



## **Bethany Boulevard (NW Bronson Road to NW West Union Road)**

### **Board of County Commissioner's Extended Work Session Summary February 8, 2011**

The Board of Commissioners met on February 8<sup>th</sup> for an extended work session to review and discuss the NW Bethany Blvd. project. Because of the high interest in the project, the meeting was held in the Shirley Huffman Auditorium of Washington County's Public Services Building instead of the usual Conference Room 140. Andrew Singelakis, Director of Land Use and Transportation and Gary Stockhoff, Division Manager of Capital Project Management, along with design staff presented project information. A PowerPoint slide show presented project background information, existing and future traffic volumes, public involvements, and work completed to date and staff recommendations regarding the improvements. This was followed by a discussion by the commissioners of the next steps in the review process, and their perspective on the project.

Commissioners Andy Duyck, Greg Malinowski, Dick Schouten and Bob Terry attended the work session. Commissioner Roy Rogers did not attend.

Washington County staff and design team members attended to respond to questions. There were approximately 30 people in the audience, but because this was a work session and not a formal board meeting, public input was not taken.

#### **Presentation Summary:**

Project information was presented in a PowerPoint format that included a summary of earlier Board decisions, existing and future traffic volumes, public involvement, and design alternatives developed to date. The purpose of the meeting was to receive direction from the Board on how to proceed with the project. Possible options for the Board were:

- Move forward with design of a four or five lane improvement consistent with the County's Transportation Plan
- Move forward with a three lane design as an "interim" improvement
- Delay the improvement until new transportation model information is available as part of the Transportation Plan update

During the course of the presentation, numerous questions were asked by the Commissioners regarding the four design alternatives, impacts to adjacent properties, traffic (existing and future), and potential engineering adjustments that could be made to reduce impacts. At the conclusion of the meeting, staff was directed to modify Alternative 2 (4-lane) to utilize a lower design speed, shift the right-of-way centerline to the west as much

as possible, and narrow travel lanes, bike lanes, and the center turn lanes and to return with a modified Alternative 2A version at the February 22 general Board meeting.

Board members discussed their current concerns and perspectives on the project. There was a request for supplemental information to further assist in their evaluation, including:

- Impact narrowing lanes would have on costs and right-of-way impacts
- Information on expected commercial growth
- PFG Membership information.
- More legible hard copies of alternative evaluation matrix

#### **Board of Commissioners Hearing;**

Commissioner Duyck mentioned that the next step will be the Board hearing on Feb. 22 at 6:30 PM, also in the Auditorium. Testimony can be presented by members of the public, with a 3 minute limit per person. The limit in the length of testimony will be approximately an hour. The full Board will then determine how the project should proceed.

#### **Displays and Handouts**

The following information was available at the meeting:

- Meeting agenda
- A copy of the power point
- Typical cross sections
- Plans for alternatives