# **DOWNTOWN MILE** Safety and Connectivity Improvement Project



#### **About the Project**

The City of Flagstaff Downtown Mile is a key area for drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists, residents, visitors and business activity in a city growing by more than 1% every year. This project is an effort to design and construct projects to improve public safety, multimodal transportation, and rail improvements in the downtown area into one project. The 2019 City of Flagstaff Active Transportation Management Plan (ATMP) and the Flagstaff Urban Trail System (FUTS) Master Plan identified several crossings in the corridor in need of additional safety improvements for pedestrians and bicyclists. The improvements will help expand multimodal options for people traveling in and around downtown Flagstaff and make crossings safer and more efficient. More information about the improvements including in the Downtown Mile Project and adjacent projects are provided in the following paragraphs.

The City of Flagstaff is conducting the Downtown Mile Project in partnership with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF), and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

#### **Next Steps**

The project team will collaborate with the community to design and implement a comprehensive set of solutions by seeking and incorporating community plans and input. Public meetings and other opportunities for input will occur throughout the project.

#### For more information:

Visit the project website to view project materials and to join the email distribution list.





flagstaffdowntownmileproject.org

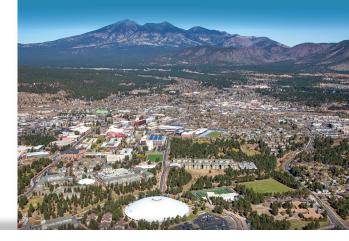
### Please contact the project team:



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### **Study Timeline**

Project Start June 2023

Public Meeting #1 Public Meeting #2 Fall 2023

DESIGN CONSTRUCTION

2023

2024

2025

2026

#### For more information on adjacent projects:

Lone Tree Overpass Project: Ionetreeoverpass.org

BNSF Railroad Mainline Expansion: www.bnsf.com/news-media/railtalk/service/index.html#category-service

USACE Rio de Flag Project: www.flagstaff.az.gov/4189/Rio-De-Flag-Flood-Control-Project

Downtown Connection Center: mountainline.az.gov/dcc



The BNSF Rail Realignment
The BNSF Railway Downtown Mile
Safety and Connectivity Improvement
Project in Flagstaff, Coconino County,
Arizona involves realignment of the two
BNSF mainline tracks and addition of a third
running track beginning west of West Clay
Avenue and extending just east of South San
Francisco Street.

## Plorence-Walnut Pedestrian Underpass

This new underpass is planned for west of downtown, beneath the BNSF railroad tracks between Walnut Street and Florence Street. It will enhance mobility and increase safety for pedestrians and bicyclists in downtown Flagstaff and connect the Townsite and La Plaza Vieja neighborhoods.

Milton Roadway Improvements
These improvements involve a
reconstruction of four lanes of Milton Avenue
under the railroad bridge to increase vertical
clearance between the roadway and the
underpass structure, and reconstruction
of Santa Fe Avenue / Sitgreaves Street. It
includes reconstruction of the existing Santa

Fe Avenue/ Sitgreaves Street / Milton Road intersection and remove the Sitgreaves Street ramp to Route 66. Modifications to the existing drainage system would require use of Colton Park, a City of Flagstaff Park on land leased from the BNSF Railway.

### Milton Avenue Bridge Reconstruction/Underpass

Bridge work at Milton Avenue involves demolition of the existing bridge structure, construction of a new bridge substructure and placement of a new bridge superstructure. This reconstruction of the Milton Road BNSF Underpass will allow for the potential expansion of Milton Road from four lanes to six lanes as part of ADOT's Milton Road Corridor Master Plan.

## Flagstaff Urban Trail System (FUTS) Underpass

This pedestrian and bicycle underpass will enhance access and safety through central Flagstaff, as well as facilitate construction of the USACE Rio de Flag Flood Control project. This underpass will support expansion of the FUTS trail system and help provide safe crossing through one of Flagstaff's busiest

streets, as well as connection to the future Downtown Connection Center (DCC).

### 6 BNSF/Rio de Flag Drainage Crossing

The Rio de Flag Underpass involves modifying an existing BNSF three-span steel structure west of Beaver Street across the existing Rio de Flag channel.

**Amtrak Platform Improvements** Platform improvements at the Amtrak train station are planned and potentially will be a part of this project. The existing passenger platform on the north side of the railroad may be reconstructed at a higher elevation to accommodate freight rail traffic. Additionally, a passenger boarding platform and sheltered waiting area will be constructed on the south side of the railroad to eliminate the need for Amtrak trains to switch to the northern track to allow passengers to board and alight. Passengers will be able to access the main station building via improved Beaver Street and San Francisco Street pedestrian crossings on either end of the platform.