

STAIRWAY IMPROVEMENTS

E OLIVE STREET & LAKE WASHINGTON BLVD

April 2015

Improving Safety and Accessibility at E Olive Street and Lake Washington Boulevard

The stairway at E Olive Street between 40th Avenue and Lake Washington Boulevard has been prioritized for safety improvements. Repairs are scheduled to begin as soon as late May, and take approximately 3-4 months to complete. These repairs will ensure the stairs meet current safety standards, and will improve access and important pedestrian connections in the community. The stairway will be reconfigured and will include adjacent retaining walls to support the structure and the hillside.

Project Benefits

Project elements will include:

- Removing and replacing the existing stairs with a new staircase made of reinforced concrete
- Installing new handrails on each side of the staircase
- Replacing the landings, treads and spacing between each step

Project Funding

Stairway repair projects are funded through the voter-approved Bridging the Gap transportation levy. This project has a budget of \$200,000.

Stairway Maintenance Program

The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) owns and maintains more than 500 stairways as part of its Stairway Maintenance Program. Several City-owned stairways were built in the mid-1900s, with some of them built as early as the 1920s. SDOT's Roadway Structures Division conducts periodic inspections to assess the condition of each stairway and identify repairs that are needed.

Totaling over six miles, these City-owned stairways are used by pedestrians to get from one street to another in steeply sloped areas where there are gaps in the street grid. They provide connections to schools, parks, playgrounds, senior centers and bus stops—and they even serve as a place to exercise, providing a vital resource to our communities.



PROJECT INFORMATION & CONTACT

Visit the project website at: www.seattle.gov/transportation/stairways.htm
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