

Downtown Corridor Improvements Project

Q: When will this project start?

A: The first phase of the project will begin August 2014 to construction new sidewalks, crosswalks, landscaping, lighting, irrigation, and furnishings as part of the revitalization plan for the Downtown Commercial area. Phase 1 will construct improvements on Commerce Avenue from Washington Way through the Broadway Intersection. Engineering design is complete for the entire focus area (Commerce Avenue from Washington Way to Hemlock Street). Construction of the first phase will be completed in 2014; the second phase will be constructed when additional funding is secured.

Q: How much will it cost?

A: The design was paid for with a \$150,000 grant from the Cowlitz County Rural Economic Development Fund. Construction of Phase 1 improvements is estimated to cost \$1.8 million, paid for with grants received from the Cowlitz County Rural Economic Development Fund, Department of Ecology Stormwater Retrofit, and LID grants for pervious concrete, direct appropriation administered by the Department of Commerce, and funds allocated by WSDOT through the Transportation Alternatives Program. Though Phase 2 construction is not yet funded, the City has applied for additional funding to complete the downtown improvements. If that money is forthcoming, a second phase of construction could start in 2015.

Q: What do I look for?

A: The identifying color for this project is **GREEN**. There are **GREEN** signs around the construction area to direct detours, and parking. Also, since businesses will remain open during construction, there will be **GREEN** signs in front of affected businesses to help direct customers. RC Northwest will set up **GREEN** AstroTurf for pedestrians to walk when entering the construction site.

Q: Contractor Information?

A: The City of Longview's Contractor, RC Northwest, will be restoring three blocks of Commerce Avenue from the Broadway Intersection to Washington Way beginning on Wednesday, August 6, 2014. They will be working Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm. RC Northwest will work with businesses/residents individually as needed to minimize impacts. The project will be completed by the end of the year.



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Q: What about businesses?

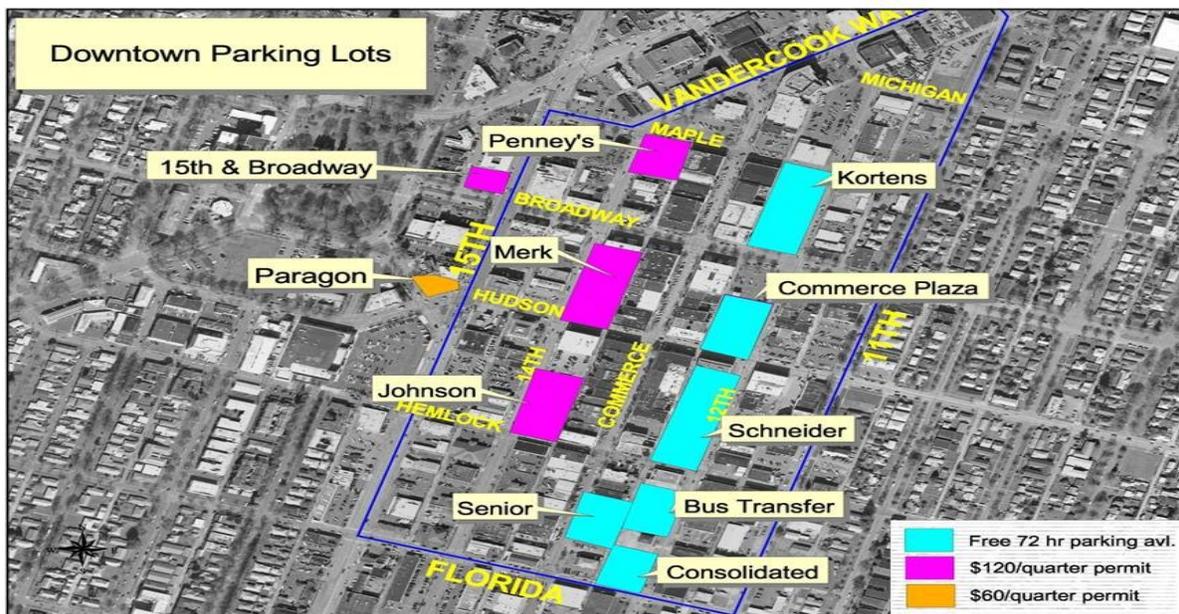
A: Businesses will remain open with access maintained throughout the construction area. Pedestrians and motorists are encouraged to visit and shop downtown during construction.

Q: Will traffic change?

A: Yes. On August 11, 2014, Commerce Avenue will be converted into a single lane of on-way north-bound traffic between Broadway and Vandercook Way. Motorists are advised to use 12th Avenue and 14th Avenue to access public parking lots.

Q: Where do I park?

A: On-street diagonal parking will remain available on Commerce Avenue. However, pedestrians and motorists are advised to use 12th Avenue and 14th Avenue to access public parking lots downtown and to access Commerce Avenue in the northbound direction. For more detailed information, please see the map below.



Q: Does my opinion count?

A: Absolutely! The project drew heavily from perspectives shared during development of the 2011 Longview Downtown Action Agenda. Local residents and businesses also had opportunities to suggest design ideas during a two-day public workshop. The City of Longview Council made the final decision on which streetscape design alternatives were selected for detailed engineering.