



## CITY OF KIRKLAND

Department of Public Works  
123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3800  
[www.ci.kirkland.wa.us](http://www.ci.kirkland.wa.us)

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### MEMORANDUM

**To:** David Ramsay, City Manager

**From:** Daryl Grigsby, Public Works Director  
Ray Steiger, P.E., Capital Projects Manager

**Date:** March 26, 2009

**Subject:** MARGARET CARNEGIE CORRESPONDENCE – 124<sup>TH</sup> AVE N.E. WALK ROUTE

### RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that City Council approve the attached response letter to Margaret Carnegie, Chair of the North Rose Hill Neighborhood Association.

### BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

Ms. Carnegie has written to the City on behalf of the North Rose Hill Neighborhood Association expressing the neighborhood's desire and support for pedestrian improvements along 124<sup>th</sup> Ave N.E. Specifically, they are asking the City to consider the completion sidewalks within walking distance of Mark Twain School and Costco (Attachment A) as a high priority in the CIP process.

Since its annexation into the City of Kirkland in 1988, a number of improvements have been made in the North Rose Hill Neighborhood including parks, roadways, facilities (Fire Station #26) and utilities. Pedestrian amenities remain one of the most highly sought improvements in North Rose Hill and throughout Kirkland; currently the City provides a little over \$1,000,000 annually for sidewalk and bicycle improvements throughout the City in the Capital Improvement Program. Many additional pedestrian facilities are provided by private development. In the North Rose Hill neighborhood 124<sup>th</sup> Ave N.E. provides an excellent example of how this combination of sources is building the pedestrian network. The recently adopted Active Living Transportation Plan emphasizes the continued development of safe and available pedestrian facilities with higher priority given for improvements near destinations and trip generation locations such as schools, parks and commercial areas (Attachment B).

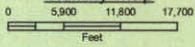
The 2009-2014 CIP does not specifically identify sidewalk projects along 124<sup>th</sup> Ave N.E., however they are included in the unfunded roadway improvements planned along 124<sup>th</sup> Ave N.E. Additionally, sidewalks *are* being constructed between NE 85<sup>th</sup> Street and NE 90<sup>th</sup> Street along 124<sup>th</sup> Ave N.E with the N.E. 85<sup>th</sup> Street Improvement project that will commence with underground utility conversion this year – sidewalk and intersection improvement construction will follow in 2010. Additional sidewalk improvements are identified in the unfunded CIP transportation list included NM-0026 and NM-0056, and NM-0037, which will provide for sidewalks along NE 90<sup>th</sup> Street near Costco and 130<sup>th</sup> Ave near Mark Twain Elementary respectively. Based on future funding and prioritization, these improvements are planned by the City.

Attachments: A - Vicinity Map  
B – Active Living Transportation Plan Exhibit  
C – Pedestrian Facility Investment by Neighborhood  
Ms. Carnegie Letter  
Draft response

# North Rose Hill Pedestrian facilities



Vicinity Map



**Map Legend**

**Street Centerlines**

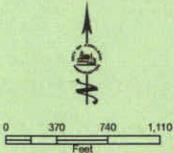
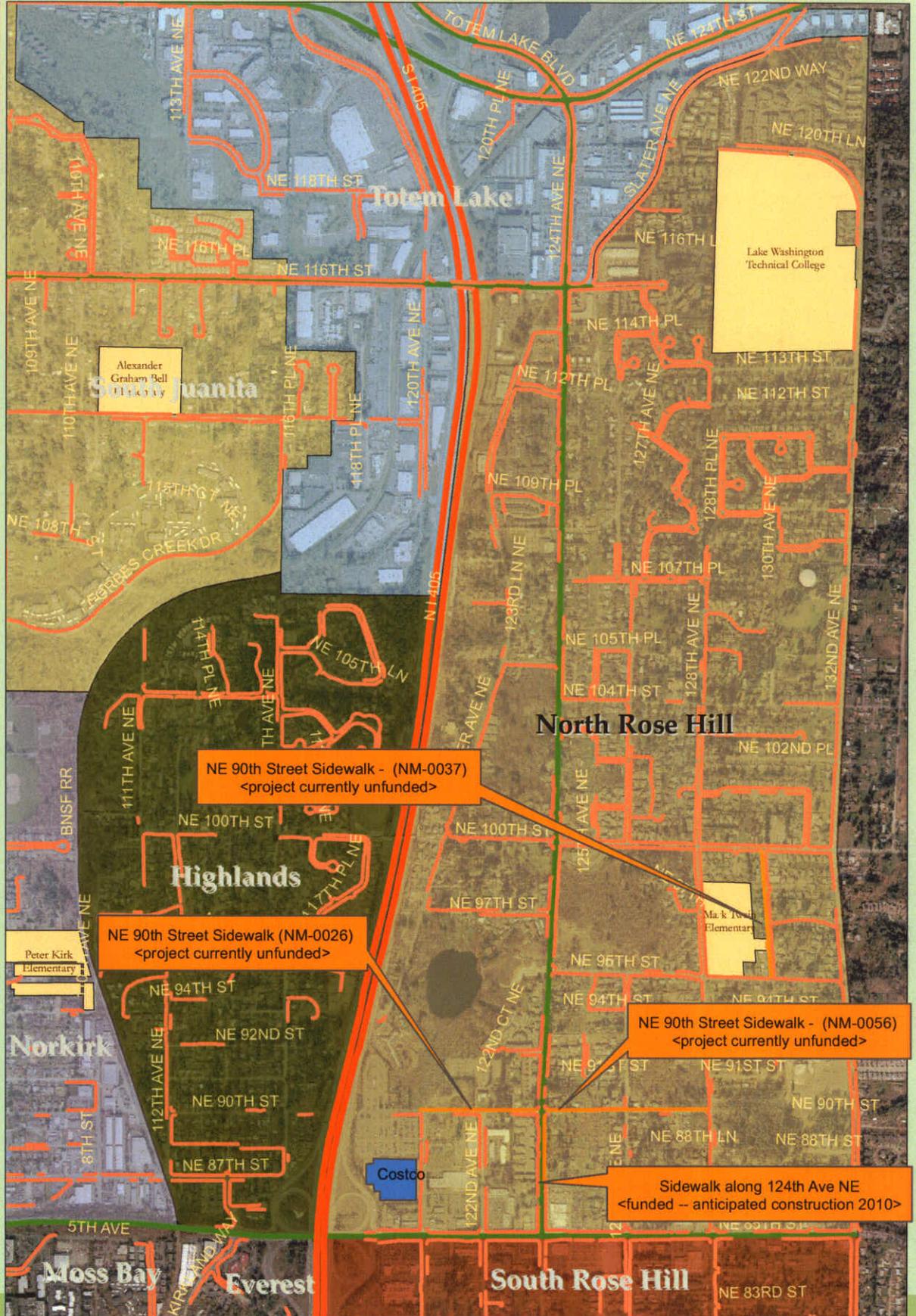
- Principal Arterial
- Interstate
- Sidewalk inventory

**Schools**

- Schools

**Neighborhoods**

- Highlands
- Norkirk
- North Rose Hill
- South Juanita
- South Rose Hill
- Totem Lake

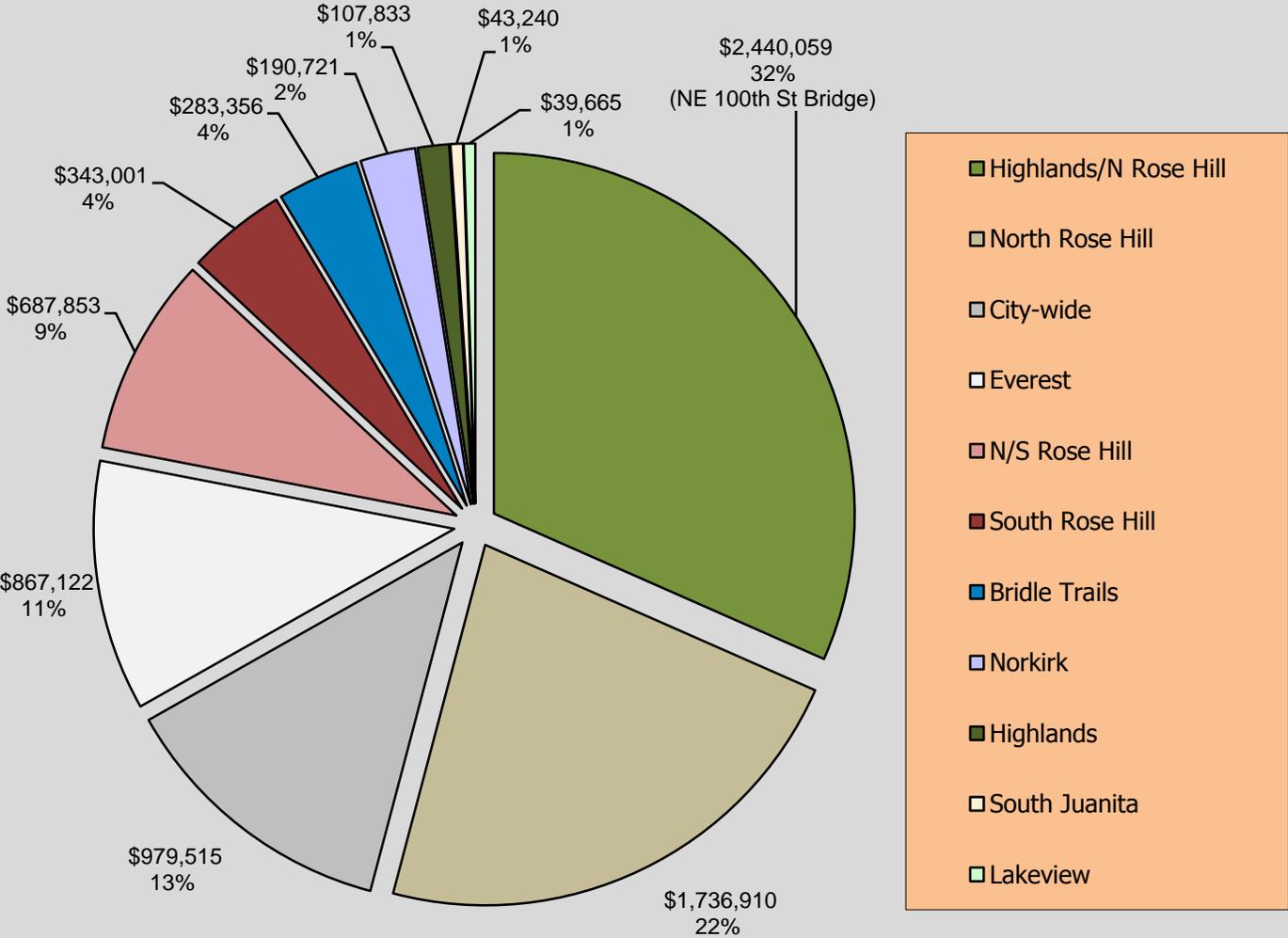


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**Table 10 Relative weighting between and within destination types.**

<i>Destination</i>	<i>Relative weighting within destination by type</i>				<i>Total % weighting for destination</i>
<i>Schools</i>	One school		Shared campus		30%
	$\frac{1}{8}$ mile or closer	between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{8}$ mile	$\frac{1}{8}$ mile or closer	between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{8}$ mile	
	1.25	1.00	1.30	1.10	
<i>Transit</i>	Peak hour		All-day		20%
	$\frac{1}{8}$ mile or closer	Between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{8}$ mile	$\frac{1}{8}$ mile or closer	Between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{8}$ mile	
	0.95	0.75	1.25	1.00	
<i>Parks and Commercial areas (counted separately)</i>	$\frac{1}{8}$ mile or closer	Between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{8}$ mile	Not used, only one type		Parks 30%
	1.25	1.00			Commercial areas 20%

# Allocation of sidewalk CIP Investment\* per neighborhood (1997 - 2007)



**\*Total Transportation expenditures (1997-2007) = \$43.5M**  
**Total Sidewalk investment (1997 -2007) = \$7.7M**

Margaret Carnegie, Chair  
North Rose Hill Neighborhood Association  
11259 126<sup>th</sup> Ave. N.E.  
Kirkland, WA 98033

March 10, 2009

Ray Steiger, Kirkland Public Works  
City Council Members

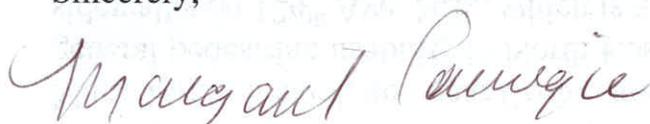
Mr. Steiger and Council Members, I'm writing this letter on behalf of North Rose Hill citizens.

In the spring of 2008, the North Rose Hill Neighborhood Association conducted an online survey. In the section on Safety, sidewalks (or lack of) were considered a serious problem by 30% and a minor problem by 34%. In a related category, 47% of respondents considered speeding/traffic a minor problem and 19% considered it a serious problem. To summarize in another way, 2/3 of respondents consider sidewalks and traffic issues a problem. As a result of this survey and other more informal discussions at neighborhood meetings, completed sidewalks along 124<sup>th</sup> Ave. N.E., within walking distance of Mark Twain School, and near Costco are considered important for safety and general pedestrian usability in North Rose Hill. As a result, we want to make sure sidewalks on 124<sup>th</sup> Ave. N.E., which is a principal arterial, is a top priority for the Capital Improvement Program.

The neighbors could become more active participants in non-motorized/active transportation if they felt safe walking on 124<sup>th</sup> Ave. N.E. to get to destinations both in and out of the neighborhood with safe sidewalks. There are those who feel the North Rose Hill Neighborhood doesn't get the deserved support it needs to catch up with the quality of other neighborhoods. There are those who believe the neighborhood was better supported before annexation.

Again, acknowledging the current financial situation of the City of Kirkland, we do look forward to having safe walking conditions on 124<sup>th</sup> Ave. N.E. by having a complete sidewalk system on this principal arterial in the very near future and encourage you to make this happen.

Sincerely,



Margaret Carnegie

## DRAFT

April 8, 2009

Margaret Carnegie, Chair  
North Rose Hill Neighborhood Association  
11259 126<sup>th</sup> Ave. N.E.  
Kirkland, WA 98033

Dear Ms. Carnegie:

Thank you for your recent letter in support of non-motorized improvements along 124<sup>th</sup> Ave N.E. in the North Rose Hill neighborhood. We continue to be reminded that available and safe walking facilities remain as one of Kirkland's highest held priorities both by the community and by the City Council. The benefits of providing safe walking facilities for personal health, the environment, and for building community are clear, and the Council's financial commitment in this area remains high.

The recently adopted "Active Transportation Plan", now the City's third version of our non-motorized comprehensive plan, articulates the community's policies, programs, and goals in one document which allows us to focus on investing limited resources where they can best benefit pedestrians and bicycles. Consistent with our past prioritization process, the Active Transportation Plan, emphasizes the importance of having facilities along principal arterials such as 124<sup>th</sup> Ave N.E., and in the immediate vicinity of community destinations such as elementary schools and commercial areas (such as Mark Twain Elementary and Costco).

Beginning this year, we will be undertaking construction on the NE 85<sup>th</sup> Street corridor improvements and with those improvements will come completed sidewalks on 124<sup>th</sup> Ave NE between NE 85<sup>th</sup> Street and NE 90<sup>th</sup> Street. Other anticipated projects in North Rose Hill include sidewalks along NE 90<sup>th</sup> Street from Costco to 128<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, and sidewalks along 130<sup>th</sup> Ave NE adjacent to Mark Twain Elementary; although unfunded in the Capital Improvement Program at this time, the City continues to seek external grant funding as a revenue source and development projects will continue to provide components of the pedestrian network. Although the current CIP won't be reconsidered until the fall of 2010, we will retain your support letter in our records.

Your neighborhood's support for these specific improvements is essential for their funding and allows staff to verify that the current prioritization system is consistent with the community's overall goals. Again, thank you for your comments and interest in this issue.

Sincerely,  
KIRKLAND CITY COUNCIL

James L. Lauinger, Mayor

Cc: Ray Steiger, P.E., Capital Projects Manager