

Jeff Englund

From: Sharon Steinmeyer <s.steinmeyer@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 07, 2015 10:16 AM
To: Jeff Englund
Cc: Bonnie Carter; Tim Hazen
Subject: NE Everett St Project

Dear Mr. Englund,

Thank you for your letter concerning safety improvements on my street. I have no objection to the elimination of on-street parking in front of my house.

I am writing to you in the hope that the project will include improvements to pedestrian crosswalks at NE 15th, NE 19th and NE 22nd Avenues. Although there are long times during the day when crossing Everett is safe and easy, there are other times when crossing is difficult or dangerous:

- On school mornings, between 7:15 am and 8:00 am, the volume of traffic on Everett Street is high, the visibility is low (in the winter and on cloudy/rainy days) and students at Liberty Middle School are crossing Everett Street by foot or on bicycle.
- On pleasant days, when many children and adults are crossing Everett Street at 15th Avenue, going between Crown Park and Top Burger.
- On any occasion when a public event is being held at school district property east of Everett Street (i.e., graduation, school events, football games). Some pedestrians are simply walking to the event. Others have parked their cars west of Everett Street. In addition, Everett Street has a high volume of traffic due to the number of people attending the event.

The addition of a center turn lane and two bike lanes, while making vehicle traffic smoother, will make pedestrian crossings more hazardous. Vehicles waiting in the left turn lane could block other motorists' view of people waiting to cross, or already in the crosswalk. Thru traffic, which already regularly exceeds the 25 mph speed limit, will have the opportunity to proceed even faster.

I realize this project is necessarily limited by financial concerns and WSDOT priorities. Ideally, I would like to see on-demand caution lights at NE 19th and NE 22nd Avenues, and a four-way stoplight at NE 15th Avenue. The stoplight would also help motorists from NE jenglund15th Avenue to enter or cross NE Everett Street safely.

Sincerely,

Sharon Steinmeyer