Mt. Baker

AREA DESCRIPTION —

The Mt. Baker transit community, located in the City of Seattle, has been served by light rail since 2009. Mt. Baker is also served by several local and express bus routes. Current land use is characterized by commercial, multifamily residential, and civic uses along the main corridor, surrounded by single-family residential. The area has a mix of large and small blocks and diverse neighborhood amenities, resulting in a moderately walkable environment. Barriers to walkability include high traffic volume and speeds along Rainier Avenue and Martin Luther King Jr. Way, major intersections, and auto oriented commercial along Rainier Avenue.

The Mt. Baker transit community has a population of 6,075, with 65 percent minority, making it relatively diverse compared to transit communities studied. Education and income levels of Mt. Baker residents are higher than most other South Corridor transit communities, but still lower than the regional average.

Housing in the community is primarily single family, with some multifamily located along the major arterials. The community includes a concentration of subsidized units. Overall, the supply of housing for households earning 50% of AMI and below is on par with both regional need and other transit communities. Studies indicate this area has a strong market poised for redevelopment, suggesting a potential risk for displacement.

LOCAL PLANNING —

Mt. Baker transit community is partially located within a City of Seattle designated Hub Urban Village and includes a Station Area Overlay. In 2010 the City of Seattle completed an update of the Mt. Baker neighborhood plan. Additionally, in 2011, the city completed an Urban Design Framework to implement the community’s vision and guide future redevelopment.

LAND USE

Revised Summer 2013

TRANSPORTATION

Mt. Baker

The Growing Transit Communities program is supported by a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program. For more information: visit psrc.org or contact Ben Bakkenta at 206-971-3286 or bbakkenta@psrc.org

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