



FHIA Urban Design and Public Space Committee Meeting

May 03, 2017 – 1:00- 2:30PM – Horizon House

In Attendance:

- Jim Erickson, UDPS Chair
- Alex Hudson, FHIA Director
- Bo Scarim, Plymouth Housing Group
- Bob Terrell, First Hill Resident
- Mike Schwindeller, Seattle Parks and Recreation
- Megan Hoyt, Seattle Department of Transportation
- Doug Holtom, FHIA Coordinator
- Lindsay Radliff, First Hill Resident
- Sue Van Leuvan, First Hill Resident
- Suzanne Hittman, First Hill Resident
- Ted Klainer, Harborview Medical Center

Seattle Parks and Recreation Greenways Initiative:

The Initiative focuses on coordinating with SDOT on connecting parks and along greenways. These greenways focus on improving green corridors to create safe, comfortable and attractive places for people of all ages and abilities to navigate to their neighborhood parks.

University Street is a focus for the Seattle Greenways Initiative. A second First Hill Greenway is planned, but the route has not been decided by the Parks Department. Jim Erickson mentioned that there was a proposed cycle track indicated on page 4 of the PRAP. Westbound it enters FH on Union Street and turns to continue west on University Street. The pavement to park design in the Boylston/Union/University intersection will include a cycle path connection from Union to University Street. This has been given consideration in the Madison BRT project plans which will be adding a cycle track from 1st to 9th avenues on Spring St. however it would behoove FHIA to continue discussions with SDOT to make sure that a proper connection is made between the two bike lanes.

Most of the projects prioritized in the Greenways Initiative come from the pedestrian and bicycle master plans provided by SDOT. Activation and Programming features collaboration with SDOT (bicycle Sundays along Lake Washington in the summer). The Greenways Initiative has worked with SDOT for Safe Routes to School projects.

Neighborhood Street Fund (NSF)

- Freeway Park has received funding for improvements to 7 entrances (within SDOT right-of-way).

Jim Erickson mentioned that the 9th and University pavement park should have a crosswalk and curb-cuts be installed.

Project Elements:

- At-grade paving treatments
- Pedestrian lighting
- Specialty crosswalk markings
- Wayfinding signs

Next Steps:

- Builds off phase 1 of Finding Freeway Park
- Final designs by March 2018
- Construction expected in 2018 or early 2019

Park to Park Path:

FHIA has been working to compliment Seattle Neighborhood Greenways. The walking loop is 1.5 miles long. There are supportive elements to the path, such as signal box artwork, Little Free Libraries, retail and right-of-way adaptive public spaces.



Opportunities to Build on the Park to Park Path:

Safety improvements:

- Curb cuts
- Sidewalk improvements
- Pedestrian lighting

Better Wayfinding

Additional Marketing

More Supportive Elements:

- Custom crosswalks
- Benches
- Trash Receptacles

Custom crosswalks can become dirty, but Lindsay Radliff thinks that people get excited and enjoy them. The paint used for custom crosswalks are expensive because they require more than just paint (like the pavement parks).

Bob Terrell believes that FHIA should find funding for the full build out of the Pavement Park at 9th and University should not be dependent on Virginia Mason's expansion, especially with the successes of the First Hill summer Farmer's Market. Alex Hudson suggested that FHIA prioritize equitable geographic distribution of these projects moving forward and encourage Seattle Greenways focus resources into wayfinding in First Hill.

Jim Erickson mentioned that FHIA is working towards getting funding for the Terry Avenue Woonerf from Marion to Cherry Streets. Ted Klainer asked what are the next steps to get the Park to Park Path designated as a neighborhood Greenway? Mike Schwindeller suggested that is out of the Parks Department's scope. Suzanne Hittman would like to know who the decision makers are.

Updates:

Upcoming Design Meetings:

- May 4th - 1101 8th Avenue - Design Commission Meeting – 1pm at City Hall B&C Room
 - Are their public benefits appropriate? The UDPS Committee agreed. FHIA should emphasize future collaboration with Lennar to advocate for intersection upgrades from SDOT.
- May 18th – WSCC Addition – Design Commission Meeting
- May 31st - 1101 8th Avenue – Design Review Board – 8pm at SU Student Center 201

Washington State Convention Center:

- Meeting with Elected Officials
 - CMs Johnson, O'Brien and Bagshaw
- Public Education
 - Seattle Times Op-Ed
 - Website and Social Media
- Design Commission: May 18th – 9am – City Hall B&C Room

I5 Columns: The permit has been received! Painting will start on Monday. There will be opportunities to paint.

First Hill Park: SiteWorkshop is working towards 65% construction documents. Phase 2 is nearing completion.

1400 Madison: Plymouth is moving forward. Sound Transit is moving slower than expected, and may discuss this site at their June Board Meeting. Bo Scarim suggested contacting Sound Transit and being vocal about supporting their proposed project.