

# A Resident's Guide for Working with the City

There are many opportunities for community members to show support and help create Seattle's Neighborhood Greenways. Below is a list of possible ways to be involved.



www.SeattleGreenways.org

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UW Green Futures Lab in collaboration with Gehl Architects  
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KEY CONSIDERATIONS

 ORGANIZE	 DEFINE THE SCOPE	 INFORM, EDUCATE, AND MOTIVATE	 IDENTIFY DESTINATIONS AND POSSIBLE ROUTES	 EXPLORE FUNDING AND COLLABORATIVE ALLIANCES	 PRIORITIZE PROJECTS	 CAPTURE MOMENTUM AND INVITE PEOPLE TO THE STREET	 EVALUATE AND IMPROVE
<p>Build a network of involved citizens who want to be involved in the process of Neighborhood Greenways.</p> <p>Encourage group leaders to arise who will be able to either communicate with officials, fundraise, educate the community or facilitate route selection activities.</p> <p>Seek out other neighborhood groups, local community groups, schools, business associations, local health leaders, and anyone else who might like to be involved in the process.</p> <p>Visit the Seattle Neighborhood Greenways website, neighborhoodgreenwayssea.wordpress.com, to connect with other neighborhoods' Facebook, Twitter and Google Groups accounts.</p>	<p>Clearly define the borders of the neighborhood. Typically administrative or geographical borders will apply but steep slopes or watersheds may create a natural boundary.</p> <p>Survey potential users to better understand their needs. For example, school children can fill out questionnaires where they describe the route they use for coming to school.</p> <p>Consider how Neighborhood Greenways could help accomplish other neighborhood projects or aspirations.</p>	<p>Develop a clear message for the neighborhood group. Talking points and other tools are available on the Seattle Neighborhood Greenways website.</p> <p>Know your audience and target the message to entice different groups.</p> <p>Continue to identify and use a variety of outreach tools to engage with other potential users.</p> <p>Websites, blogs and online media can be helpful but don't overlook the power of talking with people face-to-face. Set up a booth at the farmer's market or simply talk to your neighbor.</p> <p>Identify opportunity for additional branding and campaigns that inform, educate and motivate residents to get out and start envisioning the fantastic possibilities of potential routes.</p>	<p>Think practically. Begin evaluating streets that have a low motorized traffic speed and, ideally, less than 1,000 cars a day.</p> <p>Identify streets that are already preferred for walking and biking by observing or counting the pedestrians, bicycles, and cars in the area.</p> <p>Invite all types of users to help map all destinations in the area - parks and spaces, schools, shops, transit hubs, markets, sport facilities, libraries, child care, etc. Expand the scope to include destinations and bicycle routes in adjacent neighborhoods.</p> <p>Identify potential barriers along each route and specific intersections that will need special considerations.</p> <p>Analyze the existing conditions of the possible routes using the 'Quality Criteria'.</p>	<p>New opportunities emerge once routes are decided. Consider who might directly benefit and reach out to them.</p> <p>Think creatively. A variety of private funding sources could be used to supplement available funding for construction or even used to hire a design consultant to explore innovative traffic calming solutions.</p> <p>Apply for Seattle Neighborhood Matching Funds and other city programs that can be used to fund workshops and planning initiatives.</p> <p>Invite potential partners on a bike ride or walk to show them problem areas and opportunities.</p>	<p>Determine the route, or routes, that can link the greatest amount of people.</p> <p>Minimize the cost of implementation. Prioritize improvements that are low cost but have the highest impact.</p> <p>Consider both long and short-term solutions.</p> <p>Ensure that every resident is informed about a potential along their street.</p> <p>Think how each project might strengthen local characteristics and identity.</p> <p>Consider how to integrate wayfinding, traffic control and calming, modal separation, green stormwater infrastructure, and invitations.</p>	<p>Seattle residential streets can be closed up to once every month. Start programming and planning new events on the streets.</p> <p>Publish virtual and portable maps of the new routes to be constructed in the neighborhood.</p> <p>Familiarize people with the routes by re-routing Sunday rides, Safe Routes to Schools, and other safe events onto the Neighborhood Greenway.</p> <p>Organize other programs, such as a neighborhood speed watch, to further enhance the experience and achieve the 'Quality Criteria'.</p> <p>Consider offering incentives to users seen on a Neighborhood Greenway and thank them for using hand signals while biking or to drivers politely sharing the road with non-motorized users.</p>	<p>Measure the results regularly by gathering data. Continue to count pedestrian and bicycle usage, as well as staying activities along the Neighborhood Greenways.</p> <p>Regularly inform others about results using campaigns, media, or innovative methods, such as a public cycling counter, to encourage even more users.</p> <p>Interview users to identify additional needs and problems in the network.</p> <p>Share photographs of your street to get others excited.</p> <p>Recognize that improvements might need to be made. Document potential improvements using the 'Quality Criteria' and compare to data gathered in Step 4.</p>