



The City of Seattle

International Special Review District

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ISRD 100/20

DRAFT MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF TUESDAY, August 25, 2020

Time: 4:30pm
Place: Bush Asia Center
409 Maynard Avenue S.
Basement meeting room

Board Members Present

Matt Chan
Faye Hong
Sergio Legon-Talamoni, Chair
Russ Williams
Andy Yip

Staff

Rebecca Frestedt
Melinda Bloom

Absent

Chair Sergio Legon-Talamoni called the meeting to order at 4:37 pm.

In-person attendance is currently prohibited per Washington State Governor's Proclamation No. 20-28.5. Meeting participation was limited to access by the WebEx meeting link or the telephone call-in line provided on agenda.

082520.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

October 22, 2019
MM/SC/AY/RW

2:0:3 Minutes approved. Messrs. Chan, Hong, and Legon-Talamoni abstained.

November 12, 2019
MM/SC/AY/RW

2:0:3 Minutes approved. Messrs. Chan, Hong, and Legon-Talamoni abstained.

November 26, 2019
MM/SC/AY/RW

3:0:2 Minutes approved. Messrs. Chan and Hong abstained.

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

"Printed on Recycled Paper"

December 10, 2019

MM/SC/AY/SLT

2:0:3 Minutes approved. Messrs. Chan, Hong, and Williams abstained.

Ms. Frestedt explained that emergency legislation prevents in-person meetings and placed a pause on review of most application, allowing Historic Preservation staff review. She said this application received a great deal of public involvement, concerns, comments and would not have warranted staff review. She said the application was complete and Code mandates review. She said that no other applications meet criteria and she didn't know when the next meetings would be scheduled. Other projects are in various phases.

082520.2 PUBLIC COMMENT

David Della, Green Shoots Consulting, said he was happy to have meetings back online even remotely. He said he represents a couple groups with plans pending board review who want their projects to move forward, as appropriate.

082520.3 APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

082520.31 Right-of-Way at 12th Ave S. - Vision Zero

Applicant: Megan Hoyt, SDOT

Ms. Frestedt explained the proposed modifications in the right-of-way associated with the 12th Ave Vision Zero project, consisting of construction of the protected bike lane on 12th Ave. S. between S. King St. and S. Charles St.; roadway and sidewalk safety modifications; installation of new pedestrian lighting; and installation of King Street Greenway wayfinding signs. Exhibits included plans, renderings and photographs. She provided background noting in June 2019, the Board recommend approval of a Certificate of Approval for temporary installation of "paint and post" improvements for bicyclists at the intersection of 12th Ave. S. & S. King St. associated with the S. King St. Neighborhood Greenway. In February 2019, the Board recommended approval of a Certificate of Approval for modifications within the right-of-way, including: a new traffic signal at S. King and Rainier Ave.; spot roadway and sidewalk repair; signs and pavement markings, and the installation of speed cushions east of I-5. As a condition of that approval the Board directed SODT to submit text for translated King Street Greenway signage (Chinese, west of I-5, and Vietnamese, east of I-5) to staff. That information was provided to staff, along with a slightly revised, streamlined sign proposal in July 2020.

Applicant Comment:

Megan Hoyt and Ching Chan, SDOT presented (detailed documents in DON file).

Ms. Hoyt explained the project goal is to end traffic fatalities for pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicles. Project components included curb bulbs and protected left turn land at S. Weller St.; protected bike land from S. King Street to S. Charles Street to connect Mountains to Sound trail and S. King St. neighborhood Greenway; Neighborhood Greenway improvements at 12th Ave S. and S. King St intersection including raised crosswalk on west and curb bulbs onto S. King St.; and pedestrian lighting at locations around Little Saigon. She noted how far the design had evolved since they started the design process in 2018. She said they heard the community's desire to keep both bus stops and load zones.

Ms. Hoyt said final design includes northbound protect left turns at S. Weller St.; southbound left turn restricted at S. Weller St.; one-way protected bike lanes on each side of 12 Avenue S.; shared bus stop/bike land; load zone maintained on west side of 12th Avenue S.; and new wayfinding signs.

Ms. Chan said public outreach was conducted with 12 stakeholder meetings between August 2018 and October 2019. Concerns raised were bike and pedestrian safety, traffic flow on 12th Avenue S., parking, load zones and business access, retain existing bus stops on S. Weller. She said outreach was provided to property owners, business owners, and community organizations. She said protected bike lanes will be marked by white delineator posts which would be sited to allow room for street cleaning machines. She said the hope is that delineators will slow vehicle traffic. She said 10th and S. Weller will qualify for four-way stop. She said sidewalk restoration will be part of lighting project. She said she will work with their contractor and community with flexibility that will keep business operation and customer access a priority. She said if approved, construction would start in September 2020 and is expected to last five months. She said it may require suspension for weather related issues and Lunar New Year moratorium.

Mr. Legon-Talamoni appreciated the presentation and information. He noted four critical items: construction of protected bike lane; roadway and safety modifications; pedestrian lighting; and wayfinding signs.

Mr. Chan expressed concern about the four-way stop at 10th and Weller; he noted it is very dark and there will be more traffic. He asked if four-way lights are a possibility and said the intersection needs something more visible than a stop sign.

Ms. Hoyt said they take concerns seriously. She said improving lighting may help. She said she will investigate lighting and a beacon light.

Mr. Chan asked how to cross 12th Avenue on a bike to get to the Mountain to Sound trail.

Ms. Hoyt explained where bikes would cross.

Mr. Legon-Talamoni asked how motorists will be informed of the changes.

Ms. Chan spoke of the “3Es” of the Vision Zero project – Engineering, Education and Enforcement. She said education will be provided and it will take time for adjustment and to change behavior. She said they will monitor to see how the changes happen.

Ms. Hoyt said construction is messy and people will notice changes are being made which helps with the transformation.

Ms. Chan said the changes will be lifesaving. They will take advantage of the current lull in traffic volume to lessen disruption to traffic and business.

Mr. Chan asked how they will manage the transition at 12th southbound from Jackson Street to King where it goes from two lanes down to one.

Ms. Hoyt said the curb lane will become a right turn only.

Mr. Hong said he welcomes traffic revision as he uses Weller every day. He asked why Chinatown is not listed on the wayfinding sign.

Ms. Hoyt said the sign shown was located for people headed to the east which is why Chinatown is not listed there. She said it is listed on sign for directing west.

Mr. Williams asked if the wayfinding signs fit in with Citywide initiative regarding signage.

Ms. Frestedt said Aditi Kambuj submitted an updated application for that project that will be coming back to the board.

Ms. Hoyt said the destinations will match. She said the signage type shown is specific to city greenways and is separate from the other initiative.

Ms. Chan said although the other is a separate initiative, they have been coordinating on naming of destinations for consistency. She said the greenway signs will not be translated as there is not enough space on the signs. She said there have been concerns about signage clutter and they have been mindful about that.

Mr. Chan said it is a great plan. He said, as a bike rider, the changes are needed. He said more light is needed and he appreciates more is being added. He said needs are especially important in Little Saigon as it grows.

Mr. Legon Talamoni said proposal is a wonderful, welcome refinement to the neighborhood. He noted that density is increasing, and prioritizing safety is needed. He said he was concerned about deleting the left turn on King Street, but the applicants have shown this has been thought through. He said currently there is no stop sign at 10th and Weller. He said more pedestrian lighting is needed especially with increasing density. He encouraged thinking about translation on wayfinding signs being mindful about space on sign, clarity and clutter. He said it will be a great addition to the district.

Mr. Yip echoed board member comments thus far and said he welcomed changes. He said the rainy season is coming.

Mr. Hong supported the proposal and appreciated the design.

Mr. Williams supported the proposal and echoed board comments thus far.

Mr. Chan said the applicants brought good points and considered impacts.

Mr. Legon Talamoni appreciated the applicants giving thought to local businesses and impacts to them.

Action: I move that the International Special Review District Board recommend approval of a Certificate of Approval for Street Use and Design, as proposed.

The Board directs staff to prepare a written recommendation of approval, based on consideration of the application submittal and Board discussion at the August 25, 2020 public meeting, and forward this written recommendation to the Department of Neighborhoods Director.

The proposed street use and design meets the following sections of the **International Special Review District Ordinance and applicable Design Guidelines:**

SMC 23.66.334 – Streets and sidewalks

MM/SC/MC/FH 5:0:0 Motion carried.

Ms. Frestedt said this application came through and needed board consideration rather than administrative review because of impact and scope of and community interest in this project. She said no other applications are complete at this time or are eligible under legislation. She said translation issues are to be worked out and a language access plan is being worked on. She said the board is not eligible to resume in-person meeting until we reach Phase IV.

Mr. Chan asked about disposition of board appointments.

Ms. Frestedt noted that there are two vacancies on the board. She said appointments are made by the mayor and are subject to Council approval. She noted quarantine-related issues and said she hoped to know more in September. She noted concerns about quarantine impacts to November ISRD election.

082520.4 BOARD BUSINESS

Adjourn 6:27 pm.

Rebecca Frestedt, Board Coordinator
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