



**City of Missoula, Montana
City Council Committee Agenda Item**

Committee: Public Works and Mobility

Item: Presentation on the Higgins Avenue Corridor (Brooks to Broadway) Planning Project

Date: January 19, 2023

Sponsor(s): Aaron Wilson

Prepared by: Ashley Strayer

Ward(s) Affected:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ward 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 4
<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ward 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 6
<input type="checkbox"/> All Wards	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

Action Required:

Direct staff to move forward with the preferred concept as outlined, or as otherwise directed by City Council.

Recommended Motion(s):

I move the City Council: Direct staff to move forward with the preferred concept as outlined, or as otherwise directed by City Council

Timeline:

Committee discussion:	February 1, 2023
Council action (or sets hearing):	February 6, 2023
Public Hearing (if required):	N/A
Final Consideration	N/A
Deadline:	N/A

Background and Alternatives Explored:

The City of Missoula and the Missoula Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), in collaboration with the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT), are studying Higgins Avenue between Brooks Street and Broadway Street to develop a corridor plan. The plan evaluates design options to improve safety and access for people driving, biking, walking, and riding the bus. The goal is to create a modern transportation system that enhances the economic vitality of the corridor and fulfills the intention of the Downtown Master Plan.

During the Summer of 2021 and Spring of 2022 staff received feedback on draft alternative concepts from the public and area business and property owners. In-person and virtual meetings were held, staff conducted door-to-door visits to area businesses, and surveys were made available. Based on this outreach, the City and MPO identified a preferred concept for Higgins Avenue. At the beginning of December, staff launched a final round of public engagement that will go into January, to better understand support for the preferred concept.

Staff is bringing a summary of all information gathered, including results from the past 6 weeks of public engagement, and asking Council for guidance regarding the pursuit of federal grants for potential implementation.

Financial Implications:

None

Links to external websites:

<https://www.engagemissoula.com/higgins-avenue-corridor-plan>