



February 2011

### King Street Station Multimodal Transportation Hub Study

- *A Deliverable of the Pedestrian Master Plan* -

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#### Project Overview

- **One of three Center City Multimodal Transportation Hubs.** The King Street Station Multimodal Hub was designated in the 2003 Center City Access Study along with **Westlake** and **Colman Dock**. The three hubs are key elements of the Center City transportation system that function as both destinations and transfer points for a variety of transportation users.
- **Covers Two Distinct Neighborhoods.** The Hub study area covers six to eight blocks (approximately a quarter mile) and is located within both the **Pioneer Square** and **Chinatown/International District** neighborhoods. Each neighborhood is a designated historic landmark district with engaged community groups that embrace their unique and distinct community characteristics.
- **Includes Many Key Transportation Facilities.** The Hub includes Historic King Street Station serving both inner-city rail, intra-city bus and commuter rail; the International District Station serving light rail and local bus service; major surface transit stops; and the future terminus of the First Hill Streetcar. The area is also heavily used by pedestrians, cyclists, general traffic and freight.
- **A Dispersed Hub.** The Hub has a number of dispersed destinations, some of which are grade separated or divided from each other by busy surface roadways. These physical separations result in **challenging navigation** for pedestrians and cyclists who are transferring between modes or trying to find a local destination. The dispersed nature of the study area and facilities is a challenge to the development of an efficient and cohesive Hub strategy that is an amenity for local residents and daily visitors.

#### Timeline of major projects that affect the hub area –

2013

First Hill Streetcar is in operation

Seismic upgrades to street support structures completed

**2016 – planning horizon**

Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Project are complete and existing Viaduct is being removed

Second and third floors of King Street Station are completed

S Washington St and S Main St may be used as a transit couplet for Rapid Ride to West Seattle

North Lot development in construction

Link LRT service to Capitol Hill and Husky Stadium

2020

Link LRT service to Brooklyn, Roosevelt, and Northgate

**2030 – planning horizon**

Street support structures (4th Ave S, S Jackson St, 2nd Ave Ext S, S Main St) will be/are replaced

North Lot development to be completed

Potential streetcar expansion to link South Lake Union and First Hill lines



**Hub Strategy Goals**

1. **Easy to Use:** The hub should be easily discernable to residents and visitors
2. **Accessible:** Connections within the hub should be designed for people of all abilities
3. **Connected:** The hub should connect as many transit systems and routes as possible within the shortest distance possible
4. **Imbedded:** The hub should offer convenient access to adjacent areas of Center City
5. **Iconic:** The hub should be iconic and memorable

**Scope**

- I. Evaluate existing and planned **transportation uses** including transit, freight, pedestrian, bicycle and general traffic
- II. Evaluate existing **urban design features** and **community visions** for future needs, including previous design and transportation planning studies
- III. Develop **2016 and 2030 hub alternatives** including conceptual design plans and preliminary projects
- IV. Work with stakeholders to develop a **preferred hub plan** that will be the focus of the final hub strategy document

**Schedule**

3Q 2010	4Q 2010	1Q 2011	2Q 2011
Transportation Evaluation			
Urban Design Evaluation			
	Hub Design Alternatives		
		Preferred Hub Design	
	Public Involvement		

Draft Recommendations Open House

**Budget**

This project is currently being staffed in-house

Opportunities for partnering with other projects to leverage funds for implementation include:

- First Hill Streetcar
- King Street Station Restoration
- Livable South Downtown
- North Lot development
- Roadway structures rebuild/seismic retrofit

**Outreach**

Internal and external city staff briefings through the Center City Public Realm IDT, the Pedestrian/Bike work group meetings, and one-on-one topical meetings

Transportation agency meetings with Amtrak, Sound Transit, BNSF, WSDOT, and King County Metro

Presentations to various groups:

- Design and Planning Commissions
- Landmarks Boards
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Boards
- Pioneer Square and Chinatown/ID Historic Preservation Boards
- About 15 other community groups

## Planning Charrette Outcomes (see map)

### Overall Consensus:

- a. Lid the openings over the railroad
- b. Restore the grid by closing 2nd Ave Ext S
- c. Make S Jackson street a “complete street”
- d. Improve and integrate wayfinding
- e. Create more green within streetscapes (3rd Ave S, 2nd Ave S, S Washington St, 4th Ave S)
- f. Repurpose curbspace to allow for kiss and ride/taxi drop-off at KSS and to remove bus layover areas
- g. Improve ped/bike connection between King Street Station and Chinatown/ID Station
- h. Pedestrianize alleys (secondary pedestrian network)
- i. Celebrate the historic districts and historic shoreline – depict history - (link with Trails to Treasure project)

### Alternative:

- b. Close 2nd Ave Ext S to general traffic; allow transit and bicycles to continue through

## Next Steps

### January

- 19 Feet First
- 20 Bicycle Alliance of Washington
- 24 AIA Urban Design Committee

### February

- 3 Seattle Design Commission
- 7 InterIm CDA
- 8 International Special Review District
- 9 Pedestrian Advisory Board
- 10 Seattle Planning Commission
- 14 Vulcan Real Estate, First & Goal, Public Stadium Authority
- 17 Pioneer Square Alliance
- 25 City Council Transportation Committee

### March

- 2 Pioneer Square Preservation Board
- 2 Bicycle Advisory Board
- 7 Friends of Seattle’s Olmsted Parks

### April

- Draft Plan completed
- SDOT and departmental review

### May

- Mayor and Council review
- Open House

### Project Contacts:

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