

From: [Robin Lombard](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Miranda Redinger](#)
Subject: 145SCC Feedback: Station Design Guiding Principles
Date: Sunday, February 28, 2016 6:26:01 PM
Attachments: [145SCCStationDesignFeedback.pdf](#)

Members of the City Council,

Thank you for creating Station Design Guiding Principles. The enclosed letter from the 145SCC includes feedback and suggestions about those Principles. Members of the group plan to read this letter at the Council meeting Feb 29.

Thanks,
Robin Lombard
Co-Chair, 145th Street Station Citizen's Committee

Shoreline City Council
Midvale Avenue
Shoreline, WA
Feb 29, 2016

Members of the Shoreline City Council,

We, the members of the 145th Street Light Rail Station Citizens Committee, appreciate the work that has gone into creating the Station Design Guiding Principles. We have spent some time discussing these Principles and we have the following points of support and suggestions:

* Public Safety

We are happy to see that this is one of the proposed guiding principles. We would like to see a robust light rail security plan that includes features such as some type of 24-hour security in and around the station designed to minimize crime. Features such as non-enclosed stairwells (including those in the parking garage), security patrols and cameras, and directional or motion-sensitive lighting would be welcome crime deterrents.

* Multi-modality

In addition to the station being designed to allow various modes of access (such as Kiss & Ride drop-off points and handicapped parking), we suggest adding a special drop-off point for a Shoreline neighborhood shuttle or bus. The station design should also strive to prevent congestion and conflicts between the different modes of transportation. For example, car traffic should be directed to the station in different ways than buses, bikes and pedestrians. We would like to prevent congestion as much as possible on 5th Avenue. Likewise, ensuring safe passage of pedestrians and bikes across I-5 and across 5th Avenue to the station is important. One suggestion that might help with congestion around the station is to put a sign on 145th (in each direction) alerting drivers as to whether or not the parking garage is already full.

* Sustainability

Our concerns here center on environmental factors. Thornton Creek is buried under the 145th exit, and while it may be impractical to daylight it, it would be nice to recognize its presence and build awareness through the use of art and/or landscaping, and/or mitigate its continued burial. Second, the existing Park and Ride lot is surrounded by a grove of mature trees that are a significant and irreplaceable asset to this entrance to Shoreline. They give a sense of place and significance in the midst of a sea of hard surfaces and the flurry of traffic. We would like to see as many of these trees retained as possible, preferably in their current grove formation. Hopefully they can be integrated into the design of the station, which would give the station immense character simply by virtue of being wooded.

Third, there are several pollution issues we feel can be somewhat mitigated by station design. We assume that there will be loudspeakers on the station platform that will call out approaching trains. Can design help to mitigate these broadcasts on both east and west sides of I-5? Train noise should be mitigated for both sides of I-5 as well. Lighting that is too harsh, extreme, or wasteful is something we feel design could help mitigate. We suggest LED directional lighting with motion detectors in appropriate spots.

* Neighborhood Character

The current neighborhood character in the vicinity of the station is one of a tree-lined, quiet neighborhood. We realize that many trees must go to make way for the station. In that event we ask that each removed tree be replaced with at least three 2" (or greater) diameter trees. We also would like to see the parking garage kept to a low profile (currently it appears in draft plans as a 6-level garage).

We would like to see Sound Transit use high-quality building materials and embrace green materials to create a station with character. We would like the station to be unlike other stations, using an environmental theme and incorporating a park-like feel into the station.

We favor designs that delineate neighborhood business and residential areas from the station and its entrances and exits (as well as the I-5 onramp and off-ramp) through landscape design and large format artwork. We would like to see Sound Transit carve out what they need for a great station and then create a welcoming grand entrance on 5th Avenue, clearly visible from 145th St. that invites the eye (and the person) to the station and to centers of entertainment and economic activity on Aurora, in North City and in Ridgecrest.

* Public Amenities

Public amenities in the station should include transportation options to other destinations in Shoreline. For example, offices for Uber, Lyft, or other ride-sharing services could supplement any bus/shuttle service. Covered bike parking is a must. A coffee stand in or near the station is an amenity that many would favor. Open space with greenery (or a park) is another amenity that could help offset the impact of the station.

* Transit-Oriented Development

The station design could enhance TOD near the station by encouraging bike and pedestrian traffic, and limiting/calming vehicle traffic. The design might also include space for small businesses that would serve TOD.

* Public Art

Public Art is nice, but not as important to us as safety and keeping neighborhood character. Given the 1% budget for public art we suggest that this principle include art that reflects the neighborhood (perhaps depicting or symbolizing the Thornton Creek Watershed). We do see art as integrated into the station rather than separate from it.

We understand that Council has discussed the possibility of having the 185th and 145th stations sharing a consistent design. We would favor a distinctive look for the 145th station, even if the design standards are consistent.

Sincerely,
The 145th Station Citizens Committee