

BALLARD REZONE AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

July 19, 2016







Community Engagement

Ballard Partnership for Smart Growth Urban Design & Transportation Committee

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North Seattle Industrial Association













Community Engagement

Urban Design & Transportation Committee *Monthly Meetings from January 2014 – June 2016*

Four Communitywide Workshops

Averaging 75 – 100 attendees

Briefings

Community groups, chamber, industrial interests, property owners







Character Areas



Community assessments of the role and character of each area informed the proposed development standards and zoning.





Proposed Legislative Rezones

Apply Neighborhood Commercial 3 Zone

Rezone from Commercial (C1 65) to Neighborhood Commercial 3 (NC3 65) to encourage pedestrian-oriented development along key pedestrian and transit corridors in center of the urban village.



Proposed Legislative Rezones

Add Pedestrian-designation and Designate Principal Pedestrian Streets

A Pedestrian designation encourages a walkable shopping district. It prohibits drivein businesses, and sets a minimum FAR in urban villages. In P-designated sites, along Principal Pedestrian streets, development must include active businesses for 80% of the street-front, and awnings. Parking location and access is restricted.



Map 6: Existing and Proposed Pedestrian Zones and Principal Pedestrian Streets along major transit and pedestrian corridors

Proposed Legislative Rezones

Residential Commercial Suffix Zone

The Residential Commercial suffix (RC) allows small (up to 4,000 sf) commercial uses at the street level in multifamily neighborhoods. <u>We recommend adding the</u> <u>RC suffix zone along</u> <u>sections of14th Ave. NW</u> to support small commercial uses meeting the daily needs of the neighboring residential area.



Map 7: Proposed Residential-Commercial zoning on 14th Ave. NW

Facade modulation

Building widths in historic Ballard reflect the historic parcel sizes, typically in multiples of about 50'. We recommend a maximum facade width of 100' after which a portion of the building facade set back a minimum depth of 10' to create a visual break and reflect the historic scale. This will apply to facades located within 10' of the property line, and up to 45' in height.



Figure 5: A 200' wide building with (above) and without (below) modulation. Modulation can help reinforce smaller neighborhood scale.

Modulation can create breaks in massing and help the building fit into the surrounding context.







Lot coverage limits on very large lots

Ballard has long east-west blocks, (550' to 750'). Blocks in downtown Seattle averages 250'. This allows for buildings that are out of scale. The impact of these buildings. is most apparent on parcels exceeding 40,000 sf. More successful recent buildings on lots over 40,000 sf have a lot coverage ratio between 65 and 87%. We recommend a <u>80% lot coverage limit for development on parcels exceeding 40,000 square feet</u>, with the remaining 20% of area being used for landscaping, sidewalk cafes, mid-block connections, and other amenities.



Landscaped amenity areas can be used to break up the mass of a building at street level.

Small landscaped setbacks can help create privacy transitions between the sidewalk and residential units.

Maximum Structure Width

The dominant parcel width of areas platted up to the 1930 was 50'. Building facades created continuous frontage along the block lengths, but individual buildings were between 50 and 200'. <u>To help</u> <u>reinforce the neighborhood's</u> <u>historic building scale and</u> <u>character, we recommend a</u> <u>maximum building width of</u> <u>250 feet.</u> Figure 7: Existing scale of building widths on Market Street



Figure 8: Proposed maximum building width is 250'



Figure 9: Likely development without maximum building width limit



Upper level setbacks

Up to 30-45', the scale of the building provides for comfortable scale, and light and air to the street. <u>We recommend upper-level setbacks on facades at 45' height to reduce shadows, increase sunlight at street level, and continue the neighborhood's human-scale street environment.</u> Portions of a structure between 45' and 65' set back by an average of 10', and above 65' set back by an average of 15'.

Figure 10: Street with upper-level setbacks



Figure 19: Street without upper-level setbacks



Street level setbacks

15th Ave. NW is a major car, freight and transit route with average weekday traffic of 40,000 vehicles. This creates an uncomfortable place for walker, and transit users. We recommend that the street-level facing facade be set back from the15th Ave. NW lot line, by a minimum depth of 6' up to a maximum depth of 10' to create more space for development amenities that create a welcoming environment.



A small setback can be used for outdoor seating where sidewalk widths are limited.



A small setback can be used for outdoor displays where sidewalk widths are limited or where pedestrian volumes are high.



A small setback can help create an entrance transition space between the busy street and internal uses.





A small setback can be used to create room for customer amenties like bicycle parking, seating, or lean rails close to bus and rail stops.