

Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board



Stewards of the Pedestrian Master Plan

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March 17, 2016

Dongho Chang Seattle Department of Transportation 700 5th Avenue, Suite 3800 Seattle, WA 98124-4996

Dear Mr. Chang:

On January 13, 2016 the Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board was informed by a community group called Safe in Magnolia about safety concerns at the 32nd Ave W and W Raye Street intersection in Magnolia.

We thank SDOT for conducting a traffic study at this location and for the recommendations from City Traffic Engineer Dongho Chang for improving safety, particularly as they relate to children. These recommendations included installing school speed zone flashing beacons on 32nd Avenue W and a follow-up speed study in 2016 to determine if the beacons were having their intended effect. We understand the data has been collected, but needs to be analyzed.

The traffic engineer's report does not recommend a stop sign at this intersection given the amount of traffic and the lack of collisions. At the same time this intersection and the adjoining block to the south are places where it is critical to pay attention to the needs of children and other pedestrians. This block has a mix of commercial and public land uses, and is frequented by children, given the proximity to the Mounger Pool, Catharine Blaine Elementary School, the Blaine Jr High School, the Magnolia Community Center, and the Magnolia Playground. As the only public outdoor pool in north Seattle, the Mounger Pool itself attracts kids from neighborhoods throughout the city, often with lines extending down the sidewalk in the summer season.

As we develop plans to reach Vision Zero, implement the Pedestrian Master Plan and fully implement Safe Routes to School, the Board urges SDOT to work with the community on the best strategies for calming traffic at this intersection and to keep the SPAB informed of any decisions and actions taken in this regard.

The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory
Board shall advise the City
Council, the Mayor and all the
offices of the city on matters
related to pedestrians and the
impacts which actions by the
city may have upon the
pedestrian environment; and
shall have the opportunity to
contribute to all aspects of the
city's planning insofar as they
relate to the pedestrian safety
and access.

~City Council Resolution 28791 Joanne Donohue, Chair

Sincerely,

Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board

cc: Patrick Craft, Darby Watson, Mark Bandy