

DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

Liberty Street - Downtown Streetscape and Mobility Transformation Project



Design Public Hearing

May 19, 2026

4:30pm-6:30pm



Meeting Location:

Harrisonburg City Council Chambers
409 S Main Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Project Description

The City of Harrisonburg is advancing the Downtown Streetscape and Mobility Transformation Project, also known as the Liberty Street Project, as an initiative to enhance Liberty Street and Noll Drive in the heart of downtown. The Liberty Street Project received funding from the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant Program for the transportation components, and is using local funds for the water and sewer replacements.

The Liberty Street Project Includes:

- ▲ The transformation of one lane (starting at Noll Drive at Main Street, moving south down Liberty Street to Grattan Street) into two-way separated bicycle lanes, also known as a two-way cycle track, protected by a median separating the bike lanes from traffic.
- ▲ Installation of a connecting section of 10' foot wide path from Grattan Street to Martin Luther King Jr. Way, where the Bluestone Trail begins and runs through James Madison University to Purcell Park.
- ▲ Upgrades that improve safety for pedestrians throughout the corridor including curb extensions at intersections, ADA-compliant curb ramps, enhanced crosswalks, pedestrian signals, and bus stop bays with accessible boarding areas.
- ▲ Intersection enhancements such as increased landscaping, decorative signal poles, modernized traffic signals, and revised signal timings to support multimodal movements.
- ▲ Corridor-wide access management measures that will reduce conflict points by consolidating entrances and improving driveway alignments, with select entrances being closed or narrowed to enhance safety and increase pedestrian space.

For translation services, please contact Harrisonburg Public Works at publicworks@harrisonburgva.gov or call 540-434-5928.

Para servicios de traducción, póngase en contacto con Harrisonburg Public Works por correo electrónico publicworks@harrisonburgva.gov o llame al 540-434-5928

للاستفادة من خدمات الترجمة، يرجى التواصل مع إدارة الأشغال العامة في مدينة هاريسونبرج عبر الموقع الإلكتروني publicworks@harrisonburgva.gov أو الاتصال على الرقم 540-434-5928

بۆ خزمه تگوزاری وه رگپران، تکایه سهردانی کاره گشتیه کانی یان publicworks@harrisonburgva.gov هاریسونبرگ بکه له په یوهندی به ژماره 5928-434-540

- ▲ Changes to the intersection of Liberty Street, Main Street, and Grattan Street to improve safety for all users.
- ▲ Green space use (installation of grass, gardens, etc.) in various locations within the median, supporting downtown beautification and City environmental initiatives and programs.
- ▲ Replacement of aging water mains and upgrade of select sanitary sewer lines.

The installation of these improvements will require the acquisition of right-of-way and/or temporary easements from properties within the project limits. Existing public and private utilities in conflict with the proposed design will be relocated as necessary.

Construction is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2028 following completion of engineering design and right-of-way acquisition in the Spring of 2028. The City of Harrisonburg is committed to engaging the public throughout the process, including the Kickoff Open House in December 2025 and this Design Public Hearing, to ensure community input shapes the final design.

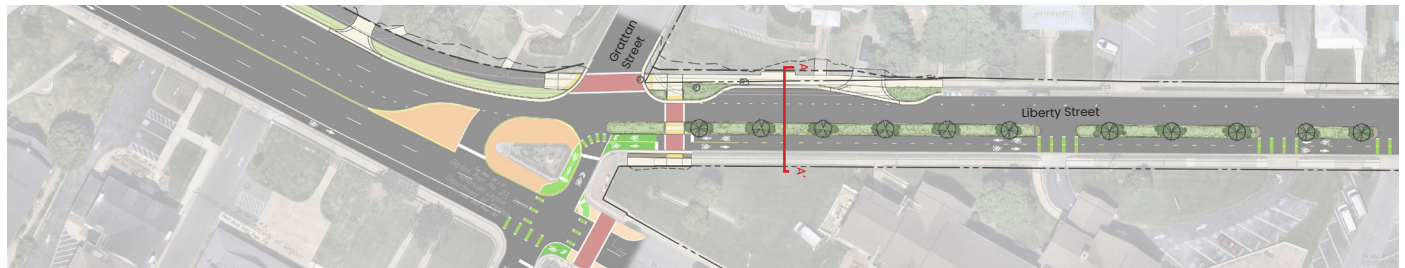
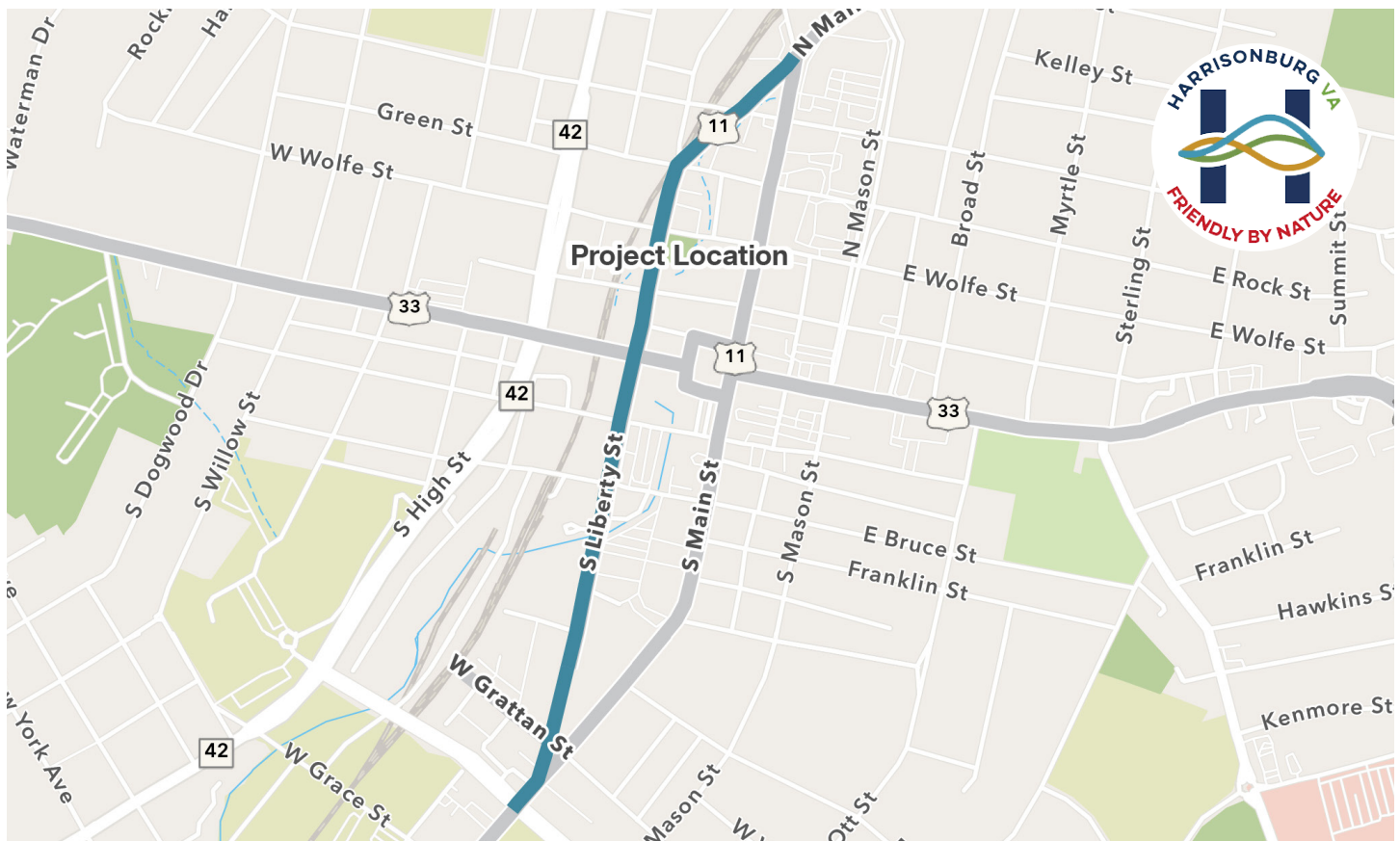
Project Schedule

- **December 2025**
Kickoff Open House
- **May 2026**
Public Hearing
- **August 2026**
Right-of-Way Acquisition Begins
- **November 2027**
Advertisement for Construction
- **Spring 2028**
Construction Begins
- **Fall 2029**
Construction Complete

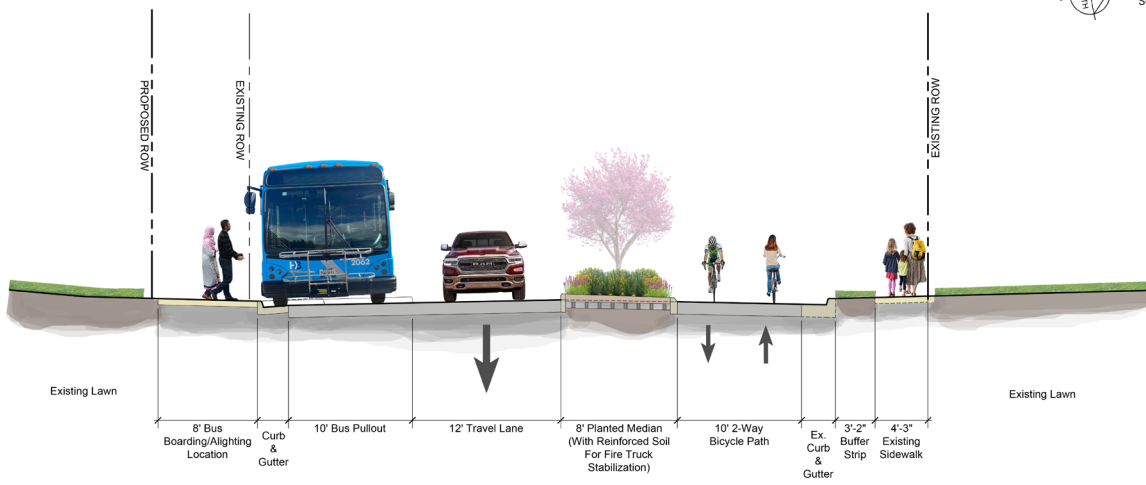
Project dates are subject to change



Project Location Map



Location Map
Scale 1"=30'



A Rendered Section on Liberty Street Near Grattan Street
Scale: 1" = 5' - 0"

Typical Section Proposed Conditions

Estimated Project Costs

Phase	RAISE (Federal Funds)	Local Funds	Total
Preliminary Engineering:	\$ 1,777,000	\$ 325,000	\$ 2,102,000
Right-of-Way & Utility	\$ 1,175,000	\$ 0	\$ 1,175,000
Construction:	\$ 11,416,000	\$ 3,275,000	\$ 14,691,000
TOTAL COST:	\$ 14,368,000	\$ 3,600,000	\$ 17,968,000

Estimates are shown in 2025 dollars and costs are subject to change. The improvements are funded through a combination of Federal, and local funds, with the local funds dedicated to the water and sewer components.



Proposed Improvements

Photo Simulation Showing Potential Improvements

Right-of-Way

Improvements will require the acquisition of land for right-of-way and easements. The right-of-way and easements, depicted on the meeting displays, are preliminary. As the City of Harrisonburg further develops the design of the project, additional easements or right-of-way may be required beyond the proposed limits shown on the preliminary plans. Impacted property owners will be informed of the exact location of right-of-way and easements during the formal right-of-way acquisition process.

Information about right-of-way acquisitions is provided in VDOT's brochure titled Right-of-Way and Utilities: A Guide for Property Owners and Tenants, which is available at the right-of-way table at the public hearing or online at https://www.viriniadot.org/business/resources/Right_of_way/A_Guide_for_Property_Owners_and_Tenants.pdf. After this meeting, information regarding right-of-way acquisition may be obtained from the City of Harrisonburg Public Works, 320 East Mosby Road, Harrisonburg, VA 22801.

Environmental Review

The City of Harrisonburg is preparing environmental reviews and performing coordination efforts to obtain information about environmental resources within the project vicinity. Natural and historic resource agencies are being provided with an opportunity to review and comment on the project during its development. Opportunities for avoidance, minimization, and mitigation of environmental impacts will be identified. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is applicable to this project and a NEPA document (Categorical Exclusion) is being prepared in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and in accordance with federal guidelines.

The NEPA document will include information from various technical reviews including those related to natural resources, water quality, water resources, threatened and endangered species, and other quantifiable impacts.

In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR Part 800, information concerning the potential effects of the proposed project on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will also be evaluated.

Federal Aid

This is a federal aid project; FHWA must approve the need for the proposed highway improvements as well as the environmental documents, plans, specifications, cost estimates, right-of-way acquisitions, and construction procedures. This process provides additional assurance that federal, state, and local goals and objectives are met and that opportunity for public participation is provided. Federal and state regulations require that a wide range of factors and impacts are considered and that the final decisions are made in the best overall public interest.

Civil Rights

It is the responsibility of the City of Harrisonburg to ensure all members of the community are afforded an opportunity to participate in public decisions about transportation systems and project affecting them, which is why your input is greatly encouraged. The City of Harrisonburg ensures non-discrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. No person shall be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to, discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. If you feel you have been denied participation in, or denied benefits of, or been subjected to discrimination, in regard to this project or otherwise discriminated against because of your race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability, you may contact the City of Harrisonburg, Public Works Department, 320 E. Mosby Rd, Harrisonburg, VA 22801, or phone 540-434-5928.



We Want to Hear from You

This is the second of two public meetings for this project. The first public meeting, the Kickoff Open House, was held on December 3, 2025, and had an open comment period through December 18, 2025. This Public Hearing is an opportunity to review the the project plans and information and make comments. Online comment will be accepted through June 2, 2026.

We ask you please use the QR code to provide your thoughts and feedback.

 **Maya Waid**
Outreach and Communications Specialist
City of Harrisonburg

Department of Public Works
320 East Mosby Road
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Telephone: (540) 434-5928
Email: maya.waid@harrisonburgva.gov

Project Website

<https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/transportation-projects#LibertyStreetProject>