Organization
City of Shoreline

Project Title
NEW URBAN CENTERS POLICY PROJECT

Organizational Background
Shoreline Washington is a progressive, vibrant, and diverse community located in King County, preparing for the growth that will come with two new light rail stations opening in 2024. The City of Shoreline is committed to fulfilling the community’s vision through outstanding public service. We value collaborative problem solving and strive for continuous improvement. At the City of Shoreline, you will find dedicated professionals who care about the work they do and the community in which they work.

Shoreline’s 56,370 residents enjoy tight-knit neighborhoods, great schools, over 400 acres of parks, community events, and a growing arts scene.

Project Description
The City of Shoreline is seeking strategies to create new, walkable urban centers in and around the City’s two new light rail stations (scheduled to open in 2024). The City’s rezoned station areas represent a potential addition of 32,000 new housing units - to a city of 24,000 households - on just 7% of its land area. These new districts are envisioned as high-quality, vibrant, walkable, mixed-use urban centers. Much of the transportation infrastructure in the area is not in an urban grid format but in a large ex-urban or even rural level of development. Attracting new commercial uses and reducing car-dependence are key goals of the city’s efforts in the station areas. Building upon the significant work done by the City to establish ambitious new zoning and other policies for these areas, The City is seeking an evaluation the current walkability of the light rail station neighborhoods and identification of strategies for creating smaller blocks and interconnected streets. Analysis may include:

- Review & incorporate the City’s past work on block pattern of other cities, draft street framework plan.
- Collaborate & consult with the City’s active Master Street Plan and 185th Street Corridor Strategy project teams.
- Develop strategies to create a more urban street network with smaller blocks around the station areas such as:
a) Maximum block length to be included in land use regulations to achieve City goals;
b) Identify potential projects for LCLIP investments
c) Guidelines for staff to implement new streets or sidewalks as part of development when sufficient number of lots are assembled;
d) Latecomer agreements for new sidewalks and streets;
i. For more information see Shoreline Ordinance No. 851
e) Local Improvement District or other means of assessment based on benefit;
f) City contribution of funds and any available grants or other matching funds;
g) Possible “Transit” impact fees to create funding source for walkable and connected neighborhoods;
h) Smaller streets to create pedestrian space and connections

Travel Required?
No

Deliverables
Policy report with recommended example policy to be considered for adaptation and/or adoption.

Key Tasks for Consultants
Research and review of other city codes, in person interviews, collaborative work with City leadership.