

Wheeler Road, SE

Roadway Safety and Complete Streets Project

July 2019

Mayor Bowser is committed to providing safe streets across the District, and the Wheeler Road, SE Safety and Complete Streets Project is an important piece of that commitment.

What are Complete Streets?

Complete Streets are simply streets designed for all users including motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit riders of all ages and abilities. In 2010, DDOT adopted a Complete Streets policy that requires all transportation projects accommodate both motorized and non-motorized users of all abilities. Since then, DDOT has been working across the District to bring existing streets up to this standard and build new streets to this standard.

What is being proposed?

A “road diet” is proposed for Wheeler Road in which the outside lane could be repurposed for other uses such as bicycle lanes, parking, curb extensions, and turn lanes.



When did this project start?

The project is starting now. DDOT is seeking community input on a preliminary design.

How will this improve street safety?

- Decrease the number vehicle lanes for pedestrians to cross;
- Reduce vehicle rear-end crashes and side-swipe crashes;
- Buffer people walking and riding bicycles from vehicle traffic;
- Reduce speeding; and
- Decrease crash severity

Will it affect parking?

Maybe. Currently parking is permitted along most of Wheeler Road with some restrictions such as during PM rush hours; during school drop off/pick up; and in metro bus zones. DDOT seeks community input to identify where parking is needed and better define it and repurpose parking that is underutilized.

Will this make traffic worse?

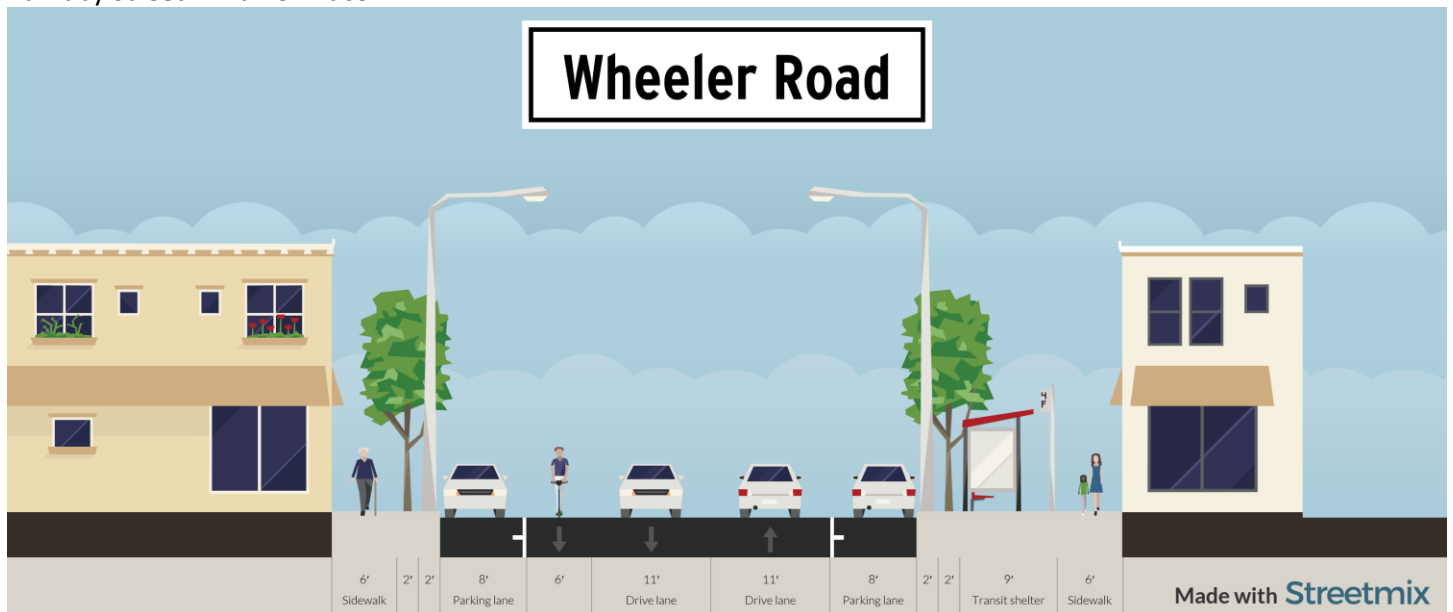
No. A traffic analysis was conducted and found that the majority of Wheeler Road would operate similarly with a lane reduction. However, two lanes are recommended to remain at the intersections of Southern Avenue (southbound) and Alabama Avenue (northbound) and a turn lane is recommended at Mississippi Avenue (northbound) to maintain current traffic operations.

What could it look like? (all pictures are shown looking northbound from Southern Avenue)

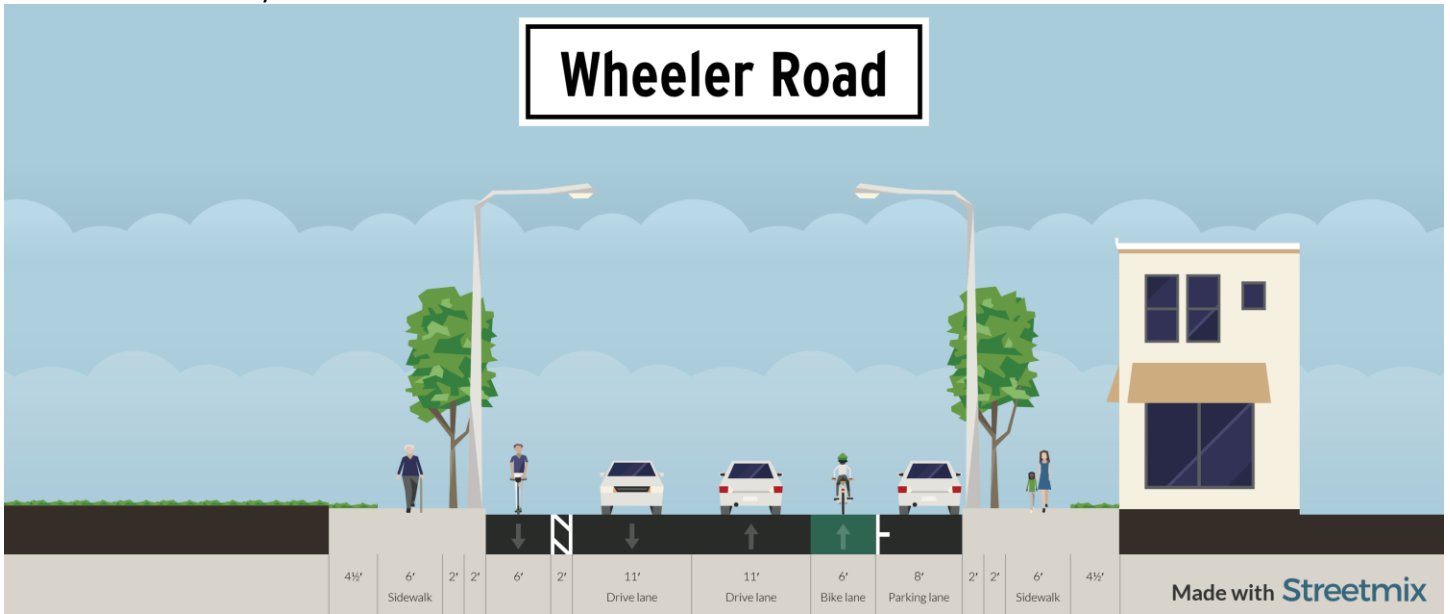
Southern Avenue – Barnaby Street



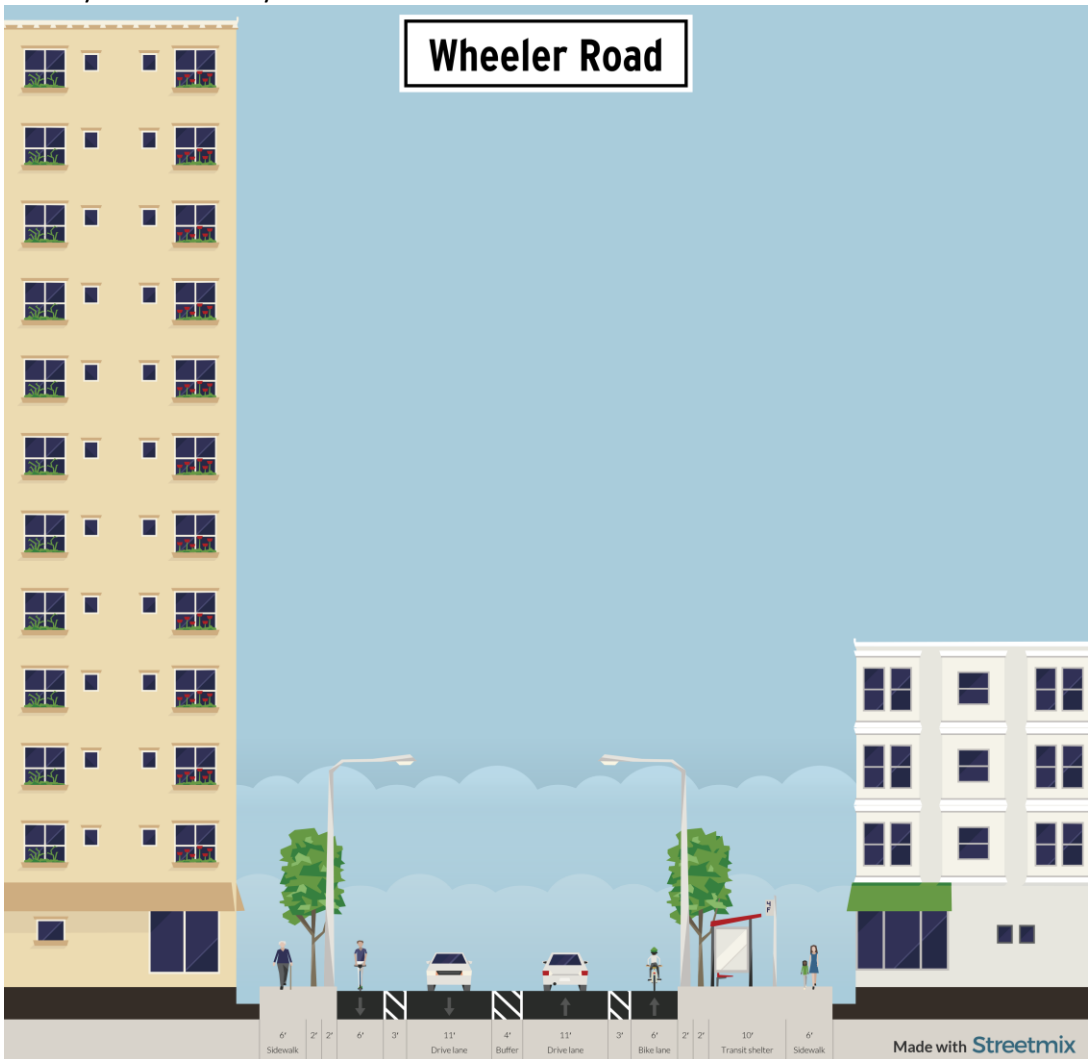
Barnaby Street – Wahler Place



Wahler Place – Varney Street



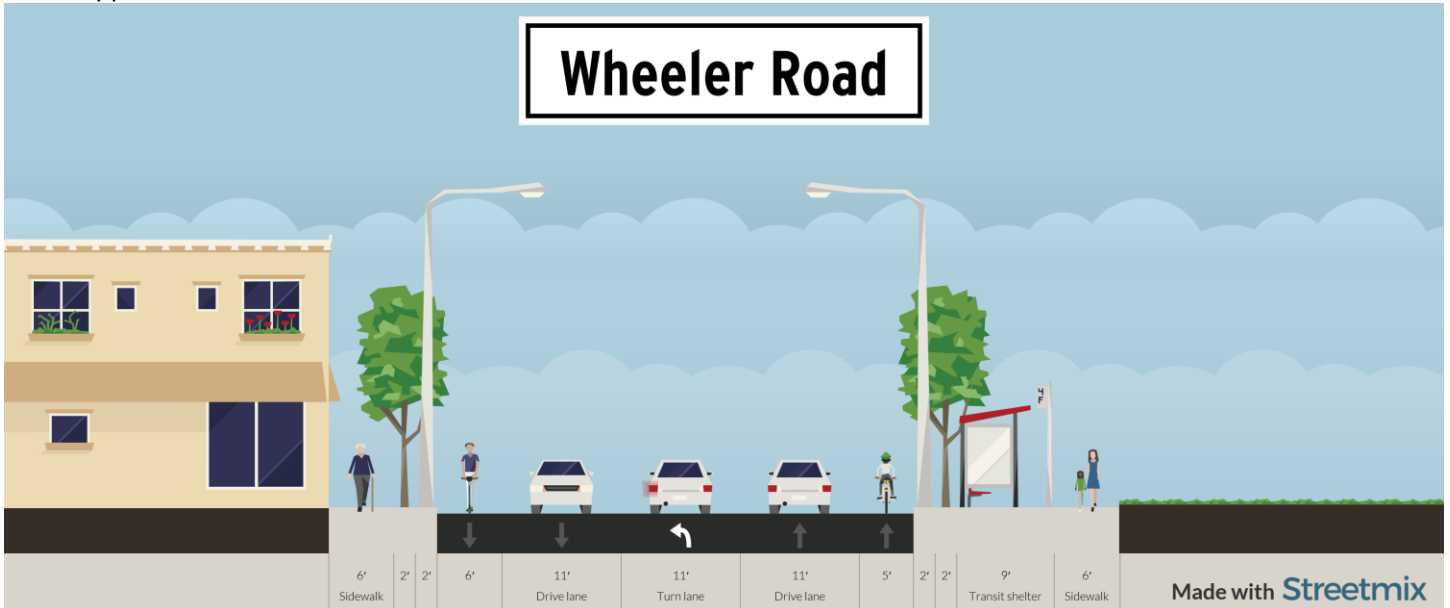
Varney Street – Valley Ave



Valley Avenue – bridge over Oxon Run



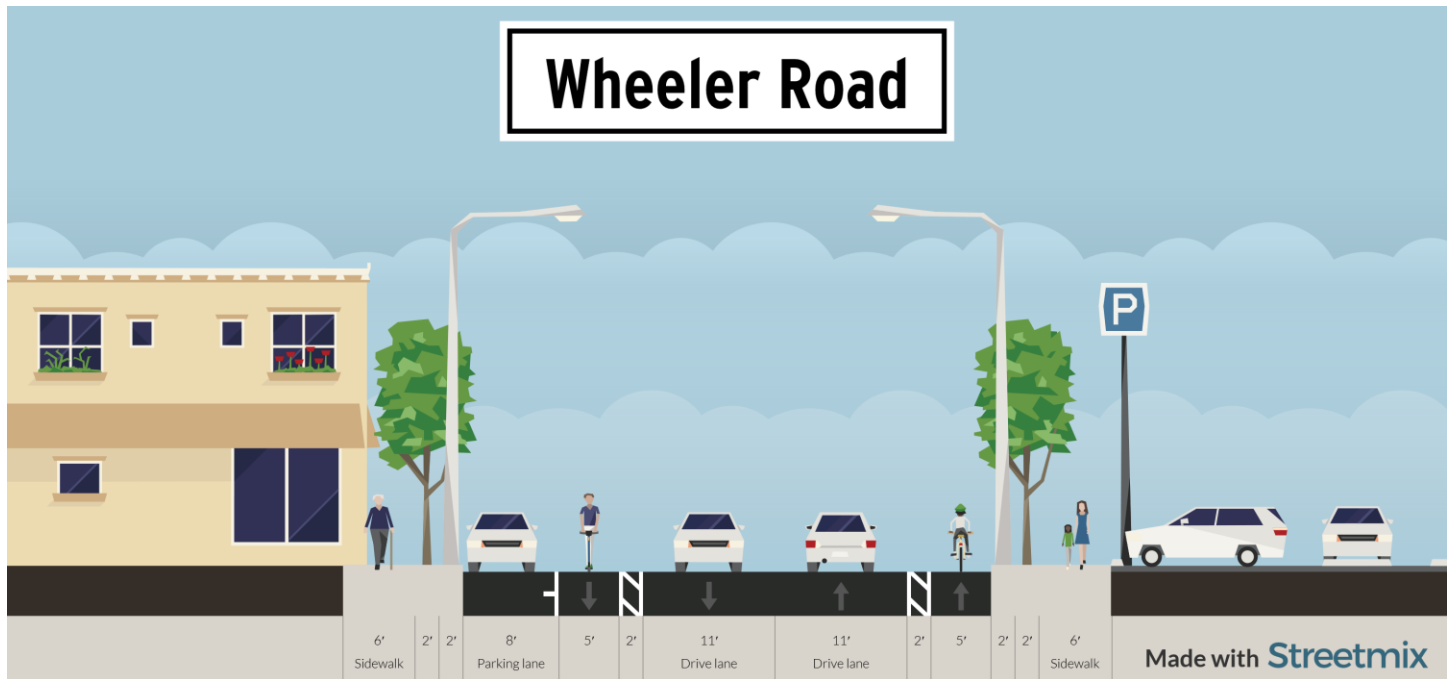
Mississippi Avenue Intersection



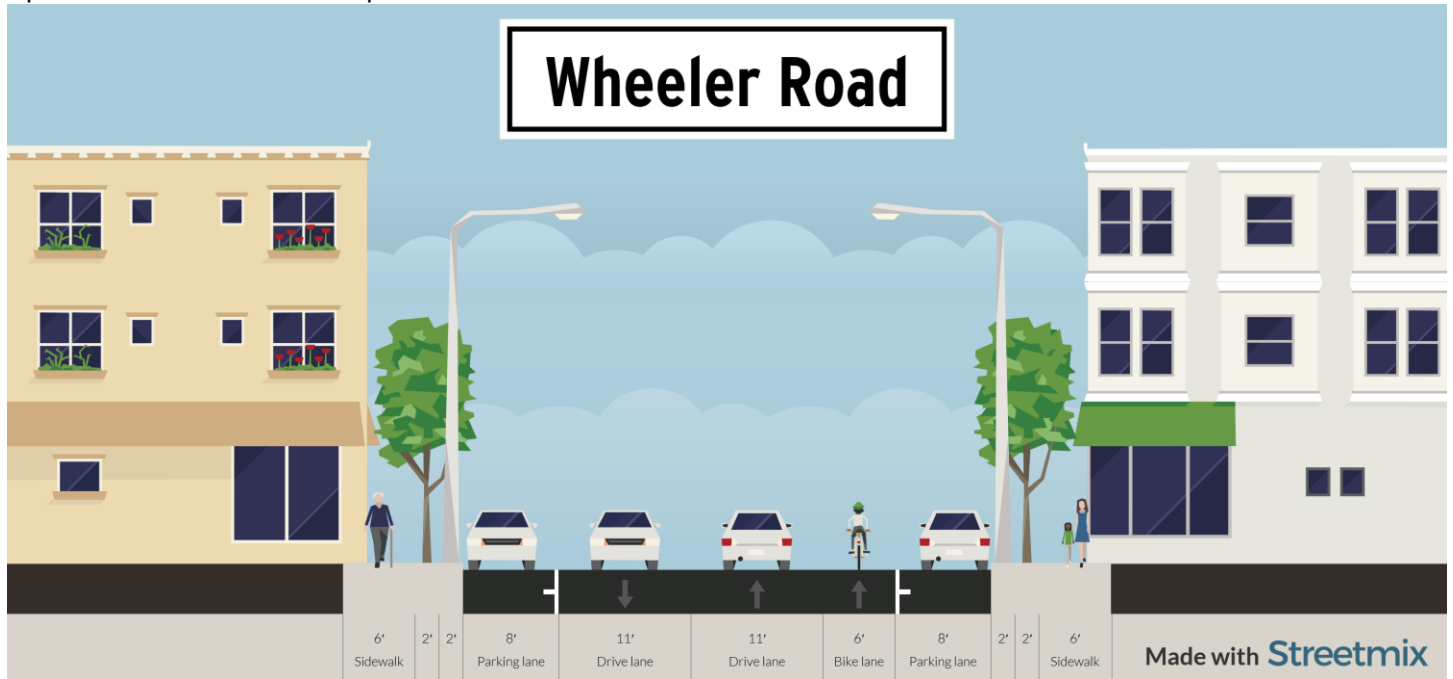
Mississippi Avenue – Holiday Mart



3500 block of Wheeler Road



Upsal Street – Wheeler Park Apartments



Alley – Alabama Avenue

