



# Samish Way Urban Village Sehome Neighborhood History

Sehome Neighborhood Association  
[www.sehome.org](http://www.sehome.org)

# Project History

- WWU Urban Planning Student Work
- 2004-2005: Sehome neighborhood survey
- 2006: Samish Way Urban Village Committee formed
  - Neighborhood Improvement Grant Proposal
  - Outreach to surrounding neighborhoods
  - Business breakfast meeting
  - EPA/Sustainable Connections design charette
- 2007: Sehome Neighborhood Plan update
  - Committee breakout session
  - Plan submitted December 2007





# WWU/Huxley Urban Planning Student Work

# 2004 Student Conceptual Master Plan

16 Samish Way Redevelopment Conceptual Master Plan

**1-Crosswalk**  
Pedestrian friendly street scape.

**2- Plaza**  
Outdoor plaza providing a community area with commercial and retail frontage.

**3-Bus stop**  
Safe and accessible public transportation facilities, located along retail strip.

**4-Multi-use**  
Mixed-use zoned buildings providing retail, business, and residential uses.

**5-Multi-use**  
Mixed-use buildings with no setbacks allows for an active retail setting.

**6-Green Median**  
Green medians used as a traffic calming device as well as providing pedestrian accessibility.

"Smartcode", a development ordinance created to integrate Smart Growth and other sustainable development approaches (accessible at [www.dpz.com/transsect.htm](http://www.dpz.com/transsect.htm)).

Huxley College of the Environment, Planning Studio - Spring 2004

## Samish Way Redevelopment Conceptual Master Plan

ESTU 470 Planning Studio  
Spring 2004

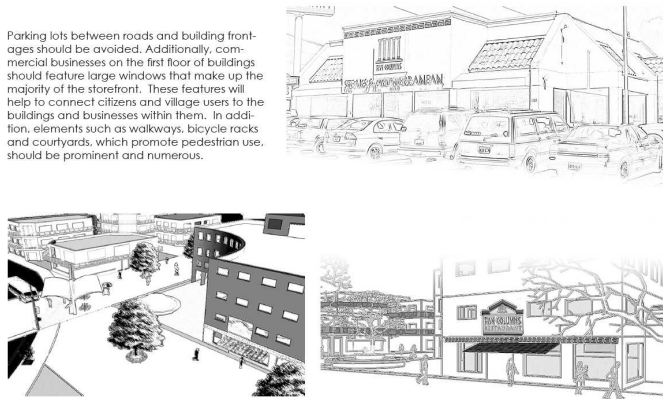
Huxley College of the Environment  
Western Washington University  
Bellingham, Washington



# 2007 Student Design Concept

<b>Use Concepts</b>	2.5
Design Standards	

Parking lots between roads and building frontages should be avoided. Additionally, commercial businesses on the first floor of buildings should feature large windows that make up the majority of the storefront. These features will help to connect citizens and village users to the buildings and businesses within them. In addition, elements such as walkways, bicycle racks and courtyards, which promote pedestrian use, should be prominent and numerous.





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Concept	<b>Use Concepts</b>	2.5
Design Standards		

Should feature prominent native species should not care requirements environment.

Lighting should be used in orient spaces without pollution.

16

aesthetics





# 2004 – 2005 Sehome Neighborhood Survey

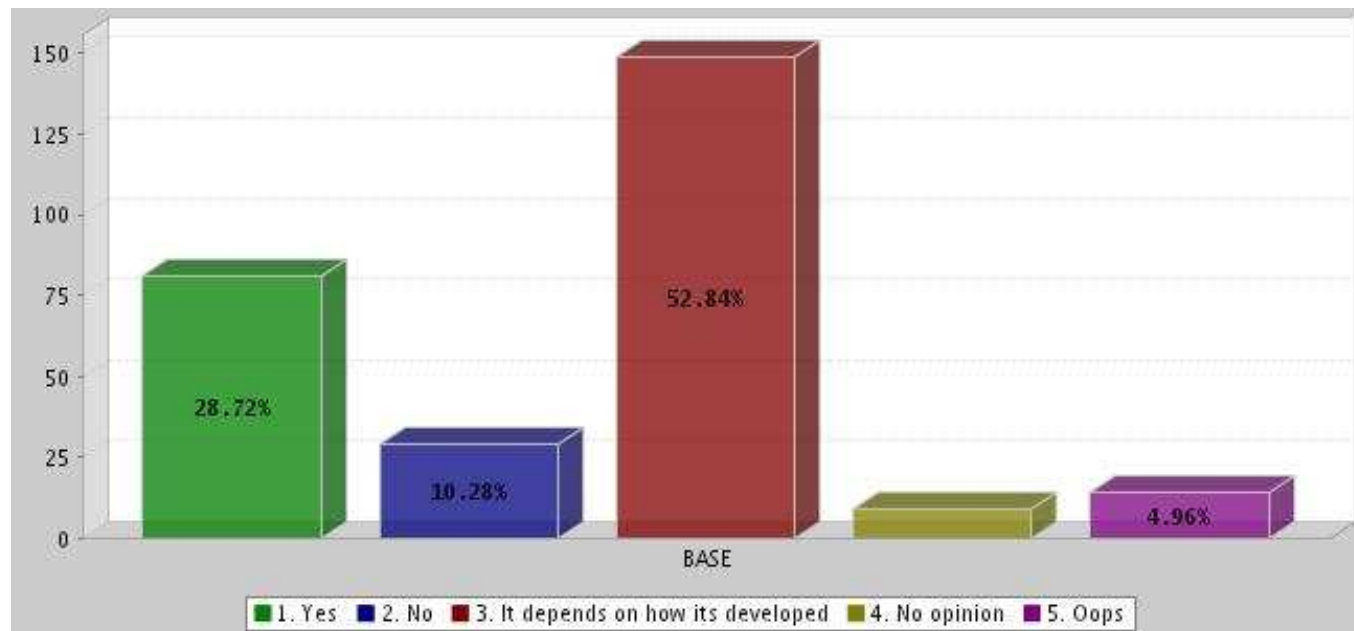
# Survey Response

- Survey mailed to all addresses in Sehome Neighborhood (approximately 2000)
- Over 300 responses



“Samish Way redevelopment would bring urban development and added population...”

## Would an urban village\* be a positive addition to Sehome?



\* “An urban village combines multifamily housing with stores, offices, restaurants, and services.”



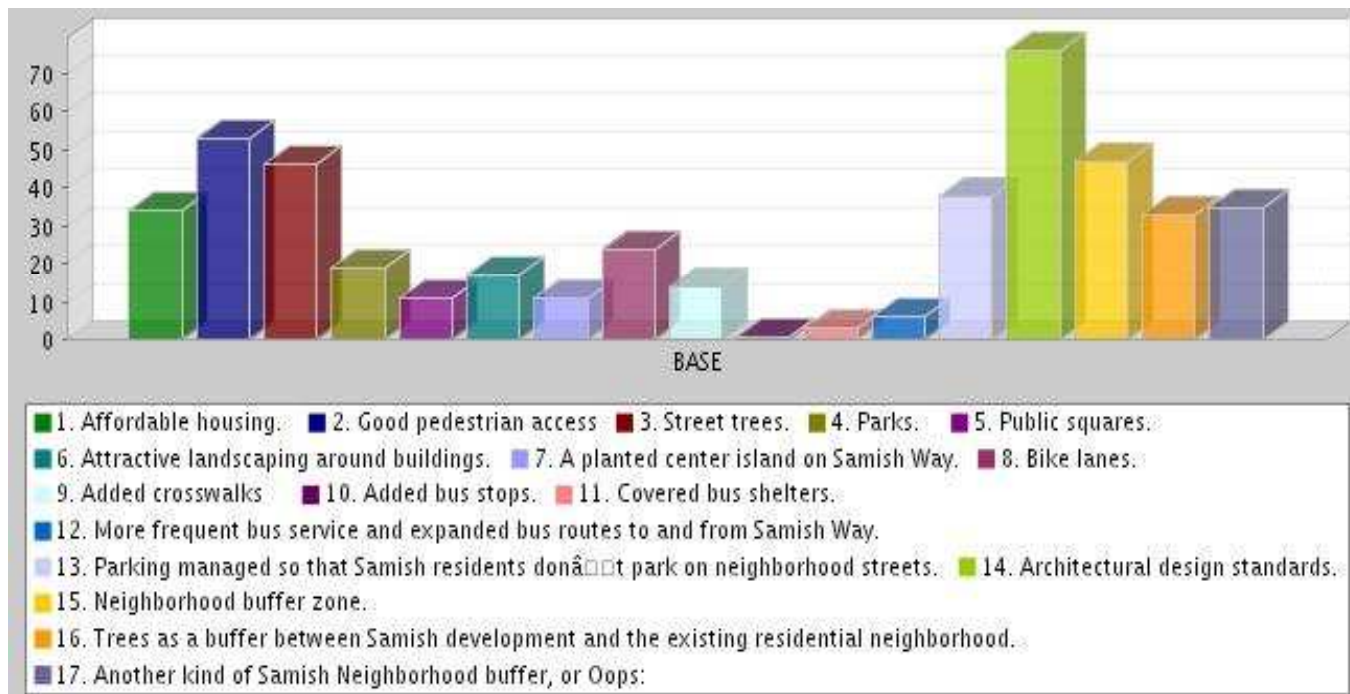
# What kind of stores or services?

<b>Retail</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>Food Service</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Grocery</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Services</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Arts &amp; Entertainment</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Institutional</b>	<b>16</b>



(145 Responses)

# Most important features of an urban village





# 2006: Samish Way Urban Village Committee

## 2006 NIP Grant Proposal

- Focused on safety, crosswalks, & urban village
- Brought project to the attention of City planners

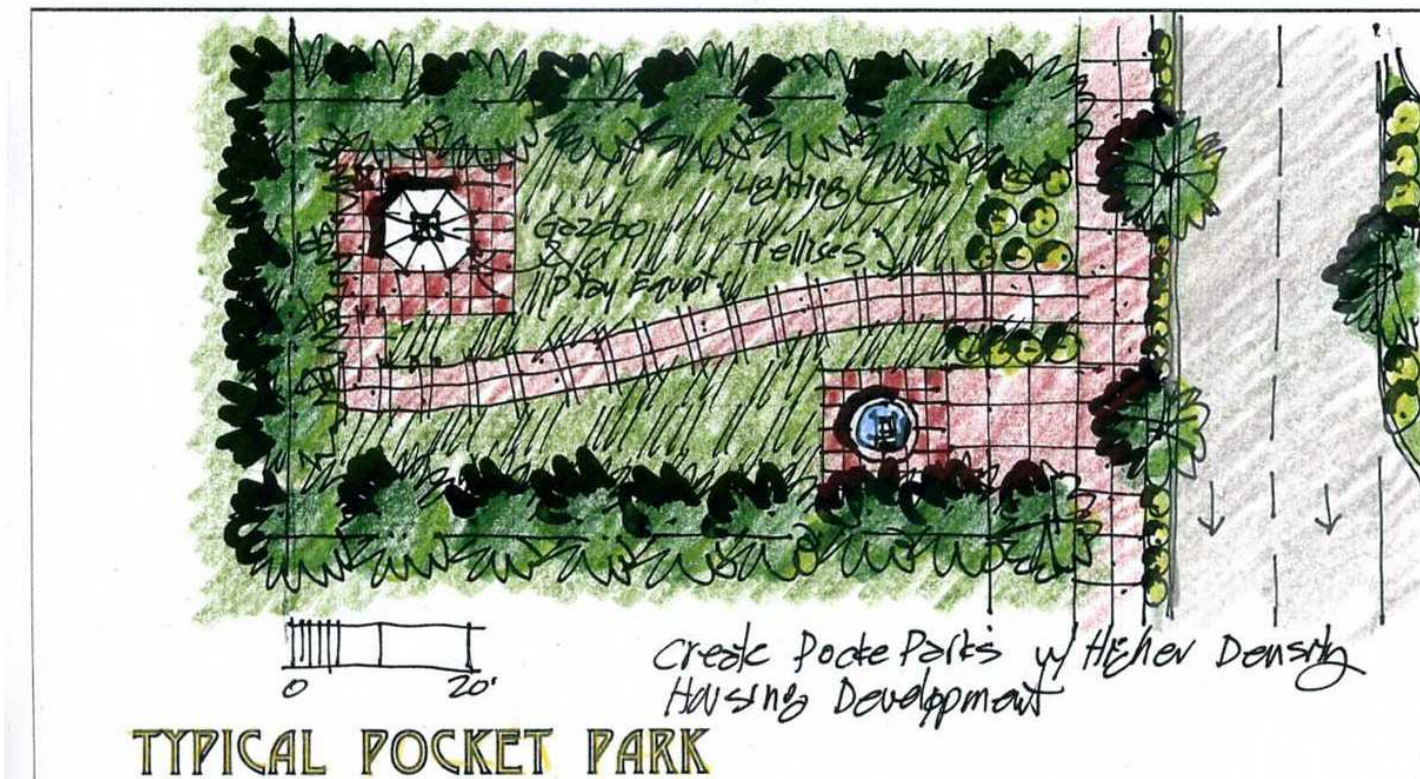


# EPA/Sustainable Connections Design Charette

- Facilitated by Dave Christensen
- Approximately 30 stakeholder participants
- Neighbors, business owners, property owners, developers, planners, architects, city council members, public works staff
- List of ideas and concerns
- Illustrations of concepts
- Promise for more input opportunities



# EPA/Sustainable Connections Design Charette (continued)



# Sustainable Connections Business Breakfast Meeting

- Approximately 25% of businesses attended
- Charette results presented
- Ideas, concerns solicited






# 2007: Sehome Neighborhood Plan Update

# Breakout session in Neighborhood Plan update public input meeting

**PRESERVING WHAT WE LOVE - IMPROVING THE REST**

**NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN UPDATE**  
**SEHOME 2027**  
**Step 1: What do we want?**



**What is the Sehome Neighborhood Plan?**  
 Part of the Bellingham Comprehensive Plan, it states how and where development can occur in Sehome. It's official city policy, and will guide decisions about zoning, development, traffic, residential density, etc. It's the legal roadmap to our future.

**What is the meeting about?**  
 We will present an overview of the neighborhood planning process, and then break out into groups to find out what you would like to see change in the next 30 years, and what you want to preserve. We'll focus on topics from our 2005 neighborhood-wide survey:

- Density
- Samish Way corridor
- St. Joseph S. campus
- Architectural Design Standards
- Historic Preservation
- YOUR concerns


**Why should I attend?**  
 This meeting is your best chance to help create the vision for Sehome's future. There will be later opportunities to refine and prioritize, but March 4 we will set the direction.

**What if I can't attend on March 6?**  
 You can call or write the forms for the meeting workshops, or download them at [www.sehome.org](http://www.sehome.org). But, if you come to the meeting, you can hear your neighbors' thoughts, learn more about the process, and get involved.

**Is there a cutoff date for comments?**  
 All Step 1 input must be received by March 31.

**What is step 2?**  
 In future steps this year, we will review and collate the input, present it back to the neighborhood for comment, incorporate those comments, and make available a plan for review. See [www.sehome.org](http://www.sehome.org) for the full timeline and opportunities to contribute, comment, or help.




**Special introduction by Mayor Tim Douglas**



Sehome Neighborhood Association  
 PO Box 743  
 Bellingham, WA 98227  
 360-671-7076

**MARCH 6th, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. • 511 E. Holly St**

**NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN UPDATE**  
**SEHOME 2027**  
**Step 1: What do we want?**

**YOU DECIDE!**

**Sehome Neighborhood MEETING**

**MARCH 6TH, 6:30 - 9:00 PM**  
**WECU EDUCATIONAL CENTER**  
**511 E. HOLLY ST. • [www.sehome.org](http://www.sehome.org)**

**CAN'T BE THERE?**  
 Your input is still needed by March 31!  
 ←DETAILS



# Neighborhood Plan update

- The city should support development of the urban village
- Development should include transition areas sensitive to surrounding residential
- Input to date should be incorporated into the Master Planning process
- The plan should include appropriate open space





Thanks!