

Ped/Bike Safety Improvements from Burke Gilman Trail to Leary & 8th Ave NW

Leary Way and 8th Ave NW to the Burke Gilman Trail behind Hales Ale

Applicant Problem

The crosswalk across Leary enables pedestrians and bicyclist access to 8th Avenue from the Burke Gilman Trail. This crosswalk works sporadically at best and encourages bicyclists into the street at unsafe locations and pedestrians to j-walk. Cars often do not stop for the red light going north-bound on Leary. Additionally, the road behind Hale's Ale is pockmarked and dangerous and has a railroad crossing that is in poor shape. Children and families coming from Phinney Ridge use this route to go to the Fred Meyers, Trader Joes, or other stores or to use the Burke Gilman trail.

PROJECT TYPE

Corridor

APPROXIMATE LENGTH

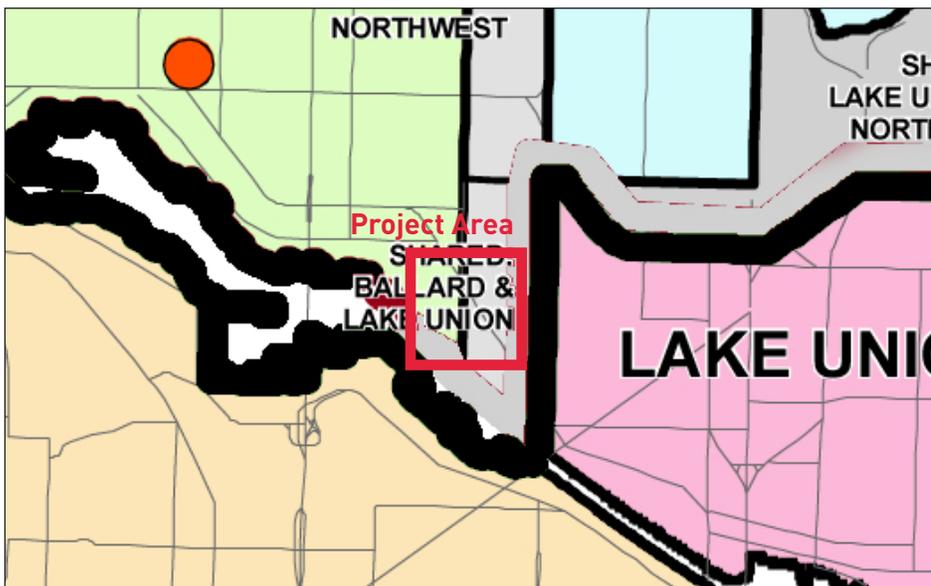
340 lf

COST ESTIMATE

\$340,000

Applicant Solution

Either fix the signal at 8th and Leary or provide a better solution for pedestrians and bicyclists to cross Leary to get onto 8th NW. A red-light camera at this intersection would help. Also provide a better connection to the Burke Gilman Trail using either the PSE gas right-of-way or re-pave the existing road and separate the bike/pedestrian traffic from the vehicle traffic.



Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) Review

Project Description

There is currently a gap in the connection of 8th Ave NW to the Burke-Gilman Trail. North of Leary Way NW, 8th Ave NW is a minor arterial and south of Leary Way NW, 8th Ave NW is an industrial access street. There is an existing painted pedestrian path along the west side of 8th Ave NW from NW Bright St to the railroad crossing.

The proposed improvements for this project include the following:

- Construction of a new trail on the west side of 8th Ave NW between Leary Way NW and N 43rd St. The encroaching fence will be relocated to provide enough room for a 10' trail on the west side of 8th Ave NW without relocating the power poles. 8th Ave NW will be reduced to 20' width between Leary Way NW and the Burke-Gilman Trail.
- A new 90 degree trail crossing of the tracks will be installed north of NW 43rd St. This new connection across the tracks will take place south of the switch in the tracks.
- A diagonal bicycle crossing of 8th Ave NW and Leary Way NW could be evaluated to run concurrent with the current south crosswalk signal phase. If this project is funded, this will be fully explored in the design phase.
- Budget is allocated to work with the community to create a public space in the unused area between 8th Ave NW, NW Bright St and Leary Way NW.

This project would be coordinated with an SDOT Urban Trails and Bikeways crossing improvement project at 8th Ave NW and NW 43rd St.

Constructability

- The vacant property on the west side of 8th Ave NW north of NW 43rd St is owned by SDOT and is available for use for a trail connection. The fence along the SDOT-owned property will need to be relocated to make space for the proposed trail improvements.
- Any proposed improvements will include engagement with the Ballard Terminal Railroad.
- This estimate assumes signal phasing is completed by city crews.



Encroaching fence line to be relocated to provide for a 10' trail on the west side of 8th Ave NW



8th Ave NW looking north toward Leary Way NW



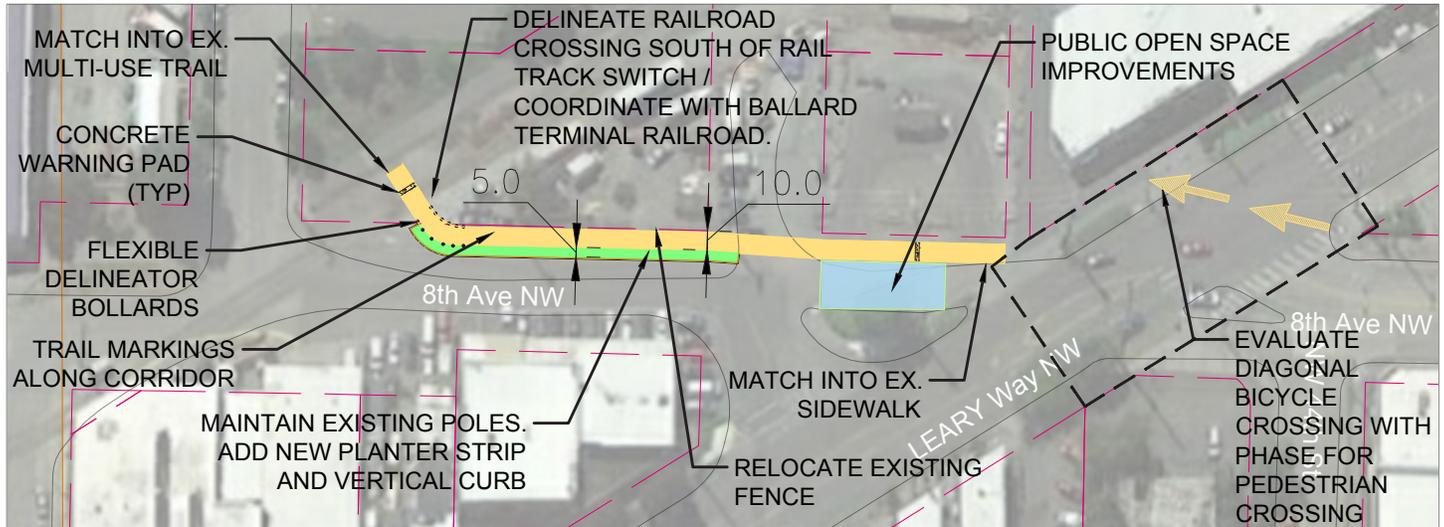
Location of proposed 90 degree trail crossing of railroad tracks at 8th Ave NW and NW 43rd St

Impacts

- Maintenance of the proposed public space would need to be managed by the neighborhood.
- Additional grading will be required for the new pathway.

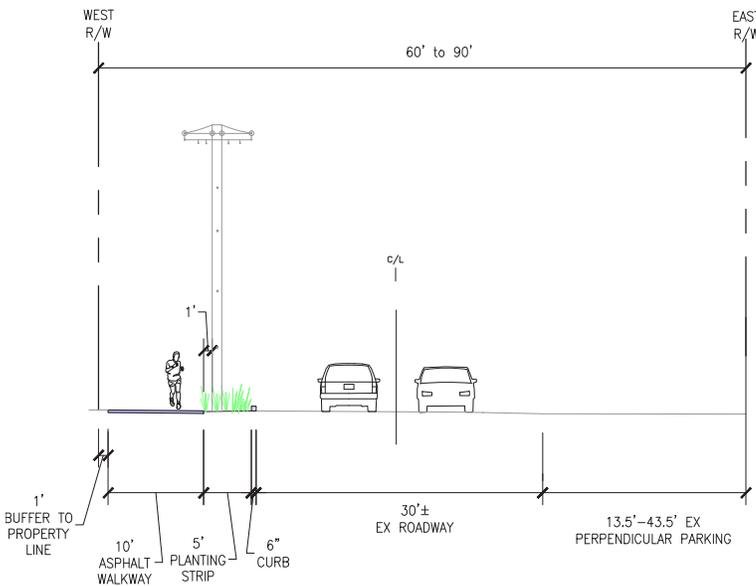
Benefits

- Improvements to 8th Ave NW and Leary Way NW will facilitate people biking across the intersections.
- This project will provide a better connection to the Burke-Gilman Trail at the intersection of 8th Ave NW and NW 43rd St.



Proposed improvements along 8th Ave NW

Scale in Feet



Proposed cross section along 8th Ave NW