

Economic benefits of 2-way traffic proposed for Cushman and Barnette streets

Cushman Street is an early Vision Fairbanks implementation piece because it will change the game downtown. Restoring two-way traffic flow to the Cushman corridor will make it a place to be – a signature street – not a thoroughfare. Additionally, it is true of Cushman two-way that:

- Stimulate new development and private investment downtown;
- Intentionally reduce traffic speeds to create a safe pedestrian environment;
- Widen sidewalks for pedestrians;
- Include on-street parking for better access to shops and services;
- Reduce out-of-direction travel, fuel consumption, and driver frustration in getting to downtown destinations;
- Demonstrate the community's commitment – certainty – that the plan is being implemented;
- Accommodate emergency vehicles and snow removal;
- Uses state funds that cannot be re-allocated without FMATS Policy Committee concurrence and legislative approval;
- Meshes with the Illinois Street project and Barnette Bridge.