Overview

Goal: establish a common understanding of planning tools and existing conditions

- Categories of public space
- Public space uses
- U District existing conditions
Categories: public property

- Parks – owned and managed by Seattle Parks
- P-Patch Community Gardens – managed by Dept. of Neighborhoods, open to public but plots by reservation
- Streets
  - Green streets
  - Festival streets/woonerfs
Categories: private property

- Privately owned public spaces ("POPS") – required for certain kinds of development, public access required as a permit condition
  - Plazas & “pocket parks”
  - Through-block ped pathways

- Residential amenity space – 5% of residential floor area for every building, only open to residents (not public, but adds to network for residents)
Categories: UW campus

- Lawns, plazas, and trails
- Large collection of mature trees
- Open to the public, but different mgmt from City parks
Planning tools

- Land use regulations:
  - Public access requirements
  - Residential amenity area
  - Streetscape improvements
- Design guidelines
- Special street designations, streetscape plans
- Buying property/capital improvements
Public space uses

- Passive uses: seating, views, people-watching
- Playgrounds
- Food cultivation
- Walking & exercise
- Dog runs
- ???

Consider the needs of different user groups.
Comp Plan goals; existing gaps

- Urban center goals include:
  - 1 acre per 1,000 households (about 6.5 acres in U District)
  - All locations within about 700 feet of a park
- U District identified as one of 7 deficient areas in north Seattle
- Planned parks to meet quantity goals, but not distribution
- Context is important: campus and Burke Gilman play unique roles
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