

UNION STREET RAPID RECONFIGURATION

Growing Communities

Wilmington, Delaware



Delaware Department of Transportation



Background

- Between 2014 and 2016, the West Side Grows Together (WSGT) group, the Wilmington Area Planning Council (WILMAPCO), the University of Delaware and the City of Wilmington held 3 separate BETTER BLOCK events, each a three-day demonstration of improvements to North Union Street by:

- Temporarily closing one lane
- Back-in angle parking showcase
- Green painted bicycle lane
- Streetscape elements

The event was highly successful!

- 1000+ attendees;
- 600 people signed petition supporting improvements



Extensive Coordination

- In 2016, multiple agencies and organizations (see logos at top) began collaborating closely to study/design improvements for Union Street
- Public outreach consisted of two (2) public workshops, and canvassing the corridor by going door to door meeting with residents and businesses to hear their concerns

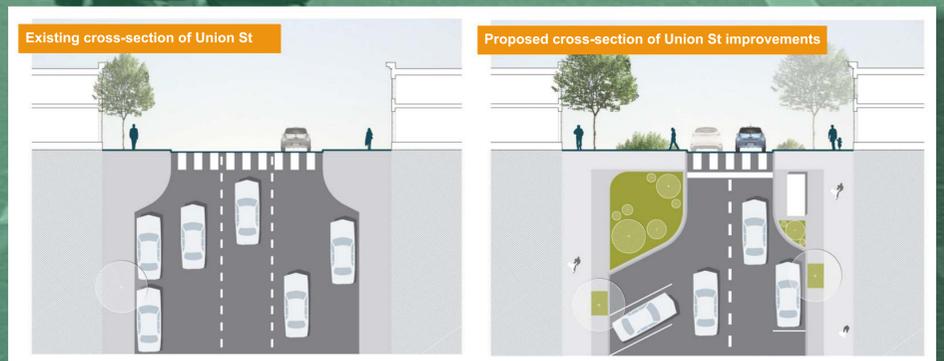


Project Elements

- The rapid reconfiguration of Union Street between Pennsylvania Avenue and Sycamore Street was completed in November of 2017, less than one year after DelDOT began the design:

- Reconfiguration of one-way principal arterial to give greater consideration to pedestrians, cyclists, transit users, residents and businesses, rather than a gateway for drivers to get out of the city
- One through lane eliminated, replaced with left-side back-in angle parking and a bicycle lane
- 4 accessible parking spaces + 2 van accessible parking spaces
- Curb ramp reconstruction to meet ADA requirements

- **Project Cost: \$200,000**



"I'm happy about this (project). I think we have a lot to offer here, but people need to slow down and see it."

Andrea Wakefield, a manager at Mrs. Robino's at 520 N. Union St.



Project Results

- Back-in, Angle Parking: Observations revealed that the majority (greater than 50%) of back-in angle parking maneuvers are completed in a single movement, generally with little difficulty
- Crashes: **have gone down by 30%** in the 8-months since the project was completed!
- Speeds: **are lower by 3-5 mph** on Union Street since the project was completed!
- Community and Businesses: **are very happy!**

