



# U DISTRICT STATION AREA MOBILITY PLAN

SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

SUSTAINABILITY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

MARCH 19, 2019



# U DISTRICT STATION AREA

## LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION CONTEXT

- U District Design Framework
  - Seattle 2035
  - U District Rezone
  - UW Campus Master Plan
  - MHA Implementation
- + 3,500 Homes by 2035
  - + 5,000 Jobs by 2035
  - + 8,000 Students, Faculty & Staff by 2028
- Sound Transit - Brooklyn Light Rail Station Opening
- + 11,000 to 13,000 boardings per day by 2042
- King County Metro – Service Revisions
  - King County Metro/City of Seattle – Roosevelt RR
  - King County Metro/City of Seattle – Market RR
  - City of Seattle – 43<sup>rd</sup> Rebuild
  - City of Seattle/Sound Transit – Brooklyn Green Street

# U DISTRICT STATION MOBILITY GROUP

## A COMMUNITY-LED PROCESS

- Led by the U District Station Mobility Group, a volunteer group of residents, small business owners and institution representatives
- Funded by Seattle Children's Seattle Department of Neighborhoods, Seattle Department of Transportation, Sound Transit, U District Advocates, U District BIA and University of Washington
- Advised by an 18-member Strategy Group and the Consultant Team (MAKERS, Toole Design Group and Fehr & Peers)

### U DISTRICT MOBILITY GROUP MEMBERS

Cory Crocker, U District Advocates  
Ruedi Risler, University Park Community Club  
Kate Lewis, Seattle Neighborhood Greenways  
Drew Dresman, Seattle Children's Hospital  
Jamie Cheney, Seattle Children's Hospital  
Phil Miller, University of Washington  
Chase Landrey, U District Partnership  
Miriam Castro, U District, Let's Go!

### STRATEGY GROUP MEMBERS

Rob Johnson, Seattle City Councilmember  
Mike O'Brien, Seattle City Councilmember  
Amy Gore, Legislative Aide to Councilmember Johnson  
Jasmine Marwaha, Legislative Aide to Councilmember O'Brien  
Ian Macek, Seattle Department of Transportation  
Jonathan Lewis, Seattle Department of Transportation  
Brian Dougherty, Seattle Department of Transportation  
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Brand Koster, King County Metro  
Kate Elliott, King County Metro  
Carrie Avila-Mooney, Sound Transit  
**Kristin Hoffman, Sound Transit**  
Juan Higuera, Sound Transit  
Celeste Gilman, Washington Department of Transportation  
Scott Ritterbush, Community Transit  
Gordon Padelford, Seattle Neighborhood Greenways  
Rick McLaughlin, U District Small Businesses  
Jonathan Hopkins, Commute Seattle

### FISCAL SPONSOR



U District Advocates

U District Mobility is a project of U District Advocates, a 501c3 nonprofit, and donations to the project are tax-deductible.

### CONSULTANT TEAM

John Owen, MAKERS Architecture & Urban Design  
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Michael Hintze, Toole Design Group  
Aaron Gooze, Fehr & Peers  
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### FINANCIAL SPONSORS



Seattle Children's



Seattle Department of Neighborhoods



Seattle Department of Transportation



Sound Transit



U District Advocates



U District BIA



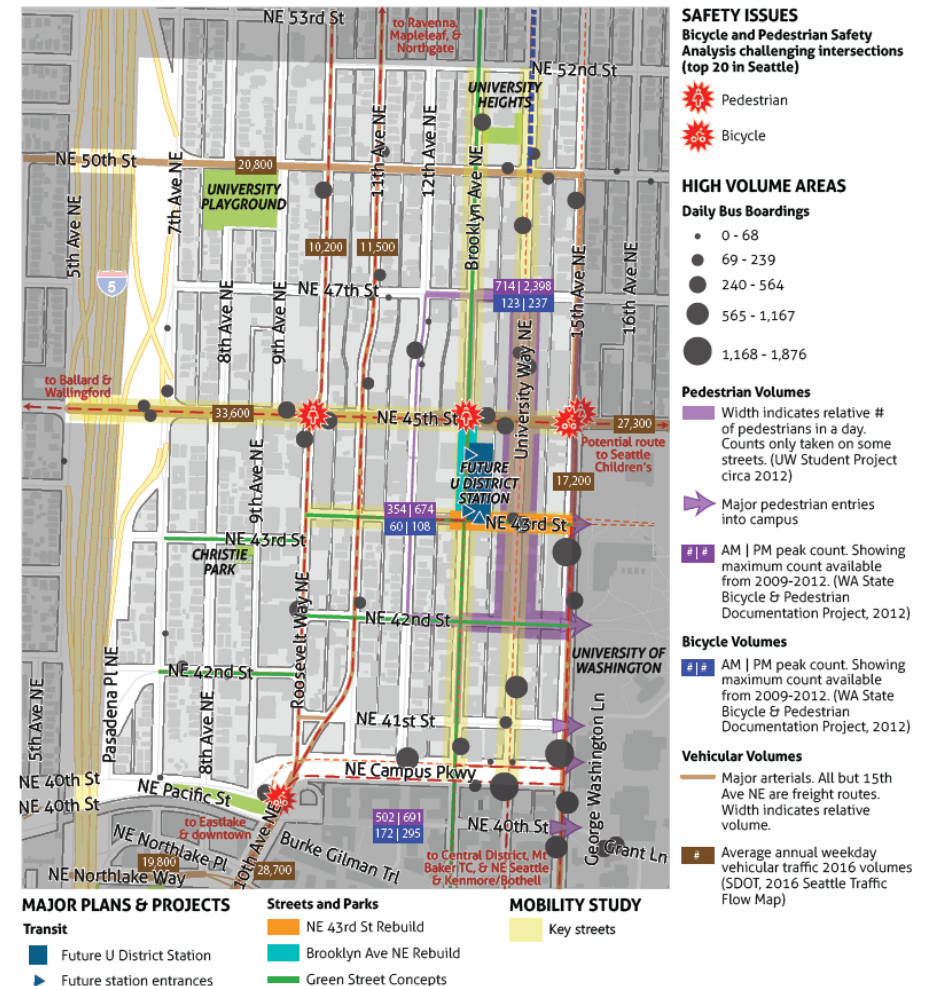
University of Washington

# U DISTRICT STATION MOBILITY GROUP

## EXISTING CONDITIONS

- Pedestrian counts with highs of 14,000+ on the Ave, comparable to downtown streets
- Four of Seattle's top 20 "challenging intersections" from Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Analysis
- Served by 16 bus routes, averaging 193 buses per hour during peak times
- Heavy vehicular traffic on NE 45<sup>th</sup> Street and Pacific Street, with lower volumes in the neighborhood core
- Bike facilities include protected lanes, painted lanes and greenways, as well as connections to the Burke Gilman Trail

### EXISTING CONDITIONS



# U DISTRICT STATION MOBILITY GROUP

## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

- Walking Tour
- Stakeholder and Community Group Meetings
- Three Online Surveys
- Three Community Workshops
- U District Street Fair Booth
- Design Charrette with city staff and transit agencies
- Pedestrian Advisory Board and Transit Advisory Board
- Transit Talk



# U DISTRICT STATION AREA MOBILITY PLAN

## PRINCIPLES



Give top priority to pedestrian movement.



Design for pedestrian access to the station



Configure an efficient, flexible bus route network.



Create a safe and attractive street environment for people of all abilities



Complete the bicycle network.



Address the multimodal challenges on NE 45th Street.

# U DISTRICT STATION AREA MOBILITY PLAN

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Phase I: Before Light Rail Opening
  - Prepare a U District Shared Mobility Hub Plan to inform future route planning, street design and a parking strategy
  - Work with Metro on restructure to address diesel bus impacts on the Ave, station access, and layover space
  - Improve speed and reliability of east-west transit through RapidRide planning
  - Design and construct NE 43<sup>rd</sup> Street to support future pedestrian volumes, accommodating transit as a temporary measure if necessary
  - Construct a protected bike lane on 11<sup>th</sup> Ave NE
  - Improve ped crossings of NE 45<sup>th</sup> Street
  - Establish standards for design and construction of right of way improvements on Brooklyn Ave NE



Figure 32. Conceptual illustration of NE 43rd Street looking east toward the campus.

# U DISTRICT STATION AREA MOBILITY PLAN

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Phase 2: Near-Term Improvements and Interim Solutions (2021-2028)
  - Remove or transition to battery powered buses on the Ave
  - Implement RapidRide transit and pedestrian improvements on NE 45<sup>th</sup> Street
  - Plan and construct pedestrian improvements to University Way NE north of NE 50<sup>th</sup> Street to Cowen Park
  - Permit and construct improvements to Brooklyn Ave NE as part of private or institutional development to provide high-quality streetscape and accommodate the potential for buses
- Phase 3: Long Term Vision (2028+)
  - Remove buses and private vehicles from the Ave
  - Route buses onto Brooklyn Ave NE to improve transit reliability, transfers and ped movement on NE43rd Street and/or the Ave
  - Complete Brooklyn Ave Green Street Improvements



A vision for the Ave's future.