

## **Executive Summary**

Allegheny County Road Diet - Springhill Road  
Category J

Natrona and Natrona Heights are located in Harrison Township, approximately 20 miles northeast of downtown Pittsburgh. Travel between these two areas proved difficult without the use of a motor vehicle as the area lacked public transportation and pathways for pedestrians and bicyclists. To address this shortcoming, Allegheny County Public Works and designer Michael Baker International proposed a road diet – or reduction of travel lanes to better accommodate motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians – that changed the configuration of Springhill Road. The project was also part of a plan to expand the Three Rivers Heritage Trail system.

The original road consisted of a 44-foot cartway holding two traffic lanes traveling in each direction along Springhill Road. As a result of the project, motor vehicles now have access to one lane in each direction along Springhill Rd between North Canal Street and Karnes Road with the addition of a buffered stripped side path for pedestrians and bicycles within the existing 44-foot cartway followed by a curb adjustment between Karnes Road and McWilliams Drive, reducing the cartway to a 35-foot width curb to curb carrying two lanes uphill and one lane downhill along with the addition of a buffered side path behind the new curb line. This was achieved by means of full depth reconstruction of a relocated curb line and by signage, pavement markings and delineation.

The project ultimately improved roadway efficiency, connectivity and traffic flow, as well as safety for those traveling along Springhill Road.