



The City of Seattle

International Special Review District

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ISRD 183/23

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023

Time: 4:30pm

Place: Hybrid meeting: Virtual access on the WebEx platform as provided in the meeting agenda.

Physical location: Seattle City Hall, 600 4th Avenue, Boards & Commissions Room L2-80

Board Members Present

Ryan Gilbert
Heather Hargesheimer
Adrian Lam, Chair
Ming Zhang

Staff

Rebecca Frestedt
Melinda Bloom

Absent

Nella Kwan
Andy Yip
Michael Le

Chair Adrian Lam called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

101023.1 PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

101023.2 CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

101023.21 Mural on the east wall on 5th Ave S under the Yesler Bridge

Applicant: Paul Jackson, Director Graffiti Programs & Initiatives, Mayor's Office

Ms. Frestedt explained the proposed after-the-fact mural to the east side of the embankment on 5th Ave S. under the Yesler Bridge. Exhibits included photographs.

Paul Jackson apologized for putting up the mural without board review/approval, out of eagerness to abate graffiti. He said where murals are placed, graffiti is reduced by 85%. He said the artwork from By Any Means Necessary crew depicts a

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

"Printed on Recycled Paper"

woman of significance with native greenery, representing strength. He said his role was to help identify space for the work. Office of Arts and Culture was involved in artist selection.

Mr. Lam said it is better late than never and advised the applicant to be plan ahead next time.

Ms. Hargesheimer asked if a graffiti coating would be applied.

Mr. Jackson said graffiti film would be applied.

Mr. Zhang appreciated the resilient design. He asked the intention of the design concept.

Mr. Jackson said the mural looks almost like graffiti, which was the artist's intention. He said Washington native plants are use representing medicinal qualities and the strong woman – representing all women - is coming out of the past / history. He said an interpretive plaque will be installed.

Ms. Hargesheimer suggested next time having the artist come to board to explain the story behind the design. She appreciated graffiti control and putting something up beautiful at the same time. She recommended placing the plaque at an accessible level.

Mr. Lam said that while the board doesn't review artistic content, the board often helps applicants with the process and in taking the district context into consideration in design. He asked about the possible addition of lighting.

Mr. Jackson said he has discussed this work with WSDOT and lighting will be explored.

Action: I move that the International Special Review District Board recommend approval of a Certificate of Approval for design – artwork applied to the east wall on 5th Ave S. under the Yesler Way Bridge and with final plaque and QR code to be reviewed by staff.

The Board directs staff to prepare a written recommendation of approval, based on considering the application submittal and Board discussion at the October 10, 2023 public meeting, and forward this written recommendation to the Department of Neighborhoods Director.

This action is based on the following applicable sections of the International Special Review District Ordinance:

Secretary of the Interior Standards

9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.

10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be taken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

MM/SC/HH/RG 4:0:0 Motion carried.

101023.3 PROJECT BRIEFING

101023.31 611 8th Ave S. – Eng Family Homestead

Presenters: Nicole Lew, SKL Architects, and Cassie Chinn, Wing Luke Museum

Briefing on proposed change of use from residential to museum, as an extension of the Wing Luke Museum, and proposed exterior alterations, consisting of restoration, landscaping and the construction of a 160 square foot second-story addition above the garage.

Nicole Lew explained the project to preserve and restore the Eng Family Homestead to be incorporated into the Wing Luke Museum immersion tours. The home was built in 1937. She explained that an ADA lift and stairs would be added and an addition (160 square foot) on the rear of the building were proposed.

Cassie Chinn, Deputy Executive Director, said that they intend to tell the story of Asian Americans who owned and lived in their homes within the district. She spoke of the Redlining Heritage Trail and the importance of context. She explained the Eng family's interest in preserving the home and working with the Museum. She said they will enhance the front yard and provide outdoor gathering space in the back. She said the project is stewarded by a task force and community advisory board. She summarized a design charrette held in January and a blessing ceremony in April.

Ms. Lew walked through plans. She said a small non-original structure would be removed. The loquat tree in the front yard would be pruned and retained, noting that it still produces fruit. They plan to install a wrought iron fence. They are exploring replacing the aluminum windows with wood to be consistent with the original and to bring back the original cream color. She said decorative light

fixtures and awnings will be restored. She noted that the CMU block was modern technology at the time. The original entry had been enclosed. She summarized the three zones of restoration, including the interior, and discussed proposed programming.

The project had a Crime-Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) review, which informed public safety measures, like motion sensor lights and gate design.

There was a summary of work proposed for the back of the home, with the intention of distinguishing old and new (addition). Scott Murase, Murase Associates, summarized landscaping. He confirmed retaining the trees in the front yard and went over the addition of an Asian-American influenced pocket garden and screening on the side yards. They're exploring the idea of creating a special entrance or gate and integrating decorative paving in the rear yard.

There was a summary of proposed colors and materials being considered.

Staff noted that some work can be reviewed administratively and some will require Board review. Staff referred to the National Park Service Preservation Brief regarding additions.

Ms. Hargesheimer said there may be an opportunity for artwork at the corner, where a blank area could result from the stairs and ADA lift.

There was discussion about the main entrance of the tours and what constitutes the front or back of the site and of challenges related to location of the lift. There was interest in alternatives that allow access to the front yard without a lift on 8th Ave S.

Ms. Chinn explained the intention for the project to be an "immersive experience" that shows what it was like to live in a multi-generation home and run a business. They want to honor the house, while also aiming to provide universal access and access to groups. She said it is a design challenge that drove the addition in the rear.

Mr. Lam asked if the pocket garden would be open to the public.

Mr. Ryan departed at 5:50 PM.

Ms. Hargesheimer noted that it's a very exciting project and a wonderful addition.

Mr. Zhang agreed. He noted the opportunity to tell the Chinese immigrant story.

Mr. Lam noted the challenge of representing a traditional home and the newer appearance of the proposed refinements. He appreciated the sensitivity of the museum and asked if it was possible to find replica fixtures.

101023.5 STAFF SUMMARY and BOARD BUSINESS

Ms. Frestedt provided a summary of administrative approvals since September 12, 2023. She also gave an overview of upcoming ISRD Election dates and deadlines.

Adjourn

Rebecca Frestedt, Board Coordinator
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