

JUNE 2026

URBAN 507 STUDIO

NORTH AURORA

FINAL PRESENTATION



AGENDA

PLACEMAKING

- What we did
- What we showed
- What we heard
- Recommendations
 - Antidisplacement Strategies

BREAK: 3:25-3:30

MOBILITY

- What we did
- What we showed
- What we heard



PLACEMENT MAKING

ENGAGEMENT & PROJECTS

OVERVIEW OF PROJECTS

Green Alleys & Streets



Oak Tree- Pavement to Plaza



Live Events at Washelli



Open Streets



GREEN ALLEYS & STREETS (*SHARED SPACES*)

Objective

- This project aims to gauge (*and inspire*) community interest in GSI, specifically related to activating alleys and streets as shared, green spaces

Engagement Feedback

- Residents expressed safety concerns regarding alley use (*who, when, & how*)
- Excitement about activating underutilized public space in the area for connecting, gathering, and greening
- Interest in more opportunities (*and less bureaucratic hoops*) for community stewardship of these spaces

Updates

- Researched best practices for simplifying maintenance access (*for grey infrastructure elements*), and ensuring long-term, continued community stewardship
- Spoke to SCWP (Los Angeles) about models for public-nonprofit collaboration on multi-benefit stormwater infrastructure projects.



Digital Art Rendering of a Green Alley Concept in the Study Area

LICTON SPRINGS GREEN ALLEY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT (*CONCEPT*)



OAK TREE: PAVEMENT TO PLAZA

Objective

- This project aims to activate the space between Saar's Super Saver and AMC using temporary things like tables, plants, and lights to bring life to the space.

Engagement Feedback

- The community recognizes that this space is under utilized and would like to see it become a gathering space for hanging out and playing (ie. Occidental Park, Hing Hay Park)

Updates

- Oak Tree continues to be unresponsive in wanting to collaborate



Digital Art Rendering of Oak Tree Village Space

LIVE EVENTS AT WASHELLI

Objective

- This project proposes putting on concerts and movie screenings to turn a cemetery into an unconventional place to gather at the amphitheater space on the east side of Washelli Evergreen Cemetery

Engagement Feedback

- Most popular activation proposal
- Community members liked the playfulness and opportunity to gather as a community
- People were surprised that Washelli was open to ideas on how to utilize their green space

Updates

- Discussion with Aaron and Nikole from Washelli about how they wanted to transform the cemetery



Digital Art Rendering of Washelli Cemetery

SEA-CLOVIA: OPEN STREETS PROGRAM

Objective

- This project aims to draw attention to the local businesses along Aurora Ave N, to Aurora-Licton and Bitter Lake communities, and community assets

Updates

- Development of Low, Medium, and High Scale Activation Strategies
- Conversations with CicLAvia, Open Streets Pittsburgh, and City of Eugene Sunday Streets
- Development of a report highlighting routes selection, criteria, logistics, and feasibility

Engagement Feedback

- There was concern about losing access to Aurora Ave N
- Many people showed interest in medium and low routes
- Interest expressed for more events and programming
- Cascadia Bicycle Club showed an interest in open streets programming, already working on ideating



Sample SEA-Clovía Event Poster




SEA-CLOVIA NORTH AURORA

**HIGH SCALE
ACTIVATION
ROUTE!**



Legend

Route = 3.5 miles | Ruta = 3.5 Millas

-  SEA-Clovía Route
-  Crossing Route for Cars
-  Activity Hub

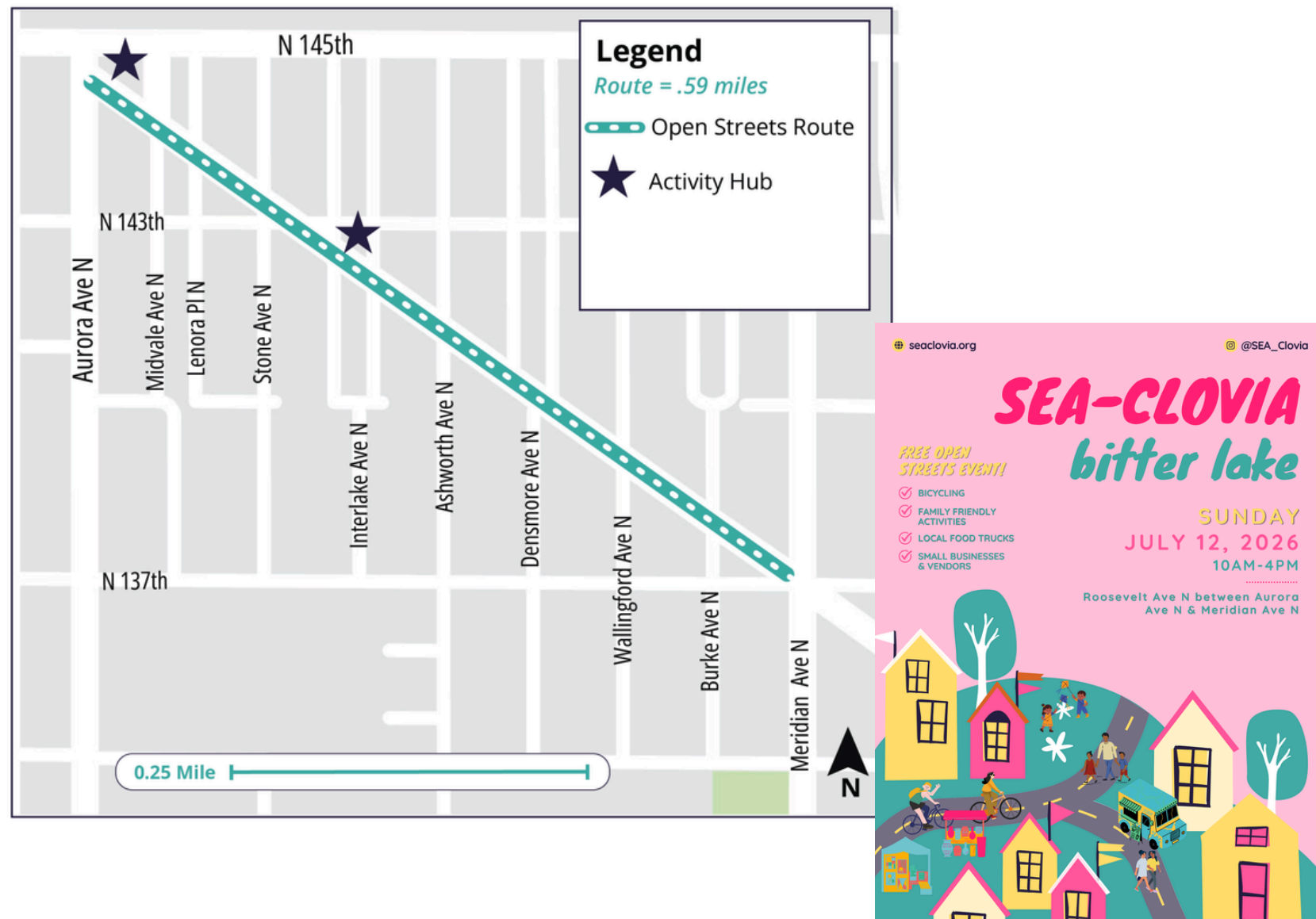
HIGH

**AURORA AVE N FROM GREEN LAKE
TO AURORA SHOPPING CENTER**

SEA-CLOVIA ALTERNATIVE ROUTES

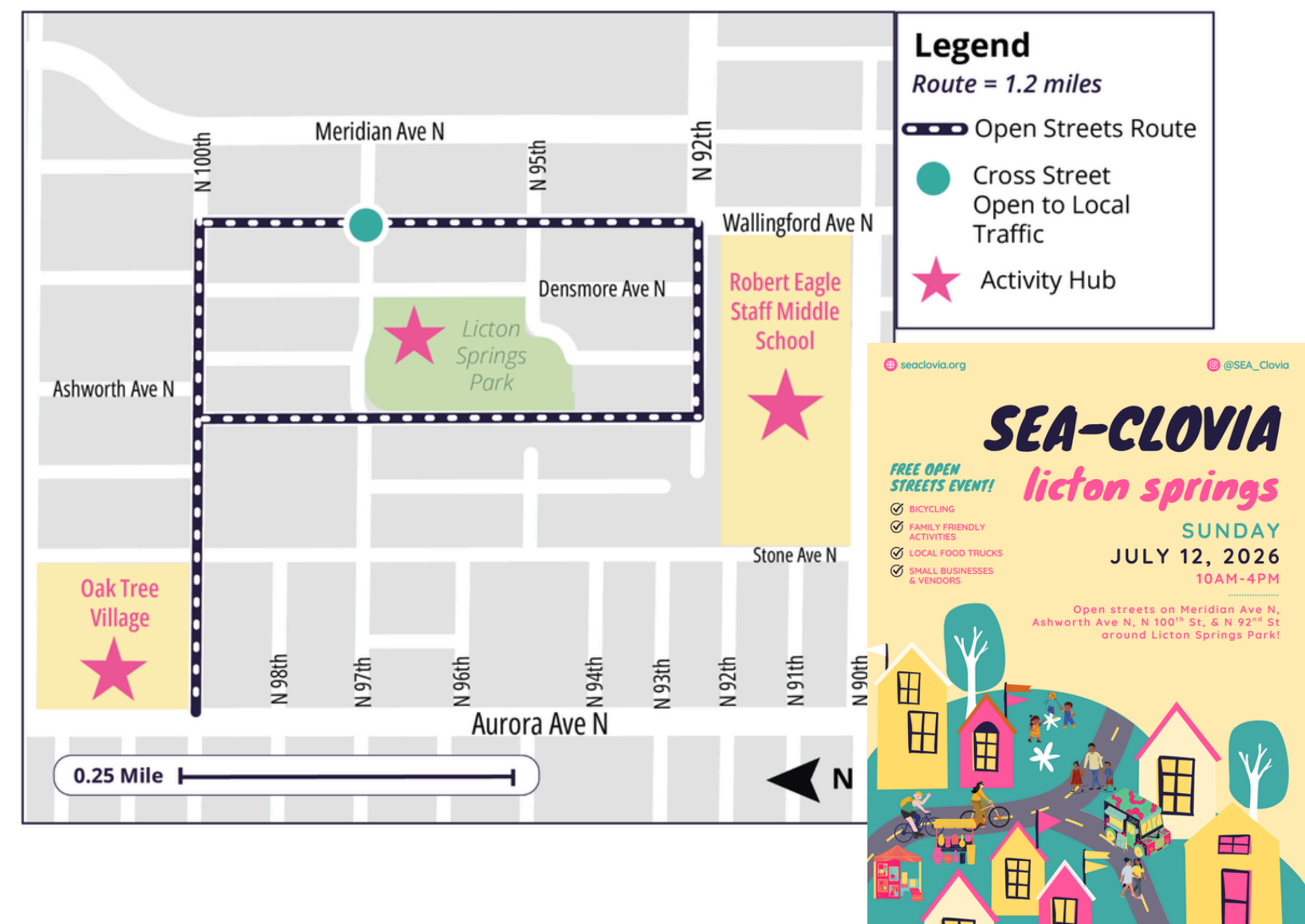
MEDIUM

BITTER LAKE ON ROOSEVELT AVE N



LOW

LICTON SPRINGS PARK LOOP



WALKING TOUR

Objective

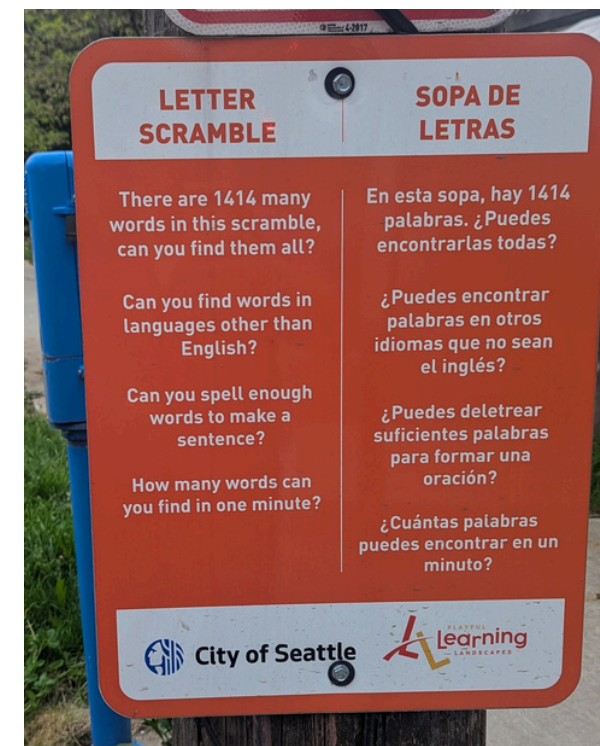
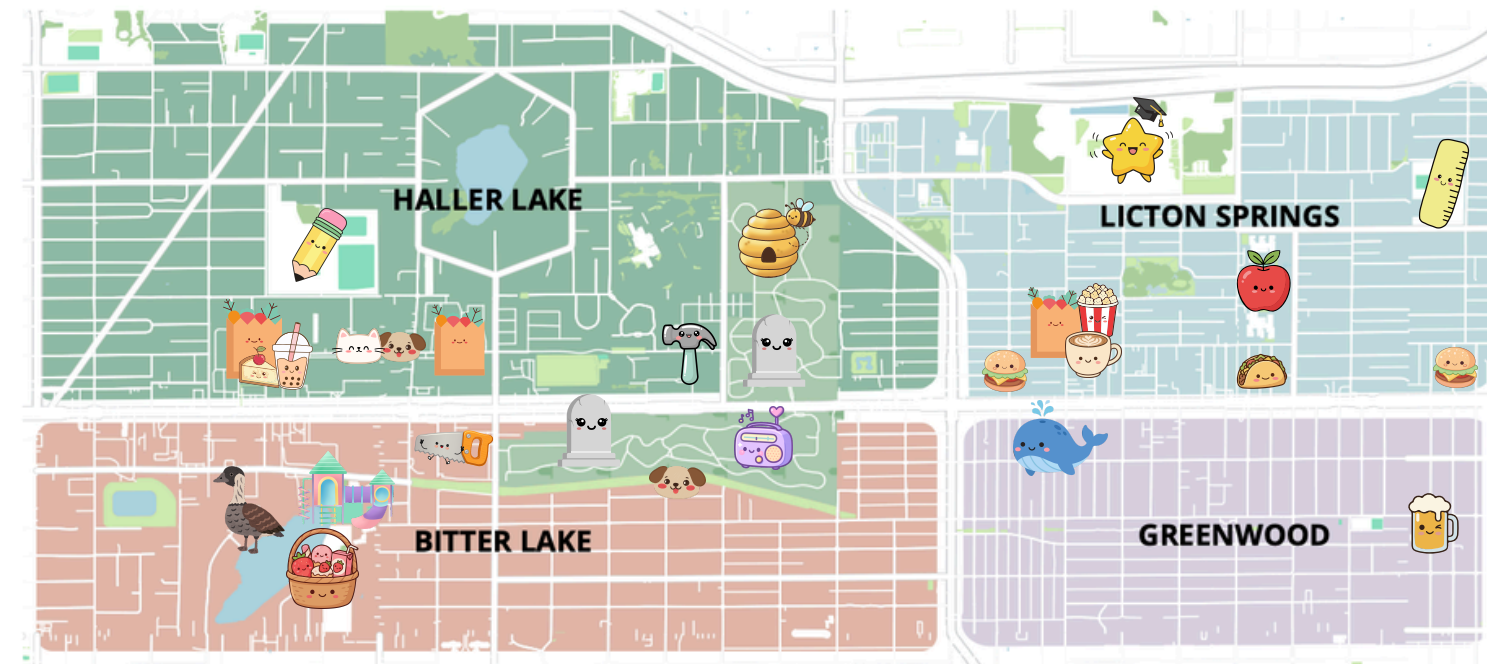
- This project aims to gauge community interest and locate additional sites to include in a walking tour around Aurora Ave N

Engagement Feedback

- High interest, provided the provision of increased safety measures in area
- Interest in adding community venues (e.g. Burke Street Play Street) and restaurants
- Community meeting provided new sites of interest to add to tour

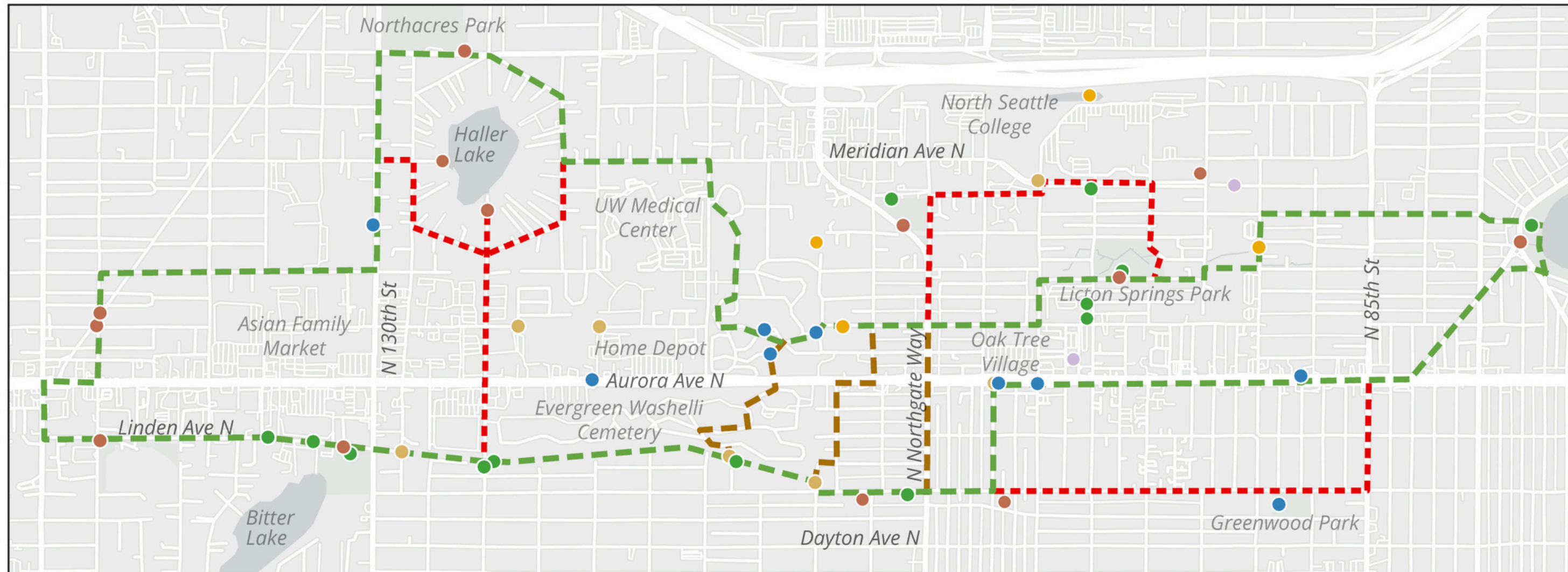
Updates

- Added additional sites
- Audited loop with adjustments made for accessibility
- Created 'spurs' for shorter, thematic walks (e.g. nature-focused spur, Interurban spur)

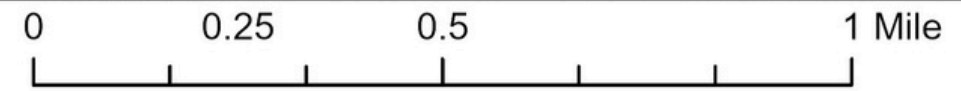


Potential Wayfinding Interventions for Walking Tour

WALKING TOUR ROUTE

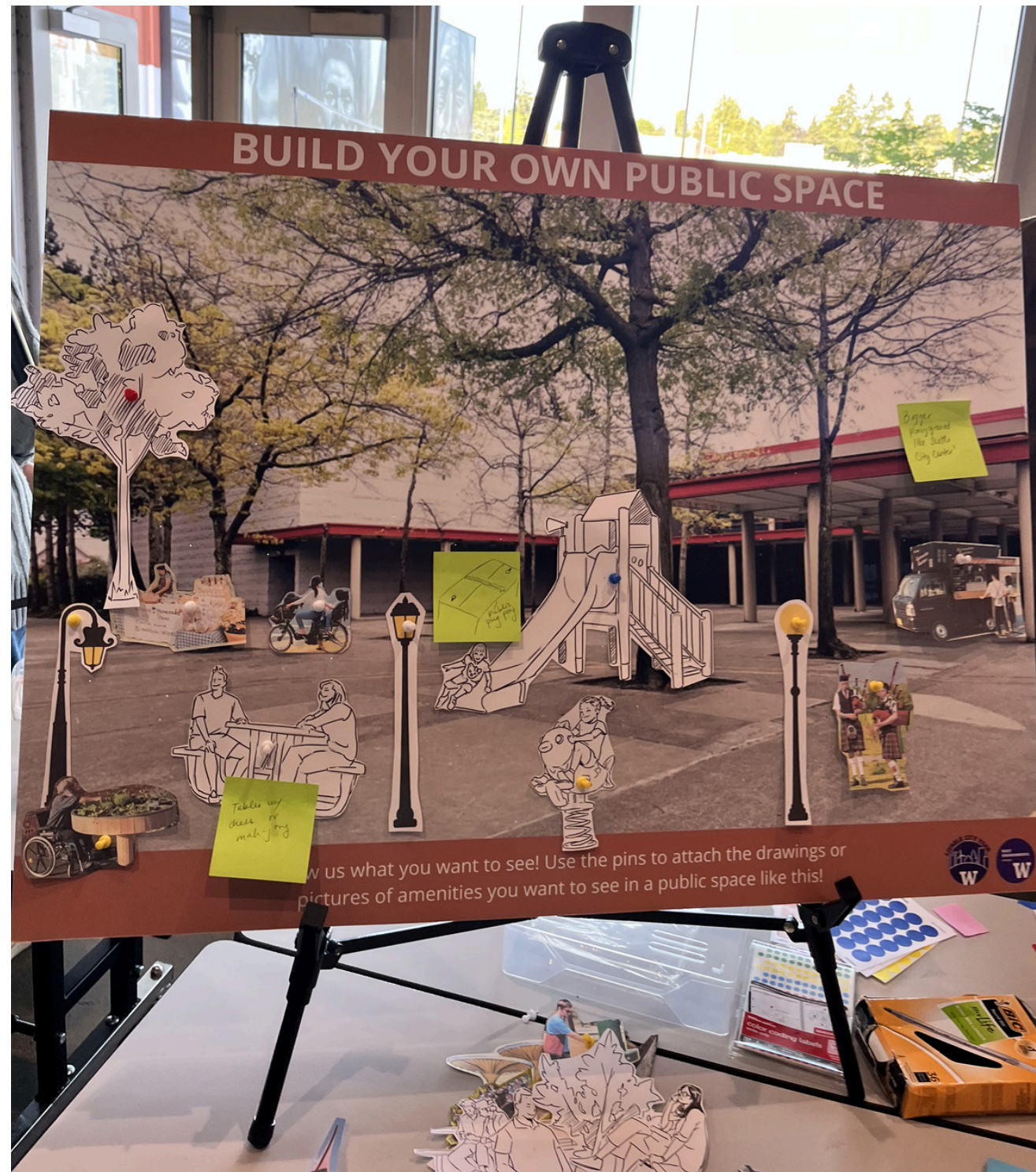


Preliminary Walking Loop: Sites & Paths



- | | | |
|--|--|---|
|  Historic Site |  Natural Site |  Preliminary Loop |
|  Park |  Path |  Potential Crossings |
|  Art Installation |  Community Venues |  Spurs and Segments |

BUILD YOUR OWN PUBLIC SPACE

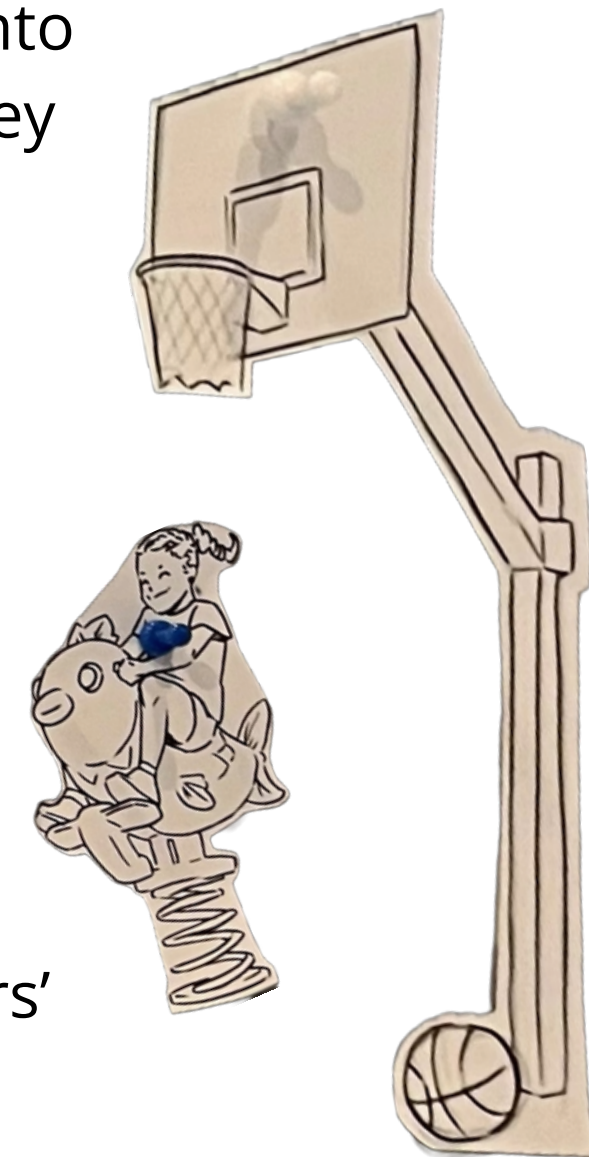


Participants pinned cutouts of fixtures and temporary furniture (like picnic tables, benches, bike racks, play structures, etc) onto a photo of a public space, showing what they would like to see.

We received comments and ideas on sticky notes:

- Ping-pong tables
- Tables with chess or mahjong
- Big playground

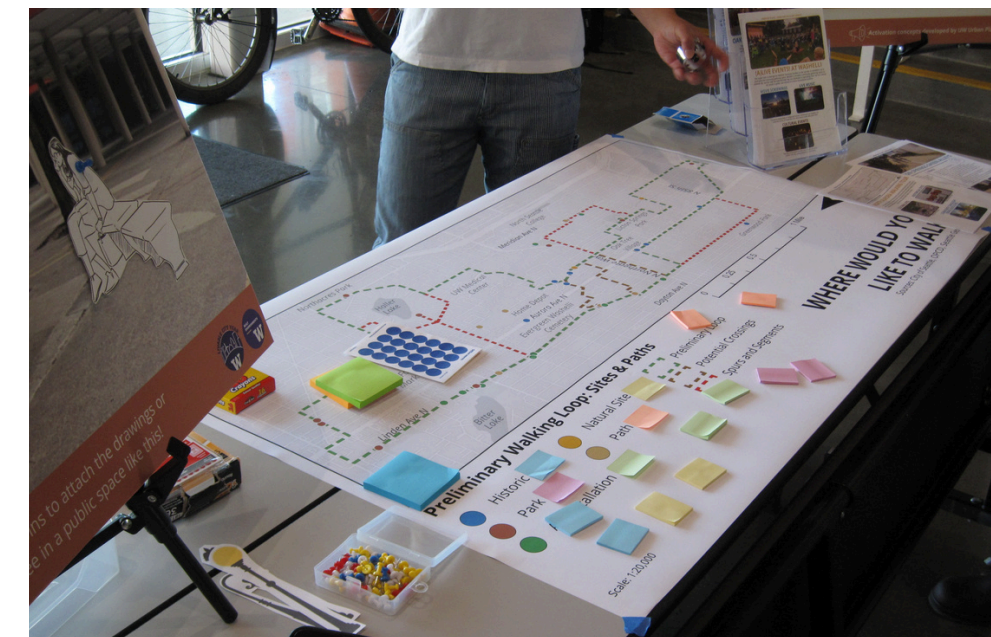
Overall, we noticed a theme of *play* that repeatedly came up in community members' responses and their cutout choices.



ENGAGEMENT AT LICTON SPRINGS

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- There were 96 individuals who interacted with the table (KPI)
- Burke Street Play Street is a good model for small scale activation
- There was a lot of excitement about temporary activations that can be done with furniture that is easily installed and removed
- People just wanted picnic tables!



PLACEMAKING AND ANTI-DISPLACEMENT

Cultural, arts, and social placemaking and programming are strategies for anti-displacement.

1. Expand cultural, arts, and social programming

- **Reimagine Existing Underutilized Spaces**
 - Oak Tree - Pavement to Plaza and Live Events at Washelli
- **Reimagine Safety and Comfortability**
 - SEA-Clovia Open Streets and Green Alleys
- **Strengthen Place-Based Connections**
 - Walking Tour

2. Utilize narrative change strategies

- Acknowledgement of the current narratives of the Aurora corridor is necessary for transparency about uncertain future
- Regressive narratives vs liberatory narratives
 - “All neighborhoods must change” vs **“displacement on the Aurora corridor can lead to physical, cultural, and economic loss”**



Photo Courtesy: SDOT

PLACEMAKING AND ANTI-DISPLACEMENT

Cultural, arts, and social placemaking and programming are strategies for anti-displacement.

3. More Placemaking Narrative Change Strategies

- Anti-Displacement visual narratives like graphic comics that can motivate residents for coalition building
- Placemaking histories that require further archival research to empower more grassroots level of planning and development



Photo Courtesy: NE University Anti-Displacement Studio



Photo Courtesy: NE University Anti-Displacement Studio

DISCUSSION



BREAK
3:35-3:40

MOBILITY

ENGAGEMENT & PROJECTS

OVERVIEW OF PROJECTS

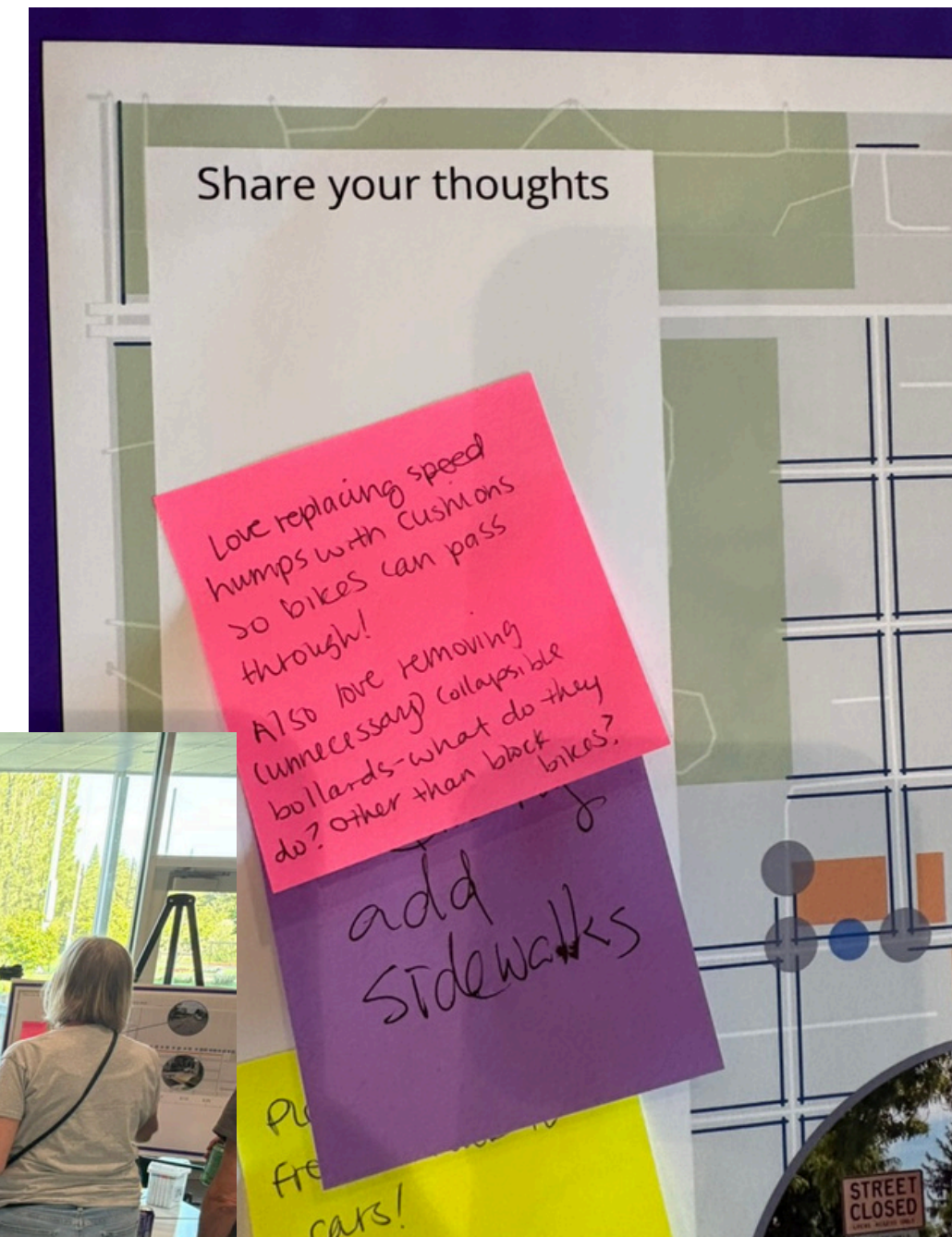
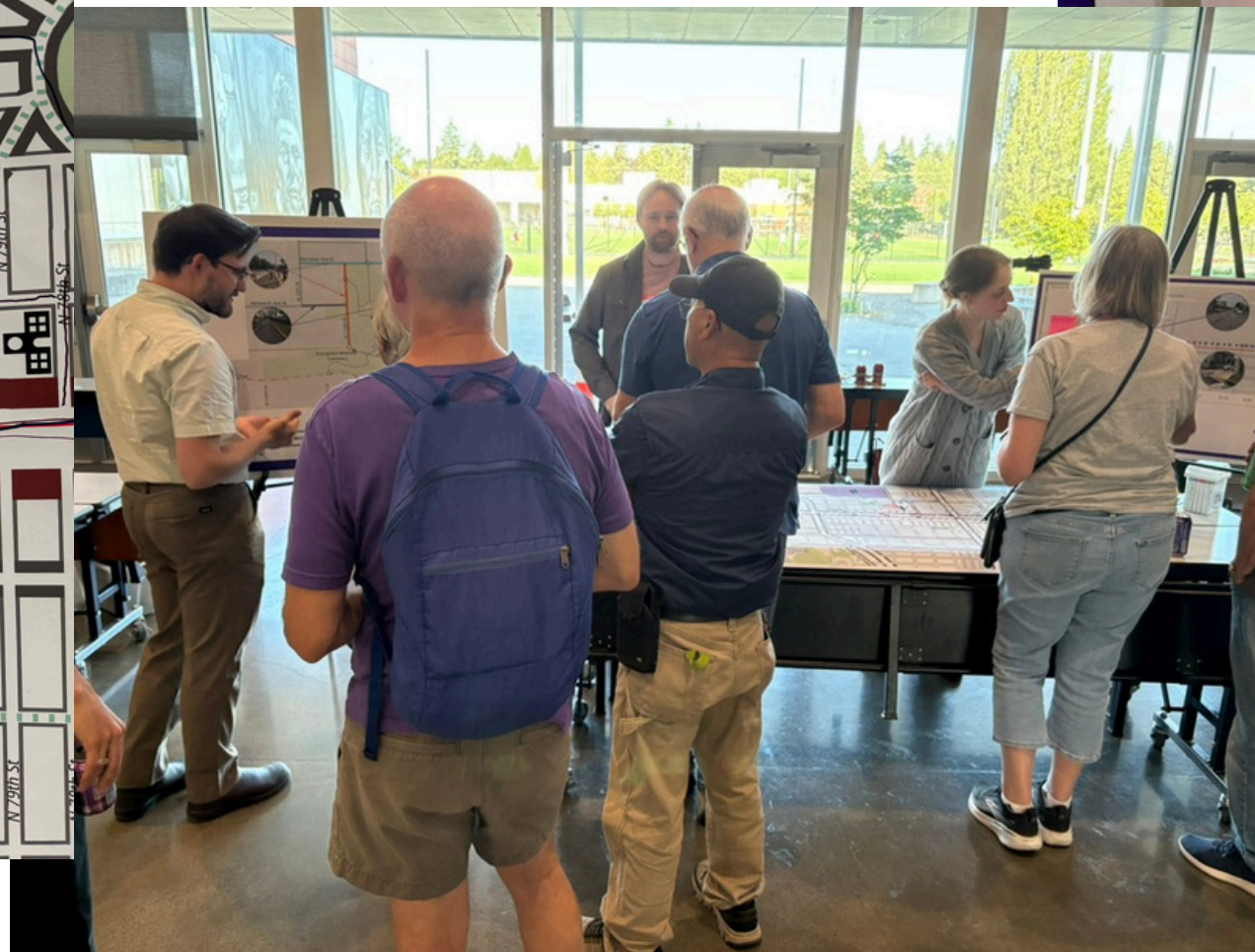
**Fremont to Interurban
Continuity**

Cemetery Connections

Roosevelt Wy N

WHAT WE SHARED

- Project Poster Boards
 - (Cemetery and Fremont Ave only)
- “Show us how you move” activity map
- Open ended conversations about neighborhood mobility
- Connected with 60 attendees
- 10 handouts distributed



WHAT WE HEARD

Many community members are afraid of walking on Aurora Ave N, especially at night

- Crossing Aurora is particularly frustrating
- Activity map supports this

People who spoke to us utilized a variety of modes

- **But**, residents who prefer walking around their neighborhood will drive when they need to visit Aurora Ave N
- Many residents who said they like to walk/bike/take transit drove due to the time of event

Most people love walking around their neighborhood. They let their kids walk/bike to school, with some apprehension

- “Many parents don’t let their kids bike to school, but I’m okay with it for now.”
- “The more of us that walk around the safer it is.”







General support for more mobility connections through Washelli Cemetery

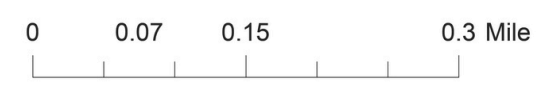
- Some concerns about crime, lighting, and whether paths are paved

Share your thoughts



Legend

-  N 115th St Improvement Area
-  Ashworth Ave N Extension
-  Meridian Ave N Improvement Area
-  Evergreen Washelli Cemetery Multiuse Trail Routes
-  Existing/Planned Neighborhood Greenway
-  Interurban Trail



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CEMETERY CONNECTIONS

Baseline: Maintain current limited and unsafe connections to the Washelli Cemetery

Scenario: Develop pedestrian and cycling infrastructure around the Washelli Cemetery in order to formalize and promote connectivity.

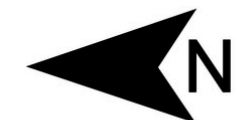
- **Previously proposed changed:** Additional cycle track on 115th, Ashworth greenway extension through UW Hospital right of way, Meridian Ave Bike+ Lanes
- **Further changes:**
 - **Ashworth Greenway Safe Route to School**
 - **Northgate Way & Ashworth Signalized Crossing**
 - **Interurban Trail Connection**
 - **Improved Crossing at N Aurora Ave Between Cemetery**

Share your thoughts



Legend

- Missing Sidewalks
- Healthy Street Sign
- Speed Hump
- Public Utility Parcels and ROWs



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FREMONT TO INTERURBAN CONTINUITY

Baseline: Maintain current greenway infrastructure on Fremont Ave

Scenario: Facilitate more seamless movement of multiple transportation modalities North to South along the west side of Aurora Ave N

- **Previously proposed changed:** Replace current speed humps with speed cushions to allow bike passage, remove barriers that prevent bikes from passing on the right side of painted curb bulbs, implement a sidewalk for pedestrians, improve bike signalization at N 85th St and N 105th St.
- **Further changes:**
 - **Daylighting speed cushions**
 - **Single-side parking**
 - **Turn restrictions off Fremont to lower through traffic**
 - **Remove Fremont stop signs at 100th St**
 - **Deprioritize bike sensors at major intersections**

FREMONT TO INTERURBAN CONTINUITY - COMMUNITY COMMENTS SO FAR

People like that Fremont exists as a healthy street but experience frequent traffic conflicts

- However they are interested in improvements....

They want fewer cars on Fremont

- Both as traffic and parked cars
- Still too many traffic conflicts on Fremont

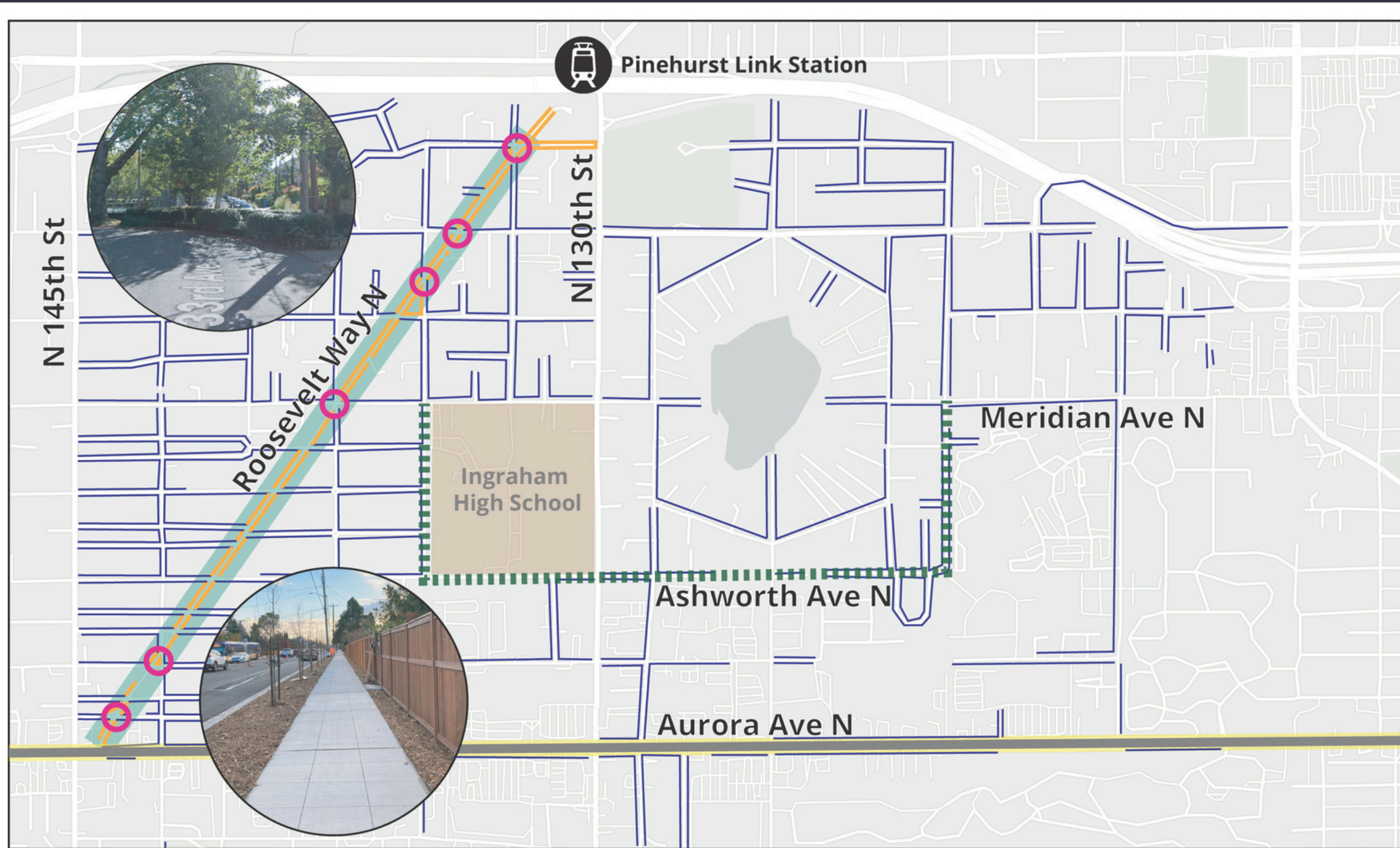
People are interested in passable planters and street signs

Generally supportive of street cushions but concerned about being forced into the road

Some interest in improving SCL ROW

- Trail project previously considered but not built

Supportive of sidewalks but expect that there will be push-back from adjacent homeowners



Pinehurst Link Station

N 145th St

N 130th St

Roosevelt Way N

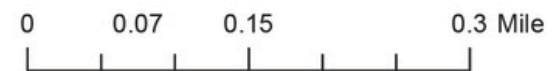
Ingraham High School

Meridian Ave N

Ashworth Ave N

Aurora Ave N

- Missing Sidewalks**
- Potential Greenway or Healthy Street**
- Priority Sidewalk**
- Existing Neighborhood Greenway**
- Intersections of Interest**



Scale: 1:10,000



ROOSEVELT WAY NE IMPROVEMENTS

Baseline: De-designate Roosevelt Way NE as an arterial, downgrading it into a collector or local street.

Scenario: Improve Roosevelt Way NE to include sidewalks, traffic calming measures and other solutions to allow it to serve as a primary northeast-southwest route for people walking and rolling from the Bitter/Haller Lake neighborhoods to the new Pinehurst Link Light Rail station on 130th St. Further coordination with Sound Transit as a station access project advised.

- **Alternative 1 (Low Intensity):** Install sidewalks along Roosevelt Ave NE, designate as neighborhood greenway/healthy street, install some traffic calming devices, explore diversion options.
- **Alternative 2 (High Intensity):** All elements of low intensity alternative, plus de-paving of sections where no turnouts/driveways exist, creating linear park/multi-use trail for pedestrians and cyclists traveling through the corridor.

DISCUSSION



NEXT STEPS

NEXT STEPS

- Saturday, June 6
 - Bitter Lake **Engagement** event
- Wednesday, June 10
 - **Submit Final Report**
 - Detailed recommendations for placemaking and mobility
 - Engagement summaries and learnings



June 2026

THANK YOU!

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