

Ash Street Improvements

From Clinkscales Road to First Street/Park Avenue



Bartlett & West

Third Interested Parties Meeting – Design Review
Wednesday, March 19, 2025 – Activity & Recreation Center (ARC)

PURPOSE OF TODAY'S MEETING

Thank you for attending this informal open house. The purpose of this meeting is to provide local residents, property owners and other stakeholders an opportunity to review and discuss the proposed Ash Street improvements. Attendees can ask questions and provide input on the design plans.

The plans presented today were developed based on City Council's direction at the Oct. 17, 2022, public hearing. Council has directed staff to hold this third interested parties meeting to gather additional input on the proposed design. A second public hearing is anticipated to be held at a City Council meeting this spring.

PROJECT INFORMATION

- **Scope:** As designed, the project includes an 8-foot multi-use sidewalk along the north side of the corridor and a 5-foot sidewalk with an on-street bike lane along the south side. Pedestrian crossings with enhanced safety features are planned at Redwood Road, Anderson Avenue and Aldeah Avenue.
- **Project limits:** Improvements extend from Clinkscales Road to First Street/Park Avenue.
- **Funding:** The project is funded by the capital improvement program (CIP) quarter-cent sales tax, with an estimated total cost of \$3,746,600 (estimate includes design, easements, and construction costs).
- **Sidewalk replacement:** As designed, the 8-foot multi-use sidewalk on the north side will replace all existing sidewalk in that area. Sidewalk on the south side will only be replaced if it does not meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.
- **Multi-use sidewalk:** The 8-foot sidewalk is designed for shared use by pedestrians and bicyclists.
- **Pedestrian crossings:** Crossings at Redwood Road, Anderson Avenue and Aldeah Avenue will feature curb ramps, marked crosswalks, rectangular rapid flashing beacons and pedestrian crossing signage.
- **Roadway design:**
 - Clinkscales Road to Garth Avenue: Two 11-foot driving lanes, a curb and gutter section on both sides and a bike lane on the south side.
 - Garth Avenue to First Street/Park Avenue: This portion will remain as it is now, with parking and bike lanes on both sides of the road.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

- **Utility considerations:** Existing utility poles and boxes have been accounted for in the project design. It should be noted that not all utility poles are owned by the City and are used by multiple service providers. Relocating a single pole often requires moving an entire line of poles, making relocation complex and costly. In many areas, the grass space between the sidewalk and the back of the curb allows poles and boxes to remain in place. On some blocks, the sidewalk is designed along the back of the curb to accommodate existing utility poles behind the sidewalk.
- **Tree removal:** Some trees will need to be removed for sidewalk construction. As part of the easement acquisition process, an appraiser will determine the value of trees located outside the existing right-of-way, and property owners will be compensated for replacement trees. The City and a plant healthcare specialist may work with property owners to preserve trees that are within grading limits but not directly in the sidewalk's path, if the property owner would like to save the tree.
- **Design adjustments:** The project design minimizes property impacts while enhancing pedestrian and bicyclist infrastructure. As a result, not all previously discussed improvements were included in the final design.
- **Public input on design options:** Citizens are encouraged to rank the proposed design options. Some alternatives may reduce property impacts but could also limit usability for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- **Design Services:** Bartlett & West Inc. was contracted in November 2021 to provide design services. Phase 1 involved a corridor study, concept development, and public engagement. Phase 2 includes preliminary plans, right-of-way plans and final construction plans.

PROJECT TIMELINE

- Initial interested parties meeting: *March 8, 2022*
- Project corridor walk-throughs: *April 12 & 30, 2022*
- Second interested parties meeting: *July 26, 2022*
- Initial public hearing at City Council meeting: *Oct. 17, 2022*
- City Council directed staff to hold third interested parties meeting: *Dec. 16, 2024*
- Third interested parties meeting: *March 19, 2025*
- Second public hearing at City Council meeting: *Spring 2025*

IF NO MAJOR DESIGN CHANGES OCCUR:

- **Easement acquisition:** *Summer 2025 – Winter 2025*
- **Design completion and bid:** *Spring 2026*
- **Construction:** *Summer – Winter 2026*