# Station Experience Design Guidelines

Rider Experience and Operations Committee 3/3/22



## Why we are here

- Briefing on the Station Experience Design Guidelines
- No action is required



# **Briefing**

#### Future Station Experience Design Guidelines

 Defines standards for passenger experience that inform Link station design principles and station environment guidelines





## Purpose

#### ST Value of Passenger Focus

We always start with our passengers' needs and work back from there. They are the focus of everything we do.

#### What is it?

An illustrated primer of Link design from the passenger perspective sponsored by Sound Transit CPXO





### **Guidelines Focus on Three Key Areas**

**Passenger Experience:** Define the passenger experience: passenger attributes, pedestrian flow, access, transit integration, etc.

*Link Station Design:* Set expectations for Link station design and standardization in support of the passenger experience

**Station Environment:** Providing guidelines for station access, urban design, and TOD implementation for a station area that supports the passengers



# **Supporting Cost Considerations**

#### **Controlling costs through:**

- Standardized passenger experience
- Clear design expectations for early, durable decisions
- Realms of responsibility and guidance for station areas
- Investment framework for station access

#### Ratio of station construction costs to alignment:

 Station finish construction costs vary depending upon configuration – approximately 6% to 15% of overall Link capital costs



Passenger Experience Design Principles

#### **Passenger Experience as Basis of Guidelines**

# Foundational Metrics and Aspirational Attributes

- Dependable, Safe, Available, Clean and Informed
- Simple, Seamless, Intuitive and Resilient

We will deliver a transit experience that is dependable, safe, clean and available with informed riders; while striving to create an experience that is simple, seamless and intuitive for our riders.



# Understanding Passenger Needs Designing for the full range of attributes

| Regular RidersOccasional RidersFirst-time Riders | Personas have at least one blue chara   | icteristic.                                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Limited English Proficiency                      | Persons with mobility assistance device | 7                                                                                                                |
| Tourist                                          | Persons with hearing impair             | Personas may<br>have none, few<br>or many orange<br>characteristics,<br>further framing<br>their rider<br>needs. |
| Family & Children with strollers                 | Persons with visual impair              |                                                                                                                  |
| Persons traveling with belongings                | Persons with speech impair              |                                                                                                                  |
| Women who are pregnant                           | Persons traveling with service animals  |                                                                                                                  |
| Senior                                           | Persons traveling with pets             |                                                                                                                  |
| Youth                                            | Technology Literate                     |                                                                                                                  |



# **Passenger journey sequence on Link** Simplicity As Passengers Move Through Our Stations





# Link Station Design Principles

# Standardization for Consistency and Efficiency

#### **Consistency in**

- Ticketing areas
- All elements of vertical circulation (public stairs, escalator finishes and enclosure, elevator shaft, elevator cab finishes)
- Canopy design
- Lighting type and location
- Ancillary spaces

#### Efficiency in

• Passenger Flow, Design, Construction, Maintenance and Operations



# Maintenance is Fundamental to Passenger Experience

#### **Designing for Maintenance**

- Clean, well-functioning
- Height of equipment access
- Hierarchy of maintenance access
- Limit the height of canopies and ceilings





## **Neighborhood Identity**

#### **Customized Elements**

- Public Art integrated with architecture
- Selection of wall and floor finishes in durable, maintainable materials
- Accent color
- Plaza design elements
- Landscape plantings



Community Engagement/Unique Site: The local topography led to a large unique atrium space, which artist Tad Savinar used for his 'Molecule of Tukwila' with I love, I remember, I wish sentiments from community members etched into granile platform pavers.



Wayfinding: Artist Clark Wegman's pair of large-scale sculptures inspired by local history serve as a marker to the station entrance, and a meeting place for passengers. The artist worked with the STart staff and the design to determine placement, and that the plaza was strong enough for the artiverk. Electrical accommodations were included in the project design.



Leo Saul Bark, Subternaium, 2016. Aluminum and polycarbonale. Completely covering the wells of this vertical circulation chamber, this artwork reveales an immersive environment, Imfigating the long descent into the lunnel station. To make the most of a project like this, careful attention should be paid to visual obstructions in the space which could detract from the artwork.



# Station Environment Framework

# **Station Environment**

#### **Consists of**

- Station Facility
- Station Context
- Station Access





# Station Environment Typologies

#### **Station Land Use Types**

- Characterizes Station Environments by the urban form and land use patterns in the surrounding area
- Established Urban
- Emergent Urban
- Single Use





# **Station Environment Typologies**

#### Station Access Types\*

- Characterizes Station Environments by the access mode share and other access characteristics
- Walk/Bike/Roll
- Multimodal
- Auto



\* References the System Access Implementation Plan



## Support Equitable TOD in Link Station Areas

- Plan for and support equitable, affordable housing development in agency TOD
- Support opportunities for community services, retail, small businesses and living wage employment
- Right size parking requirements for developments in station areas





Figure ii for 4.5.1 - The future NE 67th Street and the Cedar Crossing project, offering affordable apartment homes, a community center, courtyard and ground level commercial space.



Figure iii for 4.5.1 - The Centilia Cultural Center is an anchor on the Plaza Roberto Maestas, providing an important community asset adjacent to Beacon Hill Station.







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