# **CITY OF SHORELINE**

# **Town Center Subarea Planned Action Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement**



Prepared by: July 2011

City of Shoreline Planning and Development Services 17500 Midvale Avenue N Shoreline, WA 98133

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# **Acronyms**

**ADT- Average Daily Trips** 

AQI- Air Quality Index

**BRT- Bus Rapid Transit** 

CIP- Capital Improvement Program

DAHP- Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

**DEIS- Draft Environmental Impact Statement** 

DNS- Determination of Non-Significance

DOE- Washington State Department of Ecology

DS- Determination of Significance

DSEIS- Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

EIS- Environmental Impact Statement

**EPA- United States Environmental Protection Agency** 

FAR- Floor Area Ratio

FEIS- Final Environmental Impact Statement

GIS- Geographic Information System

**GMA- Growth Management Act** 

KCHPP- King County Historic Preservation Program

LOS- Level of Service

MUZ- Mixed Use Zone

NAAQS- National Ambient Air Quality Standards

NPDES- National Pollutant Discharge and Elimination System

NRPA- National Recreation and Parks Association

PM- Particulate Matter

PROS Plan- Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan

PSCAA- Puget Sound Clean Air Agency

**PSE- Puget Sound Energy** 

**PSRC- Puget Sound Regional Council** 

**RCW- Revised Code of Washington** 

ROW- Right-of-way

SCL- Seattle City Light

SEIS- Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

SEPA- State Environmental Policy Act

SMC- Shoreline Municipal Code

SPU- Seattle Public Utilities

SWMP- Stormwater Management Program

TAZ- Traffic Analysis Zone

TC- Town Center

**TDM- Transportation Demand Management** 

TMP- Transportation Master Plan

V/C Ratio- Volume to Capacity Ratio

WAC- Washington Administrative Code

WSDOT- Washington State Department of Transportation

#### **Project Title**

City of Shoreline Town Center Subarea Plan and Town Center Code

#### **Proposed Action**

The proposed action would involve the following:

- Adoption of the Town Center Subarea Plan, which would be incorporated into the City of Shoreline Comprehensive Plan;
- Adoption of the Town Center Code development regulations, which would be incorporated as Chapter 20.92 of the City of Shoreline Municipal Code; and
- Adoption of an ordinance designating the Town Center Subarea as a Planned Action for the purpose of State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) compliance, pursuant to the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 43.21C.031(2)(a) and Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 197-11-164.

The Subarea Plan includes a vision statement for the Town Center subarea, as well as a list of goals and policies to help achieve that vision. The Town Center Code includes an urban design concept plan (detailing street type designations and through connections), zoning map for the four Town Center Zone districts, and a variety of development, design, safety, and neighborhood protection standards. These standards include permitted uses in each zone, minimum and maximum building heights, streetscapes, parking, landscaping, internal connections, stormwater, green streets, pedestrian and bicycle amenities, traffic calming, and public spaces.

Based on City growth targets and projections, the City anticipates the Proposed Action could result in the following level of development in the subarea:

- 1,200 new residential units
- 200,000 sf of new office space
- 200,000 sf of new commercial/retail/restaurant space

This Environmental Impact Study (EIS) also includes a general discussion of the three alternatives that were developed for the proposed Park at Town Center. The Park at Town Center is envisioned as a passive recreational and gathering space along either side of the Interurban Trail (between Aurora Avenue North and Midvale Ave North), running from North 178<sup>th</sup> Street to North 185<sup>th</sup> Street. Following a final public workshop in June 2011, a preferred alternative has been developed and will be presented to the City Council in July 2011, which will require Council adoption of a separate ordinance and Parks Master Plan. Because the preferred alternative had yet to be selected for the Park at Town Center at the time the DEIS was published, a project-specific SEPA Checklist was prepared for the Park at Town Center.

#### No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative assumes that the Town Center area would develop according to the existing Comprehensive land use designations and development regulations. As the Park at Town Center is a separate project, it is anticipated that it would still move forward under the No Action Alternative.

## **Supplemental EIS**

This Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) expands on the analysis of the 1998 Comprehensive Plan EIS, 2004 Comprehensive Plan Update SEPA Checklist and DNS, the 2009 Regional Business (RB) Zone SEPA Checklist and DNS, and the 2007 Aurora Corridor Improvement Project, N 165<sup>th</sup> Street- N 185<sup>th</sup> Street SEPA Checklist and DNS, with more specific analysis of the Town Center Subarea Planned Action area. Copies of the aforementioned documents are available for review at the City of Shoreline, and were used to scope this EIS. Alternative C/D of the 1998 Comp Plan EIS proposed to accommodate expected future growth along major arterials and transit routes, primarily along Aurora Avenue North, and within the Town Center Subarea.

Development of this SEIS is subject to the procedures outlined in WAC 197-11-620, in addition to the procedures for Planned Actions outlined in WAC 197-11-164.

#### Location

The Town Center Subarea Plan area is located approximately 10 miles north of downtown Seattle, and is comprised of 79 acres of land on both sides of State Route 99 (Aurora Avenue North) in Shoreline, WA. The area's southern boundary is North 170<sup>th</sup> Street, and the northern boundary is North 188<sup>th</sup> Street. The western boundary is Linden Avenue North (north of 175<sup>th</sup> Street) and properties fronting on Aurora Avenue N (south of North 175<sup>th</sup> Street), and the eastern boundary is primarily Stone Avenue North, except for the areas north of North 185<sup>th</sup> Street and south of North 173<sup>rd</sup> Street, where the eastern boundary is the Seattle City Light (SCL) utility corridor.

#### **Proponent**

City of Shoreline

# **Lead Agency**

City of Shoreline

# **Contact Person and Responsible Official**

David Levitan, AICP Associate Planner 17500 Midvale Ave N Shoreline, WA 98133

# **Required Approvals**

The Proposed Action would require the City of Shoreline City Council to take the following actions:

- Adoption of the Town Center Subarea Plan;
- Adoption of the Town Center Code; and
- Adoption of a Planned Action Ordinance

In addition, the City Council would adopt a separate ordinance approving the Park at Town Center Park Master Plan.

#### **Public Comment**

The Draft SEIS was issued on May 10, 2011. A public comment period was held between May 10, 2011 and June 9, 2011. A public meeting before the City of Shoreline Planning Commission regarding the Draft SEIS was held on June 2, 2011.

One comment was received during the public comment period, which is included (along with the lead agency's response) in Chapter 1 of this Final SEIS.

#### **Date of Final SEIS Issuance**

July 8, 2011

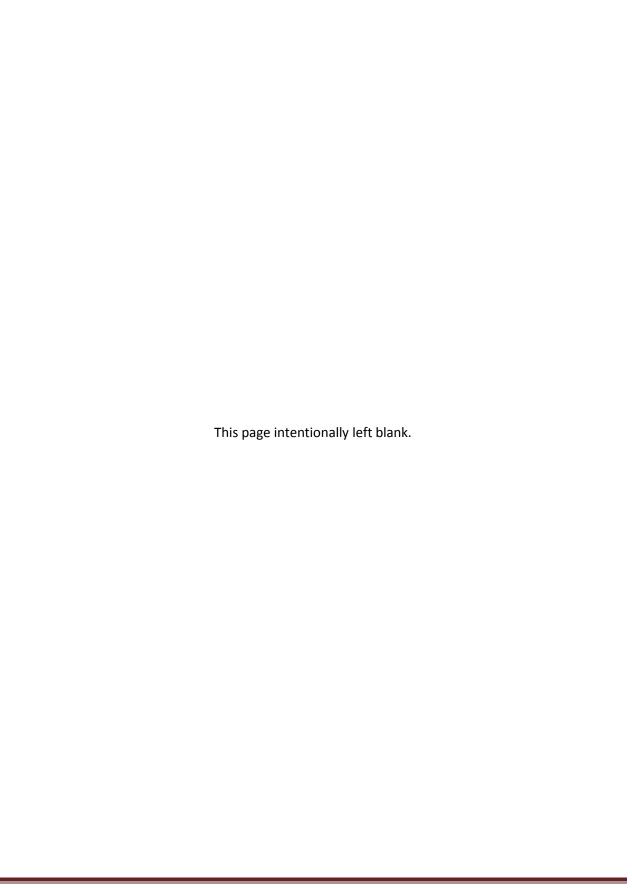
#### **Date of Implementation**

City Council approval of the proposal is anticipated on July 25, 2011.

# **Availability/Purchase of the Final SEIS**

The document is available free of charge on the City of Shoreline's Town Center Subarea Plan website: <a href="http://www.shorelinewa.gov/index.aspx?page=180">http://www.shorelinewa.gov/index.aspx?page=180</a>.

Copies of the Final SEIS are also available on CD for \$2.00.



# Chapter 1: Addendum to DEIS

#### 1.1 Introduction

Per WAC 197-11-560, the lead agency shall prepare a final environmental impact statement (FEIS) that considers and responds to all comments on the proposal evaluated in the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS). If changes in response to comments on the DEIS are minor and are largely confined to factual corrections, or do not warrant further agency response, the lead agency may prepare an addendum, which shall consist of the comments, the responses, the changes, and an updated fact sheet. In these situations, the FEIS consists of the DEIS and the addendum. As detailed below in Section 1.3, only one comment was received on the DEIS during the 30 day public comment period. The DEIS is included as Appendix A; the comments are included as Appendix B.

## 1.2 Potential Changes to the Proposed Action that May be Adopted by the City Council

The analysis in the DSEIS was based on the proposed action as of late April 2011 (April 29 Draft Town Center Subarea Plan and March 31 Draft Town Center Code). Since that time, the City of Shoreline Planning Commission has held a number of study sessions (May 5) and public hearings (June 2, June 16, and June 30), during which they directed City staff to make minor changes to the proposed action.

On June 16, the Planning Commission finalized its recommendation to the City Council on the Town Center Subarea Plan, which included (as compared to the April 29 Draft) minor revisions to the text of the introduction, vision statement, and policies (to fix grammatical/editing errors and provide additional clarification); revised and additional graphics; and the addition of one new policy (Policy TC-22), which recognizes the unique orientation and history of Firlands Way.

On June 30, the Planning Commission finalized its recommendation to the City Council on the Town Center Code, which included minor revisions (as compared to the March 20 Draft) to sections on transition overlays, permitted uses, off-street parking requirements (the initial proposal to reduce parking standards as compared to those required in the rest of the City has been removed, although parking reductions of up to 50% may still be permitted subject to the Planning Director's approval), site and building design standards, landscaping, and individual street cross-section standards (to be consistent with the Transportation Master Plan's Master Street Plan).

These revisions, if adopted by the City Council, would not result in any substantive changes to the proposed action as it was analyzed in the DEIS. All revisions were developed to result in a net positive benefit related to potential environmental impacts (most notably in regards to land use, aesthetics, transportation, and parking) that could result from the proposed action. These revisions

were initiated by City staff and the Planning Commission, and not based on public comments on the DEIS. As such, additional environmental analysis is not required in this FEIS.

The Planning Commission recommendations for the Town Center Subarea Plan and Town Center Code are included as Appendices C and D, respectively.

# 1.3 Public Comments on DEIS and Agency Responses

As noted above, the City of Shoreline received one comment on the DEIS during the public comment period, which ran from May 10, 2011 to June 9, 2011 and included a June 2, 2011 Planning Commission public hearing in which members of the public were invited to comment on the DEIS. The following comment was sent to Paul Cohen, Senior Planner by email on May 10 (and forwarded to David Levitan, AICP, Associate Planner on May 11) by Michael Derrick, the General Manager of the Ronald Wastewater District, which provides sanitary sewer service in the City of Shoreline:

#### Comment 1

Paul: I noticed this text in the subarea plan: "The City of Shoreline also expects to acquire the Ronald Wastewater District by 2016, which should result in wastewater review being even better incorporated into the City's development review process." (pg 55) This is not correct. The interlocal agreement expires in 2017.

Recently, the City Manager responded this way to a question regarding the acquisition of RWD: "She was also asked whether the city will eventually take over Ronald Wastewater, and she said that there is an agreement to look into the wisdom of such a plan after 2017."

By the way, let's not wait until 201? to "even better" incorporate wastewater review into the City's development review process. We're open to ideas to improve right now!

Michael

## Agency Response to Comment 1

The commenter was correct in his assertion that the City of Shoreline has previously indicated that it will not consider acquiring the Ronald Wastewater District until after the existing interlocal agreement between the two agencies expires in 2017. As such, the DEIS was factually incorrect. This factual inaccuracy was limited to a brief discussion of potential impacts to utilities in Chapter 7.1.3 (page55) of the DEIS, and is not included anywhere in the proposed action (Town Center Subarea Plan and Development Code).

The City of Shoreline acknowledges the remainder of the comment regarding the potential to improve wastewater review into the City's development review process.

#### 1.4 Factual Corrections to the DEIS

During the course of the June and July 2011 public hearings for the Town Center Subarea proposal, the Draft SEIS was reviewed by members of the City of Shoreline Planning Commission and City Council. As part of their review, two factual inaccuracies were brought to City staff's attention. While these did not occur during the Draft SEIS public comment period, they are noted below.

## Comment 1 (City of Shoreline Deputy Mayor Will Hall)

In a July 1 email, Deputy Mayor Hall asked the following question: "On page 69, Table 8-2, is there a typo in the PM peak LOS for 185<sup>th</sup> and Aurora? Delay goes up, but LOS improves from C to A?"

## City Response to Comment 1

Upon reviewing Table 8-2, City staff identified that there was a typographical error (typo). The level of service (LOS) for the intersection at N 185<sup>th</sup> Street and Aurora Avenue N was listed as LOS A for the Year 2030 projection, but should have been listed as LOS E. However, because LOS E has been deemed an acceptable level of service for the Aurora Avenue Corridor, it does not change the analysis included in the Draft SEIS, which concluded that future traffic levels at the intersection would still be acceptable, and thus would not constitute a significant environmental impact.

# Comment 2 (City of Shoreline Planning Commissioner Donna Moss)

In a conversation with Associate Planner David Levitan, Planning Commissioner Moss noted that while the proposal envisions restaurants and food services as part of the future Town Center Subarea, the King County Greenhouse Gas Emissions Worksheet (Appendix A of the Draft SEIS) prepared for the proposal did not include any square footage under the Food Sales or Food Services land use categories in the worksheet.

## City Response to Comment 2

In response to that comment, the City revised the worksheet so that Food Sales and Food Services accounted for 40,000 sf of the 200,000 sf of commercial, retail, and restaurant uses that would be covered by the Planned Action. Because food service and sales have higher energy and transportation emissions than general retail uses, this resulted in an approximately 2.8% increase in the proposal's greenhouse gas emissions (approximately 45,000 metric tons of carbon equivalents). While an increase, this would not constitute a significant environmental impact beyond that included in the Draft SEIS analysis.

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# Appendix A - Draft SEIS

# **CITY OF SHORELINE**

# **Town Center Subarea Planned Action Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement**



Prepared by: May 2011

City of Shoreline Planning and Development Services 17500 Midvale Avenue N Shoreline, WA 98133

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Distribution List

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V/C Ratio- Volume to Capacity Ratio

WAC- Washington Administrative Code

WSDOT- Washington State Department of Transportation

May 10, 2011

Subject: City of Shoreline Town Center Subarea Plan, Town Center Code, and Planned Action Ordinance

**Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement** 

Dear Reader:

The City of Shoreline invites you to comment on the City of Shoreline Town Center Subarea Plan and Planned Action Ordinance Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Draft SEIS). The Draft SEIS analyzes the environmental impacts of future land use, transportation, and other features in the Town Center Subarea.

Two alternatives are analyzed in the Draft EIS: the Proposed Alternative includes adoption of a Town Center Subarea Plan and associate development regulations (Town Center Code) and the Planned Action Ordinance; and the No Action Alternative, which is a continuation of the City's current Comprehensive Plan and development regulations applicable to the study area without amendment.

The Proposed Alternative would implement development, design, and street standards that have been developed in hopes of establishing a livable and walkable district. Concepts include a primarily form-based code; design review; neighborhood protection measures for adjacent single family neighborhoods; and new street frontage standards to increase pedestrian activity and public gathering and improve pedestrian safety.

The Proposed Alternative also includes adoption of a Planned Action Ordinance. If adopted pursuant to WAC 197-11-164, the Planned Action Ordinance would indicate that the EIS adequately addresses significant impacts of the Proposal, and that future projects consistent with the analyzed projects and parameters of the Planned Action Ordinance (1,200 residential units, 200,000 square feet of office space, and 200,000 square feet of commercial space) would not require future SEPA threshold determinations.

The evaluation of a No Action Alternative is required by SEPA. This alternative assumes that the Town Center Subarea Plan would not be adopted into the Comprehensive Plan, and would not be implemented with new development regulations.

This Draft SEIS identifies specific environmental impacts and ways to mitigate impacts in advance of development. The followed areas are addressed in the Draft SEIS: Land Use and Aesthetics, Air Quality, Parks and Recreation, Cultural and Historic Resources, Utilities, and Transportation.

Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on the Draft SEIS. The City of Shoreline will accept written comments from issuance on May 10, 2011 until 5:00 pm on June 9, 2011. Written or emailed comments may be provided to the Responsible Official as follows:

**Responsible Official**: David Levitan, AICP **Position/Title**: Associate Planner **Phone**: (206) 801-2554 **Email**: dlevitan@shorelinewa.gov

Address: 17500 Midvale Avenue North, Shoreline, WA 98133

Should you require additional information on the Proposal, please contact Paul Cohen, Project Manager at (206) 801-2551 or pcohen@shorelinewa.gov.

# **Fact Sheet**

# **Project Title**

City of Shoreline Town Center Subarea Plan, Development Regulations, and Planned Action Ordinance

#### **Proposed Action**

The proposed action would involve the following:

- Adoption of the Town Center Subarea Plan, which would be incorporated into the City of Shoreline Comprehensive Plan;
- Adoption of the Town Center Code development regulations, which would be incorporated as Chapter 20.92 of the City of Shoreline Municipal Code; and
- Adoption of an ordinance designating the Town Center Subarea as a Planned Action for the purpose of State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) compliance, pursuant to the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 43.21C.031(2)(a) and Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 197-11-164.

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- 200,000 sf of new retail space

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#### No Action Alternative

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Development of this SEIS is subject to the procedures outlined in WAC 197-11-620, in addition to the procedures for Planned Actions outlined in WAC 197-11-164.

#### Location

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City of Shoreline

# **Lead Agency**

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# **Contact Person and Responsible Official**

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# **Required Approvals**

The Proposed Action would require the City of Shoreline City Council to take the following actions:

- Adoption of the Town Center Subarea Plan;
- Adoption of the Town Center Code; and
- Adoption of a Planned Action Ordinance

In addition, the City Council would adopt a separate ordinance approving the Park at Town Center Park Master Plan.

#### **Date of Draft SEIS Issuance**

May 10, 2011

## **Date Comments Due**

June 9, 2011, 5:00 pm

#### **Public Comment**

Written comments can be mailed, faxed, or emailed to the responsible official as follows:

David Levitan, AICP, Associate Planner

Planning and Development Services

City of Shoreline

17500 Midvale Ave North

Shoreline, WA 98133

dlevitan@shorelinewa.gov

Fax: 206-546-8761

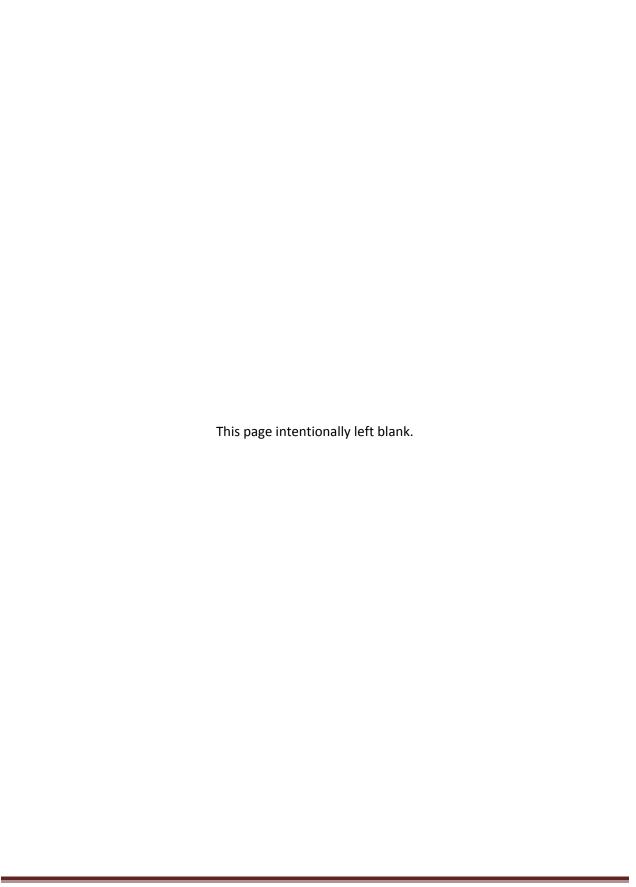
#### **Date of Implementation**

Approval is anticipated by August 2011

# Availability/Purchase of the Draft SEIS

The document is available free of charge on the City of Shoreline's Town Center Subarea Plan website: <a href="http://www.shorelinewa.gov/index.aspx?page=180">http://www.shorelinewa.gov/index.aspx?page=180</a>.

Copies of the Draft SEIS are also available on CD for \$2.00.



# Chapter 1: Summary

#### 1.1 Introduction

This chapter provides a brief summary of information contained in this Planned Action Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS). It provides an overview of the alternatives (Proposed Action and No Action), significant impacts, mitigation measures, and unavoidable adverse impacts that could result from the proposed action. This summary is intended to be brief and selective; the reader should consult individual sections of the SEIS for detailed information concerning environmental impacts and mitigation measures of the alternatives.

#### 1.2 Planned Action Ordinance

#### 1.2.1 Definition of a Planned Action

The City of Shoreline proposes to designate the Town Center Subarea Plan and Code as a "Planned Action", pursuant to the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and as defined under WAC 197-11-164 (under RCW 43.21C.031). The Planned Action process allows agencies to complete comprehensive environmental analysis for certain planned areas, such as subarea plans, during the plan-making process, and eliminates the need for site-specific environmental review for future projects at the time of permit application so long as they fall within the Planned Action boundaries and development parameters.

By law, planned actions must:

- be designated by ordinance;
- be located within an Urban Growth Area;
- be consistent with and implement a comprehensive plan or subarea plan;
- not be an essential public facility; and
- have had all potential significant environmental impacts adequately addressed.

The Planned Action analyzed in this SEIS meets all of these criteria. As such, the environmental review and mitigation measures included in this document cover all future projects that fall within the parameters of the Planned Action, as defined and adopted in the Planned Action Ordinance (see Section 1.2.2).

## 1.2.2 Adoption of the Planned Action Ordinance and Planned Action EIS

According to WAC 197-11-168, the ordinance adopting the planned action shall:

- Describe the types of projects the Planned Action applies to;
- Specifically find that the environmental impacts of the planned action proposal have been identified and adequately addressed in this SEIS; and
- Identify any specific mitigation measures that must be included for the proposal to qualify as a planned action.

As mentioned in the Fact Sheet, this SEIS evaluates the potential environmental impacts that could result from future development projects that are:

- 1) located within the Town Center subarea boundaries;
- consistent with the Town Center Subarea Plan and Town Center Code development regulations; and
- 3) fall within the following development thresholds:
  - a) 1,200 net new residential units
  - b) 200,000 square feet (sf) of net new office space
  - c) 200,000 square sf of net new retail space

When a future development project within the Town Center Subarea is proposed, the City must verify that the proposal is the type of project contemplated in the planned action ordinance, and that the probable adverse environmental impacts of the planned action project have been adequately addressed in this SEIS. If the proposal meets this test, no SEPA threshold determination or further environmental review would be required at the project level. The City may, however, require additional environmental review and mitigation if significant adverse environmental impacts were not adequately addressed in the planned action EIS, or if the proposal does not qualify as a planned action. Should future development in the subarea exceed the development thresholds referenced above, or have potential environmental impacts that the City determines have not been addressed in this document, the City of Shoreline would have the opportunity to complete additional SEPA environmental review, and revise this SEIS and the Planned Action Ordinance.

#### 1.3 Proposed Action and Alternatives

# 1.3.1 Location

The Town Center Subarea Plan area is located approximately 10 miles north of downtown Seattle, and is comprised of 79 acres of land on both sides of State Route 99 (Aurora Avenue North) in Shoreline, WA. The area's southern boundary is North 170<sup>th</sup> Street, and the northern boundary is North 188<sup>th</sup> Street. The western boundary is Linden Avenue North (north of 175<sup>th</sup> Street) and properties fronting on Aurora Avenue N (south of North 175<sup>th</sup> Street), and the eastern boundary is generally Stone Avenue North, except for the areas north of North 185<sup>th</sup> Street and south of North 173<sup>rd</sup> Street, where the eastern boundary is the Seattle City Light (SCL) utility corridor. See Figure 1-1 for specific boundaries.



Figure 1-1: Town Center Boundaries

#### 1.3.2 Proposed Action

As detailed in the Fact Sheet, the proposed action consists of three major elements:

- 1) Adoption of the Town Center Subarea Plan, which would be incorporated into the City of Shoreline Comprehensive Plan.
- 2) Adoption of the Town Center Code development regulations, which would be incorporated as Chapter 20.92 of the City of Shoreline Municipal Code. Development standards that are not addressed in Chapter 20.92 would be supplemented by the development standards in Title 20 of the Shoreline Municipal Code (SMC). In the event of a conflict between standards, the standards of Chapter 20.92 would prevail.
- 3) Adoption of an ordinance designating the Town Center Subarea as a Planned Action for the purpose of SEPA compliance, pursuant to the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 43.21C.031(2)(a) and Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 197-11-164.

Based on City growth targets and projections over the next twenty years (5,000 new housing units and 5,000 new jobs), the City anticipates the Proposed Action could result in the following level of development in the subarea:

- 1,200 net new residential units
- 200,000 sf of net new office space
- 200,000 sf of net new retail space

Environmental analysis in this SEIS is limited to these development parameters. Should future projects in the subarea exceed these levels, additional environmental analysis would be needed, either for the individual project or as an addendum or supplement to this EIS.

#### Town Center Subarea Plan

The Town Center Subarea Plan envisions the Town Center in 2030 as "the vibrant cultural and civic heart of the City with a rich mix of housing and shopping options, thriving businesses, and public spaces for gatherings and events", which "stands out as a unique and inviting regional destination while gracefully fitting in within its surrounding landscape and neighborhoods". The plan envisions green open spaces, enclosed plazas, internal streets and pathways that break up large blocks and make them more walkable, underground and rear parking, storefronts opening onto parks, plazas, and wide sidewalks, and mixed use buildings with ground-floor and corner retail.

The Town Center's focus on walkability and gateway treatments are intended to create a "sense of place" that distinguishes it from other auto-oriented regions in the City and region. Building heights would be expected to range from one to three stories within transition areas adjacent to single-family residential areas along Linden and Stone Avenues N, to four-six story mixed-use structures along Midvale Avenue N and Firlands Way N, and up to six stories along sections of Aurora Avenue N.

How to fully achieve this vision is spelled out in a list of 4 goals and 26 policies that are included in the Town Center Subarea Plan, and are discussed in further detail in Section 2.3.

#### Town Center Code

The Town Center Code has been developed based on the goals and policies included in the Town Center Subarea Plan, with the hopes of developing the "vibrant cultural and civic heart of the City" described above. Further discussion of the Town Center Code is included in Section 2.3. However, some of the major components of the Code include:

- Four distinct zoning districts, with a transition overlay for areas adjacent to single family residential to provide suitable transitions between more and less intense uses;
- An increased emphasis on building form, rather than building use. Building height and setback requirements remain, but residential density requirements (dwelling units per acre) no longer exist;
- No minimum building size;
- A maximum beginning height of 35 feet (stepping up to 70 feet), landscape buffers, and limited vehicular access in residential transition overlays;
- Expanded public space, landscaping, lighting, and street frontage requirements;
- Greater unobstructed sidewalk requirements, including 10 feet for storefront streets ,eight
  feet for green link streets, and seven feet for boulevards streets, all with additional five foot
  amenity zones;
- Requirements for street parking and bulbouts on both sides of storefront and green link streets, for projects located near block ends or pedestrian crossings;
- Sitting walls or benches for storefront streets, to encourage public gathering;
- Limitations on surface parking along street frontages, and the potential for parking reduction through established criteria;
- High visibility corners, with specific development and design standards;
- Lot Through-connection and walkway requirements, to encourage connections to nearby properties, streets, trails, and transit, and between single family neighborhoods and Town Center;
- Building façade, modulation, and articulation design requirements;
- Sign standards that are more appropriate for pedestrian-oriented streets;
- Restoration of the brick road that is currently underneath Firlands Way, if feasible. If not, design a street that slows traffic and improves the pedestrian experience; and
- Design Review to apply design standards to new projects.

While the Plan and Code have goals, policies, and standards for roadway improvements to Midvale Ave N, Firlands Way N, the potential vacation of N.  $182^{nd}$  Street, and the extension of N.  $180^{th}$  Street, the Planned Action does not identify any specific timetable or funding mechanism to achieve these improvements. The cross-sections discussed are currently being incorporated into the City of Shoreline's Transportation Master Plan (TMP) Update, which is anticipated to be completed in late 2011. The TMP, as well as the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP), will help prioritize future projects, and will be influenced by the size and scope of redevelopment projects in the subarea.

#### The Park at Town Center

Consistent with Policy TC-19 of the Town Center Subarea Plan, the City of Shoreline is currently working with the public to develop a new linear, passive recreational and gathering space on either side of the Interurban Trail, known as the Park at Town Center, between approximately N 178<sup>th</sup> Street and N 185<sup>th</sup> Street. Based on public input, three park alternatives have been developed. While this EIS document discusses some of the common themes and characteristics within the Recreation Section, it notes that a project-specific SEPA Checklist will be required once an alternative has been selected. Should an alternative be selected and adopted prior to adoption of the Subarea Plan, the City shall update the Final EIS (FEIS) document to identify the preferred alternative. The Park will also require adoption of a separate ordinance and Park Master Plan.

#### 1.3.3 No Action Alternative

Major features of the No Action Alternative are summarized below:

Land Use: The No Action Alternative would retain the existing Comprehensive Plan and zoning designations for the study area. There are currently a variety of zoning designations in the study area, including Mixed Use Zone (MUZ), Industrial, Community Business, and residential zones that range in density from 6 to 48 units per acre (R-6 to R-48). Maximum building heights range from 30 feet (35 feet with a pitched roof) in the single family residential zones, to 65 feet in the Mixed Use Zone (when incentives such as green building practices, affordable housing, and mixed-use projects are met). There is a minimum building height of 35 feet in the MUZ zone.

Transportation and Streetscape: As mentioned, the Transportation Master Plan for the City of Shoreline is currently being updated. As part of that plan, the City is developing cross-sections for the streets within the subarea. These cross-sections are expected to be the same for both the Proposed and No Action Alternatives as far as number of travel lanes, widths, and bicycle lanes. As such, the look of the streets from "curb to curb" would be expected to be the same in both alternatives. However, the proposed improvements and standards beyond the curbs, such as bulbouts, street parking, and requirements for wider sidewalks and public plazas, would not be part of the No Action Alternative. In addition, streetscape improvements in the study area may be identified as a lower priority under the No Action Alternative, as the Town Center Subarea Plan identifies the City Council's commitment to creating a compact, walkable neighborhood where one currently does not exist.

The Park at Town Center: It is anticipated that the Park at Town Center would develop in a similar manner under the No Action Alternative. The Proposed Action does, however, include more detailed standards and analysis of how to connect the park to the surrounding Town Center area.

## 1.4 Prior Planning and Environmental Review

The City of Shoreline adopted a Comprehensive Plan complying with the Growth Management Act (GMA) in 1998. The Comprehensive Plan is intended to guide growth and development within the City for a twenty year period. As required by the GMA, the Comprehensive Plan is the guiding document for growth and development in the City of Shoreline, and must include the following elements: land use, housing, transportation, capital facilities, and utilities.

The City of Shoreline issued a Draft EIS (DEIS) for the 1998 Comprehensive Plan in November 1997, and adopted the FEIS in November 1998. The EIS identified and documented potential significant adverse environmental impacts and mitigation measures associated with a number of plan alternatives. The supplemental analysis in the Town Center Draft SEIS is based largely on Alternative C/D of the November 1997 Comprehensive Plan DEIS, which was one of three alternatives analyzed. Alternative C/D assumed that most growth in the City of Shoreline would be focused in selected "activity centers" within the City, with the primary area being along the central portion of the Aurora Corridor. The portion of Aurora Ave N between N 175<sup>th</sup> St and N 185<sup>th</sup> St is described as a central business area that "could be redeveloped with a wide variety of commercial uses and intensive residential uses", with higher density housing encouraged one block off Aurora Avenue on both sides (Linden and Midvale Avenues N) between N 175<sup>th</sup> St and N 185<sup>th</sup> St.

In 2001, the City completed the Central Shoreline Subarea Plan Report, which included 5 year and 25 year visions for the Aurora Corridor and included a first draft of potential development standards. This plan included a number of similar goals and policies to the Proposed Action, but was never adopted by the City Council.

In June 2005, the City of Shoreline adopted its state-mandated update to the Comprehensive Plan. As part of the process, the City completed a SEPA Environmental Checklist, and issued a Threshold Determination of Non-Significance (DNS). The City is beginning work on its next Comprehensive plan Update, which is anticipated to be adopted by the City Council by the end of 2012. An EIS will be prepared as part of the 2012 update.

In addition to the 1998 Comprehensive Plan EIS, the Town Center Subarea SEPA Checklist relied heavily on the SEPA Checklist and Technical Discipline Reports prepared for the Aurora Corridor Improvement Project, N 165<sup>th</sup> Street-N 205<sup>th</sup> Street, which was prepared in November 2007 and resulted in the issuance of a DNS on November 21, 2007. The study area for the Aurora Corridor project largely overlapped with the boundaries of Town Center. While focused primarily on the potential environmental impacts that could result from the redevelopment of the Aurora Avenue Corridor, these documents were used to scope this proposal's EIS, and ultimately helped focus the discussion to issues related to land use, aesthetics, transportation, utilities, historic resources, recreation, and air quality.

In 2007, the City Council developed the following policies to establish the framework for development of the land use, capital facility and programmatic aspects of the Town Center Subarea Plan.

- FW-1: Articulate a community vision for the town center as an early step in the development of detailed provisions for the subarea.
- FW-2: Establish a study area boundary to provide context for evaluating the opportunities and potential impacts from future development of commercial and mixed uses along Aurora Ave. N.
- FW-3: Engage Shoreline residents and businesses in detailed design processes for a ) a park site on both sides of the Interurban Trail and b) Midvale Ave N.
- FW-4: Design roadway, transit and pedestrian facilities consistent with the City's preferred "Flexible alternative" for Aurora Avenue between N. 165<sup>th</sup> St. and N. 205<sup>th</sup> St.
- FW-5: Prepare a program of civic directional or 'way finding ' signage and evaluate refinements to city sign regulations to reflect the emerging function and visual character of Aurora Avenue.

## 1.5 Supplemental EIS

As noted, this Supplemental EIS focuses on potential impacts associated with development envisioned in, and consistent with, the Town Center Subarea Plan and Development Code. It supplements the analysis of the 1998 Comprehensive Plan EIS and 2005 Comprehensive Plan Update DNS with more specific analysis of the Town Center. Environmental analysis from the 2007 Aurora Corridor Improvement Project, N 165<sup>th</sup> Street-N 205<sup>th</sup> Street SEPA Checklist and DNS and the 2009 Regional Business SEPA Checklist and DNS were also used to help scope the topics with potential environmental impacts in this document, as the Town Center Subarea largely overlaps with the Aurora Corridor Project and the former RB zoning along Aurora Avenue N.

The 1998 Comprehensive Plan EIS evaluated a number of alternatives for the long range vision of the City, with the eventual adopted alternative (Alternative H) being developed from a combination of elements from a number of different alternatives. As part of the evaluation of alternatives, the City looked at one alternative (Alternative C/D) that sought to accommodate expected future growth along major arterials and transit routes, primarily along Aurora Avenue North, and within the Town Center Subarea.

## 1.6 Summary of Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures

#### Land Use and Aesthetics

## Impacts Common to Both Alternatives

Future commercial and residential redevelopment under either alternative is anticipated to result in slightly taller and denser developments than what currently exist in the Subarea. Although the mass and scale of the discussed redevelopment is already permitted by the current zoning (No Action Alternative) and would be consistent with the proposed Town Center zoning (Proposed Action), redevelopment could result in a change in land use and visual character in the subarea, as compared to the primarily one and two-story strip retail uses in the region. Adjacent single family neighborhoods have expressed concern regarding the potential impacts that could result from increased development in the Town Center Subarea.

# Mitigation Measures Incorporated into the Proposed Action

As detailed in Sections 2.3 and 3.1, the Town Center Code was developed to create a visually appealing, mixed-use center neighborhood within the City of Shoreline, while at the same time protecting adjacent single family residential neighborhoods from any potential impacts that could result from redevelopment in the area. The Town Center Subarea Plan and Development Code include a number of standards and provisions regarding mass, scale, setbacks, site access, and landscaping that were developed to help protect and respect adjacent neighborhoods, and would require administrative design review and traffic studies for most projects. The emphasis on services, public spaces, and walkability will make Town Center accessible for the surrounding single family neighborhoods to use as amenities. In addition, the City held numerous public meetings and workshops over several years to gather input and hear concerns from nearby businesses and residents. As such, adoption of the Town Center Code and Subarea Plan would mitigate any potential adverse impacts related to land use and aesthetics.

#### Mitigation Measures Incorporated into No Action Alternative

Although not as detailed or comprehensive as those included in the Proposed Action, Section 20.50 of the Shoreline Municipal Code provides a number of development and design standards, most notably for the MUZ zone, that were developed to create transitions between the envisioned higher density residential and commercial uses within the Town Center and the adjacent single family neighborhoods. Administrative design review is already required for projects within the MUZ. However, it does not presently include the detailed design standards contained in the proposed Town Center Code. Both the existing zoning and proposed Town Center Code require stepbacks for large buildings adjacent to residential zones. Although to a lesser degree as the Proposed Action, the current code should mitigate any potential adverse impacts.

#### Historic Resources

# Impacts Common to Both Alternatives

There are two properties within the Town Center Subarea that have been determined to have historic significance: the Auto Cabins at 17203 Aurora Avenue N, and the North Trunk (Red Brick) Road. Under either alternative, it is possible that redevelopment activities could result in demolition or alteration of these historic resources. The Auto Cabins are currently owned by a private property owner, while most of the Red Brick Road north of N 175<sup>th</sup> Street is owned by the City of Shoreline.

While the City is not currently aware of any plans to redevelop the Auto Cabins property, the Red Brick Road north of Walgreens is located within the area proposed for the Park at Town Center. The City of Shoreline is currently evaluating three alternatives for the proposed park, and based on public input will make a recommendation to the City Council sometime in Summer 2011. Two of the three park alternatives currently being evaluated- "Shoreline on the Move" and "Shoreline Center Stage"- would result in some alteration to the Red Brick Road.

# Mitigation Measures Common to Both Alternatives

The proposed Park at Town Center will require a project-specific SEPA Checklist. In completing that checklist, the City of Shoreline SEPA Responsible Official has determined that any park alternative that proposes to remove or alter portions of the Red Brick Road will trigger a SEPA Determination of Significance (DS) and preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Development activities that would result in the demolition of alteration of any structure or property listed on the City of Shoreline's Historical Resources Inventory shall be reviewed by City staff, and forwarded on to King County Historic Preservation Program staff for their review and recommendation. Should any structures within the Town Center Subarea be granted historic landmark designation, any alterations shall be subject to review by the King County Heritage and Landmarks Commission and King County Design Review Committee.

#### **Transportation**

## Impacts Common to Both Alternatives

While not projected to exceed accepted level-of-service (LOS) standards, development consistent with the growth assumptions for the Town Center Subarea has the potential to result in additional vehicular traffic that could adversely impact the subarea's street system via cut-through traffic to adjacent neighborhoods.

Projected increases in vehicular traffic, coupled with the increased amount of pedestrian, bicycle, and transit use that typically accompany mixed-use development, has the potential to increase conflicts among the various users of Town Center.

# Impacts for Proposed Action

The Town Center Code proposes to reduce the number of required parking spaces for residential, commercial, and office uses. This has the potential to result in spillover parking into the surrounding single family residential neighborhoods. Upon reducing the parking requirements in the North City Subarea District, the City of Shoreline experienced an increase in service requests and complaints related to spillover parking.

# Mitigation Measures for No Action Alternative

Current Traffic Study Guidelines (SMC 20.60.140) for the City of Shoreline require that any development proposal that would generate 20 or more (net) PM peak hour trips to complete and submit a traffic study. Any large-scale redevelopment project within the Town Center subarea is likely to trigger this requirement.

# Mitigation Measures for Proposed Action

Section 20.92.040 of the Town Center Code requires that all developments shall complete a traffic study and implement mitigation measures to mitigate potential cut-through traffic or parking impacts to single-family neighborhoods. These could include traffic calming measures identified in the various Neighborhood Traffic Action Plans (NTAP's), partial street closures, and other topics addressed in the required traffic study.

Should spillover parking continue to be a problem following implementation of traffic calming measures, surrounding neighborhoods may pursue the City's Residential Parking Zone (RPZ) program, which requires permits to park in certain areas of the City. The RPZ program has identified proximity to a business district as an appropriate reason for implementing permit parking.

With implementation of the above mitigation measures, the Town Center Subarea project would not be expected to result in any significant and unavoidable adverse impacts.

# Chapter 2: Description of the Alternatives

#### 2.1 Introduction

Two alternatives have been identified and will be evaluated in this Draft SEIS. The first alternative is the Proposed Action, and involves adoption of the Town Center Subarea Plan and Development Code (SMC Chapter 20.92), as detailed in Chapter 1.3.2. The second alternative is the No Action Alternative, and involves maintaining the existing zoning and Comprehensive Plan land use designation and development regulations for Town Center area, as detailed in Chapter 1.3.3.

This chapter will provide an overview and history of the Town Center Subarea Plan and Town Center Code, and include details on how the Proposed Action differs from the No Action Alternative. Readers will notice that the growth target and traffic assumptions, as well as the street cross-sections, are the same for both alternatives. This is because both alternatives are based on the City's Transportation Master Plan (TMP) Preferred Alternative (further analysis and discussion is included in Chapters 3 and 8). The primary differences between the two alternatives will be in the design and development standards and requirements used to guide future development in the subarea, and the adopted Comprehensive Plan goals and policies in place to support these standards.

## 2.2 Project History and Background

Developing a Town Center has been a perennial topic for the City of Shoreline since before its incorporation in 1995. In 1996, the City Council identified the Town Center Subarea as a commercial and civic center in their Visioning Map. In 1998, the community identified the general area around N 175<sup>th</sup> Street and Aurora Avenue N as the "Heart of Shoreline". In 2003, the Planning Commission recommended a report supporting a plan for Central Shoreline. In 2007, the City Council approved 13 Strategic Points to service as a guide for development and improvements in Town Center until a plan (part of the Proposed Action) was adopted. Later in 2007, the City Council adopted Phase 1 of the Town Center Plan, which replaced the 13 strategic points with 5 Town Center framework goals for the Comprehensive Plan (discussed in Chapter 1 of this SEIS).

The City Council identified community input as an integral part of any plan for the Town Center Subarea, and directed staff to hold a number of meetings and workshops so that residents and businesses could provide their input. Between 2008 and 2010, the City held one design workshop, three city-wide meetings, two surveys (with 245 respondents each), a walking tour, four meetings with the adjoining neighborhoods, two meetings with Stone and Linden Avenue neighbors, and a speaker series on related planning topics, and invited two planning classes from the University of Washington to study Town Center, and shared the results with the public. In addition, the City met with representatives of Forward Shoreline, Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development

Committee, car dealerships, Top Foods, Fred Meyer, Aurora Rents, Ronald Methodist Church, Shoreline School District, Highland Ice Arena, and Interurban Building.

## 2.3 Action Alternative (Proposed Action)

#### Town Center Subarea Plan

As discussed in Section 1.3.2, the Town Center Subarea Plan Vision Statement envisions the Town Center in 2030 as "the vibrant cultural and civic heart of the City with a rich mix of housing and shopping options, thriving businesses, and public spaces for gatherings and events", which "stands out as a unique and inviting regional destination while gracefully fitting in within its surrounding landscape and neighborhoods". The plan envisions green open spaces, enclosed plazas, internal streets and pathways that break up large blocks and make them more walkable, underground and rear parking, storefronts opening onto parks, plazas, and wide sidewalks, and mixed use buildings with ground-floor and corner retail.

Building heights would be expected to range from one to three stories within transition areas adjacent to single-family residential areas along Linden and Stone Avenues N; four and five story mixed-used structures along Midvale Avenue N and Firlands Way N; and up to six stories along sections of Aurora Avenue N. To create a better pedestrian environment, buildings along streets such as Firlands Way N and Midvale Ave N would be located at the back of sidewalk, bringing storefronts closer to the street and resulting in a more vibrant business and street environment.

A major focus of the Vision Statement is the creation and expansion of pedestrian, bicycle, and transit connections to the surrounding neighborhoods and region, reducing the dependence on automobiles and making the area accessible to users of all transportation modalities. The Plan also emphasizes the importance of energy efficiency and implementing natural stormwater solutions. Such efforts are seen as a large part of the City's commitment to the three E's of sustainability-environmental quality, economic vitality and social equity.

How to achieve this vision is spelled out in a list of 4 goals and 26 policies that are included in the Town Center Subarea Plan. A few of the major goals and policies of the plan include:

- An urban form, mix of land uses (commercial, residential, and civic), and walkability that
  distinguishes it from more commercially dominated and auto-oriented portions of the
  Aurora Corridor and allows residents to work, shop, and eat near where they live, with a
  hierarchy of Boulevard, Storefront, and Greenlink streets to serve different mobility and
  access roles within Town Center.
- Gateway treatments, such as signs and landscaping, that announce one's arrival to Town
   Center, as well as directional wayfinding signage to help residents and visitors navigate the area;

- Encourage the removal of the partial intersection at N 182<sup>nd</sup> St and Aurora Ave N, and its replacement with a fully signalized mid-block intersection at N 180<sup>th</sup> St, should redevelopment of adjacent parcels allow it;
- Reconfigure Midvale Avenue N (between N. 175<sup>th</sup> St and N 182<sup>nd</sup> St) and Firlands Way N as low speed, pedestrian friendly lanes with back in angle parking and wide sidewalks to support mixed use development and a vibrant streetscape;
- Develop the Park at Town Center as a passive open space for public gathering, celebrations, and link it to the City Hall Civic Center;
- Encourage structured parking and minimize surface parking;
- Recognize the importance of historic preservation, education, and interpretation;
- Develop a form-based development code; and
- Adopt Town Center design standards and design review procedures.

#### Town Center Code

The Town Center Code has been developed based on the goals and policies included in the Town Center Subarea Plan, with the hopes of developing the "vibrant cultural and civic heart of the City" described above. Some of the major components of the Code, which are also discussed in Section 1.3.2, include:

- Four distinct zoning districts, including a specific medium density district along Stone Avenue N and a transition overlay for all other areas adjacent to single family residential, created to provide suitable transitions between more and less intense uses. The maximum height in these areas begins at 35 feet, which is the same as the existing Zoning Code;
- An increased emphasis on building form, rather than building use. Building height and setback requirements remain, but residential density requirements no longer exist.
- Expanded public space, landscaping, lighting, and street frontage requirements;
- Greater unobstructed sidewalk requirements, including 10 feet for storefront streets ,eight
  feet for green link streets, and seven feet four boulevards streets, all with additional five
  foot amenity zones;
- Requirements for street parking and bulbouts on both sides of storefront and green link street for projects located near block ends or pedestrian crossings;
- Sitting walls or benches for storefront streets, to encourage public gathering;
- Limitations on surface parking along street frontages, and the potential for parking reductions through established criteria;
- High visibility corners, with specific development and design standards;
- Lot Through-connection and walkway requirements, to encourage pedestrian connections between single family neighborhoods and Town Center;
- Building façade, modulation, and articulation design requirements;
- Restoration of the brick road that is currently underneath Firlands Way N, if feasible. If not, design a street that slows traffic and improves the pedestrian experience; and
- Design Review.

The Town Center Code has been developed to focus more on regulating the form and character of development, and less on land uses and densities. As such, it does not included the lengthy uses tables that are found in most conventional zoning codes, and instead identifies a short list of permitted and prohibited uses. The first part of the Town Center Code (Sections 20.92.020 and 20.92.030) addresses the purpose, land uses and dimensional standards that would be permitted within the subarea. Administrative Design Review would be required for any permit involving the construction of a new building or addition equaling at least 10,000 square feet in floor area.

While permitted uses are largely based on form, the Town Center Code recognizes that areas along Aurora Avenue N should not look exactly the same as those adjacent to single family residential neighborhoods on Stone or Linden Avenues. As a result, the zoning has been divided into the following four districts (Figure 2-1) to further distinguish their land uses, development dimensions, and design standards.

- TC-1 Aurora Southwest The most permissive of the four districts, this district allows the same uses, and has the same development standards, as the TC-2 district (discussed below), as well as being the only district where vehicle sales, leasing, and servicing are permitted.
- TC-2 Aurora With frontage on Aurora, 175<sup>th</sup>, and 185<sup>th</sup>, this district emphasizes commercial development, with some residential uses and pedestrian activity internal to the blocks that front primarily along Boulevard streets (such as parcels that extend from Aurora through to Linden). The maximum building height is 70 feet, with 0' front, side, and rear yard setbacks allowed for properties adjacent to nonresidential zones, and 15' side and rear yard setbacks required from residential zones.
- TC-3 Firlands/Midvale This district emphasizes residential development, with some commercial development and pedestrian activity envisioned, primarily along Storefront Streets (those streets with building frontages at the back of sidewalk; see Chapter 8.1.1).
   The maximum building height and setbacks are the same as for the TC-1 and TC-2 districts.
- TC-4 Stone Avenue This district focuses on medium density residential development as a
  means to protect adjacent single family residential neighborhoods. As such, there is a 15'
  front yard setback, and 5' side and rear yard setbacks from both residential and
  nonresidential zones, and a maximum building height of 35' (the same as permitted under
  existing single family residential zoning).
- Transition Overlay This overlay adds building height restrictions and landscape screening between the Town Center and adjacent single family neighborhoods. The overlay is aimed primarily at providing an adequate transition and buffer between the Town Center and surrounding single family neighborhoods, and as such requires 20' side and rear yard setbacks for parcels adjacent to low density residential zones (R-4 and R-6), and 15' setbacks from medium and high density residential zones (R-8 through R-48).

A further discussion of building height, most notably height step-back requirements, is included under the Neighborhood Protection section.

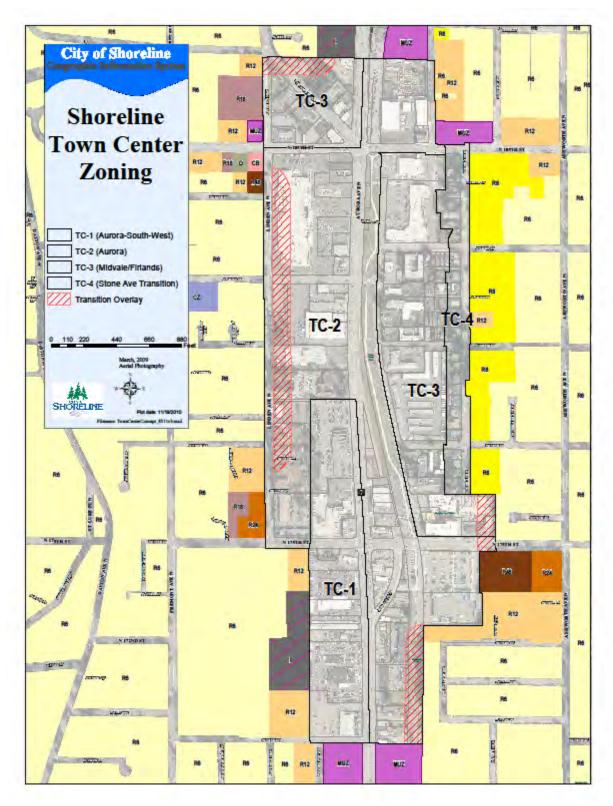


Figure 2-1: Proposed Town Center Zoning

The initial discussion of use and dimensional standards for the Town Center is followed by Section 20.92.030, which outlines proposed street types and pedestrian circulation. Figure 2-2 illustrates the three types of streets in the Town Center Subarea, with further discussion of street frontage design standards included in Section 20.92.050. As noted, Through Connections are shown as conceptual locations, with location and connection type (such as those allowing vehicles, versus a strictly pedestrian/bicycle path) dictated by the design and redevelopment of individual projects and sites.

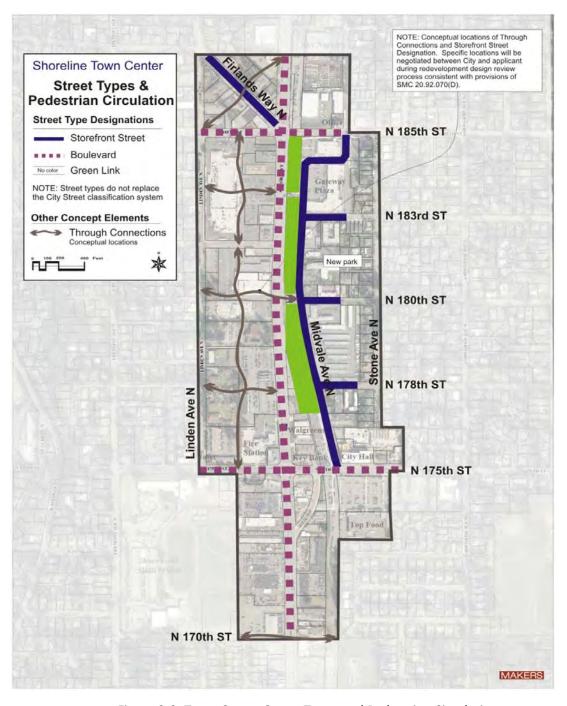


Figure 2-2: Town Center Street Types and Pedestrian Circulation

The next sections (20.92.040-20.92.080) of the Town Center Code are the design standards, which are articulated into five connecting elements that work together in order to build Town Center into a continuous, well-functioned, and attractive district.

- 1) Neighborhood Protection Design— This element focuses on establishing visual and traffic impact mitigation measures for adjacent single family neighborhoods while providing access to amenities in the Town Center. For example, the maximum building height is 35 feet in all districts for the first 50 horizontal feet from the property line, with an additional 10 feet in height allowed for each subsequent 20 feet from the property line. To further buffer the potential visual impacts of future development, buildings in Districts TC-2 and TC-3 that are adjacent to single family residential (R-4 and R-6) zones will be required to provide a 15-foot wide, Type I landscape with an 8-foot solid fence or wall. In regards to traffic, this element requires the preparation of traffic impact studies that analyze cut-through traffic and parking impacts for all development in the Town Center, and prohibits direct commercial truck access from Stone or Linden Avenue N, unless no other access is available.
- 2) Street Frontage Design This element establishes dimensional and design standards for streets (including on-street parking and street trees), sidewalks, lighting, utilities, and way-finding signs that are appropriate to different modes of transportation (including pedestrian) and respectful of adjoining land uses. Given their focus on pedestrian activity, Storefront Streets (Firlands and Midvale) have the widest sidewalk dimensions (10 feet), and also require all developments to provide a minimum of 8 feet of bench or sitting wall. Onstreet parking is required unless adequate right-of-way is not available, and bulbouts are implemented as traffic calming devices at block ends and pedestrian crossings so as to improve pedestrian safety and the overall pedestrian environment.
- 3) Site Design This element is designed to complement the streetscape and connect activity from the public street/sidewalk internal to sites, creating sites that promote and enhance public walking and gathering and provide safe routes for pedestrians and disabled people across parking lots, to building entries, and between buildings. While standards vary depending on the street type- Boulevard Streets may use either Storefront or Greenlink Street (streets with landscaped building setbacks) standards, or a combination of the two-topics addressed include building location (relative to the property line), required transparent window areas, weather protection, permitted size and location of surface parking lots (not allowed on street corners or between right-of-way and building fronts), parking standards, and public and open space requirements.

Additional design treatment standards are established for street corner sites, such as beveled building corners, distinctive facades, balconies, or artwork. Consistent with the goals of creating an attractive and safe pedestrian environment, internal walkways that connect building entries, public places, and parking areas with the adjacent sidewalks and the Interurban Trail are required for all sites. Public places are required on all parcels greater than ½ acre, with additional standards for parcels greater than 5 acres. Parking

- requirements have been reduced, with additional reductions of up to 50% possible depending on proximity to transit, on-street parking, and shared parking agreements.
- 4) Building Design This element seeks to contribute to a more accessible, distinctive, and attractive neighborhood by requiring the use of architectural elements such as façade articulation, roofline modulation, building offsets, and distinctive windows and materials. Requirements vary slightly based on the type of street the building is fronting on, but in all cases aim to reduce the apparent scale of buildings (and their potential aesthetic impact on surrounding neighborhoods) and add visual interest to the Town Center.
- 5) Signage While signage can complement the built environment and increase visibility for businesses, this element establishes standards to ensure that signs are of an appropriate size, scale, character, and material to be compatible with future development in the Town Center. Topics such as illumination, materials, and sign type (monument, building-mounted, projecting, under-awning, window, etc) are discussed, with additional requirements for the Transition Overlay and TC-4 districts.

#### Potential Street Improvements

While the Plan and Code have goals, policies, and standards for roadway improvements to Midvale Ave N, Firlands Way N, the vacation of N. 182<sup>nd</sup> Street, and the extension of N. 180<sup>th</sup> Street, the Planned Action does not identify any specific timetable or funding mechanism to achieve these improvements. The cross-sections discussed are currently being incorporated into the City of Shoreline's TMP Update, which is anticipated to be completed in late 2011. The TMP, as well as the City's Capital Improvement (CIP), will help prioritize future projects, and will be heavily influenced by the size and scope of redevelopment projects in the subarea.

# 2.4 No Action Alternative

As discussed in Section 1.3.3, the No Action Alternative would retain the existing Comprehensive Plan and zoning designations for the study area. As can be seen in Figure 2-3, there are currently a variety of zoning designations in the study area, including Mixed Use Zone (MUZ), Industrial, Community Business, and residential zones that range in density from 6 to 48 units per acre (R-6 to R-48). Maximum building heights range from 30 feet (35 feet with a pitched roof) in the single family residential zones, to 65 feet in the Mixed Use Zone (when incentives such as green building practices, affordable housing, and mixed-use projects are met). There is a minimum building height of 35 feet in the MUZ zone. Landscaping, parking, lighting, and open space requirements vary based on the zone, but are not as strict or specific as those in the Proposed Action.

As mentioned, the TMP for the City of Shoreline is currently being updated. As part of that plan, the City is developing cross-sections for the streets within the subarea. These cross-sections are expected to be the same for both the Proposed and No Action Alternatives as far as number of travel lanes, widths, and bicycle lanes. As such, the look of the streets from "curb to curb" would be

expected to be the same in both alternatives. However, the proposed improvements and standards beyond the curbs, such as bulbouts, street parking, and requirements for wider sidewalks and public plazas, would not be part of the No Action Alternative. In addition, streetscape improvements in the study area may be identified as a lower priority under the No Action Alternative, as the Town Center Subarea Plan identifies the City Council's commitment to creating a compact, walkable neighborhood where one currently does not exist.

MUZ zoning currently occupies the majority of the proposed Town Center Subarea. Development in the MUZ is subject to the standards and provisions in SMC 20.50.021, which were largely developed to mitigate the potential aesthetic impacts that large projects could have on adjacent single family residential neighborhoods, but with less detail and specificity than the Proposed Town Center Code.

## Requirements in the MUZ include:

- Administrative design review for all developments;
- Provision of public gathering spaces at a rate of 1,000 square feet per acre;
- Phased maximum building heights, densities, and floor area ratios (FAR's), which start at 35 feet and 48 units/acre for residential-only buildings and 45 feet, 70 units/acre, and a FAR of 2.0 for commercial buildings, and can reach a maximum of 65 feet, 150 units/acre, and a FAR of 3.6 if incentives such as affordable housing, green building standards, and holding a neighborhood meeting are met; and
- Step-back requirements for projects adjacent to parcel zoned R-4 through R-12 (low and medium residential), with maximum building heights in the first 100 feet from the property limited to 45 feet and maximum building heights of 55 feet within 101-200 feet of the property line.

## General Comparison of the Alternatives

In general, the Proposed Action has the potential to result in slightly higher residential densities than the No Action Alternative, as the maximum building height in Town Center Districts TC-1 through TC-3 is slightly higher than the MUZ (and does not rely on incentives to get to the maximum building height), the Proposed Action does not require any setbacks from nonresidential zones, and the stepback requirements are limited to 110 feet in the Proposed Action, as opposed to 200 feet under the current MUZ zoning. However, given the similar types of uses allowed under either alternative, the levels of development would be expected to be fairly similar, which was the rationale for using the same growth and traffic assumptions for both alternatives. As stated at the beginning of this chapter, the primary differences between the alternatives would be expected in the visual character, sense of place, and walkability of the area.

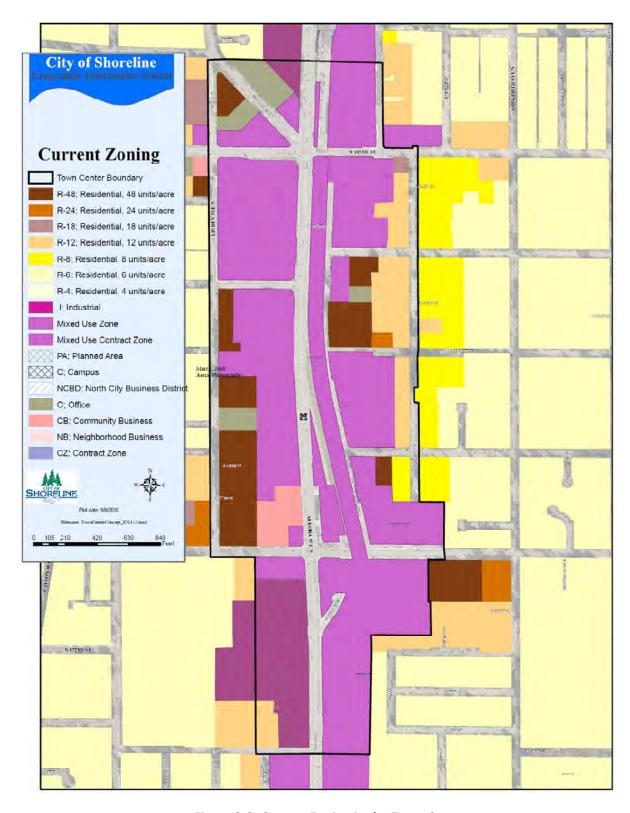


Figure 2-3: Current Zoning in the Town Center

# Chapter 3: Land Use and Aesthetics

#### 3.1 Affected Environment

## 3.1.1 Current Conditions and Existing Zoning (No Action Alternative)

As a first-tier residential suburb of Seattle that largely developed in its current form in the 1950's and 1960's, Shoreline has historically been a bedroom community, with corridors of auto-oriented strip mall development. The Town Center Subarea largely meets this description, with a mix of primarily one and two-story strip mall and big box retail, office, commercial, residential, and automobile sales uses along Aurora Avenue, and multi-family residential units along portions of Linden Avenue N, Midvale Avenue N, and N 178<sup>th</sup>, N 180<sup>th</sup>, and N 183<sup>rd</sup> Streets. The Town Center is also home to a number of local and municipal government uses, including the new four-story Shoreline City Hall at the NE corner of N 175<sup>th</sup> Street and Midvale Avenue N, Shoreline Fire Department Headquarters on the northwest corner of Aurora Avenue N and N 175<sup>th</sup> Street, and Shoreline Police Headquarters at the NE corner of N 185<sup>th</sup> Street and Midvale Avenue N.

Commercially zoned parcels along Aurora Avenue N and Midvale Avenue N are generally fairly shallow, and transition quickly to single family residential neighborhoods just beyond the subarea boundaries, along the east side of Stone Avenue, the west side of Linden Avenue, and to the north of Firlands Way N and N 188<sup>th</sup> Street. Figure 2-3 (in Chapter 2) illustrates the existing zoning in the Town Center Subarea. The majority of the subarea, and almost all parcels along Aurora Avenue N, Midvale Ave N, N 175<sup>th</sup> Street, and N 185<sup>th</sup> Street, is zoned Mixed Use Zone (MUZ). Office and R-48 (the City's highest density residential zoning, at 48 units/acre) zoning exists along portions of Linden Avenue N, Firlands Way N, and Midvale Avenue N, with R-12 and R-8 zoning located along Stone Avenue N, the subarea's eastern edge.

Development standards for the existing zoning in the area can be found in Chapter 20.50 of the Shoreline Municipal Code (SMC). Residential development standards for the subarea's existing zoning can be seen in Table 3-1. Development along Stone Avenue N (areas zoned R-8 and R-12) is limited to 35 feet in height, with 10' front yard setbacks and 5' rear and side yard setbacks. Residential development within the Office zone is also limited to 35 feet in height (and 24 units/acre), which can be increased to 50 feet for mixed-use projects if the additional story is stepped back at least eight feet. Residential development in the Community Business and Industrial zones (present in a few parcels just north and south of N 175<sup>th</sup> Street on the west side of Aurora) can be as high as six stories (60-65 feet), with increased setback requirements for properties adjacent to residential zones. Multi-family residential developments are also required to provide on-site open space, at the rate of 170 sf per 3BR+ unit, 130 sf per 2BR unit, and 100 sf per studio/1BR unit.

STANDARDS	R-4	R-6	R-8	R-12	R-18	R-24	R-48	NB/O	СВ	MUZ/ Industrial
Base Density: Dwelling Units/Acre	4 du/ac	6 du/ac	8 du/ac	12 du/ac	18 du/ac	24 du/ac	48 du/ac	24 du/ac	48 du/ac	See SMC 20.50.021
Min. Front Yard Setback (2) (3)	20 ft	20 ft	10 ft	10 ft	10 ft	10 ft	10 ft	10 ft	10 ft	10 ft
Min. Rear Yard Setback (2) (4) (5)	15 ft	15 ft	5 ft	5 ft	5 ft	5 ft	5 ft	10 ft from residential, 15 ft from non- residential	10 ft from residential, 15 ft from non- residential	15 ft from residential, 15 ft from non- residential
Min. Side Yard Setback (2) (4) (5)	5 ft min. and 15 ft total sum of two	5 ft min. and 15 ft total sum of two	5 ft	5 ft	5 ft	5 ft	5 ft	5 ft from residential, 10 ft from non- residential	5 ft from residential, 10 ft from non- residential	5 ft from residential, 15 ft from non- residential
Base Height (9)	30 ft (35 ft with pitched roof)	30 ft (35 ft with pitched roof)	35 ft	35 ft	35 ft (40 ft with pitched roof)	35 ft (40 ft with pitched roof)	35 ft (40 ft with pitched roof) (8)	35 ft (50 ft with mixed-use project)	60 ft	65 ft (See SMC 20.50.021
Max. Hardscape (2) (6)	45%	50%	65%	75%	85%	85%	90%	85%	85%	95%

Table 3-1: Residential Development Standards under Existing Zoning

SMC 20.50.230 details the development standards for commercial (non-residential) development under the existing zoning in the subarea; a summary is included in Table 3-2. In general, the front yard setback is 10 feet (which must be fully landscaped for residential projects), which can be reduced to zero feet for commercial projects if adequate street improvements have been made or are available (within the Town Center Subarea, all properties along Aurora Avenue N, N 175<sup>th</sup> Street, and N 185<sup>th</sup> Street would be eligible for zero lot lines due to the recent Aurora Corridor Improvement Project). The base heights are the same as for residential development within these zones, with the same stepback and transition area requirements as for residential development (discussed in further detail on the next page). Side and rear yard setbacks are not required for parcels adjacent to other commercially zoned parcels, but require 10-15 foot setbacks for those areas adjacent to areas zoned R-8 to R-48 (such as Stone and Linden Avenues N). SMC Chapters 20.50.120 through 20.50.280 also includes requirements for parking, landscaping, and building design, articulation and modulation, which are discussed below, which have been incorporated and expanded in the Town Center Code.

STANDARDS	Neighborhood Business (NB) and Office (O) Zones	Community Business (CB)	Mixed-Use (MUZ) and Industrial (I) Zones
Min. Front Yard Setback (Street) (1) (2)	10 ft	10 ft	10 ft
Min. Side and Rear Yard (Interior) Setback from NB, O, CB, MUZ, and I Zones (2)	0 ft	0 ft	0 ft
Min. Side and Rear Yard (Interior) Setback from R-4 and R-6 (2)	20 ft	20 ft	20 ft
Min. Side and Rear Yard (Interior) Setback from R-8 through R-48 (2)	10 ft	10 ft	15 ft
Base Height (6)	35 ft (3)	60 ft	65 ft (4) (5)
Max. Impervious Surface	85%	85%	90%

Table 3-2: Commercial Development Standards under Existing Zoning

As discussed in Section 2.4, development in the MUZ is subject to the standards and provisions in SMC 20.50.021. Requirements in the MUZ include:

- Administrative design review for all developments;
- Provision of public gathering spaces at a rate of 1,000 square feet per acre;
- Phased maximum building heights, densities, and floor area ratios (FAR's), which start at 35 feet and 48 units/acre for residential-only buildings and 45 feet, 70 units/acre, and a FAR of 2.0 for commercial buildings, and can reach a maximum of 65 feet, 150 units/acre, and a FAR of 3.6 if incentives such as affordable housing, green building standards, and holding a neighborhood meeting are met; and
- Step-back requirements for projects adjacent to parcels zoned R-4 through R-12 (low and medium residential), with maximum building heights in the first 100 feet from the property limited to 45 feet and maximum building heights of 55 feet within 101-200 feet of the property line.

#### Permitted Uses

Chapter 20.40.110 of the SMC includes a detailed list of permitted and prohibited uses under current zoning. Uses are listed as permitted, conditionally permitted, or subject to a Special Use Permit, with blank boxes representing prohibited uses. Certain uses are required to meet Supplemental Criteria before they can be approved, with the criteria established in SMC 20.40.200 through 20.40.610. For those uses and businesses not specifically covered in the use tables, a Code Interpretation can be made by the Department Director to determine whether said use is permitted.

## 3.1.2 Proposed Town Center Subarea Plan and Town Center Code (Proposed Action Alternative)

## Town Center Subarea Plan

The Town Center Subarea Plan develops a vision of what the subarea may look like over the next twenty years, providing a list of goals and policies to help achieve this vision. Among others, Goal TC-2 calls for the creation of a Town Center that is "complete, compact and connected to its neighborhoods and the region", while Goal TC-3 proposes to "create a 'sense of place' in Town Center that provides a focal point for Shoreline's civic life and community-wide identity".

These goals are supported by policies such as Policy TC-1, which calls for a safe, attractive, and walkable Town Center that links mixed use, mid-rise buildings, a broad range of housing choices, major civic amenities, public gathering places and bus rapid transit service, and Policy TC-5, which encourages additional retail, service, grocery, and restaurant uses to serve people who live or work in Town Center or within walking distance of it. However, while encouraging growth in the subarea, a major focus of the Plan (and Town Center Code, discussed below) is protecting nearby single family neighborhoods. For example, Policy TC-16 seeks to protect adjacent residential areas from impacts generated by developments in Town Center by establishing a medium density buffer of townhomes and similar density residential uses between the commercial uses in Town Center and the single family neighborhoods east of Midvale and limit lighting, signage and noise impacts. The policy also calls for orienting commercial uses west of Aurora so that they have primary access and impacts oriented toward Aurora, rather than to the neighborhood west of Linden.

## **Town Center Code**

The Town Center Code was developed to implement the goals and policies of the Town Center Subarea Plan. As detailed in Section 2.3, The Town Center Code's intent is to focus more on regulating the form and character of development, and less on establishing specific land uses and densities. However, given the City's vision of creating a compact, pedestrian and bicycle-friendly, mixed-use environment within the Town Center, there are several uses outlined in Table 3-3 that would be prohibited in some or all districts of Town Center, many of which are permitted (either outright, conditionally, or subject to supplemental criteria) under existing zoning.

The proposed Town Center Land Use Chart is tiered, with the highest number of prohibited uses existing in the TC-4 Zone (adjacent to single-family neighborhoods along Stone Avenue N), and the least restrictions in the TC-1 and TC-2 zones (those areas along Aurora Avenue N). Examples of types of uses that would be prohibited within the entire Town Center are Heavy Equipment and Truck Repair, Shipping Containers, Trucking and Courier Services, Warehousing and Wholesale Trade, Adult Use Facilities, Gambling Uses, Transfer Stations, and Bus Bases. The Town Center Code provides additional discretion to the City's Planning Director to make decisions as to whether certain uses are permitted.

General Land Use	Specific uses	TC-1	TC-2	TC-3	TC-4
Category	listed in Table	Aurora SW	Aurora	Midvale /Firlands	Stone Ave Residential
Detached Single Family	20.40.120				
Duplex, Apt, Single Family Attached	20.40.120				
Group Residences	20.40.120				
Lodging	20.40.120		en US	ES	
Health Facility	20.40.140	PER	MITTED US	,	
Government Facility	20.40.140				
Automotive fueling and service Stations	20.40.130				
Retail, Eating, and Drinking	20.40.130				
Personal and Business Services	20.40.130				
Vehicle Sales, Leasing, and Service(2)	20.40.130				
Gambling Uses					
Wrecking Yards		OHIBITED	USES		
Industrial Uses	PK	WHIP!			
Adult Use Facility					

Table 3-3: Town Center Land Use Chart

Figure 2-1 in Chapter 2 illustrated the proposed zoning designations for the Town Center. As discussed in Section 20.92.020, the four zoning districts and one transition overlay district would include:

TC-1: Located along the west side of Aurora between N 170<sup>th</sup> and N 179<sup>th</sup>, this zone would allow for the widest range of uses. All uses in TC-2 and TC-3 would be allowed, as well as allowing vehicle sales, leasing, and servicing.

TC-2: Covering the remainder of properties fronting on Aurora Avenue, N. 175<sup>th</sup> and N. 185<sup>th</sup> streets and provides a broad range of uses and development potential with pedestrian activity primarily internal to the sites. The uses are generally similar to what currently exists under MUZ and Industrial zoning, while prohibiting gambling establishments, wrecking yards, industrial uses, and adult use facilities.

TC-3: This zone is primarily for properties along Midvale and Firlands and allows a wide range of uses (the same as TC-2), with an increased focus on pedestrian activity, primarily along Storefront Street (see Figure 2-2) frontages.

TC-4: This zone is oriented around Stone Avenue and limits the residential heights, uses and vehicle circulation to protect the adjacent single family neighborhoods. Uses are limited to attached and detached single-family, duplex, apartment, and group residential uses, similar to the R-8 and R-12 zoning that currently exists in much of this area.

Transition Overlay: This overlay provides a transition from higher intensity development to lower intensity uses and protects adjoining single family neighborhoods that are not adjacent to TC-4 zoning (notably along Linden, north of Firlands, and in the SE portion of the subarea) from taller building heights, traffic, and inappropriate land uses.

As stated, because the Town Center Code is focused more on form than on use, the list of permitted uses does not vary significantly from those permitted under the existing Development Code. Along these lines, the Town Center Development Standards (Table 3-4) are the same for residential and non-residential development.

In most instances, the new development standards for the TC-1 through TC-3 districts are quite similar to the standards for properties that are currently zoned MUZ, the zoning designation which constitutes the majority of the parcels located in these three zoning districts. There are properties currently zoned R-48 and Office that would be rezoned to TC-2 or TC-3, and as such could result in slightly higher building heights. However, these properties are either located away from single family residences (those fronting along Midvale Avenue N), or, as discussed above, have transition overlay districts with height and stepback requirements that have been designed to help protect adjacent single family neighborhoods.

	TC-1 Aurora SW	TC-2 Aurora	TC-3 Midvale/ Firlands	TC-4 Stone Ave Res	Transition Overlay
Minimum Front Yard Setback (1)(2)(3)	0-10 ft (6)	0-10 ft	0-10 ft	15 ft	15 ft
Minimum Side Yard Setback from Nonresidential Zones (4)	0 ft	0 ft	0 ft	5 ft (5)	5 ft (5)
Minimum Rear Yard Setback from Nonresidential Zones	0 ft	0 ft	0 ft	5 ft	0 ft
Minimum Side & Rear Yard (Interior) Setback from R-4 & R-6	15 ft	15 ft	15 ft	5ft	20ft
Minimum Side & Rear Yard Set- back from R-8 through R-48 and TC-4	15 ft	15 ft	15 ft	5 ft	15 ft
Maximum Height (5) Maximum Hardscape Area	70 ft 95%	70 ft 95%	70 ft 95%	35 ft 75%	35 ft 75%

Table 3-4: Proposed Town Center Development Standards

## Exceptions to Table 3-4

- (1) Unenclosed porches and covered entry features may project into the front yard setback by up to 6 feet. Balconies may project into the front yard setback by up to 2 feet.
- (2) Additional building setbacks may be required to provide right-of-way and utility improvements.
- (3) Front yard setbacks are based on the applicable street designation. See figure 20.92.020 for the street designation and SMC 20.92.070(B) for applicable front yard setback provisions.
- (4) These may be modified to allow zero lot line developments for internal lot lines only.
- (5) See section 20.92.050.C for height step-back standards.
- (6) Front yards may be used for outdoor display of vehicles to be sold or leased in the TC-1 zone.

As was discussed in detail in Chapter 2.3, the Town Center Subarea Plan is focused on creating an attractive, unique, and compact mixed-use center, which also respects and protects the surrounding single family neighborhoods. Chapter 2.3 provided a discussion of the Town Center Code, which is divided into seven different sections (proposed SMC Sections 20.92.020 through 20.92.080) that seek to create a set of comprehensive design principles that help achieve the Subarea Plan vision.

While the discussion of the various development standards in the Town Center Code (detailed in Chapter 2.3) provides an introduction to some of the design and development concepts envisioned for Town Center, pictures are typically more helpful in establishing what that vision actually looks and feels like. As such, the Town Center Code includes a number of pictures and plans to illustrate appropriate design and articulation treatments (including building articulation and modulation and window design), parking lot locations and configurations, through-connections and walkways, signage, landscaping, and public and open spaces.

To help further illustrate what future projects that implement the design and development standards in the Town Center Code may look like, and their potential impacts on and benefits to the existing character and streetscape of the Town Center, the City of Shoreline has created Google Sketchup models that illustrate renderings of potential redevelopment projects for two groups of parcels within the Town Center. It is important to note that these parcels do not have any pending or immediate plans for redevelopment, and the property owners have not been approached by the City. Instead, the two sites were selected based on a variety of characteristics, including:

- Size: the two sites represent many of the larger parcels in the subarea, which allow for larger project examples and the incorporation of more Code elements;
- Street Frontage: both demonstration projects front on multiple streets, and collectively represent the three Street Types (storefront, boulevard, and green link) in the Town Center Subarea (for a further discussion of street frontages, see Chapter 8.1.1). As such, they provide a variety of perspectives based on the street type;
- Location and Zoning: One site on each side of Aurora Avenue N was selected. Both have at least one side adjacent to single family residential neighborhoods. The sites have different zoning: TC-2 with a Transition Overlay for one site, and TC-3 with a thin ribbon of TC-4 on the other site.
- Land Use Type: Consistent with the vision and growth assumptions for Town Center, the
  project on the west side of Aurora illustrates a commercial development project, while the
  project on the east side of Aurora (fronting on Midvale Avenue N) illustrates a primarily
  residential project (with ground floor retail). As types, amounts, and orientation of open
  space, public plazas, landscaping, and other items discussed in the Town Center Code will
  likely be slightly different for commercial and residential projects, it is useful to have
  examples of both types of development.

The Mr. Van Gard site is a 4.2 acre site on Midvale Ave N, between N 178<sup>th</sup> Street and N 180<sup>th</sup> Street, that currently serves as a one-story self storage facility. Site access and primary frontage is along Midvale Avenue N (a Storefront Street), with additional frontage along N 180<sup>th</sup> Street and N 178<sup>th</sup> Street (Green Link Streets). Adjacent to that site, at the southeast corner of Midvale Avenue N and N 180<sup>th</sup> Street, is the Interurban Office Building, a two-story office building on 1.17 acres. In total, the two sites occupy about 5.4 acres, and are currently zoned MUZ. To the east of the site, along Stone Avenue N, are eight parcels totaling about 1.3 acres that are comprised of a mix of single family and duplex residences, and are zoned R-12.

The Town Center Subarea Plan, as well as long-term growth projections developed for the TMP (400 new housing units for this section of the Subarea), envisions this area as primarily multi-family residential development, with ground floor retail. As such, the model shows a cluster of buildings with four and five stories of multi-family residential units over ground-floor retail, consistent with the development and design standards established for the TC-3 district. As the site fronts primarily on Midvale Avenue N, a storefront street, the building is located right along the property line, with surface parking moved away from the right of way towards the middle of the site. Consistent with the vision and standards for the TC-4 district, the model shows a row of three story townhouses along Stone Avenue N, to help serve as a buffer between the project and the surrounding single family neighborhood. Figures 3-1, 3-2, and 3-3 show aerial views of the site, looking east from Aurora Ave N (across the Interurban Trail), north from N 178<sup>th</sup> Street, and south from N 180<sup>th</sup> Street.



Figure 3-1: Looking East towards Midvale Avenue N and N 178<sup>th</sup> Street



Figure 3-2: Looking North towards Midvale Avenue N and N 178<sup>th</sup> Street

As can be seen from the aerial views, the site provides pedestrian and vehicular entries and walkways from all three sides (178<sup>th</sup>, 180<sup>th</sup>, and Midvale), improving access and connections to the site from throughout Town Center. In addition, the aerials illustrate a site design that has been developed to help protect the character of existing single family neighborhoods, by placing the tallest buildings along Midvale Avenue N (six stories- five stories of residential over ground floor retail), and gradually stepping the building height down for the buildings along the eastern edge of the site (five stories-four stories of residential over ground floor retail). To the east of the complex, the model illustrates three story townhouse developments along Stone Avenue N, which is consistent with the vision and standards for the TC-4 district, and provides an added buffer for the properties across Stone Avenue N.



Figure 3-3: Looking South from N 180<sup>th</sup> Street



Figure 3-4: Corner of Midvale Avenue N and N 180<sup>th</sup> Street looking South

As noted above, the renderings illustrate many of the Town Center design standards. Figure 3-4 illustrates the corner of Midvale Avenue N (a Storefront Street) and N 180<sup>th</sup> Street (a Greenlink Street). Both have wide sidewalks (10 and 8 feet, respectively), with street trees every 30 feet. Although difficult to see in Figure 3-4, the curb bulbs out at the street corner, which creates room for on-street parking on the north side of N 180<sup>th</sup> Street (a similar bulb-out at N 178<sup>th</sup> Street can be seen at the bottom of Figure 3-2) and functions as a traffic calming device. On-street parking on Midvale Avenue N is shown, a requirement for both sides of Storefront Streets. The west side of Midvale is planned to have back-in angled parking within the Seattle City Light right-of-way (see Figure 8-4 in the Transportation Chapter).

Consistent with the Town Center Code, the building is located on the property line (back of sidewalk), within 15 feet of the street corner. As required for Street Corner properties, the building has a distinctive façade and roofline design from the rest of the building at the intersection of N 180<sup>th</sup> Street and Midvale Ave N. The building provides façade articulation at a minimum of every 80 feet, through such measures as façade offsets, balconies, and distinctive ground floor façades and window treatments, as well as roofline modulation at a minimum of every 120 feet. Parking is prohibited at the street corner and surface parking lots (conceptually shown, but not striped, in the model) have been placed internal to the site in order to maximum building street frontage.

As mentioned briefly above, the renderings show a 3-story townhouse development along Stone Avenue N, which provides a buffer between the larger multi-family project and the single family residential neighborhoods to the east. Figures 3-5 and 3-6 illustrate what Stone Avenue N may look like, with 8 foot sidewalks, street trees within amenity zones, and porches, balconies, awnings, and roofline modulation breaking up the mass and scale of the townhouse buildings.



Figure 3-5: Looking Northwest towards Townhouses on Stone Avenue N



Figure 3-6: Stone Avenue N Streetscape

## Site 2: 18325 Aurora Avenue N (Fred Meyer) and 18005 Aurora Avenue N (Highland Ice Arena)

Demonstration Site 2 consists of several parcels (zoned MUZ and R-48), totaling approximately 13 acres, which are bounded by N 185<sup>th</sup> Street on the north, Aurora Avenue N on the east (both Boulevard Streets), N 180<sup>th</sup> Street on the south, and Linden Avenue N on the west (both Greenlink Streets). Current uses on the site include a Fred Meyer (retail and grocery store), large surface parking lots, fast food restaurants, auto parts store, one-story strip mall development, and the Highland Ice Arena. N 182<sup>nd</sup> currently runs from Aurora Avenue N to Fremont Ave N, and separates the Ice Arena and parking lot from the rest of the demonstration site. However, consistent with the Town Center Subarea Plan, the model created for Demonstration Site 2 illustrates the vacation of N 182<sup>nd</sup> Street west of Aurora, and its replacement with the proposed extension of N 180<sup>th</sup> Street.

As discussed, given its frontage along the west side of Aurora Avenue N, the City envisions primarily commercial redevelopment in this area of the Town Center (District TC-2). As Fred Meyer has expressed a general interest in redeveloping and expanding their store in the future (the building is now 50 years old), a new, larger Fred Meyer makes up a majority of the site model. The building design incorporates Northwest architectural design elements consistent with the Town Center Code (discussed in further detail below), with an L-shaped design that extends from the corner of Aurora Avenue N and N 185<sup>th</sup> Street, west along N 185<sup>th</sup> Street, and then south along Linden Avenue N (Figure 3-7). To the south of the new Fred Meyer, a 3-story multifamily residential development is located along Linden Avenue, while a small cluster of retail fronts along Aurora Avenue N in the middle of the site, and another large building (potentially a redeveloped Highland Ice Arena with additional retail uses) is located on the northwest corner of Aurora Ave N and N 180<sup>th</sup> Street.



Figure 3-7: Looking West across the Interurban Trail and Aurora Avenue N

The model design illustrates numerous Town Center development and design standards. Surface parking is landscaped and placed internal to the site (much less than 50% of the total site frontage), providing easy access to all portions of the site and maximizing storefront street frontages. Vehicular access is available from Aurora Avenue N and N 180<sup>th</sup> Street but not from Linden Avenue N, which is consistent with the Town Center Code's Neighborhood Protection Standards. There are a network of pathways and sidewalks internal to the site to facilitate easy pedestrian and bicycle access, which also connect to Aurora Avenue N, across Aurora to the Interurban Trail, and to the single family neighborhood to the west.

Figure 3-8 shows the northeast corner of the property, located at the corner of Aurora Avenue N and N 185<sup>th</sup> Street (both Boulevard Streets). The building has been placed right along the property line (back of sidewalk), with the exception of the large public plaza and gathering space along N 185<sup>th</sup> Street that has been designed to maximize pedestrian and bicycle use of the property and provide adequate hard surface area for tables and chairs. Pedestrians and bicyclists using the Interurban Trail would be able to access the site by crossing Aurora Avenue N at N 185<sup>th</sup> Street or N 180<sup>th</sup> Street, and utilize the wide sidewalks installed as part of the Aurora Corridor Project.

The building includes a variety of façade articulation and roof modulation elements, including façade offsets and vertical piers (requirements for building frontages along Boulevard Streets), as well as distinctive windows, building materials, architectural elements, and enhanced landscaping at the northeast corner of the property. Project signage is appropriate in scale, internally illuminated, and building-mounted central to an architectural element, and does not include the use of billboards, electronic changing message signs, and pole signs, which are prohibited by the Town Center Code.



Figure 3-8: Looking South towards Aurora Avenue N and N 185<sup>th</sup> Street



Figure 3-9: Linden Avenue N looking North towards N 182<sup>nd</sup> Street

Moving west to Linden Avenue N, Figure 3-9 illustrates what development within the Transition Overlay District may look like, with development standards established to protect the adjacent single family residential neighborhoods. As required by the Code, the Fred Meyer and townhouse buildings have been setback from Linden Avenue N a minimum of 15 feet (which is also required for developments along Greenlink Streets), and are limited to a maximum height of 35 feet. Street trees and additional landscaping help to increase the buffer for properties to the west.

Figures 3-10 and 3-11 show two different perspectives of the southwest entrance to the Fred Meyer, which is located to the northeast of the townhouse development shown in Figure 3-9. The figures illustrate a large public plaza (a minimum of 5,000 square feet, 80% of it suitable for seating and gathering, is required for sites over 5 acres) with sitting areas, landscaping, and water features, which has been designed to encourage public gathering and attract pedestrian traffic. This area is connected to the Linden Avenue neighborhood via an internal pedestrian/bicycle only pathway that is just east of N 182<sup>nd</sup> Street, and connects to the parking lots and the rest of the site's buildings through a series of sidewalks and pathways.

Overall, the two sites illustrate a number of the development and design standards that have been included in the Town Center Code to create visually attractive and walkable development that respects and protects the adjacent single family neighborhoods, consistent with the vision of the Town Center Subarea Plan.



Figure 3-10: Fred Meyer Southwest Entrance and Public Plaza Looking West



Figure 3-11: Fred Meyer Southwest Entrance and Public Plaza Looking East

#### 3.2 Impacts

### Impacts Common to Both Alternatives

Future commercial and residential redevelopment under either alternative is anticipated to result in slightly taller and denser developments than what currently exist in the Subarea. Although the mass and scale of the discussed redevelopment is already permitted by the current zoning (No Action Alternative) and would be consistent with the proposed Town Center zoning (Proposed Action), redevelopment could result in a change in land use and visual character in the subarea, as compared to the primarily one and two-story strip retail uses in the region. Adjacent single family neighborhoods have expressed concern regarding the potential impacts that could result from increased development in the Town Center Subarea.

### 3.3 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measures Incorporated into the Proposed Action

As detailed in Sections 2.3 and 3.1, the Town Center Code was developed to create a visually appealing, mixed-use center neighborhood within the City of Shoreline, while at the same time protecting adjacent single family residential neighborhoods from any potential impacts that could result from redevelopment in the area. The Town Center Subarea Plan and Development Code include a number of standards and provisions regarding mass, scale, setbacks, site access, and landscaping that were developed to help protect and respect adjacent neighborhoods, and would require administrative design review and traffic studies for most projects. The emphasis on services, public spaces, and walkability will make Town Center accessible for the surrounding single family neighborhoods to use as amenities. In addition, the City held numerous public meetings and workshops over several years to gather input and hear concerns from nearby businesses and residents. As such, adoption of the Town Center Code and Subarea Plan would mitigate any potential adverse impacts related to land use and aesthetics.

Mitigation Measures Incorporated into No Action Alternative

Although not as detailed or comprehensive as those included in the Proposed Action, Section 20.50 of the Shoreline Municipal Code provides a number of development and design standards, most notably for the MUZ zone, that were developed to create transitions between the envisioned higher density residential and commercial uses within the Town Center and the adjacent single family neighborhoods. Administrative design review is already required for projects within the MUZ. However, it does not presently include the detailed design standards contained in the proposed Town Center Code. Both the existing zoning and proposed Town Center Code require stepbacks for large buildings adjacent to residential zones. Although to a lesser degree as the Proposed Action, the current code should mitigate any potential adverse impacts.

3.4 Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impacts								
With implementation of development and design standards present in either mitigation measure, no significant and unavoidable land use impacts are anticipated.								

# Chapter 4: Air Quality and Climate Change

#### 4.1 Affected Environment

#### 4.1.1 Air Quality

Three agencies have jurisdiction over air quality in the Central Puget Sound region of Washington. The Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA) is responsible for monitoring air quality in King, Snohomish, Kitsap, and Pierce Counties, working with the Washington Department of Ecology (DOE) to track air monitoring results for six criteria air pollutants at a number of monitoring sites throughout the four counties. The closest monitoring sites to Shoreline are located in Lynnwood and Lake Forest Park.

The United State Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for these six pollutants, which include:

- Particulate Matter (10 micrometers and 2.5 micrometers in diameter)
- Ozone
- Nitrogen Dioxide
- Carbon Dioxide
- Sulfur Dioxide
- Lead

Regions that meet the NAAQS for criteria pollutants are said to be in attainment, while those that are not are said to be nonattainment areas.

Since 2004, the PSCAA has also increased its monitoring of over 400 air toxics, which are chemicals and compounds defined by DOE and PSCAA as pollutants that can lead to a number of adverse health effects, such as increased cancer risk and respiratory effects.

To help monitor and present data on regional air quality in the Central Puget Sound, the PSCAA issues an annual Air Quality Data Summary. The PSCAA compiles the data into an Air Quality Index (AQI), which is a nationwide reporting standard developed by EPA for the six criteria pollutants and is calculated for the monitoring sites throughout the region. An AQI below 50 is considered Good; between 51 and 100 is considered Moderate (the maximum acceptable level); between 101 and 150 is considered Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups; and above 151 is considered Unhealthy for all groups. The most recent data summary, covering the year 2008, was issued in October 2009.

In general, the data summary shows that air quality in the area is improving, especially for carbon dioxide and sulfur dioxide. However, the summary states that elevated fine particle levels present the greatest challenge in the region. Much of Pierce County is currently considered a

nonattainment area for particulate matter 2.5 micrometers in size (PM2.5) due to elevated fine particulate levels in South Tacoma that exceed the NAAQS (which were lowered for PM2.5 by EPA in 2006), while monitoring sites in Snohomish County are close to the federal standard and all four counties exceed the agency's local PM2.5 health goal of 25 ug/m3. PM2.5 is generated primarily by automobile emissions and wood burning, and as such tend to be highest in the region during the winter months, which can lead to mandatory burn bans.

In addition, ozone levels remain a concern for the region, as ozone concentrations have not decreased as significantly as its precursor pollutants, and ozone levels at the Enumclaw monitoring site violated the strengthened March NAAQS (0.075 ppm) between 2006 and 2008.

## Air Quality in the City of Shoreline and Town Center

Given these issues, it is important to consider and promote land use and transportation options that have the potential to help improve air quality in the region. The Town Center Subarea Plan envisions the area as a "model of environmentally sound building and development practices", with "efficient and sustainable structures with zero carbon impacts", and a mix of uses that helps to reduce automobile trips, increase transit use, and results in more compact development within the Town Center Subarea. The Town Center Subarea Plan and Town Center Code are consistent with the City's Environmental Sustainability Strategy (adopted in 2008), which focuses on balancing environmental quality, economic vitality, and human health and managing growth in a sustainable way. In the future, the Sustainability Strategy envisions a number of Key Program Strategies that could improve air quality in the Town Center Subarea, including:

- Development of a residential green building program;
- Measuring and tracking emissions in the permitting and planning process; and
- Prioritizing non-motorized transportation investment and planning

#### 4.1.2 Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Change

According to the EPA, greenhouse gases are gases such as carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxides, and fluorinated gases that trap heat in the atmosphere, resulting in elevated atmospheric temperatures. Between 1990 and 2007, EPA estimates that greenhouse gas emissions increased by 17%, with the dominant factor in US emissions being carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel combustion, which saw a 21.8% increase during that period. In 2007, the United States Supreme Court ruled that greenhouse gases are pollutants under the federal Clean Air Act, and directed the EPA to analyze the potential adverse health impacts. In 2009, the EPA determined that six specific greenhouse gases threaten public health and the welfare of current and future generations.

While encouraging the reduction of greenhouse gases, PSCAA does not monitor their levels in the atmosphere. However, DOE has issued a "Working Paper" determining that jurisdictions are now required to consider the potential impacts of climate change in the SEPA process. DOE has stated

that agencies may follow DOE's guidance, or implement their own process, so long as they consider the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of greenhouse gases of a proposal.

In 2007, King County added a section on greenhouse gas emissions to its SEPA Checklist, and created a worksheet to help calculate the lifetime greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of projects. Lifetime emissions include embodied emissions (those directly tied to the use), energy emissions from operation/construction of the use, and transportation uses related to construction and operation of, and customer/resident travel to and from, the use. Values are reported in Metric Ton Carbon Dioxide Equivalents (MtCO<sub>2</sub>e).

Based on the development parameters of the Town Center Subarea Planned Action, the lifetime greenhouse gas emissions for 1,000 large building multi-family units, 150 small building multi-family units, 50 single-family homes, 200,000 square feet of office, and 200,000 square feet of commercial (retail) space were calculated (see Appendix A). In total the lifetime greenhouse gas emissions of the Town Center is anticipated to be 1.9 million MtCO<sub>2</sub>e. As a reference, the yearly energy emissions of approximately 1,200 primarily multi-family residential units is about 10,000 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e, while the yearly transportation emissions are typically about two times that value (20,000 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e). While the King County Worksheet does not account for variables such as reduced parking standards, proximity to transit and bicycle trails, and mixed-use developments, the City anticipates that such characteristics will be influential in reducing the Town Center Subarea's overall carbon footprint.

## Addressing Climate Change in the Town Center Subarea and City of Shoreline

In our region, transportation accounts for the biggest share of greenhouse gas emissions. As previously discussed, the Town Center Subarea envisions a compact mix of land uses that allows residents and employees to walk and ride their bikes and reduce their dependence on automobiles for short trips, which has the benefit or reducing greenhouse gases. Such strategies and goals are also incorporated into the City's Environmental Sustainability Strategy, and in the U.S. Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement, Cascade Agenda, and Green City Partnership Program, which the Shoreline City Council has adopted by resolution. In 2009, the City of Shoreline began collecting baseline data about local practices that contribute to global warming. Later this year, the City hopes to begin a program to offer individuals and businesses alternative actions that protect our climate.

## 4.2 Impacts

Development in the Town Center Subarea is expected to increase by up to 1200 units, 200,000 square feet of office, and 200,000 square feet of commercial under either alternative, as part of the anticipated 5,000 housing units and 5,000 jobs that the City of Shoreline is anticipated to accommodate over the next twenty years. This level of development will result in short term construction impacts related to air quality and the potential for longer-term impacts related to operations of future uses. However, all development will be subject to applicable local, regional, state, and federal regulations related to air quality and climate change.

In addition, the Town Center Subarea Plan's focus on compact, mixed-use development to accommodate said growth will result in a net benefit to air quality when compared to the City's historic reliance on suburban, single-family residential development to accommodate growth. The City has also increased its commitment to addressing air quality and climate change in recent years through its adoption of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy, U.S. Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement, Cascade Agenda, and Green City Partnership Program.

As such, the proposal would not result in any significant environmental impacts.

## 4.3 Mitigation Measures

Given the lack of significant impacts, no mitigation measures are required. However, the City of Shoreline is committed to continuing to pursue and adopt programs and policies that have the potential to improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gases.

## 4.4 Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impacts

None.

# Chapter 5: Parks and Recreation

#### 5.1 Affected Environment

The City of Shoreline currently has 330 acres of parks throughout the City, including 20 developed park sites, two off-leash dog park sites (one year-round, one seasonal), and numerous open space and preserve sites. Shoreline's parks are classified based on their service area, according to classifications established by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA). Neighborhood parks generally have a ½ mile service area (15 minute walk), community parks a 1½ to 3 mile service area, and regional parks attract visitors from throughout the region. Many of the City's community parks also include soccer, baseball, and softball fields which are used by youth and adult leagues throughout the City and region.

#### 5.1.1 Parks and Open Space within the Town Center Subarea

Figure 5-1 illustrates City parks in the general vicinity of the Town Center.

### The Interurban Trail

The Interurban Trail is a 3.25-mile paved multi-purpose pedestrian and bicycle trail that is located on the east side of Aurora Avenue N within the Seattle City Light power transmission line right-of-way between N 145th Street and N 205th Street. Consistent with Policy TC-10 of the Subarea Plan, the trail connects neighborhoods to shopping, services, employment, transportation centers, and parks. The trail corridor provides an important north-south linkage through the City and to the rest of the regional Interurban Trail system (south to Seattle and north to Everett).

The trail serves as the spine of the City's bicycle trail system and is used by commuters, as well as recreational bicyclists, walkers, and joggers. The City of Shoreline recognizes the importance of the Interurban Trail, and is committed to maintaining it as a regional bicycle and pedestrian facility. The City of Edmonds is set to begin construction on its portion of the Interurban Trail in Summer 2011, which will serve to improve connections to Mountlake Terrace, Lynnwood, and Everett to the north.

## Proposed Park at Town Center

The City of Shoreline is currently in the planning process for the Park at Town Center, as a passive recreational space that would be located on either side of the Interurban Trail between N 178<sup>th</sup> Street and N 185<sup>th</sup> Street. The Town Center Subarea Plan envisions it as a linear park that "provides a green thread through the center of the area", with Policy TC-19 proposing "a memorable, green, open space" linked to City Hall that should be programmed for "celebrations, public gatherings and informal 'third places'".



Figure 5-1- City of Shoreline Parks and Open Space

Based on input from the community, the City is considering three alternatives for the Park at Town Center: On the Move, Reflection, and Center Stage (see Appendix B). All three alternatives share common elements such as flexible spaces for outdoor events, a restroom facility, a link to City Hall, lighting, public art, and connections to surrounding neighborhoods, while differing in regards to the orientation of pathways, the use of water features, and the location of the Ronald Place (Red Brick Road) bricks.

Input on the three alternatives is being accepted until June 1, after which time the alternatives will be presented at a public workshop. Ultimately, one alternative will be selected and forwarded on to the City Council for adoption.

## Parks and Open Space near the Town Center Subarea

- Richmond Highlands Recreation Center and Park is a 4.2-acre community park located south of Shorewood High School and includes: a small gym with a stage and indoor play equipment, a game room with billiard and ping pong tables, a meeting room with kitchen, outdoor children's play equipment, and a ball field. In 2009 and 2010, the City completed improvements to the baseball field/dugouts and installed a new restroom facility.
- Meridian Park is a 3.13-acre natural area located south of Meridian Park Elementary School and includes a wetland with a stream crossing as well as some passive meadow and natural areas with a circular trail. The park also includes picnic tables, benches, a basketball court, and tennis courts.
- Ronald Bog Park is a City-owned 13.61-acre natural area at the headwaters of Thornton Creek, on N 175<sup>th</sup> St just west of Interstate 5. The site was once a peat bog that was actively mined in the 1950s. The park currently features a small square-shaped pond that shows evidence of the past peat mining activities; in addition, the pond now serves an important function in stormwater management for the City.
- The 9.02-acre Crowell Park is a community park in the Meridian Park that was completely renovated in August 2010. Cromwell Park includes a basketball court, play equipment, amphitheatre, baseball field, playfield, and walking paths.
- Echo Lake Park is a 0.77-acre natural area located at the north end of Echo Lake and abutting the Interurban Trail along its eastern border. The park includes restroom facilities, picnic tables, and benches.
- Darnell Park is a 0.83-acre natural area located just east of the Interurban Trail, just south of N 165<sup>th</sup> Street. The park includes an open segment of Boeing Creek.

### 5.1.3 Parks Level of Service

The City of Shoreline is currently working on the update to its Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan, which was adopted in May 2005. The current PROS Plan does not have an established level of service for parks and recreation services (such as acres of park/1,000 residents). Instead, the PROS Plan focuses on the recreational amenities (playfields, park benches, water fountains, restrooms, etc) available to residents by the City's recreational facilities.

While there is not a specific level of service established in the Comprehensive Plan or PROS Plan, the 2005 PROS Plan did identify a citywide deficiency in amenities at the community park and neighborhood park level. Since that time, City of Shoreline residents passed an \$18.6 million bond levy to acquire new open space and complete park improvements, with much of that money spent on improving amenities at the neighborhood and community park level. In the immediate vicinity of the Town Center Subarea, that included a complete redevelopment of Cromwell Park (detailed above) and field improvements at Richmond Highlands Park. In addition, the City has made significant improvements to amenities at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park (a nearby regional park), Boeing Creek Park, Hamlin Park, and Twin Ponds Park.

## 5.2 Impacts

While the 2011 PROS Plan is currently still being completed, preliminary analysis has shown that the previous amenities deficiencies at the Community and Neighborhood Park have been addressed by recent and continuing park improvements throughout the City. As detailed above, a number of those improvements have been at park facilities that would serve the current and future population of the Town Center Subarea. As such, neither alternative is anticipated to result in potential significant impacts related to parks and recreation. Should a future PROS Plan show deficiencies due to increases in population within the Town Center, additional analysis will be needed.

#### 5.3 Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures needed.

5.4 Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impacts

None

# Chapter 6: Historic and Cultural Resources

#### 6.1 Affected Environment

As part of the Aurora Corridor Improvement Project: N 165<sup>th</sup> Street-N 205<sup>th</sup> Street, a Cultural Resources Assessment was prepared in August 2007 by Western Shore Heritage Services, Inc. (WSHS). The WSHS study was based on a review of previous ethnographic, historic, and archaeological investigations in the local areas; site file searches at the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) and King County Historic Preservation Program (KCHPP); and a review of relevant background literature and maps. In addition, Suquamish and Tulalip Tribes cultural resources staff were notified by WSHS of the Aurora Corridor project details and provided the opportunity to comment on the potential impacts of the project.

The WSHS study area based its Area of Potential Effect (APE) on those parcels that had the potential to be impacted by the construction areas for the Aurora Corridor project, and included Aurora Avenue N between N 165<sup>th</sup> Street and N 205<sup>th</sup> Street (the parcels on the west side of Aurora between 180<sup>th</sup> and 185<sup>th</sup> all extend west to the east side of Linden Avenue N), as well as Midvale Ave N between N 175<sup>th</sup> Street and N 185<sup>th</sup> Street.

As such, the WSHS study covered the majority of the Town Center Subarea, with the exception of the multifamily residential (apartment) developments along the east side of Linden Avenue N between N 175<sup>th</sup> Street and N 179<sup>th</sup> Street; the single and multifamily residential units along the west side of Stone Avenue N between N 175<sup>th</sup> Street and N 185<sup>th</sup> Street; and seven parcels on Firlands Way N between N 185<sup>th</sup> Street and N 188<sup>th</sup> Street.

The WSHS study determined that there were four historic properties eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places located within the Aurora Corridor Project's APE, two of which are located within the Town Center Subarea (see Appendix C). The first property is the Auto Cabins, located at 17203 Aurora Avenue N. The Auto Cabins are a group of small cabins built between 1921 and 1943 around an older (1914) bungalow, which provided accommodations to the increasing numbers of travelers on Aurora Avenue N/U.S. Highway 99, and provided housing for employees of the Interurban rail line. Although two of the cabins have been demolished and the other cabins are unoccupied and in varying degrees of deterioration, the WSHS study recommended them as eligible for the National Register under Criterion A due to their association with early auto-oriented, commercial development along Pacific Highway/Aurora Avenue N. The Auto Cabins are listed as an "Existing" historic structure by King County and the City of Shoreline.

The second property eligible for listing is three segments of the North Trunk (Red Brick) Road, which was completed in 1914 and is located along Ronald Place N (just east of Aurora Avenue N) north and south of N 175<sup>th</sup> Street. The last exposed section of the brick auto road that followed Aurora Avenue N from N 85<sup>th</sup> Street in Seattle to N 205<sup>th</sup> Street in Shoreline, it was part of a paved brick highway that become part of the Pacific Highway, a continuous paved route completed from Mexico to Canada in 1923. During the 1930's, most of the brick road was covered with concrete during the construction of Aurora Avenue N.

The portion of the North Trunk Road just north of N 175<sup>th</sup> Street was demolished as part of recent commercial development (Walgreens and Key Bank), and is listed as a "Demolished" historic structure by King County and the City of Shoreline. The area south of N 175<sup>th</sup> Street is in the worst condition, and is listed as "Modified" by King County, while the area north of the Walgreens is listed as an "Existing" historic structure. The WSHS study found that both of these remaining segments of the Brick Road (the areas south of 175<sup>th</sup> and north of Walgreens) "have retained variable integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association", and are eligible for listing under Criterion A due to its association with the region's commercial and residential development during the teens and 1920s. The study concluded that these segments are the only known surviving exposed examples of the North Trunk Road, and one of the few brick roads left in King County.

For those areas outside the WSHS study's study area, but still within the Town Center subarea boundaries, the City of Shoreline has also reviewed historic designations made by the King County Heritage and Landmarks Commission. Per SMC 15.20.020, the King County Heritage and Landmarks Commission is designated and empowered to act as the landmarks commission for the City of Shoreline. The City of Shoreline is granted one Special Member to the Commission, who serves on the commission when it reviews and designates Shoreline buildings and structures nominated for landmark status.

In 1996 (just after the City was incorporated), King County prepared a Historical Resources Inventory List for the City of Shoreline. Over the last 15 years, several additional structures have been added to the inventory. The City of Shoreline has taken this inventory and added it as a layer to its Geographic Information System (GIS). In reviewing this inventory for the Town Center Subarea, the only other remaining (not demolished) historic structure located within the Town Center is the Parker's Casino at 17001 Aurora Avenue N, which was built in 1930 as the Parker's Ballroom and is listed as "Modified". Per the WSHS study, the Parker's Casino was previously inventoried, and was deemed ineligible for listing in the National Register, due to the considerable alterations and modifications it has undergone. When demolition or alteration of an inventoried historic structure (but not a landmark structure) is proposed, City of Shoreline staff notifies King County Historic Preservation Program staff, who review and provide recommendations on the project.

Two properties just outside the Town Center Subarea have also been granted historic landmark designation by King County. The Ronald School, which is currently being used by the Shoreline Historical Museum and will be incorporated into the redeveloped Shorewood High School, is located

on N 175<sup>th</sup> Street just outside the subarea boundaries. It was granted City Landmark status by the King County Landmarks Commission in 2008. Plans for restoring the building have been subject to review by the King County Design Review Committee. In addition, the Richmond Masonic Temple, located at N 185<sup>th</sup> St and Linden Avenue N just outside the subarea boundaries, was granted City Landmark status in September 2010.

#### 6.2 Impacts

## Impacts Common to Both Alternatives

There are two properties within the Town Center Subarea that have been determined to have historic significance: the Auto Cabins at 17203 Aurora Avenue N, and the North Trunk (Red Brick) Road. Under either alternative, it is possible that redevelopment activities could result in demolition or alteration of these historic resources. The Auto Cabins are currently owned by a private property owner, while most of the Red Brick Road north of N 175<sup>th</sup> Street is owned by the City of Shoreline.

While the City is not currently aware of any plans to redevelop the Auto Cabins property, the Red Brick Road north of Walgreens is located within the area proposed for the Park at Town Center. The City of Shoreline is currently evaluating three alternatives for the proposed park, and based on public input will make a recommendation to the City Council sometime in Summer 2011. Two of the three park alternatives currently being evaluated- "Shoreline on the Move" and "Shoreline Center Stage"- would result in some alteration to the Red Brick Road.

Because the Park at Town Center has yet to select and adopt a preferred alternative, the City has determined that the Park at Town Center will require completion of a project-specific SEPA Checklist. In addition, it has been determined that any park alternative that proposes to remove or alter the section of the Red Brick Road north of the Walgreens (approximately N 178<sup>th</sup> Street) will require a SEPA Determination of Significance (DS), due to its potential impacts to a historic resource.

The portion of the Red Brick Road between N 173<sup>rd</sup> and 175<sup>th</sup> Street was recently vacated, and consistent with the new design of the Aurora Corridor, no longer connects to N 175<sup>th</sup> Street. It has been incorporated into the site of a private property (Aurora Rents) which is currently being redeveloped. Due to this section having very little structural integrity and being largely deteriorated, the WSHS study determined that if businesses were to redevelop in this location (which is now the case), a finding of "no adverse effect" was recommended. Given this, there is no adverse impact from the redevelopment of the Aurora Rents property over this segment of the Red Brick Road.

### 6.3 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measures Common to Both Alternatives

The proposed Park at Town Center will require a project-specific SEPA Checklist. In completing that checklist, the City of Shoreline SEPA Responsible Official has determined that any park alternative that proposes to remove or alter portions of the Red Brick Road will trigger a SEPA Determination of Significance (DS) and preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Development activities that would result in the demolition of alteration of any structure or property listed on the City of Shoreline's Historical Resources Inventory shall be reviewed by City staff, and forwarded on to King County Historic Preservation Program staff for their review and recommendation. Should any structures within the Town Center Subarea be granted historic landmark designation, any alterations shall be subject to review by the King County Heritage and Landmarks Commission and King County Design Review Committee.

## 6.4 Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impacts

Adherence to the mitigation measures listed under Section 6.3 would result in no significant and unavoidable adverse impacts.

# **Chapter 7: Utilities**

#### 7.1 Affected Environment

As discussed in the SEPA Checklist, utilities in the Town Center Subarea are provided by the following utility providers:

Electricity- Seattle City Light (City of Seattle)
Water- Seattle Public Utilities (City of Seattle)
Stormwater- City of Shoreline
Sewer- Ronald Wastewater District
Natural Gas- Puget Sound Energy
Refuse/Recycling/Yard and Food Waste- Cleanscapes
Telephone/Internet/Cable Television- Frontier (formerly Verizon) and Comcast

The SEPA Checklist noted that the Town Center Subarea is entirely developed, and as such the entirety of the subarea has utility infrastructure in place. Utility providers are required to plan their systems to accommodate projected regional growth (which accounts for the development projections in the Town Center Subarea Planned Action area), and SMC 20.60.020 requires all development proposals to be served by adequate utilities prior to occupancy. The following section addresses whether there is adequate existing or planned utility infrastructure in place to accommodate these levels of development (1,200 units, 200,000 square feet of office, and 200,000 square feet of commercial) envisioned for both the Proposed No Action Alternatives.

## 7.1.1 Electricity- Seattle City Light (City of Seattle)

Seattle City Light (SCL) provides electricity to the entire City of Shoreline, including the Town Center Subarea. SCL's main transmission lines run along its utility corridor on the east side of Aurora Avenue N through the Town Center, adjacent to the Interurban Trail. As part of the Aurora Corridor Project, its distribution lines along Aurora Avenue, Midvale Avenue, N 175<sup>th</sup>, and N 185<sup>th</sup> have or will be undergrounded.

As of Calendar Year 2009, approximately 91.2% of SCL's electricity was generated by hydroelectric sources, such as its hydroelectric projects on the Skagit and Pend Oreille Rivers (approximately 50%) and long-term contracts with the Bonneville Power Administration. In March 2010, SCL reached a new agreement with the Pend Oreille Public Utility District to relicense the Boundary Dam Hydroelectric Project, which is expected to provide nearly half of its power over the next twenty years. In addition, in 2010 SCL re-negotiated its agreement to purchase electricity from the Bonneville Power Administration. That contract runs between 2011 and 2028, and is expected to provide approximately 40% of its power during that period.

Given the long term commitments and contracts Seattle City Light has in place for hydroelectric power over the next twenty years, as well as its commitment to providing alternative energy sources (in 2009 approximately 3.3% of its electricity was generated by wind, and it invested millions of dollars in wind technology), the Town Center Subarea has an adequate supply of electricity available to accommodate the projected growth over the next twenty years. Distribution lines are already in place due to the nearly built-out nature of the subarea, and as such adequate infrastructure is available.

## 7.1.2 Water- Seattle Public Utilities (City of Seattle)

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) provides water to portion of Shoreline west of Interstate 5, including the Town Center Subarea. As required by the State of Washington, SPU prepares a Water System Plan every six years, with the most recent plan developed in 2007. In that plan, SPU indicates that there is no need to seek additional water sources to accommodate projected growth in the region, as it has adequate water supply to accommodate said growth through at least 2055, even if climate change were to result in a reduction in the snowpack. If additional water sources are needed, future Water System Plans would be updated to account for these needs.

According to the Public Services and Utilities Analysis Technical Memorandum prepared by Jones and Stokes for the Aurora Corridor Improvement Project: N 165<sup>th</sup> Street-N 205<sup>th</sup> Street, a single 24" water main is present underneath Aurora for most of the segment between N 165<sup>th</sup> Street and N 205<sup>th</sup> Street, with a double 24" main located underneath the portion between N 170<sup>th</sup> Street and N 182<sup>nd</sup> Street. 6-12" water mains cross Aurora towards the Town Center Subarea boundaries of Linden and Stone at N 170<sup>th</sup> Street and N 182<sup>nd</sup> Street, while a 20" water main is present under N 185<sup>th</sup> Street. As part of the Aurora Corridor Project, SPU relocated, realigned, and made minor improvements to some of its water lines as part of its Multiple Utility Relocation project.

In addition, the City of Shoreline is currently negotiating with the City of Seattle to acquire the SPU water system within Shoreline, including the Town Center Subarea. This acquisition has the potential to result in more accurate assessments of future infrastructure needs, given the local focus and knowledge that City of Shoreline staff could provide. As much of the SPU system is between 50 and 100 years old, it is likely that infrastructure improvements will be needed in the future throughout the Subarea and the City as a whole.

Individual projects covered under this Planned Action will still be required to submit Certificates of Water Availability and fire flow analyses at the time of project submittal. Such requirements will ensure that any and all future projects have adequate water pressure and capacity to accommodate the proposed levels of development.

#### 7.1.3 Sewer/Wastewater- Ronald Wastewater District

The Ronald Wastewater District currently serves approximately 99% of the City of Shoreline (about 54,000 residents), including the entire Town Center area, as well as the Point Wells site in Snohomish County. An estimated 83% of the sewer mains in the Town Center Subarea are 8" concrete pipes, although a variety of 6", 10", 12", and 14" pipes also exist underneath Aurora Avenue. The majority of wastewater treatment is provided by the King County Wastewater Treatment Division, with the City of Edmonds Wastewater Treatment Plant providing additional treatment to the district.

Under King County Code 13.24, the district is required to prepare a Comprehensive Sewer Plan that is consistent with all applicable local comprehensive plans (notably Shoreline and King County), reflect current supply and demand, and forecast future supply and demand. In June 2010, the King County Utilities Technical Review Committee (UTRC) reviewed Ronald Wastewater's plan and recommended approval. On January 6, 2011, the Ronald Wastewater Comprehensive Sewer Plan was approved by King County via Ordinance 17014.

According to King County Ordinance 17014, the district used 2007 King County Buildable Lands growth assumptions for the City of Shoreline to project that it could adequate serve a residential population of approximately 75,000 residents by 2030 through redevelopment and expansion to Point Wells. Both the Proposed Action and No Action Alternatives would lead to increased demand for wastewater service and treatment. However, as the levels of development projected within the Town Center Subarea are consistent with the growth assumptions adopted by Ronald Wastewater District, there is adequate capacity to accommodate said growth. In addition, as part of the Aurora Corridor Project, Ronald Wastewater made improvements to its system and capacity in the subarea.

While future projects covered under this Planned Action will be exempt from SEPA, they will still be required to receive a Certificate of Sewer Availability as part of the development review process. This requirement ensures that any potential wastewater impacts can be identified and addressed, and that development cannot occur if adequate infrastructure is for some reason not available. The City of Shoreline also expects to acquire the Ronald Wastewater District by 2016, which should result in wastewater review being even better incorporated into the City's development review process.

# 7.1.4 Stormwater and Surface Water- City of Shoreline

The City of Shoreline's Surface Water and Environmental Services Program is responsible for maintaining and improving drainage and stormwater facilities in the Town Center Subarea and the City of Shoreline. The City of Shoreline is subject to regulation under the Western Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit administered by the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE). The permit was created by the Department of Ecology to fulfill federal Environmental Protection Agency National Pollutant Discharge and Elimination System (NPDES) requirements

governing stormwater. By complying with the NPDES permit, the City of Shoreline is allowed to discharge stormwater to waters of the State (i.e. local lakes, streams and Puget Sound) if it takes certain actions to prevent stormwater pollution. Storm drain lines generally consist of corrugated metal and concrete pipes, ranging in size from 4 to 18 inches.

The permit requires the City to create and implement a Stormwater Management Program (SWMP). The SWMP outlines the City's plan to develop and implement the following programs and processes:

- Public education and outreach
- Public involvement and participation
- Illicit discharge detection and elimination
- Controlling stormwater run-off from construction sites
- Operations and maintenance of stormwater facilities after construction

The City is in the latter stages of completing a comprehensive update to its 2005 Surface Water Master Plan, with completion anticipated later in 2011. The 2005 Plan has resulted in a number of capital improvement (CIP) projects related to drainage, including drainage and stormwater improvements at Ronald Bog, Cromwell Park, East Boeing Creek, and Pan Terra Pond. The 2011 plan will incorporate a number of low-impact development (LID) and natural drainage/stormwater policies and standards, consistent with the 2005 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington and Low Impact Development Technical Guidance Manual for Puget Sound, which have been adopted by the City of Shoreline.

These plans and policies are anticipated to greatly increase on-site stormwater detention and retention within the city and subarea, which will decrease the amount of stormwater entering the City's storm drains and reduce potential flooding impacts. The City is also updating its Engineering Development Guide, which will incorporate additional LID and natural drainage standards within City right-of-way (ROW).

The Aurora Corridor Project includes a number of natural water quality treatments which have since been incorporated into the City's vision for stormwater treatment and drainage management throughout the City. These include rain gardens, bioswales, Filterra bioretention systems, and root boxes using Silva Cell technologies (a system of modular blocks that hold lightly compacted soils in place so as to allow filtration and avoid flooding and promote root and tree growth, while bearing loads for above ground streetscapes). The Town Center Subarea Plan envisions incorporating similar techniques throughout the subarea , resulting in a "strategic system for capturing and treating stormwater on site and protecting and enhancing overall environmental quality". Desired street section features included under both alternatives include landscaped medians and amenity zones, which should serve to further improve stormwater detention and treatment within the subarea.

## 7.1.5 Natural Gas- Puget Sound Energy

Puget Sound Energy (PSE) provides natural gas for heating and cooking to customers with the Town Center Subarea. PSE has adequate infrastructure and/or capacity in place to accommodate projected growth in the subarea.

## 7.1.6 Refuse/Recycling/Yard and Food Waste- Cleanscapes

Cleanscapes has provided waste collection services to all residents and business in the City of Shoreline, including the Town Center Subarea, since 2008. Since that time, it has developed a number of programs, such as its Neighborhood Waste Reduction Rewards, to help reduce waste generation in the City. Waste collected by Cleanscapes is taken primarily to the Shoreline Recycling and Transfer Station (2300 N. 165<sup>th</sup> Street), operated by the King County Solid Waste Division, before being taken to the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill near Maple Valley. The Cedar Hills facility is currently anticipated to reach capacity and close by approximately 2024, at which point King County will need to develop alternative landfill options.

# 7.1.7 Telephone/Internet/Cable Television: Comcast and Frontier

Cable, telephone, and internet services in the Town Center Subarea are provided by Comcast and Frontier. Underground cable television and fiber-optic cables are present underneath Aurora Avenue N for the entirety of the Subarea, with above ground cables present throughout the rest of Town Center. Fiber-optic system improvements to help link the Shoreline School District, City of Shoreline, and Shoreline Fire Department are currently underway throughout the Town Center, further improving the quality and efficiency of system. Given these improvements, and the rapid technological advances in the field, adequate infrastructure appears available.

# 7.2 Impacts

Overall, adequate utility infrastructure is in place to accommodate projected growth under both the Proposed Action and No Action Alternatives, as neither would result in development beyond what is already permitted by existing zoning. As such, no significant impacts are expected under either alternative.

## 7.3 Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures are needed.

### 7.4 Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impacts

None

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# **Chapter 8: Transportation**

#### 8.1 Affected Environment

# 8.1.1 Vehicular Traffic

# **Existing Traffic Volumes and Collisions**

With its location on either side of Aurora Avenue N (a state highway), and the presence of arterials at its northern (N 185<sup>th</sup> Street) and southern (N 175<sup>th</sup> Street) edges, the Town Center Subarea has long been dominated by the automobile and auto-oriented uses. As can be seen in Figure 8-1, more than 37,000 vehicles per day travel along Aurora Avenue N between N 170<sup>th</sup> Street and N 185<sup>th</sup> Street. Much of this traffic crosses through the subarea to connect with Interstate 5 via N 175<sup>th</sup> Street (over 22,000 daily trips between Aurora Avenue N and Ashworth Avenue N). In the western half of the subarea, approximately 2,500 vehicles per day travel along Linden Avenue N and N 182<sup>nd</sup> Street, while on the east side nearly 3,200 vehicles per day travel along Midvale Avenue N, and over 500 vehicles travel along Stone Avenue N.

Given these traffic volumes, many intersections and road segments within the Town Center Subarea experience a high number of vehicle collisions, most notably Aurora Avenue N. As illustrated in Figure 8-2, between 2008 and 2010 there were 95 collisions along Aurora Avenue N between N 170<sup>th</sup> Street and N 185<sup>th</sup> Street (a consistent 31/32 collisions between 170<sup>th</sup> and 175<sup>th</sup>, 175<sup>th</sup> and 180<sup>th</sup>, and 180<sup>th</sup> and 185<sup>th</sup>), with an additional seven collisions at the intersection of N 175<sup>th</sup> Street and Aurora Avenue N and five collisions at N 175<sup>th</sup> Street and Midvale Ave N. According to the Aurora Corridor Transportation Discipline Report, the overall collision rate along Aurora Avenue N, N 175<sup>th</sup> Street, and N. 185<sup>th</sup> Street is more than double the statewide average for urban principal arterials.

The City anticipates that the number of collisions along Aurora will be greatly reduced following completion of the Aurora Corridor Project Improvement Project, N 165<sup>th</sup> Street-N 205<sup>th</sup> Street later in 2011, which should result in improved vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle safety in the subarea. The Aurora Corridor Project will replace the former center turn lane with a landscaped median and dedicated left-turn and U-turn pockets, which the Aurora Corridor Improvement Project Transportation Discipline Report found will result in improved channelization, separate pedestrians from vehicular traffic, and reduce potential conflicts between vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists. Business Access and Transit (BAT) lanes, which are limited to buses and vehicles making turns, will reduce conflicts for vehicular turning at intersections and businesses. The project will also result in additional left and right-turn lanes, which should reduce the queuing of cars at intersections and further reduce the number of potential conflicts.

## <u>Transportation Master Plan (TMP) Update</u>

The City of Shoreline is currently updating its Transportation Master Plan (TMP), the long-range plan that helps guide the City's Capital Improvement Program and 6 Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP), coordinates transportation improvements with land uses, and plans for what is needed to respond to projected growth. The TMP, which is currently undergoing internal staff review, is anticipated to be adopted by the City Council in September 2011. Once completed, its analysis will provide the foundations for the Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan, which the City is aiming to adopt by the end of 2012. As it is being developed concurrently with the Town Center Subarea Plan and Development Code, the TMP is incorporating various elements and street standards from the Plan and Code (Proposed Action). However, TMP policies and standards will be identical should the No Action Alternative be adopted instead of the Proposed Action Alternative.

# Street Classification in the Town Center

Federal and State guidelines require that streets be classified based on function. Generally, streets are classified as either arterial streets or non-arterial streets. Local jurisdictions can also use the designations to guide the nature of improvements allowed and/or desired on certain roadways, such as sidewalks or street calming devices. The City of Shoreline uses these designations. The primary function of arterials is to provide a high degree of vehicular mobility by limiting property access. The vehicles on arterials are often through traffic. Arterials are generally connected with interstate freeways or limited access roadways. All streets other than arterials are generally designated as non arterial streets, which provide local accesses

Figure 8-3 shows the proposed street classifications that have been developed as part of the Draft TMP. Given their existing traffic volumes and the anticipated levels of growth in the Town Center, both Linden Avenue N (between N 175<sup>th</sup> Street and N 185<sup>th</sup> Street) and Midvale Avenue N (between N 175<sup>th</sup> Street and N 183<sup>rd</sup> Street) are proposed to be reclassified to Collector Arterials. Table 8-1 notes that Collector Arterials provide access to community services and businesses, connect traffic from non-arterial streets to arterials, and accommodate medium length trips, all of which accurately describe the anticipated roles of Linden and Midvale Avenues N within the Town Center.

To address concerns about the potential adverse traffic impacts to the surrounding neighborhoods that could result from the proposed levels of development and reclassification of these streets to Collector Arterials, the City of Shoreline has created specific policies for Midvale and Linden Avenues N. Policy TC-16 calls for commercial uses west of Aurora to be oriented so that they have primary access from Aurora, rather than along Linden, while Policy TC-17 calls for the street section of Midvale Avenue N to be reconfigured as a low speed, pedestrian-friendly lane with back-in angled parking that can support future uses in the area, while providing adequate capacity for the anticipated levels of development. In addition, Section 20.92.040(D) of the proposed Town Center Code prohibits direct commercial vehicular and service access from Linden Avenue unless no other access is available or practical.

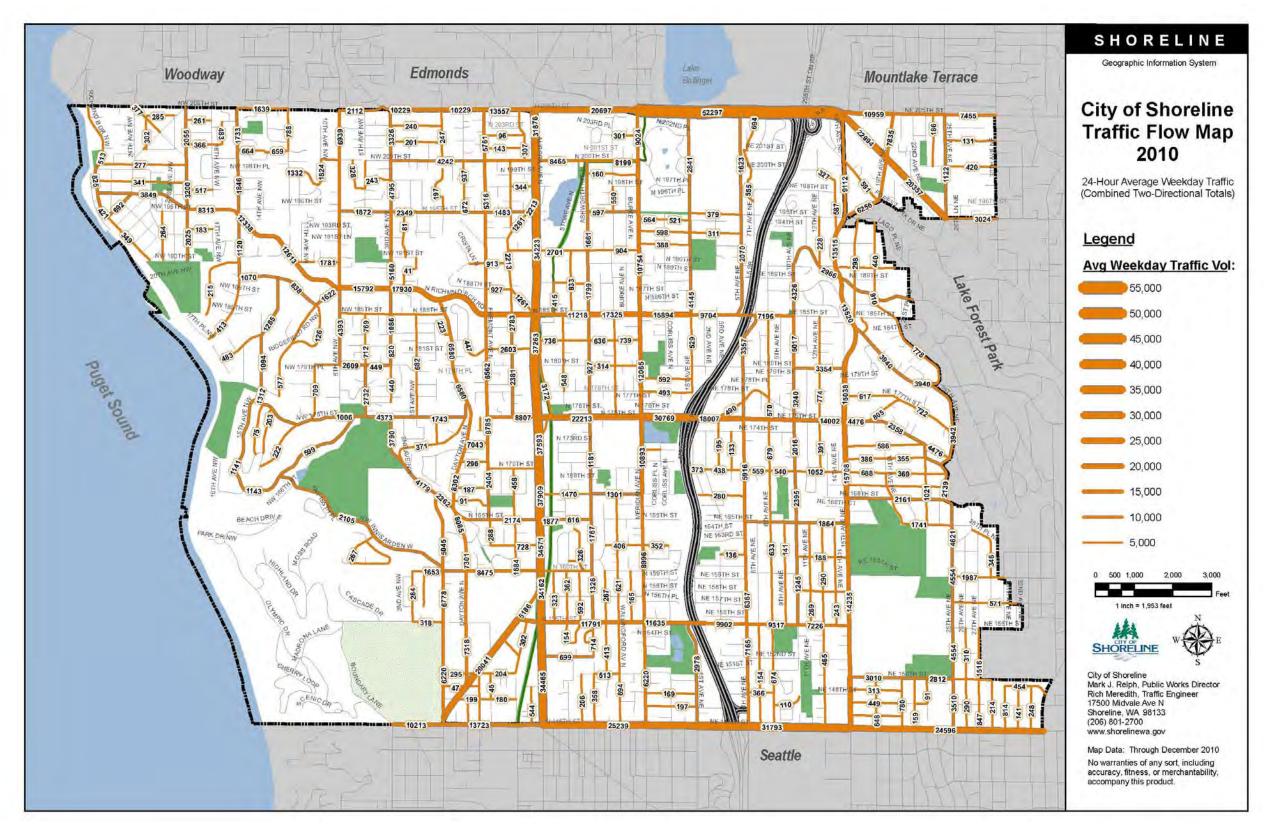


Figure 8-1: City of Shoreline 2010 Traffic Volumes

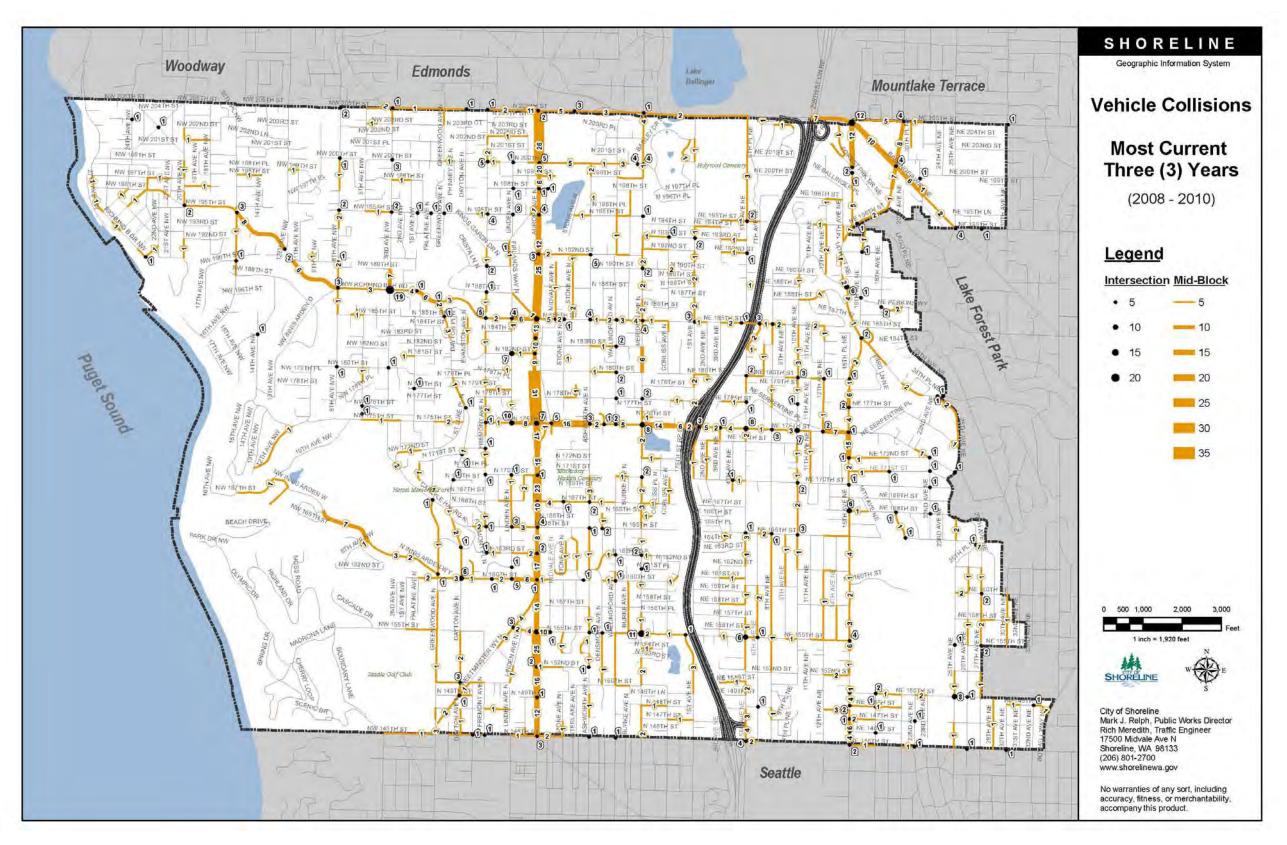


Figure 8-2: City of Shoreline Vehicle Collisions, 2008-2010

## Street Frontage Design Standards in the Town Center Subarea

To complement the Street Classification system that has been developed as part of the TMP, Policy TC-8 of the Subarea Plan calls for a hierarchy of Boulevard, Storefront, and Greenlink streets to serve different mobility and access roles within the Town Center. Figure 2-2 illustrates these street types, which are defined below.

Boulevard Street Refers to a street and/or segment of a street where there's an option

for commercial storefronts or landscaped setbacks along the street with the option of ground floor residential or commercial uses.

Green Link Street Refers to a street and/or segment of a street envisioned to have or

maintain landscaped building setbacks along the street. See Figure 20.92.030 for the location of designated Landscaped Streets and SMC 20.92.070(B)(3) for the description and applicable standards for

properties fronting on designated Landscaped Streets.

Storefront Street Refers to a street or segment of a street envisioned to have

storefronts placed up to the edge of the sidewalk. See figure 20.92.030 for the location of designated Storefront Streets and SMC 20.92.070(B)(1) for the description and applicable standards for

properties fronting on designated Storefront Streets.

Section 20.92.050 of the proposed Town Center Code details these street types and standards, with a major goal of the section as it relates to vehicles being to minimize conflicts between vehicular traffic/parking and pedestrian and bicycle uses. The frontage design standards call for wide sidewalks (ranging from 7-10 feet), as well as on-street parking and bulb-outs at block ends and pedestrian crossing. It is anticipated that such measures will greatly improve the pedestrian and bicycle environment, and improve safety for all transportation modalities.

As part of the TMP, street cross-sections have been developed for streets throughout the subarea, based on street frontage design standards in the Town Center Code. Figures 8-4, 8-5, and 8-6 show the proposed cross sections for Midvale Ave N, Linden Avenue N, and Firlands Way N. All three streets have 10-12' travel lanes (dictated by the ROW width) and 5' landscaped amenity zones, with mature street trees. Midvale Avenue N and Firlands Way N. are Storefront Streets, which require 10' sidewalks, and both also have back-in angle parking on one side of the street. Linden Avenue N is a Greenlink street, and as such has 8' sidewalks and 8' parallel parking on the east side (the west side is outside the Subarea, and required to provide 5' sidewalks). Cross sections for Aurora Avenue N, N 175<sup>th</sup> Street, and N 185<sup>th</sup> Street were developed as part of the Aurora Corridor Project. As previously mentioned, the proposed street cross-sections for these three streets are the same for the Proposed Action and No Action Alternatives.

		Arterial Streets	Non Arterial Streets		
	Principal Arterial	Minor Arterial	Collector Arterial	Local Primary Street	Local Secondary Street
Function	- Connect cities and urban centers with minimum delay	- Connect activity centers within the City - Connect traffic	- Provide access to community services and businesses	- Connect traffic from local secondary streets to Collector Arterials	- Provide local accesses
	- Connect traffic to Interstate system	to Principal Arterials and Interstate	- Connect traffic from Local Primary Streets to Minor or Principal Arterials	- Accommodate short trips to neighborhood destinations	
	<ul> <li>Accommodate long and through trips</li> </ul>	- Accommodate some long trips	- Accommodate medium length trips	- Provide local accesses	
Speed Limits	30 – 40 mph	30 – 35 mph	25 – 30 mph	25 mph	25 mph
Daily Volume (vehicles per day)	More than 15,000	7,000 – 20,000	2,000 – 8,000	less than 3,000	less than 3,000
Number of Lanes	Three or more lanes	Two or more lanes	Two or more lanes	One or Two lanes	One or Two lanes
Lane striping	Travel lanes delineated with stripes	Travel lanes delineated with stripes	Travel lanes delineated with stripes	No centerline striping	No centerline striping
Transit	Buses/transit stops allowed	Buses/transit stops allowed	Buses/transit stops allowed	Buses/transit stops not generally allowed except for short segments	Buses/transit stops not allowed
Bicycle Facilities	May contain bicycle lanes, shared lanes or signage	May contain bicycle lanes, shared lanes or signage	May contain bicycle lanes, shared lanes or signage	<ul><li>Shared lanes can be provided</li><li>Signs may be included</li></ul>	Bike facilities not specifically provided; may include signed bike routes
Pedestrian Facilities	- Sidewalks on both sides	- Sidewalks on both sides	- Sidewalks on both sides	Safe pedestrian access through the use of sidewalks,	Safe pedestrian access through the use of sidewalks,
	- Amenity zones	- Amenity zones	- Amenity zones	trails, or other means.	trails, or other means.

Table 8-1- Draft TMP Typical Street Characteristics

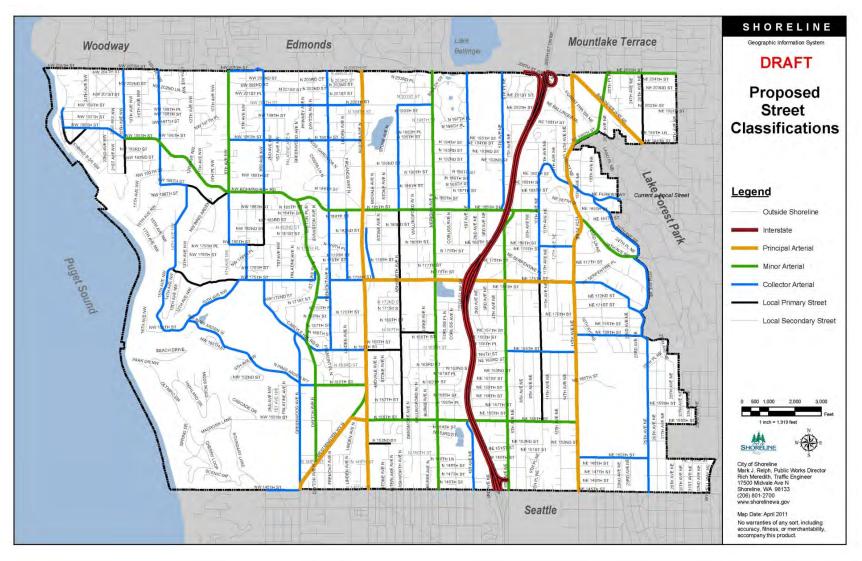
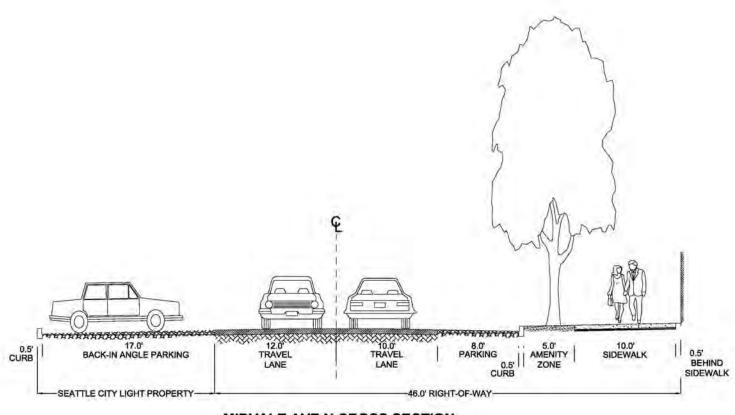
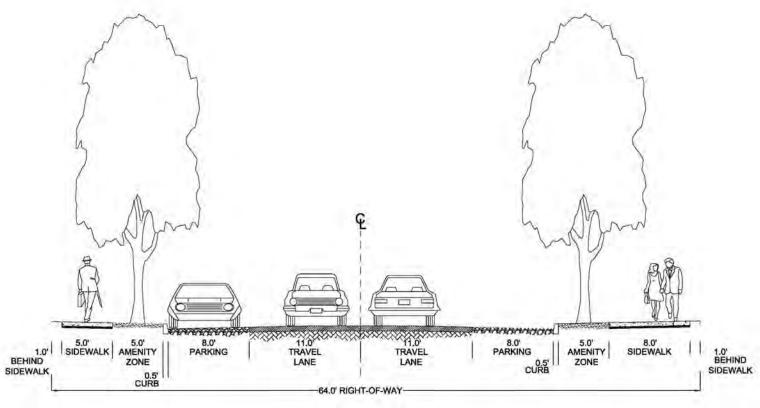


Figure 8-3: Draft TMP Street Classifications



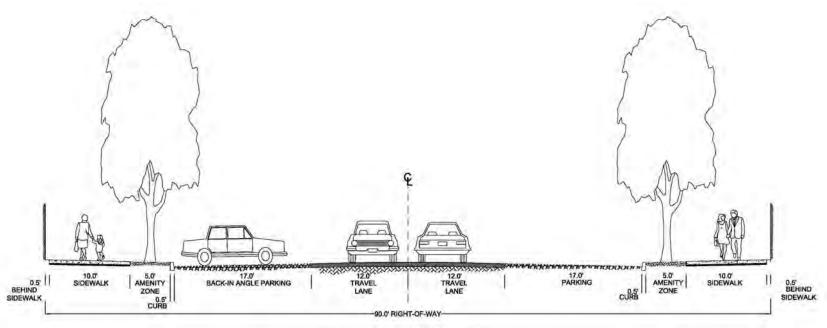
MIDVALE AVE N CROSS SECTION

Figure 8-4: Draft TMP Cross-Section for Midvale Avenue N



LINDEN AVE N CROSS SECTION

Figure 8-5: Draft TMP Cross Section for Linden Avenue N



**FIRLANDS WAY N CROSS SECTION** 

Figure 8-6: Draft TMP Cross Section for Firlands Way N

Potential Traffic and Level of Service (LOS) Impacts from Development in the Town Center

The Growth Management Act (GMA) allows each local jurisdiction to choose a level of service (LOS) method and standards. Level of service (LOS) standards are measures used to denote intersection operating conditions that help judge the performance of the transportation system, and are tied to the delay a vehicle encounters at a signalized or un-signalized intersection. LOS measurements are letter based and range from LOS A (free flowing conditions) to LOS F (unacceptable, stop-and-go conditions), with delay measured in seconds. The City of Shoreline has adopted LOS E as an acceptable LOS for signalized intersections (SMC 20.60.140). While Highways of Statewide Significance (such as Aurora Avenue N) are exempt from GMA concurrency (concurrency is the concept that adequate infrastructure must be available prior to development) requirements, the City is required to adopt a LOS for state highways, and has adopted the same LOS E standard.

As part of the Aurora Corridor Project, the City developed LOS intersection projections for Alternative B (the adopted design) throughout the Town Center Subarea for the years 2013 (anticipated completion of the Aurora Corridor Improvement Project) and 2030 (long-term growth). Table 8-2 includes these LOS projections. The projections were based on 2005 traffic counts, with the assumption that traffic volumes would continue to increase at an average rate of 1.1% over the next 25 years (2005-2010). However, over the past 5 years (2005-2010), traffic volumes along the Aurora Corridor actually declined, leading to improved LOS between 2005 and 2010, and lesser short-term (current) impacts than initially estimated.

	2013 Build (Year of Opening)				2030 Build (Growth Targets)			
	AM Peak		PM Peak		AM Peak		PM Peak	
	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	Delay
205 <sup>th</sup> & Aurora	D	50	D	47	E	71	E	72
200 <sup>th</sup> & Aurora	E	59	D	50	D	48	E	71
192 <sup>nd</sup> & Aurora	В	11	В	14	В	15	В	10
185 <sup>th</sup> & Aurora	D	44	С	32	E	78	Α	56
185 <sup>th</sup> & Midvale	А	4	Α	5	А	4	Α	5
182 <sup>nd</sup> & Aurora	В	18	С	25	С	23	D	38
182 <sup>nd</sup> & Midvale	С	23	С	30	С	24	С	28
175 <sup>th</sup> & Aurora	D	46	С	33	E	70	D	48
175 <sup>th</sup> & Midvale	В	12	В	19	В	14	В	19
165 <sup>th</sup> & Aurora	С	31	С	33	D	50	D	47

Table 8-2: Projected AM and PM Peak Hour Levels of Service in the Town Center Subarea

Overall, even when accounting for projected traffic volume growth of 1.1% per year, acceptable LOS were projected over the next twenty years for all analyzed intersections in and around the Town Center Subarea. The analysis was based on the assumption that N 182<sup>nd</sup> Street would remain, and as such does not account for Policy TC-14 of the Subarea Plan, which encourages the removal of the western leg of the intersection at N 182<sup>nd</sup> Street and Aurora Avenue N, and its replacement with a fully signalized mid-block intersection at N 180<sup>th</sup> Street and Aurora Avenue N. Should a future redevelopment project propose to vacate N 182<sup>nd</sup> Street, it would be subject to Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) approval (which has jurisdictional authority over Aurora Avenue N, given its designation as a state highway) and a detailed traffic study.

As part of the 2011 TMP Update, the City of Shoreline hired DKS Associates to develop a new traffic model to help estimate potential vehicular traffic impacts associated with projected growth in the City over the next twenty years. The traffic model takes into account existing traffic levels (2008 traffic counts) in the City, and projects future traffic impacts based on the City's expected long-term (2030) growth projections, dividing the City into 141 transportation analysis zones (TAZ's) through which the growth is distributed. The growth assumptions in the model are consistent with both the City's overall growth targets over the next twenty years (5,000 new housing units and 5,000 new jobs), and those anticipated for the Town Center subarea (approximately 1,200 new housing units and 1,200 new jobs, which was projected to result in 200,000 square feet of office space and 200,000 square feet of commercial space). In general, 2030 growth assumptions in the model are localized around the proposed Light Rail stations along Interstate 5 at N 145<sup>th</sup> and N 185<sup>th</sup> Streets and along major transit corridors, such as the Town Center Subarea.

As part of its analysis, DKS prepared volume/capacity (V/C) ratios based on current (2008) and long-term (2030) traffic volumes to help identify existing and future roadway segments of concern in the City. V/C ratios are useful in providing a general assessment of capacity sufficiency on a given roadway, and are often used by cities and counties to help identify intersections for further LOS analysis, as well as future roadway improvements that can be implemented to help address future adverse traffic impacts. As noted, all future projects in the Town Center will be required to complete and submit a detailed traffic analysis.

As shown in Figure 8-7, all road segments within the Town Center Subarea currently operate at a V/C ratio of 0.80 or less, indicating acceptable traffic conditions, even before the completion of the Aurora Corridor Improvement Project. Figure 8-8 illustrates the projected V/C ratios for the year 2030, taking into account future roadway improvement projects (such as net two-way left turn lanes on Meridian, Fremont, and Dayton Avenues N and NE 185<sup>th</sup> Street) identified by the City. While several roadway segments along Aurora Avenue N are anticipated to reach V/C ratios between 0.91 and 1.00, the V/C ratio results, when coupled with the previously calculated LOS projections for 2030, illustrate that all segments and intersections within the Town Center Subarea are anticipated to have adequate capacity to accommodate anticipated levels of growth and still operate at an acceptable level. Most notably, traffic volumes and LOS along Greenlink and Storefront Streets (either Collector Arterials or Non-Arterials) will continue to be very low.

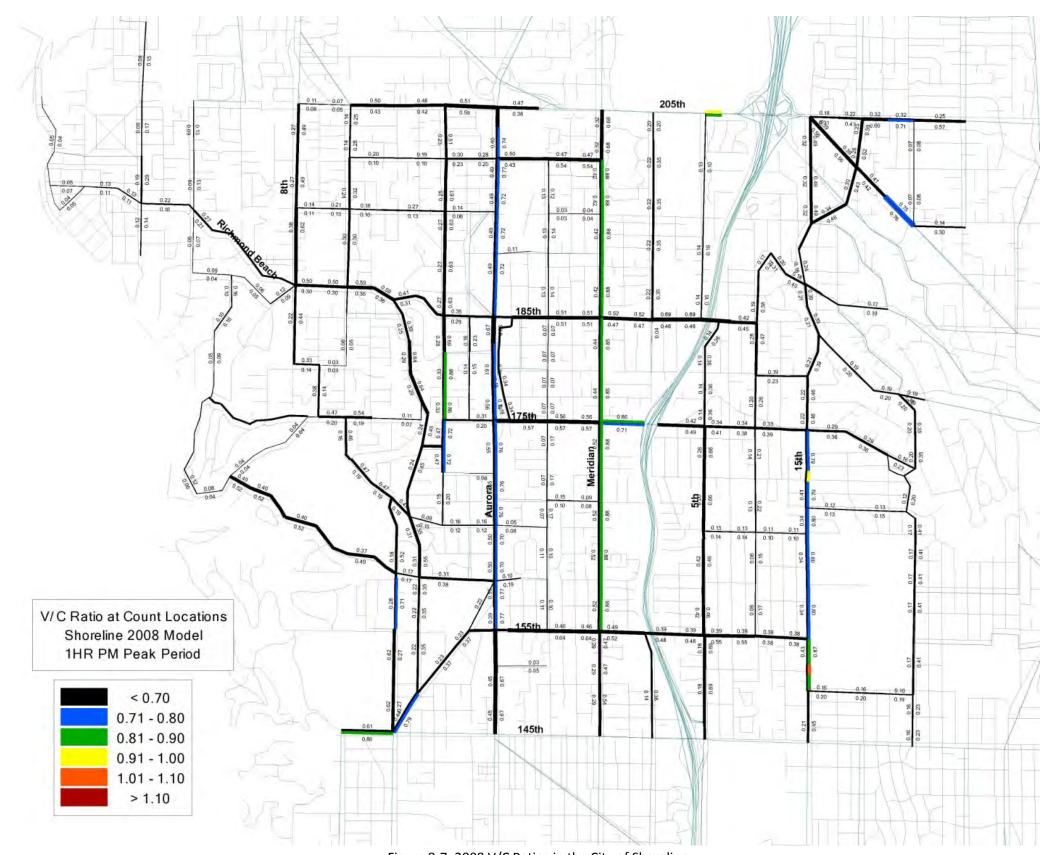


Figure 8-7: 2008 V/C Ratios in the City of Shoreline

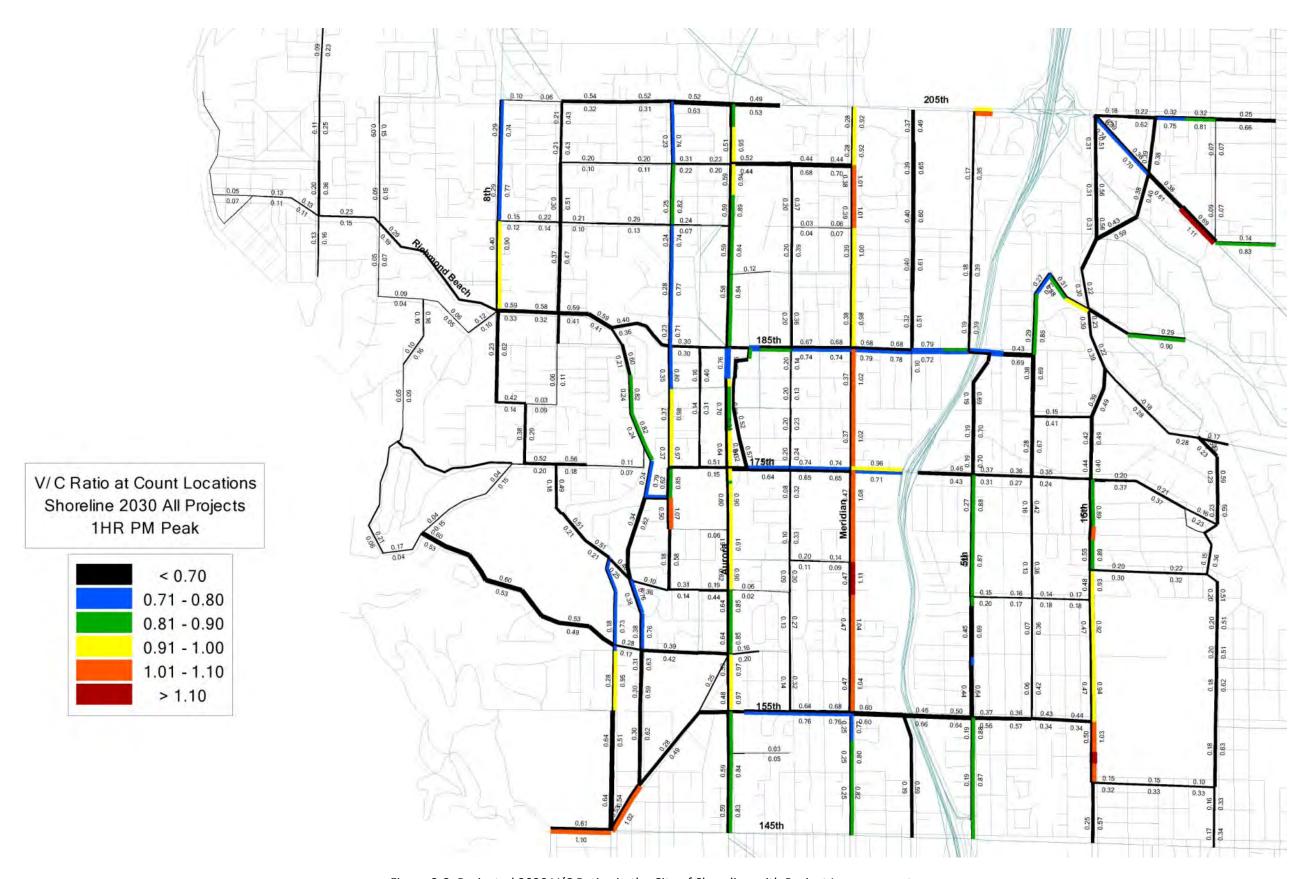


Figure 8-8: Projected 2030 V/C Ratios in the City of Shoreline with Project Improvements

## 8.1.2 Neighborhood Protection and Traffic Calming

One of the main concerns voiced by residents in neighborhoods adjacent to the Town Center has been the potential for increased cut-through traffic as a result of increased residential and commercial development in the subarea. Policy TC-16 of the Subarea Plan seeks to protect adjacent residential areas from impacts generated by developments in Town Center.

Traffic calming is one way to help protect neighborhoods from the potential impacts of increased traffic resulting from residential and commercial development within the Town Center. Traffic calming refers to measures which aim to reduce or manage the negative effects of motor vehicle use and improve conditions for non-motorized street users. Traffic calming measures can include speed humps, traffic circles, curb extensions (chicanes, neckdowns, and bulbouts), diverters, and landscaping. Figure 8-9 is a graphic created by the United States Department of Transportation that illustrates various traffic calming examples.

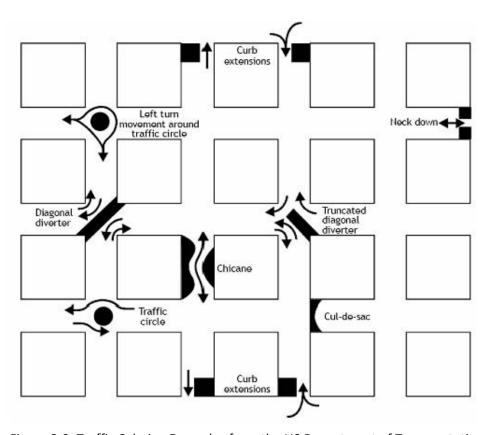


Figure 8-9: Traffic Calming Examples from the US Department of Transportation

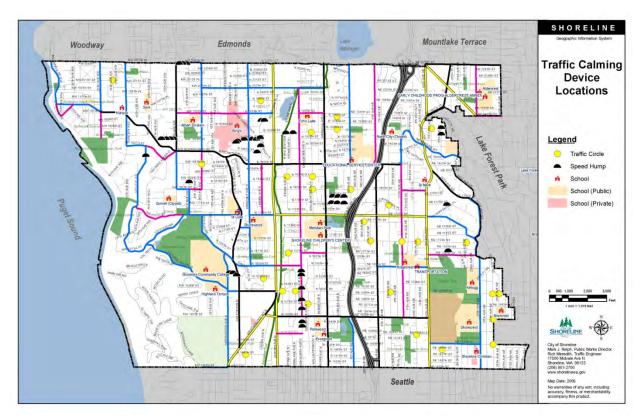


Figure 8-10: Traffic Calming Devices in the City of Shoreline

Figure 8-10 illustrates the location of existing Traffic Calming Devices in the City of Shoreline. Currently, the only traffic calming device within Town Center is a traffic circle at N 183<sup>rd</sup> Street and Stone Avenue N. However, since 2006 the City's Traffic Services Division has worked with neighborhood associations throughout the City to create Neighborhood Traffic Action Plans (NTAP's), in the hopes of improving the safety, mobility, and livability of the City's neighborhoods.

The NTAP program has resulted in comments and recommendations for the four neighborhoods surrounding the Town Center (Hillwood and Richmond Highlands to the west, and Echo Lake and Meridian Park to the east), with potential improvements prioritized based on community input. Examples of traffic calming that were proposed through the NTAP program included installing a traffic circle at N 178<sup>th</sup> Street and Wallingford Avenue N (just east of Town Center) to cut down on traffic speeds and potential collisions, and installing a traffic calming device at Linden Avenue N and N 180<sup>th</sup> Street.

Section 20.92.040 of the proposed Town Center Code is focused on Neighborhood Protection Standards for the surrounding neighborhoods. Section 20.92.040(E) notes that all development in the Town Center will be required to complete a traffic study (they are already required for all projects resulting in 20 net PM peak hour trips, per SMC 20.60.140), and include a specific focus on any mitigation measures that are needed to mitigate potential impacts related to cut-through traffic or parking. Traffic calming devices are a common solution to addressing cut-through traffic impacts.

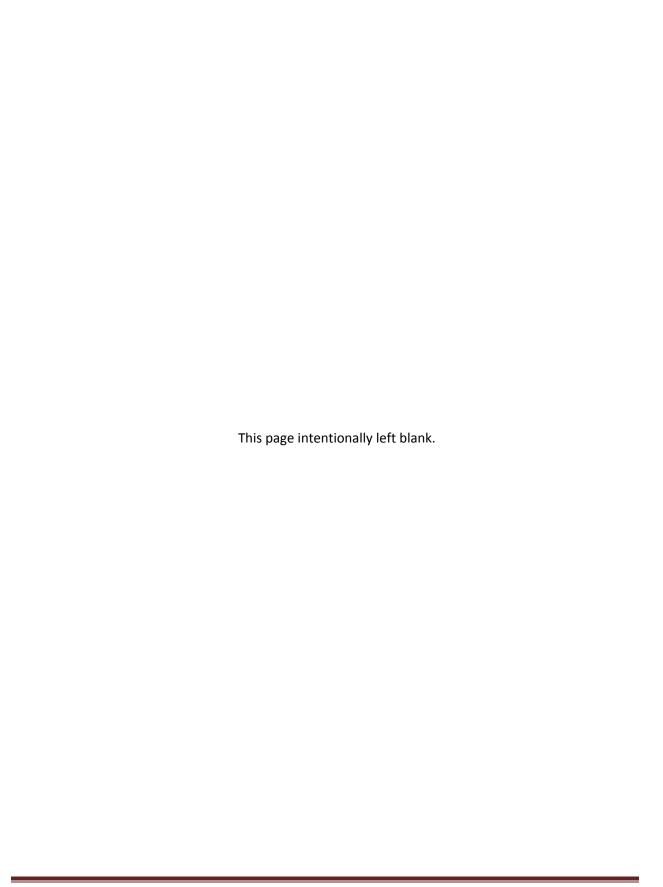
## 8.1.3 Pedestrian and Bicycle Environment

Given the current automobile-oriented nature of the Town Center, most notably Aurora Avenue N, pedestrian and bicycle amenities are fairly limited. Figure 8-11 illustrates the Existing Pedestrian Facilities in the City, while Figure 8-12 shows the Existing Bicycle Facilities. The main north/south pedestrian and bicycle route through the Town Center is the Interurban Trail, a separated path that runs along the eastern side of Aurora Avenue N through the entirety of the Town Center, connecting to Edmonds and Seattle to the north and south. Concrete sidewalks exist on N 185<sup>th</sup> Street and N 175<sup>th</sup> Street, and on east side of Linden Avenue N along the western edge of the Fred Meyer, but are piecemeal in nature throughout the rest of Town Center. As part of the Aurora Corridor project, new wider sidewalks will be installed on the west side of Aurora Avenue N, while the Interurban Trail will continue to serve pedestrian traffic on the east side of Aurora. There are designated bike lanes on N 185<sup>th</sup> Street east of the Interurban Trail, but no other east-west bicycle lanes to move bicyclists through the Town Center and connect them to other parts of the City and region.

Several Town Center Subarea Plan policies address creating a more walkable environment within the Town Center. Policy TC-10 calls for creating a seamless network of safe, convenient, and attractive walkway improvements within Town Center that also connects to all streets, the Interurban Trail, high capacity transit on Aurora, and adjacent neighborhoods, while Policy TC-12 calls for creating safe and attractive pedestrian crossings of Aurora, walkways to better link uses within Town Center, and more direct and attractive walkways from adjacent neighborhoods. In regards to bicyclists, Policy TC-11 calls for improved and expanded bicycle paths.

The Town Center Subarea Plan and Code also place a great emphasis on creating quality pedestrian and bicycle connections within and between individual parcels in the Town Center. Section 20.92.060(A) of the Town Center Code calls for promoting and enhancing public walking and gathering with attractive and connected development, which provide safe routes for pedestrians and disabled people across parking lots, to building entries, and between buildings, while Section 20.92.060(D) requires developments to include internal walkways that connect building entries, public places, and parking areas with the adjacent street sidewalks and Interurban Trail.

As part of the TMP, the City has developed proposed Draft Pedestrian and Bicycle System improvements (which, as previously mentioned, would be the same for the Proposed Action and No Action Alternatives). These plans call for the installation of sidewalks along the entirety of Linden and Midvale Avenues N and Firlands Way N, as well as adding designated east-west bike lanes to N 175<sup>th</sup> Street and N 185<sup>th</sup> Street for the entirety of the Town Center and beyond, allowing for improved pedestrian and bicycle connections to adjacent neighborhoods and the region. Figures 8-13 and 8-14 show these proposed improvements. If sufficient funding were to become available, completion of these projects would result in a major improvement to the existing pedestrian and bicycle environment in the subarea, and be consistent with numerous goals and policies of the Town Center Subarea Plan.



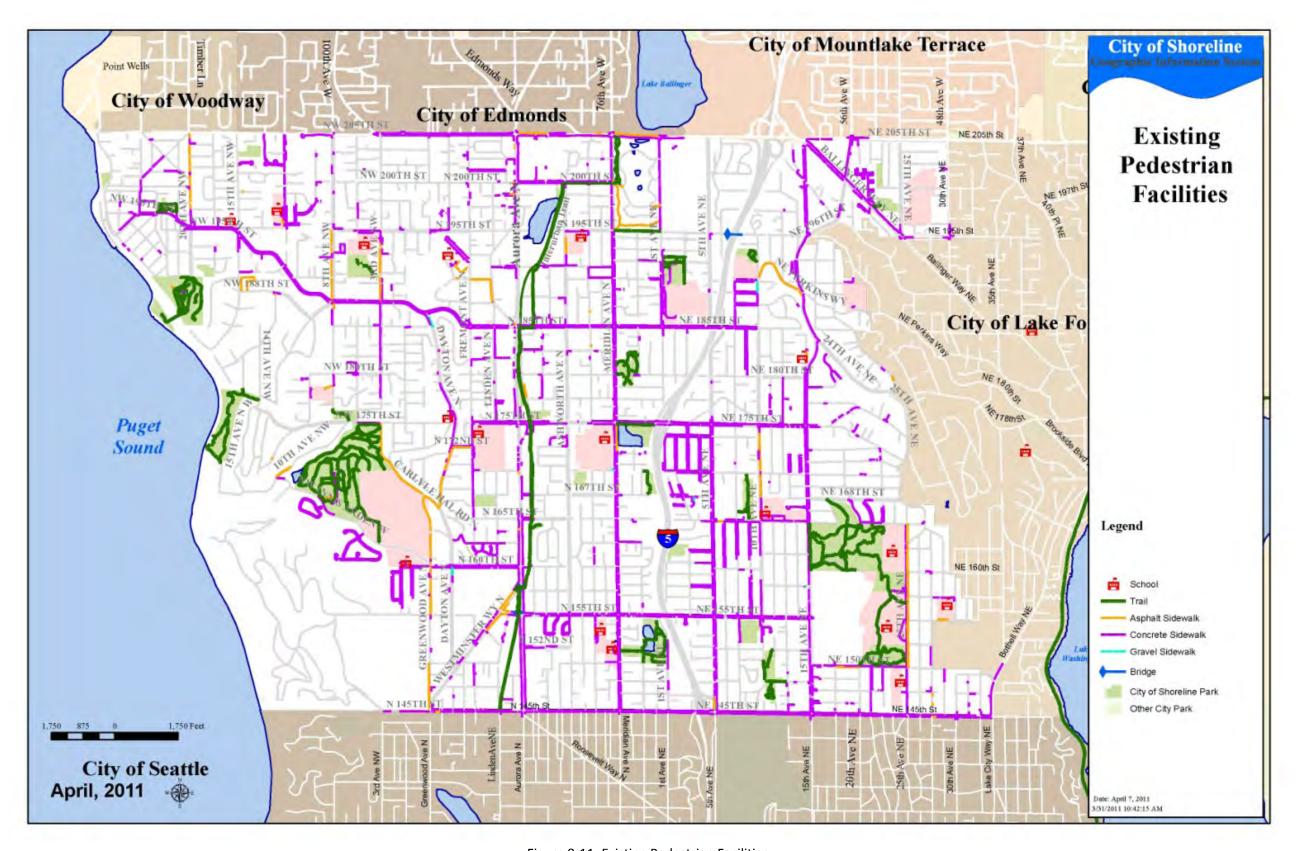


Figure 8-11: Existing Pedestrian Facilities

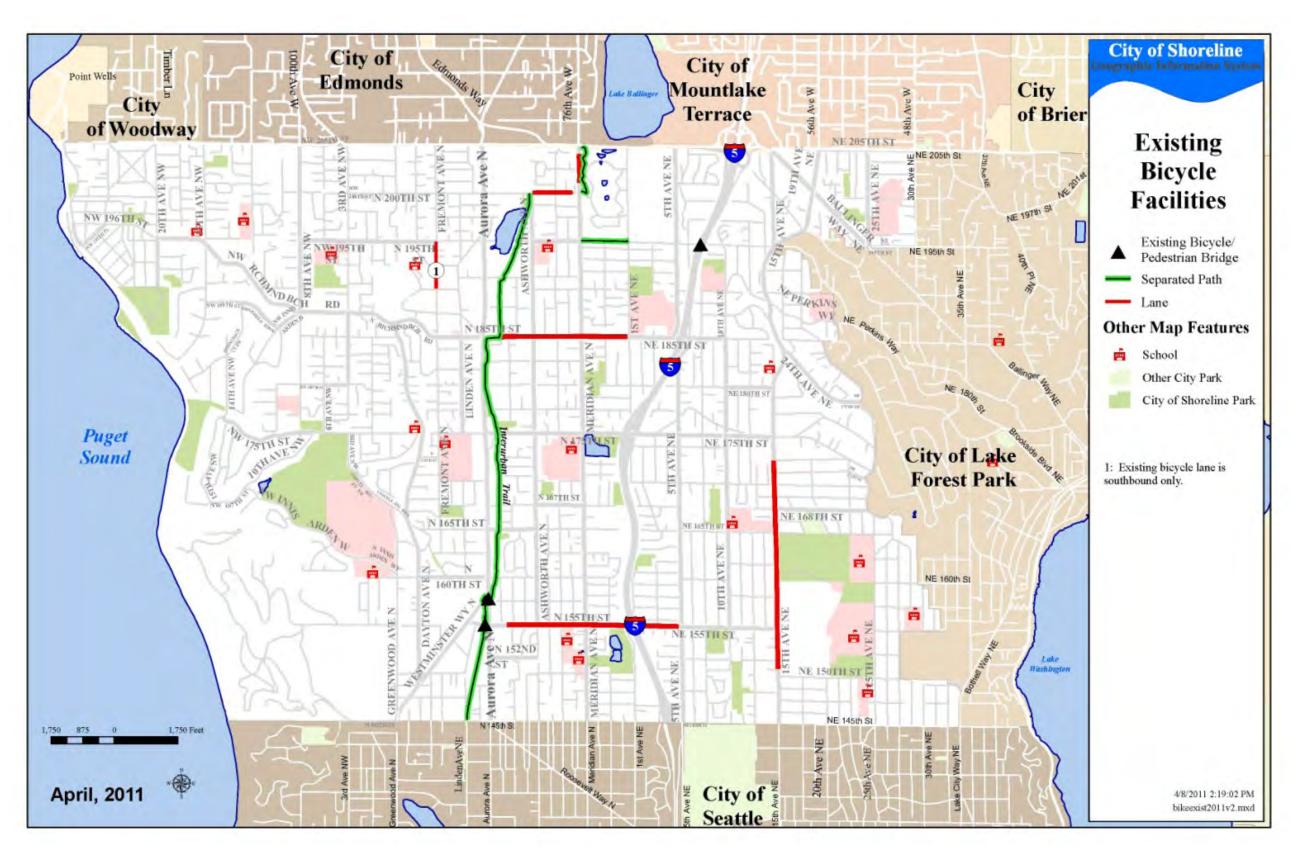


Figure 8-12: Existing Bicycle Facilities

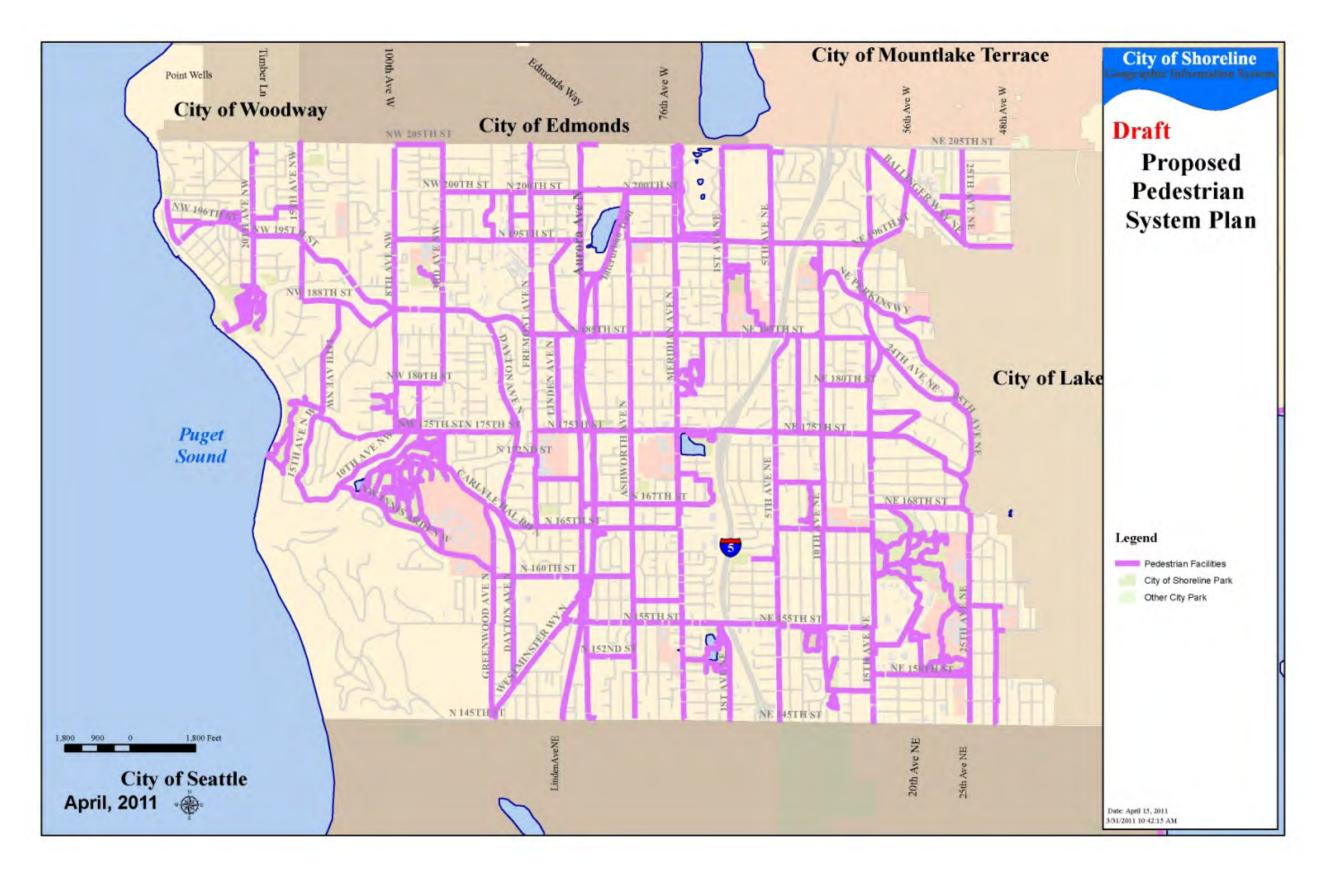


Figure 8-13: Draft TMP Pedestrian System Plan

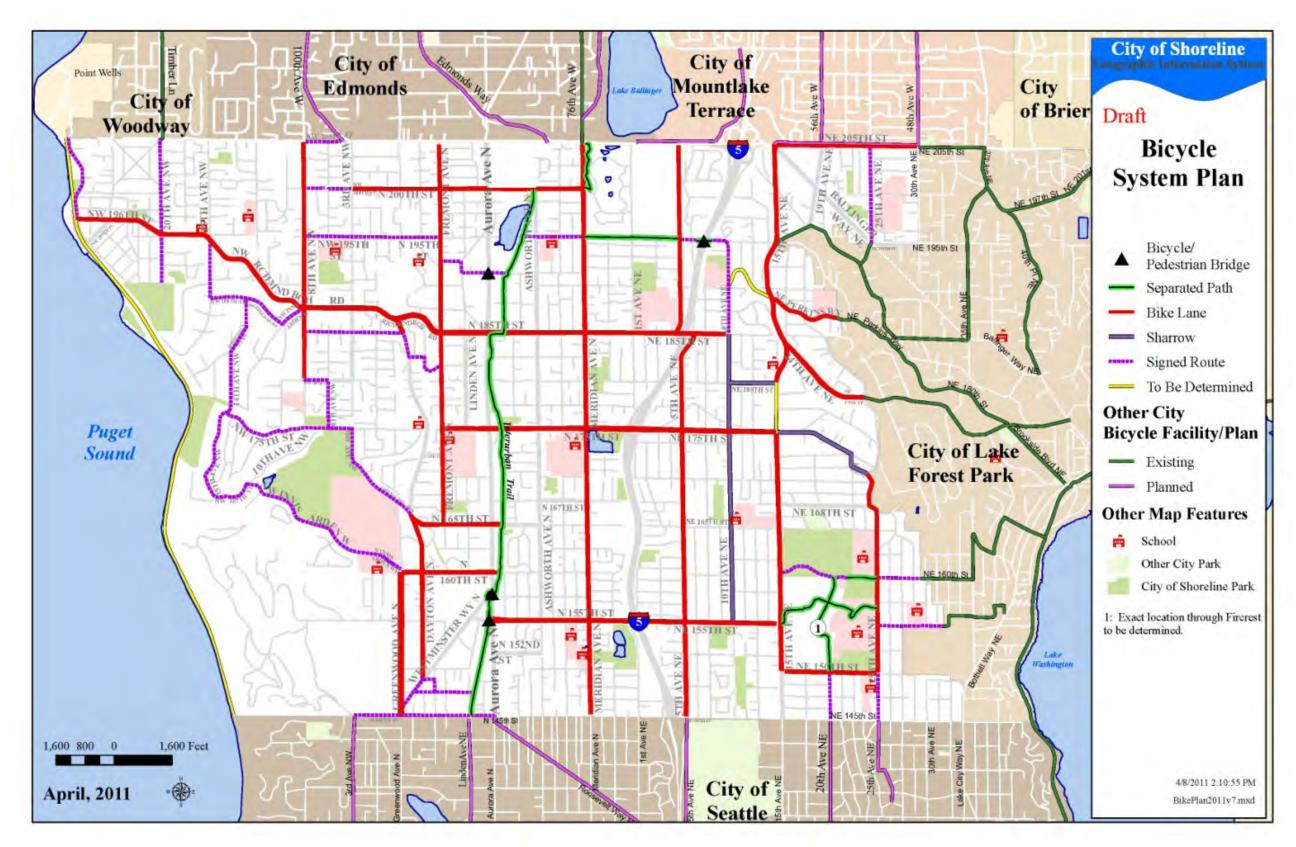


Figure 8-14: Draft TMP Bicycle System Plan

#### 8.1.4 Transit

The Town Center Subarea Plan places a great emphasis on improving and expanding the transit system within the subarea, with high capacity transit along Aurora Avenue N, frequent local bus service, and future Sound Transit light rail service (estimated to open in 2023) envisioned as providing a variety of transit connections to adjacent neighborhoods and the surrounding region. Additional focus has been placed on creating a network of walkways and pedestrian connections to help transit users connect to and navigate the Town Center.

### Existing Bus Service

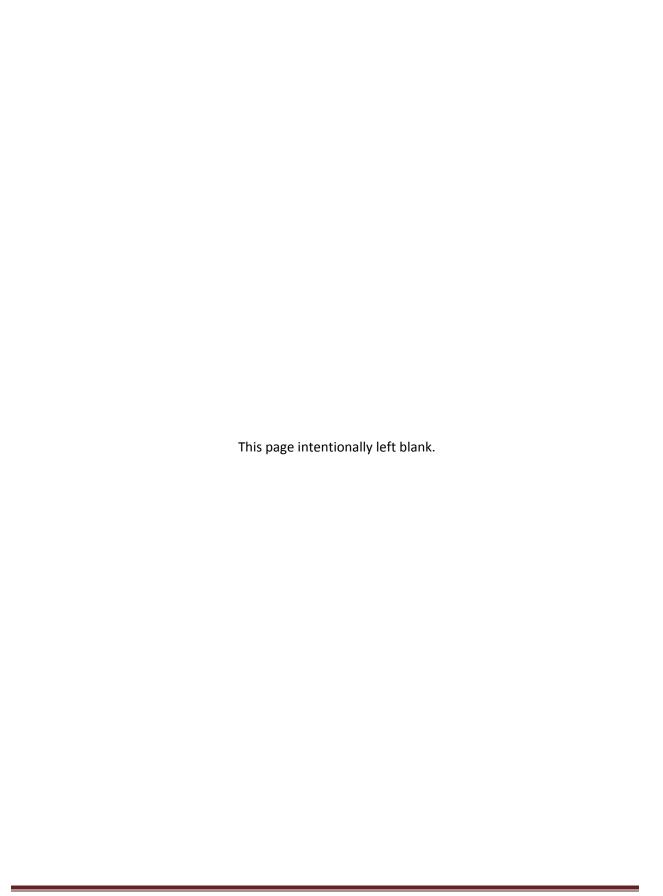
A number of existing bus lines operate within the Town Center and vicinity, either all day (Figure 8-15) or during peak commute hours (Figure 8-16). These include King County Metro Line 358, which provides service along Aurora Avenue N to Downtown Seattle every 7-15 minutes throughout the day; Metro Line 301, providing peak service down Interstate 5 to Seattle; and Metro Line 348, which provides service along N 185<sup>th</sup> Street between Richmond Beach and the Northgate Transit Center.

# Future Bus Service and Proposed Short-Term Transit Enhancements

Starting in 2013, King County Metro will begin operating the RapidRide E Line along Aurora Avenue N. Largely following the route of Line 358, the line will provide faster and more frequent service between Aurora Village Transit Center and downtown Seattle, with stations at N 175<sup>th</sup> and 185<sup>th</sup> Streets and additional stops at N 180<sup>th</sup> and N 170<sup>th</sup> Streets. To capitalize on the new RapidRide line, the City of Shoreline has developed a draft series of short-term transit enhancements (Figure 8-17) to help expand transit opportunities in the Town Center and throughout the City. Desired improvements, including increasing King County Routes 373 and 330 to All-Day service, would be subject to King County Metro planning, prioritization, and funding. However, the City of Shoreline will continue to work and coordinate with Sound Transit in an attempt to maximize transit opportunities within and adjacent to the Town Center, in hopes of creating the transit-friendly, pedestrian-oriented environment envisioned in the Subarea Plan.

### Future Light Rail Service and Proposed Long-Term Transit Enhancements

Sound Transit is currently evaluating alternatives for the North Corridor extension of Link light rail service, which, when operational in 2023, would extend light rail service north from Northgate (anticipated to open in 2021), through Shoreline, and on to Lynnwood. The Sound Transit 2 Plan (approved by voters in 2008) assumed a fully elevated light rail line along Interstate 5, with stations at NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street and NE 185<sup>th</sup> Street. However, additional alternatives, including a potential line along Aurora Avenue N, are currently being evaluated. The City of Shoreline has not adopted a preferred alternative, and as such has proposed a draft series of long-term transit enhancements (Figure 8-18), which focus primarily on expanding feeder service to the future light rail stations (either along N 185<sup>th</sup> Street to I-5, or along Aurora Avenue N to N 155<sup>th</sup> Street or N 192<sup>nd</sup> Street).



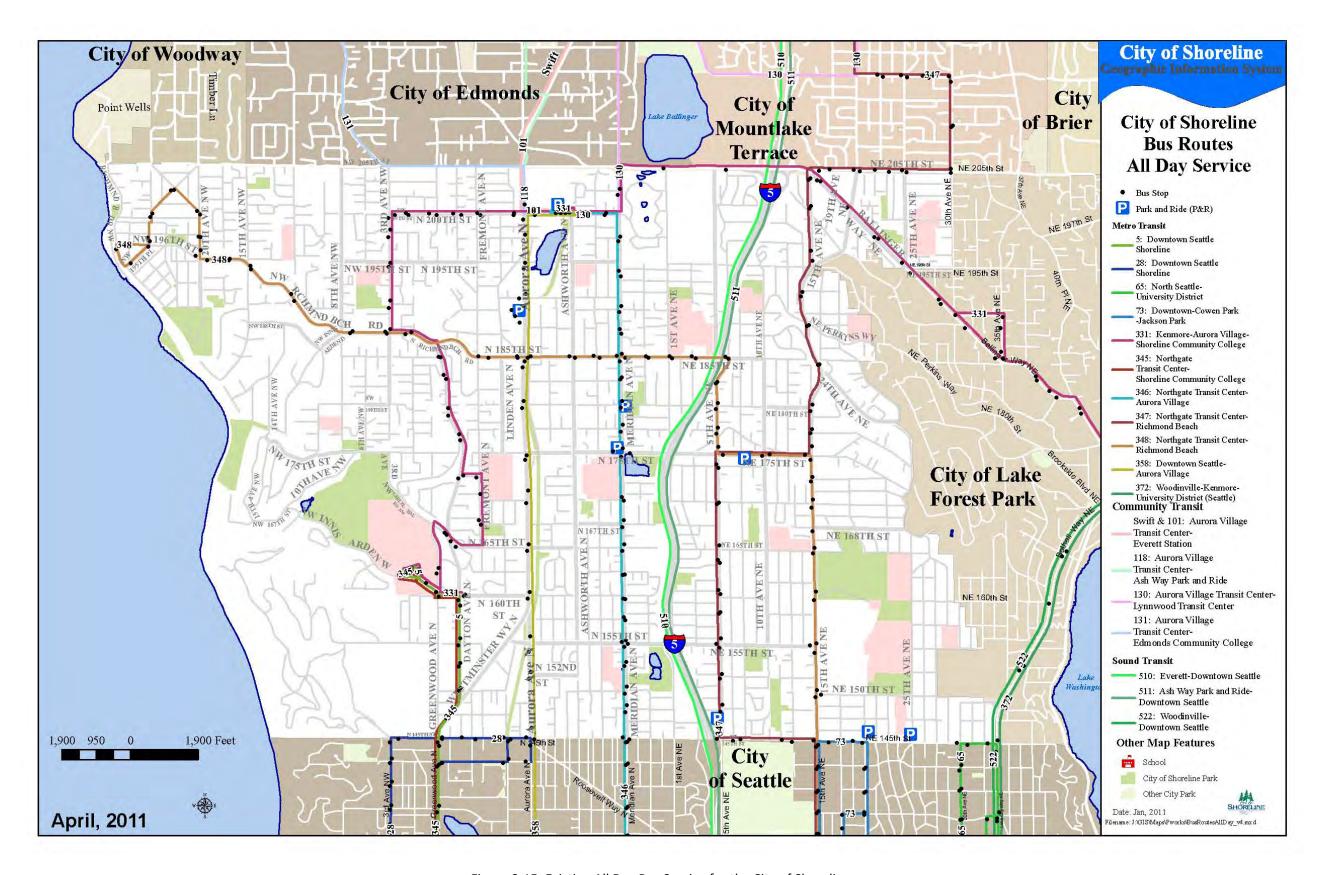


Figure 8-15: Existing All Day Bus Service for the City of Shoreline

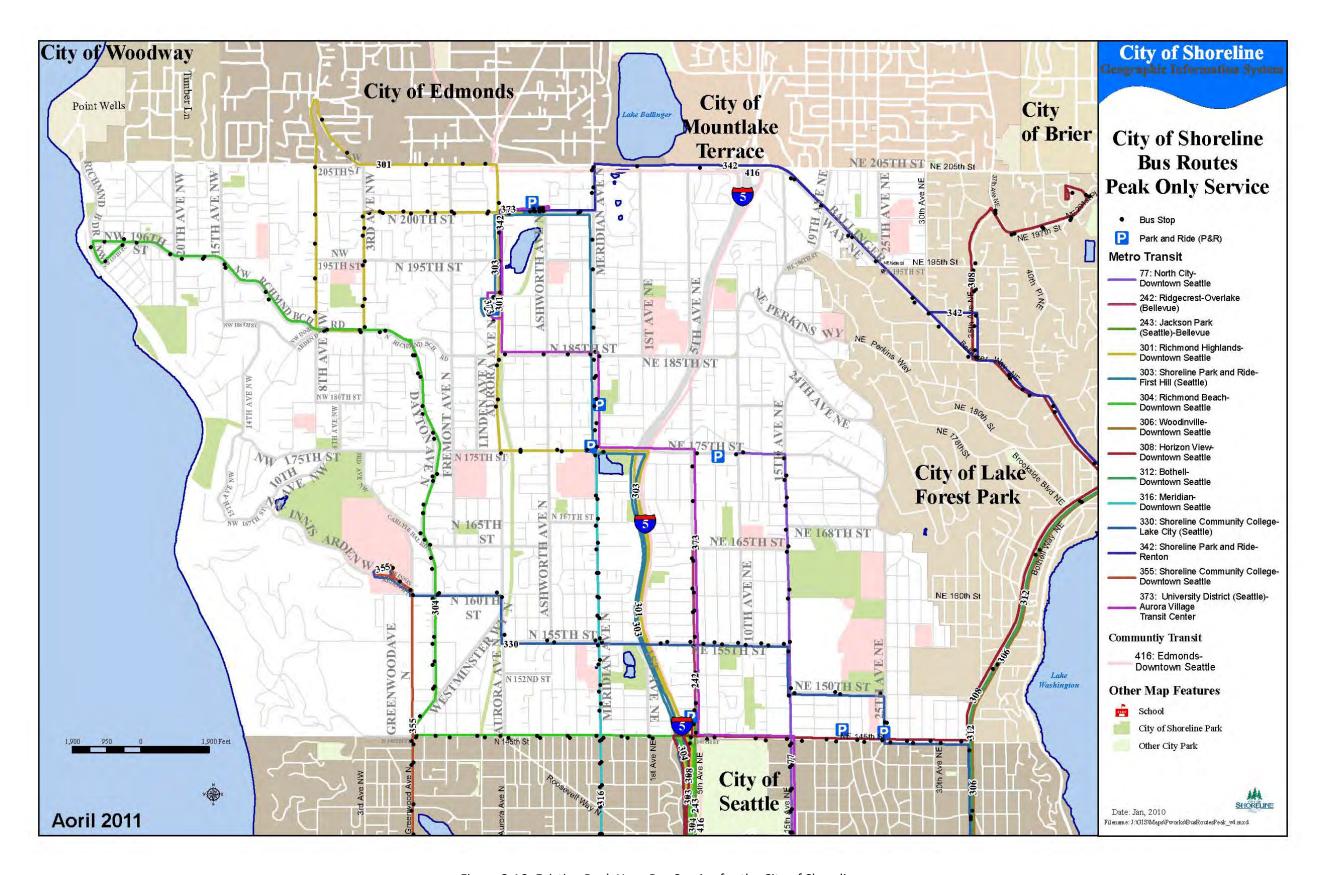


Figure 8-16- Existing Peak Hour Bus Service for the City of Shoreline

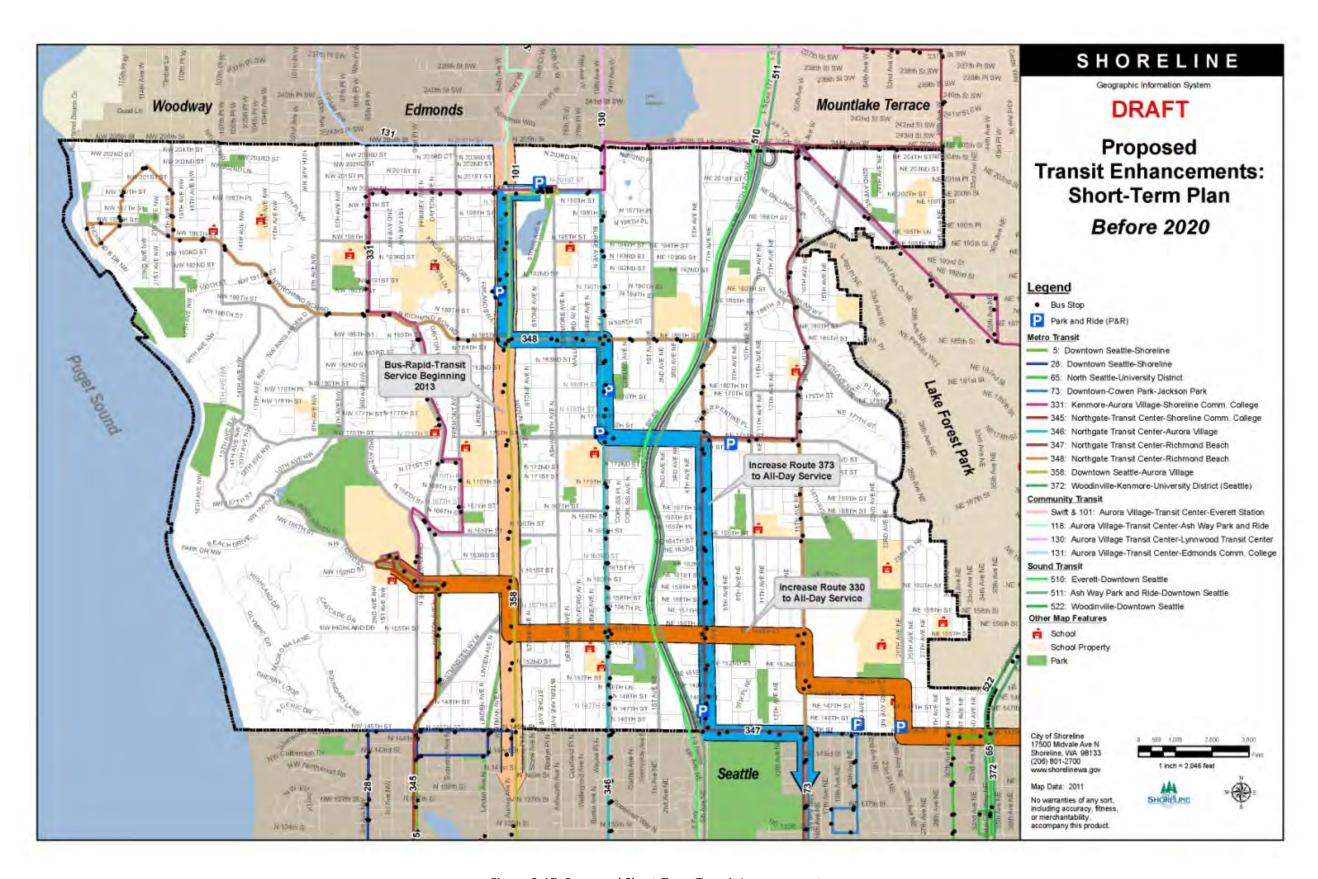


Figure 8-17: Proposed Short-Term Transit Improvements

Town Center Subarea Planned Action Draft SEIS
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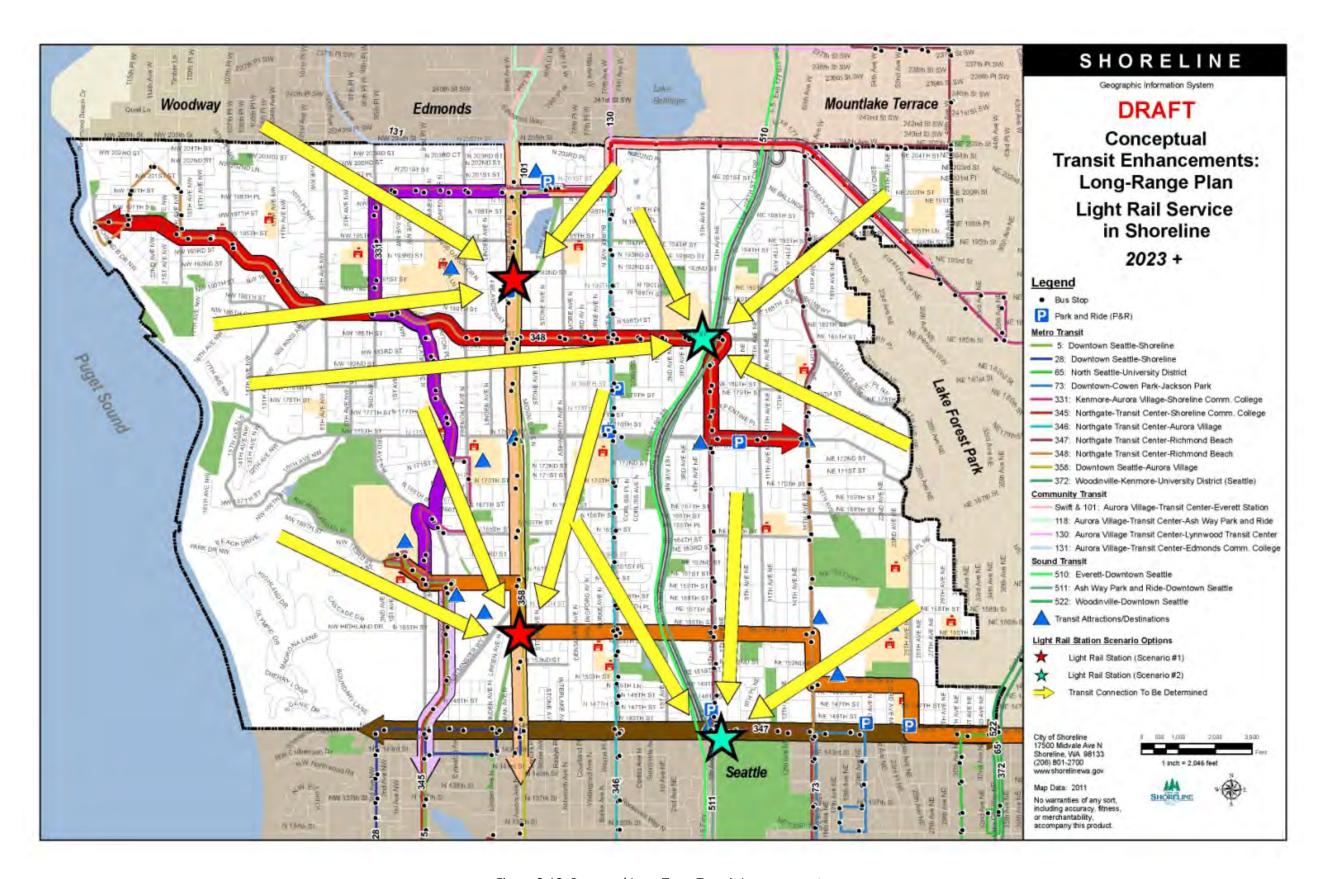


Figure 8-18: Proposed Long Term Transit Improvements

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### 8.1.5 Parking

As previously discussed, a common theme found throughout the Town Center Subarea Plan is to reduce the area's historic reliance on automobiles, and increase the number of pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users. With that being said, providing an adequate and appropriate amount of parking will be an important element to creating and supporting the mix of uses that contribute to a vibrant Town Center.

SMC 20.50.390 details the existing minimum off-street parking requirements for the City of Shoreline. For residential uses, single family residences require a minimum of 2 parking spaces, while apartments and condominiums require between 1.2 (for studios) and 2 (three bedrooms or larger) spaces per unit. Commercial, office, and retail uses require 1 parking space per 300 square feet of floor area. There are a number of standards and requirements related to surface parking lot standards, access, landscaping, and lighting, as well as the potential for a 20% reduction in required parking spaces when a project proposes a coordinated design and shared access to consolidated parking areas linked by pedestrian walkways.

The proposed Site Design Standards of the Town Center Code (20.92.060) includes a number of design standards related to parking, which expand on the current Development Code requirements. These standards require safe routes for pedestrians across parking lots, to building entries, and between buildings (through pathways, lighting, and landscaping requirements), and limit the amount of surface parking areas that can be located along the site frontages of Storefront/Greenlink Streets (65 lineal feet) and Boulevard Streets (50% of the site frontage), with parking internalized on sites so as to maximize building street frontage.

The parking ratios in the Town Center Code have been simplified to include just a few uses, with residential units requiring 0.75 spaces/bedroom, retail uses requiring 1 space/400 net square feet, and civic/office uses requiring 1 space/500 net square feet. These standards are lower than the existing Code requirements, as the Town Center Subarea Plan and Development Code anticipate a higher number of pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users. The proposed parking standards are closer to those established for the North City Subarea District (SMC 20.90.080), which requires between 1 and 1.6 parking spaces per residential unit, and one parking space per 500 square feet of gross floor area.

In addition, the Town Center Code allows the Planning Director to approve reductions of up to 50% in parking requirements for projects that meet criteria such as provision of on-street parking along the parcel's street frontage, proximity (1/4 mile) to a transit stop, a commute trip reduction program, or a shared parking agreement with adjoining parcels.

### 8.2 Impacts

Impacts Common to Both Alternatives

Impact 8.2.1: While not projected to exceed accepted level-of-service (LOS) standards, development consistent with the growth assumptions for the Town Center Subarea has the potential to result in additional vehicular traffic that could adversely impact the subarea's street system via cut-through traffic to adjacent neighborhoods.

Impact 8.2.2: Projected increases in vehicular traffic, coupled with the increased amount of pedestrian, bicycle, and transit use that typically accompany mixed-use development, has the potential to increase conflicts among the various users of Town Center.

Impacts for Proposed Action

Impact 8.2.3: The Town Center Code proposes to reduce the number of required parking spaces for residential, commercial, and office uses. This has the potential to result in spillover parking into the surrounding single family residential neighborhoods. Upon reducing the parking requirements in the North City Subarea District, the City of Shoreline experienced an increase in service requests and complaints related to spillover parking.

### 8.3 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measures for No Action Alternative

Mitigation Measure 8.3.1: Current Traffic Study Guidelines (SMC 20.60.140) for the City of Shoreline require that any development proposal that would generate 20 or more (net) PM peak hour trips to complete and submit a traffic study. Any large-scale redevelopment project within the Town Center subarea is likely to trigger this requirement.

Mitigation Measures for Proposed Action

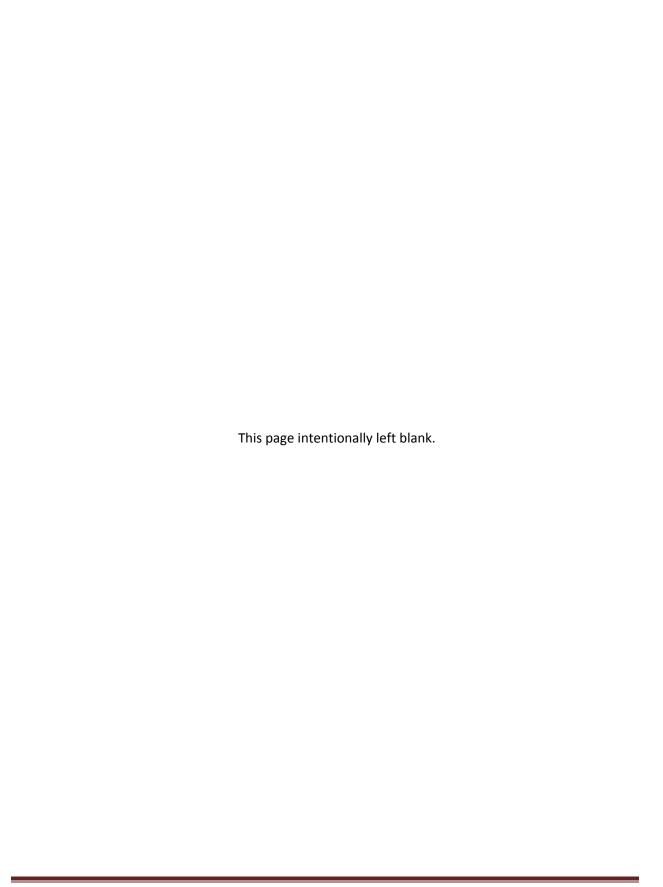
Mitigation Measure 8.3.2: Section 20.92.040 of the Town Center Code requires that all developments shall complete a traffic study and implement mitigation measures to mitigate potential cut-through traffic or parking impacts to single-family neighborhoods. These could include traffic calming measures identified in the various NTAP's, partial street closures, and other topics addressed in the required traffic study.

Mitigation Measure 8.3.3- Should spillover parking continue to be a problem following implementation of traffic calming measures, surrounding neighborhoods may pursue the City's Residential Parking Zone (RPZ) program, which requires permits to park in certain areas of the City.

The RPZ program has identified proximity to a business district as an appropriate reason for implementing permit parking.

8.4 Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impacts

With implementation of the above mitigation measures, no significant unavoidable adverse impacts are anticipated related to transportation.



# Chapter 9: References

CH2M Hill and Jones & Stokes. *Transportation Discipline Report: Aurora Corridor Improvement Project:* N 165th Street-N 205th Street. Prepared for City of Shoreline. September 2007.

City of Shoreline. 1998 Comprehensive Plan Draft EIS. November 1997.

City of Shoreline. 1998 Comprehensive Plan Final EIS. November 1998.

City of Shoreline. 2005 Comprehensive Plan Update. Adopted June 2005.

City of Shoreline. Draft Transportation Master Plan Update. May 2011.

City of Shoreline. Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan. Adopted May 2005.

City of Shoreline. *SEPA Checklist, Aurora Corridor Improvement Project: N 165<sup>th</sup> Street-N 205<sup>th</sup> Street.* November 2007.

City of Shoreline. SEPA Checklist, 2005 Comprehensive Plan Update. June 2005.

City of Shoreline. Shoreline Municipal Code, Title 20: Development Code. Accessed May 2011.

City of Shoreline. Transportation Master Plan. Adopted July 2005.

Jones and Stokes. *Air Quality Analysis, Aurora Corridor Improvement Project: N 165<sup>th</sup> Street-N 205<sup>th</sup> Street.* Prepared for City of Shoreline. June 2007.

Jones and Stokes. *Public Services and Utilities Analysis, Aurora Corridor Improvement Project: N 165<sup>th</sup> Street-N 205<sup>th</sup> Street.* Prepared for City of Shoreline. July 2007.

Puget Sound Clean Air Agency. 2008 Air Quality Data Summary. October 2009.

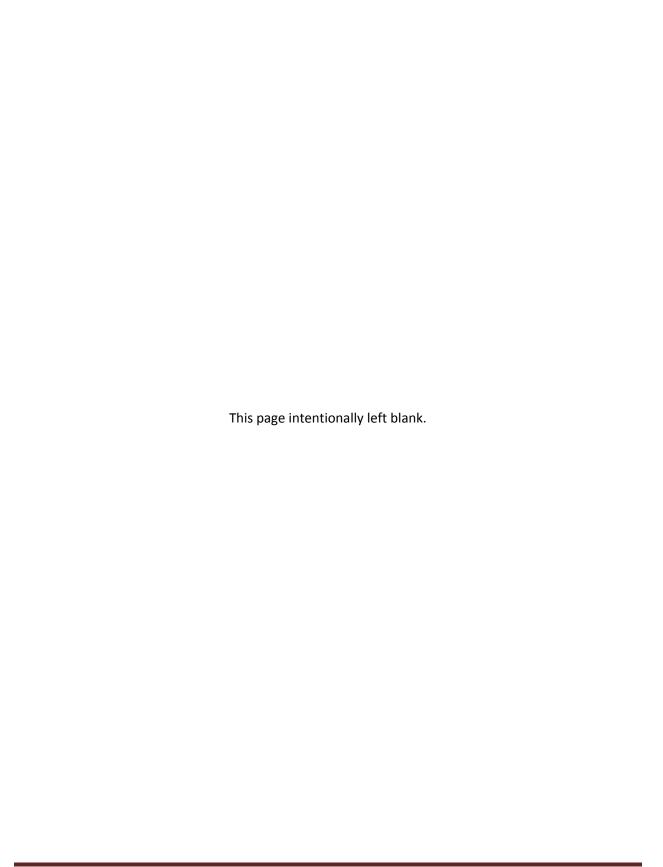
Ronald Wastewater District. Comprehensive Sewer Plan. January 2010.

Seattle City Light. Your Energy Future: Seattle City Light's Strategic Plan. October 2008.

Seattle Public Utilities. 2007 Water System Plan. November 2006.

Washington State Department of Ecology. *Draft Greenhouse Gas Emissions and SEPA Working Paper*. October 2010.

Western Shore Heritage Services, Inc. *Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aurora Avenue North Multimodal Corridor Project: North 165<sup>th</sup> Street to North 205<sup>th</sup> Street.* Prepared for City of Shoreline. August 2007.



# Appendix A- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Worksheet

# King County Department of Development and Environmental Services SEPA GHG Emissions Worksheet Version 1.7 12/26/07

## Introduction

The Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) requires environmental review of development proposals that may have a significant adverse impact on the environment. If a proposed development is subject to SEPA, the project proponent is required to complete the SEPA Checklist. The Checklist includes questions relating to the development's air emissions. The emissions that have traditionally been considered cover smoke, dust, and industrial and automobile emissions. With our understanding of the climate change impacts of GHG emissions, King County requires the applicant to also estimate these emissions.

## Emissions created by Development

GHG emissions associated with development come from multiple sources:

- The extraction, processing, transportation, construction and disposal of materials and landscape disturbance (Embodied Emissions)
- Energy demands created by the development after it is completed (Energy Emissions)
- Transportation demands created by the development after it is completed (Transportation Emissions)

## **GHG Emissions Worksheet**

King County has developed a GHG Emissions Worksheet that can assist applicants in answering the SEPA Checklist question relating to GHG emissions.

The SEPA GHG Emissions worksheet estimates all GHG emissions that will be created over the life span of a project. This includes emissions associated with obtaining construction materials, fuel used during construction, energy consumed during a buildings operation, and transportation by building occupants.

# Using the Worksheet

1. Descriptions of the different residential and commercial building types can be found on the second tabbed worksheet ("Definition of Building Types"). If a development proposal consists of multiple projects, e.g. both single family and multi-family residential structures or a commercial development that consists of more than on type of commercial activity, the appropriate information should be estimated for each type of building or activity.

- 2. For paving, estimate the total amount of paving (in thousands of square feet) of the project.
- The Worksheet will calculate the amount of GHG emissions associated with the project and display the amount in the "Total Emissions" column on the worksheet. The applicant should use this information when completing the SEPA checklist.
- 4. The last three worksheets in the Excel file provide the background information that is used to calculate the total GHG emissions.
- 5. The methodology of creating the estimates is transparent; if there is reason to believe that a better estimate can be obtained by changing specific values, this can and should be done. Changes to the values should be documented with an explanation of why and the sources relied upon.
- 6. Print out the "Total Emissions" worksheet and attach it to the SEPA checklist. If the applicant has made changes to the calculations or the values, the documentation supporting those changes should also be attached to the SEPA checklist.

## Section I: Buildings

<b>Emissions Per Unit or Per</b>	Thousand	Square	Feet					
(MTCO2a)								

				(14110020)		
		Square Feet (in				Lifespan
Type (Residential) or Principal Activity		thousands of				Emissions
(Commercial)	# Units	square feet)	Embodied	Energy	Transportation	(MTCO2e)
Single-Family Home	50		98	672	792	78,092
Multi-Family Unit in Large Building	1000		33	357	766	1,155,694
Multi-Family Unit in Small Building	150		54	681	766	225,027
Mobile Home	0		41	475	709	0
Education		0.0	39	646	361	0
Food Sales		0.0	39	1,541	282	0
Food Service		0.0	39	1,994	561	0
Health Care Inpatient		0.0	39	1,938	582	0
Health Care Outpatient		0.0	39	737	571	0
Lodging		0.0	39	777	117	0
Retail (Other Than Mall)		200.0	39	577	247	172,551
Office		200.0	39	723	588	269,869
Public Assembly		0.0	39	733	150	0
Public Order and Safety		0.0	39	899	374	0
Religious Worship		0.0	39	339	129	0
Service		0.0	39	599	266	0
Warehouse and Storage		0.0	39	352	181	0
Other		0.0	39	1,278	257	0
Vacant		0.0	39	162	47	0

Section II: Pavement.....

Pavement	0
----------	---

**Total Project Emissions:** 

1,901,233

Definition of Building Types

Definition of Building Types							
Type (Residential) or Principal Activity							
(Commercial)	Description						
Single-Family Home	Unless otherwise specified, this includes both attached and detached buildings						
Multi-Family Unit in Large Building	Apartments in buildings with more than 5 units						
Multi-Family Unit in Small Building	Apartments in building with 2-4 units						
Mobile Home							
Education	Buildings used for academic or technical classroom instruction, such as elementary, middle, or high schools, and classroom buildings on college or university campuses. Buildings on education campuses for which the main use is not classroom are included in the category relating to their use. For example, administration buildings are part of "Office," dormitories are "Lodging," and libraries are "Public Assembly."						
Food Sales	Buildings used for retail or wholesale of food.						
	Buildings used for preparation and sale of food and beverages for						
Food Service	consumption.						
Health Care Inpatient							
Todais Gara in passon							
Health Care Outpatient	Buildings used as diagnostic and treatment facilities for outpatient care.  Doctor's or dentist's office are included here if they use any type of diagnostic  medical equipment (if they do not, they are categorized as an office building).						
Lodging							
Retail (Other Than Mall)	Buildings used for the sale and display of goods other than food.						
Office	Buildings used for general office space, professional office, or administrative offices. Doctor's or dentist's office are included here if they do not use any type of diagnostic medical equipment (if they do, they are categorized as an outpatient health care building).						
	Buildings in which people gather for social or recreational activities, whether in						
Public Assembly	private or non-private meeting halls.						
Public Order and Safety	Buildings used for the preservation of law and order or public safety.						
Religious Worship	Buildings in which people gather for religious activities, (such as chapels, churches, mosques, synagogues, and temples).						
	Buildings in which some type of service is provided, other than food service or						
Service							
Warehouse and Storage	Buildings used to store goods, manufactured products, merchandise, raw materials, or personal belongings (such as self-storage).						
Other	Buildings that are industrial or agricultural with some retail space; buildings having several different commercial activities that, together, comprise 50 percent or more of the floorspace, but whose largest single activity is agricultural, industrial/ manufacturing, or residential; and all other						
Other	<ul> <li>miscellaneous buildings that do not fit into any other category.</li> <li>Buildings in which more floorspace was vacant than was used for any single commercial activity at the time of interview. Therefore, a vacant building may</li> </ul>						
Vacant	have some occupied floorspace.						

# Sources: ...... Residential

2001 Residential Energy Consumption Survey Square footage measurements and comparisons http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/recs/sqft-measure.html

Commercial

Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey (CBECS),

Description of CBECS Building Types http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cbecs/pba99/bldgtypes.html

#### **Embodied Emissions Worksheet**

Section I: Building

Section I: Buildings			
		Life span related	Life span related embodied
	# thousand	embodied GHG	GHG missions (MTCO2e/
Type (Residential) or Principal Activity	sq feet/ unit	missions (MTCO2e/	thousand square feet) - See
(Commercial)	or building	unit)	calculations in table below
Single-Family Home	2.53	98	39
Multi-Family Unit in Large Building	0.85	33	39
Multi-Family Unit in Small Building	1.39	54	39
Mobile Home	1.06	41	39
Education	25.6	991	39
Food Sales	5.6	217	39
Food Service	5.6	217	39
Health Care Inpatient	241.4	9,346	39
Health Care Outpatient	10.4	403	39
Lodging	35.8	1,386	39
Retail (Other Than Mall)	9.7	376	39
Office	14.8	573	39
Public Assembly	14.2	550	39
Public Order and Safety	15.5	600	39
Religious Worship	10.1	391	39
Service	6.5	252	39
Warehouse and Storage	16.9	654	39
Other	21.9	848	39
Vacant	14.1	546	39

Section II: Pavement...
All Types of Pavement...

		Intermediate			Interior			
	Columns and Beams	Floors	Exterior Walls	Windows	Walls	Roofs		
Average GWP (lbs CO2e/sq ft): Vancouver,								
Low Rise Building	5.3	7.8	19.1	51.2	5.7	21.3		
							Total	Total Embodied
							Embodied	Emissions
Average Materials in a 2,272-square foot							Emissions	(MTCO2e/
single family home	0.0	2269.0	3206.0	285.0	6050.0	3103.0	(MTCO2e)	thousand sq feet)
MTCO2e	0.0	8.0	27.8	6.6	15.6	30.0	88.0	38.7

Sources
All data in black text King County, DNRP. Contact: Matt Kuharic, matt.kuharic@kingcounty.gov

Residential floorspace per unit 2001 Residential Energy Consumption Survey (National Average, 2001)

Square footage measurements and comparisons http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/recs/sqft-measure.html

Floorspace per building EIA, 2003 Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey (National Average, 2003)

Table C3. Consumption and Gross Energy Intensity for Sum of Major Fuels for Non-Mall Buildings, 2003 http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cbecs/cbecs2003/detailed\_tables\_2003/2003set9/2003excel/c3.xls

Average GWP (lbs CO2e/sq ft): Vancouver,

Low Rise Building

Athena EcoCalculator

Athena Assembly Evaluation Tool v2.3- Vancouver Low Rise Building Assembly Average GWP (kg) per square meter

http://www.athenasmi.ca/tools/ecoCalculator/index.html Lbs per kg 2.20 Square feet per square meter 10.76

Average Materials in a 2,272-square foot

single family home

Buildings Energy Data Book: 7.3 Typical/Average Household

Materials Used in the Construction of a 2,272-Square-Foot Single-Family Home, 2000 http://buildingsdatabook.eren.doe.gov/?id=view\_book\_table&TableID=2036&t=xls See also: NAHB, 2004 Housing Facts, Figures and Trends, Feb. 2004, p. 7.

Appendix B, Quality of the Data. Pg. 5. ftp://ftp.eia.doe.gov/pub/consumption/residential/rx93hcf.pdf

Pavement Emissions Factors
MTCO2e/thousand square feet of asphalt
or concrete pavement

50 (see below)

#### Embodied GHG Emissions......Worksheet Background Information

#### Building

Embodied GHG emissions are emissions that are created through the extraction, processing, transportation, construction and disposal of building materials as well as emissions created through landscape disturbance (by both soil disturbance and changes in above ground biomass).

Estimating embodied GHG emissions is new field of analysis; the estimates are rapidly improving and becoming more inclusive of all elements of construction and development.

The estimate included in this worksheet is calculated using average values for the main construction materials that are used to create a typical family home. In 2004, the National Association of Home Builders calculated the average materials that are used in a typical 2,272 square foot single-family household. The quantity of materials used is then multiplied by the average GHG emissions associated with the life-cycle GHG emissions for each material.

This estimate is a rough and conservative estimate; the actual embodied emissions for a project are likely to be higher. For example, at this stage, due to a lack of comprehensive data, the estimate does not include important factors such as landscape disturbance or the emissions associated with the interior components of a building (such as furniture).

King County realizes that the calculations for embodied emissions in this worksheet are rough. For example, the emissions associated with building 1,000 square feet of a residential building will not be the same as 1,000 square feet of a commercial building. However, discussions with the construction community indicate that while there are significant differences between the different types of structures, this method of estimation is reasonable; it will be improved as more data become available.

Additionally, if more specific information about the project is known, King County recommends two online embodied emissions calculators that can be used to obtain a more tailored estimate for embodied emissions: <a href="https://www.athenasmi.ca/tools/ecoCalculator/">www.athenasmi.ca/tools/ecoCalculator/</a>.

#### Pavement

Four recent life cycle assessments of the environmental impacts of roads form the basis for the per unit embodied emissions of pavement. Each study is constructed in slightly different ways; however, the aggregate results of the reports represent a reasonable estimate of the GHG emissions that are created from the manufacture of paving materials, construction related emissions, and maintenance of the pavement over its expected life cycle. For specifics, see the worksheet.

#### Special Section: Estimating the Embodied Emissions for Pavement

Four recent life cycle assessments of the environmental impacts of roads form the basis for the per unit embodied emissions of pavement. Each study is constructed in slightly different ways; however, the aggregate results of the reports represent a reasonable estimate of the GHG emissions that are created from the manufacture of paving materials, construction related emissions, and maintenance of the pavement over its expected life cycle.

The results of the studies are presented in different units and measures; considerable effort was undertaken to be able to compare the results of the studies in a reasonable way. For more details about the below methodology, contact matt.kuharic@kingcounty.gov.

The four studies, Meil (2001), Park (2003), Stripple (2001) and Treolar (2001) produced total GHG emissions of 4-34 MTCO2e per thousand square feet of finished paving (for similar asphalt and concrete based pavements). This estimate does not including downstream maintenance and repair of the highway. The average (for all concrete and asphalt pavements in the studies, assuming each study gets one data point) is ~17 MTCO2e/thousand square feet.

Three of the studies attempted to thoroughly account for the emissions associated with long term maintenance (40 years) of the roads. Stripple (2001), Park et al. (2003) and Treolar (2001) report 17, 81, and 68 MTCO2e/thousand square feet, respectively, after accounting for maintenance of the roads.

Based on the above discussion, King County makes the conservative estimate that 50 MTCO2e/thousand square feet of pavement (over the development's life cycle) will be used as the embodied emission factor for pavement until better estimates can be obtained. This is roughly equivalent to 3,500 MTCO2e per lane mile of road (assuming the lane is 13 feet wide).

It is important to note that these studies estimate the embodied emissions for roads. Paving that does not need to stand up to the rigors of heavy use (such as parking lots or driveways) would likely use less materials and hence have lower embodied emissions.

#### Sources

Meil, J. A Life Cycle Perspective on Concrete and Asphalt Roadways: Embodied Primary Energy and Global Warming Potential. 2006. Available:

http://www.cement.ca/cement.nsf/eee9ec7bbd630126852566c40052107b/6ec79dc8ae03a782852572b90061b9

Park, K, Hwang, Y., Seo, S., M.ASCE, and Seo, H., "Quantitative Assessment of Environmental Impacts on Life Cycle of Highways," Journal of Construction Engineering and Management, Vol 129, January/February 2003, pp 25-31, (DOI: 10.1061/(ASCE)0733-9364(2003)129:1(25)).

Stripple, H. Life Cycle Assessment of Road. A Pilot Study for Inventory Analysis. Second Revised Edition. IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute Ltd. 2001. Available: http://www.ivl.se/rapporter/pdf/B1210E.pdf

Treloar, G., Love, P.E.D., and Crawford, R.H. Hybrid Life-Cycle Inventory for Road Construction and Use. Journal of Construction Engineering and Management. P. 43-49. January/February 2004.

**Energy Emissions Worksheet** 

LITOI GY LITIIOGIONO TVOIRONOOL									
	Energy			Floorspace	MTCE per				Lifespan Energy
	consumption per			per Building	·		Average	Lifespan Energy	
Type (Residential) or Principal Activity					square feet per				
(Commercial)					year			emissions per unit	· ·
Single-Family Home		0.108	11.61	2.53	4.6	16.8	57.9	672	266
Multi-Family Unit in Large Building	41.0	0.108	4.44	0.85	5.2	19.2	80.5	357	422
Multi-Family Unit in Small Building	78.1	0.108	8.45	1.39	6.1	22.2	80.5	681	489
Mobile Home	75.9	0.108	8.21	1.06	7.7	28.4	57.9	475	448
Education	2,125.0	0.124	264.2	25.6	10.3	37.8	62.5	16,526	646
Food Sales	1,110.0	0.124	138.0	5.6	24.6	90.4	62.5	8,632	1,541
Food Service	1,436.0	0.124	178.5	5.6	31.9	116.9	62.5	11,168	1,994
Health Care Inpatient	60,152.0	0.124	7,479.1	241.4	31.0	113.6	62.5	467,794	1,938
Health Care Outpatient	985.0	0.124	122.5	10.4	11.8	43.2	62.5	7,660	737
Lodging	3,578.0	0.124	444.9	35.8	12.4	45.6	62.5	27,826	777
Retail (Other Than Mall)	720.0	0.124	89.5	9.7	9.2	33.8	62.5	5,599	577
Office	1,376.0	0.124	171.1	14.8	11.6	42.4	62.5	10,701	723
Public Assembly	1,338.0	0.124	166.4	14.2	11.7	43.0	62.5	10,405	733
Public Order and Safety	1,791.0	0.124	222.7	15.5	14.4	52.7	62.5	13,928	899
Religious Worship	440.0	0.124	54.7	10.1	5.4	19.9	62.5	3,422	339
Service	501.0	0.124	62.3	6.5	9.6	35.1	62.5	3,896	599
Warehouse and Storage	764.0	0.124	95.0	16.9	5.6	20.6	62.5	5,942	352
Other	3,600.0	0.124	447.6	21.9	20.4	74.9	62.5	27,997	1,278
Vacant	294.0	0.124	36.6	14.1	2.6	9.5	62.5	2,286	162

Sources

All data in black text King County, DNRP. Contact: Matt Kuharic, matt.kuharic@kingcounty.gov

Energy consumption for residential

buildings

2007 Buildings Energy Data Book: 6.1 Quad Definitions and Comparisons (National Average, 2001)

Table 6.1.4: Average Annual Carbon Dioxide Emissions for Various Functions

http://buildingsdatabook.eren.doe.gov/

Data also at: http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/recs/recs2001\_ce/ce1-4c\_housingunits2001.html

Energy consumption for commercial

buildings

EIA, 2003 Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey (National Average, 2003)

Table C3. Consumption and Gross Energy Intensity for Sum of Major Fuels for Non-Mall Buildings, 2003

Floorspace per building http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cbecs/cbess2003/detailed\_tables\_2003/2003set9/2003excel/c3.xls

Note: Data in plum color is found in both of the above sources (buildings energy data book and commercial buildings energy consumption survey).

Carbon Coefficient for Buildings

Buildings Energy Data Book (National average, 2005)

Table 3.1.7. 2005 Carbon Dioxide Emission Coefficients for Buildings (MMTCE per Quadrillion Btu)

http://buildingsdatabook.eere.energy.gov/?id=view\_book\_table&TableID=2057 Note: Carbon coefficient in the Energy Data book is in MTCE per Quadrillion Btu.

To convert to MTCO2e per million Btu, this factor was divided by 1000 and multiplied by 44/12.

Residential floorspace per unit

2001 Residential Energy Consumption Survey (National Average, 2001)

Square footage measurements and comparisons http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/recs/sqft-measure.html average lief span of buildings, estimated by replacement time method

			1	
4		Single Family Homes	Multi-Family Units in Large and Small Buildings	
	New Housing			
	Construction,			
	2001	1,273,000	329,000	1,602,000
	Existing Housing Stock, 2001	73,700,000	26,500,000	100,200,000
	Replacement			
	time:	57.9	80.5	62.5

(national average, 2001)

Note: Single family homes calculation is used for mobile homes as a best estimate life span.

Note: At this time, KC staff could find no reliable data for the average life span of commercial buildings.

Therefore, the average life span of residential buildings is being used until a better approximation can be ascertained.

#### Sources:

New Housing Construction,

2001 Quarterly Starts and Completions by Purpose and Design - US and Regions (Excel) http://www.census.gov/const/quarterly\_starts\_completions\_cust.xls See also: http://www.census.gov/const/www/newresconstindex.html

Existing Housing Stock,

2001 Residential Energy Consumption Survey (RECS) 2001

Tables HC1:Housing Unit Characteristics, Million U.S. Households 2001

Table HC1-4a. Housing Unit Characteristics by Type of Housing Unit, Million U.S. Households, 2001

Million U.S. Households, 2001

http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/recs/recs2001/hc\_pdf/housunits/hc1-4a\_housingunits2001.pdf

Transportation Emissions Worksheet

Transportation Emissions Worksheet	Transportation Emissions Worksheet									
				vehicle related					Life span	
				GHG				Life span	transportation	
				emissions		MTCO2e/		transportation	related GHG	
			# people or	(metric tonnes		year/		related GHG	emissions	
		# thousand	employees/	CO2e per		thousand	Average	emissions	(MTCO2e/	
Type (Residential) or Principal Activity			thousand	person per	MTCO2e/	square			thousand sq	
(Commercial)				year)	year/ unit	feet		. ,	feet)	
Single-Family Home	2.8	2.53		4.9	13.7	5.4	57.9	792	313	
Multi-Family Unit in Large Building	1.9	0.85	2.3	4.9	9.5	11.2	80.5	766	904	
Multi-Family Unit in Small Building	1.9	1.39	1.4	4.9	9.5	6.8	80.5	766	550	
Mobile Home	2.5	1.06	2.3	4.9	12.2	11.5	57.9	709	668	
Education	30.0	25.6	1.2	4.9	147.8	5.8	62.5	9247	361	
Food Sales	5.1	5.6	0.9	4.9	25.2	4.5	62.5	1579	282	
Food Service	10.2	5.6	1.8	4.9	50.2	9.0	62.5	3141	561	
Health Care Inpatient	455.5	241.4	1.9	4.9	2246.4	9.3	62.5	140506	582	
Health Care Outpatient	19.3	10.4	1.9	4.9	95.0	9.1	62.5	5941	571	
Lodging	13.6	35.8	0.4	4.9	67.1	1.9	62.5	4194	117	
Retail (Other Than Mall)	7.8	9.7	0.8	4.9	38.3	3.9	62.5	2394	247	
Office	28.2	14.8	1.9	4.9	139.0	9.4	62.5	8696	588	
Public Assembly	6.9	14.2	0.5	4.9	34.2	2.4	62.5	2137	150	
Public Order and Safety	18.8	15.5	1.2	4.9	92.7	6.0	62.5	5796	374	
Religious Worship	4.2	10.1	0.4	4.9	20.8	2.1	62.5	1298	129	
Service	5.6	6.5	0.9	4.9	27.6	4.3	62.5	1729	266	
Warehouse and Storage	9.9	16.9	0.6	4.9	49.0	2.9	62.5	3067	181	
Other	18.3	21.9	0.8	4.9	90.0	4.1	62.5	5630	257	
Vacant	2.1	14.1	0.2	4.9	10.5	0.7	62.5	657	47	

#### <u>Sources</u>

All data in black text King County, DNRP. Contact: Matt Kuharic, matt.kuharic@kingcounty.gov

# people/ unit Estimating Household Size for Use in Population Estimates (WA state, 2000 average)

Washington State Office of Financial Management

Kimpel, T. and Lowe, T. Research Brief No. 47. August 2007

http://www.ofm.wa.gov/researchbriefs/brief047.pdf

Note: This analysis combines Multi Unit Structures in both large and small units into one category;

the average is used in this case although there is likely a difference

Residential floorspace per unit 2001 Residential Energy Consumption Survey (National Average, 2001)

Square footage measurements and comparisons http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/recs/sqft-measure.html

# employees/thousand square feet Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey commercial energy uses and costs (National Median, 2003)

Table B2 Totals and Medians of Floorspace, Number of Workers, and Hours of Operation for Non-Mall Buildings, 2003

http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cbecs/cbecs2003/detailed\_tables\_2003/2003set1/2003excel/b2.xls

Note: Data for # employees/thousand square feet is presented by CBECS as square feet/employee.

In this analysis employees/thousand square feet is calculated by taking the inverse of the CBECS number and multiplying by 1000.

#### vehicle related GHG emissions

Estimate calculated as follows (Washington state, 2006)\_

56,531,930,000 2006 Annual WA State Vehicle Miles Traveled

Data was daily VMT. Annual VMT was 365\*daily VMT.

http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/mapsdata/tdo/annualmileage.htm

6,395,798 2006 WA state population

http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/53000.html

8839 vehicle miles per person per year

0.0506 gallon gasoline/mile

This is the weighted national average fuel efficiency for all cars and 2 axle, 4 wheel light trucks in 2005. This includes pickup trucks, vans and SUVs. The 0.051 gallons/mile used here is the inverse of the more commonly known term "miles/per gallon" (which is 19.75 for these cars and light trucks).

Transportation Energy Data Book. 26th Edition. 2006. Chapter 4: Light Vehicles and Characteristics. Calculations based on weighted average MPG efficiency of cars and light trucks.

http://cta.ornl.gov/data/tedb26/Edition26\_Chapter04.pdf

Note: This report states that in 2005, 92.3% of all highway VMT were driven by the above described vehicles.

http://cta.ornl.gov/data/tedb26/Spreadsheets/Table3 04.xls

24.3 lbs CO2e/gallon gasoline

The CO2 emissions estimates for gasoline and diesel include the extraction, transport, and refinement of petroleum as well as their combustion.

Life-Cycle CO2 Emissions for Various New Vehicles. RENew Northfield.

Available: http://renewnorthfield.org/wpcontent/uploads/2006/04/CO2%20emissions.pdf

Note: This is a conservative estimate of emissions by fuel consumption because diesel fuel,

2205 with a emissions factor of 26.55 lbs CO2e/gallon was not estimated.

200

4.93 lbs/metric tonne

vehicle related GHG emissions (metric tonnes CO2e per person per year)

average lief span of buildings, estimated by replacement time method

See Energy Emissions Worksheet for Calculations

Commercial floorspace per unit

EIA, 2003 Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey (National Average, 2003)

Table C3. Consumption and Gross Energy Intensity for Sum of Major Fuels for Non-Mall Buildings, 2003

http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cbecs/cbecs2003/detailed\_tables\_2003/2003set9/2003excel/c3.xls

# Appendix B - Park at Town Center Design Alternatives



TOWN CENTER PARK

CITY OF SHORELINE



TOWN CENTER PARK

CITY OF SHORELINE

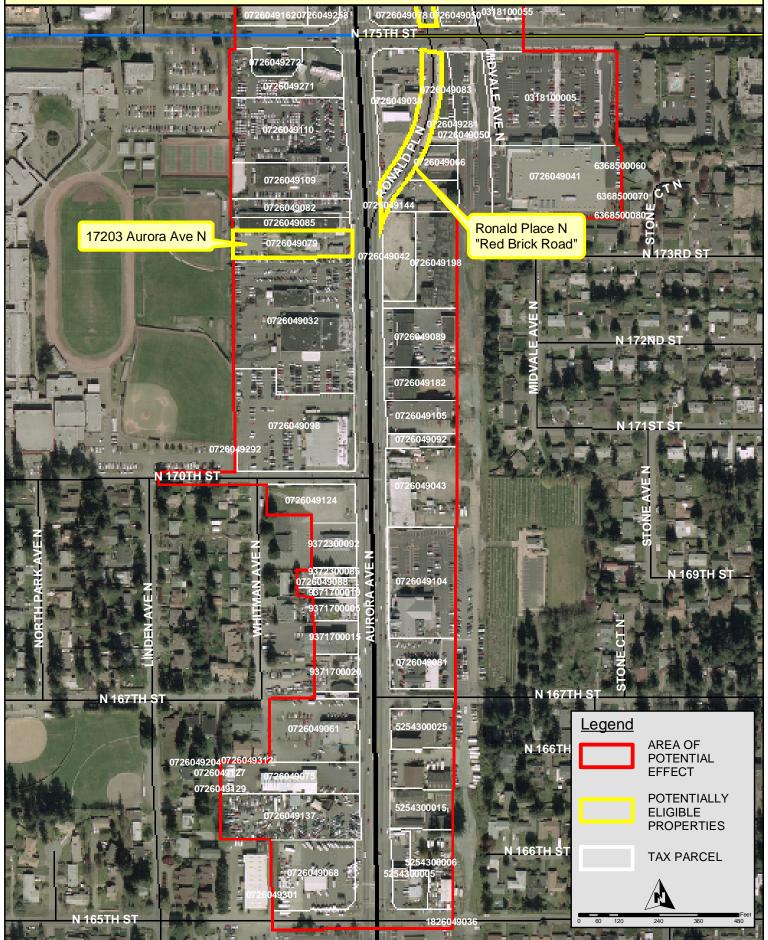


**TOWN CENTER PARK** 

CITY OF SHORELINE

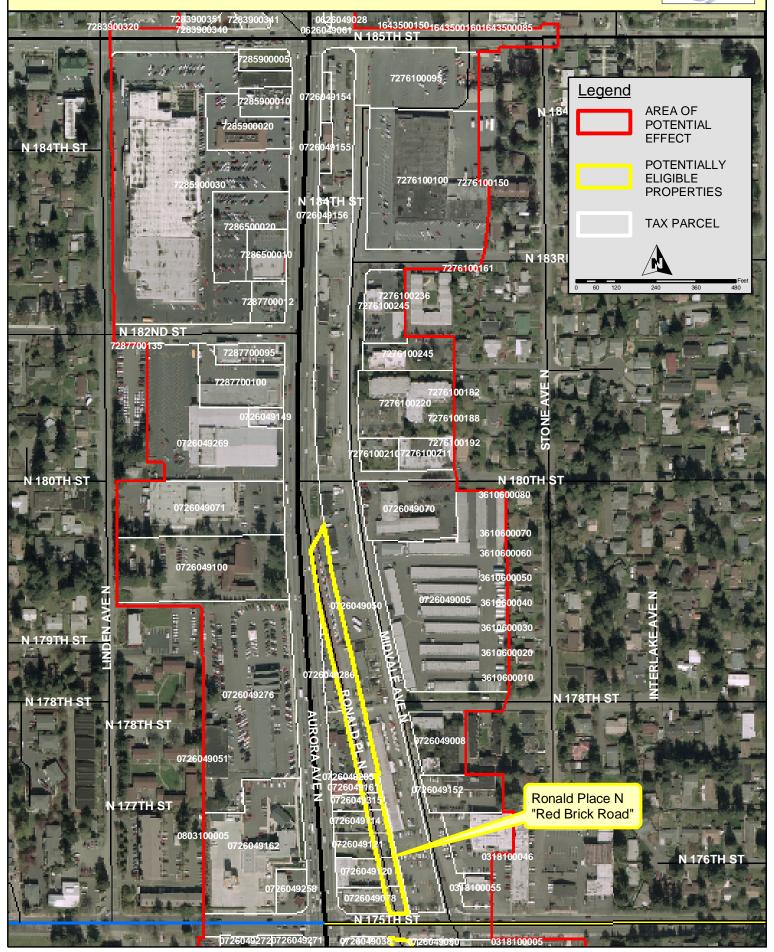
# Appendix C: Tax Parcel Numbers & Potentially Eligible Properties Map #1: N 165th Street to N 175th Street





# Appendix C: Tax Parcel Numbers & Potentially Eligible Properties Map #2: N 175th Street to N 185th Street





# Appendix D- Distribution List

SEPA Unit Department of Ecology PO Box 47703 Olympia, WA 98504-7703

Puget Sound Regional Council 1011 Western Ave., Suite 500 Seattle, WA 98104-1035

Seattle City Light Laurie Geissinger, SEPA Official 700 – 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 3300 PO Box 34023 Seattle, WA 980124-4023

Attorneys for Thornton Creek Legal Defense Fund: Paul A Kampmeier Smith & Lowney, PLLC 2317 East John Street Seattle, WA 98112

Capital Projects Director Shoreline School District 18560 – 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NE Shoreline, WA 98155

Gary Kriedt, Sr Envir. Planner King County Transit Division Envir. Planning & Real Estate 201 S Jackson St, MS KSC-TR-0431 Seattle, WA 98104-3855

SEPA Responsible Official Seattle/King County Health Dept. 401 5<sup>th</sup> Ave #1100 Seattle, WA 98104-1818

Steve Deem, PE NW Drinking Water Operations 20435 – 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave S, #200, K17-12 Kent, WA 98032-2358

Ginger Holser (Freshwater) Laura Arber (Saltwater) Department of Fish and Wildlife 16018 Mill Creek Blvd Mill Creek, WA 98012

National Marine Fisheries Service 7600 Sand Point Way NE Seattle, WA 98115-0070 Attn: Sam Wentz WA State Dept. of Commerce PO Box 48350 Olympia, WA 98504-8350

SEPA Coordinator Seattle Public Utilities 700 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 4900 PO Box 34018 Seattle, WA 98124-4018

Michael U. Derrick, General Manager Ronald Wastewater District PO Box 33490 Shoreline, WA 98133

CleanScapes, Inc. Attn: Chief Operating Officer 5939 – 4<sup>th</sup> Ave S Seattle, WA 98108

Dept of Community Development Attn: SEPA Responsible Official City of Lynnwood 19100 – 44<sup>th</sup> Ave W Lynnwood, WA 98046

Attn: Dale Morimoto
Department of Transportation
15700 Dayton Ave N
PO Box 330310
Shoreline, WA 98133

SEPA Responsible Official Puget Sound Clean Air Agency 1904 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Suite 105 Seattle, WA 98101

Parks and Recreation Commission 7150 Clean Water Lane, KV-11 Olympia, WA 98504

US Army Corps of Engineers Seattle District/OD-RG PO Box C-3755 Seattle, WA 98124

KC Office of Business Relations & Economic Development Attn: Historic Preservation Officer 400 Yesler Way Suite #510 Seattle, WA 98104-2583 DNR SEPA Center PO Box 47015 Olympia, WA 98504-7015

Stu Turner, District Manager Shoreline Water District PO Box 55367 Shoreline, WA 98155-0367

Comcast Cable Attn: Gary Cook 1525 – 75<sup>th</sup> St SW #200 Everett, WA 98203

Shoreline Fire Department Attn: Chief Marcus Kragness 17525 Aurora Ave N Shoreline, WA 98133

Perry Weinberg, SEPA Resp. Official Sound Transit 401 S Jackson St Seattle, WA 98104

Thornton Creek Alliance PO Box 25690 Seattle, WA 98104

Environmental Planning-OAP KC Wastewater Treatment Division 201 S Jackson St, MS KSC-NR-0505 Seattle, WA 98104-3855

Kelly Cooper Department of Health Environmental Health Division PO Box 47820 Olympia, WA 98504-7820

Donna J Bunten, Critical Area Coord. Shorelands, Environ. Assistance Prgm State of Washington DOE PO Box 47600 Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Paramount Park Neighborhood Group c/o Janet Way 940 NE 147<sup>th</sup> Street Shoreline, WA 98155 Snohomish County Planning Dept Attn: Clay White 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Courthouse Everett, WA 98201

City of Edmonds 121 – 5<sup>th</sup> Ave N Edmonds, WA 98020

Town of Woodway Attn: City Clerk 23920 – 113<sup>th</sup> Pl W Woodway, WA 98020

Tulalip Tribal Council Attn: Peter Mills 6700 Totem Beach Road Marysville, WA 98270 SEPA Responsible Official City of Lake Forest Park 17425 Ballinger Way NE Lake Forest Park, WA 98155

City of Mountlake Terrace Attn: SEPA Responsible Official 23024 – 58<sup>th</sup> Ave W Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

King County DDES Attn: Greg Borba, SEPA Official 900 Oaksdale Ave, Land Use Div. Renton, WA 98055

Tulalip Natural Resources Attn: SEPA Responsible Official 6406 Marine Drive Marysville, WA 98271 DPD City of Seattle 700 – 5<sup>th</sup> Ave, Suite 200 PO Box 34019 Seattle, WA 98124-4019

Department of Community Development Attn: SEPA Responsible Official City of Bothell 18305 – 101<sup>st</sup> Ave NE Bothell, WA 98011

Attn: Karen Walter Muckleshoot Indian Tribe 39015 – 172<sup>nd</sup> Ave SE Auburn, WA 98092

Department of Community Development Attn: SEPA Responsible Official PO Box 82607 Kenmore, WA 98028-0607

# Appendix B- Public Comments on Draft SEIS

## **David Levitan**

From: Michael U. Derrick [mderrick@ronaldwastewater.org]

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 11, 2011 10:24 AM

To: David Levitan

Subject: Fwd: Town Center subarea Plan

David: This is more appropriately sent to you rather than Paul.

Michael

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Town Center subarea Plan

Date: Tue, 10 May 2011 13:03:08 -0700

From: Michael U. Derrick < mderrick@ronaldwastewater.org >

**Organization:**Ronald Wastewater District **To:**pcohen@shorelinewa.gov

**CC:**Mark Relph <a href="mailto:shorelinewa.gov">mrelph@shorelinewa.gov</a>>

Paul: I noticed this text in the subarea plan: "The City of Shoreline also expects to acquire the Ronald Wastewater District by 2016, which should result in wastewater review being even better incorporated into the City's development review process." (pg 55) This is not correct. The interlocal agreement expires in 2017.

Recently, the City Manager responded this way to a question regarding the acquisition of RWD: "She was also asked whether the city will eventually take over Ronald Wastewater, and she said that there is an agreement to look into the wisdom of such a plan after 2017."

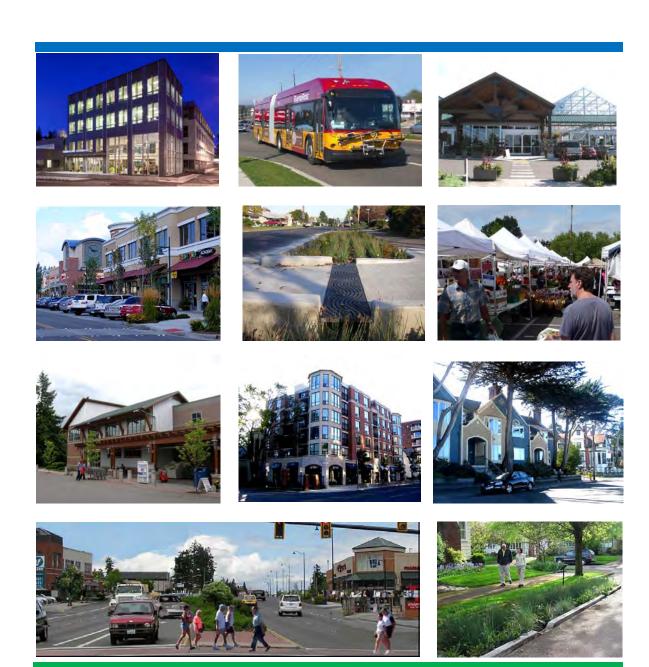
By the way, let's not wait until 201? to "even better" incorporate wastewater review into the City's development review process. We're open to ideas to improve right now!

## Michael

\_\_\_

Michael U. Derrick General Manager Ronald Wastewater District Shoreline, Washington mderrick@ronaldwastewater.org www.ronaldwastewater.org (206) 546-2494 (Phone) (206) 546-8110 (Fax)

# Appendix C PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION 6/16/11



**Shoreline Town Center Subarea Plan** 

# Introduction

Located on the middle mile of the City's three mile long Aurora corridor (State Route 99), Town Center is the geographic center of the City of Shoreline. It is at the crossroads of three of the City's most heavily traveled roads, N. 175<sup>th</sup> St, N. 185<sup>th</sup> St., and Aurora/SR 99, and serves as the civic and symbolic center of the community. See Fig. 1. Early in the life of the new City of Shoreline, a citizen survey identified this area as the "Heart of Shoreline."



Fig.1 Town Center is the Heart of Shoreline

Shoreline's settlement began in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century in this area around Judge Ronald's original homestead and the Ronald schoolhouse. In the early 1900's, the North Trunk (red brick) Road and Interurban electric railway traversed this area, linking it to Seattle and Everett. The "Ronald Station" was located in the vicinity of the proposed Park at Town Center.

Growing dramatically after World War II, Shoreline became an auto-oriented suburb characterized by large areas of relatively low residential density, which lacked urban amenities and services such as parks and sidewalks. During the post-war decades, the Aurora/SR 99 corridor developed as a strip commercial highway, with a tremendous diversity of businesses. While these businesses largely met local and regional needs, the highway itself became congested, chaotic, unattractive, and unsafe.

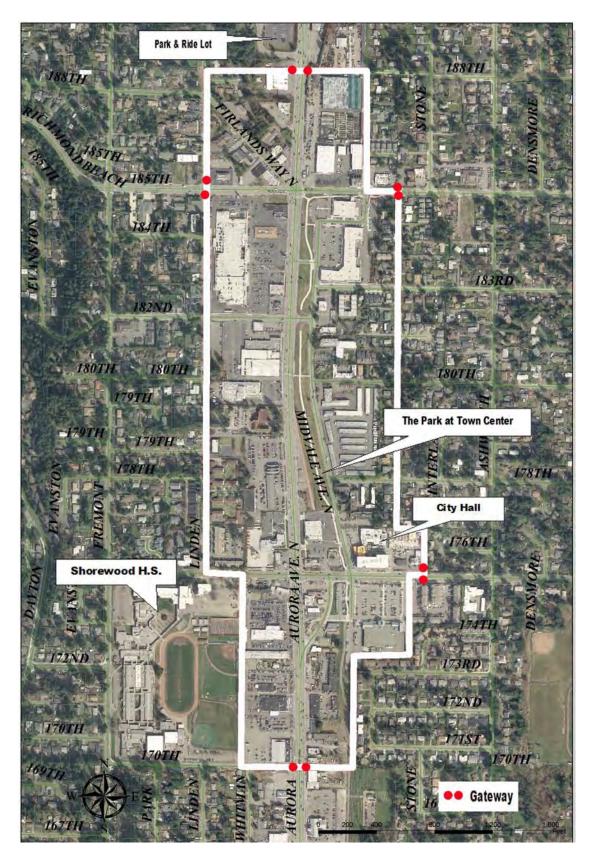


Fig. 2 Town Center boundaries and gateways

Several of the civic facilities typically found in traditional downtowns began to locate in and around the Town Center area in the 1960's. These include the Shorewood High School, the Shoreline Fire Department Headquarters, and the Ronald Sewer District Office and Yard. Commercial and apartment uses also began to locate in this area, including grocery, drug store and other retail stores and personal services. Some of these uses still co-exist with businesses serving a larger market area, such as auto dealerships.

The emergence of regional shopping malls at Alderwood and Northgate in the 1970's began to erode Shoreline's primary market for certain retail goods and services. With the City's incorporation in 1995, additional civic pieces of an emerging Town Center came into being. The Interurban Trail through Town Center was completed in 2005 and the new City Hall opened in 2009. In 2011, Aurora Avenue North through Town Center was rebuilt as a Boulevard, design work began on a new park at Town Center, and construction began on a new Shorewood High School with buildings located immediately adjacent to Town Center.

In 2009, the City adopted a city-wide Vision Statement which articulated the community's preferred future for the year 2030. The Vision integrated many of the policy objectives of the City's adopted strategies for Economic Development, Housing, and Environmental Sustainability. The Vision identifies Town Center as a focal point for much of the City's future growth accommodation, and many of the framework goals provide a broad outline for most of the content of the Town Center Subarea Plan.

Achieving the City's Vision and the objectives of the Town Center Subarea Plan will be influenced by regional market factors, individual investment decisions, and state and regional growth management policies. High capacity transit service will arrive in Shoreline on Aurora by 2013 in the form of bus rapid transit service, while regional light rail service is scheduled for 2023, linking the City to the broader region.

The growth management development strategy for the central Puget Sound region, Vision 2040, forecasts adding 1.7 million people and 1.4 million jobs with only a negligible increase in the size of the region's urban growth area. See Fig. 3. Combined with state climate change targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle miles traveled, there will be strong market and regional public policy pressures on close-in cities such as Shoreline to accommodate growth.

Shoreline's ability to accommodate these pressures while maintaining the community's reputation as one of America's best places to live, will be a major challenge. Implementation of a clearly articulated Town Center Subarea Plan will be one important strategy to help Shoreline meet that challenge.

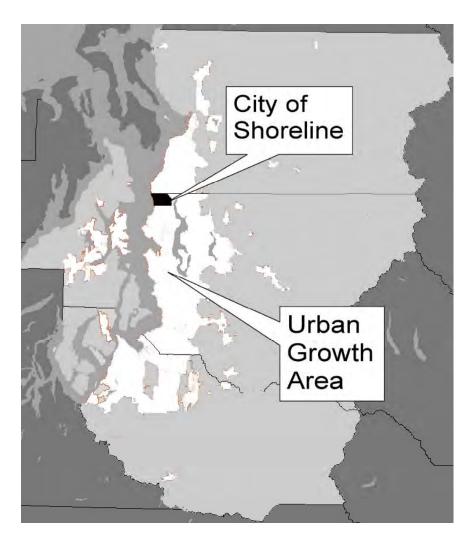




Fig. 3 Shoreline's place within the Vision 2040 Urban Growth Area

# **Town Center Vision Statement**

Shoreline Town Center in 2030 is the vibrant cultural and civic heart of the City with a rich mix of housing and shopping options, thriving businesses, and public spaces for gatherings and events. People of diverse cultures, ages, and incomes enjoy living, working, and interacting in this safe, healthy, and walkable urban place.

Once a crossroads on the Interurban electric railway that connected Seattle and Everett, Shoreline's Town Center has evolved into a signature part of the City. The Center stands out as a unique and inviting regional destination while gracefully fitting in with its surrounding landscape and neighborhoods. Connections to neighborhoods and the region are convenient and accessible through a system of paths, roads, and public transit. Citizens, business owners, and city officials are justifiably proud of the many years of effort to create a special and livable place that exemplifies the best of Shoreline past, present, and future.

Town Center is anchored along N. 175<sup>th</sup> St. by the City Hall complex, Shorewood High School, the Shoreline Fire Department Headquarters, and the Ronald Sewer Offices and Yard. The linear park at Town Center between Aurora Boulevard and Midvale Avenue North provides a green thread through the center of the area. City Hall serves not only as the seat of government, but also provides an active venue for many other civic functions. The north end of Town Center includes the revitalized historic five-point interchange at Firlands Way.

Town Center is a physically and visually attractive, inviting, and interesting place where form and function come together to promote a thriving environment for residents, businesses, and visitors. Notable features include a number of green open spaces both large and intimate, enclosed plazas, storefronts opening onto parks and wide sidewalks, underground and rear parking, numerous ground-floor and corner retail options within mixed-use buildings, and internal streets within large blocks with other pathways that provide safe, walkable and bikable connections throughout the Center area east, west, north, and south.

Building heights range from one to three stories within transition areas adjacent to single-family residential areas along Linden and Stone avenues, up to six stories in mixed-use buildings along sections of Aurora Boulevard, while buildings in the Midvale and Firlands areas are generally four to five-story mixed-use structures. Building materials, facades, designs, landscaped setbacks, as well as public art and green infrastructure features represent a wide variety of styles and functions while maintaining a harmonious look and feel.

The City of Shoreline has long been committed to the realization of the three E's of sustainability -- environmental quality, economic vitality and social equity -- and Town Center has successfully integrated these values to achieve sustainable development.



**Fig. 4** Principles of Sustainable Development

# **Environmental Quality**

While respecting elements of its historic character, Town Center has become a model of environmentally sound building and development practices. The buildings themselves are state-of-the-art energy efficient and sustainable structures with zero carbon impacts. Town Center's tree canopy and native vegetation are all part of a strategic system for capturing and treating stormwater on site and protecting and enhancing overall environmental quality. Major transit stops along the mature Aurora Boulevard provide quick and convenient connections to major centers elsewhere in the region. Civic spaces and parks have been designed for daily use and special events.

# Economic Vitality

Town Center attracts a robust mix of office, service, and retail development. The boulevard boasts an exciting choice of shops, restaurants, entertainment, and nightlife. The Center is a model of green industry and economic sustainability that generates the financial resources to help support excellent city services, with the highest health and living standards. As a result, Town Center's success helps to make Shoreline one of the most fiscally sound and efficiently run cities on the West Coast.

# Social Equity

Town Center offers a broad range of job opportunities and housing choices that attract a diversity of household types, ages, and incomes. Attention to design allows the public gathering places to be accessible to all. People feel safe here day and night. Festivals, exhibits, and performances attract people of all ages and cultural backgrounds.

## **Summary**

Town Center is thoughtfully planned and built, yet all the choices feel organic and natural, as if each feature and building is meant to be here. Town Center is a place people want to be in Shoreline in 2030, and is positioned to continue to grow gracefully and sustainably for decades.

# **Town Center Goals**

**Goal TC-1** Create a Town Center that embodies the sustainability values of environmental quality, economic vitality, and social equity.

**Goal TC-2** Create a Town Center that is complete, compact, and connected to its neighborhoods and the region.

**Goal TC-3** Create a "sense of place" in Town Center that provides a focal point for Shoreline's civic life and community-wide identity and embraces its unique history.

**Goal TC-4** Create an economically and culturally thriving Town Center through the coordinated efforts of the City, the School District, other public sector organizations, business organizations, community non-profits, and neighborhood associations.

# **Town Center Policies**

**Policy TC-1** Promote a blend of civic, commercial, and residential uses in Town Center.

**Policy TC-2** Create a safe, attractive, and walkable Town Center that links mixed use, mid-rise buildings, a broad range of housing choices, major civic amenities, public gathering places, and bus rapid transit service.









**Fig. 5** Mid-rise, mixed use buildings provide pedestrian scale and access at the street level while accommodating housing and business opportunities above

**Policy TC-3** Increase the variety of housing choices in Town Center and increase opportunities for moderate cost housing. Reduce new housing construction costs and incentivize affordable housing in Town Center.

**Policy TC-4** Publicize innovative "green infrastructure" including City Hall, Shorewood High School, and Aurora boulevard as models for private projects in Town Center.



Fig. 6 The LEED GOLD City Hall

**Policy TC-5** Encourage additional retail, service, grocery, and restaurant uses to serve both a broader regional market as well as people who live or work in Town Center, or within walking distance of Rapid Ride bus service that will provide walk-on access to Town Center from the entire length of Aurora by 2013.





Fig. 7 Aurora Improvements will accommodate Bus Rapid Transit service starting in 2013

**Policy TC-6** Connect Town Center to other parts of Shoreline and the region by promoting multi-modal transportation choices including high capacity transit on Aurora, frequent local bus service, bicycle paths, and improved pedestrian walkways.

**Policy TC-7** Leverage federal, state, and other investment sources, and market Town Center as a high value location for private investment and business starts.

**Policy TC-8** Enhance the sustainability of adjacent residential neighborhoods through targeted investments in green street links to Town Center, and focused programs to enhance energy conservation and carbon neutrality.





**Fig. 8** Examples of private investments in alternative energy and public investments in low impact drainage facilities in the right-of-way

**Policy TC-9** Create a seamless network of safe, convenient, and attractive walkway improvements within Town Center that also connects to all streets, the Interurban Trail, high capacity transit on Aurora, and adjacent neighborhoods.

**Policy TC-10** Create safe and attractive pedestrian crossings of Aurora, walkways to better link uses within Town Center, and more direct and attractive walkways from adjacent neighborhoods.

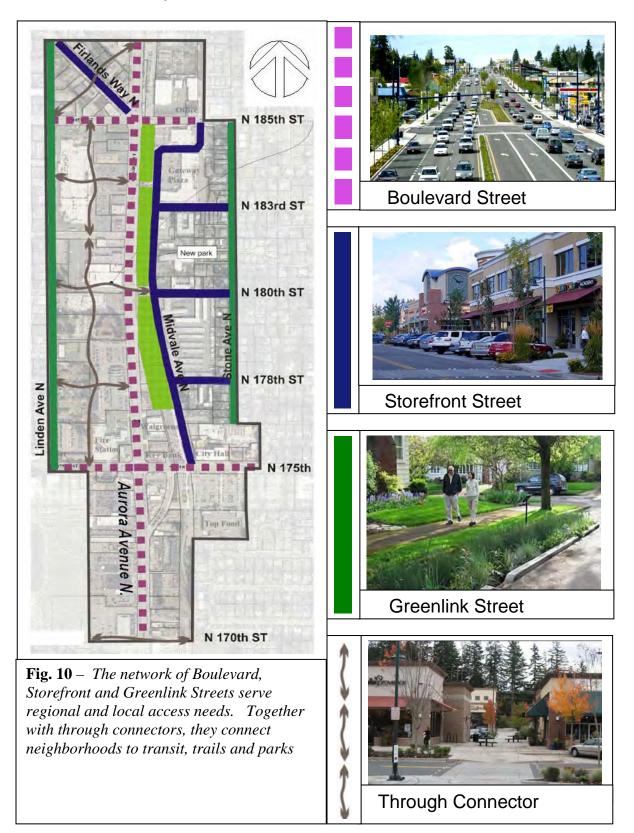
**Policy TC-11** Reduce the noise, visual, and safety impacts of traffic on Aurora Avenue as it passes through the Town Center.

**Policy TC-12** Give clear visual indication of Town Center's boundaries with gateway treatments, such as signs and landscaping. (See Fig. 2 for location of gateways).



Fig. 9 Example of a potential town center gateway sign

**Policy TC-13** Create a hierarchy of Boulevard, Storefront, and Greenlink streets to serve different mobility and access roles within Town Center.



**Policy TC-14** Post public "wayfinding" signs to direct motorists and bicyclists to public destinations within and near Town Center.



Fig. 11 Wayfinding signs can be located in medians, behind sidewalks, or on poles

**Policy TC- 15** Encourage the removal of the western leg of the intersection at N. 182th and Aurora if re-development of lands at N. 180<sup>th</sup> and Aurora enables the installation of a fully signalized mid-block intersection at that location.

**Policy TC-16** Consider the creation of new rights-of-way, or the vacation of other rights-of-way in order to facilitate better vehicular and pedestrian circulation. Encourage parcel aggregation and more comprehensive site development designs in order to create a more pedestrian friendly environment, and promote mixed use development.

**Policy TC-17** Protect adjacent residential areas from impacts generated by developments in Town Center. Create a medium density buffer between the commercial uses in Town Center and the single family neighborhoods east of Midvale that limit lighting, signage, and noise impacts. Orient commercial uses west of Aurora so that they have primary access and impacts oriented toward Aurora, rather than to the neighborhood west of Linden.



Fig. 12 Townhouses provide an effective buffer by backing onto commercial and facing onto residential

**Policy TC-18** Reconfigure Midvale Avenue N. as a low speed, pedestrian-friendly lane to support mixed use development on the east side and public uses in the Town Center Park.



Fig. 13 Midvale Ave N., Interurban Trail and City Hall

**Policy TC-19** Recognize the environmental and aesthetic value of existing stands of prominent trees, promote a green built environment by adopting the U.S. Green Building Code, and launch a recognition program for innovative private projects that exemplify the sustainability vision for Town Center.

**Policy TC-20** Develop the park at Town Center as a memorable, green, open space and link it to the City Hall Civic Center. Program both of these spaces for celebrations, public gatherings, and informal "third places."





Fig. 14 Farmers' markets and community events are several possible park uses

**Policy TC-21** Celebrate the heritage of the community through preservation, education, and interpretation of artifacts and places in or near Town Center. Work

with the Shoreline Historical Museum to explore the possibilities for a "Town Center Heritage Walk" and programs to help activate the Park at Town Center.



Fig. 15 Town Center history: the Interurban Railway, Ronald School House, and Red Brick Road

**Policy TC -22** Call attention to the unique diagonal orientation of Firlands Way, as well as its history, with such place-making methods as interpretive signage, murals, street furniture and exposing the red bricks still beneath the road surface. Encourage a long-term vision for Firlands Way as a pedestrian oriented storefront street. Reclassify the street if necessary to allow the historic road to remain a central part of that vision.

**Policy TC-23** Encourage structured parking for commercial, multifamily, and mixed use developments, and reduce parking requirements in recognition of the availability of transit, on-street parking, walkability, and housing types.

**Policy TC-24** Where feasible, minimize surface parking lots, locate them in rear or side yards and screen them with landscaping, low walls or fences, arbors, and other treatments to soften visual impacts.

**Policy TC-25** Abate the remaining billboards, or re-locate them out of the Town Center, and craft a form-based sign code that orients and sizes commercial signage based on the function and speed of streets and walkways served.

**Policy TC-26** Create a form-based development code and streamlined permit process that consolidates environmental review and design review into a single expedited administrative permit review. Adopt illustrated and clear design standards with a menu of options and opportunities for design flexibility.

**Policy TC-27** Adopt Town Center design standards and a design review process so that new projects respect existing architectural patterns (e.g., building forms, roof shapes, fenestration, materials, etc.) that provide context and human scale.

Fig. 16 A variety of existing roof shapes, materials, and colors in Town Center













# Appendix D PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION 6/30/11

# **Town Center District**

20.92.010	Purpose
20.92.020	Zoning, Land Use, and Form
20.92.030	Street Types and Pedestrian Circulation Map
20.92.040	Neighborhood Protection Standards
20.92.050	Street Frontage Design Standards
20.92.060	Site Design Standards
20.92.070	Building Design Standards
20.92.080	Sign Design Standards
20.30.297	Design Review Approval
20.50.021	MUZ Design Review Amendments
20.91.040	Ridgecrest Design Review Amendments
20.20	Definitions
20.40.020	Zones and Map Designations
20.40.050	Special Districts
20.40.110	Use Tables

#### 20.92.010 Purpose.

- A. Establish standards for the Town Center District. These standards implement the policies of City of Shoreline Comprehensive Plan and Town Center Subarea Plan through code requirements for use, form, design, and process.
- B. Set forth a procedure designating certain land use actions within the boundaries of the geographic area described in the Town Center Subarea Plan as Town Center District as "planned actions" consistent with RCW 43.21.031, WAC 197-11-164 to 197-11-172, and SMC 20.30.640.
- C. Planned action projects that are within the scope of the planned action EIS determination shall not require a SEPA threshold determination and shall be reviewed as ministerial decisions by applying the provisions of the Development Code. Proposed projects that are not within the scope of the planned action EIS shall require environmental review under SEPA
- D. Design Review Approval under SMC 20.30.297 is required for all development proposals prior to approval of any construction permit. A permit applicant wishing to modify any of the standards in this chapter may apply for a design departure under SMC 20.30.297.

#### 20.92.015 Threshold – Required for site improvements.

The purpose of this section is to determine how and when the provisions for site improvements cited in the Town Center District development standards apply to development proposals. Full site improvements are required if the development is:

- Completely new development; or
- The construction valuation exceeds 50 percent of the existing site and building valuation.

A development proposal shall not, however, be required to comply with the Town Center District development standards if and to the extent such development proposal is a repair or reconstruction for purposes of SMC 20.30.280(C)(3).

#### 20.92.020 Zones, Land Use, and Form.

- A. Town Center District
  - In order to implement the vision of the Comprehensive Plan's Town Center Subarea Plan, there are Town Center (TC) zones established as shown in Figure 20.92.030.
  - 1. Four zones are delineated within the Town Center that have general and specific design standards.
    - a. TC-1: This zone allows for a broad range of uses similar to TC-2 with the exception to allow vehicle sales, leasing, and servicing.
    - b. TC-2: This zone includes property fronting on Aurora Avenue, N. 175<sup>th</sup>, and N. 185<sup>th</sup> streets, and provides the widest range of uses and development potential with pedestrian activity primarily internal to the sites.
    - c. TC-3: This zone is oriented toward smaller arterials with a wide range of uses that focus pedestrian activity primarily along street frontages.
    - d. TC-4: This zone is oriented around Stone Avenue and limits the residential heights, uses, and vehicle circulation to protect the adjacent single family neighborhoods.
  - 2. Transition Overlays 1 and 2: These overlays provide transitions from higher intensity development to lower intensity uses, and protect single family neighborhoods from large building heights.
  - 3. Some standards within this chapter apply only to specific types of development and zones as noted. Standards that are not addressed in this chapter will be supplemented by the development standards in Chapter 20.50 SMC. In the event of a conflict between standards, the standards of this chapter shall prevail.

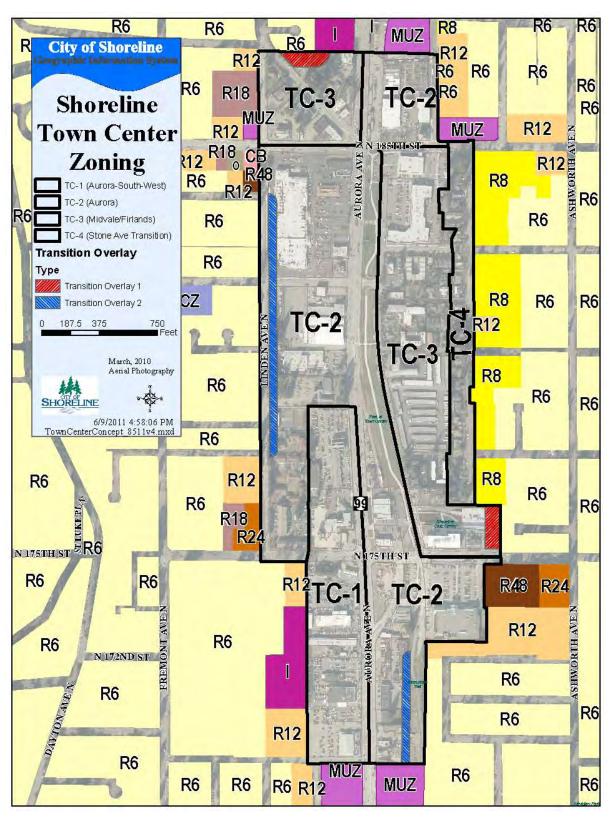


Figure 20.92.020

B. Table 20.92.020(A) lists general categories of permitted land uses for each of the Town Center zones. The general categories for permitted uses include all of the specific uses listed in the corresponding tables cited, except for those listed in this table as "prohibited uses." Permitted uses do not include the approval processes in the general categories, such as special use or conditional use permits. If further clarification is required, the Director shall issue an administrative determination consistent with the provisions of this Chapter and the policy guidance of the Town Center Subarea Plan.

Table 20.92.020(A) Land Use Chart

General Land Use Category	Specific uses listed in Table	TC-1 Aurora SW	TC-2 Aurora	TC-3 Midvale /Firlands	TC-4 Stone Ave Resid.
Detached Single Family	20.40.120				
Duplex, Apt, Single Family Attached	20.40.120				
Group Residences	20.40.120				
Lodging	20.40.120		RMITTE	USES	
Health Facility	20.40.140	Pt	KMIII		
Government Facility	20.40.140				
Automotive fueling and service Stations	20.40.130				
Retail / Service other than for Automotive or Boat	20.40.130				
Light Manufacturing – Non- polluting and no outside storage	20.40.130				
Personal and Business Services	20.40.130				
Motor Vehicle and Boat Sales, Automotive Rental and Leasing, and Automotive Repair and Services (1)	20.40.130				
Gambling Uses					
Wrecking Yards			DDAHIBI1	ED USES	
General Manufacturing			LVALLE		
Adult Use Facility					

#### Table 20.92.020(A)

(1) Outdoor vehicle display is permitted in support of vehicle sales, leasing, and service land uses.

#### Table 20.92.020(B) Form

	TC-1 Aurora SW	TC-2 Aurora	TC-3 Midvale/ Firlands	TC-4 Stone Ave Res	Transition Overlays 1 and 2
Minimum Front Yard Setback (1)(2)(3)	0-10 ft (6)	0-10 ft	0-10 ft	15 ft	15 ft
Minimum Side Yard Setback from Nonresidential Zones (4)	0 ft	0 ft	0 ft	5 ft (5)	5 ft (5)
Minimum Rear Yard Setback from Nonresidential Zones	O ft	O ft	O ft	5 ft	0 ft
Minimum Side & Rear Yard (Interior) Setback from R-4 & R-6	15 ft	15 ft	15 ft	5ft	20ft
Minimum Side & Rear Yard Set- back from R-8 through R-48 and TC-4	15 ft	15 ft	15 ft	5 ft	15 ft
Maximum Height (5)	70 ft	70 ft	70 ft	35 ft	35 ft
Maximum Hardscape Area	95%	95%	95%	75%	(7)

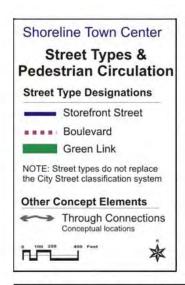
#### Table 20.92.020(B)

#### Exceptions to Table 20.92.020(B).

- (1) Unenclosed porches and covered entry features may project into the front yard setback by up to 6 feet. Balconies may project into the front yard setback by up to 2 feet.
- (2) Additional building setbacks may be required to provide rights-of-way and utility improvements.
- (3) Front yard setbacks are based on the applicable street designation. See Figure 20.92.030 for the street designation and SMC 20.92.060(B) for applicable front yard setback provisions.
- (4) These may be modified to allow zero lot line developments for internal lot lines only.
- (5) See SMC 20.92.040.C for height step-back standards.
- (6) Front yards may be used for outdoor display of vehicles to be sold or leased in the TC-1 zone.
- (7) Hardscape requirement for underlying zone is applicable.

### 20.92.030 Street Types and Pedestrian Circulation.

This map illustrates site-specific design elements to be implemented by code for street types and Through Connections.



NOTE: Conceptual locations of Through Connections and Storefront Street Designation. Specific locations will be negotiated between City and applicant during redevelopment design review process consistent with provisions of SMC 20.92.070(D).



Figure 20.92.030

#### 20.92.040 Neighborhood Protection Standards.

#### A. Purpose

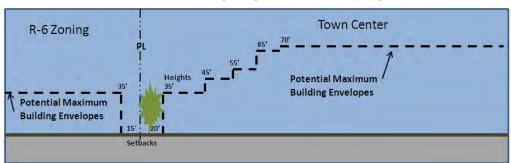
- Minimize negative impacts of Town Center development on adjacent single family neighborhoods.
- Enhance residential neighborhoods on both sides of Linden and Stone Avenue North.

#### B. Applicability

Unless specifically noted, the standards herein apply to properties within zone TC-4, the Transition Overlays identified in the Town Center Zoning Map (Figure 20.92.020), and other Town Center properties that are directly adjacent to those zones.

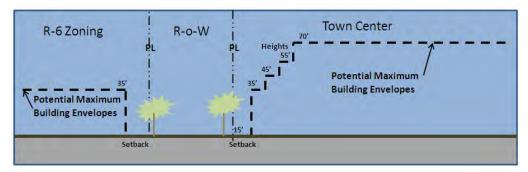
#### C. Building Heights

- 1. TC-4 zone maximum building heights are 35 feet.
- 2. Transition Overlay-1 is 100 feet in depth adjoining R-4 or R-6 zoned property lines. From the adjoining property line, development requires 20 feet of Type I landscaping/building setback, limits building height to 35 feet for 30 more feet of setback, and then each additional 10 feet of building height requires 20 more feet of setback until the maximum building height of the underlying zone is obtained.



#### **Transition Overlay-1**

3. Transition Overlay-2 is 50 feet in depth adjoining Rights-of-Way across from R-4 or R-6 zoned property lines. From the Rights-of-Way line, development requires 15 feet of Type II landscaping/building setback, limits building height to 35 feet for 10 more feet of setback, and then each additional 10 feet of building height requires 10 more feet of setback until the maximum building height of the underlying zone is obtained.



**Transition Overlay-2** 

#### D. Site Access

Direct commercial vehicular and service access to a parcel shall not be from Stone or Linden Avenues unless no other access is available or practical as determined by the City.

#### E. Traffic Impacts

All development in the Town Center shall conduct a traffic impact study per city guidelines. Any additional traffic that is projected to use non-arterial streets shall implement traffic mitigation measures which are approved by the city's traffic engineer. Such measures shall be developed through the City's Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program in collaboration with the abutting neighborhoods that are directly impacted by the development.

#### F. Setbacks and Buffers

Buildings in zones TC-2 and TC-3 shall have a 20-foot wide, Type I landscape with an 8-foot solid fence or wall adjacent to zone TC-4 and R-6 parcels in addition to any required open space.

#### G. Tree Preservation

20 percent of all healthy, significant trees for each parcel must be preserved in TC-4 and Transition Overlays portions of private property per SMC 20.50.290.

#### 20.92.050 Street Frontage Design Standards.

#### A. Purpose

- Enhance the appeal of street frontages to encourage people to walk and gather.
- Establish frontage standards for different streets to:
  - o Reinforce site and building design standards in each zone.
  - Provide safe and direct pedestrian access within the Town Center and from adjacent neighborhoods.
  - Minimize conflicts between pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicular traffic and parking.

#### B. Applicability

The standards in this section apply only to the sidewalks and the amenity zone in the public rights-of-way. These standards shall meet the City's Engineering Development Guide design criteria. Where there is a conflict, the Director shall determine which applies.

#### C. Design

- In accordance with the Master Street Plan of the Transportation Master Plan, Storefront and Greenlink Street frontages, as depicted on Figure 20.92.030, shall have:
  - a. Street frontage dimensions for the following streets are:

- (1) Midvale Ave. N. eastside: 10-foot sidewalks and 5-foot amenity zone. Westside: 17-foot back-in parking (Seattle City Light) with 30-foot street cross-section.
- (2) N 178<sup>th</sup>, N. 180<sup>th</sup>, N. 183<sup>rd</sup> Streets on both sides 8-foot sidewalks and 5-foot amenity zones with a 36-foot street cross-section.
- (3) Stone Avenue on both sides 8-foot sidewalks and 5-foot amenity zones with a 32-foot street cross-section.
- (4) Linden Ave N. eastside: 8-foot sidewalks and 5-foot amenity zone. Westside: 5-foot sidewalks and 5-foot amenity zone with a 38-foot street cross-section.
- (5) Firlands Way on both sides 10-foot sidewalk, 5-foot amenity zone, and 17-foot back-in parking with 24-foot street cross-section.
- (6) All frontage dimensions shall include 6-inch curbs and minimum 6-inch separation between buildings and sidewalks.
- (7) All street sections include on-street, parallel parking except where back-in parking is designated.
- (8) The configuration and dimensions of street frontage improvements may be modified by the Director if such modifications will better implement the policy direction of the Town Center Subarea Plan.
- b. Storefront, Boulevard, and Greenlink streets shall have street trees spaced on average 30 feet either in tree pits and grates, or an amenity zone. Breaks in the amenity zone and tree distribution may exist to allow for driveways, sight distancing, ADA access, utilities, crosswalks, bike racks, on-street parking, benches, and sitting walls.
- c. Each development on a Storefront street shall provide a minimum 8 feet of bench or sitting wall.
- d. Both sides of Storefront and Greenlink Streets shall have on-street parking. Midvale will have back-in parking on its west side and Firlands Way will have back-in parking on both sides.
- e. Utility appurtenances such as signal boxes, hydrants, poles, or other obstructions shall not be placed in the public sidewalk.
- f. When improved, Firlands Way within the Town Center shall expose and restore the brick road bed underneath. If restoration of the brick road is unfeasible or cannot meet City road standards then the City shall design a street that allows traffic and pedestrians to mix safely.

#### 2. Rights-of-Way Lighting

a. One to two-footcandles and between 10-foot and 15-foot in height for sidewalk areas. Lighting may be located within the public Rights-of-Ways, on private property, or mounted on building façades.

- b. Street light standards shall be a maximum 25-foot height for street light standards, designed using the Aurora Avenue model and color, modified to meet the 25-foot maximum height, and spaced to meet City illumination standards.
- c. Lights shall be shielded to prevent direct light from entering adjoining property.



#### 20.92.060 Site Design Standards.

#### A. Purpose

- Promote and enhance public walking and gathering with attractive and connected development to:
  - a. Promote distinctive design features at high visibility street corners.
  - b. Provide safe routes for pedestrians and people with disabilities across parking lots, to building entries, and between buildings.
- Promote economic development that is consistent with the function and purpose of permitted uses and reflects the vision for the Town Center Subarea as expressed in the Comprehensive Plan.

#### B. Site Frontage

Site design standards for on-site landscaping, walkways, public places, and open space may be combined if their separate minimum dimensions and functions are not compromised.

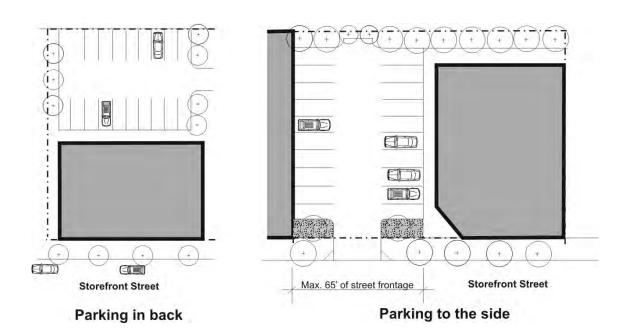
Development abutting street frontages as designated within the Town Center per Figure 20.92.030 shall meet the following standards.

#### 1. Storefront Streets

- a. Buildings shall be placed at the property line or abutting planned sidewalks if on private property. However, buildings may be setback farther if Public Places (as specified in SMC 20.92.070(F) are included or a utility easement is required between the sidewalk and the building;
- Minimum transparent window area is 60 percent of the ground floor façade placed between the heights of 30 inches and 8 feet above the ground for each front façade;
- c. The primary building entry shall be located on a street frontage and, if necessary, recessed to prevent door swings over sidewalks, or an open entry to an interior plaza or courtyard from which building entries are accessible;
- d. Minimum weather protection at least five feet in depth, along at least 80 percent of the façade width, including building entries; and
- e. Surface parking along Storefront Streets is not more than 65 lineal feet of the site frontage. Parking lots are not allowed at street corners. No parking or vehicle circulation is allowed between the rights-of-way and the building front façade. Sites with less than 100 feet lineal feet of frontage are exempt from this standard. See SMC 20.92.060(E)(2) for parking lot landscape standards.



Storefront and Boulevard buildings



Parking lot locations along Storefront streets

#### 2. Greenlink Streets

- a. Minimum front yard setback is 15 feet. Porches and entry covers may project 6 feet into the front yard setbacks;
- b. Transparent window area is 15 percent of the entire façade;
- c. Building entries shall be visible and accessible from a street front sidewalk. An entrance may be located on the building side if visible;
- d. Minimum weather protection is 5-foot deep over building entries;
- e. Landscaped front yards may be sloped or terraced with maximum 3-foot high retaining walls; and

f. Surface parking is no more than 65 lineal feet of the site frontage and setback 10 feet from property line. Parking lots are not allowed at street corners. No parking or vehicle circulation is allowed between the rights-of-way and the building front façade. See SMC 20.92.060(E)(2) for parking lot landscape standards.

#### 3. Boulevard Streets

- a. Minimum transparent window area is 60 percent of the ground floor façade placed between the heights of 30 inches and 8 feet above the ground for each front façade;
- b. Minimum weather protection at least five feet in depth, along at least 80 percent of the façade width, including building entries; and
- c. Maximum front yard setback is 15 feet. Outdoor vehicle display areas are considered an extension of the building façade and if located within 15 feet of the front property line the front setback requirement is met.
- d. Surface parking along Boulevard Streets shall not be more than 50 percent of the site frontage. Parking lots are not allowed at street corners. No parking or vehicle circulation are allowed between the rights-of-way and the building front façade, except as otherwise provided in SMC 20.92.020(B)(6). Sites with less than 100 lineal feet of frontage are exempt from this standard. See SMC 20.92.060(E)(2)for parking lot landscape standards.

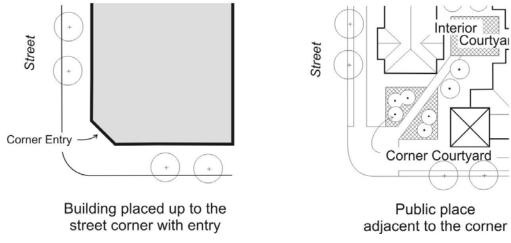


Landscaped yards

#### C. Corner Sites

- 1. All development proposals located on street corners and Through-connection sites shall include one of the following three design treatments on both sides of the corner.
  - a. Locate a building within 15 feet of the street corner. All such buildings shall comply with building corner standards in paragraph (2) below;
  - b. Provide public places, as set forth in SMC 20.92.060(F) at the corner leading directly to building entries; or
  - c. Landscape 20 feet of depth of Type II landscaping for the length of the required building frontage. Include a structure on the corner that provides weather

protection or site entry. The structure may be used for signage (SMC 20.92.100).



Corner Developments

- Corner buildings on Boulevard and Storefront Streets using option 1.a above shall provide at least one of the elements listed below for 40 lineal feet of both sides from the corner:
  - a. 20-foot beveled building corner with entry and 60% of the first floor in transparent glass (included within the 80 lineal feet of corner treatment).
  - b. Distinctive façade (i.e. awnings, materials, offsets) and roofline design above the minimum standards for these items in other code section of Town Center.
  - c. Balconies on all floors above the ground floor.
  - d. Other unique treatment as determined by the Director.
  - e. Corner buildings on Greenlink Streets and Through-connections using option 1.a above shall minimally provide 10-foot beveled building corners.
  - f. Corner buildings with a combination of Greenlink Streets or Through-connections and Boulevard or Storefront Streets shall meet the applicable Boulevard or Storefront Street requirement on both sides of the corner.



**Building corners** 

#### D. Through-connections and Walkways

 Developments shall include internal walkways that connect building entries, public places, and parking areas with the adjacent street sidewalks and Interurban Trail. A public easement for pedestrian access through properties and city blocks between streets shall be provided for Through-connections, as generally illustrated in the Street Types and Pedestrian Circulation Map (SMC 20.92.030).

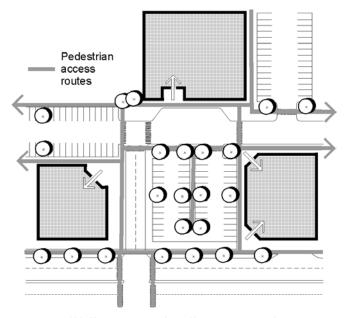
Walkways and Through-connections shall be connected, and may be combined as long as standards of both can be met. The east-west connection aligned with N.180th may be a combination of vehicle access or street and a pedestrian Through-connection. North–south connections can be used as alley access or as a Storefront Street.



#### Through-connections

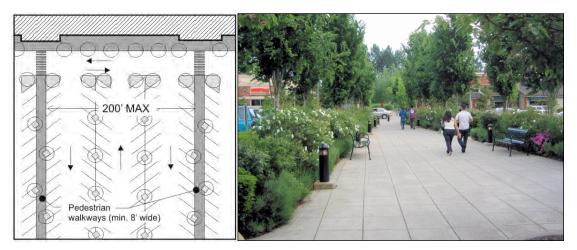
- All buildings shall have visible, clear, and illuminated walkways between the main building entrance and a public sidewalk. The walkway shall be at least eight feet wide;
- b. Continuous pedestrian walkway shall be provided to the entries of all businesses and the entries of multiple commercial buildings;

 For sites abutting underdeveloped land, the Director may require walkways and Through-connections stub-outs at property lines so that future, adjoining development can connect with the pedestrian system;



Well-connected walkway network

- Raised walkways at least 8 feet in width shall be provided for every three, double-loaded aisle or every 200 feet of parking area. Walkway crossings shall be raised a minimum 3 inches above drives;
- e. Walkways shall conform to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); and



Parking lot walkway

f. Internal walkways along the front façade of buildings 100 feet or more in length must meet Storefront or Boulevard Street standards set forth in SMC 20.92.060(B).





Internal walkways adjacent to storefronts should be designed to look and function like public sidewalks, including walkway widths and amenity areas.

g. Deciduous street-rated trees shall be provided every 30 feet on average in grated tree pits if the walkway is 8 feet wide or in planting beds if walkway is greater than 8 feet wide. Pedestrian scaled lighting shall be provided.

#### E. Vehicle Parking and Landscaping

- Minimum Off-street Parking
   Parking shall be provided at the following rate:
  - a. Residential –1.2 spaces for studios, 1.5 spaces for 1 bedroom, 1.8 spaces for 2 bedrooms, and 2.0 for 3 bedrooms+ units.
  - b. Retail/Office 1 space / 300 net square feet.
  - Reductions up to 50 percent may be approved by Director using combinations of the following mitigating factors:
    - (1) On-street parking along the parcel's street frontage.
    - (2) Shared parking agreement with adjoining parcels and land uses that do not have conflicting parking demand.
    - (3) Commute trip reduction program per State law.
    - (4) High-occupancy vehicle (HOV) parking.
    - (5) Conduit for future electric vehicle charging spaces equivalent to the number of required handicapped parking spaces.
    - (6) In the event that the Director approves reductions in the parking requirement, the basis for the determination shall be articulated in writing and readily available to the public.

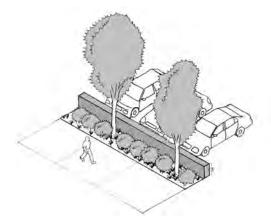
#### 2. Parking lot landscaping

The following provisions shall supplement the landscaping standards set forth in Subchapter 7 of SMC 20.50.450. Where there is a conflict, the standards herein shall apply. All parking lots and loading areas shall meet the following requirements:

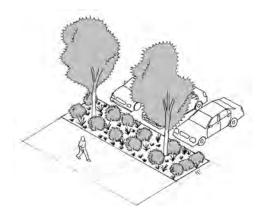
- a. Provide a 5-foot wide, Type II landscape that incorporates a continuous masonry wall between 3 and 4 feet in height. The landscape shall be between the public sidewalk or residential units and the wall (see SMC 20.50.460 for details); or
- b. Provide at least 10-foot wide, Type II landscaping.
- c. Trees shall be placed interior to parking lots at a ratio of one every 10 parking spaces in curbed planters with a minimum dimension of 5 feet.
- d. All parking lots shall be separated from residential development by the required setback and planted with Type I landscaping.

#### 3. Vehicle Display Areas Landscaping

Landscape requirements for vehicle display areas as authorized in SMC 20.92.020(B)(6) shall be determined by the Director through design review under SMC 20.30.297. Subject to the Director's discretion to reduce or vary the depth, landscaped areas shall be at least ten (10) feet deep relative to the front property line. Vehicle display areas shall be framed by appropriate landscape construction materials along the front property line. While allowing that the vehicles on display remain plainly visible from the public rights-of-way, these materials shall be configured to create a clear visual break between the hardscape in the public rights-of-way and the hardscape of the vehicle display area. Appropriate landscape construction materials may include any combination of low (3 feet or less in height) walls or earthen berms with ground cover, shrubs, trees, trellises, or arbors.



2a. Parking lot planting buffer with low wall



2b. 10-foot parking lot buffer with Type II landscaping

#### F. Public Places

- 1. Public places are required on parcels greater than ½ acre with commercial or mixed use development at a rate of 1,000 square feet per acre. Public places may be covered but not enclosed. This standard can also be used to meet the standards of walkways as long as the function and minimum dimensions of the public place are met.
- 2. On parcels greater than 5 acres;
  - a. Buildings border at least two sides of the public place;
  - b. The public place shall be at least 5,000 square feet with no dimension less than 40 feet; and
  - c. 80 percent of the area shall be with surfaces for people to stand or sit on.
- 3. On parcels between 1/2 and 5 acres;
  - a. The public place shall be at least 2,500 square feet with a minimum dimension of 20 feet; and
  - b. 80 percent of the area shall have surfaces for people to sit or stand on.
- 4. The following design elements are required for public places:
  - a. Physically accessible and visible from the public sidewalks, walkways, or Through-connections;
  - b. Pedestrian access to abutting buildings;
  - c. Pedestrian-scaled lighting (subsection H below);
  - d. Seating and landscaping with solar access at least half of a day, year-round; and
  - e. Not located adjacent to dumpster or loading areas.









**Public Places** 

#### G. Multifamily Open Space

- 1. All multifamily development shall provide open space.
  - a. Provide 800 square feet per development or 50 square feet per unit of open space, whichever is greater;
  - b. Other than private balconies or patios, open space shall be accessible to all residents and include a minimum 20-foot dimension. These standards apply to all open spaces including parks, playgrounds, roof-top decks and ground-floor courtyards; and may also be used to meet the walkway standards as long as the function and minimum dimensions of the open space are met;
  - Required landscaping can be used for open space if it does not prevent access or reduce the overall landscape standard. Open spaces shall not be placed adjacent to parking lots and service areas without screening; and
  - d. Open space shall provide seating that has solar access at least half of a day, year-round.





Multi-family open spaces

#### H. Outdoor Lighting

- 1. All publicly accessible areas on private property shall be illuminated as follows:
  - a. Minimum of one half footcandles and maximum 25-foot pole height for vehicle areas;
  - b. One to two-footcandles and maximum 15-foot pole height for pedestrian areas;
  - c. Maximum of four-footcandles for building entries with the fixture placed below second floor; and
  - d. All private fixtures shall be full cut-off, dark sky rated and shielded to prevent direct light from entering neighboring property.

#### I. Service Areas

- All developments shall provide a designated location for trash, recycling storage and collection, and shipping containers. Such elements shall meet the following standards:
  - a. Located to minimize visual, noise, odor, and physical impacts to pedestrians and residents:
  - b. Paved with concrete and screened with materials or colors that match the building; and
  - Located and configured so that the enclosure gate swing does not obstruct
    pedestrian or vehicle traffic nor require that a hauling truck project into any public
    rights-of-way.



Trash/recycling closure with consistent use of materials and landscape screening.

#### 2. Utility and Mechanical Equipment

a. Equipment shall be located and designed to minimize their visibility to the public. Preferred locations are off alleys; service drives; within, atop, or under buildings; or other locations away from the street. Equipment shall not intrude into required pedestrian areas.



Utilities consolidated and separated by landscaping elements.

b. All exterior mechanical equipment shall be screened from view by integration with the building's architecture through such elements as parapet walls, false roofs, roof wells, clerestories, equipment rooms, materials and colors. Painting mechanical equipment as a means of screening is not permitted.

#### 20.92.070 Building Design Standards.

#### A. Purpose

- Emphasize quality building articulation, detailing, and durable materials.
- Reduce the apparent scale of buildings and add visual interest.
- Facilitate design that is responsive to the commercial and retail attributes of existing and permitted uses within the respective Town Center zone.

#### B. Façade Articulation

1. All building facing Storefront Streets per Figure 20.92.030 shall include one of the two articulation features set forth in (a) (b) or (c) below no more than every 40 lineal feet facing a street, parking lot, or public place. Building façades less than 60 feet wide are exempt from this standard.



Storefront articulation

- All buildings facing Boulevard Streets per Figure 20.92.030 shall include one of the two articulation features below no more than every 80 lineal feet facing a street, parking lot, or public place. Building façades less than 100 feet wide are exempt from this standard.
  - a. For the height of the building, each façade shall be offset at least 2 feet in depth and 4 feet in width if combined with a change in siding materials. Otherwise, the façade offset shall be at least 10 feet deep and 15 feet wide.
  - b. Vertical piers at the ends of each façade section that project at least 2 inches from the façade and extend from the ground to the roofline.
- 3. All multifamily buildings or residential portion of a mixed use building facing any street shall provide the following articulation features at least every 35 feet of façade facing a street, park, public place, or open space.
  - a. Vertical building modulation 18 inches deep and 4 feet wide if combined with a change in color or building material. Otherwise, minimum depth of modulation is 10 feet and minimum width for each modulation is 15 feet. Balconies may be used to meet modulation; and

b. Distinctive ground or first floor façade, consistent articulation of middle floors, and a distinctive roofline or articulate on 35-foot intervals.



C. Multi-family building articulation



Multi-family building articulation

#### 4. Roofline Modulation

Rooflines shall be modulated at least every 120 feet by emphasizing dormers, chimneys, stepped roofs, gables, or prominent cornices or walls. Rooftop appurtenances are included as modulation. Modulation shall consist of a roofline elevation change of at least four feet every 50 feet of roofline.

#### 5. Maximum Façade

For each 150 feet in length along the street front a building shall have a minimum 30-foot wide section that is offset at least by 20 feet through all floors.



Façade widths using a combination of façade modulation, articulation, and window design.

#### 6. Windows

Buildings shall recess or project individual windows above the ground floor at least two inches from the façade or use window trim at least four inches in width.



Window trim design

#### 7. Secondary Entry

Weather protection at least 3 feet deep and 4 feet wide is required over each secondary entry;



Covered secondary public access

#### 8. Façade Materials

a. Metal siding shall have visible corner moldings and trim and shall not extend lower than four feet above grade. Masonry, concrete, or other durable material shall be incorporated between the siding and the grade. Metal siding shall be factory finished, with a matte, non-reflective surface.



Masonry or concrete near the ground and proper trimming around windows and corners.

b. A singular style, texture, or color of concrete block shall not comprise more than 50 percent of a façade facing a street or public space.





The left image uses smooth gray blocks on the vertical columns and beige split-faced blocks above the awnings. The storefront in the right image uses gray split face and some lighter, square, smooth-faced blocks below the storefront windows.

c. Synthetic stucco must be trimmed and sheltered from weather by roof overhangs or other methods and are limited to no more than 50 percent of façades containing an entry and shall not extend below 2 feet above the grade.



Concrete near the ground level and a variety of other surface materials on the façade.

- 9. Prohibited exterior materials.
  - a. Mirrored glass, where used for more than 10 percent of the façade area.
  - b. Chain-link fencing, unless screened from view and within limited areas approved by the Director under SMC 20.30.297. No razor, barbed, or cyclone material shall be allowed.
  - c. Corrugated, fiberglass sheet products.
  - d. Plywood siding.
- C. Minimum space dimension for building interiors that are ground-level and fronting on streets is 12-foot height and 20-foot depth.

#### 20.92.080 Sign Design Standards.

#### A. Purpose

- Require signage that is both clear and of appropriate scale for the project.
- Enhance the visual qualities of signage through the use of complementary sizes, materials, and methods of illumination.
- Require signage that contributes to the character of Shoreline's Town Center.

#### B. Applicability

The sign standards herein shall supplement the provisions of SMC 20.50.540. Where there is a conflict, the provisions herein shall apply.

#### C. Permitted Illumination

- 1. Channel lettering or individual back-lit letters mounted on a wall, or individual letters placed on a raceway, where only light shines through the letters.
- 2. Opaque cabinet signs where light only shines through letter openings.
- 3. Shadow lighting, where letters are backlit, but light only shines through the edges of the letters.
- 4. Neon signs
- 5. Externally lit signs







Individual backlit letters (left image), opaque signs where only the light shines through the letters (center image), and neon signs (right image).

#### D. Monument Signs

- 1. One sign is permitted per frontage, per property, regardless of the number of tenants. An additional monument sign is permitted on a property if the frontage length is greater than 250 feet and the signs are at least 150 feet apart.
- 2. Use materials and architectural design elements that are consistent with the architecture of the buildings.
- 3. Signs in Zone TC-3: Maximum height: 6 feet and maximum area: 50 square feet per sign face.
- Signs in zones TC-1 and TC-2 when placed along Aurora Avenue, N. 175th or N. 185<sup>th</sup> streets. Maximum height: 12 feet and maximum area: 100 square feet per sign.

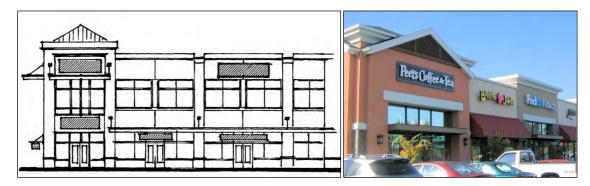
- 5. Signs may be placed up to the front property line if sight distancing and public safety standards are met.
- 6. Signs shall be set back from the side property lines at least 20 feet.



Monument sign

#### E. Building Signs

- Each tenant or commercial establishment is allowed one building sign wall, projecting, marquee, awning, or banner sign per façade that face the adjacent streets or customer parking lot.
- 2. Building signs shall not cover windows, building trim, edges, or ornamentation.
- 3. Building signs may not extend above the parapet, soffit, the eave line, or on the roof of the building.
- 4. Each sign area shall not exceed 25 square feet for Zone TC -3 and 50 square feet for zones TC-1 and TC-2.
- 5. The sign frame shall be concealed or integrated into the building's form, color, and material.



Signs are centered on architectural features of the building.

6. Projecting, banner, and marquee signs (above awnings) shall clear sidewalk by 9 feet and not project beyond the awning extension or 8 feet, whichever is less. These signs may project into public rights-of-way for storefront buildings, subject to City approval.



Projecting sign

#### F. Under-awning Signs

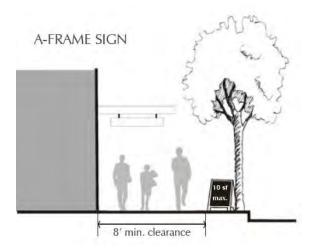
- 1. Not extend within 1-foot of the awning outer edge and the building façade;
- 2. Minimum clearance of 9 feet between the walkway and the bottom of the sign;
- 3. Not exceed 2 feet in height; and
- 4. One sign per business.
- G. Windows signs are exempt from permits but cannot exceed 25 percent of the window area



Under-awning signs

#### H. A-Frame or Standing Signs

- 1. One sign per business;
- 2. Must be directly in front of the business;
- 3. Cannot be located within the 8-foot sidewalk clearance on designated Storefront Street and 5 feet on all other sidewalks and internal walkways;
- 4. Shall not be placed in landscaping, within 2 feet of the street curb where there is onstreet parking, public walkways, or crosswalk ramps.
- 5. Shall not exceed 6 square feet per side; and
- 6. No lighting of signs is permitted.



A-Frame sign

- Transition Overlay and Zone TC-4 Signs
   All signs in the Transition Overlay and Zone TC-4 shall meet residential sign standards
   of SMC 20.50.540(B).
- J. Prohibited signs
  - 1. Pole signs.
  - 2. Billboards.
  - 3. Electronic changing message or flashing signs.
  - 4. Backlit awnings used as signs.
  - 5. Other signs set forth in SMC 20.50.550.

**Table 20.30.040** – Summary of Type A Actions and Target Time Limits for Decision, and Appeal Authority

Action Type	Target Time Limits for Decision (Calendar Days)	Section
Type A:		
1. Accessory Dwelling Unit	30 days	20.40.120, 20.40.210
2. Lot Line Adjustment including Lot Merger	30 days	20.30.400
3. Building Permit	120 days	All applicable standards
4. Final Short Plat	30 days	20.30.450
5. Home Occupation, Bed and Breakfast, Boarding House	120 days	20.40.120, 20.40.250, 20.40.260, 20.40.400
6. Interpretation of Development Code	15 days	20.10.050, 20.10.060, 20.30.020
7. Rights-of-Way Use	30 days	12.15.010 – 12.15.180
8. Shoreline Exemption Permit	15 days	Shoreline Master Program
9. Sign Permit	30 days	20.50.530 – 20.50.610
10. Site Development Permit	60 days	20.20.046, 20.30.315, 20.30.430
11. Deviation from Engineering Standards	30 days	20.30.290
12. Temporary Use Permit	15 days	20.40.100, 20.40.540
13. Clearing and Grading Permit	60 days	20.50.290 – 20.50.370
14. Planned Action Determination	28 days	20.90.025
15. Design Review	28 days	20.30.297

An administrative appeal authority is not provided for Type A actions, except that any Type A action which is not categorically exempt from environmental review under Chapter 43.21C RCW or for which environmental review has not been completed in connection with other project permits shall be appealable. Appeal of these actions together with any appeal of the SEPA threshold determination is set forth in Table 20.30.050(4). (Ord. 531 § 1 (Exh. 1), 2009; Ord. 469 § 1, 2007; Ord. 352 § 1, 2004; Ord. 339 § 2, 2003; Ord. 324 § 1, 2003; Ord. 299 § 1, 2002; Ord. 244 § 3, 2000; Ord. 238 Ch. III § 3(a), 2000).

#### 20.30.297 Design Review (Type A)

Design Review approval shall be granted by the Director upon his/her finding that:

- 1. The design meets the requirements of the applicable code subsections.
- 2. Departures from the design standards in the applicable chapter shall be consistent with the purposes or intent of each subsection or be justified due to unusual site constraints so that meeting the design standards represents a hardship to achieving full development potential.
  - a. Dimensional standards in Table 20.92.020(B) regarding setbacks and building envelope cannot be departed from in the Town Center District.
  - b. No departure from standards is allowed in Transition Overlay and the TC-4 zone.

#### 20.50.021 Development in the mixed-use zone (MUZ)

Development in the MUZ zone shall meet the following requirement:

A. All developments in the MUZ zone are subject to Design Review Approval in SMC 20.30.297.

#### 20.91.040 Design review. (Ridgecrest Planned Area)

A. **Applicability.** Design review will be required for developments in Ridgecrest Commercial Planned Area 2 that are 1.5 acres or more and that meet one of the thresholds in SMC 20.50.125.

**Standards for Approval.** When design review is required, the applicant will demonstrate that plans satisfy the criteria in SMC 20.30.297.

**Design Departures.** A permit applicant wishing to modify any of the standards in this chapter may apply for a design departure under SMC 20.30.297

#### 20.20 Definitions.

The following definitions apply to Chapter 20.

Building articulation The emphasis to architectural elements (like windows,

balconies, entries, etc.) that create a complementary pattern or rhythm, dividing large buildings into smaller identifiable pieces.

See SMC 20.92.070 for applicable standards.

Banner sign A sign constructed of cloth, canvas, or other similar light weight

material that can easily be folded or rolled, but does not include

paper or cardboard.

Boulevard Street Refers to a street and/or segment of a street where there's an

option for commercial storefronts or landscaped setbacks along

the street with the option of ground floor residential or

commercial uses.

Frontages Facilities between the curb and private development along

streets - typically curbs, amenities, and sidewalks.

Greenlink Street Refers to a street and/or segment of a street envisioned to

have or maintain landscaped building setbacks along the street.

See Figure 20.92.030 for the location of designated Landscaped Streets and SMC 20.92.050(C)(1)(B) for the description and applicable standards for properties fronting on

designated Landscaped Streets.

Modulation A stepping back or projecting forward of portions of a building

face, within specified intervals of building width and depth, as a

means of breaking up the apparent bulk of a structure's

continuous exterior walls.

Parking Areas Any public or private area within, under, or outside of a building

or structure, designed and used for parking motor vehicles including parking lots, garages, private driveways, and legally designated areas of public streets. Outdoor display areas of vehicles for sale or lease, where such uses are permitted uses,

are not considered parking areas.

Public places See SMC 20.92.060(F) for the description, standards, and

guidelines for public places.

Roofline Modulation Refers to a variation in roof form. See SMC 20.92.070(B)(4) for

provisions.

Storefront A pedestrian-oriented façade placed up to the edge of a public

sidewalk.

Storefront Street Refers to a street or segment of a street where envisioned to

have storefronts placed up to the edge of the sidewalk. See Figure 20.92.030 for the location of designated Storefront

Streets and SMC 20.92.060(B)(1) for the description and applicable standards for properties fronting on designated

Storefront Streets.

Transparent window A window that is capable of transmitting light so that objects or

images can be seen as if there were no intervening material

variation in roof form.

Trellis A frame supporting open latticework used as a screen or a

support for growing vines or plants.

Walkways On-site hard surfaces for pedestrian and non-motorized

circulation. Non-motorized circulation includes use of mobility

aids.

## 20.40.020 Zones and map designations.

The following zoning and map symbols are established as shown in the following table:

ZONING	MAP SYMBOL				
RESIDENTIAL					
	R-4 through 48				
(Low, Medium, and High Density)	(Numerical designator relating to base density in dwelling units per acre)				
NONRESIDENTIAL					
Neighborhood Business	NB				
Office	0				
Community Business	СВ				
Mixed-Use Zone	MUZ				
Industrial	I				
Campus	CCZ, FCZ, PHZ, SCZ <sup>1</sup>				
Special Overlay Districts	SO				
North City Business District	NCBD				
Town Center District	TC-1, TC-2, TC-3, TC-4				
Planned Area	PA				

#### 20.40.050 Special districts.

- A. **Special Overlay District.** The purpose of the special overlay (SO) district is to apply supplemental regulations as specified in this Code to a development of any site, which is in whole or in part located in a special overlay district (Chapter 20.100 SMC, Special Districts). Any such development must comply with both the supplemental SO and the underlying zone regulations.
- B. **Subarea Plan District.** The purpose of a subarea plan district is to implement an adopted subarea plan using regulations tailored to meet the specific goals and policies established in the Comprehensive Plan for the subarea.
  - 1. **North City Business District (NCBD).** The purpose of the NCBD is to implement the vision contained in the North City Subarea Plan. Any development in the NCBD must comply with the standards specified in Chapter 20.90 SMC.
  - 2. **Town Center District (TCD).** The purpose of the TCD is to implement the vision and policies contained in the Town Center Subarea Plan. Any development in the TCD must comply with the standards specified in Chapter 20.92 SMC.

#### 20.40.110 Use tables.

A. The land use tables in this subchapter determine whether a specific use is allowed in a zone. The zone designation is located on the top of each column and the specific use is located on the horizontal rows. The land use table for TCD is located in SMC 20.92.020.A.