Ballard Avenue Reconfiguration





October 23, 2020



October 23 Agenda

Precedent Document & Public Outreach	10:30 – 10:32 AM
Street Cafes and Merch Displays are Here But There is Conflict	10:32 – 10:35 AM
The Grand Compromise	10:35 – 10:40 AM
The Implementation, Adjustments, & Looking Ahead	10:40 – 10:45 AM



Precedent Document

Researching Precedents From Around the Country

- Tampa, FL
 - Implemented pilot program
 - Fully closed one road
 - Provided Jersey Barriers and picnic tables
- Portland, OR
 - Turned parking lanes in street cafes and plazas
 - Streamlined permitting
 - Provided businesses with a "Toolkit"
- Cincinnati, OH
 - Waived permit fees
 - Provided Jersey Barriers
- On June 16, 2020 the Ballard Alliance provided a 6-page precedents document to City Council, the Mayor's Office, and Seattle Department of Transportation to help encourage the City to allow these types of uses and to provide a potential roadmap as to who to implement such a program in Seattle.









Public Outreach

Public Outreach Using Google Docs

- On June 26, 2020, the Alliance sent a 15question survey to Ballard Ave businesses
 - Do you plan to apply for an SDOT permit for street café/merch display?
 - Would you support a street closure?
 - Would you be willing to re-route deliveries around street closure?
 - How concerned are you regarding parking lose?
- 24 Ballard businesses responded to survey
 - Many supported street closure
 - Concerns around deliveries and lose of parking
 - Mid-block private parking access
 - Overall excitement for street cafes/merch displays and potential street closure





Street Cafes & Merch Displays Are Here

SDOT Announces Free Permit for Street Cafes/Merchandise Displays on June 26, 2020

- Ballard businesses were quick to apply for their permits and began setting up their outdoor cafes and displays.
 - Upwards of 15 permits submitted in the first week alone
- Immediate benefit for restaurants
 - Previously they were only open to take out
 - They could now accommodate dine-in eaters (outside)
- Very few retailers chose to take advantage of this opportunity
 - Three applied for their permit and set up merch display
 - Capacity limitations weren't an issue for many retailers
- Immediate issues arose on Sundays
 - Businesses weren't moving for the Sunday Farmer's Market
 - The Market worked with businesses until relations frayed
 - After nearly two months of negotiations, the Alliance brokered a compromise between businesses, the Market, and SDOT.





The Grand Compromise

The Ballard Alliance, Ballard Ave Businesses, Farmer's Market, and SDOT Find a Compromise

- Factors at play:
 - On July 22, 2020, Mayor Durkan announces free Street Closure Permit and SDOT opens applications on July 29, 2020
 - The Alliance had ruled out a full street closure:
 - Mid-block private parking lots need access
 - Concerns over deliveries
 - Staffing and infrastructure concerns/limitations
- The Grand Compromise:
 - The Alliance applied for a Street Closure Permit that would:
 - Reconfigure Ballard Ave from two-way to one-way
 - Allow permitted businesses with Street Closure to expand their street cafes/merch displays from 7' in depth to 12' in depth
 - Confirmed all permitted businesses with Street Closure would remove street cafes/merch displays during Farmer's Market hours



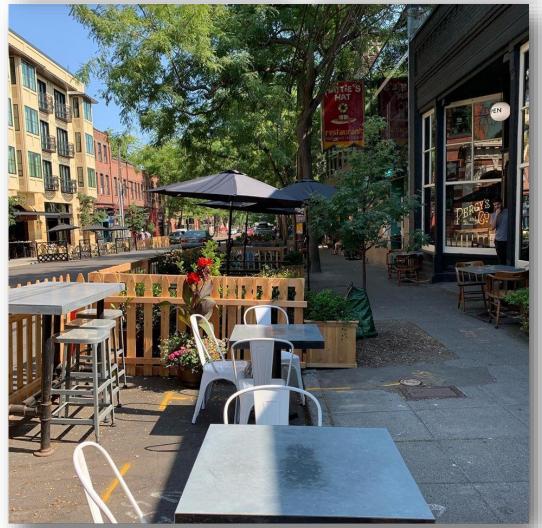


Implementation & Adjustments

Street Cafes, Merchandise Displays and One-Way

- SDOT provided the Alliance with a Traffic Control Plan
- The Alliance purchased necessary street signage and installed them on September 1, 2020
- Adjustments
 - Weighed down signage with cinder blocks and chains
 - Signage was updated twice to gain full compliance from drivers
 - SPD and Parking Enforcement had to be notified of this reconfiguration and length of permit
 - Google Maps, etc. needed to be updated to avoid routing drivers the wrong way
- Looking forward
 - The Alliance has been working with SDOT on winterizing street cafes/merch displays
 - Tent sides
 - Heating
 - Lighting







Thank you!