Seattle Design Commission

Projects Reviewed
1200 Stewart
Mercer Corridor Improvements Project
King Street Station
Green Factor Audit
Myrtle Reservoir Park

Design Commissioners Present
Karen Kiest, Chair
Tasha Atchison
Brendan Connolly
John Hoffman
Mary Johnston
Juanita LaFond
Dennis Ryan
Norie Sato
Darrell Vange
Darby Watson

Staff Present
Guillermo Romano
Valerie Kinast
Tom Iurino
Ian Macek

Convened: 8:30am
Adjourned: 2:45pm
Project Presentation

Project Background
SDOT is working with the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Parks Review Committee to infuse as many Lake Union Park elements into the urban design of Valley Street as possible. Valley St. will incorporate trees that are found in LU Park, and will have an irregular placement of trees to strengthen the park-like character. Two black granite stone benches will be positioned on the north side of Valley at Terry. Mercer will have an in-sidewalk LED light treatment located in the sidewalk at the Green Fingers. Boren and Mercer will also have a tessellated column sculpture commissioned by a local artist. This art column design has been approved by the PAAC. Rain gardens will be located along the east side of Westlake (north of Valley), and a wet median on Mercer, which will both provide sustainable natural drainage stormwater treatment.
**Valley St.:** The team worked with Parks to select pedestrian lighting that would complement Parks lighting. After looking at several options, the team decided on using black Flex lights along Valley Street with black Chief Seattle bases on the traffic signal poles.

The Chief Seattle base will also be used along Westlake and 9th Ave. The poles on Fairview that hold the overhead lines for Route 70 bus vary greatly in diameter and will remain smooth rather than creating multiple Chief Seattle base castings.

A 2x2 score cut paving pattern will be used on the sidewalk at all locations except on the north side of Valley just adjacent to LU Park, where we will be using a 4x4 score pattern to match Parks sidewalks. In addition, a dense under story of plants is being used. Street names will be inlayed in the sidewalk at corners.

**Commissioners’ Comments:**

- Going with the more contemporary fixture works well in this area. The globes were thrown in there originally because there were already some located there.
- Is signage your purview?
  - There are street signs, which will be the standard City signs. The goal is to use the poles that there are and have as many joint poles as there can be.
- Is construction management planned?
  - That is the next hurdle. Construction will not be started until next summer. SDOT does have staging plans and have been talking with local businesses already.
- Is this project in the Urban Mobility Plan?
  - It is not. Looking to extend 2-way Mercer to Elliott, which is part of the Urban Mobility Plan.
- Appreciate the overall simplification of the plan and the lighting.
- Appreciate the improved connection with the park
- Congratulations on securing the landscape plan for gateway at I-5 on and off ramps.
- Appreciate the art.

**Recusal: Commissioner Watson**