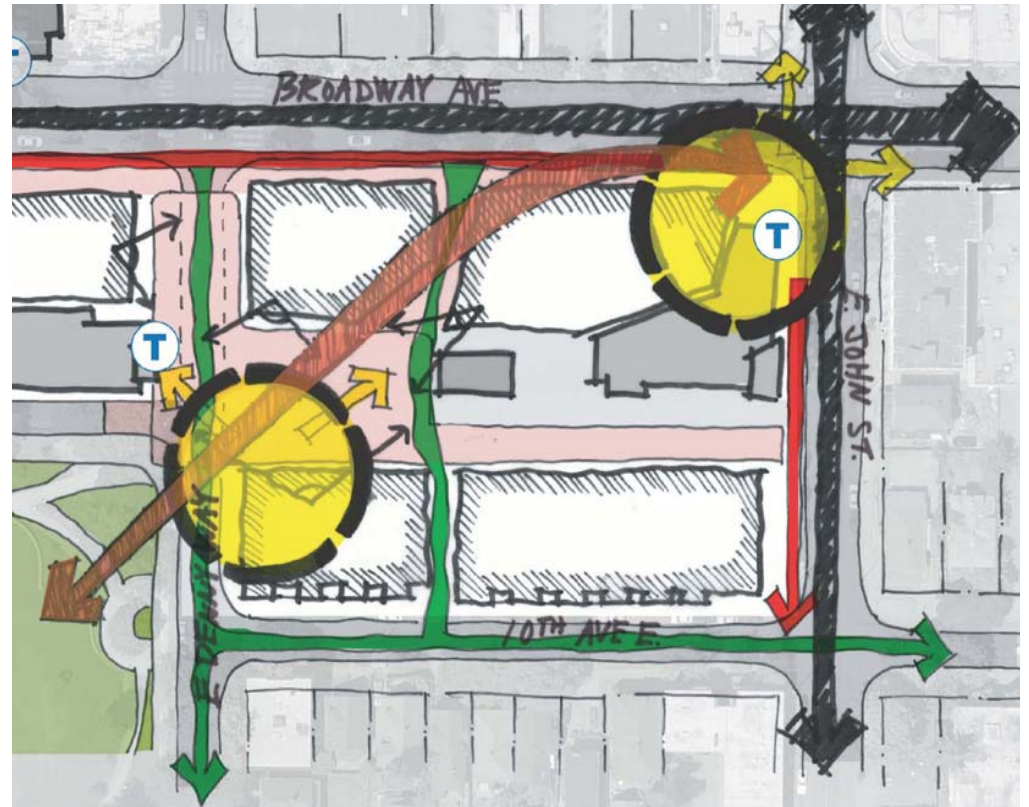


CAPITOL HILL Light Rail Station Sites Urban Design Framework

October, 2011



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Through a series of engaging workshops, meetings and conversations and the advocacy of many community leaders, a clear community vision is emerging for the sites surrounding the future Broadway light rail station:

- A dynamic heart for the Capitol Hill Community- mixing vibrant retail, community services, active public places and residences with the new Sound Transit light rail station.
- A model for transit-oriented communities; new development that integrates good urban design and placemaking with the opportunity to provide affordable housing and community services that support the diversity of the neighborhood.
- An opportunity to grow the Broadway Corridor, connecting it to Cal Anderson Park and reaching south to Seattle Central Community College and the Pike Pine corridor.

This once-in-a-generation opportunity demands a bold and compelling vision; one that succinctly articulates the aspirations and ambitions of the Capitol Hill community. This Urban Design Framework describes that vision – providing direction and guidance to the future developers of the Sound Transit owned properties in the immediate vicinity of the light rail station.

Key elements of the vision include:

- Sustainable and collaborative design and development
- Design and development of a civic quality, resulting in a dynamic place people want to be,
- A dynamic place that houses people and activities reflective of the diversity and vibrancy of Capitol Hill.

The Urban Design Framework provides a tool for the City and the Capitol Hill Community to work together with Sound Transit, Seattle Central Community College and other partners to leverage public and private actions to achieve the community's overall vision for the immediate Broadway Station area.

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Purpose and Process

The purpose of this Urban Design Framework (Framework) is to memorialize a shared vision for the Sound Transit-owned properties on Capitol Hill with the goal of that vision being implemented through Sound Transit's Request for Qualifications and Proposals process for the disposition and eventual development of those properties. This Framework will not only inform the future developers of these sites, but provide a foundation of design guidance for reviewing future redevelopment proposals. The Framework is not a regulatory mechanism but represents a detailed vision for these properties shared by the community, the City and Sound Transit.

This Urban Design Framework provides a set of recommendations focused on addressing a range of physical planning opportunities (urban design, land use mix, street and public spaces, sustainable design, etc.). Acting as a bridge, the Framework connects broad goals and policies in the Seattle Comprehensive Plan and Capitol Hill Neighborhood Plan to specific physical planning and development recommendations. Directing urban design and place-making through zoning and other land use tools, the Framework sets out a comprehensive vision of the redevelopment. The Framework addresses how the physical development on the light rail station sites will affect quality of life and the role that place-making and urban design play in creating a successful neighborhood. Given the importance of the function and success of these key

parcels on Capitol Hill and the proposed publicly accessible plaza within the redevelopment, the Framework also addresses uses, programming and maintenance desirable to the community.

This Framework builds upon the work and discussions of the community to date including the efforts of the Schemata Workshop|Makers consultant team hired by the Capitol Hill Chamber of Commerce and summarized in the February 2010 *Capitol Hill – Broadway TOD Development Guidelines and Urban Design Recommendations Report* as well as the summary of Sound Transit's August 3rd 2010 Nagle Place Extension Workshop. Three workshops were convened between October 2010 and February 2011 by City staff to discuss the essential elements of the Framework – programming and design of the four Sound Transit-owned sites on Capitol Hill. The workshop participants were comprised of Capitol Hill Champion Steering committee members and other interested community members; invited professionals suggested by community members; as well as relevant City staff and Sound Transit staff. A core group of community members, City and Sound Transit staff, participated in all three sessions.

Guiding Principles

Seize upon this is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to shape the future of the Broadway retail district, create community-oriented public uses and spaces around the station, and set the stage for high-quality architecture and urban development that can be a model for other transit oriented communities in the city and for the rest of the Capitol Hill Station Area/Broadway district.

Community and Sustainability

- Build community through the innovative and collaborative development of these parcels.
- Provide an assembly of the highest quality buildings and public spaces capable of housing the diversity of uses identified by the community as priorities, as well as representing the diversity of community members of Capitol Hill.
- Improve the livability and quality of life in the neighborhood.
- Seek opportunities for innovative and integrated sustainable building practices across the development sites.

Public Participation

Engage in an inclusive, open and on-going public participation process in the development and application of the Urban Design Framework vision to the Sound Transit-owned parcels. Continue to actively engage the Capitol Hill community in the physical space developed above the light rail facility through high quality and context-

responsive design and innovative, inclusive programming of the public spaces.

Collaborative Development Projects of the Highest Quality

Collaboratively design this development. Should the properties be developed by more than one development team, ensure all teams collaborate early regarding programming, design direction and decisions. Respond to the neighborhood context while recognizing that redevelopment will set a design precedent for future redevelopment along Broadway.

A Plaza that becomes the civic heart of Capitol Hill

Design and program the Plaza so that it attracts and sustains vibrant public life.

Affordable Housing and Business Space

Provide residential and commercial spaces that meet the needs of a diversity of Capitol Hill residents.

A Cultural Center and Community Space

Pursue the inclusion in the redevelopment of a community cultural facility that represents the history and evolving culture of the Capitol Hill neighborhood, including its prominent role as a center for LGBTQ culture and the arts.

Low-Ratio Parking

Provide a lower ratio of parking to residential units in recognition of the proximity to transit, anticipated high volumes of pedestrian traffic, and neighborhood enthusiasm for alternate modes of transportation.

Policy Background

The recommendations in this framework are consistent with and guided by Comprehensive Plan and Capitol Hill Neighborhood Plan goals and the February 2010 Capitol Hill-Broadway Transit Oriented Development Guidelines and Urban Design Recommendations Report.

As an Urban Center Village, Capitol Hill's functional designation is primarily residential. The goals of the Capitol Hill community as stated in the Comprehensive and Neighborhood plans are to achieve a neighborhood character with "distinct residential areas, active business districts, accessible transportation services, and strong institutions, which is diverse and densely populated." (Comprehensive Plan, Neighborhood Planning Element, Capitol Hill Community Character Goal, CH-G1).

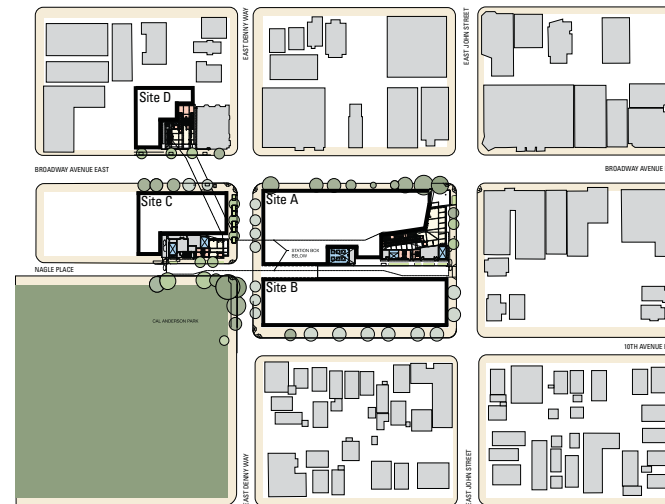
The community aspires to be a diverse and densely populated neighborhood where a range of housing types and levels of affordability are offered. Additionally, a balanced transportation environment is a goal, with an emphasis on the pedestrian environment while addressing the parking needs of residents and visitors.

Physical Setting and Development Potential

The assembled sites were acquired by Sound Transit in order to construct the Capitol Hill light rail station, which includes three at-grade station entries to the below grade transit facility. The station entry on the west of Broadway Ave. sits on the edge of Seattle Community College's bustling urban campus. Capitol Hill prides itself in being one of the densest and most transit friendly neighborhoods in Seattle. The significant Broadway frontage of the sites, especially at the key intersection of Broadway and E. John Street, combined with ready access to a variety of public transportation choices and proximity to Cal Anderson park emphasize the once in a generation opportunity presented by redevelopment.

Capitol Hill Station Project Area

Sound Transit parcel assemblage represented by the designation of Site A, B, C & D shown in the map below.



Light Rail Station Street-level Floor Plans courtesy of Hewitt

From the Capitol Hill - Broadway TOD Development Guidelines and Urban Design Recommendations Report

schemata workshop + MAKERS

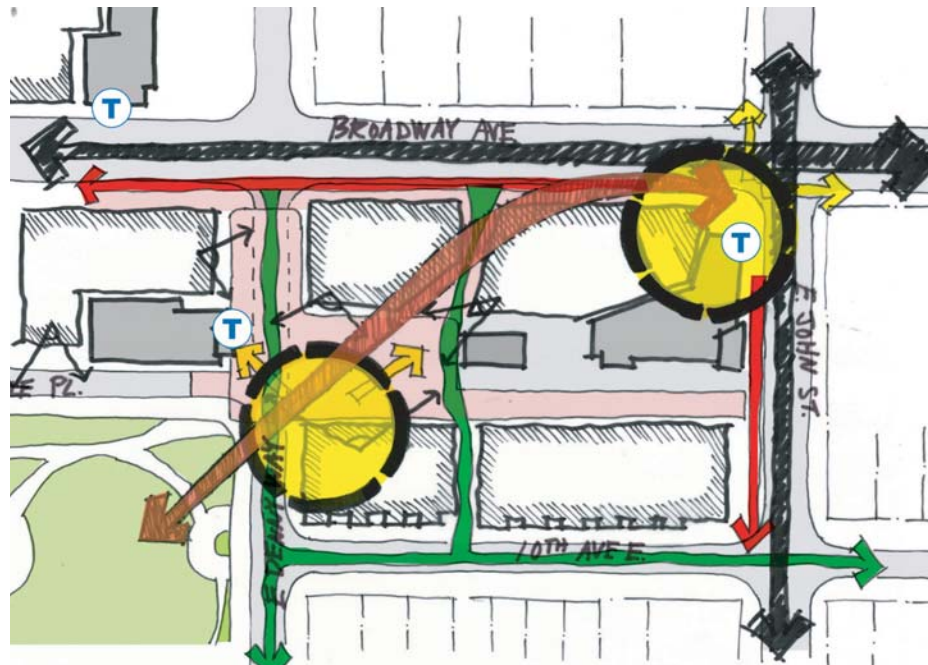
Site Organization and Hierarchy

During the UDF process, community members and design and planning professionals reviewed the four sites and came to many of the same or similar conclusions about overall site organization and hierarchy. The diagram below is a summary of major site organization concepts around which many of the findings and recommendations in the UDF are organized.

- Bordering street character is an important determinant: Broadway and John Streets are busy and vibrant main streets, while 10th Ave. E., E. Denny Way and Nagle Pl. are quieter, more local and green in character.
- The corner of Broadway and John St. is the most prominent focal point on the sites – a

location to mark a key corner. It is adjacent to the most prominent station entry.

- A location of secondary prominence is the vicinity of the south station entry near the Plaza and the edge of Cal Anderson Park – an important human scaled, public space.
- A sweeping pedestrian desire line (shown in a red diagonal line from the corner of Broadway Ave. and E. John Street to Cal Anderson Park in the graphic below), should be recognized between the two locations of prominence and provide an inviting linkage through the Plaza.
- The overall development and massing should re-orient the sites to frame and define the central Plaza. This informs recommendations for siting additional development potential and mass.

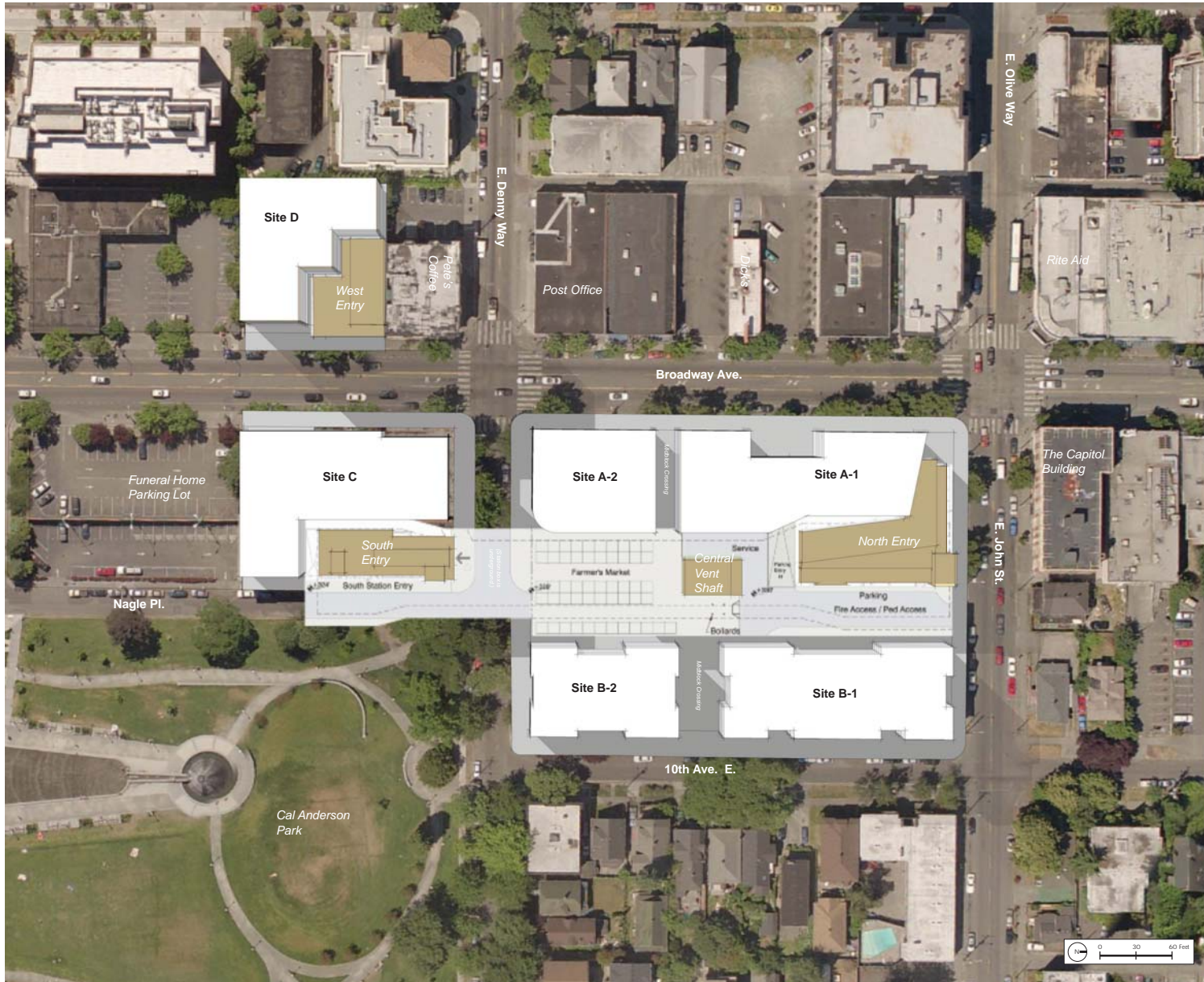


- A linked sequence of continuous public spaces should connect the Park, across E. Denny Way, through the Plaza.
- Mid-block crossings from Broadway and 10th Avenue E. provide access through the site and break up the building frontages.
- The 10th Avenue E. frontage should gently transition to the low-rise residential character of that street, while acknowledging that additional density is desirable in the immediate vicinity of the transit station.

Sound Transit's Response to Community Comment

Over the past several years Sound Transit has made an exceptional good faith effort to partner with the Capitol Hill community to plan for development above their station. As a result Sound Transit has incorporated many of the good ideas the community has championed. Sound Transit's original site concept for their sites included an alley that would separate development sites A and B. After hearing substantial community support for a permanent home for the Broadway Farmers Market, Sound Transit revisited their original site plan and proposed a significant public plaza, referred to as the Plaza, between the two development sites. This Plaza meets the community's request as well as Sound Transit's operational requirements.

Additionally, in recent conceptual site plans, Sound Transit has shown mid block crossings through the A and B sites, in response to community concern over a block-long uninterrupted street frontage and limited access to the Plaza.



Sound Transit properties site plan, modified per community input. June 2010

Recommendations

Recommendations in this Framework are organized into four sections: desired uses; design quality and scale; management, maintenance and programming of the Plaza; and Procedural Site Redevelopment. Recommendations throughout each of the sections are organized into points of Development Guidance and points of Design Guidance.

Development Guidance describes community expectations of actions and decisions that are critical to the realization of the overall vision.

Design Guidance refers to subjective or discretionary elements of the sites' development.

Desired Uses

The following recommendations address the program and use of the sites, their design and scale and the programming and maintenance of the publicly accessible public spaces.

Retail, Service and Community Space

Retail uses should be distinguishable, diverse, active, and occupied (by station opening) with spaces designed to accommodate a variety of retailers at a range of rental or ownership costs. Ideally retailers and services that are not currently represented in the neighborhood (e.g. office supplies, home furnishings, hardware, men's clothing, etc.) are encouraged.

A community/cultural gathering space within the redevelopment is strongly supported by the

community, ideally located facing the Plaza. This space could serve as a community meeting and gathering space, contain office spaces for non-profits and possible performance and/ or arts spaces. There is strong community interest around a facility open to all with a significant LGBTQ culture and services component. Additional work continues to be undertaken in the community to further refine the vision of the center and its identity as well as to continue to explore funding mechanisms and partnerships. Please see the Technical Appendix for community contact information.

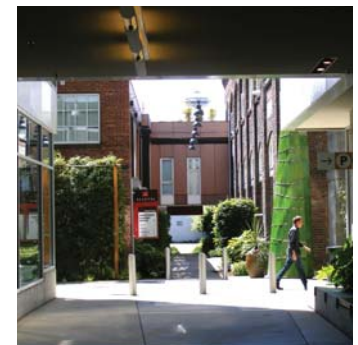
The following recommendations are intended to activate the streetscape around the sites and Plaza, respecting residents on the site, to realize a significant amount of affordable housing and to help provide for a community /cultural gathering space.

Development Guidance for Sites A

- Vibrant ground floor retail or active service should front Broadway
- If destination retail is part of the retail portfolio, orient this use towards Broadway
- Housing should be located on the third floor and above (possibly floor two as well if office is not provided here). See housing discussion for specifics.
- Locate smaller, more locally serving retail on midblock crossing between Broadway and the Plaza. Design these spaces to be flexible to accommodate a variety of potential uses and shared uses.



Example of activating use spilling onto pedestrian alley in Pike Place Market.



An activated and interesting mid-block crossing. Alley 24 Seattle.



A market held during certain times in a central plaza. Image courtesy of Schemata Workshop.

- Locate active uses on the ground floor fronting the Plaza and E. Denny with the intention of helping activate the Plaza and the Festival Street through the ground floor use. Design these spaces to be flexible to accommodate a variety of potential uses and shared uses.

Development Guidance for Sites B

- Provide affordable housing for a range of residents.
- Consider families and the elderly in the range of residents seeking affordable housing.
- Locate ground related housing with individual unit entries on the 10th Avenue E. frontage.

Design Guidance for Sites B

- House a range of activating uses in the ground level facades fronting the interior of the sites to provide eyes on the Plaza and other publicly accessible spaces during the day and evening. Uses could include artist work and display spaces, active live-work units, services and retail with robust foot traffic.
- Consider the southern, plaza facing end of this site as a potential location for a community/ cultural gathering space.

Development Guidance for Sites C

- Orient vibrant ground floor retail or active service along Broadway.
- Provide housing on the third and above floors (possibly floor two as well if there are no offices). See housing discussion for specifics.

- Locate active uses on the ground floor fronting E. Denny with the intention of helping activate the Festival Street through the ground floor use.

Development Guidance for Site D

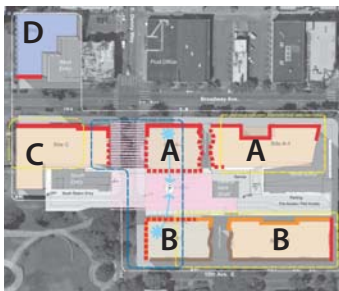
- Provide uses affiliated with the College according to the needs of the college.
- Engage the Broadway street frontage by locating pedestrian-generating active uses on the ground floor facing Broadway. Provide ground floor transparency along the Broadway frontage so as to further activate the street.

Development Guidance for the Plaza (see also Management, Programming and Maintenance of the Plaza section)

- Make the Plaza available to the Broadway Farmers market as a permanent home to host their weekly or biweekly Farmers Market
- Make the Plaza available to other public uses and programs during non-market times.
- Limit vehicular movements within the Plaza to loading and unloading for the Farmers Market and other service delivery and emergency functions.
- Consider uses that will activate the Plaza on non-Farmers Market days such as
 - A food court using semi-permanent food vendors
 - Art/craft markets
 - Performances
 - Buskers



Recent infill housing development on Capitol Hill.



Site map with parcel designations

Housing

Residential development is a high priority for both the Capitol Hill community and Sound Transit, providing increased ridership for the light rail and street car lines and more housing options for Seattle's densest neighborhood. The 2010 Capitol Hill Chamber of Commerce's Transit Oriented Development Subcommittee's *Development Guidelines and Urban Design* Report recommended to "encourage creative partnerships between affordable housing developers and market rate developers to create a mixed-income project...in an effort to bring investment to the community while mitigating displacement." The idea that the existing community should benefit from rather than be displaced by any new development was prevalent throughout the discussions of housing.

A May 2010 Sound Transit sponsored apartment study in the greater Capitol Hill area analyzed the area's rental housing needs and affirmed the community's prioritization of affordable housing. It identified an unmet demand for 8,263 units affordable to households earning up to 60% AMI, which is expected to increase to 9,982 units by 2016 when light rail opens. The eventual development above the station should absorb some of this demand.

In 2008 Sound Transit acknowledged the community's desire for affordable housing above the light rail station. The Sound Transit *Capitol Hill Station TOD Sites Baseline* Report stated "affordable housing is market-driven and will be an issue that the community will pursue. What constitutes a significant goal also needs to be

defined." The Urban Design Framework planning process successfully developed consensus among stakeholders to define housing goals and identified a set of clear strategies to accomplish these goals.

Development Guidance

- At least 50% of all housing units on sites A, B, and C should be affordable for at least 50 years for households with income at or below 80% AMI. Half of these units should be affordable to households with income at or below 50% AMI.
- Population and unit type needs should be considered in the RFQ/RFP. There is a need for more affordable housing that meets the needs of seniors, families and artists in the neighborhood.

Design Guidance

- Townhome style units with individual unit entries facing the 10th Ave. E. side of Site B could be an appropriate location for affordable family sized units as well as incorporating design features to better transition to the L3 zoned block to the east.
- Activity generating uses should face the Plaza on the ground floor. Should these uses be housing, active live/work units should be considered.

It is anticipated that a combination of incentives, subsidies, and requirements will be necessary to achieve the overall affordable housing goal. Sound Transit property will be made available through developer selection processes that ultimately achieve the overall goal. To help reach the overall



Image by Steve Keating, provided courtesy of GGLO.



Example of ground related housing
Image courtesy of Schemata Workshop



Secure bike storage in Leiden, the Netherlands. Copyright SciFi Laura, Flickr.



Secure bike storage in Berkeley, CA.



On street bike racks are good for short term parking.

goals, the following programs/resources will be available to developers:

- City of Seattle Incentive Programs:
 - Multifamily Property Tax Exemption Program: available to developers; offers a property tax exemption for up to 12 years for all housing units (exemption for housing improvements only; not including land or non-housing uses within buildings) in return for reduced rents for at least 20% of the units. Affordability provided for a maximum of 12 years.
 - Incentive Zoning: additional development capacity will be proposed to City Council; if approved, developers will be encouraged to utilize the additional capacity, providing lower rents for a portion of the units consistent with the City of Seattle's Land Use Code requirements.
- City of Seattle affordable housing subsidy will be available through an Office of Housing Multifamily NOFA process.

Incentive Programs and subsidies are not anticipated to enable developers to reach the overall affordability goals. Covenants could be placed on property that require affordable rents or sales process for at least 50 years—agreements would vary by sub-parcel, but together would help reach the overall affordable housing goals.

Developer(s) selected to develop the Sound Transit parcels could propose in RFP responses how they would expect to help achieve overall affordability

goals---what combination of tools would be utilized. More precise expectations of developers will be incorporated into upcoming developer agreements.

Bicycle Parking

Plentiful bicycle parking should serve a variety of users, from long-term commuter/tenant parking to short-term transit/shopper (non-commute) parking. Short-term bicycle parking can be provided via bike racks, on-street bicycle parking and covered bike parking. Long-term bicycle parking should be provided with secured bicycle parking facilities via bike lockers, pre-fabricated modules with membership access, and/or a BikeStation type of ground floor retail facility that could be arranged with future developers. As there will be limited bike parking turnover for a relatively long period, a nearly a one-to-one correspondence between parking demand and parking supply for long-term (commuter) users is advisable. Light rail will generate many short trips to the station such that it is certain to increase levels of bicycling to gain access to the station. Adequate space and locations for bicycle parking are essential to making bicycling a convenient and desirable choice to access light rail.

Although the Land Use Code states that at least 20 spaces should be provided for long-term bicycle parking at rail transit facilities, the City may require more such parking spaces based on the following factors: area topography, pattern and volume of expected bicycle users, nearby residential and employment density, proximity to trails, projected transit ridership and expected

access to transit by bicycle, and other relevant transportation and land use information. Sound Transit supports actively promoting bicycling to stations as a way of increasing ridership and reducing motor vehicle trips to the station (per the December 2008 *Sound Transit Capitol Hill Station TOD Sites Baseline Report*). Sound Transit will provide bicycle racks at the West Station entry for about 40 bicycles. More bicycle parking needs to be accommodated.

Development Guidance

- Per the *1991 Bike Parking Need at Sound Transit Stations: Seattle Transportation Bicycle Program Evaluation* document that uses the *PRSC Bike Parking Demand Estimation Methodology* accommodate at least 169 bicycle parking spaces in 2016 (a mix of long-term and short-term parking facilities).
- Accommodate at least 336 bicycle parking spaces by 2020 (a mix of long-term and short-term parking facilities).
- Locate bicycle parking at or as close as possible to station entrances.
- Make ground floor area within a building available for a potential BikeStation membership type of facility per the Sound Transit RFQ/RFP process, in order to accommodate bicycle parking demand that might not be able to be located, due to limited space, within close proximity to station entrances.
- Analyze the feasibility of locating a pre-fabricated secured bicycle parking facility within the project area in partnership with

SDOT, if Sound Transit does not require bicycle facilities to be included in the developments.

- Pursue bike share opportunities at the stations.

Automobile Parking

Parking strategies should promote light rail, bus, and streetcar ridership and pedestrian and bicycle use, as well as discourage automobile use and commuter parking. Shared parking among developments is advantageous and necessary to reduce the number of stalls and the cost of providing parking. Parking costs should be unbundled from building rent costs. Sound Transit should require the developer to provide alternatives to car parking, such as additional secured bicycle parking and the use of car sharing (Zipcar, etc.). Given the proximity to transit, there should be less total parking than market rate developments typically provide. SDOT will consider modifying Nagle Place current unrestricted parking and load zones prior to light rail opening in 2016 to provide more short-term, on-street parking spaces for retail customers.

Any increase of automobile parking space is inconsistent with Sound Transit's mission of providing transit service. Sound Transit has indicated that developers will not be asked to provide commuter (park and ride) parking or additional parking to serve the business district. Initial assumptions by Sound Transit articulated in their *December 2008 Baseline Report* regarding future transit oriented development sites are that a minimum amount of parking equal to less than one stall per unit would be supplied. The adjacency

of alternative modes of transportation should encourage tenants and customers to arrive at the developable sites without the use of a car, thus a smaller demand for parking.

Development Guidance

- Use on-street parking and shared parking strategies to address retail parking demand.
- Provide car sharing opportunities for tenants and customers.
- Provide less than 0.7 stalls/unit of housing, for market rate housing – less for affordable housing units.
- Aim to provide less parking than the demand suggested through standard modeling, given the ready access to high capacity transit.

Design Guidance

- Consider incorporating electric car charging stations in the redevelopment.
- Unbundle parking from residential and retail rental cost.

Note: A graphic of desired uses follows on pages 15 and 16.

Capitol Hill TOD Desired Uses (See graphic on page 16)

Housing

- > Housing is expected to occupy floors 2 and above of most new development on sites (A,B, & C).
- > Affordable housing target is 50% of all new housing.
- > Affordable housing should be varied, and reflect the Capitol Hill community.
- > Include Affordable Housing for populations including: families, seniors and artists.

Broadway Retail

- > All sites fronting Broadway must have vibrant retail on the first floor.
- > If larger or destination retail is included it should be oriented to Broadway.
- > Broadway-fronting retail may be more 'around-the-clock' than interior retail.

Farmer's Market / Station Plaza

- > Nagle Place extension above the Sound Transit station box will be retained in a separate ownership tract as a public Farmer's Market / Station Plaza.
- > The plaza will accommodate other public uses and programs at non-market times.
- > Vehicle movements will be limited to loading for the Market and other service and delivery functions.

Interior / Secondary Retail

- > The first floor of buildings facing the interior, Nagle Place, or the E. Denny Way festival St., especially where fronting the Plaza should have active retail frontages.
- > Interior retail should be small flexible spaces that can accommodate local businesses.
- > Interior / secondary retail should be less 'around-the-clock' than Broadway retail.

Potential Location For Community / Cultural Center

- > A community / cultural center could be located on either Site A2 or B2, and should have an oversight and management relationship to the Plaza.
- > Include community meeting and gathering space, office spaces for non-profits and possibly performance and/or art spaces.
- > Implementation and further detail on the center depends on the community's ability to organize and raise capital funds.
- > The community / cultural center is not expected to co-locate with housing.

E. Denny Way 'Festival Street'

- > Convert the portion of E. Denny Way between Broadway and Nagle Place to a festival street with limited access for vehicles.
- > The festival street should be convertible to an extension of the plaza at certain times.

Mixed / Flexible Uses

- > Some frontages may include a mix of semi-active and retail uses depending on market conditions and economic viability of retail in interior locations. This may include live work units, offices, or artist work spaces.

Ground-Related Housing

- > The frontages of Sites B1 and B2 facing 10th Ave. are expected to be primarily residential with ground-related housing, including stoops and porches. Some semi-active uses may be included.

Flexible Building Forms / Sites

- > Allow flexibility in divisions between buildings and sites to allow better design and appropriate site sizes for uses.

College Uses

- > Site D should be a use affiliated with the Seattle Central Community College according to the College's program needs.
- > Affordable student housing is an encouraged college related use for this location.

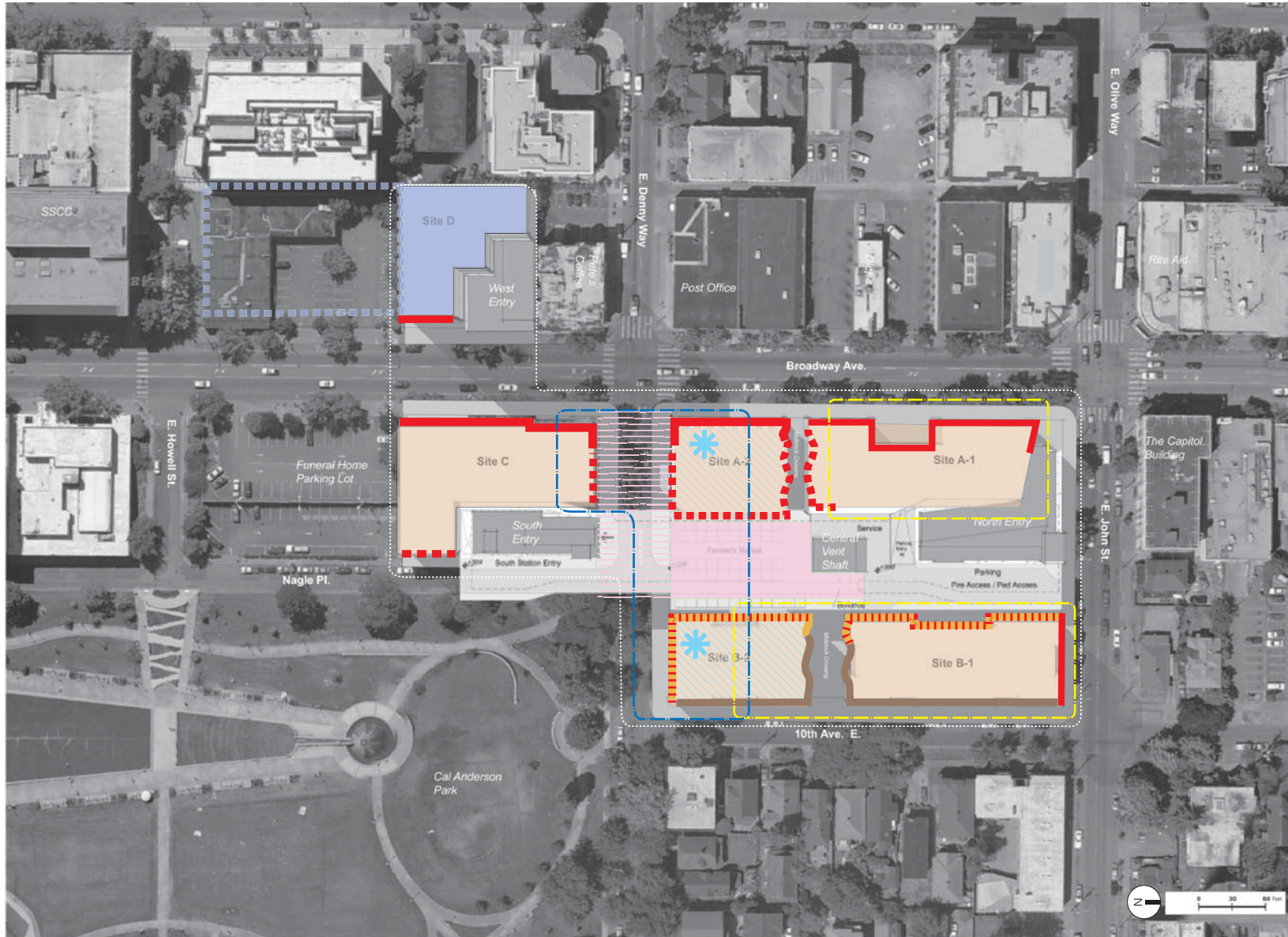
Push / Pull - Lower

- > Development potential should not be substantially increased on portions of sites A-2, B-2 and C immediately fronting the Plaza and E. Denny Way.
- > Massing to ensure that ample sunlight and air reach the plaza and Park are essential in these locations.

Push / Pull - Higher

- > Allow developable area and building mass to be rearranged across the 4 sites to facilitate public amenities and good design. Sites A1 and B1 are good locations for a limited increase in building envelope from the current NC3-65 and NC2-40 zoning respectively. Site A1 is the most appropriate location for increase in mass. The southern portion of site C, away from the plaza is another location for a potential moderate increase from existing NC3-65 zoning.

Capitol Hill TOD Desired Uses (See legend on page 15)



Design Quality and Scale

Since design is inherently subjective and a variety of treatments can achieve desired intent, all recommendation in the Design Quality and Scale section are **Design Guidance** except those offering **Development Guidance**.

Context and Site

The bordering street character, planned station facilities, Cal Anderson Park and the proposed Plaza establish a hierarchy of spaces within the sites. Broadway and John Streets are busy and vibrant main streets, and the most prominent station entrance is the north entry near this intersection. This corner marks the most prominent focal point on the sites. A location of secondary prominence is the vicinity of the south station entry near the Plaza and the edge of Cal Anderson Park. The proposed Plaza is an important linking space at the heart of the sites. E. Denny Way and 10th Ave. E. have quieter local residential character. This general hierarchy of spaces drives many of the following urban design recommendations.

Key Corner at the Broadway Ave. E. and E. John St. Intersection

- Include a strong form or focus on site A-1 at the intersection of Broadway Ave. E. and E. John St. near the main (north) station entry. This could be a prominent retail entry, an architectural expression or other feature. Explore the possibility of a cantilever over a portion of the station entry.

Compatible Residential Character of the 10th Ave. E. Frontage

- **Development Guidance:** Respond to the low-rise multifamily zoning along 10th Ave. E. by providing ground-related or live-work housing on the first floor of the B sites facing 10th Ave. E. with a townhouse or rowhouse character.

Favorable Sun and Air Exposure onto the Plaza and E. Denny Way Festival Street

- Allow for increased mass and scale away from the Plaza and the E. Denny Way Festival street on the north portions of site A and B and the southernmost portion of site C.
- Reduce the scale of buildings directly on the Plaza in ways that preserve solar access. Include upper level setbacks on sites A-2, and C, and step down the scale of building B-2 towards the Plaza and park edge.

Capitalize on the Grade Change

The grade change—roughly a 7' drop from the Broadway Ave. E. elevation to the Plaza floor—is a critical site element.

- Address the grade change as an integral feature of the design. Techniques may include the use of stepped terraces, a prominent stair or ramp element on the Plaza side of the A sites, retail that steps down or an activated 'loading dock' type treatment that takes up 3 to 4 feet of the grade change. Places where this has been successfully achieved include the Pearl District along 13th Avenue in Portland, OR and Yaletown in Vancouver, B.C.
- **Development Guidance:** In no case should an exposed portion of a parking structure, portion



Building mass and modulation can open up a plaza or open space to sun and air. *Image courtesy of Schemata Workshop.*



Taking advantage of the grade change, providing places to sit and observe amidst activity. *Image courtesy of Schemata Workshop.*



A modern example of ground-related housing. Alley 24 Seattle.



Chicago's Crown Fountain draws participants and onlookers.



Shared right of way between pedestrians, bikes and vehicles.



A sweeping pedestrian desire line.

of a foundation, blank wall or similar result from the grade change across the sites.

Favorable Relationships of Buildings to Station Entries and Facilities

The design of Sound Transit's Station facilities and their associated functions are fixed elements of the site context. Infill development should maximize compatibility and synergy with these site elements.

- Configure the base of the building at A-1 for an integrated connection with the north station entry. Consider pulling design elements from the station across the base of the building on A-1, especially at the corner of Broadway and E. John Street as the building turns the corner onto Broadway.
- Integrate the central vent shaft facility as a focal point of the Plaza. Techniques could include information (potentially transit or train related) or dynamic displays including movies, green wall treatments, or public art installations.
- Design the streetscape near the south station entry such that a clear, unobstructed pedestrian link between the station entry and the Plaza space across E. Denny Way is established.

Carefully Integrate Vehicle Accesses Points into and Through the Sites

- Preferred locations for vehicle entry points to parking, loading and service for and within the sites are as follows: E. John St. in the midblock between Broadway and 10th Avenues E. (sites A and B); Nagle Place (building C); local pick up and drop-offs including kiss and ride – Nagle Pl.

- Design the drivecourt entry from E. John St. as a shared pedestrian / vehicle space. Vehicles should be encouraged to move slowly, and urban design elements and softening features such as pavement treatments, landscaping, lighting fixtures and other elements should be used to indicate it as a shared space.

Public Life

The following recommendations relate to public life. Proposed design features are intended to: support the use of public transit; contribute to the network of public realm spaces around the site; create a safe, comfortable and interesting environment that encourages walking; and encourage human activity and interaction at the street level.

A Sweeping Pedestrian Desire Line from the Broadway & John St. Intersection to Cal Anderson Park

- Reinforce the site's hierarchy by acknowledging a sweeping pedestrian pathway leading from the main station entry at the Broadway Ave. E. and E. John St. intersection through the midblock crossing of Site A, through the Plaza to Cal Anderson Park.
- Consider design elements and cues that help lead pedestrians to the mid-block crossing and the Plaza beyond.
- Design the mid-block crossing of Site A in a way that invites visitors into the Plaza.
- Consider pulling the building back from the corner at the base of Building A-1 at the corner of Broadway Ave. E. and E. John Street, to facilitate pedestrian movement from the main (north) station egress to the south.

Create a Network of Public Space Connections between all Public Spaces on the Sites

- **Development Guidance:** Allow westbound only vehicular access on E. Denny Way and allow for commercial load zones on the south side of E. Denny Way to serve the developments (see Streetscape section for additional detail). Designate E. Denny Way between 10th Ave. and Broadway as a Festival Street. Design the Festival Street as a curbsless environment for seamless linkage between the Festival Street, the Plaza and Cal Anderson Park.
- Consider high interior transparency through site B-2 that enhances the visual link from Cal Anderson Park to the Plaza. Consider a light 'jewel-box' concept for the structure or portion of the structure on B-2, and explore a design that enables the Plaza to extend through the B-2 building. Explore this site/structure for a potential focus for the civic and community functions.

Intensely Activate the Plaza with Adjacent Building Design

- The ground levels of buildings A-2, B-2 and C where facing the Plaza and the E. Denny Way Festival Street should house retail spaces with strong potential for interaction with the public realm. Design features to reinforce this interaction might include: space for sidewalk cafes; storefront windows and doors that completely open; generous canopies; and/or associated vendor kiosks and stalls.

- **Development Guidance:** Provide continuous overhead weather protection along all building edges fronting the Plaza and Broadway.
- Within the Plaza consider appropriate sub-structures, built elements and temporary utility connections to inhabit the plaza space to provide interest and variety in the Plaza.
- Explore architectural features within ground level facades at the Plaza such as recesses, bays, colonnades, to ensure interest and variety. Consider placing prominent building entries directly on the Plaza where feasible – especially on site B-2.

Include Upper Level Overlooks of the Plaza for Oversight

- Include amenity areas on upper levels of structures around the Plaza that contribute to eyes-on-the-plaza. Explore the inclusion of shared upper level patios and decks with vistas over the Plaza.
- Include useable balconies and terraces associated with individual housing units facing onto the plaza to provide oversight and to contribute to architectural interest facing the Plaza.

Highly Civic Broadway Streetscape Character

Enhance Broadway's character as a vibrant shopping and public life main street.

- Include substantial retail spaces on the Broadway Ave.-facing ground floors of buildings A-1, A-2 and C. Consider designing flexible retail spaces facing Broadway Ave. to potentially accommodate a larger 'anchor' or destination retail tenant.



Pioneer Square Courthouse Plaza in Portland offers partial overhead protection as well as various vantage points. *Copyright, Desiree Bianca Mijares, Flickr.*



Plazas are activated through adjacent use and building design. *Image courtesy of Schemata Workshop.*



Balconies provide eyes on the plaza below, artfully done they provide visual interest. *Image courtesy of Schemata Workshop.*

- Design a high quality, well-designed and crafted civic streetscape facing Broadway. Consider a palette of streetscape elements that includes: special pavers and detailing; abundant planting in appropriate locations; pedestrian lighting; signage and wayfinding; and street furniture.



Broadway is Capitol Hill's main commercial street.



An example of building forms stepping down towards a public place.

Design Concept

The following recommendations relate to an overall design concept. The direction and guidance is intended to encourage:

- an optimized arrangement of uses and activities on the sites;
- unified, balanced and harmonious building forms that fit with their surroundings, yet have distinctive design identity;
- an architectural concept that results in functional and harmonious design for all the parcels;
- open spaces integrated with building design; and
- use of civic-quality materials for the buildings and open spaces.

A Massing Concept that Steps Down Toward the Plaza

Development Guidance: Orient structures to the Plaza and optimize solar access with overall massing concept that steps down towards or addresses the Plaza / E. Denny Way Festival Street / the Cal Anderson Park edge.

- Increased building mass and scale should be focused at the north of sites A1 and B1 (to NC3-85 and NC3-65 respectively) and the south edge of site C (NC3-85).

- Retain existing zoning on the south of sites A-2 and B-2 (NC3-65 and NC2-40 respectively).
- Provide upper level setbacks on the north end of site C at the 4th story level, and at the 6th story level stepping down towards the Plaza.
- Provide an upper level setback on the Plaza side of building A-2 at the 4th story level.
- Retain a moderate scale of building on Site B-2 – explore design treatments (such as transparency) that minimize bulk and scale and integrate the structure into the fabric of the Plaza.

Pursuit of Environmentally Sustainable Design and Programming Solutions

- **Development Guidance:** Work with efforts already underway to explore the viability of shared design solutions that result in more environmentally responsible form and function. Refer to the findings of the Capitol Hill Housing study on the potential for an Ecodistrict centered on the station sites (funded by a Bullitt Foundation grant). Examples of shared design solutions include:
 - district energy opportunities such as on-site generation
 - shared renewable energy generation
 - site wide green building /efficiency standards
 - car sharing
 - bike sharing
 - electric vehicle charging

- passive design strategies including : cross-ventilation, narrow floor plates, high-efficiency heating and cooling systems.

Edges That Respond to Context

- All buildings facing outward to the street should respond to the context of those edges.
- The 10th Ave. E. frontage should visually integrate with low-rise multifamily across the street, and strengthen the residential character of the area. Individual unit entries facing 10th Ave. E. should incorporate features such as stoops, porches or other features that enhance residential scale. A 10-foot setback is recommended at the 3rd or 4th story of building B-2 along 10th Ave. E. to create a scale compatible with low-rise development across the street. Explore methods to increase density in the future.
- Enhance Broadway's character as one of Capitol Hill's most prominent and vibrant shopping and public life main streets. Facades facing Broadway should reinforce the street edge, and buildings may go to allowed height limits as consistent with other recent development patterns on Broadway.

Mid-Block Crossings to Strengthen the Plaza Orientation and Break Up Building Mass

- **Development Guidance:** While flexibility in the specific location and form of the mid-block crossings is encouraged, mid-block crossings within site A and B should help achieve the following design objectives:

- Enhance orientation to the Plaza. Mid-block crossings are expected to have a relationship to the Plaza.
- The two mid-block crossings should create a logical pedestrian link through the block between Broadway and 10th Ave. E.

Flexibility in Mid-Block Crossings for Creative Solutions

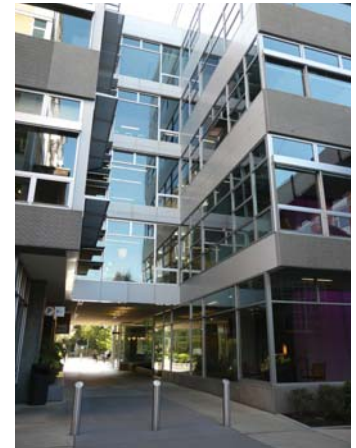
The location of the mid-block crossings between the building volumes within the A site and the B site should be flexible to encourage creative design solutions to this connection. Designers are encouraged to explore creative treatments and configurations that make the mid-block crossings an important element of the design concept.

Treatments could include:

- An inviting entry feature such as cascading stair or terrace (especially Site A)
- Commercial and retail uses that activate the street and that 'turn-the-corner' into the mid-block crossing. (especially Site A)
- Using the mid-block crossing as a transition point of building character, scale or mass.
- Treatment of the mid-block crossings as a penetration of a linked building form (Within A-1 to A-2, or B1 to B-2). However in this scenario, the crossing should remain open to the public, be of a highly transparent nature, and be a prominent feature of building design.

Inspired Design of Exemplary Plaza

The Plaza is a focal point of future development and the Capitol Hill community as a whole; it



An example of a midblock crossing that retains buildable space above. Alley 24 Seattle



A pedestrian alley in Covent Garden draws interest. Copyright, Bricoleurbanism, Flickr.



An example of expressive architectural expression. Image courtesy of Kanner Architects.



An example of bold architectural expression. Image courtesy of Schemata Workshop.

should be designed as a unique and special public space. The relationship of the Plaza to the surrounding buildings as well as to the E. Denny Festival Street and Cal Anderson Park is a primary design consideration – one that will orient and elevate the design quality of adjacent streets and building facades.

- Design of the Plaza should inform and be informed by that of the E. Denny Festival Street. Collaboration between designers of these two spaces is essential.
- Design of the Plaza should ideally accommodate and not preclude provisions for erecting temporary overhead protection across the Plaza.
- Integrally accommodate programming needs of the Plaza such as access to electricity and water for the functional program of future users.

Treatments to consider may include: (See also Sound Transit Nagle Place Extension Workshop summary)

- A progression of treatments from green/soft at the park edge to more urban/hard at Broadway.
- Textures and interest in the ground plane.
- Places to sit, gather and rest
- Restrict vehicular access across the Plaza
- Explore integration of an artistic, removable weather protection cover/canopy over the Plaza.

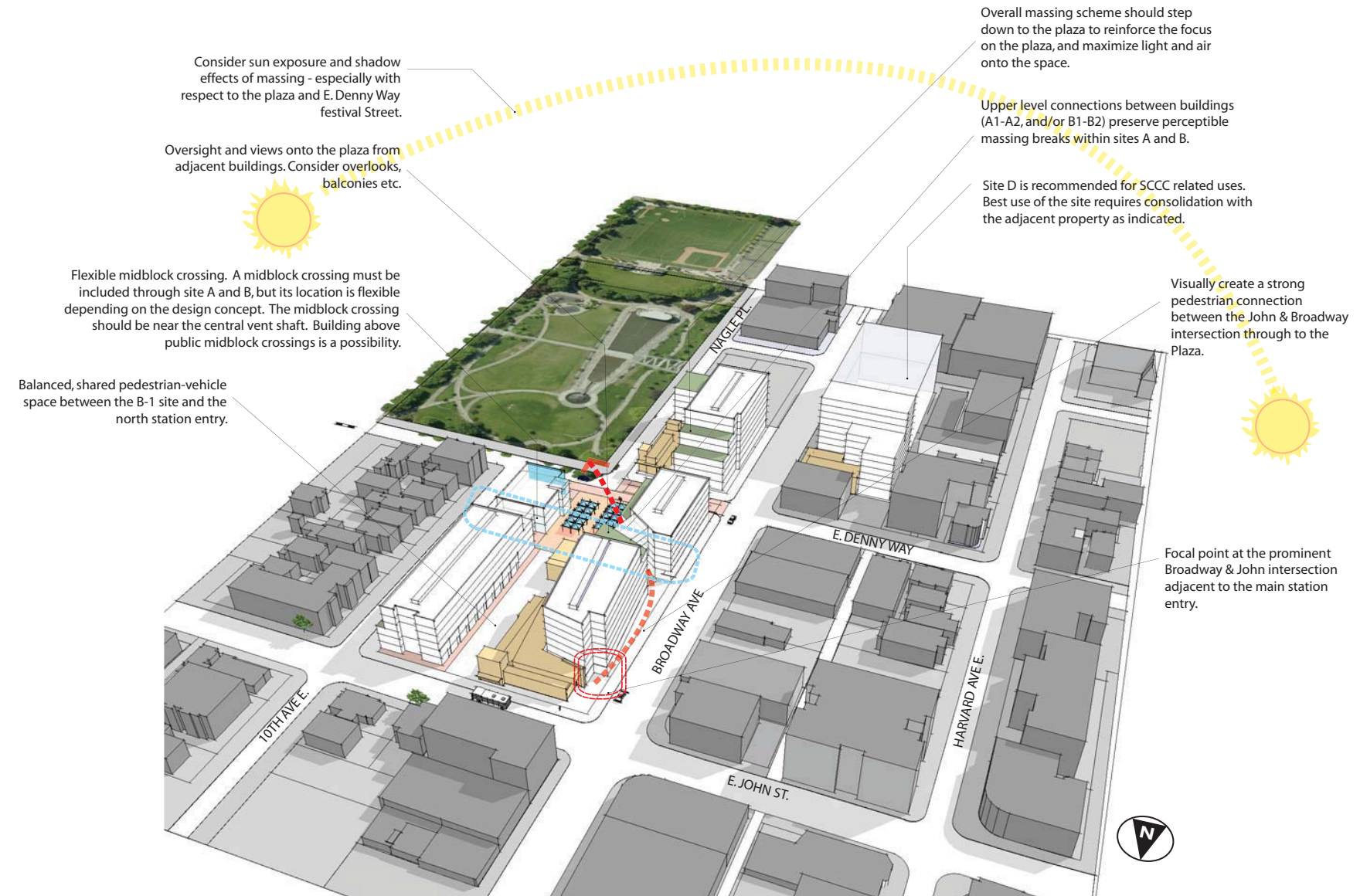
Opportunity for Expressive Architectural Treatments

This is a special location in a unique neighborhood. Designers are encouraged to propose expressive and creative architecture and site design within the parameters of the urban design framework.

Bird's eye concept diagrams of the development sites follow on pages 23 and 24. Please note these diagrams are meant to convey one of many massing configurations that may achieve the overall vision of the redevelopment. These diagrams are a starting point for future developers and not a prescriptive design.

Note: These bird's eye diagrams are concepts for general illustrative purposes only. Diagrams depict one of many massing configurations that could result from design principles of the Urban Design Framework. Volumes are intended to show general mass and scale, and are not to suggest particular architectural design concepts.

Capitol Hill TOD Scale & Design



Capitol Hill TOD Scale & Design

Include a feature of interest on the south facade of the central vent shaft making it a focal point of the plaza. Ideas include using the facade for artistic displays, movies or transit-related information, or greenwall treatments.

Midblock crossing of site A is a strong link to Broadway, inviting passersby into the plaza.

Retains existing (65') massing with upper level setbacks to preserve light and air onto plaza.

Variety of treatments are used to activate the Plaza, including active retail storefronts / uses, building entries and architectural treatments at the base of all buildings facing the plaza and E. Denny Way festival street.

Mass is increased on south portion of Site C (85') with upper level setbacks towards the Park and Plaza spaces.

Site D is recommended for SCCC related development. Consolidation with the lot to the south is indicated here.

Mass is increased on the north portion of Site A-1 (85') with stepping down towards the plaza.

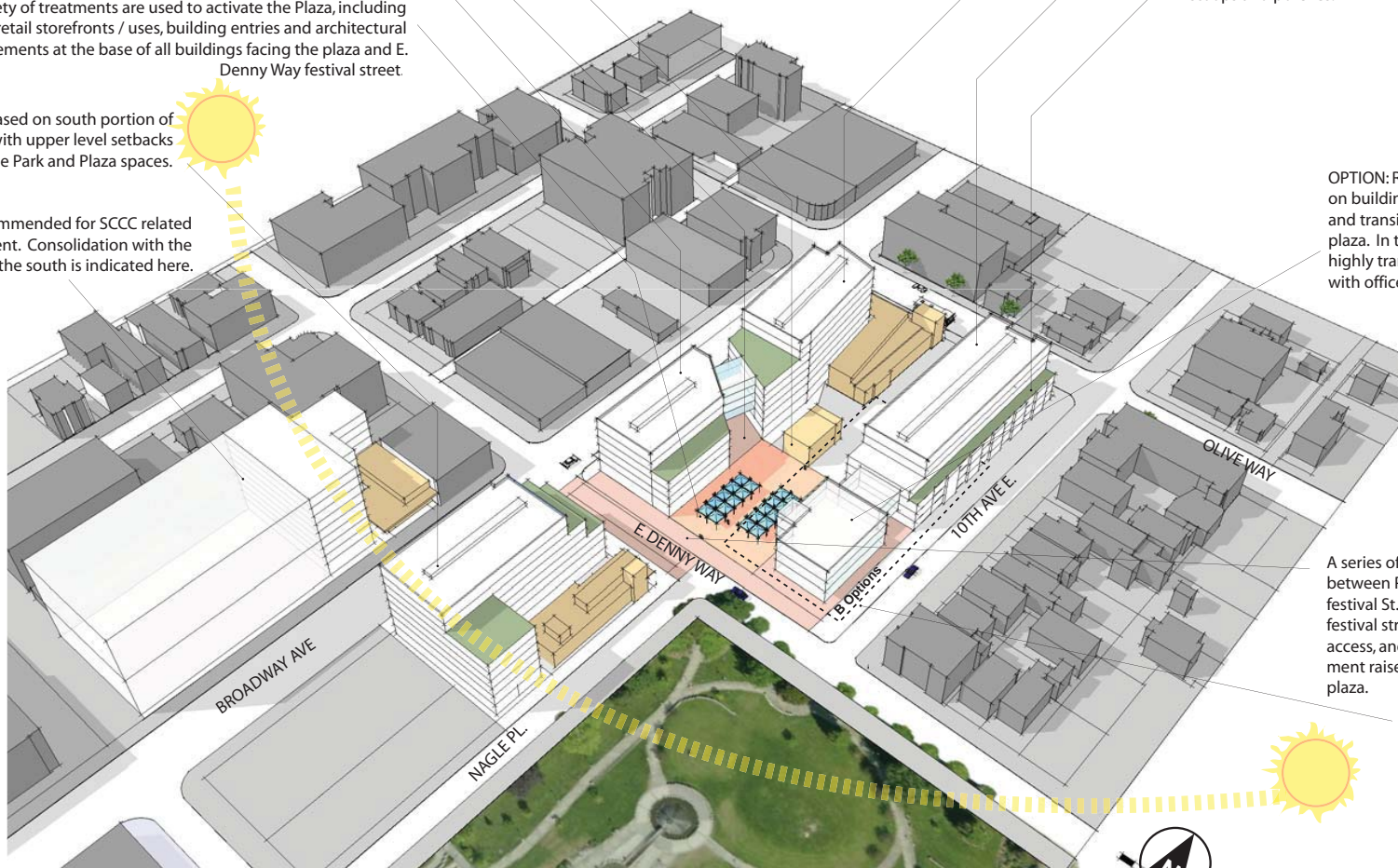
Mass is increased on the north portion of site B-1 (65') and steps down to building B-2 (40' max) near the south facade of the central vent shaft.

Residential facing 10th Ave. has individual rowhouse scaled units with stoops and porches.

OPTION: Retains 4 story (40') limit on building B-2 for lowered scale and transition to the park and plaza. In this option B-2 is a highly transparent civic structure with offices and services.

A series of linked open spaces between Plaza, E. Denny Way festival St. and the Park. The festival street has limited vehicle access, and is a curbsless environment raised to the level of the plaza.

See B Options on page 25.

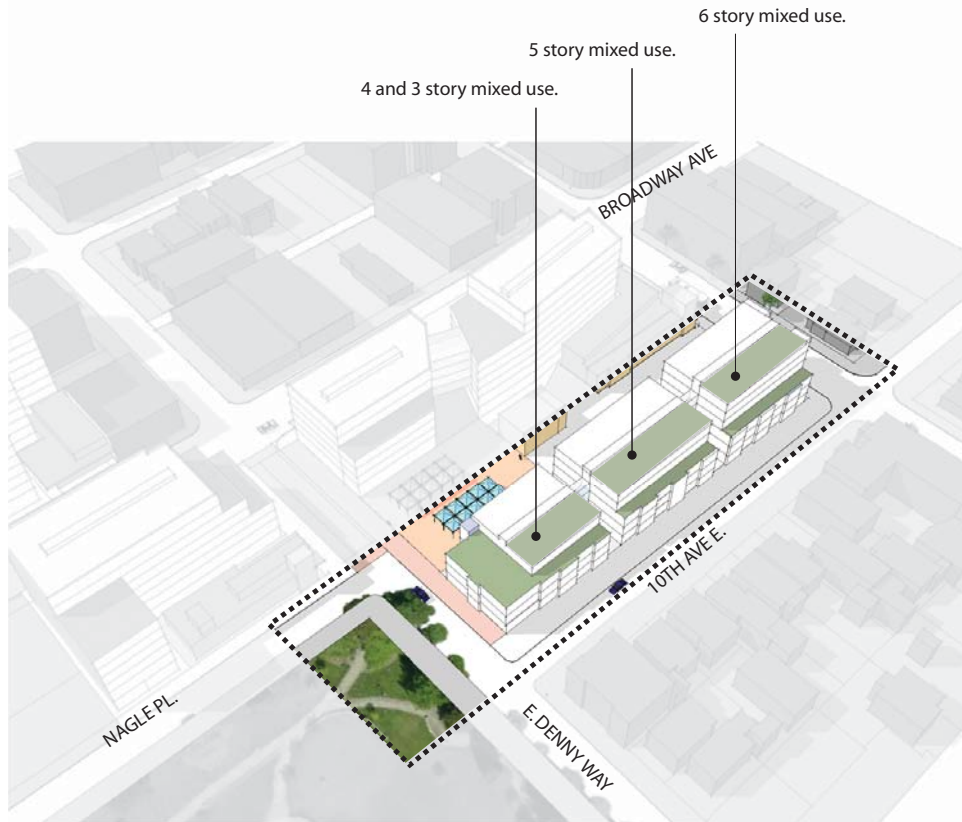


Capitol Hill TOD Scale & Design B-Site Options

Note: These bird's eye diagrams are concepts for general illustrative purposes only. Diagrams depict one of many massing configurations that could result from design principles of the Urban Design Framework. Volumes are intended to show general mass and scale, and are not to suggest particular architectural design concepts.

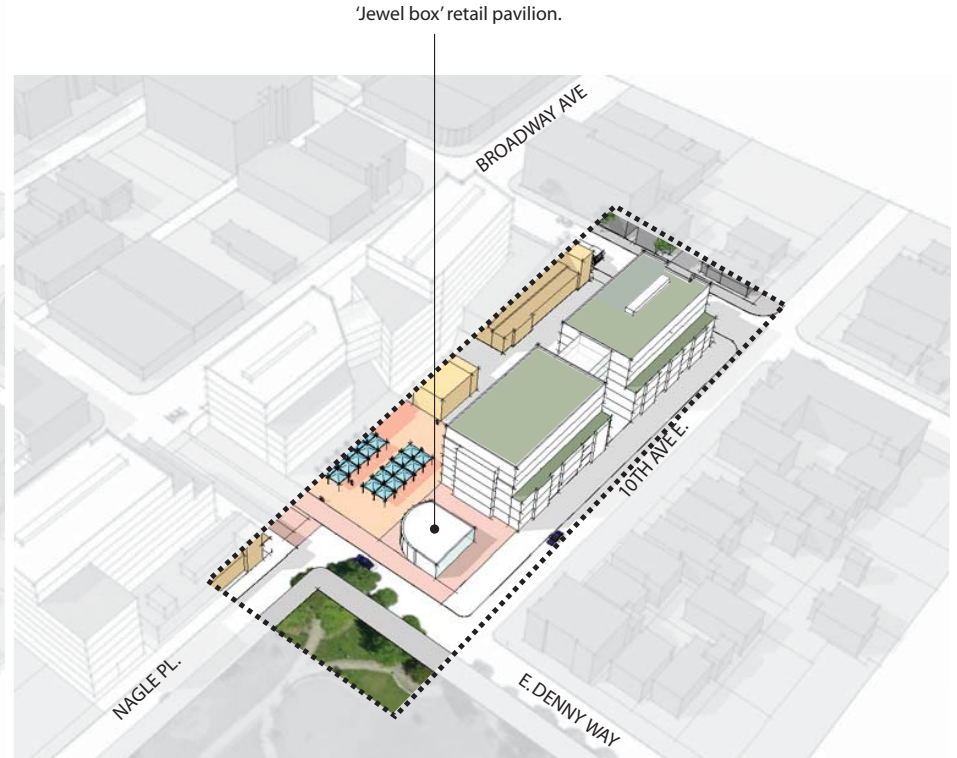
Option Concept: 3 Part-Step Down

The B site is broken into 3 masses that stair-step down towards the park and plaza. Two midblock crossings are included to further reduce the scale of buildings fronting 10th Ave. This concept accommodates a suite of uses on the B sites that do not include a sizeable community / cultural center.



Option Concept: Stand Alone 'Jewel Box'

The portion of the B site facing the park and plaza is occupied by a small stand-alone retail pavilion that is incorporated into the chain of public spaces. Development on the B sites is configured in two primary masses with a midblock crossing. The concept also accommodates a suite of uses that do not include a substantial community / cultural center.





Pedestrians, bikes and a small café share the street in Italy. Image courtesy of John Feit, Schemata Workshop.



The road becomes a place. Image courtesy of John Feit, Schemata Workshop.



Woonerf, shared street.

Design Quality and Scale

Streetscape

Active, ground floor commercial uses should face Broadway Ave., E. John St. and E. Denny Way. The 10th Ave. E. façade should continue to incorporate the feel and character of a residential street and access to parking should be discouraged from 10th Ave. E. Provide active uses (artist live/work) along the west side of site B1 to help activate the area between the northern station entrance, the alley access to parking from E. John St. and the north portion of the Plaza. It is understood that this area would need to accommodate vehicles for service and parking as well as pedestrians traveling to the Plaza from the E. John St. station entrance. A shared festival street is recommended for E. Denny Way between Broadway Ave. and 10th Ave. E. and should have a special pedestrian and park-focused design with café, restaurant or other use providing outdoor seating to activate the right-of-way and create an active destination at the north end of the park.

The goal for E. Denny Way is to make walking and biking to the E. Denny Way Link Light Rail station entrance more comfortable, convenient and safe. The vision for E. Denny Way between Broadway and Nagle Place is a flexible public right-of-way that accommodates pedestrians, bikes and occasionally cars; an extension of the Plaza and a gateway to Cal Anderson Park. The First Hill Streetcar project will install a two-way cycle track on the east side of Broadway, terminating at E. Denny Way. Thus, E. Denny Way will be an important east-west bicycle connection between the cycle track and the 10th Ave. E. bicycle

boulevard. While there are differing opinions regarding the specific operational function of E. Denny Way, it is clear that the character of the right-of-way should change. The goals for the space include:

- Pedestrian and bicycle focused
- Limited access for local circulation and commercial load zones
- Contiguous, flush surface with the Plaza
- ADA accessible
- Ability to close the entire street for specific events, a "Festival Street designation"

Creation of a pedestrian plaza, through the re-purposing of the right-of-way, attempts to increase not only walkability and bikeability, but the livability of the neighborhood. The vision for E. Denny Way is one that creates a sense of place and interconnects visually with the Plaza, while accommodating spillover of events taking place there, such as live music and performances, kid-friendly activities, and promotion of local businesses. It can be a public gathering place for residents and visitors, a place for shoppers to rest and eat in the public realm, a vibrant open space, with adjacent ground floor commercial uses to keep the space active. An example of the character sought on E. Denny Way is that of Pike Place. The sense of place is apparent and vehicles are able to enter onto the space, but do not overwhelm nor dominate the space. East of Broadway, E. Denny Way becomes a residential street with a very different feel than Denny Way to the west of Broadway - slower moving traffic, a pleasant pedestrian and bicycle environment with

Cal Anderson Park to the south, large street trees and on-street parking on both sides of the street announce this change in character.

The Seattle Streetcar First Hill line, anticipated to open in 2013, will terminate on Broadway Ave. south of E. Denny Way adjacent to the west Sound Transit station entry. It is critical to think of the future interaction of these spaces and improvements once light rail opens so work done for one public capital facility doesn't have to be redone and some improvements can be coordinated achieving a more seamless overall design and function of the public realm. Streetscapes should be designed to enhance pedestrian connectivity between the streetcar stop, the Plaza and other portions of the redevelopment. This may include future enhancement of crosswalks at the Broadway and John intersection. Consistency of streetscape elements including paving materials, street furnishings and lighting fixtures between the streetcar stop area and the E. Denny Way Festival Street and the Plaza are recommended for visual continuity. The consistency should extend southward along the length of college-related development on site D. A widened sidewalk is required along Broadway for the length of the Site D development.

- **Development Guidance :** Design E. Denny Way between Broadway and Nagle Place to reflect the desire for an enhanced pedestrian and bicycle environment which allows the street to operate with "restricted westbound-only traffic flow."

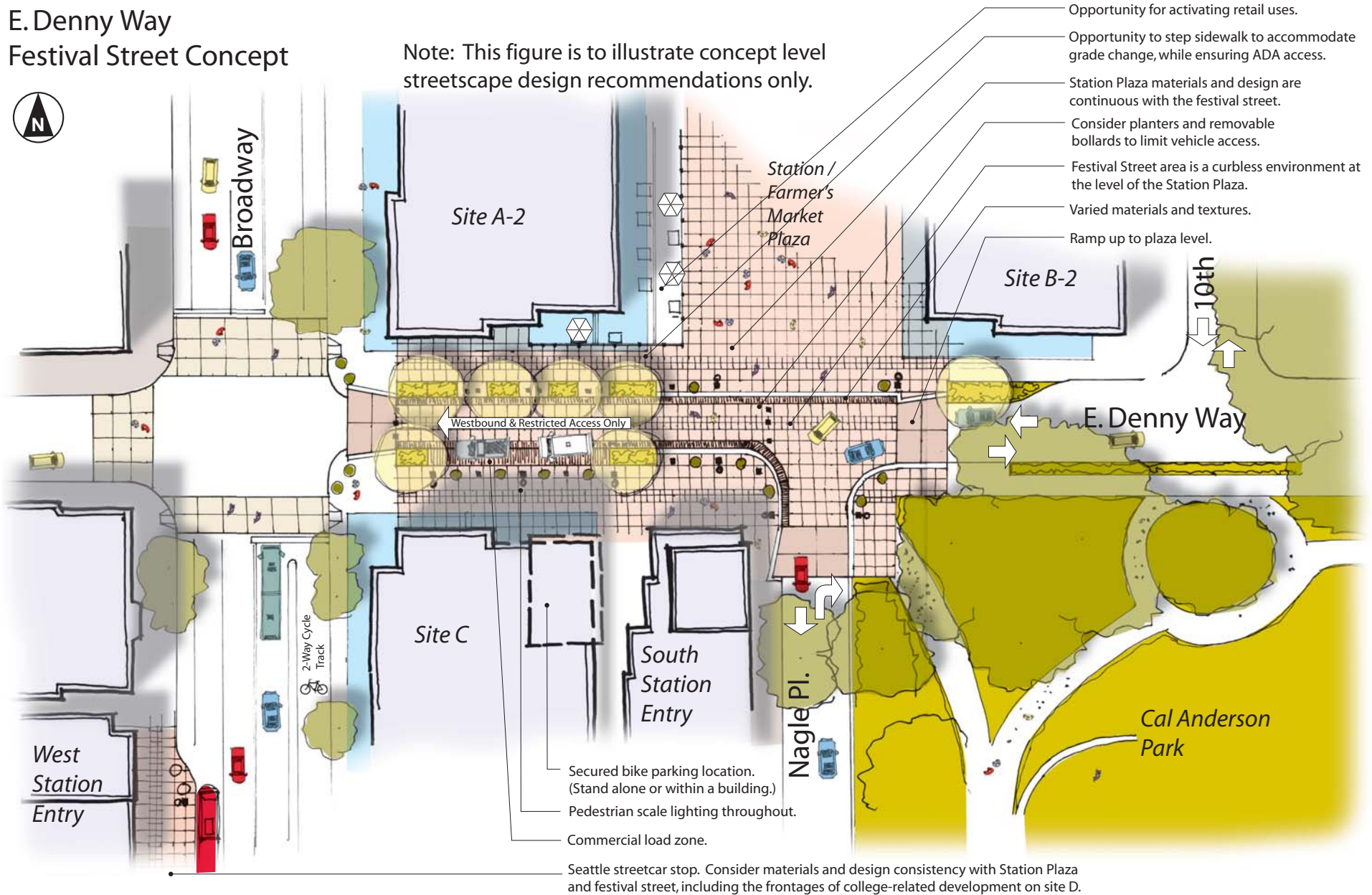
Design considerations:

- **Operational design:** Design E. Denny Way between Nagle Place and Broadway with the intention to prioritize pedestrian and bicycle access and provide commercial vehicle load zones and westbound-only traffic flow. Main access for the new development should be from E. John St. and 10th Ave. E. with a strong preference for E. John. Prohibit non-emergency vehicular eastbound traffic on E. Denny between Broadway and Nagle Place. Local circulation can still proceed adjacent to the Sound Transit owned properties by use of 10th Ave. E., E. Denny Way and Nagle Place. 10th Ave. E. will act more positively as a bicycle boulevard with less traffic using E. Denny Way as a cut-through opportunity. Allow commercial load zone parking spaces along the south side of E. Denny Way between Nagle Place and Broadway in order to service the developments on Sites A.
- **Urban design:** Prioritize pedestrians and bicyclists. Use planters and/or lighted bollards to reflect pedestrian space versus vehicular space. Use removable bollards to close the roadway for specific events or for spillover events at Nagle Plaza. Create a curbless environment in which the right-of-way height matches that of Plaza to establish a strong link between the two spaces. The change in grade (speed tables) will help to distinguish E. Denny Way as a special space that requires lower speeds.

E. Denny Way Festival Street Concept



Note: This figure is to illustrate concept level streetscape design recommendations only.



- Opportunity for activating retail uses.
- Opportunity to step sidewalk to accommodate grade change, while ensuring ADA access.
- Station Plaza materials and design are continuous with the festival street.
- Consider planters and removable bollards to limit vehicle access.
- Festival Street area is a curbsless environment at the level of the Station Plaza.
- Varied materials and textures.
- Ramp up to plaza level.

- Secured bike parking location. (Stand alone or within a building.)
- Pedestrian scale lighting throughout.
- Commercial load zone.
- Seattle streetcar stop. Consider materials and design consistency with Station Plaza and festival street, including the frontages of college-related development on site D.

- Install “do not enter” signs at E. Denny Way and Broadway. Additional details:
- Pedestrian-scaled lighting
 - Trees
 - Natural drainage/landscaping
 - Utility connections to facilitate opportunities for mobile vending and “Festival Street” programming
 - Pavers or other quality materials to distinguish placemaking
 - Secured bike parking facility
 - Bike share facilities
 - Continuous awnings for weather protection
 - Signage and wayfinding
- Design the Nagle Place Extension alley (between E. John Street and the Plaza) as a woonerf type of street to allow for a shared environment for pedestrians/bicyclists and vehicles. This area should safely accommodate pedestrian movement and vehicular access - both service/maintenance and parking - for the development. Active uses on the ground floor of site B could help generate foot traffic and maintain the space as evenly shared between pedestrians, bicycles and automobiles.

Management, Programming and Maintenance of the Plaza

It is well understood that the success of the redevelopment will be greatly influenced by the

function of the Plaza. An active and vibrant the Plaza can act as a magnet, drawing people into the space and therefore the ground floor uses bordering the Plaza. An empty plaza may have the opposite effect, deterring people from entering. The interest in providing a home to the Broadway Farmers Market will bring activity to the plaza as well as help introduce people to the space when it first opens. It is critical that the plaza be managed, maintained and actively programmed so it becomes the civic heart of the development on Broadway.

Design Guidance

- Engage existing community organization such as the Broadway Business Improvement Association, the Capitol Hill Housing Public Development Authority, the Greater Seattle Business Association, or other entity to manage and program the space. Create an advisory board of members from other existing organizations, property owners and residents. The managing entity should be integrally connected to the neighborhood. Ideally those offices would be located on site.
- Assure compatibility between uses on the Plaza with resident’s life above. Develop an agreement between Sound Transit and property owners that establishes criteria for space activation that considers comfort of and livability for nearby residents.
- Consider requiring all users of non residential space to enter a covenant for management and programming.



Image courtesy of John Feit, Schemata Workshop.

Procedural Site Redevelopment

Redevelopment of sites owned by a transit agency above a light rail station presents complex procedural and organizational challenges. The following recommendations relate to procedural steps that can help to realize successful reuse of the sites for the mutual benefit of the community, City, and Sound Transit.

Design Guidance

- Consider a Major or Master Developer for sites A, B and C. Absent a Major or Master Developer, combine the A sites (A1 with A2) and the B sites (B1 with B2) into consolidated singular parcels for the purposes of development. This will encourage more coordinated development. Site configuration for shared features such as continuous below grade parking (below the A site, and below the B site), and upper level building connections for circulation.
- If separate development teams are selected for sites A, B and C, structure a process by which individual development teams can collaborate, share design ideas and coordinate efforts throughout design and construction so the development reads as a comprehensive whole and opportunities for a district approach to water and energy may be pursued.

- In the RFQ/RFP, ask proposing development teams not interested in being a Major or Master Developer for demonstrated experience collaborating with other developer teams and programming spaces similar to the Plaza.

Other Great Ideas

In the course of the workshops and other community meetings that informed and shaped the recommendations in this report, several other great ideas emerged. These ideas are noted below for further comment and exploration as well as to provide future developers of the sites with the range of fertile, creative ideas from the community regarding redevelopment of these sites.

Desired Uses

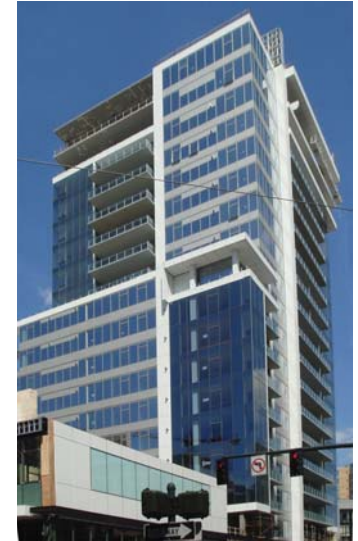
- Hotel on sites A or C
- Community center located on southern portion of site A
- Street food carts in the plaza
- Transparent and removable/retractable roof over the Plaza during inclement weather
- Publicly accessible rooftop plaza on sites A or C
- Locate a LGBTQ community center here that provides services as well as generates additional business by becoming a LGBTQ destination.
- Accommodate jobs instead of primarily housing. Office space would help concentrate the number of people in the neighborhood and thereby better activate the redevelopment and neighborhood during business hours.

Design Quality and Scale

- Raise the height limit on A1 to between 240' and 400' tall, with 45 to 48' podiums on sites A2, B1, B2 and C. Assume 10,500 SF floor plates so as to avoid overly bulky mass. Make the development on A1 a stellar, singular and iconic tower that serves as a beacon for this civic town square.
- Keep the height of site C at 65' and step down to 45' at the edges fronting E. Denny Way and Cal Anderson Park.
- Explore opportunities for cantilevers or tapered buildings over the station entries so as to increase available square footage for redevelopment and better integrate the single story station entries with the surrounding development.

Management, Programming and Maintenance of Publicly Accessible Space

- Solicit a financial plan to program space from groups interested in managing and programming the Plaza. Community organizations could then propose these plans to potential developers to provide services as well as to generate additional business by becoming a LGBTQ destination.



Portland's 225 foot Metropolitan building in Portland. *Image courtesy of John Feit, Schemata Workshop.*



An example of the type of slender tower supported by some participants for the A-1 site. *Image courtesy of Calatrava Turning Torso Malmö: Copyright teteracomonde, Flickr.*

Consider a parking management district

A parking management district for the Broadway neighborhood could reduce parking needs at the light rail station sites. This strategy has allowed other cities more efficient use of local parking capacity, and reduced congestion. It offers savings in overall parking development, allowing more affordable housing. Parking management coordinates supply and demand of parking stalls within an area, with devices such as synchronized signs to available spaces. It can offer parking owners a more round-the-clock market for their stalls. While an innovation for Seattle, the Broadway neighborhood could provide an appropriate demonstration of this approach. The Capitol Hill neighborhood holds the notably lowest percentage of car-ownership in the city. An organization such as the Capitol Hill Chamber of Commerce might be appropriate to explore potential parking management for the Light Rail Station / Broadway neighborhood.

Implementation

Continued Partnership options between the community, City and Sound Transit

- The City and Sound Transit will continue to pursue partnership opportunities as public agencies as well as with the community that will implement the direction and offer the guidance provided in this Framework to the future developer(s) of these properties.
- Sound Transit has invited the Capitol Hill Champion to help co-host the RFQ process
- This Framework offers potential developers great insight into the shared vision for these sites and should be referenced in the RFQ/RFP materials.

Streetscape Concept Plans

- SDOT will develop streetscape concept plans for E. Denny Way, Nagle Place, Broadway (abutting Site A frontage) and 10th Ave E. Design approval, Director's rule. Amendments to the Right of Way Improvement Manual (ROWIM) should occur before Sound Transit issues the RFP for the developable parcels to ensure that private entities build the streetscape as envisioned for each street. Include consideration of green stormwater infrastructure. Develop appropriate design and management practices for "Festival Streets". Neighborhood organizations will be responsible for activating these streets through regular events.
- Sound Transit and SDOT signed a letter of concurrence in February 2011 regarding the design and functionality of an E. Denny Way Festival Street.

Design Guidelines

- When finalized, guidance offered in this Framework will be amended to the Capitol Hill Neighborhood Design Guidelines so as to guide future development as it goes through the City's Design Review process.

Housing

- Seattle's Office of Housing (OH) will pursue opportunities with Sound Transit to implement the affordable housing goals through the development of these properties. It is anticipated that any developer who is selected by Sound Transit through their RFQ/RFP process to build subsidized affordable housing will apply for Seattle Housing Levy Rental Preservation and Production Program funds, federal funds, and other Rental Housing Program fund sources administered by OH. At least once per year, OH publishes a Notice of Funds Available (NOFA) for the Rental Housing Program. In addition, any developer selected by Sound Transit can apply to use the City's Multi-Family Tax Exemption Program, providing 20% of all units affordable to households making less than 65% to 85% of median income, depending on unit size, in exchange for a 12-year property tax exemption on all residential improvements.

Ecodistrict Research by Capitol Hill Housing

- Capitol Hill Housing (CHH) is exploring the creation of an ecodistrict on Capitol Hill at the properties over the future light rail station. Focusing on shared sustainable, environmentally responsible and well-designed new development CHH will convene stakeholders and research possible solutions for the mixed use buildings on the site, including the possibility of using district energy.

Contributors

This Framework was developed by City of Seattle staff , the Capitol Hill Champion – a joint committee of the Capitol Hill Chamber of Commerce and the Capitol Hill Community Council – and Sound Transit staff, building on findings and comments stemming from community meetings and workshops held over the past several years including the Sound Transit sponsored four community forums in 2009 and the August 2010 Nagle Place Extension TOD workshop and three workshops held between October of 2010 and February 2011 by City of Seattle staff.

Capitol Hill Champion Steering Committee

Catherine Hillenbrand, Chair

John Feit, Architect, Capitol Hill resident

Betsy Hunter, Chief Real Estate Development Officer, Capitol Hill Housing

Mike Kent, Capitol Hill Community Council

Mike Mariano, Architect, Capitol Hill Chamber of Commerce member

Jen Power, Capitol Hill Community Council

Chip Ragen, Capitol Hill Chamber of Commerce

Alison Van Gorp, Urban Policy Director, Cascade Land Conservancy; Creative Crossroads Project Manager

Zev Wagner, Capitol Hill Community Council

Michael Wells, Executive Director, Capitol Hill Chamber of Commerce

Workshop Participants

Leslie Bain
Maria Barrientos
Kathryn Beck
Pamela Belyea
Ellen Blair
Christina Bollo
Josh Brevoort
Rachel Brister
Melissa Burchett
Dawn Bushnaq
Jim Castanes
Louise Chernin
Bob Corwin
Chris Curtis
Michael Dobie
Randy Engstrom
John Feit
Pat Fels

Andy Fife
Becki Frestedt
Daniel Goddard
Sandy Ha
Catherine Hillenbrand
Betsy Hunter
Paul Iano
Todd Illy
Douglas Ito
Aaron Jacobs
Cheryl Jacobs
Marty Jacobs
Allan Jones
Grace Kim
Mike Kent
Paul Killpatrick
Laura Mansfield
Mike Mariano
Jonathan Morely

Teresa Mozur
Brianna Murray
Michael Oaksmith
Tony Ogilvie
Jen Power
Chip Ragen
Matt Roewe
Tony Russo
Dennis Saxman
Douglas Smith
Ian Story
Sharon Sutton
Janice Tufte
Alison Van Gorp
Cathryn Vandenberg
Don Vehige
Zef Wagner
Michael Wells

City of Seattle

Vanessa Murdock, Department of Planning and Development
Geoff Wentlandt, Department of Planning and Development
Ryan Curren, Office of Housing
Sara Zora, Seattle Department of Transportation

Sound Transit

Scott Kirkpatrick, TOD Program Manager
Kate Lichtenstein, Project Coordinator
Jeff Munnoch, Community Outreach Specialist



**CAPITOL HILL
Light Rail Station Sites
Urban Design Framework**

October, 2011