

Safe Walk to Montlake School

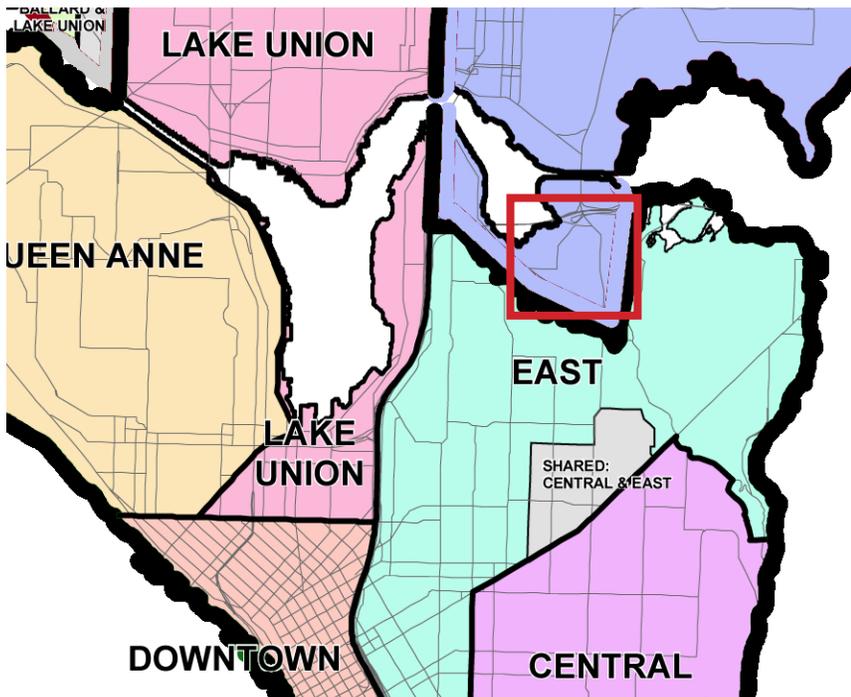
E McGraw and E Calhoun at 20th Ave - intersections on the west side of Montlake Elementary and crosswalk at E McGraw and 19th Ave in Montlake. The intersection at E Lynn and 19th Ave E is also very challenging/unsafe.

Applicant Problem

E.McGraw and Calhoun at 19th and 20th are both routes that students take walking to and from school, to afterschool programs and sports activities at the Montlake Community Center. Cars consistently speed down those streets coming to or from 520, or trying to avoid 24th. Having crosswalks, stop signs and/or a traffic circle at key intersections will help to slow down speeding vehicles coming along that road—which will create a safer route to school for students. Since we have already set in place school zones on the east side of the school, it only makes sense that the same happens west of the school.

We have had several letters of concern from parents about these issues, some with very close calls. Many students have parents who walk them to school, but for those children who are walking by themselves, increased safety measures will only help to ensure that they don't get hurt walking to school.

PROJECT TYPE
Safe Routes to Schools



Applicant Solution

Flashing crosswalk light and raised crosswalks at 19th and E. McGraw. At E McGraw and E Calhoun and 20th, ideally we would like stop signs on all 4 corners but if that is not possible, a traffic circle would be great. Also putting signs not allowing cars to park within 20 feet of the intersection would help with visibility. Currently it's very hard to see around the cars parked on the north side of 20th.

Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) Review

Project Description

The three intersections are located on the school walking route to Montlake Elementary School. E McGraw St and E Calhoun St are non-arterial streets with the standard 25-foot wide street width. Parking is allowed on both sides of the road which results in a single lane for both directions of traffic when parked vehicles are present. 19th Ave E is a minor arterial and is 20 feet wide. 19th Ave E has 1 lane in each direction and connects traffic from E Lynn St to 24th Ave E. In the past three years, there have been no reported collisions at any of the three intersections.

For 19th Ave E and E McGraw St, we reviewed collision data, vehicle speeds on 19th Ave E, pedestrian volumes in the existing marked crosswalk, and school bus routing in the area. The reason that we're unable to support further improvements such as a raised crosswalk or beacons at this location is 19th Ave E does not see the volumes and speeds that would indicate something more than a marked crosswalk is needed. We also take into consideration that this intersection is part of the school bus route for Seattle Public Schools. Specifically, we generally avoid placing raised crosswalks at locations other than an all-way stop where school buses must go over them.

Due to the lack of reported collision history, a traffic circle or all-way stop at the intersections of E McGraw St and 20th Ave E and E Calhoun St and 20th Ave E are not warranted. SDOT will add parking restrictions on the approach to these intersections through the Safe Routes to School Program.

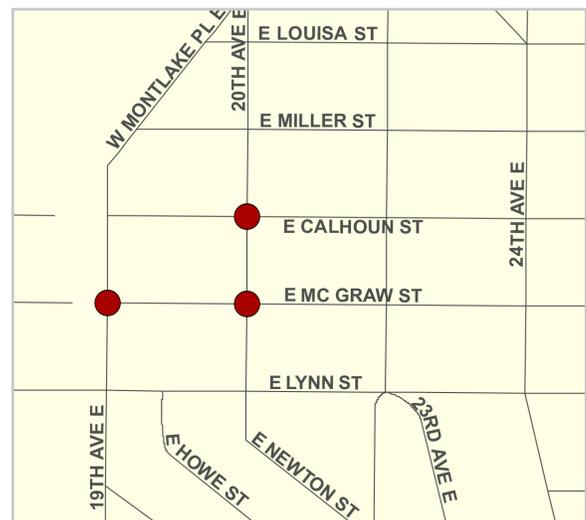
No improvements for these locations are proposed as part of the NSF program.



Intersection of E McGraw St & 20th Ave E



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Intersections reviewed