Corridor Improvements toolbox

The following are a range of tools that could be used along the corridor. Place your dots on the tools you would like to see on Nicollet Avenue.

Nicollet Avenue reconstruction

County Road 52 in Richfield

Street layout configurations

Place 1 dot in this category

3-lane roadway (two-way center turn lane)

One travel lane in each direction with a two-way center turn lane

Considerations

- Opportunities for improved facilities and crossings for people walking and biking
- Safe and efficient operations compared to 4-lanes
- Center turn lane does not restrict turning movements
- Opportunity to add planted boulevards
- Matches current street configuration
- Center turn lane can be confusing to drivers

2-lane divided roadway (with raised median)

One travel lane in each direction with a raised median in the center

Considerations

- Opportunities for improved facilities and crossings for people walking and biking
- Safe and efficient operations compared to 4-lanes
- Opportunities to include left turn lanes at intersections
- Restricts street/driveway access (no left turns)
- Increased capacity for traffic and potential delays for delivery vehicles and transit vehicles
- Opportunity to add planted medians and boulevards
- Subject to emergency vehicle access minimum width requirements

2-lane undivided (no median)

One travel lane in each direction with no center median

Considerations

- Opportunities for improved facilities and crossings for people walking and biking
- Shorter crossing distances and greater separation from traffic for people walking and biking
- No separation between opposing lanes
- Increased capacity for traffic and potential delays for delivery vehicles and transit vehicles
- No dedicated left turn lanes for driveways/intersections
- Opportunity to add planted boulevards
- Subject to emergency vehicle access minimum width requirements

Pedestrian, bicycle, and boulevard configurations

Place 2 dots in this category

Sidewalk and trail with boulevards

Multiuse trail on one side of the street with a sidewalk on the opposite side

Considerations

- Accommodates multiple types of users (walk, roll, bike)
- May not accommodate all levels of ability for cyclists
- Pedestrian and bicycle conflicts

Sidewalk and trail with boulevards plus on-street bike lanes

Multiuse trail on one side of the street with a sidewalk on the opposite side, with on-street bike lanes

Considerations

- Accommodates multiple types of users (walk, roll, bike)
- Accommodates multiple levels of ability for cyclists
- Pedestrian and bicycle conflicts

Cycle track

Behind the curb bike facility and sidewalk on each side of the street

Considerations

- Accommodates multiple types of users (walk, roll, bike)
- Minimizes pedestrian and bicycle conflicts
- May not accommodate all levels of ability for cyclists
- Larger footprint

Two-way cycle track

Behind the curb, two-way bike facility and sidewalk on one side and sidewalk only on the other

Considerations

- Accommodates multiple types of users (walk, roll, bike)
- Minimizes pedestrian and bicycle conflicts
- May not accommodate all levels of ability for cyclists
- Two-way bike operations can be confusing
- Two-way facility minimizes vehicle conflicts
- Smaller footprint compared to one-way cycle track

On-street buffered bike lanes

On-street bike lanes separated by a painted buffer

Considerations

- Provides some separation from vehicle traffic
- May not accommodate all levels of ability for cyclists

Intersection treatments

Place 2 dots in this category

Compact Roundabout

Smaller sized roundabout at an intersection

Considerations

- Shorter crossing distances for pedestrians
- Requires additional design considerations for bike facilities
- Minimizes vehicle delay
- Reduces crash severity
- Can be difficult to navigate for large vehicles
- Larger footprint

Traffic signal improvements

New traffic signals at unsignalized locations or improved traffic signal operations where there are existing signals

Considerations

- Pedestrian and bicycle safety can be challenging
- Efficient traffic operations
- Higher crash severity compared to roundabouts
- Can lead to more vehicle delay
- Minimal footprint

Closed medians (right-in/right-out)

Raised center median extending through an intersection

Considerations

- Shorter crossing distances for pedestrians
- Improves safety by minimizing vehicle conflicts and controlling access
- Restricts vehicle access at cross streets and driveways (right-in/right-out only)
- Opportunity to add planted medians

Pedestrian medians (open crossing)

Raised center medians at intersections/crosswalks

Considerations

- Shorter crossing distances for pedestrians
- Better manage vehicle speeds
- Opportunity to add left turn lanes
- Opportunity to add planted medians
- Maintenance/snow clearance considerations

Raised crossings/ tabled intersections

Crosswalks are raised to the level of the adjacent sidewalks

Considerations

- Visually and physically prioritizes pedestrians and bicycles
- Better manages vehicle traffic
- Storm water management/ drainage can be challenging
- May not be feasible due to maintenance/snow clearance considerations

Pedestrian activated lights

Flashing lights at crosswalks with a person-activated push button

Considerations

- Improved vehicle stop compliance at crosswalks
- Need to managing yielding expectations
- Higher capital costs and ongoing maintenance cost

Bumpouts/curb-extensions

Extension of the pedestrian zone into the street at intersections

Considerations

- Shortened crossings distances for pedestrians
- Better manages vehicle speeds
- Can restrict vehicle turning movements
- Opportunities for plantings
- Maintenance/snow clearance considerations