

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title:

Amend the River District Master Street Plan to clarify the required new street and pedestrian connections through the United States Postal Service site (Ordinance)

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Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

This River District Master Street plan governs the development of street and pedestrian connections within the River District boundary, including the majority of the Pearl District and Old Town Neighborhoods.

The update refines the street network and connections required within United States Postal Service site (USPS site), built upon the Council adopted 2015 Broadway Corridor Framework Plan. The USPS site is a publicly owned parcel and is the last remaining major development sites in the Pearl District, and the Broadway Corridor Framework Plan sets a vision of echoing the traditional Portland street grid with pedestrian-oriented connections while preserving room for a large extension of the North Park Blocks.

City Council has taken previous actions directly related to the River District Master Street Plan.

- On October 20, 2002, Council adopted the River District Master Street Plan via ordinance 177028. The Street Plan guides the development of new streets and pedestrian connections through the River District area of the Central City.
- The River District Master Street Plan is amended periodically to support to traffic, circulation and development plans in the area. The Street plan was most recently amended on May 24, 2018, via ordinance 188957 to be consistent with the 2035 Comprehensive Plan.
- On October 5, 2015, Council adopted the Broadway Corridor Framework Plan via resolution 37165. The Framework Plan is the guiding document for future development in the Broadway Corridor study area, including recommendations for streets and pedestrian connections within the USPS site.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

- The updated River District Master Street Plan does not create new financial and budgetary impacts.
- Financial impacts as a result of implementing the plan will be evaluated and reported to Council with each project.

Community impacts and community involvement:

- The Master Street Plan applies to the area bound by the I-405 freeway, Willamette River, W Burnside St and the Fremont Bridge, and will influence requirements for development proposals and capital projects within the area boundaries.
- The update is related to the development of the USPS Site. Prosper Portland led the master planning effort for the area and included a robust engagement process including regular meetings of the project's Steering Committee, Public Partners Technical Team, four public open houses and online forums, ten focus groups, six pop-up events, tabling at community events, a dozen stakeholder group presentations, and multiple on-on-one stakeholder interviews; This effort culminated in the development of the USPS Masterplan.
- The update to the River District Master Street Plan proposes new streets and pedestrian connections that maximize pedestrian-oriented design and minimize the footprint of motor vehicle infrastructure through the site.
- New streets through the USPS site area to be constructed as "pedestrian first" streets that are designed as public spaces for human-scale movement, rest and social exchange. Related design guidance the new streets encourages a unique curbless design, with textured materials and easy use for public events, farmers markets and other car-free events. These special street designs contribute to community livability through creating healthy, active public streets.

Specific public involvement for the updated River District Master Street Plan included:

- Briefing to the Broadway Corridor Steering Committee
- Briefing and hearing with the Planning and Sustainability Commission
- Presentation to the Pearl District Neighborhood Association Planning & Transportation Committee
- Presentation to the Old Town Community Association Land Use & Transportation Committee
- Briefing to the Pearl District Business Association

Budgetary Impact Worksheet**Does this action change appropriations**

- ☐ **YES:** Please complete the information below.
- ☒ **NO:** Skip this section

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