

RAINIER AVE S CORRIDOR PROJECT - PHASE 2

Winter 2017

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Rainier Ave S is an arterial street in southeast Seattle supporting retail shopping, restaurants, schools, parks, and activity centers. The people of southeast Seattle have come from all corners of the globe, bringing their own cultures, languages, and food with a shared determination to succeed in their new home.

WHY DID WE CHANGE RAINIER AVE S THROUGH COLUMBIA CITY AND HILLMAN CITY?

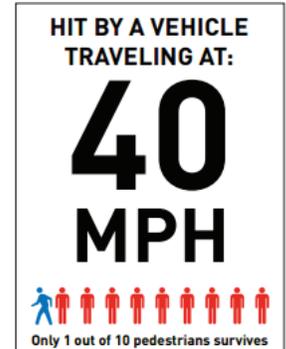
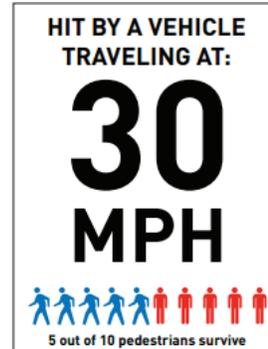
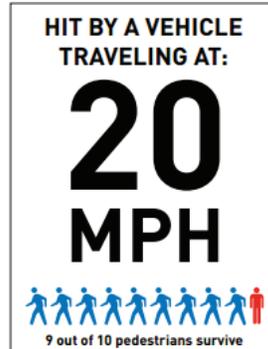
Over the last 10 years, there have been nearly 3,600 total collisions along Rainier Ave S. On average, there is **1 crash** per day that takes **45 minutes to clear**.

Rainier has almost double the number of crashes per mile compared to Aurora Ave N and Lake City Way NE even though they carry almost twice the vehicle volume.

Most people were driving at 38 mph, where the posted speed limit was 30 mph. Speeding increases the severity of crashes and makes it more difficult for people driving to recognize possible hazards including people walking and biking.

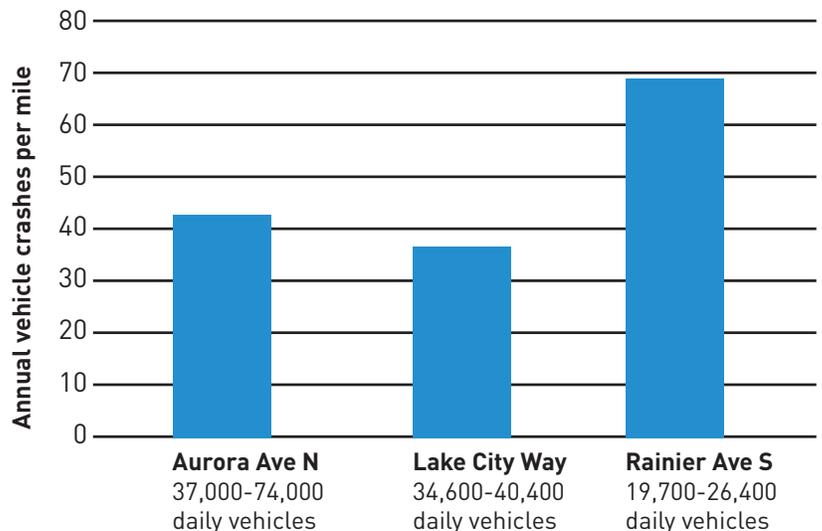
PROJECT GOALS

- Increase safety and predictability for all travelers
- Improve bicycle connections as our city continues to grow
- Promote physical activity and increase ridership
- Provide affordable travel options



Studies show a pedestrian hit by a vehicle traveling 40 mph has a 90% likelihood of dying while those hit by a vehicle traveling 20 mph have a 10% likelihood.

HOW DOES RAINIER AVE S COMPARE WITH OTHER STREETS?



Compared with other principal arterial roadways in Seattle, Rainier has a per mile crash rate higher than streets that carry more than two times the traffic volume, making it a top candidate for street design modifications.

PHASE 1 RESULTS

In 2015, we changed the street design of Rainier Ave S between S Alaska St to S Kenny St from 4 lanes to 3 lanes, with one travel lane in each direction and a center turn lane. We reduced the speed limit from 30 to 25 mph. The goal of the project was to reduce speeding and the number and severity of crashes to save lives, and to make Rainier Ave S a more dynamic main street for southeast Seattle.

PROJECT INFORMATION & CONTACT

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One year after we made these changes, we've seen the total number of crashes reduced by 15% and zero serious injury or fatal collisions reported within the project limits. Average vehicle speeds along the corridor have reduced to 29 mph.

The project received positive feedback from community members:

"There's less speeding, fewer backups when turning, less chaos when walking, and just less fear! Our neighborhood feels more connected."

– Joya Iverson
Owner – Tin Umbrella Coffee Shop in Hillman City

PHASE 2

This year we're planning to continue our work on Rainier Ave S from S Kenny St to S Henderson St.

Here are our safety goals:

- Reduce the average vehicle speed and incidents of speeding
- Reduce the number of serious injury or fatality collisions
- Improve intersections
- Improve bus speed and reliability



This project will work closely with several other projects, including: upgrading Route 7 to a RapidRide line; enhancing safety and transit access at Rainier and Martin Luther King Jr Way; and improving safety for students along S Henderson St.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

Learn more about the project and get involved by visiting www.seattle.gov/transportation/RainierAveS.htm. You'll find information and our online survey where you can share feedback.