

Eastside Burnside-Couch Couplet

CENTRAL EASTSIDE URBAN RENEWAL AREA

FACT SHEET
MAY 2007

CURRENT PROJECT ACTIVITIES

- Refinement of Couplet bicycle connectivity from the eastside to the Burnside Bridge.
- Vacation of portions of NE Third Avenue and NE Couch Streets for construction of the Couplet through the Burnside Bridgehead project.
- Refinement of the proposed street alignment through the Burnside Bridgehead Project (shown as Site 2 on map below).
- Coordination to secure additional project funding through the City of Portland Transportation System Development Charge Program, the 2008 Federal Appropriations Bill and the Central Eastside Urban Renewal Area.
- Formation of a citizen Design Advisory Committee by the Portland Office of Transportation for the engineering design process.

KEY PROJECT BENEFITS

- Enhance vehicle and transit access and traffic flow through the realignment of Burnside and Couch Streets into a one-way couplet system between the Burnside Bridgehead project and E 14th Avenue.
- Reduce traffic conflicts between autos and bicycles with a striped bike lane on Burnside from Martin Luther King Boulevard to NE 13th Avenue.
- Significantly improve pedestrian safety by providing curb extensions to narrow pedestrian crossing distances across Burnside Street, wider sidewalks, and traffic signals at all intersections.
- Assemble two new city blocks for potential redevelopment at NE Sandy Boulevard and NE 14th Avenue.
- Improve access to businesses with left turns at all intersections and parking spaces on E. Burnside Street.
- Provide for stormwater management with additional plantings.

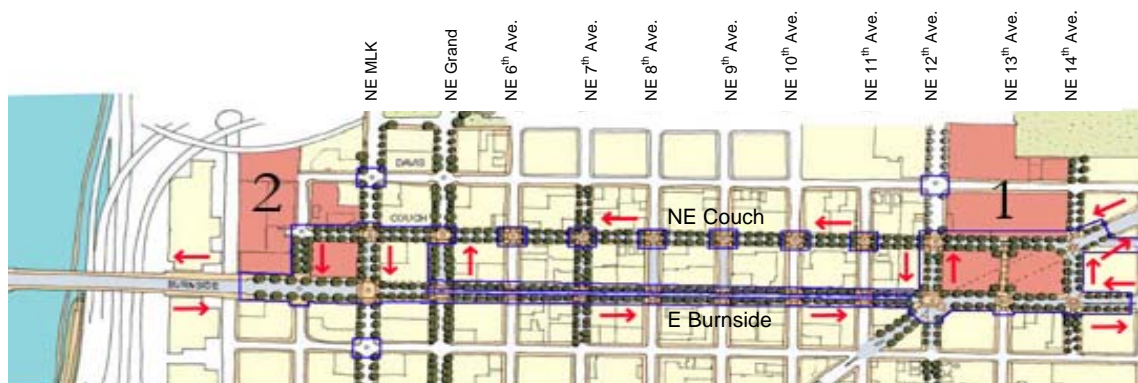


Proposed E. Burnside Street looking east.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The eastside Burnside-Couch Couplet will serve as a catalyst for Central Eastside Urban Renewal Area redevelopment and business growth, and is a critical infrastructure improvement for the Burnside Bridgehead project. The eastside Burnside-Couch Couplet project will be constructed on existing roadways from NE 14th Avenue to the Burnside Bridge. Burnside and Couch Streets will be realigned into a one-way couplet system, with eastbound traffic in three lanes on Burnside Street and westbound traffic in two lanes on Couch Street.

In December 2002, the Portland City Council adopted the Burnside Transportation and Urban Design Plan, which provides a vision and strategy for humanizing Burnside from East 14th Avenue to West 24th Place. In addition to outlining specific capital improvements, the plan also recommended a market analysis to determine development potential and financial return related to the completion of the capital improvements. In March 2006, the Portland City Council authorized commencement of engineering for the eastside Burnside-Couch Couplet.



Site 2: Burnside Bridgehead Project

Site 1: Historic 7-Up Site

Concept Diagram of Eastside Burnside-Couch Couplet

Not to Scale

PROJECT FUNDING STRATEGY

Engineering design and construction of the eastside Couplet is estimated to cost **\$22 million**.

Confirmed Funding:

\$4,800,000	Federal Earmark
\$330,000	Tax Increment Revenue FY 06-07 Adopted Budget
\$250,000	Or. Dept. of Transportation Opportunity Fund Grant
\$3,000,000	Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program Grant (MTIP)

\$8,380,000 Total Confirmed Funding

Requested Funding:

Timing of Decision *Type of Funding Resource*

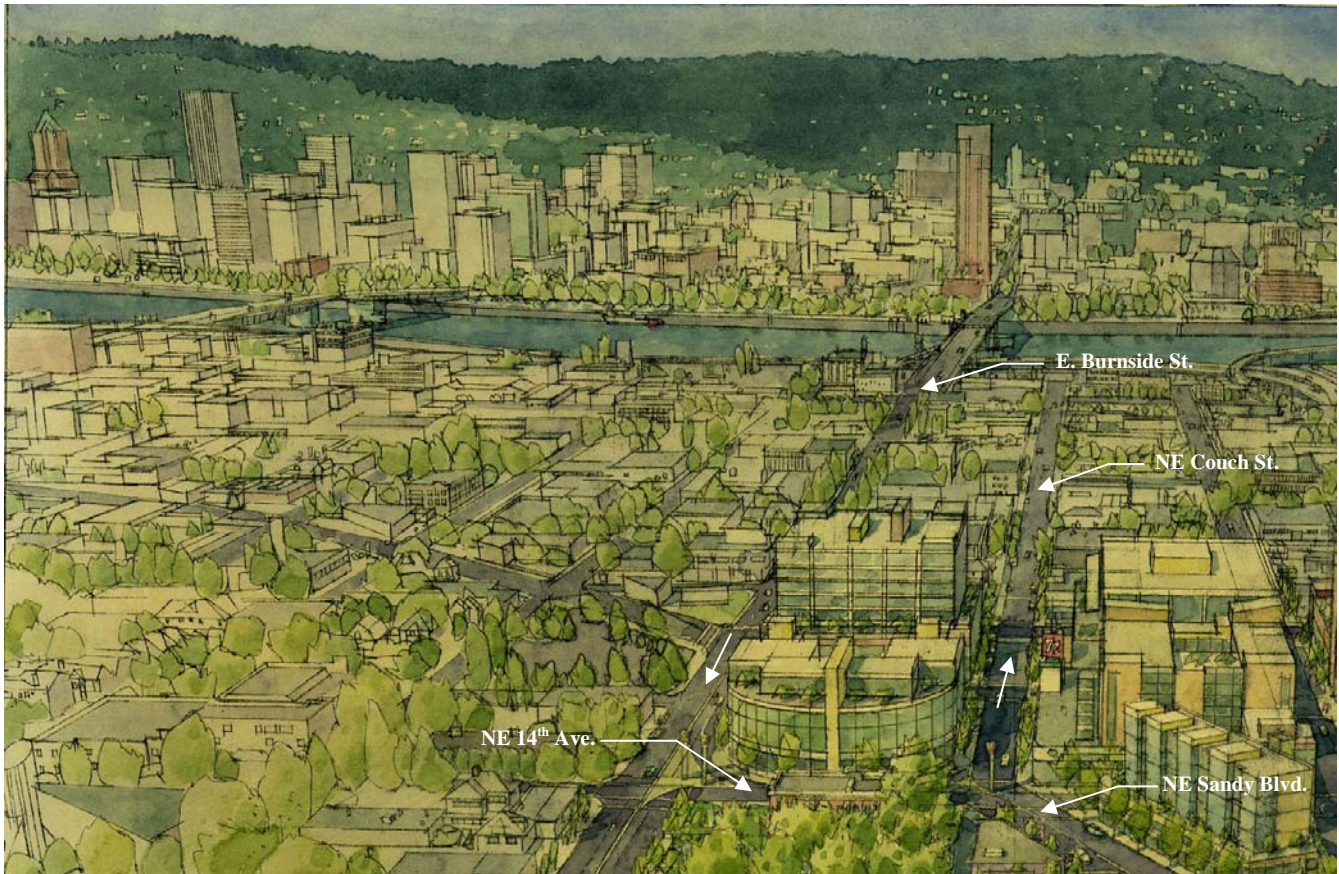
Summer 2007	City of Portland Transportation System Development Charge Program
Fall 2007	2008 Federal Appropriations Bill
Fall 2007	Development Contribution
Summer 2007	Tax Increment Revenue (Approval of Central Eastside Urban Renewal Area Fiscal Year 2007/2008 Budget)*

\$13,620,000 Total Additional Funding Required

**Additional funding forecasted for Fiscal Years 2008/2009 and 2009/2010.*

PROJECT SCHEDULE

- Final Plan Approval Spring 2006
- Funding Strategy Confirmed Fall 2007
- Design Engineering Spring 2007 – Summer 2008
- Bidding & Contracting Summer 2008
- Construction Winter 2008/09 – Spring 2010



Concept Sketch of Eastside Burnside-Couch Couplet

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