

Lawrence Street Accessibility Upgrades Grant Opportunity

With support of partners such as DASH, PT Main Street, Jefferson County Farmers Market and Jefferson Transit, the City was successful in securing funding for Lawrence Street pedestrian and accessibility improvements between Harrison Street and the Port Townsend Library and Tyler Street, the home of the Jefferson County Farmers Market.

Project Goals:

Improve Accessibility: Lawrence Street is a main pedestrian route. Disability Awareness Starts Here (DASH) has identified Lawrence Street as a key route that needs accessibility updates. Creating good pedestrian connections between the Library and Aldrich's would improve accessibility to the Uptown core as well as the Library.

Paving: Lawrence Street is in extreme need of pavement repairs. Updating ADA ramps is a requirement for paving. Fixing the ramps ahead of paving stretches paving investments to repair more street. This project does not repave the street, but does lay the groundwork for future pavement repairs.

Safety: Shorter pedestrian crosswalks crossing Lawrence Street improves visibility of pedestrians and results in easier street crossings. Bulbouts also tend to slow traffic.

Parking: This project is not intended to change parking on Lawrence Street. Some small parking impacts may occur, but not wholesale changes. However, when the street is repaved, parking could be considered.

Uptown Business District Enhancement: Good pedestrian facilities are important for a business district. Most of downtown has bulbouts for accessibility and safety. The project also will repair damaged sidewalk along with the installation of missing curbs. Some trees may be replaced or protected depending on evaluation of an arborist. New trees will be planted in bulbouts.

Timing: This grant requires construction to be completed in 2024. This work may be done at the same time as the Tyler Street Paving project. This project will create limited disruptions to Uptown if paired with the Tyler Street Paving project. Road closures for more than a couple of days are not expected. Some work by City and PUD crews may be done in advance of the project.

Example of shorter pedestrian crossings

PT Library

Rain garden or tree wells

Sidewalk repair around trees

Curb and Sidewalk Extension for Bus Stop

Uptown Community Center

Farmers Market

Typical bulbout and ADA wheelchair ramp

Example of wheelchair ramp and bulbout for pedestrian safety at the post office (2019). This type of upgrade is expected for pedestrians crossing Lawrence Street.

