E Crestview Drive Improvement Project

Public Open House #1
Meeting Summary

July 17, 2019 | 6:00 PM-8:00 PM
TVF&R Fire Station 21
3100 Middlebrook Drive, Newberg, OR 97132

Staff in attendance:

City of Newberg staff: Brett Musick, Doug Rux, Kaaren Hofmann
3JC staff: Gregg Weston, Brian O’Rourke
JLA staff: Dee Hidalgo, Travis Rumohr

Project Overview
E Crestview Drive is an important connection between the northern portion of the City of Newberg and Oregon Highway 99W. In its 2016 Transportation System Plan (TSP), the City of Newberg identified the need to improve low to moderate-capacity roads, which serve to move traffic from local streets and residential properties to arterial roads (Collector Streets). E Crestview Drive between N Springbrook Road and the Yamhill County line has been identified as an important improvement project. The section of E Crestview Drive from Highway 99W north to the Yamhill County line is not part of this project.

The City of Newberg is in the early design phase for construction of the roadway improvement project. When completed, the improved roadway will connect N Springbrook Road with NE Crestview Drive (outside the city). The project will consist of multi-modal roadway improvements along this section of E Crestview Drive to make the corridor safer for biking and walking, and will improve the overall quality of the road. Work will consist of repaving the roadway, new curbs and sidewalks along both sides of E Crestview Drive, adding new bike lanes on both sides of E Crestview Dr., relocating existing utilities underground, and constructing water, wastewater, and storm drainage improvements.

Purpose
The City of Newberg held their first public Open House on July 17, 2019 to present preliminary design elements and other information about the project. A second Open House will be held in fall 2019.

The purpose of the first Open House was to:

- Present project information which included a project overview, project schedule, funding and the 30% project design elements.
- Present information regarding the current condition of E Crestview Drive, as well as the proposed improvements (roadway, bike lanes, sidewalk, and utility).
• Receive comments from the community in the project area and ensure that they felt their voices were heard.
• Answer questions about project information related to the Crestview Crossing project (private development project) adjacent to the E Crestview Drive improvement project.
• Answer questions about property and residence access during construction.

**Drop-in Open House Format**
The public open house was a drop-in style format, with no formal presentation given. Project staff from the City of Newberg, the Engineering team from 3JC, and the Public Involvement team from JLA attended and were on hand to answer questions about the project. There were ten informational display boards, highlighting project information, showing project area graphics and a project roll map was available for viewing. Attendees had the opportunity to view the informational displays and ask questions to the project management team.

JLA project staff greeted attendees at the door, welcoming them with a handout of the project’s informational mailer. After requesting that guests sign in, staff explained the open house format, and encouraged them to ask questions to the project team, and fill out provided comment cards.

**Notification**
The City of Newberg conducted outreach with project information and notification to invite residents and interested parties to the Open House.

Outreach included:
• Announcement about the project and Open House details on the City’s project website.
• Posts to Facebook.
• Project Newsletter mailer, which included the Open House announcement, sent to 366 addresses surrounding the project area.
• City staff project manager meeting with several Westlake Loop residents prior to the open house and canvassing activities.
• City staff project manager meeting with the Oxberg Lakes Estates HOA president.
• Canvassing of the immediate project area to ensure residents were aware of the Open House, with informational door hangers left behind for those that were not home.

**Summary of Participation and Feedback**
A total of 21 people attended the first public Open House. Comment cards were made available for guest feedback, and post-it notes were on hand so guests could leave comments directly on the project roll map. The discussion at the Open House was lively. However, attendees did not complete any comment cards. The JLA team noted public comments provided verbally to them and noted them on comment cards. Two hand-written comments were left on the project roll map.

Most people in attendance who discussed the E Crestview Drive Improvement project were generally in favor of the project, seeing the improvements as positive benefit to the roadway. However, several people in attendance discussed and had more public comments related to the Crestview Crossing Project, a private development project southeast of the City of Newberg’s E Crestview Drive Improvement Project. The concerns about the private development project were expressed by approximately four attendees from Leo Lane, two of which brought a binder of information, and a display board showing previous project designs in the area.

City management staff were on hand to answer questions and concerns related to the Crestview Crossing Project.

![Attendees gather near the roll map for Q&A](Image)
Public comments received during the open house related to the E Crestview Drive Improvement Project were mostly positive, with support surrounding the improved roadway surface and traffic calming measures. People were generally happy to know there would be increased multimodal access on the road, and some were hopeful about the speed reduction being proposed in the area. Many residents were also pleased to hear that the project would provide an alternate outlet to Oregon Highway 99W, rather than the current route, which sees many motorists using Vittoria Way as a route through the neighborhood. Comments on the roll map included questions about plans for a roundabout in the Westlake Loop, as well as a comment about speedbumps being a nuisance on N Libra Street.

Most people found out about the Open House from the project mailer distributed by the City prior to canvassing activities. Some attendees indicated they knew about the event as a result of the door hanger that was left behind by City staff and JLA staff during canvassing. A social media post was made on Facebook, but no attendees mentioned the post as their reason for attending. Three residents from the Westlake Loop indicated they did not receive the mailer, and wanted to ensure they would be included in future mailings.

Open House Discussion Themes and Comments
The majority of the Open House public comments made during the event were regarding the Crestview Crossing private development project, but there were some broader themes that came out of the conversations. The concerns, comments, and themes related to the Crestview Crossing project included the following:

- Livability of the city.
- Concerns about overdevelopment of the city.
- Crestview Crossing Developers Changed (Gramor to JT Smith).
- Historical public information changing and not consistent with what was communicated in the past to the public.
- City staff turnover vs. residents that are in the area for a long time trying to maintain consistency on projects.
- Crestview Crossing’s project plans constantly changed; people in the area expressed a lack of trust with city officials.
- Residents upset with the rate of growth in Newberg/Urban growth boundary.
- Newberg’s growth policies/housing development policies need analysis.

The project team will continue to provide project updates related to the City of Newberg’s E Crestview Drive Improvement project and will begin planning and notifying in preparation of the second public open house scheduled for fall 2019.