

Welcome to the Discovery Road Project Newsletter!

Newsletter Introduction:

This newsletter is from the City of Port Townsend and is intended to provide information about the Discovery Road Project to adjacent property owners. You are receiving this newsletter because you own property that is within 300 feet of the project. Every other month you will receive a newsletter as the project progresses through design and construction. It is anticipated newsletters will be published from now until the end of 2022.

What Will the Project Be Like?

The project is located between the Rainier Street roundabout and McClellan Street by Salish Coast Elementary School, for a little more than half of a mile.

The road will be repaved, and sidewalks will be installed on both sides of the street. A two-way bikeway will also connect the bikeway on Rainier Street with the bikeway in front of the elementary school. As well, the project will include new street lights and enhanced crossing for pedestrians.



Background:

The project budget consists of grants, utility funding, and City matching funds for a total of approximately \$5.5 million. Project planning has been ongoing, with the project originally conceived more than a decade ago. In Fall of 2020 a storymap was published on the City's website (<https://cityofpt.us>), and a survey was conducted to solicit community input about various project elements.



In early Spring of 2021, a stakeholder group, represented by the School District, pedestrian and bicycle advocates, adjacent property owners, advocates for those with disabilities, and City Council met with the design team and City staff to develop a concept design which incorporated input from the survey. This concept design was approved by the full City Council in May of 2021.

Schedule:

The schedule (subject to change) is currently:

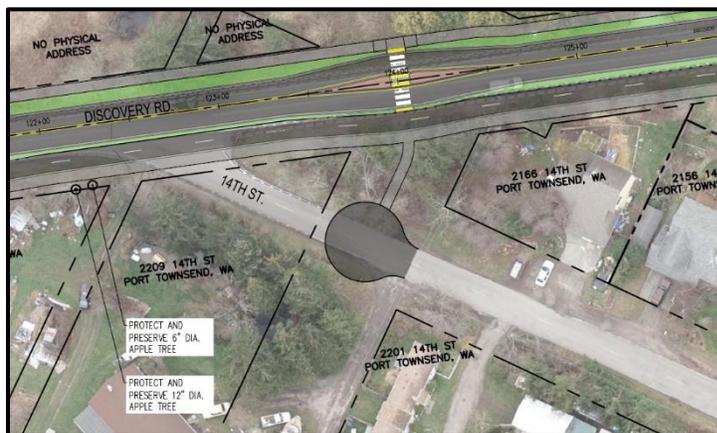
Task	Duration
Design	June 2021 - January 2022
Bidding Process	February 2022 – March 2022
Construction	April 2022 - December 2022

As some of you know, the Jefferson County Public Utility District (PUD) was going to install conduit the length of the project in the fall of 2021, ahead of the City’s construction project. This plan has changed, and now the City will install the conduit as part of its construction project in 2022.

Project Features:

The Discovery Road Project will have multiple features, and each newsletter will showcase at least one. This newsletter focuses on the changes to the 14th Street and Discovery Road intersection.

The intersection of 14th Street and Discovery Road will be closed to through traffic. The current intersection has limited visibility and the angle encourages drivers to maintain a high speed when exiting from Discovery Road onto 14th Street. Also, a swath of 14th Street adjacent to Discovery Road is privately owned, and typically wouldn’t have a public road through it. As part of this closure, the new bikeway and sidewalk will be continuous across the intersection. In the Cliff Street public right of way, a cul-de-sac will be constructed, which allows drivers to turn around. There will also be a pedestrian way between the cul-de-sac and Discovery Road that will dual as access for emergency vehicles. The pedestrian way will lead to a crossing with curb ramps, a painted crosswalk and a refuge island. This same refuge island will also serve as traffic calming to keep vehicle speeds low. Here is a preliminary picture of what is planned:



Project Contact:

If you have questions about the project, please contact the City’s Discovery Road Project Manager, Laura Parsons, P.E. at lparsons@cityofpt.us or 360-379-4432.