

Wichita Downtown Street Conceptual Plan

Open Streets Pop-Up Event 2019

Summary

On September 22, 2019, the City of Wichita hosted a booth at the Open Streets ICT Douglas Avenue event from noon to 5 pm. The event provide attendees the opportunity to learn more about the Wichita Downtown Streets Conceptual Plan and the East Douglas Avenue project. The Open Streets event drew more than 35,000 participants, and more than 100 visited the booth.

In preparation for the Public Meeting, outreach efforts included:

- promotion of a Facebook event on the City’s Facebook page
- coordination with local organizations such as Downtown Wichita.



Stations

The booth included multiple stations (described below) – with maps, text, and/or graphics. Participants were able to provide feedback about the information using comment cards, sticky notes, or using an online survey.

Overview and Background

At the goals station, participants were asked to prioritize a set of seven goals that had been previously considered in consultation with City staff. Participants were asked to place a blue

sticker on the goals that resonated the most with them and green stickers on goals that were then secondary to them. Based on responses, these goals were ranked as follows:

1. Promote Vibrant Downtown Neighborhoods
2. Prioritize Active Transportation Options
3. Provide Mobility Choices for All Residents, Businesses, and Visitors
4. Manage Infrastructure Resources to Maximize Value
5. Foster Economic Investment
6. Embrace Innovation and Technology
7. Enhance Safety and Health

Existing Conditions Station

At the existing conditions station, participants were asked to give the consulting team and City staff input on existing issues and concerns noted downtown. In order to facilitate discussions, maps were presented of the following:

- Downtown Streets
- Transit Infrastructure (including ridership levels at downtown stops)
- Existing and Proposed Bicycle Infrastructure
- Opportunities for Roadway Change (based on traffic volumes and number of lanes)

As participants made comments, they were further encouraged to write specific comments on post-it notes for consideration by the City and consulting team.

Photos of the public meeting and presentation materials are presented on the following pages.

Traffic Collisions by Mode

This map provided information about the location, number and modes involved in motor vehicle collision in the downtown area.

Biking Infrastructure

This station consisted of a map showing existing and proposed bikeways in downtown and the surrounding areas.

Emporia Two-Way Concepts

This station consisted of a graphic that showed two possible configurations for Emporia Avenue in downtown. The board include areas for participants to vote for the configuration they preferred and to provide comments.

Street Typologies – Existing and Potential

This station consisted of a graphic showing the existing and potential street typologies. It included information about the number of lanes, presence of on-street parking, turning lanes, one-way streets, and bikeways. Participants were asked to provide comments in the boxes on the graphic.

Market Street

This station consisted of a graphic showing a possible two way configuration on Market Street. Participants were asked to provide comments in the comment box on the bottom of the graphic.

Broadway Station

This station consisted of two graphics showing three different configuration options for Broadway. The first graphic was an aerial view of the 2nd and 3rd options. The second graphic showed cross sections of the three options. Participants were asked to vote for the option they preferred and provide comments at the bottom.

Major Roadway Opportunities

This station consisted of a graphic showing major roadways in the downtown area and the level of potential opportunity for changes to their configurations. The graphic was developed looking at the traffic volumes and the capacity of the roadway.

Transit Infrastructure

This station consisted of a map showing transit routes in downtown and the surrounding area; and the amount of on-boardings and off-boardings.

Topeka Street

This station consisted of a graphic showing a possible two way configuration on Topeka Avenue. Participants were asked to provide comments in the comment box on the bottom of the graphic.

Introduction and Overview

This station consisted of a board displaying information about the project – including what; why; and when.

Bike & Transit

This station consisted of a graphic showing the existing bike and transit networks; and proposed bike and transit networks. Participants were asked to provide comments in the boxes on the graphic.

East Douglas Avenue Designs

This station consisted of the draft designs for Douglas Avenue as a three lane configuration from the Arkansas River to Grove Street.

Public Input

Total Comments: 13

What brings you downtown?

- Work 1
- Shop 1
- Commute Through 3
- Other 4
 - Bars
 - Entertainment
 - Restaurants

- Old Towne

Most important issue

- Better able to commute
- Parking
- Keeping traffic moving
- Traffic flow/parking
- No median on center of Douglas
- Park and bike facilities and safety
- Do not turn Douglas into two lanes, it's stupid
- Yes bike lanes

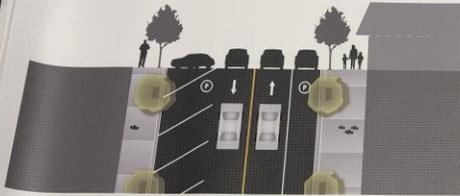
Other comments

- Amazing job on bicycle paths and street access
- Interconnectivity to Riverside is important. Personal safety to Broadway. Never come downtown at night.
- Make it nice, add trees
- One-ways make it easier to turn in the downtown. Cars drive in the bike lanes – use them as turn lanes, park in them
- Parking on the main streets really slows traffic down too much
- Better access more parking
- Broadway Option 1: Both as a cyclist and as a driver, the bike lane gives me anxiety of dooring. When cycling, I'm taking the lane.
- Add back the parking in the middle of Douglas on weekends – helped with supply



Emporia Two-Way Conversion Concepts

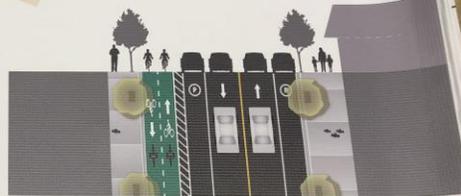
OPTION Add Angled Parking



Vote here!

Give us feedback!

OPTION Add Parallel Parking and Two-Way Cycletrack



Vote here!

Give us feedback!

Wichita Downtown Streets

Vote on your phone!



Street Typologies - Existing and Potential

EXISTING STREET TYPOLOGIES

- Expressway
- Arterial
- Collector
- Local
- Neighborhood
- Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Utility
- Other

POTENTIAL STREET TYPOLOGIES

- Expressway
- Arterial
- Collector
- Local
- Neighborhood
- Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Utility
- Other

Give us feedback!

Give us feedback!

Wichita Downtown Streets

Vote on your phone!

Market Street

Two-Way Conversion Concept

Give us feedback!

Wichita Downtown Streets

Vote on your phone!

Broadway Sample: 1st St to 2nd St

OPTION

Buffered Bike Lanes, No On-Street Parking, Buses Stop on Bike Lane



OPTION

Enhanced Bus Stops with On-Street Parking (No Bike Lanes)



Give us feedback!



Vote on your phone!

Broadway Cross Sections

OPTION 1

Standard Bike Lanes with On-Street Parking, Buses Stop on Bike Lane



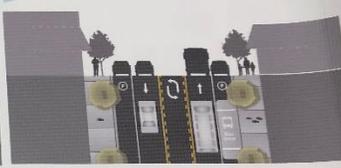
OPTION 2

Buffered Bike Lanes, No On-Street Parking, Buses Stop on Bike Lane



OPTION 3

Enhanced Bus Stops with On-Street Parking (No Bike Lanes)



Vote here!

Two blue circles and one orange circle.

Give us feedback!

Vote here!

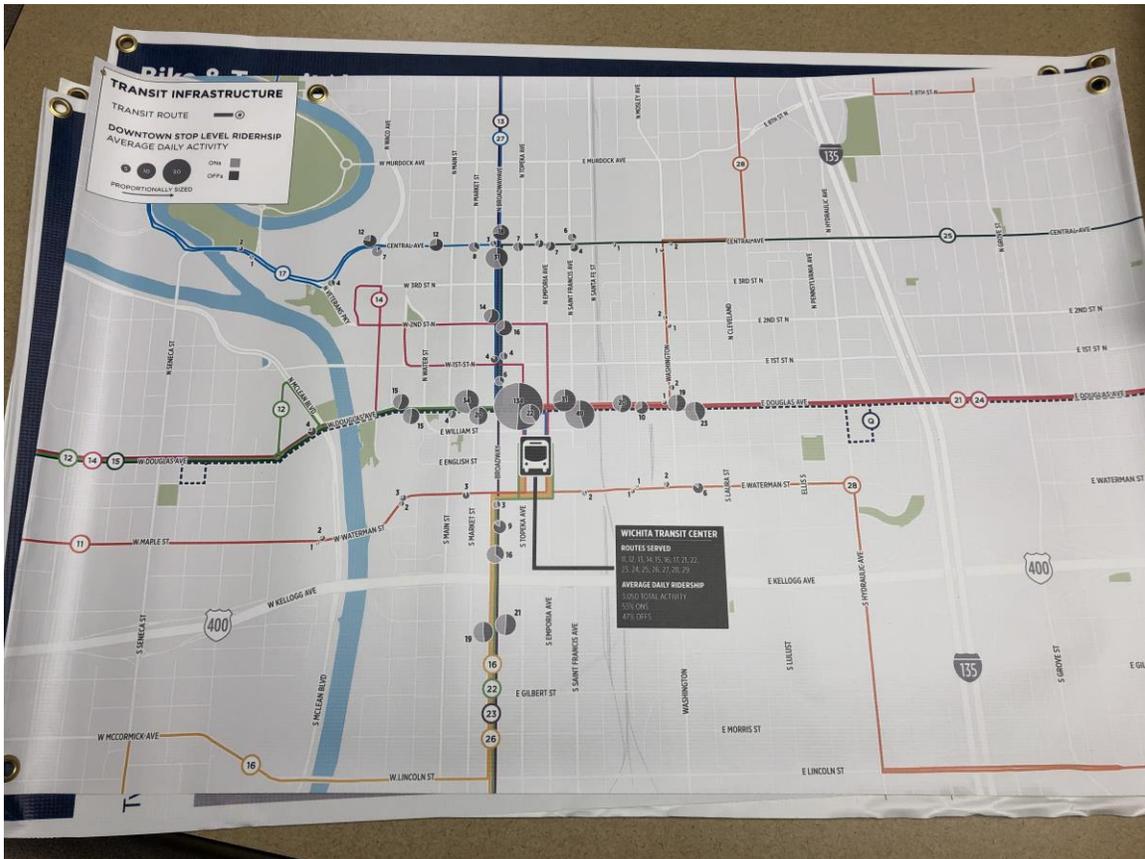
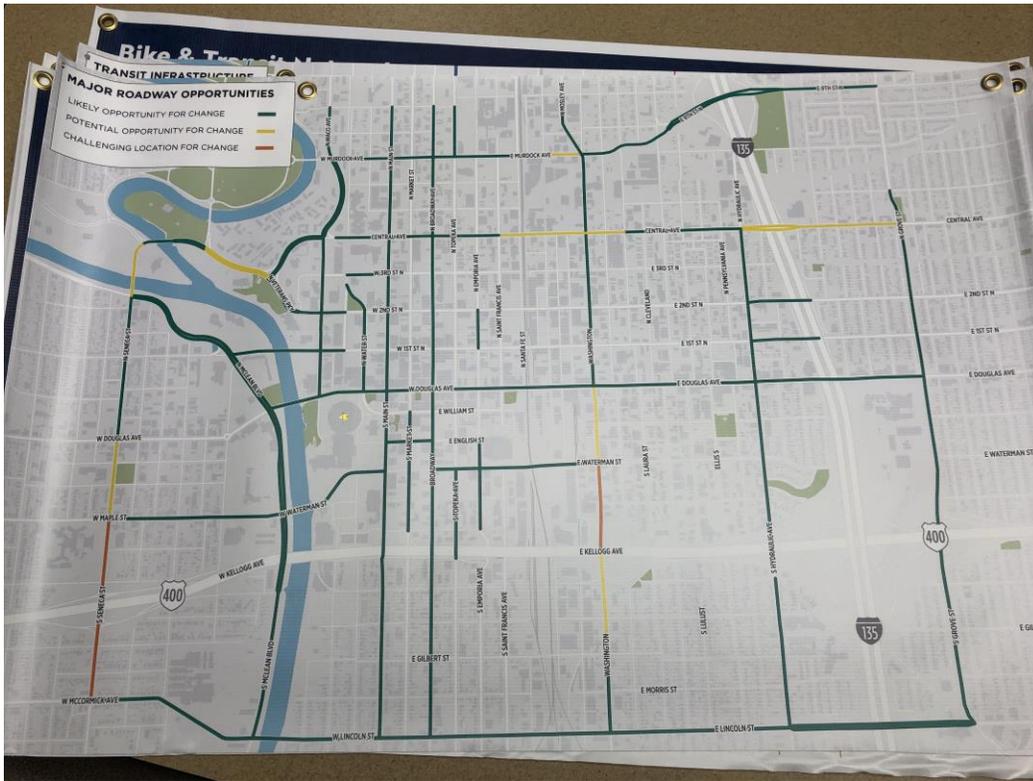
Eight blue circles and two orange circles.

Give us feedback!

Vote here!

One blue circle.

Give us feedback!



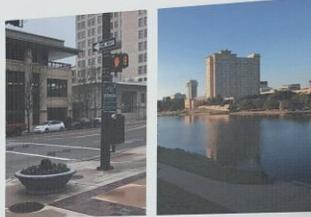


Wichita Downtown Streets

What?

The Downtown Streets Conceptual Plan will:

- Identify ways to improve safety and mobility in Downtown
- Provide a framework for downtown street design that meets current and future needs
- Be financially feasible with broad-based support
- Include clear and realistic guidance in moving from plan to action



Why?

Downtown is Wichita's economic, cultural, and entertainment heart. The City of Wichita has completed and continues to develop long-term plans to shape downtown to better meet current and future needs and to enhance the neighborhood as a place to live and work. Mobility and safety are critical elements in helping downtown Wichita achieve these larger goals. With new growth, a strategic, comprehensive, and integrated plan for street design is crucial to attracting and maintaining a healthy mix of uses and new development in Wichita.



When?

- Project Kickoff with Community – February 2019
- Open Design Sessions and Riverfest Community Input – June 2019
- Action Plan and Community Feedback – Summer/Fall 2019
- Final Plan – Winter 2019/2020



Find more information at:
www.Wichita.gov/downtownstreets

Topeka Street

Two-Way Conversion Concept



Give us feedback!

Feedback form area with a large empty box for text input.

Vote on your phone!



Wichita Downtown Streets

Bike & Transit Network - Existing