

Seattle Parks and Recreation
Seattle Department of Transportation

Lake Washington Boulevard Renovations Project



PROJECT OUTREACH SUMMARY
FINAL DESIGN
August 2024

PROJECT OVERVIEW



After inclusive outreach with the community, Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) is installing improvements to Lake Washington Boulevard from Mount Baker Beach to Seward Park in collaboration with the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT). Informed by the SDOT-led Lake Washington Boulevard Visioning Process, the purpose of this project is to improve safety for people walking, biking, and driving, and create better connections to the community destinations along the lakeshore.

The Lake Washington Boulevard Renovations Project will improve conditions for all street users through strategic intersection safety enhancements and physical traffic calming measures to deter excessive vehicle speeds.

Project elements include:

- New marked crossings focused at improving access to park amenities
- Speed cushions to engineer the boulevard to the signed 25 mph speed limit
- Horizontal safety treatments along curved portions of the route
- New bench infrastructure in bench gap areas
- Intersection redesigns at strategic locations



OUTREACH SUMMARY



SPR's outreach and engagement for the Lake Washington Boulevard Renovations Project expanded on the previous engagement efforts led by SDOT and the Lake WA Boulevard Community Taskforce as a part of the Visioning Process. Through a combination of hosting in-person drop-in sessions, pop-up outreach events, virtual stakeholder meetings and attending pre-standing community gatherings, meetings and events, the project's public involvement efforts sought to include all users of Lake Washington Boulevard.

Based on feedback we received from the community, we designed the project's outreach to promote a more representative public participation process and to better engage historically under-represented members of the community, including young people, individuals who can speak to the needs of community members with impaired mobility, and Seattle's Black/African American communities.



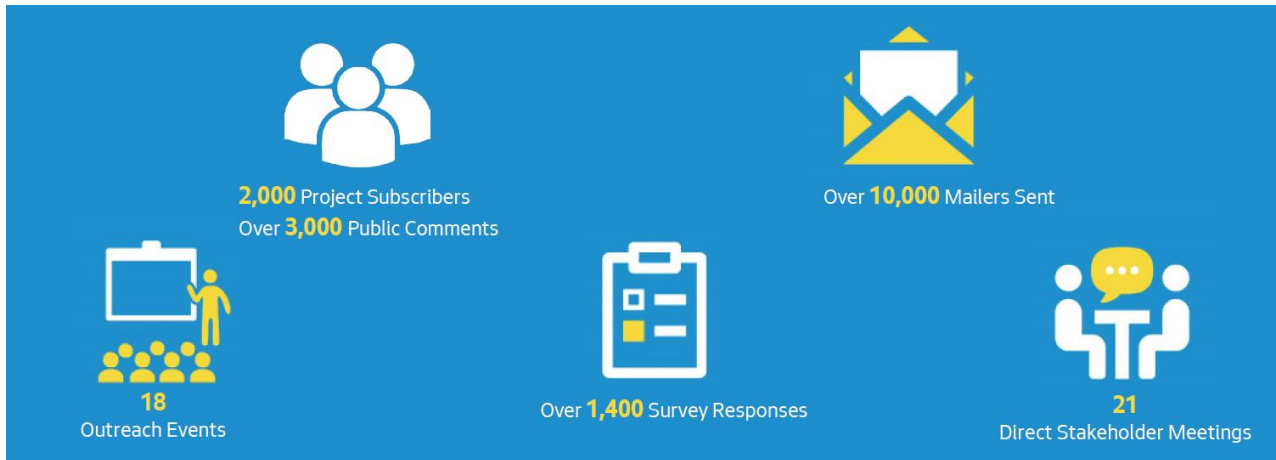
Our outreach approach used a mix of translated online and in-person communication tools to create accessible and transparent communications with the public and included mailed materials, flyers and A-frame signs along the corridor, online interactive feedback project map, project materials at community centers and hubs, and a survey that was available online and at in-person engagement events.

The table below summarizes the outreach for the Lake Washington Boulevard Renovations Project: [\(Page 1 of 2\)](#)

WHEN	WHAT	DETAILS
July 5, 2023	Project postcard	Postcard mailed to homes within ½ mile mailing boundary (>5,000 residences) advertising upcoming outreach opportunities.
July 12, 2023	Project posters and flyers	Posters and flyers posted along project corridor and in local businesses and community centers/hubs advertising upcoming outreach opportunities.
July 14 - September 30, 2023	Interactive Virtual Project Map	Community discourse forum hosted on the Engagement Hub for Lake Washington Boulevard providing the public the opportunity to share their user experience of the corridor and to identify desired improvements.
July 16, 2023	Pop-Up Outreach #1 at Seward Park	In-person event for public to stop by and learn about the project. (Hosted during Bicycle Weekend "No Thru Traffic" closure.)
July 21, 2023	Columbia City Farmer's Market	Pre-standing community gathering to provide information about the project and gather community feedback.
July 23, 2023	Pop-Up Outreach #2 at Seward Park	In-person event for public to stop by and learn about the project. (Hosted when the boulevard is open to vehicle traffic.)
August 5, 2023	Umoja Fest - Judkins Park	Pre-standing community gathering with Seattle's Black/African American community to provide information about the project and gather feedback.
August 13, 2023	Othello Park International Festival	Pre-standing community gathering to provide information about the project and gather community feedback.
August 16, 2023	Columbia City Farmer's Market	Pre-standing community gathering to provide information about the project and gather community feedback.
August 19, 2023	Big Day of Play	Pre-standing community gathering to provide information about the project and gather community feedback.
August 26, 2023	Rainier Beach Back 2 School Bash	Pre-standing community gathering to provide information about the project and gather community feedback.
September 2, 2023	Pop-Up Outreach #3 at Stan Sayres Boat Launch	In-person event for public to stop by and learn about the project. (Hosted during Bicycle Weekend "No Thru Traffic" closure.)

September 18, 2023	Mount Baker Community Club Meeting	Pre-standing community meeting to provide an update on the project and to provide the community the opportunity to voice their questions and concerns.
December 9, 2023	Columbia City Winter Farmer's Market	Pre-standing community gathering to provide an update on the project.
December 16, 2023	Columbia City Night Market	Pre-standing community gathering to provide an update on the project.
March 19, 2024	Project postcard	Postcard mailed to homes within ½ mile mailing boundary (>5,000 residences) advertising Design Concepts, survey, and upcoming outreach opportunities.
March 25, 2024	Project posters and flyers	Posters and flyers posted along project corridor and in local businesses and community centers/hubs advertising Design Concepts, survey, and upcoming outreach opportunities.
March 25 - May 19, 2024	Survey (Online and in-person at outreach events)	Opportunity for the public to provide feedback on the Design Concepts.
April 1, 2024	Mount Baker Community Club Meeting	Pre-standing community meeting to provide an update on the project, share the proposed Design Concepts, and to provide the community the opportunity to share their feedback, questions, and concerns,
April 3, 2024	Leschi Community Council Meeting	Pre-standing community meeting to provide an update on the project, share the proposed Design Concepts, and to provide the community the opportunity to share their feedback, questions, and concerns,
May 4, 2024	Drop-in Open House - Seward Park Audubon Center	In-person event for public to stop by and learn more about the project, ask questions, and share their feedback on the proposed Design Concepts.
May 14, 2024	Lakewood Seward Park Neighborhood Association Meeting	Pre-standing community meeting to provide an update on the project, share the proposed Design Concepts, and to provide the community the opportunity to share their feedback, questions, and concerns.
May 19, 2024	Urban League "Hope, Health, and Healing" Event at Jefferson Community Center	Community event focused on Seattle's Black/African American community. Project team shared the proposed Design Concepts for the community to provide feedback on.

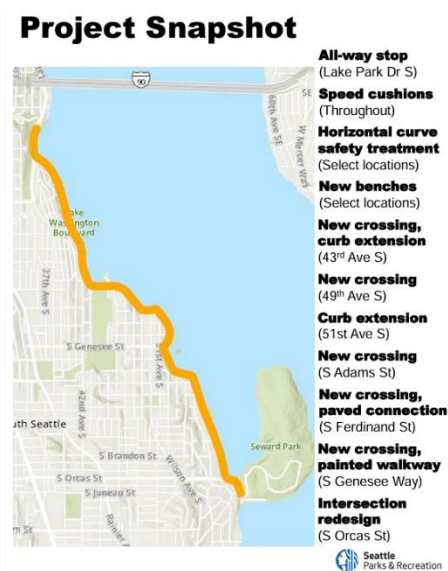
OUTREACH SNAPSHOT – Lake Washington Boulevard Renovations



In summary, our project team attended 18 outreach events and over 20 meetings with direct stakeholders. Over 10,000 mailers were sent to residences along the corridor. Through a combination of in-person and online community feedback channels, the project received over 3,000 public comments and 2,000 project subscribers. The Design Concepts Survey was live from March 25 – May 19, 2024, and received over 1,400 responses.

SURVEY SUMMARY

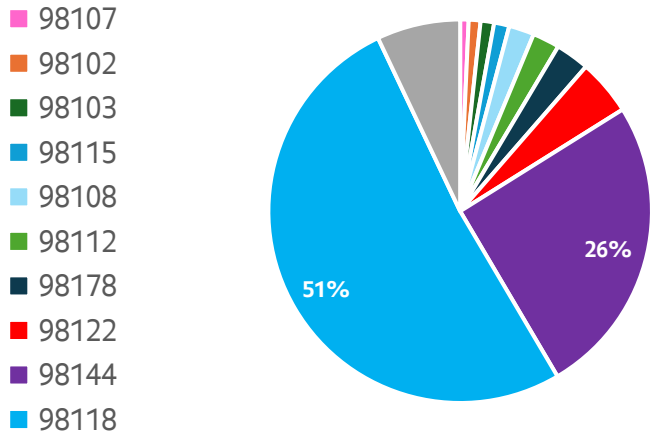
We invited the survey respondents to share their thoughts about the proposed improvements for the corridor. The Design Concepts survey was promoted on the project webpage, SPR social media, Parkways blog post, media press release, postcards, posters, flyers, A-frame signs, and through a month-long advertisement with the South Seattle Emerald. The "Project Snapshot" below on this page displays the project elements proposed during this phase. Our survey solicited feedback on the following proposed project elements to enhance safety and improve access on Lake Washington Boulevard from Mount Baker Beach to Seward Park:



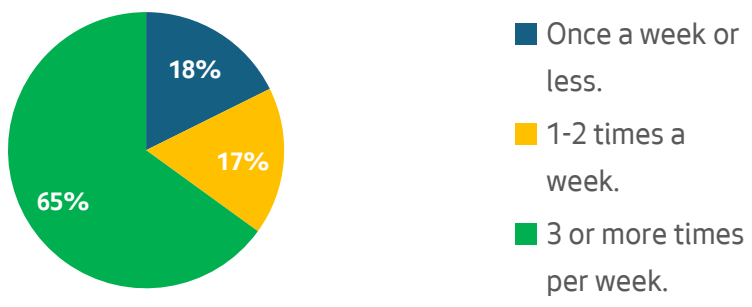
- **Speed reduction** along the corridor to lower vehicle speeds to the posted 25 mph speed limit
- **New marked crossings** at the intersections of 43rd Ave S, 49th Ave S, S Adams St, S Ferdinand St, and S Genesee Way
- Proposed **speed cushion placement strategy** focused at new marked pedestrian crossings
- **Proposed all-way stop** at Lake Park Dr S
- **Intersection redesigns** at 43rd Ave S, 51st Ave S, and S Orcas St

WHO WERE THE RESPONDENTS?

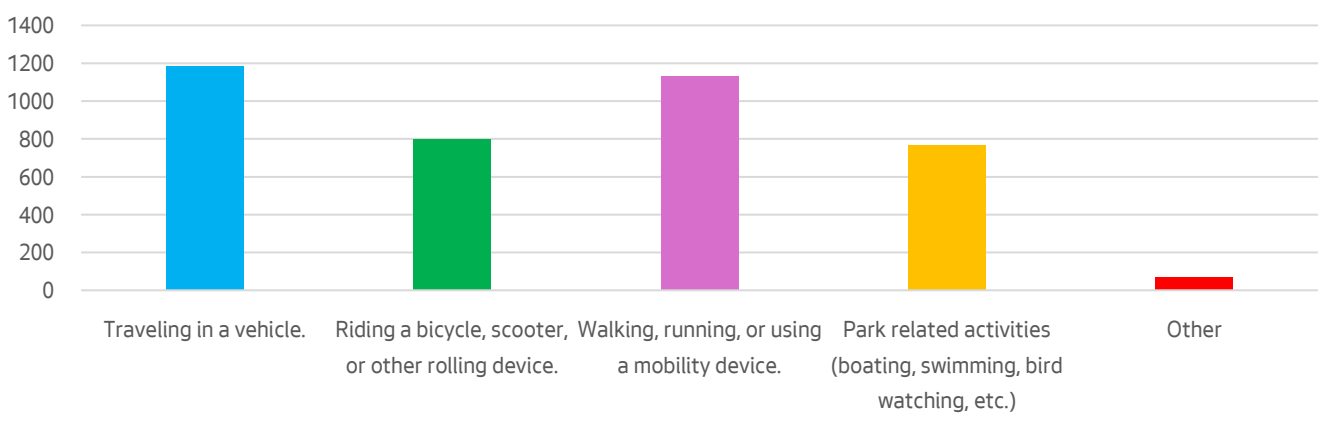
Survey Q1: What zip code do you live in?



Survey Q2: How often do you visit and/or travel on Lake Washington Boulevard?



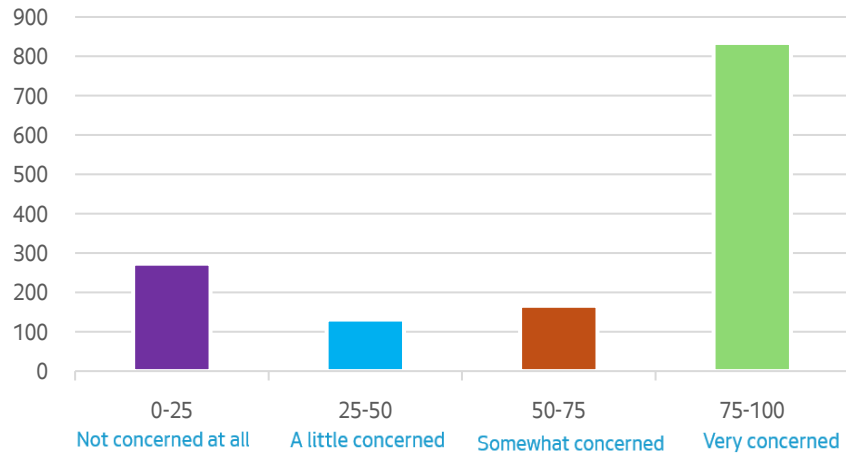
Survey Q3: Applicable activities/modes of travel you partake in on Lake Washington Boulevard:



WHAT WE HEARD

Speed Reduction

Survey Q4: The average person driving on Lake Washington Boulevard drives ~10 miles over the 25 mph speed limit. Are you concerned about traffic safety on Lake Washington Boulevard?





For this project element, we are proposing:

- 10 speed cushions on both approaches to new marked crossings
 - 43rd Ave S
 - 49th Ave S
 - S Adams St
 - S Ferdinand St
 - S Genesee Way

Speed Cushion Placement Strategy

Survey Q5: The project proposes to add speed cushions to the north and south approaches of new marked crossings. On a scale of 1-5, how effective do you feel this proposed treatment will be?

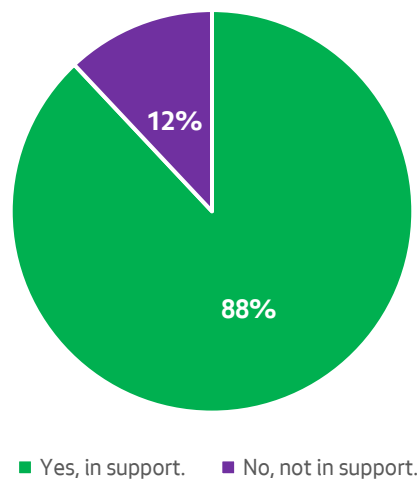
All survey respondents (1,353 respondents)	<p>3.4★ average rating</p> 
Survey respondents concerned about traffic safety (Answered >70/100 on Survey Q4, 842 respondents)	<p>4.0★ average rating</p> 

New Marked Crossings

We are proposing new marked crossings at 5 intersections along the corridor:

- **43rd Ave S** – Connection between Genesee Park and Mount Baker Rowing Center/Stan Sayres Boat Launch
- **49th Ave S** – Improves connection to lakeshore access
- **S Adams St** – Enhances connection to Adams Boat Ramp
- **S Ferdinand St** – Enhances connection to Ferdinand Street Boat Launch
- **S Genesee Way** – Improves connection to Lakewood Marina and Lake Washington Boulevard Park.

Survey Q6: The project proposes to add crossing enhancements at locations of park amenities along Lake Washington Boulevard. Do you agree with this proposal?





Common comments/concerns to these proposed changes include:

- Request for addition locations for crossing enhancements, primarily S Dawson St and S Horton St
- Interest in raised crosswalks and/or raised intersections
- Interest in pedestrian activated crossing flashing, or rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs)
- Concerns about crossing the street with the current excessive vehicle speeds

Proposed All-Way Stop (Lake Park Dr S)

To improve crossing compliance and predictability at the intersection of Lake Washington Boulevard and Lake Park Drive S at Mount Baker Beach, we are proposing the addition of stop signs for northbound and southbound traffic on Lake Washington Boulevard, making the intersection an All-Way Stop.

Survey Q7: To improve crossing compliance and to enhance safety, the project proposes to add stop signs on Lake Washington Boulevard at Lake Park Drive S, making this intersection an All-Way-Stop. How effective do you think this proposed improvement will be?

All survey respondents (1,353 respondents)	3.5★ average rating 
Survey respondents concerned about traffic safety (Answered >70/100 on Survey Q4, 842 respondents)	4.0★ average rating 

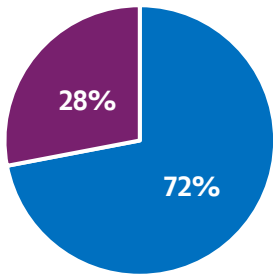
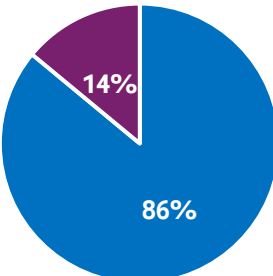
Common comments/concerns to these proposed changes include:

- Concern about potential back-ups/traffic congestion on Lake Washington Boulevard
- Concern about potential exhaust fumes disrupting recreation activity at Mount Baker Beach
- Interest in raised crosswalks and/or raised intersection
- Interest in pedestrian activated crossing flashing, or rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs)

Intersection Redesigns

We are proposing paint-and-post curb extensions at the intersections of **43rd Ave S** and **51st Ave S** to visually narrow the offset roadway to encourage slower vehicle speeds, calm vehicle turns, and enhance crossing safety.

Survey Q8: The intersections at 43rd Ave S and at 51st Ave S are wide and offset. The proposed designs narrow the intersection with paint-and-post curb bulbs to calm traffic and decrease crossing distance. Do you agree with this proposal?

<p>All survey respondents (1,343 respondents)</p>	 <p>■ Yes, in support. ■ No, not in support.</p>
<p>Survey respondents concerned about traffic safety (Answered >70/100 on Survey Q4, 834 respondents)</p>	 <p>■ Yes, in support. ■ No, not in support.</p>



Common comments/concerns to these proposed changes include:

- Concern that the curb extensions could provide a "pinch point" for turning cyclists
- Concern that paint and temporary/flexible materials will not provide adequate protection
- Interest in concrete and other physical material options
- Concern about potential visual clutter and negative impact on park boulevard aesthetic

S Orcas St - Intersection Redesign

We are proposing simplifying the intersection by making both approaches of S Orcas St one-lane. Paint-and-post curb and island extensions will decrease pedestrian crossing distance, calm vehicle turning speeds, and reduce merging conflicts.

Survey Q9: The intersection at S Orcas St is wide and requires traffic to merge. The project proposes to simplify the intersection by making S Orcas St two-lanes (one eastbound lane and one westbound lane). On a scale of 1-5, how effective do you think this proposed improvement will be?

All survey respondents (1,340 respondents)	3.4★ average rating 
Survey respondents concerned about traffic safety (Answered >70/100 on Survey Q4, 832 respondents)	3.8★ average rating 

Common comments/concerns to these proposed changes include:

- Concern that larger vehicles will not be able to make a left turn onto Lake Washington Boulevard
- Concern that paint and temporary/flexible materials will not provide adequate protection
- Interest in de-paving and/or expanding the existing triangle island
- Concern around potential impacts to park boulevard aesthetic
- Interest in concrete and other physical material options

FINAL DESIGN - Project Snapshot



Project Updates:

Based on community feedback, we made the following changes to the project design:

- **Refined approach to the Lake Park Dr S intersection**

SDOT made the decision to take an incremental approach at this location to improve the safety and experience for all people who use this intersection.

- SDOT will install speed cushions on both approaches to the intersection to reduce speeding on Lake Washington Boulevard.
- SDOT will install high visibility, double-sided crosswalk signs on Lake Washington Boulevard on each approach to the crosswalks.
- SDOT will look at stop compliance before and after the implementation of speed cushions and new signage, and consider additional treatments as needed in future work efforts.

- **Intersection improvements at the 45th/46th Ave S intersection**

The crossing at this intersection is a vital connection between Genesee Park and Mount Baker Rowing and Sailing Center/Stan Sayres Memorial Boat Launch. After reviewing the corridor further, SDOT identified additional improvements to improve safety by squaring up the intersection at 46th Ave S. SDOT will install a combination of painted curb extensions and reflective pavement markings to safely align the intersection and decrease pedestrian crossing distance.

- **New marked pedestrian crossing at the S Dawson St intersection**

Community feedback indicated that S Dawson St is a preferred crossing location to reach destinations along the southern portion of Lake Washington Boulevard. We will be adding two painted crosswalks and pedestrian crossing advisory signage to this intersection to further designate S Dawson St as a pedestrian crossing location.

Our project team explored the potential addition of crossing enhancements for the S Horton St intersection. Due to the lack of pedestrian facilities on S Horton St, adding a marked crossing was deemed infeasible at this location. Crossing improvements at S Horton St will require enhancements outside the scope of this project and will be considered for future phases of improvements. This project will now be installing speed cushions on both approaches to this intersection to further calm traffic.

(Continued on next page)

- **14 additional speed cushions along the corridor**

We heard from the community the desire for additional traffic calming measures throughout the full length of the corridor, specifically, community feedback identified the desire for additional speed cushions to address speeding along the straight portions of the boulevard, in the northernmost mile and the stretch between S Ferdinand St and S Orcas St.

Thanks to Complete Streets Grant funding awarded to the project by the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board, we can include 12 additional speed cushions to address the full length of the corridor.

The project will now be installing speed cushions to the following additional locations:

- On both approaches to the intersection at Lake Park Dr S (2 speed cushions)
- North Mile, near the Lake Washington Fishing Pier (2 speed cushions)
- On both approaches to the intersection at S Horton St (2 speed cushions)
- On both approaches to the intersection at 46th Ave S (2 speed cushions)
- North and south of the curve between 50th Ave S and 51st Ave S (2 speed cushions)
- North and south of the curve between 53rd Ave S and S Alaska St (2 speed cushions)
- On both approaches to the new marked crossing at S Dawson St (2 speed cushions)

The project will be installing 24 total speed cushions.

FINAL DESIGN SUMMARY:



Project Elements:

Traffic Calming - 24 speed cushions

(Lake Park Dr, Lake WA Fishing Pier, S Horton St, 43rd Ave S, 46th Ave S, 49th Ave S, curve between 50th Ave S - 51st Ave S, S Adams St, S Genesee Way, curve between 53rd Ave S - S Alaska St, S Ferdinand St, S Dawson St)

Horizontal Curve Safety Treatment

Boulders and tree replanting along curves (50th Ave S - 51st Ave S and 53rd Ave S - S Alaska St.)

Intersection Redesigns

- 43rd Ave S
 - Paint-and-post curb extensions
- 46th Ave S
 - Curb extensions with paint and reflective pavement markings
- 51st Ave S
 - Paint-and-post curb extensions
- S Orcas St
 - One-way conversion, paint-and-post curb extensions)

New Marked Pedestrian Crossing

(43RD Ave S, 49th Ave S, S Adams St, S Genesee Way, S Ferdinand St, S Dawson St)

Additional Bench Infrastructure

(North Mile)

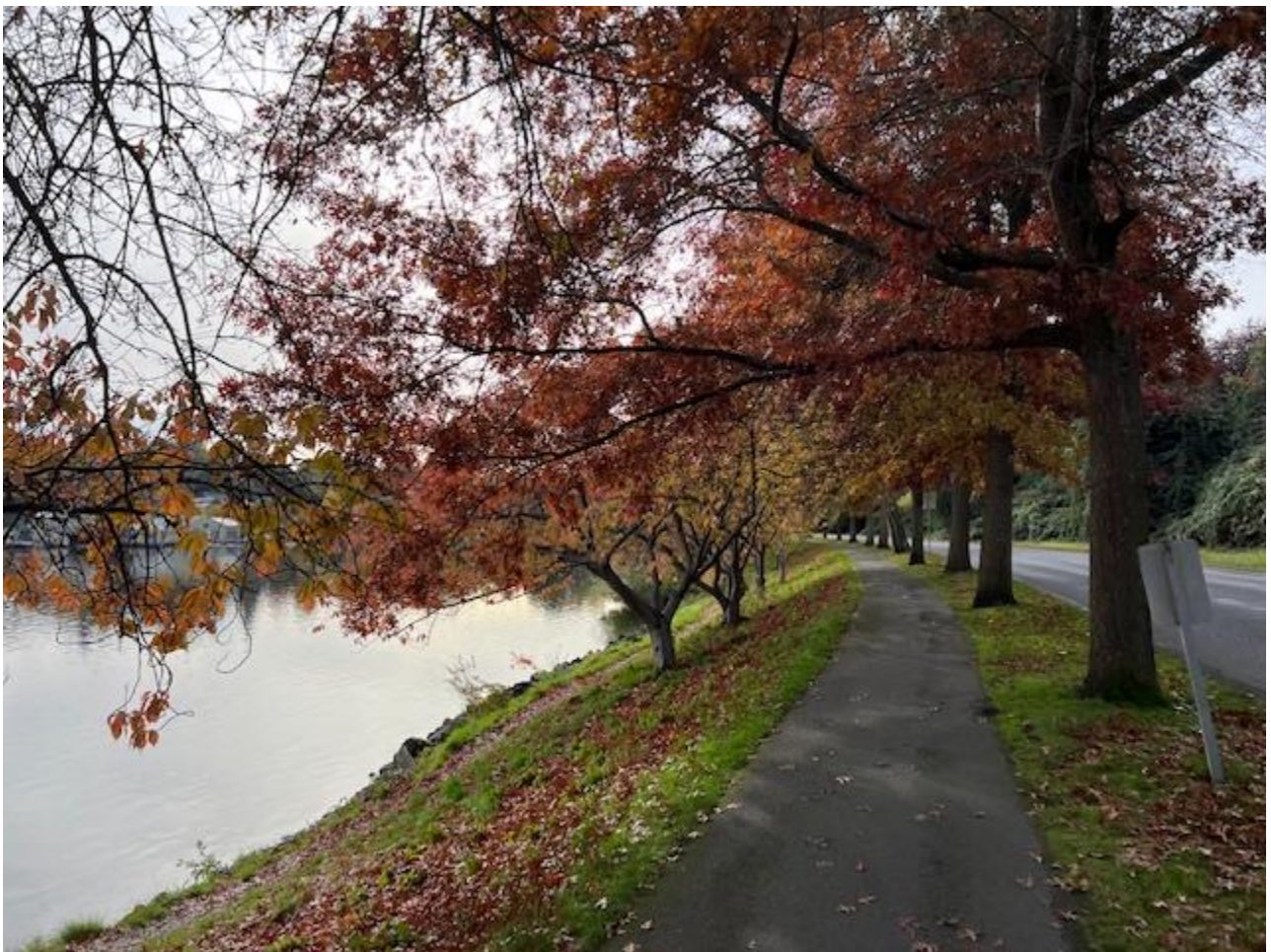
Community donation opportunities will be announced in 2025.

NEXT STEPS

Thanks to the funds awarded by the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board (TIB)'s Complete Streets Grant, we will be installing the first set of improvements as soon as this Fall 2024. This work will be focused on the marked pedestrian crossings and speed cushion locations proposed in the project's previous outreach phase. See the next page for the Anticipated Construction Schedule (Fall 2024 - Summer 2025).

For the latest project updates, please visit the **Engagement Hub for Lake Washington Boulevard**:

<https://engage.seattleparksandrec.com/en/projects/lake-washington-boulevard>



Anticipated Construction Schedule

Fall 2024:

- 43rd Ave S
 - o Marked pedestrian crossing
 - o 2 speed cushions (both approaches to intersection)
 - o Intersection redesign (paint-and-post curb extensions)
- 46th Ave S
 - o Painted curb extensions
 - o 2 speed cushions (both approaches to intersection)
- 49th Ave S
 - o Marked pedestrian crossing
 - o 2 speed cushions (both approaches to intersection)
- Curve between 50th Ave S and 51st Ave S
 - o Tree planting to replace missing trees
 - o Horizontal curve safety treatment (boulders between trees)
- S Adams St
 - o Marked pedestrian crossing
 - o 2 speed cushions (both approaches to intersection)
- S Genesee Way
 - o Marked pedestrian crossing
 - o Painted walkway connection through parking lot
 - o Bike corral
 - o 2 speed cushions (both approaches to intersection)
- Curve between 53rd Ave S and S Alaska St
 - o Tree planting to replace missing trees
 - o Horizontal curve safety treatment (boulders between trees)
- S Ferdinand St
 - o Marked pedestrian crossing (north leg)
 - o 2 speed cushions (both approaches to intersection)

Spring/Summer 2025:

- Lake WA Boulevard Pathway (Mount Baker Beach to Genesee Park)
 - o Asphalt pavement repairs to address tripping hazards caused by tree roots.
- Lake Park Dr S
 - o 2 speed cushions (both approaches to intersection)
 - o Updated reflective crosswalk signage
 - o Boulders between trees (illegal parking deterrent)
- Lake Washington Fishing Pier (North mile)
 - o Community bench donations*
 - o 2 speed cushions
- S Horton St
 - o 2 speed cushions (both approaches to intersection)
- Curve between 50th Ave S and 51st Ave S
 - o 2 speed cushions (both approaches to the curve)
- 51st Ave S
 - o Paint and post curb extensions
- S Adams St
 - o Paved walkway connection to Lake Washington Boulevard Pathway
- Curve between 53rd Ave S and S Alaska St
 - o 2 speed cushions (both approaches to curve)
- S Dawson St
 - o Marked pedestrian crossing
 - o 2 speed cushions (both approaches to intersection)
- S Orcas St
 - o Intersection redesign (paint-and-post curb/island extensions, one-way conversion)