

What is *Elevate*?

Elevate is Seattle Parks and Recreation's (SPR) initiative to elevate, diversify, and widen the platform of opportunity for everyone. It aims to strengthen the connection between design and the community it serves, by rewarding vision and purpose, and by providing support throughout the creation of new and vital parks designs.

Seattle Parks and Recreation recognizes the need to increase public participation in the design of public spaces in the City of Seattle by soliciting, supporting, and empowering ideas. Elevate is SPR's initiative in response to this need and we need you to participate! Prior experience with SPR is not required for participating in this design opportunity. Members of BIPOC communities (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) are highly encouraged to participate.

A Brief Summary of Process

There are three main parts to the new Elevate initiative on a Seattle Parks and Recreation design project.

PART 1 Statement of Interest and Shortlist

Respondents compose and submit Statements of Interest which comply with the submission requirements. (page 5). A panel of experienced jurors (see Appendix 1) will review the Statements of Interest and shortlist three to five participants. SPR will provide a stipend of fifteen hundred dollars (\$1500) to each of the shortlisted participants to develop the materials for Part 2.

PART 2 Design Brief, Interview, and Selection

Shortlisted respondents will compose a Design Brief (page 5) which expands and elaborates on their vision for the project. The jury will interview preferred candidates and, on the basis of the Statements of Interest, the Design Brief, and the Interview, recommend a Finalist to Seattle Parks and Recreation. SPR may engage with the Design Partner to adjust and augment the Design Brief as may be needed to serve as the basis for a future Request For Proposal.





Terms to note

SPR reserves the right to accept or reject any or all submissions.

PART 3 Request For Proposal

The Design Brief shall serve as a visionsetting document within a future Request for Proposal (RFP) to solicit a Partner Firm to provide the technical drawings, specifications, and other professional services required for the completion of the project through construction. The Design Partner may elect to participate in the RFP if they meet the qualifications. The Design Partner also may elect to work as a team member of a more established firm. Seattle Parks and Recreation highly encourages the continued participation of the Design Partner and will work with them to provide guidance during this phase.



A Brief Intro to Dr. Jose Rizal Park

Nestled between Chinatown/International District and Beacon Hill neighborhoods, Dr. Jose Rizal Park serves a diversity of communities with its panoramic views of downtown Seattle. There are steep hill gradients on the 4-acre site, which have naturally divided it into upper and lower levels. The upper level of the park, bordered by 12th Ave. on the east side and a chain link fence on the west side at the top of slope, is the focus of this design opportunity. The upper level of the park includes a covered picnic structure, restroom building, stepped amphitheater seating, a junior playground, lawn areas and plantings, and is home to a bronze bust of Dr. Jose Rizal, a national hero of the Philippines, sculpted by the late Filipino master sculptor, Anastacio Caedo and *East is West*, a triptych mosaic mural designed by Filipino artist Val Laigo, commissioned by the Filipino American Community.

While Seattle Parks & Recreation (SPR) has owned the land since the 1970s, the park was renovated, officially dedicated to and named after Dr. Jose Rizal in the 1980s. The local Filipino community raised funds to develop the park which remains a culturally significant gathering place for Seattle Filipinos. *Elevate* will harness the potential of this park with due respect for the history and culturally significant elements and functions of the space, as an important component of the community and of the Seattle public realm in general.



The Site Context

In Appendix 2 to this document, you'll find research on Dr. Jose Rizal Park that was compiled by students at the University of Washington in the fall quarter of 2021. This informational resource is intended to help all participants in this design opportunity to gain an understanding of this park's history, context, and constituency. We are grateful to the University of Washington and this team of students who dedicated time and energy into researching this special public park. In Appendix 3 you'll find site photos and a site plan.

Guidelines for park elements:

- Adequate space to hold various events and gatherings are highly desirable.
- Maintain the existing parking count.
- Keep the triptych mosaic mural in its existing location.
- The playground, bronze bust and plaques of Dr. Jose Rizal must remain on site but may be rearranged or moved within the park site as desired.
- Restroom building should not be relocated, but the interior can be renovated and reconfigured.
- Other existing park functions and elements may be kept, and new functions and elements may be suggested. However, the implementation of selected ideas will be subject to funding being available.



The Submission Requirements

This is an opportunity for us to learn more about you and your ideas for the park. The submitted materials should convey your vision for the design of the park. Participants are encouraged to address community culture and history, describe strategies to achieve the vision, and illustrate any novel design features or approaches. A Respondent may be an individual, or a team of two or more. If the Respondent is a team of two or more, all team members must be identified, with one person designated as the point of contact and recipient of the stipend, should they be selected.

Submit the following by the deadline:

A) Introduction: your background and interest in this project, in a written narrative of maximum two hundred (200) words.

B) Project Summary: description of project purpose and design vision, in a written narrative of maximum five hundred (500) words.

C) Design Statement: One (1) 11x17 page to describe how your approach will develop a place that respects the history of the neighborhood and serves their community. Examples or possible mediums are: drawing(s), sketch(es), video(s), photo(s), artwork, etc. (Not all the mediums listed are required, nor are the mediums limited to these). We encourage creativity in your responses.

Delivery methods:

Email to Elevate.RizalPark@Seattle.gov

- Mention 'Elevate-Dr. Jose Rizal Park' in the subject line.
- Total file attachment(s) not to exceed Ten (10) Megabytes.
- Please do not forget to include your contact information.

-OR-

Drop off in person at Jefferson Community Centre located at 3801 Beacon Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98108 at the reception desk during regular business hours.

- Submissions must be in a closed envelope marked Elevate-Dr. Jose Rizal Park
- Please do not forget to include your contact information.

Notes for consideration:

- Exhibits outside of those requested above will not be considered nor reviewed by the jury.
- Elaborate and highly produced renderings or productions are not expected.
- By participating in this process, you are confirming your ownership authenticity of the materials submitted and acknowledge that SPR may publish your submission on the project website with proper attribution.

The Look-Ahead



The Evaluation Criteria

Note that the criteria are not in any particular order of importance or weighting.

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Would provide an opportunity for a participant:

• For which a traditional RFP may have presented barriers

and/or

• To work with a city agency in this capacity and provides a platform for them to continue working with city agencies successfully 02

Creativity in concept and/or approach



Demonstrated understanding of:

- Site context and landscape
- Surrounding community, neighborhood, and historical significance
- Community culture and history



Appendix 1

Jury is comprised of the following members:

Laura Haddad combines her background in art, theater, and landscape to create work that is both spatial and sculptural, and is interested in hybrid landscapes that perform aesthetically, functionally, ecologically, and poetically. With a focus on integrating site-specific art into urban infrastructure, her work derives conceptual meaning from the phenomena, utility, history and context of a site. She served as a member of the Seattle Design Commission and Seattle Public Art Advisory Committee from 2016-2020. Her work has received awards from Americans for the Arts, Seattle Design Commission, Seattle Arts Commission, and WASLA. Laura's designs and writings have been published in Sculpture, Architectural Record, Landscape Architecture, Land Forum, Landscape Journal, and Arcade. Laura has a Master's degree in landscape architecture from University of California, Berkeley and a Bachelor's degree in history from Bowdoin College.

Jecselle Major moved to Seattle after receiving sustainability (B.S) and landscape architecture (MLA) degrees. She has practiced at interdisciplinary design and planning firms across several scales. She currently sits on the Board of Directors for Sawhorse Revolution and the steering committee for the Trust for Public Land's Next Gen Council and served on the Shape Our Water Design Team, Seattle's Public Art Advisory committee. Jescelle is often a university lecturer and guest critic when she isn't working with her own students, volunteers, or clients. In 2020, in response to the renewed social justice uprising and economic shifts in response to the pandemic she founded her own consultancy. Her practice, research and passions dive into equity issues, environmentalism, public involvement strategy, and education. She thinks about how all these things interact in the public realm and built environments.

Aaron McCanna is the Diversity, Equity, Access, Inclusion and Decolonization Coordinator at the Burke Museum. Born and raised in Kingston, Washington to his Yup'ik father and Mexican mother, he is deeply inspired by many things including art, philosophy, decolonization and justice, and food. A meandering academic career led him to study zooarchaeology and isotope analysis at the University of New Mexico, where he received his Master's of Arts. His role at the Burke Museum has allowed him to live this dream, by providing staff with programs, trainings and guidance relating to decolonization and helping to re-envision what a museum could be. The joy and inspiration that comes with working to make the world a better place in a different way is what motivates him, and he hopes to spread the joy and healing decolonization can bring to new individuals and communities.

Agnes Navarro is a Doctor of Medicine and current Executive Director of the Filipino Community of Seattle. She is a former Board Member and Director of the Culture and Arts Program for the Filipino Community of Seattle (2008-2018). Agnes volunteers for the Filipino Cultural Heritage Society of Washington FCHSW/ Pagdiriwang – a Seattle Center Festal Event. She retired after 31 years of service with the UW Medical Center/ Harborview Medical.

Ruri Yampolsky is the Waterfront Program Arts Manager for the city of Seattle's Office of the Waterfront and Civic Projects, working to ensure that arts and culture are fully integrated into one of the largest civic transformations Seattle has undertaken. She also manages the waterfront's cultural interpretive wayfinding program. She has many years of experience managing Seattle's public art program and art projects, serving to expand public experience by providing a range of projects in a variety of artistic expressions that shape urban space, engage community, encourage civic dialog, and bring new voices into the field. As a six-year member of the Public Art Network Council for Americans for the Arts. she focused on diversity, equity and inclusion in public art practice, policies, and procedures; she is also a founding member of Public Art Exchange, an informal network of public art administrators and practitioners. Ruri is an architect by training.

Appendix 2

University of Washington Research

Dr. Jose Rizal Park Redesign



Seattle Parks & Recreation

To access the full report, please visit http://seattle.gov/parks/elevate-rizalpark

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SEATTLE PARKS & RECREATION	Dr. Jose Rizal Park Redesign	

Appendix 3

Site photos and site plan







Bronze bust and plaques of Dr. Jose Rizal









Bronze bust and plaques of Dr. Jose Rizal

View of downtown Seattle & Puget Sound



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Triptych mosaic mural









Park shelter













Steep slope with trails, trees





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Parking and restroom building











