

2014 Neighborhood Park and Street Fund Project Application

Applicant Information

Name:	Carolyn Stauffer		
Full Address:	7777 10 th Avenue Southwest	Seattle, WA Zip Code:	98106
Community Group (optional):	Highland Park Action Committee (HPAC)		
Daytime Phone:	(206) 325-3009	Secondary Phone:	(206)858-0940
E-mail Address:	hpacchair@gmail.com		
How did you hear about this fund?	SDOT, Delridge Neighborhood District Council, and DoN		

Project Information

1. What type of project is this: PARKS **TRANSPORTATION** (see box on page 2)
2. Please describe the problem you are trying to address:

Safe Routes to School Funding helped to install a much needed curb bulb and marked crosswalk at 11th Avenue Southwest and Southwest Holden Street a few years ago. The neighborhood has been appreciative of the crosswalk, it is very heavily used not only by students, but as a critical link between our Greenbelt, our parks, our schools, and our friends and neighbors. It has even garnered the attention city-wide as a primary intersection on the planned Delridge/Highland Park greenway route connecting White Center with the 21st Avenue Greenway. The problem we are facing is that the **traffic on Holden is not stopping for the pedestrians and cyclists waiting to cross**. We would like to be proactive about safety here instead of waiting for someone to get hurt, which is simply a matter of time. When cars do stop, it is terrifying waiting to see if they will be rear-ended by all the cars behind them that do not realize what is going on. I have witnessed on several occasions cars not even stopping for school buses stopped at this intersection with their red lights flashing. Until the traffic flows more smoothly on this primary route of travel out of West Seattle, our neighborhood is bifurcated with harried and distracted peninsula-wide traffic with little regard for the safety of the surrounding community.

3. Describe your proposed solution:

11th and Holden is a good candidate for **rectangular rapid flash beacons**, which have proven effective at increasing driver compliance with crosswalk laws at marked crosswalks. We feel that it will really help to alert drivers to the needs of the pedestrians and cyclists trying to cross Holden.
4. What is the physical location of the proposed project or problem; provide the EXACT address and/or cross streets.

11th Avenue Southwest, and Southwest Holden Street.
5. If it is near a school, please identify.

Sanislo and Highland Park Elementary Schools are close by, but this is also a route students use to and from Denny International Middle School, and Chief Sealth International High School.



6. How does the project address maintenance upgrades or repairs to existing city parks and/or streets?

This project is primarily about safety

7. Does the project improve access for people with disabilities? If so, how?

Yes. People in wheelchairs have an even harder time getting cars to stop as they are more difficult for cars to see waiting. We have also heard from several site impaired neighbors about this intersection. Having flashing beacons to alert drivers that there is someone wanting to cross will definitely help improve the lives and safety of those with disabilities in our neighborhood.

8. Does the project address safety needs? If so, how?

Yes, this project is all about addressing safety needs. We feel that this solution will really help alert drivers to the needs of the pedestrians and cyclists trying to cross Holden, therefore avoiding any dangerous pedestrian / vehicular conflicts or rear ending accidents.

9. In which Neighborhood District is your project located? (see attached map) Please select one. If your project is within an overlap area, you must select ONE district only.

- Ballard
- Central
- Delridge
- Downtown

- East
- Greater Duwamish
- Lake Union
- Magnolia/Queen Anne
- North

- Northeast
- Northwest
- Southeast
- Southwest
- Don't Know

Project Support

10. Have you discussed this project with your community and/or neighbors? Yes No

Please identify the community group(s) you contacted, with contact information, if applicable:

West Seattle Bike Connections: Don Brubeck, *d2brubeck@gmail.com*

This is one of their top three intersections on SW Seattle Greenways for 2014 funding, and Seattle Neighborhood Greenway's top 10 intersections city-wide for funding in 2014. Please see attached letter of support from the president of West Seattle Bike Connections, Don Brubeck.

Highland Park Action Committee: Carolyn Stauffer, Chair, *hpacchair@gmail.com*

West Seattle Transportation Coalition: Amanda Kay Helmick, *smyliegrl@gmail.com*
Joe Szilagyi, *szilagyi@gmail.com*

Have you worked with the City of Seattle on this project in the past? Yes No

Please identify the individual or department you worked with.

Brian Dougherty, SDOT, Safe Routes to Schools.

WEST SEATTLE BIKE CONNECTIONS

January 20, 2014

To: Southwest District Council
Seattle Department of Transportation
Seattle Parks and Recreation

We are writing to support the Neighborhood Park and Street Fund application from Highland Park Action Committee for safety improvements at the intersection of 11th Avenue SW and SW Holden Street.

11th and Holden is a pedestrian gateway crossing between the Riverview and Highland Park neighborhoods. It is unsafe. Vehicles on Holden are traveling at speeds too high to allow safe crossing time for children, frail seniors, and people who move slowly in a wheelchair or with a cane or walker.

This intersection is on the route of the planned Delridge/Highland Park Greenway offering a safe pedestrian and bike connection from White Center to Delridge, connecting to the 21st Ave Greenway.

<http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/delridgehighparkgreenway.htm>

It will not be safe to use this route until this intersection is improved. That is why our members Craig Rankin and Theresa Beaulieu from Highland Park and David Geoffrion from Riverview suggested 11th & Holden as one of our top three intersections on SW Seattle Greenways for 2014 funding. That is why Seattle Neighborhood Greenways included it in their top 10 city-wide for 2014.

Brian Dougherty at SDOT has suggested flashing beacons as an effective amendment to the existing crossing treatment. We would favor that treatment as a next step, or other treatment that engineering design studies show would be effective.

Sincerely,

Don Brubeck
President

West Seattle Bike Connections
WestSeattleBikeConnections.org