

# North Asheville can become...

- ✓ Healthier
- ✓ Happier
- ✓ Safer
- ✓ More Prosperous
- ✓ More Walkable

...and it takes a  
**3 LANE STREET** to do it.

# 5 Reasons It Will Work

## 1. Merrimon is already in a 3 lane traffic pattern.

On the 4 lane, each left turning car blocks the center lanes. This is a wasteful design with negative consequences for all of us. It also means that the approximately 20,000 cars/day on the road are going to flow just fine if the lane pattern changes to 3 lanes – because that’s how many functional lanes the road has now.

## 2. Collisions will be reduced by about 29%.

Merrimon is dangerous. You are 150% more likely to be in a collision on this street compared to similar NC streets. A 4 to 3 lane conversion reduces collisions from all causes by about 29%.

## 3. It is good for business.


Safer, slower streets make more money. Predictable traffic is good for business and for the health of people who frequent the street.

## 4. Merrimon traffic volumes are within the range where road diets are appropriate.


Over the last 20 years traffic volumes have remained in a tight range, around 20,000 cars per day. There is no firm upper limit from the FHWA regarding traffic volumes and 4-3 lane conversions.

## 5. Widening the road simply isn’t an option.

Widening the road would induce demand for driving and destroy a large amount of private property, without providing offsetting benefits like improved walk-ability, bike lanes, and a pleasant main street environment built to a human scale. In 2018, a road widening plan for Merrimon was defeated with 80% of public comments against it. Here’s the logic: Widening to 5 or more is wasteful, expensive, and destructive; the current 4 lane is very dangerous, makes walking and biking unsafe, and holds back “main street” economic development; and a 3 lane traffic pattern offers known solutions for those same problems. The 3 lane design is the best option for improving life in north Asheville.

 **5 LANE** threatens the health of the corridor and destroys private property

 **4 LANE** threatens your health directly

 **3 LANE** solves many of these problems without reducing the carrying capacity of the street.

## Before you take the survey, study up!

Asheville on Bikes has published:

- **Survey Guidance** that explains the questions in the survey
- **AoB Study** of this project, 33 pages, with critiques not available elsewhere
- **Resource Page** kept current

Scan the QR code or visit:

[AshevilleOnBikes.com/merrimon-4-3-road-reconfiguration-resource-page](https://AshevilleOnBikes.com/merrimon-4-3-road-reconfiguration-resource-page)

