APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE MEETING

October 6, 2011
Convened 8:30am
Adjourned 3:30pm

Projects Reviewed
Alaskan Way Viaduct – South End and Portals
DPD Planning Division Update
Fire Station 20 West Queen Anne/Interbay
SR520 I5 to Medina

Commissioners Present
Julie Bassuk, Chair
Laurel Kunkler (excused from 8:30 to 10:15am)
Tom Nelson (excused from 12:00 to 3:30pm)
Osama Quotah
Julie Parrett
Norie Sato
Donald Vehige
Debbie Wick-Harris

Commissioners Excused
Malika Kirkling

Incoming Commissioners Present
Mary Fialko (excused from 3:00 to 3:30pm)

Staff Present
Valerie Kinast
Tom Iurino
October 6, 2011

Project: Fire Station 20 West Queen Anne/Interbay

Phase: Schematic Design
Last Reviewed: Apr 7, 2011
Presenters: David L. Jackson, Finance and Administrative Services
            Walter Schacht, Schacht Aslani Architects
            Eric Aman, Schacht Aslani Architects
            Ida Ottesen, Nakano Associates

Attendees: David Kunselman, Finance and Administrative Services
           Marcia Iwasaki, Arts and Cultural Affairs
           Michael Crow, Queen Anne Community Council
           Michael H. Walsh, Fire Department
           Rebecca Baker, DPD
           Ross Budden, community member

Time: 1:00pm-2:00pm

Presentation

The design team presented the new Fire Station 20, which will be located at Armour and 15th Ave NW. The site is highly visible to cars traveling along 15th, a busy mixed use corridor. The north east half of the site slopes somewhat steeply and contains a potential landslide area. The fire station is proposed on the southern third of the site, the parking and maneuvering area in the middle third, and approximately the northern third of the site will be developed to retain the hillside and add landscape elements. The station will include a drive through apparatus bay to house one engine and a possible future EMS vehicle. The first floor contains the entry and main office, officer’s office, and storage space. Upstairs is the beanery, physical training room, dayroom, and mechanical and communications rooms. The project will meet LEED silver, and possibly gold.

The team presented the updated design and its response to the commission’s previous comments. The team added more windows and public spaces on 15th, tied the building more to the site, replaced a chain link fence with green walls, softened the hillside with stepped site walls and planting areas, pulled walls out of the building to accentuate the horizontal dimension, added a substantial metal gate, and conferred with Metro about requirements for the bus stop. The team just added an artist who will join them in the project’s design.

ACTION

The Design Commission thanked the design team for its clear presentation of Fire Station 20. The commission appreciated the team’s clear response to its previous comments and praised the extension of the building walls into the landscape, bringing the building and landscape together. By a vote of 7-0, the commission approved the schematic design, with the following comments:

- Applaud the green roof. Support the inclusion of the photovoltaic array. If the photovoltaic array is not possible, replacing it with a green roof is acceptable.
- Integrate the artist and his artwork into the project and its planning.
- Make sure the materials, placement, and composition of walls feel as though they are an extension of the building even if they step down beyond the building edge.
- Provide more material samples and graphics to show what plant materials will be used on site and in the plaza.
- Provide more information about the natural drainage system.