23RD AVENUE CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

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:

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

Most promising greenway route

Phase 1:
E John Street to S Jackson Street

Phase 2:
S Jackson Street to Rainier Avenue S
(pending additional funding)

Phase 3:
E Roanoke Street to E John Street
transit stop improvements -
construction to start in 2017
(pending additional funding)
How did SDOT decide to change sections of 23rd Avenue?

**Complete Streets assessment**
- Current road condition
- Applicable plans and policies to gauge future projected use (e.g. Neighborhood plan, Seattle transit, bicycle and pedestrian master plans)
- Connections to major highways (e.g. SR 520 and I-90)
- Community input

**Considered traffic trends and volumes**
- Traffic volumes in Seattle and on 23rd Avenue are declining
- Transit ridership in Seattle and in the 23rd Avenue corridor are rising

**Limited available funding**

What’s a Complete Streets assessment?
In 2007, the Seattle City Council passed an ordinance focused on Complete Streets. SDOT’s charge is to design safer streets for everyone that keep people and goods moving.
How will the new corridor work?

On streets with fewer than 25,000 vehicles per day, changing the street design can:

- Reduce collisions (>900 in the last 5 years on 23rd Avenue)
- Reduce speeding
- Allow vehicles to turn without blocking traffic
- Manage drivers cutting in and out of travel lanes
- Create space for wider sidewalks
- Make streets easier to cross
- Ease travel for large vehicles (e.g. buses)

**Example four-lane cross-section**

**Example cross-section between E John St and S Norman St**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Corridor user</th>
<th>Travel time change expected*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General purpose vehicle</td>
<td>Stays about the same (+/- &lt; 1 minute) depending on direction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transit</td>
<td>Improves travel time by 3 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedestrian</td>
<td>Improves safety and mobility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicyclist</td>
<td>The nearby neighborhood greenway will provide a more comfortable route with improved crossings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Analysis assumes reconfiguration and Transit Signal Priority (TSP) between between E John Street and Rainier Avenue S
23rd Avenue Corridor Improvements

Phase 1 Construction

Expected construction duration
~ 20 months

Zone C
E Union to E John
~ 5 months

Zone B
E Cherry to E Union
~ 5 months

Zone A
S Jackson to E Cherry
~ 10 months

FULL NORTHBOUND CLOSURES AND DETOURS DURING CONSTRUCTION

Today

During construction

- Northbound traffic will be re-routed along Martin Luther King, Jr. Way
- Southbound travel on 23rd Avenue will be open, but reduced to one lane
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General construction impacts

**Traffic changes in the active work zone**
- Work will be completed in zones to minimize impacts
- Northbound lanes will be closed with detours to Martin Luther King, Jr. Way
- Southbound traffic lanes will be reduced to one lane
- Key intersections will be closed over multiple weekends
- Transit and school bus detours will be required (routes under development now)

**Temporary utility impacts**

**Sidewalk impacts**
- Access will be provided

**Short-term driveway closures**
- Approximately 48 hours in most cases

**Short-term loss of parking spaces on side streets**

**Trees**
- Removal of trees in order to accommodate 5-foot, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant sidewalk
- Trees will be replaced in the project area with at least 3 trees replanted for every 2 trees removed
- A tree may also be removed if it is in poor health, causing buckling sidewalks or conflicting with bus shelters and/or lighting locations

**Noise, dust, odor and vibration**

**Occasional night work**

www.seattle.gov/transportation/23rd_ave.htm
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Tools to help keep your neighborhood safe and moving during construction

**Mobility**

*Signal timing modifications*
Signals will be adjusted along 23rd Avenue and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard to maximize movements through major intersections.

*Left-turn restrictions*
Left-turn restrictions will be enforced at major intersections in the area to minimize traffic backups and improve traffic flow.

*Signage*
Directional signage will be used to inform the traveling public of ongoing construction activities and detours. Temporary wayfinding signs may also be used throughout the area to direct regional commuters to alternate routes for accessing SR 520 and I-90.

*Neighborhood Greenway*
The Central Area Neighborhood Greenway will be installed prior to corridor construction. The greenway will provide a space for people to bike and walk on a residential street.

**Safety**

*Traffic speeds and volume analysis*
SDOT will conduct studies prior to construction to document existing conditions and identify any safety issues that may arise during northbound detours.

*Local Access Only signs and speed trailers*
Based on the outcome of the speed and volume studies, Local Access Only signs or speed sign trailers may be installed on streets where cut-through traffic may occur.

*Uniformed police officers (UPOs) and flaggers*
UPOs will be stationed at key intersections to assist with traffic management in construction areas. Flaggers may also be used.
How does the City support neighborhood businesses during construction?

The City works hard to minimize impacts to adjacent businesses during construction. Some of the actions our team will take to minimize impacts include:

- Limiting the number of interruptions to driveway access
- Keeping the project area as tidy as possible throughout construction
- Providing advance notice about construction activities, including email updates and door-to-door flyers
- Community liaison available on-site by phone 24 hours a day
- Maintaining a website with updated construction information
- Providing businesses with project information cards for front counters and/or customized maps or materials to support their individual marketing efforts

For more information about business resources, contact the Office of Economic Development directly at 206-684-8090.
Thank you for attending our drop-in session.

At our pre-construction open house, we will have more detailed information about the:

- Construction schedule
- Planned work hours
- Transit and school bus detours during construction
- Specific property impacts
- Tree removal and replacement
- Construction methods