

Girard Ave. S Reconstruction Project: Recommended Conceptual Design

Public Works is recommending a Two-Way Slow Street design for the block of Girard Ave. S, between Lake St. and Lagoon Ave.

What is a 'Slow Street'?

Slow streets function much like a traditional street, however they provide an improved pedestrian experience along streets with lower vehicle speeds and volumes.

Future Flexibility: Curbless Design

Public Works is also recommending that Girard Ave. S be designed as a 'curbless street' to allow for future operational flexibility.

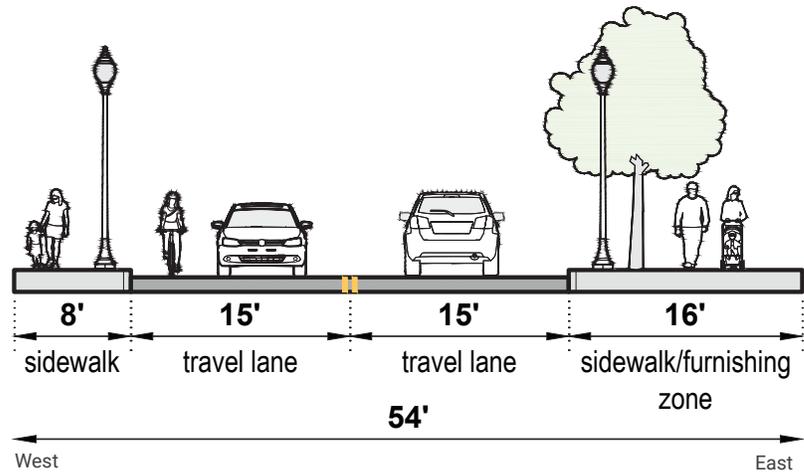
What is a 'Curbless Street'?

A 'curbless street' is designed with a single flat surface without curb separation between the vehicular and pedestrian zones (i.e. the sidewalk, furnishing zones, and street are all at the same level). 'Curbless streets' provide separate vehicular and pedestrian zones, which is distinctly different from a shared street design (i.e. where the street is designed for pedestrians to comfortably mix with vehicles). Instead, 'curbless streets' are designed to provide flexible and accessible space for festivals, farmers markets, and other special activities.

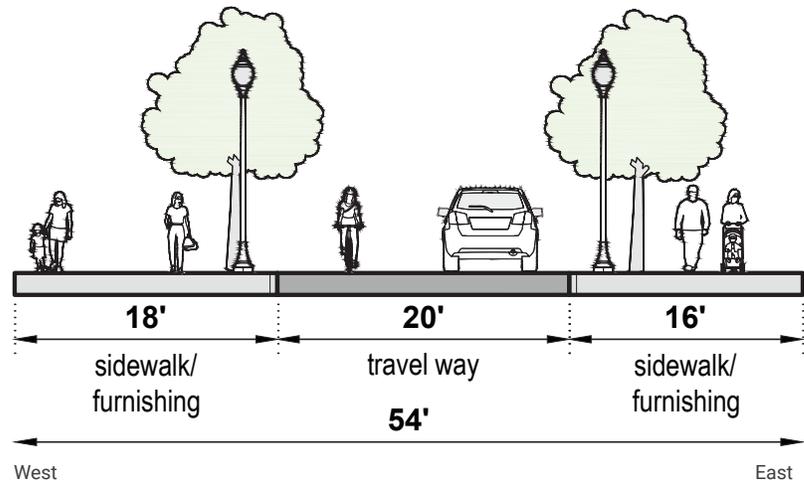
Why is Public Works recommending a Two-Way Curbless Slow Street?

Public Works is recommending this conceptual design, because:

- The Two-Way Slow Street design does the best job of balancing Public Works project goals as well as project priorities expressed by stakeholders; and
- The curbless design allows for future operational flexibility; meaning it makes it simpler to convert this block to a full pedestrian mall if the land use context in the area changes.



Existing Cross Section



Two-Way Slow Street Cross Section

Project Schedule

	Fall 2018	Winter 2019	Summer/Fall 2019	Spring 2020
Outreach to stakeholders to inform conceptual design				
Seek layout approval from the Transportation and Public Works Committee of City Council				
Final Design				
Construction				

Girard Ave. S Reconstruction Project

Questions? Contact: Nathan Koster, nathan.koster@minneapolismn.gov, 612-673-3638

Learn more at the project website:

<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/cip/futureprojects/girard-ave-s-reconstruction>

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Key Points of Concept Design

- Pedestrian space widened by 10 feet to 18 feet total on west side of the street;
- Shortens the pedestrian crossing distances across Lake St. and Lagoon Ave.;
- Raised crossings at north/south intersections will encourage safer turning movements;
- Maintains bicycle access in both directions;
- Maintains two-way vehicle travel;
- Narrows the street width from 30 feet wide to 20 feet wide;
- Maintains the ability for businesses to accept deliveries on Girard Ave. S.;
- Maintains access for large trucks with the new design;
- Closes north driveway, and maintains the south driveway, consolidating entry/exit on Girard Ave. S.;
- Maintains direct motor vehicle access to both MoZaic Art Parking Ramp and Calhoun Square Parking Ramp; and
- Minimizes impact to existing streetscape on the east side of Girard Ave. S.

