



**DATE:** July 6, 2023

**TO:** Chair Stash and members of the Transportation Commission

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**SUBJECT:** Wilburton Vision Implementation Transportation Policy Amendments

**DIRECTION REQUESTED**

- Action
- Discussion/Direction
- Information

Staff will present recommended draft transportation policy amendments (Attachment A) that would be applicable within the Wilburton Transit-Oriented Development (Wilburton TOD).

Staff request that the Transportation Commission discuss and approve a recommendation on draft transportation policies, and approve a transmittal letter to the Planning Commission (Attachment C).

**BACKGROUND/INFORMATION**

Staff presented the preliminary vision, goals, and policy guidance to the Transportation Commission on March 9, 2023, followed by draft transportation policies on June 8, 2023. Comments included:

- Clarifying types of internal access and circulation needed to break up larger block sizes and facilitate local access
- Clarifying Eastrail access opportunities and related investments (crossing signalization, non-motorized access paths, etc.)

**POLICY ISSUES**

The Wilburton Vision Implementation planning initiative will amend the Wilburton/N.E. 8th Street Subarea Plan and BelRed Subarea Plan, the Comprehensive Plan Map, and the Land Use Code. These amendments will consider and determine how the Wilburton TOD is a key component in implementing the citywide growth strategy for housing and jobs for the next 20 years.

The study session is part of a series with boards and commissions intended to prepare recommendations, first to the Planning Commission and ultimately to the City Council for the Comprehensive Plan amendment (CPA) by the end of 2023, and the Land Use Code amendment (LUCA) and legislative rezone by 2024.



**STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR DRAFT TRANSPORTATION POLICY AMENDMENTS**

Transportation policy amendments support the implementation of opportunities identified by a Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) in the 2018 Wilburton Commercial Area Study, and alignment with the long-range transportation planning framework established in the Mobility Implementation Plan. Attachment A includes the staff recommended policies to be added, modified, and repealed in strike-underline form.

As discussed at the June 8 Transportation Commission study session, updates to transportation policies are broadly characterized into the following key policy moves:

- 1) Local connectivity and smaller blocks
- 2) Multimodal connections to and through the Wilburton TOD
- 3) Eastrail as a defining trail and park corridor

Following the June 8 study session, staff revised draft transportation policies to incorporate the following:

- Direction from the Transportation Commission
- Streamlining preliminary policy language for brevity
- Clarification around Eastrail crossings, particularly regarding a NE 6<sup>th</sup> St extension being evaluated in the Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update & Wilburton Vision Implementation Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)
- Guidance on Grand Connection and its relationship to multimodal transportation network

Staff will review the draft policies with the Transportation Commission and will seek a recommendation for transmittal to the Planning Commission for their review in the context of all draft policy amendments in September.

**DRAFT WILBURTON TOD INTERNAL ACCESS CONCEPTS**

In 2018, the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) developed a conceptual street network and connectivity diagram showing different types of streets that might be created in the area (Attachment B). This diagram was intended to be illustrative of new connection locations and street types, with the actual new locations yet to be determined.

Building from this 2018 work, staff developed definitions of internal access types that move away from prescribing these future connections as streets, and instead communicate important access functions that are needed to serve future development, Eastrail users, and active transportation connectivity at large. These internal access types respond to key policy priorities articulated in the draft transportation policies:

- Connections that include and support active transportation modes
- Circulation that balances vibrancy and walkability with functional needs such as parking, emergency, and maintenance vehicle access
- Minimizing driveway access points along arterials
- Complementing multimodal investments in 116<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Eastrail, and Grand Connection

Internal access types include:



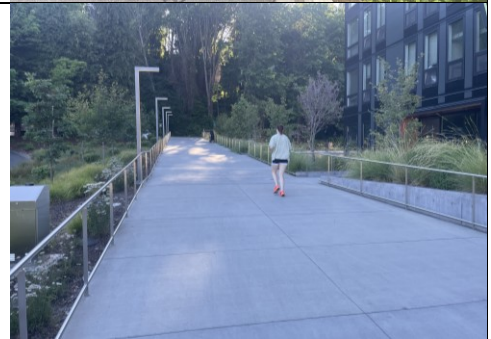
**Local Access Street:**

Public street for vehicular circulation, and would include and support active transportation components



**Active Transportation Access:**

Pedestrian and bicycle use, and emergency/maintenance vehicle access



**Flexible Access Lane:**

Vehicle and active transportation access to support future development



**Pedestrian Through-Block:**

Accessible connections within a block or development site





**Multi-Purpose Path:**

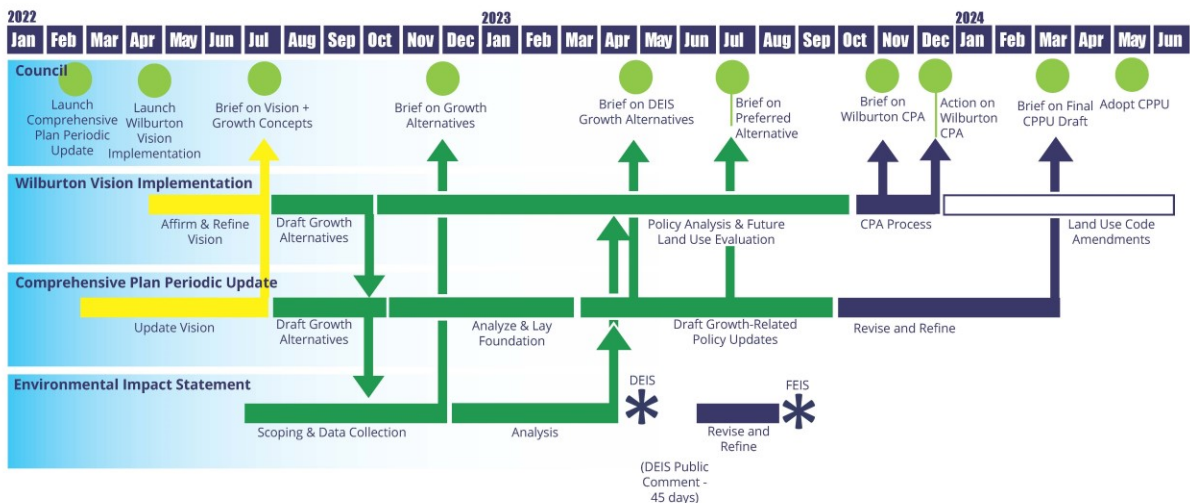
Separated walking and biking (active transportation) path adjacent to street



**SCHEDULE & NEXT STEPS**

Transportation Commission’s recommendation on draft policies and general concurrence with the internal access concepts framework will be transmitted to the Planning Commission when they review the full draft of policy amendments for the Wilburton TOD in September.

The analysis of the preferred alternative for the Wilburton TOD in the Final Environmental Impact Statement includes further analysis on Wilburton TOD internal access concepts and the potential arterial extension of NE 6<sup>th</sup> Street to 120<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE. If the outcomes of this analysis impacts any policy recommendations, staff will provide an update to Transportation Commission in the fall.



**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A: Staff Recommendations for Transportation Policy Amendments in the Wilburton/N.E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street Subarea Plan

Attachment B: 2018 Wilburton Commercial Area Study Conceptual Street Network and Connectivity Diagram

Attachment C: Draft Transmittal Letter to the Planning Commission