

A photograph of an outdoor cafe patio. Several people are seated at small black tables, some talking and some looking at their phones. A woman in a bright red top and white pants is walking across the foreground. The patio is paved with bricks and has string lights hanging from the ceiling. Large windows in the background show the interior of the cafe.

Café Program Updates

Proposed Amendments to SMC Title 15



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

Presentation overview

- Program goals
- Proposal and background
- Updates
- Outreach summary
- Next steps



Program goals

- Ensure safety and mobility of the traveling public
- Increase the vibrancy of our streets, sidewalks, and public spaces
- Support economic development in business districts by expanding seating options for patrons



Develop a more vibrant city by creating streets and sidewalks that generate economic and social activity, adding to the city's overall health, prosperity, and happiness

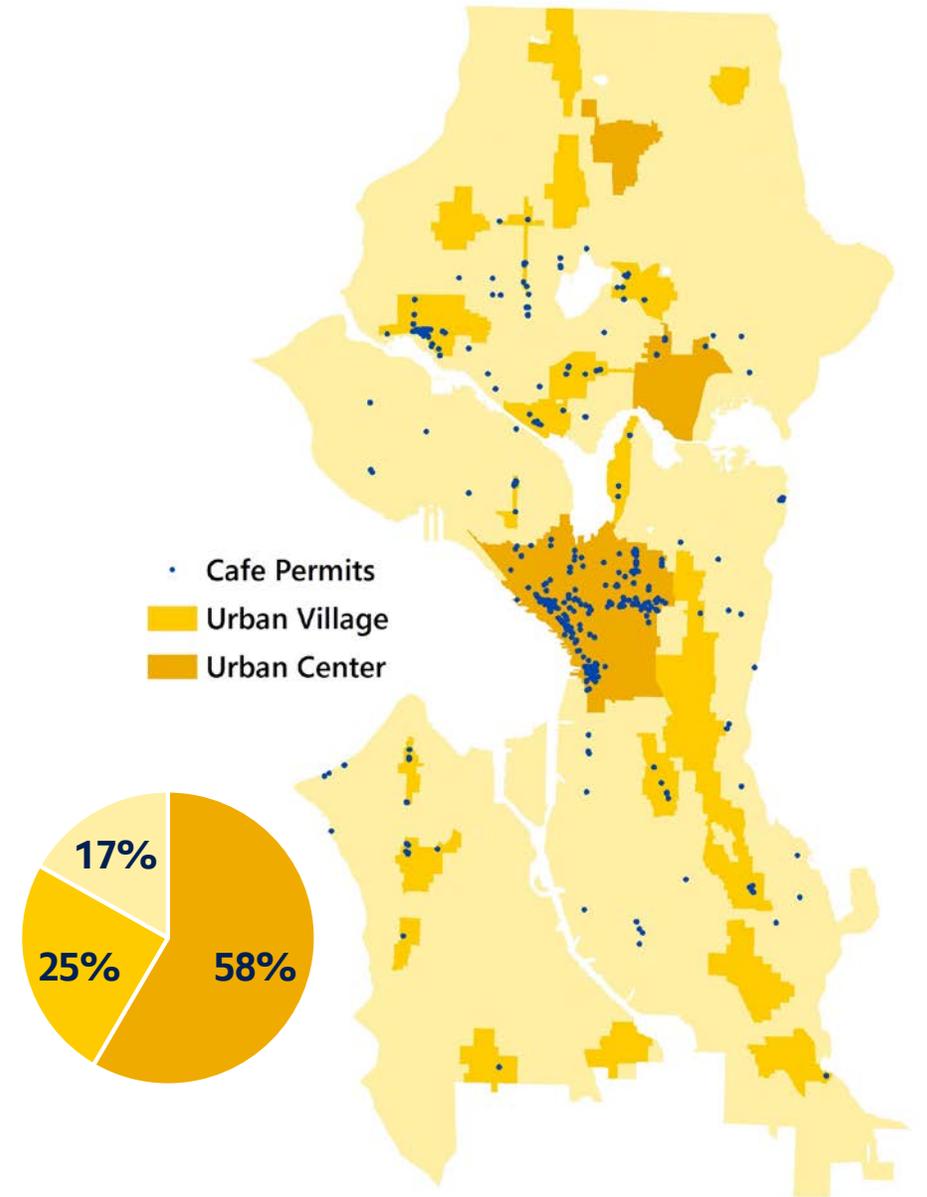
– Seattle 2035

Proposal and background

Proposal: Amendments to SMC Title 15 to update café program and align standards across uses of the right-of-way

Café program background

- Created in 2008 and last updated in 2011
- Changes necessary to improve siting standards and expand program participation
- 390 permitted cafés
 - 14% of all food service businesses
 - 30+ urban centers and villages



Updates to address mobility impacts



- Meet the needs of the traveling public
 - Align with Streets Illustrated requirements
 - Clarify terms and regulations
- Fulfill the vision of the Pedestrian Master Plan: *Seattle is the most walkable and accessible city in the nation*

Strategy 1.5. Create and Maintain a Pedestrian Clear Zone on All Sidewalks

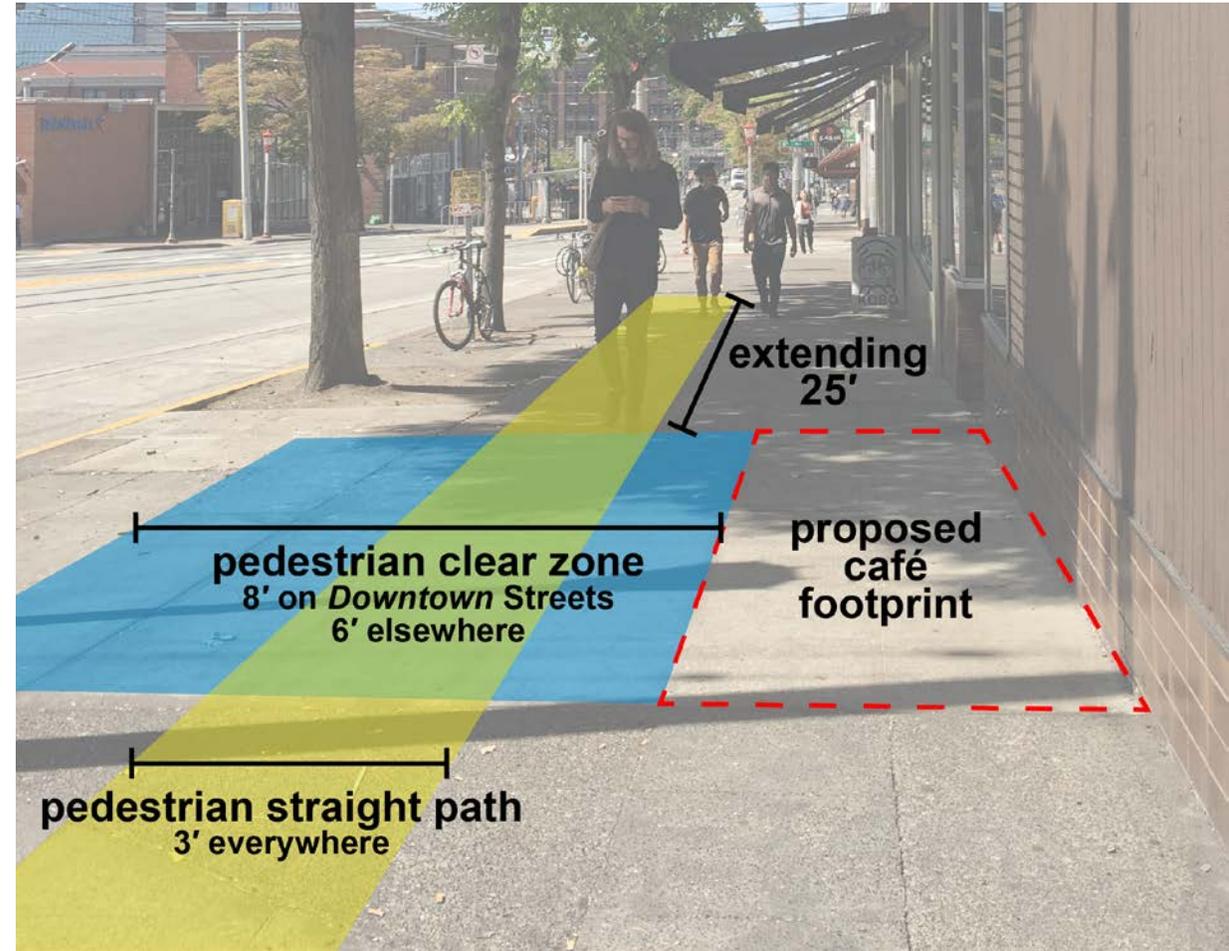
Updates to address mobility impacts

Pedestrian clear zone: establishes amount of space adjacent to café; will now align with Streets Illustrated

- Increase from 6' to 8' on *Downtown Streets*
- Increase from 5' to 6' outside Downtown Urban Center

Pedestrian straight path: determines location of pedestrian clear zone and reduces zig zagging

- 3' wide citywide
- Extends 25' on either end



Updates to expand opportunities

Remove 50' setback from single family and lowrise residential zones

- At least 6 café applications rejected due to requirement
- Currently precludes 272 food service businesses from applying



Source: Used with permission from Mioposto

Updates to reduce program barriers

Bramling Cross (Ballard)



Formalize streatery and fence-free pilots, which are valuable alternatives for businesses with constrained sidewalk conditions

Other updates

- Minor amendments to clarify regulations and harmonize definitions across Title 15
- Permit transfer option when a business changes ownership
- Alignment with Streets Illustrated and allow deviations



Outreach summary

- ✓ Informed internal stakeholders, external stakeholders, and general public
- ✓ Presented to Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board, Commission for People with disAbilities, and Preservation Boards
- ✓ Completed SEPA checklist process

What we heard during SEPA public comment period:

- **51 comments received**
- **63% were supportive:** economic and community benefits; support of pilot design alternatives (streeteries and fence-free)
- **24% were supportive/neutral:** generally positive about the program but concerns about implementation (e.g., enforcement issues, other items on the sidewalk)
- **14% raised concerns:** noise impacts; cafés add to a complex pedestrian environment; parking loss from streeteries

Next steps

Date	Activity/action
9/17/19	Sustainability & Transportation Committee takes action on legislation
Late September 2019	Full Council takes action on legislation (if voted out of Transportation Committee)
Q4 2019	Director's Rule update
Q1 2020	Promotion of program updates for 2020 café season

Questions?

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