



S Myrtle/Othello Street Safety Improvements Overview

November 3, 2011

Project Background

S Myrtle/Othello Street is an east-west arterial that connects the Seward Park and Brighton neighborhoods with Othello Park, Othello Station, New Holly, Beacon Hill and further west to Georgetown.

The community submitted a large Neighborhood Street Fund (NSF) project in 2009 and the project was identified as the highest priority by the Southeast District Council.

In July 2010 the Bridging the Gap Oversight Committee made the difficult choices of what projects to recommend to the Mayor and City Council for funding. They selected the S Othello Street project out of 37 projects. The project was allocated \$675,000 from NSF and \$50,000 from Bike Master Plan (BMP).

Project goals:

- Improve safety for all users of the corridor: pedestrians, bicyclists, transit, freight and vehicles
- Reduce speeding
- Reduce opportunity for collisions

Pedestrian Benefits:

- Reduced speeding increases survival in pedestrian crashes
- Fewer travel lanes to cross (reduces multiple threat)
- Remark crosswalks
- Upgrade signage
- Fewer cars parked on the curb and sidewalk (MLK to Seward Park Ave S Segment)

Traffic Benefits:

- Fewer speeders
- Fewer sideswipes and parked cars hit



- Wider travel lanes
- Improved access for left turns at driveways, and intersections
- Pavement repair

Transit Benefits:

- Maintains speed and reliability
- Slower moving cyclist separated from travel lane
- Wider travel lanes
- Improved access for left turns
- Turn improvement at Seward Park Ave S

Bicycle Benefits:

- Improves bicycle connections
- Uphill bike climbing lane provides cyclists space out of travel lane
- Bicycle lanes in both directions to separate cyclists from higher speed & higher volume traffic (Beacon to MLK segment)

Data Highlights:

- **ADT:** SDOT may consider center turn lanes for roadways with average daily traffic volumes of 25,000 or less. From traffic volume counts conducted by SDOT on S Myrtle/Othello Street, this roadway carries about 11,600 vehicles on an average day (from Beacon Ave S to Martin Luther King Jr Way).
- **Collisions:** 112 from 2008-2010
- **Speeds:** High speeds from Beacon Ave S to Martin Luther King Jr Way
 - 85th percentile near 40 mph
 - 74% exceeding posted speed (30 mph)
 - 14% exceeding 40 mph

Schedule:

- Project Analysis Summer - Fall 2011
- Project Design Spring - Winter 2011
- Outreach Fall - Winter 2011
- Project Construction Spring/Summer 2012

Comments?

Comments will be taken until November 17, 2011 at walkandbike@seattle.gov

http://www.cityofseattle.net/transportation/btg_nsf_large_Othello.htm