# 145th Street Corridor Project N/NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street: Linden Avenue N to I-5

Frequently Asked Questions, Spring 2022



#### Where is 145th Street? Why is it important to Shoreline?

The 145th Street Corridor is a major east-west route that connects south Shoreline and north Seattle neighborhoods to businesses, parks, and services.

In 2024, Shoreline residents will welcome Sound Transit Link light rail and the new Shoreline South/148th Street Station to the neighborhood. Residents and regional travelers need safe, efficient, and reliable ways to access these transit facilities.

#### Why does 145th Street need improvements?

The City of Shoreline has heard from residents for many years that 145th Street could benefit from improvements. Concerns include traffic safety, congestion, narrow sidewalks, lack of bike connections, and limited transit service.

Improvements along 145th Street will increase safety, mobility, and access to transit services for all corridor users.

#### How will this project improve travel through the corridor?

The 145th Street Corridor Project incorporates several features focused on creating a safer and more reliable corridor, including:

- Improved intersections with left turn lanes, traffic light upgrades, and improved traffic light timing to help vehicles and transit travel more efficiently.
- Enhanced and accessible pedestrian spaces, including improved sidewalks, new Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible curb ramps, and new pedestrian crossing signals.

# How are the 145th Street Corridor and 145th Street and I-5 Interchange Projects related?

The 145th Street and I-5 Interchange Project replaces the signalized intersections on both sides of I-5 with two roundabouts. The roundabout west of I-5 connects to the Phase 1 boundary of the 145th Street Corridor Project, as illustrated in the below diagram.

Together, the 145th Street and I-5 Interchange and 145th Street Corridor Projects will improve safety for drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists while also promoting better traffic flow along the corridor.



## Are any existing houses or businesses expected to be purchased by the city to make room for improvements to 145th Street?

Yes, some properties that border or are located next to 145th Street will be impacted to make room for improvements. Right-of-way plans for both the interchange and corridor projects were developed during the design stage of the projects to determine necessary property acquisitions, obtain estimate of property fair market values, and assess relocation requirements that apply to affected properties.

The City began working with property owners on acquisitions for Phase 1 of the 145th Street Corridor Project in early 2021, and in early 2022 for the 145th Street and I-5 Interchange Project. Property acquisitions for Phase 2 of the 145th Street Corridor Project are scheduled to begin in 2025, and in 2027 for Phase 3.

### What is eminent domain and how does it impact property acquisitions for the projects on 145th Street?

On April 4, 2022, the City of Shoreline adopted <u>Ordinance No. 957</u>, which gives the City authority to move forward with the use of eminent domain on certain properties affected by the 145th Street and I-5 Interchange Project. Similarly, on May 24, 2021, the City of Shoreline adopted <u>Ordinance No. 931</u>, giving the City authority to move forward with the use of eminent domain on certain properties affected by the 145th Street Corridor Project. Eminent domain is a power granted to political subdivisions, such as the City of Shoreline, through Title 8, Chapter <u>8.12</u> of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) to acquire private property for a public use.

Although the ordinances were adopted, it does not mean eminent domain will be used. The project team will continue normal negotiations with property owners to acquire the properties needed for the improvements to 145th Street at fair market value. An independent appraisal and separate professional appraisal review are conducted to determine fair market value. These ordinances are a precautionary step and eminent domain will only be used as a last resort in cases where a settlement agreement cannot be reached between the City and property

owner.

## Will the 145th Street Corridor and 145th Street and I-5 Interchange Projects be built at the same time?

Yes, construction of the 145th Street and I-5 Interchange Project and Phase 1 of the 145th Street Corridor Project will begin in 2023 and are expected to be complete by the middle of 2024.

### How will construction of the two projects impact traffic along 145th Street?

Construction of the 145th Street and I-5 Interchange and 145th Street Corridor Projects are expected to significantly impact traffic along 145th Street. To complete the necessary work, 145th Street will be reduced to one lane in each direction. The I-5 interchange will remain open throughout construction. Taking an alternate route to your destination is encouraged to avoid congestion and delays, especially during peak commuting hours.

### When will construction of the 145th Street Corridor Project start and how long will it take?

Construction will be completed in three phases as illustrated in the following diagram, beginning with Phase 1 in 2023. The 145th Street and I-5 Interchange Project will be constructed at the same time as Phase 1. Construction of all three phases is expected to be complete by 2030.



### Will there be construction during nights and weekends?

We don't know yet. Once the contractors are hired to build the projects in early 2023, we will receive a work schedule. The City of Shoreline will approve the schedule and share that information with the public. To stay informed on upcoming construction activities, follow us on

Facebook and Twitter or visit the <u>145th Street Corridor</u> and <u>145th Street and I-5 Interchange</u> Project webpages.

#### What other projects are happening nearby?

- The <u>145th Street & I-5 Interchange Project</u> improves safety, alleviates traffic congestion, and enhances transportation mobility and reliability for all users. This project also helps connect to the future Sound Transit Shoreline South/148th Link light rail station, planned to open in 2024.
- Sound Transit is designing improvements on the 145th Street corridor from Lake City Way
  to the I-5 interchange to support the <u>bus rapid transit (BRT) project</u>, which will begin service
  in 2026.
- Sound Transit is building a <u>light rail station</u> at the intersection of 148th Street and I-5.The Shoreline South/148th Station is anticipated to open in 2024.
- The <u>145th Street Off-Corridor Bike Network</u> is a collection of quieter, slower-paced streets intended to provide bicyclists and pedestrians with alternate, parallel routes to 145th Street as well as key connections to the future Shoreline South/148th light rail station, Interurban Trail, and Burke-Gilman Trail.

Visit the City's <u>Destination 2024</u> webpage to learn about all transportation projects occurring in the area.

For additional project information visit shorelinewa.gov/145corridor

Rob McGaughey, P.E., Senior Project Manager (425) 214-8598 rmcgaughey@shorelinewa.gov