



"Smart Streets" is an effort to improve the role of streets within South Bend. Projects within this initiative utilize the "Complete Streets" philosophy which advocates for the design of streets to enable safe access for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities.



Lincolnway West Improvements Fact Sheet

Project Purpose

The City of South Bend is undertaking an effort to reconfigure Lincolnway West, between William Street and Maplewood Avenue, into a street that is safer and creates an environment more conducive to business and residential investment.

Once carrying the US 20 designation, Lincolnway West had served as a highway whose purpose was to move large amounts of traffic. That character remains, promoting high speeds, often in excess of posted speed limits. Walking or bicycling is unpleasant or even dangerous, and businesses go unnoticed by passersby. The reconfiguration of travel lanes and related improvements will maintain a steady flow of traffic at calmer speeds. Motorist, pedestrian, and bicyclist safety will be improved, while businesses will have better visibility and the benefit of publicly provided on-street parking. The lane marking changes and street trees will make the area more attractive to residents on or near the street.

The improvements are one step in the implementation of the *West Side Main Streets Plan*, the recently completed plan for Lincolnway West and Western Avenue. In the planning process, businesses and residents stated they wanted a more walkable environment, which this project will help create.

Project Scope

The lane striping on Lincolnway West will be converted from four lanes (two lanes in each direction) to one lane in each direction with a left-turn lane. As space and demand dictates, on-street parking and bicycle facilities will be added. These changes are summarized in the table on the reverse. The entire stretch of Lincolnway will be resurfaced, either through microsurfacing or a thin asphalt overlay.

As traffic does not require them, the traffic signals at the Lincolnway intersections with Blaine Avenue, Johnson Street, and Maplewood Avenue will be explored for removal. The remaining traffic signal poles will be painted black. New street trees will be planted along the street's entire length.

LWW Segment (Address Numbers)	Travel Lane Changes	On-Street Parking	Bicycle Facilities
William - Sherman (400 - 1025)	Conversion from 4 lanes to 3 lanes	Both sides	Shared-lane marking (sharrow)
Sherman - Kaley (1026 - 2699)	Conversion from 4 lanes to 3 lanes	North side only	Bike lanes
Kaley - Goodland (2700 - 2999)	Conversion from 4 lanes to 3 lanes	Both sides	Bike lanes
Goodland - Bendix (3000 - 3199)	Conversion from 4 lanes to 3 lanes	None	Bike lanes
Bendix - Maplewood (3200 - 4099)	Conversion from 4 lanes to 3 lanes	None	Buffered bike lanes

Lincolnway West carries about 15,000 to 20,000 vehicles per day, depending on the segment. Across the country, similar three-lane reconfigurations have been successfully implemented on streets carrying up to 20,000 to 25,000 vehicles per day. A traffic analysis completed for this project confirms that intersections along Lincolnway will maintain acceptable levels of service with the lane reconfiguration; that is, vehicles will be able to move through intersections without significant delay.

Maintenance of Traffic & Property Access

Lincolnway West will remain open to traffic throughout construction, and work will be completed in phases. Access to cross streets and to driveways may be restricted for brief periods while work is being done. Every effort will be made to minimize interruption to property access for residents, customers, employees, and deliveries.

Schedule

Contractor bids for these improvements will be opened on October 23. Weather permitting, tree planting will begin this fall. Work on the Lincolnway West pavement is anticipated to begin about May 1, 2015, and be completed by June 26, 2015. All dates are subject to change.

Tree Maintenance

Pending available funding, the City may provide professional tree maintenance during the first three years after planting, the critical period of establishment and growth. This maintenance would include watering, fertilizing, and pruning.

Additional Information

For additional information or project updates, contact the City of South Bend Department of Community Investment at (574) 235-9371 or visit www.southbendin.gov/smartstreets.