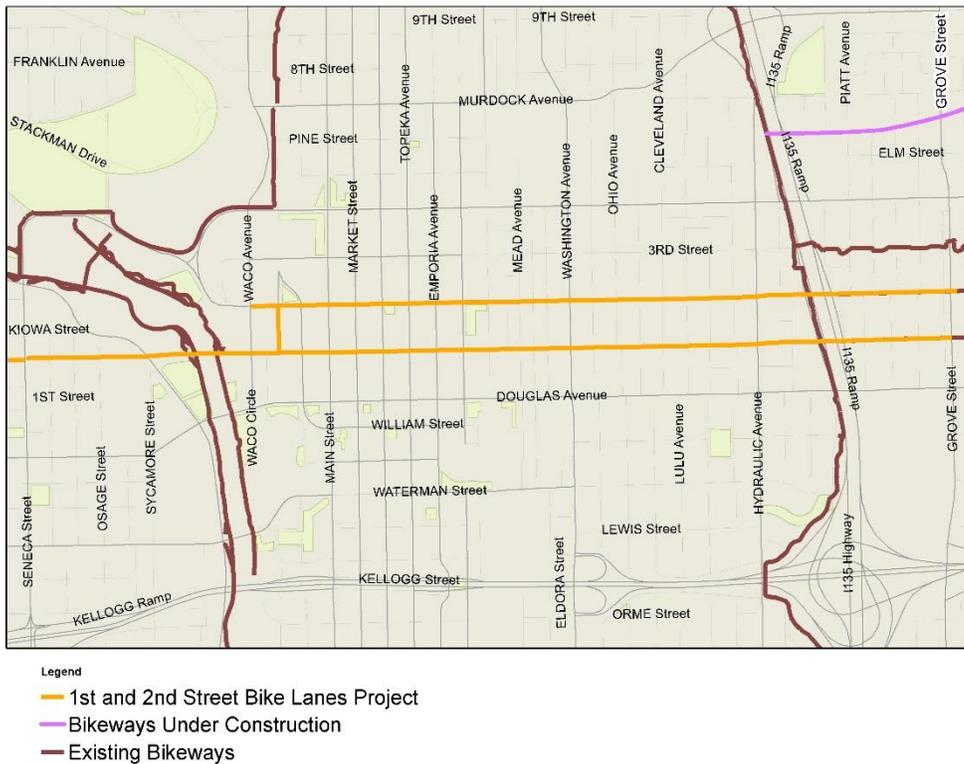


Frequently Asked Questions – 1st and 2nd Street Bike Lanes Phase II (Seneca to I-135)

7/29/2015



1. What are the benefits of this project?

- People Driving
 - The new lane configurations will help smooth traffic flow by providing separate lanes for people bicycling.
 - The project will add additional 24-hour on-street parking by removing time restrictions.
- People Bicycling
 - The new bike lanes will provide a dedicated space for bicycling.
 - The new bike lanes will connect employment centers with residential neighborhoods.

- c. People Walking
 - i. The bike lanes will create additional buffers between motor vehicle traffic and people walking.

2. Why were 1st and 2nd Street chosen for bike lanes?

- a. The new bike lanes are being installed to help improve transportation options in Wichita. The Wichita Bicycle Master Plan and Project Downtown Plan both recommend 1st and 2nd Street as corridors for bicycling.
- b. The new bike lanes will connect to the existing 1st and 2nd Street Bike Lanes at I-135, creating a cross-town route from Seneca to Edgemoor.
- c. The new bike lanes will also connect to the existing Arkansas River Paths, I-135 Path, and Schweiter Bikeway.

3. How did the City inform people about this proposed change to 1st and 2nd Street?

- a. The Project Downtown Plan planning process started in 2008 and the final plan was adopted by the City Council in 2010. Throughout the process, members of the public were invited and encouraged to participate through TV, newspaper, and flyer information. Hundreds of people attended the open house events, workshops, and meetings. The adopted plan recommends the 1st and 2nd Street corridors for bicycling.
- b. The Wichita Bicycle Master Plan recommends the installation of bike lanes on 1st and 2nd Streets. The plan was developed through a two-year long process with more than 4,000 participants. The Plan was endorsed by the City Council in 2013. Members of the public were invited and encouraged to participate through social media, newspaper, flyers, and radio information.
- c. During the design process, City staff hand delivered invitations to an open house event to all adjacent property owners. The proposed designs were also reviewed at two City district advisory board meetings and approved by the Wichita City Council.

4. Will this change lead to congestion on 1st and 2nd Streets?

- a. Traffic engineers have looked at the traffic counts and modeled the changes. Based on this information, City staff found that the new configuration would continue to flow well and observations of existing conditions support this.

5. Will this change effect on-street parking?

- a. The new configuration will result in new 24-hour on-street parking spaces, by removing the time restrictions on the parking spaces.
- b. The project will more clearly mark the on-street spaces.
- c. There will be minimal changes to existing on-street parking spaces.

6. Will the 1st and 2nd Street Bike Lanes be used?

- a. The current configuration of 1st and 2nd Streets isn't very comfortable for people bicycling. However, traffic counts taken along the streets show that people are using the streets as a bicycle route. In addition, through the Bicycle Master Plan process – the 1st and 2nd Street Bike Lanes were identified as one of the top 10 Top Priority On-Street Bicycle Facilities.

7. What is the City doing to educate people about how to drive and bicycle?

- a. The City currently has the following resources.
 - i. Street Safety videos (link below)
 - 1. <http://www.wichita.gov/LivePlay/Bicycle/Pages/Laws.aspx>
 - 2. Search Youtube for Wichita Street Safety
 - ii. Bicycle facility definitions (link below)
 - 1. <http://www.wichita.gov/LivePlay/Bicycle/Pages/Facilities.aspx>
 - iii. Street safety brochure (link below)
 - 1. http://www.wichita.gov/LivePlay/Bicycle/BicycleDocuments/Safety%20brochure-Motorists_Bicyclists%20%2009-14.pdf
- b. The City is also working on a Street Safety Education Initiative (link below). The project will develop a strategy for safety outreach efforts, a training module for City staff, and provide opportunities for interested individuals to become certified to teach bicycling classes.
 - i. <http://www.wichita.gov/Government/Departments/Planning/Pages/Wichita-Street-Safety-Initiative.aspx>

8. How can people learn more about this and other bicycling related projects?

- a. You can learn more about this and other bicycling related projects by visiting the City web page www.wichita.gov/bicycle
- b. The projects webpage includes an overview of this project and others.
 - i. <http://www.wichita.gov/LivePlay/Bicycle/Pages/Projects.aspx>

9. How much does the construction of this project cost?

- a. More than 50 percent of the construction costs are funded by the Federal Transportation Enhancements program. The Federal funding is approximately \$342,000, and City is contributing approximately \$242,000. This project will remove all of the existing stripes and install new striping using multi-part component on approximately 3.7 miles streets. For comparison, the cost to construct one lane mile of roadway is \$1 million and one mile of a five lane roadway is approximately \$5 million.