

URBAN CENTER ELEMENT

CHAPTER 3



ENVISION
SEATAC 2044

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INTRODUCTION



SeaTac's Vision for the Urban Center

In 2044, SeaTac will continue to provide a thriving Urban Center, connecting residents, businesses, workers, and visitors to goods and services, multi-modal transportation options, affordable housing choices, and parks and open space.

In 2044, three urban villages will anchor the Urban Center in the north, central, and southern sectors of the International Boulevard corridor, adjacent to the city's light rail stations, where they will provide equitable access to higher density, walkable, transit-oriented living, working, shopping, recreating, and entertainment opportunities for local and regional communities and out of town visitors to enjoy.

Purpose of Element

The Urban Center Element goals and policies guide the type, distribution, location, and physical development of land uses within SeaTac's Urban Center, which the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) designated as a Regional Growth Center in 1995. This element provides the policy context for the City's zoning code, development regulations, and investment decisions that guide development of the Urban Center.

The majority of SeaTac's Urban Center land area is encompassed within the boundaries of the City's three adopted subareas, recognized in this Plan as "urban villages." Because the urban villages are located within the Urban Center, the Urban Center Element establishes framework policies that help define their role in implementing both SeaTac's citywide growth strategies and the PSRC and King County regional growth strategies for centers.

Role in State, Regional, and County Planning Framework

While the Urban Center Element is not a requirement under the Growth Management Act (GMA), the GMA, PSRC, and King County provide guidance for the planning and development of centers.

PSRC's Vision 2050 Multicounty Planning Policies calls for focusing the majority of growth in urban areas, and particularly in designated regional growth centers (RGCs) and areas surrounding high-capacity transit. Specifically, Urban Centers are expected to accommodate at least 65% of the regional population growth, and 75% of employment growth. Focusing growth in these areas ensures residents have convenient access to housing,

jobs, and amenities, while also protecting the natural resources in the rural areas of the region.

As noted on the PSRC website, “Centers are the hallmark of Vision 2050 and the Regional Growth Strategy. They guide regional growth allocations, advance local planning, inform transit service planning, and represent priority areas for PSRC’s federal transportation funding.” In 2018, PSRC updated the Regional Centers Framework to establish more consistent criteria for RGCs throughout the region, and in 2025, PSRC will undertake monitoring of designated RGCs based on this work. The City of SeaTac has chosen to provide this Urban Center Element to increase alignment with the updated Regional Centers Framework goals, and to demonstrate concurrence with requirements for designated Urban Centers to have either a subarea plan or element in a Comprehensive Plan.

King County’s Countywide Planning Policies align with and support PSRC’s regional growth center strategies and include policies for regionally designated centers as “areas of mixed-use zoning, infrastructure, and concentrations of services and amenities to accommodate both housing and employment growth.”

Consistency with Other Elements

The Urban Center Element is closely connected with the Land Use, Neighborhoods, and Housing and Human Services Elements. This element is also coordinated with Transportation and Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Elements.

GOALS AND POLICIES



This section contains SeaTac’s Urban Center goals and policies. Goals represent the City’s general objectives, while policies provide more detail about the steps needed to achieve each goal’s intent.

General Policies

GOAL 3.1

Encourage the development of the Urban Center as an equitable transit community with mixed use, complete neighborhoods that provide social and economic opportunities for residents, workers, and visitors.

Policy 3.1A

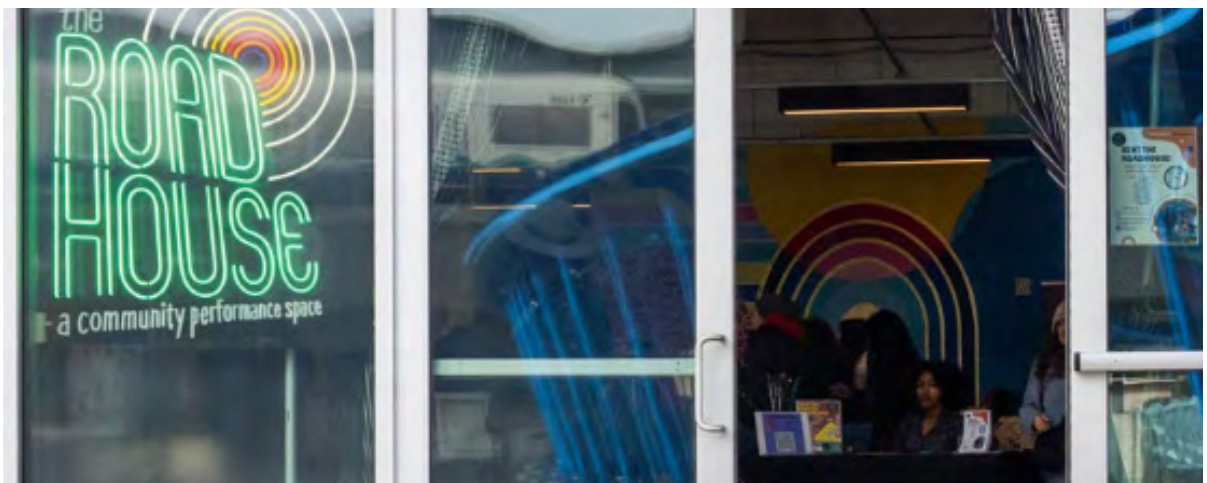
Support the transition of the Urban Center into a more compact, pedestrian- and transit-oriented place with access to jobs, diverse, affordable housing options, transportation choices, neighborhood-oriented services, healthy foods, and parks and open space available within one-half mile walking distance throughout the center.

Policy 3.1B

Prioritize services and access to opportunity for people of color, people with low incomes, and historically underserved communities.

Policy 3.1C

Prioritize investments in the Urban Center such as transportation planning investments and programs, and other public infrastructure.



Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map: Urban Center and Urban Villages

City of SeaTac



Legend

Land Use Inside the Urban Center

- Urban Residential Medium
- Urban Residential High
- Urban Residential High-Mixed Use
- Urban Village Medium
- Urban Village High
- Urban Commercial High

Land Use Outside the Urban Center

- Residential Low
- Residential Medium
- Residential High
- Neighborhood Village Medium
- Neighborhood Village High
- Commercial Low
- Commercial High

Land Use Citywide

- Regional Business Mix
- Industrial
- Airport
- Park
- Urban Center Boundary
- City Center Overlay District
- S 154th Station Area Overlay District
- Angle Lake Station Area Overlay District

City Boundary

- City of SeaTac
- Other Cities

Date Prepared: 11/19/2024
Prepared by the City of SeaTac. All rights reserved. This product has been compiled from the best available data. No warranty is expressed or implied as to accuracy, completeness, or fitness for any specific use. Not to be used for purposes of legal description or definition. Not a substitute for a professional survey. Sources: City of SeaTac, King County, Sound Transit, WSDOT, NearMap (2023).

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Map 3.1. Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map: Urban Center and Urban Villages

Regional Growth Center Framework Policies

The RGC framework policies are intended to directly align with Puget Regional Council's goals for RGCs as established within Vision 2050 and other PSRC guidance documents.

Regional Collaboration

GOAL 3.2

Foster sustainable development and community well-being in the Urban Center through collaborative and regional planning.

Policy 3.2A

Recognize the Urban Center as a regionally designated growth center and support its role locally and within the region as a major focal point for population and employment growth, and a transit-oriented, equitable, center for opportunity.

Policy 3.2B

Facilitate collaboration with Sound Transit, WSDOT, the Port of Seattle, tribes, military installations, special districts, and other public agencies to achieve Urban Center goals and work closely with affected neighborhoods in the design of regional public facilities, such as transit, highway and other major projects, that impact residential neighborhoods.

Environment, Parks, and Climate Change

GOAL 3.3

Create a climate-resilient built environment within the Urban Center to support the achievement of state and regional greenhouse gas emission reduction goals.

Policy 3.3A

Promote the design of neighborhoods and individual developments using techniques that reduce heat absorption, particularly in areas with less tree canopy and open spaces.

Policy 3.3B

Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by encouraging walking, bicycling, transit use, and other alternatives to auto travel, and by locating housing closer to areas of high employment.

Policy 3.3C

Reduce the greenhouse gas emissions of the built environment through supporting innovative green building practices in design, materials selection, construction, and maintenance.

Policy 3.3D

Work to incorporate electric transportation infrastructure into new public and private development.

Policy 3.3E

Encourage tree planting and native, climate-resilient landscaping throughout the Urban Center to create and protect systems of green infrastructure.

Policy 3.3F

Follow guidance from the City’s Stormwater Management Program to preserve, protect, and improve water resources.

Policy 3.3G

Identify and mitigate environmental impacts for vulnerable populations by prioritizing investment in parts of the Urban Center with historical underinvestment in infrastructure.

GOAL 3.4

Protect and enhance environmentally critical areas, parks, and open spaces.

Policy 3.4A

Identify and minimize gaps in equitable access to parks and open space by providing parks within one-half to one-quarter mile walk of all Urban Center residents as guided by the SeaTac Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan and complete neighborhoods growth strategies.

Policy 3.4B

Develop public spaces within the Urban Center to create a greater sense of identity and establish places that can be enjoyed by residents, employees, and visitors.

Urban centers are stronger and more focused when they have one or more major public parks or squares. Such a place is seen by the community as a “commons” when it is publicly owned, programmed, monitored, and maintained. A privately provided plaza may not accomplish the same result, since it is not “held in common” by the community. The Urban Village Framework Policies promote the creation of central village squares within each of the designated urban villages.

Policy 3.4C

Work collaboratively with other agencies and environmental groups to increase the habitat value of SeaTac’s natural resources, including Bow Lake and Angle Lake.

Policy 3.4D

Recognize Bow Lake and Angle Lake as major contributors to the development of SeaTac’s Urban Center and City Center urban village, and work to further enhance their capacity for providing opportunities to the community.

The Urban Center contains two lakes: Bow Lake and Angle Lake. The City should continue providing public gathering and performance space at Angle Lake Park. Bow Lake is, at present, inaccessible to the public and virtually unseen. It is predominantly privately owned with hotels on the west and south sides and a large manufactured home park on the east side. It is an amenity that could be combined with a public park, plaza and/or other public access facilities to make it a focal point of the City Center. Special expertise will be needed to allow access to Bow Lake while still permitting it to perform its natural functions as part of a designated sensitive area.

Urban Center Growth Targets

Growth targets are the amount of growth a jurisdiction has agreed, through the countywide process, to plan for throughout its comprehensive plan elements over the 20-year horizon of the comprehensive plan. While the King County Countywide Planning Policies require citywide growth targets, Puget Sound Regional Council's Vision 2050 Plan requires growth targets for designated regional growth centers.

Land Use/Development Patterns

GOAL 3.5

Continue to focus most of the City's job and housing growth in the Urban Center and create inviting, walkable, transit-supportive, urban environments within all of its neighborhoods.

Policy 3.5A

Focus most of SeaTac's housing and job growth within the Urban Center and direct the majority of the commercial and residential growth and redevelopment into the City's three designated urban villages to facilitate their development as community focal points and distinct, complete neighborhoods.

Policy 3.5B

Create and plan to accommodate population, housing unit, and employment targets specific to the Urban Center in alignment with PSRC's Vision 2050 and Regional Growth Strategy, and ensure the targets help implement PSRC's goal of attracting 65% of regional population growth and 75% of employment growth within designated centers.

SeaTac's allocated growth targets for the Urban Center are identified in the below table:

TABLE 3.1 – SEATAC URBAN CENTER EXISTING CONDITIONS AND ALLOCATED GROWTH TARGET.				
Growth Targets	Existing (Baseline) Conditions 2020	Adopted Urban Center Target 2044	Adopted Citywide Growth Target 2044) (See Land Use Element)	Urban Center Growth Target as % of Citywide Target
Population	12,580	+9,402	N/A	N/A
Housing Units	5,170	+4,031	+5,900	68%
Jobs	21,070	+6,983	+14,810	47%

As shown above, the Urban Center adopted growth targets do not meet the 75% of citywide job growth. This is due to the fact that the numbers above do not incorporate the projected 4,900 new jobs that the Sea-Tac International Airport expects to see by 2044, and the airport is located outside of the Urban Center. With the addition of these jobs to the Urban Center growth targets, the job growth target would total 11,883 jobs, or 80% of the Citywide job growth target.

Policy 3.5C

Support the Urban Center as a primary location for growth by implementing development regulations, programs, and projects that encourage new jobs and housing in line with PSRC's activity unit density goals for regional growth centers.

PSRC requires designated regional growth centers like SeaTac's, which is categorized as an "urban" center type to plan for minimum densities of at least 45 activity units per acre. (An activity unit is a person or a job.) Minimum density requirements are intended to promote compact, pedestrian-oriented development with clustered jobs, housing, and amenities, in contrast to lower density, auto-oriented development.

Development Pattern

Policy 3.5D

Promote regional and local community and economic development by providing a mix of land uses and complete neighborhood infrastructure and services throughout the Urban Center including housing at a range of building types and affordability levels, commercial and retail spaces, community services, and other amenities integrated within safe, walkable neighborhoods.

One of the City's main growth strategies is to support current communities and future growth by providing complete neighborhood infrastructure and services within the Urban Center and citywide. PSRC's regional growth center guidance also establishes goals for providing a mix of complementary uses within regional growth centers, and specifically, a minimum mix of at least 15% planned residential and employment activity in centers.

Policy 3.5E

Ensure the City's plans and design standards promote a pedestrian-friendly and transit-supportive land use and development pattern for future private and public development projects.

Policy 3.5F

Incentivize developers to produce high-quality, transit-oriented housing, economic opportunities, and services in the Urban Center and urban villages through maximizing infill development and other new and redevelopment opportunities.

The City's three urban villages will evolve over many years. The City should take the lead on establishing the character and level of quality during the initial phase(s) of development. Public amenities should be provided, such as comfortable walking, bicycling, and resting environments, small parks and plazas, pedestrian-scaled lighting, weather protection, and bicycle storage.

Policy 3.5G

Implement the City Center and Station Area Plans to encourage the development of urban villages as distinctive focal points (i.e., high activity neighborhood and commercial centers) within the Urban Center.

GOAL 3.6

Promote connectivity between land uses by building a walkable, pedestrian focused, street network.

Policy 3.6A

Promote development that reduces block sizes in the Urban Center, particularly in the City Center and the station areas, and provides a network of connected local streets to facilitate pedestrian and bicycle circulation and transit accessibility.

The physical layout of the Urban Center, including its street and sidewalk network, block size, and configuration, is perhaps the most crucial determinant of its pedestrian and transit accessibility. A dense network of connected streets provides pedestrians with direct, safe, and interesting routes between destinations. Development should add new streets to reduce the average block size in station areas from the current 11.4 acres to three to six acres.

Policy 3.6B

Require clear and reasonable connections, such as pedestrian paths, between new development and the light rail stations and improvements that support the creation of a more connected, local multimodal network.

Policy 3.6C

Encourage accessible and multi-modal connections between the Urban Center and adjacent residential neighborhoods.

The Urban Center needs to be linked to the neighborhoods surrounding it. While such linkages can be enhanced by transit, the principal means should be through sidewalks, walkways, and other ground-level corridors, particularly creating east-west connections to the adjacent neighborhoods. While most have been developed as a part of the public streets and open space network, new development should be required to add linkages to this network, and there may be some instances in which pathways could be cut through private property via access easements.

Policy 3.6D

Encourage a pedestrian and transit friendly Urban Center through the application of design standards that prioritize the orientation of pedestrian- and transit-supportive land uses around transit.

Housing

GOAL 3.7

Promote more and a variety of homes for SeaTac's diverse communities at all income levels within the Urban Center.

Policy 3.7A

Ensure density standards and development regulations allow for a variety of housing types for all major household income categories.

Policy 3.7B

Continually undertake planning to assess housing needs, create affordable housing opportunities, track the provision of housing by type and affordability, and coordinate with community and regional approaches to funding and meeting the housing needs of current and future populations.

Policy 3.7C

Use a range of strategies to mitigate displacement of housing, especially low-income households, special needs individuals and households, and historically marginalized populations, that may result from planning, public investments, private development, and market pressure.

Policy 3.7D

Support the protection of existing, naturally affordable housing and encourage the equitable distribution of new affordable housing units.

Economy

GOAL 3.8

Promote the retention, expansion, and growth of economic opportunities in the Urban Center.

Policy 3.8A

Increase employment opportunities and diversify the economic environment to leverage access to the airport and regional market while promoting businesses that address the daily needs of residents, workers, and visitors.

Policy 3.8B

Encourage retail and commercial development within the Urban Center and urban villages to ensure access to complete neighborhood services including healthy foods within at least one-half mile walking distance.

Most of the commercial development on International Boulevard consists of non-retail businesses such as hotels, restaurants, park 'n fly lots, offices, and a few auto-oriented retail establishments (e.g., used car sales). The Airport generates a large and relatively untapped market for retail activity in the City of SeaTac. This market could be tapped to the benefit of visitors, workers, and residents, especially if travelers could conveniently access shopping areas outside the Airport.

Policy 3.8C

Reduce the displacement risk of neighborhood-based small business owners, local organizations, and commercial development.

Policy 3.8D

Allow for the adaptive reuse of single family homes to encourage work/live opportunities and neighborhood services, and as an anti-displacement strategy as the Urban Center transitions into a higher density community.

Transportation

GOAL 3.9

Provide a safe and efficient transportation system for all users within the Urban Center including motor vehicles, transit, bicycles, and pedestrians, while leveraging the transit-rich environment to increase mobility and equitable access to social and economic opportunities.

Policy 3.9A

Plan for streets that serve all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, vehicles, and – where appropriate – freight.

Policy 3.9B

Support a connected transportation network that emphasize pedestrian and transit use, especially within the designated urban villages.

Pedestrian Environment

Policy 3.9C

Incorporate sidewalks and other pedestrian-oriented design features along streets within the Urban Center.

Policy 3.9D

Provide safe methods such as signalized crossings, textured crosswalks, and pedestrian islands within the planted median for people to cross major streets at regular and convenient intervals.

GOAL 3.10

Decrease the necessity of, and dependence on, single-occupancy vehicles in the Urban Center by promoting easily accessed non-motorized options of travel.

Policy 3.10A

Achieve a mode-split goal that promotes less reliance on single-occupancy vehicles and advances more transit, and non-motorized trips.

The Urban Center's mode-split goals are included in the following table:

TABLE 3.2 – SEATAC URBAN CENTER MODE-SPLIT GOALS								
FORECAST DAILY MODE SHARES BY TRIP PURPOSE FOR SEATAC RESIDENTS LIVING WITHIN URBAN GROWTH CENTERS								
PURPOSE	WALK	BIKE	TRANSIT	TNC*	SOV**	HOV2	HOV3+	SCHOOL BUS
Escort	11.5%	1.7%	1.4%	0.1%	28.8%	32.1%	23.8%	0.6%
Home	12.9%	1.3%	13.4%	0.3%	29.1%	24.2%	17.3%	1.7%
Meal	17.1%	0.8%	3.2%	1.4%	27.7%	34.5%	15.1%	0.3%
Personal Business	11.1%	0.9%	3.7%	0.4%	29.5%	37.3%	16.9%	0.2%
School	11.0%	1.0%	5.1%	0.1%	4.9%	26.0%	34.8%	17.2%
Shop	11.8%	0.9%	3.1%	0.4%	31.9%	37.1%	14.6%	0.3%
Social / Recreational	25.6%	1.4%	2.0%	0.4%	23.0%	30.3%	17.2%	0.1%
Work	9.1%	1.5%	9.4%	2.5%	46.0%	25.3%	6.1%	0.0%
* TNC is Transportation Network Company or ridesharing organizations.								
** SOV is Single-Occupancy Vehicle								

Table BR3.3 in the Urban Center Background Report summarizes the modes of travel to work trends in 2012, 2017, and 2022. Over the span of ten years, the percentage of people driving to work alone has decreased from 60.8% in 2012 to 55.1% in 2022. The mode split goals above, establish a goal of 46% for people driving to work alone, furthering the trend to reduce the number of single-occupancy vehicle trips.

Transit

Policy 3.10B

Coordinate with Sound Transit and King County Metro to ensure the provision of safe, efficient, and connected transit options.

Policy 3.10C

Ensure safe and accessible access to Link light rail stations and stops along Metro's RapidRide Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line.

Bicycle Parking

Policy 3.10D

Promote safe and convenient bicycle parking throughout the Urban Center in and near public spaces and private businesses.

Vehicle Parking Management Strategy

Policy 3.10E

Establish a parking management strategy that addresses supply of parking, on-street parking, and mitigating effects of parking.

Policy 3.10F

Work with developers and the Port of Seattle to ensure that parking facilities are built with the future in mind.

Public Services

GOAL 3.11

Plan for, prioritize, and implement infrastructure improvements in the Urban Center.

Policy 3.11A

Locate community facilities and services, including civic places like parks, schools, and other public spaces, in centers and near transit, with consideration for climate change, economic, social and health impacts.

Policy 3.11B

Coordinate with SeaTac's multiple utility and public service providers, including water, sewer, transportation, and other special purpose districts, to ensure adequate services available to support current and anticipated growth in the Urban Center.

Policy 3.11C

Ensure availability of public services, including K-12 education, to meet the needs of current and projected businesses and residents.

Policy 3.11D

Ensure the provision of public services and facilities are consistent in location and timing with adopted growth targets.

Policy 3.11E

Provide available infrastructure funding to projects within the Urban Center to achieve necessary density and intensity of development.

Policy 3.11F

Support innovative stormwater management.

Urban Village Framework Policies

GOAL 3.12

Develop urban villages within the City Center, S 154th station area, and Angle Lake station area designated subareas as centers of opportunity that provide equitable access to transit-oriented housing, jobs, and complete neighborhood infrastructure and services to those within and outside of village communities.

Policy 3.12A

Design urban villages to be the highest density, urban living and working experiences within the city, consisting of walkable, one-fourth to one-half mile access to diverse and affordable housing options, neighborhood-oriented services, healthy foods, transportation choices, and parks, open space, and amenities for local and regional residential, worker, and visitor communities.

Zoning

Policy 3.12B

Provide zoning that supports mixed use, pedestrian environments and compact, higher and moderate density development; accessibility to high-capacity transit; multi-modal connectivity and access to parks and open space.

Mix of Uses

Policy 3.12C

Allow and promote a broad range of transit-supportive uses including housing types and commercial, retail, and public services to serve a local, citywide, or regional market, and mix of uses that aligns with the adopted vision of each urban village.

Development Pattern

Policy 3.12D

Promote mixed use pedestrian-oriented environments where public amenities and services can be conveniently, efficiently, and effectively provided.

Complete Neighborhood Policies for Urban Villages

SeaTac's citywide growth strategy is focused on concentrating growth within centers and ensuring that future growth is supported by complete neighborhood infrastructure and services. While the Land Use Element establishes complete neighborhood policy guidance at the citywide level, urban village-specific complete neighborhood strategies focus on ensuring sufficient and equitable access to infrastructure and services to support current and future urban village communities.

Access to Diverse, Affordable Housing

Policy 3.12E

Provide a range of higher and moderate density housing types, including mixed use options, for households of different family sizes and at all income levels.

Access to Neighborhood Services

Policy 3.12F

Maintain and enhance retail commercial and other daily-use services, especially in areas most attractive to pedestrians and transit riders, and to support concentrations of residential and employment activity.

Access to Healthy Foods

Policy 3.12G

Encourage the location of grocery stores, healthy food retail, farmers markets, and community food gardens to support access to healthful food for people living within and outside of urban villages.

Access to Transportation Choices

Policy 3.12H

Facilitate direct and convenient access for all modes to local and regional transportation networks, especially high-capacity transit, all ages and abilities pedestrian and bicycle connections within and near villages.

Policy 3.12I

Promote the use of the Urban Center's three-station local light rail system to facilitate the connectivity and development of the City's three urban villages as central community resource hubs for neighborhoods throughout SeaTac and the region.

Access to Parks and Open Spaces

Policy 3.12J

Provide a variety of parks and open spaces to enhance the livability of urban villages, to help shape the overall development pattern, and to enrich the character of each village.

Policy 3.12K

Implement the SeaTac Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan goal of providing Neighborhood or Community parks within one-quarter mile walking distance of urban village residents.

Policy 3.12L

Promote the development of village squares and other community gathering spaces in each urban village.

Policy 3.12M

Encourage flexibility of use for village squares, public open space, and other community gathering spaces, including the ability to accommodate food trucks, pop-ups, festivals, farmers markets, and other community events.

Community Design and Placemaking within the Urban Center

GOAL 3.13

Ensure public and private development contribute to an attractive, equitable identity and sense of place for locations throughout the Urban Center.

Policy 3.13A

Design the Urban Center to increase access to opportunity, including employment, housing, services, and education opportunities and improved neighborhood quality of life.

Policy 3.13B

Identify the types of projects, programs, and services that would help achieve cleanliness and safety goals for the Urban Center.

Community Image and Building Design

Policy 3.13C

Promote the incorporation of design elements that unify SeaTac's Urban Center identity, while allowing for distinctive and creative architectural designs in developments.

Policy 3.13D

Ensure development standards for the Urban Center and urban villages require high quality, pedestrian- and transit-oriented building, streetscape, and street design to that create a comfortable and pleasant human experience on the street that is visually pleasing above.

Policy 3.13E

Encourage and provide a variety of public spaces, art, and amenities throughout the Urban Center, especially within urban villages.

All developments should contribute to an appealing and lively public realm. Accordingly, buildings should provide exterior and interior public spaces, connections to the sidewalks and between properties, pedestrian fixtures and furnishings, and art. Additional public amenities include restrooms, day care facilities, bicycle facilities, and community meeting spaces.

Policy 3.13F

Encourage attractive and well-scaled signage along International Boulevard.

Large advertisement signs and billboards are a recognizable feature along some parts of International Boulevard. While such signage may be appropriate for a fast-moving highway corridor, it is not supportive of a people-oriented urban center and stifles investment in high profile, high-quality developments.

Policy 3.13G

Encourage flexibility in the Zoning Code and urban design standards which balances the community's desire to create a well-designed urban center with the preservation and maintenance of viable commercial and residential developments.

Civic Facilities

SeaTac's Urban Center should provide a range of spaces and places for civic and community functions such as public meetings, government services, ceremonial events, and community festivals.

Policy 3.13H

Enhance the livability and functionality of the Urban Center by prioritizing the creation and maintenance of diverse public spaces.

Public space comes in many forms: streets, large parks, small parks, pocket parks, plazas, courtyards, gardens, and so forth. An urban center must, over time, provide a diversity of public spaces to help create a greater sense of identity and places that can be enjoyed by residents, employees, and visitors. Some will be developed by the City or other agencies, while some will be privately provided with new development.

Policy 3.13I

Encourage the development of buildings and structures in the Urban Center which provide civic functions.

Public facilities should be encouraged to locate within the Urban Center. Symbolic civic features, such as a monument, observation platform, or clock tower can reinforce the civic identity of SeaTac.

Policy 3.13J

Include art with public improvements.

SeaTac can contribute to the world-renowned Pacific Northwest's public art legacy by funding programs and projects or providing substantial development incentives for incorporating art. Artists should be included on design teams to integrate art with many public environment elements (e.g., lighting, railings, walls, benches).



RECOMMENDED IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES



This section identifies the specific steps, or implementation strategies, that achieve this Element's policies. It also identifies the group(s) with primary responsibility for carrying out each strategy and the expected time frame within which the strategy should be addressed. Policy summaries are included in the table for reference.

Not all policies require an implementation strategy. In those cases those policies are not reflected in the tables that follow.

As the Primary Responsibility column indicates, many of the implementation strategies will be initially undertaken by a specified board or commission. In most cases, the City Council will analyze the specific board/commission recommendation and make the final decision about how to proceed.

The time frame categories are defined as follows:

- Short-Term one to five years
- Medium-Term six to 10 years
- Long-Term 11 to 20 years
- Ongoing the strategy will be implemented on a continual basis

The time frames are target dates set regularly when the City Council adopts amendments to the Comprehensive Plan.

The list of proposed implementation strategies is a minimum set of action steps and is not intended to limit the City from undertaking other strategies not included in this list.

Many implementation strategies identified in the Land Use Element are applicable to the Urban Center Element, and accomplish the goals and objectives identified in this Element. The following implementation strategies are in addition to those strategies identified in the Land Use Element, and are specific to goals and objectives of the Urban Center Element.



POLICIES	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
GENERAL POLICIES			
3.1 ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE URBAN CENTER			
Policy 3.1A Support the transition of the Urban Center into a more compact, pedestrian- and transit-oriented place with access to jobs, diverse, affordable housing options, transportation choices, neighborhood-oriented services, healthy foods, and parks and open space available within one-half mile walking distance throughout the center.	Coordinate department programs to proactively plan and implement infrastructure investments, regulatory changes, and the use of other City resources to promote transit-oriented growth and complete neighborhood infrastructure and services in the Urban Center.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Ongoing
Policy 3.1.B Prioritize services and access to opportunity for people of color, people with low incomes, and historically underserved communities.	Identify and work with BIPOC and historically underserved populations to understand community needs and priorities.	Staff	Ongoing
	Align department plans and projects to address service and infrastructure gaps that serve historically underserved communities.	Staff, City Council	Ongoing
Policy 3.1.C Prioritize investments in the Urban Center such as transportation planning investments and programs, and other public infrastructure.	Prioritize infrastructure investments, regulatory changes, and the use of other City resources to promote transit-oriented growth and complete neighborhood infrastructure and services in the Urban Center.	Staff, City Council	Ongoing
REGIONAL GROWTH CENTER FRAMEWORK POLICIES			
3.2 REGIONAL COLLABORATION			
Policy 3.2A Recognize the Urban Center as a regionally designated growth center and support its role locally and within the region as a major focal point for population and employment growth, and a transit-oriented, equitable, center for opportunity.	See strategy for Policy 3.1A.		

POLICIES	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
Policy 3.2B Facilitate collaboration with Sound Transit, WSDOT, the Port of Seattle, tribes, military installations, special districts, and other public agencies to achieve Urban Center goals and work closely with affected neighborhoods in the design of regional public facilities, such as transit, highway and other major projects, that impact residential neighborhoods.	Continue coordinating with agency partners on improvements to the Urban Center as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with Port of Seattle on airport-related issues, • Working with WSDOT on the completion of SR-509, and other projects, and, • Working with Sound Transit on Link light rail Federal Way Extension, second elevator project at SeaTac/Airport station, and others. 	Staff	Ongoing
3.3 ENVIRONMENT, PARKS, AND CLIMATE CHANGE			
Policy 3.3A Promote the design of neighborhoods and individual developments using techniques that reduce heat absorption, particularly in areas with less tree canopy and open spaces.	Define a set of SeaTac-specific best practices to reduce heat absorption and other potential impacts of climate change through the development of a new Climate Element that provides guidance on mitigating greenhouse gas emissions and building community resilience.	Staff	Medium Term
Policy 3.3B Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by encouraging walking, bicycling, transit use, and other alternatives to auto travel, and by locating housing closer to areas of high employment.	Plan and fund improvements that help implement City goals for walkable and other non-motorized access to complete neighborhood and other infrastructure and services.	Planning, City Council	Short Term, Medium Term
Policy 3.3C Reduce the greenhouse gas emissions of the built environment through supporting innovative green building practices in design, materials selection, construction, and maintenance.	See strategy for Policy 3.3A.		

POLICIES	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
Policy 3.3D Work to incorporate electric transportation infrastructure into new public and private development.	Implement electric vehicle infrastructure code.	Staff	Ongoing
Policy 3.3E Encourage tree planting and native, climate-resilient landscaping throughout the Urban Center to create and protect systems of green infrastructure.	Explore tree and native planting strategies as part of City Center subarea plan completion process.	Staff	Short Term
Policy 3.3F Follow guidance from the City's Stormwater Management Program to preserve, protect, and improve water resources.	Implement stormwater management program.	Staff	Ongoing
Policy 3.3G Identify and mitigate environmental impacts for vulnerable populations by prioritizing investment in parts of the Urban Center with historical underinvestment in infrastructure.	Use the City Center subarea plan completion process to engage with historically marginalized populations and identify appropriate environmental impacts and mitigation strategies.	Staff	Short Term
3.4 ENVIRONMENTALLY CRITICAL AREAS, PARKS, AND OPEN SPACE			
Policy 3.4A Identify and minimize gaps in equitable access to parks and open space by providing parks within one-half to one-quarter mile walk of all Urban Center residents and as guided by the SeaTac Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan and complete neighborhoods growth strategies.	Coordinate with Parks Department and upcoming PROS Plan update process to plan and implement improvements that address gaps in ¼ to ½ mile walkable access to parks and open space.	Staff, City Council	Short Term, Medium Term

POLICIES	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
Policy 3.4B Develop public spaces within the Urban Center to create a greater sense of identity and establish places that can be enjoyed by residents, employees, and visitors.	Evaluate options for acquiring and developing a public space, including private sector partnerships.	Staff	Ongoing
	Explore organizing a design competition to ensure quality and innovation in the final design.	Staff	Short Term
	Establish village squares within urban villages and other parks and open space improvements identified in the PROS Plan and subarea plans and through the Capital Facilities Program.	Staff, City Council	Short Term
Policy 3.4C Work collaboratively with other agencies and environmental groups to increase the habitat value of SeaTac's natural resources, including Bow Lake and Angle Lake.	Identify potential external partners and next steps needed to work on understanding and enhancing Bow Lake and Angle Lake habitat as appropriate.	Staff	Short Term
Policy 3.4D Recognize Bow Lake and Angle Lake as major contributors to the development of SeaTac's Urban Center and City Center urban village, and work to further enhance their capacity for providing opportunities to the community.	Continue programming activities at Angle Lake and explore ways to make Bow Lake an accessible and appealing focal point for the community.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Ongoing
3.5 LAND USE/DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS			
URBAN CENTER GROWTH TARGETS			
Policy 3.5A Focus most of SeaTac's housing and job growth within the Urban Center and direct the majority of the commercial and residential growth and redevelopment into the City's three designated urban villages to facilitate their development as community focal points and distinct, complete neighborhoods.	Complete the City Center Urban Village subarea plan and related code amendments and implement plan.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Short Term, Medium Term
	Implement the S 154th and Angle Lake Station subarea plans, track progress, and reevaluate prioritization over time.	Staff, City Council	Short Term, Medium Term
	Prioritize infrastructure investments, regulatory changes, and the use of other City resources that would serve growth in the Urban Center.	Staff, City Council	Short Term, Medium Term

POLICIES	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
Policy 3.5B Create and plan to accommodate population, housing unit, and employment targets specific to the Urban Center in alignment with PSRC's Vision 2050 and Regional Growth Strategy, and ensure the targets help implement PSRC's goal of attracting 65% of regional population growth and 75% of employment growth within designated centers.	See strategies for Policy 3.5A.		
Policy 3.5C Support the Urban Center as a primary location for growth by implementing development regulations, programs, and projects that encourage new jobs and housing in line with PSRC's activity unit density goals for regional growth centers.	See strategies for Policy 3.5A.		
DEVELOPMENT PATTERN			
Policy 3.5D Promote regional and local community and economic development by providing a mix of land uses and complete neighborhood infrastructure and services throughout the Urban Center including housing at a range of building types and affordability levels, commercial and retail spaces, community services, and other amenities integrated within safe, walkable neighborhoods.	Coordinate City plans, programs, and budgets to integrate and prioritize the provision of complete neighborhood infrastructure and services in alignment with current and future community needs.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Ongoing Short Term

POLICIES	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
Policy 3.5E Ensure the City's plans and design standards promote a pedestrian-friendly and transit-supportive land use and development pattern for future private and public development projects.	Review and amend development codes as necessary to ensure pedestrian- and transit-supportive standards.	Staff	Ongoing
	See strategies for Policy 3.5A.		
Policy 3.5F Incentivize developers to produce high-quality, transit-oriented housing, economic opportunities, and services in the Urban Center and urban villages through maximizing infill development and other new and redevelopment opportunities.	See strategies for Policy 3.5A and Policy 3.5E.		
Policy 3.5G Implement the City Center and Station Area Plans to encourage the development of urban villages as distinctive focal points (i.e., high activity neighborhood and commercial centers) within the Urban Center.	Complete the City Center Urban Village subarea plan and related code amendments and implement plan.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Short Term, Medium Term
	Implement the S 154th and Angle Lake Station subarea plans' action plans, track progress, and reevaluate prioritization over time.	Staff, City Council	Short Term, Medium Term
	Update the S 154th and Angle Lake Station subarea plans to incorporate Urban Center and Urban Village framework policies as needed.	Staff, City Council	Medium Term
	Prioritize infrastructure investments, regulatory changes, and the use of other City resources that would serve growth in the Urban Center.	Staff, City Council	Ongoing
3.6 LAND USE AND CONNECTIVITY			
Policy 2.1C Promote development that reduces block sizes in the Urban Center, particularly in the City Center and the station areas, and provides a network of connected local streets to facilitate pedestrian and bicycle circulation and transit accessibility.	Identify desirable linkages and secure access through purchase or easements.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Ongoing

POLICIES	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
Policy 3.6C Require clear and reasonable connections, such as pedestrian paths, between new development and the light rail stations and improvements that support the creation of a more connected, local multimodal network.	Implement multimodal connectivity guidance within the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation Master Plan • S 154th Street Station Area Action Plan • Angle Lake District Station Area Plan 	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Short Term, Medium Term
	Require new development to integrate with and provide comfortable, usable connections to light rail stations.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Short Term
	Continue to work with Metro and Sound Transit to ensure that the needs of transit riders are met along the streetscape.	Staff	Ongoing
	Working with Sound Transit and Metro, ensure that all major transit areas are visible, accessible by sidewalks, well-lit, attractive, and offer cover from the elements	Staff	Ongoing
	Complete City Center Urban Village subarea plan and implement multimodal implementation strategies as appropriate.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Short Term, Medium Term
	Implement and update City's development codes to clarify requirements and incentives for increasing the Urban Center's multimodal network.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Short Term, Medium Term
Policy 3.6A Encourage accessible and multi-modal connections between the Urban Center and adjacent residential neighborhoods.	Provide City Center and station area recommended pedestrian connections between the Urban Center and adjacent neighborhoods through zoning standards and the Capital Facilities Program. Obtain access easements as feasible.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Short Term
Policy 3.6D Encourage a walkable and transit friendly Urban Center through the application of design standards that prioritize the orientation of pedestrian- and transit-supportive land uses around transit.	See strategies for Policy 3.5E.		

POLICIES	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
3.7 HOUSING			
Policy 3.7A Ensure density standards and development regulations allow for a variety of housing types for all major household income categories.	Review multi-family housing standards and other housing codes, and complete updates as needed.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Ongoing, Short Term
	See housing implementation strategies in Housing & Human Services Element.		
Policy 3.7B Continually undertake planning to assess housing needs, create affordable housing opportunities, track the provision of housing by type and affordability, and coordinate with community and regional approaches to funding and meeting the housing needs of current and future populations.	Regularly monitor housing development and production by building type, affordability, and geographic location and seek community feedback on housing needs.	Staff	Ongoing
Policy 3.7C Use a range of strategies to mitigate displacement of housing, especially low-income households, special needs individuals and households, and historically marginalized populations, that may result from planning, public investments, private development, and market pressure.	See Housing & Human Services Element, Policy 3.1E implementation strategies.		
Policy 3.7D Support the protection of existing, naturally affordable housing and encourage the equitable distribution of new affordable housing units.	See Housing & Human Services Element, implementation strategies.		

POLICIES	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
3.8 ECONOMY			
Policy 3.8A Increase employment opportunities and diversify the economic environment to leverage access to the airport and regional market while promoting businesses that address the daily needs of residents, workers, and visitors.	See Economic Vitality Element implementation strategies.		
Policy 3.8B Encourage retail and commercial development within the Urban Center and urban villages to ensure access to services and healthy foods within at least one-half mile walking distance.	Encourage retail to remain or locate in existing buildings in the City Center and station areas through strategies such as business incubator programs, business support and development (e.g., community lending, Community Development Corporations, small business assistance), and storefront and streetscape improvements.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Short Term
	Evaluate and implement options for promoting retail development in the station areas.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Short Term
	Explore streamlining development review for projects including retail in the City Center and station areas.	Staff	Short Term
Policy 3.8C Reduce the displacement risk of neighborhood-based small business owners, local organizations, and commercial development.	See Economic Vitality implementation strategies.		
Policy 3.8D Allow for the adaptive reuse of single family homes to encourage work/live opportunities and neighborhood services, and as an anti-displacement strategy as the Urban Center transitions into a higher density community.	Study the potential for adaptive reuse of single family buildings as a cost-effective tool to promote work-live opportunities and to mitigate displacement of residents.	Staff	Short Term

POLICIES	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
3.9 TRANSPORTATION			
Policy 3.9A Plan for streets that serve all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, vehicles, and – where appropriate – freight.	See strategies in Transportation Element and Transportation Master Plan.		
Policy 3.9B Support a connected transportation network that emphasize pedestrian and transit use, especially within the designated urban villages.	See strategies for Policy 3.1A.		
PEDESTRIAN ENVIRONMENT			
Policy 3.9C Incorporate sidewalks and other pedestrian-oriented design features along streets within the Urban Center.	Place subarea plan recommended sidewalk construction, improvements, and pedestrian features in the Capital Improvements Program.	Staff, City Council	Short Term
	Develop and apply design standards to new development to achieve high-quality street furnishings and amenities.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Ongoing
Policy 3.9D Provide safe methods such as signalized crossings, textured crosswalks, and pedestrian islands within the planted median for people to cross major streets at regular and convenient intervals.	See the Transportation Element and Transportation Master Plan for intersection, mid-block crossing, and pedestrian refuge improvements strategies.		
3.10 PROMOTE NON-MOTORIZED OPTIONS			
Policy 3.10A Achieve a mode-split goal that promotes less reliance on single-occupancy vehicles and advances more transit, and non-motorized trips.	See strategies in Transportation Element and Transportation Master Plan.		

POLICIES	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
TRANSIT			
Policy 3.10B Coordinate with Sound Transit and King County Metro to ensure the provision of safe, efficient, and connected transit options.	See strategies in Transportation Element and Transportation Master Plan.		
Policy 3.10C Ensure safe and accessible access to Link light rail stations and stops along Metro's RapidRide Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line.	See strategies in Transportation Element and Transportation Master Plan.		
BICYCLE PARKING			
Policy 3.10D Promote safe and convenient bicycle parking throughout the Urban Center in and near public spaces and private businesses.	Review and amend Urban Center bicycle parking development codes as necessary.	Staff	Ongoing
VEHICLE PARKING MANAGEMENT STRATEGY			
Policy 3.10.E Establish a parking management strategy that addresses supply of parking, on-street parking, and mitigating effects of parking.	Complete Parking Code Study and implement recommendations as appropriate.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Short Term
Policy 3.10F Work with local businesses, property owners, developers and the Port of Seattle to ensure that parking facilities are built with the future in mind.	Continue engaging with the Port of Seattle and the business and development community on "right size" parking approaches.	Staff	Ongoing
	See strategy for Policy 3.9E.		
3.11 PUBLIC SERVICES			
Policy 3.11A Locate community facilities and services, including civic places like parks, schools, and other public spaces, in centers and near transit, with consideration for climate change, economic, social and health impacts.	See strategy in Policy 3.1A.		

POLICIES	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
Policy 3.11B Coordinate with SeaTac's multiple utility and public service providers, including water, sewer, transportation, and other special purpose districts, to ensure adequate services available to support current and anticipated growth in the Urban Center.	Continue regular outreach to utility providers to ensure alignment between City's and utility agencies' programs capital plans.	Staff	Ongoing
Policy 3.11C Ensure availability of public services, including K-12 education, to meet the needs of current and projected businesses and residents.	Continue regular outreach to Highline School District and other public agencies to ensure alignment between City's and agencies' programs and capital plans.	Staff	Ongoing
Policy 3.11D Ensure the provision of public services and facilities are consistent in location and timing with adopted growth targets.	See strategies for policies 3.11A through C.		
Policy 3.11E Provide available infrastructure funding to projects within the Urban Center to achieve necessary density and intensity of development.	See strategy in Policy 3.1A.		
Policy 3.11F Support innovative stormwater management.	Implement stormwater master plan.	Staff	Ongoing

POLICIES	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
3.12 URBAN VILLAGE FRAMEWORK POLICIES			
Policy 3.12A Design urban villages to be the highest density, urban living and working experiences within the city, consisting of walkable, one-fourth to one-half mile access to diverse and affordable housing options, neighborhood-oriented services, healthy foods, transportation choices, and parks, open space, and amenities for local and regional residential, worker, and visitor communities.	Complete the City Center Urban Village Plan and incorporate new Envision SeaTac 2044 growth strategies.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Short Term
	Implement urban village subarea plans, by proactively coordinating City programs and budgets.	Staff, City Council	Ongoing
	Update plans periodically to better reflect changes in community goals and growth trends.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Short Term, Medium Term
ZONING			
Policy 3.12B Provide zoning that supports mixed use, pedestrian environments and compact, higher and moderate density development; accessibility to high-capacity transit; multi-modal connectivity and access to parks and open space.	See strategies for Policy 3.1A.		
MIX OF USES			
Policy 3.12C Allow and promote a broad range of transit-supportive uses including housing types and commercial, retail, and public services to serve a local, citywide, or regional market, and mix of uses that aligns with the adopted vision of each urban village.	Review and update multi-family and mixed use development standards as needed.	Staff	Ongoing, Short Term

POLICIES	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
DEVELOPMENT PATTERN			
Policy 3.12D Promote mixed use pedestrian-oriented environments where public amenities and services can be conveniently, efficiently, and effectively provided.	See strategies for Policy 3.1A.		
URBAN VILLAGE COMPLETE NEIGHBORHOOD POLICIES			
See citywide complete neighborhood implementation strategies in Land Use Element.			
ACCESS TO DIVERSE, AFFORDABLE HOUSING			
Policy 3.12E Provide a range of higher and moderate density housing types, including mixed use options, for households of different family sizes and at all income levels.	Review multi-family, mixed use and other codes and incentives to better align with Urban Village implementation.	Staff	Ongoing, Short Term
	See Housing and Human Services Element implementation strategies.		
ACCESS TO NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES			
Policy 3.12F Maintain and enhance retail commercial and other daily-use services, especially in areas most attractive to pedestrians and transit riders, and to support concentrations of residential and employment activity.	See citywide complete neighborhood implementation strategies in Land Use Element.		
ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD			
Policy 3.12G Encourage the location of grocery stores, healthy food retail, farmers markets, and community food gardens to support access to healthful food for people living within and outside of urban villages.	See citywide complete neighborhood implementation strategies in Land Use Element.		

POLICIES	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
ACCESS TO TRANSPORTATION CHOICES			
Policy 3.12H Facilitate direct and convenient access for all modes to local and regional transportation networks, especially high-capacity transit, all ages and abilities pedestrian and bicycle connections within and near villages.	See citywide complete neighborhood implementation strategies in Land Use Element.		
Policy 3.12I Promote the use of the Urban Center's three-station local light rail system to facilitate the connectivity and development of the City's three urban villages as central community resource hubs for neighborhoods throughout SeaTac and the region.	Coordinate within City departments to identify programs and projects to raise awareness of light rail stations and high capacity transit access and availability.	Staff	Ongoing
ACCESS TO PARKS AND OPEN SPACE			
Policy 3.12J Provide a variety of parks and open spaces to enhance the livability of urban villages, to help shape the overall development pattern, and to enrich the character of each village.	See citywide complete neighborhood implementation strategies in Land Use Element.		
Policy 3.12K Implement the SeaTac Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan goal of providing Neighborhood or Community parks within one-quarter mile walking distance of urban village residents.	See strategies for Policy 3.4A.		

POLICIES	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
Policy 3.12L Promote the development of village squares and other community gathering spaces in each urban village.	Coordinate with the Parks Department and others to prioritize the development of village squares within City programs and budgets.	Staff	Ongoing
	Ensure implementation of village squares and other urban village gathering spaces are addressed in future updates to SeaTac's Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan.	Staff, City Council	Short Term
Policy 3.12M Encourage flexibility of use for village squares, public open space, and other community gathering spaces, including the ability to accommodate food trucks, pop-ups, festivals, farmers markets, and other community events.	Review development codes and city programs and revise as appropriate to ensure desired community events and activities are allowed within village squares and other gathering places.	Staff	Ongoing
3.13 COMMUNITY DESIGN WITHIN THE URBAN CENTER			
Policy 3.13A Design the Urban Center to increase access to opportunity, including employment, housing, services, and education opportunities and improved neighborhood quality of life.	See strategies in Policy 3.1A.		
Policy 3.13B Identify the types of projects, programs, and services that would help achieve cleanliness and safety goals for the Urban Center.	Identify strategies to improve cleanliness and safety of Urban Center through City Center urban village subarea planning process and implement those strategies throughout the Urban Center, as appropriate.	Staff, City Council	Short Term
COMMUNITY IMAGE AND BUILDING DESIGN			
Policy 3.13C Promote the incorporation of design elements that unify SeaTac's Urban Center identity, while allowing for distinctive and creative architectural designs in developments.	Determine and require a selection of physical characteristics to be incorporated into development projects, for example, seasonal plantings, public spaces, canopies and other weather protecting devices, roof forms, ground level articulation of building facades, terraced building forms, or combinations of these elements.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Short Term

POLICIES	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
Policy 3.13D Ensure development standards for the Urban Center and urban villages require high quality, pedestrian- and transit-oriented building, streetscape, and street design to that create a comfortable and pleasant human experience on the street that is visually pleasing above.	Apply and/or enforce design standards to achieve people-oriented architectural and site design	Planning Commission, City Council	Short Term
Policy 3.13E Encourage and provide a variety of public spaces, art, and amenities throughout the Urban Center, especially within urban villages.	Update zoning provisions for the Urban Center to include a list of desirable public amenities, some mandatory and others encouraged with incentives (in the form of additional development).	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Short Term
Policy 3.13F Encourage attractive and well-scaled signage along International Boulevard.	Review and update development codes as appropriate.	Staff, City Council	Ongoing
Policy 3.13G Encourage flexibility in the Zoning Code and urban design standards which balances the community's desire to create a well-designed urban center with the preservation and maintenance of viable commercial and residential developments.	Work with business and property owners and other community members in suggesting configurations and improvements that support Urban Center principles.	Staff	Ongoing
	Prioritize the kinds of improvements to be required during remodeling or renovation. These could include pedestrian access and circulation, signage, and landscaping.	Staff	Short Term

POLICIES	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
CIVIC FACILITIES			
Policy 3.13H Enhance the livability and functionality of the Urban Center by prioritizing the creation and maintenance of diverse public spaces.	Evaluate options for acquiring and developing a public space, including private sector partnerships.	Staff, City Council	Short Term
	Organize a design competition to ensure quality and innovation in the final design.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Ongoing
	Establish a civic park or square identified in a subarea plan, and as described in urban village and neighborhood village framework policies, through the Capital Facilities Program and other means.	Staff, City Council	Short Term
Policy 3.13I Encourage the development of buildings and structures in the Urban Center which provide civic functions.	Establish one or more civic structures within the Urban Center	City Council	Medium Term
	Encourage public-private projects to provide civic functions.	Staff	Ongoing
Policy 3.13J Include art with public improvements.	Include artists on design teams for public projects.	Staff, City Council	Ongoing
	Update the Zoning Code to include incentives for the provision of public art in private developments.	Staff, Planning Commission, City Council	Short Term
	Establish a threshold above which public improvements will be required to include public art.	Staff, City Council	Short Term
	See strategies in SeaTac Arts and Culture Master Plan.		