There’s water in Lake City!” said a resident at a community meeting. The entirety of Lake City is within the Thornton Creek Watershed. The watershed feeds Lake Washington and is historically home to salmon and many other animals. Providing these faux bridges give an opportunity to increase pedestrian safety while providing a stamp helping the people identify that they are in an important watershed.

BRIDGING COMMUNITIES

Image Credits: Aerial Photo: http://www.google.com (Compiled/Edited by E. Plana); Renderings: E. Plana; Word Cloud: http://www.wordle.com, compiled via survey by E. Plana

Existing Lake City = Urban Watersheds

Little Creek Crossings:
NE 130th & LCW
NE 125th & 33rd Ave NE

Thornton Creek Crossings:
NE 95th & LCW
NE 117th & LCW
NE 125th & Lake City Way & 117th

This rendering of a new pedestrian crossing and faux bridge art installation announce to the traffic that they are entering a different space that requires attention. This provides safety for pedestrians. These crossings are proposed at creek crossings, which coincide with popular pedestrian travel routes.
What’s is an Urban Design Framework?

A vision for future development that guides City investments.
What’s in the Urban Design Framework?

Background information

Recommendations:
• Gateways, nodes, and the civic core
• Land use character
• Building form
• Building height
• Ground floor open space strategies
• Getting around
• Parks and open space
• Strategies for equitable development

Implementation
Guiding Principles

1. Strong Sense of Place
2. Economic Vitality
3. Transportation Excellence
4. Pedestrian Orientation
5. Diversity and Housing
6. Sustainable Development
7. Environmental Stewardship
Possible redevelopment sites

community center with housing above

public plaza with a water feature

offices and STEAM jobs

more small community businesses
Gateways, hearts, and the civic core

- Gateways mark entrance into Lake City (the North District)
- Nodes emphasize neighborhood connections
- Public art celebrates Thornton Creek crossings
- Enhance Civic Core

Wayfinding signs

King County bridge art by Leo Saul Berk
The civic core

strengthen the civic core with a full service community center, public open space, additional businesses, and housing

buildings at these opportunity sites should provide additional jobs and housing

improve connections between retail core, civic core, and Virgil Flaim park

residential buildings along 33rd Ave NE should meet the street with stoops and landscaping

key opportunity sites in the business district

public art celebrates Thornton Creek crossings

Civic Core

Hub Urban Village Boundary

opportunities sites

parks
Land use :: rezones

Consider applying
Neighborhood Commercial
- mixed use with ground floor retail
- other mixed uses

Keep existing zoning types
- multifamily residential
- parks

- hub urban village boundary
- North District boundary
Land use :: desired uses
Building form

- Green roofs
- Upper-level setbacks
- Street-level design
- Modulation
- Sidewalk cafes
- Sidewalks & curb bulbs
Building form

Mid-block connections

Street trees

Human scale
This graphic is from the Pierre Visioning Project report that shows taller buildings with a variety of public open spaces.
Ground floor open space

Pocket Parks

- Residential or commercial
- Public space
- Semi-private space

Mid-block Connector
Getting around

- sidewalks!
- improve east-west connections
- create mid-block crossings
- design a festival street

Bike Master Plan Network

- existing
- recommended

- pedestrian corridors (from neighborhood plan)
- pedestrian connections
- pedestrian connections

- - - Hub Urban Village Boundary
Parks and open space

- need more!
- restore and protect Thornton Creek
- preserve access to Lake Washington
- protect and enhance tree canopy and green belts

- parks
- Thornton Creek
- riparian corridor
- green belt or restoration areas
- Hub urban village boundary
- North District boundary
Parks and open space

- full service community center!
- community garden
- activate mini-park
- new skate park
- active uses
- water feature
- gathering spaces

- parks
- riparian corridors
- wetlands
- hub urban village boundary
Sustainable strategies

- natural drainage systems
- green stormwater infrastructure
- green factor
- food gardens
Implementation

- zoning changes
- development standards
- identify community-serving uses for the Civic Core
- create streetscape concept plan
- continue community partnership

4.4 Implementation strategies

Implementing the vision for the future of Lake City will require coordinated effort from the community, the City, and private developers. The following matrix describes the likely time frame for completion and the responsible parties for implementing the Urban Design Framework recommendations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposed action</th>
<th>City of Seattle</th>
<th>Amenity plans</th>
<th>private development</th>
<th>time frame</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finalize the Lake City Urban Design Framework which will guide land use regulations, public investments, and community efforts in coordination with Lake City Future First.</td>
<td>○ ○ ○</td>
<td>In progress</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Update zoning in the North District to reflect vision of Lake City as a pedestrian-oriented village. Consider development standards and other planning tools that will help implement UDF recommendations.</td>
<td>○ ○ ○</td>
<td>Immediate (2015)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continue to build organizational capacity through Lake City Future First and carry out the vision for Lake City.</td>
<td>○ ○ ○</td>
<td>In progress/ongoing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Principle 1: Strong sense of Place**

- Apply development standards that encourage upper-level setbacks, a mix of sizes for ground floor tenants, and sensitive transitions between commercial and residential areas. For larger blocks, encourage mid-block crossings and integration of public open space. ○ ○ ○ short-term & long-term (1 to 10 years)
- Accommodate new households and jobs within new buildings consistent with currently allowed building heights of 4-6 stories in most locations. ○ ○ ○ short-term & long-term (1 to 10 years)
- Be a demonstration center for family-zoned multifamily housing as a transition between single-family and neighborhood commercial uses. ○ ○ ○ short-term & long-term (1 to 10 years)
- Complete the Parks Department evaluation of alternatives for the Lake City Community Center with public input. Identify options for development of a new, full-service community center that serves residents, particularly youth and seniors, of the northern portion of the North District. ○ ○ ○ short-term (2015)
- Work with the Office of Housing and LIHI to ensure that investment in affordable housing is accompanied by community services within the same building. ○ ○ ○ short-term (2015)
Implementation :: next steps in 2015

Q2
- Draft Urban Design Framework

Q3
- Final Urban Design Framework
- Streetscape concept plan
- Comprehensive Plan amendments reviewed by City Council

Q4
- Rezones submitted to City Council
Lake City Future First

Envisioning Healthier Neighborhood Design | Lake City

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59 60

City of Seattle
Department of Planning and Development

Thank you!!