# Access Seattle

Managing Construction Impacts



City Council Transportation Committee July 14, 2015 Brian de Place, Street Use Director



# Our mission, vision, and core values

**Mission:** deliver a high-quality transportation system for Seattle

Vision: connected people, places, and products

Committed to **5 core values** to create a city that is:

- Safe
- Interconnected
- Affordable
- Vibrant
- Innovative

### **Presentation overview**

- Context setting: Move Seattle and Access Seattle
- Stakeholder involvement
- Program deliverables and accomplishments
- Inspection Services and Enforcement
- Next steps

# Growth and development impacts

#### 2000-2010 SEATTLE POPULATION INCREASE





Urban Centers and Villages

Rest of the City





### People want to survive this



### So they can benefit from this



# Move Seattle: Strengthening the Access Seattle program

- **SAFE:** Use Vision Zero to direct better pedestrian access through construction zones
- AFFORDABLE: Coordinate utility and paving work to ensure city assets have long life
- VIBRANT: Coordinate public and private construction; manage parking and loading to support livable, accessible neighborhoods
- **INTERCONNECTED**: Minimize disruption to the traveling public
- **INNOVATIVE**: Deliver our services more efficiently by investing in technologies that give our inspectors real-time information to solve problems in the field

### **Three Pillars of Access Seattle**

Construction Coordination



Business and Community Support



# Stakeholder group

- 37 stakeholders
- Identify adverse impacts
  - Construction activity not coordinated
  - No notification of impacts, point of contact
  - Construction barriers eliminate parking
  - Hard to safely get around sidewalk closures
  - Not enough inspectors to enforce
  - Neighborhood identity is covered by construction materials

# Prioritize ways to mitigate impacts

- Keep strengthening coordination services
- Tailor notifications
- Find opportunities to improve look and feel of neighborhoods
- Develop standards for consistent barricade types
- Set clear expectations for builders
- Ensure enforcement is swift and certain



# **Construction Hub model**

- Coordinate construction
- Communicate impacts early and often
- Single point of contact
- Help people travel to and through neighborhoods



# Improved public notification

- Weekly coordination meetings with contractors
- Three week look-ahead:
  - o Ensures conflicts identified early
  - o Prompts collaborative solutions
- Weekly updates allow businesses and neighbors to plan for event conflicts





### City – tech collaborations



#### A CIVIC HACKATHON PRESENTED BY THE **CITY OF SEATTLE AND COMMUTE SEATTLE**

#### Access Map - Seattle

#### Welcome to Access Map!

Our application is still in beta, but we would love for you to try it out. Click below to go to the map, or keep reading to get more information about the project.

Get Involved

Try It Now »





### Replace this.... And this....





#### ...with this ...And this





# Neighborhood investments



New rainbow crosswalk at 10<sup>th</sup> Ave and E Pike St

## Focus on pedestrian access









9<sup>th</sup> and Republican

#### 714 Pike St – Harvard frontage



Water-filled impact barriers, lights

#### E Pike St – Summit to Belmont Ave



Scaffold with detectable baseboard

### **Revise Director's Rule**

**BARRICADE – PREFERRED** 

Open Walkways

□ Bolted Jersey barrier □ Screening Barricades cannot interfere with car mirrors



ADA

### **Revise Director's Rule**

Pedestrian Mobility Requirement Checklist				
Covered Walkways	Barricade	Lighting	Signage	ADA

- Warning sign about upcoming covered walkway
- Walking surface: minimum of 4' wide outside of Downtown and S Lake Union; 8' wide within Downtown and S Lake Union
- Walking surface: non-skid, smooth and continuous
   Continuous kickboard system for length of closure



#### **Construction Management Plan**

#### Living document that:

- Mitigates construction impacts
- Coordinates communication between contractors, businesses, neighbors



#### DO YOU NEED A CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT PLAN (CMP)?

FACT SHEET July 2015

#### WHAT IS A CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT PLAN (CMP)?

A CMP clarifies how construction will be managed over the course of your project. It allows us to identify and mitigate potential concerns before work begins, which helps reduce congestion and noise impacts, and will likely reduce your project costs. A completed CMP can help answer these questions:

- How will I get heavy equipment to my project site?
- Do I need a noise variance?
- What hours will my construction team work?

#### HOW DO I KNOW IF I NEED A CMP?

Projects that significantly impact the right of way may now require a Construction Management Plan before the project can begin. Most mid- or largesized construction projects fall into this category, and SDOT will let you know if a CMP is required for your project. All projects triggering a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) review may require a CMP as a condition of approval of a Master Use Permit (MUP).

#### HOW WILL MY PROJECT BENEFIT?

A CMP will help you strategically plan right of way impacts, ultimately saving you time and money. Previously, only projects requiring a SEPA review potentially called for a CMP. With more construction projects now occurring, we are also seeing more compliance issues, so we are broadening which projects require a CMP submittal. The early comprehensive review contributes to a more efficient project.

#### WHEN AND HOW DO I SUBMIT A CMP?

Visit www.seattle.gov/transportation/CMP.htm to get a downloadable template and guidance for creating a CMP. You can also get a template at the SDOT Permit Services Counter. Once complete, mail or bring it to the Permit Services Counter, or email it to us at sdotpermits@seattle.gov—please include the project address, DPD building permit number, and "CMP" in the subject line of your email. You should submit your CMP a minimum of two months before beginning construction.

#### **CMP QUICK FACTS**

- We offer a CMP guide and template available at www.seattle.gov/ transportation/cmp.htm
- Site Plan templates available for a variety of project types may assist in planning
- Review period for CMPs is two weeks. Revisions to any CMP will require an additional two-week review period
- CMP submittal occurs in advance of Street Use permitting and at least 2 months before construction
- Small residential projects on nonarterials likely do not need to submit a CMP and will be examined on a caseby-case basis
- CMPs facilitate communication
  between SDOT, DPD, contractor, and
  community

#### CONTACT

Street Use Applicant Services Team Permit Services Counter 700 5th Ave, Floor 23 P.O. Box 34996 (206) 684-5253 sdotpermits/diseattle.gov

#### CMP Website

www.seattle.gov/transportation/CMP.htm



## Inspection services review

- Compared best inspection practices from various cities
- Identify program strengths and weaknesses via personnel interviews and site visits
- Propose program modifications to meet our needs





# Finding 1: Technology upgrades



Mobile access of all information needed by inspectors in the field.

Conclusions:

- Technology gap compounds difference in productivity between inspection units
- Seattle can start to catch up through a technology upgrade

# Finding 2: Workload and staffing comparison

#### New York

- Average 6 inspections/day
- 200,000 annual DOT construction permits
- 134 inspectors



#### Seattle

- 20-40 inspections/day
- 50,000 annual construction permits
- 12 inspectors



### Next Steps

July 6, 2015	Require Construction Management Plans
Aug 2015	Field access for inspectors, analyze staffing model, inspection priorities, enforcement protocols
Aug 2015	Workshops for contractors on CMPS, pedestrian requirements
Aug 2015	Begin Implementation of Construction Support Toolkit
Sep 2015	New Pedestrian Access Director's Rule
Sep 2015	Implement Swift and Certain Enforcement
Feb 2016	Propose code amendments for penalties, fines, fees



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http://www.seattle.gov/transportation





Seattle Department of Transportation