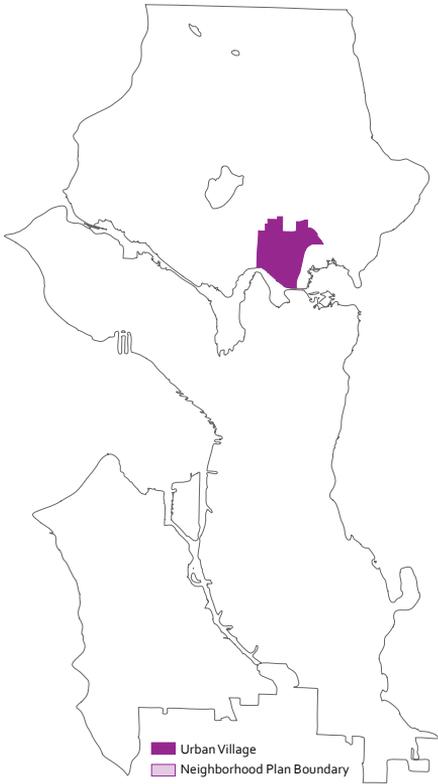


# UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

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## Who did we hear from?

There were 10 -12 participants at the neighborhood discussion and 37 online responses. The online respondents were diverse in both their connections to the area and the number of years that they had been connected to it.

## What did we hear?

- Most respondents seem relatively ambivalent about changes in the neighborhood—some changes to the business district along the Ave are welcome while others are not. Similarly some people like the new apartment buildings while others lament the loss of single family homes.
- Capitol improvements to sidewalks have been positive.
- Respondents were generally positive about transit improvements and light rail.
- The farmers market was also appreciated.
- Some people noted that crime has increased while others feel it has decreased.

For more information about the Neighborhood Status Check, including the complete summary of the neighborhood discussion and the transcript of the online responses, please see the Planning Commission's [report](#).

## What are the similarities between the in-person and online responses?



Issues raised were similar among both groups of respondents in both the changes noticed and in the success and concerns raised. As with the in-person respondents, there were differing opinions online as to whether the Ave had improved or gone downhill, about whether crime was worse or better, and about whether population growth that has occurred was positive or not. There were also similar complaints about the quality of development, especially townhouses, which was true of the meeting group as well. On the positive side, all applauded the farmers' market growth and the acquisition of the community center.

## What are the differences between the responses?

The in-person participants seemed to be more aware of activities of City University Community Advisory Committee (CUCAC) and the change of Safeco tower to UW offices (only one mention of the later online). The online group seemed to be more focused on safety issues as a negative aspect of the community—this was a standout in the question about which changes or aspects people were most displeased with.

### *In their own words...*

## How has your neighborhood changed?

*On balance, denser.*

*Past decade: Ave has "come back"; University Heights property will soon be in the hands of the community; transit service has improved and will continue to improve with light rail; demographic characteristics are changing (larger "households"); Infill has picked up (until the current economic recession)*

*The Ave reconstruction is very nice--I especially like the artwork. Safeco jobs are gone. There are more nearby grocery stores (Trader Joe's, and Whole Foods in Roosevelt) and the Farmer's Market has grown and is now year-round. There are several new apartment buildings, almost exclusively targeted to students. Most of the townhome construction north of 50th is sad--many are showing age in just a few years.*