



**CITY OF COOS BAY**  
**Agenda Staff Report**

MEETING DATE	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
April 21, 2015	

TO: Mayor Shoji and City Councilors

FROM: Jim Hossley, Public Works Director 

Through: Rodger Craddock, City Manager 

ISSUE: Traffic Control Striping on 4<sup>th</sup> Street – Anderson Avenue to Golden Avenue

**BACKGROUND:**

At the March 3, 2015 City Council meeting, staff presented the 4<sup>th</sup> Street traffic control striping project. The City partnered with ODOT last September to restripe 4<sup>th</sup> Street south of Anderson Avenue. The old striping had worn off the asphalt making it difficult for motorists to determine lane location, stop bars, and turning lanes. The following adjustments were made to the existing traffic markings:

1.) Adjustments to traffic lane alignment on 4<sup>th</sup> Street south of Anderson Avenue to better line up travel lanes through intersections.

2.) Per ODOT recommendation, two directional arrows were painted on southbound 4<sup>th</sup> Street where it transitions from two-lane to one-lane between Curtis and Donnelly Avenues. This is consistent with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) which dictates national standards for traffic markings and signage.

Council members were concerned with some of the street markings on southbound 4<sup>th</sup> north of Golden Avenue causing confusion for drivers. Also there was discussion about providing a left turn lane on northbound 4<sup>th</sup> Street west onto Bennett Avenue. Council requested staff to look into these issues and report back.

The arrows painted on 4<sup>th</sup> Street between Curtis and Donnelly Avenues appear to contribute to most of the driver confusion. In the area where the arrows are painted, 4<sup>th</sup> Street narrows by 5 feet on each side of the yellow centerline (10 feet total). The intent of the arrows is to advise drivers of the transition. The width of the asphalt in the narrowed area also adds to drivers' confusion. Because on-street parallel parking is permitted in this area, the remaining lane is about 18 feet wide, too narrow for two southbound travel lanes and very wide for a single lane.

One solution to minimize driver confusion is to remove the painted arrows. They are optional for streets with a 25 mile per hour speed limit. Another option is to prohibit the on-street parking and maintain the two lanes of southbound traffic to Golden Avenue. South of Golden, a single lane southbound is all that is feasible.

Regarding a dedicated left-turn lane in northbound 4<sup>th</sup> Street onto Bennett Avenue, there appears to be adequate width to accommodate striping a left-turn lane.

**ADVANTAGES:**

Removing the merge arrows painted on the southbound 4<sup>th</sup> Street pavement between Bennett and Donnelly Avenues would likely reduce driver confusion between these two intersections. Adding a left-turn lane from northbound 4<sup>th</sup> Street onto Bennett Avenue will add to traffic safety and minimize the potential for rear-end collisions.

**DISADVANTAGES:**

Other than cost, no real disadvantages with the exception that it may be necessary to eliminate some on-street parking on the east side of northbound 4<sup>th</sup> Street south of Bennett Avenue to accommodate the left-turn lane.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:**

Traffic striping is funded out of the Gas Tax Fund, 02-320-520-2222, Traffic Safety Materials. Due to budget constraints, should Council approve the dedicated left-turn lane, it will not be installed until next fiscal year.

**RELATED CITY GOAL:**

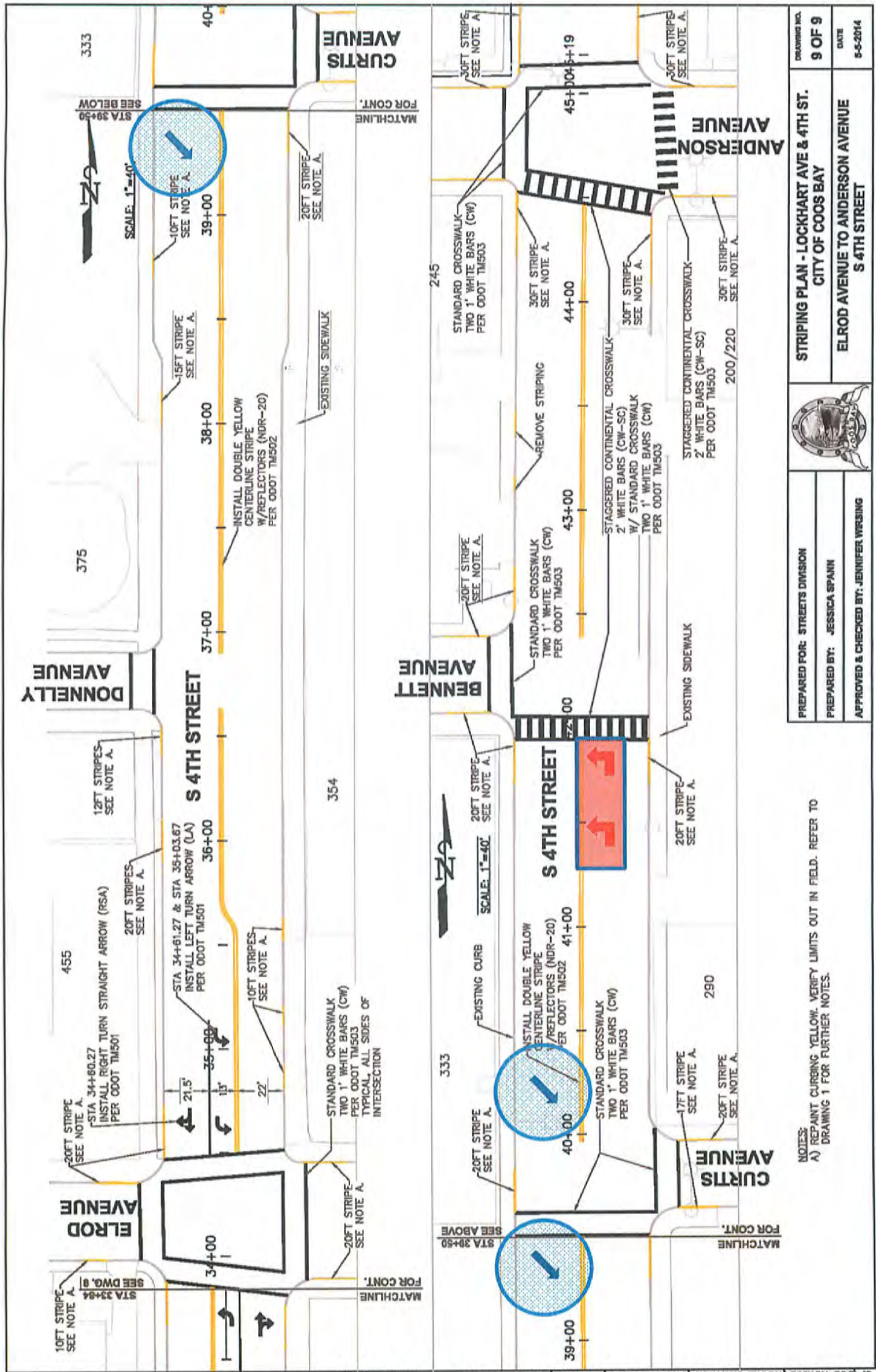
Maintain and improve the City's physical infrastructure and provide quality services for current and future citizens

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

If it pleases Council, staff recommends the City Council consider removal of the two merge arrows painted on the southbound 4<sup>th</sup> Street pavement between Bennett and Donnelly Avenues; and add a dedicated left-turn lane on northbound 4<sup>th</sup> Street at Bennett Avenue.

**ATTACHMENT:**

Traffic Marking Plan



g:\DCS Redwood\TRANSPORTATION\STRIPING PLAN\STRIPING (4th Street - Anderson to SW Blvd).dwg

NOTES:  
A) REPAINT CURBING YELLOW. VERIFY LIMITS OUT IN FIELD. REFER TO DRAWING 1 FOR FURTHER NOTES.



PREPARED FOR: STREETS DIVISION	STRIPING PLAN - LOCKHART AVE & 4TH ST.	DRAWING NO.
PREPARED BY: JESSICA SPANN	CITY OF COOS BAY	9 OF 9
APPROVED & CHECKED BY: JENNIFER WRSING	ELROD AVENUE TO ANDERSON AVENUE	DATE
	S 4TH STREET	8-5-2014