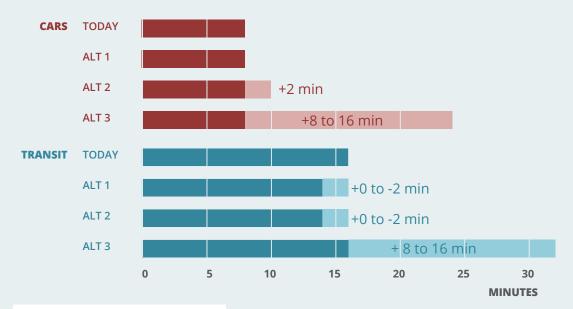
Alternative 1 would create no noticeable change to travel times for people driving, since it maintains the current capacity. Alternative 2 would likely cause traffic travel times between SE 12th Ave and SE 50th Ave to increase by approximately 2 minutes during the PM peak period eastbound, but is also likely to improve reliability of travel time by providing the left turn lane, resulting in largely unaffected travel time for most of the day. Alternative 3 would significantly increase traffic travel times during peak periods due to the two-lane configuration (especially the reduction in capacity at Cesar E Chavez Blvd) and delay caused by left-turning traffic. We expect travel time from 12th to 50th in the PM peak would double from 8 to 16 minutes if we assume 25% of traffic diverts to other routes, or would triple from 8 to 24 minutes if we assume only 15% traffic diversion. Modeling indicates that 25% traffic diversion to other routes during the peak is a reasonable assumption, but this may take some time to occur and will have an impact on those other streets, including other transit streets, neighborhood collectors, local streets, and neighborhood greenways. Because Hawthorne Blvd is a District Collector, this level of diversion onto lower-classified streets would be concerning since it does not align with City policy.

EVALUATION AT A GLANCE

A1	MODERATE BENEFIT
A2	MODERATE IMPACT
АЗа	HIGH IMPACT
A3b	HIGH IMPACT

MODELED TRAVEL TIMES FOR CARS AND TRANSIT

Travel time for cars and transit between SE 12th and 50th aves



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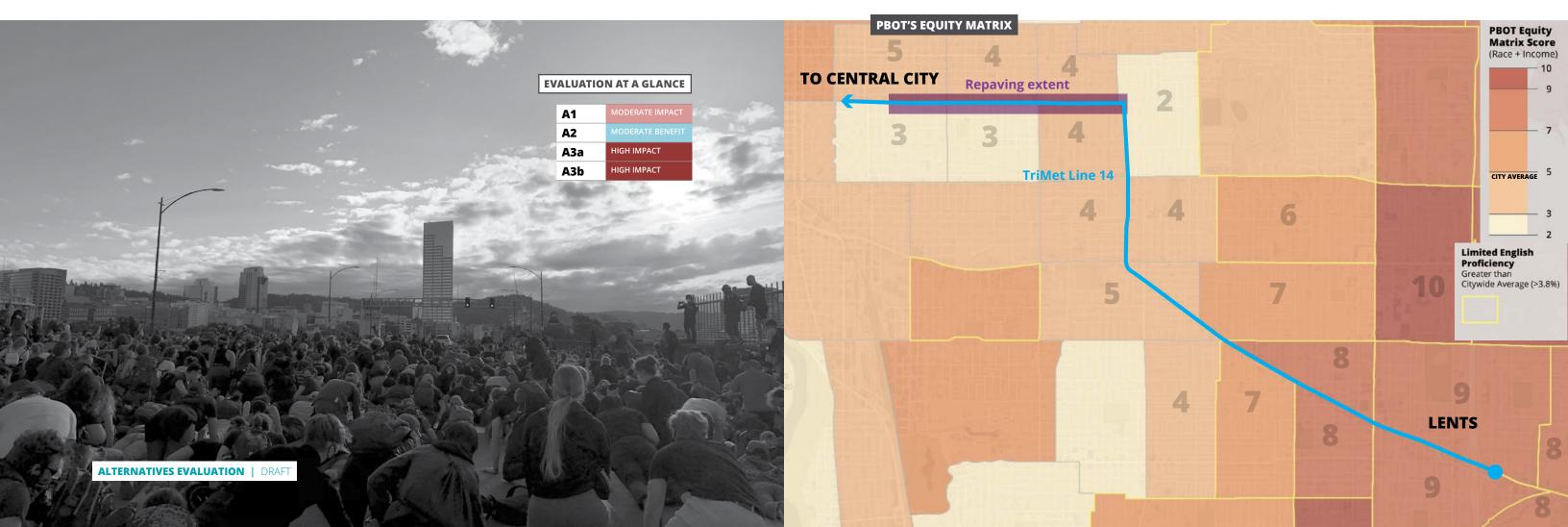
4. Equity and Climate

In addition to the project-related goals and criteria, PBOT's citywide goals direct us to consider two questions with every action: Will it advance equity and address structural racism? Will it reduce carbon emissions?

How will these alternatives advance equity and address structural racism?

While it would be difficult for a single transportation project of this scale to significantly address our equity needs, we can still apply an equity lens to our decision-making to ensure we are not unduly impacting communities that have too often been left out of planning considerations. One way that structural racism has been present in the planning profession has been the tendency to focus on aggregate benefits and impacts rather than looking at disparate benefits and impacts for different races. We also have not always considered the effect on lower-income households who may be forced to live further out from a corridor study area but do travel through it. Using the PBOT Equity Matrix, we can see that the areas immediately surrounding the Hawthorne Blvd project area have higher-income households and lower-percentage people of color than the city as a whole. Given the need to invest in areas with lower incomes and more people of color, this supports our overall approach of limiting the cost of this safety project and leveraging the paving project as much as possible, to preserve more discretionary funding for projects in areas of greater equity need.

We can also apply this lens to the decision of whether to prioritize transit (Alternative 2) or bike lanes (Alternative 3). Our analysis shows that Alternative 3 would have a significant negative impact on transit speed and reliability for the Line 14 bus, which serves the Foster and Lents areas and is classified as a Low Income Line by TriMet. The PBOT Equity Matrix shows that Foster and Lents have very high concentrations of low-income households and people of color compared to the city as a whole, and we know from surveys and census data that these households are more likely to ride transit and more likely to experience long commutes. We have also analyzed the impact on access to jobs by transit for people living in the Lents and Foster areas if Alternative 3 were implemented. This analysis found a significant impact to that access, particularly to service jobs in the Hawthorne main street area and light industrial jobs in the Central Eastside, due to the increased transit travel times. While Alternative 3 would add bike lanes, it is likely that the bike lanes would offer a mostly localized benefit to access destinations on the corridor rather than benefiting people further away in the Foster and Lents areas. Therefore, our conclusion is that Alternative 2 is more consistent with the goal of advancing equity and addressing structural racism with this project.





There is no easy way to fully assess the relative carbon emission reduction impacts of the various alternatives, but there are some conclusions we can draw from applying a climate lens to this evaluation.

- Alternative 1 would do the least to reduce carbon emissions, since it leaves intact the current capacity levels for single-occupant vehicle commuting and does not do much to encourage use of other modes.
- Alternative 2, on the other hand, would reduce automobile capacity somewhat while also improving transit speed and reliability, changing the relative incentives and presumably leading to higher transit use.
- Alternative 3 would also affect mode share by improving the bicycle network, though it would come at the expense of significantly impacting transit travel time and reliability.

To help us assess the relative climate benefits of Alternatives 2 and 3, we consulted the Metro Climate Smart Strategy, which evaluated the relative climate benefits of different strategies. According to this report, the "make biking and walking safe and convenient" strategy is considered to have a relatively good climate benefit (3 out of 5 stars), much higher than focusing on highways (1 out of 5 stars), but the "make transit convenient, frequent, accessible, and affordable" strategy has a much higher climate benefit (5 out of 5 stars). This seems especially true in this situation, since adding one stretch of bike lane in an area of Portland with among the highest bicycle mode shares in the city is likely to have less marginal benefit than improving one of the most frequent and highest-ridership bus lines in the area. More importantly, the highly negative impact on bus travel time and reliability from Alternative 3 would likely more than cancel out the climate benefit of the added bike lanes. Based on this analysis, Alternative 2 appears to be more beneficial when seen through a carbon emission reduction lens.

EVALUATION AT A GLANCE

A1	MODERATE IMPACT
A2	MODERATE BENEFIT
АЗа	MODERATE IMPACT
A3b	MODERATE IMPACT

NEXT STEPS

We are interested in hearing your thoughts about this alternatives evaluation. In the coming months, we will be rolling out an online survey, targeted business outreach, and virtual presentations to the public and various stakeholder groups, including Hawthorne Boulevard Business Association (HBBA), Neighborhood Associations, the PBOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committees, Inner SE Action, and SE Uplift.

The feedback we receive in the survey and at these meetings will help inform the decision on which alternative is advanced for construction as part of the Hawthorne Pave and Paint project. A recommendation on the final alternative will be made in fall 2020. The paving is anticipated to begin in the summer of 2021. Please visit the project website to learn more, sign-up for email updates, and contact the project team.

bit.ly/HawthornePavePaint

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