

# HERMISTON CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

November 13, 2018

Mayor Drotzmann called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm. Present were Councilors Primmer, Myers, Smith, Gutierrez, Hardin, Davis, and Barron. Councilor Kirwan was absent. Staff members in attendance were City Manager Byron Smith, City Attorney Gary Luisi, Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, Chief Edmiston, Clint Spencer, Mark Krawczyk, Chuck Woolsey, Roy Bicknell, Nate Rivera and Lilly Alarcon-Strong. News media present was Jade McDowell (arrived at 7:05pm) from East Oregonian. The pledge of allegiance was given and led by Boy Scouts who were present.

## **Consent Agenda Items**

Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Davis seconded to approve all Consent Agenda items, to include:

- A. 2017-18 Urban Renewal Agency Annual Report
- B. Minutes of the October 22, 2018, City Council work session and regular meeting
- C. Minutes of the October 22, 2018, Public Safety Committee meeting
- D. ODOT Relinquishment Deed - Highway 207

Motion carried unanimously.

Jade McDowell arrived at 7:05pm

## **Ordinance No. 2269- Revising and Updating the City's Building Code**

City Manager Smith stated while reviewing Chapter 152 of the Code of Hermiston entitled "Building Regulations" the City noticed that parts of the ordinance are missing, specifically the process for enforcement of the building code through penalties, stop-work orders or other means. This amendment would allow the building department to impose civil penalties, among other things, to those who are in non-compliance of these codes. The ordinance would also amend Chapter 152 regarding regulations for moving buildings.

After Council discussion, Mayor Drotzmann requested that the first reading be by title only. Hearing no opposition, City Attorney Gary Luisi read the ordinance by title only. Mayor Drotzmann requested that the ordinance be put on for final adoption at this meeting and that the second reading be by title only. After City Attorney Gary Luisi read the ordinance by title only for the second reading, Councilor Myers moved and Councilor Primmer seconded that ordinance 2269 be adopted tonight and be effective 30 days after its passage by City Council. 7 votes for; none against. Motion carried unanimously.

## **2018-2025 Sidewalk Infill Work-Plan**

Assistant City Manager Morgan gave information regarding the plan to develop and construct, through a private contractor, infill sidewalks throughout the City by prioritizing the smallest project area with the greatest need (PowerPoint presentation attached). Mr. Morgan gave information regarding the 1970's City's policy that mandates creation of sidewalks with new construction. The infill enhancement would impact those lots developed prior to the 1970's, however, sidewalk infill would not occur for those lots that are yet to be developed.

Although many property owners who own land developed prior to 1970's do not feel like sidewalks are a priority for their use, sidewalks do complete a necessary public need. The plan would begin with \$30,000/year for the next seven years and would also combine state grants as well.

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The Council asked if the sidewalk infill plan could be completed by the City's Street Department and discussed sidewalks in the area of Diagonal Rd and NE 10th Street.

Mr. Morgan stated yes, however by having the street department complete this project it would cannibalize their other work load and they do not have a crew large enough to divide these tasks. The sidewalk infill work-plan would be completed faster by having an outside crew do these projects.

City Manager Smith stated although the area of Diagonal Rd and NE 10<sup>th</sup> Street are county roads, the City has applied for grants to widen this road and install bike paths for safe pedestrian access.

Councilor Gutierrez moved and Councilor Primmer seconded to adopt the sidewalk infill work-plan as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Hermiston Energy Services/Umatilla Electric Cooperative Updates**

Umatilla Electric Cooperative (UEC) General Manager, Robert Echenrode, presented the Council with information regarding (PowerPoint presentation attached):

- Energy services in Hermiston and the 30% energy growth Hermiston has shown in the last 20 years
- UEC is the 10<sup>th</sup> largest growing cooperative in the united states out of 800
- Agriculture services provided
- Projected to be the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest cooperative in the nation by the end of the year
- Workforce recruitment and growth
- Membership meeting updates and the utilization of EOTEC for their annual member meeting as the community has outgrown their space at UEC
- etc

Mr. Echenrode stated UEC, HES and the City as a whole have a strong relationship and thanked the Council for their partnership.

Hermiston Energy Services General Manager, Nate Rivera stated he will be presenting a Cost of Service Analysis at the next City Council meeting. The analysis will look at services and operating costs, and make sure rates are being reviewed and compared.

## **Committee Reports**

Parks and Recreation Committee: Councilor Myers stated the meeting was canceled due to lack of members.

Vacancy Review Board: Mayor Drotzmann stated the Board will meet this week to interview many applicants; however volunteers are still needed for the Budget and Faith-Based Advisory Committees.

## **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Drotzmann encouraged the Council to attend the LOC Elected Essential Trainings on December 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> and the Oregon Business Summit in December to address water issues in the region and state. Councilors are asked to register with City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong.

Mayor Drotzmann recognized three local firefighters for volunteering to fight fires in California. Mayor Drotzmann thanked Umatilla County Fire District #1 for allowing them to go.

Mayor Drotzmann thanked all the Veterans for their work, sacrifice and service.

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## **Council Report**

Councilor Davis, Primmer and Barron all attended the NLC City Summit in Los Angeles, California. They gave brief summaries regarding:

- The Los Angeles City Council wards, agenda, meetings, and salaries
- Airport improvements being made for the 2028 Olympics
- Bridge improvements being made, while keeping the historic elements and value to the bridge
- City finance and budgeting
- Housing and homelessness
- Speaking with shooting victims
- Lack of work force
- Addressing drug addiction in small cities and encouraging everyone to watch a 45min Netflix documentary entitled "Heroin". Very impactful documentary regarding a drug program that has significantly impacted a community, saving over 3,000 people per year from drug overdose.

Mayor Drotzmann thanked the Councilors for attending and bringing back this information to the City.

Councilor Barron congratulated Councilor Davis on her election win (applause from the audience).

Councilor Gutierrez stated about 25 years ago, there were two public incidents involving guns, one at the middle school and a drive-by shooting, which could have ended violently, our community has been fortunate enough to not have had gun violence victims in those situations. Councilor Gutierrez stated Hermiston is a great community.

## **City Manager's Report**

City Manager Smith gave information regarding:

- West Highland Trail which is almost complete
- Day at the Oregon Capitol on January 24<sup>th</sup>
- Goal Setting Session possible meeting dates in February
- NLC Congressional City Conference March 10-13. Please sign up with City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong if you'd like to attend.

## **Adjournment**

Mayor Drotzmann adjourned the regular meeting at 8:09pm as there was no other business.

SIGNED:

/s/Dr. Dave Drotzmann

MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/Lilly Alarcon-Strong, CMC

CITY RECORDER





# SIDEWALK INFILL PLAN

November 13, 2018



# 2018 City Council Goal 4.4

- “Adopt Sidewalk Infill Construction Plan.”



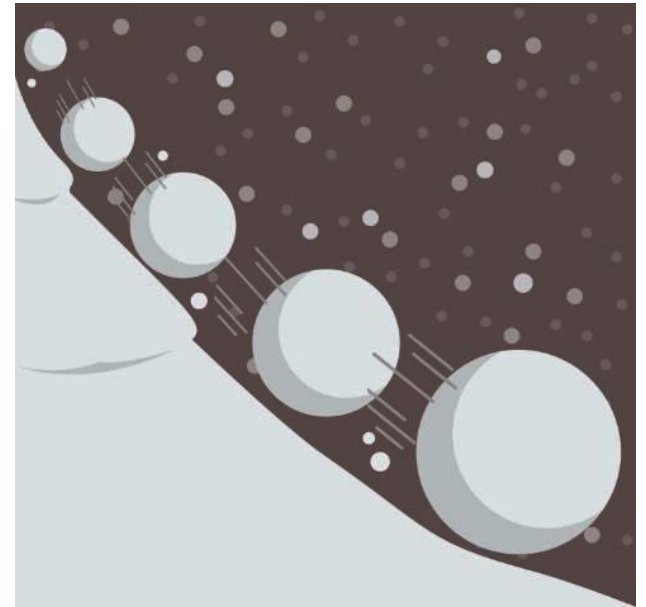
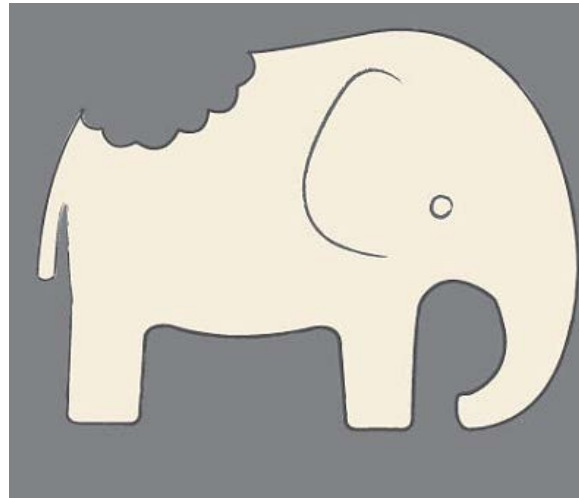


# Proposal

- General Fund Contribution: \$30,000/yr
- Private Contractors
- Install New Sidewalk
  - Only on Arterial/Collector streets
  - “In-fill” segments
  - Shortest segments first
  - Segments with greatest connection first



# Low-Hanging-Elephant Snowball Method



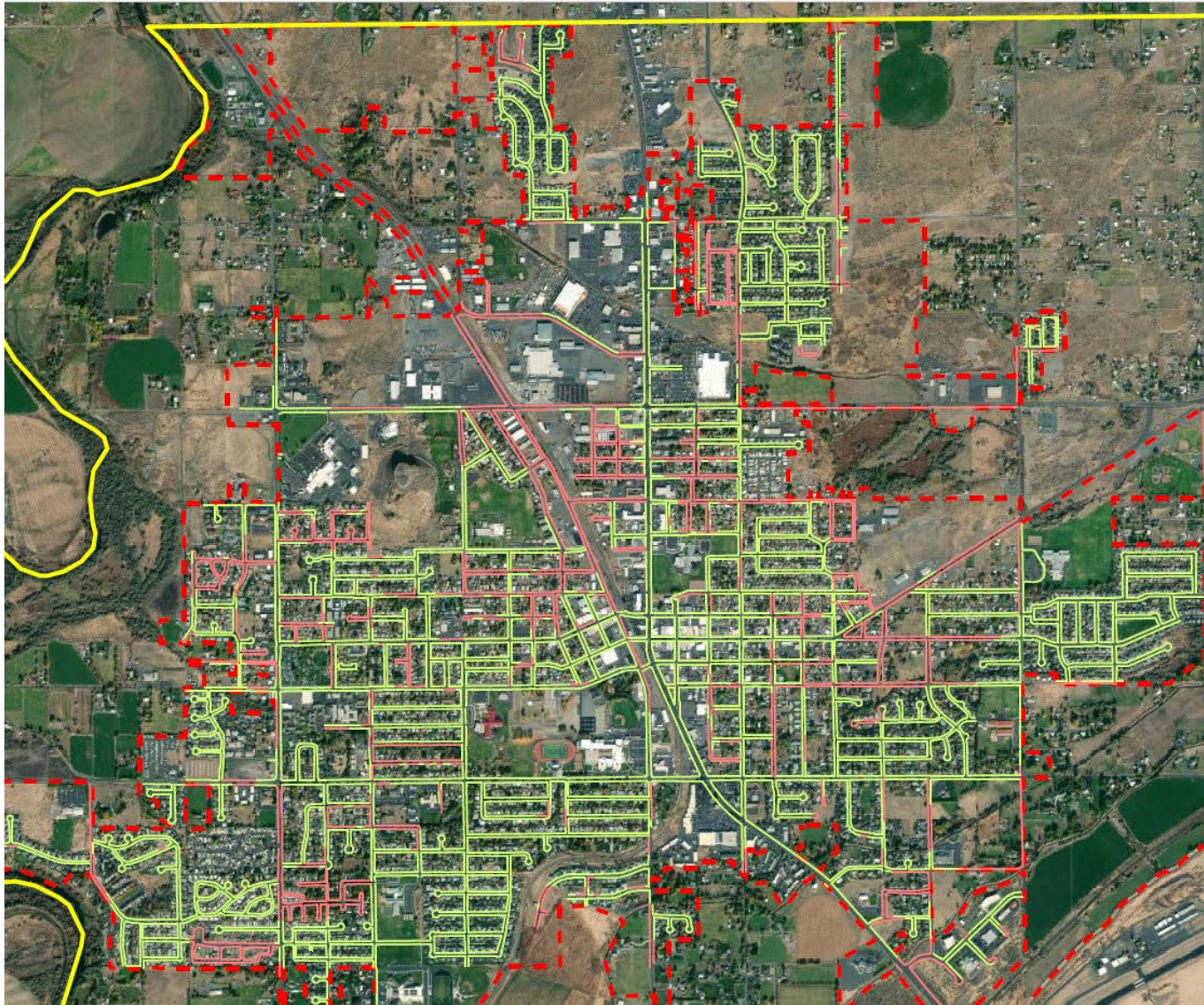
# The Problem & How we got here

- Missing segments need to be filled in.
- All new developments (post 1970s) install new sidewalk (no 'speculative' sidewalks)
- “In-Fill”: Lot is developed but no sidewalk
- “Awaiting development”: Lot not developed





# How big is the “elephant”?







# Equity Consideration

- Equitable to install sidewalk in front of vacant/developable lot & still require others to install sidewalk at development?



# Public Benefit Consideration

- Some segments clearly benefit the public more than the actual property owner.





# Public Cost/Benefit Consideration

- Some segments may cost the same, but don't benefit the general public as much.





# Financial Reality Consideration

- Infill Sidewalk Self-Development unlikely.

63% of Americans don't have enough savings to meet a \$500 emergency\*

\*McGrath, Maggie, Forbes.com, "63% of Americans Don't Have Enough Savings to Cover a \$500 Emergency," 2016.



# Pilot Program Proved Financials

- Newport Park Area Street Reconstruction
- 12 Properties offered at least 30% cash match
- 7 offered at least 50% cash match
- 2 offered at least 70% cash match
- 1 offered 75% cash match
  - City portion: \$4,500
  - Homeowner: \$1,500



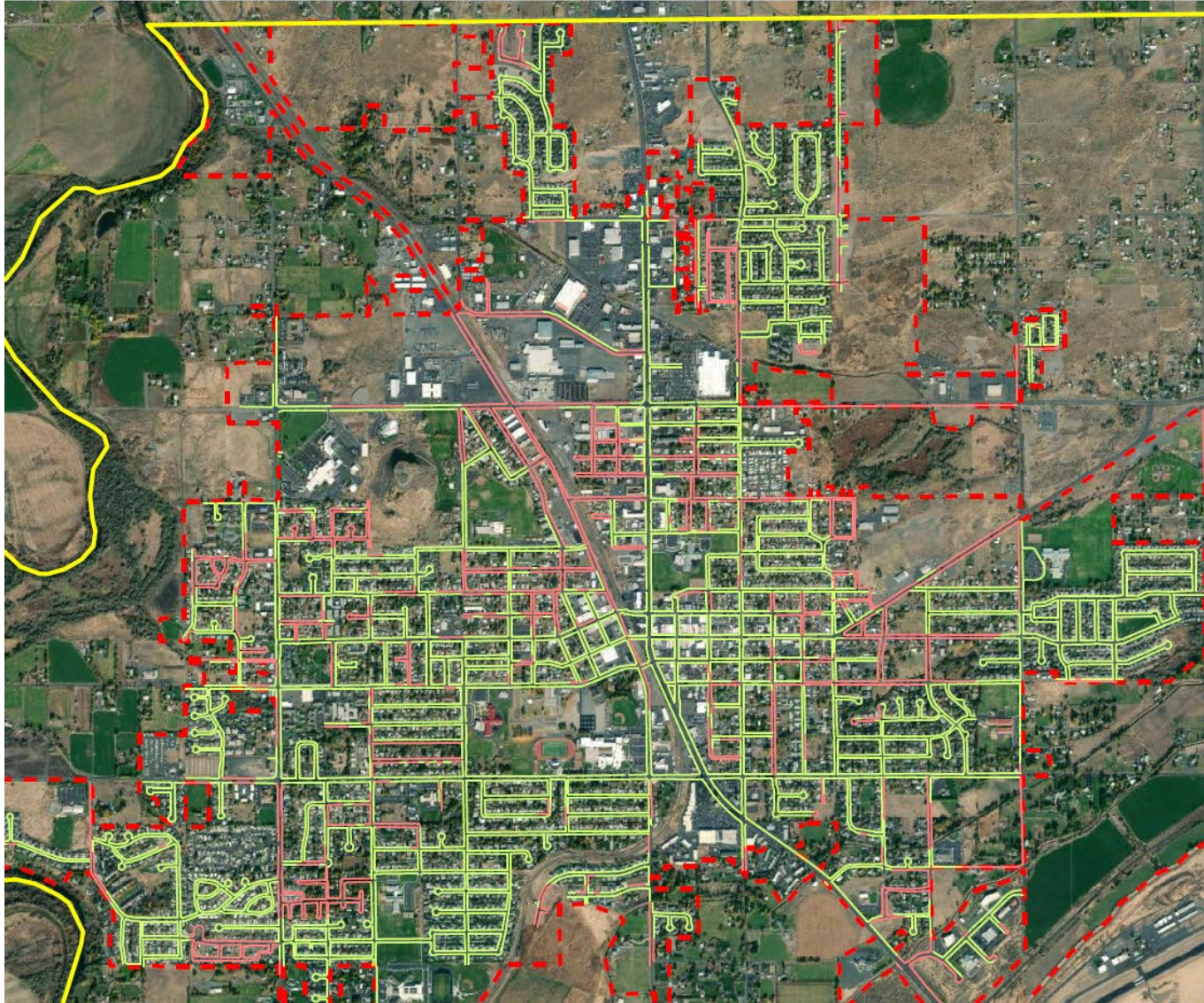
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  - City portion: \$4,500
  - Homeowner: \$1,500
- **None Accepted Offer**



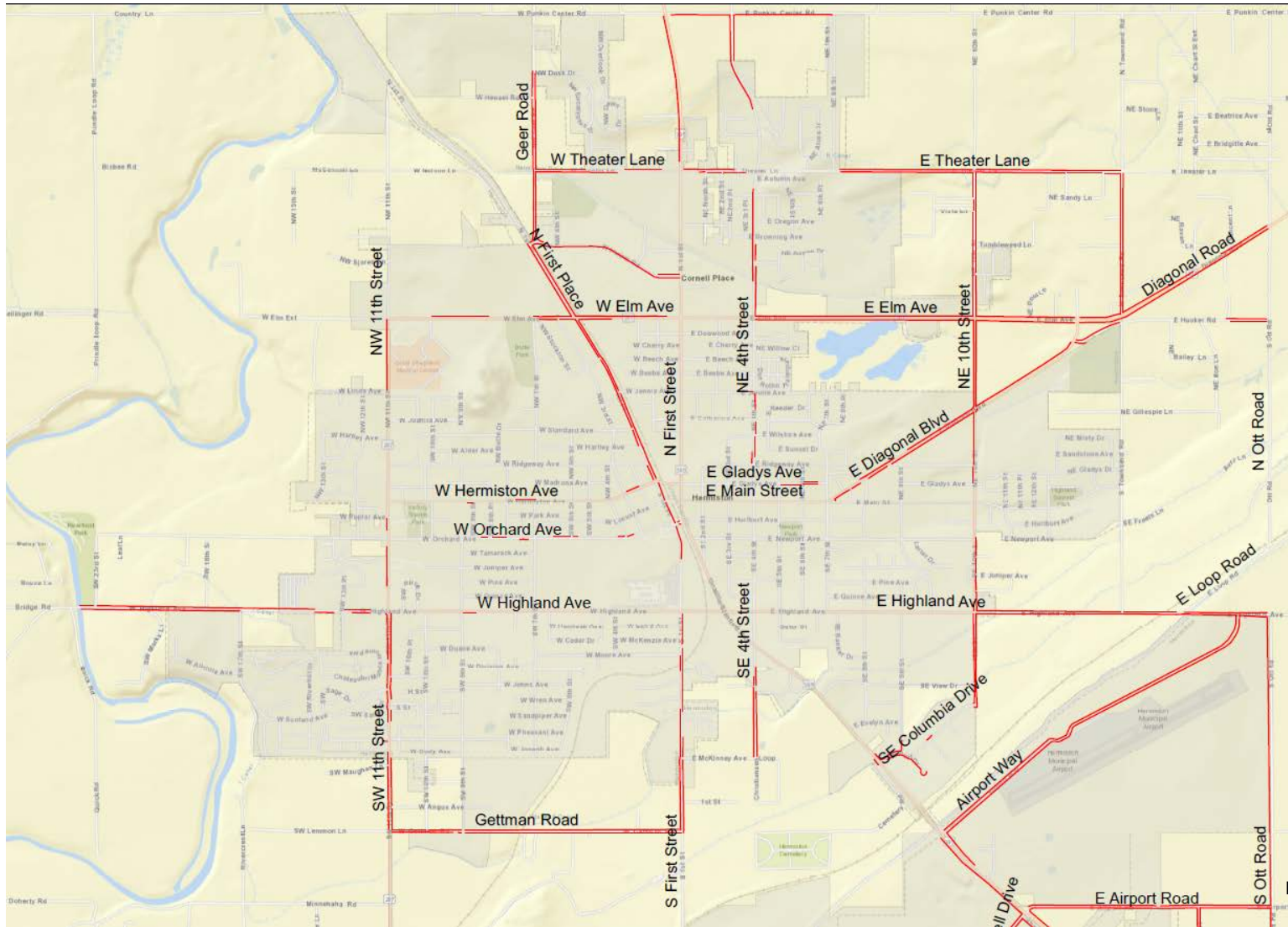


# How do we eat this elephant?

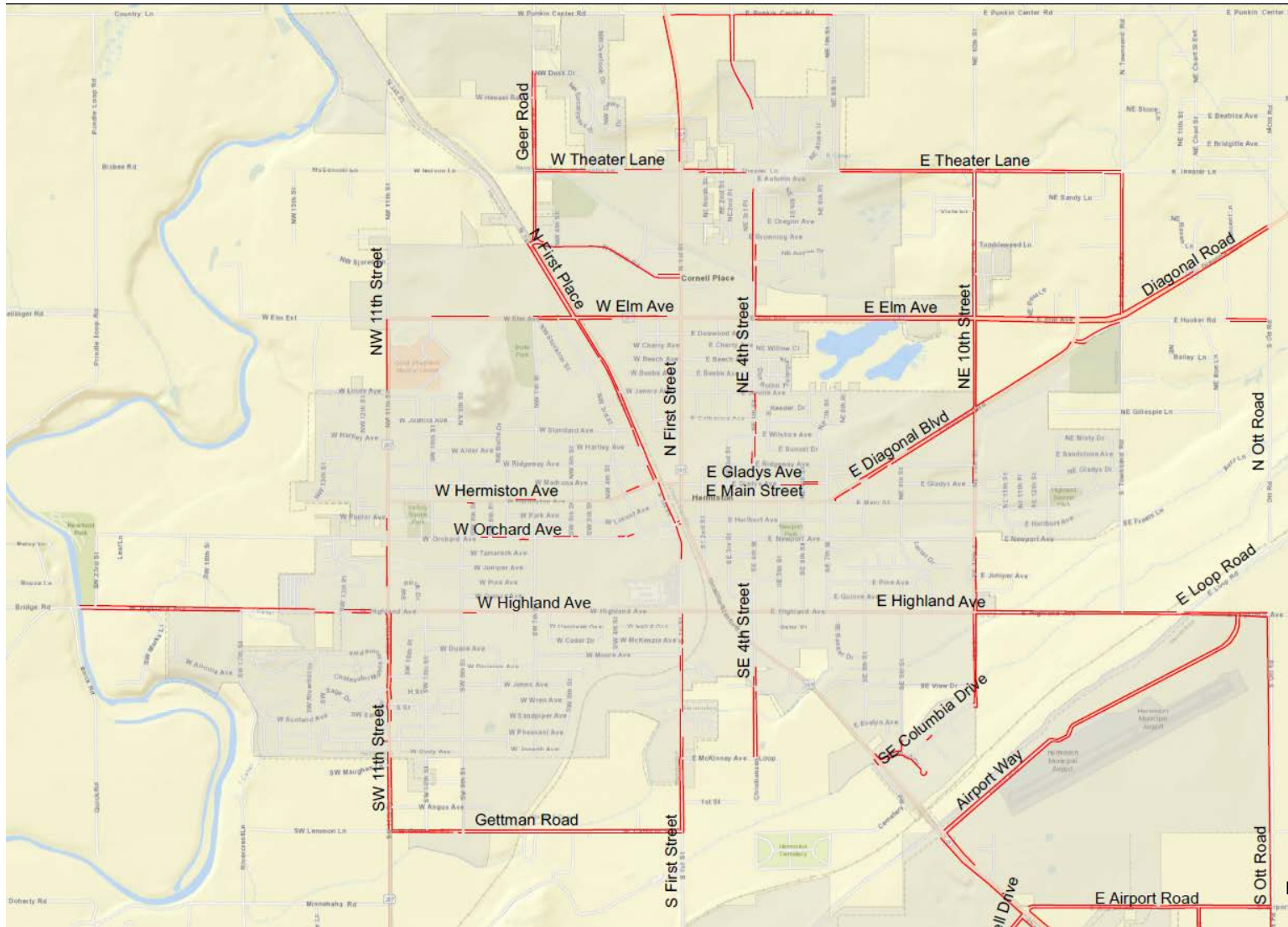




# Arterials/Collectors = Low Hanging Fruit

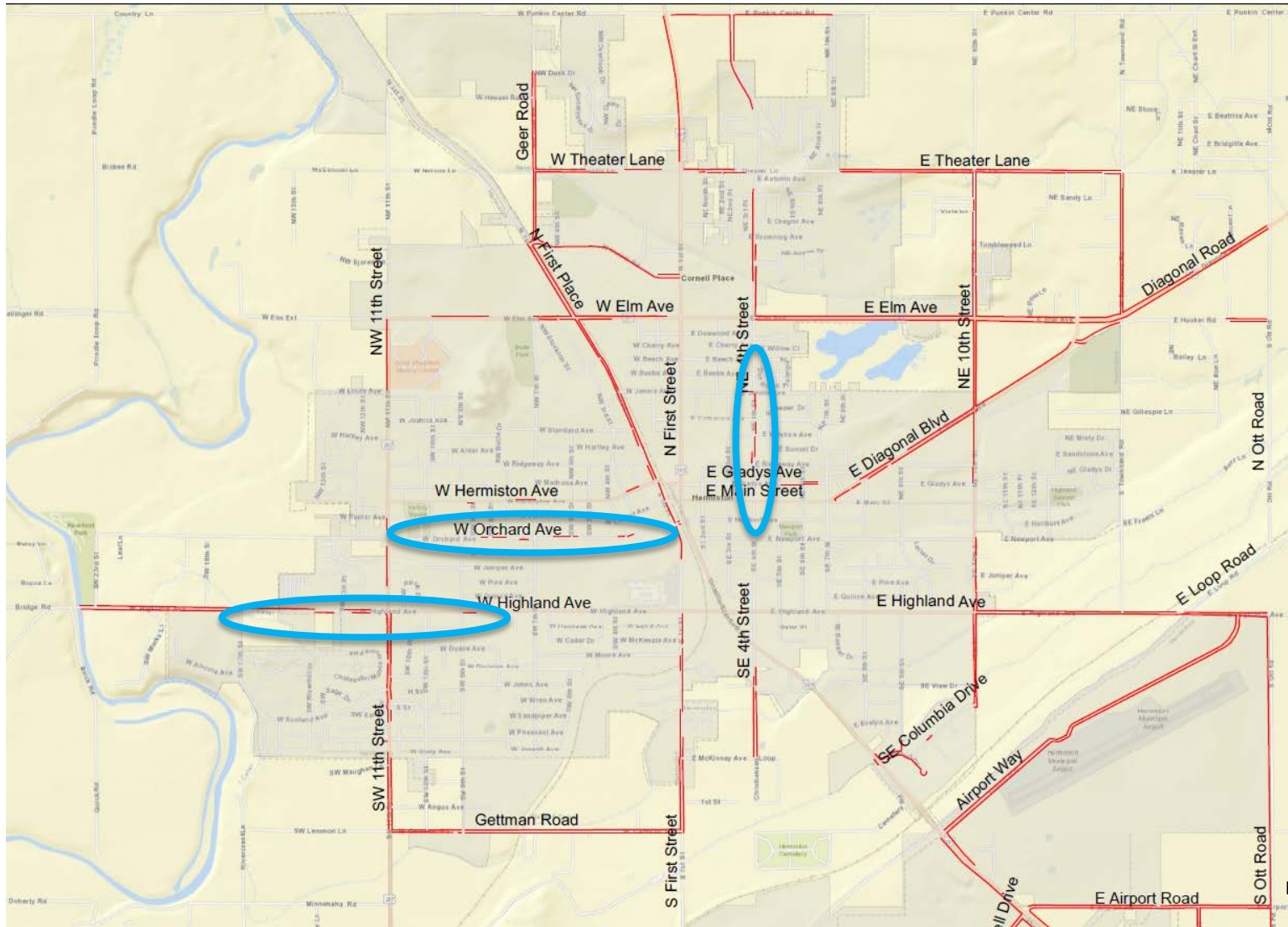


# Where are the 'bite size' pieces?



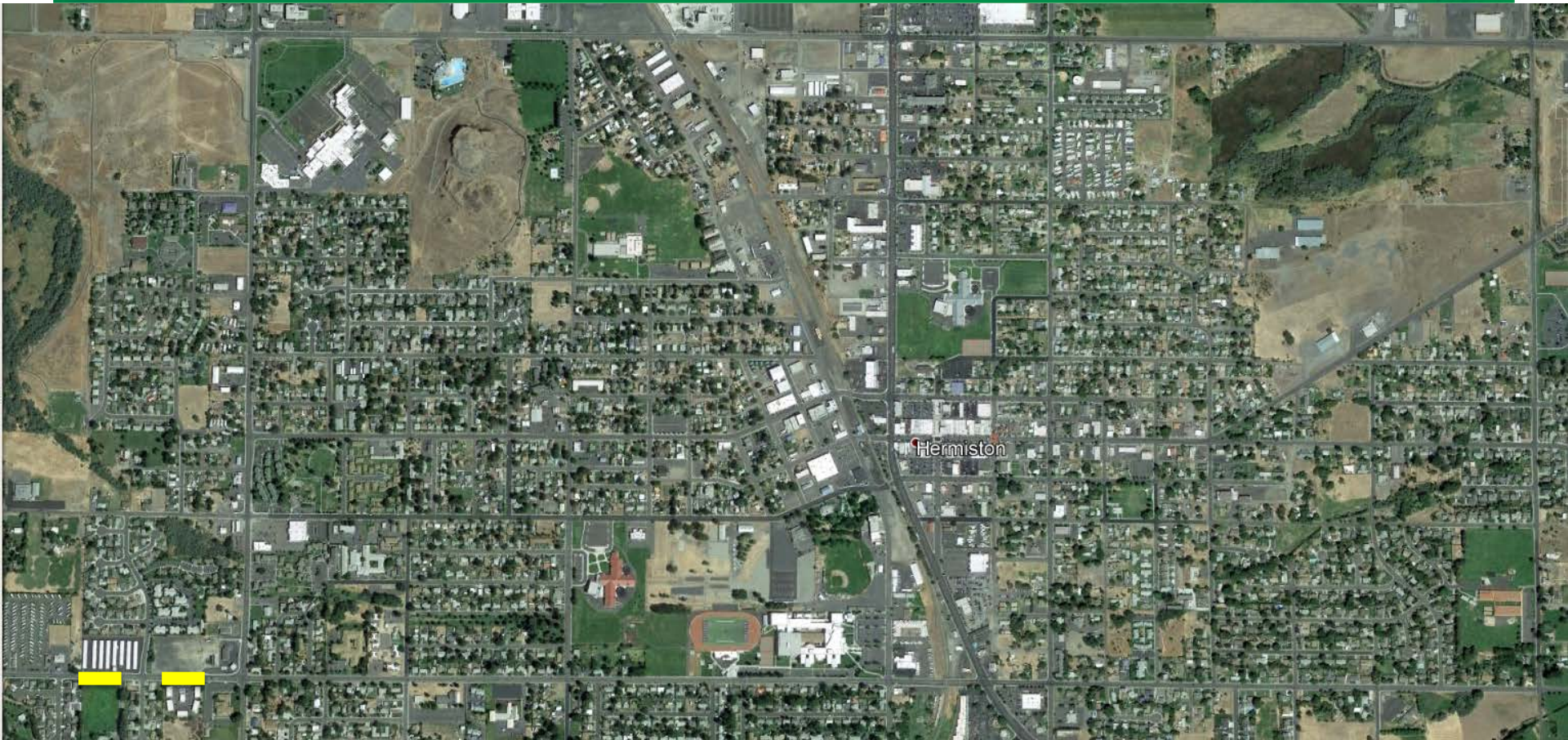


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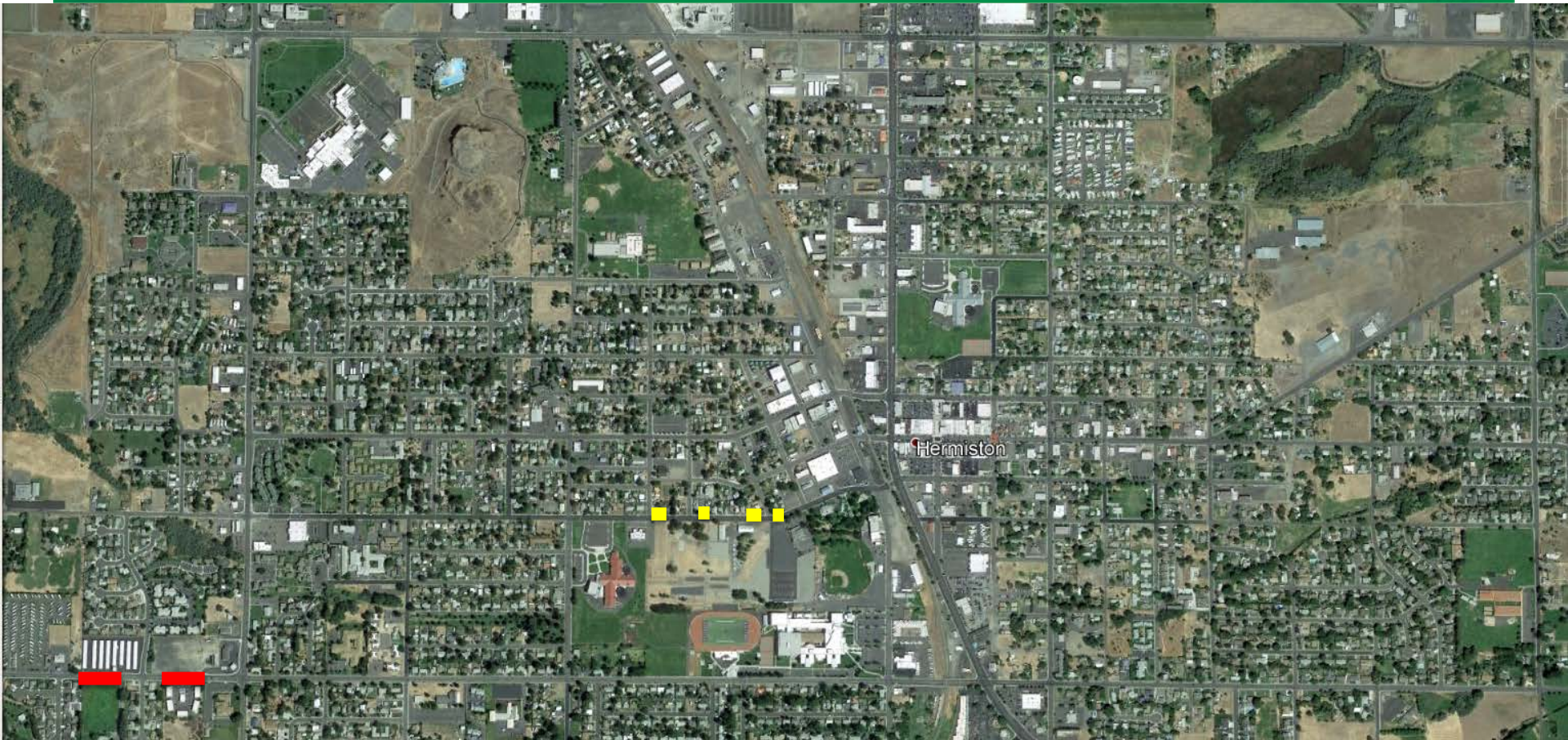


# In Construction



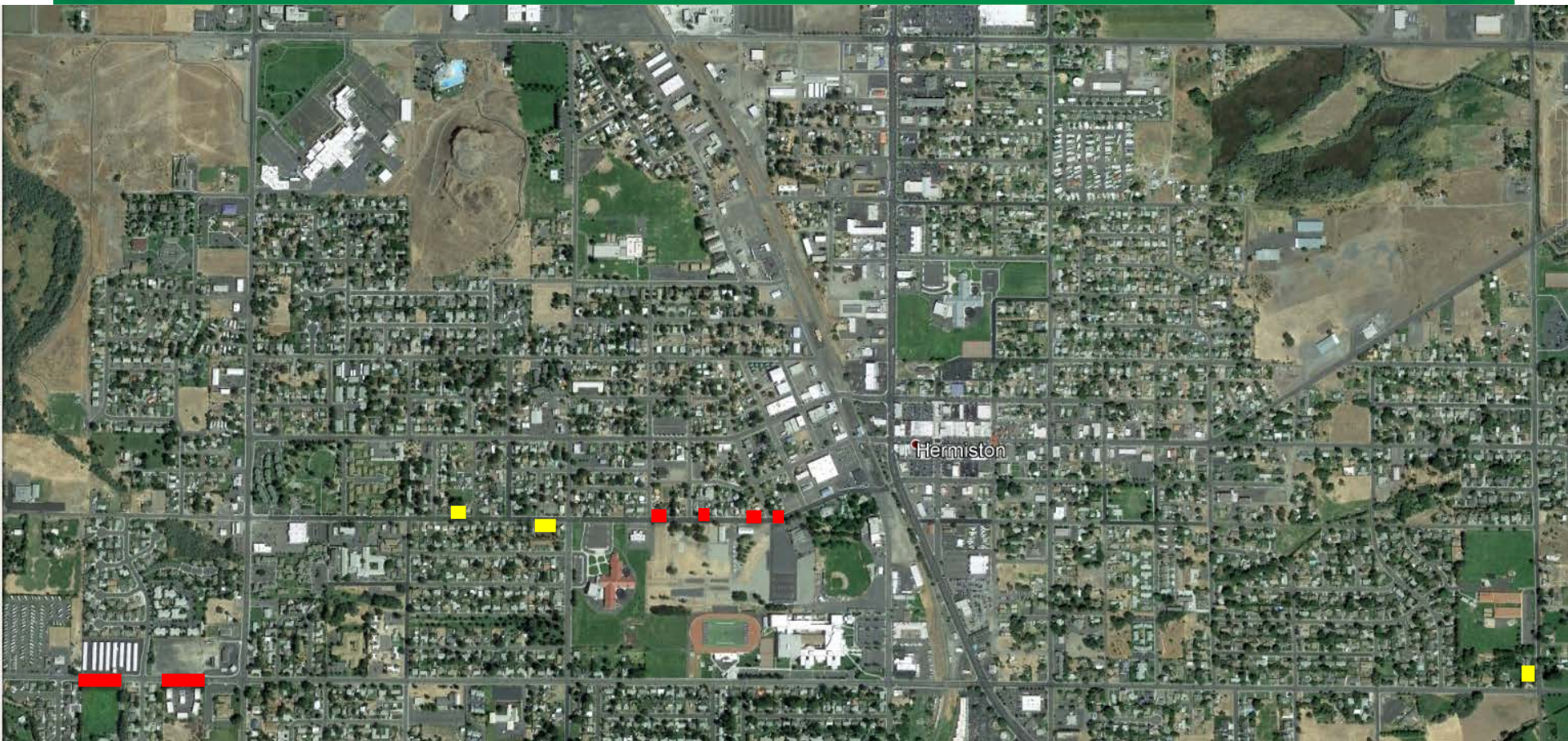


# Fiscal Year '19-'20



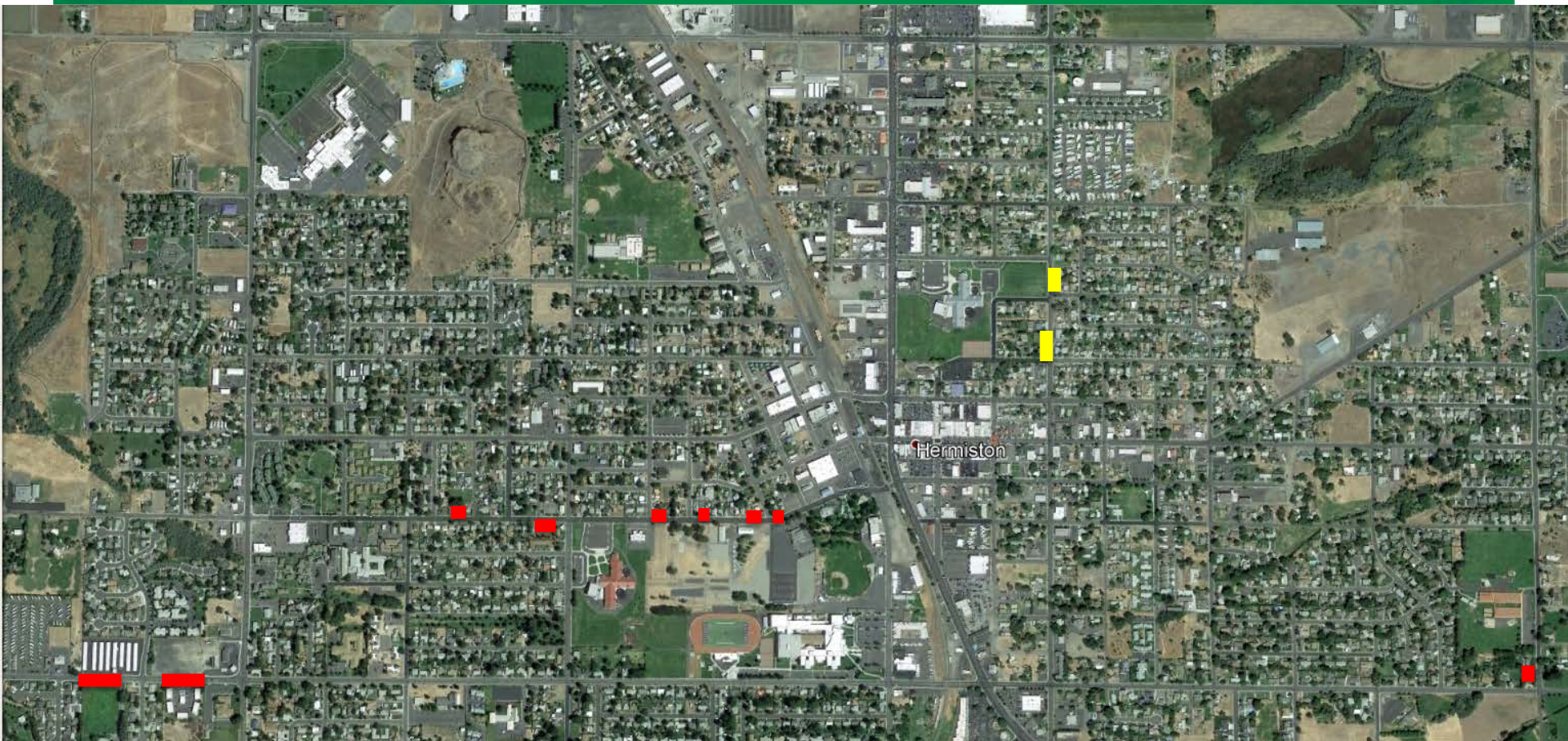


# Fiscal Year '20-'21



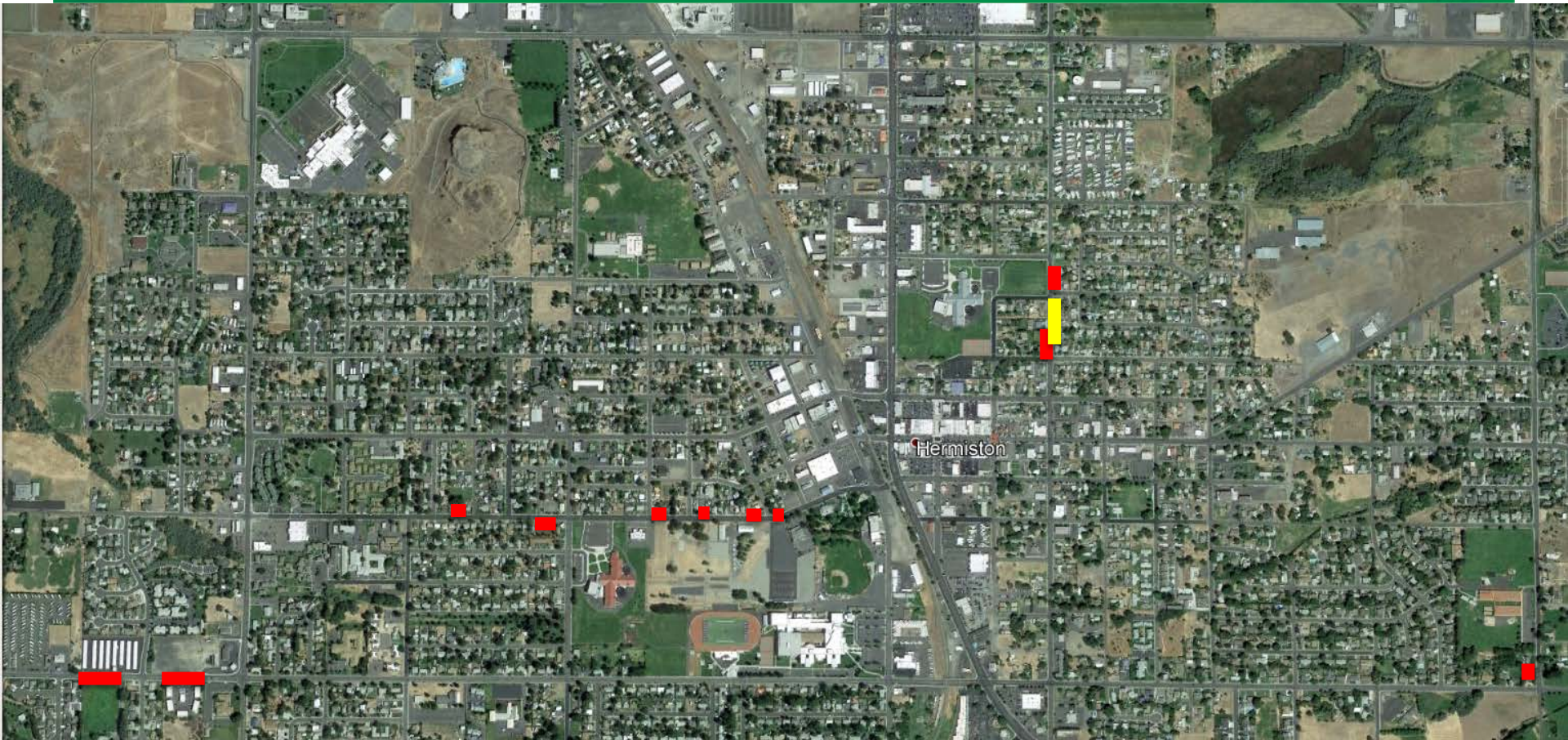


# Fiscal Year '21-'22



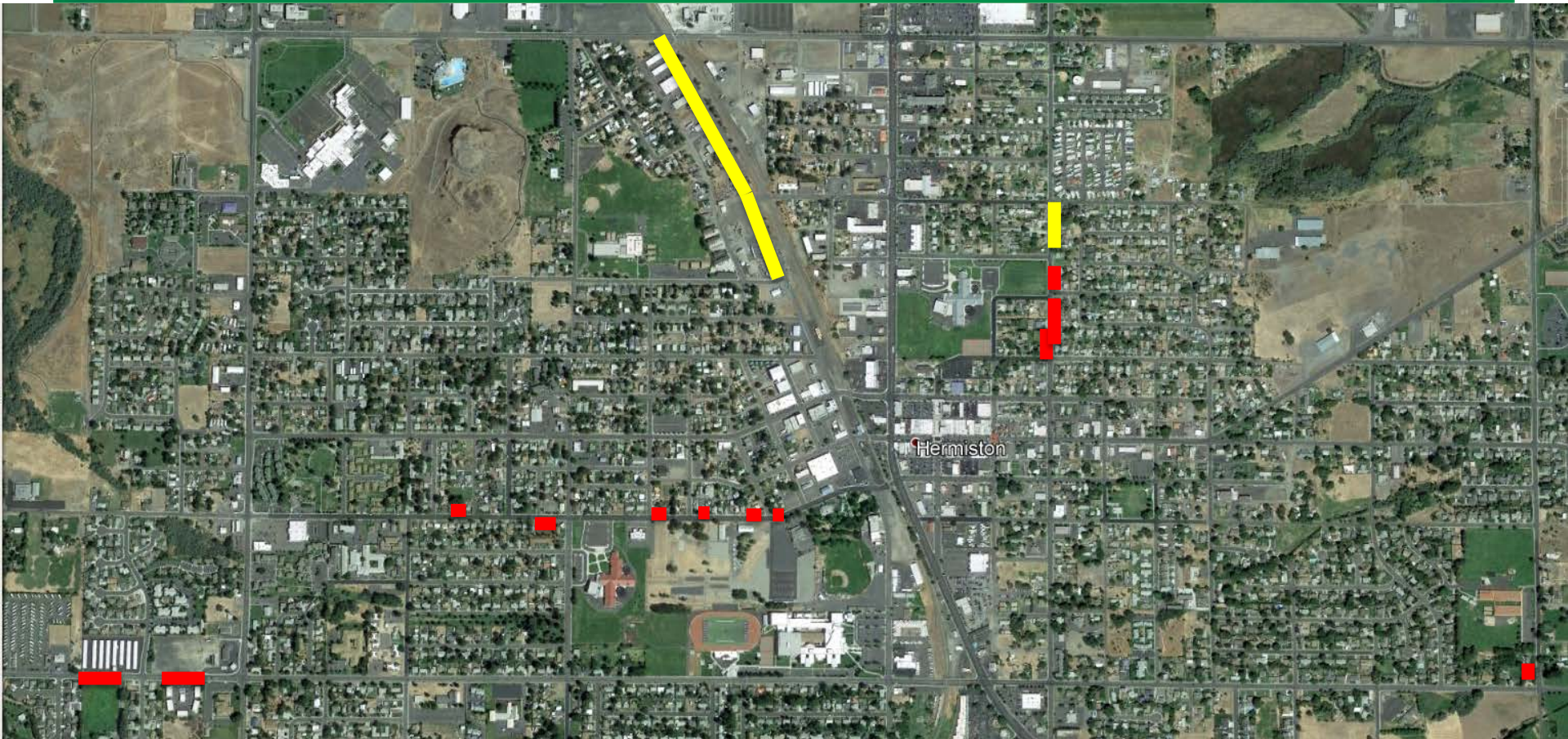


# Fiscal Year '22-'23





# Fiscal Year '23-'24



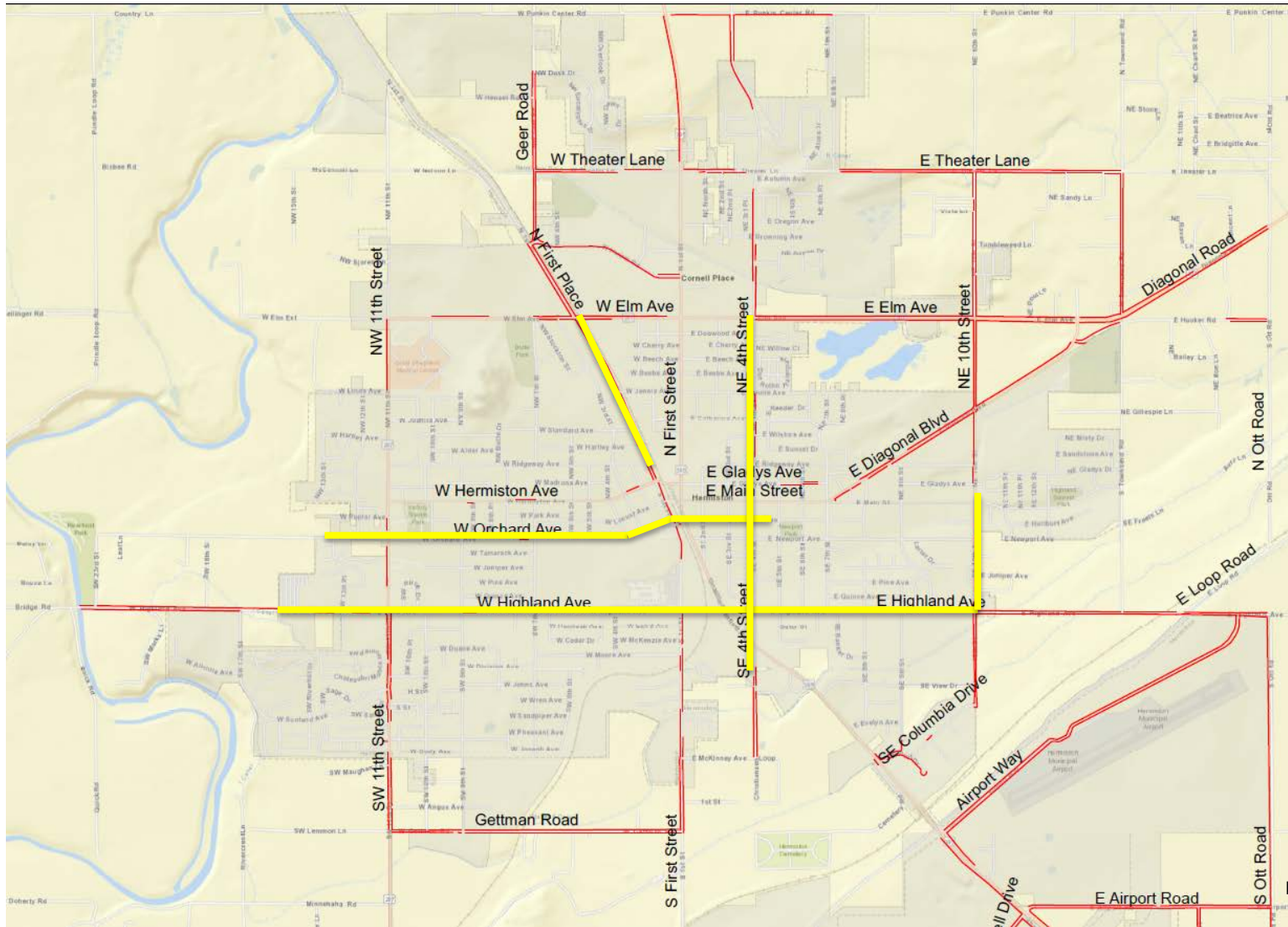


# Fiscal Year '24-'25





# New Continuous Sidewalks



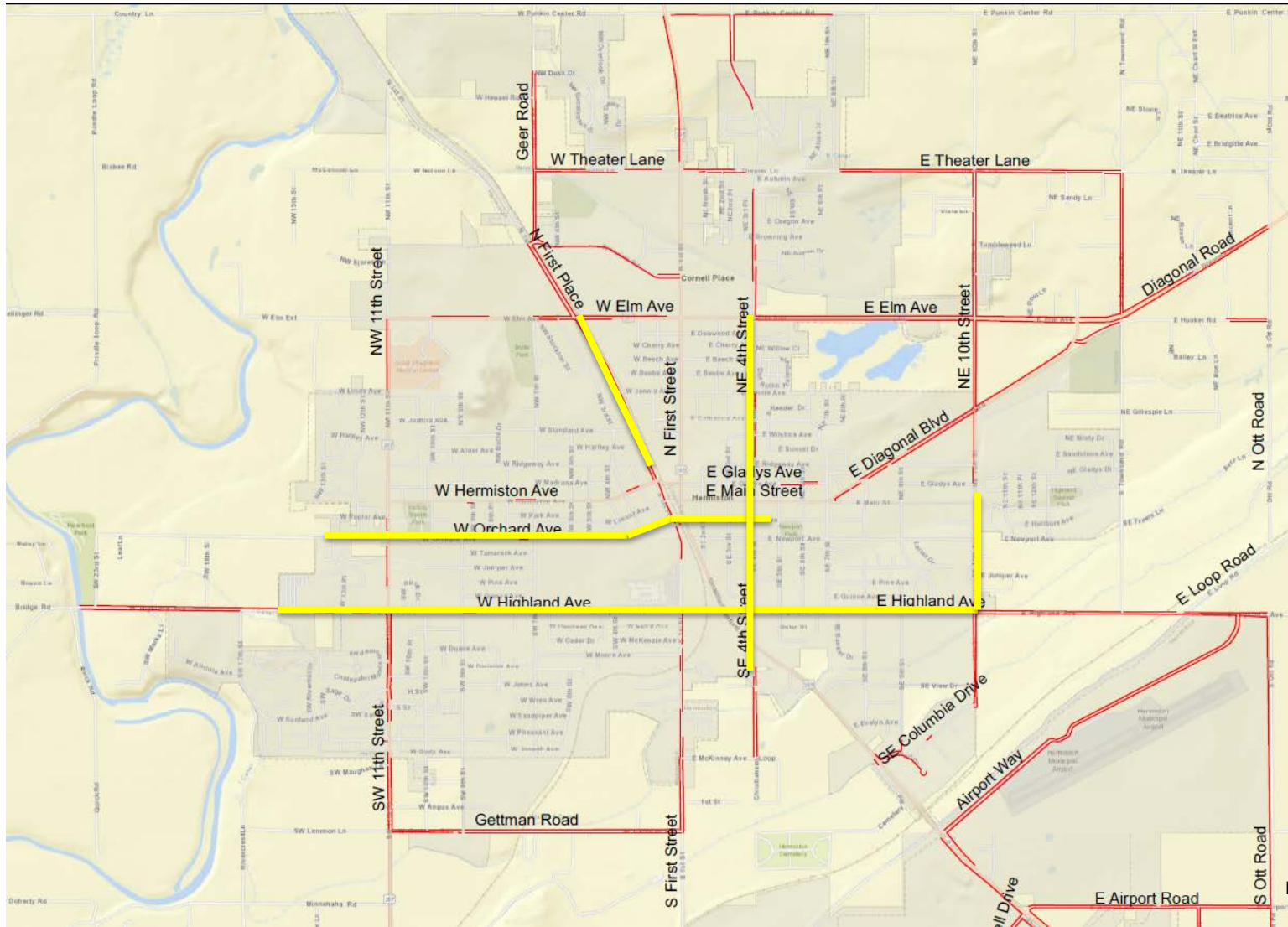


# “Snowball’s” Leverage Impact

- Cost: ~\$200,000 (~\$30,000/yr)
- Sidewalk Installed: 6,000’
- New Continuous Sidewalk: 32,000’
- 5:1 Ratio Total
- 10:1 Ratio City-Paid



# Questions?







**UEC**  **Umatilla Electric**  
cooperative

**Robert Echenrode**  
**General Manager, CEO**

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# 10th

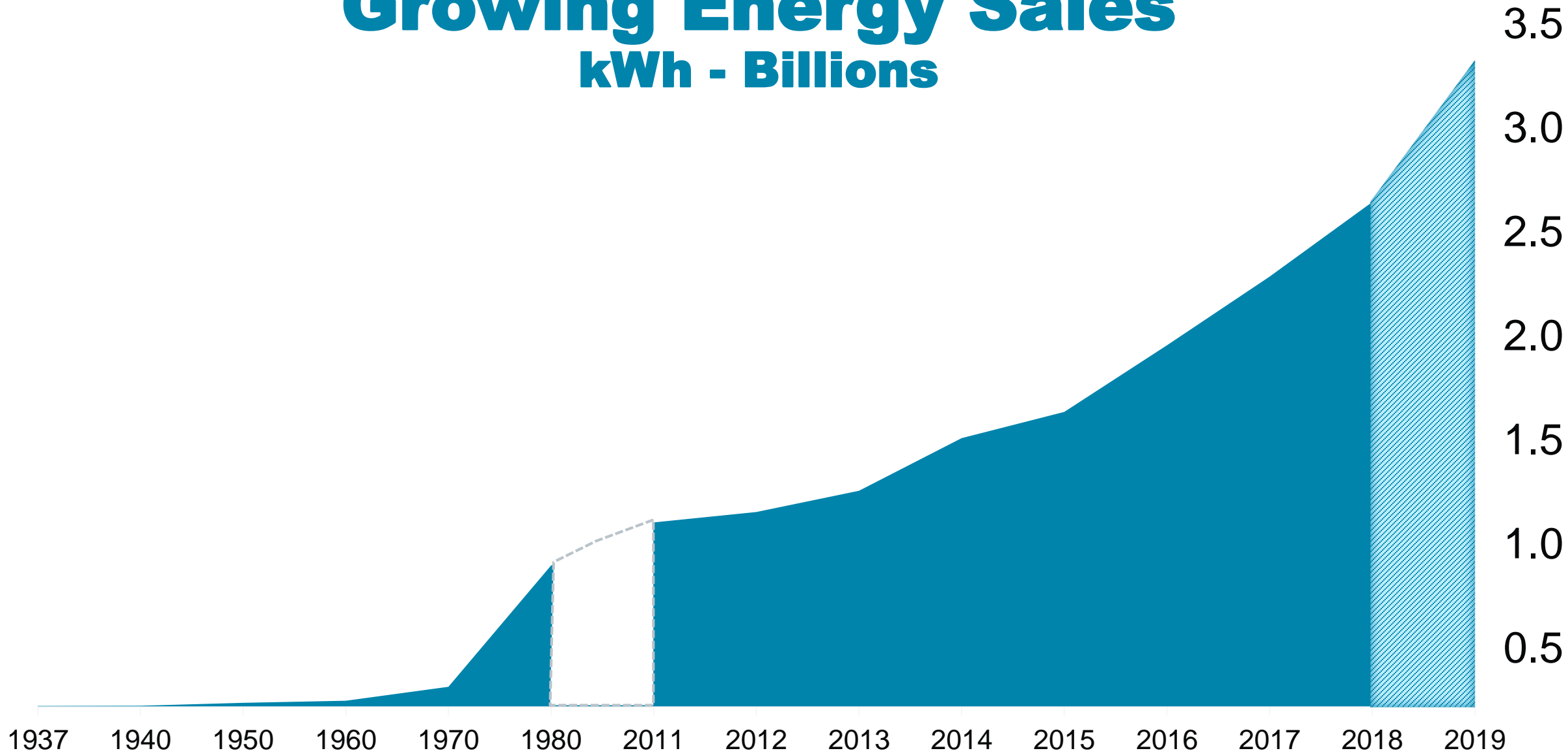
Fastest growing  
electric cooperative in  
the nation, in kWh sold





# Growing Energy Sales

## kWh - Billions



# Shared Investments

\$450 Million

400

350

300

250

200

150

100

50

0

■ Member Contributions

■ Total Plant

2013

2014

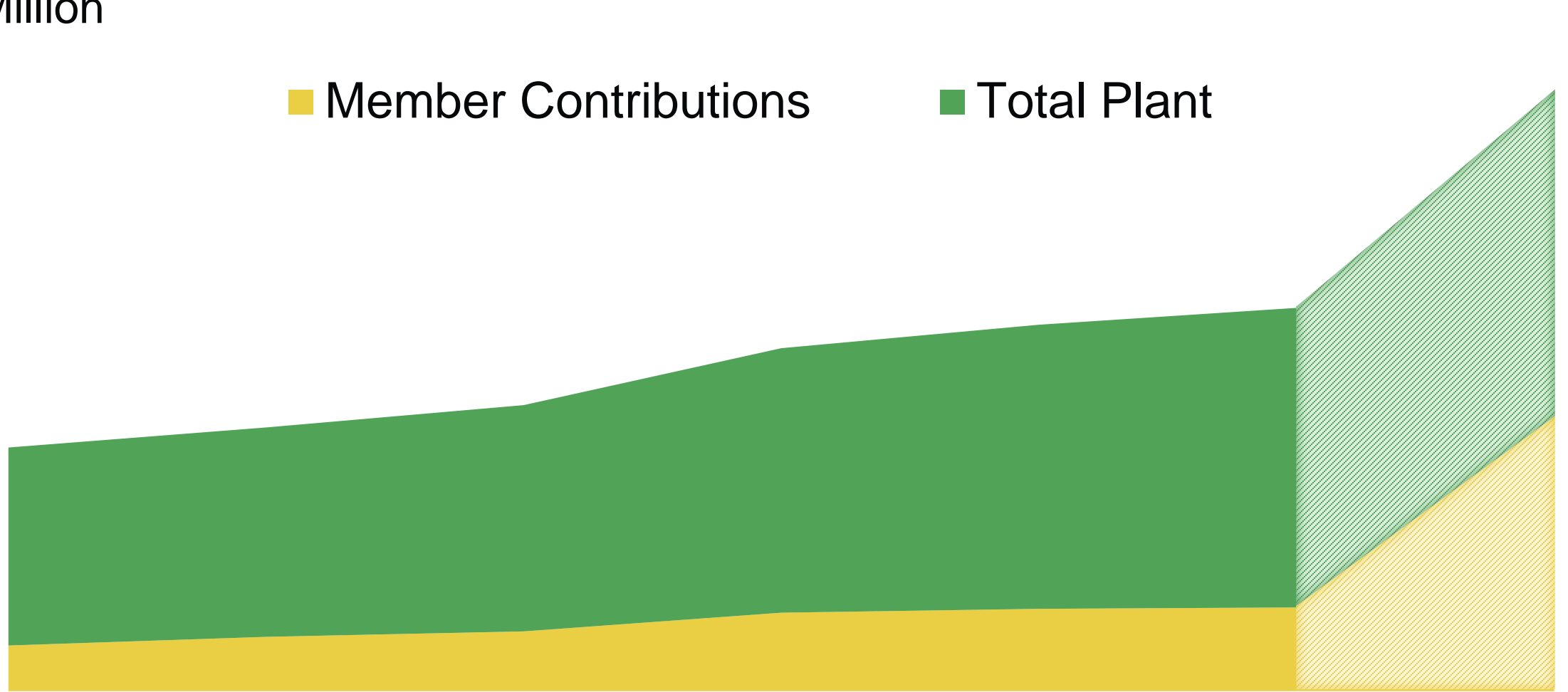
2015

2016

2017

2018

2019





# UEC Workforce is Growing

20% Increase Since 2010

Alaska

Wisconsin

Washington

Minnesota

Idaho

Ohio

Nevada

Connecticut

# Top Community Responses by Rank

- **Housing availability**
- **Taxes**
- **Crime**
- **Illegal immigration**
- **Roads, infrastructure**
- **Drugs**
- **Homelessness, poverty**
- **Business growth and development**



## Your Residential Rates

National – 13.3 ¢  
Oregon – 11.1 ¢  
Umatilla Electric – 8.2 ¢

↓ **38%**  
**Below the  
National Average**



**UEC**  **Umatilla Electric**  
cooperative

# Annual Membership Dinner

Saturday, April 20, 2019

5 -7 p.m.

Eastern Oregon Trade and  
Event Center

