The Snohomish County Parks Department is designing and building the Wellington Hills County Park near Woodinville. The entrance to the park will be from 240th Street SE, and will be controlled by a proposed roundabout near the west side of the park. As part of the project, Snohomish County Public Works is designing roadway improvements along 240th Street SE between Snohomish-Woodinville Road and 75th Avenue SE.

Originally, Public Works planned to design a continuous sidewalk along 240th Street SE from Snohomish-Woodinville Road to the park entrance at the top of the hill. As a result of comments we heard from neighborhood residents at the meetings, we are adding improvements to that proposal.

What are the plans for 240th Street SE, west of the park entrance? (see map page 2)

Public Works will widen 240th Street SE to include 12- to 14-foot-wide driving lanes and a 5-foot-wide sidewalk on the north side of the road. The current road has 10-foot-wide lanes. The wider road will improve accessibility for vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists. Crews will also widen and restrripe 240th Street SE at the intersection with Snohomish-Woodinville Road to include a left-turn/through lane and a right-turn lane, and will upgrade the signal to include a left-turn arrow. Crews will also monitor signal timing to help keep traffic moving. These upgrades will improve traffic flow for drivers turning north and south onto Snohomish-Woodinville Road from the 240th Street SE neighborhood.

The new sidewalk on 240th Street SE will connect to an existing sidewalk near Snohomish-Woodinville Road, which will create continuous access for pedestrians from Snohomish-Woodinville Road to the park entrance at the top of the hill on 240th Street SE. A private-property owner will replace the wall near the existing sidewalk, and the temporary fencing and barriers will be removed.

The Parks Department is also proposing a pedestrian overpass at the top of the hill on 240th Street SE that will connect to the sidewalk on 240th Street SE.

What are the plans for 240th Street SE, east of the park entrance? (see map page 2)

The Parks Department plans to build a roundabout at the park entrance. Pedestrians and cyclists can cross 240th Street SE at the roundabout. Visit www.snoco.org and search for “roundabouts” to see how they benefit drivers and pedestrians.

Residents who live along 240th Street SE commented that vehicles sometimes speed along 240th at the top of the hill, which makes it difficult to cross the...
street to their mail boxes. Public Works will add three speed humps across both lanes of the road—one between the roundabout and 71st Drive SE and another two between 71st Drive SE and 75th Avenue SE.

Public Works plans to build a tabletop intersection at 71st Drive SE. Tabletop intersections are raised approximately 6 inches above the road surface and are striped with crosswalk markings. Tabletop intersections are similar to wide speed humps. Pedestrians are more visible to drivers and drivers must slow down to cross these raised intersections. Lanes on 240th Street SE will not be widened east of the roundabout.

The roundabout, narrower lane widths, speed humps and tabletop intersection are all traffic-calming elements that will help reduce vehicle speeds through the neighborhood and park.

In response to requests for pedestrian access to the park, Parks and Public Works plan to add a walkway to the road design on the south side of 240th Street SE from the east boundary of the park to 75th Avenue SE.
A new path is also proposed within the park that will run parallel to 240th Street SE. This path will connect to the sidewalk west of the roundabout and the walkway east of the park.

Prior to the roadway improvements, Public Works plans to install a solar-powered speed sign along 240th Street SE, west of 75th Avenue SE for westbound traffic. This is an interim improvement designed to alert drivers who are exceeding the posted speed; the sign will display the actual speed of an approaching vehicle right below the posted speed.

What are the plans for 75th Avenue SE?

Residents also told us that sight distance is limited for eastbound traffic turning onto 75th Avenue SE. The county is purchasing right of way at the southwest corner of 240th Street SE and 75th Avenue SE to open up the view to the road and make it easier to see bicyclists, vehicles and pedestrians approaching from the south.

Another solar-powered sign will be installed on the east side of 75th Avenue SE south of the 240th Street SE intersection to alert drivers who are exceeding the posted speed.

The Parks Department is negotiating with a property owner to provide a 5- to 8-foot-wide paved pedestrian walkway/access to the park from 75th Avenue SE at the southeast corner of the park. Residents coming from south of the park in Woodinville will be able to walk along the 8-foot-wide shoulder of 75th Avenue SE, (156th Avenue NE in King County), to this new pedestrian access point.

Public Works is also looking at opportunities to reestablish gravel shoulders on 75th Avenue SE in conjunction with a chip seal paving project planned for this summer.

Construction schedule

Public Works engineers are incorporating changes into the road project design, and expect to complete their design work during 2013. Construction on the road could begin in 2014, depending on the schedule of the Parks project.

Public Works may add streetlights on 240th Street SE between Snohomish-Woodinville Road, the roundabout at the park entrance, and at the intersection of 240th Street SE and 75th Avenue SE. Residents in these areas are encouraged to submit their comments to Public Works staff at the January meeting, or by e-mail to tina.hokanson@snoco.org.

A detailed traffic analysis for the park project, discussing traffic impacts and access to the park, will be available during SEPA review.