WEST THOMAS STREET PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE OVERPASS

Seattle Design Commission Update – October 15, 2009
WEST THOMAS STREET PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE OVERPASS
Summary of Seattle Design Commission

December 2004
• Suggestion to span over Elliott Ave and/or improve Elliott Ave crossing
• Design bridge to be “simple”, “minimal”, and “harmonious and complimentary”

July 2006
• Support the extended scope to include extending overpass across Elliott
• Support “simplicity of ramps and pursuit of design elegance”
• Design treatments, especially throw fence

December 2006
• Addition of stairways
• Consider ramp to touch down on W. Harrison St.
• Curved alignment for the bridge

January 2008
• Re-evaluate design to consider natural setting
• Concerns related to the Elliott crossing, pedestrian improvements versus overpass
• Phasing of the project due to funding

February 2008
• Inclusion of stairs at Elliott Ave.
• Inclusion of belvedere at Park and West Thomas triangle
• Functional but considers safety of users.
• Use of “green” technology and compliment Park setting
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Project Status

- Evaluate Project Funding
  - Conducted Value Engineering study to re-evaluate design
  - Re-evaluate current scope
    - Shorten structure
    - ADA compliance
    - Future expansion
    - Pedestrian improvements at Elliott Ave
  - Streamlining architectural enhancements
    - Minimize special fabrication
    - Use of standard steel sections
    - Consider future maintenance costs
    - Consider color scheme
  - Phased construction
    - Construction of intermediate access points
    - Build structure over railroad, future expansion over Elliott Ave
    - Consider future maintenance costs
    - Consider color scheme
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Design Moving Forward

- Maintain alignment
- Maintained a “simple” and “minimal” design using smooth tube sections
- Use of surface mounted pedestrian luminaries and consider accent lighting fixtures
- Maintain belvederes and design structure for future intermediate access
- Incorporate art enhancements based upon Potlatch Trail art concepts (SDC 2002)
- Complete design expeditiously and as efficiently as possible