

Date: October 1, 2019
To: Planning Commission
From: Amy Brooks, Planning Services Manager
Subject: **Chapman Highway Implementation Study – 10-B-19-CP**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

APPROVE THE CHAPMAN HIGHWAY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (AN AMENDMENT TO THE KNOXVILLE-KNOX COUNTY GENERAL PLAN 2033 AND AN UPDATE TO THE SOUTH CITY SECTOR PLAN).

BACKGROUND

The Chapman Highway Implementation Plan began in Spring 2018 and the Final Report was completed in Summer 2019. A review of existing conditions was completed, followed by a list of projects to address identified needs and deficiencies in each segment. Those projects were then scored and ranked in priority order with estimated costs for implementation also provided.

Forty-seven projects were analyzed based on both community input and technical data. Three tiers of projects were identified to indicate their overall priority. As anticipated, safety for all commuters factored heavily in setting priorities. A primary focus is adding center turn lanes or medians in all sections of Chapman Highway that do not currently have one as well as providing places for people to bike and walk safely.

The final report and all background information are available at: <https://knoxtpo.org/plans-studies/corridor-and-area-studies/chapman-highway>

SCHEDULE

If approved by the Knoxville-Knox County Planning Commission, the plan updates will be scheduled for adoption by Knoxville City Council on November 5, 2019, and November 19, 2019.

ATTACHMENT

Chapman Highway Implementation Plan: Final Report Summary

Chapman Highway Implementation Plan: Final Report Summary

Purpose

The Chapman Highway Implementation Plan, led by the City of Knoxville and Knoxville-Knox County Planning, identifies and prioritizes improvements for the six-mile section of Chapman Highway within the Knoxville city limits that runs from Blount Avenue to just south of Governor John Sevier Highway. The purpose of this effort was to not just complete another study, but instead create an actionable strategy for transforming Chapman Highway into a safer, more livable corridor.

Study Area and Corridor Segments

A need was identified to divide the 6+ mile corridor into five independent segments since many characteristics vary along the route such as the presence of a center turn lane, adjoining land use, and density of traffic signals.

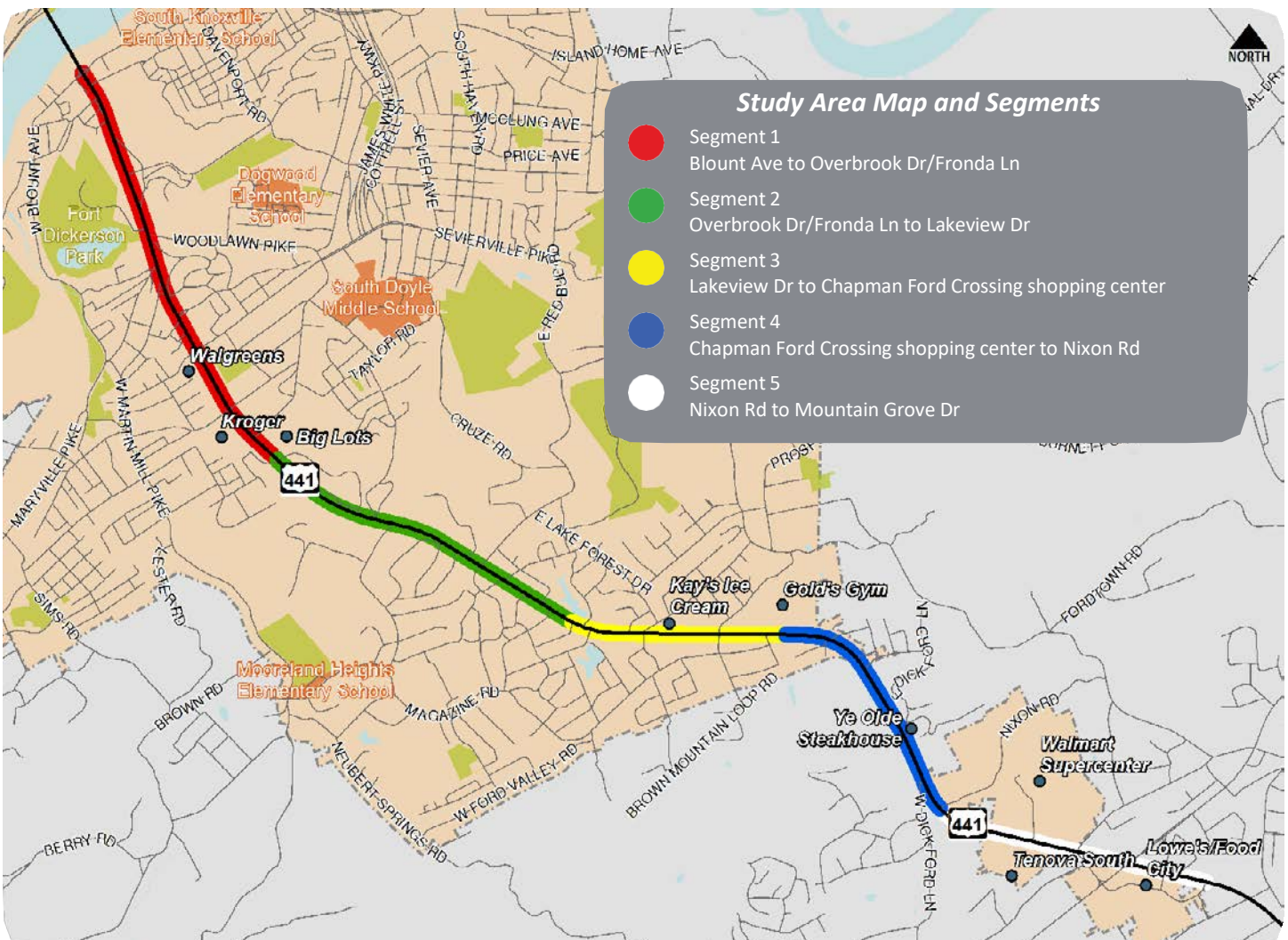
Plan Development Process

The Chapman Highway Implementation Plan began in Spring 2018 and the Final Report was completed in Summer 2019. A review of existing conditions was completed, followed by a list of projects to address identified needs and deficiencies in each segment. Those projects were then scored and ranked in priority order with estimated costs for implementation also provided.

Public and Stakeholder Involvement

There was a significant effort made to reach out to key stakeholder agencies, such as TDOT and Knoxville Area Transit, as well as community members to inform project selection and recommendations, including:

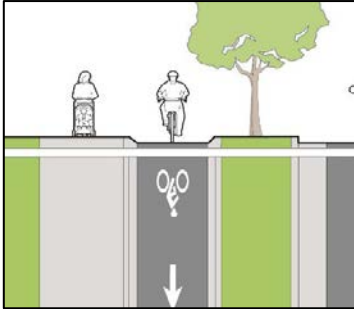
- 4 Steering Committee meetings
- 2 Stakeholder Workshops
- 2 Community Workshops and Online Surveys



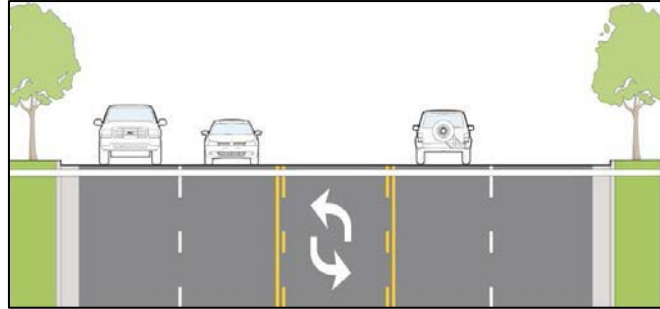
Major Recommendations

In the Chapman Highway Implementation Plan, 47 projects were analyzed based on both community input and technical data. Three tiers of projects were identified to indicate their overall priority.

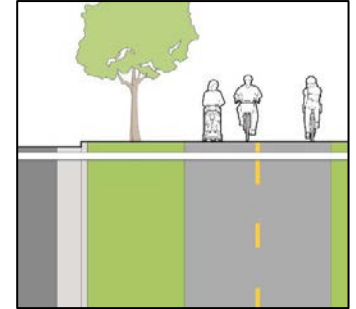
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**SEPARATED BIKE LANE
AND SIDEWALK**



CENTER TURN LANE



SHARED USE TRAIL (GREENWAY)

The Tier 1 (highest priority) projects are listed below by category.

Center turn lane / median projects:

- Lakeview Drive to Chapman Ford Crossing – widen for a center left-turn lane or landscaped median
- Nixon Road to Mountain Grove Dr – maintain a center left-turn lane or convert to a landscaped median
- Overbrook Drive to Lakeview Drive – widen for a center left-turn lane or landscaped median
- Chapman Ford Crossing to Nixon Road – widen for a center left-turn lane or landscaped median
- Blount Avenue to Fort Dickerson Road – widen for landscaped median

Bike and pedestrian improvement projects (sidewalk / bike lane additions):

- Blount Ave to Fort Dickerson Road – provide landscaped buffer, separated bike lanes and sidewalks
- Fort Dickerson Road to Moody Ave – provide landscaped buffer, separated bike lanes and sidewalks
- Moody Avenue to Young High Pike – provide landscaped buffer, separated bike lanes and sidewalks
- Young High Pike to Overbrook Drive – provide landscaped buffer, sidewalk and shared use trail

Spot intersection improvement projects:

- Maryville Pike and Martin Mill Pike Intersections – possibly realign or consolidate the two intersections
- Stone Road Intersection – construct left-turn lanes on Chapman Highway

Transit improvement project:

- Between Moody Avenue and Young High Pike – transit super stop, for improved transfers

Next Steps

As a state highway, improvements to Chapman Highway require partnership with and approval from the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT). The City of Knoxville has worked with TDOT and invested local funds to improve key points along the Chapman Highway corridor, but a comprehensive approach to making the entire road safer will require resources beyond those available to local government acting alone. The report calls on the City of Knoxville and other funding partners to seek out opportunities for collaboration and to combine small projects to maximize efficiency.

The City will actively pursue funding for projects prioritized in the Implementation Plan and will engage with TDOT as the state determines specific projects that will be funded through \$45 million in state IMPROVE Act funds. The IMPROVE Act will fund projects on a 10.3-mile section of Chapman Highway between Blount Avenue and Seymour.

*The final report and all background information are available at
<https://knoxtpo.org/plans-studies/corridor-and-area-studies/chapman-highway>*