

RapidRide Bus Stop

Intersection of Fautleroy Way SW and California Ave SW – bus stop on the north side of Fautleroy Way SW west of California Ave SW and the bus stop on the east side of California Ave SW north of Fautleroy Way SW.

Applicant Problem

These bus stops were designed so that all buses have to stop in the roadway and block the travel lanes when loading and unloading. The resulting roadway blockage means that the heavily traveled intersections back up for several light cycles, and vehicles are trapped in the middle of the intersection. Pedestrians are unable to cross with the intersections blocked. In addition, impatient drivers have been known to pass the buses using the opposite travel lane or the center left turn lane, narrowly missing on-coming traffic.

PROJECT TYPE

Traffic Improvements

APPROXIMATE LENGTH

100 lf

COST ESTIMATE

\$785,420

Applicant Solution

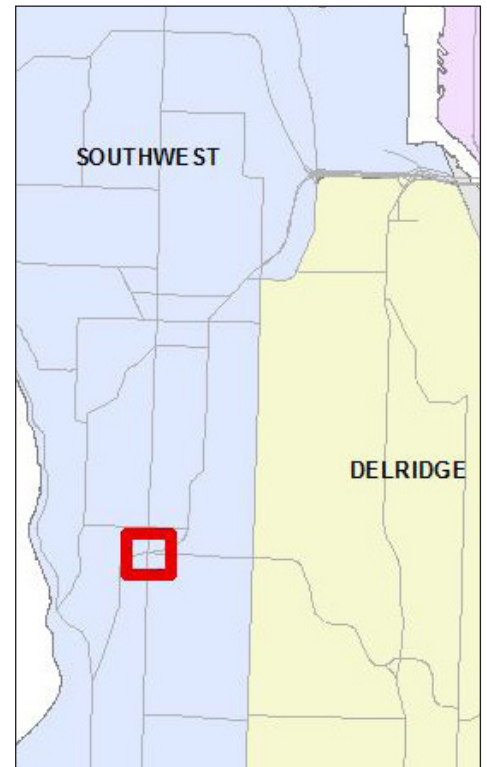
- Relocate both bus stops to the middle of the block on California Ave SW at SW Eddy Street. This gives the bus room to pull over and not block traffic at the intersection of California and Fautleroy OR
- Remove the bulbs so that the buses can pull out of the travel lanes and not block traffic in the intersection.



Looking south from the RapidRide stop on the east side of California Avenue SW north of Fautleroy Way SW



Looking west at the RapidRide stop on Fautleroy Way west of California Avenue SW



Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) Review

Project Description

Fauntleroy Way SW is designated as a principal arterial roadway east of California Ave SW and California Ave SW south of Fauntleroy Way SW is designated as a collector arterial. California Ave SW north of Fauntleroy Way SW and Fauntleroy Way SW west of California Ave SW are designated as minor arterials. California Ave SW has also been designated a Priority Bus Corridor in the Seattle Transit Master Plan.

California Ave SW north of the intersection has 1 thru lane in each direction, a left turn lane for southbound traffic, and on-street parking on the west side of the roadway in front of Zeeks Pizza. Fauntleroy Way SW west of California Ave SW has 1 westbound thru lane. In the eastbound direction Fauntleroy Way SW has a left turn lane, a right turn/bicycle lane, and a center thru lane. There is existing barrier curb on the south side of the westbound thru lane on Fauntleroy Way SW west of California Ave SW. The intersection is signalized with crosswalk in all directions.

As a result of this application, SDOT staff counted how often motorists were stuck within the intersection, or prevented from entering the intersection, as a result of a bus stopped at either of the RapidRide stops. Data showed that some vehicles do get stopped in, or prior to entering, the intersection. However the occurrence is low enough that SDOT does not see this as a problem. RapidRide stops are designed to increase the speed and reliability of transit by having buses stop in-lane. Buses that stop in-lane avoid the delay experienced when trying to re-enter the travel lane. SDOT cannot support replacing an in-lane bus stop with one located at the curb.

The proposed improvements for this project include relocating the RapidRide Bus Stop on Fauntleroy Way SW west of California Ave SW to the west side of California Ave SW north of Fauntleroy Way SW. Relocating this bus stop will eliminate the possibility of motorists being stuck in the intersection while the westbound buses load and unload passengers. If illegal passing of buses is still observed after the RapidRide stop has been relocated, a C-curb can be added to the center of California Ave SW.

Constructability

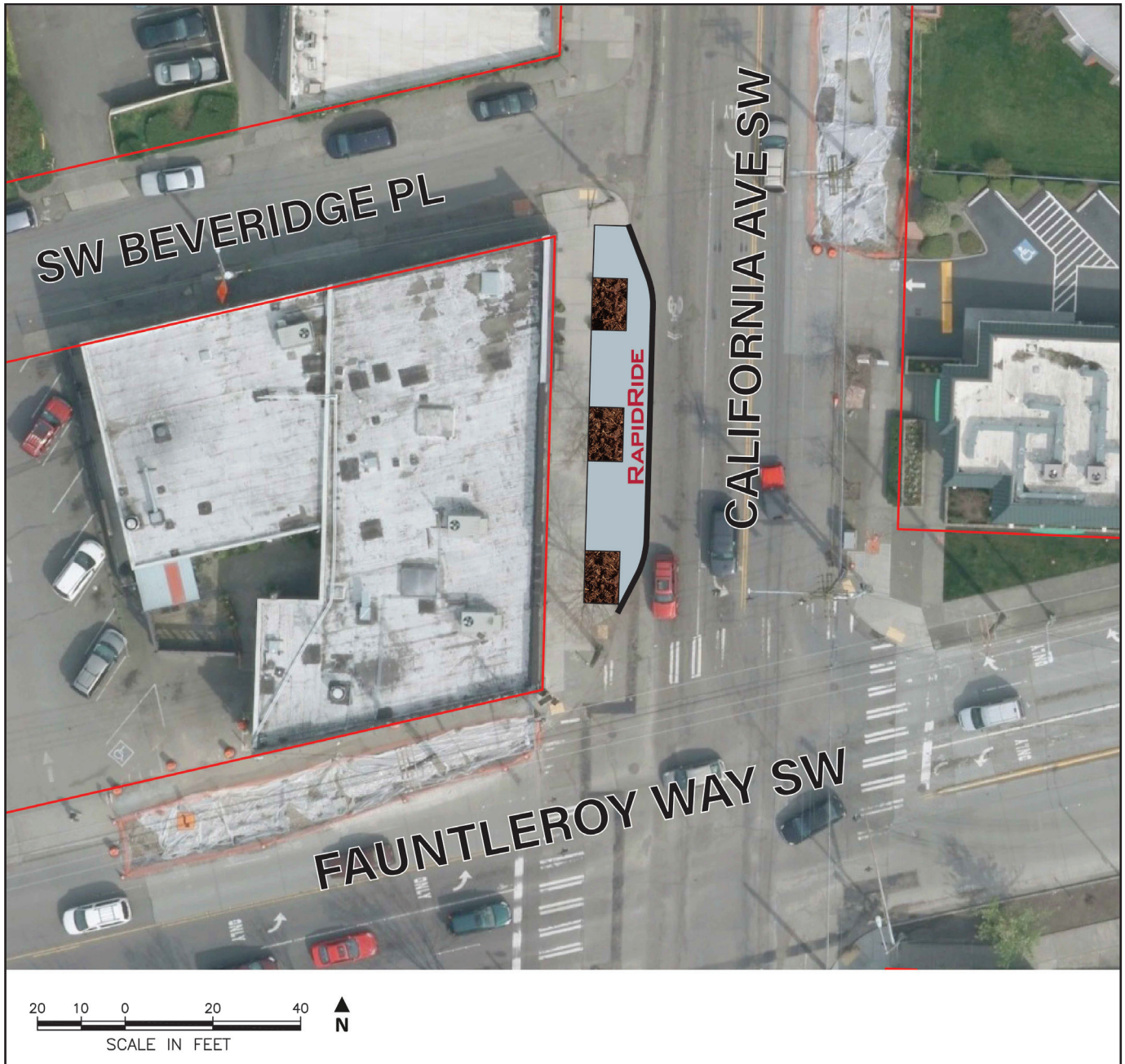
- Relocation of the RapidRide zone will require installation of conduit to the nearest power connection.
- The addition of a 6-inch curb on the west side of California Ave SW will create a reverse slope on the new sidewalk panels due to the existing low curb height. A drain at the back of the curb bulb will be needed.
- Bicycle facilities on California Ave SW will need to be accommodated during design.

Impacts

- The 2-hour parking zone along the west side of California Ave SW between Fauntleroy Way SW and SW Beveridge Place will be eliminated with the construction of a RapidRide bulb.
- A drainage structure and mainline may need to be relocated.
- The adjacent business will lose on-street parking.

Benefits

- Decrease in traffic build-up and trapped vehicles/ pedestrians in the intersection of Fauntleroy Way SW and California Ave SW



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