

In Nov. of this year the US97 Parkway Sounding Board met and discussed various alternative solutions for problem areas on US97 and associated city streets. The soundboard is made up of neighborhood representatives, ODOT staff and consultants, Bend police, and the Citywide Transportation Advisory Committee.

The Bend Parkway Corridor Vision looks out to 2040, so there are near term, mid term, and long range projects and of course funding considerations. Since Bend gets 2-3 million visitors per year this adds a lot of pressure on the parkway in addition to Bend's explosive growth. ODOT has taken this into account in their future plans.

The area that concerns our neighborhood is Powers-Murphy Roads, possibly Ponderosa/China Hat, and the US 97 area. Several design concepts were presented and each evaluated for pros and cons that included multi modal transportation (bike and pedestrian) considerations. Some of the ideas at Murphy Rd. are north and south frontage roads along the parkway, a tight diamond concept, and west loop frontage road. At Powers the ideas are a tight diamond interchange concept, and an overcrossing concept. The elimination of right in and right out to the parkway is being considered. Pay attention to the Powers/Murphy area of the survey as there is mention of a southern river crossing which would affect our neighborhood, and the area around Powers Rd.

You can learn about possible changes and provide feedback through an online open house and survey through Dec. 15, 2019. Please participate in representing our neighborhood. [bit.ly/US97BendParkway](https://bit.ly/US97BendParkway)

Thank you, Judy Clinton  
SBNA Sound Board Representative