

St. Helens US 30 & Columbia Boulevard / St. Helens Street Corridor Master Plan



US 30 & Columbia Boulevard / St. Helens Street Corridor Master Plan

Project Overview



Project Purpose

- Create “streetscape” plans for US 30 & Columbia Blvd/St. Helens Street corridors that reflect community vision for appearance and function
- Improve aesthetics & function of the corridors to attract business & investment and improve desirability

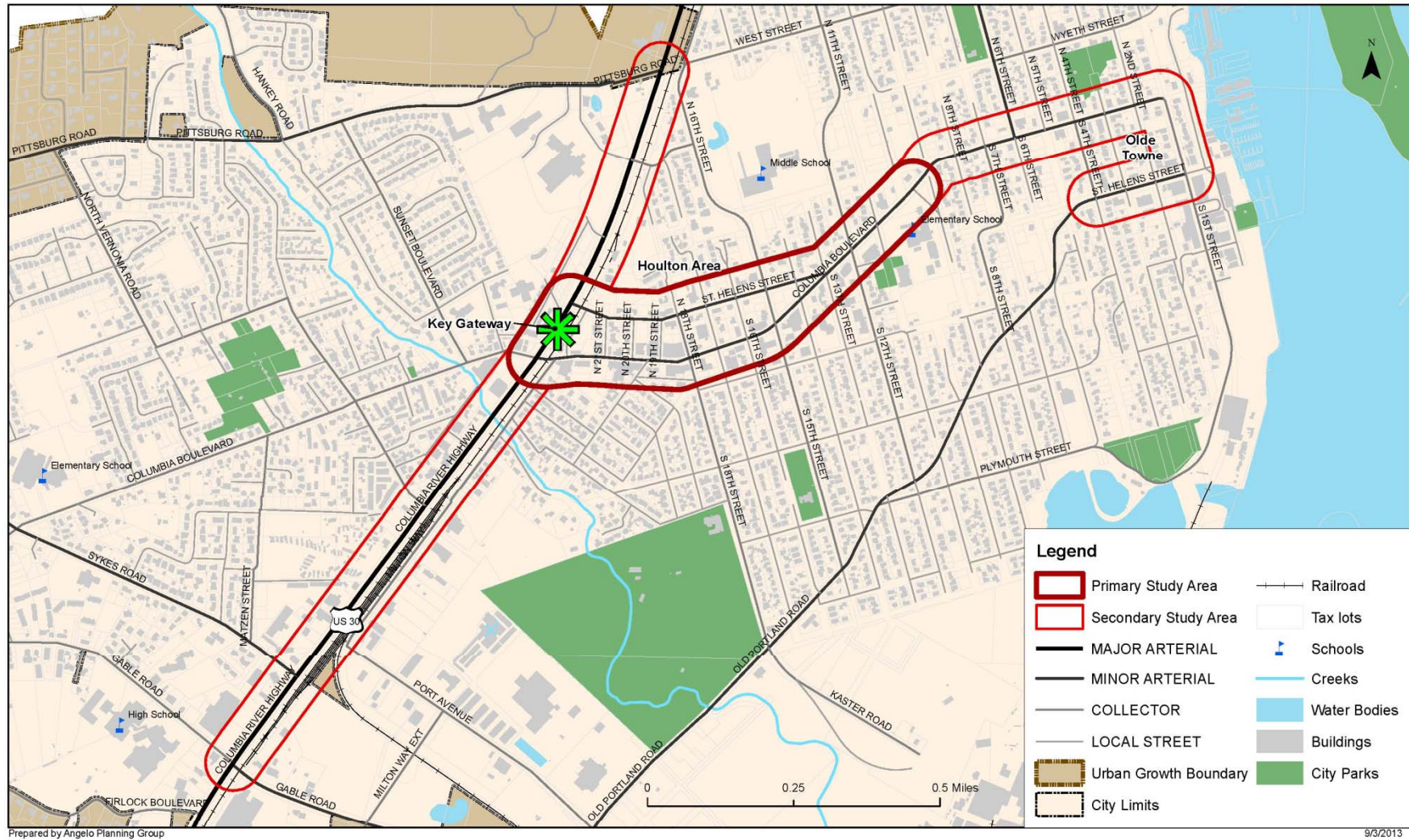


Project Objectives

- Establish community vision, goals & guiding principles for study area
- Develop planning design & implementation standards to revitalize business districts
- Improve street connectivity and design
- Improve pedestrian and bicycle safety and comfort
- Engage property owners, businesses, residents, stakeholders, and elected & appointed officials
- Address local & regional transportation needs
- Ensure consistency with local & state plans & policies



Primary & Secondary Study Areas



Stakeholder Involvement

- Who?

- › Citizen Advisory Committee
- › Technical Advisory Committee
- › Property & Business Owners
- › General Public
- › Planning Commission
- › City Council

- Why?

- › Provide local knowledge on issues, opportunities, and constraints
- › Review assumptions
- › Set vision & guiding principles
- › Provide feedback on initial ideas & draft plans
- › Make or shape decisions



Project Schedule

ST. HELENS US 30 & COLUMBIA BLVD. / ST. HELENS STREET CORRIDOR MASTER PLAN

Work Plan Summary



TASK 1:

Project Start-up & Management

TASK 2:

Citizen/Public & Agency
Involvement & Project Kick-off

TASK 3:

Develop Project Vision, Goals &
Guiding Principles

TASK 4:

Existing Conditions, Opportunities
& Constraints

TASK 5:

Draft Corridor Master Plan Design
Options & Implementation
Strategy

TASK 6:

Corridor Master Plan Design
Option Evaluation

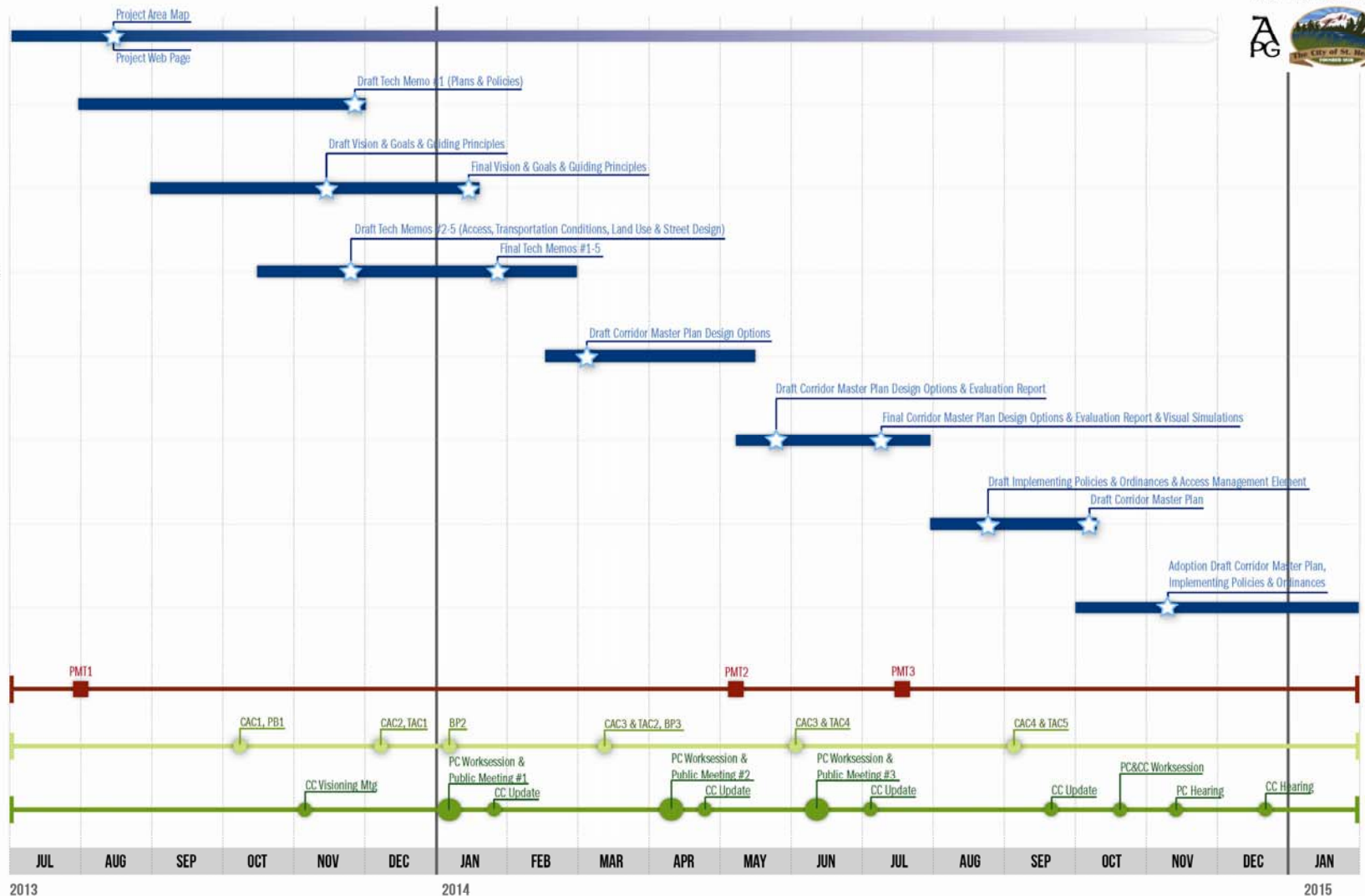
TASK 7:

Refinement of Corridor Master
Plan, Implementaiton Report &
Access Management Element

TASK 8:

Adoption

PROJECT MANAGEMENT
TEAM MEETINGS
STAKEHOLDER & COMMITTEE
MEETINGS
PUBLIC, PLANNING
COMMISSION & CITY COUNCIL
MEETINGS



2013

2014

2015

TAC = Technical Advisory Committee; CAC = Citizen Advisory Committee; PC = Planning Commission; CC = City Council; BP = Businesses & Property Owners; "&" indicates combined meeting, "," indicates back-to-back meetings



US 30 & Columbia Boulevard / St. Helens Street Corridor Master Plan

Corridor Planning 101



What is a Corridor Plan?

- Establishes a vision for a roadway corridor
- Recommends the design of the roadway to guide future public investment in roadway improvements
- May include modifications to development regulations for property along the corridor to shape how future development occurs
- Adopted by the City, acknowledged by ODOT



Corridor Planning Process / Steps

1. Develop Vision, Goals & Guiding Principles
2. Understand and Describe Existing Conditions, Opportunities & Constraints
3. Develop Design Options
4. Evaluate Design Options
5. Select & Refine a Preferred Design Option as the basis for the Corridor Plan
6. Prepare the Corridor Plan and Implementation Steps

**Public Involvement is critical throughout
each step of Corridor Planning**



Key Concepts in Corridor Planning

- Travel modes & roadway users
- Functional classification
- Streetscape elements
- Street furnishings
- Access management
- Roadway safety
- Mobility, capacity & congestion



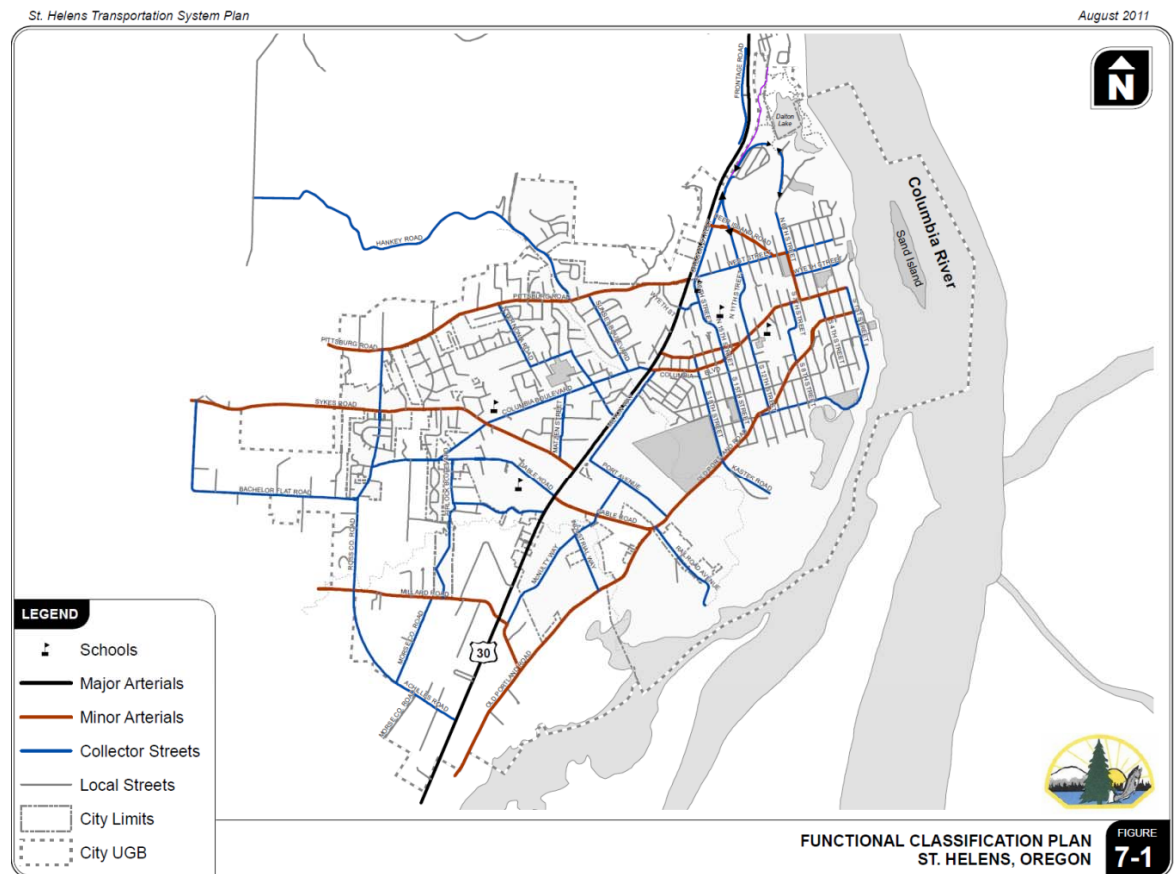
Key Concepts: Travel Modes & Roadway Users

- Corridor Plans must plan for all roadway users, including:
 - › Private passenger vehicles (e.g. cars)
 - › Freight vehicles (e.g. commercial trucks)
 - › Bicyclists
 - › Pedestrians (including those with disabilities)
 - › Transit vehicles (e.g. buses)
- “Travel Modes” are ways of getting around, such as:
 - › Driving alone
 - › Carpooling
 - › Riding transit
 - › Bicycling
 - › Walking



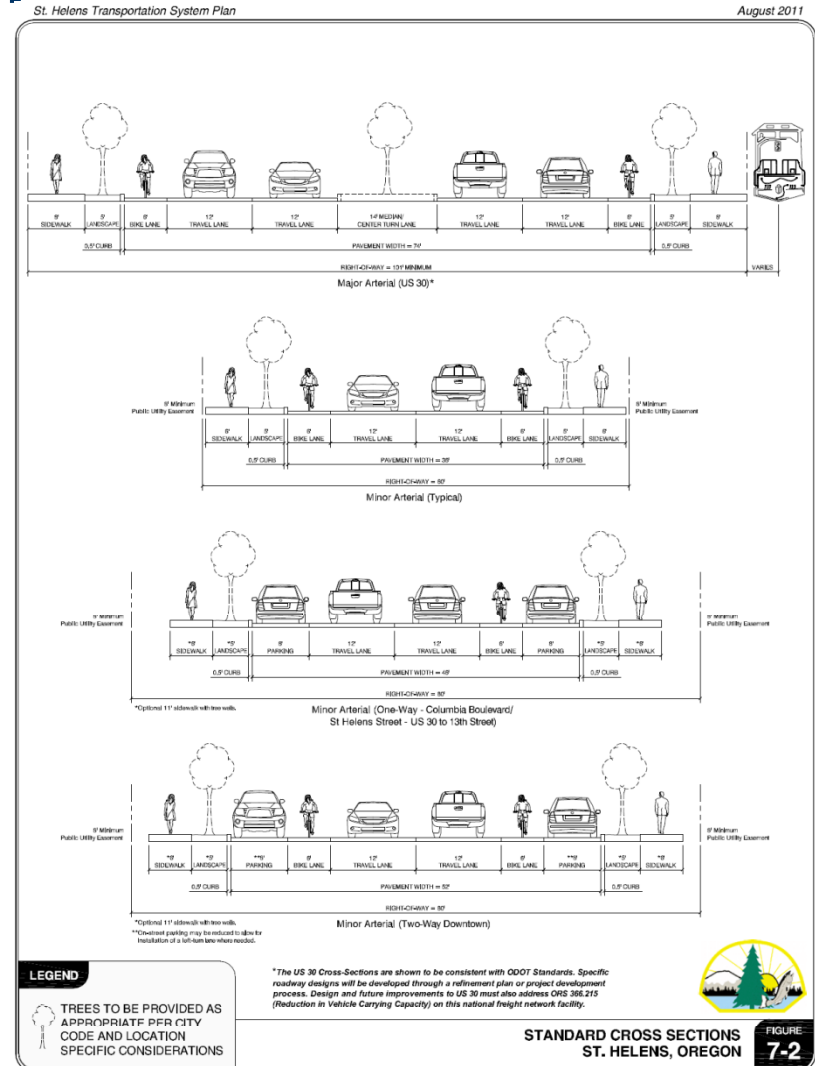
Key Concepts: Roadway Functional Classification

- Identifies intended purpose of the road
- Guides how to balance & prioritize competing demands for drivers “going to” vs. “going through” and needs of various roadway users
- In the study area:
 - › US 30 set by ODOT (Statewide Highway, NHS, Freight & Truck Route)
 - › St. Helens Street & Columbia Blvd. set by city (Minor Arterial)



Key Concepts: Streetscape Elements & Roadway Design

- “Streetscape”:
 - › Design of the road right-of-way
 - › Includes street cross-section & urban design elements
- Possible cross-section elements:
 - › Number & width of “travel lanes” (lanes for vehicles)
 - › Landscaping strips or stormwater swales
 - › Sidewalks
 - › Bike lanes
 - › On-street parking
 - › Medians and center turn lanes
 - › Bus pull-outs
- ODOT Highway Design Std. – US 30



Key Concepts: Street Furnishings

- Street “furnishings” can include:
 - › Streetlights
 - › Benches
 - › Trash cans
 - › Bike racks
 - › Newspaper boxes
 - › Planters or flower baskets
 - › Water fountains
 - › Public art
 - › Banners



Key Concepts: Buildings & the Street

- Private development fronting on a road affects streetscape, too:
 - › How does it feel to walk down the street?
 - › Are there interesting things to look at?
- Regulated through zoning & site development standards



Key Concepts: Access Management

- Access Management: determining appropriate levels of access to property (i.e. driveways) from a given road, and appropriate ways to manage access if needed
- Why do it?
 - **Safety:** Driveways mean cars turning, crossing sidewalks, bike lanes, and potentially travel lanes, which increases risk of crashes
 - **Mobility:** Drivers turning and waiting to turn can cause congestion
- Strategies can include:
 - Limitations on driveway width
 - Shared driveways
 - Turn restrictions
 - Medians
 - Access from side streets
- Greater importance for US 30 because state highway



Key Concepts: Roadway Safety

- Roadway safety depends on many factors, including:
 - › Intersection design
 - › Sight distance
 - › Driveway design and frequency
 - › Traffic signal timing and phasing
 - › Availability of separated bicycle and pedestrian facilities
 - › Availability of safe bicycle and pedestrian crossing locations



Key Concepts: Mobility, Capacity & Congestion

- Mobility:
 - Ability to get from one place to another
 - Affected by availability of direct routes & impediments such as congestion
 - Intersections are key bottlenecks
- Capacity:
 - How much traffic a roadway is designed to handle
- Congestion measured in various ways including:
 - Ratio of traffic volume to roadway capacity (“v/c ratio”)
 - How much delay it causes (“vehicle hours of delay” or “Level of Service”)



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Corridor Planning Concepts Focus

Concepts	US 30	Columbia/St. Helens
Mobility	High	Medium
Access Management	High	Medium
Capacity	Medium	Medium
Safety	High	High
Streetscape (cross-section)	Medium	High
Street furnishings	Medium	High



Project Website

- Information on the St. Helens US 30 & Columbia Boulevard / St. Helens Street Corridor Master Plan can be found at:

www.sthelenscorridorplans.com

