PIONEER SQUARE EAST WEST PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS

Thank you for visiting our open house! Our survey closed for feedback on May 20th, 2021. We plan to complete final design for our project later this summer. To learn more about this project, please visit our permanent website here: https://waterfrontseattle.org/waterfront-projects/pioneer-square. To receive updates to your inbox, sign up for our email list!

Welcome

The City of Seattle's Office of the Waterfront & Civic Projects, working with community partner Alliance for Pioneer Square, is improving east-west streets in the heart of Pioneer Square. This project will design and construct improvements on portions of Main, Washington, King and Yesler streets between 2nd Avenue and Alaskan Way.

View of Smith Tower in Pioneer Square during fall

This effort will:

- Connect the heart of historic Pioneer Square to the new 20-acre waterfront park
- Provide safe, convenient and graceful pedestrian connections
- Improve accessibility for people of all ages and abilities
- Strengthen the renewal of public spaces such as Occidental Park
- Support the economic vitality and culture of the district as a whole

At this online open house, you can:

- Learn about the updated 60% design for east-west streets
- Hear how public feedback informs the design

To keep up to date with the project, sign up for our email list.

Sign up for our email list!

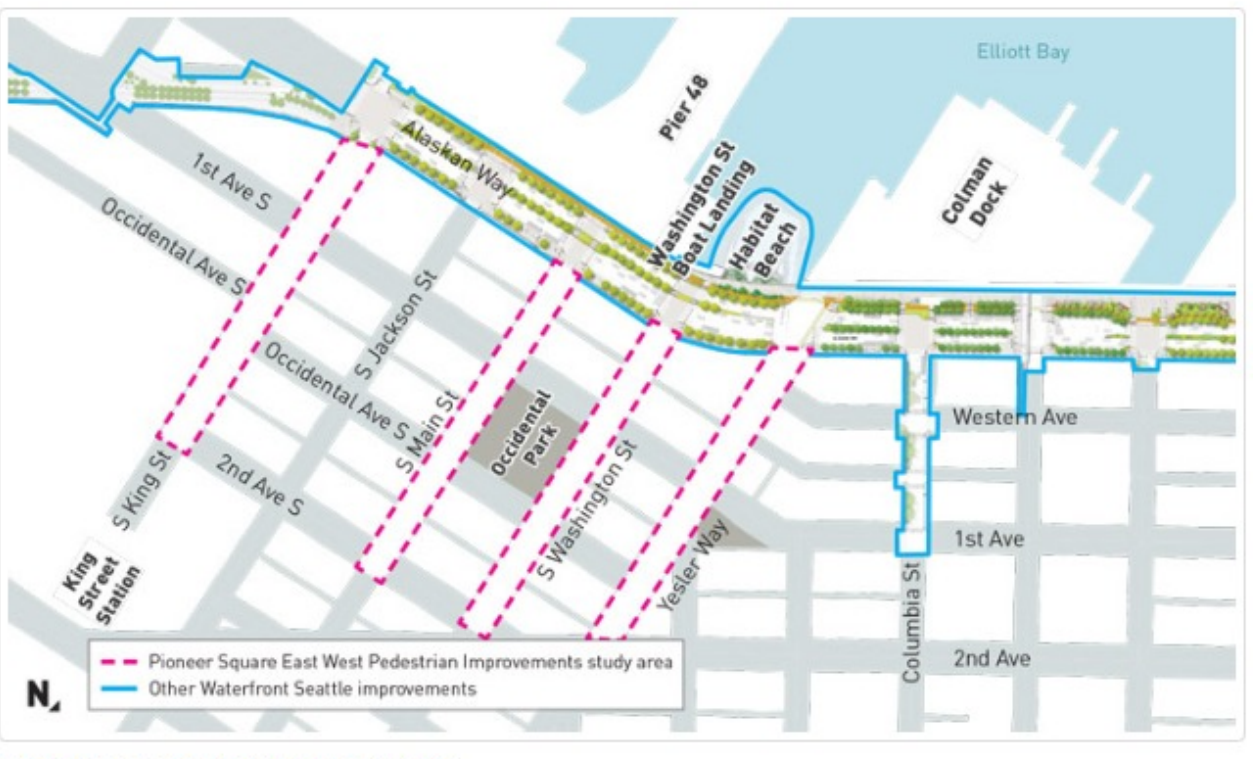
Email address

Phone number

Submit

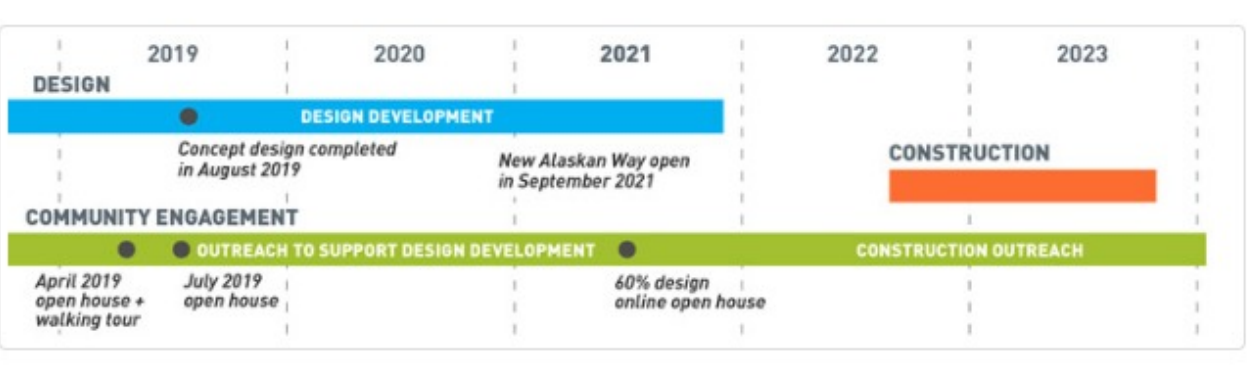
Project overview

Project boundaries

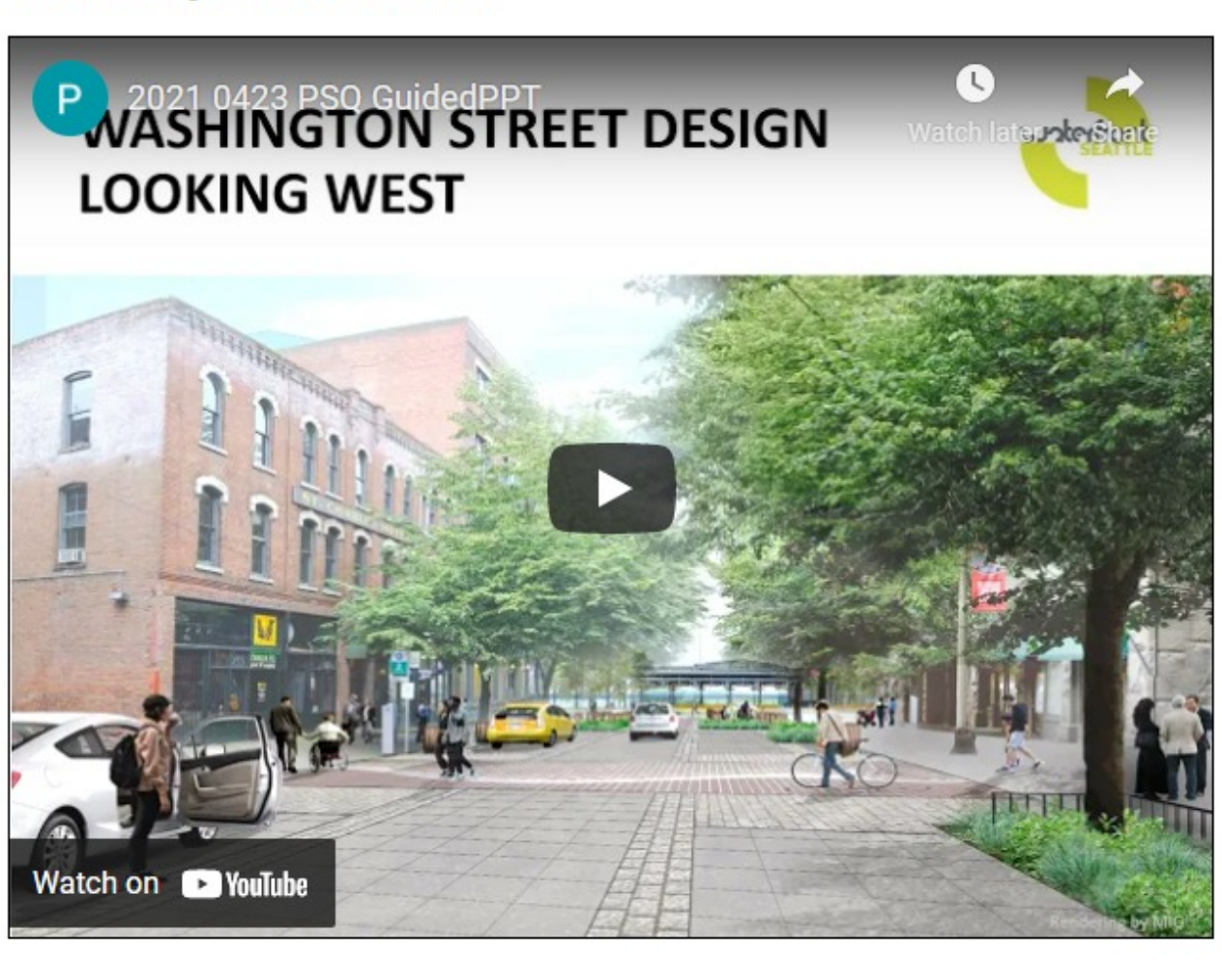


Map of the original project study area

Timeline



Guided presentation



2021 0423 PSQ GuidedPPT

WASHINGTON STREET DESIGN LOOKING WEST

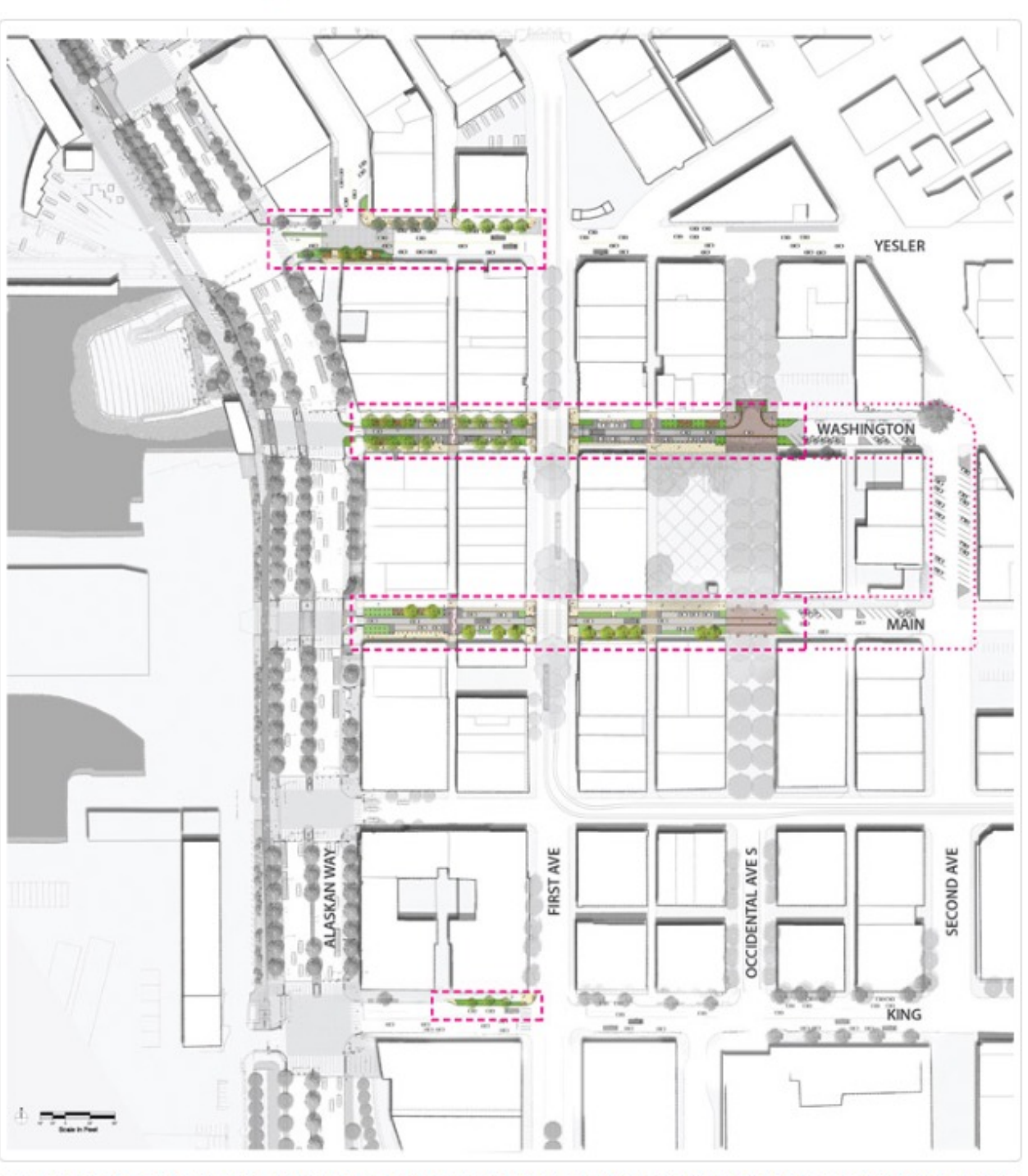
Accessible English PDF

Accessible Somali PDF

Accessible Spanish PDF

Accessible Simplified Chinese PDF

Our 60% design (view from above)



This simplistic plan view map ranges south to north from S King Street to Columbia Street and East to West from Elliot Bay to 2nd Avenue to show the Pioneer Square East West Connections project area. There are Pioneer Square specific improvements on portions of Yesler Way, South Washington Street, South Main Street and South King Street between Alaskan Way and Second Avenue.

Values

We're committed to designing improvements for Pioneer Square that are:

VIBRANT
(photo credit: Billy Hustace)

ACCESSIBLE

COMFORTABLE
(photo credit: Billy Hustace)

RESPECTFUL

EQUITABLE

What we've heard

In Summer 2019, we received input on the project from hundreds of people through our Sounding Board (representing a broad constituency of Pioneer Square of stakeholders), community briefings and an open house and online open house in July. Key feedback themes included:

- Maximize **pedestrian space** on east-west streets
- Convert Main and Washington to **one-way narrow streets**
- Build **raised intersections and curbless streets** to improve access for all
- Address **safety for all**, including pedestrian safety
- Prioritize **vehicle loading zones** over short-term parking spots
- Respect the lived experiences and cultures of **indigenous and Coast Salish people**

Visitors to our July 2019 open house

Main and Washington streets

Main and Washington streets serve an important purpose in weaving together Pioneer Square. As non-arterial streets, there are great opportunities to improve the pedestrian experience on these streets, connecting existing open spaces like Occidental Park to the waterfront.

Our concept design for Main and Washington streets:

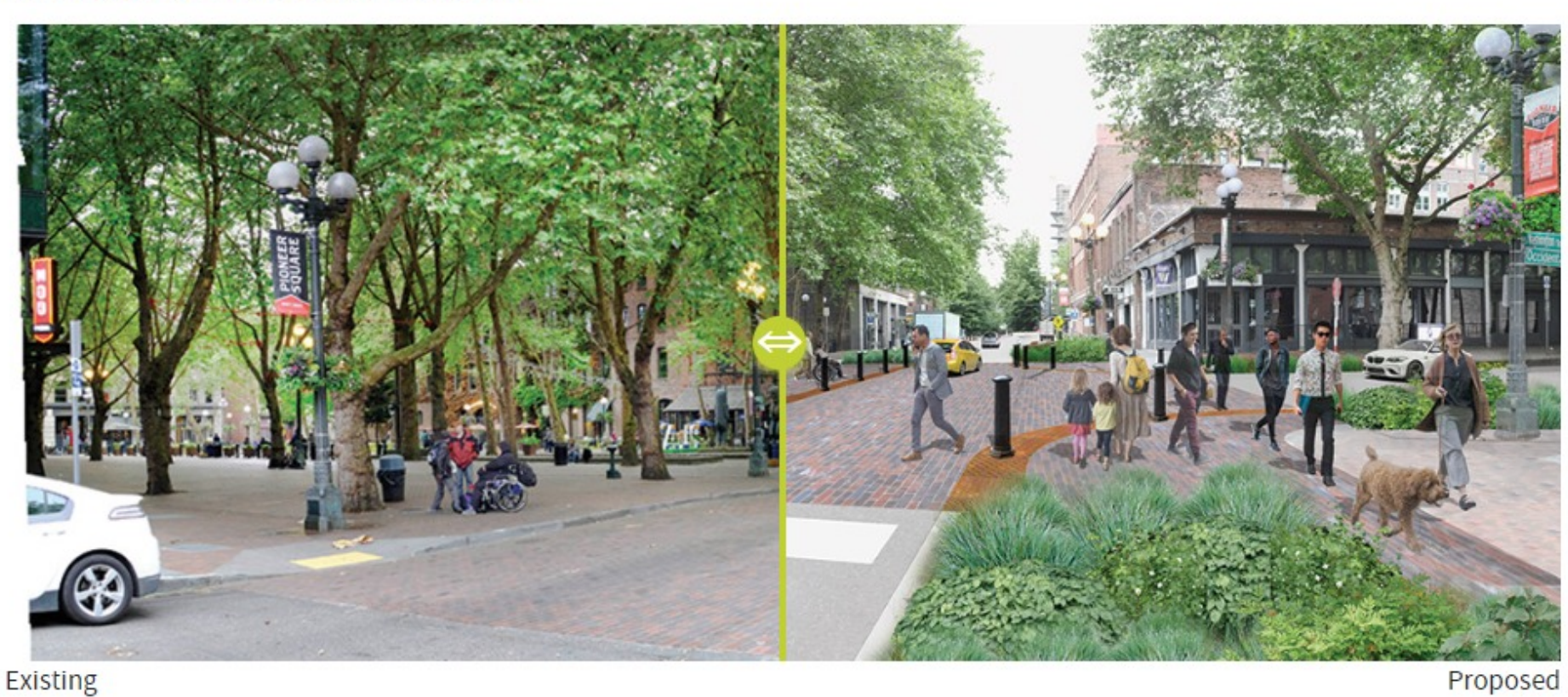
- **Connects key destinations** on the waterfront and the heart of the district at Occidental Park
- Creates **more space for pedestrians**, improves **access for people with disabilities**, **calms traffic**, **adds planting** and allows room for **sidewalk cafes**
- Accommodates **local access** while discouraging cut through traffic that is not accessing local destinations in the district
- **Protects vulnerable areaways** from heavy loads
- **Uses paving and lighting** to highlight the historical shoreline on its current-day streets
- Revises channelization between Occidental and 2nd, and on 2nd between Main and Washington to **allow for local circulation** and provide opportunities for **parking and loading**

Space for pedestrian improvements is created by redesigning Main and Washington streets as quiet one-way streets with one lane of traffic. Current traffic volumes on these streets are very low and easily accommodated in a single lane. Main St would operate eastbound to 2nd Avenue S, and Washington St would operate westbound. Local access and parking/loading would be maintained and accessed through a series of right turns or "access loops."

In the 1970s, Pioneer Square included curbless streets, such as at Occidental Park and Main St

What will Main and Washington streets look like? +

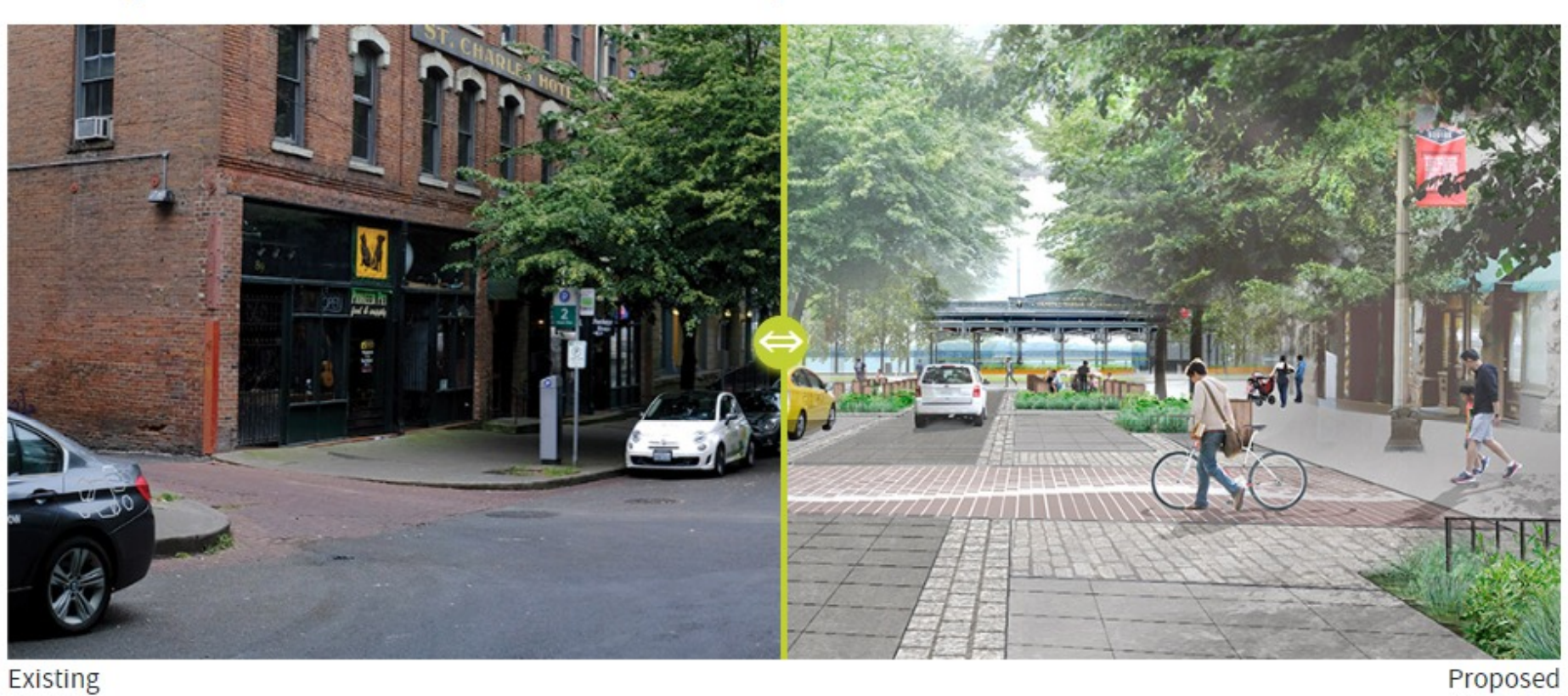
Washington St at Occidental Ave



Existing Proposed

In this rendering, the brick street is re-laid, and has new asphalt at certain points of the road. The area is the same as the original on the left side, with additional landscaping along the roadside, narrowing the road, and creating a separation from sidewalk to street. Black bollards line the sidewalks, and curbs are removed.

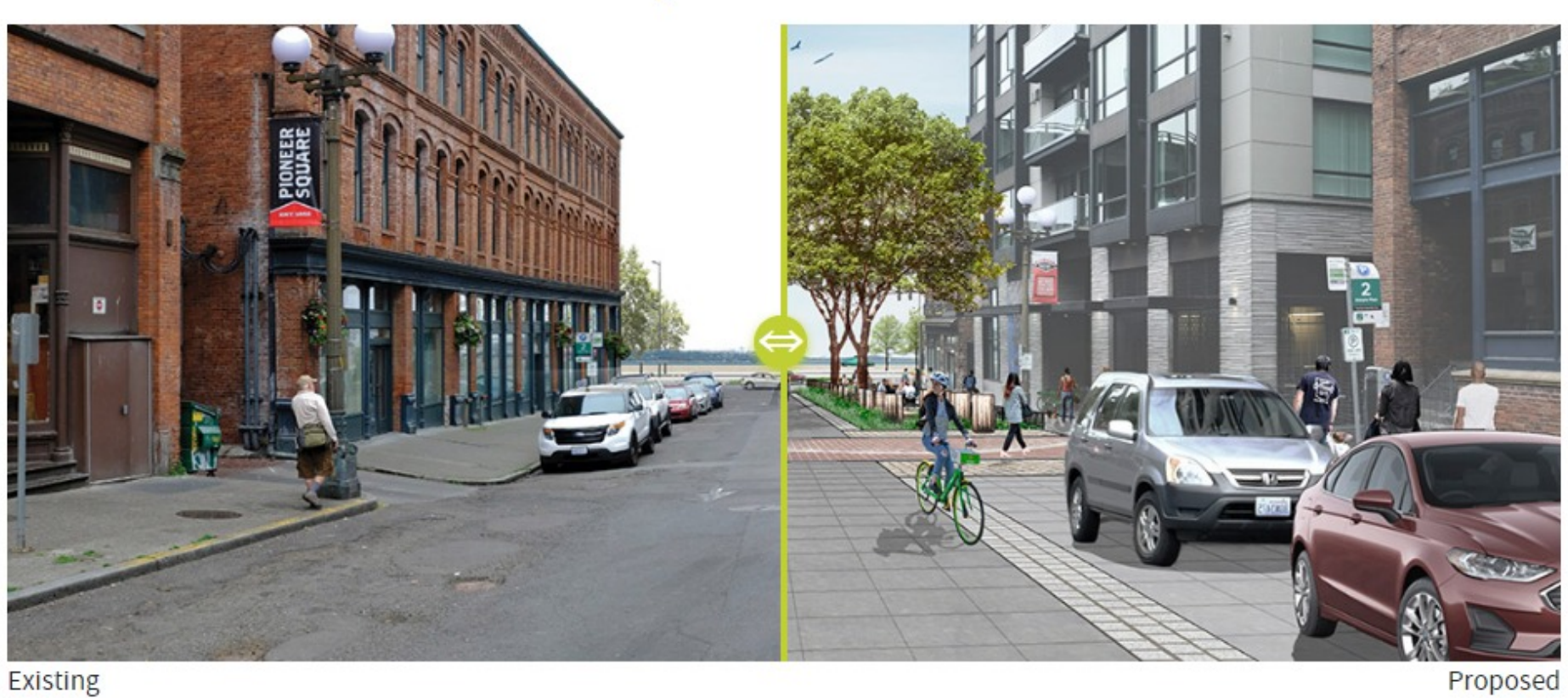
Washington St between 1st Ave and Alaskan Way



Existing Proposed

The rendering shows removed curbs and more planters and greenery lining the area.

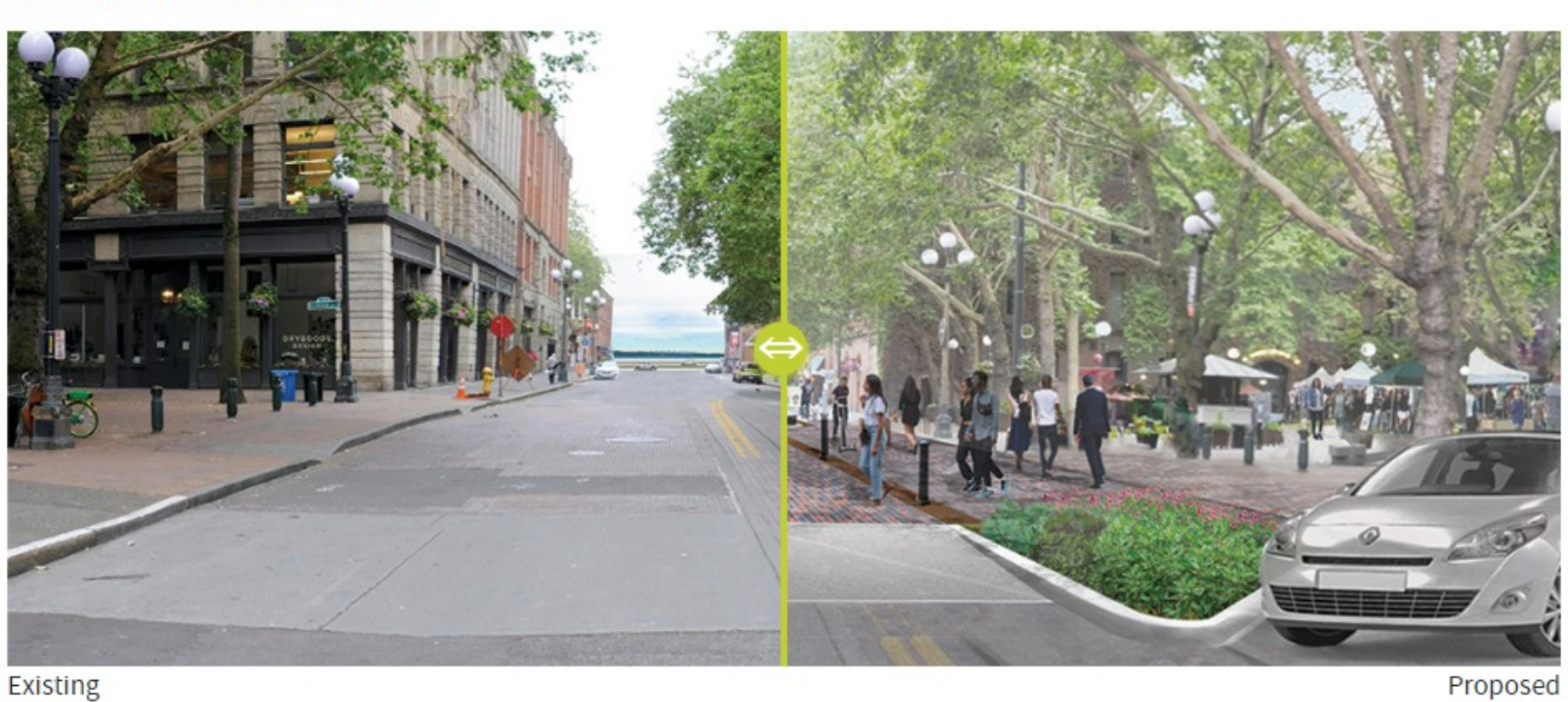
Main St between 1st Ave and Alaskan Way



Existing Proposed

This rendering shows no curbs lining the street and there are added trees and greenery at corners.

Main St at Occidental Park



Existing Proposed

In this rendering, the street has been elevated to remove curbs, and brick has been laid down in between areas of pavement, in the center of the street, where people cross. On the corners of the brick area, there are landscaping elements implemented. Trees have been planted on both sides of the street, especially into the tent-filled Occidental Park.

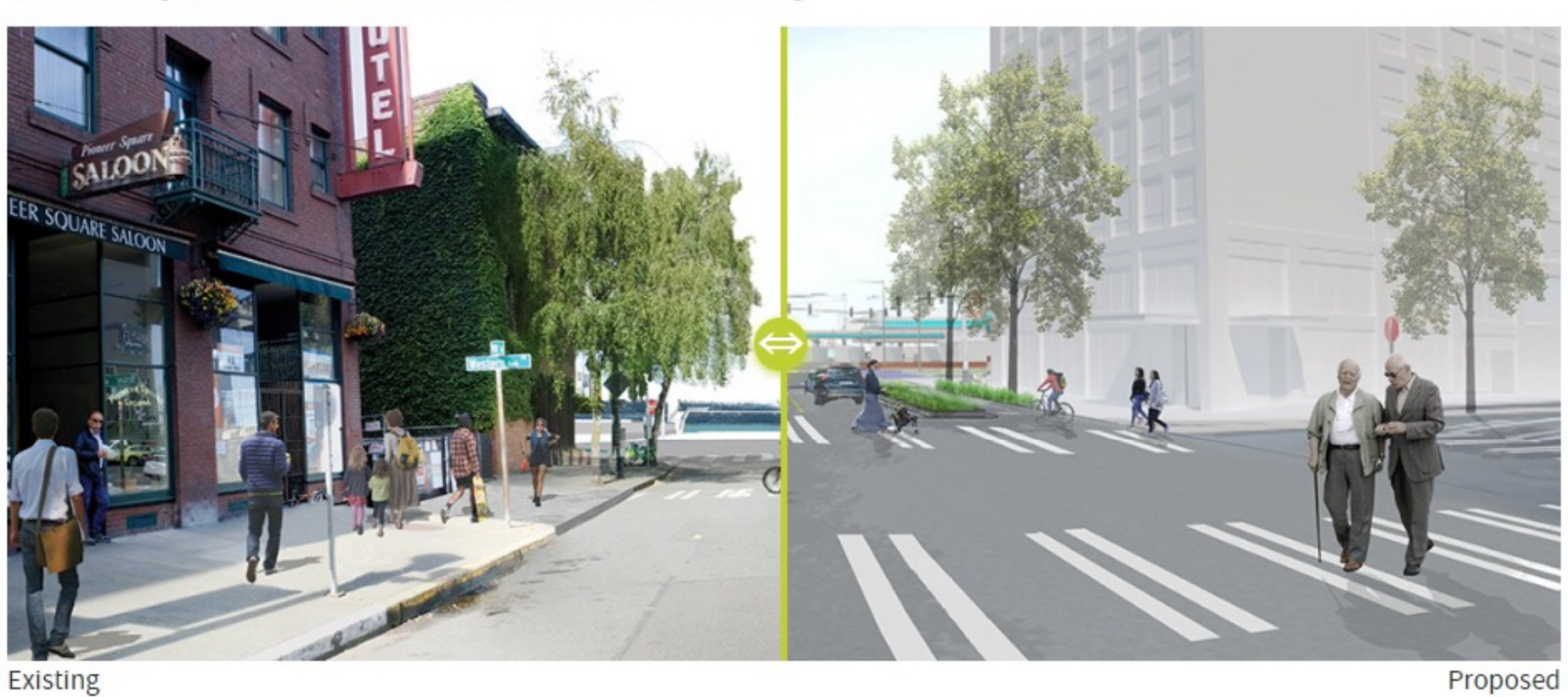
Yesler Way

Yesler Way design prioritizes pedestrian improvements on the north side of the street to connect to:

- The ferry terminal (pedestrian crosswalk only on north side of intersection with Alaskan Way)
- Pioneer Square Park
- Link Light Rail Tunnel

What will Yesler Way look like? +

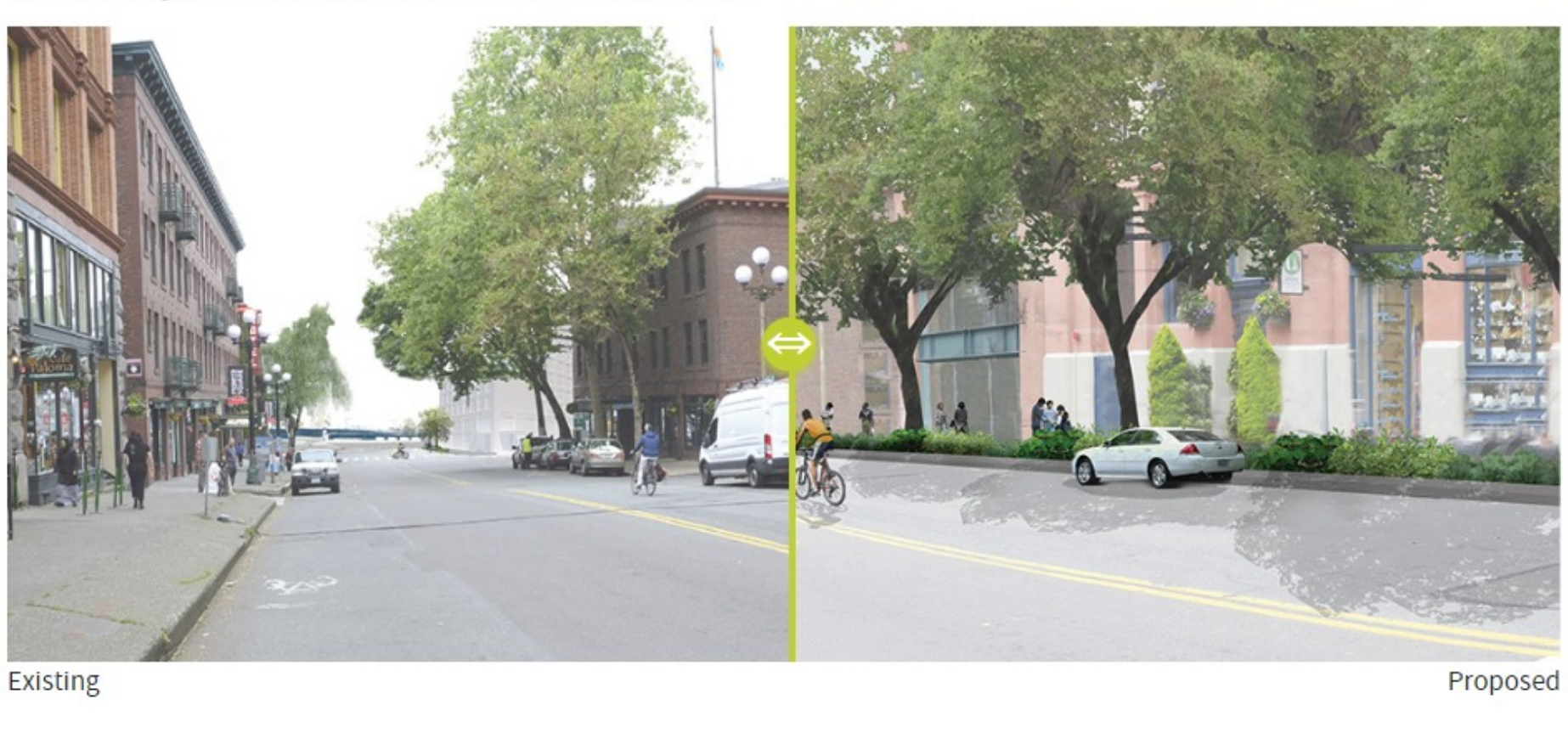
Yesler Way between Western Ave and Alaskan Way



Existing Proposed

This rendering shows a widened curb and a new sidewalk, with new in-ground plantings, seating area, and new bike lane.

Yesler Way between 1st and Western avenues



Existing Proposed

This rendering shows new shrubbery on the right side of the street.

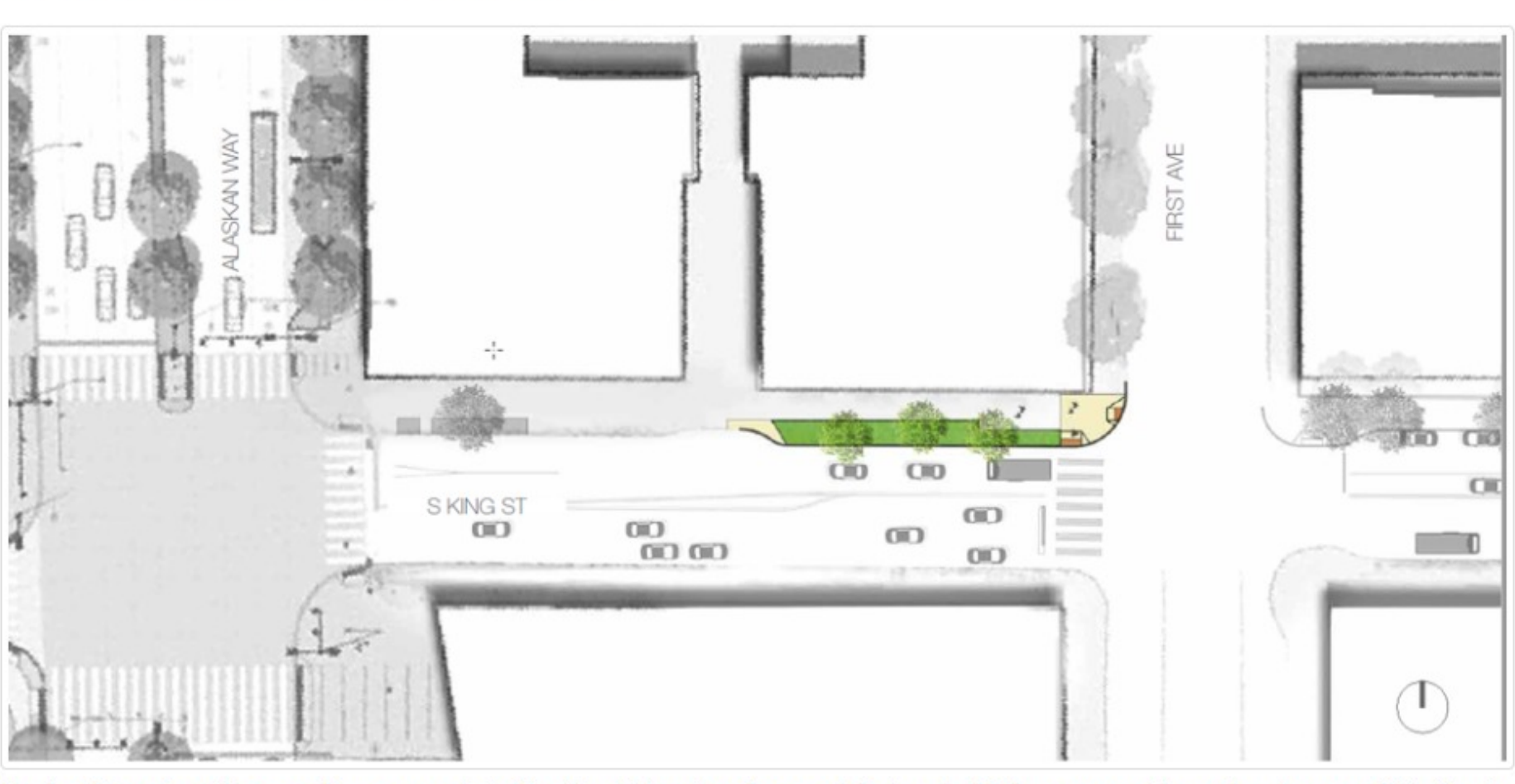
King Street

Our concept for King St includes:

- More in-ground plantings
- Additional street trees
- Curb bulbs

What will King Street look like? +

Present day King Street between Alaskan Way and 1st Avenue



Overhead plan view of proposed improvements to King Street. Plan view shows curb bulb and added greenery on the northeast corner of King Street, between First Avenue and Alaskan Way.

Contact us

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