

QUEEN ANNE BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENTS PUBLIC MTG SEPT 19, 2006 – COMMENTS

Preserve open expanse and park nature of Blvd. Opposed to sidewalks; they feel urban; especially if walks are located away from street, adjacent to property line.

I'm a neighbor and would like to see sidewalks. There are more distracted drivers on Blvd. It is bad to have to choose between walking on dirt and roots or out in the road. Sidewalks are neighborhood gathering space. Quality of life is better where there are sidewalks.

I run and walk the Blvd. It doesn't bother me not to have sidewalk. It concerns me where you would put a sidewalk, more concerned about the health of trees. There are alternative surfaces to preserve trees. I am opposed to money spent on signage when resources are limited.

I live on Bigelow on a parcel with steep slope. I worry that when tree dies, slope stability will be impaired. I am for safety & sidewalk, but drainage is a problem. Lack of gutters. Adding sidewalk would make it so I can't park in my driveway. Worried that adding sidewalk will create "Green Lake effect."

If it is an appropriate use of funds tree maintenance and enhancement plan would be my highest priority. Drainage would be second priority. I don't agree that placing sidewalk in street would take on-street parking. People don't use sidewalk where there are sidewalks. Need creative solutions for sidewalks.

There are many problems other than sidewalk such as traffic calming and drainage. Forcing cars to park on street doesn't make street safer. The Blvd. character is not about sidewalk, it is about trees

Given limited money, safety is highest priority. Seventh Ave West has a lot of traffic and narrow sidewalks, widen sidewalk there and reduce width of road.

I am a 1600 Bigelow block with young kids: traffic is getting faster due to no cross streets. Speed bumps are needed. I'd like to see some type of sidewalk improvements for those who are walking.

I recently attended meeting on traffic safety with SDOT. This is a dangerous loop. Add sidewalks to connect sidewalk system to make it safe for pedestrians.

There are vines on the trees below Wilcox Wall need to pay attention to the health of these trees.

I live at 1118 Bigelow where I put in 60' of gravel path around trees... varying materials for paths on is a good idea. Focus on signage that says pedestrians are in street. It is a

dual use area. Put stop signs in different areas. Wires get rid of. Look at remodel rules that make remodeling garages difficult. Do not put in dirty trees. Take out all dead limbs. Send notes to meeting attendees.

Lived on Blvd and raised my kids here. The 5-way intersection at Highland & Bigelow needs stop sign and also need a stop sign at Howe St. and Bigelow. Love trees and park-like atmosphere. Red oak has deep roots that won't bother walkers. Not in favor of sidewalk; people are in street.

Would like speed bumps, not circles, but Parks money should not go to this. Where is boundary of park property? How does sidewalk reduce parking? Public should understand what is public property. What is done when tree is removed?

The Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks celebrated Olmsted Legacy. FSOP is working toward getting Blvd identifiers. Propose brown and white street signs. The Blvd is a city-wide resource, people should know. Design elements should also tell you it is a blvd.

QACC has discussed the project and recommend W McGraw Place as priority.

Lights and safety are priority.

I live on the 1200 block Bigelow, and love the street the way it is. If there are sidewalks there needs to be an environmental assessment of impacts to trees. Concerned about sidewalk buckles and who is responsible. My sewer is 10-12 inches below grade.

Believe that McGraw and Bigelow are priorities. Pedestrian safety is most important.

Showing of Hand to get sense of audience opinion .

I live on the south end of Bigelow - want sidewalks for kids, dogs, strollers.

In favor of sidewalk but not where it takes green space; look at alternative materials, and in street places.

Does the project include lighting?

Electric wires – they are incompatible with park and trees. This ties into safety

We have more flooding because when trees are removed and replaced with grass not as much storm water is taken up by the tree roots.

Trees not taken care of now. There is question about whether Pin Oaks were planted instead of Scarlet oaks.

1800 Bigelow – did have cherry trees, are these the proper type that would be planted?

I walk and run on the Blvd. Parks should maintain what we have – the sidewalks are heaved so we do not use them. Add speed bumps; people are going 30 – 40 mph. Slow down traffic – do not add sidewalk.

I have no personal preference about sidewalks, but I have been involved with many walkway projects on Queen Anne. The cost is high. You need to pick best place to put it. W McGraw – has updated drainage and paving. Put sidewalks there. The speed limit is only 25 MPH on Bigelow.

Put money into things that will allow them to be maintained – curbs would protect trees; Remove private improvements and impediment to use of Blvd from parking and private improvements. About 85 out of 116 properties on Bigelow had private improvements on Park property. The majority of these are still in place – 25 properties have changed ownership. For every one private improvement eliminated there have been two added.

There a trees and stunning views. Don't plant trees that obstruct public and private views.

Has the lighting that is in the original Pro Parks Levy language disappeared? SCL has a program for pedestrian lighting.

First concentrate on W McGraw Place; use as a template for future improvements. Second element – add lighting – only do it if we can do it all. Otherwise add sidewalks on one or both sides of the Boulevard. Also add signage so everyone can enjoy and all are encouraged to use it.

People run on the Blvd at night. Existing street lights don't work or are not on. Want better lighting.

At what age will the Scarlet Oak trees leaves begin to fall? Leaves will fall by age 15 years. Is the City responsible for tree failure?

Chair of Queen Anne Historical Society – Planner gave presentation to the Society in February. The group wants to preserve the historical elements and would like signs that explain the Blvd. My 1st priority is lighting improvements. 2nd I accept the QACC priority on West McGraw Pl. 3rd Safe walkways for people with limited mobility are very important.

I want attractive lighting for all of the boulevard; signage; and an alternative access to walking in the street.

Parks should use SDOT to maintain the paving. Parks should create a better transition well between paving, curbs, trees, green, and electrical utilities.

Question	Response
Who thinks lighting is important	most
Who thinks tree maintenance is important	most

Who thinks signs are important	10 – 15%?
Who thinks pedestrian access is important	About 1/2
– Who thinks concrete sidewalks are good?*	A few
– Who thinks gravel paths are good?*	A few
– What location is important?*	
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* Many people expressed that they found it difficult to provide opinions since there were too many variables such as where sidewalks and paths might go, how they were designed, the design of lights, etc.