



MERCER CORRIDOR

IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT EAST PHASE

For the purpose of serving the City of Seattle's transit, growth, and environmental goals, the Mercer Corridor East Project balances the efficiency of multi-modal transportation with environmental, transit and neighborhood sensitivity.





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For years, the East-West arterial of Mercer Street was known as “The Mercer Mess,” and frequently was a major point of vehicular congestion with a need for a more “complete” streetscape.



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Green boulevards, rain garden medians, public art, multi-modal and pedestrian accommodations, and a fresh design aesthetic took Mercer from a vehicular connector to a thriving urban corridor tying together neighborhoods and institutions.



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Mercer Street has come a long way from a one-way arterial to the green boulevard it is today.



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The 20' wide median on Mercer Street treats storm runoff through a cascading series of detention areas while providing enough soil volume for the boulevard of London plane trees.



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The sculpture, "Origami Tessellation," does more than bring luminous, aesthetic, and architectural value to the project; it gives form to both the corridor's industrial history and the neighborhood's technological future.



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One important goal of the project was to transform a “through” space into a “go to” space. The LED-lit, custom-designed benches provide pedestrian nodes during night and day.



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As it stands today, Mercer Street is now a safe, accessible corridor for people travelling by car, streetcar, bicycle and foot.

WESTLAKE AVE N



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Prior to the project, Valley Street was a five-lane vehicular artery separating Lake Union from the city with poor pedestrian, bicycle, or transit facilities.



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The design of Valley Street as a peripheral and important piece of the corridor prioritizes both commuter space and green space to connect neighborhoods in all directions with Lake Union.



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Working with streetcar infrastructure, extended sidewalks, designated bike lanes, transit stops, and planting areas, Valley Street promotes a variety of transportation choices.



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As an extension to Lake Union Park, the new paths, plaza entry, and raingardens provide access and connectivity while integrating sustainability.



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The entry plaza to Lake Union Park from Westlake Avenue North offers seating accommodations while serving as an important node for cyclists, runners, and park visitors.



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The rain gardens along Westlake Avenue North buffer the pedestrian and bike paths in Lake Union Park and treat stormwater runoff from Westlake Avenue North.