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Open house to discuss safety improvements coming to South Main Street

Median from Mosby Road to Stone Spring Road/Erickson Avenue seeks to reduce crashes

HARRISONBURG, Va. – The Harrisonburg community is invited to learn about a project that will improve traveler safety by reducing potential crash conflicts along the South Main Street corridor.

Harrisonburg Public Works will host an open house Thursday, Feb. 22, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Sentara RMH Wellness Center, 2500 Wellness Dr., where community members will learn about the project and have an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback on project plans.

South Main Street from Mosby Road to Stone *Mosby Road to Stone Spring Road/Erickson Avenue.* Spring Road/Erickson Avenue will see the



(Above) A map showing where work is proposed to take place on South Main Street from Mosby Road to Stone Spring Road/Erickson Avenue.

addition of a three-foot-wide concrete median. To reduce crashes, the project will replace the current two-way left turn lane with dedicated left turn lanes from East Mosby Road, Dukes Plaza and Erickson Avenue. Additionally, the project includes a 5-foot-wide sidewalk on the east side of the road and shelters at three bus stops to improve multimodal access on the corridor. Existing bike lanes will be removed to accommodate the median.

"Considering crash data from 2013 to October 2023, the Public Works department encourages improvements being made to the South Main Street corridor for the safety of our residents and visitors," Harrisonburg Public Works Director Tom Hartman said. "While the project aims to lesson the amount of crashes with the installation of a median, the project also offers safer options and enhancements for our transit users as well as pedestrians who need space to travel the corridor. We are eager to begin these safety enhancements to South Main Street as a whole, beginning with the East Mosby to Stone Spring section."

Attendees of the open house will have the opportunity to:

- View educational displays about the South Main Street Improvement Project
- View Crash Data from this section of the South Main Street corridor

- View information about left-hand-turns
- Speak directly with City staff about the project
- Receive a project brochure in English, Spanish, Arabic and Kurdish
- Express thoughts and questions through a public questionnaire that will be available during and after the event in English, Spanish, Arabic and Kurdish

This project is funded by a Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Smart Scale grant and is expected to move forward in 2024-2025. More information about the South Main Street Improvement project (from Mosby Road to Stone Spring Road/Erickson Avenue) may be found online at <u>https://harrisonburgva.gov/main-st-mosby-rd</u>.

The project questionnaire will be available digitally until March 25. Written or oral questions and comments may be submitted to Brittany Clem-Hott by emailing <u>brittany.clem-hott@harrisonburgva.gov</u> or calling 540-434-5928, before or after the open house.

The **City of Harrisonburg** is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 55,990 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is available online at <u>www.HarrisonburgVA.gov</u>.

You can also follow Harrisonburg Public Works on Facebook.

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