

Cedar Avenue reconstruction

Phase 3 engagement summary

Background

Hennepin County, in partnership with the City of Minneapolis, plans to reconstruct Cedar Avenue (County Road 152) between Lake Street (County Road 3) and 24th Street East. Engagement began in the spring of 2023 and phase 3 concluded in spring of 2024.

The third phase of engagement involved reporting back to the community about how their input shaped the two design options, as well as gathering input on design features.

Engagement events

Phase 3 engagement events included the following:

Corridor residents focus group
February 7

Business focus group
February 7

Spanish language focus group
February 12

Little Earth focus group
February 23

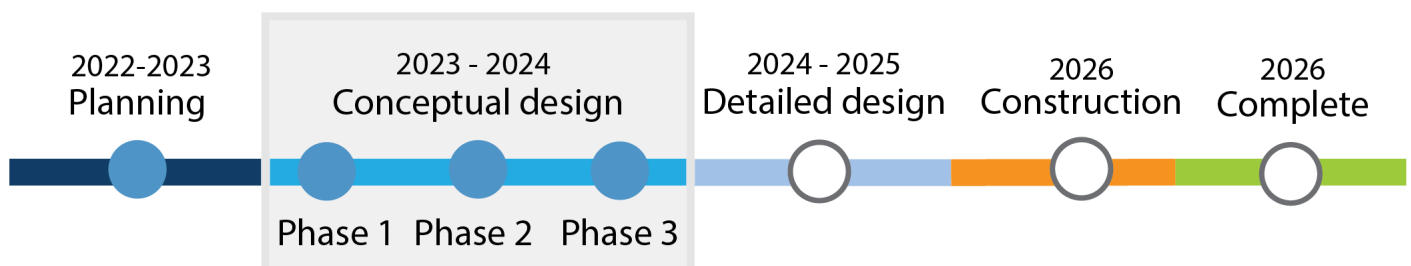
Public workshop
February 29



Overall, the project team engaged with about 85 people at engagement events.



Project schedule



Focus group feedback

At each focus group, attendees went over the two design options with project staff. The designs were broken into two-block street segments: 24th to 26th Street, 26th Street to 28th Street, and 28th Street to Lake Street. Project staff explained the design elements, how they incorporated what was heard in previous engagement and went over key differences between the two design options. For each two-block segment, participants were encouraged to share their thoughts on the design options and features and ask questions to project staff.

Key takeaways from each focus group:

Corridor residents

- Interest in the bikeway (Option B), but questions about residential parking from 26th to 28th Street and parking space for deliveries
- Support of medians, raised crossings, turn lanes, and new stop lights

Spanish language

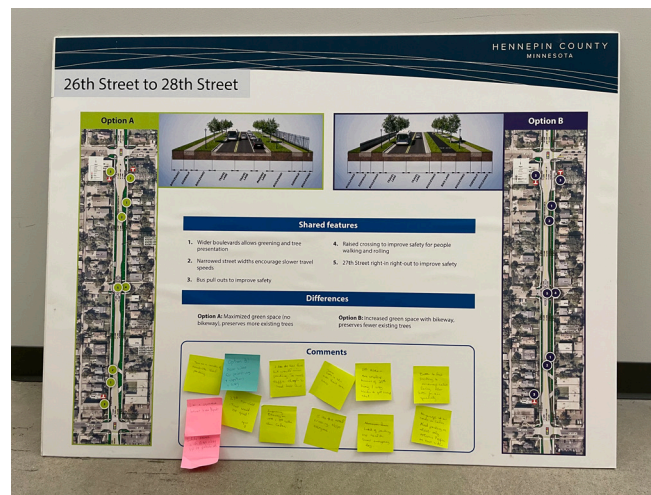
- Support for both alternatives, especially bus pull outs and lighting
- Concerns about current signal at pedestrian bridge
- Questions about right-in right-out at 27th Street and how that impacts traffic at nearby intersections

Businesses

- Feedback focused on questions around construction impacts
- Generally favored keeping parking over the bike path, recognizing resident needs
- Additional questions around safety and hoping design will improve overall corridor safety

Little Earth

- Support of raised crossings and lighting improvements
- Support for bikeway, but questions about the safety of the alignment adjacent to the sidewalk
- No clear preference on right in/out at Little Earth, but focus on median and support of safer crossing



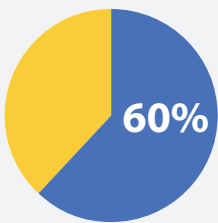
Boards at the focus groups and open house showed two-block segments of each of the two design options.

Workshop feedback

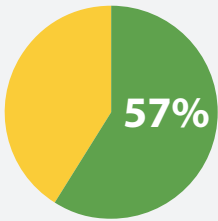
The project team hosted a public meeting/workshop on Thursday, February 29 at the Little Earth gymnasium. The event drew about 45 people.

Demographics

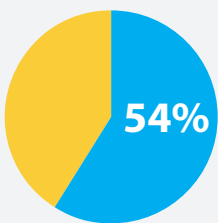
Demographic information was voluntarily collected at this event:



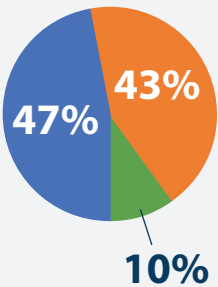
Most participants were American Indian/ Native American



Most participants lived on or close to Cedar Avenue



The most represented zip code was 55404, which includes Little Earth and the surrounding area



The gender divide between female (47%) and male (43%) was nearly evenly split, with the remainder of participants identifying as non-binary (10%).



Project staff engage with public meeting attendees.

Key takeaways from public workshop:

87 comments from approximately 40 attendees were documented during the evening on boards, plots, and in staff notes.

Preference for high-intensity activated crosswalk beacon (HAWK) signal

Slight preference for native seed over bee lawn vegetation

Split preference between alternatives; comments included:

- Questions about ped/bike conflicts
- Support of more active living
- Support of residential parking
- Support of as much greening as possible
- Questions about parking and turning needs for Roof Depot

Engagement goals

The public engagement vision is to connect with community and stakeholders to generate project interest, build rapport, and facilitate a high level of participation in understanding and shaping the project. We plan to realize this by using the following goals-based approach to public engagement.

1

Inclusive engagement

2

Multicultural engagement

3

Prioritize community relationships

Throughout conceptual design the county is partnering with community-based organizations in the Phillips neighborhood with the interest, capacity and expertise in conducting engagement. Little Earth Resident Association, Banyan Community, and the Midtown Greenway Collation will assist the county with engagement to help deliver on our engagement goals.

Upcoming engagement



Final design concepts will be presented to the public in the summer of 2024.

Contact

Josh Potter

Project Manager

Office: (612) 596-0820

Trey Joiner

Engagement Manager

Office: (612) 474-0037

Need more information or would like to attend an event? Email us at
cedaravenue@hennepin.us