



TELL US ABOUT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

NORTH HIGHLINE URBAN DESIGN STANDARDS

King County Local Services is working with the North Highline community to create an urban design framework for new commercial, multi-family, and mixed-use developments.

To align these new design standards with the community's values, the project team is gathering input from community members through an online survey and upcoming events.

Do you have ideas to share? Your voice matters—please take our survey.

To request this information in another language or format, contact Jesse Reynolds at 206-477-4237 or email jesreynolds@kingcounty.gov.

Para solicitar esta información en Español, sírvase llamar al 206-477-4237 o envíe un mensaje de correo electrónico a jesreynolds@kingcounty.gov.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NorthHighlineUDStandards>



Take our survey and upload photos of your area!

LEARN MORE →



King County
Local Services

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The purpose of this project is to create urban design standards for new commercial, multi-family, and mixed-use developments in North Highline.

North Highline is a 2.7 square mile urban area in unincorporated King County that includes the communities of White Center, Top Hat, Glendale, and the South Park "Sliver by the River." Like many neighborhoods in the Seattle area, North Highline is experiencing development pressure and the community has expressed a strong desire to have urban design standards in place to protect and enhance the community's character.

The King County Council has directed Local Services to study and develop urban design standards that prioritize the pedestrian environment, encourage human-scale design and reflect the character of the North Highline community. The new urban design standards are expected to be transmitted to the King County Council by June 30, 2022.

Meaningful public engagement is key to this project's success. It's how we'll make sure that the design standards reflect the community's values. We'll hold a series of public events throughout the project with opportunities for community members to contribute their thoughts and ideas.

JUL 2021
Project kickoff

AUG 2021
Establish community advisory committee

SEPT 2021
Urban form study
Online survey
Community event

OCT 2021
Community visioning workshop
Design standards drafting

Community advisory committee guidance during the process

FEB 2022
Public review draft standards release
Public open house

MAR 2022
Final design standards

PROJECT TIMELINE & UPCOMING EVENTS

WHAT ARE URBAN DESIGN STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES?

Design standards and guidelines are design frameworks intended to preserve and enhance the desired character of existing neighborhoods and improve the aesthetic and functional quality of new development projects. They are used during the design review process, in which project designs are evaluated and approved.

Design standards are mandatory design requirements that must be met for the project to be approved. **Design guidelines** are suggestions that are not required. The guidelines are more flexible and provide different approaches to meeting the design standards.

While urban design standards typically focus on aesthetic issues, we want to include a broad definition of urban design that also considers ways to make your community safer, more equitable, healthier, more connected, and more environmentally sound.