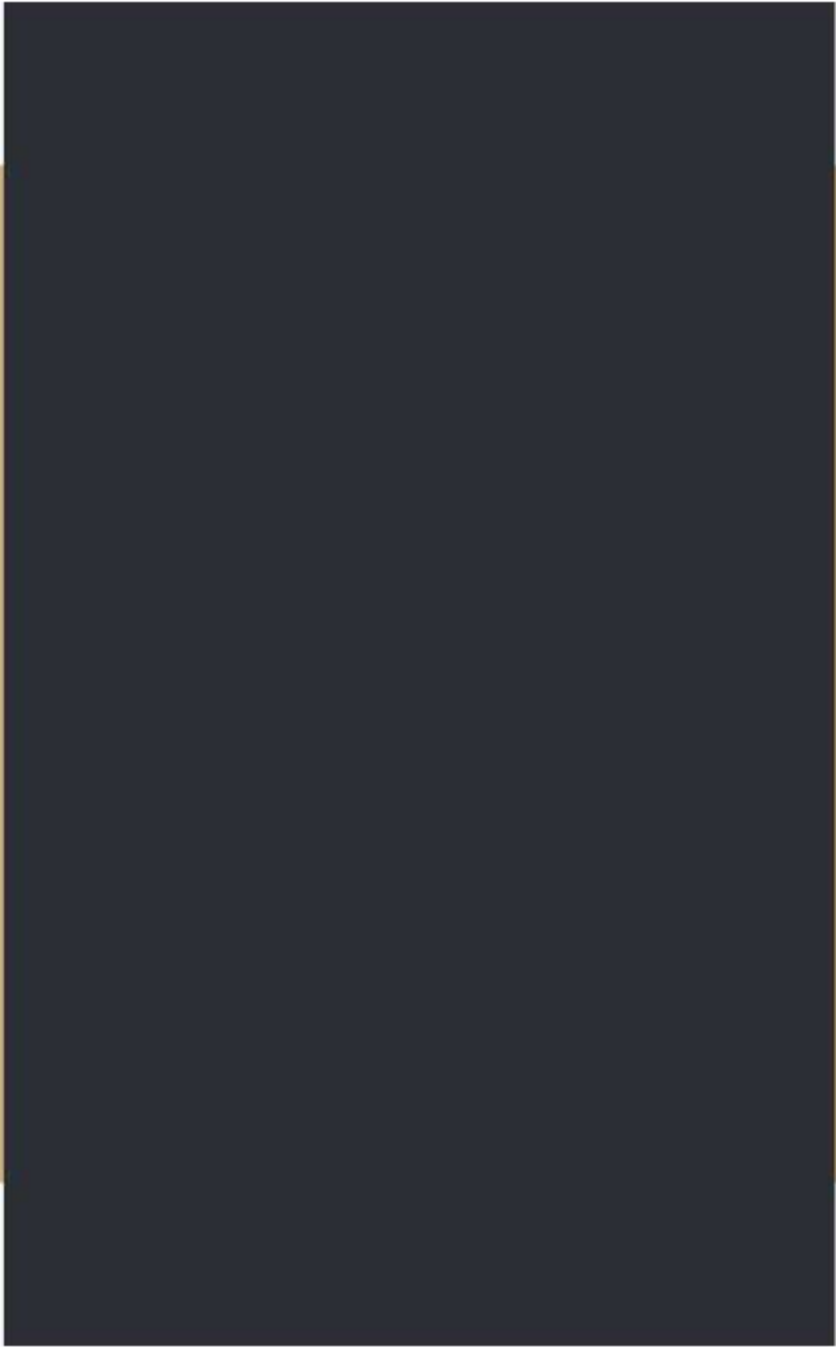


CAPSTONE REPORT

URBAN DESIGN

Hieu Nguyen
School of Urban Studies
June 2025



Caption description. Photo courtesy of xxxxxxxx.

CONTENTS

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-  OUR TEAM
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-  EXISTING DRAWINGS
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-  URBAN DESIGN PROPOSALS & COMPETITION



Bára
Šafařová
-Instructor-



Asad
Hussein



Benjamin
Smith



Christy
Gonzalez



Hieu
Nguyen



Hugo
Julian Ennis



Raisa
Baker



Sabien
Adderley



Tu
Nguyen

Yasir
Al Sammarraie

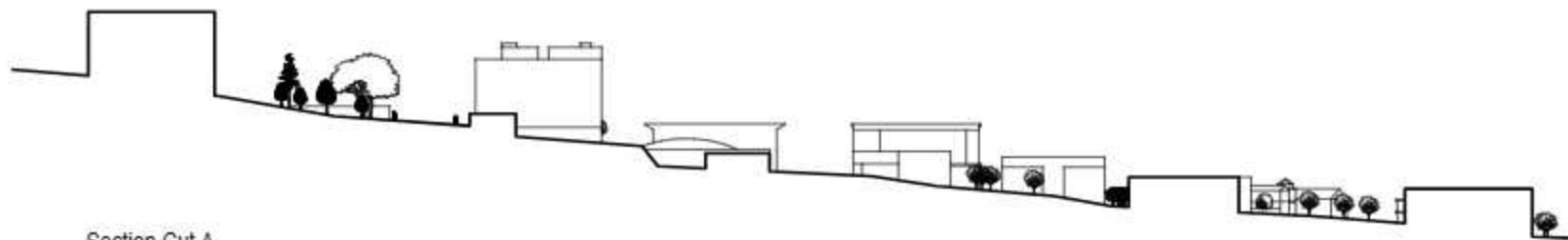
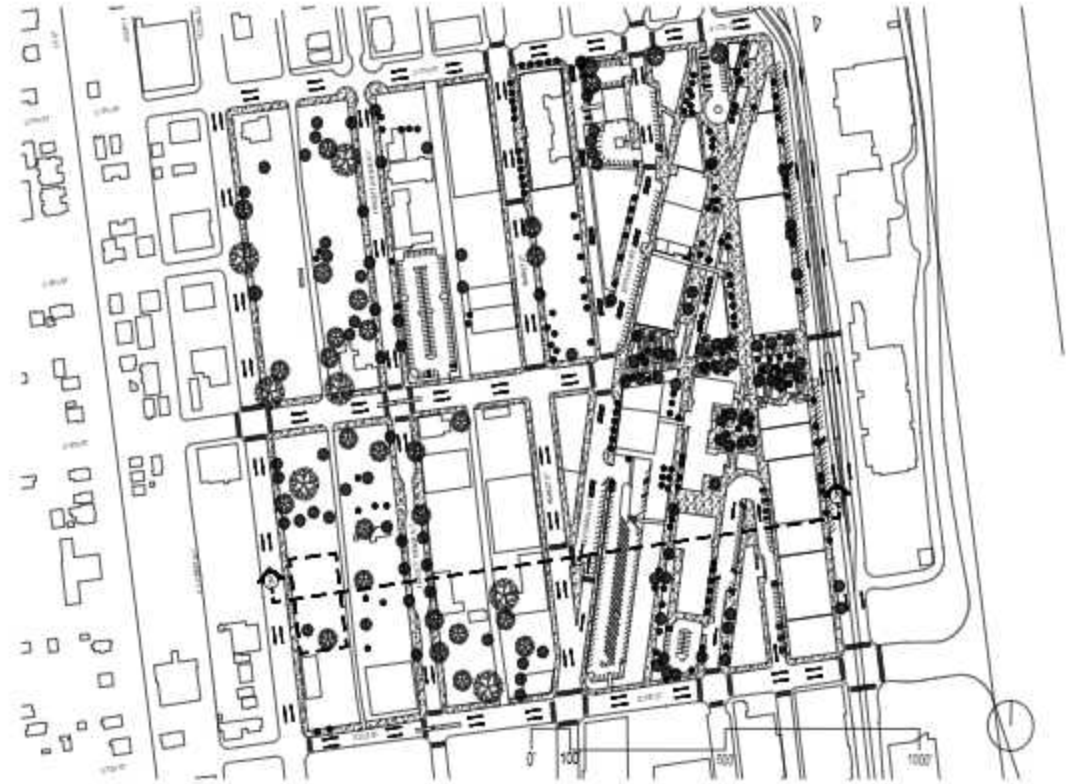
Meet Our Team

Here are the people who make this journey special. Everyone on this page brings something different like skills, ideas, and heart. We come from different backgrounds but we work together, learn from each other, and support one another.

From our instructor to each student, we all play a part in creating a welcoming and creative space. Whether we are working on projects, sharing ideas, or helping our community, we are growing and learning as a team.

Existing Site Plan and Section

The existing site plan of the University of Washington Tacoma (UWT) showcases a unique integration of historic warehouse buildings with modern academic facilities, spread across a compact urban campus in downtown Tacoma. The site is organized around a central axis that connects the campus to the city, featuring a prominent staircase that links the upper and lower campus levels. The section of UWT reveals a distinct terraced topography, with buildings stepping down the slope and pedestrian walkways navigating through various elevation changes.



Section Cut A

Elevation Change Analysis

Key Findings

The western part of the University of Washington Tacoma campus exhibits a significantly steeper terrain compared to the eastern side, with nearly double the elevation rise.



Elevation change:
equal intervals (57ft)

- 58 ft
- 115 ft

Site Boundary

UWT Occupying Buildings

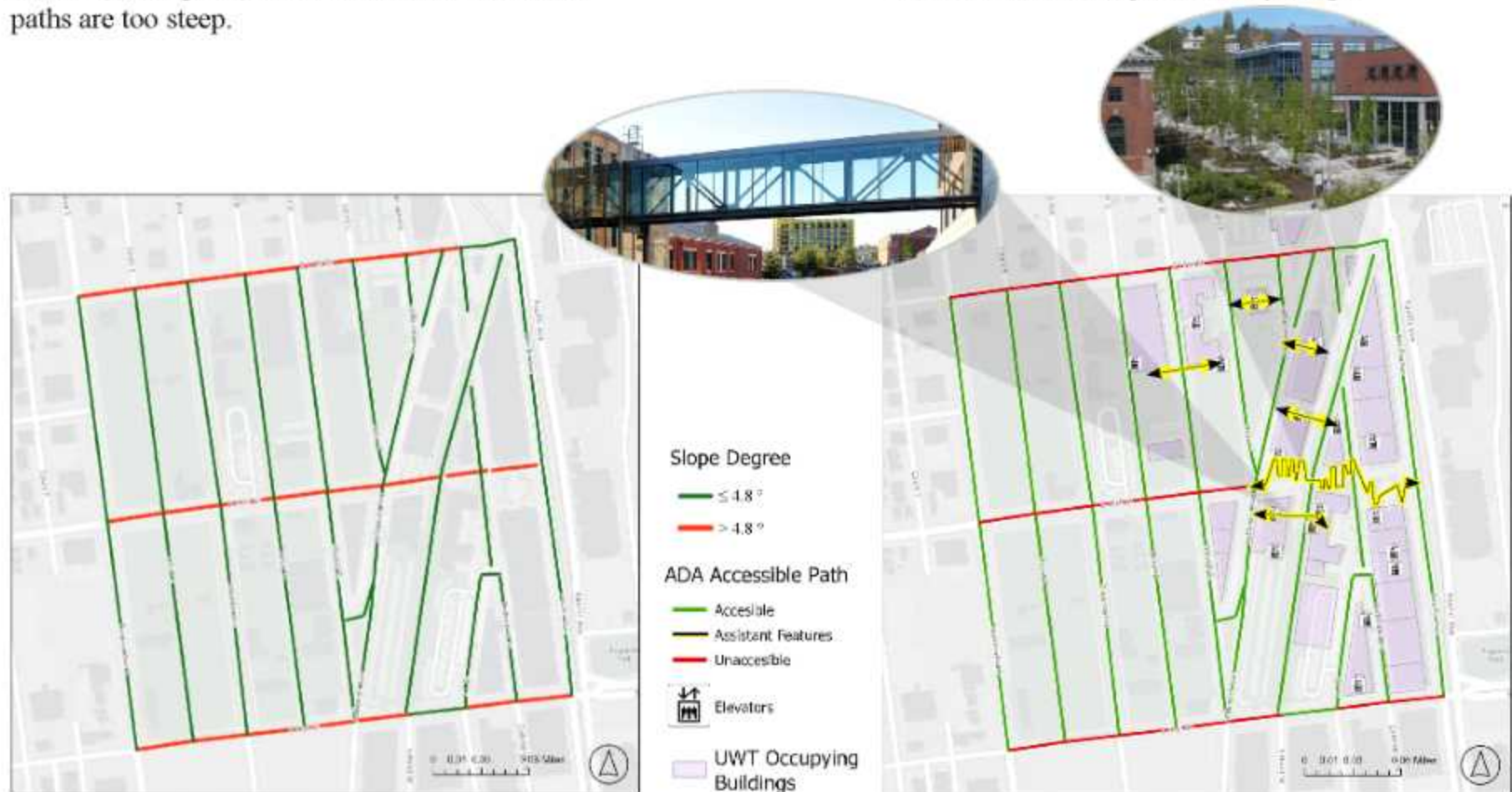
ADA Requirement Analysis

For Street Only (1:12)

The majority of North-South street paths meet the ADA requirements, with slopes of less than or equal to 1:12 (4.8 degrees). In contrast, most East-West paths are too steep.

Key Findings

However, there are several accessibility features in place to aid movement up and down the hill, including indoor elevators, ramps, and a skybridge.



Assets

In addition to the previous findings, I discovered another asset: our campus has 20 elevators and 10 gender-neutral bathrooms. Notably, all 10 gender-neutral bathrooms are located next to an elevator, enhancing convenience and accessibility.









-  Elevators
-  All Gender Restroom
-  UWT Occupying Buildings

Issues/Opportunities

Issues: The western part of campus is not accessible. The eastern part does offer some assistance for getting uphill, but most indoor elevators are only for student use, which isn't ideal. These elevators are only available during class hours, from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm. Also, travel time using ADA-compliant ramps is approximately 3-4 times longer than using stairs, based on distance measurements.

Opportunities: Expand access to the western part of campus through technology, additional ramps, and landscape modifications, ensuring accessibility for everyone at all times and on all days.



-  > 4.8 ° (Steep Slope - ADA)
-  Assistant Features
-  Public Access (during class time)
-  Elevators
-  UWT Occupying Buildings
-  Site Boundary

After doing individual site analysis, our Urban Design cohort planned and launched a community engagement campaign. We used multiple methods such as surveys, pop-up workshops, and interactive mapping activities to gather input from students and stakeholders.



Email Communication

Reimagining UW Tacoma's Future Together

Dear [Name],

We are excited to announce the launch of the Reimagining UW Tacoma's Future Together campaign. We are seeking your input on the future of our campus and the surrounding community. Your feedback is essential to the success of this project. We will be holding a series of workshops and public meetings to gather your thoughts and ideas. We encourage you to participate in these activities and share your vision for the future of our campus. Your input will be invaluable in shaping the future of our community. We look forward to hearing from you and working together to create a better future for all.

Thank you for your interest in this project. We are excited to hear from you and work together to create a better future for all.

Best regards,
 [Name]
 [Title]
 [Contact Information]



Website

Reimagining UW Tacoma's Future Together

Link
<https://uwf-survey.vercel.app/>



Survey

LWT Urban Design Survey

Link
<https://arcg.is/SDKqH>



Social Media

Instagram
 @udecapstone

No Posts Yet



Flyers

WUW MASTER PLAN
 WUW MASTER PLAN
 WUW MASTER PLAN



Flyers

WUW MASTER PLAN
 WUW MASTER PLAN
 WUW MASTER PLAN

Community Engagement Methods. Photo courtesy of 2025 Urban Design Cohort.

The image shows a website header and main content area. The header is a solid purple bar with the text 'UWT Urban Design 2025 Capstone' and a circular logo on the left, and navigation links 'Home', 'Events', and 'Contact' on the right. The main content area features a background image of a city street with a large crowd of people. Overlaid on this image is the title 'Reimagining UW Tacoma's Future Together' in large white text. To the right of the title is a circular logo with 'STUDENT-LED' written inside. Below the title is a paragraph of text: 'We're a team of senior Urban Design students will collaborate with **Civil Engineering 2025 Cohort** working to create a new master plan that reflects your campus experience. Your voice matters in shaping UWT's future.' At the bottom left of the main content area are two buttons: a purple button with 'Share Your Experience' and a speech bubble icon, and a white button with 'Learn More' and a dropdown arrow icon. There are also some abstract purple shapes (a sphere and a cube) overlaid on the background image.

UWT Urban Design 2025 Capstone

Home Events Contact

Reimagining UW Tacoma's Future Together

We're a team of senior Urban Design students will collaborate with **Civil Engineering 2025 Cohort** working to create a new master plan that reflects your campus experience. Your voice matters in shaping UWT's future.

Share Your Experience

Learn More

Our Design Manifesto



Diversity, Equity, + Inclusion

Valuing and implementing diversity, equity, and inclusion in all designs and efforts

ADA, culture, history, belonging, emotional safety, inclusion



Climate Action

Prioritizing sustainability and environmental health through best practices

Sustainability, green infrastructure, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, active transportation



Community Connections

Integrating multi-faceted aspects of the public realm

Public realm, surrounding communities, being part of the city, spaces for students



Safety

Aspiring physical safety in the built environment

Physical environment, flooding, underdeveloped areas

Redesigning UWT's Future

Our capstone project collaborating with **Civil Engineering 2025 Cohort** focuses on redesigning the master plan that enhances the campus experience while preserving UWT's unique character and connection to Tacoma.



Community-Driven

Your input shapes our design decisions



Strategic Planning

Creating spaces that work for everyone



Sustainable Design

Environmentally conscious campus development



Inclusive Spaces

Designing for diversity and accessibility

Join us in shaping the future of UWT



Project Timeline



Research Phase

Analysis of current campus's typology, infrastructure, green space, etc.

September 2024

📅 Past



Community Engagement

Collaborate with Civil Engineering 2025 Cohort to gathering feedback through surveys and workshops

January - February 2025

📅 Past



Master Planning

Collaborate with Civil Engineering 2025 Cohort to redesign UWT's Master Plan

March 2025

📅 Past



Final Proposal

Presenting our vision for UWT's future

May 2025

📅 Past

Performed GIS analysis

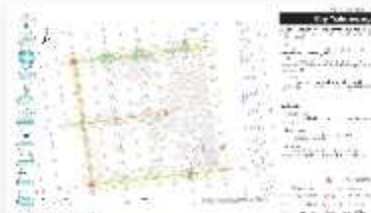
There are nine of us in this cohort, and we conducted analyses on various topics related to the University of Washington Tacoma campus, with each team member responsible for a specific area. Below is a graphic summary of each:



Hieu Nguyen

Urban Design Student/GIS Certificate

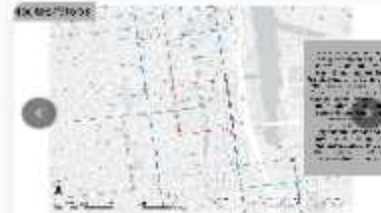
Advocating for ADA, diversity, equity and inclusion



Raisa Baker

Urban Design Student/Transportation Planning Intern

Designing spaces for people, equity, and sustainability



Sabien Adderley

UWT Senior Urban Design

Optimizing traffic, transit, and movements



Yasir Al Sammarraie

UWT Senior Urban Design

Promotes the needs for diversity and inclusion, ensuring that future generations recognize and appreciate the rich history



Hugo Julian Ennis

UWT Senior Urban Design

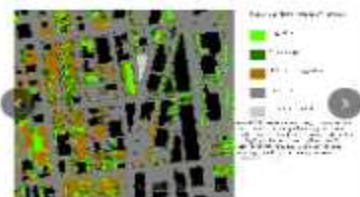
Resources, Clubs, Student movement, and what to do next



Christy Gonzalez

UWT Senior Urban Design

Intersection of equitable design, analysis, and advocacy



Asad Hussein

UWT Senior Urban Design

Creating sustainable and innovative solutions within urban environments and shaping spaces



Capstone UWT Redesign

Tu T Nguyen

UWT Senior Urban Design

Analyzing tree types and canopy coverage to support urban resilience, equity, and sustainability



Food Analysis

Benjamin Smith

UWT Senior Urban Design

Highlight the accessibility and distance of food and grocery relative to the UW Tacoma campus

Upcoming Events

Join us at these upcoming events to share your ideas and help shape the future of UW Tacoma's campus design.



STUDENT-LED

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Senior Urban Design Capstone Project

JANUARY 16TH, 2025
9AM - 1PM

Illustration of food items: potatoes, milk, noodles, and a chocolate bar.

TPS BUILDING (GROUND FLOOR)

Share your perspective about food access here on campus. This project is being conducted by the students of the senior Urban Design cohort. It aims to find out where students go to eat on campus as well as what food options students wish to see to see on campus in the future.



For More Information: <https://uwn-tacoma-vercel.app/>

Food For Thought

📅 January 16, 2025

🕒 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

📍 UW Tacoma - 1st Floor TPS Building

Share your perspective about food access here on campus!

🏠 Community 🗣️ Feedback 🔄 Interactive



TRANSPOTALK

POP-UP FOCUS GROUP

JAN. 22
11:30AM - 1:30PM
at TPS 103

Students, your opinions are **valued!**

Share your perspective on transportation, transit, and other movements involved with our campus. The location of the TranspoTalk group will be determined by the date of the event.



UW/TACOMA

For More Information: <https://uwn-tacoma-vercel.app/>

Transpo Talk

📅 January 22, 2025

🕒 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

📍 TPS Room 103

Share your perspective on transportation, transit, and other movements involved with our campus.

🏠 Community 🗣️ Feedback 🔄 Interactive



STUDENT-LED

"WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!"

PUBLIC SPACE

1.22.2025

AT 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
IN TPS (GROUND FLOOR)



📍 Past

g.u/SDKqH

Public Space

📅 January 22, 2025

🕒 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

📍 TPS Lobby

Share your perspective on our campus' food topic .

🏠 Exhibition 🌱 Sustainability
🔬 Innovation

Community Engagement [PUBLIC SPACE]

Where on campus do you avoid, and why?

STUDENT FEEDBACK QUOTES

Very busy and limited community areas

Slopes and stairs were a consistent concern

Buildings without classes in them are usually avoided

The YMCA is too far out of the way from all class buildings and not easy to access

Private businesses because they're too expensive particularly along Pacific Avenue

Pacific Avenue, and all busy roads surrounding campus due to a lack of pedestrian safety measures

Science building came up multiple times due to no vending machines, no study seating, and it's cold

The unhooded around campus were repeatedly brought up as places students had interactions with and now avoid. Students specifically asked campus to address this issue

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Due to steep slopes, many stairs, and length of time to go up winding ramps, many students avoid going west.

Many students expressed not having community gathering places that met their needs, that weren't over crowded.

CHRISTY GONZALEZ

KEY LOCATIONS STUDENTS AVOID

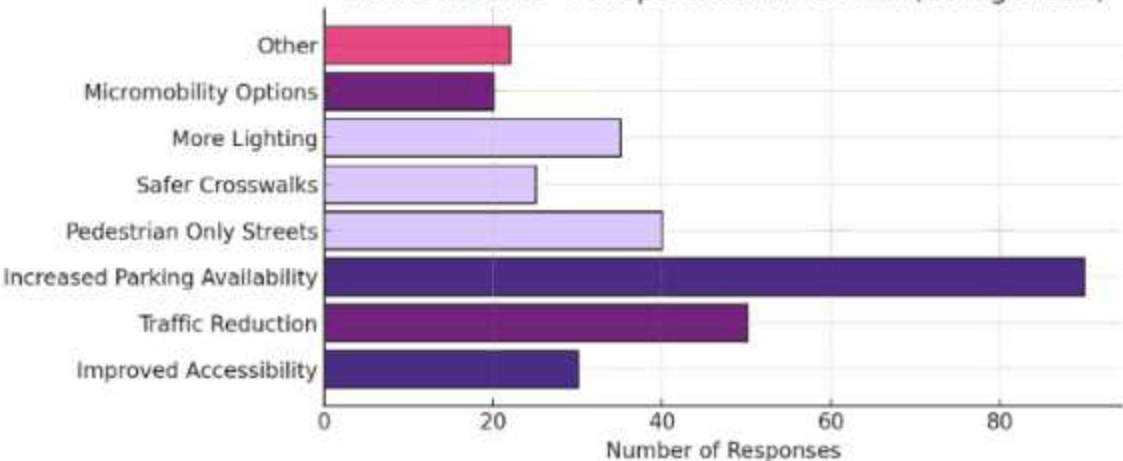


Community Engagement

[TRANSPORTATION]

Survey Question - In regards to transportation in the near future, what do you hope UWT would prioritize in future designs? Choose 3 or less.

UWT Students' Transportation Priorities (Categorized)



Mobility & Traffic Management
 Traffic reduction
 Micromobility options

Parking & Accessibility
 Increased parking availability
 Improved accessibility

Pedestrian & Safety Enhancements
 Pedestrian only streets
 Safer crosswalks
 More lighting

Other Considerations

TESTIMONIES



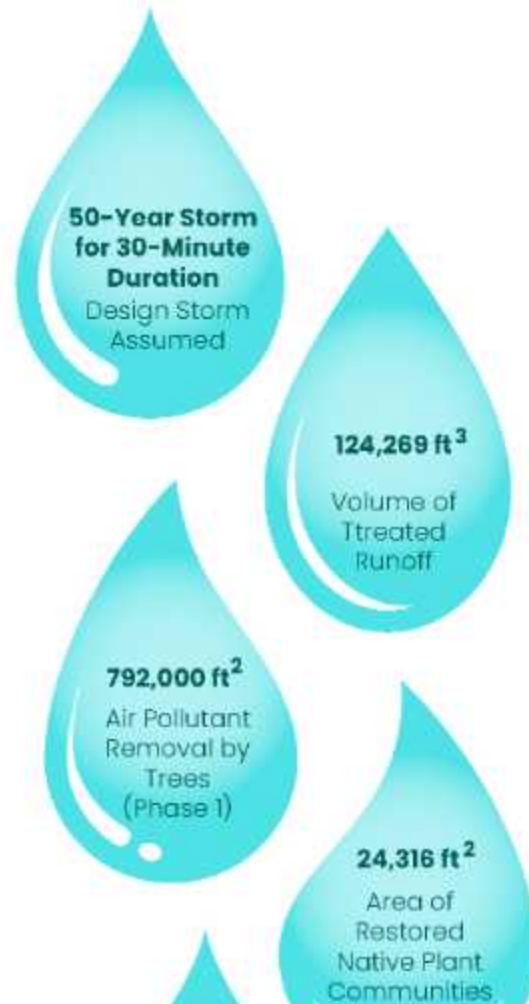
HIEU NGUYEN

PROTECTING THE SOUND



EPA Rainwork Challenge. Photo courtesy of 2025 Urban Design Cohort and Civil Engineer Cohort.

AS IT HITS THE GROUND



1. THE QUAD



2. ACCESSIBLE RAINGARDENS





Hieu Nguyen

Urban Design Framework

Design proposal focus: the design proposal centers on blending diverse land uses, expanding green infrastructure, enhancing mobility for all users, and fostering stronger neighborhood ties.

The UW Tacoma campus is ready for a new phase of growth guided by a thoughtful master plan. My design vision emphasizes a green connection that extends the iconic grand staircase northwest through the site, linking to the southwest multisport area, highlighting the ongoing partnership with a local multifamily housing developer. The plan prioritizes new housing, improved access, and mixed-use spaces while strengthening community ties, enhancing campus identity, and integrating seamlessly with surrounding neighborhoods.



UW Tacoma: Urban Design Framework

Proposed Site Plan



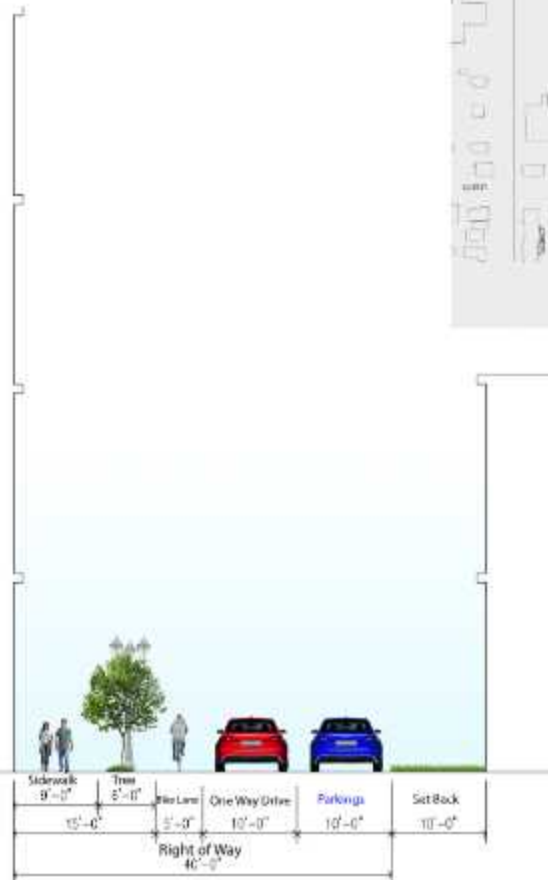


Hieu Nguyen

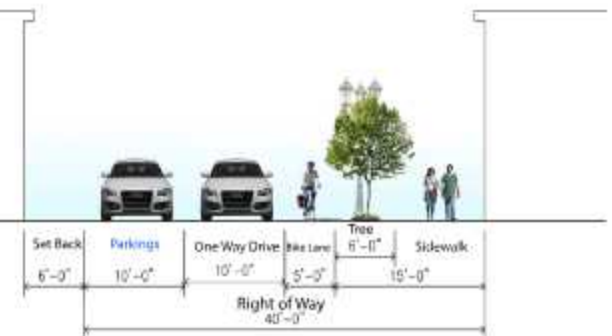
Street Sections Proposal



Section A-A

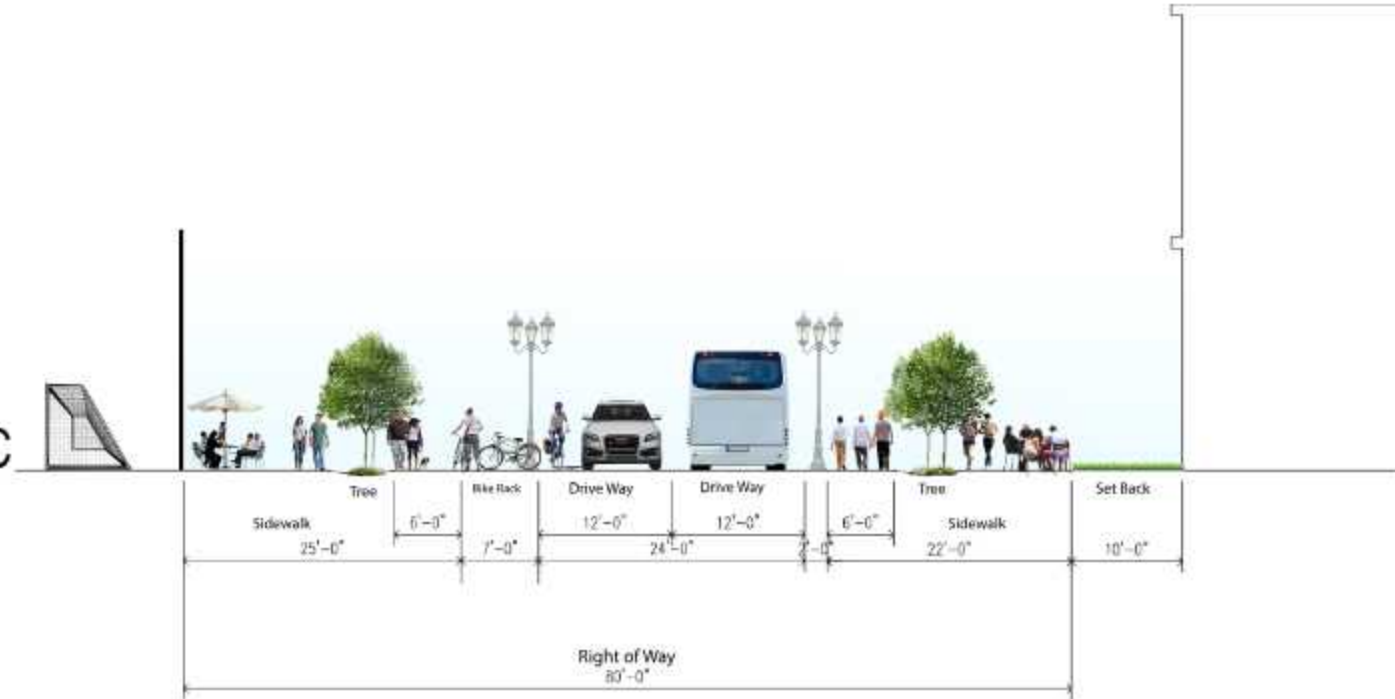


Section B-B

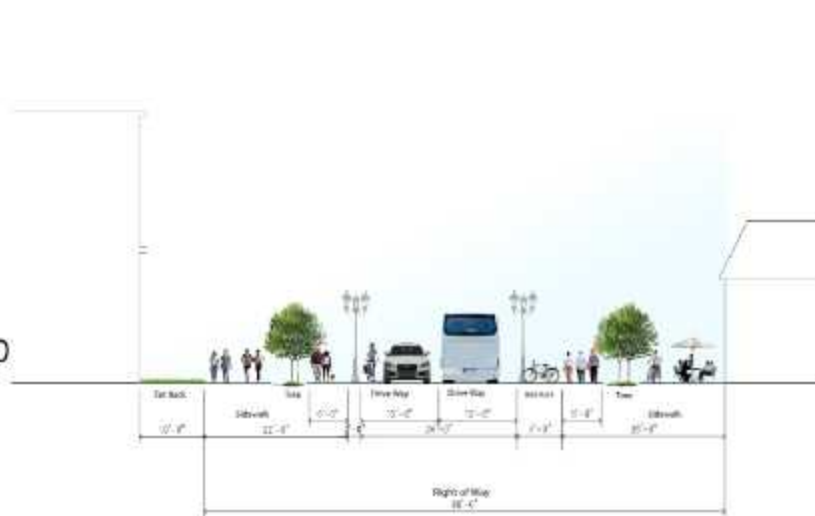


Street Sections Proposal

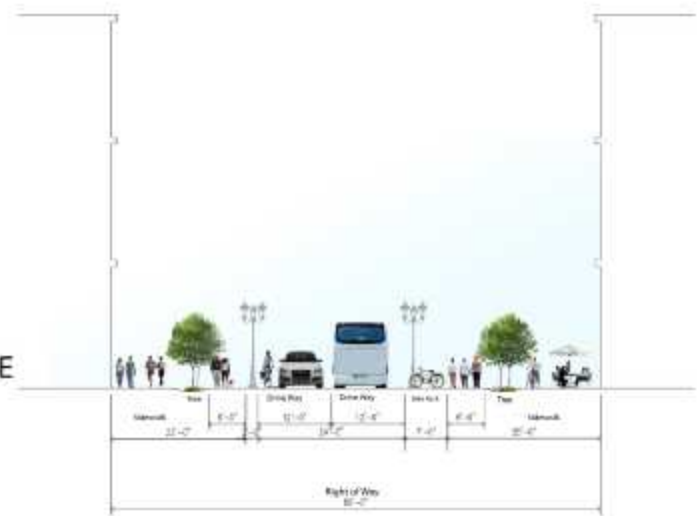
Section C-C



Section D-D



Section E-E



Civil Engineering & Urban Design, Spring 2025
UWT CollabCapstone

Urban Design Collaborator(s):
 Hieu Nguyen

Expert advisor(s):
 Brian Wang and Angela Kitai

Student: Kari Lau
 Site: 19th Street

Problem statement

This project proposes a redesign of South 19th Street to enhance pedestrian safety, encourage multimodal transportation, and integrate green infrastructure through the EPA RainWorks Challenge. The design will support a woonerf-style streetscape that prioritizes people over cars, while maintaining essential transit accessibility.

South 19th Street currently lacks pedestrian-friendly infrastructure and sufficient multimodal connectivity. High vehicle speeds and limited green space discourage walking and biking. This project aims to transform the corridor into a shared space that balances safety, aesthetics, and function.

Proposed strategies include raised crosswalks, traffic calming features, permeable pavement, GSI solutions, expanded sidewalks, and bike-friendly zones. These interventions will increase foot traffic, support sustainable water management, and align with Tacoma and UWT's equitable mobility goals.

19th Street in Focus

Existing 19th Hatch

This plan view shows the current layout of 19th Street, which lacks pedestrian-friendly infrastructure and green stormwater elements. Narrow sidewalks and minimal landscaping reflect car-dominated street design.



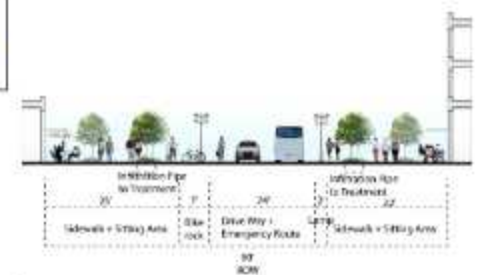
Existing 19th Street Profile

The existing street cross-section highlights limited space for non-vehicular users, with narrow walkways and no dedicated bike lanes. This profile contributes to low walkability and reduced public safety.



Proposed 19th Street Site Section

A rendered cross-section visualizes the future design of 19th Street, incorporating GSI solutions, raised crosswalks, wider sidewalks, and seating areas. The layout emphasizes pedestrian comfort and environmental resilience.



Urban Design Framework

This contextual diagram serves as the foundation of the project, showing the location of 19th Street within the broader urban fabric.



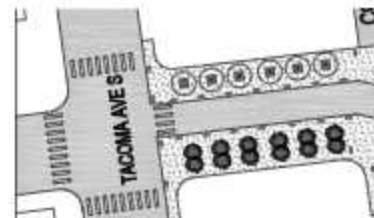
Proposed 19th Hatch

The new hatch assembly presents a sustainable layout with permeable pavement, planted buffers, and traffic-calming features. It promotes stormwater management while enhancing walkability.



Proposed 19th Hatch Zoomed

A close-up of the hatch assembly reveals infiltration zones, and tree-lined buffers. These elements support both functional and aesthetic improvements.



Proposed 19th Street Site Section

Elements like trees, lighting, and differentiated paving improve the spatial experience and environmental quality.



