Our Community:

Strengthening Ties Between the University and the U District

Working Together to Revitalize our Front Door
Introductions

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The Ugly 80’s

- Family shops replaced by franchises
- Franchises move out leaving high rents
- Buildings deteriorate
- Customers gone, population changes
A little history…

The Ave is our Front Door
UW sets its character
Gracious residential neighborhoods, many churches
University Way biggest commercial area outside of downtown
Historical tensions
Impacts of the 60’s
How do we improve our future?

Collaborate with our business, residential, governmental and academic partners
Assembling the Partners

City
- Mayor’s Office
- City Council
- City Departments

University
- Regional Relations
- College of the Built Environment
- Public Art & Sculpture
- Carlson Center
- Vice Provost for Student Life

Community
- Chamber of Commerce
- Business Improvement Association
- The Ave Group
- Residential Groups
- Community Councils
Action Plan…

- Support local retailers
- Increase housing choices
- Encourage private investment
Finally…implement a plan created in 1989

- University of Washington faculty and staff
- Ave Planning Group formed
- The Ave Report
- The Ave Plan developed with stakeholders
Other design elements:

- Wider sidewalks
- Unique public street art
- Increased lighting
Action Plan…
the Ave Project

- Support local retailers
- Encourage private investment
- Academic Collaborations
Action Plan…
Leveraging Public Investment

Façade Improvement Program

- Support local retailers
- Encourage private investment
- Academic Collaborations
Façade Improvement Program

- Support local retailers
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before

intermediate

after
UW Lease Lid Removed

- Support local retailers
- Encourage private investment
- Academic Collaborations
Supplemental Police Project

UWPD and SPD work together

- Support local retailers
- Encourage private investment
- Academic Collaborations
Re-Branding Project

- Support local retailers
- Encourage private investment
- Academic Collaborations

Discover the Real
Wi-Fi Project

• Support local retailers
• Encourage private investment
• Academic Collaborations
University Heights Courtyard

- Support local retailers
- Encourage private investment
- Academic Collaborations
Campus Parkway Median

- Support local retailers
- Encourage private investment
- Academic Collaborations
School of Art Banner Project

- Support local retailers
- Encourage private investment
- Academic Collaborations
AVEventure

- Support local retailers
- Encourage private investment
- Academic Collaborations

AVEventure, a street fair and open house for new and returning UW students
Reaching out: It’s the Washington Way

Husky Neighborhood Assistants Program and Husky Neighborhood Clean up

- Support local retailers
- Encourage private investment
- Academic Collaborations
After 8 Debate

- Support local retailers
- Encourage private investment
- Academic Collaborations
Open to Question: Activism in the U District

- Support local retailers
- Encourage private investment
- Academic Collaborations

- Now located by the Allen Library
UW Purchases Safeco Properties

UW Tower

- Support local retailers
- Encourage private investment
- Academic Collaborations
Meet me on the Ave

- Support local retailers
- Encourage private investment
- Academic Collaborations
A History of Sustainable Futures

In 1964, University of Washington alum and history professor Edmund Meany wrote that “sustained portions of the mountain ranges hold a real value for all the people.” And when the School of Forestry opened a few years later, Edmund’s vision in maintaining the “right use of forest resources” was a foundational principle. Over 50 years later, Edmund Meany’s insight into the social benefits of a healthy environment and the importance of sustaining our landscapes remain a top priority at University of Washington.

Here at the UW, we share our region’s commitment to and passion for the environment. Our planet has some big questions, and the UW is uniquely positioned to lead the quest for answers. Through long-standing partnerships with business and community leaders and through the spurs of a sustainable future for a very long time.

The UW’s College of Fisheries was the first of its kind in the country in 1899. Notably, as of 1951, the Environmental Research Laboratory within the School of Fisheries addressed growing concerns about fish sanitation, air pollution and the hazards of DDT. And in 2006, the UW continued to inspire and teach our future leaders in all sustainability disciplines with the new College of the Environment, one of the first interdisciplinary colleges in the world.

We believe in walking the walk. Recycling on campus began in 1970, followed by campus-wide yoga efforts that eventually led to a Public Area Recycling Program in 1991. Several state awards for recycling and waste reduction followed. By 2002, joint efforts and recycling “green care” were all over campus. A composting program for campus restaurants and coffee shops that eventually included biodegradable utensils was also started.

In 2007, the UW set a goal of reducing waste by 60 percent in five years and 75 percent by 2015. We’ve already reached 48 percent — just one of the reasons UW was recently ranked second in the country by Sierra Magazine for its sustainability efforts — proving again environmental leadership is the Washington way.
Ongoing and Upcoming

• City University Community Advisory Committee – want to volunteer?

• Seattle WordFest - September 2010 on UW campus – want to volunteer?
Where We Are Now

• Positive relationships with neighbors and business district

• Good working relationship between City and business district partners

• Opportunities for more UW staff and faculty involvement on Boards and Committees in the district
Volunteer Opportunities

**University District Neighborhood Service Center**
Linking City Government to Seattle’s Neighborhoods…

**ROOTS Young Adult Shelter**
Only shelter in Seattle focused on young adults – within walking distance of UW

**Teen Feed**
Become an advocate and share a meal with a young adult who is without housing

**University District Youth Center**
Allows a safe and warm drop-in space for young adults who are homeless
Also would like creative volunteers with a special interest in planning and leading activities or field trips (art & crafts, sports such as rock climbing/sailing, anything for the youth to get outside the District) for Drop-in program.

**University Family YMCA**
Can’t volunteer during the week? Serve with the U. District Y to connect with young adults who are homeless every Saturday and Sunday

**Seattle Youth Garden Works**
Mentor a youth AND get out in the garden at the same time

**Sanctuary Arts Center**
Passionate for the arts? Share this same interest in visual arts and music with youth!

**Street Youth Ministry**
Help provide life skills and resources to youth in the U. District

**Elizabeth Gregory Home**
You can help women break the cycle of homelessness and begin a new independent life.

**U District Food Bank**
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Questions?

Want to get involved? Have an idea?

Call me at 221-2603

or

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