



Introductions

STAFF REVIEW PANEL

- 1. Saranya Gujuluva Rajan, WSLE Project Manager, SDOT Sound Transit Program Segment Project Manager
- 2. Lindsay King, ST3 Permitting Manager, SDCI Project Manager
- 3. David Goodman, ST3 Senior Transportation Planner, SDOT-Street Use, SDOT SIP Project Manager
- 4. Jennifer Meulenberg, SDOT Policy & Planning Urban Designer, SDOT Urban Design WSBLE Lead
- 5. Jonathan Williams, ST3 Planning Manager
- 6. Katy Haima, OPCD Station Area Planning Manager, OPCD WSBLE Lead

ST3 CITY STAFF

Nicole Kistler, SDOT ST3 Engagement and Partnerships Advisor CJ Holt, ST3 Program Manager



Agenda

- An overview of West Seattle Link Extension (WSLE) project.
- Racial Equity Toolkit (RET) Outcomes Sound Transit and the City of Seattle have partnered on the development of RET Outcomes. The RET is designed to implement the City of Seattle's commitment to the Race and Social Justice Initiative (RSJI).
- Outline of WSLE Engagement goals and events.
- Context setting briefing on WSLE light rail stations/guideways
 - Planning & Land Use
 - Zoning & Development in station areas
 - Transportation Plan and Station Access and
 - Information on what we have heard from the Community

Agenda

- 1.00 1.10pm (10 min) Setup, logistics, introductions.
- 1.10 1.20pm Overview & Engagement goals and events.

Context setting briefing is divided into four station areas/segments based on the geographic areas. Pause for Q&A after the context setting briefing on each of the four areas.

- 1.20 1.35pm Context setting briefing on SODO
- 1.35 1.45pm Rico's Remarks
- 1.45 2.05pm Discussion
- 2.05 2.20pm Context setting briefing on Delridge
- 2.20 2.40pm Discussion
- 2.40 3.00pm Context setting briefing on Avalon
- 3.00 3.20pm Discussion
- 3.20 3.40pm Context setting briefing on Alaska
- 3.40 4.00pm Discussion

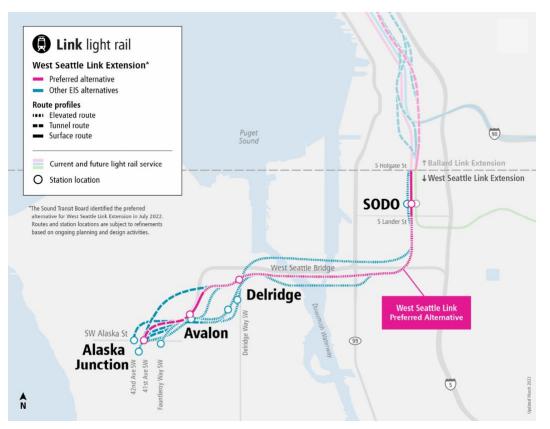


West Seattle Link Extension (WSLE) Overview

The West Seattle Link Extension will provide fast, reliable light rail connections to dense residential and job centers in the SODO, Delridge and West Seattle neighborhoods. The West Seattle Link Extension is part of the regional transit system expansion approved by voters in November 2016.

West Seattle Link Extension

- Adds 4.1 miles of light rail service from SODO to West Seattle's Alaska Junction neighborhood.
- Includes 4 new stations between SODO and Alaska Junction.
- Start of service scheduled for 2032.



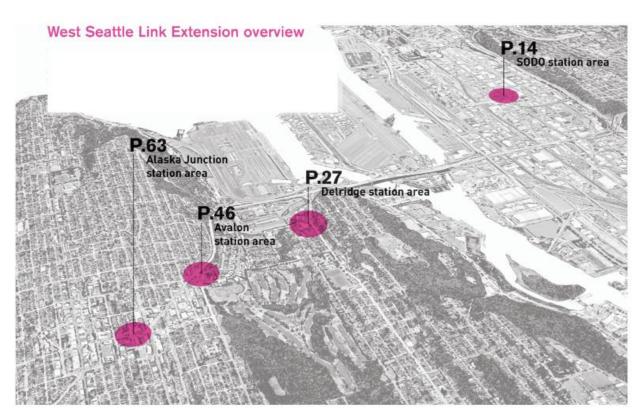
West Seattle Link Extension (WSLE) Overview

The West Seattle Link Extension has four light rail stations

- SODO
- Delridge
- Avalon, and
- Alaska Junction

Timeline and Milestones for WSLE are as follows,





Source: Sound Transit WSBLE Station Planning Progress Report January, 2022. west-seattle-link-extension-station-planning-progress-report.pdf (soundtransit.org)



Racial Equity Toolkit (RET) Outcomes

- 1. Advance **environmental and economic justice** to improve economic and health outcomes for communities of color.
- 2. Enhance mobility and access for communities of color and low-income populations.
- Create opportunities for equitable development that include expanding housing and community assets for communities of color.
- 4. Avoid disproportionate impacts on communities of color and low-income populations.
- 5. Create a **sense of belonging** for communities of color at all stations, making spaces where everyone sees themselves as belonging, feeling safe, and welcome.
- 6. Meaningfully involve communities of color and low-income populations in the project.

RET Outcomes Applied to Context Setting

 Environmental economic justice 	 Working across agencies on design progression at Longfellow Creek, Pigeon Point and Duwamish Crossing.
2. Enhance mobility & access	 Engagement on bicycle parking Working toward excellent transfer experience and pedestrian connection in Delridge Improving access to stations for pedestrians, bikes and transit riders as well as pickup and drop off
3. ETOD	 Maximize opportunities to complement Sound Transit's TOD efforts with place-based community-led strategy
4. Avoid disproportionate impacts	 City support for Delridge alignment refinements to avoid broad residential displacement and Transitional Resources City support for preferred alternative to included medium tunnel to reduce residential and business displacements
5. Sense of belonging	 Advancing National Endowment for the Arts funded Stories of Belonging Review of STs draft policy for culturally-responsive retail and publicly accessible restrooms Design Guidelines are inclusive of a Sense of Belonging for all people
6. Meaningfully involve	Joint engagement, accessibility, RET focus groups, partnership with Community Liaisons

WSLE Engagement Goals

- Ensure coordinated engagement efforts with Sound Transit
- Ask the public to help prioritize different design guidelines and development standards; educate and involve them on the code amendment process
- Engage on street concepts to improve station access
- Support potentially displaced residents and businesses in understanding the process and connecting them to resources

WSLE Engagement Events

Joint City and Sound Transit Events

- Ongoing Briefings, RET Focus Groups, Community-Organized Events
 - Briefings for Hope Academy, SW Early Learning
 - Ongoing briefings for Avalon neighbors
 - Briefings for WS Transportation Coalition
 - Briefings for WS Chamber of Commerce
 - Briefing for Bike Organizations
 - O DNDA hosted: Roxhill Park Restoration Event
 - Walk with Delridge Business Owners
- Fall 2023 Joint Station Design and Access Survey
- Station Design Forums and Open Houses
 - Fall 2023 & Spring 2024 West Seattle Station Design Forums
 - o Fall 2023 & Spring 2024 SODO Open Houses

Sound Transit has conducted additional engagement, see report here: <u>wsle-station-planning-engagement-executive-summary-20240304.pdf</u> (<u>soundtransit.org</u>)

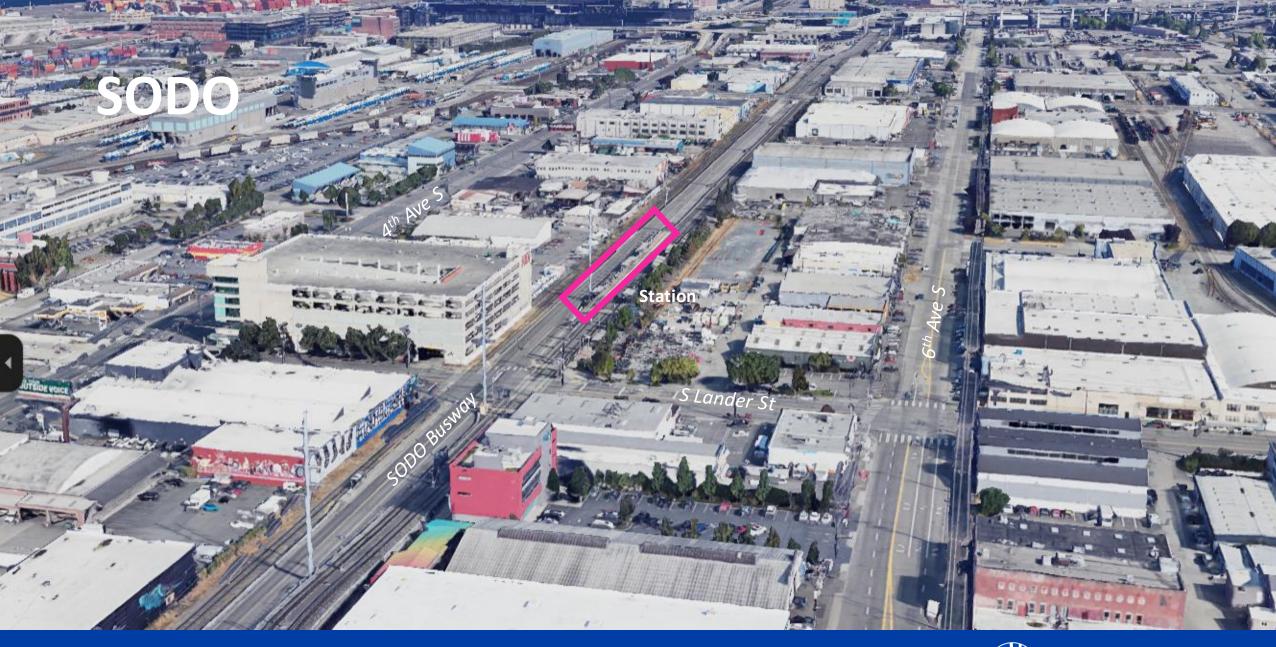
Engagement Accessibility

Meaningfully involve communities of color and low-income populations in the project.

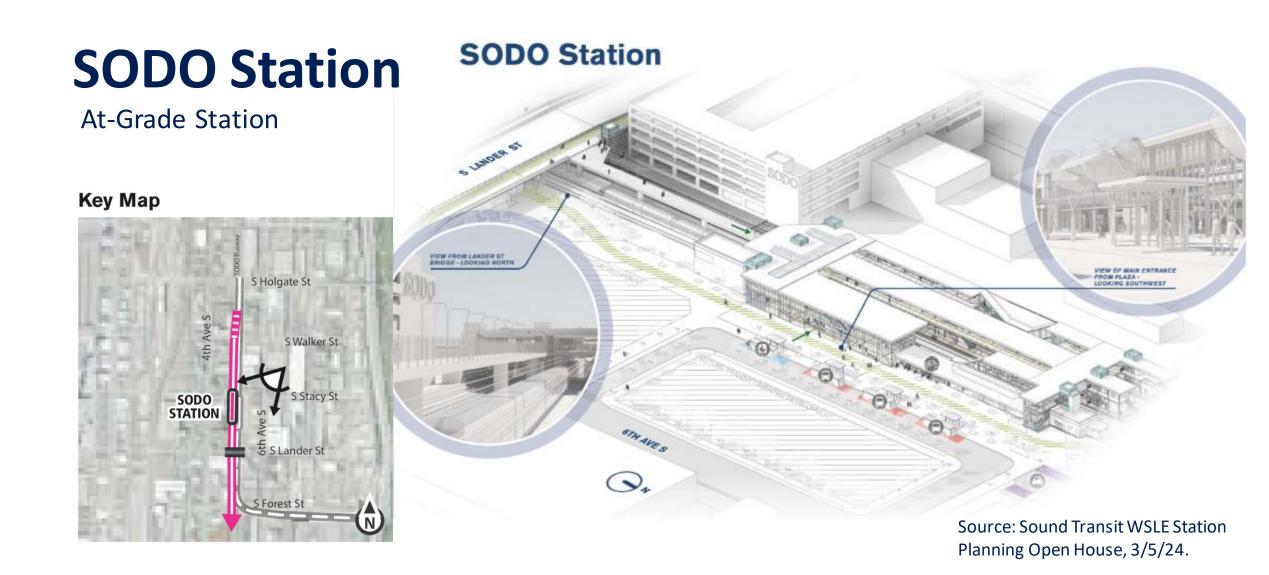
- Involve City's Title VI Coordinator in planning, events and feedback
- Partnership with the City's Community Liaisons Program
- Early briefings for organizations representing RET community
- Center accessibility
 - Materials written in plain language with translations available in Spanish, Vietnamese, Somali, Korean, Amharic, Ukranian, Simplified Chinese
 - ASL, Spanish, Vietnamese and Somali interpreters present at major events
 - Computers available for taking survey at event
 - Events all ADA accessible
 - All materials and information available as online event.

RET Community Feedback

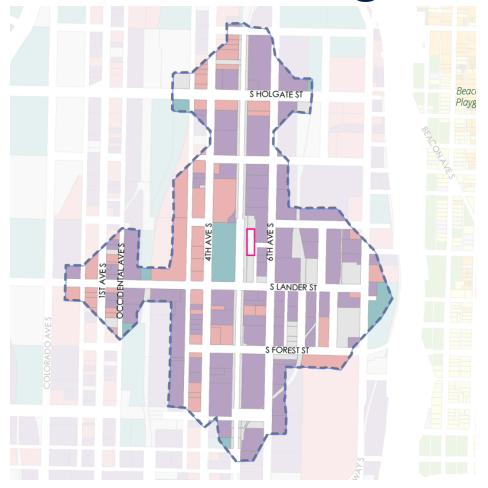
- Interest in open space, greenery, good lighting, seating areas, and art / celebrating community culture in and around the stations.
- Interest in providing restrooms at stations.
- Interest in businesses and services (convenience or grab-and-go items to serve transit riders) as well as community gathering spaces at stations.
- Interest in excellent wayfinding and signage, in multiple languages and pictograms.
- Increased safety measures in and around stations, and the ability to alert others in the event of emergency (i.e. security buttons/lights).
- Prioritize accessibility with station design, including easy to navigate stations and easy bus transfers, and easy to see drop-off zones.
- Inquiries about car parking near the station.
- Interest in development that would provide activity around station at all hours of day and night, to increase presence of people and feeling of safety.



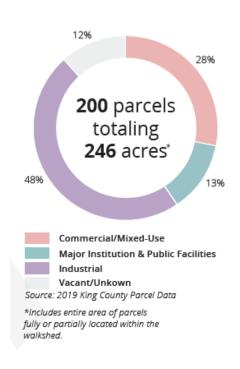




SODO – Existing Land Use



- Variety of businesses, manufacturing, institutional, and commercial uses
- No formally recognized open spaces
- Several murals face the SODO
 Trail and SODO busway to
 activate otherwise blank
 facades
- Limited opportunities to create new open spaces



SODO – Zoning & Development

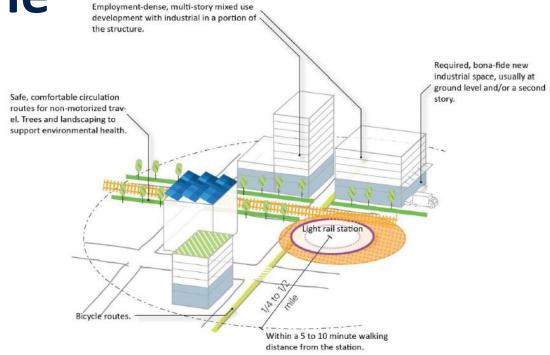


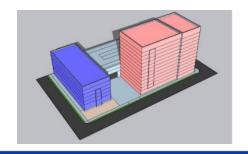
- Topography is generally flat
- Liquefaction prone area may increase challenges for denser development

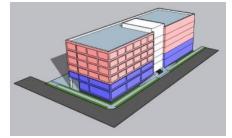


Industry & Innovation Zone

- A transit-oriented area characterized by modern industrial buildings that supports a mix of economic innovation and emerging industries, and commercial development with high employment density
- Spur the creation of **new high-quality light industrial space**, in an amount that is equal to or greater than the amount of industrial space that exists today





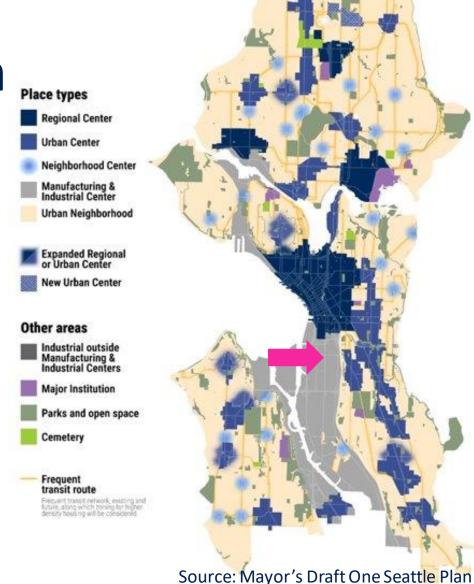




SODO – Comprehensive Plan

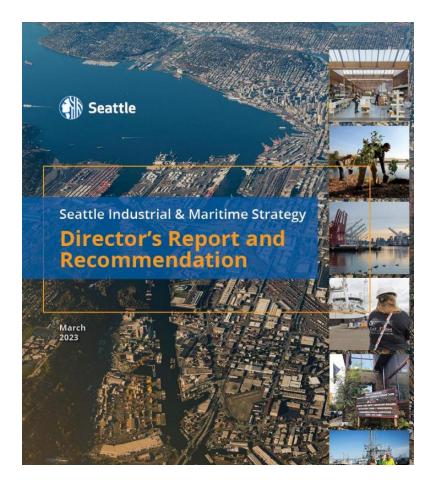
SODO is in the Duwamish Manufacturing Industrial Center (MIC)

LU 13.7 Industry and innovation: This designation promotes emerging industries and leverage investments in high-capacity transit. These industrial transit-oriented districts may be characterized by emerging industries and high-density industrial employment that combine a greater mix of production, research and design, and office uses found in multi-story buildings. Areas in MICs that are generally within one quarter and one-half mile of high-capacity transit stations may be considered for the industry and innovation designation



SODO – Recent Planning Efforts

- In 2019, the City convened an Industrial and Maritime Strategy advisory Council
- Station area related Strategies
 - Strengthened land use protections for existing industries
 - Prepares for growth near light rail
- Industrial and Maritime Strategy legislation adopted in 2023
 - Established new zoning designations for industrial zones
 - Updated City's industrial lands policies

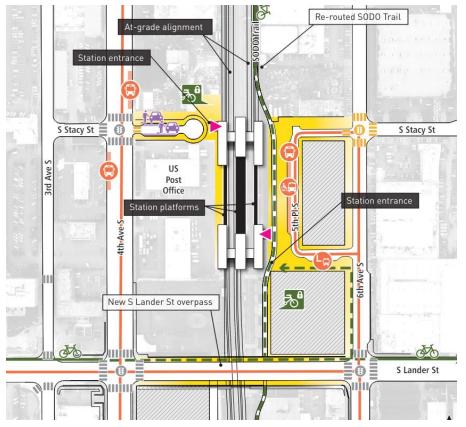


SODO – Station Context Framework

Planning Priorities:

- Provide "last mile" connections between the station and surrounding businesses by improving ped and bike connections, especially east-west connections
- Support growth and development of existing businesses, and connect infrastructure to existing job locations
- Provide wayfinding throughout the station area
- Locate station entrances and vertical circulation to avoid or minimize circuitous pathways
- Integrate the SODO trail with the guideway heading south to make improvements to the bike corridor
- Leverage development opportunities to support job creation, makerspace, light industrial, and modest retail amenities for local workers and transit riders

Source: Sound Transit Station Planning Progress Report, 2022

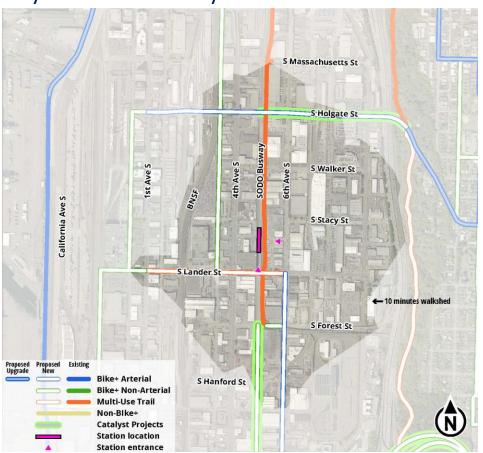


Note: previous design ideas intended to show iterative design process

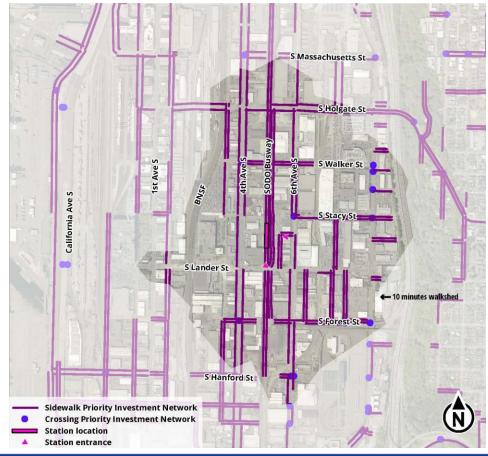


SODO Station Area – Seattle Transportation Plan

Bicycle and E-Mobility Element

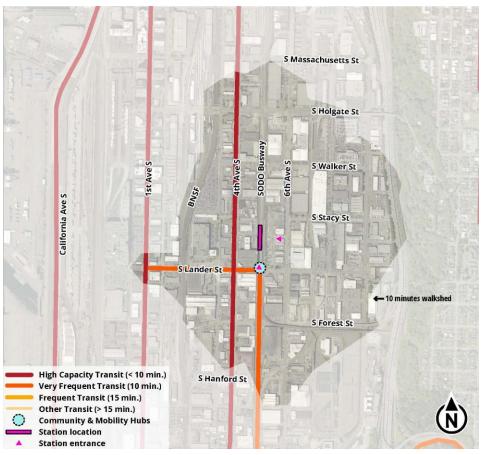


Pedestrian Element

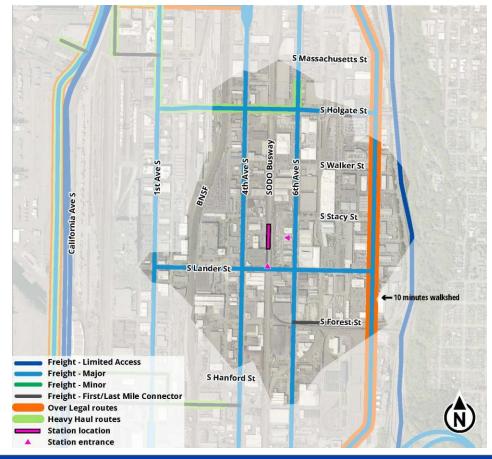


SODO Station Area – Seattle Transportation Plan

Transit Element

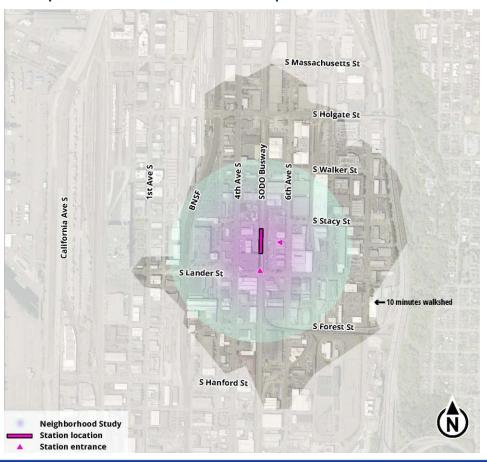


Freight and Urban Goods Element

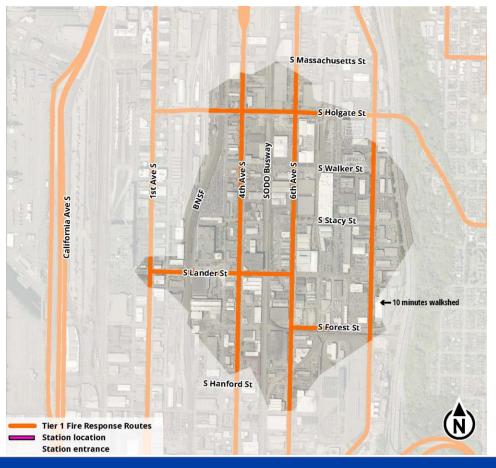


SODO Station Area – Seattle Transportation Plan

People Streets and Public Spaces Element



Vehicular Element



SODO Station Access



Source: Sound Transit engagement survey, fall 2023

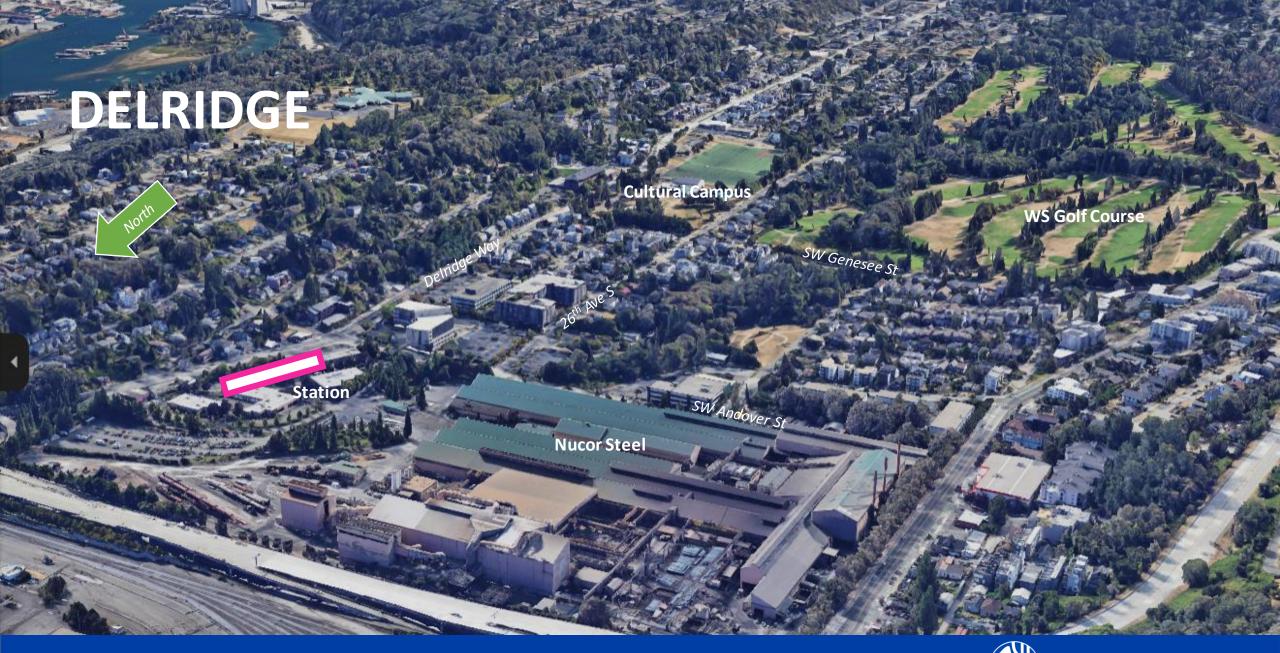
SODO – What We've Heard

- Concerns about Lander overpass including having two bridges spaced closely, access for pedestrians and bikes with the slope, Post Office access and any potential conflicts, and pedestrian experience and safety in relation to the bridge structure
- Concerns about station access for pedestrians and cyclists particularly from the South or West (lots of workers to the West)
- Ease of access to buses on 4th Avenue
- Desire for easy pick up and drop off
- Interest in realizing full development potential around the station area

Discussion

1.45 - 2.05pm







Delridge Station

Elevated SW Andover Street Station Lower Height

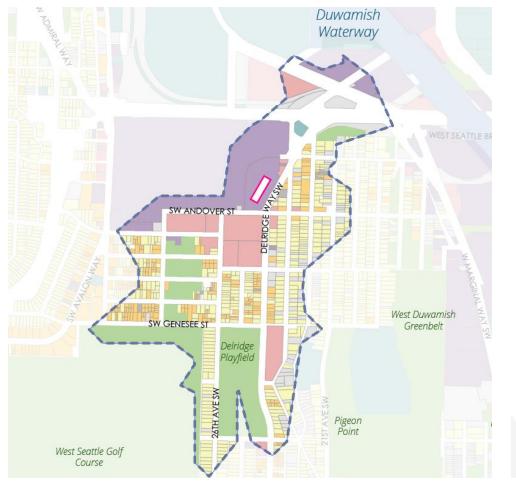


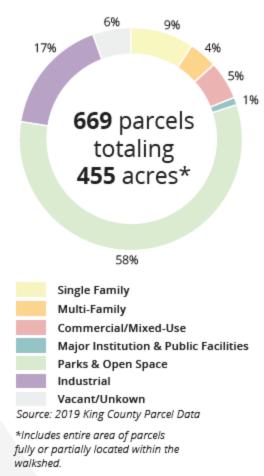


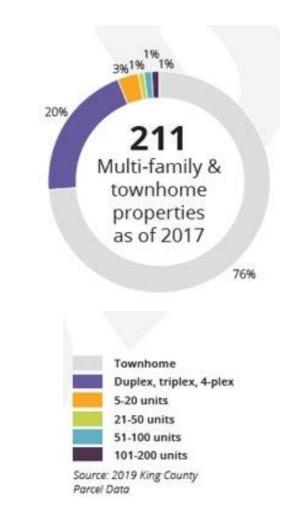
Source: Sound Transit WSLE Station Planning Open House, 3/5/24.



Delridge - Existing Land Use

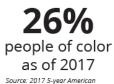




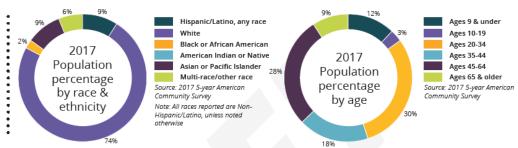


Delridge – Demographics

Population & Demographics



Community Survey



Housing & Income

514 estimated housing units as of 2017

Source: 2019 King County Parcel Data

41% of housing units are multi-family or townhomes

48% of housing units are renter occupied

> 41% of renters are cost burdened Source: 2017 5-year American Community Survey



\$1,500

Average rent for 1-bedroom unit in 2017

Source: 2017 CoStar Data

11%

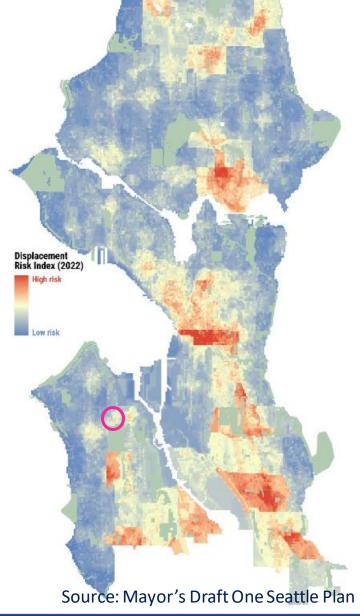
Increase in median household income from 2010-2017

Source: 2017 5-year American Community Survey

\$75,000

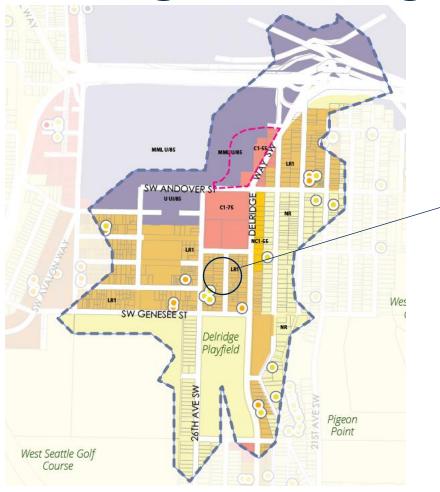


\$67,700





Delridge – Zoning & Development





Youngstown area is a mix of older SFH and newer SFH and townhouses

Zoning

Commercial (C)

Industrial (I)

Lowrise (LR)

Midrise (MR)

Neighborhood Commercial (NC)

Single Family Residential (SFR)

Planned Development

Projects currently planned, permitted, or under construction. Excludes permits for completed projects and expired permits.

- Commercial
- Industrial
- Institutional
- Multifamily
- Single-Family/Duplex



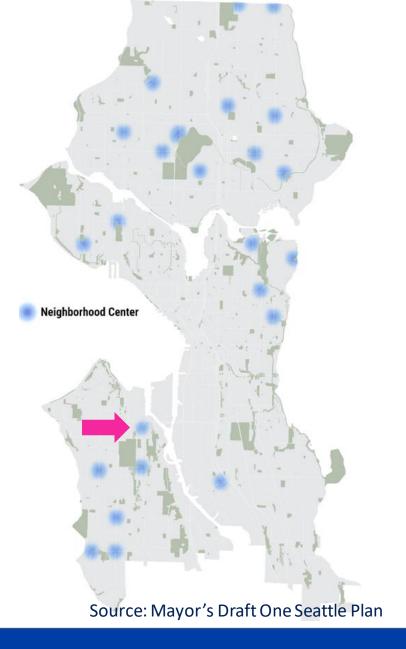
Delridge – Comprehensive Plan

Neighborhood Center designation (Draft One Seattle Plan)

- Denser housing & mix of uses, generally extend 800 feet (1-3 blocks) from core
- Near selected bus, light rail stations, and neighborhood business districts

Implementation

- Potential rezoning to allow more housing options, particularly apartments
- Refine through community engagement later in 2024



Delridge – Past Planning

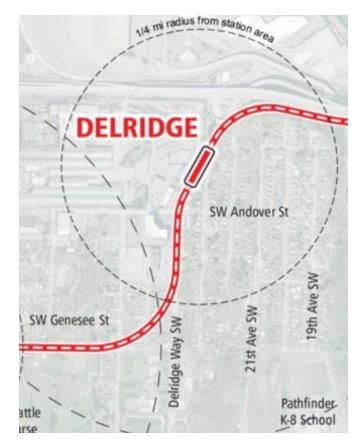
North Delridge Action Plan 2018

- Supporting diverse & engaged communities
- Dynamic neighborhood destinations
- Access to affordable healthy food
- Active transportation choices
- A healthy Longfellow Creek Watershed
- Supportive parks and cultural facilities

"Undertake Sound Transit 3 station design guidance and station area planning to support community-oriented commercial development, additional residential development, and improved access by biking, walking, and taking transit. A station access plan should also enable car drop-off at the station given the challenges to accessing the station by foot."



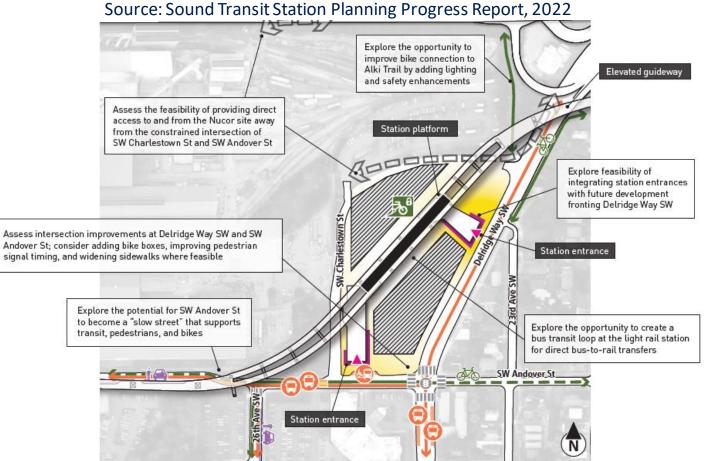
Community nodes in the NDAP



"Representative alignment" circa 2018



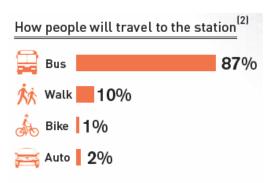
Delridge – Station Context Framework



Note: previous design ideas intended to show iterative design process

Planning Priorities:

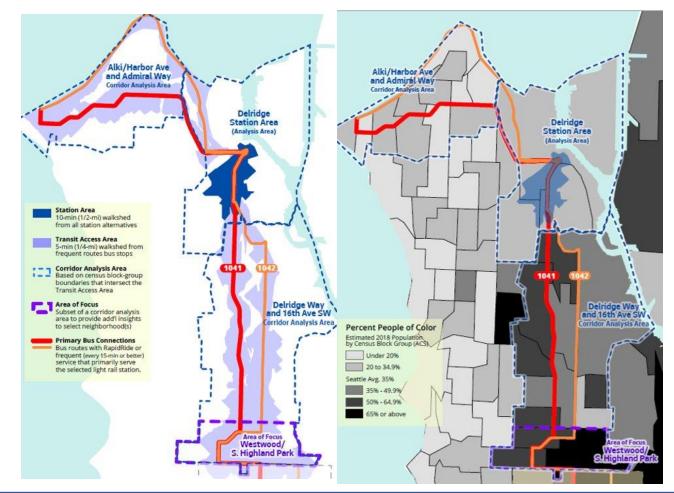
- Leverage new LR investment to meet longtime neighborhood goals
- Intuitive and visible bike connections
- Seamless bus transfers
- Connections to open space and cultural assets
- Family-friendly amenities at station area
- Optimize ETOD to provide affordable housing and serve other community needs, esp. grocery and small business spaces





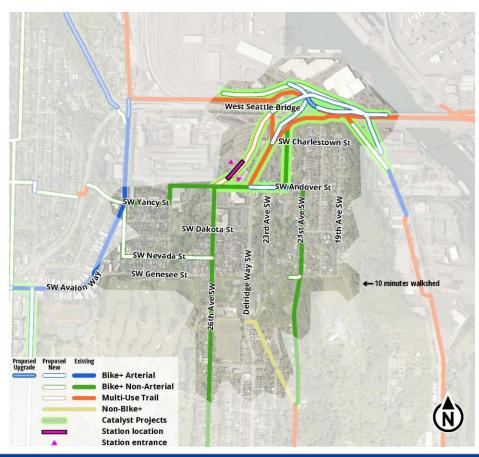
Delridge – Ongoing Station Area Planning

- Opportunities for Equitable TOD
- Anti-displacement strategies
- Identify potential private and public investments, strategies, policies, and implementation measures that will support a walkable, complete community with great public spaces and a range of housing options

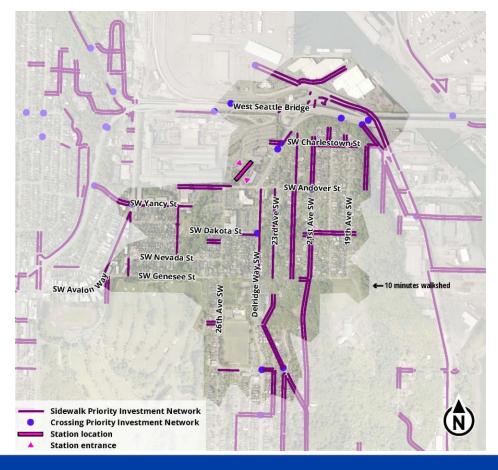


Delridge Station Area - Seattle Transportation

Plan Bicycle and E-Mobility Element

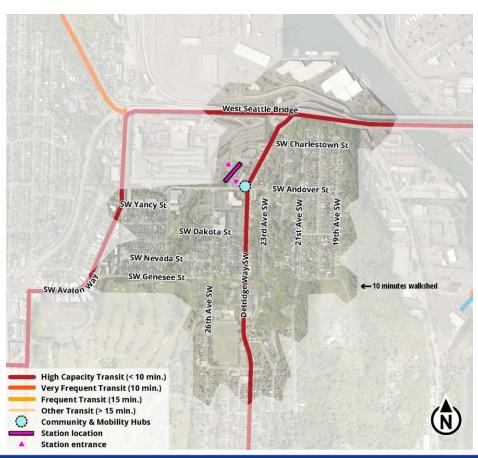


Pedestrian Element

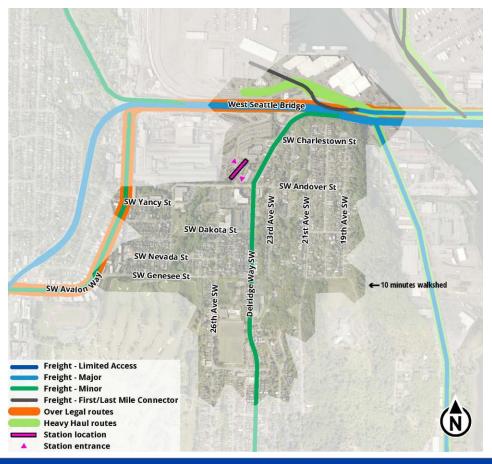


Delridge Station Area - Seattle Transportation

Plan Transit Element

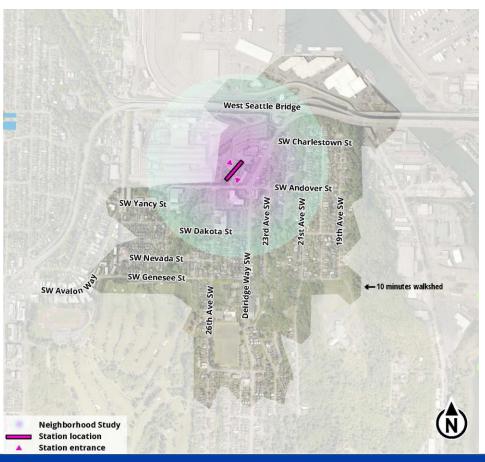


Freight and Urban Goods Element



Delridge Station Area - Seattle Transportation

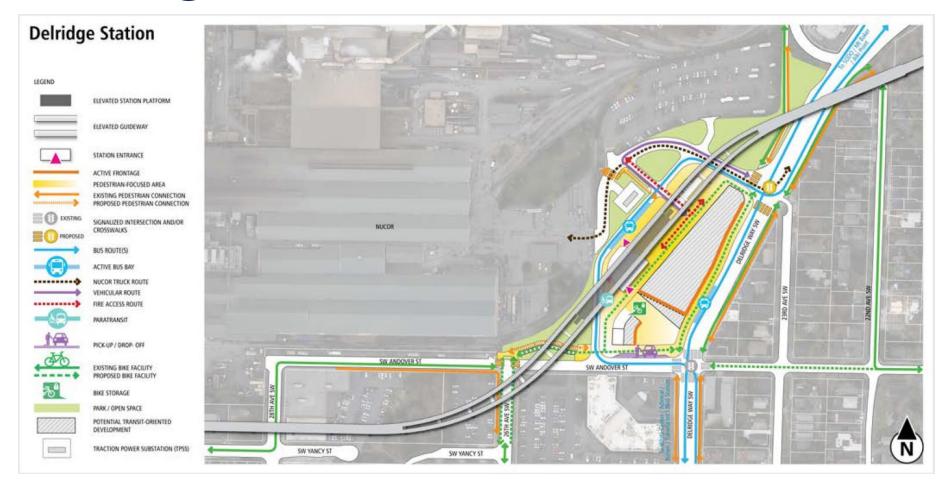
Plan
People Streets and Public Spaces Element



Vehicular Element



Delridge Station Access

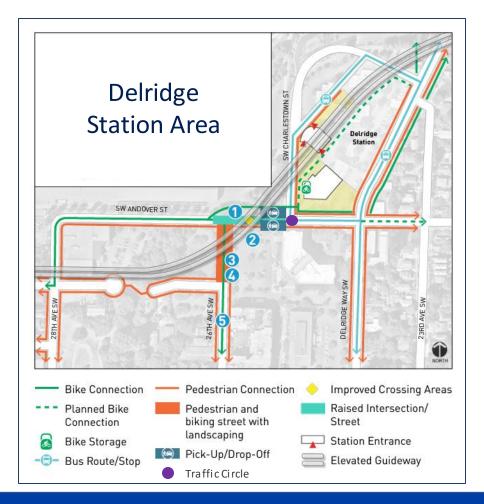


Source: Sound Transit engagement survey, fall 2023



Delridge Station Area – SDOT Improvements

- 1. Raise the intersection at SW Andover St and 26th Av SW, extending it slightly east
- Install stop signs, flashing beacons, or other features to keep people walking and biking safe crossing SW Andover St
- 3. Add a traffic circle at SW Andover St and SW Charlestown St (private street) *tentative*
- 4. Close one block of 26th Ave SW to cars and trucks
- 5. Create a walking- and biking-friendly street with landscaping on 26th Ave SW north of SW Yancy St
- 6. Make upgrades to the 26th Ave SW Greenway for all ages and abilities



Delridge – What We've Heard

- Desire for easy and fast bus transfer experience for riders
- Desire for easily accessible pickup and drop off
- Safety concerns regarding conflicts between freight and pedestrians/cyclists
- Desire for better east-west connections
- Desire to connect to connect bicyclists and pedestrians in communities further South to the station with improvements to the Longfellow Creek Trail
- Desire to preserve and protect Longfellow Creek and Heron nests at Pigeon Point
- Desire for retail and ETOD with development of station, and bathrooms to serve station patrons
- Concerns about business displacements and route

Discussion

2.20 - 2.40pm



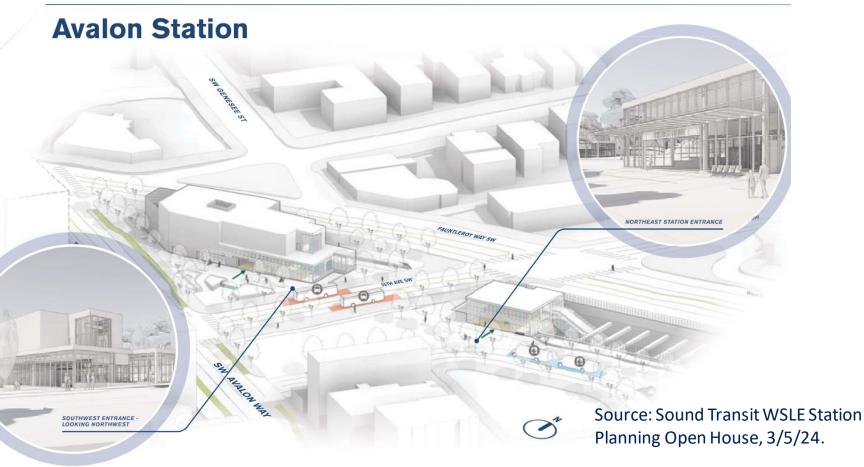




Avalon Station

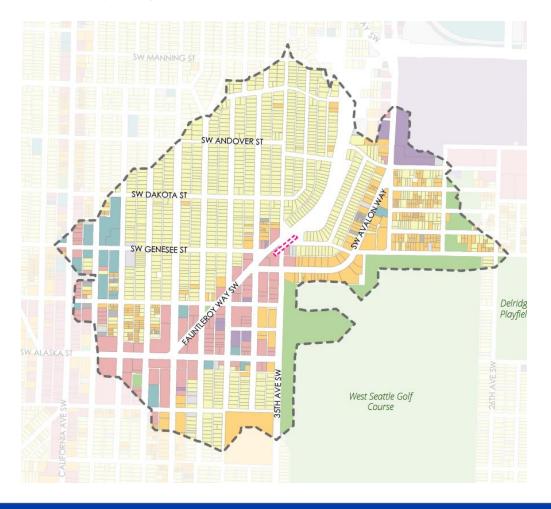
Key Map

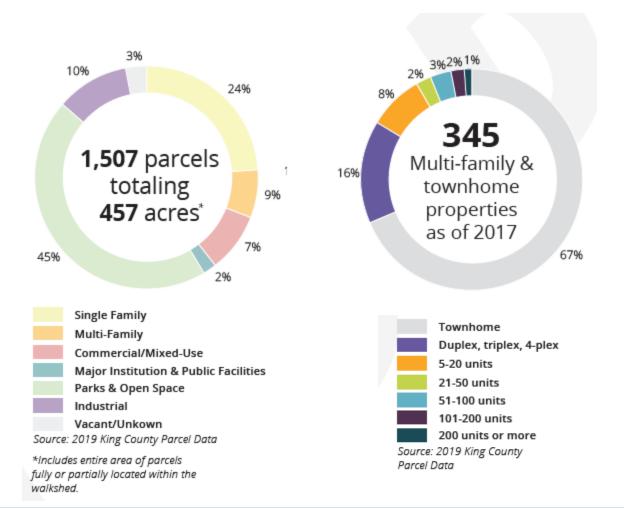






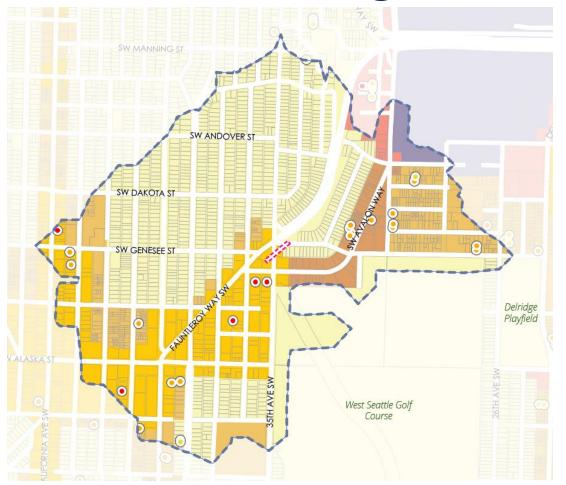
Avalon – Land Use







Avalon – Zoning & Development





Lower density development to the north of the station area



Planned Development

Projects currently planned, permitted, or under construction. Excludes permits for completed projects and expired permits.

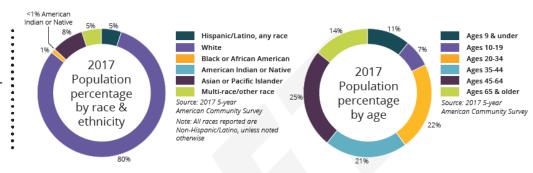
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Institutional
- Multifamily
- Single-Family/Duplex



Avalon - Demographics

Population & Demographics

20% people of color as of 2017 Source: 2017 5-year American



Housing & Income

Community Survey

4,143 estimated housing units as of 2017

Source: 2019 King County Parcel Data

27%

of housing units are multi-family or townhomes

44% of housing units are renter occupied

> 43% of renters are cost burdened

Source: 2017 5-year American Community Survey



48% Increase in median household income from 2010-2017

> Source: 2017 5-year American Community Survey

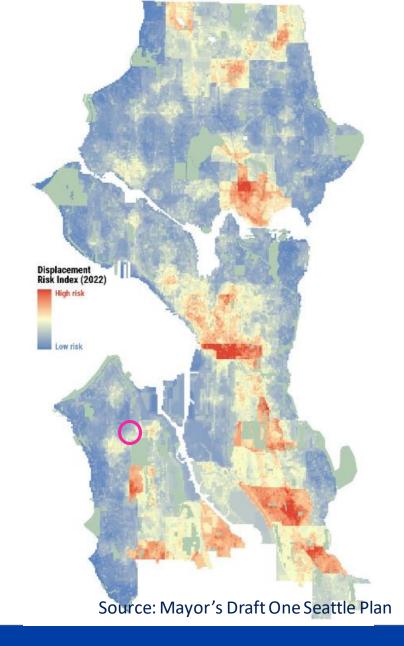
\$1,600

Average rent for 1-bedroom unit in 2017

Source: 2017 CoStar Data

\$104,000

\$70,300



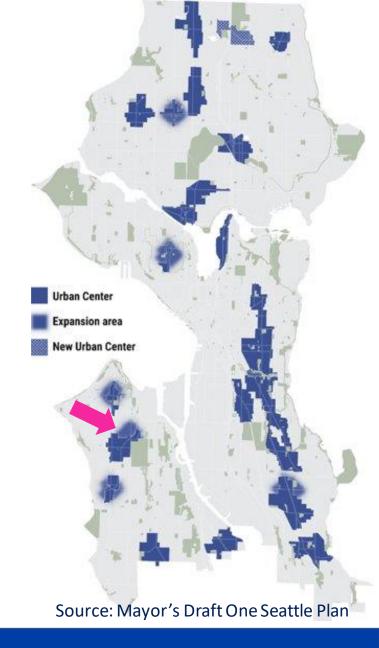
Avalon – Comprehensive Plan

Urban Center

 Centers with an important citywide role with a dense mix of housing, jobs, shops, and services & access to transit

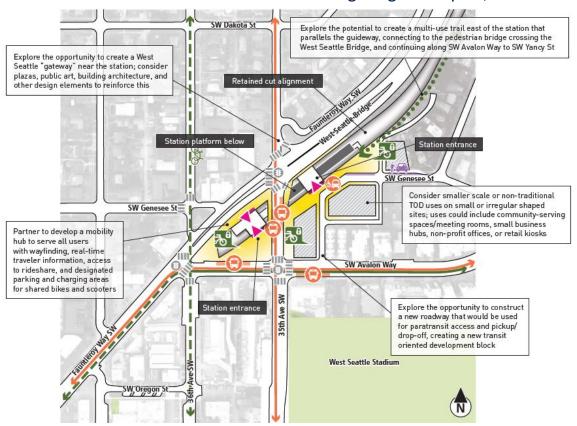
Implementation

- Potential rezoning to allow more housing options, particularly apartments
- Public engagment on draft proposal in fall 2024



Avalon – Station Context Framework

Source: Sound Transit Station Planning Progress Report, 2022



Note: previous design ideas intended to show iterative design process

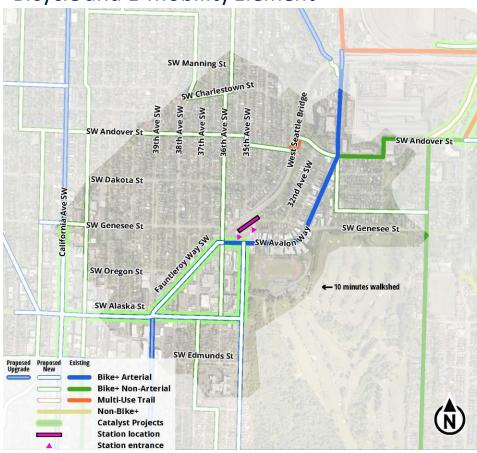
Planning Priorities:

- Prioritize pedestrian safety at major intersections and along arterials
- Create logical pedestrian and bike flow for the station and surrounding neighborhoods
- Provide access for all users, prioritizing bus transfers, walking, and biking
- Provide wayfinding to existing neighborhood assets
- Leverage LR investment to create new and enhanced public spaces in and around the station
- Support the development of ETOD & affordable housing
- Locate and design station to maximize TOD

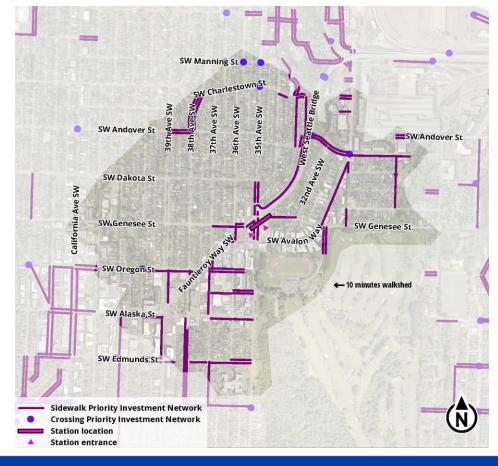


Avalon Station Area – Seattle Transportation Plan

Bicycle and E-Mobility Element

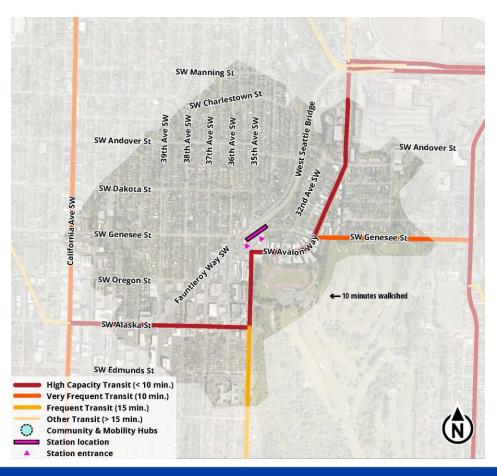


Pedestrian Element

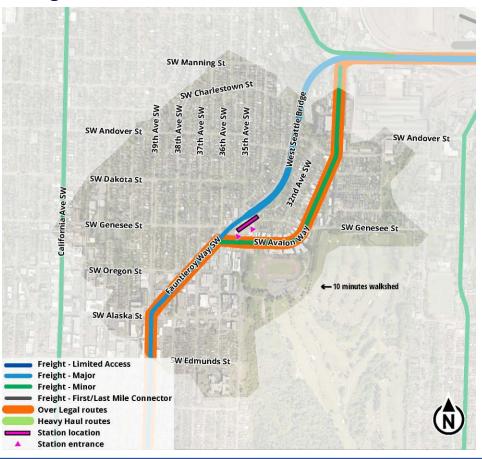


Avalon Station Area – Seattle Transportation Plan

Transit Element

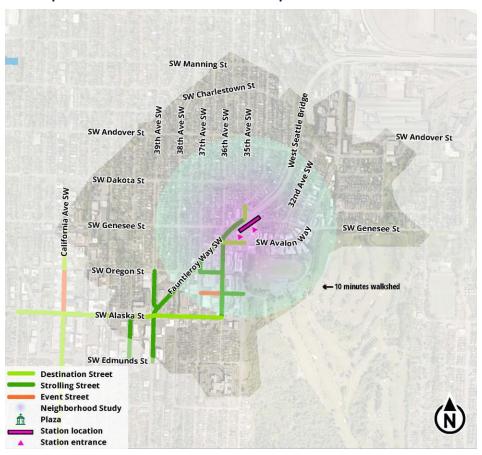


Freight and Urban Goods Element

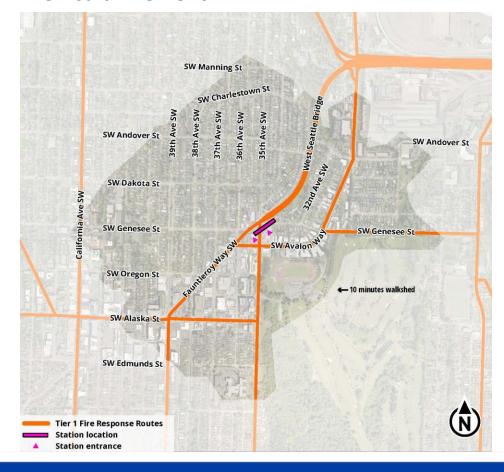


Avalon Station Area – Seattle Transportation Plan

People Streets and Public Spaces Element



Vehicular Element



Avalon Station Access



Source: Sound Transit engagement survey, fall 2023. With minor revisions to reflect recent changes.

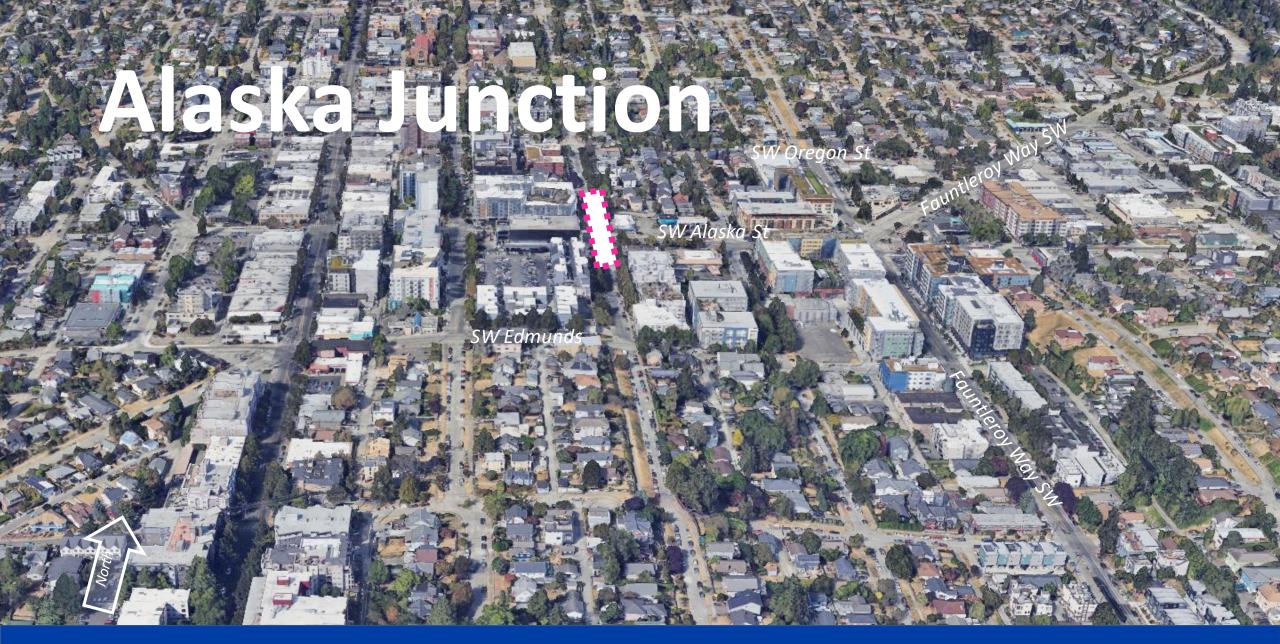
Avalon – What We've Heard

- Gateway to West Seattle
- Important transfer for High Point and buses from 35th
- Concern for conflicts with cars on SW 35th Street turning onto WS Bridge with pick up and drop off
- Desire for activation of plaza & open spaces
- Desire for pedestrian improvements along Fauntleroy Way SW
- Concerns about residential & business displacements
- Concerns about tunnel portal and transition to elevated structure
- Concerns about noise and vibration for sensitive receivers

Discussion

3.00 - 3.20pm

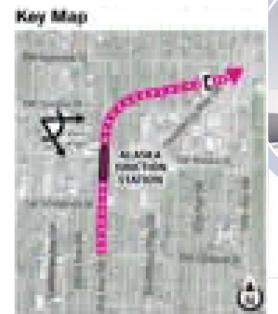


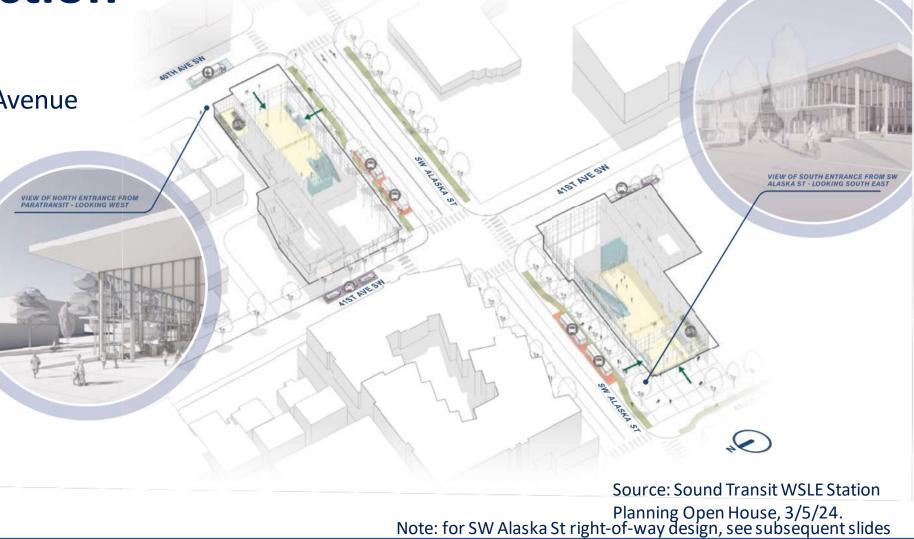




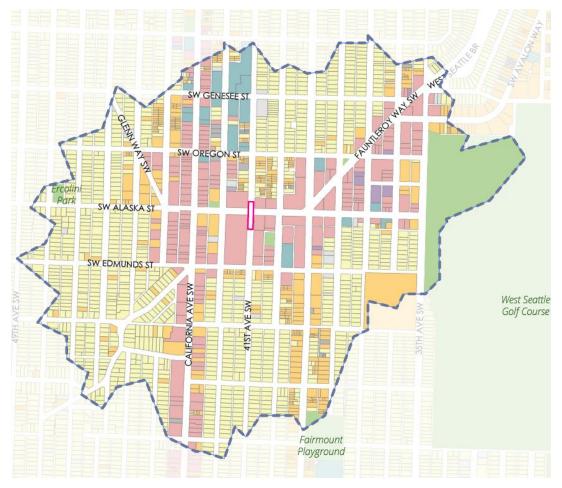
Alaska Junction Station

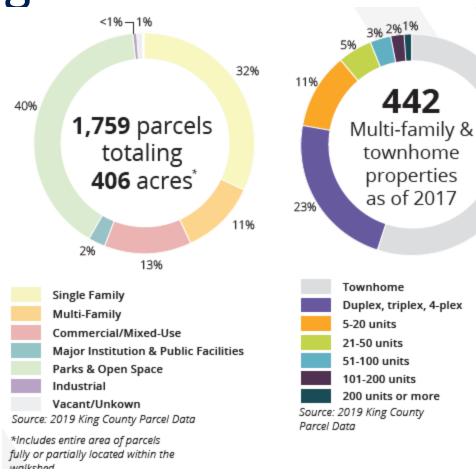
Medium Tunnel 41st Avenue Station





Alaska Junction – Existing Land Use



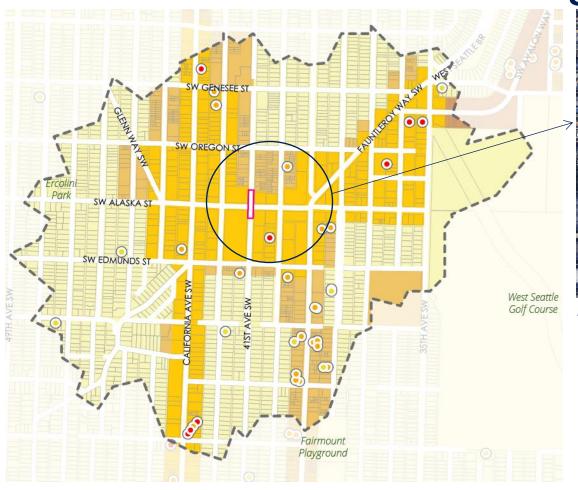




442

55%

Alaska Junction – Zoning & Development





Mixed-use development infill at Alaska Junction

Zoning

- Commercial (C)
- Industrial (I)
 - Lowrise (LR)
- Midrise (MR)
- Neighborhood Commercial (NC)
 - Single Family Residential (SFR)

Planned Development

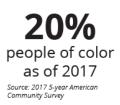
Projects currently planned, permitted, or under construction. Excludes permits for completed projects and expired permits.

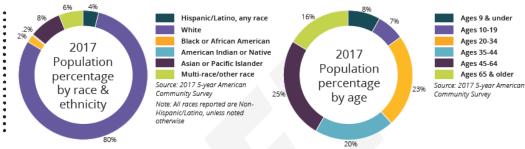
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Institutional
- Multifamily
- Single-Family/Duplex



Alaska - Demographics

Population & Demographics





Housing & Income

1,476 estimated housing units as of 2017

nurce: 2019 King County Parcel Data

30%

of housing units are multi-family or townhomes

57% of housing units are renter occupied

> 47% of renters are cost burdened



\$1,600

Average rent for 1-bedroom unit in 2017

Source: 2017 CoStar Data

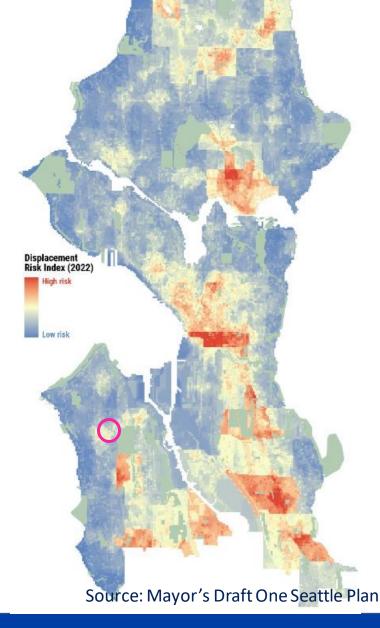
29%

Increase in median household income from 2010-2017

Source: 2017 5-year American Community Survey

\$93,100

\$72,300



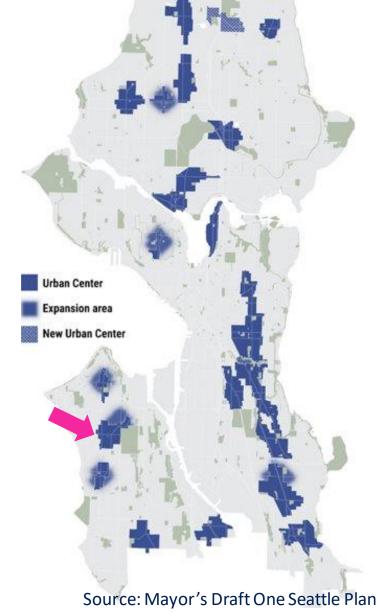
Alaska Junction – Comp. Plan

Urban Center

 Centers with an important citywide role with a dense mix of housing, jobs, shops, and services & access to transit

Future Initiatives

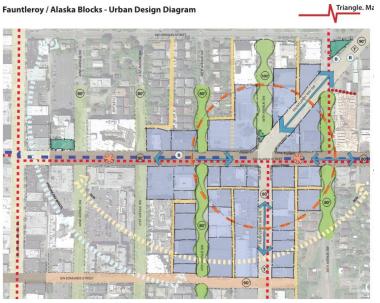
 Explore increases to density in Regional & **Urban Centers**



Alaska Junction – Past Planning

- West Seattle Triangle UDF 2011
 - Rezones from C to NC
 - Added height and capacity in limited areas
 - Streetscape Concept Plans
- MHA Implementation
 - Added 1-2 stores in areas already zoned for mixed-use and multifamily

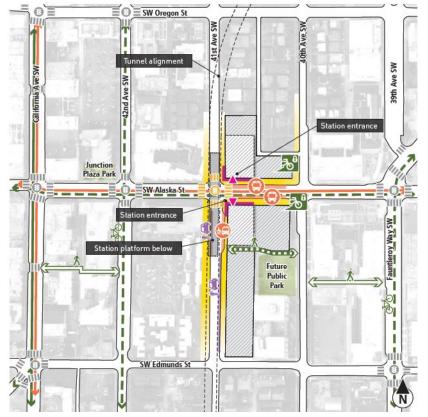




Alaska Junction - Station Context Framework

Tunnel 41st Avenue Station (WSJ-3a)

Source: Sound Transit Station Planning Progress Report, 2022



Note: previous design ideas intended to show iterative design process

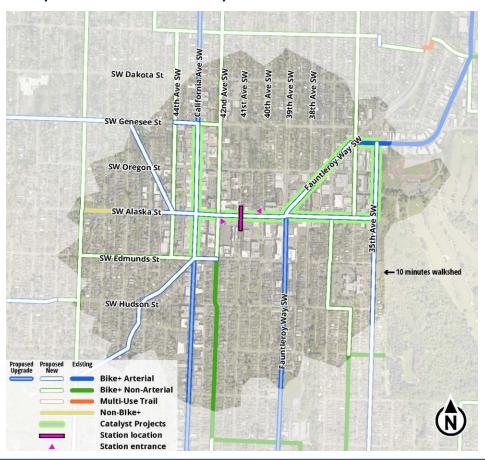
Planning Priorities:

- Plan for the station to be a **terminus station** with adequate space for multiple modes; consider expansion southward
- Prioritize **pedestrian connectivity and comfort** with logical wayfinding across arterials
- Prioritize **bus transfers**, **pedestrians**, **cyclists**, and other rollers
- Leverage LR investment to create new and **enhance public space** in and around the station
- Maximize TOD opportunities and support the development of affordable and equitable housing

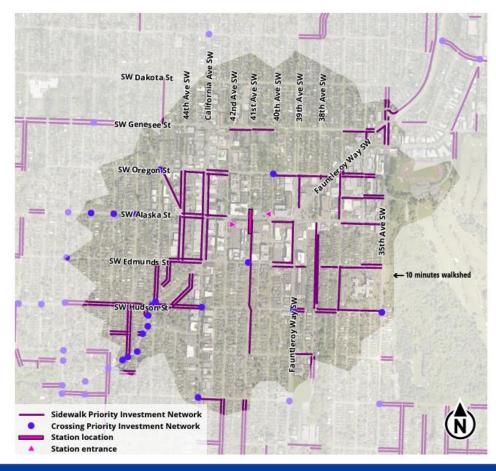


Alaska Junction Station Area – Seattle Transportation Plan

Bicycle and E-Mobility Element

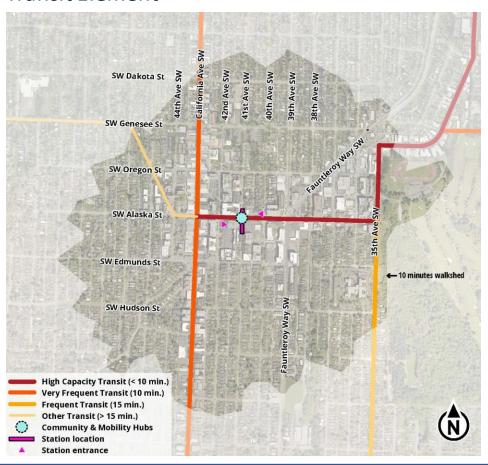


Pedestrian Element

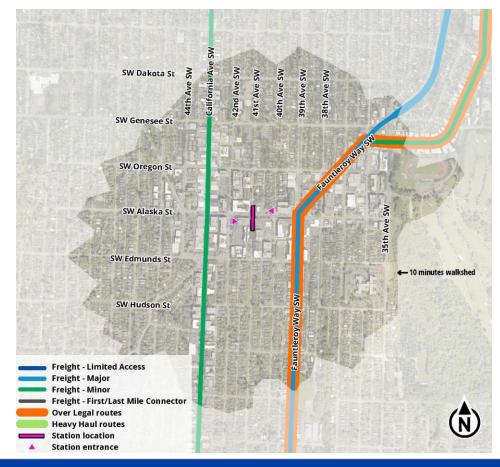


Alaska Junction Station Area – Seattle Transportation Plan

Transit Element

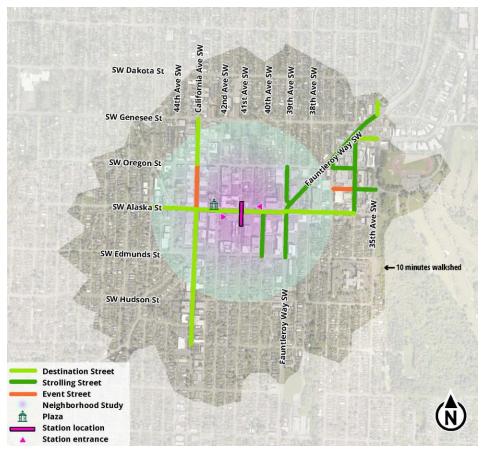


Freight and Urban Goods Element

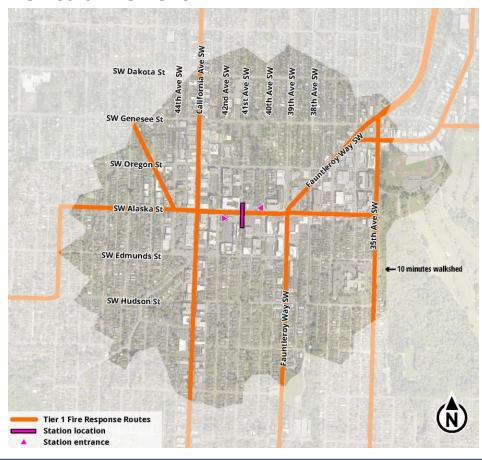


Alaska Junction Station Area - Seattle Transportation Plan

People Streets and Public Spaces Element



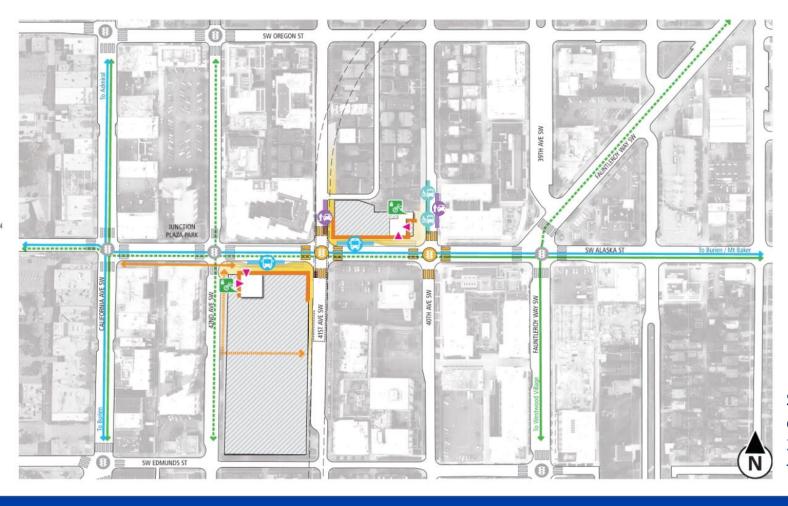
Vehicular Element



Alaska Junction Station Access

Alaska Junction Station

LEGEND TUNNEL STATION PLATFORM TUNNEL GUIDEWAY STATION ENTRANCE PEDESTRIAN-FOCUSED AREA PARATRANSIT PICK-UP / DROP-OFF BIKE STORAGE POTENTIAL TRANSIT-ORIENTED



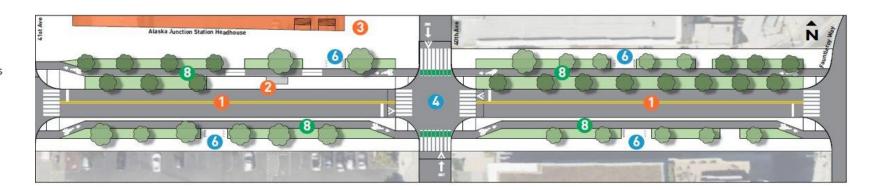
Source: Sound Transit engagement survey, fall 2023. With minor revisions to reflect recent changes.

Alaska Junction Station SDOT Improvements



LEGEND

- Potential Bus Only lanes
- **Bus Shelters**
- Station Entrances
- Raised Intersections
- 5 Raised Crossings
- 6 Benches and Bike Racks
- Pedestrian Plaza
- Raised Bike Lanes
- Westbound Access for All Traffic (42nd Ave to California Avel



Alaska Junction – What We've Heard

- We heard a desire from the public for SDOT to focus on these goals:
 - Making **bus stops wider** with seats, lights, and shelter
 - Adding trees between where people walk or bike and where people drive
 - Creating an open area for events and community gatherings
 - Creating a plaza by closing 42nd Ave SW station entrance to cars but allowing emergency vehicles or food trucks.
- Specific to the SW Alaska St and 42nd Ave SW designs, we heard:
 - Support for the plaza and a desire to make it activated, usable space
 - Support for the expanded space for people walking, biking, and transit priority, and for added greenery
 - Initial support for the transit-only 2-lane cross section, but a request for SDOT to conduct a thorough study of detour routes

Discussion

3.40 - 4.00pm



