

# Olympic Hills Home Zone

Steering Committee Meeting

November 2, 2022

# Agenda

- Introductions
- What is a Home Zone
  - *Process*
  - *Tools*
- Home Zone History
- Community Walks
- Questions and Comments
- Next Steps



# Home Zones - What are they?

A holistic and cost-effective approach to encouraging slower vehicle speeds and making residential streets more walkable within a neighborhood.



# Home Zone - Process

1. Put together a Home Zone Steering Committee
2. Work with the Steering Committee to develop walking/listening tours
3. Co-develop options that address priority concerns
4. Reach out to other Programs and Departments to identify additional funding
5. Design and Construct - Project examples are in the Home Zone Toolkit

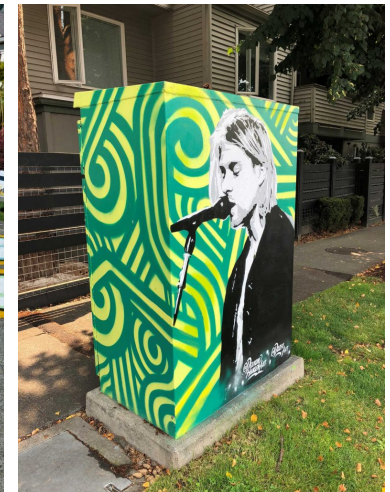
# HOME ZONE TOOLKIT



# Community Building

- A Home Zone Program focuses on Community Building. A neighborhood can do many things to engage, support and make their community strong:

- Planting Trees
- Little Free library/pantry
- Painted Intersections
- Community Artwork
- Neighborhood Clean-up/gardening parties
- Parklets



# Slowing Traffic

- On non-arterial streets without curbs, the average speed of traffic is 26 mph compared to 20 mph where there are curbs and parking
- Speed humps and speed cushions slow vehicles so that walking on the street feels safer
- Neighborhood Greenways (NGW) applies this concept on a corridor
- Stay Healthy Streets adds vehicle restrictions to Neighborhood Greenways



# Pedestrian Improvements

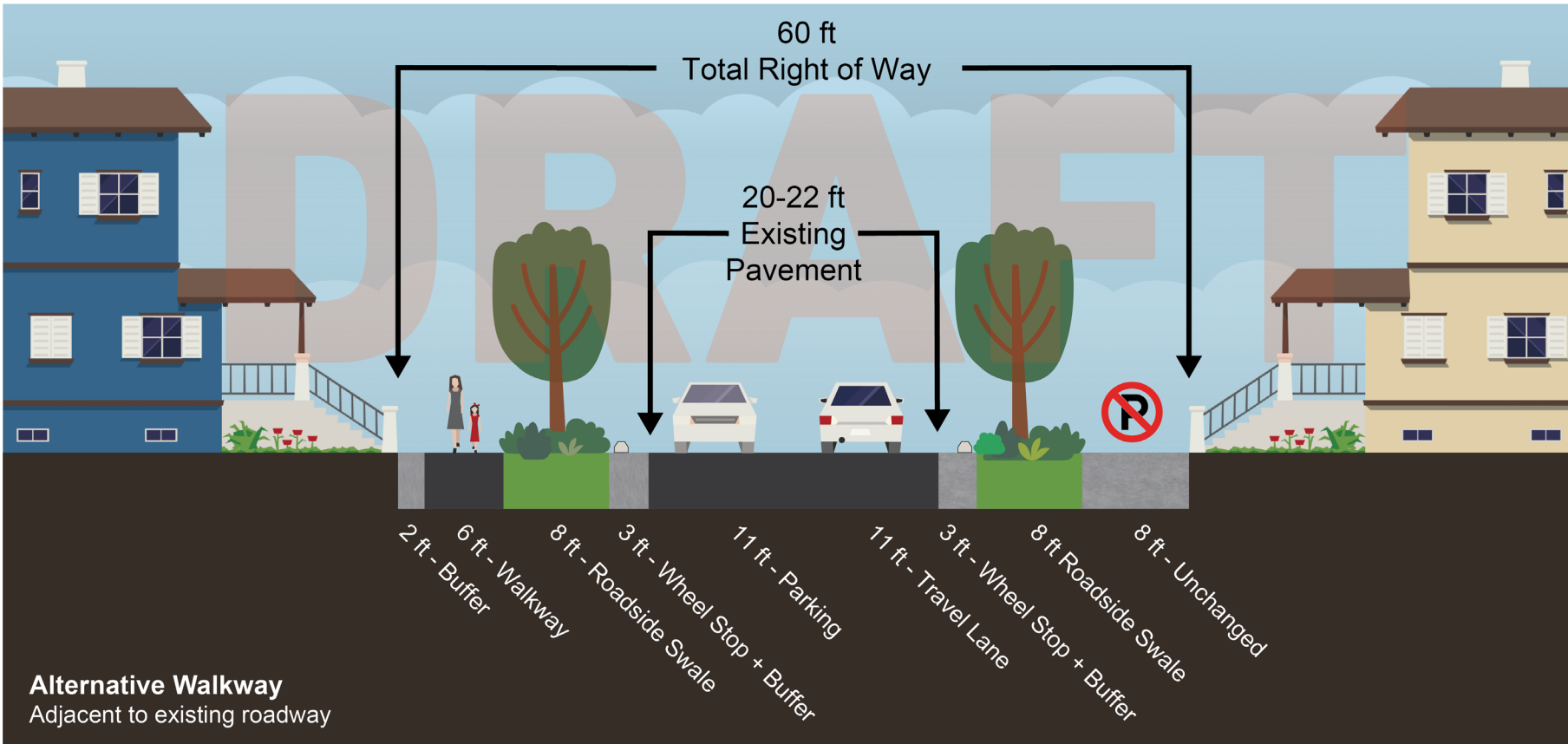
- There are approximately 11,000 blocks in the City of Seattle without sidewalks.
- Traditional concrete sidewalks and curbs cost about \$400,000 per 330 ft (one blockface)
- Alternative walkways, using asphalt and plantings cost about \$150,000 per 330 ft (one blockface)
- When there are existing sidewalks but no curbs, SDOT can install wheel stops and plantings



6<sup>th</sup> Ave S between S Orcas St to S Fidalgo St (plantings to come)



# What are Alternative Walkways?



- Cost is estimated at \$150K per blockface.
- Roadside Swales can be installed on the other side if parking is not desired.



# Examples of Roadside Swales

Designed so that rainwater from the street goes into the planting area.

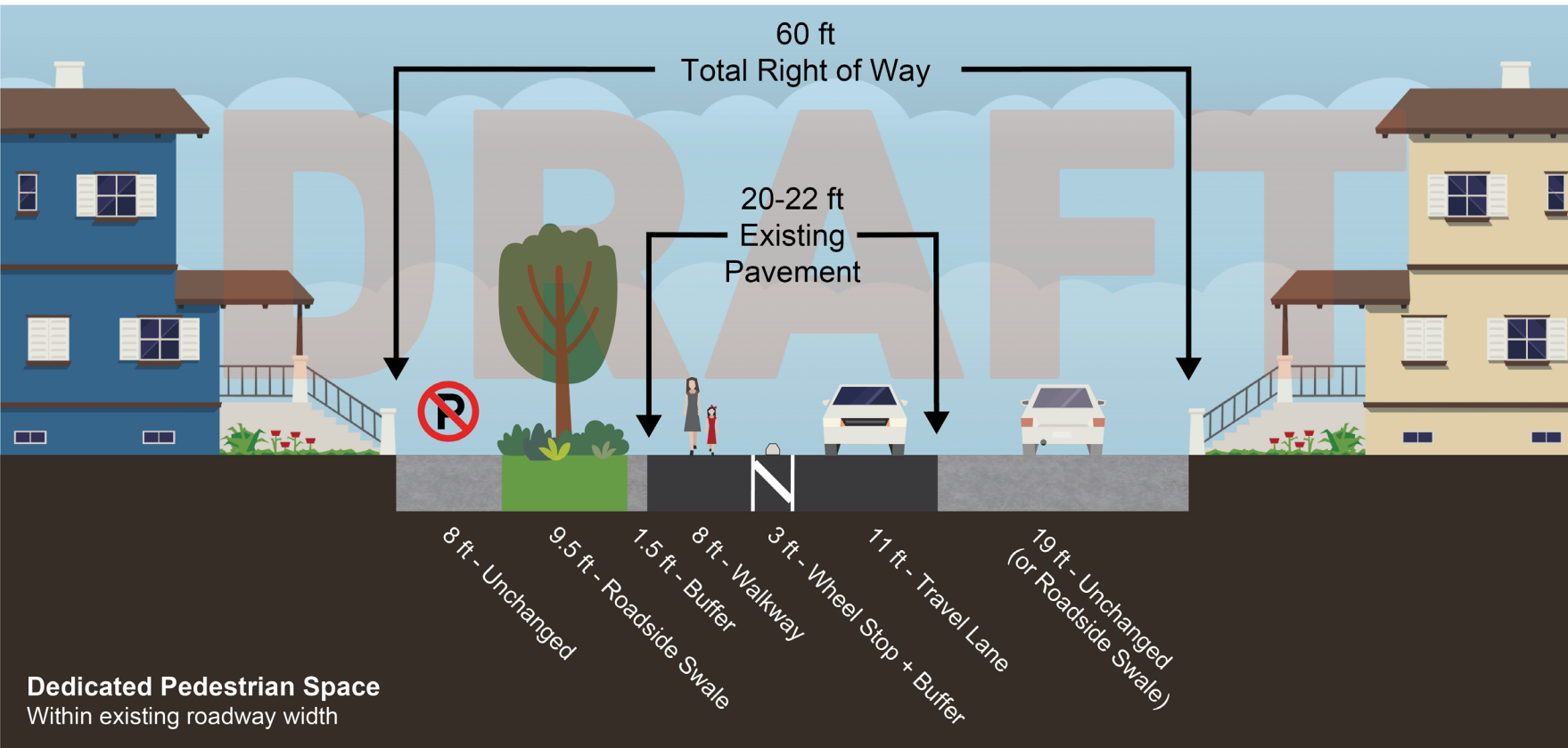
Planting is maintained by property owners.

This allows trees and other greenery to be planted to improve air quality and reduce heat islands.



SW Juneau St between Delridge Way SW and 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave SW – planted in 2017

# What is Dedicated Pedestrian Space?



- Parking will be prohibited next to walkway.
- Raingarden swales can be planted next to street edge.
- An alternative walkway can be installed later when there are available funds.

# What is Dedicated Pedestrian Space cont.

- Entails installing pre-cast concrete curbs on the existing 18' Roadway
  - Pedestrian space would be 6' wide
  - Existing cross-slope is generally 2-3%
  - Reflective Posts are installed at intersection and driveways
    - This increases visibility and provides a vertical element
  - Current gap between pre-cast concrete curb is 1' for drainage.
    - Consider narrowing to 1" for those using a cane
  - Must have detectable/truncated domes at intersections



NE 90th St between 17th Ave NE & 20th Ave NE



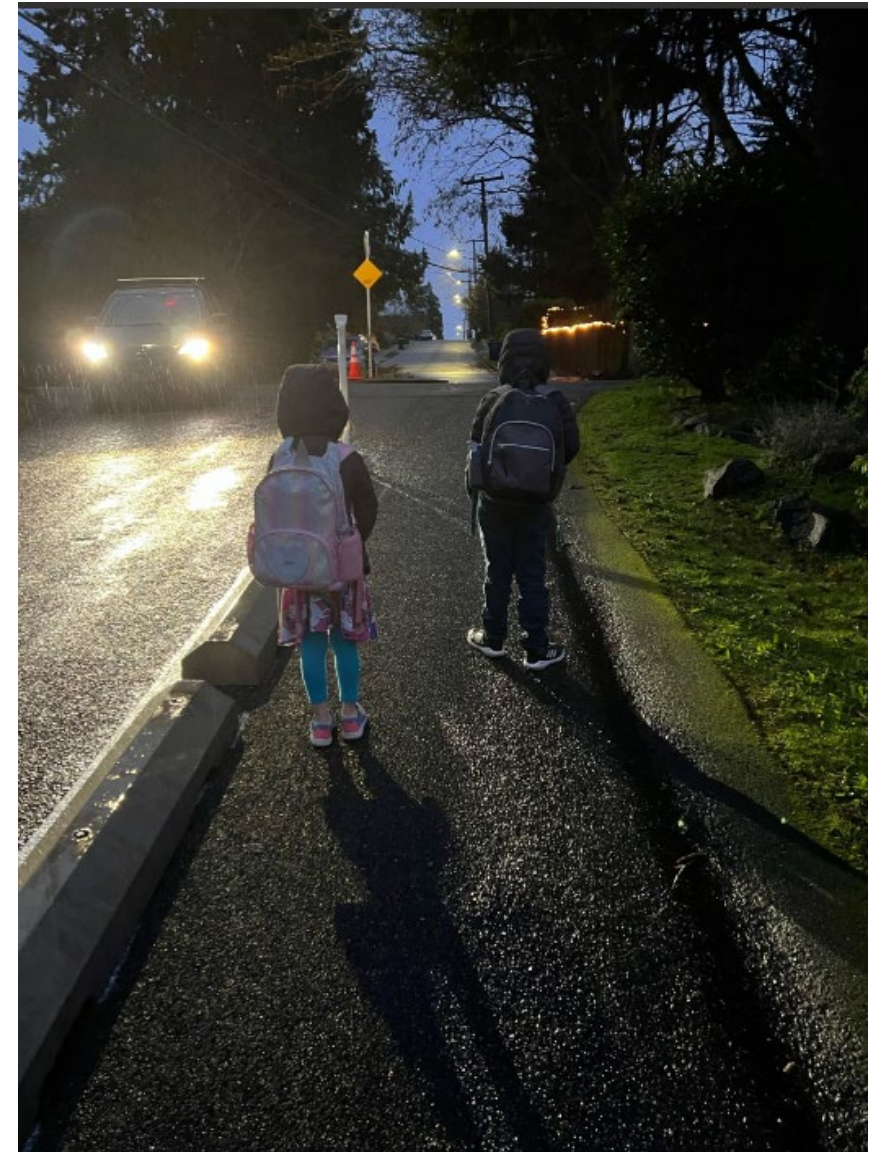
**6<sup>th</sup> Ave S Before**



**6<sup>th</sup> Ave S After**

# Testimonials from Sacajawea Elementary

- "We are still loving the walkway and the safety it provides!"
- "This summer, my kids have felt confident to visit their friends' houses close by without me nervously walking with them."
- "It (is) really important to have safe places to walk to school especially during the dark months."
- "We have had at least one car pass us while using the walkway, and I have been thankful to have the separated walking pathway."



NE 90th St between 17th Ave NE & 20th Ave NE

# Home Zone History

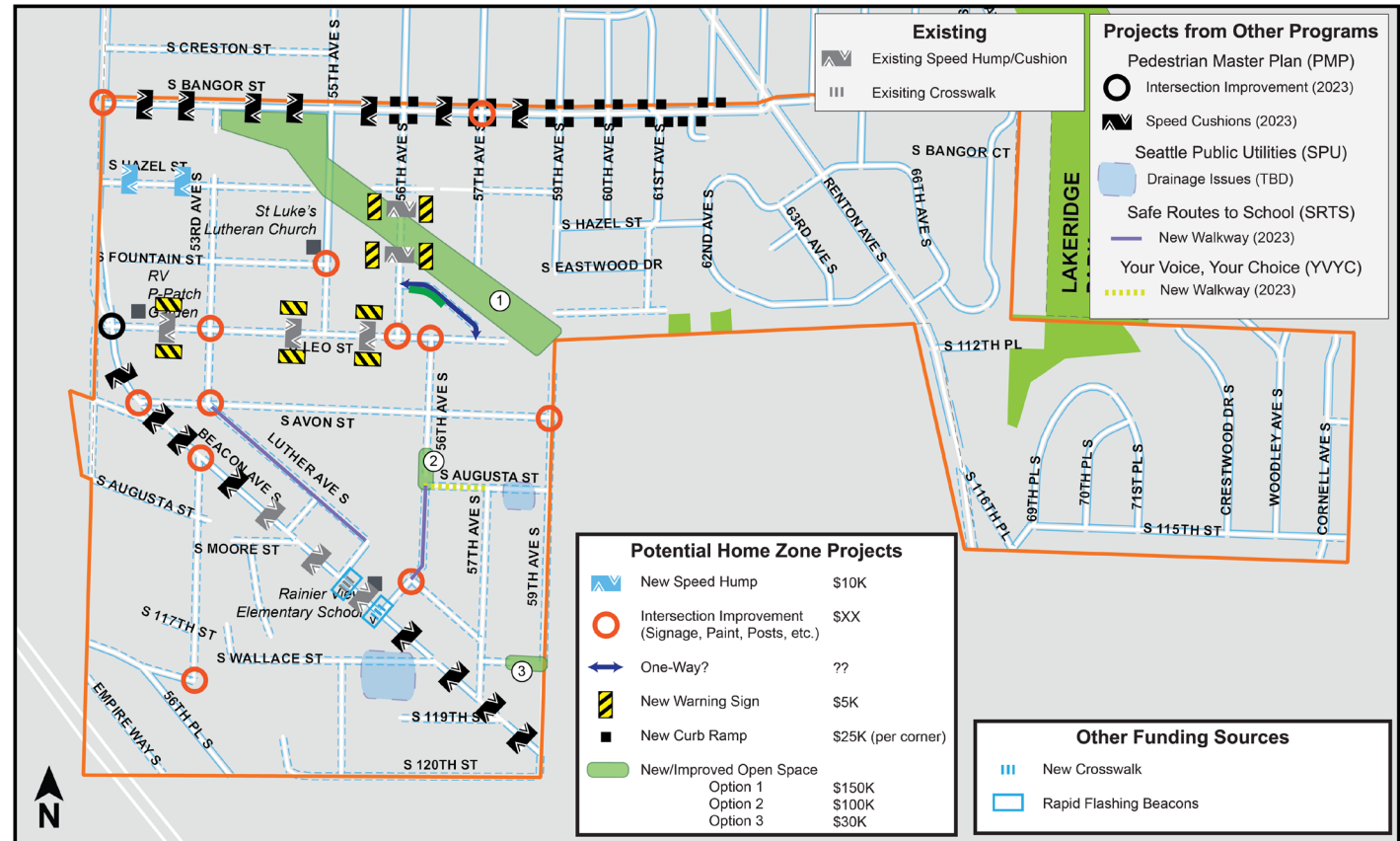
- Community groups advocated for Home Zones and the City Council allocated funds for a pilot in 2018.
- In response to West Seattle Bridge closure, SDOT created Home Zones in South Park, Georgetown and Highland Park with \$1.5M each.
- City Council allocated another \$1M for Home Zones in 2022 and specified \$200k per Home Zone.



# Current Home Zones Being Developed

- Aurora Licton Urban Village and Olympic Hills/Lake City are just starting development
- Rainier View will be complete in early 2023
- New Holly/Othello is being finalized

Rainier View Draft Home Zone (4) - Do Not Share Outside of Steering Committee









Last Updated: 9/8/2022

# New Holly/Othello Home Zone

## Potential Improvements

### Home Zone Funding



-  1. Intersection Improvements
-  2. Traffic Calmed Route (Speed Humps and Signage)
-  3. Speed Humps
- 4. Conceptual Design Only

-  a. Chief Seattle Trail
-  b. Walkway Improvements
-  c. Intersection Improvements

### Other Funding

-  Neighborhood Greenway
-  New Crossing Improvement
-  New Curb Ramps
-  Chief Sealth Trail Improvements
-  New Sidewalk

### Grant Requests

-  Asphalt Pathways
-  New Crossing Flashing Beacon



## Existing Improvements

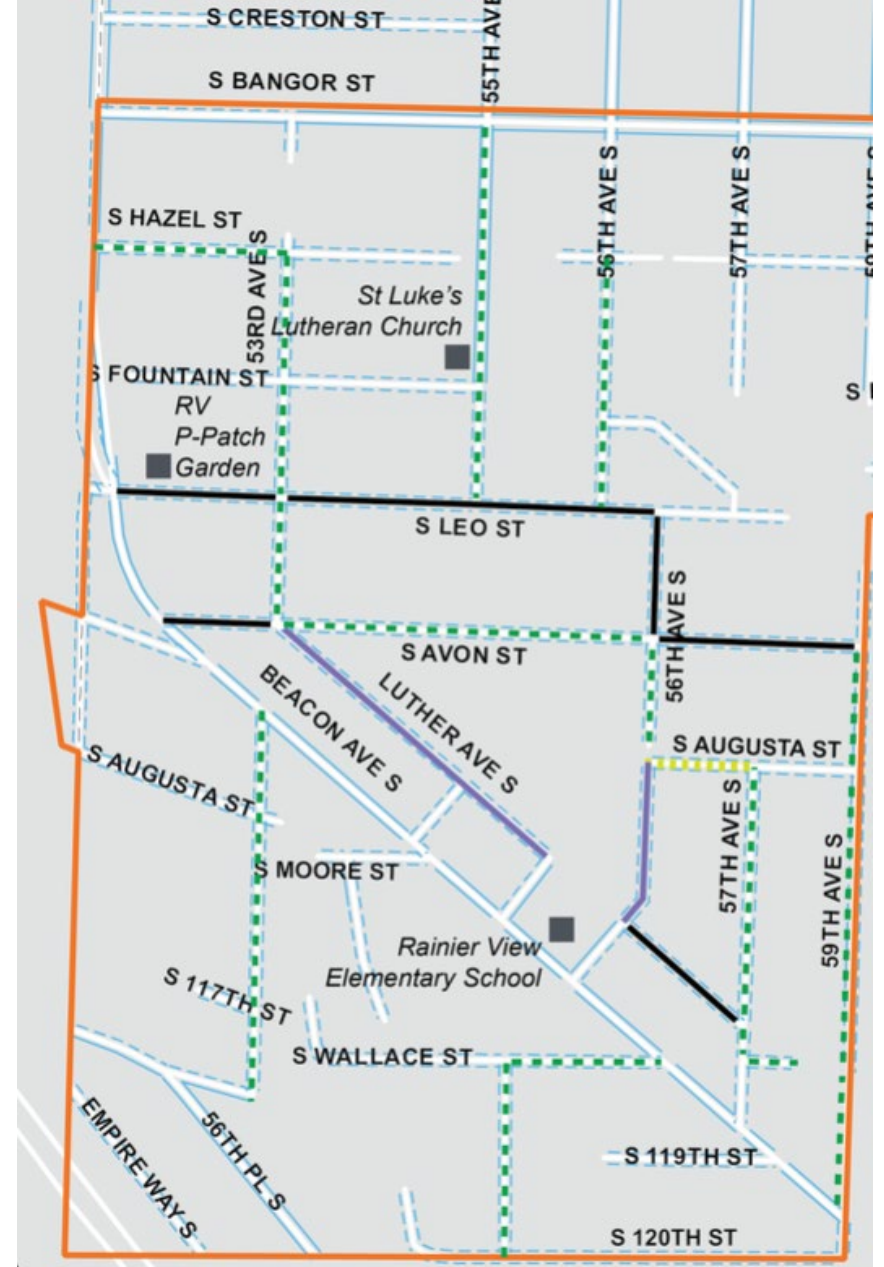
-  Existing Speed Hump
-  Completed Crossing Improvement
-  Completed Decorative Crosswalk
-  Stop Sign
-  Youth Mural



# Rainier View Home Zone

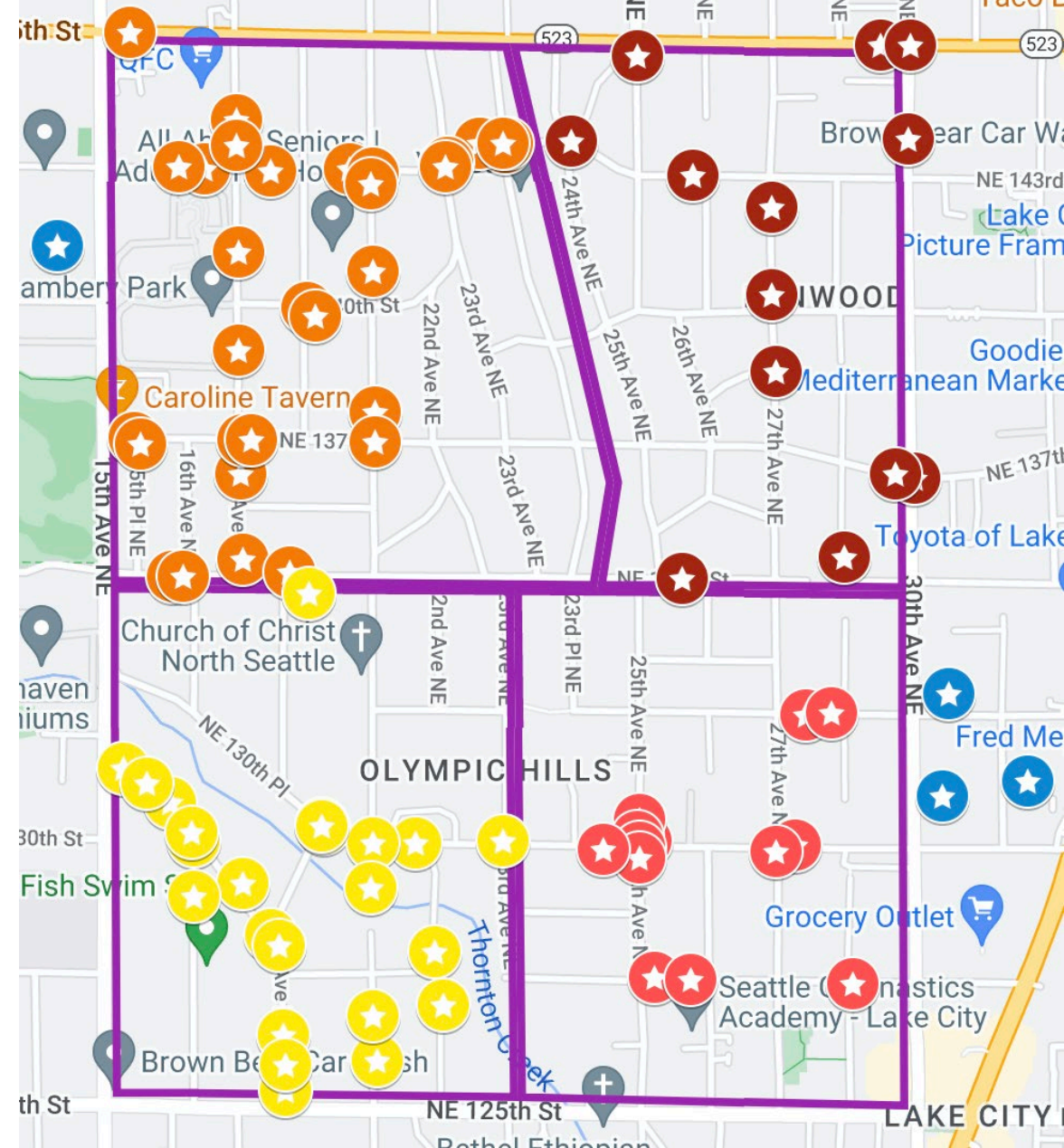
There is almost \$3M available through other programs for pedestrian improvements. SDOT is evaluating:

- 15 blocks of alternative walkways (\$2,250,000) —
- 27 blocks of dedicated pedestrian space (\$540,000) - - -



# Olympic Hills Community Walking Tour

- Had ~30 participants during the four tours
- SPU participated in each tour
  - Focused on collaboration with SPU Natural Drainage System (NDS) project
- SDOT Director Gregg Spotts attended last community walk
- Primary concern: pedestrian and vehicles on roadway
- [Google Map](#)



# Home Zone Timeline

## • **June - December 2022**

- SDOT will outreach to community leaders to determine interest in a Home Zone
- Put together Steering Committee
- Design outreach strategies with community stakeholders
- Collect additional concerns from neighborhood walking tours

## • **January - April 2023**

- Collect data
- Implement community outreach strategies to collect resident feedback on specific projects
- Develop draft Home Zone plan

## • **May - August 2023**

- Finalize Home Zone
- Design priority projects

## • **August '23 - 2024**

- Implement priority projects
- Continue neighborhood collaboration on long-term improvements

# Next Steps

- Additional steering committee members?
- Website, digital communications
- Further outreach?
  - Olympic Hills PTSA?
- Choose standing meeting time
  - Starting in January
  - Once per month
- Collect data in January
- Develop draft Home Zone based on community concerns



# Questions / Comments

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<http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/projects-and-programs/programs/home-zone-program>