

SECOND PHASE: Traffic Improvement project to reduce vehicle speeds

As mentioned, we are starting a neighborhood traffic improvement project to help reduce vehicle speeds along 123rd Avenue SE. This project will coordinate with the forthcoming neighborhood sidewalk that will be built on the east side of 123rd Avenue SE by year-end 2014.

This project will require significant community involvement. While no plans are currently developed to build specific physical measures to address vehicle speeds, possible improvements could include speed humps, medians, chicanes/slow points, speed cushions, or speed dots. More information about these measures can be found in the *Residential Traffic Guidebook*, referenced below.

As this project moves forward, we will work with the neighborhood association and residents to ensure that any proposed solution meets the needs of the neighborhood.

My Action Plan for 123rd Ave SE and 123rd Pl SE

Are you feeling inspired to take action to address the traffic concerns on 123rd Ave SE? Here is a checklist to help you get started:

☐	Talk to my neighbors and share the City's findings and recommendations	Notes:
☐	List interested neighbors who want to help me with efforts:	
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
☐	Decide the educational programs we want to participate in:	
☐	Neighborhood Speed Watch	_____
☐	Radar Dolly	_____
☐	Sign and Pledge Program	_____
☐	Contact City staff to set-up a training session and get materials	_____
☐	Request Police enforcement	_____

More info

Find out more about these recommendations in our **Residential Traffic Guidebook** or by logging on to **Streets are for Everyone (SAFE)**—Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services' blog.

Blog: <http://bellevuentss.wordpress.com>

Guidebook: http://www.bellevuewa.gov/pdf/Transportation/Guidebook_Web.pdf

**TRAFFIC ACTION PLAN**

**BELLEVUE
 NEIGHBORHOOD
 TRAFFIC
 SAFETY
 SERVICES**

2012-017 123rd Avenue SE and 123rd Place SE

May 16, 2013

Bellevue, WA 98005

Subject: Speeding Concerns near 123rd Avenue SE and 123rd Place SE

Dear _____

Thank you for contacting Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services to let us know your concerns with speeding vehicles near your home at 123rd Avenue SE and 123rd Place SE. I would like to provide an update to you regarding your concern.

After receiving your request, we conducted speed and volume studies at three locations in the neighborhood (see map on inside page)—two on 123rd Avenue SE and one on SE 20th Street. On 123rd Avenue SE, the traffic study revealed 85% of vehicles traveling at or below 28-29 mph (northbound) and 33-34 mph (southbound) along this 25 mph residential street. Total average daily traffic was about 680 vehicles.

During your initial communication, my coworker Linda Glas relayed information regarding the City's Neighborhood Sidewalk Program. At that time, she noted that a sidewalk along 123rd Avenue SE from SE 20th Street to SE 26th Street was a candidate project. After receiving public input, the Transportation Commission selected two sidewalk projects during the prioritization process: SE 16th Street from 104th Avenue SE to Bellevue Way and the 123rd Avenue SE project. Planning and design for these sidewalks has begun with construction slated for 2014.

Over the years, we have received similar concerns to yours about speeding vehicles on 123rd Avenue SE. Considering that design of the sidewalk on 123rd Avenue SE is beginning and the traffic studies revealed high vehicle speeds, this is a perfect opportunity to develop a neighborhood traffic safety project to alleviate the frequent speeding concerns in the neighborhood. The coordination of the two projects will reduce duplication of efforts that would otherwise be performed separately. This traffic safety project is now getting started. In the coming months, you—along with your neighbors—will receive additional information about how to get involved and ideas about what measures will be built.

Prior to this project moving forward, I encourage you to utilize one of our education programs, detailed inside. Educating the community by creating awareness around traffic safety through targeted education programs and outreach are effective ways to bring about change. If you are interested in these programs, please let us know and we can help you get started.

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns. Please contact me at jmurphy@bellevuewa.gov should you wish to borrow the radar dolly, participate in any of our program described in this Traffic Action Plan, or if you have any questions.

Thanks,

John Murphy
 Assistant Planner
 Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services





**NEIGHBORHOOD SIDEWALK
ALONG 123RD AVENUE SE**

LOCATION

East side of 123rd Avenue SE
between SE 20th to 26th Streets

DETAILS

Construct curb, gutter and five-foot sidewalk on east side, place curb 14 feet from center of the roadway on the east side of the street. Wrap sidewalk around corner on NE 20th Street to connect to school. Construction is anticipated to be complete by year-end 2014.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Initially, households adjacent to the sidewalk construction will be asked for their preference on whether they prefer parking bays or planter strips to be incorporated into the sidewalk design.

Then, once the sidewalk design process is underway, a more robust public process to determine the wider traffic improvement project will go to the neighborhood. Improvement may include physical measures, such as speed humps.

The Neighborhood Sidewalk Program was established to help address the sidewalk needs and priorities of the city's many neighborhoods. Candidate sidewalk projects have been frequently requested and/or long supported by the residents in the community.

bellevuewa.gov/neighborhood-sidewalk-plan.htm

Summary of Findings

Location	Year of Study	Average Daily Traffic	Average Speed		85% Speeds*	
			Northbound	Southbound	Northbound	Southbound
1 SE 20th St e/o 123rd Ave SE	2013	1517	25 (eastbound)	24 (westbound)	30 (eastbound)	29 (westbound)
2 123rd Ave SE n/o SE 21st St	2013	662	23	28	28	34
3 123rd Ave SE s/o SE 25th St	2013	680	24	27	29	33

*85% of vehicles travel at or below this speed

**FIRST PHASE: Customized Traffic Action Plan for
123rd Avenue SE and 123rd Place SE**

Education, Encouragement, and Enforcement

Our studies show the majority of speeds on neighborhood streets are local residents. By educating the community and encouraging safe driving, we can begin to change driver behavior and reduce vehicle speeds.

Neighborhood Speed Watch

Using a borrowed radar unit, you record information about vehicles you observe traveling at or above 30 mph. NTSS staff then locate the registered owners of the vehicles and send a letter to them asking for their cooperation in reducing their speed. A partner to assist you with the data collection is recommended.

Radar Dolly

A radar dolly gives motorists feedback on the speed at which they are driving, encouraging them to obey the speed limit. To borrow the radar dolly, please request it by calling (425) 452-6856 or sign up on www.bellevuewa.gov/radardolly.htm

Sign and Pledge Program

This program involves lending communities portable signs that encourage motorists to respect the neighborhood, drive responsibly, and drive 25 mph. The signs are moved by community volunteers from place to place throughout the neighborhood every few days. The second part of the

-  Educate the Community
-  Enhance Neighborhood Identity
-  Reduce Excessive Vehicle Speeds

program is a neighborhood pace car program. Residents who pledge to drive responsibly and drive the speed limit on all neighborhood streets receive magnetic bumper stickers or window clings to place on their vehicles. As these motorists drive 25 mph on residential streets, they set the pace for drivers behind them.

Police Enforcement

If you would like to request enforcement, please do so by calling (425) 577-5656. You can also submit a Traffic Service Request at bellevuewa.gov/Traffic_Service_Request.htm. Please be specific about the location and times of your concern. The more information you can provide to Police, the better the chance they will be able to address your concern.

Information about "Phase 2: Traffic Improvement project to address vehicle speeds" on page 4