

Ballard 24th Ave NW Street End Design: Survey Summary

Overview

From December 11, 2019 to January 10, 2020 Seattle Public Utilities and King County Wastewater Treatment Division hosted an online survey to gather feedback about restoration (in 2025) of the 24th Avenue NW Shoreline Street End. Through the survey, the community was asked to share their current use of the area, what they'd like to see in the area, and their thoughts on four design concepts. This summary compiles the results into general themes from the open-ended comments and feedback received.

Survey Results

The survey received **490** complete responses and **4** partial responses between December 11, 2019 and January 10, 2020. Below are the survey questions, results, and themes.

1. How do you normally arrive at the 24th Ave NW street end and pier?

Method	Percent	Count
On foot	68%	336
By car	52%	258
By bike	37%	180
By transit	14%	69
By boat	5%	25
Other	4%	19
By truck	2%	12

2. What would you like to do on the 24th Ave NW street end and pier?

Activity	Percent	Count
Relaxing/reading	72%	355
Walking	72%	355
Wildlife viewing	60%	295
Non-motorized boating (kayak, canoe, etc.)	56%	278
Picnics	53%	260
Place to bike to	46%	227
Outdoor fitness/exercise	23%	114
Swimming	17%	85
Other	17%	85
Parking for work/for going out in Ballard	13%	63
Fishing	12%	58

3. What type of features would you like to see incorporated into the design? Please rank them in order of importance:

- Seating, plantings and lighting were identified as the **most** important features to incorporate into the design

- Outdoor exercise equipment and vehicle parking were identified as the **least** important features to incorporate into the design

4. Design Concept 1: Flow

What did you like? (312 responses)

- Amphitheater style seating that allows for easy access to the water
- The large amount of green space and vegetation, particularly the trees
- Natural and curved lines that create a non-intrusive and tranquil environment

What did you dislike? (293 responses)

- Excessive amount of parking and concrete that detracts from the purpose of a park
- Appears to be inaccessible for those requiring ADA accommodations

What is missing? (233 responses)

- Bicycle access and facilities (i.e., bike racks)
- More seating and picnic space
- Public art that is representative of the Ballard area and its history
- Public facilities (i.e., drinking fountains and bathrooms)

5. Option 2: Edge

What did you like? (306 responses)

- Lots of green/lawn space for recreation (specifically referencing image D)
- The angular design is modern and visually appealing; aesthetic is very artistic
- Design is conducive to seating and picnicking that directly faces the water and maximizes the space

What did you dislike? (297 responses)

- Geometric and angular design feels overly complex and uncharacteristic of the Ballard area
- The large lawn area depicted in the design will be difficult to maintain and inaccessible during rainy months
- Too much parking that could be used as green space instead

What is missing? (194 responses)

- The design lacks seating and tables, it does not feel like a gathering space
- More natural shoreline and vegetation
- Public facilities (i.e., drinking fountains and bathrooms)

6. Option 3: Shore

What did you like? (327 responses)

- Natural design, particularly the rockery, beach pebbles, shrubs, and trees
- Provides convenient access to the water for recreational purposes, but also ties Ballard to the Ship Canal waterfront
- Amenities shown in the reference images, such as picnic tables and additional seating

What did you dislike? (279 responses)

- Too much parking in the design, which does not allow for greater park use
- Landscaped area is too small with not enough seating or water access
- Rockery at the beach and logs on the ground look like barriers for those with limited mobility and are a safety concern

What is missing? (183 responses)

- More green space including trees, plants, and grass with less parking spaces
- Amenities such as tables, places to sit, and bike racks
- Public facilities (i.e., drinking fountains and bathrooms)

7. Option 4: Terrace

What did you like? (291 responses)

- Ample seating and greenery allow for the park to serve as a versatile gathering space for residents and tourists alike
- Efficient use of space that appears to be accessible to all ages and abilities

What did you dislike? (283 responses)

- Too much hardscape and concrete in the design that could be used as green space instead
- Trees may impede views of the water over time
- Lack of shore access, particularly for non-motorized water sports

What is missing? (181 responses)

- Picnic tables to accompany the benches in the green area
- Public facilities (i.e., drinking fountains and bathrooms)
- Bicycle access and facilities (i.e., bike racks)
- Ample green space, particularly lawn area

8. Do you live in Ballard?

Response	Percent	Count
Yes	82%	392
No	18%	87

9. Do you work in Ballard?

Response	Percent	Count
Yes	34%	159
No	66%	315

10. What's your favorite thing about Ballard?

- Walkability of the neighborhood
- Abundance of amenities such as restaurants, bars, shops, parks, and the weekly flea market
- Unique character of the neighborhood, including older buildings and distinct architecture
- Maritime history and Nordic heritage
- Proximity to the water

11. How would you describe Ballard's identity?

- Multi-layered and independent neighborhood with a strong Scandinavian and maritime history
- A vibrant, family-friendly and walkable community
- Tied to the water and natural spaces
- In transition with a denser population and increased development