

**Lake Washington Blvd Keep Moving Street
5 Day Pilot - Public Comments**

Comment

I noticed that a pilot for a Stay Healthy Street has started for Lake Washington Blvd, from Baker Beach to Seward Park.

I'm a fan of the Bicycle Sunday program for that same stretch of street; I think my preference would be to extend that program to weekends (Sat/Sun), but am less in favor of the 24/7 Stay Healthy program. While I'm not affected by the closure of a commuting passage in the neighborhood, I do see the difficulty for other residents - both in terms of not having access to Lake Washington Blvd and the increased commuting traffic in the neighborhood.

Weekend closures seem to make the most sense to me.

Thanks for taking my input.

CAUTION: External Email

Please extend from Seward Park to mad park.

Sent from my iPhone

Hello, I read on the parks department website that Lake Washington Boulevard was going to be closed today through June 30 but I just went down there with my bike and there were lots of cars swerving around bikes dangerously (Even worse than usual for some reason).

I'm just wondering now if the plan has changed and there's not gonna be the five day pilot program or what's happening.

I'd also like to make an emphatic vote for removing cars from Lake Washington Boulevard, especially during the warmer months and the pandemic

Thank you for your time and attention,

Sent from my iPhone

My husband and I walk Along Lake Washington Blvd. S daily, even on rainy days. The closing of this Blvd. has been wonderful. As we walk daily we have seen cars speeding up to 60 mph, a car in the lake, motorcycles passing cars at high speed, motorists cussing at bike riders, close call accidents...We walked yesterday and saw families, walkers, joggers, cyclists and foot traffic all outside for some fresh air. All social distancing although not all masked. We say "keep the Blvd. closed !"

Thank you for 5 days of no traffic.

Mt. Baker residents since 198X

Please keep Lake Washington Blvd reserved for bikes and pedestrians as a Stay Healthy Street! It is a great use of the lakefront and a step in the right direction towards making the area a family-friendly recreational zone. My family will use it heavily over the summer. We spend a lot of summer time at Mt. Baker Beach and Seward Park. Now we can include the bike ride back and forth as part of our summer activities!

Please add Lake Washington Boulevard to the safe streets program and make the closure to vehicles permanent.

It is a dream biking, walking, and running street on which I never ride my bike, because I consider it far too dangerous. Two of my dear neighbors were recently hospitalized with severe injuries sustained in a hit and run on Lake Washington Boulevard.

Thank you and kind regards,

_____, Mt Baker resident and 20+ year bicycle commuter.

Dear city council,

My sister nearly died from a hit and run on lake Washington Blvd five months ago. It would allow families a much safer recreational experience and prevent accidents.

Thank you,

Hello -

I live in Columbia City. For the two years I've lived here I always avoid biking on Lake Washington Blvd because of the amount of car traffic, the speeds people drive, and their dangerous attempts to pass cyclists. I went for a ride on Friday during the pilot closure and it was INCREDIBLE. I was able to relax and take in the fresh air and beautiful view without the stress or fear that the typical traffic along the road instills. It was also incredibly heartwarming to see so many families with young children able to ride in the road safely and comfortably, while easily meeting social distancing recommendations.

I truly hope this pilot can be extended throughout the summer, if not made permanent. Thanks for making it happen, and for considering my feedback.

- Zach

Once again I must applaud the Stay Healthy Streets program; the bicycling along Lake Washington Boulevard was wonderful on Sunday, enjoyed by so many people and families yet the safe spacing was universal. I do hope the program is continued. The inconvenience to local property owners was minimal; very few cars going a short distance; only one annoying hot rod in two days. Keep it up! --- ___ (Issaquah)

Thank you for (finally) closing Lake Washington Boulevard to cars so walkers, joggers, and cyclists (like my kids and me) have enough room to safely exercise. I have been biking, running and walking along the lake for the past few days and loving it. We live about half a mile from Mt. Baker boat house.

I think some more news of the closure and at least some police enforcement would be good. On Friday and Saturday, I encountered several cars that drove around the barriers, and some drivers were pretty defiant when I tried to wave them off the Boulevard. After driving around two barriers, one driver finally gave up and knocked down a barrier while leaving the boulevard. (I put it back up.)

With all the parking lots closed, there really isn't any reason to have this stretch of the boulevard open to cars (except residents, deliveries, etc.) anyway. As far as I can tell, most of the drivers on the boulevard are driving there just to avoid the "road diet" on Rainier Ave S or trying to find a pseudo-legal parking spot. For the past few months, nearly every time I have biked along the Boulevard, I've had at least one encounter with a frustrated driver who wanted to speed and not give cyclists adequate space. Most of the cars driving there have been going WAY too fast. When I have driven there, I feel like I'm the only one staying at the 25 mph speed limit, with cars frequently passing me going over 40 mph.

And when the weather is good, there are so many people near the lake shore that it becomes almost impossible to safely distance while on foot or bike using only the sidewalks and paths. We need the road to be free of cars to allow people the space to spread out while walking and biking.

thank you,

We've loved the 5 day test closure so far. It's been like a busy but distant "Bike Sunday" there any time it's not raining. People have generally been great but a few cars have been bypassing the signs to use it like an arterial anyway. Latest example was several cars on this Monday morning.

My wife and I would love to keep it this way forever, even if we do lose one of our normal routes to get places by car. I'm a big time cyclist and it's gotten me out on my bike even more for mundane trips like groceries and such.

Cheers,

_____ in Lakewood

I'm a huge fan, please extend the closure through the summer and consider permanent closure to through traffic during the summer. It's a great place to walk and enjoy the summer and the sidewalk isn't nearly big enough for all the people nor smooth enough for running/biking in some places. As well with the number of bikes travelling up and down the road it's also not wide enough to facilitate safe travel for both cycle and auto traffic.

This waterfront is a gem of the city, please consider pulling it back more frequently for non-motorized uses!

Sincerely,

Mt Baker Neighborhood

It is nice to have a safe place to let my kids ride their bikes. With so many camps, gyms, parks and other closures it has been difficult to get outside safely. We live in the Seward Park neighborhood and agree with the closure for bikes and foot traffic.

Thank you,

Sent from my iPhone

Thank you! What a fantastic atmosphere this weekend. Great to have a place for everyone to enjoy near the lake front. I often run and bike on lake wash blvd and there is too much car traffic for anyone but an experienced cyclist. Pedestrian paths are too narrow. Please make this permanent.

Hello SDOT,

The closure has had some positive impacts in the neighborhood. With the summer weather, there are a lot of people previously crowding the path. Now those runners, walkers and bikers can spread out. In particular, families that have kids that were able to bike safely together today from Mt. Baker all the way down to Seward Park. We were among the walkers out and able to do an extra long walk (8 mile loop) because of the closure, while sticking to our neighborhood and maintaining social distancing. The amount of dangerous speeding and music / cruising by cars using the waterfront as a personal pot pitstop dropped as well. Please continue this excellent change all summer!

Thanks,

Mt. Baker neighborhood.

Please keep lake wa Blvd closed. It makes for safer walking and bike riding.

Thank you for all you are doing to take care of us. I appreciate you and the difficult choices you are carefully making.

Whatever you think is best, I'll stand behind. I know you will carefully consider all sorts of options.

Hello

I have a four year old toddler who is learning how to ride her bike. When Seward park banned cyclists, this include my four year toddler and her tiny little bikes. With this road closure of lake Washington, she is able to get outside and enjoy the outdoor, while learning how to ride her bike. With no vaccines in sight for COVID19, having things and places to go safely outdoor is something that is greatly appreciated.

Best

Greetings!

I am writing in support of closing lake Washington Blvd to car traffic in order to allow people to walk and bike safely with social distancing.

I am a local resident.

Thanks!

Hello-

We live near Lake Washington Blvd in Seattle and have really enjoyed the recent closure. We've been out on family walks every day, sometimes twice per day. We've seen tons of people utilizing the street yet we've had plenty of space to social distance. Because of where we live, we do need to change any routes when we drive somewhere, but it is 100% worth it and we do not mind this at all.

We would love to see the closure extended, thank you for your consideration.

Thanks,

I love having these safe streets for my 3yo to ride on. We went to Lake Washington Blvd yesterday where he learned how to use a pedal bike with no training wheels! It was such a special memory that I will cherish forever. Thank you for creating safe places for us to bicycle with our children!

Sent from my iPhone

Thank you for closing the streets!

Lake Washington/Seward Park!!

Mt Baker

Dear Stay Healthy Streets,

I so appreciate the Stay Healthy Streets program! As a former long distance rider in another city, I have been afraid to ride my bike on Seattle streets for fear of my life. I'm currently mustering up the courage to ride on Seattle streets and would love to ride on Lake Washington Blvd on more days than just the Sundays as in previous years.

Please add Lake Washington Blvd to the safe streets program to allow riders, walkers and runners the enjoyment of the lake without fearing for their lives.

Thanks for your consideration!

Warm regards,
Mt. Baker resident

Hi there,

I really enjoyed the portion of Lake Washington BLVD being open to pedestrians/bikes. We usually walk along the lake every day but since COVID have been avoiding it, since the path is narrow and there are people out there, it can be hard to social distance. This was not the case with the ability to walk in the street. Please consider keeping it open to pedestrian traffic all the time!

Thanks,

Kudos to Seattle for this program. During Friday's brilliant weather it was a great pleasure to see the safe distancing in the happy people near Seward Park. This is a wonderful program!

Hello,

I live on _____ a few doors from Lk Washingto Blvd.

I am writing to let you know that I support closing the street by the lake to cars. It is wonderful for people during this pandemic to social distance and use the road to walk, jog and ride bikes.

Good work!

Sent from my iPhone

Hi Seattle Parks and Rec,

Please keep up the Lake Wa Blvd street closure! It's great to have a stress-free place to bike with family!

Thank you,

Mount Baker Resident

Hi,

I heard that you were soliciting comments about the pilot Lake Washington Blvd Stay Healthy Streets program. I was on it Friday and Sunday, and it was GREAT! If you do it some more, I'll definitely take advantage of it. I've actually been avoiding Lake Washington Blvd for my walks and bike rides, because the usage was high enough that I did not feel like I could consistently maintain a safe 6 ft distance. With the street closed, that's changed: there's plenty of room for walkers, joggers, and bicyclists to avoid each other. 👍

Best,

I thought the Lake Washington Boulevard trial was a big success this weekend. There appeared to be more significantly more users (bikes, pedestrians, and cars put together) than on a typical weekend, but people kept their distance and it wasn't so many as to be crowded. The small number of cars that needed to get to local destinations went at a biking speed. I noticed that the traffic counting hose was placed on a section of road where the sidewalk is wider than on most of the route, so it may have missed some bikes that treated that sidewalk as a bike path. I think this stretch of road should be permanently closed to through car traffic at least during certain hours like Five Mile Drive in Tacoma's Point Defiance Park if not all the time.

Hello,

My husband and I really enjoyed biking on the closed portion of Lake Washington Boulevard today. We hope that continues as a Stay Healthy Street!

Thanks!
Madrona Resident

I was able to enjoy biking along the boulevard three times during the past 5 days. It was delightful! The signage was well positioned, and there was ample opportunity provided for residents to get to and from their homes.

It was especially gratifying to see so many Black and other POCs taking advantage of the closure.

What a gift! All the best, _____, Columbia City

Thank you for setting up Lake Washington Blvd as a Stay Healthy Street! It's a big improvement over everyone trying to fit on the narrow pedestrian path. Plus, I was really missing Bicycle Sundays! Bicycle Every Day is even better!

Best,

Hello

I was able to take my 3 year old in a Burley bike trailer along Lake WA Boulevard yesterday and my wife took him today. People did a great job social distancing and it was a great chance to reclaim part of the city from cars even if just for a few days. This is arguably one of the most scenic roads in the entire city and we have largely prioritized it for cars during its entire existence. Why not let only people walk, bike, and roll along it for the rest of the summer?

Thanks,

Just wanted to say how happy I am that you've closed Lake Washington Blvd to auto traffic. It's such a treasure and now more of us can get outside, stay healthy, and enjoy this magnificent part of the city. I really hope you make this permanent—I now bike down the boulevard most every day.

Best regards,

City of Seattle,

Thank you for providing outdoor options for my family by closing Lake Washington Blvd.

Our family enjoyed using the street when the weather was good.

I hope it was not too much of an inconvenience to people who live on Lake Washington Blvd.

We would use the street almost daily biking and walking with our two kids (if not for the rain).

Thank you for considering the future of outdoor opportunities during this unusual time.

Thank you,

HI SDOT

Thank you for closing the Boulevard for a trial run. My opinion is that the closure is very successful because there is such a wonderful use of the boulevard from a great diversity of people. They are now out on the street and sidewalk and path using their feet, their bikes, skates, strollers, scooters, etc that it means the closure should be extended for the summer. And there is room to keep distance and everyone seems to respect that! And this is during the five days of lousy weather even. The boulevard is so peaceful and feels so geared toward what it is to be human and experience nature and the peacefulness we all need now.

There is so much reduced noise from cars, including those that come in the middle of the night (motorcycles?) screaming along the boulevard and waking up thousands of people who are within earshot of one or two lone selfish "joy riders."

Anyway, I could go on. Mostly I want to say THANK YOU AND PLEASE EXTEND THE CLOSURE FOR THE SUMMER!

Hi,

I strongly support car free Lake Washington Blvd. I've noticed that all users can better maintain social distance safely. Before, walkers and runners would go in the street when passing each other on the walkway and that wasn't safe with traffic and no shoulder.

In addition it is great for cyclists of all ages and speeds. Families with kids are able use the street safely.

There are a number of car commuters and construction pickup truck drivers that use Lake Wash Blvd instead of arterials and pass cyclists close and sometimes unsafely. Car free makes morning and evening cycling much safer.

Sincerely,

Please extend the closure for lake WA Blvd through the summer. People are using it and when its closed the path that runs parallel to the road becomes overcrowded and unsafe to use especially for older residents in the area.

As second and third generation Seward Park residents, we fully support the continued closure of Seward Park Blvd to cars. It is vital in allowing individuals, families and children a space to get out, exercise, and stay healthy while socially distancing. Everyone is living with an increased level of stress these days. The opportunity to safely walk, run or bike along the lake is an easy way to relieve some of the stress and improve our mental as well as physical health. As an essential downtown commuter, the added few minutes to my drive as a result of the closure is a very small price to pay knowing that providing this space makes for a healthier, happier and better neighborhood and community. Our local parks are our refuge these days.

Thank you for being bold and innovative during these difficult times.

I live at the north end of the closure area in Mt Baker. I completely support the road closure to provide safe outdoor space during the pandemic! My concern is with the lack of regulation and monitoring of the closed road. I have used the closure pilot to both walk my dogs and ride bicycles with my family. There is a very high number, 10-15 per hour, of car drivers who choose to continue drive thru the barriers and use the closed road. There are no homes between Mt Baker Beach and Genesee Pk that require local access, so I believe these are just disgruntled drivers running over cones or moving, or even stealing, road closure signs. If SDOT had set up a visible presence, I feel the pilot would feel safer. As is, it feels like a setup for confrontation.

Hi Seattle,

Thank you for giving this a try, it's been the absolute best. My household hopes you choose to keep it closed for the rest of the year!

So great to see so many happy people out recreating on LWB at all daylight hours even on weekdays. This has been amazing. Let's keep it up.

Just make sure that disgruntled people don't tamper with signage. There have been some cars disobeying rules and a pair of aggressive drivers swerving at pedestrians on Saturday at 330 PM.

Motorists willfully moving signage on 50th and driving to Stan Sayres Park tonight Monday at 5PM despite tons of bikers walkers still on LWB.

Hello,

I am writing you in support of keeping Lake Washington Blvd closed as a healthy street. This stretch of lake front is one of a kind in Seattle and more people than ever is wanting to enjoy it. By keeping the road closed more people can safely use it.

If it is not possible to keep it closed I would highly recommend weekend closures from 8 am Saturday morning to 6 pm Sunday.

Thank you,

In addition to my previous e-mail.

I am a bike commuter and car commuter along Lk Wa Blvd. Biking feels a lot safer now that there are fewer cars even without a closure. However I am in favor of a closure even though it would impact my car commuting. This stretch of lake front is one of a kind in Seattle and more people than ever are using it for walking, jogging and biking. By keeping the road closed more people can safely use it. Also now that biking around Seward Park is no longer permitted there are few places for kids to safely ride their bikes.

If it is not possible to keep it closed as a Healthy Street how about weekend closures from 8 am Saturday morning to 8 pm Sunday? Instead of Bike Sunday we would have "Bike Weekend"

Hi!

My family very much enjoyed the recent 5 day trial road closure of Lake Washington Blvd. Although we have frequently driven this stretch for the last 30 years, daily until recent events, we very much support either permanent or weekend closure of this road.

During the pilot, we saw much more social distancing than is possible on the narrow paths.

Lake Washington Blvd is often busy in the summer, but this year has been very crowded. Closing the road allows for safe outdoor recreation during this trying time and promotes a healthy lifestyle for our community long term.

Best regards,

Stay Healthy Streets team:

I love the street closure on LWB! I have biked the stretch four times in four days. Since the pandemic started I have avoided multi-use trails to make more room for pedestrians, so this is my first car-free biking experience in months.

I would love to see the closure extended in some way. In Southeast Seattle we have no flat car-free bike routes for transportation, recreation, or fitness. None. Nothing equal to even a fraction of the Burke Gilman in North Seattle. A permanent bike path along Lake Washington could be the first step toward more equitable bike facilities.

That said, I had a couple concerns which I hope would be addressed if the closure continues. First, there are a number of super fast cyclists who are not yielding to slower users. Today I was on the road with my three-year-old son who uses a balance bike and we were chastised by a very fast cyclist for being in the middle of the road having a little kid moment. I like going fast on bikes too, but a busy multi-use space full of families with kids in the middle of the day is not the place and time for that. I hope that if the program is extended there will be messaging about appropriate road use. After 8pm on a summer night is a great time to hit a training speed on LWB.

Second, the signage seemed to cause some confusion and dangerous driving around LWB and 43rd Ave South. Both today and yesterday I saw several cars come northbound from 43rd. Most turned around at the barricade but one driver got out, moved the barricade, and sped on past. The sign at 43rd and LWB is small and some of the cones had been removed. This was scary to us because it was clear the drivers of a couple cars were mad.

Thanks for all you're doing! Our family loves this program.

Beacon Hill

Hi,

The closure is amazing. I hope it continues beyond the pilot. It's so pleasant riding bikes without having to worry about impatient drivers.

Please keep this pilot along Lake Washington Boulevard a safe street!

To Whom It May Concern:

I vote YES to the closure of Lake WA BLVD to vehicles!

As a resident of the Seward Park and Lakewood community we support continued closure of the Boulevard from Seward Park to Mt. Baker Beach.

We believe the road should be used for by for pedestrians and cyclists.

The Boulevard has become a high speed arterial, threatening pedestrians and cyclists and I, myself, have seen numerous accidents and close calls.

This area is a gem and should be enjoyed by all. Close it to cars! Great plan! Let's continue it!

Warmest regards,

Hi,

Our family is enjoying safe cycling with our 5yo. Please keep this corridor closed to traffic for summer.

Thank you,

Thank you so much for giving us the opportunity to see what it was like to have Lake Washington Blvd limited to people powered modes of transportation. My partner and I were able to make several outings during these 5 days to enjoy the blvd for recreating as well as the adjacent green spaces for picnicking. It really changed the shoreline environment for a more positive and calming experience.

I hope that this pilot program was a success and that we will get to see this transformation of public space well into the summer.

Thank you again,

Rainier Valley

I have been enjoying this recent extended closure of lake Washington boulevard - thank you! By offering non weekend days I have been able to safely ride my bicycle on lake Washington for the first time ever (weekends are usually too crowded). It's great.

I know some people are angry about this -change is hard but necessary.

Thank you,

I had the grand pleasure of using a closed lake Washington 3 times with weekend, biking alone on Friday, running with my husband and kids on Saturday and biking with my family today. It was incredible to be on that street, next to the water, unafraid of cars and with the space to move without running into other people. We often run with a stroller on the sidewalk next to the boulevard and the roots, narrow path and drop off to the lake make that very hard to do and maintain social distancing. This way it was so easy!

On Saturday and especially today many people were enjoying the path, walking, running biking in groups or with kids. It was a joy to see.

I understand that LWB is a common driving path especially during the weekday and I can understand the hesitation to make this more permanent, but if we could have it closed Fri-Sun every weekend through the summer it would add an amazing resource to the Southend.

Thank you,

98118

Hello,

I am writing to voice my support for closing Lake Washington Boulevard to cars to provide socially distanced space for folks within the city to be outdoors. Thank you for considering this policy, and hopefully a solution can be instituted that works for the community.

Best Regards,

Hello,

I am a resident of Mount Baker neighborhood, and I just wanted to express how much I LOVE having Lake WA Blvd closed to car traffic. These last few days have been such a blessing and a welcome respite from the disappointment of having to social distance. I have been running on Lake WA Blvd nearly everyday for the last couple months, but it is becoming very difficult to maintain the 6ft distance from other people since the weather is getting nicer. Having the street closed made it not only a better environment for recreation, but I was able to keep 6ft and probably even more distance from everybody else the entire time. I would love for this to be a permanent stay healthy street. I also used to be a major user of Lake WA Blvd for driving places, but I've found in the last couple days that there are plenty of other easy ways to get around that area by car. I know some people are going to complain about not being able to drive, but there are lots of arterial streets nearby that barely add any time to a commute. Please please please make Lake Washington Blvd a permanent stay healthy street!!!

Thanks,

We live 3 blocks from Lake Washington and these last few days along Lake Washington have been wonderful. It's a great way for us to get out of the house while have safe space to walk and ride our bikes. Please consider extending the closure throughout the summer.

Thanks,

Hello!

Thank you for testing out the closure of Lake Washington Blvd these past few days. Our family has enjoyed being able to use the street with ample space between other residents on the route.

Please consider extending the closure all Summer.

Thank you

Hello:

I can't tell you how delightful it is to see little kids on bicycles, roller skaters, joggers, and plain old walkers like me enjoying the outdoors without cars and without running into each other on the narrow sidewalk. Please keep the Boulevard closed.

In addition, for the past several years, Lake Washington Blvd and Lakeside Avenue have become major thoroughfares for through traffic (I guess from Renton!). This morning, Lakeside was blessedly empty. Our Olmsted Boulevards were never meant to be highways. Let's keep them at the use for which they were designed.

I thank you for your consideration,

Hello,

Just wanted to say I was very happy with the pilot for the Lake Washington Blvd. Keep Moving Street. I went for a bike ride Sunday afternoon on the street and saw hundreds of other Seattleites (6 feet apart of course) enjoying that beautiful lake shore on foot, bike, scooter, wheelchair, etc. without having to worry about a car coming around the corner any second.

I did notice one car come onto the street and they didn't seem to have a legitimate purpose, but they drove slowly and one of the intermediate barriers in their way seemed to discourage them from continuing. But otherwise, while I was there people seemed to respect the rules and keep moving while staying apart.

I hope this street can continue to be open for recreational use. If there is a need to have normal traffic on the street too, perhaps the lanes could be divided between cars and people, or the Keep Moving Street could be for weekends only.

Thank you for your innovative work!

Best regards,

Love the LK Wash Blvd closure!

CAUTION: External Email

Overall, I am in favor of the Blvd. being closed to motor vehicles from Mt. Baker Beach to Seward Park. This is similar to the Bicycle Sundays Program, however, more than just one day a week. During this social distancing summer, it seems this may be a very positive way to provide more open space for Seattle residents.

I do have one VERY BIG CONCERN, however. Whenever the Blvd. is closed to motor traffic in this area, the traffic coming and going to Lake Washington Blvd. north of Mt. Baker Beach overloads the road along Mt. Baker Park ultimately causing much traffic all day on weekends & sunny days along S. McClellan Street to Rainier Ave South. I live just off the intersection of _____ where there is a 4-way stop. Cars ALWAYS going flying through this intersection, particularly in the summer, heading in both directions. It is a hazard, both for other cars, for pedestrians crossing the street, for bicyclists riding on the "bikeway" along ____ AND for families crossing _____ to access the park or beach with small children.

So, I would like to see, along with this positive "trial" extension of closing the blvd. (if that is the plan,) to also address the issue of traffic along S. McClellan street. In particular, it would be extremely helpful to have traffic police often watching the intersection of _____ - to deter or citation reckless drivers speeding along through the stop. As I have lived in this neighborhood for over 30 years, I have expressed this issue in the past and have requested some type of small "street island" to assist drivers in slowing down. A stop light would NOT be helpful, only causing more traffic issues, but some type of physical deterrent to speeding is warranted.

Hope this information is helpful!

Mt. Baker Resident

Hi,

I'd like to see the closure of Lake Washington Blvd north of Seward Park to continue through the summer. I walk this road frequently and it's great to see so many families and others using it without fear of being run over by cruisers. The traffic gets pretty heavy (and loud) during the summer. It's a welcome respite to not have to deal with that.

Thanks,

A Seward Park neighborhood resident

To Whom It May Concern:

As a resident of the Seward Park and Lakewood community we support continued closure of the Boulevard from Seward Park to Mt. Baker Beach..

We believe the road should be used for by for pedestrians and cyclists.

Many drivers are now using the Boulevard as an arterial to avoid traffic on Rainier Ave S, and or I-5. We have witnessed several car cyclist accidents. With social distancing required, we have seen vehicle pedestrian close calls as people step into the road and cars are speeding.

Good plan! Give this rare asset back to the people, not cars!

I'm writing to say that it would be lovely to have Lake Wa Blvd closed for an extended time, especially if Seward Park continues to be closed to bikes. It's been really nice to have the safe place to ride bikes with my 6 and 8 year old kids. I also enjoy it for running.

Dear SDOT / Stay Healthy Streets folks,

I was disappointed to see the cancellation of Bicycle Sundays, but thrilled to see this pilot of Lake Washington Blvd as a Stay Healthy Street, and strongly urge you to either put in place a one-way traffic pattern that allows for unidirectional car flow, and bidirectional bicycle lanes, or, to permanently continue Lake Washington Blvd as a Stay Healthy Street.

In the past, I've thoroughly enjoyed Bicycle Sundays on Lake Washington Blvd. I've also used Lake Washington Blvd as a portion of my bike commute from Rainier Beach to SFD HQ downtown, starting on it at Seward Park and then climbing through Colman Park just north of Mt. Baker Beach and joining the I-90 trail westbound.

While very heavily used by bicyclists, this route has never felt safe. The lack of bike lanes, curves, and total lack of speed enforcement despite the 25mph speed limit has meant I've encountered tailgating, honking, and aggressive / high speed passing. It's past time that this beautiful scenic boulevard return at least in part to it's original purpose. This route should be embraced as a scenic byway and place for people, including pedestrians and cyclists, to enjoy the Olmsted's legacy and the stunning views of Lake Washington, instead of a high speed commute bypass for folks looking to avoid I-5, MLK Jr Way S, and Rainier Ave S.

Thank you,

The Lake WA Blvd Keep It Moving Street Pilot is a great idea.
Would strongly support it being extended thru the summer.

Hello,

Just wanted to drop a line to say I greatly support the closures of streets permanently, especially Lake Washington Blvd. So many people have been out and the extra space allows distance between folks. LWB is very unsafe when open to cars and traveling by bicycle since very erratic and unsafe motorists often PASS OTHER CARS, even around blind corners. It's ridiculous!

Thanks for your consideration,

Resident of Columbia City

Hello,

I would like to express my strong support for the continued closure of Lake Washington Boulevard to cars. My family and I loved the ability to bike on the boulevard without fearing for our lives. While the speed limit is 25 mph, many drivers do not respect this limit. I also was happy to go running on the boulevard without feeling crowded on the narrow pathway along the lake, and I believe that the reduction in crowding together with increased masking will reduce the spread of COVID-19 while helping people to stay mentally and physically healthy through this difficult period. I saw many others smiling happily as they enjoyed this beautiful stretch of Lake Washington car-free.

I'm not sure what the results of the pilot will show, but I believe that word of the closure may not have reached all of those who would have wanted to take advantage. Meanwhile, I am sure that the closure inconvenienced drivers who also had not heard about the closure in advance. Thus, I'm not sure that the pilot got a fair shake...

Thanks for trialing this change, and please do consider the continued closure! It brought us so much joy!

Please keep the closure! It's great.

It turns the road into what I think it was originally intended to be: a place for families, and all of seattle, to enjoy the waterfront, instead of cars pushing a far larger number of people to sidewalks. It's amazing how more community oriented the place feels with the road closed.

I would like to add my support for the proposal of closing Lake Washington Blvd to cars for the summer.

It would be amazing for families to have the Blvd as a safe bike riding area. Many have felt very confined and frustrated with their months of shelter-in-place and are ready to get out and enjoy the outdoors. Having the wide street open to bike riding gives families a spacious and safe place to recreate. Sent from my iPhone

I just walked on the closed Lake Washington Blvd and it was wonderful. I heartily support keeping this street closed from Mt Baker Beach to Genesee Park. There are no homes fronting the street in that section so no one needs to enter their driveways from the boulevard.

I live on Lake Washington Blvd in the upper Colman Park area and have found over the years that the traffic has gotten so much worse. It has become a thoroughfare with commuters. Dangerous and loud. Just closing the part of it mentioned above has cut down on traffic tremendously. And it is so nice to walk in the quiet.

Thank you,

I want to voice my support for continued closure of Lk. Wash Blvd S. While the experiment these last 5 days was marred by poor weather, there were still many pedestrians, bicyclists, walkers, runners, skaters, etc., out when I was there. Having the entire street safely to ourselves was delightful, and enjoyed by all! Everyone I spoke with in our neighborhood (Mt Baker) also supported the closure.

Prior to this, the path by the roadway was simply too narrow to keep an appropriate distance from others, and often would require moving into the road, where cars were buzzing by at far above the speed limit. (Even is this closure is not extended, I would STRONGLY suggest that there be a concerted effort at speed enforcement.)

I did notice several cars ignoring the closure, some moving way too fast. And some of the roadblock signs had obviously been moved sideways (as at the north end of 50th Ave S), making it difficult for approaching cars to know that the boulevard was completely closed (rather than only one segment of it).

Again, I certainly hope this closure is continued!

Regards,

I want to express my great support for closing Lake WA Blvd in whatever capacity - ideally, I think it should be closed to vehicle traffic permanently, but if this is not possible, closing it at regular intervals (weekends, all summer, etc) would be great as well.

We live in Columbia City and walk along Lake WA Blvd between Mount Baker Park and Genesee Park (or Seward Park) several times a week and the paths are well used and crowded at the best of times. During the pandemic it has been very difficult to keep social distance on these paths.

In addition, my husband is a cyclist and rides along Lake WA Blvd regularly and the vehicle traffic there has gotten worse and worse over the years, as speed limits have been reduced on Rainier. Drivers pass cyclists in an unsafe manner all the time, putting themselves, other drivers, and the cyclists at great physical risk.

I do not drive on Lake WA Blvd because of the large number of cyclists who use it as a cycling route and the narrowness and winding nature of the road which makes it dangerous with cars and cyclists. I think the road should be made into a permanent car-free zone where cyclists can ride without fear of being hit and walkers and runners can spread out and enjoy their walks/runs along the lake.

We have walked along the closed street a couple of times during this trial closure and it could not have been a more pleasant experience - with lots of room for everyone and so much more enjoyable and relaxing than being confined to a narrow path with so many people.

I'm sure there are people who are against this closure, as people fear anything new and Seattle has become a more car-centric city, but I think closing Lake WA Blvd is the best idea I've heard during the pandemic. It will provide such positive outcomes to the surrounding communities and anyone who uses the route for cycling, walking, or running. Now, more than ever, we need to prioritize health and safety and closing Lake WA Blvd does just that - providing a large space to get outside, exercise, enjoy the beauty of the lake, while maintaining social distancing.

My husband and I have always thought that Lake WA Blvd should be closed to vehicle traffic but never thought it was possible to achieve. I'm so happy that the city is at least considering this possibility and the trial closure, set to end today, has been a huge success in our experience. We plan to get out there for another walk today before it reopens to vehicle traffic again.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Resident of Columbia City, Seattle

I love this street being closed to cars. I think it is good for both the neighborhood and the many folks who come around the city to enjoy the public access to the lake. Great idea!

Please keep Lake Washington Boulevard closed from Mt Baker Park to Seward Park so that many people can enjoy it. But please consider using signs to block roads going in both directions, as determined drivers have been seen moving the cones and proceeding down the boulevard without a care for the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians. Thanks.

Hello,

I am writing to express my strong support for continuing to close off Lake Washington Boulevard to cars to create a safe place for non-drivers to walk, bike, skate, roll, etc. My family and I used the street to walk and ride bikes three times during the closure. It is one of the very few places available for young children to practice their burgeoning bike skills without fear that a reckless driver will kill or maim them.

More importantly, despite my understanding of the demographics of those who live right down at the lake, I observed that users of Lake Washington Boulevard were highly diverse. At least in my own small anecdotal observations, it appeared that there were more people of color using the street than white people. As a result, extending the closure would go a long way to promoting transportation and recreation equity in southeast Seattle.

Thank you,
district 2 resident

Hello,

My fiancé and I biked down the car-free Lake Washington Blvd yesterday evening and absolutely loved it! Plenty of people were using it and maintaining good physical distance from others.

We usually avoid this route on bikes because of persistent high traffic volumes, but the street was especially pleasant without cars. Please keep Lake Wash Blvd open for people walking & biking & skating through the summer! The longer it is closed to vehicle traffic, the more people will use it and know about it.

Hello,

Just wanted to provide the feedback that we love having Lake Washington Blvd closed to traffic! We call it "Permanent Bicycle Sunday" in our house. As someone who grew up in the Mount Baker neighborhood and has since returned to raise my family here, I feel that it's an absolute gift to be able to be outside, exercise and enjoy the beauty that stretch affords.

One piece of feedback, with the Mount Baker and Colman beach parking lots closed, there is lots of dangerous parking happening on Lake Park Drive South near the lake and on Lakeside Ave S at 36th Ave So, just north of Colman Beach. This is dangerous for both bikers and drivers. I'd suggest solving for this with better signage and opening up those parking lots – not more parking tickets for people trying to access this beautiful stretch of Seattle.

Thanks!

I reside in Mount Baker and absolutely love the Keep it Moving closure on Lake Washington. Exercising during the pandemic had become challenging because the number of bikers and pedestrians using the space near the lake made it impossible to socially distance without moving into the path of cars on the street. The closure has eliminated that problem, and my whole family is taking advantage of exercising in the new open space. I hope that the closure becomes permanent.

Hello,

The closure of LWB as a Stay Healthy Street is the BEST thing that has happened so far during the pandemic. My child and I can explore, and enjoy, a nice bike ride without the fear of being hit by speeding cars, and without getting too close to walkers. I also enjoy not being fearful of a car door opening randomly while parked on the side of the road while biking by.

I encourage the decision of extending this closure, at least while we are supposed to stay home and stay healthy. Until we can enjoy a nice long bike ride at Seward Park, there are few places that children can enjoy bike riding without cars.

Thank you,

Please continue to close this road to cars so I can ride this with my family. It's one of the few things that I'm comfortable with doing given the pandemic...

Thanks,

Hello,

I just wanted to say that the pilot program for Lake Washington Blvd was fantastic, and I think it should be continued into summer. I'm an avid cyclist, and have ridden Lake Wa. Blvd many times next to cars, and there is no shortage of them on that road. Although they don't tend to cause too much harm to those of us who are comfortable around them, there are many people who feel limited to go out and bike because of traffic concerns. Lake Wa. Blvd lacks a shoulder to provide a safe area for cyclists to leisurely enjoy the road and water front, and in the south end of Seattle where bike infrastructure is severely lacking and currently on hold for future developments, having access to Lake Wa. Blvd changes a large number of people's relationship with biking and the road and traffic. I saw countless people out on the road when I biked it on a nice afternoon, and noticed more people than I have ever seen on a weekday afterwork on Lake Wa. Blvd out with families, housemates, or socially distancing with friends all on bike.

Lake Wa. Blvd as a bike and pedestrian friendly road provides access to safe biking options for people isolated in the south end by lack of infrastructure, provides a safe place for people to feel comfortable while biking on a road without the threat of careless drivers, and enhances community morale and promotes healthy living for many people who feel it is inaccessible to them. I would love to see this trend continue through the summer.

Thank you for doing this, and thank you for your time.

Hello,

Just wanted to drop a line to say I greatly support the closures of streets permanently, especially Lake Washington Blvd. So many people have been out and the extra space allows distance between folks. LWB is very unsafe when open to cars and traveling by bicycle since very erratic and unsafe motorists often PASS OTHER CARS, even around blind corners. It's ridiculous!

Thanks for your consideration, Resident of Columbia City

I was incredibly excited to see Lake Washington Blvd added as a pilot for the Stay Healthy Streets initiative! I went out for a bike ride yesterday on the new stay healthy street and encountered numerous people enjoying the scenic and spacious public space on foot and bike. It was a pleasant and relaxing experience. I would LOVE to see this extended through the summer, as a way to allow residents to enjoy our incredible summer weather outside while maintaining physical distance.

Please extend this through the summer, and longer if possible! :)

Sincerely,
Lecshi Resident

Good afternoon,

I am writing to express my support for the continued closure of Lake Washington Blvd to vehicle traffic in the summer. Leaving the street open for cyclists and runners adds extra space for social distancing, and allows residents from surrounding areas plenty of space to enjoy recreation activities and stay healthy during this trying time.

The boulevard is one of the few sizable public places along Lake Washington, and as such it will remain crowded with people needing to stretch their legs or cool down during the summer months whether or not vehicle traffic is permitted. Prohibiting traffic places the priority on public health, which is why I hope this pilot program will be extended.

Thank you for your time,

I'm excited to see the road open for cycling! I'll take advantage of it and suggest it continue. It's healthy for our community. Cars can use Rainier Ave.

Best,
Seward Park

Hello,

Thank you for opening up Lake Washington Blvd to people for walking, running and biking. We live one block away and while negatively impacted by increased street parking and traffic on our street, we can now walk next to Lake Washington safely not worrying about safe distance from other walkers, bikers and joggers. We have been avoiding the Blvd at all cost since March 23. So we support and would like to see a continuation.

Thank you,

Dear Seattle,

Thank you for closing part of Lake Wash. Blv. to cars.

You may as well keep it closed for the whole summer. Yes to closure.

On weekends it appears to be used by cars mostly for "cruising".

Yesterday, Sun., 1-3pm, I saw MANY families and people enjoying it.

And it had a quieter, more peaceful sound – important for city spaces.

Closure WILL encourage more people to make healthier access choices.

Sincerely,
Seattle

Hello,

I am definitely in favor of keeping Lake WA Blvd closed over the summer, or at least Friday-Sunday if not feasible for the entire time. It is so much easier and safer to maintain 6 feet of distance. I rode my bike along there yesterday, and there were many families with little kids on bikes, enjoying the road. I used to run along the footpath until it was too difficult to keep dodging people and cars, in order to keep 6ft apart. I ended up with a knee injury that I think was partly due to erratic running movements. But now if the road is closed, I look forward to running in that area again.

Thanks,

Please keep Lake Washington Blvd as one of the stayHealthy streets!! 5 day pilot is way too short!!! All of use living near LWB love that it is closed for pedestrians!!!

Thank you and keep up the good work.

Thank you for closing Lake Washington Boulevard for pedestrian and cycle traffic... So nice to be able to ride along the water and see families enjoying the space and promoting healthy outdoor activities.

Please consider keeping this as an ongoing closure during the warmer months so we all can benefit from a great part of Seattle.

Regards

Hi there,

I think it is great to have LWB closed on a regular basis. However, we saw multiple cars on the road yesterday ignoring the closure signs, so seems like we need to have some type of enforcement.

Thank you so much. It was a pleasure to have some extra space to move along on a bike or just walking.

Best,

To whom it may concern,

I'm a Mt Baker resident , and I'm writing in support of maintaining the temporary closure of Lake Washington Blvd through the summer while we are still under the effects of the pandemic. Having a place that's safe to easily walk and social distance, which is not easy on the lakeside paths, has been an enormous benefit, and as the crowds there start back up with the nice weather it would greatly help the situation. While it comes with negative traffic and parking effects for me, I appreciate what this does for the community.

Thanks,

We need this space more than ever this summer, thank you for the opportunity.

Also, I've seen many cars speeding through with children nearby and absolutely no enforcement to be seen.

Thank you,

Closing Lake Washington Boulevard to south is a wonderful idea. I live on the boulevard and love the beautiful view but it was never meant for the few of us . It was meant for the city of Seattle ,and since it's been closed these last few days I've seen hundreds of families and dog walkers and bicycle riders go past my house enjoying this beautiful area with plenty of room for safe distancing .I am absolutely in favor of keeping it closed at least as long as the pandemic is a risk to the public.

Dear Seattle City folks,

I live near lake wa and it has been a refuge and a balm since the past 4 months. I know the Blvd can't stay closed indefinitely, but I just want to offer my impressions as a local resident runner and recreator. It is SO much easier to keep 6+ feet away from other walkers and runners when you can run in the street and not worry about getting hit by a car. Also, not as much traffic these days - what a great chance to give cyclists a chance to ride their hearts out. I can't think of one good reason to open Lake WA Blvd up until we start to head into Phase 3 or 4.

Thanks for listening.

Best,

Seward Park resident

Please extend the closure of Lake Washington Blvd! The sidewalks are way too narrow and people cannot effectively physically distance along this popular route, so the closure has been great. I just went for a jog along Lake Washington this morning and it was a relief to have the option of using the street to avoid other people without worrying about car traffic.

Thanks,

(Columbia City resident)

Thank you so much for closing lake Washington blvd this past few days!!

My husband and I have thoroughly enjoyed biking down to Seward park and then walking here.

We are too old to usually bike with traffic so this was fantastic

Please please consider extending it. Everyone along the blvd is wearing masks, behaving courteously and having a wonderful chance to be outside

Sent from my iPhone

Hello,

Thank you so much for diverting cars from Lake Washington Boulevard! I run down to LWB almost everyday from Columbia City. The last five days have been the safest I have felt since the pandemic started. I usually feel like I am hopping off the sidewalk to give people at least 6 feet of space and then feel concerned as cars come up on me before I can jump back on the sidewalk. I would be so excited to see how cars diverted from that section of road for the summer would allow for a broader group of people to use the space. In the last five days, I've seen so many more strollers, groups of kids of bikes, and people with walkers enjoying the space.

Please keep cars off LWB for the rest of the summer. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Hello,

I just wanted to say that I'm loving the Lake Washington Blvd stay healthy street pilot. I'd love for it to be extended longer through the Covid19 crisis.

Thank you,

I wanted to thank you for opening part of Lake Washington to bikes and pedestrians only. I live on capitol hill near volunteer park but the streets are too crowded and mask-free for me to feel safe. I was able to get out on my bike for the first time in a long while and felt safe doing it. I only wish I had known sooner so I could have gone more than once. I hope you will consider doing this again.

Many thanks,

Hello - I live on Lake Washington Blvd S. I have absolutely loved using this new 'Keep Moving' street for the past few days and would urge you to please keep this going through the summer. Thank you!

Hello Dawn and Yun,

I went walking this morning at 9:00 on LWB and absolutely loved that it was open to peds and bikes! It's just like what we envisioned for Rainier Valley Heritage Parade and Festival all those years ago!

First: it gives us the healthy option of exercise while social distancing.

Second: I felt like I was on a country road--and it gave me a sense of history, imagining the time time when Seward Park's outer road changed from car traffic to only peds and bikes (and strollers, skates...)

Third: besides the climate change effects, it also offers a stress-relieving option in a community that desperately needs it.

--I understand that there is a place to send these emails. But, since you two know me, I want you to see my comments. Please forward this on.

Thanks and stay safe,

Dear Seattle City,

Please, please make these closures permanent. The Lake Washington Blvd. monthly/twice a month Sunday bicycle closures in the past were great, but permanent closure would be fantastic. With or without a pandemic we all need more safe places to get some easy exercise.

Thank you.

Thank you for converting the Washington Boulevard for pedestrian and bicycle use. We took advantage of this along with many many other people multiple times this week. Great to see the democratization of this beautiful corridor in South East Seattle

I cannot describe how nice it is to have cars off of Lake Washington Blvd this week. The closure ensures those out there are well separated, and eases to flow of people trying to be healthy and protect others at the same time. I'm all in favor of closing the road for the entire summer if not deep into 2021.

Hi Healthy Streets project,

I like it!

I live near Lake WA Boulevard and have gone twice thus far during your 5 day pilot. It is great! Lots of people of all ages. The first day there were several cars driving multiple blocks. I figure they were surprised at the closure and they would thin out. The next day there were only 1-2 cars driving multiple blocks when I was out. Improvement.

Why Opening Lake WA Blvd to pedestrians and bikes is good:

- It is a FRESH AIR way to be outdoors getting exercise and feel safe as the Boulevard foot path is too narrow for proper 6 feet Social Distancing.
- SAFE Lake access: Lake access with all the kids and families finding spots on the grass makes it much safer to cross the Boulevard.
- HEALTHY: Outdoor time feels so good and with summer heat it will be healthier for families to not be stacked in their homes. It gives youth a way to be outside and together and safe - which means safe for us all. People were 'moving' as your signs ask. It seems to promote moving.
- BIKE SAFETY: I feel safe on my bike: As one in their 60's I feel safe riding for exercise and fresh air without worrying about cars zooming by me.
- Egalitarian access to the lake.
- People keep moving. Something about the street keeps the flow going!

Yes, there are some inconveniences. More car traffic zoomed by on the side streets on day 1, then that traffic dropped off to normal speeds. Some driving around the boulevard is inconvenient but very worth it.

Seven (7) days a week would be great. Or at least a minimum of 3 days a week from 9am - 10pm. Perhaps give it a try for 4 weeks.

Other Stay Healthy Streets:

Love them! I go several miles on the streets 1-2 times a week in SE Seattle and love the feeling of safety from cars. I definitely ride my bike more. Healthy behaviors will help us get through COVID - really!

Hello StayHealthyStreets,

I am providing feedback on the Stay Healthy Street pilot on Lake Washington Blvd at the end of June. I frequently go biking down this street for exercise and leisure, and the stretch between Seward Park and Mt. Baker Park is a true Seattle treasure, and something I brag about, and show off to visitors often.

I have lived in Seattle 2 years but did not know about Bicycle Sunday until a few months ago, and was looking forward to seeing it this year, but the events were postponed due to COVID-19. Now that it was piloted these 5 days, I eagerly wanted to see what it looked like, and I am a huge fan and believe it is great progress on many fronts, and hope to see it extended. The ample space meant everybody could social distance, and I have never seen such a diverse crowd on the street before, which is often nerve-wracking for many novice cyclists. There was age, race, and activity diversity that really fostered a great atmosphere for enjoyment of the beautiful street and lake front.

One separate comment, is that I understood that the south-bound direction would remain open for traffic but this did not seem to be the case today. Today was originally slated to be a bicycle Sunday so I am not sure if this is the reason. I love the freedom that gave, but I was wondering if people who lived on the street were still able to easily have local access. I think more clarity on that front would be important, but in either case the program itself, I believe, should remain.

Thanks,

Hi,

I live in Leschi and just wanted to say thank you for doing this trial of closing off Lake Washington. I run down Lake Washington every day and the past few days have been great. It's been way easier to socially distance. We have two kids and have taken them biking there as well. It's really hard to find flat roads for young kids to bike on and closing Lake Washington has been amazing for that. We use Lake Washington Blvd on a regular basis to get our kids to daycare and definitely would not mind the few minutes of extra commute if that meant that Lake Washington would stay closed to car traffic.

In short, I think it's been great and it's something that our family has been hoping would happen since covid started so thank you and I hope that this becomes permanent.

Sincerely,

The Blvd was a raceway for cars and conflicts with bikers and pedestrians crossing. During the summers it becomes a location for noisy cruisers.

With the lock down and fewer less traffic, it has become even more dangerous with speeding cars and motorcycles with near collisions with bicyclists, and even more dangerous attempting the cross the street. Yelling and swearing are commonplace.

With the Blvd closed to cars, there remains enforcement issues, but it is a much more pleasant place to walk and bike. There were so many more families out. The noise levels have been reduced. It's returned to a beautiful place as I imagine the Olmstead brothers imagined.

I live a half block from the Blvd and it has not affected my mobility by taking alternative routes if I need to drive.

Please keep the Blvd permanently closed with attractive traffic diversion. At least, take traffic counts and speed records to observe what a dangerous stretch of road it has become.

GREAT IDEA. KEEP IT CLOSED

The lake Washington Blvd closure has been wonderful. I would like to see it made permanent. I normally use that road 4 times a day and the combination of inexperienced bikers and cars going 20+ mph over the speed limit make it very dangerous. As one of the few flat areas in our neighborhood, it has made biking so much better for my kids the past few days. The minor increase in commute time has completely been worth the increased safety and usability of the road. Closing it even further north to 36th ave s or beyond would be great too.

Yes, please, let's keep it open all summer!
Gratefully yours,

As a Seward Park resident I want to express my support of the closure of LWB to cars.

It has been a delight to be able to walk, bike and roller blade along LWB for the past 3 days, w/o having to worry about cars.

I am writing this on Sunday and there are so many different folks out there right now - families with small kids on bikes, walkers of all ages, and bikers in lycra speeding by (but with lots of room). Everyone has lots of space to walk w/o having to constantly step into the road to avoid being too close.

We live close to LWB and are also grateful not to hear the motorcyclists and cars w/o mufflers use the long straight stretch of road north of Seward Park as a raceway at night (this problem has really increased over the past couple of years).

I drive to work along LWB to Capitol Hill and enjoy the drive, but will gladly take a short detour in order to preserve this unique roadway for bikers and walkers. I feel this is especially important during this summer of coronavirus captivity.

Respectfully,

Hey there!

I wanted to comment on the Lake Washington Blvd closure. I think it's absolutely fantastic, promotes healthy habits and creates a greater sense of community. The traffic detour is a small price to pay for so many obvious benefits.

Keep them open as long as possible!

One suggestion: I would establish 'courtesy signage' for right of way, similar to what you'd find around Green Lake or Central Park in NY. People walking a pack of dogs smack dab in the middle of the road might be dangerous so guidelines could be helpful for locals and tourists alike!

Thanks for all you do,

Longtime Seattle runner / cyclist

Thank you for the pilot closure! Putting in a huge vote for making it permanent during the summer months. It's an amazing asset to local families, especially with younger bikers who aren't big enough to ride on/by main roads. Gives us the ability to exercise and socialize outdoors safely during this period.

We are loving the closure to vehicles of Lake Washington Boulevard! Especially since we won't be going out of town this summer, having that open stretch of road for our kids to bike along is such a boon! Let's close it more often!

Thank you so much!!!

Hello!

I am a resident of Lake Washington Boulevard and writing in support of the continuation of the closure of the Boulevard to cars.

In just the past couple of days, I have thoroughly enjoyed the new freedom of walking my dog or riding my bike without the worry of car traffic. In the past, cars have frequently driven dangerously on the Boulevard - such as going to fast around blind corners or when passing cyclists - which makes me feel less inclined to use it for cycling or walking my dog. Without the through-traffic, it has been a much more peaceful and happier experience enjoying the outdoors. In that regard, life in general has been much quieter without the constant noise of cars speeding by right outside my home's front door. It is infinitely more pleasant to see my neighbors walking by (using both the street and sidewalk) than it is to see crowded streets of cars, which relegates the walkers to just the sidewalk.

I am in full support of permanently closing Lake Washington Boulevard to through-traffic, and I hope it is something that the City of Seattle will consider enacting!

Best,

Hello,

I'm writing to say thank you very much for the extended closure of Lake Washington boulevard. I love that we're doing this and I had previously asked my Council Member to look into this so I'm very happy!

My family and I use the boulevard daily for running and biking. I spent the last few weeks before the closure running in the road to maintain distance from fellow pedestrians, and risked being hit by speeding traffic. I am relieved and very grateful to have the boulevard closed.

For the record, I live in Mount Baker and I fully expect to see additional street traffic in my neighborhood because of the closure, yet I support the closure 1000%.

Thank you again!

Hi,

I just rode my bike along the length of the closed section of Lake Washington Blvd and it was great! I do not feel safe riding my bike along that stretch when it's open to cars, as people frequently speed quite a bit above the speed limit, but it was filled with bikers and pedestrians today and it was so lovely.

I'd love if it remained closed through the rest of the Summer so people could get safe exercise outside along this stretch, especially since people driving do not need to be out and about as much while the shelter-in-place is in effect.

Thanks for the trial!

Best,

I live in Mt Baker and moved to the neighborhood because of its proximity to the lake. A permanent closure would be the Olmstead green string to the park pearls along the lake. Truly a gem. And truly the responsible move in our era of obesity. Please consider making this permanent. My neighbors and I have been out there daily. Thank you!

[Lake Washington Blvd - please keep it closed to cars and open to pedestrians!]

Thank you!

Hi SDOT,

Thank you so much for closing Lake Washington Blvd to cars! We are walking and/or biking on the street with our dog and children everyday, and are strong supporters of keeping it closed as long as possible. It is a huge benefit to our community to have a place where we can run and bike safe from cars and while maintaining social distancing.

Thanks,

I'm writing to voice my complete support for keeping Lake Washington Blvd closed to vehicle traffic and open only for walking, biking, running etc. It's just lovely.

Thank you.

Hello,

I just want to leave a comment to say how pleased I have been with the Stay Healthy street closure from Mount Baker to Seward Park along Lake Washington. It has allowed ample space for distancing both for riders and pedestrians on the street itself AND in the area parks with less vehicle traffic. Commuting on a bicycle feels much safer as well. A great way to open up the community safely while business areas are still somewhat locked down.

I hope you will extend this program into the summer.

Thanks!

South Seattle resident

Dear Stay Healthy Streets,

We live near Seward Park, just a block or so from Lake WA Blvd. We had pretty much given up walking along the lake, however, because the congestion on the sidewalk made it difficult to maintain a healthy personal distance. Since the boulevard was closed to through traffic on Friday, however, the change has been remarkable. While there has been a steady flow of walkers, bicyclists, and parents with strollers, people are widely spaced and there has been no more congregating in groups than before. Motorists seemed to take a day or so to adjust to the new situation, but for the most part currently we only see a generally slow-moving car pass by every few minutes.

Thank you for this chance to "stay healthy" by our beautiful lake. I hope most people find it a positive experience, and that it can be continued in the future.

Best regards,

I spent some time riding my bike on Lake Washington Blvd this weekend, and I had a great experience!

On Saturday morning, around 8 or 9am, I biked to Seward Park From Queen Anne via the Burke Gilman Trail and Lake Washington Blvd. I really enjoyed the very low volume of cars, though there was one car that passed pretty aggressively and forced a pair of cyclists on the opposite of the road to switch to single file. Aside from that it was a great bike ride. With the rain and the early morning hours there were very few people on the road. I would have enjoyed being able to bike around Seward Park (even if it was a one-way loop for cyclists), but I respected the current pedestrian-only rules.

On Sunday afternoon I came back with my family. My kids, ages 7, 5, and 5 haven't been on bikes since last fall, so it was great to have a nice wide street for them to use to remember how to bike. It was extra nice to have that street be adjacent to a beautiful lake. There were plenty of people, and a few cars, but people generally did a great job sharing the road and staying in motion. We saw kids and adults, cyclists, walkers, people pushing strollers, people on scooters, people with dogs, etc. The street was wide enough for everyone, and people did a good job maintaining distance from each other.

I'd love to see Lake Washington Blvd continue to be closed to through-traffic through the summer. It's a really great street to ride a bike on, and there are plenty of alternate routes for people to drive their cars. It's also really nice to have it as a Stay Healthy Street for hours and days beyond the normal Bicycle Sundays. The extended closure allows people to spread out their visits over a longer period of time, keeping the road from getting too busy. Having the road closed in the early morning is great too, as that's a nice time to get out on the bike and avoid traffic and crowds.

I want to thank you for closing lake washing Blvd this weekend. My family - who lives in the neighborhood near the closings - has been avoiding the crowded lake on weekends since shelter in place started. Not only did this change allow us to enjoy the lake again, the peace and quiet - and lack of cars going 40+ mph despite the speed limit - made it truly relaxing.

I hope the city will seriously consider extending this through the summer. In my dreams it would be permanent and the road would be developed into a wide path.

Thank you,

love the Lake WA Blvd street closure! More people happily enjoying the lake. Great for the full summer, and maybe make it permanent.

Dear City of Seattle,

Please extend the Keep it Moving Program on Lake WA Blvd. As I walked today and witnessed people of all ages, with the ability to safely space and breath in fresh air while exercising, I was deeply grateful. It is a public health win. Please consider a summer extension.

I am someone who drives on the lake often and I am happy to sacrifice this convenience for the mental and physical health betterment of our community.

Thank you,

98118 Neighbor since 2005

All,

Thank you for the pilot closure of Lake Washington Blvd this week. It's been a welcome development so that people can enjoy safe, socially distanced walks, runs and bike rides.

I hope you continue the closure through the summer, hopefully full-time, seven days per week (but if not, then at least on the weekends).

Thanks,

Opening the 4 mi stretch of the LWB for people to enjoy the shores of the lake freely and safely its the news to celebrate! I fully support the idea.

Constant flow of cars made it impossible to use that stretch safely and peacefully.

My daughters and I have been on our bikes along the boulevard three times between Leschi and Seward Park (since Friday). So fun and so much safer due to better social distancing And safer road conditions. Keep it closed!!

Sent from my iPhone

Hello! I understand that you are collecting feedback from the public re: Lake WA Blvd temporary closure pilot through the summer.

I fully support this pilot, as a resident of the Columbia City neighborhood. My husband and I use Lake WA sidewalks and road to walk/run, bike and elliptigo about 4-5 times a week. Thought 9 out of 10 cars are mindful, slow down and give us wide birth when we are using Lake WA, I always worry about us when we go out on the road for our training, fearing that a car might hit us. Having Lake WA closed, would ease the fear, allow more people to be out on the road walking, running, biking and enjoying by themselves or the family.

Though I do use a car to get around, there are many options to get to Leschi or the Seward Park business districts without needing to use Lake WA.

I hope this pilot goes thru for the benefit of the public!

Thanks,

Hello,

I love the idea of closing LWB for the summer! I was able to run in the road yesterday and it was easy to avoid people and not having to worry about vehicular traffic was a blessing. I run 2 or 3 times a week on LWB and I also ride my bike a couple of times a week along the lake. I think having the road closed would encourage more people to get out and get some exercise or just some fresh air knowing that they could avoid other people easily by having the whole street to move around in.

I hope you seriously consider keeping it closed for the summer.

Thanks,

Closing Lake Washington BLVD as a Safe Street for pedestrians is a great idea. As a local resident I support this effort.

Please extend the closure of lake Washington Blvd to allow bikers and pedestrians to use it during this pandemic.

Love having street closed to through traffic and available to walkers/joggers/bikers. It is such a popular area and difficult to maintain required distancing with traffic.

Absolutely love it!! Keep it permanent!

Just wanted to say thank you for closing Lk Wa Blvd. I think it is a great idea and will now have a safe place to bike with my kids as well as run. Please renew this program during this time when so many of us are stuck at home and doing our best to social distance. Thank you. 100 % support this program.

Columbia City, Seattle.

A thought regarding the various street closures. I live near the Lk Washington Blvd closure. People are still driving their cars down the closed street. I am guessing at most there will be only intermittent enforcement regarding cars entering the street. Maybe installing some temporary plastic speed bumps at enough intervals and so cars can't avoid them, thus slowing them down enough to make it less time saving than taking an alternative route? (but with gaps for cyclists) I say this because I am more worried that these cars will play to close and fast with the children cyclists on the blvd.

Gentlemen ,
I am a long time resident on the Blvd , and am favorably observing the pilot closure. The minor inconvenience of navigating our access, is far outweighed by the reduced traffic. Particularly as in recent years speeding , volume, and in many cases road rage , have made it extremely dangerous for all. Many families, children , bicycling, and accessing the shoreline are dangerous activities . It was not ever intended as a commute corridor as it had become. Please consider extending the closure throughout the summer, and beyond . Let's eliminate the tragic event that will occur by reopening it.

Please keep it closed this summer.

I live in the neighborhood and use it to commute, but it is far more important to me that kids in the neighborhood (including mine) can use it as a place to recreate.

Thanks,

Hi,

I'd like to voice my support for closing this for the summer because it's such a beautiful place to recreate (walk and bike). Especially with COVID, it would be nice to have an area where we can safely be outside but apart from other people. It would be worth putting up with the hassle of not being able to park at the beaches for swimming in order to have the benefit of no cars while biking and walking.

Thanks,

To Whom This May Concern,

My family and I are in full support of extending the Bicycle Day trial on Lake Washington Boulevard. As a matter of fact, we are in full support of making it permanent. One good compromise I would like to propose and see enacted beyond the current trial is to try it on weekends. If the trial works well, you could consider adding weekdays to it (at least in the summertime to promote families going out and staying healthy).

Feel free to reach out to me should you like to hear my arguments for this initiative or seek my opinion.

Sincerely,

Hi

I'm a runner who likes to run along lake Washington. The sidewalk is pretty narrow and hard to keep a safe distance when passing walkers. Would LOVE it if lake Washington blvd was closed for the summer. PLENTY of space for all to enjoy and be safe.

CAUTION: External Email

Count us in as fans of Stay Healthy Streets and extending the Lake Washington Boulevard closures.
Mt. Baker neighborhood

Thank you for piloting this project. I gave up walking along the lake during the pandemic as it is impossible to socially distance. With the street closed, I've been there everyday ! Please keep the boulevard closed to car traffic!

Thank you.

Mount Baker resident

Yes, vote on keeping cars off Lake WA Blvd.

To whom it may concern,

Yes! Since the stay at home orders I've been walking or cycling over there almost every day and wishing this Street would be closed. Now that the weather is nice, the walkways get very crowded so it would be great to have more space to spread out. In addition, there is greatly increased bicycle traffic, and cars are not always patient in waiting for a chance to pass. I've seen two altercations between drivers and cyclists this past week. As a resident of the neighborhood, I fully support closing this street for the summer.

Regards,

Hi - As a resident of Lakewood, I support the temporary closure of Lake WA blvd through the summer. There are of course inconveniences for us in the neighborhood but I think the benefits outweigh those.

With the closure yesterday, that was the first time since COVID started that my family felt comfortable walking along the Lake. The sidewalk has been too crowded. It was great to see families with children being able to bike with ample space. With people driving less, I hope to see this closure last through the summer.

Regards,

Please keep the road along lake Washington Blvd closed as much as possible. We were out walking yesterday and ran into three separate neighbors. Everyone loves it. Now if you could just do something about the speeding down this road all the other days.

I think that leaving Lk Wa Blvd from Seward Park to Mt Baker Beach as long as possible, up to permanently, for pedestrian and bicycle usage, and no vehicle traffic, is a wonderful idea! Really love this area, as one of our most valuable city treasures – truly make it everyone's/ Seattle's backyard – miles of shared waterfront property! This land is made for you and me! Thanks for considering.

Gratitude, Hope, Vitality, Curiosity, Love

Please make Lake Washington Blvd. S. a "StayHealthyStreet" an ongoing amenity. As a 70 year old cyclist, it's a wonderful place to ride / walk / roller skate / non-motorized whatever without worrying about car traffic. I have enjoyed the car-free Sundays during the summer on this same stretch of road for a long time.

Thanks.

Dear #KeepMoving campaign:

Please keep Lake Washington Boulevard closed through the summer. I live in nearby Columbia City and bike to Seward with my kid often. I can't count how many times other visitors have commented on the why the bike Sundays have fallen out of favor, particularly during this time of social distancing.

I have used the road multiple times since its closure, and it has been delightful. I see several more people using the pathway for walkies and exercise without having to dodge one another, or run into the street from the sidewalk to maintain a safe distance. Everyone I see has room to maneuver, and traffic seems minimally impacted. It should help keep Seward Park from becoming crowded, as well.

Please keep this road closed through the summer. It will be a boon to the community.

Thank you for your consideration,

Hi,

I am a homeowner in Beacon Hill, and am very excited that the city is considering extending the Lake Washington Blvd closure. Especially as the weather gets better, people need a safe way to exercise while still allowing for social distancing. Lake Washington Blvd is the perfect location and I support extending the closure.

Hi

Please keep Lake WA Blvd closed through the summer

Dear Stay Healthy Streets Staff;

Thank you so much for the work you are doing!!! It is so encouraging and helpful. We accidentally discovered that Lake Washington Blvd. was closed to vehicle traffic north of Seward Park yesterday and had the most wonderful ride along the lake in the early morning mist. Please, please, please make this permanent or at least regular for the health and well-being of our community.

With respect and gratitude,

Hello,

Please keep Lake WA Blvd closed to car traffic for the summer.

Seward Park is my neighborhood park. I used to go there on a weekly basis however with COVID-19, park closures, this has changed. On a few beautiful days, I have ventured down to the water to find more people than I am comfortable being around on a narrow walkway next to the street, and turned back. Keeping the street closed would allow more people to recreate safely during the summer.

Please keep this beautiful stretch of road available for bikes and walking for the summer. The sidewalk is not wide enough to make walking comfortable when busy and people really want to be here in the summer.

This would be a gift and help folks stay healthy!!

Thank you,

Dear Stay Healthy Streets,

I am writing to support the closure of Lake Washington Blvd to car traffic. It is much easier than before to maintain social distancing while running or walking, which I do daily. It feels a little tricky when a car does drive down the street, but vehicle traffic seems way down since word of the closure has gotten around.

At zip code 98118 we loved the safe street weekend. Wonderful!

We really appreciate seeing so many people old and young able to safely walk or bike along the lake without the danger of traffic now that the Blvd is closed

Previously one had to step into traffic or get too close to others walking along the lake. Many people we know stopped walking because they thought it wasn't safe.

We know this closure means we have to take a different route to some places and have more cars driving on our street but we are willing to do those things so our community can all safely exercise along the lake. Let's keep it closed for the summer!!!

Thank you for the pilot closure of Lake Washington Blvd to cars. My spouse and I biked it this morning and loved be able to spread out and talk to each other without fear of cars.

I would love to see it become a permanent change.
Mt Baker resident

Please keep Lake Washington Blvd closed to car traffic. It is really hard to maintain a safe distance from others on the sidewalk.
Thanks,

I thank you so much for closing Lake Washington Blvd to vehicles. My husband and I strongly support extending this for the whole summer. Now it is much easier to walk along the lake and maintain physical distance. Before the closure it was quite challenging - I would try to go into the street to distance from others but there were often cars and trucks speeding by. Traffic along the boulevard has generally been too fast, especially during the summer. We have never felt safe riding our bikes down there except on Bicycle Sunday.

It has also been challenging to walk along the lake and maintain appropriate physical distance because there have been more bikes on the sidewalk, especially children since it is not safe for them to ride on the streets. Closing the Blvd to traffic would provide a safe option for walking and biking for both children and adults.

When driving, we often use Lake Washington Blvd. for most places that we travel to. However, we would much prefer having the Blvd closed to traffic even though it means we have to travel a different less convenient and less scenic route. We also live nearby on a nearby main Street - - even though the Boulevard closure may mean increased traffic and noise on our street, we still prefer that Lake Wa Blvd stays closed to traffic for the summer. It is a much healthier and safer option for all especially during this pandemic to keep the Blvd. closed to traffic.

Please extend this for the whole summer. The current pilot period of only a few days is not long enough. Hopefully it will be extended for the whole summer - at a minimum please extend the pilot for at least 2- 3 weeks.

Some of the signage could be improved so that cars have more advance notice of the blvd closure at least a block or 2 before. Also on the first day there were still quite a few cars and trucks speeding by. It was clear that it was not because of local access or delivery since they drove on for quite a few blocks past streets they could have turned off.

There needs to be better enforcement and/or deterrents for vehicles driving on the blvd that shouldn't be and are going too fast. One good idea was the placement of the larger obstacle placed on the northern end between Mt. Baker Rowing Center (Stan Sayres) and Mt. Baker Beach where there are no houses along the Blvd. There is no need for vehicles to travel there since there is no local homes to access or deliver to. I was impressed that the city put a fuller/larger barrier there, which cars could not really get past. Another trouble spot where that might be helpful is the stretch south of the Rowing Center/ Genesee Park where there are no houses between the park and 48th. There were quite a few vehicles zipping around that curve in both directions the first day of the closure.

To whom it may concern,

Closing Lake Washington Blvd for bikes this weekend was a fantastic idea. Please extend this through the end of the year. I live in Leschi and there are no safe places for my family to go biking.

The closest Stay Healthy Street is on 25th. Unfortunately we haven't been able to use it because climbing the hill to 25th Street is too hard for a child to do.

I've talked to several of my neighbors, and they are all very supportive of keeping it closed for the rest of the summer.

This is a really great move for the neighborhood!!

Thank you,

Please extend the Lake WA Blvd closure, so folks can exercise and keep social distance this summer. Thanks.
Sent from my iPhone

I like lake wa closed. Make it one way. Ine lane for bikes ine for cars

I love the closure on Lake Washington Blvd! I am a longtime Seward Park Ave. resident- since 1988). I used to live _____, and am now near Graham Hill School. I love when the area is closed to traffic and bicycles and walkers have the area for exercise! Please keep it open for the summer!

Sent from my iPad

Hello,

I support the closure between Mt Baker and Seward park through the end of the summer. Since Covid, a number of cars have been speeding and weaving around cyclists more often along the Lake making it more uncomfortable and less safe to ride in the area. Bicycle Sunday's were well received in the past and used by many families with children as well. Also I was recently told this section of the Boulevard was originally designed for velocipedes by the Olmsted Brothers long ago. If this is the case, it would be nice to enjoy their vision.

Thank you for all your efforts to provide this network of Stay Healthy streets. It makes biking feel safer and social distancing while walking so much easier and more enjoyable!

Sincerely,

Count this email as in support of closure. I ran it today and it was so much safer and I didn't have to worry about twisting my ankle jumping around in the grass trying to stay 6 ft from others.

Sent from my iPhone

I would like to explore taking cars off lake washington Blvd. thanks,

Sent from Xfinity Connect App

I would like to explore taking cars off lake washington Blvd. thanks,

Sent from Xfinity Connect App

Thank you for closing LWB for the pilot study. We are in favor of keeping it closed all summer. We live one block away and will be impacted by cars parking on our street to get recreational access and we will be impacted by the loss of LWB for commuting, however we think it's a very worthwhile thing to do for the good of the public.

We live 1 block in from Lk Wa Blvd and we understand that it will be more traffic on our street, but to be able to allow more people this summer to enjoy the park and lake.....well, I think it is great! We are all really feeling isolated and cooped up, so hoorah on this plan!

Thank you!

Hi,

I heard on Nextdoor that your are looking for opinions on whether or not to close lake Washington boulevard to cars for the summer.

I think it's a good idea to close it if park parking lots are still closed. Otherwise, it would be a draw to too many people from outside the neighborhood and better off open.

Thank you,

Closing Lake Boulevard has provided a safe way for people to get out to ride bicycles and walk. It is absolutely WONDERFUL.

Please do extend it!

Best Regards

I live on Lake Washington Bl S near Seward Park and am 100% in favor of extending the temporary closure of Lake Washington Bl as part of the Stay Healthy initiative.

Seward Park draws visitors from all over the city and this closure allows for more people to safely enjoy the area the entire summer after a grueling spring quarantine. The sidewalks on the boulevard are too narrow to allow for safe social distancing. With the exception of Bicycle Sunday, my family does not feel safe cycling on the boulevard due to the many 1) aggressive drivers going over the speed limit 2) cars passing by leaving behind a trail of pot infused smoke 3) cars and motorcycles actually racing as there are no speed bumps or cameras. Keeping the boulevard closed will ensure children and adults a safe place and enough space to fully enjoy being outdoors in South Seattle.

Kind regards,

PS Just as I was signing my name at 7:25pm on Sat 6/27 a motorcyclist ignoring the closure signs sped by at about 50mph :(

Thumbs up on keeping the street closed through the summer! I've also appreciated and benefited from the segment of road closed by Green Lake.

Thank you!

Hi,
Thanks for the trial run of the safe streets including Lake Washington Blvd. I commute by bicycle to harborview from near Seward and I see idiots speeding, passing bicyclists around curves, and shouting at them to "pull over" every week.

I am in favor of closing LWB to cars, or at the very least strictly enforcing the 25 mile speed limit, like near the VA, (or speed bumps). The interface of cars and bicycles is more dangerous than it needs to be.

Thanks for considering,

I just wanted to say that I really appreciate the closure of LWB and hope it will continue through the pandemic. We live in the immediate neighborhood, and I know that our streets will be impacted with increased traffic, but I'm fine with that. The closed street makes it so much easier to pass people at a safe distance. Generally, driving on the Blvd has become really dangerous to pedestrians and bikes. I've lived in the neighborhood for 20 years and have never seen as much speeding and dangerous behavior as I have in the last year or so, becoming even worse (with speeding) during the pandemic. I drive the speed limit and people constantly tail me and zoom around me dangerously, often on blind curves. Please continue the closure to allow us this safe space to exercise. I would be in favor of more permanent/difficult to pass barriers (in areas where residents don't need to access the road. This kind of safe space is especially necessary now that bikes aren't allowed in Seward Park. Our neighborhood kids need a safe space for biking.

I am concerned that many people will disregard the closure with out more permanent barriers and will present a hazard to bikers and pedestrians. I saw several vehicles ignoring it today.

Thank you,

I walked lake washington blvd today. It was great to have it closed and would love to see it closed all summer, or turned into a dedicated bike path / park.

Hi ,
So appreciate being able to walk /bike over The summer to Seward park On lake wa Blvd without worrying about cars. The more space the more spread out we can be ! I hope it is daily !
Hope it will be all summer long during the pandemic .
Thanks!

I have lived four houses from LWB since 1988. Extending its closure area through the summer: 👍😊😌🍷.

[Please keep lake wash Blvd for bikes all summer]

Hi. We've been riding our bikes safely every day since the road has been closed. My 6, 10, and 12 year old kids love it.

Thanks!

Thank you for closing Lake Washington Blvd from Seward Park to Mt. Baker. It feels so much more conducive to being able to social distance and being safer all around. I have always loved bicycle Sundays, and this is just a summer bonus at a time it is necessary.

I am so delighted with the closure of Lk Wa Blvd for bikes and foot traffic. It is a gem and would be a welcome change for our summer. PLEASE keep the street closed to cars.

Thank you

Emphatically yes!!! Please keep it closed. It's quieter and MUCH safer while more people recreate in this area!!!

I love it and would very much appreciate the continued closure. I vote YES!

I live near Mt Baker Park.

Thanks!!!

Sent from my iPhone

I am all in favor of closing the Lake Washington Blvd S for as long as possible. When it does reopen it would be great to have a solution for bikes and cars to more safely share the road as well. Keep up the good work!

We were so grateful to have Lake Wa Blvd closed today as we really rode bikes with our daughter along the lake. It was somewhat rainy weather so crowd were not large, but it was such a lovely experience for our family and felt like a very safe way to recreate. I hope you will continue temporary closures for the summer. Thanks,

Thank you for the Stay Healthy Streets. Me and my mom and dad and my brother all like it and we use it a lot. We go on bike rides on the stay healthy streets. I like the new closed street by Lake Washington and I saw a lot of eagles. Please keep the Stay Healthy Streets.

Thank you,

(age 10)

I really like the idea of closing Lake Washington Blvd between Seward Park and Coleman Park. While it is a great piece of the Seattle park environment, lately, the number of speeding cars has gotten out of control. I used to ride my bicycle on Lake Washington Blvd but after been passed at speeds well in excess of 45mph (Speed limit - 25mph) facing cars coming the other way making unsafe lane changes to pass cars driving the speed limit, I stopped using that stretch of road.

Think of it, a citizen forced out of a city park by lawless behavior. any behavior other than speeding - headlines. In this case, not even a cop with a radar gun.

Thank you for giving the citizens of Seattle access to their park once more

District 2 Voter

Absolutely, I support doing this (closing Lake WA Blvd) as a trial for the remainder of this summer. Let's give all the walkers, runners, cyclists and others have this space and ease. Great idea!

And, I'm 75, live in Col City and occasionally use Lake WA blvd as one route to visit my grandkids who live in Madrona. And, I'm a customer of Lechi Market. We drivers will find other routes to and from either north or south. Let the cyclists use this lovely road in peace. I'm all for shutting it down to cars except for those who live there.

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Hello,

As a resident of the Mt Baker neighborhood since 1990, I am writing to express my strong support for keeping the section of Lake WA Blvd toward Seward Park closed to vehicles.

I think this is a fabulous idea to help provide families and other residents with outdoor space while remaining socially distant. I've stopped walking along the lake because the path alone is too crowded with people, many of whom do not wear masks.

To reiterate, I really hope a plan to keep the road for pedestrian (and bike) use only goes ahead this summer.

Thank you,

Please continue Lake Washington Blvd closure through the summer.

Thank you,

To Whom It May Concern:

Keeping Lake Washington Blvd closed to car traffic for the summer would be amazing. I was surprised by the closure yesterday morning and enjoyed a few hours of blissfully biking back and forth along the lake. We've been so stir-crazy, with so little available to us during stay-at-home orders. It would really help to have bike access to Lake Washington Blvd during the summer months.

Thanks so much for trying this out. What a great idea.

Thank you for closing Lake Washington Blvd South to most motor vehicle traffic as a stay healthy street. My family and I have enjoyed this each of the past two days and we've been impressed with how popular this street is with walkers, joggers, and bikers, and how happy and friendly everyone seems to be, even during wet weather. Lake Washington Boulevard Park is so much more pleasant without the roar of high-speed traffic, and much more comfortable when everyone has the space for social distancing. My kids noticed a juvenile bald eagle and were able to stop and watch it for a while—something that would not have happened if we had been in traffic.

Please make Lake Washington Boulevard a permanent stay healthy street so we and other residents can enjoy this amazing park. We happen to live near S Genesse Street and 38th Ave S—streets that some expected to experience negative traffic impacts due to this closure—but there has been no noticeable impact on traffic. Hopefully this pandemic crisis can lead to something positive by allowing us the space to safely enjoy and better appreciate the public assets this city has to offer.

Thank you,

We'd love to have Bike Sundays extended this year!! It's hard to walk/bike/run on Lake WA while staying socially distant from others, so I think this is a great idea!!

Thanks,

Hi!

I am a teenager living near Lake Washington. I am writing to say that I have really enjoyed riding my bike on the Lake Washington Boulevard in the areas closed to cars and would love it if these streets were closed all summer. I have seen a lot more people biking and walking down by the lake recently and think many people would really like it if these streets stayed closed.

Thank you for your time,

Yes, keep that stretch of Lake Washington blvd for bikes and walkers! I don't feel comfortable riding my bike on the road with cars. Really appreciate riding by the lake. Plenty of access to houses without using that part of Lake Washington blvd for cars. Keep it for bikes and walkers.

THANK YOU!

I am so grateful for the closed space on Lake Washington Blvd. It creates a wonderful opportunity to enjoy nature and stay active while staying healthy with appropriate distancing. I've lived in Columbia City for 17 years and have always appreciated the bicycle Sundays but the closure seemf more than fun now--it is vital. Please keep this stretch closed for the remainder of the summer (or even longer). I appreciate the care from the city to help us stay healthy during this stressful time.

I also want to thank you for the other stay healthy streets. As a family, we use the stay healthy streets multiple times a day. I have also used the stay healthy streets as a way to safely interact with my parents and others who are at higher risk right now. We can safely stay more than 6 feet apart while we walk and talk in person (with masks on, of course).

Please continue to support these great efforts.

With gratitude,

Hi all,

Thank you for adding the Lake Washington Boulevard as a KeepMoving street pilot. Please extend the pilot and make this a permanent street of the KeepMoving initiative. This road is highly trafficked in normal times by bikes, runners, walkers, etc. In the time of Covid-19, it is even more critical that we have more room to distance appropriately and provide people the space to move and exercise safely. We need to remove cars from traveling on Lake Washington Boulevard in order to do this.

Thanks,

Thank you for your experimental closure of Lake Washington Blvd to cars this last weekend. I really enjoyed being able to exercise along that route and still social distance by six feet!

Once the parking lots open up again, I think it would be helpful to people outside of walking distance to be able to reach the parking lots in their cars, but if that's possible, I'd love to see a continued general closure to cars along Lake Washington.

I got to use this three times during the five day closure, twice to run and once to go on a family bike ride. Although I live close to LWB, I have been avoiding it because it's not always easy to social distance. But having it wide open and traffic-free was amazing, and I felt safe. PLEASE KEEP IT CLOSED for the duration of the summer!

Mount Baker Resident

Sent from my iPad

I live in south Seattle and would like to see the closure of Lake Washington Blvd, extended through the summer. I think it would be great for both making more space for people this summer and also keeping down the parking and cruising (not good for covid) along Lake Washington. I vote to keep it closed!

Dear Madam or Sir,

I love the Lake Washington Blvd closure and would like to see the closure extended indefinitely. I encourage you to expand closures. I feel so much safer on closed streets. Thanks for your work and imagination!

Hi, I just want to add my 2c to push to keep the blvd open just for bikes and pedestrians. I live in Columbia City and bike or jog along the blvd every day either down to Seward Park or up to Mt Baker beach. It's really nice to feel free in the middle of the road with others exercising, without cars around. Really love it, and hope it'll stay this way through the summer.

Thanks,

Great to keep it closed

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

To whom it may concern,

I love the Blvd being closed. I am a resident on lake Washington Blvd and the closed street has been fantastic for our family. Seward park is closed to bikes and is narrow in parts for walking. The Blvd is wide and roomy, plenty of space to social distance walk and ride, and safe for my 5 and 3 year old. When the Blvd is open to cars, all pedestrians and kids on bikes need to use the sidewalk which is extremely dangerous. Plus cars travel much too fast given the foot traffic.

Please keep the Blvd closed! It is a vital park space that lets us be safe during the pandemic.

Just wanted to thank you for the Stay Healthy Streets program! It's awesome and my family has been enjoying the extra space multiple times a week.

I'm really excited about the Lake Washington Blvd. closure pilot program. It's one of the most beautiful areas of our city, but almost impossible to enjoy on foot while maintaining proper distancing without the extra space.

I hope it stays closed all summer long!

I wholeheartedly advocate for keeping the Blvd closed. It allows people to safely distance while people walk and run. And for children as well. Some cars were still speeding through so we had to be on the lookout. Would require perhaps some enforcement to start so drivers don't feel like they can get away with it and create an unsafe environment for kids and people.

Thanks,

Hi, having the Boulevard closed has been great. We are able to walk by the lake and social distance. Without the road closed, it is not feasible to social distance.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dear SDOT,

Please continue to close Lake Washington Blvd on at least summer weekends. It is a wonderful experience to be able to bike this road without cars with my young daughter or by myself.

Thanks for performing the 5 day trial.

Best,

Seward Park/Lakewood resident

It's been so great to get out on the lake and ride safely with my kids. Please consider extending the closure for a longer period of time!

Thank you!

Judkins Park

Hello, SDOT and Seattle Parks —

I just now returned from a just-before-nightfall bike ride along Lake Washington Boulevard to Seward Park and back. I chose a sunset ride because I wanted to avoid traffic on this gorgeous route, which sometimes can be dicey.

Imagine my surprise to find I was riding on the last day of a test-run: the closing of the street to motor vehicles. It was so much more enjoyable than the same ride with cars zooming past.

I strongly support the idea of closing Lake Washington Boulevard to cars and trucks for the summer, and for several reasons:

- Because of the pandemic, it's more difficult to find places to ride, run or walk and maintain safe social distancing. Closing this boulevard is a smart public-health move.
- This stretch of roadway is one of the most scenic in Seattle, and closing it to vehicles will mean many more citizens will be able to enjoy all manner of recreation — walking roller skating, biking or jogging — at a leisurely pace.
- The lack of vehicles means cleaner air to breathe for everyone enjoying this stretch of Lake Washington.

I don't know if residents along Lake Washington Boulevard see the closure as a gift or as a "taking" by the city, but I write this as someone who lives on one of the other recently designated safe streets: 16th Avenue East. For me and my neighbors, we think any inconvenience is far outweighed by the benefits of reduced traffic, cleaner air, and more neighbors out walking or running.

I hope the city decides to limit motor vehicle traffic on Lake Washington Boulevard for the rest of our all-too-brief summer.

Thanks you.

Wholeheartedly,

It was wonderful to have the open space along Lake Washington Blvd these past 5 days. I hope we can see more of that this summer. It was great to see so many walkers, runners and family bikers out enjoying the safe space.

Thank you, Seattle.

Hi!

I'm writing to register my support for making a permanent Stay Heathy Street on the stretch of Lake Washington Blvd between Mount Baker Beach and the sailing and rowing center. As a commuter cyclist and someone who regularly cycles with my family of five, I'm overjoyed with the idea of having regular access to this street for cycling and walking. We've taken advantage of the bike Sundays in the past, and my family and I enjoyed an amazing couple of hours cycling and having a picnic dinner by the lake this past Sunday. This community asset would be so valuable, especially during these times.

Thank you!

I just wanted to say THANK YOU for the Lake WA Blvd closure trial. My toddler son and I thoroughly enjoyed biking and running together on such a wide open street. I know it may not be feasible to keep it car-free long term, but it would be wonderful if it could be a semi-regular occurrence, even in a post-Covid world.

Thanks,
Hillman City resident

I rode bikes with my son on 3 of 5 days of the closure and LOVED it. Please come up with a plan to keep Lake WA Blvd closed to cars for at least weekends or longer in the future. It's a wonderful way to get outside and get exercise and not worry about staying on sidewalks that can get crowded. On the day with the best weather (Sunday, June 28) there were probably at least 1,000+ people out throughout the day. What a wonderful way to enjoy nature and our community from safe distances.

The cars that did need to use it locally were very respectful and slow drivers. However there were some people who tried to "cheat" and snuck around one road closure sign and sped dangerously up the Blvd only to be stopped at another more barricaded area and then turn around and speed back, or create dangerous situations with trying to squeeze around multiple closure signs. So, please figure out a way to enforce this road closure as people continue to adjust to it. For example, put signs up blocks away that warn drivers of the road closure, as is typical for Bicycle Sundays (I didn't observe these during this closure).

With so many working from home still, and kids at home and not able to access usual play areas, this is a fabulous option. Another way to increase accessibility is to set up designated parking areas near the road closure for people to drive and park to access the wonderful nature trail that it could become. So many birds to be seen!!!

Thank you SO MUCH for closing down Lake Washington Boulevard to car traffic since last Friday.

We live about two blocks from the lake on 42nd Ave. S. During the pandemic, we have been working and doing school from home and have relied on walks and rides to get out of the house and do healthy exercise. Unfortunately, so many days, the trails by the lake are super crowded with people and it is difficult to social distance. Additionally, the cars zipping along Lake Washington Boulevard make it difficult to ride bicycles safely with my 8 year old daughter. Since Friday, when the closure started, we have used the closed roads every day for walks and rides. I have felt safe and able to stay socially-distanced from others, I have felt safe travelling with my daughter. The vibe is awesome – we see people of all ages, walking, running, pushing strollers.

Except for the people who actually live on the Boulevard, cars have no function to use that road other than to get a nice view. I encourage the city to keep the closure going so that local residents have a safe, healthy option in their neighborhoods to exercise and all those folks who like to drive that stretch of pavement should be welcome to get out of their cars and go for a nice walk.

I walked several times this weekend to find people walking, running and biking! We need this space and I am totally for keeping the Blvd closed to cars. There are other routes to get places. Cars always speed and the road is just too narrow to share! Thank you!!

Sent from my iPhone

I am a resident of the Mt. Baker neighborhood and I want to express my support for the closure of Lake Washington Blvd to automobile traffic. I trust you are monitoring the uses in recent days and have seen the diversity of both who are using this opportunity and how it is being used. Please extend this closure throughout the summer. It's been a godsend.

Dear SDOT, I was absolutely thrilled to have LWB closed to cars for the past 5 days. I went for a run on Saturday and then a run/scooter ride with my 8 year old son on Monday. It was incredible. It was the first time that we've been able to do that together in 4 months when we didn't have to worry about coming to close to others - and most importantly, where he could ride safely. There are virtually no other places where he can ride more than a few dozen feet at a time without having to stop in South Seattle. Please keep this closure in place through the summer - or longer! We will continue to be regulars.

Thank you,

I am writing to encourage you to continue the Stay Healthy Street on Lake Washington Boulevard. Particularly since Seward Park is closed to bicycles, it has been hard for the kids in our neighborhood to be able to safely ride in these long days of no school and now no summer camp. My children (ages 9, 8, and 4) have gone riding on the safe street every one of the five days that it's been open, rain or shine. It has been tremendously freeing for the older kids to be able to ride out far from me and enjoy some independence -- something I would never allow them to do if the street were open to traffic or on regular city streets. And the 4 year old rode more than a mile on his own steam.

Opening the safe street has also enabled me to enjoy running along the lake again. I run 2-3 mornings a week but during March and April I experienced that the lakeside path became uncomfortably crowded with other walkers and runners by about 6:30 or 7 am. As a result, I have been running on city streets instead of along the lake. With the street blocked to traffic, runners and walkers are able to spread out and give one another space.

This is a huge boon to South Seattle. A variety of community members are using the street and the park alongside it: young and older, people of color, neighbors within walking/riding distance as well as community members who drive and park close by. The increased parking is noticeable but not a problem at all, and visitors are respectful and very welcome to me and to my family.

I really hope that you will continue to program for the summer so that people in this part of the city can have a safe, scenic, spread-out recreation option. Thank you,

Seward Park/Lakewood

Hi,

Just wanted to drop you a note to say how much we enjoyed the pilot closure of LWBlvd. It made a huge difference in terms of how much people were able to social distance along the lake front. It was much more spacious and everyone really spread out.

We took our kids out every day to ride bikes, which was an extra treat since Seward has been closed to bikes.

For context, we live on the Blvd close to Orcas, and have to drive our kids to Madison Park every day (and pick them up) for childcare, so when the road is open we drive on it 4 times a day. So, I do understand that there are tradeoffs involved. I still think it's worth it though! Taking an alternative route by car is time competitive, drivers will adapt (including me), and there are no other stretches of open waterfront like this that are publicly accessible and available for social distancing.

I hope you'll consider closing the road to through traffic permanently. Based on my experience in the pilot, my preference would be:

1. Permanent closure
2. closure through Covid pandemic
3. Closure through the summer
4. Closure on weekends
5. Closure on weekends through summer

Thanks for considering!

Hi,

Please keep LWB closed to cars. Brilliant idea.

Thank you,

Hello,

I'm a resident of the Hillman City neighborhood. First off, THANK YOU! Thank you so very much for the opportunity for safe recreation on Lake Washington Blvd.

Since COVID, I have only biked a couple of times as there are no protected bike routes here in the South End. Since the closure, I have biked the entire length three times, and walked it twice. I'm writing this after returning from a post-dinner bike ride.

It's been wonderful to see so many different community members out walking, biking, rollerblading, etc. the last several days.

Like many on the south end, one of the best assets of our neighborhoods is the publicly accessible lakefront. In COVID times, it's been difficult to enjoy. There is only a sidewalk on one side of the street, making it hard to go for a walk along the lakefront while maintaining social distancing.

There has also been a noticeable increase in vehicle traffic, making it more difficult to bike on Lake Washington Blvd. While staying home, getting outside has been so important for my physical and mental health.

I urge you to keep Lake Washington Blvd. closed to cars so that more community members are able to get out and safely recreate close to home.

Sincerely,

Hi, our family has really enjoyed Lake Washington blvd being closed for physical distancing. We'd love it if you could continue it.

Might be wishful thinking, but we would like to see it closed all summer.

If so, could you put up more signs and barricades? A lot of cars and motorcycles ignore the setup and it endangers everyone.

Thanks for considering this!

Hello,

I support keeping Lake Wa Blvd closed longer to allow for social distancing and less crowds along the lake, beaches and docks. I run along the lake every day and it is getting harder and harder to distance with tall grass along the trails and more people when the weather is nice. Having the road closed was significantly different, fewer people and the ones that were there had plenty of space. Also, the herons and eagles were also out more than ever - a break for the wildlife.

Please consider extending the road closure.

Thank you

Please extend the trial of closing the Blvd to pedestrians only.

Thank you

Hi -

I live in Mt. Baker and take my kids bike riding every day (about all we can do during the pandemic) -- the closure of Lake Washington Blvd. is now the total highlight, especially for my younger son who is not that comfortable near traffic. It is great and I hope it lasts all summer (or forever).

I live one block off Lk Wash Blvd . and have truly enjoyed the closure period. The neighborhood is quieter, the air fresher. Lots of people parking in the neighborhood, but that is fine.

Took a stroll/skate with our dog and new baby on Monday. It was so peaceful and we saw a lot of types of people out — including kids riding bikes independently (something you almost never see anymore). It would be fabulous to see this continue, even if just during summer months. I used to commute to Magnuson Park and get that people like driving along the lake to go north, but it's really not that big of a deal to detour for a little while.

Thanks for your work!

The closing of Lake Washington Blvd for the duration of the summer into fall is a good idea for several reasons.

Most importantly it provides a wide, safe outdoor space for residents of SE Seattle. As a 42 year resident of Mt Baker, and one in a vulnerable age group, I had stopped walking anywhere near the lake due to the inability to physically distance. The road closure has been a game changer for my physical and spiritual health.

Second closing the entire street offers many more options for physical activity. As we experience on Bicycle Sunday's families bike together, skate, skate board, run and even stroll with doggies.

As I don't need to tell you, SE Seattle is diverse and home to populations hardest hit by Covid. By increasing the easily accessible, safe, outdoor areas the city is signaling they care about the health and welfare of some of our most vulnerable citizens.

You all have a grand idea here. Let's stick with it!

Hi,

I have been a big fan of the Stay Healthy Streets, and was really excited when Lake Washington Blvd was piloted for this program. I have been loving going down there with my family without all the car traffic. I hope the program will be extended!

Thank you,

Please keep lake Washington blvd closed 24/7 for all of July or longer! This is a great public service to the community during a very difficult time. Thank you

To whom it may concern,

Thank you so much for the lake Washington boulevard pilot closure. Everyone I saw biking or walking on the road seemed to love the closure to keep healthy through the pandemic. I sincerely hope the city chooses to close this road permanently into the future to provide better recreational opportunities to the public. If the closure does not continue, I hope the city will consider adding a bike lane. This could be a major attraction in Seattle for all to enjoy.

Parks are what define all great cities, and I encourage the city of Seattle to do more to create green spaces for future generations to enjoy. Thank you!

Sincerely,

I am a resident of Columbia City and walk nearly every day in Seward Park. With the arrival of good weather the park has become increasingly crowded and the paths are often so full that it is difficult to maintain social distancing.

Please continue the closure of Lake Washington Blvd. until the end of summer. The additional space is really wonderful and will be enjoyed by many. It is especially important because bicycles are prohibited in the park and it will expand both safe cycling and walking for all of us.

Thanks!!!

Hello,

I'm writing to ask that the current closure along Lake Washington Blvd South be extended as long as possible. It's made a huge difference for our family's outdoor access.

Thank you,

Hello,

I'd like to support the extended closure of the Lake Washington Blvd stretch through the summer. It's a great way for our family to get out and enjoy walking near the lake and staying active during the summer.

Thanks!

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to share with you that I am delighted y the closure of Lake Washington Blvd. for use as a walking/running/riding space. I live less than a block from the lake. So far traffic on my street is not any worse that typical for lake use. I have walked the Blvd each day of the closure. It is fantastic! Quiet and so much safer. With the sidewalk too narrow for social distancing, I had given up the Blvd especially on weekends. This is terrific!

Additionally, my 17 year old child has physical disabilities. Since our block has no access through ramps onto the Blvd sidewalk she unable to ever use her chair along the lake which is a disgrace. With the street closure she has been able to walk our dogs using her electric wheelchair and staying on the street finally able to go more than a block from home!!

Please consider keeping the street closed! It has quieted the neighborhood and made the lake more enjoyable.

Respectfully,

Thank you for making Lake Washington Boulevard available for runners, bikers, and the like. I hope it stays closed to cars for the remainder of the pandemic. Well done!

Mt Baker

To Seattle City

I strongly believe that the traffic free portion of LWB should be made permanent. That is exactly the right message for these times - less traffic, more opportunity for safe, healthy exercise.

I ride my bike on LWB frequently. It was wonderful yesterday to be able to ride 4 miles to Seward Park with no traffic. That was a huge improvement.

Thank you for making it traffic free and please make it permanent.

It's wonderful to have more open space to walk and run w safe distance.

Yay for the closure! What a great idea. I haven't seen people so happy since before the pandemic. Let's keep it closed!

I rode my bike with my 3 year old yesterday evening from Seward Park to the rowing center. It was lovely and so nice to be able to cruise along and not worry about cars passing and killing us. I saw a few hundred other riders and walkers enjoying the open street as well. Other dads with kids on their bike would ring their bell when seeing us. It created a sense of community I've been missing over the last 3 months. I would strongly urge the city to keep this going. We're going to go back tomorrow night. And probably the next. Also i urge you to up-zone the neighborhood so multi-unit housing can create enough density to keep the street busy and thriving and diverse!

Hi!

I just wanted to say how much we LOVE the road being closed (the first day was sketchy as cars were ignoring the signs, but seems better now). It's been very good for us to get our 4.5 yr-old-daughter out on her scooter and bike. This will surely keep us and many families with young children sane, healthy and safe over the summer.

We had to completely avoid the area before since it was impossible to use the lake-front trail and keep distance. Please keep it closed - at least on weekends over the summer.

I've seen a lot of complaints on social media, but these people weren't complaining before about access even though the parking situation is exactly the same (lots closed) and handicap parking is available in the main Seward Park lot. Perhaps making that clear would help ease some complaining.

Thanks again,

Thank you so much for closing Lake WA Blvd. to car traffic. We appreciate the space to be able to bike safely with our children. Please keep it closed to car traffic through the summer.

Hillman City Resident

Sent from my iPhone

Hello

PLEASE keep the 5 day pilot plan in place but you need more street closed signs. I almost got hit with my family several times both days. My husband is a firefighter and I work with the schools and we are very respectful of signage but folks don't seem to be. More signs and more days please.

Thank-you! We've been out twice already (day 2) walking and biking. Based on the number of people and families, biking, hiking, walking, skating, etc. and the very small amount of vehicle traffic on day 2 it would appear to be successful so far to me. I don't know what criteria is being used for success, but I vote yes -- keep it through the Summer (please)!

Thank-you,

Hi, my family and I biked on Lake Washington Blvd. yesterday during the pilot. We loved it. Please continue to keep the route protected for the rest of the summer!

I have a young daughter who is old enough to bike the route, but too young to safely bike on a busy roadway, and she especially enjoyed it. There few areas where we can let her ride as much as she likes (especially with places like Seward Park closed to bikes, or the narrow Arboretum path too crowded with walkers to pass by while keeping a 6+ foot distance)

We will be using the path again during this 5-day pilot, and encourage you to keep it through the summer so we can use it regularly.

Other feedback: The drivers we encountered (who presumably live in the neighborhood) seemed fine, and didn't make us feel unsafe. I would suggest one improvement, however. You could have signage at each of the barrier sections to indicate whether it's a fully car-free section, or local-access-allowed, so users can better know whether to expect to share the segment with cars. We liked the car-free sections best :).

Thanks,

Hello,

As the mother of a teenager, having places my son can practice safe social distancing with a couple of friends and get exercise is a life saver.

Please keep Lake Washington closed for the summer so my son can easily and safely bike and enjoy the outdoors.

Hi we just rode our bikes on it on this misty/rainy day and loved it. There were a number of people out there but it wasn't too crowded. On sunny days recently the lake has been super crowded with people I think this will be good for slowing down access so that fewer people will be down on the lake this summer. And obviously it gives us more opportunities for socially distant exercise. So I say yes please continue it.

Please keep it going all summer (year?!) long. If it has to stop, add speed bumps. There are times I feel like I take my life in my hands trying to cross the street at 50th or 49th – so many speeders!

Thanks,

Yes, please make this pilot closure a permanent one through the end of summer at least. People need to have room to enjoy this stretch of lake front. There are many families with young children who love to skate, scooter and bike here. And also many other people who want to walk along the lake with the ability to keep to the six-foot distance. I live in the neighborhood and applaud this effort by the city.

Regards,

I support including Lk Washington Blvd. As part of the healthy street program.

Thanks,

Hi City of Seattle planners:

I think this is a great idea. Many people use this area for recreation regardless of the COVID and would be great to shut it down during the summer months entirely for community use and reopen during the winter. It is a great idea and "about time" from my perspective. I was wondering if this was ever going to happen and glad that the city has some light bulbs to consider this too.

Thanks

Mount Baker resident.

Just wanted to say that I strongly agree with temporarily closing Lake Wa Blvd for cars to allow for pedestrians, cyclists, rollerskaters etc. to safely get outside and remain active. We were just on the road yesterday with our bikes and it gave our family time to get off the screens and enjoy a fun ride down to Seward Park.

Keep up the great work!

Hello,

My family took an evening bike ride along the closed portion of Lake Washington Blvd after dinner last night. We had a great time - that road has so few shoulders and people usually drive so aggressively along it that biking can be very unpleasant. With the closure, it was possible to enjoy the beautiful view without being worried about cars, and socially distancing was easy.

It seemed like a lot of community members were taking the opportunity to walk or bike in safe, socially distant manners. It was great to see, and I'd love it if the pilot program were extended! We're already planning to repeat the ride later this weekend.

Thanks,

I am in favor of keeping the blvd closed for the summer

I would love to have as many streets that don't allow cars as possible. I live about a mile from Mt Baker park and would love to have the lake wa boulevard closed to cars. Its hard to ride a bike on the sidewalk w/ so many people, and dangerous to ride in the street with so many cars trying pass me. Please close the street to cars! Thank you!

First of all, Yay! So happy this is happening. It turns the lakeside into an extension of the park, as the road becomes a (more) peaceful place for bikes and pedestrians (and roller skaters and strollers) to enjoy the beauty of the lakeside. Someone told me that the blvd was always intended to be part of the park, and if so, that's another good reason to keep it open. It's a shame to let cars speed through these places intended for the appreciation of nature, which in the city, we don't get an abundance of. As I've written before, cars on this road that is such a bikers' paradise do not safely co-exist with the bikes. They swerve into on-coming traffic as a rule. I have seen so many near-misses, it can be really alarming. It's a curvy road and difficult to avoid such behaviors, especially for the less alert drivers. Bikes are always at a disadvantage in those scenarios, of course.

So, my suggestions: post a fine for cars that enter the roadway. I have already seen posted on next-door.com that many parents are concerned about cars still speeding through there, and how they don't want to let their kids ride there yet. I did witness this myself yesterday. Actual speeding. Not crawling along to get to one's house. So, that will have to be addressed. The road blocks were very conspicuous and would not have been missed, only defied.

This is one of the simpler ways the city can relieve some of the pent-up tensions people are experiencing during this crisis. I hope that all neighborhoods have easy access to the most beautiful parts of their areas, and that the city encourages the peaceful, healthy practice of getting out, exercising, and enjoying the natural beauty surrounding us (as well as our fellow residents). When my husband and I rode bikes through Rainier Valley recently, we were so delighted at how it changed our perceptions, how many more details we noticed in the neighborhoods, the people, the homes, gardens, and other sites of interest. It's a gift to us all to get out of our cars and into our neighborhoods.

Another idea, is that we might find a program that helps underserved populations have access to bikes. Or at least publicize those that may exist. I think on the public-relations side of things, we have to highlight the benefits to all, and make sure all are really benefitting. I sympathize with the people who are inconvenienced by not having their routine routes available, but the greater good should always come first.

Many thanks and I heartily vote for extending this pilot during the pandemic, at least through September.

Best wishes,

I wish I had known about this being open before today. I absolutely love biking along the historic hike and bike trail that is Lake Washington Blvd. I go out of my way at least 3-4 times a summer during the street's closure during hike/bike Sundays (or whatever they are called) and I would for sure go more often if there were more opportunities. I'm sadly not sure I'll make it over this weekend due to my schedule and the winter.

In previous years, it seems that users of the street mostly stay mostly spread out, even before social-distancing, just because they could utilize the whole street. It looked very much like the stay healthy streets we currently have.

Thanks for the opportunity to see one of our more scenic streets without cars on it. Seattle

Hello,

I fully support extending the timeline to keep Lake Washington Blvd open. It is a needed environment for families to exercise in this area. Thanks.

Hello,

I live along the closed section and support the current five-day closure. I'm also in favor of a permanent closure or other closure more robust than bike Sundays, subject to review of the details. Here's why:

The boulevard is an incredible public amenity giving thousands of Seattle citizens the chance to engage in healthy exercise while enjoying the stunningly beautiful place in which we all live.

As a linear public space in a relatively crowded and diverse part of town, it runs by/close to all kinds of neighborhoods and encourages people to come out of their own little enclaves and mingle as Seattleites.

Being relatively flat, with numerous pocket parks, docks, swimming areas and anchored by Seward Park, it attracts all kinds of people looking for healthy outdoor experiences.

It is a great place to bicycle...flat, curvy, scenic, with hills at Madison Valley and Seward Park and easy connections to I-90, 520, Burke-Gilman and Interurban. Cyclists all over town know about this and use it.

Walking or cycling along LWBS in the summer renews a person's faith in city planning and civic foresight...people sunbathing, swimming, paddle boarding, walking dogs, strolling babies, jogging, fishing, hanging out on the docks, eating with friends at a picnic table. It gives all these people a nearby, easily accessed place to relax and enjoy the fresh air.

The main impediment to the full utilization and enjoyment of this public space is the cars. Car traffic forces over-crowding on the single, fairly narrow walking/jogging/biking path. When cars are on the road, the road simply not safe for families with little kids who want to bicycle; kids under 10 or so cannot be counted on to ride safely hugging the right curb. So they use the path. Which means joggers and walkers sometimes need to veer out into the road to avoid a collision.

The over-crowding is exacerbated during COVID-19, when most people using the path are trying to stay 6 feet apart, which is challenging because it's narrow and has no safe buffer on either side in several areas.

Allow me to repeat: especially during COVID-19, the exercise benefits of LWBS are being jeopardized by the risks of collision with cars. Frustrated drivers, crowded sidewalks, and large groups of cyclists are a recipe for disaster.

Please understand, I'm not an anti-car zealot. We own a couple cars; we drive them; and our driveway feeds onto LWBS. I understand that it's a convenient street for autos. ~~But my quality of life on the whole is improved by all the non-car uses of LWBS. I am 100% happy to put up with the small~~ I am 81 years old and walk my dog every day, often along LWB. Having the street closed is a great bonus in that we can keep social distancing and not be afraid of being hit by a car. (My hearing is not as good as it used to be.)

So, at least for the summer, please keep the boulevard closed to car traffic.

Thanks,

Please keep this closed throughout the summer (actually throughout the pandemic). I am a senior (age 65) and keep healthy by walking 5 miles along the lake every day. It has become so busy with little kids, strollers, bikers and others like me that it has been impossible to stay 6 ft away. Keeping this street closed will keep us all healthier and safer. I understand that more people will park on my street (Plum Street) to be able to access Mt. Baker Beach, etc. but I have no problem with this.

As an aside: For years I have seen too many drivers take the curves and pass at high speeds endangering the lives of bicyclists and strollers. It is not uncommon to find evidence of cars hitting trees, etc the morning after. I would even favor making this a permanent road closure.

Mt. Baker resident for 30 plus years

I was so excited to learn about the five-day closure, and if Friday was any indication, what a success! I live about a mile from Lake Washington Blvd. but it is an important part of my physical well-being. I bicycle, walk, run and swim there.

I cannot tell you how many times in the past year where auto drivers behaved badly versus bicyclists and pedestrians: specifically, failure to yield to me, as a pedestrian, at a marked crosswalk;
Cars passing me (as a bicyclist) doing well over 40 mph
verbal abuse at me for just riding a bicycle

It's the auto drivers that litter Lake Washington Blvd, not the pedestrians or cyclists (there should be a special penalty for discarding glass onto a marked bicycle path.) It's the auto drivers that create the muddy ruts along the edge of the road. I suspect that with fewer fishermen (who'd otherwise drive to the fishing docks), there will be a whole lot less fishing-related litter (fish hooks, fishing line, discarded bait cups, discarded fish...all of which I have, over the past year, reported to the city via the "Find It Fix It" app.

Speaking strictly for myself, I'm happy to have a reprieve from car drivers. No I can enjoy the serenity & beauty of Lake Washington without having to be vigilant for my safety. I hope that the city creates a plan where we have a long-term plan to remove cars from Lake Washington Blvd.

In so far as everyone keeping moving, that does not appear to be an issue (nor ever was). People LOVE to run, walk, hike, bike along that route. There is plenty of space right along the lake where people normally want to linger, that is well off the roadway.

Bravo, city of Seattle, for bringing us one step closer to a greener, safer way of life. I hope one day LWB will become permanently car free. Ah, wouldn't THAT make Seattle a great city to live in.

Regards,

Hello,

I contacted SDOT a few weeks (months?) ago about closing the portion of Lake Washington Blvd that is normally closed on summer Sundays and am incredibly excited to see this finally being tested. I used the new pilot pedestrian area Yesterday and it is SO NICE. Incredible what a difference it makes to not have to squeeze by other pedestrians on a little path and without the noise of speeding cars. We could social distance with ease and actually felt like we could relax and enjoy one of the more beautiful parts of the city. I will be walking in this area daily.

People were definitely social distanced, including different groups of anglers who I normally see clustered very close together when the road is open. It was especially great that cyclists can now use the roadway as that was the most dangerous part about trying to accommodate shared use on the small path. The presence of a road also seems to signal to people to "keep moving" because I saw no one gathered in groups chatting like they often do on the pedestrian path.

I think the signage was mostly effective, though I did notice some cars trying to execute U-turns at the bottom of Lake Park Drive so I would suggest a warning at the top of that road (or if there already is, maybe a more visible one). There were also some motorcycles that shouldn't have been there, but they were teenagers and teenagers have been doing dumb things since time immemorial, so I don't think there is any action item for SDOT.

I have also been using the stay healthy streets along the greenway in the genessee/mt Baker neighborhood and would say the success of those is more mixed. People keep moving the signs onto the sidewalk, though residents are pretty vigilant about moving them back. People also drive WAY too fast on these streets. It's almost like the sign that says "stay healthy street" does not register for many drivers as "pedestrians present." Maybe there is a way to make those signs clearer (and heavier?)

Thank you so much for listening to residents' concerns and being flexible. I really really REALLY hope you will keep Lake Washington Blvd closed to traffic as long as social distancing is necessary to contain COVID-19.

We are so excited that Lake WA Blvd from Mt Baker to Seward Park has been closed! Thank you! We hope to see this closure as permanent!

Best,
Neighbor in S Seattle

I support extending the temporary closure of Lake Washington Boulevard through the summer. I live in Mt. Baker.

Rode my bike care free. First time I had my bike out for 2 years. It's a dream. I saw lots of families with young training wheels bikers enjoying the freedom. Please keep it all summer. I would say keep it forever if I thought it would happen. 🚲👨👩👧👦🚲👨👩👧👦

Thank you for closing Lake Washington Blvd!

We were down by the lake yesterday and it felt MUCH safer. Not only was I not worried about my kids getting hit by a car while crossing the street, I was able to take a walk and finally stay 6ft apart from other walkers/runners. It was wonderful- much less stressful.

Please make the closure permanent!

I am curious why this is considered a pilot? What data will you be examining when deciding to make this permanent?

(Seward Park resident)

Hi-

Thank you for closing Lake Washington Boulevard to auto traffic! I have been biking, jogging and walking along this route for years, and I have enjoyed the Bicycle Sundays in the Summers.

As you know, Lake WA Blvd is among the best pedestrian and bike routes in the city. That said, it is a narrow road, without a complete or wide sidewalk in many areas. This makes it an ideal road to close to auto traffic during the stay at home order, when many of us are walking and biking in our neighborhoods as our only form of getting outdoors and getting exercise. In addition, this road is almost completely unnecessary as an auto route between locations in the city.

Yesterday, as I walked the route between Mt Baker Beach and Seward Park, I saw numerous people driving through the closed sections in their cars, removing the traffic cones, and driving around the road closure signs. Some were clearly angry and speeding. Others were merely curious or clueless.

I would strongly urge the continued closure of Lake Washington Boulevard, to support public health and safety. I would also suggest some kind of enforcement, given the way people are disregarding the current road closure.

Thanks,

Hello,

I would like to express my support for the closure of Lake Washington Blvd. My family regularly walks that route, and it had become difficult to maintain distance from others with the car traffic. We would like to see this closure continue permanently.

Thank you,

We've been enjoying the option of a longer bike ride for to the closed streets.

Dear Stay Healthy Streets friends,

Thank you for the pilot project of car-free Lake WA Blvd.

It was wonderful to run down the street and see families with babies in strollers, children on bikes and walkers enjoying the wide, smooth street! Please continue the project as much as possible this summer.

Thanks!

My family really enjoys the Lake Washington Blvd stay healthy street pilot. Please extend it for the duration of the Covid crisis.

Sincerely,

Hi,

Just wanted to pass along a huge thanks for the 5-day experimental closure of Lake Washington Blvd. I live in the neighborhood, and I use that route a lot for walking, running, bicycle rides, getting to & from Seward Park (where I volunteer as a Forest Steward). It has been such a pleasure to be able to bicycle on the boulevard over the past several days without the danger of cars on the road with me. Although cars are usually good on the boulevard (when it isn't closed), there have been way too many times where cars were going way faster than 25, throwing litter, parking illegally. I've witnessed cars shouting verbal abuse at bicyclists - which, IMHO, isn't a "share the road" attitude. I mean even on Sunday, I witnessed two cars (white sedans, ~4pm, hope there were some cameras that caught that on video) driving threateningly WHILE THE ROAD WAS MARKED CLOSED! Ugh, so unfortunate,

I would LOVE IT if the closure was extended permanently (or on a fairer time-sharing basis). Frankly speaking, it's the car-drivers on the Boulevard who are responsible for nearly all of the litter, potholes, damage to the unpaved verges: not the bicyclists or pedestrians. I realize this is probably a sensitive issue for the residents who live on the boulevard near Seward Park. And yet, it's perhaps long overdue for the REST of us to have the opportunity to use the boulevard safely, as it was originally intended (as a means to rejuvenate--not to be threatened with injury by automobile drivers.).

Thanks again for all your hard work to put this program together. Oh, and a HUGE shout out to the bicyclists I saw on Sunday afternoon trimming the blackberry vines (that dangle dangerously into the bicycle path - yeah, I know the city AND the property owners should be doing that work, but those volunteers were heroes. I know I've had my glasses ripped off and my clothing torn by blackberry vines while I was biking on LWB.)

Thanks Again,

Hello,

I am writing to encourage SDOT to continue the closure of Lake Washington Blvd.

I live in the neighborhood and like to run along the Lake. Since the beginning of the pandemic, I've rarely been comfortable running along Lake Washington Blvd because it was hard to maintain social distance safely with lots of people and limited space between the sidewalk and the water, especially where the bank is steep. Running into the road, while an option, is not a particularly safe one when cars are driving quickly. I have also been reluctant to take my 6 year old for walks and rides on her scooter down by the Lake for the same reason. The closure of Lake Washington Blvd has added that area as an option again for exercise and enjoying the Lake. It is also the longest, flattest stretch of street in the neighborhood so it is a great place for families and others to ride their bikes while safely maintaining distance. While our world can feel a little small right now, this has made it seem bigger and just gives everyone so much more space to enjoy this area while maintaining social distance.

Thank you for all your hard work and for your creative problem solving.

Good evening,

We live in Seward Park and use Lake Washington Blvd frequently. Despite this, we were so pleased at the trial closure and even though it is an inconvenience at times for residents, we fully support your team's effort to give the Lake Washington waterfront back to the entire community and as a car driver, there are many others ways to drive north and south.

We have long felt that the city should have ago figured out how to create bike and recreation pathways/lanes along the Blvd years ago. As it is today, it is just not safe for kids or adults to ride or rollerblade and even as an experience life-long cyclist, it is always nerve wracking riding the Blvd. with cars trying to pass so frequently. Our kids would love to be able to ride north to visit friends but we are just not comfortable with them riding on Lake Washington Blvd.

This stretch of one of the most beautiful routes in the city and needs to be safe and accessible to recreation and we are in full support of the city's effort to figure this out.

While a full permanent closure may not be feasible, could the city give consideration to permanently closing the north bound lane and creating a barrier in the middle with north/south "wheel" lanes where the north bound lane is today. This would increase accessibility for residents, deliveries, etc. and while a minor inconvenience that may require some thoughtful route planning, it is a small price to pay in order to give the gift of the Blvd back to residents.

Along with this may come improvements to the walking path which is horribly root ridden in places and as in other cities, could incorporate some wood "boardwalks" for example.

We truly want to be part of this solution so if there is anything we can do in the Seward Park community to support your efforts, please let us know.

Best Regard,

My wife and I walk or bike on LWB every time it is closed during the summer -- I think that is every other weekend. We would like to see the closure extended to every day this summer. We would use it a lot, and I think that other neighbors would too. Thanks for doing this!

Hats off to you SDOT! I took my butt out of my car and onto my bike and rode to work today via the beautiful wide-open Olmsted boulevard, witnessing the smiles on the faces of walkers, runners and cyclists along the way! A welcomed and healthy pandemic diversion.

Hello,
We love the closure of Lake Washington Blvd to traffic. Especially with the lock down wading on sidewalks bordering the water is impossible. They are too narrow if there are other pedestrians. As a early morning park and lake front user, I am often concerned about safety.

If the decision is made not to keep the drive closed, I hope we can consider things to make it safer:

More posted speed signs
More police monitoring
Speed cameras
Speed bumps
Speed monitors to show people how fast they are going
Cross walks with flashing lights or painted in the road

Thanks for your consideration,
Seattle residents

I will vote.com - check to make sure you're registered.
Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse typos.

Hello,

I'm a Seattle resident who read about the Lake Washington Blvd car-free pilot on Seattle Bike Blog. I am very excited about it and want to express my gratitude.

Also I'd love to make it permanent. I've ridden that road on my bicycle, and while beautiful, it does not feel very safe to share one lane with cars.

Thanks again.

Today I was so grateful to see Lake Washington Boulevard closed to traffic south of Mt. Baker beach. Both pedestrians and cyclists were fully utilizing and enjoying the space today. Up until now, it has been impossible to use the narrow walking path safely as it's packed with joggers, walkers, families and young children on bikes.

Please extend the closure to traffic beyond this five-day trial and throughout the summer in order to help us maintain physical distancing while walking and exercising!

Thank you,

[Please close lake Washington Boulevard all the time]

Having it closed on the weekdays would be great as we try to get the kids out of the house.

This message was sent from my phone please excuse any typos

We love the opportunity to safely bike along Lake WA Blvd without cars! Particularly during this time of Covid.

We live in the neighborhood and are hopeful this closure could become permanent at best, and regular at least.

Thanks for this!!!!

I rode along the lake today and it was fantastic! Thank you for closing it to cars, especially with Seward Park closed to bikes. I have always felt that road should be closed to cars or at least made one way so people can safely enjoy the lake and ride that great stretch of road. So thanks!

Hi Seattle City Geniuses- I just wanted to weigh in on the test closure of Lake Washington Boulevard. I am thrilled! This is exactly what is needed to alleviate the pedestrian crowding along the lake. Everyone loves walking along the way on a nice day, now they can while staying far enough apart to keep everyone healthy. I would love if this continues all summer, whether for weekends or for the entire week. 100% in favor.

Have a great day,

As an avid bike commuter who doesn't own a car and gets around by bus and bike, I enthusiastically support permanently making Lake Washington Blvd. a Stay Healthy Street year-round. I live in the Othello neighborhood and tend to avoid cycling on Lake Washington Blvd currently during regular traffic because of unsafe and over-speed limit behavior of cars on this street. Plus, designating this a pedestrian/cycling route helps support Seattle's efforts to reduce CO2 emissions.

Sincerely,

As a resident of the Lakewood/CC neighborhood, I heartily, enthusiastically approve of the closure of Lake Washington Blvd!
Watching speeding cars on the blvd while packing onto the small sidewalk on a single side of the street has felt very unsafe these past few months. We had been avoiding the lake for this reason, and had been hoping for you to close the street!! Waking up this morning to the "Street Closed" sign felt like a gift!
Please keep it closed, it's wonderful to be able to enjoy the lake again without worrying as much about crowding and/or getting run over!!!!

[Lk Washington Blvd closure]
A fantastic idea! Please continue for the summer!! A wonderful contribution to the Olmsted legacy.
thanks,

I loved having this street car-free! Made it so much safer and more comfortable to bike and walk on! Please make this permanent.

Keeping Lake Wash Blvd car free is wonderful
I don't have to do the Covid Zig Zag cootie dance off the sidewalk to yield. Plenty o space and can always park cars on side streets if need to drive there.
Thanks. Good thing
Seattle

I was thrilled to find the road closed to cars when we took a walk, this morning!!! I miss this year's bicycle Sundays, and have been hoping for the road closure we found, today. My wife and I walk from Mt. Baker Beach to Seward Park and back several times a week. We have avoided it during busier times, later in the day, sunny days, weekends, as, with car traffic, it has been more difficult maintaining social distancing. It was so much better, in this respect, to have the road closed.

I encourage you to close the road, in the same areas as the current pilot, as often as possible in the future.

I have a few recommendations, as follows:

1. Stan Sayers Pit / parking lot should remain open for parking and boat launching. This has always been the case for Bicycle Sundays.
2. Signage can be improved. Cars were coming out of the Lakewood neighborhood, not knowing about the closure. Signage similar to Bicycle Sunday, further up the side streets from Lake Washington Blvd S., as well as at the Blvd. will help divert traffic more efficiently.
3. Some enforcement would be helpful. I did see one police car. Perhaps motorcycle police could help. In some instances, the cars that illegally entered the Blvd. were speeding, so in those instances it felt unsafe. Others seemed to relish having the street to themselves, going back and forth. This will become more of an issue when more people learn of the closure, and more families are out.

Thank you for taking the initiative in closing Lake Washington Blvd. South as part of the Stay Healthy Streets program.

With gratitude, yours,

We live in Lakewood/ Seward Park with 2 young kids and we have LOVED being able to safely bike down by the lake the last few days. The bike path is very hard to navigate with kids and impossible to maintain 6 feet of distance from others (especially considering how busy it's been with parks being closed), and many streets around here are busy and difficult to bike on with kids. PLEASE KEEP LAKE WASHINGTON CLOSED TO CARS AND OPEN TO BIKES AND PEDESTRIANS FOR THE SUMMER!! That would go a long way in increasing access to this beautiful area of the city and encouraging residents to enjoy the outdoors while maintaining distance.

My 5 and 7-yr old say: "Please do it!!!!"

Thank you!!

To Whom It May Concern:

I live in the Lakewood neighborhood and I have two young children. It is super great to have Lake Washington Blvd closed between Seward Park and Mt. Baker Beach!!

We often see cars speeding along the boulevard, and have had friends hit by cars that were taking corners too quickly. Closing the boulevard to cars makes this stretch MUCH safer for our family!

Another example – with COVID-19 social distancing requirements, there have been many near accidents between pedestrians/joggers who are using the road and vehicles that are speeding or whose drivers are not paying attention.

Further, we often see the parking lots by the parks filled with people just sitting in their cars, polluting as they leave their engines on. We often smell marijuana smoke and we often hear loud, offensive music. Once the parks re-open, having far fewer cars on the boulevard will hopefully reduce the amount of pollution, noise pollution and drug smoke my kids are exposed to.

Finally, I'm a cyclist and when it's safe to return to work, I try to bike to work as often as possible. This too will be much safer with far fewer cars.

In short, we strongly support the continued closure of the Boulevard from Seward Park to Mt. Baker Beach! We believe the road should be used for by for pedestrians, families and cyclists.

Thank you!

Hello,

I am writing to give my full support to extend the closure of Lake Washington Boulevard through the summer. And I would also be in support of closing it permanently.

We live at . Please feel free to reach out.

Best,

I just wanted to send you a message how much our family LOVES the stay healthy street on Lake Washington. We used several days at this point and it's so wonderful to bike and walk with my family.

Please consider extending the closure. It's been great to get out and give our family a bit of mental relief.

To Whom It May Concern:

As a resident of the Seward Park and Lakewood community we support continued closure of the Boulevard from Seward Park to Mt. Baker Beach..

We believe the road should be used for by for pedestrians and cyclists.

Many drivers are now using the Boulevard as an arterial to avoid traffic on Rainier Ave S, and or I-5. We have witnessed several car cyclist accidents. With social distancing required, we have seen vehicle pedestrian close calls as people step into the road and cars are speeding.

Good plan! Give this rare asset back to the people, not cars!

This street is horrible to bike on and has many dangerous speeding drivers around crowded sidewalks and paths. Keeping this street as a safe street makes a lot of sense.

Please extend the pilot to all summer! I live nearby and bike there frequently. There are so many more people using the street than cars. It makes total sense

I am so excited to see that there will be a Stay Healthy Street pilot for Lake WA Blvd and I hope it becomes permanent! I live about a mile away and use that route for biking (as an errand and for pleasure) and running. Prior to the pandemic, I ran there very often, but since then, I haven't because I don't feel like I can give adequate space on the pedestrian trail since this route is understandably popular. In fact, one of the last times I was running there, I saw a runner hop into the road to give walkers space and then he was almost hit by a car making a dangerous pass around another. Also, even though I bike this route often and I am an experienced cyclist, I often feel uncomfortable due to drivers getting impatient and passing dangerously. I have been run off the road a couple times there. I still bike this road because it's often the best route for me to get where I am trying to go, but it should be safer. I hope there is a lot of signage and maybe even other ways to slow down cars that are put in the road so it is safe for everyone. Again, I am so excited to see this pilot happening and would love for it to be made permanent!

Thanks,

Hi,

My wife and I (and 2 small kids) live on Lake Washington Blvd and we're so excited about the pilot closure this coming weekend. We see this as a wonderful neighborhood and citywide amenity being put to its best highest use. Minor inconvenience for drivers and will open up great recreation opportunities. There's only so much waterfront real estate that supports public access.

I hope it goes great and becomes permanent.

Thank you for trying this out!

We have here a treasure. An excellent opportunity for people to walk and ride along a beautiful lake and trees. Please consider a permanent closure of Lake Washington Blvd. for folks to be able to get the exercise and nurturance that they need.

There are alternative ways to travel and this road is not a necessary route. In addition, it is now a dangerous route for commuters on bikes. If closed, then this road could be used to encourage folks to ride bikes rather than drive cars.

Thank you so much for your consideration and I look forward to hearing your plans.

I'm so glad you're turning LkWashBlvd into another healthy street!

So many people have complained that they couldn't enjoy a walk without running into other people walking or jogging.

It might be also good to separate the directions... or turn the street into separate lanes:

From West to East:

Joggers South bound

Bikes South bound

Bikes North bound

Joggers North bound

Upper path: Walkers North bound

Lower path: Walkers South bound

Columbia City

Hi! I wanted to give feedback that the five-day pilot closure of Lake Washington Blvd this last weekend was really great and I would love to have more of it. It was much easier to keep a safe distance from other people while exercising and recreating. I was able to go jogging and my kids really enjoyed riding their bikes. The only problem was that there probably needed to be more signage for drivers - each day that we were out, there were still several cars driving down the street that didn't realize the road was closed.

Please consider further closures for the rest of the summer and perhaps even beyond. Thank you!

I live off LWB and use it daily. I support the closure and believe that the street will be well used by pedestrians and non-motorized vehicles.

Hi!

I just want to give an emphatic shout out for this pilot. I live near this Blvd and often drive or bike on it. I have often wondered why this couldn't be reserved for bikes and pedestrians, as it is on bicycle Sundays, which is ever so popular! This Blvd is a very popular destination and route for hundreds of bicyclists daily and the presence of cars is a danger to them as well as to other cars, which swerve and veer to get around the bikes. This problem could be erased by not permitting cars there EVER!! It's a scenic and beautiful park side to boot, a destination for so many families and a habitat for countless birds and other wildlife. Banish the cars!! Allow those who live there to get to their spendy homes along the lake, but open the beauty and safety of the Blvd for all. Plus opening spaces like this discourages petroleum use, and we need to be much more assertive about doing that.

Thanks for listening!!

To Whom It May Concern,

I am emailing to say how excited we are for the Lake Wa Blvd pilot closure. It has become quite congested with cars in the last few years. People make dangerous choices to pass people/families on bikes or to even pass other cars. It is stressful to watch these impatient drivers pass my 10 year old on her bicycle. There are plenty of other streets in Seattle for vehicles to use, especially if they are in a hurry. And of course, looking beyond our little family's perspective, there are numerous benefits, from a public health perspective. We are keeping our fingers crossed that this becomes a permanent change. Thank you!

Best Regards,

I just wanted to send some appreciation for Seattle's Stay Healthy Streets program. Really excited to see Lake Washington Blvd added!

Thanks

Close all Washington Blvd YES for more healthy places to exercise

Hello,

I run along the Lake Washington footpath several times a week between Mt Baker rowing club and Adams Street boat launch. Though people are making an effort to socially distance, there simply isn't enough room in the path between the water and the steep embankment for parties to pass comfortably, especially when 3 or more parties converge, which happens frequently. Please keep Lake Washington Blvd closed to cars and open to bikes and pedestrians this summer so that those trying to exercise near home have room to spread out and avoid passing close to each other.

Cheers,

We live near La Wa Blvd and have enjoyed having the street closed to cars. It cuts down on speeding on 43rd Ave S and is much more pleasant to walk by the lake.

My family lives on Beacon Hill and my son and I loved and miss Bicycle Sundays. We were glad to have the Blvd. Closed to traffic on weekdays when traffic was really light. We'd love more car free weekdays if possible,

Thanks,

Dear City:

My family enjoyed the recent closure of Lake Washington Boulevard. Especially during COVID, it is essential for providing adequate space for outdoor recreation. Please consider closing the Boulevard to all non-local traffic for an extended duration. Thank you.

People kept it moving and it was a great feeling to be able to get the kids out and biking safely, without car traffic.

Mom to 3 kid bikers under 12

Sent from my iPhone

hello!

will you be closing Lake Washington Bvd for the rest of the summer? it was a popular pilot that was successful as far as everyone I spoke to. It didnt have enough time for more people to know about it. How did you evaluate the pilot?

thank you!

Please close Lake WA Blvd for the Summer and beyond.

Sent from Mail for Windows

[Yes to Lake Washington Blvd]

I am Brogan Thomsen the Seward Park Luminaria guy. 30+ years. Our group have often wondered and hoped how we could get a " Bicycle Sunday" type closure for the evening of our event. Would be so much fun and safer for all,the local walkers. Do you know several years I walked the entire 3.2 mile route, yes all 3 beaches, setting out 1800 bags/candles. It makes for a perfect, much loved event/evening.

See my video and news articles all over. Facebook group is always same name SEWARD PARK LUMINARIA. In my will I am gifting \$22,000 to continue this tradition....maybe I'll see the lights from the clouds?

Thanks for reading

So yes test a temporary closure...see how traffic to smaller streets works or not.

Do you need any help?

Pretty sure sent from my iPad

Hello Stay Healthy Streets,

I wanted to email to let you know that I love the Lake Washington Boulevard closure. Especially with the Seward Park Loop closed, it's really great for being able to bike ourselves and with our kids. We support more closures throughout the summer! I was wondering if there was a recommended way to find out about the closure, since I had just found out about this one from a neighborhood friend.

Thank you!

South Seattle resident

Hi there -

I heard you were looking for feedback on the idea of extending the LWB closure through the summer. I am overall supportive of the idea. I see that area's primary purpose as recreation. With cars driving through, pedestrian traffic gets congested and bicycle traffic is often very unsafe (speeding or inattentive cars on the narrow road). My only concern is whether closing the road and parking lots longer-term will be a barrier to lake access for those who live in inland SE Seattle; the water is a public asset, and all deserve to access it. If you are going to keep the parking lots closed anyways, I see no significant downside to closing the road too. Car traffic has other areas to re-route without too much hassle.

In the longer-term picture, if the road is to re-open to cars, I would really love to see a redesigned roadside with a bicycle/pedestrian path elevated over tree roots (a boardwalk) to allow for safer bike/pedestrian traffic, preserved trees, and preserved roadway in a narrow right-of-way.

I also wish you'd consider closing LWB through Colman Park to cars for the summer, as it's a bike thoroughfare vs an excessively-long car route that isn't essential. Occasional drag racing cars feel like a life-threatening hazard to bicyclists laboring up the hill on one of the only accessible routes. In addition, near and on the lawn area in lower Colman has become an overflow parking lot with the lake lots closed.

Thank you,

Hello!

I am writing to request that the closure of Lake WA Blvd be extended through the summer, please!

Make Bicycle Sunday semi-permanent! Our family of three LOVE this route and always take advantage to bike and walk when the road is closed.

It gets us out of the house to exercise in a safe environment, enjoy family time, and take in the beauty of the lake and mountains which is so healing to the spirit.

If nothing else, would you please bring back Bicycle Sundays?

Thank you,

I live in the Mt Baker neighborhood and I love the boulevard being closed. It is so quiet and peaceful and as a bike rider I appreciate having the street closed to traffic. I urge you to keep it closed.

Thanks

Dear City Representatives,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the summer Lake Washington Blvd closure. I think this is brilliant idea! Please continue with the closure. It is needed during the pandemic in order to provide the necessary social distancing. People will be out and about during the summer months and this provides an opportunity for everyone to enjoy this public amenity. The trail (sidewalk) is very crowded with parents with small children riding bikes or pushing strollers, runners, walkers, dog walkers etc... all passing within a foot or two of each other. Regardless of wearing a mask, providing more social distancing is a far safer alternative. Many of these people will spread out with the boulevard closure.

I personally ride my bike on Lake Washington Blvd. I have found that the street can be crowded with motorists "cruising". Most are generally courteous but not always. It is also very nice to be able to ride side by side and enjoy the beautiful scenery.

Unfortunately if the city is using counts to determine the use, the trial period was not the best weather. Although I did ride on the street during the closure there were fewer people than what I typically experience.

Please continue the closure through the summer at a minimum, preferably until the pandemic is over!

Best,

Hello there,

Really enjoyed riding my bicycle along Lake Washington Boulevard when there were no cars.

Hope we get to see more of that :-)

Thanks,

Hello,

With the closure of Lake Washington Boulevard, I was so much more motivated to run because I knew there would be enough space of everyone on the path. I went running yesterday and noticed the road was open to cars again. On the path I passed many walkers and joggers. We were all trying to stay as far apart as possible in the three feet of sidewalk provided. Although there is another path down the hill by the lake, this path is small and isolated by the hill, so there is nowhere to go when running by someone. For this reason, I always run on the upper path and end going around the trees and running inches from the cars. I would rather be grazed by a car than possibly expose myself or others to the virus.

It is important to remember that the people that oppose this closure are the most affluent members of our community. This closure inconveniences the people that live with a view of the lake in their million dollar homes. These same people likely have the ability to exercise in the homes. They probably do not need to fear the virus because they will be able to cover the medical costs of contracting it. But this closure serves those of us that need a car-free, socially-distanced space to exercise.

Thanks,

Please extend the pilot closure through the summer. There are so many folks walking or bicycling along the lake, and the trail and dirt paths are very narrow and not big enough for everyone out there to distance. It would be really kind and fair to provide more space to people who are trying to do their part by staying local, being outdoors, and physically distancing.

Long-term, you could actually just close one of the two lanes of Lake Washington Blvd. There's a great example of this in Kapa'a, in Kauai. Since it's along water, you can keep the lane closer to the houses open, one-way, for local vehicle access to those homes. Then you can put up permanent barriers down the center line, and the lane closer to the water can become a two-way trail for pedestrians and bicyclists. The infrastructure is already there. It's just repurposing it for people rather than cars.

There's no reason for a gorgeous lakefront road that already exists to be reserved for cars, while people walking or running or bicycling have to cram in to a skinny trail or dirt path along the water - during a pandemic.

Thank you,

I live about half a mile away and have been enjoying my walks and runs along LWB. When I'm running, I will try to get out of the way of anybody else using the path and I feel much safer to do that knowing there is no traffic.

Please consider keeping this going longer term. The lakefront is a treasure to be able to access.

I enjoyed the closure of Lk Washington Blvd last week and would love to see it continue through the summer.

I vote for closing Lake Washington Blvd to cars into the summer. This is already a popular running/walking trail but it is really tough to keep distance on the narrow sidewalks - pushing people into walking/running on the road with cars. Also, there is a lack of protected bike lanes in South Seattle and the boulevard is great because it's flat and pretty for kids and families. I hope it happens!

To whom it may concern:

Please keep Lake Washington Blvd open to pedestrians at least a few days per week this summer. It is important that we citizens have outdoor space where we can get safe exercise during Covid 19.

Thank you!

Yes, please keep lake Washington Boulevard car free through the summer. If not feasible for every day of the week, how about Thursday through Sunday?

[I Love having Lake WA Blvd closed]

Rode my bike down the street, couples promenading, kids on bikes, families, dog walkers, joggers, etc etc. Please keep it like this through the summer!

Rainier Valley / Mt Baker neighborhood

I am writing in support of continuing the recent closure of Lake Washington Blvd to cars. With Seward and other parks limited in capacity it has been hard to find good places to take my kids out for walks and on their bikes. I had mostly been avoiding Lake Washington Blvd because the narrow path felt too crowded to be able to maintain a safe distance during the pandemic. I was able to take my kids out twice during the five day pilot closure (once on foot, once on bikes), and though it seemed well used to me, it was easy to keep our distance and feel safe.

Thanks for trying this program out. I really hope that you are able to extend it through the end of summer.

This is a wonderful street for walking and biking. It really gives us a break from noise while being close to lake. Cars have alternative routes.

Thank you

Thanks for piloting Lake Washington Blvd as a Stay Healthy Street!

While it was just a short experiment, it seems like there were some successes. It was nice to see some separation between bikes, pedestrians, and cars. Daily there seem to be less than desirable encounters where slow vehicles, attempts to pass, road rage, etc create dangerous situations for many....the pilot appeared to reduce these, but may just be anecdotal with such a short pilot.

The pilot did create additional congestion of traffic and search for parking in residential neighborhoods. If this were to be expanded, additional help with parking enforcement and encouraging traffic management options that work for residents and visitors would be beneficial. With the closure of Mt Baker Beach parking, this seemed especially poor timing/coordination. And trash accumulated along residential streets. So traffic signage, enforcement, and placement of serviced trash cans might make an expansion of the pilot appealing to the residential neighborhoods.

I hope that some form of this pilot can be expanded so more people can enjoy the beautiful stretch of Seattle along Lake Washington Blvd.

The closure to cars on Lake Washington Blvd on June 26-30 was wonderful! It was pure joy to cycle along the lake on these days. For many years my family has taken advantage of the road closure on Bicycle Sundays, but I actually saw fewer cars on the road during this 5 day closure than previous bicycle days, ever.

Thank you, and please consider an extension of this addition to Stay Healthy streets.

I am so glad you are closing down Lake Washington Blvd for public Pedestrian enjoyment. What a fabulous move. Now it is like you are creating Seattle's version of Central Park.

. The street had become almost like a freeway because of mapping programs and other traffic patterns so now it can go back to something the public can truly enjoy. More space for walking and playing, Less devotion to cars. Yay!!!! Make it permanent please!

Thank you !!!

Yes- we would love to see that stretch of road permanently closed. Thank you.

We love it without traffic. Having it open for the summer would be great.

Dear Stay Healthy Street team,

Hi, I'm 15, and I love biking and running. Lake Washington Boulevard is one of my favorite places to bike and run. It's flat, well-paved, and in a beautiful area between the lake and greenery. The only problem is the lack of space for all the people who want to walk, run, roll, and bike along it. I was so excited when I heard, a few days ago, you made it a Stay Healthy/Keep It Moving street! The lack of cars allowed me, and everyone in the area, to use and enjoy the spectacular boulevard more, and more safely. However, I was incredibly disappointed today when I saw the cars had returned so soon. Now, I ask you to invite walkers, runners, bikers, and rollers back for at least a month. I didn't know it had been closed to cars until nearly halfway through the trial period, and I imagine many other people who would enjoy using the street never found out. Between that and the rainy weather, we haven't seen the full potential of opening Lake Washington Boulevard to people like me, walking, running, rolling, and biking. I'm calling on you to reinstate Lake Washington Boulevard's Keep It Moving Street status for the community to enjoy. I hope to see your response soon!

With Sincerity,

Hello,

My family was able to take daily advantage of the closed Lake Washington Blvd during the pilot. This included family bike rides to Seward Park (ages 5, 7, 42 and 42), as well as walks. Having the extra space made it far less stressful with the bike riding, as drivers are often frustrated by slow bikers and can drive in an unsafe way. With walk/runs it was super helpful to facilitate social distancing without needing to stop or go off path onto grassways, instead allowing the ability to shift to the road with lots of notice without fear of traffic.

I'm recommending keeping the road closed to vehicle traffic through the rest of summer to support healthy outdoor spaces and exercise for neighbors, especially as a good opportunity to keep children moving outside and away from still-shuttered playgrounds.

Thank you,

I was so excited to learn about the five-day closure, and if Friday was any indication, what a success! I live about a mile from Lake Washington Blvd. but it is an important part of my physical well-being. I bicycle, walk, run and swim there.

I cannot tell you how many times in the past year where auto drivers behaved badly versus bicyclists and pedestrians: specifically, failure to yield to me, as a pedestrian, at a marked crosswalk;
Cars passing me (as a bicyclist) doing well over 40 mph
verbal abuse at me for just riding a bicycle

It's the auto drivers that litter Lake Washington Blvd, not the pedestrians or cyclists (there should be a special penalty for discarding glass onto a marked bicycle path.) It's the auto drivers that create the muddy ruts along the edge of the road. I suspect that with fewer fishermen (who'd otherwise drive to the fishing docks), there will be a whole lot less fishing-related litter (fish hooks, fishing line, discarded bait cups, discarded fish...all of which I have, over the past year, reported to the city via the "Find It Fix It" app.

Speaking strictly for myself, I'm happy to have a reprieve from car drivers. No I can enjoy the serenity & beauty of Lake Washington without having to be vigilant for my safety. I hope that the city creates a plan where we have a long-term plan to remove cars from Lake Washington Blvd.

In so far as everyone keeping moving, that does not appear to be an issue (nor ever was). People LOVE to run, walk, hike, bike along that route. There is plenty of space right along the lake where people normally want to linger, that is well off the roadway.

Bravo, city of Seattle, for bringing us one step closer to a greener, safer way of life. I hope one day LWB will become permanently car free. Ah, wouldn't THAT make Seattle a great city to live in.

Regards,

P.S. Here's a photo I took of the traffic sign on Lake Washington Blvd after the volunteer labor cleared all the foliage, blackberries, grasses that were obstructing the sign from view. I think the grime got washed off the sign for good measure. Which sort of begs the question, why would the city bother to even have a sign, if the road maintenance crews are unwilling to keep the sign visible (and it takes a pandemic and some dedicated volunteers to get the work done properly)?

please extend the closure thru the summer.

(and figure out a way to slow traffic on lake in Leschi.
consider 3-way stop at E. Alder and Lake)

thank you

Hi,

I'm a neighbor (Leschi resident) and I super super super support this!!! My family and I have really enjoyed all the street closures at a time when being outside is so valuable to our sanity. While I understand this is only temporary, please consider permanent measures to make Lake Washington Blvd safer for cyclists. I've seen and experienced so many close calls and a few horrible accidents since growing up in the neighborhood. Especially at the intersection near Mt Baker beach where there are pedestrians trying to cross, cars trying to turn onto Lake Wa Blvd, and cars trying to pass cyclists. I'm no expert but it seems like a traffic circle or 3 way stop sign or something would be better than what's there now.

Thanks, SDOT for the safe healthy streets initiative! It's been a beautiful way to reimagine public space in my city.

Thanks,

Hello!

Please keep this closure going through the summer! I was on it Thurs/Fri/Sun/Mon/Tues/Wed enjoying the pilot.

As a local Mt. Baker resident, I really appreciate the change to traffic patterns which allows for people to keep moving (biking and walking) AND maintain social distancing. (especially since Seward Park outer loop is closed to bicycles).

It may not be sustainable for EVERY day, perhaps a good compromise would be 72 hr bicycle weekends.

Thanks!

Hello

i am requesting that you extend the pilot for closing traffic on lake washington blvd.

Many people didn't know about it or have a chance to try it yet. Those that did were super enthusiastic. It made a huge difference in being able to keep 6 feet of distance. It was so relaxing to not have the stress of crowding and the reduction of car noise while walking.

Thank for doing the pilot and I encourage you to extend it!

best regards,

I live at _____.

We loved having Lake Washington Blvd closed for Stay Healthy Streets.

You have my vote to close the street to cars as much as possible.

Please add more dates!

Thank you,

Dear sdot,

Our family strongly supports keeping lake Washington blvd closed permanently!! We live nearby and it has been a huge blessing to have a safe place for our kids to bike and enjoy the adjacent parks along the road. Cars go so fast there in normal times making it treacherous to cross streets or stay safely social-distanced. We really hope you keep it closed to cars after this pilot!!!

Best,

Hello,

I am a resident of Mount Baker, and I thought the 5-day pilot closure of Lake Washington Blvd between Mount Baker Beach and Seward Park was a success. I would encourage you to close it through the summer.

Some people will be unhappy that they are not able to drive along this road. However, there are plenty of other north-south routes through this area. Since the stay-at-home order began in March, there have been so many people running and walking on the path next to this roadway, to the point where I believe it is often unsafe because people cannot or will not adequately distance by going into the road. With the road closure, there has been adequate room for walkers, runners, and wheels. It has been great!

Thanks for considering our input!

Hello,

I regularly run from Mount Baker Beach to the Mount Baker Boat house and have been concerned with staying safe as I navigate other pedestrians using the sidewalk and path along the water. I have run this route for many years and since the stay at home order it had become increasingly busy especially on nice days. I think the majority of runners and walkers are courteous and try to maintain a distance from each other however it isn't always safe to do so. I've seen people run on the street and nearly been hit and I've seen people try to navigate the sloping hill and fall down. Closing the stretch of road from Mount Baker to Seward Park would minimize the risks and increase safety of pedestrians throughout the summer as the weather gets and stays nicer, particularly as we learn COVID cases are on the rise.

Thank you .

As a family who is trying to get into biking having lake Washington Blvd closed allows us to have a safe place to learn. We would love if it could stay closed for the summer and then maybe weekends in the fall. This is especially important as Seward park remains closed to bikes.

Thank you!

Hi

I enjoy running along Lake Washington between Seward Park and Mount Baker Beach. Sunday I noticed it was closed to cars and assumed it was a regular Bicycle Sunday. Then yesterday I was running there again and noticed that it was closed. If this is part of the Healthy Streets initiative, I like it! It is sometimes difficult to avoid people on the narrow sidewalk; the street is much nicer!

Sincerely,

I have been down along the closure route several times in the past few days. Wonderful to see children able to bike safely With their families. Also, for the first time I was able to safely maintain distance as I walked along the lakefront. A few cars ignored the closure, so some education is needed. I live in Lakewood and did not notice any greater traffic on my non-arterial street. Please keep the closure going!

I live in Mt Baker and own a business in Columbia City and my wife and I heartily and with zero reservations support the closure of Lake Wash Blvd. in order to help social distancing while biking and walking etc.

Lets start looking like a real city and have a large pedestrian presence....healthy citizens, less cars, less pollution= the way of the future!

Thank you

I just wanted to send SDOT a note on how much our family has enjoyed the healthy streets pilot on Lake Washington. It was wonderful to see so many people out and about on so many modes of travel.

We especially liked the route from our house along S. Wilson PBL down to Seward Park to loop around to Columbia City. It gave us an opportunity to pick plants, look at animals and wave to people from the bike.

Thank you!

Shirley Savel

Our family enjoyed the closure on our multiple bike rides, due to the safety and openness of the area. Please extend the closures as long as possible. Thank you,

Thank you for instituting this recent closure. I would love to see this continue. This road is walking/riding distance from my house and I enjoyed utilizing it as a flat road I could safely ride with my 7 and 3 year olds. Experiences like that help grow their love of biking and gives us an easy family activity without having to load everything in the car

As a car driver, I generally avoid this road. I see it as a scenic space for walkers and bikers And I try to use busier roads for myself when I'm driving. Please consider extending the closure or repeating it weekly.

Thank you,

Hello

Our family has enjoyed the road closure for biking safely with our two children. I ask for an extension of the closure as long as use is restricted at Seward Park

Sincerely

Thank you for closing Lake Washington Boulevard this past week. I live just up the hill from Lake Washington Boulevard and appreciate having this street closed to cars as it gives not just the neighborhood residents access, but opens it up to everyone. I would like to request that you continue to keep it closed to cars and open it up for pedestrians and bicycles. It is so important to have outdoor space for people to enjoy and use wisely, especially during this very stressful time that we are living in and through.

Sincerely,

Please keep the Blvd.closed it has been lovely. And if that's not possible consider closing it every weekend (Fri- Mon or Thurs- Sunday)

It has been lovely and really enjoy the extra space to keep all of us 6ft apart.

Also please send reminders to have all people especially those outside have a mask in case you can't attain the 6ft distance. Runners keep something around their neck to pull up as they are huffing and puffing past us...:){

Thank you,

Mt. Baker

I would love to see this closure extended beyond the 5 day pilot!!

Thank you

I applaud the 'stay healthy' closure of Lake Washington Blvd. Please extend.

BetterTogether,

We love having no cars on Lake WA Blvd!! Thanks and please do this more often. Mt Baker residents.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Get Outlook for Android

To Whom It May Concern:

I wanted to take a moment to thank you for entertaining the idea of Bicycle Sunday 24/7. There has been little good news this year – especially these past four months. I must say that the very proposed notion of making this closure to car traffic something approaching permanent was the best silver lining this year. I am an avid walker, 64 years of age, and though I live a short 6 blocks from the Lake, I had pretty much discontinued going down there even before Covid-19 because of the increase in car traffic. It just became evident that walking in the neighborhoods was a more peaceful experience. Now with Covid-19, it became something very much the opposite of therapeutic.

The last several days have been pure heaven – something approaching a religious experience. To be able to walk socially distanced along the lake with just the sounds of nature as a backdrop is just the best thing that's happened to me in a long while.

So yes! I'm a big proponent of making this as permanent as it can be!

Thanks!

Please extend the Lake Washington Blvd closure for the summer or at least repeat extended several day closures throughout the summer. I am a resident of the neighborhood living on the arterial, 50th Ave S. I strongly support the closure as it dramatically opens one of the most beautiful parts of the city for the enjoyment of large numbers of people in a safe setting. This is a no brainer. Thanks.

I really hope a plan to keep the road for pedestrian (and bike) will be extended through this summer! I have lived two blocks from the Stan Sayers Pit/Mt. Baker Rowing Club for 30 years now. It has been wonderful to see so many families making use of the lake route to get out and exercise while keeping a social distance. The path by the lake became so crowded prior to the street closure with runners, walkers and cyclists, most without masks, that I didn't feel safe using that route anymore. Now even more people are getting exercise and there is, literally, room to breathe. Thank you

I so appreciate that Lake Washington Boulevard was closed to cars the last few days. I used it every day during the closure and it was such a relief to be able to walk along the lake while keeping distant from other users. I hope you will extend the closure so that people can get outside and exercise safely.

I often walk or bike along the lake and it is very hard to keep 6 feet away from other users when cars are present. For example, when approaching another walker along the narrow path, I have to step out into the street to maintain distance. I have avoided using that route on weekends or late afternoons because it is almost impossible to maintain distance safely when a lot of people are there.

Closing the street will greatly expand the area available to families and people of all ages to be active in a beautiful place, something we all need in the Covid-19 era.

Thank you for your consideration,

To whom it may concern

I am a Seward park/ Lakewood resident and strongly support the closure of the boulevard to cars, as it's becoming very dangerous to witness cars driving so terribly fast when we try to take a walk and most often with very loud music far into the night, which makes it hard to sleep and scares my babies terribly.

We definitely need more space on the streets for walkers and cyclists because of covid19 and this will help a lot.

I think the lake Washington boulevard is fantastic and has made social distancing much easier! There were tons of people out walking and biking today. I think closing it for at least the summer would be great to make it easier for social distancing. Might not make sense in the long term for the traffic pattern disruption but for the corona summer it would be very much used and appreciated!

I'm a social distancing ambassador at Seward Park, having lake Washington Blvd closed helps keep the park less crowded and bikers are happier. It makes our job easier and keep the park safer. Keep it closed!

I was so happy this morning to see Lake Washington Boulevard closed. Three days a week I run along the lake, and, as much as people try to keep social distance along the trail, it has been hard with increasing traffic on the road. This morning it was glorious for walkers, cyclists and runners. I more people out than usual at 7am, and people so much more distanced than before.

Thank you!

Dear team,

I want to voice my enthusiastic support for closure of Lake Washington Blvd from Mt Baker beach to Seward Park to allow for exercise and outdoor time while social distancing. We have three children and have been struggling to find places where they can safely ride their bikes, though the Rainier Valley stay healthy street closures have been helpful. Lake Washington Blvd has the benefit of being a long, continuous stretch of road without intersections, sharp turns, etc., which is much safer for young children. I'm also an avid runner and have found it difficult to stay 6 feet away from others while running on the sidewalk.

Please keep Lake Washington Blvd closed permanently.

Thanks,

I am writing today to say I am so excited that Lake Washington Blv South has been closed to drivers. I regularly walk there and have been concerned by two things:

- 1) The runners and bikers are not wearing masks, and everyone bunches up on the sidewalks (not to mention all the off leash dogs)
- 2) The traffic from the southend has started to use this street as a major artery to commute to the bridge or their offices downtown, and I have witnessed long lines of cars, and much unsafe driving including angry commuters speeding and passing unsafely (oblivious to the fact that bikers with children are on the road) and doing other aggressive moves. This road was never meant to handle the amount of traffic that I see now in the morning.

I am so happy, I now feel comfortable that I will be able to take my five year old son down there for a bike ride safely.

Thank you so much Seattle for this gift to those of us in the southend who don't have any real bike trails.

Thank you for finally closing Lake Washington Blvd to traffic! So many people walk, run, bike, and exercise along that stretch and it's been very difficult to keep social distancing as the pathway is so narrow. With the road open it will be much easier and I think more people will access it. Please make this change permanent. Thank you,

Good morning! I'm writing to express my appreciation for the closure of Lake Washington Blvd. As a resident of SE Seattle and mother to a 3-year-old (a new pedal-bike rider!), having this space available where we can exercise together while maintaining social distancing is invaluable. As long as the Seward Park loop remains closed to cyclists - including small children - it is very hard for me to find places to take her to ride. Riding the neighborhood is challenging because she has to get off the bike to cross the street at the end of every block, because most of the curbs in our neighborhood don't have ramps. Additionally, the narrowness of sidewalks and her imperfect bike control at this age makes it hard to ensure that she'll always stay 6+ feet from others when there's very limited space to spread out. Having a wide road available for safe biking, walking and jogging together during these nice weather months is a huge boon to the community. Please extend the closure for as long as there are limitations in place regarding use of the Seward Park loop!

Thank you for your consideration,

Resident of Lakewood/Seward Park neighborhood

Hi,

I just wanted to let you know how happy I am that a section of Lake Washington Boulevard is being piloted for a Stay Healthy Street. I am recovering from a traumatic brain injury and one of the last remaining milestones in my recovery is returning to bicycling. I was disappointed to see that Seward Park is closed to cyclists as a flat, low traffic place like Seward Park would have been ideal for my recovery, but I understand it is a necessary precaution in these times. This morning I tried LWB and it was so wonderful. It will really help me in my recovery to be able to go here and work on my recovery safely. The few cars that were on the road were respectful and I always felt I was able to keep a safe distance from them as well as other people enjoying the area. It was also so nice to see so many people out and enjoying the beautiful weather and views -- so many joggers, walkers and other cyclists! It's hard to imagine how people could have safely enjoyed this path while keeping a 6 foot distance. I understand this is just a pilot program but I hope it continues because there aren't many alternatives for me where I can safely work on my recovery.

Thank you,

Hello,

I wanted to let you know that the stay healthy streets - Lake Washington Boulevard Pilot is an excellent idea. I use this area daily for walks and it would be great if there was less traffic there. We also use Lake Washington Boulevard to take my kids on bike rides, with the parks and playgrounds closed it's really difficult to find outdoor spaces for them to play. Having LWB as a safe option would be really helpful. Thank you for initiating the pilot and I really hope this becomes a long term endeavour.

Sincerely,

I rode on the now clear road last night and it was awesome!!! Thanks for giving us a safe and scenic ride at a time when we all need it the most 😊

Please run this beyond the pilot!

Thanks,

Thank you for doing this. First we should have been first -bicycle Sundays. I am a resident on Lake Washington Blvd S for 16 years and it has become a residential freeway since the road diet implemented in Columbia City. Since the pandemic there are drag races at night passing cars at 70mph.

The lawlessness of the passing cars is endangering lives. I have groups of teenage boys that ride bikes from all over the city to come swim and eat. I feed them well and my house is the hang out pad. I fear for them all when they take off on their wheels. They go back and forth sometimes 6 times a day to meet friends go swim, get lunch etc. Please keep the road closed through summer. Also I think the access to the Blvd should be restricted at Wilson and Seward park ave. Close the northbound access and it may keep commuters on the main roads and off the residential streets.
Thanks!

I wanted to say thank you for this pilot! We've been struggling to find open places for our kids to bike, run, etc so this is much welcome news.

Thank you for closing LWB to cars. This is a welcome opportunity for a safe North South bike commute and for healthy socially distanced recreation. People are flocking to the lake shore and the sidewalk in this time, and there is simply not enough space on the sidewalk alone. This area is an important outlet for the health of Seattle's citizens. Glad to see this experiment taking place.

Some drivers will complain, but they don't realize traffic will be lighter overall if more people are biking.

Hello,

I am very excited about the closure of Lake Washington Boulevard to cars, as I believe this will substantially relieve crowding on the narrow pathway and enable local people to exercise safely. Moreover, I would be strongly supportive of a permanent closure of the boulevard and/or addition of a bike path.

Can you please confirm when this pilot closure is meant to start? I thought it was today, but there is heavy traffic on Lake Washington Boulevard at the moment (specifically near Stan Sayres Boat Launch). It is now 6:30 pm on Thursday.

Thank you,

Hi - casting my vote to extend the pilot program to all summer (or forever!) to keep Lake Washington Blvd closed. There is so much through traffic (avoiding the Rainier Ave. street diet) that it's unsafe to cross morning, noon or night.

Thanks,

We are both above age 65 and have been using the closed streets in the CD for daily walks. We were so excited to learn that Lake Washington Boulevard was going to be part of this (and disappointed today when it remained open to autos) and would like to have that option as we live in Leschi/Mt Baker. Our wholehearted support comes despite the fact this will add traffic to the street where we live as an alternate route for cars (31st Ave S)

This would be an amazing benefit for everyone to stay in good physical and mental health.

We live in Columbia City and often ride bikes along Lk Wash. Blvd and it is very stressful to ride on the road with the cars - the sidewalks are usually full of people so opening the road will provide much more space and safety for everyone. As Seattleites stay closer to home this summer this closure to cars will be greatly appreciated!!! Please, please consider!

Thank you!!!

Hello,

I live near LWB (about a block away) on 48th Ave S, so pretty much the middle of the closure and I'd just like to express my complete support for the closure. I've lived at my current address for a little over 20 years now and I love to drive on LWB and do so frequently. It is a very convenient route for me to get many places. But it is a park and decisions should not be made based on the inconvenience of a few nearby neighbors. They should be made based on the highest value, best use of a resource and in this case it is to make it available to pedestrians, bicycles, skaters, etc. This is doubly true in the summer but with the stay-at-home orders the lakeside trail and Seward park have been overwhelmed with people even when the weather is not so great. The answer to this is to make more of the park available to people, not cars.

I also support the permanent closure of LWB, other than local access. As much as I would miss driving it, it is the correct thing to do. Please don't let the NIMBYs and whiners stop you from doing what is right for the city as a whole.

Thank you,

Dear SDOT Staffers,

Yes, please keep Lake Washington Boulevard as free of autos as possible!
Rather than a street closure - our family considers it a street OPENING which is used daily for cycling - please enact it forever.

This road is meant for bicycles, pedestrians and strollers, roller bladers, quiet fishing people and birdwatchers without the air pollution and noise of gas powered vehicles.

A huge thanks,

Hello,

I'd like to voice my strong support for making the Lake Washington Blvd Stay Healthy Streets pilot as permanent as possible. It is a wonderful stretch of road for communities across the city to enjoy in a safe and responsible way, as has been demonstrated for years during bicycle Sundays.

Thanks,

As a resident of the neighborhood, I'm really excited to hear about the Lake WA Blvd Keep It Moving Street Pilot. We have a toddler at home who is terrible at social distancing but really loves going for walks, so I would really really love to get more spaces in the Mt. Baker neighborhood that we can walk and run around in while having the space to make keeping distance easier.

Sadly, I don't know if we'll be able to take advantage of the pilot this week - we were recently exposed to a positive coronavirus case and are keeping ourselves in pretty aggressive quarantine. But I'm excited that it's happening, and I hope we can get more of this throughout the rest of the summer!

Thanks,

Dear SDOT,

Please expand the number of days that are bicycle-only on Lake Washington Blvd. This is a hugely important resource for the mental and physical health of Seattleites during this pandemic. Right now it is very hard to walk on Lake Washington Blvd and maintain social distance. Also Lake Washington Blvd would become a safer bike route for people who use their bikes as transportation. Providing a transportation option for folks who cannot use transit anymore is another consideration during the pandemic.

I am aware that many drivers enjoy Lake Washington Blvd as a scenic option for their car trips. This interest, understandable as it is, should not out-weigh the public safety need for safe exercise and safe transportation during the pandemic.

Thank you,
(Seward Park area)

Thanks very much for this closure!

Thank you thank you!

I am so excited to go walk this beautiful spot with enough space for social distancing and without fear of cars zooming by (the other day while driving I was aggressively passed by a driver doing 50+ who almost killed a cyclist during the move).

So cool! Can we keep it forever? :)

In appreciation,
Columbia City resident

I LOVE THIS IDEA!!!! Please do it! We're lucky enough to live on one of the newer Seattle Stay Healthy Streets, and it has been a wonderful change. People are now biking more frequently past our house, and the traffic is much quieter. I've seen our neighbors a few doors over venture out with their young children, riding their training-wheel bikes more safely and confidently. If there's any kind of silver lining to the current crisis, this is it. Thank you so much for these efforts. Please keep up the good work!

I'm so glad to see that Lake Washington Boulevard will be closed as a pilot project from June 25 - June 30! Lake Washington Boulevard is my favorite street to bike on because of the views of the lake, the beautiful trees, the connection between great parks like the Arboretum and Seward Park, and the hundreds of friendly bikers who also use the road. The only unpleasant aspects are the narrow lanes and aggressive drivers.

I strongly believe that Lake Washington Boulevard should be converted permanently to local access only. This would dramatically increase the safety of the pedestrians and cyclists who already use this road, and encourage many more to get out and enjoy this stretch.

Best,

To whom it may concern,

Finally. Finally I will see Lake Washington Boulevard closed to vehicle traffic as part a pilot project from June 25 to June 30. Lake Washington Boulevard, beyond any other bike thoroughfare, is the best street for bicycling. It has views of the lake, beautiful trees, connects parks such as the Arboretum and Seward, and is used by hundreds of friendly bikers. The only detractors are the insufficient signage for bikes and the aggressive drivers.

Therefore it should come as no surprise that I strongly believe Lake Washington Boulevard should be converted permanently to local access only. Not only would such a measure dramatically increase the safety of the pedestrians and cyclists who already use this the road, but it would also encourage many more Seattleites to do the same.

Thank you for your consideration of the above,

Please note that I support the summer closure of lake Washington Boulevard for summer 2020 , thank you,

Hello,

I would love to see Lake Washington Boulevard become a Stay Healthy Street permanently, or at least for the summer. Car traffic on this road has become very dangerous and abusive, especially after the Rainier Avenue road diet was introduced. Cars regularly speed around blind curves, endangering pedestrians crossing the road and bicycles using it. They also impatiently pass cars that are obeying the speed limit, risking head-on collisions. With the new physical distancing required due to COVID, pedestrians have started walk in the street when the sidewalk becomes crowded, which it often does. This boulevard is a spectacular resource that is much better enjoyed at slower speeds, making it best suited for bicycle and foot traffic.

If it isn't going to remain closed, it should at least have speed bumps installed to discourage reckless driving that will lead to traffic deaths sooner or later. Another option would be to install traffic lights that only turn red when an approaching vehicle is exceeding the speed limit, combined with red light cameras to capture photo evidence of violators.

I will follow up with impressions of how it is working out once the five day trial is implemented.

Thanks,

Yay. So glad we can walk there.

Sent from my iPad

Hello,

Thank you for your post in NextDoor asking for feedback on closing Lake Wa. Blvd. I'm a huge proponent of the idea.

I've used the boulevard throughout my life. Growing up in Seward Park, I participated in Bicycle Sundays (I was on the poster at some point in the mid-80s) and learned to bike jump off the tree-root-raised bumps on the path.

I moved back to Seward Park as an adult and have used the street to commute to the North end in a car (no stoplights until the arboretum!) and to Factoria on a bike. I've also biked with my own kids there to learn how to share the street with cars.

The one concern I have about closure is the reduction in access to the parks and lakes for people that don't live in the neighborhood. I hope enabling that would be part of at least a long-term closure plan. The area is a regional treasure and should be enjoyed by all.

I wonder if there's a hybrid-use option that might make good sense. I'd want to see consideration of a one-lane option for cars - Northbound - with some sort of safe crossing into the parking areas (I don't have any good ideas for how to do that).

Finally, I want to mention that for all the increased vehicle traffic we've seen in the neighborhood over the past few years, the stretch of Seward Park Ave between the Wilson/Dawson intersection and Juneau is a huge street and very underutilized. I think there must be better ways to use all that space than just a huge expanse of concrete that sits virtually empty.

Best regards,

Hello-I walk along the lake daily as do many other people of all ages and am excited to learn that the Blvd will close to cars for 5 days. It's so crowded on the sidewalk and with cars zooming by and passing bikes it's dangerous to step out on the road to get enough distance to walk pass people-I've almost gotten hit by both cars and bikes. People are constantly crossing the Blvd from the side streets loaded down w chairs, kids, strollers, bikes, floats, paddle boards, etc and it's dangerous with the cars speeding by!

I'm hopeful that the Blvd will be closed for the summer to give us all room to spread out while we enjoy the lake! Thank you!

Sent from my iPad

[THANK YOU for the closure of Lake WA Blvd!!!!]

I'm thrilled!

Thank you for your consideration on closing this street for cyclist. I have been biking on it for 20 years and there is little room for cyclist and cars. I have seen a large uptick in riders and many are new to biking since the pandemic. I am also a bike commuter and although I don't use this street to commute, it is one of the most used streets by bikers.

I hope we make the commitment to close it to autos.

Thank you,

I am writing to express my sincere hope that the closure of Lake Washington Boulevard will be extended the remainder of this summer.

During the closure, I saw a significant uptick in use of the road (and trails!) by pedestrians and bicyclists. The closure helped ensure proper social distancing within groups of people, and between groups. It also allowed cyclists of all abilities and ages to have a safe space to ride. Previously, fast moving cars and impatient drivers made Lake Washington Boulevard an intimidating ride. The closure allowed new cyclists to experience a beautiful ride on a relatively flat road, and young children to have more space to practice their skills.

Please consider extending the closure for the sake of healthy, happy communities during these difficult times.

I think anything that allows people to get exercise and is safe in the city should be prolonged. Some people in that neighborhood are probably not in favor, but I think they need to share the lakeside beauty with the rest of us. Plus it gets people out of their cars. I think there should be more corridors of safe biking.

I recently purchased an electric bike to commute to the hospital where I work and was amazed how many road hazard and inconsistent safe bikeways there are. More people are buying e bikes (e bike shops can't keep them in stock). I'd like to think Seattle is a progressive city. Please consider better signage and green trails on roadways as a reminder to share the road.

Thanks

Hey Stay Healthy Streets - First of all, I wanted to say that this is such a great initiative. Specifically last weekend I had the opportunity to take part of the one on Lake Washington Blvd. My regular running route essentially from Mt Baker Beach to Seward park and back. That walk gets so packed with bikers, walkers, runners, stroller, etc and normally being so close to everyone is usually a joy to me (seeing everyone out and happy) but with COVID, having that 5 day of closed time on the street was just a complete stress reliever. I don't have to worry about dodging people constantly and can just be out there and enjoy the fresh air.

I hope you consider keeping it!

Hello,

Please extend the traffic closure on Lake Washington Blvd through the summer. I took advantage of the recent temporary closure (June 26-30). It was wonderful to have a special place that allowed for safe distancing for walking, running, and biking. Sidewalks are too narrow to allow safe distancing. During these stressful times, closing this section of the city to car traffic would be of great help to many people.

Thank you,

We love the road closure for this summer and to 'keep it moving' during these times. I think the closure limits overcrowding wiv i appreciate being a local resident. We live in the area and enjoy the closure for this time period.

We love bike Sunday closures (or full weekend weekend closures) when things get back to some normalcy as well.

Sent from my iPhone

[Yeah for the closure of Lake Washington Blvd!]

So glad to see that the city is piloting extended closures of Lake Washington Blvd! This is a great way to get more neighbors safely out on bikes and feet!

It's been so wonderful walking there since it closed to traffic! It would be great if it could remain closed from when school gets out (late June) to the day after Memorial Day. When the weather stinks it can go back to being a car thoroughfare.

As a Mt. Baker resident and frequent Bicycle Sunday bike rider with my two elementary school aged boys, I would love to see the program extended over the summer. While I have you, can you extend the bicycle road closures through Mt. Baker?

Thanks for all you do,

Hello,

I just wanted to say thank you for the Keep It Moving Street Pilot on Lake Washington Blvd last week. It was wonderful to have this beautiful stretch of Lake WA free of cars for a few days, and I would love to see it repeated and/or the Bicycle Sundays program be reinstated for the rest of the summer. My wife and I walk or ride our bikes along the lake on a daily basis and we loved seeing all the walkers, runners and cyclists—especially the families with kids—be able to relax, SPREAD OUT and enjoy the lake shore safely, without the usual heavy and often too-fast car traffic.

Regards,

I bike and walk this area frequently, but cars simply dominate and endanger with their size and speed. We need to change how we live, reduce our carbon footprint, encourage safe lifestyles where people have access to walking close to home, then they don't need to consume goods made in China (or anywhere) which cause emissions to rise endlessly. Close it 7 days a week. The cars have thousands of other options. Pedestrians have few.

Thank you,

Hi,

I just wanted to provide my input on the Lake Washington Boulevard 5-day pilot. I live in the vicinity of this area and use it for driving, bike riding, access for kayaking, walking, and running. Having this closed off to vehicles worked very well for us and our neighbors. We were able to easily use alternative routes for travelling by car, mainly MLK and Rainier Ave. People using this street section for exercise were well spread out. When cars are open to travel along this same route, people are bunched up on the sidewalks.

Thanks for your efforts!

Rex

I support the closure of Lake Washington Blvd permanently. People regularly drive 40+ mph and it's dangerous. Thanks!

Hi there

1. We live on the 18th Ave S Stay Healthy Street and think that this is a big improvement and that it should have been done years ago when this was made a bicycle greenway. We are definitely in favor to making the traffic restrictions permanent.

However, we would like to see some enforcement of the stop signs at the E/W cross streets along the route. In particular S Waite Street and S Bayview Street get a lot of traffic (way more on Bayview) and about 60% of cars heading e-bound do not slow or stop *at all* at the stop sign as they head down the hill. Of the remaining 40%, most come to a rolling slow-down and 10% (I am being generous here) actually stop. Going w-bound (uphill), only about 15% of cars blow through the stop sign like they do coming down, and maybe 50% actually do something that would be qualified as a stop. With the increased number of bikes and pedestrians, eventually someone is going to get hit in the intersection. Also, there is confusion with cars going w-bound on Bayview because when they see cars heading s-bound on 18th, many drivers appear to think it is a 4-way stop and so they slow at the stop sign and then proceed into the intersection, despite the fact that the traffic on 18th has the right of way. This is less of an issue now that way fewer cars traverse the block between College and Bayview, but I think the confusion is that signage on the W side of 18th Ave S, just north of the intersection, must register for w-bound drivers on Bayview as a stop sign, even though it clearly is the wrong shape, etc.

Anyway, either the stop sign on the SW corner of the Bayview/18th Ave S intersection should be moved or somehow made more visible (more tree trimming? Street tree removal?) or there should occasionally be a motorcycle officer stationed on the SE corner (on 18th) to ticket violators. Many, many of those who do not stop are folks who have lived in the neighborhood for a long time and seem to think that they should not have to deal with the inconvenience of slowing down. Others simply don't see the sign because of the low street trees.

2. We are definitely in favor of expanding the use of Lake WA Blvd between Mt Baker Beach and S Orcas Street as a Stay Healthy Street. The sidewalk is too narrow for social distancing and there is too much traffic on the street to easily step off the sidewalk and out of the way to avoid people, plus there is not sidewalk along much of the W side of the street, further reducing safe space for pedestrians. Traffic along this stretch often drives well in excess of the speed limit, making it feel even less safe. This is a great stretch of road that could be used by families with kids on bikes, people pushing strollers or others looking to have a flat place to run or walk that isn't too crowded, especially now that it isn't practical for people on this side of the Duwamish to get over to Alki.

~~Thanks for all your work~~

Hello,

I would just like to add to the support of closing sections of LK WA Blvd to vehicles. During the pilot period I was able to run outside by the lake, which I haven't been comfortable with for quite a while.

Lk WA Blvd is normally my commute route, but as for many others i haven't needed to commute.

Thanks

Hi,

The Lake WA Blvd Health street pilot seemed like a success. For the first time since COVID we were able to feel comfortable walking there with plenty of room to social distance. We'd love to see this closed for the rest of the summer as it is within walking distance of our home. With people commuting less – we are both working at home, it would serve the greater community to provide us all a safe place to walk near the water.

Thank you!

I LOVED IT!

I am lucky enough to live about 4 blocks from the lake up near Genesee and have avoided walking on the wonderful path along Lake Washington because it is way too crowded for my comfort during this social distancing time. Around 4:00pm on June 30th, I was able to get out for a run on the road along the lake, from Genesee to Seward Park, and there were plenty of people and plenty of SPACE between them! Everyone was very respectful and I was so thankful that I had a comfortable place to go. I normally limit myself to walking the hills and neighborhood sidewalks where I am less likely to encounter people and can walk in the street if needed - it was SO nice to be down there.

I hope the pilot results come out well and we get this street closed more often in the summer!

Thank you!
Columbia City

To whom it may concern,

My wife just gave birth to our first child and we LOVED having Lake Washington Boulevard closed for 5 days. It was the perfect place to take our first walk as a family. We live just off Othello and would love to have it closed more often throughout the year.

Thank you for all the work you do in making our city happier and healthier.

Thank you so much for giving us the opportunity to see what it was like to have Lake Washington Blvd limited to people powered modes of transportation. My partner and I were able to make several outings during these 5 days to enjoy the blvd for recreating as well as the adjacent green spaces for picnicking. It really changed the shoreline environment for a more positive and calming experience.

I hope that this pilot program was a success and that we will get to see this transformation of public space well into the summer.

Thank you again,
Rainier Valley

Hi,

My family enjoyed the blvd closure and would like to make it permanent. The key benefit is it allowed us to cycle without worrying about cars coming through four way intersections. It also allows for sustained exercise v/s the neighborhood street closures (which are great too). It's especially great for kids that aren't quite ready to play bike frogger with traffic.

Thanks,

Hi, I wanted to give my feedback on closing LWB for bicycles for 5 days. I do not agree and think that issues like this that affect an entire neighborhood need a more community involved process. LWB is a neighborhood thoroughfare for all kinds of traffic. Bicycle Sunday's are great and are supported by almost everyone. There are plenty of parks, trails and neighborhood streets that are safe bike trails for families. Especially during this pandemic when people's lives are already so restricted, this shut down for auto traffic is not good policy and takes bicycle entertainment way too far.

Thanks,

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my opposition to closing Lake WA Blvd beyond the current summer weekend schedule. I am a resident of Seward Park and both my wife and I rely on this route to commute to our work, in my wife's case to Madrona school as a teacher. It is unheard of in other parts of the city to simply remove a major arterial that residents rely on (and like us we based our decision to invest and pay property taxes in said neighborhood assuming we had this street available). I cannot imagine Arboretum drive being closed for the summer, can you? Why is that?

The result will be more congestion on major arterials, more pissed off drivers, more accidents, and it will cause people to use residential streets to avoid traffic on the arterials. I am sure the residents of Mt Baker and Leschi will love all the cars speeding through their residential streets in an attempt to avoid Rainier and MLK.

The city has already shown incompetence in how it has managed the Seward Park closure. The park is open, but for some reason the parking lots are closed. What sense does this make? This has not stopped people from coming to the park by one bit - they simply crowd the residential streets around the neighborhood, causing traffic back ups and impacting the people who actually live on those blocks whose streets are now parked bumper to bumper. That really sucks for the people that live and pay taxes in this neighborhood, but why should anyone in city hall care about them? I'm not sure how this has helped fight the coronavirus in any meaningful way so I assume it's for some other reason.

Please don't close Lake WA Blvd all summer. We are dealing with enough out here already. Stop making bad decisions - consult the residents it will impact and whose tax dollars this city relies on.

Thank you

Hello,

I wanted to email about my concern for closing Lake Washington Blvd through the summer of 2020. I appreciate what the city is doing to help keep citizens safe and healthy during this trying time however, I don't think we need to shut down all the streets to facilitate this. Many people have started to return to work since phase 2 has been implemented and traffic has started to pick up again. We already have issues with traffic in this city and I think if we close down streets it will just make things worse, especially with other issues that are out of our control like the West Seattle bridge being shut down. In order to avoid traffic and save time on my commute I take Lake Washington Blvd along with many other people who live along it. With it being shut down, I'm forced to take alternate routes like Rainier & MLK or take I-5. I-5 is less than ideal especially with the aforementioned West Seattle bridge and I'm concerned that Rainier & MLK will start to be impacted with Lake Washington Blvd being closed. I understand with the weather being nicer more people are out on Lake Washington however, I feel everyone is doing a good job at sharing the road and keeping their distance from others. I have witnessed the majority of individuals wearing masks while walking/running along the trail and keeping respectable distances from others. I also feel that vehicles have been good about sharing the road with bikers and stopping for pedestrians to cross. Aside from convenience, this is a beautiful street to drive on with wonderful views of the lake and surrounding mountains. It is a highlight of my day driving this in the morning and evening and I would be deeply saddened if it is closed through the summer. I appreciate your time reading this email and hope you consider the points I have made.

Many Thanks,

Hi,

I understand the periodic temporary closure of Lk Washington Blvd along the lake. It is also my understanding that the city is looking at permanently or LONG TERM closing the road.

The city has consistently, and especially now, closed or choked down the North South corridors through this area to South Seattle and Renton and the communities beyond. What you may fail to understand is that a lot of folks, especially those who cannot afford to live in the more affluent central and Northern neighborhoods, HAVE NO CHOICE but to commute North/South through these areas. A longer term closure is simply not workable and will impact the surrounding neighborhoods to an extensive degree.

Let me give you my anecdotal history. I have regularly driven this route every weekday for about 7 years or more. Initially, it was very low trafficked and bikes and cars got along for the most part. With the closure of 23rd due to the reconstruction of that road, this instantly changed. The sheer volume of cars traveling NORTH in the morning sky rocketed to end to end cars, pretty much from Seward Park (the road up to the business district 55th?) through to the bus turn-around beyond Leschi. The timing was simply too perfect to be a coincidence. With Waze and Google Maps routing, cars shifted from 23rd to this road to a large extent. With the multiple year closure, and then the reduction of speed limits along Rainier and 23rd, etc, as well as reduction in lanes and capacity, much of the traffic remained as drivers became used to their new routes.

This morning, I followed several "lost" and wandering cars who turn up at the Mount Baker Rowing club, where the road was closed only to be stuck at a one-lane construction closure and then wandering through the neighborhoods to try to find a route back South again. This will simply dump more cars through the neighborhoods, which is the very last place we want them with narrow streets. I myself, had to do this last minute change as I was unaware of the closure.

I realize you are receiving reports that cars are dangerous and speeding, fine, enforce the speed limit. You will also always hear complaints from a very vocal crowd of upset people, but will never hear the many times that cars actually travel through, in harmony with cyclists. I witness most cars slow and gently pass when there is room, and I travel this route daily. Very few cause an issue. Sure there are the one-offs, as there are everywhere.

As for people needing the "room to walk," there are really plenty of places to do so, including the really nice trail along the lake right next to the road!

~~Please consider that there are many essential workers and others who need consistent routes to work in order to get our economy back up and out food~~

bicycle Sundays, I can deal with. but not street closure for 5 straight days. Concerned about people on my lawn at 3 AM. STOP the healthy streets program on Lake WASH BLVD . No more closure on the Blvd, so. NOT IN FAVOR

[Open Lake Washington Blvd ...]

...to cars, as God intended.

Thanks for the opportunity to spit into the wind.

Yours, Respectfully,

/s/

Once again, SDOT moves forward with zero community consultation.

Lakewood Seward Park Neighborhood Association.

I have certainly been in contact with SDOT in the past, about projects like Wilson Ave S, BUT SDOT did not think to contact me or LSPNA about the so called "pilot" project on Lake Washington Blvd over the past 5 days.

AND will there be any consultation before the department makes it permanent??

This is not a good way to work collaboratively in this city.

Hello,

My name is _____ and I am a resident of the Lake Washington boulevard area. I personally believe that this road closure is unhelpful and will only cause more problems in the future. Although it is nice that people can "walk" and hang out along the lake, there are plenty of other places they can do so. This lake road closure not only puts a ton of pressure on Rainier Avenue, but is also extremely inconvenient for those who use it everyday to get home and go to work. This idea is not smart, and will only cause more problems. We are in phase 2, meaning restaurants are even open for seating. If people can be together in an enclosed area now, I'm pretty sure they can survive being a couple of feet away from each other on the sidewalk. Keep this road closed and you'll have a lot of angry people. Thanks for your time and I hope you take my word into account.

Sincerely,

Hello,

Our family home has been on Lake Wash Blvd S since 1952. We grew up with Bicycle Sunday in the 70s, loving the day when the boulevard was closed for bike riding. We only imagined a time when the boulevard would be closed permanently except for local access, but closing a major arterial has never been an option, until now with the pandemic.

While we have 68 years of experience of how to live when Lake Wash Blvd S is closed, the public does not. Without proper signage on the street closed signs, saying Local Access Only, the "hater" mentality comes out of the people when a car comes down their way. The cyclist and pedestrian experience is different from the local residents. You don't know what it is like to have pedestrians and cyclists yell, wave their arms, and flip you off. Adding stress to an already stressful time in our lives could have been avoided with proper planning.

What is frustrating, SDOT gave zero consideration of the impact to the residents ahead of closing LWB closure. When Mayor Nickels piloted a closed LWB program, residents were notified by mail of the pilot program closing LWB every Thursday. We were given placards for our vehicles showing we were residents needing local access to our homes. Nothing was received this time in the mail, no leaflet on our doorstep, no communication to the Lakewood Seward Park Neighborhood Association, NextDoor app, just sending out a survey, asking for your experience, an article in the Times of the potential closure, and a notice on your website. The number of homes along LWB to mail them a card and placards would have been a minimal expense, given there are roughly 40 homes impacted.

The public, wanting to use a "safe street", needs education before you give them the right of way. Three cyclists were riding down the middle of the boulevard at 10 pm, in the pitch dark, the first night the "Street Closed" signs went up. The cyclists were not wearing any reflective wear, no helmets, and did not have any reflectors on the bikes. Without street lights along LWB, these cyclists were in a dangerous situation and fortunately they were in my on-coming lane otherwise they would not have been visible. The cyclists see the "Street Closed" sign expecting no vehicles on the road.

Since you gave the boulevard to cyclists, pedestrians, and rollers, without planning for local access, a righteous mentality comes out of the public, that they own the street, and how dare you drive down it. Tell me how do I not respond to someone cursing at me? I drive 10 mph for 7 houses, with flashing lights on, my blinker on to turn into the driveway, and I still get the only person walking in the street questioning why I am entering the boulevard. We are living in unprecedented times and having an incident every time I use the boulevard adds to the stress, which isn't good for anyone trying to stay healthy.

To Whom It May Concern:

I live on Seward Park Ave. South, and I've already had my parking space taken next to my kitchen door by SDOT. Now, I can't park in front of my house because of all the cars on my street with people going to the park. I have a handicap placard and am now being forced to walk blocks, just to get to my house, and then up 27 steep steps to my front door. This closure of the Boulevard is severely impacting me. I am very much against this measure. Yes, every other Sunday is okay, like they do in the summer. But any closure will greatly impact me as a tax paying home owner and citizen in Seward Park. I am very much against this. One of my pleasures after work is driving to Ferdinand beach to watch the sunset and park in the handicap spot. Now, I can't even do that. You have taken away almost anything pleasurable. You have taken away my ability to park next to my house and go up four steps to my kitchen door. I'm mad as hell and I won't take any more of City Hall taking more rights away from me. Stop this nonsense now. STOP IT!!!!!!!!!!!! On Sunday after going to the store, I was unable to park in front of my house. The street was packed with cars going to the park. This is just ridiculous and no thought has been put into this. Just like you did with Wilson and the stupid planter boxes filled with just dirt and the bike lanes. You never filled the planter boxes and that was \$6.8 million dollars. What a waste of taxpayer money. Stop this immediately. There's no thought or plan in place for those of us that live here. Are you kidding? You didn't even do a town hall. You just simply closed all the streets off because someone had an "idea." It's dumb, wreckless, and not well-thought-out. Stop this nonsense. Get your act together. Focus on what you need to do, like clearing out the CHOP. Stop creating more problems, and fix the existing problems, like social issues, mental illness, homelessness, infections amongst those experiencing homelessness, racial discrimination. Stop creating more problems without fixing the problems we have on-going right now.

To whom it may concern,

I live in Columbia City and I drive Lake Washington Blvd pretty regularly. I pay a lot of money to A) Own a car in this incredibly expensive city B) To register my car in this incredibly expensive city and C) the taxes I spend on said A and B plus the incredibly expensive gas prices (most of which is WA gas taxes) oh yeh and my incredibly high taxes also are what are responsible for fixing the horrible roads we all drive on...so you know what???

I want to be able to drive on Lake Washington Blvd...which I feel I am entitled to do so just as the two legged and cyclist are entitled to do.

While you may want to desperately to do away with the likes such as myself who do drive, we bring in a large part of your revenue every year.

That road needs to open to everyone....and by the way, why don't you all do something useful such as start ticketing bad cyclists who don't wear helmets and do not have proper night lights and who also don't drive with traffic and conveniently do not use hand signal..or even better still they cut in and out of traffic in front of you or drive right next to you and you cannot see them...no, instead you all blame everything on the drivers.

If there was a high functioning transit system here, I would gladly use it. I lived in Boston for 13 years and never owned a car, but here...that bus system is a bad joke just as that lame short rail system is. All these decades and this is the best you came up with...sad really for such an expensive and crowded city.

Your method of trying to force people out of their cars is a backwards thinking plan that will not work no matter what you do so please, do something smart for a change and open up Lake Washington Blvd.

Hello,

Please do not close Lake Washington Boulevard for your Safe Streets initiative. Lake Washington Boulevard is a crucial arterial and it is incredibly inconveniencing to have to find ways around using this as a route home.

OPEN UP THE PARK PARKING LOTS ALREADY!!

Thanks,

I tried to run a simple errand last Friday 6/26) from my Leschi neighborhood to Seward Park. To my surprise, Lake Washington Blvd was closed. A 15 minute trip turned into an hour long one.

It happened again today - Monday 6/28.

What are you people doing? Closing a main thoroughfare seems like a smart idea to your department? Does this really make sense to you? The decision defies logic.

I have lived in Seattle for 30 years. My in-laws have been here for generations. It is amazing how less livable Seattle has become. Not because of the number of people. Not because of the cost but because of the stupidity in the decisions of those in charge.

If you really want to do something, then come to my stretch of the road and start handing out tickets to the speeding cars along my street. 40-60 mph is not unusual in the 25 mph zone. Think I'm exaggerating? Park in front of my house for 10 minutes.

Open up the road so we can have a functioning city.

To Whom it May Concern,

There has been no signage indicating this is a pilot, or the duration of it.

It does not seem like this pilot is being pursued in the best interest of the most number of people in the neighborhood, which is very disappointing. The signs about Safe Streets are on the back of the street closed signs, and not even on the largest street closed signs, which means there is no information about the program facing the drivers who encounter the signs. It is set up to bias comments in favor of those using the street for recreational purposes.

Again, I am not sure what problem this is trying to address. Seward Park is gigantic, and there is plenty of room with multiple paths along Lake Washington Blvd to supplement that.

I'm sorry , the normal closure of Saturday and Sunday is fine with me but for those of us who still need to drive to work please just leave if for the weekends. I vote no!!!

Please do not close Lake Washington Boulevard. This will be a major inconvenience for anyone who lives in this neighborhood. It is one of the only major thoroughfares. There are already large side walks along lake Washington boulevard and parks. We do not need this to be a closed street.

Hello,

I am a resident in the Seward Park neighborhood, and am strongly opposed to extending the Lake Washington Blvd closure into the summer. I am an avid biker, and despite closing the road to cars, it is far more dangerous for bikers now. The foot, roller blade, and bike traffic makes it a hazard, especially because pedestrians and children often don't follow any rules of the road (eg, "stay to the right"). I almost hit 2 children and one other biker on my ride yesterday because of their erratic road behavior. Additionally, along with the closure of the Seward Park parking lot, my entire residential street has consequently become a bustling parking lot, which is a) again unsafe for bikers and b) unsafe for COVID, considering the sidewalks are only 5 feet wide. I understand the intention, but this is simply not safe.

Sincerely,

I object to week long closure. Bicycle Sundays/weekends as they were previously constituted are bearable but not for a week.

I'm a Seward Park resident and really appreciate going to the Central District on Lk. Washington Blvd.

Residential streets are one thing but a main arterial is unacceptable. It's going overboard.

I feel I don't get a vote on the subject.

DON'T.

You have prevented many of us from reaching the water for 3 months, now you are continuing the prevention. The only way to get near the water has been to park on neighborhood streets, walking up to a 1/2 mile on NARROW city sidewalks, then on narrow Lake Washington paths (at least there is room there to step off the trail to distance from others), then walk another, up to 1/2 mile to get to Seward Park, which has 12 foot wide paths, which we can distance from each other. After walking all this distance, people are not going further into the parks and away from each other.

Magnuson Park is a similar situation. Dog park people have a long way to park to get to the off leash area. Until the boat ramp opened, it was difficult to get near the water. It has been hard to launch a hand carry boat. Boaters naturally distance from each other. Until the Gym opened - you blocked off that parking, which meant it was hard to launch a boat, and people that wanted to swim bunched up on the dock and little bit of beach.

OPEN THE PARKING LOTS TO PREVENT PEOPLE BEING UNABLE TO DISTANCE!!!!!!!!!!!!

Seward Park, on a busy summer day, pre-covid, you could keep distances - I know because I have done so.

I am looking to move as far from Seattle as I can, since you seem to dislike dog owners, boaters, and anyone that wants to be near the water. If you note, Renton has had their beach park open (except for a short time it was closed due to e-coli (which from their website said Magnuson and Juanita also had this issue - but not noted anywhere). They have not had a problem with people distancing. Are Seattleites worse than those from Renton??????

Angrily,

I strongly oppose daily closing of the Blvd. Weekends fine but with public transportation unsafe it adds to much time to commute not to mention increase carbon footprint.

Hello, happy Monday!

I'm writing today to request that the pilot of closing part of Lake Washington Blvd is not extended past 5 days.

I am a resident in Leschi, and every day I commute down to Valley Medical Center as an essential employee. I agree that Lake Washington Blvd is a beautiful section of Seattle, but I do not think that the impact to the surrounding communities is worth a permanent closure. I'm just going to outline why I believe the impact outweighs the benefits:

1. There is very little parking in this area, and this closure limits parking even more, pushing it into the surrounding areas. When I got home from work today, I ended up circling the neighborhood for a while looking for a place to park--I'm usually able to park in my apartment building's parking lot.
2. Unlike many other "stay healthy" streets, Lake Washington Blvd does not have a parallel equivalent (ie, just go up a block and you're fine). Leschi is an already difficult neighborhood to get in and out of, but this closure makes it considerably harder, especially as traffic backs up on each end of the closure
3. This section of Lake Washington Blvd is surrounded by trails, walking paths, and sidewalks. Even right on that section, there is a sidewalk and trail, which in my daily runs, gives plenty of room to social distance.

I think that part of the issue here is that this area is considered a destination spot unlike most other "stay healthy" streets in Seattle. It's not just people walking out of their front doors to get here, it's also people driving here from around the area. I feel for people who are stuck at home, I do. But I also feel for essential workers like myself who are having to navigate ever-increasing barriers to get to our jobs (stay healthy closures, closures and reductions of public transit).

I appreciate having been given the chance to voice my opinion, and hope that there can be a more suitable alternative found in this beautiful area of Seattle.

Thank you,

Comments on this issue on NextDoor show a polarization between the cyclists / walkers in favor and those against, some disabled or elderly who cannot comfortably walk at all, or those needing the route to stay open to enable access to locations further along the route and those who simply enjoy a leisurely drive along the lake.

Those in favor close their ears to the problems that will accrue with additional parking in residential side streets already subject to increased traffic from other street closures / restrictions. They infer this is the only place they can walk and breathe unpolluted air - as if the air in this part of Seattle was to any significant degree polluted. They refer to the "amount of traffic ", which is only significant at rush hour, when most people would NOT be out walking this route for fresh air. They have the whole of Seward Park and Martha Washington Park without cars. They will not be content until they have claimed every beautiful area for their own enjoyment.

It will also clearly benefit the wealthy with properties along this route, who already enjoy the view 24/7. It is therefore in my view a decision to benefit an elitist minority.

PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE IT PERMANENTLY

We live up the street from the Mt Baker boathouse. Our usual way of heading out is by the lake way. It is getting so congested to go on Genessee anymore and it's only getting more congested because of the closures. We feel better with the bicycle Sunday closures but not with the weekday ones. More people are driving aggressively with all the closures happening everywhere as it is.

Please reconsider closing down our main areas of transportation for those of us that really need the streets open for cars.

Thank you.

I am a native Seattleite born at Providence hospital and have been living in South Seattle for 20+ years.

We appreciate the once a weekend bike closure of the portion of Lake WA Blvd but this ongoing closure is causing traffic back-ups, wasting fuel with idle cars. You already have decreased 2 lanes from 23rd, Beacon, Wilson Ave has lost a lane and the crazy Rainier Avenue reductions. The very little used bike lanes, the bike lanes that are blocked off by cement markers/plastic dividers that do not allow street cleaning (thus now are unsafe) and there are not many bikers out.

Please go back to the share the road with a once a month closure.

Thank you.

Hi,

Please record my displeasure with a semi-permanent closure of Lake Washington Blvd this summer. Not having that road access makes it tremendously more difficult to access Seward Park from my neighborhood, especially without the available parking that area provides with city park parking lots being closed.

I want to be as supportive as possible of the endeavors to help our city stay healthy, but this would be incredibly inconvenient for accessing park area that we have been recently discovering.

Thank you,

This is a white privilege idea. Benefits no one except those who can afford a trouble-free blessed existence. Let the poor folk drive on what's left of Rainier and MLK and Beacon Ave.

Have lived in CC since 1966.
Sent from my iPhone

Dear City Council,

I would like to know why Lake Washington is suddenly closed with no public input. This is a major thoroughfare for many. The new environment is no safer for pedestrians or bicyclists, as the cars have now given space to motorized transport of many varieties. You are creating a further problem where there was no solution needed in the first place.

Sincerely,

We strongly oppose the closure of this vital arterial. As more and more traffic builds and more and more north-south arterials become clogged, this is a vital route for those of us that live in the south end of Seattle.

Rainier Ave has already been put on a "road-diet",
traversing Columbia City virtually anytime of the day is impossible,
the Rainier/MtBaker transit hub between McClellan and MLK is already a traffic disaster that hasn't been solved.

Beacon Ave has been road-dieted

15th has been road-dieted

23rd has been road-dieted

In total 8 north-south lanes have already been eliminated in recent years.

And because the Light Rail was placed on the surface streets rather than elevated, our East-West routes have become difficult to traverse.

I would recommend solving that mess before denying us yet another alternative north-south route.

While it is easy for others who live outside of our SouthEnd area to say how nice it would be to have this as a full time bike-walking path, losing this vital arterial is the kind of insensitive act that is slowly eroding the quality of life here in Seattle and driving us, long-time south end residents away. Apparently the Olmsted Legacy indicates that Lake Washington Blvd was actually meant to be a drivable road. We, annually, give up this arterial for two weeks for Seafair but to lose it permanently would likely be the straw that drove us to move from Seattle permanently. We would hate to leave this neighborhood after 40 years but it very definitely could happen as a result of these insensitive changes to getting around the city.

Thank you

I live in Seward Park and am an essential worker at two hospitals on First Hill. The closure of Lake Washington Blvd has a significant adverse impact on my daily commute. The only viable alternatives now are Rainier Ave. S, (with major delays due to the lane closures under I-90 for construction of the light rail station) or 38th Ave. S, which is not a good route to handle the significant increased traffic. While I appreciate the desire for some folks to want Lake Washington Blvd closed, I hope SDOT will reconsider the feasibility of this closure and the adverse impact on the other alternative routes once the 5-day trial is completed. I do not think the 5 days chosen, overlapping a weekend and the start of a 4-day work week, will be representative of the impacts over a several month closure. Why not consider weekend only closures?

Regards,

Good afternoon,

Just a quick note to let you know that the closure of Lake Washington Blvd is having an incredibly negative effect on our neighborhood, and our street in particular (Hunter Blvd S). It has become a major thoroughfare over the past several days with much more traffic and speeding cars. This is of huge concern for so many reasons, not the least of which is the safety of my two children and other children on our street.

I am begging you, please reopen Lake Washington Blvd, where very few houses are located, and spare the densely populated streets above.

With much respect.

Hello,

I am not in favor of closing off Lake WA Blvd - this is a road that's to be shared by all. That included vehicular traffic as well as those using it to get to local shoreline to recreate. There are ADA citizens that cannot access the walkway or paths unless first able to get to them by vehicle. Pedestrians & cyclists already have priority for leeway.

Do NOT close off Lake WA Blvd. There are plenty of other streets already closed off for families to use. There are Bike Sundays - make more of them. But to close off permanently would be totally unfair to all.

To Whom It May Concern,

Please don't close down Lake Washington Blvd.!! We use it to drive to and from our daughter's almost daily. We use it to drive to all different neighborhoods as an alternative to Rainier Ave and MLK, which we avoid whenever possible. It is a huge inconvenience for us to take an alternate route. Other routes are just not as safe or convenient, not to mention as beautiful. Many of our neighbors like to drive on or live on the blvd. How will the residents of this street come and go to their property or receive deliveries??

It might be a compromise to close the street over the weekend or on a bicycle Sunday, to give people who like to bike or roller skate a much bigger space to do those activities. But my husband with Parkinson's, and myself as his caretaker, both of whom aren't able to do these activities, greatly enjoy the drive and it's views of the lake. There needs to be a combination of driving time and recreational time. The fact is, people on bikes, roller skates, and walkers can coexist with drivers and have been doing so for all my life.

This city is getting more and more unfriendly and difficult for those of us who can't and don't bike. What was done recently to Seward Park Ave. and Wilson Ave. just didn't take into account the many people who live on those streets and the neighborhood as a whole. It's more than annoying for all of us. The changes to these streets combined with the Rainier Ave. Road Diet has made Lake Blvd. a very good alternative. I have lived in So. Seattle my whole life. I am just fed up with people who don't live in my neighborhood coming in and making my life more difficult.

Thank you,

I am writing to express my concern and displeasure with the closure of Lake Washington Boulevard.

This is not only an inconvenience to my family and me in commuting, transportation to childcare, and reaching family members from where we live on Beacon Hill, but it is of deep concern as to the priorities of the City of Seattle and who the cities choices shall benefit. In general the movement against driving only furthers the harsh impacts of gentrification and reduces diversity in our city – as gentrification has forced migration (South) outside the city at a greater rate for immigrants and people of color.

Gentrification of Southeast Seattle has left fewer families of color and less economic diversity in our community. It has meant that for many driving back to this neighborhood to enjoy a Sunday drive, a stroll, a family picnic in an area that a family may have come to for generations is how to continue this tradition. It seems that the most vocal or maybe just the most heard voices in Seattle have decided that they know what is good for everyone else and that you must play by their roles and their values to live here. This action creates a sense that this area is a now a private club meant for use only by those living in direct proximity, further driving out economic, racial and ethnic diversity.

I have already witnessed the disproportionate and adverse impacts to communities of color by the closure (during the COV-ID 19 pandemic) of the parking lots/turn outs along Lake Washington Boulevard between Mt. Baker and Seward Park, which are/have been greatly used by people of color - people who do not live within walking distance of the Lake. For many (mostly people of color) access to the fishing docks and fishing spots in the stretch of the Boulevard being closed are reached by driving and parking nearby. These are cultural traditions and recreational activities that are not being considered by the white, affluent agenda of this closure.

The only users that would see any benefit to the closure are cyclists, but Bicycle Sundays already provides for cyclists. The other beneficiaries are lakefront residents who will essentially be living on a large park rather than a public city arterial open and accessible 24 hours a day. Lake Washington Boulevard shouldn't only be for mostly white, mostly affluent, mostly male cyclists or only for those who live directly adjacent to it. This doesn't promote recreational accessibility for communities of color nor does erase discrimination or systemic racism, it amplifies it.

I have lived almost my entire life in Southeast Seattle. While there is much I would like to see in the way of change here, this is not a change I want for my family or my community.

I welcome any questions you may have for me in regards to this matter. Thank you in advance for your careful consideration of some of my concerns.

Dear Stay Healthy Streets,

I have dutifully navigated around all of the lanes that have been taken away in south Seattle and the street closures recently enacted. But with the proposed closure of Lake Washington Boulevard, I have reached my limit. We cannot all bike and publicly transport everywhere (and yes, my ORCA got a healthy work out pre-Covid). I am not aware that any other part of Seattle has had the same level of major traffic arterials reclaimed by the City. As such, this feels unconsciously punitive and a privileged action foisted upon a largely POC community.

Enough is enough.

I do not support the removal / repurposing of yet another major traffic moving street in South Seattle (ie, Lake Washington Boulevard). I pay my taxes just like everyone else and expect that my local public road infrastructure will be maintained as it is in every other neighborhood in Seattle.

Sincerely,

Hello,

I have always enjoyed Bicycle Sundays, Seafair and other brief closures of Lake Washington Blvd. It is great fun to be able to enjoy the street as a biker and pedestrian for a few days over the summer months.

I want to let you know that I respectfully disagree with an extended closure of the street. I live on Hunter Blvd and over the last few days I have been very disturbed by the incredible increase in traffic and the speed in which cars are traveling down our street. Our street is the #1 detour route with Lake Washington Blvd closed. I have children, 9 and 11 years old, and it is scary to have such an increase in unexpected traffic and drivers that don't seem to respect the residential street.

There is plenty of room on the sidewalk and grass bank along the water for people to walk. The street does not need to be closed. I am so looking forward to the street re-opening on Tuesday and I hope an extended closure does not occur again. Stress levels are already so high and I hate the additional stress this is causing my neighbors and me.

Thank you,

Lake Washington Blvd should be accessible to all, either in car or on bicycle or on foot. Please do not restrict access this beautiful street.

Nothing feels better than driving along the lake in the summer, and many people would be unable to enjoy it if it were not for automobile access.

Also, it's an important access to neighborhoods to the north and a fast way to get to the 520 from Columbia City

Thank you.

I am so disappointed to have LWB closed to auto traffic. I have lived in the south end of Seattle since 1965 and have taken my out of town guests along LWB to show them the beauty of my neighborhood and city. I have used LWB after a day of work to get out if the rat race and have calm before getting home. I have used LWB to get to the University district without using major arterials. As long as I can remember pedestrians, bikes and cars have used LWB and it has worked, why fix something that is not broken?

I have spoken with many neighbors and we are all disappointed that Lake Washington Boulevard has been paired down to just pedestrian and bike traffic. As Seattle traffic begins to ramp up again I will be spending more and more time in my car away from my family because one of my main routes has been privatized. My question is equity and treating all Seattle tax payers the same.

Please reconsider closing LWB to auto traffic.

Seattle Department of Transportation:

Please don't close Lake Washington Blvd or any other scenic streets. Not everyone is young enough or healthy enough to ride bicycles or lives close enough to the lake to walk. Closing this street discriminates

Dear Ms Morales,

As a homeowner in the Seward Park neighborhood, I want to express my disapproval with the long weekend closure of the boulevard for the Stay Healthy Streets initiative.

Lake Washington Blvd is simply too important of a thoroughfare for our area to close more than a weekend afternoon. Closing it on weekdays is ludicrous.

With the Rainier Ave S closures going on with the Judkins street station, weekday commuters are already restricted down to one lane each direction. It's causing a major bottleneck.

The Boulevard is simply too major of a street to close for extended periods. It pushes traffic into neighborhood streets. Please stand up for our district and put an end to this.

Respectfully,

Hello,

First, thank you for allowing me to share my opinion.

I have spoken to several people about the closing of Lake Wa Blvd and the people I have spoken with are not happy at all. They use that route to be able to absorb the beauty and to release stress and bring calm to themselves. Actually when I saw the closure it made me angry and increased my stress level because now one more thing traumatic thing has happened.

Please reconsider the decision. I have heard rumblings that people might consider doing a Citizens Petition to keep it open or even take it as far as voting to keep it open. That might seem extreme but just want to give a heads up on what people are thinking.

I strongly recommend not continuing with the trial closure of Lake Washington Blvd from Mount Baker Beach Park to Seward Park after this weekend if all you are going to do as a city is put up a few signs and hope that people obey them. I utilized the closed section multiple times as a pedestrian and each time I did so, I encountered multiple drivers who clearly were not local residents who had decided to take the opportunity to speed dangerously on the road as they drove along Lake Washington Blvd, now that there were many less cars. They clearly ignored the signage and drove at high speeds on the road anyway, making this even more dangerous for pedestrians than the sidewalks. I never saw any city officials or police present to enforce the restrictions or encourage, by their presence, drivers to actually follow the restrictions and neither did these drivers apparently. I have a newborn baby and dogs and having multiple cars speed by me, my stroller, and my dogs in very close proximity on a road that is supposed to be closed to cars is incredibly dangerous and does not at all achieve your stated goal to "stay healthy."

While my strong recommendation is to not close this road at all and to keep it out of your "stay healthy streets" program completely, I would advocate that if you do choose to include this section of street, that you deploy the necessary resources/police to enforce the restrictions but also only close off the road on weekends and outside of morning and evening commute hours on the weekdays. There is simply not enough pedestrian traffic on the weekdays at these times to warrant the extended closure of this road and you do a disservice to people who live in or near the Mount Baker and Seward Park neighborhoods who do still have to drive to work during a pandemic and would like to do so along the lake and likely chose to live in their neighborhoods for this very reason (I speak from personal experience: I chose to live in the Seward Park neighborhood in large part because I could drive to work each morning along the peaceful, safe Lake Washington route).

Additionally, I would like to point out that when you close down a major thoroughfare like Lake Washington Blvd, you absolutely increase the amount of non-local traffic on the nearby residential streets. These drivers do not live in the neighborhood and are simply looking to get to Seward Park as quickly as possible so they speed down our streets where our children play. I live on 57th Ave. South and the amount of speeding cars on our street has increased exponentially since the pandemic as people flock to Seward Park to walk there and when you shut down Lake Washington Blvd this weekend, that number increased even more. This absolutely is not an acceptable trade-off.

I appreciate your attempt to help make things safer and healthier in Seattle, but this program does not accomplish your goals and actually makes things much less healthier and much more unsafe in the areas surrounding the new street closures. Please do not continue with the Lake Washington Blvd closure.

Thank you for your consideration

Closing Lake Washington Boulevard makes it a private park for wealthy lakeside homeowners, in essence, a private road. WTF! Then you are denying access to a beautiful boulevard for people such as me, 64 years old with bad knees. Who decided that Seattle roads should only be hospitable to young healthy residents on bicycles?

Sincerely,

Dear City Council and Stay Healthy Seattle Team,

While I think there is good intention, the closure of Lake Washington is a bad idea.

1. It is very dangerous. There is no control around people driving on the closed street and it gives pedestrians, bikers, and runners a false sense of safety. I watched a car swerve into the other lane today at a curve to pass a family on bikes, and have seen motorcycles and cars driving with little regard for safety. With homes along the lake, and a boat launch, it just cannot be monitored safely.
2. There have already been road closures or narrowing lanes on Rainier; on Beacon Ave; on 15th Ave., and more in the South Seattle area. The result has been high traffic congestion. Add this closure and it becomes far worse. My daily drive that normally takes me 5 minutes, took me 25 minutes on the first day of Lake Washington Blvd. closure having to circumvent via Genesee and Rainier.
3. In the last 5 years, this area has experienced massive density growth and was already struggling with traffic congestion. By adding this, it is exasperating the situation even as growth continues.
4. With parking lots on Lake Washington already closed, we are seeing parking on all the side streets already. Throw this closure into the mix and it gets worse, especially with nice weather.
5. Having this for 24 hours a day also makes no sense based on usage and is therefore an unnecessary inconvenience, and people will not follow these rules so it will be dangerous.

I appreciate the intention, but it should not continue with such high risks and negative traffic and parking impacts.

My suggestion to find a compromise is to shift from alternate Saturday or Sunday bike days from 10-6 to both days for this summer. These are the days and times that get the most use.

Thank you,

Mt. Baker resident

I am against the extended closure to cars on lake wa Blvd. This will cause way more congestion on Rainier Avenue which is already dangerous enough. It will also clog up the local neighborhood streets and those will become less safe with more drivers trying to get to their destinations quickly.

Thanks,

Hi-

I am writing to give my opinion on the Lake WA Blvd closure.

I use this road regularly for my commute. It is one of the many things I love about my south Seattle neighborhood. After a long day, it is relaxing to be near the water on my way home.

Rainier Ave is always backed up- especially now that it is one lane. Lake WA Blvd gives us another option to get home without traffic.

If Lake WA Blvd is closed, how will we get to the beaches, the marina, and friends who live there.

If you close it, you are taking away a vital part of our community.

Please do not make this long term or permanent.

That road is vital to our neighborhood and should be shared by cars and bikes.

Thank you

Seward Park resident

Dont not close off the boulevard! I've lived in Rainier Valley 64 years, and my parents before me. I've raised my children and grandchildren visiting the lake.

Now being unable to walk as far you're taking away my lifetime favorite place!

Please dont close the street!

Thankyou.

CAUTION: External Email

Please do not keep Lake Washington Blvd closed. We live on 57th St S and have seen a 5-10x increase in traffic. Cars speeding and people trying to figure out how to get around the closures. These side streets are not designed for this increase in traffic and it also is creating more risk for my 3.5 year old son who plays in front of our yard.

Thank you for taking my feedback.

[Please don't close LWB]

I commute the whole week using LWB and this was the main reason why we bought a home in Seward park.

Keep it to bicycle sundays.

SDOT rocks!

Sincerely,

Bicycle Sunday's are fine, but you have taken all our North/South streets away and you sit in your ivory tower and never witness the road rage on Rainier Ave due to the road diet, 23rd, Beacon, 15th and Seward Pk Ave. We are not green with all these road diets! Do not close the Boulevard!!!!!!!

To Whom It May Concern,

We are against closing LWB. We live on the corner of 49th and Genesee. Having it closed diverts traffic through the neighborhoods where families and children are out and about. Cars cut through 49th Ave S. to avoid the stop sign at 50th and Genesee. We have 4 families on this block and kids are out. Cars speed down ignoring the speed limit. It is dangerous and certainly not worth lives. Please keep LWB open.

Thank you,

I appreciate and understand the sentiment for closing Lake Washington Blvd through the summer. I would like you to reconsider. With all of the street closures that have occurred thus far, this closure would result in increased traffic congestion and make it more challenging for those who need to travel from south to north Seattle. Additionally, there are many physically challenged people who would lose a more convenient access to the sights and parks/beaches along the lake. Bicycle Sunday's and Saturday's with Blvd closures still seem to be a reasonable approach to meeting all of the competing desires for access to Lake Washington Blvd.

Thank you,

Hi!

I wanted to put in my 2 cents about the closure of LWB. I am a retired senior with a handicap that lives up the hill from Seward Park. I would often drive down to one of the parking lots so I could enjoy a short walk or just sit and enjoy the lake and views with a picnic lunch or dinner. The closure of the parking lots along LWB has prevented me from having this little bit of enjoyment in these stressful times.

I also use this road (joyfully) to travel north to get to Madrona or Cap Hill. It always is my preferred road of travel!

Please rethink the closure of LWB on a permanent bases and bring back Bicycle Sundays for families enjoyment! And PLEASE open the parking lots!

Sincerely,

Not a good idea.

1. Traffic is bad already. Rainier Ave is now only 2 lanes and now you're going to close another N/S option?
 2. This will probably cause more traffic in neighborhoods where there might be more people.
 3. Bicycle riders can do whatever they want, e.g., not follow rules of the road, and can ride anywhere, e.g., sidewalks, crosswalks, outside of bike lanes, and now you're giving them more privileges?!
- However, if you close this road, why don't you put the road closure notice 'sooner' so a driver will have options before being 'stuck' at the closure point.

Sent from my iPad

As a longterm resident of the southend, I cannot say enough that this proposal is classist at its core. To close off one of the most beautiful parts of this city to a large part of the people is a really bad idea. I support bicycle Sundays, a weekend here and there, but the traffic that gets fed to other neighborhoods that are less affluent, the difficulty accessing the road for lower income folks is horrible. I can't believe this is being proposed with out a voting process. If you live close, its dreamy but if not, it closes everything off. Also, many people who can't afford to live in the city, must commute from more affordable areas, these using the boulevard. Cutting it off as an option will negatively impact these folks. This is horribly short sided.

I live in the Seward Park neighborhood and do not support permanently closing Lake Washington Blvd. It leaves us with only Rainier Ave as our only alternative for commuting to school and work and would add even more time to our commute.

In addition, the parking lots at Seward Park should be reopened.

Why can't people park at Seward Park when the road is closed? It's a huge impact on the neighborhoods having people park on the streets.
I live in Leschi. Walked along the road this morning ... in the rain.
Closure on the weekend is OK but should be open M-F.

I totally understand the closure. However, this is the route I drive as well as my husband to work. We both drive the speed limit and a extremely aware of the bikes and people who also enjoy the Blvd. I just would like it known that the folks who are down there are NOT adhering to the laws, no masks, leaving their trash wherever they are and bike riders are not following the laws by zipping thru stop signs. Courtesy goes both ways! We can all enjoy and still utilize the Blvd together the Blvd was not just meant to be closed off to anyone!

I am asking that this closure not happen. I was born and raised in Seattle, in the Mt Baker neighborhood. This route is part of my heritage, part of my community, part of my childhood memories. Why would you want to take that away? Please don't!!!

Sincerely,
Hello,

I understand that you are currently testing closing Lake Washington Blvd to cars and are considering keeping it closed for the summer. Please do not close it to cars. My daughter and I both drive on Lake Washington Blvd. It is our main route for commuting to work. There are plenty of other places for people and families to be outside and maintain safe social distancing. Most people will likely continue to congregate in the beach areas. Perhaps closing it to cars on the weekends only would be a good compromise.

Thank you,

As a resident living on a street parallel to Lake Washington Boulevard I am horrified of the impacts we are feeling because of the trial program of Stay Healthy Streets along the lake. Lakewood Avenue South, a residential street, has seen a significant increase in traffic during this short trial period. Not only has the volume of traffic increased, but the speed and apparent frustration of the drivers who generally use LWB as a commuter route puts our neighborhood at risk.

Given road diets on MLK Way and Rainier Avenue South, the South End is being slowly isolated from the CBD. Lake Washington Boulevard is essential to my daily trip to Madison Park for medical treatment. Shopping in Leschi is hampered. It's bad enough the city can't keep Rainier Avenue from being a very unsafe commute street (for a variety of reasons), so please don't eliminate the Boulevard as a vehicular option. We have also noticed increased traffic on 34th/Hunter Boulevard, past our church and small, local pedestrian oriented parks and businesses. The main diversion is off of Rainier, but this latest trial has incrementally increased traffic as well.

The Mount Baker Community supports the "Bicycle Sundays" and Seafair. Name me other neighborhoods who shoulder these opportunities. Closing the LWB is accepted for the general good of the City in these defined, event oriented situations. Permanently closing LWB is a price too high to pay. I suggest that if this were to happen, the City should also close Alki, Magnolia, Highland Drive on Queen Anne, Golden Gardens access and other scenic thoroughfares to vehicular traffic. This is a ludicrous proposal that should be viewed through a larger lens.

Thank you for the ability to comment. I think closing Lake Washington Boulevard to auto traffic is a bad idea.

I'm absolutely not a fan of the closing of Lake Washington Blvd to regular traffic. The street is a vital route within the city. You are effectively making the rich neighborhood even more exclusive and difficult to access. The geography of the area and lack of through streets already makes the lakeside parkway hard to reach. Closing it makes long stretched off limits to anyone with mobility issues. Further, access from the Seward Park / Lakewood neighborhood to Mt Baker, Leshi and Madison Park areas is now blocked. And neighborhood side streets are impassible because of the volume of parked cars and heavier traffic. I hate it. I'd vote against it if I had the chance, and I'll likely vote against the Local leaders of this happens on their watch

Hello,

I'm a longtime resident of Seattle - 30 years. For the past 17 years I've lived in Leschi. Just the other day I tried to run an errand to Seward Park . It took an hour. An hour for a 15 minute errand. Why? You closed Lake Washington Blvd.

I sent mail the main office and it was suggested that I contact you. I was informed (by SDOT) that closing the road was a high demand request. Just curious. Who is requesting this? Where is the data? Since I live in the area why was our neighborhood not informed or asked for feedback before closing the street? Closing a main thoroughfare on weekdays has to be one of the dumbest ideas ever. It is only topped by CHOP, the low ridership trolley and Lime bikes. Well, there's more but I digress.

I was just on the Next-door App. The vast majority of residents are NOT in favor of this change. Nor did they know about it. A few thought it was better - quieter and were cyclists. Perhaps the latter were the ones who asked for this? If so, why does this city regularly kowtow to a vocal minority?

And have any of you been down to the area? It's a mess. Cars parked all over the place on side roads. People congregating by their cars without masks. Exactly the opposite effect that was intended. Locals cannot find parking in front of their own homes if they leave and come back.

When your department comes up with these cockamamie ideas, do you go through an algorithm? A simple if x, then y set of scenarios? Or do you take the throw-spaghetti-at-the-wall-and-see-what-sticks approach. I am thinking the spaghetti one.

I have news for SDOT. Residents are going to drive. We just are. And because you've made it such a headache to drive and park in this city and run out so many businesses, I now run most of my errands on the Eastside. That's right, tax dollars going to Bellevue, Issaquah and Redmond. Think of all of the gas I am burning because you people cannot figure out how to play nice with businesses and make driving here not a nightmare. Once again, the opposite effect of what you are trying to achieve to get people out of their cars.

Every 'Progressive' move this city makes, makes living here worse for everyone. Doesn't seem like progress to me.

Sincerely,

THIS IS AN UNFAIR GESTURE FOR THOSE THAT TRAVEL BETWEEN MADISON PARK AREA AND SEWARD PARK. STAY WITH WHAT'S BEEN... BICYCLE SUNDAY'S.

I like bicycle Saturday and Sunday, but a more permanent closure is a problem. I agree with this assessment.

Dear City Council and Stay Healthy Seattle Team,

While I think there is good intention, the closure of Lake Washington is a bad idea.

1. It is very dangerous. There is no control around people driving on the closed street and it gives pedestrians, bikers, and runners a false sense of safety. I watched a car swerve into the other lane today at a curve to pass a family on bikes, and have seen motorcycles and cars driving with little regard for safety. With homes along the lake, and a boat launch, it just cannot be monitored safely.
2. There have already been road closures or narrowing lanes on Rainier; on Beacon Ave; on 15th Ave., and more in the South Seattle area. The result has been high traffic congestion. Add this closure and it becomes far worse. My daily drive that normally takes me 5 minutes, took me 25 minutes on the first day of Lake Washington Blvd. closure having to circumvent via Genesee and Rainier.
3. In the last 5 years, this area has experienced massive density growth and was already struggling with traffic congestion. By adding this, it is exacerbating the situation even as growth continues.
4. With parking lots on Lake Washington already closed, we are seeing parking on all the side streets already. Throw this closure into the mix and it gets worse, especially with nice weather.
5. Having this for 24 hours a day also makes no sense based on usage and is therefore an unnecessary inconvenience, and people will not follow these rules so it will be dangerous.

Hello-

I am writing to express my concern about the current plan to close Lake WA Blvd. I live on 38th Avenue South. We are very familiar with the enormous increase in traffic volume on our street (38th Avenue South) associated with the closure of Lake WA Blvd to vehicle traffic one day per week during the summer months for bicycles. We live on the east side of 38th Avenue South and parking is only permitted on the west side of 38th Avenue South so we must cross the street to get to our vehicle. Cars travel at speeds significantly above the 25 miles per hour limit and with the increased traffic volume, it is nearly impossible for us to cross the street to reach our car and it feels particularly unsafe with our three children. Traffic speeds and volume create significant safety hazards on our street. We were selected by the Neighborhood Street Fund for a traffic calming project to be completed in 2021 but it is unclear if that will move forward given the current budget concerns. If it does not and Lake WA Blvd remains closed, our street will be significantly LESS safe.

If you intend to keep Lake WA Blvd closed to through traffic, we implore you to find a safer route for the displaced traffic than our already unsafe street.

Hello,

I would like to provide feedback on the Lake Washington Boulevard is a 5-day pilot closure that might be helpful in understanding the impact on our Seward Park neighborhood.

Due to the closure of the parking lots due to Covid in our part of the city, our streets packed each day with people parking on our side streets as if it was Seafair every weekend. This disproportionately impacts our elderly and high-risk neighbors -- limiting them to stay in their homes due to people congregating, not practicing social distancing, and not wearing masks. Seafair is tolerable because it is one week a year and not a closure that lasts three months.

Unfortunately, I've seen first hand that the pilot closure of Lake Washington Blvd has had a negative impact neighborhood during the trial. The efforts to #KeepMoving along this stretch during an upswing in Covid-19 cases only add to fear, anxiety, congestion, road rage among drivers from outside our neighborhood, illegal parking, and littering. Over the weekend, even with overcast weather, only about 50% of the people I saw were not wearing a mask. The constant traffic to residential streets, increased traffic on Wilson and Rainier (streets that are already on a road diet), and danger to pedestrians isn't worth it. Seward Park is one of the most diverse neighborhoods in the city and in the midst of a pandemic, I see no reason to invite increased walking, rolling, and biking with nowhere to park. Bicycle Sunday is fine but a permanent closure of our main north-south route has only exacerbated our current issue: people flocking to the area.

Instead of closing Lake Washington Boulevard to traffic, I think you should try and utilize the spaces that are already provided: opening parking lots with barriers to allow some parking and social distancing, ticket those people who do not wear a mask, insisting that people use the new bike lanes (all around the city but specifically on 38th to Genesee to 50th to Wilson), and other measures that help to keep my high risk and elderly neighbors within walking distance of LWB safe.

In closing, please do not close Lake Washington Boulevard.

Thank you, 4th Generation Seattleite and Seward Park Home Owner

Please don't make this closure permanent it makes a mess of traffic for others-as a bare minimum PLEASE add a "detour" sign as southbound lake traffic it routed to McClellum-it is imperative that traffic be directed to Rainier Ave so that Hunter blvd/38th Ave S don't have the onslaught of traffic that we are getting as we do on Bicycle Sunday's.

Hi seattle City council

Please do not close lake Washington Blvd to cars permanently.

The bike days are enough.

This is one of the most beautiful drives in Seattle. There are many people who being driven is the only way they can experience these views.

Thanks

Bicycle Sunday is great but Lk Wa Blvd is too important an arterial to be closed during the week. It is very full at rush hour. The cars would only spill onto other already crowded and constrained streets.

The benefits besides a few months in the summer would be none. Wilson already is stressed thanks to SDOT revisions. Rainier is beyond stressed. Now is not the time with traffic increasing and public transport decreasing in our pandemic revival.

Do not continue to close streets. Closing streets is continuously pushing more traffic onto residential streets. As is we continuously see traffic going up 49th south faster than the arterials. And try crossing 50th in heavy traffic. Lake Washington Blvd. Is one of the few streets that will take you to Madison park and the university area from the south end. There are some people that are still working. With no way to go north you are pushing us into mt Baker and leschi both communities that do not need more traffic.

Don't expect me to take a bus or ride a bike I'm a senior.

To whom it may concern -

I'm writing to offer my thoughts about the decision to close Lake Washington Blvd to cars. I was surprised to see that the choice was made to do so yesterday (Friday, June 26th). As a frequent cyclist, I can appreciate the closure of the street to motorized traffic on occasional weekend days and I think it's great that SDOT is trying to find places to close to motorized traffic. That said, I think the notion of closing that stretch permanently is extremely misguided. As someone that lives in Seward Park and works in the Central District, I commute daily along this route. My wife works at UW and she uses the road as well. The other "viable" option really isn't one. Rainier Ave is so horrifically congested that it is hardly much of an alternative. It is actually easier to cut through neighborhoods, along 42nd and through Mt Baker, than using Rainier Ave.

The commute along Lake Washington Blvd is one of the reasons I chose to move to Seward Park, and it isn't an overstatement to say that I would consider moving out of the neighborhood if the change was permanent. I think it is a far better idea to time and energy into building a better boardwalk along the road, akin to the Burke Gilman Trail. I realize funds are hard to come by, but asking everyone that lives south of Mt Baker along the lake to commute inland would be far too disruptive.

Please leave this road available for motorized traffic. Closing streets to through traffic inside of neighborhoods where you don't want a lot of cars makes loads of sense, but nixing higher traffic roads is only going to infuriate those that need them, frustrate traffic further, and reduce the desirability of living in the very neighborhood you are trying to serve.

Sincerely,

Please consider not closing Lk Wa Blvd to motor vehicles except maybe on weekends and evenings. There are folks that need to use it that are quite unable to run, walk, skate or bike for distance. This will surely result in traffic overflows into quiet adjacent neighborhoods.
thankyou, seattle resident

I think closing down this thoroughfare for the exclusive benefit of cyclists is a really bad idea. And I'm a cyclist!

It is a MAIN arterial. Please don't do it.

To Whom It May Concern,

I have been a resident on 55th Ave South for eighteen years. I have watched the increase in bicyclists over those years. Covid-19 has brought more bicyclists and a great increase in pedestrians. This has caused a great deal of parking on our narrow residential streets. It has become a challenge to leave my neighborhood for something as simple as grocery shopping. The parking is not monitored. Cars and trucks park on corners which obstructs views of oncoming traffic. We got used to and compliment Bicycle Sundays. What is your end game with the five day experiment? If the city was truly committed to bicyclists and pedestrians, why aren't dedicated paths built? This is not Europe. Everyone on my block as at least one car and most families have two. I can't walk to the grocery store. How will emergency vehicles reach my street? There is hardly enough room for cars when cars are parked on both sides of the street. If there was advance notice about this experiment, where would I have found it? The majority of the people taking advantage of this experiment don't live in my neighborhood. Did anyone consider the impact it would have in my neighborhood. This is a lovely part of the city. I won't be driving to Lake City to walk. Was an experiment between Mt. Baker Beach and Leschi considered? Leschi to Madison Park? It is pouring down rain today. How many people do you think will be using the boulevard? Yet, I'm still impacted if I want to leave my house.

Seattle Department of Transportation:

Please don't close Lake Washington Blvd or any other scenic streets. Not everyone is young enough or healthy enough to ride bicycles or lives close enough to the lake to walk. Closing this street discriminates against everyone except the rich and bicyclers. Driving that wonderful road has been a great pleasure. Don't take it away.

Hello to all concerned-

I live in Seward Park. One of the reasons we chose this neighborhood is because of its diversity. The other reason is because it's close to the park proper.

I just read a post from the Columbia City Facebook group. If you have access to it I suggest you read it.

There are many pro and con opinions on that post.

One idea that struck me was the lack of accessibility for disabled people.

Full-time closure doesn't make sense to me. As a compromise, I suggest 2 Bicycle Sundays/month instead of only once.

I understand this is a 5 day "experiment". The neighborhood around the park in being inundated with parked cars... looks like Sea-Fair.

We live a mile south of the park so the parking is not an issue here... but if we drive to the park, scowling neighbors nearer the park are not happy.

It also makes it seem like all the nice, expensive homes on LWB become private property, exclusive and snobbish at play.

That's my 2 cents but I feel most of the community could accept such a compromise like I suggest.

Hello City of Seattle -

I am writing to let you know while I do appreciate and use the street closures in neighborhoods, I have not enjoyed the closures on Lake Washington. Specifically around Mount Baker Rowing and Sailing Center. As a black man living on the south side and using this park as often as I do, I see the community demographic represented there. I find it difficult to believe that this is not a direct segregation effort on behalf of the city and the predominantly white, wealthy neighborhood residents.

Since moving to Mount Baker 6 years ago, I have, along with my neighbors, enjoyed lovely summers with lakefront access a short drive away. The closures have been an unwelcome disruption not only to our day to day commute, but completely prohibits our access to the public parks that our tax dollars fund.

I strongly believe that these closures should not continue past these 5 days and we should further expand neighborhood street closures and not make it prohibitive to those of us in the greater community that can't afford lake access homes.

Hope this finds you well and thank you for your consideration.

Best,

I went for a run with my daughter from Seward Park to Stan Sayres pits and back at around 2pm today. In the time it took us to cover that distance, 30-40 minutes, dozens of vehicles passed us. The frequency was much higher than on a typical Bicycle Sunday. Most of the drivers slowed and swung wide around pedestrians and bicyclists, but there were enough who didn't that I didn't feel safe running in the roadway. From simple observation, it was obvious that almost nobody was accessing a lakefront house via the nearest access road. Most were simply ignoring the signs and continued on their planned driving route for the day. Is there some way to put more or better signage there? Or, perhaps, traffic enforcement to redirect drivers off the road?

Even though I'd benefit from being able to run the road, I personally strongly prefer that Lake Washington Blvd not be permanently closed to vehicles since it provides a way for drivers to avoid adding to the horrible traffic that often happened on Rainier Avenue pre-COVID. While traffic is still low citywide it's OK to keep it closed, but when we return to something approaching normal this would eliminate a very useful travel path for drivers between SE Seattle and the UW.

Thank you,

Please do not keep this closure throughout summer, it is a main thoroughfare and without Lake Washington I have to go 5 miles out of my way every morning. I am frustrated this is even being considered to be honest, please do not extend this closure!

Thank you,

Please count my email as a no for this street to be made permanent or to exist through the summer. My reason is this: the neighborhood uses this stretch to connect from residence or work to the North and back. Without this option, the neighborhood streets parallel to it will become over used and dangerous for the feeling of safety and peace.

I am in favor of keeping this section for Sunday Bike days through out the year.

Thank you ,

Dear Seattle Department of Transportation,

Please do not extend the pilot program of closing Lake Washington Blvd from Mt. Baker to Seward Park. This vital road system is crucial for efficient travel between many neighborhoods along the lake. I urge you to please keep this road open to traffic. Thank you.

[Don't close the street]

It's our family drive to church

Hello,

I am extremely upset about this closure. I live in Mount Baker right above Lake Washington boulevard. I take this street everyday to go to work. This directly impacts my commute.

Many other neighbors use this street to get to Capitol Hill. This is a main artery in the city. Closing it creates bottle necks and increase traffic in neighborhoods affecting those residents.

I strongly oppose this closure and will try to get action together to reopen Lake Washington Boulevard to car traffic.

Regards,

I've lived in Seward Park nearly all my life. Driving around the lake is my way to work and my way home every single day...it's my most peaceful and relaxing part of my drive and it's my favorite place to drive on earth. Please don't take it away. Please bring it back. Open it back up soon. People can use the sidewalks. Let the cars use the street.

Please do not do this! This is a major commuter route for less affluent people living in the South End. Why punish working class people so people who do not have to drive to work can ride their bikes for leisure? This is just another short sighted cookie handed out to the wealthy who can afford to live along the Lake. These roads belong to all the citizens, not just the rich.

As a long time resident of the Seward Park neighborhood I am opposed to the long term closure of LWB. This is an important traffic option for work commuters that should not be sacrificed for recreational interests.

I do appreciate there a number of drivers who ignore the speed limits on LWB, and to help reduce those violations would suggest speed bumps along the route much like those in the arboretum area.

This city needs to respect the needs of workers who must commute by car due to the lack of public transportation options in the Seward Park area. (1 bus). Rainier Blvd lost traffic lanes, adding substantially to traffic issues through Columbia city. Eliminating yet another transportation option is untenable for many who are unable or not interested in riding bikes.

Don't do it.

Regards,

Hi

Understand reason for closing Lk WA Blvd and the Stay Healthy Streets initiative. Though generally supportive and open to closing over the weekend for the summer for bikes and kids to the road -- I am AGAINST permanent closure for the following reasons:

Unnecessary traffic running through neighborhood streets (i.e., Cascadia and others) posing danger to kids and people who live there not to mention the added pollution and noise.

Last stretch of lake without houses on the waterfront which enables access to those with disabilities.

It is a significant access point for those driving from Renton to SEA

There is already a path for walking along many parks for access and this seem redundant.

Please do not make this permanent!

Dear Seattle Department of Transportation,

Please do not extend the pilot program of closing Lake Washington Blvd from Mt. Baker to Seward Park. This vital road system is crucial for efficient travel between many neighborhoods along the lake. I urge you to please keep this road open to traffic. Thank you.

With all of the parking lots being closed, it's already hard enough to find a picnic spot near Lake Washington. Bicycle Sundays were hard enough to deal with, but any kind of permanent summer closure takes away one of the most pleasant drives around. As someone who really enjoys this wonderful drive, I am very unhappy of the idea of it being unavailable for an extended period.

Hello,

I am a Mt. Baker neighborhood resident and work in West Seattle as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner.

As a resident, I do not agree with closing streets to cars and the Stay Healthy Initiative. I am also extremely upset that there was no notice that Lake Washington Blvd is having a 5-day pilot closure from 6/25-6/30 - I found out the hard way while trying to drive the lake to see my elder parents and disabled brother in Seward Park.

I am very frustrated that the city of Seattle has decided to close down streets and reduce lanes without notice and without consulting the citizens. I am trouble to find parked RV's on these "closed" streets, the increased crime, the drug paraphernalia and increased solicitation in our neighborhoods. Examples are the street behind Safeway Rainier Valley and 15th Ave SW in Seattle.

We have sidewalks for pedestrians to walk on and bicycles to ride their bikes on the roads already- you do not need to close down the streets! In addition, Lake Washington Blvd is a main arterial to access our local neighborhoods. The boulevard is NOT anything like the Burke-Gilman trail! It was made for cars to drive on and pedestrians to use the paths. Bicycles are already clogging up the boulevard, making it difficult to get around. The city of Seattle have already cut down so many lanes throughout Seattle and it's making traffic worse.

In addition to this, the city of Seattle is permitting more multi-unit buildings to be built throughout Seattle, especially in the Mt. Baker/Rainier Valley area and is therefore increasing density, but yet there is nowhere to park and making traffic worse. There are already plans to reduce Rainier Ave S to one lane each side for the Rapid Ride! We already lost the West Seattle Bridge, which is a huge loss to me as I work there and now takes double the time to get to work- this is with having lighter traffic right now!

Commuting to work on a bicycle is not an option for me and for most Seattlites, especially since I work in West Seattle, with all the hills and the unpredictable weather.

The Stay Healthy initiative is a very hypocritical movement, as we're told that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are to stay home to prevent the spread, but yet you're closing off streets to allow people to walk/run/bike on and also allowing protests throughout the city.

Hello,

Please take into consideration the adverse effects closing lake Washington has on all the side streets. I live on 57th ave south and am seriously bothered by the changes caused by such closure. Bicycle Sunday closes the side streets and puts signs for locals only. Without doing this these side streets are at risk for additional unnecessary traffic on them.

With The Blvd closed and parking lots on nice weather days causes massive traffic on our side streets. People that a not use to traveling side streets now use the side streets to park and commute.

It amazes me how fast police cars traveled on closed lk wa Blvd yesterday during an emergency at the marina. It was extremely dangerous, if a kid was on his bike he would not have been able to get out of the way. That may have been an isolated situation, but none the less it Was dangerous.

In addition to leave my house now I have to travel and wind thru Several streets to get to a main arterial. 57th ave south is basically land locked and dependent on lk wa Blvd to safely commute. Plus all the people that live on the Blvd need to get to a side street to wind their way out of the neighborhood as well.

I feel you are taking away a main arterial and not accommodated the people that live here and have to deal with the effects of such closure. I could understand weekend closures but seven days a week is really lame for the people that live here.

I really don't support how the south end is treated in terms of transportation issues. Have you considered closing Alki or green lake Blvd for people to stay safe and healthy? Or the portion of the lake that nobody lives on, around genessee meadow.

Sincerely,

To whom it may concern:

Closing Lake Washington Blvd along the proposed route shown on the map is lame brained, and another example of a small lobby group making unreasonable requests. There are more than thousands who drive their cars along this route daily, to work, to appointments, to see friends, etc. Detouring them onto numerous side streets, through side streets streets with children, onto quiet streets is about as asinine a plan as I've ever heard. The idea benefits a few dozen home owners who live along the lake and the bikers who recreationally ride their bikes on Lake Washington Blvd.

This is not a good plan.

Sincerely,

Input on Lake Washington Blvd closure:

Please do not close Lake Washington Blvd to cars. It is completely unreasonable to not allow the people of Seattle to have access to Lake Washington by car. It is one of the most beautiful drives in the city and it would not be fair to not have equal access to it. If it were to be closed, it would cut off people's access to the lakefront. Not everyone is able to ride a bike to get to the shore. It would basically become a private beach for those who live near and can walk to it and those who are able to ride a bike. That is just not fair.

Also, there is not an easy detour around the closure in that area. Traffic would be pushed off Lake Washington Blvd and onto the residential streets near the lake.

Lake Washington should be accessible to all at all times.

Thank you,

This is as stupid as CHOP.

Spending millions on underutilized bike lanes that choke a city?
Forcing even more traffic into neighborhoods that are already overtaxed by the inane "road diets" forced upon us.

Isn't Seattle still a city of process, at least? Where was the outreach effort before taking this unilateral action?

I was born and raised here but may give in to my wife's wishes and move out of the city.

Overrun by enabling drug addled criminals and turning a blind eye to gang activity. You can't even get a police officer to actually come out to investigate a crime unless there is over \$10K of property loss or someone gets shot. This is from direct experience as I've boarded up my neighbor's home twice after break ins when they were out of town.

Ridiculous.

We are becoming a national laughingstock.

Sincerely,

Please do not mess with our wonderful scenic boulevards, such as Lake Washington Boulevard and Magnolia Boulevard. They are fine just the way they are. They are peaceful and accessible to those who wish to use them. The City has no good reason to close the streets off to car traffic. That creates problems. This odd idea to close scenic streets is not well reasoned. There simply is no need for a change. You are proposing a solution to a non-existent problem. Why doesn't the City tackle problems that really exist....like filthy streets and unkept parks and the general degradation of our once fine city? This reminds me a bit of the recent decision to lower speed limits....what a joke that turned out to be. It made no difference whatsoever and most people are unaware of the change. Let's get real folks.....Seattle is going downhill in terms of the quality of life and you need to focus on important and substantive issues, not trivia. I can go for a lovely walk on Lake Washington Boulevard or Magnolia Boulevard right now....I don't need your help and I don't need any changes. If a car drives by, that is fine with me. I am not afraid of cars. The sidewalks are ample. There are curbs for safety. THERE IS NO PROBLEM. THE PROBLEM IS THAT ALL STREETS IN SEATTLE ARE NOT AS NICE AS THESE TWO BOULEVARDS. OTHER STREETS ARE DIRTY AND UGLY AND UNSAFE. DO SOMETHING ABOUT THOSE STREETS!!!!

Who is it in the administration that is constantly coming up with proposals benefiting a very small segment of the population.

It's fine for young healthy, fit cyclists and walkers to welcome your proposal but have you given any thought at all to all the elderly, the disabled, and the mothers with young kids who are not able to walk far, if at all???

You will be depriving them of ever enjoying LWB again!

How very mean-spirited and undemocratic of you. In addition, this elitist idea will force more traffic on all the surrounding quiet and often narrow residential streets, making life more dangerous for the children playing in them. Did you think of that? And do you have nothing better to do with your taxpayer funded time than dream up impractical ideas like this?

Yours in disgust etc.

Hello Ms. Schulkin,

I own a home off Lake WA Blvd. Can you tell me why property owners in neighborhoods that are impacted by the pilot were not involved in this decision? I did not receive a survey nor was I notified of any meeting to discuss closures that will directly impact my community.

It is most disappointing as a tax payer that there were no opportunities to consider the majority of neighbors opinions in this decision.

The number of automobiles that are currently also able to enjoy the boulevard did not seem to be considered.

There are many long term aging residents in this community as well as people who would prefer to enjoy the ride along the boulevard rather than a walk.

I would imagine drivers would also well outnumber the increased use by walkers on a daily basis, if averaged. They should also have a right to enjoy it's intended use (as originally planned for by design) to include drivers.

Seward Park could allow for distancing, the loop around the park or park trails are not currently being used to capacity. This would seem to be a reasonable alternative destination vs closing the Boulevard.

Bikers could continue to share the boulevard.

An alternative for walkers, one direction next to road on the Blvd. and another along the lake path could allow extra room for distancing.

I hope you will reconsider & not close the Blvd. on weekdays.

Thank you for you anticipated consideration,

I'm extremely disappointed to hear that the city is closing yet another street to vehicles. While this is a trial, I'm smart enough to understand that a trial means a likely permanent closure. The number of streets that you've closed in South Seattle to cars has already had a negative impact and closing another (this one being a major thoroughfare) is short sighted to say the least.

Last time I checked, my taxes (which go up a ridiculous amount every year!) pays for things like roads, parks, etc to make them accessible to all. By closing this street and others to cars, you've significantly impacted a population that may not otherwise be able to access them.

I live in Columbia City in a home I purchased 6 years ago and am surrounded now by streets you've decided to close. This is the first I've seen a request for our opinion, and I think it's too little too late. But at least you're asking for it now.

DO NOT CLOSE LAKE WASHINGTON BLVD!!! Please continue to allow people that can't access it without a car the joy of being able to drive down it to enjoy the sunset and natural beauty the lake and road have to offer. There is no issue with the street now so there's nothing you're "solving" for by closing it.

Don't give me, and many others, yet another reason to want to move out of this city that we love and call home.

I am copying one of the Next Door comments because it says precisely what I feel.

This ranks right up there with the lowering of the speed limits to 25, taking 4 lane streets and dropping them to 2 lane for bikes, dropping Rainier Ave to 2 lane which just moved the traffic to residential areas. Why do the people in charge of these streets hate cars so much. Seattle will not be happy until they have prohibited cars entirely.

I'm ok with the side street closures because in the end this creates some needed walkways during these stressful times. But closing off park boulevards like Lake Washington Boulevard deprives people who aren't mega fit from one of the most beautiful parts of the city. I regularly drive down lake Washington boulevard to enjoy the lake and clear my thoughts. I don't mind the summer Sunday closures for bikes. I get the opportunity this provides them to not have to think about traffic in such a beautiful street. But a permanent closure is a stunning take-away from people who don't live nearby. There aren't easy ways to get to side neighborhoods to even park much less sufficient parking. And not everyone is fit enough to walk long distances. I think this is a travesty that takes away a longstanding public space for the benefit of a very few. Please reconsider. Perhaps have evening closures? Or some other ways of balancing the various needs of the various communities.

Thank you,

I live near lake Washington Blvd and strongly opposing the road closure for anything but bicycle Sundays. If you want to increase walking in area take back all the city property that borders the lake f homes. The city owns it Take it back
Thanks

I really hope it isn't true that you are considering closing Lake Wash Blvd to car traffic.

There are so many reasons why this is a bad idea.

For starters, it will increase the number of people driving to the Seward Park neighborhood. Aren't people supposed to be enjoying the streets around their own neighborhoods in an effort to Stay Safe and Stay Healthy?

Because the parking lot to Seward Park is closed, our local streets are already crammed every day with cars parked so people can go to the park. Closing Lake Washington Blvd will only exacerbate that. The fire hydrant in front of our house is blocked nearly every day with people trying to squeeze in another space.

Second, Lake Washington Blvd is an ESSENTIAL route for cars for those of us who live near it. We purchased our homes in part because of access to this scenic boulevard — which belongs as much to cars as the people who walk and ride on the paths (ourselves included).

What is the process for closing Lake Washington Blvd? Surely the city can't just decide to do this. Please let me know.

I would also like to add that there are a number of communities of color that have long used the smaller parking lots along the lake to socialize in positive ways by simply hanging out in the parking lots with friends, heading to water's edge with a fishing pole, etc. By taking away the ability for cars to get to these lots (and these lots that have been closed for months now, even as I've seen a few others open), the City is taking away an important outdoor social space for these communities. If you close the Blvd in a more permanent way, you will be redirecting outdoor space long used by nearby South Seattle residents, and privileging those with bicycles, strollers, kayaks, etc. from all over the city to use the Blvd. It is such a wonderfully diverse mix of people who use these South Seattle open spaces, and I think if you close the Blvd permanently you will make it less local, and frankly more white.

I would like to strongly second what Katherine has said below. Lake Washington Boulevard is an essential north-south artery for vehicular traffic. Closing it would impose significant costs on many, many south seattle residents. In our case, it would likely add 15 minutes to our family's daily commute.

The road is used by lots of cyclists, and cyclists and drivers have learned to coexist on it.

Testing its closure during this time of coronavirus will NOT be an accurate gauge of how deeply disruptive a permanent closure would be during normal times. PLEASE reconsider this plan!!

Sincerely,

think the summer weekend closure of the street is fine but closing it for 5 days straight is a bad idea.

First, there are people who use Lake WA for commuting. For example, I know of several nurses who live in Seward Park and take that route to avoid traffic on Rainier or the 5. More importantly, that route allows people driving late at night to avoid Rainier. My daughter is a night nurse and on some nights, if she's lucky, she gets off early at around 2 am. I don't want her driving down Rainier at 2 am by herself. As you know, shootings are not uncommon on that route. In fact, there was one last night. So all those late night drivers will be forced to take a circuitous route through Mt Baker. That's not fair to the neighbors that live there.

Second, most people are working on weekdays. Who do you think is going to be walking and bike riding on that street when it's shut down to traffic? Retirees, people with flexible schedules like myself, and yes, probably children led by helicopter parents because these days a child or even a teen biking through a neighborhood without an adult is a rare sight.

Just wondering if when the city comes up with these changes do they ever consult the people who will be affected?

Please don't close Lake Washington Blvd to car traffic.

For me it's safer than Rainier or I5 or zigzagging side streets. The views remind me everytime why I live in Seattle. I drive it with the intention of slowing down the pace.

I agree cars + bikes + pedestrians on this narrow road with steep hills, no shoulder and blind corners poses safety concerns. However I think the solution has to address needs of all three users. Closing parks for Covide made side street parking even more of a mess. Seems to me a bike trail/lane would be a great asset, much needed in South Seattle.

Thank you for your consideration of my suggestion.

I think this is a bad idea, closing this street would push traffic up into residential areas with people walking and children playing. Also I think this road way is meant to be shared not just for cycling or walking. I think a bicycle Sunday is enough for walkers and cyclist to enjoy the road alone. This is a bad bad idea.

[Terrible idea for property owners]

Please keep this street open for all users.

It would be nice to ask the community interaction before you close streets.

Sincerely,

[No to closing Lake Washington Blvd to car traffic]

We have lived in south Seattle for over 30 years and regularly drive on LWB for many, many reasons. It is an absolutely necessary alternate for south end residents to move from our neighborhood to the northern neighborhoods, the bridges connecting to the east side, and the UW and medical centers. Since Rainier has been narrowed on the road diet, there has been a very big increase on Wilson Ave. The lake offers some relief for this necessary group of commuters, students, and seniors who need the road for a route north. The original concept of the Olmsteds was to have people enjoy a verdant and beautiful way to move around our city, and this is one of the remarkable lovely and efficient ways we are able to make trips from our neighborhood into other areas.

Without this important alternate to south end residents, we will be truly negatively impacted. We have very few other north south routes, and there are many other ways to serve recreational needs of bicyclists and runners.

Thank you,

I am writing regarding the potential closing of Lake Washington Blvd to traffic. I think this is a horrible idea. The southend is already struggling from a lack of decent roads and this would cut off one of the only ways to get from the S. end to UW without having to take I-5. In that area of Seward Park there will not be enough parking and will crowd all the neighboring streets. Once or twice a week I get. Some of us have to drive and as someone born and raised in Seattle it is concerning how anti-car this city has become.

There is plenty of space for people to walk on both the paved path and the dirt path by the lake and closing the street to cars with force me to drive way out of my way for many of my usual routes with my kids.

I am totally against closing Lake Washington Blvd to car traffic.

- Columbia City

Sent from my iPhone

This city has no common sense. You cut lanes on MLK and Rainier. Why not close I-5 and make it a CHOP Summer of Love party center.

Sent from my iPhone

I am beyond disappointed that you would make any modifications to Lake Washington Blvd or any roadway in South Seattle. You have just given the street to wealthy, racist white people who don't want black people in "their" neighborhood. Our family has been unable to access the lake or parks for months and as a family of 5 with small children, we do not have the ability to walk or bike the distance between our home and Lake Washington. How tone deaf could you be? This decision harms the people who need access to healthy activities the most. I thought the city was committed to equity.

Not only is the decision racist but it is also ableist. Accessing the Lake and Parks along the lake requires driving and parking for many. Any changes would negatively impact such access.

Lastly, restrictions of any kind, to any mode of transportation on our city streets, that we all pay for, goes against the very idea of equity. We do not need changes to our roadways, we need people to follow the rules. Bikes have streets, sidewalks and trails to travel safely. Walkers have trails and sidewalks. Cars can ONLY use streets to travel. Restricting access is ridiculous and wrong.

Please do not close this street

People use the lake to commute

When Rainer Ave was narrowed people began to drive through the neighborhoods to avoid traffic

Closing Lake Washington Blvd will only make this worse

Return to Bicycle Saturday and Sunday

Leave the lake open to cars on week days

Thank you for your consideration

Seattle Department of Transportation:

Please don't close Lake Washington Blvd or any other scenic streets. Not everyone is young enough or healthy enough to ride bicycles or lives close enough to the lake to walk. Closing this street discriminates

In regards to the closing of Lake Washington Blvd during the last 5 days, I witnessed increased traffic on side streets, particularly 38th Ave So while seeing no increase in the number of people using Lake Washington Blvd. closing Lake Washington Blvd is a bad idea even with the decrease in traffic recently due to COVID. I urge the Seattle traffic department to shelve this idea. Thank you. Lakewood Resident.

Sent from my iPhone

Good evening,

My fiancée and I live in Columbia City, and we are strongly opposed to closing Lake Washington Blvd to vehicle traffic. Driving along Rainier is unsafe with so many people jaywalking. And Lake Washington Blvd is beautiful. We've seen it's possible for bikes and cars to share the road.

Thank you.

I am very frustrated with learning about this pilot program to close Lake Washington Blvd. to traffic. I live in the area and drive this route constantly. I pay increasing taxes to drive these roads yet, I am getting less and less roads to drive on.

How am I supposed to get around. This will make it impossible to get to Leschi and other connecting areas. Not to mention the fact that even people driving a car NEED to be able to drive where the scenery is enjoyable to lessen the stress level. We are in the middle of a Pandemic that has a severe toll on emotional health as well. At least in my car driving the Blvd. I am able to properly social distance and avoid the crowded beaches.

DO NOT TAKE THIS AWAY FROM US!

There are plenty of parks, trails and access for bikes, and pedestrians, that vehicles are not allowed. Driving Lake Washington BLVD is the ONLY outing my parents can do right now with being high risk for Covid. Please do not take that away from them. They are seniors and cannot bike or walk, or skate, but they can drive, and they NEED to have this escape. Do not discriminate against vehicles. We really don't want to have to set up a protest zone for this now too do we?

Please understand the need to keep this accessible. Many people have disabilities (me included) that do not allow them enjoy Lake Washington Blvd without driving. I wonder if restricting access may even violate ADA compliance. Discrimination against disability.

Thank you ,

Hello,

I saw that you are piloting a test closure of 5 miles of Lake Washington Blvd soon. I would like to know if there is parking available in the area, or if this is only useful for those who are wealthy enough to live near the lake? Since the Seward Park lot is closed, where precisely would I park to enjoy this park and the now closed street? The southernmost point of the closure is already several miles from my house, so walking isn't a feasible option, and I don't own a bike. You're closing one of the few north/south arterials for the benefit of a few people who are rich enough to live next to the lake, which seems like an absurd use of public property, especially since those people are already able to utilize the park for walking and biking. If the goal is to keep crowds away from the park to prevent the spread of the virus, encouraging people to come from all over to mingle in the street seems like a poorly considered plan. Either we're supposed to stay home and stay healthy, or you should open the parking lot so that everyone has a chance to actually benefit from the closure of public streets and not just the rich people who live in the immediate vicinity.

Please reconsider the closure of Lake Washington Blvd. It will only encourage massive crowds of people gathering, which is exactly the opposite of what we've been trying to accomplish in this city for the last 4 months.

Thank you,

Please do not make this closure permanent. Stick to Bicycle Sunday's. The south end has very few arterials. I use this road to drive to Swedish hospital for my partner's cancer treatments. It lightens the load to have the lovely views and it's the most efficient way to get to the central district and first hill.

Frankly, the road closures are hazardous. It gives pedestrians and children the false feeling of safety, when in fact all of the UPS trucks, etc have access as well as all who live on the closed roads. It's an accident waiting to happen.

Again please do not make any permanent closure of one of the few arterials in the south end.

Thank you,

I vote NOT to keep cars off this street permanently. I use the road to access the lake. I can't take the bus bc of Covid. It's way too far to walk. The spray parks and all other city water options for my children are closed for the summer. I can't park in any lake parking lots (such as Seward or the lot around 53rd or so). And I need to get my children outside and cooled off safely this summer. So...I drive and park on one of the residential streets which end at Lake Wash Blvd. These streets are very narrow and there's no good (aka safe) way to turn around at the end, avoiding Lake Washington Blvd.

Is there another way to I'm supposed to access the lake this summer? I can hardly lug our beach equipment down Beacon Hill and back with three children on bikes. We have so few safe and healthy activities available to us at this time. Please don't make this one all the harder. Or please do tell me what you envision for safe access to the water for families.

Sincerely,

As a resident of the Lakewood neighborhood of Seattle I have very big concerns about Lake Washington Boulevard being closed to vehicular traffic. Access to our neighborhood is difficult enough without closing one of the main options to access other parts of the city. Arterial streets are already congested and if Lake Washington Boulevard were to be closed traffic would most certainly intensify on those already very congested options. People from other parts of the city will make the Lake Washington Boulevard a destination for walking, cycling etc. This then lends to side street parking issues, and access for residence of the surrounding neighborhoods. Example: During the summer months on bicycle Sunday, traffic is so congested on the arterials that it makes it almost impossible to get anywhere in the city efficiently.

Does the city have a solution for how this traffic issue would affect the residence of the Mount Baker, Lakewood, and Seward Park neighborhoods? I am a native of Washington state and the Seattle area, and I am tired of the lack of planning and consideration to all residence needs, not just bicycles, and walkers....and I am a cyclist.

We have spent thousands of dollars on bike lanes in this city, and not addressed the issue of the lack of expanded public transportation, the terrible conditions of the roads and reducing the speed limit to almost a crawl. There is still a very strong need for most of the residence of Seattle to have to drive to take care of their daily needs. Again I am very opposed to the Lake Washington Boulevard closure.

I would appreciate a response.

Thanks,

Hi,

I am writing to provide my comments regarding the upcoming closure of Lake Washington BLVD. Our family lives in Seward Park and I travel to Harborview every day along Lake Washington BLVD. I am opposed to the closure. Traveling to and from South Seattle along Rainier Avenue or 23rd Avenue, especially after implementation of the "street diet" implemented through Columbia City, takes 20-30 minutes longer than the route along Lake Washington BLVD. Prior to the pandemic, travel along Lake Washington BLVD was nearly bumper to bumper traffic; closure of Lake Washington BLVD to car travel will result in these cars returning to other thoroughfares. In addition, closure will negatively impact access for homeowners who live on Lake Washington BLVD and for those who wish to access any of the parks along the lake - especially disabled people. I assume that whoever came up with this closure idea has never experienced travel along Lake Washington BLVD when it closes each summer for Seafair - barely tolerable for that one week. Perhaps you could consider closing to traffic outside of commuting hours in the morning and evening - otherwise you're just making life more difficult for working families while serving only a limited number of recreational and commuting bikers..

Thanks,

Hi,

I wanted to provide some insight and feedback on the proposed closure of Lake Washington Blvd. For context, I live 4 blocks from the entrance to Seward Park.

Since the parking lots at Seward Park have closed, our neighborhood has become more dangerous. There are drivers everywhere only paying attention to where they might park, not pedestrians or other cars. Most people aren't wearing masks, so walking around the neighborhood means constantly crossing the street to avoid careless visitors. I don't think you're seeing fewer people at the park, just a negative effect on what was a quiet neighborhood.

With the closure of Lake Washington Blvd, not only will this become worse for us, but it will be incredibly difficult for us to get around. There is no arterial between here at Leshi. None. I've been trying to figure out how we get to the store there using arterials, and I haven't found a way. Sure, there's the hill down from Yesler, but that road is barely wide enough for 2 vehicles (and in places not), and between people hiking in the woods and all of the curves, it's certainly not a road that's made for lots of traffic. For better or worse, Lake Washington Blvd is our (only) arterial. And no, going up to Rainier isn't a reasonable option, it's far away, and is way more dangerous than LWB.

I will also note that Wilson is set up for bikes, but since the parking lot closure at Seward Park I have seen more and more people blowing through stop signs without even slowing. I know this will only get worse with the closure of LWB.

I get what we're trying to do, to make it easier for people to make it through this hard time. But please consider the safety and needs of people who live near these streets. Don't make us pay dearly for other's recreation.

We've already had to move once because a "safe street" made our home virtually unreachable (in Ballard, it required a turn that couldn't be done during high traffic times), please don't push us away.

Thanks,

To whom it concerns:

We're concerned about the possibility of a permanent Lake Washington Boulevard closure, especially after the recent temporary closure from Friday, June 26, to Tuesday, June 30, 2020. A closure of Lake Washington Boulevard presents complications in my commute from my home in Upper Rainier Beach. I'm receiving daily two-hour medical treatments at Virginia Mason Medical Center. The commute is more time-consuming with the condensed traffic as a result of the temporarily closed Lake Washington Boulevard, our alternate route north.

The residents of the Upper Rainier Beach neighborhood and the surrounding areas depend on that through-route north. During rush hour when I5 is heavy with bumper-to-bumper traffic and Rainier Avenue South and, further north, Martin Luther King Jr. Way South are congested, it provides a valuable time-saving alternative. Lake Washington Boulevard becomes congested itself during high traffic volumes. If that route is closed, I5 and Rainier Avenue South will be further bottlenecked; the South Seattle neighborhood egress will be greatly impeded.

Finally, driving along Lake Washington Boulevard is uplifting. If that route - referred to by almost everyone in the Southend as "The Pretty Way" - is closed, we will experience it as a loss, a decrease in quality of life. At a time like this, it's difficult to countenance more grief.

Please do not propose a permanent closure to this thoroughfare.

Sincerely,

To: Honorable Mayor Durkin, stayhealthystreets@seattle.gov

Background/Observations:

We are a household that resides on 45th Avenue South, in the middle of the proposed Stay Healthy Street shutdown of Lake Washington Blvd (Mt. Baker Beach to Seward Park). On this block, there are 5 residences and the age range of the owners is mid-60's to mid-90's. All of the residents have been very careful to minimize their exposure to COVID19.

The parking lot at Stan Sayers Boat Launch (across from our street) was closed during the Shelter-in-Place (Phase 1), briefly opened when King County reach Phase 1a, and closed again when the City did the Stay Healthy Street closure pilot. As a result, there have been many visitors parking on 45th Avenue South which is a dead-end cul-de-sac (approximately 1 city block long). We have noticed increased parking on 43rd Avenue South too, which is a wider street, running the full length of Genesee Park. As well as, near the bottom of 46th Avenue South. During this time, while the parking lot at Stan Sayers (and other lots along Lake Wash. Blvd.) have been closed, several things occurred:

It is very difficult to drive through on 45th Avenue South to our houses/driveways, due to cars often parked on both sides of the street. Even when single-side parked, this street (45th) is a narrow street. It is not a wide street like 43rd Avenue South.

We have had cars drive over our lawn and on the edge of our lawn to get around parked cars/people gathered on the street

We have also observed truck/SUVs with boat trailers driving over the curb, onto the lawn near the closed entrance of the boat launch to get temporarily in and out, in order to access the boat launch facilities

When visitors stand outside of their parked cars and socially chat/visit on our street (45th) - it makes it difficult to socially distance on our street if we are out in our yards.

Many car visitors leave their trash (masks, plastic/paper bags, napkins, bottles, other containers. etc.,) that flies around in the street, into our yards, or in the tall grass in Genesee park.

There is no city service that picks up this loose garbage, thus residents have to pick up trash that could be contaminated with COVID19 virus.

Some visitors with good intentions also dump their garbage into our recycle/clean green bins when they are out on the street (for collection). However, visitors often put incorrect refuse into the recycle or clean green containers which can lead to the City not picking up and collecting our bin contents.

Forcing the residents to clean out the incorrect garbage, for a pickup the following cycle.

Cars also park, so close to the entrance to 45th Avenue South, that all the garbage, recycle, clean green large trucks can hardly drive into our cul-de-sac to do their pick ups on Thursdays. The Stop sign at the entrance of the cul-de-sac has been hit several times, by trucks trying to maneuver the turn into the cul-de-sac.

To whom it may concern,

As both a cyclist and automobile owner and driver, I find your idea to permanently close a section Lake Washington Blvd distressful.

I live in the Seward Park neighbor and I often use the boulevard, traveling through the neighborhood by car. By closing off the boulevard you will be

Hi whoever likes the idea of continuous bicycle Sunday at Seward Park!

I live close to Kline Galland, and have for the last 18 years, I drive to work down Lake Washington BLVD. Most days there are no bikes at all, a few homeless camping by the roadside lately, it is a spectacular drive!

I am 70 years old, it is often dark when I leave work, I cannot take public trans as the neighborhood is a little sketchy, rainier have used to flow well, but now it is only 1 lane.

Please do not do everything for young healthy people who can ride their bikes all year long or bring their bikes here to ride! Some folks actually have to work, and this route is appropriate as the freeway is jammed,

How about bicycle Sunday every other Sunday...and keep the roads that I have contribute to with taxes from my car to maintain, does that sound reasonable, Build a bike path, down an unused residential street. When I used to ride bikes in Seattle, I always rode down streets that the cars barely used, there are still many many streets, that cars do not use too much!

Please let me know you got this and it was worth my time to contribute and that your mind has not already been made up, which is what I believe has happened.

Okay With me if blvd from Mt Baker beach to Seward park is closed to car traffic ON WEEKENDS only.

Do NOT want it closed on weekdays. Thank you.

Hello,

I live in the Seattle park neighborhood just a block off of Lake Washington Blvd. For months now whenever the weather is decent my road is packed with cars both parked and driving. I routinely have cars parked blocking my driveway and even without that, there are so many cars I would be hard pressed to get out of my driveway at all. There just isn't enough room to turn with cars filled across the street and then up to the edge of my driveway.

With that folks are leaving trash and treating my front yard as a park area. When I try to walk my dog in my own neighborhood, I can barely avoid people now. They aren't respecting distance and I'm actually afraid to be out among folks as there is nowhere safe for me and my dog to walk.

Oh yes and these day trippers with dogs are leaving poop everywhere.

All of this is without closure. Once it gets nice out, my neighborhood will be impossible to navigate with my car or on foot.

Is bad enough with all of the above but let's add on the fact that people are using Lake wa Blvd for drag racing as well. Every night is a race track. And never any police enforcement.

Please stop using my neighborhood in which I pay heavy property taxes as a playground for folks who don't have to deal with the negative results.

Sincerely,

I do not like the closure. Weekend closures might work but the boat launch needs to be accessible.
25 year Mt. Baker resident.

Hello,

I am writing feedback on behalf of a public caller to our department regarding the Lake Washington Blvd closure. The caller says the closure is inconvenient and frustrating since they cannot access the Ferdinand Street hand carry boat launch or the Stan Sayres boat launch.

Thank you, no follow up is necessary.

Hi. While I appreciate the idea behind using Lake Washington Boulevard as a temporary Stay Safe Street, I'm sorry to report it is not working due to impacts on surrounding streets, creating greater hazards than it seeks to solve. Seward Park Avenue South at and around the three way stop at South Juneau has become a demolition derby with cars making U-turns and unwarranted stops as they realize they cannot go down the hill toward the park and boulevard. I personally have witnessed two near car-bicycle accidents as a result (in both cases, the cyclists failed to slow or stop at the stop sign and almost struck cars making U-turns) as well as a near car-pedestrian accident. I also saw a cyclist who failed to slow or stop at the sign nearly run over a leashed dog when the person walking the dog needed to stay in the crosswalk while waiting for a car to complete a U-turn. A similar situation is happening at the Orcas and Seward Park intersection, although I have not witnessed any near calamities there.

Also, enough cars are still using LWB (for local access?) that it simply isn't safe for a pedestrian to use the street to keep a safe distance from others. Pedestrians are almost all still using the sidewalk. So other than creating a recreational thoroughfare for cyclists, I don't see how this is making anyone more safe. In fact, the additional packs of cyclists using the street make pedestrian social distancing from them even more difficult.

I have never witnessed these issues during Bicycle Sundays.

Thanks for listening.

Hello,

I am most disappointed that the boulevard was closed with no opportunity for public feedback, this is not good public policy. It seems reasonable to consider a majority consensus of the neighborhoods impacted including Mount Baker, Lakewood & Seward Park.

No information was given regarding measurements to determine success of the pilot. Were traffic patterns & crime rates considered? At the north end of the Blvd closure, the alternative route along Mt Baker Park was under construction with only one lane in use. It appears SDOT & the Park Dept. did not plan for traffic detours with the closure of the Blvd.

Will the police serving this area be provided extra funding to support added offices in this area? Due to the increase in violent crimes lately, this is of concern.

What were the crime statistics for the week prior & week of the pilot?

I believe we all should have the opportunity to enjoy the Blvd as it was designed for all to share.

I hope you will consider the following suggestion as a solution that could accommodate everyone.

For those who are requesting more space for social distancing, they could be redirected to Seward Park with one way directions for distancing.

The Seward Park loop as well as the vast trails at the park could provide distancing. Walkers, joggers and bike riders could be accommodated as well as traffic along the Blvd without causing disruptions to the surrounding communities.

This would also allow for a greater number of people to enjoy the Blvd.

Thanks for your anticipated consideration,
Lakewood home owner

Is the lake only for people that live along the lake? Is the lake only for people that are young and healthy enough to ride a bike?

Is there any consideration for people that no longer have the ability to walk long distances to enjoy sitting by the lake? Seattle is pushing the older retired people out. I hope that this is just a short trial period. Some people have raised their children and would like to take a leisurely drive to sit. This seems like a move to get rid of certain people? I have seen people of color sitting in cars near Stan Sayers and that always seem to start conversations about who belongs and who doesn't. We all pay taxes!

Thanks goodness we're moving from Seattle this month. You're removing a major commuter route for those of us living near the lake. Why should we matter?

Let no crisis go to waste when advancing your agenda. Bye.

Sent from my iPhone

I am extremely angry about this closure. I live in Mount Baker right near Lake Washington Boulevard. I take this street into work all the time. This directly impacts my commute.

Not only me, but many other people use this street. This is a main artery in the city. Closing it creates bottle necks and increase traffic in neighborhoods affecting those residents.

I strongly oppose this closure and will try to get action together to reopen Lake Washington Blvd.

Please do not extend this closure. The closure forces too much traffic on side streets, many with parking on both sides. Those streets cannot handle that increase in traffic. It seems weekend closure only would provide the desired results

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

I like the idea of closure on lake wa to keep people local but I liked it on bicycle Sunday at limited hours. I live on Seward park ave s and Wilson Ave s. My street, already a freeway, becomes overloaded with cars because of your closure. Please do not make this a permanent plan of some sort of road diet plan. My neighborhood used to be quiet with very little traffic before sdot narrowed rainier Ave s and the lite rail was installed. If you close lake wa Blvd regularly or permanently, the only main thoroughfare that has no stop lights is my street! Not rainier Ave, not mlk.

Also I'd like to add that the road noise is so high with cars (some with specialized noisy mufflers to broadcast "they've arrived") going to the park, it becomes hard to enjoy a peaceful neighborhood.

You've forgotten the working class which is those who do not live on the water but those who have to live on a busy street in what people perceive is less than desirable south end seattle!

Thanks

Please do not make the closure permanent! I echo another person's comment - I also care for an elderly person that lives in the Madison area and the peaceful drive along Lake Washington is sometimes the only thing that keeps my sanity during stressful times. All other non-freeway north/south routes have been reduced to 1 lane, carry significantly more traffic and would greatly increase travel times. Please give us that depend on that route an alternative!

Do not make this permanent!!! Every person cannot ride a bike, roller skate, or WALK!!! I drive a handicapped van outfitted for my disability. I enjoy the drive and pretty places to park. I use that street everyday to get to my M.D. appointment's and grocery shopping so I can remain independent.

Hi there,

I'm a resident in Lakewood on 53rd Ave S. I have family in Leschi and use lake Washington Blvd to commute to work. I oppose closures beyond the usual Sunday bike days. The impact on local residents needs to be taken into account. Please reconsider extension of this pilot.

Please stop the nonsense on Lake Washington Blvd. Us residents in Seward Park and Lakewood use that stretch of road to connect to the city.

There is plenty of room for bicyclists and a wide path for pedestrians.

You are harming people that work for a living. I need Lake Washington Blvd to get to Cap Hill, South Lake Union and the 520 Bridge.

Seward Park resident

Dear Mayor and City Council,

Lake Washington Boulevard is a lovely drive and in so many ways contributes to the health and enjoyment of all the public. While it is fine to have Bicycle Sundays, closing it permanently to traffic would impact the quality of life of so many people. If we are not pedestrian mobile, we would not be able to enjoy the beauty of the area. Those of us commuting to stressful work environments would not be able to soothe ourselves along the way. Those who live in nearby neighborhoods would find much higher traffic on their streets, often with children near.

If you study traffic and commute routes from the south end, you will see that there are only three streets that go all the way to the north without jogging through neighborhoods: Martin Luther King Jr, Rainier Avenue, Lake Washington Blvd. During peak times traffic is heavy on all these routes. To close one of them permanently seems to me to be viewing the situation from only one perspective.

Please do not follow through on this proposal.

Thank you,

I am writing to protest the closing of Lake Washington Blvd. My husband and I live near ___. We regularly walk on the sidewalk on Lake Washington Blvd to Seward Park and return.

We walk at various times of the day depending on our schedule. Yesterday was a typical day of attendance of walkers along the lake. We started our walk at 11 am. From Alaska Street to the park entrance we met 7 individuals (or couples) along the path and few bicyclists on the road. We have found that the majority of people take care to keep a socially correct distance and we have never had any problem.

This does not seem to be a large enough population of walkers or bicyclists to justify closing the road to everyone. We already have a 'wheel free' open area throughout Seward Park where people are free to walk. We do not need to close a road that many of us in the neighborhood regularly use.

If parking is not accessible or opened these street closures are discriminatory against disabled, seniors, and young families with strollers. It also means, for those who can't bike, that unless immediately adjacent to the park, these closures are prohibitive for those who aren't within walking distance. Please do not keep these streets closed permanently.

Loyal Heights resident

Please keep this Arterial open to cars and all motor vehicles. My Wife and I use it almost daily to travel in the city. I'm a 70 year old life long Seattlite and have driven this road my whole life. Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

This is tryrrany at it best you closing alternate routes to work because of rich people favoritism I will take a note of this with reduced property taxes for services not rander... but you have all the money for lawlessness and funding Marxism in Seattle...you are not represent me the tax payer anymore

I'm really apposed to this
I take this route to work every day. And my drive would be greatly impacted.

Would this road be opened at night?
Will you be contacting Google to block this road from being suggested as a route on GPS?
Can the possibility of making a road a 1way north during the day and a one way coming south in the evening be brought up?

If the streets are going to be closed can you allow for parking on the street to go to Seward park. Parking has been taking over the neighboring streets since the parks parking has been closed. What conversations have been brought up in regards to that parking situation. I saw parking enforcement giving tickets to a whole row of cars parking on the sidewalk/street next to Seward Park.

I get that you guys want to open the entire lake up for people to visit and get the place entirely active, whats the point if people from other areas of South Seattle, no longer walking distance; can't park?

Can you make an announcement regarding some of these concerns. No one seems to be bringing these up and they are important.

I live along the lake and pay alot of taxes to use a CAR rd. This even ad actual is BS. Where is the process for protesting. There is not enough peds or bike traffic to support this idea. They should pay for the rd then.
Thank you

I have lived in the south end of Seattle for 67 years. Walking and driving along Lake Washington Boulevard has always been a pleasure. Now the city is proposing to block it off in its never-ending quest to pander to bicyclists and joggers, when there is a perfectly adequate path along its length already. There are many, many other issues that should be higher on the city's list of priorities than creating more inconvenience for people who need to use cars. Personally, I would be happy to see bikes banned altogether on city streets, or at least require bicyclists to pay an annual fee along the lines of license tabs.
The city is always so concerned about discriminating against various groups in the community -- how about considering older citizens for a change?

I understand there has been some pressure from a select group of cyclists to close lake Washington Blvd from Seward Park to the north beyond the already established bicycle Sundays.

My 103 year old grandmother who helped build this area when it was still discriminating against her and her husband because they are Asian is now facing another discriminatory action.

It's the same one that will affect anyone disabled or dependent on a vehicle to enjoy one of the most beautiful drives in the area.

The Beacon Hill area has already seen a traffic cluster (mess) due to having the capacity of several main arterials halved to accommodate underused bike lanes. That said, there are now plenty of roads with dedicated bike lanes in the area, as well as multiple paths and trails along the green spaces of Lake Washington Blvd for walkers and cyclists. There is also the already established bicycle Sundays.
To further restrict traffic along the boulevard is to remove access from a population that is already challenged in accessing and enjoying green spaces. In addition, this demographic is generally more vulnerable and therefore less likely to leave their cars during this pandemic. Many cannot enjoy any part of the boulevard and lake without a car. My grandmother, for example, prefers the drive between Seward and Madison more than any other in the city. She has watched the area grow and loves being able to see the seasons, plants, and wildlife through every season along the stretch. She cannot leave the car to walk so we regularly take her along the Lake boulevard so she can enjoy nature. I walk it daily with my senior dog and there is smooch green space we have-not had any trouble avoiding others, except when walking down the hills to get to the boulevard and crossing streets where routinely, we are cut-off by bicycles failing to yield to pedestrians (or stop signs).

There are a lot of aging folks around here.
There are a lot of disabled folks around here.
There are a lot of special needs folks around here.

None of these people is complaining about sharing the *road* with cyclists (who rarely follow any actual rules of the road). They know what limited access feels like and make room for everyone.

To take away access to one of the most beautiful drives in the city from those already the most limited in our population is cruel and unjust. Equal access for all should be the priority, not taking it from some so that others may have more or exclusive access. As it is, everyone can enjoy that stretch of the boulevard. ~~Don't be bullied by those already most able-bodied into restricting access from those most vulnerable. We all pay for the streets, especially~~

Please, please don't do this to me!!! I depend on this route to get from Seward Park to Madison Park to medical appointments. How does it help to create obstacle courses for drivers during stressful times? Can you not just let people go about their lawful business? This is infuriating.

I live one block from LWB, and I think this is an incredibly bad idea.

Never underestimate the willingness of some drivers to do incredibly stupid and dangerous things to get from Point A to Point B.

At least some portion of the commuters who will no longer be able to drive LWB will zigzag through our residential streets rather than be shunted onto Genesee and Rainier.

Our intersections have no stop signs, no yield signs, and no traffic circles. They are an open invitation for accidents, particularly to people unfamiliar with the lack of markings.

You will be subjecting our neighborhood to year-round SeaFair traffic debacles.

SPD seems to do nothing to enforce the speed limit on LWB, so there's no reason to think they're going to patrol our residential streets for bad drivers.

[I am not happy you are closing lake wa boulevard]

You already road dieted Rainer and the traffic in our neighborhood is awful already now you have taken away my road to work

Hello! I am writing with my response to the pilot closure of LWB. I am concerned about this idea for several reasons:

1) The neighborhood streets around LWB are already congested due to the parking lots being closed. This will increase all the more with park goers coming from farther away to utilize the space, defeating the purpose of LOCAL stay healthy streets.

2) There are already several places (the new stay healthy streets) in the local neighborhood for people to walk/bike safely.

3) As a handicapped person, driving and parking in the small lots along the lake has been my only way of enjoying the park. Now that the parking lots are closed, I can only drive and am unable to stop and enjoy the parks at length.

My experience of our city parks has been severely circumscribed by the COVID closures; please don't limit my access even further.

Thank you,

Ps- a sidebar question: for what purpose have the parking lots been closed? People are now parking even more widely in the local streets.

Lake Washington Blvd is already flanking a 4 mile stretch of park. What will closing it accomplish? People can walk on the road instead of in the park? People can bbq on the road? I don't get it. Summers Along this route are already flooded with crowds. Why don't you close streets where there are lots of houses but no parks so they can get an enhanced sense of space where they live? It's horrible how so many new homes have eliminated yards and gardens for more interior square feet. No wonder they feel caged. Help those homes have more of a sense of outdoors by closing their streets. They'll probably connect with their neighbors and act more responsibly if they are enjoying space by their own home.

Sent from my iPhone

HELLO,

I sent an email yesterday concerning the closure of Lake Washington Blvd to vehicles. I want to follow up with some additional questions. Please let me know when I can expect an answer.

What problem are you trying to solve by closing the Blvd to traffic? Based on the description posted on the website, it seems like it is to create safe social distancing. Have you observed that this is not possible in this neighborhood? I run or walk along Lake Washington Blvd 4-5 times per week and have rarely felt "crowded" and never unable to maintain safe distance. The only times it feels crowded is when loads of people from other neighborhoods in Seattle come to the neighborhood. (See my note below about the traffic problems this causes).

How will any decisions re: the use of Lake Washington Blvd be made? I noted in your materials that you are considering closing the Blvd to vehicular traffic for the rest of the summer. Have you / will you ask the residents most affected by this decision, specifically the residents who live within walking distance and the residents in nearby South Seattle? When will be our opportunity to weigh in? Have and will you reach out to drivers who rely on this boulevard? It's easy to find cyclists who would love it to be bicycle - only but are you considering the people who use it to recreate with and in their cars, and for essential travel?

I know that you have an online survey for people to weigh in on this program, but when I took the survey I found no room to voice concerns about it, except in relation to issues of race (and I am glad you have those). All of the prompts seemed to encourage approval of the program.

Below is my email text from yesterday. I would very much appreciate a response that addresses all of the concerns I've raised, most especially so that I know how our community can participate in any decisions made about the streets around us.

Yesterday's email:

I really hope it isn't true that you are considering closing Lake Wash Blvd to car traffic

To whom it may concern:

I'm finding it much harder to get to certain places that I like to go.

Starbucks off MLK and Graham is only accessible Driving east on Graham now since streets are closed west of Aki Kerosi MS. I have to drive onto MLK turning left, make a u-turn at Holly St and turn back to Graham, just to access this drive thru Starbucks.

Referring to closing parts of Lake Washington Blvd. is difficult depending on where the closure is.

There are great parks and places to walk along the Blvd. It also is beautiful to drive along instead of the city streets and traffic lights. I drive the Blvd to get to the UDistrict or home in a reasonable amount of time. Taking the freeway takes me way out of the way, there's horrendous traffic on the freeway and the time is almost often doubled because of congestion and accidents.

To take MLK to Madison St and go through the Arboretum also extends the time and is also not the most direct route.

To take 23rd is even worse.

Many go to school at the UW, no direct bus routes.

I have business and medical appointments in the UDistrict.

Even with more efficient vehicles, closing streets that offer efficiency in commuting is not the answer.

My commute along Lake Washington Blvd is from Graham St. to Wilson Ave, to 50th, to Lake Washington Blvd, then all the way up to the UDistrict/UW Hospital and beyond.

How would closing this Blvd affect my commute? What section of the Blvd would be closed? What alternatives would I have to get from my home to this area in 30 minutes? Will the new 520/Montlake Bridge still open to boat traffic to even make the commute longer?

Please get more than your bicycle riders opinions here. A trial might be interesting to see, but not a permanent solution. Bicycle Sundays aren't too bad, I can plan for that, weekday closure are not acceptable.

Thank you,

I am opposed to this closure and particularly feel that during a stay home lockdown where many people are still being asked to not even go to work is a wholly inappropriate time to measure the success or failure of any such closure. This route is a commuter route to MANY people and should remain a viable option for all people, not just those fortunate enough to live near the waterfront.

Dear Mayor and City Council,

In South Seattle we treasure Lake Washington and the boulevard and we enjoy having Bicycle Sundays and other closures for folks to enjoy it by wheel or foot. BUT

Those of us who use it as a commuting route from South to North have few other routes that are viable. Rainier Avenue is always backed up, and commuting on side streets is problematic as well.

PLEASE keep our boulevard open on weekdays, and make it a wonderful "healthy street" on weekends.

Thank you

Lake Washington Blvd is an important road link for South Seattle neighborhoods and should be returned to its original purpose immediately. It is not a park for visitors from other neighborhoods. Closing this street negatively affects our community, making it harder and more dangerous to get to adjacent neighborhoods like Leschi, Seward Park, and Rainier Beach as we now have to use the overburdened Rainier Blvd, which already has a dangerous mix of pedestrians and cars.

Please stop hurting our neighborhood. Please re-open Lake Washington Blvd to car traffic immediately.

Thank you,

Seward Park, Seattle

We live in the south end of Seattle and are somewhat isolated from the rest of the city. One of our few joys these days is a drive along the lake. We try to avoid Rainier Avenue with all it's stops and crime. We have lost so much to the Covid situation, please don't take this away from us, too.

What do we have to do to keep this from happening??

I'm a citizen, too!!

Seward Park/north Rainier Beach neighborhood

We live on the corner of _____. Closing the lake will impact the traffic greatly on Genesee, as well as cars zooming down 49th to avoid the intersection at Genesee and 50th. It is already busy and this is going to exacerbate that situation. It is dangerous for cars to cut through neighborhood streets at a speed higher than the limit. There are many children and families out in yards. Safety should be paramount! When it is bicycle Sunday, the traffic is nonstop on Genesee. Imagine it on a week day. Please rethink this disastrous move!

Hello!

I love the closing of streets. Thank you.

However, DO NOT CLOSE LAKE WASHINGTON BLVD to cars. PLEASE! It's one of the best ways to get to Seward park by car. AND, it's beautiful.

AND, it's closed several weekends in the summer.

Thank you

Hello,

I'm writing to express my hope that Lake Washington Blvd is not closed to traffic this summer. It is a major transportation route, and closing it will congest our neighborhood and four-way stops. An extended 'Bicycle Sunday' system on weekends makes more sense for our neighborhood. Please consider!

Thank you,

Hello there,

I'm emailing to share my thoughts on the temporary closing of Lake Washington Blvd. I am OPPOSED to the closure, especially with the parking lots closed in Seward Park. The parking lot closure has already impacted access to my property - just last week a Cedar Grove compost delivery couldn't get down my driveway.

There already has been an astronomical increase in traffic near the park, with no increase in parking enforcement, garbage pickup, etc. Seattle Parks is just offloading what should be park-related problems into the neighborhood.

This will also create additional traffic in our neighbors - above and beyond the already giant increase in traffic in the Seward Park neighborhood due to Covid. And, like on the Bicycle Sunday weekends, many, many people travel across all of Seattle (and MI and Bellevue) to participate in the boulevard being closed. This will just create crowds that are unlikely to be wearing masks while cycling - exactly what we don't need right now.

This will also result in decreased safety on the many side streets near the lake because of the diverted traffic that normally uses the boulevard.

Thank you,

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE reconsider this. I have lived in the area for more than forty years. I have walked along the lake, I have taken kids bike riding along the lake. I can't believe that as I age that I won't be able to enjoy a car ride along the lake. I think the city needs to think about the elderly as well as the bike riders. Seattle has made plenty of streets for cyclist. Seniors would like to get out in nice weather also. It's nice to have a family member take out parents and grandparent for a simple drive along the lake.

Please remember everyone is not capable of riding a bike or walking along the lake and everyone should have access since we all pay taxes.

The blvd is my arterial in and out of my neighborhood. I already share it with bicycles and runners going the wrong way. I also put up with a party on the water in Andrews Bay every weekend. Now you want to take my street away! You are asking way too much of us.

We live in South Seattle and work in Madrona this is the route we take each day to and from work it is the most reasonable route for us and many others. If you close the Blvd you will be adding an additional 25 to 35 minutes of our day to commuting to job we are so thankful to have at this time!

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Please, please, please, please DO NOT CLOSE LAKE WASHINGTON BOULEVARD.

This is one of the few ways we can get from our home in Seward Park to other parts of the city. If you close this street anywhere north of the intersection of 50th Ave S, it will make it extremely difficult for those of us who live in the Seward Park area to get north or downtown.

Previously, when SDOT has closed this portion of Lake Washington Boulevard for bicycle Sundays, it has created big enough problems for our neighborhood. Doing it outside of the occasion Sunday would be hugely problematic for both access and safety. Please don't.

Hi,

I would like to recommend not closing Lake Washington Blvd. for the summer for a variety of reasons. This is one of the routes that I drive my elderly mother-in-law along (she 93 so obviously can't ride a bike or walk far) for outings. She loves that stretch of the lake and it would be too bad for the many people who can't walk or ride bikes to not have the benefit of enjoying what they pay for in their taxes. I think that that the number of bicycle Sundays is a good plan and would like to suggest staying with that. Sometimes people forget that there are many people who enjoy those roads as a means of getting to and from work etc. and it is a peaceful way to unwind at the end of their days. There is room to share the road with bikes and people can walk on the sidewalks. There aren't ever so many folks that you can't just step to the side if we are worried about coming face to face with someone who doesn't have their mask on.

Thanks for the consideration of my thoughts on this.

As an RN in these trying times, I'm already stressed doing the work we do. I live in Seward Park and rely on my scenic route along Lake WA to and from work to maintain my sanity. I pay a HUGE amount of property taxes to use the roads build with my tax dollars. Please do not give me, an essential health care worker who supports Seattle's residents and economy another reason for me to leave this city.

Hello! I live in one of the neighborhoods surrounding Lake Washington Blvd.

I understand the need for more space to recreate, but since I'm handicapped and unable to walk, run, or bike, closing the Blvd means just one more thing that has been made

(occasionally) inaccessible to me during this Covid crisis.

I truly enjoy being able to drive safely along the lake to enjoy the views, and used to enjoy parking at any of the smaller parking lots to sit and take in the beauty even more. I really miss being able to do that. To add insult to injury, I have no way to get into the lake to enjoy the water like so many others do because the official beaches are closed to parking and I can't walk to the unofficial swimming places from as far as the neighboring streets, or get in anywhere that is rocky and unstable.

I'm in support of adding occasional closure days, but not for multiple days in a row. I'm thinking more of a beefed-up Bicycle Sunday schedule.

Thank you for taking time to read this and your efforts to get input.

Dear City of Seattle:

I'm writing to express my feedback on the piloted extended closures of Lake Washington Boulevard. I am a resident/homeowner in North Beacon Hill and I do not think the long-term or permanent closure of the street is in the best interests of the city or its residents. Although it is nice to have more outdoor spaces for pedestrians and cyclists, these should be achieved through the building of new paths and not the closures of existing streets. It is troubling that the City of Seattle is increasingly looking to expand pedestrian access at the expense of restricting accessibility to the majority of residents who will not use these spaces.

First of all, this street closure deprives motorists, motorcyclists, and others who do not have the privilege of walking or biking to the lakefront of the opportunity to enjoy the waterfront. This creates a significant accessibility issue, as many people with disabilities would not be able to access the waterfront at all. It is not reasonable to expect that everyone who wants to access Seward Park or other parts of the waterfront must either live within walking distance or park a significant distance away and walk/bike to the lake. It is inadequate to have a few reserved parking spots open to people with a handicapped parking placard, as closing the streets would still impede people's ability to get to those spaces and not everyone with disabilities would have a placard. For example, particularly during the pandemic, immunocompromised people who are otherwise able-bodied may not feel safe walking in a crowded outdoor space, but may want the option of taking a scenic drive or parking at the lakefront. Depriving the entire city of access to the waterfront for the benefit for the minority of residents who would actually walk or bike on the closed streets is an unjust and disproportionate allocation of our outdoor space.

Additionally, given the landscape of Seattle, Lake Washington Blvd is one of the few major thoroughfares running through Beacon Hill and one of the few means of traveling north/south without either going further west to the highway or cutting through the winding residential streets. Many people rely on Lake Washington Blvd for regular commuting, while others living on the east side of the neighborhood simply want the option of being able to travel along the lakeshore instead of having to take the highway. Not everyone has the option of walking, biking or taking public transit and - again, particularly during a pandemic - forcing people to avoid traveling by car has a disproportionate negative impact on those who are immunocompromised or have disabilities. Closing a major thoroughfare like Lake Washington Blvd, even on a temporary basis, forces traffic to other parts of the neighborhood and increases the already growing traffic on streets like Rainier and Martin Luther King, as well as traffic on smaller residential streets.

The increase in traffic, coupled with the numerous smaller "stay healthy streets" that have closed, has unnecessarily inconvenienced residents of my neighborhood without much apparent benefit. I live one block away from one of the "stay healthy streets" that has been closed since April and have seen

Nio...Having the street closed was problematic for many of us. Parking was a major problem and I am disable and had to walk several blocks away.

We live in the Blvd. Parking was not available in a 3 block area . From Orcas to Seward Park Ave and 55th behind the Blvd.

Att: Members of the Stay Healthy Streets and SDOT

I am distressed to learn that SDOT is planning to close Lake Washington Blvd. and to have found out by seeing a sign on the road block at the Seward Park entrance. And it is even more so troubling that there is an unknown survey that SDOT is using to make a decision.

As a neighborhood we have the sole right to decide what our neighborhood does and doesn't do. If there is thought of making changes then EVERYONE in this Seward Park neighborhood needs to have a full and equal voice.

SDOT has made the Wilson/ Seward Park Road unsafe for the residents' cars, cyclists and car drivers. SDOT has compromised the businesses and traffic on Rainier Ave., and now SDOT wants to destroy our last thoroughfare.

I have lived in Seward Park for 42 years. I am a daily walker who walks along Lake Washington Blvd. or the Loop and am a cyclist who frequently bikes along Lake Washington Blvd as part of my ride. Additionally, I drive my car along Lake Washington Blvd to get in and out of Seward Park .

I am completely opposed to this move for the following reasons:

1.This is an equity issue:

Closure would exclude a significant part of our population from accessing this scenic route.Our neighborhood is multi-racial, with a large number of elderly, and a wide income range.

Not everyone can afford a bike, can ride a bike, or have the physical ability to walk down to and then along this special scenic route. Many people can only enjoy this route by driving a car as they drive to their destinations.

2. Closure would increase fuel usage.

This move would further bottle neck travel in, out, and around of Seward Park resulting in more gas used while cars idle waiting for traffic to move.

I am extremely angry about this closure. I live in Mount Baker right near Lake Washington Boulevard. I take this street into work all the time. This directly impacts my commute.

Not only me, but many other people use this street. This is a main artery in the city. Closing it creates bottle necks and increase traffic in neighborhoods affecting those residents.

I strongly oppose this closure and will try to get action together to reopen Lake Washington Blvd.

I have noticed that I never get any replies from this email. Is this actually checked or is this just a false show of wanting feedback?

Hi there:

I live in Mount Baker and I am angry about the proposed closure of Lake Washington Blvd. I have tried to write to the "stay healthy streets" people but have gotten no response. Is there someway to give them some feedback about this?

P.S. I don't like the payroll tax either. It will be interesting to see if the mayor vetoes it.

I am hoping that you will be able to separate the many responses you are getting between the computers who want to drive through on LW Blvd from what we who live here see every day as we actually walk along the lake. We live just north of Seward Park, and we have seen so many families and groups park coming into our area, parking, then walk across the Blvd, and enjoy their time near the lake. I picture them maybe living in apartments a ways from here, and in the warm weather, it's a chance for them to be in this beautiful place. Closing the Blvd in the summer will help them and others safely cross the streets to the grass areas near the lake. It is safer for bicycles, and, and allows us who walk the path near the lake to step safely into the street to socially distance from others walking toward us, and for the many runners to run out in the street instead of close to us walkers.

We see many impatient drivers trying to pass those on bikes as they drive way over the 25 MPH limit. It's not safe, as you know.

As a compromise, you might consider closing the blvd from Seward Park up to the Stan Sayers Pits at 43rd because the most lawn and beach areas for families are between those limits. 43rd connects well with Genesee for the commuters, and is easier to drive than through Mt. Baker Park to the Blvd
Thank you for reading this!

Good morning,

I live in the Lakewood/Seward Park neighborhood and support the closure of Lake WA Blvd to allow for cyclists and walkers using the same boundaries and road signage as Bicycle Sundays. Because this road is used by many people to commute and its closure diverts cars onto neighborhood streets, it seems reasonable to only close the boulevard on weekends. The trial that is currently underway was poorly managed : terrible signage (instead of at the tops of streets of main thoroughfares, signs are only at boulevard access point leading to confusion, blockages and turnarounds and NO COMMUNICATION to neighborhoods (I had no idea it was happening and regularly scan NextDoor and read the local paper). Despite the good intentions, its implementation could be its doom.

Regards,

Hi,

Thank you for closing Lake Washington Blvd to cars for these few days. It has been nice to get down there. I went for a run along the blvd on Saturday with my 2 kids (in stroller), wife, and dog. It was great to be able to do so because we are too big of a crew to fit on a sidewalk. Today I went for a bike ride for the whole length of the closure. It was great to see families out on the street and sitting by the lake. I felt like this was the most people I have seen picnicking and sitting along the lake.

One item that I would like to bring to your attention is the increased traffic on 38th Ave S. Friday was a solid stream of cars all day long. Last year the Neighborhood Street Fund accepted a proposal for traffic calming at 38th and Andover because of the high number of collisions. The project has run into issues with the proposed traffic circle and the need for firetrucks to drive down the street (from my understanding). I have always been an advocate of a stop sign at that intersection because I consistently see accidents that happen there. Many of them go unreported because those involved don't want to call the police. If Lake Washington Blvd were to continue to remain closed on week days I would recommend the city expedite the traffic calming at this dangerous intersection by putting in a 4-way stop.

Also, on Bicycle Sundays in previous years, there have been signs saying that 38th Ave S was closed. Those are not up during this closure.

I have always liked Bicycle Sunday and try to take advantage of it as much as possible. If the city plans to keep the closure of Lake Washington Blvd to only weekends, then I feel that the danger to this intersection is not increased. If the city plan to continue to close Lake Washington Blvd on weekdays, which would greatly increase traffic on 38th Ave S, I feel that the city must find a way to calm traffic at 38th and Andover. The city already identified it as a dangerous intersection and making it much more hazardous without calming the traffic would unnecessarily put people at risk.

Thank you for you time and please reach out if you have further questions.

Hi,

I am emailing to express our experience thus far with the closure of a portion of LWB.

On Friday afternoon we rode our bikes the length of the closure a few times and it was really nice to have more space.

The issue that needs to be addressed is vehicle activity during the closure. Vehicles should be accessing and exiting LWB as close to their destination as possible and not cruising for blocks. Riding bicycles with young children on our roadways needs to be made as safe as possible. Very often we had vehicles trailing behind us and some even honking for us to stick to the curb so they can get around us, this does not make for an enjoyable experience and had me constantly looking over my shoulder and nudging our kids to stay next to the curb. These vehicles were travelling for blocks unnecessarily.

This closure needs a better way to make it more difficult for cars to remain on LWB during its closure.

We have been awaiting Bicycle Sunday to begin and hope that it will very soon or even better yet, perhaps with more safeguards in place and enforcement, this 'test' of closing a portion of LWB could remain throughout the summer months.

Thank you for making efforts to give Seattle residents more options for outdoor exercise. Appreciate it!

Please consider maintaining LWB open to cars M-Th and closed to cars FRI, Sat and Sun. This would allow a more equitable sharing of the scenic road to all citizens of the Seward Park to I90 area.

Thank you

CAUTION: External Email

I appreciate bike Sunday's and the attempts at closing roads during the pandemic. Unfortunately I find that people still frequently use the roads to drive on, and sometimes because of the lack of traffic drive even faster than normal. It is just a matter of time before a horrific Car/ pedestrian bike accident occurs. The closures aren't well signed so we have people speeding up and down our street not realizing La Wa Blvd is closed. It is nice that there is less traffic on the Blvd, but unless there is better signage and enforcement it's a pretty dangerous experiment. I find the same is true of the closed roads behind Rainier Ave Safeway and Columbia City. Those closures are hugely inconvenient for those who follow the rules and I've had to dive out of the road as a pedestrian to avoid getting hit.

I would love to be able to enjoy walking and biking on Lake Washington Blvd. and am willing to be inconvenienced TEMPORARILY but without improvements the road should simply be reopened to traffic. Please don't consider this a permanent closure, already it's challenging to get home from Safeway, get to and from Columbia City and of course West Seattle.

Thank you,

While I enjoy the Blvd. closed, it's wreaking havoc on the surrounding streets, in particular Seward Park Ave., S. Dawson. 57th Ave. S. Cars are now using these streets like highways at all times of day and night without regard to pedestrians or speed limits. If the plan is to keep the Blvd. closed, how about some speed bumps? The solution to the problem on the Blvd is only creating a new problem. The community is not happy. What can be done to support those of us in the neighborhood now impacted?

To SDOT Safe Streets Initiative,

I am a resident and home owner adjacent to Genesee Park for the past 33 years. I want to commend SDOT for setting up the pilot these past 5 days on Lake Washington Boulevard S.

I am a daily walker and since mid-December 2018, have walked every day, rain or shine through Genesee Park and up and down Lake Washington Boulevard between Mount Baker Beach and Seward Park.

I met last year with Council woman Lorena Gonzales when she held a community outreach at the Columbia City Library and suggested the city consider closing that stretch of Lake Washington Boulevard S to traffic. My reason was that there was little adherence to the 25mph speed limit with some vehicles using the Boulevard as a racing strip. In addition, after Seward Park Avenue South was reduced to two lanes in 2019 and a 25mph speed limit placed on Rainier Avenue S in 2019, traffic on the Boulevard had reached a level that was way over capacity. Bicyclists had to switch to the walking paths for safety.

The paths along Lake Washington Boulevard are heavily utilized by dog walkers, walkers, joggers and bike riders. With the restrictions of social distancing, it is often necessary to relocate to the street. This has been near hazardous with the excessive speed exercised by many of the motorists who use the roadway.

I would suggest that to gain further feedback from all parties, that the closures continue on a trial basis for the month of July.

The first couple of days were of the current trial (Thursday and Friday). There were way too many violators who ignored the street closure signs, but the last 3 days have been compliance and I have talked to people who are both residents of the area and users from outside the area who are happy with the street closure.

Comment removed from this public summary by request of commenter

Dear Stay Healthy Streets staff,

I'm writing as a resident in the Mt Baker neighborhood and a person of color. Since the pandemic, I have been trying to get outside every day with my two elementary aged daughters in order to keep myself and our family sane and healthy!

We have been riding our bikes around the neighborhood, but I don't feel it's altogether safe for the girls as they approach intersections, and we are frankly getting tired of finding new places to go that don't involve difficult hills. We have always loved Bike Sundays as a family, and would love it if we could bike on Lake Washington Blvd this summer. It will help us continue to get exercise and have fun together as a family in a safe way.

Thanks for considering and asking for our input!

While I appreciate the motivations leading to the street closures, my feeling is that the pendulum has swung too far away from motorized vehicles, to other exclusive or shared uses.

Specifically as relates to the subject pilot, personally, and in conversation with some other folks, the full closure of that street seems too far for several reasons.

I don't know about its status on the weekends, but day time closure then seems appropriate. From Monday- Friday, though, there is a real hardship for motorists that outweighs the advantage of being closed every day during daylight hours.

Some kind of compromise like one or two more weekdays days(about a 50-50 split of seven days) could work. Another approach is to have the closure for 4-5 hours midday leaving about half time for cars, etc.

A note about perspective- I find it more productive to think about the person, rather than the mode of transportation- that is, I am an individual who has been and, at various times, is a car driver, a bike rider, a walker/ runner, etc.

So, the driver in me is asking for a better balance in using that road space than the pilot might suggest.

Thank you for listening.

Hello,

Thank you for piloting the Stay Healthy Streets program on Lake Washington Blvd.

As much as we love being on the Boulevard without vehicles, we also recognize that many use LWB for their commute and with it being closed, there's definitely an increase in traffic on the neighborhood streets with speed much faster than we usually see.

Seems super dangerous for kids playing, especially.

We think it would be a great idea to keep vehicular traffic on LWB Monday through Friday then close it to vehicular traffic on the weekends. Consider it a permanent bicycle Sunday.

Seems like a win-win for the neighborhoods that surround Lake Washington Blvd.

Thanks so much.

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Thanks so much.

This closure has extended too far north from the area where the road used to be closed on Sundays for bikes last year. As a senior citizen, who pays very high property taxes, I can no longer walk along the lake in the area without buildings blocking the view. Not all Seattleites are 25! I have bad arthritis and can't walk the hills easily; this used to be one beautiful walk I could take. I don't need a handicap sticker, but there should be some accommodations for senior citizens.

Seattle resident

Hello,

I just got back from a bike ride along Lake Washington Boulevard from Brandon Street to Mount Baker Beach and back. While I personally like the street closure (I have walked or biked on the street three times in the last four days), I noticed that it is creating tension between people, at a time when tensions are already running high. I have witnessed motorists and pedestrians yelling at each other on two separate occasions, and I have also seen road closure signs being moved by a frustrated motorist, as well as ones that have been moved already.

There were certainly lots of people enjoying the road for biking, walking, running, rollerblading -- even roller skiing -- but I think there is need for improvement of the project. Perhaps only closing the road on Sundays or weekends only would help? I have never seen these types of angry interactions on any Bicycle Sunday in years past.

That's just my two cents!

Sincerely,

I live a block from Lake Washington Boulevard. I don't mind the closure it's a little inconvenient but traffic is gotten very unsafe especially commuters driving 50 miles an hour passing cars.

I have lived in the Mt Baker neighborhood since 1988. I was born and raised in Seattle and remember Seward Park when cars drove around the loop and parked on the grass by the beach to pose and get washed.

Although I don't ride a bike I have always enjoyed BICYCLE SUNDAY for a walk along the lake. The entrances used to be monitored with SPR/SDOT staff or even a bike repair booth. That activity discouraged "CASUAL CAR DRIVING" I am familiar with LK WA BLVD and know that the houses with driveways can get to a side street and exit the neighborhood without having to drive very far....if they wanted to.

I walked in the rain from Mt Baker beach to 50th and back on Saturday June 27. There were TEN cars/trucks that passed us ...several speeding...including three SPR trucks. Way too much vehicle traffic! If safe streets are going to work there has to be some enforcement.

I am also concerned about accessibility WITH ALL PARK PARKING LOTS CLOSED...the neighborhoods are all parked out. Cars are parking on the Great Lawn in Colman Park...get outside, stay close to home and close all the parks....? What a joke.

I suggest BICYCLE WEEKENDS.. with the parking lots along the lake open and enforcement at the entrances so there are no random renegade cars. What a mess.

Hi there,

I love the idea of temporary closure on Lake Washington Blvd, but have a few concerns about the practicality of it every day all summer. Specifically, I am concerned about the impact on neighboring roads in terms of increased traffic. Today while on a walk with my 2-year-old down to Seward Park, I noticed some cars tearing down 57th Ave S near Orcas in response to the closure. This is a narrow residential road that has limited crosswalks and limited visibility to look for incoming traffic because of increased parking on both sides of it by people unable to use Seward Park's parking lots. I also know that Lake Washington Blvd is part of many people's commute (though not mine), and wonder where that traffic will migrate (38th Ave S/Genesee/50th/Seward/Wilson come to mind). I wondered if you considered just closing on Saturdays & Sundays--i.e. bicycle weekend--as a potential compromise?

Best,

I am all for closing the Boulevard on all weekends during the summer. (Even when COVID is history)
Closing it indefinitely this summer would be a mistake.

Thank you,
Lakewood/Seward Park resident

Hello, I am a neighbor that lives up the hill from Seward Park on _____. I was in support of closing the Blvd to car traffic during Phase 1 and 1.5. I am a bit disappointed that this trial closure has not been enacted until Phase 2 when our city's car traffic is already spiking back up.

I've taken a few walks on the Blvd so far, and there are still a lot of cars driving through the "closed" road. Maybe they truly are residents or delivery people, but it takes away my confidence in walking my dog in the street. I can only imagine how parents would feel with little kids on bikes!!

With many more cars on the road in the last few weeks, this is redirecting traffic to our usually slow Dawson St. I would be OK with increased road traffic on our street if the trade off was feeling safe walking on the Blvd, but that has not been our experience.

I would continue to support full weekend Blvd closures through the summer in hopes that fewer cars drive through the closed Blvd. I would also continue to support a full closure if there was a way the city could help make the street feel safer since there are still a number of cars speeding along the Blvd between signs.

Thank you for reading my concerns,

Hi there,

As a great observer to what's going on on the ground since we do live right on the BLVD and have great view of lots of activities. I just want to chime in on our thoughts based on what we see. Btw we have lived here since 2003.

We strongly believe this program would served the community best if it is at full closure only on every Sunday till the end of summer. That will affect the community the least and really allow everyone to feel truly safe on the BLVD. As of right now, we are too scared to be on the road not knowing when crazy drivers will show up disregarding the rule, which unfortunately happened more often than one would think. I have witness too many close call that without full closure like Bike Sunday, I would not want my kids to be biking on the road. Once a week, full closure for a day till Summer's over I feel is about right. One another note, people do not social distancing at parking lot on the BLVD. Please close them. Parking on street will deter them to hang out all day and party/drink/smoke weed.

These are my 2 cents from what I see is going on.

Great intentions!! Thank you for your consideration!

Regards,

I live in Seward Park and use Lake Washington Blvd almost everyday for walking, biking or driving.

I support the City's stay healthy streets effort, but request that Lake Washington Blvd remain open to autos during the work week. There is a lot of traffic during the week, especially during commute hours, and I am concerned about the impact of diverting all that traffic to the neighborhood streets.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

I favor temporarily opening up the street to walking and rolling generally, but I would also suggest that the city consider an extended version of Bicycle Sunday in which maybe the street is closed to car traffic three to four days out of seven. I know this would make more work for SDOT crews, so it might not be practical. However, it might help balance the interests of multiple stakeholders.

My reasons for suggesting include that I am hearing a lot of neighbors complain about change - and part of the neighborhood is now pinned in between the Rainier Vly Greenway and the Blvd closures with limited ways in and out of the neighborhood. I see a number of folks recreating alongside the Blvd who arrive by car - cars which otherwise end up in the surrounding neighborhood. Also, there are a number of people in surrounding neighborhoods and the city at large who rely on the Blvd for visual enjoyment from a vehicle, and who have limited mobility to bike or walk. Also, the blvd provides a welcome slow commute alternative to I-5, MLK, and 23rd Ave, especially for those who live east of Rainier Ave and work north of the Cut and/or need to go to the east side.

Thank you,

I vote for a compromise: open the Boulevard to pedestrians and bikes on weekends and leave it for commuters and other drivers during the week

Hello, after one day of observation of the road closure of Lake Washington Blvd (I live on the street in Seward Park) -there needs to be speed limit signs to let the drivers know that they need to slow down. There are vehicles going 25-50 mph weaving around kids on bikes. The drivers are not entering the street at the closest point and exiting at the closest point. They are just driving through as any normal day.

I hope my comments are helpful. I don't trust going out biking or walking with my young children if we cannot trust that the street safe for everyone.

Thank you for your time.

Thank you for the trial closure of Lk Wa Blvd to cars. It is a wonderful location for allowing people to do all the activities they do there anyway, without interference from vehicles. Since the onset of COVID, the boulevard is even more popular for jogging, cycling, scooting, strolling and just playing. With a few improvements, closure to vehicles could be a successful long-term improvement.

1. Race and Social Justice: as with the closure of so many Seattle parks and their parking lots, the concern is to provide access for people who don't live super close to nice parks, or in this case, to this lovely boulevard. While we don't want to encourage crowding, this spacious boulevard is, and should continue to be, a resource for more than just immediate neighbors. During Bicycle Sundays, parking lots at Colman Park, Mt Baker Beach, and Seward Park were open, but those are now closed. Fortunately during COVID, people have discovered parking in the Mt Baker, Genesee and Seward Park neighborhoods to access the boulevard, which we residents welcome. People have also been parking in pullouts along the boulevard, which they will no longer be able to access. Maybe we can come up with a solution for this? We want to be sure our slightly more distant neighbors still feel welcome.
2. Please improve signage so that it's more clear to cars what is and is not closed, who is allowed access, and how fast allowed vehicles may travel. Sign locations, visibility and messaging are all concerns. The signage used for Bicycle Sundays seems to work well.
3. As on Bicycle Sundays, the boat ramp can remain safely open. This is part of the RSJ issue, so that South End residents whose one "luxury" may be a trailered boat in their yard, do not have to travel long distances in order to enjoy it.

Thank you again,
Mt Baker neighborhood resident

Closure for weekend days make sense (bicycle Saturday/Sunday). You should keep that up (I do not know why it was discontinued for COVID) but not otherwise close LWB during weekdays, as it is needed for commuting.

Hello,

My husband and I have lived less than 2 blocks from Lake Wa. Blvd. S., since 1983. As the neighborhood has gentrified, we have seen our streets become much busier, and more people seem to have little regard for their fellow neighbors: people in cars and expensive bikes are using the boulevard as their personal speedways.

We love to walk along the lake, and in PRINCIPAL would be in favor of making the boulevard car-free, per the pilot project – but NOT unless the city can establish some rules & enforce them.

The reason I would, in principal, be in favor of making the street car-free is that, since the pandemic, it has been very difficult to walk along the lake and maintain six feet of social distance. As you know, the walkway along the lake is very narrow. To make it worse, the majority of walkers, joggers, and bicyclists are not wearing masks, even though they can't stay six feet distant.

BUT -- we cannot give a positive endorsement of a car-free boulevard unless the city can do something about the high-speed bicyclists -- these "bro" types (the ones we saw for all five days of the pilot project were entirely young white men) who are hellbent on maintaining their blistering pace. In the five days, we saw multiple instances where these bicyclists nearly knocked over a number of kids, a mom with a stroller, and walkers and even joggers.

A few examples: On Thursday, I was trying to cross the boulevard at 49th, with three friends – we were in two rows of two across, to maintain social distance. All of us are in our late 60s. I could see a bicyclist coming so fast, and it was clear he had no intention of slowing down. We barely cleared the street and he yelled out to us as he nearly clipped us as he passed by: "Can you walk any slower?!"

Another example: A high-speed bicyclist's dog was running behind him – and the taut leash, which extended from the biker's hand across part of the street, knocked over a child on a bike.

We could see other bicyclists cut so close, they barely dodged others moving more slowly on bikes, including children and walkers. I know they think they are so skillful they can do this kind of speeding dodging – but they don't realize that sometimes others might turn to look at something, or shift position, etc., and crash into them.

I have a friend in the neighborhood whose daughter is in a wheelchair. Pre-pandemic, they would drive and park at Seward Park every day and then my friend pushes her daughter along the path. But now, because the park is crowded and the lots are closed off, they can't do that. I thought this pilot project might be a time they could get out for a walk on the boulevard. After seeing the bicyclists, though, we knew it would not be safe for them.

So is this to be a street for everyone – or just the bro bicyclists?

Again, this COULD be a great thing. The speeding cars have gotten so bad, it's frightening. I'd love to see them off the boulevard, since it seems impossible to slow them down. (I've reported this to the police, and they say it's not something they can do much about it.)

So if this pilot is extended – I would like to see clearly posted signs – big signs -- that spell out how to be considerate and emphasize that the street is for people of all ages and abilities and is NOT meant to be a hiking speedway. Post a speed limit for bicyclists. (I know many would not heed it, but it would at least be a warning.) While I favor the temporary closure of Lk Wash Blvd, and am a frequent walker there, too many cars violated the closure. When I walked, it was unsafe with many cars driving by quickly.

If this is going to be successful, there needs to be enforcement of the road closure.

Thank you

Hello. I am wondering if that 4 mile portion of Lake Washington Blvd near Seward Park is still closed to car traffic. I read that it was just a five day pilot, but am hoping that a decision was made to keep it closed as a Stay Healthy Street, at least through the summer.

Thanks,
Hello,

I am attaching a spreadsheet detailing the traffic study compiled about 55th Avenue South after borrowing a radar gun for a week. To summarize, we had 49% of all vehicles traveling at least five miles per hour over the 20 MPH speed limit, and 7% of those cars were speeding at 30 MPH or more. More than 50% of southbound traffic was using the street as an arterial bypass.

There are no traffic calming devices on 55th Ave S between Seward Park Avenue and S Othello Street despite its abutment to a minor arterial (Seward Park Ave S), a 7% slope, length of 2009 feet (.4 mi) and visibility almost the entire length of the street due to it being completely straight, few cars parking on the side, and a no-parking zone at the north end of the street.

Data, averages, and information about the street features are all listed in the spreadsheet. I would really appreciate help in navigating the next steps and determining the best way forward. I see there are various grants we can apply for, but I'm not even sure what traffic calming devices would be appropriate or approved for the street, given the street only has three-way intersections that likely won't allow for traffic circles.

Thanks very much,

Hello,

Outside of some legitimate notice/emergency access concerns shared by my fellow LSPNA member Jeannie O'Brien, the LWB closure was wonderful for my family. We were able to bring our kids down to the level street and allow them to learn to ride their bikes/scooters, which is difficult to do elsewhere and much-needed given the complete lack of other activities they can participate in. The lack of traffic noise is great and we only had a car or two drive by for more than a block. I'd love to see it closed all summer, but also realize we're less impacted by not being a resident of the street.

I'd also like to suggest permanently closing 55th Ave S between Holly and Othello- I'm forwarding an email I sent last year after we got a radar gun and tracked traffic and speeds. It's a .4 mile non-arterial stretch with a traffic and speeding problem but an utter lack of ability to mitigate it, due to street design and lack of funds, according to the SDOT folks I spoke with. We held a successful weekly play street, and one of the only play streets in the area, along this stretch last year.

The past 5 days have seen the closure of Lake Washington Boulevard for the Stay Healthy Streets program.

While the concept is good, I am concerned about the disenfranchisement of part of the neighborhood population. The Black or African-American male. Prior to the closure of park parking lots, men would gather for social interaction at the Seward Park parking lot, Stan Sayres parking lot and the small parking lot on Lakw Washington Blvd between 48th S and 49th S.

Where are they to go now?

The majority of cyclists and walkers are Caucasian. Please do your own research. And value the use of the waterfront by those people who may want to and need to have access by car.

I have lived in the Mount Baker neighborhood since 1984 and value all my neighbors.

We live within a short walk through Genesee Park to Lake Washington Blvd and walk the path along the lake almost every day. We very much enjoyed the walking area during vehicular closure, there were practically no bikes on path and few runners even. We did notice a number of cars who drove, especially the distance between rowing center and Seward Park, most appeared to go several blocks, not just exiting a driveway to nearest street. Some seemed to go quite fast, one Porsche was observed to speed by at 40-50mph in early evening while children riding with families were present. We recommend just closing the stretch between Mt. Baker beach and either 43rd Ave S or rowing center unless much more traffic police presence is provided. The mile long northern portion of route could be completely blocked off, including the access from S Horton St making that a safer option for walkers, runners and bikers of all ages, it would also cut down on traffic on the northern portion of route since it would no longer offer the full distance commute that many use instead of other north-south options.

If no closures continue we strongly urge the placement of speed readers to at least raise consciousness of speeding drivers.

Thanks for your consideration,

I vote for a compromise: open the Boulevard to pedestrians and bikes on weekends and leave it for commuters and other drivers during the week

Hi,

I took my 2 kids (ages 6 and 10) to bike on Lake WA blvd this morning. I was walking, and allowed my children to bike ahead of me; they are frequent bikers in our neighborhood in Beacon Hill and we had walkie talkies.

I understand that cars are allowed on the road to access the homes there, but I was terrified by several cars driving at 30+ mph and weaving in and out of bikers and pedestrians, especially knowing that my kids were up ahead without me.

Is there a way post a speed limit and/or monitor and enforce guidelines for drivers?

Thank you,

Hi,

I'm a resident of LWB and while I like the idea of a pilot, I am concerned for the late nights.

I miss Bicycle Sunday's. I love to ride my bike, I own a beach cruiser with no gears. It's meant to be on a boardwalk or sidewalk. I don't peddle fast and care for my life as I don't want to be hit by a car riding on the street. I have been missing riding my bike around the loop and with the crowded LWB sidewalks, this definitely gives bikers more opportunities to safely ride on the street.

Maybe consider a Friday-Sunday Bike Sunday with a timed closed street? Like 10am-6pm? Also, I've been told several times about LWB being an arterial for emergency vehicles. Where will they be rerouted if there is a fire or other severe emergency in Seward Park?

While I do see the good in this, I hope that this will be a safe pilot. I am concerned for people hanging out at the park late night and parties. Will the parks be closing still at 10pm and will there be patrol?

This could be a dream come true with no more traffic (my issues are with 93% of the cars going 38pm or faster) or could be a nightmare with increased garbage, crime, and parties along the lake.

If you would like more feedback, or to go into more detail, I am available anytime.

LWB Resident

Hi Stay Healthy,

Thanks for not responding. So I'm a resident who lives on LWB and there are many cars still using the Blvd, this lawn company truck just flew down at least 30mph right now. What are you going to do about the safety of the folks and particular a lot of children?

It's so nice letting people have space to be outdoors. This could be a good program!!

Hi,

I went for a bike ride on Lake Washington Boulevard with my wife tonight. I ride this route frequently (at least once a week) by myself, but she rides slower and is more intimidated by traffic so was excited to try a route she wouldn't normally do.

It seems that a fairly substantial number of cars and a few motorcycles were ignoring the "closed" signs and driving through the area anyways: far more than could be explained by local traffic. Furthermore, while I was moving slower than usual, I have never experienced more close/dangerous passes on this route than I did tonight. Surprising, considering that, at least nominally, the street is closed. This may be reading into the situation a little too much, but considering some of the vehicles were revving their engine as they went by and passing close with no oncoming traffic, I'd almost wager that some of it was punitive from drivers annoyed the street was closed.

I don't know what it would take to prevent this. More signs? Bollards (although that would block local traffic too)? Police or SDOT presence? But it would certainly be nice if cars would comply with the closure more. There was somewhat less traffic than usual, but not nearly as much less as expected. And the traffic there was tended to be much more aggressive than usual.

Hello-

I read on the website that this is only a 5 day pilot program. For those of us who live in the neighborhood this closure causes a 2 mile detour through crowded residential streets. I actually had to stop and pull up a map to figure out how to get home; as every road I turned on went a couple blocks and the dead end. We deal with this road randomly being closed on Sunday's for bikes (so I just turn around and go home). Today, there was a back up of cars and bikes along Lakeside Ave and all the side streets. I finally had to go up and over Massachusetts and down to Rainier Avenue to get over to Genesee park. Those trying to get to Mt. Baker beach were parked all over, in no parking zones and blocking driveways.

I hope that a compromise can be found to allow those in the neighborhood to get to and from work, stores, parks in a reasonable manner. Along with beach and trail users to get to parking lots so they are not causing issues in the neighborhoods.

Thanks

Please compromise on Lake Washington Blvd. Either widen the side strips to accommodate waters, bicyclists or expand Bicycle weekends to every weekend but keep both car traffic and other uses.

Please define local access and where the healthy street begins and ends.

Thanks,

What a great idea! But the planning & poor implementation is going to doom the pilot closure of LWB for failure- today is the start of the pilot closure & the road is full of cars & there is no signage up to inform drivers of the closure.

This is a great opportunity to allow bikers & walkers to use the road during phase 2 & 3- the car should not be prioritized over allowing people to get outside and get exercise while maintaining physical distancing from others.

Please fix the signage, at a minimum, and ensure that this pilot has a chance to function as intended.

It's called "Lake Wa Blvd", not "Lake Wa Park" .. (like "Seward Park") for example. It's already closed on certain weekends to motor traffic. Expanding the number of those weekends seems reasonable especially during nice weather. Full time, not so much. PS. I really like the safe streets program as well .. designated residential side streets for bike and foot traffic is great. Lake Wa BLVD is a BLVD, not a residential side street.

You should have do with for 5 days that included July 4th.

How will you monitor use, compliance and impact on the neighborhood?

Bicycle Sundays and Saturdays are great. But you have just made up my mind about whether, as a southerner, I can enroll at Gage Fine Arts Academy (north capitol hill) in the fall. Last year, the lake is what made it possible for me. So, if you take away this route, I will not be going to Gage. Freeway takes well over an hour at rush hour. Bus takes 1-2 transfers and closer to 2 hours with a lot of walking (I tried it once). You have already made MLK and Rainier impossible. The lake has been the only remaining way for me to travel n/s at rush hour and maintain my sanity. Plus it gave me some respite too.

Hi there,

I saw your post on facebook, and would like to say I think it's great to try this out!

I live right at the corner of shoreland dr s and lake park dr s, so at the northern edge.

Walking without coming too close to people has indeed been a challenge. Being able to walk on the road will solve that for sure.

One piece of advice/ idea I have to offer is about the ADA logo right at shoreland. I just wanted to let you know that the parking fills up quickly there, and there is currently no handicap only parking.

Maybe it would be an idea to make some spots for handicapped parking?

6/25 is Thursday btw, not Friday - which is the start date?

regards,

Hi,

As a resident of Lakewood I live 2 blocks from Lake Washington Blvd. Since shelter in place my family has avoided Lake Washington Blvd for the most part when walking our dog or going for a run, as it has attracted more people than usual. It tends to be very crowded especially on weekends, and many people do not follow the advice of continuous movement. Some don't wear masks and it is very difficult to maintain 6 feet of separation. While I miss bicycle Sunday, I am nervous that closure of the Blvd would attract even more people to our neighborhood, exacerbating these issues. Parking is also proving more difficult.

If the closure were to be permanent through the summer, would there be some presence enforcing some regulations, keeping it safe for everyone? It's a beautiful area and the closure would allow people to enjoy it which is great, but as I've seen thus far without anyone enforcing some basic regulations it becomes overcrowded and lax in the way of social distancing.

Thank you,

In response to the idea that Lake Washington Blvd should be turned into a safer street:

I am a lifelong resident of Seward Park who has enjoyed my fair share of Bicycle Sundays, but also been trapped behind cyclists on that route for miles when there's no safe way to pass. Lake Washington Blvd is in need of a compromise: bike lanes. There is a lot of space for bike lanes on the water, and there is enough local traffic that those miles of road will never truly be car-free. Why not do the sensible, logical thing?