

# Union Street Corridor Study

Waterfront Commission Special Meeting  
June 21, 2012



# Project Team

- City of Alexandria
- Toole Design Group
  - Tina Fink, P.E. – Project Manager
  - Dan Goodman, AICP, LEED-AP – Senior Planner
  - Lauren Kaufmann – Staff Engineer
- Quality Counts





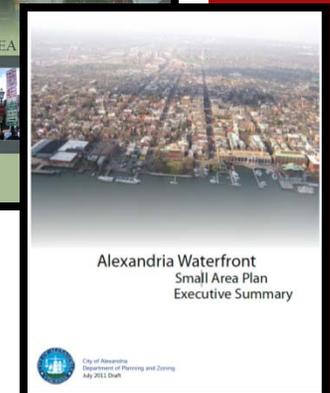
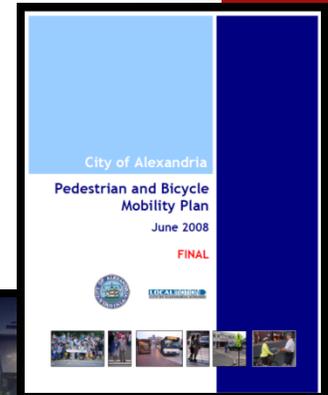
# Agenda

- Project Overview
  - Goals and challenges
  - Scope elements
  - Project schedule
- Previous plans and studies
- Status of ongoing work
- Discussion questions



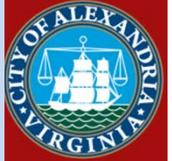
# Project Goals and Challenges

- Build upon previous studies
- Facilitate a vibrant waterfront
- Address parking and circulation issues
- Enhance safety for all modes
- Implement Complete Streets
- Balance needs:
  - Of all users
  - On different days and times of the week



# Study Area & Key Scope Elements

- Existing Transportation Conditions
  - Field Assessments
  - Traffic Counts (all modes!)
  - Parking
  - Overnight Parking
  - Delivery Truck Activity
  - Motorcoach Activity
  - Crash Data
- Public Engagement
- Alternatives and Recommendations





# Project Schedule

TASK	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT
Fieldwork/Data Collection						
Analysis and Documentation						
Develop & Refine Recommendations						
Waterfront Commission Meetings		X		X	X	
Public Meeting						
Final Report						
Planning Commission Meeting						
Transportation Commission Meeting						
City Council Meeting						



# Waterfront Commission Input

Meeting #1:  
June 21

JUNE 2012						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Provide input on issues and concerns in the study area

Meeting #2:  
Aug 28

AUGUST 2012						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Provide preferences and comments on design alternatives and recommendations

Meeting #3:  
Sept 18

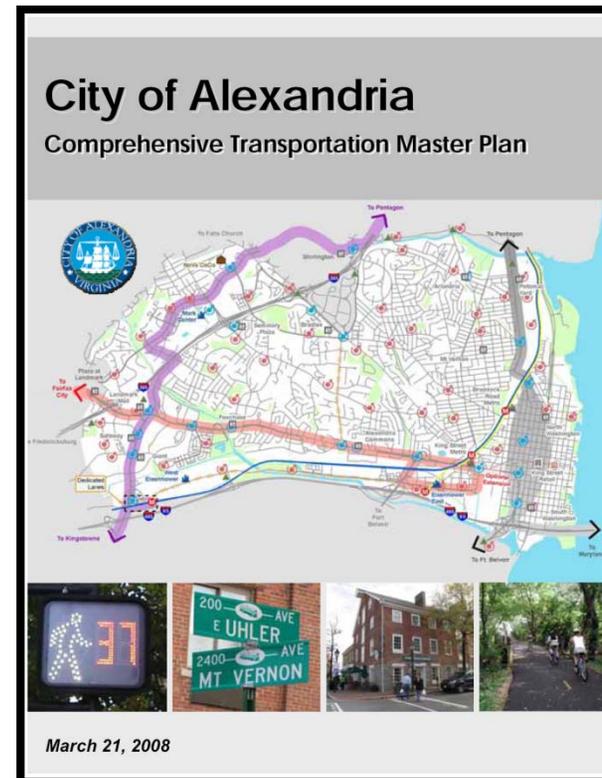
SEPTEMBER 2012						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Select preferred design alternative



# Comprehensive Transportation Master Plan

- March 2008
- Provides the overarching vision and goals for our study
  - Multimodal emphasis
  - Balance between travel efficiency and quality of life
  - Transportation choice
  - Infrastructure recommendations
  - Accessibility and mobility





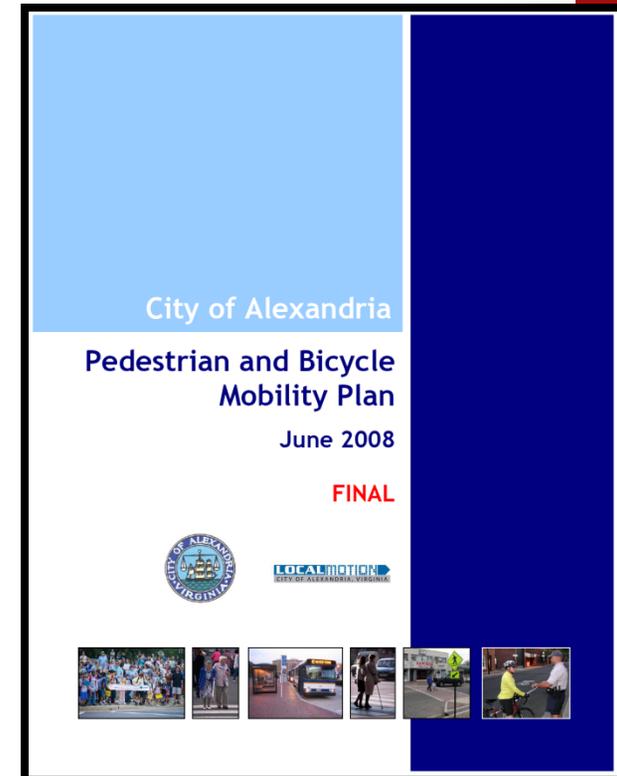
# Alexandria Waterfront Small Area Plan

- July 2011
- Informs our understanding of future land use and development changes in the study area
- Goals
  - Connected
  - Dynamic
  - Manageable
- Public space
- Parking
- Transportation
  - Signal timing and new signals
  - Pedestrian congestion
  - Wayfinding
  - Safety retrofits
  - Accessibility
  - Bike share
  - Enforcement
  - Transit

# Pedestrian and Bicycle Mobility Plan



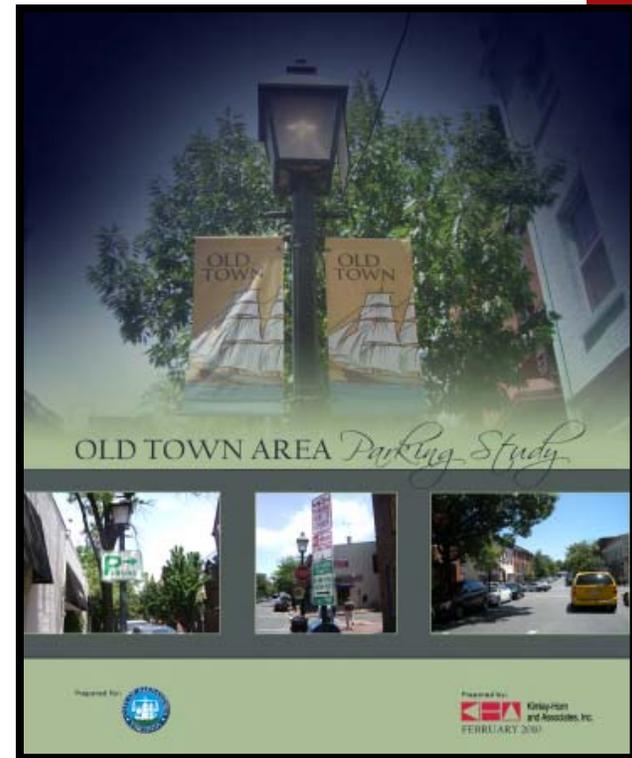
- June 2008
- Provides starting point for recommended bike and pedestrian improvements and how they might be prioritized
  - Citywide pedestrian and bike data collection and recommendations
  - Prioritization
  - Bicycle and Pedestrian Priority Streets





# Old Town Parking Study and Implementation Plan

- February 2010
- Provides baseline understanding of broader parking issues and opportunities in Old Town, which we'll:
  - Apply to study area
  - Test based on current data collection
  - Expand upon as needed
- Garage and wayfinding strategies



# Alexandria Waterfront Traffic Impact Study



- May 2010
- Provides baseline traffic analysis, which we'll use to evaluate what we're observing today
  - Key intersections focus on access to/from Washington Street
  - Provides recommendations for all modes and evaluates impact of potential improvements

## Alexandria Waterfront Traffic Impact Study

*Prepared for:*



City of Alexandria  
301 King Street, City Hall  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

*Prepared by:*

**AECOM**

675 North Washington Street, Suite 300  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
(703) 549-8728

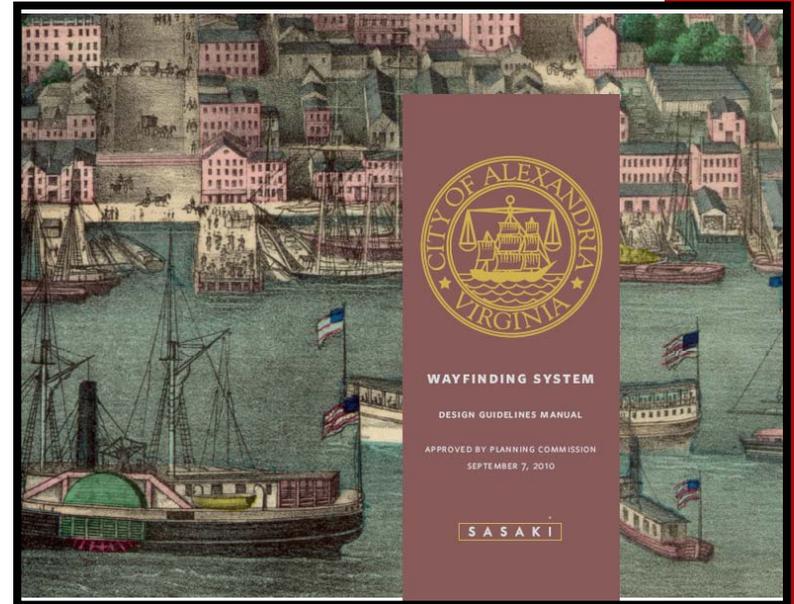
*Date of Submission:*

May 2010



# Other Plans and Studies

- Wayfinding System Design Guidelines Manual (September 2010)
- Motorcoach Task Force (2008-2010)
- Windmill Hill Park Consensus Plan Development (January 2002)
- Other





# Status of Ongoing Work

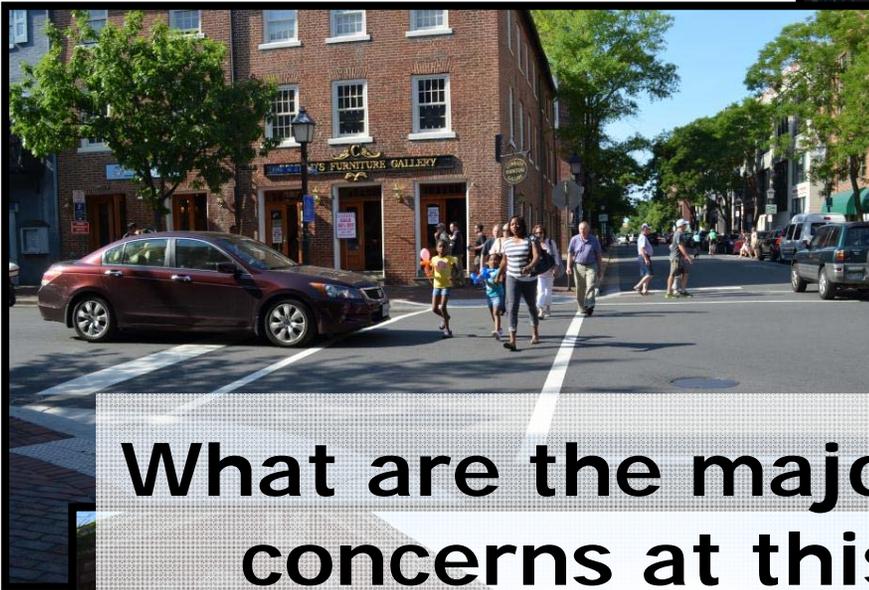
- Safety Analysis
- Union Street & King Street Behavior Analysis
- Delivery Truck Activity
- Daily Traffic Counts
- Turning Movement Counts
- Stakeholder Interviews

# Safety Analysis

- Only a few reported crashes
- “Near misses” aren’t reported
- User comfort not captured



# Union Street & King Street

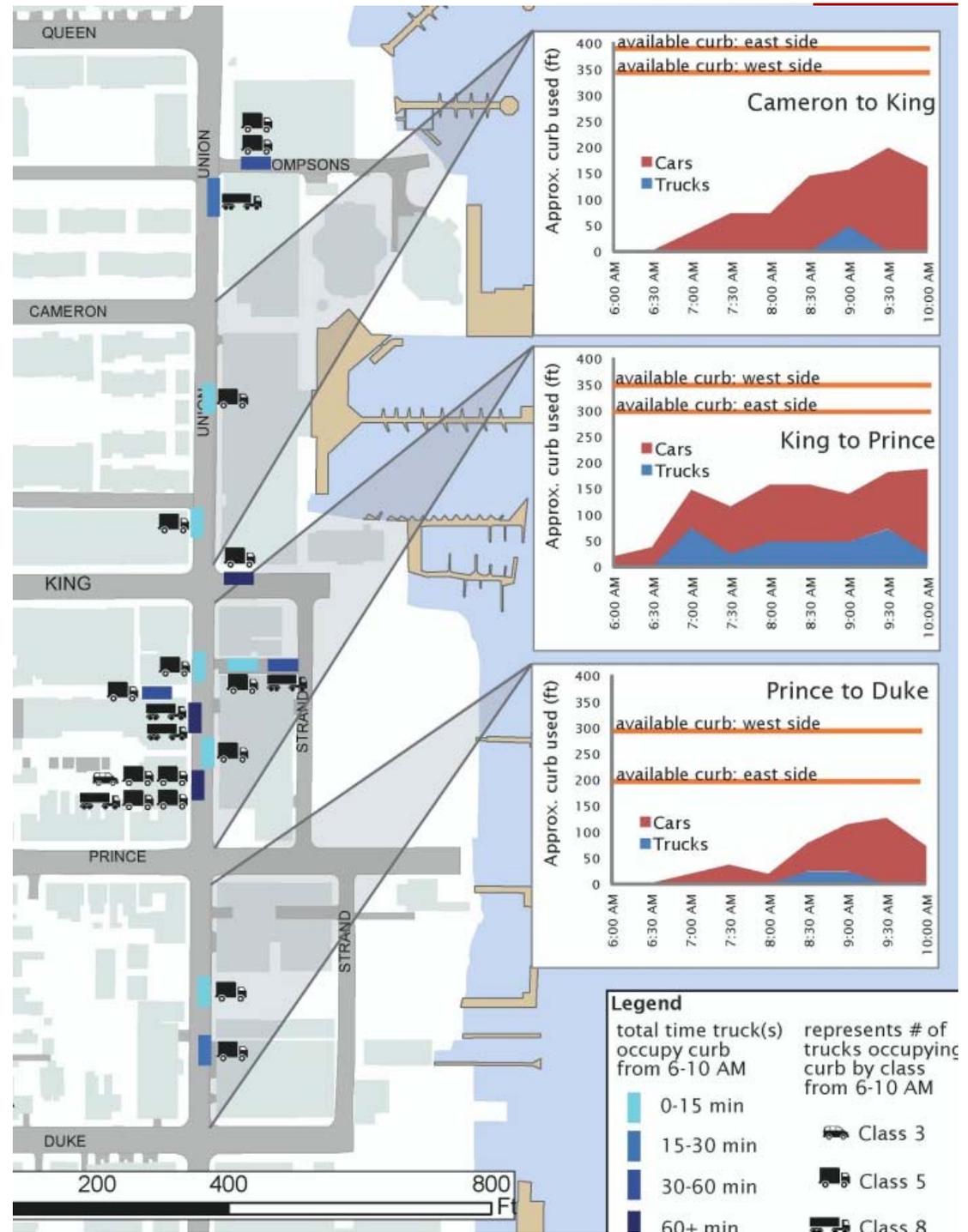


**What are the major complaints and concerns at this intersection?**



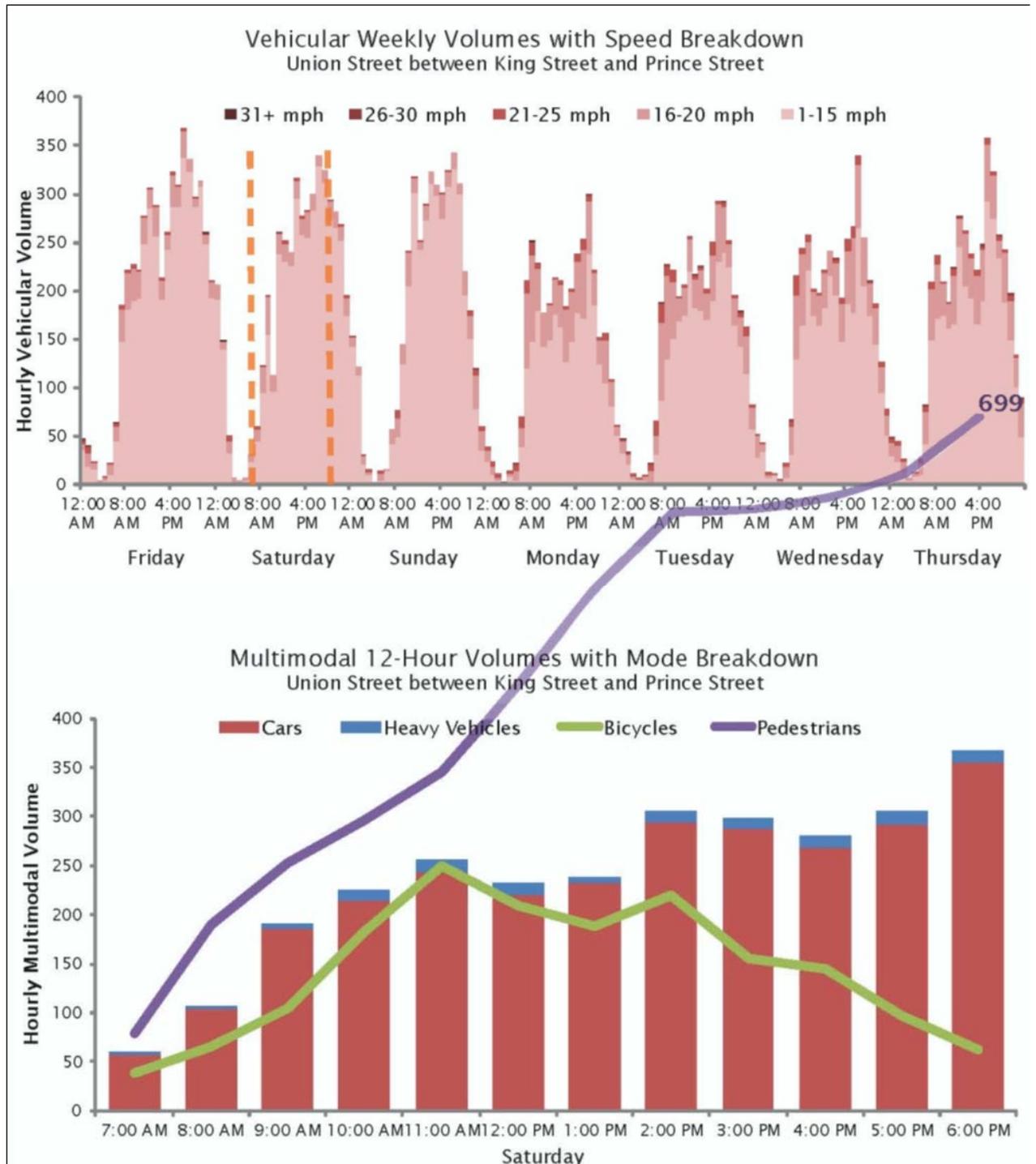
# Delivery Truck Activity

- Deliveries started at 7 AM
- Busiest between King and Prince
- More activity on the weekday



# Daily Traffic Counts

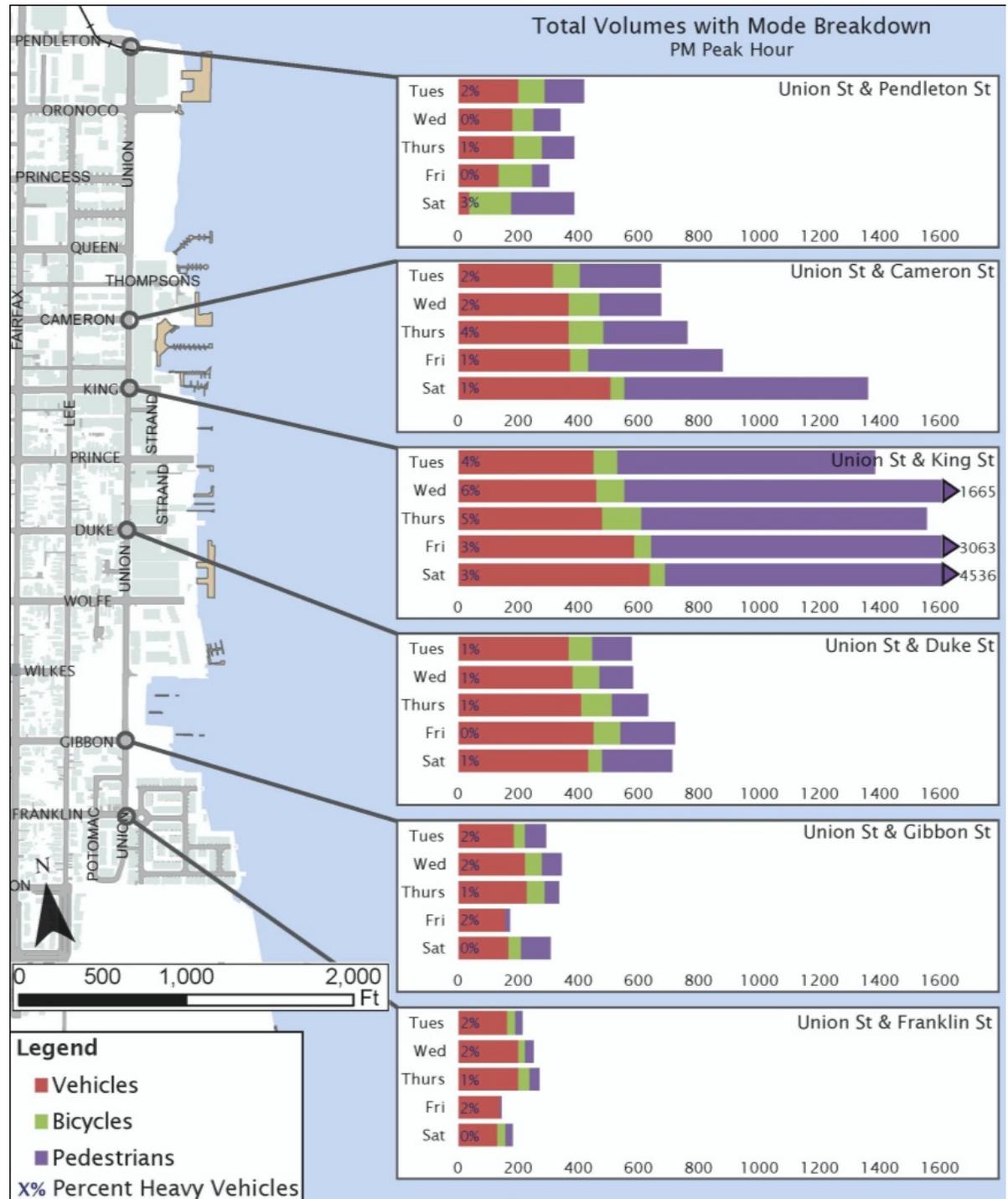
- Traffic volumes highest Friday to Sunday
- Motorist speeds slow
- Bicyclists volume highest mid-day on Saturday
- Pedestrian volume off the charts!



# Turning Movement Counts

## Thursday Evening

- Union & King
  - 482 cars
  - 950 peds
- Fairfax & King
  - 759 cars
  - 503 peds
- Wash. & King
  - 3,344 cars
  - 603 peds





# Discussion Question (1/4)

What is **working well** on Union Street today and what is **not working well**? How has it **changed over the years**?



# Discussion Question (2/4)

What are the **most important competing needs** that we will need to balance as part of our effort?



# Discussion Questions (3/4)

Which of the issues that exist today can be addressed through **physical and/or operational changes** and which have **more to do with behavior?**



# Discussion Questions (4/4)

**At the end of our process, how will we know that we have succeeded?**

# QUESTIONNAIRE: JUNE 21, 2012 WATERFRONT COMMISSION MEETING

Please fill out as these items are discussed. Return at the end of the meeting.

## A. Union Street Video Analysis at King St & Union St

What are the **major complaints/concerns** at this intersection? We've noticed a few possibilities:

1. Are **pedestrians** concerned about...

(RANK TOP 3 CONCERNS)

- Crowding on crosswalks?
- Crowding on sidewalks?
- Being hit by a motorist?
- Being hit by a bicycle?
- Being hit by a bus/trolley or truck?
- Waiting too long to cross the street?
- Motorists or bicyclists not yielding?

2. Are **bicyclists** concerned about...

(RANK TOP 3 CONCERNS)

- Getting hit by a motorist?
- Hitting a pedestrian?
- Having to stop at the stop sign?
- Not having a separated space from motorized traffic on Union or King?
- A pedestrian jumping in front of them?
- Crowding on the approaches or in the intersection?

3. Are **motorists** concerned about...

(RANK TOP 3 CONCERNS)

- Hitting a pedestrian?
- Hitting a cyclist?
- Not having the right-of-way?
- Waiting too long at the intersection?
- Traffic backing up onto surrounding streets and intersections?
- Not having southbound through access on King Street?
- Having to stop at the stop sign?
- A pedestrian jumping in front of them?

4. **Overall**, are the concerns regarding...

(RANK TOP 3 CONCERNS)

- Safety?
- Comfort?
- Tension between users?
- Time to get to destination?
- Confusion about right-of-way?

**Did we miss something?** Please tell us.

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# QUESTIONNAIRE: JUNE 21, 2012 WATERFRONT COMMISSION MEETING

Please fill out as these items are discussed. Return at the end of the meeting.

## B. Delivery Truck Activity Questions

What are the **major complaints/concerns** with delivery trucks on Union Street?

(RANK TOP 5 CONCERNS)

\_\_\_ Trucks make too much noise

\_\_\_ Trucks blocking street

\_\_\_ Trucks being on the street

\_\_\_ Trucks make it unsafe

\_\_\_ Type of truck (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Trucks are unsightly

\_\_\_ Presence of trucks at a certain time (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Truck drivers are aggressive

**Did we miss something?** Please tell us.

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**Do you have any other comments regarding topics discussed at today's meeting?**

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