Update on NE 70th Street Safety Improvements

By Kristin Anderson, City of Seattle

I’m writing to inform you that we’ve completed final design for the Neighborhood Street Fund (NSF) NE 70th and I-5 Crossing Improvements project, which will implement crossing improvements for people walking, biking, and driving on NE 70th St between 6th Ave NE and 15th Ave NE.

Key Elements and Design Updates

• New all-way stops at the intersections of NE 70th St at 8th Ave NE and 6th Ave NE
• New curb bulbs and ramps at 6th Ave NE and 8th Ave NE
• A painted walkway on the north side of the I-5 overpass (color will be a brick red/brown)
• Protected bike lanes in both directions between 6th Ave NE and 8th Ave NE
• Between 8th Ave NE and 12th Ave NE: 0 One vehicle lane in each direction 0 A protected bike lane (PBL) on the south side of the street (eastbound) with an adjacent parking lane
• A bike lane (westbound) and no parking on the north side of the street
• The neighborhood greenway connection, a relatively new addition to the project, will include speed humps on NE 70th between 12th Ave NE and 15th Ave NE. Additional elements for the neighborhood greenway on NE 70th will be implemented in partnership with future capital projects, such as the paving project on 15th Ave NE scheduled for construction in 2019.

• New street lights on the southwest corner of NE 71st St and 6th Ave NE and the northeast corner of NE 70th St and 8th Ave NE

We expect to start construction in late spring/summer 2018. We’ll be in touch again later this spring with more details about the schedule and what to expect during construction. We’re committed to keeping you informed during construction. Please share this update with others who might be interested in receiving project information and updates.
Land Use Update
By Jay Lazerwitz, Land Use Chair

HALA & FEIS Proposed Zoning Plans Update
The City Council is presenting a range of Open Houses throughout the City, the first one focused on District 4 and there are others for every District. Visit https://goo.gl/anupKU for dates & times.

Growth and Livability Report
A City of Seattle report on growth and livability identified several priorities for Roosevelt residents and projects to “guide development, improve safety and access to transit services, increase opportunities for affordable housing, and preserve small commercial spaces.”

Priorities and Projects for Roosevelt:
1. **NE 65th Street Improvements** - SDOT will focus on increasing pedestrian and cyclist safety along NE 65th St. between Ravenna Blvd and 39th Ave NE.
2. **Pedestrian safety improvements** - SDOT will install continuous pedestrian and bicycle facilities along NE 70th St.
3. **Rapid transit service** - which will connect Roosevelt, U-District, Eastlake, South Lake Union, and Downtown.
4. **Roosevelt Light Rail Station** - The station will provide access to adjacent transit oriented development and will include a plaza and bicycle facilities. Service will begin in 2021.
5. **Roosevelt Light Rail Station TOD** - Sound Transit will have approximately 54,000 square feet of land adjacent to the station available for redevelopment as a transit-oriented development project that includes a mix of residential and commercial uses with on-site affordable housing.
6. **Future park development** - TBD
7. **Freeway Estates community orchard** - A Neighborhood Matching Fund grant will fund a community design process to improve use of the orchard. Funding will also provide water service, pathways, a shed, and garden area.

Other Priorities & Next Steps
Commercial affordability study and task force - In 2016, the City’s Office of Economic Development convened as advisory committee to work on commercial affordability. After issuing initial recommendations, the group is now working on policy and investment priorities.

Sound Transit - Transit Oriented Development (TOD)
Mercy Housing and Bellwether (both local non-profits) are working with Sound Transit on project contracts. The initial plan incorporates all of the Community Principles regarding affordable housing, pedestrian character, ground floor priorities, and public realm ideas. The RNA will be scheduling a public meeting for the development team to present their proposal to the community in April or May.

Land Use meetings are 2nd Tuesdays @ 7pm at CCA, 6801 Roosevelt Way NE.
Café Racer Reopening
By Jeff Ramsey, Co-Owner of Café Racer

The rumors of Café Racer reopening are true. The neighborhood’s iconic café and bar will reopen this month with a grand opening weekend planned for March 1st-4th. Husband and wife team, Jeff Ramsey and Cindy Anne recently purchased a majority stake in the delightfully quirky café.

Café Racer will retain much of its charm and its emphasis on cultural arts, such as the OBAMA (original bad art museum of art) and menu favorites as well as a few new surprises. The couple along with original owner Kurt Geissel and investor Dennis Tevlin came together to resurrect this Roosevelt neighborhood treasure. Everyone from, artists, geeks, and Roosies’ are welcome! Check out the café’s Facebook page for daily updates, news and events. https://www.facebook.com/CafeRacerSeattle/

Roosie Distributors Needed!
By Gina Leone, Head Blockhead

If you are reading the Roosie right now, it is probably because someone brought it to your house, apartment building, or favorite business in the neighborhood. These people are your neighbors who volunteer their time to get these newsletters out to everyone. We call them “Blockheads.” Please join me in thanking all of our Blockheads for volunteering their time each month. Thank you, Blockheads!!

If you are interested in volunteering as well, we can use your help. This is a map of the blocks (outlined in black) in our neighborhood that need Blockheads. It can take as little or as much of your time each month as you want it to (excluding Summers). Please email blockhead@rooseveltseattle.org for more information.
Environmental Attitudes Survey
By Rachel Pemberton, University of Washington Student

My name is Rachel and I’m an Environmental Studies major at the University of Washington. I am currently doing research aimed at identifying trends between demographic factors, attitudes about the environment, and participation in the legislative process. As part of this research, I am conducting a survey and would love to get as many participants as possible! The survey is only 14 questions and shouldn’t take more than 5 minutes to complete. All questions are optional and the survey is completely anonymous.

Your responses will be used to compile an infographic presentation on the relationships between demographic factors, attitudes about the environment, and participation in the legislative process. This presentation will be shared with my professors at the U.W. and the organization I’m currently interning with, Washington Environmental Council.

Your participation is greatly appreciated! Please complete before March 1st. Additional information and my contact info are included in the actual survey as well. Here’s the link: https://goo.gl/KfDnSV

Youth ORCA Program saves students ~$1M on transit!
By Jeanne Clark, City of Seattle

We’ve hit a milestone and it marks the closing of enrollment for the current school year. The 3,000 students enrolled in the Youth ORCA program have free transit for the remainder of the school year and through the summer 2018.

The program marked a second milestone this week, saving students approximately $1 million on transit since the program’s inception in September 2016.

During the first full year for the program (2016-2017), 2,680 students enrolled in the program. A survey conducted in June 2017 revealed:

- 75% of the program participants use their ORCA cards to get to school.
- Getting to school on time was the most significant benefit of having an ORCA card.
- Majority of students agreed that having an ORCA card improved their attendance at school and grades.

A new open enrollment period will begin with the start of the next school year in September 2018. The full article can be found at: https://goo.gl/9dycB8
Get Involved!

Please contact the RNA to share your skills and learn more about your neighborhood.

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<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scott Cooper</td>
<td>President</td>
<td><a href="mailto:president@rooseveltseattle.org">president@rooseveltseattle.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Mitchell</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:treasurer@rooseveltseattle.org">treasurer@rooseveltseattle.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amanda Winters</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td><a href="mailto:secretary@rooseveltseattle.org">secretary@rooseveltseattle.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adrienne Slaughter</td>
<td>Sustainability / Emergency Prep</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sustainability@rooseveltseattle.org">sustainability@rooseveltseattle.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katie Wood</td>
<td>Fundraising &amp; Grants Chair</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fundraising@rooseveltseattle.org">fundraising@rooseveltseattle.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sara Wamsley</td>
<td>Membership</td>
<td><a href="mailto:membership@rooseveltseattle.org">membership@rooseveltseattle.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hannah Nilsson</td>
<td>Communications</td>
<td><a href="mailto:communications@rooseveltseattle.org">communications@rooseveltseattle.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gina Leone</td>
<td>Head Blockhead for <em>The Roosie</em></td>
<td><a href="mailto:blockhead@rooseveltseattle.org">blockhead@rooseveltseattle.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jay Lazerwitz</td>
<td>Land Use</td>
<td><a href="mailto:landuse@rooseveltseattle.org">landuse@rooseveltseattle.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim O’Halloran</td>
<td>Land Use Special Projects</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lua@rooseveltseattle.org">lua@rooseveltseattle.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Mitchell</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td><a href="mailto:transportation@rooseveltseattle.org">transportation@rooseveltseattle.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sagar Ramachandra</td>
<td>Editor, <em>The Roosie</em></td>
<td><a href="mailto:roosieditor@rooseveltseattle.org">roosieditor@rooseveltseattle.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Consider joining the RNA! Contact rna@rooseveltseattle.org

Amanda Winters represents the RNA on the UW City/University Community Advisory Committee (CUCAC).

Please follow the RNA on Twitter: @roosieseattle
Subscribe to the RNA website blog at: RooseveltSeattle.org
Join the conversation with your neighbors at: Facebook.com/groups/RooseveltSeattle/

We need your help today. Please volunteer to deliver or contribute articles to *The Roosie*.
If interested, please contact: RoosieEditor@RooseveltSeattle.Org

ANNUAL RNA MEMBERSHIP FORM

$_____ Student / Low Income  $20 = Individual  $35 = 2-Person Household  $95 = Business Member (pay what you can)  $_______ Other Tax Deductible Donation

Name(s): ________________________________________________________________
Address: _________________________________________________________________
Phone Number: _____________________     Email Address:___________________________
Volunteer Skill(s) / Area(s) of Community Interest: _____________________________________

☐ I would love to pay annual membership dues to support increasing RNA’s outreach and community events.

☐ I enjoy receiving *The Roosie* at my door and will donate my time to deliver to others by being a “Blockhead.

☐ Please enter my email address to the http://www.RooseveltSeattle.org blog email list.

☐ Yes! I would love to place an ad to support *The Roosie* (Discounts for members!).

☐ Please welcome me, by name, as a new or renewing member on the website/twitter/facebook/next issue of *The Roosie*.

Please make check payable to: The Roosevelt Neighborhood Association: 6910 Roosevelt Way NE, #518, Seattle, WA 98115

OR *New* Pay your membership dues online at RooseveltSeattle.org/Membership/