

Keeping Aurora Safe for Drivers and Pedestrians...



- A raised median with nine left-turn/u-turn locations
- Continuous sidewalks and landscaping on both sides of Aurora Avenue N
- Improved street crossings and intersections
- Consolidation of some driveway locations

Keeping Aurora Moving for Commuters, Residents and Businesses...



- Existing lanes widened
- A southbound business access and transit lane added
- Bus stop locations made more attractive, comfortable and recognizable
- BAT lanes open to public at all times for turning into and out of businesses and making right turns

Learn more about the initial design & proposed improvements inside...

For more info...

Contact SDOT Project Manager **Diana Holloway** at (206) 684-3970 or diana.holloway@seattle.gov.

Visit our project web site – www.seattle.gov/transportation/aurora110.htm

Sign up for our project listserve online or contact SDOT Communications Specialist **Peg Nielsen** at peg.nielsen@seattle.gov or (206) 684-8114.

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What Do You Think?

SDOT Wants to Hear from You!

Community Open House

Thursday, June 8

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Ingraham High School Cafeteria
1819 N 135th Street

Learn about the initial design and let us know how you think we can improve it. Light refreshments available.

Keeping Aurora Safe and Moving

PROJECT UPDATE

JUNE 2006

In 2003, the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) prepared a Route Development Plan that included several recommendations for making it easier and safer to move around and through the Aurora Avenue N corridor. The City of Seattle is responsible for managing and maintaining the Aurora corridor within the city limits and is the lead in fulfilling WSDOT's recommendations.

In Spring 2005, the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) started the design process for implementing the recommended improvements along Aurora Avenue N between N 110th Street and N 145th Street. These improvements will help make Aurora Avenue N safer for drivers and pedestrians, pave the way for expansion of much-needed transit service in the future, and make the corridor more attractive and welcoming for shoppers, residents, business owners and commuters.



"Aurora is a great place for people to shop, walk or go to a great restaurant. It's been a vibrant working community for over 50 years and our aim is to make it work even better."

– SEATTLE MAYOR GREG NICKELS

We've now developed and are refining a safer traffic alignment which will include wider lanes, a center median with left-turn and u-turn locations, landscaping, sidewalks, and a new southbound business access and transit (BAT) lane.

Please read on to learn more about our progress and how you can provide valuable feedback as we work to finalize the design.

Community Open House

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend!

Thursday, June 8

5:00 – 7:00 PM

Ingraham High School Cafeteria
1819 N 135th Street

Speak with project staff, review the updated preliminary design, and tell us what you think. Light refreshments available.

Coming Soon: Improvements to Aurora Avenue N



With more than 40,000 vehicles traveling along Aurora Avenue N each day, SDOT's ultimate goal for the project is to improve driver and pedestrian safety. Improvements will also improve traffic flow, enhance transit operations and make the corridor more attractive.

HOW WILL WE DO THIS?

WIDEN EXISTING LANES. Current widths do not comply with federal safety standards.

ADD A BAT LANE. Business access and transit (BAT) lanes are designated lanes for transit and right-turning vehicles. A new 24-hour southbound BAT lane will allow for safer turning movements while improving traffic flow in through lanes.

ADD A MEDIAN with clearly defined left-turn and u-turn locations between N 118th and N 125th streets, at N 127th Street, between N 130th and N 135th streets and at N 137th, N 140th and N 143rd streets. These will be landscaped with low shrubs and plants.

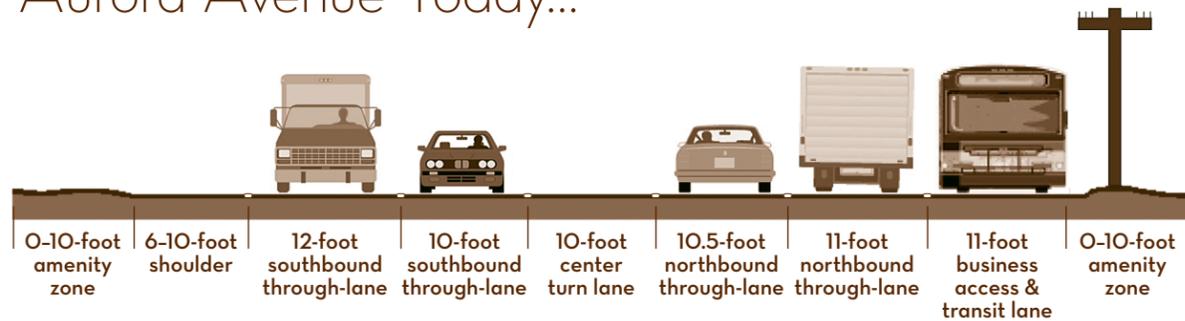
IMPROVE PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS at intersections. Improvements will include new wheelchair curb ramps, markings at crosswalks and signalization timing.

CONSTRUCT SIDEWALKS and landscaping on both sides of Aurora Avenue N.

CONSOLIDATE DRIVEWAYS WHERE POSSIBLE. This will reduce the number of locations where vehicles turn onto or from Aurora Avenue N across the path of pedestrians while still providing equal access for adjacent properties and businesses.

COMPLETE SOME UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS such as improved drainage and street lighting.

Aurora Avenue Today...



Aurora Avenue Tomorrow...



Don't forget!

You can check out SDOT's proposed improvements and offer your own suggestions at our Open House on June 8 from 5 - 7:00 pm at Ingraham High.



What We've Heard

Since the project began in spring 2005, SDOT has hosted two open houses and met with neighborhood groups and local businesses. In general, community priorities include improving safety along the corridor, discouraging illegal activities, making the corridor more attractive, maintaining adequate access to the businesses, accommodating expanded transit service, minimizing overflow traffic into residential neighborhoods, and installing another traffic signal preferably in the vicinity of 143rd Ave N.

SDOT will continue working with businesses and community members to make sure this project benefits everyone who lives and works along Aurora Avenue N.

Issues we will address with individual property owners on Aurora Avenue N in the project area:

- Location of driveway or access to your property
- Anticipated timeline of project construction
- Other specific concerns regarding our plans
- Most efficient means of communication

Timeline

Spring '05	Solicited community input on design issues	SDOT hosted an open house on May 12, 2005 to hear from business owners, neighbors, commuters and others on design issues for the development of a preliminary preferred alignment.
Summer '05	Developed preliminary preferred alignment	SDOT developed a preliminary proposal for the new alignment.
Fall '05	Refined preliminary preferred alignment	SDOT asked for community feedback on the preliminary preferred alignment. This feedback helped guide development of the preferred alignment.
Winter-Spring '06	Develop final design	The project team is performing the environmental analysis on the preferred alignment. SDOT will present the 30% design to the community at an open house in June 2006.
Post-2006	Earliest construction start	Construction along this part of Aurora Avenue N will likely be completed as a series of separate construction projects. The first phase of construction will begin in 2009. The first phase will likely be from N 137th Street to N 145th Street. Modifications to the existing utilities may begin as early as the fall of 2006. The timeline for additional construction depends on funding.