



March 26, 2012

The City of Coos Bay Awarded Grant for the Improvement of S Empire Boulevard

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Fire Department
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Development**
(541) 269-8924

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Office**
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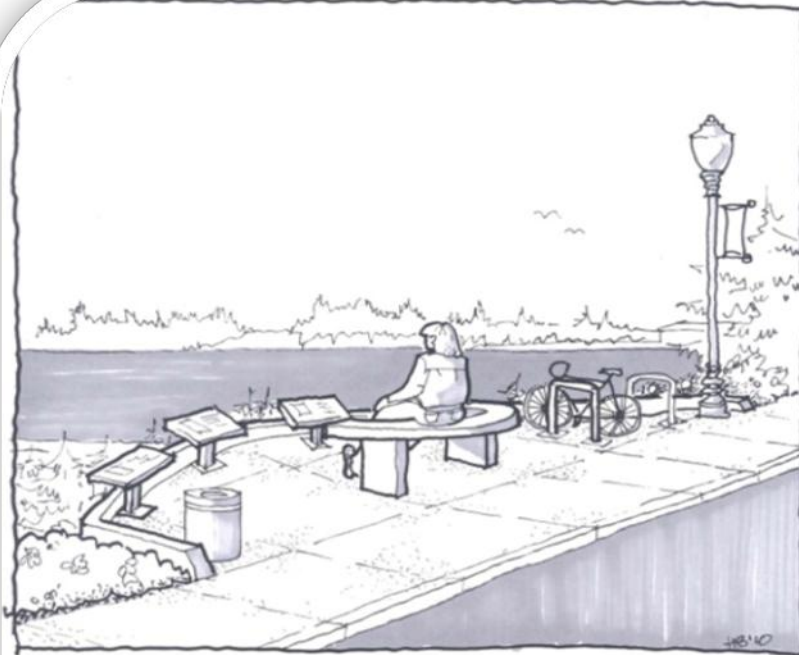
Last week the Oregon Transportation Commission approved a list of non-highway projects for \$23.6 million in funding through their Flexible Funds Program. Projects were reviewed and recommended after a months-long process by stakeholders representing various modes and geographic regions around the state.

The City of Coos Bay is pleased to announce it has been awarded \$2.1 million for its "Empire Pedestrian and Bicycle Access Project." The purpose of the project is to increase pedestrian and bicyclist safety through the widening and overlay of S Empire Blvd from Newmark Avenue to Wisconsin Avenue (city limits), and the installation of bicycle lanes, sidewalks, and lighting on both sides of the street. The project will also include the installation of some view points; a covered shelter / CCAT bus stop, and the creation of some on-street parking along Empire Boulevard.

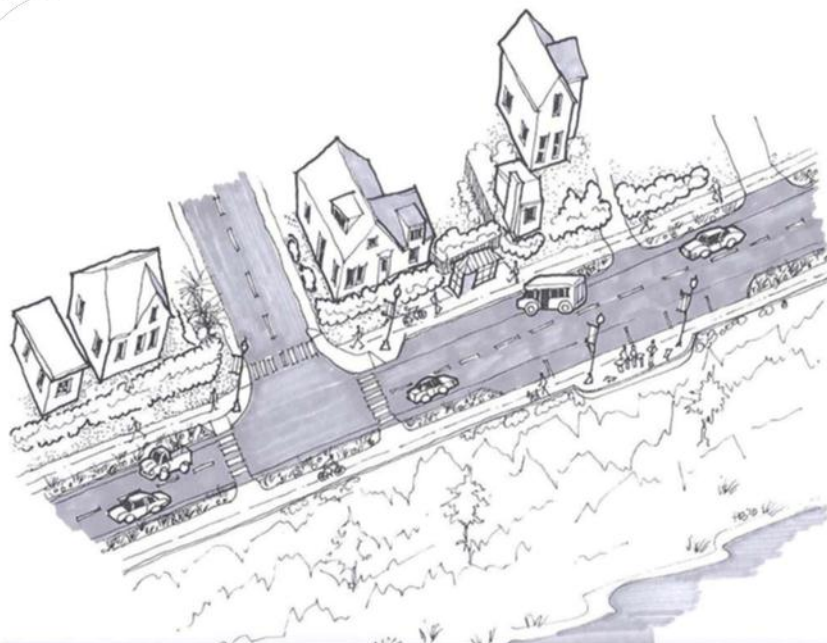
The \$2.1 million dollar grant will allow phase one of the project (S Empire Blvd between Newmark Avenue and Fulton Avenue) to move forward. The City has submitted a TIGER IV grant application to help with funding phase two of the project (S Empire Blvd. between Fulton and just south of Wisconsin Ave). The total cost for phase one is \$2.7 million dollars, which will require a City's match of \$600,000. The cost of phase two of the project is estimated at \$1.67 million dollars.

Construction can commence upon completion of engineered design plans and ODOT approval of the plans. Construction work could begin as soon as the fall of 2012, however weather could delay the start of construction until spring of 2013. If you have any questions, please contact Public Works and Development Director Jim Hossley at 541-269-8918.

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SKETCH OF TYPICAL VIEW POINT



AERIAL VIEW OF TYPICAL INTERSECTION