Victor Steinbrueck Park Improvements
Design Commission Briefing April 21, 2016
2008 Levy Recommendations:

*Improvements to public safety including but not limited to:*

- improving sight lines into the park
- renovating seating
- renovating the former children’s play area
- improving and expanding lighting
- upgrading landscaping

Design Team Recommendations:

*Complete replacement of membrane beneath park*
Design Team Recommended Outcome:

A democratic space that feels welcoming, safe and comfortable for all: children, elderly, visitors, residents, disabled and disadvantaged members of our community

A park that is an extension of the Market
Park Design and Current Conditions
Lawn
Outdoor Rooms
Seating for Views and Street life

VICTOR STEINBRUECK PARK
Original Play Area
Current Play Area (Memorial)
Sight Lines
Sight Lines
Seating – Design Intent

Social Seating
Picnics, Small Gatherings

Linear Seating
Views & Street life
Seating – Improvements to Consider

**Restoration**
- General Repairs
- Real Wood
- Durable Installation

**Augment Seating with Current Best Practices**
- Companion Seating - ADA
- Backs and Arms - ADA
- Comfort

**Additions/ Modifications**
- Larger Gatherings
- Shade and Rain Protection
Lighting – Design Intent

Pole Lights
Perimeter Lighting

Bollards
Path Lighting
Existing Lighting

- Relatively low level of lighting
- Dim western edge - does not obstruct view
- Uneven lighting and light color
- Dark spots in corners
Lighting – Improvements to Consider

- Replace Lights with Similar Types
- Improved Technology
- Improved Uniformity
Park On-Structure
Design Team Membrane Recommendations

• 100% membrane replacement with a 30 year membrane.

• Redesign water management and drainage systems.

• Address condition of guardrail
City Context and Connections
City Context
Central Waterfront Connection
Waterfront Connection via Western Ave & Breezeway
Western Avenue

Western Ave. Sidewalk

Steeper than 5%

Narrow

Pedestrian/ Vehicular Conflicts
MarketFront Program
Direct Waterfront Connection
Direct Connection to MarketFront
MarketFront – Park Level Program
SW Corner of Park with no Connection
SW Corner of Park with Partial Connection

40'

88'
Public Outreach
Outreach to Date

• Marketfront PDA
• Marketfront Foundation
• Downtown Seattle Families
• Seattle Department of Planning and Development
• Seattle Police Department
• West End Neighborhood Group
• Neighboring Condominiums
• Women in Black
• Chief Seattle Club
• Tribe specific notices:
  • Muckleshoot
  • Suquamish
  • Duwamish

Upcoming Stakeholder Interviews

• Market Merchants
• Friends of PPM
• Real Change
• Heritage House and Stewart House
• Market Security
Engaging Urban Native Americans

- Chief Seattle Club (12/15/15)
- Tribal Relations (1/7/16)
- Chief Seattle Club Focus Groups (January 26th)

On Site Events (May 2016)
Preliminary Comments from Public Outreach

- Make the park feel safer and cleaner
- Fix what’s broken
- Improve the pergola area
- Connect to Marketfront / Waterfront
- Include a play area
Public Comments at PPMHC meeting

“We don’t need democracy in every place in every park.”

“Give them (the Native Americans who use the park) a gathering space with prominence and protection.”

“This (the pergola area) is their room.”

“The Parks department failed in its mission to take care of the park.”

“Restore what the Parks department has taken away...full restoration.”
Preliminary PPMHC Comments

• The park is designed as a belvedere to enjoy the view. It will be overrun by crowds coming up from the waterfront if a direct connection is made.

• Preserve pergola area for urban Native Americans who currently use the space.

• Do not connect to MarketFront/ Waterfront. Alternatively, explore a connection in a location other than the pergola.

• Include play area in original location.
Preliminary Design Team Recommendations

Improve Safety and Security
• Fix broken elements
• Refresh materials and detailing
• Improve park lighting

Reinforce Use of Park for All
• Draw people to all areas
• Make outdoor rooms special
• Improve accessibility
• Reintroduce play
• Connect to Marketfront / Waterfront
END DISCUSSION