

# City of Seattle Housing Affordability and Livability Agenda

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& Seattle Office of Housing



Aurora- Licton  
Springs  
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# Investing in our communities



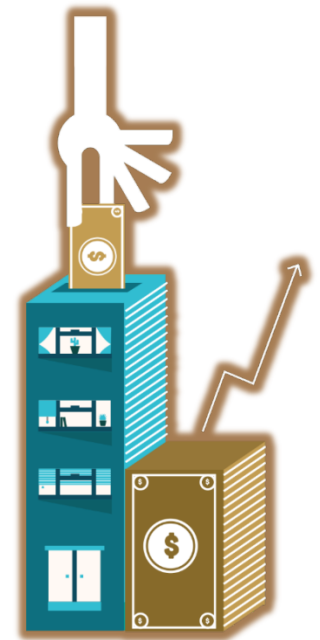
# Seattle's housing reality



2,942 people are living **without shelter** in Seattle.



More than 45,000 Seattle households pay **more than half of their income** on housing.



Average rent for a 1-bedroom apartment in Seattle **increased 35%** in the last five years to \$1,641.

# The HALA goal



In the next 10 years:

**30,000**

**new market-rate homes**

- Critical to expand housing options to meet growing demand
- Continue growth in urban centers
- Reduce permitting barriers
- Maximize efficient construction methods
- Provide incentives for family-sized housing



**20,000**

**affordable homes**

- Net new rent- and income-restricted homes
- Includes new construction and acquisition rehab
- About 3x current production
- New and expanded public and private resources
- Funding programs primarily serve  $\leq 60\%$  AMI households
- Incentive programs primarily serve 60% to 80% AMI households

# HALA in action



**Invest in housing  
for those most in  
need**



**Create new  
affordable  
housing as we  
grow**



**Prevent  
displacement and  
foster equitable  
communities**



**Promote  
efficient and  
innovative  
development**

# Mandatory Housing Affordability (MHA)

What is MHA and how does it work?



HOUSING AFFORDABILITY  
AND LIVABILITY AGENDA

# What is MHA?



## Growth with affordability

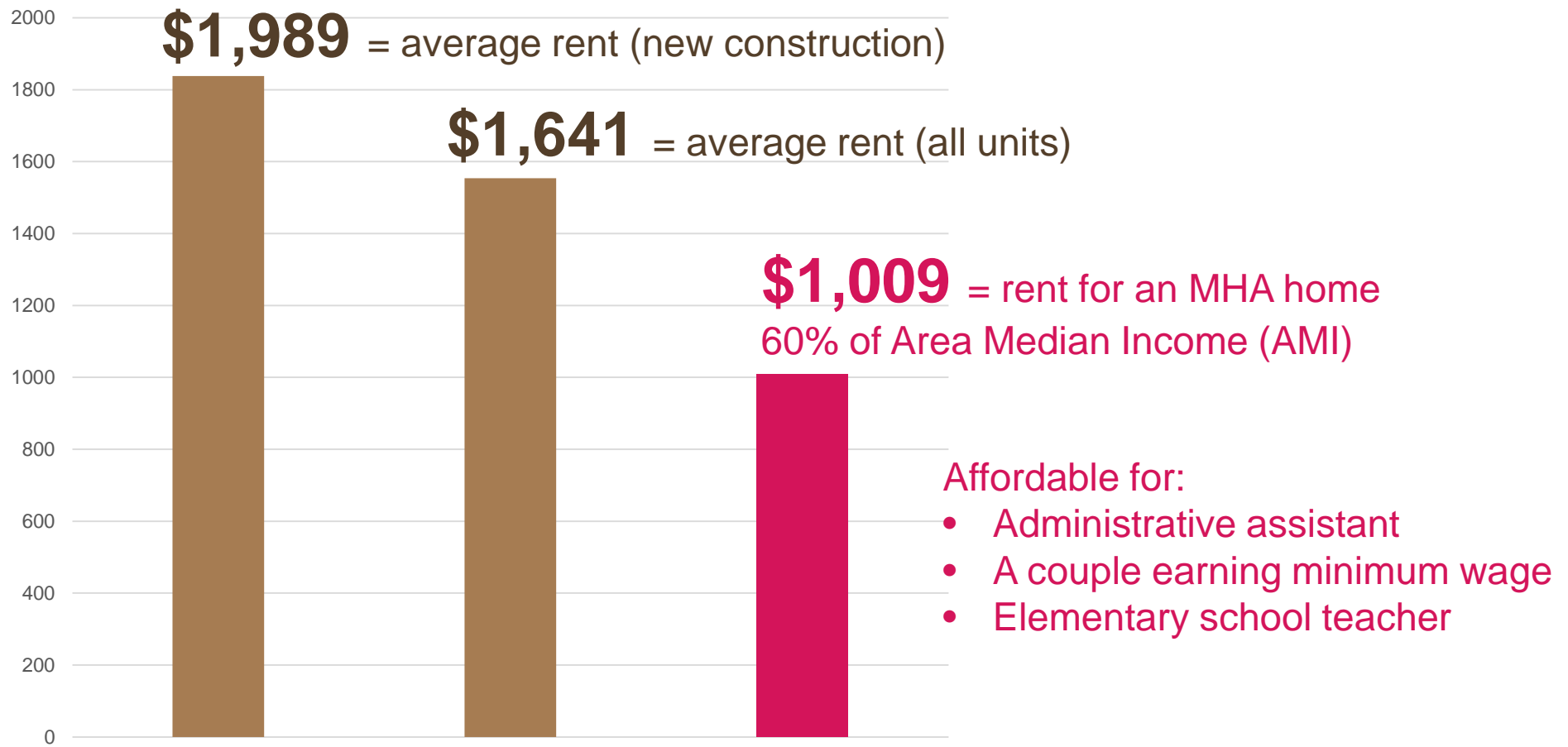
- All new multifamily and commercial development must either build or pay into a fund for affordable housing
- Provides additional development capacity to partially offset the cost of these requirements (zoning changes)
- Increases housing choices
- A state-approved approach other local cities have used



# MHA and affordability



## Market Rents and Affordable MHA Rents one-bedroom unit



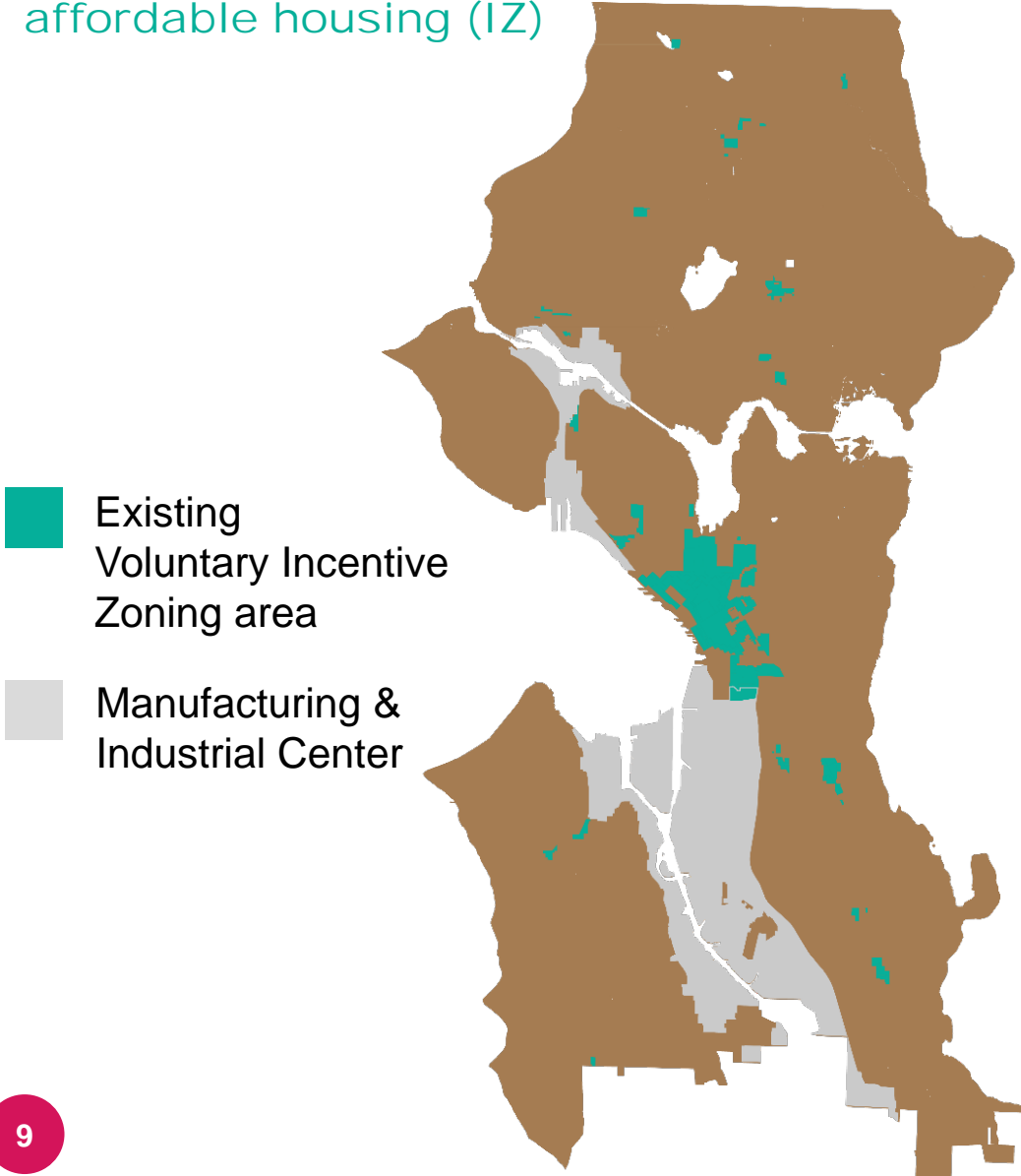


# A citywide program



## EXISTING

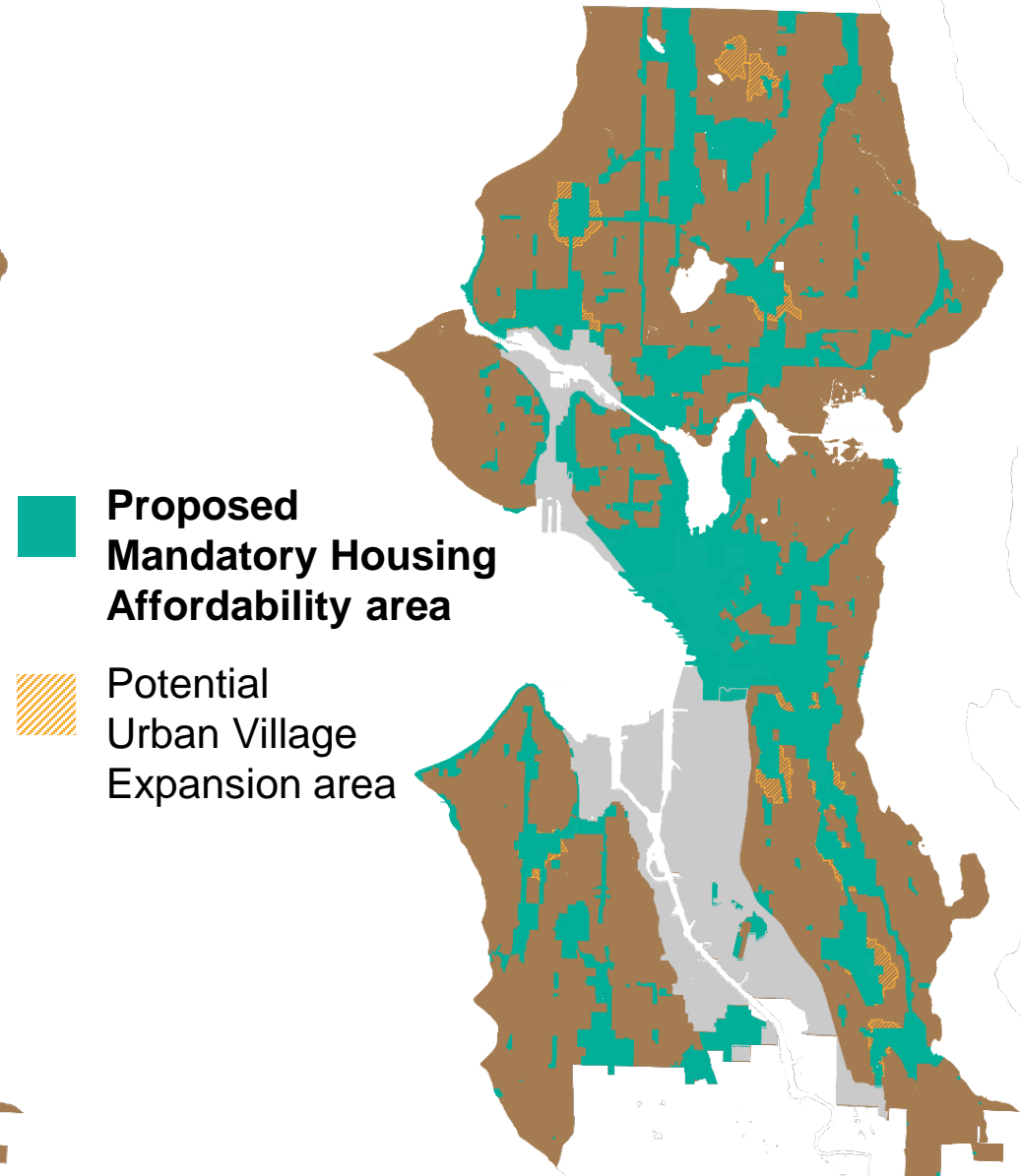
Voluntary Incentive Zoning for affordable housing (IZ)



- Existing Voluntary Incentive Zoning area
- Manufacturing & Industrial Center

## PROPOSED

Mandatory Housing Affordability (MHA)



- Proposed Mandatory Housing Affordability area
- Potential Urban Village Expansion area

# Putting MHA into effect

Zoning and urban village boundary changes

# What is an urban village?



Vibrant local businesses



Transportation options

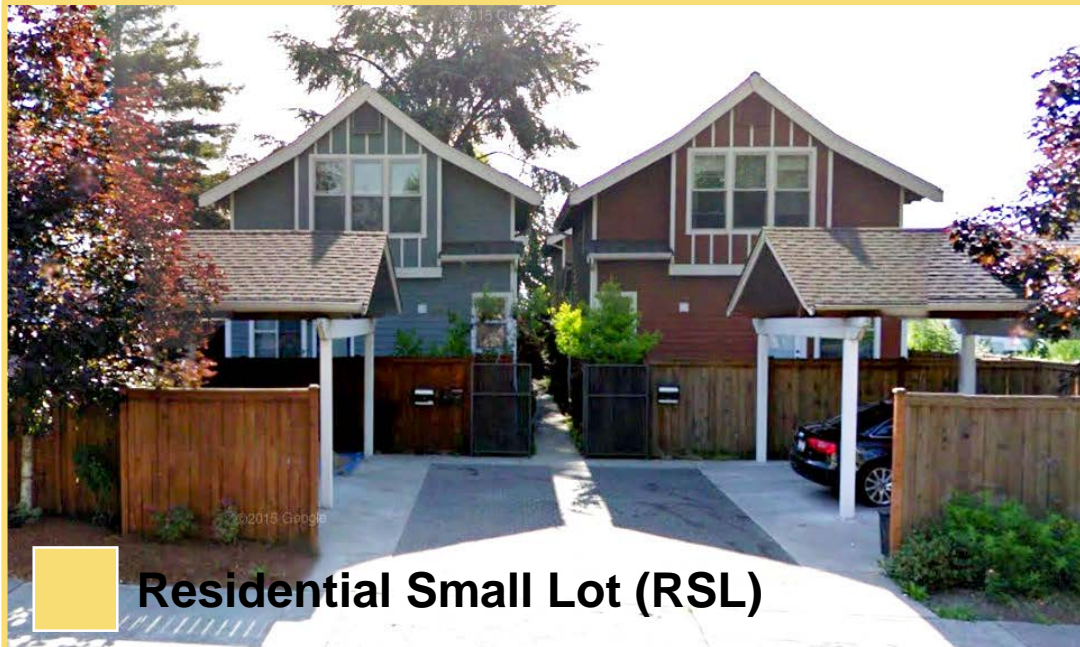


Amenities & investments



Community gathering places

# What is zoning?



# MHA zone changes – typical

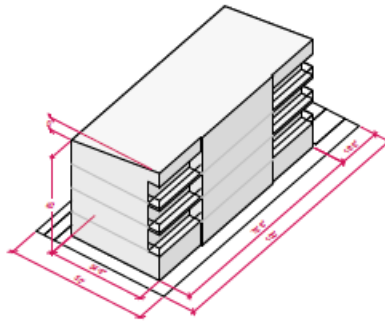


## EXISTING LR3

Height Limit	40'
FAR* max	2.0
Setbacks	
Front	5' min
Rear	10' w Alley, 15' w/o
Sides	5' if bldg less than 40' in length or 7' average, 5' min.
Parking	1 per unit; No min in Urban Villages

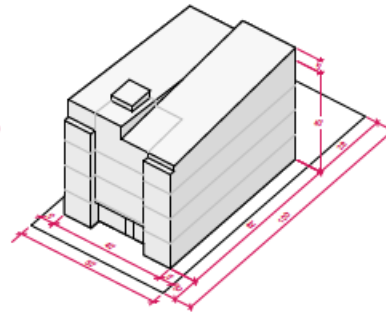
\* FAR = Floor Area Ratio

### RENTAL APARTMENTS - IN TRANSITION - SMALL INFILL SITE



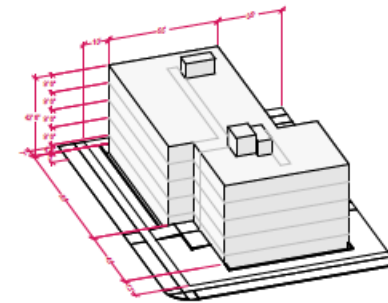
Lot Size	5,000sf
FAR max	x 2.0
Total Allowed GSF	= 10,000
Efficiency Factor	.8
Total NSF	8,000
Average net unit size	800
Total units	10
Parking spaces provided	5

### ROWHOUSES - TRANSITION - SMALL INFILL SITE



Lot Size	5,000sf
FAR max	x 2.0
Total Allowed GSF	= 10,000
Efficiency Factor	.8
Total NSF	8,000
Average net unit size	800
Total units	10
Parking spaces provided	0

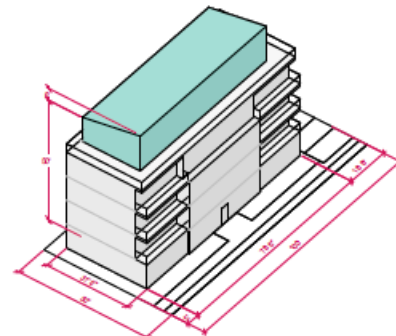
### RENTAL APARTMENTS - MULTIFAMILY AREA- LARGE INFILL SITE



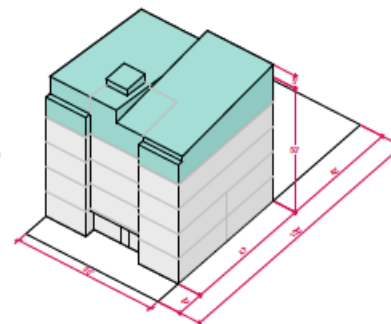
Lot Size	15,000sf
FAR max	x 2.0
Total Allowed GSF	= 30,000
Efficiency Factor	.8
Total NSF	24,000
Area below grade	7,000
Total units	48 (10 below)
Average net unit size	650
Parking spaces provided	12

## PROPOSED MHA LR3

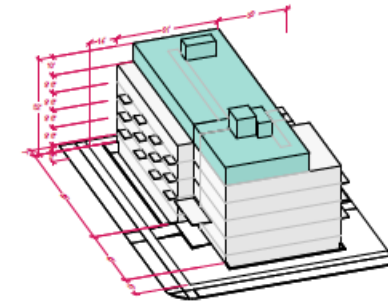
Height Limit	50'
FAR max	2.2
Setbacks	
Front	5' min
Rear	10' w Alley, 15' w/o
Sides	5' if bldg less than 40' in length or 7' average, 5' min.
Parking	1 per unit; No min in Urban Villages



Lot Size	5,000sf
FAR max	x 2.2
Total Allowed GSF	= 10,100
Efficiency Factor	.8
Total NSF	8,800
Average net unit size	650
Total units	14
Parking spaces provided	5



Lot Size	5,000sf
FAR max	x 2.2
Total Allowed GSF	= 10,100
Efficiency Factor	.8
Total NSF	8,800
Average net unit size	650
Total units	14
Parking spaces provided	0



Lot Size	15,000sf
FAR max	x 2.2
Total Allowed GSF	= 33,000
Efficiency Factor	.8
Total NSF	26,400
SF below grade	7,000
Average net unit size	650
Total units	51 (10 below)
Parking spaces provided	12

# MHA zone changes – other



- Local input and community preference
- Urban village boundary expansions
- Changes in single-family zoned areas



# Local Input: Aurora – Licton Springs



- Make Aurora Ave. N more walkable and create a sense of place
- Discourage mini-storage and similar light industrial uses
- Support more local businesses
- Adding more housing in the existing commercial areas makes sense
- Make sure family-sized housing is created
- The neighborhood needs urban design guidelines

# Principles to Guide MHA Implementation

How the MHA Principles inform the draft  
zoning maps



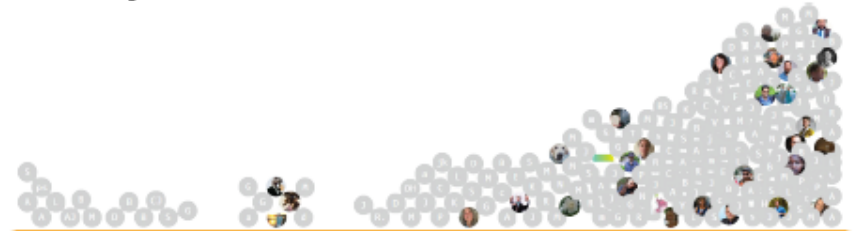
# MHA Principles



**Based on community input**

## Online

Consider locating more housing near parks, schools and other community assets.



**Focus Groups &  
Community Meetings**

# Core principles



- MHA goal is at least 6,000 affordable homes in the next 10 years
- Create affordable housing opportunities throughout the city
- Expand housing options in existing single-family zones within urban villages
- Expand the boundaries of urban villages to allow more homes near good transit
- Evaluate MHA implementation using a social and racial equity lens



# Evaluate MHA with a racial equity lens



## Consider questions such as:

Who is not at the table with us right now?  
Who should be?

- Renters?
- Low-income people?
- Seniors?
- People of color?
- English language learners?
- People experiencing homelessness?

What are the tradeoffs of a given idea or suggestion?

Example:

*“Preserve the character of single family zones”*

- Does this limit who can live in these areas?
- Where should affordable housing go instead?

What does it mean for social equity to propose greater increases in housing density along arterials?

- Pedestrian safety
- Air quality
- Light and noise
- Adjacency to landscaping and green space

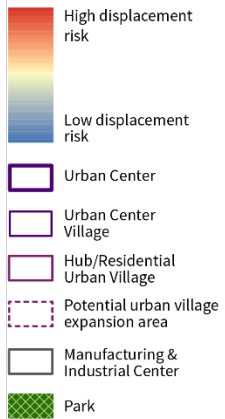
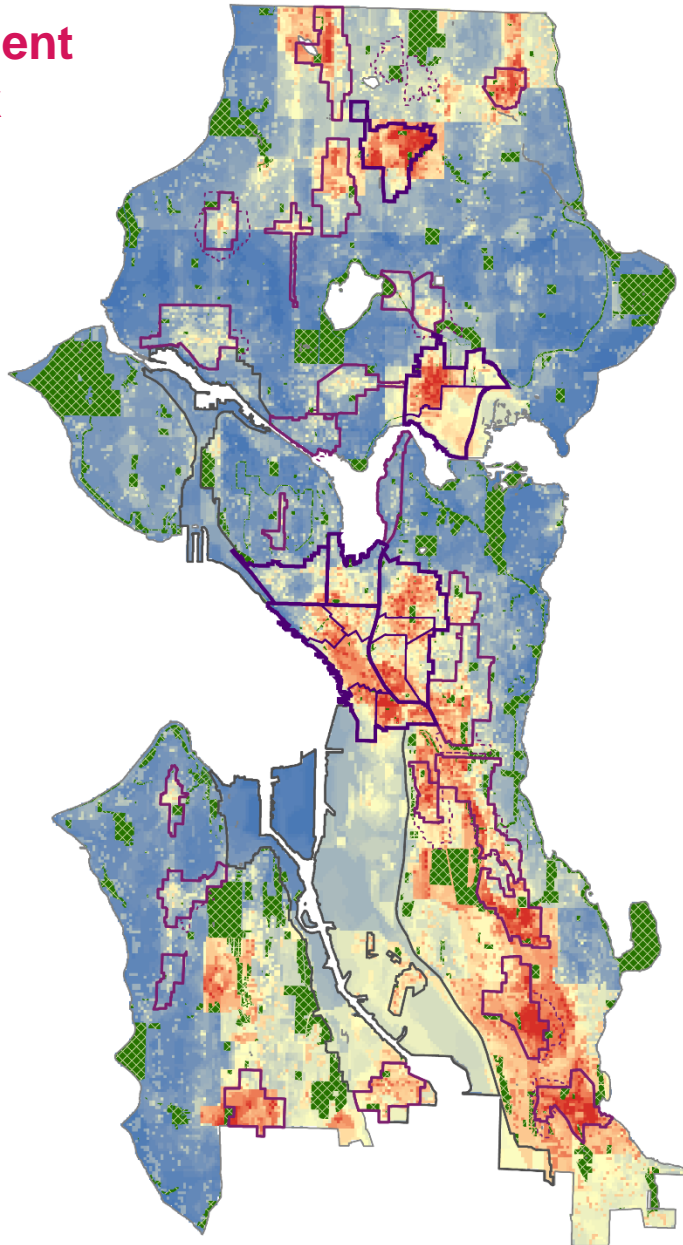
When considering various alternatives, what assumptions do we make about people who are different from us?

- Renters
- Homeowners
- Low-income individuals
- Tech workers
- People who have recently moved to the area
- Longtime residents
- Millennials

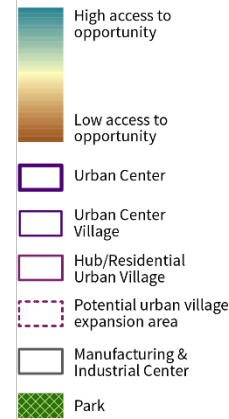
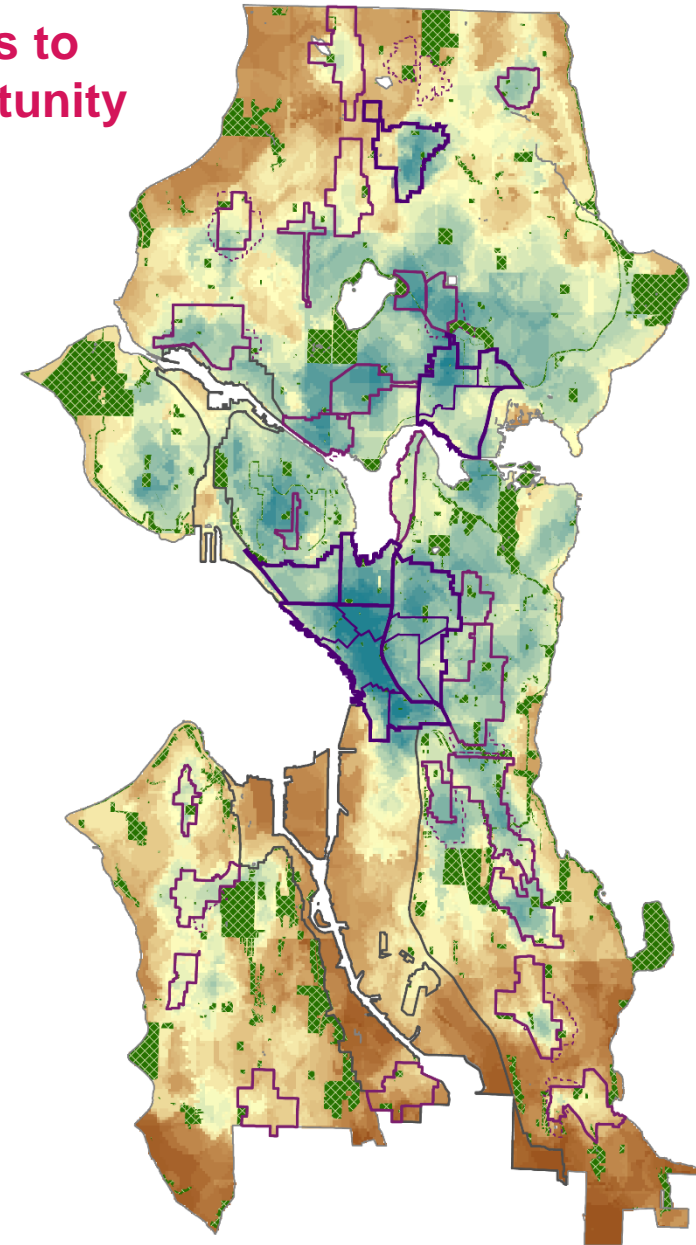
# Evaluate MHA with a racial equity lens



## Displacement Risk Index



## Access to Opportunity Index



# Principle: Housing Options



**Encourage a wide variety of housing sizes, including family-sized homes.**



**Crown Hill survey: Protect/retain existing single family housing areas.**

# Principle: Transitions



**Plan for transitions between higher- and lower-scale zones as additional development capacity is accommodated.**



Survey: Focus density on arterials and build there first.

# Principle: Assets and Infrastructure



**Consider locating more housing near neighborhood assets and infrastructure such as parks, schools, and transit.**



Survey: Support for adding green space, and transit connections to especially to Northgate

# Principle: Neighborhood Urban Design



**Consider local urban design priorities when making zoning changes.**



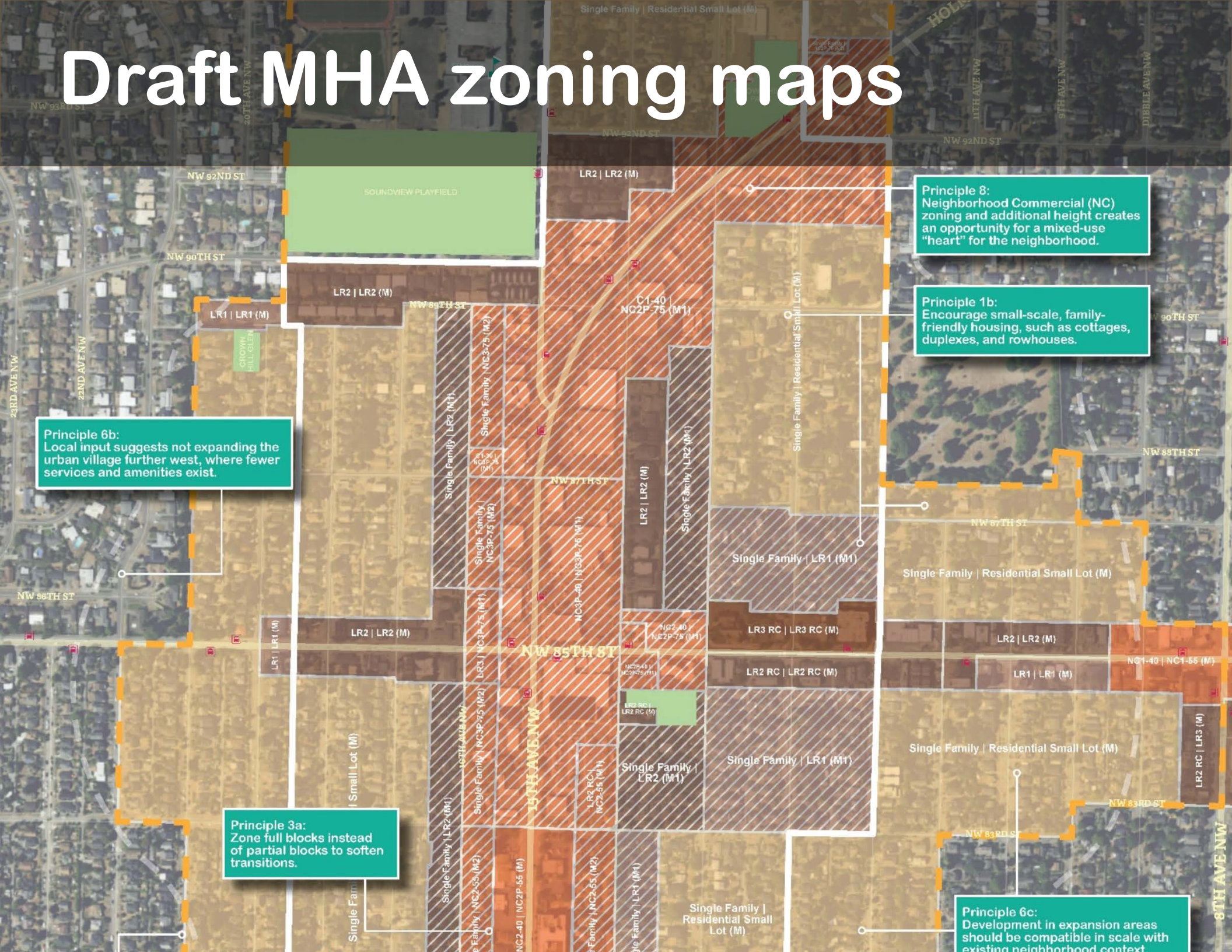
Survey: Support for safer sidewalks, and a vibrant business center



# Reading the MHA maps

Zoning changes to implement MHA

# Draft MHA zoning maps



**Principle 6b:**  
Local input suggests not expanding the urban village further west, where fewer services and amenities exist.

**Principle 8:**  
Neighborhood Commercial (NC) zoning and additional height creates an opportunity for a mixed-use "heart" for the neighborhood.

**Principle 1b:**  
Encourage small-scale, family-friendly housing, such as cottages, duplexes, and rowhouses.

**Principle 3a:**  
Zone full blocks instead of partial blocks to soften transitions.

**Principle 6c:**  
Development in expansion areas should be compatible in scale with existing neighborhood context.

# Where MHA applies



# existing zoning | draft zoning



FROULA PLAYGROUND

(M1)

Single Family |  
Residential Small  
Lot (M)



# Hatched areas



- Change from one zoning type to another  
(e.g., **Multifamily to Neighborhood Commercial**)
- A change other than a typical amount  
(e.g., **Single Family to Lowrise 1**)



# What do zoning changes mean?



Zoning does not require someone to change or develop their property

Establishes rule for the scale of buildings and the uses that can occur on a site, when redevelopment occurs



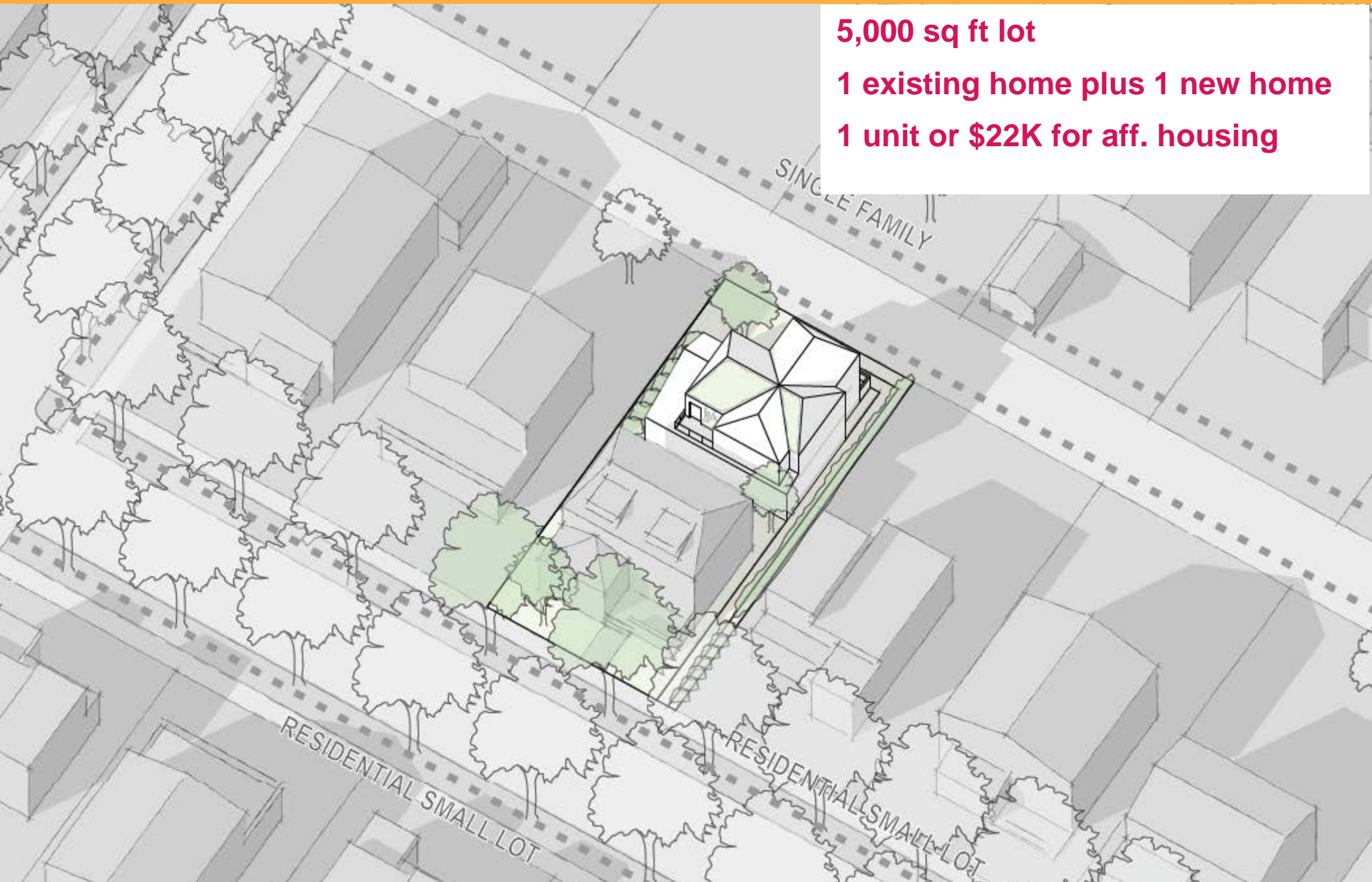
# Residential Small Lot (RSL)



**5,000 sq ft lot**

**1 existing home plus 1 new home**

**1 unit or \$22K for aff. housing**



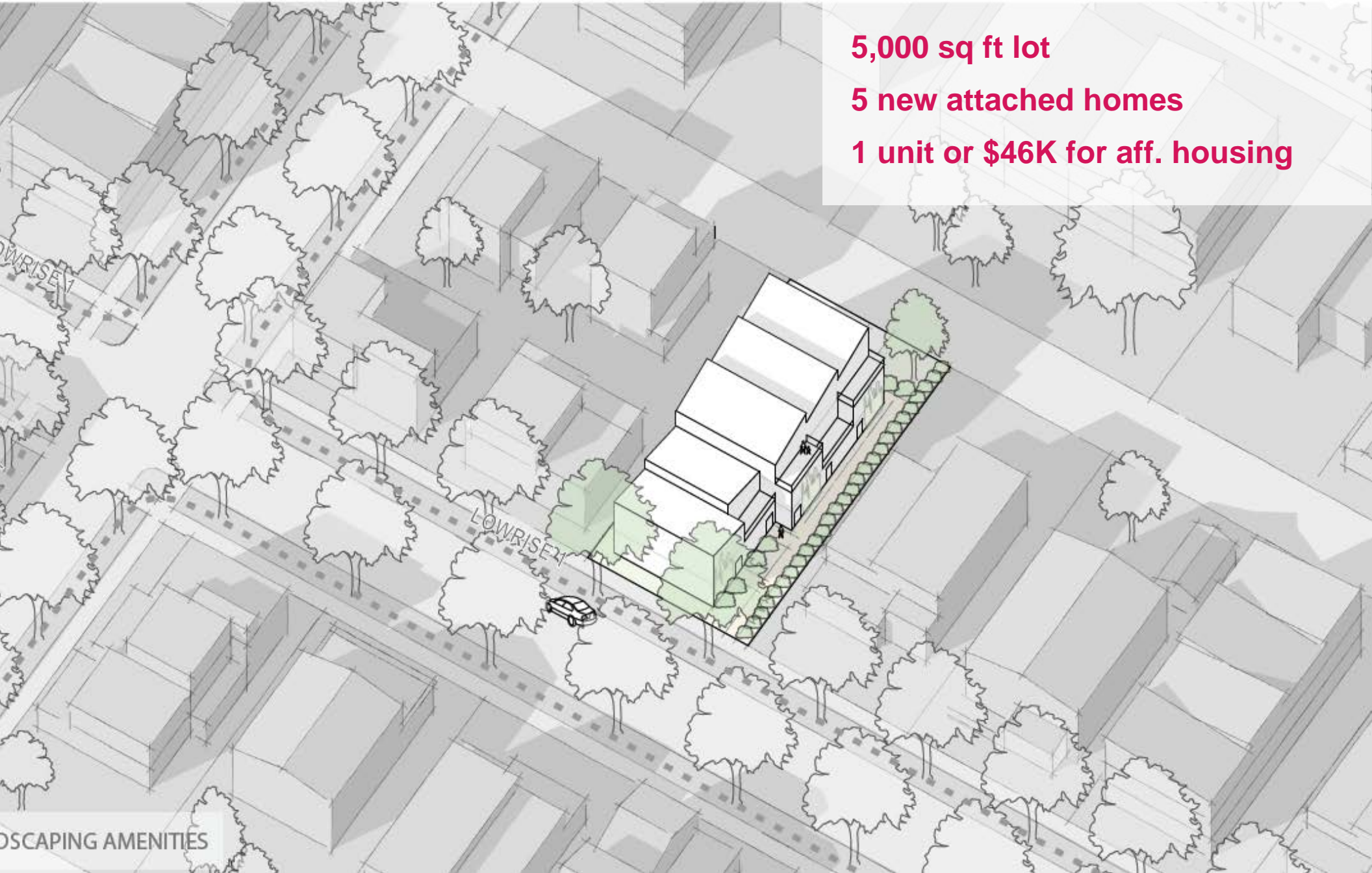
# Lowrise 1 (LR1)



**5,000 sq ft lot**

**5 new attached homes**

**1 unit or \$46K for aff. housing**



LANDSCAPING AMENITIES



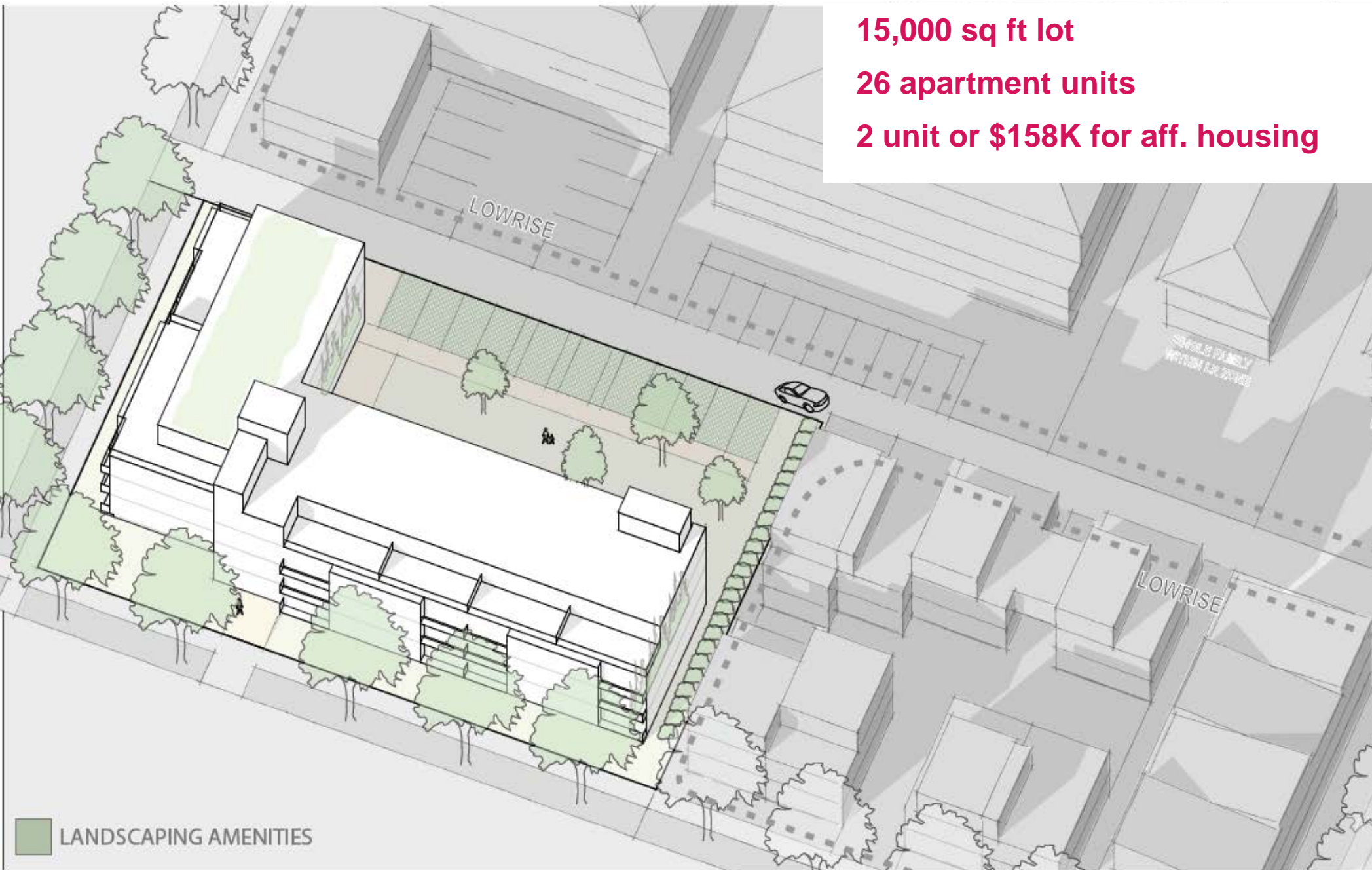
# Lowrise 2 (LR2)



**15,000 sq ft lot**

**26 apartment units**

**2 unit or \$158K for aff. housing**



LANDSCAPING AMENITIES

# Lowrise 3 (LR3)



**15,000 sq ft lot**

**51 apartment units**

**3 units or \$280K for aff. housing**



LANDSCAPING AMENITIES

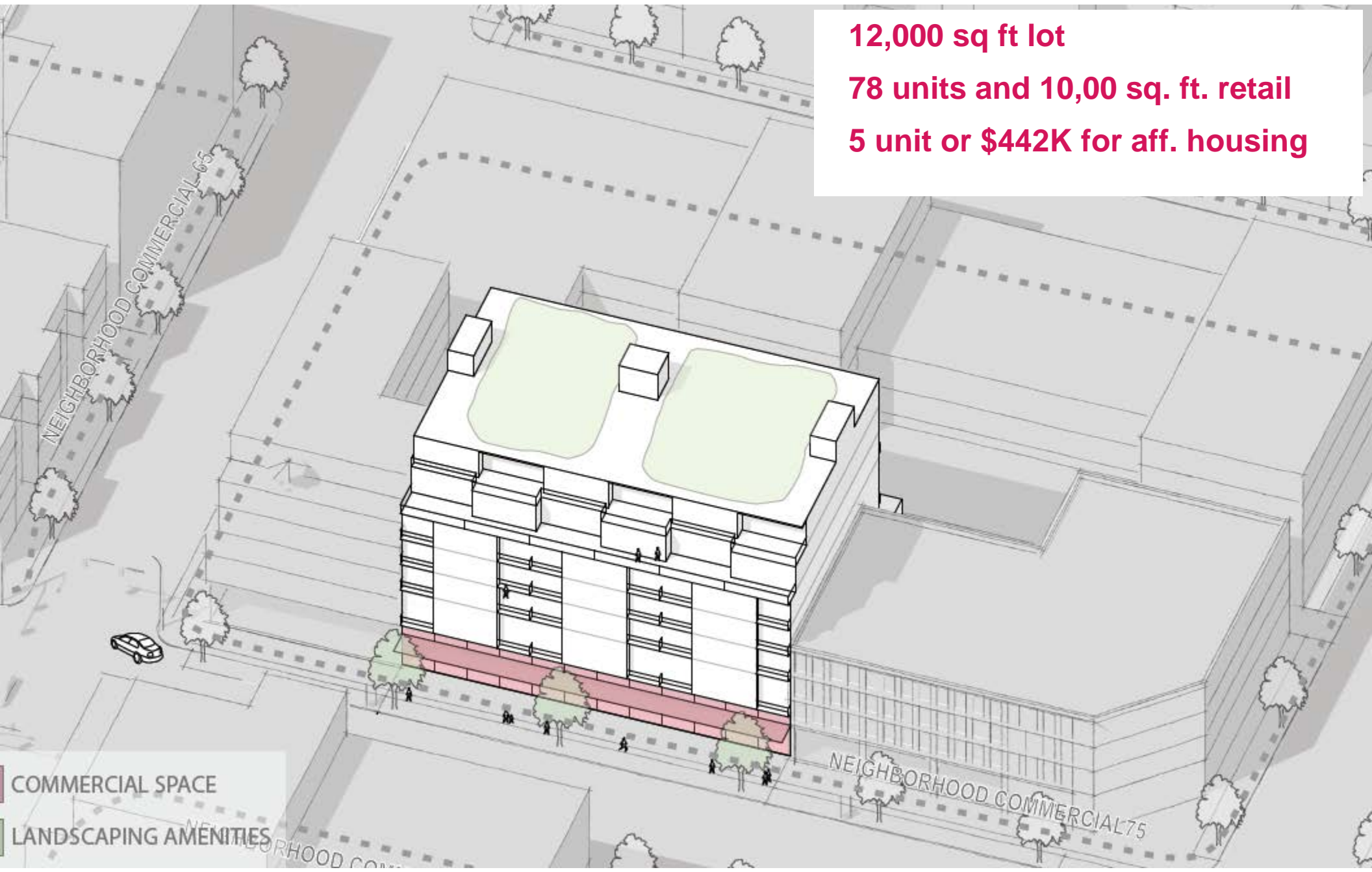
# Neighborhood Commercial -75 (NC-75)



**12,000 sq ft lot**

**78 units and 10,00 sq. ft. retail**

**5 unit or \$442K for aff. housing**



COMMERCIAL SPACE

LANDSCAPING AMENITIES

# Your feedback



## Does the draft map match the MHA Principles?

### Zone changes:

- Is the location, and scale of the draft zone change reasonable to implement MHA affordable housing in this neighborhood?

### Single Family rezone areas:

- Are the Residential Small Lot (RSL) and Lowrise (LR) zones proposed in appropriate places?

### Urban Village expansion areas:

- Does the draft boundary expansion match an approximate **10-minute walk** to the transit hub and reflect **local factors**?

# Other ways to participate



## Online dialogue

### HALA.Consider.It

All urban village draft zoning maps online for comment and dialogue.

## Citywide mailing

~ December 2016

## Local meetings & group discussions

City staff will attend to the extent possible.

## 5 community meetings

- **12/3** Bitter Lake (10 a.m.-12 p.m.)
- **12/7** West Seattle
- **12/13** Roosevelt / Ravenna (6-8 p.m.)
- **1/10** First Hill (6-8 p.m.)
- **1/21** Columbia City (10 a.m.-12 p.m.)

## EIS process

- **Feb. 2017** Draft EIS: 45-day comment period
- **May 2017** Final EIS

## 9 Neighborhood Urban Design Workshops

- **10/20** N. Beacon Hill
- **10/29** Roosevelt
- **11/9** Westwood–Highland Park
- **11/15** Crown Hill
- **11/29** Aurora–Licton Springs
- Othello
- Rainier Beach
- South Park
- Wallingford

thank you.

[www.seattle.gov/HALA](http://www.seattle.gov/HALA)

[HALA.Consider.it](http://HALA.Consider.it)



HOUSING AFFORDABILITY  
AND LIVABILITY AGENDA