

Public Involvement
Response to Comments

MAH-Youngstown SMART²
PID No. 110187

Mahoning County, Ohio

November 15, 2019
(revised December 17, 2019)

Name	Contact Information	Comment Received	Response
Yvonne Irving	2512 Homestead Ave. Youngstown, OH 44502 (234) 232-4306 yivring@rittermail.com	My question is will this project be spread into any other areas of the city? The downtown area and the Northside have had multiple updates to improve communities.	<p>Thank you for your comment and concern regarding the proposed project.</p> <p>This project will focus only on the areas shown in the project renderings. However, the success of this project could increase the city's ability to successfully pursue additional funding for future projects that could benefit additional areas of the city.</p>
Frank Krygowski	29 Ohio Ave. Poland, OH 44514 (330) 257-9057 frkrygow@yahoo.com	<p>Before installing any bike lanes, the City <u>must</u> commit and budget for frequent sweeping! Car tires brush debris into bike lanes, where it sits forever until swept. Presently, I think Ytown sweeps only twice per year - not sufficient for cyclist safety.</p> <p>The bi-directional bike lane proposed for Front Street is very likely to cause bike-car crashes. The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety Study rates such designed as almost 12 times as dangerous as a major street with no bike lanes. A similar installation on Summit Street in Columbus saw 600+% increase in crashes. The design also <u>greatly</u> complicates intersection interactions at transitions to any <u>normal</u> road or bike lane. AASHTO called these "sidepaths" and recommends them only for high speed, high volume roads.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment and concern regarding the proposed project.</p> <p>With more and more bicycle facilities being created throughout the city, Youngstown will evaluate the condition of the bike lanes and adjust the sweeping frequency accordingly. The goal of the project is to provide a safe corridor for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists alike. Providing a clean area for safe cycling is part of this goal.</p> <p>We understand your concerns in regards to the bi-directional cycle track. In our opinion, Front street will be mainly an east/west route with the majority of motorists turning northbound and few motorists turning southbound. The only intersection where a southbound turning movement could be frequent would be at Market Street and this intersection will have a traffic signal to help alleviate this issue.</p> <p>In addition to the signal, the proposed cycle track will have green conflict paint installed in all areas for potential conflict and the cycle track will be within close proximity to the road so the cyclists will not be hidden from the motorists</p>
Deanna Marchionda	(330) 233-0920 deannamarchionda@gmail.com	Lewis School on Front Street needs flashing light and more space for cars for pick and dropoff than what's illustrated in the drawings.	<p>Thank you for your comment and concern regarding the proposed project.</p> <p>In an effort to provide a "Complete Street" situation along the corridor, we have been able to provide 5 spaces for drop-off and pickup between Phelps Street and Market Street. We are currently investigating the possibility of adding a few more spaces to the west of Phelps Street to provide some additional parking.</p>

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Janet Haslette	168 Kenilworth Ave. NE Warren, OH 44483 jhoslette@hotmail.com	Ati only concern is no left turn lane on Front, westbound at Phelps (the entry to amphitheater parking + daily parking)	<p>Thank you for your comment and concern regarding the proposed project.</p> <p>A turn lane warrant analysis was performed based on both existing traffic volumes as well as the future design year traffic forecast and it was found that there is not sufficient turning volume to warrant the need for a westbound left turn lane at this location. While the traffic volumes would be expected to be higher during events at the amphitheater, it is expected that law enforcement officers will be on hand to control traffic similar to what is done at the Covelli Centre.</p>
Jeff Smith	20 W Federal St, Ste 303 Youngstown, OH 44503 jeff.smith@ctconsultants.com	<p>Commerce Street - like the x-walk at Phelps to work in the future Pedestrian Plaza!</p> <p>Suggest adding a striped x-walk from City Lot to old Strauss/PharMor/Call Center bldg.. At mid-block. Due to many employees using this back doorway and parking lot, should consider sidewalk widening on north side of road to channel/slow traffic and to define a safe crossing location.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment and support for the proposed project. The consideration for a striped crosswalk will be considered.</p>
James F. Sutman Jr.	32 Fifth Ave. Youngstown, OH 44503 (330) 207-2628 jimmy@goldenstringradio.org	<p>We are hoping/praying that the improvements to Fifth Avenue will include new sidewalks in front of our newly renovated building (Isle/Purple Cat Offices) at 32 Fifth Avenue. We employ 32 individuals with disabilities that utilize wheelchairs (250 total) that will also be utilizing this building for employment and/or meetings. Adults with disabilities are an underserved population and in need of safe sidewalks. Our total number of employees is 450 and we are rooted in downtown Youngstown. The current sidewalk is choppy and pitted, unfinished after repair work. We spent over \$50,000.00 for a new parking lot, drainage, and curbs.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment and concern regarding the proposed project. The work associated with the Fifth Avenue project will not be coordinated under this PID. It is associated with a separate PID for which the comment period has closed. However, the Fifth Avenue project will include sidewalk reconstruction and new or upgraded curb ramps to comply with ADA standards.</p>
Rev. Richard Murphy	750 Wick Ave Youngstown, OH 44505 (330) 984-6430	<p>I support the placement of a combined WRTA/"driverless" shuttle hub at the junction of Belmont and Park! Great idea!</p> <p>I am so grateful W. Federal Street will see all-new plantings, trees, and more suitable public benches.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment and support for the proposed project.</p>

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Anna DeAscentis	21 W. Boardman St. Suite 200 Youngstown, OH 44503 (330) 740-2200 ext 4	Where is the concept for Boardman Street? W. Boardman St is the location of the Board of Mahoning County (Admin Bldg) Commissioner, the Youngstown City Police Department, & Youngstown City Hall. Improvements at the intersection of Phelps is welcomed; however, approx 30 ft east towards Market Street is an unsafe crosswalk; (markings & signage are poor). Improvements to this crosswalk provide access to the south side of the street from the parking lot on the corner of Phelps & W. Boardman St.	<p>Thank you for your comment and concern regarding the proposed project.</p> <p>This project will focus only on the areas shown in the project renderings. However, the success of this project could increase the city's ability to successfully pursue additional funding for a future project that could include Boardman Street.</p>
Tricia Davignon	29 Wilma Ave Youngstown, OH 44512 tadavignon@gmail.com	<p>Is a cycle track necessary on Front St? Couldn't regular bike lanes suffice.</p> <p>On Federal why can we not extend bike lanes the full length of the street? One block hardly seems sufficient to start creating a real cycling network that is comfortable to all users.</p> <p>On Commerce the same this as Federal is occurring with only one block of bike lanes. There is certainly enough right of way to include a lane the whole length. Even if Commerce has a full bike lane in one direction and Federal a full lane in the other direction at least you're starting to create a full network the accommodates all users.</p> <p>Eliminate travel lane heading east between N. Walnut + Watt St.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment and concern regarding the proposed project.</p> <p>A cycle track tends to provide a more family friendly solution than a bike lane. Parents are usually pretty weary of allowing their children the ability to ride their bikes mixed within the traffic. It is our hopes that Front Street will be a place for families to gather.</p> <p>Federal Street is heavily occupied by restaurants and bars. These businesses typically have cafe style seating along the frontage of the building. Currently the cafe seating is creating pinch points in the sidewalks where pedestrians feel confined. By converting the parking to parallel we are able to widen the sidewalks. Unfortunately adding bike lanes will create the same narrow pedestrian zone situation that currently exists.</p> <p>Commerce Street has numerous parking lots along the corridor. For this reason the current 4 lane roadway is being converted to a 3 lane roadway. This will allow motorists to move out of the travel lane to make left turns into the various parking lots. In an attempt to create a safer pedestrian corridor, bumpouts are being installed at intersections to provide a shorter distance for pedestrian crossings. This does not allow enough room to provide bike lanes along Commerce Street.</p> <p>The block between N. Walnut and Watt Street is outside of the project limits. This area is being resurfaced under another project.</p>

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Linda Macala	21 W Boardman St Youngstown, OH 44503 (330) 740-2130 ext 7107 linda@youngstownlive.com	<p>Front St - need to take Goddard School drop off + pick-up into consideration. Now with 2 westbound lanes parents/buses pull to curb but traffic can continue in the other westbound lane. The pull-in area for side entrance to OH WOW! is my main interest. As a possible partner/tenant in that building, I would need there to be access from north + south so people (visitors) could access our office. Looking at the plan for the cut-in for school buses, not sure that would happen? There is A LOT of concrete there. Could you make that work? Ideally we would like a 15 minute parking spot there where out-of-town visitors could come to our office to get information on the area. (Remember they don't know the area - has to be easy to navigate)</p> <p><u>Also</u> hoping the pull-off for OH WOW! can happen sooner - rather than later. I don't know what the plan is for the timing of all these projects, but for the <u>safety</u> of school children load/unloading buses, I hope this project can be at the early part of this construction plan.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment and concern regarding the proposed project.</p> <p>In an effort to provide a "Complete Street" situation along the corridor, we have been able to provide 5 spaces for drop-off and pickup on Front Street between Phelps Street and Market Street. We are currently investigating the possibility of adding a few more spaces to the west of Phelps Street to provide some additional parking.</p> <p>We have investigated numerous options to provide a pull-off for the OH WOW! Entrance. The pull-off shown provides enough space for 2 buses to load and unload at a time. There simply isn't enough room to provide a bigger pull-off. We will investigate locations for a 15 minute parking space. This may need to be an agreement between your business and OH WOW! The timing of the pull-off is restricted to the project schedule and will most likely be performed with the Federal Street portion of the project.</p>
David Woodard	340 Tod Ln Youngstown, OH 44504 david@goldenstringradio.org	<p>As a representative of an underserved populace (individuals with disabilities), my hope, and the hope of my organization (ISLE/Purple Cat) is that the renovations on Fifth Avenue will include needed repairs to our newly renovated home offices at 32 Fifth Avenue's sidewalks which have been in disrepair for decades. We serve adults with physical and developmental disabilities. 32 of which utilize wheelchairs and dozens of others exhibit ambulatory issues. The current sidewalks pose difficulty to our most vulnerable folks.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment and concern regarding the proposed project. The work associated with the Fifth Avenue project will not be coordinated under this PID. It is associated with a separate PID for which the comment period has closed. However, the Fifth Avenue project will include sidewalk reconstruction and new or upgraded curb ramps to comply with ADA standards.</p>

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Peter Asimakopoulos	One West Federal St Youngstown, OH 44503 (330) 743-0878 asimakopoulos@fnb-corp.com	<p>I believe this is an extremely positive development for downtown Youngstown. It provides us the opportunity to right size major roads, while providing a safe path for pedestrians and bicycles. Additionally, having the opportunity to be a test city for autonomous vehicle is huge. It will create a positive atmosphere, while encouraging leaders from other communities to visit Youngstown. During this transition/plan we must ensure we do not lose street parking in our Central Square district. I am also in favor of providing a drop-off zone for school buses visiting Oh Wow. It will provide a safety zone.</p> <p>Respectfully, Peter J. Asimakopoulos</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment and support for the proposed project. A review of parking Citywide will be perform in conjunction with this project to ensure adequate parking will be available should on-street parking be lost. The project is also evaluating a drop-off zone at the Oh WOW! entrance.</p>