

PROJECT TYPE Sidewalk
APPROXIMATE LENGTH 1,600 lf
COST ESTIMATE \$945,000

2007-019 NE 125th Street between 35th Ave NE & Sandpoint Way

APPLICANT PROBLEM

The Cedar Park Neighborhood has no safe pedestrian route to the Lake City Hub Urban Village, where its residents access regional transit connections, shopping, banks, restaurants, the library, community center, and farmers market. The most direct route to the Lake City core area is along NE 125th Street. This arterial has high traffic volumes (11,500/day in 2009 per SDOT), travelling at speeds of 30 to 40 mph or more, including heavy trucks, Metro (Route 75) and school buses; traffic is generated by the UW, Children's Hospital, NOAA and Magnuson Park. On NE 125th St, the sidewalk stops just east of 35th Ave. NE, forcing pedestrians — including schoolchildren who walk to area schools and the bus stops — to walk on narrow, paved shoulders. Parking on the shoulder often forces pedestrians to walk in or dangerously close to traffic lanes, inches away from moving vehicles. If the shoulder is clear of parked cars, it is commonly used by drivers as a passing lane around left turning vehicles. At rush hour, with one vehicle every 3 to 4 seconds passing swiftly by, and especially in the dark and wet of winter, this path proves to be both unpleasant and dangerous. As a result, many neighborhood residents who would like to walk to the Lake City transit stops and community facilities drive instead. Others, who don't drive or have no access to a vehicle, including a significant number of elderly residents, have no safe way to access the Lake City core facilities.

APPLICANT SOLUTION

A sidewalk and natural drainage system should be constructed on NE 125th Street from the existing short segment of sidewalk on the east side of 35th Avenue NE to a point adjacent to the bus stop at Sand Point Way NE. The neighborhood recommends that the sidewalk be located on the north side of the street to address greater pedestrian demand, but the south side would work also, if it could better contain costs. Ideally, the project would extend the sidewalk along Sand Point Way NE to connect with a recently completed sidewalk at NE 123rd, but the community realizes that this would increase the expense.

This project would provide a safe and convenient pedestrian connection between the Cedar Park Neighborhood and the Lake City Urban Village. It also would be consistent with the *Seattle Pedestrian Master Plan (PMP)*, which designates this segment of NE 125th Street as a high-priority pedestrian corridor and that SDOT has reportedly ranked as priority one (highest). Significantly, the NE 125th Street sidewalk would serve the entire Cedar Park Neighborhood, since it would have links to many residential streets — 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th and Bartlett on the uphill side, and 42nd, Lakeside, Riviera on the downhill side, and provide a connection to the Burke-Gilman Trail.



LEGEND:

-  RIGHT-OF-WAY (R.O.W.)
-  PROPOSED SIDEWALK
-  PROPOSED PLANTING STRIP
-  PROPOSED PARKING
-  PROPOSED BIKE LANE
-  PROPOSED SIDEWALK REPAIR
-  BUS STOP

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SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (SDOT) REVIEW

Widen roadway 5' on the north side of the street to allow for bike lanes consistent with Bicycle Master Plan, and construct curb, 5' planting strip and 6' sidewalk.

Constructability

-Houses at the west end of the project are close to the right-of-way and sit above grade. Driveway grades and access to those houses will need to be thoroughly reviewed during design.

-A significant amount of drainage infrastructure is needed since there are no drainage facilities on the corridor.

Community Issues

-Project is consistent with community preference of the sidewalk on the north side of NE 125th Street.

-There is some undesignated parking on the northside that will be impacted by the project. With the new sidewalk, these vehicles would need to park in the driveways or garages associated with the adjacent property.

-Outreach will need to address impacts to parking and driveways.

Benefits

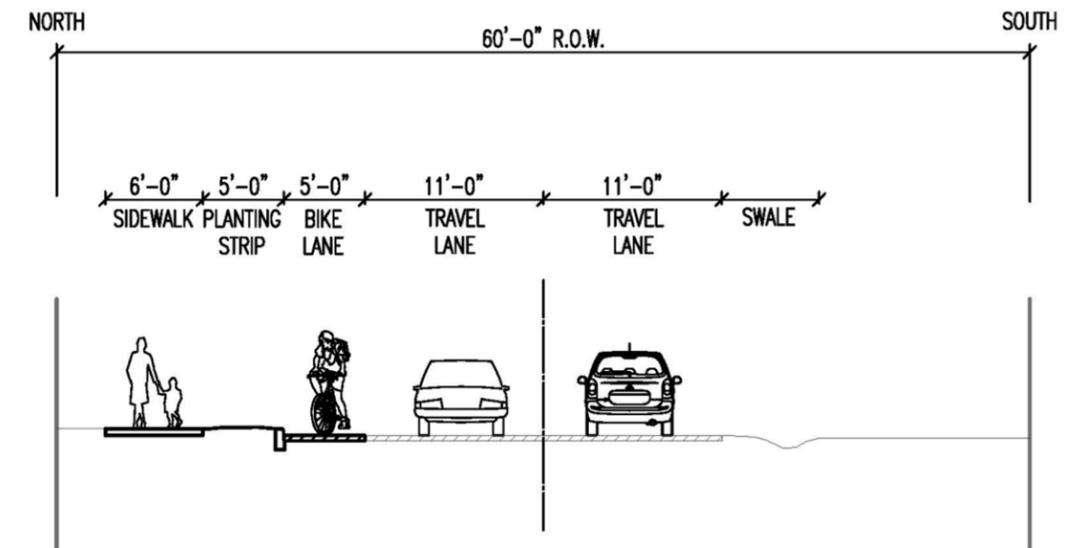
-No existing sidewalk exists on either side of the street. Improves pedestrian safety by providing a new sidewalk with a planting strip to buffer pedestrians from vehicles on a major arterial.

-Improves pedestrian access to/from transit stops along NE 125th St.

-Improves pedestrian access to Lake City Way business district and transit corridor.

-Improves bicycle safety by providing designated bike lane (westbound).

-Improves the environment by providing a planting area and street trees.



NE 125TH - 35TH AVE NE TO SAND POINT WAY - SECTION
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



Looking east



Looking east