SW Brookswood Crosswalk Safety Project Concept

BACKGROUND

The City of Bend is improving safety and enhancing livability by building small safety projects as part of the Neighborhood Street Safety Program (NSSP). One of the 2019-2021 NSSP projects is building a crosswalk at Hollygrape across SW Brookswood Boulevard.

SW BROOKSWOOD CROSSWALK

This crosswalk will allow safer travel across Brookswood to community center, parks, paths, trails and school.

Brookswood has more than 12,000 cars a day. Posted speed is 35 mph. And there are two lanes on Brookswood from each direction approaching Hollygrape (one through-lane and one left-turn lane).

To make this crossing safe and comfortable the leftturn lane needs to be converted to a safety island. This sets up the crosswalk so there is just one lane from each direction.

Safety risk with multi-lane crossings: left-turning vehicles slow down to let a person cross and drivers on Brookswood believe the left-turner is slowing down to complete the turn. People crossing are hidden by the left-turning vehicle.

Safety correction: replace the left-turn lane with a safety island. The safety island is a place to safely stop in the middle of the road. This gives everyone time to assess traffic conditions and complete their crossing.

- Safety islands reduce crosswalk crashes more than 40 percent
- Increase everyone's ability to see each other
- Drivers are more likely to yield when the crosswalk includes a safety island.

Safety islands that are at least 10' wide are comfortable for everyone. Narrower islands do not allow enough room for someone to comfortably stand in the middle of the road when traffic volumes and speeds are high.

The safety island would be built in the space currently reserved for the left-turn pocket.



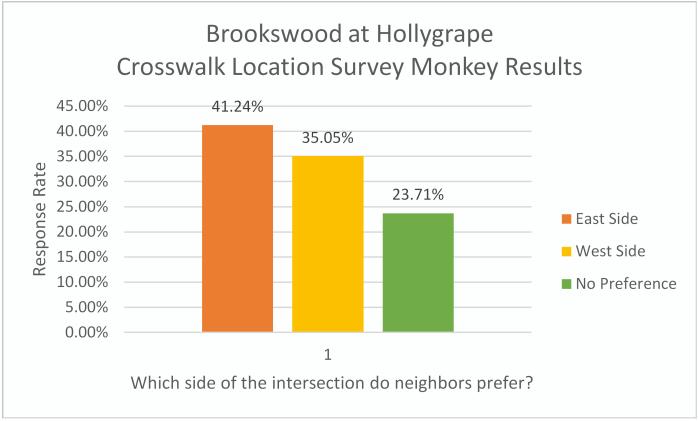
Map of Brookswood and Hollygrape area neighborhood streets and parks

Neighborhood Choice

The results of a Survey Monkey showed more support for the crossing to be located on the East Side of the intersection. Amongst the comments most noted that the east side was more logical as the pool, park and even school are all located on the east side of Hollygrape. There were 100 surveys completed. Survey responses indicated daily and weekly usage were most likely suppressed since the existing crosswalk is not user friendly and deters them from crossing.



EAST SIDE Option: Build crosswalk on the east side and relocate westbound lefts to Sweetbriar.



The City is working with a consultant to begin survey and design for this project. There will be an Open House (not yet scheduled). Information for the Open House will be posted on the NSSP Program and Projects website. It will most likely be online given COVID-19 pandemic protocols.

