Highland Park Way SW and SW Holden St Safety Project

Vision Zero Project
Presentation overview

• Background
• Existing conditions
• Proposed changes
• Next steps
West Seattle High-Rise Bridge Closure

• Significant impacts to Highland Park
• Neighborhood is a priority for SDOT
• Temporary signal installed in early April
• Presented at Highland Park Action Committee (HPAC) meeting on April 23
  • Responded to requests on May 5
• Next steps
  • Developing a neighborhood specific plan
  • Attending the May 27 HPAC meeting
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

Temporary traffic signal at Highland/Holden installed April 2020
Crashes

- **195 total crashes** within the last 5 years (2015-2019)
  - 4 pedestrian
  - 3 bicycle
  - 6 serious injury
  - 1 fatal
Traffic volumes

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) vs 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** - will be evaluated for speed hump/cushions

• Vehicles are traveling less than 5 mph over speed limit for segments in **blue**
**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 - will be evaluated for speed hump/cushions.
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

• Install a traffic signal or roundabout
• 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
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
• Southbound protected bike lane (re-evaluate when traffic volumes normalize)*
• Neighborhood traffic calming (Phase 2)*

* 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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<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?

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www.seattle.gov/transportation/HighlandParkSafetyImprovements