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
Donald Vehige
Debbie Wick-Harris

Excused Commissioners
Julie Bassuk
Osama Quotah
Don Vehige

Staff Present
Valerie Kinast
Tom Iurino
Disclosures
Commissioner Kirkling disclosed her firm is on design build team.

Project Presentation
The WSDOT SR520 team gave an overview of the major components of the SR520 project: the I-5 to Medina portion, the pontoons and floating bridge, and the Eastside portion. The team introduced Kiewit-General-Manson, the contractor who submitted the best combination of bid price and technical proposal for the Floating Bridge and Landings portion of the project. The contract was awarded in July; the bridge is anticipated to open no later than 2015.

WSDOT described the SR 520 Seattle Community Design Process for the I-5 to Landings portion of the project. The process will start this fall; it is designed to engage the public and further refine the project design through collaboration with agencies and the community, including Design Commission participation on the Design Collaborative, an advisory group. There is no construction funding, currently, for the I-5 to Landings portion of the project.

ACTION
The Design Commission thanked the design team for its clear presentation of overview of the SR520 I-5 to Medina project. By a vote of 6-0, the commission approved the design update, with the following comments:

- Appreciates the steps WSDOT is taking to integrate comprehensive, sustainable design methods to reconnect Seattle neighborhoods adjacent to SR 520 and improve the corridor.
- Appreciates the decision to develop the urban design element and the process for community involvement, including participation by the Seattle Design Commission, early in process.
- Maintain continuity in design across the entire alignment, through the use of a bridge architect, while at the same time create opportunities for distinction to relate to the different context on the east and west sides.
- Carefully develop a design for the interim connection piece should funding not be secured for the landings to I-5 portion of the project. The commission is concerned that an interim connection could be in place longer than anticipated.
The commission welcomed the offer of a future October presentation of the floating bridge portion of the project.