



APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Mike McGinn
Mayor

Diane Sugimura
Director, DPD

Marshall Foster
Planning Director, DPD

Julie Bassuk
Chair

Seth Geiser

Laurel Kunkler

Shannon Loew

Tom Nelson

Julie Parrett

Osama Quotah

Ellen Sollod

Debbie Harris

Valerie Kinast
Coordinator

Tom Iurino
Senior Staff

January 17, 2013

Convened 8:30am
Adjourned 4:30pm

Projects Reviewed

Mapes Creek Restoration and 52nd Ave CSO
Arena Street Vacation
Elliott Bay Seawall

Commissioners Present

Julie Parrett, Chair
Seth Geiser
Lolly Kunkler (excused from 9:00am-11:00am)
Shannon Loew
Tom Nelson
Osama Quotah
Ellen Sollod

Commissioners Awaiting Confirmation Present

Martin Regge

Commissioners Excused

Debbie Harris
Julie Bassuk

Staff Present

Valerie Kinast
Tom Iurino



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January 17, 2013

Project: **Mapes Creek Restoration and 52nd Ave CSO Project**

Phase: 90% Design

Last Reviewed: N/A

Presenters: Kathy Robertson, Seattle Public Utilities
Aaron Luoma, HBB
Cheryl Eastberg, Seattle Parks and Recreation

Attendees: Alan Lord, Brown and Caldwell
Jason Huff, Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs
Nathaniel Riedy, SvR Design
Teresa Donahuse, SvR Design Company

Time: 9:00am-11:30am

Recusal

Commissioner Kunkler recused herself.

Summary of Project Presentation

Seattle Public Utilities, in partnership with Seattle Parks and Recreation, is designing and constructing the Mapes Creek Restoration and 52nd Ave CSO project in Rainier Beach in southeast Seattle. The project begins at 52nd Ave S. and Rainier Ave S. and runs along 52nd Ave S. to S. Henderson St., and along Henderson from 52nd Ave S to Seward Park Ave S, and then across Seward Ave Park S and into Beer Sheeva Park. The project consists of: moving the creek from a storm drain into a parallel, dedicated pipe; restoring 350 feet of the creek into an open, natural channel through Beer Sheva Park to Lake Washington; and restoring the right-of-way on 52nd Ave S. and S. Henderson St. including: a 10' asphalt path with a 2' gravel shoulder; landscaping with seasonal bulbs, grass lawn and maple and tupelo trees; and a restored concrete plaza and artwork in a new pattern. The project will create additional habitat for threatened juvenile chinook salmon and tie the walkway, residential neighborhood, and park together with trees and landscaping. The park will be regraded and the banks of the open channel will be planted with low vegetation, such as ferns and grasses, to make a clearer visual connection between the park and Lake Washington; there also will several deciduous and conifer trees planted to supplement the existing trees. A new art piece will be placed at the headwall where the water enters the daylighted channel. The 6' wide path into the park from Seward Park Ave. S. will feature locations where people can touch the stream and a new 10' wide cable-rail galvanized tread bridge, with an associated art piece, to cross the creek. The land near the shoreline will be regraded, and steps placed to allow people to reach the water. Construction will start late summer 2013 and end in the fall of 2014.

The commission's discussion centered on: the lack of details on many of the design drawings, especially in the park; the location of the fence along S. Henderson St.; the design concept for the touchpoints along the stream, how to delineate them, and what their materials should be; the importance of the bridge as a touchpoint or a special place; how to integrate the two projects further, especially across edges like Seward Park S.; how the artwork integrates into the park; and the placement and topics for the interpretive signage.

ACTION (by Loew)

By a vote of 5-1, the Seattle Design Commission approved the 90% design of the Mapes Creek Restoration and 52nd Ave CSO project, with the condition that the team return for an administrative review of: the details of the bridge, including its role in placemaking and its artwork; a more detailed exploration and resolution of the touchpoints along the creek; more details on the interpretive signage; a detailed plan for the planting along S. Henderson St.; and a clear and detailed strategy for the planting and vegetation in the strip along the daylighted stream in Bear Sheva Park. The commission supported the team's work to move the fence and give pedestrians a wider berth on S. Henderson St. It also appreciated the use of the proposed planting materials such as camas. The commission had the following recommendations:

- Develop more detailed drawing in line with 90% design. The drawings shown, with their lack of details, do not represent 90% design.
- Better integrate the two projects and celebrate the linkage between them at S. Henderson St. and Seward Park Ave S. Make more bold the connection to the park through the design of the landscape and the bulb.
- Be mindful of how the two artworks come together. Better explain and show details of both of the artworks and how they fit in to the context of the project and how they tie in together.
- Ensure visitors to the ADA path have access to information, signage and the visitor experience that exist on the other paths.
- Consider the history of the creek and the use and waste of water as inspiration for further development of the touchpoints and the interpretive program.
- Develop a hierarchy and boundary areas for the park design; use that to inform the design of the bridge and the relationship of the artwork to it.

Commissioner Loew voted no because the materials presented for review were not at 90% design. Many of the details were not shown and were only in the designers' minds, and the challenges and solutions that arise with developing detailed plans were not explored nor addressed.

Commissioner Regge abstained because he is not yet a voting member.
