



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## SHARED LANE MARKINGS TO BE INSTALLED

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The City of McMinnville will install new pavement markings called “sharrows” in two locations in October. Sharrow is shorthand for “shared lane markings”. Sharrows indicate that motorists and bicyclists are to share the travel lane. These markings are the initial stage of the City’s implementation of the Bicycle System element of the City’s adopted Transportation System Plan.

Contract crews will install sharrows on Fifth Street and Macy Street near Cook School. City crews will install sharrows on Second Street, from SW Mt. Mazama to SW Mallard. The Cook School area project will connect cyclists to existing bike lanes on Lafayette Avenue and Three Mile Lane, as well as to 5<sup>th</sup> Street entering downtown. The Second Street project will connect cyclists from existing bike lanes on Second Street to West Hills Park, as well as to provide enhanced cycling opportunities for neighborhood users to the west of the existing park.

While bicycle lanes are an effective solution for creating safe conditions for all roadway users on streets with a lot of traffic, they do not fit in all situations. In locations where there is not enough room for a striped bike lane, sharrows can be used to improve safety by providing visual cues to drivers and cyclists about where to align themselves in the road. Sharrows let motorists know that they need to expect to share the roadway with cyclists. These markings indicate where cyclists should ride in the roadway, and help to direct them away from parked cars. Cyclists should ride over the center of the marking. Motorists can drive over the sharrows, and should slow down in the presence of bicyclists and either wait for the cyclist to turn off the road or pass slowly and carefully.

The goal of the Bicycle System Plan program is to provide a comprehensive system of connecting and direct on-street bicycle facilities that will encourage ridership and safe bike travel. The program includes new bike lanes as part of newly constructed roadways, re-striping existing arterial or collector streets with bike lanes as space and parking requirements allow and placing sharrows along designated routes. The various elements are slated to be implemented as new facilities are constructed and as resources allow. Sharrow markings are planned on various collectors and arterial streets where striped bike lanes are not planned and will be used to create connections between existing bike facilities as well as to help provide way finding to popular biking destinations for cyclists.

Visit the City's website at [www.mcminnvilleoregon.gov](http://www.mcminnvilleoregon.gov) for an information sheet on sharrows and to view the City's adopted Transportation System Plan. You may also contact the McMinnville Public Works Division at 503.434.7316.