

FACT SHEET

The City of Missoula and Missoula Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), in collaboration with the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT), are planning the future of Higgins Avenue from Brooks Street to Broadway Street. The goal is to design a street that will serve all users and add to the economic vitality of the corridor.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

1. Engage business owners and residents to understand existing needs along the corridor.

2. Develop a concept design that:

Considers the needs of all users, including people biking, walking, driving, riding the bus, freight operators, and others.

Improves safety for all users.

Provides suitable space for people of all ages and abilities to bike and walk.

Increases opportunity for all modes of travel to access the corridor and Downtown Missoula.

ENVISIONED OUTCOMES

1. A street that is safer for walking, biking, driving, and public transportation.

2. An inviting streetscape that showcases Higgins Avenue as a destination and a gateway to Downtown Missoula.

3. Increased economic activity along the corridor.

4. Create a postcard street as envisioned by the Downtown Master Plan.

WHY HIGGINS AVENUE?

Higgins Avenue is the backbone of Downtown Missoula. The Missoula Community and the Downtown Master Plan recommend transforming Higgins Avenue into a fully multi-modal and safe street, essential for the economic, physical and social health of the entire city. The rehabilitation of Beartracks Bridge includes improved walking and biking access across the Clark Fork River. This plan will evaluate means for extending safety, access, and activity beyond the limits of the bridge.

