



# City of Seattle

Edward B. Murray, Mayor

## Department of Transportation

Scott Kubly, Director

### Director's Report for Transportation Committee

July 28, 2015

## CURRENT ISSUES

### Admiral Way Bike Lane

SDOT is currently collecting summer parking occupancy data along SW Admiral Way before finalizing the revised safety recommendations. SDOT hopes to share the summer parking occupancy data along with revised safety recommendations at a fourth community briefing in late August or September.



### Summer Parkways

Seattle Summer Parkway link together city parks, community centers, and other community spaces. At parks along the route, Seattle Parks and Recreation, Seattle Neighborhood Greenways, Cascade Bicycle Club, and many other organizations will host activities, events, and live music. This is a way to get out and explore our city, car-free and carefree.

- Central Area – September 12, 2015 – 11 AM – 3 PM
  - Three miles
  - Coincides with Central Area Block Party
  - Activities in four parks: Judkins, Pratt, Powell Barnett; and Garfield playfield
    - Music, fitness, performances, food trucks, arts activities and more
- Ballard – September 19 - 11 AM – 3 PM

- Seven miles
- Activities in seven areas and parks: Sunset Hill park, Loyal Heights playfields, Salmon Bay park, Ballard Commons park, 6th Avenue pocket park, Ballard Corners park, and 14th Avenue NW BLVD park
- Activities will be largely contained in parks with minimal activity on the streets

### **Dynamic Message Sign in Montlake**

Technological advances enable us to better monitor real time traffic conditions and provide that information to the traveling public. Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS), of which the DMS is one critical tool, is capable of providing the public with real time information so that they can make travel decisions that best serve their needs.

- There are currently 24 dynamic message signs in Seattle, and we are planning to add seven more as part of this particular project
- The messages on the signs inform motorists of such things as traffic congestion, incidents, construction, and/or projected travel times to particular destinations. All of them, including the one we plan to install on 24<sup>th</sup> Ave E, are placed on principal arterials.

National standards call for placement of DMS signs a minimum of 450' ahead of a driver decision point, such that motorists will have enough time to shift into the lane to head in another direction if they deem it to be the best choice based on the information displayed.

- Our decision to place the DMS at Lee St meets the standard with regard to Boyer Ave E, which is classified as a minor arterial and is the only arterial street in the vicinity with a direct connection to an alternate crossing of the Ship Canal, the University Bridge.
- Locating the DMS at Lee assures exposure to the greatest number of motorists heading north prior to the last decision point.
- Not only was Lee St selected because it is the best location for informing travelers, but it is also the only location that provides the required five foot clearance from the electric trolley lines, adequate visibility for motorists, a wide enough planting strip in which to place the pole foundation, and it does not conflict with mature trees or major utility lines.

Given the large number of vehicles that use 24<sup>th</sup> Ave E (an average of some 21,000 vehicles per day), SDOT understands the fear that a DMS might divert more vehicles off of 24<sup>th</sup> Ave E onto neighborhood streets. However, the information conveyed by the DMS is at least as likely to keep travelers on 24<sup>th</sup> Ave E as the lack of any information about the cause of congestion.

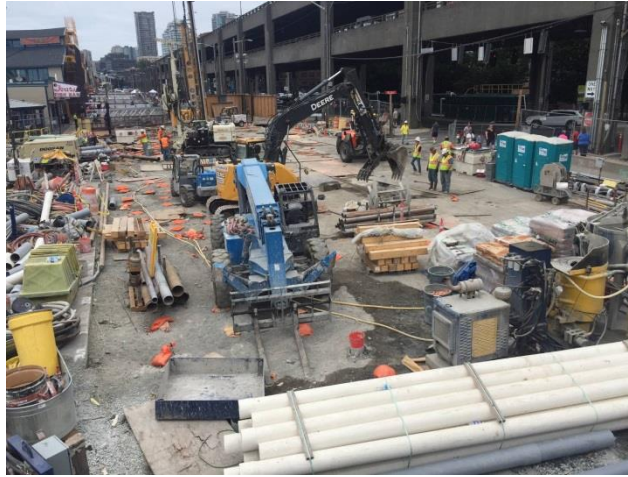
We will be meeting with the Montlake community again in September 2015.

### **Blocking the Box**

- SDOT is partnering with SPD on enforcement in a number of areas, including Mercer
- Much of that enforcement is an outcome of Vision Zero
- SDOT is using data to inform deployment times, locations
- On Mercer, we're collecting data to show when and how frequently blocking the box violations occur; data will further inform SPD enforcement
- SDOT is researching whether we can automate enforcement for blocking the box (i.e., red light cameras)
- SDOT and SPD will provide a briefing to Council at Transportation Committee on August 13

### **Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement and Seawall Project:**

- **Seawall** - Construction Progress - Colman Dock area
  - Preparations are being made for jet grouting to begin near Fire Station 5. Pilot holes have been drilled in as seen covered by the orange plywood squares in the below photo. These pilot holes ensure no underground conflicts with utilities or obstructions prior to jet grouting.



- **AWV - Tunnel Boring Restart**

- WSDOT and Seattle Tunnel Partners (STP) announced Friday 7/17 that tunnel boring will resume on November 23rd
- STP plans to complete repairs and reassembly by the end of September, then complete testing in the repair shaft in October and November
- STP plans to tunnel from November 23 to January 16 to reach “Safe Haven III”, where the TBM will stop for approximately one month to check systems and make adjustments
- Tunneling will then resume under the Alaskan Way Viaduct; WSDOT expects to close the viaduct for 2-3 weeks during the undercrossing
- STP currently projects completion of tunneling in February 2017, and tunnel open for vehicle traffic in March 2018 (after internal structures and systems are constructed and tested)



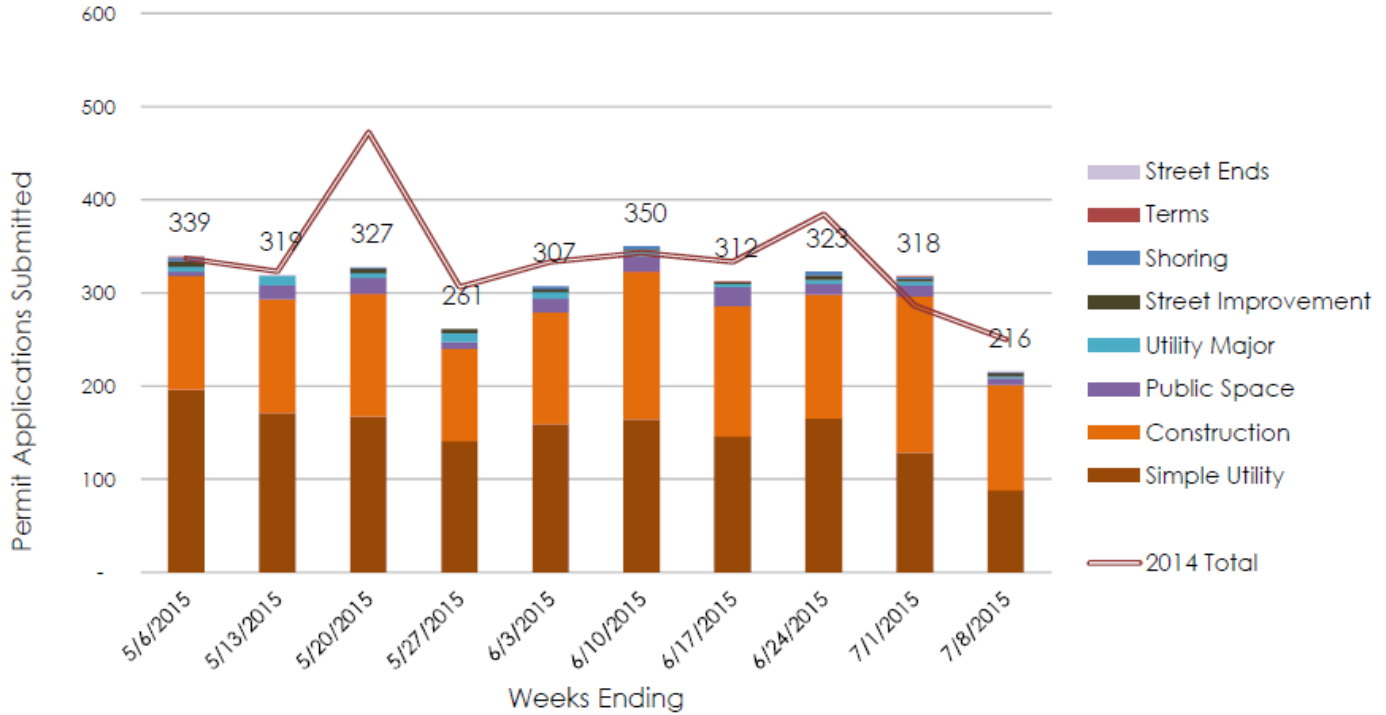
**First Hill Streetcar**

- All streetcars for the First Hill Line have now been delivered, and the manufacturer is targeting the end of July for substantial completion of two cars that are still in final assembly here in Seattle
- The critical path for the start of service is now the commissioning and testing process for the vehicles
- The start date is still not fixed as we need the manufacturer to complete this iterative process of testing and fine-tuning to safety-certify the vehicles before we can finalize our start-up activities

# DIVISION UPDATES

## Street Use

### Permit Applications Added Weekly Volume Comparison



## Capital Projects and Roadway Structures

- W Wheeler & Gilman Stairway Rehabilitation – Project Complete



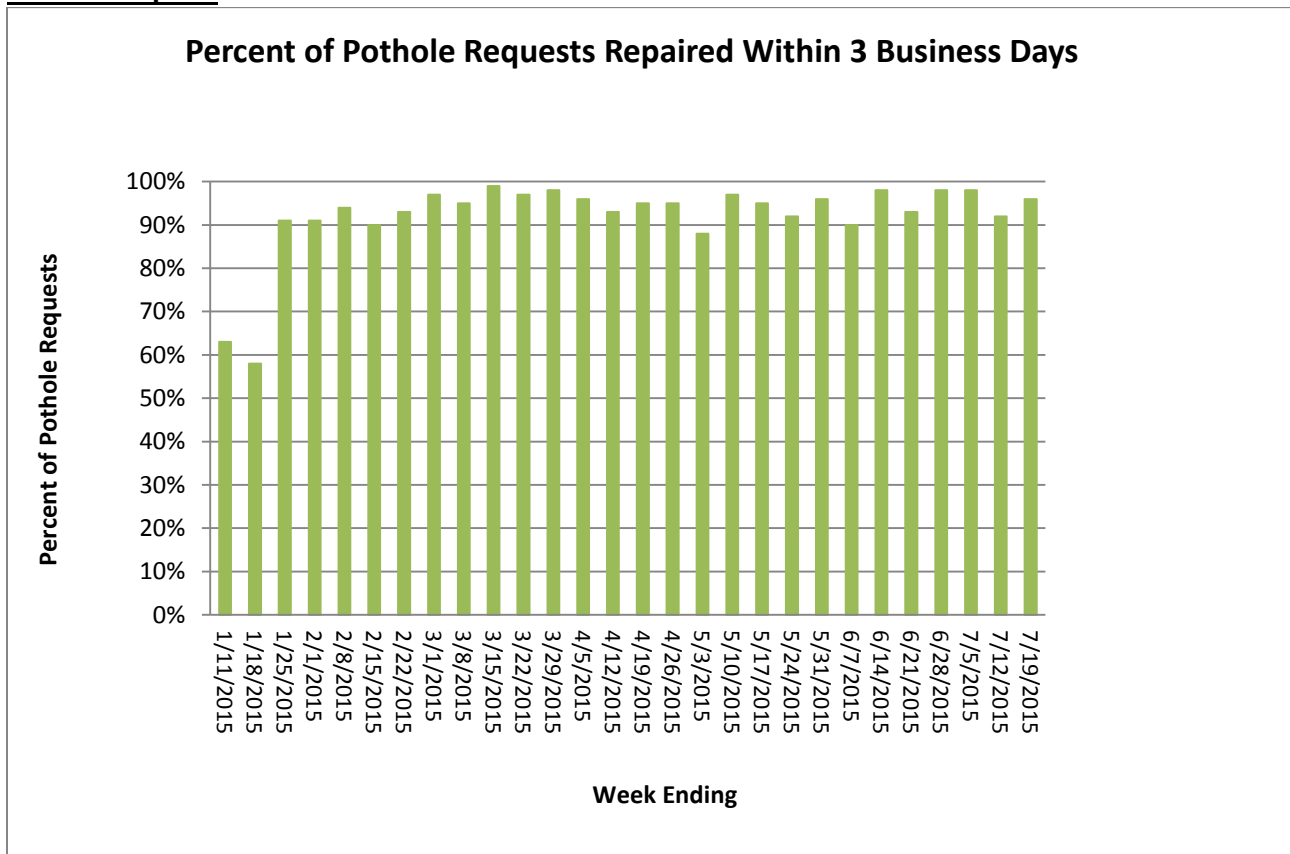
## Maintenance Operations

- Transit improvement project and Third Avenue between



## PERFORMANCE DATA

### Pothole Repairs:



# PROGRAM/PROJECT UPDATES

## **Burke Gilman Trail**

- SDOT hosted an open house for the project on June 18 at the Ballard High School
  - SDOT's consultant presented the 3 alternatives to be evaluated in the Draft EIS
  - About 160 were in attendance
  - The public expressed frustration over project delays and asked what SDOT could do to make immediate interim safety improvements (i.e. shoulder widening, intersection crossings)

## **47th & Admiral Signal**

- Completion celebration held July 14th with CM Rasmussen and Scott Kubly in attendance.
- Feedback has been very positive
- Project team is following up on some action items raised after the completion celebration
- Final inspection was scheduled for July 27th

## **Westlake Cycle Track**

- SDOT is currently assembling information at the request of the Law Department
- Advertising is on hold pending formal resolution of SEPA challenge

## **23rd Ave Corridor Project – Phase 1**

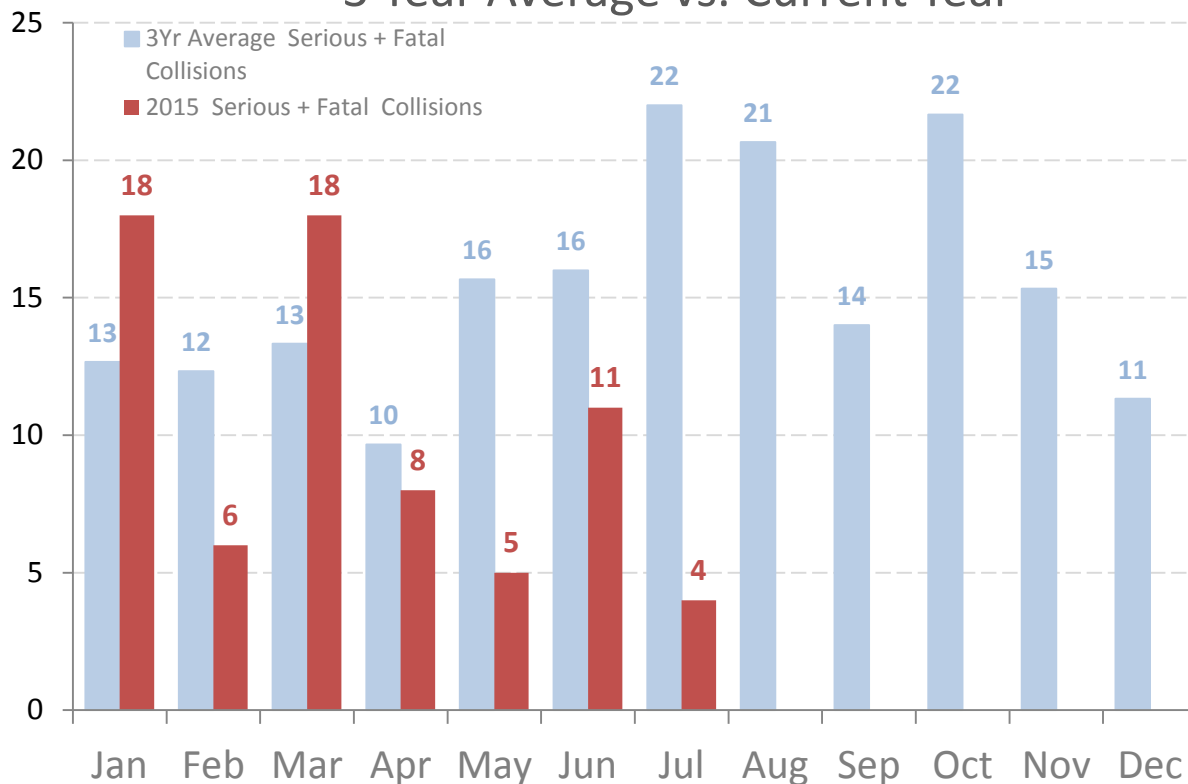
- July 24th – 26th intersection of 23rd and S Jackson St was closed in order to pave the crosswalk areas
- Water main work is ahead of schedule and the contractor will start work north of Cherry on Monday, 8/3. Traffic will be reduced to one lane in each direction on 23rd Ave between E Cherry Street and E Spring Street.
- On Wednesday, July 22, the project held its monthly construction drop-in session for the public to come talk to the project team about any construction questions or concerns.

## **Vision Zero**

- Vision Zero Education and Enforcement
  - SDOT-SPD Coordination
    - Next coordination session scheduled for 8/6 with SPD
  - Patrols
    - SPD citation data from SECTOR for June 2015
      - SPD officers issued a total of 1,252 traffic citations 7/1 through 7/13
        - Aurora/SR-99 – 59 citations issued
        - 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue PBL – 8 citations issued
        - 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW – 1 citations issued
        - Rainier Avenue S – 34 citations issued
        - Lake City Way NE – 9 citations issued
  - Seafair Safety Event
    - SDOT, SPD Traffic and SPD Harbor Patrol will be issuing a joint press release prior to Seafair to highlight actions the city is taking to promote safety
- Safety Corridor Projects
  - 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW Road Safety Corridor Project
    - Public meetings took place on July 15 and 16
    - More than 125 people attended the two meetings
    - SDOT received positive feedback and a fair amount of negative feedback at the meetings
    - Implementation to begin in September
  - Rainier Avenue South Road Safety Corridor Project

- Meeting has been scheduled for July 30
- Meeting will include Accessible Mt. Baker and Rainier Valley North-South Greenway projects
- SW Roxbury Street Road Safety Corridor Project
  - Implementation scheduled to occur starting late August/early September
- Lake City Way Traffic Safety Project
  - Engineering
    - Lake City Way and 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE
      - Construction underway and expected to continue through July/August
    - Lake City Way and NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street: new curb ramp construction underway
  - Extra enforcement patrols by the Washington State Patrol continue on the corridor

## Serious + Fatal Collisions 3 Year Average vs. Current Year



### **Bicycle Master Plan Implementation**

**Center City Bike Network** - The first project open house was July 21, 5 - 7 at Town Hall

### **Rainier Ave S PBL**

- SDOT briefed the Freight Board July 21 – they expressed concerns about lane widths (Rainier is not a Major Truck Street but it is an over-sized route). The Board asked that the project be delayed until the Freight Master Plan is complete – Rainier is one of the streets that may be added as a Minor Truck Street

### **Second Avenue Upgrades**

- Staff are developing options for the driveway treatments and for securing the planters in place

- Two options have been developed for the signal/turning revisions at Union

### **King Street Station**

- SDOT staff and Heidi Hall of OED met with Karen True, retail consultant for Pioneer Square Alliance, to discuss a marketing plan for King Street Station.
- Greg Lundgren, sponsor of the pop-up art fair event (July 30-Aug 2) asked if SDOT would be interested in granting him the ability to continue programming arts and cultural events in the 3rd Floor space until a point in time when we secure a lease with a long-term tenant.
- The Institute for Classical Architecture and Art has asked to present a week-long exhibit on the 2nd Floor Atrium space in mid-October. This would be a good opportunity to highlight the architectural significance of the station.

### **Grants**

#### **Rocky Mountain Institute Shared Transportation Grant Opportunity**

- The Office of Sustainability and Environment informed RMI that the City intends to pursue this grant opportunity. RMI responded that will work with us on the application process over the next two weeks.

## **SDOT Outreach and Important Dates**

### **Upcoming or Recent Outreach Events/Community Meetings**

July 21 – Center City Bike Network Open House 5-7 pm, Town Hall (lower floor)

July 23 – Ballard Bridge Workshop, 8:30 – 11:30 (event is by invitation)

July 27 – Fremont Neighborhood Council re: N 34th St PBL

July 30– Rainier Avenue South Road Safety Corridor Project announcement/meeting(s) with Mayor Murray and CM Harrell

August 4 – 35th Ave SW at High Point Night Out event

August 24 – Ballard Bridge Workshop Report Out (open to the public)