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| **Bruce A. Harrell**Mayor**Rico Quirindongo**Director, OPCD**Kevin O’Neill,** Chair**Eric Alipio****Phoebe Bogert****Kate Clark****Ray Gastil****Ben Gist****Brian Markham****Shirin Masoudi****Zubin Rao****Molly Spetalnick,** Vice Chair**Michael Jenkins**Director**Valerie Kinast**Strategic Advisor**Windy Bandekar**Planner**Robin Magonegil**Administrative Staff | September 4, 2025Convened – 1:00 pmAdjourned – 4:00 pmProjects Reviewed Commission BusinessLake City Community Center – concept reviewCommissioners Present Eric Alipio (non-voting)Phoebe Bogert (attended virtually)Kate Clark (attended virtually)Ray Gastil (left at 3:15 pm)Ben GistShirin MasoudiKevin O’NeillZubin RaoMolly Spetalnick**Commissioners Excused**Brian MarkhamStaff PresentMichael JenkinsValerie KinastWindy BandekarRobin Magonegil |
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| Office of Planning and Community Development600 4th Avenue, Floor 5PO Box 94788Seattle, WA 98124-4019**TEL** 206-615-1349**FAX**  206-233-7883seattle.gov/designcommission |

**Commission Business (1:00 – 2:00 pm)**

The Commission discussed the items on the agenda, adopted August 7, 2025 meeting minutes, welcomed Eric Alipio as a new Get Engaged Commissioner, discussed workplan items identified in the Commissions February 2025 retreat, and had a project briefing.

**Lake City Community Center (2:00 – 4:00 pm)**

The Commission received its initial briefing on a proposal to build a new community center in Lake City. The community center will be part of a new mixed-use development that will include 5 floors of affordable housing above the community center. The focus of the review was on the new community center and its relationship to the abutting public realm. The Seattle Design Commission does not review affordable housing projects, which is why they focused only on the community center and its relationships with the surrounding public realm.

The following people presented:

* David Graves, Seattle Parks and Recreation
* Tammy Lee, Mithun
* Casey Huang, Mithun

The following people attended:

* Cathie Coyle, Spectrum Development
* Maria Dewees, Seattle Office of Housing

The Commission voted 8 to 0 to approve Lake City Community Center. Eric Alipio did not vote, as his appointment to the Commission has not been confirmed by the City Council.

The Commission made the following recommendations:

1. Expand entry area on 28th Avenue NE - Explore building setbacks, street modifications, or relocated loading for more generous public space at and near the community center entrance
2. Enhance entry prominence - Develop architectural features (canopy, materiality, massing) for better identification of entry to community center
3. Simplify circulation - Reduce ramp complexity on side of building that connects community center to Albert Davis Park; improve wayfinding
4. Improve integration with park - Study relocating the community center playground area to a location closer to Albert Davis Park
5. Coordinate with adjacent uses - Better integrate exterior programming areas with library, service center, and mid-block connection
6. Continue cultural integration - Work with Headwater People on wayfinding and cultural competence
7. Collaborate on public art - Coordinate with Office of Arts & Culture on placement opportunities
8. Coordinate with SDOT - Explore curb line modifications for additional entry space at 28th Ave NE and crosswalk mural opportunities
9. Consider microgrid opportunities - Study partnership with Seattle City Light
10. Enhance bike infrastructure - Study expanded bike parking and micromobility accommodations
11. Extend landscape integration - Explore vegetation extension into mid-block connection between 27th Ave NE and community center
12. Make sure the project addresses circulation and potential street improvements on 27th Ave NE as well as 28th Ave NE. Additional study is needed to provide clear connections from 27th Ave NE to the community center and its entrance oriented to Albert Davis Park. Better visibility from 27th Ave NE could relieve some of the pressure that the building needs to perform along 28th Ave NE