



April 28, 2013

*Stewards of the  
Pedestrian Master Plan*

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The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board would like to express its support of the efforts that the Friends for a Greater Maple Leaf Park Subcommittee have taken regarding the construction of the Maple Leaf Park. Specifically, we support the design elements that call for the completion of the sidewalks located along the perimeter of the park, completion of lighting around the main walkways and paths located within the park, marked crosswalks complete with ramps that lead to the park entries and appropriate signage that promotes way finding. In order for this park to achieve the status of a vibrant attribute to not only the Maple Leaf neighborhood, but also the City of Seattle, these designs elements need to be supported to allow access for everyone.

Sidewalks are a key component of Seattle's walkable system that helps identify where pedestrians can travel. Currently, Maple Leaf Park does not have a complete sidewalk system from the south end of 14<sup>th</sup> street to the east side of 85<sup>th</sup> street. This missing link of the pathway prevents access for all members of the community; especially those that require accessibility identified by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and therefore needs to be completed in order to provide full access to the park. In addition, crosswalks and curb ramps will need to be added to allow for safe passage to the park's main entry points located on Roosevelt. Finally, lighting upgrades throughout the park and way finding signage, that is ADA compliant, will create a much safer environment for all visitors that use the park facilities by providing information and deterring criminal activity. These design elements support the stated goals of the Pedestrian Master Plan of **Safety, Equity, Vibrancy and Health.**

The City of Seattle offers its residents a unique experience of lush parks located within an urban setting. These shared resources help to foster community by providing a safe and welcoming place for individuals and families to come and interact with one another. In order for all residents to be able to experience the full benefit that comes with living in this city, accessibility to parks such as the Maple Leaf Park is essential. The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board applauds the efforts being made by the Friends for a Greater Maple Leaf Park Subcommittee and looks forward to the completion of this project as it incorporates the improvements mentioned in this letter.

Sincerely,

The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board

*The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board (SPAB) was created by the Seattle City Council in 1993 and is composed of volunteers who oversee implementation of Seattle's Pedestrian Master Plan, advise city offices on pedestrian-related issues, and promote pedestrian safety and access. Although SPAB advises Seattle city government on pedestrian-related issues, this endorsement is intended only to represent the position of the board and not the government of Seattle.*

*The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board shall advise the City Council, the Mayor and all the offices of the city on matters related to pedestrians and the impacts which actions by the city may have upon the pedestrian environment; and shall have the opportunity to contribute to all aspects of the city's planning insofar as they relate to the pedestrian safety and access.*

*-City Council Resolution  
28791*

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