PRONTO's Missed Expansion Into Seattle's Urban Villages

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An extensive network of bike- friendly routes, high personal bike ridership rates, and a population that supports alternatives to driving personal vehicles within the city. So why did PRONTO Bike share fail?

What Went Wrong

- Coverage included 8 of 9 Urban Centers, encompassing Downtown, South Lake Union and the University District, but *excluded* Urban Village neighborhoods such as Fremont, Ballard and Green Lake.
- Construction in downtown core of Seattle, as well as delayed bicycle infrastructure were barriers to inexperienced and confident riders alike.
- Payment scheme unfriendly to one-time, and occasional riders.
- Helmet laws and hilly landscape are challenges for bike share in Seattle.
- After operational and ownerhship shifts, PRONTO Bike Share ended in March of 2017 after less than 4 years.

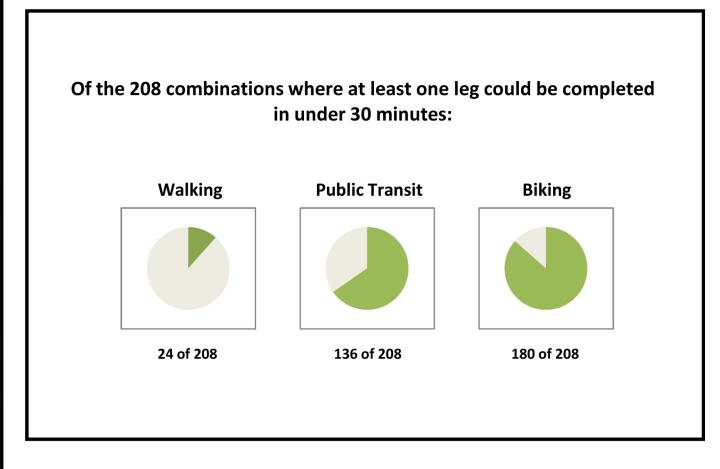
Walking, Public Transit, and Biking, Travel Times between N. Seattle Urban Villages



		Time	Time	Time
		Time Range	Time Range	Time Range
astlake	University Campus	32-33	14	11-13
astlake	University District Northwest	32-34	16-17	13
astlake	Upper Queen Anne	59	40-47	25-31
astlake	Wallingford	46-48	24-32	17-20
remont	Green Lake	53-54	19-21	17-19
remont	Greenwood-Phinney Ridge	56-60	21-24	16-22
remont	Ravenna	60-61	32	21-23
emont	Roosevelt	59-62	25-27	23-24
emont	South Lake Union	45-47	17	17-19
remont	University Campus	41-43	19-21	15-16
remont	University District Northwest	43-46	21-22	16-19
remont	Upper Queen Anne	34-38	23-34	15-20
remont	Wallingford	20-23	9-13	7-10
reen Lake	Greenwood-Phinney Ridge	35-38	15-16	11-13
reen Lake	Lake City	70-71	24-28	28
reen Lake	Northgate	43-46	24-25	14-17
reen Lake	Ravenna	39-42	17-26	14-18
reen Lake	Roosevelt	10-11	6-8	5
reen Lake	South Lake Union	85-88	20-31	28-33
reen Lake	University Campus	42-43	18-19	15-16
reen Lake	University District Northwest	28	14-15	10
reen Lake	Upper Queen Anne	86-89	39-50	30-35
reen Lake	Wallingford	33-35	13-14	11-13
reenwood-Phinney Ridge	Lake City	91-93	47-48	30-32
reenwood-Phinney Ridge	Northgate	51	29-39	17-19
reenwood-Phinney Ridge	Ravenna	73-79	46-47	24-32
reenwood-Phinney Ridge	Roosevelt	46-47	19-23	16-17
reenwood-Phinney Ridge	University Campus	76-80	33-35	25-30
reenwood-Phinney Ridge	University District Northwest	62-65	20-28	20-23
reenwood-Phinney Ridge	Wallingford	52-53	24-34	17-18
ake City	Northgate	41-43	14-17	14-16
ake City	Ravenna	82-85	19-21	33-38
ake City	Roosevelt	66-68	26-28	27-33
ake City	University Campus	96	26-30	41-44
orthgate	Ravenna	80-86	36-39	26-33
orthgate	Roosevelt	49-51	20-23	17-20
orthgate	University Campus	84-88	32-36	28-33
orthgate	University District Northwest	70-72	26-30	23-27
orthgate	Upper Queen Anne	127-128	30-54	48-49
orthgate	Wallingford	78-80	39-43	27-28
avenna	Roosevelt	32-37	21-29	12-18
avenna	South Lake Union	79	36-40	29-32
avenna	University Campus	17-19	11-12	6-9

PRO	ONTO Expansion to Seattle Urban	
Discovery Park	Bitter Lake Village (additional phase) Aurora Aurora Aurora Aurora Aurora Phinney Green wood- Phinney Green Ridge Green Ridge Ballard Wallingford Interbay- Northend Frem ont	Big Finn Hill Park Lake Washington Yarr ow Point Hunts Point Cly de Hill
Coordinate System: WS 5 1994 Web Marca Projection: Marca for Audillary Sphere Datum: WSS 1994 Units: Mater	Island S	Beaux Art Village 20 Miles Mer of Island
Population Density sq / mi Under 15,000 15,000.1 - 19,000 19,000.1 - 24,000 24,000.1 29,000 Over 29,000 Urban Centers Urban Villages One Block Buffer	PRONTO Cycle Share has around 500 bikes distributed between 53 Stations. The current stations are located in Seattle's Urban Centers (the densest neighborhoods). In this map, the PRONTO Stations are sized based upon the number of transactions (total of arrivals and departures) in the first year of service. Expansion to the Hub and more dense Residential Urban Villages is necessary for this program to encourage local occasional riders and increase ridership to sustainable levels. This study focuses on the expansion to the north and northwest of the city center within Urban Villages (which are areas planned by the City of Seattle to maximize the benefit of public investment in infrastructure and	Richmond Mountiake Terrace Highlands Woodinville

		Time Range	Time Range	Time Range
Ravenna	University District Northwest	22-25	20-24	9-12
Ravenna	Upper Queen Anne	90-95	47-51	29-39
Ravenna	Wallingford	44-50	32-33	16-22
Roosevelt	South Lake Union	84-88	20-37	26-38
Roosevelt	University Campus	36-39	17-19	13-16
Roosevelt	University District Northwest	22-23	11-12	8-10
Roosevelt	Wallingford	41	18-19	15-16
South Lake Union	University Campus	59-61	24-25	20-27
South Lake Union	University District Northwest	60-63	26-27	21-30
South Lake Union	Upper Queen Anne	31-37	27-37	14-24
South Lake Union	Wallingford	64-67	21-25	24-25
University Campus	University District Northwest	15-16	10	5-6
University Campus	Upper Queen Anne	72-76	44-47	25-31
University Campus	Wallingford	32-34	13-18	11-14
University District Northwest	Upper Queen Anne	76-77	43-47	27-32
University District Northwest	Wallingford	25	11-14	10
Upper Queen Anne	Wallingford	54-56	36-37	22-26



Notes: Locations are sorted alphabetically; origins and destinations are not reverted in the interest of saving space; locations later in the alphabet should not be interpreted as less accessible. Travel times are summarized to include the outbound and inbound time with the lesser time listed first. Trips where both the outbound and inbound trip time are greater than 30 minutes are omitted (33 combinations were omitted for this reason). Trip times have been color coded based on the average of the outbound and inbound trip times calculated at 8AM on a Thursday morning. Green indicates an average trip under 25 minutes, yellow a trip from 25 to 30 minutes and orange, a trip over 30 minutes.

What's Next?

When considering bike share options, coverage should include the Urban Villages around Green Lake.

Urban Villages are more appealing to casual riders (who do not own a bike and are likely more comfortable with the Seattle DOT's Occasional Rider Routes) than the dense Urban Centers. The nearly 480 foot elevation change between Greenwood and South Lake Union provides ample opportunity for speedy one-way commutes between N. Seattle and the urban core, and allows for trips of nearly 5 miles within a 30 minute borrowing period.

Currently there are at least 3 companies working with SDOT and the City Council on pilot programs for dockless bikeshares to be launched on Seattle streets as early as June 2017. Dockless systems provide a larger coverage area at a lower cost, but the state helmet law and the hilly geography of the region are two obstacles to any bike share, especially a dockless system.