



Aurora Ave/E Line Project

SeaShore Transportation Forum

July 7, 2023



Presentation Overview

- Project Background
- Corridor Issues and Opportunities
- Aurora Ave Vision
- Project Timeline and Phasing
- Community Engagement
- Next Steps



Project Background and Overview

- Joint agency project between SDOT and King County Metro
- Planning study to define long-range vision and cross sections for Aurora Ave N with emphasis on safety, mobility, and accessibility
 - Focus on safety for vulnerable users
 - Identify priority spot locations
- Identify potential transit service improvements and connections as well as safety and security upgrades



Aurora Ave N – Issues and Opportunities



Included in Seattle’s High Injury Network for traffic collisions



RapidRide E Line is one of the busiest frequent transit routes in the region



High priority for sidewalks and pedestrian crossing upgrades with 30+ blocks of missing sidewalks and long gaps between controlled crossings



No bike facilities on Aurora and few bike connections across Aurora



Designated major truck street with business access needs along Aurora



Lack of greening and tree canopy



Drainage, limited right of way, business access challenges

Draft Aurora Ave Vision

We envision an Aurora Corridor that:

- Is safe for all users and has no serious or fatal traffic collisions
- Has accessible, rapid, and reliable bus service
- Serves mobility needs as part of the City's multi-modal transportation system
- Supports active street uses and the City's growth strategy and land use vision
- Encourages zero and low-emission transportation options and incorporates environmentally sustainable features

Past Aurora Ave Improvement Efforts

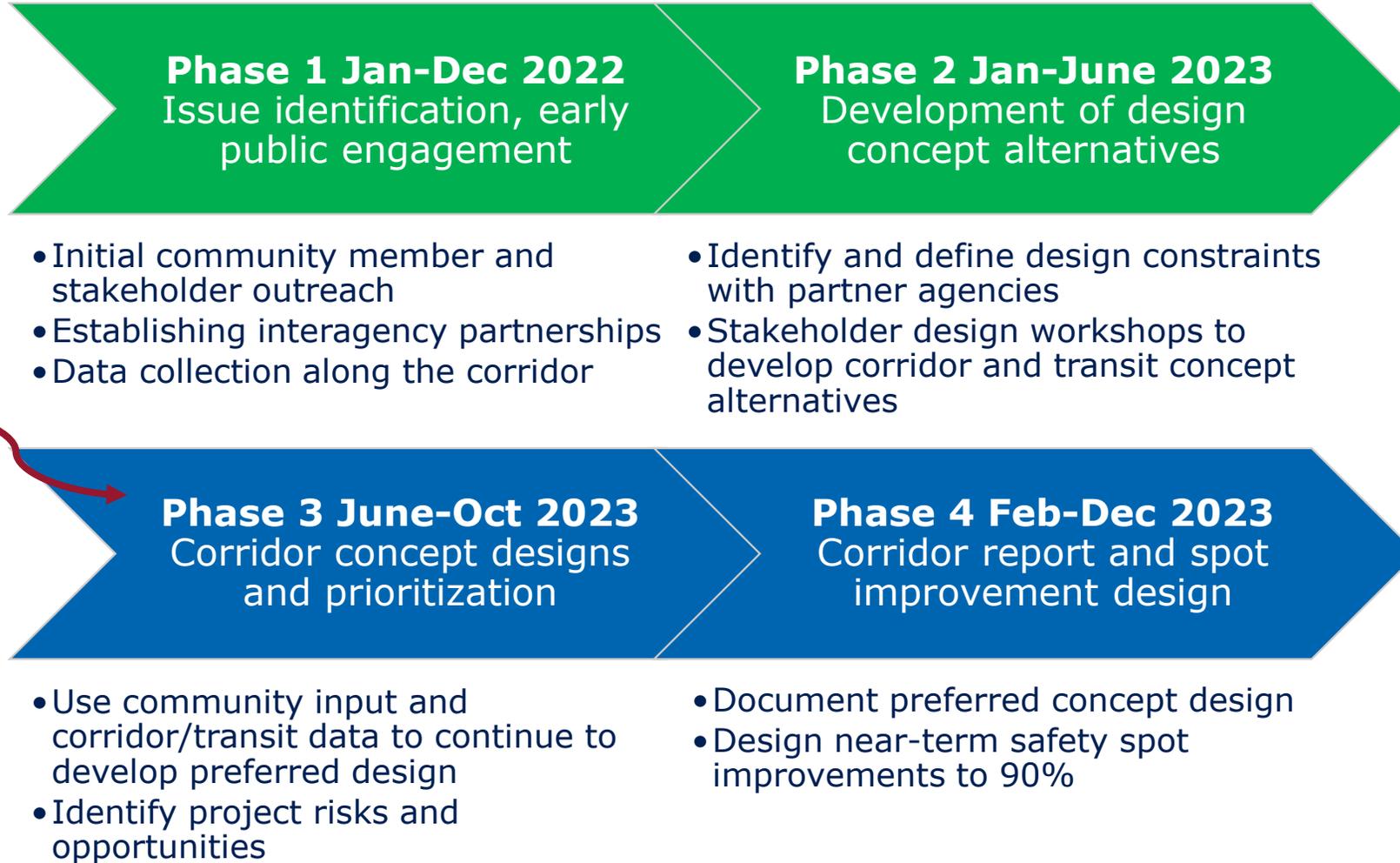
- Longstanding priority for pedestrian and transit improvements
- WSDOT published SR 99 Route Development Plan in 2003
- 2009 Aurora Traffic Safety Corridor
 - Short-term, low-cost treatments
 - Education and enforcement efforts
- Small-scale spot improvements during recent corridor repaving in 2019
- WSDOT grant secured for planning study in 2021



Aurora Ave N at N 76th St

Project Phasing and Schedule

We are here!

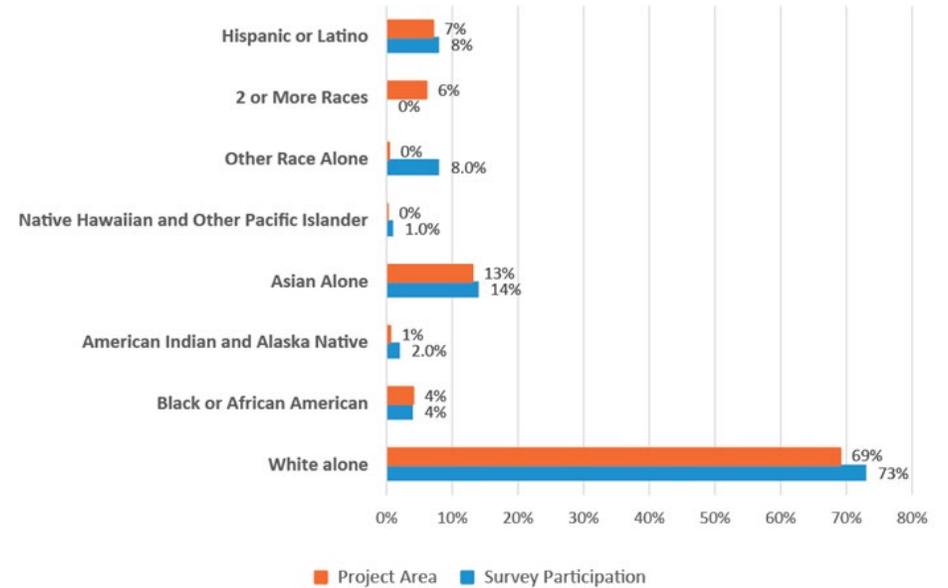


Phase 1 Community Engagement

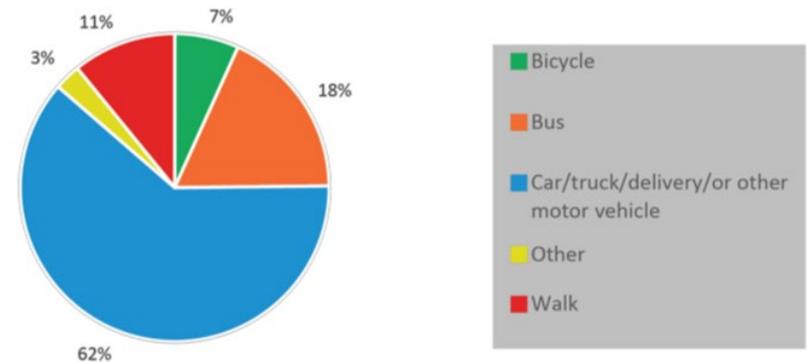
- Digital Engagement:
 - Online survey (2,082 responses)
 - Social media, blog, web, listserv
 - Multicultural media and digital campaign
 - Parental engagement

- In-Person Engagement:
 - Pop-up events
 - Door-to-door outreach with >100 businesses
 - One-on-one community group and CL conversations
 - Bus signs along corridor

Project area ethnicity and survey participation ethnicity



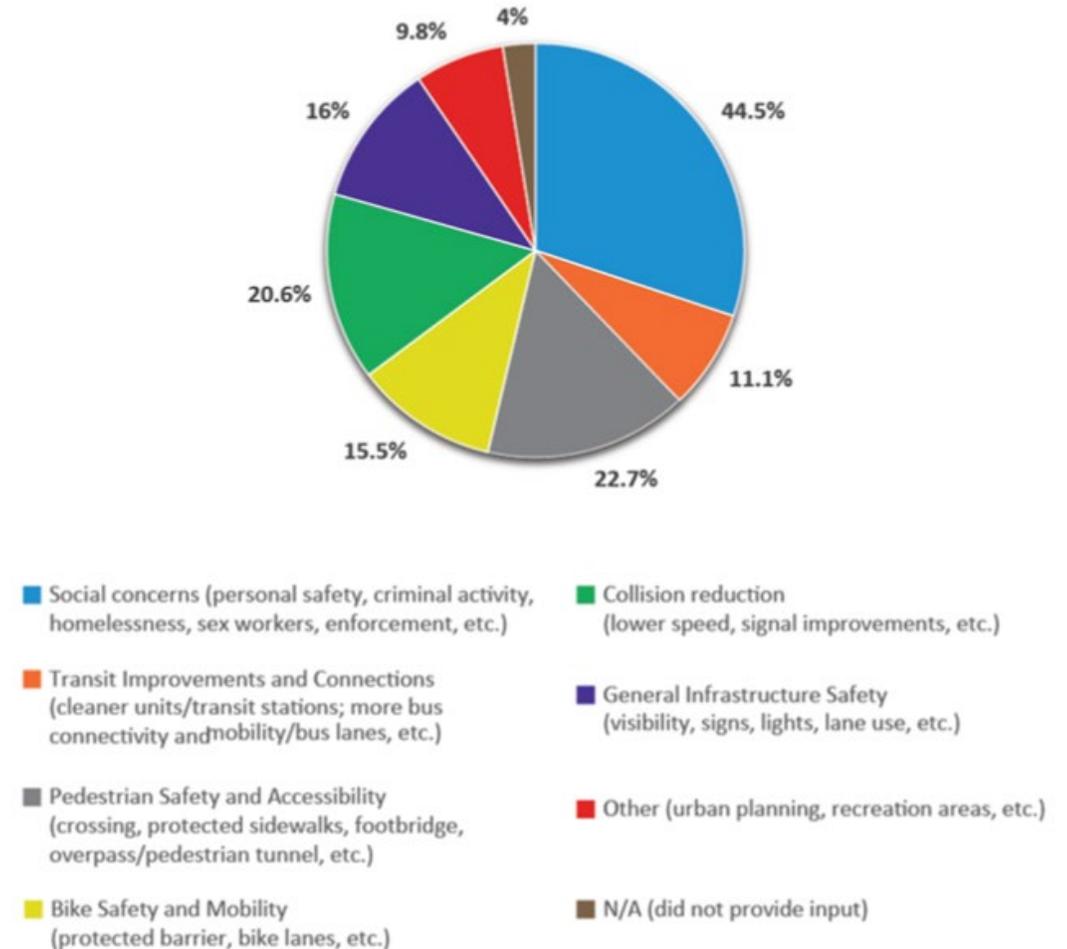
Travel mode for people traveling everyday more than once a day on Aurora Ave



Phase 1 Community Engagement- What We Heard

- Top concerns:
 - Social concerns (crime, personal safety)
 - Physical safety for people who walk
 - Collision reduction and general infrastructure
- Social concerns, lack of connectivity, bus stop locations, and accessibility identified as top concerns for transit
- Most avoided pedestrian crossings located in north end of corridor

What other safety improvements or changes would you like to see along the Aurora Ave N/State Route 99 corridor that are not mentioned above?



Phase 2 Engagement

- Goal: Engage residents, businesses, and people who travel along the corridor in the co-creation of concept designs
- Held series of “participatory workshops” with populations underrepresented in phase 1 outreach
- Hosted six intensive collaborative design workshops with key stakeholder groups



Aurora Ave Project - Next Steps

- Compile feedback we heard through design workshop into series of concept design for corridor
- Conduct analysis and traffic modeling to validate feasibility of concepts
- Solicit input from community on preferred concept design options later this year
- Implement safety priority near-term spot improvements





Contact our Project Team!
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