

**Baker
Road
IAMP**



Public Involvement Strategy

US 97 Baker Road Interchange Area
Management Plan

Portland, OR
December 14, 2021





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Acronyms and Abbreviations

IAMP	Interchange Area Management Plan
ODOT	Oregon Department of Transportation

1 Project Overview

ODOT is preparing an Interchange Area Management Plan (IAMP) for the US 97/Baker Road interchange south of Bend.

The US 97/Baker Road interchange is about 30 years old. Bend's population is now nearly four times greater, and Bend's urban growth boundary is expected to abut the interchange within 20 years. Increasing urban growth has created congestion and traffic safety issues in the interchange area, and there are few facilities for people walking or biking.

To address these issues, the management plan seeks to achieve the following:

- Ensure the safe and efficient operation of the interchange area for all modes of travel through the 20-year planning horizon.
- Identify transportation improvements, management strategies and land use/policy actions needed to support planned development.

The project will involve state and local jurisdictions, including Deschutes County, City of Bend, and Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), as well as community stakeholders and interchange users.

2 Project Area Map

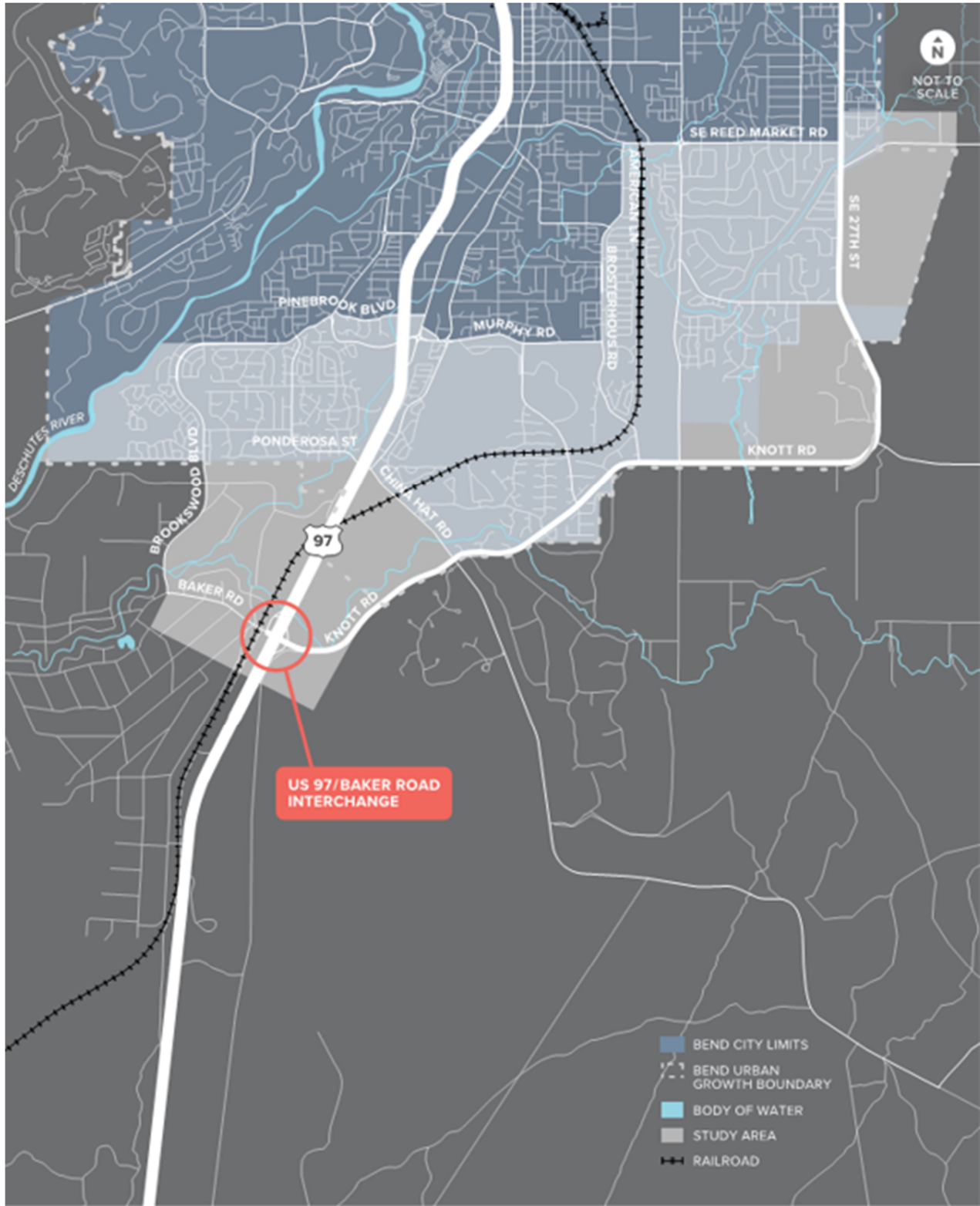


Figure 1 - Project Area Map



3 Project Schedule

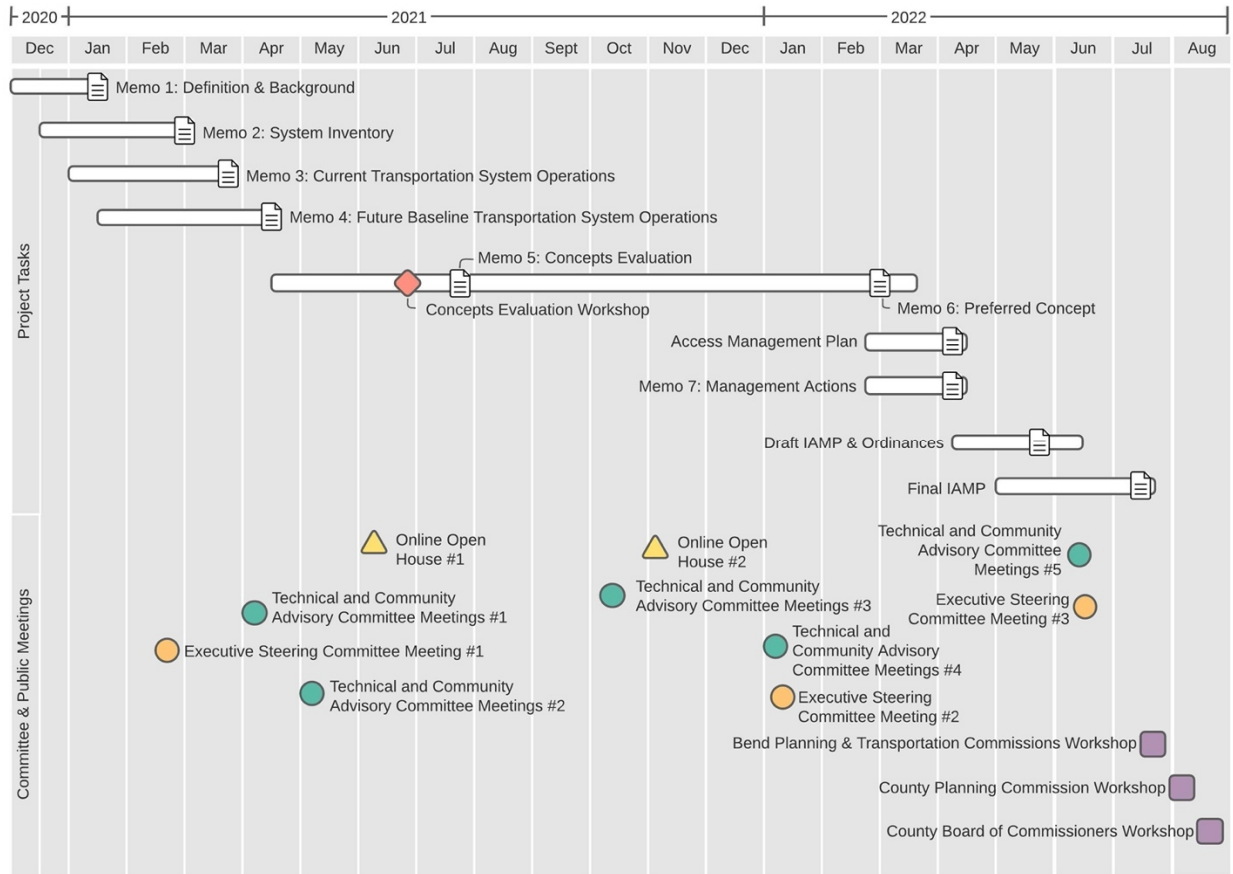


Figure 2 - Project Schedule

4 Public Involvement Purpose and Goals

The purpose of the Public Involvement Strategy is to gather information and feedback that will help the development of the US 97 Baker Road IAMP.

The project's public involvement goals are:

- Communicate complete, accurate, understandable and timely information to the public throughout the project.
- Actively seek input from a broad, diverse audience of interested stakeholders, such as residents, businesses, property owners, and community organizations.
- Demonstrate how public input has influenced the planning process.
- Comply with Civil Rights Act of 1964 Title VI requirements. Title VI and its implementing regulations provide that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin under any program or activity that received federal financial assistance.
- Ensure that the public involvement is consistent with applicable state and federal laws and requirements and is sensitive to local policies, goals and objectives.

5 Key Stakeholders and Audiences

The Public Involvement Strategy will seek to engage with the following key organizations and stakeholders, as well as people who live and work in the interchange area and those who have been historically excluded and underserved:

- ODOT
- Deschutes County
- City of Bend
- Bend MPO
- Department of Land Conservation and Development
- US Forest Service
- Deschutes River Woods
- Bend Fire & Rescue
- Bend-La Pine School District
- Cascades East Transit
- Bend Park & Recreation District
- Central Oregon Coalition for Access
- Abilitree
- Deschutes County Health Services
- Deschutes County Emergency Services
- Deschutes County Bike/Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- Latino Community Association of Central Oregon
- Homeless Leadership Coalition
- Morning Star Christian School
- Riverwoods Country Store
- Arnold Irrigation District

6 Community Advisory Committee

The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) is the key project committee to provide the project team broad local perspectives and input.

Members include representatives from:

- Deschutes River Woods
- Bend-La Pine School District
- Bend Park & Recreation District
- Central Oregon Coalition for Access
- Abilitree
- Deschutes County Bike/Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- Riverwoods Country Store
- Morning Star Christian School
- Arnold Irrigation District
- Homeless Leadership Coalition

The CAC will meet approximately 5 times at key milestones (see Figure 2) to provide input and feedback on goals and objectives, early interchange concepts, the selection of a preferred alternative, and the Draft IAMP.

7 Public Involvement Strategies and Tools

The project team will engage with community members and stakeholders throughout the project, including those who are historically excluded and underrepresented to ensure broad community perspectives are heard and considered. To ensure public engagement and participation, the outreach team will conduct the outreach strategies and tools identified in the Table 1 - Public Involvement Strategies and Tools below.

Table 1 - Public Involvement Strategies and Tools

Strategy	Description	Lead	Timing
Executive Steering Committee Meetings	Provides a strategic direction to Consultant, ODOT, City, and County throughout the Project. The Bend MPO will serve in this role.	DKS	February 2021 February 2022 June 2022
Community Advisory Committee Meetings	Community representatives meet at key project milestones to provide feedback.	DKS/HDR	April 2021 May 2021 October 2021 January 2022 June 2022
Virtual Public Meetings	The project will host two live virtual public meetings to involve the community and provide them an opportunity to talk to project staff. The meetings will begin with a staff presentation and then open to comments and questions from the public. The meetings provide the opportunity to inform about the project, collect input on goals and objectives, as well as early interchange concepts and alternatives.	DKS/HDR	Summer and Fall 2021
Online Open House	The project will host two online open houses to involve the community. The open houses will provide the opportunity to inform about the project, collect input on goals and objectives, as well as early interchange concepts and alternatives.	DKS/ODOT	Summer and Fall 2021
Website Updates	A project webpage will be the primary source for public information and will include a project overview, area map, schedule, documents, and public meeting information.	ODOT	Ongoing
Stakeholder Emails and Media Releases	Project stakeholder emails and media releases will be sent via GovDelivery to inform about the project and ways to engage, such as the public meetings.	ODOT with content from HDR	Summer and Fall 2021 and as needed
Postcards	Project postcards will be sent to key stakeholders and the interchange area announcing online open houses and online meetings.	ODOT with content from HDR	Summer and Fall 2021