



The City of Seattle

## Pioneer Square Preservation Board

Mailing Address: PO Box 94649 Seattle WA 98124-4649  
Street Address: 700 5th Ave Suite 1700

### MINUTES OF MEETING

PSB 08/08

DATE: January 2, 2007  
PLACE: City Hall, Room L280  
TIME: 9:00 a.m.

#### Board Members Present:

David Strauss  
Ryan Hester  
Doug Ito  
Adam Hasson  
Lorne McConachie  
Ann Brown

#### Staff:

Genna Nashem  
Joanne Walby

#### Absent:

Rick Friedhoff  
Catherine Person  
John De Lanoy  
Alex Bennett

Doug Ito called to order at 9:02am

#### **010208.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Draft minutes from December 5 and December 19, 2007

Moved to approve the minutes of December 5, 2007  
MM/SC/RH/LM 5:0:1 Mr. Strauss abstained.

Minutes for December 19, 2007 deferred until next meeting.

#### **010208.2 APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF APPROVAL**

010208.21 **Log Pen – Seattle Fire Department** Aaron Hedrick  
Waterside of Washington Street Pier near 101 Alaskan Way S

Utilize water space adjacent to Washington Street Pier for a public service “log pen”

ARC Report: ARC reviewed the plans submitted. Lieutenant Hedrick, Seattle Fire Department explained that the current location is no longer available. He said the proposed site is not being used for anything at this time and there are existing pilings in the area to tie the log pen to. The applicant said the log pen could easily be removed if the site was developed for another use. Although ARC saw a need for the log pen, they

**Administered by The Historic Preservation Program  
The Seattle Department of Neighborhoods**

“Printed on Recycled Paper”

did not want to discourage the revitalization of the park or restoration of the Washington Street Boat Landing so would recommend approval for a temporary log pen.

Staff Report: The Pioneer Square Board is reviewing this project because the boundary for the Pioneer Square Preservation District extends into the water from the Washington Street Boat Landing.

Applicant Comment: Aaron Hedrick, Fire Department representative, explained that the Fire Department is responsible for collecting any debris in the water that could be considered navigational hazards. He said they purchased a new boat last year that needs more space at the dock and is encroaching on their existing log pen, so they propose to move it to this new location. He said the log pen would not be accessible from the log boom and could be removed at any time. He distributed photographs of the site with an ink drawing of the proposed size, approximately 50' x 50.' He said the pen is made of trees they collect so the size may vary. He said the Coast Guard removes the debris from the pen every other month, or sooner, if necessary. Mr. Hedrick said that the pier is fenced off so access to the pen is restricted.

Board Comment/Questions: Mr. McConachie noted that floating log pens were probably quite common in the waters off Pioneer Square in the past.

Mr. Hasson said they should try to preserve the Washington Street Boat Landing's historic use since tourists are encouraged by signage to go there.

Mr. Strauss asked if there were other options. Mr. Hedrick said they don't really have a budget for this project so need a location with existing piers and some other locations such as West Seattle are not practical. He noted that debris tends to be brought to this spot naturally by the currents. He said they have already made the log pen as small as possible but if debris does not fit in the pen they would tie it to the side.

Mr. Hasson suggested the Board write a letter to SDOT requesting that they restore the Boat landing use. Mr. McConachie said they could approve this application on the condition that they review it every two years.

Action:

I move to approve a Certificate of Approval to establish a temporary log pen in the water space adjacent to the Washington Street Pier to be reviewed bi-annually, per

Code Citations:

SMC 23.66.030

MM/SC/DS/HA            6:0:0    Motion carried.

010208.22

**First Avenue Overlay Project**

Allen Prouty, Travis Nue

First Avenue Dearborn to Royal Brougham

Application: Paving of First Avenue including sidewalk ramps at intersections and a fenced pedestrian refuge area.

ARC Report: ARC reviewed the plans provided. Allen Prouty, of W and H Pacific, consultant to SDOT, confirmed that there are no granite curbs in the area of the project within the Pioneer Square Preservation District. ARC preferred the white sample over

the yellow sample for the curb ramps. ARC said they would not recommend approval of the chain link fence and suggested that the applicant explore a simple iron fence. ARC members note that the pattern of medians all the way down First Ave is significant to the character of the District and this proposal would disrupt this median. ARC would like to know more information about why the pedestrian refuge is necessary and why this intersection was proposed as opposed to the location under the bridge. ARC members also asked for additional photos with a wider perspective. ARC would also like to have more information about the replacement plans for the tree being removed from the median.

Staff Report: As a City Department, SDOT is required to comply with rules governing the tree replacement. It will either have to replant the tree at the median or identify another location where two trees will be planted. She said it would be possible to approve the project with the condition that tree replacement plan be submitted for approval at a later time.

Applicant Comment: Jessica Murphy, Paving Program Manager for SDOT, explained that SDOT participated in a 2002 FHWA study of marked crosswalks. As a result, nationally recognized guidelines were established and SDOT proposes this application in order to meet these guidelines. She said the north crosswalk is not compliant because of the number of lanes pedestrians need to cross and the speed and volume of cars at this location. She said they want to create an island in the middle of the road so pedestrians only have to cross two lanes at a time. She said what they propose is a “Gold Star Design” in crosswalk safety.

Ms. Murphy said they may need to remove a tree from the median and they do not yet know if they would be replacing it on the median or planting two replacement trees elsewhere in the city. She said an urban forestry crew will do their due-diligence in resolving this matter.

Board Comments/Questions: Mr. Hasson asked if curb cuts would be proposed. Ms. Murphy said, yes - two new ramps in the intersection. Some will be retrofitted and they will remove concrete to provide pedestrian access. She said there are no granite curbs in this area. There is a driveway on the east side of the north crosswalk, so the cut would provide access to this and the utility vaults.

A Board member asked if the median to the south was a potential location for the trees. Mr. Allen pointed out the median would be underneath the viaduct on ramp, so it is not viable.

Mr. Hasson pointed out that the pedestrian crossing near the bridge is also difficult.

Ms. Murphy said this may be so, but a pedestrian traffic study has determined that the north crosswalk sees more pedestrian traffic.

Mr. Ito said there will be a new office building behind the Triangle Building so SDOT should anticipate an increase in pedestrian traffic.

Mr. Allen presented samples of the fence and the paving tile. He said the fence height would be 42”, down from the original 48”. He said they will use a simplistic aluminum metal fence existing in Pioneer Square. It would probably be black.

The Board members expressed that black would be fine.

Mr. McConachie asked what kind of tree would be planted in the median. The applicant said they will replace in-kind with a London Plane, about 25' tall and 8-10" radius at full growth.

Ms. Murphy stated that the Seattle standard "detectable warning" tiles are mustard yellow and plastic rather than the cement sample provided. She said they will be pre-cast and put in still wet concrete.

Mr. Hasson said that he did not think that plastic was compatible with the District.

The Board asked if they could use the white cement tiles, perhaps setting a new standard for the Historic districts, instead of the mustard yellow plastic tiles.

Ms. Murphy stated that the City Traffic engineer made the determination for color and material and it probably has something to do with keeping the tiles in stock, as well as the fact that it complies with ADA's requirements for contrasting colors. She said she was told that the Board has no jurisdiction over how SDOT complies with ADA and noted that consistency of materials and colors is also a safety concern for the City.

Mr. Ito said that the Board is not objecting to increasing pedestrian safety or compliance with ADA, however, the Board could request that SDOT use materials and colors that are in keeping with the character of the Historic District.

Mr. Hasson stated that the bright yellow and plastic tiles are not keeping with the District's historic character. Mr. Ito said that he would be okay with the yellow tile.

Mr. Hasson noted that the pattern of medians and trees on First Avenue would be disrupted by this proposal.

Mr. Ito said the pattern also falters because the road changes at this point and he thinks that the medians were a later addition. He said he would not be opposed to change in this area.

After discussion by the Board, Mr. Ito suggested the applicant table the portion of the application dealing with the material and color of the tiles on the side walk ramp.

Ms. Murphy also stated that they will be proposing flashing lights in the pavement at this crosswalk in the future. She said there are currently flashing lights at Seattle University at James St. She said they are installing the infrastructure for the project with this paving project.

Mr. McConachie suggested Ms. Murphy provide more information at a future meeting, such as pedestrian counts at this location, in order to educate the Board on the need for the lights.

He said he appreciated SDOT bringing this application before the Board. He said the Board is tasked with maintaining the historic character of the District and will be happy to work with the applicant to their mutual satisfaction.

Ms. Brown added that she liked the railing type that is used at the trolley stop on Occidental.

The Board agreed that they preferred the applicants sample railing #2.

Action:

I move to approve a Certificate of Approval for the First Ave overlay project as amended to use sample railing #2 under the condition that SDOT returns with an alternative material to the yellow plastic truncated domes and return with a replacement plan for the tree being removed.

Code Citations:

District Rules

XIV. Street Trees and Vegetation

XVII Sidewalk Treatment

SMC 23.66.190 Streets and Sidewalks

MM/SC/LM/AB          5:1:0    Mr. Hasson against

**010208.3          BOARD BUSINESS** There was no board business.

**010208.4          REPORT OF THE CHAIR:** Doug Ito, Chair  
There was no report.

**010208.6          STAFF REPORT:** Genna Nashem  
There was no report.

Issued: January 14, 2008

Genna Nashem  
Pioneer Square Preservation Board Coordinator  
206.684.0227