



TO: Mayor Claudia Balducci and Bellevue City Councilmembers

FROM: David Berg, Transportation Department Director

DATE: March 17, 2014

SUBJECT: Neighborhood Streetscape Committee

In response to community requests to address future development and transportation investments planned in the Bel-Red Area, and to proactively address anticipated growth, the City of Bellevue has been working with the Wilburton community to develop potential traffic mitigation measures on 124th Avenue NE south of NE 8th Street.

Through the Transportation Department CIP public involvement process residents from the Wilburton area were solicited to serve on a **Neighborhood Streetscape Committee**. The solicitation sought diverse community perspectives and broad levels of experience and interests from throughout the Wilburton area. Fourteen community members volunteered and remained actively involved in developing objectives, brainstorming and evaluating ideas and options, and acted as liaisons to their community. Their work helped lead to the final preferred alternative.

Purpose

Committee representatives worked closely together, with City staff and the City's consultants to identify, prioritize and recommend project objectives, evaluation criteria, and streetscape enhancements that would assist in addressing potential traffic impacts. Committee representatives engaged with their neighbors to broaden the input received. Their efforts ensured that the streetscape enhancements reflected the neighborhood's diverse values and interests. The approach, process, and outcome of our work with this Committee are a tremendous example of proactively implementing integrated design techniques with significant community involvement in developing project improvements.

Timeline

The Committee met four times over the course of the project from July 2013 to November 2013. There were two additional public Open Houses held: the first at the beginning of the process to engage the broader community and solicit additional input; and the second at the end presenting the preferred alternative.

Final Product

The Committee accomplished their goal of recommending a well-supported suite of streetscape enhancements for 124th Avenue NE south of NE 8th Street. These enhancements reflect the objectives, criteria, and values stated by Wilburton community members as major concerns. Working with the City, the Committee reached consensus in developing a plan that reflects the feel and character of the Wilburton neighborhood, while retaining the street's function as a collector arterial. Streetscape enhancements include a gateway at NE 8th Street, adding pedestrian lighting and enhanced crosswalks at several locations, landscaped medians between NE 2nd Street and NE 5th Street, pavement markings, narrowed travel lanes, and landscape enhancements along the corridor. The preferred alternative was found acceptable by 93% of the Committee. The final streetscape enhancements will be constructed in the summer of 2014.

City Appreciation

To show the City's appreciation for the valuable work of the Neighborhood Streetscape Committee, we would like to have the City Council publicly acknowledge and thank all Committee members, many of whom are with us tonight.

Neighborhood Streetscape Committee Members:

Zee Straight-Weiss
Susan Myer
Peter Maxim
Jay Hamlin
Carolyn Harris
Harvey Kriloff
David Cagle
Darryl Nance
Dan Renn
Jo Scott
Bob Shay
Bob Herschkowitz
Anita Leising
Sandi Van Kleeck-Claggett