

U.S. 20: Cascade Improvements (Sisters)

Last updated: Fall 2014

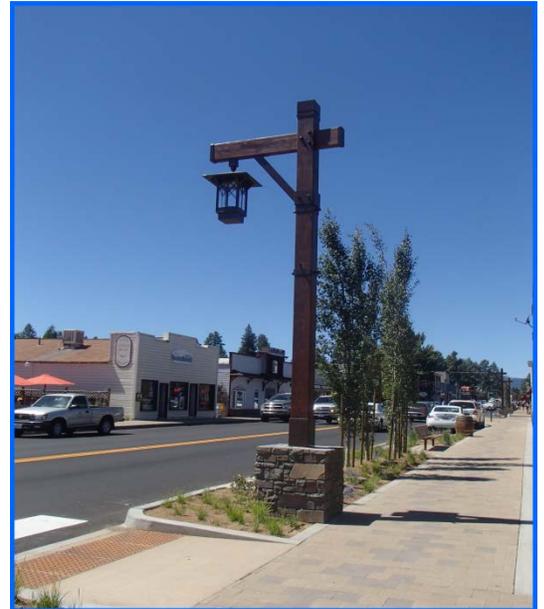
Project components

The following components are being proposed, with construction planned in 2013-14.

- Widen and reconstruct sidewalks, ADA ramps and curbing along Cascade Avenue;
- Improve crosswalk safety;
- Add streetscape features;
- Improve the storm water drainage system;
- Reconstruct Cascade Avenue; and
- Widen the roadway width at the intersection of Barclay Drive and Locust Street.

Project location

The project is located in the City of Sisters along Cascade Avenue (U.S. 20) between Pine Street and Locust Street (see attached vicinity map).



Why this project is needed

U.S. 20 provides a connection across the Cascades Mountains between the growing communities of Central Oregon and the Willamette Valley's major population centers. Thousands of trucks and passenger vehicles travel through the tourism based town of Sisters each day. U.S. 20 is both a main street that supports dozens of businesses *and* a major regional freight route. As a result, conflicts regularly arise between local and through traffic and pedestrians shopping and seeking entertainment within the scenic downtown corridor. Conflicts are particularly highlighted during the summer tourist season when several special events occur and both pedestrian activity and through traffic increase.



The pedestrian environment in the central business corridor of Sisters can be improved. Despite its orientation toward pedestrian activity, the area suffers from narrow sidewalks, worn crosswalks, outdated ADA ramps, poor pavement conditions, inadequate storm water drainage and deteriorating curbs that are beginning to create an unsafe and worn look that can negatively impact the downtown business environment.

What the City of Sisters and the Oregon Department of transportation plan to do

This is a joint City of Sisters and ODOT project. The project will make improvements to U.S. 20 that will address pedestrian/motorist conflicts and improve the walk-ability of downtown Sisters. The intended result is to improve economic development within the community.

The following improvements are being proposed:

- Reconstruct sidewalks and increase sidewalk widths from six to eight feet, except between Oak and Pine Streets where the widths will be nine feet;
- Improve pedestrian crossings at intersections by building curb extensions, or “bulb outs”, with upgraded ADA ramps at Pine, Oak, Elm, Fir and Spruce Streets; this will reduce crossing distances and increase pedestrian visibility;
- Add streetscape features such as decorative lighting, benches and landscaping;
- Improve the storm water drainage system to eliminate flooding and standing water by adding drainage swales and Underground Injection Control (UIC) systems (for more information about UIC’s and the permitting process, visit <http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/uic/uic.htm>);
- Reconstruct Cascade Avenue from Pine Street to Larch Street;
- Grind out and repave Cascade Avenue from Larch Street to Locust Street; and
- Widen the roadway width at the intersection of Barclay Drive and Locust Street to facilitate freight turning movements.

The goal of the project is to help balance traffic mobility and pedestrian safety while providing a safe and inviting atmosphere for the local community and tourists. This should promote economic development and enhance livability in downtown Sisters.

In the spring 2010, ODOT crews filled and smoothed the ruts on Cascade Avenue. A complete repavement of Cascade Avenue will occur at projects end, expected to be no later than 2014.

Projected Timeline

Downtown streetscape design	2010 / 2011
Engineering design	2011 / 2012
Right of Way acquisition	2012 / 2013
Construction	2013 / 2014

ODOT contracted with Knife River to construct the Cascade Avenue project. Construction began in August of 2013. Cascade Avenue closed in February 2014 and was reopened to traffic on May 16, 2014. Paving was completed the first week of June. Work on the streetscape features was substantially completed by the end of October 2014.

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US20: Cascade Ave. Improvements (Sisters)



Intersection Improvements

Streetscape Improvements

LOCUST ST.

LOCUST ST.

CEDAR ST.

LARCH ST.

SPRUCE ST.

FIR ST.

ELM ST.

MAIN AVE.

ASH ST.

OAK ST.

HOOD AVE.

WASHINGTON AVE.

JEFFERSON AVE.

ADAMS AVE.

PINE ST.

MCKENZIE HWY. (CASCADE AVE.)

BARCLAY DR.

