

# Hawthorne Elementary & S Genesee St Safer Community Pedestrian Connections

- A) 38th Avenue S & S Dakota Street
- B) 39th Avenue S & S Dakota Street
- C) S Genesee Street & Cascadia Avenue S
- D) 42nd Avenue S & S Snoqualmie Street
- E) 42nd Avenue S & S Conover Way
- F) 42nd Avenue S & S Oregon Street
- G) 38th Avenue S & S Angeline Street
- H) 4400 Block of S Genesee Street
- I) Genesee Street & 50th Avenue S

## Applicant Problem

Safe pedestrian crossings in this neighborhood especially across S Genesee St are lacking. These project locations are intended to allow for safer pedestrian (and bicycle) routes from/to various locations in the neighborhood. As you can see from the attached figures controlled pedestrian crossings are lacking on S Genesee St between 38th Ave S & 50th Ave S. Various other intersections in the neighborhood have limited sightlines (Cascadia Ave S & S Conover Way) and long crossing distances that make crossing the street less safe.

Most of these locations are along walking routes for school children to walk to Hawthorne Elementary. These projects would encourage more kids to walk and bike to school, which would reduce congestion at the school.

### PROJECT TYPE

Pedestrian Improvements

### APPROXIMATE LENGTH

N/A

### COST ESTIMATE

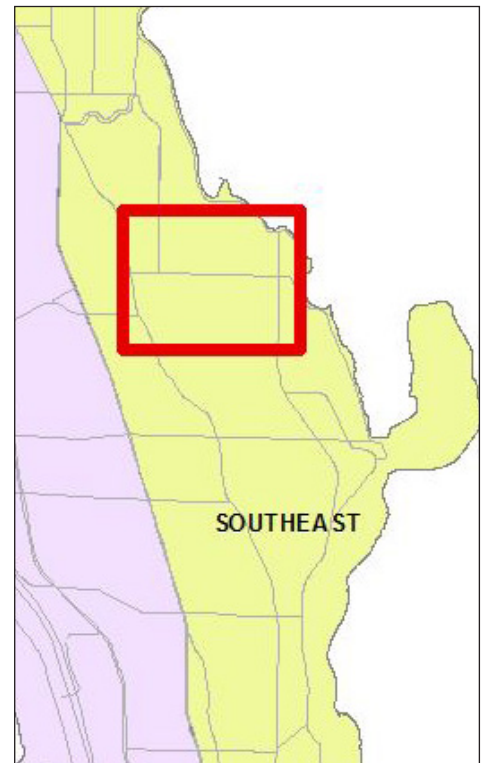
\$2,166,890

### SDOT CONTRIBUTION

\$100,000



Project Location Map



Over 1000 new residential units are in various stages of planning and construction in the Hawthorne Elementary Attendance Zone. These projects will help existing and future residents safely walk from their homes to various locations along existing, well-traveled, pedestrian routes including Columbia City business district, the Light Rail station, Lake Washington and the parks and open spaces in the neighborhood.

Figures showing the project locations are available online through the link below

<https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B91uKcZbz76GUjhPUUVYVmxEdkk>

Figure 1 shows the Hawthorne Elementary Attendance area. Highlighted are the existing traffic controls (stop signs, traffic lights, crosswalks, etc.) Also shown is the area that kids are expected to walk to school. New housing units that are being permitted, under construction, or recently finished are shown on this figure too (over 1300 new residential units are shown on this figure)!

Figure 2 is similar to Figure 1 but shows the area within the Hawthorne Elementary Attendance Area within about 1/8 mile of the school in more detail. It also shows some of the major pedestrian connections that exist in the area. Recent and planned traffic controls are shown.

Figure 3 shows the locations of the projects in this application and their relationship the Hawthorne Elementary School, the Columbia City business district, the Light Rail station, Lake Washington and the parks and open spaces in the neighborhood.

Figure 4 highlights projects in the immediate vicinity of Hawthorne Elementary. Improving pickup/drop-off traffic circulation at the school could be helped by encouraging the use of 39th Ave S as opposed to Cascadia Ave S, where it is currently focused.

Figures 5-12 show details at each of the locations and some of the proposed solutions.

## Applicant Solution

Detailed drawings of each location, with further descriptions are online at:

<https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B91uKcZbz76GUjhPUUVYVmxEdkk&usp=sharing>

- A) 38th Ave S & S Dakota S - Install Curb bulb & new ramp
- B) 39th Ave S between S Dakota St & Genesee Ave S – Install Curb Ramp on SE corner of 39th Ave S & S Dakota St,

- C) S Genesee St & Cascadia Ave S - Replace existing crosswalk signs with Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons
  - D,E,F) 42nd Ave S between S Oregon St & S Snoqualmie St - Install Curb bulbs, Add ~50 feet of sidewalk
  - G) 38th Ave S & S Angeline St - Install Curb Bulb with Ramps
  - H) 4400 block of S Genesee St - Replace existing crosswalk signs with Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons, improve drainage in crosswalk
  - I) S Genesee St & 50th Ave S - Install Curb bulbs
- Cascadia Ave S & S Conover Way - Install Curb bulbs, possibly reduce traffic to one lane
  - Install new access stairway to school playground.



*A) Looking southwest from the northeast corner of the intersection of 38th Ave S and S Dakota St*



*B) Looking west from the southeast corner of the intersection of 39th Ave S and S Dakota St*



C) Looking northeast from the southeast corner of the intersection of S Genesee St and Cascadia Ave S



H) Looking northeast from the south side of S Genesee St east of 43rd Ave S at the Genesee Playfields crossing



D) Looking northeast from the southwest corner of the intersection of 42nd Ave S and S Snoqualmie St



I) Looking northwest from the southeast corner of the intersection of S Genesee St and 50th Ave S



G) Looking north from the southeast side of the intersection of 38th Ave S and S Angeline St

# Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) Review

## Project Description

This project includes pedestrian improvements to multiple locations:

### **A) 38th Ave S & S Dakota St**

The intersection of 38th Ave S and S Dakota St has stop sign control for traffic on S Dakota St and an existing crosswalk on the south side of the intersection on 38th Ave S. 38th Ave S is a collector arterial and has 2 thru lanes one in each direction with on-street parking allowed on one side of the roadway. S Dakota St is a non-arterial street with parking allowed on both sides of the roadway. There is a church on the northwest corner of the intersection.

The proposed improvement at this location involves constructing curb bulbs on the northwest and southwest corners of the intersection with companion curb ramps.

### **B) 39th Ave S & S Dakota St**

The intersection of 39th Ave S and S Dakota St is uncontrolled with existing crosswalks on the south and east sides. Both streets are non-arterial streets. Hawthorne Elementary School is located on the SE corner of the intersection and the rest of the area is residential.

The proposed improvement at this location involves constructing a curb bulb on the SE corner of the intersection in order to construct the requested curb ramps.

### **C) S Genesee St & Cascadia Ave S**

The intersection of S Genesee St and Cascadia Ave S has stop sign control for northbound and southbound vehicles on Cascadia Ave S and a marked school crosswalk on the west side of the intersection. S Genesee St is designated as a minor arterial with two thru lanes, striped bike lanes and on-street parking on both sides of the roadway. Cascadia Ave S is a non-arterial street.

This location met SDOT's guidelines for the addition of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) on both

sides of the existing crosswalk.

### **D) 42nd Ave S & S Snoqualmie St**

The intersection of 42nd Ave S and S Snoqualmie St is uncontrolled. Both streets are non-arterial streets. The northwest and northeast sides of the intersection are bordered by Genesee Park.

The proposed improvements at this location include adding a curb bulb at the northwest corner of the intersection, installing a new companion ramp at the northeast side of the intersection, and constructing a new sidewalk connection east of the intersection to connect the existing sidewalk to the park pathway.

### **E) 42nd Ave S & S Conover Way**

The intersection of 42nd Ave S and S Conover Way is uncontrolled. Both streets are non-arterial streets. Genesee Park borders the east side of 42nd Ave S and the south side of S Conover Way.

The proposed improvements at this location include constructing curb bulbs on the northwest and southwest corners of the intersection.

### **F) 42nd Ave S & S Oregon St**

The intersection of 42nd Ave S and S Oregon St is uncontrolled. Both streets are non-arterial streets. Genesee Park borders the east side of 42nd Ave S.

The proposed improvements at this location include adding a curb bulb on the northwest corner of the intersection, and adding an inlet to improve drainage. Roadway restoration is required.

### **G) 38th Ave S & S Angeline St**

The intersection of 38th Ave S and S Angeline St is uncontrolled. Both streets are non-arterial streets. The area is primarily residential. The Rainier North-South Neighborhood Greenway will travel through this intersection.

The proposed improvements at this location include constructing curb bulbs at the NW and NE corners of the intersection and adding a curb bulb across the entire south side of the intersection.

#### **H) 4400 Block of S Genesee St**

S Genesee St is designated as a minor arterial. This project is located at a midblock crossing connecting the north and south areas of Genesee Park and Playfield. The crossing has an existing marked crosswalk with crosswalk signs facing in one direction only.

The proposed improvement at this location includes upgrading the existing crosswalk signage so that the signs are double-sided. No drainage solutions were identified that avoided significant civil improvements.

#### **I) S Genesee St & 50th Ave S**

50th Ave S is designated as a collector arterial north of S Genesee St. S Genesee St and 50th Ave S south of S Genesee St are designated as minor arterials. The intersection has 4-way stop sign control with a blinking red overhead traffic signal in all directions. There is an existing recessed on-street parking area on S Genesee St at the northwest corner of the intersection and on-street parking on the south side of S Genesee St west of the intersection. There is recessed parking on the north side of S Genesee St east of the intersection. On-street parking is allowed on the east side of 50th Ave S north of the intersection and on both sides of the street south of the intersection with the exception of a bus stop area on the west side of the roadway. Outreach and engagement of businesses adjacent to the S Genesee St and 50th Ave S improvements will be needed at this location.

The proposed improvements at this location include adding a curb bulb on the NW corner of the intersection extending into the entire recessed parking area on S Genesee St and adding curb bulbs where possible at the other three corners of the intersection.

This project would receive leveraging from the SDOT Safe Routes to School Program.

#### **Constructability**

- Drainage infrastructure may need to be reconfigured at several of the project locations.
- Fire hydrants and utility poles may also need to be relocated at several locations.
- The applicant requested curb bulbs into S Conover Way at Cascadia Ave S however as the minimum roadway width on S Conover Way needs to stay at 25 feet, no curb bulbs were proposed.
- Drainage improvements at 4400 Block of S Genesee St may not be feasible without reconstruction of the curb bulbs. Inlets cannot be installed within ramp locations where low spots exist and re-grading the roadway would likely affect the flow line and ramps at the curb bulbs. No drainage improvements have been proposed as part of this project.

#### **Impacts**

- There may be a perceived loss of parking with the installation of curb bulbs
- The curb bulb on the northwest corner of 38th Ave S and S Angeline St will require altering the current parking configuration at this corner to on-street parallel parking

#### **Benefits**

- Shorter crossing distances with the construction of curb bulbs
- Increase in visibility with the installation of RRFBS

