## **Seattle Planning Commission**

Introduction to Planning, Land Use & Zoning Committee

February 2 2016

## **Role of Commission**

- A 16 member, independent volunteer body that advises the Mayor, City Council and City Departments on citywide planning goals, policies, and plans. Provides independent and objective advice on land-use and zoning, transportation and housing issues.
- Additional roles and functions
  - Make decision making processes and tools more effective
  - Review state of City's planning functions and activities
  - Stewards of the Comprehensive Plan

# **Seattle Planning Commissioners**





























#### **Committee Structure**

#### **Executive**

Grace Kim Chair

Kara Martin Vice Chair

David Shelton LUT Co-Chair

Spencer Williams LUT Co-Chair

Tim Parham H&N Co-Chair Michael Austin H&N Co-Chair

#### **Land Use & Transportation**

David Shelton, Co-Chair

Spencer Williams, Co-Chair

Lauren Craig

Molly Esteve

JakeMcKinstry

Marj Press

Patti Wilma

#### **Housing & Neighborhoods**

Tim Parham, Co-Chair

Michael Austin, Co-Chair

Sandra Fried

Yolanda Ho

Grace Kim

Amalia Leighton

Kara Martin

# Major Update to Comprehensive Plan – Seattle 2035

- Adoption planned for 2016
- Commission "Stewards of the Comp Plan"

- SPC Review through a lens of equity
- Importance of readability and accessibility

- Greater flexibility in Single Family areas
- Not all Urban Villages are the same

## Housing Seattle & Family-Sized

Recent reports from the Planning Commission have highlighted the need for affordable housing.





An Essential Ingredient to Attract and Retain
Families with Children in Seattle

## **Transit Access and Affordability**

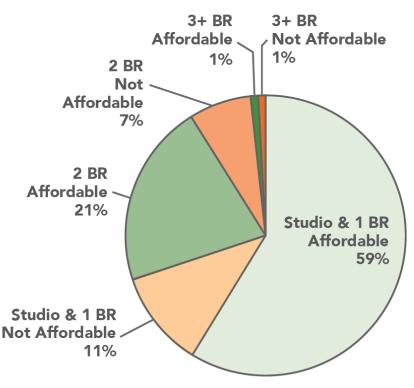
Access to frequent transit in urban villages and along most arterials is important affordability consideration.



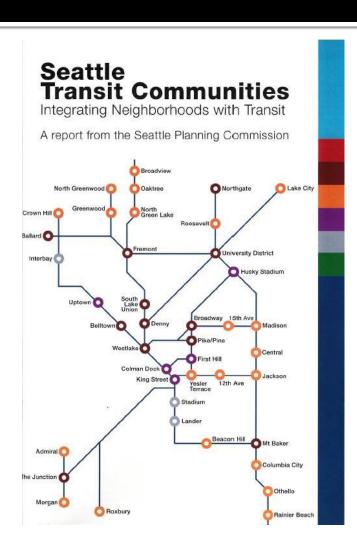
Average annual expenditures in the Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton metropolitan area for 2009-2010

# Larger, affordable family-size units are particularly lacking

Market Rate Apartments in Seattle: Unit Sizes and Affordability at 80% of Area Median Income



## **Seattle Transit Communities**



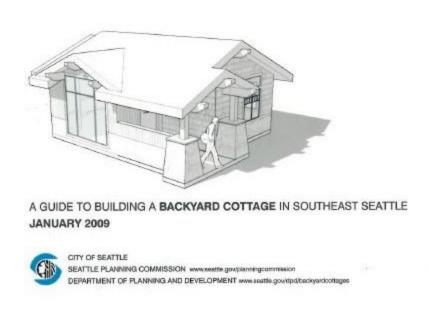
#### Transit is Transformational

- Optimize local and regional investment in transit.
- Create livable communities around transit connections.
- Align land use policies and capital investments.

### **Transit Communities**

- Describes four Seattle- specific typologies.
- Identifies the essential components of livability.
- Outlines key funding and implementation strategies.
- Recommends how to transform our communities.
- Identifies 14 near- term opportunities.

# **Backyard Cottages**



# Increasing housing choices

- Developed a guide to building Backyard Cottages in collaboration with the Department of Planning and Development.
- Supported type of housing as one of Seattle's housing choices.

### **Industrial Lands**

#### The Future of Seattle's Industrial Lands



Seattle Planning Commission

Report + July 2007

"Industrial zoned land is a vital civic asset. Because Seattle's industrial businesses are critical to our city's overall economic health and global competitiveness the City should strengthen its industrial policies. The retention of industrial land contributes significantly to Seattle's family wage job base, provides significant tax revenue to the city and is essential in providing stability to our economy."

Seattle Planning Commission July 2007