# **CHAPTER FIVE**

#### **MULTI-MODAL CIRCULATION & PARKING**

#### 5.0 Multi-modal Circulation & Parking

The circulation network for the Waterfront District includes a system of multi-modal pedestrian-friendly streets with wide sidewalks and separated bike paths, which will reconnect the City of Bellingham to the waterfront. Future transit busses will serve the Waterfront District as development and ridership demand grow over time.

The street network is one of the most important components for defining the character in each of the five different planning areas within the Waterfront District. In some places, the street design will accommodate commercial and light industrial activities associated with marine trades. In other areas, the streets will be designed as arterials within a more



compact urban environment. Throughout the Waterfront District, the circulation system will encourage people to access and enjoy new community parks, walkways, open space and restored shorelines along Bellingham Bay. The circulation design, policies and implementation strategies in this chapter are intended to provide convenient access for people of all ages and physical abilities, while maintaining a walkable character.

The Waterfront District has unique opportunities and challenges presented by its location. The street network must integrate a number of functions, if it is to support the successful transition of this area into a new urban neighborhood. Some of the most important functions of the street network include:

- Connectivity Waterfront streets will establish new connections between the waterfront and adjacent neighborhoods by extending the existing street grid, establishing new view corridors, and developing new vehicle and pedestrian access points over the bluff and the active BNSF railroad tracks. The proposed 2018 amendment to the Sub-Area Plan includes a pedestrian plaza with a stairway at the extension of Bay Street to provide a direct pedestrian connection between the City Center and the Waterfront District. This connection may include a future parking garage entrance at Bay Street to allow vehicles to access the site from the top of the bluff, and park in a new parking garage located along the bluff, reducing vehicle traffic on Waterfront District streets.
- Local traffic Streets within the waterfront will be designed to serve mostly local traffic and include a number of traffic calming features, such as narrow lanes, paving and sidewalk textures and landscaping to ensure that vehicles move at slow speeds, in keeping with the character of the area.
- Pedestrian environment A variety of pedestrian features will create a walkable environment, with design adjustments to accommodate a comfortable blend of opportunities for people moving on foot, and using bikes, transit, commercial and personal vehicles, including pedestrian connections to the City Center.
- Phased implementation The street network will be constructed gradually over time in planned
  phases. A biennial monitoring program will provide information on frequency of use and available
  capacity for each section of the network to assist the City and Port in programming needed
  infrastructure improvements and maintaining concurrency with adopted levels of service.

The design objective, whether in the Marine Trades, Downtown Waterfront, or Cornwall Beach area is for a slow-moving experience that encourages safe and comfortable interactions among people using various modes of transportation, in pursuit of diverse business and pleasure activities.

The parking strategy provided in this chapter is intended to promote a pedestrian-friendly waterfront environment and encourage transit ridership, while providing sufficient parking to accommodate public access, support future businesses and attract private developer investment. Reduced surface parking is a key strategy in creating pedestrian-oriented development. Reduced surface parking will also decrease the total amount of impervious surfaces in the Waterfront District and lessen the impacts of stormwater runoff. Parking



policies and design standards support reduced minimum parking space requirements, shared parking, commute trip reduction, and require off-street parking in commercial mixed-use areas to be located behind, beside or under buildings, or within parking structures. These provisions are needed to accommodate the projected density without creating a waterfront dominated by surface parking.



Parking will be accommodated through a balanced mix of on-street, surface, integrated structured parking and freestanding garages to support the future development capacity. Initially, on-street parking and low-cost interim surface parking lots will provide much of the parking capacity. As density increases, the interim surface parking will transition to structured parking integrated into the development. The long-term strategy to redevelop surface parking lots as infill sites allows maximum flexibility to encourage initial development without sacrificing the long-term vision of the Waterfront District as a dense urban environment with limited, but sufficient

off-street surface parking. Permitting for development will include clear time lines for closure of interim surface lots and provisions for alternate parking facilities upon loss of interim surface parking.

The Waterfront District is split in two sections by the Whatcom Waterway. Properties north of the Whatcom Waterway are accessed by C Street, F Street and Hilton Avenue, which connect to Roeder Avenue. These streets have historically provided automobile and truck access to businesses on the site. In the future, F Street will be upgraded to be the primary access to the Marine Trades area and businesses, and will include sidewalks and dedicated bicycle lanes. Hilton Avenue and C Street will become local streets designed to accommodate truck traffic, forklifts, large and heavy freight and boats on travel lifts.

Properties south of the Whatcom Waterway are accessed primarily via Cornwall Avenue. Central Avenue historically provided access to the GP mill site via Roeder Avenue. This site entrance has been closed to vehicle traffic, other than service vehicles and bicycles. Granary Avenue and Laurel Street are arterial

streets with wide sidewalks and a cycle-track to form the transportation backbone through the Downtown Waterfront area. Wharf Street also provides limited vehicle access to the south end of the site. A network of private streets which historically provided access within the GP paper mill is currently closed to the public. These streets will be replaced by a network of new streets as the Waterfront District redevelops.

Currently, bus service is available within a few blocks of the site on Holly Street and State Street. This service will need to be extended through the site as it develops. The Port will work with WTA to develop a transit plan for the Waterfront District during the second phase of development. A network of pedestrian, bicycle and transit routes serve the surrounding City Center and neighborhoods. Sidewalks along Cornwall Avenue, Chestnut Street and Roeder Avenue currently provide pedestrian access to the site, which will be extended along the new roads constructed within the development areas. Bicycles currently share traffic lanes with automobiles on Cornwall Avenue, but marked bike lanes will be installed in the near future. Marked bike lanes exist on the Chestnut-Roeder corridor from Bay Street to Squalicum Parkway. The South Bay trail provides pedestrian and bicycle access to Fairhaven along the top of the bluff at the southern end of the site.

The main line of the Burlington Northern Railroad passes through the site, with active rail crossings at Cornwall Avenue, Wharf Street and Laurel Street. Passenger trains pass through the site and stop at the Fairhaven Station, approximately 4 miles south of the site. Future relocation of the railroad to a corridor along the base of the bluff is proposed to allow development of an efficient road grid within the site and avoid at-grade rail crossings. A portion of the old rail way could be retained as a side spur to serve the Bellingham Shipping Terminal.

The Waterfront District is also accessible by water. The Bellingham Shipping Terminal provides deep-water access to ocean-going ships. Navigable waters in the Whatcom and I&J Waterways provide water access, loading and off-loading, and haul-out facilities for commercial fishing boats, barges and recreational boats. Pocket beaches at the head of the I&J Waterway, north of the ASB lagoon, the Log Pond, Cornwall Cove, and south of the Cornwall Avenue Landfill could be upgraded for hand carry boats.

The Waterfront District has unique opportunities provided by its location, but also has limitations due to the topography, soils, historic contamination, the railroad, water bodies, view corridors, historic resources, the location and elevation of existing facilities, future tenant requirements, constructability and cost. The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) evaluation of the site provided insight into many of these issues and provided analysis of a number of circulation options, designs and construction sequences. Specific on-site and off-site mitigation measures are identified in the Final EIS and 2018 EIS Addendum for each phase of development.

A phased network of transportation system improvements is proposed to accommodate the needs of automobiles, pedestrians, cyclists and transit. At full build-out, the network will consist of a fine grid of interconnected multi-modal streets, trails, dedicated bike lanes and transit routes to integrate the Waterfront District with surrounding neighborhoods. However, redevelopment is expected to occur over a relatively long time frame. Phased construction of the circulation network will focus development in specific areas so that a cohesive feeling for the Waterfront District is maintained over time as growth occurs. Interim roads and trails will provide connectivity in some areas until permanent infrastructure can be constructed.

Figure 5-1: Multi-Modal Circulation Framework



An Infrastructure Phasing Plan is included in the Development Agreement, Planned Action Ordinance and Facilities Agreement, which were adopted concurrently with the Waterfront District Sub-area Plan. Amendments to the Development Agreement, Planned Action Ordinance and Facilities Agreement will be proposed concurrently with the 2018 Sub-Area Plan adoption. The phased installation of a multi-modal system of streets, walkways, bike paths, trails and transit routes in the Waterfront District will be monitored and managed over time, in order to encourage preferred patterns of development, but also to take advantage of unplanned opportunities that may arise. Redevelopment of the waterfront is taking place during a time when traditional patterns of land use and transportation are being adjusted. Climate change, for example, is placing demands on local communities to explore and encourage shifts in how people get from one place to another. As outlined in Figure 5.2, the goal for mode shift in the Waterfront District represents a 15.6% increase from census data collected in 2010. This is possible because the Waterfront District redevelopment project will include mixed-use urban-density development and provides the opportunity to build a more modern system of multi-modal transportation from the beginning, rather than retrofitting existing infrastructure. While this goal is not a regulatory requirement, it is an important feature of the multi modal circulation system to avoid traffic congestion and encourage non-motorized access.

Management of the transportation system will be data driven. A biennial traffic monitoring program will be established for the waterfront. Data collection under the program will be conducted during the evening peak traffic hour and include the following components:

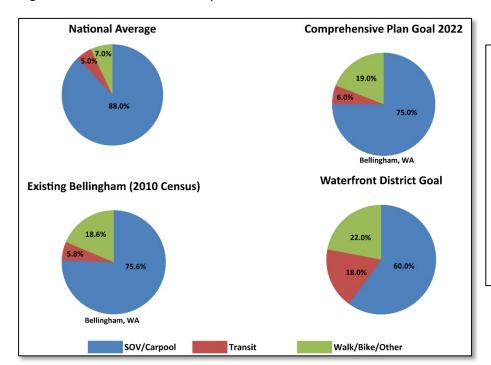
- Traffic Counts. Daily and peak hour traffic counts at all site access locations.
- Vehicle Classification Counts. Daily and peak hour vehicle classification counts at the site access locations, including trucks, cars and transit.
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Counts. Peak hour pedestrian and bicycle counts at each site access location.

The ability to achieve certain mode shifts is influenced by the land use within each planning area. Separate monitoring will be required in each of the five planning areas, and mode shift expectations may be different for each area. The Marine Trades Area, for example will typically have a higher auto use due to the type of activity in that area.

The data collected for each planning area will be used to confirm when street infrastructure improvements are required and will be used to make adjustments to concurrency determinations for planned redevelopment. In addition, the data will be used to assist in understanding whether mode share targets are being achieved. The ability to meet or exceed mode share targets may reduce the level of infrastructure improvements required to serve the site. Conversely, the inability to meet targets may require a reduction in the overall level of development accommodated during any given phase of development.

The response to mode shift data may take many different forms, including such things as behavioral adjustments, operational and/or engineering solutions, or policy determinations or some combination thereof. Behavioral adjustments by people accessing the waterfront may come in the form of people choosing to shift from cars to walking, biking or transit because of congestion or parking cost. Operational solutions may take the form of having curb-side parking be limited during peak hours in order to provide an additional lane for vehicle traffic (e.g., cars, carpools, or dedicated transit lanes). Engineering solutions may include modifying existing roads, or construction of the next segment of street infrastructure before additional development occurs. A policy determination may be made that the public is satisfied with clogged intersections for an hour a day in order to keep the walkable character of the area.

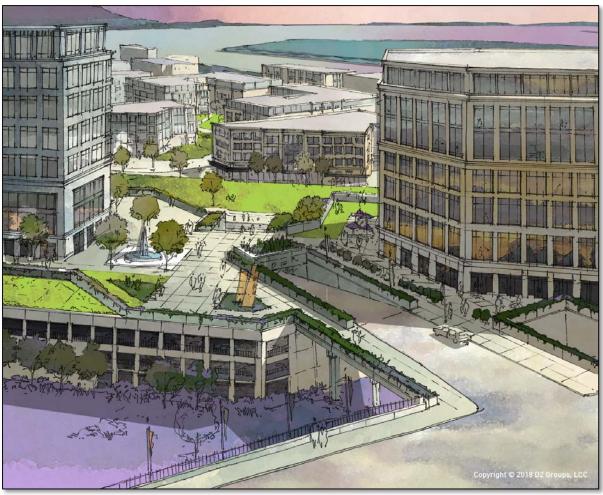
Figure 5-2: Mode Share Assumptions



To reduce the demand for transportation infrastructure and parking, the Waterfront District is designed to increase the percentage of travelers using pedestrian, bicycle, transit and other non-automobile modes to 40% of total trips over time.

Early phases of infrastructure are under construction to activate the northern portion of the Downtown Waterfront Area, providing strong connections between downtown and the waterfront. The installation of park and trail connections will also occur in incremental phases in conjunction with installation of streets and utilities. The combination of transportation and public access features in early phases will create strong physical and visual connections between downtown and the waterfront and establish signature parks and public access features along the south side of the Whatcom Waterway. The Log Pond Area will continue to be used for light industrial activities without any significant public investment in roads or utilities.

As the Downtown Waterfront Area gradually develops into an urban village, infrastructure will be expanded as necessary to serve proposed development and increase public access to the waterfront. Additional infrastructure will also be installed in the Marine Trades Area and the Cornwall Beach Area in later planning phases. Installation of the transportation network, public parks and trails will be managed over time in response to development trends and opportunities, funding availability, community priorities, and the schedule for railroad relocation.



A parking garage with an entrance at the intersection of Chestnut and Bay Street will include a pedestrian plaza overlooking the site, a grand staircase leading to a new central Waterfront District park and elevators to provide accessible pedestrian access to the Waterfront District.

# Guidance from the New Whatcom Strategic Guidelines and Implementation Strategies (now known as the Waterfront District)

The Waterfront Advisory Group sponsored a public involvement process during 2005 and 2006, which led to the adoption of "New Whatcom Guiding Principles and Implementation Strategies" by the Port and City in 2006. The following Implementation Strategies provide guidance related to Circulation:

- Develop a network of interconnected pedestrian, bicycle and transit facilities within the site with connections to adjacent neighborhoods and parks.
- Design the living, working and shopping areas with a pedestrian scale, which is not dominated by vehicles
- Dissolve the barriers that separate the waterfront from the Bellingham Central Business District, connecting the City with the Bay.
- Develop strong vehicular and pedestrian connections between New Whatcom, E. Holly Street, Roeder Street and State Street, while acknowledging and creatively working the obstacles of topography and the railroad. If there is a WWU presence on the New Whatcom site, develop a connection to the WWU campus.
- Encourage non-motorized transportation by creating a "park once" environment that makes it safe
  and attractive for pedestrians or bicycles to connect to amenities, goods and services, jobs and
  housing. Provide covered transit stops, pedestrian facilities and bicycle parking areas to support
  non-motorized travel.
- Encourage frequent, convenient and well designed transit service as well as sufficient density to support it.
- Connect the New Whatcom open space and trail network to Boulevard Park with an over water trail from the south end of the Cornwall Landfill to Boulevard Park.
- Parking should be thought of as infrastructure and must be convenient, ample, efficient and affordable, and facilitated or managed by a local jurisdiction.
- Generally, parking should be located under buildings and in parking structures located away from the shoreline, unless associated with a water-oriented use.
- Subject to the Sub-Area Plan design and phasing, surface parking may be developed as an interim
  use on areas planned for future redevelopment, enabling its evolution over time into a denser
  environment.

#### 5.1 Multi-Modal Circulation and Parking Policies

#### Circulation Policies

- 1. The Waterfront District should be designed to increase pedestrian, bicycle and transit usage through the installation of appropriate infrastructure, land-use mixture and density, site design, parking policies, and education. Develop a transportation system which enables the movement of more people in proportionately fewer automobiles.
- 2. Spatially connect the City to the waterfront through a network of new interconnected roads and trails designed to accommodate pedestrians, bicycles, automobiles, trucks and transit.
- 3. Integrate and connect new waterfront streets and trails to the existing network of streets, bike routes and trails within the City Center and surrounding neighborhoods.
- 4. Block size within commercial mixed-use areas should be similar to or smaller than blocks in the existing CBD and Fairhaven. Blocks exceeding 240 feet in length or depth should include an alley or pedestrian access through the block. Large buildings on oversize blocks should include pedestrian access through the building during business hours.
- 5. Blocks within the Shipping Terminal, Marine Trade Area and Log Pond Area may be larger to accommodate marine transportation and industrial uses.
- 6. All streets and sidewalks should be open to the public and available for general public use, with the exception of streets within the Bellingham Shipping Terminal and portions of the site where active environmental clean-up, construction or industrial activities require site security or could pose a hazard to the public.
- 7. Cul-de-sacs should be avoided unless temporary in nature or required to access areas constrained by water bodies, the railroad or bluff. If new cul-de-sacs are created, pedestrian or bicycle through-connections shall be provided to adjacent blocks, where feasible.
- 8. All streets should be limited to a maximum speed of 25 miles per hour.
- 9. Sidewalks or foot paths should be provided on both sides of all arterial and local streets within mixed-use areas. Pedestrian access to uses within Marine Industrial areas may be separated from traffic routes for safety.
- 10. Sidewalks, crosswalks and walkways shall be designed in compliance with the accessible design provisions of the American Disabilities Act (ADA).
- 11. Physically separated or protected bike lanes should be located within or parallel to arterial streets,

in dedicated parts of the right-ofway, so that all residences, businesses and public facilities have easy access to a dedicated bicycle route. When possible, these protected bike routes should be connected with shared pathways that are part of parks and open space areas, to create an integrated system for non-motorized transportation. Local streets may include two-way bicycle tracks or bicycle lanes shared with automobiles.



- 12. Businesses, public facilities and residential developments should provide bicycle parking spaces or storage.
- 13. Safe and comfortable transit facilities should be located at major trip generators to encourage transit use and reduce driving. Where feasible, transit stops should be located adjacent to buildings with weather protection or include shelters and benches, partially enclosed to buffer wind and rain, with lighting, route information and schedules.
- 14. A variety of boat and barge docking, moorage and launching facilities and services should be developed to provide water access for boats of all sizes, support water transportation and make the Waterfront District welcoming to visiting boaters.
- 15. Per City policy, the Port has been provided with a transportation impact fee (TIF) credit for the number of PM peak hour vehicle trips (1,077) generated by the former Georgia Pacific Mill and other recent industrial uses within the Waterfront District. TIF for new development will be imposed unless the Port requests in writing that new development have access to the TIF credit in whole or in part. Once the TIF credit is exhausted, TIF will be assessed at the full annual TIF rate in effect at the time of development
- 16. The goal of the Waterfront District is to increase the percentage of travelers using pedestrian, bicycle, and transit modes to at least 40% of total trips to and from the site over time.

#### Streetscape Policies

- 17. Encourage building design which supports pedestrian-oriented commercial activity and provides opportunities for visual or interactive links between businesses and pedestrians within commercial or mixed-use areas.
- 18. In commercial and mixed-use residential areas, street furniture, artwork and shielded lighting should be provided along streets and within open spaces adjacent to streets to create comfortable outdoor gathering places for residents and visitors. The specific design of the street furniture and lighting should be reviewed at the time each phase of development is proposed to ensure a compatible design which contributes to the cohesiveness of the area, but allows for variation between the unique development areas.
- 19. Within commercial and institutional mixed-use areas, street trees should be planted between the vehicle travel way and the sidewalk on arterial streets at intervals no greater than 50 feet. Within view corridors, tree species should be selected to minimize view impacts.
- 20. Street trees should not be required along interior streets in Industrial areas where they could conflict with industrial traffic, but should be provided along F Street and Roeder Avenue. The exterior boundaries of industrial areas and boat yards should be landscaped where they abut commercial mixed-use areas, parks or public roads.
- 21. Landscaping should feature native or drought tolerant plants which do not require permanent irrigation systems. Where feasible, streets should be designed with bioswales, tree wells or other natural stormwater treatment facilities to treat stormwater run-off from roads and double as landscaping.
- 22. Parking lots, garages, and waste disposal facilities should be screened from public streets and trails.
- 23. Transit stops, transit pull-outs and shelters should be located along all arterial streets at convenient intervals and should have priority over on-street parking and landscaping.

24. Well designed signage and way-finding should be located at frequent intervals to direct visitors to business districts, parking, transit stops, bicycle and pedestrian routes and public places throughout the Waterfront District and provide public information about site history and natural features.

#### Parking Policies

- 25. Parking should be provided through a combination of on-street, surface and structured or below-grade parking facilities, with on-street parking spaces managed for short-term visitors and customers to promote turn-over and availability of short-term parking.
- 26. Minimum parking requirements should be reduced to a standard which is appropriate for a mixed-use urban setting in the future, assuming fewer cars, smaller cars, shared parking facilities and mode-shift to non-auto modes. Regulations should include provision for further reduction to parking space requirements for uses which provide shared parking facilities and programs to reduce automobile dependence.
- 27. At full build-out, no more than one-third of the total automobile parking spaces in Commercial or Institutional mixed-use areas should be provided in off-street surface parking lots.
- 28. Within commercial mixed-use areas, surface parking lots and the entrances to parking garages should be located at the side or rear of buildings, and off-street parking lots should not be located between the building and the street.
- 29. Within shoreline jurisdiction, parking should be located under buildings, or within parking structures located away from the shoreline, unless associated with a water-oriented use. Parking should not be located between the building and the shoreline.

Figure 5-3: Parking Strategies

Various parking types respond to the character of each development area within the Waterfont District.

# Surface



Surface parking will be used to accommodate early action development. As density increases over time, surface parking will be minimal.

#### Structure (Integrated)



Structure (integrated) parking is accommodated below buildings or integrated into the center of a block to support multiple uses. This is the most typical parking type.

Free-Standing Garage



Free-standing garages are utilized to support office, institutional and community parking requirements.

#### On-Street



On-Street parking (essential to a vibrant urban neighborhood) will carry approximately 10% of the parking demand at full development buildout.

Marina



Surface parking will be utilized at the marina to accommodate interim marina parking and truck/trailer parking for the Clean Ocean Marina.

30. Surface parking may be developed as an interim use on areas planned for future redevelopment, enabling its evolution over time into a denser environment. Where interim surface parking is permitted, a clear strategy and time line for development of permanent parking spaces and redevelopment of interim surface lots should be established in development permit conditions.

- 31. In areas where development sites abut the bluff, streets should be designed to provide space for parking within buildings below street grade, with building entrances at street level.
- 32. Parking lots should be designed to reduce heat island impacts by limiting the size of surface parking lots, providing landscaping to shade parking lots and encouraging covered or structured parking.
- 33. Parking lots and structured parking should be designed to include pedestrian walkways connecting the parking facility to the buildings or uses which they serve, and should be landscaped or screened from adjacent streets and walkways.
- 34. If a structured parking facility is located at street level, the street frontage along any arterial street should be occupied by a retail, service or public use, or the facility should include landscaping, art work or outdoor seating along the street frontage, subject to design review.
- 35. Bike parking or covered storage areas should be located near the entrances to all public and private buildings, facilities or clusters of uses. Central bicycle facilities may be provided for institutional campuses or business parks with internal pedestrian routes.
- 36. Parking throughout the Downtown Waterfront Area should primarily be located under buildings or within parking structures located on the upland side of the development.

# LEED ND Credit Opportunities

Note: LEED ND, developed by the US Green Building Council, is one of many different voluntary rating systems to address and achieve sustainability goals, The following plan features provide potential credit toward LEED ND certification:

Walkable streets include on-street parking, street trees, sidewalks, bike lanes and pedestrian oriented development at street level.

Project will encourage transit use and reduce driving by providing safe and comfortable transit facilities.

Parking is designed to increase pedestrian orientation and minimize the adverse effects of parking facilities by limiting the size and location of surface parking lots and providing bicycle and car-pool parking.

#### Integrated Slopes Approach

The existing site grade in the Downtown Waterfront Area is approximately 30 feet below the level of the existing downtown at Commercial, Cornwall and Bay Streets. Site conditions pertaining to water tables, potential sea level rise and soils make it difficult and expensive to excavate below the existing grade for underground parking. Raising the street level in the eastern portion of the Downtown Waterfront area could provide the opportunity to install below-grade parking with pedestrian scale uses at street level. This approach could also allow placement of utilities and stormwater systems under streets with minimum excavation.

In order to provide the possibility for below-grade parking and reduce the grade difference between the downtown and the Waterfront District, an "Integrated Slope Approach" is envisioned to raise the elevation of the streets and parks in the eastern portion of the Downtown Waterfront area approximately 10 feet. Street grade could slope upward from Granary Ave. and Laurel Street toward the bluff, providing the potential for below grade parking under buildings in the eastern half of the Downtown Waterfront area, and up to three levels of structured parking along the bluff adjacent to Roeder Avenue and Chestnut Street. This approach for parking will also create a noise buffer between the relocated BN/Santa Fe railroad tracks and the Waterfront District development. This configuration could provide the opportunity for parking garages within the Waterfront District to be accessed from existing downtown streets, reducing the amount of automobile traffic traveling on Waterfront District streets.

HOUSING or OFFICE DEVELOPMENT THRU-BLOCK INTERIOR STREET CONNECTION INTERIOR STREET HOUSING or OFFICE OR PARK DEVELOPMENT ABOVE GRADE PARKING SCREENED BY RETAIL 1-2 LEVELS OF PARKING ELEVATED ROADWAY EXISTING GRADE 1 LEVEL PARKING BELOW GRADE AT SLOPE WITH UTILITIES BELOW GRADE RESIDENTIAL OR OFFICE RETAIL AT GRADE PARKING

Figure 5-4: Integrated Slopes

#### 5.2 Implementation Strategies

1. Design a network of arterial streets and trails to serve as the primary vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian

access routes to development sites and public amenities within the Waterfront District.

- Phase the development of arterial streets, trails and infrastructure to coincide with environmental clean-up, the development of adjacent properties, funding availability, and the schedule for railroad relocation.
- Design and construct local streets, alleys, bike and pedestrian routes to provide access to individual buildings and parking areas at the time development is proposed.
- 4. Where feasible, install streets and utilities on clean fill placed above the current ground level to minimize excavation in areas with contaminated soils and elevate streets above potential flood levels which could result from the impacts of global warming, sea level rise or storm surge events.
- Adopt design standards which encourage an appealing and comfortable pedestrian street environment within commercial and residential mixed-use areas with buildings located contiguous to sidewalks, building



- entrances facing public streets, transparent glass on businesses at ground level, weather protection, landscaping, artwork, lighting and outdoor seating areas. Allow alternate design standards to be established for institutional campuses or business campuses with internal pedestrian access.
- 6. Work with the Whatcom Transportation Authority (WTA) to ensure adequate funding for an efficient, convenient transit system with stops located in close proximity to the majority of residences and businesses, prior to occupancy of the first 1 million square feet of building space.
- 7. Obtain input from WTA regarding street design to ensure bus maneuverability around the site, allowing convenient connections to Downtown, Fairhaven and Western Washington University.
- 8. Provide transit with signal priority access to the site, if needed.
- 9. Work with Burlington Northern Railroad and seek grant funding to relocate the main line of railroad to a new route along the bluff, while maintaining a rail spur to serve the Bellingham Shipping Terminal and Log Pond transitional use area.
- 10. Work with the Port of Bellingham and BNSF Railroad to install a railroad quiet zone with supplemental safety measures at all track crossings in the Waterfront

District.

- 11. Encourage landscaping, park design, and stormwater biotreatment facilities, such as bioswales, and use of native and/or drought tolerant plants which will not require permanent irrigation systems and support clean stormwater goals.
- 12. Maintain the Bellingham Shipping
  Terminal as a deep water moorage and
  cargo facility, with adequate upland
  laydown area to support this use.



- 13. Develop a Clean Ocean Marina by adaptively re-using the ASB to serve the need for moorage.
- 14. Develop launching facilities and services for hand carry boats in one or more of the following areas: at the head of the I&J Waterway, north of the ASB lagoon, the south side of the Whatcom Waterway, Cornwall Cove, and/or south of the Cornwall Avenue Landfill.
- 15. Develop visitor moorage facilities along the Whatcom Waterway and encourage the development of services to attract visiting boaters to the Waterfront District.
- 16. Maintain and upgrade piers, moorage facilities and boat lifts along the north side of the Whatcom Waterway and south side of the I&J Waterway, and develop additional commercial boat haul-out facilities if needed to improve marine industrial water access.
- 17. Work with private carriers and pursue grant funding to assist in developing a network of water-taxis or a small ferry system to connect the Waterfront District to other transportation links.
- 18. Encourage landscaping with native or drought tolerant plants which do not require permanent irrigation systems.
- 19. Develop parking regulations, management strategies and design regulations to prevent parked cars from dominating the landscape by reducing minimum parking requirements below existing city code requirements, encourage shared parking and commute trip reduction, and requiring surface parking lots to be located behind buildings and screened from public roads and trails.

- 20. Develop and implement a biennial traffic monitoring program to collect data and use results to encourage mode shift from cars to alternate forms of transportation such as walking, biking and transit, consistent with mode shift goals.
- 21. Take steps designed to encourage early development within each planning area in order to obtain the type of anchor tenants that will help define the character of development consistent with the Sub-Area Plan.



A large parking garage along the Roeder Avenue bluff is proposed when there is sufficient parking demand to justify structured parking. A pedestrian plaza, staircase and ground floor commercial or office uses are proposed along the interface with the park.

Figure 5-5: Street Types

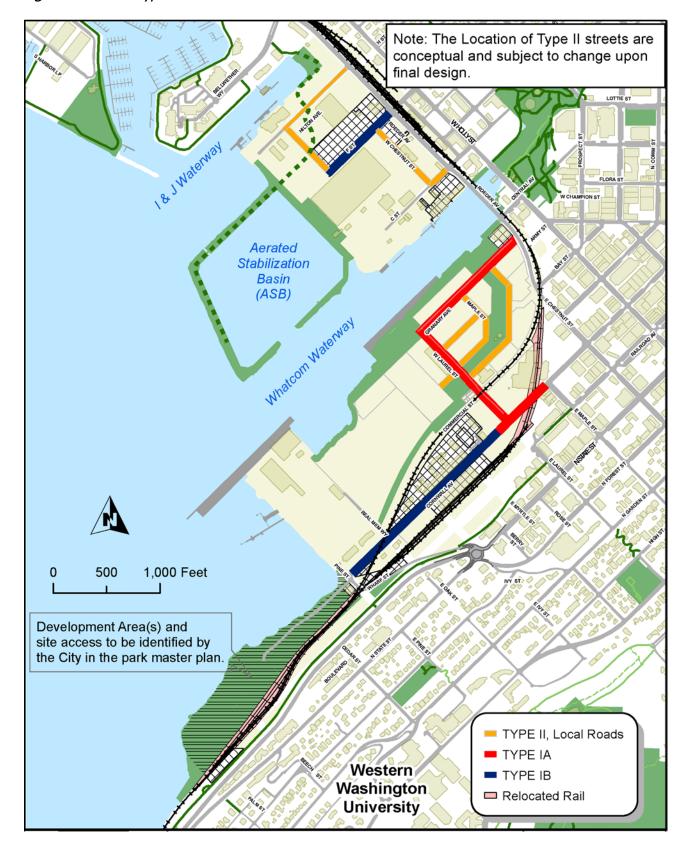
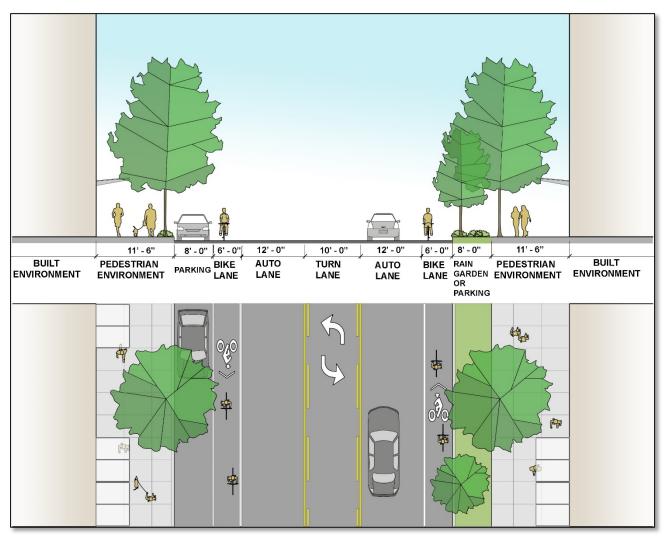


Figure 5-6: Waterfront District Street Designs

The following street designs are conceptual. Alternate standards may be approved by the Public Works Director provided they are consistent with, and will further, the policies and implementation strategies in this chapter.



#### **Type IA - Arterial Streets**

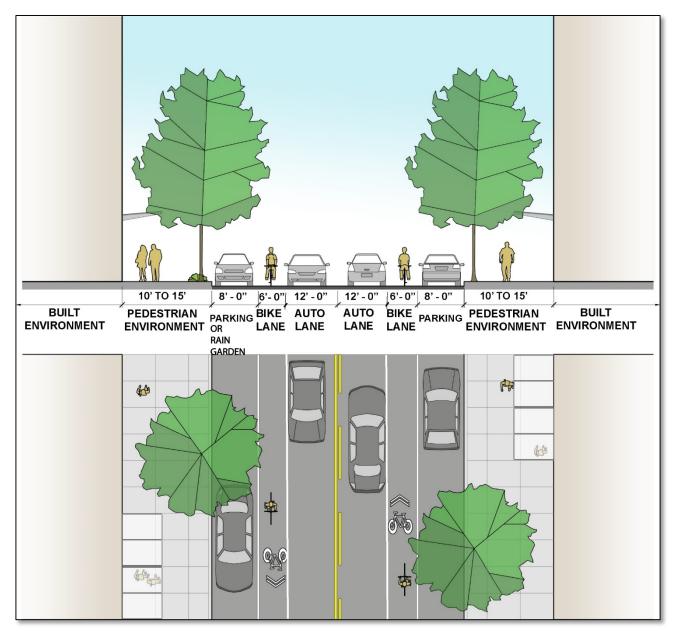
ROW: 85 ft. (2-way Street) with one turn lane at intersection or optional center landscaping.

Bikes: Two dedicated bike lanes or a cycletrack

Parking: Parallel parking on one or both sides of street

Landscaping: Street trees, highlighted landscape areas at wide sidewalk, natural biofiltration option in lieu of on street parking on one side of street.

Pedestrian Environment: Sidewalks on both sides of the street along with ground floor retail and commercial uses encourage pedestrian-oriented activity.



### **Type IB - Arterial Streets**

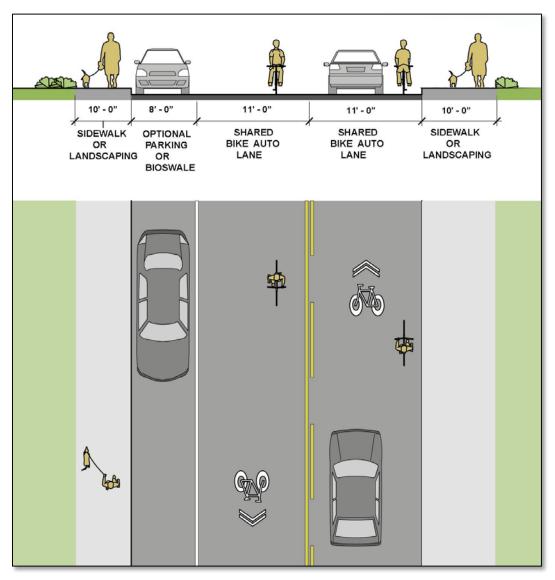
ROW: 72 to 82 ft. (2-way Street) Bikes: Two dedicated bike lanes

Parking: Parallel parking on one or both sides of street.

Landscaping: Street trees, natural biofiltration option in lieu of on street parking on one side of Street. Pedestrian Environment: Sidewalks on both sides of the street encourage pedestrian oriented activity.

The following street designs are conceptual. Alternate standards may be approved by the Public Works

Director provided they are consistent with, and will further, the policies and implementation strategies in this chapter.



#### Type II - Local Streets

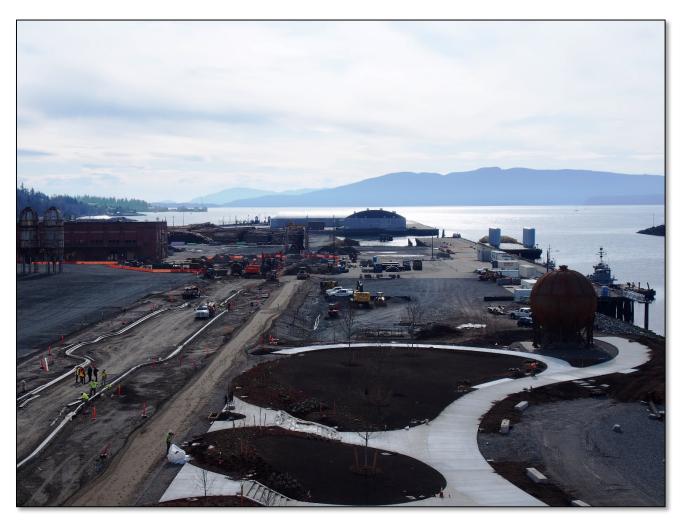
ROW: 36 to 56 ft. (2-way Street)

Bikes: Auto lane shared with bikes (Innovative design which favors pedestrian and bicycles).

Parking: Optional parallel parking or bioswale on one side of street.

Landscaping: Street trees, low scale shrubs and ornamentals over utility vaults. Landscaping requirement may be waived within industrial areas.

Pedestrian Environment: Sidewalks on both sides, or optional sidewalk on one side and other side landscaped when located adjacent to park or trail with equivalent pedestrian facilities. Within industrial areas, separated pedestrian route may be provided.



Southerly view of Granary Avenue and Laurel Street under construction, March, 2018. Wide sidewalks and a cycle track along Granary Ave. and Laurel Street will connect to the network of recently completed trails in Waypoint Park.