



## PROJECT SUMMARY: Martin Luther King Jr Blvd and Melpomene Street

The City of New Orleans is moving forward on safety and complete streets improvements along Martin Luther King Jr Blvd and Melpomene Street between Camp Street and South Broad Street. Funding for this project is available from the Urban Systems program, the 2016 bond program as part of the Moving New Orleans initiative, and the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.



Martin Luther King Jr Blvd and Melpomene Street is approximately 1.8 miles long and is one of several key river-to-lake streets in Uptown New Orleans. The land uses along the majority of Martin Luther King Jr Blvd and Melpomene Street are residential, with some neighborhood commercial uses throughout and clusters of commercial use at S. Claiborne Avenue and St. Charles Avenue. There are two School Zones. Martin Luther King Blvd is also a route for the No. 28 M. L. King bus, it also intersects several transit routes, including the No. 12 St. Charles, No. 15 Freret, No. 16 S. Claiborne, and No. 91 Jackson-Esplanade.

### Traffic Safety Snapshot (2014 – 2018)

A total of 1,327 crashes were recorded on Martin Luther King Jr Blvd and Melpomene Street over the five-year period (2014-2018), resulting in four fatalities and the injury of 624 people. Most crashes occurred at South Claiborne Avenue (760) followed by Simon Bolivar Avenue (51) and Magnolia Street (48). There were 26 crashes involving pedestrians, one of which resulted in a fatality and 18 crashes involving bicyclists, one of which resulted in a fatality.

### Proposed Improvements

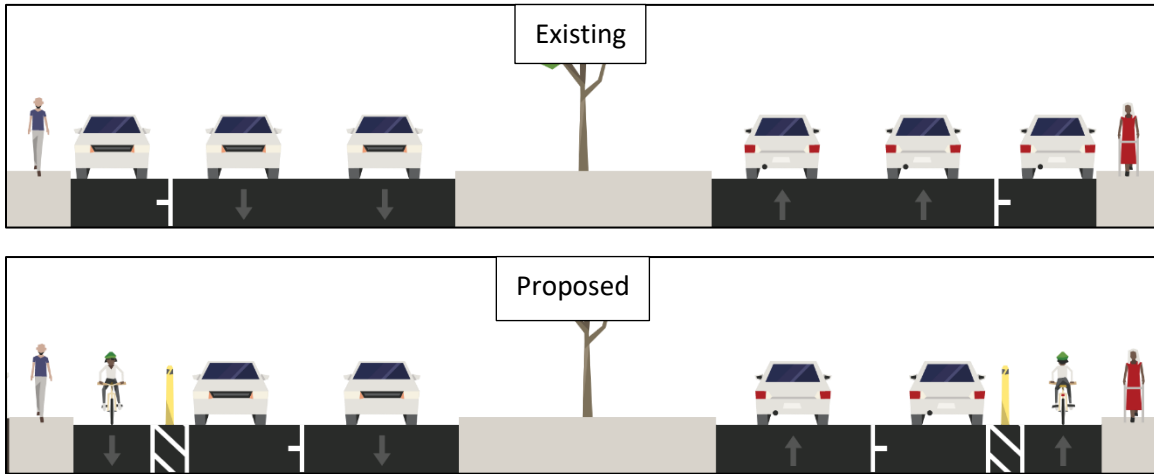
This project seeks to balance the needs of all roadway users, consistent with the City's Complete Streets Policy. Improvements include, repaving the roadway, adding protected bike lanes and upgrading existing bike lanes to protected bike lanes, improving access to bus stops, installing marked crosswalks, improving intersection geometry and sight distances at driveways. Between Camp Street and S. Broad Street, the roadway will be reconfigured as a protected bike lane, parking lane, and general travel lane





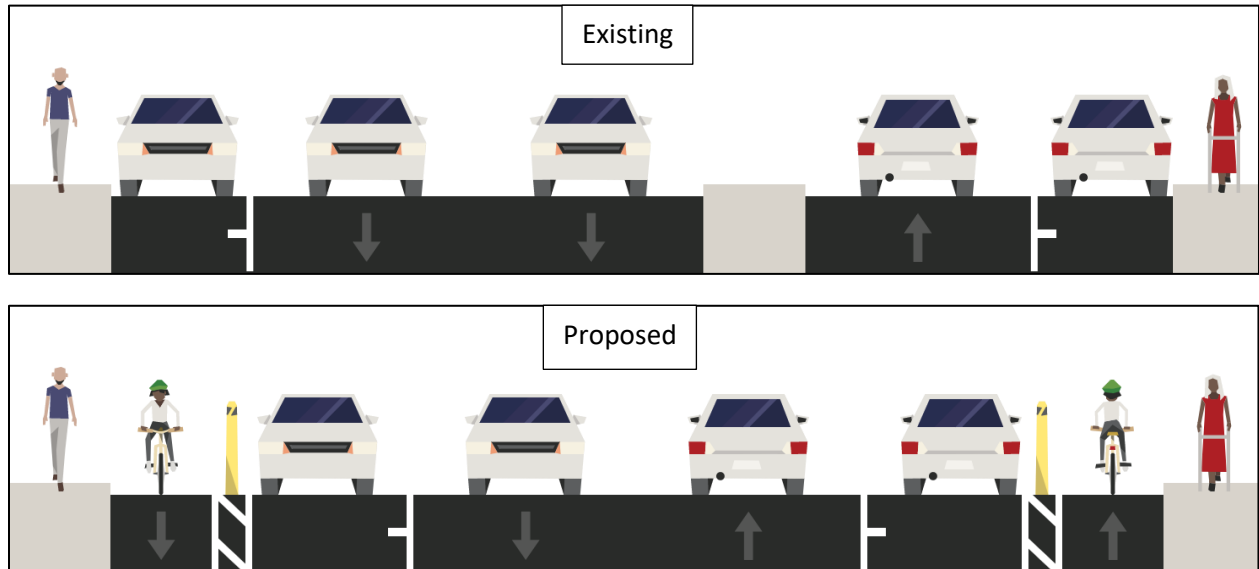
in each direction. Two general travel lanes will be included in the vicinity of S. Claiborne Avenue. The proposed improvements are designed to address pavement quality issues, improve overall safety, connect to existing bikeways, and make Martin Luther King Jr Blvd and Melpomene Street a more comfortable place to walk, bike, drive and use transit.

*Oretha Castle Haley Blvd to S. Broad Street*



Existing and proposed roadway cross sections for  
Martin Luther King Jr Blvd (Oretha Castle Haley Blvd to S. Broad Street)

*Camp Street to Oretha Castle Haley Blvd*



Existing and proposed roadway cross sections for  
Martin Luther King Jr Blvd and Melpomene Street (Camp Street to Oretha Castle Haley Blvd)





## Public Outreach

- April 2019 - Eight meetings were held to gather public input for a citywide bicycle network in each of the five City Council Districts (340 attendees).
- July – August 2019 – Three meetings were organized to present a draft of the network plan.
- July 2020 – Central City/Lower Garden District community meeting to discuss upcoming proposed roadway projects including bikeway implementation.

In addition to public meetings, input was received online between April and June 2019 through an online interactive bike network planning map. A total of 2,288 people commented and made recommendations.

## What is Moving New Orleans?

As an initiative of Mayor LaToya Cantrell, **Moving New Orleans** is a multi-modal strategy that is focused on improving the safety, equity, efficiency and connectivity of the City's transportation network. **Moving New Orleans Bikes (MNOB)** is the first of several focused strategies to be implemented under this framework. MNOB is a joint initiative of the Mayor's Office of Transportation and Department of Public Works that is designed to accelerate the construction of a 75-mile connected low-stress bikeway network.

Comments, questions? Contact Roadwork NOLA

504-658-7623 or [roadwork@nola.gov](mailto:roadwork@nola.gov)

This document and the information contained herein is prepared solely for the purpose of identifying, evaluating and planning safety improvements on public roads which may be implemented utilizing federal aid highway funds; and is therefore exempt from discovery or admission into evidence pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 409. Contact the Traffic Safety Office at (225) 379-1871 before releasing any information.

