

# 23RD AVENUE CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Summer 2014



## Phase 1 construction begins early 2015

Beginning in early 2015, the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) plans to begin constructing corridor improvements on 23rd Avenue, lasting approximately 20 months. Before corridor construction begins, SDOT will implement a neighborhood greenway in Phase 1 in fall 2014. Investing in these important projects in the Central District means improving safety for drivers, pedestrians and bike riders – plus faster and more reliable transit through the corridor.

## Improving safety and mobility

Safe streets that keep people and goods moving are a top priority for SDOT. Today's condition of 23rd Avenue creates a poor environment for the many vehicles, transit users, bike riders and pedestrians who use the corridor daily.

After analyzing travel data in the area and soliciting community input, SDOT has decided to change 23rd Avenue between approximately E John Street and S Norman Street to three lanes – one lane in each direction plus a center-turn lane. On streets with fewer than 25,000 vehicles per day, changing a street from four lanes to three can have many benefits, including:

- Reducing collisions
- Reducing speeding
- Allowing vehicles to turn without blocking traffic
- Managing drivers cutting in and out of travel lanes
- Creating space for wider sidewalks
- Making streets easier to cross
- Easing travel for large vehicles (e.g. buses)

## Three project phases

**Phase 1:** E John Street to S Jackson Street - construction starts in 2015

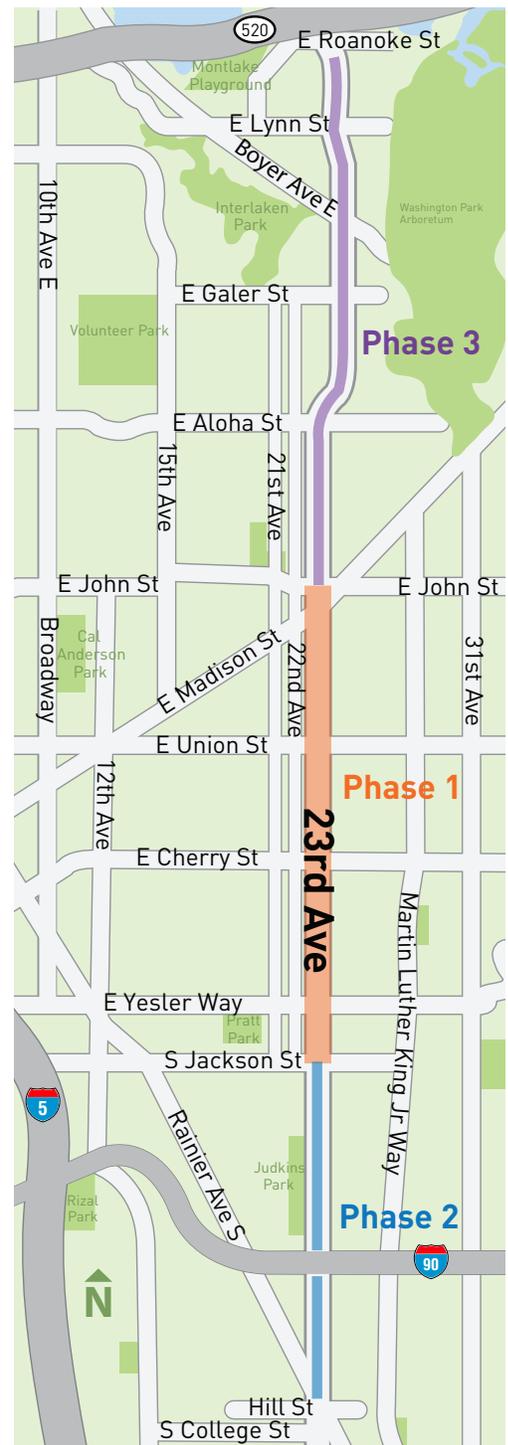
**Phase 2:** S Jackson Street to Rainier Avenue S - construction to start in 2017 (pending additional funding)

**Phase 3:** E Roanoke Street to E John Street - transit stop improvements - construction to start in 2017 (pending additional funding)

Project improvements vary by phase and include:

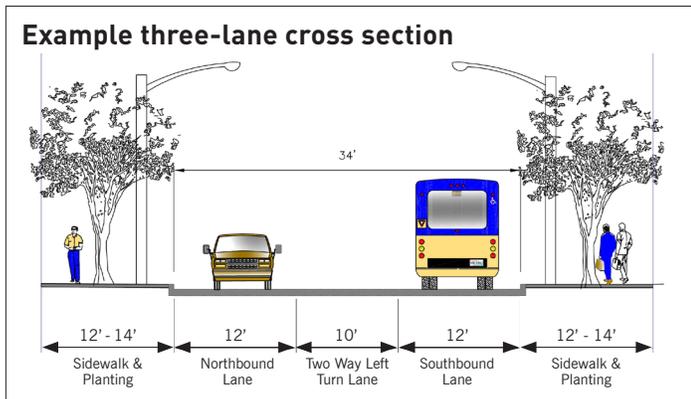
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|  New pavement                  |  Traffic signal improvements    |
|  Sidewalk improvements         |  Public art                     |
|  Lighting improvements         |  Adjacent neighborhood greenway |
|  Increased transit reliability |  |

## Project area map



## How does SDOT know changing 23rd Avenue to three lanes will work?

Recently SDOT has reconfigured similar streets such as Columbia Way, Myrtle Street, Nickerson Street and NE 125th Street. Data shows us that changing the street has made it safer and kept people and goods moving. SDOT will closely monitor key safety and mobility measures after the changes to 23rd Avenue are constructed.



## Keeping your neighborhood safe and moving during construction

To balance the various needs of all who work, live and play on or near the project area, we have identified tools we can use during construction to better manage traffic and keep people safe on the neighborhood streets. These include:

Mobility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Signal timing modifications</li> <li>Left turn restrictions</li> <li>Signage</li> <li>Neighborhood Greenway</li> </ul>
Safety
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Traffic speeds and volume analysis</li> <li>Local Access Only signs and speed trailers</li> <li>Uniformed police officers (UPOs) and flaggers</li> </ul>

## How will changing the street impact travel times?

Today the average speed of traffic is 38 miles per hour and the posted speed limit along most the corridor is 30 miles per hour. Travel times vary by time of day and direction of travel. Traffic experts analyzed how changing the street to two lanes with a center-turn lane would impact travel times.

Corridor user	Travel time change expected*
General purpose vehicle	Stays about the same (+/- < 1 minute) depending on direction
Transit	Improves travel time by 3 minutes
Pedestrian	Improves travel time
Bicyclist	The nearby neighborhood greenway will provide a more comfortable route with improved crossings

\*between E John Street and Rainier Avenue S

In order to reduce impacts to businesses and the community, construction on 23rd Avenue will be split into three work zones. Northbound traffic will need to be detoured, likely to Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard during construction.

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Kung kailangan mo ang impormasyon na ito na nakasalin sa Tagalog mangyari lamang na tumawag sa (206) 733-9990.

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## Stay informed

This summer, SDOT will share Phase 1 construction information with the community through info tables at community events, drop-in sessions, and presentations to community and business groups. A public open house is tentatively planned for November. Sign up to receive regular project email updates by visiting our Web page.

**WEB:** [www.seattle.gov/transportation/23rd\\_ave.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/23rd_ave.htm)  
[www.seattle.gov/transportation/centralgreenway.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/centralgreenway.htm)

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