



# Transportation Commission Study Session

**DATE:** September 6, 2018  
**TO:** Chair Wu and Members of the Transportation Commission  
**FROM:** Kristi Oosterveen, Capital Facilities Planning & Programming Administrator,  
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**SUBJECT:** Neighborhood Sidewalk Program – SE Newport Way

**DIRECTION REQUESTED** *SELECT AN OPTION FROM CHOICES BELOW WITH AN X.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Action
<input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion/Direction
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Information

On October 26, 2017 staff received concurrence from the Transportation Commission on the updated prioritization framework using MMLOS Metrics, Standards and Guidelines as a basis to objectively identify locations for implementation of projects within the Neighborhood Sidewalk Program. Staff has been using this framework to prioritize sidewalk locations for design and implementation in the 2019-2020 biennium. An opportunity has arisen to add a project to the program and implement it in conjunction with the discrete Newport Way Improvements – Somerset Blvd to 150<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE Capital Investment Program (CIP) Plan project (PW-R-185) in 2019. This project will complete the missing connection of sidewalk on the south side of SE Newport Way from the South Bellevue Community Center (SBCC) to 150<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE.

## BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION

In 2014 project to plan, design and construct pedestrian and bicycle facilities along SE Newport Way from Somerset Avenue SE to 150<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE was included in the 2015-2021 CIP. After an extensive planning process with the community, where they had asked for walking and biking facilities on both sides of the street along with crossings from north to south, it was found that due to budget constraints the project is only able to construct a multi-use pathway on the north side of the SE Newport Way and a bike lane on the south side of SE Newport Way for the length

of the project leaving a gap in the sidewalk on the south side from the SBCC to 150<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE. At the time of this decision, the community was asked if they would prefer to wait a few more years and ask for the additional funds in order to fill the sidewalk gap or move forward with the project that fit within the budget constraints. The community elected to defer the sidewalk on the south side until further funding became available and continue with the base project.

By leaving the gap in the sidewalk there is no direct connection on the south side of the street from SBCC to 150<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and unfortunately, that is also leaving the six properties on the southside with an incomplete walking facility. This project was not originally on the backlog of candidate projects for the sidewalk program. Even though it has been requested many times, when the list was first created that portion of the roadway was not yet annexed into the City of Bellevue, so it could not be put on the list for consideration. Once the Eastgate annexation occurred, the community came out in full force asking for facilities along this roadway. However, due to the limited funding available at the time of budget adoption, improvements were limited to only one side of the roadway – the north side. Without the funds to do this portion of the project the community will be left with “a sidewalk to nowhere,” which was a comment staff often heard about this location during open houses and public processes prior to the larger project being funded.

The larger discrete project will be setting back the curb alignment to accommodate the bike lane as well as readying it for a walking facility. The city’s Major Maintenance Program will be rehabilitating an existing rockery in the same location and coordination is already taking place with the six property owners on the south side of the street for the curb lane set back. What is needed is the funding to complete the sidewalk design and construction. The estimated funding gap is approximately one million dollars.

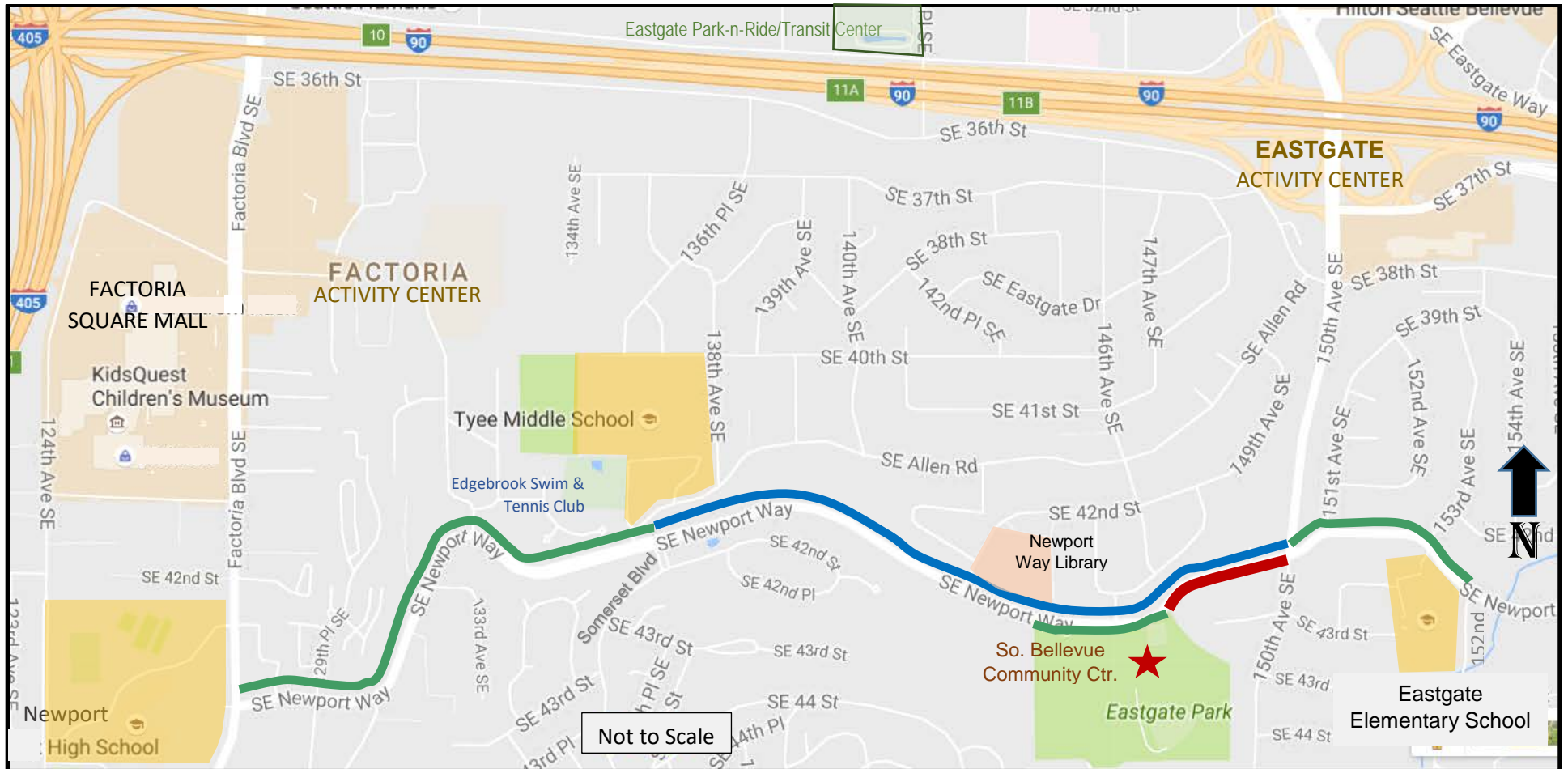
Knowing the importance of this project to the community as well as the City Council, staff evaluated the project using the Neighborhood Sidewalk Program prioritization framework discussed above and found that it would have been granted the second highest prioritization point total had it been evaluated along with the initial list of projects.




At this time, staff is recommending funding the missing gap of sidewalk with program and levy funds, so the work can be integrated with the larger discrete CIP project. Waiting to allocate funding until the next biennium will make the project cost more than one million dollars. This is due to the larger project already doing the property rights of entry, permitting, mobilization and other project coordination needed for construction. The larger discrete project is estimating a construction timeline of over a year and a half. The six properties on the south side will be impacted due to the larger discrete project and by not adding the sidewalk will then be subject to another construction impact when it is ultimately constructed. Most of the design considerations have already been considered by the consultant designing the discrete project. By adding this work to the larger project, there will be a minimal delay in advertising for construction; but the benefit of getting a complete project far outweighs the delay. Funding for

this project is available by utilizing surplus levy dollars that are available and will not delay any other projects from being implemented from the Neighborhood Sidewalks Program list.

In the first ten years of the program's existence, due to funding constraints, six locations were implemented. With the addition of the levy dollars the program has been able to start the implementation of four locations in the last year and a half. The Neighborhood Sidewalks Program continues to evaluate its backlog of projects through the prioritization framework, taking advantage of partnering opportunities and being responsive as possible to neighborhood concerns.

## South Bellevue Community Center to 150<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE



-  SE Newport Way Proposed Sidewalk Link:  
South Bellevue Community Center to 150<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE
-  Existing Infrastructure on Newport Way
-  Project Limits - SE Newport Way – Somerset Blvd. to 150<sup>th</sup> Ave SE (CIP No. PW-R-185)