APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE MEETING

June 16, 2011
Convened 9:30am
Adjourned 3:00pm

Projects Reviewed
Fred Hutchinson Skybridge
North Transfer Station
First Hill Streetcar
Tiger Asian Bear Exhibit Woodland Park Zoo

Commissioners Present
Julie Bassuk, Chair
Malika Kirkling
Laurel Kunkler
Tom Nelson (excused from 9:30am-1:00pm)
Julie Parrett
Osama Quotah
Donald Vehige

Excused Commissioners
Norie Sato

Incoming Commissioners Present
Debbie Wick-Harris

Staff Present
Valerie Kinast
Tom Iurino
June 16, 2011

**Project:** Fred Hutchinson Skybridge

**Phase:** Briefing

**Last Reviewed:** N/A

**Presenters:**
- David Grant, ZGF
- Rich Hill, McCullough Hill Leary, PS
- David Neal, ZGF

**Attendees:**
- Angela Steel, SDOT
- Kathy Fridstein, public
- Mike Hassenger, Seneca Group
- Patrick McDonnell, community member
- Scott Rusch, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

**Time:** 10:00am-11:00am

**Presentation**

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center bought 1100 Eastlake and presented the options of connecting this building with a skybridge, a tunnel and a crosswalk to their main campus across Eastlake. The nearest crosswalks are at Aloha to the south and at Zymo Genetics to the north. Fred Hutchinson preferred a skybridge; SDOT determined a crosswalk was unwarranted and unsafe given the low number of pedestrians and limited sight distances and high speeds. In addition, Fred Hutchinson preferred its employees not use a tunnel, as it was inconvenient and only intended for utilities and transfer of hazardous materials.

As public realm mitigation for a skybridge, Fred Hutchinson proposed pedestrian improvements notably pocket parks and removal of a fence along the length of Eastlake Avenue adjacent to the campus.

The Skybridge Review Committee, made up of SDOT and DPD staff, has reviewed the skybridge but hasn’t yet made a recommendation.

**SUMMARY**

The Design Commission would like to thank the design team for its clear presentation of the proposed Fred Hutchinson Skybridge. Since Fred Hutchinson had not yet made a skybridge application to SDOT, the commission did not vote on the merit of the skybridge or the proposed public benefit package. The commission provided the following recommendations:

- **Push SDOT and the city to make a crosswalk work.** Hire a transportation engineer to study and find solutions to the problem.

- **If the crosswalk is not feasible,** strengthen the proposed public benefit package in a future skybridge application. As it stands now, it is not enough. Consider these ideas: contribute to nearby public projects like the Cheshiahud Loop Trail in South Lake Union; develop sustainability education for visitors to the Fred Hutchinson campus; and develop bike amenities along Eastlake to make a stronger connection to the campus. Perhaps the public benefit package could include traffic calming measures along Eastlake and a crosswalk.

- **Design the skybridge to keep within the architectural character and design sensibilities of the campus buildings.**