



Puget Sound Regional Council

**2024 FHWA REGIONAL COMPETITION: PROJECT SPONSOR FOLLOW-UP  
QUESTIONS**

AGENCY: Kent

PROJECT: Meet Me on Meeker: Interurban Trail to 6th Avenue S Connection

**Question #1:** Please identify the existing disparities or gaps in the transportation system for the identified Equity Focus Areas that need to be addressed. Describe how the project is addressing those disparities or gaps and will provide benefits or positive impacts to these equity populations by improving their mobility.

**Answer #1:**

The equity focus area (EFA) population within the project area, through engagement, identified project needs for a) more activated public spaces with eyes on the street to make them feel more secure, b) improved crossing opportunities such as shorter crossing distances and more visible crossing treatments, and c) additional lighting in the corridor.

To address these disparities, the project adds a) more room and separated spaces for active transportation options with separate two-way bike lanes and pedestrian walkway buffered from each other as well as the automobile travel lanes, b) curb extensions that shorten the crossing distance for pedestrians at 6<sup>th</sup> Ave S, and additional pedestrian scale lighting (see example image from the application supporting materials of what the typical lighting looks like as built from a segment of Meet Me on Meeker further west along the corridor.)

Equity focus area populations served by the project disproportionately do not have access to a personal vehicle. Using the USDOT STEAP GIS tool in 2024 to estimate the affected population data, an estimated 1,200 residents within a mile of the project do not have access to a personal vehicle. The project increases accessibility to opportunities, jobs, education, basic and social services along the corridor via transit and active travel modes for all ages and abilities. The positive impacts would reasonably be expected for the EFA groups.