

Seattle's hidden housing crisis: Middle-class workers forced out of the city



Kara Peters works at Seattle's C who grew up in West Seattle.

"Grandma, she did Mary Kay. S School," Peters said.

But unlike her parents and grathough she makes a decent income

Crosscut. Politics Culture Equity Environment Opinion MEMBERSHIP Q ...

OPINION

How Seattle's next mayor can solve the housing crisis

Allow the market to build way more housing — and build way more

SE NEWS

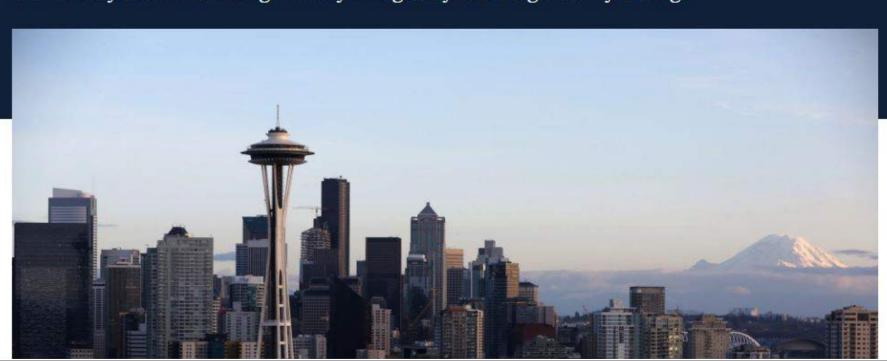
outside the market.

by Katie Wilson / July 21, 2021

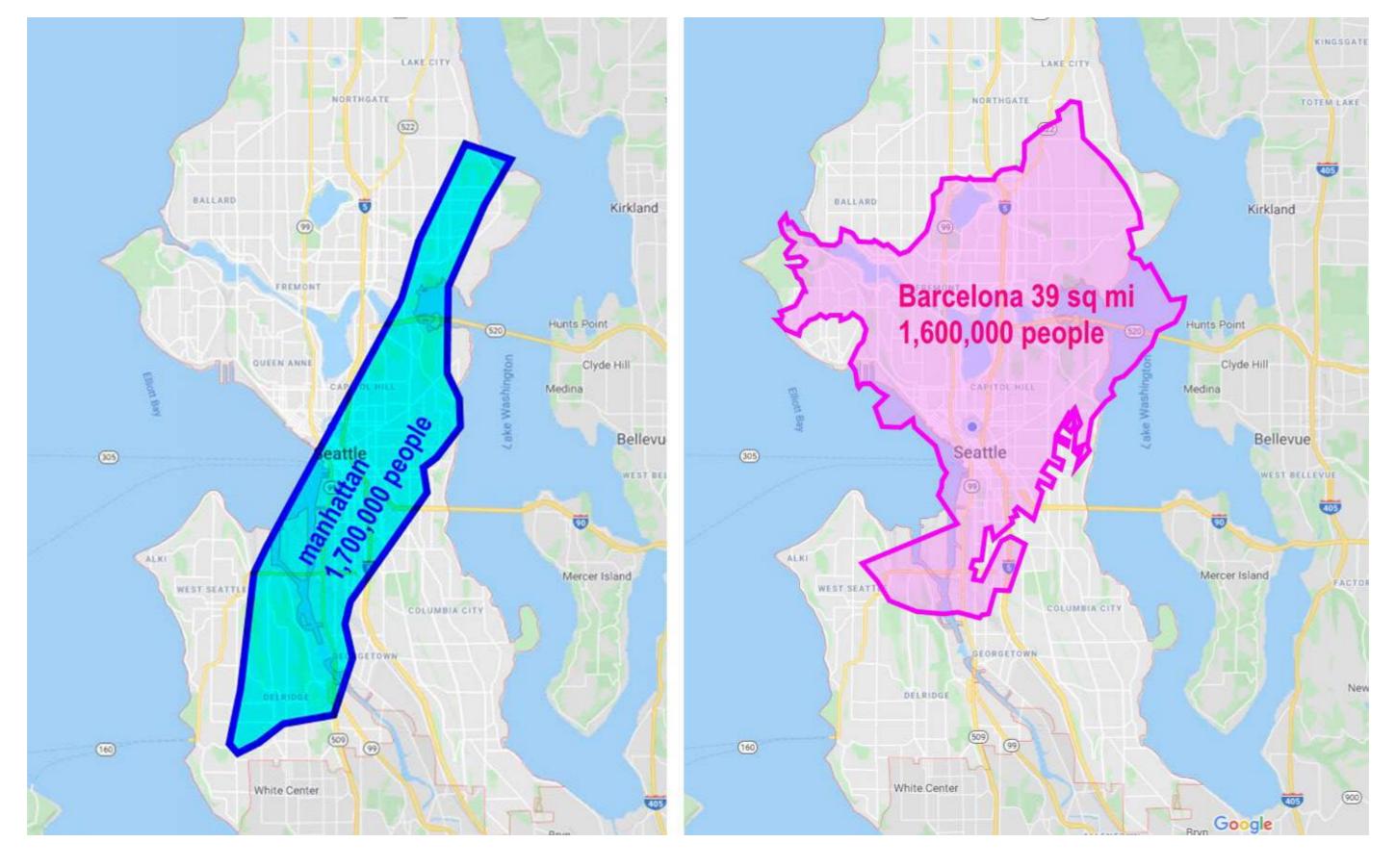
Housing crisis has Seattle weighing end of single-family zoning

Can the city solve its housing crisis by doing away with single-family zoning?

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH U.S. NEWS POLITICS COVID-19



"Seattle isn't in a land crisis"

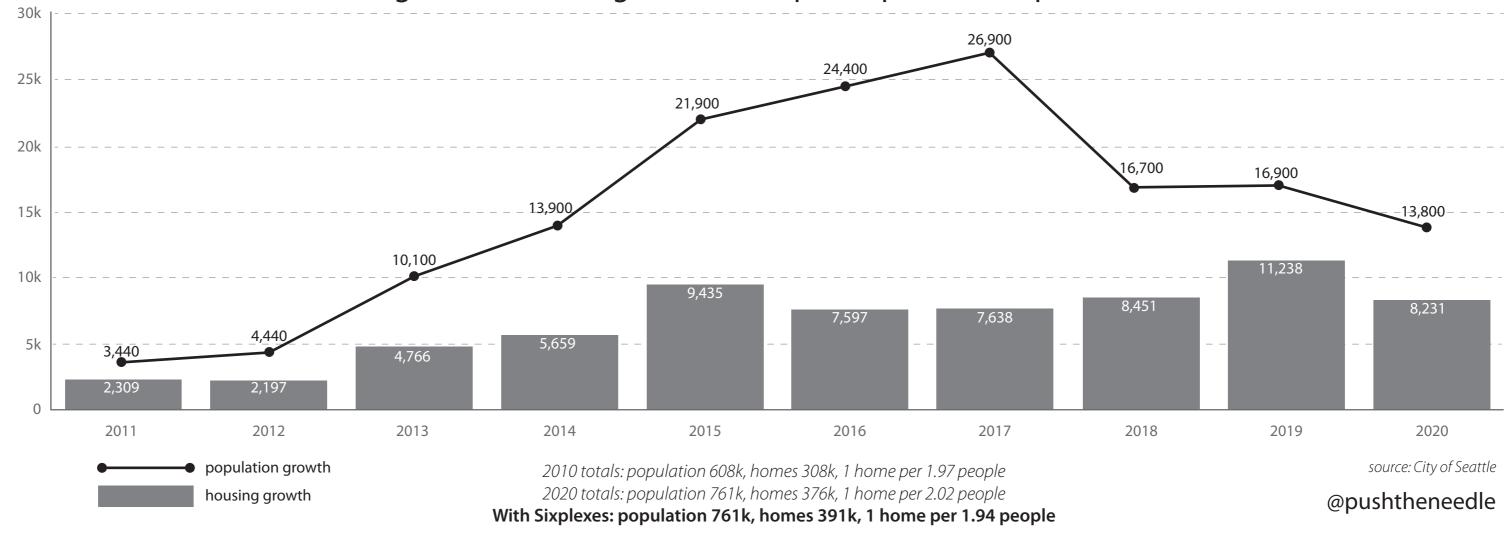


Paris is 41 square miles

-15,000 homes short

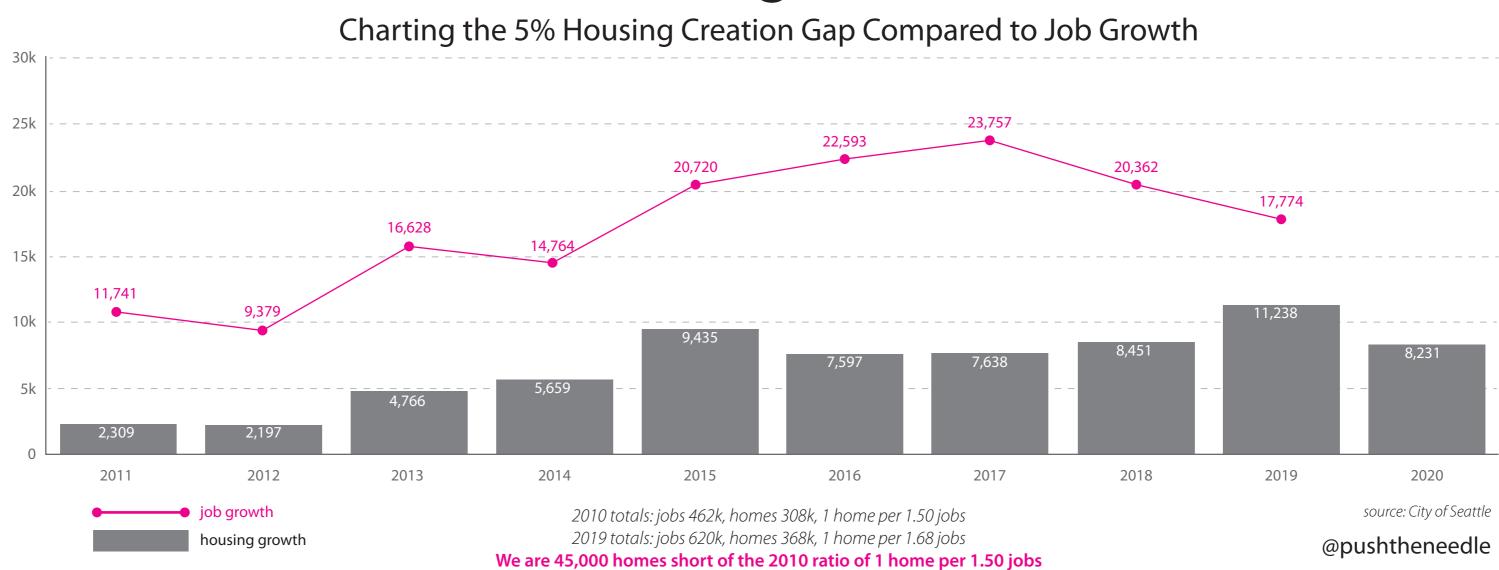
Seattle Housing & Population Growth

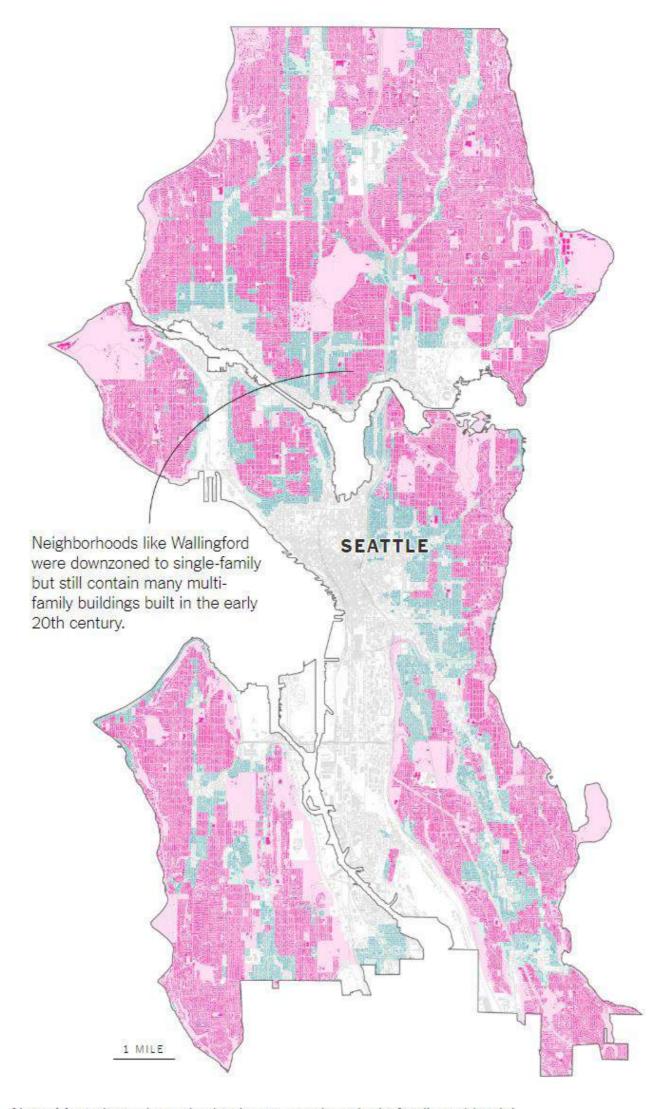
Charting the 5% Housing Creation Gap Compared to Population Growth



-45,000 homes short

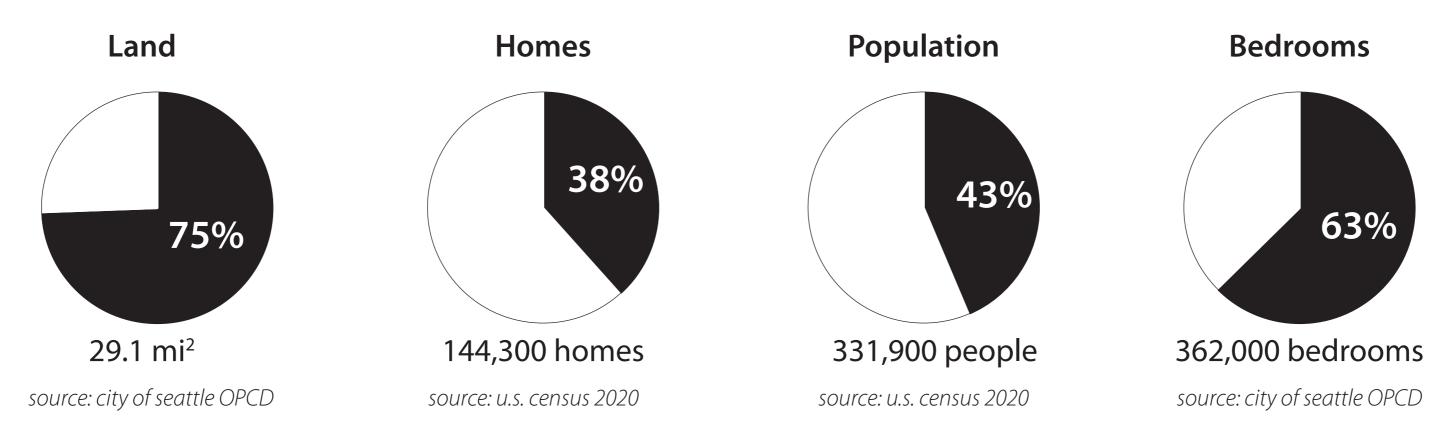
Seattle Housing & Job Growth



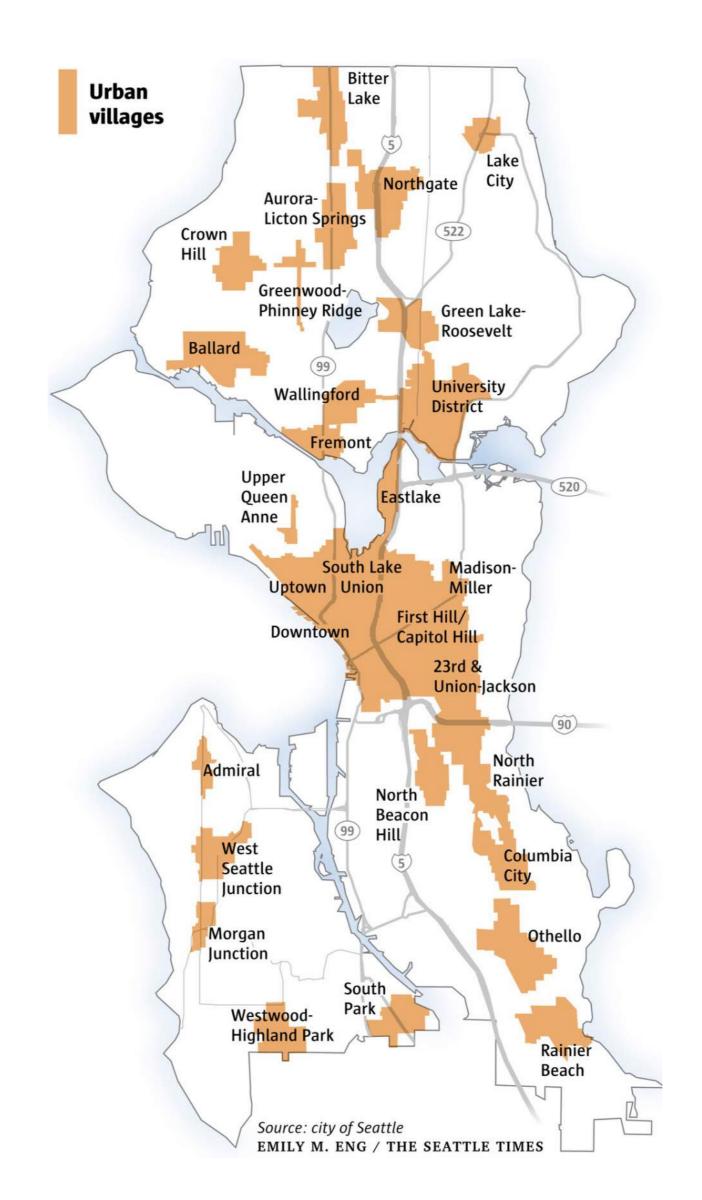


Note: Most city parks and schools are zoned as single-family residential.

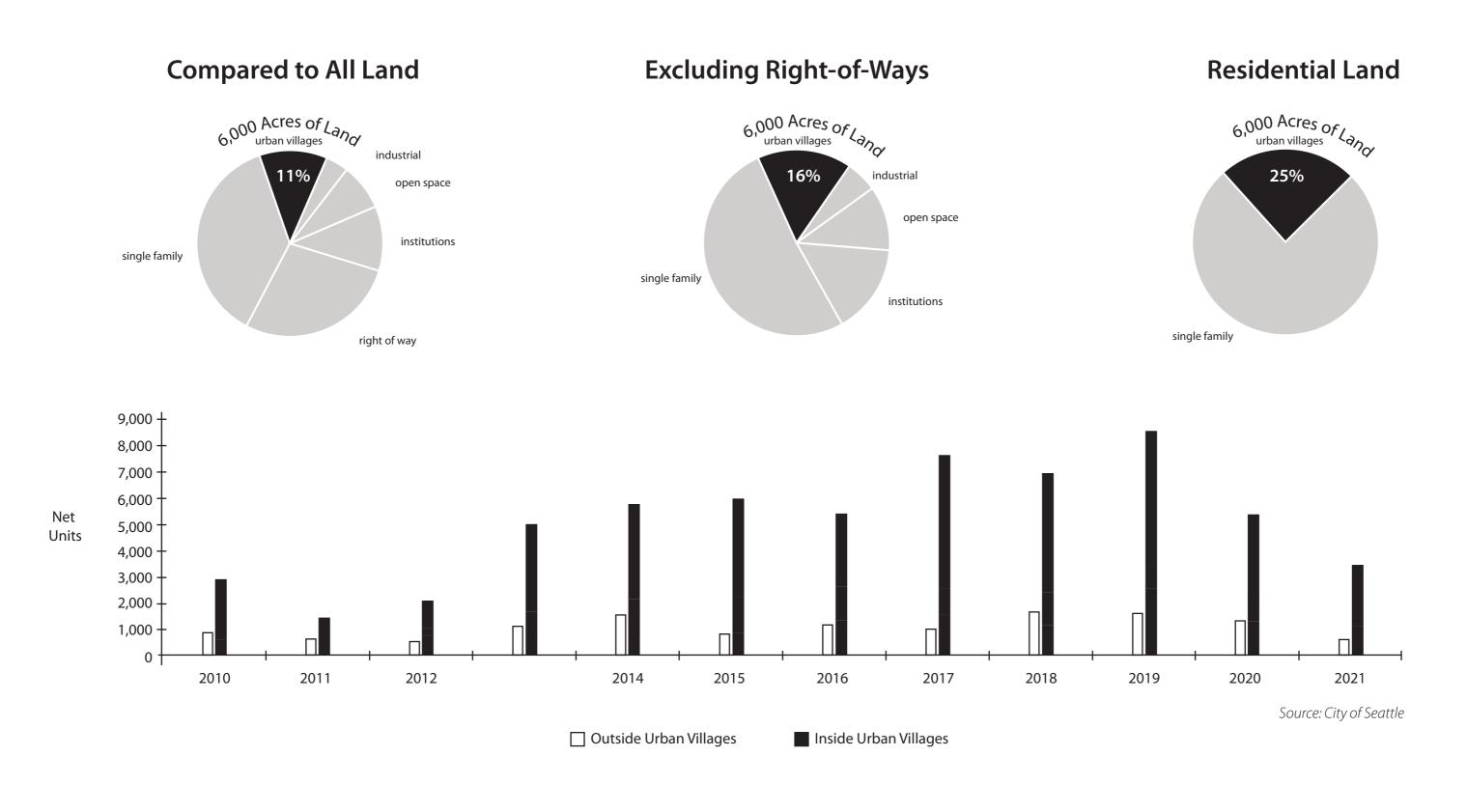
Single Family Dominance
How one housing type dominates Seattle's land with empty bedrooms and empty land



@pushtheneedle

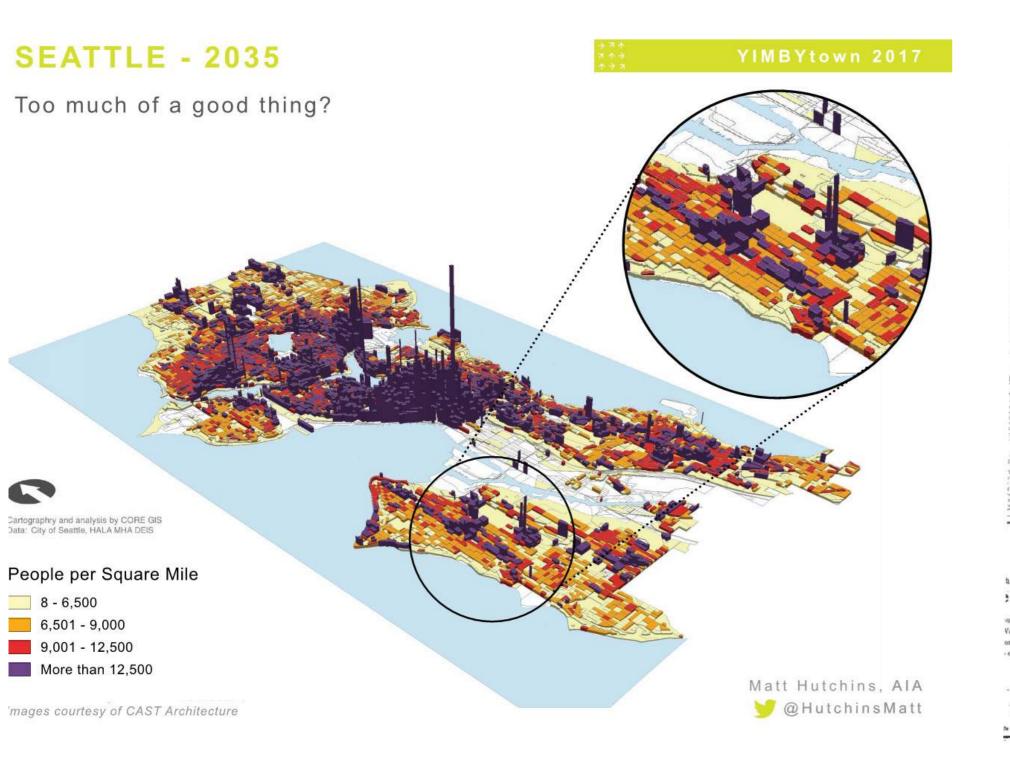


Seattle's Urban Villages

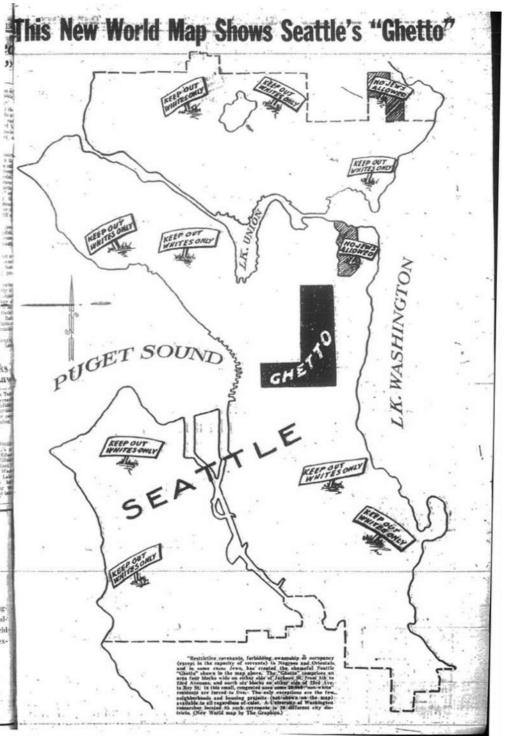


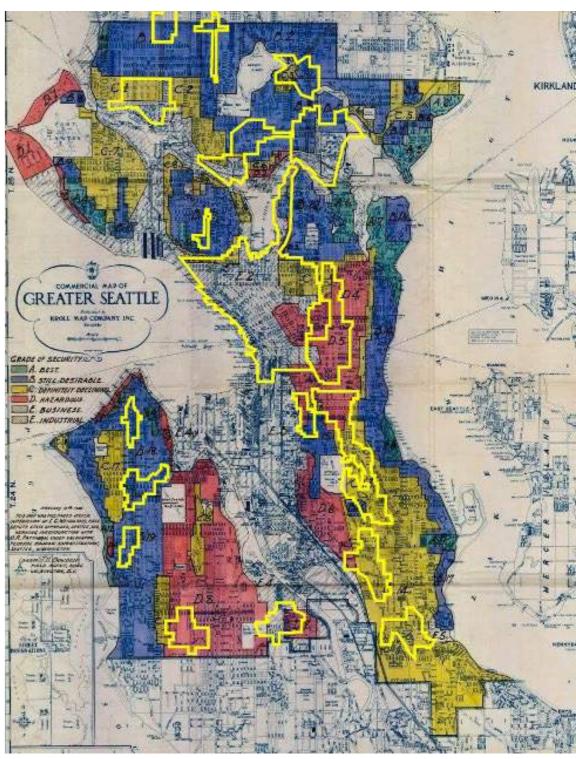
Racial Inequality

77% of new units on 7% of land



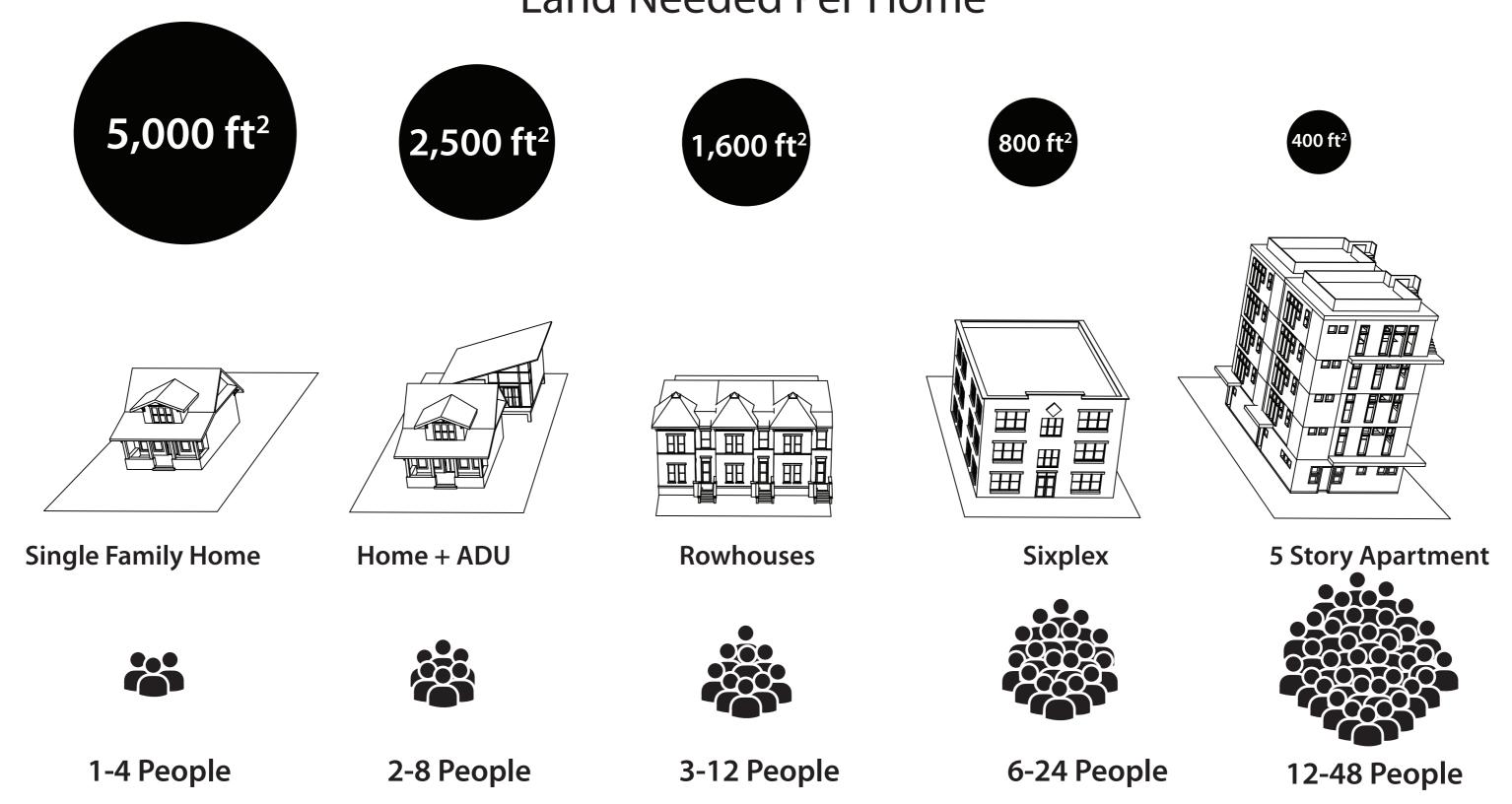
80% of villages on redlined land





How Many Homes Does a 5,000ft² Lot Create?

Land Needed Per Home



Population Per Building

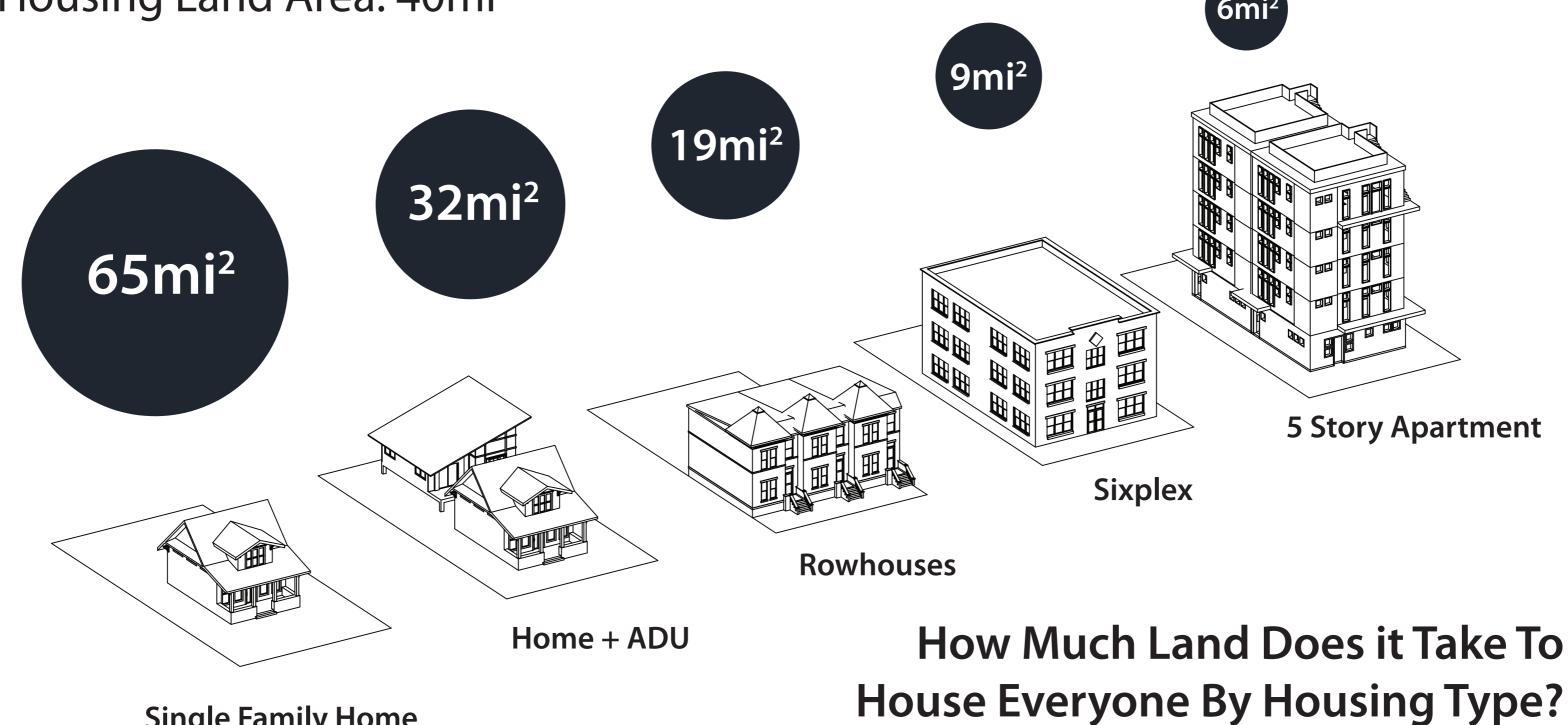
Seattle, Washington

Population: 760,000

Household Size: 2.1

Housing Land Area: 40mi²

Single Family Home

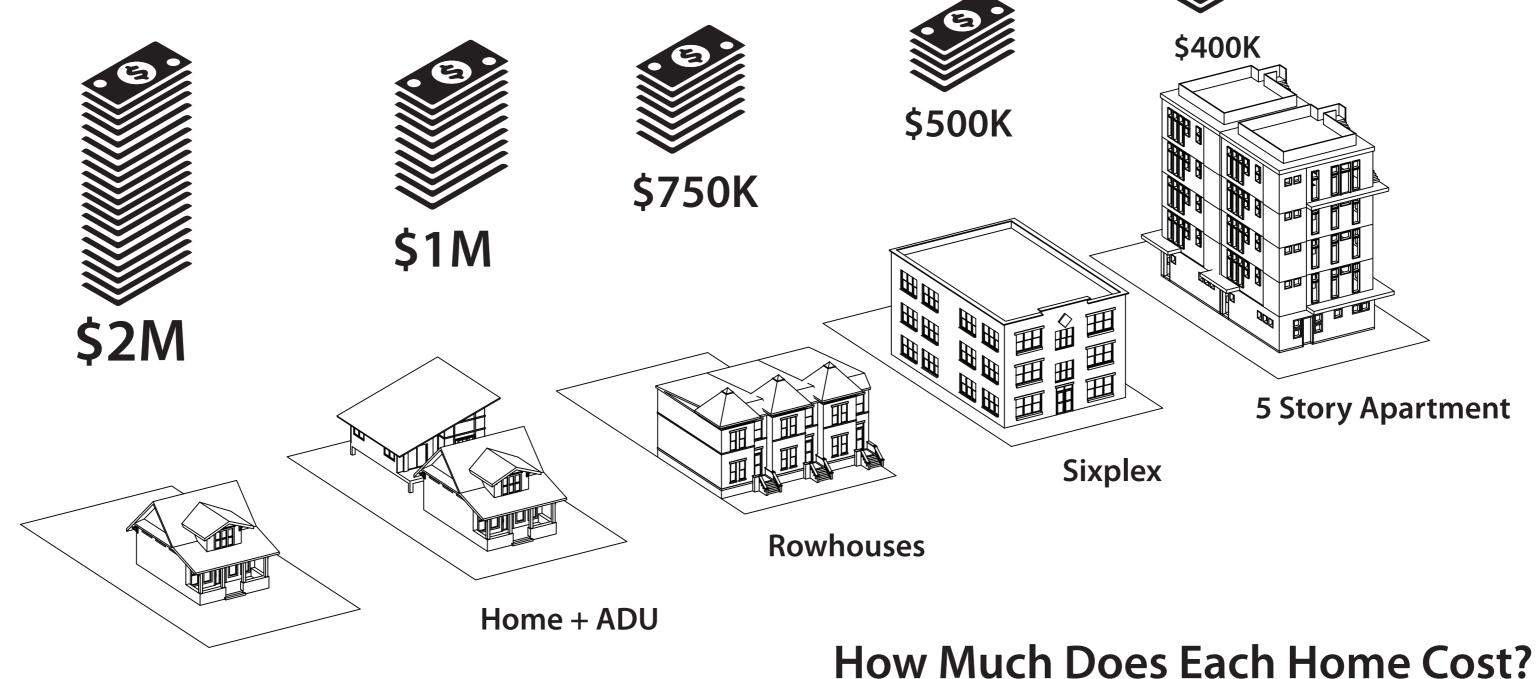


Construction Costs

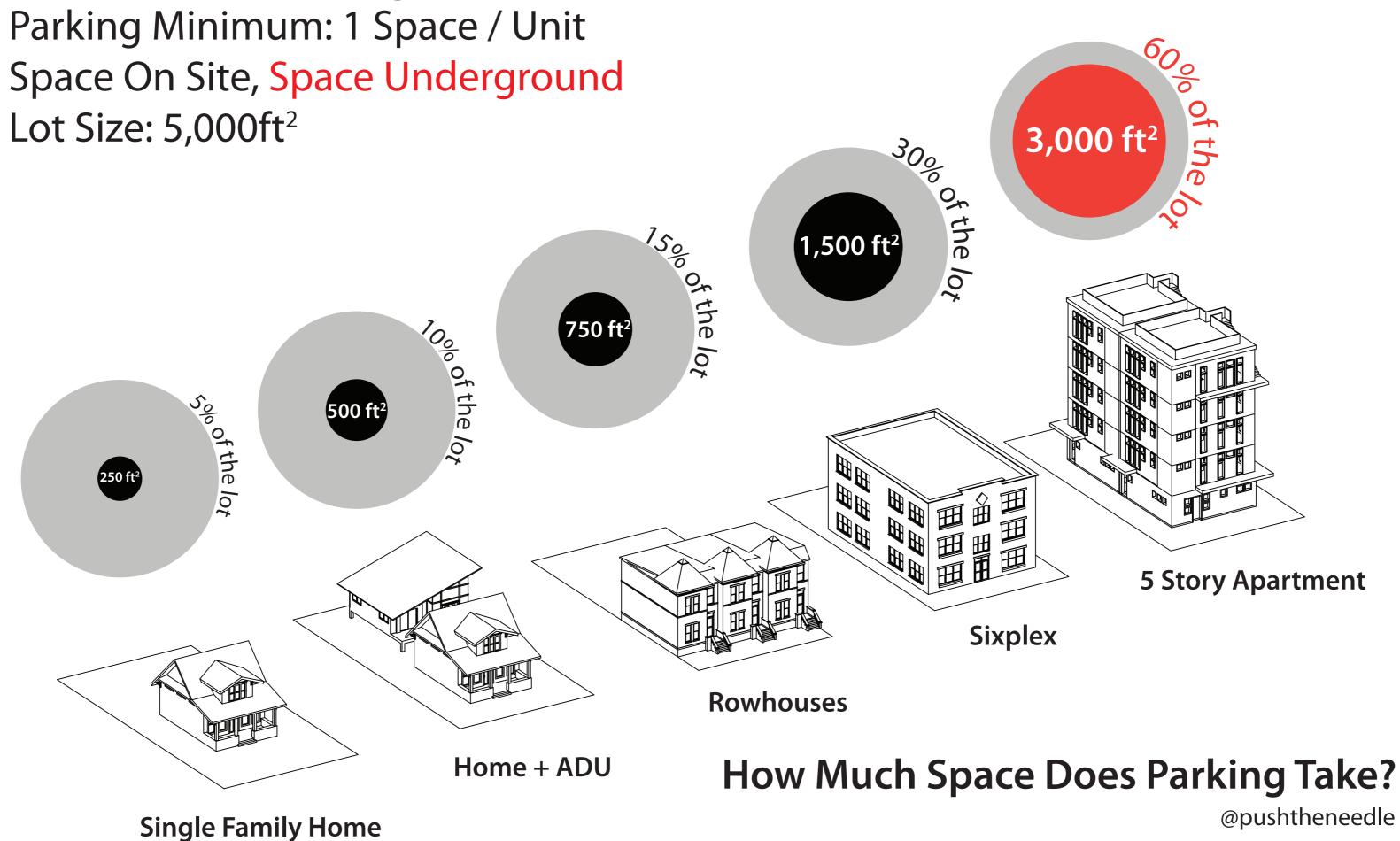
Land Acquisition: \$600,000 Construction Cost: \$300/ft²

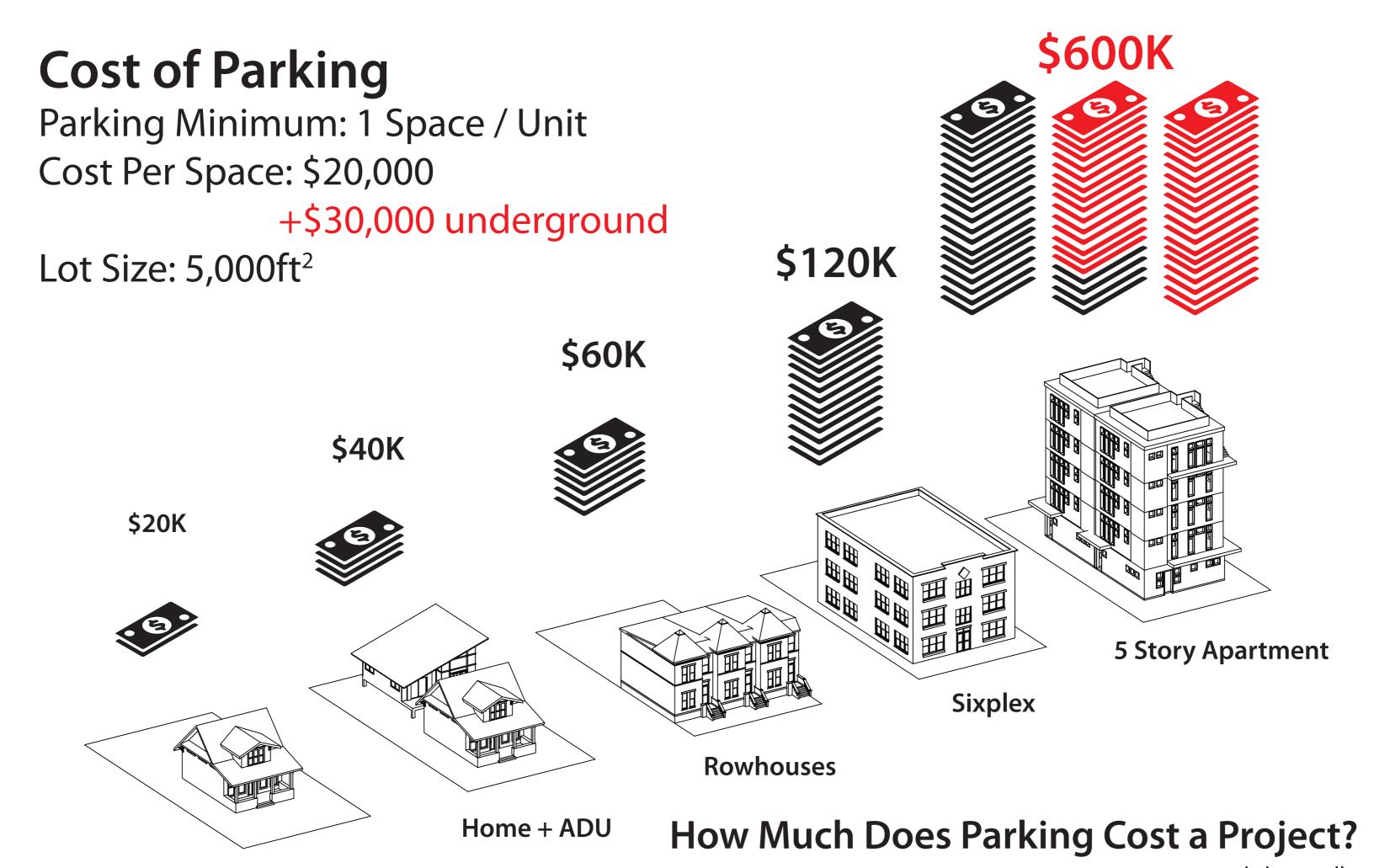
Single Family Home

Profit: \$200,000



Space of Parking

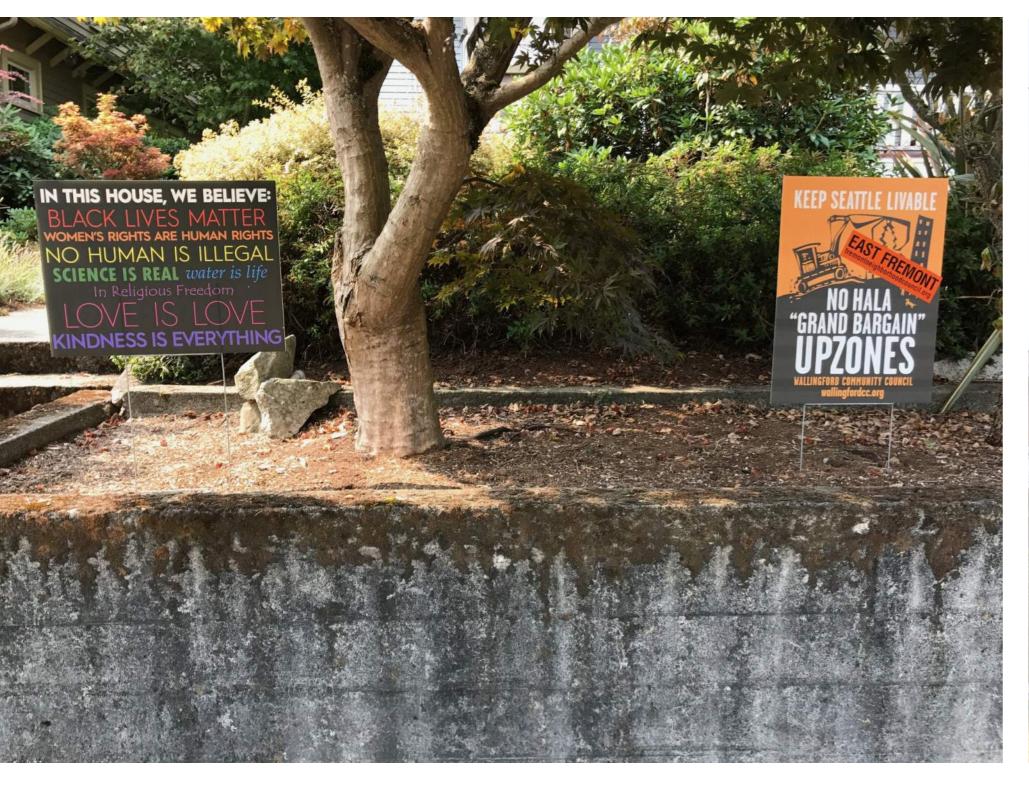




Single Family Home

@pushtheneedle

Resistance

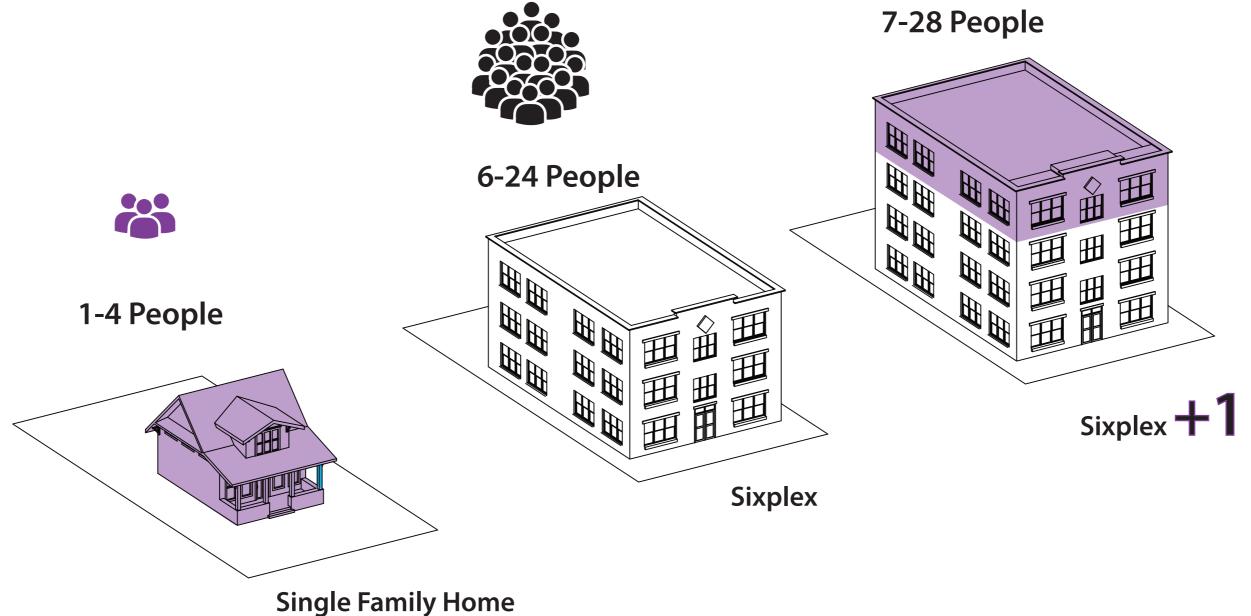




Great Seattle Housing Swap

35' Height Limit (current Single Family limit) Sixplex Units each 1,200 ft²

+1 Level for Housing Swap



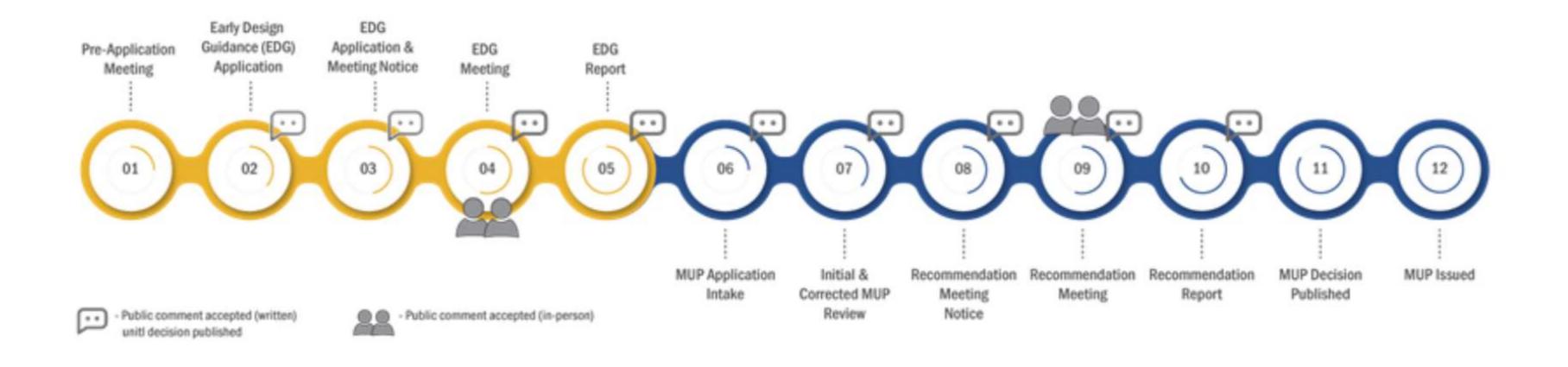
How Does The Housing Swap Bonus Work?

Seattle's Answer?

- +upzone single family zoning
- +eliminate parking minimums
- +increase lot coverage
- +reduce setbacks
- +pre-permitted designs
- +owner occupancy incentive

Cutting the Red Tape

"design review"



500 to 600 days

I.i - QUEEN ANNE FRONTAGE - MASSING & MATERIAL STUDIES

Below is a summary table of the material studies the applicant analyzed for ways to breakdown the Queen Anne Frontage. Geometry studies, parapet height studies, texture studies and all massing and material studies can be found in Appendix 1 (pages 73-88).

Conclusion:

After analyzing the pros and cons of these material changes, the Owner prefers the baseline option with all Inca Mission Brick with texture applied to the middle and deli bays: (1) the all red brick facade best reinforces the massing and architectural concept (2) additional texture

will add variety without becoming too busy (3) introducing a variety of different color/material bays erodes the massing concept of a unified base with a variety of storefront. (4) The preferred option best meets the QA Design Guidelines for expressing a sense of authenticity and reinforcing the Queen Anne character.





2-2-2-1 Inca Mission & Autumn Blend



2-2-2-1 Inca Mission & Forest Blend

BRICK **TYPES**



2-2-2-1 Inca Mission, Coal Creek



2-2-2-1 Inca Mission & Castle Gray



2-2-2-1 Inca Mission & Forest Blend





2-2-2-1 Inca, Coal Creek

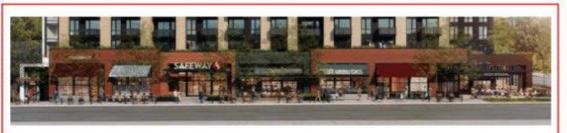


2-2-2-1 Forest, Autumn, Coal Creek



2-2-2-1 Inca, Autumn, Inca, Forest blend





2-1-1-2-1 Inca, Autumn, painted green brick, Inca, Forest (Preferred by Planner)



2-1-1-2-1 Inca, Autumn, painted green brick, Inca, Autumn

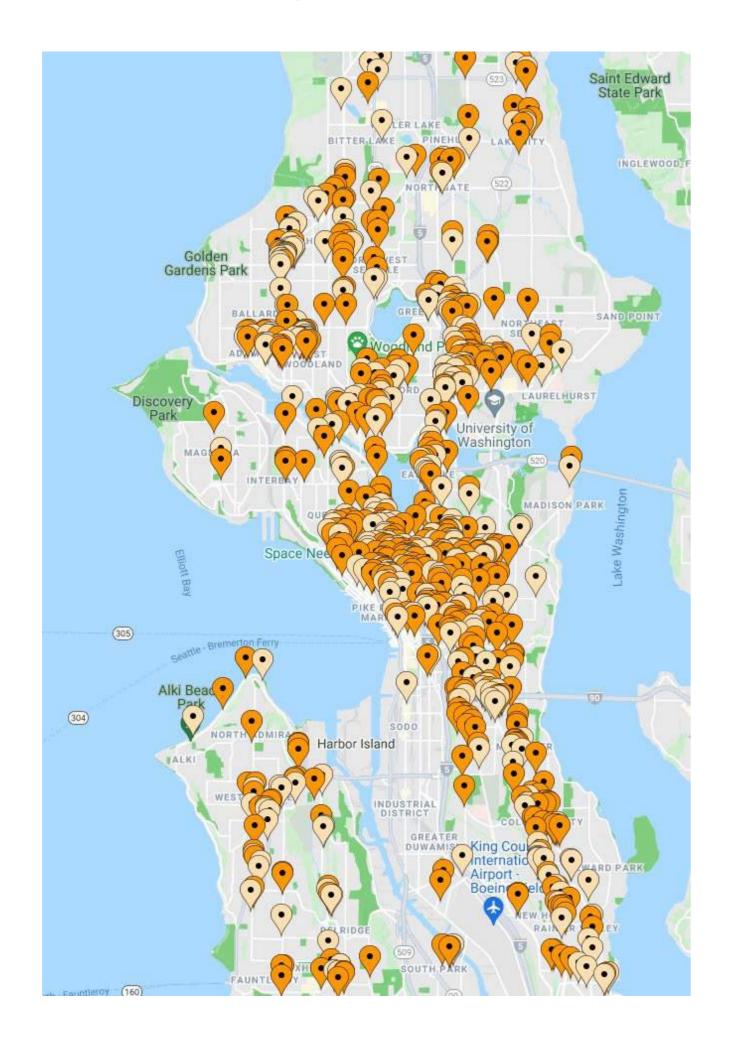


1-1-1-1-1 Autumn, Forest Blend, Inca Mission, painted green brick, Inca, Autumn, Forest Blend

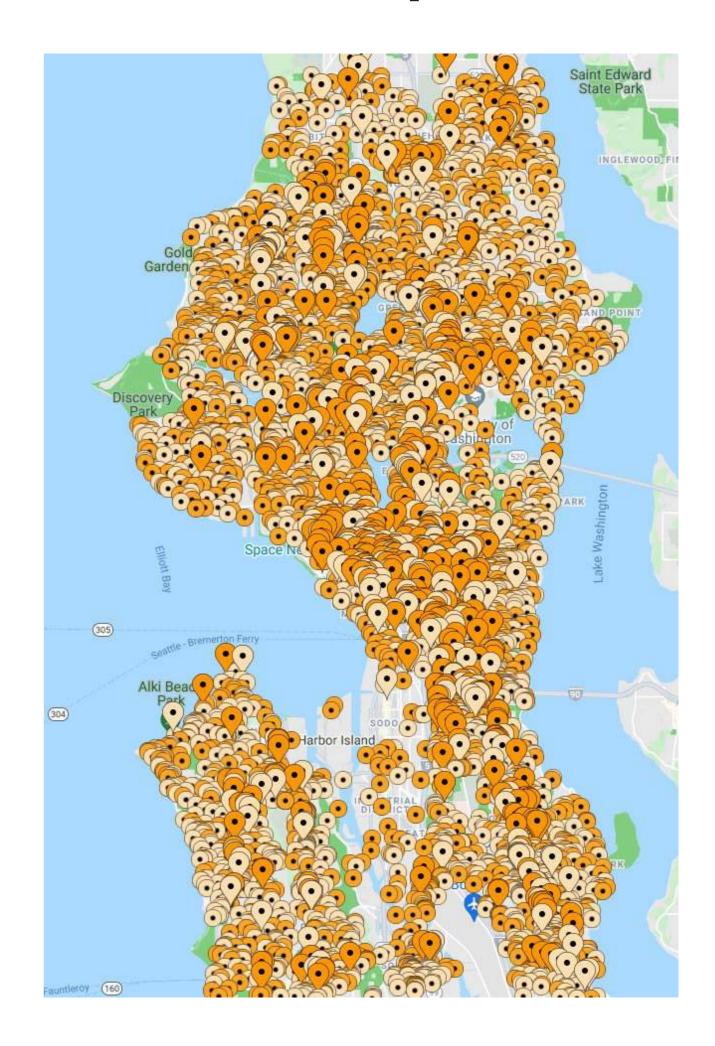
01.2 Design Response | Upper Building Volume

Harmony: adjust and enhance rhythm and balance with proportional subdivisions Composition: depth, joint, shadow, texture 1-6a 1bx 1-1 1-1 1-1 1 YYY YYY YYY YYY floor level (LRoof) b' a' a' b' b' b' floor level (L7) b' a' (5) 12.5 a' b' floor level (L6) b' b' b' a' a' a a floor level (L5) b' (3) ab ab ab ab abo Key to Facade Cladding Proportions + Composition: 1. base rhythm elements: 'a' and 'b' 5. stacked modules determine horizontal joint locations for secondary scale and woven expression 2. upper building volume symmetrical rhythmic scheme 'abba' 6. textured pre-cast panel cladding 3. lower building volume fenestration pattern 'ab' 7. panel depth creates shadow and relief 4. stacked modules determined by linear ascending 8. shadow-box spandrel creates additional layer of proportion of 'a' and 'b' depth and shadow

Design Review:



Exempt:



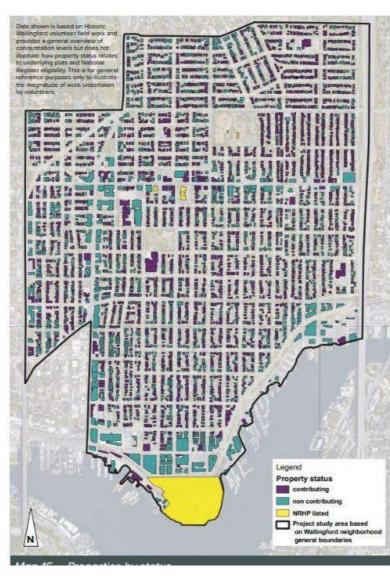
Heritage Preservation

Is this Historic?

3,000 Homes

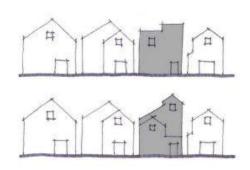
View Preservation



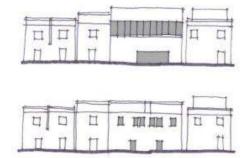




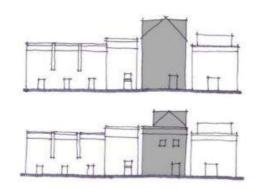
Codes



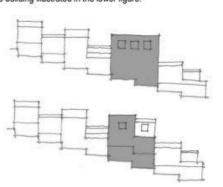
As shown in the lower figure, rooflines can reinforce the architectural character of a street.



In areas that have a number of buildings that feature a distinctive architectural concept or style, referring to that organizational concept can achieve compatibility at a deeper level as shown in the lower diagram.



Incorporating architectural features like comices is more compatible with adjacent buildings, by lowering the apparent, conflicting height of the building illustrated in the lower figure.



The pattern and proportion of windows, doors and other glazed areas (fenestration) is important in determining the building's architectural character. The lower image illustrates that by following the proportion and pattern of neighboring buildings the consistency of the overall streetscape is maintained or increased.

GENERAL BUILDING HEIGHTS AND AREAS

[W][S] TABLE 504.34 ALLOWABLE BUILDING HEIGHT IN FEET ABOVE GRADE PLANE®

OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION	TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION												
	SEE FOOTNOTES	TYPE		TYPE II		TYPE III		TYPE IV				TYPE V	
		A	В	A	В	A	В	A	B	C	HT	A	В
A, B, E, F, M, S, U	NS ^b	UL	160	65	55	65	55	65	65	65	65	50	40
	S	UL	180	85	75	85	75	270	180	85	85	70	6
H-1, H-2, H-3, H-5	NS ^{c, d}	UL	160	65	55	65	55	120	90	65	65	50	40
	S												
H-4	NS ^{c, d}	UL	160	65	55	65	55	65	65	65	65	50	4
	S	UL	180	85	75	85	75	140	100	85	85	70	6
I-1 Condition 1, I-3	NS ^{d, c}	UL	160	65	55	65	55	65	65	65	65	50	4
	S	UL	180	85	75	85	75	180	120	85	85	70	6
I-1 Condition 2, I-2	NS ^{d, c, f}	UL	160	65	- 55	65	55	65	65	65	65	50	40
	Si	UL	180	85									-4
I-4	NS ^{d, g}	UL	160	65	55	65	55	65	65	65	65	50	4
	S	UL	180	85	75	85	75	180	120	85	85	70	6
R ^h	NS ^d	UL	160	65	55	65	55	65	65	65	65	50	4
	S13D	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	50	4
	S13R	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	6
	S	UL	180	85	75	85	75	270	180	85	85	70	6

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

Setback line: 1' for every 2' above the applicable height limit. Applicable height limit, below which no upper-level setback is required

100 pages Design Guidelines

800 pages
Building Code

1,400 pages Zoning Code

Seattle's Answer?

- +save reviews for towers
- +reduce zoning code
- +remove design guidelines
- +make design review advisory
- +reform heritage preservation

What Can Surrey Do?

Thank You

Questions?

