

McKinley Hill Neighborhood Plan

Executive Summary

Purpose

The McKinley Hill Neighborhood Plan is a guiding document outlining community-identified projects, ideas, and actions to enhance and strengthen the neighborhood. The City of Tacoma Neighborhood Planning Program, McKinley neighborhood, businesses, and local organizations worked together to create the plan.

Process

City Council selected McKinley as one of the pilot neighborhoods for the Neighborhood Planning Program. The Plan was developed through a process of co-creation with neighbors throughout 2022, and is informed by responses from surveys, community groups, and public meetings and events. We will continue to work with partners and neighbors to support implementation in 2023 and beyond.



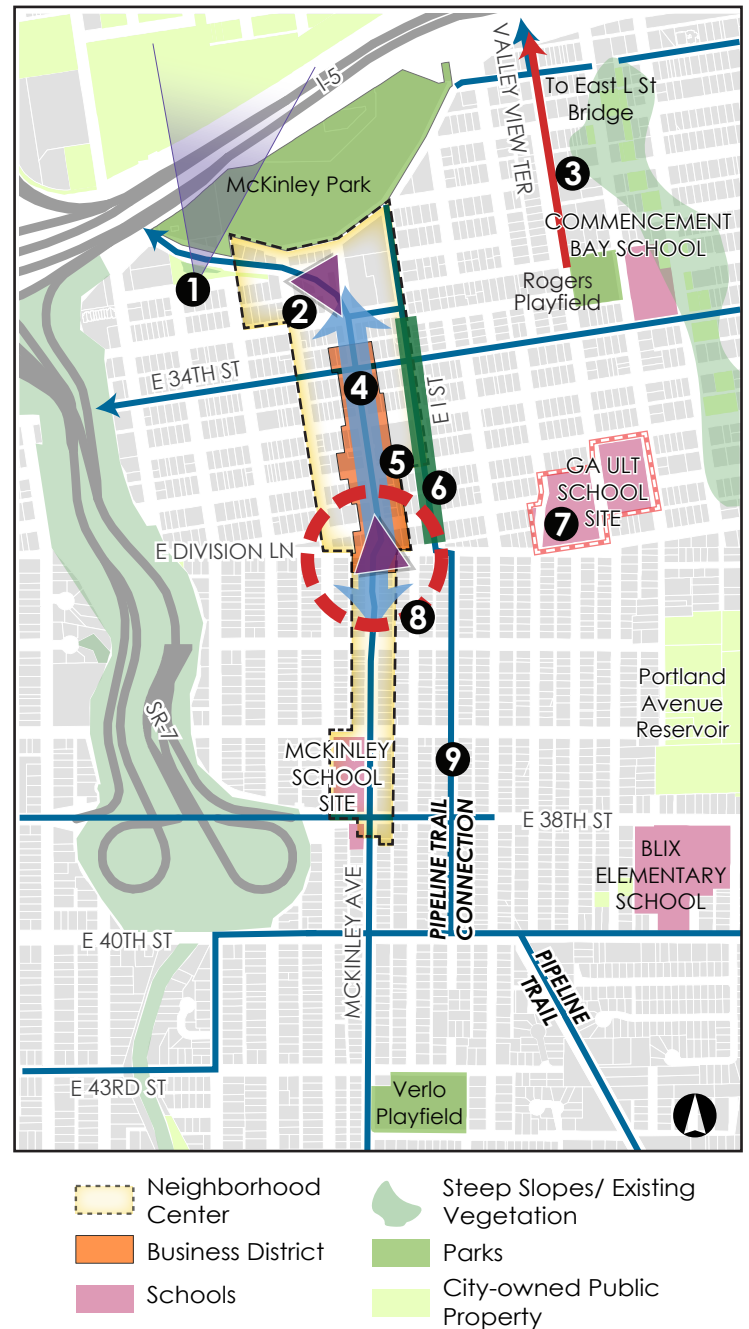
City of Tacoma
Neighborhood
Planning
Program

4 Goals

The Neighborhood Planning Program engaged community members through surveys, events, a Virtual Plan-A-Thon, Steering Group, Youth Action Mapping Project, multilingual focus groups, McKinley Neighborhood Fair, and numerous other activities to capture key issues and ideas for McKinley's future. Through this iterative process, we identified four major goals:

- 1 Vibrant business district**
Support a vibrant economic base; comfortable, family-friendly environment; and unique McKinley identity. Key recommendations include streetscape redesign, art, signage, placemaking elements, new public spaces, business assistance, and parking management.
- 2 Walkability and connections to key destinations**
Improve walkability and placemaking within the business district, and enhance connections to transit, schools, parks, and major walking/bicycling/rolling routes to adjacent neighborhoods and the Dome District transit connections. Other actions include wayfinding signage, street tree planting, and traffic calming.
- 3 Activated open spaces**
Enhance key open spaces to support community gathering and safety, such as McKinley Overlook, as well as business district gateways.
- 4 Enhance McKinley's Center with new amenities**
As the neighborhood grows, support options for housing, food/grocery, services, and amenities. Pursue community interests with major redevelopments (e.g., Gault School site).

Major Actions



**Stay involved with
the McKinley Hill
Neighborhood Plan!**



Track implementation of the MHNPP recommendations at: engage.piercecounty.mysocialpinpoint.com/mckinleyhill

Contact neighborhoodplanning@cityoftacoma.org to sign up for the email list and/or to join the Project Committees to get involved.

The following Plan recommendations, keyed to the map on the prior page, will strengthen McKinley's vitality, safety, and livability. The Plan includes many additional recommendations – learn more and read the full Plan at our website.

- 1 Activate the McKinley Overlook (along East 32nd St)

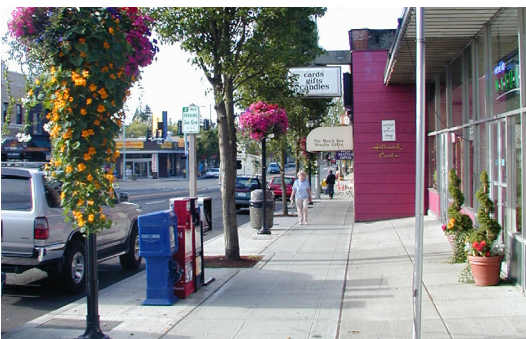


- 2 Enhance north and south gateways to Business District



- 3 Complete missing sidewalk to connect McKinley to Dome District via East L St Bridge

- 4 Redesign and upgrade McKinley Ave streetscape



- 5 Support Business District identity through placemaking and art



- 6 Calm traffic through neighborhood tree-planting



- 7 Pursue community priorities, including a grocery store, with the Gault School redevelopment

- 8 **Community Booster Project!**
Intersection safety enhancement and crossing improvements at McKinley Ave and E Division Ln



- 9 Build new connections and crossings for people biking, walking and rolling to transit, parks, neighborhood centers, schools, and trails

Implementation

Most of the Plan actions are intended to be opportunistic, completed when grant or other funding becomes available. However, several projects have already been funded with the help of internal and external partners. These include the following:

Projects Coming to McKinley!

Tree planting and traffic calming on East I Street (Pipeline Connector)

Intersection safety and placemaking at E Division Ln and McKinley Ave

Placemaking strategy for business district

McKinley Ave streetscape design

*Bike parking/corral
Drinking water fountains*

Crosswalk re-painting

Wall murals

Red curb painting

Utility pole painting

Stormwater stencils

Speed reduction for business district

Tree planting outreach

Several key actions should happen quickly to set the tone for related projects to follow. A vital first step is the **placemaking strategy**, which will identify the stories, themes, desired elements, and key locations for many of the design and wayfinding elements mentioned in other actions. Secondly, the **McKinley Ave streetscape design** will ensure a cohesive, unique treatment through the business district.

You Voted, We're Building It

The neighborhood selected the **East Division Ln/McKinley Ave intersection safety enhancement project** for their community booster grant (\$50,000), intended to help implement the Plan. It will provide temporary bulb-outs, a repainted crosswalk, and a street mural at the intersection.

Community-led project committees are co-creating the implementation of these projects. **Your continued involvement and advocacy will help ensure these projects happen!**

Engagement

Intentional and equitable community engagement was the core driving force behind the creation of the Plan. Staff proactively reached out and engaged with community members to co-create the community engagement process and the Plan. Building lasting relationships and connections to resources also helped build community capacity. We are grateful to the community for their enthusiastic participation, which included:

1,500+ Community "Engagements"

Steering Group and 3 Committees
50+ members

5 Community Events
300 attendees

2 Surveys
150 responses

Action Mapping Project
1,500+ responses

McKinley Neighborhood Fair
200+ attendees

4 Focus Group Roundtables
McKinley Business District
Multilingual targeted engagement
100+ responses

