



# Safer School Crossings on N 90th Street at Three New Schools

N 90th St between Stone Ave N and Wallingford Ave N

## Applicant Problem

3 Schools are under construction on N 90th St between Stone and Wallingford Avenues N. They are scheduled to open in the fall of 2017 with approximately 1,700 students. N 90th St is a heavily traveled minor arterial. There is nothing to slow traffic down in its 7 blocks between Aurora and Wallingford. As a result, traffic tends to speed along 90th faster than the existing 30 mph speed limit. Both sides of 90th currently have many parked cars, and are expected to be increasingly filled with parked cars during school days. Currently, visibility for both the pedestrians and the drivers will be obstructed by the parked cars. The school's traffic consultant, Heffron Transportation Inc., predicts traffic on 90th to increase by up to 50% to up to 979 trips per hour at the start and end of school days. Heffron predicts substantial congestion that will block entry and exit to the planned school parking lots and that as a result, parents will tend to drop and pick up their children at curbside along 90th and adjacent streets. Accordingly, Heffron recommends (and the City's approved MUP incorporates the recommendation) that signed drop off/pick-up areas be established along 90th. This will increase the number of children crossing the street. The schools' current plans show 3 sidewalks extending from the schools to 90th in the 4 blocks between Stone and Wallingford Avenues N. These 3 sidewalks are likely to be heavily used by children who will need to cross 90th. The schools' plans show no accommodations to be installed by the schools on City of Seattle right-of-way at these crossings. Needed safety improvements have been left to SDOT.

## PROJECT TYPE

Crossings

## APPROXIMATE LENGTH

N/A

## COST ESTIMATE

\$504,000



## Applicant Solution

We propose that crosswalks with curb bulbs be installed on both sides of 90th where the 3 sidewalks from the schools intersect 90th. At two of those locations (noted as E), install pedestrian activated rapid flashing lights. The crosswalks would be appropriately striped and signed. At the existing crosswalk at the corner of Stone Ave and 90th, curb bulbs on the north side of 90th would interfere with the turning buses. But a curb bulb should be installed at the south side of 90th.



*Existing conditions at N 90th Street and Densmore Avenue N*



*Existing conditions at N 90th Street and Stone Avenue N*



*Existing conditions at N 90th Street and Ashworth Avenue N*

# Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) Review

## Project Description

N 90th St is a collector arterial adjacent to residential and institutional uses. Seattle Public Schools is reconstructing the campus accessed off N 90th St. Since a neighborhood greenway is proposed on N 92nd St on the north side of the school property, N 90th St does not have to accommodate a future in-street bicycle facility. Concrete curb bulbs can be constructed along N 90th St.

This conceptual design includes • Curb bulbs and curb ramps at the intersections of Stone Ave N, Ashworth Ave North and Densmore Ave North.

Since the area north of N 90th St is currently under construction, pedestrian counts could not be completed. These would determine whether marked crossings or rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs) are warranted. If this project is funded, additional counts will be taken during the school year and marked crossings and RRFBs warrants will be re-evaluated.

## Constructability

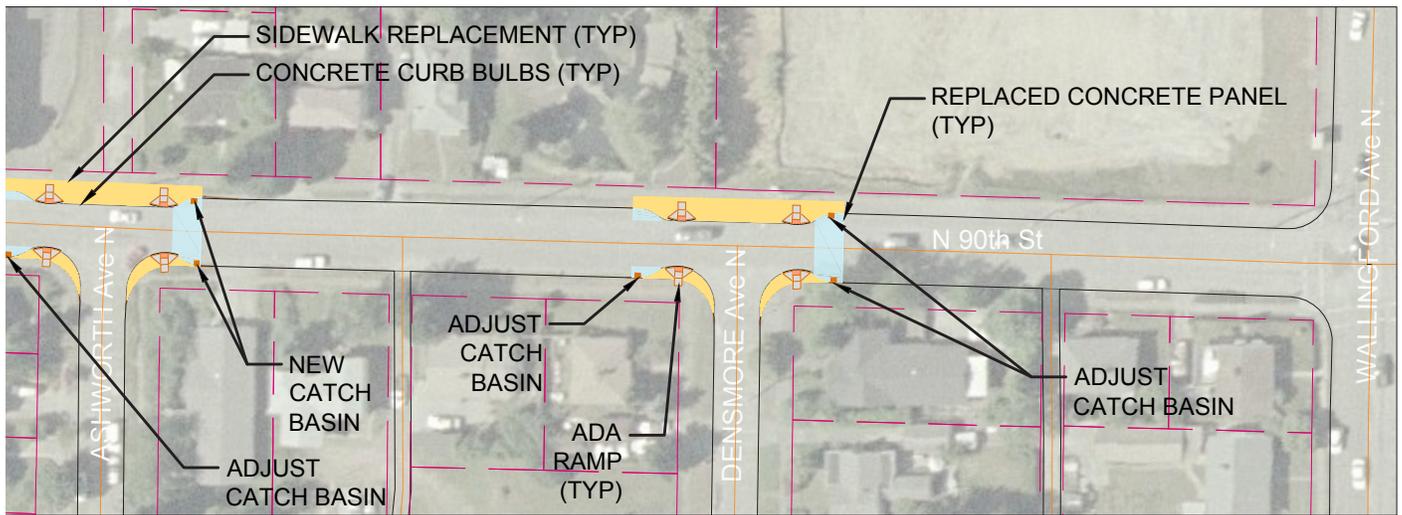
- As part of the school reconstruction 20 MPH signage will be installed.
- If drainage facilities need to be adjusted as part of this project, concrete panels will have to be replaced.

## Impacts

- Parking will be restricted near these three intersections. While this parking is not legal, it may be perceived as parking loss.

## Benefits

- Improved curb ramps and reduced crossing distances at these intersections.
- Improved visibility for pedestrians crossing the street.



Proposed improvements along N 90th St

Scale in Feet

