### Implementation & Equity 201: The Path Forward to Complete Streets

### **Innovation in Complete Streets** Infrastructure Webinar begins at 4:00PM EDT



Smart Growth America

Improving lives by improving communities



National Complete Streets Coalition

## Innovation in Complete Streets Infrastructure

### September 27, 2018





National Complete Streets Coalition





Seattle Department of Transportation







## **Emiko Atherton**

Director @CompleteStreets

#### Number of people killed while walking



Data source: FARS

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## Donate today to support Dangerous by Design 2018



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Seattle Department of Transportation



## Dongho Chang

City Traffic Engineer @dongho\_chang

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## **Moving Communities Forward**



#### 



## Seattle Background

- 26% of Seattle land area is in public street right-of-way
- 97.5% of Seattle's population lives within ¼ mile of a transit stop
- Ranks 6<sup>th</sup> of the 50 largest cities for walkability
- Ranks typically in the top 10 in bicycle commute rates for large US cities
- Typical arterial roadway width is 60-66'



## Seattle's Growth Strategy

- Focus growth to more efficiently serve it
  - Urban centers Manufacturing & industrial centers
  - Urban villages
- 80% of city growth in centers/ villages since 1994
- Future Comprehensive Plan growth targets 2016-2035
  - 70,000 additional housing units
  - 115,000 additional jobs



## **Employment Density**



## **Seattle Transit Utilization**

- Since 2010-2017 Downtown added 60,000 new jobs
- -4,500 drop in solo car trips
- 262,000 daily commuters in 2017 25.4% drove alone



## **Small Changes Matter**

- Keeping Buses Moving

   Dedicated Bus Signals
   Bus Only Lanes
- Rider Access and Safety
   Improvements
  - Real Time Information Signs
  - Expanded rider waiting areas
  - Upgrades to shelters and lighting



## Seattle's 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue



- Bus priority began in 2005, expanded hours in 8/20/2018
- Total weekday ridership on bus routes serving 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue = 189,000
- Total daily boardings for stops on 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue= 50,800
- Number of routes serving 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue = 46
- Weekday daily bus trips = 4,781 (James to Cedar St)
- Peak hour bus trips 5-9, 3-7 = 2,187
- Approx. 274 bus per hour

## Aurora Bus Only Lane 6/25/2012



## SB Aurora Bus Only Lane 6/25/2012



## Rapid Ride E Line – Feb. 2014

- About 14 miles
- 3 Lanes Peak Direction
- 12,000 daily transit trips #358 – 10-20m frequency
- Existing BAT Lanes: NB north of 115<sup>th</sup>; SB south of 50<sup>th</sup> to 38th
- State Highway 99 with strip development
- Parking Allowed near businesses
- BAT Lanes Implemented



## Transit Travel Time Results Before/

|   |                            | Minutes<br>Saved  |     | %   |            |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------|-----|-----|------------|
|   |                            | NB                | SB  | NB  | SB         |
|   | BAT Lane & Signal Retiming | 4.0               | 5.2 | 14% | 17%        |
| Σ | E Line Improvements        | 0.1               | 0.3 | 0%  | 1%         |
| A | TSP                        | 1.1               | 1.4 | 4%  | 5%         |
|   | Total Compared to Baseline | 5.2               | 6.9 | 19% | 22%        |
|   | BAT Lane & Signal Retiming | 6.1               | 5.9 | 19% | 16%        |
| 0 | E Line Improvements        | 0.8               | 2.5 | 3%  | 8%         |
| Σ | TSP                        | 0.8               | 0.4 | 3%  | 1%         |
|   | Total Compared to Baseline | 7.7               | 8.8 | 24% | 24%        |
|   | BAT Lane & Signal Retiming | <mark>5.</mark> 9 | 5.0 | 18% | <b>14%</b> |
| 5 | E Line Improvements        | 1.4               | 2.6 | 5%  | 8%         |
| Ы | TSP                        | 0.5               | 0.7 | 2%  | 3%         |
|   | Total Compared to Baseline | 7.8               | 8.2 | 23% | 23%        |

## End Result = More Riders



## Bus Ridership Comparison



## University of Washington Planning

- 6 million square feet of new construction
  - 7,000+ new students employees
- 12% drive alone rate by 2028
- Affordability
  - 450 housing units



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## Comprehensive Plan Transportation Element key themes



Safe, reliable, affordable, equitable, and high quality travel options Ensure goods movement

Use right-ofway for multiple purposes

## LOS requirements

- State Growth Management Act (GMA) requires:
  - Comprehensive plans to address growth
  - Level-of-service standards (LOS) to gauge transportation system performance
- GMA concurrency: *allow development* if:
  - LOS is met
  - Or commitments are in place to ensure system capacity within 6 years
- Puget Sound Regional Council (MPO)
  - Certifies local comprehensive plan certification
  - Wants *multi-modal* LOS emphasizing people-moving capacity

## Level of Service – V/C to Modeshare





## Measuring space efficiency



## 200 People Can Fit in...









## Equity in Transportation

Selected equity-related policies Transportation Element:

- Consider the income, age, ability, vehicle ownership patterns of populations throughout the city in developing transportation systems to that all residents, especially those most in need, have access to a wide range of travel options.
- Prioritize transit investments on the basis of ridership demand, service to populations heavily reliant on transit, and opportunities to leverage funding.
- Look for innovative ways to create training, youth employment, and living-wage opportunities for marginalized populations in the construction and major maintenance of transportation facilities.



## Mitigation Options- Joint Director's Rule

| Auto            |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Reduced parking | For projects in locations where a minimum parking requirement applies (see SMC 23.54.015):  |
|                 | Limit parking to the minimum number of required spaces listed for a use in Table A, B, or C in SMC 23.54.015.   |
|                 | <ul> <li>Provide no more than the minimum required parking<br/>stated in the tables.</li> <li>OR</li> </ul>   |
|                 | <ul> <li>In cases where proximity to frequent transit service<br/>(FTS) allows for a 50 percent reduction of the minimums<br/>stated in Tables A, B, or C in 23.54.015, limit parking to<br/>no more than 60 percent of the stated minimums.</li> </ul> |
|                 | For uses in locations where no minimum parking requirement applies:<br>Limit parking to no more than 60 percent of the minimum number of spaces stated for a use in Table A, B, or C in SMC 23.54.015.  |

## Mitigation Options- Joint Director's Rule

| Transit    |  |
|------------|--|
|            | For Residential Use (as a single use or more than<br>50 percent of the uses in a mixed-use<br>development)<br>Building owner pays at least 50 percent of the cost  |
| Bus passes | of a transit pass for each residential unit by<br>participating in King County's Multifamily<br>Development ORCA Passport program (or<br>equivalent), for 15 years. Owner must offer a<br>minimum of one pass per residential unit per year. |
|            | For Non-Residential Use (as a single use or more<br>than 50 percent of the uses in a mixed-use<br>development)<br>Building owner pays at least 50 percent of the cost  |
|            | of a transit pass for each employee by<br>participating in King County's ORCA Passport<br>program (or equivalent) for 15 years. An employee<br>is a person who works 20 hours or more per<br>week.   |

## **Complete Streets Ordinance 122386**

- Enacted in 2007
- Create and maintain safe street for all
- All modes walking, bicycling, transit, and freight
- Safety as the highest priority
- Maintain mobility moving people and good efficiently
- Can be achieved through single project or incremental improvements



## **Complete Street Project Checklist**

- Channelization- ADT 25K (Road diet)
- Safety- Speed limit, signals, collision reduction (BPSA)
- Maintenance pavement, sidewalks, trees
- Flex lane curb space allocation for land use
- Modal plans (Pedestrian/Bicycle/ Transit/Freight)
- Art/green stormwater/tactical/urban forestry



## Vision Zero

- End traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2030
- Multi-faceted approach through data driven action and the many E's of Safety:
  - Engineering
  - Education
  - Enforcement
  - Evaluation
  - Equity



## Seattle's Safety Trends

- 13,000 total crashes/year
  - 160 serious injuries
  - -20 deaths
- 17 Fatal in 2017



### Trends

- 2017-17 fatal crashes
  - 9 pedestrians
  - 3 motorcyclists
  - 2 bicyclists
  - 3 drivers/passengers
- People age 55+ make up 60% of pedestrian deaths (last 3 years)
- Impairment top contributing factor

of total crashes involved people walking, biking, and on a motorcycle

7%

# 62% of total fatalities

### Speed is a Factor in Fatalities and Serious Injuries







#### **SERIOUS & FATAL COLLISIONS**







### 2,400 Miles of Residential Streets are 20 mph



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- 1,500 Traffic Circles (1,127 inventoried in asset management)
- Reduce injury collision by 97%, all collisions by 90%
- 1,343 Volunteers just for our circles! (1 to 4 volunteers per circle)
- Curb/Planter strip gardening raised structures requires no-fee permit (sand boxes!) @CompleteStreets Infrastructure

## **Traffic calming**



### Speed humps



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## Speed humps

### Small investment with high safety yield

|                    | Graham Hill | Highland Park | Olympic Hills |
|--------------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| Change in speeding | -79%        | -73%          | -88%          |
| Change in speeding | 90%         | 010/          | 01%           |
| over 35 mph        | -0070       | -0170         | -91%          |
|                    |             |               |               |

Vehicle traveling at

20 MPH



I out of 10 pedestrians survive.

## Speed humps/cushions/signs/

#### <u>namarac</u>

|                                       | Graham Hill<br>Elementary<br>S Graham Street<br>Speed Humps<br>Installed 2011 | Highland Park<br>Elementary<br>10th Avenue SW<br>Speed Cushions<br>Installed 2012 | Olympic Hills<br>Elementary<br>NE 130th Street<br>Speed Humps<br>Installed 2014 | Emerson<br>Elementary<br>60th Ave S<br>Speed Humps<br>Installed 2014 | Viewlands<br>Elementary<br>3rd Ave NW and<br>NW 104th<br>Speed Cushions<br>Installed 2014 | Viewlands<br>Elementary<br>3rd Ave NW and<br>NW 105th<br>Speed Cushions<br>Installed 2014 | Broadview<br>Thomson K-8<br>3rd Ave NW and<br>NW 130th<br>Radar Speed Sign<br>Installed 2014 | Broadview<br>Thomson K-8<br>3rd Ave NW and<br>NW 137th<br>Radar Speed Sign<br>Installed 2014 | Rainier View<br>Elementary<br>Beacon Ave S<br>NW/o 57th Ave S<br>Automated<br>Enforcement 2015 | Rainier View<br>Elementary<br>Beacon Ave S<br>NW/o 57th Ave S<br>Speed Cushions<br>2018 |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| 85th Percentile<br>Speed Before (MPH) | 28.3  | 29.7  | 28.7  | 33.9   | 32.4  | 34.3  | 35.2   | 35.6   | 36.6%  | 36.0%   |
| 85th Percentile<br>Speed After (MPH)  | 23.2  | 24.2  | 22.7  | 21.3   | 27.3  | 28.5  | 35.4   | 35.1   | 36.0%  | 31.2%   |
|                                       | -18%  | -19%  | -21%  | -37%   | -16%  | -17%  | 1%   | -1%  | -2%  | -13%  |
| Percent exceeding<br>25 mph Before    | 36%   | 43%   | 45%   | 79%  | 69%   | 79%   | 85%  | 89%  | 88.5%  | 79.5%   |
| Percent exceeding<br>25 mph After     | 8%  | 12%   | 5%  | 2.2%   | 28.2%   | 35.8%   | 94.1%  | 94.6%  | 79.9%  | 53.8%   |
|                                       | -79%  | -73%  | -88%  | -97%   | -59%  | -55%  | 10%  | 6%   | -10%   | -32%  |
| Percent exceeding 35 mph<br>Before    | 1.0%  | 3.2%  | 1.1%  | 10.0%  | 4.5%  | 10.5%   | 16.7%  | 18.9%  | 24.3%  | 20.8%   |
| Percent exceeding 35 mph<br>After     | 0.2%  | 0.6%  | 0.1%  | 0.0%   | 1.1%  | 1.6%  | 12.2%  | 15.4%  | 20.8%  | 4.7%  |
| J                                     | -80%  | -81%  | -91%  | -100%  | -76%  | -85%  | -27%   | -19%   | -14%   | -77%  |



## NE 75<sup>th</sup> Street- 21,300 ADT

- Designed and implemented in 6 months
- 50% reduction in crashes



20 foot lanes

#### 10.5 foot lanes + bike lanes

|           | Percent Change in<br>85 <sup>th</sup> Percentile<br>Speed | Percent Change in Speeders going over the speed limit | Percent Change in Speeders<br>going 10+ mph over the<br>speed limit |
|-----------|---|---|---|
| Eastbound | -9%   | -64%  | -75%  |
| Westbound | -11%  | -56%  | -79%  |

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## Nickerson St: ADT=18,500



## Nickerson Case Study

#### Improving Safety on Nickerson Street

#### Average Speed of Vehicles was 42 MPH, is now 33 MPH



Speeders (Percent driving over the speed limit)







Improving Safety on Nickerson Street

Change in Number of Collisions on Nickerson (One-year after rechannelization)



Top End Speeders (Percent driving 10 mph or more over the speed limit)



Long-term citywide goal: a city with zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries

#### Average Weekday Traffic Volumes

Before After 18,563 18,364 Innovation in Complete Streets Infrastructure

## Measure Twice: Before & After

| Data needs                        | Before Study | After Study (>1 year) |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| ADT                               | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$          |
| Bike and Ped Counts               | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$          |
| Injury collisions                 | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$          |
| 10+ over the speed limit          | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$          |
| 85 <sup>th</sup> percentile speed | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$          |
| Transit operations                | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$          |
| Turning vehicle counts            | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$          |
| Parking use                       | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$          |
| Side street diversion             | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$          |
| Vehicle classification            | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$          |
| Resident satisfaction             | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$          |
| Business satisfaction             | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$          |

### Lessons learned

- Complete corridors can be a preferred context sensitive approach that may be able to meet multiple community objectives
- Rightsizing works—45 completed examples in Seattle
- Speed reduction—especially for top-end speeders
- Pedestrian and bicycle safety and access encourages more usage
- Low to no reductions in travel times along the corridors
- Difficult to get initial community support—once installed, community support is typically very high

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## **Questions?**

### http://www.seattle.gov/transportation





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## Fred Dock

Director, Department of Transportation @FCDock



## Aligning Plans and Polices for Complete Streets

Frederick C. Dock, PE AICP Transportation Director, City of Pasadena



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### Aligned plans to policies

- > Organized around a Complete Streets Framework
- Aligned metrics to plan/policy objectives
  - > Adopted VMT in place of LOS to measure Transportation Impact
  - Introduced metrics for Transit, Bicycle, Walk
- Aligned project review to plans/policies
  - > Modified/expanded elements of circulation/access review
- Aligned program delivery process to plan/policies
  - > Adopted Street Design Guidelines for Complete Streets
  - > Developed Six-step Complete Streets community involvement program



### At a policy level

- General Plan guiding principle is to be able to circulate without a car
  - Traffic impact mitigation increased difficulty to walk or bike for short trips
  - Mitigation added turn lanes, widening streets making crossings more difficult
  - > Wider streets encouraged faster speeds making walking and biking less safe and inhibiting use by the less active
- State mandates for GHG reduction and Complete Streets were being ignored

### At a practice level

- Traffic impact findings painted a picture of gridlock (that never occurred)
  - Travel pattern monitoring did not show significant growth in travel times
- Misplaced investment in the street system – system-level ITS investments were undone by traffic impact mitigation
- Bicycle infrastructure was deferred by inability to repurpose traffic lanes or remove curb parking



### **Aligned Plans to Policy**

- Developed a vertically integrated approach to Mobility planning
- Defined outcomes that achieved the Policy goals
- Measured what was important to Policy goals
- Tracked progress



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### **Complete Streets Framework**

- Developed a new Street Plan to match policy
  - Defined purpose and need based on context and function
  - Set target speeds and cross section
  - > Limited number of lanes
- Tied Context to General
   Plan Land Use



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### **Street Plan**

- Redefines Function for urban conditions
  - > Adds detail necessary for Complete Streets
  - Focuses on City's travel patterns/modes
- Foundation for
  - > Transit Plan
  - > Bicycle Plan
  - > Pedestrian Plan

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### **Street Design Guide: Complete Streets**

- Context-Sensitive Solutions approach
  - > Transportation planning
  - > Roadway design
- Supports community objectives
  - > Walkable communities
  - > Mixed land uses
  - > Active transportation facilities
- Works with existing or future context





## PASADENA STREET DESIGN GUIDE

- Accommodates retrofitting of existing street network
- Functions with development review
  - > Options for enhancing pedestrian space
- Supports incremental investment through synergy with Pavement **Management Program**
- Provides mode-specific examples of design elements
  - > Transit stops, ped/bike infrastructure



# Aligning Metrics and Policies

### **Decreasing Emphasis**

- Evaluating only street operations and traffic volume changes
  - > Individual intersection performance
    - Level of Service
- Mitigating only impacts to auto travel
  - > Adding vehicular capacity via street widening
  - > Minimizing auto delay/LOS

### **Increasing Emphasis**

- Reduce Greenhouse Gas
  - > Vehicle Miles of Travel metrics
- Elevating priorities for transit, pedestrian and bicycle travel
  - Enhance conditions for vulnerable users
- Network performance
  - > Travel time reliability
  - > Speed management



- Vehicle-Miles Traveled per capita and Vehicle Trips per capita
  - Service population is residents plus employees
- CEQA Thresholds are existing citywide levels
  - > Adopted in advance of SB 743 Guidance from OPR
- Forecast model designed to work at all levels from General Plan to development review



# Metrics for Non-Auto Modes

### Proximity/Quality of Bicycle Network

 Percent of dwelling units and jobs within a quarter mile of bike lane, path, cycletrack or bicycle boulevard



### **CEQA** Threshold

 Any decrease in percentage of units or employment within a ¼ mile of Level 1 or Level 2 Bike Facility



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### **Proximity/Quality of Transit Network**

 Percent of jobs located within a quarter mile of frequent transit service (every 15 minutes or less)



### **CEQA** Threshold

 Any decrease in percentage of units or employment within a ¼ mile of Level 1 or Level 2 Transit Facility



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### **Proximity/Quality of Pedestrian Environment**

- The Pedestrian Accessibility Score within each TAZ
- The Pedestrian Accessibility Score uses the mix of destinations and a networkbased walk shed
- Measures the number of different land use types (destinations) within a five minute walk

### **CEQA** Threshold

 Any decrease in Citywide Pedestrian Accessibility Score





- Hybrid Approach
- CEQA Metrics and Thresholds
   VMT, VT, Proximity metrics
- Project Approval Conditions
  - > Auto Level of Service (LOS) uses HCM
  - Street Segment Analysis limited to residential
  - > Pedestrian Environmental Quality Index (PEQI)
  - > Bicycle Environmental Quality Index (BEQI)
  - > Focused on reducing traffic intrusion in neighborhoods; enhancing ped/bike/transit



#### TRANSPORTATION IMPACT ANALYSIS CURRENT PRACTICE & GUIDELINES

Prepared by:

Transportation Complete Streets Division Department of Transportation

20150120

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### **Implementation Programs**

- Traffic Reduction and Transportation Impact Fee
- Trip Reduction Ordinance
- Expanded Neighborhood Traffic Management Plans to Complete Streets Program
- Engaged the Public
  - > Complete Street Workshops
  - > Six-step program

### Management and Operations Strategies

- Travel time monitoring
  - > Focused on mobility routes
- ATCS for queue/flow management
- Speed Management
- LPI, Scramble crossings
- Protected bike lanes
- Transit signal priority



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### **Short Version**

So Far So Good





- Metrics are encouraging General Plan compliance
  - > Result is more balanced mixed use development
  - > VMT and VT metrics for CEQA reduces the burden on smaller projects that conform to the General Plan
- Streamlines the CEQA process for conforming urban infill projects
  - > Staff handles most analysis further shortening the process
- Shifts the focus of CEQA analysis away from traffic congestion
  - > Allows for traffic to be considered <u>outside</u> the confines of CEQA
  - > Places more emphasis on system management/measurement

# Status of Projects Reviewed Since 2015



- Projects of Community-wide Significance (17)
  - No Unmitigated Impact
  - Mitigation Required (3)
- Other Projects (24)
  - No Unmitigated Impact
  - Mitigation Required (6)
- CEQA Challenges (0)



- Complete Streets Program works well at a corridor level
  - > Facilitated workshop approach results in consensus on project elements
  - > Implementation is constrained by lack of funding
    - Currently constructing projects planned five years ago
- Support for Complete Streets is wavering as more projects move from planning into design
  - > Road diets are encountering resistance
  - > Necessitating more direct use of facilitated workshop approach
- Street Design Guide is in use
  - > Limited application to pavement rehabilitation projects
- Complete Streets Blueprint in development
  - > Decision Support System for prioritizing projects and synching with PMP





### General

- Learning curve can be steep
  - > Unfamiliar to community and decision makers
- Limited mitigation options
  - > VMT is complicated
- People are still concerned with traffic
  - Persistent perception of growth in traffic congestion despite analytical evidence
  - > Unsupported perception of neighborhood traffic intrusion

### Technical

- Model requires regular updating
  - > First update is underway
- Outcomes difficult to predict
  - > Reducing project scale does not always reduce impacts
- VMT mitigation measures are challenging
  - More research required on quantifying the benefits of TDM measures



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## Questions?

## Type your questions in the ReadyTalk chat box

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## Want to learn more?

### Stay tuned for upcoming webinars

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