

#### SDH Plan Progress Update

International Special Review District August 12, 2025

#### Overview

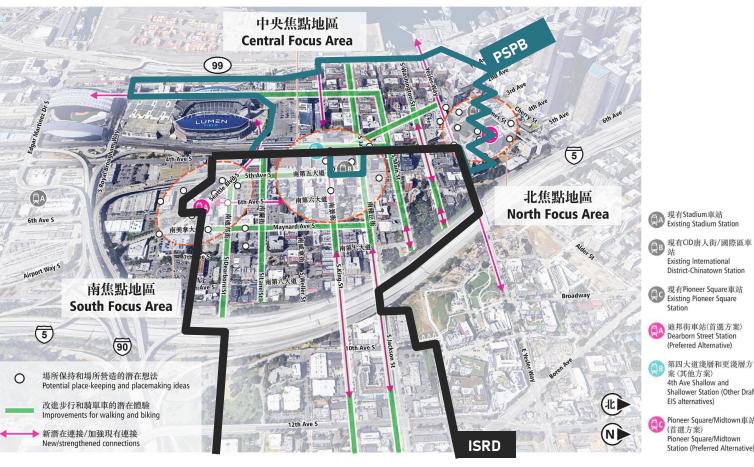
- □ Partnership of Sound Transit, City of Seattle, and community, in coordination with King County, towards an implementable plan.
- ☐ Through engagement series, working on visioning and prioritization of potential investments to streets and public spaces that help connect neighborhoods and regional transit modes.
- Builds upon and scales up past community-based plans and concurrent projects and planning initiatives.



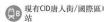


#### South Downtown Hub Plan: Scope

- Overall framework for urban design and transportation
- Detailed concept plans for Union Station activation, IDS Plaza improvements
- ☐ Integration with station planning for North (Midtown), South (CID) station areas; King Street Station Improvement Project
- Detailed concept plans for improving key connections between stations and neighborhoods
- Cost estimates and implementation plan







District-Chinatown Station

現有Pioneer Square車站 Existing Pioneer Square

迪邦街車站(首選方案 Dearborn Street Station (Preferred Alternative)

第四大道淺層和更淺層方 4th Ave Shallow and Shallower Station (Other Draft

Pioneer Square/Midtown

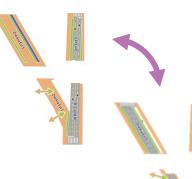


#### South Downtown Hub Plan: Process

- Review past plans and synthesized goals and objectives into eight community themes
- Develop scenarios that integrate and interpret project concepts from past plans and recent community engagement
- Engage community in both developing and evaluating community themes and design concept scenarios
- □ Coordinate with peer agencies on advancing conceptual design and develop an implementation plan

November 2023	February 2024	July 2024	April 2025	Early 2026
<ul> <li>Open House</li> <li>Answer questions</li> <li>Community themes and project ideas</li> </ul>	Workshop 1  • Big picture visioning  • Develop overall concepts for community and station connections	Exhibition and Workshop 2  • Area-specific opportunities and issues  • Evaluate concepts for connections and places	Progress Exhibition and Open House • Present refined designs • Confirm concepts for connections and places	SDH Implementation Plan Launch • Present final plan, including implementation details











# Community and Interagency Engagement

Overview of Activities and Findings

# Outreach and Engagement: Overview

- ☐ Over 1,000 impressions made thus far in the planning process
- 18 in-person events held, including 4 large public events, and 14 meetings with community-based groups
- 2 public exhibitions documenting engagement results and planning concepts in Union Station Great Hall in summer 2024 and spring 2025
- ☐ 2 phases of online surveys held in summer 2024 and spring 2025

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280 attendees at open houses



623 completed

online surveys





### Outreach and Engagement: Tools

- Developed a "vision board" exercise that allows facilitated, participatory exploration of design concepts
- Concept options printed on transparent overlays to allow participants to see variations in design approach
- Playing cards depicting photographs of features, amenities, and attributes of urban spaces, tied to community themes
- □ Full facilitation support of activity and translation of materials into Traditional and Simplified Chinese, Vietnamese









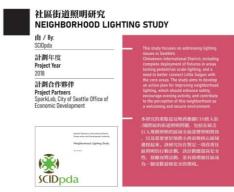


## Building Upon Past Planning Efforts

- Many plans have been developed in CID and PSQ to address specific needs and desires, with uneven record of implementation
- □ Recognition of historic harm to CID and PSQ communities from past policies and major civic projects
- ☐ First step in SDH process was to review all past plans and identify common themes, key project ideas, and problems that need further definition or study in order to implement















#### Developing Community Themes and Common Strategies

最大限度地減少累積傷害和/或搬離原處 (小型企業、居民和非營利組織) 並鼓勵公平發展

Minimize cumulative harm and/or displacement (small businesses, residents and nonprofits) and encourage equitable development

加強公共空間,街道,小巷和開放空間,改善安全,社交聯繫和體育 活動

Enhance public space, streets, alleys, and open spaces, to increase safety, social connections, and physical activity 保留歷史文化特色

Retain historic and cultural character

鼓勵經濟發展

**Encourage economic development** 

提升公共安全體驗與認知

Improve public safety experience and perceptions

令社區利益和土地所有 權最大化

Maximize community benefit and ownership of land

應知和應對由來已久,和持續影響社區的種族主義問題

Acknowledge and address historic racism that has and continues to impact neighborhoods

改善流動性和連結性,特別是社 區與國王街和聯合車站之間的流 動性和連結性

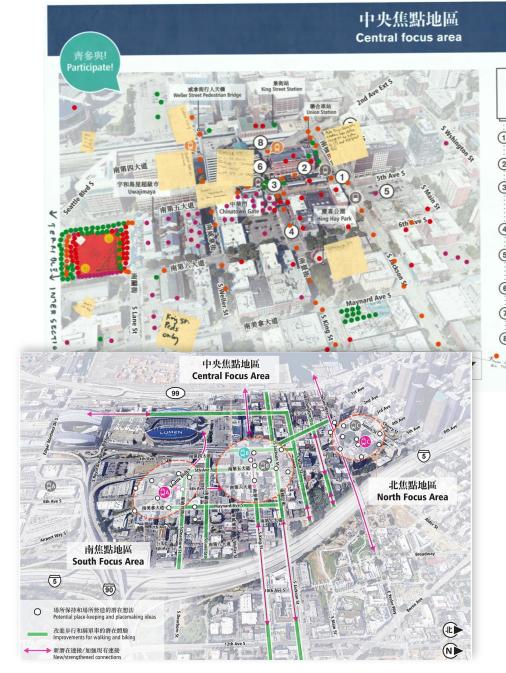
Improve mobility and connectivity, particularly between neighborhoods and King Street and Union Stations

Source: Office of Planning and Community Development synthesis of key themes from 13 past community planning documents



# Open House: Mapping project concepts and ideas

- Some past plans were area-specific, some thematic
- □ Some concepts proposed in isolation of broader analysis
- ☐ First engagement activity mapped place-specific ideas and street improvements concepts from past plans
- Participants invited to mark up spaces in which they want to see improvements



5:30 - 6:30

場所保持和場所營造的潛在想法

(來自進一步研究和過去的規劃工作) Potential place-keeping and placemaking ideas (derived from Further Studies and past planning efforts)

Design and site new streetscape elements that reflect the community and continuity

更新廣場以簡化架空結構,提供更多的聚集空間,為攤當和社區活動提供空間,並融入公共藝術 Update plaza to simplify overhead structures, provide more gathering space, allow space for vendors and community events, and incorporate public art

Encourage adaptive reuse of historic buildings with street-level amenities that match the

Coordinate with King Street improvements for better connections to King Street Station

Place a colored dot on locations if you would like to see:

在這裡改善街道和行人道以便步行、滾動、

Improved streets and sidewalks for walking, rolling, biking, and transit connectivity here 在 直裡 改善或新建公共的 開放空間 Enhanced or new public open space here

在這裡保護這棟建築/這個地點的特色 Preservation of the important character of the

在這裡形造一些有利社區發展,例如經濟適

Opportunities for development benefiting the

community, such as affordable housing or

騎單車和公交連接

building/place here

commercial space here

激活聯合車站以供社區使用 Activate Union Station for community use

character of the historic district

改善前往聯合車站南侧的通道

Improve neighborhood pedestrian scale lighting

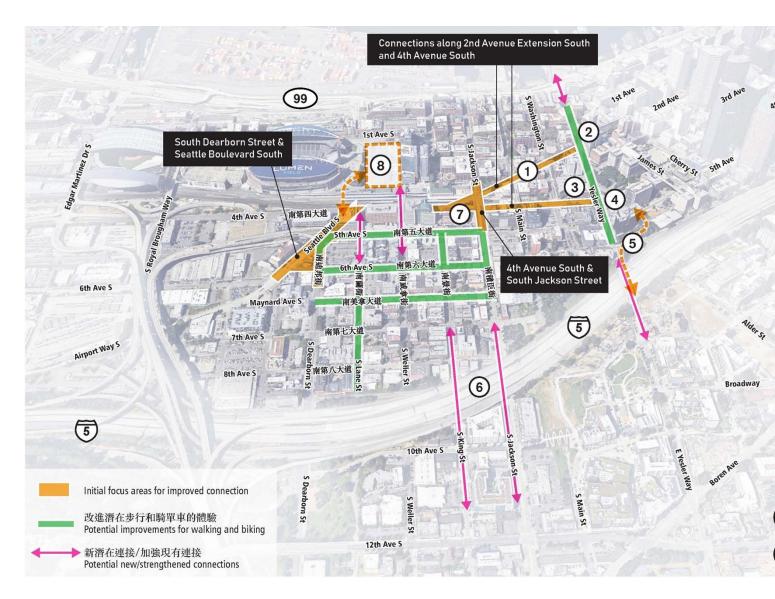
鼓勵重新啟用歷史建築,提供符合歷史街區特徵的街道設施

在火車軌道上建造一個蓋子,用作公共空間、行人設施和景觀美化 Construct a lid over train tracks for public space, pedestrian amenities, and landscaping

與景街改進規劃工作互相協調,以更好地連接景街站

#### Workshop 1: Engagement Summary

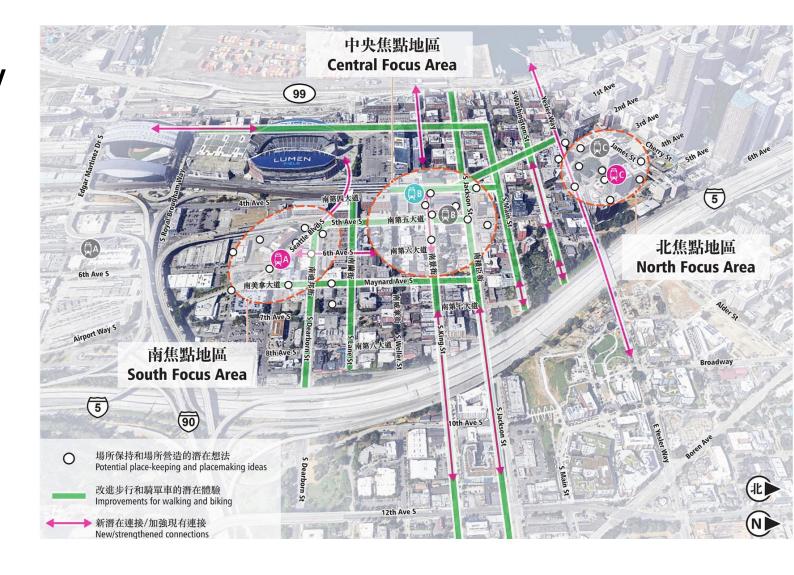
- Strong support for converting 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave Ext S into public space and peoplefocused Green Streets
- □ Strong support for traffic calming and streetscape improvements on S
  Dearborn St
- ☐ Strong support for grid realignment south of S Dearborn St
- Some concerns about traffic impacts and the programming and management of additional public space





## Workshop 2: Engagement Summary

- Strong support for grid realignment south of S Dearborn St with additional open space and pursuit of higher-density, mixed-use development that includes affordable housing and serves community
- □ Strong support for Union Station activation with indoor gathering space as well as space for performances, events, and recreation
- Support for mixed use development in King County Civic Campus, with emphasis on a broad range of housing types, though mixed feelings on tall towers and amount of open space





# Key findings from further design and study

- Public space conversion of 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave Ext S and conversion of 4<sup>th</sup> Ave S to two-way travel is challenging to implement under current and interim (pre-2042) traffic and transit service patterns
- Adjustment to Dearborn St and grid realignment of Seattle Boulevard functions under current and projected future traffic patterns and transit service
- □ Direction from SDOT to show more conservative approach on 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave Ext S corridor, and grid transformation at Seattle Blvd

### 調整構想 ADJUSTMENT SCENARIO



轉型構想

South Weller Street

#### TRANSFORMATION SCENARIO



新/國際區的交通的長大約20 % About 20% growth in traffic from northbound trips deviating through CID on 6th Ave S, Maynard Ave S, 7th Ave S, 8th Ave S

由南面(南第六大道、南美拿大道、南

第七大道、南第八大道) 進入CID唐人

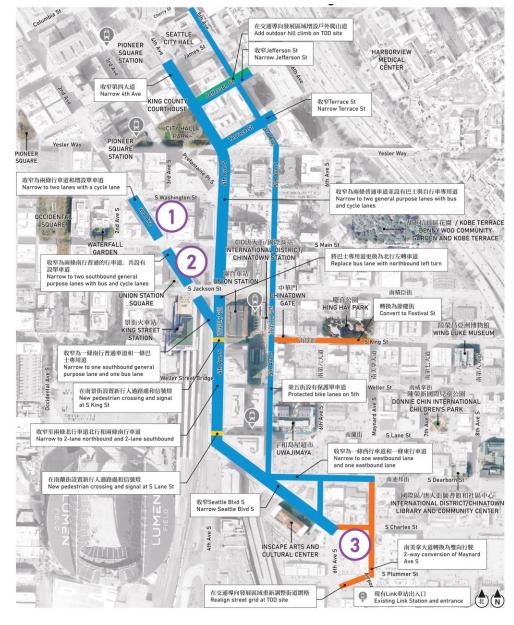
街道網絡調整後,西行南迪邦街的行車時間由I-5去 到南第四大道,同埋由I-5去到Airport Way的行車時 間增加少於I分鐘

by less than 1 minute from I-5 to 4th Avenue South and from I-5 to Airport Way with grid adjustment



### Direction for SDH Plan Concept

- □ Roadway narrowing, streetscape and intersection safety improvements on 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave Ext S, 4<sup>th</sup> Ave S, and S Jackson St
- New crosswalks and improvements to crossings of 4<sup>th</sup> Ave
- □ People-focused street designs on Jefferson Street and King Street
- ☐ Street grid realignment at Seattle Blvd S and roadway narrowing, streetscape and intersection safety improvements on Dearborn



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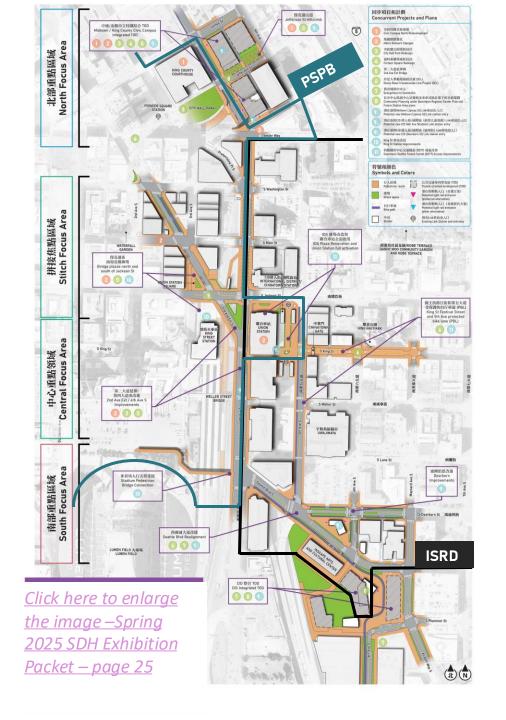




Overview of Key Features

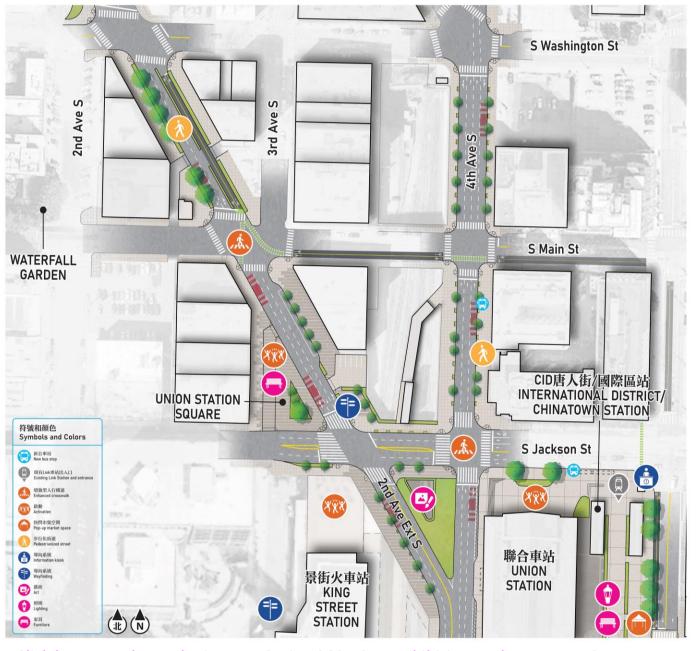
- □ Roadway narrowing, streetscape and intersection safety improvements on 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave Ext S, 4<sup>th</sup> Ave S, and S Jackson St
- □ Activated Union Station and renovated plazas, and peoplefocused street designs on Jefferson Street and King Street
- Street grid realignment at Seattle Blvd S and roadway narrowing, streetscape and intersection safety improvements on Dearborn
- Robust development at Midtown and CID PA station sites, along with new public realm





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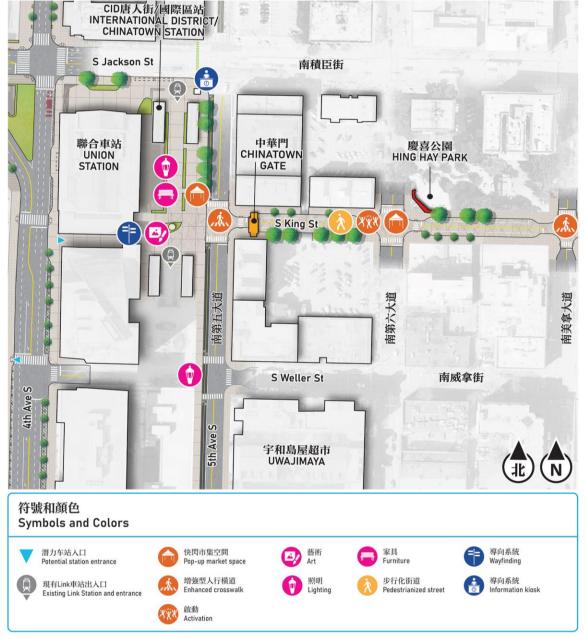




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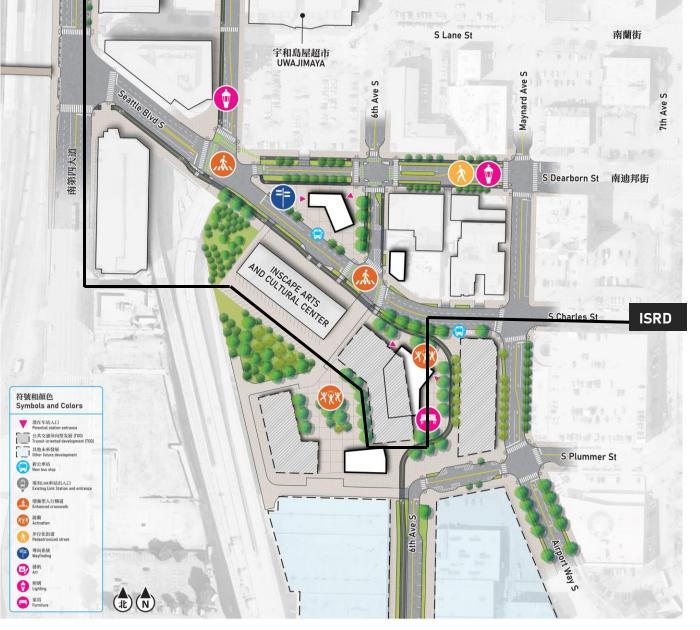




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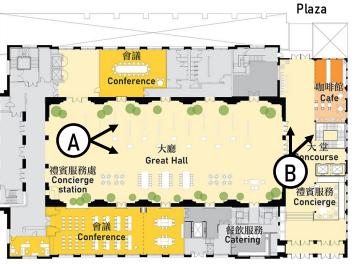
Focus on areas of interest

#### Union Station Activation: Great Hall Concept

New furnishings, communitydriven programs, meeting space, and travel support functions in Great Hall and surrounding spaces

- Nearly all survey respondents and open house attendees supported this concept
- Many liked the public access through concourse and prospect of using Great Hall for dancing, games, casual meetings





A Great Hall Winter Garden and Community Space



B Concourse Passageway and Cafe



4th Ave S

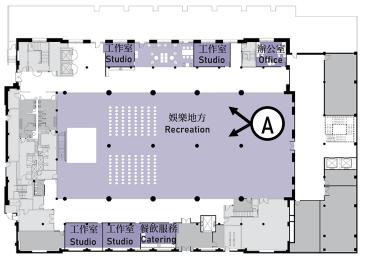
# Union Station Activation: Basement Concept

With investments in physical building plan, expand community programs to lower level with studio spaces and flexible performance/recreation space, and office space in mezzanine level

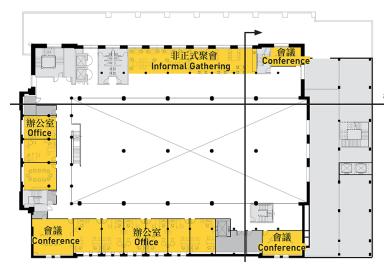
 Most survey respondents and open house attendees supported this concept



A Community festival in Garden Level Flex Space



Garden (Basement) Level Plan

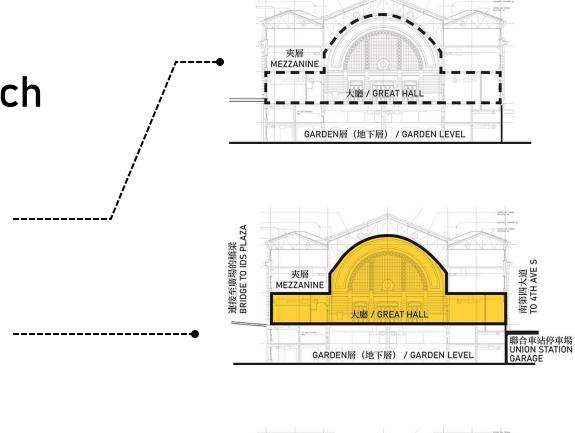


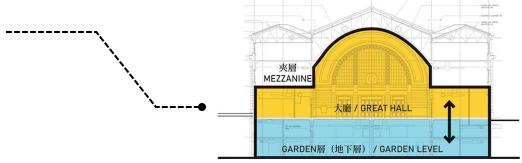
Mezzanine Level Plan



#### Union Station Activation: Phasing Approach

- Phase 1 would reopen Great Hall to Public, begin community-based programming (already underway)
- Phase 2 would improve loading and access as well as permanent operating plan, staffing, and capital campaign
- Phase 3 would renovate basement and concourse subsequent to relocation of ST functions based in those spaces

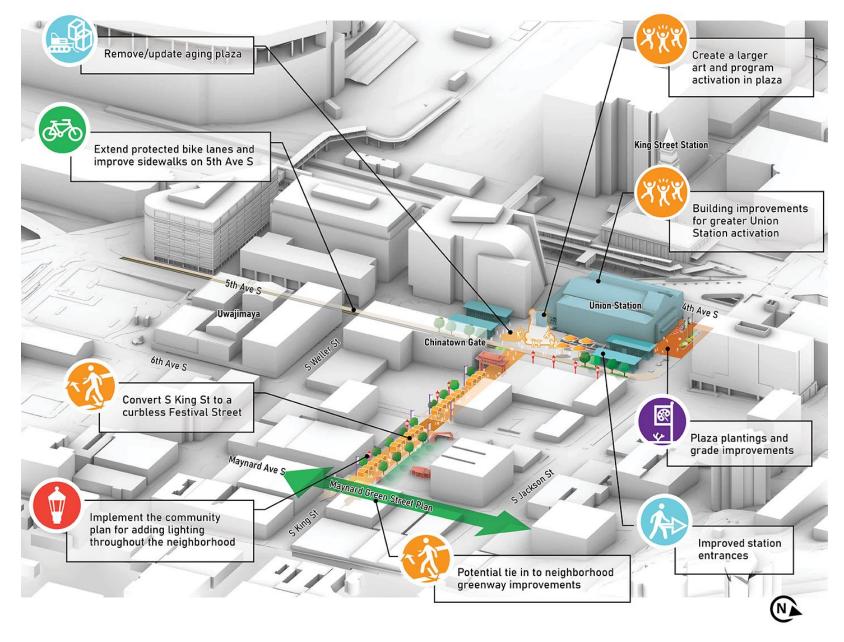






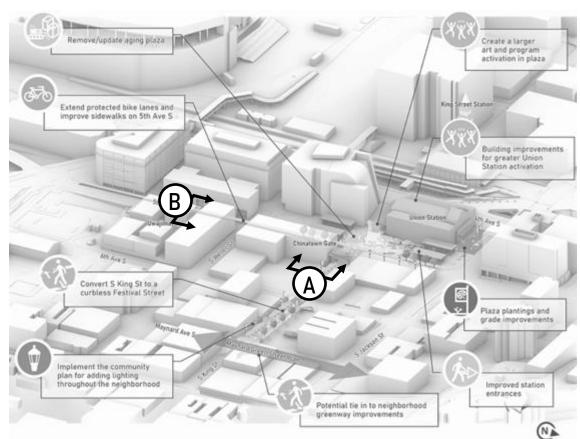
#### Central Focus Area Project Concepts

- Nearly all survey respondents and open house attendees supported this concept
- Many liked the prospect of improving King Street and plazas to prioritize pedestrians
- Some had concern about safety, security, and ability to support ongoing programming



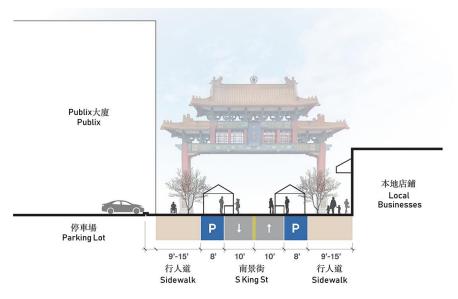


#### Central Focus Area Street Concepts

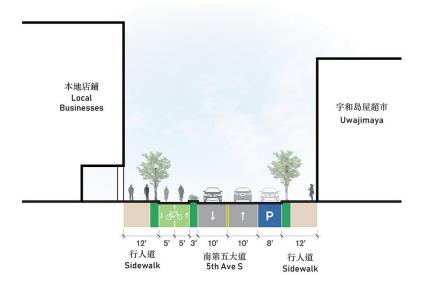




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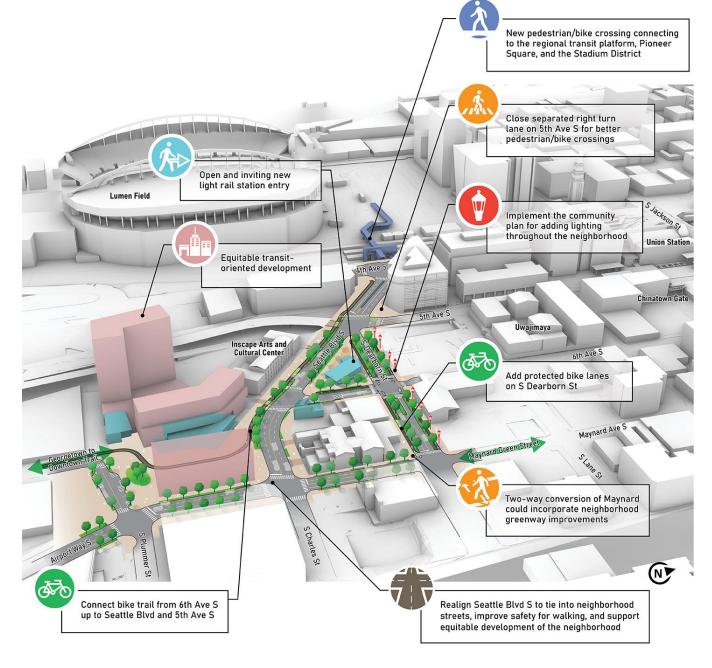
A 南景街(節慶街)横斷面圖 S King St (Festival Street) cross section



B 南第五大道横斷面圖 5th Ave S cross section

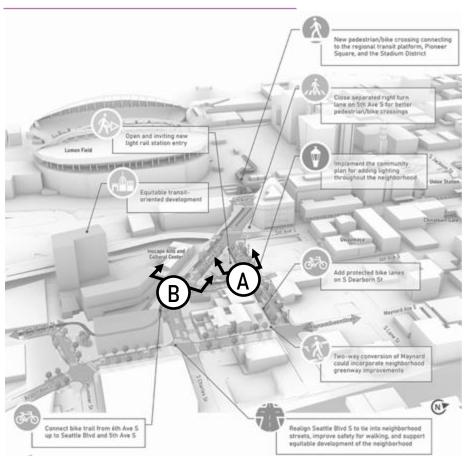
#### South Focus Area Project Concepts

- Many survey respondents and open house attendees supported this concept
- Most liked the traffic calming and streetscaping measures and equitable TOD opportunity
- Some were skeptical of the concept and desired more interagency coordination to demonstrate ability to implement



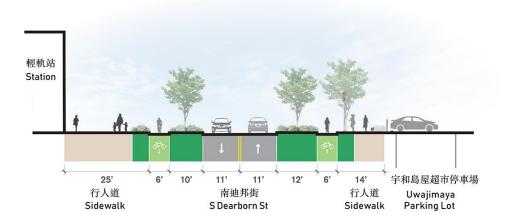


#### South Focus Area Street Concepts

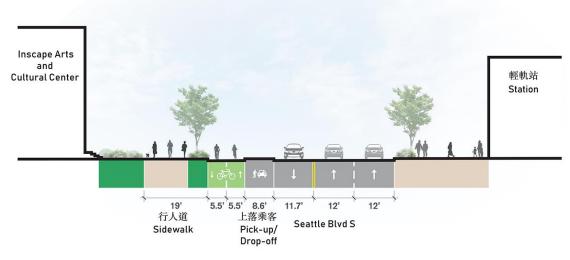




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A 南迪邦街橫斷面圖 S Dearborn St cross section



B Seattle Blvd S横斷面圖 Seattle Blvd S cross section



### **Q&A** and Discussion

#### Next Steps

- Currently developing design documentation and implementation plan, including funding, sponsorship, and phasing of projects
- Publish plan in early 2026, following Ballard Link Extension Draft EIS
- Community event to launch implementation of plan

November 2023	February 2024	July 2024	April 2025	Early 2026
				SDH Implementation Plan Launch • Present final plan, including implementation details





### Thank you