

NEIGHBORHOOD CHAPTERS

Admiral

The Admiral neighborhood is located in West Seattle. The western boundary is Sunset Ave to 53rd Ave SW, south to Admiral Way along the eastern edge of Schmitz Park, and south along SW Garlough Ave to SW Charlestown St, which is the southern boundary. The eastern boundary is 36th Ave SW. Until the early 1900s, West Seattle was a separate city, connected to Seattle through a ferry. The neighborhood has a stable and vital commercial center that provides a focal point for the area.³

Greenery, Parks and Open Space and a Thriving Commercial District Both Highly Valued

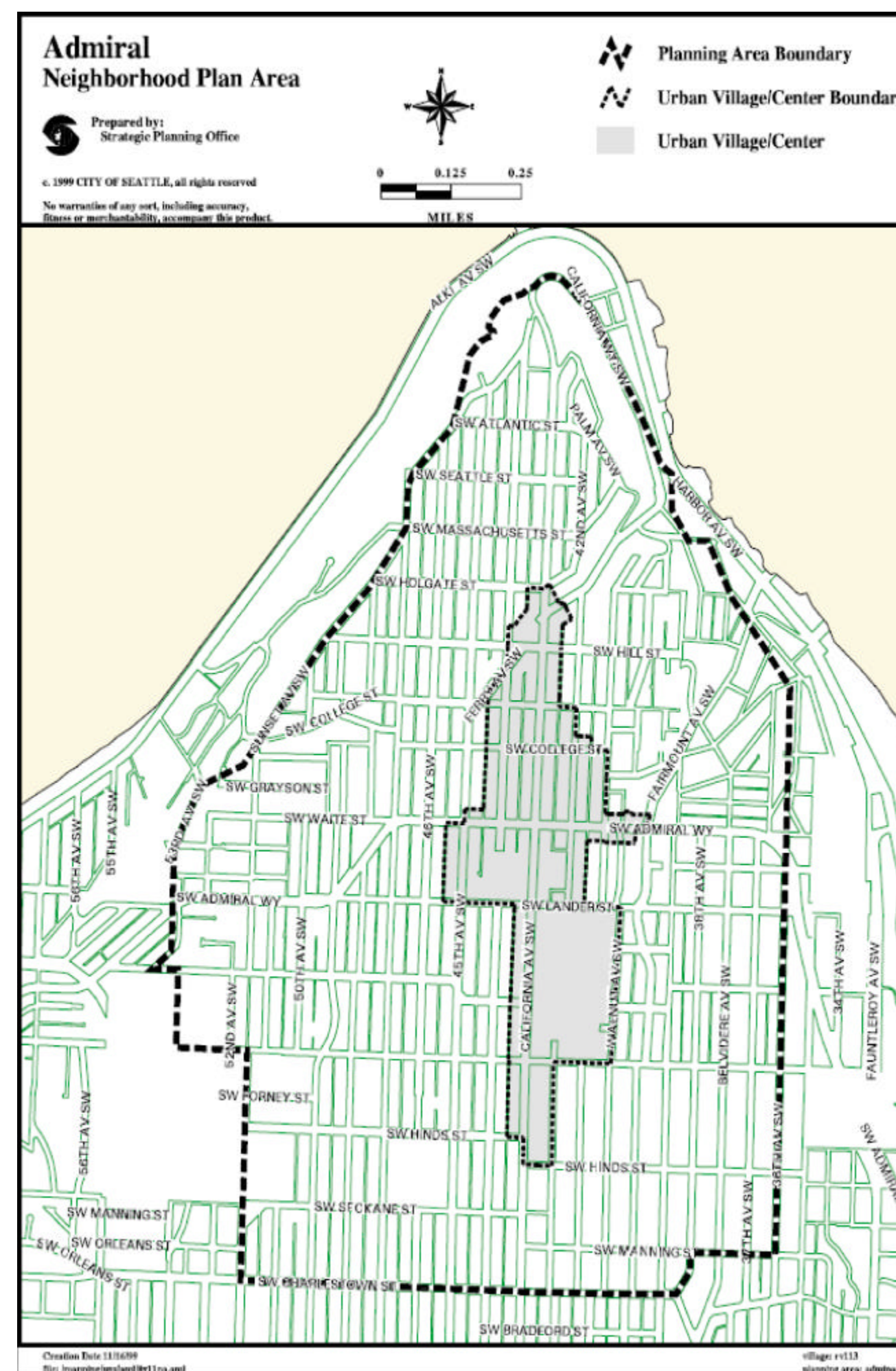
Greenery, Parks and Open Space

Community members in Admiral asserted that they have good parks, especially given their proximity to Alki Beach, viewed by respondents to be a great open space resource. However, many felt that their parks were not sufficient to meet the community's needs. Jeff Geoghagan, a new neighborhood activist stated, "a viewpoint does not constitute a park." He explained that Admiral has a number of viewpoints for visitors to gaze at downtown Seattle and Elliot Bay, but that the neighborhood lacked enough quality open space and recreation areas to serve local residents.

³ Admiral Residential Urban Village 1998 Plan

Top Priorities in Admiral

- Greenery, Parks and Open Space
- Thriving Commercial District



A Thriving Commercial District

Admiral's business district runs along California Avenue SW and Admiral Way. All of the community leaders interviewed felt that there was an adequate mix of businesses, but that there is always room for improvement. Many expressed that there were no significant obstacles to shopping in the business district, with the exception of a need for some pedestrian enhancements, such as more crosswalks.

Accessibility to the district by residents of other neighborhoods was raised by interviewees. Respondents felt that the monorail extension would increase access to Admiral from other parts of Seattle and help boost the neighborhood economy. Nancy Geddes of Zat's A Better Bagel commented, "If you really want your business to survive you also need to have people coming from outside of the neighborhood, and this is not supported by the transportation options in the city." Parking was seen as a major obstacle. Many interviewees complained that parking requirements were being reduced by the City without improving transportation alternatives to the area. Nancy Geddes explained,

Living close to the commercial district helps the transportation issue, and it makes it more convenient, if the business is thriving then the neighborhood is supporting it very well. Thriving is an important key word, it depends on the people who support it, the property owners, it depends on the types of businesses and their ability to sustain themselves and not having to pay too much money, to sustain mom and pop shops. It is what the area likes.

Many respondents indicated a preference for locally-owned smaller businesses as opposed to large corporate stores in their community.