



Seattle transportation plan (STP)

Jonathan Lewis and Joanna Valencia
Seattle Planning Commission Presentation
Policy & Planning Division
10/14/2021 Department of Transportation



City of Seattle

Briefing purpose

- Introduce the Seattle transportation plan (STP)
 - Overview, opportunities, outcomes, themes
 - Schedule, next steps
- Answer any questions from the Planning Commission

Land acknowledgement

Our vision, mission, and core values

Vision: Seattle is a thriving equitable community powered by dependable transportation

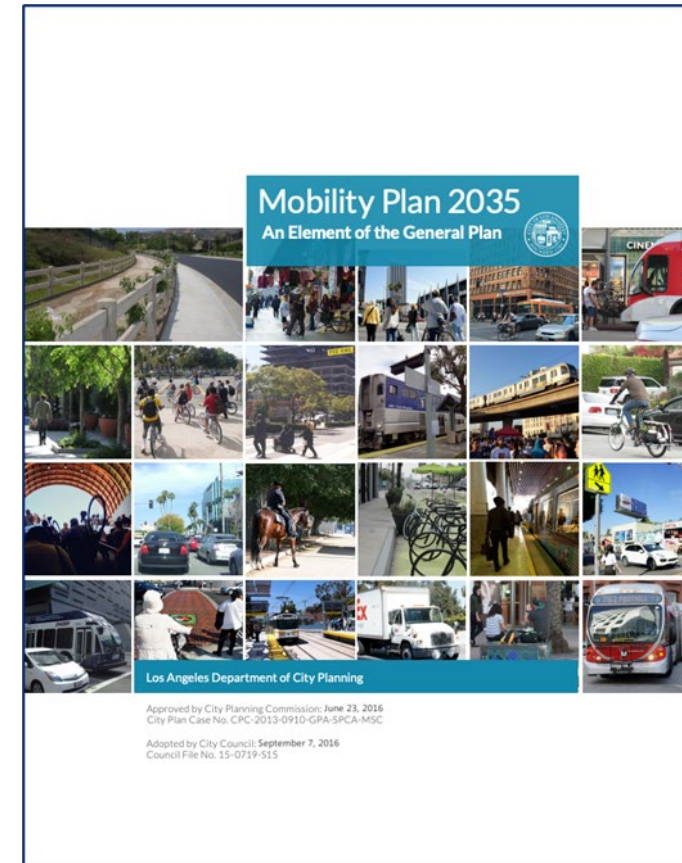
Mission: to deliver a transportation system that provides safe and affordable access to places and opportunities

Committed to **6 core values:**

- Equity
- Safety
- Mobility
- Sustainability
- Livability
- Excellence

Seattle transportation plan

- Create a renewed vision for Seattle's transportation system
- Integrate Seattle's 4 modal master plans (Transit Master Plan, Pedestrian Master Plan, Freight Master Plan, and Bicycle Master Plan) in a single plan with an integrated policy framework
- Inform the next transportation funding package



Additional STP goals

- Align with 2024 Comp Plan growth strategy
- Refocus on equity (aligning with our Transportation Equity Framework) along with climate and safety
- Engage and build relationships with those typically less involved
- Plan to achieve key access, modal, climate, and safety goals
- Incorporate maintenance and operations
- Create cohesive priority modal networks, including vehicular
- Elevate other essential functions of the ROW (e.g. access, public space, and livability)
- Create a single plan document in everyday language

Under SDOT's purview

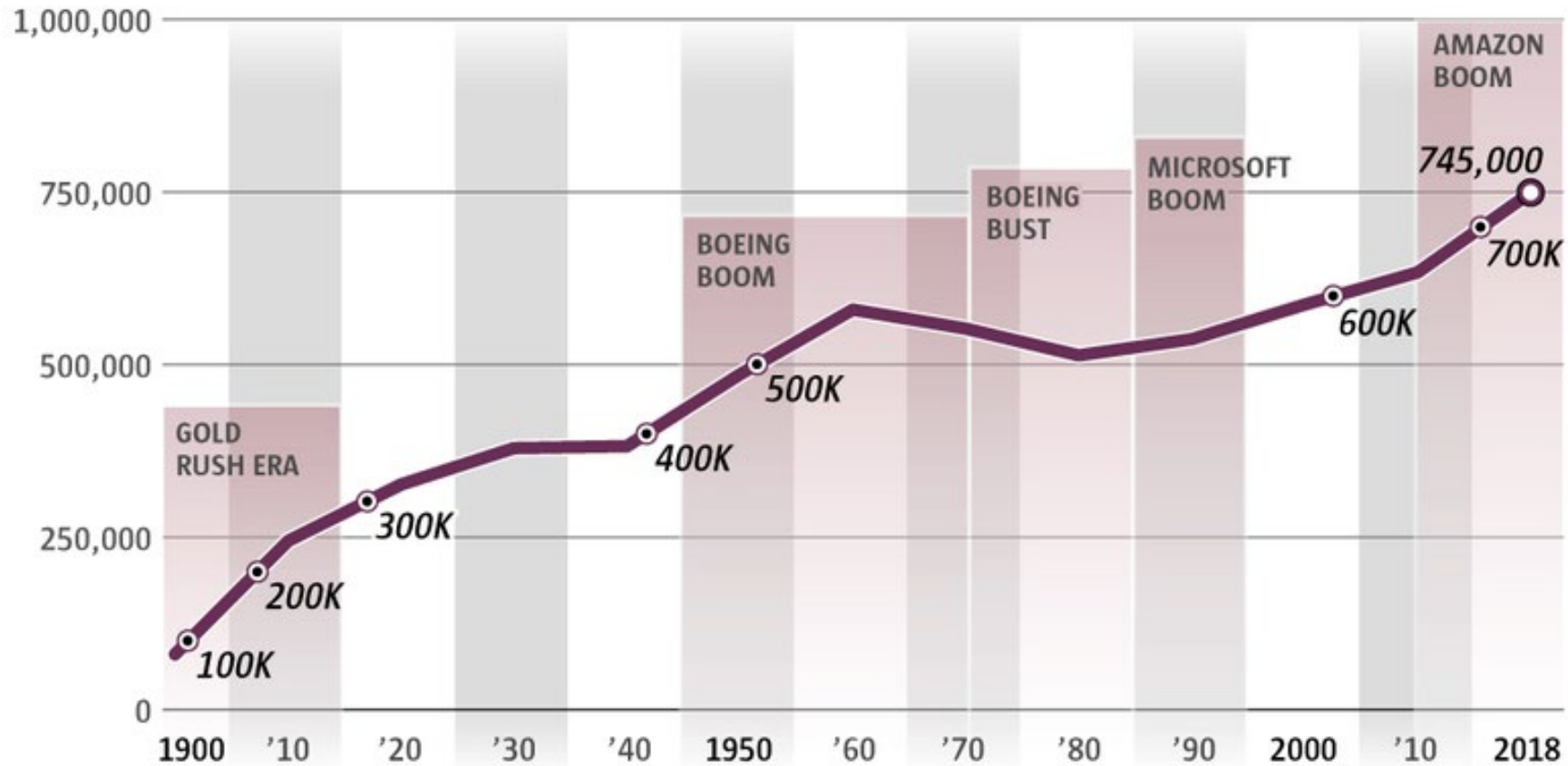
Seattle Department of Transportation maintains approximately:

- 3,900 lane miles of streets
- 124 bridges
- 600 retaining walls (including seawalls)
- 1,100 traffic signals
- 194,000+ signs
- 2,300 miles of sidewalk and medians
- 32,000+ curb ramps
- 38,000 SDOT planted trees
- 7 million square feet of landscaped areas



Maintaining transportation assets keeps Seattle moving

Seattle continues to be a growing city...



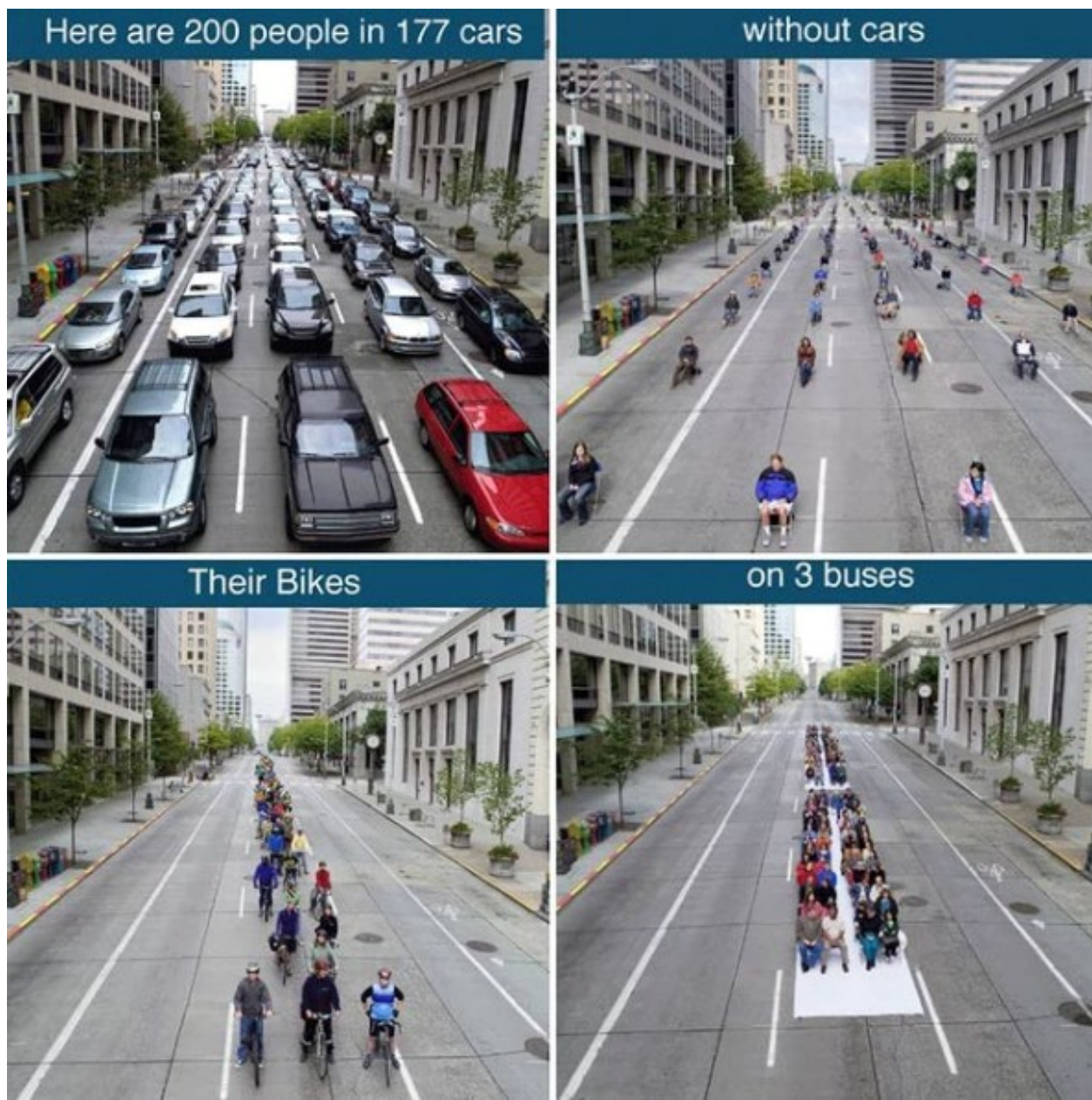
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

EMILY M. ENG / THE SEATTLE TIMES

...but our street network is not getting any bigger

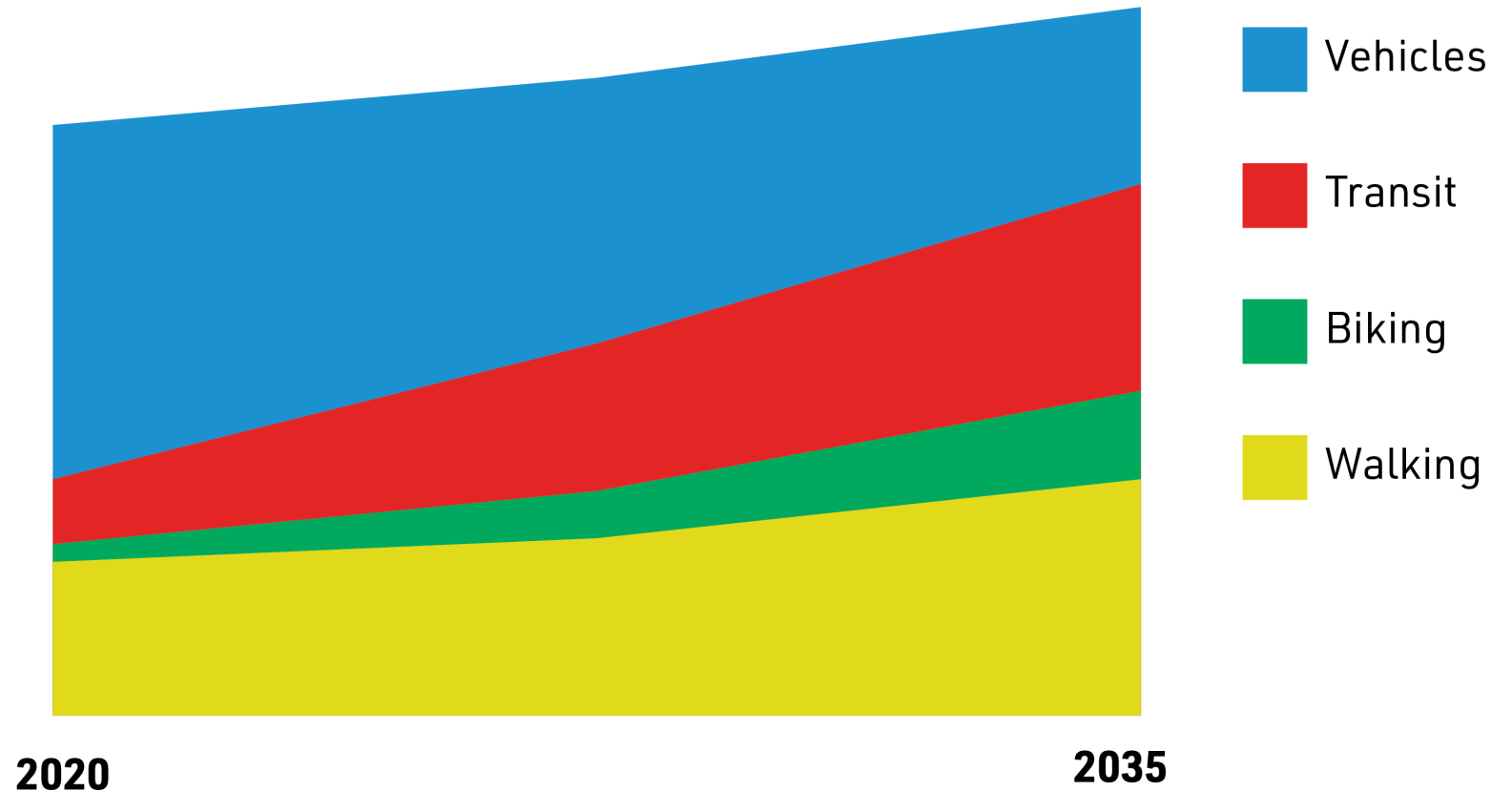


Transportation policy in response: focus on space-efficient ways of getting around



Our goal is that 75% of non-work trips are made by modes other than driving alone by 2035.

Our plans set targets to increase the number of trips made by transit, bicycling and walking while reducing the number of trips made in motor vehicles

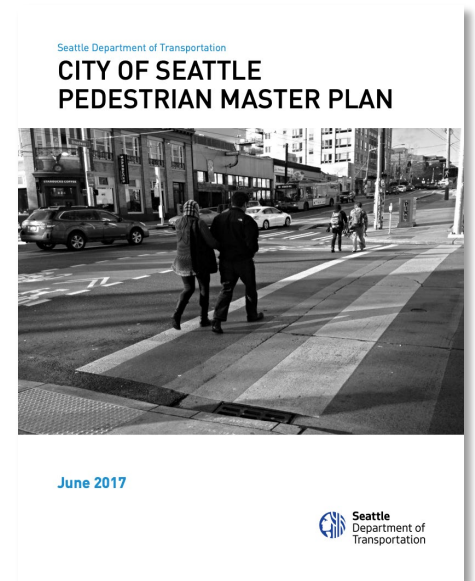
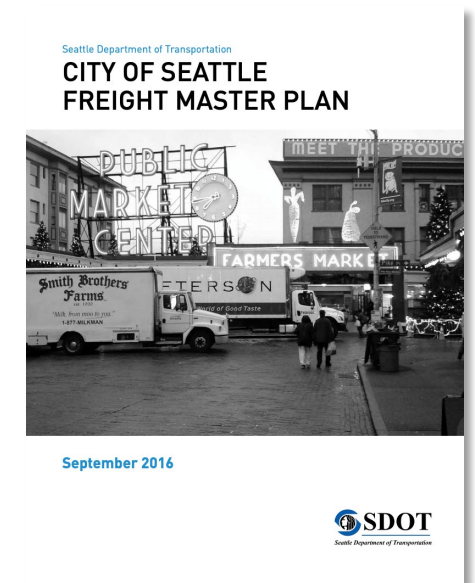


How do we get there?

Modal planning and projects

What do modal master plans do?

- Establish strategic long-range vision for mobility for people biking, walking, using transit, as well as trucks/delivery
- Identify citywide mobility networks to ensure key connections to destinations
- Guide and prioritize investments for building critical infrastructure (e.g., sidewalks, bike lanes, bus-only lanes) to support these networks



We've already laid the groundwork in many ways, with conversations with community engagement informing each plan

Comprehensive Plan

Seattle's 20-year vision to guide growth to create an equitable and sustainable city

Complete Streets Ordinance

Design, operate, and maintain Seattle's streets to promote safe and convenient access and travel for all users

Climate Action Plan

Carbon neutrality by 2050

Race and Social Justice Initiative

Eliminate racial disparities and achieve racial equity in Seattle



Modal Plans

Bicycle Master Plan

Make riding a bike a comfortable and integral part of daily life for people of all ages and abilities.

Pedestrian Master Plan

Make Seattle the most walkable city in America.

Freight Master Plan

Support a thriving economy by connecting people and products within Seattle to regional and international markets

Transit Master Plan

Connect residential, job, and industrial centers with a network of high-quality, frequent transit routes accessible to all people.

Move Seattle
10-year Strategic Vision

Capital Investment Program (CIP)
6-year funding priorities

Project/Program Implementation

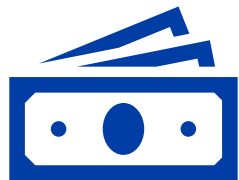
What's missing from this approach?



Community engagement focused on how to best meet the needs of people getting around, not just how to create mode-specific networks



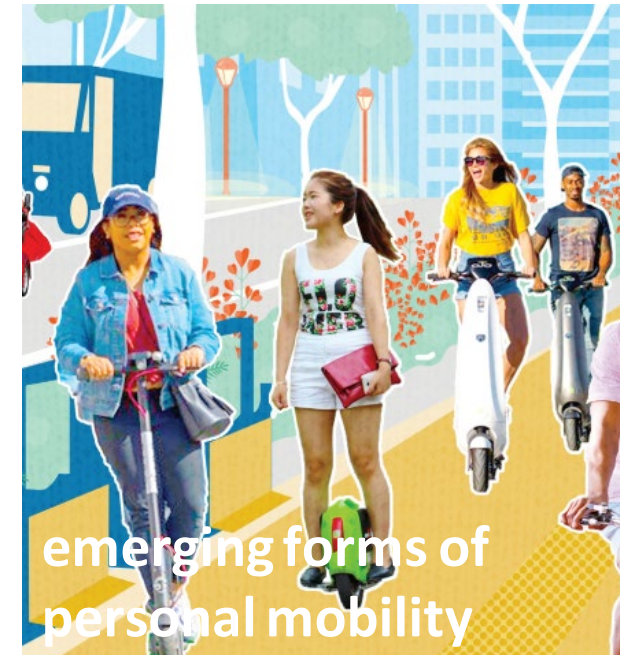
Strategic direction and accountability for meeting our climate and safety goals



Funding strategies that align with our vision and values, including what to build and what to maintain

What's missing from this approach?

Vision for and policies about **other ways of getting around** to ensure alignment with our goals (safety, equity, and sustainability)



What's missing from this approach?

Vision and policies guiding the use of streets and sidewalks for other uses



What's missing from this approach?

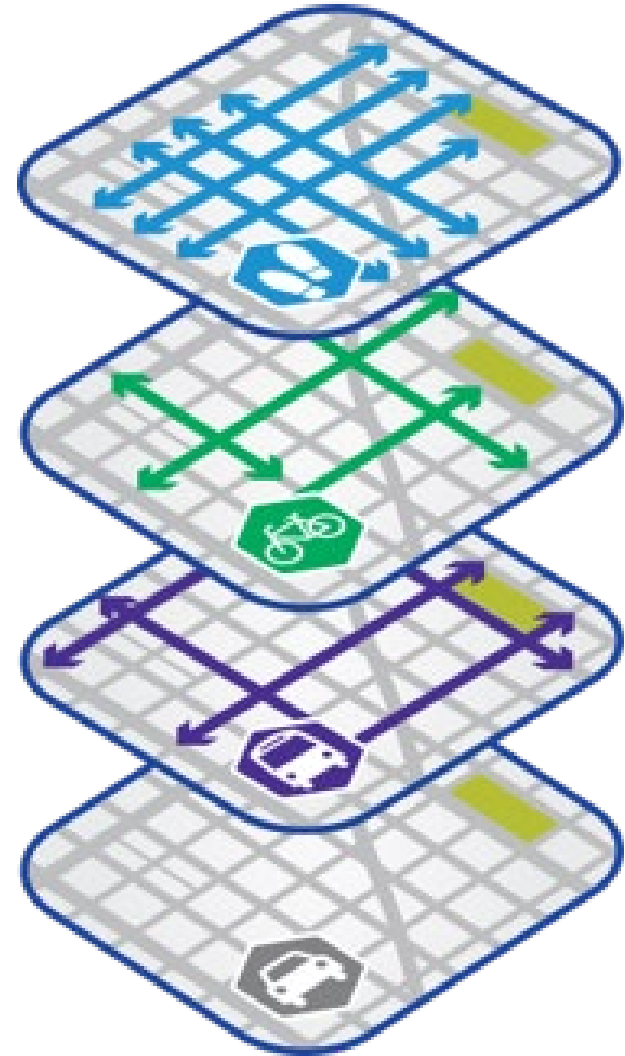
We do not have funding or a plan for creating and maintaining public and community spaces that are free to use and supportive of riding transit.

- Inequitable concentration in some areas
- Community bears burden of funding and maintaining
- No systematic displacement mitigation possible



The opportunity

By early 2024, SDOT will have a plan that tells the story of our **SHARED TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC SPACE VISION** with steps on how we will achieve it.



The opportunity

Equity



Safety



Climate



Stewardship



With a proposed list of initiatives, the plan will capture our collective commitment to a **RACIALLY EQUITABLE AND SOCIALLY JUST** transportation and public space system that addresses **SAFETY, THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY, AND STEWARDSHIP.**

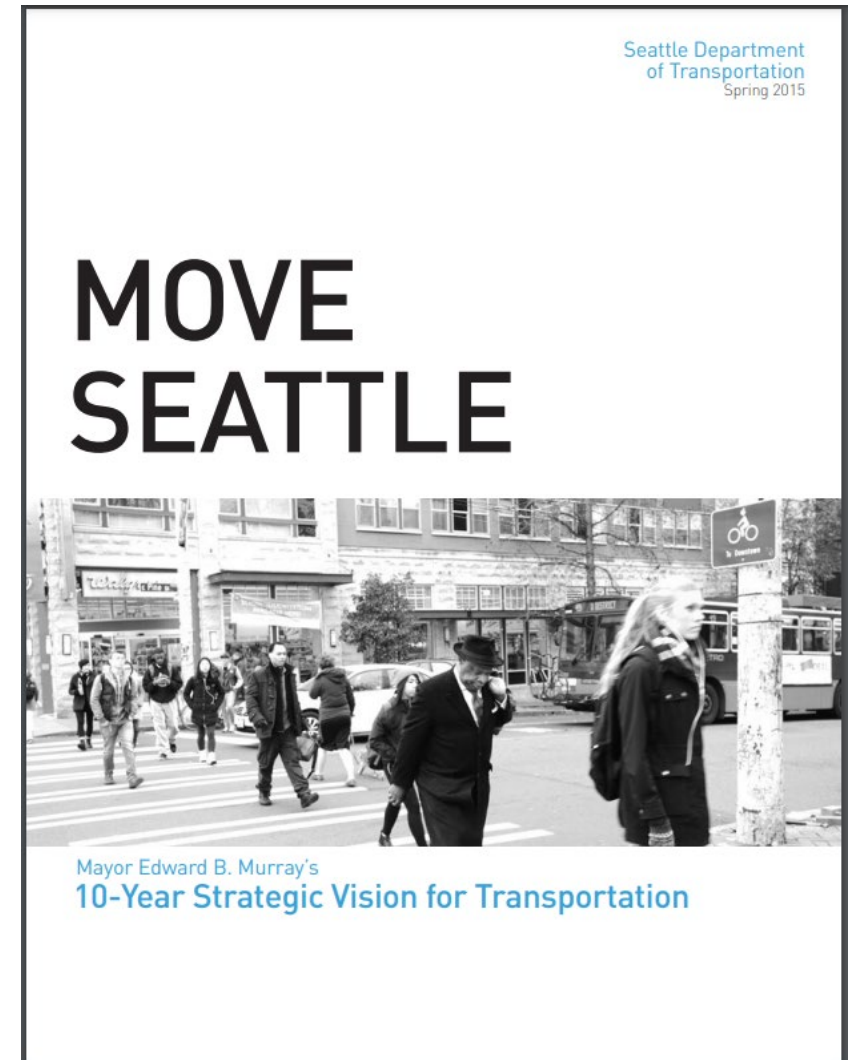
The opportunity

The process will allow us to **build partnerships with community** to create informed recommendations that **center racial equity**. We intend to use this as an opportunity advance the Transportation Equity Framework through improved transparency and accountability with community.

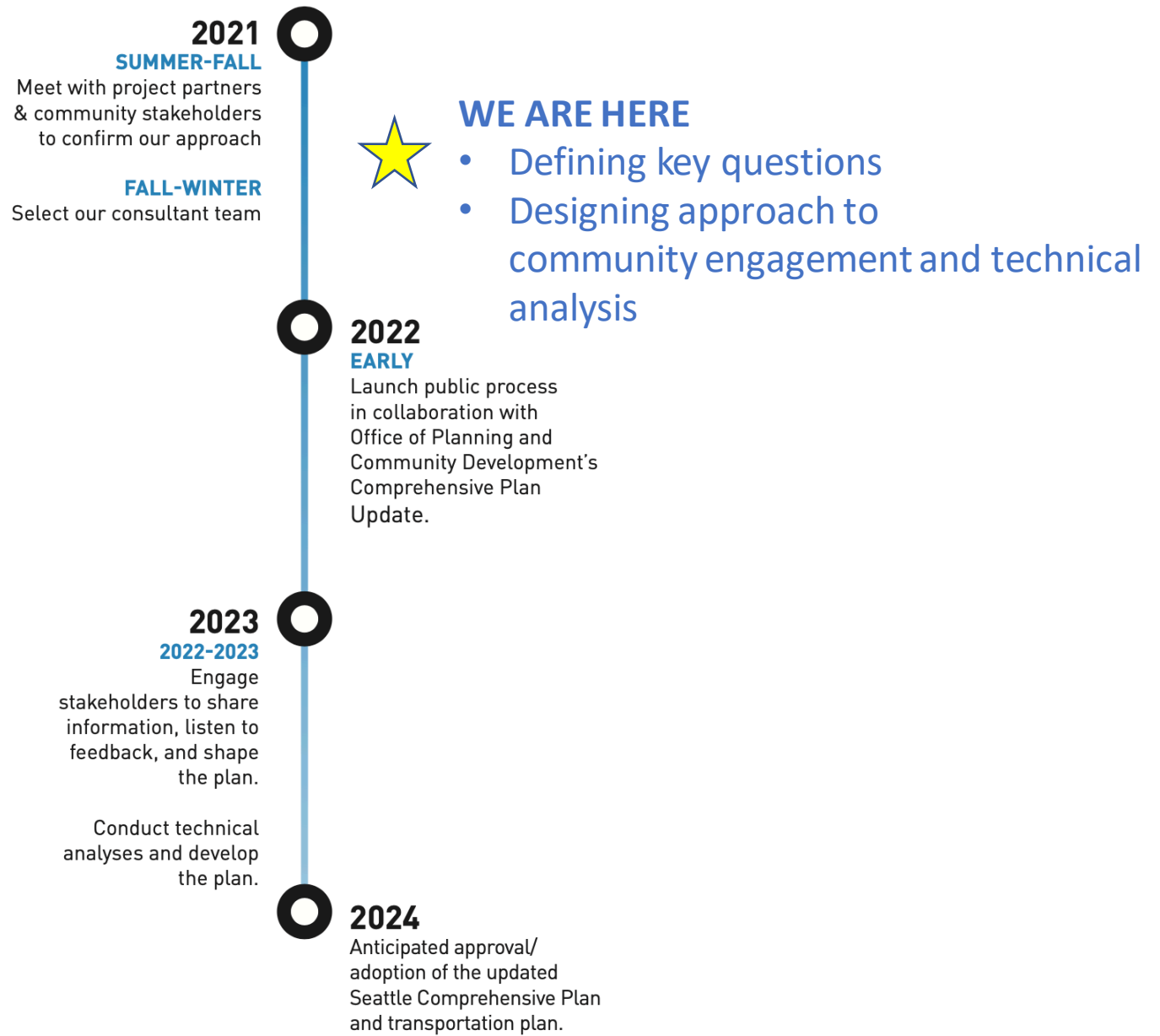
We see this as an opportunity to transform our typical planning process through directly addressing and attempting to correct the City's past and current harms through our processes and projects.

The opportunity

The Seattle transportation plan will provide a foundation for a **future transportation funding package**, including investment priorities for key projects and programs.



Timeline



Scoping conversations

- Community Liaisons
- SDOT subject matter experts
- Office of Planning and Community Development
- Transportation Equity Workgroup
- SDOT Complete Streets Steering Committee
- SDOT STP Executive Steering Committee



Themes heard in scoping conversations

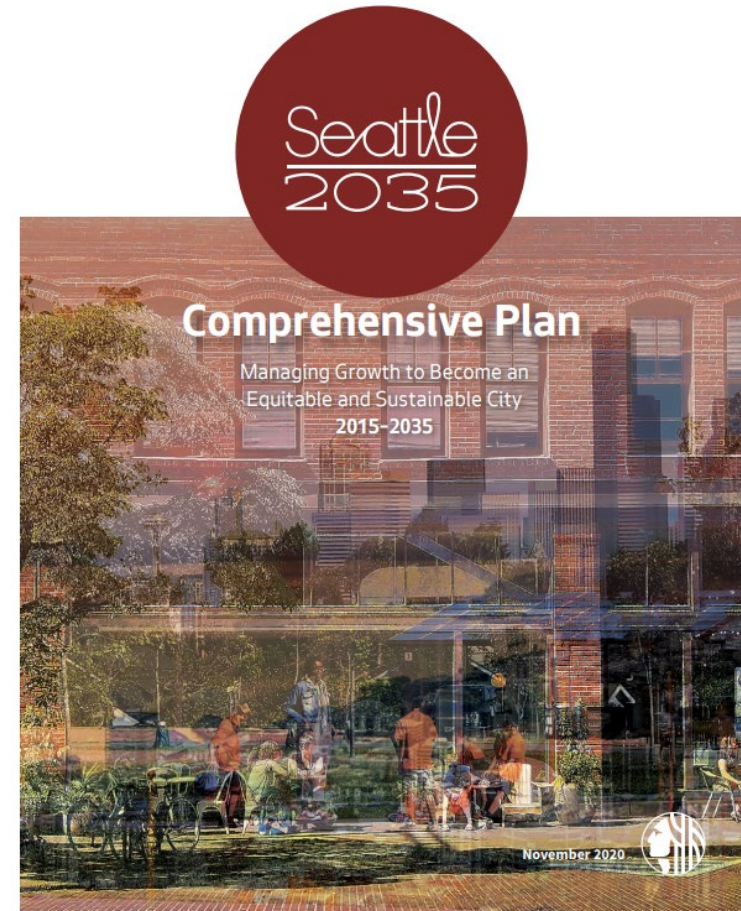
- Equity
- Climate action
- Safety/Vision Zero
- All modes (including General Purpose and emerging mobility)
- Mobility, access, and public realm
- 15-/20-minute neighborhoods
- Healthy communities, public health
- Affordable communities
- Include capital costs and maintenance needs

Community Liaison feedback

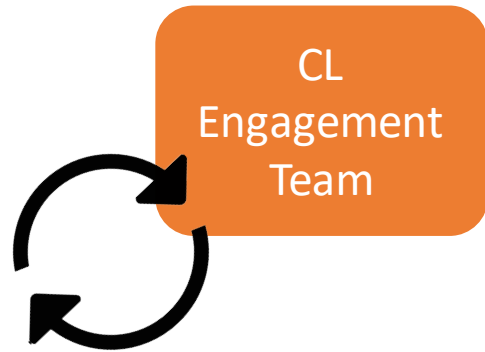
- Lead with compassion
- Consider the needs of those whose needs are often unmet – unhoused, people with disabilities, women, immigrants and refugees, non-English speakers, elderly, children
- Do no further harm
- Acknowledge the past and current indigenous lives and historic indigenous transportation waterways and paths
- Excited by "a true community-focused listening session" and scoping stage involvement
- Interest in working on the racial equity toolkit (RET) with staff
- Demonstrate our accountability so that they can confidently engage their communities
- Replace “maintenance” with “quality” as a driving priority; inspired by this comment, staff substituted “stewardship” as the fourth priority

Comprehensive Plan Update coordination

- Opportunity to integrate transportation and land use planning
- Cross-functional advisory teams, members
- Parallel timeline
- Coordinated outreach and SEPA review
- Leverage investments in both transportation system and land development



Inclusive engagement partners



Role Provide on-the-ground engagement support and strategic advice for/with the Project Team



Provide on-the-ground engagement support and strategic advice for/with the Project Team



Provide strategic advice to the Project Team, particularly on policy development

Questions?

Joanna.Valencia@seattle.gov
Jonathan.Lewis@seattle.gov

www.seattle.gov/transportation

