

July 2, 2018

CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION ITEM

SUBJECT

Transmittal of the Wilburton Commercial Area Citizen Advisory Committee Recommendation

STAFF CONTACTS

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Department of Planning and Community Development

POLICY ISSUES

On December 7, 2015 Council approved the work plan for the Wilburton-Grand Connection planning initiative. The project has been defined as a Council priority. As part of the initiative, a 15-member Citizen Advisory Committee was appointed by Council and charged with developing a land use, transportation, and urban design vision for the Wilburton Commercial Area.

DIRECTION NEEDED FROM COUNCIL

ACTION



DIRECTION



INFORMATION ONLY



Staff will present the results of the Wilburton Commercial Area Citizen Advisory Committee vision and recommendation. This presentation is for information and discussion only. Staff will return in the fall to provide additional analysis and a recommendation on how to proceed in advancing the Wilburton Commercial Area vision.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

In December of 2015, City Council launched the Wilburton-Grand Connection planning initiative. The effort consists of the visioning of a multi-modal corridor stretching from Meydenbauer Bay Park, through Downtown, and across Interstate 405 into the Wilburton Commercial Area. The companion effort is the re-visioning of the Wilburton Commercial Area through a land use, transportation, and urban design analysis.

The Wilburton Commercial Area (See Attachment A) is defined by Interstate 405 to the west, NE 12th Street to the north, SE 5th Street to the south, and navigates 118th, 120th, and 124th Avenues NE to the east. The entire area is over 300 acres and is uniquely positioned between Downtown to the west and BelRed to the north.

A number of significant infrastructure improvements have positioned the study area to be re-imagined as a new urban neighborhood. In 2023 East Link light rail is anticipated to begin revenue service, providing one station within the study area boundary (Wilburton) and three additional stations (Bellevue Downtown, East Main, Spring District/120th) that will encompass the entire study area within a high capacity transit walkshed. The King County led Eastside Rail Corridor will create a non-motorized spine

through the study area that will provide new opportunities for cyclist and pedestrian connectivity, while possessing the potential for an entirely new urban development form in Bellevue.

This network of multi-modal connectivity is further supported by the companion planning effort of the Grand Connection, which will establish a signature connection to Downtown and improve access and mobility for cyclists and pedestrians. The visioning process for the Grand Connection concluded in 2017 with Council adopting the *Grand Connection Framework Plan: Sequence One*. Staff also provided a report that details the Interstate 405 crossing options and their relationship to the Wilburton Commercial Area, in advance of selecting a preferred alternative.

The planning process for the Wilburton Commercial Area Land Use & Transportation Project has been guided by Council Principles, established at the project launch in December 2015 (See Attachment B). In October 2016 Council appointed a 15-member Citizen Advisory Committee and charged them with developing a land use, transportation, and urban design vision \ and the vision of the entire community. Staff will further analyze the CAC vision, its impacts, and its relationship to other priorities and objectives within the city.

Tonight, staff and Committee co-chairs Jeremy Barksdale and Lei Wu, will present to Council the vision for the Wilburton Commercial Area. This will include the process to reach a preferred alternative, as well as important elements related to transportation, parks and open space, aesthetics and character.

Staff last provided an update on the Wilburton Commercial Area initiative in December of 2017. The update included the process and emerging vision for the DEIS alternatives. Staff intends in the fall to provide additional analysis and a recommendation to how to proceed in advancing the Wilburton Commercial Area vision.

OPTIONS

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Study Area Boundary
- B. Council Principles

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL DOCUMENT LIBRARY

N/A