

On Monday, January 23, 2023 the Cottage Grove City Council met to discuss the three outstanding design elements that were not finalized in the 2015 Main Street Refinement Plan. A work session was scheduled just prior to the scheduled City Council Meeting to discuss the conceptual drawings created by Branch Engineering. These drawings were created to address the three outstanding design elements from the 2015 Main Street Refinement Plan.

City Staff met with Downtown Main Street business and property owners to explain the drawings and get their opinions. Mayor Sloesbee, Councilor Merryday and Councilor Erin attended the event and visited several businesses to get their reactions. There were a full spectrum of opinions which were written and provided to all the City Councilors. City Council did a great job of compromising and reached a decision on how to advise engineers to move forward.

They voted, unanimously, on the sidewalk width of 12 feet, an 8 foot parking lane and a 12 foot travel lane. Branch Engineering will work with Daugherty Landscape Architects to place two trees on each side of the street, per block. The trees will be placed in tree wells to prevent foundation and sidewalk damage.

They decided on full bulb outs which affect both on both Main Street and the side streets. The side street bulb out will be decreased in size to allow a more comfortable turning radius. The bulb outs on Main Street will increase the visual to assist pedestrian safety while crossing. This choice of bulb out will assist with the Americans with Disabilities Act compliance.

City Engineers will design plans based off City Council recommendations. With any major construction project, there may be alterations we are unaware of that are necessary for safety and security. Staff will continue to provide the most current information as it becomes available.

Branch Engineering will work on the final plans through the end of 2023. Once the drawings are complete, we will go out to bid. Construction is estimated to start in 2024.