

PUGET SOUND REGIONAL COUNCIL PRIORITY PROJECT LIST

NARRATIVE PROJECT INFORMATION

October 2011

Project Sponsor: Seattle

Project Name: Mercer Corridor West

Project Location: Mercer Street from West Dexter Street to Elliott Avenue West

What type of project is it: Support Centers ☒ Corridors ☐ Serving Centers ☐

Plan Consistency:

- Transportation 2040 project number: 5510
- Is the project consistent with the Transportation 2040: Yes ☒ No ☐

Project Description - No more than two full page - (see evaluation criteria for information to include):

- Briefly describe the project:
Convert Mercer Street to a two-way street between Dexter Avenue and Elliott Avenue West. The underpass at Aurora Avenue North (SR99) will be widened to allow for six travel lanes and a bicycle shared use path between Dexter Avenue and 5th Avenue North. Roy Street between Aurora Avenue North and Queen Anne Avenue will also be converted to a two-way street with on-road bicycle lanes.

What is the intended outcome & benefit:

Center Development 20 pts: The Mercer Corridor project will support the creation of over 50,000 new jobs and over 22,000 new households in 4 regionally designated growth centers and 1 regional manufacturing and industrial center. The Uptown/Queen Anne center, where the project is located, is projected to add 1,000 new jobs to its existing employment base of over 15,000 jobs. It is also slated to add up to 1,000 new housing units by 2024, to its existing 4,500 housing units. Uptown is already a vibrant mixed-use community that includes family-wage jobs, the Seattle Center, and housing for a range of income levels.

The Mercer Corridor project supports this growth by improving circulation and encouraging and supporting a pedestrian-oriented development pattern. It makes improvements on 2 arterial streets in the Uptown and South Lake Union neighborhoods, including Mercer and Roy.

Benefit to the Center 20 pts: The City of Seattle has been working to remedy the Mercer Mess for over 40 years. The project will provide long-term benefits by addressing transportation needs through 2030. It will rebuild streets, non-motorized facilities and public utilities. It will provide sustainable infrastructure that will provide long-term environmental, community development and economic benefits. Access to transit service (bus, streetcar, monorail) will be improved and essential freight movement will be enhanced as the project turns a one-way street into a two-way street.

Circulation 20 pts: It is the primary goal of this project to provide system continuity. When completed the Mercer Corridor project will improve access through Uptown to areas such as Seattle Center, Fremont, Interbay, Ballard, Eastlake, Queen Anne, and Magnolia. The project will provide improvements to safety and mobility as well as regional and local access to/through/from I-5, SR-99 and Uptown for all modes of transportation including autos, bikes, pedestrians, freight and transit.

Mobility and Accessibility 20 pts: Providing safe and convenient alternatives to driving, including bicycle facilities, will help residents meet their travel needs without a car. The project improves access to recently expanded bus service in the community, the South Lake Union Streetcar and the Seattle Center Monorail. These transit services provide circulation in the centers and connect Uptown and

South Lake Union to Downtown Seattle. The existing traffic volume on the west segment of Mercer Street is approximately 30,000 vehicles per day.

Where is the project at in development?

60% Design

What is the timeline for this project from start to completion?

90% Design January 2012

Final Design May 2012

Advertise for Construction June 2012

Begin Construction November 2012

Additional Comments

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