

## **Franklin Boulevard Redevelopment Project Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

**Question:** *What is the Franklin Boulevard Redevelopment Project?*

**Answer:** The purpose of the Project is to transform Franklin Boulevard from an outdated state highway into a modern urban multi-way boulevard that safely serves the needs of pedestrians, bikes, buses, and motor vehicles, and will also have a catalytic effect on land redevelopment in the Glenwood Riverfront District, including properties along the street.

**Question:** *Why is the City planning to reconstruct Franklin Boulevard?*

**Answer:** In Glenwood, Franklin Boulevard is an aging auto oriented state highway with very little to no provision for safe biking or walking traffic. The roadway is a vital and central link between downtown Springfield and downtown Eugene, serves as a gateway to both communities, and provides primary access to the Glenwood Riverfront District. Franklin Boulevard needs be improved in order to leverage community reinvestment and economic opportunities and meet the transportation needs of pedestrians and cyclists as well as cars and trucks.

**Question:** *How has the City planned for Glenwood redevelopment*

**Answer:** Springfield has engaged the community to re-envision the land uses along Franklin Boulevard as mixed-use neighborhoods with high residential and commercial densities served by quality infrastructure for transit, walking, cycling and motor vehicles. Last year, Springfield adopted an updated Glenwood Refinement Plan that outlines the future vision for Glenwood. The Franklin Boulevard Project is an important component of the Glenwood Refinement Plan.

**Question:** *Who is involved in the Project?*

**Answer:** Franklin Boulevard is currently under the jurisdiction of the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). The City of Springfield is planning to eventually take over jurisdiction of Franklin Boulevard in Glenwood. The Project is a partnership between the City of Springfield, Lane Transit District (LTD) and ODOT. Public input has been gathered throughout the planning process and will continue to be sought during the environmental and preliminary design phase of the Project.

**Question:** *Who will be affected by the reconstruction of Franklin Boulevard?*

**Answer:** While the goal of the Project is to benefit all of Springfield, it will have the most immediate effect on businesses and residents along the Franklin Boulevard corridor as well as all of the Glenwood area. The reconstruction of Franklin Boulevard will present many opportunities and benefits to Glenwood businesses and residents, and will also present some challenges. For example, additional right-of-way will be needed in order to fully implement the Project. Staff is currently working on preliminary designs that will limit the project footprint as much as possible, while also staying true to the community's vision and intent for the Project. The City of Springfield will work with property owners, businesses and residents every step of the way to minimize impacts, treat people fairly and be transparent throughout the process.

**Question:** *When will changes occur?*

**Answer:** Springfield recently received state and federal funding to complete the required environmental analysis and preliminary design as a first step toward someday completely reconstructing Franklin Boulevard into a multi-way boulevard. While this environmental and preliminary design work moves forward, the City continues to look for construction funding to fully implement the Project, and the Project is slated to receive funding for Phase One construction in 2015 or 2016.

**Question:** *What does the Franklin Boulevard Project really mean for my business or property?*

**Answer:** The City of Springfield is currently working with property owners who have expressed an interest in redeveloping land to fit the vision for the Glenwood Riverfront District. In these cases the goal is to match up project design and construction to work with these reinvestment concepts. Where land is not proposed for redevelopment, but may be impacted by one or more phases of project construction, the City's project staff will make every effort to work with property and business owners to continue to provide access from a reconstructed Franklin Boulevard segment to existing businesses until such time as those properties choose to redevelop. Finally, because design refinements are not yet complete it is difficult to know the location and extent of right of way needs for the project. Where right of way will be necessary to complete construction, the City will work in good faith with property owners to acquire land and assist with business relocation.