

SR 315 and City Streets Frequently Asked Questions

The City of Columbus hosted two open houses at OhioHealth's Arthur G.H. Bing, MD, Cancer Center on May 22nd to provide the public with a more detailed overview of the improvements being planned in the vicinity of North Broadway and Olentangy River Road. Below you will find a collection of the more commonly asked questions and comments from the public, along with the City's corresponding responses.

QUESTION. *Why do (the project limits for the) improvements being made to North Broadway stop west of the bridge?*

RESPONSE. Improvements to West North Broadway east of the Olentangy River are not necessary to achieve the operational requirements for the interchange. Improvements to West North Broadway that expand upon the existing footprint will require additional width on the bridge across the Olentangy River. This bridge is owned and maintained by the Franklin County Engineer's Office and is in good condition. Modification and improvements to the east may be performed under a separate, independent project.

QUESTION. *Are there any plans to improve safety for those who live on W North Broadway with the changes coming to OhioHealth?*

RESPONSE. The SR 315 northbound off-ramp to eastbound West North Broadway will be eliminated and a new connection from SR 315 southbound to West North Broadway will be provided. This new connection will tie into West North Broadway at the existing ramp intersection with the SR 315 northbound on-ramp. Residents along West North Broadway should benefit from these changes as vehicles accessing North Broadway will no longer be subject to a significant speed differential. The improvements to North Broadway between the SR 315 overpass and the river will also improve pedestrian and bicycle safety by providing better sidewalk connections and eliminating the slip ramp to enter northbound SR 315.

QUESTION. *The light at Milton is directly related to the lights at High Street and Olentangy River Road, has the City considered increasing the red light display time for the east and west legs of the Milton/North Broadway intersection to improve traffic during rush hour?*

RESPONSE. The City continually assesses and modifies signal timing throughout this corridor to ensure efficient travel for vehicles and bikes.

QUESTION. *There is a small unnamed alley between Olentangy River and Milton that should be repaved. Resurfacing is ineffective because of the speeders. Will the City consider repaving the alley and making it a one way exiting toward Broadway?*

RESPONSE. The alley in question (running south off North Broadway between the Olentangy River Rd and Milton Ave) was on the 2015 Alley Treatment program. It is the City's practice to maintain alleys using a chip and seal application on a regular maintenance cycle of approximately every seven to ten years, or as needed.

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One-way conversion will require further communication and support through the Area Commission. If converted to one-way, the safest configuration would be one-way southbound.

QUESTION. *Will the City consider lowering the speed limit along North Broadway?*

RESPONSE. Speed limits are set by Ohio Revised Code. Following the improvements completed by the interchange reconfiguration, the speed limit can be further analyzed.

QUESTION. *Will the drive in front of 3400 Olentangy River Road be removed?*

RESPONSE. The service road that current runs parallel to Olentangy River Road will be removed. The driveway to 3400 Olentangy River Road that connects to this service road will be extended to Olentangy River Road.

QUESTION. *Will the City consider building a shared-use path on the south side of North Broadway (from Shattuck Avenue to OhioHealth Boulevard) to connect the neighborhoods west (Cranbrook, Brentwood Park) to the new development?*

RESPONSE. A shared-use path along the south side of North Broadway is not being contemplated with these projects. While a bike facility is part of the long term plan for West North Broadway, the limits of this project do not extend west of the interchange.

QUESTION. *Why isn't the City connecting the new development with the Olentangy Trail on the east side of the Olentangy River?*

RESPONSE. The City is not making direct connection to the Olentangy Trail with these projects; however, a shared-use path will be constructed along the west side of Olentangy River Road from West North Broadway to McConnell Drive. Additionally, a shared-use path will be included along the newly constructed North/South Road and East-West Road. New sidewalk connections will also be made along West North Broadway from the SR 315 overpass to the new North/South Road.

QUESTION. *North Broadway west of the Olentangy River has extremely wide travel lanes, will the City consider narrowing the lanes to 10' for the entire length (west to corporate boundary)?*

RESPONSE. Given the volumes of traffic along North Broadway, the City will not consider narrowing these lanes to 10'.

QUESTION. *I suggest removing two of the slip ramps from North Broadway onto SR 315. The ramp from eastbound North Broadway to southbound 315 in the area of the railroad bridge can be removed and consolidated with the ramp at the hospital's main entrance. Additionally, the ramp from westbound North Broadway to northbound 315 in the area of the Olentangy River should also be removed and consolidated with the ramp that will connect with the new OhioHealth Boulevard. Both of these ramps are an outdated design that is incredibly unfriendly to pedestrians.*

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RESPONSE. The existing slip ramp from westbound North Broadway to northbound SR 315 will be removed with this project. The slip ramp will be replaced with a dedicated right turn lane at the intersection. The eastbound North Broadway to southbound SR 315 entrance ramp may be modified as part of this project pending further study of the drainage design and traffic analysis of the interchange ramps and impact on North Broadway.

QUESTION. *I would like to see the concrete area between North Broadway and SR 315 (next to COTA Bus stop #4444) be landscaped and painted with a mural.*

RESPONSE. No improvements are proposed to this area at this time. An independent effort to install public art in this area may be considered.