#### **Don Blakeney**

SOCIATION

Executive Director, U District Partnership sfinity reward Our thanks our reward

#### POWERED BY UDISTRICT THE UDISTRICT

Welcome II DISTRICT





# U District Partnership

- Place Management
   Organization
- Business Improvement Area
- 501(c)3 Nonprofit
- Established 2015 (Greater U District Chamber of Commerce 1914 - 2014)







## •

## **UDP Programs**

- **Advocacy & Economic Development**
- **Placemaking & Public Realm**
- **Marketing & Events**
- **Cleaning & Safety**
- **Homeless Outreach**



#### • East of I-5

**U District** 

Geography

- West of 25th Ave NE
- South of Ravenna Blvd
- North of Ship Canal



# U District Today

**Context:** 

- Fastest Growing
   Neighborhood in Seattle
- One of Seattle's Three
   "Downtowns"
- Cultural, Commercial and Residential Hub for North Seattle



## **Context: U District Today**

- 48,000 Students
  - 10,000 UW Housing
  - 3,000 UW Greek Housing
  - 35,000 Off Campus
- 17,600 UW Staff
- 8,500 UW Faculty
  36,000 Total U District Residents
- 700 Total Hotel Rooms



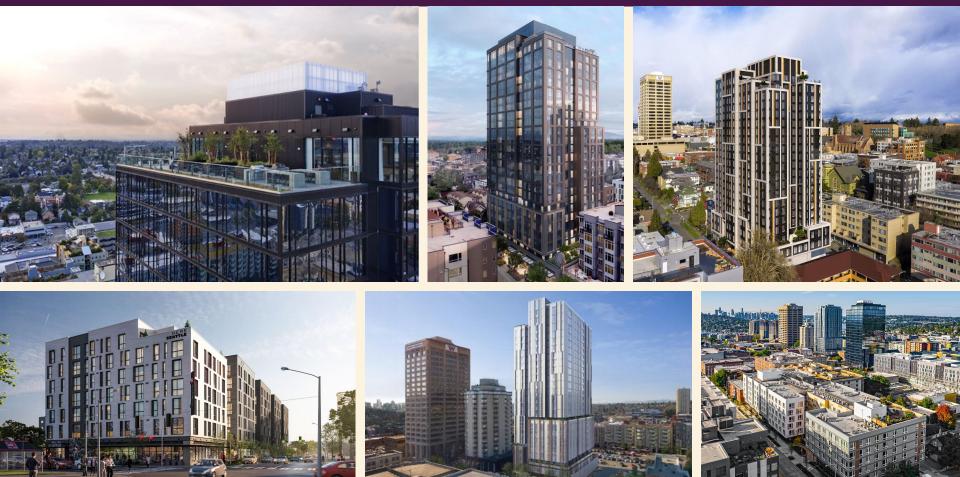
- 2015 Expanded BIA Program
  2017 U District Up-Zone
- 2019 UW Master Plan
- 2020 BIA Renewal
  2020 New Waterfront Park
  2021 UW Returns to Campus
  2021 U District Station Open

# **Unprecedented Investment**

**Red:** Private Development - Mostly Housing **Purple:** Future UW West Campus Redevelopment

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#### Housing Developments Completed/Underway



### Unprecedented Investment

- 20+ New Towers Proposed
  4.8M+ SF of Residential

  4,200+ Total Units
  3,700+ Units Under Development
  - 7,000+ New Residents



### Unprecedented Investment

**Commercial Development** 1M+ SF of Office Space 100,000+SF of New Ground-Floor Retail **U** District Light Rail Station 12,000 Daily Riders **UW Campus Expansion** 

#### WEST CAMPUS FOOTPRINT

5

## UW West Campus Redevelopment

69 Acres of Potential Redevelopment
19 Potential Sites
3M New Gross <u>SF</u>



#### UW Campus & U District: Growing Together

- New Waterfront Park & Campus Open Space
- New Academic & Research Facilities
- New Public-Facing Ground-Floor Activation
- New Campus Green, Trailways and Green Streets Network

## **Context of the U District in 2023**

- U District Station open & UW back on campus
- Unprecedented public and private investment
- Chronic public safety issues
- Major demand on cleaning services
- Individuals suffering from behavioral health issues
- Uncertainty with COVID-19 & outlook of the economy
- Growing partnerships with UW programs/initiatives
- Strong partnerships with City Hall
- Renewed Capacity from BIA funding

## **Advocacy / External Resources**

#### **Recent Program Grants - \$382,000**

\$200,000 - Office of Economic Development - Economic recovery

\$50,000 - Human Services Department - Outreach

\$50,000 - King County - Events

\$39,000 - Washington State Dept. of Commerce

**\$27,000** - Seattle Public Utilities - Cleaning

**\$17,000** - Rotary - Outdoor lighting, Pressure Washer

#### **Recent Sponsorships/Partnerships - \$220,000**

**\$70,000+** - UW - Station ambassador & late night security

**\$50,000+** - U District Partners including UHeights, KUOW, and Target

**\$100,000** - Sponsors - Food Walk, Cherry Blossom Fest, Boba Fest, U District Street Fair



## **Advocacy / External Resources**

#### Recent Recovery Grants - \$5,101,500

**\$4,976,000** - Tenant Improvement Grants (Washington State Department of Commerce)

- 130+ small business grants in storefronts, facades, signage and infrastructure
- \$85,500 Arts & Culture Programming Grants (City of Seattle Office of Arts and Culture)
  - 13 arts organization grants to support activations and programming
- **\$40,000** Broken Windows Grant (City of Seattle Office of Economic Development)
  - 44 small businesses grants for storefront and window repair



## **UDP Direct Support for Small Businesses**

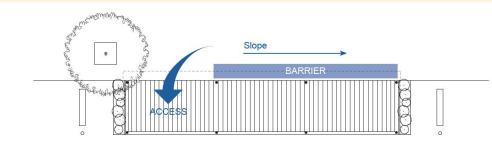
- Coordinated PPE Distribution
- Offered Loan, Grant, and Tax Technical Assistance
- Convened Business Network Meetings
- Organized Marketing/Events including Gameday Deals, Gift Guides, 43rd St Junction, and Up Your Ave
- Launched UDistrictSeattle.com
- Facade Design Toolkit
- Focused on Outdoor Dining

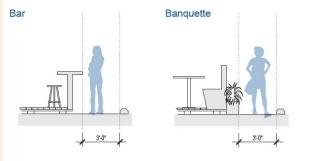
## Launched NE 43rd Street Plaza

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## **Technical Assistance: Outdoor Dining**





Ramping

Planters

Detectable Step + Rail







**Covered Structures** 

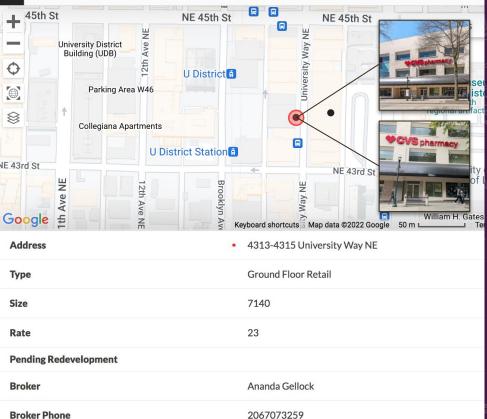


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PARTNERSHI

#### 4313-4315 University Way NE

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#### Tracking Ground-Floor Commercial Spaces

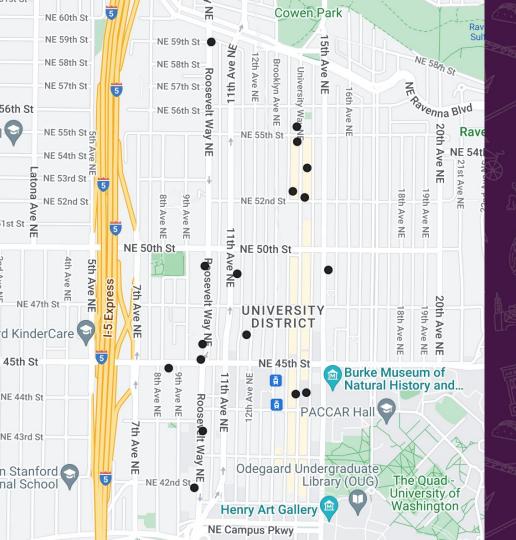
- Insights Including size, rate, broker and property owner information
- Strategic Approach To filling ground-floor spaces by building relationships with brokers and property owners

Property Owner Name

**Broker Email** 

Sade Eleanor

Ananda@metropolistgroup.com



#### Tracking Ground-Floor Commercial Spaces

- 214 ground-floor spaces on the Ave
- 360 ground-floor spaces in BIA 20 available for lease
  - 11 spaces off-line

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- 11 appear vacant, but are occupied
- Average size is 1700 sqft
- Average rent is \$26 sqft/yr



#### Year-Round Series of U District Events

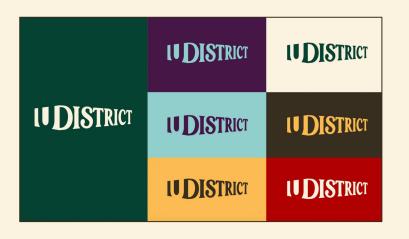
- Cherry Blossom Festival
- Boba Fest
- U District Street Fair
- Outdoor Summer Movies
- U District Food Walk

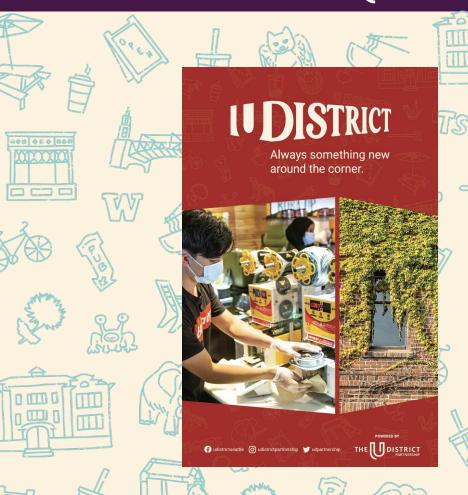




# **UDISTRICT**

Always something new around the corner.





New Investments in Placemaking & Art

- 10 New Murals
- Tree Lights from NE 41st
   to NE 50th
- New U District Banners
- Tulips and Flower Baskets

## 2023 Cherry Blossom Mural

Manc

# **New Cleaning Program**

- New contract with Seattle Surface Cleaners
- Expanded in-house clean team
- Monthly second-story graffiti removal
- Public realm maintenance
- Issue ticketing and tracking software
- Enhanced ongoing City support for cleaning
- Seasonal cleaning: leaf and snow removal
- Annual volunteer clean-up / improvement events
- Advocacy for sanitation system improvements



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## **Expanded Ambassador Hours**

#### **Original Schedule**

Monday	NA
Tuesday	NA
Wednesday	NA
Thursday	11am-7pm
Friday	11am-7pm
Saturday	9am-5pm
Sunday	11am-7pm

#### **Expanded Schedule**

Monday	7:30am-11pm		
Tuesday	7:30am-11pm		
Wednesday	7:30am-11pm		
Thursday	7:30am-11pm		
Friday	7:30am-11pm		
Saturday	3pm-11pm		
Sunday	3pm-11pm		

 Program was originally 64-hours a week, now 152-hours

THE DISTRICT

- New Schedule allows for coverage around the light rail station
- The longer hours allow outreach to do more case management
- The data collection under the new hours is substantially more than before

## **Additional Safety Measures**

#### **New Nighttime Security Patrols**

- Partnership with University of Washington
- Unarmed security patrols on weekends
- Friday and Saturday nights, 10 p.m. to 3 a.m.
- Same firm as U District Ambassadors

#### **Nightlife Business Security**

- New door security and cameras in businesses
- Development of a shared, real-time safety communication method
- Exploration of business-funded off-duty police presence

#### **Physical & Lighting Improvements**

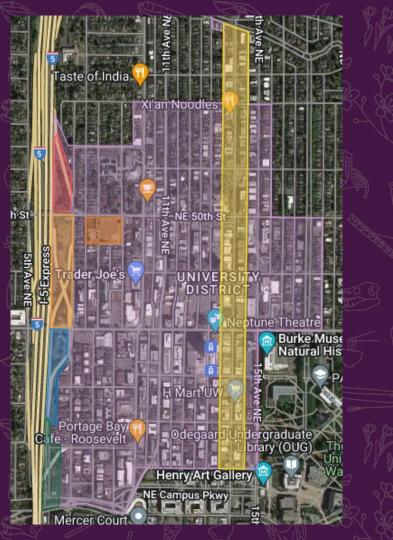
• Enhanced lighting in dark areas near University Way (parking lots)

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- Expanded tree lighting from 41st to 50th
- Longer-term work to achieve uniform commercial lighting levels on University Way

#### **Homeless Outreach & Planning**

- Partnership with REACH program to conduct daily homeless outreach in U District
- Case conference the most impactful people demonstrating the most serious behavioral health issues
- Intervene up-stream before people are in crisis and connect people with appropriate housing



#### **Homeless Outreach**

LOCATION	Pasadena	I-5 @ 45 <sup>th</sup>	I-5 @ 50 <sup>th</sup>	University Playground	The Ave	Other	TOTAL Tents
January	26	11	17	1	0	0	55
February	25	16	13	5	0	0	59
March	25	11	19	0	0	0	55
April	20	4	13	0	0	0	41
May	20	4	14	0	0	0	38
June	25	2	15	1	0	0	43
July	30	13	7	0	0	0	50
August	25	9	5	0	0	0	39
September	22	13	6	0	0	0	41

## What's next?

Continued Commercial & Residential Growth Updates to the Comprehensive and Transportation Plans More Commercial Activity on the Waterfront Renewed Focus on Arts & Culture in the U District New Partnerships in the Public Realm Exploration of Freeway Lid Connection Between U District & Wallingford

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# Thank you!

