

Jorge O. Elorza, Mayor

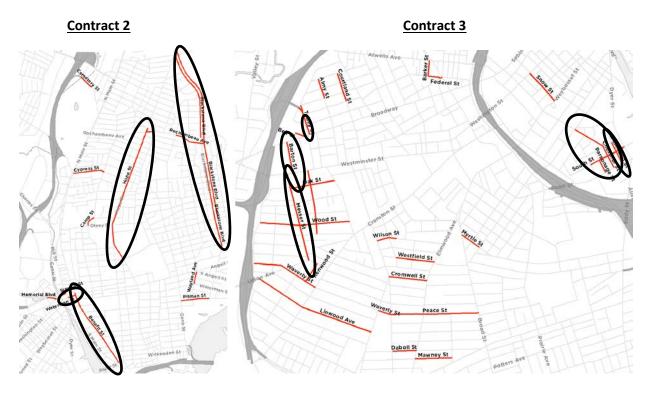
<u>Staff Report:</u> Capital Improvement Program Contracts 2 & 3 30% Review – Downtown, Fox Point, Wayland, College Hill, Hope, Mount Hope, Blackstone, West End, Federal Hill, Elmwood – Wards 1, 2, 3, 8, 11, 12, 13 (For Action)

Presented at August 15, 2018 BPAC meeting

Project Background

The City of Providence Department of Public Works seeks comments from the BPAC regarding design plans for Contracts 2 & 3 of the City's Capital Improvement Program. These repaving projects were selected based on pavement condition and geographic diversity.

Project Map



Previous Recommendations

For all projects that contain or abut arterials or collectors, restriping should incorporate
crosswalks painted in the continental style, with 2 ft wide stripes and 2 ft wide gaps. This style of
crosswalk should be adopted as the citywide standard.



Jorge O. Elorza, Mayor

- All crosswalks are shown in the cheaper 2 ft x 1 ft style.
- Where appropriate and within project boundaries at crosswalk locations, lanes of arterials and
 collectors should be narrowed to 1 ft narrower than their regular width, with extra space being
 devoted to bulb-outs of striped side-lines. While granite curb extensions are outside the budget
 of this project, this measure will decrease vehicular speeds, reduce pedestrian crossing
 distances, and make crosswalks more visible.
 - "Where appropriate and feasible, lane width reductions of various dimensions will be considered. Bulbouts are generally cost prohibitive and not budgeted for recurring maintenance."
- On both sides of Blackstone Boulevard, the street should be restriped with an increased distance between the left side line and the curb, with dashed bike lane extensions striped through intersections, and with stop bars and continental-style crosswalks striped at each intersection.
 - Increased left side edge line included, dashed bike extensions included, green ladders in bike crossings not included, stop bars and crosswalks across Blackstone Blvd not included at ever intersection.
- One lane of on-street parking should be removed on Hope Street to allow for restriping to
 include bike lanes in either direction, with the bike lane on the same side of the street as the
 remaining parking on the curb-side of the parking (parking-protected bike lane), and buffers
 between either bike lane and the vehicular space.

Not included

• For the section of Waterman St between North Main St and Benefit St, the space between curb faces should be modified slightly from existing conditions to widen to 6' and add bike lane markings to the right-hand buffer.

Included

- Special attention should be paid to the design of the intersection of Waterman St with Benefit St, and to the safety of bicyclists in the new bike lane.
 - Bike lane ends before the Benefit St intersection.
- The stamped-concrete crosswalk across Waterman St at Benefit St should be replaced with a continental-style crosswalk with 2 ft stripes and 2 ft gaps.
 - Included, except crosswalks at 2 ft x 1 ft in plan.
- Benefit Street should be designated a neighborhood bikeway by means of signage, pavement markings, and other traffic calming measures. On neighborhood bikeways, bicycle traffic has priority while sharing the street with low-speed and low-volume vehicular traffic. Shared-lane markings should be added to the street as part of the Capital Improvement Program work, preferably with a square of green paint behind them.



Jorge O. Elorza, Mayor

Green-backed sharrows included

 Public Works should resurface Chestnut St and Richmond St and then delay restriping of more than crosswalks and stop bars until the Complete Streets project to analyze alternatives for these streets incorporating bicycle infrastructure is complete.

Included

- Capital Improvement Program work on Messer Street should retain the existing floating tree
 planters, and supplement their traffic-calming effect with the addition of a double-yellow
 centerline, to improve safety for both pedestrians and bicyclists.
 - o 17 of 80 tree planters are planned to be removed. Double-yellow centerline included.
- Public Works should consult with the City Forester about how to protect the Messer Street trees during construction.
 - "Contractor shall trim trees along the entire length of the roadway at the direction of the engineer and the tree warden"
- Pavement markings and enhanced signage should be added on Barton Street to increase the visibility of the crosswalks.
 - Bulb-outs, new accessible ramps, and a restriped crosswalk are included.
- Public Works should extend the curb at the northeast corner of the intersection of Tobey Street and Broadway to meet the existing drainage structure and reduce the pedestrian crossing distances.
 - Not included

Staff Recommendations for 30% Plans

- Existing crosswalks should be restriped in the 2 ft x 2 ft continental style, including but not limited to the crosswalks at the intersection of Waterman St and Benefit St, the restriped crosswalk on Barton St, and the restriped crosswalks on Chestnut St and Richmond St. New crosswalks may be striped in the cheaper 2 ft x 1 ft style.
- On Blackstone Blvd, the 2 ft buffer next to the bike lane should be moved from the right-hand side of the bike lane to the left-hand side (i.e. from between bike lane and parking lane to between bike lane and travel lane).
- On Blackstone Blvd, the dashed bike crossings of intersections should incorporate green paint between the white dashes of the side-lines to increase visibility of the bike lane for crossing vehicular traffic.



Jorge O. Elorza, Mayor

- The northbound bike lane on Blackstone Blvd should be extended south one block from Irving St to Elton St. A green dashed bike crossing should be added across the eastern branch of Blackstone Blvd that connects to Irving St.
- In the typical cross-section for Waterman Street, the 6 ft shoulder on the right-hand side should be indicated as "bike lane" not "shoulder" to reflect the designation by bike lane markings in the plan.
- Improved pedestrian safety should be incorporated into the intersection of Memorial Blvd and Steeple St. Potential low-cost improvements could include extension of the striped median on the east leg of the intersection to incorporate the crosswalk, creating a striped traffic island and reducing the corner radius with striping at the northwest and southwest corners of the intersection.
- Work on Steeple St should coordinate with RIDOT work on Canal St, including the addition of a
 southbound bike lane on Canal St continuing onto Canal Walk. That work creates the need for
 bicycle detection in the traffic signal, for a bike box on the north branch of the intersection of
 Canal St and Steeple St, and for a two-stage turn box at Steeple St stop bar to allow southbound
 bicyclists in the left-side bike lane on Canal St to turn right onto Steeple St westbound.
- The typical cross-sections for Chestnut St and Richmond St should show travel lanes not delineated to match the plans. The upcoming Complete Streets project will stripe the street in a new configuration.
- All tree planters on Messer St should be retained.
- Stop bars should be added to Snow St at the approach to Westminster St in both directions.

Respectfully submitted by Alex Ellis.

