



Grand Connection

Washington State Transportation Commission | April 2025



Introduction

Downtown Bellevue has become the Puget Sound region's second downtown.

10%

Bellevue's share of the region's GDP

55%

Job growth between 2014 and 2024

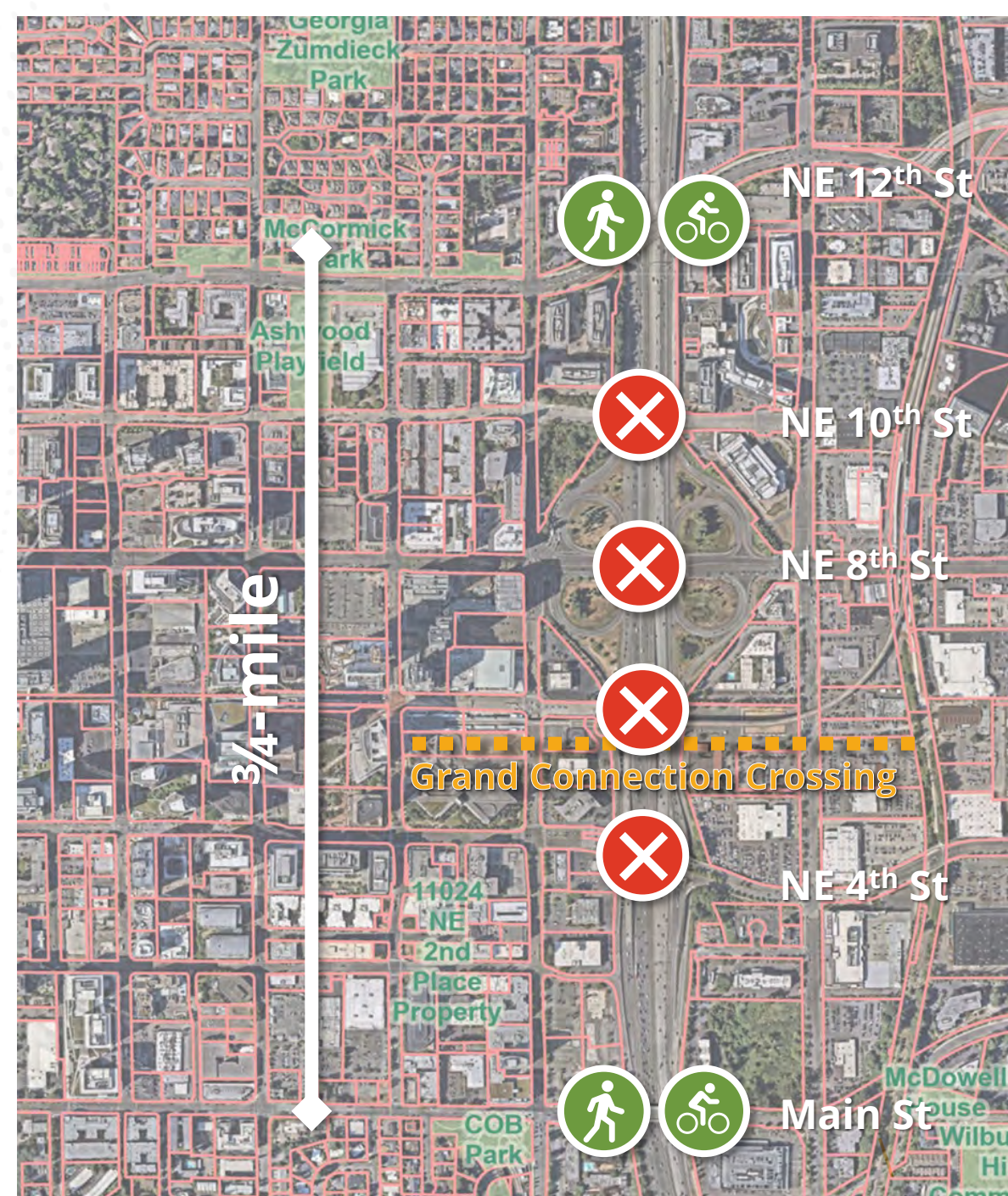
5.3 million sf

new office space built between 2014-2024



But there is no safe route to downtown for those who walk, bike, or roll.

Of the five roadways which provide a pedestrian or bike connection into downtown Bellevue, **the only high-comfort crossings are more than ¾-mile apart.**



There have been visions for a freeway crossing of some kind for two-plus decades.



Looking to the next 75 years, Bellevue's growth will be in Wilburton and BelRed.

- Upzone will enable transit-oriented development of up to 450' at the core.
- At least **5,000 jobs** and **4,000 homes** through 2044.
- Robust bike connections





The Project

We began work on a 30% design last year, and it will be finalized by Q2.

- First-ever *engineering* work on a pedestrian-focused I-405 crossing.
- Substantial public outreach and engagement.
- Started with **wide** view of possibilities, then narrowed.
- Funded 50-50 by Amazon and the City of Bellevue.

CITY OF BELLEVUE



The city is advancing a GCX design with a \$150-200 million budget range.

- Strong value to cost.
- Additional amenities to be built over time with public and private redevelopment.
- Design phase is **fully-funded**.
- Advancing a funding strategy for construction.



The Grand Connection Crossing will provide a safe, high-quality user experience.

Prioritize public space on City Hall Plaza

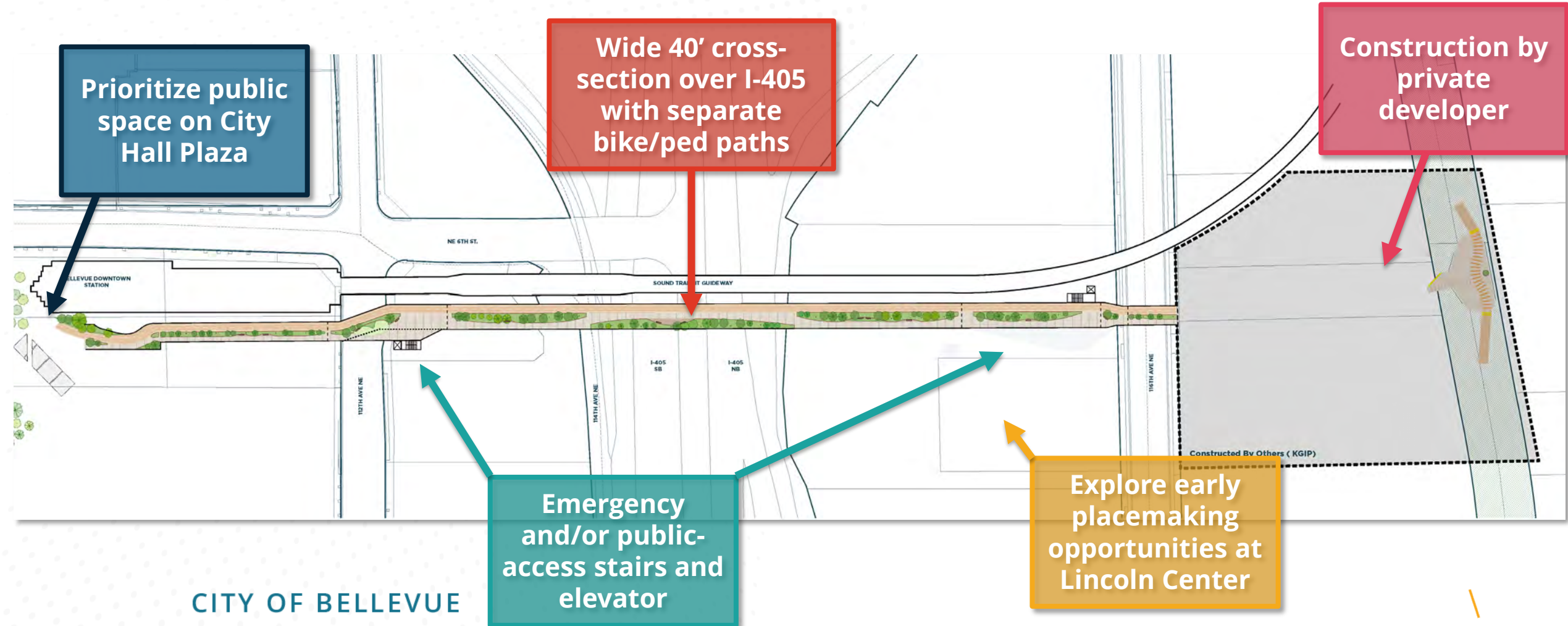
Wide 40' cross-section over I-405 with separate bike/ped paths

Construction by private developer

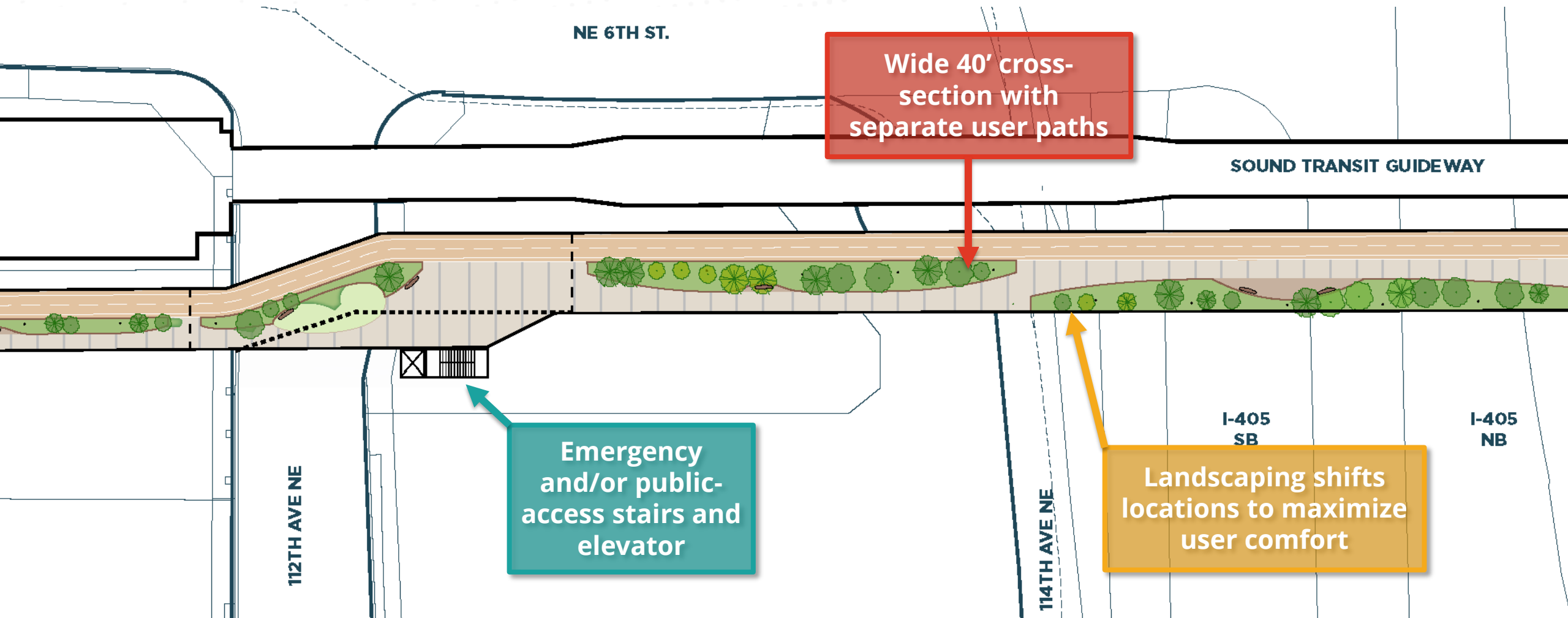
Emergency and/or public-access stairs and elevator

Explore early placemaking opportunities at Lincoln Center

CITY OF BELLEVUE



The Grand Connection Crossing will provide a safe, high-quality user experience.



NE 6TH ST.

Wide 40' cross-section with separate user paths

SOUND TRANSIT GUIDEWAY

Emergency and/or public-access stairs and elevator

Landscaping shifts locations to maximize user comfort

112TH AVE NE

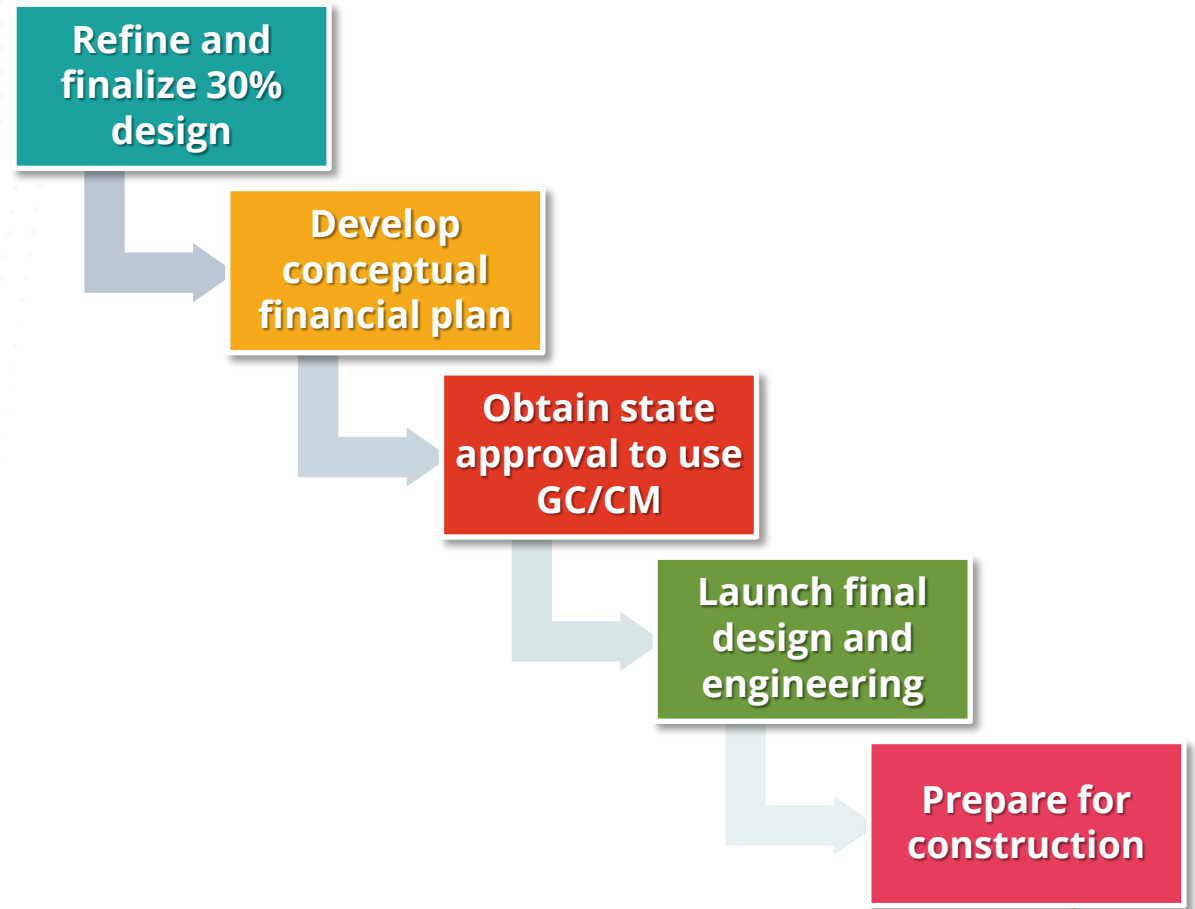
114TH AVE NE

I-405 SB

I-405 NB

We are advancing toward GC/CM delivery with completion by the end of the decade.

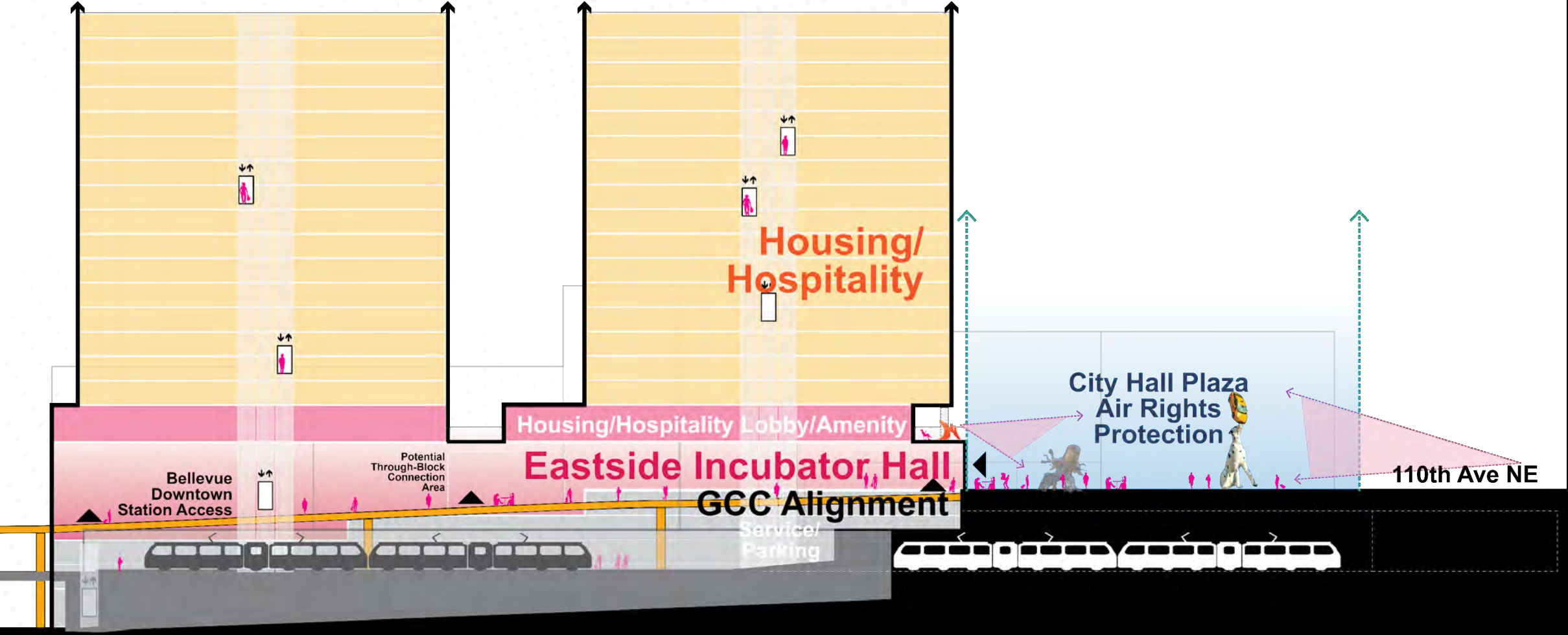
- **In process:** Owner advisor solicitation
- **June/July:** Finalize 30% design
- **July/September:** CPARB meeting, release RFQ/RFP for general contractor
- **Q1 2027:** Earliest possible start of construction





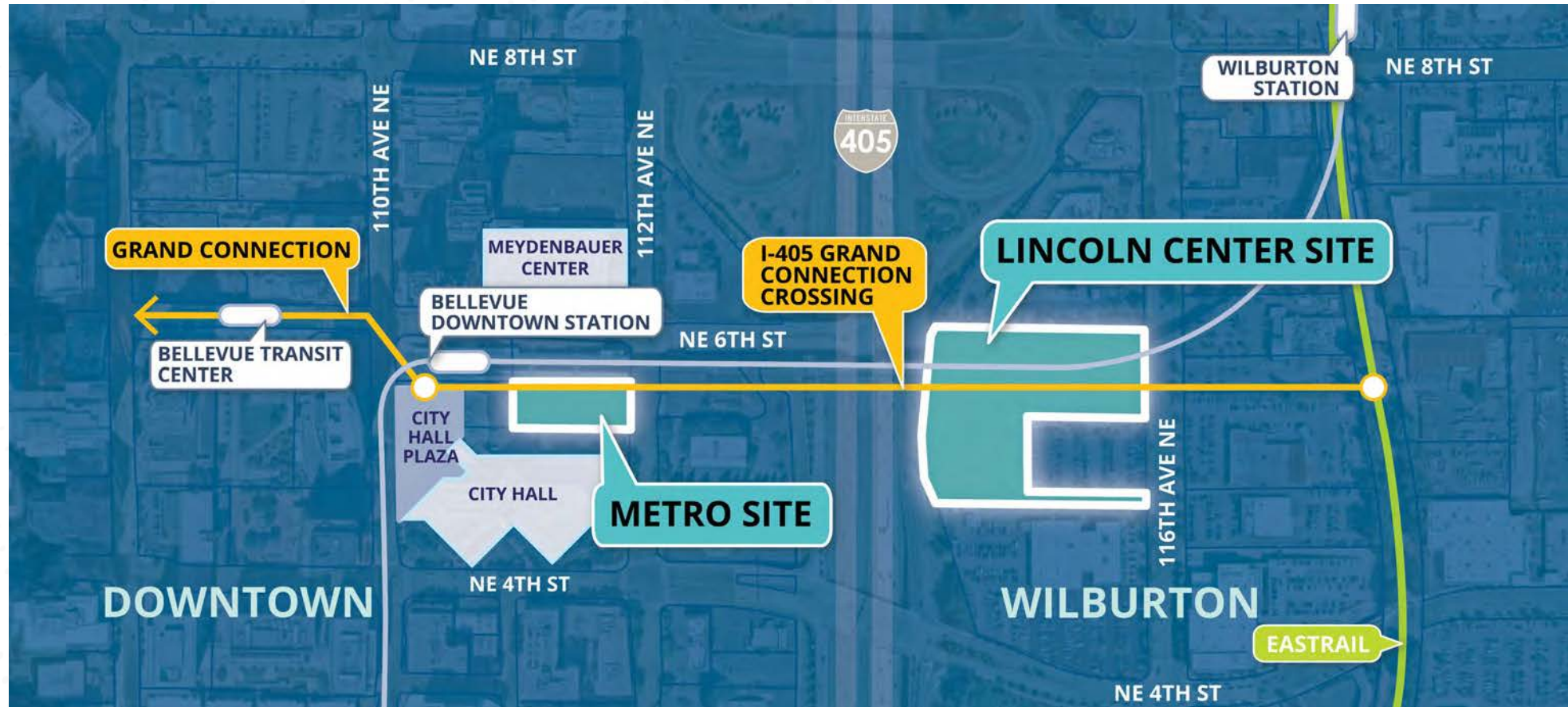
The District

Integrated redevelopment could create a unique and memorable experience.



City Center Plaza

The GCX is the first step in the development of a unifying civic district.





The Benefits

The Grand Connection Crossing and District will deliver three key community benefits.



**Unlock economic
and real estate
value**



**Enhance the
journey to work
connections**



**Strengthen the
city's and the
region's brand**

Investments in other cities have had a significant economic benefit.



Klyde Warren Park
1.3M annual visitors
\$3B in total economic impact



Rose Kennedy Greenway
1.4M annual visitors
30% higher Class A office rents



The High Line
8M annual visitors
\$1.3B in new AV between '07 and '17

There is a substantial economic and real estate benefit to the Crossing and District.



Construction (one-time)

Job-years	10,410
Employee compensation	\$1 billion
Economic output	\$2.7 billion
State tax revenue	\$52 million

Ongoing (annual)

Jobs	4,295
Employee compensation	\$418 million
Economic output	\$1.1 billion
State tax revenue	\$7 million

Enhancing active transportation benefits Bellevue's long-term competitiveness.

5%

of Bellevue workers walk or bike to work
(11% in Seattle)

61%

of tech workers are millennials or Gen Z

63%

of millennials prefer to live in car-optional
communities



