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BACKGROUND & INTRODUCTION

Overview

Light rail and bus rapid transit are coming to North Seattle. Over the next year the City will engage the community and agencies in 130th & 145th Station Area Planning. This planning process will consider options for future development and investment to create a vision for the area within a 10-minute walk of a station. Major topics to be explored include:

- **Thoughtful Growth** what types of housing, retail and other uses are best for the station area?
- Getting Around how will people of all ages and abilities get to/ from the station easily and safely?
- **Livable Community** what makes the station area a place with great spaces and strong connections that meet the needs of the community?
- **Community Engagement and Equity** how do we elevate the voices of underrepresented groups and those at-risk of displacement in the planning process?

Project Timeline

This planning effort includes two major phases:

Phase 1 Visioning (2019)

Phase 2 Implementation Strategies (TBD)

Phase 1 Visioning

Ongoing Community Involvement Website, email updates, surveys, meetings, online tools, workshops, and open houses Open House & Workshops **Draft Vision Background Options for** the Future Mar-Aug 2019 Jan-Apr 2020 Sept-Dec 2019 **Existing Conditions** Generate Options for the Future Phase 1 Report Feedback on Draft Vision Issues & Opportunities Discuss, Analyze & Refine Options

Next Steps

BACKGROUND & INTRODUCTION

Planning Areas

The 130th & 145th Station Area Planning, led by the City of Seattle, will include a smaller "Station Area", and a larger "Study Area". Sound Transit leads the planning, design and construction of the light rail station, alignment and other required facilities. The City and Sound Transit work closely together to ensure the overall planning is coordinated, especially around improvements in the public right of way immediately adjacent to the light rail project area.



Purpose of Background Report

The purpose of this Background Report is to provide key information to the community and agencies about the people and the places that new light rail and bus rapid transit will serve. This will provide a foundation for future meetings, workshops and conversations about the future of the station area.

Information is culled from a range of sources: US Census, City of Seattle data, King County Property Assessor, Urban Land Institute, previous markets studies and previous public engagement summaries.

Report Organization

Who Lives Here History and demographic profile

What's Here Now Land use, development, community

destinations, parks and open space housing

Moving Around Streets, sidewalks, cross walks, traffic, speed

limits, collisions, bicycle infrastructure and

transit service

Natural Environment Tree canopy, habitat, steep slopes, drainage

Economic Characteristics Jobs, market trends and potential for TOD

and Trends

Previous Sound Transit and City of Seattle **Previous Community**

Engagement engagement processes

Additional Background Information can be found on the **project website**.

Station Area

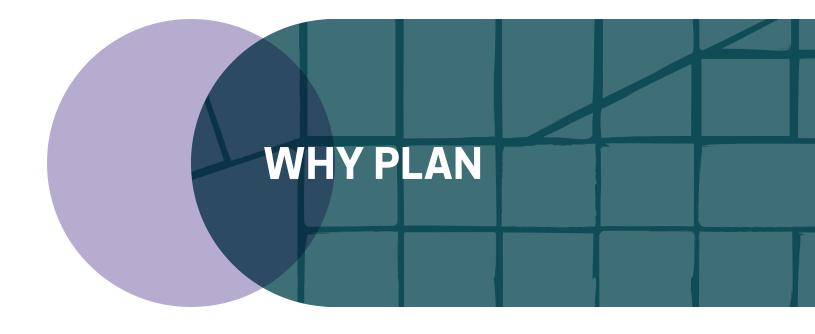
Smaller area accessible within a 10- minute walk of the light rail station. Planning led by City of Seattle.

Study Area

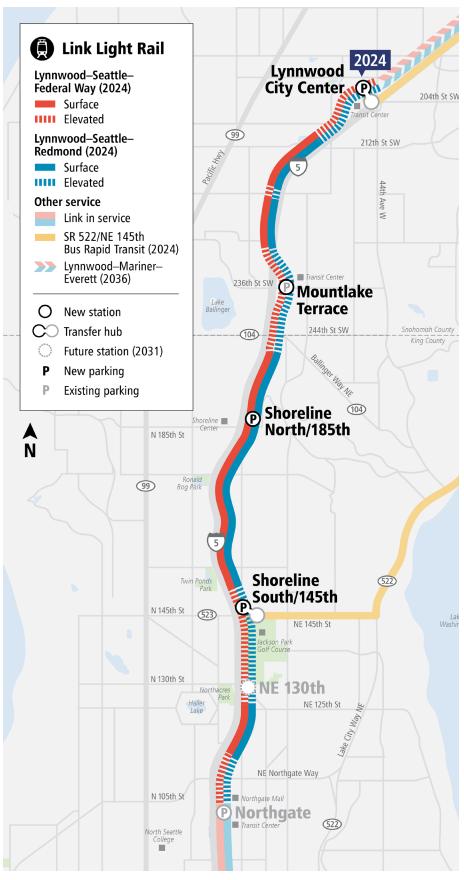
Larger area accessible to the light rail station by a short bus, bike or car trip. Planning led by City of Seattle.

Light Rail Project Area

Area where light rail alignment, station and other required facilities are designed, built and maintained by Sound Transit.



WHY PLAN | About Transit Investments in the Study Area



On November 4, 2008, voters approved the \$17.8 billion Sound Transit 2 (ST2) ballot measure. The plan includes transit investments in the Puget Sound Region ranging from bus rapid transit (BRT) to light rail expansion and including station access improvements. Among these investments, Link light rail service will extend north from University of Washington to Lynnwood.

In 2016, the \$54 billion Sound Transit 3 (ST3) ballot measure was passed to include additional transit investments including the 130th St. station that is scheduled to open in 2031. ST3 also includes SR522 BRT to serve growing areas of North Lake Washington.

Below is a brief timeline of transit investments in the region.

History of Transit Investments

- **2008** Voters approve ST2. Includes the Lynnwood Link Extension and the 145th St. Station
- **2016** Voters approve ST3. Includes the130th St. Station and SR522
- **2019** Sound Transit completes final design / begins construction of Lynnwood Link Extension
- 2021 Northgate Link Extension and Station scheduled to open
- Lynwood Link, 145th St. Station and SR 522 BRT scheduled to open
- 2031 130th St. Station scheduled to open

Source: Sound Transit

WHY PLAN | Why do we do Station Area Planning?

Regional investments in transit will bring Sound Transit light rail stations to 130th Street and 145th Street. Over the coming years, these investments will lead to other changes in north Seattle neighborhoods. These transit investments create a unique opportunity for the City of Seattle, communities surrounding these stations, and agency partners to work together to create a shared vision for the future of the area.

Station Area Planning brings together community members and government agencies to multiply the impact of the new station and development for everyone who lives, works and visits in the surrounding neighborhoods—now and in the future. We focus on areas within a 10-minute walk of the planned light rail stations, while considering broader neighborhood and regional needs. We plan for change by considering how to support:

Neighborhood Voices – Ideas and plans are reflective of neighborhood input and benefit the broader community

Community Benefit – Transit and other investments capitalize on unrealized potential and create new opportunities, particularly for existing and underrepresented members of the community, in areas such as housing, services, and amenities

Access for All – People of all ages and abilities from all parts of the community can safely and easily access transit and new development through various modes of travel (walking, biking, driving, riding)

Future Change – As the station area evolves over time, decisions should be innovative, durable, and flexible, to accommodate for growth, changes in course

Policy Alignment – Seattle's plans are part of a statewide system of land use and transportation planning established by the Growth Management Act to create better connected communities. This plan should align with state, regional and citywide policies applicable to station areas.

Other Investments will support and enhance new light rail stations. Typical investments include:

- Improved streets to support access to the station and for safety;
- Better walking and bicycle routes around the neighborhood;
- New developments that include residences, retail and other neighborhood services;
- Parks and other public spaces designed to provide opportunities for play, community events, time in nature or socializing;
- Other neighborhood amenities and services that result from early planning and coordination between government agencies and private partners.

WHY PLAN | Growth, Equity and Opportunity

Seattle is experiencing tremendous growth. The Seattle 2035 Comprehensive Plan anticipates an increase of at least 70,000 housing units and 115,000 jobs citywide over the 20-year planning period from 2015 to 2035.

Seattle's urban village strategy guides most of the city's housing and employment growth to urban centers and urban villages. Urban villages are communities that enable the City to: deliver services more equitably, pursue a development pattern that is environmentally and economically sound, and provide a better means of managing growth and change through collaboration with the community in planning for the future of these areas. In anticipation of a light rail station, the 2035 Comprehensive Plan explored the 130th St. area as a potential urban village.

The Lynnwood Link Extension will bring new economic opportunity to North Seattle by improving access to jobs and opportunity, and spurring new development-housing, retail, public realm improvements, etc. By developing an equitable transit oriented development approach, the City along with the community can plan for a variety of benefits to the community, city and region:

- **Affordable housing near transit.** Preserving and creating affordable housing in station areas addresses racial and social equity by ensuring that low income, transit-dependent people benefit from transit investments. The City also invests in high opportunity neighborhoods to promote a mix of housing typologies and mixed-income neighborhoods.
- **Improved access-jobs and education.** Shorter commute times can increase the number of jobs within a 30-minute commute. It can also increase access to better schools and colleges.
- **More housing choices.** New development can diversify the type of housing available at different price points, and meeting the needs of different types of households-families, seniors, young adults, etc. The City aims to provide a mix of affordable housing that serves a range of households and income levels to promote housing opportunity and choice throughout the City.
- **Reduced dependency on the automobile.** This generates additional benefits such as lower rates of car ownership, lower transportation costs and more income available for housing.
- **Increased ridership and fare revenues.** TOD generates ridership and revenue without relying on land consumptive park and ride facilities. Land is used to house people rather than cars.

Seattle is Growing. Between 2010 and 2018. the total population of increased by 20% from 608,660 to 730,400.

Housing Growth

2010 2017

308.516 : 356.568

+15.6% housing units

Employment Growth

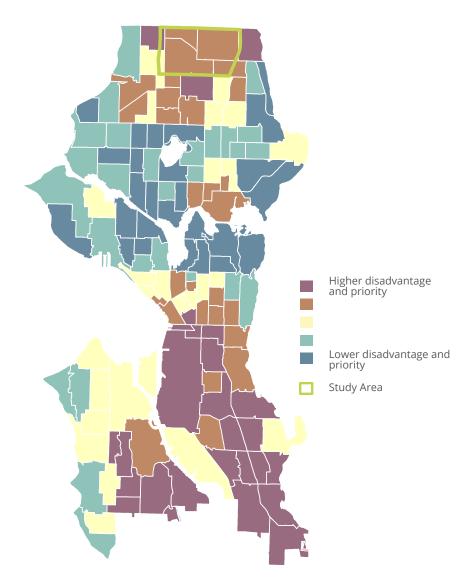
2010 2017

462,985 : 581,780

+25.7% jobs

WHY PLAN | Growth, Equity, and Opportunity

Race and Social Equity Index



Sources:2011-2015Five-YearAmerican Community Survey Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau; estimates from the Centers for Disease Control 'Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) published in the "The500Cities Project," Washing ton State Department of Health's Washington Tracking Network (WTN), and estimates from the Public Health–Seattle&King County (based on the Community Health Assessment Tool). Language is for population age 5 and older. Educational attainment is for the population age 25 and over. Life expectancy is life expectancy at birth. Other health measures based on percentages of the adult population.

In 2016, the City completed a **Growth** and Equity Analysis to understand how growth may benefit or burden marginalized populations, particularly in urban villages. The City is using this analysis to inform potential strategies to lessen impacts and maximize opportunity for these populations. As part of the analysis, the City examined demographic, economic, and physical factors to understand current displacement risk and access to opportunity.

In addition to the Growth and Equity Analysis, the **Race and Social Justice Initiative (RSII)** is the City's commitment to eliminate racial disparities and achieve racial equity in Seattle. One tool to developed to support this goal is the Race and Social Equity Index. The map is a composite of three indices: Index of Race, Ethnicity and English Language Learning; Socioeconomic Disadvantage; Health Disadvantage. It illustrates where RSIIpriority populations are concentrated.

The study area for 130th and 145th Street Station Area Planning shows a concentration of RSJI-priority populations. Extra effort will be required to ensure those voices are heard, and to recognize/reduce impacts as recommendations are proposed and evaluated.



WHO LIVES HERE | History

Farmland and Wildlife

Prior to 1851, the land in the study area was inhabited by Coast Salish tribes. Early settlers established farms. This rural landscape pattern was primarily small farms, fields and grazing lands. Large swaths of uncultivated lands, what is now part of Northacres Park and Thornton Creek, were home to local wildlife.

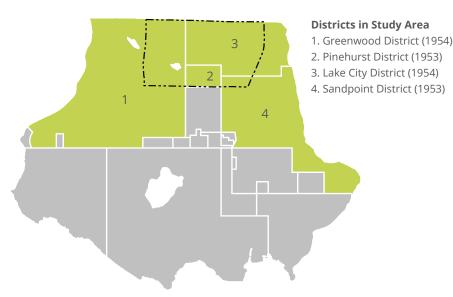
Jackson Park Golf Course

The land that the Jackson Park Golf Course occupies was first settled in the mid-1880s after Minerva A. lones purchased a large farm tract from W.B. Denny in 1884. By the mid-1920s, there were twelve private golf courses in King County but only one public course in Seattle at Jefferson Park on Beacon Hill.

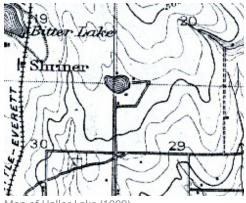
Development and Annexation

Transportation infrastructure spurred the transition of North Seattle from rural to urban. The Interurban Railway (1910-32), Highway 99 (1932) and the Bothell Highway/Lake City Way (1937) all played a major role in connecting different areas of the city and region, and promoting the development of Seattle's northern neighborhoods and local business districts. The construction of I-5 (1969) improved travel to other regions and states, but created a physical divide in the local community.

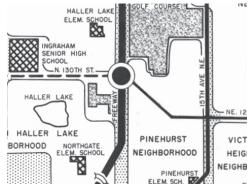
In 1950, development of Northgate Mall spurred denser development and more urban infrastructure. As a result of this development, the South Branch of Thornton Creek was buried in pipes. Four years later, the City of Seattle annexed areas north of N 85th Street, extending the city limits all the way to N 145th Street, adding ten square miles of land and residents. Prior to annexation, these areas were developed as part of unincorporated King County and became established Seattle neighborhoods upon annexation.



North Seattle annexation map of districts in Study Area (1954) Source (map and photos): City of Seattle Municipal Archives



Map of Haller Lake (1909)



Broadview - Haller Lake Community Plan proposal for community arterial street (1962)



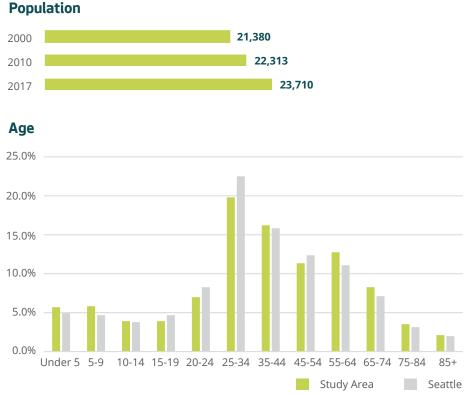
Will Rogers Polo Field adjacent to Jackson Park Golf Course (1927)



Home adjacent to Thornton Creek near 15th Ave NE and NE 132nd St.

WHO LIVES HERE | Neighborhood Characteristics





American Community Survey 2017, 5-Year Estimates by Census Tract

The Study Area is uniquely defined by its intersection with I-5 and five neighborhoods: Bitter Lake, Haller Lake, Pinehurst, Olympic Hills, and Victory Heights. Further to the east is Lake City.

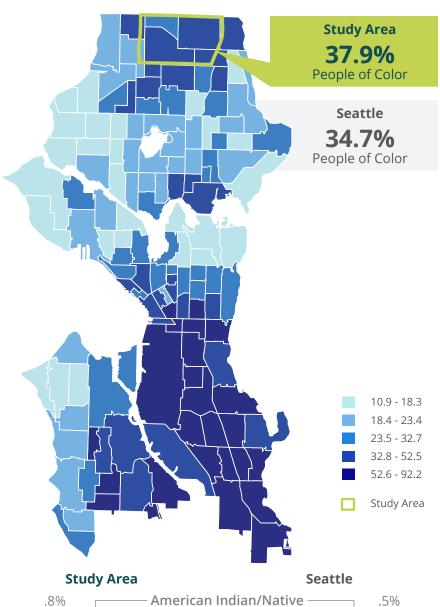
The Study Area has experienced population growth of 5.9% (1,397 people) between 2010 and 2017. Compared to the city as a whole, the age distribution of the Study Area is very similar except for 25-34 year-olds, in which the proportion is slightly lower than the city by 2.7%.

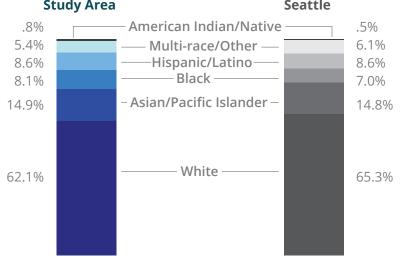
Study Area 17.2% Under 18 years 13.8% Over 65 years

Seattle Under 18 years 12.1% Over 65 years

WHO LIVES HERE | Neighborhood Characteristics

Percentage of People of Color*





Source: American Community Survey (ACS) 2017, 5-Year Estimates by Census Tract

Educational Attainment*



Language Spoken at Home Other Than English*



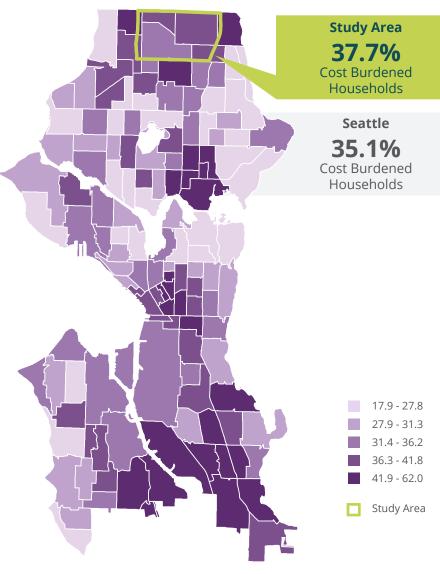
When comparing the proportion of people of color and various racial and ethnic groups, the Study Area is similar to Seattle at 37.9% and 34.7%, respectively.

However, when comparing educational attainment and proportion of people speaking a language other than English at home, we can see notable differences between the Study Area and Seattle at large. In the Study Area, 50.1% of the population have a bachelor's degree or higher, which is 11.6% less than Seattle.

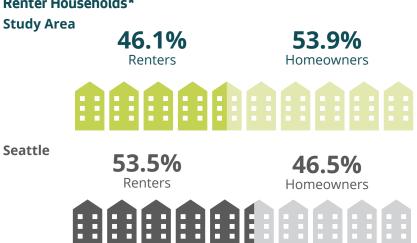
^{*}Note: Due to availability of data and alignment of Census Tracts, information from the ACS are reported for an area that is slightly different than the Study Area.

WHO LIVES HERE | Neighborhood Characteristics

Percentage of Households Who Are Cost Burdened*



Renter Households*



Source: American Community Survey (ACS) 2017, 5-Year Estimates by Census Tract

The median household income in the Study Area is 16.2% less than Seattle as a whole.

Median Household Income*

Study Area Seattle \$79.6K \$63.4K

Below Poverty Level*

Study Area Seattle 13.3% 12.5%

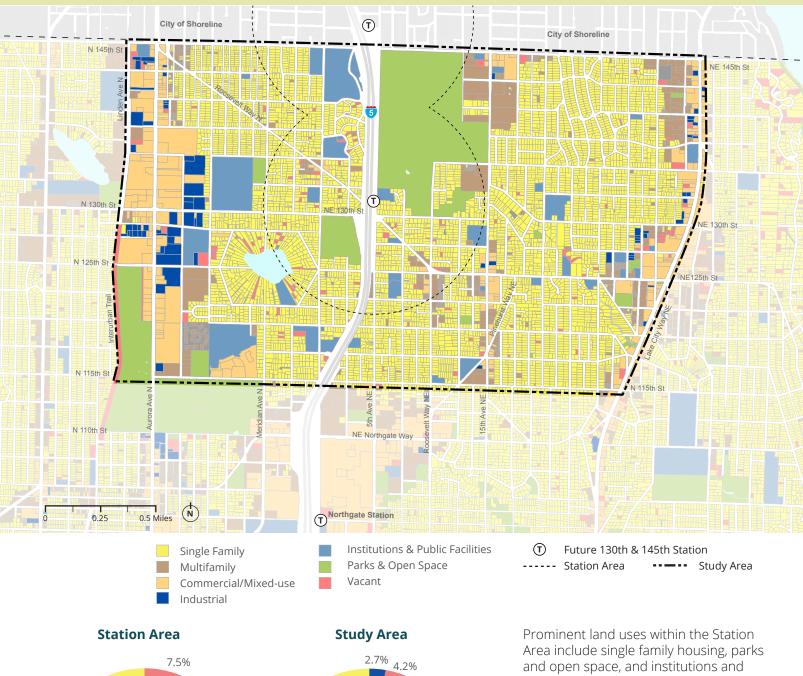
Despite its similarities in demographics compared to the city overall, the median household income in the Study Area is 16.2% less than the city at large. In the Study Area, 37.7% of households are cost burdened.

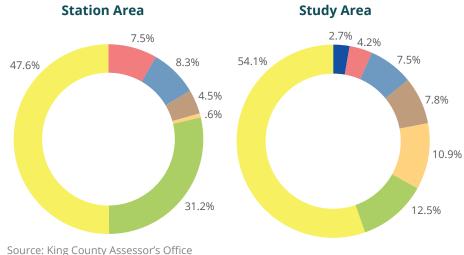
A household is considered cost burdened when 30% or more of its monthly gross income is dedicated to housing (rent or mortgage, pus utility costs).

^{*}Note: Due to availability of data and alignment of Census Tracts, information from the ACS are reported for an area that is slightly different than the Study Area.



WHAT'S HERE NOW | Existing Land Use



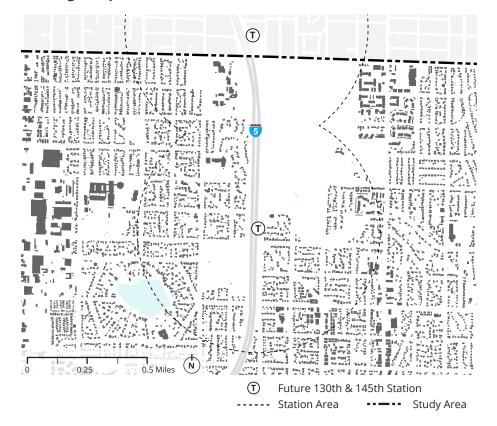


public facilities. Just outside the Station Area along 15th Ave NE and south of N 145th St. is a concentration of multifamily housing and commercial/mixed-uses (housing, retail and offices).

There is also a multifamily housing and commercial and mixed-use node at the intersection of Roosevelt Way N and NE 125th St. Larger concentrations of commercial and mixed-uses are located west of the Station Area along Aurora Ave N and to the east along Lake City Way NE.

WHAT'S HERE NOW | Physical Setting

Building Footprints



The map on the left demonstrates the relationship of built to unbuilt space. Both the Station and Study Areas contain many parks and uses that have large open spaces such as schools and churches. This may contribute to why these areas may feel less dense in addition to low housing density as indicated on page 21.

Many buildings along Roosevelt Way NE are oriented to the north or south instead of to the street. There are a few places with a continuous set of buildings that are set back at a similar distance from the street. These aspects impact the quality of the pedestrian experience.

Building Footprint Coverage

Station Area **Study Area** 13.0% 18.6% Coverage Coverage

Street Network and Block Size



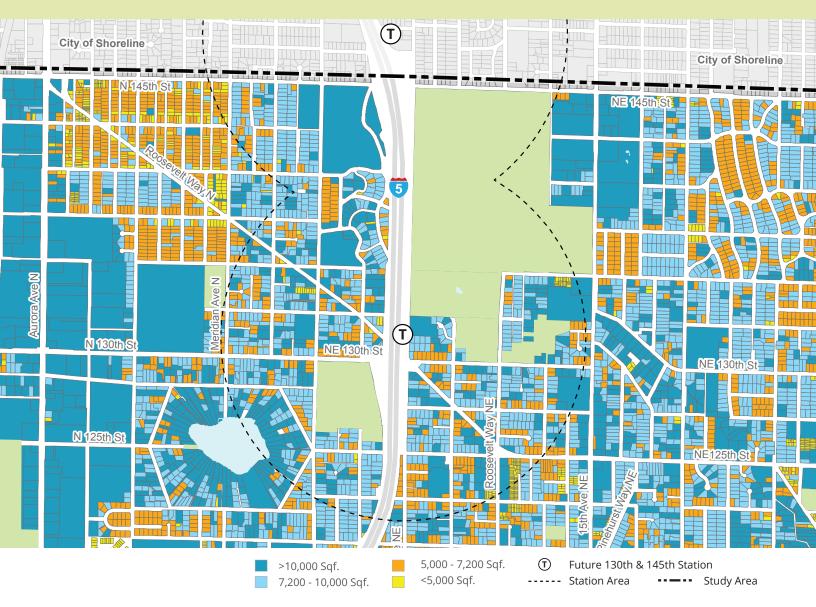
The block pattern in the Station and Study Areas is varied. Some places have a typical urban grid. Other places have a more suburban structure defined by cul-de-sacs, flag lots and private access roads.

The disruption of the street grid by I-5, the diagonal Roosevelt Way N and Haller Lake create major connectivity challenges. Blocks near the I-5 Freeway (I-5) and Jackson Park Golf Course are irregular and inconsistent in size. Triangular blocks and unique shaped parcels related to Roosevelt Way and Haller Lake lead to complex street intersections.

Average Residential Lot Size

Station Area • **Study Area** 8,564 9,471 Square Feet Square Feet

WHAT'S HERE NOW | Parcel Size



Parcel Size by Land Use (Station Area)

Land Use	Parcels Unde	er 5,000 Sqf.	Parcels 5,000	0 - 7,199 Sqf.	7,200 - 9,	999 Sqf.	10,000	+ Sqf.
	# of Parcels	Total Area (Acres)	# of Parcels	Total Area (Acres)	# of Parcels	Total Area (Acres)	# of Parcels	Total Area (Acres)
Single Family	18	1.7	276	40.4	770	142.3	221	66.8
Multi-Family	84	2.9	10	1.4	9	1.6	20	17.8
Commercial/Mixed Use	-	-	2	.2	-	-	7	3.1
Industrial	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Institutional & Public	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	48.3
Vacant	7	.4	4	.6	23	4.2	5	1.7
Parks & Open Space	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	193.1
Other	-	-	2	.3	1	.2	1	.8
TOTAL	109	5.0	294	42.9	803	148.3	271	331.6
% of TOTAL	7.4%	1.0%	19.9%	8.1%	54.4%	28.1%	18.3%	62.8%

Source: King County Assessor's Office, City of Seattle - Office of Planning and Community Development (OPCD)

WHAT'S HERE NOW | Recent Development



Single family housing development at Meridian Ave N and Roosevelt Way N





Single family housing on 17th Ave NE

According to records from the City of Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections, there have been a total of 33 and 169 building permits completed for new construction between 2010 and 2018 in the Station Area and Study Area respectively. In both areas, the majority of permits are new construction of single family homes and duplexes.

New construction added 32 and 1,162 housing units in the Station and Study Areas respectively. While 68.8% of housing units added in the Station Area were single family housing, multifamily housing units accounted for 57.8% of units that were added in the Study Area.

Recent Development (2010 - 2018)

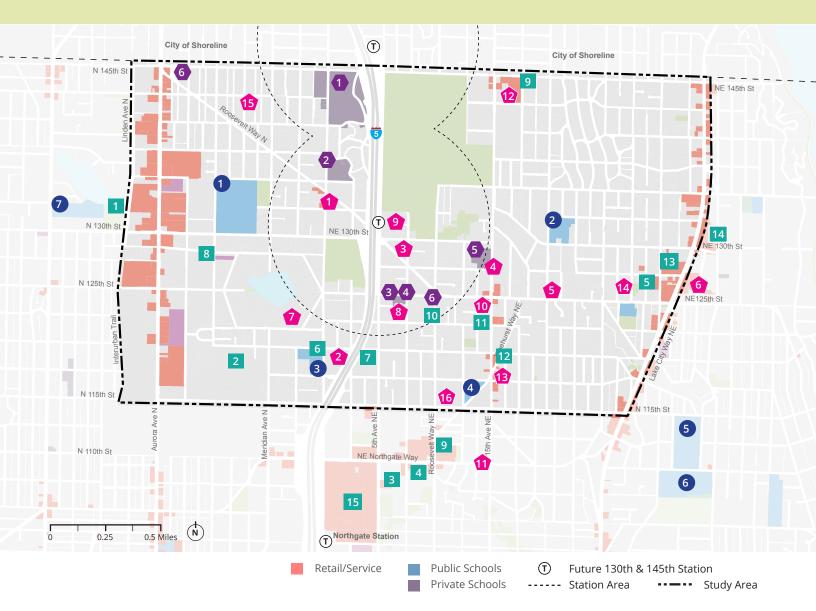
Land Use	Statio	n Area	Study	Area
	Permits	%	Permits	%
Commercial/Mixed use	8	24.2%	18	10.7%
Institutional/Public	1	3.0%	6	3.6%
Multi-Family	4	12.1%	11	6.5%
Single Family/Duplex	20	60.6%	134	79.3%
TOTAL	33	-	169	-

Housing Units Added & Demolished (2010 - 2018)

Land Use	Station Area		Study Area	
	New	Demo	New	Demo
Commercial/Mixed use	0	0	356	1
Multi-Family	10	0	672	9
Single Family	22	5	134	41
TOTAL	32	5	1,162	51

Source: City of Seattle - Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)

WHAT'S HERE NOW | Community Destinations



Schools

Public

- 1 Ingraham International School
- 2 Olympic Hills Elementary School
- 3 Northgate Elementary School
- 4 Hazel Wolf K-8 School
- 5 Jane Addams Middle School
- Nathan Hale High School
- Broadview Thomson K-8 School

Private

- Lakeside High School
- Lakeside Middle School
- Northend Jewish School
- North Seattle French School
- St. Matthew School
- Washington International School

Spiritual Centers

- 1 Haller Lake United Methodist Church
- Peace of Christ Korean Community Church
- Grace Chinese Lutheran Church
- St. Matthews Catholic Church
- Lake City Christian Church
- Seattle Mennonite Church
- North Seattle Church
- 8 International Full Gospel Fellowship (IFGF) Church
- North Seattle Church of Nazarene
- 10 Holy Trinity Eritrean Orthodox Church
- 11 Idris Mosque
- Northgate Gospel Chapel
- Seattle Buddhist Center
- Lamb of God Lutheran Church
- Haller Lake Baptist Church
- 16 Seattle Lamp Presbyterian Church

Other Community Assets

- 1 Bitter Lake Community Center
- 2 Northwest Hospital
- 3 Northgate Library/Community Center
- 4 Kindred Hospital
- 5 Lake City Library/Community Center
- 6 Northgate Boys & Girls Club
- Latvian Community Center
- 8 Granite Curling Club
- 9 QFC (2)
- 10 Pakistani Indian Grocery
- 11 African Middle East Grocery
- 12 Safeway
- 13 Grocery Outlet (2)
- 14 Fred Meyer
- 15 Northgate Mall

WHAT'S HERE NOW | Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces





Walking trail at Northacres Park



Haller Lake Street End Park

Parks & Open Spaces

- 1 Helene Madison Pool
- 2 Northacres Park
- 3 Hubbard Homestead Park
- 4 Jackson Park Golf Course & Trail
- 5 Licorice Fern Natural Area
- 6 Pinehurst Playground
- 7 Homewood Natural Area
- 8 Virgil Flaim Park
- Albert Davis Park
- 10 Little Brook Park
- 11 Cedar Park
- 12 Haller Lake Street End Park
- 13 Bitter Lake Playfield
- 14 Bitter Lake Reservoir Park
- 15 Little Brook Creek Natural Area
- 16 Mineral Springs Park

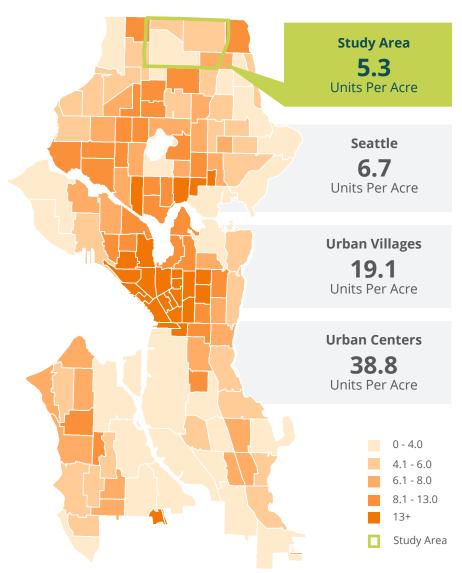
- 17 Northgate Park
- 18 Beaver Pond Natural Area
- 19 Victory Creek Park
- 20 Kingfisher Natural Area
- 21 Victory Heights Playground
- 22 Meadowbrook Playfield
- 23 Evergreen Washelli Cemetery

P-Patches

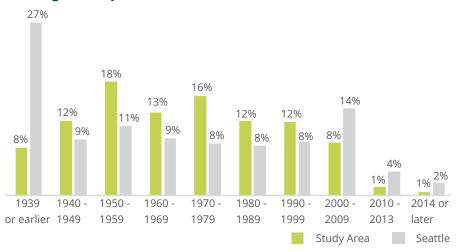
- 1 Haller Lake P-Patch
- 2 Jackson Park P-Patch
- 3 Pinehurst P-Patch
- 4 Bitter Lake P-Patch

WHAT'S HERE NOW | Housing Choices

Housing Density (Units/Acre)*



Housing Units by Year Built*



Source: American Community Survey (ACS) 2017, 5-Year Estimates by Census Tract

As indicated on the land use map on page 16, 55.1% of the land use in the Study Area is single family with a large average lot size of 8,231 square feet. Due to the prevalence of single family and parks and open space land use, the study area has a lower housing density compared to Seattle at 5.3 units per acre. In the Station Area, the housing density is even lower at 3.3 units per acre.

Housing density is an important neighborhood characteristic to understand in the context of station area planning. Having more residents at higher densities increases efficiency of transit in an area, especially in areas with lower access to opportunity. In the Station and Study Areas, housing density is much lower compared to the neighboring urban villages. The Bitter Lake Urban Village has a housing density of 9.4 units per acre, while Lake City has 19.4 units per acre.

A large portion of the housing in the Study Area was built after 1960. Prior to annexation in 1954 and the Northgate Mall development in 1950, the Study Area was a less dense mix of housing, commercial and remnant farms.

Housing Density Comparison to Urban Villages

Area/ Urban Village	Housing Units	Area (Acres)	Units/ Acre
Station Area	2,084	626	3.3
Study Area	12,734	2,414	5.3
Bitter Lake (HUV)	3,434	364	9.4
Lake City (HUV)	2,767	142	19.4
Northgate (UC)	4,513	411	11.0
Roosevelt (RUV)	2,219	158	14.0
Aurora-Licton Springs (HUV)	3,527	327	10.8

Source: OPCD Urban Center / Village Housing Unit Growth Report (2018)

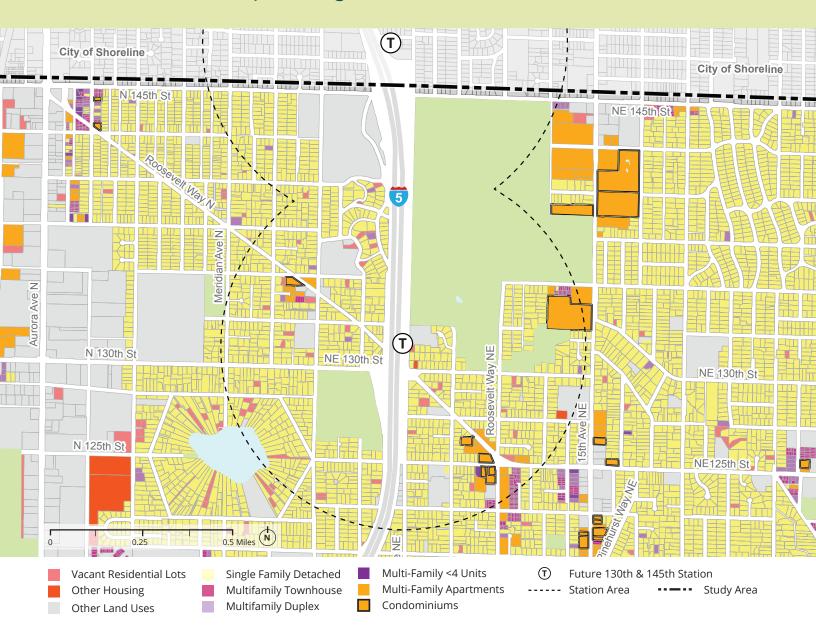
HUV - Hub Urban Village

UC - Urban Center

RUV - Residential Urban Village

*Note: Due to availability of data and alignment of Census Tracts, information from the ACS are reported for an area that is slightly different than the Study Area.

WHAT'S HERE NOW | Housing Choices

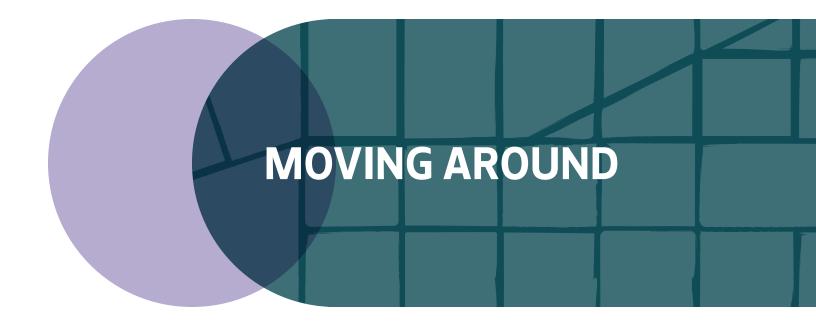


Housing Type	Stat	ion Area	Study Area	
	% Total	% Registered Rental Units	% Total	% Registered Rental Units
Single Family	62.1%	31.9%	43.8%	12.7%
Missing Middle				
Multi-Family Townhouse	3.8%	2.2%	3.8%	1.5%
Multi-Family Duplex	0.8%	1.3%	1.0%	0.9%
Multi-Family <4 Units	0.2%	0.6%	0.8%	1.2%
Multi-Family Apartments	21.7%	58.6%	42.3%	81.9%
Condominiums	11.2%	3.9%	6.8%	1.6%
Other Housing	0.3%	1.5%	1.6%	.1%

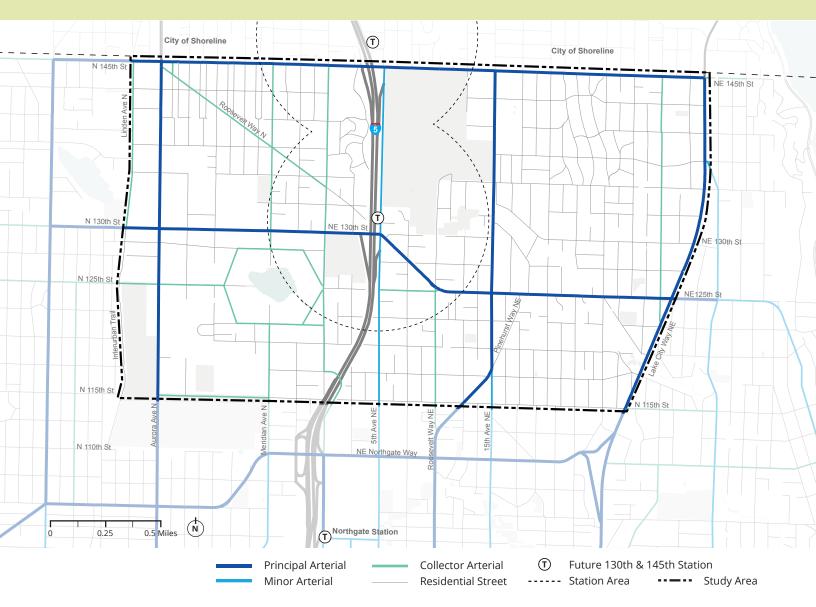
Source: King County, City of Seattle Rental Registration and Inspections Ordinance (RRIO)

Housing within the Station Area largely falls into two categories. At 62.1% of the housing stock, single family detached homes are the most common, while 21.7% are multifamily apartment units. Only 4.8% of the housing stock is considered "missing middle" housing.

Missing middle housing is a range of multi-unit or clustered housing types compatible in scale with single family homes that provide diverse housing options including townhouses, duplexes, and fourplexes. These housing types support walkable communities, locallyserving retail, public transportation options, and provide housing for a range of incomes and households.



MOVING AROUND | Existing Street Network



Travel Mode to Work*

Mode	Study Area	Seattle
Drive	59.5%	48.8%
Carpool	9.8%	7.6%
Public Transportation	19.9%	21.4%
Walk	2.5%	10.2%
Work at Home	3.0%	4.9%
Other	5.3%	7.0%

Within the Study Area there are key north/south arterial corridors including Aurora Ave N, 5th Ave NE, 15th Ave NE, and Lake City Way NE. I-5 divides the east and west halves of the study area. East/West arterials are limited to 145th Ave and 130th, making east to west connections challenging.

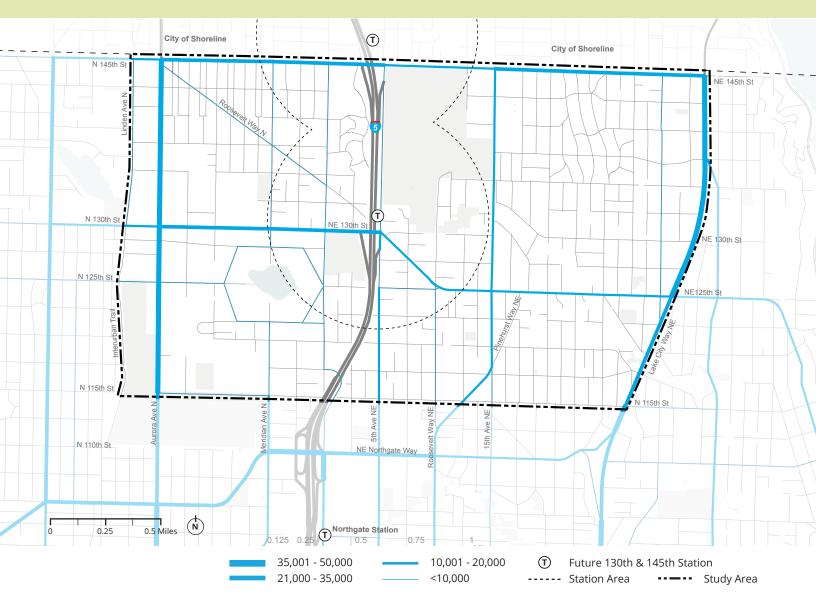
People in the Study Area have a higher average commute time to work compared to Seattle as a whole. People who live in the Study Area predominantly drive to work (approximately 60%), while approximately 20% of people who live here take transit to get to work. Walking is not a predominant mode of travel to work.

Average Commute Time*

Study Area **Seattle** Minutes Minutes

> *Note: Due to availability of data and alignment of Census Tracts, information from the ACS are reported for an area that is slightly different than the Study Area.

MOVING AROUND | Traffic Flow



Another way to understand street types in the Study Area is through the average daily traffic (ADT). ADT is the average 24-hour traffic volume at a given location for some period less than a year. ADT can be a helpful tool to understand how busy a road is.

In the Study Area, Aurora Ave N and Lake City Way NE have the heaviest traffic volume at 35,00-50,000 and 21,000-35,000 cars per day, respectively.

In addition to north-south connections, east-west connections in the Study Area are provided predominantly by 145th St. and NE 125 St., which turns into Roosevelt Way NE and connects to NE 130th St. 145th St. is used most frequently at 21,000-35,000 cars per day.

MOVING AROUND | Speed Limits



In 2016, the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) evaluated and lowered citywide speed limits as part of the **Vision Zero** efforts to end traffic deaths and serious injuries. In Seattle, residential (non-arterial) streets were lowered from 25 MPH to 20 MPH and speed limits on arterial streets (more major streets, with a dividing yellow line) were also lowered, unless noted otherwise.

MOVING AROUND | Collisions (2014 - 2018)

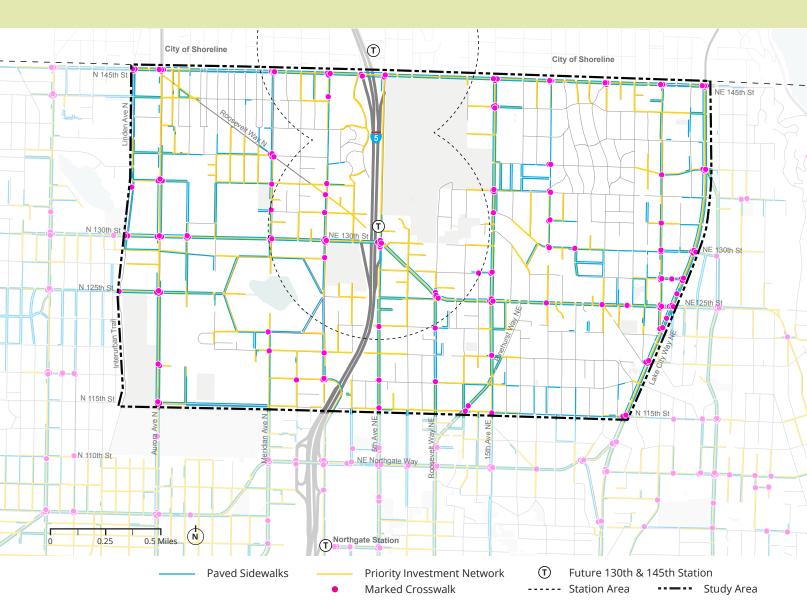


Collision Type	Statio	n Area	Study	Area
	# of Collisions	% of Collisions	# of Collisions	% of Collisions
Fatality	0	0.0%	3	.1%
Serious Injury	3	0.6%	28	1.2%
Injury	162	33.3%	873	37.1%
Property Damage	321	66.0%	1455	61.7%
TOTAL	486	-	2359	-

Source: SDOT (Cumulative data between 2014-2018)

The map above indicates where there have been reported collisions between 2014 and 2018. In previous community engagement efforts, community members have raised concerns over pedestrian and traffic safety (see the 'What We Have Heard So Far' section on page 45 for additional information).

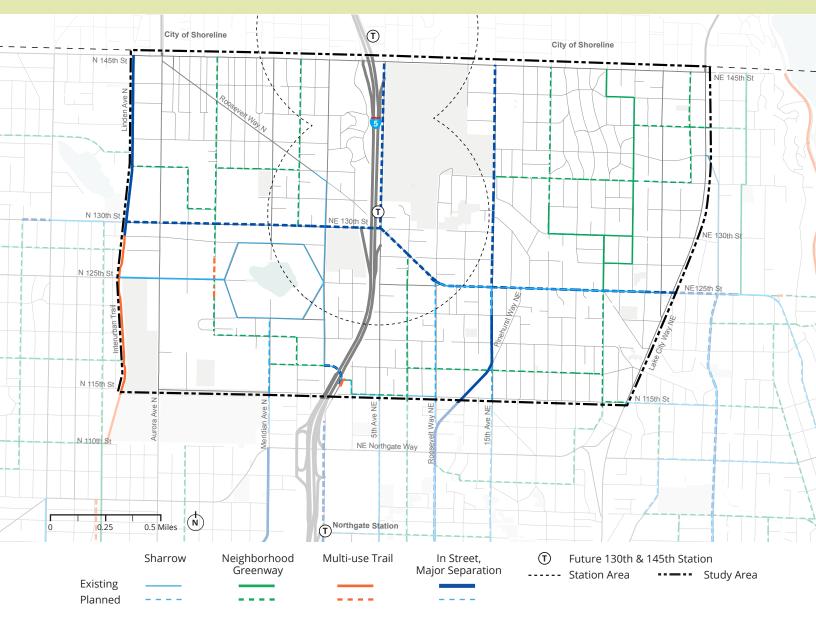
MOVING AROUND | Existing & Planned Pedestrian Infrastructure



Much of the residential area north of 85th St. that was annexed in 1954 did not have sidewalks. Sidewalks are a significant component of an effective pedestrian network. With light rail stations coming into the Study Area where sidewalks are limited, developing strategies to make it safe and comfortable for walking will be important to provide pedestrian access to the station.

As part of the Pedestrian Masterplan, SDOT has developed a **Priority Investment Network (PIN)**. The PIN is composed of streets that serve as key pedestrian routes to kindergarten through 12th grade (K-12) public schools and frequent transit stops. The map above indicates street segments within the Study Area that are part of the PIN and have been identified for pedestrian infrastructure improvements.

MOVING AROUND | Existing & Planned Bicycle Infrastructure

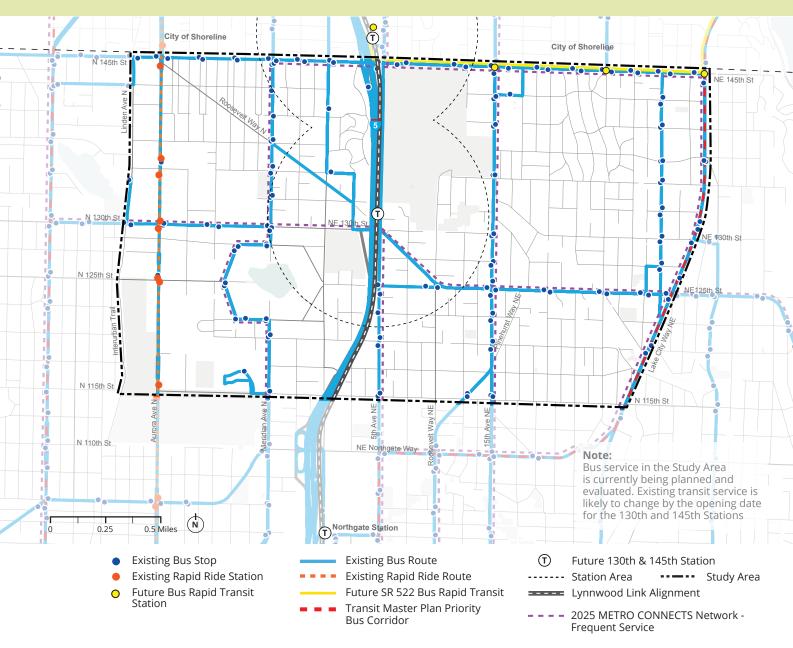




Cyclists crossing Roosevelt Way N on Meridian Ave N.

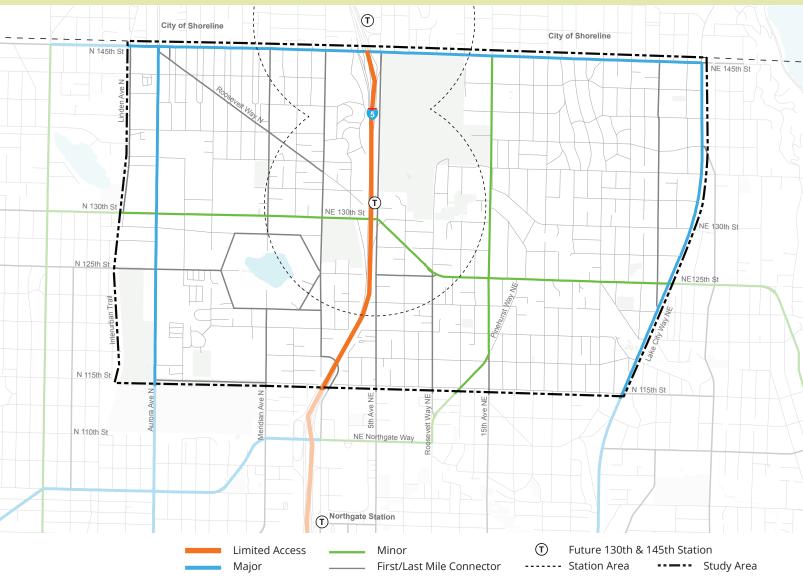
Bicycle connections to light rail stations are an important component of station area planning. Currently, both the Station and Study Areas have limited bicycle facilities.

MOVING AROUND | Existing & Planned Transit Service



The Study Area currently has many bus routes that provide transit service and north-south connections. However, previous community engagement efforts have identified east-west transit connections as a critical component of the transit system that can be improved. Convenient East-west transit connections to the future light rail stations will be important to provide access to the stations for transit dependent populations.

MOVING AROUND | Freight Network

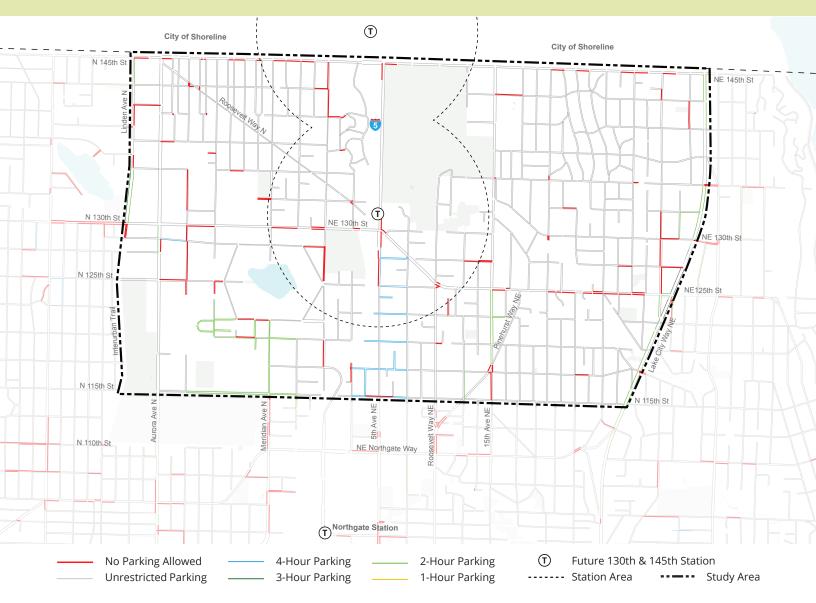


Freight Network Class	Description
Limited Access Facility	Support through movements and/or long-distance trips. These facilities include interstate and state highways, such as Interstate 5 (I-5) and State Route 99 (SR 99).
Major Truck Street	Arterial street serving connections to the regional network, between and through industrial land uses (manufacturing/industrial centers and intermodal terminals), commercial districts, and urban centers.
Minor Truck Street	Connections for goods delivery to urban villages and neighborhood commercial districts. They also provide secondary connections to the major truck street network, thereby creating system redundancy and resiliency.
First/Last Mile Connector	Locations where short truck movements are required for access to/from key freight activity centers, such as Port facilities and intermodal terminals. These connections are all within the designated manufacturing/ industrial centers

(MICs).

The City of Seattle developed a **Freight** Master Plan (FMP) to address the unique characteristics, needs, and impacts of freight mobility. The plan helps the City examine the challenges of moving freight and develop solutions. The FMP primarily focuses on urban truck freight movement to support Seattle's increasing demand for goods and services in a safe and reliable manner. The plan outlines the critical role that freight movement has on meeting the City's goals for social equity, economic productivity, sustainability, and livable neighborhoods.

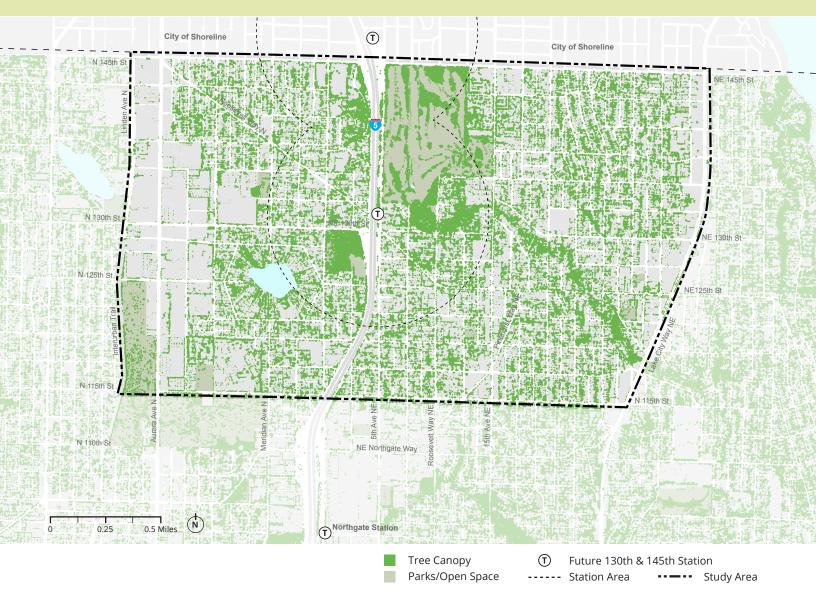
MOVING AROUND | On-Street Parking Restrictions

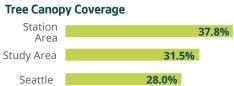


The map above indicates locations of time limited parking and where parking is not allowed. On 5th Ave NE, street parking is generally unrestricted except for segments by NE 145th St and directly south of the proposed 130th station to NE 125th St. In these locations, parking is either not allowed or limited to four hours.



NATURAL ENVIRONMENT | Tree Canopy Coverage

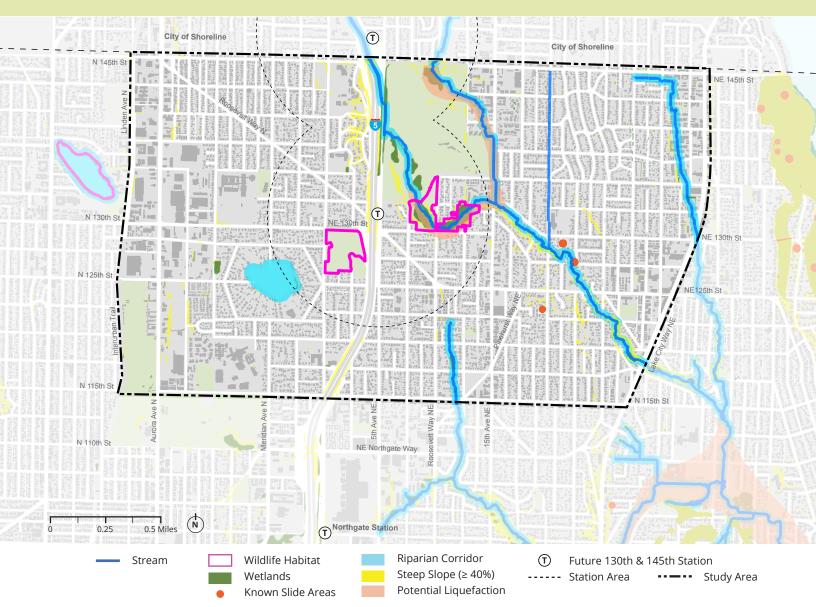




Canopy coverage refers to the percentage of an area that is covered by trees, as seen in an aerial view. Canopy coverage is an important management tool for the City to understand the extent and distribution of trees in Seattle. Seattle's goal is to reach 30% canopy cover by 2037. The City of Seattle's most recent canopy cover study, using data from 2016, found that 28% of Seattle is covered with trees. The highest tree canopy occurs in residential, park and natural areas, as well as the right-of-way.

In the Station Area, the prevalence of natural areas contribute to the large amount of canopy coverage at 37.8%.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT | Ecology & Hazards



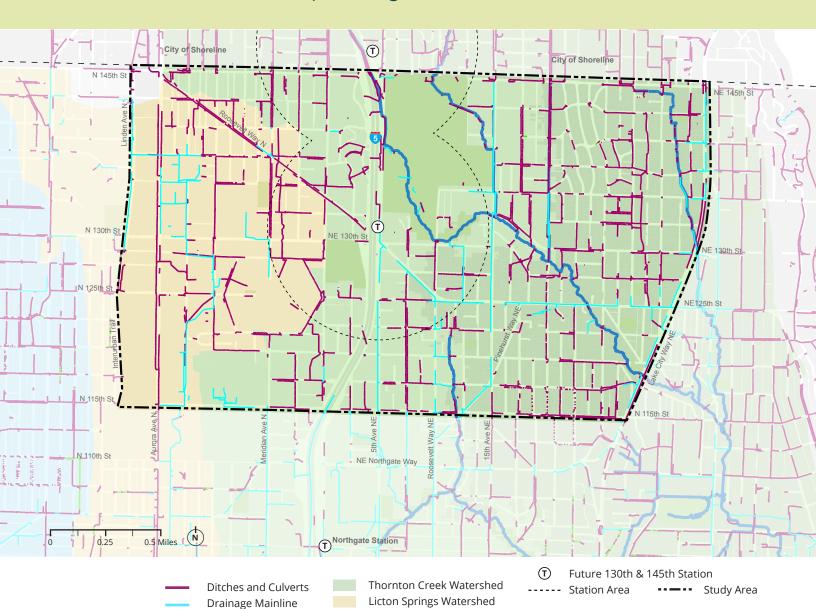


Thornton Creek as a landscape feature at Bridgehaven Condominiums.

The Study Area contains numerous natural assets that are critical to the health and well-being of the natural environment and for livable communities. Among these assets are Thornton Creek, the wildlife habitats at Northacres Park, and the Licton Springs and Thornton Creek Watersheds.

There are also environmental hazards within the Study Area such as steep slopes along I-5 and areas with potential liquefaction along Thornton Creek.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT | Drainage





Example of a ditch in the Station Area



Stream

Example of ponding issues in the Station

In 1954, the City of Seattle annexed the area north of N 85th St., including the communities within the Study Area. Because these areas were not originally part of the City, they were developed largely without a comprehensive system of sidewalks and formal drainage system. As result, many roads within the Study Area are prone to ponding. Lack of infrastructure could discourage or prevent development in some areas due to the cost associated with bringing infrastructure up to current standards.

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS & TRENDS

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS & TRENDS | Employment & Businesses

Covered Employment* - Study Area (2017)

Employment Sector**	# of Workers	% of Workers
Services	5,935	59.3%
Retail	1,508	15.1%
Government (Public)	443	4.4%
Education (Public)	367	3.7%
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	228	2.3%
Wholesale Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	176	1.8%
Construction and Resources	131	1.3%
Manufacturing	0	0.0%
TOTAL	10,001	-

Source: Puget Sound Regional Council Covered Employment Estimates (2017) * Covered jobs are those covered by the Washington state Unemployment Insurance Act and typically comprise about 85 to 90 percent of the total employment in an area **Employment is summarized by combined categories using the North American Industry Classification Systems (NAICS)

Light rail investments in the 130th and 145th Station Areas will provide better access for employees who currently work in the Study Area. Light rail also has the potential of promoting development in the station area, resulting in more job opportunities.

In the Study Area, the majority of workers are in the service employment sector at 59.3%. Jobs in the service sector may include: health care and social assistance; arts, entertainment and recreation; and accommodation and food services. Additionally, 54.5% of licensed businesses in the Study Area are in the service employment sector.

Active Business Licenses - Study Area (2017)

Employment Sector	# of Licenses	% of Licenses
Services	914	54.5%
Retail	187	11.2%
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	81	4.8%
Wholesale Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	331	19.7%
Construction and Resources	116	6.9%
Manufacturing	47	2.8%
TOTAL	1676	-

Source: City of Seattle Licensing Information System Note: Seattle Licensing Information System does not include public sector employment



Office development on 15th Ave NE

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS & TRENDS | Market Trends

The annual ULI Emerging Trends in Real Estate (2018) as well as OPCD's reports on growth and housing affordability, provide insight about overall development trends that influence the station areas:

- **Population and housing.** Seattle continues to be one of the fastest growing regions in the country. The highest rate of housing growth occurred in Seattle's designated urban villages.
- **Lifestyle.** Young singles, couples without children and downsizing Baby Boomers are most likely to choose to live near transit and be interested in a walkable environment, mixed-use neighborhood and shorter commutes.
- **Affordability.** A national housing affordability crisis continues, especially in high growth markets like Seattle. Average rents in unsubsidized rentals are too high to be affordable to many renters.
- Special Housing. Nationally, student and senior housing are seen as growing real estate investment opportunities.
- **Construction Costs.** High construction costs make it increasingly difficult to provide housing at a price that many buyers can afford.
- Timing. New transit is unlikely to have a significant impact on the apartment market until the transit line is two to three years from opening.
- Office development. Office uses like to cluster and "agglomerate." This means that the best prospects for office development are in or near an existing concentration.
- **Retail development.** Demand for retail is driven by population densities and incomes in the local area. Although E-commerce is growing rapidly, represents only 9% of total retail sales nationally.

Area/Urban Village	Housing Unit Growth (2015-2018)
Urban Centers	15.4%
Hub Urban Village	14.4%
Residential Urban Villages	9.5%
Outside Urban Villages	2.0%

Source: OPCD Urban Village Housing Growth

Potential for TOD at 130th and 145th Stations

Several market studies have considered the potential for new TOD along the Lynnwood Link Extension, including the 130th and 145th station areas (List studies or link to the "Documents" section of the website):

- Central Puget Sound Region Transit-Oriented Development Study (2012)
- Puget Sound Regional Council Growing Transit Communities: ULI Technical Assistance Panel Recommendations (2012)
- City of Shorelines Market Study for 145 St. Station
- Lynnwood Link Extension Station Area Transit Oriented Development Potential (April 2013)

While these market studies differed in their approach and focus, they include I findings relevant for the 130th and 145th station area.

"With the regional economy gaining strength, experts are forecasting that there will be growing employment opportunities as well as ongoing increased demand for housing and jobs in the coming decades. With the neighboring City of Seattle being one of the fastest growing cities of its size in the US and the attractiveness of living along the light rail line, Shoreline station subareas should experience market pressure for redevelopment" (City of Shoreline Market Study for the NE 145th Street Station, 2009).

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS & TRENDS | Market Trends

Characteristics Supportive of TOD

- **Proximity to employment centers.** Proximity and good transit connections to multiple employment centers (Northgate, University District, Downtown Seattle, UW Bothell) makes this station area attractive for TOD.
- **Multiple transportation options.** The station area will have light rail, BRT and local bus service connecting to employment centers and adjacent urban villages. Also, the station area has excellent access to Interstate 5.
- Strong local housing and job market. Seattle has been one of the fastest growing large cities in the country for the last five years. Although growth is slowing, it is expected to continue to grow which means the demand for housing will also continue to grow.
- **Access to amenities.** The proximity to a variety of greenspaces (park, golf course, playground, P-patch, trail) provides a desirable amenity for TOD.

"TOD potential for the NE 130th Street Station is limited, primarily because of the single family development pattern in this area. Much of the land within the station area is occupied by a golf course and parkland. Two nearby commercial areas—where development can be expected to occur—are outside the station area. Based on existing plans and policies, this area is not designated to receive future growth" (Lynnwood Link Extension Station Area Transit Oriented Development Potential, 2013).

Barriers or Challenges to TOD

- **Existing land use.** The majority of land use within the station area is parkland or single family residential.
- **Connectivity.** The Interstate-5 expressway is a major barrier to TOD. Connectivity is also hampered by the lack of sidewalks, crosswalks, and bicycle routes to future stations.
- **Availability of large sites.** Most parcels in the station areas are small and would require assembly.
- **TOD** supportive zoning and planning policy. The station area, located between two urban villages, does not have policy or zoning that supports TOD.
- **Neighborhood Activism.** Generally, residents support new light rail. But many may resist new development and increased density.
- Land values and rents in this area tend to be lower than Seattle average. New development could displace current low- and moderate-income households.
- **Affordable Housing.** Current affordable housing funding does not prioritize transit-rich locations. Affordable housing developers compete with market rate developers for the most desirable locations around transit.
- Adjacent nuisance. An aerial light rail station/ guideway and Interstate 5 could be seen as a nuisance by immediately adjacent residents.
- No agency TOD. Sound Transit will not acquire property for facilities or construction. Therefore, there will be no agency property available for affordable TOD in the future.

In short, these market studies conclude the current opportunity for TOD in the Seattle portion of the station area is limited. However, as the City of Shoreline has demonstrated, if some barriers can be eliminated. the market will respond.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT | What We Have Heard So Far

The community has provided input about future land use and transportation in the area through previous projects. Some community members organized the 130th Light Rail Station Community Conversations in October 2015 and May 2016. Several major citywide/regional projects also touched on this area:

- Seattle 2035 Comprehensive Plan (2014-2016)
- Mandatory Housing Affordability/HALA (2016-2017)
- ST3 Voter Initiative (2016)
- Community Conversations about 130th Station Area (2 sessions organized by community residents in October 2015 and May 2016)

Both Seattle 2035 and HALA gathered specific input about the idea of a potential urban village at the 130th Station. Below is a summary:



Walking and biking to the station

- Improve pedestrian safety and connections for surrounding neighborhoods
- Improve connections to adjacent neighborhoods and trails



OPCD staff engaging with a resident at a Sound Transit drop-in session



Bus connections to the station

- Strengthen east/west connections from adjacent neighborhoods to the station
- Connect Rapid Ride E to 130th/145th stations
- Provide better shelters on connecting routes



Station development

- Minimize footprint of station and impact on adjacent development
- Integrate public art and green space
- Provide drop-off/pick-up zones for cars



New development near the station

- A range of input on the degree of change to residential development
- Limited opportunities for transit oriented development near 130th St. Station



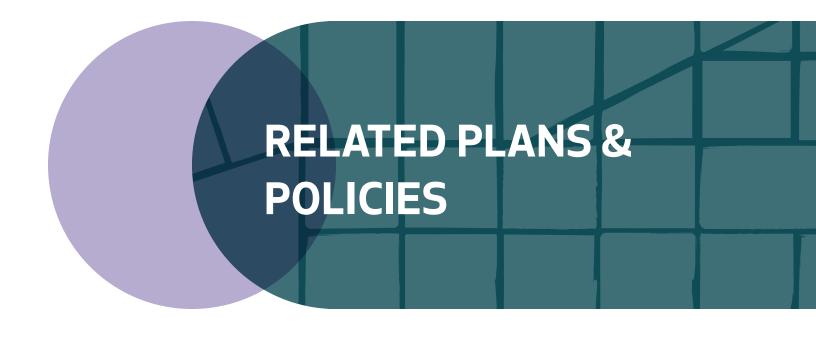
Roads and Parking

- Opportunity to improve I-5 on and off-ramps
- Reduce traffic congestion and other impacts on the Northgate area
- Parking is needed to support public transportation



Parks and Open Spaces

- Protect existing open space, trails, gathering space, and parks
- Improve connections to Jackson Park and trails
- Opportunity to daylight Thornton Creek at 145th St.



RELATED PLANS & POLICIES | Citywide Plans

Seattle 2035 Comprehensive Plan (OPCD)

The Comprehensive Plan is a 20-year vision and roadmap for Seattle's future. The plan guides City decisions on where to build new jobs and houses, how to improve our transportation system, and where to make capital investments such as utilities, sidewalks, and libraries. It is the framework for most of Seattle's big-picture decisions on how to grow while preserving and improving our neighborhoods, protecting our environment, quality of life, and economic development. The plan is consistent with regional plans, Vision 2040 and King County's Countywide Planning Policies.

Move Seattle 10-Year Strategic Vision (SDOT)

Move Seattle sets out a 10-year plan for a transportation system that meets present demands while looking ahead to future needs for a safe, affordable, connected system that works for people regardless of mode choice.

Pedestrian And Bicycle Master Plans (SDOT)

These 10-year action plans, drafted by SDOT, describe the systems and infrastructure needed to make Seattle a more walkable and bikable city. Each plan includes a detailed list of prioritized projects to achieve goals.

Streets Illustrated Right Of Way Improvement Manual (SDOT)

Streets Illustrated, Seattle's Right-of-Way Improvements Manual, is an on-line resource that provides design guidance and standards, and processes on how to design, build, and manage within the right-of-way (including sidewalks).

Housing Funding Policies (OH)

The Office of Housing Policies contain funding priorities and guidelines for programs administered by the Office of Housing (OH): Rental Housing Program, Operating and Maintenance Program, Homeownership Program, Acquisition and Preservation Program, Home Repair, Rental Rehabilitation, and HomeWise Weatherization Program. It describes priorities for how OH funds will be used to support various types of resident populations, site locations, and other development characteristics.

2017 Parks And Open Space Plan (SPR)

The 2017 Parks and Open Space Plan is a six-year plan that documents and describes SPR's facilities and lands, looks at Seattle's changing demographics, and lays out a vision for the future. The 2017 Plan is required by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) to maintain the City of Seattle's eligibility for state grants and funding programs that will help realize outdoor recreation development and open space acquisition projects.

Climate Action Plan (OSE)

The Seattle Climate Action Plan, adopted in June 2013, focuses on city actions that reduce greenhouse emissions and support vibrant neighborhoods, economic prosperity, and social equity. Actions are focused on areas of greatest need and impact: road transportation, building energy and waste. The plan also includes actions that will increase our community's resilience to the likely impacts of climate change.

Urban Forest Stewardship Plan (OSE)

The Urban Forest Stewardship Plan (2013) provides a long-term vision for increasing tree canopy cover (the percent of the city covered by trees as seen in an aerial view) and the many environmental, social, and economic benefits associated with trees in urban areas. The Plan is implemented through actions ranging from tree care to tree giveaways. Goals include stewardship, a net increase in urban forest function, 30 percent tree canopy by 2037 and increased health and longevity of the urban forest.

RELATED PLANS & POLICIES | Community Plans

Broadview - Bitter Lake - Haller Lake Planning (OPCD)

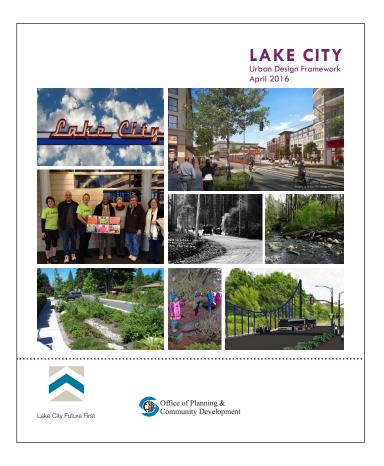
Healthy Living Assessment (2011), Neighborhood Plan Update (2012), Bitter Lake Urban Design Framework (2015), Bitter Lake Rezoning Legislation (2016)

OPCD worked with the community over five years to update the 1999 Neighborhood Plan, implement new zoning and other actions to support the updated vision. "Broadview, Bitter Lake, Haller Lake and its core, the Bitter Lake Village, is a vibrant and healthy neighborhood where it's easy to connect - at places or events - and because of this there is a strong community filled with familiar faces and unique sense of identity." A key element of the vision was the creation of a "village center" along Linden Avenue N in Bitter Lake to provide gathering spaces, a pedestrian friendly retail district, and new housing close to transit.

Lake City Planning (OPCD, DON, OED)

Neighborhood Action Teams (2013), Lake City Urban Design Framework (2016), Lake City Rezoning Legislation (2016)

The Lake City Urban Design Framework lays out a vision that will guide future development and other neighborhood improvements. It identifies the community's aspirations for the physical environment in the North District and the Lake City hub urban villagewell-designed development, a sustainable natural environment, cultural diversity, educational excellence, a vibrant economy, and effective transportation. The Urban Design Framework is part of broader efforts to improve the neighborhood. The process initially began in 2013, when Neighborhood Action Teams formed partnerships between community members and City staff to identify and respond to neighborhood concerns. The vision is implemented through zoning changes, new development standards, comprehensive plan amendments, business district assistance and grants, City capital projects, and other community actions.



"Lake City Way is a transportation corridor. The community envisions developing a stronger transit hub which would include enhanced bus routes/service light rail connection (i.e. NE 130th station) and future high capacity." (Lake City Urban Design Framework, 2016).

RELATED PLANS & POLICIES | Transit Oriented Development Plans

Implementing Transit Oriented Development In Seattle: Assessment And Recommendations For Action (OPCD)

This assessment, completed in 2013, includes recommendations to shift the City's approach to TOD from reactive and targeted to market feasible areas to proactive and coordinated. A proactive strategy to catalyze equitable development in all TOD areas of the City, particularly where the market is lagging and investment and economic development are needed most.

Lynnwood Link Extension Station Area Transit-Oriented Development Potential (Sound Transit)

This 2013 report presents a qualitative assessment of the existing conditions within each station area relative to factors that influence TOD potential. This report looks at four major factors to assess the potential for TOD to occur: existing conditions supporting TOD, transit supportive plans and policies, station access and Potential development opportunities. The report found limited TOD potential within the 130th and 145th station area.

Growing Transit Communities Strategy (PSRC, 2013)

The Growing Transit Communities Strategy is a three-part implementation plan to promote thriving and equitable transit communities in the central Puget Sound region and to provide tools and resources to implement adopted regional and local plans. The Strategy culminates a cross-sector, consensus-driven, corridor-based planning process and was informed by the robust analysis and stakeholder engagement of the Growing Transit Communities Partnership effort.

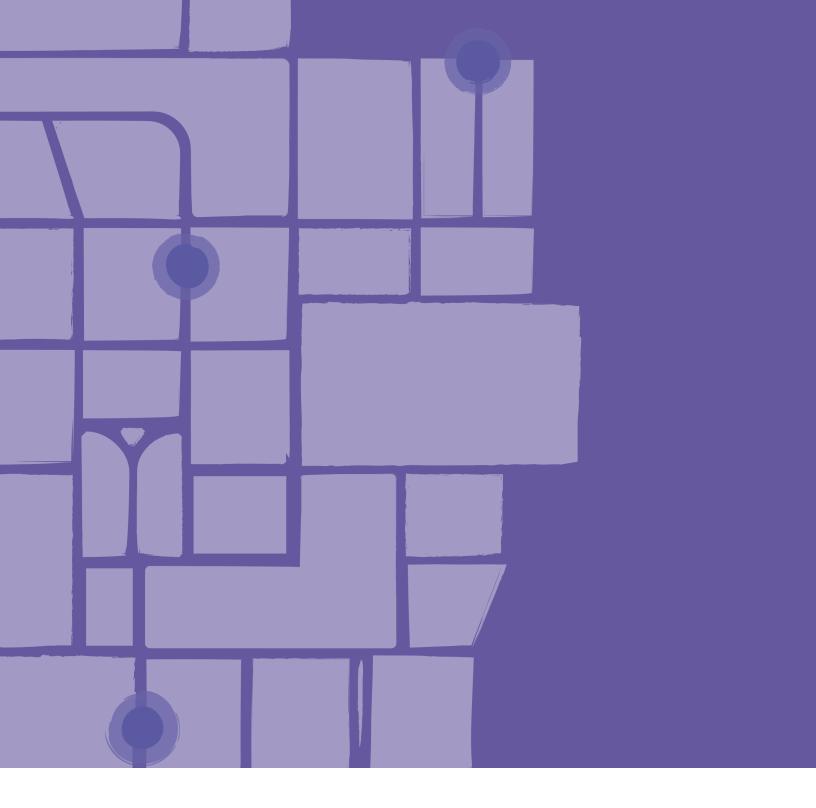
- NE 130th St Station area was categorized a "Build Urban Places" type. Key strategies focus on market-priming through strategic planning and key infrastructure improvements in order to attract pioneering, market rate TOD.
- NE 145 St Station area was categorized a "Protect and Grow" type. Key strategies focus on supporting an emerging market for higher density development while preserving affordability and leveraging community benefits from growth. As communities in transition, they call for a more proactive approach to ensuring equitable growth.

Growing Transit Communities: ULI Technical Assistance Panel (PSRC, 2012)

This Technical Assistance Panel was also asked to provide some pointers for TOD initiatives and policies, including positive and negative influences as well as optimal situations and known barriers, and to comment on particular issues and examples of progress in different cities and neighborhoods within the study area. Applicable to the 130th and 145th stations, the panel predicted commercial demand would be weak because Northgate is a dominant commercial center.

Transit Supportive Planning Toolkit (PSRC, 2013)

This toolkit provides three strategies designated to strengthen the linkage between land use and transit in local plans and implementation regulations. Examples of goals, policies, and implementation actions are also provided.



seattle.gov/opcd/ongoing-initiatives/130th-and-145th-station-area-planning

