City of Seattle WSBLE

Design Guidelines

Seattle Design Commission 1.07.2021

Seattle

The last time we met…

1. Using **Design Tools in "interim"** to inform design decisions during EIS process

2. Sub-committee on **Evaluation Tools**

3. Continue to develop **design goals**, with a focus on sustainability, art, and equity

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

1) Design Guideline Development
2) Recap: Evaluation Tools Sub-Committee Meeting
3) **Draft Design Goals**
4) **Draft Outline of Design Guideline Sections**
5) Next Steps
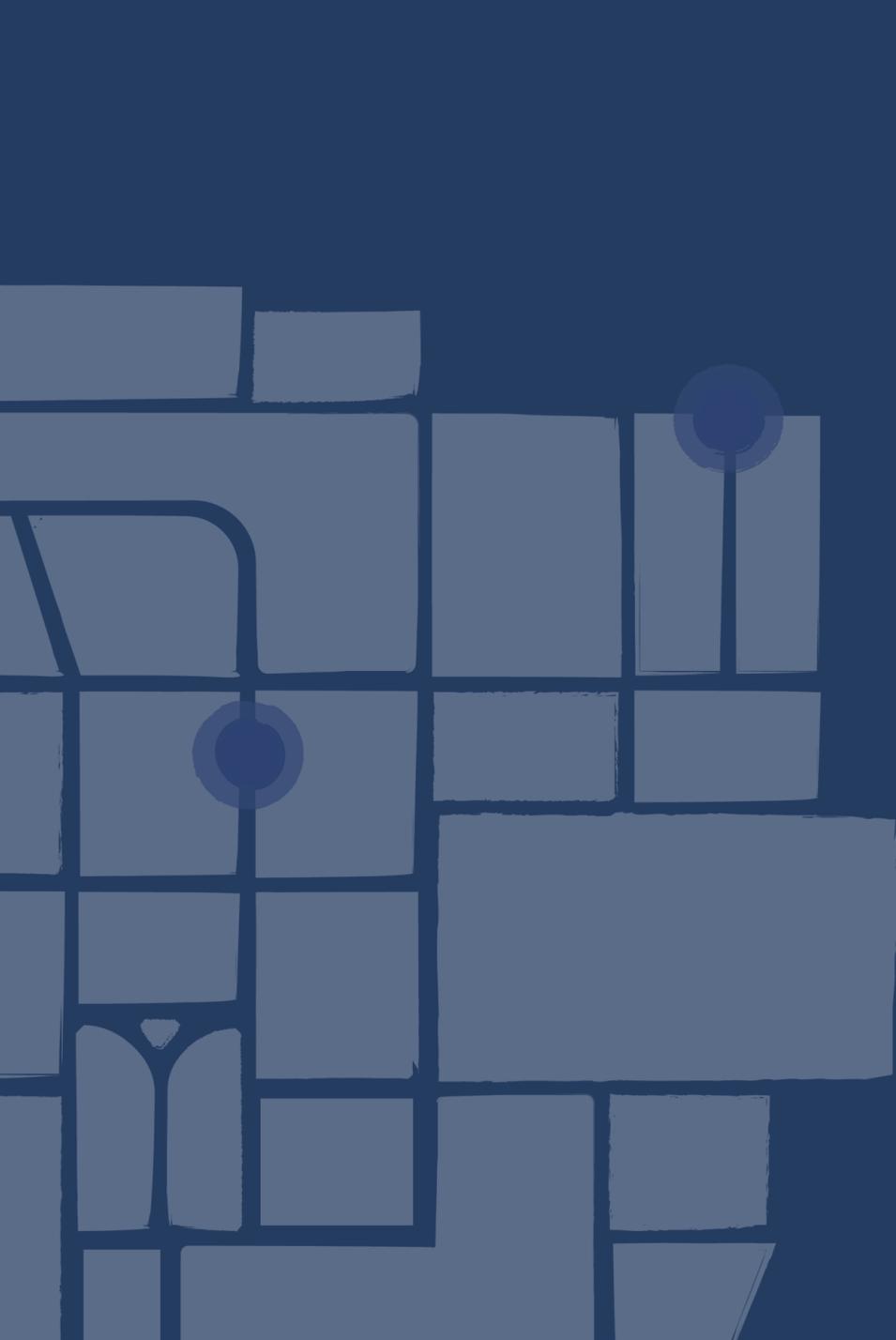
1 Guideline Development

PROCESS & MILESTONES

- **Ongoing Co-Planning**
  - Meeting series focused on sharing information and development of Design Tools
- **Internal Coordination**
  - Developing Guidelines in coordination with development
- **Upcoming DG Milestones**
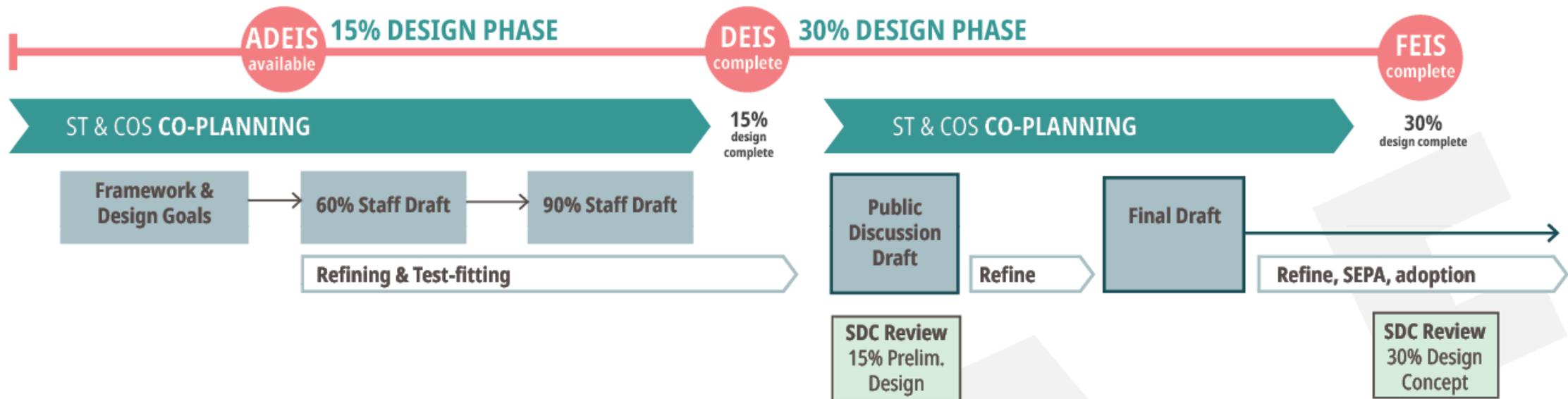
ONLINE WORKSHOPS

- **Series of online workshops and surveys for City's Board & Commissions**
  - Equity
  - Sustainability
  - Art
  - Special Structures
- **Taking place Q1 2021**
- **Will inform Goals, Fundamentals, and all Design Guidelines**
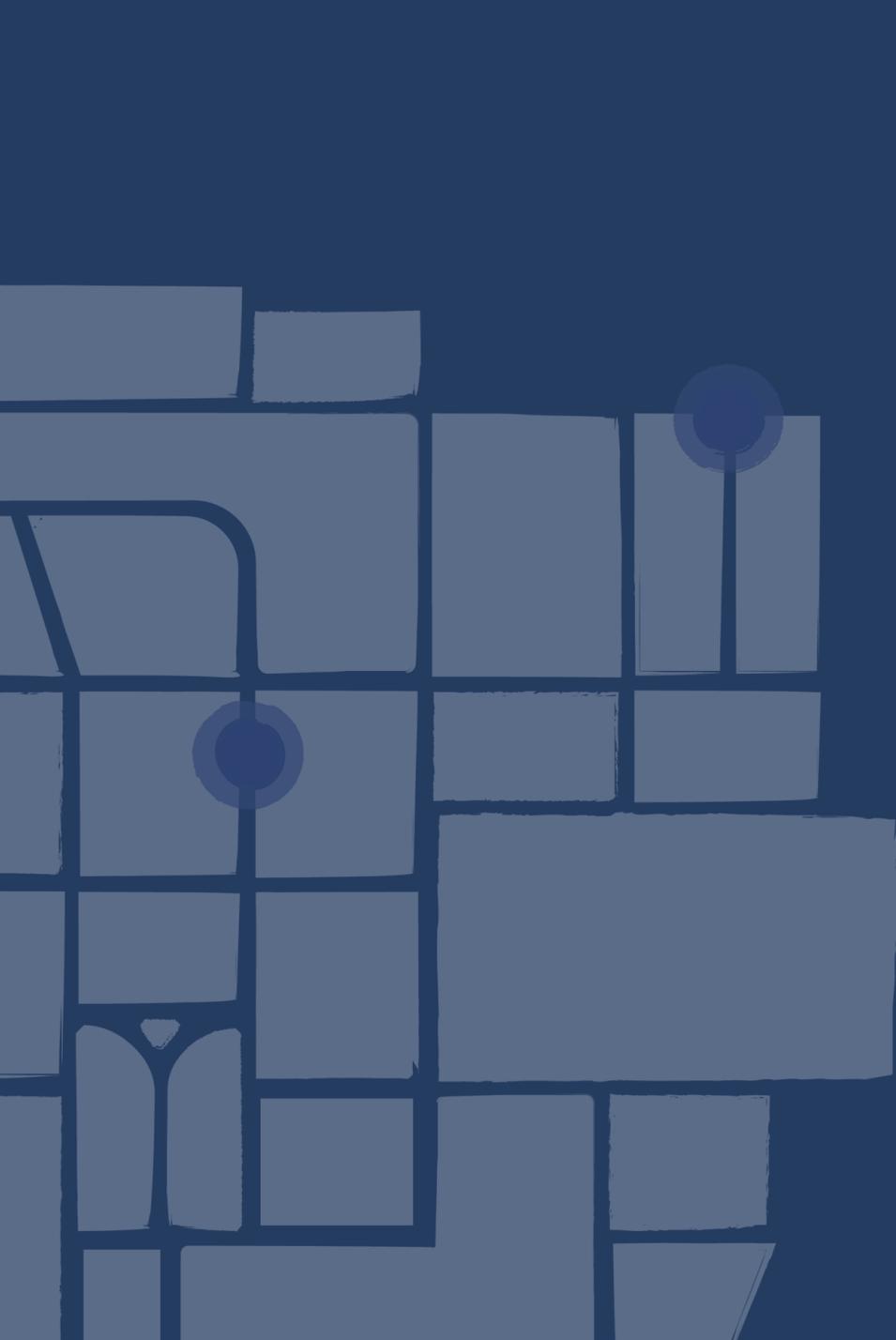
2Evaluation Tools

PROMPTS – Sample

5 STATION DESIGN

B. STATION SITE & BUILDINGS

1. Integrate with Local Context Design stations for their place, and for the people and communities that use them

    a. **Balance network with local:** Create a level of consistency across the network while ensuring that every station has unique and memorable features. Strive for 70-80% deign standard & consistent, and 20-30% place-specific design elements that enhance local identity, embrace local character and enhance sense of place

    b. **Public art:** Determine public art opportunities at the outset of station design so that it is integrated into the architectural concept.

    c. **Reflect community identity:** Reflect the local community and cultures in the facility design, including the architectural concept, materials, design detailing, and art.

    d. **Station Identity:** Employ design features—such as materials, color scheme, or art-- at the platform that make the station immediately identifiable to frequent users arriving by train.

2. Express an Architectural Concept make stations a civic asset and catalyst for enhancing community identity

    a. **Iconic Architecture:** Express an intentional and original response to the context, scaled

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How does the design foster a distinct identity? What aspects of context and the communitiy are unique expressions being informed by?

In addition to signage, what distinct features would an arriving user see upon pulling in to the station?

How does the architectural concept, application of materials, and arrangement of spaces respond to and reflect the histories and cultures of communities of color? How does the station design foster a sense of belonging for communities of color?

How will public art be integrated into the design and architectural concept of the station?

Example of design guideline

EVALUATION TOOL - Sample

7 EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

|	Rating			Comments
	+	o	-	
5.A STATION BOX & ENTRANCES				
1 **Reinforce Block Patterns**				
2 **Strategic Entry Locations & Relationships**				
3 **Emphasize Positive Neighborhood Attributes**				
4 **Anticipate Co-Development & TOD**				
5.B STATION SITE & BUILDINGS				
1 **Integrate with Local Context:** Does the station design express a unique identity that reflects the place and communities who will use it?				

SDC Sub-Committee Meeting

- Consider prioritizing different guidelines at different phases
- Community prioritization of guidelines
- Integrate community input, values, and priorities
- Tool to be used mainly by COS Staff, resulting in Staff Report
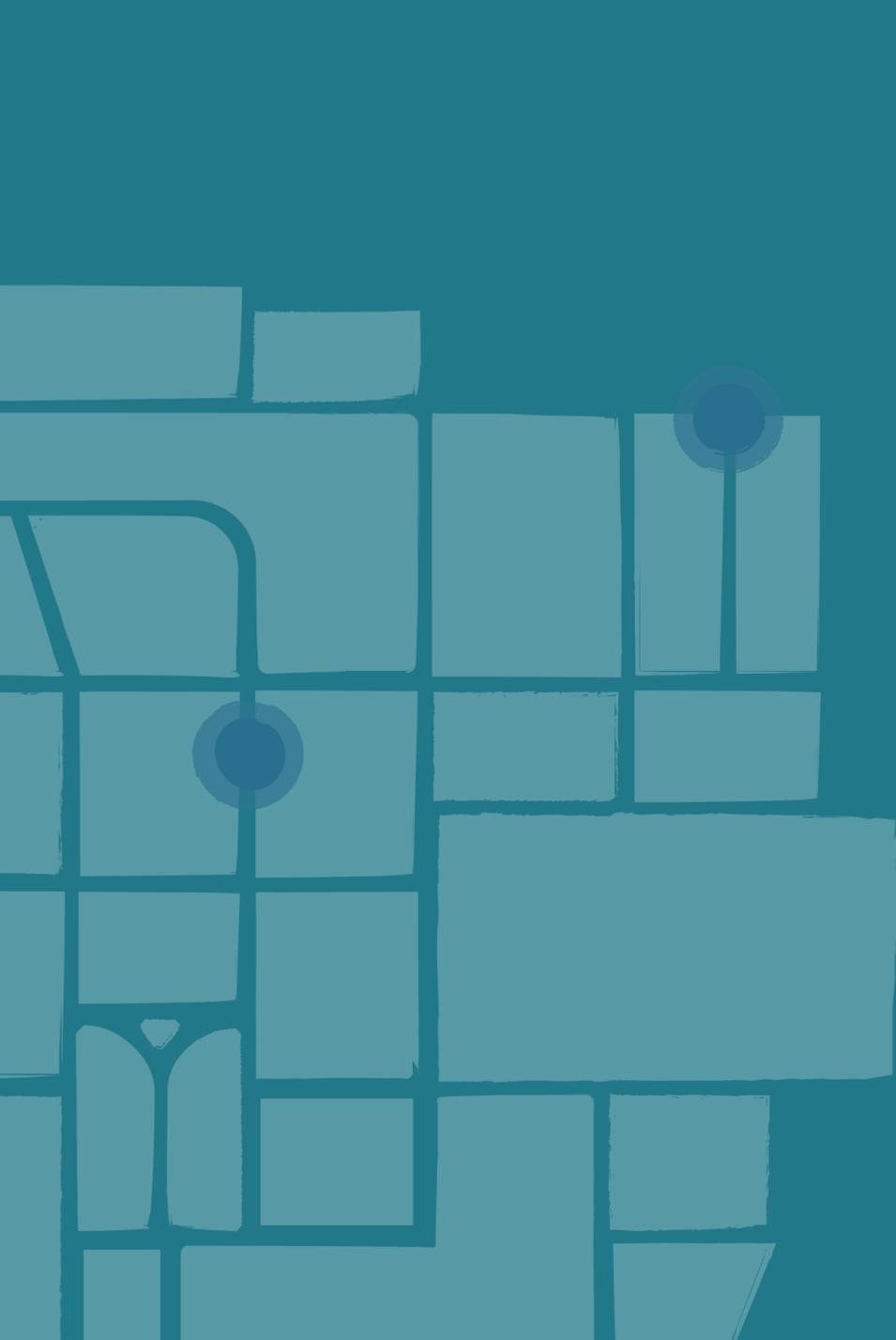
3Design Goals

DESIGN GUIDELINES IN CONTEXT

The Design Guidelines help implement the City's ST3 vision, guiding principles, and objectives.

VISION

A description of the Seattle we are working to be.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The overarching concepts that shape the City's work.

OBJECTIVES

Desired outcomes to realize through transit projects.

DESIGN GOALS

The functional and non-functional qualities of station and public realm design needed to achieve the Guiding Principles and Objectives.

PRIMARY FOCUS OF THIS DOCUMENT

DESIGN GUIDELINES

Direction on how station and public realm design should be developed to achieve the Design Goals without prescribing solutions.

DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Measurable design requirements adopted in the land use code and Streets Illustrated.

DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION

INTRODUCTION

Background

Purpose

Scope

Design Goals

GUIDELINES

A. Context Analysis

B. Design Fundamentals

C. The Station

D. Public Realm

E. Special Structures

DESIGN RESPONSE & EVALUATION

Prompts & Response

Evaluation Tool

DESIGN GOALS

Advance Equity	**Put People First**	**Strengthen Community**
Harness Economic Benefit	**Enhance Neighborhood Identity**	**Optimize the Mobility Network**

Questions and feedback…

1. Are the goals clear?

2. Are we missing any major goal elements?

ADVANCE EQUITY

Create spaces of racial and cultural equity

Amplify and center BIPOC voices in the creation of station environments to foster a sense of belonging for users of all races, ethnicities, and backgrounds.

Inclusive spaces and facilities

Design spaces and facilities to ensure that everyone has the amenities and resources that serve their actual needs and that the design of public spaces and art responds to the desires of community.

Welcome all users

Design that supports a genuinely accessible public realm. Points of arrival and frontages are welcoming and intuitive and encourage use and participation by all users.

Collaborative process and design

Collaborate with BIPOC communities to work towards community-led outcomes, instill a sense of ownership, and encourage community members to participate in spaces.

PUT PEOPLE FIRST

Make it easy

Improve neighborhood and transit legibility, maximize safety and predictability, and organize movement in a logical manner.

Make it universal (and specific)

Maximize access and ease of use for the most marginalized groups and users, especially those with mobility or cognitive disabilities, people traveling with children, older adults, and people traveling with luggage, groceries, and wheelchairs.

Make it safe and secure

Achieve personal safety and security through lighting, open sightlines and visibility, and minimizing barriers, rather than fencing or surveillance.

Make it comfortable

Maximize comfort for the user and support the longest anticipated journey by providing appropriate traveler amenities.

OPTIMIZE THE MOBILITY NETWORK

Convenient walking access

Leverage transit facilities and related infrastructure to improve safe and comfortable walking circulation to and through the neighborhood.

Design for cycling

Ensure station frontage is connected to the neighborhood through all age and ability bike connections and appropriate bike storage.

Excellent transfer environments

The design of environments between the station and surrounding transit facilities prioritize pedestrian safety, comfort and intuitive wayfinding

Accommodate all modes

Utilize a mode access hierarchy for the location and arrangement of circulation routes and facilities.

Minimize conflicts

Prioritize pedestrian and bicycle safety and comfort and minimize the potential for conflict between vehicles and people.

Minimize negative impacts

Minimizes negative impacts of mobility infrastructure on safety, identity and economy.

Station as connector

Integrate the station into existing routes to reinforce pedestrian porosity and choice of routes and enhance access up slopes or across barriers.

STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY

Create a community focal point

Create a visual focal point and social hub for public life through high quality architecture and public spaces, art, and amenities integrated with transit infrastructure.

Unlock community benefit

Reinforce established pedestrian desire lines, enhance existing and planned activity centers, draw people into the neighborhood, and seamlessly connect people to opportunities.

Reflect the community's vision

Respond to the local community and stakeholder needs, and be a catalyst for achieving the community's vision.

Resilient design

Include flexible or multi-purpose spaces that can serve multiple community needs and adapt to future community desires, and changes in technology and mobility.

Enhance Social Networks

Create public spaces, programming, art, and facilities that encourage daily social interaction.

HARNESS ECONOMIC BENEFIT

Integrate joint development and equitable TOD

Anticipate and maximize opportunities for ETOD and joint development through the design and siting of stations and guideways that require land acquisition, and by integrating stations with development that prioritizes affordable commercial and residential development.

Support the local economy

Safely and conveniently connect pedestrians to local commercial and activity centers.

Support daily life through retail & services

Integrate spaces for commercial and service uses, and develop a station area retail program that is responsive to the user demand, convenience, and anticipates future market needs.

Enhance access to opportunity

Generate opportunities for vending, small affordable retail, community uses, and street-level activation appropriate to the type and scale of the destination.

ENHANCE NEIGHBORHOOD IDENTITY

Balance network design with local identity

Link network-wide design and amenities standard is applied to create system legibility while utilizing local and distinctive design to reflect the community identity.

Create a sense of arrival

Station architecture reflects arrival into a specific neighborhood and has a distinctive and complementary presence in the surrounding street environment.

Commitment to sustainability

Base design on whole life costs, minimizing the ecological footprint, and considering including ongoing maintenance and operation needs.

Responsive to the destination

Generate a welcoming station and integrated public spaces to reflect the destination's community and user patterns.

Maximize positive impacts

Site and design station infrastructure and open space to have a positive impact on mobility, safety, livability and economy.

Designed by community

Collaboratively designed spaces for local communities to name, program, design, use, and enhance over time
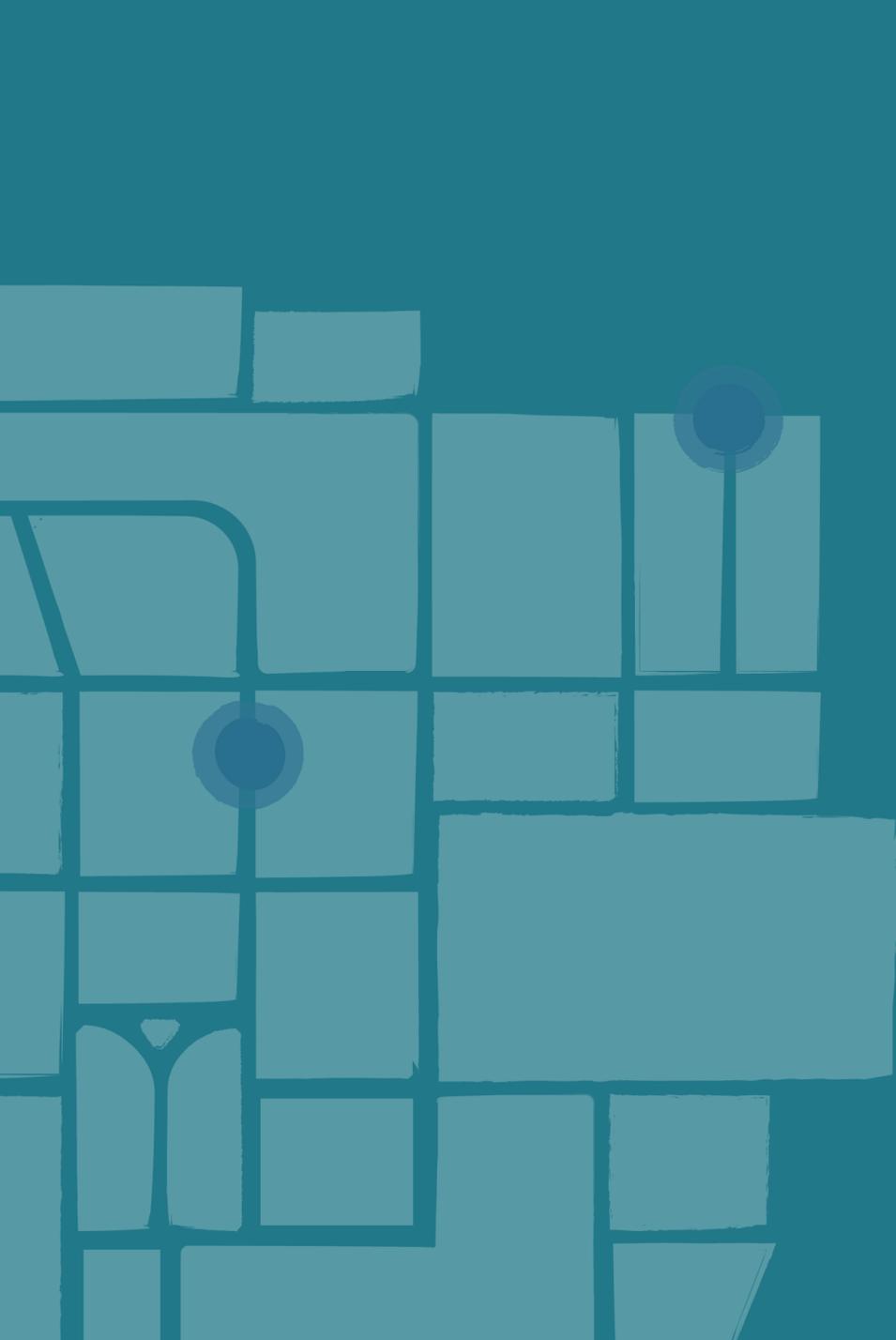
6 Design Guideline Sections

DESIGN GUIDELINES

DESIGN FUNDAMENTALS

- Center Racial Equity in Design
- Places of Civic & Community Pride
- Positive User Experience
- Movement & Modal Balance
- Rider Essentials & Amenities
- Sustainability & Adaptability

STATION DESIGN

- Siting Station Box & Entries
- Station Site & Buildings
- Station Circulation
- Rider Amenities
- Designing the Spaces
- Additional Guidance by Station Type

THE PUBLIC REALM

- Balance Movement with Place
- Designing for Movement
- Place & Public Life

SPECIAL STRUCTURES

- Guideways
- Over water crossings
- Portals
- Misc. Equipment
- Columns
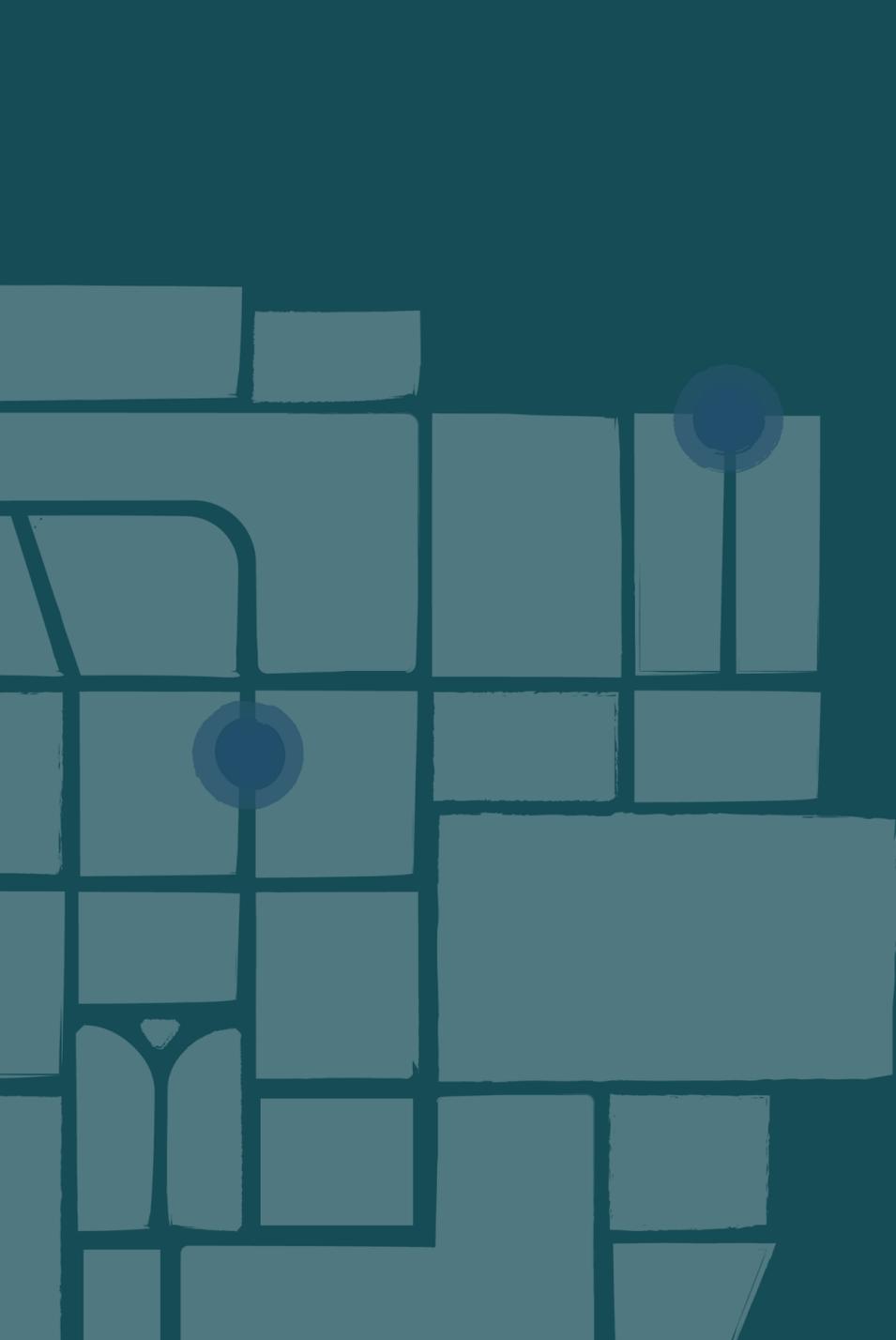
5 Next Steps

NEXT STEPS

- **Online workshops with Boards & Commissions**
- **Continue working with SDC**
  - Guidelines
  - Prompts
- **Continuing coordination with ST**
  - Community engagement
  - Future in-depth discussions about design guideline content & specifics
  - Resolving conflicts
  - Communication COS design expectations

Thank you.

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