CORRIDOR UPDATE: Martin Luther King Jr. Way S

The Martin Luther King (MLK) Jr. Way S Corridor in Seattle is a busy route used by many people, including individuals and communities who have often struggled with safe and fair transportation. Right now, traffic lights in the corridor are mainly timed to help the light rail trains run on schedule. But this often means longer waits for people trying to cross the street or make left turns, which at times have led to unsafe crossings.

A New Pilot Study

Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) and Sound Transit (ST) are conducting a pilot study to test a method of signal light synchronization that if successful will increase efficiency and safety for all travelers on the corridor while keeping light rail trains running on time. We anticipate a three-phased study to evaluate varying conditions during non-passenger hours, the weekend, and weekdays.

Data Collection & Future Adjustments

SDOT and ST will collect data pre- and postimplementation to assess the pilot's impact. The teams aim to enhance efficiency and safety in the corridor, reducing unsafe crossings and signal malfunctions.

What to Expect & When

The pilot area stretches from S Othello to S Henderson streets. The first study will begin on Sunday, March 3, 2024, between 1-4 AM. SDOT and ST workers will be visible along the corridor, and we anticipate minimal noise and disruption to personal travel. Thank you for your understanding during this time to study improvement possibilities.

Our teams hope to make crossing the MLK corridor more efficient and safer, effectively reducing instances of unsafe crossings, signal malfunctioning reports, and ensuring reliability for all travelers.



