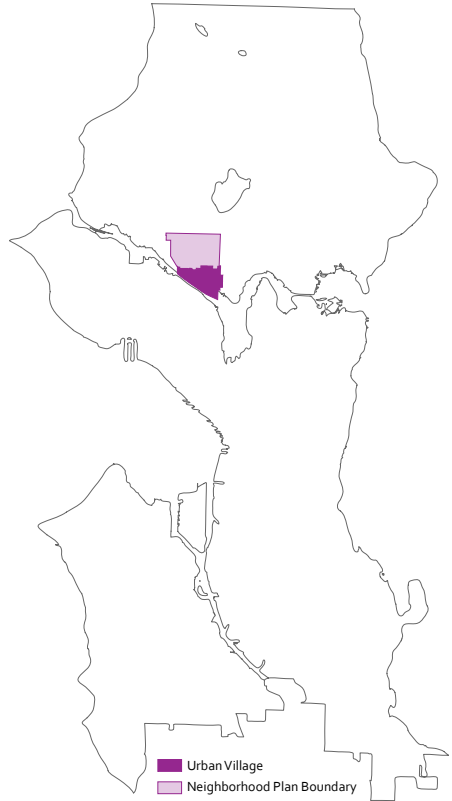


FREMONT

Who did we hear from?

There were 187 online responses and they stressed many of the same themes as the responses garnered in the neighborhood discussion (approximately 10 participants) including a displeasure with the quality of new development in the area and satisfaction with work that has been completed on new parks and transportation improvements. Most of the participants in the discussion participated in previous planning efforts in Fremont while more than half of the online respondents have lived in Fremont for less than five years.



What did we hear?

- Lots of comments about increased density—townhouses and condos that replaced single family houses, but not everyone feels that bad but most do. While many people said the area has gentrified and lost its character, others felt a strong sense of community has developed.
- Many people complained about prostitution and drug abuse along Aurora, particularly at the motels.
- Lots of people are frustrated by parking. Some also complained about increased traffic problems while other noted improvements, particularly for cyclists and pedestrians.
- People are generally happy about parks and the library although the lack of a community center was also mentioned.
- There were a lot of comments about the business district - some people see a lot of improvement, while others have seen decline. The bar scene was generally viewed as having a negative impact on the community.

For more information about the Neighborhood Status Check, including the complete summary of the neighborhood discussion and the transcript of the online responses, please see the Planning Commission's [report](#).

What are the similarities between the in-person and online responses?

Both groups acknowledge that the business district has changed, and both the online responses and in-person responses indicated that the changes have had mixed impacts on the neighborhood, with increased vitality and economic strength somewhat offset by additional noise, traffic and parking issues. The creation of additional parks was lauded universally, while parking was noted as a major concern by a large number of both groups as well. Finally, lack of a real community center was a very common refrain among both groups.



What are the differences between the responses?

A major difference between the two groups' responses was the focus on safety concerns expressed via the online response, most particularly the safety issues relating to the motels located along Aurora Avenue and the spillover of illegal activities into the surrounding residential areas.

In their own words...

How has the neighborhood changed?

The city has adopted parking hours that are unrealistic and crazy. The trees on Fremont which could make for a lovely green avenue are butchered because of the power line.

Increase in number of bars and restaurants, creation of many new jobs by the building of software businesses, loss of some "funky" flavor due to gentrification (townhouses, soaring property values, expensive boutiques, etc.), improved library, two new parks, more bus service, loss of Empty Space Theatre, PCC Market - all in all, a mixed bag. Would still not want to live anywhere else in town.

Only been in the neighborhood (living/working) for 1 1/2 years, but lived in QA for last 11 years. Fremont has become much more developed, the focus of the industry has changed from manufacturing/marine to a bigger mix of those and office type industry. The re-circulation has lead to a more walkable neighborhood, but there are still areas that need improvements to finish that work. Other issues: "Road Diet" hurting truck circulation; no Design Guidelines; split DRB; loss of single family homes to poorly designed 6-packs; safety due to bldg on Aurora.

Many unruly bars and nightlife crowds. Parking is difficult to find. Sidewalks are often littered with trash & broken bottles.