

# Naches – US 12 Active Transportation Connections Study

## TALKING POINTS

### New study starting Fall 2022

With recent extension of the Naches Trail that connects Naches to the Yakima Greenway, there is an increasing presence of bicyclists and pedestrian in the community.

### Issues

Bicycling occurs along sections of US 12 although alternate, parallel arterials and collectors are designated as non-motorized routes. Pedestrian activity also can be fairly significant near Naches even though it has a small population. Pedestrians cross the highway at unmarked and uncontrolled locations.

US 12 provides access to local businesses in addition to travelers and freight. Truck traffic makes up approximately 15% of the traffic volumes. Operational issues at intersections of US 12 at major cross streets as volumes continue to increase. The lack of access management poses operational and safety concerns.

- 4 fatalities (vehicles) in 2017 in study area (2 separincidents)
- 1 pedestrian incident (serious) in 2022

### What we are doing

The Town of Naches, the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments (YVCOG) and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) are working together to provide a safe, reliable and effective transportation network for the US 12 corridor in Naches. **This study will include public and agency input to guide future improvements of the transportation network.**

The study area includes the US Highway 12 corridor between Allan Road and E. Jennings Lane and is approximately 2 miles long. It includes the following intersections on US 12:

- Allan Road
- Kellowry Road
- Shafer Avenue
- S. Naches Road (signal and cross walks)
- East Jennings Lane

The agency partners are conducting this study that will focus on the following criteria:

- Travel time reliability & safety
- Bicycle and pedestrian safety and connections especially through the US 12 highway corridor within the Town of Naches

The study will identify potential ranked strategies or solutions that meet both the goals and criteria listed above focusing on non-motorized connections to the community, as well as recreation areas and networks such as the Clements View Sports Park and the Yakima Naches Trail (Greenway extension).

### What are the goals for the Study?

The study will engage local partners, transportation service providers, and the community to develop a plan that will:

- Identify transportation system deficiencies
- Evaluate multimodal connections thru the US 12 corridor
- Solicit input from the local community
- Identify potential solutions using the *Practical Solutions* approach

### How will the community be involved?

- Stakeholder group (Multi-modal, multi-disciplinary and multi-agency team) (M3 Team).
- Both an in person open and online open house is planned, as well as online public survey as well as other public outreach efforts.

- The partners will publish a report at the end of the study that will recommend solutions for the study area based on the data and analysis, and local community input.

### Preliminary Schedule and Key Tasks

Fall 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Initiate study</li><li>• Conduct research and compile traffic data and baseline information</li><li>• Develop Community Engagement Plan, ensuring equity and inclusion throughout the process</li><li>• Attend Sportsman's Day and announce the study</li></ul>
Winter 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify and convene a stakeholders group (M3 Team) and any subcommittee</li><li>• Meet with the businesses and community; send a notice to area residents and businesses via US Mail</li><li>• Develop materials needed for the M3 Team and subcommittee</li><li>• Conduct public survey on transportation concerns in the study area</li><li>• Work with Technical Subcommittee on performance measures, scoring of strategies, etc.</li><li>• Meet with M3 Team to analyze progress and public survey results</li></ul>
Spring 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conduct an online open house to seek input on the solutions and analysis</li><li>• Update solutions and strategies; analyze and evaluate results</li></ul>
April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review open house input with the M3 Team; finalize recommendations</li><li>• Final report and recommendations</li></ul>

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