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Shared Lane Marking to be Installed

MCMINNVILLE, Ore. - Feb 9, 2018 - The City of McMinnville will install new pavement markings called “sharrows” in the northeast section of town in February. 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.

City crews will install sharrows on the following streets:

- NE Burnett Road between Westside Road and NE Hembree Street
- NE Grandhaven Street between NE Hembree Street and NE Coburn Drive
- NE 27th Street between NE Baker Street and Highway 99W
- NE McDonald Lane between Highway 99W and NE Grandhaven Street
- NE McDaniel Lane between Highway 99W and NE 27th Street

This project will enhance cycling opportunities for neighborhood users to the north of Highway 99W and east of Westside Road.

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 a 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 collector 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 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.