

DESCRIPTION

Shellard Lane is an example of a municipality taking road reconstruction as an opportunity to improve how the streetscape works for all modes and users. Significant recent growth (with more to come) and a concentration of schools along the corridor makes Shellard Lane an important connection in the community. City staff recognized the unique needs of students of all ages and made pedestrianization and active uses a priority in the reconstruction effort, which runs from Veterans Memorial Parkway to a kilometre west of Conklin Road.

Federal gas tax funds covered around half of the \$8.5M project costs, with phase 2 pending council approval and slated to begin in spring 2015. Although the project expanded the number of traffic lanes from 2 to 4, the road widening design accounted for the needs of a range of users. Investments in active transportation facilities, pedestrian infrastructure and safety measures work toward increasing the capacity of Shellard Lane for a variety of ages and modes of travel.

Key Features

+ COMBINATION OF FACILITIES

A paved on-boulevard trail together with a pedestrian-only sidewalk allows for a variety of travel modes while maintaining a separation with pedestrians. On-street markings at intersections increase visibility at crossing points.

+ ADDITIONAL PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS

Two signalized crossings were installed near schools to provide safer crossing points for the large student population.

+ LANDSCAPED MEDIAN WITH FENCE

In order to separate increased traffic flow, medians were installed with landscaping to add definition and visual appeal to the street. In order to dissuade dangerous crossings, fencing was installed along key sections of the median.

CHALLENGES

A central challenge of this Complete Streets project was to provide safe crossings for the many students that use Shellard Lane as a way to get to school. The installation of two new crossing signals and a barrier fence on the median have not fully addressed the problem, as students have been seen climbing the fence on the median as a shortcut to school. Planners and school administration are working out a collaborative solution that will promote safer crossing behaviors and direct students to the signalized intersections.



Multi-use Trail

provides a safe and active route to 3 nearby schools

