

Request:

Information requested in advance of the Aug. 9th Mayoral Forum.

Response:**When will the uptown bike lanes item would be brought to Council?**

CDOT has concluded the Uptown Connects study which analyzed the proposed 5th and 6th Street Protected Bike Lanes through Uptown. The study results were shared with City Council at a June Dinner Workshop. The City has funding to advance this project into Design starting this winter. A design contract is expected to be awarded by January. City Council will need to approve the award of that contract in January. While design of this project is currently funded, the construction of this project is not yet funded and will likely require future bond funding. CDOT is working with local stakeholders (including Sustain Charlotte) to possibly implement a temporary "pilot project" that will test protected bike lanes in Center City this fall. The details of this pilot project are still being fine-tuned.

What is the total amount in the budget for the Corridor Studies – Safety Implementation Projects?

The City initiated 4 corridor studies this past year. The corridors include:

- South Boulevard – Carson to Clanton
- South Tryon – Carson to Clanton
- Parkwood/The Plaza – Belmont Avenue to Matheson
- West Boulevard – Camden to Billy Graham Parkway

The corridor studies include short-term, mid-term and long-term recommendations for improving conditions along these corridors. Short-term is less than 1 year, mid-term is 1-3 years and long-term is greater than 3 years.

The FY 2018 Adopted Budget includes \$6.0 million to advance the short-term and mid-term improvements along each of the 4 corridors based on the outcome of these corridors studies. The \$6.0 million won't fund all the study recommendations but funding will be allocated to the highest priority intersections in all 4 of the corridors and will result in significant improvements for pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users along each of the 4 corridors.

Staff is working closely with the community along each of these corridors and are hosting (or have hosted) workshops and walking tours along each of the corridors. The corridor studies look at ways to create safer and more comfortable travel for walking and bicycling with a specific focus on improving crossing opportunities for bicyclists and pedestrians. Staff is working to finalize the study recommendations with the public and will move the short-term and mid-term improvements toward implementation.

The City is excited to be in a position where planning is coming to completion and funding is immediately available to move these improvements to completion as quickly as possible.

When will the rerouting of bus lines for the BLE corridor be completed?

We have completed the plan to adjust bus routes to connect into the Blue Line Extension. That plan was adopted by the Metropolitan Transit Commission in June. We are starting our public education process relative to that plan.

Envision My Ride is the initiative to review the rest of the bus system outside the BLE corridor. We are currently developing proposals and will be going out to the public for input relative to our proposals. The public input phase will occur this fall. After that, we will finalize those plans by the end of the fiscal year.