



Lower SE Rising Area Plan SE 72nd Ave Neighborhood Walk Notes

Tuesday, June 14, 2022
5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Stop 1 (SE 72nd Ave and SE Flavel St) – Intros and Community Development

- During introductions, everyone said where they lived or worked in the neighborhood or broader project area.
 - Jami LeBaron, ROSE CDC staff
 - Pam Hodge, Project Advisory Committee member
 - Flavel Dr resident
 - Nancy Chapin, Project Advisory Committee member
 - 62nd Ave resident
 - 66th Ave resident
 - 68th Ave resident
 - 72nd Ave resident
 - 72nd Ave resident
 - Matchu Williams, SE Uplift staff
 - Lexington St resident
 - Lexington St resident
 - Crystal Springs Blvd resident
 - Whitman Elementary past PTA member and resident
 - Nehalem St resident
 - Nehalem St resident
 - Mt. Scott-Arleta neighborhood resident
 - 70th & Harney resident
 - 72nd & Harney resident
 - 72nd & Ogden resident
 - Clatsop St resident
 - Child in stroller
 - Dog companions
- One resident moved into this neighborhood four years ago from NE because "here is the last place I could afford to buy was this far south."
- Walking east from SE 72nd Ave towards SE 82nd Ave is a "walking nightmare."
- From a resident with two grandkids at Whitman Elementary
 - The Grocery Outlet (SW corner) business is great. Three Sisters Nixtamal (NW corner) is another great business that has offered student field trips to see how tortillas are made. Mr. Lee of Lee Automotive (SE corner) is great and painted the business to beautify its view from Whitman Elementary. The Food Mart (NE corner) has been difficult and "feels illegal and like a gambling front...across from

a school.” Kids recognize that this is “ugly” and know that it represents less money/resources in the neighborhood. The Food Mart *is* known for having good jojos.

- School families at Whitman Elementary are advocating for speed bumps on SE Flavel St, especially since the school’s only street access is along SE Flavel St and cars frequently speed.
- Additional murals would be nice
- More places to sit would be helpful, especially for those with mobility issues or waiting longer for public transit.
- Additional food carts would be enjoyed.
- A protected left turn at SE 72nd Ave and SE Flavel St would help safety.

Stop 2 (SE 72nd Ave and SE Lexington St) – Transportation

- Appreciate the new SE Crystal Springs Blvd crosswalk.
- SE Nehalem St has problems with speeding.
- One resident didn’t want a sidewalk on SE Lexington St because of a concern that neighbors won’t maintain them (they would prefer a bioswale) and also commented that drivers use SE Lexington St as a byway to avoid the reduced school zone speeds.
- Several participants recommended more tree canopy to slow traffic (relatively cheaply) and to help with the urban heat island effect.
- One participant expressed that the lack of investment in the area makes many residents feel forgotten by the city of Portland and would like to see investment to make things feel like there’s more pride in the neighborhood.
- Cars parked on both side of Lexington at the intersection with SE 72nd makes it hard to turn in from SE 72nd, causing the need to “zip in quickly” and results in traffic backing up on SE 72nd waiting for this turn.
- One participant requested more island crossings to help with crossing.

Stop 3 (Black Cat Plumbing)

- A participant requested more, and better implemented, midblock crossings.
- Participants were curious about the ownership and future of the empty lot on SE 72nd and Crystal Springs.
- Participants commented on the large hole causing a puddle to form at the sidewalk along SE 72nd and Tenino.

Stop 4 (Johnson Creek Commons of ROSE CDC)

- Appreciation was passed along to ROSE’s work and to Nick Sauvie for being an active community advocate
- Reflective heat reduction roofs were suggested to include at future ROSE housing developments

Conversations while walking

- The vacant commercial properties between Crystal Springs Blvd and Nehalem would be nice to have a corner store, “or whatever its original intended use was.”
- On SE 72nd Ave between SE Tenino and SE Harney streets (outside of the baseball field in the right of way), there is ample space for larger trees instead of the current grass.
- It would be nice to talk with the Little League children from Parker Field how they walk to the field and what their difficulties are.
- One participant was concerned about the up zoning along the entire corridor of SE 72nd Ave (they live on a more residential part of SE 72nd Ave) and was interested in heavier investment at the major intersections, but not along the entirety of the corridor.
- More street paintings at residential intersections and other residential stretches where speeding tends to occur would be a beautiful way to calm speeding.
- Regarding SE 52nd Ave, one participant who missed that walk commented that there are no speed limit signs between SE Flavel and SE Duke streets and there is frequent speeding there. They didn’t feel this same pressure to speed on SE 72nd Ave.
- The speedbumps along Duke Street are largely avoided by drivers using the cutouts through the middle of the road.