



East Ballard SUNI Highlights

Street Level Survey: December 3, 2005

Map of Routes Surveyed:



Overview

Conducted on December 3rd, 2005, the East Ballard street-level survey focused primarily on 14th Avenue NW, located in the heart of East Ballard. As indicated on the maps to the left, there were four survey routes/teams: Teams A1 and A2 collected positive "asset" conditions, while Teams D1 and D2 collected negative "deficit" conditions. Survey volunteers included Ballard High School students and members of Sustainable Ballard and the East Ballard Community Association.

Conditions Sent to City

There are four deficit conditions which are recognized by Sustainable Seattle as priorities based on initiatives or targeted resources established by the City. These include: graffiti, potholes, large dumping and serious incidents of uneven pavement. These conditions are sent to the respective City of Seattle department immediately after they were collected. 15 conditions out of 254 total conditions collected in East Ballard were sent to the City to be addressed immediately. These issues were primarily graffiti with two instances of uneven pavement.

The tables below demonstrate the most frequently collected features/conditions during the survey, deficit and assets.

Table 1: Deficit Findings:

Feature	Deficits or Concerns	# of Incidents
Sidewalk	uneven pavement; litter; vegetation obstruction; pavers damaged; bollard damaged; invasive plants; other (sidewalk disappeared, drainage, graffiti); sandwich board blocking; slippery	73
Median	litter; weeds; other (potholes, parking, abandoned car)	29
Planting Strip	rutted; litter; dumping, other (grass, uneven asphalt)	29
Curb	damaged	22
Roadway	pothole; uneven pavement; litter	21
Crosswalk/Intersection	lines faded; missing	16
Suspicious Activity	alcoholic beverage containers; abandoned shopping cart	14
Other	graffiti; wobbly fence; fliers/stickers posted	12



Table 2: Asset Findings

Feature	Asset or Opportunity	# of Incidents
Sidewalk	clean; decorative utility cover; good & safe walking space; needed	9
Other	porch; solar panel display; under constructions/repairs; multifamily housing	6
Planter	flowering/greenery; well maintained	5
Planting Strip	asphalt/concrete should be removed; flowering/greenery; needed	5
Bench	attractive (cute sitting space); needed; useful	4
Public Space	green space; in use-well populated; architectural features; maintained	4
Signage	culturally, historically, &/or neighborhood appropriate; needed	4

Healthy Neighborhoods Study: November 2005

Sustainable Seattle conducted 92 community interviews in our 10 partner neighborhoods to get the stories behind the data – people’s perceptions, opinions, and ideas for building stronger and healthier communities. 10 community members were interviewed from Ballard, 5 were from the greater Ballard community and 5 were specifically from East Ballard. These community members represented business owners, East Ballard Community Association, the NW Senior Center, mothers, residents and activists. Through these interviews, the top issues in East Ballard were:

- **Ballard Struggles with Affordable Housing:** The majority of residents felt that Ballard as a whole does not adequately provide a variety of housing options for the various economic needs of residents. The rise in housing prices and lack of low income housing options are forcing families and the industrial work force out of Ballard.
- **Alternative Transportation a Growing Concern:** Mass transit was viewed as a desirable option, many of the interviewees criticized current transit initiatives for not being well planned. Additionally, many residents felt that the Burke-Gilman bike trail is a huge asset to the community, but biking through residential streets can be a challenge, if not outright unsafe, given the relatively narrow roads without bike lanes.
- **Pedestrian Corridors Needed Between East Ballard and Ballard Center:** The majority of the residents felt that Ballard and East Ballard were walkable neighborhoods, but at the same time, East Ballard residents noted that few pedestrian-friendly corridors connect East Ballard to Ballard Center. Respondents identified opportunities to develop green corridors for pedestrians and bikers to help reduce the isolation felt by East Ballard residents, and generally promote more walking and biking to Ballard Center.

For more related neighborhood-level data and information, such as pedestrian counts, interactive demographic and open space accessibility maps, please see Sustainable Seattle’s Website:

www.sustainableseattle.org/Programs/SUNI/