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:  North Transfer Station

Phase: Pre-design  
Last Reviewed: Dec 2, 2010  
Presenters: Tim Croll, SPU  
Bill Benzer, SPU  

Attendees: Allison Hogue, citizen  
Dan Costello, HDR  
Hui Yang, SPU  
Jason Huff, Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs  
Jeff Neune, SPU  
Josh Fogt, Councilmember Mike O'Brien's Office  
Karen Iwasaki, SPU  
Kathy Fridstein, public  
Ken Snipes, SPU  
Olivia Williams, HDR  
Patrick McDonnell, community member  
Suzanne Hildreth, SPU  

Time: 11:00am-12:00pm  

Project Presentation  
SPU presented its plans to replace the existing North Transfer Station and build a new facility in the same location. The station is more than 40 years old and can no longer meet Seattle’s solid waste needs.
SPU had narrowed its options from five general concepts to one, which the stakeholders group unanimously supported. This concept for the new station features a host of improvements, including recycling and reuse drop-off areas separated from disposal areas, allowing easier access for recycling. Along the north edge and east edges of the site, the station is set back from the property line, providing room for open space and plantings and preserving the view corridor from Ashland.

ACTION  
The Design Commission would like to thank the SPU for its presentation of the North Transfer Station. The commission strongly supports the direction of the project and applauds that an artist was hired. By a vote of 7-0, the commission and approved the pre-design, with the following comments:

- Include the artist as part of design team.
- Return to the community to discuss the programming of the open spaces, especially along Woodlawn. Consider adding a building(s) and a variety of programming to these spaces to create a vibrant active edge that fits into the neighborhood; they should not just be green spaces.
- Study the proposed setback on Woodlawn in conjunction with the scale of the whole neighborhood and its amenities. Add an urban designer to help the team think creatively about the best use of this setback area and develop a hierarchy of uses. For example, the corner of 34th and Woodlawn could be an anchor.
- Present the architectural elements in the RFQ by using words and not graphics so that the design build team has the freedom to respond to them; the directive should not be narrow.
Incorporate the South Wallingford Plan in the RFQ, as it contained visions for the public spaces on this site.