APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE MEETING

September 1, 2011
Convened 10:30am
Adjourned 3:30pm

Projects Reviewed
Fire Station 8
SR520 I-5 to Medina

Commissioners Present
Julie Parrett, Chair
Laurel Kunkler
Malika Kirkling
Tom Nelson
Norie Sato
Debbie Wick-Harris

Excused Commissioners
Julie Bassuk
Osama Quotah
Don Vehige

Staff Present
Valerie Kinast
Tom Iurino
September 1, 2011

Project: Fire Station 8
Phase: Development Design 60%
Last Reviewed: Jun 2, 2011
Presenters: Mark Nakagawara, Finance and Administrative Services
            David Strauss, SHKS Architects
            Laura Lens, SHKS Architects
            Mark Brands, Site Workshop

Attendees: David Kunselman, Finance and Administrative Services
           Dove Alberg, Finance and Administrative Services
           Leslie Helm, Finance and Administrative Services

Time: 11:00am-12:00pm

Presentation
The Fire Station 8 design team presented its plans for a seismic renovation and addition. The fire station is on a tight, shared site that includes facilities operated by Seattle Public Utilities, Seattle City Light, and Parks. The team’s design requires development departures from City Council for setbacks along Warren and Lee and for parking locations along the property line. The team presented its recent refinements to the design, including the green walls, streetscape, the treatment of the concrete frame around the doors, and the relocated fitness room and watch office.

ACTION
The Design Commission thanked the design team for its clear presentation of Fire Station 8. The commission appreciated the team fit many elements on a small, constrained site and incorporated plantings to meet the green factor. By a vote of 6-0, the commission approved the 60% design, subject to administrative review at 90% design, with the following comments:

- Recommend that city council support the requested development waivers for the setback along Warren and Lee streets and for the parking locations along property line (stall 7, 8).
- Study the concrete massing of the building. Consider whether the design detail above the apparatus bay doors is an appropriate articulation to maintain for this addition/renovation.
- Make the concrete-work of an appropriate quality and scale; consider its residential location and its relationship to adjacent residential structures. The design detailing should be of a rich civic presence and scale, not reductive industrial.
- Study the color scheme used to paint the building. Choose a color scheme that creates a strong relationship between the red of doors and supports the colors of the landscape design. The color should recede when adjacent to the landscape design, and not become a prominent or conflicting presence.
- Consider the monolithic, plastic, and ductile qualities of concrete in the design articulation.
- Develop interpretive signage that explains the Green Factor design accomplishments.
- Research the kiwi planting to rule-out potential problems as a common allergen species.