

Glebe Road and 9th Street S Intersection Improvement Project - Existing Conditions Engagement Summary

Project Background

What are the goals of this project?

The intersection of South Glebe Road and 9th Street South presents multiple challenges for people walking, biking, taking transit and driving. The goal of this project is to improve the intersection by providing better safety and connectivity for the users of the area.

What is the status of the project?

Department of Environmental Services (DES) staff are reviewing public comments received from the online engagement launched in March. Staff will use community feedback, data, and planning guidance to inform the development of a concept design.

Project Background

In March 2023, the project team kicked off an online engagement tool to solicit comments on existing conditions of the intersection. Members of the community shared their experiences with the current intersection via an interactive map. The engagement tool was open from March 20- April 23. During that time, staff received 297 individual comments, which received 2001 engagements (comments receiving likes dislikes) on the interactive map.

More information on the background of the project is available on the [project website](#).

What We Heard

The engagement summary begins on the next page.

On a typical day, how do you travel through the Glebe Road and 9th Street S. intersection?

76%	Driving	129 ✓
66%	Walking/Rolling	113 ✓
29%	Biking	49 ✓
13%	Taking transit	22 ✓
2%	Riding a scooter	3 ✓
1%	Other	2 ✓

Overall, how safe do you feel while using the intersection with the following types of transportation?

	Very safe	Safe	Neutral	Unsafe	Very unsafe	Not applicable
Walking/rolling	6% Very safe	4% Safe	15% Neutral	43% Unsafe	25% Very unsafe	7% Not applicable
Riding a bike	4% Very safe	2% Safe	6% Neutral	24% Unsafe	32% Very unsafe	33% Not applicable
Using a scooter	3% Very safe	1% Safe	5% Neutral	10% Unsafe	15% Very unsafe	67% Not applicable
Driving a personal vehicle	12% Very safe	26% Safe	29% Neutral	22% Unsafe	5% Very unsafe	5% Not applicable
Taking public transit	13% Very safe	19% Safe	11% Neutral	6% Unsafe	2% Very unsafe	48% Not applicable

Common themes from open-ended feedback

Overall, feedback indicated support for the project. Below are common themes associated with the comments received from the online feedback tool. The most frequently mentioned are listed first.

Sight Lines

- Oncoming traffic difficult to see without inching out
- Vegetation blocking site lines
- Adjust corners at sidewalks to improve visibility
- Raised crosswalks and vibrant paint for visibility

Difficulty Crossing Intersections

- People driving struggle to make right and left turns onto S Glebe and 9th St S
- People biking struggle to continue on Bike Blvd
- Pedestrians feel unseen/cars do not consistently stop

Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon (RRFB)

- People driving do not always yield to the RRFB
- Replace RRFB with Hawk signal
- RRFB difficult to see. Move to center island or add additional one.

Speeding

- Lower speed limit
- Walking location (sidewalks) too close to speeding vehicles
- Protected bike lanes
- Enforcement needed (cameras, patrol officers)
- Difficult backing out for driveways on Glebe

Poor Sidewalk and Ramp Conditions

- Crumbling and chopped up concrete
- Major tripping hazards
- Does not seem to meet ADA requirements

Traffic Signal

- Concern that adding a traffic signal will create more congestion on S Glebe and cause cut through traffic on 9th
- For the addition if it's timed with Columbia Pike signal
- Addition of traffic circle better idea than signal

Poor Street Lighting

- Unsafe to use crosswalk after twilight or dark
- Does not seem to meet ADA requirements

Wider Sidewalks/Wider Pedestrian Waiting Area

- Protected pedestrian safety zone
- Narrow sidewalks make passing difficult
- Obstructions in middle of sidewalk

RRFB Pole Location

- Cyclists must dismount to press button
- Signal button too close to road

Impact of Construction

- How will S Ivy Street be impacted?
- How will planned school renovations be impacted?

Crosswalk

- Change location of existing crosswalk
- Add additional crosswalk
- Crosswalk blocked from traffic backup from Columbia Pike

Noise

- People walking cannot hold conversation due to the noise from traffic

Parking

- Limited parking used by construction vehicles
- Parking on both sides of 9th St narrows the roadway too much

Next Steps

The project team is committed to reviewing the comments and developing a concept in accordance with planning guidance and supporting data. A draft concept will be shared for public feedback. This is anticipated to occur in Summer 2023.

To stay up to date, please continue to visit our project page:

[S Glebe Road and 9th Street S Intersection Improvement Project – Official Website of Arlington County Virginia Government \(arlingtonva.us\)](https://www.arlingtonva.us/transportation/s-glebe-road-and-9th-street-s-intersection-improvement-project)

Staff Contact:

Kamali Long

Capital Project Management Coordinator

Klong1@arlingtonva.us

(703)228-3634