

Philms Series Transcript
Giving People Options

Phil Whitmore

TOD Program Director:

“The site will be developed now and it will be under-developed and that development won’t match up to the public investment that went in to create the light rail. That probably wouldn’t be re-developed for 50 years so you would really have underdeveloped property near the transit station that would be in place for a very long time. So what we do is move that forward and have what would of occurred in 10 or 20 years occur now.

“Metro does that because it changes travel behavior. The way a project is developed and how it relates to transit and what it is comprised of, how dense it is, whether or not it is mixed use or not, all those things can factor in so that travel behavior is changed. We have seen from the Merrick project that PSU did a study that you can change travel behavior by the shape of the community surrounding transit. So that is what we do, we allow for people to live next to transit and in them doing that, they have a choice different than otherwise. They have a choice to walk, bike, bus or the MAX line.