

Two Way Street Conversion Mid-Project Update – April 2017

The Two-Way Street Conversion project began in June of 2016. The project is now about **50% complete** and is currently on schedule to be substantially complete this fall.

This 50% moment is a milestone regarding the project's visual appearance. The first 50% was mostly underground to include drainage, water, sewer, utilities, and electrical for signals and illumination. Even though the project still has some underground work to get done during the second half, the remaining work is much more visual like sidewalks, paving, signals, and illumination.

Utility Work: This project is not just about converting traffic flow - there is major utility work happening underground which is now approximately **80% complete**. The work includes: upgraded sewer; storm collection; water lines; and fire hydrants.

In addition to the City project's utility upgrades, private and public utility contractors are also utilizing this time for their own work that would otherwise have impacted the area at another time. This work includes:

- Comcast has installed new underground conduits near 160th Ave NE and is currently relocating overhead to underground on 168th Ave NE; the work that Comcast is doing on 168th will also improve service capacity for Downtown Redmond.
- PSE and Frontier are completing the relocation of overhead power lines to underground within the project limits and for services to numerous Downtown developer projects.
- Zayo, a fiber optic utility company, just completed relocating their lines within the project limits.

Sidewalks, Curbs and Wheel Chair Ramps: This project is placing new sidewalks and curbs at the project intersections as well as updating the wheel chair ramps to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Sidewalks in between intersections will be upgraded at a later time as properties redevelop.

Realignments at Avondale Way, Cleveland Street and 168th Ave NE: By the end of April, traffic will be shifted onto Avondale Way's new alignment. The driveway serving Value Village / Fed Ex / etc. will be realigned to match this new alignment later on this project. This realignment is a necessary byproduct of the upcoming conversion to two-way traffic on Redmond Way. A similar shift will occur at the east end of Cleveland Street, aligning it with 168th Ave NE.

Signals and Illumination: The traffic signals on Redmond Way and Cleveland Street between 160 Ave NE and 170 Ave NE are being modified to accommodate converting Redmond Way and Cleveland Street to two-way traffic. So far, most of the signal and illumination work has been underground but over the next few months, the work will become much more visually apparent as new poles are being set and mast arms are being hung. Some future signals may be installed but kept turned off or bagged until the conversion takes place.

What's Left to Complete: Two summers ago, the City finished improvements to Cleveland Street from 160th Ave NE to 164th Ave NE, and that project was done with the future Two-way Conversion Project in mind. Because most of the work on Cleveland Street was completed on that past project, only minor channelization and signage as well as setting new mast arms and signal heads remains to be done on Cleveland Street.

On the current Two-way Conversion Project, most of the contractor's efforts so far have been on the north side of Redmond Way. In the next couple of months, most of the work on the north side of Redmond Way will be finished, at which time traffic will be shifted to the north side so that the contractor can focus on the south side of Redmond Way. There is still some minor underground work to be accomplished, but most of the remaining work is above ground. Within the next few weeks and through the summer, Avondale Way will be re-aligned, and throughout the project signal poles will be placed and sidewalks will be constructed. The later part of the summer and into the fall will see the completion of final paving, new illumination being activated and new roadway channelization going down. Last but not least, the Two-Way Street Conversion will take place, which is the moment that the old signals can finally be removed and the new signals activated. At that point, both Redmond Way and Cleveland Street will be in their final two-way configuration.

Coordination

While this is a very large project, several steps have been taken to coordinate work and decrease the impacts.

- Jill Smith, the City's Economic Development Manager, serves as the Downtown Liaison and single point of contact for any questions regarding any project downtown. Please don't hesitate to contact Jill at 425.556.2448 or email jesmith@redmond.gov.
- A weekly construction update email is sent to businesses and residential buildings each Friday afternoon with updates and any impacts of note for the following week. The email also includes events and business promotions happening Downtown. Sign up for this email at www.Redmond.gov/enews. Enter your email address and click on "Downtown Construction Updates".
- Project information is available at www.Redmond.gov/Downtown.
- Two-Way Street Conversion's Resident Engineer meets weekly or bi-weekly with interested businesses to discuss details and impacts of the project. If you are interested in a one-on-one or group business meeting to learn more details of the project, please contact Jill to schedule a date and time.
- Since May of 2016, the project leadership from all public and private development Downtown projects (Two-Way Street Conversion, Downtown Park, Redmond Triangle, Station House Lofts, Ravello, 162Ten, Bill Brown Garage building seismic restoration, WSDOT SR202 Overlay, 2015/16 TSIP, and private utility work) meet weekly to coordinate work. In addition, shorter term projects like the recent WSDOT SR 202 Overlay and the seismic restoration of the Bill Brown garage, and others, have also coordinated work in Downtown.

Business Support

The following promotions, events, ads, messaging, business listings, etc. have been executed in support of Downtown businesses. **Look for a brand new campaign promoting Downtown to roll out April 21!**

Promotions and Events

- We Dig Downtown marketing and programming - Sept 12 through Oct 31
- Small Business Saturday – 11/26
- Redmond Lights and the After Party – 12/3
- Lights on Leary – throughout the month of December
- National Night Out – Aug 1
- So Bazaar – Aug 11, 18, 25
- New Downtown promotional campaign developed by local business owners coming April 21!

Tools for Communication

- Downtown Open for Business Mailer
- Downtown Business Meetings
- Redmond Reporter Ads/Articles
- Community Shopper & Focus Mailings
- Weekly Construction Email Updates
- Social Media
- We Dig Downtown [Video](#)
- Sandwich Boards & Signage
- Posters, Rack Cards, Table Tents
- Redmond.gov/Downtown
- Business Directory at www.ExperienceRedmond.com/Downtown

Jill Smith • City of Redmond • Economic Development Manager & Downtown Liaison
jesmith@redmond.gov • 425-556-2448 • Redmond.gov/Downtown