



TOWN OF JACKSON

TOWN COUNCIL

AGENDA DOCUMENTATION

PREPARATION DATE: August 13th, 2018
MEETING DATE: August 20th, 2018

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: Public Works
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR: Johnny Ziem
PRESENTER: Johnny Ziem

SUBJECT: Redesign of the Intersection of Maple Way and Buffalo Way

STATEMENT/PURPOSE

The purpose of this item is to discuss and get Town Council input on the concept of installing a left and right turn lane south bound at the intersection of Maple Way and Buffalo Way.

BACKGROUND/ALTERNATIVES

Staff has received several requests from members of our community to make efficiency changes to the intersection of Maple Way and Buffalo Way, and staff would like the Town Council to consider changing the pavement marking and street layout at the intersection of Maple Way and Buffalo Way in order to improve traffic movement and congestion.

In order for this concept to work, staff first measured the complete width of south bound Buffalo Way near the intersection of Maple Way to ascertain the existing width dimension. A site meeting was conducted by multiple Public Works staff and after review and discussion, agreement was reached on how best to proceed within the confines of the existing street width. The current street width at this location is 40 ft., which provides ample room to administer this redesign.

Since the redesign of the Y Intersection (WYDOT), staff began to notice that drivers were changing their routes based on the fact that a driver can no longer drive straight north thru the Y Intersection at Buffalo Way and Broadway Avenue. What is being observed currently is drivers are now taking alternative routes (Alpine Lane, Maple Way, U turns on the highway near Powderhorn Lane) to compensate for this traffic design. This has begun to put a bigger burden on the traffic “stacking” at the intersection of Buffalo Way and Maple Way at certain times of the day, during higher traffic volumes.

Currently Buffalo Way is two oversized travel lanes and curbside on-street parking along the west and east sides of the south end of Buffalo Way. In order to improve the efficiency of the intersection, staff recommends Council consider making this intersection of south bound Buffalo Way transition into a right and left turn lane, and remove seven parking places (two on the west side and five on the east side) which will be consumed by the additional travel lane width. This intersection is somewhat unique due a yellow curbed loading and unloading zone on the west side of the street that serves the commercial needs of the area businesses.

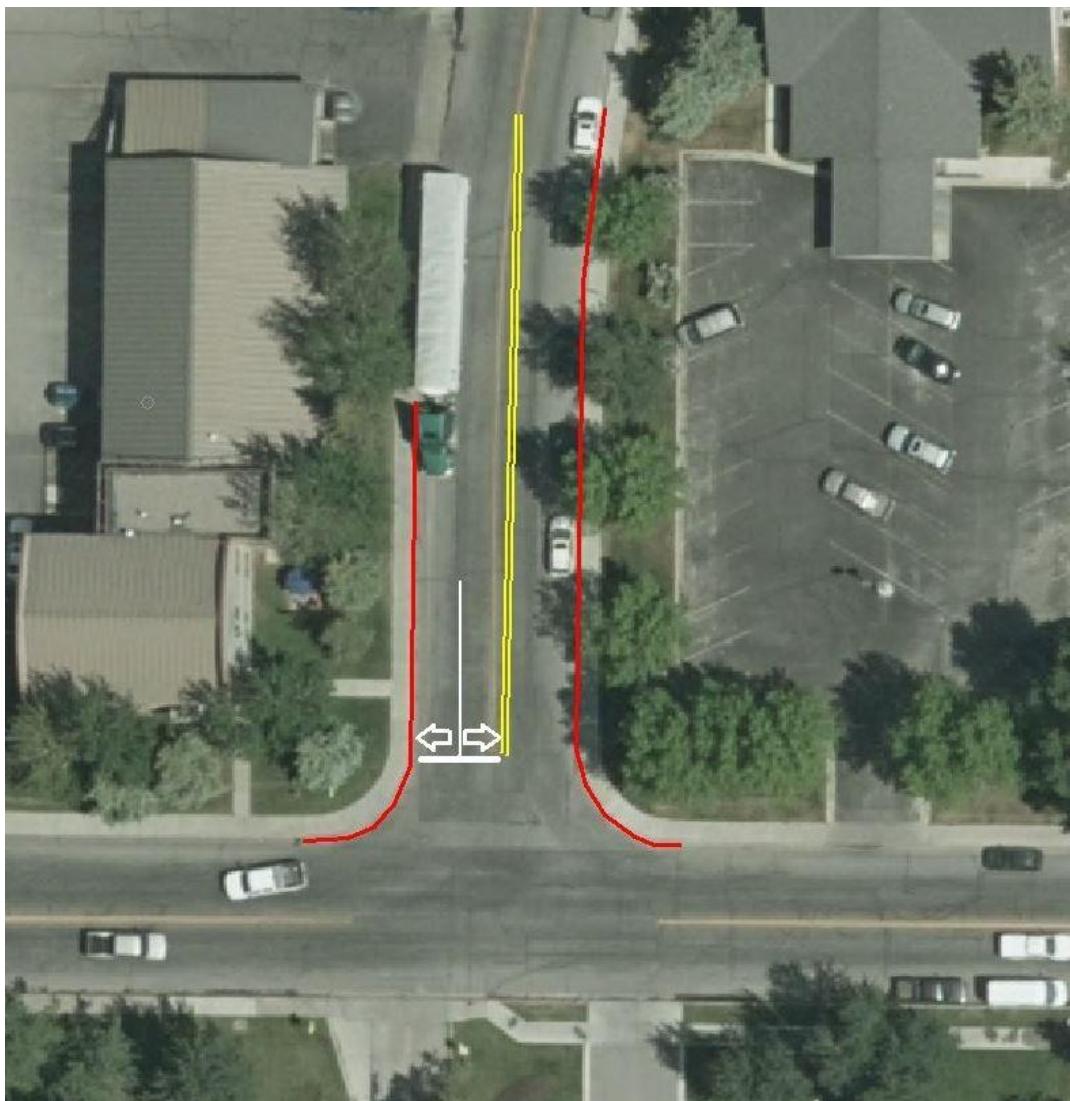
Town staff is proposing to redesign the yellow striping to shift slightly to the east to provide a safe travel lane (southbound) when the current loading and unloading zone is occupied. Town staff is also proposing to redesign the parking on the east and west sides by adding additional red curb. The loss of parking is in direct relation to the center double yellow line shifting to the east. The resulting north bound lane (on Buffalo Way) unfortunately will not have enough width to satisfy a travel lane and a parking lane. Consideration was given to larger vehicles like START Bus and Albertson's semi-trucks who will need to navigate this intersection.

Stakeholders

Staff has reached out to internal departments (START Bus, Streets Department, and Police Department) to gather their thoughts and opinions on this potential change. START Bus will do some trial runs making the right hand turn from Buffalo Way onto Maple Way to make sure they feel comfortable with the change. Further, staff handed out a meeting notice (to businesses that may be affected by this change) that the Town Council will be discussing this item on the August 20th, 2018, evening Town Council Meeting.

START Bus is a stakeholder for this project in that their drivers would be affected by the new layout design. The Police Department is a stakeholder for this project in that they will be tasked with traffic and parking enforcement. The Jackson Hole News and Guide is a stakeholder for this project in that they would be losing parking places in front of their business. Businesses located within this intersection are stakeholders for this project in that their businesses are located within an area surrounding this intersection.

ATTACHMENTS



FISCAL IMPACT

Fiscal impact for this project will require painting roughly 247 linear feet of red paint, removing the existing double yellow line (sand blast), painting of stop bar, turn arrows, white lane designation, and additional signage. Removing the existing yellow line and repainting it will represent the biggest cost to this project, which is estimated at \$1,400. The Streets Department will have the double yellow line paint contractor back in town to finish stripping areas where PW applied a chip seal, so no additional mobilization costs will be charged. Other costs are minor and encompasses paint and additional signage.

STAFF IMPACT

Staff impact for this project will require 4-5 hours for painting, managing contractor, and sign installation.

LEGAL REVIEW

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approving the redesign of the north side of the Maple Way and Buffalo Way intersection which includes the addition of a right and left hand turn lane and removal of curbside parking.

SUGGESTED MOTION

Should the Town Council be ready to take action, one possible motion would be:

I move to approve the redesign of the north side of the Maple Way and Buffalo Way intersection which includes the addition of a right and left hand turn lane and the removal of curbside parking.