

## IMPACT STATEMENT

**Legislation title:** Adopt the update to the River District Right-of-Way Standards to include special street design standards for new extensions of NW Johnson St and NW Park Ave, including updates to street classifications and performance criteria to address design considerations of protected bicycle lanes, transit enhancements, and the Green Loop (Ordinance)

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### **Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:**

The River District Right-of-Way Standards establishes a common understanding of the improvements required in the River District's public rights-of-way. Both private and public street improvements are subject to this document and approval by the City Engineer.

The update to the River District Right-of-Way Standards support development of streets and pedestrian connections as a part of the USPS site master plan proposal and to incorporate City Council adopted street designs from Central City in Motion Implementation Plan and the Enhanced Transit Corridors Plan, and Central City 2035 Green Loop Concept report. This document sets the expectations for new street design and construction in the River District.

The updated standards will help advance the Enhanced Transit Corridors plan by expanding the toolbox of street design elements to include transit only lanes and Business Access and Transit lanes.

The updated standards will help advance the Central City in Motion Implementation Plan by expanding the toolbox of street design elements to include Protected Bike Lanes and Neighborhood Greenways.

The updated standards will help advance the Central City 2035 Green Loop Concept report by refining the Green Loop alignment in the river district along Park Avenue and defining performance criteria for Green Loop design.

The updated standards will help advance the Broadway Corridor Framework Plan and USPS Masterplan by incorporating and defining the new street network, performance criteria and standards through the USPS Site.

City Council has taken previous actions directly related to the River District Right of Way Standards.

- On November 5, 2015, Council adopted the Broadway Corridor Framework Plan (Framework Plan) via resolution 37165. The Framework Plan is the guiding

document for future development in the Broadway Corridor study area, including the United States Postal Service (USPS) site, both within the River District boundaries.

- On June 6, 2018, Council adopted The Central City 2035 Plan Green Loop Concept Report via resolution 37361. This resolution directs city bureaus to further develop the alignment, key connections, design character and engineering of the Green Loop and to integrate Green Loop facilities into project planning, design and construction.
- On October 15, 2018, Council adopted the Central City in Motion Final report and Implementation Plan via resolution 35395. The plan proposes a network of enhanced transit streets and protected bicycle lanes to increase the safety, efficiency, and people-moving-capacity of streets.

**Financial and budgetary impacts:**

- The updated River District Right of Way Standards may create financial and budgetary impacts.
- The bureau continues to assess how best to build and maintain these future streets, sidewalks, street lighting, and landscaping. The custom street designs may require new maintenance practices and/or equipment to meet these new standards.

**Community impacts and community involvement:**

- The Right-of-Way standards apply to the River District 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.
- Updated Performance Criteria included in the updated performance criteria include neighborhood greenways, protected bike lanes and the Green Loop. These active transportation facilities and designs are particularly supportive of people of all ages and abilities. Specifically, low-traffic and separated facilities are known to be more appealing to women, people of color, and people using mobility devices.
- New transit performance criteria include new tools for transit only lanes and business access and transit lanes to reduce transit delay and unreliability. These changes can combat inequality and reduce impacts to people of color and low-income households whom more often rely on transit for transportation.

- 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. Design guidance 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 moments:

- Briefing to the Broadway Corridor Steering Committee
- Briefing with the Design 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

mjc 4-6-2020