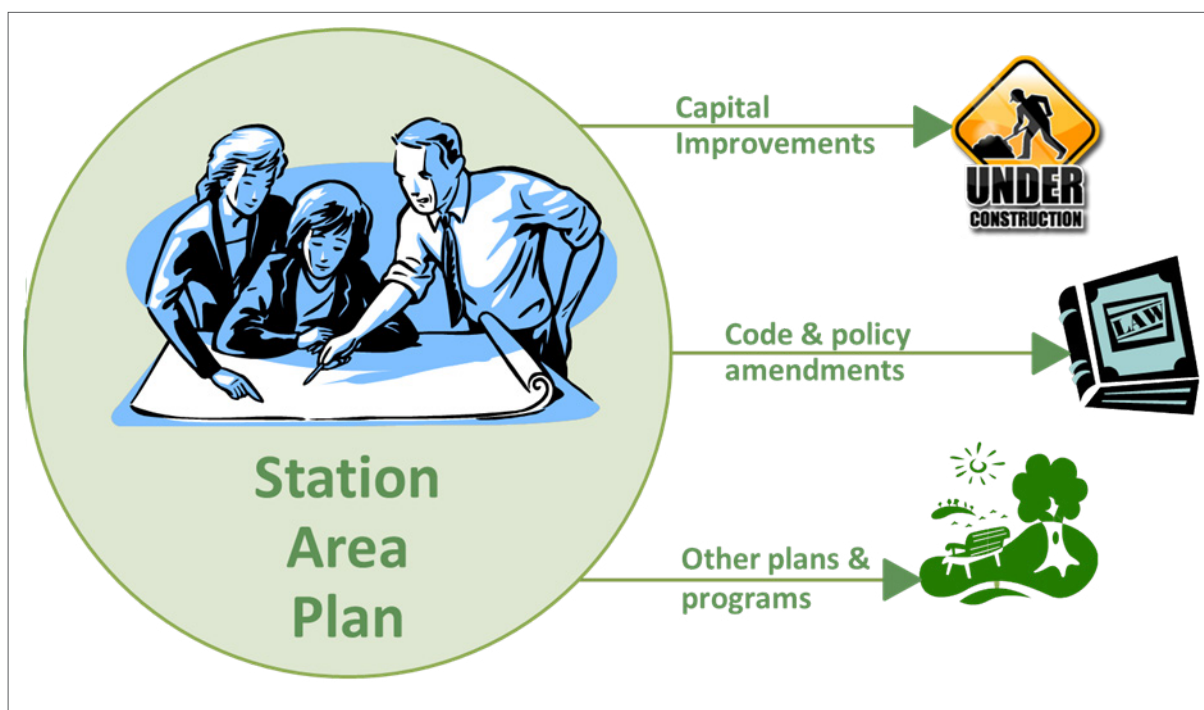




STATION AREA PLAN IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

Station area planning is intended to identify and analyze the issues and opportunities presented by light rail and develop a plan for the future, including a set of implementation strategies. Figure 9 on the next page depicts the three types of implementation strategies contained in this plan.

- **Capital Improvements:** Projects that require some level of construction or installation of physical improvements, such as sidewalks, crosswalks or signs.
- **Code and Policy Amendments:** Changes to Bellevue's adopted regulations and policies to guide decisions by the city about development, city investments in capital improvements and other city programs.
- **Other Plans and Programs:** Actions that can be addressed through existing city programs or other ongoing planning efforts. Examples include the city's Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services program, Neighborhood Outreach program and the Transit Master Plan Update. This category also includes actions that may need additional study or actions that are not directly related to station area planning but may be addressed in

Figure 9 Three Types of Potential Implementation Strategies

another way. For example, suggested actions related to the permitting of the light rail project are referred to the Light Rail Permit CAC for their consideration.

Table 4 identifies the list of potential strategies for each of the issues described in Chapter 5 of this plan. Figure 10 shows some of these implementation strategies on the study area map. These issues are not presented in order of priority and at this time there is no funding identified for any proposed strategies. Once the plan is approved by the City Council the actions that require specific funding will be considered along with the other priorities competing for funding city-wide. One overarching strategy that is being proposed is to establish a fund specifically to carry out actions identified and approved through the station area planning process for all of the Bellevue stations. If approved through the budget process, there will be follow-up work with the stakeholders for each station to review and prioritize these strategies for funding purposes.

Italicized potential implementation strategies have either been completed or are in progress.

Table 4 Potential Implementation Strategies

Character, Parks and Public Facilities
Preserve/reinforce existing character of residential neighborhood and Mercer Slough Nature Park.
<p>Capital Improvements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare design scheme for Bellevue Way (e.g. landscaping, art, signage, wall treatments) that reflects natural features and enhances appearance of corridor. <p>Code & Policy Amendments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen policies in Southwest Subarea Plan to encourage tree retention in neighborhood. <p>Other Plans & Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Continue to monitor tree canopy coverage as a way to gauge changes in amount of wooded area.</i> Develop educational materials and tree planting program to enhance existing character, especially where trees can screen highway and light rail facilities. Implement restoration and habitat enhancement projects in Mercer Slough Nature Park Master Plan.
Maintain identity and visibility of Mercer Slough Nature Park.
<p>Capital Improvements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Sound Transit to install informational signage about Mercer Slough Nature Park and Environmental Education Center at station. <p>Other Plans & Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct special events at station to promote park facilities and programs. Place information about history, facilities and programs of Mercer Slough Nature Park on busses and trains serving South Bellevue station.
Traffic and Safety
Neighborhood safety and crime concerns due to proximity of the light rail station.
<p>Capital Improvements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate effectiveness, need and potential locations for emergency call boxes outside of station. <p>Other Plans & Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to strengthen community ties through events and communication. Continue coordination between neighborhood and police to explore ways to improve security through potential actions such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Monitoring crime statistics</i> Increasing police patrols Working with property owners to increase visibility in pedestrian areas Expanding participation in crime prevention programs like Block Watch and National Night Out

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Address cut-through traffic and pedestrian/bicyclist safety concerns from increased traffic on Bellevue Way.

Capital Improvements

- Install “residential neighborhood” signage at key entrances to discourage non-neighborhood traffic.
- Assess benefits and implications of adding an HOV lane to Bellevue Way south of the “Y”.

Other Plans & Programs

- Explore additional traffic-calming measures to discourage and/or slow traffic.

Address neighborhood access issues from increased peak hour traffic on Bellevue Way.

Other Plans & Programs

- Conduct comprehensive traffic study of neighborhood access issues during peak commute hours.
- Based on traffic study, develop plan for improving resident access.

Reduce traffic noise from increased traffic on Bellevue Way.

Capital Improvements

- Assess noise walls and other sound attenuation techniques along the west side of Bellevue Way.

Other Plans & Programs

- Evaluate the feasibility and cost of constructing sound attenuation along west side of Bellevue Way as part of an additional HOV lane study.

Transportation, Parking and Station Access

Prevent park-and-ride overflow parking in the neighborhood.

Capital Improvements

- Work with WSDOT, Sound Transit, and Metro to install real time information message boards and online tools to direct commuters to alternative parking areas.

Other Plans & Programs

- Coordinate with Metro and Sound Transit to inform commuters about no parking areas.
- Pending neighborhood support, institute a residential parking zone (RPZ) program prior to light rail operation.

Loss of Sound Transit Express Route 550 on Bellevue Way north of the “Y”.

Code & Policy Amendments

- Include continued bus transit service on Bellevue Way north of the “Y” in the city’s transit Master Plan Update.

Other Plans & Programs

- Work with transit providers to retain transit service on Bellevue Way north of the “Y”.

Provide safe, convenient routes for pedestrians and bicyclists to access the station and Mercer Slough Nature Park.

Capital Improvements

- Design and install a wayfinding system (e.g. signage, pavement markings, lighting, landscaping and art) to clearly mark designated routes to the station.
- Install pedestrian-level lighting for designated routes to the station, including additional lighting on stairs.
- Evaluate feasibility and cost of pedestrian/bicycle walkway over Bellevue Way at the station.

Code & Policy Amendments

- Designate walk (including ADA) and bike routes to station in City’s Pedestrian/Bicycle Master Plan.

Figure 10 Implementation Strategies

