Highland Park Action Coalition Meeting

Heather Marx, James Le
May 27, 2020
Agenda

West Seattle Bridge (~10 minutes)
• Project update
• Neighborhood mobility planning
• Q&A (~10 minutes)

Highland Park Way SW and SW Holden St Safety Project (~15 minutes)
• Early design overview
• Q&A and input from neighbors (~15 minutes)
West Seattle Bridge Update

Heather Marx
May 27, 2020
What has changed since March 23, 2020

• Future of the bridge remains uncertain
• Making progress on determining bridge repair or replacement
• Committed to clear communication and transparency throughout
What we’ve done since the closure

On the Bridge
• Installed monitoring instrumentation
• Secured a contractor to complete bridge stabilization
• Continuing to monitor cracking
• Pier 18 repair construction planning
What we’ve done since the closure

On the Ground

• Added six real-time cameras on detours
• Adjusted signal timing at 26 intersections
• Installed three dynamic message signs to display travel times via West Marginal Way
• Installed a temporary signal at Highland Park Way SW and SW Holden St
• Repaved the 5-way intersection west of the Spokane Street/Low Bridge
What we’ve done since the closure

In the Community

• Held 20+ stakeholder group meetings
• Completed our emergency response plan with partners
• Communicated regularly through our website, blog, emails lists, and media
• Implemented Stay Healthy Streets
What’s next

• Repaving Roxbury between 16th and 18th Avenue (May 28 & 29)
• West Marginal Way improvements
• Ongoing signal adjustments along detour route
• Preparing for Pier 18 work
• Initial meeting of Community Task Force and Technical Advisory Panel
• Continued meetings with neighborhoods, organizations, stakeholders
Community Task Force and Advisory Panel

West Seattle Bridge Community Task Force
- Approximately 40 individuals
- Includes elected officials and representatives from West Seattle Businesses, regional neighborhood groups, industrial and maritime businesses

Technical Advisory Panel
- Composed of independent experts with leading experience in bridge design and construction (particularly concrete construction), geotechnical engineering for bridge structures, and marine/maritime expertise.
- Will be convened at key milestones in the process
West Seattle Bridge - Neighborhood Mitigation Strategies

• List of ideas generated from you, SDOT staff, and existing transportation and neighborhood plans (i.e. Bike Master Plan, Transit Master Plan, Freight Master Plan)
• Focus on “Quick build” projects that could be implemented in less than one year
• Cost for each project is approximately or less than $100K
• Neighborhood priorities needed to inform traffic mitigation commitments
West Seattle Bridge - Neighborhood Mitigation Strategies

- **Week of June 8**: Share with community
- **Week of July 2**: Community provides prioritized list to City
- **Week of July 17**: City folds community priorities into mitigation plans
- **Late July**: Follow-up discussions with neighborhoods
- **August**: Action plan and timeline set
Actions you can take

Visit West Seattle Bridge Website
• [seattle.gov/transportation/westseattlebridge](http://seattle.gov/transportation/westseattlebridge)
• Click "Subscribe Now" button to get email updates about the bridge
• Browse reroute maps, FAQs, in-depth stories about the bridge and action plans, and more

Ask Questions
• [684-ROAD@seattle.gov](mailto:684-ROAD@seattle.gov)
  • 206-684-ROAD
• Sign Up for AlertSeattle
  • [alert.seattle.gov](http://alert.seattle.gov)
• Start Planning for Post “Stay Home, Stay Healthy”
• Encourage Others to Follow Low Bridge Restrictions
Questions / Discussion
Director of Downtown Mobility, Heather Marx

www.seattle.gov/transportation/WestSeattleBridge
Parameters around the capital project and bridge-related projects

Highland Park Way SW and SW Holden St Safety Project
• Location specific
• Fully funded and scheduled to start construction in 2021
• Improvements at intersection and bicycle facility to West Marginal Way
  • Traffic signal, not roundabout

West Seattle Bridge Neighborhood Mitigation Strategies
• Area includes Highland Park, Roxhill, South Delridge, and Riverview
• In planning stage
• Community will prioritize list
• Improvements
  • $100K or less each
  • Can be completed in less than 12 months
Highland Park Way SW and SW Holden St Safety Project

James Le
May 27, 2020
Project goals

• Improve safety for **ALL**
• Identify neighborhood traffic issues
• Make traffic signal at Highland/Holden **permanent** with new curbs and sidewalks
• Provide bicycle facility between Duwamish Trail and Highland Park
• Opportunities for public input
Background

• Major route into/out of West Seattle
• +20,000 people walking/rolling, biking, and driving through intersection every day
• Sightline issues (11% grade)
• Serves Metro route #131
• Multi-use path east side of Highland Park Way SW
• Funded by Mercer Megablock proceeds and Move Seattle
Crashes

• **195 total crashes** within the last 5 years (2015-2019)
  • 4 pedestrian
  • 3 bicycle
  • 6 serious injury
  • 1 fatal
Traffic volumes along Highland Park Way SW and W Marginal Way SW have increased since bridge closure.

West Seattle traffic volumes before/after bridge closure

- 16th Ave S
- 35th Ave SW
- Delridge Way SW
- SW Roxbury St
- W Marginal Way SW
- Highland Park Way SW

2018 (prior to bridge closure)
Week of 4/12-4/19 (after bridge closure)
Speeds

- Recent speed studies were collected December 2019
- Speed cushions/humps can reduce vehicular speeds
  - May impact emergency response
  - May increase noise levels
  - Not installed where roadway slope is greater than 8%
  - Typically installed where vehicular speeds are +5 mph over speed limit

Speed cushions near 16th Ave SW/SW Myrtle St for Sanislo Elementary School (“Your Voice, Your Choice” and Safe Routes to School)
Speeds

• Vehicles are traveling +5 mph over speed limit for segments shown in orange - speed hump/cushions will be installed

• Vehicles are traveling less than 5 mph over speed limit for segments in blue

See next slide for Highland Park south
**Speeds**

- Many traffic calming measures have been installed by Safe Routes to School and Neighborhood Greenways.
- Greenways evaluating for additional traffic calming in this area.
- Vehicles are traveling +5 mph over speed limit for segments shown in **orange** - speed hump/cushions will be installed.
Why speed matters?

- Speed is *the* critical factor in the frequency and severity of a crash
- Key part of Vision Zero’s efforts
What we’ve heard

• Neighborhood cut-through traffic
• Crossing improvements along 9th Ave SW
• Provide left-turn signal phasing at 16th Ave SW & Holden and Highland & Holden
• Increased pavement friction uphill on Highland Park Way SW
• Bike facility between Duwamish Trail and Highland Park neighborhood
• Turning from non-arterial streets into SW Holden St
• No rechannelization for bike lane

Highland Park Way SW looking south
Short-term improvements

• Temporary traffic signal (completed April 2020)
• Left-turn lanes at 16th/Holden
• Traffic calming elements (Phase 1) being designed:
  • Reduce speed limit to 25 MPH
  • Parking lane lines and painted curb bulbs along 9th Ave SW
  • Speed humps/cushions
  • Radar speed signs

Zig zag treatment at 9th Ave SW & SW Cloverdale St
Proposed improvements

- Permanent traffic signal at Highland/Holden with left-turn phasing
- Concrete curb bulbs and sidewalks
- Widening existing path on east side of Highland Park Way SW
- Neighborhood traffic calming (Phase 2)*
- Southbound protected bike lane (re-evaluate when traffic volumes normalize)*

* Evaluated as more data is being collected
Please take our survey!

www.surveymonkey.com/r/highlandholden

Translation services available (206) 727-8697

Provide input by May 31st
Next steps

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is happening</th>
<th>When</th>
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<tr>
<td>Issues identification meeting</td>
<td>May 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design update and review meeting</td>
<td>Fall 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Implement neighborhood traffic calming</td>
<td>Q4 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Q4 2021</td>
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<td>Evaluation</td>
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Questions / Discussion
Project Developer James Le

www.seattle.gov/transportation/HighlandParkSafety