



Don Blakeney
*Executive Director,
U District Partnership*

U DISTRICT

POWERED BY
THE U DISTRICT
PARTNERSHIP



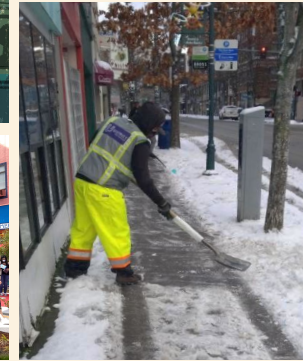
U District Partnership

- Place Management Organization
- Established 2015 (*Greater U District Chamber of Commerce 1914 - 2014*)
- 501(c)3 Nonprofit
- Program Manager for the U District Business Improvement Area



Our mission

The U District Partnership is the voice for Seattle's University District neighborhood, improving and promoting its vibrancy through advocacy, public safety, cleaning, economic development, placemaking, events, marketing, and social services.





Our vision for the U District

The U District is a unique and diverse neighborhood as well as the proud home of the University of Washington. We welcome people from all over the globe to experience our vibrant small businesses, participate in our time-honored traditions, and to pursue big ideas that can change the world.



How we approach our work

Leadership: *We are committed to our vision and lead with passion, professionalism, and empathy.*

Innovation: *We embrace continuous improvement, bold creativity, and change.*

Collaboration: *We realize that we achieve more when we work together, building partnerships based on fairness and mutual respect.*

Integrity: *We work hard to earn the community's trust by showing up consistently, being an honest broker, and doing the right thing.*

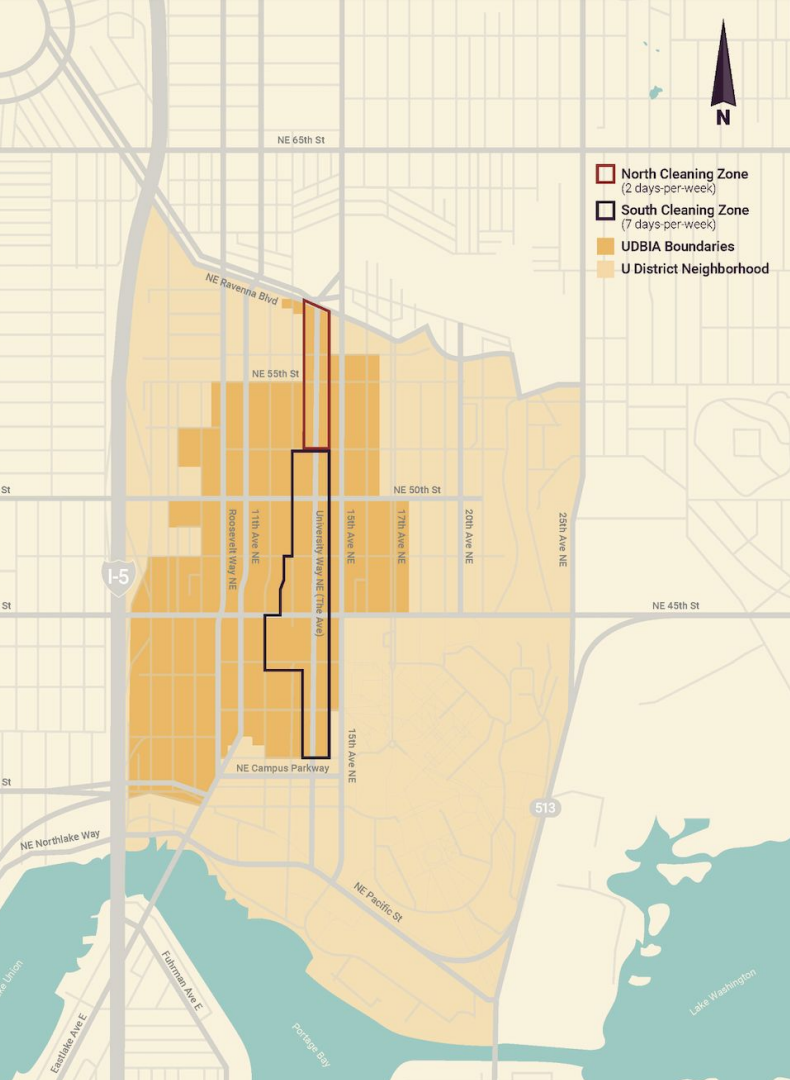
Responsiveness: *We deliver our very best in all we do, holding ourselves accountable for results.*

Inclusivity: *We set a big table and welcome people with diverse backgrounds, skills, and interests so that we can all prosper together.*



Where is the U District?

- East of I-5
- West of 25th Ave NE
- South of Ravenna Blvd
- North of Ship Canal



- Our UDBIA was founded in 1996 by property owners to clean University Way
- The UDBIA has been renewed in 2015, and once again in 2020
- The UDBIA ordinance establishes a base assessment on properties, with three service areas that receive different levels of cleaning



Why are we here today?

1. **Removal of the RFP requirement from the ordinance** - A new BIA ordinance from 2020 requires the Office of Economic Development to conduct an RFP process every five years to identify a program manager. This is an unusual requirement, and has proven to be inefficient and unproductive—imposing a administrative burdens on the community and city staff without delivering public benefit.
2. **Adjust the mandatory board seats to be recommended board seats, to make Board administration easier** - Highly specific seat requirements have become challenging to fulfill and maintain due in part to the realities of volunteer engagement and turnover.

UDBIA Ratepayer Advisory Board

Jennifer Antos - *Neighborhood Farmers' Market*

Max Blume - *The Blume Company*

Sally Clark - *UW Campus Safety*

David Cohan - *Whitefall, LLC*

Lora Gastineau - *U District Resident*

Chris Giles - *U District Resident*

Joe Gruber - *University District Food Bank*

Mary Kay Gugerty - *UW Evans School*

Jeanette Henderson - *UW Real Estate*

Lincoln Johnson - *UW Student Life*

Nikole O'Bryan - *Nikole O'Bryan DDS*

Chris Peterson - *Café Allegro*

Chris Rauls - *University Book Store*

Brian Sellen - *ACC*

Sandy Sun - *Compass Real Estate*

Carolyn Thompson - *The Neptune Building*

Hui Tian - *Studio 19 Architects*

Polly Yorioka - *University Presbyterian Church*

Open Seat - *fall 2025*

Open Seat - *fall 2025*

U District Partnership Board

Stephen Antupit - *U District Resident*

Katie Betz - *Touchstone*

Julie Blakeslee - *UW Campus Planner*

Jeremy Eknoian - *UW Real Estate*

John Hix - *Seattle Vineyard Church*

Josh Gana - *UW Housing & Food Services*

Aaron Hoard - *UW Regional & Community Relations*

Rick Jones - *Schooley Mitchell*

Lois Ko - *Sweet Alchemy Ice Cream*

Naomi Lewis - *Luminati Labs*

Anson Lin - *Astora Construction*

Maya Lu - *Boba Up*

Angela Mercado - *UHeights Center*

Trevor Peterson - *University Bookstore*

Jessie Quan - *Ladd & Lass Brewing*

Miles Richardson - *Audi Seattle & University VW*

Don Schulze - *UDPA*

Emily Scully - *Shultzzy's Bar & Grill*

Alfred Shiga - *Shiga's Imports*

Anna Sorokina - *U District Branch, WSECU*

Paul Yunker - *U District Food Bank*

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