Land Use Code Amendments

Permit process and design standards for East Link Light Rail

- Reason for Land Use Code Amendments
- Proposed Code Framework
- Next Steps / Schedule
- Seeking Council Direction to Proceed

Land Use Code Amendments; Why Now?

- City commitment in MOU with Sound Transit
- Clearly define permitting path for East Link
- Address gaps where code does not provide clear guidance or were requirements don't make sense
 - Create design standards specific to light rail
 - Establish development standards consistent with Land Use Code & Light Rail Best Practices

Gaps

- East Link passes more than 20 land use districts
- Almost half of East Link is in ROW where land use provisions typically do not apply
- LU Code lacks content specific design standards

Proposed Code Framework

- Create Light Rail Overlay District
 - Provides development standards, design criteria, and mitigation specific to light rail
 - Consolidates requirements into single portion of Land Use Code
 - Reduces complexity in code administration process
- Maintenance Base facilities are not included within scope of proposed changes

Process Path

- Code cannot preclude Essential Public Facilities
- Two alternative permit paths proposed
 - Development Agreement (DA)
 - Conditional Use Permit (CUP)
- Council retains decision authority

Next Steps

October 8th Study Session, draft amendments
October 22nd Public hearing
November Study Session(s), refine amendments
December Anticipated final action

Questions & Discussion