

# Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Improvements at intersection of Holden and Highland Park Way.

Applicant(s): Carolyn Stauffer & Billy Stauffer

**Location:** Intersection of Holden Avenue and Highland Park Way / 9th Ave SW in the Highland Park Neighborhood of West Seattle.

**Problem:** The entire intersection is oversized and amorphous: it is difficult for drivers to see oncoming traffic coming up the hill, to see where cars are meant to travel, where people are meant to cross, and which way to look for traffic before pulling out onto Highland Park Drive. The Holden/Highland Park Drive intersection is a notoriously frustrating intersection for people commuting out of West Seattle. It is so frustrating for some, that they cut through the neighborhood in an effort to beat the line of backed up traffic. This cut through traffic is usually traveling way too fast on the residential streets. We were reminded recently by a visually impaired neighbor that pedestrians have no safe crossing at this intersection, and it is especially difficult for her to get across to the bus stop.

**Proposed Solution:** A signal to help traffic flow and define pedestrian crossings would solve the problem. However, this could be an opportunity to create an amazing sense of place and a great gateway for the Highland Park neighborhood if this were to become Seattle's first roundabout intersection. A roundabout would have the added benefit of cost reduction over time compared to a signal.

**City Staff said to be contacted:** Brian Dougherty

**Asserted benefits:** Neighborhood character, Quality of Life, Sense of Place,

**Included elements:** Traffic light or roundabout, which may include landscaping, and new sidewalk or sidewalk repair, crosswalk(s)