

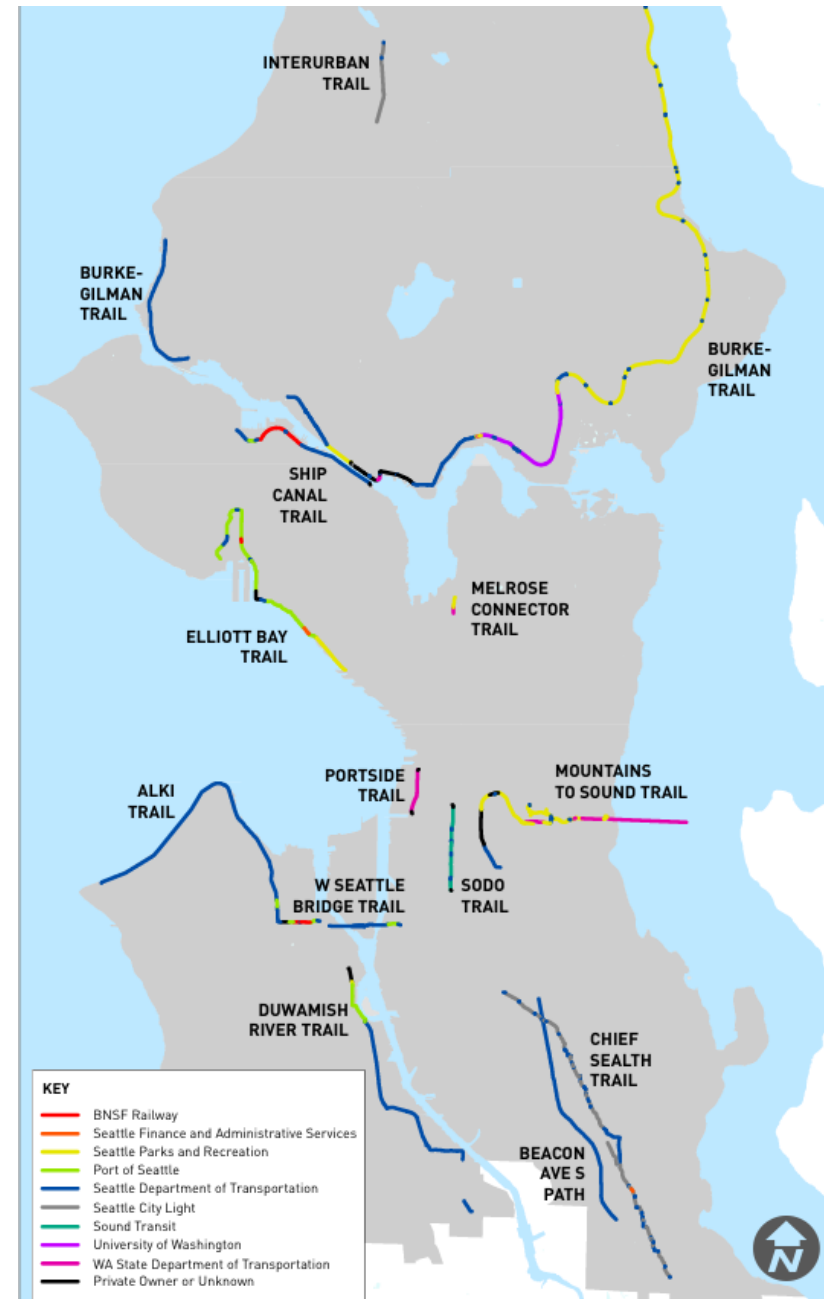
Multi-Use Trail Update



November 18, 2025

Background

- Trails are some of our oldest bike infrastructure
 - Serve people walking, biking, and using micromobility devices
- Lower conflict, flat, direct
- SDOT owns over 17 miles of Seattle's 50+ miles of multiuse path
- Additional trail segments owned by partners
 - Parks and Recreation, University of Washington, Port of Seattle, Sound Transit, and others



Trail Policy & Guidelines

- Seattle Transportation Plan proposes new trails
- SDOT Trails Upgrade Plan proposes upgrades
- [SDOT Streets Illustrated](#) provides guidance on trail width, intersections, and separation
- WSDOT Design Manual Chapter 1515 includes additional design detail
- National guidelines by AASHTO and others provide additional context

Multi-Use Trail Pilot
August 2018 - August 2019

The Multi-Use Trail Pilot updates regulations to create consistency and improve safety for everyone using these trails. The pilot sets the speed limit at 15 mph and allows for Class 1 and Class 2 electric-assisted bicycles.

SPEED LIMIT 15

CLASS 1 & 2 E-BIKES ALLOWED

No other motorized vehicles allowed, except ADA-compliant.

Share the Trail!

- Use voice or bell when passing
- Keep right except to pass
- Bikes yield to pedestrians
- Keep dogs on a short leash
- Use light at night
- Be courteous to others

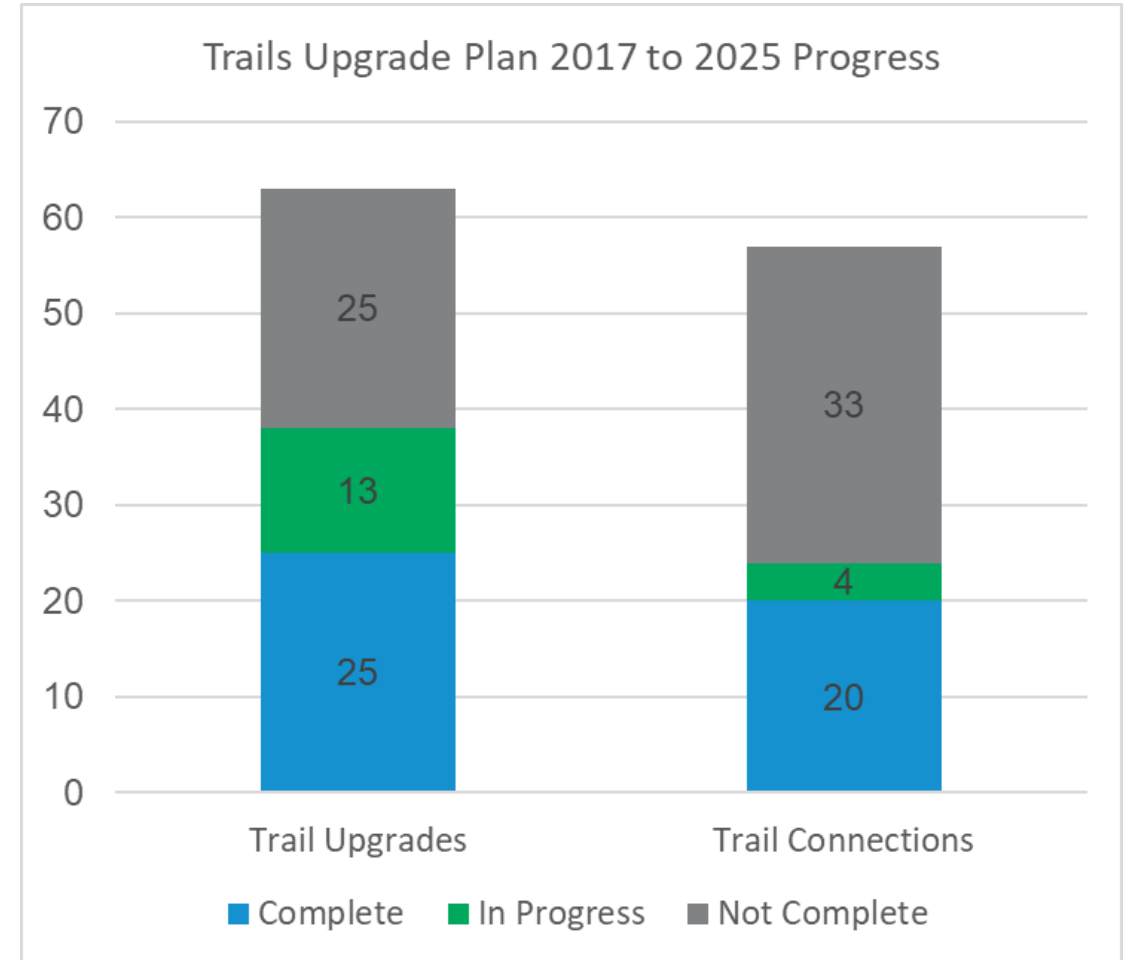
Learn more at seattle.gov/parks/multiusetrail

Comments or Questions?

206-684-4075
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100 Dexter Ave N
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Trails Upgrade Plan

- Completed in 2017 using data and public input from 2015 and 2016
 - Pavement & other asset condition assessment
- Identified 120+ connection & upgrade projects
 - 60% of upgrade projects complete or in progress
 - 42% of trail connection projects complete or in progress
- Evaluating how/whether to update plan



Trails Activities at SDOT

Rapid response

- Street Maintenance team quickly responds to emergent issues

Ongoing maintenance

- Annual inspection directs repairs of larger issues

Continual improvements

- Ongoing funding making upgrades and small connections

Major construction and upgrades

- SDOT and others making big investments in the trail network

Rapid Response

- Multiple teams address immediate issues like downed trees, rapid pavement deterioration and more
- Ad-hoc snow & ice clearing
- Best ways of requesting service
 - Find-It-Fix-It routes issues to correct agency/workgroups so you don't have to
 - Call (206) 684-7623 or [online form](#)



Faded signs, intruding blackberries, and separation of pavement are examples of minor trail issues

Ongoing Maintenance

- SDOT staff check all trails annually for condition and new issues
- Route different issues to work groups for repairs
- Upcoming work:
 - Burke-Gilman spot paving and vegetation management
 - Chief Sealth Trail spot paving and remarking
 - Alki Trail remarking
 - Ship Canal Trail spot paving



Recent repair along Ship Canal Trail

Upcoming Projects

Upgrade projects for 2026/2027

- Trail Gaps
 - Chief Sealth Trail gap at S Juneau St
- Work to connect trails to streets
 - 6 Chief Sealth Trail connections in New Holly
 - 7 Chief Sealth Trail connections in Beacon Hill and Rainier Beach
 - Interurban Trail Connection at N 127th St
- Wayfinding & Terminus improvements
 - Portside Trail at Waterfront Path
 - Elliott Bay Trail at Waterfront Path
 - I-90 Trail at S Irving St

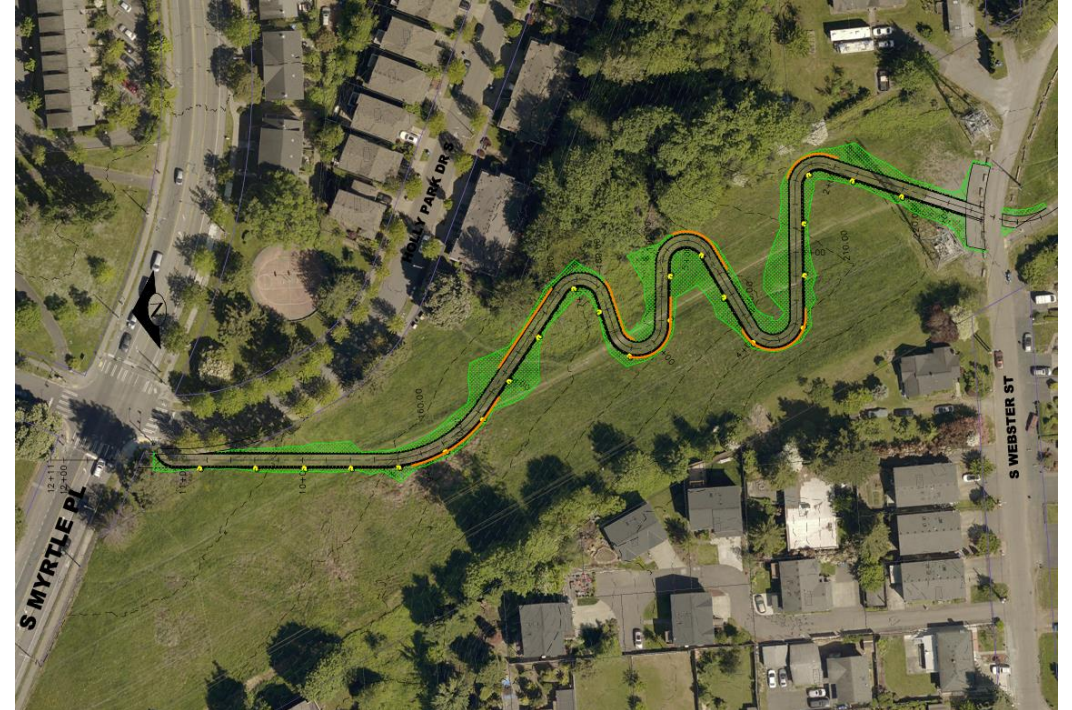


Connections between Chief Sealth Trail and nearby streets in New Holly

Longer-term SDOT Projects

Projects underway during the current Levy

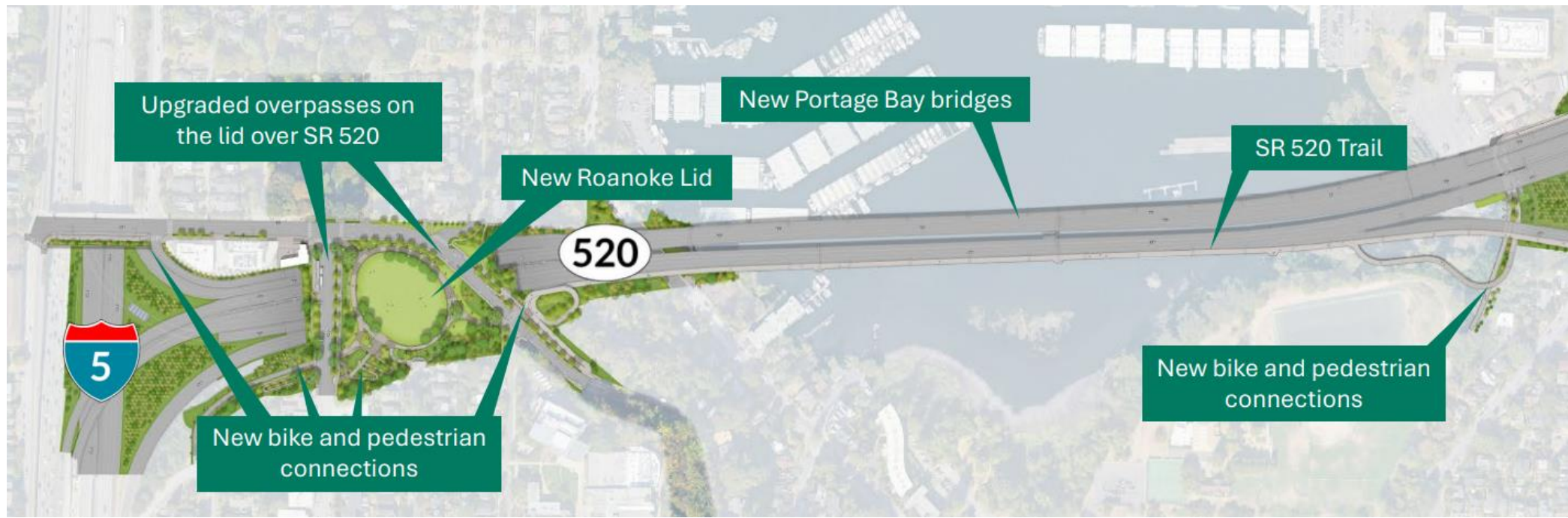
- Gaps
 - Burke-Gilman Missing Link options
 - Chief Sealth Trail Gap at S Myrtle St
- Rebuilds or reroutes
 - Beacon Ave Median Path
- Persistent issues
 - Drainage on Melrose Connector Trail
 - Pavement on Burke-Gilman in Fremont



Concept for Chief Sealth Trail at S Myrtle Pl, final routing of switchbacks will depend on wetland boundaries and accessible grade

Longer-term Partner Projects

- King County Parks Green River Trail Extension
 - Complete link from Green River Trail to Seattle in South Park
- WSDOT Portage Bay Bridge
 - Extend 520 Trail
- UW Burke-Gilman Trail Rebuild



Emerging Topics

- Modernizing trails
 - Lighting
 - Separation of users
 - Intersection right of way & priority
 - Crosswalk marking standards
 - Sustainable maintenance funding
- Responding to changes in trail use
 - Speed differences of trail users
 - Evolving vehicle types
 - Enforcement vs courtesy
 - Newly-feasible routes & connections



Recent construction along the Burke-Gilman included many high-quality features, but it took private investment to reach this level

Questions?



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