

Rhododendron Drive Shoulder Extension Project



The City of Florence is looking forward to improving safety and access along Rhododendron Drive for cars, pedestrians, and cyclists. The design is finalized and construction of paved shoulders on each side of Rhododendron Drive between 9th Street and Wildwinds **begins in June of this year.** Funded by the Oregon Department of Transportation and the City of Florence, the construction will be **completed by the end of summer 2016.**

Some Background on the Project

What started as a proposal for a 10-foot wide separated multi-use path along the east side of Rhododendron Drive between 9th and Wildwinds has been changed into two (2) 6-foot wide paved shoulders along the 9th Street to Wildwinds section of Rhododendron Drive. The two (2) 6-foot wide shoulders will use permeable pavement to lessen the impact to the native vegetation.

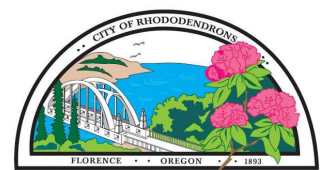
After four public meetings and one open house during the fall of 2014, City Council selected the two (2) 6-foot wide shoulders option, utilizing permeable pavement, for this section of Rhododendron Drive. The new design necessitated service contract changes, and in March 2015, the new contract and scope of services were approved to complete the pre-construction design engineering. The project went to construction bid this March, and will likely be underway by late May.

Who will the Project Impact?

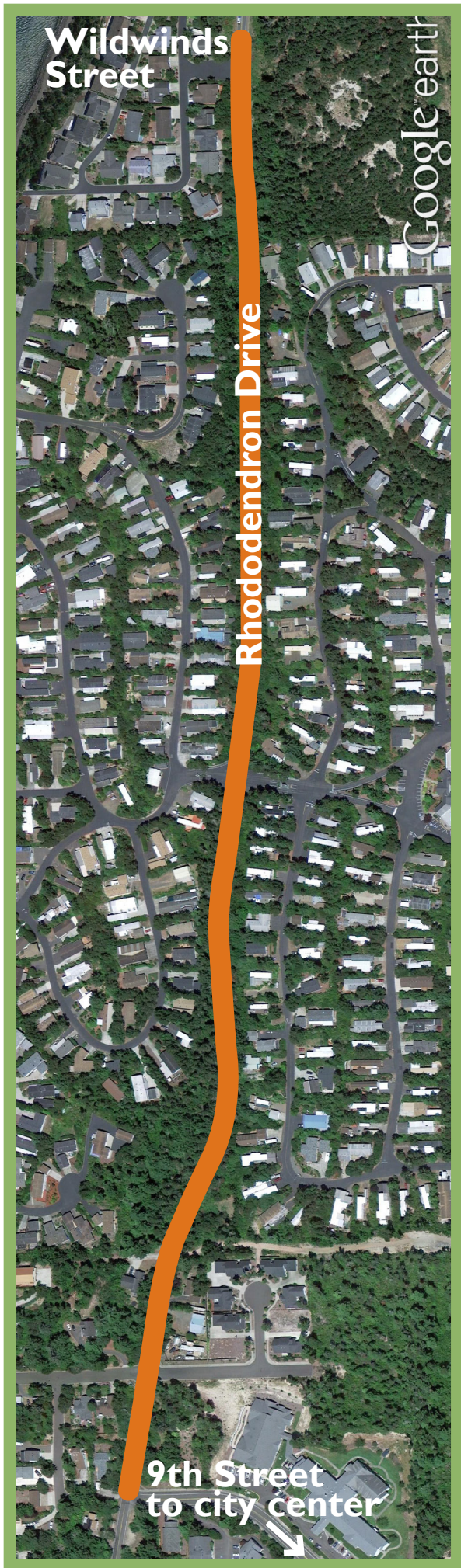
The new design reduced the impact on properties, trees, and shrubs along the road. All of the project is within the public right-of-way, but some trees and vegetation will need to be removed from about 14 properties. The City is contacting and communicating with all of these property owners and residents. Construction will have some impacts to traffic along the road, and the City will continue to communicate details of the project.

Contact

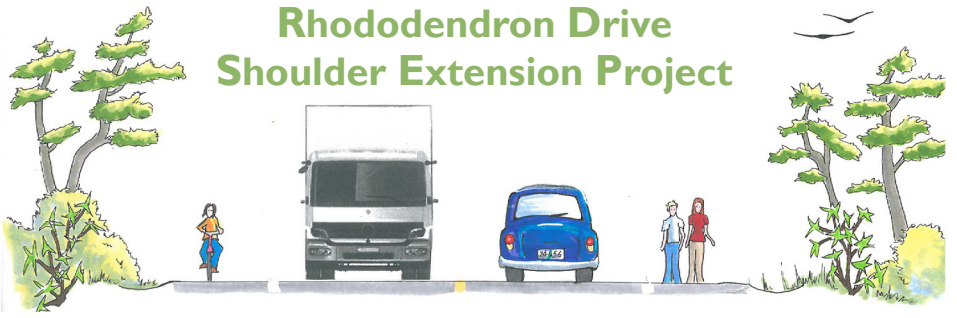
To receive updates on this project, including construction information, contact Mike Miller, Public Works Director, mike.miller@ci.florence.or.us, 541-997-4106.



City of Florence
A City in Motion



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Project Location

The project is located on Rhododendron Drive between Wildwinds and 9th Street in Florence.

“When it pours, it’s porous”

Permeable Pavement will be used on the 6 foot shoulders of Rhododendron Drive. It looks the same as typical asphalt, but water will flow through it and be absorbed by the sand underneath rather than flow over the surface and into a ditch. It is healthier for plants, cleans storm water, and does not carry pollutants into rivers.



How long do these pavements last, and how long do they remain porous?

Even after twenty years, porous pavements show little if any cracking or pothole problems. The surface wears well. Porous asphalt retains its ability to handle rainwater for many years.

Do these pavements look “different?” Are they smooth?

While slightly coarser than standard asphalt, most people parking or driving on a porous asphalt surface will not notice (or believe) that it is different. The surface of porous asphalt pavement is smooth enough to meet requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

