# DELRIDGE/HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD GREENWAY UPDATE



Dear Delridge and Highland Park Community Member:

Sept. 2, 2013

The City of Seattle is working to make your neighborhood safer for people of all ages and abilities to walk and ride bikes. We would do this by constructing a neighborhood greenway, which reduces the speed limit to 20 miles per hour, adds speed humps and makes it easier to cross busy streets. As part of the project we would also build natural drainage systems - rain gardens along the edges of the streets to improve drainage and protect Longfellow Creek from pollution.

The City is already constructing a neighborhood greenway along 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW and is starting to study it for natural drainage improvement opportunities. Ultimately we would like to have a network of greenways throughout the city. The next location we are considering in SW Seattle is the Delridge/Highland Park neighborhoods. **After analyzing data and reviewing public input, the most-promising greenway route is 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW from Roxbury to SW Kenyon or Holden Streets.** The route would continue north and connect to the West Seattle Bridge Trail. More studies will be done to see how to best make this connection north of SW Graham Street. Potential east-west neighborhood greenway routes are also being considered for implementation in the future. Information can be seen on the map on the other side of this letter. We will have a meeting this fall to get additional input from community members on this alignment.

### What kind of public input did we consider?

- Neighborhood survey responses (more than 280)
- July 9 public meeting (more than 80 participants)
- Input provided by community groups about:
  - Traffic safety concerns
  - o Known drainage or sewer back-up problems, and
  - Places people wanted to walk and bike

Staff also walked and biked around your neighborhood to review different routes, and observe locations and grades. Other information considered included traffic volume, speed, and collision data.

#### What's next?

- Identify up to 20 blocks along the route where natural drainage systems (rain gardens) could be built. Most-promising blocks are highlighted in green on the map.
- Conduct outreach along the route, as well as along the 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW Greenway route to get resident input on potential locations to build rain gardens.
- Study connections along 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue SW, between SW Kenyon and SW Webster streets and between SW Cambridge and Roxbury streets to identify safety improvements that encourage walking and biking.
- Identify opportunities for slowing traffic along the entire route.
- Host a public meeting this fall to present the most-promising greenway route, ways to slow traffic, and recommended natural drainage locations.
- Further evaluate if natural drainage systems along 21st Avenue SW are feasible.

#### For more project information, go to:

www.seattle.gov/cso/delridge or www.seattle.gov/transportation/delridgehighparkgreenway.htm

Natural drainage projects in the public right-of-way are likely to affect some on-street parking. Seattle Public Utilities knows that parking and access from the street to the sidewalk is very important to residents and carefully considers and addresses the impacts on every block where a project would be built. Resident's feedback about concerns regarding on-street parking is one of the pieces of input that help determine where to place natural drainage projects. If your block is identified for rain gardens, you will have opportunities next year to provide input about the design. Thank you for helping us to make your neighborhood safer and healthier. If you have any questions, please contact:

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