

Boones Ferry Road to Brown Road Connector Corridor Plan Stakeholder Interview Summary Report

Prepared by JLA Public Involvement
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Summary Overview

Between July 25th and August 23rd, 2016 JLA, Otak and the City of Wilsonville interviewed twelve key stakeholders identified by the project team. These stakeholders either own property, or manage businesses within the project area. Each individual or stakeholder group was asked the same set of questions. The main purpose of the interviews was to learn about their concerns and preferences for the planned corridor connection between Boones Ferry and Brown Road. The feedback received will be used to shape the evaluation criteria that will help narrow the corridor alignment alternatives to a preferred option.

This report is a compilation of individual responses. The first part of the report summarizes the key themes and most commonly heard comments. The second part of the report provides a list of individual responses from each stakeholder meeting.

Stakeholders interviewed:

1. *Orepac (Alan Kirk and Darin Coder)*
2. *Old Town Village Business Center (Tim Knapp)*
3. *Wilsonville Concrete (David Bernert, Eric Vermillion and Angie Hannon)*
4. *Sheri Young*
5. *Bob Hartford*
6. *Old Town Neighborhood (Doug Muench and Monica Keenan)*
7. *Kim A. McAvoy, Timber Creek Village Apartments/KWDS LLC*
8. *Barbara Eave*
9. *Lynette Scheller*
10. *Curran Coil Spring (Chad)*
11. *Fred Meyer (Alisa Shaver and Pam Knuth)*
12. *Sherlock Self Storage (Amanda Johnson)*

Key Themes

Several themes emerged. It is important to note that these themes are not universally accepted points of view, but simply those that were raised by multiple interviewees.

The summarized responses are organized into three main areas: *Key Points of Concern, Preferred Options, Future Opportunities, and Study Process and Next Steps*. The following paragraphs explain those key themes in more detail.

Key Points of Concern

There were many concerns raised in the conversations with stakeholders. Some of the most common points of view were:

- Provide a safe, reliable and efficient route for vehicular traffic, freight, and bicyclists and pedestrians.
- Preserve land for future industrial development.
- Preserve the Old Town neighborhood.
- Preserve access to residential and industrial properties.
- Minimize impacts to area businesses due right of way acquisition.

Preferred Options

When asked about the various alignment options, there was no clear favorite. Many of the concerns voiced about the route were centered on providing continuity of developable land parcels; not segmenting them. Several stakeholders indicated support for the southern alignment because they felt it preserved the most developable land. One person supported the “blue” middle alignment for the same reason. Another person showed support for the “yellow” middle alignment because it seemed the shortest and most direct route. A couple of stakeholders noted the increased cost of the creek crossing if the southern alignment was chosen.

In terms of the connection point at Boones Ferry Road, opinions were also divided. One of the most common reasons for supporting Bailey Street as the connection point seemed to be because it would provide the most direct route to retail services. Several stakeholders also voiced concerns about the adverse impacts to the neighborhood and businesses in the area if 5th Street was selected. Since the time these interviews were conducted, one stakeholder contacted the City to indicate they were now neutral with regard to the connection point. They had previously supported the Bailey option.

The most common reason for supporting 5th Street as the connection point seemed to be in the interest of keeping the existing public rail crossing which provides access to several homes in the area. If Bailey was chosen as the preferred route, the public rail crossing at 5th would be eliminated and residential access would have to be re-routed. It was also noted by two stakeholders that the process of transferring to the public rail crossing would be too costly and time consuming.

There was a lack of agreement on which option would best resolve congestion since both Bailey and 5th Street received support related to this issue. At least two stakeholders indicated that future traffic modeling data would be needed to determine which route would be best for alleviating traffic problems.

Future Opportunities

Nearly all of the stakeholders interviewed felt the project area would benefit from improved bike and pedestrian access through the area to reach nearby retail services, parks and trails. At least two stakeholders indicated the need to resolve potential conflicts with large freight trucks when planning bike and pedestrian facilities and to avoid Kinsman Road.

There was support for a new transit loop through the project area along the corridor connector. This transit loop could serve area businesses by providing employees with an alternate mode to get to and from work, as well as connect people to neighborhoods and other services.

One person stated that when completed, the Corridor Plan would provide the certainty that is needed for area property owners to be able to move forward with plans for their property.

At least two people indicated that the roadway, when built, could serve as a natural buffer between residential development and industrial development.

Study Process and Next Steps

Everyone interviewed was aware of the project and most indicated that they had been engaged in previous studies.

None of the stakeholders who were asked about the project area name and logo had any concerns about it, although most weren't familiar with Arrowhead Creek.

All of the stakeholders indicated that e-mail was the best way to keep them informed about the project.

A few people noted that there were other area stakeholders that should be consulted, such as the Grange Hall owner, Old Town Neighborhood Association, D&M Glass Shop and the Mini Storage.

In closing, several stakeholders noted that they would like to see the land south of the project area developed as residential or mixed use with residential rather than industrial development to take advantage of the river views and access.

Complete Summary of Input

The following is a full compilation of the comments received during the interviews, organized by interview question.

1. Were you aware of the plans for the Boones Ferry to Brown Road corridor connector project prior to me contacting you? If so, how did you hear about it? Do you have any questions about the project?

- Aware of the project plans.
- Aware of the project plans.
- Yes, aware of the project.
- Yes, aware of the project.
- Yes, aware of the project.
- Yes, aware of the project and didn't have any questions.
- Yes, aware of the project. Inquired about the project timing in terms of construction and funding.
- Yes, were aware of the project and didn't have any questions.
- Yes, they were aware of the project and didn't have any questions.

2. When considering the various alignment alternatives, which do you prefer?

- Prefer the “yellow” middle alignment because it seemed to be the most straightforward and direct route.
- No preference on the alignment options.
- Continuity of industrial land parcels identified for future development should be maintained; however, the Bailey Street connection is preferred.
- The “blue”/middle alignment is preferred since it avoids segmenting and devaluing industrial land parcels identified for future development. However, the “red” route would be best if the southern alignment is selected since it seems to have the least impact to property owners on the south side of the project area. The bridge/crossing at Coffee Lake Creek will also be more expensive with the southern alignment because the creek is wider further south.
- Prefer the southern alternative because it has the least impacts to private property – keeps parcels contiguous for the most part. The “pink, purple, green and blue” alignment options don’t seem feasible based upon the decreased property value they would create by segmenting private property parcels.
- Prefer the southern alternative. Least impact to developable property.
- Alignment should optimize City owned property and not orphan private property parcels. Consider that the Coffee Lake Creek crossing (bridge) will be more expensive with the southern alignments than the northern alignment alternatives. Southern options also impacts private homes/property.
- Prefer the southern alternative.

3. Do you have a preference for a connection point for Boones Ferry Road; either at Bailey Street or 5th Street?

- Prefer the Bailey Street connection based upon previous studies and discussions. Bailey provides the most direct route to Fred Meyer and other retail operations on Boones Ferry and would better serve Wilsonville residents and alleviate congestion. Also have concerns about the impacts to businesses on 5th and Boones Ferry if 5th Street was chosen. However, will need to determine how local access would be achieved if Bailey is chosen.
- 5th Street would be the best connection because of the direct access/route to their property.
- Bailey is preferred as the connection because of the direct access it would provide to retail businesses and to alleviate current problems with congestion in that area. However, would like to see the future traffic analysis to determine the best route/connection to alleviate congestion.
- Bailey is preferred since it would enhance the current aesthetic condition of the road, but there are concerns about the potential impacts to area businesses (loss of the self-storage building due to railroad sight lines). Also concerned about the 5th Street connection and the impacts it could cause to property owners with the widening of the road.
- No preference between Bailey and 5th Street. Based upon the past discussions and information, it seemed to make the most sense to use Bailey as the connection due to the direct access it would provide to retail services. But knowing the constraints with the railroad, 5th might be a better alternative.

Brown Road will create major impacts with the apartments but that seems a long ways off from now. Widening will take away on street parking which isn't a huge issue since they didn't have it before and it's not really allowed, it's just not enforced. There are different options for accommodating the sidewalk. If the trees have to be removed, they won't be unhappy about it since they create maintenance issues.

- Bailey is the preferred connection due to the traffic impacts the 5th Street connection would create for the Old Town neighborhood. Bailey is identified in the Old Town Neighborhood Plan as the preferred connection. 5th Street would also create impacts to area businesses and historic buildings due to right-of-way acquisition. The turning radius needed for intersection would be problematic at 5th. Bailey provides better retail connection, traffic circulation.
- Bailey Street is the preferred connection for better access to retail (Fred Meyer) and because it would provide more relief of congestion on Wilsonville Road (since it's a shorter route). If Bailey is chosen and the public crossing at 5th is eliminated, a new access road, potentially Nutting, would have to be built for residents to the south. Sewer utilities would also need to be extended along Nutting or 2nd. This may create the need for a pump station. A connection at 5th would likely negatively impact businesses on that corner to due right-of-way acquisition (loss of on-street parking and planting strips).
- Prefer 5th street for safety reasons (sight line distance issues with Bailey) and for maintained access to private properties along 5th Street. Also the cost and potential complications/delay for creation of a new public rail crossing at Bailey seems problematic.
- 5th Street is preferred because the public access across the railroad is already at 5th Street and access to the residential properties to the south needs to be maintained. It would be less costly to provide sewer access as well. Abandoning the public rail crossing at 5th and establishing a new public crossing at Bailey would create a significant delay in the process.
- Prefer connection at Bailey because of existing easement owned by the City and this connection supports the redevelopment fees that were used for Fred Meyer. The connection at 5th Street is problematic due to the impact it would have to nearby property values. Nutting Road could provide access to residential properties to the south if Bailey served as the connection and the public crossing was removed at 5th.
- 5th Street is preferred since it would create the least amount of impact to private property parcels identified for future industrial development.

4. *What are your thoughts about alternative modes of transportation, such as buses for access to retail and shopping on the east side of town?*

- Not a lot of employees in the area currently use the bus, but there seems to be high ridership based upon the number of people seen at the stop on Boones Ferry.
- Transit is great and is widely used by apartment tenants.
- Transit is great – having a new loop that changes the current route through Old Town would be advantageous.

- Transit (and infrastructure in general) is needed to support future development.
- SMART could benefit from a loop route option along the new corridor connection.
- A transit loop along the new corridor connection would be of value.
- It seems appropriate to establish a bus route through the area; some employees use the bus to get to work.

5. *The City's master plans include the Tonquin Trail, a bike/ped pathway, through this area connecting residential areas and schools on the west side of Wilsonville to parks and businesses on the east side of Wilsonville and along Boones Ferry Road. What are your thoughts on how best to accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians through this area?*

- Improved bike/ped trails and overall connectivity would be a benefit to area retail businesses. No one currently bikes due to the unsafe conditions on Wilsonville Road.
- Bike lockers are beginning to be a requirement at some apartment complexes, which provides a lot of advantages. The lockers encourage people to use their bikes by giving them added space for storage. Access to retail shopping, parks and trails via a pedestrian and bike paths in the project area would be another added bonus.
- A bike/ped connection that travels south on Otto Lane and the 2nd Street underpass would be beneficial.
- The Bailey connection and the middle alignment provides a better Bike/Ped route because its shorter and flatter. It's a more direct connection to retail services. The rail crossing does create an issue for bikes that would need to be addressed. Making a connection to the parks and the river to the south via Otto Lane and the 2nd Street undercrossing is a good idea.
- Keep bike/ped paths on the south side to connect with the Tonquin Trail. Crossings should be made at a right angle for safety (prevent conflicts with truck traffic). Bike/ped connections to Fred Meyer and other retail on Boones Ferry (east side) need to be established. Need to keep bike/ped off Wilsonville Road and provide safe routes to school. Get people out of their cars.
- Avoid conflicts with trucking operations on Industrial Way. Maintain bike/ped access on northern side of roadway and on Kinsman to avoid conflicts with trucks.
- Would prefer to see a bike/ped trail south to Tonquin Trail to avoid conflicts with truck traffic. Keep bike/ped use off of Kinsman Road.

6. *Do you think roundabouts could be a potential solution in this area? Why or why not?*

- Roundabouts are nice.
- Roundabouts may not be functional in an industrial area (conflicts with truck traffic).
- Roundabouts take out a lot of developable land but work well to minimize collisions.
- Roundabouts wouldn't work because of the needed size (footprint) would take out too much developable land.
- More information is needed, such as traffic counts to be able to determine if roundabouts are feasible.

7. What do you think are the key issues to be considered and that will need to be addressed when examining the alternatives?

- Preserve Old Town neighborhood and the transition to residential/housing by making the connection at Bailey rather than 5th. Also for safety reasons – there are daycare and dance lesson facilities on 5th and Boones Ferry Road.
- Look at intersections and access points for the property parcels when considering the alignments and connection at Boones Ferry.
- There are safety issues with sight distance and the grade for the rail road crossing at Bailey.
- Access to private property off of 5th Street must be maintained if Bailey becomes a public rail crossing rather than 5th Street.
- Impacts to businesses on 5th Street are a concern due to ROW acquisition, as well as any increased truck traffic– do not want it to be a truck route. Over-building the roadway will lead to it being a truck route. The corridor should be a neighborhood to neighborhood connection. Kinsman should be the truck route. 5th is the preferred connection, but minimize impacts to area businesses on both sides. On street parking should be maintained. Preserving the utility of residential and industrial land is critical. The Montebello Road connection is important for bike/ped access.
- There are issues with industrial uses and bike/ped conflicts currently, so this needs to be taken into consideration.
- Maintain truck access on Industrial Way to allow left hand turns for trucks with signalized intersections due to timing and spacing. Wilsonville Concrete business office access is also off of Industrial Way, which also needs to be maintained. Reconfiguring the parking lot at Wilsonville Concrete would be problematic.
- Having an adequate turn radius for trucks on Kinsman road is important.

8. What opportunities and benefits do you see for this project?

- The Corridor Plan, once completed, will provide some certainty for property owners to move forward with.
- Northern most alignment allows for SDCs to pay for construction on either side with residential development. The roadway could serve as a natural buffer between residential and industrial development.
- If the preferred alignment was adjacent to SRO zones (natural areas), the property to the north of Wilsonville Concrete could be developed as a park to provide an additional buffer between industrial and residential uses.

9. The project team has prepared a draft logo (refer to project fact sheet) and propose to refer to the general project area as the Arrowhead Creek Planning Area. How does that resonate with you?

- Arrowhead Creek planning area is fine. Didn't know Arrowhead Creek existed.
- Arrowhead Creek planning area is fine. No concerns with it.
- The name and logo didn't raise any red flags, but it wasn't familiar. Previously referred to the project as the section G planning area.

- No issues with the name “Arrowhead Creek”. Previously referred to this area as Section G Planning Area. Although Arrowhead Creek is a drainage ditch that dries out and terminates at the cement plant.
- The name and logo didn’t raise any red flags, but it wasn’t familiar. Had previously referred to the project as the Brown Road Westside Bypass.

10. Are there any events, activities, plans, conditions, or anything else that we should be aware of?

- There is a gully at the Hartford property on 5th that should be looked at.
- Already queueing that takes place on Boones Ferry. Bailey won’t accomplish the pressure relief.
- The deep gully at the Hartford property doesn’t have any water in it.
- Current interest with northern properties along Wilsonville Road is for high density residential development. All vacant lands are for sale.
- 6:30 to 7 a.m. is the peak traffic time for trucking operations at Wilsonville Concrete. Wilsonville concrete could potentially operate 24/7 in the future.
- The frequency and timing of rail cars in and out of Orepac is fairly unpredictable; more than 2 per month on average, sometimes more.

11. How can we best keep you informed throughout the project?

- E-mail
- E-mail
- E-mail
- E-mail. Can share information with the neighborhood through newsletters and upcoming block party.
- E-mail
- E-mail – please invite to open houses and other public meetings.
- E-mail
- E-mail progress reports and other info.
- Email

12. Is there anyone one else you feel we should keep informed or we need to hear from?

- Grange owner
- Old Town neighborhood association
- D&M Glass shop
- Grange Hall
- Mini Storage

13. Do you have any parting thoughts you would like to share with me?

- Look at Old Town Master Plan to see desired uses for Boones Ferry Road. Pedestrian and human scale is important.
- The Grange building is currently a problem with cats and homeless people living there.
- Bailey seems to be the best option based on the direct access it provides to retail services; however would like to see future traffic modeling analysis.

- Would like to see railroad eliminate dinner stops in Old Town area. It's noisy because they keep the trains running. Would also like to see mixed use development south of 5th street to maximize river views and access rather than industrial development.
- Would like to see traffic modeling results for future growth projections to see if 5th or Baily would be better in terms of traffic routes (alleviating congestion on Wilsonville Road and Boones Ferry).
- Would like to see mixed use, including residential, to the south nearest the river. Should maximize the views and river use.
- Would like to see the southern parcels develop as residential due to the proximity to the river.
- Refer to planning area criteria included in Section G Planning Area document.
- Maintain access for trucking operations. Compatible uses near industrial operations is most important. Safety, minimizing truck and pedestrian/cyclist conflicts is most important.