



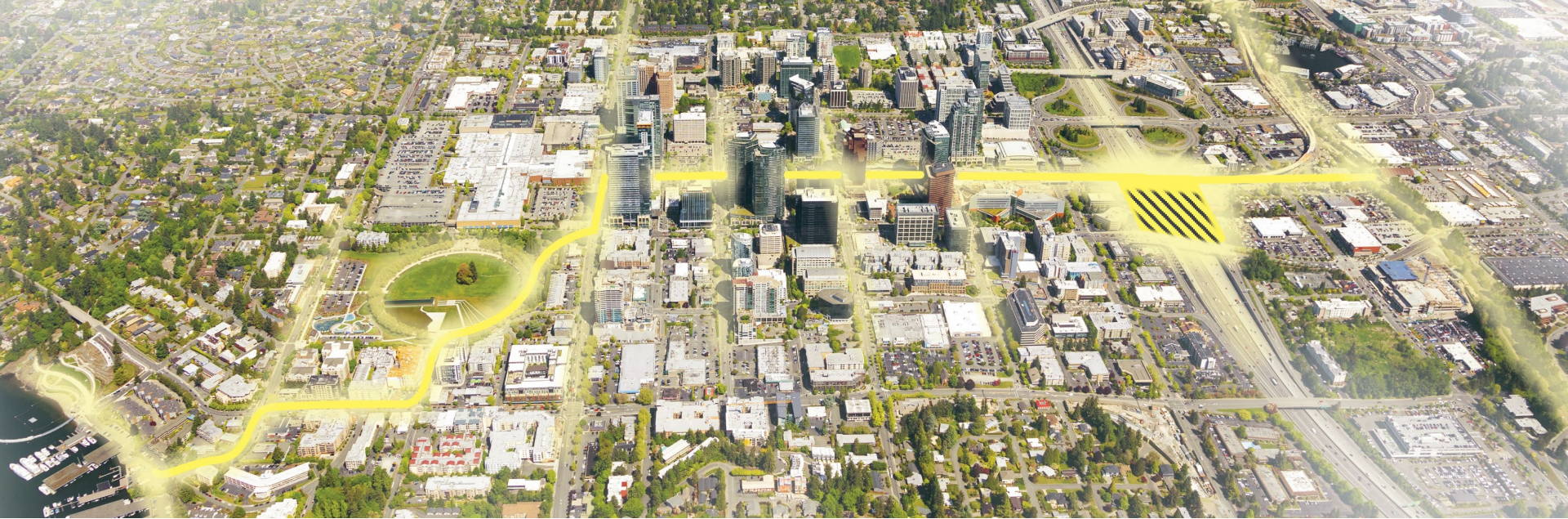
Grand Connection Crossing

Engagement & Alignment Update

Jesse R. Canedo, Assistant Director
Anthony Gill, Grand Connection Manager
Community Development

Maher Welaye, Assistant Director
Transportation

06/18/2024



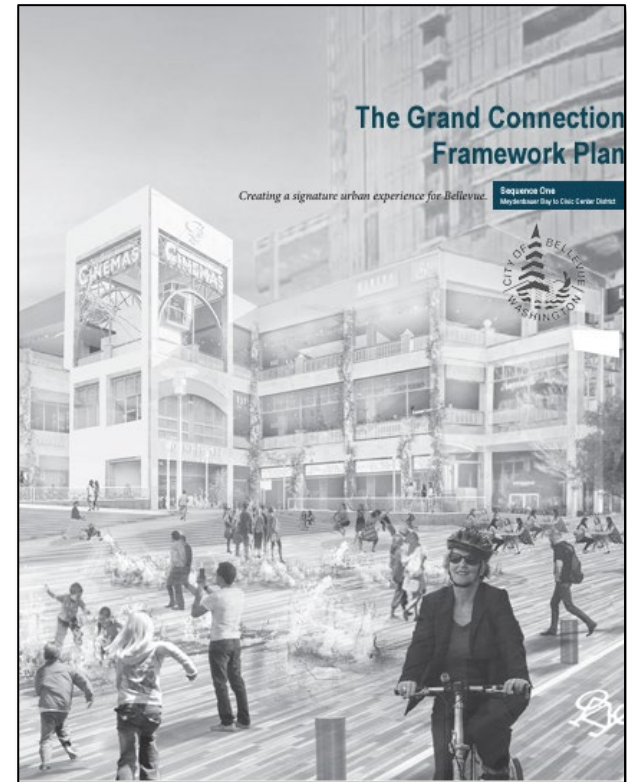
Information Only

- Tonight's presentation is a report on engagement activities and alignment selection.
- No direction is requested.



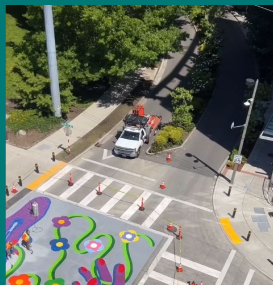
Agenda

1. Background
2. Engagement activities
3. Alignment analysis
4. Anticipated design issues and tradeoffs
5. Funding development
6. Timeline and looking ahead





Meydenbauer Bay Park
Phase 2 design and planning underway



"The Love Between"
Pride-themed intersection mural at 102nd/1st



"Piloti" Plaza
Complete and quickly becoming an icon



City Hall Plaza
Complete with test programming ongoing



I-405 Crossing
30% design underway; target opening 2028



Eastrail
Open from NE 4th St north to Woodinville



Bellevue's Grand Connection



City of Bellevue

Grand Connection Crossing

- Currently in 30% design phase.
- Funded 50-50 by Amazon and the City of Bellevue.
- Ambitious schedule; goal to complete 30% design by end of 2024.
- Friends building a network of stakeholders and project supporters.



Project Schedule

Staff and consultant work

**Design
Charette**
(December)

**Alignment
Analysis**
(March)

**Type, Size,
Location
Study**
(June)

**30% Design
Complete**
(Dec. 2024)

**Online Open
House**
(March)

**In-Person
Open House**
(May 2)

**Online Open
House (fall)**

Public engagement



Engagement Activities

Design workshop December 2023	Online open house Feb-Mar 2024	2 Line Opening Celebration April 27, 2024	In-person open house May 2, 2024	Pilot programming Summer 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• City project team• Property owners• Friends of the Grand Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open to all• Targeted to residents, employees, and visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open to all• More than a thousand visitors through the day	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open to all• 136 attendees• Bellevue Botanical Garden• Widely shared	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Testing programming in City Hall Plaza this summer• Will inform crossing and governance planning



In-Person Open House



Words describing how people would use the Crossing:

LAUGHING
SINGING DANCING
ROLLERBLADING BIKING/
HANGING EXERCISING CYCLING
OUT PLAYING COMMUTING



Requested Amenities



- **Resting areas** (seating, chairs, benches)



- **Comfort** (restrooms, drinking fountains, ramps)



- **Small performance spaces** (music, cultural performance)



- **Bike amenities** (repair station, parking)



- **Greenery** (shade trees, landscaping, sound barrier)

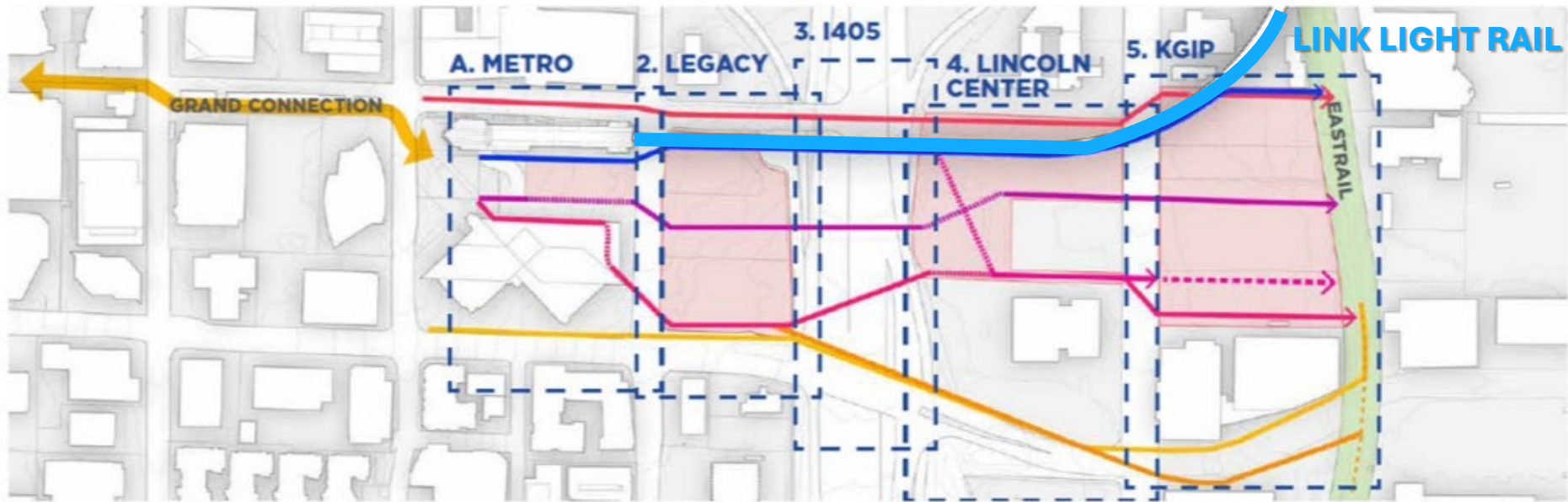


- **Physical elements** (overhead weather protection, public art, signage)



Alignment analysis

- Sites approach informed alignment analysis.
- **Context:** City-, state-, county-, and privately-owned properties, varying stages of redevelopment. Complex!

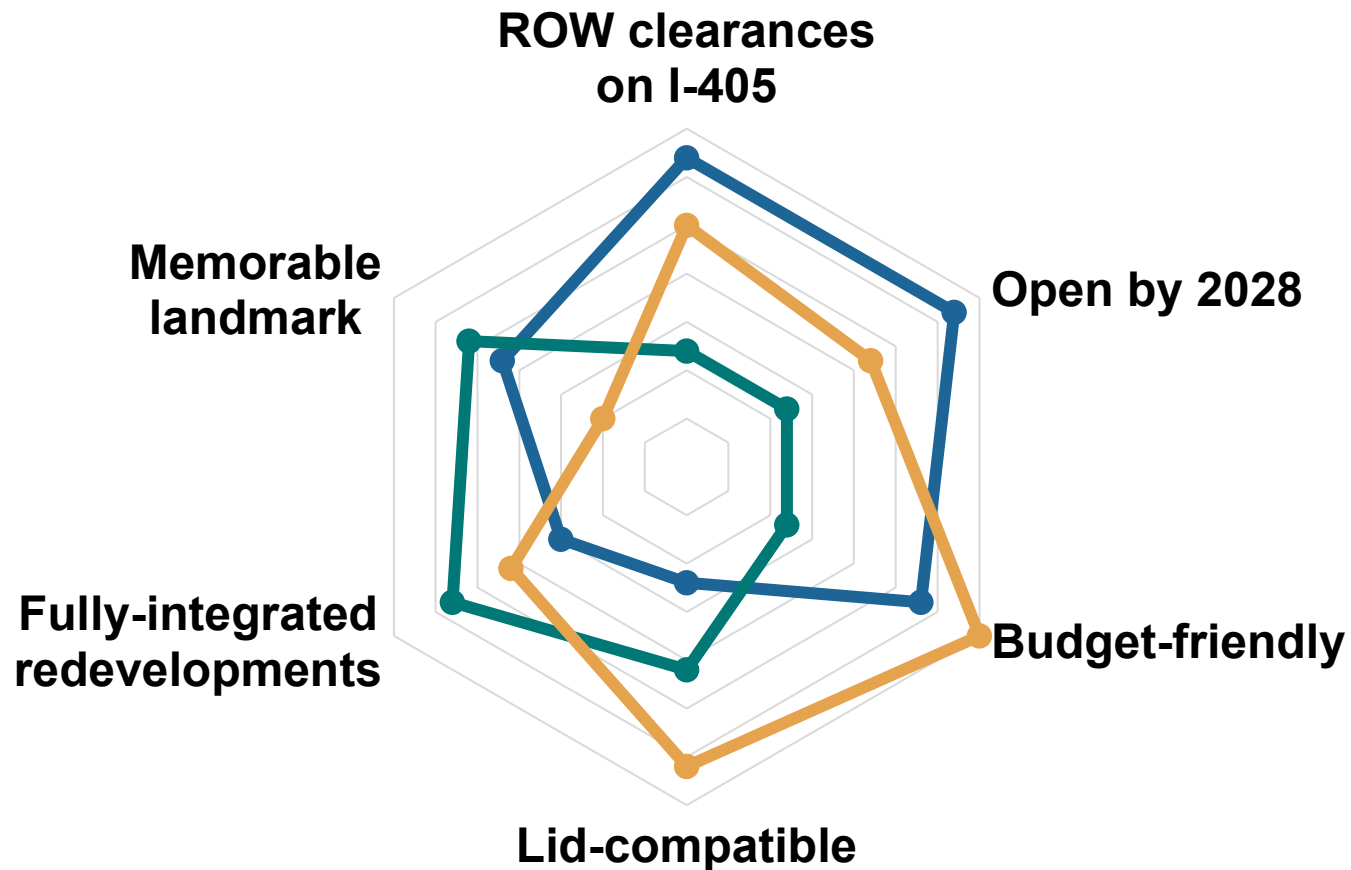


Recommended alignment

- Selected alternative **south of the Link light rail guideway**.
- Best meets project objectives while maintaining future flexibility at a reasonable level of complexity (schedule, cost, constructability).



Anticipated design tradeoffs



Funding development

- Contracting with HR&A Advisors for funding development advising
- **First step:** Benefits case
- Meeting with external stakeholders and exploring philanthropic community's interest.
- HR&A will advise as City develops capital stack scenarios.
- Long-term governance

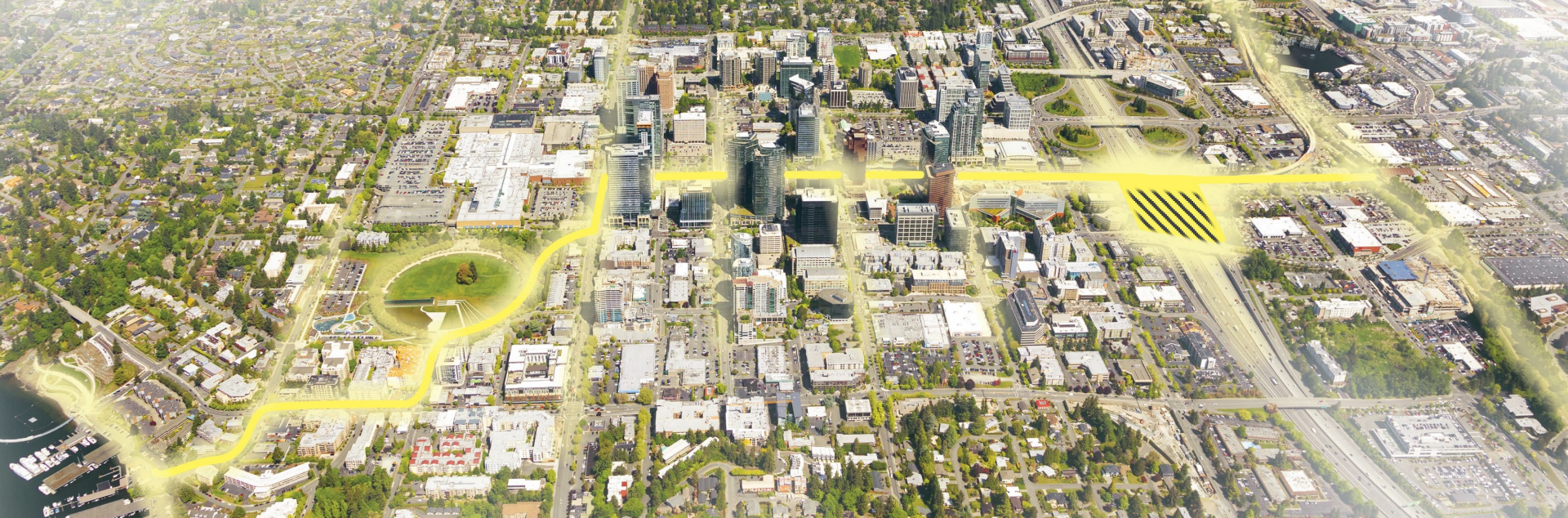
HR&A



Looking Forward

- Further refinement and engagement on Type, Size, Location study
- Tradeoffs discussions
- Funding development and Lincoln Center/Metro analysis underway this summer.
- **Next Council engagement:** Discussion about tradeoffs and design considerations (late summer/fall)
- **Next public engagement:** Online open house this fall.





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