

Chinatown/International District Projects and Initiatives

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The City of Seattle is currently proposing to implement Mandatory Housing Affordability (MHA) requirements in the Chinatown/International District. Under MHA, developers would be required to contribute to affordable housing as part of most commercial or residential development. At the same time, areas subject to MHA would receive additional development capacity in the form of an increase in the amount of height or floor area. By enacting these two changes together, the proposal will both maintain the supply of new market-rate housing and result in the creation of new rent- and income-restricted housing.

While MHA will help to address housing affordability issues raised by the Community, it is only one element of the City’s work to improve livability in the neighborhood. At the same time, the City is preparing to work with the neighborhood in developing a Chinatown/International District Framework and Implementation Plan to address many other issues. Below is a summary of some of the projects and initiatives that are currently being implemented in the Chinatown/International District or will be developed as part of the CID Framework and Implementation Plan.

Community Development and Stabilization	
Landmark Project	The Landmark Project is a mixed-use development proposed by the Friends of Little Saigon (see concept design). It is intended to serve as a gathering place for the regional Vietnamese American community and is to include a Vietnamese Cultural Center, a SE Asian grocery store, a night market, a SE Asian restaurant and banquet hall, and 75-100 housing units. The project is one of five identified in the City’s Equitable Development Initiative for support.
Commercial Affordability Strategy Development	Mayor Murray convened the Commercial Affordability Task Force to identify a set of tools intended to address displacement pressures experienced by small businesses. Exploring implementation opportunities to help small businesses in the CID is one component of the CID Framework and Implementation Plan.
Public Realm	
Hing Hay Park Expansion	Renovation and expansion of this neighborhood park
Street Design Concept Plans	The City has been developing street design concept plans to guide future improvements. The City already has a concept plan for Maynard Avenue S and S Lander Street and is developing plans for S. Weller Street, S. King Street, 10 th Avenue S., and S. Jackson Street. These plans will be implemented primarily by new development as it occurs.
Crosswalk improvements	Updating curb ramps at 10 th Avenue S. and S. King Street

Center City Connector	The City is proposing to connect the First Hill Street Car with the South Lake Union Street Car to provide a direct connection from the CID through Downtown to South Lake Union.
One Center City	One Center City is a plan that will support short-term solutions as well as a 20-year (long-term) vision for improving mobility and public life within the greater downtown area. The plan includes the development of multi-modal strategies and increased accessibility and improvements to public space and parks within the public realm throughout 10 centrally located neighborhoods, including the CID.
Neighborhood Greenway	The development of a greenway connecting the CID and Judkins Park is currently being planned. This initiative would include design and capital improvements to create a safer, calmer residential street.
S Dearborn Street Protected Bike Lane	Implementation of a protected bike lane connecting CID and Judkins Parks
South End Protected Bicycle Lane Connection	The development of a protected bicycle lane that would connect the 2 nd Ave Ext S protected bicycle lane to the S. Dearborn St protected bicycle lane.
Pavement to Parks	The City is currently exploring improvement of an underused street space at S. Jackson St and Rainier Ave S. to create new public space.
Design Review	
District Review	The CID neighborhood falls within three design review entity's catchment areas. The City will explore the feasibility of expanding the International Special Review District across the entire CID.
Little Saigon Design Guidelines	Design Guidelines for the Little Saigon area east of I-5 do not exist. Development of culturally relevant design guidelines to inform future development in Little Saigon will be considered as a work product of the CID Framework and Implementation Plan.
Safety	
Public Safety Task Force	Mayor Ed Murray issued an action plan to address persistent public safety and disorder challenges in the Chinatown-International District. The action plan reflects the recommendations of Murray's Chinatown-International District Public Safety Task Force. This plan is now being implemented.
Charles Street	
Charles Street Campus Master Plan	The City will prepare an update to the 2015 Charles Street Campus Master Plan that considers a range of alternatives, from streetscape improvements along S. Dearborn St, to potential redevelopment of the northern parcels fronting S. Dearborn St, to a long-term strategy for relocation of all City facilities currently located at the Charles Street Campus.