

First Hill Improvement Association



FIRST HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVATION



SUMMER 2017



City of Seattle Office of Economic Development

MANY THANKS,

Alex Garland

Animal Encounters

Betsy Braun

Cathy Wickwire

Dante's Inferno Dogs

Derek Richards

Fran Kwak

Freeway Park Association

FunFlicks

George's Deli

Gordon Werner

Hanna Brooks Olsen

Hannah Leitech

Mary Ellen Hudgins

Michelle Lassaline

Mud Bay

National Barricade

Sara McVey

Seattle Animal Shelter

Seattle Barkery

Seattle Department of Transportation

Seattle Humane

Seattle Parks and Recreation

Seattle Veterinary Specialists

St. James Cathedral

Stockbox Neighborhood Grocery

Sugar Bakery

The Archdiocese of Seattle

The Coffee Tree

Theresa Barreras, Seattle Office of Economic Development

The Rhododendron Cafe

Thomas Merritt

Top Pot Doughnuts

Town Hall Seattle

Washington Trust for Historic Preservation



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ACTIVATING PUBLIC SPACE

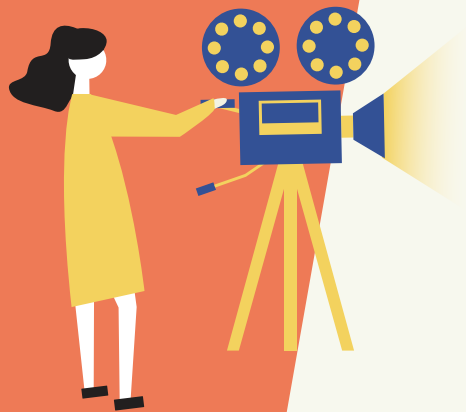
First Hill is 4.5 acres short of adequate park space. Rising land values and redevelopment pressures continue to make land acquisition for new park space increasingly difficult. The First Hill Improvement Association, in partnership with SDOT, Seattle Parks Department and SDCI created the First Hill Public Realm Action Plan to identify short-term implementation strategies through right-of-way reallocation, private development partnerships and site selection for potential park acquisition.

Although First Hill lacks enough open space for our growing population, FHIA is committed to make good use of existing open spaces through summer events that help to cultivate place attachment and neighborhood identity.

This report focuses on the results from the First Hill Improvement Association's efforts to create vibrancy throughout the neighborhood. During the summer of 2017, FHIA hosted 8 events that were geographically spread out across the neighborhood. We'd like to thank all of those who were involved in helping us build momentum. Thanks for being our neighbors!

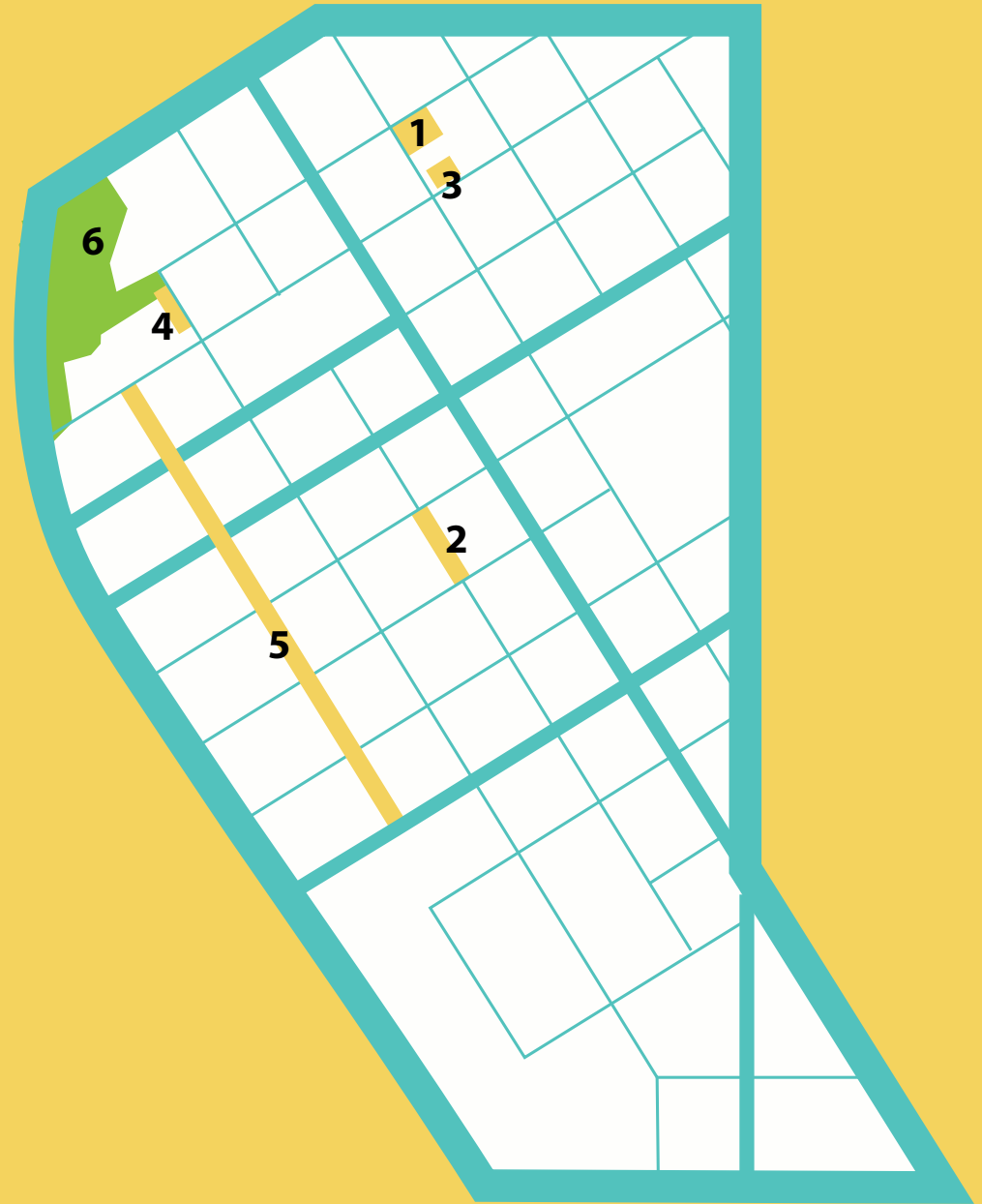
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EVENT LOCATIONS

- 1** First Hill Park
(First Hill Fidos & Outdoor Reading Party)
- 2** Terry Ave (between Marion and Columbia)
(Street Bingo)
- 3** Stimson-Green Museum
(First Hill History Tour)
- 4** 9th Avenue and University Street
(First Hill Pop Up Petting Zoo)
- 5** 8th Avenue
(8th Avenue Tree Tour)
- 6** Freeway Park
(Outdoor Movie Night and Saturday Family Concert)



EVENTS



FIRST HILL FIDOS

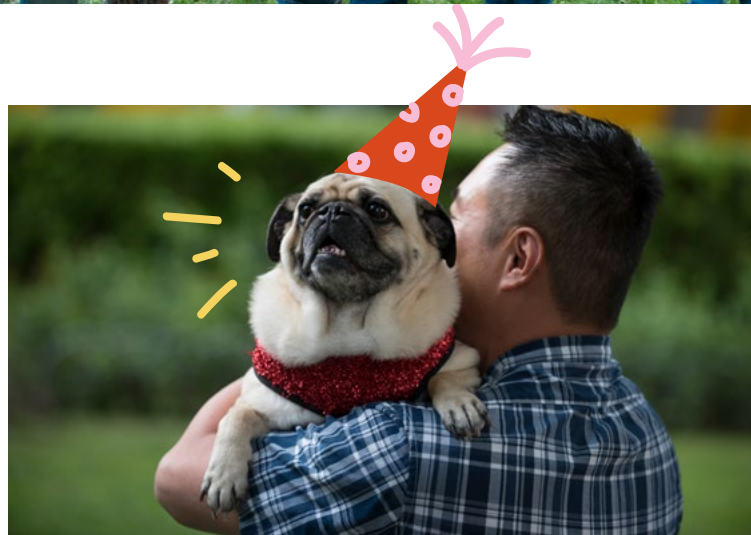
First Hill Fidos has transformed into one of First Hill's most anticipated events! For the third year running, dozens of pups and their humans came to First Hill Park to compete for the much coveted title of Best in Show.

Continuing with tradition, there were four categories that over 25 dogs competed for: Best in Show, Best Dressed, Best Trick and Cutest Fido. The winners were decided by an audience vote. Winners were given custom made dog tags, a goodie bag from Mud Bay and handcrafted snacks from the Seattle Barkery. The Seattle Humane Society also participated with an adoption van for cats parked nearby.

When: June 8th from 6-8pm

Where: First Hill Park

Who: 25 Proud Pups and 80+ Humans



STREET BINGO

The second annual First Hill Bingo brought out over 30 neighbors to test their luck. Together, the community played 7 rounds of Bingo with prizes from the neighborhood businesses of: the Coffee Tree, Sugar Bakery, George's Deli, Stockbox Grocery and a grand prize from the Rhododendron Cafe.

We closed down Terry Avenue between Marion and Columbia Streets to cars and opened up the street to people. Free hot dogs were provided by Dante's Inferno Dogs and the Department of Neighborhoods distributed information about First Hill's Find It, Fix It with the Mayor.

When: June 22nd from 6-8pm

Where: Terry Avenue

Who: 30+ daubers





OUTDOOR READING PARTY

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Due to demand by the community, we put together the second annual Reading Party. The much anticipated Outdoor Reading Party was hosted at First Hill Park with ambient piano music and snacks for everyone to enjoy. This quiet event featured newly installed park furniture for the community to enjoy over the summer.

When: July 6th from 6-8pm

Where: First Hill Park

Who: 20+ bookworms



FIRST HILL HISTORY TOUR

It's no secret that First Hill has an excellent array of historic architecture! On July 30th, members of the community were led on a guided tour of notable buildings in the neighborhood. This event was so popular that every available space was reserved in advance.

Some of the notable buildings along the tour route were: the Dearborn House, the Stimson-Green Mansion, the Sunset Club, 1223 Spring Street, Arcadia Apartments and the Hofius House.

When: July 20th from 6-8pm

Where: Beginning at the Stimson-Green Mansion

Who: 30+ History Buffs





8TH AVENUE TREE WALK

Time and time again, residents of First Hill mention that they love the dense tree canopy of the neighborhood. The second annual First Hill Tree Walk was a 1.5 mile guided walking tour of First Hill's urban forest on 8th Avenue. The tour began with a Red Oak tree in front of Town Hall and ended with a Western Hemlock in front of Royal Manor.

When: August 17th from 6-8pm

***Where: Beginning at Town Hall
Seattle***

Who: 30+ Arborists in training



OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT



This time around, the second annual Outdoor Movie Night was hosted in Freeway Park to allow for more capacity. Free popcorn and candy was provided for all to enjoy while watching the brilliant, critically acclaimed and ever-so relevant Dr. Strangelove by Stanley Kubrick.

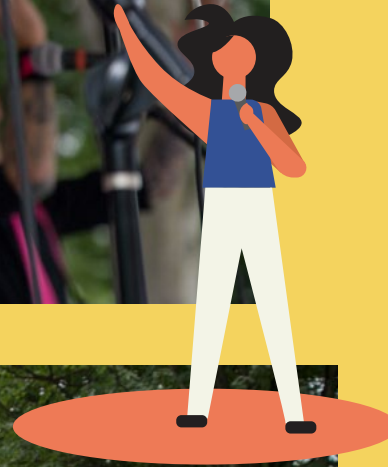
After the film, community members wandered around Freeway Park with glow sticks to help identify areas that could use more lighting.

When: August 31st from 8-10pm

Where: Freeway Park

Who: 55+ movie-goers





SATURDAY FAMILY CONCERT

FHIA and Town Hall joined up to present The Not-Its! For a Saturday Family Concert in the main plaza of Freeway Park. Top Pot Doughnuts provided coffee and doughnuts for everyone to enjoy and there was even a face painter! There was lots of dancing and smiling faces.

When: September 9th from 11am-1pm

Where: Freeway Park

Who: 50+ groovers



POP-UP PETTING ZOO

For one evening, we shut down 9th Avenue at University Street to cars and opened it up to people...and barnyard critters! Hundreds of people lined up to befriend piglets, goats, chickens and sheep. This was our most attended event and people from all over the city came into First Hill to behold all of the cuteness.

Pelican was there painting animal portraits for anyone who wanted one and representatives from Harborview Medical Center were there to give out prizes if kids knew answers to safety questions.

Where: 9th and University

When: September 20th from 6-8pm

Who: 250+ animal lovers



OUTREACH & MEDIA COVERAGE

Dog Day Afternoon - **Capitol Hill Times**

First Hill Fidos at First Hill Park on June 8 - **Capitol Hill Times**

3rd Annual First Hill Fidos - **The Stranger**

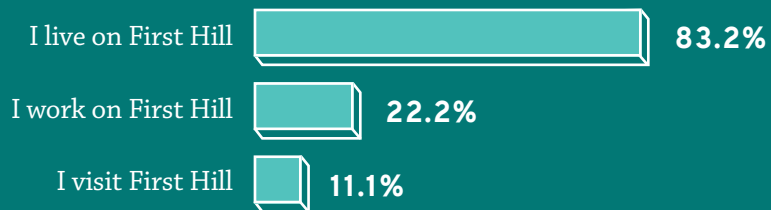
First Hill Street Bingo - **The Stranger**

Where to Watch Outdoor Movies in and Around Seattle this Summer - **Curbed Seattle**

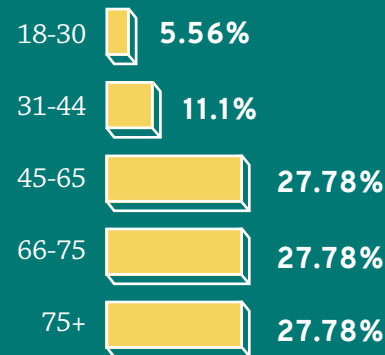
First Hill Brings Back Urban Petting Zoo - **Capitol Hill Times**

SUMMER EVENTS SURVEY RESULTS

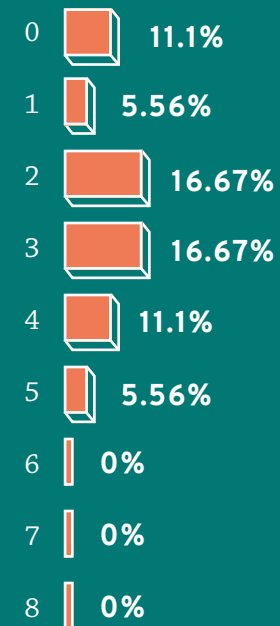
1. WHAT'S YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO FIRST HILL?



2. WHAT IS YOUR AGE?



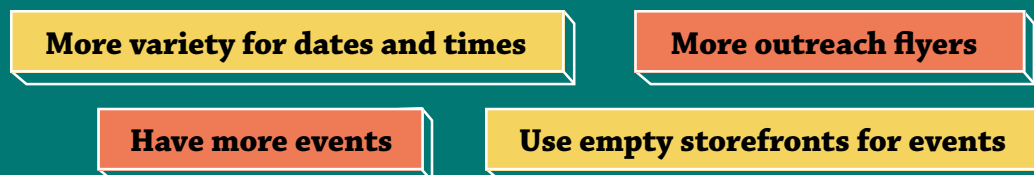
3. HOW MANY OF THESE EVENTS DID YOU ATTEND?



4. WHAT TYPES OF EVENTS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE MORE OF NEXT YEAR?



5. HOW CAN WE IMPROVE THESE EVENTS FOR NEXT YEAR?



ADDITIONAL PHOTOS





PARK NEWS

There are many changes afoot to our public open spaces up here on First Hill. From the construction of a brand new park in Yesler Terrace to permanent updates to the University, Union and Boylston pavement park, we are excited for these new and updated spaces that First Hill desperately needs.

Yesler Terrace Park will be a 1.7 acre open space and construction on this asset began in early 2017. It is expected to be completed in the autumn of 2018! This park will offer excellent views of Beacon Hill, the International District, SoDo and Pioneer Square. Yesler Terrace Park will feature a soccer lawn, a basketball court, an upper and lower plaza, a fountain and a playground. We are thrilled to see this park come to fruition!

In addition to the new Yesler Terrace Park on the southern end of the neighborhood, Freeway Park at the northern end of First Hill will be seeing some changes. This year, the Freeway Park Association was given funds to undergo a community- led visioning process to identify potential solutions to increase connectivity, public safety and visibility in this iconic landmark.

First Hill Park is undergoing a similar community-led redesign process in 2016 and 2017. The design is currently at 65% and the process has been handed off to Seattle Parks and Recreation now that community priorities have been identified and integrated into the future design of the park.

Seattle's first pavement park at University, Union and Boylston is currently being used as a staging area for a construction site, but upon completion, it will be a permanent fixture in the neighborhood. This previously oversized intersection will become a 4,390 squarefoot plaza with landscaping, seating, raised crossings and bicycle parking.