

## Open House Summary

### Overview

On February 3, 2015, the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) hosted the second public open house for the Wedgwood Children and Neighbors Safety Improvement Project. The meeting was held from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM at the library in Wedgwood Elementary School. Approximately 15 people attended the event.

At the event, attendees were able to:

- View information on the project’s purpose, goals, design elements, schedule, funding sources, construction impacts, impact on the right of way, and future public involvement opportunities
- Meet one-on-one with members of the project team
- Learn about the project through a project overview presentation
- Participate in a question and answer session

Blank comment forms were distributed at the sign-in table and throughout the event space, along with boxes to collect completed comment forms. The display boards, presentation and meeting summary will be made available on the project website for those unable to attend in person.

### Purpose

The purpose of the open house was to share the project overview with the public and answer questions, especially about impacts to individual properties.

### Notifications

Information about the event was shared via the following notification tools:

- Mailer to those in the project area with project fact sheet enclosed (1/20)
- Letter to adjacent property owners and tenants with project fact sheet enclosed (1/20-1/21)
- Email invitations to community partners (1/28) and interested parties (1/30)
- Announcement in Wedgwood Weekly, which is published by the Wedgwood PTA for the school’s community (1/29)
- SDOT blog post (2/2)

### Questions and comments

Questions:

- **Can SDOT expand the project area? There are other sidewalks nearby that are in desperate need of repairs. What could this group do to keep this project or a similar project moving?**  
SDOT cannot expand this project’s area because the project funding is specific to the current project boundaries. Adding locations would require re-applying for funding and likely postponing construction. If you are interested in improving other sidewalks in the area, we encourage you to work with the Wedgwood Community Council and the Wedgwood Elementary PTA.
- **Will SDOT be adding more bike racks around the school? There currently is only one out front.**  
SDOT can provide the school with more bike racks. We would work with the school to determine where the bike racks should be placed.
- **Is realigning the driveways at the property owner’s expense?**  
No, SDOT will cover the cost of matching up driveways to the new sidewalk.

- **How will SDOT keep the area safe during and after construction?**  
SDOT has been working with WECAN and the school to develop a traffic circulation plan that will keep pedestrians, cyclists, cars and buses safe and moving during and after construction.
- **Are there any uncertainties that could postpone the project schedule?**  
Phase 1 is fully funded and will proceed with construction this summer. Phase 2 is still in the early design process, so our current cost estimate could change based on what we learn during the design process. We expect design to be at 90% in May. As we know more about the design, we will know more about the project schedule.
- **Will the new curb ramps be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act?**  
Yes, they will be.

Comments:

- An attendee expressed interest in meeting with neighbors and reaching a consensus about how they would like the sidewalk and planting strip design to look for their entire block.
- An attendee requested a stop sign be installed at the southwest corner of the NE 83rd Street and 28th Avenue NE intersection
- Multiple attendees commented that they would like to see more sidewalk improvements in the area, such as:
  - Going south on 30th Avenue NE
  - Going north on Ravenna Avenue NE towards the bus stop at 25th Avenue NE
  - NE 85th Street between 32nd Avenue NE and 35th Avenue NE
  - Creating a “Long Range Plan” with sidewalks extending as far north as NE 90th Street
- Residents expressed concerns about safety in the area, especially behind Wedgwood Elementary where there are cars parked on both sides of the street and blind turns at 26th Avenue NE, 25th Place NE and NE 87th Street.

Follow-up

Action item	Assigned	Status
Follow-up about the sidewalk at NE 85th Street and 35th Avenue NE – property owners have brought up its need for repairs at a previous meeting and want to know if something will be done	Brian Dougherty	In progress
Follow-up on improvements promised in the <a href="#">“Future of 35th Avenue NE” Plan</a>	Brian Dougherty	In progress
Check with Seattle City Light about the possibility of adding lighting to the north side of NE 83rd Street along the upper east third of the block, approaching 28th Avenue NE	Tri Ong/Brian Dougherty	In progress
Update project webpage with open house materials (presentation, display boards, meeting summary)	EnviroIssues	In progress