Highland Park Way SW and SW Holden St Safety Project

Vision Zero Project

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May 2020

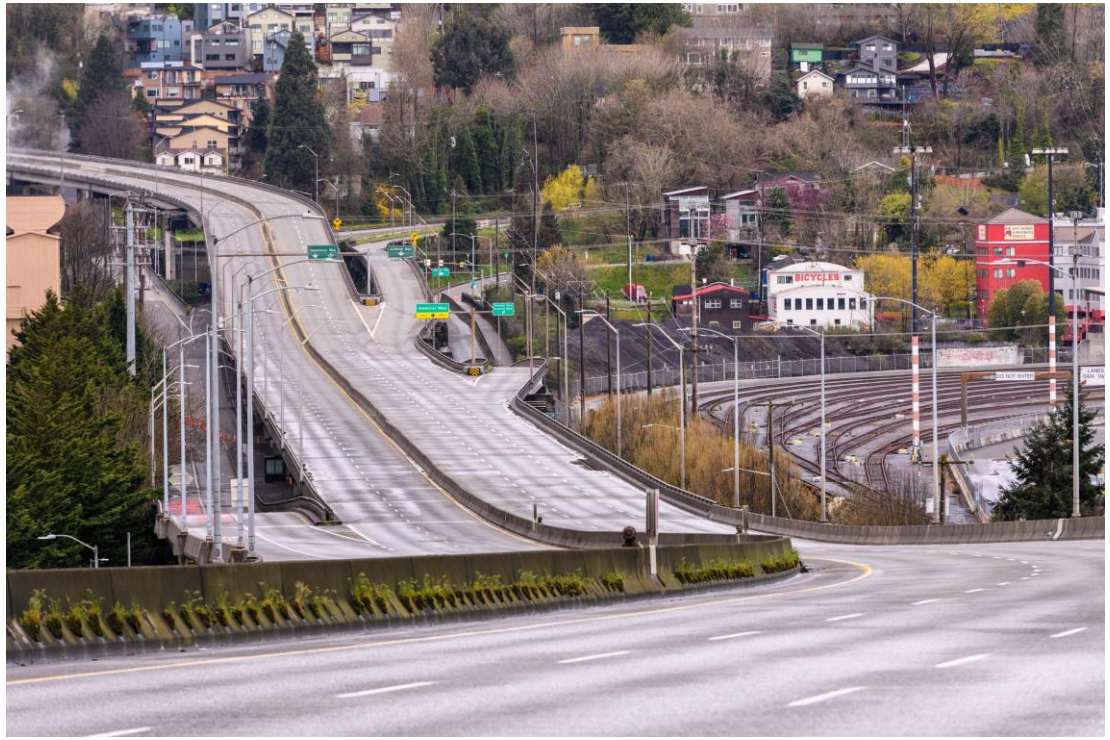
City of Seattle

Presentation overview

- Background
- Existing conditions
- Proposed changes
- Next steps

West Seattle High-Rise Bridge Closure

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



Project goals

- Improve safety for **ALL**
- Identify neighborhood traffic issues
- Make traffic signal at Highland/Holden **permanent** with new curbs and sidewalks
- Provide bicycle facility between Duwamish Trail and Highland Park
- Opportunities for public input

Background

- Major route into/out of West Seattle
- +20,000 people walking/rolling, biking, and driving through intersection every day
- Sightline issues (11% grade)
- Serves Metro route #131
- Multi-use path east side of Highland Park Way SW
- Funded by Mercer Megablock proceeds and Move Seattle

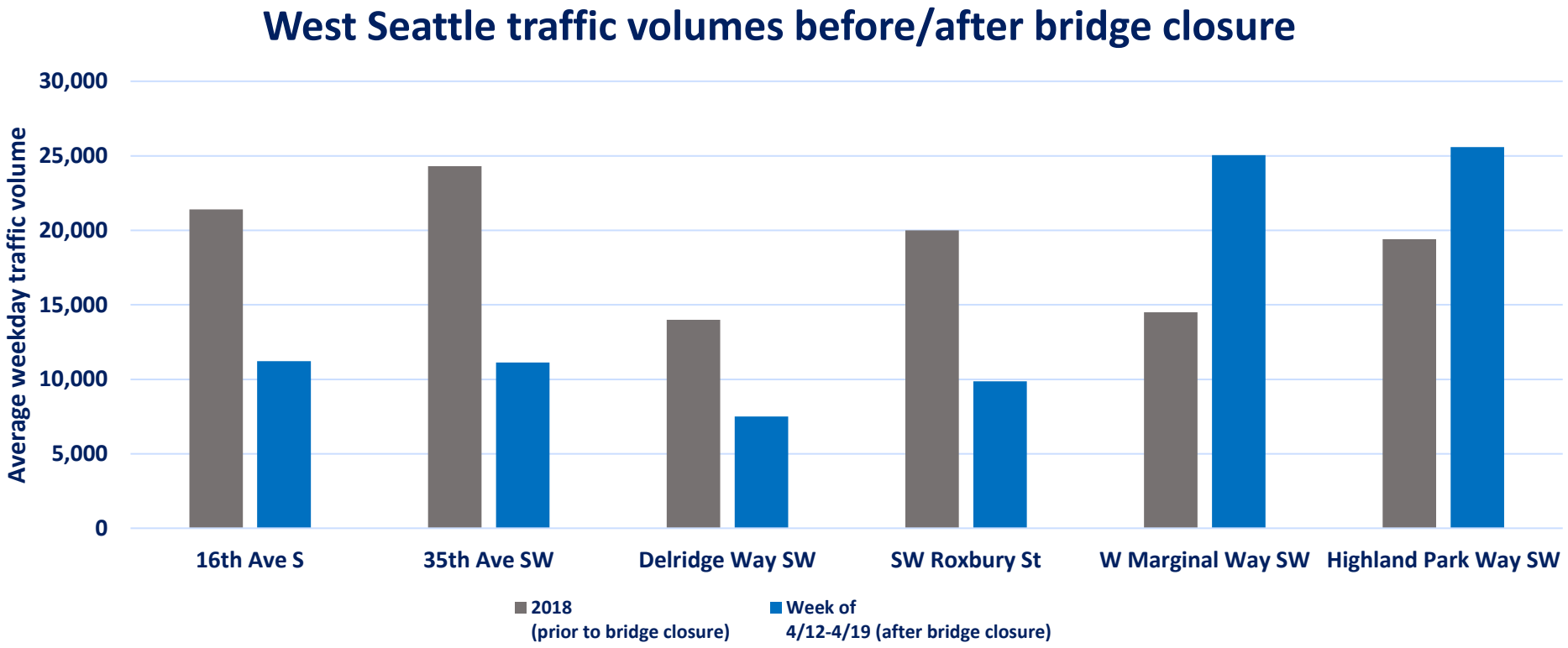
Temporary traffic signal at Highland/Holden installed April 2020

Crashes

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

Traffic volumes

Traffic volumes along Highland Park Way SW and W Marginal Way SW have increased since bridge closure



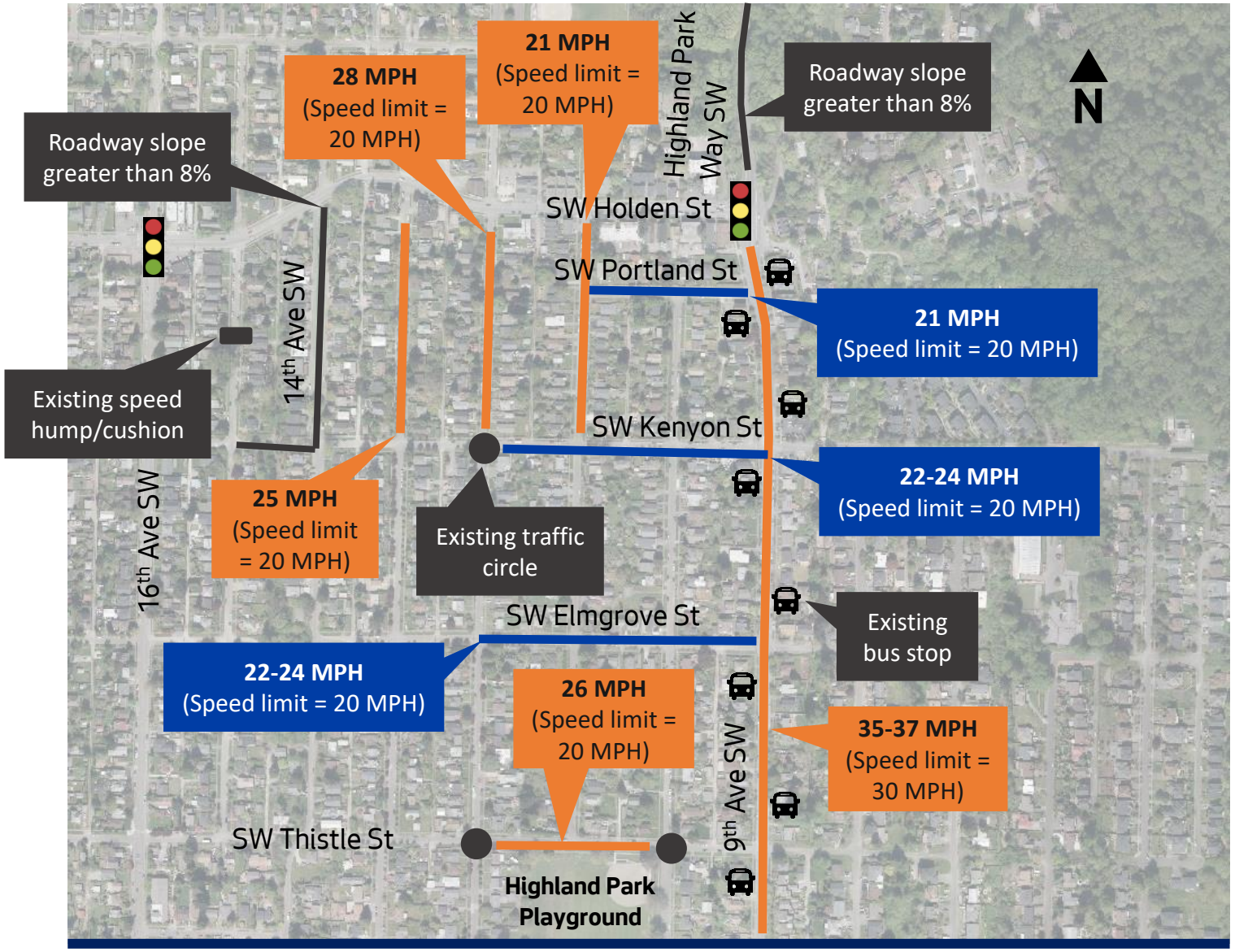
Speeds

- Recent speed studies were collected December 2019
- Speed cushions/humps can reduce vehicular speeds
  - May impact emergency response
  - May increase noise levels
  - Not installed where roadway slope is greater than 8%
  - Typically installed where vehicular speeds are +5 mph over speed limit

Speed cushions near 16th Ave SW/SW Myrtle St for Sanislo Elementary School ("Your Voice, Your Choice" and Safe Routes to School)

Speeds

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

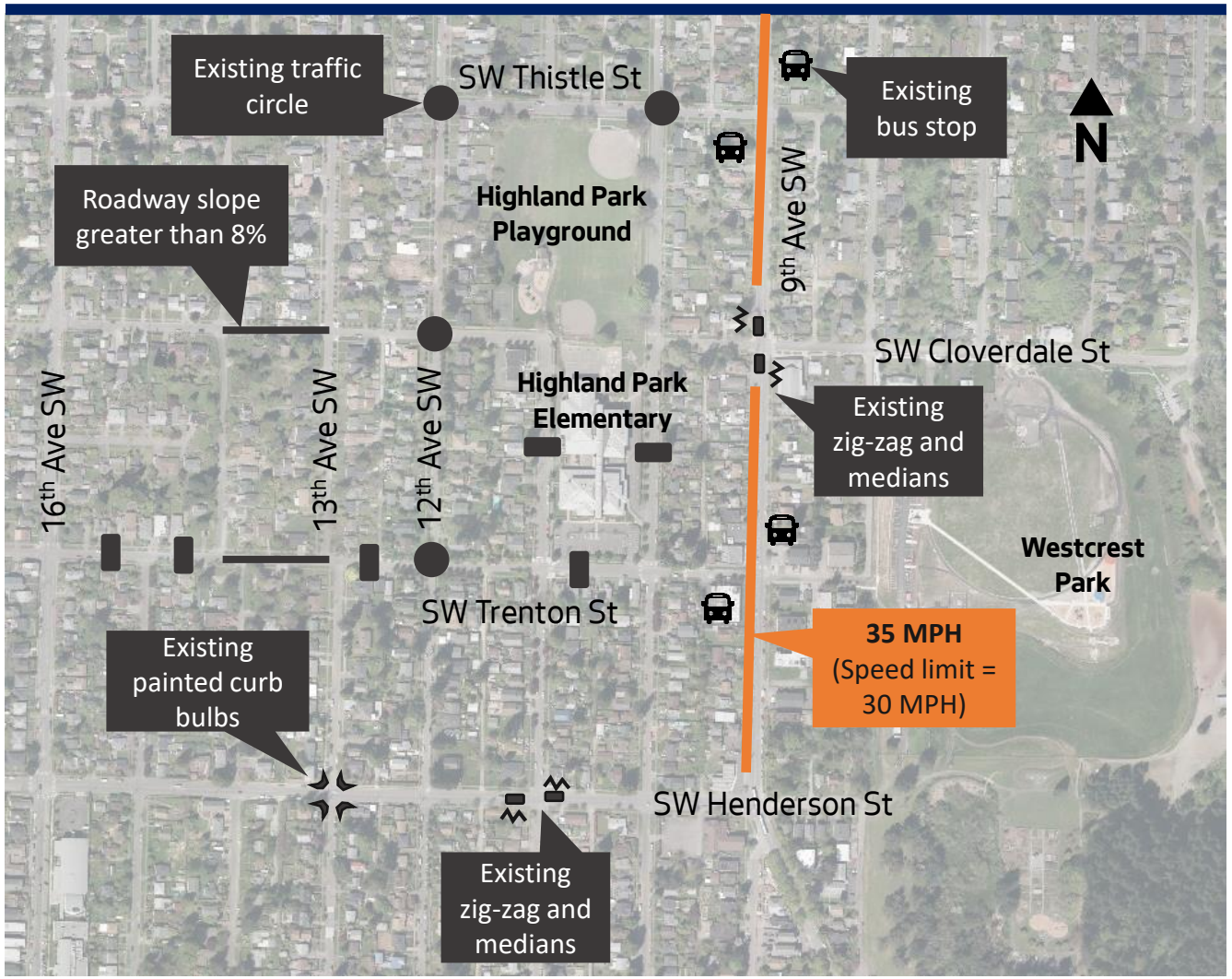


See next slide for Highland Park south

Speeds

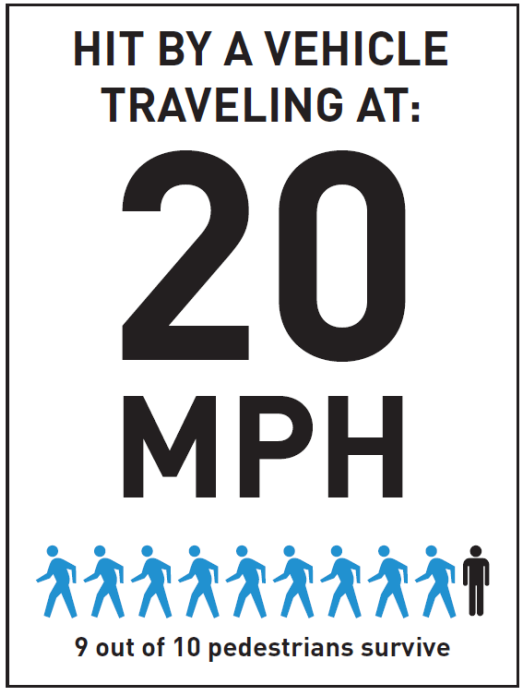
- Many traffic calming measures have been installed by Safe Routes to School and Neighborhood Greenways
- Greenways evaluating for additional traffic calming in this area
- Vehicles are traveling +5 mph over speed limit for segments shown in **orange** - **will be evaluated for speed hump/cushions**

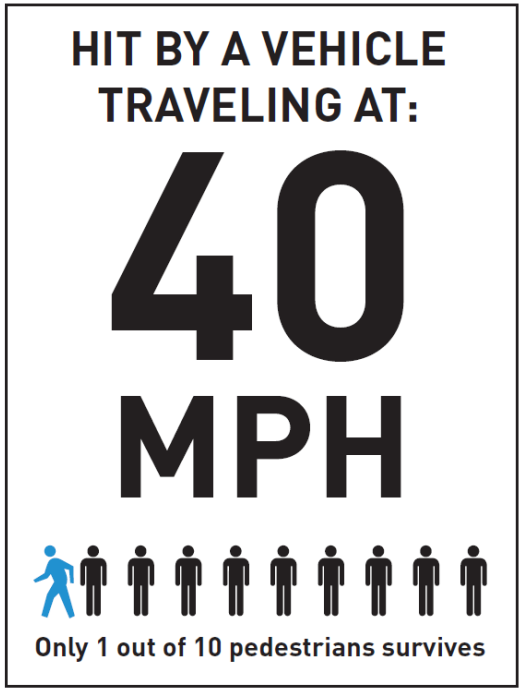
See previous slide for Highland Park north



Why speed matters?

- Speed is *the* critical factor in the frequency and severity of a crash
- Key part of Vision Zero's efforts





What we've heard

- Install a traffic signal or roundabout
- Neighborhood cut-through traffic
- Crossing improvements along 9th Ave SW
- Provide left-turn signal phasing at 16th Ave SW & Holden and Highland & Holden
- Increased pavement friction uphill on Highland Park Way SW
- Bike facility between Duwamish Trail and Highland Park neighborhood

Highland Park Way SW looking south

Short-term improvements

- Temporary traffic signal (completed April 2020)
- Left-turn lanes at 16th/Holden
- Traffic calming elements (Phase 1) being designed:
  - Reduce speed limit to **25 MPH**
  - Parking lane lines and painted curb bulbs along 9th Ave SW
  - Speed humps/cushions
  - Radar speed signs

Zig zag treatment at 9th Ave SW & SW Cloverdale St

Proposed improvements

- Permanent traffic signal at Highland/Holden with left-turn phasing
- Concrete curb bulbs and sidewalks
- Widening existing path on east side of Highland Park Way SW
- *Southbound protected bike lane (re-evaluate when traffic volumes normalize)**
- *Neighborhood traffic calming (Phase 2)**

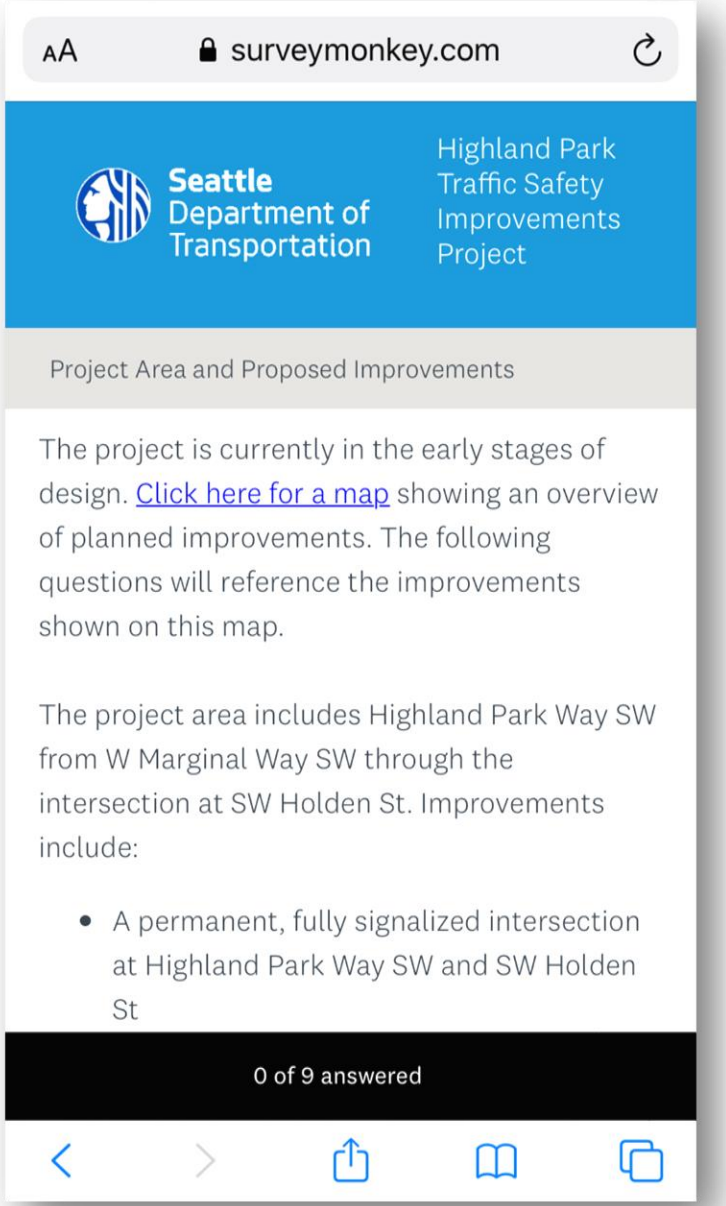
* Evaluated as more data is being collected

Please take our survey!

www.surveymonkey.com/r/highlandholden

Translation services available (206) 727-8697

Provide input by **May 31st**



Next steps

What is happening	When
Issues identification meeting	May 2020
Design update and review meeting	Fall 2020
Implement neighborhood traffic calming	Q4 2020
Construction	Q4 2021
Evaluation	Ongoing

Questions?

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www.seattle.gov/transportation/HighlandParkSafetyImprovements